

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

Item number: 8/3/93

56 Infantry Battalion
January - February 1943

FEB 15 1948

66 AUST. INF. BN.

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Jan 7.BDE ATHLETIC SPORTS.

On 1 Jan a sports meeting was held for the units of the bde gp. This unit was conveyed to the ground, a distance of 10 miles, by unit tpt. Meals were later brought by to the ground in hot boxes.

The unit was well represented in most events and did particularly well. At the end of the day the points scored by the bn were far in excess of those scored by any of the other units.

At 1800 hrs the tps were returned to the unit by own tpt. It was considered that the day had been a most interesting one and that the outing was enjoyed by all ranks.

PHYSICAL AND RECREATIONAL CAMP-DONGARRA.

On 2 and 3 Jan the unit moved to the P&RT camp at DONGARRA. Under Bde arrangements a camp is being built in the area, with mess huts, latrines, etc. Brush shelters are being erected. The camp will hold a whole regt and its tpt.

The two days were spent in swimming, PT, etc. A certain amount of work was done on the camp improvement. It was considered that the sea water plus the sun baking was particularly good for the sores that a large number of the men have been suffering from.

It is the intention of the Bde ~~unit~~ to send units to the beach in turn for two day periods.

BDE COMMUNICATION EXERCISES.

On 4 Jan the units of the bde gp took the field for a two day comm. exercise. It was found that, as usual, comms were very slow. The chief weakness was the ciphering that had to be used on wireless messages. Later in the exercises, the R/T code was used. It proved to be a quicker method than the cipher but on occasions could not be used because enough of the message was not able to be encoded.

The unit took up a number of posns, incl a night move. All of bn HQ was in the field, a full coy HQ and one pl; and three men of the remaining rifle coys each acting as a pl, plus an NCO as coy comd. Sufficient personnel from HQ Coy were in the field for correct adm and the Ocs from Carriers, Mortars, Pioneers also functioned.

COY TREKS.

Commencing with A Coy, coys went in turn on treks lasting for three days. The first trek commenced on 4 Jan. Coys from 44 Bn and 54 Bn were also out on trek. Coys meeting tps from other units always treated them as enemy and stunts took place.

Unfortunately a number of men were suffering from diarrhoea so a number from each coy could not be sent out on the march. Others cracked up during the exercise. Sores and boils caused a number of casualties.

AIF ENLISTMENTS.

The unit now has a percentage of 73% who have enlisted in AIF. Only about 18 men are required to complete the full quota of 75%. It is hoped that this number will be obtained during the next few days.

Jan 16 P & RT CAMP DONGARRA.

The unit again visited the camp at DONGARRA. on 11/12 Jan. Coys carried out training such as map reading, unarmed combat and spent a great deal of time swimming. All non swimmers were taught to swim by their comrades. A squad of Life Savers also practiced on the beach and remained there in case of accidents.

Instruction in MALAY was given to those learning the language for three periods each day. It is considered that this is the only really satisfactory method of teaching the subject. Attempting to give lessons in camp is not satisfactory because there are so many field exercises being carried out.

An open air picture show was put on on night of 11 Jan. Practically all members of the unit attended.

Members of an armoured unit in the area gave a lecture to all officers and NCOs on the Arm and Scout Cars that were in the unit. Much interest was displayed by our men.

FIELD FIRING EXERCISES.

On 13/14 Jan the unit carried out field firing exercises in the vicinity of MLEFRO. The bn moved on foot in deployed formation to the area - a distance of twelve miles. The tpt move in a B Ech. later.

The morn of 13 Jan was quite mild and cool and it was only at midday that it warmed up. The afternoon was warm, though not unduly so. Despite this a large number fell out of the march, and many others were completely exhausted on their arrival at their destination. This caused great concern for it was not considered a hard march under any consideration and the day was pleasant. The causes were probably as follows:-

A number of men had been suffering from all sorts of boils and sores and many had traces of dysentery. It was conceded that these men would not be as physically fit as normally.

Water discipline was very bad. The march was of such a short distance that neither officers or men had taken a great amount of trouble in this regard. A number of men moved out without water bottles while others did not trouble to fill them. Most men had drunk all their water long before lunch time.

A comparative softness caused by the conditions here. Fruit and vegetables are very scarce; the water is by no means good and the area is dirty.

The lessening of morale. This is attributable to the conditions obtaining here. One may state that the unit generally is not nearly as fit as it was two or three months ago. At that time the physical standard was first class and morale was high. Now while more or less satisfactory, the men are not as fit as previously.

During the afternoon of the first day a bn battle practice was carried out. It was a very satisfactory one and was well controlled by the umpires under Maj STEVENSON. That officer and the acting IO, Capt BOARDMAN, had arranged the exercises and had selected the target areas.

On the second day the exercise was repeated during the morning even more successfully than on the previous day. It was very successful with most men keen and keeping good fire discipline. The minor mistakes of the first day were rectified during this practice.

The afternoon was devoted to resting in the small amount of shade that was available. Personnel to continue working during the day time returned to camp at 1800 hrs. Light and no duty personnel also returned at this time. There were far too many malingerers in this party and there were far too many men who had faulty boots. The coy officers and QM must take their share of the blame for this for many boots had not been inspected before the march commenced.

The pls of the bn, less pioneers and signals, who had other duties to perform, returned to camp on a compass march. There was a competition which was won by Mortar Pl, led by Lieut KILEY. The march was quite a tricky one and good times were put up by all the leaders. Some few of the pls put up a very poor show.

NIGHT TRAINING.

The bn returned from the field firing exercises and commenced a week of night training. The men sleep by day and work by night. After the first night's work all ranks are most keen on the work and officers and NCOs consider the scheme a good one.

DEATH OF B/CPL McKNIGHT.

The fourth death in the unit since arriving in WA occurred during the week. L/Cpl McKNIGHT, a very promising soldier from D Coy, died after an appendix operation. He had contracted peritonitis. He was buried in the area.

AIF ENLISTMENTS.

Practically no change in the position has occurred in the last week regarding enlistments. The percentage still stands at about 73 and approx 20 more men are required to make the unit an AIF one.

Jan 27

THREE DAY BATTALION EXERCISE.

On 23 Jan the bn took the field for a three day exercise. The first phase was a bn move with complete tpt. Additional vehicles were obtained from AASC and unit loaded all war equipment on vehicles. After a move for some miles a posn of mobile defence was taken up and unit settled in for night.

In morn of second day a full motorised move was carried out with an adv gd from C Coy. Carriers provided protection to front and flanks. At lunch time contact with the enemy was made and C Coy brushed aside the early opposition. Coming up against opposition in strength, the CO threw the whole unit into an attack by infiltration around the ~~xxxx~~ right flank. On success the bn was again held up by opposition from another hill. The only approach was through open country and CO decided on night attack. The bn took up a posn in the localities that they had already taken ~~xx~~ from the enemy and then attacked at dawn.

The final phase was the consolidation on the posn that they had taken. At lunch time the unit, by sub units, did a blitz march home.

The early stages of the exercise were quite successful ones with all ranks carrying out their duties in a smart and soldierly manner.

During the approach march of the second day it was found that the wide scouting of the carrier pl caused the rate of movement of the colnto slow down immensely. It is considered that a fresh study of tactics for this type of move will be most necessary.

The night attack was a real failure. The tape was laid very late and the start time had to be put back half an hour. The coys made a great amount of noise when moving to the start line and the noise continued throughout the approach to the objective. The move to the objective was much too fast and A Coy moved altogether in the wrong direction.

On reaching the objective very few appeared to have any idea of what was to be done and many men even went to sleep. It was a very disappointing finish to some interesting exercises.

AIF ENLISTMENT.

THE unit now having reached 75% enlistment AIF has applied to be classed as an AIF unit. This percentage was reached on 24 Jan.

MORALE OF TROOPS.

A certain worry has been in the minds of comds of all appointments regarding the general morale of the unit. A larger number than is usual have been falling out of marches and going on sick parade.

It is generally considered that the morale is not really so low as would at first be believed. It is thought firstly that the health of the men is not so good as in previous camps. There are a great number of sores of all description, caused by vitamin deficiency in the rations, and a lot of diarrhoea, caused by the water chiefly and also probably by the dust in the area that settles on food prior to it being eaten. Both of these complaints have most certainly affected the health of the men and to an extent their spirits.

