

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

**Item number: 8/3/75**

**36 Infantry Battalion**  
**October - December 1942**



AUG 27 1943

## WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.  
(adapted.)Unit *36 Aust Inf Bn*Date and Time.—From *0900 2 Oct 42* To *1310 hrs 17 Oct 42*

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Uberi	2	0900	Bde advised, 36 Bn less one Coy of four Pls will relieve 2/2 Bn at KOITAKI area by 2400 hrs 3 Oct. One Coy of four Pls to relieve 2/1 Bn JAWABERE by 2400 hrs 4 Oct. Transport from ILOLO will be arranged.	
Uberi	3	0700	Bn HQ closed. Reopened at KOITAKI 1400 hrs 3 Oct.	
Koitaki	3	1445	Bn dispositions ref map MORESBY SPECIAL. Two inches to one mile. Bn H.Q. 361098, HQ Coy 363076, A Coy H.Q. 363083, B Coy H.Q. 412086 C Coy en route to JAWABERE, D Coy HQ and 2 Pls at SUBITANA vic 483088, one Pl vic. EILOLO 413048.	FIRE PLAN MAP see Appendix H.
"	6	1500	Warning order for 36 Bn to move to LALOKI not before 8 Oct.	
"	9	1400	Bn H.Q. closed	
Bisiatabu	9	1600	Bn H.Q. reopened at ref map MORESBY SPECIAL 2 inches to 1 mile 160410	See Appendix F for route taken.
"	10	1100	Bn HQ closed. Reopened same time Ref 995485 (LALOKI)	
Laloki	10	1400	C Coy left SUBITANA by M.T. marched from JAWABERE.	
"	10	1745	Coy in at hour intervals.	
"	14	1115	Bde advice mountain battery will carry out practice shoot 0900 hrs - 1200 hrs 14 Oct. Target boundary 972382	
"	16	1145	Brig Smith arrived. Left 1545	
"	17	1020	Maj General Vasey, 6 Aust Div with Brig. Smith arrived this Bn. Maj. General Vasey emphasised the need for better amenities for troops. Left 1215 hrs.	
"	17	1310	Warning order. 36 Bn will move to vicinity MURRAY BARRACKS not before Oct 20. Lt Col Isaachsen, Capt Elphick, Capt McFlynn made recon of area.	

7872.L.

By Authority: L. F. JOHNSTON, Commonwealth Government Printer, Canberra.

O Isaachsen  
Li bol



# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.  
(adapted.)

Unit 36th Aust. Inf Bn.

Date and Time.—From 1820 hrs 18 Oct 42 To 1330 24 Oct 42

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
LALOKI	18	1820	I.O. (Capt. Elphick) made recon of new Bn. Area at MURRAY BARRACKS. Bn. Marched out to new area Arrived 2400 hrs.	See Appendix-G for defensive plan MURRAY BARRACKS
MURRAY BARRACKS.	20	1700.	B. Eschelen to remain at present location. Brig Smith addressed Bn. Officers on need for stricter discipline and intensified training.	
	20		6 Aust. Div command recommends promotion of Licut Jaaffe to temporary Captain.	
	20	1930.	All available Bn personnel taken on route march. Returned 2209 hrs.	
MURRAY BARRACKS	22	0915	Temporary Bde H.Q. established Bn Area after Bde H.Q. moved to Ref 887369 delayed by collapse of LALOKI bridge after heavy rain.	
			Bde request arrangements be made for 6 Officers + 20 RS to be moved by air from LALOKI to SEVEN Mile Drome in order to establish temporary H.Q. in 36 BN Area.	
	22	1600.	Combined bands of 36 and 55 Bns practice in preparation for inspection of BDE by General Sir Thomas Blamey.	
			6 Div asked for immediate traverse of all roads and tracks in Bn. Area not shown on Moresby Special One inch.	
		1600	Temporary Bde H.Q. established in 36. Bn. Area.	
	23.	0830.	Coy Comd. conference in C.O's tent. Dress for rehearsal this afternoon for brigade inspection. Green shirts and trousers.	
	24.	1330.	Bn left MURRAY BARRACKS and marched to MORESBY where it formed up with the 55. BN.	
			Review and inspection of 36 and 55. Bns by General BLAMEY. In address to troops General Blamey said that 14 Bde was the best Militia Bde in Aust, when, in May 42, it was chosen for defence of PORT MORESBY. He said 3 BN had done an excellent job in Owen Stanley Ranges. Men appeared very fit, he added, and the Brigade compared favourably with any AIF Bde he had inspected.	See Appendix E for photos of review.

7872.L.

By Authority: L. F. JOHNSTON, Commonwealth Government Printer, Canberra.

O. Isaacson  
Lt Col



# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.  
(adapted.)

Unit 36 Aust. Inf. Bn.

Date and Time.—From 1330 24 Oct 42 To 1430 31 Oct 42

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MURRAY BARRACKS	24.		General Blamey inspected Officers after march past. Brig Smith congratulated the Bn. on its general bearing and steadiness at the review.	
	25.	1930.	Picture Show in Bn Area delayed for 1½ hrs while JAP Rescue plane was over MORESBY and SEVEN MILE <del>VALLEY</del> DROME.	
	26	1800 1930.	Twenty O.R.s. from 53 Bn. joined 36 Bn. all Officers attended a lecture by the C.O. on Intelligence Work, and Battle Procedure. The C.O. dealt mainly with information Coy Comds should supply. I sec when positions are occupied.	
	28.		Anti-Malarial dress ordered after 1800 hrs. (long trousers, shirts buttoned at wrists and neck)	
	29	0250.	Our ack ack defences opened up on enemy raider which dropped bombs near BOOTLESS INLET area. Bn. continued with digging of weapon pits.	
	30	1400 0900.	C.O.'s Conference. Coy Commanders selected defensive positions and prepared fire plan for 3 Bn. in use of Burns Peak.	
		1930	Major Thorsby addressed all Offrs on Weapon, Tactics and Organisation of the Japanese Army.	
	31.	1430.	Brig Smith, G Div A.D.M.S. A.A. and Q.M.G. inspected training Cadre. Cadre gave display of wire fence busting & drill.	
		1230	all Bn. T.S.M.G.'s recalled	

*O. Isaacson  
L. bol*



## EXTRACTS FROM W/3008

As on 3 Oct. 42

Ranks	W/E	Posted Strength. (excluding attached)	Surplus to Estab.	Reinf. Required.
Lieut. Colonels.		1		
Majors.		1		2
Captains.		11	1	
Lieutenants		22	1	
2nd Lieutenants				
Quartermasters.				1
TOTAL		35	2	3

PARTICULARS OF OFFICERS JOINED OR QUITTED  
DURING THE MONTH OF OCT.  
OFFICERS JOINED

Rank.	Name	Corps.	Date	Cause.
Major	DOUGLAS, C. D.	36 BN.	30.9.42	Rejd. EX. Det. Honner.
Lieut.	EEDY, A. K.	" "	" "	" " " "
"	KNOTT, C. W.	" "	" "	" " " "
"	CLARKE, I. S.	" "	" "	" " " "
Major	THORSEY, J. H.	" "	8.10.42	Rejd. Ex School in Aust. taken on strength.
Lieut.	MEARES, E. R. AD.	" "	21.9.42	Rejd. UNIT. EX. HOSPITAL.
Capt.	LYONS, N. P.	" "	11.10.42	TO take Command E. Coy.
"	MAGUIRE, H. M.	" "	16.10.42	" " " "
Lieut.	BLISS, E. G.	" "	20.9.42	Taken on strength from NCFARD
"	MORT, G. W.	" "	20.10.42	Rejd. ex school. (Flust)
"	GREER, A. H. F.	" "	22.10.42	" " Det. 14 INF Bde
Capt.	POWERS, S. W.	" "	27.10.42	Rejd. UNIT. EX. HOSPITAL.
"	MOYES, G. E.	" "	30.10.42	" " Det Lt/C Kokoda.
Lieut.	KING, F. T.	" "	29.10.42	" " N.C.F. JUNGLE FIGHTING SCHOOL

## OFFICERS QUITTED

Rank	Name	Corps	Date	Cause.
Lieut	DAVIS, J. P.	36 BN	26.9.42	Det. to BONNECILLA VC to Attend. I.O.T.S.
Capt.	MOYES, G. E.	" "	3 Oct. 42	Det. Lt/C Kokoda.
"	LYONS, N. P.	" "	12.10.42	Det 14 INF BDE NMG Group
Lieut.	ELING, C. C.	" "	" "	Evac to Hospital.
"	KING, F. T.	" "	11.10.42	Det N.C.F. Jungle Fighting School.
Capt.	POWERS, S. W.	" "	18.10.42	Evac to Hospital.



OCTOBER 1942.

The unit returned from Uberi to the immediate vicinity of Port Moresby. An attempt was made to deal with the number of men left behind as unfit when the unit marched into the mountains. A few of them were boarded but the majority of those not absorbed were transferred to the "Town Major, Port Moresby" with mutual satisfaction. skin conditions were prevalent and cases of malaria were not infrequent. Generally, however, the health was reasonably good.



Capt.,

(W.J. PULLMAN)

P.M.C. 36 Aust. Inf. Bn.



AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.

ROUTINE ORDERS.

by

LT-COL. O. C. ISAACHSEN,  
Comd 36 Aust. Inf. Bn.

Part 1.

10 Oct. 42.

No. .

1. COURTS MARTIAL, PUBLICATIONS OF RESULTS OF TRIALS.

Nature of Court.  
Place of Trial  
Member tried

Field General Court Martial.  
H.Q. N.G.F Force.  
NX500001 - Pte CAMPBELL J.,  
36 Aust Inf Bn.

Charge

Stealing property belonging  
to a person subject to  
Military Law. (A.A.18 (4).)  
Guilty.

Finding

To undergo detention for 62 days

Sentence

17 August 42

Date of Sentence

31 August 42

Date of Confirmation

Date of promulgation

21 sept 42

Nature of Court  
Place of Trial  
Member tried

Field General Court Martial  
H.Q. N.G.F Force  
NX 81996 - Pte COOK G.J.,  
36 Aust Inf Bn

First Charge

Committed a civil offence  
that is to say attempting  
to shoot with intent to do  
grievous bodily harm.  
(Offence against the Person  
Act 1861, sec 18),  
(A.A.S. 41.)

Finding

Not guilty

Second charge

Committing a civil offence  
that is to say common assault.  
(A.A.S. 41)

Finding

Guilty - Sentence - to be FINED £5

Date of confirmation

23 sept 42

Date of promulgation

10 Oct. 42.

L.W. McGLYNN, Captain.  
Adj. 36 Aust Inf Bn.



"36 Bn R/O" File

dup  
no order

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED.

FIELD.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.

ROUTINE ORDERS.

by

LIEUT-COL O.C. ISMACHSEN.

Comd 36 Aust Inf Bn.

Part 1

26 Oct 42.

No. 11.

1. COURT MARTIALS.

A DCM convened by the GOC, 1 Aust Div was held at Victoria Barracks on 9 Jul 42 for the trial of N.21837 Pte SMITH, Alfred Harris, 36 Bn.

The accused was charged with Desertion in that he absented himself from 2359 hrs 4 May 42 until 0900 hrs 2 Jul 42.

The accused pleaded not guilty. The court found the accused not guilty of the charge but guilty of absence without leave from 24 May 42 until 2 Jul 42.

The court sentenced the accused to undergo detention for sixty days.

The accused was in custody awaiting trial for six days.

The finding and sentence were duly confirmed on 20 Jul 42 by the GOC, NSW L OF C AREA.

The result of the trial was promulgated to the accused at Holdsworthy on 22 Jul 42.

A DCM convened by the GOC NSW L OF C AREA, was held at Victoria Barracks on 17 Jul 42 for the trial of 429414 Pte NILON, Kevin Michael, 36 Bn.

The accused was charged with Desertion in that he absented himself without leave from 17 May 42 at 0600 hrs until 1200 hrs on 10 Jul 42.

The accused pleaded not guilty. The court found the accused not guilty of the charge but guilty of absence without leave from 17 May 42 until 1200 hrs 10 Jul 42.

The court sentenced the accused to undergo detention for 30 days.

The accused was in custody awaiting trial for 6 days.

The finding and sentence were duly confirmed on 31 Jul 42 by the GOC NSW L OF C AREA.

The result of the trial was promulgated to the accused at Orange on 7 Aug 42.

A DCM convened by the GOC NSW L OF C Area was held at Victoria Barracks on 27 Jul 42 for the trial of N21656 Pte LEVY.L. 36 Bn

The accused was charged with Desertion in that he absented himself without leave from 2359 hrs 16 May 42 until 1430 hrs 16 Jul 42.

The accused pleaded not guilty. The court found the accused not guilty of desertion but guilty of absence without leave for the period from 0230 hrs 28 May 42 until 1430 hrs 16 Jul 42.

The court sentenced the accused to undergo detention for 40 days.

The accused was in custody awaiting trial for 10 days.

The finding and sentence were duly confirmed on 5 Aug 42 by the GOC NSW L of C Area.

The result of the trial was promulgated to the accused at Holdsworthy on 19 Aug 42.



A DCM convened by the GOC NSW L of C Area was held at Sydney on 31 Aug 42 for the trial of N.152514 Pte ROUSE, J., 36 Aust Inf Bn.

The accused was charged with Desertion in that he absented himself without leave from 2359 hrs 28 May 42 until 1400 hrs on 11 Aug 42.

The accused pleaded not guilty. The court found the accused guilty of the charge.

The court sentenced the accused to undergo detention for 9 months.

The accused was in custody awaiting trial for 19 days.

The finding and sentence were duly confirmed on 11 Sep 42 by the GOC NSW L of C Area.

The result of the trial was promulgated to the accused at Orange on 14 Sep 42.

A DCM convened by the GOC NSW L of C Area was held at Victoria Barracks on 27 Jul 42 for the trial of N.22042, Pte CRAVINO, K., 36 Bn.

The accused was charged with Desertion in that he absented himself from 2359 hrs on 16 Jun 42 until 1230 hrs on 14 Jul 42.

The accused pleaded not guilty. The court found the accused guilty of the charge.

The court sentenced the accused to undergo detention for six months.

The accused was in custody awaiting trial for 12 days.

The finding and sentence were duly confirmed on 3 Aug 42, by the GOC NSW L of C Area.

The result of the trial was promulgated to the accused at Orange on 17 Aug 42.

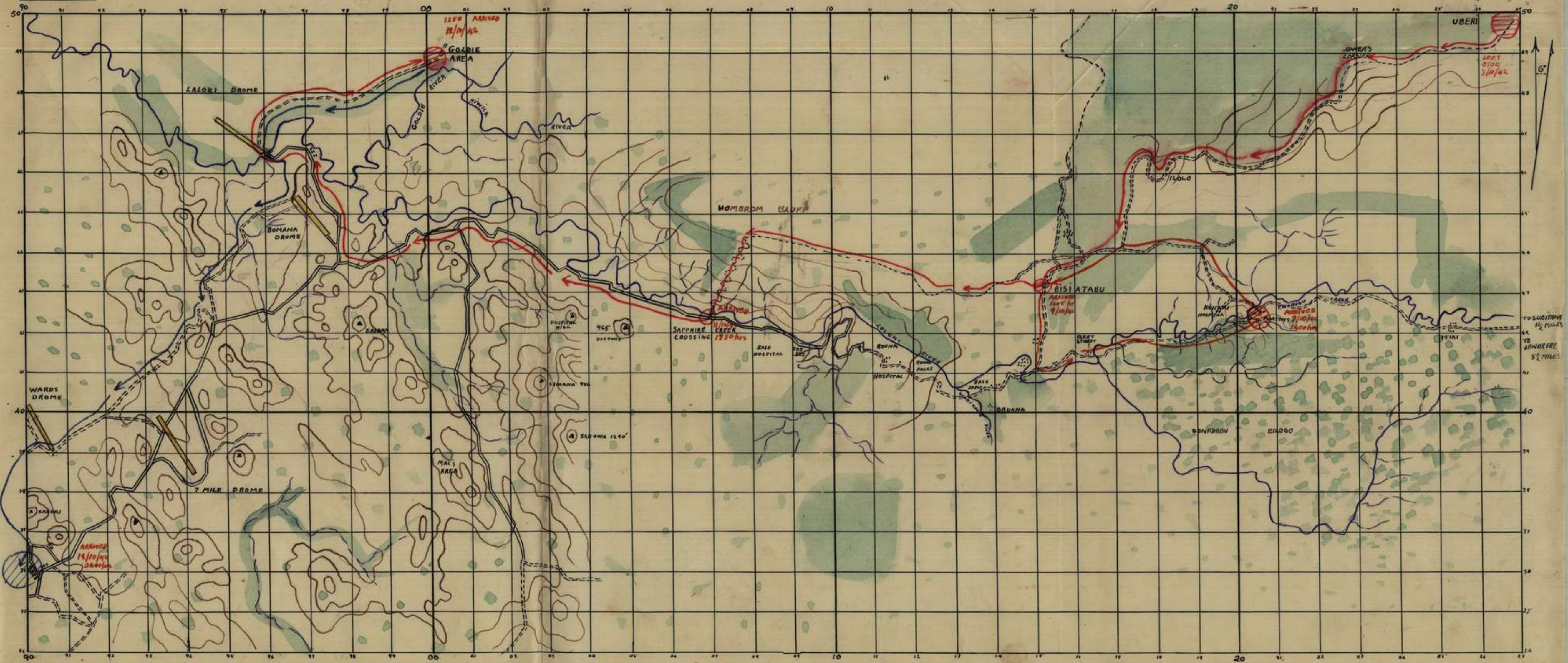
*L.W. McGLYNN*

L.W. McGLYNN, Captain,  
Adit, 36 Aust Inf Bn.



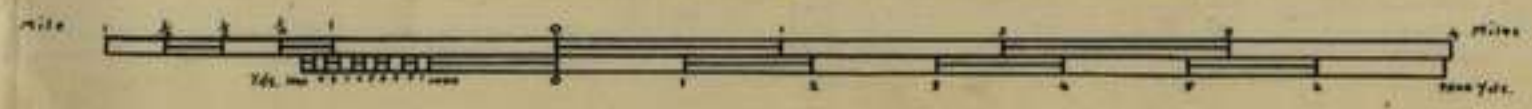
MOVEMENT TO MURRAY BARRACKS —  
— From UBERI — Ref. PORT MORESBY Special 1 inch to 1 Mile —

RF: 1.63360



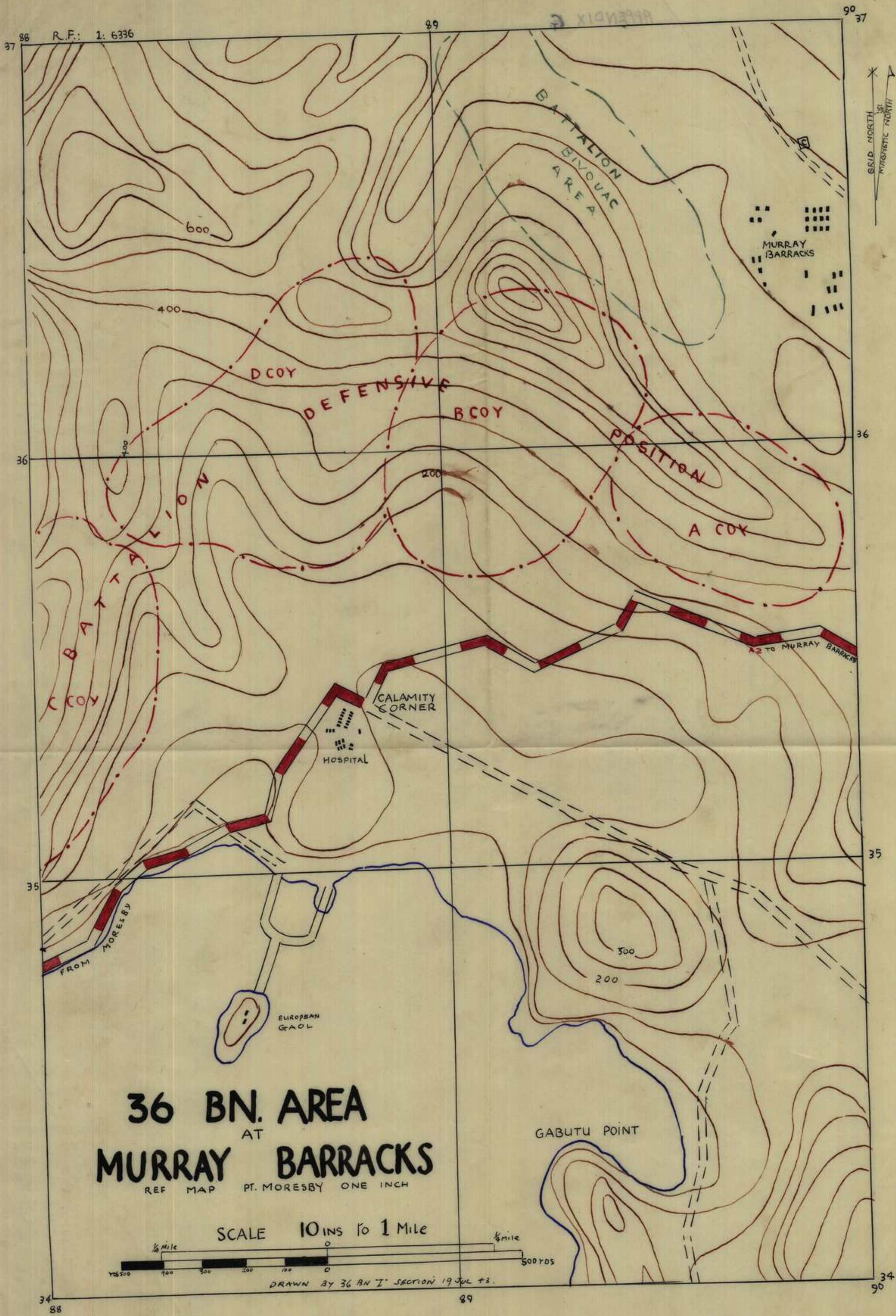
Uberi to Goldie Area →  
Goldie Area to Murray Barracks →

— Scale 1 inch to 1 Mile —



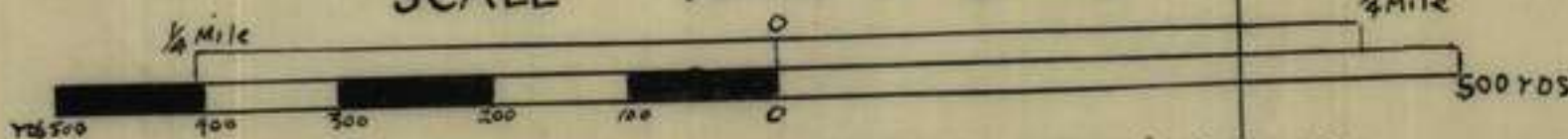
I Sec. 36 Bn.





**36 BN. AREA**  
 AT  
**MURRAY BARRACKS**  
 REF MAP PT. MORESBY ONE INCH

SCALE 10 INS TO 1 MILE



DRAWN BY 36 BN I SECTION 19 JUL 43.

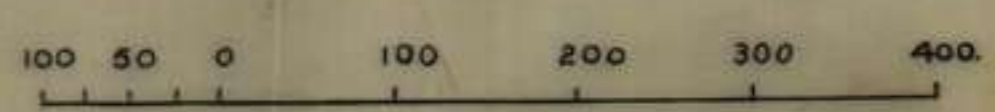


25/3/8  
330-700  
5491  
22MWA



H  
5491

1/3600.



TACTICAL LEGEND.

- Section Post Weapon Pit
- Mortar
- O.P.
- Bren Tank
- Mortar
- Tommy Gun Tank
- Weapon Pit Arc of fire
- Artillery Tank
- M.M.G. with Tank

- MAIN RD.
- PADS
- CREEKS
- WADIS
- M.T. TRACKS
- BOUNDARIES (VEG)

Compiled and drawn by 2nd Post. Inf. Bn. A.I.F. "Int. Sec." 29-9-42.

