

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

**Item number: 8/3/27**

**2/27 Infantry Battalion**

**January 1942**



14 JUL. 1942

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. I. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

130

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form

Unit 2/27<sup>th</sup> Bn

Commanding Officer MAJOR R.L. BATTEN

Month and Year JAN. 42

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
RAMLIEH	1/2		National Day of Prayer - Church Parades at Winter Quarters and Iwd Areas.	
			C.O and 2 i/c visited Iwd Coys.	
			Formal Mess for Officers - Major J.G. DOBBS welcomed our new C.O Major R.L. BATTEN. C.O spoke to Mess in reply.	RO <sup>s</sup> 124
			Wet day and very stormy night. Several buildings had roofs damaged; also many tents were partly blown down.	

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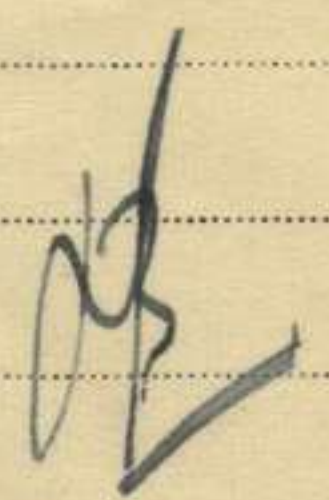
Month and Year JAN 42

WAR DIARY  
or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.  
(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118.

Unit 2/27th Bn.

Commanding Officer MAJOR R.L. PITTS

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
RAMLIEH	2/3		Boys on Training Syllabus Pioneer Platoon <sup>and</sup> repairing tracks in fwd. area. G(R) men repaired buildings at winter Quarters damaged by storm.	
			Weather cold wet and windy. Snow and sleet fell in fwd. area during night	R.O. 1.
				



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# WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Unit 2/27<sup>th</sup> Bn

Commanding Officer MAJOR R.L. BATTEN

Month and Year JAN 42

(Erase heading not required).

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
RAMLIEH	3/4		C & D Coy manouvers - inter-platoon fighting patrols	
		1430	Bn. football team played 7014 Petrol Coy at Winter Quarters. 2/27 Bn 11-5 Petrol Coy 9-13	
			Air Raid alarm - no planes sighted and all clear signal was soon given.	
			Heavy snow during day and night caused much damage to tents and buildings	
		1800	320 ORS to free picture show in TRIPOLI	



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Army Form C. 2118.

Unit 2/27<sup>th</sup> Bn

Commanding Officer MAJOR R.L. BATTEN

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
<u>RAMLIEH</u>	<u>4/5</u>		<u>Trud. Coys "snowed in" and Bren Carriers were used to take rations to them.</u>	
			<u>Church Parade at Winter Quarters but other Church Parades cancelled.</u>	
			<u>Fine day with freezing night</u>	
			<u>Periodic Awards for Syrian Campaign announced today.</u>	
			<u>SX 3645 WOT G.H. GARRATT</u>	<u>MILITARY MEDAL</u>
			<u>SX 3278 Pte F. McLEAN</u>	<u>MILITARY MEDAL</u>
			<u>SX 5201 Padre C.R. WHERREAT</u>	<u>M.B.E.</u>



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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Army Form C. 2118.

Unit **2/27 Bn**

Commanding Officer **MAJ R.L. BATTEN**

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
<b>RANLIEH</b>	<b>5/5</b>		<p>A sunny day and melting snows made many tracks impassable for M.T. C.O. visited fwd areas Rations were again taken to fwd coys in Ben carriers Leave party, of 23, to TRIPOLI, from H &amp; Q Coy in lieu of from fwd coys because of difficulty of transporting the. L/Cpl Proctor of F.S.S. visited Winter Quarters inquiring on security measures.</p>	<b>Ro 2.</b>



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## ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

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Army Form C. 2118.

Unit 2/27 Bn

Commanding Officer MAT R.L. BATTEN.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
<u>RAMLIEH</u>	<u>6/7</u>		<u>CO to BEIRUT for medical examination</u>	
			<u>Brig Comd, Maj Caldwell (RAE) and Bn TO</u> <u>in fwd areas siting A/Tk mine fields</u>	
			<u>Maj T.G. DOBBS to ALEPPO to take</u> <u>over comd 2/10 Bn</u>	
			<u>Adj't visited fwd areas on horseback</u> <u>A, B &amp; D Coys working on defences</u> <u>C Coy training</u>	
			<u>H.Q. Coy firing on miniature range.</u> <u>A &amp; B " " " "</u>	



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Army Form C. 2118.

Unit 2/27 Bn

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

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Commanding Officer MAJ. R. L. BATTEN

Month and Year JAN 42

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
RANLIEH	7/8	0900	C.O. inspected field wks in fwd area. I.O. to A Coy area on horseback C & D Coy shooting on miniature range at Winter Quarters A & B Coys digging on defensive works.	R.O. 3
		1400	C.O. attended lecture, in TRIPOLI, for Role and Unit Comds, on subject of Air Cooperation Exercise with Bren Carriers cooperating with 1 P.I. and Int-sec. Maj O.C. ISAACHSEN moved to Winter Quarters to assume duties as 2 i/c 2/14, 2/16, 2/27 combined football practice Maj A. POPE rejoined unit.	Report attached











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Unit


2/27

Commanding Officer

MAJ R. L. BATTEN

Month and Year JAN 42

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Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
RAMLIEH.	10/11		Working on warning order (attached) Cops in lines at Winter Quarters make preparations to move. Many additional instructions re move but no final orders.	Warning Order from 21 Aust Inf Rde.
		1630	Adv party from 2/43 Bn arrive at Winter Quarters	Traces of
		1800	5 Bessn Carriers & personnel return to unit from Carrier Coy.	Bn TRIPOLI Defence
	11	0530	Adv party from this unit leave for Palestine. 5 offrs 24OR.	
				



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Commanding Officer MAJ R.L. BATTEN

Month and Year JAN. 42

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
RAMLIEH	11/12	0800	Church Parades + Exercise in Close Battle area cancelled on p of heavy rains 12 i/c in conference with Coy Comds on Adm arrangements for projected bn move	Field Return of Offrs. Bde Adm Order No 6.
		1700	Coy Comds conference and issue of movement order	Adm order for movement.
	12	0200	Reveille	
		0230	Breakfast	
		0400	Rd + Rly party move out in 4' troop carriers	
		0550	all rd party move out	



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Unit 2/27 Bn

Commanding Officer MAJ. R. L. BATTEN

Month and Year JAN 42

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
MOVING TO PALESTINE	12/13	1600	Rdx Ry party reached HAIFA.	
		1620	All rd party reached ACRE.	
		1730	Rdx Ry party entrained at HAIFA	
		1825	" " left	
	13	0035	" " debained ALMADJAL	
		0230	" " " reached Hill 69 by M.T. to take over from 2/15 Bn	







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Unit 2/27th Bn.

Army Form C. 2118.

Commanding Officer MAJOR R.L. BATTEN

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
<u>HILL 69</u>	<u>14/15</u>		<u>0830-1230 Troops dug "slit trenches"; cleaned equipment and had a kit inspection.</u>	
			<u>1400-1630 Smartening-up exercises and route marches.</u>	
			<u>Coy Comds Conference Maj. Isachsen o.c HQ Coy</u>	
			<u>Capt Gill A/oc B Coy</u>	
			<u>Lieut Kimber A/oc D Coy</u>	
			<u>Lieut King A Coy</u>	
			<u>Lieut Realdin B Coy</u>	
			<u>Lieut Hewitt D Coy</u>	
			<u>AM. 11</u>	



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Army Form C. 2118.

Unit 2/27<sup>th</sup> Bn.

Commanding Officer MAJOR R.L. BATTEN

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
<u>HILL 69</u>	<u>15/16</u>	<u>0900</u>	<u>Bn. Parade in preparation for inspection by Bde Comd. on Saturday.</u>	
			<u>Coy training after Bn Parade - Pl in attack.</u>	
		<u>1900-2100</u>	<u>Pl training - fighting and Recce patrols.</u>	
			<u>RB</u> <u>MM</u>	



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Army Form C. 2118.

Unit 2/27<sup>th</sup> Bn.

Commanding Officer MAJOR R.L. BATTEN.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
HILL 69	16/17	0900	Bn. Parade and inspection for Bde Comd's review.	
			Training throughout day - Coy in attack	
			Strong wind during night - unpleasant sandstorm.	R.O.S. 6.
			143 bags of parcels - a record consignment - delivered to Postal Spt.	
			<i>[Signature]</i>	



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# WAR DIARY

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## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Army Form 118.

Unit 2/27<sup>th</sup> Bn.

Commanding Officer MAJOR R.L. BATTEN

Month and Year JAN 42

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
HILL 69	17/18	1130	Inspection of Bn by Bde Comd. on Bde Parade Ground - followed by March Past.	Admin Instructions
		1400	Intr Camp leave granted to troops - new leave-party Bus Service used for first time.	No 152 (Stepsister Force)
		1800	Officers and Spts Mess' entertained Staff of 21 I.T.B also some visiting officers.	Ro <sup>d</sup> . 7.
			Very strong winds during day - few scattered showers at night.	

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Army Form C. 2118.

Unit 2/27<sup>th</sup> Bn.

Commanding Officer MAJOR R.L. BATTEN.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
<u>HILL 69</u>	<u>18/19</u>	<u>0900</u>	<u>Church Parade on Bn Parade Ground.</u>	
			<u>Capes AG and wallets AG returned to R.Q.M.S.</u>	
		<u>1500</u>	<u>R.M.O. commenced T.A.B and T.T. injections</u>	
			<u>All inter-camp leave cancelled.</u>	
			<u>Issue of Summer Kit - trousers K.D. Shirts and Sox tops.</u>	<u>R.O.S. 8.</u>
			<u>[Signature]</u>	
			<u>[Signature]</u>	



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Unit 2/27<sup>th</sup> Bn Army Form C. 2118.  
Commanding Officer MAJOR R.L. BATTEN

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
Hill 69	19/30		R.M.O. assisted by a Major and 1 Capt. from 2/6 <sup>th</sup> Fd Amb. continued injections - TAB and T.T.	
			Rear Party arrived from Tripoli	
			Re-inforcements marched in from 21 L.T.B. - 6 officers & 193 OR's	
			Personnel from various hospitals and CCS's rejoined unit.	R.O's 9.
			<i>Part 1/11</i>	



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Army Form C. 2118.

Unit 2/27 Bn.

Commanding Officer MAJ. G. D. T. COOPER

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
<u>HILL 69</u>	<u>20/21</u>		<u>Innoculations completed</u>	
			<u>Major G. D. T. Cooper, 2/10 Bn took over command of the unit</u>	
			<u>Battalion route march in the afternoon</u>	
			<u>Col. Whitehead of 2/2 M.G. Bn. lectured on the WESTERN DESERT to the officers from 2000 - 2330 hrs.</u>	
			<u>mpc</u>	
			<u>9.87c</u>	







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Unit 2/27 Rn

Army Form C. 2118.

Commanding Officer Lt. Col. G. D. T. COOPER.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
HILL 69	22/23		Officers kits and various other items sent to kit store.	
			Company training including platoon drill and weapon training.	
			Trial loading of trucks in the afternoon.	

G.D.T.C.



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Army Form C. 2118.

Unit 2/27 Bn.

Commanding Officer LT. Col. F. D. T. COOPER.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
<u>HML 69</u>	<u>23/24</u>	<u>0830</u>	<u>All available personnel were used for a practice move out of camp, trucks loaded.</u>	
		<u>1145</u>	<u>Battalion moved out to Isclud area and practiced battalion in attack with some supporting fire following a surprise landing on a lightly held position. The C.O. was called away and Maj. Isaacson took command. The direction was supplied by 21 AUST. INF. BDE and Brig Stevens was present. The bn. moved back to camp at 1700 hrs.</u>	
		<u>0730</u>	<u>O.C.'s conference in officer's mess. F.D.T.C.</u>	



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Month and Year JAN. 48.

WAR DIARY  
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Army Form C. 2118.

Unit 8/27 Bn.

Commanding Officer LT. COL. G. D. T. COOPER

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
<u>HILL 69.</u>	<u>24/25</u>	<u>1030</u>	<u>The brigade was inspected on I school camp area by Maj. Gen. Allen and then addressed the troops.</u>	
			<u>Issue of clothing and packing of all vehicles in the afternoon.</u>	
		<u>0730</u>	<u>700 men attended the A.I.F. Entertainment Unit's concert "All in Fun" in the camp theatre.</u>	
			<u>MM</u>	
				<u>9075</u>











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# WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

## or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Unit 2/27 Bn.

Month and Year JAN. 42.

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Commanding Officer Lt. Col. C. D. T. COOPER. O.B.E.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
HILL 69	27/28		Coy training in morning	
		2300	Bn. embussed Transport supplied by 7 AUST. DIV. A.S.C. Bn. H.Q., A, B, C, D & 1/2 E Coy moved out. Remainder of E Coy & H.Q. Coy left as rear party	
		0030	Bn. entrained at AL MATJAL moved out at 0100 h. Brig Stevens was on the platform. Bn's fourth trip through the SINAI DESERT.	

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Unit 2/27 Co.

Month and Year JAN. 42.

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Commanding Officer LT. Col. C. J. T. COOPER O.B.E.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
TROOP TRAIN	28/29	0810	Arrived EL KANTARA East. Hot breakfast supplied bn. all fed in 25 mins. Conditions dusty	
		1145 Alexandria Time	Bn. crossed Canal on the punt - and entrained again at KANTARA WEST. 1227 - train moved out.	
		1615	Retained at Port Suez, marched 1/2 mile to CAMP G, SUEZ TRANSIT CAMP	
			By 1730 troops had been quartered in tents and had had hot meal. Conditions still dusty.	
K. J. T.		0530 0600	Orders issued for rest day. Reveille Breakfast.	9/22



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Army Form C. 2118.

## or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Unit 2/27 Bn.

Month and Year JAN 42

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Commanding Officer LT. Col. (P1) T. COOPER O.B. E.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
			REAR PARTY.	
HILL 69	28/29.	1845	Left camp per M.T. H.Q. Coy, 1/2 E Coy. Weather conditions very dusty.	
AK MAJDAL		2040	Troop train moved out.	
TROOP TRAIN		0500	Arrived EL KANTARA EAST. Had breakfast crossed canal moved out from KANTARA WEST 0730 (A.T)	
	29/30.	1110	Arrived PORT SUEZ TRANSIT CAMP, CAMP C.	
		0500	Reveille and marched out.	
	29/30	0630	Arrived Shell Jetty PORT TEWFIK DOCKS. Loaded out and embarked on H.T. "ILE DE FRANCE" at 0920.	

*Roll*

*J. D. G.*



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Commanding Officer LT. Col. G.D.T. COOPER O.B.E.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
SUEZ TRANSIT CAMP	29/30	0800	Bn. moved out marching order, 4 miles to PORT. TEWFICK DOCKS.	M.C.O. 129.
PORT TEWFICK		1000	Embarked on "IASKA" and ferried out 1 1/2 miles.	
		1200	Trans. shipped to H.T. "ILE DE FRANCE" Marched aboard and straight to quarters. Ship has a displacement of 43000 tons.	
		2400	Loading party come aboard.	
<p><i>Handwritten initials</i></p>			<p><i>Handwritten initials</i></p>	



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Unit *2/27 Bn.*

Commanding Officer *Lt. Col. G. D. T. COOPER O.B.E.*

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
<i>H.T. "ÎLE DE FRANCE"</i>	<i>30/31.</i>		<i>Quartering of troops finalised.</i>	
			<i>Rifles placed in armoury.</i>	
		<i>0800</i>	<i>Rear party embarked</i>	
		<i>0945</i>	<i>Troopship sailed with 4,800 troops</i>	
			<i>Bn. embarked on "ÎLE DE FRANCE" with 38 officers 882 O.R.'s and on M.T. ship were 2 officers 88 O.R.'s</i>	
		<i>1630</i>	<i>Practice move to emergency stations</i>	
			<i>Weather cool &amp; clear</i>	<i>9.0.79</i>



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Unit 2/27 Bn.

Month and Year JAN FEB 42.

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Commanding Officer Lt. Col. G. D. T. COOPER O.B.E.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
" ÎLE DE FRANCE	JAN. 31 FEB 1		The morning was allotted to the troops for washing and make & mend.	
		1030	The R.M.O. carried out a foot inspection of the bn.	
		1400	Bn. was paid in English currency	
		1600-	Physical training for whole battalion.	
		1700	on A DECK left.	
		2000	2/14 Bn. - gave a concert in the men's lounge.	
			Weather clear but becoming better, sea very calm.	
			G.D.T. Cooper	

*Handwritten initials*



SOME NOTES ON THE POPULATION OF SYRIA,  
NORTHERN PALESTINE AND  
TRANSJORDAN.

The largest element of the population of SYRIA and the northern portion of PALESTINE and TRANSJORDAN is Arab or Syrian, the distinction between the two being more cultural than racial.

Their language is Arabic, and their religion is either Islam or Christianity. In addition, there are other races to be found including Jews, Kurds, Armenians, Circassians, Yezidis, Assyrians, etc.

The following notes on some of these races, and the tribes and sects composing them have been written with a view to their being used by Officers who may come in contact with them.

PART 1.

NOTE ON MOSLEM AND DRUZE TRIBES AND  
FACTIONS IN SYRIA AND ITS NEIGHBOURHOOD.

(a) The chief nomad tribes with which contact is likely to be made in the desert, East of Damascus and in Northern Transjordan are the Aneizah, the Shammar, the Beni Sakhr and the Ahl. Al Jebel. Other tribes are the Druze and the Hauranis, who are settled tribes. Further West, contact may be made with the Metawaleh and Ismailiyah. There are also colonies of Circassians, Chechens and Magharbeh in SYRIA and TRANSJORDAN. In the JEZIRAH and North SYRIA there are a number of Kurdish tribes.

While tribes such as the Aneizah and the Shammar have great reputations as fighters in the past, under modern conditions they are unlikely to be of much value. They might be useful for purposes of sabotage on the lines of communication of an enemy force and they might be exceedingly useful for intelligence purposes.

As fighters their most valuable contribution would be made if enlisted in mechanised desert patrols when their knowledge of the desert combined with the mobility and fighting power conferred on them by M.T. and machine guns would make them valuable auxiliaries to the main forces employed.

(b) NOMAD TRIBES.

ANEIZAH.

The Aneizah are divided into four main groups.

(i) The Ruwallah Group or Dhana Muslim.

Ruwallah.	Shaikh El Amir Nuri Ibn Sha'lan. His grandson is Fawwaz Ibn Sha'lan.
Ashajah.	Shaikh Farhan Ibn Ma'jil.
Suwalma.	Shaikh Aafit Ibn Jandal.
Hassana.	Shaikh Trad Ibn Milhem.
Wuld Ali.	Shaikh Ibn Sumeir.

/ The Ruwallah are .....



The Ruwallah are camel nomads who migrated from the HIJAZ 150 years ago and still have many relations there. Ibn Saud, who has married Fawwaz Sha'lan's sister, as one of his 400 wives, is descended from the Dhana Muslim group of the Aneiza through the Wuld Ali, who were at one time paramount leaders of the tribe, but have now taken to sheep grazing and have little influence.

The Ruwallah migrate between DAMASCUS in the summer and JAUF in the winter, and are therefore forced to be friendly with the French and Ibn Saud. They are somewhat inimical to TRANSJORDAN on account of the punishment they received in 1930, and the natural antipathy between the houses of Saud and Hashim.. They do, however, pass through TRANSJORDAN during their migration.

In view of the hostility of the Sha'lans, the Amir Abdullah has become friendly with the Shaikhs of the Ashaja, and to a less degree, with the Suwalma, who are neither very influential.

(ii) FED'AN.

Shaikh - Mujh'm Ibn Muhaid, who range between ALEPPO and DEIR EZ ZOR and across the EUPHRATES. Number about 30,000 souls.

(iii) AMARAT.

The Amarat are divided into two parties, the Jebel - Shaikh Mahrut Ibn Hadh'hal, and the Dahamsha - Shaikh Ibn Mijlad.

The tribe ranges between the EUPHRATES and the WADI SIRHAN from Nukhaib in the East to about a line drawn from JEBEL ANELZAH to JAUF. They are said to be more numerous than the Fed'an.

They are regarded as an Iraqi tribe. There is a feud between the Jebel and the Dahamsha which broke out recently on the Baghdad - Haifa road.

Ibn Hadh'hal is the paramount Shaikh of the Amarat, and the IRAQ Government deal solely through him. This has the result that no Dahamsha can obtain any Government employment, in desert police, etc.

(iv) S'BA.

Shaikh Raikan Ibn Murshid, who range from HOMS and HAMAH to TADMUR and towards ABU KEMAL on the EUPHRATES. They are said to number about 20,000.

(v) THE SHAMMAR.

Are a very large tribe who are divided into Northern and Southern branches, the latter of which lives in SAUDI ARABIA. We are only concerned with the Northern Shammar, which are themselves divided into three groups.

NORTHERN SHAMMAR.

(i) SYRIAN SHAMMAR. Shaikh Daham Al Hadi, who range each side of the SYRIAN - IRAQ frontier along the EUPHRATES. North and South of DEIR EZ ZOR.

(ii) SHAMMAR of ZOR. Shaikh Mishel Al Faris. They range in the JEZIRAH, North East of the Group under Shaikh Daham Al Hadi.

(iii) IRAQI SHAMMAR. Shaikh Suquf Ibn Ajil Al Yawar. They range in the JEZIRAH between MOSUL and DEIR EZ ZOR.

There was a feud between Ajil Yawar and Daham Al Hadi which came to a head in 1926, when Daham attacked Ajil at a time when Ajil had very few people with him. However, he wirelessly to MOSUL and received reinforcements in the shape of two British armoured cars whose interference in the subsequent battle turned the scales in Ajil's favour, and he captured Daham's camp and most of his

/ animals. ....



animals.

Ajil became very wealthy and was more interested in commerce than desert politics at the time of his death. He died of heart failure on 13th November, 1940. It is doubtful if his son Suquf will be capable of maintaining the ascendancy of his family in the same way as his father.

(d) BENI SAKHR or SUKHUR. (Ahl Ash Shimal).

BENI SAKHR GROUP.

Tribes -	Beni Sakhr.	Shaikh Mithqal Ibn Faiz, and Haditha Al Khoraisha.
	Sirhan.	Shaikh Hindi Ibn Kiaiber.
	Iaa.	Shaikh Mujhim Ibn Mahdi.
	Sirdiya.	Shaikh Saud Ibn Fawwaz.
	Sherarat.	No important Shaikhs.

The Beni Sakhr number about 5,000 tents, of which about half belong to the Sherarat. The latter are a curious tribe not considered by the others to be of pure descent. They occupy a subordinate social position and are considered to be rather like gipsies. Though classified with the Beni Sakhr they are really clients to them. They migrate between the JAUF in winter and AMMAN in summer, usually near the Beni Sakhr. They are expert hunters of game.

The headquarters of the Sirhan tribe is at MAFRAQ, and they number only 400 tents. The Isa number 150 tents, and live from MAFRAQ to the East of UM AL JIMAL. The Serdiya number 100 tents and live near UM AL JIMAL.

(e) AHL AL JEBEL.

AHL AL JEBEL GROUP. These are the nomadic Arab tribes of the JEBEL HAURAN, now known as the JEBEL DRUZE. Before the Druze occupied this JEBEL in about 1080, the Ahl Al Jebel were lords of the mountain, they are now reduced to somewhat restless submission to the Druzes, to whom they act as herdsmen.

They are at feud, from time immemorial with the Ruwallah and the Beni Sakhr. They are formidable fighters on foot, in their native lava country in which they can defy the camel and horse charges of the desert tribes.

Relations with the TRANSJORDAN Government are excellent.

SETTLED TRIBES.

(f) DRUZE.

The Druze, whose leader is Sultan Pasha El Atrash of QURAYYAH used originally to live in the LEBANON. They have a mysterious religion, a mixture of Mohammedanism and magic. After the troubles between the Druze and the Maronites which resulted from the association of the French with the Maronites in about 1860, the majority of the Druze moved into the JEBEL HAURAN, now known as the JEBEL DRUZE. The latest census gives 53,334 Druze in LEBANON, and 79,428 in the JEBEL DRUZE.

Owing perhaps to the interest taken in them by the British Government, and the assistance they obtained from Colonel Churchill, British Consul-General at BEIRUT in 1860, when the Druze were attacked by the French, the Druze have always been well disposed towards the British. Before they could be induced to recognise the French Mandate in March, 1921, it was found necessary to concede to them a wide measure of independence under a Native Governor with a French advisor

/ The first Governor .....



The first Governor was Salim Pasha Al Atrash, and on his death in 1923, the elective Council of the Druze elected the French advisor, Captain Carbillet, as his temporary successor.

The first trouble between the French and Sultan Al Atrash arose in July, 1922, owing to a man accused of attempting to assassinate General Gouraud, having been seized and sent off under arrest when he sought asylum in Sultan's house at QURAYYAH. Sultan demanded his supplicants release, and when his demand was ignored, turned out his followers and successfully attacked and put out of action a French column of 3 armoured cars which was on its way to fetch the prisoner. He then took to the mountains until granted an amnesty by the French on the first anniversary of the declaration of independence.

The next trouble arose in April, 1925, when a delegation from the Druzes laid before General Serrail complaints against Captain Carbillet's tyrannous regime, and demanded a Native Governor in accordance with the 1921 Agreement.

General Serrail refused their demands, invited the five Chief Druze leaders to meet him in DAMASCUS, and had the three who accepted his invitation (Hamad Bey, Nassif Bey and Abdul Ghaffar) arrested. Sultan Al Atrash immediately mobilised his followers and commenced a most serious revolt. General Dentz, then a Captain, was political advisor to General Serrail at that time.

The campaign opened with a disastrous defeat of the French forces with heavy casualties, and the capture of French guns and ammunition. Further successes followed and by October the insurgents were fighting in DAMASCUS.

The sensational victories of Sultan Al Atrash, gave him as much prestige in SYRIA as Abdul Karim's victory over the Spaniards at ANWAL had given him in MOROCCO. He was joined by many outside his own tribe, and the French thinking he was supported in DAMASCUS by the Hizb Ash Sha'biya or Peoples' Party, arrested six of the party leaders. The President, Dr. Shahbandar, and the members of the Bakri family escaped to the JEBEL DRUZE, where a National Syrian Government was proclaimed.

Operations, which included the destruction of a great part of DAMASCUS by shell fire, lasted until 17th February, 1926, when the end of the insurrection was signalled by a proclamation of a general amnesty of all rebels who should surrender within a specified period, with 39 exceptions.

Sultan Al Atrash took refuge in TRANSJORDAN, and this is one reason why he is so well disposed towards us.

During these operations, Sultan's son, Zayd Ul Atrash, showed conspicuous skill as a commander.

Since 1926 the feudal community of the Druze, who have always proved difficult to control under every administration of SYRIA, have remained comparatively quiet. Of late there have been signs of restlessness amongst them. It was reported recently that one of the Druze leaders visited TRANSJORDAN with the intention of interesting the Amir Abdullah in a revolt in SYRIA. The Amir refused to give him an interview and he returned disappointed.

Reports from many sources indicate that the Druze are ready and willing to rise against the French with very little encouragement, and it is also reported that various political parties in SYRIA are in touch with the Druze with a view to a possible general rising.

The various leading families of the Druze are constantly at feud with each other, so it would be rash to expect the whole tribe to be pro-British. Sultan Al Atrash, Ali Beg Al Nejmal Atrash, Muhamad Izz Aldin Al Hajebi, and Ali Al Abaid of SUEIDA seem well disposed. Shekib Arslan, a Lebanon Druze, has long been in German pay, and is now believed to be in GERMANY. Adel Arslan of the

/ same family .....



same family is also certainly pro-Axis.

(g) HAURANIS.

The Hauranis, who inhabit the plain country known as the Mukra, West of the JEBEL DRUZE, are sturdy Arab peasant proprietors, among whom is a Christian minority belonging to the Syrian Orthodox Church.

Settlement in a rich agricultural region has improved their physical type, and they are taller and stronger than their bedouin cousins. They make good infantry, but will fight in no quarrel but their own. Living in villages they are vulnerable to reprisals and slow to commit themselves to revolt. They joined Zayd Ul Atrash in his advance on DAMASCUS in November, 1925, and there have been reports recently that exasperated by the conduct of the Senegalese troops in their area, the Hauranis are contemplating revolt against the French, but are too short of funds to be able to do much.

While little could be expected in the way of assistance from the Hauranis so long as the French remain masters of the situation in SYRIA, they would certainly be friendly towards any British troops operating in their country, and in the event of our taking the offensive with apparent success, they might give us active support.

(h) METAWALEH.

The Metawaleh are Shi'ah Mohammedans of Iranian origin. They are said to number about 200,000 of which 150,000 are located in the LEBANON. They are poor and despised by the Sunnis and Christians. They speak Arabic, but have little sympathy with the Arabs who regard them as bad neighbours. Their villages compare badly with the other villages of the LEBANON, but they have a rich and educated class which live in the larger towns. Ahmed Bey El Assad is said to be their leading Chieftain.

They are said to be anti-Government and usually ready for revolt. In November, 1925, however, when called upon by Zayd Ul Atrash to join his raiding columns of Druze and Hauranis, they preferred to sit on the fence until they saw which side was going to win, and after the French counter-offensive started to succeed in December, 1925, they decided to keep the peace. Their attitude now is likely to be similar and little assistance can be expected from them unless we make a successful offensive movement.

(i) ISMAILIYAH.

Are a small sect of the Shi'ah branch of the Mohammedan religion, from whom the Assassins were recruited in the middle ages. They number in SYRIA about 24,000. Their religious head is His Highness the Agha Khan, and his son Prince Ali Khan has considerable influence amongst them. They are reported to be poor and despised, but are very exclusive and were at one time a terror in the LEBANON.

They have kept quiet of late, but might be induced to help the British in operations in their country if they were handled rightly. They hate the Sunni Arabs so would have to be handled directly and not through their Mohammedan elements in SYRIA.

(j) MAGHARBEH (or MOGHRABI).

The Magharbeh of westerners are Moslems from NORTH AFRICA who began to migrate into PALESTINE and SYRIA early in the eighteenth century, when they came to a great extent to enlist in the Mercenary Infantry of the Turkish Pashas.

When the French conquered ALGERIA in the nineteenth century, a great many more arrived.

/The present leader .....



The present leader of the Magharbeh in SYRIA is the Amir Said Al Jazairli, whose ancestor was Abdul Qadir, who made his peace with the French after their conquest of ALGERIA.

Amir Said Al Jazairli is said to be a member of the late Dr. Shahbandar's Peoples' Party, of which he was offered the leadership but refused. He is apparently very pro-British, and would welcome a British occupation of SYRIA, mainly on account of bad treatment he has recently received from the French.

There is a Cavalry Regiment in SYRIA, enlisted from the Margharbeh, about 400 strong. The Commandant is Husni Beg As Zaim. This Regiment is reported to be in a rather mutinous state.

Ali Pasha Al Abidiyeh claims to be leader of the Magharbeh community in TRANSJORDAN.

(k) CIRCASSIANS.

(i) General History.

The Circassians, whose own name for themselves is Adighe, are comparatively new settlers in PALESTINE, SYRIA and TRANSJORDAN. They originate from the CAUCASUS, which lies on the Eastern shores of the BLACK SEA. For many centuries the tribes of the CAUCASUS were at feud with the people to the North of them, in what became RUSSIA, and wars were frequent.

The first real footing gained by the Russians in the CAUCASUS was not until the end of the Eighteenth century, and during the first half of the Nineteenth century they were constantly at war there.

In 1862, a large number of the Circassians were forced to migrate to BULGARIA and ROUMANIA, and in the war of 1877 the advance of RUSSIA into TURKEY again forced the people to move. These came to SYRIA and TRANSJORDAN where they were eventually granted lands by Sultan Abdul Hamid. The Treaty of BERLIN in 1878 gave an added impetus to this migration.

The Shabsough tribe was the first to leave, setting off by ship in 1878. En route a fire occurred on board and 700 lives were lost. Some fourteen or fifteen families eventually reached TRANSJORDAN, and founded the first Circassian colony in AMMAN.

In 1880, the first families of the Qabirtay and Bzadough tribes arrived, the former going to AMMAN, and the latter founding Wadi Sir village.

In successive years up to 1909, fresh parties of the Qabirtay and Bzadough arrived in TRANSJORDAN, and founded a colony at JERASH, and built villages at NA'OUR and RESEIFE. The total number of Circassians in TRANSJORDAN is about 5,500.

In 1907 the Chechens, also from the CAUCASUS, arrived. Having left their native country in 1905 they lived for a year in ANATOLIA. The Turkish Government then offered them land in TRANSJORDAN, and they marched down by way of ALEPPO and founded villages at ZERKA, SWEILE and SUKHNE.

The only Circassian villages in PALESTINE are at KUFR KEMMA and REHANIYA. and the total number of Circassians in PALESTINE is about 900.

In SYRIA there are estimated to be about 15,000 to 20,000 in the following Circassian villages in the QUNEITRA district :- KHLISHNIYE, FAZAR, JOUEIZA, BAREIKA, BIRAJAM, SELMANIYE, RUHINA, MUDARIYE, AIN ZE AN, MANSOURA, QUENETRA. There are also colonies at HOMS and ALEPPO, making some 40,000 in all in SYRIA.

In their early years of settlement, the Circassians met with

/ considerable opposition .....



considerable opposition from local Arab tribes, but by a judicious playing-off of inter-tribal enmities gained friends until strong enough to look after themselves.

(ii) Characteristics.

Being from the CAUCASUS, the Circassians are a fair-skinned race. Although Moslems they are by inclination monogamous. They are not particularly quick-witted, but are reliable, brave, good fighters, and very loyal to whoever they may be serving. They are industrious, and work hard on the land, their interests being agricultural.

Most of them are accomplished performers of the Circassian dance of which they are very fond. Their head-dress is the sheepskin Kalpak.

Their language is their own, and it is hard to say on what ancient language it is based since it seems to be like no other. Also the various dialects vary so much that a Qabirtay, for instance, cannot understand a Sheshan. An additional difficulty is that until very recently the language was not and could not be written. Writing, using Latin script, has now been produced in the last twenty years, but it is not at all widely known yet, even in the CAUCASUS and is not used in this part of the world. Most Circassians speak, read and write, Arabic.

(iii) Leading Families and Persons.

In TRANSJORDAN, the leading family is the Janbek family. They are influential, and members of the family hold posts in the Arab Legion and I.P.C.

In SYRIA, the leading men are Salim Zasheria Bzado of QUNEITRA, and Salim Fahmi Bzado of MANSOURA. The leading families are the Bzado, Qabirtay, Hatokai, Abzagh and Abaza.

(iv) Employment in the Forces.

In TRANSJORDAN, Circassians hold posts in the Government, Arab Legion and Transjordan Frontier Force. In the T.J.F.F. there are, at the present time, 263 Circassians.

In SYRIA, complete units of the local forces are formed of Circassians. These are known as the Groupement Cherkas, and it is believed that there are seven or eight Squadrons, all being Cavalry. They are armed only with rifles and a few L.M.Gs. and there is one French Officer per Squadron.



## PART II.

NOTES ON NON-MUSLIM ELEMENTS AND RACIAL  
MINORITIES IN SYRIA.

(a) The principal non-Muslim element in SYRIA are the Alawiyyin, the Maronites, the Armenians, Jews and Assyrians.

(b) ALAWIYYIN (ALOUITES).

This is the French name for the sect that was formerly known as Ansariyah or Nusairiyah. They are probably indigenous, and are believed to be still pagan in religion.

Turkish administration had only been intermittently effective over the Ansariyah of the coastal range, North of the LEBANON, and as infidels and wild highlanders they were alternately repressed and neglected under the Ottoman regime.

At first they offered a violent resistance to the French, but when the French created the Alawi State, capital Latakia, with frontiers which gave 150,000 Alawiyyin the predominance over 100,000 members of other communities, the Alawiyyin became devoted adherents of FRANCE. This was the more whole-hearted as, unlike the Maronites, they had no previous expectations against which to measure French performance.

The latest report on the attitude of the Alawiyyin is that "they remain comparatively quiet and desire neither the infiltration of Syrian Nationalist ideals, nor do they desire the continuation of French domination".

Some of them regard TURKEY as their national ally, and a fairly strong propaganda is afoot for joining the Alawi State to TURKEY.

Latest census give their number as 274,486 in SYRIA, and 6,000 in LEBANON.

(c) MARONITES.

Are Arab Christians, the latest census gives their numbers as 227,000 in the LEBANON, and 11,000 in the rest of SYRIA.

The sect was originally Monothelite, but is now in communion with the Roman Catholic Church.

There are Maronite colonies in EGYPT, WEST AFRICA and North and South AMERICA.

Prior to 1840, the Maronites and the Druze lived together in the LEBANON on fairly good terms, though the numerical superiority of the Druze gave them the advantage, and the Maronites had to be careful in their attitude towards them.

Early in the Eighteenth century, the Maronites came under French influence, and confident of the protection of their French friends, the Maronites became less obsequious than they had been towards their Druze neighbours. Their change of attitude together with fear as to what this foreign protection might lead caused the Druze enmity towards the Maronites which came to a head in 1840 in violent encounters and massacres of the Maronites which lasted intermittently for years.

The French sent a military expedition to SYRIA in 1060, and drove

/ the majority of the ....



the majority of the Druze out of the LEBANON, since which time the Maronites have virtually controlled the district.

When the French took over the Mandate for SYRIA, the Maronite community was the nucleus round which the LEBANESE national movement formed, and though they have not perhaps received all that they expected from the French, they have naturally been staunch supporters of the Mandatory Power.

After the collapse of FRANCE, the Maronites showed great anxiety as to their future. Being in communion with the Church of ROME, it was natural that some at least should look with favour on the arrival of the Italians. A pro-Italian party was organised, and the Maronite Bishop of BEIRUT, Ignatius Mbarak, was reported to be pro-Italian and an influential member of the party.

The Maronite patriarch, Anton Arida, is reported, however, to have refused to pay his respects to the Italian commission and to have reaffirmed his unshaken loyalty to the French. Later he is reported to have realised that the future of SYRIA no longer depended on the French and to be now looking towards BRITAIN for support.

A political party, called the Hizb El Dasbouri, is the political and temporal instrument of the Maronites. It is led by Sheikh Bishara El Khouri who is assisted by Bishop Abdullah, said to be a very astute ecclesiastic.

The policy of this party is to seek support from GREAT BRITAIN, though some would have preferred Catholic ITALY. The influence of Nazi GERMANY on the latter country has, however, caused her to be mistrusted. The party are said to be willing to agree to the union of the LEBANON with SYRIA, provided GREAT BRITAIN will guarantee to protect Lebanese and particularly Maronite interests.

(d) ARMENIANS.

(i) Estimated numbers of Armenians are :-

SYRIA (Armenian Orthodox)	113,000.
(Armenian Catholic)	18,000.
PALESTINE .....	7,000.
TRANSJORDAM. ....	1,000.

In SYRIA they are scattered but most of them are in the ALEPPO area. In PALESTINE they are mostly in JERUSALEM and JAFFA, and in TRANSJORDAN, mostly in AMMAN.

/the (ii) Tradition and history of the last 50 years have made all Armenians pro-British and French. The policy of the Armenian Church has always been democratic and the principals of Fascism and Communism are equally repugnant to them. In SYRIA there have also been and there still exist close ties between the Armenians and the U.S.A. These ties are educational, financial and personal, and arise out of the work done by the American Relief and other organisations at the end of the last war. The Armenian Protestants are closely linked with the American Church, most educated and therefore influential Armenians have been educated in American Missionary Schools or the American University in BEIRUT, Nearly all Armenian teachers are American educated and receive pay from U.S.A. and many families have some relatives in the U.S.A. The influence of the Armenian Church is dominant amongst most of the uneducated peasant class, and therefore the bulk of the Armenians in SYRIA are definitely pro-British though their influence is small.

The Armenian Roman Catholics are the only important body of Armenians that could be made pro-Axis under Papal and Maronite influence, but there is no evidence as yet in support of this.

Naturally there exist unemployed and disgruntled men with some

/ education who would, ...



education who would, for financial gain, advocate any policy that suited them. It is thought that these professional agitators, though they may be vocal, would exercise little influence.

The political parties are:-

(a) Dashnaktsagans (Socialist - Revolutionaries).

They constitute the principal party, but are not really important as the bulk of the Armenians pay little or no attention to Armenian politics or politics of any sort for that matter. They are very anti-U.S.S.R. as they were expelled from SOVIET ARMENIA for being too "bourgeois" and have also been expelled from the Third International. They have always been very anti-Turk as well. Recently there has been a split in the Party in SYRIA on the criticism of anti-U.S.S.R. propaganda. One group contends that destructive criticism of the U.S.S.R. is a waste of time and can only serve to exacerbate the Russians to their detriment in the U.S.S.R. The rest are not prepared to alter their policy and this split is said to have weakened whatever little influence the party ever had.

(b) Huntehakians (Social - Democrats).

They are moribund and inactive and have little influence at all.

The main factor governing the Armenian attitude in SYRIA is the Arab attitude. It has been the policy of the Armenians for the last twenty years to side with the Arabs. This policy has been dictated by the numerical superiority of the Arabs and the fear that in any eventual communal strife, the French would be unable to protect the Armenians adequately. The Armenians would be unable and unlikely to oppose the Arabs.

(iii) PALESTINE.

The Church is the dominant factor and refuses to recognise the Dashnaktsagans who have, however, obtained recognition from the Palestine Government by disguising themselves as the "Armenian Red Cross Society" and the "Armenian Educational Society".

(iv) TRANSJORDAN.

The Armenians are very few numerically, and extremely pro-British. They are happy and prosperous in TRANSJORDAN and attribute the good treatment they receive to British influence.



## PART III.

## NOTE ON THE PEOPLES OF THE

JEZIRAH.

(a) AL JEZIRAH is "the island" between the two rivers the TIGRIS and EUPHRATES.

For many decades the principal occupants of this region have been a number of nomadic and semi-nomadic tribes.

The great Shammar tribe is the most powerful with some 2,400 tents. Less important tribes are the Abu Khamis, Agaidat, Jabur, Baggara, Afadli, Waldi (Waldia), and Abu Sha'ban.

In addition to the Arabs, there are Kurds, Yezidis and Circassians, while there has recently been established a colony of Assyrians on the Khabur River.

(B) KURDS.

(i) General. The Kurds are said to be an Aryan race, but the name covers a heterogeneous collection of tribes, which include a considerable admixture of other races as Aramaean, Arab, etc.

Kurds are found in SYRIA, TURKEY, IRAQ and IRAN.

