

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

Item number: 8/2/20

20 Infantry Brigade

Appendices 1944, part 3 of 3

20 INF. BDE.
AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

Subject : Containers Food Portable - 2 Gall (Aust)



HQ 9 Aust Div
18 Jun 44
G85/85/3

20 AUST INF BDE ✓
24 AUST INF BDE
26 AUST INF BDE
RAA 9 AUST DIV
RAE 9 AUST DIV
AASC 9 AUST DIV
AAMC 9 AUST DIV

Copies To : Q : ADOS

1. Attached is copy of 1 Aust Corps G/3397/SD of 24 May 44.
2. As set out below, hotboxes are to be distributed for user trials and comments :-

20 AUST INF BDE	12
24 AUST INF BDE	12
26 AUST INF BDE	12
RAA 9 AUST DIV	4
RAE 9 AUST DIV	4
AASC 9 AUST DIV	2
AAMC 9 AUST DIV	4
	<u>50</u>

ADOS 9 Aust Div to arrange distribution and to advise "G" when completed.

3. Two weeks after receipt of these containers, recommendations are required at this HQ, with specific answers to the questions in para 3 of the attached letter.

F. J. Nicholls
for Lt Col *Hayes*
GS 9 Aust Div

SC
Please advise whether containers
arrive.
[Signature]

RF on arrival containers.

(COPY)

Subject : CONTAINERS FOOD PORTABLE - 2 GALL (AUST)

HQ 1 Aust Corps
24 May 44
G/3397/SD

6 Aust Div
9 Aust Div
1 Aust Beach Gp
2 Aust Beach Gp
HQ RAA 2 Aust Corps
HQ RAE 1 Aust Corps
'A' Aust Corps Sigs
HQ Comd 2 Aust Corps Tps AASC

Copy to: CE
CSO
A
MED
Q
S & T
ORD
AEME

1. The above new type of hotbox has now been produced, 150 samples of which are being forwarded to this area. On their receipt by this HQ they will be distributed as follows :-

6 Aust Div	50
9 Aust Div	50
1 Aust Beach Gp	12
2 Aust Beach Gp	12
HQ RAA 2 Aust Corps	6
HQ RAE 1 Aust Corps	6
'A' Aust Corps Sigs	4
HQ Comd 2 Aust Corps Tps AASC	6

2. In addition, a similar container reduced in size and with a capacity of 1 gallon, has been designed. It is expected that limited quantities of these will be available in approximately 3 months time. The comparative weights are as follows :-

	<u>Empty</u>	<u>Full</u>
Containers Food Portable 2 Gall	16 lbs	36 lbs
Containers Food Portable 1 Gall	8 lbs	18 lbs

3. On receipt of the 2 gallon containers, addressees are requested to carry out user trials and submit recommendations to this HQ on the following :-

- (a) Is the 2 gallon hotbox satisfactory
- (b) Is the 1 gallon hotbox considered to be an additional requirement
- (c) To which units and on what scale, is issue of 2 gallon hotboxes recommended if,
 - (i) The 1 gallon hotbox is not required
 - (ii) The 1 gallon hotbox is also required
- (d) What scale of issue is recommended for the 1 gallon container.

(Sgd) H WELLS

Brig,
GS 1 Aust Corps.

31

Subject: Cords NYLEX for Discs Identity

9 Aust Div

Ref your G993/85/9 of 29 Sep 44.

1. The following answers are given to the questions asked :-
- (a) Tests carried out in temperate climate, some rain but no extreme temperatures.
 - (b) The cord is not affected by
 - (i) Mosquito repellent
 - (ii) Perspiration.
 - (c) There is no difficulty in making a secure knot.
 - (d) No shrinkage was noticed.
 - (e) During the period of the tests the cord did not become dirty.
 - (f) - The cord appears strong enough for its purpose.
 - (g) The cord does not rattle or make any perceptible noise against the disc.
 - (h) 14 days.
 - (i) No washing is necessary.

W. R. Lindley
Brig
Comd 30 Aust Inf Bde

fm *[Signature]*
14 Dec

2/17 Aust Inf. Bn.
9 Aust Div.
18th October, 44.

Ref. 202/1068.

REF. G5/15/490
of 4 Oct, 44.

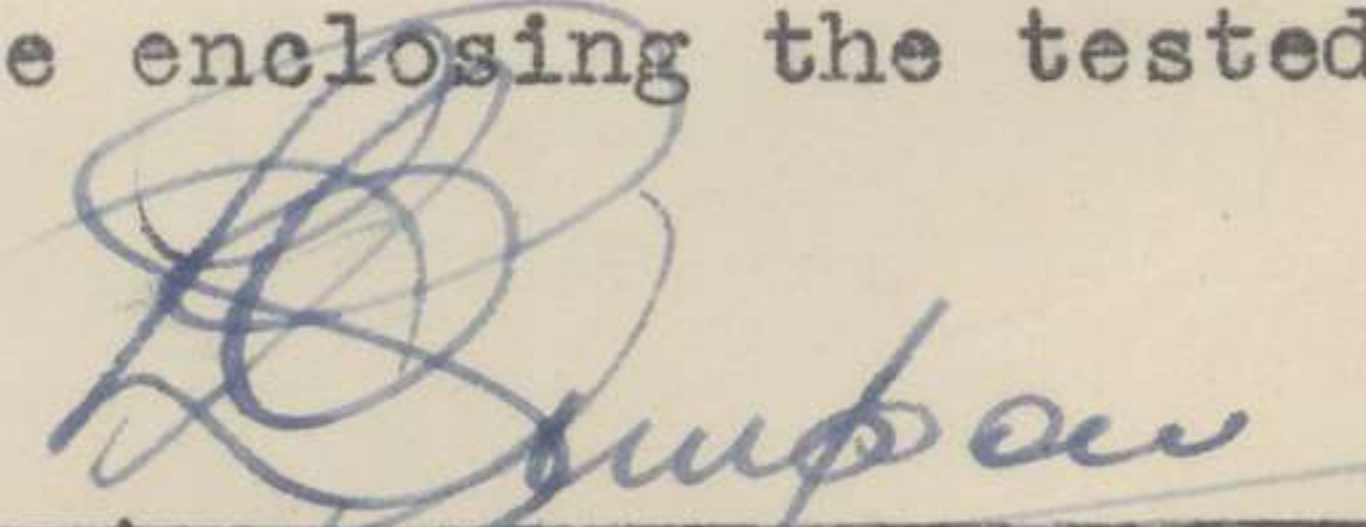
SUBJECT: CORDS NYLEX FOR DISCS. IDENTITY.

HQ. 20 Aust Inf. Bde.
9 Aust Div.

User trials have been carried out on the above Nylox Cord
and we are now in a position to report as under:-

3. (a) Local- Cold- Warm- Hot.
(b) No.
(c) No.
(d) No. Fishermans Knot best.
(e) No.
(f) No.
(g) Yes.
(h) No.
(i) 14 days.
(j) No.

5. As requested we are enclosing the tested Nylox Cord,
Herein.


Q/M 2/17 Aust Inf. Bn. Lieut.

Subject: Cord NYLEX for Discs Identity

2/15 Aust Inf Bn
Ref: 11/12/44
17 Oct 44.

Ref: Your G5/15/490



20 AUST INF BDE

1. Herewith report on cord NYLEX as requested.
2. It was tested and the following answers to questions are submitted.
 - (a) Dry temperate climate
 - (b) No.
 - (c) No.
 - (d) No.
 - (e) No.
 - (f) Unknown. A considerable time was not available before this report was required.
 - (g) Yes
 - (h) No
 - (i) 12 days
 - (j) No.
3. As the above remarks disclose, the cord was found satisfactory in all respects. The testing time was not great but it is felt that the NYLEX cord is far better than existing means of securing identity discs and should be included as a scale of issue.
4. It is regretted that the cord cannot be returned as it was lost during coy exercises.


[Handwritten signature]

Capt for Adv.
W. O. O'Connell Lt-Col.
Comd 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

Subject: Cords NYLON for Discs, Identity

2/15 Aust Inf Bn
2/17 Aust Inf Bn

1. Efforts have been made to obtain a cord for Identity Discs which would be more hygienic than either the present issue cord or a bootlace.
2. A cord which appears to be suitable is made from one of the Nylon materials and has successfully withstood laboratory tests which simulated humid tropical conditions.
3. One of these cords is enclosed. It is requested that user trials be carried out and a report submitted to this HQ by 18 Oct 44, covering the following points :-
 - (a) Climatic conditions under which tests carried out.
 - (b) Is the cord affected injuriously by contact with mosquito repellent solution?
 - (c) Is it affected by perspiration?
 - (d) Is there any difficulty in making a secure knot when tying the cord?
 - (e) Is there any further noticeable shrinkage?
 - (f) Does the cord become dirty after being worn for a considerable time?
 - (g) Is the cord sufficiently strong for the purpose?
 - (h) Are there any objections to the cord on the ground of the noise made by the discs in either method of securing them?
 - (i) Duration of tests?
 - (j) Does it require washing and if so does this affect it?
4. The cord was originally cut in 36-inch lengths but has since shrunk slightly.
5. On completion of the tests it is requested that the cord be returned to this HQ.


Haj
HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES



Subject: Cords NYLEX for Discs, Identity.

2/15 -
2/17 -

HQ 9 Aust Div
29 Sep 44
G993/85/9

20 AUST INF BDE ✓
24 AUST INF BDE
26 AUST INF BDE

Copy to ADOS 9 AUST DIV

1. Efforts have been made to obtain a cord for Identity Discs which would be more hygienic than either the present issue cord or a bootlace.

2. A cord which appears to be suitable is made from one of the Nylon materials and has successfully withstood laboratory tests which simulated humid tropical conditions.

one of these cords is enclosed

3. Two of the above cords are enclosed herewith. It is requested that user trials be carried out and a report submitted to this HQ by 20 Oct 44, covering the following points:-
18

- (a) Climatic conditions under which tests carried out.
- (b) *to the* Are cords affected injuriously by contact with mosquito repellent solution?
- (c) *to the* Are cords affected by perspiration?
- (d) Is there any difficulty in making a secure knot when tying the cord?
- (e) Is there any further noticeable shrinkage?
- (f) *to the* Do the cords become dirty after being worn for a considerable time?
- (g) Are cords sufficiently strong for the purpose?
- (h) Are there any objections to the cords on the ground of the noise made by the discs in either method of securing them?
- (i) Duration of tests.

4. The cords *was* were originally cut in 38-inch lengths but have ~~since~~ *shrunk slightly.*

5. On completion of the tests it is requested that the cords be returned to this HQ.

Are they available?

W. Ballin Lt.
for Lt Col
GS 9 Aust Div.

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
Ref: G5/15/554
26 Oct 44

Subject: Web Equipment - Felt Shoulder Pad

37

9 Aust Div

Ref your G217/85/4 of 17 Oct 44.

1.

The following report is submitted

- (a) the pad proved to be satisfactory for protecting the shoulders whilst carrying heavy equipment.
- (b) if its length were increased by 3" the pad would be more effective.

D. G. Worthley Capt

for Brig
Comd 20 Aust Inf Bde

ADD.

Subject: Web Equipt
Felt Shoulder pads



2/15 Aust Inf Bn
Ref: 58/1/44
24 Oct 44

20 AUST INF BDE

1. The following report is submitted on Felt Shoulder Pads.
 - (a) They proved most satisfactory and satisfy the pressing need for some protection of the shoulders whilst carrying the heavy equipment necessary in action.
 - (b) Trial indicated that pads would be more effective if its length were increased by 3"

Chace Lt-Col.
Comd 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

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 AVST INF BDE

190900K

For Action

TO

2/15 BN

(w) For Information (INFO.)

Message Instructions

GR

ORIGINATOR'S No.

2
0290 restricted @ web eqpt felt shoulder pads @
one set of these for trials by you @ report to this HQ
by 26 Oct stating (a) does sample meet the requirements
for shoulder pads (b) any additional comment as result
of trials

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

Signed

Albion L.

Signed

DRLS

Time	System	Op
THI or TOR		
Time Cleared		

Subject : WEB EQPT - FELT SHOULDER PADS



HQ 9 Aust Div
17 Oct 44
G 217/85/4

20 AUST INF BDE ✓
24 AUST INF BDE
26 AUST INF BDE
2/9 AUST CAV (COMMANDO) REGT

1. Four sample pairs of the abovementioned item have been received and are distributed, one to each addressee.
2. It is requested that user trials be carried out and a report in duplicate forwarded to this HQ by 28 Oct 44, covering the following pts:
 - (a) Does the sample submitted meet the requirement for shoulder pads?
 - (b) Any additional comment as the result of trials.

Lt Col
GS 9 Aust Div

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
Ref: G5/15/569
31 Oct 44

Subject: Wallets Waterproof

9 Aust Div

Ref your G811/35/1 of 8 Sep 44.

1. The following answers are given to the questions asked :-

- (a) the wallet is sufficiently waterproof to protect paybooks etc under tropical conditions.
- (b) the retaining strap is not considered necessary otherwise design satisfactory.
- (c) estimated life of wallet - three months.
- (d) suggested war usage rate, one per man each three months.
- (e) duration of test - three weeks.

W. J. R. Ludwig
Brig
Comd 20 Aust Inf Bde

SUBJECT: Wallets Waterproof.

2/13 AUST INF BN

24 Oct 44

Ref G10.1 -1466

20 AUST INF BDE.

Ref your G5/15/440 of 9 Sep 44.

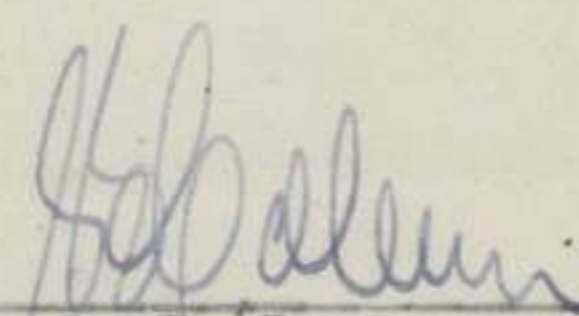
The four waterproof wallets issued to this unit have been given continuous use during the past six weeks and the following report is now submitted:-

(a) It is considered that the wallet is sufficiently waterproof to protect paybooks etc against conditions of service likely to be met in tropical areas outside AUSTRALIA.

(b) It is suggested that the wallet should be made with a flap that would fit more easily through the back strap and thus make the wallet more waterproof. As it is in its present form the wallet buckles considerably.

(c) The estimated life of the waterproofing in the wallet is three months.

(d) The estimated war usage rate is one per man each three months.


Lt-Col
Comd 2/13 AUST INF BN
(GE COLVIN)

Subject: Report - Wallets waterproof

2/15 Aust Inf Bn
Ref: Q14/10/44
21 Oct 44

Ref your G5/15/440

20 AUST INF BDE

1. Wallet is considered sufficiently waterproof for protection in tropical areas outside AUSTRALIA, though it may possibly sweat in severe humid conditions.
2. The design is quite satisfactory.
3. Estimated life of waterproofing in wallets is two months under acute tropical conditions.
4. Estimated war usage rate is two wallets per man per two months.

Chace Lt-Col
Comd 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

Subject: Report - Wallets waterproof

2/15 Aust Inf Bn
Ref: Q14/10/44
21 Oct 44

Ref your G5/15/440

20 AUST INF BDE

1. Wallet is considered sufficiently waterproof for protection in tropical areas outside AUSTRALIA, though it may possibly sweat in severe humid conditions.
2. The design is quite satisfactory.
3. Estimated life of waterproofing in wallets is two months under acute tropical conditions.
4. Estimated war usage rate is two wallet per man per two months.

C. Mac
Lt-Col
Comd 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

2/17 Aust Inf.Bn.
9 Aust Div.
24th October 44.

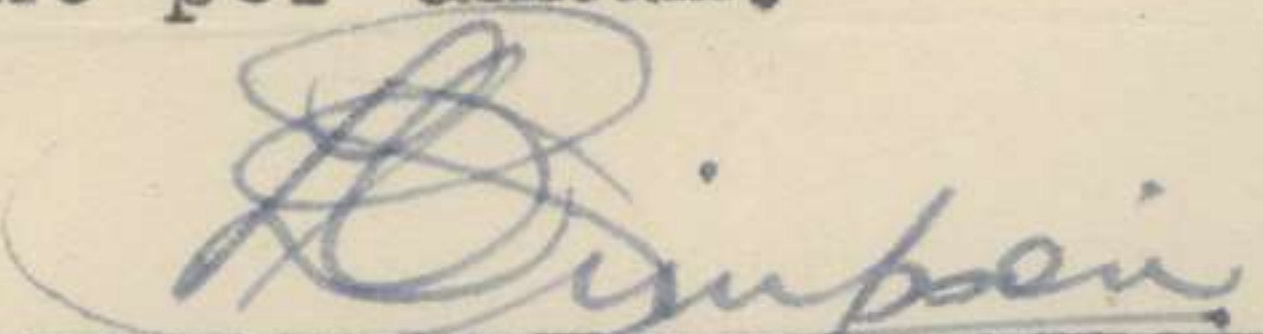
SUBJECT: WATER PROOF WALLETS

HQ. 20 Aust Inf.Bde.
9 Aust Div.

Ref: G5/15/440 of 9 Sept.44

We are now in a position to report as under:-

- (a) Yes.
- (b) It is considered that for carrying Paybook AAB83 Etc., the Wallet is unnecessarily wide and could be reduced by 2- inches. The retaining band is considered unnecessary.
- (c) Good for one Campaign.
- (d) 100 per cent per annum.


Q.M. 2/17 Aust Inf.Bn. Capt.

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
Ref: 65/15/440
9 Sep 44

Subject: Wallets Waterproof

2/13 Aust Inf Bn
2/15 Aust Inf Bn
2/17 Aust Inf Bn

1. Four waterproof wallets are being forwarded to each battalion for user trials. The wallet has been designed to replace other types at present issued to protect paybooks and personal papers.
2. Reports are required at this HQ by 25 Oct 44 covering the following points :-
 - (a) Is the wallet sufficiently waterproof to protect paybooks etc against conditions of service likely to be met in tropical areas outside Australia?
 - (b) Is the design satisfactory. If not, can improvements be suggested?
 - (c) Estimated life of waterproofing in wallets.
 - (d) Estimated war usage rate.

D. Worthley Capt
for Maj

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

Subject : Wallets Waterproof.

HQ 9 Aust Div
8 Sep 44
G811/85/1

20 AUST INF BDE	RAA 9 AUST DIV
24 AUST INF BDE	RAE 9 AUST DIV
26 AUST INF BDE	2/2 AUST MG BN
2/9 AUST CAV (COMMANDO) REGT	2/3 AUST PNR BN

Copy to ADOS 9 AUST DIV

1. A waterproof wallet has been designed to replace the cutdown gas wallets which have been issued up to the present to protect mens' paybooks and personal papers.
2. Sixty of these wallets have been received and it is desired that they be issued to selected personnel for user trial, early, to enable test to be carried out over a prolonged period.
3. Distribution is hereunder:-

20 Aust Inf Bde	13	RAA 9 Aust Div	7
24 Aust Inf Bde	13	RAE 9 Aust Div	4
26 Aust Inf Bde	13	2/2 Aust MG Bn	3
2/9 Aust Cav (Commando) Regt	4	2/3 Aust Pnr Bn	3
4. It is requested that a report be forwarded to reach this HQ by 31 Oct 44, covering the undermentioned points:-
 - (a) Are the wallets sufficiently waterproof to give adequate protection to paybooks, AAB 83, etc, under most conditions of service likely to be met with in tropical areas outside AUSTRALIA?
 - (b) Is the design considered satisfactory. If not, what improvements can be suggested?
 - (c) How long is it considered that the wallets will retain their waterproof qualities?
 - (d) What is the estimated war usage rate?
 - (e) Duration of test.
 - (f) Any other comments it is desired to make.
5. At the conclusion of user tests, please return one of the wallets to this HQ for forwarding to 1 Aust Corps.

Hollins Lt
for Lt Col
GS 9 Aust Div

SUBJECT: CLEANING BRUSHES FOR MECHANISM OF AUTOMATIC WEAPONS

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
G5/15/649
21 Nov 44

36

9 Aust Div

Ref 9 Aust Div G826/85/7 of 18 Nov 44, the brush, as described, is a requirement, and its issue on the scale of one per each automatic weapon is recommended.

W. H. Underly
Brig
Comd 20 Aust Inf Bde

SUBJECT: BRUSHES TO CLEAN MECHANISM AND MAGAZINES OF SA

No 6-5/15/754

18 NOV 1944

RECEIVED

HQ 9 Aust Div
G.826/85/7
18 Nov 44

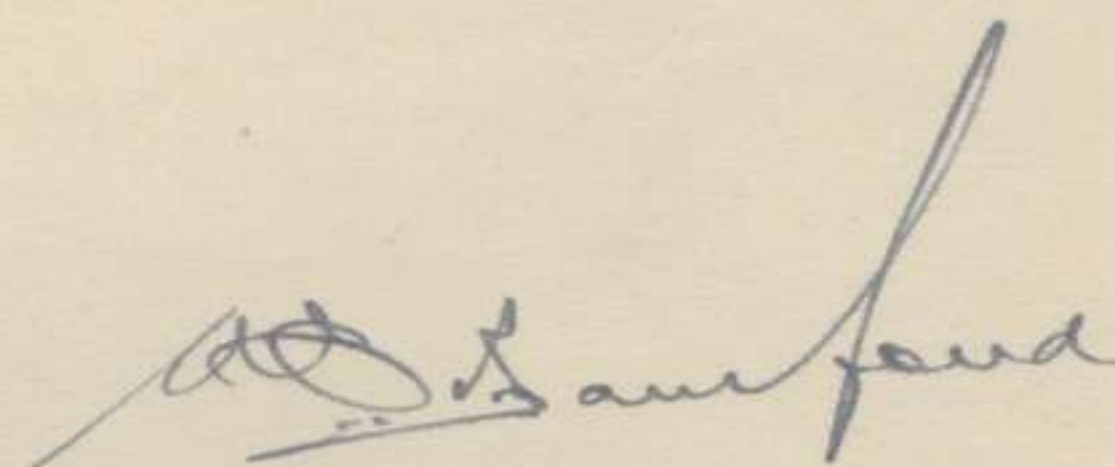
20 Aust Inf Bde ✓
24 Aust Inf Bde
26 Aust Inf Bde
2/9 Aust Cav (Commando) Regt
2/2 Aust MG Bn
2/3 Aust Pnr Bn

1. The British Army has found the need to provide a brush to clean the mechanism of automatic weapons and the interior of Bren Magazines.