It is considered that there is a small element, probably about 15% who are not soldiering on with any spirit. These are men who have not enlisted in AIF and appear to wish to be a hindrance rather than a help. They are led, it is thought, by some few ex acting NCOs who have been reduced to the ranks on various occasions.

The issues of clothing have been very poor since arriving in the West and many men are literally in rags. Unless one is prepared to purchase his clothing privately, he must appear on parade in clothing that any beggar would be ashamed to wear. Requisitions and strongly worded memos to higher authority has done little to assist. The men have noticed tps of the Armd Div dressed in new clothing and they feel that so far as clothing is concerned the inf are forgotten men.

Because of the difference in conditions of service some tps are refusing to enlist in AIF but are trying very hard to enlist in RAAF as aircrew. They consider that in the matter of clothing, rations and leave they would be treated much better in RAAF. This manner of thinking has only become general since arriving in an area where new clothing is NOT obtainable for them, but where it is purchasable through civil sources and is on issue to other services and other branches of the same service.

Jan 31 BATTLE PRACTICE.

On 29 Jan 43 a battle practice in co operation with arty was carried out on Strawberry Geraldton Road area. A combined coy, selected from all coys, under comd Capt Farrell, supported the arty and advanced under the barrage of their guns. It was a most realistic exercise and tps learnt quite a lot from the exercise. A number of offrers not taking part in the exercise also attended as spectators.

PL FIRING RANGE.

Maj STEVENSON has supervised the building of a pl firing range and coys have lately carried out a number of exercises. These have proved of great interest to all ranks.

BLITZ COURSE.

Capt FARRELL constructed a bayonet and blitz course and his own and other coys have received a great amount of use from it. It has proved interesting and has done a lot of good from the physical standpoint.

OFFERS LECTURES.

All offrers are doing two evenings lectures, under comd CO. ATMs are chiefly discussed and also other topics of interest of the day.

AASC EXERCISE.

The unit is co operating with AASC in an exercise in GERALDTON area. Lieut MACAULEY is acting Adjt and Capt CLARK is acting QM. A skeleton HQ staff is in the area.

West Diary

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

56 Aust Inf Bn (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels			1
Majors	3		
Captains	12	2	
Lieutenants	19		1
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals	34	2	2

*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

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

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

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
(Lieut) J. Kay	NX 112633	Bryden R. J.	56 A.I.B.	Yes	Army Band
✓	NX 124443	Murray E. F.	✓	No	School LHA Qld
✓	NX 124434	Stevens W. A. E.	✓	Yes	A 2 1/2 Bn
✓ Capt T.	NY 124441	Keast W. C.	✓	✓	advt
✓	NY 124436	Neil W. D.	✓	✓	school band
✓	NY 124445	Hughes G. W.	✓	No	school band
✓	NY 124442	Jarvis G. R.	✓	Yes	school band
✓	NX 124440	Clark G. M.	✓	✓	school band
✓	NX 124433	Petrie G. R.	✓	✓	1-0
✓	NX 125726	Samuelson G.	✓	✓	4 pl
✓	NY 116619	Boardman G.	✓	✓	Additional
✓	NY 125729	Mason F. E.	✓	No	FR leave
✓	NX 76327	Williams G.	✓	Yes	2 1/2 Coy
✓	NY 125724	Coleman G.	✓	✓	2 1/2 Coy
✓	NX 125723	Scott M. W.	✓	No	A.R.U.
Lieut	NX 125736	Braithwaite G.	✓	Yes	4 pl
✓	NY 116618	Kiley G. D.	✓	✓	3 pl
✓	NX 124438	McClelland G.	✓	✓	15 pl
✓	NX 125731	McDonald G.	✓	No	School band
✓	NY 124437	King G. W.	✓	✓	Miss Harvey
✓	NX 125729	Davis G. W. B.	✓	Yes	10 pl
✓	NY 125725	Luscombe A. O.	✓	✓	18 pl
✓	NY 125735	McDonald G.	✓	No	School band
✓	NX 124430	Hardy M. G.	✓	Yes	19 pl
✓	NY 123756	Bennett G. L.	✓	✓	16 pl
✓	NY 125737	Huntington H. K.	✓	✓	14 pl
✓	NX 125738	Bay G. F.	✓	✓	5 pl
✓	NY 125732	Stuart G. G.	✓	No	attached school band
✓	P/N 9630	Macauliffe H. H.	✓	Yes	2 pl
✓	NX 124446	Small G. M.	✓	No	school band
✓	NX 112657	Browning E.	✓	Yes	8 pl
✓	NX 118438	Christie G. W. C.	✓	✓	11 pl
✓	NX 125772	McClelland G.	✓	✓	17 pl

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Capt	NX 34307	McClelliffe J. A.	A.A.M.C.	2/1/44	RMO
Chaplain	NX 118658	Smith J. J.	A.A.C.C.	8/1/44	Padre
Med	B 259	Shampson	S.A.M.S.		S.A.W.O

56 Aust. Inf. Bn

(Unit.)

8 9 Jan 43

(Date of Despatch.)

Reynolds
(RTBYAN) ADIV. (Signature of Commander.)
56 Aust. Inf. Bde
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

56 Aust Inf. Bn. (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels			1
Majors	3		
Captains	13	3	
Lieutenants	18		2
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals	34	3	3

*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

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

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

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Lieut/T. Maj	NX 119633	Bryen R.T.	56 Bn	yes	Adm Comd.
✓	NX 124413	Murphy E.F.	✓	NO	2nd School Bn
✓	NX 124434	Stevenshen A.E.	✓	yes	A/2/c
✓ Capt	NX 124444	Everitt L.W.	✓	NO	hospital
✓	NX 124441	Keast W.C.	✓	yes	adjt
✓	NX 124486	Full W.D.	✓	✓	oc A Coy
✓	NX 124445	Hough G.W.	✓	✓	oc C Coy
✓	NX 124442	Gamble G.R.	✓	✓	oc B Coy
✓	NX 124440	Clark G.W.	✓	✓	oc H Coy
✓	NX 124435	Jetton P.R.	✓	✓	2 1/2 c Coy
✓	NX 125724	Callan E.G.	✓	✓	2 1/2 c Coy
✓	NX 125726	Samuelson G.	✓	✓	A/T.O.
✓	NX 116619	Bowdman J.B.	✓	✓	Additional
✓	NX 125727	Mason S.L.	✓	NO	ARL
✓	NX 76326	Williams G.	✓	yes	2 1/2 c A Coy
✓	NX 125723	Scott M.W.	✓	NO	ARL
Lieut	NX 125736	Braichwaite G.	✓	yes	4 Pl.
✓	NX 116618	Kiley G.A.	✓	✓	3 Pl.
✓	NX 124438	McCallan C.W.	✓	✓	15 Pl.
✓	NX 125722	McClelland G.	✓	✓	17 Pl.
✓	NX 125731	McDonald G.C.	✓	NO	School Harvee
✓	NX 124437	King B.W.	✓	NO	School Harvee
✓	NX 125729	David G.W.B.	✓	yes	10 Pl.
✓	NX 125725	Leaman O.A.	✓	✓	18 Pl.
✓	NX 125735	McDonald K.G.	✓	NO	School Harvee
✓	NX 124439	Hardy M.G.	✓	yes	19 Pl.
✓	NX 123756	Bennett J.L.	✓	yes	16 Pl.
✓	NX 125737	Cunningham A.X.	✓	✓	14 Pl.
✓	NX 125738	Deer G.F.	✓	NO	School Gator
✓	NX 125732	Strohm J.S.G.	✓	NO	attached school inf Bde
✓	P/N 9630	Macomber L.H.	✓	yes	2 Pl.
✓	NX 124446	Small G.W.	✓	NO	School Postham
✓	NX 112651	Brown E.	✓	yes	8 Pl.
✓	NX 119436	Christie R.W.S.	✓	✓	11 Pl.