(ii) Kurds in the JEZIRAH. Those living in the JEZIRAH were at one time more or less under the influence of the Milli Kurd confederacy whose headquarters is at VERAN SHAHR, and in the days of Ibrahim Pasha Milli towards the end of the last century they gave him some assistance in his struggle with the central Turkish Government. Since the division of the country between TURKEY and the French, this influence has become much less.

Immediately East of the EUPHRATES there are two small tribal confederacies, approximately North of a line from URFA to BIRIDJIK are the Beshki, and South of this line in an area roughly URFA - BIRIDJIK - SERRIN - KULTEPE are the Berazi. The latter tribe occupies land both in TURKEY and SYRIA on either side of the artificial frontier formed by the ALEPPO - BAGHDAD railway. For this reason they are the first tribe in the JEZIRAH with which contact is likely to be made by troops based on the railway.

The nominal head or Rais El Berazi is the Agha of the Allauzin sub-tribe. Mustapha Ibn Shahin whose brother Bozan Ibn Shahin is also influential. They live at MAQTELE, close to ARABPUNAR railway station.

The Shahins have a blood feud with another sub-tribe within the Berazi confederacy, the Khetkhan whose Agha is Basrowi of MAZRAAT SOUFI, about 10 miles due South of ARAB PUNAR railway station.

Such is the influence of this feud that the whole confederacy is divided into factions over it, one supporting Basrowi and the other the Shahins. In almost each sub-tribe, of which there are about eight in the confederacy, there is a pro-Basrowi and a pro-Shahin faction. The result is that whatever line is taken by the Shahins or Basrowi, the other faction is certain to oppose it. In 1918, when a British force first came to this district, the fact that the A.P.O. at Brigade Headquarters was friendly with Basrowi seriously prejudiced our relations with the opposing faction, and it took time and tact to get them to co-operate with us.

/ Characteristics. ....



Characteristics.

The Kurds are a sturdy capable race and though said to lack the intelligence, subtlety and imagination of the Arab, they are more industrious and capable workers. They are quick tempered, but generous and hospitable to a degree that is at times embarrassing.

Normally extremely taciturn, the Kurd is reported to be somewhat dense and lacking in humour. This is not apparent among the Kurds of JEZIRAH.

The feudal spirit is very strong, and the tribesmen will readily take up arms at the word of his chief. He is even more callous and reckless in taking human life than the Arab, and is capable of extreme brutality.

So far as they have definite religious views, they are orthodox Sunni Mohammedans, but though each village will include certain deeply religious men in their religion is not very strictly observed by the majority. Women are most of treated with more respect than amongst the Mohammedan races.

The tribal Chief among Kurds is called Agha. The title "Sheikh" being given to religious leaders.

Though usually belonging to the tribe, and elected on his death from amongst the sons or close relations of the last Agha, the Agha is not always of the same stock as the tribesmen. One Agha of a sub-tribe of the Berazi is an Albanian, while some others were important local men who were appointed Agha through the influence of the Turkish Government.

When this occurred it usually divided the tribe into followers of the new Agha, and those who accepted the leadership of the son of the late Agha.

The Kurds in the JEZIRAH live in houses during the winter and tents during the summer. It is suggested that the fleas drive them out of their houses in warm weather, certainly they do not move far from their villages when they move out into their tents.

They have a good supply of horses and can turn out a considerable number of mounted fighting men. They are reported to have better staying powers than the Arabs in a fight, but under modern conditions their value is negligible unless enlisted in regular units.

Saladin, who fought Richard Coeur de Lion, was a Kurd, and Bastowi of the Khetkhan claims to be his descendant.

(C) ASSYRIANS.

The Assyrians, sometimes known as Turkish Nestorians, claim descent from the Assyrians who ruled the land of the two rivers some 4,000 to 5,000 years ago.

Ethnologically they appear to be of various types, possibly Turanian, Mongol and Aramaean, but they are all bound together by their religion which is Christianity of a form inclined to Protestantism.

Prior to the war of 1918 - 1918, they lived in an area stretching N.E. from AMADIA to LAKE URMLIA, and though their form of Government was practically autonomous, they were nominally Turkish subjects.

When the Grand Duke Nicolas advanced to ERZERUM in 1915, the Assyrians raised the standard of revolt and joined forces with the Russians. When the Russians withdrew after the the revolution, the Assyrians fought their way through to join the British forces in MESOPOTAMIA, arriving there about the time of the Armistice.

They were supported in refugee camps by British funds until

/ arrangements .....



arrangements could be made to place them in villages, and men of military age were enlisted in battalions of Levies under the R.A.F.

It was natural that they should regard the British as their protectors, and that a certain arrogance based perhaps on this feeling of protection should have antagonized the Muslim Iraqis.

When British protection was withdrawn, they suffered considerable hardship in IRAQ, and a massacre took place on 1st September, 1933, at SEMEL, N.W. of MOSUL. As a result of enquiries which took place after this incident, the French Government in SYRIA offered to place along on the KHABUR RIVER in the JEZIRAH at their disposal, and there is now a colony of some 12,000 settled in villages along the KHABUR RIVER.

A French Officer, Captain Vuilloud, put in charge of the colony took a real interest in their welfare, and they now have well found villages surrounded by cultivated land watered by a good system of pumps from the river.

They keep much to themselves, and what their position would be if the French left SYRIA is uncertain. The original inhabitants regard them with something of the same feeling with which the Palestine Arab regarded the early Jewish colonists, and are inclined to envy them their better villages and better methods of cultivation.

Most of the men have received military training in Levy Battalions in IRAQ, but are reported to be un eager to fight again for any cause but their own. Though they owe gratitude to the British, they feel that they were finally let down. Their original friendship with RUSSIA has been revived and they might, under certain circumstances, prove fruitful soil for communist propaganda.

Their religion, which has a considerable hold on them, would be the best safeguard against communism, but at present the Mar Shimun, their religious leader, is a refugee in OYPRUS, and not permitted to visit the Assyrian Colony in SYRIA.

(D) YAZIDIS.

The Yazidis are probably of Kurdish origin, and they speak a dialect of Kurdish.

They form a very distinct group owing to their peculiar religion which has cut them off from their neighbours and caused them to be feared and disliked by both Moslems and Christians. They are called Devil worshippers because while believing in a good and a bad power, they consider it wise to conciliate the latter. Being disliked by and cut off from their neighbours, they turn naturally to foreigners for friendship and protection.

They have always appeared pro-British, and they sheltered a number of Christian refugees during the war 1914 - 1918. However, during the trouble of 1933, they assisted the Arabs and Kurds in the looting and destruction of Assyrian villages.

Their principle shrine is at SHEIKH ADI, 27 miles N.N.E. of MOSUL. The Yezidis tribes stretch from the Shaikhan District, North East of MOSUL to the JEBEL SINJAR, and so they are partly in IRAQ territory and partly in French SYRIA.

They have at times incurred the suspicion of the Iraq Government who believe that they play a double game with the two Governments under whose administration they fall.

They are a settled agricultural people in the plains, but maintain a tribal organisation in the JEBEL SINJAR. Though those in the JEBEL are somewhat wilder and may indulge in desert raiding, the Yazidis as a whole are quiet, peaceful, law-abiding people, but with little intelligence and low standards of education and morality. Those enlisted in the IRAQ Army appeared to be of good solid type and became good rifle shots.

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SYRIA - GEOGRAPHICAL.

## I. SYRIA is divided into four districts.

1. THE LEBANON, bounded on the South by the PALESTINE - SYRIA frontier, on the East by the HERMON (JEBEL ES SHEIKH) - ANTI LEBANON range, and on the north by the road TRIPOLI - HOMS.
2. SOUTH SYRIA, bounded on the SOUTH by the SYRIAN - TRANSJORDAN and SYRIAN - IRAQ frontiers, on the Northeast by a line in the desert which follows the curve of the EUPHRATES and lies about 70 miles to the Southwest of it, and on the West by the boundaries of LEBANON and the ALAOUITES. This area includes the two districts of the HAURAN and the JEBEL DRUZE.
3. NORTH SYRIA, bounded on the South by the SOUTH SYRIAN border, on the East by the IRAQ frontier, on the North by the TURKISH frontier and on the west by the ALAOUITES frontier. The Western portion is known as NORTH SYRIA proper. and the Eastern portion as the JEZIREH.
4. ALAOUITES, bounded on the South by the LEBANON, on the East by SOUTH SYRIA and on the North by the TURKISH frontier (HATAY).

II. THE LEBANON.

1. MOUNTAINS. The whole region is mountainous, and falls into two main ranges, the LEBANON and the ANTI LEBANON, separated by the BUKAA plain in the South and the BAALBEK plain in the North. The highest points of both ranges are towards the North and the elevation gets less towards the South. The ANTI LEBANON is more barren and thinly inhabited than the LEBANON. The highest mountain is MOUNT HERMON (9,000 Feet).
2. PLAINS.
  - (a) Coastal strip running from KASMIYE to TRIPOLI is very rich in cultivation.
  - (b) BUKAA, traversed by the LITANI river. Soil very fertile and water plentiful. In certain places it is very marshy.
  - (c) BAALBEK PLAIN. Very fertile with a rich red soil. This plain is watered by the upper reaches of the ORONTES river.
3. RIVERS.
  - (a) LITANI (LEONTES) RIVER, rises in the LEBANON mountains North of BAALBEK and flows Southwards until it reaches the latitude of TYR when it turns Westward through a gorge whose sides are in some places more than 100 feet high.
  - (b) ORONTES RIVER (NAHR LEL ASI), rises North of BAALBEK and flows through HOMS and HAMA, thence through a narrow rocky gorge to the Northern extremity of the ANSARIE range when it passes sharply to the West through the plains of ANTIOCH.
  - (c) NAHR EZ ZAHARAN, rises in the MERDJAYOUN area and flows through a narrow gorge to the sea South of SAIDA.
  - (d) NAHR BEIRUT, rises in the HAMANA area and flows through a deep gorge to the sea at BEIRUT.
  - (e) NAHR EL KELB (DOG RIVER), rises in the AIN KAREM area and flows through a deep gorge to the sea at MAR YUSSUF.
  - (f) In addition there are numerous other small streams flowing Westwards from the LEBANON which go through deep gorges and are considerable streams when in spate.

/ 4. TOWNS.



4. TOWNS

- (a) TYR. A decayed fishing port on a sandy island. Population 5,240, roughly half Shiite Moslems and half Christian.
- (b) MERDJAYOUN. 780 metres altitude. 2,532 inhabitants, mostly Christian. Maintains a considerable garrison.
- (c) SAIDA. Small port, surrounded by a fertile district. Population 11,276, majority Sunnite Moslems.
- (d) BEIRUT. Residence of the French High Commissioner, and also administrative centre of LEBANON. Its harbour facilities are the most extensive on the SYRIAN coast. Considerable French garrison regularly maintained.
- (e) RAYAK. Military station at the junction of the broad gauge ALEPPO railway line with the narrow gauge BEIRUT - DAMASCUS line. It is of considerable strategic importance, a garrison is always maintained there, and it is the Headquarters of the French Air Force in SYRIA. The aerodrome is the largest constructed aerodrome in SYRIA, and planes of any size can land there.
- (f) BAALBEK. Situated between the fertile plain of the BUKAA and the plain watered by the upper reaches of the ORONTES. Population 5,000 majority Moslems.
- (g) TRIPOLI. A town of 33,000 inhabitants, mainly Moslems. The port is not comparable with that of BEIRUT, but it affords a good anchorage. It is the North-western terminus of the KIRKUK Pipe Line.

III. SOUTH SYRIA

1. MOUNTAINS.

- (a) THE ANTI LEBANON. (See para. II, 1 above.)
- (b) THE JEBEL DRUZE. This is a mountainous area, and for administrative purposes is regarded as separate from SOUTH SYRIA. It is inhabited mainly by Druzes. It is a volcanic massif, rising at its highest point 5,910 feet above sea level. The top of the mountain forms a vast plain from which emerges a series of broken cones with old volcanic craters on their summits. The ground is covered with blocks of basalt which makes cultivation difficult, but the soil is enriched by volcanic debris and is very productive. The principle crops are wheat, barley and peas. Around SUWEIDA and some of the other villages are extensive vineyards and a certain number of fruit trees. There is a scarcity of water in the mountain, and in the South there are hardly any springs. In recent years a proper water supply system for the town of SALKHAD has been built by the French. Water cannot be relied upon in many of the villages in summer. Communications are difficult in this area, and this has enabled the inhabitants to resist central authority with a good deal of success on several occasions.
- (c) THE LEGA. This is a huge lava belt lying Northwest of the JEBEL DRUZE, and is 26 miles from North to South and 20 miles from East to West. The whole area is impassable to M.T. and practically impassable to cavalry, and the tracks through it are tortuous and difficult. There are occasional deposits of rich soil in a depressions between the volcanic lakes and these are cultivated by the inhabitants. Owing to its inaccessibility the LEGA from time immemorial has been refuge of desperate characters.

2. PLAINS.

- (a) East of a line JEBEL DRUZE - HOMS - HAMA the country is a desert, /although it is not particularly



although it is not particularly flat. When there is no rain the going is good for M.T. almost anywhere in this area. Aircraft can also land at most places. After rain the area is impassable for M.T. until it dries up again.

- (b) THE HAURAN. This area is bounded on the South and West by the PALESTINE - TRANSJORDAN frontiers, on the East by a line SUWEIDA - DAMASCUS and on the North by MOUNT HERMON. The plain is very fertile and produces wheat, but there is in general a shortage of water. The chief towns are KUNEITRA, SHEIKH MISKAINA, and DERAA. There is a satisfactory water supply at these points.

3. RIVERS.

- (a) YARMUK. This river flows into the JORDAN at JISR ESSAGHIR. Where it flows along the TRANSJORDAN frontier it goes through a deep gorge which cannot be crossed by tanks.
- (b) There are other rivers and water courses in the area which are considerable streams when in spate, but dry up in the summer.

4. TOWNS.

- (a) DERAA. Junction of the HAIFA - DAMASCUS and DAMASCUS - AMMAN railways. 528 metres high. 6,500 inhabitants, mostly Sunnite Moslems. It is a place of considerable local importance.
- (b) SUWEIDA. Capital of the JEBEL DRUZE. 920 metres altitude. 4,725 inhabitants, nearly all Druzes.
- (c) KUNEITRA stands at the junction of the SAFAD - DAMASCUS and the SUWEIDA - SAIDA roads. Some fortifications erected by the French. Centre of CIRCASSIAN settlements. The inhabitants of the village are mostly Circassians.
- (d) DAMASCUS. Ancient administrative capital of the TURKISH province of SYRIA, and seat of Moslem learning second in importance only to EL AZHAR at CAIRO. A chain of hills on which there are some old forts manned by the French dominate the city from the North. From DAMASCUS roads branch North to ALEPPO, East to RUTBA and BAGHDAD, Southwest to HAIFA and West to BEIRUT. Its only railway communication is the narrow gauge HIJAZ railway which connects with the broad gauge railway at RAYAK. The outskirts of DAMASCUS on the South are fertile and well watered and there are many gardens and orchards.
- (e) PALMYRA. A desert town on the TRIPOLI - KIRKUK Pipe line, garrisoned by the French. There is a lake to the South and good landing facilities for aircraft.
- (f) HOMS. At the junction of the DAMASCUS - ALEPPO road with the TRIPOLI - ALEPPO road. The town normally contains a considerable French garrison. To the Southwest there is a lake on which sea-planes can be landed. The town itself has 55,000 inhabitants, mostly Moslems. The town is also of strategic importance as it commands the Eastern end of the pass between the high ground of the ANTI LEBANON to the South and high ground of the JEBEL ANSARIYA to the North.
- (g) HAMA. On the ORONTES. Population 55,000, of whom 11,000 are Christians. The DAMASCUS - ALEPPO road crosses the ORONTES by a bridge here. The town lies in a small depression surrounded by hills, and in summer the climate is hot and damp.



SYRIAN RAILWAYS

Summary of information held at this Headquarters. It is not exhaustive.

1. ROUTES

RAYAK - ALEPPO 206 miles.

ALEPPO - MAIDAN EKBEES (Turkish frontier) 72 miles.

ALEPPO - TEL KOTCHEK (Iraq frontier) 325 miles.

HOMS - TRIPOLI 63 miles.

BEIRUT - DAMASCUS 93 miles.

BEIRUT - MAMELTEIN 11 miles.

DAMASCUS - EL HAMME 120 miles.

EZRAA - SOUEIDA 30 miles.

2. GAUGES

BEIRUT - RAYAK - DAMASCUS - DERRAA - EL HAMME 1.04 metres.

EZRAA - SOUEIDA (Decaville Rly) Narrow gauge.

Other railways are normal gauge 1m44.

3. MAXIMUM GRADIENT

Between BEIRUT and DJITA maximum of 70 mm in the metre and there is a 'cog wheel' arrangement to enable the engine to take it.

4. TUNNELS

BEIRUT is kilo 0.

14.50 km	ARRAYYA	Length	160 metres.
33.25 km	MEDRIJE	"	unknown.
38.00 km	BEIDAR	"	300 metres.
140.00 km	SOUK WADI BARRADA	"	unknown.

There is a viaduct at kilo 39.

There are no tunnels on the RAYAK - ALEPPO line.

5. WEIGHT OF LINE PER METRE.

BEIRUT - DAMASCUS 23 kilos per metre.

DAMASCUS - DERRAA 22 kilos per metre.



6. MAXIMUM TRAFFIC DENSITY.

Approximate one train per hour.

7. LOADS ON TRACK.

The maximum load on the narrow gauge track is 15 tons per truck.

On the Decaville Rly. it is 10 tons.

8. ENGINES AND ROLLING STOCK

Seven types (Swiss) engines between BEIRUT and RAYAK. They weigh 65 tons when coaled and watered, and have cog wheels. (See para.3)

There is also a concentration of 50J type engines (German) and 350 waggons (French) in working order at ALEPPO.

8. FUEL.

(i) Kind. Coal. Some engines are rumoured to be converted to oil.

(ii) Coal yards. BEIRUT, RAYAK, HOMS, ALEPPO, TRIPOLI, DERA. Supply for not more than six months at full rate.

10. BRAKES

Narrow Gauge. - Vacuum brakes.

Normal Gauge - Hand brakes worked by sound signals from the engine.

11. WORKSHOPS.

RAYAK, DAMASCUS, ALEPPO.

Small workshops - BEIRUT, TRIPOLI.

Minor repair shops - DERA, HOMS.

12. MAXIMUM SAFE SPEEDS PER HOUR.

Normal gauge	50-60	kilos	per	hour.
BEIRUT - DAMASCUS	25	"	"	"
RAYAK - DAMASCUS	35	"	"	"
DAMASCUS - NASSIB	50	"	"	"
DERA - BOSRA	50	"	"	"
DERA - TELL CHEHAB	45	"	"	"
TELL CHEHAB - SAMAKH	40	"	"	"



13. TURNTABLES

BEIRUT, RAYAK, DAMASCUS, ALEPPO, TRIPOLI.

14. CURVES.

Minimum curve is that of the circumference of a circle whose diameter is 100 metres.

15. JUNCTIONS.

BEIRUT, RAYAK, DAMASCUS, DERA A, HOMS, MOUSLIMIE.

16. SHUNTING & MARSHALLING YARDS

SAMAKH, ALEPPO, TEL KOTCHEK.

17. VULNERABLE POINTS.

Line EL HAMME - DERA A.

Viaduct HERE DERE (near Turkish frontier).

DERA A junction. Shuttle at ARAYA. Points at ALEY.

Level-crossing over the TRIPOLI road at BEIRUT.

18. GENERAL.

The general condition of the line is good and there is no shortage of spare parts or material. Most of the rolling stock is French or Belgian.

Some of the bridges are in need of repair and there is a severe shortage of "charbure de calcium" for this purpose.

SHUNTING & MARSHALLING YARDS

SAMAKH, ALEPPO, TEL KOTCHEK.



SECRET

SYR/A/ORG/XV/GSI

Subject:- SYRIA - SUPPLY

Forwarded herewith are some notes on the administrative organization of the French Army in Syria, based on information received at this Headquarters.

*J.A. LeFroy Lt.*  
for Colonel.

Jerusalem,  
29th March 1941.

General Staff (Intelligence).  
British Forces in Palestine & Transjordan.

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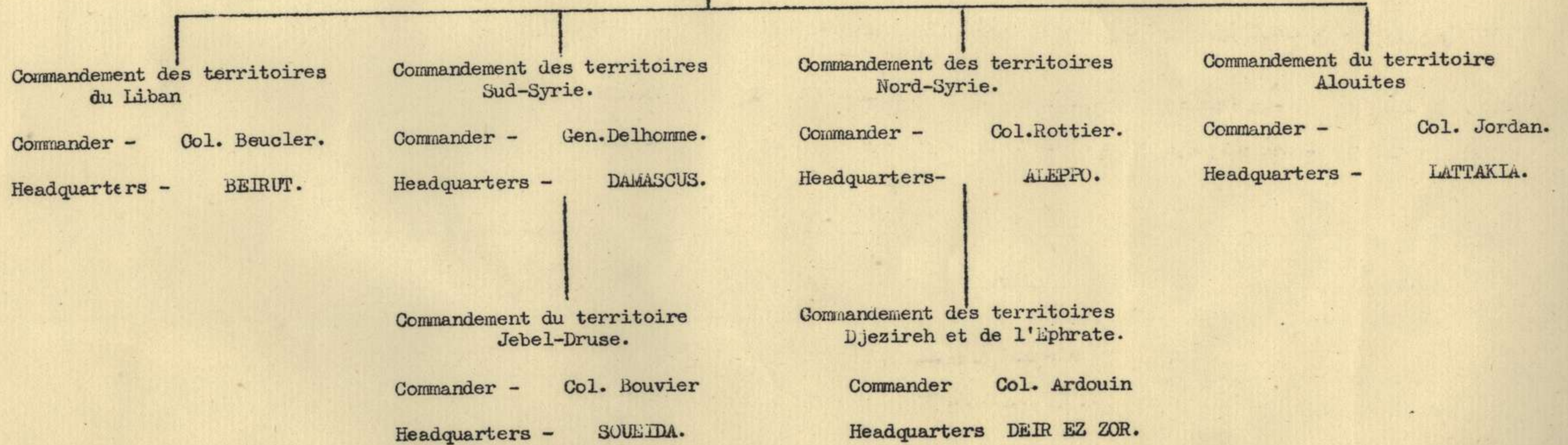


SYRIA - COMMANDS

Commandement superieure des troupes du Levant.

G.O.C. Gen. Dentz.

H. Q. BEIRUT.









III. FOOD SUPPLY

Normally BEIRUT is the main centre of supply. At present however the Intendants at ALEPPO, DAMASCUS and DEIR EZ ZOR have power to make local purchases and let out local contracts.

INTENDANT-GENERAL BEIRUT (St. Michel)

INTENDANTS. ALEPPO.  
DAMASCUS.  
DEIR EZ ZOR.

DISTRIBUTION POINTS. SOUEIDA LATTAKIA  
MERDJAYOUN HOMS  
SAIDA HAMA  
TRIPOLI.

IV. WORKSHOPS

P.R.R.E.M. BEIRUT  
(Depot and Repair Shop)  
(Aviation workshops) RAYAK (This may have been moved recently to DAMASCUS or TRIPOLI).

P.A.R.E.M. (Repair Shops) ALEPPO  
DAMASCUS  
DEIR EZ ZOR.

UNIT WORKSHOPS. ABLAH  
BEIRUT  
DAMASCUS  
TRIPOLI  
SOUEIDA

In addition there is 1 mobile workshop (consisting of one spare parts lorry and one machine tools lorry) to every 100 vehicles.

V. MARSHALLING YARDS

Railway marshalling yards exist at the following places.

RAYAK 176213  
MALAKA 167211  
DAMASCUS  
ALEPPO  
TRIPOLI  
TEL KOTCHER 719550  
HOMS.





SALAHAD - SOUEIDA - DAMASCUS

General description of route

The main road is about 150 k.m. long and is open to all forms of traffic. Starting from SALAHAD, the road commences at an altitude of 1200 metres and descends gradually until it reaches SOUEIDA, which is 920 metres high. From SOUEIDA to DAMASCUS the road descends further. Leaving SOUEIDA the road passes EL MAJMAA (noted for its fresh water springs). From here the road turns eastwards past the village of KOURIB (19015), KOURIB (19015), DAMAYR (19110), SARABIN (19115), KHARABIB (19115), KIBOUH (19115), and finally reaches DAMASCUS. In the sector SALAHAD - MAJMAA it is 4 metres wide. And sector SALAHAD - DAMASCUS it is 6 metres wide. The sector SALAHAD - SHLEH MISHKIN is poorly asphalted, but the sector SHLEH MISHKIN - DAMASCUS is well asphalted. The road was strengthened in 1940.

S Y R I A - Routes

1. SALKHAD - SOUEIDA - DAMASCUS.
2. MAFRAQ - DERA A - DAMASCUS.
3. SAMAKH - FIQ - BUTMEIYE.
4. JISR BANAT YACOUB - QUNEITRA - DAMASCUS.
5. QUNEITRA - MERDJAYOUN.
6. SAFAD - MERDJAYOUN - ZAHLE.
7. MERDJAYOUN - SAIDA.
8. NAQURA - BEIRUT.

Movement of the road

(a) In the sector SALAHAD - SHLEH MISHKIN runs through the JABEL KHURIB which is almost impassable in winter. A strong trench exists which is impassable in winter. A strong trench exists which is impassable in winter. A strong trench exists which is impassable in winter.

(b) In the sector SHLEH MISHKIN - DAMASCUS the road runs for long stretches on an embankment. The surrounding area is liable to be flooded during the winter (November to February).

(c) As the road approaches DAMASCUS it runs through gardens with high hedges, making it difficult to get off in a hurry.

Map Ref:- LEVANT 1:200,000.

Difficulties and obstacles

The following difficulties and obstacles may be encountered.

- (i) Numerous small washes in country between SHLEH MISHKIN and DAMASCUS would impose some delay on movement off the road in dry weather.
- (ii) Valley North of KHARABIB (19115).
- (iii) Four kms. South of KIBOUH, lava patch on west of road and plantations on the east.
- (iv) The village of KIBOUH is surrounded by high ground on the north, east and west. A bridge carried the road over the NAIR EL A'ONJ.
- (v) Plantations and orchards on the outskirts of DAMASCUS.
- (vi) O.C. T.L.F. states that there are no road bridges in the area which if destroyed, could not be detoured in a few hours.



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## ROADS &amp; TRACKS - SYRIA

ROUTE NO.1.SALKHAD - SOUEIDA - DAMASCUS.1. General description of route.

The main road is about 150 k.m. long and is open to all forms of traffic. Starting from SALKHAD, the road commences at an altitude of 1200 metres and descends gradually until it reaches SOUEIDA, which is 920 metres high. From SOUEIDA to DAMASCUS the road descends further. Leaving SOUEIDA the road passes EL MAZRAA (noted for its fresh water springs), SEJEN (218094), BUSRA EL HARARI (206099) to SHEIKH MISKIN (544 metres high). From here the road turns right past the villages of FGUEH (190112), TELL KOUTEIBE (190115), QANAYE (192120), SANAMEIN (191126), RHABARHIB (195138), KISSOUE (197157), and finally reaches DAMASCUS. In the sector SALKHAD - MAZRAA it is 4 metres wide, and sector SHEIKH MISKINE - DAMASCUS it is 6 metres wide. The sector SALKHAD - SHEIKH MISKINE is poorly asphalted, but the sector SHEIKH MISKINE - DAMASCUS is tarmaced, and repairs, including strengthening of culverts, were completed in June 1940.

2. Movement off the road.

It is generally difficult to move off the road, because:-

- (a) sector SALKHAD - SHEIKH MISKINE runs through the JEBEL DRUSE, which is almost impassable off the tracks, and South of the LEDJA which is impassable off the tracks. A strong French mechanised column was destroyed by the Druzes between SALKHAD and SOUEIDA in 1925, largely because it could not get off the road to manoeuvre.
- (b) sector SHEIKH MISKINE - DAMASCUS is passable off the tracks in dry weather, but the road runs for long stretches on an embankment. The surrounding plain is liable to be flooded during the winter (November to March).
- (c) As the road approaches DAMASCUS it runs through gardens with high hedges, making it difficult to get off in a hurry

3. Defiles and obstacles.

The following defiles and obstacles may be encountered.

- (i) Numerous small wadis in country between SHEIKH MISKINE and DAMASCUS would impose some delay on movement off the road in dry weather.
- (ii) Valley North of RHABARHIB (195138).
- (iii) Four kms. South of KISSOUE, lava patch on West of road and plantations on the East.
- (iv) The village of KISSOUE is commanded by high ground on the North, East and West. A bridge carried the road over the NAHR EL A'ONJ.
- (v) Plantations and orchards on the outskirts of DAMASCUS.
- (vi) O.C., T.J.F.F. states that there are no road bridges in the area which, if destroyed, could not be detoured in a few hours.



4. Cover.

- (i) Woods near KAFER (234077) and MAZRAA (220093).
- (ii) Troops can remain well hidden in the lava belt to the East of the road, but vehicles would have to be hidden by artificial means.
- (iii) Plantations and orchards on outskirts of DAMASCUS afford good cover.
- (iv) There are remains of ancient citadels in the area which might provide some shelter against air attack.

5. The route.

Kms. SALKHAD, altitude 1200 metres. Prominent site. Accommodation for about 1000 men in fort. Population 25000, mainly Druze, with some Greek Orthodox Christians. No running water, but special tanks have been constructed to collect ample supplies of rain water in the winter (plan of the water supply held at Force Headquarters). Christian tribes are:- FALLAREH YD. MEHALMEH and NASSER. The Druzes in the neighbourhood are under the leadership of the ATRASH /family.

19. KAFER (234077). Pop. 800.

27. RAHA (229082). Pop. 300. Well supplied with water.

32. SOUEIDA (227085). Altitude 920 m. Pop. 6000. Accommodation for about 5000 men in barracks. Water facilities are good as there are four sources of supply. Electric light system. The town is the capital of JEBEL DRUZE. Following tribes inhabit the district.-

Christian - CHEHADE, HAZINA, ASSAFINE.

Druze - OBEID, AL ATRASH.

41. MEZRAA (220093). Noted for its fresh water supplies and government agricultural station.

43. SEJEN (218094). Pop. 650. Majority DRUZE, the rest Circassians. A road leads from SEJEN right into the LEJA region.

58. BOSRA EL HARIRI (206099). (This village has wells with pumps but supply sufficient for local needs. The tribes around the village are:-

- YASSINE - Chief SHEIKH AKIL YASSINE.
- AL HARARI - Chief SHEIKH SALAME HARARI.
- SALLAUTE - A Bedouin tribe. Chief AHMAD GOSSEIN.
- Arabs of the LEJA. - Sheikh TALLAL ABU SOLEIMAN.

The last two are recognised as local magistrates by the French.

Near the railway line at EZRAA (195102), is a landing ground suitable for military aircraft.

/77. SHEIKH MISKINE.



- 77. SHEIKH MISKINE (188099). Altitude 544 metres. Pop. 2500. Police post, and telephone service. Junction of roads leading to DERA A (183076), QUNEITRA (156133), SHEIKH SAAD (176100) and DAMASCUS. From here the route turns North passing a number of small hamlets, most of which have a plentiful water supply. A perennial stream runs from SHEIKH MISKINE to the YARMUK.
- 104. SANAMEIN. Altitude 708 metres. There is a road from this village suitable for light traffic only, leading South East to Ezraa (197103) and by-passing SHEIKH MISKINE.
- 117. RHABARHIB (195138). Altitude 719 metres. Pop. 1500. Telephone and police post.
- 137. KISOUE (197157). Pop. 2000. Situated on DAMASCUS - DERA A railway. Water is plentiful. From here to Damascus country is fertile and well cultivated.
- 158. DAMASCUS. Altitude 690 metres. Pop. 250,000. System of canals brings water to the city. Two railway stations. One line leads to BEIRUT and ALEPPO, the other to DERA A and PALESTINE. Town possesses a tramway system, and most of the amenities of a modern city.

6. Alternative routes.

In the event of the main road being rendered impassable the following alternative routes exist between SALKHAD and SOUEIDA, but are only suitable for light traffic.

- (i) SALKHAD - after 5 kms. along the main road, turn right for EL KRLIE (229067) - KESSAS (226068) - SOUEIDA.
- (ii) SALKHAD - BOSRA EASKI CHAM (218064) (good water) - AIRE (224075) Residence of Emir HASSAN, EL ATRASH. †
- (iii) SALKHAD - ORMANE (245064) - MELAH (253063) - BENAM (250068) - SOUEIDA.

The following is an alternative route from SOUEIDA to DAMASCUS.

SOUEIDA - CHAHBA (233101) - KHOLKHOLE (224125) - BURAQ (219137) - KISOUE (197157) - DAMASCUS.

† Emir HASSAN is the Governor of the JEBEL DRUZE, appointed by the French. He is regarded as a French puppet. The leader with most prestige is SULTAN PASHA ATRASH.



ROUTE NO. 2.

MAFRAQ - DERA A - DAMASCUS.

This route passes through SHEIKH MISKINE. For details of sector SHLIK H MISKINE-DAMASCUS see Route No. 1.

1. General description of route.

From MAFRAQ road bears North-West across hilly stony country with several bad crossings to REMTHA (174069). Surface of road is poor. From REMTHA road is straight to DERA A. From DERA A to DAMASCUS surface is good and road 6 metres wide. An alternative passable track, leads from MAFRAQ - NASIB (190068) - DERA A.

2. Movement off the road.

In dry weather vehicles can manoeuvre off the track in any direction between MAFRAQ and REMTHA. Movement possible, but more restricted around DERA A.

3. Defiles and obstacles.

Bad wadi crossings between MAFRAQ and REMTHA.

4. Cover.

- (i) Fair cover in wadis about 2 miles North of MAFRAQ.
- (ii) JEBEL EZ ZEUMLE, South of DERA A dominates town and southern approaches.

5. The route.

<u>kms.</u>	MAFRAQ - Telephone.	Aerodrome.	I.P.C. pumping station.
32	REMTHA. Pop. about 3000. Telephone. Water supply, which needs to be filtered; uncertain June - January. Country round very open. No cover from air.		
39	DERAA. Altitude 528 m. Pop. about 9000. Accommodation for 1000 men in barracks. Electric light. Consists old town and modern town. Valley between towns holds a reervoir. Railway junction. Landing ground suitable for military aircraft to the West.		



kms.

25 SHEIKH MISKINE. - DAMASCUS - DERAA - JASIN

Sector SHEIKH MISKINE - DAMASCUS described in Route I.

6. Alternative routes.

(i) MAFRAQ parallel to railway line to DERAA - EZRAA - SHAQRA - QANAYE - DAMASCUS. Poor; dry weather only.

(ii) DERAA - MUZERIB - SHEIKH SA'AD - NAWA - JASIN - ENKHEL - SANAMEIN - DAMASCUS. Poor; dry weather only.

ROUTE NO. 3.

SAMAKH - FIQ - BUTMEIYE

1. General description of route.

The road is better in summer than in winter, but is only suitable for light traffic and the country round is difficult. Starting from SAMAKH, the road goes along the Sea of GALILEE to KAHR HARIB (142092), and thence to FIQ (145093), EL AAL (150097), KHISFIN (157102) to DJOUKHADAC (159110). Here the road forks, one track leading to QUNAITRA and one to SHEIKH MISKINE. The road to BOUTMEIYE (163113) is only a mule track.

Total distance 50 kms.

2. Alternative routes.

None.



ROUTE NO.4.

JISR BANAT YACOUB - QUNLEITRA - DAMASCUS.

1. General description of route.

The road is 97 kms. long, and average width 6 m. It is suitable for all kinds of traffic all the year round. Sector JISR BANAT YACOUB - QUNLEITRA is asphalted. Sector QUNLEITRA - AARTOUZ (188164), good, but not asphalted. Sector AARTOUZ - DAMASCUS asphalted. The road ascends from sea-level near JISR BANAT YACOUB and passes through stony ground and mountainous plateau up to QUNLEITRA, altitude 980 m. Some 20 kms after QUNLEITRA the country becomes rather swampy and is composed mainly of volcanic lava. From AARTOUZ the country becomes wooded and fertile, and the road crosses the BEIRUT - DAMASCUS railway 2 kms before reaching DAMASCUS.

2. Movement off the road.

(i) Movement difficult on sector JISR BANAT YACOUB - QUNLEITRA owing to the ground being covered with large boulders.

(ii) Sector QUNLEITRA - DAMASCUS. Movement possible in dry weather, but hampered by patches of swamp and small wadis.

(3) Sector QUNLEITRA - DAMASCUS. Difficult to get off the road in a hurry owing to high hedges and orchards.

3. Defiles and obstacles.

(i) About 4 kms Southwest of QUNLEITRA dominant cone-shaped hill commands the road.

(ii) 20 kms. Northeast of QUNLEITRA the road is carried by small bridges across a succession of wadis. If these bridges were destroyed they might impose a temporary check on movement as the ground to the North is lava, and to the South is swamp, and therefore difficult to detour.

(iii) About 5 kms further on the road runs across a lava patch, making it difficult to get off the track.

(iv) At SAASSAA (176150) the road crosses river on concrete and steel bridge.



4. Cover.

- (i) There is little cover, other than that afforded by dead ground, until the road reaches AARTOUZ.
- (ii) AARTOUZ - DAMASCUS, good cover is afforded by hedges and orchards.

5. The route.

Kms. JISR BANAT YACOUB.

6. NERANE (145122).

9. EL ALLEQA (146124).

25 QUNLITRA (157133). Altitude 980 m. Pop. 3,000. Accommodation for troops unknown, but probably good. (Present French garrison about 1000 men). Ample supplies of water and local products such as wheat, maize, hops and meat. There are many Circassians in the district, the chief of whom is SALIM ZACHERIA BZADO of QUNLITRA.

47. CHOUKATLIYE (171144).

57. SAASSAA (176150).

65 OUM ECH CHARATITE (180154).

79 AARTOUZ (190167).

95 MEZZE (outskirts of DAMASCUS) (199175).

97 DAMASCUS.

6. Alternative route.

The alternative route, which can only be used by cavalry and pack transport, is as follows:-

QUNLITRA - JABA (167136) - MAYEINE (173140) - OSMANIYE (173142) - DEIR MAKER (177144) - KENAKIR (183147) (good water supplies) - ABBASIYE (187156) - BOUAIYIYE (187159) - DROUCHA (187161) - AARTOUZ.



ROUTE NO.5.

QUNLEITRA - MERDJAYOUN

1. General description of route.

This road, which is not asphalted, but is suitable for all forms of transport all the year round, is 44 kms. in length, and has an average width of 4 m. The Sector QUNLEITRA - BANIYAS is comparatively level. The sector BANIYAS - MERDJAYOUN goes through deep valleys and is difficult. Leaving QUNLEITRA the road passes many windmills, and reaches MANSURA (155135), MASSADA (152145), and crosses the valley of the Wadi SA'ARI. From here the road rapidly descends and crosses a river at two points near BANIYAS. From BANIYAS the road starts to incline, and crosses four bridges. The frontier between SYRIA and the LEBANESE REPUBLIC is passed at a distance of 8 kms from BANIYAS and the road continues straight on to MERDJAYOUN.

2. Movement off the road.

- (i) Sector QUNLEITRA - BANIYAS, movement very difficult.
- (ii) Sector BANIYAS - MERDJAYOUN, movement almost impossible.

3. Defiles and obstacles.

- (i) 18 kms Northwest of QUNLEITRA, crossing of the Wadi SA'ARI (very deep).
- (ii) Near BANIYAS, the road crosses the river by two bridges; one of these bridges was constructed in 1928, and the other is an ancient one. Both are prepare for demolition.
- (iii) 1 km Northwest of BANIYAS, bridge over the Wadi KACHABI.
- (iv) 3 kms. from BANIYAS, bridge over Wadi EL ASAL.
- (v) 6 kms. from BANIYAS, bridge over a small stream.
- (vi) 10 kms from BANIYAS, bridge over the HASBANI RIVER. This bridge was constructed in 1928.

The last four bridges are probably prepared for demolition.

4. Cover.

- (i) Sector QUNLEITRA - BANIYAS, very little cover.
- (ii) Area BANEYAS, several wadis.

/ (iii) BANIYAS CASTLE



(iii) BANIYAS CASTLE might provide some cover from air attack.

(iv) Woods round MERDJAYOUN would also provide cover.

5. The route.

- Kms. QUNEITRA (for particulars see route 4).
- 3 MANSURA (155135). Pop. 1500 CIRCASSIANS. To the left of this village the road runs to WASIT (6 kms) where there is a Bedouin tribe known as AL FADEL, the Chief of which is the EMIR FAOUR, an important person locally and a Deputy in the Syrian Parliament.
- 16 MASSADA. 3 kms to the Northeast there is a lake, BIRKLT RAM.
- 24 BANIYAS (145147) Altitude 380 m. Pop. 1000 Moslems. Police Post; telephone service. Situated at the foot of Mount Hermon. Stands at the junction of two valleys, wadi HASHABI and Wadi SA'ARI, and has a plentiful water supply. The surrounding district is fertile and there is an abundance of fruit, vegetables, wheat, etc. On a hill there are the ruins of an ancient fortress, which commands two valleys. This castle has not fallen completely into ruins, and could still be used for observation and ambush.
- 44 MERDJAYOUN. Altitude 780 m. Pop. 4/5000. Majority are GREEK Orthodox Christians. The district is very fertile and well irrigated by a number of rivers.

6. Alternative routes.

- (i) Sector QUNEITRA - BANIYAS. Road suitable for light traffic only. AIN EL HAJEL (153137) - ZAOURA (147142) - AIN FITE (146143) - BANIYAS.
- (ii) Sector BANIYAS - MERDJAYOUN. No alternative route available to any form of traffic other than by mountain tracks.



ROUTE NO. 6.

SAFAD - MERDJAYOUN - ZAHLE

1. General description of route.

This road is approximately 133 kms long and is suitable for all kinds of traffic South of MERDJAYOUN. North of MERDJAYOUN the road deteriorates. It is an all weather road, but not asphalted, and it is reported that the suitability of the road for the heaviest forms of transport is doubtful. Starting from SAFAD the road runs to the West of the HULEH Valley and thence on a general line West of the LITANI Valley. Water supply is therefore plentiful at most places on the route.

2. Movement off the road.

Much of the sector MERDJAYOUN - ZAHLE is in the vicinity of woods and it is possible to get off the road to take cover. It does not appear practicable to manoeuvre off the road.

3. Defiles and obstacles.

- (i) The village of QLEEA (134156) has the reputation of being a strong position.
- (ii) For 29 kms North of MERDJAYOUN the road appears to run through a narrow defile.
- (iii) Junction of two rivers at AMIQ (153197).