2. This brush is a twisted wire type of approx 8½-in in length and is used to clean the interior of MG and SMG bodies, also to remove sand and dirt from the interior of Bren Magazines.

The brush can be carried in a '37 basic pouch.

3. It is requested that addressees advise this HQ NOT later than 21 Nov 44 whether it is considered that a brush to perform the functions outlined above is a requirement.



Lt Col
GS 9 Aust Div.

SUBJECT: GUNS MACHINE BREN EQPT

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
G5/15/650
22 Nov 44

39

9 Aust Div

Ref 9 Aust Div G267/85/7 of 9 Nov 44, the following notes are made:-

(a) Mountings Tripod Bren (Airborne)

- (i) the mounting is not considered a requirement for the inf bn
- (ii) in the past the Bren tripod has been used only in static conditions where tpt was available for carriage, and employed primarily in an AA role. Where tpt has not been available the mounting has not been used, therefore the lighter weight of the airborne model offers little advantage. The fact also that it cannot be used for AA def greatly reduces its value to the inf. Where conditions permit the use of the Bren tripod it is felt that the model at present in use is preferable to the new type.

(b) Covers Overall Bren Mk v 1 and 11

- (i) it is recommended that the Mk 11 cover be issued on the scale of one per Bren
- (ii) the addition of a pad on the safety catch side of the cover would make it more comfortable when carrying the gun on the shoulder.

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



SUBJECT: GUNS MACHINE BREN EQPT

HQ 9 Aust Div
G.267/85/7
9 Nov 44

20 Aust Inf Bde
24 Aust Inf Bde
26 Aust Inf Bde

1. Samples of the above eqpt have been received for user trials and will be delivered to HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde by an LO from HQ 9 Aust Div .

2. Allocation of dates for trials will be as follows :-

26 Aust Inf Bde	9 Nov to 12 Nov 44
24 " " "	14 " " 17 " "
20 " " "	19 " " 22 " "

Each bde will be responsible to pass on the eqpt on the dates laid down. 20 Aust Inf Bde will return the eqpt to this HQ at conclusion of trials.

3. On the completion of the trials a report covering the questions set out in att appxs will be forwarded to this HQ NOT later than 24 Nov 44.

Lt Col
GS 9 Aust Div

2/15 Lt. Stammers 1030
Lt. Brown
2/17 1030

c/c B/7 18 Nov

MOUNTINGS TRIPOD BREN (AIRBORNE)

(Issued with 9 Aust Div G.267/85/7 of 8 Nov 44).

1. This mounting was developed in UK for use by airborne forces.
2. It weighs 26 lbs compared with the existing tripod weighing 30 lbs, but does NOT provide the leg extension to enable it to be used in an AA role. It is purely a ground mounting which can be folded up for ease of handling.
3. It would be possible to modify existing mountings in fd wksp should a requirement exist for the folding type.
4. The pts to be covered in the report are as follows:-
 - (a) Is the Mounting Tripod Bren (Airborne) considered to be a requirement for inf, pnr, MG and parachute bns and commando sqns.
 - (b) Is it considered that all or only a proportion of tripods held by the abovementioned units should be modified.

COVERS OVERALL BREN MKs I & II

(Issued with 9 Aust Div G.267/85/7 of 8 Nov 44)

1. The Mk I cover was originally produced at the request of Northern Territory Force to provide protection against dust and rain.
2. The Mk II cover has since been designed to provide protection for the gun when the magazine is in posn. It also has the advantage of NO openings on the top side, thus providing greater protection against rain, than that provided by the Mk I.
3. The pts to be covered in the report are as follows:-
 - (a) Is either type of Overall Cover Bren considered to be a requirement for units of Jungle Fms, and if so -
 - (b) Which type and to which units should an issue be made?

SUBJECT : 3" MORTAR CARRYING HARNESS

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
G5/15/6P3
5 Dec 44

39

9 Aust Div

1. During recent trg the abovementioned eqpt has been given exhaustive tests which revealed certain weaknesses.

2. Although the harness is well designed, the material from which it is made is far from satisfactory. Faults noticed were -

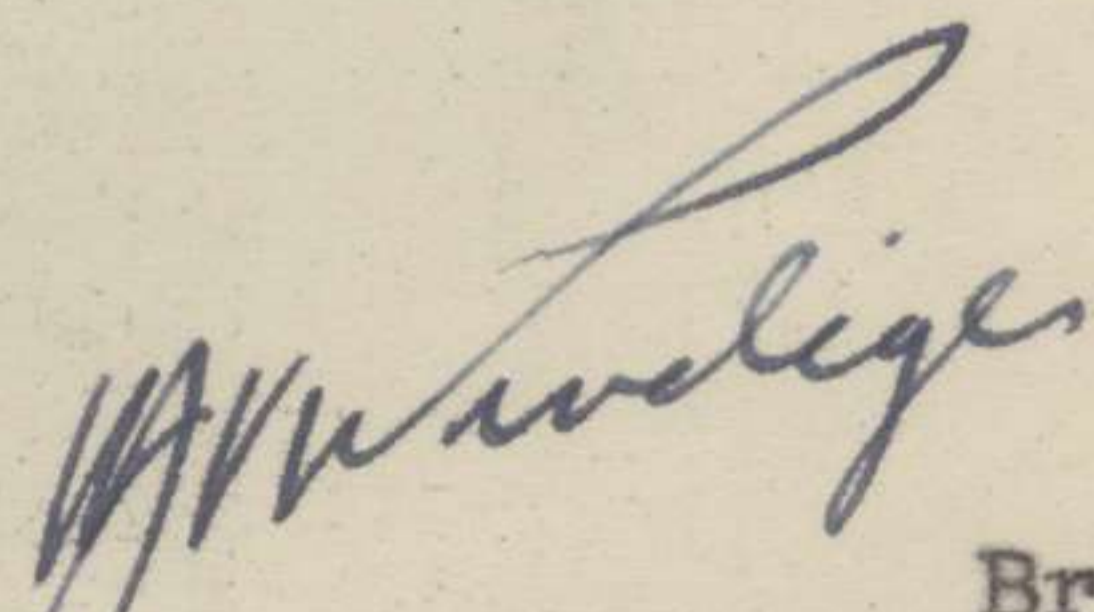
(a) poor quality of metal swivels, spring clip attachment, and its retaining steel spring; frequent breakages of these parts occurred during trg.

(b) webbing is too light and twists and frays quickly.

3. The following improvements are recommended -

(a) stronger clip and hook attachments for all parts of harness.

(b) stronger webbing.


Brig
Comd 20 Aust Inf Bde

SUBJECT : REPORT ON MORTAR CARRYING HARNESS

HQ 2/13 Aust Inf Bn

Ref 9101-1204

24 Nov 44

20 Aust Inf Bde

1. During recent exercises exhaustive tests were carried out with the abovementioned harness. The harness did not prove satisfactory under fd conditions.
2. The following faults were noticed:-
 - (a) Poor quality of spring clip attachments
 - (b) Retaining steel spring damaged easily
 - (c) Hook portion of the clip attachment is too lt and thin and has frequently broken in two.
3. Broken clips cause loss of harness when gear is being tptd by MT. Clips dropping off the mortar parts cause portions of the harness to become mislaid.
4. Design of harness is good. It is considered that the materials used in manufacture are inferior.
 - (a) Webbing is too lt and frays through quickly
 - (b) Hook attachments are too lt and of poor durability
5. Recommendations for improvement are as follows:-
 - (a) Provision of stronger hook attachments for all portions of harness
 - (b) Stronger webbing.

Capt Main

H. Douglas
Comd 2/13 Aust Inf Bn

Lt-Col

*2/17 Aust Inf Bn
Concurs
H. Douglas Lt-Col*

Could you check this with mortar offrs of 7/5 & 7/7 Bns.

and see if their experience is the same.

2/5 Aust Inf Bn concurs entirely with 2/13
Aust Inf Bn report. *H. Douglas*

WEAPONS CHESTS REQUIRED ON OPS

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
G 5151697
9 Dec 44

40

9 Aust Div

1. Ref conversations GSO2 - BM 20 Aust Inf Bde it is recommended that the following scale of chests is required.

Serial No	Type of Op	2 in MOR	3 in MOR	MMG	LMG	PITA	
						Tks	No Tks
1	Assault landing	Nil	4	Nil	Nil	Nil	12
2	Res Bde landing	Nil	4	Nil	Nil	Nil	12
3	Landing through est bchhd	12	8	4	41	12	12

2. The figures given for serials 2 and 3 can only be an estimate as the number of chests to be carried might depend on the circumstances of a particular op.

3. It is assumed that chests would be carried on LSI, LCI and other tpts. The figures given are of the number of chests to be taken ashore with the tps in landing craft.

4. (a) It is strongly recommended that chests for all of the above weapons be brought in later with res stores for use when units are not engaged in battle.

(b) It is desirable when tpt facilities permit to carry automatic weapons boxed. Otherwise, when carried in vehs damage often occurs to sights and parts of the mechanism.

W. R. Lindley
Brig
Comd 20 Aust Inf Bde

SUBJECT : WEAPON CHESTS REQUIREMENTS

HQ 2/13 Aust Inf Bn
Ref 8121-1 282.
5 Dec 44

20 Aust Inf Bde

Ref conversation with Capt H MAIN. The following requirements are suggested by this unit:-

<u>Nature of op.</u>	<u>Number Chests Required</u>		
	<u>VICKERS MMG</u>	<u>MOR 3"</u>	<u>PITA</u>
(a) Assault landing	Nil	4	Nil
(b) Res Bde	Nil	4	Nil
(c) Landing through est beach head	4	8	12
(d) If tks op			Nil
(e) If tks NOT op			12

Div would like parts

Abraham
Lt-Col
Comd 2/13 Aust Inf Bn

7/15 Bn. weapons etc requiring boxing

1. Assault Bde - 4 x 3" mortars

2. RCs Bde 4 x 3" mortars
8 pitas

3. Bde passing through
cut beachhead as for 2 above

Subject: NUMBER WEAPON CHESTS CARRIED ON OPS

HQ 2/17 Aust Inf Bn
A
8 Dec 44

20 Aust Inf Bde

1. Subtended is report as requested by BM 20 Aust Inf Bde in ref above subject:-

" (a) Assault Landing.

2" Mortar Chests	Nil
3" " "	Nil
Bren Chests	Nil
Pita Chests	Nil

(b) If Part of Reserve Bde.

2" Mortar Chests	Nil
3" " "	Full entitlement if tpt available on landing
Bren Chests	Nil
Vickers Chests	As for 3" Mortar in this category
Pita Chests	Nil

(c) If Landing on Established Beach Head.

2" Mortar Chests	* Full Entitlement
3" " "	" "
Bren Chests	" "
Vickers Chests	" "
Pita Chests	" "

* Depending on availability of tpt.

(a) PITA

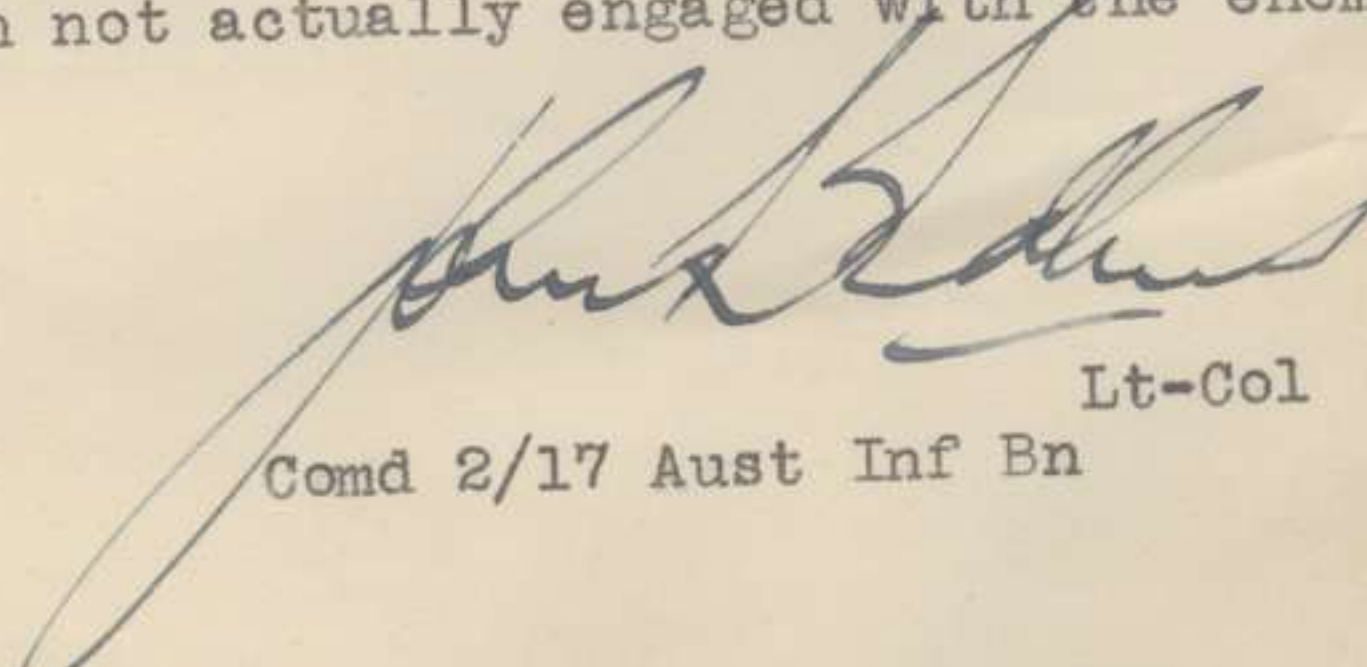
(a) If Landing Against an Enemy Operating with Tanks.

Nil

(b) If Landing Against an Enemy Operating without Tanks.

Full Entitlement "

2. Although chests have not been considered necessary under some of the above headings, it is strongly recommended that they be brought in later with reserve stores for storage and tpt of weapons when not actually engaged with the enemy.


Lt-Col
Comd 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

SUBJECT : HAVERSACKS WE 37 WITH POUCHES UTILITY ATT

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
G5/15/70J
13 Dec 44

43

9 Aust Div

1. Ref 9 Aust Div G866/85/4 of 23 Nov 44, two types of haversack were tried,

- (a) with pouches att by straps
- (b) With pouches att by hooks.

2. The following recommendations are made -

- (a) haversack 1 (b) is preferred and should replace present issue
- (b) the addition of straps on top of haversack, to allow carrying of gas cape, would be an improvement. Our G5/15/213 of 13 Jun 44, concerning haversacks Type A and B, refers
- (c) an improvised haversack of this type was used by many soldiers in this bde throughout the ops at LAE and FINSCHHAFEN, and proved very satisfactory.

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



SUBJECT: REPORT ON EQUIPMENT → HAVERSACK G

HQ 2/13 Aust Inf Bn
Ref 811 - 1334
12 Dec 44

20 Aust Inf Bde

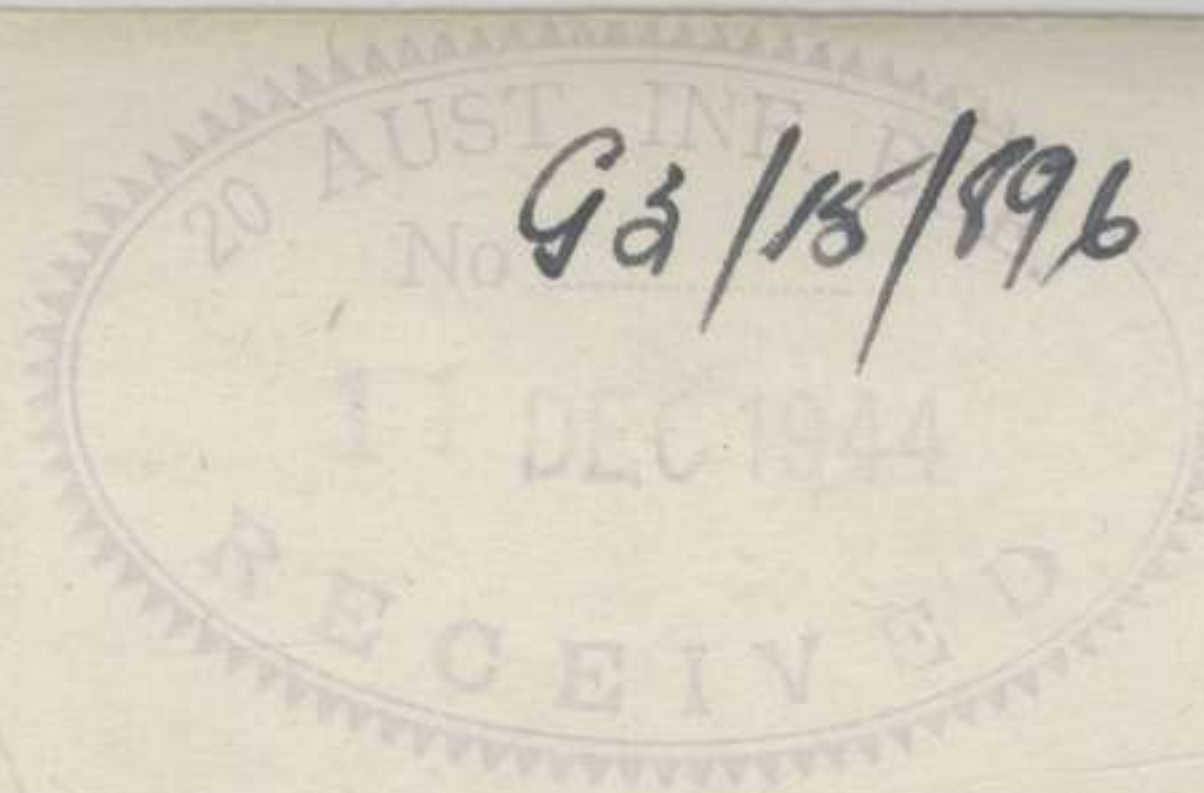
1. The haversack with basic pouches att is quite satisfactory.
2. A similar type was improvised by this unit in the New Guinea campaign.
3. This type has the advantage of having detachable pouches, which allow for a lt load to be carried on patrol.
4. It is suggested that an improvement could be effected by two straps Supporting being sewn to the top of flap of the haversack to hold a gas cape in position.

Bm *[Signature]*

Bm (C)

[Signature] Maj
Adm Comd 2/13 Aust Inf Bn

AOD



2/17 Aust Inf Bn
11 Dec 44

Subject :- HAVERSACK WE 37 WITH POUCHES UTILITY ATT

20 Aust Inf Bde

Herewith report in accordance with para 2 of your memo G5/15/663 of 23 Nov 44 :-

- (a) The improvement was used extensively in New Guinea and was considered the only means of carrying all effects.
- (b) No.
- (c) Introduction will eliminate mutilation of equipment in designing and constructing on the soldier's own initiative.

2. The equipment has been returned to your HQ as requested.

James Lawrence Gaird
 for Lt. Col
 2/17 Aust Inf Bn.
 A.O.D.

SUBJECT: HAVERSACKS WE 37
WITH POUCHES

Hq 2/15 Aust Inf Bn
Ref: 296/1/44
8 Dec 44.

20 Aust Inf Bde

1. Ref your G5/15/663, the following report is submitted.
 - (a) It is considered that haversack is a requirement and should replace present issue
 - (b) No modification is required.
 - (c) An improvised haversack of this type was used continuously by members of this unit during LAE and FINSCHHAFEN operations.

C. H. C. Lt-Col.
Comd 2/15 Aust Inf Bn.

SUBJECT : HAVERSACKS WE 37 WITH POUCHES UTILITY ATT

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
G5/15/66
23 Nov 44

✓ 2/13 Aust Inf Bn
✓ 2/15 Aust Inf Bn
✓ 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

1. Two of the abovementioned haversacks have been delivered to each bn for user trials.
2. Reports will reach this HQ by 11 Dec 44 covering the following points:-
 - (a) Is haversack a requirement and should it replace present issue?
 - (b) Any modifications required.
 - (c) Additional comments.
3. The eqpt will be returned to this HQ with the report.

D. Worthley Capt
for Maj
HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde

65715/724
SUBJECT : HAVERSACKS WE 37 WITH POUCHES UTILITY ATT.



HQ 9 Aust Div
G. 866/85/4
23 Nov 44.