TRACE

22MWA  
5491  
330-700  
5491



AUG 27 1948

## WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 118.  
(adapted.)Unit 36 Aust. Inf. Bn.Date and Time.—From 1430 31 Oct 42 To 13 Nov 42

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MURRAY BARRACKS	1	0830.	Church Parade field followed by march past. The C.O. took the salute.	
			The Morton Pl. continued Morton demonstrations to number of the 2/s Fd. Regt.	
		1200. 1930	Forty Owen Guns distributed among Coys., replacing T. S. M. G. S. R.M.O. reported 14 cases suspected malaria evacuated to hospital during week. Stricter - anti-malarial precautions to be observed. Men to sleep under nets and take quinine every night.	
	1	1400.	The C.O. and Adj. made recce of New. Bn. Area. Vic. ER-IAMACK. ref MORESBY 1 inch. Special 994422 Bn due to move to new area on Nov 3.	This area was never occupied.
	2		E Coy moved from BOOTLESS INLET and took up new position. vic. EVANS. HOUSE. Coy will come under command N.G.F. M.M.G Bn Nov. 3.	
	3	1730	An American Band from the 128. Regt. (32 Div.) entertained our troops until sunset.	
	4 8	1930. 0830.	B Coy presented concert at Thrifty Club MURRAY BARRACKS. Bn Church parade	
	10	1430.	36 and 55. Bns inspected by Lt. Genl. HERRING. (G.O.C. N.G.F) He was accompanied by Brig. Wotton. Administration command of 6 Div. in the absence of General VASEY. General Herring said that although the Bns had not yet been in action. They had done remarkable work in building up the defence of MORESBY. The troops are to keep themselves very fit in preparation for anything that they may be called on to do.	
	13		The Bn was advised that Capt. PISCAN had rejoined 3 BN. Capt Stephens now Bde I.O.	

7872.L.

By Authority: L. F. JOHNSTON, Commonwealth Government Printer, Canberra.

O. Isachew  
L. Col



# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C 2118.  
(adapted.)

Unit 36 Aust. Inf. Bn.

Date and Time.—From 13 Nov 42 To 0320 30 Nov 42

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MURRAY BARRACKS	15.	0830.	Brig. Smith attended Church Parade.	
	15.	1700.	Heavy rain fell during night.	
	16.	1700	Heavy rain during night Digging and wiring of own and 3 Bns. defensive positions continued. Bris rifles zeroed.	See October diary for map of defensive areas.
	17	0900.	Zeroing of rifles continued today. First issue of weekly newspaper "Sarcasm" was published today by D Coy.	
	19.		Construction of own wiring continued also digging on 3 BN. positions. Zeroing of rifles on range.	
	20.	1730	Band of U.S. 128 Regt (Rear Detail) played for changing of Guard troops. Later entertained troops with gassy music.	
	22	0830.	Church Parade. The band played at Church Parade at <del>H.Q.</del> Corps. H.Q.	
	23.		G.O.C. 6. Div. (Maj. Gen. Allen) G.S.O.M. (Col. Follard) and Brig Smith inspected Bn. defensive area.	
	24.		Construction of field works on defensive positions.	
	25	1630.	Brig Smith addressed Officers and N.C.O's on MORESBY defensive plan and role played by 36. BN.	
	27	0200	Three Enemy bombers dropped. Bombs near WARDS DROME and Bn. Area. Heavy ack. ack. barrage. But none of bombers hit.	
	27	18 30	Capt. Ahern addressed Officers on his experiences of jungle fighting in Owen Stanley's.	
	29.	0830	Church Parade	
	30.	0320.	A enemy bomber flew low over Seven Mile drome Heavy Ack. Ack. fire did not hit bomber.	

7872.L.

By Authority: L. F. JOHNSTON, Commonwealth Government Printer, Canberra.

*O. Isachsen  
Lt Col*



EXTRACTS FROM W/3008

APPENDIX A

AS ON 7 NOV 42.

Ranks	W/E	Posted Strength. (Excluding Attached)	Surplus to Estab	Reinf Required
Lieut Colonels	1	1	-	-
Majors	3	2	-	1
Captains	10	10	-	-
Lieutenants	21	19	-	2
2ND Lieutenants	.	.	-	.
Quartermasters	1	1	-	-
TOTALS	36	33	-	3

PARTICULARS OF OFFICERS JOINED OR QUITTED  
DURING MONTH OF NOV 42

OFFICERS JOINED

Ranks	Name	Corps	Date	Cause
Capt	AHEARNE F G	36 BN	4-11-42	Taken on strength from 1 Aust Corps Recp Camp.
Lieut.	EELING C C	"	5-11-42	Rejd. Unit. ex Hospital.
Lieut.	OLIVER R A	"	7-11-42	" " " "
Capt.	FISHER C B	"	22-11-42	" " Det. 14 Inf Bde
Lieut.	KING F T	"	25-11-42	Rejd ex Hospital.

OFFICERS QUITTED

Rank	Name	Corps	Date	Cause
Capt	LYONS N G P	36 BN	2-11-42	Trans to N.G.M.C BN.
"	MAGUIRE H M	" "	" " "	" " " " "
Lieut.	CUMMINS R P	"	"	"
"	MEARES ERAD	"	"	"
"	KING F T	"	1-11-42	Evacuated to Hospital.
"	YOUNG R R	"	28-10-42	Trans to A.A.D.C.
Capt.	WATSON H J	"	13-11-42	Det. LofC Kokoda
Lieut	MCNAMARA RERS	"	8-11-42	Det. N.G.E. Jungle Fight Schl
"	WAPIER J R	"	9-11-42	" " " " Trng Centre
"	GREER A H F	"	14-11-42	Trans to RSL
"	KNOTT C W	"	17-11-42	Evac to Hospital.
"	ELING C C	"	15-11-42	Det to Arty H/TK Sch Puckapunyal.
"	WOOLDRIDGE F J	"	25-11-42	Det to LofC. Kokoda.
"	KING F T	"	27-11-42	Evac to Hospital.



## EXTRACTS FROM W 3009

7 Nov '42

Details	W.E.	Posted strength (Excluding Attached)		Surplus to Establishment	Reinf'ts Required
		AIF	AMF		
W.Os. Class I	1	-	-	-	1
W.Os. Class II	8	2	2	-	4
Company Q.M. Serjeants	6	2	-	-	4
Staff Serjeants	1	-	-	-	-
Serjeants	41	14	14	-	13
Corporals	86	23	55	-	8
Privates	432	214	460	53	111
Totals	875	255 (186)	531	53	141


## ORs. Attached From Other Units

Details	Number	Unit & Corps to which they belong
W.O. Class II	1	AIC
SjP	1	AAPC
SjP	1	2 Div Postal Unit
Cpl	1	AAOC



NOVEMBER 1942.

The month was spent in the immediate vicinity of Port Moresby and although the sick parades were quite large the evacuations was encouraging with little dysentery and being mainly composed of probable malarias (30 cases). Skin conditions such as ringworm, and monila were a source of considerable trouble and after proved somewhat intractable. The amount of water available was limited and this beyond doubt contributed largely to this state of affairs.

  
Capt.  
(W.J. PULLEN).  
R.M.C. 36 Aust. Inf. Bn.



NOT TO BE PUBLISHED.

FIELD.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.ROUTINE ORDERS.

by

LT-COL O.C. ISAACHSEN,  
Comd 36 Aust Inf Bn.

No. 12.

10 Nov 42.

Part I.

1. PUNISHMENTS & AWARDS.N.321283 - Pte TA RAJ, R. - "D" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.

Place: MURRAY BARRACKS. Date: 19 Oct 42.

Offence: Whilst being a soldier of the Commonwealth Military Forces of Australia on Active Service, committed the following offence:- Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline in that he at PORT MORESBY on 25 Sep 42 did lose his pay book. AA S-40.  
 Award: Fined 10/- Date of award: 19 Oct 42.

NX.90042 - A/Cpl PUTT.E. - HQ Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.

Place: In the field. Date: 23 Oct 42.

Offence: Whilst being a soldier of the Military Forces of the Commonwealth of Australia committed the following offence: Neglecting to obey a camp order in that he at MURRAY BARRACKS on 23 Oct 42 appeared on parade unshaven, contrary to camp order directing all persons to shave before morning meal every day. A.A. S-11.  
 Award: Reprimanded. Date of award: 24 Oct 42.

N.286230 - Pte BRINDLE.C.E. "A" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.

Place: In the field. Date: 22 Oct 42.

Whilst being a soldier of the Military Forces of the Commonwealth of Australia on active service committed the following offence:- committed an act to the prejudice of good order and military discipline in that he lost his paybook on 11 Oct 42 when marching from SAPPHIRE CREEK to GOLDIE RIVER. A.A. S-40.  
 Award: Fined 10/- Date of award: 23 Oct 42.

N.286360 - Pte WATSON.R.K. "D" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.

Place: In the field Date 12 Oct 42.

Offence: Is charged with having while being a soldier of the Military Forces of the Commonwealth of Australia on war service committed the following offence:- When on active service without urgent necessity quitting the ranks in that he at 0800 hrs on 12 Oct 42 at BISIATABU left the ranks of 18 pl without urgent necessity A.A. Sec15(2).  
 Award: Admonished. Date of award: 17 Oct 42.

N.185158 - Pte WALLACE.J.K. - "B" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.

Place: In the field. Date 21 Oct 42.

Offence: Whilst being a soldier of the Military Forces of the Commonwealth of Australia on active service committed the following offence: Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline in that he in the field on 2 Oct 42 failed to go on a patrol. AA. 40(1).  
 Award: Fined £2. Date of award: 24 Oct 42.

N.268719 - Pte ROBERSON.F.G. "B" COY, 36 Aust Inf Bn.

Place: In the field. Date 24 Oct 42.

Offence: Whilst being a soldier of the Military Forces of the Commonwealth of Australia on active service committed the following offence: Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline in that he on 10 Oct 42 at KOITAKI when posted as a guide did fail to pay the proper compliment to an armed body commanded by an officer. AA. 40.  
 Award: Admonished. Date of award: 24 Oct 42.



(2)

36 Aust Inf Bn - ROUTINE ORDERS part 1, No. 12, dated 10 Nov 42.

- N.185979 - Pte ISACKSON.N. HQ Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
Place: In the field. Date 23 Oct 42.  
Offence: Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline in that he at MURRAY BARRACKS on 23 Oct 42 when leaving HQ Coy Orderly room he used obscene language. AA.40(1).  
Award: Fined £3. Date of Award: 24 Oct 42.
- N.177060 - Pte GORDON.K.E. "A" COY, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
Place: Field Date 19 Oct 42.  
Offence: Committed an act to the prejudice of good order and military discipline in that he absented himself from administration parade at 0620 hrs 19 Oct 42 at MURRAY BARRACKS area. A.A. 40.  
Award: Admonished. Date of award: 23 Oct 42.
- NX89993 - Pte ODDY.W. HQ Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
Place: In the field. Date: 23 Oct 42.  
Offence: Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline in that on 23 Oct 42 at MURRAY BARRACKS he chewed gum after being warned not to do so. AA. 40.(1).  
Award: 7 Days C.B. Date of award: 25 Oct 42.
- N.167234 - Pte McGREGOR.H.C. "D" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
Place: In the field. Date 12 Oct 42.  
When on active service without urgent necessity quitting the ranks in that he at 0800 hrs on 12 Oct 42 at BISIATABU left the ranks of 18 pl without urgent necessity. AA 15 (a).
- N.22106 - L/Sjt ELLIOTT.A.E. "C" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
Place: In the field. Date 28 Oct 42.  
Neglecting to obey a general order namedly - 6 Aust Div Instructions for anti-malarial Dress in that he appeared at MURRAY BARRACKS pictures on 28 Oct 42 after 1900 hrs, dressed in shorts and shirt contrary to such instruction. AA. Sec 11.  
Award: Reprimanded. Date 8 Nov 42.
- NX90049 - Sjt CLEARY.R.V. Bn HQ, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
Place: In the field. Date 8 Nov 42.  
Absent without leave in that he absented himself without leave from 1930 hrs on 7 Nov 42 at MURRAY BARRACKS to 221 0 hrs on 7 Nov 42; Time 2 hrs and 40 minutes. AA.15(1).  
Award: Reprimanded. Date 9 Nov 42.
- Q.129341 - Pte. MERCER W. "D" Coy. 36 Aust. Inf. Bn.  
Place : In Yhe Field. Date : 12 Oct. 42.  
When on active service without urgent necessity quitting the ranks in that he at 0800 hrs. on 12 Oct. 42. at BISIATABU left the ranks of 18 Pl. without urgent necessity. A.A. 15 (2)  
Award : Admonished. Date : 17 Oct. 42.
- N.1 85942 Pte. GRAY H. R. "D" Coy. 36 Aust. Inf. Bn.  
Place : In The Field. Date : 12 Oct. 42.  
When on Active Service without urgent necessity quitting the ranks in that he at 0800 hrs. on 12 Oct. 42. at BISIATABU left the ranks of 18 Pl. without urgent necessity. A.A. Sec. 15 (2)  
Award : Fined £1 Date 17 Oct. 42.
- N286250 Pte. ANSOUL K. J. "D" Coy. 36 Aust. Inf. Bn.  
Place : In the Field. Date : 12 Oct. 42.  
Offence : When on active service without urgent necessity quitting the ranks in that he at 0800 hrs. on 12 Oct. 42 at BISIATABU left the ranks of 18 Pl. without urgent necessity. AA Sec. 15 (2)  
Award : Remanded. Date : 17 Oct. 42.
- NX78748 Pte. H. A. COOPER Bn. H.Q. 36 Aust. Inf. Bn.  
Place : In The Field. Date : 12 Oct. 42.  
Offence : When on active service without urgent necessity quitting the ranks in that he at 11 30 hrs. on 12 Oct. 42 at LALOKI left the ranks of Bn. H.Q. without urgent necessity. AA Sec. 15 (2)  
Award : Admonished. Date : 16 Oct. 42.



36 Aust. Inf. Bn. - ROUTINE ORDERS Part 1. No. 12 Dated 10 Nov. 42.

N247869 Pte. LEONARD C. J. H.Q. Coy., 36 Aust. Inf. Bn.

Place : In The Field. Date : 15 Oct. 42.

Offence : Neglect to the prejudice of good order and Military Discipline in that on 15 Oct. 42 he could not produce his emergency rations when ordered to do so. A.A. 40 ~~XXX~~(1)

Award : Admonished. Date 15 Oct. 42.

N21635 B/Cpl. MITCHELL W. D. H.Q. Coy., 36 Aust. Inf. Bn.

Place : In The Field. Date : 15 Oct. 42.

Neglect to the prejudice of good order and Military Discipline in that on 15 Oct. 42 he could not produce his emergency rations when ordered to do so.

Award : Reverted to Ranks. Date : 15 Oct. 42.

N152 406 Pte. SAUNDERS J. H.Q. Coy., 36 Aust. Inf. Bn.

Place : In The Field. Date : 30 Sep. 42.

Offences : (1) Disobeyed a lawful command given by his Superior Officer in that he, when ordered to Cpl. BRINKWORTH to go to the end of a mess parade he left the parade. A.A. 9 (2).

(2) Disobeyed a lawful command given by his Superior Officer in that he, when ordered by Lieut. McNAMARA of 36 Bn. to report to Cpl. WILLIAMS as a member of a trench digging party he said "I wont dig until I have eaten. I Know my rights." A.A. 9 (2).

Award : Fined £5 Date : 1 Oct. 42.

N152406 Pte. SAUNDERS J. H.Q. Coy., 36 Aust. Inf. Bn.

Place : In The Field. Date : 30 Sep. 42.

Offence : Absented himself without leave from 1200 hrs. on 29 Sep. 42 to 0600 hrs. on 30 Sep. 42, period 18 hrs. A.A. 15 (1)

Award : Fined £1 and informed forfeiture of one days pay & allowances  
Date : 1 Oct. 42.

N186148 Pte. THOMSON J. 36 Aust. Inf. Bn.

Place : Infectious Disease Hospital. Date : 1 Aug. 42.

Offence : In that he, while being a member of the AMF, failed to observe the S.O. of the Hospital by being out of bounds. A.A. 11.

Award : Admonition & Fatigues. Date : 1 Sep. 42

N21851 Dvr. IRVIN B. G. - 36 Aust. Inf. Bn.

Place : Infectious Diseases Hospital. Date : 31 Aug. 42.

Offence : In that he, while being a member of the AMF, failed to observe the S.O. of the Hospital by being out of bounds. A.A. 11

Award : Admonition and Fatigues. Date : 1 Sep. 42.

N186180 Pte. WARD J. S. 36 Aust. Inf. Bn.

Place : Infectious Disease Hospital. Date 31 Aug. 42.

Offence : In that he, while being a member of the AMF, failed to observe the S.O. of the Hospital by being out of bounds. A.A. 11.

Award : Admonition & Fatigues. Date : 1 Sep. 42.

N176050 Pte. CHURCHER F. W. H.Q. Coy., 36 Aust. Inf. Bn.

Place : In The Field. Date : 20 Aug. 42.

Offence : Conduct to the prejudice of good order and Military Discipline in that he on 20 Aug. 42. at BOOTLESS INLET was incorrectly dressed in that he did not wear short puttees. A.A. 40 Sec. 1.

Award : Admonished. Date 22 Aug. 42.

N176060 Pte. HORNER E. J. H.Q. Coy. 36 Aust. Inf. Bn.

Place : In The Field. Date : 18 Aug. 42.

Offence : Conduct to the prejudice of good order and Military Discipline in that he on 18 Aug. 42 at BOOTLESS INLET disobeyed a lawful order given by his Superior Officer in that when ordered to go on picquet he refused. A.A. 40.

Award : Admonished. Date 22 Aug. 42.



(4)

36 Aust Inf Bn. ROUTINE ORDERS Part 1, No. 12, Dated 10 Nov 42.

2. COURT OF INQUIRY.

The undermentioned Officers will constitute a Court of Inquiry to enquire into and report on the loss of spare wheel and tyre from truck no. 26191 between 30 Sep 42 and 20 Oct 42:

- PRESIDENT . . . . . Capt J.M.RILEY.
- MEMBER . . . . . Capt L.W.McGLYNN.
- MEMBER . . . . . Lieut C.R.BEGG.

3. DISTRICT COURT MARTIAL.

A DCM convened by the GOC, HQ NSW L of C Area was held at Sydney on 8 Aug 42 for the trial of N.21408 - PTE J.A.HAYES, 36 Bn. The accused was charged with DESERTION in that he was awl from 2359 hrs 28 May 42 to 1100 hrs on 7 Jul 42. The accused pleaded NOT GUILTY. The Court found the accused not guilty of desertion but guilty of awl for the period stated in the charge. The Court sentenced the accused to forfeit seven days ordinary pay. The accused was in custody awaiting trial for eleven days. The finding and sentence were duly confirmed on 25 Aug 42 by the GOC, HQ NSW L of C Area. The result of the trial was promulgated to the accused at MILLERS POINT on 17 Oct 42.

(SGD)

*L.W. McGLYNN*  
 L.W.McGLYNN, Captain,  
Adjt, 36 Aust Inf Bn.



*Pho Moresby  
Kauai 10 Dec 42  
22 Nov 42*

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED

F I E L D.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.

ROUTINE ORDERS.

by

LIEUT-COLONEL O.C. ISAACHSEN

Comd 36 Aust Inf Bn.

No. 13

PART 1.

22 Nov 42.

1. HYGIENE AND SANITATION.

The following extract from NCF instans is published:-

"The large increase in the number of tps coming into the MORESBY area and the advent of the Malaria season make it imperative that the standard of personal and unit hygiene and anti-malarial control must be of the highest.

There is already a great increase in the fly pest, which brings the attendant ills of diarrhoea and dysentery. This can be brought within reasonable control by proper observance of the normal methods of field hygiene and by strict adherence to the proper sanitation of areas.

Malaria must be actively combated by insisting on tps taking quinine regularly and by wearing the proper clothing after sunset."

2. DISCIPLINE - FALSE IDENTITY.

A number of instances have recently occurred of personnel giving a false name and/or unit identity when apprehended by members of 6 Aust Div Pro Coy for an alleged offence.

Every member of this unit will at all times have on his person both his paybook and identity discs which will be produced whenever required by any person having authority so to do.

Any member who cannot establish his identity when called upon to do so may be apprehended and detained until his identity is satisfactorily established.

Severe disciplinary action will be taken against any member who gives or attempts to give false information as to his identity.

3. HYGIENE.

Provisions of NCF order para 451 are promulgated for strict compliance by all ranks. Such provisions will be promulgated to ALL ranks and will be repeated at least once a month until further notice.

1. Disease in NEW GUINEA is in the main due to two insects - the fly and the mosquito. The fly carries dysentery, typhoid, etc, and the mosquito malaria, dengue, etc.
2. All ranks must co-operate in the prevention of breeding and in the destruction of both these disease carriers.
3. With this end in view, units will ensure that the following general rules of sanitation are observed:-
  - (a) Latrines will be of deep trench variety and will be at least ten feet deep. They will have a fly proof superstructure with self-closing lids. No latrine will be constructed within forty yards of the LAIOKI River, or of any creek or stream that is flowing, or may subsequently flow into that river.



36 Aust Inf Bn Routine Order No.13, 22 Nov 42, Part 1 - PAGE 2.

(b) All refuse (incl tins, moist garbage, etc) will be thoroughly incinerated and then buried in Unit Areas in deep pits. The final closure of these pits must consist of a three feet thickness of earth. The practice of dumping Unit refuse outside Unit areas is prohibited.

(c) Unit areas must be cleared of all accumulated tins, refuse, etc, immediately.

(d) Kitchen and other water containing grease will be put through a grease trap and then disposed of in a pit constructed close to the grease trap. The pit is to be of deep construction and partly filled with stories of incinerated tins that have been broken up and will be covered with a fly proof lid.

(e) The practice of spilling water containing grease on the ground is prohibited.

(f) Ablution water from showers, etc, will be conducted along a shallow drain of sufficient length to permit the water to scad away or evaporate.

(g) Water must not be permitted to accumulate into pools or swamps where mosquitoes could breed.

(h) All food and foodstuffs will be so covered that flies cannot gain access to it and so stored that dust from roads or elsewhere cannot come in contact with it.

(i) Water will not be allowed to stand in or near Unit Lines. Hollows holding water or capable of holding water must be drained or filled.

(j) Unnecessary excavations must not be made.

(k) Empty tins, broken bottles and the like must be so disposed of or treated so that water cannot collect therein.

The importance of strict attention to the foregoing cannot be over emphasised if unnecessary wastage of manpower due to insect borne diseases is to be prevented.

46 DISTRICT COURT MARTIAL.

A DCM convened by the GOC, HQ NSW L of C Area was held at SYDNEY on 24 Jun 42 for the trial of N.91895 PTE BENNISON, SAMUEL THOMAS, 36 Bn.

THE ACCUSED was charged with Desertion, in that he was AWL on 17 May 42 until 1030 hrs on 15 Jun 42.

THE ACCUSED pleaded NOT GUILTY. The Court found the accused not guilty of the charge, but guilty of AWL from 17 May 42 to 1030 hrs on 15 Jun 42.

The Court sentenced the accused to detention for 60 days.

The accused was in custody awaiting trial for nine days.

The finding and sentence were duly confirmed on 15 Jul 42 by the GOC, HQ NSW L of C AREA.

The result of the trial was promulgated to the accused at ORANGE on 21 Jul 42.

55 PUNISHMENTS AND AWARDS.

N.21353 - Pte BROWN.D.C., "C" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.

Place: In the Field

Date 30 Aug 42.

Offence: Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline in that he at MAC'S AREA on 30 Aug 42 used indecent language. AA 40.

Award: Fined £5; 28 days detention

Date 31 Aug 42.



36 Aust Inf Bn Routine Orders No.13 22 Nov 42 part 1. Page 3.

429193 - Pte ISAAC.D., HQ Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.

Place: In the field.

Date 23 Aug 42.

Offence: Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline in that he on 23 Aug 42 at BOOTLESS INLET disobeyed a lawful command given by his superior officer. AA.40.

Award: Admonished.

Date 23 Aug 42.

N186137 - Pte STEPHENS.H.W., HQ Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.

Place: In the Field.

Date 28 Aug 42.

Offence: Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline in that he on 25 Aug 42 at BOOTLESS INLET disobeyed a lawful command given by his superior officer. AA 40.

Award: Admonished.

Date 28 Aug 42.

429426 - Pte TANDY.W.A.E., HQ Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.

Place: In the field.

Date 21 Aug 42.

Offence: Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline in that he on 23 Aug 42 at BOOTLESS INLET appeared on parade with a dirty rifle. A.A.40.

Award: Admonished.

Date 24 Aug 42.

NX78907 - Pte FLOWER.L.A., HQ Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.

Place: In the field.

Date: 24 Aug 42.

Offence: Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline in that being the driver of the truck CL5742 30-cwt did fail to maintain said truck in good running order and condition. AA 40.

Award: Admonished.

Date 24 Aug 42.

N186157 - Pte WARREN.H.J., "C" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.

Place: PORT MORESBY.

Date 24 Aug 42.

Offence: Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline in that he on 24 Aug 42 at PORT MORESBY fell out of the ranks without permission. AA 40.

Award: Fined £3, 14 days CB.

Date 31 Aug 42.

N.21781 - A/Cpl REED.L.N., "E" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.

Place: In the field.

Date 23 Aug 42.

Offence: Absenting himself without leave in that he at SMELTERS AREA where his platoon was stationed absented himself at 2230 hrs on 22 Aug 42 until 1130 hrs on 23 Aug 42. AA 15(1)

Award: Reduced to the ranks.

Date 31 Aug 42.

N186096 - Pte ROSE.M.H., "E" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.