4. Cover.

- (i) In general the ground traversed is more suitable than on the other routes for cover in event of attack by aircraft.
- (ii) Several woods and forests close to sector MERDJAYOUN - ZAHLE.

5. The route.

<u>Kms.</u>	SAFAD.
8	ROSH PINNA (131116).
49	MEHTULLAH.



kms

59 QLEILA. Maronite population. Reputation as a fortress. Chief personage is IBRAHIM FRANCIS, whose family owns land in the HULEH.

64 MERDJAYOUN (details see Route 5).

68 Cross-roads (13701580).

96 SAGHBIN (147186) Pop. about 1200.

98 AMIQ (153197). Pop. about 1000. Stands at junction two small rivers. Important personage in village is ELIAS TOHME SIKAF, Deputy in Lebanese Parliament, and owns land both in AMIQ and ZAHLE.

120 QAB ELIAS (158206). Pop. about 2000 including many Christians. Constructed in tiers on the side of a small hill

125 CHTAURA (161209). Altitude 900 m. Telephone service. Small population - all Christians. Hedges and gardens afford cover. Road now improves. Excellent water facilities.

133 ZAHLE. Altitude 945 m. Pop. about 35,000 (?) One of the principal towns in the LEBANON. Good water supply. Railway station on main BEIRUT - DAMASCUS line at MOALQA (167211) 2 kms away.

6. Alternative routes.

MERDJAYOUN - HASBAYA (145163) (Druze; Chief is Sheikh HUSSEIN KAISSE) - RACHAYA (160173) - CHTAURA (161209). Sector MERDJAYOUN - RACHAYA reported not asphalted, but an all weather road. No definite reports about RACHAYA - CHTAURA, but it is probable the whole route is passable for light traffic.



ROUTE NO.7.

MERDJAYOUN - SAIDA.

1. General description of route.

This route, which is 48 kms in length, is in good condition and available for all types of transport the whole year round. Starting from MERDJAYOUN the road bears Southwest and passes QLEEA. Shortly after this village the road turns sharply NORTH, and crosses the Litani river at KHARDALE 12½ kms from MERDJAYOUN. The road then continues Northwest and joins the main NAQURA - BEIRUT road at a point 9 kms South of SAIDA. Both food and water supplies are ample in the area traversed by this route.

2. Movement off the road.

Most of this road follows the valley of the ZAHERANI river, and movement off the road is therefore restricted. A number of villages lie on both sides of the road and can be reached by tracks which are only suitable for the lightest form of traffic.

3. Defiles and obstacles.

(i) The greater part of the road runs through the ZAHERANI valley.

(ii) The LITANI river crossing (13151546). Two bridges, one modern and one old. The old one will not take heavy transport.

(iii) Road junction (11311731). Bridge over the ZAHERANI River.

4. Cover.

Cover is scarce, except in so far as it is afforded by cultivation.

5. The route.

kms. MERDJAYOUN.

3 Road junction (13411559).

15 KAHR TIBNIT (129158).



Kms.

19 NABATIYE (136161) Altitude 450 m. Pop. about 5000, most of whom are SHIITE. The most important family here is the ZAHER family, at the head of which is SHEIKH SOLIMAN ZAHER.

22. HABBOUCH (126164).

26. DEIR EZ ZAHKAN (124166).

31. ZLETTA (119168).

39. Road junction (11311731) (Joins main NAQURA - BEIRUT road).

48 SADA. A small fishing port. Pop. about 50,000, composed of all sects of Moslems, Christians and Jews. It is an important business centre and handles large quantities of imports and exports for the Hinterland. The important families are BEZBI, ZENI, OSSEIRAN, DEBBAIN and ATIE.

6. Alternative routes.

There are no satisfactory alternative routes.

ROUTE NO. 8.

NAQURA - BEIRUT.

1. General description of route.

This route, which is 112 kms in length, is in first class condition and suitable for every form of transport. Leaving NAQURA the road runs parallel to the coastline to TYR (099149), which is sometimes also spelt SOUR. It then crosses the LITANI river and reaches SAIDA, and then continues through DAMOUR (124300) and CHOUEIFAT (130208) to BEIRUT.

2. Movement off the road.

Movement off the road is in general difficult as the road keeps to the coast the whole way. The few places where detours are possible have been mined.

/3 Obstacles



3. Defiles and obstacles.

(i) For the first 18 kms the road keeps alongside a cliff and can easily be rendered completely impassable by the enemy. It might, however, be possible to /easily detour this sector, which is the most/demolished sector of the whole road, by making a track between our frontier road at SURUH (107129) and KIRBET AL MANSOURAH (113126) to RAMIET (109131) and REMEICHE (115127) respectively on the French frontier road, and thence by AIN EBEL (118131) and TIBNINE (119140) to TYR.

(ii) The road runs over numerous bridges, the most important of which are -

(a) NAHR EL EZZIYE 16 Kms North of NAQURA.

(b) The LITANI River at QASMIYE (108156) (Sketch of the defences held at this Headquarters).

(c) Bridge over the NAHR RHEDIR 2 kms North of CHOUEIFAT (130208).

(iii) The road is commanded by high ground to the East, practically the whole way.

(iv) It is reported that all bridges and possible detours are prepared for demolition throughout the route, but it is also reported that owing to the ease with which the actual road can be rendered impassable the French have made less defensive preparations in this area than they have on the Eastern side of the frontier.

4. Cover.

(i) Cover for troops, but not for M.T. exists in the NAQURA area.

(ii) Cover for both troops and M.T. may be found in the area CHOUEIFAT.

5. The route.

Kms. RAS NAQURA. (SYRIA - PALESTINE frontier).

4 NAQURA (094133).

22 TYR (099149). Pop. 7000. The majority of the inhabitants are SHIITE Moslems, and the remainder GREEK Orthodox Christians. The town is built on an Island connected to the mainland by a sandy isthmus. The small port is only used by fishermen, as it is not large or deep enough for bigger vessels.

44. EL KODAR (109169).



Kms

59 SAIDA (117186) (For particulars see route No.7)

81 DAMOUR (124200). Pop 1/2000. The most important family is the GORAYEB, the head of which is FARID GORAYEB. The village struggles along the road for about 2 kms.

93 CHOUEIFAT (130208). This village is the home of the ARSELAN family, noted for their pro-German sentiments. The head of the family, EMIR SHAKIB ARSELAN, is at present in GERMANY.

112 BEIROT.

6. Alternative routes.

With the exception of the possible detour noted in paragraph 3(i), there is no alternative through route. North and East of SAIDA there are many tracks connecting villages, which could be traversed by troops without M.T.

Cover

(i) Cover for troops, but not for M.T. exists in the NAJARA area.

(ii)

Cover for both troops and M.T. may be found in the area CHOUEIFAT.

The route

RAJ NAJARA. (SYRIA - PALASTINE frontier).

NAJARA (OASIS).

32

TYN (OASIS). Pop. 7000. The majority of the inhabitants are Moslems, and the remainder Greek Orthodox Christians. The town is built on an island connected to the mainland by a sandy isthmus. The main port is only used by lighters, as there is no large or deep-water vessels.

EL KODAR (OASIS).

SAIDA (117186)



Subject:- Order-of-Battle - SYRIA.  
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SYR/L/STRAT/I/GSI.

S E C R E T.

1. The attached Order-of-Battle is based on information received at Headquarters, British Forces in Palestine and Transjordan, up to 19th March 1941. Previous issues are cancelled.
2. Amendments will issued periodically by this Headquarters.
3. Please acknowledge receipt on attached Army Form A.16.

Jerusalem.  
27th March 1941.

*J. A. Letroy*  
Colonel.  
General Staff (Intelligence).  
British Forces in Palestine & Transjordan.

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125

COPY NO.....

ORDER OF BATTLE

FRENCH FORCES IN SYRIA

(Ref. map - Levant 1:200,000 series).

March 1941



NOTES AND ABBREVIATIONS

A.C.	Anti-tank.
A.M.	Automitrailleuses (Armoured cars)
B.C.C.	Bataillon Chars de Combat (Tanks)
B.C.L.	Bataillon Chasseurs Libanais.
B.D.L.	Bataillon du Levant.
B.M.T.S.	Bataillon de marche Tirailleurs Senegalais.
Colonial troops.	Troops of the regular French army who spend half their service at stations in France and half in the Colonies.
C.L.D.	Compagnie legere du desert.
C.S.T.L.	Commandement superieur des troupes du Levant (Gen.Staff).
D.C.A.	Defense contre avion.
E.L.Dj.	Escadron leger Djezireh (Djezireh Light Cavalry)
E.L.Dr.	" " Druse (Druse Light Cavalry).
E.L.N.S.	" " Nord Syrie (N.Syrian Light Cavalry).
E.L.Tch	" " Tcherkess (Circassian Light Cavalry).
Etr.	Legion Etrangere (Foreign Legion).
Genie	Engineers.
Gp.	Groupe or Groupement (sub-division of a regt.)
H.C.F.	Haut Commissariat Francais.
Intendance.	Supply service.
Metropolitan.	Troops (French and native) belonging to the French Army in France and North Africa.
Mtn.	Pack transport.
P.A.R.E.M.	Sub Regional workshops.
Partizan	Irregular light cavalry.
Porte.	Lorry borne (Artillery).
P.R.R.E.M.	Regional workshops.
R.A.C.L.	Regiment d'artillerie coloniale du Levant.
R.A.M.L.	Regiment d'artillerie metropolitaine du Levant.
R.C.A.	Regiment Chasseurs d'Afrique.
R.I.C.	Regiment d'infanterie coloniale.
R.T.A.	Regiment Tirailleurs Algeriens.
R.T.M.	Regiment Tirailleurs Marocains.
R.T.S.	Regiment Tirailleurs Senegalais.
R.T.T.	Regiment Tirailleurs Tunisiens.
S.A.	Spahis Algeriens.
S.M.	Spahis Marocains.
Sp.	Troupes speciales. Troops recruited and maintained by local governments, but trained and partly officered by French.
S.T.	Spahis Tunisiens.
T.L.	Territoires des Liban.
T.N.S.	Territoires Nord Syrie.
Train	Transport Corps.
Transmissions.	Signals.
T.S.S.	Territoires Sud-Syrie.

/Notes.....



Notes.

1. Cavalry regiments have a total establishment, officers and men, of 871. An independent squadron group consists of about 399, all ranks.
  2. A battalion of infantry consists of about 721, all ranks. It has 42 L.M.Gs, model 24 modified 29.
  3. A light desert company consists of about 200, all ranks.
  4. It is thought that the Levant half-brigade noted in the above Order-of-Battle were formed to give employment to Colonels who were in excess of establishment and would otherwise have been sent back to France.
  5. It should be noted that since the issue of the December Order-of-Battle, in addition to the re-organisation of Artillery and A.F.Vs., the Heavy M.G. Coy and the XI Bn Foreign volunteers have disappeared. The former has probably been absorbed into units, and it is considered likely that the latter have been disbanded or absorbed into the Foreign Legion Artillery.
- The existence of the B.M.T.S. is also open to doubt, but it is thought highly probable that they have been retained, although the locations given need confirmation.

Intendance, Supply services.

Astrologist, Troops (French and native) belonging to the French Army in France and North Africa.

R.A.R.M. Sub Regional Workshops  
 R.A.R.M. Regional Workshops  
 R.A.O.L. Regiment d'artillerie coloniale du Levant  
 R.A.M.L. Regiment d'artillerie métropolitain du Levant  
 R.O.A. Regiment Chasseurs d'Afrique  
 R.L.C. Regiment d'infanterie coloniale  
 R.T.A. Regiment Tirailleurs algériens  
 R.T.M. Regiment Tirailleurs marocains  
 R.T.S. Regiment Tirailleurs Sénégalais  
 R.T.T. Regiment Tirailleurs tunisiens

S.A. Spahis algériens  
 S.M. Spahis marocains

Sp. Types spéciales, Troops recruited and maintained by local governments, but trained and partly equipped by French.

S.T. Spahis Tunisiens

T.L. Territoire des Liban  
 T.M.S. Territoires du Sud Syrie  
 T.M. Transport Corps  
 T.M.S. Territoires du Sud Syrie



COMMANDS AND STAFF

1. C.S.T.L.
  - G.O.C. General Dentz.
  - 2 i/c General Fougere.
  - Chief of Staff Colonel Le Courtier.
  - 1re Bureau (A) ?
  - 2me " (I) ?
  - 3me " (Operations) Comdt. Marion.
  - 4me " (Q) Comdt. Cherriere.
  - 5me " (Security) Capts. Rondeau and Ollion.
  - Chief Artillery Officer Col. Carbonier.
  - O.C., C.D. and A.A. Arty Col. Cannone.
  - Chief Signal Officer Comdt. Brygoe
  - Chief Special Service Officer Comdt. Teze.
  - Chief Ordnance Officer Comdt. Moulin.
  
2. Area Commanders.
  - T.L. (Beirut) Col. Beucler
  - T.S.S. (Damascus) Gen. Delhomme.
  - T.N.S. (Aleppo) Col. Rottier.
  
3. Sub-Area Commanders.
  - JEBEL DRUZE Col. Bouvier
  - DJEZIREH Col. Ardouin
  - ALAOUITES Col. Jordan.
  
4. Special Service Officers.

S.S.Os are officers seconded for political and intelligence duties amongst the native population, and for security. In the Jebel Druse, Djezireh and Alouites (where the Military Commander is also the H.C's delegate) they are also in direct control of the administration.

Throughout the rest of Syria and Lebanon (except Beirut and Saida) they have not direct control of administrations, but report on how it is carried on.

Lately the S.S.Os have also been put in charge of food distribution.

/Chef de Bataillen TEZE



COMMANDS AND STAFF (continued)

4. Special Service Officers (cont).

- |   |               |   |
|---|---------------|---|
| I.  |               |   |
| Chef de Bataillon TEZE                              |               | : Mohafazat d'Alep.                       |
| Inspecteur General des services Speciaux du Levant. |               | : Capitaine Duge de Bernonville - Alep.   |
| Capitaine Gonthier                                  |               | : Lieutenant Dubois - Alep.               |
| Capitaine Lesur                                     |               | : Capitaine Michelette - Arab - Pounar.   |
|   |               | : Capitaine Dunyach - Djerablous.         |
|   |               | : Capitaine Gave Jean - Azaz.             |
|   |               | : Capitaine Daniau - Afrine.              |
|   |               | : Capitaine Lemeveu - Alep.               |
|   |               | : Capitaine Gave Pierre - Kafert - Harim. |
|   |               | : Capitaine Lavarde - Idlib.              |
|   |               | : Capitaine Tinel - Djiar-el-Ghoghour.    |
| II.   |               |   |
| Mohafazat de Damas et du Hauran.                    |               |   |
| Capitaine Deangeli                                  | - Damas.      |   |
| Lieutenant Michaux                                  | - Damas.      |   |
| Lieutenant Pellat                                   | - Damas.      |   |
| Capitaine Vabre                                     | - Nebek       |   |
| Capitaine Macquart                                  | - Douma       |   |
| Capitaine Meric                                     | - Kuneitra    |   |
| Capitaine Guerinet                                  | - Deraa.      |   |
| Mohafazat de Homs et de Hama                        |               |   |
| Capitaine Bouttin                                   | - Hama        |   |
| Capitaine Chapotot                                  | - Homs        |   |
| Lieutenant Franceschini                             | - Selemieh    |   |
| Territoire Autonome des Alaouites                   |               |   |
| Capitaine Blondel                                   | - Lattaquie   |   |
| Capitaine Loheac                                    | - Kessab      |   |
| Lieutenant Briet                                    | - Haffe       |   |
| Lieutenant Biree                                    | - Djebel      |   |
| Capitaine Branchet                                  | - Massyaf     |   |
| Capitaine Thiriat                                   | - Tartous     |   |
| Lieutenant Rondeau                                  | - Tell-Kallah |   |
| Mohafazat de Djezireh                               |               |   |
| Capitaine Azziz                                     | - Hassetche   |   |
| Lieutenant Jcuangean                                | - Hassetche.  |   |
| Lieutenant Courtot                                  | - Hassetche.  |   |
| Lieutenant Grimaldi                                 | - Andivar.    |   |
| Lieutenant Michel                                   | - Kamechlie   |   |
| Lt. Barazer de Lannurien                            | - Kamechlie   |   |
| Lieutenant Houel                                    | - Ras-el-Ain  |   |
|   |               | : Mohafazat de l'Euphrate                 |
|   |               | : Capitaine Lacroix - Deir-ez-Zor.        |
|   |               | : Lieutenant de Maigret - Deir-ez-Zor.    |
|   |               | : Lieutenant Castella - Deir-ez-Zor.      |
|   |               | : Lieutenant de Pallacot - Tell-Abiad.    |
|   |               | : Lieutenant Pourra - Rakka               |
|   |               | : Capitaine Pourcel - Abou-Kemal.         |
|   |               | : Territoire Autonome du Djebel-Lruze.    |
|   |               | : Capitaine Prochasson - Souida.          |
|   |               | : Lieutenant Sergent - Souida.            |
|   |               | : Capitaine Louvel - Chahah.              |
|   |               | : Lieutenant Crebessac - Salkad.          |
|   |               | : Controle des Tribus Bedouines.          |
|   |               | : Capitaine Meyer - Damas.                |
|   |               | : Capitaine Leroy - Palmyra.              |
|   |               | : Capitaine Terras - Maaret-el-Noman      |
|   |               | : III.                                    |
|   |               | : Capitaine Gacou - Tripoli.              |
|   |               | : Lieutenant Riauceu - { Baalbeck.        |
|   |               | : Lieutenant Hebrard - { Andjar.          |
|   |               | : Merdjayoun.                             |



(I) INFANTRY

(a) Metropolitan Troops. (See Notes and Abbreviations.)

1. 9th R.T.A.

H.Q., and H.Q. Coy.

BEIRUT 1221

1st Bn.

KFAR SHIMMA 131209

and  
KHALDE 127207

2nd Bn. (Comdt. Dillemann)

DERAA 183076

and  
SHEIKH MISKINE 188099

3rd Bn

BEIRUT 1221

One Coy.

DJOUNIEH 140228

Two platoons.

HAMMANA 151210

2. 22 R.T.A.

H.Q., and H.Q. Coy.

SAIDA 117181

1st Bn. (Comdt. Trousseau)

MERDJAYOUN 136159

One Coy.

NABATIYEH 126161

2nd Bn. (Comdt. Belloi)

SAIDA 117181

Two coys.

MIYE MIYE 119179

3rd Bn. (Comdt. Laie)

KASMIYAH 105155

One Coy.

TYR 099148

One Coy.

ALMA ASH SHAB 098131

? Dets.

LABOUNA 095130

KH. JERLINE 104131

RAJLET 109131

3. 16 R.T.T.

H.Q., and H.Q. Coy.

ALEPPO 293473

1st Bn

" "

2nd Bn

" "

One platoon

HAIR-DAIR



4.	10th North African. Half Brigade.		
	H.Q., and H.Q. Coy.	SQUEIDA	226085
	5/1 R.T.M.		
	One platoon	CHAHBA	232101
	4/16 R.T.T.	SOULIDA	226085
	One Coy.	SALKHAD	240061
5.	6th Foreign Legion.		
	H.Q., and H.Q. Coy. (Col. Barre)	HOMS	241309
	1st Bn. (Comdt. Jouve)	"	"
	No.1 Coy. (Capt. Delatre)	"	"
	No.2 Coy	" (Citadel)	"
	No.3 Coy. (Capt. Comiti)	" (Town)	"
	M.G. Coy. (Capt. Orsini)	" (Citadel)	"
	2nd Bn. (Comt Bricey)	BAAIBECK	195229
	No.4 Coy.	"	"
	No.5 Coy. (Capt. Michand)	"	"
	No.6 Coy. (Lt. Clement)	HOMS	241309
	M.G. Coy. (Capt. Potez)	BAAIBEK	195229
	3rd Bn. ? (Comdt. Boitel)	DAMASCUS	204175
	(Dets in the forts around Damascus)		
	4th Bn. (Capt. Ourtamet)	KISSOUE	198157
	No.13 Coy. (Capt. Dobrowski)		
	No.14 Coy. (Capt. Laine)		
	No.15 Coy (Capt. Collot)	One Coy. is at PALMYRA	385289
	M.G. Coy. (Capt. Bonnot)		



(b) Colonial troops (See Notes and Abbreviations)

6. 24th R.I.C.

H.Q., and H.Q. Coy. (Col.G.Picot)	TRIPOLI	058279
1st Bn	"	"
2nd Bn	"	"
3rd Bn	BEIRUT	1221

7. 17th B.T.S.

H.Q. and H.Q. Coy. (Col.Horault?)	DAMASCUS	204175
1st Bn (Col.Millet)	QUNEITRA	158132
One Coy.	AIN ZIWAN	156129
One Coy.	MANSURAH	155134
Dets?	TELL ABU KHANZIR	152126
	ALLEQA	146124
	TELL ABU EL NADA	155130
2nd Bn	DAMASCUS	204175
One Coy.	QADEM	201170
3rd Bn (Comdt Pacaud)	DAMASCUS	204175

B.M.T.S.

1st B.M.T.S.	TRIPOLI
2nd B.M.T.S.	BEIRUT

(These Bns are self-contained and may be moved about rapidly)



(c) Special troops (See notes and abbreviations)

8. 1st LEVANT Half-Brigade

H.Q.	LATTAKIA	157398
2nd B.D.L. (Comdt. van Copenolle)	"	"
One Coy.	MASSIAF	207357
Two Pl.	KASAB	177442
5th B.D.L. (Comdt Cottrelle)	LATTAKIA	157398
One Coy.	TARTOUS	170330
One Coy.	RUAD	163324

9. 2nd LEVANT half-brigade.

6th B.D.L. (Capt. Buisson)	DEIR EZ ZOR	560380
One Coy.	RAQQA and TEL ABIAD	408450 445580
One Pl.	ABU KEMAL	625280
8th B.D.L. (Comdt. Berges)	QAMICHLIYE	645573
One Coy.	DEREK	730595
One Coy.	HASSETCHE	603510
Dets.	AMUDA	618578
	TEL ALLO	694558
	TAURAMISH	
	TELL KOTCHEK	719550
	RAS AL AIN	543547

10. 3rd LEVANT Half-brigade.

1st B.C.L.	MERDJAYOUN	136159
Two Coys.	KHAIM	138155
One Pl.	RACHAYA	160173
2nd B.C.L.	SHUKRI GHANIM	
One Coy.	BEIRUT	1221
One Coy.	HAMMANA	151210
3rd B.C.L.	ANTELIAS	137220
One Coy	"	"
One Coy	TELL DIB	136219
One Coy	DOUBAYE	137224



11.	<u>Independent units</u>	<u>Metroplitan</u>	(a)
	1st B.D.L. (Comdt Mahmoud)	TRIPOLI	058279
	One Coy.	RAYAK	175213
	One Coy.	TELL KALALK	200203
	3rd B.D.L.	SAASA	177150
	One Coy.	EZRAA	198102
	4th B.D.L. (Comdt Souli)	ALEPPO	293473
	One Pl.	IDLIB	235447
	One Pl.	MAIDAN AKBES	240541
	One Pl.	AZAZ	274515
	7th B.D.L.	HAMA	245354
12.	<u>C.L.D. (Meharistes) Mech and Camel</u>		
	1st C.L.D. (Capt. Fourier) (Recently reinforced by 2 mech. secs)	DMLIR	238188
	? det (camels)	MELAH	254053
	2nd C.L.D. (recently reinforced by 1 mech. sec.)	DEIR EZ ZOR	560380
	One Armd. Car Sec.	HASSETCHE	606510
	3rd C.L.D. (recently reinforced by 2 mech. sec.)	PALMYRA	385289
	Dets.	ABU SHAMAT	
	"	ZILAF	300110
	"	TENF	425173



(II) ARTILLERY

(a) Metropolitan

13.	1st R.A.M.L.	H.Q., and H.Q. Bty.	DAMASCUS	
		1st Gp. (mountain, semi-mech)	BAALBEK	195229
		One Bty 105 mm	"	"
		One Bty 65 mm	"	"
		2nd Gp. (Motorised)	DAMASCUS	
		Three Btys 105 mm (long)	"	
		One Bty 47 mm A/T	"	
		3rd Gp. (Motorised A.A.)	RAYAK	176213
		One Bty. 75 mm	"	"
		One Bty 75 mm.	DAMASCUS	
		One Bty. 75 mm.	ABLAH	172214
		4th Gp. (Low-flying A.A. motorised)	ZAHLE	166212
		One Bty. 25 mm.	"	"
		(10th) " " " "	BEIRUT	1221
		(12th) " " " "	ALEPPO	293473
		(11th) " " " "	RAYAK	176213
		<u>Attached sections</u>		
		One sec. 75 mm A/T	QUNEITRA	156133
		" " " " "	SHEIKH MISKINE	188099
		" " " " "	DERA'A	183076
		" " old fortress guns	DAMASCUS	

14. 2nd R.A.M.L.

	H.Q., & H.Q., Bty.	ALEPPO	293473
	1st Gp. (horsed)	"	"
	Two Btys. 75 mm	"	"
	2nd Gp.		
	One Bty. 75 mm (Lorryborne)	ALEPPO	293473
	One Bty. 65 mm ( " " )	LATTAKIA	157398
	One Bty. mixed 65 mm and 75 mm (Lorryborne)	DEIR EZ ZOR	560380
	One Coastal Defence Bty (in course of formation)	LATTAKIA	157398



15.

R.A.C.L.

H.Q., and H.Q. Bty.

BEIRUT

1221

1st Gp. (Motorised)

One Bty 155 mm.

BEIRUT

1221

One Bty 75 mm

"

"

Not clear whether these sections are independent or attached to 1st Gp.

(One Sec. 75 mm A/T

TYR

100148

(One Sec. 75 mm A/T

MEHDJAYOUN

135159

2nd Gp. (mountain)

1/2 Bty 105 mm

QUNEITRA

156133

1/2 Bty 65 mm

"

"

3rd Gp. (Coastal Defence)

7th Bty. 145 mm

BEIRUT (Lighthouse)

8th Bty. 164 mm

" (Dog River)

9th Bty (half 90mm half 75 mm)

TRIPOLI

4th Gp.

10th Bty 75 mm.

BEIRUT (Soap works)

11th Bty 75 mm.

" (Bir Hassan)

13th Bty 75 mm

TRIPOLI

16.

Foreign Legion Artillery Gp.

Three Btys. 75 mm.

HOLS

241309

(b)

Special

Attached

Lebanese mountain artillery battery 65 mm HASBAYA 145163

Lebanese Coastal Defence 75 mm, half at BEIRUT (Lazaret)

" " (Quarantine)



(III) CAVALRY and mechanised units.

(a) Metropolitan

17.	6th R.A.C. (Tanks and Armd. Cars)	BEIRUT	1221
	5th (Armd Car) Sqn.	ALEPPO	293473
	4th (Light Tank) Sqn.	"	"
	7th R.A.A. (Tanks and Armd. Cars)		
	H.Q., and 1st Gp.	DAMASCUS	
	2nd Gp.	ABLAH	172214
18.	4th Tunisian Spahis (Comdt. Quatrebarbes)		
	5th Sqn.	TYR	099148
	6th Sqn. (Capt. Poitn)	MERDJAYOUN	135159
	less dets (Lieut Dercufile)	ADEISSA	131147
		METULLA	135150
	(Lieut. Coq.)	BLIDA	129134
19.	1st Moroccan Spahis (Comdt de Chaleon)	ALEPPO	
	? One Sqn.	TRIPOLI	
20.	1/8 Algerian Spahis	BEIRUT	1221
(b)	<u>Special troops.</u> (See Notes and Abbreviations)		
21.	Gp. Levant Line Cavalry.		
	H.Q.	HOMS	241309
	3rd Sqn.	"	"
	4th Sqn.	HAMA	245354
22.	Gp. Chasseurs Libanais.		
	H.Q. (Comdt. Taillet)	TYR	099148
	One Sqn. Dets at	BINT JEBAIL	121132
		BLIDA	129134
		TIBNIN	119140
		REMEICHE	115127
	One Sqn. (? de la Chauvelaix)	MIYEMIYE	119179



23. Gp. E.L.Dj.

H.Q.

HASSETCHE 606510

21st Sqn

RAS AL AIN 543547

One Tp.

DEIR BISSIE 593574

23rd Sqn.

HASSETCHE 606510

24th Sqn.

AIN AROUS 445580

25th Sqn.

QAMACHILYE 645573

28th Sqn.

DERIK 730595

24. Gp. E.L.N.S.

H.Q.

ALLEPPO 293473

19th Sqn.

IDLIB 235447

20th Sqn.

HAFFE 180406.

26th Sqn.

BAB 315491

27th Sqn.

AZAZ 273514

Two Tps.

RADJOU 235525

25. Gp. L.E.Dr.

H.Q. (Capt. de la Barge Certeau)

SOUEIDA 226085

1st Sqn.

CHAABA 232101

2nd Sqn.

SOUEIDA 226085

3rd Sqn.

AL ANATE 249045

? det

IMTAN 250053

4th Sqn.

Ghariye 234050

Dets

DIBINE 226055

UMBEL RUMMANE 238045

KH. AWAD 239043

26. Gp. E.L. Tch.

H.Q. (Capt. de la Joliniere)

DAMASCUS

12th Sqn. (Capt. de la Guerrinere)

QUNEITRA 156133.

1 tp.

NAIRUN 144122

1 tp.

AIN SEMSEN 146121

1 tp.

KABIR HARIM

(Probably dets. at ALLEQA (146123) and FIQ (145083) as well.  
(Not confirmed)



26. (continued)

13th Sqn. (Capt. de Carmejane)	BANIAS	145146
1 Tp.	MASRADE	151145
(probably Dets. at EL MORHEUR ECH CHAABA but not confirmed)	EL GHAJA (near AIN FITE)	143148
	RHADJAR	146144
	AIN FITE	139149
		146144
14th Sqn. (? Capt. Sarazin)	BOSRA	209065
(probably dets. at but not confirmed)	TALBE	196069
	NASSIB	190068
	SAHAM DJOLAN	191071
15th Sqn. (Lieut. Lonisson)	DUMA	212181
16th Sqn. (? Capt. Blondel)	DERA'A	183076
1 Tp	KARAK	
1 Tp	YADOUDE	179081
(probably Dets. at but not confirmed)	TAFAS	180088
	CHADJARA	162093
18th Sqn.	KISSOUE	198159

27. Gp. Partizans Tcherkess

It is reported that seven Sqns have been raised, viz. 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st and 42nd. The 41st and 42nd were reported to be motorised and commanded by Capt. Colteaux de Coumont. The Sqns. were said to be in the DAMASCUS area.

A usually reliable source gives the following locations of eleven Partizan Sqns., but not their numbers. It is therefore probable that the seven Sqns. previously reported are included, but the location of the motorised Sqns cannot be determined.

H.Q.	EZRAA	197103
30th Sqn.	"	"
1st Gp. One Sqn.	KOCHRLJIH	
One Sqn.	KHISFINEJEH ?	157102
2nd Gp. One Sqn.	DERA'A	183076
One Sqn	TELL SHAHAR	170083
3rd Gp. One Sqn.	YUBAL AL KASHAB	
One Sqn.	HADOR	? 239073
4th Gp. One Sqn.	NAVE	
One Sqn.	SHEIKH SAAD	176100
5th Gp. One Sqn.	SANAMAIN	191126
One Sqn.	KHABBAD	200122.



28.	<u>Special Light Motor M.G. Platoon.</u>		
	No.1 platoon	HOMS	241309
	No.2 Platoon	LATTAKIA	157398
	Light Armd. Car Unit (Capt. Verriere)	TYR	100148

(IV) TRANSPORT.

(a) Metropolitan Troops.

29.	<u>29th Train</u>	BEIRUT	1221
	H.Q.	"	"
	No.2 Coy. (horsed & mech.)	"	"
	No.102 Coy. (Mech.)	"	"
	No.1 Coy. (horsed)	DAMASCUS	
	No.101 Coy. (Mech.)	"	

30. Motor Transport Group.

H.Q.	BORJH BRAJNE	131212
626 Coy.	" "	"
628 Coy.	HADITH	131210
Depot	BEIRUT	

(b) Special Troops (See Notes and Abbreviations)

One Syrian Coy. (Mech)	ALEPPO	293473
One Lebanese sec. (Mech.)	BEIRUT.	

(V) ENGINEERS.

(a) Metropolitan troops.

32. 33rd Bn. Sappers and Miners.

H.Q., and one Coy.	BEIRUT	
One Coy.	DAMASCUS	
One Coy.	ALEPPO	293473
<u>86th Bn. Sappers and Miners</u>	TRIPOLI	



33. 43rd Communication Bn.

H.Q.	BEIRUT
One Telegraph Coy.	"
One W/T Coy.	"
One Coy. (mixed W/T and telegraph)	ALEPPO
" " " " " "	DAMASCUS

34. 1st Bn. Indo-Chinese (Labour)

H.Q.	BEIRUT	
One Coy.	"	
One Coy.	ALEPPO	
One Coy.	DAMASCUS	
One Coy.	ABLAH	172214

35. 631st Bn. Madagascar (Labour).

H.Q. and One Coy.	BEIRUT.	
One Coy	KUSSAIR	229285
One Coy	TRIPOLI	
One Coy.	TALIA	185221

(b) Special Troops. (See Notes and Abbreviations)

36. Sapper-Miner Coy.	BEIRUT	
Railway Coy.	EZRAA	197103
Telegraph Coy.	BEIRUT	

(VI) WORKSHOPS.

37. P.R.R.E.M.	BEIRUT	
P.A.R.E.M.	DAMASCUS	
P.A.R.E.M.	ALEPPO	



Page 2

REPORT ON THE WATER SUPPLY IN SOUTHERN SYRIA

Reference Maps:- Levant 1:200,000 (to which co-ordinates refer).  
GSGS 25551 1:1,000,000.  
Palestine & Transjordan 1:250,000.

1. GENERAL

It can be assumed that there is an ample supply of water in all the larger towns, but in villages the supply is more precarious... While some villages have a plentiful supply all the year round, others run short of water towards the end of summer. There are certain perennial streams, numbers of good wells, but villages not possessing these rely on cisterns or storage tanks often cut out of the rock. These are called Birkets or Birkas.

2. PERENNIAL STREAMS.

(a) Area S. and S.W. of DAMASCUS. Perennial streams run from:-

- (i) GHARIYE (193082) past TELL SHEHAB (170083) into the YARMUK.
- (ii) WADI EL HARIR from Cheik MESKINE (188098) into the YARMUK.
- (iii) The Nahr el Auaj from E. slopes of Mt. Hermon through KISSOUE (198157) to the BAHRET HIJJANA (230150) the mud-flats 25 S.E. of DAMASCUS. A branch runs past GHABAGAHIB village (195138).
- (iv) From the S.W. slopes of Mt. Hermon runs the WADI ASSEL, which joins the upper reaches of the JORDAN about 6 miles S.E. of METULLA, and several other small streams.

(b) Southern LEBANON.

- (i) The River LITANI runs from near RAYAK (176213) past MERDJAYOUN (135159) into the sea just North of TYR (100148).
- (ii) NAHR EL SAHRAR, the NAHR ES SARUNIE and several other streams run from the LEBANON Hills into the Mediterranean between TYR and BEIRUT. These are shown on the map.

3. BEIRUT WATER SUPPLY

There is a large irrigation scheme in connection with Lake YAMMOUNE (175243) which is in the hills about 12 miles N.W. of BHALBELA. It is reported that there are fourteen municipal sources of supply which produce together 35,000 cubic metres of water per day, or approximately 2½ million gallons, of which 11,000 are available for BEIRUT.

4. WELLS.

(a) HAURAN AREA.

- (i) Wells with pumps and abundant water.

KHIRBET EL CHAZALEH (191089)  
EL HAREK (203089)  
KEREK HAURAN (206083)

- (ii) Wells with pumps - water sufficient for local use only.

BISRA EL HARIRI (206099).  
M'AMEH DER'A (188078).  
OTHAMN (185081).  
EL YADOUDEH (178082).

/(iii) Wells with pumps and



(iii) Wells with pumps and engine.

JASIM (180117).  
 EL HARREH (175125).  
 KIRFEH.

(b) JEBEL DRUZE AND EASTERN HAURAN.

UM EL MEYADEEN (192072) with engine. Supply poor, dries up after much pumping.  
 EL MUSEIFIREH (205076) Wells 2 - 3 Km from village.  
 SHAHBA (232101). Several wells.  
 BOSRA ESKI SHAM (219064). Good wells at BOSRA.  
 SUWLIDA (225085). Excellent wells, water sufficient for 5,000 men per day.  
 EL MUJEDMIR (223072) (Village of BERJES EL HANOUD).  
 SEHWAT HIMMAWI (village of HAMZEH EL DERWISH).  
 EL QURAYYAH (229066) (village of SULTAN EL ATRASH).

5. SPRINGS.

(a) HAURAN.

TABAKAT EZZEIDI.	The Spring of this	) All these water Springs have pumps and engines. The quantity is sufficient for 1,000 to 1,500 men only.
SAIDA (DER'A) (195076).	well is in difficult country.	
EL JIZEH (203070)	Spring	) 1,000 to 1,500 men only.
KEHEIL (199076)	Spring.	
KHIRBEH (215072)	Spring.	
SHAIKH SAAD (176100)	Big Spring.	(d)
NAWA (178105)	Several big springs and reservoir.	
TEL EL JABI (170108)	- ditto -	(i)
EL MESMIEH (210132)	Several good springs.	
DIER ' ALI	- ditto -	
KEFRE SHEMS (185131)	Spring with pumps and engine.	
AZRU'	A big spring with engine and pump for the use of the Army.	
TAFIS (180088)	A good Spring.	
DA'IL (185090)	Small spring in a well,	

(b) JEBEL DRUZE AND EASTERN HAURAN

South and South east of SUALDA there are a number of springs, including a very good one at BEDR, see para (7). There are no Springs South of SALKAD.

Springs exist at:-

EL TAIYIBE (195069) Spring 4 to 5 km. from the village.  
 SALKHAD (240061). Many springs.  
 DEBBIN (235055) (Village of FARIS AL ATRASH).  
 IRSAS (225078) ) A Spring at KLEIB HAURAN supplies  
 ARRA (222075) ) ample water which runs in the Wadi.

6. CISTERNS AND RESERVOIRS.

(a) During the advance of General Allenby's cavalry in the autumn of 1918, water was found in cisterns and was often the only supply. Reliance cannot, however, be placed on cisterns except during the late autumn, winter and spring, when there is plenty of rain. In summer the water becomes scarce and undrinkable owing to animal dirt and carelessness.

/(b) In JEBEL DRUZE and



(b) In JEBEL DRUZE and Eastern HAURAN.

- NASIB (190068). Rain storage cisterns.  
 ET TAIYIBE (195069) Rain water storage tanks.  
 WADI EZ-ZEIDI (200070). Big reservoirs from which water is supplied to ET TAIYIBE village.  
 EL MOSEIFIREH (205077) Cisterns and springs.  
 UM WALAD (215079) Cisterns.  
 BOSRA ESKI SHAM (219065). Very big cistern, small spring, good wells as BOSRA.  
 ANAZ (238051) Cisterns.  
 SUWAIDA (225085) There are two engines for pumps, one at EL MESKHAR and the other in the Fort. Water is reported to be sufficient for 5,000 men per day. No details as to tanks.  
 SHAHBA (232102) A reinforced reservoir has been constructed for the military post.  
 UM RUMMAN (231053) (village of HAMED EL ATRASH). Cisterns and a spring 2 - 3 kms. from the village.

(7) PIPED WATER SUPPLY IN SOUTHERN JEBEL DRUZE.

- (a) The source of the supply is a spring called BEDR, near the road from SUWAIDA to SALKHAD and about half-way between these two towns.
- (b) The water from this spring is collected in a Reservoir from which it is piped to a tank on the top of the citadel rock at SALKHAD.
- (c) The citadel of SALKHAD is built on a very steep narrow rocky crag, which must be several hundred feet high, and is only accessible by one path. On the small platform at the top are built 3 or 4 barrack huts, in which one company of infantry used to be stationed. On this platform, and about 20 yards from the nearest hut, is the water cistern. This reservoir is a distribution centre for the southern villages, and is fed from one pipe coming from the North, while the exit pipes are controlled by a row of turn cocks. This cistern measures about six metres by six metres by 4 or 5 metres deep. It will be seen from this that this SALKHAD cistern is not a large reservoir, but merely a distribution centre. The water is said to be running through it almost continuously.
- (d) The water destined for the frontier villages is reported to go from SALKHAD to a further cistern at TELL AL HABAS, between SALKHAD and the village of MASHQUQ. The water has now reached all frontier villages, including IMTAN (250052), ANAT (249045), KHIRBET AWWAD (240041), SOMMA (245052), MASHQUQ (241053), SHANIRA (245048).
- (e) Every village is to be provided with a cistern 4 metres by 4 x 4, from which water is to be distributed to taps and animal water troughs.. No storage tanks have as yet been erected in the frontier villages of ANAT and KIRBET AWWAD, but in the latter village the pipes supply runs with the old village cistern or birket.
- (f) The central distributing cistern at TELL AL HABS is said to measure approximately 20 x 20 x 8 metres (to be accepted with reserve). From this reservoir three pipes branch off -
- (i) S.E. to IMTAN (250052)  
 (ii) South to SOMMA (SAMMEL EL BARADANE) (245052) SHENIRA (CHENNIRE) (245048) and ANAT (249045).  
 (iii) South and South West to MASHQUQ (241051) (MECHKTAK) ANZ (238051) GHARIYA (233050) and KHIRBET AWWAD (KHIRBET ABUAD) (240041). (Spellings in brackets refer to French map).

/ (g) A trench for a







NOTES on French troops in SYRIA.