20 Aust Inf Bde ✓
24 Aust Inf Bde
26 Aust Inf Bde
2/9 Aust Cav (Commando) Regt
2/2 Aust MG Bn
2/3 Aust Pnr Bn
2 Aust Beach Gp

1. A quantity of the abovementioned eqpt has been received for user trial and will be delivered to addressees by an LO from HQ 9 Aust Div. The eqpt for 2 Aust Beach Gp will be delivered direct.

2. The eqpt will be distributed as follows :-

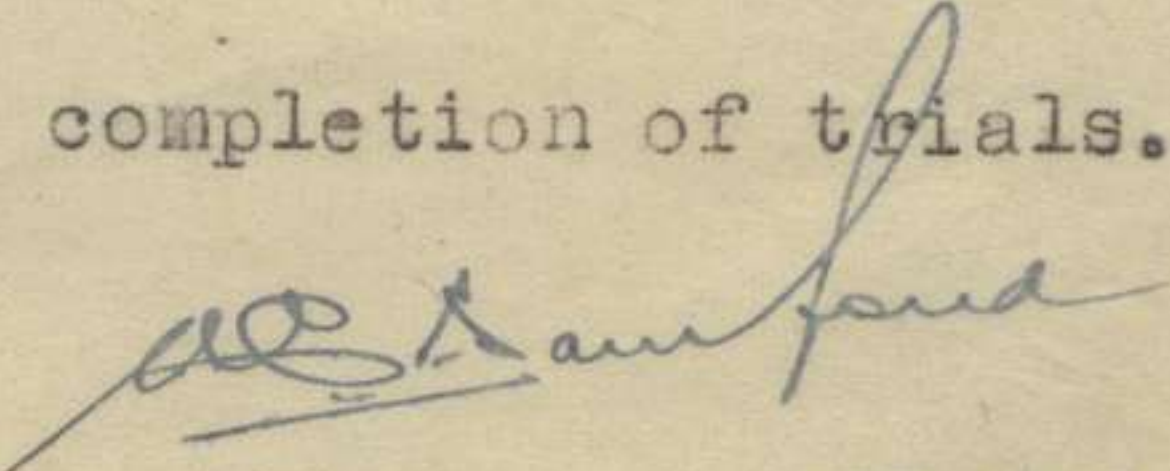
20 Aust Inf Bde	6
24 Aust Inf Bde	6
26 Aust Inf Bde	6
2/9 Aust Cav (Commando) Regt	2
2/2 Aust MG Bn	2
2/3 Aust Pnr Bn	2
2 Aust Beach Gp	10

3. This eqpt is a combination of the standard issue haversack and pouch utility, the latter being detachable from the haversack.

4. A report will be submitted to this HQ, not later than 14 Dec 44, covering the following pts :-

- (a) Is the haversack considered an army requirement to replace the standard haversack
- (b) Any modifications which are regarded as essential
- (c) Any additional comments.

5. The eqpt will be returned to this HQ on completion of trials.


Lt Col
GS 9 Aust Div

SUBJECT: CARRIERS 2" MORTAR BOMBS

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
G.5/15/712
16 Dec 44

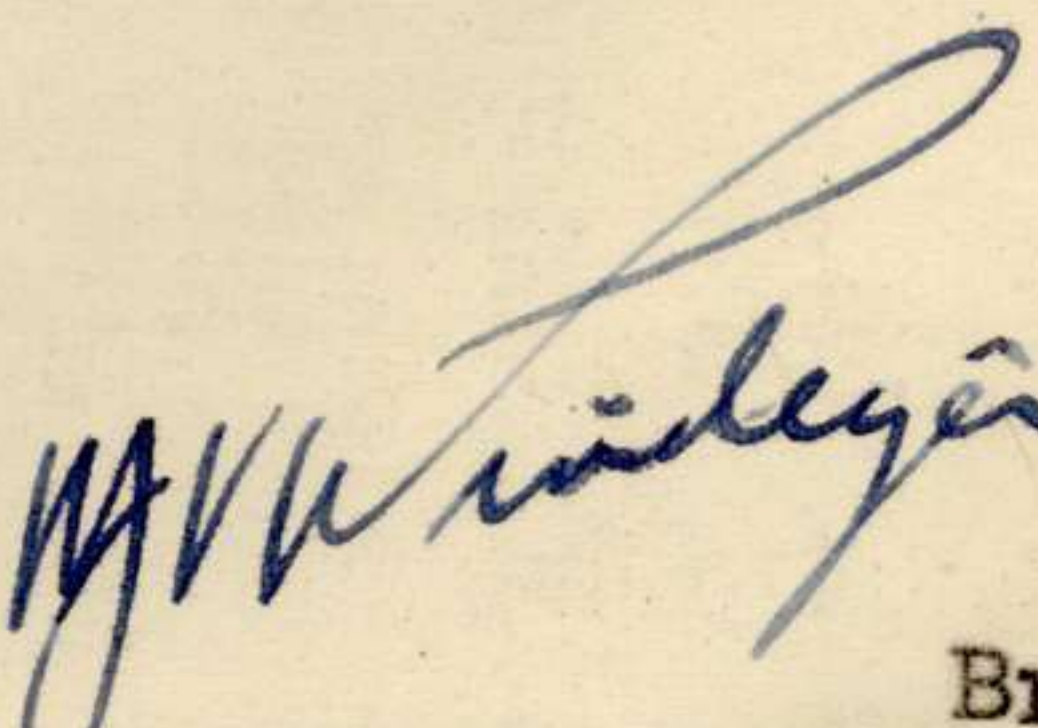
45

9 Aust Div

Ref your G29/75/10 of 13 Dec 44, the following answers are given -

- (a) The carrier is a requirement.
- (b) As the 2 in mortar bomb is waterproofed, the tail assembly only needs covering.
- (c) The carrier is more convenient than present eqpt as bombs are always ready for action.
- (d) Suggested scale of issue, two per 2 in mortar to be worn by number 1 of crew. Number 2 would still carry bombs by present method.
- (e) One buckle strap across the tailⁱⁿ place of the two straps provided would probably allow quicker access to the bombs.

Bm


Brig
Comd 20 Aust Inf Bde



SECRET CARRIERS 2 " MOR BOMBS

HQ 2/13 Aust Inf Bn
Ref 9101 - 1361
15 Dec 44

20 Aust Inf Bde

Ref your G5 / 15 / 708 of 14 Dec 44. The following report is submitted in accordance with para 2.

- (a) The carrier is a requirement
- (b) The tail assembly need only be covered as the bomb is waterproof.
- (c) The carrier is more convenient than the present method as it would ensure that the No 1 would always have bombs ready for action
- (d) It is suggested that two carriers should be issued to Number 1 of 2 in mor crews, No 2 would of course still use the present method of carrying bombs.

Maj
Adm Comd 2/13 Aust Inf Bn

SUBJECT: CARRIERS 2 in MORTAR BOMB

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
G5/15/708
14 Dec 44

3/15 Aust Inf Bn

1. The suggested carrier for 2 in mortar bombs, designed from unserviceable basic pouches, is forwarded for trial.
2. A report is required at this HQ by 19 Dec 44 covering the following points -
 - (a) Is carrier a requirement?
 - (b) Is the waterproof cover on the bombs necessary, or should the tail assembly only be covered?
 - (c) Is carrier a more convenient method of carrying the bombs than at present used?
 - (d) Additional comments.
3. The eqpt will be returned to this HQ by 1200 hrs 16 Dec 44.

Bm

D. Worthley Capt

for Maj
EM 20 Aust Inf Bde

SUBJECT : CARRIERS 2-IN MORTAR BOMB



HQ 9 Aust Div
G.29/75/10
13 Dec 44

20 Aust Inf Bde
24 Aust Inf Bde
26 Aust Inf Bde
2/9 Aust Cav (Cdo) Regt
2/3 Aust Pnr Bn

1. A suggested carrier for 2-in mortar bombs has been received from 2 Aust Beach Gp, designed by 2/2 Aust Pnr Bn from unserviceable basic pouches for user trials, and will be delivered to each addressee in turn by an LO from 9 Aust Div.

2. Allocation of dates for trial are as follows :-

20 Aust Inf Bde	14 Dec to 16 Dec
24 Aust Inf Bde	17 Dec to 19 Dec
26 Aust Inf Bde	20 Dec to 22 Dec
2/9 Aust Cav (Cdo) Regt	22 Dec to 24 Dec
2/3 Aust Pnr Bn	25 Dec to 28 Dec

2/3 Aust Pnr Bn will return the eqpt to this HQ at the conclusion of trials.

3. On the completion of trials, a report will be submitted to this HQ, NOT later than the 30 Dec, to cover the following pts :-

- (a) Is it an army requirement.
- (b) Is the waterproofing on the exhibit necessary, or should the tail assembly only be covered.
- (c) Can bombs be carried more conveniently than with present eqpt.
- (d) Any additional comments.

per Lt-Col
GS 9 Aust Div
AOD

7/13 Bn for trial and report

SUBJECT : EXPENDABLE MUZZLE PLUGS FOR SMALL ARMS

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
G5/15/439
17 Dec 44

46

9 Aust Div

1. Ref 9 Aust Div G14/35/7 of 12 Dec 44, trials suggested that the muzzle plug would have some disadvantages. Being made of non porous material it would cause the barrel to sweat and unless fastened in some way to the weapon would be lost easily.

2. General conclusions were -

- (a) the plug, while a useful article, is not a necessity
- (b) if issued, the scale recommended is two per small arms weapons on WE, half to be kept in unit res.

W. M. Lindley

Brig
Comd 20 Aust Inf Bde

SUBJECT: EXPENDABLE MUZZLE PLUGS FOR SMALL ARMS



HQ 2/17 Aust Inf Bn
A 5/1698.
16 Dec 44.

20 Aust Inf Bde

1. Ref your G5/15/699 of 13 Dec 44, subtended is report as requested:

"(a) This item is NOT considered a requirement for the following reasons:

- (i) would cause excessive "sweating" of barrels.
- (ii) wastage would be excessive.
- (iii) the cost of production and supply would not be warranted by the advantages that may be gained by its use.

(b) (If decided issue is warranted).

Scale of Issue 100%.

Reserve holding at least 100%.

- (c) (i) May be used in ship to shore ops with good results.
(ii) If issued it is suggested that a cord be attached to the lip of the plug for tying to the forend of the rifle - this would eliminate a large percentage of wastage."

Lt-Col.
Comd 2/17 Aust Inf Bn.

SUBJECT : EXPENDABLE MUZZLE PLUGS

SMALL ARMS

HQ 2/13 Aust Inf Bn

Ref

G5/15/926
15 DEC 1944
12/1/362

15 Dec 44

20 Aust Inf Bde

Ref your G5/15/699 of 13 Dec 44. The following report is submitted in accordance with para 2.

- (a) The item is not considered a requirement.
- (b) Nil
- (c) As the plug is not of porous material it is considered that their use would make barrels "sweat".



Adm Comd 2/13 Aust Inf Bn

Maj

SUBJECT : MUZZLE PLUGS SMALL ARMS

HQ 2/15 Aust Inf Bn
Ref: 336 / 1 / 44
14 Dec 44



20 Aust Inf Bde

1. Ref your G5/15/699, this article is considered to be a requirement for general issue to safeguard weapons against weather.
2. Scale of issue recommended is one per Bren and rifle with 100% held in reserve.
3. The articles would possibly have some form of attachment to the rifle to avoid undue wastage.

W. J. Peacock
Lt-Col
Comd 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

Capo
100

SUBJECT : EXPENDABLE MUZZLE PLUGS FOR SMALL ARMS

Hq SO Aust Inf Bde
G5/15/699
13 Dec 44

2/15 Aust Inf Bn
2/15 Aust Inf Bn
2/17 Aust Inf Bn

1. Samples of the above store have been delivered to units for user trials.

2. Reports are required at this HQ by 16 Dec 44 covering the following points:

- (a) Is this item considered to be a requirement.
- (b) Recommended scale of issue and res holdings.
- (c) Additional comments.

D. W. H. H. H.

Hq SO Aust Inf Bde
Maj

SUBJECT: EXPENDABLE MUZZLE PLUGS FOR SMALL ARMS

HQ 9 Aust Div
G.14/85/7
12 Dec 44

20 Aust Inf Bde
24 Aust Inf Bde
26 Aust Inf Bde
2/9 Aust Cav (Commando) Regt
2/2 Aust MG Bn
2/3 Aust Pnr Bn

1. The above store, a simple plastic muzzle plug, has been produced for the following small arms :-

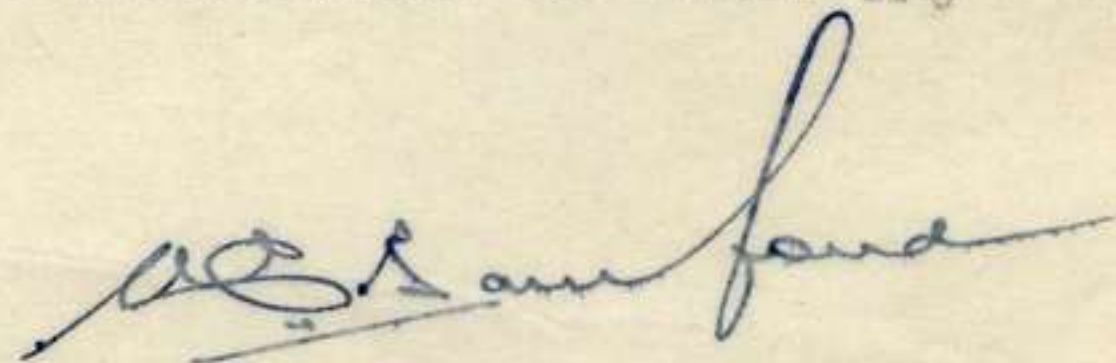
Rifle No. 1
SMG Austen
IMG Bren
Pistol .38

2. Samples will be delivered to addressees by LO 9 Aust Div 12 Dec 44.

3. User trials will be conducted, covering the following pts :-

- (a) Is this item considered to be an Aust Army requirement;
- (b) If so, recommended scale of issue and res holdings.
- (c) Any additional comments.

4. A report on the above will be submitted to this HQ NOT later than 18 Dec 44.



Lt Col
GS 9 Aust Div

SUBJECT : METAFILTER MIDGET WATERFILTER

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
G5/15/716
18 Dec 44

41

9 Aust Div

1. Ref 9 Aust Div G31/35/3 of 13 Dec 44; as the marching personnel and vehs of inf bns are already loaded to capacity, any system of water filtering and sterilizing should be self contained and mob.
2. The filter under review gave reasonable performance with muddy water, but when tried on very muddy water was not always satisfactory.
3. As the filter kills only a proportion of any cholera germs present in the water and sterilization is still necessary, it is considered that a process which both filters and sterilizes the water is preferable.
4. It is felt that a water cart, either the present model or one adapted to the jeep, would be the most satisfactory answer to the problem.

Philip May
for Brig
Comd 20 Aust Inf Bde

A01

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)

10 1st Inf Div

210000K

For Action

TO

8/13 8/15 8/17 1st Inf Div

(w) For Information (INFO.)

Message Instructions GR

ORIGINATOR'S No

0 486 restricted (-) demonstration not at all for major units. It is at this HQ 261000K (-) in 2 10s and byg after will attend 2100 12 available

file

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

Signed

DeWortheley Capt

Signed

2100

Time	System	Op
THI or TOR		
Time Cleared		

SUBJECT : METAFILTER MIDGET WATER FILTER.



HQ 9 Aust Div
G.31/85/3
13 Dec 44

20 Aust Inf Bde
24 Aust Inf Bde
26 Aust Inf Bde

Copy to :

AQ : ADMS

1. Ref our O 835 of 12 Dec 44, the abovementioned Filter has been made available as follows :-

26 Aust Inf Bde 13 Dec - 15 Dec

20 Aust Inf Bde 16 Dec - 18 Dec

2. Owing to shortage of filter powder bdes will arrange to conduct one demonstration only of this eqpt. All hyg personnel and reps from fd embs should attend. 24 Aust Inf Bde Hyg Offr will attend one demonstration.

3. As there is only one outfit available for trial, 26 Aust Inf Bde will deliver outfit to 20 Aust Inf Bde NOT later than 1800 hrs 15 Dec, who will return it to this HQ NOT later than 1800 hrs on the 18 Dec 44.

4. Special attention will be paid to instrs for op and maint which are contained in a booklet supplied with Filter outfit.

5. A report will be submitted covering the following pts :-

- (a) Is this eqpt considered to be an Aust Army requirement.
- (b) Recommended scale of issue.
- (c) Any modifications which are considered desirable.
- (d) Any additional comments.

6. Report to be submitted to this HQ NOT later than 23 Dec 44.

W. H. ...
for Lt-Col
GS 9 Aust Div

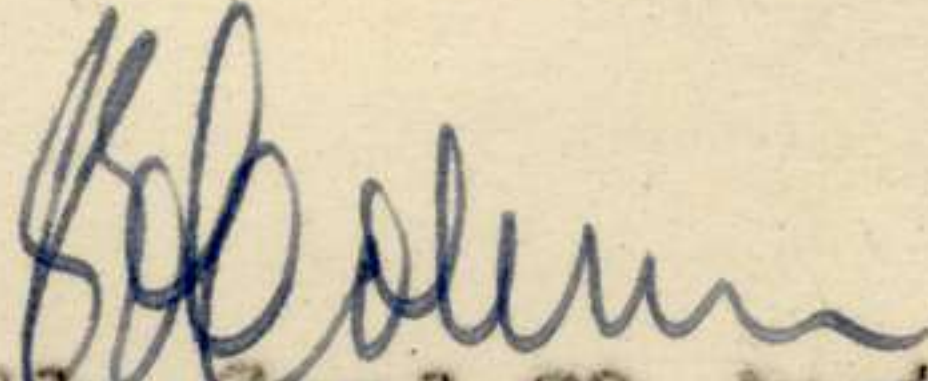
SUBJECT : NETS, CAM, SHRIMP 25 x 12

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
G5/15/724
24 Dec 44

18

9 Aust Div

1. It has been found that the cam net on issue to tk A pls of inf bns is unsatisfactory.
2. Its disadvantages incl:
 - (a) Too small a mesh which produces a discernible shine
 - (b) Inconvenient size and shape. A square net would be better.
 - (c) The net is difficult, if not impossible, to garnish.
3. It is recommended that the present net be replaced by the 14 x 14 open mesh net.


Lt Col
Aim Comd 20 Aust Inf Bde

signed 27.12.44

Subject: NET CAMOUFLAGE SHRIMP. - 25" x 12"



HQ 2/17 Aust Inf Bn
202/1747
20 Dec 44

20 Aust Inf Bn

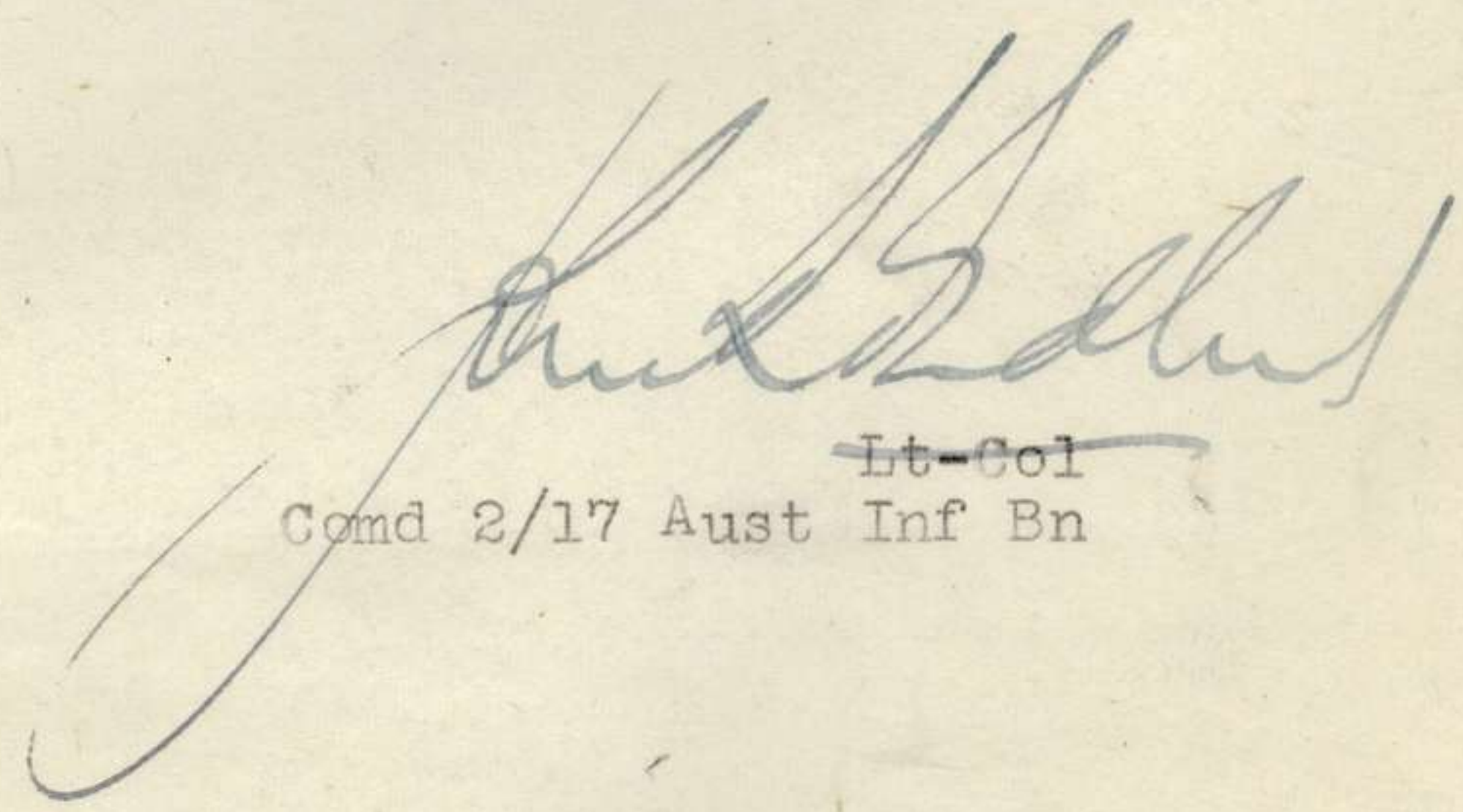
1. Subtended is a report by unit Tk A Pl Comd submitted for any warranted action:-

"It has been found that the present nets on issue to the Tk A platoon are unsatisfactory. The following are some of the reasons:

- i Owing to the small mesh even when camouflaged the sun gives it a definite shine.
- ii The nets are of an inconvenient size and would be better square.
- iii Cannot be garnished to suit local surroundings.