Place: In the field.

Date 23 Aug 42.

Offence: Absenting himself without leave in that he at SMELTERS AREA where his platoon was stationed absented himself from 2230 hrs on 22 Aug 42 till 1130 hrs on 23 Aug 42. AA 15(1).

Award: Fined £1

Date: 31 Aug 42.

N186100 - Pte ROGERS.J.F., 36 Aust Inf Bn. (Det 14 IBT Bn)

Place: LOWLEVEL.

Date 25 Aug 42.

Offence: Neglect of camp Standing Orders in that he was without his rifle whilst erecting bunks in camp area at 1510 hrs on 25 Aug 42. AA 11.

Award: Admonished.

Date 26 Aug 42.

NX89957 - Pte CRONAH.P., 36 Aust Inf Bn. (Det 14 IBT Bn)

Place: LOWLEVEL.

Date 25 Aug 42.

Offence: Neglect of camp Standing Orders in that he was without his rifle whilst erecting bunks in camp area at 1510 hrs on 25 Aug 42. SS 11.

Award: Admonished.

Date 26 Aug 42.



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- N286254 - Pte BAKER.K., "E" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
Place: In the field. Date 23 Aug 42.  
Offence: AWL from 2230 hrs on 22 Aug 42 till 1130 hrs on 23 Aug 42. AA 15(1).  
Award: Fined £1. Date 31 Aug 42.
- N185935 - Pte JEWISS. A., "E" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
N185883 - Pte CUMMINS.H., "E" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
N.91747 - Pte BROOMFIELD.M.C., "E" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
Place: In the field. Date 23 Aug 42.  
Offence: AWL from 2230 hrs 22 Aug 42 till 1130 hrs 23 Aug 42 AA 15(1).  
Award: Each fined £1. Date 31 Aug 42.
- N.212363 - Pte WOODGATE.J.A., "D" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
Place: MURRAY BARRACKS. Date: 19 Oct 42.  
Offence: Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline in that he AT PORT MORESBY on 25 Sep 42 did lose his paybook. AA 40.  
Award: Fined 10/- Date 3 Nov 42.
- N.286251 - Pte BADDOCK.M. - C coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
N167207 - Pte GREEN.A.J. - C coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
N167210 - Pte HANNAH.D. - C coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
N167223 - Pte LAW. S. - C coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
N166960 - Pte PHILLIPS.W.J. - C coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
N167257 - Pte SUPRAIN.H.G. - C coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
N167264 - Pte WERRY.A.C. - C coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
N186152 - Pte VERDI.G. HQ Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
N186175 - Pte WESTMAN.E. - HQ coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
N.91693 - Pte SMITH.R.E. - HQ coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
N286293 - Pte HEEPS.G. - HQ Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
N112021 - Pte TRAMELL.J. - HQ coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
N166959 - Pte PAINE.H.A. - HQ coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
N.21823 - Pte McMECHAN.J. - HQ coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
NX78673 - Pte SLOAN.A.E. - HQ coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
NX78775 - Pte WADE.W. - HQ coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
N176045 - Pte BALDREY.R. - HQ coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
N.21370 - Pte CHAPMAN.W. - HQ coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
N152501 - Pte SHOESMITH.J. - HQ coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
N176051 - Pte CLUFF.G. - HQ coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
Place: MURRAY BARRACKS. Date: 21 Oct 42.  
Offence: Failed to appear at a place of parade appointed by their CO, in that they were absent from a coy parade set down by their OC at 1230 hrs 21 Oct 42. AA 15(2).  
Awards: Each fined £1. Date 22 Oct 42.
- N.22009 - Pte BENT.R.H., "C" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
Place: In the field. Date 2 Nov 42.  
Offence: Disobeyed a lawful command given by his superior officer in that he refused to continue working when ordered to do so by Lieut NAPIER his superior officer. AA 9(2).  
Award: Admonished. Date 6 Nov 42.
- N286351 - Pte TAVERNER.F., HQ coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn, Att 14 Bde HQ.  
Place In the field. Date 25 Oct 42.  
Offence: Disobeyed a lawful command given by his superior officer in that he when ordered to help dig a slit trench refused stating that it was his rest day. AA 9(2).  
Award: Fined £1. Date 27 Oct 42.
- N186071 - Pte ORCHARD.G., 36 Aust Inf Bn, (Det 103 AGH).  
Place: BAULKHAM HILLS. Date 19 Oct 42.  
Offence: Absent himself without leave from 2100 hrs 16 Oct 42 to 0930 hrs 17 Oct 42, total 1 day. AA 15(1).  
Award: Fined 1, notified forfeiture of 1 days pay and allowances. Date 19 Oct 42.



N.21814 - Pte McKINNON.D., "B" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
 Place: In the field. Date 4 Nov 42.  
 Offence: Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline in that he at 1300 hrs on 4 Nov 42 used insubordinate language. AA 40.  
 Award: Admonished. Date: 6 Nov 42.

N286320 - Pte LINTER.T.A., "B" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
 Place: In the field. Date 3 Nov 42.  
 Offence: Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline in that he in the field lost his paybook. AA 40.  
 Award: Fined 10/- Date 3 Nov 42.

N.21814 - Pte McKINNON.D., "B" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
 Place: in the field. Date 3 Nov 42.  
 Offence: Disobeyed a lawful order given by a superior officer in that he on 2 Nov 42 refused to take quinine tablets when ordered to do so by Lieut C.W.Knott. AA 9(2).  
 Award: 14 Days CB. Date 3 Nov 42.

N186005- Pte LEES.L.J., "B" coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn,  
 Place: In the field. Date 21 Oct 42.  
 Offence: Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline in that he in the field on 3 Oct 42 failed to take proper care of a bren gun in his charge causing same to be damaged. AA 40.  
 Award: Fined £2. Date 9 Nov 42.

SEEN BY

L.W.McGLYNN, Captain, Adit. 36 Aust Inf Bn.

HQ COY	<u>[Signature]</u>	Date	<u>26 Nov 42</u>
"A" COY	<u>[Signature]</u>	Date	<u>1 Dec</u>
"B" COY	<u>[Signature]</u>	Date	<u>29/11/42</u>
"C" COY	<u>[Signature] Capt.</u>	Date	<u>1.12.42</u>
"D" COY	<u>[Signature] Capt.</u>	Date	<u>30/11/42</u>
QM	<u>[Signature]</u>	Date	<u>25/11/42</u>
RMO	<u>[Signature]</u>	Date	<u>3/12/42</u>
RSM	<u>[Signature]</u>	Date	<u>2/12/42</u>
TO	<u>[Signature]</u>	Date	<u>26/11/42</u>



NOT TO BE  
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IN THE  
FIELD

Appx. D.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.

ROUTINE ORDERS.

by

LIEUT-COLONEL O.C. ISAACHSEN.

Comd 36 Aust Inf Bn.

Part I. 24 Nov 42. No. 14.

1. ACTION TO BE TAKEN ON RECEIPT OF AN AIR RAID  
ALARM. PORT MORESBY-LALOKI VALLEY AREA.

NGF Order No. 538 is repeated hereunder for promulgation to all ranks:-

(1) MORESBY is a large area and enemy bombing at the present time is infrequent and inaccurate. The enemy, by his attacks intends to delay and disrupt the normal work of the area just as much as to cause casualties. We are determined that enemy action will NOT impede our operations.

(2) It is obviously wrong that the general air raid warning should affect normal activity throughout the whole area. If the enemy endeavours to attack the "7-MILE" Drome it is improbable that the "17-MILE" will be involved simultaneously.

(3) Casualties are caused by men trying to get to slit trenches instead of lying flat where they happen to be when the attack develops. In a recent raid at DARWIN an inf bn was caught in the open by a heavy bombing attack. All men lay flat and there were no serious casualties.

(4) The policy as regards air raid warnings which is given in detail in the succeeding paras of this order will be adopted by ALL personnel in the MORESBY - LALOKI VALLEY area incl naval and air personnel as well as ground forces. These orders will apply throughout to both AMERICAN and AUSTRALIAN personnel.

(5) The policy now being introduced in regard to air raid warnings and the conduct of personnel during air attack or threat of an attack will involve a number of changes in Unit procedure. The basis of the new orders is the self control of the individual. This can only be inculcated by COs of ALL arms and services whether AMERICAN or AUSTRALIAN taking immediate and definite steps to educate tps under their comd as regards the meaning, importance and necessity for uniform adherence to the order.

(6) AIR RAID SIGNALS.

The following air raid signals will be employed in the MORESBY area:-

- (a) AIR RAID YELLOW is a cautionary signal signifying that unidentified aircraft have been detected some distance from this base and that an air raid may possibly be made.
- (b) AIR RAID RED means that the time of expected arrival of hostile aircraft is imminent.
- (c) AIR RAID GREEN will denote that the raiders have passed and the raid is ended.



36 Aust Inf Bn - Routine Orders, part 1, No. 14, 24 Nov 42. PAGE 2.1. ACTION TO BE TAKEN ON RECEIPT OF AN AIR RAID ALARM. FORT MORESBY - LALOKI VALLEY AREA. (Continued).(7) AIR RAID WARNINGS.

The policy as regards air raid warnings therefore will be:-

- (a) Air raid warnings incl ALL CLEAR will be passed by exchange operators to forms and Units. Clear the Line procedure being used when necessary.
- (b) The following will be the normal signal channel for the passing of warnings:- 4 Fighter Sector will pass warning to 7 MILE exchange and WONGA. 7 MILE exchange will pass to PITT STREET exchange operator who will then pass warning to HQ NMF operator who will in turn pass warning to Unit HQ and exchanges connected to his board. This system will be varied on the completion of the telephone trunking system.
- (c) Other exchange operators as warnings are received will pass them in a similar manner to that outlined above.

(8) PROCEDURE WITHIN UNITS OR DIST.BY DAY:-

- (a) All Units will have one OR available as air sentry.
- (b) Air sentries will take post on receipt of AIR RAID RED and be prepared to sound local alarm if raiders approach their particular area.
- (c) Until local Unit alarm sounds no action will be taken to disturb normal work. The sounding of one Unit alarm will NOT be taken as a reason for neighbouring Units to sound their alarms.
- (d) The normal Unit alarm will be by whistle (-----) bong-short, long-short, alternatively meaning "Take Cover."
- (e) On hearing the Unit alarm all personnel will adjust tin hats and be prepared to lie flat on the ground. On no account will firing shots or calling out be permitted. Slit trenches will NOT be dug in camp or work areas for personnel.
- (f) Immediately 'planes have left the Unit area normal work will be resumed, but an air raid sentry may be posted until the "ALL CLEAR" signal is given by telephone.

(9) BY NIGHT:-

- (a) Unit air sentry will sound "Take Cover" on receipt of the AIR RAID RED.
- (b) All essential offices will be maintained under "Brownout" conditions during air raid warning periods. On the Unit alarm being given, lights will be screened and tent openings adjusted to prevent emission of direct light. Other lights will be extinguished on the warning being given. Lights will NOT be left unattended.
- (c) Personnel will be prepared to adjust tin hats and lie flat if planes attack Unit area.

(10) ACTION AT AERODROMES.

At aerodromes a warning flag may be flown and the employment of a louder signal than a whistle is approved.



36 Aust Inf Bn - Routine Orders Part 1, No.14, 24 Nov 42. PAGE 3.

1. ACTION TO BE TAKEN ON RECEIPT OF AIR RAID  
ALARM. PORT MORESBY - LALOKI VALLEY AREA. (Continued).

(11) ACTION BY DRIVERS OF VEHICLES.

Vehs will NOT halt on rds unless there is an apparent and imminent danger to the veh or pers therein, in which case vehs will NOT approach closer than 30 yds from preceding veh.

Should it become necessary for a dvr to take cover, he will ensure that the ignition of the veh is switched off.

In the PORT MORESBY area dvr's will maintain as wide a dispersal of vehs as possible. A suitable dispersal area for vehs waiting to load will be selected and designated by COSC.

AT NIGHT, lights will be turned out on all stationary vehs. Vehs in movement will NOT halt and may continue to use lights except in the vicinity of 7 MILE drome where Traffic Control Posts will display notices to vehs as they approach instructing them to turn off lights and proceed with caution. On proceeding past the area, lights will be turned on, on directions from Traffic Control Posts.

(12) GENERAL PROHIBITIONS.

This order will involve the prohibition and eradication of a number of bad habits which have grown up amongst pers in this area. Steps will be taken to prevent any recurrence. In future firing of three shots to indicate air alarm will NOT be permitted. Calling out or shouting, particularly shouting instructions to vehs or within camps to put lights out, is to cease. Running to cover will NOT be allowed since the only action permitted is for tps to lie down wherever they may be. This is for their own safety.

Except at aerodromes, NO signal other than the ordinary whistle will be used. Care will also be taken that the signal to take cover is given by Units OWN sentry and NOT as a result of repetition of signals from other Units."

2. DISTRICT COURT MARTIAL.

A DCM convened by the order of Brigadier M.B.B.Keatinge was held at HQ NSW L OF C AREA on 14 Oct 42 for the trial of N.286252 Pte BAKER M.A., 36 Aust Inf Bn.

The Accused was charged with DESERTION.

The Accused pleaded not guilty, and the Court found the accused not guilty of desertion, but guilty of being Absent without Leave.

The court sentenced the accused to be fined the sum of £5.

The accused was in custody awaiting trial for six days.

The finding and sentence were duly confirmed on 30 Oct 42, by Comd NSW L OF C AREA.

3. PUNISHMENTS AND AWARDS.

N286267 - Pte BANKS.A.J., "D" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.

Place: Murray Barracks.

Date: 21 Oct 42

Offence: Losing his arms by neglect in that he at UBERI on 3 Oct 42 lost by neglect one LMG Bren butt group complete. AA 24(2).

Award: Fined £2.

Date: 9 Nov 42.



36 Aust Inf Bn - Routine Orders Part 1, No.14, 24 Nov 42. PAGE 4.

3. PUNISHMENTS AND AWARDS. (Continued.)

**NX78601 - Pte LEWIS.A.T., HQ Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.**

Place: Field.

Date 8 Nov 42.

Offence: Neglect to the prejudice of good order and military discipline in that at MURRAY BARRACKS on 8 Nov 42 he failed to keep the rifle on issue to him in a clean condition. AA 40.

Award: 7 days CB.

Date 8 Nov 42.

**N.21509 - A/Cpl HEYES.F.A., "D" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.**

Place: In the field.

Date 10 Nov 42.

Offence: Used insubordinate language to his superior officer in that he on 10 Nov 42 at PORT MORESBY at 1615 hrs in the presence of other members of his unit did use insubordinate language to Lieut A.K.BEDY his superior officer. AA 8(2).

Award: Reverted to rank of Pte.

Date 12 Nov 42.

**N.151887 - Pte O'DONOHUE.M.J., HQ Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.**

Place: Field

Date 14 Nov 42.

Offence: Disobeying a lawful command given by his superior officer in that he at MURRAY BARRACKS on 13 Nov 42 did not go on parade when ordered to do so by NX86673 Sjt WALSH.J.A. (AA 9(2).)

Award: 21 days Fd Punishment with custody and loss of pay.

Date 14 Nov 42.

**N186596 Pte GILLESPIE.M., 36 Aust Inf Bn.**

Place: Field.

Date 11 Oct 42.

Offence: Absenting himself without leave from 1500 hrs on 10 Oct 42 to 1700 hrs on 10 Oct 42, a period of 2 hrs. AA 15(1).

Award: Fined £1.

Date 11 Oct 42.

**N185918 - Pte FOX.V.C., HQ Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.**

Place: Field.

Date 1 Nov 42.

Offence: Disobeying a lawful command given by his superior officer in that at MURRAY BARRACKS on 31 Oct 42, when ordered by Sjt HOYES, G.A. to wash his clothes on that date, he failed to do so. AA 9(2).

Award: 14 days CB.

Date 6 Nov 42.

**N167257 - Pte SUPRAIN.H., "C" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.**

Place: Field.

Date 27 Oct 42.

Offence: Neglect to the prejudice of good order and military discipline in that he at MURRAY BARRACKS on 27 Oct 42 neglected his duty by eating his meal while posted as a sentry. AA 40.

Award: 7 days CB.

Date 28 Oct 42.

**N.185145 - A/Cpl WELLINGTON.S., "C" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.**

Place: Field.

Date 27 Oct 42.

Offence: Neglect to the prejudice of good order and military discipline in that he at MURRAY BARRACKS on 27 Oct 42 being cpl of bn guard failed to relieve N167257 Pte SUPRAIN.H. for midday meal AA 40.

Award: Reprimanded.

Date 28 Oct 42.

**N286269 - Pte CUMMINGS.J., "A" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.**

Place: Port Moresby.

Date 22 Aug 42.

Offence: Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline in that he on 21 Aug 42 while unloading SS MA TOUKA was found away from the hold in which he was detailed for work without the permission of an officer. AA 40.

Award: Fined £5.

Date 31 Aug 42.



36 Aust Inf Bn - Routine Orders Part 1, No.14, 24 Nov 42. PAGE 5.

4. PUNISHMENTS AND AWARDS. (Continued).

N285269 - Pte CUMMINGS J., "A" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
 Place: In the field. Date 23 Oct 42.  
 Offence: Using insubordinate language to his superior officer in that he on 23 Oct 42 at MURRAY BARRACKS used insubordinate language to Lieut I. Clarke, his superior officer, AA 8(2).  
 Award: admonished. Date 6 Nov 42.

N286269 - Pte CUMMINGS J., "A" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
 Place: In the field. Date 27 Oct 42.  
 Offence: Failing to appear at the place of parade appointed by his Commanding Officer in that he at MURRAY BARRACKS on 27 Oct 42 failed to appear at Administration parade duly appointed by Major Douglas, his commanding officer. AA 15(2).  
 Award: 14 days CB. Date 6 Nov 42.

N.21476 - Pte GREATHEAD E.M., 36 Aust Inf Bn. (att 102 Aust Con Depot)  
 Place: WARWICK. Date 10 Oct 42.  
 Offence: An act prejudicial to good order and military discipline, in that he at WARWICK on 10 Oct 42 did present to the RTO WARWICK a document purporting to be a genuine leave pass with permission to proceed to Sydney, well knowing the same to be forged. AA 40.  
 Award: Fined 10/-. Date 12 Oct 42.

N.21889 - A/Cpl McKENNA J.W., "E" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
 Place: In the field. 14 Aug 42.  
 Offence: Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline in that he on 14 Aug 42 at BOOTLESS INLET did not keep cooking utensils in a clean and sanitary condition. AA 40.  
 Award: Severely reprimanded. 31 Aug 42.

5. AUDIT BOARD.

The undermentioned officers will constitute an Audit Board for the auditing of unit accounts:-

Capt S.W. POWERS.  
 Lieut G.G. MORSE.  
 Lieut J.W. HOPE.

The Board will audit the Unit Trust accounts, Officers' and Serjeants' Mess accounts, Unit Canteen accounts, and Supplementary Ration accounts.

An inspection of the books of A/c and stock of the Unit Canteen will be made weekly, and the audit of all the abovementioned accounts including Unit Canteen accounts, will be made as at the last day of each month, and the report of the Board on each A/c submitted to BN HQ by 2200 hrs on the second day of the month following the period for which such audit is made.

(SGD) L.W. McGLYNN, Captain,  
 Adjt. 36 Aust Inf Bn.

AEE.



Appx. D.

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED

*Free R.O's done 27 Nov*

IN THE FIELD

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.

ROUTINE ORDERS.

by

LIEUT-COLONEL O.C. ISAACHSEN.

Comd 36 Aust Inf Bn.

Part 1.

27 Nov 42.

NO. 16

1. COURT OF INQUIRY.

The undermentioned officers will constitute a Court of Inquiry to enquire into and report on the circumstances of an injury sustained by NX.86755 - Pte J.H.DAVIES on 1 Oct 42 at LOWLEVEL:

- |           |                     |
|-----------|---------------------|
| President | Major J.H.THROSBY.  |
| Member    | Capt G.E.MOYES.     |
| Member    | Lieut D.W.McKENZIE. |

The Court will assemble to take evidence at BN HQ at 0830 hrs on 28 Nov 42.

2. AIR MAIL LETTER CARDS.

Air mail letter cards which have recently been distributed to personnel of this Unit, may be mailed to any part of the Commonwealth of Australia per air mail for ONE PENNY postage.

3. CORRECT ADDRESS.

It will be promulgated to ALL ranks that the correct and ONLY postal address to be employed on mail etc to and from members of this unit is as follows:-

- |                          |                       |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| ( Army or personal no. ) | ( N.123456 )          |
| ( Rank and name. )       | ( Pte A.B.Smith, )    |
| ( Coy. )                 | ( "A" Coy, )          |
| ( Bn )                   | ( 36 Aust Inf Bn, )   |
| ( AUSTRALIA )            | ( <u>AUSTRALIA.</u> ) |
- e.g.

*L.W. McGLynn*  
(SGD) L.W.McGLYNN, Captain,  
Adjt. 36 Aust Inf Bn.



AUG 27 1948

## WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C 2118.  
(adapted.)Unit 36th Aust Inf BnDate and Time.—From 032030 NOV 42 To 17-18 DEC 42

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MURRAY BARRACKS	1		Major THROSBY left BN to take up duties in special liaison post.	
	2-13		Routine training and digging defensive positions on BURNS PEAK and on the BN defensive area vic MURRAY BARRACKS	
	14	1230	14 BDE advised that 36 Bn is to come under Comd. N.G.F. forthwith and to be prepared for a move to be arranged by 6 Div. (by air)	
	14-15		Preparations made for move on 15th.	
	15	1300	Tps. commenced moving to WARDS DROME and first plane left at 1350 hrs. Landings were made at POPPONDETTA and DOBODURA. Stores were landed at POPPONDETTA and transported by jeep to SOPUTA during the night.	
VIC: SOPUTA	16	-	Tps. marched from the landing strips towards SOPUTA arriving at SOPUTA in the late afternoon. Bn then camped temporarily on right of M.T. track approx. 1000 yds. NORTH of SOPUTA at ref BUNA 1 to 1 mile 181172	
VIC SOPUTA	17	0700	One composite Coy. under Lieut. Hasler moved from BN H.Q. to relieve portion of 49 BN in forward position ref GONRA 4" revised 182248	36 Bn now under comd. 30 BDE.
		0900	BN H.Q. moved forward to ref. 177242 approx. 100 yds. SOUTH of BDE	(all map references given in this area from GONRA 4" (revised) 1942)
SOPUTA-SANANANDA RD. ref. GONRA 4" revised 177242		1237	OO. No 13. Copy No 2 received from Bde	see Appendix No G.
		1400	Composite Coy. advised first gap killed by N 167157 Pte. C. Davis of C. Coy.	
SOPUTA-SANANANDA Road Block AREA.		1940	Bde advised that 36 Bn will relieve 49 & 55 BNS commencing at 0900 hrs. 18 Dec	
	17-18		Further troops arrived during the night approx. 100 still to come.	

7872.L.

By Authority: L. F. JOHNSTON, Commonwealth Government Printer, Canberra.

D. Isaachyan  
Lt Col



# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.  
(adapted.)

Unit 36 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 17-18 DEC 42 To 1102 hrs 19 Dec 42

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SOPUTA SANANANDA Road Block Area.	18	0700.	C.O called Coy Comds conference and Coy + Pl Comds. made recon of forward positions	
		0900.	CO's conference of all Bn. C.O's and Comds of other arms. held at Bde	adv. Bn. strength 22 offrs. 539 ORs
		1000.	B, C & D Coy relieved B & C. Coys of 55 Bn. and 36 Bn. Corp. Coy B. Coy on left of road (178249). C Coy (180248) + D Coy 181248 on right of road	
		1300.	Bn HQ A Coy + H & Q Coy moved to vic. 176247 on left of rd. near Gend. with company	see situation map. appendix NO F
SOPUTA SANANANDA Road Block Area Ref 176247	19	1400.	N167157 Pte C Davies C. Coy reported K.I.A. at ref. 176247 (Pte Davies killed first Jap on 17 Dec.)	
		1600.	Coy Comds. conf with C.O. re operation on 19 Dec as per O.D. No 13 in which 55 Bn and 49 Bn are to take major part. - 55 Bn attacking on bearing of 85° from left of rd. and 49 Bn on 305° from right of rd. Zero hour to be 0730 hrs on 19 Dec	see appendix. NO E
		0722	Arty and mortar barrage commenced.	adv.
		0730	Zero hour 55 Bn + 49 Bn moved forward.	36 Bn strength 22 + 536
		0840.	D Coy reported that LMG of 14 Pl. C. Coy silenced one enemy MM.G. post and possibly another	
		0925	17 Pl sent out patrol 1 N.C. & 4 O.Rs. along KESSELS TR. to contact USA troops.	label KESSELS comd. of 49 Bn.
		0945	Bde advise 55 Bn pinned down. but 49 Bn. still progressing well.	
		0950	A Coy 36 Bn. ordered to move via rt. flank. to support 49 Bn. and will now come under comd. 49 Bn.	A Coy now under comd 49 Bn.
		1005	D Coy patrol returned. - NIL activity	
		1102	Bde advise 49 Bn now divided into 4 pls 1 and 4 holding enemy post. on R. line NW of HUTCHINSONS (KESSELS) 2 moving along ARGENTINE object being PANAMA 3 at CAPE HORN 90 YDS from Rd.	