1. SYRIA is divided into six military commands:-  
 ALAOUITES, NORTH SYRIA, DJEZIREH, SOUTH SYRIA, JEBEL DRUZE, LEBANON.
2. Troops in SOUTH SYRIA and JEBEL DRUZE are commanded by General DELHOMME with Col. BOUVIER commanding in JEBEL DRUZE.
3. (a) Troops in JEBEL DRUZE are :-  
 10th North African half Brigade.  
 Druze Light Cavalry.  
 Probably some partizan cavalry.
- (b) Dispositions.  
 The Druze Light Cavalry and partizans on the frontier. The 10th North African half brigade in reserve in SOUEIDA area.
4. (a) Troops in SOUTH SYRIA are:-
- |                              |                               |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| One tank and armd. car Regt. | Five gps. Partizans.          |
| Six Infantry Bns.            | One bty. 47 mm. A/T.          |
| Two Light Desert Coys.       | Three secs. 75 mm. A/T.       |
| Seven Sqns. native Cav.      | Six lorry borne 75 and 65 mm. |
- (b) Dispositions:-  
 On the frontier. Native Cav. Partizans, two Inf. Bns., and A/T artillery.  
 In the desert. Two light Desert Coys.  
 In reserve. Four Inf. Bns., one Tanked Armd. Car Regt., Six lorry borne btys.
5. (a) Troops in the LEBANON under command of Col. BRUCLER.
- |              |                   |                |              |
|--------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------|
| 14 Inf. Bns. | 2 mountain btys.  | 2 horsed btys. | 7 A.A. btys. |
| 7 Cav. Sqns. | 5 motorised btys. | 1 A/T bty.     | 5 C.D. btys. |
- (b) Dispositions:-  
 On the frontier 2 Cav. Sqns. and 2 Inf. bns.  
 Coast 1 Cav. Sqn. and 5 Inf. bns.  
 Remainder in reserve.
6. (a) Troops in NORTH SYRIA and JEZIRAH commanded by Col. ROTTIER.
- |            |                  |                     |                  |
|------------|------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 6 Inf Bns. | 8 Cav. Sqns.     | 1 Light Desert Coy. | 1 Armd. Car Sqn. |
| 1 bty A.A. | 1 Light Tank Sqn | 2 lorried btys.     |                  |
- (b) Dispositions:-  
 Cav. in posts along the frontier.  
 Remainder in centres such as ALEPPO, DEIR AZ ZOR, QAMICHLYE.
7. Troops in ALAOUITES commanded by Col. JORDAN.
- |             |                 |             |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------|
| 2 Inf. Bns. | 1 motor m.g.pl. | 1 C.D. bty. |
| 1 Cav. Sqn. | 1 bty lorried   |             |

9th April, 1941

G B(I)



SUMMARY OF ORDER OF BATTLE

FRENCH TROOPS.

G.O.C. and 2nd i/c	Gen. DENTZ, Gen. FOUGERES
Lebanon	Col. BEUCLER
South Syria	Gen. DELHOMME
North Syria	Col. ROTTIER
Alaouites	Col. JORDAN
Jebel Druze	Col. BOUVIER
Djezireh	Col. ARDOUIN

I N F A N T R Y

Regiment

Regiment	Personnel	Vehicles		Guns			25m.m. Mortars A/T	Page
		Horsed	M.T.	L.M.G.	M.G.			
9 R.T.A.	3000	190	60	110	50	12	17	1
22 R.T.A.	3000	190	60	110	50	12	17	1
16 R.T.T.	2200	140	53	74	34	10	13	1
10th 1/2 Br. N.A.	2200	140	53	74	34	10	13	2
6th Foreign Legion	3850	240	67	148	64	14	22	2
24 R.I.C.	2600	155	55	95	40	10	17	3
17 R.T.S.	3000	190	60	110	50	12	17	3
1st B.M.T.S.	800	60	15	36	16	-	5	3
2nd B.M.T.S.	800	60	15	36	16	-	5	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21,450</b>	<b>1,365</b>	<b>438</b>	<b>793</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>126</b>	

C A V A L R Y

Regiment	Personnel	Vehicles		Guns			25m.m. A/T	Page	
		Horsed	M.T.	Armd Cars	Armd Lorries	Tanks			L.M.G.
6th C.d'A	1000?	-	20	14	37	45	-	-	8
7th C.d'A	1000?	-	20	14	37	45	-	-	8
4th R.S.T.	700	20	34	-	-	-	40	8	4
1st R.S.M.	700	20	49	-	-	-	40	8	4
1/8 R.S.A.	350	10	20	-	-	-	20	4	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,750</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>10</b>



ARTILLERY

Regiment	Personnel	Guns			A.A.	A/T	Coast	Page			
		65	75	105C	105L	155	25	75	47		
1st R.A.M.L.	2500 (approx)	4	18	4	12	-	24	-	8	6	
2nd R.A.M.L.	1000 ( " )	8	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	6
R.A.C.L.	2000 ( " )	2	8	2	-	4	-	12	-	12	7
Foreign Legion											
Arty. Gp	550 ( " )	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,050</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>13</b>	

SPECIAL TROOPS

INFANTRY

Regiment	Approx. Strength	Page
1st Levant Half Bde	1600	4
2nd. " " "	1600	4
3rd " " "	2500	4
1st B.D.L.	800	5
3rd B.D.L.	800	5
4th B.D.L.	800	5
7th B.D.L.	800	5
C.L.D. (1, 2 & 3)	900	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,800</b>	

CAVALRY

Regiment	Approx. Strength	Page
Esc. du Levant (2)	300	8
Chasseurs Libanais	300	8
E.L.Dj.	800	9
E.L.N.S.	600	9
E.L.Dv.	600	9
E.L.Tch.	900	9
Partisans Tch.	1800	9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,300</b>	<b>10</b>

ARTILLERY

Regiment	Approx. Strength	Page
Bty. Libanais de montagne	150	7
Bty. Libanais de cote	200	7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>7</b>



SYRIAN POLITICAL PARTIES.

PARTY. Arab Name.	Authorised English Translation.	Leading Personalities.	Political Aims.	Remarks.
(1) Hai'at Ash Sha'biya ash Shahbandariyeh.	The Peoples' Party.	Hassan Hakim. Said Haidar. Zaki el Khatib. Sh. Mohamed el Ashmer. Dr. Munir Ajlani. Fawzi el Bakri. Nazi el M'cuayiad. Osman el Sharabati. Sultan Pasha el Atrash. Khalil Matouk.	Favour a loose federation of Arab States under the aegis of GREAT BRITAIN, i.e. SYRIA, PALESTINE and TRANSJORDAN.	Anti-GERMAN. Have lost influence since the murder of Dr. Shahbandar. They favour the Amir Abdullah as head of the Federation.
(2) El Qutla el Wataniya.	The National Bloc.	Jamil Mardam. Saadullah Jabri. Lutfi el Haffar. Ihsan Jabri. Naleh el Azmeh. Hashim El Atashi. Dr. Kayyali. Shukri el Kuwatli. Fakhri el Baroudi. Jamil Ibrahim Pasha of ALEPPO.	Opposed to Syrian Popular Party (see Serial 5). Against all foreign interference in SYRIA.	The Party is divided into two main groups. The larger group follows Jamil Mardam and the smaller comprising the Istiqlal follow Shukri Kawatli. The larger Party is again divided - Southern Area under the leadership of Jamil Mardam and the Northern Area under Jamil El Ibrahim Pasha of ALEPPO and Dr. Kayyali. Jamil Mardam is said to favour a Federation of SYRIA with IRAQ. The Party is pro-GERMAN.
(3) Hizb el Istiqlal.	Istiqlal Group of the National Bloc.	Shukri Kuwatli. Adib Khair. Riad Sulh. Nabeeh El Azmeh. Adel el Azmeh. Ihsan El Jabri. Afif El Sulh. Shakil Arslan.	Working for complete independence and a union of SYRIA and PALESTINE under Ibn Saud.	Has GERMAN connections. Pro-Nazi. A part of the National Bloc. Is in very close touch with Ibn Saud.



PARTY. Arab Name.	Authorised English Translation.	Leading Personalities.	Political Aims.	Remarks.
(4) Usbat el Amal el Qaumi.	League of National Action.	Fahmi el Mahayri. Abdul Kadir Midimi. Ahmed Sharabati. Shafiq Sulieman. Abu el Hada El Yaffe.	Freedom of foreign control.	Directed from IRAQ. Now said to be cooperating with the National Bloc.
(5) Hizb el Qaumi as Souri.	Syrian Popular Party.	Anton Sa'adeh. Kamil Kanil (Druze). Maamoun Ayas. Asa'ad el Ashghar. Mansour Abedin.	Independence, favouring complete Pan-Arab federation, with strong Nazi/Fascist tendencies.	Membership reported to be 20,000/30,000 with branches in LEBANON, SYRIA, PALESTINE and TRANSJORDAN. Leaders paid by Nazis.
(6) Hizb el Amal as Souri.	National Labour Party.	Othman el Sharbati. Fuad Rossin.		Affiliated to Syrian Popular Party.
(7) Hizb el Dastouri.	Constitutional Party.	Sh. Bishara El Khouri.		Lebanese. Mainly Maronite. Pro-British. Is opposed by Emile Iddeh and Khair El Din Ef Ahdab.
(8) Hizb el Shio' as Souri.	Syrian Communist Party.	Khalid Baghdash.	Communist revolution.	Claims 40,000 members of which 40% are Armenian.
(9) Nadi el Arab.	The Arab Club.	Said Fattah el Imam.		Affiliated to Syrian Popular Party. Pro-German.



PARTY. Arab Name.	Authorised English Translation.	Leading Personalities.	Political Aims.	Remarks.
(10) Nadi el Ittihad el Arabi.	The Arab Unity Club.			
(11) Nadi el Ayoubi.	The Ayoubi Club.			
(12) Hizb el Mustakil.	Independent Party.			
(13) Other organisations of little importance are :- Kata'ib el Libnaniya, Najjadi el Islamiya. Qumsan el Haddadiya. Hizb Allah. Hai'at al Ulema. Independent Youth Movement.				

Jerusalem,  
11th November, 1940.



*AK* *J* *BmC*  
**VICHY FRENCH ATTITUDE TOWARDS OURSELVES AND THE FREE FRENCH:  
CONFIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE TO FORMATION AND UNIT COMMANDERS.**

- 1800*
1. It has been repeatedly noticed that the general attitude of Vichy French officers and officials since the Armistice is to express complete willingness to collaborate to the full with us but to refuse to have anything to do with the Free French. Contact between the Vichy French and the Free French has in fact caused trouble on several occasions already and there seems little doubt that the Vichy French nourish a very strong resentment against their countrymen for the part they have taken in this campaign. On the other hand it seems probable that the Vichy French look upon the British and Australian Forces as victors who have beaten them in fair fight and it is a fact that they have a marked respect for the battle qualities our troops have displayed. They feel in fact that they have surrendered to us rather than to our Allies and that in consequence, while they are bound to carry out their obligations to us, they have no such obligations to the Free French. In any case they profess to regard the latter as deserters and as traitors who have shed the blood of other Frenchmen.
  2. The Free French are of course aware of this discrimination in the attitude of the enemy and are inclined - somewhat naturally - to be jealous. They have not and do not suggest for a moment that any British Officers have been anything but correct in their manner and actions when confronted with this sort of thing. On the other hand we must recognise that the point of junction between ourselves and our Allies is the weak spot in our front and we must be on our guard against any attempt by the enemy to exploit this weakness.
  3. It is possible that in many cases the Vichy French attitude is dictated not so much by any love towards us as by a desire to drive a wedge between the Free French and ourselves. It is known for instance that loyalty to Vichy on the part of some persons has even led to a willingness to harm Britain in any way that presents itself. The attempt to cause ill-feeling and suspicion between ourselves and our Allies, the Free French, may be one of the most effective as well as one of the most insidious methods in which this might be effected.
  4. I therefore direct that all formation and unit commanders should discreetly inform their officers of this probable policy by the Vichy French. All officers should of course continue their present attitude of friendly cooperation with our Allies and, while endeavouring to create and maintain correct and courteous relations with the Vichy authorities in their areas, they should be on their guard against any attempt by the latter to cause friction between ourselves and the Free French. We should not forget that these Free French have been fighting and will continue to fight on the same side as ourselves and that their casualties in the Syrian campaign were proportionately as large as our own. Further, many individual officers and men among them have made great personal sacrifices in joining our cause and by so doing have cut themselves off for the duration of the war from any contact with their wives and families.

*J. D. Larivière*

Lieut-General,  
Commander,  
1 Aust Corps

30 Jul 41



FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

MAJ R L BATTEN

NO. 124

ADM COMD

In the Field

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

3 Jan 42

1. SCHOOLS & COURSES

AIF (ME) AASC COURSES

SX 4201 Pte McDONALD S R is nominated to attend the MT Wing at the above course - 29 Jan to 21 Feb 42. Joining instructions available at this BN HQ.

2. HISTORY CARDS AND ACQUITTANCE ROLLS

Coys have in their possession a few History Cards and old Acquittance Rolls. For some time reinfts have marched in to the Unit without History Cards and it appears that they have been dispensed with. In point of fact the History Cards contain no more information than can be procured by an examination of a soldier's paybook, Conduct Sheet and his Pl Comds Stud Book. Consequently Coys are requested to return all History Cards to Bn HQ not later than Jan 4. At the same time Coys will send to Bn HQ old Acquittance Rolls which are of no value to Coys.

3. BATH PARADES

Saturday afternoon - 3 Jan

One Pl from each Rifle Coy will report to Bath House in following order:-

A - 1400 hrs  
B - 1430 hrs  
C - 1500 hrs  
D - 1530 hrs

Sunday Morning - 4 Jan

A and C Coys each less one Pl will report to Bath House. A Coy at 0900 hrs - C Coy at 1000 hrs

Sunday Afternoon

B and D Coys each less one Pl will report to Bath House. B Coy at 1430 hrs and D Coy at 1530 hrs.

*R L Batten*  
Capt  
Adjnt 2/27 Aust Inf Bn.

NOTICES

FOOTBALL - The following have been selected to represent the Bn in a Football match to be played on the Winter quarters oval at 1400 hrs Sat 3 Jan against the Petrol Coy..

HQ Coy - Cpl Underwood, Pte Smith H A

A Coy - Ptes Carr, Dalling and Mulcahy.

B Coy - Lieut Magarey, Cpl Macgregor, Ptes Downer and Nicholson.

C Coy - Sjt Koehne, Ptes Smith H M, Mullins and Burzacott.

D Coy - Cpl Penney, Cpl Roache, Ptes Badcock, McLean and Snashall.

Reserves - Sjt Wilsmore, Cpl Edwards and Pte Nader.

Boundary Umpire - Pte Adams D J.

Goal Umpire - Pte Wallin L J.

Coys will provide own tpt.



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ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

MAJ R L BATTEN

NO. 124

ADM COMD

In the Field

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

1 Jan 42

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ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

MAJ R L BATTEN

ADM COLD

In the Field

No 1.

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

2 Jan 42

1. SCHOOLS

AIF (ME) INF SCHOOL WEAPON TRNG WING - No 10 Course Mortar Wing.

SX 9966 Lieut CADDY E M has been selected to attend the above School in lieu of Lieut LEE J D.

*R. L. Batten* Capt  
Adjt 2/27 Aust Inf Bn

NOTICES

CANTEENS - TOBACCO

Reports were recently received from a number of units stating that tins of Greys fine-cut tobacco bearing ACF labels had been purchased from the AACS. The matter was taken up by this HQ and the following is the reply from the AACS:-

"Receipt is acknowledged of your memo enclosing file referring to the sale of Greys fine-cut tobacco bearing ACF labels or the remnants of such labels in tins of the above which have been sold through Canteens.

This matter is again being taken up strongly with the manufacturers in Australia, as the fault definitely lies with them.

Similar instances have occurred in the past and the manufacturers have advised us that the mistakes have occurred in the packing department, where Canteen goods and ACF goods are being packed at the same time.

It is apparent that the employees of this department do not appreciate the importance of accurate and careful packing of such stores and it is there that the trouble arises.

In the case of the matter under reference, we would state that all the tins so branded have arrived from Australia in cartons branded "DDAC" and are the property of this unit.

We assure you that strongest representations will be made to the manufacturers in Australia and copies of their reply and explanation will be sent to you in due course".

The above infm will be promulgated to all tps.

Church Services - SUNDAY 4 Jan 42

0700 hrs - Holy Communion - Recreation Hut, Winter Quarters.

0900 hrs - Church Parade - " " " "

1000 hrs - " " - A & C Coys, Fwd Area (Location as before)

1100 hrs - " " - B & D Coys, Fwd Area (Location as before)

EVENING - 1900 hrs - Community Singing - Recreation Hut, WQ.

1930 hrs - Evening Service with picture show by the Chaplain, Recreation Hut, WQ.

R. C. Mass - 0900 hrs - Canteen Hut, Winter Quarters.

LOST - Watch engraved on back 'Emelda to G.A. Nownham' between Sjts' Moss and fwd area. Infm to this BN HQ.



BY

MAJ R L BATTEN

ADM COMD

In the Field

No 1.

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

2 Jan 42

1. SCHOOLSAIF (ME) INF SCHOOL WEAPON TNG WING - No 10 Course Mortar Wing.

SX 9966 Lieut CADDY E M has been selected to attend the above School in lieu of Lieut LEE J D.

*R. L. Batten* Capt  
Adjnt 2/27 Aust Inf Bn

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LOST - Watch engraved on back 'Emelda to G.A. Newnham' between Spts' Mess and fwd area. Infm to this BN HQ.



W.D.

BY

MAJ R L BATTEN

ADM COMD

In the Field

NO. 2

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

5 Jan 42

1. BOOT REPAIRS - Coys will forward boots for repair to Winter Quarters as follows:-

- A. Coy - Monday for repair on Tuesday
- B. Coy - Tuesday for repair on Wednesday
- C. Coy - Wednesday for repair on Thursday
- D. Coy - Thursday for repair on Friday
- HQ Coy - Friday for repair on Saturday
- HQ Coy - Saturday for repair on Monday

This roster must be adhered to most strictly.

2. AIR MAIL TO AUSTRALIA - LIMITATION OF WEIGHT

(a) Owing to the limited plane space at present available for the conveyance of air mails to Australia, it is of prime importance that the weight of the mail landing should be kept as low as possible.

(b) To this end, immediate action will be taken by all COYS to inform all ranks of the position. So far as possible air mail letter cards should be used in lieu of letters, and letters should be restricted to a maximum of two sheets of air mail paper in order to cut down weight.

(c) It is desired as far as possible, to avoid having to hold mails over for later despatch, and the co-operation of all ranks in curtailing the weight of correspondence to be conveyed will materially assist in this direction.

3. SECURITY OF DOCUMENTS - Captured German documents refer to the valuable information which has been obtained from the diaries of British prisoners of war. It is once more pointed out that personnel going into action, or going into areas where there is possibility of contact with the enemy, are forbidden to carry any personal papers which could possibly be of use to the enemy

4. LEAVE - TRIPOLI Para 3 of BN RO 115 of 15 Dec 41 is cancelled and the following roster will now apply:-

- 8 Jan 42 A Coy
- 11 Jan 42 C Coy
- 14 Jan 42 B Coy
- 17 Jan 42 D Coy

PART "B"

CLASSIFICATION

SX 4421 Pte WINTERFIELD LRC classified Td Gp iii Clerk as from 24 Dec 41

PUNISHMENTS

- SX 5008 Pte W H BIRCH - Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline in that he at Tripoli did cause a disturbance by ~~not~~ throwing certain goods into a pool of water AA Sec 40 - 10 days detention with loss of pay.
- SX 8145 Pte C J BELL - AML (4 days) AA Sec 15 - 10 days detention with loss of pay.
- SX 8206 Pte J E CARROLL - DO DO - 14 days detention with loss of pay.
- SX 10195 Pte J CATES - DO DO - 10 days detention with loss of pay.



(2)

PART "B" (CONTD)

PUNISHMENTS (Contd)

SX 3662 Pte G J LEMON - Leaving his post before he was regularly relieved - AA Sec 6 (h) - 14 days detention with loss of pay.

SX 12366 - Pte R E SMITH - Whilst acting as a sentinell was found to be on his wrong beat AA Sec 40 - Fined £2.

SX 12345 Pte ELLIOTT D V - While on sentry duty he was sitting down inside his tent - AA Sec 40 - 10 days FP without custody, with loss of pay.

*M. K. K. K.*

Capt

Adjnt 2/27 Aust Inf Bn AIF

NOTICES

RECEIPT is ack of the following goods from Australian Comforts fund, as under:-

Despatched 31/10/41 (16 parcels containing:-

6 footballs  
2 extra bladders  
203 pairs Socks  
60 Mufflers  
60 pairs Mittens  
60 Balaclavas  
60 Pullovers  
90 pairs Stockings  
140 Handkerchiefs  
50 Washers

Despatched 21/11/41

240 pairs Socks  
60 Mufflers  
60 pairs Mittens  
60 Balaclavas  
60 Pullovers  
65 pairs Stockings  
140 Handkerchiefs  
80 Washers

FOOTBALL - The Australian Rules Football Match played on Winter quarters, 2/27 Bn ground on SATURDAY, 3 Jan 42, resulted in a very close finish, after an exciting game under rather novel weather conditions.

Final scores were:-

	G	B
2/27 Aust Inf Bn -	11	5
Petrol Coy -	9	13

Best Players 2/27 Bn - McLean, Underwood, Carr.



BY

MAJ R L BATTEN

ADM COMD

In the Field

NO. 2

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

5 Jan 42

1. BOOT REPAIRS - Coys will forward boots for repair to Winter Quarters as follows:-

- A. Coy - Monday for repair on Tuesday
- B. Coy - Tuesday for repair on Wednesday
- C. Coy - Wednesday for repair on Thursday
- D. Coy - Thursday for repair on Friday
- HQ Coy - Friday for repair on Saturday
- HQ Coy - Saturday for repair on Monday

This roster must be adhered to most strictly.

2. AIR MAIL TO AUSTRALIA - LIMITATION OF WEIGHT

(a) Owing to the limited plane space at present available for the conveyance of air mails to Australia, it is of prime importance that the weight of the mail loading should be kept as low as possible.

(b) To this end, immediate action will be taken by all COYS to inform all ranks of the position. So far as possible air mail letter cards should be used in lieu of letters, and letters should be restricted to a maximum of two sheets of air mail paper in order to cut down weight.

(c) It is desired as far as possible, to avoid having to hold mails over for later despatch, and the co-operation of all ranks in curtailing the weight of correspondence to be conveyed will materially assist in this direction.

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- SX 10195 Pte J CATES - DO DO - 10 days detention with loss of pay.



(2)

PART "B" (CONTD)

PUNISHMENTS (Contd)

- SX 362 Pte G J LINDSAY - Leaving his post before he was regularly relieved - AA Sec 6 (h) - 14 days detention with loss of pay.
- SX 12366 - Pte R E SMITH - Whilst acting as a sentinel was found to be on his wrong beat AA Sec 40 - Fined £2.
- SX 12345 Pte ELLIOT D V - While on sentry duty he was sitting down inside his tent - AA Sec 40 - 10 days FP without custody, with loss of pay.

*M. K. Ketcher*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Adj. 2/27 Aust Inf Bn      Capt  
AIF

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Despatched 21/11/41

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Final scores were:-

	G	B
2/27 Aust Inf Bn -	11	5
Petrol Coy -	9	13

Best Players 2/27 Bn - McLean, Underwood, Carr.



W.D.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

MAJ R L BATTEN

ADM COMD

In the Field

No 3

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

7 Jan 42

1. BOUNDS - BEIRUT

Corps Comd has ordered that BEIRUT is out of bounds to ALL ranks of ALL AUST units for leave until further notice. Duty passes MUST be carried by ALL personnel on duty in town. Personnel delayed by weather in town will be evacuated to Corps Reception Camp.

Severe disciplinary action will be taken against all offenders against this order.

2. WINTER DRESS

At the present time an additional Uniform M.S. per man is being issued. Because of the shortage of Australian Pattern Uniforms and the scarcity of large size Uniforms a fair number of English Battle Dress Uniforms will be issued.

It is permissible for men who cannot be provided with Australian Pattern Uniforms to wear English Battle Dress on leave.

PART " B "

PROMOTIONS

SX 3870 L/Cpl Luscombe G F promoted A/Cpl as from 7 Jan 42

APPOINTMENTS

SX 3521	Pte McGavisk R K	appointed L/Cpl as from	7 Jan 42
SX 11046	" Penna T J	" " " "	7 Jan 42
SX 3853	" Hancock R J	" " " "	7 Jan 42

CONFIRMATIONS

SX 3121	S/Sjt Sutton A J	rank confirmed	Sjt as from	7 Jan 42
SX 9655	A/Cpl Mobbs C R	" "	Cpl " "	7 Jan 42
SX 4941	A/Cpl McGregor R G	" "	" " "	7 Jan 42
SX 4944	A/Cpl Harper F H	" "	" " "	7 Jan 42

*R. M. Hatten*  
Capt  
Adjnt 2/27 Aust Inf Bn



NOTICESREGIMENTAL FUNDS

Receipts and expenditure from 1 Oct 41 to 31 Dec 41.

RECEIPTS

Cabled remittances from Fighting Forces Comforts Fund, South Australia:-

Oct 41	£A338. 0. 0
Nov 41	113. 0. 0
Dec 41	113. 0. 0
	<u>564. 0. 0</u>

This Unit's share of profits made by AACS for following months:-

Jun 41	£A105. 12. 2	
Jul 41	144. 12. 9	
Aug 41	<u>135. 8. 11</u>	
		<u>385. 13. 10</u>
		<u>£A949. 13. 10</u>

DISBURSEMENTSRecreation Rooms

Library books	£A27. 6. 8
Magazines and newspapers	3. 10. 2
Wireless sets and batteries	131. 0. 10
2 Primus stoves	3. 10. 10
Games	1. 17. 4
Tables and chairs	13. 12. 0
Coffee, cocoa and biscuits	5. 15. 0
Bricks for fireplaces	3. 6. 7
Cups and soup bowls	9. 4. 2
HP lamps, mantles and parts	22. 14. 4
Piano hire	4. 19. 2
Instruments fo jazz and brass bands and music	<u>88. 15. 1</u>
	<u>£A315. 12. 2</u>

Christmas Dinner

Wire netting for turkey run	£A7. 8. 9
Fowls and turkeys	24. 8. 9
Wheat and grain for poultry	4. 1. 6
Potatoes and bananas	21. 19. 2
Brandy	3. 8. 0
Hire of tables	<u>0. 19. 10</u>
	62. 6. 0

General

820 puggarrees	61. 10. 0
4 mincing machines	8. 10. 0
18 primus stoves	32. 0. 4
football jerseys	19. 2. 6
Medal ribbons for decorations awarded for Syrian campaign and film for Bn library	6. 2. 10
Bn Christmas cards	10. 12. 6
Fittings for showers at Winter quarters	9. 10. 11
AIF Gift Books fwded to next-of-kin of deceased members of this unit	10. 4. 0
Equipment for Bn Barber	3. 19. 4
Equipment for Equipment Repairer and Pioneer pl	8. 14. 9
Chocolates and sweets supplied to personnel of this Unit in hospital.	<u>2. 13. 10</u>
	<u>£A550. 19. 2</u>



W.D.

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BY

MAJ R L BATTEN

ADM COMD

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CONFIRMATIONS

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SX 4944	A/Cpl Harper F H	" "	" " "	7 Jan 42

*R. M. Batten*  
Capt  
Adjnt 2/27 Aust Inf Bn



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HP lamps, mantles and parts		22.14. 4
Piano hire		4.19. 2
Instruments for jazz and brass bands and music		88.15. 1
		<u>EA315.12. 2</u>

Christmas Dinner

Wire netting for turkey run	EA7. 8. 9	
Fowls and turkeys	24. 8. 9	
Wheat and grain for poultry	4. 1. 6	
Potatoes and bananas	21. 19. 2	
Brandy	3. 8. 0	
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Exercise with Carriers 7/1/42

Carriers divided into two sections, each of two carriers. One sig with wireless set attached to each carrier, and one I man ~~sent~~ to each section.

No exercise began from EL AYOUN 17042755

No. 2 Sec instructed to proceed to point 17482759, with one of carrier personnel as guide. On arriving at point, carriers proceeded to a neighbouring spot, where carriers hidden. Sigs then got into communication with No. 1 Sec and sent back dummy messages. No. 1 Sec informed by means of map ref of position of No. 2 Sec, and thereupon moved up to the point indicated and joined the forward carriers.

Exercise then repeated with roles reversed.

Lessons:

1. Good practice for carrier personnel in map reading and working on a map ref. More practice would prove very helpful to them.
2. Sigs had difficulty in effecting communications over distances of more than 2 miles.



FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

Maj R L BATTEN

ADM COMD

In the Field

No 3

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

8 Jan 42

1. MARCHED OUT

It is with sincere regret that we announce that Maj Dobbs marched early yesterday morning to assume command of the 2/10 Bn. At the same time we offer Maj Dobbs our congratulations on his promotion.

Maj Dobbs received about 12 hours notice to move so did not have an opportunity to say farewell to all members of the unit.

It is striking to note that Maj Dobbs has been selected to command a unit in which he served as a private soldier during the last war.

PART " B "

CORRIGEND.

SX 3121 S/Sjt Sutton A J rank confirmed Sjt as from 7 Jan 42.

SX 3121 A/Sjt Sutton A J rank confirmed Sjt as from 7 Jan 42. <sup>should read</sup>

*A M Cullen* Capt  
Adjt 2/27 Aust Inf Bn

NOTICES

FOOTBALL MATCH

A football match between our unit and the 2/16 Bn has been arranged for next Sunday the 11 Jan on the Oval at Winter Quarters.

The match will commence at 1400 hrs.

The football Sub-Committee will select the team to represent our Unit and ensure that players are notified.

2/16 Bn will lend football boots to those of our players not possessing the same and will supply a Central Umpire.

Our Unit will provide the football, goal and boundary umpires.

LOST

One zip fastener leather purse - black - by SX 2669 Pte R G LEECH containing 35 livres - 15 9' stamps, one Australian 6', five stray Turkish coins. Lost in W.Q. area.

Any information regarding same to be forwarded to this HQ.



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CORRIGENDUM

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*M. L. Batten* Capt  
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ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

Maj R L BATTEN

ADM COMD

In the Field

No 4

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

10 Jan 42

1. RESTRICTION OF TRAFFIC IN EFM CABLES

The volume of traffic in EFM Cables is causing some concern. The necessity to reduce this to a large extent is apparent. In this regard the co-operation of all ranks is requested.

PART "B"

CLASSIFICATIONS

SX 5815	Pte Waterson A S	classified	Td Gp 11	Sig	as from	9 Jan 42
SX 12045	" Keane D F	"	" " "	"	"	9 Jan 42
SX 2677	" Russell W L	"	" " "	"	"	9 Jan 42
SX 12391	" Ward R L	"	" " "	"	"	9 Jan 42
SX 3664	L/Cpl Brazil L J	"	Td Gp 111	Clerk	as from	6 Jan 42

*R L Batten*  
Capt  
Adjnt 2/27 Aust Inf Bn

NOTICES

CHURCH SERVICES

0700 - Holy Communion (Recreation Hut)  
0830 - Bn Church Parade

0700 - R C Mass Sjts Mess

Markers to report to RSM at BnHQ at 0810 hrs for Bn Church Parade at 0830 hrs.



FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

Maj R L BATTEN

ADM COMD

In the Field

No 4

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10 Jan 42

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War Diary

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

Maj R L BATTEN

ADM COMD

In the Field

No. 5

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

14 Jan 41

1. DUTIES

Mounting Retreat 14 Jan 42 - "A" Coy  
Battalion Orderly Offr - Lieut J O Flight  
Battalion Orderly Sjt - Cpl L H Brown  
Battalion Orderly Cpl - L/Cpl R K McGavisk  
Battalion Runner - Pte H J Bouchier

Mounting Retreat 15 Jan 42 - "B" Coy  
Battalion Orderly Offr - Lieut J W Reddin  
Battalion Orderly Sjt - Cpl F H Harper  
Battalion Orderly Cpl - L/Cpl D J Matthews  
Battalion Runner - Pte HEE Fountain

*H J Matthews* Capt  
Adj 2/27 Aust Inf Bn AIF

NOTICES

FOUND - In transport office - One black leather tobacco pouch,  
with zipp fastener.



War Diary

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

Maj R L BATTEN

ADM CMD

In the Field

NO. 5

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

14 Jan 42

1. DUTIES

Mounting Retreat 14 Jan 42 - "A" Coy  
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NOTICES

*H J Bouchier* Capt  
Adj 2/27 Aust Inf Bn AIF

FOUND - In transport office - One black leather tobacco pouch,  
with zipper fastener.



W.D.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

Maj R L BATTEN

ADM COMD

In the Field

NO. 6

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

16 Jan 42

1. DUTIES

Mounting Retreat 16 Jan 42 - "C" Coy (Orderly Duties)  
Bn Orderly Offr - Lieut A L Pickering  
Bn Orderly Sjt - Sjt D S Jones  
Bn Orderly Cpl - L/Cpl T J Foot  
Bn Runner - Pte L E Bond

Mounting Retreat 17 Jan 42 - "C" Coy (Orderly Duties)  
Bn Orderly Offr - Lieut A L Pickering  
Bn Orderly Sjt - Sjt D S Jones  
Bn Orderly Cpl - L/Cpl T J Foot  
Bn Runner - Pte L E Bond

DUTY COMPANY - Mounting 1600 hrs 16 Jan 42 - "HQ" Coy.  
Mounting 1600 hrs 17 Jan 42 - "A" Coy.

2. CAMP CINEMA

Offrs attending Camp Cinema must use the Special Entrance provided for them and are required to sit in the 60 mils seats. It is requested that these stipulations be observed strictly.

3. DENTAL

Facilities for dental treatment are available in HILL 69 CAMP AREA.

Persons urgently requiring treatment will report to our RMO on sick parade and he will arrange for them to be paraded to Dental Offr.

4. HEALTH

It has been noted that lids on latrines are not being closed after use.

All ranks must see that this practice is discontinued forthwith.

Disciplinary action will be taken against offenders.

5. UNIT STRENGTH

In order to keep an accurate check on the strength of the Unit it is essential that personnel marching in or out of the Unit report to the Pattalion Orderly Room.

Coys will ensure that this practice is observed.

The RMO will advise BN HQ names of persons evacuated with sickness.

PART "B"

CLASSIFICATIONS

SX 4372 Pte BADCOCK C P classified Td Gp iii Bootmaker as from 29 Sep 41.

SX 4421 Pte WINTERFIELD LRC classified Td Gp iii Clerk as from 24 Dec 41.

REVERSIONS

SX 3088 S/Sjt OG PIPER reverts to Sjt as from 16 Jan 42 - vide AIF (ME) Order 671 of 11 Oct 41.

*A J Hatcher* Capt

ADJT 2/27 Aust Inf Bn AIF

PTC



NOTICES

CONCERT

The pupils of SHULAMITH College of Music, TEL AVIV, will give a Concert in HQ Mens Mess Tent, HQ Coy, on SATURDAY night, 17 Jan 42, at 1930 hrs.

Programme is chiefly orchestral, with items from Mozart, Haydn, Chopin, and a few vocal items (Conductor Mr. J. HOPENKO.)

---

CHURCH SERVICES - SUNDAY 18 Jan 42.

0700 hrs - HOLY COMMUNION - Recreation Tent.

0915 hrs - CHURCH PARADE - Bn Parade Ground -  
Markers report RSM, BN Parade Ground 0905 hrs.

---

0830 hrs - R C MASS - CINEMA.

Dress for Church parades  
Winter Dress with Web Waist Belt.

---

SPORT

Arrangements have been made for this Unit to play the following inter-Unit matches to-morrow Saturday, 17 Jan 42.

2/1 Pioneer Bn - CRICKET - commencing 1330 hrs -  
on ground near Camp Office.

2/1 Pioneer Bn - SOCCER - commencing 1500 hrs -  
on ground near Pioneer Bn Lines.

Lieut KIMBER H R R will arrange for Sub-Committees to select the teams and contact the Padre 2/1 Pioneer Bn regarding further details.

---



W.D.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

Maj R L BATTEN

ADM COMD

In the Field

NO. 6

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

16 Jan 42

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Disciplinary action will be taken against offenders.

5. UNIT STRENGTH

In order to keep an accurate check on the strength of the Unit it is essential that personnel marching in or out of the Unit report to the Battalion Orderly Room.

Coys will ensure that this practice is observed.

The RMO will advise BN HQ names of persons evacuated with sickness.

PART "B"

CLASSIFICATIONS

SX 4372 Pte BADCOCK C F classified Td Gp iii Bootmaker as from 29 Sep 41.

SX 4421 Pte WINTERFIELD LRC classified Td Gp iii Clerk as from 24 Dec 41.

REVERSIONS

SX 3088 S/Sjt CG PIPER reverts to Sjt as from 16 Jan 42 - vide AIF (ME) Order 671 of 11 Oct 41.

A J Hutchison Capt

ADJT 2/27 Aust Inf Bn AIF

PTO



NOTICES

CONCERT

The pupils of SHULAMITH College of Music, TEL AVIV, will give a Concert in HQ Mens Mess Tent, HQ Coy, on SATURDAY night, 17 Jan 42, at 1930 hrs.

Programme is chiefly orchestral, with items from Mozart, Haydn, Chopin, and a few vocal items (Conductor Mr. J. HOPENKO.)

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CHURCH SERVICES - SUNDAY 18 Jan 42.

0700 hrs - HOLY COMMUNION - Recreation Tent.

0915 hrs - CHURCH PARADE - Bn Parade Ground -  
Markers report RSM, BN Parade Ground 0905 hrs.

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0830 hrs - R C MASS - CINEMA.

Dress for Church parades  
Winter Dress with Web Waist Belt.

---

SFCRT

Arrangements have been made for this Unit to play the following inter-Unit matches to-morrow Saturday, 17 Jan 42.

2/1 Pioneer Bn - CRICKET - commencing 1330 hrs -  
on ground near Camp Office.

2/1 Pioneer Bn - SOCCER - commencing 1500 hrs -  
on ground near Pioneer Bn Lines.

Lieut KIMBER H R R will arrange for Sub-Committees to select the teams and contact the Padre 2/1 Pioneer Bn regarding further details.

---



W.D.  
72  
FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

MAJ R L BATTEN

NC. 7

ADM COMD

In the Field,

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

17 Jan 42.

1. DUTIES

Mounting Retreat 17 Jan 42 "C" Coy (Orderly Duties)  
Bn Orderly Offr - Lieut A L Pickering  
Bn Orderly Sjt - Sjt D S Jones  
Bn Orderly Cpl - L/Cpl T J Foot  
Bn Runner - Pte L E Bond

DUTY COMPANY - Mounting 1600 hrs 17 Jan 42 "A" Coy.  
Mounting 1600 hrs 18 Jan 42 "B" Coy.

2. DRESS - Summer dress will NOT be worn under any circumstances.

3. CONTROL OF CIVILIANS

(a) All civilians in Camp Area must be in possession of passes issued by Camp SO, AACS, DCRE, or by AIF pass Issuing Officer, Gaza, depending how they are employed.

(b) Civilians without passes or about whom units are doubtful will be apprehended, and delivered to Camp SO.

(c) Civilians without passes may not use tarred road SOUTH of and parallel with camp perimeter.

(d) Hawkers of goods are NOT to be permitted entry or to be allowed to operate in the vicinity of the Camp Area.

(e) Civilians, including interpreters, are NOT permitted to wear Army clothing.

(f) Particular attention is to be paid to the stamping out of unauthorised sale of intoxicating drinks.

(g) Soldiers will not fraternise with natives and immediate disciplinary action will be taken whenever there is any sign of this practice.

(h) Civilians will NOT be given scraps from cook houses.

(i) Civilians will NOT be employed by units or by personnel individually.

4. BOUNDS - Camp perimeter is defined by concrete posts, personnel found beyond the perimeter without a LEAVE PASS will be considered AWL.

Villages, native dwellings, gardens, vineyards, groves, orchards or cultivated fields are OUT OF BOUNDS at all times.

Civilian traffic will enter and leave Camp Area by way of main tarred road SOUTH of Glassford Lines (LI). Army traffic may use Northern road also but must NOT pass through RE Depct.

5. GAMBLING - All forms of gambling are forbidden. Disciplinary action will be taken against offenders.

*H. J. Hatcher*  
Capt  
Adjnt 2/27 Aust Inf Bn AIF

NOTICES

The following cable has been received from South Australian Comforts Fund:

" Happy Xmas and New Year. Have sent you two hundred and twenty-six pounds. - South Australian Comforts".



W. D.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

MAJ R L BATTEN

NC. 7

ADM COMD

In the Field,

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

17 Jan 42.

1. DUTIES

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Bn Runner - Pte L E Bond

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*War Diary*

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ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

MAJ R L BATTEN

ADM COMD

In the Field

No. 8

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

18 Jan 42

1. DUTIES

Mounting Retreat 18 Jan 42 "C" Coy (Orderly Duties)  
Bn Orderly Offr - Lieut A L Pickering  
Bn Orderly Sjt - L/Sjt J H Gilbert  
Bn Orderly Cpl - L/Cpl T J Foot  
Bn Runner - Pte Bond L E

DUTY COMPANY - Mounting 1600 hrs 18 Jan 42 "B" Coy  
Mounting 1600 hrs 19 Jan 42 "HQ" Coy

2. SECURITY OF LINES

Owing to further thefts Coys will maintain stricter supervision over guards and sentries. On mounting the guard will be instructed that they are to be continually on the alert and are to keep in mind the nature of their task. They are guarding property against theft by wily Arabs. They cannot do this, particularly on a dark night by standing at ease with random thoughts. During their tour of duty they must be 100 per cent "on the job". Coys will see that sentries are inspected during the night. Sentries will be inspected by Coy Orderly Offr once between midnight and reveille. It is an offence for sentries to speak to anyone whilst on duty except in the execution of duty.

Where it is the practice for a sentry to wake reliefs this must be done by an inner sentry and the beat must be left for an absolute minimum of time. Sentries will not hang around the tents of their reliefs waiting for the relief to get ready. During inclement weather the risk of theft is relatively greater and sentries shall only take shelter when absolutely necessary and then not to an extent that they cannot cover the main part of their beat.

All personnel will be informed that they have a definite responsibility for their own gear and must not leave it around the edges of tents from where it can be easily stolen.

PART "B"

REVERSIONS

SX3514 L/Sjt C W Stephenson reverts to Cpl to comply with WE as from 17 Jan 42

CLASSIFICATIONS

SX12170 Pte F J Knight relinquishes td Gp 11 (carpenter) to comply with WE as from 18 Jan 42.

*H. J. Hatcher*  
Capt  
Adjt 2/27 Aust Inf Bn

NOTICES

The sum of £A104.0.3 has been credited to Regimental Funds being this Unit's share of AACS profits for Sep 41.

The C O has received a message from Mrs Syd Thomas which reads as follows:-  
"BEST WISHES GOOD LUCK FOR VICTORIOUS NEW YEAR"



W. Diary

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

MAJ R L BATTEN

ADM COMD

In the Field

No. 8

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

18 Jan 42

1. DUTIES

Mounting Retreat 18 Jan 42 "B" Coy (Orderly Duties)

Bn Orderly Offr - Lieut A L Pickering

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H. G. Hatcher Capt  
Adjt 2/27 Aust Inf Bn

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W.T.