The 14' x 14' open mesh nets would be definitely an advantage and improvement on present issue."

2. This report has the concurrence of 2/13 and 2/15 Aust Inf Bns.

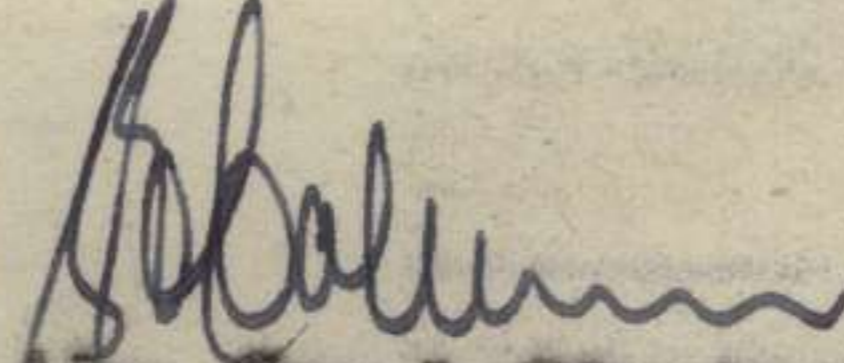

Lt-Col
Comd 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

SUBJECT : GOGGLES - FOG AND DUST FREE

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
G5/15/795
13 Jan 45

9 Aust Div

1. Ref your G110/85/9 of 23 Dec 44, trials were carried out with the goggles and the following report is submitted.
2.
 - (a) The eqpt is considered to be a requirement of all units of an inf bde.
 - (b) A minimum of two sets of goggles per veh in the bde is required.
 - (c) The goggles remained dust free during the short period available for trials. As the weather was dry throughout the tests their resistance to fog was not able to be determined.
3. It is recommended that the eyepieces be tinted to about the same degree as Spectacles, Shaded, Bren Gunner, Mk II to reduce the eye strain caused by glare. Experience in both the WESTERN DESERT and the tropics has shown this to be necessary.


Lt Col
Adm Comd 20 Aust Inf Bde

SUBJECT: GOGGLES - FOG & DUST FREE

HQ 2/15 Aust Inf Bn
Ref: 54/ -145
11 Nov 45.

Jan



20 Aust Inf Bde

1. Ref your G5/15/780, trials were carried out with these goggles and the following report is submitted:
 - (a) Yes
 - (b) One per operational veh
 - (c) Yes, but test was carried out only in dry weather.
 - (d) Rubber against skin causes undue sweat on face. It is suggested that a fur rim would be more suitable.

Coburn

Lt-Col
Comd.

*Anti glare glass used.
Minimum of two per op veh*

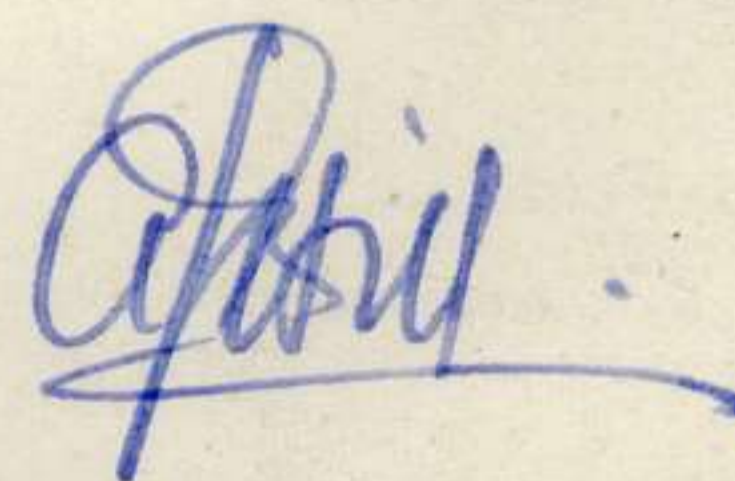
B1/2/1

SUBJECT : GOGGLES, FOG AND DUST FREE

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
G5/15/80
8 Jan 45

2/15 Aust Inf Bn

1. These goggles were developed for use in the Armd Corps but it is considered that they may be of value to other arms.
2. Trials of the goggles will be carried out and a report will be submitted to this HQ by 12 Jan, covering the following pts :-
 - (a) Is the eqpt considered to be a requirement for inf bns?
 - (b) If so what scale of issue is recommended?
 - (c) Do the goggles remain fog and dust free?
 - (d) Any further comments.
3. The goggles will be returned to this HQ with the report.



Maj
EM 20 Aust Inf Bde



BIF
6/1/45

SUBJECT: GOGGLES FOG AND DUST FREE

HQ 9 Aust Div
G.110/85/9
23 Dec 44

20 Aust Inf Bde
RAE 9 Aust Div
Sigs 9 Aust Div

Copy to:- AQ

1. The above type of goggles have now been produced and one pair made available for user trials.
2. This project was originated by "G" Armd Corps, but it is considered that a requirement may exist in other units than armd regts.
3. Addressees will carry out user trials and submit a report covering the following pts:-
 - (a) Is the eqpt considered to be a requirement for other than armd regts?
 - (b) If so what scale of issue is recommended?
 - (c) Do the goggles remain fog and dust free?
 - (d) Any further comments.
4. Trials will be conducted by units in the following order and reports rendered on the times hereunder:-

Sigs 9 Aust Div	- 24 Dec to 30 Dec report to be submitted by 2 Jan 45
RAE 9 Aust Div	- 31 Dec to 6 Jan report to be submitted by 8 Jan 45
20 Aust Inf Bde	- 7 Jan to 11 Jan report to be submitted by 13 Jan 45.
5. Units will ensure that the sample is delivered:-
 - (a) To the next addressee on completion of trials
 - (b) The sample will be returned to this HQ on completion of trials.

[Signature]

Lt Col
GS 9 Aust Div

cc

BIF on arrival of goggles or was later than 6 Jan.

[Signature]

SUBJECT: POUCHES BASIC LARGE - LOOPS FOR BALLISTITE CARTRIDGES

HC 20 Aust Inf Bde
G.5/15/195
15 Jan 45

53

9 Aust Div

Ref your G313/85/4 of 6 Jan 45 it is considered that loops for ballistite cartridges are not a requirement.

W. W. L. L. L.
Brig
Cmd 20 Aust Inf Bde

Subject: POUCHES BASIC LGE - PROVISION OF LOOPS FOR BALLISTITE CARTRIDGES



HQ 2/17 Aust Inf Bn
A202/85
12 Jan 45

20 Aust Inf Bde

1. It is considered that all basic pouches lge should be equipped with loops for ballistite cartridges for the following reasons :-

- (a) They provide a means of carrying the cartridges where they are readily available.
- (b) Cartridges carried in pouches of personnel who do not use grenade dischargers, provide a reserve of ballistite cartridges when required.

Maj
Adm Comd 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

SUBJECT: POUCHES BASIC WE PATT '37 MK II

HQ 9 Aust Div
G. 313/85/4
6 Jan 45



- 20 Aust Inf Bde ✓
- 24 Aust Inf Bde
- 26 Aust Inf Bde
- 2/9 Aust Cav (Cdo) Regt
- 2/2 Aust MG Bn
- 2/3 Aust Pnr Bn

1. Advice has been received that units in NEW GUINEA are of the opinion that loops inside top cover of Pouches Basic large (Aust), designed to hold 3 Ballistite Cartridges, should have been retained.
2. LHQ now advises that the above Pouches have been superseded by Pouches, Basic WE Patt '37 Mk II which are not fitted with the loops, as the gen opinion at the time indicated that they were not required.
3. Addressees will advise this HQ by 20 Jan 45 of their opinion as to the requirements of these loops.

H. H. H. H. H.

2/13 Bn
2/15 Bn
2/17 Bn

REQUIRED

NOT REQUIRED

✓

x

✓

✓

[Signature]

Lt Col
GS 9 Aust Div

LOI arrange circulation & return by 12 Jan.
[Signature]

SUBJECT: USER TRIALS - SIGS COLOURED

54
HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
G5/15/806
17 Jan 45

9 Aust Div

1. Ref your G371/85/6 of 10 Jan the following report is submitted.
2. (a) The rockets are considered suitable as a means of signalling but in daylight the red and green rockets are superior to the white.
(b) Rocket, sig, 2 star with smoke puff is a distinctive sig and would be useful in daylight except under conditions of smoke or when the enemy is using airburst HE over our posns.
3. Disadvantages of the rockets are the pronounced flash at the firing point, the trail made by the rocket and the comparatively short life of the stars.
4. Bombs ML 2 in mortar illuminating and sig green are considered effective but attention is drawn to the fact that both in recent trg and at the demonstration a high proportion of these bombs failed to ignite or open.
5. With the present scale of tpt in an inf bde it is thought that the rockets and bombs ML 2 in mortar sig green should be held in APs, available on demand for specific ops.
6. It is suggested that bombs ML 2 in mortar illuminating could be carried in bn amm res on the scale of 48 per bn.

Philip Inaj
/or Brig
Comd 20 Aust Inf Bde
A011

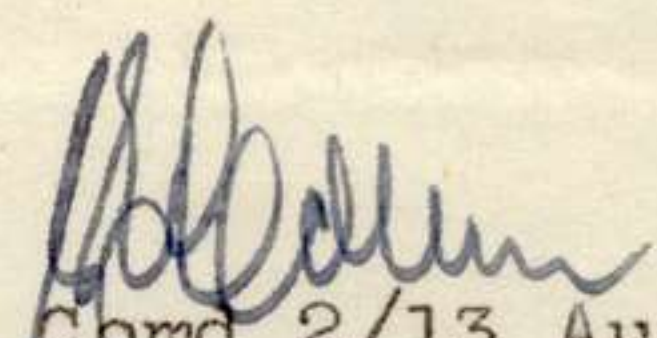
20 AUST. INF. BDE.
No.
14 JAN 1945
RECEIVED
SUBJECT: USER TRIALS - SIGS COLOURED

HQ 2/13 Aust Inf Bn
Ref: G10/-/66
13 Jan 45

20 Aust Inf Bde

Ref your G5/15/788 of 10 Jan 45 the following report is submitted:-

- (a) Although the observers were at the rocket firing point and thus unable to observe from a distance it is considered that all rockets would be effective as signals.
- (b) The WHITE rocket signals would be unsuitable for use by day, but the RED and GREEN would be effective both by day and by night.
- (c) Bombs ML 2" Mortar illuminating with parachute. These are effective for the purpose for which they were designed.
Bombs ML 2" Mortar - Sig GREEN. These would be effective by night but owing to limited height would be less efficient than the equivalent rocket signal.
- (d) It is suggested that rocket signals should be carried in Div amn res and issued on request.
- (e) It is suggested that 2" Mortar parachute flare should be carried in Bn amn res on the scale of 48 per Bn.


Lt-Col
Comd 2/13 Aust Inf Bn

SUBJECT: USER TRIALS - SIGS - COLOURED

HQ 2/15 Aust Inf Bn
Ref: 75 / / /45
14 Jan 45.



20 Aust Inf Bde

1. Ref 20 Aust Inf Bde G5/15/788 of 10 Jan 45 the following report is furnished.
2. Rockets are not recommended, for the following reasons:
 - (a) The duration of illumination is so short that the appearance of the rocket might be missed.
 - (b) It is considered that colours other than red would be indistinguishable from white at more than 1000 yds.
 - (c) The rocket leaves a trail, which indicates the posn of the firer.
 - (d) Each rocket weighs over 1 lb and is an additional item to be carried by fwd inf, who in any event will be carrying 2 - in mortars and amn probably incl flares.
3. The 2 in mortar flare is considered a satisfactory method of signalling. Attention is however drawn to the fact that in recent trg and at the demonstration reported on a large percentage of flares failed to ~~detonate~~ or open. If service amn is no better than that issued for ^{trg} ~~trg~~ purposes the flare is considered completely unreliable. *ignite*
4. No scale of issue can be recommended. Amn would presumably be drawn from APs in accordance with the requirements of particular situations.

Carhuace Lt-Col
Comd
14 Jan

Subject: SIG ROCKET DEMONSTRATION - 12 JAN 45



HQ 2/17 Aust Inf Bn
A5/106
15 Jan 45

20 Aust Inf Bde

1. Ref your G5/15/788 of 10 Jan 45. Herewith report on above as required .

- (a) Sig 2 Star white with smoke puff is a very distinctive sig, hard to imitate. Stars burn out quickly but puff remains visible for a reasonable period.

Red, white and green burned only a short while, though at a great height compared with 2" mortar parachute flare.

The 2 star white with smoke puff appears to be the most suitable type.

- (b) All rockets went to a great height and would be hard to imitate. However the firing point is made too obvious by both flash and smoke, and the stars burned only a short time.
- (c) Not very suitable as a success signal except perhaps in mountainous country where their height range would be valuable. More suitable in a def posn fired from prepared concealed posns.
- (d) A suggested scale of issue would be:

12 each type and colour Bn amn res.

6 each type and colour Bde amn res.

2. It would appear a great deal more convenient and time saving in the adv to use 2" mortar flares. Each Coy has three of these weapons, whereas to load Coys with rockets would seem undesirable, though in a deliberate attack, there will usually be time to issue to Coys from bn amn res.


Maj
Adm Comd 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

SUBJECT ; USER TRIALS - SIGS - COLOURED

HQ SO Aust Inf Bde
GS/15/128
10 Jan 45

2/13 Aust Inf Bn
2/15 Aust Inf Bn
2/17 Aust Inf Bn

1. A quantity of amm suitable for signalling purposes has been received for user trials. The following are the types and quantities received :-

(a) Rockets - 1 lb S star

Red	- 8
Green	- 8
White with trailer	- 8

(b) Sig S star White with smoke puff - 8

(c) Bombs ML S in mortar -
illuminating with parachute
sig green - 9

2. A demonstration of this amm is being carried out on 12 Jan at 1830 hrs on 2/23 Aust Inf Bn Sports Ground 373827.

3. Units will each send one senior rep to the demonstration.

4. It is anticipated that the demonstration will end by 1930 hrs.

5. Each unit will submit a report to this HQ by 15 Jan covering the following pts :-

(a) Suitability of each type for signalling purposes.

(b) Suggested scale of issue for each type.


Maj
HQ SO Aust Inf Bde



1A

SUBJECT : USER TRIALS - SIGS - COLOURED

HQ 9 Aust Div
G.371/85/6
10 Jan 45

- 20 Aust Inf Bde
- 24 Aust Inf Bde
- 26 Aust Inf Bde
- 2/9 Aust Cav (Cdo) Regt
- RAA 9 Aust Div
- 2/3 Aust Pnr Bn

1. A quantity of certain amm suitable for signalling purposes has been received for user trials. The following are the types and quantities received :-

(a) Rockets - 1 lb 3 star

- Red - 8
- Green - 8
- White with trailer - 8

(b) Sig 2 star White with smoke puff - 8

(c) Bombs ML 2 in mortar -
illuminating with parachute
sig green - 9

2. As the amount received is limited a demonstration will be carried out by 20 Aust Inf Bde on 12 Jan at 1830 hrs on 2/23 Aust Inf Bn Sports Ground, map ref 373827, ~~MP GARNET~~ sheet.

A of this amm is being

Inf bdes and RAA 9 Aust Div will send senior reps on following allotment to observe the demonstration:-

- HQ inf bde - 1
- Each inf bn - 1
- HQ RAA 9 Aust Div - 1
- 2/9 Aust Cav (Cdo) Regt - 1
- 2/3 Aust Pnr Bn - 1

*3
15*

3. A report by each addressee will be submitted to this HQ by 17 Jan 45 covering the following pts :-

- (a) Suitability of ^{each} various type for signalling purposes.
- (b) Suggested scale of issue for each type.

omit 20 Aust Inf Bde will also submit detailed comments on the tests carried out.

Adm Comd
Bun *[Signature]*
SC
LO *[Signature]*
IO *[Signature]*
LO2 *[Signature]*

Done
cc Please arrange for 3 reps to be available from 1800 to 2000 hrs 12 Jan. Report to meet ground 1800 hrs.
Lt Col
GS 9 Aust Div
[Signature]

SUBJECT: COOKERS PORTABLE (AUST) 2 BURNER

55

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
05/15/811
20 Jan 45

9 Aust Div

1. After trials of this eqpt conducted during the fortnight ending 17 Jan 45, it is agreed that the modifications suggested in your G260/85/3 of 2 Jan 45 are necessary.
2. It is now considered that the inclusion of the cooker on the WET of inf units is desirable.
3. The scale of issue is recommended as:-

Bn HQ	1	
RAP	1	
HQ Coy	2	(Coy HQ 1, B Ech 1)
HQ each rifle coy	1	
Total per bn	<u>5</u>	

grw

Arthur Hoop

Comd 20 Aust Inf Bde

AOL

Subject: COOKERS PORTABLE (AUST) 2 BURNER



HQ 2/17 Aust Inf Bn
A202/132
17 Jan 45

20 Aust Inf Bde

Ref 20 Aust Inf Bde G5/15/761
9 Aust Div G260/85/3

1. Noted and agreed.
2. (a)
(b) All these modifications are
(c)
(d) considered necessary.

It is agreed that single burner unit is unnecessary for the reasons stated.

3. In view of further tests made it is considered that the institution of this equipment in the WET of an infantry Bn is ~~considered~~ desirable.

4. Scale of issue recommended is as follows:-

Bn HQ 2, including one for RAP
HQ Coy 2, one Coy HQ, one Echalon
Rifle Coy HQ 4, making a total of eight (8).

Maj
Adm Comd 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

cc

BR 19 Jan

B/F 17/1

SUBJECT : COOKERS PORTABLE (AUST) 2-BURNER

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
G5/15/761
3 Jan 45

2/17 Aust Inf Bn

1. LO HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde is delivering one of the above cookers for trials.
2. It is required that the cooker be used intensively until 16 Jan, as much as possible under ~~all~~ conditions.
3. A report under the terms of 9 Aust Div G260/35/3 of 2 Jan (att) will be made to this HQ not later than 17 Jan.

Maj
HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde

SUBJECT : COOKERS PORTABLE (AUST) 2-BURNER



HQ 9 Aust Div
G.260/85/3
2 Jan 45.

20 Aust Inf Bde ✓
24 Aust Inf Bde
26 Aust Inf Bde

1. Ref 9 Aust Div memo G.974/85/3 (not to 24 Aust Inf Bde), 1 Aust Corps have requested that this div should give a further period of trial to the abovementioned eqpt, as reports from other fmns state the item to be a requirement for inf, pnr and MG bns.
2. The only modifications considered necessary by other fmns are :-
 - (a) Catches to be strengthened
 - (b) A wider handle to be fitted
 - (c) "D's" to be placed on the ends of the case to enable it to be carried slung.
 - (d) Funnel reduced in size to fit filling hole of tank.

1 Aust Corps consider that the provision of a special single burner cooker is unnecessary because an ordinary primus stove would be just as effective.

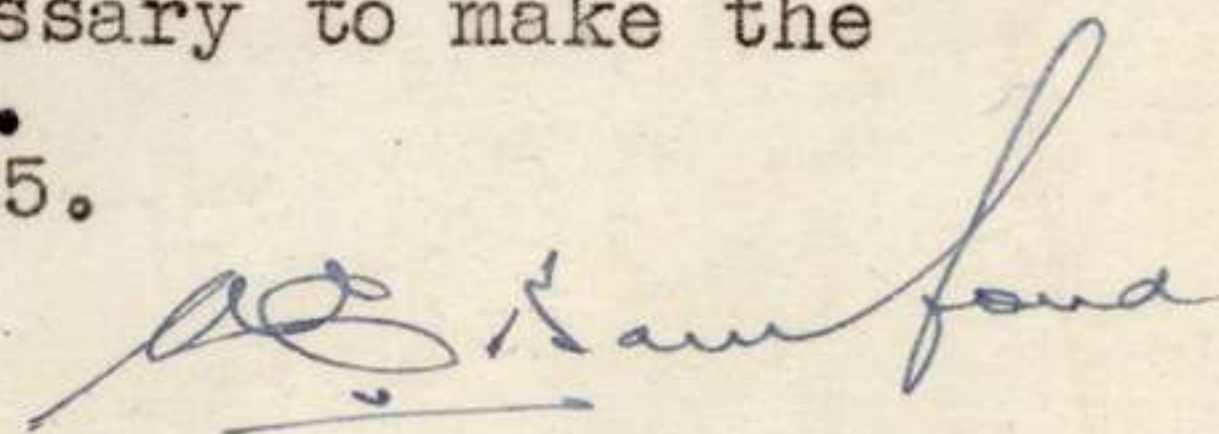
delete One cooker will be delivered to each Bde by an LO from div HQ.