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By Authority: L. F. JOHNSTON, Commonwealth Government Printer, Canberra.

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# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.  
(adapted.)

Unit 36 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 1100 hrs. 19 Dec. 42 To 1145<sup>hrs</sup> 20 DEC. 42.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.	
SO PUTA SANANANDA Block Area ref. 176247	19	1155	HERWIG & B Coy advised that small party of Japs observed moving on our left flank in direction of Bn H.Q.	Bde advised and strict watch kept at Bn H.Q.	
		1204	Bde ordered 36 Bn send out patrol of 4 men from D Coy to occupy posn. near U.S. tps. vic. KESSELS.	Later cancelled by C.O. on orders from Bde.	
		1340	7 Pl. A Coy relieving 3 Pl. 49 BN. 3 Pl. now moving up to posn. approx. 200 YDS south of PANAMA.		
		1600	C.O. conference with O.C. B. Coy and I.O. re night attack by B. Coy forward C & D posn.		
		1620	C.O. recalled to Bde B. Coy plans cancelled [C.O. returned]	Guides arranged for B Coy.	
		1630	and ordered B. Coy to move forward night of KESSELS thence WEST. to rd. approx. CAPE HORN. thence south down rd. until enemy are encountered. B. Coy to come under comd. KESSELS (49 BN)		
		20	0730	Reports indicate B. Coy had arrived at JAP. TRACK. without opposition and had stayed there for the night.	
		0840	C.O. left for Bde and ordered that Bn H.Q. be ready to move at a moment's notice.		
		0855	C. Coy killed two snipers within last half hour.	ado. Bn strength 22 Offrs. 534 O.Rs.	
		0900	Bde advise that B. Coy struck enemy 100 YDS SOUTH of JAP. TRACK and dug in.		
1000	Strong enemy pocket reported at 18152524 A Coy attacking at 185252.				
1045	Fire in front C. Coy position more intense during morning particularly from 2 LMGs fwd. 15 pl.				
1120	C. Coy advised posn. of LMG as 45° from centre. sec rt. fl. (14 Pl)				
1145	6 wounded men A Coy questioned by I.O. at R.A.P. on arrival from fwd. posn.	Some valuable information was gained from this source.			

O6 Isaacson  
L. Col



# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.  
(adapted.)

Unit 36 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 1145 hrs. 20 Dec 42 To 1400 hrs. 21 Dec 42

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SOPUTA SANANANDA Block Area. Ref 176247	20.	1150	C.O. advised by Bde. that A Coy have captured three posns. LIEUT OLIVER <del>wounded</del> <sup>wounded</sup> and others wounded.	It was later learned that Lieut. Oliver was reported missing probably killed. wounded and missing
	"	1200.	Plane load. of personnel including several mortar men arrived after an arduous march from WAIROPE following a forced landing there.	
	"	1245.	C. Coy reported. GILLELAND 55 Bn. Moving fwd to left. C. Coy posns. and left of rd. Information checked with 55 Bn.	
	"	1410	C. Coy reported left sec 14 pl pinned down by sniper exact position unknown. Enquired re possibility of obtaining incendiary arrow to burn area in the vicinity.	
	"	1430.	55 Bn requested permission to fire 250 rds M.M.G. fire from GILLELAND posn. on bearing 92°	
	"	1447	M.M.G. opened up. I.O. moved up to GILLELAND to enquire as to result. Slight improvement observed from C. Coy.	
Ref 187253	"	1600. 1650.	C.O. Conference with Coy Comds. re attack by C & D Coys Recc party of Coy + Pl Comds. plus Bn H.Q. moved to new position. Bde 49 BN HQ (KESSELS) Delay caused on route due to lack of guides.	
	"	1737 1910.	D Coy closed HQ preparatory to moving to new Bn H.Q. posn. Rear Bn H.Q. closed.	
	21. 21.	0940 1145	C & D Coys arrive Bn H.Q. Area. C.O. conference with C.Oy. comds re plans for the attack	see appendix
	"	1305.	conference finished 1300 hrs. I.O. left Bn H.Q. to lay out start line for the attack supported by fighting patrol.	A Coy asked to put on demonstration of fire to divert attention. Before attack started.
	"	1400.	C.O. and ady with Bn H.Q. party left. Lt near Bn H.Q. to open fwd. HQ near S.L. C & D Coy moved fwd.	



# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 7'18.  
(adapted.)

Unit 36 Aust. Inf Bn.

Date and Time.—From 1400 hrs 21 Dec 42 To 1805 hrs 21 Dec 42

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SOPUTA SANANANDA. Road Block Area. Ref. 187253 Ref. 185255	21.	1415	Progress fwd. field up by enemy fire and also our own mortar. Barrage later wounded some men.	
		1440. 1510.	Bn H Q. established fwd. on S L and Coys in posn. Zero hour C+D Coys on left + right respectively commenced move fwd. B Coy in reserve. Owing to arty. firing towards the advance some shrapnel was experienced by fwd. tps during barrage.	
		1530.	D Coy reported. Fwd. sec pinned down.	
		1540.	Wounded personnel reported C Coy had advanced about 100 yds and encountered probable line of MMG's. Difficulty in contacting C Coy by phone.	
		1550.	D Coy at pl. fwd. 250 yds. field up by heavy enemy fire. Reserve pl sent around to guard rt flank.	see situation map appendix
		1612	D Coy digging in. Lieut King believed killed B Coy still in reserve.	Lieut King's death later confirmed.
		1635	16 + 18 PIs facing SOUTH. 17 Pl facing WEST. 2 MMG's on 17 Pl front. 1 facing 16 pl. D Coy claim to have reached wooded tongue mentioned in orders and that a clearing was in front of them.	
		1700	C Coy reported possible counter attack	
		1715.	13 + 15 pls arrived back Bn H Q. Reported 14 Pl. to be cut up. Badly	
		1730.	O.C. D Coy reported Bn H Q with body of Lieut King C.O. on. recce fwd.	
vic Ref. 186254.		1805	adv. Bn H Q moved fwd approx. 150 yds and re established. H Q with B Coy still in reserve. Tps dig in. O.C. Coy (Capt. A M POWERS) missing believed killed.	

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By Authority: L. F. JOHNSTON, Commonwealth Government Printer, Canberra.

*As searched  
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# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2'18.  
(adapted.)

Unit 36 Aust Inf Bn.

Date and Time.—From 1805 hrs. 21 Dec 42 To 1250 hrs. 23 Dec 42

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SOPUTA - SANANANDA Road Block Area. Vic Ref. 186254.	21.	1930.	C.O left for Bde 2 1/2 later arrived to take charge of Bn.	
	22	0345	C.O returned w/ from Bde. Coy comds. conference held.	
		0920	C & B Coy to attack in Bourds. D Coy to be relieved.	
		1200	Patrol from KESSELS reported in on way through. B. Coy relieved D Coy on rt flank. D Coy came into reserve & defence of rear.	
		1300.	movement in stages with C. Coy on left. B Coy on right commenced.	
		1455	B. Coy fwd. 50 yds. C. Coy moving up to complete line.	
		1555.	Small gap patrol reported rt flank.	
		1645.	B. Coy located MG Post. about 15 yds. from rt. flank.	
		1710.	C. Coy reported contacting 39 Bn. patrol. who stated track all clear to KESSELS.	
		1730 - 1750.	Heavy fire towards left flank.	
		1755.	B. Coy reported patrol sent fwd. but was unable to advance. Enemy M.C.S firing on fixed lines down. dry ok bed. about 80 yds from C. Coy front.	
		1827	B. Coy report. 1 Bren. and 1 TSMG. shot up and out of action.	
NIGHT. 22/23.			static with C. Coy on left. B. Coy on right Bn HQ approx 30 yds in rear. of C. Coy HQ. D Coy in reserve and defence. of rear. During night area from Bn H.Q. to SOPUTA - SANANANDA RD patrolled by small party. but nil activity reported.	
	23.	1250.	D Coy patrol under Lieut Hope searched area fwd. C. Coy patrol struck opposition after penetrating some distance and withdrew. They observed wounded man in area. lost several days before and. S.B. brought him in.	see special report appendix N. 0

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# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.  
(adapted.)

Unit 36 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 1250 hrs 23 Dec 42 To 0915 hrs 24 Dec 42

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SOPUTA-SANANANDA Road Block Area.	23 Dec.	1425	B.M. (Major Wilson) visited Bn. H.Q. had discussion with C.O. later he inspected Coy fwd. posns.	
Vic Ref 186254.		1630	wounded man questioned at R.A.P. by I sec. who gave information about Jap positions strength & arms.	
		1730	Lieut. J. Hope and one pl of D Coy ordered out on left flank to occupy position between A & C Coys and to contact both Coys.	
		1900	Patrol moved out at 1830. Patrol returned, reported having reached objective they ran into M.G. fire and withdrew they observed Japs running round their right flank.	
		2045	D Coy ordered to send one pl to Bn H.Q. at 0400 hrs 24 Dec to occupy position which was to be vacated by one pl of C Coy. C Coy ordered to send out pl. under Lieut. Mc Kenzie at 0500 hrs 24 Dec to contact & destroy known M.G. on C Coy left flank.	
		2055	A Coy ordered to put on demonstration of deceptive fire at 0500 to direct attention during C Coy advance. Permission was granted for this by 49 Bn.	
		2100	B Coy reported 3 listening patrols which had been sent out to a distance of 30 yds. during the night but although voices were heard no fire was encountered.	
	24	0915	adv. H.Q. closed and leaving B Coy to hold position. adv. Bn H.Q. H & A Coy C & D Coys. moved back to vic Bde area, passing through and collecting near Bn H.Q. en route. A Coy still under command in position with 49 Bn.	

*O. Isaachsen  
Lt Col*



# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 36 Aust. Inf Bn.

Date and Time.—From 0915 hrs 24 Dec 42 To 2020/25 Dec 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SOPUTA SANAMANDA Road Block Area. ref. 177244.	24 Dec.	1200.	Bn. H.Q. reestablished approx. 50 yds NORTH Bde H.Q. on right of road with C. Coy approx 50 yds fwd. Bn. H.Q. H.Q. and D. Coy in position left of road fwd of C. Coy Perimeter defence arranged and troops had time for clean up and rest.	
		1630.	Emergency stand to owing to unusual activity in posns. fwd Bn H.Q. Stand down 1800 hrs.	
		2100.	Patrol under Lieut McKenzie C. Coy left to recce fwd area of Bn H.Q. area on WEST side of river.	
	25	0100.	Patrol returned but only discovered deserted gap pill box PL D Coy came under demd U.S. tps temporarily.	
		—	Three recce patrols were sent out during the day along WEST. Bank of river and thence in a WESTERLY direction. The object being to locate and pinpoint any Jap positions in the area. Some Jap voices were heard on one patrol and 3 gaps were seen. on another but the area appeared to be quite clear of pill boxes or other protected positions.	
		1130.	Warning order issued to C, D and H. B. Coys. ready to move 1400 hrs for attack. across front of US tps from EAST. to WEST. Det Pl of D Coy to revert to D Coy on receipt of order. O.C. C Coy now. Capt. Ahern. Capt. Fisher transferred to 2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> B Coy.	
		1815.	I.O. and recon party of Coy and pl. Comds. with fighting patrol under Lieut Hope left to recce the attack area.	
		1830.	Orders issued for B Coy to move to KESSELS posn. Moved at 1945.	
		2015	Coy Comds. returned from recce. Patrol still out.	
		2020.	Coy Comds. conference with C.O. Discussion re attack to be made 26 Dec.	see Appendix for O.C. for attack.

D. 318/5.55.—C. 4783.

O. Isachsen  
Lt Col



# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 36 Aust. INF. BN.

Date and Time.—From 2020 hrs 25 Dec 42 To 1345 hrs 26 Dec 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SOPUTA-SANANANDA Road Block Area. Vic Ref 177244.	25 Dec.	2400.	I.O. and patrol returned.	
	26	0640.	Coy Comds. recce group with protective patrol under Lt Col McKenzie moved out on recce of S.L.	
		0715.	B. Coy returned to Bn H.Q. area from KESSELS. post.	
		0810	Coy Comds returned from recce.	
		0815	B Coy took up position on LEFT of RD 100 yds fwd. Bn H.Q.	
		0900.	Orders issued to be ready to move at 0900 hrs. Move postponed. Coy Comds. conference re final plans for attack. Conf concluded. 0945 hrs	
		0945.	Order issued for Bn H.Q. to move at 1030 hrs to 30 yds near centre of S.L.	
		1005.	I.O. and 3 Guides moved out to prepare S.L. for attack.	
		1030.	Bn H.Q. closed and together with C & D Coys moved fwd. Progress very slow. No fire suspended from 1130 hrs to 1230 hrs	
		1155	Bn H.Q. opened at pre arranged position.	
		1226	Mortar and Artillery barrage opened up.	
SOPUTA SANANANDA. Road Block Area. Vic Ref.	26	1230	Zero Hour C & D Coys moved fwd. B Coy now covering right flank at approx ref 184250	
Vic Ref.		1240.	H.Q. Coy covering left flank moved fwd. 50 yds.	
Vic Ref		1250.	C Coy now fwd. 200 yds. D Coy 150 yds. Bn H.Q. moved fwd. with H.Q. Coy on left flank. approx 100 yds. Very little opposition encountered	
		1300.	Sigs attached. C & D Coys out of cable. Coys out of sight without communication.	
		1345	D Coy runner reported Coy had reached objective on RD and digging in. Located pillbox 100 yds SW of left flank. asked for grenade dischargers and ballistite cartridges.	see Sit. Map No. 3 Appx. H.

D. 315/5.10.—C. 4788.

D. Isaacson  
Lt Col



# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 36 Aust. Inf Bn.

Date and Time.—From 1345 hrs 26 Dec 42 To 0858 hrs 27 Dec 42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SOPUTA SAMANANDA. Road Block Area. Vic Ref.	26 Dec.	1400	C. Coy reached objective, digging in. Heavy MG and rifle fire across Bn H.Q. Area.	
		1610.	C Coy report: our mortar fire too close to their posns Bde contacted and mortar range altered.	
		1615	D Coy reported pillbox 25 yds. EAST. of RD on a bearing of 229° M from a point 50x EAST. of RD on the Coy's line of advance. PB approx. 75 yds from observer.	
		1630	Following orders from Bde at 1530 hrs. B. Coy ordered to send one pl under an officer at 1700 hrs (IN. 1815 hrs) to examine area of timber approx SE of junct. JAP. TR and SOPUTARA	
		1750	C. Coy reported 4 grenades landed in their area appeared to be from discharger about 200 yds NORTH. of their posn. 2 only exploded. - nil casualties.	
		1815	Bn H.Q. moved back approx 50 yds EAST. to edge of timber.	
	27 Dec.	0715	B. Coy report patrol to be sent out at 0730 hrs in at 0830 hrs encircling perimeter at a distance of 100 yds.	
		0725	C. Coy ordered to vacate position, but before doing so send patrol to contact Bn H.Q. then remainder to move out in small groups.	
		0727	B. Coy ordered to be ready to move when relieved by U.S. tps.	
		0730.	Bn H.Q. ordered ready to move immediately	
		0835	All orders for movement cancelled temporarily.	
		0845.	B. Coy relieved by U.S. tps.	
		0858	Lieut McKenzie hit by MG fire which appeared to come from approx. 200 yds. NORTH. of C. Coy posn.	

D. 3187/5.10.—C. 4788.

O. Isachen  
Lt Col



# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

Unit 36 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 0858 Hrs 27 Dec 42 To 2100 Hrs 27 Dec 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SOPUTA-SANANANDA. Road Block Area. Vic. Ref.	27 Dec.	0900	Patrol of A/Hs and Pioneers under Lieut. KNOTT ordered out to locate all M.G.s in area SOUTH of Bn H.Q.	
	"	0920.	D. Coy reported pill box, previously referred to is of wooden construction at least 6" timber on rt side 4'-6" high about 8 ft. sq and camouflaged with dead fern leaf. Entrance assumed to be on EAST side.	
		1025.	Lieut. KNOTT and patrol returned after contacting US RT flank fence NORTH 50 YDS. then WEST towards RD. Encountered 2 L.M.G. nests. Did not contact any M.M.G.s. or pill boxes.	
		1125	Bn H.Q. moved out leaving Maj Riley in comd. H.Q. and D. Coy and US tps.	
Vic. ref 177244		1230	Bn H.Q. opened in old position fwd of Bde on EAST side	see app. for C.O.
		1340.	SOPUTA RD. Orders issued for B & C Coys. to prepare for attack 3 hrs from 1700 Hrs Bn H.Q. given orders to be ready to move by 1430 Hrs.	
		1430.	1.0 and 3.1 sec plus Coy guides moved off to lay out S.L. Fighting patrol provided protection and made recon of area fwd of S.L.	
		1600.	D.C. Coy (Capt Ahern) arrived Bn H.Q. by Coy Comds. Conference re attack.	
		1645.	B. Coy moved back.	
		1700.	D.C. Coy informed C.O. of delay in Coy move so C.O. addressed C. Coy personnel then left Bde.	
		1730	Orders to cancel move temporarily.	
		1745.	Runners sent out to recall B. Coy.	
		2100.	1.0. and patrol party returned.	

*O. Isaacson  
Lieut*



# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

Unit 36 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 2100 hrs. 27 Dec 42 To 1640 hrs. 28 Dec 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SOPUTA SANANANDA Road Block Area. Vic Ref 177244.	28 Dec.	0830.	Bn HQ closed. Vic Bde B Coy had already moved off to S.L. C Coy to take over A Coy position and A Coy then to make the attack with B Coy A Coy left. 13. left. zero hour. 1130 hrs Objective tongue of timber <sup>EAST</sup> WEST of ARGENTINE.	C Coy now under comd. KESSELS. (49 BN)
Vic. Ref	"	0920.	Bn HQ arrived near of S.L. I.O and guides moved off to lay in S.L. in new posn. 150 yds fwd. previous position laid down.	
	"	1050.	BA HQ Coys and Bn HQ moved up towards S.L. from vic. 49 Bn.	
	"	1105.	C.O. ordered zero to be postponed to 1200 hrs.	
	"	1145.	Bn forms up on S.L. Bn HQ being held 30 yds of B Coy left flank.	
	"	1200.	zero hour Barrage opens and fwd move commenced.	
	"	1220.	Report that Coys had advanced 150 to 200 yds.	
	"	1235.	A Coy held up by MG fixed lines. B Coy by L.M.G. Both digging in. B Coy attempting to deal with MG. troubling A Coy. B Coy sent out patrol under Lieut. KNOTT to recon area.	
SOPUTA SANANANDA Road Block Area Vic Ref	"	1241	Reported 3 pill boxes surrounded by marshy ground. A Coy ordered to contact KESSELS.	
	"	1315	A Coy reported ground very bare in front. mos being affected by exposure to sun.	
	"	1350.	C.O. left with Adj on recon B Coy area.	
	"	1400.	49 Bn. sent out patrol to contact A Coy.	
	"	1405.	C.O. returned	
	"	1538.	B Coy ordered to move fwd if 49 Bn patrol is successful.	
	"	1632.	A Coy ordered to withdraw gradually.	
	"	1640.	C Coy ordered to relieve D Coy A Coy takes over from C Coy	

O. Isaacson  
Lt Col



# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 36 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 1640 hrs. 28 Dec 42 To 1820 hrs. 31 Dec 42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SOPUTA-SANANANDA Road Block Area. Vic Ref.	28 Dec	1750.	C Coy did not move. A Coy now ordered to relieve D Coy which is now to become under comd 55 Bn. A Coy to be under Maj Riley B Coy to withdraw into Bn HQ area to increase perimeter. So gas to get better cover	
		2310.	Several grenades exploded in Bn area. nil casualties these appeared to come from enemy lines but some confusion existed amongst us tps within the perimeter and it is thought some were thrown by mistake by them.	
	29 Dec.	1030.	Recc patrol under I.O. to reconnoitre area WEST. of Bn HQ to tongue of thick timber. Returned 1330 hrs. after. 100ounding one gap but no more seen.	
Vic Ref	29 Dec	1200.	C.C. left for Bde.	
		1215.	Between 1215 and 1730 hrs five patrols sent out by B Coy B Coy on recc of area between B Coy and 49 Bn.	
		2000.	Object to try and pinpoint. M & posns. A Coy advise Lieut CLARKE killed.	
	30 Dec.	0845.	Patrolling continued by B Coy Light Patrols ordered for this day.	
		1345.	Bn HQ ordered to be ready to move by 1430 hrs. Moved off at time stated leaving B Coy in position.	
Vic Ref. 177244 Vic Ref 176247	31 Dec	1530.	Bn HQ, H.Q. and C Coy arrived old posn. food Bde on rt of Rd.	
		1000	Bn HQ. Closed and reopened again at 1030 hrs. on LEFT. of road near bend.	
		1230.	C Coy relieved C Coy 55 Bn left of RD near D Coy at ref.	
		178252	2 gap mortar fell in RILEY HQ Maj Riley and Cpl Thomas	
		1820.	1 sec killed several wounded. Capt McGlynn ordered to take over. Moved from Bn HQ. at 1830 hrs	

D Isaacson  
Lt Col



# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118  
(ad. .)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit *36 Aust Inf Bn*

Date and Time.—From *1820 hrs 31 Dec 42* To *2200 hrs 31 Dec 42*

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
<i>SOPUTA SANAIYANDA Road Block Area Vic ref. 176247</i>	<i>31.</i>	<i>2000.</i>	<i>Small patrol under N.C.O. ordered out from B. Coy to dispose of an M.G. post if possible.</i>	
		<i>2200.</i>	<i>B. Coy patrol returned unsuccessful. Was within 40 yds. of gaps. saw 4 fires. but did not engage them.</i>	

*Ob Isaac chun  
Lt Col*

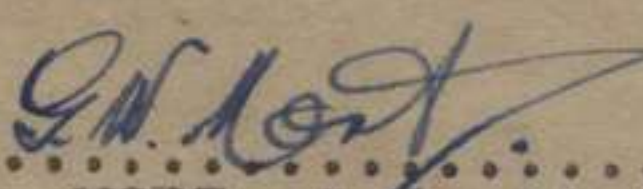


WAR DIARY - 36 AUST. INF. BN.

For month of DEC.42

Appendices attached to copy of Diary

1. Extracts from W.3008's for month	Appendix No. A
2. Extracts from W.3009's for month	" " B
3. Report on health and casualties of Unit during month by R.M.O.	" " C
4. Bn. Movement Order for emplaning	" " D
5. Aerial photograph of SANANANDA ROAD BLOCK AREA	" " E
6. Situation map for 19 Dec. showing details for first attack	" " F
7. Operation Order No. 13	" " G
8. Situation maps No. 1,2,3 and 4 with map showing areas covered in attack.	" " H
9. Barrage details for attack by A and B Coys. 28 Dec.	" " I
10. Sketch map showing position after attack 28 Dec.	" " J
11. Sketch of an encounter in the jungle	" " K
12. Map GONA (Revised) 4" to 1 mile	" " L
13. A brief history of the Unit in action at SANANANDA and GONA area.	" " M
14. Bn. Routine Orders	" " N
15. Report made by wounded man, Pte. K. Gordon	" " O

  
.....Lieut.  
G.W. MORT I.O. 36 Aust. Inf. Bn.



## EXTRACTS FROM W/3008

AS ON 5 Dec 42

Ranks	W/E	Posted Strength (Excluding Attached)	Surplus to Estab.	Reinf Required.
Lieut Colonel	1	1	-	-
Majors	3	2	-	1
Captains	10	8	-	2
Lieutenants	21	19	-	2
2ND Lieutenants	-	-	-	-
Quartermasters	1	1	-	-
TOTALS	36	31	-	5

PARTICULARS OF OFFICERS JOINED OR QUITTED  
DURING MONTH OF DEC 42.

## OFFICERS JOINED

Rank	Name	Corps	Date	Cause
Lieut.	Mc Namara RS PG	36 BN	29-11-42	Rejd ex Det. NCFJungle Sch.
"	KNOTT CW	"	5-12-42	" " Hospital.
"	KING FT.	"	11-12-42	Rejd ex Hospital.

## OFFICERS QUITTED

Rank	Name	Corps	Date	Cause
Capt.	POWERS A.M.	36 BN	29-11-42	Evac to Hospital.
Major	THORBY J.H.	" "	14-11-42	Det. to NCFHQ + placed <sup>on list</sup>
Lieut.	BLISS E.S.	"	25-12-42	EVAC TO HOSPITAL

DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN  
TO UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED

Rank	Name	Corps	Remarks
Lieut.	BLISS E.S.		