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Capt	WX 34307	McQuilpe G.A.	ARM.C	24/1/42	R.M.O.
Chaplain	NX 118658	Smith B.C.	ARM.C	8/7/42	Padre
Maj	B 259	Thompson C	Sal. Army		S.A.W.O

56 Aust Inf. Bn
(Unit.)

15 Jan. '43.
(Date of Despatch.)

R.T. Bryen
(R.T. BRYEN) (Signature of Commander.)
5 AUST. INF. BDE
ADM. Comd.
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

*Wah
Downy*

56 Aust. Inf. Bn. (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels			1
Majors	2		1
Captains	12	1	
Lieutenants	18		2
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals	31	1	4

*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

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

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known).
Major	Murray E. F.	56 Aust Inf Bn	School "X" List Queensland
	Everitt L. W.	r	"X" List Hospital

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Lieut (J. Maj)	NX 112633	Bryson R.J	56 BN	YES	Adm. Comd
✓	NX 124434	Henderson A.E	✓	✓	A 2 1/2 Coy
✓	NX 124441	Keast W.E	✓	✓	Adj.
✓	NX 124436	Hill W.D	✓	✓	O.C. A Coy
✓	NX 124445	Haugh G.W.	✓	✓	O.C. C. Coy
✓	NX 124442	Fardell J.R	✓	✓	B Coy
✓	NX 124444	Clark J.M	✓	✓	HQ
✓	NX 124437	Keast W.E	✓	✓	2 1/2 Coy
✓	NX 125724	Callan E.J	✓	✓	2 1/2 C. Coy
✓	NX 125726	Samuelson J	✓	✓	A.I.T.O.
✓	NX 116619	Boardman J	✓	✓	Additional
✓	NX 125727	Mason F.L	✓	No	A.R.L.
✓	NX 76329	Williams K.J	✓	Yes	2 1/2 A Coy
✓	NX 125713	Scott M.M	✓	✓	I.O.
Lieut	NX 125736	Braichwaiter J	✓	✓	4 PL
✓	NX 116618	Riley J.A	✓	✓	3 PL
✓	NX 124438	McClellan M	✓	✓	15 PL
✓	NX 125722	McNamee W.A	✓	No.	C.D.D. interview ^{mid} Coy
✓	NX 125731	McDonald J	✓	No	School Harney
✓	NX 124437	King B.W	✓	✓	✓
✓	NX 125729	Radio G.W/S	✓	Yes	10 PL
✓	NX 125725	Lunnan O.A	✓	✓	18 PL
✓	NX 125735	McDonald K.J	✓	No	School Harney
✓	NX 124439	Hardy W.G	✓	Yes	19 PL
✓	NX 123756	Blundell J.L	✓	✓	16 PL
✓	NX 125737	Lunningham A.V	✓	✓	14 PL
✓	NX 125738	Day J.F	✓	No	School Quanten
✓	NX 125732	Stanger H.G	✓	✓	attached 2nd Coy
✓	P/N 9630	Marshall J.L	✓	Yes	12 PL
✓	NX 124440	Small J.M	✓	No	School Northam
✓	NX 112651	Swainson E	✓	Yes	8 PL
✓	NX 119436	Christie R.H	✓	No	School Harney

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Capt	WX 34309	McAuliffe J.A	A.A.M.C	24/7/42	R.M.C.
Chaplain	NX 118658	Smith A.J.	A.A.C.C	9/1/42	Padre
ms	B 259	Thompson C	Sallying		SAWO

56 Aust. Inf. BN
(Unit.)

22 Jan 43
(Date of Despatch.)

W. Keast
(Signature of Commander.)

(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

56 Aust Inf Bn
(Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels			1
Majors	1		2
Captains	12	2	
Lieutenants	18		2
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals	31	2	5

*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

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

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known).
Major	Munday E. J.	56 Bn	LHQ Rpt. Comd. School Qld (X) (X) (X)
Capt	Everitt L.W.	✓	(X) (X) 2/1 17 5/1

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Lieut	NX124431	Steuers WAE	56 BN	Yes	A 21c BN
✓	NX124444	Kerst W.C.	✓	✓	Adjut
✓	NX124450	Neil W.D.	✓	✓	O.C. Coy
✓	NX124445	Naught G.W.	✓	✓	O.C. Coy
✓	NX124442	Saunders J.R.	✓	✓	O.C. Coy
✓	NX124440	Clark C.V.	✓	✓	O.C. Coy
✓	NX124435	Atwell P.R.	✓	NO	attached 3rd Coy
✓	NX125724	Callan C.G.	✓	Yes	2 1/2 Coy
✓	NX125726	Samuelson G.	✓	✓	T.O.
✓	NX116610	Boardman J.	✓	✓	additional
✓	NX125727	Mason F.Z.	✓	NO	ARK.
✓	NX70327	Williams S.G.	✓	Yes	2 1/2 Coy
✓	NX125723	Scott M.H.	✓	✓	1.0.
Lieut	NX125736	Bonithurst G.	✓	✓	4 PL
✓	NX116618	Kiley E.G.	✓	✓	3 PL
✓	NX124438	McClellan G.M.	✓	✓	10 PL
✓	NX125772	McCrone W.A.	✓	NO	G.P.D. Interim
✓	NX125731	McDonald G.C.	✓	✓	School Hawley
✓	NX124437	King B.W.	✓	✓	✓
✓	NX125720	Carroll G.W.	✓	Yes	10 PL
✓	NX125725	Curran O.A.	✓	✓	18 PL
✓	NX125735	McDonald K.G.	✓	NO	School Hawley
✓	NX124439	Hardy M.G.	✓	Yes	19 PL
✓	NX123756	Blunt J.Z.	✓	✓	16 PL
✓	NX125737	Cunningham A.K.	✓	✓	4 PL
✓	NX125733	Day G.F.	✓	✓	5 PL
✓	NX125732	Stanger M.H.	✓	NO	attached 5th Coy/Bde
✓	IN 9630	Mason G.H.	✓	Yes	2 PL
✓	NX124446	Smill G.H.	✓	NO	School Hawley
✓	NX112051	Brown G.H.	✓	Yes	8 PL
✓	NX119480	Christie R.H.	✓	NO	School Hawley

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Lieut	NX112633	BRYEN R.T.	5th Aust. Inf Bde		ADM. COMD
Captain	WI 34307	McLoughlin J.A.	AAVC	24/1/47	R.M.O.
Chaplain	NX118658	Smith J.F.	A.A.C.C.	8/7/45	Parole
Adj.	D 259	Thompson C.	Sally Army		S.A.W.D.

56 Aust. Inf Bde
(Unit.)
28 Jan 47
(Date of Despatch.)

[Signature]
(R.T. BRYEN) (Signature of Commander.)
5 Aust Inf Bde
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

War diary

56 Aust Inf Bn (Unit) *7 Jan* 19 *43* (Date).

(To be furnished by all units and all Headquarter units.)

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1 Detail.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.			
W.Os. Class II.	8	1	
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants	5		
Staff Serjeants	21	2	
Serjeants	35		1
Corporals	70		6
Troopers, Privates, &c.	723		10
TOTALS	843	* 3	* 17

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

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
Pay Sgt	AAPC	In O. order	A.A.M.C.
Portman	2 Aust Inf Bn	Hygiene Pt	A.A.M.C.
Assaumer	AAPC	Padres Batman	5 Aust Inf Bde
Boatmaker	AAPC	Fitter m/T	AAPC
Dater m/T	AAPC	med. Sgts	A.A.M.C.
Orderly	AAPC		

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

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts if known.)
NX124410	cpl	Rynchart SW.	56 AIB	School Bonegilla
NX125714	A/T	Jarrell JR	✓	✓
NX125768	W/T	Woodward OP	✓	✓
NX125764	Sgt	Whittaker A.E.	✓	✓
NX123833		Murphy C.L.	✓	✓
NX126640	A/Sgt	Edgfield ac	✓	✓
NX123864		Sandry PH	✓	✓
NX124416	Pte	Borden KJ	✓	✓
NX30889		Mayhew WA	✓	✓
NX123886	cpl	Lushlan T.K.	✓	"X" List
NX123843		Habit JA	✓	"X" List

Unit.