3. It is desired that Bdes should subject the eqpt to a further thorough test lasting some days, preferably in the fd, and to report whether in view of the further tests the eqpt is considered an army requirement for inf, pnr and MG bns.

If the cooker is considered an army requirement, state scale of issue recommended.

If not considered an army requirement, it is requested that Bdes submit details of the modifications necessary to make the eqpt suitable for inf units on tropical scale.

Please fwd your comments before 20 Jan 45.



Lt Col
GS 9 Aust Div

SUBJECT: COOKERS PORTABLE (AUST) 2 BURNER ALADDIN KERO PRESSURE TYPE

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
G5/15/680
2 Dec 44

9 Aust Div

Ref 9 Aust Div G865/85/3 of 23 Nov 44, the following answers are given :-

- (a) In its present form the cooker is not considered to be an army requirement. It is felt that a cooker built on the same lines but containing one burner instead of two, would be more useful because of its reduced weight and easier carriage.
- (b) With present tpt scales two modified cookers per bn could be carried, but if sufficient tpt were available a scale to allow distribution down to secs would be desirable.
- (c) These recommendations are based on inspection only, it was not possible in the time allowed to make a proper test. The usefulness of any article of this type depends on its reliability under service conditions and the availability of spare parts.

Deworthley Capt

for Brig
Comd 20 Aust Inf Bde

subject: Report - Stoves ALLADIN Type

2/15 Aust Inf Bn
Ref: Q11/13/44
27 Nov 44

20 AUST INF BDE



1. Would not be suitable unless more unit tpt is available to inf bns, except for uses as stated in para 2.
2. Under present establishment recommended scale of issue would be one each RAP and bn comd post. If additional transport were on establishment, at least one per section would be required.
3. Two single units instead of the double ~~ind~~^{burner} at present, is considered more useful. The built in protection ~~from~~ wind is an advantage over ordinary primus burners.
4. There are a number of parts that unless they are used carefully would require constant maintenance and replacement. Such time required would not be compensated for their usefulness.

Chace Lt-Col
Comd 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

13 OK.
15 OK.
17 OK.

SUBJECT : COOKERS PORTABLE (AUST) 2 BURNER
(ALADDIN ZERO PRESSURE TYPE)



HQ 9 Aust Div
G865/85/3
23 Nov 44.

20 Aust Inf Bde ✓
26 Aust Inf Bde
RAA 9 Aust Div
MED 9 Aust Div

1. A model of the above eqpt has been received for user trial, and will be delivered to each addressee in turn by an LO from HQ 9 Aust Div.

2. Allocation of dates for trial are as follows :-

20 Aust Inf Bde	26 Nov to 28 Nov
26 Aust Inf Bde	1 Dec to 3 Dec
RAA	24 Nov to 26 Nov
Med	28 Nov to 30 Nov

26 Aust Inf Bde will return the eqpt to this HQ at the conclusion of trials.

3. Special attention should be paid to the instrs for op and maint which are contained in "Service Instrs" card issued with each cooker.

4. On the completion of trials, a report will be submitted to this HQ, not later than 3 Dec, covering the following pts :-

- (a) Are these cookers considered to be an army requirement
- (b) Recommended scale of issue
- (c) Any modifications which are regarded as essential
- (d) Any additional comments.

Lo - please arrange for QM and *[Signature]*
 an NCO cook or cooks from each
 bn to attend this HQ 27 Nov 44
 Comment on above eqpt. 1030hrs.

Lt Col
GS 9 Aust Div

MESSAGE FORM

R/17

Register No.

No.

Priority

GS/15

Transmission Instructions

M

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

Office Date Stamp

Originator

Date—Time of Origin

(A)

20 AUST INF BDE

11 1520 K

For Action

TO

9 AUST DIV

(i) For Information (INFO.)

Message Instructions

GR

File

ORIGINATOR'S No.

O 109 RESTRICTED by your G195/85/1 of 30 JUN 44

(a) yes (b) replace groundsheet (c) one per man plus 10 per cent res (d) no sticks required (e) appears to be (f) when used as sleeping bag upper flap should be 12 ins longer to give complete protection by bedding against rain

Capt Burrell given these replies 10 1500 K

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

DR Ls.

Time	System	Op
THI or TOR		
Time Cleared		

Signed

Wentworthley Capt

Signed



2/17 Aust Inf Bn,
8 July 44.

Subject: VALISES SLEEPING HOODED TYPE.

20 Aust Inf Bde.

1. Herewith report on the above. This report is based on the opinions of all Coy Comdrs in the Unit, insufficient time having been allowed for trial.
2.
 - (a) Yes.
 - (b) Issue to replace groundsheet.
 - (c) One per all ranks plus 10% as a unit reserve.
 - (d) Sticks considered unnecessary.
 - (e) It is thought so, but suggest that trial under operational conditions is necessary.
 - (f) When used as a sleeping bag it is suggested that an additional 12" be allowed in length of upper flap to ensure complete protection for blankets against rain.


Lieut.
QM, 2/17 Aust Inf Bn.

Subject : Valises Sleeping Hooded Type



2/15 Aust Inf Bn
Ref 519/1/44
5 Jul 44

20 AUST INF BDE.

1. The following report is submitted:-

- (a) Yes
- (b) Replace
- (c) One per man
- (d) No sticks required
- (e) Yes, but replacements will probably be required more frequently than groundsheets
- (f) No

W. J. ...
Lt-Col
Comd 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

MEMO

VALISES SLEEPING HOODED TYPE

2/13 Aust Inf Bn
2/15 Aust Inf Bn
2/17 Aust Inf Bn

1. Tests to be made and reports submitted this HQ by 9 Jul 44.

2. Following questions to be answered:-

- (a) Is the article a requirement? *Yes*
- (b) If so, is it recommended that it replace or be issued in addition to the groundsheet? *Replace*
- (c) What is the recommended scale of issue? *One per man*
- (d) Are there any modifications required? *No ~~st~~ sticks required*
- (e) Is the material sufficiently durable? *Yes but replacements will*
- (f) Any further points considered necessary. *No probably be required more frequently than for groundsheet.*

SUBJECT: VALISES SLEEPING
HOODED TYPE.

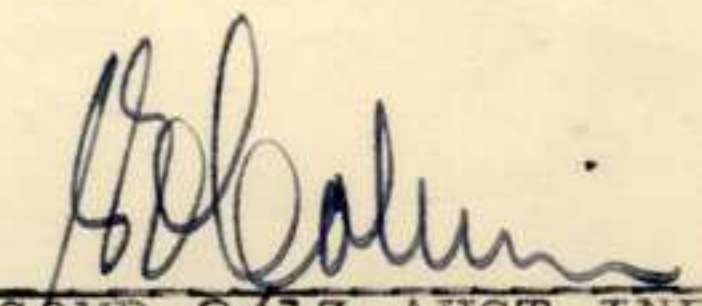


2/13 AUST INF BN
23 Jul 44
Ref Q 12/11 H09.

20 AUST INF BDE.

REPORT ON TESTS CARRIED OUT ON VALISES.

1. An article of similar type, or one filling the same need is a requirement.
2. It is recommended that it be issued in addition to the groundsheet.
3. The recommended scale of issue is one per man, to be issued prior to operations and withdrawn when operation ends.
4. , It was found, during wet weather, that the present system of clips was NOT satisfactory as clips, not correctly positioned caused gaps allowing the entry of water.
5. It is considered that the material is not sufficiently durable, and under active service conditions would quickly wear and probably leak at those points where the body touches the valise. It was found that it could be used as a shelter when slung over a rope or ridge-pole but that was not its intended use.
6. The substitution of a zip fastener, in place of the clips in use at present, would close the gaps between clips through which water was found to enter.
7. During operations, it is suggested that troops be issued with half of a two-man bivouac tent per man(of the type issued in the Middle East) . As the sides of these bivouac tents are reversible, any two men could quickly erect a good waterproof shelter for the night. No pegs or poles need be issued as these can be obtained from the surrounding bush. The half tent is comparatively light, and can be rolled up with the groundsheet and carried in the style adopted in New Guinea. Cost of manufacture of half a bivouac tent per man would probably be less than cost of manufacture of Valises Sleeping Hooded Type and would be far more durable, with consequent less frequent re-issue. Bivouac tents are ~~are~~ less likely to suffer damage during periods of storage and during the various forms of transport,


Lt Col
CMD 2/13 AUST INF BN
(GE COLVIN)

MEMO

VALISES SLEEPING HOODED TYPE

2/13 Aust Inf Bn

2/15 Aust Inf Bn

2/17 Aust Inf Bn

1. Tests to be made and reports submitted this HQ by 9 Jul 44.
2. Following questions to be answered:-
 - (a) Is the article a requirement?
 - (b) If so, is it recommended that it replace or be issued in addition to the groundsheet?
 - (c) What is the recommended scale of issue?
 - (d) Are there any modifications required?
 - (e) Is the material sufficiently durable?
 - (f) Any further points considered necessary.

MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

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

FROM (A) 9 airt div	Originator	Date—Time of Origin 03 1030	Office Date Stamp 95/15/44 JUL 1944
TO 20 airt inf bde 24 airt inf bde 2/9 airt COO (commando) regt RAA MEDICAL	For Action		Message Instructions
	(i) For Information (INFO.)		GR
A705 9 airt div			



ORIGINATOR'S No.

0640 requested @ ref am 6 195/25/1 of 30 June
VAHISES @ samples expected 5 July @ reports as per para
2 will be submitted by Sig in first instance @
fuller reports with special ref to dehabilitability will be
called for at later date

Bm (4)

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN
by any means { except } Wireless

Signed

[Handwritten signature] Capt

If liable to be intercepted or fall into
enemy hands, this message must be
sent IN CIPHER

Signed

Originator's Instructions
Degree of Priority

DRLS

Time	System	Op
THI or TOR		
Time Cleared		



Subject: Valises sleeping, hooded type

HQ 9 Aust Div
30 Jun 44
G195/85/1

20 AUST INF BDE ✓
24 AUST INF BDE
2/9 CAV(COMMANDO) REGT
RAA 9 AUST DIV
MEDICAL 9 AUST DIV

Copy to: ADOS 9 AUST DIV

1. Samples of the above will be forwarded within the next few days to addressees as under:-

20 Aust Inf Bde	-	6
24 Aust Inf Bde	-	6
2/9 Aust Cav (Commando) Regt	-	6
RAA 9 Aust Div	-	6
Medical 9 Aust Div	-	5

2. It is requested that field trials be conducted and reports submitted to this HQ by 10 Jul 44 on the following points:-

- (a) Is the article a requirement?
- (b) If so, is it recommended that it replace or be issued in addition to the groundsheet?
- (c) What is the recommended scale of issue?
- (d) Are there any modifications required?
- (e) Is the material sufficiently durable?
- (f) Any further points considered necessary.

3. A member of the GS Eqpt Fd Sec may be in the area and available for discussion on the conduct of the trials.

4. In order to report as completely as possible on sub-para 2(e) above, it is requested that the valises be subjected to trials under service conditions for the maximum time available.

J. D. Dunnell Capt
for. Lt Col
GS 9 Aust Div

Telephone replies to div by 1800 hrs 7 Jul

Subject: Yukon Pack

Ref your sig 0138 of 20 Jul 44

20 AUST INF BDE



1. Yukon packs have been the subject of experiments by this bn over long distances, flat and rough country. They proved to be quite successful and did not cause discomfort to the wearer. The head strap was found to be of no use to the wearer and could be dispensed with.

(a) During operations loads up to sixty pounds could be carried with less fatigue to the man. The pack would be useful for carrying rations, amn, sig equipment and surplus gear.

(b) Propose scale of issue be

HQ Coy	65	
Rifle Coys		3 per coy
Bn HQ	1	

Total for Bn 78

Brumby Strange

Maj
Adm Comd 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

Subject: Yukon Packs



2/17 Aust Inf Bn
Ref ; O 138
25 Jul 44

20 Aust Inf Bde

This equipment was given fair trial during bivouac and the following opinions have been formed:-

1. (a) It seems ideal for use in HQ Coy to carry bulky gear, such as Mortar 3-in Bipods and in particular for the portage of Mortar 3-in ammn.
(b) It is also considered useful for handling ammn and cans, condenser, steam of the MMG Pl.
(c) There seems little appreciation for the equipment in Rifle Coys, presuming that the Harness, Carrying, Pita, Bomb is to become an issue.

2. It is considered that 100 Yukon Packs would meet the requirements of this Bn.

[Handwritten Signature]
QM
2/17 Aust Inf Bn

SUBJECT: Yukon Packs



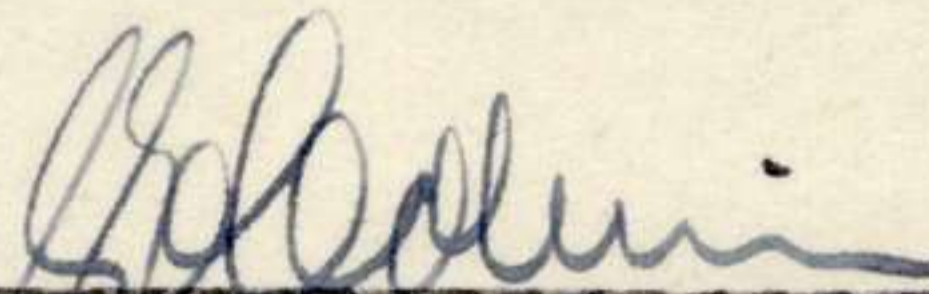
2/13 AUST INF BN
25 Jul 44
Ref 21/ - 1420

20 AUST INF BDE

Ref your Signal 0138 of 20 Jul

The following report on Yukon Packs is submitted:-

- (a) It is suggested that this equipment could be used during operations for the porterage of heavy stores, ammunition and rations.
- (b) The recommended scale of issue is 120 per Bn, to be held in Bde Pool and made available to units as required.


Lt-Col
CMD 2/13 AUST INF BN
(GE COLVIN)

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 201045K
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Office Date Stamp

For Action

TO	2/13 2/15 2/17 Bns
-----------	--------------------

(w) For Information (INFO.)

Message Instructions **GR**

ORIGINATOR'S No.

0 138 RESTRICTED (.) reports on yukon packs required this HQ by 28
jul 44 stating (.) one (.) to what uses can eqpt be put during ops (-)
two (.) proposed scale of issue

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN
by any means { except } **Capt**
Wireless

If liable to be intercepted or fall into
enemy hands, this message must be
sent IN CIPHER

Originator's Instructions
Degree of Priority
DRLS

Signed *D. Subortley*

Signed

Time	System	Op
THI or TOR		
Time Cleared		

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

Subj: Yulpen Packs (Packboards Aust)



HQ 9 Aust Div
7 Jul 44
G678/85/4

20 AUST INF BDE ✓	SIGS 9 AUST DIV
24 AUST INF BDE	2/2 AUST MG BN
26 AUST INF BDE	2/3 AUST PNR BN
2/9 AUST CAV (COMMANDO) REGT	MEDICAL
RAA 9 AUST DIV	ADOS
RAE 9 AUST DIV	

1. Samples of the abovementioned equipment will be distributed by ADOS 9 Aust Div as under:-

20 Aust Inf Bde	30
24 Aust Inf Bde	18 (12 already held)
26 Aust Inf Bde	30
2/9 Aust Cav (Commando) Regt	6
RAA 9 Aust Div	6
RAE 9 Aust Div	10
Sigs 9 Aust Div	4
2/2 Aust MG Bn	10
2/3 Aust Pnr Bn	6
G	1
Medical	9

2. It is requested that the following questions be answered not later than 31 Jul 44.

- (a) To what uses can the equipment be put during operations?
- (b) What is the proposed scale of issue?

Replies from bus submitted to Col Colvin who stated that scale should be 100 per unit this is approx average of original proposals.

J. D. ... Capt
for Lt Col
GS 9 Aust Div

MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

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

FROM (A)	Originator	Date—Time of Origin
20 AUST INF BDE		190820k

Office Date Stamp



TO	9 AUST DIV
	(re) For Information (INFO.)

Message Instructions	GR
----------------------	-----------

ORIGINATOR'S No.

0130 Restricted (.) ref your 0695 of 14 Jul (.) holdall
in is requirement scale one per man (.) holdall should be made of
luminium or painted tin to prevent rust (.) inside of lid should
e polished for use as mirror

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
DRLS

Time	System	Op
THI or TOR		
Time Cleared		

Signed *Dyeortley Capt*

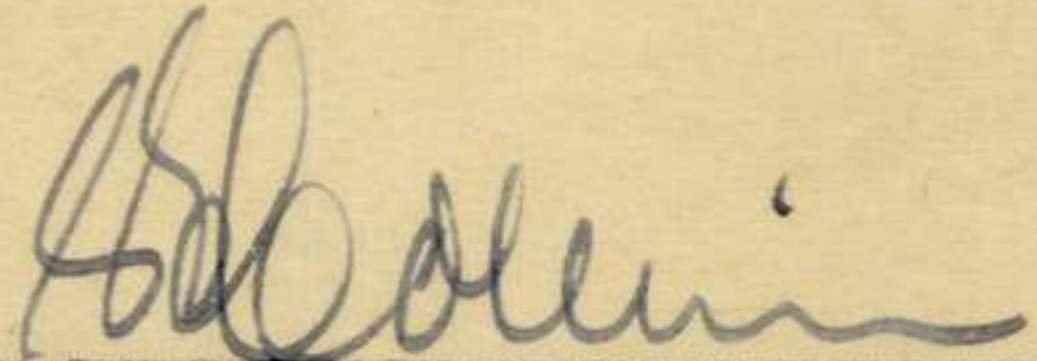
Signed

SUBJECT: Holdall - Toilet Gear

2/13 Aust Inf Bn
Ref / /
16 Jul 44

18 JUL 1944
20 Aust Inf Bde

The suggested small tin to replace existing holdalls is considered a great improvement. The dimensions however would be better at 7x4x1-1/2 inches with rounded corners and made of either rust proof metal or a proofed surface.


Lt-Col
Comd 2/13 Aust Inf Bn
(GE COLVIN)

2/17 Aust Inf Bn

18. 7. 44

REP. O 123.

It is considered that such a tin container is a requirement and in many respects more desirable than the present cloth holdall. It is suggested however, that its depth be 2" to permit of housing a jar of Ingraham Flavouring Cream, this brand, it appears, being in by far greater demand than others.

Dunlop
Q.M.

MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

Call

Ser. No.

Priority

Transmission Instructions

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM
(A)

Originator

20 Aust Inf Bde

Date—Time of Origin
300900K

Office Date Stamp

21

For Action

9 Aust Div

TO

(w) For Information (INFO.)

Message Instructions **GR**

ORIGINATOR'S No.

0163 RESTRICTED (.) ref your G678/85/4 of 7 jul 44(.) one(.)
uses of yukon packs (.) loads up to 60 lbs can be carried with less
fatigue to man than by normal loading (.) articles which can be
carried are 3 in mortar bipeds (.) cans condenser steam for MMG(.)
sig eqpt(.) rations amm and surplus gear(.) two(.) suggested scale per
bn 100

This message may be sent **AS WRITTEN**
by any means { except }

Wireless

Signed *Asura Mley* **Capt**

If liable to be intercepted or fall into
enemy hands, this message must be
sent **IN CIPHER**

Signed *File*

Originator's Instructions
Degree of Priority

DRLS

Time	System	Op
THI or TOR		
Time Cleared		

THI or TOR

Time Cleared

MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

Call

Ser. No.

Priority

Transmission Instructions

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM

(A)

Originator

Date—Time of Origin

Office Date Stamp

SO AUST INF BDE

For Action

151145K

TO

2/13

2/15

2/17

(w) For Information (INFO.)

Message Instructions

GR

ORIGINATOR'S No.

O 123 (.) request comment issue small tin to replace holdall for carriage toilet gear (.) approx dimensions 7 by 3 by 1 and a half ins (.) advise as to whether a requirement or any alternative suggestions to this HQ NOT later than 10 Jul

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

Signed

[Handwritten Signature]

Signed

Time	System	Op
THI or TOR		
Time Cleared		

0123

20 INF. BDE.
65/15/221
4 JUL 1944

PROFORMA MESSAGE FORM

141000K

FROM : 9th SIG DIV

TO : LIST "A"

0695 RESTRICTED: (.) request comment issue small tin to replace holdall for carriage toilet gear (.) approx dimensions 7 by 3 by 1 and a half ins (.) advise as to whether a requirement or any alternative suggestions to this HQ NOT later than 20 Jul

18 Jul

[Signature]
Capt

[Signature]

Bm (C)

DRLS

7 x 4 1/2 with rounded corners
made of rust proof metal



NOTES

B/F " 17/44

G5/15

2/13 Bw - HO

2/15 Bw - 1 per rifle pl

2/17 Bw - 36

180 WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28 186

I am pleased to be praised by a man who is so
praised as you are

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)

2/13 AVST INF BN
For Action

09 0930K

TO

20 AVST INF BDE
(w) For Information (INFO.)

Message Instructions

GR

ORIGINATOR'S No.

Q 282 confidential D ref found 090 pouches
rifle grenade discharges @ number required
400

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

Originator's Instructions
Degree of Priority

090930K

Time

System

Op

THI or TOR

Time Cleared

Signed

[Handwritten signature]

MESSAGE FORM

Call

Sec. No.

Priority

Transmission Instructions

Register No.