# EXTRACTS FROM W3009's

Appendix B.

Dec '42

Details	W/E	Posted Strength (Excluding Attached)		Surplus to Establishment	Reinf'ts Required
		AIF	AMF		
W.Os. Class I	1	-	-	-	1
W.Os. Class II	8	6	-	-	4
Company QM Serjeant	6	2	-	-	2
Staff Serjeants					
Serjeants	41	21	9	-	11
Corporals	86	40	43	-	3
Privates	732	173	459	1	101
Totals	875	242 (753)	511	1	122

## ORs Attached From Other Units

Details	Number	Unit & Corps to which they belong
SjY	1	AAPC
SjY	1	AAAC
SjY	1	2 Div. Postal Unit
Cpl	1	AAOC



## APPENDIX B

## EXTRACTS FROM W3009 &amp; CASUALTY LISTS

19 Dec '47

BEAR PARTY

UNIT STRENGTH

Details	A	W.E.	Posted Strength (Excluding Attached)	
W.Os. Class I		1		
W.Os. Class II		7		
Company Q.M. Serjeant		5	1	
Staff Serjeants				
Serjeants		31	11	
Corporals		69	21	
Privates		689	173	
Totals		800	206	539



TELEPHONE—

APPENDIX C

## Australian Military Forces—Eastern Command.

Please quote this Number when replying.

--	--	--

Address

Date

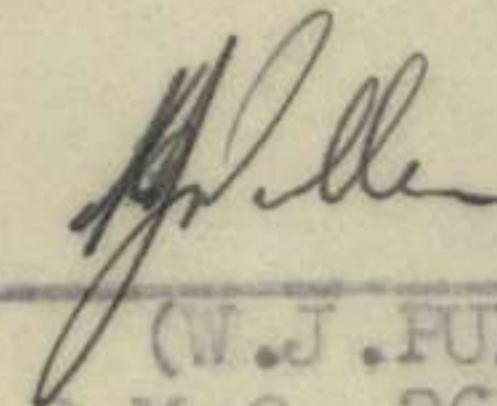
DECEMBER 1942

This month can be divided in two periods. The period up till 18th December was much the same as for November, with skin conditions predominating and the evacuations rate was quite satisfactory.

The unit sustained its first casualty due to enemy action on 18th December and in the following 12 days about 120 battle casualties were sustained with only two medical evacuations. The R.A.P. was established several times, both on the Sananandra Track and at "Kessels". The regt. stretcher bearers were allotted on a basis of a team of four to a rifle company with about six at the R.A.P. at Bn.H.Q. The task of transporting the R.A.P. fell to this small party who often carried big loads. A tent fly and two 2-Man tents were carried everywhere and were extremely useful.

Owing to <sup>some</sup> casualties reaching the R.A.P. in the late afternoon (sometimes) volunteer squads of riflemen aided the bearers in the difficult task of transporting the badly injured men along the swampy jungle trails at night. The immediate vicinity of the R.A.P. was mortared on several occasions at "Kessels", several minor casualties resulted.

The emphasis of this month was the large number of battle casualties compared to the almost negligible evacuation due to sickness..approximately 140 to 2.



Capt.

(W.J. FULLEN)

R.M.O. 36 Aust. Inf. Bn.



36 AUST INF BN MOVEMENT ORDER NO 15 DEC 42.

INFORMATION

1. 36 Aust Inf Bn is now under cmd NGF and is under notice to move as from 0600 hrs 15 Dec 42, to move by air to POPENDETTA and DOBODURA.
2. Pending order to move 36 Aust Inf Bn will be responsible for present area of and role.
3. In the event of an emergency arising prior to move 36 Aust Inf Bn will revert to cmd of 14 Aust Inf Bde.

INTENTION

4. 36 Aust Inf Bn will move to POPENDETTA and DOBODURA by air.

METHOD

5. Policy. Move equipped for movement by foot plus haversack, see Appx "A".
6. Order of Move. As per Emplaning Table.
7. Movement. (i) Tpt from unti areas to WARDS DROME in plane lots and then emplane.  
(ii) Plane lots not to exceed 5000 lbs and will comprise:-
  - (a) pers, 20 each carrying rifle and revolver where armed with such and amn, see para 16. Each individual will be assessed as weighing 250 lbs.
  - (b) pers, 12 each carrying rifle and revolver where armed with such and amn, see para 16. Each individual will be assessed as weighing 250 lbs. Eqpt, rations, amn and weapons not exceeding 2000 lbs weight.
  - (iii) Emplaning Tables will be issued as soon as completed
8. Duties. (i) Unit embussing offr, Lieut McARTHUR will send forward to assembly area near WARDS DROME veh as called for.  
(ii) Movement Control Offr. Lieut McARTHUR who will
  - (a) allot 3 ton lorries to units as necessary for movement of pers and stores to assembly area.
  - (b) Lay down routes and assembly area.
  - (c) Arrange traffic control.
  - (iii) Emplaning officer Capt GEDDES with 2 M/C Orderlies will call fwd vehs from Lieut McARTHUR to planes as required.
  - (iv) Asst Emplaning Offr Lieut P V MURPHY 55/53 Aust Inf Bn will check pers and equipment on to each plane.
  - (v) Deplaning Offr Lieut McNAMARA.
9. Circuit. Capt GEDDES sends req through units to embussing offr who sends fwd to drome areaplane lots called for. Emplaning offr calls to Lieut McARTHUR as planes become available . for plane lots. Vehs then move to drome and are guided up to plane by M/C Orderly. Pers load eqpt into planes and are then themselves checked on by Asst Emplaning Offr. Emplaning time should NOT exceed 5 mins from time of arrival at the plane.
10. Embussing Point. On road outside COs tent, leading veh at this point facing MURRAY BARRACKS.
11. Start Point. Road junc 50 yds SOUTH of COs tent.



12. Start Time : As plane lots are called for see para 9.
13. Explaining Tables will be issued as soon as completed by Bn Hqs. Six copies to be fwded to Capt GEDDES at drome, one for file.
14. L O B will revert to command 14 Aust Inf Bde and will comprise:
- (i) (a) Lieut MORSE Lieuts BLISS AND McARTHUR  
(b) Carrier Pl and Adm Pl less such pers as detailed therefrom/  
(c) All pers under 29 years of age, 15 Dec 42.
- (ii) Lieut MORSE will adv comd of L of B pers and arrange for:
- (a) Tents not required to be struck and collected.  
(b) Collection of packs of pers moving. These packs will be marked with mans name in ink on side nearest mans back and stacked in Coy lots under supervision of Coy representative from L of B pers.  
(c) general reorganisation of camp and eqpt following move.

AMM

15. R.A.P. move with unit weight limited to 200 lbs.

16. AMM (a) Carried on mans

Rifle man	.303 SAA Ball	50 per man
	Bren mags filled	2 per man
	Grenades type 36 2 x 4 sec	per man
LMG	Mag	1
	Grenades type 36 2 x 4 sec	per man
TSMG	Mags	6
	Grenades type 36 2 x 4 sec	per man
Grenadiers	.303 SAA Ball	50 per man
	Grenades type 36 2 x 4 sec	per man
A/Tk rifle man (carries rifle)	.303 SAA Ball	50 per man
	Grenades type 36 2 x 4 sec	per man

(b) Reserves

Rifle	.303 SAA Ball	73000
TSMG	.45	37600
Bren	.303 SAA Ball	33696
Grenades	4 sec	1656
A/Tk	.50	80

(c) Difference between amm taken and that carried on men will be carried in bulk plane lots.

17. Transport (i) Unit tpt will remain under control Lieut McARTHUR  
(ii) Tpt to drome will be provided by 6 Aust Div.

18. Supplies

Unconsumed portion of days rations.  
2 days concentrated emergency rations.  
2 days special reserve rations.  
3 days iron rations.

19. Tools.

Picks each rifle Coy	10
Hq Coy	10
Shovels each Rifle Coy	19
Hq Coy	19



19. Tools (Cont)

Axes for Bn 21.

20 Water Sterilization and Water

2 Water bottles full  
41 x two gallon containers  
Sterilization outfit - one per twenty men.

21. Stationery and Office Eqpt.

Weight allot ent incl INT Office 200 lbs.

22. Bedding.

Mosquito Nets (less poles) ground sheet to be carried.

23 Anti-malarial

Mosquito cream -. 2oz tin per man  
quinine - 16 tabs per man

24 Inter comm

Bn HQ will remain at present location until further notice.  
Bn report Centre will be established at POPENDETTA from arrival  
first plane.

ACK

Lieut  
Adjt 36 Aust Inf Bn.

Issued by SDR

DISTRIBUTION

Copy No 1	HQ Coy	Less	Appx "B"
2	A	"	"
3	B	"	"
4	C	"	"
5	D	"	"
6	30 Aust Inf Bde	(for infm)	plus 7 extra copies Appx "B"
7	14 Aust Inf Bde	(for infm)	
8	CO	Less A px	"B"
9	2	1/c	
10	Adjt		
11	QM		
12	Asst Explaing Offr		
13	Unit Embussing Offr	(less Appx "B")	
14	File		
15 & 16	War Diary		
17 & 18	Spare	less copies	appx "B"



APPX "A"

DRESS. Shirt, slacks, gaiters battle order less respirators, ground sheet (incl shorts, spare shirt, and mosquito net) in roll att to belt, tin hat (worn), felt hat (carried on right shoulder)

Haversack to include:-

Rations  
Towel  
2 pr spare socks  
shaving gear  
personal toilet and necessaries  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  mess tins  
spare bootlaces  
sweater.

---

APPX "A"

DRESS Shirt, slacks, gaiters battle order less respirators, ground sheet (incl shorts, spare shirt, and mosquito net) in roll att to belt tin hat (worn) Felt hat (Carried on right shoulder)

Haversack to include:

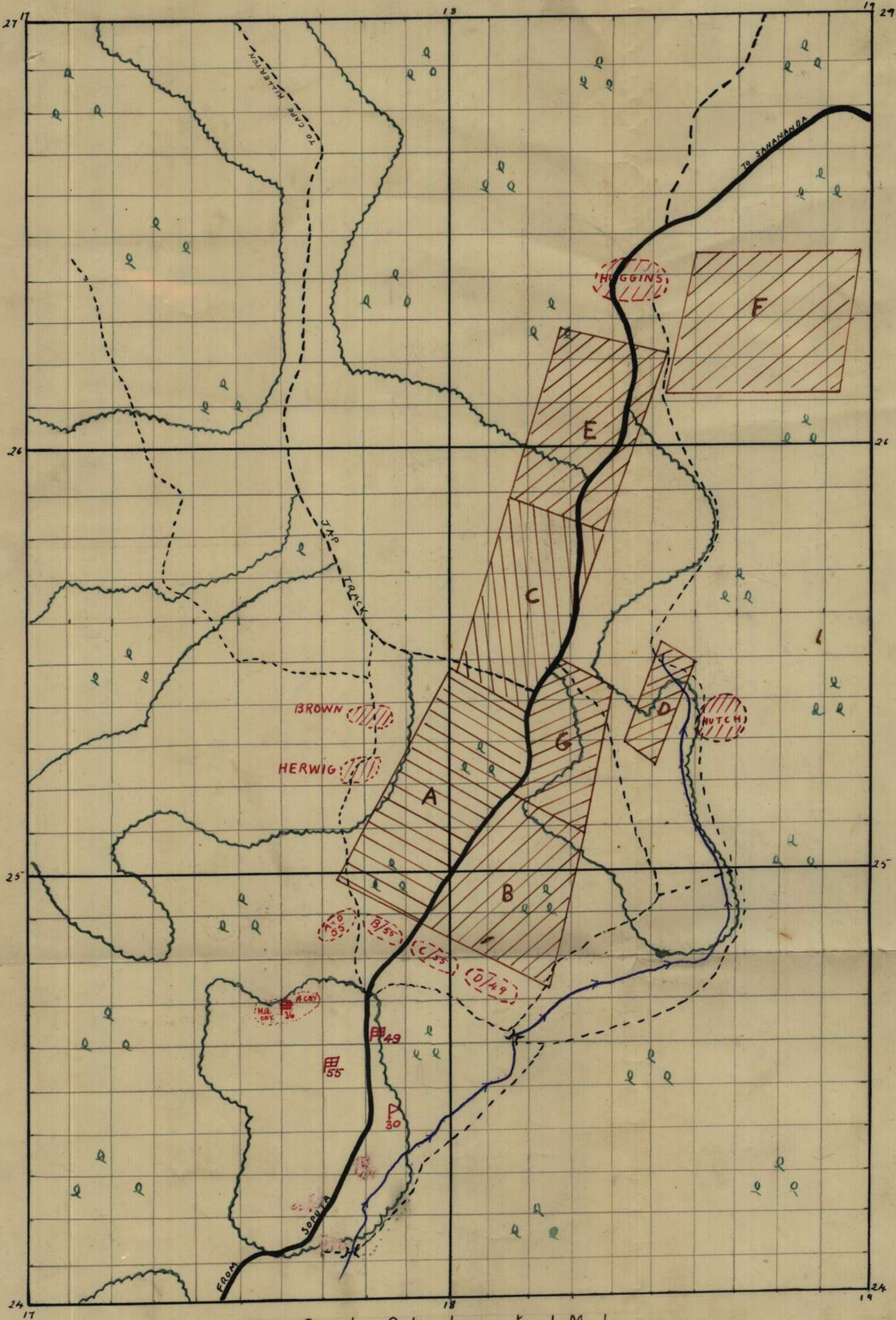
Rations  
Towel  
2 pr spare sock  
shaving gear  
personal toilet and necessaries  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  mess tins  
spare bootlaces  
sweater.

---



— ARTY. BARRAGE FOR ATTACK. —

19th. Dec. 1942



— Scale 8 Inches to 1 Mile —

Copy

I Sec 368p.



16 Dec. 42

30 AUST INF. BDE. O.O. NO. 13

Reference: GONA (Revised) 4" = 1 mile map.  
AIR PHOTOS. showing variation in vegetation  
etc. (N.B. Comds. to study letter carefully)

INFORMATION:

1. ENEMY

Reports on, and translations of captured documents indicate that the enemy strength on SOPUTA - SANANANDA ROAD is between 1200 and 1700: his health is waning, and his food supplies are very low.

His tactics consist of positioning troops in front of our lines of advance, as the latter are discovered, and pinning our troops with rifle and M.G. fire. Extensive is made of alternative positions; and it is considered that troops move to alternative areas in accordance with our threats.

DEDUCTION: The enemy must be threatened in as many places as possible at the one time, to disguise the main threat.

2. OWN TROOPS

36 Bn. is arriving this area today and will come under command this Bde.

7 Aust. Div. Cav. Regt. is moving to area HUGGINS and will commence operations from there - objective SANANANDA POINT. Timings will synchronise with our operations. This Unit is remaining under command 7 Aust. Div. until a later stage Present garrison HUGGINS is remaining in position until relieved by 30 Bde.

16 Bde. and U.S. sub-units are being concentrated in rear of our present positions as relieved by 30 Bde. when ordered by this H.Q.

3. INTENTION

We MUST and WILL destroy all ENEMY South of HUGGINS then push North to SANANANDA.

4. METHOD

Policy: To drive the enemy to ground in his present positions with MORTAR and ARTY. fire. To attack his positions from both flanks simultaneously behind a withering barrage of S.A. fire and flame-throwers. Mortar and Arty. fire will also be used for quick and close support.

5. FORWARD TROOPS

49 Bn. 55/53 Bn.

6. OBJECTIVES

49 Bn. - MAIN TRACK at astride point 183258 approx.



6. OBJECTIVES (Continued)

55/53 Bn. - LINE running approx. North and South 25 yds. East of that portion of MAIN TRACK from BIG TREE at 179248 to TRACK JUNCTION at 182253.

7. STARTING LINES

49 Bn. - Line running North and South through HUTCHINSON.

55/53 Bn. - Line running from present L. flank of 55/53 Bn. through HERWIGS.

8. DIRECTION OF ATTACKS

49 Bn. - 305 degrees mag.

55/53 Bn. - 85 degrees mag.

9. TIMINGS

D 1 - 18 SEP Zero - 0800 hrs.

10. SUPPORTING FIRE

See Appendix "B"

11. RESERVE FIRE

See Appendix "B"

APPENDIX "B"

TYPE	TASK NO.	AREA	RATE		TARGET ZONE	TIME		REMARKS	AMM REQUIRED
			GUNS	R.P.G. P.M.		FROM	TO		
ARTY.	1	Present	4	3	B	Z-8	Z-1	Neutralising	84
	2	"	4	3	C	Z-1	Z+8	"	108
	3	"	4	1	E	Z+8	Z+24	"	64
	4	"	4	As ordered	E	As	Ordered	Concentrat- ion	2
	5	"	4	"	F	On Demand		May switch from task 3 whether or not latter completed. Concentrat.	256 <u>200</u> (Res.) <u>456</u>
MORTAR	10	Present	6	4	A	Z-4	Z	Neutralis- ing	96
	11	HUTCHIN- SON	3	4	D	Z-4	Z	"	48
	12	Present	6	3	B	Z	Z+8	"	144
	13	"	3	3	G	Z	Z+8	"	72
	14	"	6	1	C	Z+8	Z+30	"	132
	15	HUTCHIN- SON	3	As Or- dered	-	Z	On	Quick supp- ort u/Comd. 49 Bn.	<u>492</u>
16	Present	3	As Ordered		Z+8	On	Quick supp- ort u/Comd. 55/53 Bn.	300 (Res.)	

792



30 Bde. O.O. No. 1311. RESERVE FIRE

Apart from above estimates, 49 Bn. will have priority in calls for supporting Arty. fire.

A general reserve of Mortar bombs equal to the availability of such, will be maintained in addition to requirements for tasks 15 and 16.

12. A. Tk. GUN

Our two Pdr. Gun will take up a position for purpose of firing up MAIN TRACK. Fire will be brought from Z-10 to Z by observation or sound on targets within a limited arc: R. of arc 30 degrees mag. L. of arc 10 degrees mag. measured from bend in road at 178247.

13. RESERVES

36 Bn. will relieve 49 Bn. and 55/53 Bn. in their present positions, on arrival of former.

They will act as Bde. Reserve in this area during the attack, and will endeavour to maintain two Coys. in depth ready for instant movement to relieve flanking detachments.

LIKELY ROLES: Protection of L. flank 55/53 Bn. with one Coy. after latter have reached main track. Later advance astride MAIN TRACK to contact 49 Bn. and/or HUGGINS ROAD BLOCK.

14. Upon relief, 49 and 55/53 Bns. will move to areas to be indicated on the ground in rear this H.Q.

15. Until U.S. troops are finally concentrated, their present roles will NOT cease until ordered by this H.Q.

16. ADMINISTRATION

Same arrangements for Medical, amm. and supplies will prevail as at present. According to results, present points will be advanced along MAIN TRACK or to either flank.

Units will pay particular attention to provision of WWCP's, medical requirements, incl. stretchers, and the chain of own supply.

17. INTERCOMMUNICATION

Adv. Bde. H.Q. will follow MAIN TRACK as closely as possible. Reports to present site until further orders. L/T will follow the advance. HUTCHINSONS and HERWICK garrisons will act as forward report centres, and will report progress constantly.

ACK.

(Signed) D.C. Wilson Maj.  
B.M. 30 Aust. Inf. Bde.Time of signature:  
1740 hrs.DISTRIBUTION

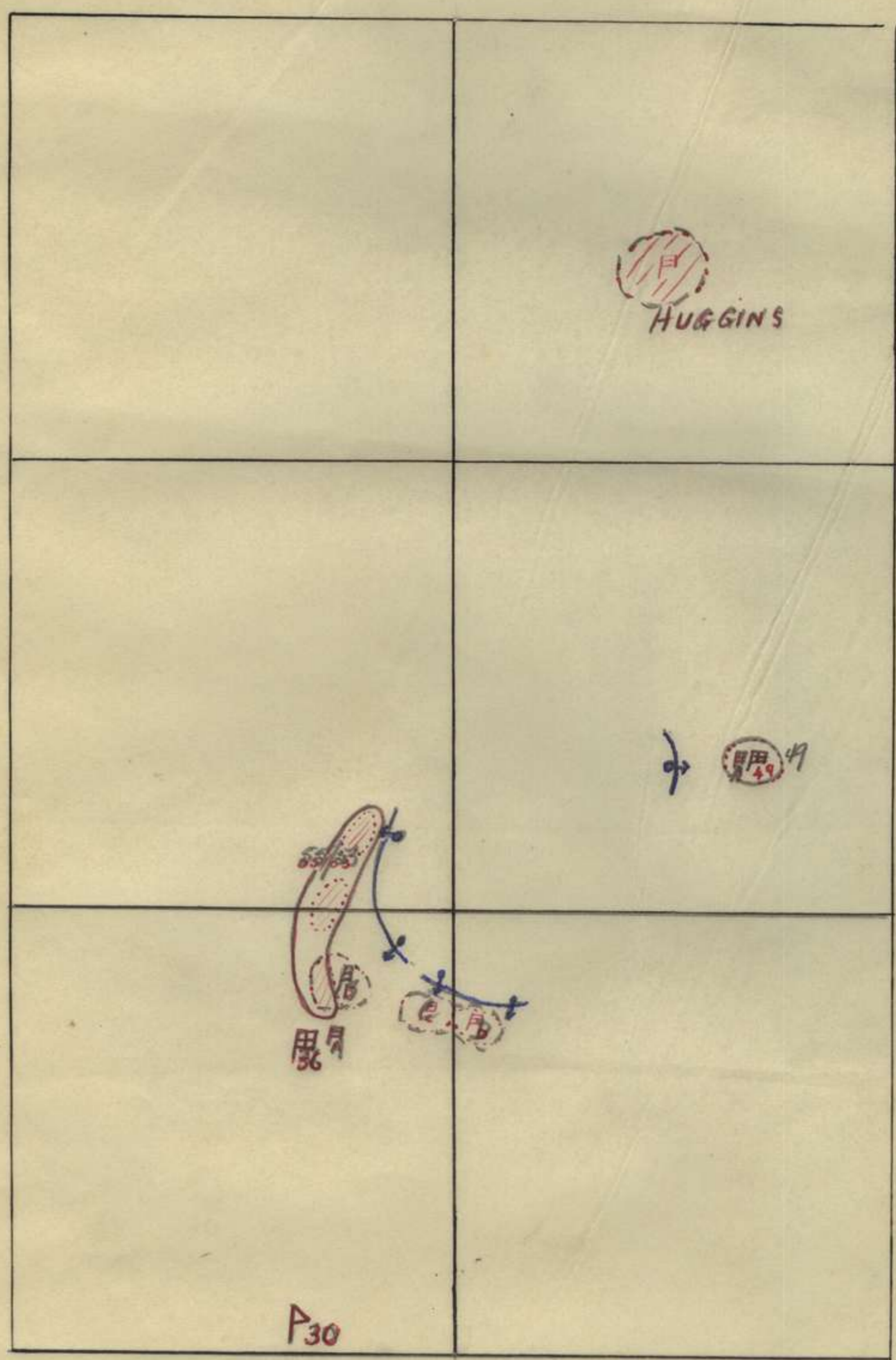
1. 2/3 Aust. Inf. Bn.	6. Det. 126 U.S. Regt.
2. 36 Aust. Inf. Bn.	7. 7 Aust. Div.
3. 49 Aust. Inf. Bn.	8. Det. 2/1 Fd. Regt.
4. 55/53 Aust. Inf. Bn.	9. File
5. Det. 126 U.S. Regt.	10. War Diary

Copies of Appendix "A" to 55/53, 49, and 36 Bns.  
Det. 2/1 Fd. Regt. 7 Aust. Div. and Mortar Officer.



# SIT MAP No 1

Date 19 Dec. 42 Time 0730hrs.