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ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

MAJ R L BATTEN

ADM COMD

In the Field

No 9

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

19 Jan 42

1. DUTIES

Mounting Retreat 19 Jan 42 "HQ" Coy (Orderly Duties & Duty Coy)  
Bn Orderly Offr - Lieut E M Caddy  
Bn Orderly Sjt - L/Sjt A F C Lashmar  
Bn Orderly Cpl - Cpl G F Luscumbe  
Bn Runner - Pte R C Atkins

NEXT FOR DUTY - C Coy

2. BOUNDS - SHOPS IN VICINITY OF CAMP AREA

Three shops immediately adjacent to southern Camp perimeter are IN BOUNDS to troops. One, a concrete building is conducted by MAX LEVITE, the other two, small wooden packing cases are conducted by MOSKE BEN MENACHEN - all other buildings adjacent to or in the vicinity of Camp Hill 69 are OUT OF BOUNDS.

3. DOGS - PRESENCE IN CAMP LINES

The presence of dogs in Lines is forbidden. Units will take immediate steps to remove from Lines all dogs whether considered as strays or otherwise.

Section 6 para 106 of Standing Orders, Palestine, Para 4 is repeated.

(a) "In view of the prevalence of rabies in Palestine, dogs will not be permitted with Units.

(b) All stray and unauthorised dogs will be destroyed under Unit arrangements, or handed to local Police or Municipal Authorities.

4. LAUNDRY

It is anticipated that a washing service, by contract, will be brought into effect shortly. Until further notice, personnel will do their own washing, if necessary under Unit arrangements. Native laundries will NOT be used under any circumstance.

*M. A. A. Khan* Capt  
Adj't 2/27 Aust Inf Bn

NOTICES

CINEMA

The film Pride and Prejudice showing Camp Cinema 19 Jan will occupy 118 minutes screening time. First performance 1800 hrs second performance 2045 hrs.



W.T.

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ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

MAJ R L BATTEN

ADM COMD

In the Field

No 9

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

19 Jan 42

1. DUTIES

Mounting Retreat 19 Jan 42 "HQ" Coy (Orderly Duties & Duty Coy)  
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*M. H. Atcham* Capt  
Adjt 2/27 Aust Inf Bn

NOTICES

CINEMA

The film *Pride and Prejudice* showing Camp Cinema 19 Jan will occupy 118 minutes screening time. First performance 1800 hrs second performance 2045 hrs.



W.T.

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ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

MAJ R L BATTEN

ADM COMD

In the Field

No. 10

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

20 Jan 42

1. DUTIES

Mounting Retreat 20 Jan 42 C Coy (Orderly Duties & Duty Coy)  
 Bn Orderly Offr - Lieut A G Pickering  
 Bn Orderly Sjt - Sjt D S Jones  
 Bn Orderly Cpl - Cpl L F O'Neill  
 Bn Runner - Pte K L W Brown

NEXT FOR DUTY - D Coy

2. AIR MAIL SERVICE - AUSTRALIA

The Air Mail Service between Australia and Middle East has been restored and mails are going through in both directions. During the next few weeks it is probable that air postings to Australia will take three or four days longer en route than formerly. It is still necessary to limit the weight of air mail postings and the restrictions set out heretofore are to continue in force.

PART "B"

PROMOTIONS

SX8905 Sjt Pope A P promoted A/S/Sjt as from 20 Jan 42  
 SX3900 Cpl Longbotham H E A promoted A/Sjt as from 20 Jan  
 SX3453 L/Sjt Scally J J promoted A/Sjt as from 20 Jan  
 SX3723 L/Cpl Williams L T " A/Cpl " " 20 Jan  
 SX3793 " Tapscott W L " " " " 20 Jan

REVERSIONS

SX3855 L/Cpl Hanceck H J reverts to Pte as from 20 Jan 42.

SX3063 A/Sjt Ganley T W transferred to R Coy.

*H. J. Hanceck*

Adjt 2/27 Aust Inf Bn Capt



W.T.

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ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

MAJ R L BATTEN

ADM CMD

In the Field

No. 10

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

20 Jan 42

1. DUTIES

Mounting Retreat 20 Jan 42 C Coy (Orderly Duties & Duty Coy)  
 Bn Orderly Offr - Lieut A G Pickering  
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 Bn Orderly Cpl - Cpl L F O'Neill  
 Bn Runner - Pte K L W Brown

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PROMOTIONS

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 SX3723 L/Cpl Williams L T " A/Cpl " " 20 Jan  
 SX3793 " Tapscott W L " " " " 20 Jan

REVERSIONS

SX3853 L/Cpl Hancock H J reverts to Pte as from 20 Jan 42.

SX3063 A/Sjt Ganley T W transferred to R Coy.

*H. L. Batten*

Adjt 2/27 Aust Inf Bn Capt



FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

MAJ G.D.T.COOPER

ADM ... COMD

In the Field,

NO. 11

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

21 Jan 42.

1. DUTIES

Mounting 21 Jan 42 - D. Coy (Orderly Duties & Duty Coy)  
 Bn Orderly Offr - Lieut R M Puttman  
 Bn Orderly Sjt - Sjt C W Short  
 Bn Orderly Cpl - Cpl J W Burnett  
 Bn Runner - Pte HRH Cook

Next for Duty - 'E' Coy.

2. HAIRDRESSING

A hairdressing tent has been established for the use of all ranks between No. 1 and 2 kitchens.

PART "B"

REVERSIONS

SX 2633 S/Sjt Sherwin AB reverts to Sjt as from 19 Jan 42 -  
 vide HQ AIF (ME) Order No. 671 of 11 Oct 41.  
 SX 10948 A/Sjt EVANS RH reverts to Pte as from 19 Jan 42 }  
 SX 12087 A/Cpl EY L C reverts to Pte as from 19 Jan 42 } Transferred  
 SX 12334 A/Cpl WILKINSON J D reverts to Pte " " " " } from  
 SX 12377 A/Cpl MARKS CR reverts to Pte as from 19 Jan 42 } 21 A. ITB.  
 SX 12579 A/Cpl SULLIVAN JJ " " " " " " " " }  
 SX 13649 A/Cpl PUDNEY OS " " " " " " " " }

PROMOTIONS

SX 10948 Pte EVANS R H promoted to A/Sjt as from 20 Jan 42  
 SX 12087 Pte EY LC promoted to A/Cpl as from 20 Jan 42  
 SX 12334 Pte WILKINSON JD " to A/Cpl as from 20 Jan 42  
 SX 12377 Pte MARKS CR " to A/Cpl as from 20 Jan 42  
 SX 12579 Pte SULLIVAN JJ " to A/Cpl as from 20 Jan 42  
 SX 13649 Pte PUDNEY O S " to A/Cpl as from 20 Jan 42

SX 3063 Cpl GANLEY T W promoted to A/Sjt as from 22 Dec 41.  
 SX 4022 L/Cpl COLEMAN WG promoted to A/Sjt as from 17 Nov 41.

*M. H. ...*

Capt

Adjt 2/27 Aust Inf Bn AIF

NOTICES

FOUND - Money Belt with collection small coins. Apply BN HQ.



FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

MAJ G.D.T.COOPER

ADM ... COMD

In the Field,

No. 11

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

21 Jan 42.

1. DUTIES

Mounting 21 Jan 42 - D. Coy (Orderly Duties & Duty Coy)  
Bn Orderly Offr - Lieut R M Puttman  
Bn Orderly Sjt - Sjt C W Short  
Bn Orderly Cpl - Cpl J W Burnett  
Bn Runner - Pte IRIH Cook

Next for Duty - 'E' Coy.

2. HAIRDRESSING

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PART "B"

REVERSIONS

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vide HQ AIF (ME) Order No. 671 of 11 Oct 41.  
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SX 12334 A/Cpl WILKINSON J D reverts to Pte " " " " } from  
SX 12377 A/Cpl MARKS CR reverts to Pte as from 19 Jan 42 } 21 A. ITB.  
SX 12579 A/Cpl SULLIVAN JJ " " " " " " " " }  
SX 13649 A/Cpl PUDNEY OS " " " " " " " " }

PROMOTIONS

SX 10948 Pte EVANS R H promoted to A/Sjt as from 20 Jan 42  
SX 12087 Pte EY LC promoted to A/Cpl as from 20 Jan 42  
SX 12334 Pte WILKINSON JD " to A/Cpl as from 20 Jan 42  
SX 12377 Pte MARKS CR " to A/Cpl as from 20 Jan 42  
SX 12579 Pte SULLIVAN JJ " to A/Cpl as from 20 Jan 42  
SX 13649 Pte PUDNEY O S " to A/Cpl as from 20 Jan 42

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SX 4022 L/Cpl COLEMAN WG promoted to A/Sjt as from 17 Nov 41.

*M. H. Cooper*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Capt  
Adjt 2/27 Aust Inf Bn AIF

NOTICES

FOUND - Money Belt with collection small coins. Apply BN HQ.



FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

MAJ G.D.T. COOPER

ADM COMD

In the Field,

NO. 12

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

21 Jan 42.

1. DUTIES

Mounting 22 Jan 42 - 'E' Coy (Orderly Duties & Duty Coy)  
Bn Orderly Offr - Lieut R W Attiwell  
Bn Orderly Sjt - A/Sjt E.W.J. Hay  
Bn Orderly Cpl - A/Cpl L C By  
Bn Runner - Pte C. Chapman

Mounting 23 Jan 42 - A. Coy (Orderly Duties & Duty Coy)  
Bn Orderly Offr - Lieut F. Bennier  
Bn Orderly Sjt - Cpl Hodgson JGA  
Bn Orderly Cpl - Cpl Doudle M  
Bn Runner - Pte J. Morris

Next for Duty - B. Coy.

PART "B"

REVERSIONS

SX 12403 A/Sjt ZANKER F.A. reverts to Pte as from 21 Jan 42.  
SX 8049 A/Cpl C C TREMBATH reverts to Pte as from 21 Jan 42.

PROMOTIONS

SX 12403 Pte ZANKER F H promoted A/CPL as from 21 Jan 42.  
SX 5167 Cpl HAY E W J promoted A/SJT as from 21 Jan 42.

APPOINTMENTS

SX 12268 Pte N. ST CLAIR appointed L/Cpl as from 21 Jan 42  
SX 13581 Pte GREY D C C appointed L/Cpl as from 21 Jan 42  
SX 13905 Pte C R RAMSAY appointed L/Cpl as from 21 Jan 42  
SX 8049 Pte C C TREMBATH appointed L/Cpl as from 22 Jan 42  
SX 12625 Pte E G PANIPELL appointed L/Cpl as from 22 Jan 42  
SX 12468 Pte G R TOSELAND appointed L/Cpl as from 22 Jan 42

CLASSIFICATION

SX 3444 Pte R V HANSON classified Td Gp ii Cook as from  
26 Dec 41.

*A. M. Hatcher*

Capt

Adjt 2/27 Aust Inf Bn AIF

NOTICES

LOST - 500 mils on 21 Jan 42 between A. Coy Lines and  
Recreation Hut. Any info to this BN HQ.



FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

MAJ G. D. T. COOPER

ADM COMD

In the Field,

NO. 12

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

21 Jan 42.

1. DUTIES

Mounting 22 Jan 42 - 'E' Coy (Orderly Duties & Duty Coy)  
Bn Orderly Offr - Lieut R W Attiwell  
Bn Orderly Sjt - A/Sjt E.W.J. Hay  
Bn Orderly Cpl - A/Cpl L C Ey  
Bn Runner - Pte C. Chapman

Mounting 23 Jan 42 - A. Coy (Orderly Duties & Duty Coy)  
Bn Orderly Offr - Lieut F. Donnier  
Bn Orderly Sjt - Cpl Hodgson JGA  
Bn Orderly Cpl - Cpl Doudle M  
Bn Runner - Pte J. Morris

Next for Duty - B. Coy.

PART "B"

REVERSIONS

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SX 5167 Cpl HAY E W J promoted A/SJT as from 21 Jan 42.

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*M. H. Hatcher*

Capt

Adjt 2/27 Aust Inf Bn AIF

NOTICES

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Recreation Hut. Any info to this BN HQ.



War Diary

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

MAJ G.D.T. COOPER

ADM COMD

In the Field

No.13

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

23 Jan 42

1. DUTIES

Mounting 23 Jan 42 -- A Coy (Orderly Duties & Duty Coy)  
 Bn Orderly Offr -- Lieut F Bennier  
 Bn Orderly Sjt -- Cpl J G A Hodgson  
 Bn Orderly Cpl -- Cpl M Doudle  
 Bn Runner -- Pte J Morris

Mounting 24 Jan 42 -- B Coy (Orderly Duties & Duty Coy)  
 Bn Orderly Offr -- Lieut F T Cooke  
 Bn Orderly Sjt -- Cpl F H Harper  
 Bn Orderly Cpl -- L/Cpl J H McDonald  
 Bn Runner -- Pte J D Pannell

Next For Duty -- HQ Coy.

2. PARTICULARS OF PERSONNEL

The following information is required by the Chaplain in respect of all ranks, and will be collected through Orderly Rooms.

Coy:

Regtl No:

Rank:

Name in full:

Religion:

Name and address of Next-of-Kin:

Names and ages of children:

One blank sheet of paper per man will be supplied to Coys, who will arrange for distribution to all personnel, so that each individual supplies the information concerning himself.

Coys will ensure that a return is made by all men on strength. Returns to BN HQ by 1700 hrs Saturday, 24 Jan 42.

PART "B"

PROMOTIONS

SX 4659 L/Cpl BOND D J promoted to A/Cpl as from 23 Jan 42  
 SX 3478 L/Cpl DAWSON K W promoted to A/Cpl as from 23 Jan 42.  
 SX11611 Pte LAWTON C A promoted to A/Cpl as from 20 Jan 42.

APPOINTMENTS

SX 3461 Pte HAY T L appointed L/Cpl as from 23 Jan 42  
 SX12255 Pte SIVIOUR A E appointed L/Cpl as from 23 Jan 42

CONFIRMATIONS

SX 3238 A/Sjt MACDONALD G G rank confirmed Sjt 23 Jan 42.  
 SX 4412 A/Sjt WILSMORE R C rank confirmed Sjt 23 Jan 42.  
 SX 4193 A/Sjt SMART G R rank confirmed Sjt 23 Jan 42.  
 SX 3352 A/Cpl CLARK L J rank confirmed CPL 23 Jan 42.  
 SX 2875 A/Cpl DOUDLE M H rank confirmed CPL 23 Jan 42.  
 SX 3397 A/Cpl HILL A rank confirmed CPL 23 Jan 42.  
 SX 4753 A/Cpl ROBERTSON K rank confirmed CPL 23 Jan 42.

REVERSIONS

SX 3081 A/Sjt KAY G K reverts to L/Sjt as from 23 Jan 42 (W. E.)  
 SX 3750 A/Cpl CALLANDER T J reverts to L/Cpl as from 23 Jan 42 "  
 SX 3508 L/Cpl MacLean J W reverts to Pte as from 23 Jan 42.

CLASSIFICATIONS

SX 3750 L/Cpl CALLANDER T J classified Td Gp iii Clerk as from 23 Jan 42.  
 SX 4421 Pte WINTERFIELD LRC relinquishes " " " " " " "

*R. Attinall* Lt Capt  
 ADJT 2/27 Aust Inf Bn AIF

PTO



(2) NOTICES

Church Services - Sunday 25 Jan 42.

HOLY COMMUNION - 0700 hrs - Recreation Tent.

CHURCH PARADE on Bn Parade Ground at 0915 hrs.  
Markers report to RSM at 0905 hrs.

RC Mass in Cinema 0830 hrs.

FOUND - 1 Money Belt in C. Coy lines, evening of 22 Jan 42.  
Apply to this BN HQ.

The following information is requested by the Chaplain in respect of all ranks, and will be collected through orderly rooms.

- Govt
- Serial No:
- Rank:
- Name in full:
- Religion:
- Name and address of next-of-kin:
- Name and grade of children:

One blank sheet of paper per man will be supplied to Coy, who will arrange for distribution to all personnel, so that each individual supplies the information concerning himself. Coy will ensure that a return is made by all men on strength. Returns to BN HQ by 1700 hrs Saturday, 24 Jan 42.

PAGE "B"

PROMOTIONS  
EX 1553 L/Cpl BOND D J promoted to A/Cpl as from 23 Jan 42.  
EX 3478 L/Cpl DABSON K W promoted to A/Cpl as from 23 Jan 42.  
EX 1111 Pte LAWTON C A promoted to A/Cpl as from 20 Jan 42.

APPOINTMENTS  
EX 3061 Pte HAY T J appointed L/Cpl as from 23 Jan 42.  
EX 3255 Pte SIVOUR A S appointed L/Cpl as from 23 Jan 42.

COMMITTEES  
EX 3238 A/Cpl MADDOCK G D term continued 23 Jan 42.  
EX 1482 A/Cpl WILSON H C term continued 23 Jan 42.  
EX 1197 A/Cpl SMART H R term continued 23 Jan 42.  
EX 3522 A/Cpl CLARK J J term continued 23 Jan 42.  
EX 2875 A/Cpl DOUBLE M H term continued 23 Jan 42.  
EX 3357 A/Cpl HILL A term continued 23 Jan 42.  
EX 1155 A/Cpl ROBERTSON K term continued 23 Jan 42.

REVERSALS  
EX 3081 A/Cpl KAY G K reversal to L/Cpl as from 23 Jan 42 (W. E.).  
EX 3750 A/Cpl GALLAGHER T J reversal to L/Cpl as from 23 Jan 42.  
EX 3508 L/Cpl MEDMAN J W reversal to Pte as from 23 Jan 42.

CLASSIFICATIONS  
EX 3750 L/Cpl GALLAGHER T J classified to Gp III Clerk as from 23 Jan 42.  
EX 1481 Pte WINTERING LEO reclassified to Gp III Clerk as from 23 Jan 42.

*[Faint signature and text at the bottom of the page]*



War Diary

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

MAJ G.D.T. COOPER

ADM COMD

In the Field

No. 13

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

23 Jan 42

1. DUTIES

Mounting 23 Jan 42 - A Coy (Orderly Duties & Duty Coy)  
 Bn Orderly Offr - Lieut F Bennier  
 Bn Orderly Sjt - Cpl J G A Hodgson  
 Bn Orderly Cpl - Cpl M Doudle  
 Bn Runner - Pte J Morris

Mounting 24 Jan 42 - B Coy (Orderly Duties & Duty Coy)  
 Bn Orderly Offr - Lieut F T Cooke  
 Bn Orderly Sjt - Cpl F H Harper  
 Bn Orderly Cpl - L/Cpl J H McDonald  
 Bn Runner - Pte J D Pannell

Next For Duty - HQ Coy.

2. PARTICULARS OF PERSONNEL

The following information is required by the Chaplain in respect of all ranks, and will be collected through Orderly Rooms.

Coy:

Regtl No:

Rank:

Name in full:

Religion:

Name and address of Next-of-Kin:

Names and ages of children:

One blank sheet of paper per man will be supplied to Coys, who will arrange for distribution to all personnel, so that each individual supplies the information concerning himself.

Coys will ensure that a return is made by all men on strength. Returns to BN HQ by 1700 hrs Saturday, 24 Jan 42.

PART "B"

PROMOTIONS

SX 4659 L/Cpl BOND D J promoted to A/Cpl as from 23 Jan 42  
 SX 3478 L/Cpl DAWSON K W promoted to A/Cpl as from 23 Jan 42.  
 SX11611 Pte LAWTON C A promoted to A/Cpl as from 20 Jan 42.

APPOINTMENTS

SX 3461 Pte HAY T L appointed L/Cpl as from 23 Jan 42  
 SX12255 Pte SIVIOUR A E appointed L/Cpl as from 23 Jan 42

CONFIRMATIONS

SX 3238 A/Sjt MACDONALD G G rank confirmed Sjt 23 Jan 42.  
 SX 4412 A/Sjt WILSMORE R C rank confirmed Sjt 23 Jan 42.  
 SX 4193 A/Sjt SMART G R rank confirmed Sjt 23 Jan 42.  
 SX 3352 A/Cpl CLARK L J rank confirmed CPL 23 Jan 42.  
 SX 2875 A/Cpl DOUDLE M H rank confirmed CPL 23 Jan 42.  
 SX 3397 A/Cpl HILL A rank confirmed CPL 23 Jan 42.  
 SX 4753 A/Cpl ROBERTSON K rank confirmed CPL 23 Jan 42.

REVERSIONS

SX 3081 A/Sjt KAY G K reverts to L/Sjt as from 23 Jan 42 (W. E.)  
 SX 3750 A/Cpl CALLANDER T J reverts to L/Cpl as from 23 Jan 42 "  
 SX 3508 L/Cpl MacLean J W reverts to Pte as from 23 Jan 42.

CLASSIFICATIONS

SX 3750 L/Cpl CALLANDER T J classified Td Gp iii Clerk as from 23 Jan 42.  
 SX 4421 Pte WINTERFIELD LRC relinquishes " " " " " " "

PTO

*R. Attinall* <sup>for</sup> Capt  
 ADJT 2/27 Aust Inf Bn AIF







W.D.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

MAJ G.D.T. COOPER MBE

ADM COMD

In the Field

No. 14

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

25 Jan 42

1. DUTIES

Mounting 25 Jan 42 - HQ Coy (Orderly Duties and Duty Coy)  
 Bn Orderly Offr - Lieut A R French  
 Bn Orderly Sjt - Sjt O G Piper  
 Bn Orderly Cpl - Cpl L J Clark  
 Bn Runner - Pte S Liddell

Mounting 26 Jan 42 - C Coy (Orderly Duties and Duty Coy)  
 Bn Orderly Offr - Lieut E T Martin  
 Bn Orderly Sjt - Sjt A R Koehne  
 Bn Orderly Cpl - Cpl A L Stevens  
 Bn Runner - Pte H W Swingler  
 Next For Duty - D Coy.

PART "B"

APPOINTMENTS

SX 4594 Pte J H Pick appointed L/Cpl as from 23 Jan 42.

CLASSIFICATIONS

SX 4942 Pte T A Cercoran relinquishes Td Gp 11 Signaller as from 23 Jan 42  
 SX 3939 " R R Pinkerton " Td Gp 111 Clerk " " 19 Jan 42

SX 3939 Pte R R Pinkerton classified Td Gp 11 Int Duties as from 20 Jan 42.

*W. H. Ketchum*

Adjt 2/27 Aust Inf Bn <sup>Capt</sup>

NOTICES

CINEMA

There will be two showings at the evening programme on Sunday 25 Jan.  
 Owing to Lt-Col J Gerald's revue "All In Fun" showing on Monday 26 Jan there  
 will be no early picture screening.  
 Normal routine will be resumed on Tuesday Jan 27.

LOST - A wallet containing money and photos and also paybook belonging to  
 SX12539 Pte J F Ettridge on the night of 24/25 Jan.  
 Any information regarding same to be handed in to this HQ.



W.D

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

MAJ G.D.T. COOPER MBE

ADM COMD

In the Field

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

25 Jan 42

No. 14

1. DUTIES

Mounting 25 Jan 42 - HQ Coy (Orderly Duties and Duty Coy)  
 Bn Orderly Offr - Lieut A R Trenerry  
 Bn Orderly Sjt - Sjt O G Piper  
 Bn Orderly Cpl - Cpl L J Clark  
 Bn Runner - Pte S Liddell

Mounting 26 Jan 42 - C Coy (Orderly Duties and Duty Coy)  
 Bn Orderly Offr - Lieut E T Martin  
 Bn Orderly Sjt - Sjt A R Koehne  
 Bn Orderly Cpl - Cpl A L Stevens  
 Bn Runner - Pte H W Swingler  
 Next For Duty - D Coy.

PART "B"

APPOINTMENTS

SX 4594 Pte J H Pick appointed L/Cpl as from 23 Jan 42.

CLASSIFICATIONS

SX 4942 Pte T A Corcoran relinquishes Td Gp 11 Signaller as from 23 Jan 42  
 SX 3939 " R R Pinkerton " " " " 19 Jan 42  
 Td Gp 111 Clerk

SX 3939 Pte R R Pinkerton classified Td Gp 11 Int Duties as from 20 Jan 42.

*W. J. Ketchum*  
 Capt  
 Adjnt 2/27 Aust Inf Bn

NOTICES

CINEMA

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 will be no early picture screening.  
 Normal routine will be resumed on Tuesday Jan 27.

LOST - A wallet containing money and photos and also paybook belonging to  
 SX12539 Pte J F Ettridge on the night of 24/25 Jan.  
 Any information regarding same to be handed in to this HQ.



*War diary*

BY

LT-COL G D T COOPER, MB E.

NO. 1

COMD

AT SEA

COMD 2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

31 Jan 42

- ( Orderly  
1. (Duty Coy - Mounting Retreat 31 Jan 42 - B. Coy  
Next for Duty - A. Coy
2. DENTAL - Personnel wishing to go on dental parade MUST first report to RMO on Unit sick parade at 0730 hrs.
  3. SHIP - Between 1200 and 1300 hrs and after 1645 hrs the fwd part of the Sun Deck is allotted to Officers and the aft part to WOs and Sjts.
  4. DRESS - Tropical kit will be worn by all ranks from SATURDAY 31 Jan 42 incl. Coys will ensure that men are correctly dressed at all times INCLUDING mess.
  5. CANTEEN - Dry Canteen situated on Promenade Deck aft will be open as follows:- 0930-1230; 1530-1830; 1930-2030.
  6. SHIP'S INSPECTION - Ship's inspection will be held daily at 1000 hrs, Sunday excepted. On the sound of the 'G' note from the bugle all ranks between decks at that hour will stand at attention.
  7. RUBBISH - Rubbish is to be thrown overboard daily 15 minutes before black-out and at no other time, from the after gangway near the bakehouse on D deck.
  8. FIRE PRECAUTIONS - Attention is called to the danger of fire caused by cigarette ends blowing in through pertheles. Cigarette ends and matches MUST be put in the boxes provided.
  9. BLACK-OUT - The attention of all ranks is directed to the necessity of maintaining an absolutely perfect black-out while at sea. Black-out hours for 31 Jan 42 are 1730 hrs - 0630 hrs.
  10. FRESH WATER - Fresh water for washing will be available daily only from 0530-0730 hrs.  
Drinking water will be available from 0530-0730, 1130-1330, 1730-1900.

PROMOTION

PART "B"

SX 4130 Sjt M DALBY promoted A/S/Sjt as from 24 Jan 42.

CONFIRMATION

SX 4130 A/S/Sjt H DALBY rank confirmed S/SJT as from 25 Jan 42.

*R. Bowman* Lieut  
for ADJT 2/27 Aust Inf Bn AIF

NOTICES

CHURCH SERVICES - SUNDAY 1 Feb 42.

- 0600 hrs Holy Communion C of E - Ship's Chapel B Deck Foyer.
- 0700 hrs RC Mass - " " " " "
- 0800 hrs Holy Communion C of E - " " " " "

CHURCH PARADES

- 0900 hrs - 2/14 Bn and 2/27 Bn - Concert Hall Promenade Deck.
- 1830 hrs - Community Hymn Singing and Selection of Sacred Music in the Concert Hall Promenade Deck.

ENTERTAINMENTS - There will be a Night of Entertainments by 2/14 Bn on Saturday 31 Jan 42 in the Concert Hall (Promenade Deck at 2000 hrs - open to all troops.

LOST 1 pack from No. 13 Mess containing 1 blanket, 1 groundsheet, 2 pairs shorts, 2 shirts, 7 pairs sox, 1 pair boots, 3 writing pads, 2 cotton singlets, 2 u/pants, 1 sox tops, odds and ends. Any infm, please fwd to BN HQ Orderly Room 2/27.



*War diary*

BY

LT-COL G D T COOPER, MB E.

NO. 1

COMD

AT SEA

COMD 2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

31 Jan 42

- 1. (Orderly Duty Coy - Mounting Retreat 31 Jan 42 - B. Coy  
Next for Duty - A. Coy
- 2. DENTAL - Personnel wishing to go on dental parade MUST first report to RMO on Unit sick parade at 0730 hrs.
- 3. SHIP - Between 1200 and 1300 hrs and after 1645 hrs the fwd part of the Sun Deck is allotted to Offrs and the aft part to WOs and Sjts.
- 4. DRESS - Tropical kit will be worn by all ranks from SATURDAY 31 Jan 42 incl. Coys will ensure that men are correctly dressed at all times INCLUDING mess.
- 5. CANTEEN - Dry Canteen situated on Promenade Deck aft will be open as follows:- 0930-1230; 1530-1830; 1930-2030.
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- 7. RUBBISH - Rubbish is to be thrown overboard daily 15 minutes before black-out and at no other time, from the after gangway near the bakehouse on D deck.
- 8. FIRE PRECAUTIONS - Attention is called to the danger of fire caused by cigarette ends blowing in through pertheoles. Cigarette ends and matches MUST be put in the boxes provided.
- 9. BLACK-OUT - The attention of all ranks is directed to the necessity of maintaining an absolutely perfect black-out while at sea. Black-out hours for 31 Jan 42 are 1730 hrs - 0630 hrs.
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Drinking water will be available from 0530-0730, 1130-1330, 1730-1900.

PROMOTION

PART "B"

SX 4130 Sjt M DALBY promoted A/S/Sjt as from 24 Jan 42.

CONFIRMATION

SX 4130 A/S/Sjt H DALBY rank confirmed S/SJT as from 25 Jan 42.

*R. Brown* Lieut  
for ADJT 2/27 Aust Inf Bn AIF

NOTICES

CHURCH SERVICES - SUNDAY 1 Feb 42.

- 0600 hrs Holy Communion C of E - Ship's Chapel B Deck Foyer.
- 0700 hrs RC Mass - " " " " "
- 0800 hrs Holy Communion C of E - " " " " "

CHURCH PARADES

- 0900 hrs - 2/14 Bn and 2/27 Bn - Concert Hall Promenade Deck.
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# FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/27 Bn. A.I.F.

(Unit.)

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

1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits one establishment)
Lieut.-Colonels ...			
Majors ...			
Captains ...			
Lieutenants ...			
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...			
District Officers ...			
Totals ...	34	5	4

\*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc).

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

**Officers JOINED during week.**

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

**Officers QUITTED during week.**

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

**PART C.— DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.**

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known.)



**PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.**

(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No.)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
MAJOR		BATTEN RL	2/27 Bn	YES	L.O.
"		DABBS TB	"	"	2/4
"		ISAACHSEN OC	"	"	OC DEPT
"		WHITE DAB	"	NO	SCHOOL
CAPT		JOHNSON RL	"	YES	OC CIV
"		LEE AT	"	"	OC 3/27
"		GILL TB	"	"	OC HQCY
LIEUT		BEST EV	"	NO	SICK
"	T/CAPT	SKIPPER JW	"	"	SCHOOL
"	T/CAPT	SIMS CAW	"	YES	2/4 CIV
"		SANDISON EV	"	"	SIG O
"		KIMBER HRB	"	"	OC 13 B
"		BENNER F	"	"	OC 9 B
"	T/CAPT	DEARD TB	"	"	O.M.
"		PUTTMAN RM	"	"	OC 12 B
"		MAGAREY DA	"	"	OC 12 B
"	T/CAPT	KATCHAR HT	"	"	ADJT
"		LEE TB	"	"	OC 14 B
"		CRAFTER JG	"	NO	det. B. det.
"		GEDDES PHD	"	"	W/PTIC
"		APPLEBEE R	"	YES	OC 11 PL
"		FLIGHT TO	"	"	OC 2 B
"		BELL ED	"	"	OC 3 PL
"		KIMBER TRB	"	NO	SCHOOL
"		GADDY EM	"	YES	OC 3 PL
"		WARBURTON WA	"	"	OC 14 B
"		COWAN PAT	"	"	I.O.
"		CLAMPETT RV	"	"	OC 3 PL
"		KINS GH	"	"	OC 2 PL
"		MARTIN ET	"	"	OC 13 B
"		TRINERRY AG	"	"	W/PTIC
"		HEWITT SG	"	"	W/PTIC
"		PERKINS AG	"	"	W/PTIC
"		REDDIN JW	"	"	W/PTIC

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
CAPT		SMITH KV	ARMG		R.M.O.
MAJOR		WHEBEAT CR	ARCHD		CHAPLAIN
2/LIEUT		BARKER EN	RAVIA		INTERPRETER

2/27 Bn. A.I.F. (Unit.)

(Signature of Commander.)

(Date of Despatch.)

21 AUST INF BDE (Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving).



**FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.**

**2/27 Bn. A.I.F.** (Unit), *4 Jan* 19 *42* (Date).

(To be furnished by all units of Cavalry, Royal Armoured Corps, Infantry, Royal Army Veterinary Corps, Royal Army Pay Corps, Army Educational Corps, Corps of Military Police, and all Headquarters units).

**Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.**

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1		
W.Os. Class II.	4		1
W.Os. Class III.			
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants OR Colour-Serjeants	4		1
Staff Serjeants	2		
Serjeants	26		4
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.			
Corporals	66		3
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc.	639		61
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>742</b>		<b>70</b>

\*These Totals should agree with the details shown in Part D on page 2 of Army Form W.3009.

**Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.**

Detail	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
SMART HEAD	AAPC	JOHNSTON J SP	AAPC
HUNT P	"	JORDAN RA 7th	"
BATES TD PC	"	TREMPER HV PC	"
DEATTIER	"	GRIFF CH	"
PHILIPSON WILKIN	AAPSC	ALLEN MC	AAPC (21st Inf 2nd Bde)
SMITH RL SP	AAPC		

**Part C. Description of other ranks whose return to the unit is particularly requested.**

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g. present whereabouts if known)
SA 3190	PC	WIGZELL HG	2/27	at 21st ITB



2/27 Bn. A.I.F.

Unit.

Army Form W. 3009 (page 2)

Part D. Detail of Surplus or Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009.

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.								REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.								REMARKS.			
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.O.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.O.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.		Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.
Bricklayers ... ..																				
Butchers ... ..																				
Carpenters and Joiners ...																		1	1	
Clerks ... ..																		1	1	
Cooks ... ..																		2	2	
Despatch Riders ... ..																				
Drivers I.C. (Tracked) ...																				
"  " (Wheeled) ... ..																			6	6
Drivers-Mechanics ... ..																				
Drivers-Operators ... ..																				
Electricians ... ..																				
Equipment Repairers ...																				
Farriers ... ..																				
Fitters ... ..																				
Machine Gunners ... ..																				
Masons ... ..																				
Motor Mechanics ... ..																				
Pioneers, Infantry (other than tradesmen) ...																				
Plumbers and Pipefitters ...																				
Range Takers ... ..																				
Saddlers & Harness Maker																				
Saddle Tree Makers ... ..																				
Sanitary and Water Duties																				
Signallers ... ..																			1	1
Storemen technical ... ..																				
Tailors ... ..																				
Wheelers ... ..																				
WOTE										1										1
COMS													1							1
S/S													4							4
Chk															3					3
RMP																		3		3
Pls																				
General duty personnel ...																			18	18
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A).										1			4		3	61				70

2/27 Bn. A.I.F.

Unit.

Signature of Commander.

Date of Despatch

4/Jan 42

21 AUST INF BDE

Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.



*Ln 44*  
2/27 AUST INF BN

NOTES ON DEFENSES

2 Jan 42

1. DRAINAGE - ALL WORKS must be proceeded with a drainage system. Pillboxes must be prevented from flooding by a drain dug on the upper side and those already holding water must be baled out.
2. WIRE - Wiring is still too loose and the bottom apron wire is too high. Even on wet days tps must be employed on rectifying these faults and on continuing with fresh wiring.
3. RESETTING - Revet only if necessary. Sand bags if used must have a "batter" also "headers" as well as "stretchers".



Brush can be used effectively as a revetting material. Brush is available nearby. Get some loads by using mule tpt which can be procured on demand by BN HQ.

4. SPACE AND DISPERSION - Each sec post must be dug with plenty of "trace" so that all odd pieces of dead ground are covered. This is particularly necessary on A. Coy's front. This will ensure that if portion of the post is blown in there is still plenty of space left to fight in.
5. BOMBING BAY - Each sec post must have at least two bombing bays.
6. SLEEPING QUARTERS - Continue digging these according to the engineer plan. Where necessary revet the sides and have all ready for the engineers to cover with cement slabs. Be sure that they are drained.
7. PILLBOXES - Advice has been received today that the GRM has ordered the contractors to "clean up" around all pill-boxes and to see that the field of fire is clear up to at least 100x in all intended directions.
8. All works MUST be pushed on with a definite plan and be completed VERY SOON.

*M. J. Catcher*  
Capt  
Adj't 2/27 Aust Inf Bn AIF



LEAVE JERUSALEM - FREE ACCOMMODATION

1. ACCOMMODATION - Arrangements have been made by ACP for provision of free accommodation in JERUSALEM.
2. PERIOD - The period of leave will be three days in JERUSALEM. It is expected that the ACP hostel will be available free to tps until the end of Jan 42.

3. ALLOTMENT

<u>Period</u>	<u>Coys Going on Leave</u>	<u>Date of Assembly - 7 Div Recption Camp.</u>	<u>Leave to Commence</u>	<u>Assemble to Return.</u>	<u>Return Div Rec Camp</u>
3	A Coy - 2 B Coy - 2	OK" 6 Jan 42.	7 Jan 42.	10 Jan	11 Jan
6.	C Coy - 2 D Coy - 2	15 Jan	16 Jan	19 Jan	20 Jan
9.	Hq Coy - 3 BnHQ - 1	24 Jan	25 Jan	28 Jan	29 Jan

Coys will submit nominations to this Hq by 1700 hrs 4 Jan. In the selection of personnel to proceed on Free Leave, preference will be given to men on low drawing rate whose conduct is satisfactory.

4. ASSEMBLING AND STAGING - Personnel will report to 7 Div Reception Camp at 0900hrs on the days shown above, for onward routing to 1 Aust Corps Reception Camp, to arrive by 1300 hrs same day. Personnel will stage one night at 1 Aust Corps Reception Camp, APULA, both proceeding to and returning from JERUSALEM. Dates of assembly for return are shown in previous para.
5. TRANSPORT - Unit tpt will be used to convey personnel to 7 Div Reception Camp. Tpt for move to 1 Aust Corps Reception Camp will be arranged by 7 Aust Div. Arrangements will be made by 1 Aust Corps Reception Camp for disposal of personnel on days next of return.
6. MESSING - Haversack lunch will be carried by all personnel on fwd journey. Lunch on day of return will be provided by 1 Aust Corps Reception Camp. Mess cgt must be carried.
7. DRESS - Winter Dress, Belt Web Waist, Gaiters, Hat, Respirator and Tin Hat will be carried.
8. NOMINAL ROLLS AND LEAVE PASSES. - Nominal rolls in duplicate will be handed to OC 7 Aust Div Reception Camp who will pass to senior of leave party for handing to OC 1 Aust Corps Reception Camp, Personnel will be issued with leave passes.
9. DISCIPLINE - OC 7 Aust Div Reception Camp will detail senior travelling as OC 7 Aust Div Leave Party. OC 1 Aust Corps will appoint comd of party and will despatch leave party to APULA. On arrival in JERUSALEM party will report to 6 Aust Div Leave offr (c/- ACP rep)
10. ADMINISTRATION - Attention is directed to the fact that ACP has incurred heavy financial expenditure in equipping this Hostel and comd must ensure strict observance of conditions laid down.

*M. M. ...*  
 Capt  
 Adjt 2/27 Aust Inf Bn



SHIP'S PART 1 ORDERS

by  
LT-COL G B HOWCROFT MC, TD,  
OFFICER COMMANDING TROOPS  
HT ILE DE FRANCE

*Howcroft*

No 2

31 Jan 42

1. SMOKING

Smoking is NOT permitted on troop decks or in passageways. Smoking on the open decks - including all the promenade deck - is forbidden between Retreat and Reveille. Retreat will be sounded amidships on B Deck, fwd and aft D Deck, and on the Sun Deck twenty mins after Blackout.

2. LIGHTS OUT

Units will ensure that all men are in their sleeping quarters by 2200 hrs and in bed with lights out by 2215 hrs. Shaded wall lights throughout the troop decks will be left on. Lights out will be sounded at B Deck square, and fwd and aft on D Deck.

3. TRAINING

The Port and Starboard NCOs Lounges fwd will NOT be used as such from 0900-1100 hrs daily during which period they may be used for tng by Regt Sigs NOT accommodated in cabins.

When cabins are being used for tng they need NOT be vacated for inspection by O C Tps.

The Concert Hall is reserved for lectures to offr of 21 Aust Inf Bde Gp from 1215-1300 hrs Mon - Fri incl. Units will ensure that the hall is vacated by their tps by 1200 hrs on these days.

4. DENTAL PARADE

Dental parades will be held at 1400 hrs <sup>daily</sup> in the dental surgery C Deck aft. Except in urgent cases personnel will only attend this parade when ordered treatment by RMO at morning sick parades.

5. SICK PARADE

Times laid down for sick parades in para 15 Ro No 1 are cancelled and the following substituted:-

2/14 Bn	-	0730 hrs
2/16 Bn	-	0830 "
2/4 Fd Regt	-	1030 "
2/27 Bn	-	1130 "
All remaining units and details	-	0930 "

NCOs in charge of sick parades will report to RAP prior to parading their men and ensure that the RAP is ready to deal with their parade at the above times.

6. PASSES

All passes issued by units, other than those authorized for batmen to enter an officer's quarters will be withdrawn. Any passes to be issued other than for batmen will be submitted to Ship's Orderly Room.

7. BOUNDS

The amidships stairway from A Deck to B Deck square will NOT be used by ORs unless accompanied by an offr OR in possession of a Duty Pass signed by Ship's Adjnt, or unless members of Ship's Staff.

8. SHIP'S TP DECK SGT

The Ship's Tp Deck Sgt, will be allowed access for the purposes of his duties to all tp decks. Units may contact this NCO direct in reg to layout of kits etc.

9. BLACK-OUT

Black-out hours for 31 Jan/1 Feb 42 are 1754-0638 hrs.

*J K LYNCH*  
(SND) J K LYNCH Capt  
SHIP'S ADJT



NOTICES

Clocks will be advanced 30 mins tonight, Sat 31 Jan 42.

BOXING TOURNAMENT

Entries are invited for a ship's boxing tournament to commence on Mon 2 Feb 41. The tournament will be conducted under Army and Navy rules for the following weights:-

- Feather - 9.0
- Light - 9.9
- Welter - 10.6
- Middle - 11.0
- Heavy -

Entries will be furnished to Ship's Orderly Room by units by 1300 hrs Sun. Boxing gloves for tng purposes are available from 2/27 Bn Orderly Room.

TUG OF WAR

A tug-of-war tournament will be conducted to begin on Mon 2 Feb 42. Units may submit a maximum of 3 teams of 10 men plus one skipper.