FROM

9/13 AVUT

MF BM

DD DD 30K

Office Date Stamp

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

Originator

For Action

(in) For Information (INFO.)

Message Instructions

GR

AVUT MF BDE

T.O.O.
.....
cer Authorising DRLS
Australia. Dept of Army

20 bde
657
U.S.
D. Blair R. J.

400
D 488
D 488
D 488

DD DD 30K

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN
by any means

except } Wireless

Signed

Signed

sent IN CIPHER
If liable to be intercepted or fall into
enemy hands, this message must be

Degree of Priority
Originator's Instructions

Time Cleared		
THI or TOR		
Type	System	Op
000030K		

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No. 6

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

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 20 Aust INF BDE

FROM <u>2/17 Aust INF BN</u>	Originator's Number <u>0263</u>	Date <u>8</u>	In Reply to Number <u>090</u>
------------------------------	------------------------------------	------------------	----------------------------------

<u>Confidential</u>	<u>Relay</u>	<u>fix</u>	<u>packages</u>	<u>required</u>



THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN * (EXCEPT) BY ANY MEANS: () WIRELESS	THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CYPHER IF LIABLE TO INTERCEPTION OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS.	ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY <u>DRLS</u>	TIME OF ORIGIN <u>1400K</u>
SIGNATURE _____ * ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND INSERT "INCLUDING."	SIGNATURE _____	(BELOW THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)	

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

T.H.I.
T.O.R.

O.H.M.S.

20 August 1942
certified copy

TO

22

ORIG. No. T.O.

D.R.L.S.

Army Post

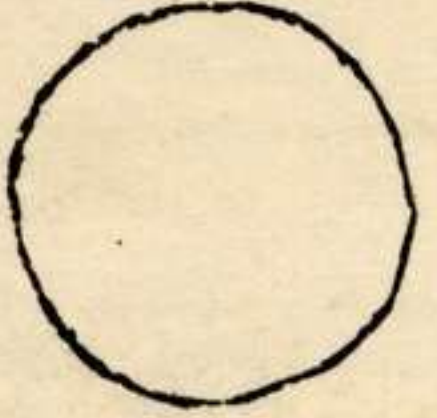
Hand

Strike

Out Two

Signature of Officer Au.

Commonwealth of Austral



.O.

.....
thorising DRLS
ia. Dept of Army

SENDER SYSTEM TIME IN READER SYSTEM TIME IN

(BELOW THIS LINE FOR SIG)

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS (EXCEPT BY AIR) INTO ENEMY HANDS. ORIGINALS AND REPLICAS MUST BE DESTROYED.

THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CYRILIC IF LIABLE TO INTERCEPTION OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS.

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TYPE OF ORIGIN

Army Form C.128 (Page of 100) Reprinted October 1942

MESSAGE

IN OUT

INSTRUC-TIONS

FROM TO

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIG)

MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

Call	Ser. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions
------	----------	----------	---------------------------

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A)	Originator <i>70 AVST INF BDE</i>	Date—Time of Origin <i>07 1715K</i>	Office Date Stamp <i>10</i>
TO	For Action <i>713 715 717 SWS</i>		
	(ie) For Information (INFO.)		Message Instructions GR

ORIGINATOR'S No. *090*

*Discharge can be made available @ advise
requirements by 11 Jul @*

<p>This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means { except } Wireless</p> <p>Signed <i>[Signature]</i></p>	<p>If liable to be intercepted or fall into enemy hands, this message must be sent IN CIPHER</p> <p>Signed</p>	<p>Originator's Instructions Degree of Priority</p> <p><i>DRLE.</i></p>	<table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="text-align:center;">Time</td> <td style="text-align:center;">System</td> <td style="text-align:center;">Op</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align:center;">THI or TOR</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align:center;">Time Cleared</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Time	System	Op	THI or TOR			Time Cleared		
Time	System	Op										
THI or TOR												
Time Cleared												

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) 9 Aust Div

071400K



For Action

20 BDE 24 BDE 26 BDE 2/9 CAN REGT

TO

2/3 PNR BIN

Message Instructions

GR

(w) For Information (INFO.)

ADOS 9 Aust Div

ORIGINATOR'S No.

D 662 confidential @ pouches rifle
grenade discharger can be made
available @ advise this HQ if considered
necessary item eqpt } div advised by phone
unit returns by 11 Jul 090 } 120900K DSW
Dsw 071715K

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN
by any means { except }

Wireless

Signed

If liable to be intercepted or fall into
enemy hands, this message must be
sent IN CIPHER

Signed

Originator's Instructions
Degree of Priority

DRLS

Time	System	Op
THI or TOR		
Time Cleared		

SUBJECT:

PROJECTOR INF IX ATTACK

36

HQ SO Aust Inf Bde
G23/S/676
2 Dec 44

Al
2/13 Aust Inf Bn
2/15 Aust Inf Bn
2/17 Aust Inf Bn

1. PITA trg am on the scale of 10 bombs HE fuze 425 per weapon will be released on approx 3 Dec 44.
2. To conserve the life of the weapons stripping will be kept to a minimum, and to prevent weakening of the spring only essential trg involving cocking of the weapon will be carried out. It must be stressed at all times during trg that the spigot will be eased in under full control.
3. Full use for trg will be made of the trg PITAs held by units.

D. Warthley Capt
for Maj
HQ SO Aust Inf Bde



SUBJECT: PROJECTOR INFANTRY TANK ATTACK

HQ 9 Aust Div
G.937/75/13
1 Dec 44

- 20 Aust Inf Bde ✓
- 24 Aust Inf Bde
- 26 Aust Inf Bde
- 2/3 Aust Pnr Bn
- 2 Aust Beach Gp

1. Ref 9 Aust Div G.229/75/13 of 23 Oct 44, not to 2 Aust Beach Gp, the issue of WE PITAs to fms and units on a scale of one per rifle pl of inf and pnr bns has been completed.
2. Trg amn on the scale of 10 bombs HE fuze 425 per weapon will be released on approx 3 Dec 44.
3. To conserve the life of the weapons stripping will be kept to a minimum, and to prevent weakening of the spring only essential trg involving cocking of the weapon will be carried out. It must be stressed at all times during trg that the spigot be eased fwd under full control.
4. Full use for trg will be made of the trg PITAs held by units.

Comd
Bm
(L)
sc
(L) Sun

Lt Col
GS 9 Aust Div

Repeat paras 2-4 fms

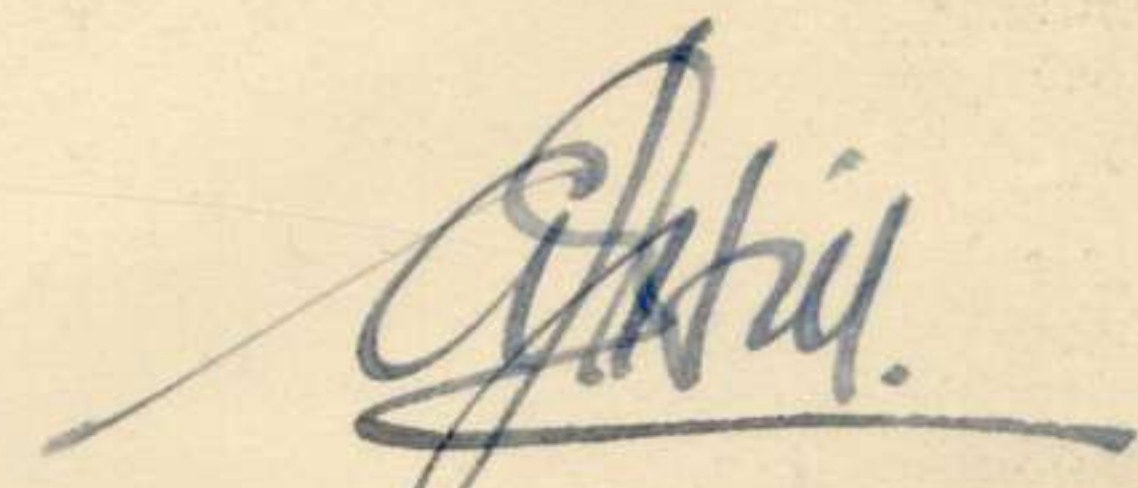
Subject : Projectors Infantry Tank Attack

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
Ref : G5/15/588
4 Nov 44

2/13 Aust Inf Bn
2/15 Aust Inf Bn
2/17 Aust Inf Bn

Copy to: SC

1. The PITA is to be added to the WE of ~~an~~ inf and pnr bnson the scale of one to each rifle pl.
2. First line amn is to be 15 bombs (fused 425) for each weapon.
3. Weapons, first line amn and some trg amn will be available in about two weeks.
4. PITA already held may be retained for trg purposes but will be returned to RSD before moving from the mainland.


Maj
BM 20 Aust Inf Bde

Subject : PROJECTOR INFANTRY TANK ATTACK



HQ 9 Aust Div
G 229/75/13
23 Oct 44

20 AUST INF BDE ✓
24 AUST INF BDE
26 AUST INF BDE
2/3 AUST PNR BN

Copies to : AQ
 ADOS

1. Ref 9 Aust Div Sig O 208 of 082120K, 1 Aust Corps advises that the issue of PITA to fms will be on a scale of one per rifle pl of inf and pnr bns. First line am will be 15 bombs (fused 425) per weapon.
2. Weapons, first line am and a quantity of trg am are to be made available in approx three weeks. Details will be supplied later.
3. PITA already held by fms may be retained for trg purposes, but will be returned to RSD before moving from mainland.

Lt Col
GS 9 Aust Div.

MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

C. 7	Ser. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions
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ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A)	Originator 9 AUST DIV	Date—Time of Origin 65/15/6/2 082130K	Office Date Stamp
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TO	For Action 20 BDE : 24 BDE : 26 BDE : 2/3 PNR BN : Q : ADOS	Message Instructions
	(w) For Information (INFO.)	GR

ORIGINATOR'S No. 0208 restricted (.) ref my 0187 of 7 oct (.) PITAs being issued on basis of one per rifle pl to inf and pnr bns

BASCO
201444
3
TO
AO
FO

Cond
Ben
10

cc
cc (w)
oo

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means { except } Wireless

Signed *[Signature]* Capt

If liable to be intercepted or fall into enemy hands, this message must be sent IN CIPHER

Signed *10 [Signature]* Capt

Originator's Instructions
Degree of Priority

DR 15
order

Time	System	Op
THI or TOR		
Time Cleared		

HQ 20 Aust Inf B de
Ref: G5/15/609
9 Oct 44

Subject: Scale of Issue PITA

9 Aust Div

Ref your message O 187 of 5 Oct 44.

1. The number of PITAS which can be effectively employed in operations will be governed by the terrain and the extent of enemy tank activity. Assuming the theatre of operations to be in open country with strong tank opposition, the following scale is recommended.

Bde HQ 2

Each Bn 16 One per rifle platoon; four in bn reserve for defence of Bn HQ, tank hunting patrols etc.

2. Provision would have to be made in transport scales for carriage of PITAS and ammunition.

Arthur Maj
Brig
Comd 20 Aust Inf Bde

(A01)

MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

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

FROM (A) 20 AVST INF BDE

Originator

Date—Time of Origin 09 0800K

Office Date Stamp

TO 9 AVST DIV

(w) For Information (INFO.)

For Action

Message Instructions **GR**

ORIGINATOR'S No. 0269 restricted ref your 0187 016 per

inf bn 2 for base HQ

File

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

Signed *DeWorthy Capt*

Signed

DRLS.

Time	System	Op
THI or TOR		
Time Cleared		

MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

Call	Ser. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions
------	----------	----------	---------------------------

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) 9 AUST DIV	Originator	Date—Time of Origin 071030K
-------------------------------	------------	--------------------------------

Office Date Stamp

TO 20 AUST INF BDE: 2/3 AUST PNR BN:	For Action 24 AUST INF BDE: 26 AUST INF BDE: (w) For Information (INFO.)
---	--

Message Instructions **GR**

Q ADOS

ORIGINATOR'S No. 0 187 RESTRICTED (.) ref GOCs conference 051400K (.) advise suggested scale of issue of PITAS for ops

bm

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means { except } Wireless

Signed *[Signature]* Maj

If liable to be intercepted or fall into enemy hands, this message must be sent IN CIPHER

Signed

Originator's Instructions Degree of Priority

DRLS

Time	System	Op
THI or TOR		
Time Cleared		

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)

9 AUST DIV

270930K

For Action

TO

20 BDE:

24 BDE:

26 BDE:

2/9 CAV REGT:

(u) For Information (INFO.)

Message Instructions

GR

ADOS

ORIGINATOR'S No.

0909 RESTRICTED (.) our G267/75/13 of 7 jul 44 (.)

modified PITAS will be returned forthwith to ADOS dump

accompanied by G1033

Units notified 0218 @ BOO advised Dgn. 281400R

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

Signed

Signed

Burn Capt

DRIS

Time	System	Op
THI or TOR		
Time Cleared		

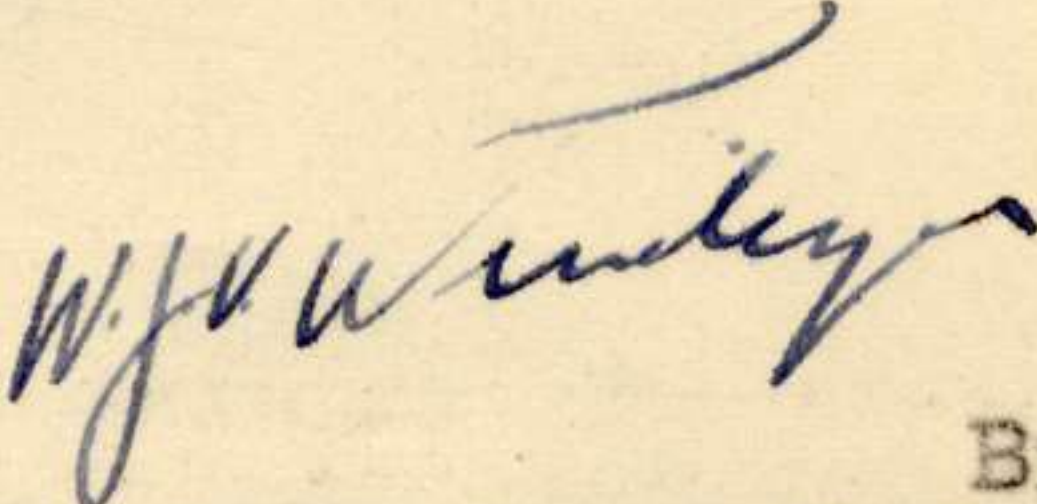
HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
Ref: G5/15/380
19 Aug 44

Subject: PITA - Modified Front Support

9 Aust Div

Ref your G792/75/13 of 22 Jul 44.

1. The modified PITA has been tried and found satisfactory. When fired from uneven or sloping ground the new front support has the following advantages over the old type:
 - (a) quicker to set up and get into action.
 - (b) more accurate.
2. The modified weapon is a requirement.


Brig
Comd 20 Aust Inf Bde

SUBJECT. PITA-Modifications
to Front Support



2/13 AUST INF BN.

18 Aug 44

ref

G16

1110

20 AUST INF BDE.

ref your G23/5/314 of 24 Jul 44

Trials of the PITA have been carried out by this unit using both the present weapon and the modified one.

The modified PITA proved much more satisfactory and it is recommended as a requirement.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "G. Colvin".

Lt-Col.

Comd. 2/13 AUST INF BN.

(GE COLVIN)

Adj.

A Coy 2/13 Bn.
17 Aug 44.

ref

COMPARATIVE TESTS CARRIED BOTH WITH THE PITA & THE PITA (Modified)

Both types of the Projector were fired from a position at which the ground sloped to the right.

With the PITA difficulty was found in keeping the sights upright-- the First Rule of Aiming-- and the ground had to be levelled off so that the base of the Bipod would sit upright--so enabling the sights to be upright.

With the PITA (Modified) the sights could be maintained upright and fire adjustments in that regard could be made even though the ground was sloping and the Bipod itself thus not upright.

For quick setting up and getting the weapon into action the modified pattern is preferable.

Admittedly the weapon could not be fired from ground which sloped too much to the right or left of the firer but on slight slopes the weapon could be brought into action and sights correctly aligned on the Modified type where as with the original pattern the ground would have to be made level for the bipod.

Whether the aim would be thrown off to any great extent, by virtue of the sights NOT being kept upright is doubtful because of the short range of the weapon.

However, for greater accuracy, it is obvious that the modified pattern is preferable.

signed. **NH** COOPER. Capt.

2/17 Aust Inf Bn
In the Field
18 Aug 44

Ref: A227/688

Subject: REPORT ON MODIFICATIONS OF PITA GUN.

20 AUST INF BDE.

Ref your G23/5/314 dated 24 Jul 44.

1. Herewith copy of report on the modifications to the P.I.T.A. Gun.

H. Kennedy

A/Adjt 2/17 Aust Inf Bn. Lt.

REPORT ON PITA GUN

The modified PITA gun was tested by officers of B Coy 2/17 Bn and the report is as follows:

"

1. Both types of weapon were fired by this coy 4 Aug 44.
2. Ten (10) old type fuse bombs were fired, four of which failed to explode owing mainly to not hitting the target directly.
3. The modification to the front support is considered advantageous for the use of the weapon on uneven ground.
4. From observation it would appear that with either support the weapon can be fired efficiently.

G. Holtsbaum Capt. "

.....

.....



SUBJECT: Suggestions re PITA

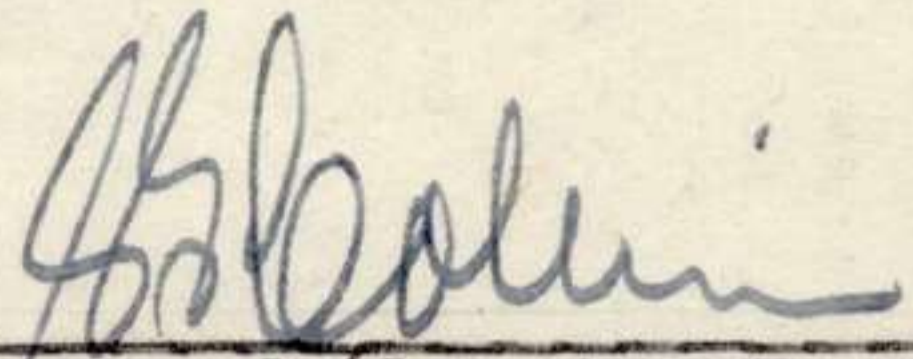


2/13 AUST INF BN
26 Jul 44
Ref G10/ -/ 428

20 AUST INF BDE

As a result of tests carried out on 5 Jul 44, the following information relative to the use of the PITA as a mortar is furnished.

1. Weapon will operate efficiently if used in the role of a mortar
2. Maximum Range is approximately 400 yards at 45 degree angle.
3. Accuracy: With improvised bipod a 50 yard bracket with three bombs at 400 paces was obtained with good line effect,
4. With HE bomb, suggested design similar to GERMAN "S" mine pellet principle, weapon might effectively replace 2" mortar. It would then be available for use for anti-tank, anti-personnel shrapnel, anti-personnel blast.
5. Only modifications necessary for use as a mortar are scaled adjustable folding bipod legs for range setting.


Lt-Col
CMD 2/13 AUST INF BN
(GE COLVIN)

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject: PITA - modifications to front support

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
Ref: G23/5/3/4
24 Jul 44

2/13 Aust Inf Bn
2/15 Aust Inf Bn
2/17 Aust Inf Bn

1. Details of a minor modification to the front support of the PITA were recently received from UK. The object of the modification is to allow the sights of the projector to be kept upright, when mounted on sloping ground, by revolving the barrel in the band, as is done with the Lewis Gun.
2. One of the modified weapons will be issued to each Bn shortly.
3. It is asked that dates of trials be notified to this HQ so that members of GS Eqpt Field Section may attend as observers.
4. On completion of trials reports will be forwarded including a statement as to whether the modified weapon is a requirement.

file copy
return to BM(4) when registered

D. Worthley Capt
for Maj
BM 20 Aust Inf Bde

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

Subject: PITA - Modification to front support



HQ 9 Aust Div
22 Jul 44
G792/75/13

20 AUST INF BDE
24 AUST INF BDE
26 AUST INF BDE
2/9 AUST CAV (COMMANDO) UNIT

Copy: ADOS 9 AUST DIV

1. Further to 9 Aust Div G267/75/13 of 7 Jul 44.
2. 1 Aust Corps G/4108/SD of 21 Jul 44 advises that the modifications referred to have now been carried out and arrangements made for despatch of ten weapons to ADOS this division.
3. ADOS will distribute as follows :-

Each bde	3
2/9 Aust Cav (Commando) Regt	1
4. It is requested that trials be carried out with live ammunition from training allotments.
5. Please advise this HQ dates on which it is proposed to carry out trials so that members of GS Equipment Field Section, 1 Aust Corps, may attend as observers.
6. Reports are required as soon as possible after completion of trials.
7. Instructions for return of the weapons will be issued after trials.

Charles J.
Lt Col
9 Aust Div

Boo - to note & return to Bin (L)

24/7. Noted - Will advise on arrival. L.H.

25/7. Distributed. L.H.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject: PITA - Modification to front support.

HQ 9 Aust Div
7 Jul 44
G267/75/13

1. Details of a minor modification to the front support of the PITA were recently received from UK. The object of the modification is to allow the sights of the projector to be kept upright, when mounted on sloping ground, by revolving the barrel in the band, in a similar manner to the method adopted with the Lewis Gun.
2. The modification of twenty weapons is being carried out by DDME 1 Aust Corps, and when completed ten will be forwarded to each division.
3. It is requested, that trials be carried out with the modified weapons, and this HQ advised whether the modification is considered to be a requirement.