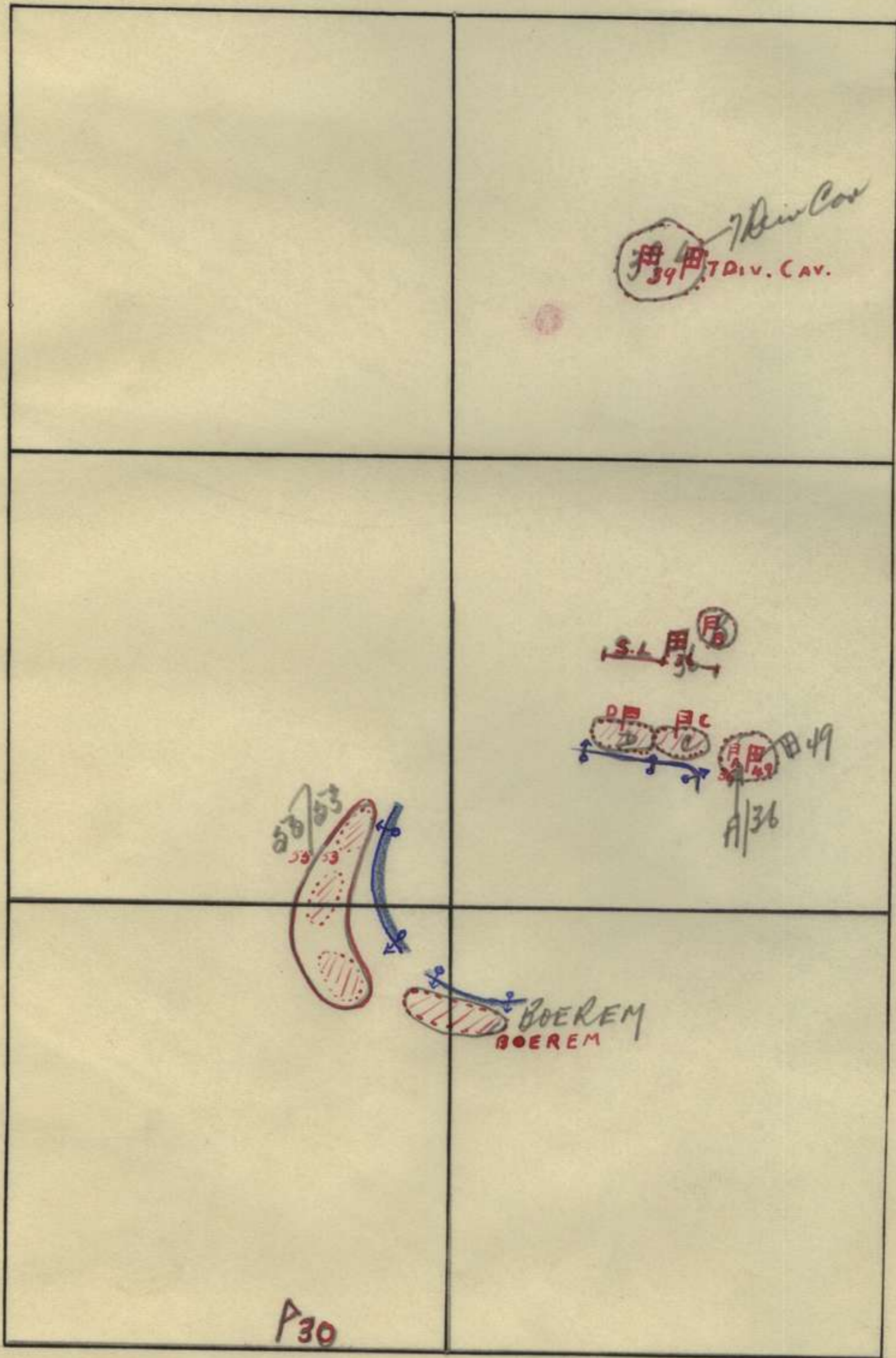


1 Sec. 36 Bn.



# SIT MAP No 2

Date 21. Dec. 42 Time 1510 hrs.



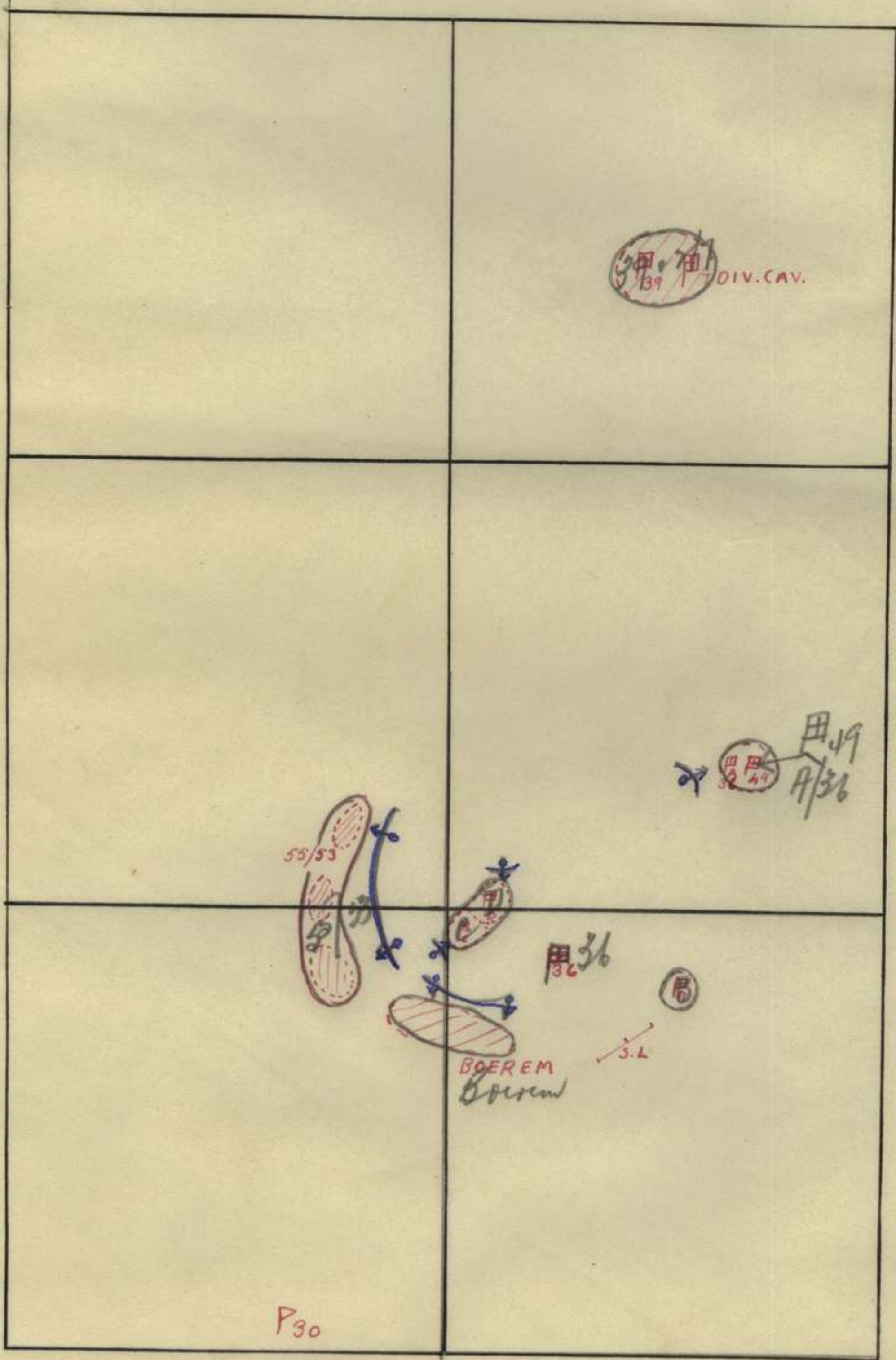
I. Sec. 36 Bn.



Appx. H.

# SIT MAP No 3

Date 26 Dec. 42 Time 1230hrs.

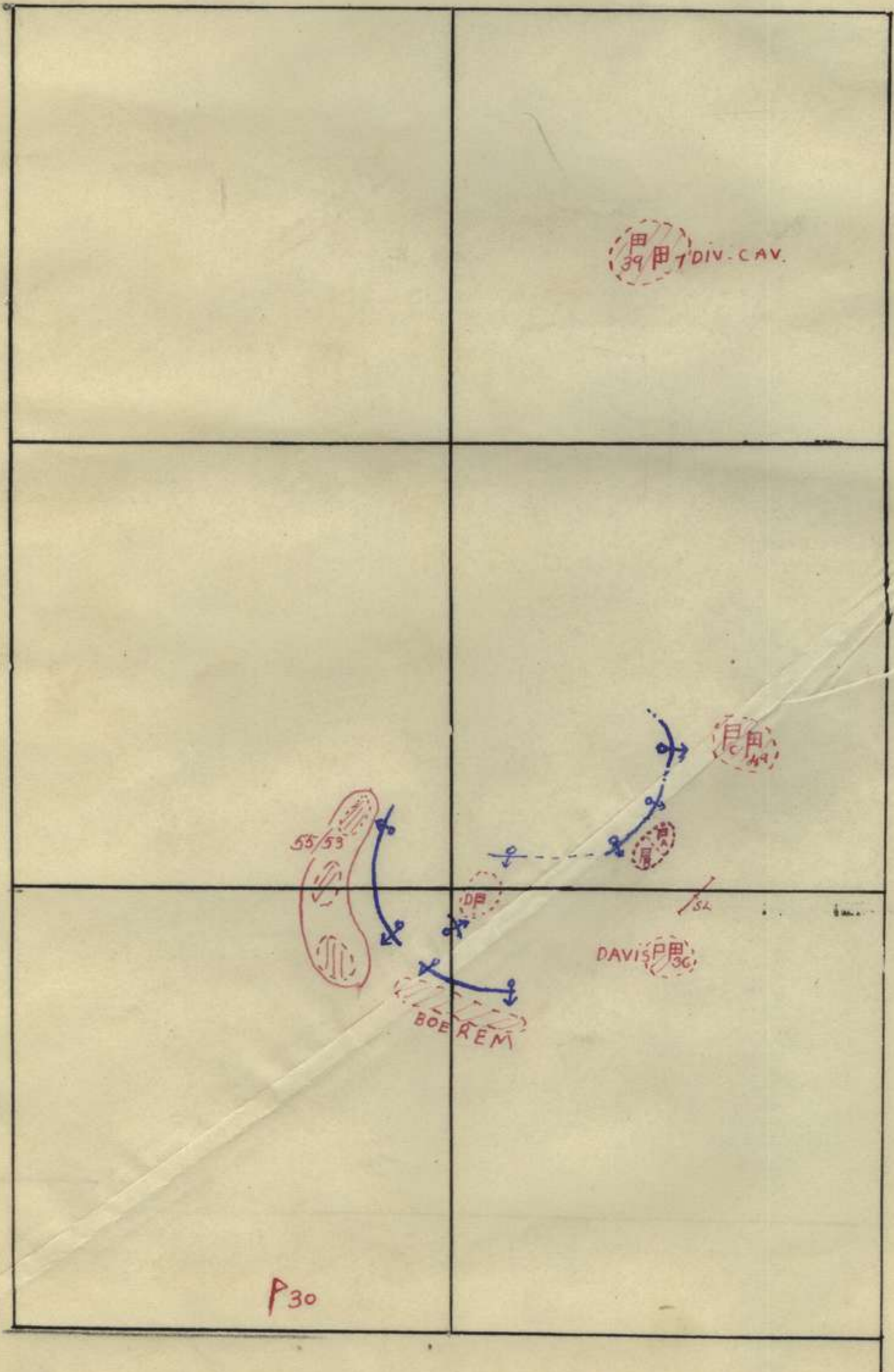


I Sec. 36. Bn.



SITMAP No 4

Date 28 Dec. 42 Time 1200 hrs

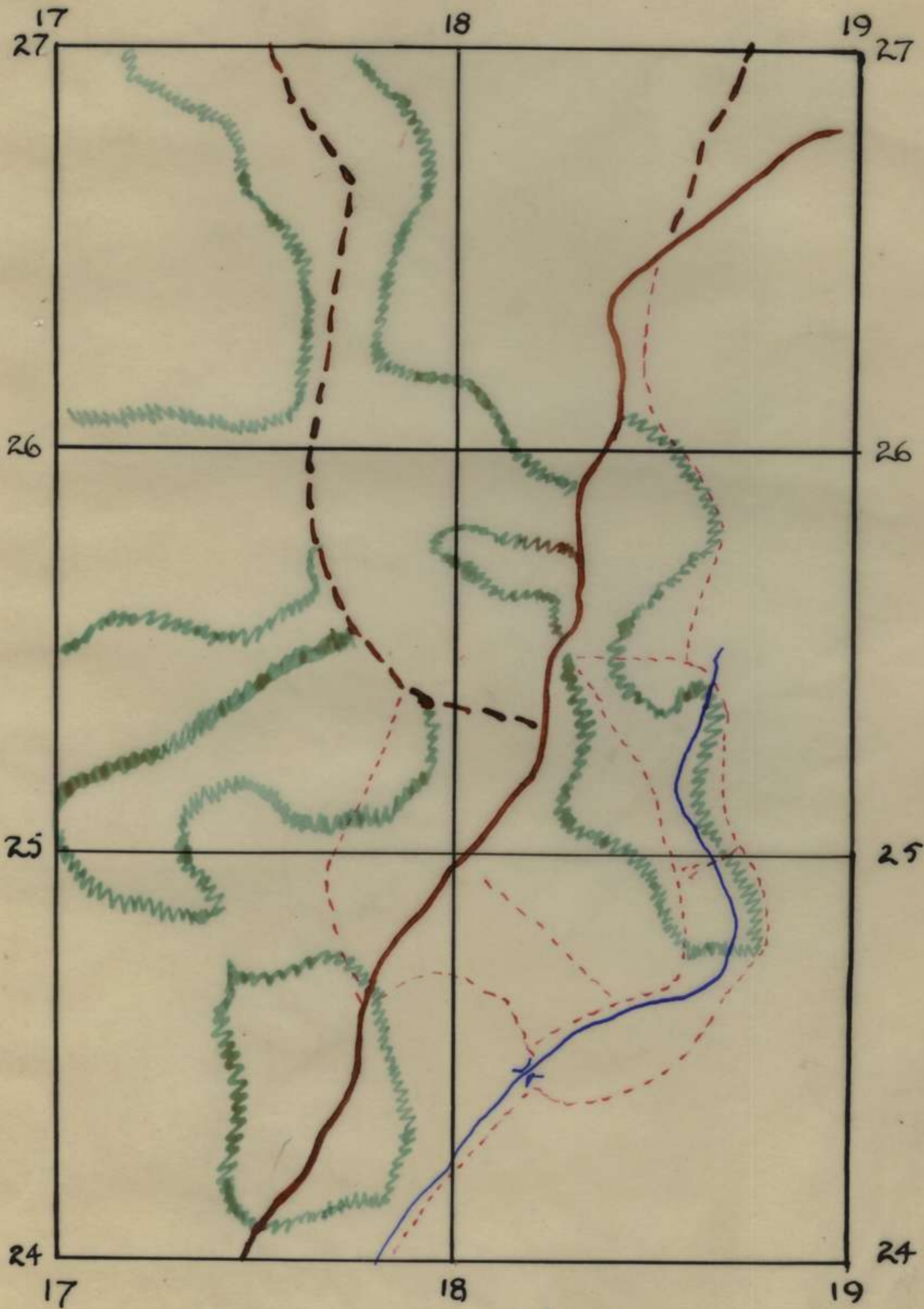




# MAP SHOWING AREA COVERED BY 36 BN ATTACKS

REF GONA 4" TO 1 MILE (REVISED DEC '42)

RF: 15840:



SCALE 4 IN 1 MILE



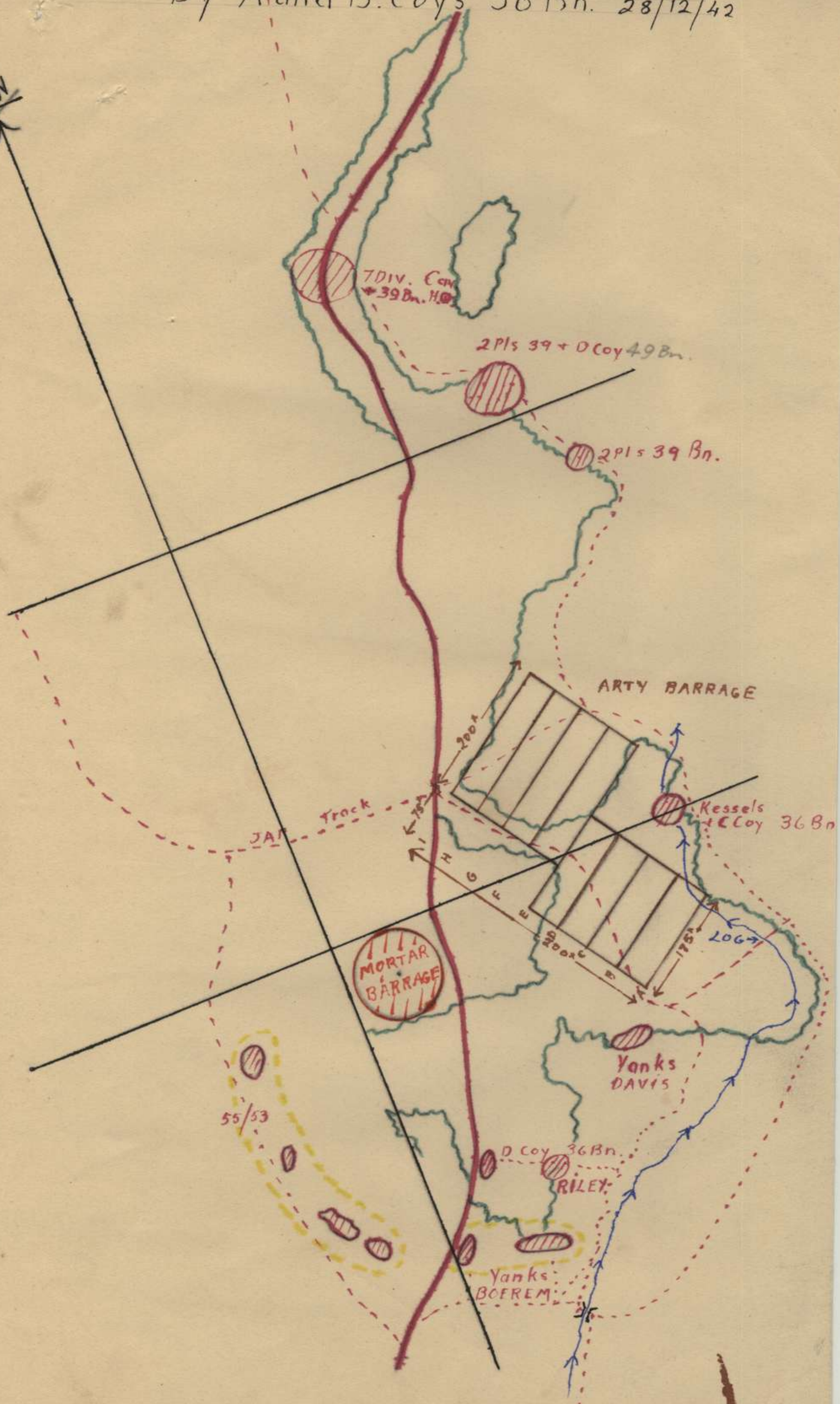
DRAWN BY PTE J. NEENAHAN  
36 BN 'I' SECTION. 5 JAN '43.



# BARRAGE DETAIL FOR ATTACK

By A and B Coys 36 Bn. 28/12/42

MN  
↑



Not Drawn to Scale

I. Sec. 36 Bn.



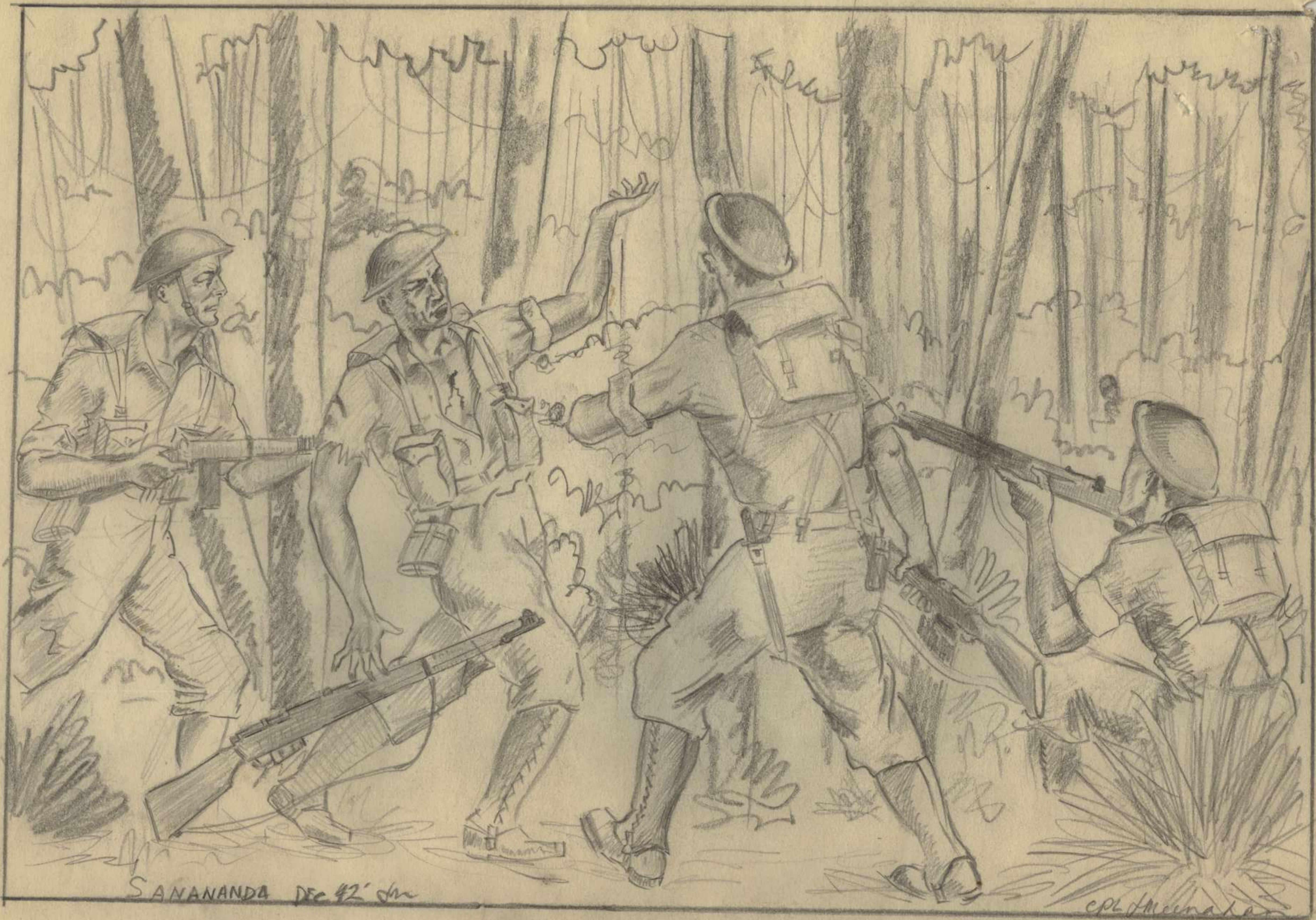
SIT MAP

As at 1400 hrs. 28 Dec. 42.



Scale 2 inch to 100 yds. 1 Sec. 36 Bn.



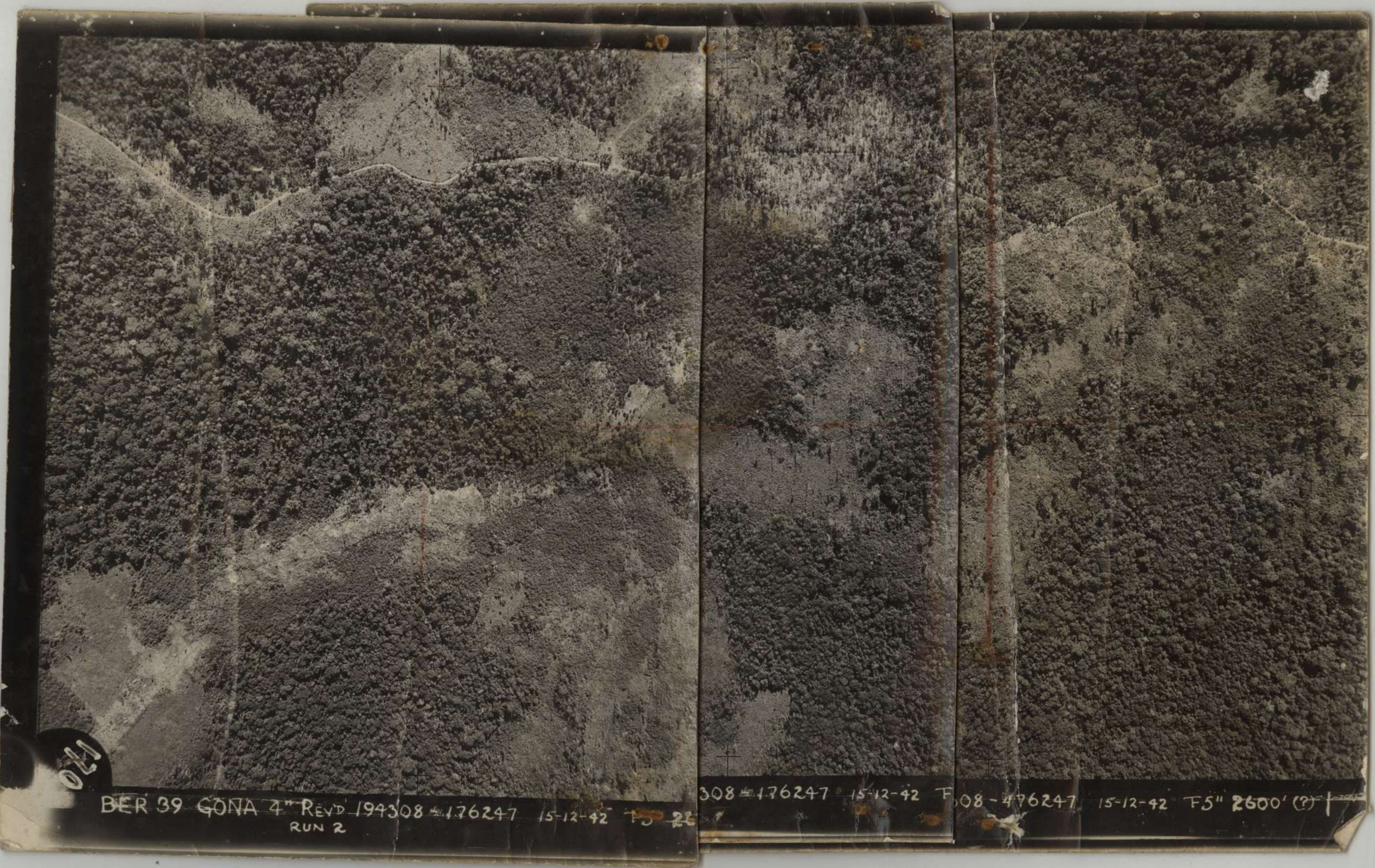


SANANANDA DEC 42' *sm*

cpl Macmahon

APPENDIX K.