Names of contestants and weight of teams are required at Ship's Orderly Room by 1300 hrs Sun.

0730 hrs	-	2/27 Bn
0830 "	-	2/28 Bn
1030 "	-	2/29 Bn
1130 "	-	2/30 Bn
0930 "	-	2/31 Bn

Units in charge of sick parades will report to the Sick Parade Officer at 0800 hrs. The Sick Parade Officer will be in the Sick Parade Room at 0800 hrs. Sick parades will be held at 0800 hrs. Sick parades will be held at 0800 hrs.

All passes issued by units other than those mentioned above are to be cancelled. Any passes issued by units other than those mentioned above are to be cancelled. Any passes issued by units other than those mentioned above are to be cancelled.

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SHIP'S ORDERLY ROOM  
2/27 Bn



SECURITY OF CAMP AREA.

1. Further losses of arms and eqpt have occurred in the Hill 69 Camp Area.
2. All Coys will forthwith double the strength of their picquets, the duties for which will be outlined to all CSM's by the RSM.
3. The strength of the main guard will remain the same.
4. The recognised security guards of this Unit will be such that by day and by night the whole of the perimeter of the Camp Area will be under the observation of Sentries at all times.
5. Within the perimeter each Coy will provide a Standing Sentry over each store tents and each tent in which arms are stored.
6. Coys will ensure that picquets are accommodated so far as is possible in separate guard tents and that a sufficient number of NCO's are on the guard to effect the posting and relieving of Sentries. Sentries will NOT relieve each other.
7. Coy Orderly Offrs will inspect their sentries twice by day and twice by night incl at least once between midnight and reveille.
8. Coy Comds will examine the security of their lines as to adequacy and if not satisfied take necessary steps to ensure that guards are made adequate.
9. An Orderly Offr will inspect main guard and sentries twice by day and twice by night.
10. VISITORS -
- (1) All persons not members of this unit whether they be soldiers or civilians must not enter the Camp Area except by way of the main guard tent, where they will report to the Guard Comd.
  - (2) Sentries on the perimeter will prevent the entry of all such persons and direct them to the Main Guard Tent.
  - (3) Comd of Main Guard will examine the paybooks and leave passes of all visiting soldiers and the authorised passes of civilians and satisfy himself as to the identity of all such persons before permitting them to enter the camp.  
If the Guard Comd is in doubt he will consult the Adjnt.  
Main Guard will keep a record of the names and addresses of all persons so entering the Camp Area.
  - (4) No persons not members of this Unit will be permitted to move within the Camp Area unless accompanied by at least one member of the Unit.
11. A laxity in the bearing of Sentries, the turning out of the Main Guard and in the challenging by Sentries has been noticed.  
An immediate improvement must be exhibited in these particular aspects.
12. Coys will notify Bn HQ by 1700 hrs today the number of persons employed in guard duties.
13. This instruction will be read in conjunction with all previous instructions which have been issued from time to time.

*W. Hatcher*

Adjnt 2/27 Aust Inf Bn Capt



B2 H Q.

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

MOST SECRET

MOVEMENT ORDER FOR RAIL PARTY

Copy No 7

26 Jan 42

1. This order will be read in conjunction with Movement Order for Rd Party issued on 24 Jan 42.
2. Rail party will move from present location to port of embarkation in two gps as set out in Appx 'A' att hereto.
3. Tpt for Rail Parties from CAMP SITE to MAJDAL Ry Sta is supplied and tps will move in accordance with Appx 'B' att hereto.
4. Guides -
  - (a) Units supplying tpt will supply guides and arrange through HQ 21 Aust Inf Bde to have them contact 2/27 Aust Inf Bn by 1200 hrs 27 Jan 42.
  - (b) RSM will show guides the posn in camp site at which tpt is required by both train parties as set out in Appx 'B'.
5. Embussing & Debussing Points.
  - (a) Coy Comds will control the embussing of tps at the times and places set out in Appx 'B'.
  - (b) 7 Aust Div will arrange debussing point and turning circuit at MAJDAL sta and Coy Comds will control the debussing and forming up of tps ready for entrainment.
6. Control of Tp Carrying Vehs

An offr from 6 AASC Coy will control the tp carrying vehs.
7. Traffic Control - Traffic control on main rds and at MAJDAL Sta will be arranged by 7 Aust Div.
8. Composition of Train - Train 'C' in addition to passenger coaches will have a brake-van att capable of carrying 10 tons of Unit Stores and baggage. The baggage which will be loaded on this Break-Van is shown on Appx 'C' att hereto.
9. Baggage and Stores to move with Rail Party

Three Box Vans capable of carrying 10 tons each have been allotted on Train 'D' for purpose of carrying all of the Unit Gear which will not be carried by the individual. The Stores which will be moved on this train are set out in Appx 'D' att hereto.

These Vans will be at MAJDAL SIDING ready for loading at 1200 hrs 27 Jan 42.
10. Carriage of Stores to MAJDAL
  1. All stores and gear shown in Appx 'D' will be dumped on cement standing near bottom kitchen by 0830 hrs 27 Jan 42.  
6 - 3 ton vehs will report at 0900 hrs 27 Jan 42 for purpose of ferrying stores to MAJDAL SIDING. Two trips will be necessary in order to move these stores.
  11. Stores set out in Appx 'C' will be placed on cement standing by 1800 hrs 27 Jan 42 at which time 2 - 3 ton vehs will report for purpose of carrying these stores to MAJDAL.
11. Loading Party for Stores and Duties
  - (a) Lieut Applebee and his pl will be loading party for stores mentioned in Appendices 'C' and 'D'.



**11. Loading Party for Stores and Duties (Contd)**

- (b) Loading party will report to Stores Dump at 0900 hrs 27 Jan 42 and load vehs with stores mentioned in Appx 'D', thence proceed with vehs to MAJDAL SIDING and load these stores on 3 Box Vans travelling with Train D by 1530 hrs 27 Jan 42.
- (c) One NCO and 6 ORs from loading party will be detailed to remain and travel with box vans to destination to provide security for Unit Stores.
- (d) Lieut Applebee will detail 1 NCO and 1 OR to picquet the stores which are shewn in Appx 'C' and which will be dumped at the MAJDAL STA ready for loading on the Brake-Van of Train 'C'. This loading will be carried out by the loading party while the Train 'C' personnel are entraining at approx 0230 hrs 28 Jan 42. The picquet (i.e., 1 NCO and 1 OR) will travel on the brake van as protection for these stores during transit.
- (e) The box vans att to train 'D' and loaded with stores (Appx 'D') will be ferried across the canal intact and will not require to be unloaded and re-loaded at KANTARA.
- (f) The stores mentioned in Appx 'C' will have to man-handled across the Canal at Kantara by the loading party. These stores must be well packed and easy to handle.
- (g) Loading party will be responsible for unloading and protection of stores at destination.
- (h) Loading party less guards will travel on train 'C' in compartment nearest to brake-van.

**12. Universal Kit Bags - It is repeated that Universal Kit Bags are included in Stores set out in Appx 'D' and will be carried on the box vans on Train 'D'.**

There may be insufficient space for all of the kit bags in these box vans in which case 'Q' box van on Train 'K' will be made available.

Consequently kit bags of personnel travelling on Train 'E' will be kept separate both when they are dumped on cement standing and at MAJDAL STA.

If there appears to be insufficient room for them Lieut Applebee will leave them for loading on Train K which will be done by 1200 hrs on 28 Jan 42. In this case 'E' Coy will be called upon to provide a picquet and to load these kit bags and to detail a guard of 1 NCO and 1 OR to travel on this box van.

**13. Goar and Eqpt carried by the individual.**

- i. Dress -** Winter Service Dress and Marching Order (i.e. haversack worn on left side, water bottle (filled) worn on right side and pack on back. Respirators will be worn at alert. Contents of pack will include great-coat; one blanket enclosed in ground sheet will be rolled and strapped on outside of pack. Steel helmet will be strapped on front of pack.
- ii. Arms -** All Rifles, LMGs, TSMGs and A/Tk Rifles will be carried.
- iii. Amn -**
  - (a) Each rifleman will carry 5 rds.
  - (b) 13 Bren mags filled with 20 rds each will be carried with each LMG. These mags will be carried in pouches. The remainder of the Mags (i.e., 12 per LMG) will be left empty and placed in Mag Boxes. All mag boxes to be crated and will be carried in box vans.



13. Gear and Eqpt carried by the individual (Contd)

- (c) TSMG and A/Tk Rifle mags will not be loaded with amm. TSMG mags will be left empty and carried in pouches and/or haversacks. A/Tk Rifle mags will be placed in mag boxes (if available) otherwise carried in pouches.
- iv. Sea Kit Bags - Sea kit bags will be carried by each man.
- v. Rations - Each man will carry 2 days rations.

14. Entraining Offrs

- i. Train 'C' - Licut Best will be entraining offr for Train 'C'.
- ii. Train 'E' - Licut Caddy will be entraining offr for " 'E'.

15. O C Trains - Lt-Col Cooper will be OC Train 'C'.  
Maj A Pope will be OC Train 'E'.

16. Train Discipline (See also para 21)

- i. Tps are warned against:
  - (a) Leaning out of windows, boarding or leaving trains in motion.
  - (b) Throwing anything out of the windows.
  - (c) Causing damage to railways property.
  - (d) Removing, scratching or defacing appliances in carriages.Disciplinary action will be taken against offenders.

17. Convoy Notes - Convoy Notes will be made out by QM for Stores Vans on each train and full list of stores will be entered on AFG 964 which will be made out in sextuplicate and disposed as follows:  
One copy retained by QM  
Four copies handed to M C port of loading by NCO accompanying stores.  
One copy carried by NCO accompanying stores.

18. Guarding of Vehs and Stores - It is stressed that Loading Party will be responsible for the guarding of Stores until such time as they are lifted from the quayside to ship. All ranks are warned that there is risk of considerable pilfering by Arabs in the Assembly Area at SUEZ.

19. SECURITY - All personnel will be warned that they are on no account to discuss their voyage prior to embarkation or after disembarkation. Failure to observe this precaution may endanger not only their own lives but the lives of comrades accompanying them.

**STRONG DISCIPLINARY ACTION WILL BE TAKEN AGAINST ANYONE FOUND TO HAVE CONTRAVENED THIS ORDER.**

20. A/A Protection on Ship.

- (a) The Unit may be required to supplement the A/A protection on board the troop-ship.
- (b) All coys will ensure that A/A LMG eqpt is readily available throughout the voyage.
- (c) On arrival at Port of Disembarkation all A/A LMGs mounted on ships will remain in posn on board for the protecting of the ship until such time as all unloading is completed.

21. Train Discipline

- i. Tps will ontrain with full water bottles and will be warned against drinking any other water en route or buying cheap native mineral water or fruit.
- ii. Intoxicating Liquor will NOT be taken or consumed on the trains.
- iii. Halts - Troops will on no account leave a halted train without the express permission of the OC Train.  
This regulation will be enforced strictly.



(4)

22. Changing of Monies

Instns will be issued later for the converting and changing of monies.

Signed at 1230 hrs

Issued by Sigs

*M. H. H. H.*

Capt

Adjnt 2/27 Aust Inf Bn AIF

ACK

DISTRIBUTION

Copy No.	1	A Coy
	2	B Coy
	3	C Coy
	4	D Coy
	5	E Coy
	6	HQ Coy
	7	BN HQ
	8	C O
	9	2 i/c
	10	QM
	11	Lieut Best
	12	Lieut Caddy
	13	Lieut Applebee
	14	RSM
	15	21 Bde
	16	File
	17)	
	L8)	War Diary.



RAIL TRANSPORT TABLE

Appendix A 2/21 1942  
 Referred to in Movement  
 Order Dated 26 Jan 42

Train No.	Entraining Station.	Time of Departure	Date of Departure.	Conformation of Trains.			Arr Kantara East (PLT)	Dep Kantara West (MLT)	Time of ARR (MLT)	Date of ARR	Detraining Station.	Personnel
				Break Van	1st class coaches	3rd class coaches						
C	Majdal	0230 hrs	28 Jan 42	1	1	8	1100	1300	1800	28 Jan	Suez	BnHQ 3-46 A Coy 4-116 B Coy 5-124 C Coy 5-124 D Coy 5-124 E Coy 2-60 Att 2-13 Lt Best & Batman 1-1 <u>27-608</u>
E	Majdal	<del>1031</del> hrs 2231	28 Jan 42	1	1	8	0700	0900	1400	29 Jan	Suez	No. 4 Coy AASC 2/6 Aust Fd Amb 2/27 Bn HQ Coy 6-127 E Coy 2- 97 BnHQ 1- 1 <u>9-225</u>



ROAD TRANSPORT TABLE

Appendix "B" 2/27 Aus.  
Inf Bn referred to in  
movement order dated  
26 Jan 42.  
Vehs supplied by

Serial No.	Train No.	Personnel	Embussing Points.	Vehs for person- nel.	Report Time date	Complete Embussng. Time date.	S T S P	Debuss By. Time Date.	Vehs supplied by					
<u>2/27 Bn</u>			Vehs will be in line between Gd Tent & RAP on both sides of road											
3	C	B Coy	5-124	Guard Tent	2335	27	0025	28	0030	Gd Tent	0130	28	Jan	10 from No.5 AASC Coy
		A Coy	4-116	Canteen										
		D Coy	5-124	R A P										
		C Coy	5-124	Top Kitchen										
		BnHQ	3-46	Bottom "										
		E Coy	2-60	Bn HQ										
		Att	2-13	Bn HQ										
		Lt Best & Batman	1-1											
<u>Total</u>	<u>27-608</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>40</u>											
<u>2/27 Bn</u>			Gd Tent to RAP											
5	E	BnHQ	1-1	Gd Tent to RAP	1940	28	2030	28	2035	Gd Tent	2130	28	Jan	No. 6 AASC Coy
		HQ Coy	6-127	Top Kitchen to BnHQ										
		E Coy	2-97											
<u>Total</u>	<u>9-225</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>15</u>											



Appendix "C" referred to in  
MOVEMENT ORDER of 2/27 Aust  
Inf Bn dated 26 Jan 42.

TRAIN "C"

10 Ton Brake Van

a	Cooking Gear	} Transport required to carry to Train	1-60 cwt
b	Band Gear		
c	Office Gear		
d	Medical Gear		

Appendix "D" referred to in  
MOVEMENT ORDER of 2/27 Aust  
Inf Bn dated 26 Jan 42

TRAIN "D"

3-10 ton box Vans

Van 1. 3-ton Amn 1-60 cwt  
Univ Kit Bags }  
A,B,C,D, & BnHQ(560) } 3-60cwt

Van 2 3-ton Amn 1-60 cwt  
Univ Kit Bags }  
HQ & E Coys (300) } 1-60 cwt  
Tools }  
Sig Stores } 1-60 cwt  
M.B.O. }

Van 3. 3-ton Amn 1-60 cwt  
Offrs Valises & Suitcases } 2-60 cwt  
Mosquito Nets }  
Amenities } 1-60 cwt  
Bren Tripods }  
Mag Boxes }



On referred to in  
ORDER OF THE  
The Bn dated 23 Jan 1918

MHL

7 1/2  
16 H & BHM  
5  
4 1/2  
3 C  
2 B

Also frames 800 + 1305  
+ Ben Rimmer  
+ Hester  
1/2

full frame  
1900  
Fidgway

~~See full page below  
to which I referred in  
order of the Bn dated 23 Jan 1918~~  
Steam Bands  
13 mag boards  
at M.T.

1830-2000  
14/1300  
Business receipt  
1830-2000  
Faintly visible text

can be used for  
all other purposes  
1/11, 1/11, 1/11  
1/11, 1/11, 1/11  
1/11, 1/11, 1/11

10 for 1000 Van  
Cableing Gear  
Band Gear  
Oil Gas Gear  
to carry to train  
1980 1830  
1600 1600  
1300 1200  
0030 0730  
Panels for  
Oil Gas Gear  
Band Gear  
Cableing Gear  
to carry to train  
1980 1830  
1600 1600  
1300 1200  
0030 0730  
Panels for  
Oil Gas Gear  
Band Gear  
Cableing Gear  
to carry to train  
1980 1830  
1600 1600  
1300 1200  
0030 0730  
Panels for

Oil Gas Gear  
Band Gear  
Cableing Gear  
to carry to train  
1980 1830  
1600 1600  
1300 1200  
0030 0730  
Panels for  
Oil Gas Gear  
Band Gear  
Cableing Gear  
to carry to train  
1980 1830  
1600 1600  
1300 1200  
0030 0730  
Panels for

Book No  
1830-2000  
14/1300  
Business receipt  
1830-2000  
Faintly visible text



War Diary

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

MOST SECRET

MOVEMENT ORDER FOR RAIL PARTY

Copy No 17

26 Jan 42

1. This order will be read in conjunction with Movement Order for Rd Party issued on 24 Jan 42.
2. Rail party will move from present location to port of embarkation in two gps as set out in Appx 'A' att hereto.
3. Tpt for Rail Parties from CAMP SITE to MAJDAL Ry Sta is supplied and tps will move in accordance with Appx 'B' att hereto.
4. Guides -
  - (a) Units supplying tpt will supply guides and arrange through HQ 21 Aust Inf Bde to have them contact 2/27 Aust Inf Bn by 1200 hrs 27 Jan 42.
  - (b) RSM will show guides the pen in camp site at which tpt is required by both train parties as set out in Appx 'B'.
5. Embussing & Debussing Points.
  - (a) Coy Comds will control the embussing of tps at the times and places set out in Appx 'B'.
  - (b) 7 Aust Div will arrange debussing point and turning circuit at MAJDAL sta and Coy Comds will control the debussing and forming up of tps ready for entrainment.
6. Control of Tp Carrying Vehs

An offr from 6 AASC Coy will control the tp carrying vehs.
7. Traffic Control - Traffic control on main rds and at MAJDAL Sta will be arranged by 7 Aust Div.
8. Composition of Train - Train 'C' in addition to passenger coaches will have a brake-van att capable of carrying 10 tons of Unit Stores and baggage. The baggage which will be loaded on this Break-Van is shewn on Appx 'C' att hereto.  
BRAKE
9. Baggage and Stores to move with Rail Party

Three Box Vans capable of carrying 10 tons each have been allotted on Train 'D' for purpose of carrying all of the Unit Gear which will not be carried by the individual. The Stores which will be moved on this train are set out in Appx 'D' att hereto.  
These Vans will be at MAJDAL SIDING ready for loading at 1200 hrs 27 Jan 42.
10. Carriage of Stores to MAJDAL
  1. All stores and gear shewn in Appx 'D' will be dumped on cement standing near bottom kitchen by 0830 hrs 27 Jan 42.  
6 - 3 ton vehs will report at 0900 hrs 27 Jan 42 for purpose of ferrying stores to MAJDAL SIDING. Two trips will be necessary in order to move these stores.
  11. Stores set out in Appx 'C' will be placed on cement standing by 1800 hrs 27 Jan 42 at which time 2 - 3 ton vehs will report for purpose of carrying these stores to MAJDAL.
11. Loading Party for Stores and Duties
  - (a) Lieut Applebee and his pl will be loading party for stores mentioned in Appendices 'C' and 'D'.



**11. Loading Party for Stores and Duties (Contd)**

- (b) Loading party will report to Stores Dump at 0900 hrs 27 Jan 42 and load vchs with stores mentioned in Appx 'D', thence proceed with vchs to MAJDAL SIDING and load these stores on 3 Box Vans travelling with Train D by 1530 hrs 27 Jan 42.
- (c) One NCO and 6 ORs from loading party will be detailed to remain and travel with box vans to destination to provide security for Unit Stores.
- (d) Lieut Applebee will detail 1 NCO and 1 OR to picquet the stores which are shown in Appx 'C' and which will be dumped at the MAJDAL STA ready for loading on the Brake-Van of Train 'C'. This loading will be carried out by the loading party while the Train 'C' personnel are entraining at approx 0230 hrs 28 Jan 42. The picquet (i.e., 1 NCO and 1 OR) will travel on the brake van as protection for these stores during transit.
- (e) The box vans att to train 'D' and loaded with stores (Appx 'D') will be ferried across the canal intact and will not require to be unloaded and re-loaded at KANTARA.
- (f) The stores mentioned in Appx 'C' will have to be man-handled across the Canal at Kantara by the loading party. These stores must be well packed and easy to handle.
- (g) Loading party will be responsible for unloading and protection of stores at destination.
- (h) Loading party less guards will travel on train 'C' in compartment nearest to brake-van.

**12. Universal Kit Bags - It is repeated that Universal Kit Bags are included in Stores set out in Appx 'D' and will be carried on the box vans on Train 'D'.**

There may be insufficient space for all of the kit bags in these box vans in which case 'Q' box van on Train 'K' will be made available.

Consequently kit bags of personnel travelling on Train 'E' will be kept separate both when they are dumped on cement standing and at MAJDAL STA.

If there appears to be insufficient room for them Lieut Applebee will leave them for loading on Train K which will be done by 1200 hrs on 28 Jan 42. In this case 'E' Coy will be called upon to provide a picquet and to load these kit bags and to detail a guard of 1 NCO and 1 OR to travel on this box van.

**13. Gear and Eqpt carried by the individual.**

- i. Dress -** Winter Service Dress and Marching Order (i.e. haversack worn on left side, water bottle (filled) worn on right side and pack on back. Respirators will be worn at alert. Contents of pack will include great-coat, one blanket enclosed in ground sheet will be rolled and strapped on outside of pack. Steel helmet will be strapped on front of pack.
- ii. Arms -** All Rifles, LMGs, TSMGs and A/Tk Rifles will be carried.
- iii. Amn -**
  - (a) Each riflemen will carry 5 rds.
  - (b) 13 Bren mags filled with 20 rds each will be carried with each LMG. These mags will be carried in pouches. The remainder of the Mags (i.e., 12 per LMG) will be left empty and placed in Mag Boxes. All mag boxes to be crated and will be carried in box vans.



13. Gear and Eqpt carried by the individual (Contd)

(c) TSMG and A/Tk Rifle mags will not be loaded with amn. TSMG mags will be left empty and carried in pouches and/or haversacks. A/Tk Rifle mags will be placed in mag boxes (if available) otherwise carried in pouches.

iv. Sea Kit Bags - Sea kit bags will be carried by each man.

v. Rations - Each man will carry 2 days rations.

14. Entraining Offrs

i. Train 'C' - Lieut Best will be entraining offr for Train 'C'.

ii. Train 'E' - Lieut Caddy will be entraining offr for " 'E'.

15. OC Trains - Lt-Col Cooper will be OC Train 'C'.

Maj A Pope will be OC Train 'E'.

16. Train Discipline (See also para 21)

i. Tps are warned against:

(a) Leaning out of windows, boarding or leaving trains in motion.

(b) Throwing anything out of the windows.

(c) Causing damage to railways property.

(d) Removing, scratching or defacing appliances in carriagos.

Disciplinary action will be taken against offenders.

17. Convoy Notes - Convoy Notes will be made out by QM for Stores Vans on each train and full list of stores will be entered on AFG 964 which will be made out in sextuplicate and disposed as follows:

One copy retained by QM

Four copies handed to M C port of loading by NCO accompanying stores.

One copy carried by NCO accompanying stores.

18. Guarding of Vehs and Stores - It is stressed that Loading Party will be responsible for the guarding of Stores until such time as they are lifted from the quayside to ship. All ranks are warned that there is risk of considerable pilfering by Arabs in the Assembly Area at SUEZ.

19. SECURITY - All personnel will be warned that they are on no account to discuss their voyage prior to embarkation or after disembarkation. Failure to observe this precaution may endanger not only their own lives but the lives of comrades accompanying them.

**STRONG DISCIPLINARY ACTION WILL BE TAKEN AGAINST ANYONE FOUND TO HAVE CONTRAVENED THIS ORDER.**

20. A/A Protection on Ship.

(a) The Unit may be required to supplement the A/A protection on board the troop-ship.

(b) All coys will ensure that A/A LMG eqpt is readily available throughout the voyage.

(c) On arrival at Port of Disembarkation all A/A LMGs mounted on ships will remain in posn on board for the protecting of the ship until such time as all unloading is completed.

21. Train Discipline

i. Tps will ontrain with full water bottles and will be warned against drinking any other water on route or buying cheap native mineral water or fruit.

ii. Intoxicating Liquor will NOT be taken or consumed on the trains.

iii. Halts - Troops will on no account leave a halted train without the express permission of the OC Train.

This regulation will be enforced strictly.



(4)

22. Changing of Monies

Instns will be issued later for the converting and changing of monies.

Signed at 1230 hrs

Issued by Sigs

*M. Hatcher*

Capt

Adjnt 2/27 Aust Inf Bn AIF

ACK

DISTRIBUTION

Copy No.	1	A Coy
	2	B Coy
	3	C Coy
	4	D Coy
	5	E Coy
	6	HQ Coy
	7	BN HQ
	8	C O
	9	2 i/c
	10	QM
	11	Licut Best
	12	Licut Caddy
	13	Licut Apploboo
	14	RSM
	15	21 Bde
	16	File
	17)	
	18)	War Diary.



RAIL TRANSPORT TABLE

Appendix "A" 2/27 Aust Inf Bn  
 Referred to in Movement  
Order Dated 26 Jan 42

Train No.	Entraining Station.	Time of Departure	Date of Departure.	Conformation of Trains.			Arr Kantara East (PLT)	Dep Kantara West (ELT)	Time of Arr (ELT)	Date of ARR	Detraining Station.	Personnel
				Break Van	1st class coaches	3rd class coaches						
C	Majdal	0230 hrs	28 Jan 42	1	1	8	1100	1300	1800	28 Jan	Suez	BnHQ 3-46 A Coy 4-116 B Coy 5-124 C Coy 5-124 D Coy 5-124 E Coy 2-60 Att 2-13 Lt Best & Batman 1-1 27-608
E	Majdal	<del>1031</del> hrs 2231	28 Jan 42	1	1	8	0700	0900	1400	29 Jan	Suez	No. 4 Coy AASC 2/6 Aust Inf Bn 2/27 Bn HQ Coy 6-127 E Coy 2-97 BnHQ 1-1 9-225



ROAD TRANSPORT TABLE

Appendix "B" 2/27 Aust  
Inf Bn referred to in  
movement order dated  
26 Jan 42.  
Vehs supplied by

Serial No.	Train No.	Personnel	Embussing Points.	Vehs for person- nel.	Report Time date	Complete Embussng. Time date.	S	T	S	P	Debuss By. Time Date.	Vehs supplied by		
3	C	<u>2/27 Bn</u>		Vehs will be in line between Gd Tent & RAP on both sides of road										
		B Coy	5-124	Guard Tent	8)	2335	27 Jan	0025	28 Jan	0030	Gd Tent	0130	28 Jan	10 from No.5 AASC Coy
		A Coy	4-116	Canteen	8)									
		D Coy	5-124	R A P	8)									
		C Coy	5-124	Top Kitchen	8)									
		BnHQ	3-46	Bottom "	3)									
		E Coy	2-60	Bn HQ	4)									
		Att	2-13)											
		Lt Best & Batman	1-1)	Bn HQ	1)									
		<u>Total</u>	<u>27-608</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>40)</u>									
5	E	<u>2/27 Bn</u>												
		BnHQ	1-1 )	Gd Tent to	9)	1940	28 Jan	2030	28 Jan	2035	Gd Tent	2130	28 Jan	No. 6 AASC Coy
		HQ Coy	6-127)	R A P										
		E Coy	2-97	Top Kitchen to BnHQ	6)									
		<u>Total</u>	<u>9-225</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>15</u>									



Appendix "C" referred to in  
MOVEMENT ORDER of 2/27 Aust  
Inf Bn dated 26 Jan 42.

TRAIN "C"      10 Ton Brake Van

a	Cooking Gear	} Transport required to carry to Train	1-60 cwt
b	Band Gear		
c	Office Gear		
d	Medical Gear		

Appendix "D" referred to in  
MOVEMENT ORDER of 2/27 Aust  
Inf Bn dated 26 Jan 42

TRAIN "D"      3-10 ton box Vans

Van 1.      3-ton Amn      1-60 cwt  
Univ Kit Bags  
A,B,C,D, & BnHQ(560) } 3-60cwt

Van 2      3-ton Amn      1-60 cwt  
Univ Kit Bags  
HQ & E Coys (300) } 1-60 cwt  
Tools  
Sig Stores      } 1-60 cwt  
M.B.O.

Van 3.      3-ton Amn      1-60 cwt  
Offrs Valises &  
Suitcases      2-60 cwt  
Mosquito Nets }  
Amenities      } 1-60 cwt  
Bren Tripods }  
Mag Boxes



War Diary

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

MOST SECRET

MOVEMENT ORDER FOR RAIL PARTY

Copy No 18

26 Jan 42

1. This order will be read in conjunction with Movement Order for Rd Party issued on 24 Jan 42.
2. Rail party will move from present location to port of embarkation in two gps as set out in Appx 'A' att hereto.
3. Tpt for Rail Parties from CAMP SITE to MAJDAL Ry Sta is supplied and tps will move in accordance with Appx 'B' att hereto.
4. Guides -
  - (a) Units supplying tpt will supply guides and arrange through HQ 21 Aust Inf Bde to have them contact 2/27 Aust Inf Bn by 1200 hrs 27 Jan 42.
  - (b) RSM will show guides the posn in camp site at which tpt is required by both train parties as set out in Appx 'B'.
5. Embussing & Debussing Points.
  - (a) Coy Comds will control the embussing of tps at the times and places set out in Appx 'B'.
  - (b) 7 Aust Div will arrange debussing point and turning circuit at MAJDAL sta and Coy Comds will control the debussing and forming up of tps ready for entrainment.
6. Control of Tp Carrying Vehs

An offr from 6 AASC Coy will control the tp carrying vehs.
7. Traffic Control - Traffic control on main rds and at MAJDAL Sta will be arranged by 7 Aust Div.
8. Composition of Train - Train 'C' in addition to passenger coaches will have a brake-van att capable of carrying 10 tons of Unit Stores and baggage. The baggage which will be loaded on this Break-Van is shown on Appx 'C' att hereto.
9. BRAKE  
Baggage and Stores to move with Rail Party

Three Box Vans capable of carrying 10 tons each have been allotted on Train 'D' for purpose of carrying all of the Unit Gear which will not be carried by the individual. The Stores which will be moved on this train are set out in Appx 'D' att hereto.

These Vans will be at MAJDAL SIDING ready for loading at 1200 hrs 27 Jan 42.
10. Carriage of Stores to MAJDAL
  1. All stores and gear shown in Appx 'D' will be dumped on cement standing near bottom kitchen by 0830 hrs 27 Jan 42.  
6 - 3 ton vehs will report at 0900 hrs 27 Jan 42 for purpose of ferrying stores to MAJDAL SIDING. Two trips will be necessary in order to move these stores.
  11. Stores set out in Appx 'C' will be placed on cement standing by 1800 hrs 27 Jan 42 at which time 2 - 3 ton vehs will report for purpose of carrying these stores to MAJDAL.
11. Loading Party for Stores and Duties
  - (a) Lieut Applebee and his pl will be loading party for stores mentioned in Appendices 'C' and 'D'.



**11. Loading Party for Stores and Duties (Contd)**

- (b) Loading party will report to Stores Dump at 0900 hrs 27 Jan 42 and load vehs with stores mentioned in Appx 'D', thence proceed with vehs to MAJDAL SIDING and load these stores on 3 Box Vans travelling with Train D by 1530 hrs 27 Jan 42.
- (c) One NCO and 6 ORs from loading party will be detailed to remain and travel with box vans to destination to provide security for Unit Stores.
- (d) Lieut Applebee will detail 1 NCO and 1 OR to picquet the stores which are shewn in Appx 'C' and which will be dumped at the MAJDAL STA ready for loading on the Brake-Van of Train 'C'. This loading will be carried out by the loading party while the Train 'C' personnel are entraining at approx 0230 hrs 28 Jan 42. The picquet (i.e., 1 NCO and 1 OR) will travel on the brake van as protection for these stores during transit.
- (e) The box vans att to train 'D' and loaded with stores (Appx 'D') will be ferried across the canal intact and will not require to be unloaded and re-loaded at KANTARA.
- (f) The stores mentioned in Appx 'C' will have to man-handled across the Canal at Kantara by the loading party. These stores must be well packed and easy to handle.
- (g) Loading party will be responsible for unloading and protection of stores at destination.
- (h) Loading party less guards will travel on train 'C' in compartment nearest to brake-van.

**12. Universal Kit Bags - It is repeated that Universal Kit Bags are included in Stores set out in Appx 'D' and will be carried on the box vans on Train 'D'.**

There may be insufficient space for all of the kit bags in these box vans in which case 'Q' box van on Train 'K' will be made available.

Consequently kit bags of personnel travelling on Train 'E' will be kept separate both when they are dumped on cement standing and at MAJDAL STA.

If there appears to be insufficient room for them Lieut Applebee will leave them for loading on Train K which will be done by 1200 hrs on 28 Jan 42. In this case 'E' Coy will be called upon to provide a picquet and to load these kit bags and to detail a guard of 1 NCO and 1 OR to travel on this box van.

**13. Gear and Eqpt carried by the individual.**

- i. Dress - Winter Service Dress and Marching Order (i.e. haversack worn on left side, water bottle (filled) worn on right side and pack on back. Respirators will be worn at alert. Contents of pack will include great-coat; one blanket enclosed in ground sheet will be rolled and strapped on outside of pack. Steel helmet will be strapped on front of pack.
- ii. Arms - All Rifles, LMGs, TSMGs and A/Tk Rifles will be carried.
- iii. Amn -
  - (a) Each rifleman will carry 5 rds.
  - (b) 13 Bren mags filled with 20 rds each will be carried with each LMG. These mags will be carried in pouches. The remainder of the Mags (i.e., 12 per LMG) will be left empty and placed in Mag Boxes. All mag boxes to be crated and will be carried in box vans.



13. Gear and Eqpt carried by the individual (Contd)

- (c) TSMG and A/Tk Rifle mags will not be loaded with amm. TSMG mags will be left empty and carried in pouches and/or haversacks. A/Tk Rifle mags will be placed in mag boxes (if available) otherwise carried in pouches.
- iv. Sea Kit Bags - Sea kit bags will be carried by each man.
- v. Rations - Each man will carry 2 days rations.

14. Entraining Offrs

- i. Train 'C' - Lieut Best will be entraining offr for Train 'C'.
- ii. Train 'E' - Lieut Caddy will be entraining offr for " 'E'.

15. O C Trains - Lt-Col Cooper will be OC Train 'C'.  
Maj A Pope will be OC Train 'E'.

16. Train Discipline (See also para 21)

- i. Tps are warned against:
- (a) Leaning out of windows, boarding or leaving trains in motion.
  - (b) Throwing anything out of the windows.
  - (c) Causing damage to railways property.
  - (d) Removing, scratching or defacing appliances in carriages.
- Disciplinary action will be taken against offenders.

17. Convoy Notes - Convoy Notes will be made out by QM for Stores Vans on each train and full list of stores will be entered on AFG 964 which will be made out in sextuplicate and disposed as follows:

- One copy retained by QM
- Four copies handed to M C port of loading by NCO accompanying stores.
- One copy carried by NCO accompanying stores.

18. Guarding of Vehs and Stores - It is stressed that Loading Party will be responsible for the guarding of Stores until such time as they are lifted from the quayside to ship. All ranks are warned that there is risk of considerable pilfering by Arabs in the Assembly Area at SUEZ.

19. SECURITY - All personnel will be warned that they are on no account to discuss their voyage prior to embarkation or after disembarkation. Failure to observe this precaution may endanger not only their own lives but the lives of comrades accompanying them.

**STRONG DISCIPLINARY ACTION WILL BE TAKEN AGAINST ANYONE FOUND TO HAVE CONTRAVENED THIS ORDER.**

20. A/A Protection on Ship.

- (a) The Unit may be required to supplement the A/A protection on board the troop-ship.
- (b) All coys will ensure that A/A LMG eqpt is readily available throughout the voyage.
- (c) On arrival at Port of Disembarkation all A/A LMGs mounted on ships will remain in posn on board for the protecting of the ship until such time as all unloading is completed.

21. Train Discipline

- i. Tps will entrain with full water bottles and will be warned against drinking any other water en route or buying cheap native mineral water or fruit.
- ii. Intoxicating Liquor will NOT be taken or consumed on the trains.
- iii. Halts - Troops will on no account leave a halted train without the express permission of the OC Train.  
This regulation will be enforced strictly.



(4)

22. Changing of Monies

Instns will be issued later for the converting and changing of monies.

Signed at 1230 hrs

Issued by Sigs

*M. H. Hatcher*

Capt

Adjnt 2/27 Aust Inf Bn AIF

ACK

DISTRIBUTION

Copy No.	1	A Coy
	2	B Coy
	3	C Coy
	4	D Coy
	5	E Coy
	6	HQ Coy
	7	BN HQ
	8	C O
	9	2 i/c
	10	QM
	11	Lieut Best
	12	Lieut Gaddy
	13	Lieut Applebee
	14	RSM
	15	21 Bde
	16	File
	17)	
	18)	War Diary.



RAIL TRANSPORT TABLE

Appendix "A" 2/27 Aust Inf Bn  
 Referred to in Movement  
Order Dated 26 Jan 42

Train No.	Entraining Station.	Time of Departure	Date of Departure.	Conformation of Trains.			Arr Kantara East (PLT)	Dep Kantara West (ELT)	Time of Arr (ELT)	Date of ARR	Detraining Station.	Personnel
				Break Van	1st class coaches	3rd class coaches						
C	Majdal	0230 hrs	28 Jan 42	1	1	8	1100	1300	1800	28 Jan	Suez	BnHQ 3-46 A Coy 4-116 B Coy 5-124 C Coy 5-124 D Coy 5-124 E Coy 2-60 Att 2-13 Lt Best & Batman 1-1 <u>27-608</u>
E	Majdal	<del>1031</del> hrs 2231	28 Jan 42	1	1	8	0700	0900	1400	29 Jan	Suez	No. 4 Coy AASC 2/6 Aust Fd Amb <u>2/27 Bn</u> HQ Coy 6-127 E Coy 2- 97 BnHQ 1- 1 <u>9-225</u>



ROAD TRANSPORT TABLE

Appendix "B" 2/27 Aust  
Inf Bn referred to in  
movement order dated  
26 Jan 42.  
Vehs supplied by

Serial No.	Train No.	Personnel	Embussing Points.	Vehs for person- nel.	Report Time date.	Complete Embussng. Time date.	S	T	S	P	Debuss By. Time Date.	Vehs supplied by	
<u>2/27 Bn</u>			<u>Vehs will be in line between Gd Tent &amp; RAP on both sides of road</u>										
3	C	B Coy 5-124	Guard Tent	8)									
		A Coy 4-116	Canteen	8)									
		D Coy 5-124	R A P	8)	2335	27	0025	28	0030	Gd	0130	28	10 from No.5
		C Coy 5-124	Top Kitchen	8)		Jan		Jan		Tent		Jan	AASC Coy
		BnHQ 3-46	Bottom "	3)									
		E Coy 2-60	Bn HQ	4)									
		Att 2-13)											
		Lt Best & Batman 1-1)	Bn HQ	1)									30 from No.6
		<u>Total 27-608</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>40)</u>									AASC Coy
<u>2/27 Bn</u>													
5	E	BnHQ 1-1 )	Gd Tent to	9)	1940	28	2030	28	2035	Gd	2130	28	No. 6 AASC Coy
		HQ Coy 6-127)	R A P			Jan		Jan		Tent		Jan	
		E Coy 2-97	Top Kitchen to BnHQ	6)									
		<u>Total 9-225</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>15</u>									



Appendix "C" referred to in  
MOVEMENT ORDER of 2/27 Aust  
Inf Bn dated 26 Jan 42.

TRAIN "C"      10 Ton Brake Van

a	Cooking Gear	} Transport required to carry to Train	1-60 cwt
b	Band Gear		
c	Office Gear		
d	Medical Gear		

Appendix "D" referred to in  
MOVEMENT ORDER of 2/27 Aust  
Inf Bn dated 26 Jan 42

TRAIN "D"      3-10 ton box Vans

Van 1.      3-ton Amn      1-60 cwt  
Univ Kit Bags  
A, B, C, D, & BnHQ (560) } 3-60 cwt

Van 2      3-ton Amn      1-60 cwt  
Univ Kit Bags  
HQ & E Coys (500) } 1-60 cwt  
Tools  
Sig Stores      } 1-60 cwt  
M.B.O.

Van 3.      3-ton Amn      1-60 cwt  
Offrs Valises &  
Suitcases      2-60 cwt  
Mosquito Nets }  
Amenities      } 1-60 cwt  
Bren Tripods }  
Mag Boxes



Jan 1948

1/27 AMB IN IN

22 Jan 48

OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES

1. Attack - In attack with some supporting fire, following a surprise landing on a lightly held post.
2. Lessons - (a) Issue of Orders  
(b) Use of ground  
(c) Use of supporting and/or covering fire.  
(d) quick decisions.
3. Ground - Incl BRUD CAMP BEHIND WEST to COMB.
4. Surprise commences 1530 hrs, ends 1600 hrs 23 Jan 48.
5. Direction and Control

Director - IN

Control Staff - Lieut Mallister

Officers -

Capt Nicholls	IN IN
Capt Bruce	Coy
Lieut Leach	Coy
Lieut Trolow	Coy

6. Ops to be exercised

2/27 IN

The following ops will take place

IN IN less 1st Sec and portion of orderly room staff.

IN Coy      Coy IN

1 pl less duty sign at IN IN

2 pl

3 pl

5 pl

A, B, C & D Coys

B. Coy less guard and orderly duties.

7. Ops will be ready to move at 1100 hrs. IN will move from Camp to a lunch area to be selected by Lieut Coombs about 1000x SOUTH of assembly area.  
Start Line - IN on western edge of Camp.  
Start Time - 1105 hrs.  
Order of March - IN IN, A, B, C, D, IN, B Coys at 5 minute intervals.



(2)

Departure - From Camp to Lunch area - Coys in succession  
in column of route.

Guide - Lieut Cowan will see that a guide familiar  
with route to Lunch area is ready to lead the  
In.

Lieut Cowan will select a pt for the dumping  
of 3rd Mortar/Assembly Area and place a  
platoon of 2 2 men over them until they are  
collected.