F. J. Nicolls
Lt Col
GS 9 Aust Div

DISTRIBUTION:

20 AUST INF BDE RAA 9 AUST DIV 2/2 AUST MG BN
24 AUST INF BDE RAE 9 AUST DIV 2/9 AUST CAV (COMMANDO) REGT
26 AUST INF BDE 2/3 AUST PNR BN

Copies to :-

SIGS 9 AUST DIV ORD A COY 2/1 AUST GD REGT
AASC 9 AUST DIV AEME 9 AUST DIV PRO COY

Bm *OK*

(L) this will be promulgated when weapons recvd etc



HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
Ref: G23/5/247.
28 Jun 44

Subject: DAMAGED PROJECTOR INFANTRY TANK ATTACK GUN
2/13 AUST INF BN

9 Aust Div

Reports from 2/13 Aust Inf Bn on damaged PITA guns are forwarded.

2. Weapons are at present held by 2/13 Aust. Inf Bn.

John King
Brig
Comd 20 Aust Inf Bde

AKD

*File re PITA
amm with
Bns (2)*

[Signature]

SUBJECT: Damage to Projector Infantry
Anti-Tank




2/13 AUST INF BN
23 Jun 44

Ref G 10 / - / 199

20 Aust Inf Bde

1. Forwarded herewith reports by Sgt Neuss and Cpl Wrankmore.


Lt-Col
Comd 2/13 AUST INF BN
(G E COLVIN)

ADJT

2/13 Aust Inf Bn

ref Projector, Infantry, Anti-Tank

On 19 Jun 44, I commenced instruction on two of the above weapons. They were in sound condition at commencement, to the best of my knowledge. On 20 Jun 44 6 practice inert bombs were fired, 3 each weapon. Firing was satisfactory, except for one case of weapon failing to re-cock.

Routine instruction was continued on 21 Jun 44, when at end of morning's instruction, it was found impossible to screw the Internal Mechanism in Outer Casing Tube. I noticed a crack in the Rear End Cap also a cutting of the thread.

During instruction the weapons were handled with reasonable care, receiving no hard knocks.

H. G. Lewis

NX14894

Sgt

ADJT

2/13 Aust Inf Bn

PROJECTOR INFANTRY ANTI-TANK MK1
GUN NOS 5643 and 4029

I hereby certify that I have inspected the above equipment and in my opinion the damage was due to inferior metal. The shoulder piece where welded had been fractured and the locking studs sheered off.

J. W. Warburton Cpl
Armourer

MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

Can

Ser. No.

Priority

Transmission Instructions

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM

Originator

Date—Time of Origin

Office Date Stamp

(A)

20 HUST INF BDE

16 1200K

For Action

TO

2/15 2/15 2/17 BNS

(re) For Information (INFO.)

Message Instructions

GR

FILE

ORIGINATOR'S No.

050 following PITA can available for collection
ADDS dump @ each bn 10 bombs 130 cartridges @
this signal must be produced as authority on collection

This message may be sent **AS WRITTEN**
by any means { except

Wireless

Wireless

If liable to be intercepted or fall into
enemy hands, this message must be
sent **IN CIPHER**

Signed

Originator's Instructions
Degree of Priority

DRLS

Time	System	Op
THI or TOR		
Time Cleared		

Signed

Gywer Hdy/Cpt

FILE

MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

Class

Ser. No.

Priority

Transmission Instructions

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM

(A)

Originator

Date—Time of Origin

Office Date Stamp

For Action

TO

(x) For Information (INFO.)

Message Instructions

GR

ORIGINATOR'S No.

*U36. My own G 25/5/20 of 29 May & the following
being done will be distributed to Unit on arrival &
forwarded to the 10 per box & cartridges 130 per box &
Please advise this Dept of any further requirements &*

This message may be sent **AS WRITTEN**
by any means { except }

Wireless

Signed

If liable to be intercepted or fall into
enemy hands, this message must be
sent **IN CIPHER**

Signed

Originator's Instructions
Degree of Priority

DALS

Time	System	Op
THI or TOR		
Time Cleared		



AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

Subject : Projector Infantry Tank Attack.

HQ 9 Aust Div
3 Jun 44
G968/75/13

1. Ref 9 Aust Div G882/75/13 of 25 May 44 para 3.
2. The following distribution of Bombs Practice and Cartridges is to be made by ADOS 9 Aust Div:-

	<u>Bombs Practice</u>	<u>Cartridges</u>
20 Aust Inf Bde	29	390
24 Aust Inf Bde	29	390
26 Aust Inf Bde	29	390
2/9 Aust Cav (Commando) Regt	10	130
RAA 9 Aust Div	9	120
RAE 9 Aust Div	9	120
Sigs 9 Aust Div	4	50
2/3 Aust Pnr Bn	9	120
2/2 Aust MG Bn	9	120
A Coy 2/1 Aust Gd Regt	4	50
AASC 9 Aust Div	9	120
	<u>150</u>	<u>2000</u>

3. Please advise this HQ of any further requirements.

Distribution: List A Plus serial 11.

J. Nicholls
for Lt Col
GS 9 Aust Div

J.H.

BmCS.

Please arrange distribution to best inform re changed allotment.

*20
392*

Copy sent to units 29 May

Units infund. Div.
27 May



HQ 9 Aust Div
25 May 44
G882/75/13

File

Ref 9 Aust Div G558/75/13 of 4 May and G856/80/6 of 21 May 44.

Previous allotment of PITAs and ammunition is cancelled. The following distribution will now be made by ADOS 9 Aust Div:-

Comd —
Bn (L) Div
SC
IO
LO

	PITA	Bombs inert
20 Aust Inf Bde - 3 to each Bn	9 ✓	70
24 Aust Inf Bde	6 (3 held)	70
26 Aust Inf Bde	5 (4 held)	70
2/9 Aust Cav (Commando) Regt	3	25
RAA 9 Aust Div	3	25
RAE 9 Aust Div	3	25
Sigs 9 Aust Div	2	25
2/3 Aust Par Bn	3	25
2/2 Aust MG Bn	3	25
9 Aust Div Carr Coy	1	5
A Coy 2/1 Aust Gd Regt	2	10
AASC 9 Aust Div	3	10
Ord 9 Aust Div	1	5
AEME 9 Aust Div	1	5
9 Aust Div Pro Coy	1	5

5. At present only 400 Bombs Inert are available for the div. The bulk of training ammunition will eventually be provided by Practice Shot and cartridges, which can be used any number of times by fitting new cartridges. These will be released as soon as available.

3 4. It is not expected that Bombs HE will be available until the new graze fuze (426) which will supersede fuze No 425, is available. Fuze No 425 with which existing stocks of Bombs HE are fuzed has been revealed to be faulty in that it fails to detonate unless the bomb strikes squarely on an even surface. Should Bombs HE fuzed with No 425 be used at any time for training the difference between the two fuzes will be stressed, so that students will not lose confidence in the weapon.

5. SAT Vol I Pam 16 PITA will be distributed direct to units by Publications Branch, First Aust Army Stationery Depot as soon as received. Meanwhile unit instructors will have to depend upon notes taken at the one day courses given by First Aust Army Regtl Trg School instructor on 24, 25 Mar.

6. It is apparent that in training an examination will have to be made of the following problems,

- (a) devising a workable battle drill for handling the weapon ✓
- (b) composition of a weapon team. The training pamphlet specifies two men, but it is for consideration whether in an intensive battle with numerous enemy tanks, three men would not be required
 - viz No 1 - aiming and firing
 - No 2 - loading
 - No 3 - fusing additional bombs.
- (c) tactical handling - both minor tactics in connection with the weapon, and its siting in relation to inf pls and coys; and its tactical employment in conjunction with inf 2 prs and RAA 6 prs.
- (d) provision of gun numbers. In certain circumstances, an inf bn might be allotted up to 15 PITAs from the Div Pool. Any unit in the div might be allotted one or more, according to the situation.

- (e) carriage of weapon and ammunition. PITA weighs 34½ lbs, container of 3 bombs weighs 14 lbs.

These and other points will be examined during training. A div committee will be set up later to produce in conjunction with unit representatives a practical doctrine for promulgation in the div.

DISTRIBUTION:

List "A" plus serial 11.

H. H. H. H. Lt Col
GS/9 Aust Div

Subject: PROJECTOR, INFANTRY, TANK ATTACK

S E C R E T

HQ 9 Aust Div,
4 May 44.

G558/75/13

50 Aust Inf Bde ✓
24 Aust Inf Bde
26 Aust Inf Bde
2/9 Aust Cav (Commando) Regt
2/3 Aust Pnr Bn

Copies to : Q
ADOS

Further to 9 Aust Div G204A of 1 Mar 44 (not to all addressees).

1. Advice has been received that 50 PIATs per jungle division are being released for the purpose of training personnel in the use of the weapon. On receipt in this area, distribution will be effected by ADOS on the following scale:-

Each Inf Bde	14
2/9 Cav Regt	4
2/3 Pnr Bn	4

2. Distribution of the available training ammunition will be effected by ADOS on the basis ~~of 25 rounds per weapon,~~
as set out in Appendix "A"

3. The policy regarding the adoption of this weapon by the AMF has not been finalised, as user trials have revealed that the present fuse of the bomb is faulty, in that it fails to detonate unless it strikes squarely on an even surface. Similar trouble was experienced overseas and a new fuse No 426 has been developed to replace the existing fuse No 425. All existing stocks of ammunition held in Australia are fused with No 425.

3. The new graze fuse has proved successful in trials overseas and all bombs from future production will incorporate this fuse. It is expected that the first of these will become available in Australia in July next.

4. It is most important that the information concerning the two types of fuses, as set out in paras 3 and 4 above, be stressed to units, to prevent personnel losing confidence in the weapon, when training with bombs fused with No 425.

5. When the fuze becomes available, trials will be held to determine whether the PIAT is a suitable replacement for the .55" Boys Tank Attack Rifle.

6. Small Arms Training, Volume 1, Pamphlet 16, Projector, Infantry Tank Attack (Aust), 1944, has been distributed separately. Further copies will be distributed when received.

7. The following report, dated 12 Jan 44, received from overseas is of interest:-

"A Pz Kw IV Special with turret skirting plates was stopped, and subsequently knocked out, owing to a hit from a PIAT fused 425 at a Pt 239 on the ORSOGNA-ORTONA road about three weeks ago. The time was early dawn and the range 20 yards. The firer could not employ his sights, but used his common sense using the top of the bomb in line with the eye for elevation and the white line on the body for direction. The first round ricocheted off the tank without exploding (old fuze - it would not have happened with the new 425 fuze). The second round hit the tank squarely, and detonated, causing two men to bale out. One was shot and the other captured. The tank was then set on fire by a hit from one of our Shermans. A point worth noting is that only one PIAT bomb was ready fused, and it was lucky that there was time to fuze and fire another before the tank had discovered the PIAT."

To be issued immediately prior
to issue of PIATs.

W. Wilmoth Capt
for
Lt. Col.
GS 9 Aust Div.

Appendix "A" to 9 Aust Div
G558/75/13 of 4 May 44.

SCALE OF TRAINING AMMUNITION

HE	25	rds	per	weapon
INERT	10	"	"	"
DRILL	2	"	"	"
PRACTICE	10	"	"	"
CARTRIDGES	400	"	"	"
(Spare)				

Subject : PROJECTOR INFANTRY TANK ATTACK

SECRET
Adv HQ 9 Aust Div
1 Mar 44
G 204A

20 Aust Inf Bde ✓
24 Aust Inf Bde
26 Aust Inf Bde

Copy to ADOS

1. Advice has been received that as a result of user reports on the trials of the P.I.A.T. conducted by 7 and 9 Aust Divs and New Guinea Force, and the recommendations of those formations, it has been decided that at present the P.I.A.T. will not replace the tank attack rifle on existing war equipment scales for tropical units.
2. A pool of weapons and ammunition is being retained by New Guinea Force and will be issued on scale of one per company as required.
3. A new graze fuse 426 is in production in the UK and it is anticipated that a sufficient quantity will be received to replace the present fuse in existing stocks, which is of value when employed directly against AFVs and not against soft bunkers and similar defences encountered in jungle warfare.
4. Further user trials are to be conducted when the above fuses are available.

Comd M/V

Bm ~~QHP~~

Bm(C) D/L

SC

SC(2)

1-OS/

Burn ball
for Lt Col
GS 9 Aust Div

B.F. on letter advising
use of PIAT.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

Subject : Projector Infantry Tank Attack



File

HQ 9 Aust Div
22 Jul 44
G791/75/13

9

1. Further to 9 Aust Div G188/75/13 of 30 Jun 44.
2. The following distribution of PITA ammunition (Practice Shot) is to be made by ADOS 9 Aust Div :-

✓ 20 Aust Inf Bde	72	—
24 Aust Inf Bde	72	—
26 Aust Inf Bde	72	
2/9 Aust Cav (Commando) Regt	24	
RAA 9 Aust Div	24	
RAE 9 Aust Div	24	
Sigs 9 Aust Div	8	
2/2 Aust MG Bn	24	
2/3 Aust Pnr Bn	24	
A Coy 2/1 Aust Gd Regt	8	
AASC 9 Aust Div	24	
Ord	8	
AEME	8	
9 Aust Div Pre Coy	8	
	<u>400</u>	

DISTRIBUTION: List "A"
Less Serials 10, 20
Plus Serial 11

[Signature]
Lt Col
GS 9 Aust Div

*300 - would you please distribute 24
per bn. Dym 23 0900K
24/10 Distributed till.*

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

280900K

For Action

TO

9 Aust Div

(w) For Information (INFO.)

Message Instructions **GR**

ORIGINATOR'S No.

O 159 RESTRICTED(.) ref your G751/85/4 of 18 Jul (.) one (.)
eqpt is requirement on scale of one set per six PITA bombs ~~on with~~
~~present all that night etc per bn~~ (.) two (.) wider shoulder straps
necessary and a connecting strap across front of body to prevent
swaying (.) three (.) harness is useful for carrying two and three in
mortar bombs

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

DRLS

Time	System	Op
THI or TOR		
Time Cleared		

Signed *[Signature]* Capt

Signed

Subject: Harness Carrying PITA Bomb

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
Ref: G
Jul 44

2/15 Aust Inf Bn
2/15 Aust Inf Bn
2/17 Aust Inf Bn

1. Samples of the above equipment have been received for user trials and allotted as follows:

2/13 Aust Inf Bn 1
2/15 Aust Inf Bn 1 to be passed to 2/17 Aust Inf
Bn 22 Jul 44.

2. The harness can be worn under the pack, the load being distributed on both sides of the body, under the arms. The inert bombs issued with the equipment are for carriage only and will on no account be fired.

3. Reports are required at this HQ by 1200 hrs 27 Jul 44 answering the following questions:

- (a) is the harness a requirement, if so what scale is suggested?
- (b) are any modifications necessary?
- (c) can loads other than PITA bombs be conveniently carried in the harness?

4. The equipment will be returned to this HQ with the reports.

File

Desworthley Capt
for Maj
BM 20 Aust Inf Bde

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM



FROM : 9 AUST DIV

191515K

TO : 20 BDE : 24 BDE : 26 BDE

0717 (.) RESTRICTED (.) my G751/85/4 refers (.) all PITA bombs left
for trials will be returned to this HQ by 28 Jul

This message may be
sent as WRITTEN by
any means {except }

Wireless

Signed

Rufan

Maj

DRLS

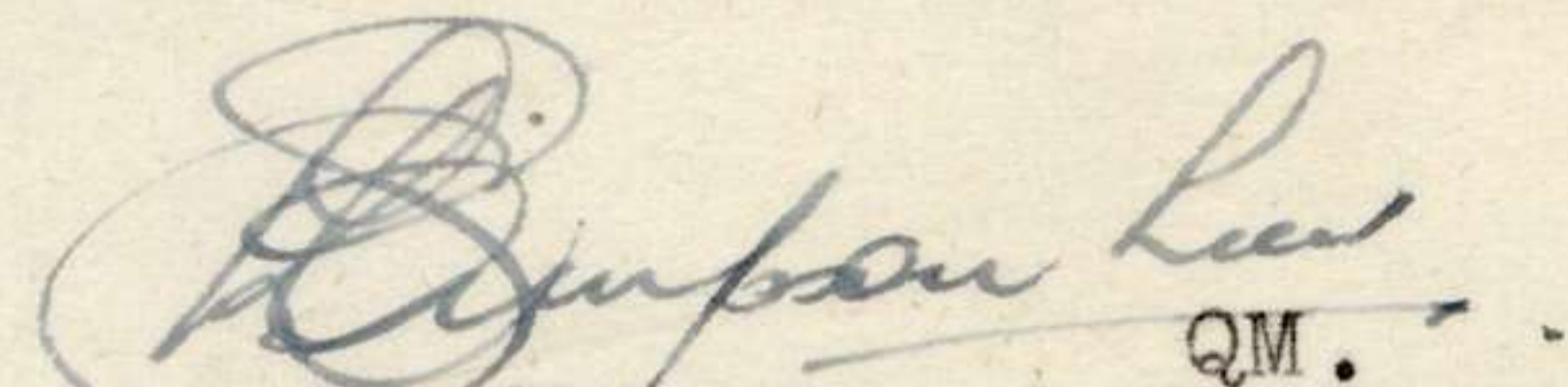
Subject: Harness carrying PITA Bomb

2/17 Aust Inf Bn
Ref: G5/15/296
27 Jul 44

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde

Our answers to the questions asked of the above equipment are as follows;-

- (a) Yes - a scale of one set for six PITA bombs and 1 set per Pl for 2-in Mortar bombs. (See para (c).)
- (b) Suggested that a short strap across the front of the body, of buckling type, connecting the two straps, would eliminate an annoying swaying action in evidence at present - makes walking difficult and tends to throw soldier off balance.
- (c) Yes - Bombs Mortar 2-in.


QM.
2/17 Aust Inf Bn

Subject: Harness Carrying PITA BOMB

Ref your G5/15/296

20 AUST INF BDE

1. This harness would be most useful in carrying ammunition from B Echelon to forward troops, or in long marches.
2. Suggested scale - 8 per bn.
3. Modifications suggested: wider shoulder straps.
4. 2" and 3" mortar bombs can be conveniently carried in this equipment.



2/15 Aust Inf Bn

Ref: *569/1/44*

27 Jul 44

Capt
W. C. ... Lt-Col
Comd 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

SUBJECT: Harness Carrying
PITA Bomb

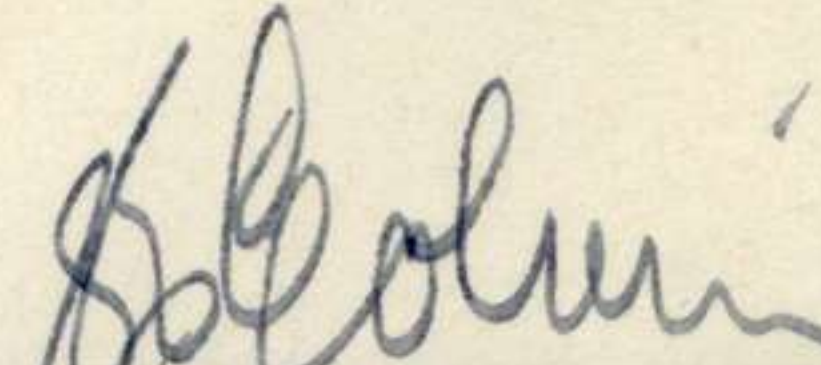


2/13 AUST INF BN
26 Jul 44
Ref *G10/ - 1429*

20 AUST INF BDE

Ref your G5/ 15/ 296 of 19 Jul 44

1. Harness is a requirement, Scale of Issue suggested:
1 set every 6 bombs.
2. It is suggested that a necessary modification is the widening of the shoulder strap to reduce strain of carrying.
3. Harness suitable for carrying 3" Mor Bombs.
With this harness four bombs are an easier one man load than three carried as they are at present.


Lt-Col
COMD 2/13 AUST INF BN
(GE COLVIN)

INF. BDE.
No 65/5/232
18 JUL 1944
RECEIVED



AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

Subject: Harness Carrying PITA Bomb.

HEADQUARTERS

9 Aust Div
18 Jul 44
G751/85/4

20 AUST INF BDE ✓
24 AUST INF BDE
26 AUST INF BDE

Copy to : ADOS

1. Samples of the above equipment have been received for user trials and have been delivered to addressees as under:-

20 Aust Inf Bde	2
24 Aust Inf Bde	2
26 Aust Inf Bde	1

2. The harness which is light and simple can be worn under the pack, the load being distributed on both sides of the body, under the arms. In addition to carriage of PITA bombs, the harness may be useful for other loads, e.g., 2" mortars.

3. It is requested that a report, ~~in duplicate~~^{in triplicate}, on trials be forwarded to reach this HQ by 28 Jul 44, covering the following points in particular:-

- (a) Is the harness considered an Australian Army requirement and if so, on what scale of issue?
- (b) Are any modifications required?
- (c) What loads in addition to PITA bombs can be carried conveniently in the harness?

4. 20 and 24 Aust Inf Bdes are each requested to return one set of the equipment with the report.

R. Jones Maj
Lt Col
GS 9 Aust Div

Quith

G 20/1

59/11/197

2



AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

HEADQUARTERS

Subject: Tank Attack Weapons

9 Aust Div
14 Dec 43
G 95/75/13

4 AUST INF BDE	26 AUST INF BDE
20 AUST INF BDE	RAA 9 AUST DIV
24 AUST INF BDE	2/5 AUST PNR BN

Forwarded herewith for your information, a copy of LHQ SM 26868 on the above subject.