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

Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)
Ammunition Examiners			Fire Control Operators			Panel Beaters		
Armament Artificers			Fitters			Pattern Makers		
Armourers			Fitters and Turners			Pharmacists		
Artificers, Artillery			Fitters, Cycle			Photographers, dry plate		
Axemen			Fitters, Drivers			Photographers, wet plate		
Bakers			Fitter's Mates			Photo-Writers		
Battery Surveyors			Fitters, M.V.			Plate Layers		
Battery Comdrs. Asst.			Fitters, Railway Signal			Plumbers		
Blacksmiths			Fitters, Signal			Predictor Numbers		
Boilermakers			Grinders			Printers		
Bricklayers			Gun Layers			Radiator Mechanics		
Butchers			G.P.O. Assistants			Radiographers		
Camouflage Modeller			Gun Operators			Range Takers		
Carpenter and Joiner			Hammermen			Riggers		
Clerks			Height Takers			Riveters		
Clerks, Engineering			Helio Operators			Saddlers		
Clerks, Supply			Instrument Mechanics			Saddle Tree Makers		
Clerks, Technical			Instrument Mech., Surgical			Saw Doctors		
Coachmakers			Instrument Operators			Sawyers		
Computers			Intelligence Duties			Shoemakers		
Concretors			Joiners			Signallers		12
Cooks			Leather Stitchers			Signwriters		
Cooks, Hospital			Linesmen			Stokers, Stationary Engine		
Coppersmiths			Linesmen, Signals			Storemen, Technical		2
Dental Clerk Orderlies			Lithographers			Surveyors,		
Despatch Riders			Machinists			Surveyors, Engineering		
Dispensers			Masons			Tailors		
Draughtsmen			Masseurs			Telescope Identification Numbers		
Draughtsmen, Architectural			Mechanics, Dental			Textile Refitters		
Draughtsmen, Mechanical			Mechanics, M.T.			Tinsmiths		
Draughtsmen, Signal			Mechanics, Typewriter			Toolmakers		
Draughtsmen, Topog'phical			Mechanics, Wireless			Turners		
Driver Mechanics		16	Millwrights			Vulcanizers		
Driver Operators			Miners			Wagon Erectors		
Drivers, Tr'sportation Plant			Moulders			Watchmakers		
Electrical Fitters			Nursing Orderlies			Watermen		
Electricians			Nursing Orderlies (Mental)			Welders		
Electricians, Eng. Units			Nurses, Trained			Well Borers		
Electricians, Signal			Observation Post Assistants			Wheelers		
Engine Artificers			Operating Room Assistants			Whitesmiths		
Engine Hands I/C			Operators, Signal			Wiremen		
Equipment Repairers			Opticians			Woodturners		
Farriers			Painters					
<i>Agts</i>		1				<i>workshop</i>	1	
<i>Pls</i>	15	15				<i>Agts</i>	2	
<i>pls</i>		6						
<i>Agts cooks surplus in unit</i>	4							
<i>Certified that the figures in red show the number of tradesmen or specialists actually required in this unit</i>								
Totals (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)	19	23						

Notes—(a) If rank other than Private is involved give details on back.
(b) Authorised Trades or Specialists not included in list above will be added as required in spaces provided.

56 Aust Inf Bn

Unit.

Date of Despatch

1 Jan 43

(R.T. BRYEN) MAJOR
Signature of Commander.

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

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

War Diary
 56 Aust. Inf. Bn (Unit) 15-1. 1943 (Date).

(To be furnished by all units and all Headquarter units.)

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1 Detail.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.			1
W.Os. Class II.	8	1	
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants	5		
Staff Serjeants	2	2	
Serjeants <i>Sgt Cooks</i>	³¹ 4	4	5
Corporals	72		4
Troopers, Privates, &c.	709	8	32
TOTALS	831	* 15	* 42

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

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
Pay Sgt.	A.A.P.C.	M.O. O'Donoghue	A.A.M.C.
Postman	20 Aust Inf Post Unit	Hygiene Sgt	A.A.M.C.
Ammauser	A.A.O.C.	Padres Batman	5 Aust Inf Bde
Bootmaker	A.A.O.C.	Bitter m/pt.	A.A.O.C.
Fitter m/pt.	A.A.O.C.	Med. Sgt.	A.A.M.C.
Ord. Rm Sgt	A.A.S.C. } <i>attached to unit</i>		
<i>Show by numbers - eg 3 Oks - AAC</i>			

own attachments NR *other attachments - a. p. 100*

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

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts if known).
NX124440	CPL	Rynchant SW	56 AIB	school Bonegulla
NX125714	Sgt.	Fasnell R.H.	✓	✓
NX125768	W.O.I.	Woodward. W.P.	✓	✓
NX125764	Sgt	Whittaker G.E.	✓	✓
NX123833		Murphy C.L.	✓	✓
NX126640		Edgill A.L.	✓	✓
NX123864	P/Sgt	Sandray S.H.	✓	Geelong.
NX124416	Pte	Gooden K.G.	✓	Karrakatta
N130889		Maybow W.A.	✓	✓
NX123836	CPL	Loughlan J.K.	✓	X List 2/1 A.G.H.
NX125753	CPL	Rich J.B.	✓	2/1 A.G.H.

56 Aust Inf. Bn. Unit.

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

Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)		
Ammunition Examiners			Fire Control Operators			Panel Beaters				
Armament Artificers			Fitters			Pattern Makers				
Armourers			Fitters and Turners			Pharmacists				
Artificers, Artillery			Fitters, Cycle			Photographers, dry plate				
Axemen			Fitters, Drivers			Photographers, wet plate				
Bakers			Fitter's Mates			Photo-Writers				
Battery Surveyors			Fitters, M.V.			Plate Layers				
Battery Comdrs. Asst.			Fitters, Railway Signal			Plumbers				
Blacksmiths			Fitters, Signal			Predictor Numbers				
Boilermakers			Grinders			Printers				
Bricklayers			Gun Layers			Radiator Mechanics				
Butchers			G.P.O. Assistants			Radiographers				
Camouflage Modeller			Gun Operators			Range Takers				
Carpenter and Joiner			Hammermen			Riggers				
Clerks			Height Takers			Rivetters				
Clerks, Engineering			Helio Operators			Saddlers				
Clerks, Supply			Instrument Mechanics			Saddle Tree Makers				
Clerks, Technical			Instrument Mechanics, Surgical			Saw Doctors				
Coachmakers			Instrument Operators			Sawyers				
Computers			Intelligence Duties			Shoemakers				
Concretors			Joiners			Signallers		14		
Cooks			Leather Stitchers			Signwriters				
Cooks, Hospital			Linesmen			Stokers, Stationary Engine				
Coppersmiths			Linesmen, Signals			Storemen, Technical		2		
Dental Clerk Orderlies			Lithographers			Surveyors				
Despatch Riders			Machinists			Surveyors, Engineering				
Dispensers			Masons			Tailors				
Draughtsmen			Masseurs			Telescope Identification Numbers				
Draughtsmen, Architectural			Mechanics, Dental			Textile Refitters				
Draughtsmen, Mechanical			Mechanics, M.T.			Tinsmiths				
Draughtsmen, Signal			Mechanics, Typewriter			Toolmakers				
Draughtsmen, Topographical			Mechanics, Wireless			Turners				
Driver Mechanics		16	Millwrights			Vulcanizers				
Driver Operators			Miners			Wagon Erectors				
Drivers, Transportation Plant			Moulders			Watchmakers				
Electrical Fitters			Nursing Orderlies			Watermen				
Electricians			Nursing Orderlies (Mental)			Welders				
Electricians, Eng. Units			Nurses, Trained			Well Borers				
Electricians, Signal			Observation Post Assistants			Wheelers				
Engine Artificers			Operating Room Assistants			Whitesmiths				
Engine Hands I/C			Operators, Signal			Wiremen				
Equipment Repairers			Opticians			Woodturners				
Farriers			Painters							
Sgt. Cpls		5				W.O. class II		1		
W.O. I		4				S/SGTS		2		
Sgt Cooks surplus in unit		1	CERTIFIED that the figures in red show the number of tradesmen and specialists actually required in this unit							
Ptes		4								
		8								
Totals (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)	12	26					3	16		

Notes—(a) If rank other than Private is involved give details on back.
(b) Authorised Trades or Specialists not included in list above will be added as required in spaces provided.

56 Aust Inf Bn.
Unit.
Date of Despatch 15 Jan '43.

(R.T. BRYEN) MAJOR
Signature of Commander. ADMS Comd
56 Aust Inf Bde
Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.