*W. J. M. M. M.*

Capt

Capt 2/27 Aust Inf Bn AIF



21 AUST INF BN  
TACTICAL EXERCISE WITH TROOPS

OPENING NARRATIVE

1. A surprise landing has been made on the beach West of ISDUD CAMP RIDGE by a force of which 2/27 Bn is part.
2. The covering force consisted of one Bn with under comd 1 Bty 25 pdrs, 2 tps A Tk guns and one pl MMGs and were landed in the first flight. Heavy fighting took place on the beach and in a series of delaying actions by the enemy in the sandhills before the enemy were eventually driven out of the sandhills onto the ISDUD CAMP RIDGE.
3. Casualties to the covering forces were heavy and only the equivalent of two Coys are now left with four of their six 3" Mortars. They are at present disposed along the eastern edge of the sandhills where they are held up by MGs and Mortar Fire and a little arty fire.
4. RE Stores landed immediately after the covering force cleared the beach included:
  - (a) 500 A/Tk mines
  - (b) Wire for 2000x TDE
  - (c) 200x Army track
5. 90 mules were landed safely and are available immediately.

OPENING SITUATION

1. 2/27 Bn has now landed. Brig X comds the forces has gone fwd and has decided to attack ISDUD RIDGE with the 2/27 Bn.
2. Bn will pass through the covering force which comes under comd 2/27 Bn forthwith.
3. A warning order has been issued to 2/27 Bn. The Bn is to proceed to an Assembly Area in the deep depression in the sandhills approx 1/2 mile in rear of covering forces. A guide has been provided and the Bn is moving to the area, and should arrive there shortly.
4. Comd 2/27 Bn has gone fwd to RV with Comd covering force (represented by Director) who gives details of the situation.



subject:- Embarkation - Move "STEPSISTER"

MOST SECRET.

Copy No.....

24th January, 1942.

Ref. No. MCO/129.

standing order by Headquarters Mov & Tn Suez  
Sub Area for Personnel embarking at Suez -  
Move "STEPSISTER".

-----  
To be read in conjunction with G.H.Q., M.E.F.  
Standing Orders for Embarkation of Personnel in  
the Middle East, and Administrative Instructions  
for the despatch of Expeditionary forces from the  
Middle East.  
-----

1. Arrival.

Personnel will arrive at Suez either by rail or  
road. In both cases it is usual to stage one night in  
the Leave & Transit Camp and embark the following day.

2. Movement to point of embarkation.

- (a) Date, time and place of embarkation will be shewn  
on a daily "programme" which will be issued by H.Q.  
Mov & Tn. This programme will be handed to O.S.C.  
units by E.S.O. in the L & T Camp by 1600 (at the  
latest) on the day previous to the day of embarkation.
- (b) If vessel is lying in the roads personnel will march  
to Shell Jetty and embark into troop ferries. Distance  
from L & T Camp is about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles.
- (c) If vessel is lying alongside a berth personnel will  
march to Port Tewfik docks via the Ataka and  
Refinery Roads. Distance from L & T Camp is about  
6 miles.
- (d) Guides to point of embarkation will be detailed by  
D.A.P.M., Suez, and will be called forward when  
required by H.Q. Mov & Tn.
- (e) On arrival at point of embarkation O.S.C. units and  
all individual details will report to the E.S.O. and  
hand over an embarkation slip duly completed. This  
slip will be given to them by the E.S.O. in the L & T  
Camp before departure. E.S.O. on the quayside will  
also collect five copies of A.Fs.W. 5169  
ship by the E.S.O. after signature and two copies  
to the representative of O.2E(AIF) on the quayside.
- (f) Roll call of all units will be made on the quayside  
and a certificate signed by O.S.C. to the effect that  
nominal rolls are accurate.

3. Baggage.

- (a) All baggage (on the scale of 100 pounds per officer  
and two kit bags per man) will be conveyed from the  
L & T Camp to quay by M.T., which will be ordered  
by Camp Commandant.

...../3 sub para. (b)



3. Baggage.

(b) The baggage of units embarking early a.m. will be loaded the previous day, with the exception of officers valises. Minimum of kit will therefore be retained / overnight by these units, and blankets will be carried rolled round the pack.

4. Advance Parties.

An advance party will be embarked 24 hours ahead of the main body. This will consist of not more than four officers one warrant officer and ten other ranks. Advance parties will be detailed by the E.S.O. at the L & T Camp, and will be called forward by Headquarters Mov & Tn through the E.S.O.

5. Exchange of Currency.

Paymasters will arrange to change currency in the L & T Camp the day prior to embarkation.

6. Voyage Imprest.

Paymasters will arrange to place voyage imprest on board all vessels carrying personnel the day before embarkation (when possible)

7. Voyage Rations.

Voyage rations will be placed on board M.T. Ships by R.A.S.C. Port Detachment. Rations will be called forward by Headquarters Mov & Tn.

8. Landing Rations.

Five days landing rations will be placed on board both personnel and M.T. Ships by R.A.S.C. Port Detachment. Headquarters Mov & Tn will call them forward

9. Subsistence.

First meal on board will be arranged according to time of embarkation.

10. A.A. Protection.

- (a) O.C., M.T., Ship will detail an A.A. Party from drivers accompanying their vehicles.
- (b) Ten L.M.G's, 1000 rounds ball and 500 rounds tracer will be taken on each M.T. Ship. These guns will be allocated to each ship under unit arrangements.
- (c) A.A. protection on personnel ships will be arranged mutually between O.C. ship and Master. Unit L.M.G's and ammunition must be available.

11. Enquiries and Information.

An E.S.O. will be available in the L & T Camp to answer all questions concerning embarkation.

*A. Q. M. G.*  
Lieut Colonel.  
A.Q.M.G. (Mov & Tn).



Headquarters,  
Mov & Tn,  
Suez Sub Area.

MOST SECRET.

Ref. No. MCO/129.

Embarcation.

Programme for 29th January, 1942.

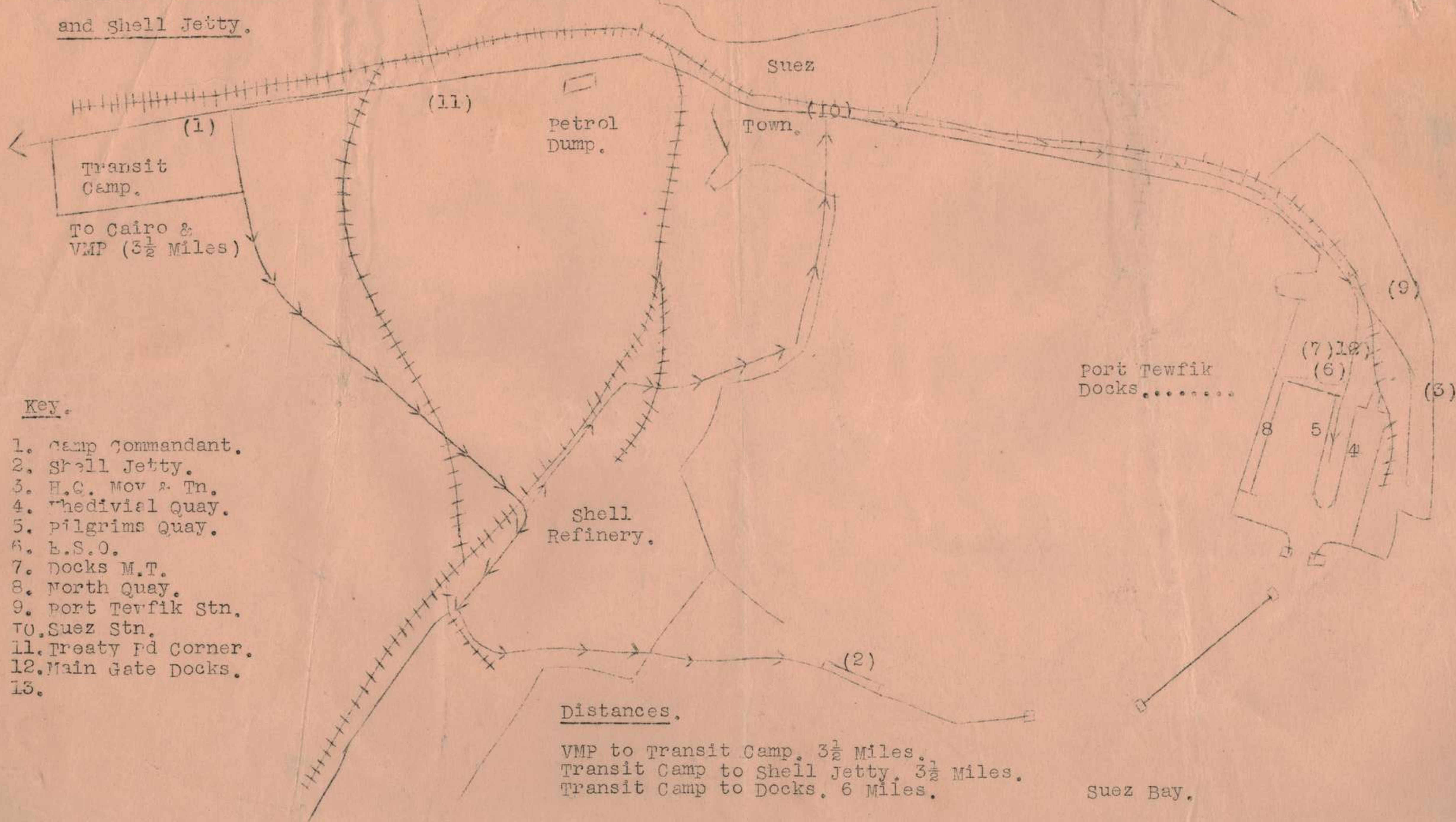
<u>vessel.</u>	<u>Offrs.</u>	<u>ORs.</u>	<u>Unit.</u>	<u>Embark at.</u>	<u>Quay.</u>	<u>Remarks.</u>
BB.789.	26	615	Train "A"	0800	Shell Jetty.	March from L & T Camp.
	51	633	Train "B"	0830	Shell Jetty.	March from L & T Camp.
	27	611	Train "C"	0930	Shell Jetty.	March from L & T Camp.
	17	62	AIF DETAILS.	0930	Shell Jetty.	March from L & T Camp.
	2		Details.	0930	Shell Jetty.	March from L & T Camp.
	1	61	Rear Party 61			
			Hy A.A.	0930	Shell Jetty.	March from L & T Camp.
	28	549	Train "D"	1000	Shell Jetty.	March from L & T Camp.

1. As much baggage as possible will be stacked on Shell Jetty p.m. January 28th under a guard of one officer and 20 other rank.
2. Para 13(a) of Mov.1/632 is cancelled in relation to vessel BB.789.
3. First Meal on board - Midday.
4. Code Name for Move. "STEPSISTER ONE A."



March & MT Route from VMP and  
Transit Camp to Tewfik Docks  
and Shell Jetty.

To Geneifa  
(Treaty Road)



Key.

1. Camp Commandant.
2. Shell Jetty.
3. H.Q. Mov & Tn.
4. Medivial Quay.
5. Pilgrims Quay.
6. E.S.O.
7. Docks M.T.
8. North Quay.
9. Port Tewfik Stn.
10. Suez Stn.
11. Treaty Rd Corner.
12. Main Gate Docks.
- 13.

Distances.

VMP to transit Camp. 3 1/2 Miles.  
Transit Camp to Shell Jetty. 3 1/2 Miles.  
Transit Camp to Docks. 6 Miles.



Confidential

SECRET

8 Jan 42

21 AUST INF BDE ADM INSTN No 6

INFO

1. 21 Aust Inf Bde is at 48 hrs notice to move to PALESTINE for tag. It is to be relieved by 9 Aust Div.

INTENTION

2. 21 Aust Inf Bde will forthwith complete preparations to move as far as info at present available will permit.

ARMY

3. First line holdings will be ~~maximal~~ carried.

SUPP

4. Hard rations - three days.

POL

5. All vehs will carry sufficient for journey to HAIFA area plus reserves as follows:-

Cars	8 gals
Vans	12 "
Lorries	18 "

WATER

6. Unit water vehs will move filled and reserves on the following scale will be carried:-

Cars	4 gals
Vans	6 "
Lorries	12 "

MT

7. No MT additional to present strength. will be available.

MT NON - RUNNERS

8. These vehs will be towed. Vehs which cannot be towed will be evacuated to 3 Adv Wkshop BEIRUT.

TRACKED VEHs

9. No direction as to policy regarding these has yet been received.

10

WAR BOPT

10. Units will move with present holdings of G1098 scale. No further issues will be made before the move.

BLANKETS

11. Four per man will be carried by personnel in MT or train.
12. All additional blankets in excess of four per man will be rolled in bundles of ten and returned to DADOS dump TRIPOLI on D-1.

SECOND SD

13. Where two SD uniforms have been issued one will be placed in the kit bag. KD, where held in lieu, will be treated similarly.



MINIMUM

ACCOMMODATION STORES

14. Units will proceed with G1096 scale only. All other accommodation stores will be handed over to the relieving units. Three copies of G1033 will be prepared, one for the unit handing over, one for the unit taking over and one for DADOS.

SIG CABLE

15. Laid cable will be left and handed over to relieving units.

16. REVEL PROPERTY AND PERSONAL KITS

16. Personnel will move with marching order only. Remainder will be left with rear parties and picked up later by MT returned from PALESTINE for the purpose.

REAR PARTIES

17. These will be kept to a minimum consistent with the protective and other duties to be performed.

(Signed) P H Smith      Capt  
SC 21 Aust Inf Bde



SECRET

SUBJECT - AIRMAIL SERVICE - AUSTRALIA.

The following info has been received and is fwded to Coys for promulgation to all ranks:-

"The following is a repeat of AIF (HE) ADP 41/2953 of 3 Jan 41:-

1. The Air Mail service between Australia and Middle East has been temporarily interrupted.
2. It is hoped to restore comms in the near future, but in the meantime no mails are being received by Air.
3. Air Mails are being despatched in the direction of Middle East - Australia, but these are also being held up at an intermediate point, en route, awaiting the full or partial restoration of the through service."

9 Jan 42

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Adj't 2/27 Aust Inf Bn AIF

Capt



*Dr. H. D.*  
2/27 AUST INF BN

SECRET

ALL COY COMDS & IC

9 Jan 42

1. BN Comd directs that through the present unsettled period in view of projected move, SECURITY MEASURES will be tightened up. This applies both to winter quarters and fwd areas.
2. A special check will be made of arms, clothing and equipment to ensure that security regulations are being complied with.
3. Particular attention will be paid to letters, envelopes, and official documents so as to make sure that no infringements of security occur.

ALL

*M. L. H. S.* Capt

Adj't 2/27 Aust Inf Bn AIF.

*Dr. H. D.*  
2/27 AUST INF BN

SECRET

ALL COY COMDS & IC

9 Jan 42

1. The Recce party of the relieving unit will arrive here today and will comprise 6 officers and 5 NCOs.
2. The officers will be quartered as follows:-
  - i. Senior officer with C O
  - ii. One officer with each Coy Comd.
3. Other ranks will be quartered in a tent adjacent to BN HQ.

*M. L. H. S.* Capt

Adj't 2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

*Dr. H. D.*  
ORDINARY HOOD CORPORALS - ALL COYS

Cops will submit one copy of nominal roll of company, in pls to this BN HQ at earliest opportunity.

Dental Officer wishes to have these rolls so that more satisfactory arrangements can be made for dental treatment.

please expedite.

*M. L. H. S.*



*War Dept 14*

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

SECRET

11 Jan 42

ADM ORDER

REF MAPS - SYRIA & LEBANON Sheets 1 in 50,000 and 1 in 200,000  
PALESTINE MOTOR MAP 1 in 50,000.

1. This order is in amplification of and additional to previous instns issued.

2. MOVE - 2/27 Bn will move to PALESTINE 12 Jan 42 (vide Movement Tables att.

Unit will move in two convoys.

(a) Rd & Ry party - marching personnel (Appx 'A')  
Lieut Bell and 30 ORs will constitute an Adv party.  
To leave 0330 hrs direct to HAIFA. To report to RTO  
or MC Offr at HAIFA EAST RY STA.

(b) "All rd" party - Unit tpt and 6 pl. (Appx 'B')

3. ADV PARTY

OC - Lieut Sandison

BN HQ - RSM

HQ Coy - Lieut King

One NCO each Nos 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 pls.

One cook

One steward each Offrs & Sjts messes.

A,B,C,D Coys - Coy 2 i/c and one NCO per Coy.

QM reps - S/sjt Mills "B" Coy

Sjt Kay "C" Coy.

TPT for Adv Party - One 20 cwt veh per Coy will report  
to BN HQ 0500. To report to Bde Hq at 0600 hrs.

4. REAR PARTY -

OC - Lieut R M Puttman

Lieut R. Applebee

17 pl "D" Coy

One Sec each A.B.C. Coys.

OC and 18 ORs 4 pl.

One cook and asst.

Duties

(a) Security of fwd area by one sec each Coy area.  
OC Lieut R. Applebee.

(b) Security - Winter Quarters area.

(c) Loading and forwarding of unit gear left behind.

(d) Handing over of accommodation stores.

(e) Tidiness of Camp Area.

Messing - Under arrangements of CC.

Phones - Lieut Puttman & Applebee will each be responsible  
for collecting 'phones in each area and  
returning to new location.

4 (a). CCMD

Rd & Ry Party Maj Isaachsen  
All Rd Party Lieut Trenerry.

5. DRESS - Marching Order with Greatcoats. Personal Kits will be  
fwded later.

6. WAR EQPT - Bn will move with present holdings of G1C98 scale.

7. BLANKETS - Four blankets per man will be carried by personnel.

8. TRAFFIC CONTROL - Will be provided en route.

9. RD DISCIPLINE - Instns on Appx 'A' will be adhered to. No halts  
other than those specified will be made. When halted vehs will  
NOT close to less than 80 yds and will pull as far off side of  
rd as practicable and MCCs will be posted at either end of each



(2)

gp to control traffic.

10. SUPS - Hard rations will be carried as follows:-

"All Rd" party - 4 days  
"Rd & Ry" party - 3 days

11. MEALS -

- (a) "Rd & Ry" Party will be provided with hot meal at HAIFA RY STA.  
(b) "All Rd" party will be provided with hot tea at ACRE.

12. ACCOMMODATION STORES - These will be handed over to relieving Unit. QM will prepare 3 copies of G 1033 one for Unit, one for relieving Unit, one for DADOS. All stores will include Palliases, which will be left filled and stacked in each Coy Q Store. All tents will be left standing. Bed boards and beds palm will be left neatly in tents. All other accommodation stores will be returned to RQMS forthwith.

13. POL - All vehs will carry POL for 250 miles. Refuelling will be arranged at ACRE.

14. PERSONNEL WITH VEHS - Coys will detail two men in addition to the dr. One will ride with dr and if possible be a driver. The other man will ride in rear of veh.

15. LEAVE - Personnel on leave in PALESTINE will be retained at leave camp AFFULA and join unit in new location.  
No leave will be granted en route.  
All towns and villages will be out of bounds.

16. TRACKED VEHS - All carriers will remain in present area until further orders. OC 4 pl and 2 men per Carrier will remain. It is anticipated that Carriers will be tpted by MT to HAIFA.

17. SIG CABLE - Laid cable will be left and handed over to incoming unit.

18. P.A.D. "Rd & Ry" Party - One veh per Coy will carry Bren gun mounted on veh.  
"All Rd Party" - Two A/A vehs will have Bren guns mounted.

19. ROUTINE -

REVEILLE - 0200  
BREAKFAST - 0230  
Stack palliases by 0315  
Rd & Ry party EMBUSS 0330

ACK

Issued through Sigs  
Signed at 1700 hrs.

*M. H. H. H.* Capt  
Adjt 2/27 Aust Inf Bn AIF

DISTRIBUTION

Copy No. 1 A Coy  
2 B Coy  
3 C Coy  
4 D Coy  
5 HQ Coy  
6 21 Aust Inf Bde  
7 C O  
8 2 i/c

Copy No. 9 RMO  
10 TO  
11 QM  
12 OC Det  
7 Aust Div Amn Coy  
13 File  
14)  
15) War Diary



MOVEMENT TABLE - "RD & RY" PARTY

APPX "A" to 2/27 Aust Inf Bn  
ADM ORDER.

NOTES

1. Route - TRIPOLI - BEIRUT - HAIFA.
2. Speed - 15 MPH
3. Density - 20 VIM
4. Halts - 10 minutes at 0830, 1030, 1530 hrs daily. Lunch halt at 1130 hrs daily for one hr.
5. Gps - Approx 30 vehs per Gp. One half mile between gps.

Serial

No. (a)	Unit (b)	Vehs (c)	Personnel (d)	S. P. (e)	Depart Tripoli Date (f)	Time (g)	Embussing Points (h)	Destination (j)	Remarks (k)
1	Adv Party	2	1/30	Rd Junc 16772747	12 Jan	0330	Guard Room	HAIFA	Lieut Bell and 30 ORs This party will move with main body on 13 Jan
2	BN HQ	4	1/43	-do-	12 Jan	0400	Guard Room	-do-	Unit will entrain at HAIFA EAST for Palestine. TPT for tps from AL MAJDAL will be provided.
3	A. Coy	7	2/67	-do-	12 Jan	0400	A.Coy Store	-do-	
4	B. Coy	7	2/77	-do-	12 Jan	0400	B.Coy Store	-do-	
5	C. Coy	8	3/84	-do-	12 Jan	0400	BN HQ	-do-	
6	D. Coy	7	2/70	-do-	12 Jan	0400	Sjts Mess	-do-	
7	HQ Coy	8	2/88	-do-	12 Jan	0400	Tpt lines	-do-	



MOVEMENT TABLE - "ALL RD" PARTY

Appx 'B' to 2/27 Aust Inf Bn  
AIM ORDER

NOTES

1. Route - TRIPOLI - BEIRUT - ACRE - RD JUNC 153244 - EL LAJJUN 168220 - MUSMUS 165217 - KARKUR 150209 -  
HADERA - WILHELMA 142159 - LYDDA - AQIR - GERERA - QASTINA - DESTINATION (to be advised)
2. Staging - ACRE
3. Speed - 15 MIH
4. Density - 20 VTM
5. Halts - 10 mins 0830, 1030, 1530 daily. Lunch halt at 1130 hrs daily for one hour.
6. Gps - 2 Gps - One-half mile between Gps.

Gp	No	Order of March	No of Vehs	Personnel	S P	Depart Tripoli Date	Time	Depart Acre Date	Time	Remarks
1		2 M/Cs 2 i/c Veh Office Van RMO Padre 'I' Truck A Coy Vehs (4) 1 A/A Truck B ) C ) Coy Vehs D )	21	As detailed	Rd Junc 16772747	12 Jan	0550	13 Jan	0630	OC Serial 1 Lieut Trenerry.
2		HQ Coy Vehs with A/A Truck between 3 pl and 5 pl. Motor Amb	25	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	OC Serial 2 Capt T F Gill.



2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

*Handwritten: 15*  
SECRET

11 Jan 42

ADM ORDER

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PALESTINE MOTOR MAP 1 in 50,000.

1. This order is in amplification of and additional to previous instns issued.
2. MOVE - 2/27 Bn will move to PALESTINE 12 Jan 42 (vide Movement Tables att.

Unit will move in two convoys.

- (a) Rd & Ry party - marching personnel (Appx 'A')  
Lieut Bell and 30 ORs will constitute an Adv party.  
To leave 0330 hrs direct to HAIFA. To report to RTO or MC Offr at HAIFA EAST RY STA.

- (b) "All rd" party - Unit tpt and 6 pl. (Appx 'B')

3. ADV PARTY

OC - Lieut Sandison

BN HQ - RSM

HQ Coy - Lieut King

One NCO each Nos 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 pls.

One cook

One steward each Offrs & Sjts messes.

A,B,C,D Coys - Coy 2 i/c and one NCO per Coy.

QM reps - S/Sjt Mills "B" Coy

Sjt Kay "C" Coy.

TPT for Adv Party - One 20 cwt veh per Coy will report to BN HQ 0500. To report to Bde HQ at 0600 hrs.

4. REAR PARTY -

OC - Lieut R M Puttman

Lieut R. Applebee

17 pl "D" Coy

One Sec each A.B.C. Coys.

OC and 18 ORs 4 pl.

One cook and asst.

Duties

- (a) Security of fwd area by one sec each Coy area.  
OC Lieut R. Applebee.
- (b) Security - Winter Quarters area.
- (c) Loading and forwarding of unit gear left behind.
- (d) Handing over of accommodation stores.
- (e) Tidiness of Camp Area.

Messing - Under arrangements of OC.

Phones - Lieut Puttman & Applebee will each be responsible for collecting 'phones in each area and returning to new location.

4 (a). CCMD

Rd & Ry Party Maj Isaachsen  
All Rd Party Lieut Trenerry.

5. DRESS - Marching Order with Greatcoats. Personal Kits will be fwded later.
6. WAR EQPT - Bn will move with present holdings of G1098 scale.
7. BLANKETS - Four blankets per man will be carried by personnel.
8. TRAFFIC CONTROL - Will be provided en route.
9. RD DISCIPLINE - Instns on Appx 'A' will be adhered to. No halts other than those specified will be made. When halted vehs will NOT close to less than 80 yds and will pull as far off side of rd as practicable and NCOs will be posted at either end of each



(2)

gp to control traffic.

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17. SIG CABLE - Laid cable will be left and handed over to incoming unit.

18. P.A.D. "Rd & Ry" Party - One veh per Coy will carry Bren gun mounted on veh.  
"All Rd Party" - Two A/A vehs will have Bren guns mounted.

19. ROUTINE -

REVBILLE - 0200  
BREAKFAST - 0230  
Stack palliases by 0315  
Rd & Ry party EMBUSS 0330

ACK

Issued through Sigs  
Signed at 1700 hrs.

*W. H. Harris* Capt  
Adjnt 2/27 Aust Inf Bn AIF

DISTRIBUTION

Copy No. 1 A Coy  
2 B Coy  
3 C Coy  
4 D Coy  
5 HQ Coy  
6 21 Aust Inf Bde  
7 C O  
8 2 i/c

Copy No. 9 RMC  
10 TO  
11 QM  
12 CC Det  
7 Aust Div Amn Coy  
13 File  
14)  
15) War Diary



MOVEMENT TABLE - "RD & RY" PARTY

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ADM ORDER.

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5. Gps - Approx 30 vehs per Gp. One half mile between gps.

Serial

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5	C. Coy	8	3/84	-do-	12 Jan	0400	BN HQ	-do-	
6	D. Coy	7	2/70	-do-	12 Jan	0400	Sjts Mess	-do-	
7	HQ Coy	5	2/88	-do-	12 Jan	0400	Tpt lines	-do-	



MOVEMENT TABLE - "ALL RD" PARTY

Appx 'B' to 2/27 Aust Inf Bn  
AIM ORDER

NOTES

1. Route - TRIPOLI - BEIRUT - ACRE - RD JUNC 153244 - EL LAJJUN 168220 - MUSMUS 165217 - KARKUR 150209 -  
HADERA - WILHELMA 142159 - LYDDA - AQIR - GERERA - QASTINA - DESTINATION (to be advised)
2. Staging - ACRE
3. Speed - 15 MIH
4. Density - 20 VTM
5. Halts - 10 mins 0830, 1030, 1530 daily. Lunch halt at 1130 hrs daily for one hour.
6. Gps - 2 Gps - One-half mile between Gps.

Gp	No	Order of March	No of Vehs	Personnel	S P	Depart Tripoli Date	Time	Depart Acre Date	Time	Remarks
1		2 M/Cs 2 i/c Veh Office Van RMO Padre 'I' Truck A Coy Vehs (4) 1 A/A Truck B ) C ) Coy Vehs D )	21	As detailed	Rd Junc 16772747	12 Jan	0550	13 Jan	0630	OC Serial 1 Lieut Trenerry.
2		HQ Coy Vehs with A/A Truck between 3 pl and 5 pl. Motor Amb	25	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	OC Serial 2 Capt T F Gill.



*Mr. King..*  
URGENT

2/27 AUST INF BN AIF

31 Jan 42

SPORTING

BOXING

A boxing contest between all units on board H T ILE de FRANCE will be held during the course of the voyage.

Entries are invited from all-comers(except offrs) for the following events:-

Heavyweight	-	Catch weight				
Middleweight	-	11 stone	6 lbs	or	under	
Welter weight	-	10	"	7	"	"
Light weight	-	9	"	9	"	"
Feather weight	-	8	"	6	"	"

Entrants must submit their names together with weight at which they are prepared to fight to this HQ by 1200hrs today.

Coys please co-operate, notify all ranks and have entries in on time as late entries cannot be accepted.

Opportunity will be made available later for weighing entrants to confirm correct weights.

TUG-OF-WAR

An inter-unit Tug-of-war will be held also. Each unit will put forward three teams of 10 men each plus a captain to meet those from other units.

Coys please submit names of their bestb entrants together with their approx weight on the following basis:-

5 men per Coy.

Coys also submit name of one man experienced in captaining a Tug-of-war Team.

Sandshoes will be worn for all events.

(sgd) J W Skinner T/Capt  
Sports Officer.



*Pratt*

ALL COYS

29-31 DEC 41

2/27 AMB LRP IN ALE

On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 29-31 Dec rifle Coys will train as under:-

- Monday, 29 Dec 41 - A widely dispersed approach march, by companies, with a vanguard pl operating, and changed over every 2 hours. The objects are (1) To exercise as many leaders as possible in the use of the compass in long movements.
2. To practice control and signals during widely dispersed mvt.
  3. To exercise pl comds in merging pl HQ with one of the sections, while at the same time retaining control.
  4. To practice rapid manoeuvre, action against B. AFV's and R.A. and anti-gas tag.

This is not intended to be a route march across country. Coy Comds will move with their whistles handy, and should change formations, spring surprises, and manoeuvre their companies, all the time testing and correcting control, at very frequent intervals throughout the day until flexibility is attained. The accepted procedure laid down for Protection at Rest will apply during the mid-day meal halt.

AFSS - Battle order. Haversack ration.

AFSS - As previously indicated for pl tag.

Tuesday, 30 Dec 41 - Fighting patrols.

Inter-Coy PI two-sided deep fighting patrols will be conducted:-

A. & B. Coys

7 pl v 12 pl - Area bounded -	(SOUTH	Grid Line 280	Director
	(NORTH	Grid Line 284	Lieut <del>Bell</del>
	(EAST	Line of HAIR BARID	<i>ILMBER HAR</i>
	(WEST	Grid Line 173	

8 pl v 10 pl -	(SOUTH	Grid Line 273	
	(NORTH	276	Director
	(EAST	174	Capt Sims.
	(WEST	171	

9 pl v 11 pl -	(SOUTH	Grid Line 280	
	(NORTH	283	Director
	(EAST	178	Lieut JD Lee
	(WEST	Line of HAIR BARID	

C. & D. Coys

13 pl v 17 pl -	(NORTH -	Line E & W through HIRUBHA	
	(SOUTH	Grid Line 276	Director
	(EAST	173	Lieut <del>Har</del>
	(WEST	170	<i>BELL</i>

15 pl v 18 pl -	(SOUTH	Grid Line 276	Director
	(NORTH	279	Lieut Magarey
	(EAST	175	
	(WEST	172	

14 pl v 16 pl -	(SOUTH	Grid Line 273	Director
	(NORTH	276	Lieut Cowan
	(EAST	176	
	(WEST	173	

Directors will arrange direct with Coys concerned as to R.V. on the ground at 0830 hrs Tuesday. Where convenient and practicable unit tpt may be used, but it will be necessary in some cases that the tps march to the ground. Copies of schemes to BN HQ by 1700 hrs MONDAY, 29 Dec 41. Directors need not participate in Monday's tag, but may use that day to prepare their schemes.

31 Dec 41 - On Tuesday 30 Dec 41 (while their coys are engaged on the two sided inter-pl fighting patrols) Coy Comds will each prepare a scheme involving

- (a) An approach march of up to 2 miles.
- (b) The hasty occupation of a defensive position.
- (c) An attack from that position with emphasis on mopping up and consolidation.
- (d) Retreat by 2nd comds for night attack.

Throughout the Coy exercises Coy Comds will aim at re-capturing the detail of the open country warfare taught during the Bn's tag period in Palestine.



NIGHT TIME

On Tuesday 30 Dec Coy Comds will each prepare a Coy in Attack exercise to be held on that or Wednesday night.

- Emphasis on
- (a) Daylight Recce.
  - (b) Adv in Assembly area.
  - (c) Mvt & formations from Assembly area to FUP and FUP to objective.
  - (d) Keeping direction, use of skyline behind objective and of compass.
  - (e) Silence
  - (f) Postns of Leaders
  - (g) Consolidation
  - (h) Simple plan.

NO COY

- 
- No. 1 (Sig) Pl - Carry on Specialist Eng.
  - No. 2 (A/A) Pl - under comd C. Coy, participate in Rifle Coy Exercise.
  - No. 3 (Mortars) Pl - Under comd rifle coys as now att.
  - No. 4 (Carrier) (Less 2 Secs) To instruct 5 pl in W.T. Maintenance.
  - No. 5 (Pioneer) Pl - Normal duties and W.T. as per Coy syllabus.
  - No. 6 Pl - Normal duties and W.T.

---

*M. M. M. M.* Capt

Adjt 2/27 Anst Inf Bn AIF



2/27 AMST Inf Bn A12

BRIDGE AND DEBATING

*File*

1. BRIDGE TOURNAMENT

- (i) It has been decided to conduct a Bridge Tournament to determine the champion bridge pair of the Bn.
- (ii) This will be held on a date to be notified later, probably during the week commencing 4 Jan.
- (iii) A prize of \$10 will be made available from Regtl Funds for the winning pair.
- (iv) The four rifle Coys will nominate two pairs of players and the Coy and Bn HQ, four pairs by Jan 4 who will represent their Coys and play off in the Bn tournament.
- (v) In order to select their representatives, it is suggested that Coys convene their own Coy tournaments between now and 4 Jan.
- (vi) Provided a sufficient number enter for these Coy Tournaments to make them worth while, The Regtl Funds will donate further prizes of \$5 to the winners of each of the Coy tournaments.
- (vii) As there is a difficulty in obtaining cards Coys are asked to make every effort to provide their own cards to conduct the tournaments.
- (viii) It is expected that the recreation tents will be used for these tournaments.

2. DEBATING

- (i) With the object of allowing some of the more loquacious members of the Bn let off some of their pent up steam and incidentally providing others with a little amusement, it is suggested that a series of inter Coy debates ~~take place~~ be held and by keeping a record of the points gained, determine which Coy possesses the most "hot air".
- (ii) A list of subjects is being prepared and Coys are asked to sound the feelings of their own towards this suggestion and advise Lieut H R Kimber whether they are favourable or not, together with any suggested subjects or further suggestions to brighten our evenings.

*M. H. Kimber* Capt  
adjt 2/27 AMST Inf Bn



*BW*

BRIDGE AND DEBATING

BRIDGE TOURNAMENT

- (1) It has been decided to conduct a Bridge Tournament to determine the champion bridge pair of the Bn.
- (ii) This will be held on a date to be notified later, probably during the week commencing 4 Jan.
- (iii) A prize of \$5.10 will be made available from Regtl Funds for the winning pair.
- (iv) The four rifle Coys will nominate two pairs of players and Hq Coy and Bn Hq, four pairs by Jan 4 who will represent their Coys and play off in the Bn tournament.
- (v) In order to select their representatives, it is suggested that Coys convene their own Coy tournaments between now and 4 Jan.
- (vi) Provided a sufficient number enter for these Coy Tournaments to make them worth while, The Regtl Funds will donate further prizes of \$35 to the winners of each of the Coy tournaments.
- (vii) As there is a difficulty in obtaining cards Coys are asked to make every effort to provide their own cards to conduct the tournaments.
- (viii) It is expected that the recreation tents will be used for these tournaments.

2. DEBATING

- (1) With the object of allowing some of the more loquacious members of the Bn let off some of their pent up steam and incidentally providing others with a little amusement, it is suggested that a series of inter Coy debates ~~take place~~ be held and by keeping a record of the points gained, determine which Coy possesses the most "hot air".
- (ii) A list of subjects is being prepared and coys are asked to sound the feelings of their own towards this suggestion and advise Lieut H R Kimber whether they are favourable or not, together with any suggested subjects or further suggestions to brighten our evenings.

*M J Waters* Capt  
Adjt 2/27 Aust Inf Bn



*1 sec*  
SUBJECT: LOCATION STATEMENT

SECRET *23*

HQ 21 Aust Inf Bde  
S/3

4 Jan '42

As at 2359 hrs 3 Jan '42

Ref Maps: TRIPOLI 1/50,000  
SIR ED DANIE 1/50,000

1. HQ 21 Aust Inf Bde) MADJLAYA 16422752  
"K" Sec Sigs )  
9 Pl Aust HQ Gd Bn )
2. HQ 2/14 Aust Inf Bn (Winter Quarters) 16492746  
HARET JEDIDE  
HQ 2/14 Aust Inf Bn (Battle HQ)-(unoccupied)  
BEIT LARA 17542759  
HARET JEDIDE 16492746  
HQ Coy 17692767  
A Coy 17482757  
B Coy (less 10 Pl) 17602776  
C Coy 17782793  
D Coy 17582770  
B Ech Fwd 16492746  
B Ech Rear 17772796  
10 Pl B Coy
3. HQ 2/16 Aust Inf Bn SIR ED DANIE ~~17812714~~ 17152754  
HQ Coy EL AYOUN Area 17072752  
A Coy 17112749  
B Coy EL MINA  
C Coy (Less 15 Pl) EL AYOUN Area 17052760  
D Coy " " " 17012757  
15 Pl C Coy CHEKKA 14622641
4. HQ 2/27 Aust Inf Bn ARDE Area 16772750  
HQ Coy " " 16792753  
A Coy EL YAUDIYEH Area 17442776  
B Coy " " " 17292777  
C Coy " " " 17422784  
D Coy " " " 17272780
5. Ack *[Signature]*

*[Signature]* Lieut  
IO 21 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION :

7 Aust Div (2)  
2/14 Aust Inf Bn  
2/16 Aust Inf Bn  
2/27 Aust Inf Bn  
"K" Sec Sigs  
SC  
LOs (2)  
War Diary (2)  
File



*For file.*

ATT COPY COND A 10

2/27 AUGST INF IN AIF

INF PARADE

1. There will be a Bde Parade next Saturday 24 Jan 42 at a time to be notified.

2. Att copy of letter from Bde Comd commenting on In Parade held last Saturday.

It is requested that steps be taken to ensure that defects in turn-out be remedied.

3. Between now and the parade as much time as possible is to be spent in close order drill and marching.

*M. Hatcher*

Capt

Majt 2/27 Aust Inf In AIF



UNIT - SUBJECT - HL PARADE

21 Aust Inf Bde  
File No - 95/1  
17 Jan 42

2/27/42

I am sorry that units had to parade in such unpleasant conditions this morning and it is a tribute to their ing that the men were so steady. I congratulate all units on their showing.

2. Due to the conditions under which we have been living for some months there are a few avenues for improvement and I would like Unit Comds to do their best to overcome the following weaknesses:-

- (a) Marching - The old swing has been lost temporarily. This can be recovered with a little practice daily. Heads must come up and arms swing freely.
- (b) Clothing - Hats and puttees are our worst items at the moment. Within the limits imposed by supply, replacements must be made quickly. A good brushing, sponging and pressing will work wonders with many uniforms which now are rather dirty. "American" dints are to be removed from hats and the Digger style only adopted.
- (c) Boots - quite a number of badly worn boots and broken bootlaces were in evidence. These should receive IMMEDIATE ATTENTION. Kivi, now that it is available, should be introduced to many boots once more.
- (d) Haircuts - Many were badly needed. A fairly short haircut (not a convict crop) should be given to all tops without delay.
- (e) Posture - Many men stand badly on parade although they are keen triers. These should be given extra drill with special attention to this feature.

3. Where shortage of essential clothing and boots exist, unit Comds are to represent the matter personally to me please.

(Sgd) JEB Stevens - Brig  
Comd 21 Aust Inf Bde



*2m H.2.*

MAIL CODE

2/17 AIR MAIL RELEASE

POSTAL CODE

IN P.C. SITUATED AT 25 12

AIRMAIL IS BEING DISPATCHED TO A FROM THE MIDDLE EAST.

Departure and arrival of same uncertain.

Rates are as follows: LETTERS 1/2 oz weight 36 (equals 30 mile).

Letters exceeding 1/2 oz will be charged at the rate of 1/5 per 1/2 oz including the first 1/2 oz.

It is requested that letters should not exceed 2 pages.

AIRMAIL (Britain) 3d. (most stages may be used)

AIRMAIL to England 10d. (equals 3d. mile per 1/2 oz)

REGISTERED MAIL - Letters, packets & newspapers not exceeding 4 oz each

Packets exceeding 4 oz 1d per 4 oz including the 1st 4 oz.

<u>PARCELS</u> -	1 lb	6d	(30 mile)
	2 lbs	9d	(30 mile)
	3 lbs	1/-	(40 mile)
	4-5 lbs	1/3	(50 mile)
	6-8 lbs	1/6	(60 mile)
	9-11 lbs	1/9	(70 mile)

Limit to weight of parcels 11 lbs.

Registration of packets or parcels up to 16 oz 3d. extra - exceeding 16 oz 3d. registration fee and 1d per oz including the first 16 oz.

Weight limit for registration 4-1/2 lbs.

Contents and approx value of parcels to be declared on the outside of case with the number and name only of sender followed by AIR AIRMAIL.

ADDRESS - To be printed in block letters.

Surname must be added at the end of message.

Christian names - one (1) only may be inserted.

Sender's number, name to be followed by AIR AIRMAIL must be declared on back of message form.

WIRE CABLE RATES - 12d mile per cable.

1d " " = 3d mile per word, including name and address.  
Full " " = 6d mile per word, including name and address.

COST OF STAMPS

1d	4 mile
5d	7 mile
5c.	10 mile
6c.	20 mile
9c.	30 mile
1/-	40 mile

STAMPS may be purchased at Field Post Office

OUR CHIEFLY ROOM CLERK WILL REPORT AT 25 P.C. OFFICE DAILY AT

1100 hrs and 1500 hrs to collect mail.