*Comd Mtd
Bm sler
(4) Dm.*

W. Wilmouth Capt
for Lt Col.
GS.

SUBJECT: Projectors, Infantry Tk A.

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
Ref : G-20/131
13 Dec 43.

9 Aust Div.

Ref 9 Aust Div G63/75/13 of 5 Dec 43.

The tank attack projector has been tested by bns of this bde and the following answers are given to the questions asked in the above letter:

- (a) Not suitable.
- (b) Two man load.
- (c) One container to each man plus his normal load.
- (d) Weapon would be accurate if personnel were thoroughly trained in its use.
- (e) Projector is easy to camouflage, there is no flash, but the noise of discharge would probably give away firer's position.
- (f) Results good against log emplacements above ground. Bomb penetrated 18" of hardwood log.
- (g) Very limited use because few targets are hard enough to explode the bomb.
- (h) When enemy starts using tanks, projectors could be issued on scale of one per coy to be kept in bn reserve until required.
- (j) Weapon is not recommended for type of junglefighting so far experienced. There is nothing the projector can do which is not done better by weapons already employed. There are also further disadvantages:-
 - (i) Weapon is likely to be put out of action by wet and dirt.
 - (ii) The muzzle is made of light metal and could be easily damaged.
 - (iii) Should stoppages occur, the weapon takes approx two minutes to re-cock and involves the exposure of the firer.

 Lt-Col.
Adm Comd, 20 Aust Inf Bde.

SUBJECT: Projector-Inf Tk Attack.

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde.
Ref: G20/L/26.
7 Dec 43.

2/13 Aust Inf Bn.
2/15 Aust Inf Bn.
2/17 Aust Inf Bn.
1 Pl A coy HQ Gd Regt.

1. Twelve projectors inf tk attack have been issued to this Bde for trial and report and are allotted as follows:-

2/13 Aust Inf Bn-	3.
2/15 "	4.
2/17 "	4.
Gd Pl.	1.

2. All available infm on the weapons is contained in 9 Aust Div instn copies of which are att. Answers to questions in para 7 of this instn are required at this HQ by 1800 hrs 12 Dec 43.

3. Weapons will be delivered to unit 'B' Bde on 7 Dec 43.

Dyvon Hiley Capt for Maj.
Bn, 20 Aust Inf Bde.

Return due div 10 Dec but asked
for extension to 14 Dec owing to
mvt. - granted Dyv.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

S 9/11/17 ✓

9 Aust Div
5 Dec 43
G63/75/13

Subject: Projector, Infantry, Tank Attack

20 AUST INF BDE (16)
24 AUST INF BDE (16)
26 AUST INF BDE (16)
- - - - -

1. It is intended that the Boys Tank Attack rifle at present on issue to units will be replaced by the Projector, Infantry, Tank Attack when sufficient stocks are available.

2. This weapon is a combination of the best features of the Jeffries Projector, the Blacker Bombard, the Northover Projector, the Number 68 Tank Attack Grenade, and the two inch mortar. It is the latest development in the UNITED KINGDOM for a tank attack weapon which will penetrate the heaviest enemy tanks yet met in service and which can be operated by one man.

3. The BRITISH scale of issue is 22 per infantry battalion, as follows:-

Each rifle company	3
Administrative platoon	3
Carrier platoon	4
Mortar platoon	3

4. The scale of issue of the ammunition is as follows :-

With the weapon	18 rounds
In reserve	32 rounds

5. Brief characteristics and details of the weapon are as follows :-

- (a) Weight 33 lbs and fires a 3½ lb bomb
- (b) Penetration is independent of velocity of striking. Owing to the time of flight and the curved trajectory, it is difficult to hit a moving tank at over 100 yds.
- (c) It is effective in attacking and penetrating brick or concrete vertical surfaces at ranges up to 150 - 200 yds.
- (d) Anti-personnel effect is considerable, and the loud "crump" of the bomb is of value.
- (e) The projector is of the spigot type, but the energy of recoil is absorbed in overcoming the inertia of the weighted spigot which is moved forward by a spring. This spigot permits the weapon to be fired from the shoulder.
- (f) The bomb embodies the "hollow charge" principle. The detonator is embodied in an extremely high explosive with a hollow in the direction where maximum effort is required.
- (g) The weapon is NOT effective as a mortar. If it is used against field works the bomb usually fails to explode as the target is not hard enough to actuate the firing mechanism. It is designed for use against tanks, and probably only stone bunkers will be satisfactory targets.

6. The following precautions should be observed :-

- (a) All ranks in vicinity of firing point will take cover. They may watch the flight of the bomb but should keep their heads down before the bomb explodes. This is necessary owing to the danger of metal blow-back from the target particularly the cartridge envelope and steel disc from the base of the bomb. During actual operations this risk is small enough to be ignored.
- (b) Care must be taken to destroy all blinds. It is emphasised that the bomb contains an extremely high explosive, and blinds should be destroyed carefully by experienced men.

7. Addressees will submit to this HQ by 102100L Dec answers to the following questions :-

- (a) Is the weapon suitable for carrying on patrol in jungle conditions?
- (b) How is it best carried?
- (c) How should the 18 rounds of ammunition be carried?
- (d) Is it accurate at 50 yards? 100? 150?
- (e) Is it easy to conceal? Would its position be given away by flash or noise of discharge?
- (f) What is the effect of the bomb against targets which are hard enough to explode it?
- (g) Would it be useful to infantry engaged in jungle warfare against an enemy not equipped with AFVs?
- (h) What scale of issue is recommended?
- (i) Any other comments required.

A. W. Wilmoth Capt

for Lt Col
CS

Subject: Projector- Inf Tk/A.

2/15 Aust Inf Bn
9 Dec 43.

20 AUST INF BDE

Ref your G20/1/26 of 7 Dec 43.

As instructed, the abovementioned weapon was tested by
our Tk/A platoon on the 8 Dec 43, and report is attached.

W. Luther

for Maj
Adm Comd.

Comd
Bm
(4) Dm

Subject: Projector- Inf Tk/A.

2/15 Aust Inf Bn
9 Dec 43.

20 AUST INF BDE

Ref your G20/1/26 of 7 Dec 43.

As instructed, the abovementioned weapon was tested by
our Tk/A platoon on the 8 Dec 43, and report is attached.

H. Luther

for Maj
Adm Comd.

2/15 Aust InfBn.
8 Dec 43.

REPORT ON PROJECTOR INFANTRY Tk/A.

- a. No. Due to rough country traversed and weight of weapon.
- b. Two man load.
- c. One container to each man plus his normal load.
- d. In the practice carried out it was found that to become accurate, practice with this weapon is essential.
- e.
 1. Easy to conceal.
 2. Flash Nil.
 3. Noise of discharge is loud and would tend to give away firer's position.
- f. Log emplacements above ground, results good, penetrates 18 " of hardwood log.
- g. No. Due to its short range and suitable targets being insufficient.
- h. Not more than one per coy to be held in Bn reserve to be called for when required.
- j. This weapon is only good against built up log or concrete emplacements.

The weight of the weapon and no of rounds carried are factors to be considered in jungle warfare.

This weapon is considered of very little value due to its limited use and weight of the weapon itself.


for Tk/A Pl comd.

2/15 Aust InfBn.
8 Dec 43.

REPORT ON PROJECTOR INFANTRY Tk/A.

- a. No. Due to rough country traversed and weight of weapon.
- b. Two man load.
- c. One container to each man plus his normal load.
- d. In the practice carried out it was found that to become accurate, practice with this weapon is essential.
- e.
 1. Easy to conceal.
 2. Flash Nil.
 3. Noise of discharge is loud and would tend to give away firer's position.
- f. Log emplacements above ground, results good, penetrates 18 " of hardwood log.
- g. No. Due to its short range and suitable targets being insufficient.
- h. Not more than one per coy to be held in Bn reserve to be called for when required.
- j. This weapon is only good against built up log or concrete emplacements.

The weight of the weapon and no of rounds carried are factors to be considered in jungle warfare.

This weapon is considered of very little value due to its limited use and weight of the weapon itself.


for Tk/A Pl Comd

SUBJECT: PROJECTOR INFANTRY TK A.

2/13 AUST INF BN
11 Dec 43
A.1/2/461

20 AUST INF BDE

Reference your G20/1/26 dated 7 Dec 43.

1. Herewith answers to questions in para 7 of 9 AUST DIV Instruction G63/75/13.
 - (a) Not considered suitable.
 - (b) By transport, as under present circumstances it could not be man handled without seriously impairing the efficiency of the Platoon. Under normal circumstances only sufficient men are available in a platoon to carry normal weapons and scale of amn.
 - (c) As for (b)
 - (d) No - maximum effective range against AFVs, 115 yds and against buildings, 300 yds when it has to be fired by a sense of direction.
 - (e) It can be fairly well concealed but as it has a pronounced noise at point of discharge it may be easily located.
 - (f) Shatters loosely constructed stone pill-boxes. A report from a NCO who has recently returned from LHQ Small Arms School states the bomb will make a small hole through fairly thick armour plate and brick walls which it shatters on the inside.
 - (g) No - as very few targets are offered which are hard enough to explode the bomb.
 - (h) Under present conditions, four to be held in reserve and used if a suitable occasion arises
 - (i) The weapon would be a definite hindrance to the infantryman and would not be as useful as the Tk A Rifle for the following reasons:
 - i. Not enough suitable targets.
 - ii. The weapon would not function effectively under jungle conditions as it has to be kept free of water and dirt.
 - iii. Liable to be easily damaged as the muzzle is of frail metal.
 - iv. Should stoppages occur the re-cocking of the weapon requires exposure of the firer and takes approx two minutes.
2. It is considered that the weapon is not suitable for Infantry Battalions under the present jungle conditions.


Command 2/13 AUST INF BN
(G E COLVIN)

Lt-Col.

SUBJECT: PROJECTOR INFANTRY TK A.

2/13 AUST INF BN


11 Dec 43

A.1/2/461

20 AUST INF BDE

Reference your G20/1/26 dated 7 Dec 43.

1. Herewith answers to questions in para 7 of 9 AUST DIV Instruction G63/75/13.
 - (a) Not considered suitable.
 - (b) By transport, as under present circumstances it could not be man handled without seriously impairing the efficiency of the Platoon. Under normal circumstances only sufficient men are available in a platoon to carry normal weapons and scale of arm.
 - (c) As for (b)
 - (d) No - maximum effective range against AFVs, 115 yds and against buildings, 300 yds when it has to be fired by a sense of direction.
 - (e) It can be fairly well concealed but as it has a pronounced noise at point of discharge it may be easily located.
 - (f) Shatters loosely constructed stone pill-boxes. A report from a NCO who has recently returned from LHQ Small Arms School states the bomb will make a small hole through fairly thick armour plate and brick walls which it shatters on the inside.
 - (g) No - as very few targets are offered which are hard enough to explode the bomb.
 - (h) Under present conditions, four to be held in reserve and used if a suitable occasion arises
 - (i) The weapon would be a definite hindrance to the infantryman and would not be as useful as the TK A Rifle for the following reasons:
 - i. Not enough suitable targets.
 - ii. The weapon would not function effectively under jungle conditions as it has to be kept free of water and dirt.
 - iii. Liable to be easily damaged as the muzzle is of frail metal.
 - iv. Should stoppages occur the re-cocking of the weapon requires exposure of the firer and takes approx two minutes.
2. It is considered that the weapon is not suitable for Infantry Battalions under the present jungle conditions.


 Lt-Col.
Comd 2/13 AUST INF BN
(G E COLVIN)

2/17 Aust Inf Bn
In the Field
13 Dec 43

Subject : Projector Inf Tk/A Mk 1

20 AUST INF BDE

Att hereto are answers to questions
in para 7 of 9 Aust Div Instn on above weapon.


Adm Comd 2/17 Aust Inf Bn Maj

REPORT ON

PROJECTOR INF Tk/A Mk 1

- (a) No
- (b) B Echelon
- (c) B Echelon
- (d) 50 yards - yes. 100 yards - fair. 150 yards - not tested
- (e) (i) Easily concealed - little flash - prominent noise of discharge.
- (f) Terrific detonation etc - little shattering effect on coral surface.
- (g) No.
- (h) One per Bn
- (i) (a) Weapon hard to balance - suggest tripod like LMG
(b) Undergrowth etc deflects bomb.
(c) If bomb could be made to explode on softer surfaces probably then suitable for pill boxes.

20/11
9 Aust Div
5 Dec 43
G63/75/13

Subject: Projector, Infantry, Tank Attack

20 AUST INF BDE (16)
24 AUST INF BDE (16)
26 AUST INF BDE (16)

Cond
Bm
(4) - 4 projectors to 7/15/47 3 to 7/13/60
15 9d pl 5 0 0

1. It is intended that the Boys Tank Attack rifle at present on issue to units will be replaced by the Projector, Infantry, Tank Attack when sufficient stocks are available.

2. This weapon is a combination of the best features of the Jeffries Projector, the Blacker Bombard, the Northover Projector, the Number 68 Tank Attack Grenade, and the two inch mortar. It is the latest development in the UNITED KINGDOM for a tank attack weapon which will penetrate the heaviest enemy tanks yet met in service and which can be operated by one man.

3. The BRITISH scale of issue is 22 per infantry battalion, as follows:-

Each rifle company	3
Administrative platoon	3
Carrier platoon	4
Mortar platoon	3

4. The scale of issue of the ammunition is as follows :-

With the weapon	18 rounds
In reserve	32 rounds

5. Brief characteristics and details of the weapon are as follows :-

- (a) Weight 33 lbs and fires a 3½ lb bomb
- (b) Penetration is independent of velocity of striking. Owing to the time of flight and the curved trajectory, it is difficult to hit a moving tank at over 100 yds.
- (c) It is effective in attacking and penetrating brick or concrete vertical surfaces at ranges up to 150 - 200 yds.
- (d) Anti-personnel effect is considerable, and the loud "crump" of the bomb is of value.
- (e) The projector is of the spigot type, but the energy of recoil is absorbed in overcoming the inertia of the weighted spigot which is moved forward by a spring. This spigot permits the weapon to be fired from the shoulder.
- (f) The bomb embodies the "hollow charge" principle. The detonator is embodied in an extremely high explosive with a hollow in the direction where maximum effort is required.
- (g) The weapon is NOT effective as a mortar. If it is used against field works the bomb usually fails to explode as the target is not hard enough to actuate the firing mechanism. It is designed for use against tanks, and probably only stone bunkers will be satisfactory targets.

6. The following precautions should be observed :-

- (a) All ranks in vicinity of firing point will take cover. They may watch the flight of the bomb but should keep their heads down before the bomb explodes. This is necessary owing to the danger of metal blow-back from the target particularly the cartridge envelope and steel disc from the base of the bomb. During actual operations this risk is small enough to be ignored.
- (b) Care must be taken to destroy all blinds. It is emphasised that the bomb contains an extremely high explosive, and blinds should be destroyed carefully by experienced men.

7. Addressees will submit to this HQ by 102100L Dec answers to the following questions :-

- (a) Is the weapon suitable for carrying on patrol in jungle conditions?
- (b) How is it best carried?
- (c) How should the 18 rounds of ammunition be carried?
- (d) Is it accurate at 50 yards? 100? 150?
- (e) Is it easy to conceal? Would its position be given away by flash or noise of discharge?
- (f) What is the effect of the bomb against targets which are hard enough to explode it?
- (g) Would it be useful to infantry engaged in jungle warfare against an enemy not equipped with AFVs?
- (h) What scale of issue is recommended?
- (i) Any other comments required.

W. Wilmoth Capt.

for Lt Col
GS

22/10
22/10

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
Ref: G 5/15/226
18 Jun 44

Subjects: CANS, BILLY - 2 PINT

9

9 Aust Div

Ref your G955/75/16 of 2 Jun 44.

1. The issue of the billy can is not recommended.
2. As no canned heat is available tests have not been made, but it is assumed that the billy can, being lightly constructed and fitted with a lid, would boil water more quickly than either a mess tin or improvised jam tin billy.
3. During the last campaign fruit and jam tins proved satisfactory billy cans and could be discarded when not required. Considerable waste would result if the proposed billy were treated in this way.
4. It is suggested that any issue billy can should be large enough to use as a section cooking utensil.

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

SUBJECT: Billies.

2/13 AUST INF BN

18 Jun 44

Ref Q13/ - /146

20 AUST INF BDE.

1. The following report is submitted as requested by L O.
2. The billy is an improvement on the improvised jam tin billy as used in recent operations and the following points are submitted for consideration.
 - (a) The billy is more hygienic because it's size permits the hand being entered to thoroughly clean the billy.
 - (b) The lid is an improvement as sugar and tea can be kept dry in wet weather.
 - (c) Suggested scale of issue - one per man.

G E Colvin
Comd 2/13 AUST INF BN
(G E COLVIN)

2 per
Lt-Col.

A.O.D



Subject: Report on Billy Cans

2/15 Aust Inf Bn
Ref 308 / / 44
7 Jun 44

1. The issue and replacement of these cans would have to be so frequent that the replacement would be both difficult and unwarranted.
2. This unit has had much service in the field and its members have never failed to have their own supply of billy's from existing tin ware - to wit jam tins and such like.
3. The production and issue of these cans is not recommended.

M. W. Deakin Lt-Col
Capt Comd



2/17 Aust Inf Bn
In the Field
18 Jun 44
Ref: A202/160

Subject: REPORT ON - CANS BILLY

HQ
20 AUST INF BDE

Ref above.

1. QM's report is attached.

Lt-Col
Comd 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

2/17 Aust Imm Bn,
18 June 44.

Subject : CANS BILLY.

20 AUST INF BDE

The following comments are made on the abovementioned equipment submitted to this Unit for inspection and report. It is assumed that the Billy is intended for issue to all ranks for individual cooking in the field and for the purposes of this report consideration has also been given to the other items issued on WET for cooking as follows :-

Cans Billy 7-quart	43 per Bn.
Tins Mess Rect LW	1 per man
" " Quart-pot type	1 per man.

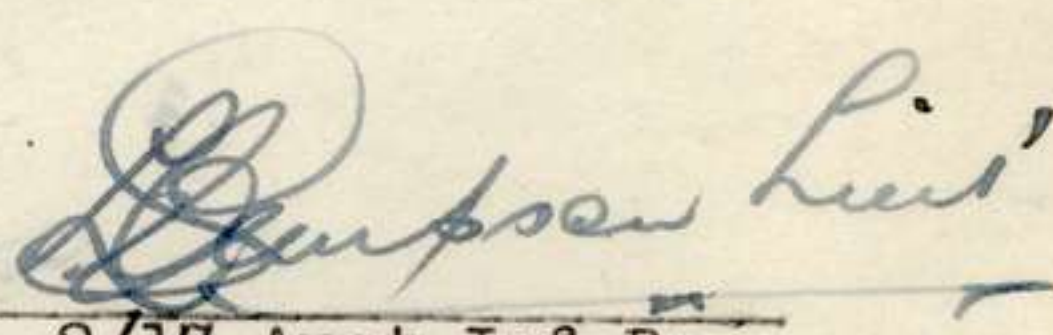
It is considered that, although preferable to the Tins Mess, quart-pot type because of its lighter weight, both would not be carried by troops in action. For operations similar to those in which the Unit has recently been engaged it is considered that this Billy can in conjunction with Tins Mess Rect LW and Cans Billy 7-quart would provide all the facilities normally required by troops for cooking in the field.

Should individual cooking be necessary it is felt that two men could combine to cook a meal, one billy being used to make tea and the other for cooking the remainder of the meal. A billy of this type would also provide a means whereby each man could readily carry forward to the night's bivouac area a supply of water immediately available for cooking purposes.

Before adopting the billy can for general issue it is considered that it should be camouflaged by some form of cover or colouring, that the handle should be lengthened to prevent it fouling the lid, and that the flange on the lid should be deepened to convert it into an additional drinking utensil.

In conclusion it is considered :-

- (a) That issue is not necessary unless in substitution for Tins Mess quart-pot type.
- (b) That if so issued scale should 1 per man.


QM, 2/17 Aust Inf Bn.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES



Subject : Cans, Billy, 2 Pint.

Reports to Bde H.Q. by 16th Jun

*2/13
2/15
2/17*

HQ 9 Aust Div
2 Jun 44
G 955/75/16

20 AUST INF BDE ✓
24 AUST INF BDE
26 AUST INF BDE
2/3 AUST PNR BN
CRA
CRE
ADMS

Copies to : Q } for information
 ADOS }

1. It is the GOC's wish that trials be conducted with Billy Cans, with a view to the advisability of an issue to personnel, as a replacement of the improvised Billy Can made from time to time during operations from fruit and jam tins.

2. ADOS is to arrange distribution of cans as set out below:-

20 Aust Inf Bde	10 cans
24 Aust Inf Bde	10 "
26 Aust Inf Bde	10 "
2/3 Aust Pnr Bn	2 "
2/12 Aust Fd Regt	6 "
HQ RAE 9 Aust Div	6 "
2/3 Aust Fd Amb	2 "
2/8 Aust Fd Amb	2 "
2/11 Aust Fd Amb	2 "
	<u>50</u>

3. It is requested that reports be submitted through normal channels to this HQ by 21 Jun, to express the results of trials and views held. If it is considered that an issue be made, please state a provided scale.
proposed

F J Nicholls
for Major
GS 9 Aust Div