Unit

20 Great Div. Bn.

Reinforcement required as shown in
 Letters, Jan - Replacement Not required -
 I.D. Detail of Specialized Tradesmen, etc.

Detail of Specialized Tradesmen, etc.	Number	Number	Number	Number
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
Ammunition Examiners				
Armament Artificers				
Armourers				
Artificers, Artillery				
Assemblers				
Bakers				
Battery Surveyors				
Battery Comdr. Asst.				
Blacksmiths				
Bolt-makers				
Bricklayers				
Butchers				
Cannonage Modeler				
Carpenter and Joiner				
Clerks				
Clerks, Engineering				
Clerks, Supply				
Clerks, Technical				
Coachmakers				
Computers				
Concoctors				
Cooks				
Cook, Hospital				
Coppersmiths				
Dental Clerk Orderlies				
Despatch Riders				
Dispensers				
Draftsmen				
Draftsmen, Architectural				
Draftsmen, Mechanical				
Draftsmen, Signal				
Draftsmen, Topographical				
Driver Mechanics				
Driver Operators				
Drivers, Transportation Plant				
Electrical Fitters				
Electricians				
Electricians, Eng. Units				
Electricians, Signal				
Engine Artificers				
Engine Hands I/C				
Equipment Repairers				
Farrars				
Fitters				
Fitters, Control Operators				
Fitters				
Fitters and Turners				
Fitters, Cycle				
Fitters, Drivers				
Fitters, M.V.				
Fitters, Railway Signal				
Fitters, Signal				
Grinders				
Gun Layers				
G.P.O. Assistants				
Gun Operators				
Hammermen				
Height Takers				
Helm Operator				
Instrument Mechanics				
Instrument Mechanics, Surgical				
Instrument Operators				
Intelligence Duties				
Joiners				
Leather Stitches				
Linemen				
Linemen, Signal				
Lithographers				
Machinists				
Masons				
Masurers				
Mechanics, Dental				
Mechanics, M.T.				
Mechanics, Typewriter				
Mechanics, Wires				
Millwrights				
Miners				
Moulders				
Nursing Orderlies				
Nursing Orderlies (Mental)				
Nurses, Trained				
Operation Post Assistants				
Operating Room Assistants				
Operators, Signal				
Opticians				
Painters				
Panel Beaters				
Pattern Makers				
Photographers, dry plate				
Photographers, wet plate				
Photo-Writers				
Plate Layers				
Printers				
Predictor Numbers				
Radiator Mechanics				
Radio-grammers				
Range Takers				
Riggers				
Riveters				
Saddlers				
Saddle Tree Makers				
Saw Doctors				
Sawyers				
Shoemakers				
Signalers				
Signwriters				
Stokers, Stationary Engine				
Stonemason, Technical				
Surveyors				
Surveyors, Engineering				
Tailors				
Telescope Identification Numbers				
Textile Beaters				
Transmitters				
Toolmakers				
Turners				
Volcanizers				
Wagon Erectors				
Watchmakers				
Watermen				
Welders				
Well Borers				
Wheeler				
White-Smiths				
Widmen				
Woodturners				

Blacksmiths
 Panel Beaters
 Pattern Makers
 Photographers, dry plate
 Photographers, wet plate
 Photo-Writers
 Plate Layers
 Printers
 Predictor Numbers
 Radiator Mechanics
 Radio-grammers
 Range Takers
 Riggers
 Riveters
 Saddlers
 Saddle Tree Makers
 Saw Doctors
 Sawyers
 Shoemakers
 Signalers
 Signwriters
 Stokers, Stationary Engine
 Stonemason, Technical
 Surveyors
 Surveyors, Engineering
 Tailors
 Telescope Identification Numbers
 Textile Beaters
 Transmitters
 Toolmakers
 Turners
 Volcanizers
 Wagon Erectors
 Watchmakers
 Watermen
 Welders
 Well Borers
 Wheeler
 White-Smiths
 Widmen
 Woodturners

W.O. Class II
 2pts/2

Actual number of tradesmen in unit
 actually required in unit
 (R.T. Bryan) (R.M. Comd)

Totals (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)
 3 16

Notes—(a) If rank other than Private is involved give details on back.
 (b) Authorized Trades or Specialists not included in list above will be added as required in spaces provided.

Signature of Commander, R.M. Comd
 R.T. Bryan
 Unit
 Date of Despatch
 15 Jan '43

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

(Adapted)

56 Aust Inf Bn (Unit) 22 Jun 43 (Date).

(To be furnished by all units and all Headquarter units.)

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1 Detail.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.			1
W.Os. Class II.	8	1	
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants	5		
Staff Serjeants	2	2	
Serjeants SGT COOKS	30 4	3	5
Corporals	71		5
Troopers, Privates, &c.	708	6 (GEN DUTIES)	31 SPECIALISTS (DVR. MECHANIC) SIGNALLERS STOREMAN
TOTALS	828	* 12.	* 42.

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

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
Pay Sgt.	A.A.P.C.	M. O. Ondenby	A.F.M.C.
Postmaster	2nd Aust Div Postal Unit	Hygiene Sgt	A.F.M.C.
Courier	A.A.D.C.	Padles Batman	56 Aust Inf Bn
Bootmaker	A.A.O.C.	Fitter M.T.	A.A.O.C.
Fitter M.T.	A.A.O.C.	Med. Sgt.	A.A.M.C.
Ord. Rm. Sgt.	A.A.S.C. (attached in unit)		

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

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts if known).
NX124440	cpl	Rynchant PW	56 Bn	School Bonegilla
NX125714	Sgt	Jarnell. R.H.	✓	✓
NX125768	W/O I	Woodward P	✓	✓
NX125764	Sgt	Whittaker. A.E.	✓	✓
NX123833	✓	Murphy O.L.	✓	✓
NX126640	✓	Edgill A.C.	✓	✓
NX123864	A/Sgt	Sandry P.H.	✓	Geelong
NX124416	Pte	Gondok G.	✓	Kanakatta
N130889	✓	Mayban W.H.	✓	✓
NX123836	Cpl	Caulghlan T.K.	✓	X List 2/1 A&H
N125753	Cpl	Rush T.O.	✓	X List 2/1 A&H
NX125899	A/Sgt	Randell D.	✓	X List 2/1 A&H

56 Aust Inf Bn Unit.

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

Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)
Ammunition Examiners			Fire Control Operators			Panel Beaters		
Armament Artificers			Fitters			Pattern Makers		
Armourers			Fitters and Turners			Pharmacists		
Artificers, Artillery			Fitters, Cycle			Photographers, dry plate		
Axemen			Fitters, Drivers			Photographers, wet plate		
Bakers			Fitter's Mates			Photo-Writers		
Battery Surveyors			Fitters, M.V.			Plate Layers		
Battery Comdrs. Asst.			Fitters, Railway Signal			Plumbers		
Blacksmiths			Fitters, Signal			Predictor Numbers		
Boilermakers			Grinders			Printers		
Bricklayers			Gun Layers			Radiator Mechanics		
Butchers			G.P.O. Assistants			Radiographers		
Camouflage Modeller			Gun Operators			Range Takers		
Carpenter and Joiner			Hammermen			Riggers		
Clerks			Height Takers			Riveters		
Clerks, Engineering			Helio Operators			Saddlers		
Clerks, Supply			Instrument Mechanics			Saddle Tree Makers		
Clerks, Technical			Instrument Mechanics, Surgical			Saw Doctors		
Coachmakers			Instrument Operators			Sawyers		
Computers			Intelligence Duties			Shoemakers		
Concretors			Joiners			Signallers		14
Cooks			Leather Stitchers			Signwriters		
Cooks, Hospital			Linesmen			Stokers, Stationary Engine		
Coppersmiths			Linesmen, Signals			Storemen, Technical		1
Dental Clerk Orderlies			Lithographers			Surveyors		
Despatch Riders			Machinists			Surveyors, Engineering		
Dispensers			Masons			Tailors		
Draughtsmen			Masseurs			Telescope Identification Numbers		
Draughtsmen, Architectural			Mechanics, Dental			Textile Refitters		
Draughtsmen, Mechanical			Mechanics, M.T.			Tinsmiths		
Draughtsmen, Signal			Mechanics, Typewriter			Toolmakers		
Draughtsmen, Topographical			Mechanics, Wireless			Turners		
Driver Mechanics		16	Millwrights			Vulcanizers		
Driver Operators			Miners			Wagon Erectors		
Drivers, Transportation Plant			Moulders			Watchmakers		
Electrical Fitters			Nursing Orderlies			Watermen		
Electricians			Nursing Orderlies (Mental)			Welders		
Electricians, Eng. Units			Nurses, Trained			Well Borers		
Electricians, Signal			Observation Post Assistants			Wheelers		
Engine Artificers			Operating Room Assistants			Whitesmiths		
Engine Hands I/C			Operators, Signal			Wiremen		
Equipment Repairers			Opticians			Woodturners		
Farrriers			Painters					
Agts		5				WO class II		1
Cpls		5				A/Syts		2
WO		1						
Agts Cooks, surplus								
unit								
Ples (surplus)		3						
		6						
Totals (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)	9	27					3	15

Certified that the figures in red show the number of tradesmen and specialists actually required in this unit.