170

BER 39 GONA 4" REVD 194308 476247 15-12-42 F5 25  
RUN 2

308 476247 15-12-42 F5 08-476247 15-12-42 F5 2600' (?)



120

BER 39 GONA 4" REVD 194308 #176247 15-12-42 F 08-476247 15-12-42 F5" 2600' (?)

KUN 2



172

BER 39 GONA 4" REVD 194308-476247 15-12-42 F5" 2600' (?)

RUN 24



A BRIEF HISTORY OF 36 AUST. INF. BN. IN ACTION IN THE BANANANDA AND GONA AREAS.

This account covers a period from the time of receipt of the first warning order to move until the time the remnants of the Bn. moved into the Rest Camp at DONEDABU.

On 14 Dec. 42 36 Aust. Inf. Bn. were engaged in the preparation of defensive positions near MURRAY BARRACKS, each part of the Bn. at the time was living in its own portion of the defensive area. Shortly after 1200 hrs. the message was received that 36 Bn. was to come under command N.G.F. forthwith and to prepare for an air move, all arrangements for which were to be made by H.Q. 6 Aust. Div., the first 'plane would not leave before 0630 hrs. on 15 Dec. 42. All work on the defensive positions was immediately stopped and all Coys. were ordered to move immediately to the Bn. camp area (Ref. Map PORT MORESBY TOWN AREA 039013).

This move took several hours to complete G Coy. being in position on Hill 491 (022007) The start was made on the necessary air em-planing tables after C.O. had interviewed D.A.Q.M.G. and arranged for release of controlled stores with G.S.O. 2 at H.Q. 6 Aust. Div. During the night the Bn. received sufficient Bren Guns and T.S.M.G's. to bring it up to establishment 2-12-3 in those weapons. In addition the Bn. received a number of watches, compasses, American type gaiters, a small amount of green dyed clothing plus khaki clothing and sufficient dye with which to dye it. The dyeing of the clothing was carried out during the night and the clothing as a result was not dyed as well as it might have been if done by daylight being rather too dark. However the dye gradually faded to a suitable colour. In addition to clothing all web equipment and mosquito nets and gaiters had to be dyed. Amm. of all types and rations had to be drawn and issued, and made up into 'plane lots.

The Bn. Ord. room staff completed the em-planing tables by dawn. These had to be drawn up on the basis of 16 men and 1,000 lbs. of stores on 'planes going to POPENDETTA and 20 men on 'planes to BOBODURA the two landing grounds used, and the Unit was ready to move.

Each man carried the following gear -

Dress - Felt hat, shirt, trousers, American gaiters, webbing with haversack, and with steel helmet on shoulder.

Amm. - 100 rds. per man (bdr.) 4 grenades.

Rations - 5 days rations made up as follows. 2 tins bully-beef, 2 pks. biscuits, 3 tins emergency rations.

Clothing - Blanket and mosquito net, spare shirt, spare set under-clothes, spare sock, spare shorts, all carried rolled in ground sheet and tied to back of waist belt, half towel, shaving and cleaning gear.

The first 'plane load of troops was not called for until approx. 1230 hrs. on 15th. and first 'plane took off from WARD'S DROME at approx. 1350 hrs. Unfortunately the emplaning tables were not kept to by the emplaning staff with a result of personnel intended to land at BOBODURA landed at POPENDETTA and vice-versa.

Portions of all Coys. were emplaned instead of a complete Coy. or Pl. with a result that by the late afternoon of 15/16 Dec. approx. 40 personnel had landed at each of the two 'dromes, but there was not one complete Coy. or even Pl. Owing to weather conditions it was not possible to transport the rest of the Bn. that day. Personnel landed at POPENDETTA spent the night there and those who de-planed at BOBODURA spent it at ANGO.

The following morning the parties at POPENDETTA and ANGO marched to BOPUTA and the C.O. reported to G.C.C. 7 Aust. Div. who informed him that the Bn. on its arrival would bivouac for the night at an area selected about 1,000 yds. North of Div. H.Q. and would come under command of 30 Aust. Inf. Bde. (Comdr. Brig. H.S.C. Porter, D.S.O.). Subsequently the C.O. accompanied the G.C.C. to H.Q. 30 Bde. and reported to the Bde. Comdr. who outlined a proposed plan of attack on Jap positions North of Bde. H.Q. by which 49 and 55/53 Bns. would be relieved by 36 Bn. on its arrival to enable those Units to rest for a day prior to the attack which would be carried out by 49 and 55/53 Bns. with 36 Bn. in reserve to exploit any success by either of those Bns. Owing to the fact that portions only of each Coy. and Bn. H.Q. had arrived and as it was desired to relieve 49 Bn. immediately, the Bde. Comdr. ordered that a composite Coy. be formed and take over from 49 Bn. early the following day. (17 Dec.) A very mixed Coy. command. by the A/Adjt. (Lt. Hasler) was therefor organised. This Coy. moved out from the Bn. area at 0700 hrs. on 17 Dec. and moved to relieve 49 Bn. and took over a fairly quiet area in which there were only occasional bursts of fire and sniping Ref. map GONA LOCALITY



(Revd.) 4 inches to one mile 176247. the remainder of the Bn. then at the bivouac area moved up to an area about 300 yds. South of 30 Bde. H.Q. which was at 176241.

During 16/17 Dec. the balance of the Bn. was landed at POPENDETTA and DOBODURA and marched to SOPUTA and then to this new area, the last party arriving about 2100 hrs. on 17 Dec. In all 22 Officers and 537 O.R.'s. were flown over the mountains, but of these one party of 12 had to make a forced landing at WAIKOPI from where they marched to SOPUTA taking them 3 days. The Coy. strengths were as follows :-

	OFFICERS	O'Rs.
Bn. H.Q.	6	49
H.Q. Coy.	3	121
A Coy.	3	86
B Coy.	4	103
C Coy.	4	88
D Coy.	4	92
	24	539

② Includes R.M.O. and Chaplain

An additional 10 M.T. Drivers arrived later to drive jeeps.

During 17 Dec. the Bn. claimed its first Jap, shot by N167157 Pte. C.S.P. Davis, a member of the Composite Coy.

Instructions were also received from Bde. during the day that 36 Bn. would as early as possible on 18 Dec. relieve D Coy. of 55/53 Bn. (holding the area 176246 just West of main M.T. track) The composite Coy. of 36 Bn. and a force of U.S.A. troops holding a line immediately East of the Composite Coy.

A copy of the C.O. issued by 30 Bde. for the attack to take place on 19 Dec. was also received during the day.

Early on 18 Dec. therefor instructions were given for B Coy. to take over the area of B Coy. 55/53 Bn., C Coy. to take over the area held by the Composite Coy. and D Coy. to take over from the Americans. This was done later in the morning after a recon. of the positions by Coy. Pl. and Sec. Comdrs. On the morning of 18 Dec. a conference of C.O.s' was held at Bde. H.Q. and the Bde. Comdr. went over the plans for the attack which was scheduled to take place on 19 Dec. Originally it had been planned for 17 Dec. but was postponed due to hold up in arrival of the 36 Bn.

The information available was as follows:-

- A. On 7 Dec. 49 and 55/53 Bns. had attacked Northwards on the East and West side of the main M.T. Track resp. In each case the Japs had allowed the first two Coys. to pass through their positions which were very well concealed and had then fired on them from the rear at the same time opening up on the following Coys., with the result that both Bns. had suffered heavy losses and gained practically no ground.
- B. 2/3 Bn. had been holding positions known as HERWIG'S, BROWN'S, and HUTCHINSON'S (shown on map herewith append.) for some weeks, and it was desired to relieve them as soon as possible.
- C. U.S.A. troops had been holding a road block position some distance North for approx. one month and it was desired to relieve them also as soon as possible. Their position was known as HUGGINS (see attached map)
- D. It was believed that the Japs who were thought to number 1200 to 1700 men were running short of food and amm., that their sickness rate was high and morale low.
- E. 7 Aust. Div. Cav. moved to the HUGGINS area on 18 Dec. and were to attack Northwards astride the main M.T. Track on 19th. and endeavour to reach SANANANDA. This attack was timed to synchronise with that of 30 Bde.
- F. The best map available (GONA LOCALITY) 4" = 1 mile) contained very little information about the area and Units had to rely to a large extent on two air photos. taken on 45 Dec. There were two photos. but there were not sufficient copies of both available for Units. As 36 Bn. was to be a reserve Bn. they were considered to have less need and did not receive a copy of the photo. showing the full area over which the attack was to take place but only the one showing the more Westerly area. This proved a great handicap later as we continually had to borrow from other Units, and although Bde. were repeatedly asked for the other photo. it never came to hand from the Air Force. The photos. were rather deceptive in that where there



appeared a cleared area there was often thick foliage up to a height of 25 feet, the darker areas being composed of very much larger timber. Further there was some doubt about the true scale of the photos.

- G. Certain names were given for ease of reference to parts of the area over which the Bde. was to attack as follows:-
1. The track leading South from CAPE KILLERTON to the main track at 182253 was to be known as "Jap Track". This track in fact continues on the East side of the main track in a South Easterly direction as appears in the photos. This track led to an old Jap dump East of HUTCHINSON'S.
  2. Looking at the aerial photo it will be seen that "Jap Track" immediately East of the main track runs between two small thickly wooded areas. These it was believed were strongly held by the Japs.
  3. Immediately North of "Jap Track" there will be seen a piece of country shaped remarkably like the Continent of SOUTH AMERICA, and by that name it was known and figured largely in the operations. The area of the two bomb-holes at the South of "SOUTH AMERICA" was to be known as "CAPE HORN", there were to be an "ARGENTINE" - "BRAZIL" and "CHILE" in their relative positions, while the small cleared area immediately North of "SOUTH AMERICA" was to be known as "THE INDIES" and the main track immediately North of "SOUTH AMERICA" (leading to HUGGINS) was to be known as "PANAMA".

Briefly, the plan for the attack was as follows - After preliminary Arty. and mortar bombardment 55/53 Bn. was to attack Eastwards from a start line along the track leading from the left flank position of B Coy. 36 Bn. to HERWIG'S position and seize the position of the main track from 179248 to track junction 182253. 49 Bn. at the same time were to move in a Northerly direction to place themselves astride the main track about 183258 and to endeavour to contact HUGGINS. The Jap pocket about 180248 was to be contained by 36 Bn. and would be dealt with later. The task of 36 Bn. was to be prepared to exploit the success of either of the other Bns. For this purpose the Bn. was ordered to maintain one Coy. at 5 minutes notice to move to either flank, or if 55/53 Bn. were successful, B Coy. would also join this reserve Coy. and move Northwards, West of the main track, mopping up where necessary to protect the left flank of 55/53 Bn. and later to push North astride the road if possible as far as HUGGINS or 49 Bn. The role of the reserve Coy. was allotted to A Coy.

Later that day the plan was explained to Coy. Comdrs. and during the day recess. were also made of the tracks to HUTCHINSON'S, HERWIG'S, and BROWN'S.

At 0722 on the morning of 19 Dec., the barrage commenced as planned, and at 0730 the attack commenced. By 0945 Bde. advised that 55/53 Bn. had progressed only about 100 yds. and were then pinned down, but that 49 Bn. were progressing.

The C.O. was therefore ordered to move A Coy. to HUTCHINSON'S to assist 49 Bn. and that they would there come under command of C.O. 49 Bn. A Coy. set out within 5 minutes of the issue of the order. At 1100 hrs. Bde. advised that 1 Pl. of 49 Bn. were proceeding North along the coast of "ARGENTINE" while another Pl. were at "CAPE HORN" It was not until some time later that this locality given was found to be incorrect. It is worth noting here that right throughout the country in which the Bn. operated, it was exceedingly difficult to pin-point one's position, owing to the foliage.

At 1340 hrs. 7 Pl. relieved the Pl. of 49 Bn. supposed to be at "CAPE HORN". Later that afternoon, orders were received from Bde. that 55/53 Bn. were to relieve B Coy. who were then to move to HUTCHINSON'S, come under command of C.O. 49 Bn., and move to "CAPE HORN" to relieve 7 Pl. yet astride the main track, and move Southwards until they struck Japs.

B Coy. were duly relieved and moved off, and later reported they had crossed Jap Track and halted for the night about 100 yds. South of that track owing to very dense vegetation.

Early on the morning of 20 Dec. Bde. advised that B Coy. had struck strong opposition about 200 yds. South of Jap Track. They further advised that A Coy. were attacking the Jap positions at 185254. On doing this, they came under heavy



Subsequently it was advised that A Coy. had attacked the position from the North with 2 Pls. only under instructions from Lt. Col. Kessel, comdr. of 49 Bn., that they had succeeded in knocking out three Jap positions but had been forced to withdraw by L.M.G. fire from numerous Jap positions. The Bde. Comdr. then decided that 36 Bn. would attack the positions against which A Coy. had been unsuccessful. Arrangements were therefor made for C and D Coys. to be relieved by U.S.A. troops and for D Coy. to return from its position astride the main track to a position near HUTCHINSON'S and revert to command of 36 Bn. in order to participate in the attack. Coy. and Pl. Comdrs. of C and D Coys. together with Bn. H.Q. moved to HUTCHINSON'S late in the afternoon, leaving the Coys. to follow early the next morning after the relief was completed. D Coy. would move to an area immediately North of HUTCHINSON'S to cover a creek crossing on the morning of 21 Dec. After recce. it was decided to attack the Jap positions from a start line of an East West track leading to the main track, which D Coy. had moved along, and to attack with 2 Coys. forward, D Coy. right, C Coy. left, and B Coy. in reserve on a bearing of 180 degrees. The objective was the Southern edge of the tongue of timber extending down to 185254. According to the air photo., the shape of this tongue is incorrectly shown on the map. Zero was fixed for 1430 hrs. but was later altered to 1500 hrs. A creeping Arty. barrage and mortar barrage was arranged to cover the advance. The attack moved off at 1500 hrs. and D Coy. on the right reported that they had moved forward about 250 yds. but were under heavy fire. On the left no reports were received from C Coy. for some time, but heavy M.G. fire came from their direction. Then news came that one Pl. of C Coy. was at HUTCHINSON'S having apparently lost its direction. This Pl. was ordered to return to the Coy. In the meantime the balance of the Coy. including the reserve Pl. and rear Coy. H.Q. had also come under heavy fire. The Coy. Comdr. was missing and the 2 1/c decided that it was not possible to push forward, and as he was under heavy fire, decided to withdraw a distance of about 100 yds. This was done. D Coy. found it necessary to withdraw also to remain in line with C Coy. Casualties were fairly heavy - KILLED 16 WOUNDED 32 MISSING 7 and as it was getting dark and C Coy. were somewhat disorganised, it was decided to form a perimeter for the night. B Coy. and Bn. H.Q. which had remained at the start line, therefor moved forward and formed a perimeter with C Coy. and D Coy.

That evening the C.O. was instructed to report to Bde. Comdr. and received instructions that on the following day the Bn. was to endeavour to move forward, section by section, and clean out the Jap positions.

On 22 Dec. therefor, B Coy. relieved D Coy. and together with C Coy. gradually moved forward section by section a distance of 60 yds. when fire from a number of M.G.s both light and medium prevented any further advance, and forced the Coys. to dig in. In the foliage it was almost impossible to locate the guns.

Efforts were made by small patrols that night to locate Jap positions without much success. On 23 Dec., in an effort to deal with an M.M.G. position on C Coy's left flank, which had prevented movement of both C and D Coys., a fighting patrol was sent out on the left flank, but did not locate the M.M.G. post, but found a Jap M.G. position recently evacuated. While on patrol they rescued a wounded member of A Coy. who had lain there with several wounds unable to move since A Coy's attack on 21 Dec. This man after attention, recovered sufficiently to be able to give information that the Jap post which had at least 2 L.M.G's. and 1 M.M.G. had moved that morning, he believed, to HUTCHINSON'S. On this information being conveyed to Bde. H.Q. instructions were received for a fighting patrol to go out and endeavour to locate and destroy these Jap. guns. This patrol set out but was surprised when three M.G's. opened up on them at short range from their original position beyond C Coy's left flank, and they withdrew with one man killed. B Coy. during the day also sent out a patrol to the right flank but they were unable to move forward because of heavy fire from several M.G's. well to the right of their position.

During the night 23/24 Dec. it was proposed that C Coy. should by small recce. patrols locate the posts on their left flank and seize them with a fighting patrol at 0500 hrs. The recce. patrols



however, did not locate the post and C Coy. were therefor instructed to move forward a further 30 yds. at 0500 hrs. On doing this they came under heavy fire from new M.G. posts both to their front and flank and were forced back to their positions.

In view of the fact that the Bn. was unable to make any progress, the Bde. Comdr. ordered that one Coy. should remain and hold the position and the others with Bn. H.Q. should return to the area of Bde. H.Q. in preparation for an attack on another portion of the front. B Coy. therefor remained to hold the position and C and D Coys. and Bn. H.Q. moved back in the morning of 24 Dec.

B Coy. again came under command of Bn. and were ordered to patrol a number of the tracks in the area as well as hold their positions. The Bde. Comdr. informed the C.O. that the two Coys. of the Bn. were to seize a strip of the main track North of the Jap positions immediately facing the U.S.A. troops.

Patrols were therefor sent out that day, 25 Dec. to locate Jap positions if any to the West of a small creek running approx. parallel to the main track. These patrols reported that no enemy were found as far North as the timber line just South of "Jap Track" and the only Japs located were those opposite the U.S.A. positions.

Christmas Day was spent quietly at any rate by members of Bn. H.Q. C and D Coys. and the opportunity was taken to clean up and rest.

Late in the day orders were issued for B Coy. to return to HUTCHINSON'S for the night and move back to Bde. H.Q. area at first light. Coy. and Pl. Comdr. also made a recce. of the start line which was fixed immediately West of the North South creek line with its left flank 150 yds. North of the Easternmost U.S. position.

On 26 Dec. D Coy. arrived back at Bde. H.Q. area early and final instructions were given. B Coy. were to move to the Northern edge of the timber about 183251 to protect the right flank while the attack was made by C Coy. on the right and D Coy. on the left, following a creeping barrage of Arty. fire while a box barrage at the same time was laid down by the mortars. Zero was fixed at 1230.

The attack went off according to plan and both C and D Coys. reached their objectives (the main track) without striking a great deal of opposition. They then proceeded to dig in, Bn. H.Q. plus the Protective Pl. formed from H.Q. Coy. personnel took up a position about 200 yds. West of the start line.

During the day and night 26/27 Dec. patrols went out from Bn. H.Q. to endeavour to contact the U.S.A. troops along the main track and also on the Eastern flank. The former was found not possible owing to Jap M.G. fire, but contact was made on the East.

Early on the morning of 27 Dec. a patrol sent out to locate the Jap positions between Bn. H.Q. area and the American lines reported that the only positions were those immediately opposite the U.S.A. positions. Orders were then received that B Coy. would be relieved by U.S.A. troops and would return to the Bde. H.Q. area and that either C or D Coy. would also move back.

The Bde. Comdr. ordered that the Bn. 2 1/2 (Major Riley) would assume command of the force consisting of the U.S.A. troops relieving B Coy. D Coy. would co-operate with U.S. troops on the South to encircle the Jap positions. A small H.Q. was left with Major Riley and Bn. H.Q. returned to Bde. H.Q. area. C Coy. experienced considerable difficulty in moving back, coming under heavy M.G. fire, and had to move a few at a time, but even so casualties occurred.

In the afternoon the Bde. Comdr. issued instructions for a further attack (from a Southerly direction this time) on the Jap positions at 183254. Plans were made for an Arty. barrage to support the attack. C Coy. did not arrive until approx. 1600 hrs. and when orders were given to move to the start line which had been laid out by the I.O. the majority of C Coy. refused to move claiming that their nerves were in too bad a state as the result of their experience that day.

It was then decided to postpone the attack until the following day. On the morning 28 Dec. Bn. H.Q., B and C Coys. moved once more to HUTCHINSON'S. It had been decided to use



A and B Coys in the attack instead of B and C as originally planned. The objective was again the tongue of timber at 185254 and the bearing of the attack 325. The attack was to be made with A Coy. on the right and B Coy. on the left. C Coy. relieved A Coy. in HUTCHINSON'S position. Zero at first was fixed at 1130 but subsequently altered to 1200. The I.O. had to lay out a start line in the scrubby country as no suitable natural or artificial line existed.

The artillery barrage commenced on time and the Coys. crossed the start line at 1200 hrs. and moved forward at the rate laid down (100 yds. in four minutes) However, when they had moved about 200 yds. they came into fairly open country and under heavy fire from both M.M.G's. and L.M.G's. and were unable to move further forward.

B Coy. used its reserve Pl. to endeavour to work round its left flank to deal with some of the guns but came to very open marshy ground with Jap positions covering it and were unable to proceed further on the right flank. A Coy. sent out a small patrol which contacted HUTCHINSON'S. As it did not seem likely that any further progress would be made in view of the number of M.G.'s. opposed to the Coys. orders were received from Bde. for A Coy. to return to HUTCHINSON'S to relieve C Coy. who in turn were to move south to relieve D Coy. who were then to take over a portion of the front held by 55/53 Bn. (BROWN'S) and came under comd. of C.O. 55/53 Bn.

A Coy. were accordingly pulled out and returned to HUTCHINSON'S. C Coy. moved out to relieve D Coy. but when part way along the track a large number of the Coy. refused to go on to carry out the relief. The C.O. thereof ordered C Coy to take over from A Coy. who were ordered to relieve D Coy. The relief of D Coy. was carried out that night and next morning (29 Dec) D Coy. relieved the Coy. of 55/53 Bn.

During the night 28/29 Dec. "B" Coy. recce. patrols pinpointed several of the enemy posts. Bn. H.Q. formed a perimeter with the U.S.A. troops who had relieved B Coy. on 27 Dec. and approx. 25 Grenades possibly fired from a discharger fell in the area during the night without causing any casualties.

Early on 29 Dec. under instructions from Bde. B Coy. sent out a fighting patrol to be out for two days with instructions to seize any Jap positions in the wooded area immediately East of the main track between 182252 and 183254.

Throughout 29 Dec. B Coy. maintained constant small recce. patrols in efforts to pin-point the Jap positions and did pin-point several. Patrols also examined the nearby native garden but observed no signs of Japs using them. Contact by patrol was also maintained with HUTCHINSON'S by A Coy.

A patrol sent out by B Coy. to raid a located Jap post during the night failed. On 30 Dec. two-day patrols above referred to reported in and advised that it had been unsuccessful.

Instructions were received from Bde. in the early afternoon that Bn. H.Q. and C Coy. were to return to Bde. H.Q. area leaving B Coy. in position the latter Coy. to come under command of "Riley Force". This move was carried out during the afternoon of the 30th.

Instructions were then received for C Coy. to relieve C Coy. of 55/53 Bn. at HERWIG the following morning. D Coy. also reverted to command of 36 Bn. This relief was duly carried out on 3 Dec.

Late that day the Bn. 21/c (Major Riley) was killed by a Jap mortar bomb and others both Australian and U.S.A. troops were killed and wounded.

Capt. McGlynn was ordered to take over Command of the "Riley Force" the force which consisted of A and B Coys. and some U.S.A. troops.