*W. Fletcher*  
Capt

ADJG 2/17 AIR MAIL RELEASE



156 535

SECRET

21 AUST INF BDE

4 Dec 41

12 DEC 41 *ead*

LOCATION STATEMENT

As at 2359 hrs 3 Dec 41

Ref Maps: TRIPOLI 1/50,000  
STR ED DANIE 1/50,000

1.	HQ 21 Aust Inf Bde) K Sec Sigs D Pl Aust HQ Gd Rm)	MADJLATA	18422752
2.	HQ 2/14 Aust Inf Bn (Winter Quarters) - HARET JEDIDE HQ 2/14 Aust Inf Bn (Battle HQ) - (unoccupied) BEIT LARA		18492746 <del>17512759</del> 17542759 <del>17512757</del> 16492746 <del>17509751</del> 17692767 <del>17472762</del> 17482767 <del>17462760</del> 17602776 <del>17462766</del> 17782793 <del>17452756</del> 16492746 17772796 17582770
	HQ Coy A Coy B Coy (less 10 pl) C Coy D Coy B Ech REAR 10 pl B Coy B Ech Fwd		
3.	HQ 2/16 Aust Inf Bn HQ Coy - Coy HQ HQ Coy ( <del>less 2 pl</del> ) A Coy B Coy C Coy D Coy <del>E pl HQ Coy</del>	STR ED DANIE " " " EL AYOUN Area EL MINA EL AYOUN Area " " " " " " <del>EL AYOUN Area</del>	17812714 17812714 17072752 17042755 17052760 17012757 <del>17002756</del>
4.	HQ 2/27 Aust Inf Bn HQ Coy A Coy B Coy C Coy D Coy	ARDE Area " " EL YAOUBIYEH Area " " " " " " " " "	16772760 16792753 17442776 17392777 17422794 17272780

*H. W. ...* Lieut  
10-21 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION

- 2/14 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/16 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/27 Aust Inf Bn
- 7 Aust Liv (2)
- SC
- LOs (2)
- K Sec Sigs
- War Diary (2)
- File



# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

No. of Groups.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

**CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS**

IN

OUT

GR.

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

*CONFIDENTIAL*  
*CONFIDENTIAL*

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

(5/681) Forms C2128/13. Wt. 17936/516. 750M Pads. 7/40. B. & S. Ltd. 51-7280.

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER.

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNED

*[Handwritten Signature]*

SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

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

T.O.R.



1800  
 Army Form C.2128  
 (Pads of 100.)  
 Revised Sept. 1936.)

# MESSAGE FORM.

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

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO *7 Aust Div rptd 2/14 Bn 2/16 Bn 2/27 Bn*

FROM *21 Aust Inf Bde*      Originator's Number. *i 314*      Date. *12*      In Reply to Number *-*

Location	Statement	⊙	OUT	S/79	of
4	Dec	amended	as	follows	⊙
2/14 Bn	Battle HQ	(unoccupied)	17542759 ✓	HQ Coy	16492746
A Coy	17692767 ✓	B Coy	less	10 pl	17482751
C Coy	17602776 ✓	D Coy	17782793 ✓	Bech	rear
16492746	fwd	17582770	⊙	2/16 Bn	delete
2 pl	throughout	⊙	otherwise	no	changes

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 CYPHER.

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY.

TIME OF ORIGIN *0950*

SIGNED *Lt Col Sleasby*      SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SYSTEM IN.	TIME IN.	READER.	SENDER.	SYSTEM OUT.	TIME OUT.	READER.	SENDER.	SYSTEM OUT.	TIME OUT.	READER.	SENDER.	T.H.I.
												T.O.R.



# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

**CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS**

IN

OUT

No. of Groups.

GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

2/14 Bn 2/16 Bn 2/27 Bn

FROM

21 Aust Inf Bde

Originator's Number

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IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER.

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS  
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

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Postership*

TIME OF ORIGIN

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(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

*13*

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TIME OUT

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SENDER

T.O.R.

(5/681) Forms C2128/13. Wt. 17936/206. 750M Pads. 7/40. B. & S. Ltd. 51-7280.



# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

No. of Groups.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

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(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

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FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

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other	G1098	egpt	will	not	be
completed	in	this	area	e	Recce
parties	9	Aust	Div	may	arrive
9/10	Jan	e	Further	orders	follow
e	Maintain	reasonable	secrecy	but	you

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER.

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS  
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNED

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(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

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

T.O.R.

(5/681) Forms C2128/13. Wt. 17936/206. 750M Pads. 7/40. B. & S. Ltd. 51-7280.



# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

**CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS**

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OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

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THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER.

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

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SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

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

T.O.R.

(5/681) Forms C2128/13. Wt. 17936/206. 750m Pads. 7/40. B. & S. Ltd. 51-7280.



C.O.'s MONTHLY SUMMARY for JANUARY 42.

1/ LOCATION.

On Jan. 10. advance party of 2/43 Bn. arrived at Winter Quarters and on Jan. 12 the main body of the 27 Bn. moved from RAMLIEM to HILL 69 Palestine, by road to HAIFA and then by train to AL MATDAL.

Jan. 27 the bn. moved from HILL 69 by train to PORT SUZ and embarked on H.T. "ILE DE FRANCE" on Jan. 29. and the following morning sailed for an unknown destination

2/ CHANGE IN COM.

Maj. C. D. T. Cooke M.B.E. 2/10 Bn. took over the administrative command of the bn. from MAJ. R. L. BATTEN on Jan. 20 and on the following day ~~both these officers~~ gazetted to Lt. Col.

3/ TRAINING & DEFENSIVE WORKS.

At RAMLIEM Coys. continued with the rifles and the C.O., Adj. and T.O. paid several visits to front area. Pns. sh. repaired trucks in the front area damaged by snow and buildings were ~~damaged~~ <sup>prevented</sup> by the guerrillas. At HILL 69 training was ~~interrupted~~ <sup>interrupted</sup> with issuing of expt. and bn. and bde. parades, but what there was, was made hard, and consisted of patrols, route marches, attacks and defense and to finish up with a bn. exercise prepared by 21 AUST. INF. BDE. - bn. in the attack. Jan. 17. Brig. Stevens inspected the bn. and on Jan. 24 a bde. parade for MAJ. GEN. ALLEN. Training abroad slip has been restricted more or less by lack of deck space but P.T. and weapon training has been carried out along with a number of lectures.

4/ OFFICERS.

It was with regret when we lost Maj. Robb who went to 2/10 Bn. as C.O. and was gazetted at Lt. Col. Maj. Robb returned to the unit from 21 A.I.T.B. and took over his duties as Bn. 2 i/c. The following reinforcement officers arrived from 21 A.I.T.B.

- LIEUT. R. C. ATTWELL
- " J. S. BENNIE
- " F. T. COOK
- " A. M. CURLIS
- " H. B. INGLIS.



C.O.'s MONTHLY SUMMARY for JANUARY 42 (CONT'D)

7  
WEATHER.

At RAMLIEH the weather was particularly cold and there were several very heavy falls of snow. Strong wind storms as well as the snow caused quite an appreciable amount of damage to buildings at winter quarters and to tracks in the field area.

8  
GENERAL.

The R.T.O. assisted by 2 officers from 2/6 Ld. Amb. inoculated the bn. (ITAB. IT.T.).

The following well deserved awards were made.

Sx 3645	W.O. I.	B.H. GARRETT.	M.M.
Sx 3278	PTE.	F. MC LEAN	M.M.
Sx 5201	PADRE	C.R. WHERAT	M.B.E.

In conclusion this month has probably seen more changes than any since the inception of the unit.



**FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.**

2/27 Bn. A.I.F.

(Unit) ..... 19..... (Date).

(To be furnished by all units of Cavalry, Royal Armoured Corps, Infantry, Royal Army Veterinary Corps, Royal Army Pay Corps, Army Educational Corps, Corps of Military Police, and all Headquarters units).

**Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.**

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1		
W.Os. Class II.	6	1	
W.Os. Class III. <i>RQMS</i>	1		
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants OR Colour-Serjeants	4		1
Staff Serjeants	1		
Serjeants	26		5
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.			
Corporals	65		4
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusillers, etc.	627		71
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>731</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>81</b>

\*These Totals should agree with the details shown in Part D on page 2 of Army Form W.3009.

**Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.**

Detail	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
SMART HF A/Cpl	AAOC	JOHNSTON J Sjt	RAMC
HUNT F "	"	JORDAN RANKIN	"
BATES JD Pte	"	TRAEGER HV Pte	"
BEATTIE R "	"		
PHILIPSON WJ H/Sjt	AAPSC	ALLEN MC Pte	AACHD
SMITH RL Sjt	AAPC		

**Part C. Description of other ranks whose return to the unit is particularly requested.**

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g. present whereabouts if known)
SX3180	Pte	WIGZELL HG	2/27 Bn	at 21 ITB
SX3120	"	TAYLOR AAA	2/27 Bn	
SX9990	"	GREIG CA	2/27 Bn	AAME attached

73



Part D. Detail of Surplus or Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009.

3

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.										REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.										REMARKS.
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.O.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.O.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.		
Bricklayers ... ..																					
Butchers ... ..																					
Carpenters and Joiners ... ..																		1	1		
Clerks ... ..																		1	1		
Cooks ... ..																		1	1		
Despatch Riders ... ..																					
Drivers I.C. (Tracked) ... ..																					
"    " (Wheeled) ... ..																					
Drivers-Mechanics ... ..																		6	6		
Drivers-Operators ... ..																					
Electricians ... ..																					
Equipment Repairers ... ..																					
Farriers ... ..																					
Fitters ... ..																					
Machine Gunners ... ..																					
Masons ... ..																					
Motor Mechanics* ... ..																					
Pioneers, Infantry (other than tradesmen) ... ..																					
Plumbers and Pipefitters ... ..																					
Range Takers ... ..																					
Saddlers & Harness Makers ... ..																					
Saddle Tree Makers ... ..																					
Sanitary and Water Duties ... ..																					
Signallers ... ..																					
Storemen technical ... ..																		1	1		
Tailors ... ..																					
Wheelers ... ..																					
<i>C.O.M.S.</i>												1									
<i>S/Is</i>													5						5		
<i>16pls</i>															4				4		
<i>R.M.P.s</i>																		4	4		
<i>3/4 Barton Personnel</i>																		9	9		
<i>m/cyclists</i>																		20	20		
<i>Pls</i>																					
General duty personnel ... ..																		28	28		
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A).												1	5	4	71	81					

2/27 Bn. A.I.F.

Unit.

Date of Despatch

18 Jan 42

*M. K. ...* Capt  
Adj 2 Signature of Commander.

Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.







**PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.**

(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No.)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
MAJOR		BATTEN RL	2/27 Bm	YES	CO
"		POPE A	"	"	2 i/c
"		ISAACHSEN OC	"	"	OC HQ Coy
"		WHITE DAN	"	NO	School
CAPT		JOHNSON RL	"	"	DETACH
"		LEE AJ	"	YES	OC BCoy
"		GILL TF	"	"	A/OC C Coy
LIEUT		BEST EW	"	NO	SICK
"	T/CAPT	SKIPPER JW	"	"	School
"	T/CAPT	SIMS CAW	"	YES	A/OC A Coy
"		SANDISON CH	"	"	SIG O
"		KIMBER HRR	"	"	OC 18 PL
"		PUTTMAN RM	"	"	OC 17 PL
"		MAGAREY BA	"	"	OC 12 PL
"	T/CAPT	KATEKAR HJ	"	"	ADTT
"		LEE JD	"	"	A/QM
"		CRAFTER JG	"	"	OC 4 PL
"		GEDDES PHG	"	NO	SICK
"		APPLEBEE R	"	"	OC 10 PL
"		FLIGHT JO	"	"	OC 7 PL
"		BELL FD	"	"	OC 8 PL
"		KIMBERB TRS	"	NO	School
"		CADDY EM	"	YES	OC 5 PL
"		COWAN RWT	"	"	IO
"		CLAMPETT RW	"	"	OC 3 PL
"		KING GH	"	"	OC 9 PL
"		MARTIN ET	"	"	OC 13 PL
"		TRENERRY AR	"	"	<del>A/OC 6 PL</del>
"		HEWITT SG	"	"	ATTACHED for Insp purposes
"		PICKERING AG	"	"	
"		REDDIN JW	"	"	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
CAPT		SMITH KV	AAAC		RMO
PADRE		WHEREAT CR	AAACD		CHAPLAIN
2/LIEUT		BARKER EW			INTERPRETER

(Unit.)

*[Signature]* Capt  
Adj (Signature of Commander.)

(Date of Despatch.)

(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)







**PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.**

(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

4

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No.)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
		COOPER GDT	"	YES	C.O
MAJ		POPE A	"	"	2 1/2
"		ISAACHSEN OC	"	"	OC HQ Coy
"		WHITE DAM	"	NO	HOSPITAL
CAPT		JOHNSON RL	"	YES	OC C Coy
"		GILL TF	"	"	OC D Coy
LIEUT		BEST EW	"	NO	HOSPITAL
"	T/CAPT	SKIPPER JW	"	YES	2 1/2 B Coy
"	T/CAPT	SIMS CAW	"	"	OC A Coy
"		SANDISON CH	"	"	2 1/2 C Coy
"		KIMBER HRR	"	"	2 1/2 D Coy
"		PUTTMAN RM	"	"	OC 17 Pl
"		MAGAREY BR	"	"	2 1/2 A Coy
"	T/CAPT	KATEKAR HJ	"	"	ADJT
"		LEE JD	"	"	QM
"		CRAFTER JG	"	"	OC 4 Pl
"		GEDDES PHG	"	"	TO
"		DEAN AC	"	"	OC 11 Pl
"		APPLEBEE R	"	"	OC 10 Pl
"		FLIGHT JD	"	"	OC 7 Pl
"		BELL FD	"	"	OC 8 Pl
"		KIMBER TRS	"	"	OC 15 Pl
"		CADDY EM	"	"	OC 5 Pl
"		COWAN RWT	"	"	I.O.
"		CLAMPETT RW	"	"	OC 3 Pl
"		KING GH	"	"	SIG.O
"		MARTIN ET	"	"	OC 13 Pl
"		TRENERRY AR	"	"	2 1/2 4 Pl
"		HEWITT SG	"	"	OC 16 Pl
"		PICKERING AG	"	"	A/OC 14 Pl
"		REDDIN JW	"	"	OC 12 Pl
"		BENNIER F	"	"	OC 9 Pl
"		WARDURTON WA	"	"	OC 18 Pl
"	T/CAPT	BEARE JH	"	NO	HOSPITAL

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
CAPT		SMITH KV	AAMC		RMO
PADRE		WHEREAT CR	ARCHD		CHAPLAIN

(Unit.)

(Signature of Commanding Officer.)

(Date of Despatch.)

(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)











# FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/27 Bn. A.I.F.

(Unit.)

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

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits one establishment)
.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....
Lieut.-Colonels ... ..	.....	.....	1
Majors ... ..	4	1	.....
Captains ... ..	6	.....	3
Lieutenants ... ..	22	3	.....
2nd Lieutenants ... ..	.....	.....	.....
Quartermasters ... ..	.....	.....	1
District Officers ... ..	.....	.....	.....
Totals ... ..	32	5	5

\*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc).

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

**Officers JOINED during week.**

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Major	Rope A	2/27/42	7 Jan 42	from 21 ITB
Lieut	Wright J.B.	.....	10 Jan 42	from Special Duty

**Officers QUITTED during week.**

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Lieut	Beane P.H.	2/27/42	6 Jan 42	to hospital
Lieut	Wright W.A.	"	9 Jan 42	"
Lieut	Whelan P.T.	"	6 Jan 42	to 1 depot Coy for Service Duty
Lieut	White G.H.	"	7 Jan 42	to hospital
Lieut	Dobbs G.S.	"	7 Jan 42	transferred to 2/10 Aust Inf Bn

**PART C.— DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.**

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known.)
.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....



**PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.**

(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No.)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Major		BATTEN RL	9/27/20	YES	C.O.
"		POPE A	"	"	2/C
"		ISACHSEN OC	"	"	OC DCoy
"		WHITE DAH	"	NO	SCHOOL
Capt		JOHNSON RL	"	NO	DETACH
"		LEE AT	"	YES	OC DCoy
"		GILL TF	"	"	OC HQ Coy
Lieut		BEST EW	"	NO	SICK
"	T/CAPT	SKIPPER JW	"	"	SCHOOL
"	T/CAPT	SIMS EAW	"	YES	A/OC ACoy
"		SANDISON CH	"	"	SIG O.
"		KIMBER HRR	"	"	OC 18 PL
"		PUTTMAN RM	"	"	OC 17 PL
"		BENNIER IF	"	"	OC 9 PL
"		MAGAREY BA	"	"	OC 12 PL
"	T/CAPT	KATEKAR HT	"	"	ADJT
"		LEE JD	"	"	OC 19 PL
"		CRAITER JG	"	"	OC 4 PL
"		GEDDIES PHG	"	NO	HOSPITAL
"		APPLEBEE R	"	YES	OC 10 PL
"		FLIGHT JO	"	"	OC 7 PL
"		BELL FD	"	"	OC 8 PL
"		KIMBER TRS	"	NO	SCHOOL
"		CADDY EM	"	YES	OC 5 PL
"		COWAN RWT	"	"	IO
"		CLAMPETT RW	"	"	OC 3 PL
"		KING GH	"	"	OC 2 PL
"		MARTIN ET	"	"	OC 13 PL
"		TREHERRY AR	"	"	A/TO
"		HEWITT SG	"	"	Attached
"		PICKERING AB	"	"	for Eng
"		REDDIN JW	"	"	Purposes

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
CAPT		SMITH KV	AAMC		RMU
PADRE		WHEREAT CR	AACD		CHAPLAIN
2/LIEUT		BARKER EW			INTERPRETER

2/27 Bn. A.I.F.

(Unit.)

(Date of Despatch.)

*[Signature]*

(Signature of Commander.)

21 AUST INF BDE

(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)







Part D. Detail of Surplus or Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009.

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.								REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.								REMARKS.			
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.O.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.O.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.		Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.
Bricklayers ... ..																				
Butchers ... ..																			1	1
Carpenters and Joiners ... ..																			1	1
Clerks ... ..																			2	2
Cooks ... ..																			2	2
Despatch Riders ... ..																				
Drivers I.C. (Tracked) ... ..																				
"    " (Wheeled) ... ..																			6	6
Drivers-Mechanics ... ..																				
Drivers-Operators ... ..																				
Electricians ... ..																				
Equipment Repairers ... ..																				
Farriers ... ..																				
Fitters ... ..																				
Machine Gunners ... ..																				
Masons ... ..																				
Motor Mechanics ... ..																				
Pioneers, Infantry (other than tradesmen) ... ..																				
Plumbers and Pipefitters ... ..																				
Range Takers ... ..																				
Saddlers & Harness Maker																				
Saddle Tree Makers ... ..																				
Sanitary and Water Duties																				
Signallers ... ..																				
Storemen technical ... ..																			1	1
Tailors ... ..																				
Wheelers ... ..																				
WO II											1									
SAs														5					5	5
Kpls.																6			6	6
RMPs																		4	4	4
3. ... ..																		9	9	9
General duty personnel ... ..																		20	20	20
																			23	23
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A).											1			5		6	22	79	79	

2/27 Bn. A.I.F.

Unit.

Signature of Commander.

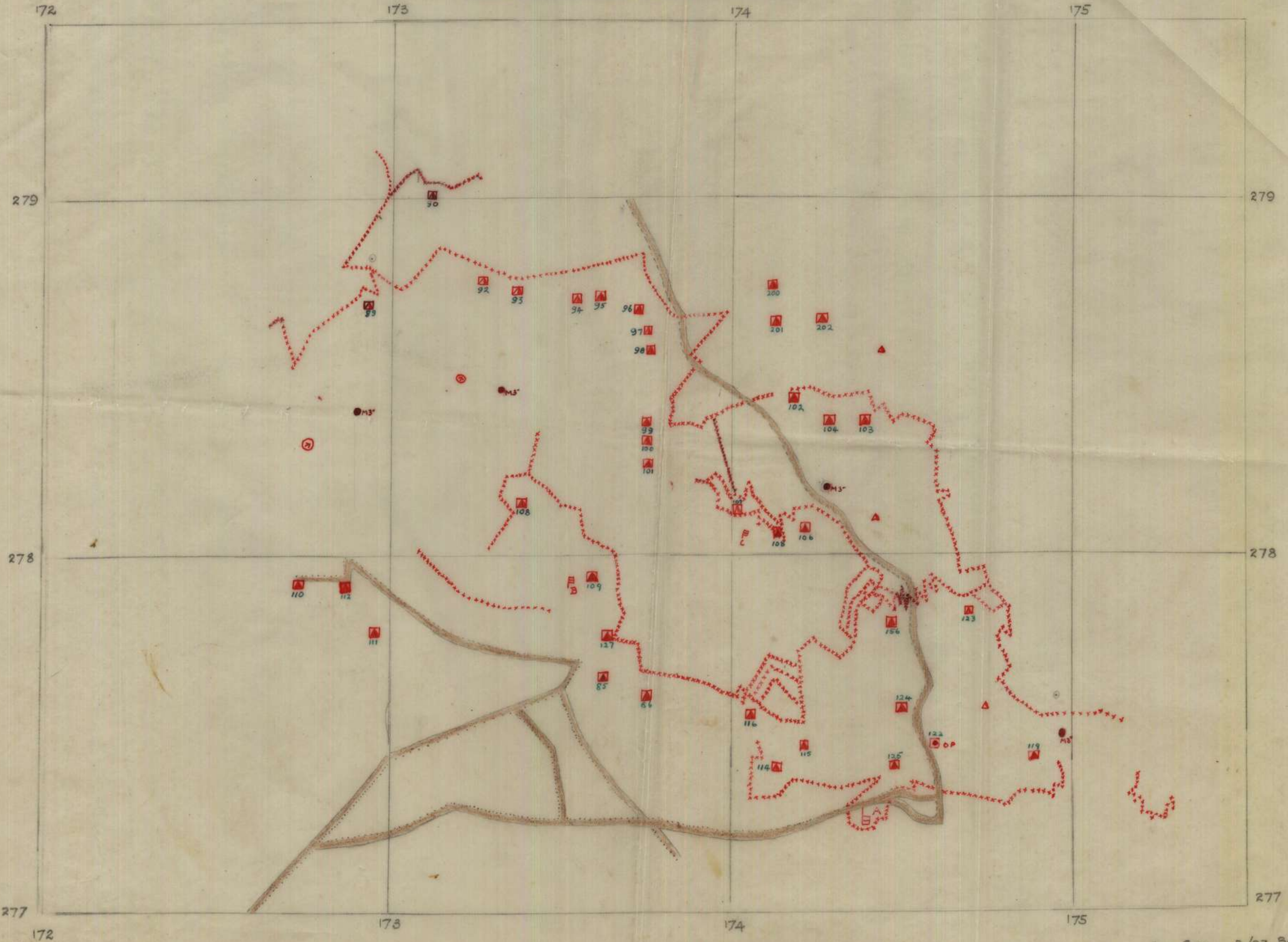
Date of Despatch 11 Jan 42

Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.



WIRE TRACE

Super-impose on 1/10,000 Enlargement

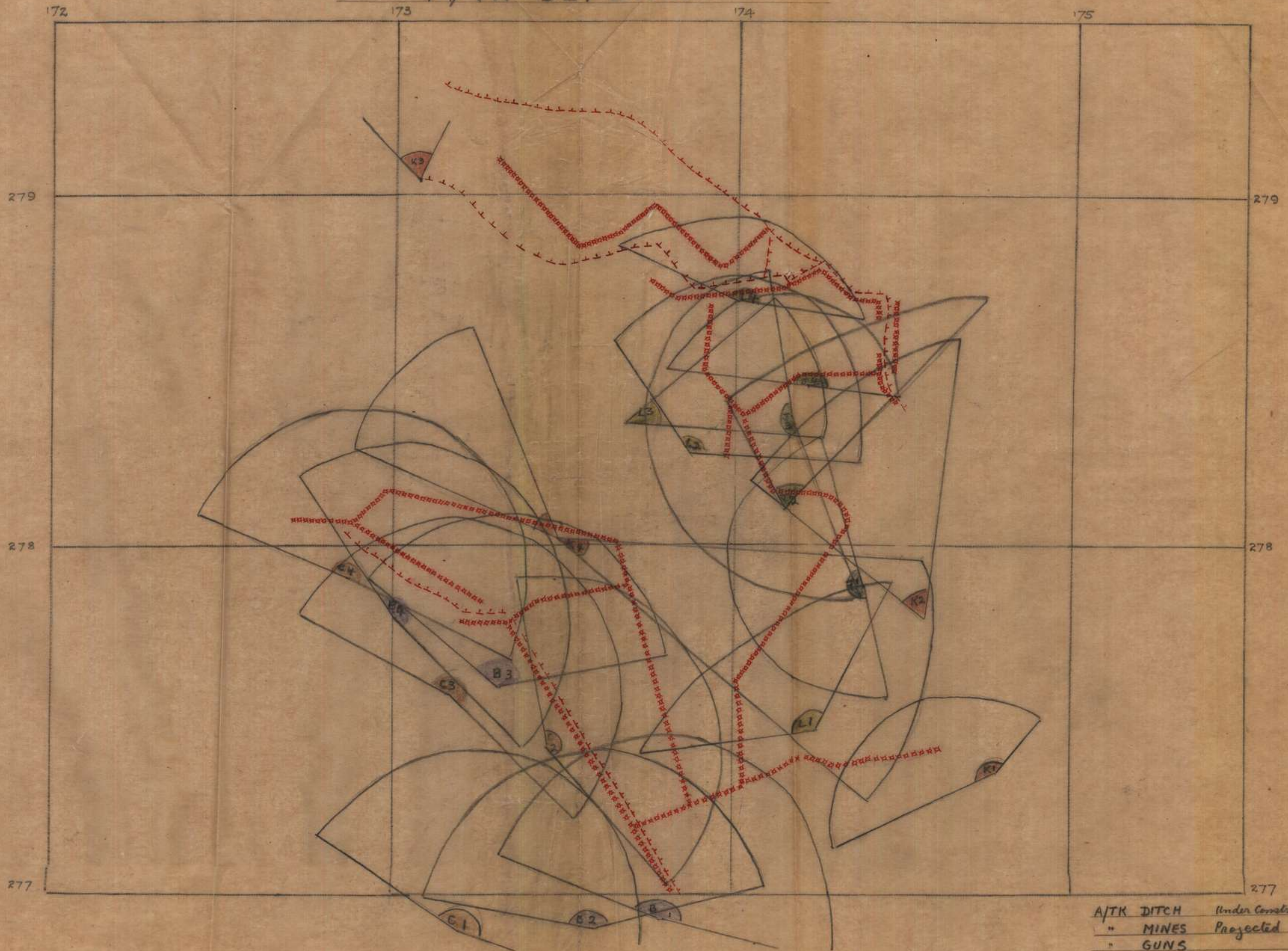


INT SEC 2/27 BN.

10 JAN 42



# A/TK DEFENCE

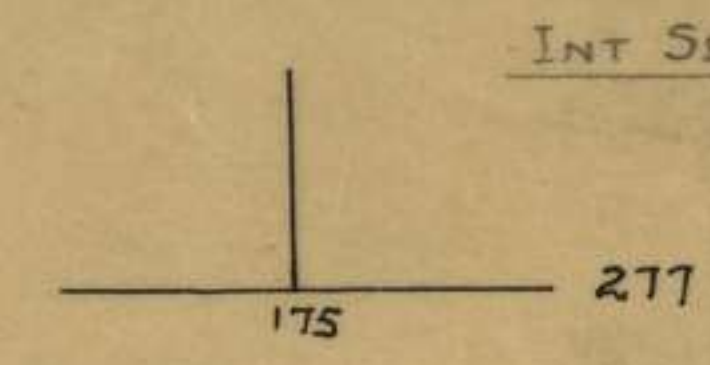
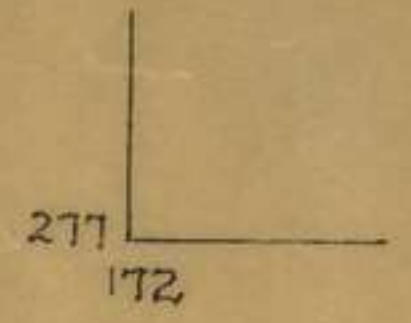
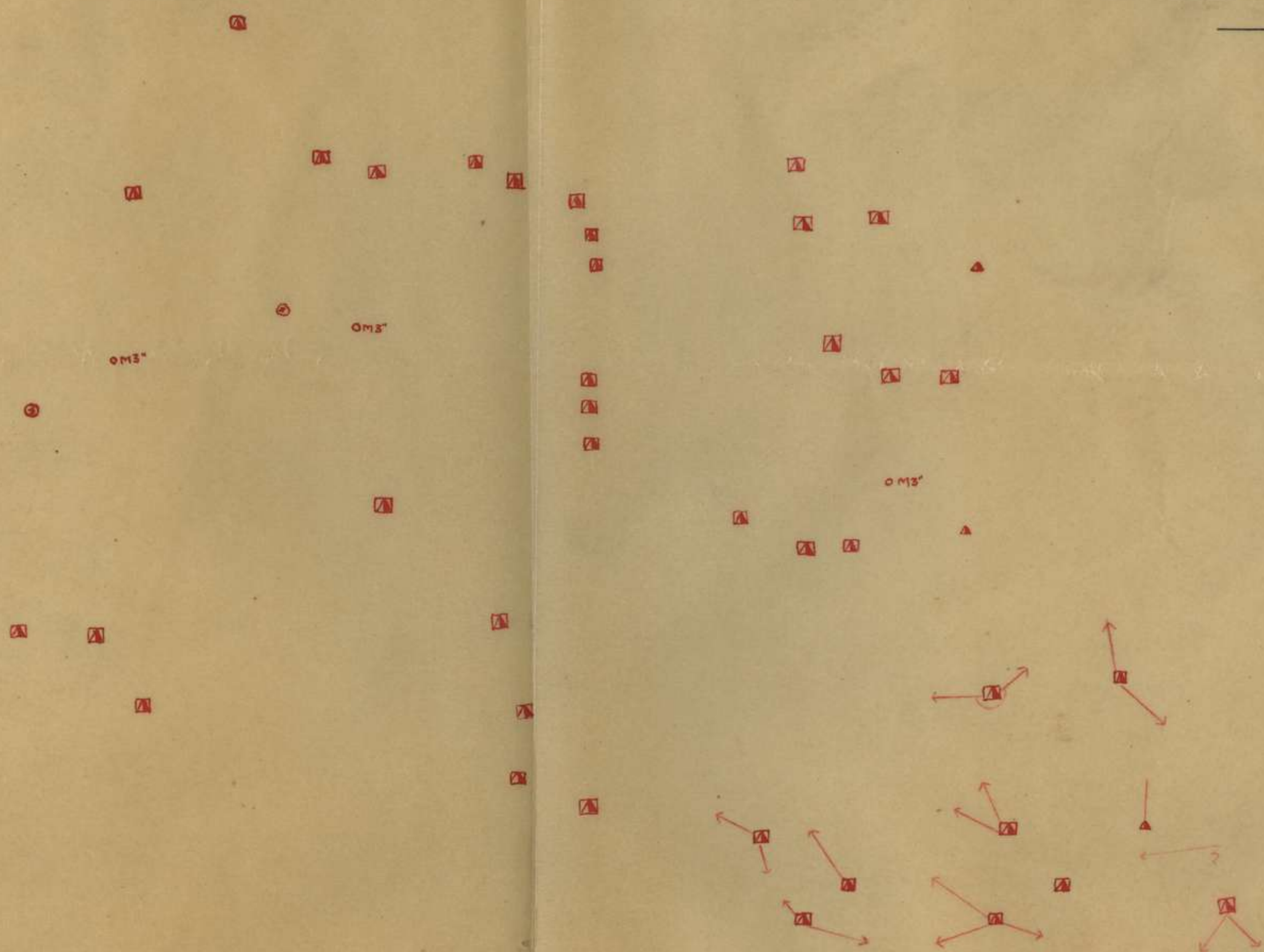
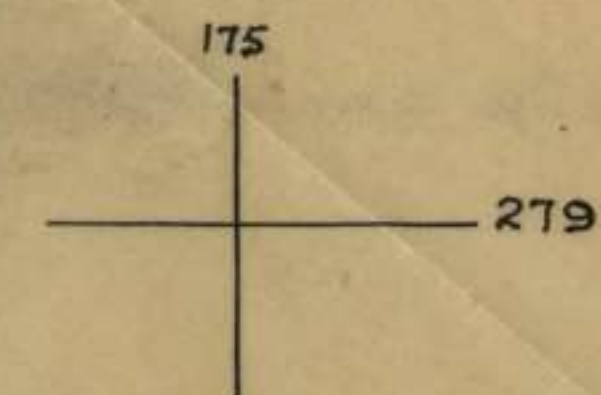
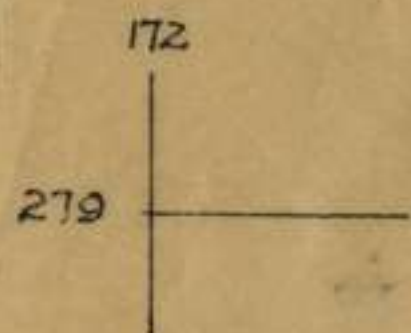


10 JAN 42



PILL-BOX TRACE

Super-impose on 1/10,000 Enlargement



INT SEC 2/27 BN  
10 JAN 42



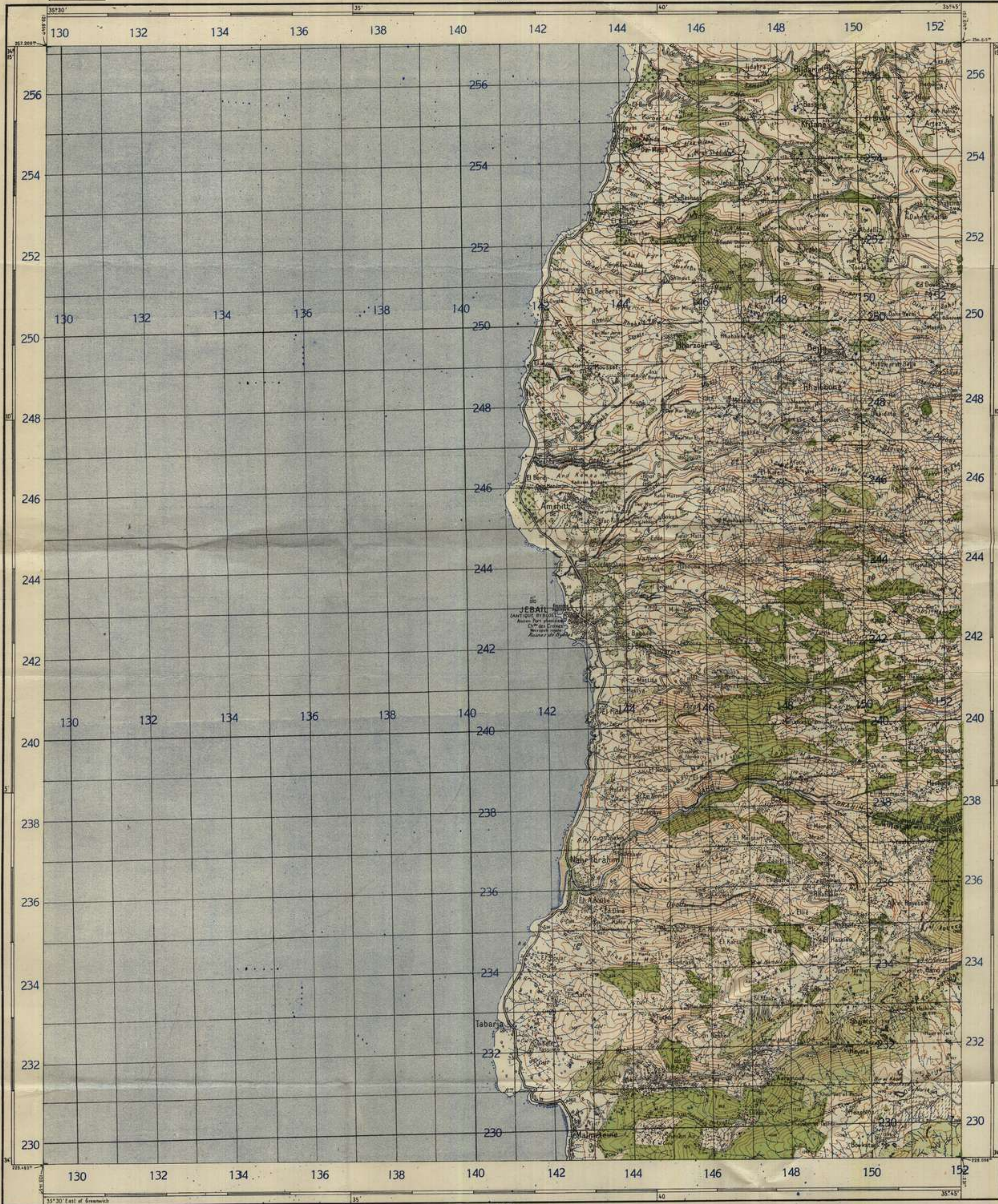


NOT TO BE PUBLISHED

# JEBAIL

FRENCH (LEVANT) GRID

LEVANT 1:50,000 SHEET NI-36 - XVIII-2a



MAGNETIC DECLINATION



Magnetic North 1°50' East of True north in the centre of this sheet. Annual change 03' towards the East.

D. R. 444  
C. 18

Ground surveyed in (1936)  
Drawn, heliographed and published by  
Service Geographique de l'Armée in (1939)

Scale 1:50,000

Reproduced under the direction of the Survey Directorate  
G.H.Q.M.E. June 1941 (From a French map Dated 1939)

- Conventional Signs
- 1st Class Road ...
  - 2nd " ...
  - 3rd " ...
  - Motorable Track ...
  - Track ...
  - Footpath ...
  - Difficult path ...
  - Railways, Standard gauge ...
  - Narrow ...

**TO GIVE A GRID REFERENCE ON THIS SHEET**  
This sheet is on French (Levant) Grid  
Note: Only even grid lines are numbered

**POINT BECHTA**

<b>EAST</b> Take west edge of square in which point lies and read the figures printed opposite this line (on north or south margin) or on the line itself (on the face of the map). Estimate tenths eastward.	<b>NORTH</b> Take south edge of square in which point lies and read the figures printed opposite this line (on east or west margin) or on the line itself (on the face of the map). Estimate tenths northward.
EAST 1417	NORTH 2468

REFERENCE 14172468 TO NEAREST 100 METRES

Scale 1:50,000  
Nearest similar reference distant 1,000 Metres.

Contours normally at  
50 M. V.I.  
10 M. V.I.

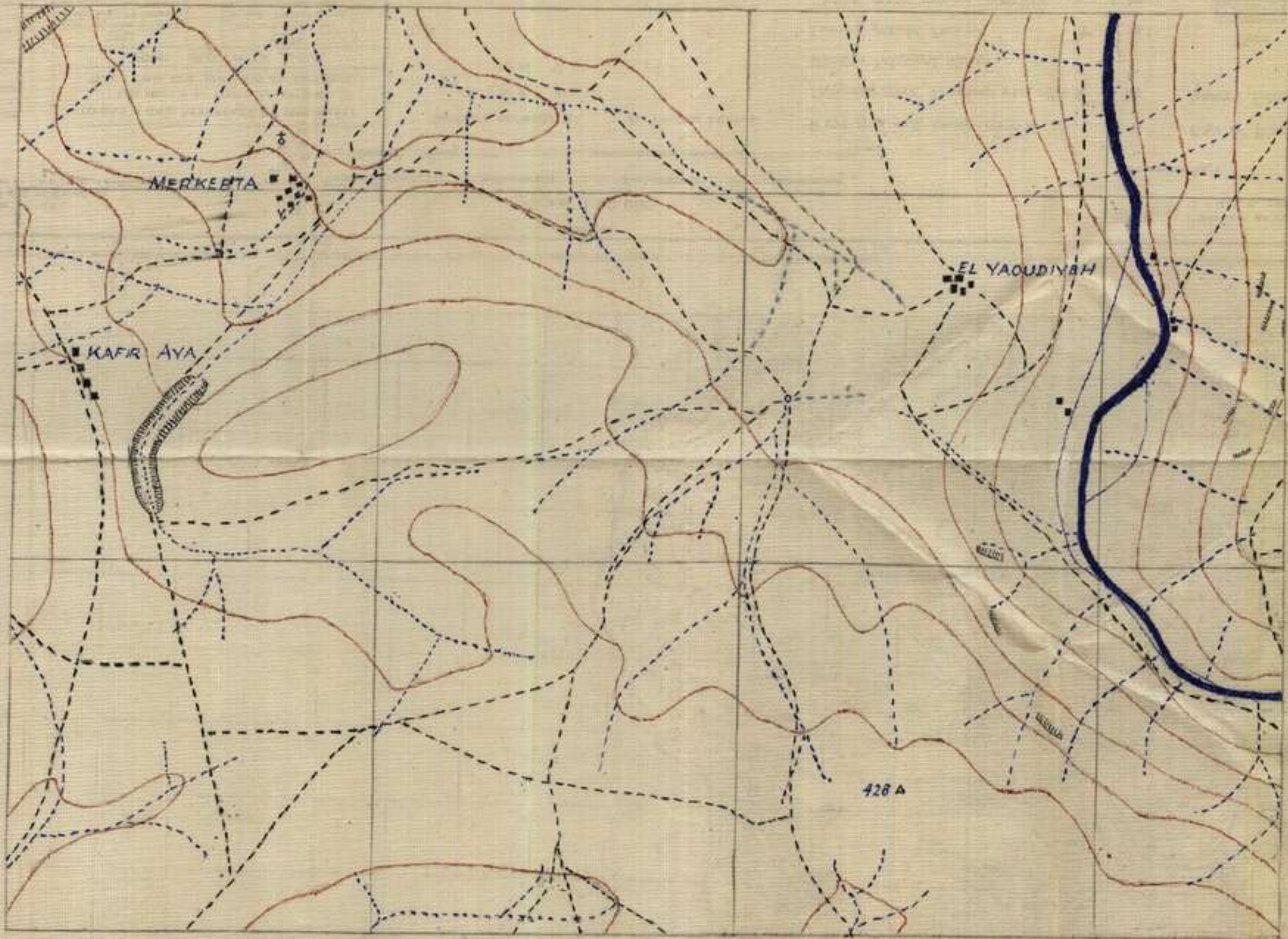
**CONVERGENCE**  
At West Sheet Edge Grid North is 1° 03' 20" West of True North  
At East Sheet Edge Grid North is 0° 54' 35" West of True North

- Conventional Signs
- Water mill, well, spring, reservoir ...
  - Telegraph office, Telephone post office ...
  - Wireless Telegraph station ...
  - Landing ground, Factory ...
  - Church, chapel, calvary, cemetery ...
  - Mosque Khoubba, Tomb ...
  - Ruins ...
  - Trig. point spot height ...

- Conventional Signs
- Edge of Wood, Cultivation, Fence, Isolated Trees, (Deciduous, Coniferous, Palm)
  - Wood
  - Scrub
  - Orchard
  - Gardens
  - Vineyards
  - Olive Groves



— ENLARGEMENT OF BN AREA —



REFERENCE MAP:  
TRIPOLI SPECIAL 1,2  
1:25,000

SCALE 1/10,000

V.I. 50m.

INT. SEC. 2/27 BN  
10 JAN 42