R. G. BRVEN ADJ. COMD

Notes—(a) If rank other than Private is involved give details on back.
(b) Authorised Trades or Specialists not included in list above will be added as required in spaces provided.

56 Aust Inf. Bn Unit.
Date of Despatch 22 Jan 43

Signature of Commander
5 Aust Inf Bn
Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

(Adapted)

*War
Account*

56 Aust Inf Bn (Unit) *28 Jan* 19*43* (Date).

(To be furnished by all units and all Headquarter units.)

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.			1
W.Os. Class II.	8	1	
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants	5		
Staff Serjeants	2	2	
Serjeants <i>sgt crews</i>	30 4	3	5
Corporals	71		5
Troopers, Privates, &c.	700		33
TOTALS	820	* 6	* 44

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

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
Pay Sgt	AAFC	no orders	AAFC
Postman	2nd Div ^{Postal} Unit	Engine Sgt	AAFC
Armurer	AAFC	Palmer Batman	5th Div Inf Bde
Bootmaker	AAFC	Fitter M/T	AAFC
Fitter M/T	AAFC	med. Sgt	A.A.M.C
overl Sgts	AAFC ^{aband} _{in war}		

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

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts if known).
NX124410	cpl	Rynchants W	56 Bn	School Bonegilla ✓
NX125714	dot	Jannell R	✓	✓
NX125768	WO1	Woodward P	✓	✓
NX123833	Sgt	Murphy G.L.	✓	✓
NX126640	✓	Edgill J.A.C.	✓	✓
NX123864	A/Sgt	Dandry S.H.	✓	✓ Geelong
N130889	Pte	Murray W.F.	✓	✓ Karatall
NX124416	✓	Gordon K.G.	✓	✓
NX123836	cpl	Roughland R	✓	✓ X list 2/1 AGA
NX125753	✓	Rich J.B.	✓	✓
NX119431	Sgt	Melville R.H.	✓	✓ School QLD
NX125897	4 Sg	Randall W	✓	✓ X list 2/1 AGA
N34108	Sgt	Kendyside W	✓	✓ X list

36 Aust Inf Bn Unit.

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

Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)
Ammunition Examiners			Fire Control Operators			Panel Beaters		
Armament Artificers			Fitters			Pattern Makers		
Armourers			Fitters and Turners			Pharmacists		
Artificers, Artillery			Fitters, Cycle			Photographers, dry plate		
Axemen			Fitters, Drivers			Photographers, wet plate		
Bakers			Fitter's Mates			Photo-Writers		
Battery Surveyors			Fitters, M.V.			Plate Layers		
Battery Comdrs. Asst.			Fitters, Railway Signal			Plumbers		
Blacksmiths			Fitters, Signal			Predictor Numbers		
Boilermakers			Grinders			Printers		
Bricklayers			Gun Layers			Radiator Mechanics		
Butchers			G.P.O. Assistants			Radiographers		
Camouflage Modeller			Gun Operators			Range Takers		
Carpenter and Joiner			Hammermen			Riggers		
Clerks			Height Takers			Rivetters		
Clerks, Engineering			Helio Operators			Saddlers		
Clerks, Supply			Instrument Mechanics			Saddle Tree Makers		
Clerks, Technical			Instrument Mechanics, Surgical			Saw Doctors		
Coachmakers			Instrument Operators			Sawyers		
Computers			Intelligence Duties			Shoemakers		
Concretors			Joiners			Signallers		
Cooks			Leather Stitchers			Signwriters		
Cooks, Hospital			Linesmen			Stokers, Stationary Engine		
Coppersmiths			Linesmen, Signals			Storemen, Technical		
Dental Clerk Orderlies			Lithographers			Surveyors		
Despatch Riders			Machinists			Surveyors, Engineering		
Dispensers			Masons			Tailors		
Draughtsmen			Masseurs			Telescope Identification Numbers		
Draughtsmen, Architectural			Mechanics, Dental			Textile Refitters		
Draughtsmen, Mechanical			Mechanics, M.T.			Tinsmiths		
Draughtsmen, Signal			Mechanics, Typewriter			Toolmakers		
Draughtsmen, Topographical			Mechanics, Wireless			Turners		
Driver Mechanics		5	Millwrights			Vulcanizers		
Driver Operators			Miners			Wagon Erectors		
Drivers, Transportation Plant			Moulders			Watchmakers		
Electrical Fitters			Nursing Orderlies			Watermen		
Electricians			Nursing Orderlies (Mental)			Welders		
Electricians, Eng. Units			Nurses, Trained			Well Borers		
Electricians, Signal			Observation Post Assistants			Wheelers		
Engine Artificers			Operating Room Assistants			Whitesmiths		
Engine Hands I/C			Operators, Signal			Wiremen		
Equipment Repairers			Opticians			Woodturners		
Farriers			Painters					
Plots		5						
Chks		5						
WOT		1						
Opt looks surplus in unit	3							
Pls		13						
Totals (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)	3	29					3	15

Notes—(a) If rank other than Private is involved give details on back.
(b) Authorised Trades or Specialists not included in list above will be added as required in spaces provided.

36 Aust Inf Bn Unit.

Date of Despatch 28 Jan 43

Signature of Commander
R.T. BRYEN MAJ
Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.

Ref Map. DONGARRA 4 mile to 1"
ENLARGEMENT 2 mile to 1"

~~SECRET~~
"FILE"

INFORMATION

1. Jap force estimated strength equal to one Aust Inf Coy, occupy high ground astride RD. MILA at DIGEST HILL ref. 306374 and BANKSIA HILL ref 304377.
2. OPN TPS. - One Coy plus two sec. carriers and two det. mtrs
3. CARRIERS have been held up by enemy fire from DIGEST HILL and BANKSIA HILL.

INTENTION.

4. Coy will capture DIGEST and BANKSIA HILLS.

METHOD.

5. PWD TPS.

15 Pl (Right) Route - Encircle through timber and attack enemies LEFT FLANK.

16 Pl. (Left) Route - re-entrant, attack enemies right flank
14 Pl To give supporting fire from centre posn. astride RD.

6. Objective 15 Pl. BANKSIA HILL
16 Pl. DIGEST HILL
7. Consolidation - Limit of exploitation - 200 yds NORTH of BANKSIA HILL
8. Reserve - 14 Pl to be prepared to carry out counter attack role on either flank.
9. Coy Ass. Posn. and DEBUSSEING POINT - re-entrant S.E. of GATE ref. 306375.
10. Carriers move in support.

ADMINISTRATION

11. R.A.F. - TIMBER NORTH of RD. ref. 308373
12. Walking wounded - debussing point 306375.
13. S.A.A. res. Debussing Point. ref. 306375.

INFER COMM.

14. BnHQ - TIMBER NORTH of RD. ref. 308373.
15. Coy HQ with 14 pl. Posn astride Rd.
16. Communication between Coy HQ and Pls - Visual Signals and Runner
17. LIGHT SIGNALS. - Objective reached GREEN (R)
" " " RED (L)
18. Synchronisation of watches at 1055 hrs.

Method of issue

Runner.

Time of issue

1056 hrs.