On 1 Jan. Bde. issued instructions for A Coy. to be relieved by 55/53 Bn. that night - relief was not possible during daylight.

55/53 Bn. were also to relieve B Coy. and that Coy. was in turn to relieve B Coy. of the 55/53 Bn. holding a line at 178249. The H.Q. of "Riley Force" was also to be taken over by 55/53 Bn. These reliefs were carried out during the day 1 Jan. 43 and night 1/2 Jan. - A Coy. coming into a reserve position with the H.Q. Coy. and Bn. H.Q. in the area 177246 For the first time since 19 Dec. 42 all Coys. were now under



(7)

command of the C.O.

By this time the Bn. strength was much reduced by battle casualties and sickness the Coy. strengths being as follows -

Bn.H.Q.	5	Offrs.	43	O.R's.
H.Q. Coy.	3	"	81	"
A Coy.	1	"	23	"
B "	4	"	52	"
C "	1	"	33	"
D "	2	"	40	"

16 272

During 1 Jan. instructions were received from Bde that the Bn. would be moving to the GONA area within the next two days and that D Coy. plus sufficient of one of the other Coys. to make their number up to 50 would be relieved by 0730 on 2 Jan. by 39 Bn. and would then proceed by jeep to SOPUTA and then to GONA and come under command of 2/1 Aust. Inf. Bde. A portion of C Coy. were detailed to bring D Coy. up to the requisite number.

The relief was carried out on 2 Jan. somewhat later than ordered but D Coy. had departed by 0830.

During 2 Jan. orders were received that B Coy. would be relieved by 7 Aust. Cav. Reg. on 3 Jan. and that the Bn. was then to move to the area known as HANSON'S which was the arty. gun position about 1 1/2 miles north of SOPUTA and would there once more come under command of 14 Aust. Inf. Bde.

During the morning of 3 Jan. B Coy. pushed forward their line a distance of 60 yds. Later in the day the relief by 7 Aust. Cav. Reg. was completed and the Bn. moved to the HANSON'S area and bivouacked there for the night.

Total casualties whilst in the SANANANDA area were (including sick)

Bn.H.Q.	1	Off.	6	O.R's.
H.Q. Coy.	-	"	40	O.R's.
A Coy.	2	"	63	"
B "	-	"	51	"
C "	3	"	55	"
D "	2	"	52	"

8 267

On 4 Jan. instructions were received for the Bn. to rest during 4 Jan. and to move via a cross country track following an arty. cable to the JUMBORA - GONA track which was then to be followed to H.Q. 14 Aust. Inf. Bde. at GONA.

On 5 Jan. the Bn. set off for GONA at 0745 hrs. and the track lived up to its reputation for knee deep filthy mud which made progress slow.

However Bde. H.Q. were reached 1230 hrs.

Orders from the acting Bde. Comd. (Lieut. Col. Matthews) were for the Bn. to bivouac the night 5/6 Jan. at KIKORI (123313)

On 6 Jan. a recce was to be made of the positions held by 21 Bde. One Coy was to relieve the 2/16 and 2/27 Bns. at DINWATI ( AMBOGA RIVER MOUTH LOCALITY Ref. 095328. All references from this map hereafter, ) one Coy. was to move to EURORIBADI (067306) and the balance of the Bn. were to take up a defensive position at KUROV (106326)

The information available was that the Jap had an O.P. under a house in the village on the western bank of the AMBOGA RIVER at 092330 and that it was believed there were two or three hundred Japs probably A.S.C. personnel situated further west of them. A number of them had been seen bathing in the sea beyond the range



of the Vickers Gun at DINWATI. No attempt had been made by the Jap to cross the AMBOGA and they did not open fire on our troops unless they attempted to cross the river. It was also doubted whether the map was correct in showing the AMBOGA MOUTH at DINWATI - it was thought it might be the stream running into the sea at 080336. The job of the Bn. was therefore to take up a strong defensive position at DINWATI to prevent any movement west by the Japs, to patrol the area EURORIBADI - JAUNGA - village 073313, to endeavour to ascertain whether the course of the AMBOGA RIVER as shown on the map was correct, to send strong offensive patrols across the AMBOGA each day to deal with any Japs found and lastly to take up our main defensive position at KUROV which lent itself well for the purpose. Wood and sand pill-boxes were to be constructed at both DINWATI and KUROV. In both these areas the undergrowth and grass round about was to be cleared for a field of fire for a distance of 440 yds. by native labour which would be provided for the purpose. At the same time the Bn. was to be prepared to move to the East to assist 53/53 Bn. in the event of any movement West by the Japs in the SANANANDA AREA.

To deceive the enemy as to the forces opposing him the Bn. was to bathe and move about on the beach as much as possible for the next two days. Intermittent mortar and M.G. fire was to be kept up day and night on the Jap positions West of the AMBOGA.

In accordance with these instructions therefor the Bn. moved to KIKORI and spent the night there.

D Coy. which had arrived some days before was at this time assisting 2/16 and 2/27 Bns. in the defense area at DINWATI and also had a small party detached to assist the 2/14 Bn. at BASABUA (GONA 4" 154317)

During the night of 4/5 Jan. D Coy. had pushed a small patrol across the AMBOGA by raft to ascertain if the Jap O.P. was still occupied as no movement there had been noticed recently. This patrol was fired on from the O.P. and had to withdraw leaving one man killed. In the afternoon of the 5 Jan. D Coy. sent over a fighting patrol with the object of destroying the O.P. This patrol had several casualties but reported the actual O.P. unoccupied.

On 6 Jan. therefor B Coy. moved to the DINWATI area, and the balance of the Bn. at KIKORI moved to KUROV. The party from BASABUA (who were all C Coy. men) returned to their Coy. also.

On 7 Jan. as arranged 2/16 and 2/27 Bns. were relieved as ordered and handed over a number of weapons (including three Vickers Guns and two 2" Mortars) plus a quantity of ammunition and other stores.

D Coy. also commenced to move Southwards to the village 073313.

Plans were also made for the construction of the defenses of KUROV and DINWATI

In addition to the actual positions at DINWATI B Coy. were required to maintain two outposts one at 090324 and one at 089320.

On 8 Jan. the first offensive patrol set out and endeavoured to cross the AMBOGA South of DINWATI. However they ran into deep swamps wherever they went and were unable to reach the river.

The following day another patrol crossed the river to the South of DINWATI but were held up by swamps on the Western side of the River. On 10 Jan. a further patrol crossed the river at about 086324 and moved Westwards about 800 yds. but again it was found impossible to proceed further either West, North or South because of swamps.

It was therefor decided that the patrol the following day should move South to EURORIBADI where D Coy. were established cross the river at the crossing near ELWAADA 063308 and move up the track leading from there to NUFUFU (077338) This track was reported by natives to be a good Government track.



They were then to push back to DINWATI along the coastal track dealing with any Japs on the way. If they found themselves unable to get through on this track they were to return on the track by which they had come. The patrol moved North along the Government track only as far as 075335 and retraced its steps but reported no contact.

Mention might here be made of D Coy. who had established very friendly relations with the local natives who had come from their hiding places in the bush immediately D Coy. occupied JAUNGA and later EURORIBADI. They succeeded in obtaining quite a lot of useful information both about Japs and tracks rivers etc. from the natives and also from small recce. patrols. All Coys. during this period had small patrols traversing tracks creeks etc. and work also proceeded on the pill boxes.

Great difficulty was experienced from about this time onwards in getting together sufficient fit men to make up patrols owing to the incidence of malaria and this meant that the pill boxes were not proceeded with very fast.

A large number of men were put on quinine treatment by the R.M.O. but could not be put on to any work which was at all strenuous so the opportunity was taken to practice them in weapon training and firing each day.

The fighting patrol on 12 Jan. was successful in crossing the AMBOGA at its mouth without any opposition and pushed Westward until within about 1000 yds. East of DANAWATUTU (050363) without any opposition. Many Jap position and camps were discovered at places along the track and it was apparent that almost a complete Bn. must have occupied the area and evacuated it a few days previously.

The patrol sent out on 13 Jan. had instructions to proceed to DANAWATUTU cross the river at that place and to patrol as far Southward along the coastal track as possible. Owing to the flooded state of the river in question it was not possible to cross- the patrol comd. in fact, was almost washed out to sea. A further patrol to DANAWATUTU went out on 14 Jan.. On none of these patrols were any Japs (other than dead) seen.

P.I.B. boys from near the KUMUSI mouth also reported that the Japs were leaving that area in barges and from time to time the area was bombed, there were a number of fires and attacks from our patrol boats at night. A number of dead, both from this and other Units were buried West of the AMBOGA. By this time it was very clear that the mouth of the AMBOGA was correctly shown on the map, a further patrol having traversed the Government track from NUFUFU to ELWAADA without discovering a stream of any size. The two streams running into the sea between DINWATI and DANAWATUTU were found to be only small streams.

During the morning of 14 Jan. instructions were received from Bde. H.Q. that the Bn. was to move immediately to the GONA - JUMBORA track to prevent the escape Westward of Japs fleeing from the SAMANANDA area. The Bn. was moved accordingly- B Coy. taking up a position at the A.D.S. at 134266 ( GONA SHEET) with patrols moving Southward and Eastward. A Coy. were in position at Track Junction 232273, C and H.Q. Coy combined at 127293, D coy. (less one section at Bde. H.Q.) and Bn. H.Q. remaining at KIKORI. Constant small patrols were ordered for both day and night along the track- each Coy. patrolling to its right. All sorts of personnel not normally used for this purpose had to take their turn owing to the shortage of fit men e.g. cooks, the armourer, and mortar Pl. personnel. From this time on a number of fleeing Japs were killed or captured each day. B Coy. near the track in particular accounted for a large number - the total accounted for is difficult to estimate because it is not known how many wounded Japs got away from the patrols and survived, but it was well over a hundred.



On 15 Jan. a further fighting patrol was ordered by Bde. to move to NUFUFU and thence Southward along the Government track to ELWAADA. This patrol came into contact with a group of Japs estimated at forty-fifty and in the ensuing fight three Japs were certainly killed and probably two others while our patrol lost two men killed. The following day (16 Jan.) a further fighting patrol was ordered to patrol the coast track to DANAWATUTU. When near DANAWATUTU the patrol encountered a force of approx. 250 well-armed Japs and after dealing with the leading three Japs were forced to withdraw inland and did not return to KIKORI until the following day. Our losses were one killed and two wounded and one man missing. On 18 Jan. a further fighting patrol went to DANAWATUTU which killed one Jap. This patrol found that the body of Sgt. Bramah the man killed on the patrol of 16 Jan. had been stripped of all flesh with some sharp instrument, presumably by Japs. A further patrol to DANAWATUTU on 19 Jan. met and killed one Jap.

On 20 Jan. the man missing from the patrol on 16 Jan. arrived back at KIKORI in an exhausted condition. A patrol to DANAWATUTU reported no Jap activity.

By this time the Bn. strength had dwindled with sickness to nine Officers and 143 O.R's.

The following day Bde. ordered a party composed of both 36 Aust. Inf. Bn. and 55/53 Aust. Inf. Bn. under comd. of Lieut. Bell of 55/53 Aust. Inf. Bn. to again occupy DINWATI, and patrol daily with half its strength to DANAWATUTU. Torrential rain fell on several nights during this period- in one instance 4" and in another 10" falling during the night.

On the latter occasion the bridge between KIKORI and the main GONA track was washed away, cutting off supplies for the day. A new bridge was subsequently built over KIKORI creek on the sit of a demolished bridge by natives who were found to be expert at the job.

The "Bell" patrol also found it impossible to cross the AMBOGA for several days owing to its flooded state.

For some days the Bn. maintained its small patrols until on 23 Jan. instructions were received that the Bn. would be relieved by U.S.A. troops not before 24 Jan. On 24 Jan. a Bn. Advance Party moved to JUMBORA and a recce. party from 163 Regt. U.S.A. Infantry arrived.

On the following day the main U.S. Force arrived A and H.Q. and C Coy. moved to join B Coy. at the A.D.S. The U.S. troops were shown over the various areas- their patrols on this day being partly composed of U.S. troops.

The relief was effected on 26 Jan. and Bn. H.Q. and D Coy. picked up A B C and H.Q. Coy. at the A.D.S. and marched along the main GONA track to JUMBORA and thence to SOPUTA where the advance party had prepared a camp. The Bn. was in this bivouac area by night fall, many finding the mud on the GONA track and subsequently the kunai patches very trying.

The following day the Bn. rested. The C.O. and 2 i/c took the opportunity of visiting the area over which the Bn. had fought earlier which had been cleaned out and discovered a number of our dead still unburied. The Japs. had had very well concealed and numerous positions.

The following day (28 Jan.) a party composed of members of each Coy. set out with the Padre and buried a number of our dead. They also killed without loss to themselves a small party of six Japs found wandering about.

On 29 Jan. the Bn. moved off early to DOBADURA DRONE where it arrived about 1100 hrs. and bivouacked under the trees on the edge of the drone.

It was expected that 'planes would be available the following day but the Bn. had to wait until 3 Feb. before the 'planes came to transport them. The total



(11)

number of the Bn. brought back was 11 Officers. & 96 O.R's.

On 2 Feb. the Bn. had started on training as it was not known when planes would arrive.

A few weapons and stores which the Bn. was to bring back had been sent to POPENDETTA DROME with a party of three, but they did not emplane until 6 Feb.

On arrival at WARD'S DROME transport was arranged to take the Bn. to DONEDABU rest camp where the Bn. enjoyed a complete rest for about ten days.

The total casualties of the Bn. whilst in the SANANANDA and GONA areas were as follows (as at 28.1.43)

	K.I.A.	MISSING	WOUNDED	SICK	TOTAL
Officers	4	1	3	5	13
O.R's.	50	4	121	268	443
TOTAL	54	5	124	273	456

Sickness however had been an even more important factor, Malaria and Scrub Typhus mainly causing evacuations totalling 191 all ranks.

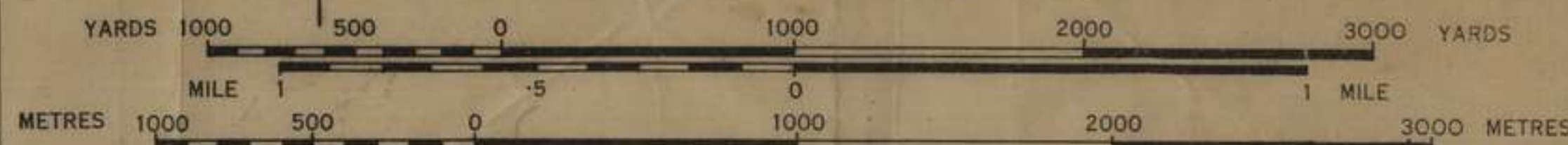
Of those evacuated troops three subsequently died of Scrub Typhus and one from malaria.



NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES GRID  
SOUTHERN NEW GUINEA ZONE

# GONA LOCALITY (Revised)

Scale: 4 Inches to 1 Mile



### LEGEND

TIMBER		TRACK	
SWAMP		BRIDGE	
A.A. POSITION		WATERCOURSE	
HEAVY A.A.		COCONUT PLANTATION	
LIGHT A.A.		GRASSLAND	
DEFENCE POST			

**WARNING**  
GRID DOES NOT CORRESPOND WITH  
THAT SHOWN ON PREVIOUS EDITION

MAGNETIC  
VARIATION  
5° 40'



COMPILED FROM ALL AVAILABLE  
INFORMATION TO 5 DEC. 1942

H.O.N.G.F.

REPRODUCED BY 2/1 AUST. ARMY TOPO. SURVEY COY., DEC. '42

SVY. MISC. 186 13



**NOT TO BE  
PUBLISHED****IN THE  
FIELD****AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.****ROUTINE ORDERS.**

by

**LIEUT-COLONEL O.C. ISAACHSEN****Comd 36 Aust Inf Bn.****Part 1.****8 DEC 42.****No. 16****1. ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE - SPECIAL ENTRY 1943.**

Applications are invited to fill twentyfive vacancies at a special twelve months' course to be conducted at the Royal Military College, DUNTROON, commencing 27 Mar 43.

Candidates for selection must be serving members of the AMF (incl AIF) not below the rank of Cpl.

To be eligible to attend the Special Entry Course, a candidate must:-

- (a) Pass the prescribed medical examination.
- (b) Be unmarried.
- (c) Be a British subject.
- (d) Be over the age of twenty years and under the age of twentythree years on 27 Mar 43.
- (e) Have obtained the following minimum educational qualifications:-
  - a "Leaving" (or equivalent) certificate, incl at least one Mathematical subject and Physics at a public University examination.
- (f) Be recommended by a selection Board.
- (g) Be approved by the Minister for the Army.

Further particulars may be obtained from Bn HQ.

**2. HYGIENE.**

Provisions of MGF order 451, promulgated in 36 Aust Inf Bn R/O part 1 No.13 of 22 Nov 42, will be again brought before the notice of ALL ranks. Coys will ensure that all pers are conversant w with the order, and will take disciplinary action against any pers failing to observe it.

3.

**3. PUNISHMENTS & AWARDS.**

N91664 A/Cpl. ROBINSON F.W. of B Coy. 36 Aust. Inf. Bn.

PLACE :- In The Field. DATE :- 30 Nov. 42.

OFFENCE :- Neglect to obey a general order, namely 6 Aust. Div. Instructions for Anti-Malarial Dress in that he appeared in Camp Area, Murray Barracks on 28 Nov. 42 after 1900 hrs. in dress contrary to such instructions. A.A. 11.

AWARD :- Admonished. DATE :- 1 Dec. 42.

NX37112 Pte. LINCOLN H. E. of A Coy., 36 Aust. Inf. Bn.

PLACE :- In The Field. DATE :- 26 Nov. 42.

OFFENCE :- Losing by neglect military property entrusted to his care for Military purposes in that he at Murray Barracks on 26 Nov. 42 losing by neglect his pay book (destroyed by fire) entrusted to his care for Military purposes. A.A. 24 (2)

AWARD :- Fined 10/- DATE 3 Dec. 42.



4. DISTRICT COURT MARTIAL.

A DCM was convened by COMD TD HQ NSW L of C Area and held at HQ NSW L of C Area on 5 Nov 42, for the trial of N19934 A/Cpl HOOKER.A.J., 36 Aust Inf Bn.

THE ACCUSED was charged with Desertion on 29 Oct 42.

THE ACCUSED pleaded not guilty and the Court found the accused GUILTY.

THE COURT sentenced the accused to undergo detention for 18 months.

THE ACCUSED was in custody awaiting trial for seven days.

The finding and sentence were duly confirmed on 11 Nov 42, by Comd TD HQ NSW L of C Area.

The date for review of sentence was fixed at 5 AUG 43.

The result of the trial was promulgated to the accused at HOLDSWORTHY on 15 Nov 42.

5. COURT OF INQUIRY.

The following officers will constitute a Court of Inquiry for the purpose of inquiring into and reporting on the circumstances of the loss of Pistol .38 Colt No. DD120 and compass prismatic No. 15772 on issue to N.91701 Capt S.W. POWERS and in particular whether such loss was due to the wrongful act or neglect of any person or soldier.

N.21165 - Capt L.W. McGLYNN,  
President.

N.74558 - Capt C.B. FISHER,  
Member.

QX21567 - Lieut E.A. BLISS,  
Member.

(SGD)

*W.F. Hasler* Lieut.  
W.F. HASLER, Lieutenant,  
A/Adjt. 36 Aust Inf Bn.

"A" COY



1. DISCIPLINARY ACTION (Contd).

N. 23079 - Pte HIGGINS, H., "B" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
 Place: In the field. Date: 29 Nov 42.  
 Offence: Disobeying a lawful general order given by his superior officer in that he on 29 Nov 42 at 0800 hrs disobeyed a lawful command to take charge of a Bren LMG given to him by A/Cpl J. A. H. A.S., his superior officer.  
 Award: Fine 10/-.

N. 23080 - Pte HIGGINS, H., "B" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
 Place: In the field. Date: 29 Nov 42.  
 Offence: Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline in that he on 29 Nov 42 at 0800 hrs disobeyed a lawful command to take charge of a Bren LMG given to him by A/Cpl J. A. H. A.S., his superior officer.  
 Award: Fine 10/-.

N. 23081 - Pte HIGGINS, H., "B" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
 Place: In the field. Date: 30 Nov 42.  
 Offence: Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline in that he on 30 Nov 42 gave a blow to the face of a superior officer, A/Cpl J. A. H. A.S., and Lieutenant HIGGINS of 96 USA Army Unit with intent to commit an offence under the provisions of the Commission of an offence. AA 40  
 Award: Discharged.

N. 23082 - Pte HIGGINS, H., "B" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
 Place: In the field. Date: 29 Nov 42.  
 Offence: AWL from 2000 hrs on 29 Nov 42 until 0200 hrs on 30 Nov 42 - a period of 6 hours. AA 35(1).  
 Award: 7 days CB.

N. 23083 - Pte HIGGINS, H., "B" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
 Place: Field. Date: 30 Nov 42.  
 Offence: Failed to obey a general order namely 6 Aust Div instructions for Anti-Aircraft Dress in that he appeared in camp area on 30 Nov 42 after 1900 hrs in dress contrary to such instructions.  
 Award: Fine 10/-.

N. 23084 - Pte HIGGINS, H., "A" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
 Place: Field. Date: 27 Nov 42.  
 Offence: Used impropriety of language to his superior officer in that he on 27 Nov 42 at 0800 hrs in the presence of other members of his unit said to A/Cpl HIGGINS, H., "B" Coy, "You'll get no work out of me today, you'll lose your job." AA 3(2)  
 Award: Fine 10/-.

N. 23085 - Pte HIGGINS, H., "B" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
 Place: Field. Date: 30 Nov 42.  
 Offence: Failed to obey a general order namely 6 Aust Div instructions for Anti-Aircraft Dress in that he appeared in camp area on 30 Nov 42 after 1900 hrs in dress contrary to such instructions. AA 11.  
 Award: 2 Days CB.

N. 23086 - A/Cpl HIGGINS, H.A.V., "B" Coy, 36 Aust Inf Bn.  
 Place: Field. Date: 30 Nov 42.  
 Offence: Failed to obey a general order namely 6 Aust Div instructions for Anti-Aircraft Dress in that he appeared in camp area on 30 Nov 42 after 1900 hrs in dress contrary to such instructions. AA 11.  
 Award: 2 Days CB.

N. 23087 - Pte HIGGINS, H.C.  
 N. 23088 - Pte HIGGINS, A.S.  
 N. 23089 - Pte HIGGINS, K.R.  
 N. 23090 - Pte HIGGINS, R.  
 N. 23091 - Pte HIGGINS, R.  
 N. 23092 - Pte HIGGINS, R.  
 N. 23093 - Pte HIGGINS, R.  
 N. 23094 - Pte HIGGINS, R.  
 N. 23095 - Pte HIGGINS, R.  
 N. 23096 - Pte HIGGINS, R.  
 N. 23097 - Pte HIGGINS, R.  
 N. 23098 - Pte HIGGINS, R.  
 N. 23099 - Pte HIGGINS, R.  
 N. 23100 - Pte HIGGINS, R.



TELEPHONE—

Appendix O.

## Australian Military Forces—Eastern Command.

Please quote this Number when replying.

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Address

Date

Confirmation of 'phone report giving information  
obtained from N177060 PTE. GORDON K.E. A Coy. YOKI  
23 Dec. 42

NOTE:

Pte Gordon had been missing since an attack was made by A Coy. on 20 Dec. 42., whilst under command of VOYA, in the Jap area East of CAPE HORN. When found by a recce. patrol from D. Coy. YOKI approx. 1500 hrs. 23 Dec. he was suffering from a wound in the head, which was covered with maggots, and was generally in an extremely exhausted condition. After treatment by the R.A.P. he recovered remarkably, and in answer to questions supplied the following details:

INFORMATION:

After being shot by a sniper he crawled to a slit trench and was unconscious for several hours, Regaining his senses as he heard Jap voices around him. Several Japs were stripping him of his equipment, ammunition, and boots the latter being taken first. His paybook was also taken. Apparently giving some indication that he was alive and regaining consciousness he was struck over the head with his own steel helmet, and left in the pit for dead. Coming to again later, he was constantly endangered by our Arty. and Mortar fire, which he said killed three of the enemy who sought refuge in the same pit. He noticed the following details about the Japs' position. Strength approx. 50 (including many riflemen). He did not obtain a good view of their physical condition, but thought some of them had a hungry aspect. Arms Two heavy M.G.'s -two L.M.G.'s. and two tommy or Owen Guns. On the morning of 23 Dec. he noticed that one heavy M.G. had disappeared overnight. Approx. 0900 hrs. the Japs. commenced preparations for a move, and by 1200 hrs. had completely vacated the position taking with them all arms. He was NOT certain as to the direction of the move, but thought it was towards the river near VOYA.

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