Capt.

56 Aust Inf Bn.
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

Warning Order.
.....

56 AUST. INF. BN.
Secret
Copy
Date 24 Jan. 43 .

Ref map DONGARRA 4 mile = 1"

56 Aust Inf Bn will capture BALD HILL by night attack.
ZERO NOT before 0300 hrs.
Three guides each coy and one guide BnHQ report to I.O.
at hrs.
Tapes and Pags to be carried by guides.

Time of issue 1630 hrs.

W.C. KEAST Adj. ^{Capt.} 56 Aust Inf Bn.

Distribution

O.C. A. COY
O.C. B COY
O.C. C COY
O.C. D COY
O.C. H.Q. COY
I.O.

1.

56 Aust Inf Bn O.O.

Secret
Copy No.
24 Jan.43 .

Ref map DONGARRA 4 mile =1"
Enlargement 2 mile =1"
" 1 " =1"

56 AUST. INF. BN.

INFM.

- (1) Jap force estimated strength equal to one Aust Inf Bn now occupies BALD HILL ref 301379.
- (2) 54 Aust Inf Bn attack BALD HILL at 1600 hrs but were unable to advance beyond line of ~~fire~~ ^{DUNE} of Rd MILO-DONGARRA-GERALDTON.
- (3) 56 Aust Inf Bn and attached tps. have consolidated position on TWIN TREE HILL RIDGE ref 302378

INTENTION

- (4) 56 Aust Inf Bn and attached tps will capture BALD HILL by NIGHT ATTACK.

METHOD

- (5) FWD TBS.
A Coy Right
B Coy Left
 - (6) Covering party 1 Pl C Coy
Reserve C Coy Right rear Coy
D Coy Left rear Coy
 - (7) Objective - fwd tps from BALD HILL COPSE,
RIGHT to WESTERN SLOPES of BALD HILL LEFT.
 - (8) P of A and order of march.
- | Coys | Arrive | Route |
|--------------------|--|----------------------|
| | I of A (COPSE NORTHERN slope
TWIN TREE HILL.ref.303377
indic.) | |
| Covering party one | 0311 hrs. Actively patrol | Lead by guides along |
| Pl C Coy | until 0400 hrs | route |
| ABCD | 0341 | recce by guides. |

- (9) Disposal at P.of A -On arrival at P of A Coys will deploy in line of pls.at 10 paces interval.
A and C Coys Right of TRACK (indic)
B and D Coys Left of TRACK
Reserve coy will move from L.P.of A with fwd coys but will halt on reaching FENCE.
Distance between fwd and rear coy 100x.
Distance from P of A to F.U.P. 800 x.
Rate of advance to F.U.P. 100 x in 3 mins.
- (10) F.U.P. marked by Adj.
 - (a) by tape each coy frontage
 - (b) by pegs right flank of each pl.
 - (c) by pl. guides
- (11) Deployment and F.U.P. -Formation see appx A
- (12) Protection at F.U.P. - one pl C Coy (covering party) will commence patrolling fwd of F.U.P. from 0400 hrs to Z. (0430) and then rejoin coy at F.U.P. 0441 hrs
- (13) Reserve Coy - At 4+5, reserve coys will move fwd but will not advance behind line R. IRWIN
- (14) ATTACK. ZERO 0430 hrs
Bearing of march 307 mag.
Direction -by centre of each coy.
Distance of attack from F.U.P.to Objective 1100 x.
Rate of advance 100 x in 3 mins.

(15) TIME TABLE

	Form up P.of A	Leave P of A	Arrive F.U.P.	ZERO.
A & B Coys	0341	0401	0425	0430
C & D Coys	0341	0401	0419 (FENCE 200x EAST of F.U.P.)	0430

- (16) FIRE SUPPORT
ARTY. On call for support fire will fire on objectives in three mins left.
 On consolidation -task-fwd of F.D.L.S..
A/TK. At first light A/TK will go fwd and give A/TK protection%
CARRIERS AND MORTARS -will move fwd at first light and assist in consolidation.
- (17) Consolidation -Limit for exploitation for fwd Coys NORTHERN SLOPE BALD HILL to RAILWAY.
Res. Coys. On success signal C Coy will move fwd, mop up and consolidate on SOUTH EAST slope of BALD HILL.
D Coy remain as RES. COY until further orders.

ADM

- (18) R.A.P. At initial stages at F.U.P.
 After success signal move vicinity BROKEN BR.ref.302379
- (19) Guides. -to wear white paper mark on back.
- (20) Res. S.A.A. vicinity F.U.P.
- (21) Special instructions

- (a) No smoking or lights after leaving coy areas.
- (b) Strict silence be observed throughout.
- (c) Bayonets fixed, magazines charged but rifles NOT loaded%
- (d) No firing unless an order from an Officer.
- (e) If enemy patrols are encountered tps will go in silently with bayonet unless otherwise instructed.

INTERCOMM

- (22) Bn H.Q. move with attack as shown "APEX A" as far as R. IRWIN.
- (23) W/T Silence until success signal then normal traffic.
- (24) L/T. will be established on consolidation.
- (25) F.O.O. will move with fwd coys. and use A Coys 108 set.
- (26) LIGHT SIGNALS Success both coys - GREEN -GREEN
- (27) Call for support on defensive fire - RED -RED.
- (28) Synchronisation of watches at F. of A

ack.
 Method of issue -by hand.
 Time of issue -1800 hrs.

Distribution
 C.O.1.
 2 I/C ...1
 I.O. .. 1
 T.O. ... 1
 Q.M. ... 1
 BDE ... 2
 File .. 1
 War Diary.2

DISTRIBUTION
 O.C. A Coy ..1
 " B " ..1
 " C " ..1
 " D " ..1
 " HQ " ..1

W.C. Keast Capt.
 W.C. KEAST Adj. 56 Aust Inf Bn.

Ser	Date	Time	Place	Situation	Action Controlled Enemy	Messages and Remarks
1.	24 Jan. 43	0900	Mobile Def Area	Exercise begins		C.O. receives orders, to move to IRWIN, clear Rd MILO of enemy opposition
2.		0915	Ref.	Carrier Mobile Screen moves out		Carriers move in bounds on wide front halting on features
3.		0930	"	C. Coy as Adv Gd move out		
4.		1000	"	Main body march out		
5.		1030	DIGEST HILL Ref 306374		Enemy take up Coy posn on DIGEST HILL ref. 306374	
6.		1030	"	See carriers contact opposition on L flank & are unable to deal with it.	Fire on carriers at approx 600x range	Carrier Pl Comd, reports being held up by enemy - Enemy fwd slopes of DIGEST HILL approx one coy strength.
7.		1030	"	M.T. main body halted off Rd.		
8.		1045	"	O.C. Adv. Ech coy decides to attack.		Message to En Hq Co Coy attacking by encirclement on R & L flank. One Pl res. on Rd.
9.		1115	"	Attack successful	Enemy fwd elements withdraw to main posn on TWIN TREE RIDGE Ref. 302378	
10.		1115	BANKSIA HILL	Carriers continue recon on flanks and assist in consolidation on BANKSIA HILL ref. 304377	Enemy continue to fire from TWIN TREE RIDGE	Message to En Comd, "TWIN TREE RIDGE held by strong force equal to one Aust Inf Bn"
11.		1145	RD MILO	Main body M.T. move to debussing pt. and return to A2 Ech area ref. 308373	Intermittent firing on "C" Coy	

56 AUSTRALIAN INF. BN.

Ser.	Date	Time	Place	Situation	Action Controlled Enemy	Messages & Remarks
12	24 Jan. 43	1200	BANKHIA HILL	C.O. 56 Aust Inf Bn decides to attack and capture TWIN TREE RIDGE		Attack by encircling - D & A Coys R Flank One Pl. "B" demonstrating Pl. "I" L. Flank.
13		1220	" "	One Pl. B Coy (demonstrating Pl.) move to L Flank.		
14		"	" "	D & A Coys move to encircle on R flank.		
15		1310	TWIN TREE RIDGE	Attack successful	Enemy fall back to rear posn. - BALD HILL ref JOL 379	
16		1400	" " "	Consolidation on TWIN TREE RIDGE complete		
17		1600	" " "	Information 54 Bn. attack BALD HILL. Objective NOT gained, consolidated in vicinity WEST of IRWIN ref. JO2379		TOKEN ATTACK
18.		1600	" " "	56 Bn has received orders to carry out NIGHT ATTACK on enemy posn. on BALD HILL		
19.		1630	" " "	Warning order to Coy Comds. Night Attack.		
20		1700-2000	" " "	Reconn. and preparation by Comd and subordinate Comds. for night attack.		
21	25 Jan. 43	03:1	" " "	B, A, D & C Coys arrive at P of A.		

56 AUSTRALIAN INF. BN.

Ser.	Date	Time	Place	Situation	Action Controlled Enemy	Messages & Remarks.
22.	25 Jan. 43	XXXXXXXXXXXX 0401	TWIN TREE RIDGE	B, D, A & C Coys depart P of A		
23		0405	" " "	Covering my party take up posn. in Adv. of F.U.P.		One Pl. C Coy Covering Party for the marking F.U.P. One Pl. C Coy Covering Party
24		0425	F.U.P.	A, B, Coys arrive F.U.P. D & C Coys in res. posn.		
25.		0430 ZERO	" "	Night Attack begins.		
26		0500	BALD HILL	Fwd Coys reach post vicinity fence.	Enemy open fire.	
27		0510	" "	ATTACK SUCCESSFUL	Enemy withdraws towards DONGARRA	
28		0515-0600	" "	Consolidation on BALD HILL.		

56 AUSTR. INF. BN.

FORMATIONS AT F.U.P.

56 AUSTRALIAN INF. BN.

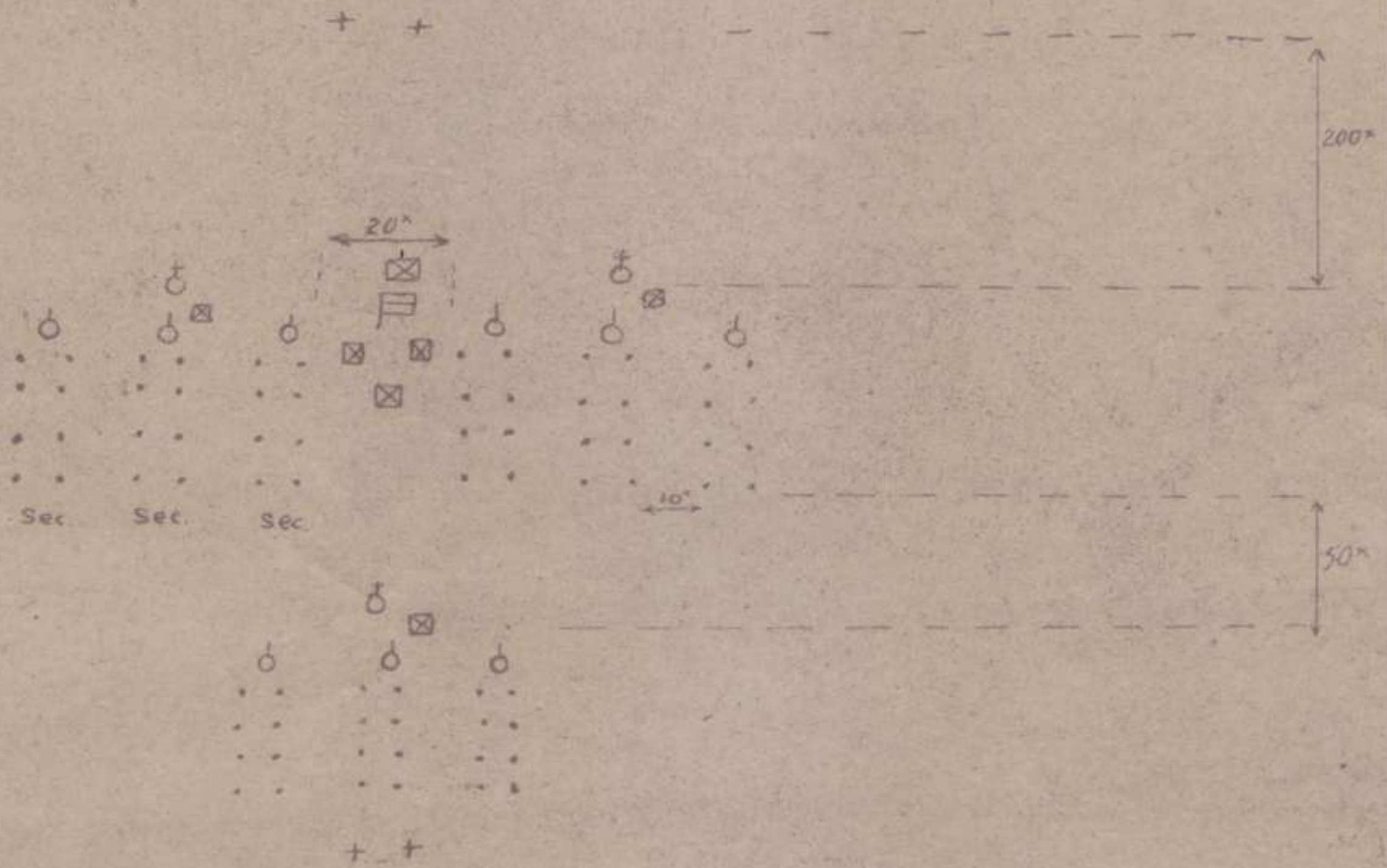
Right Fwd. and Rear Coys.

F. U. R.

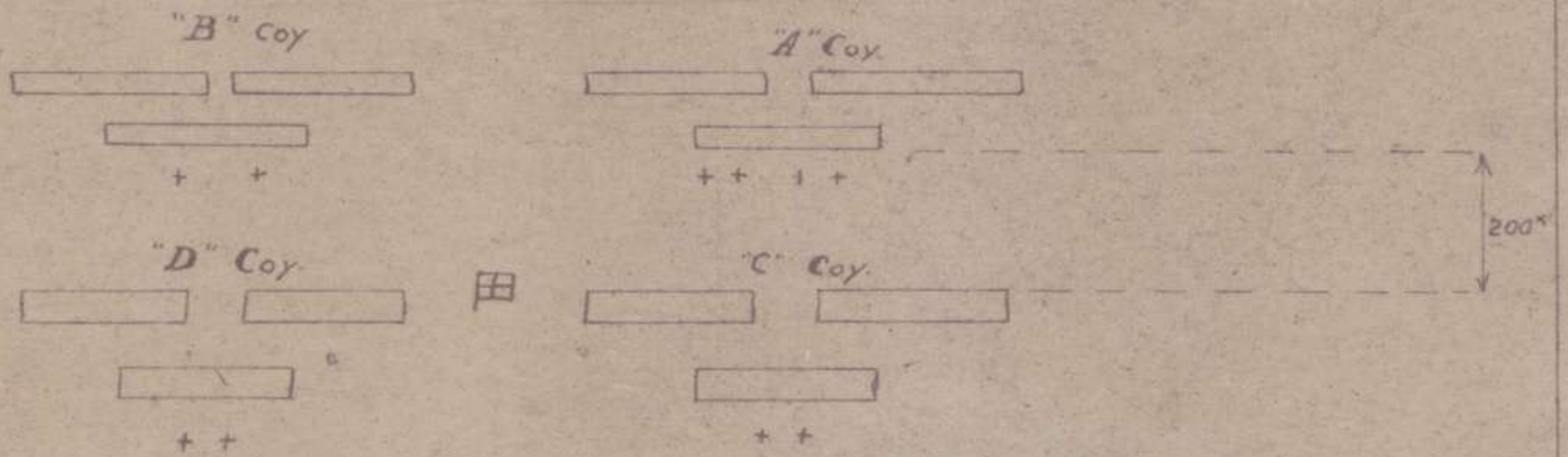
156 YDS.



To Left Coys
10 yds



322'



Legend

- ☒ Bn HQ
- ☒ Coy HQ
- ☒ C.S.M. (with Compass)
- ♂ PL Comd.
- Sec. Comd.
- + STRETCHER BEARERS.
- ☒ Runner

FUP 322 Yds

Maj. A.E. STEVENSON

Printed by Pen 50 Int. Sec.

22 Jan 43

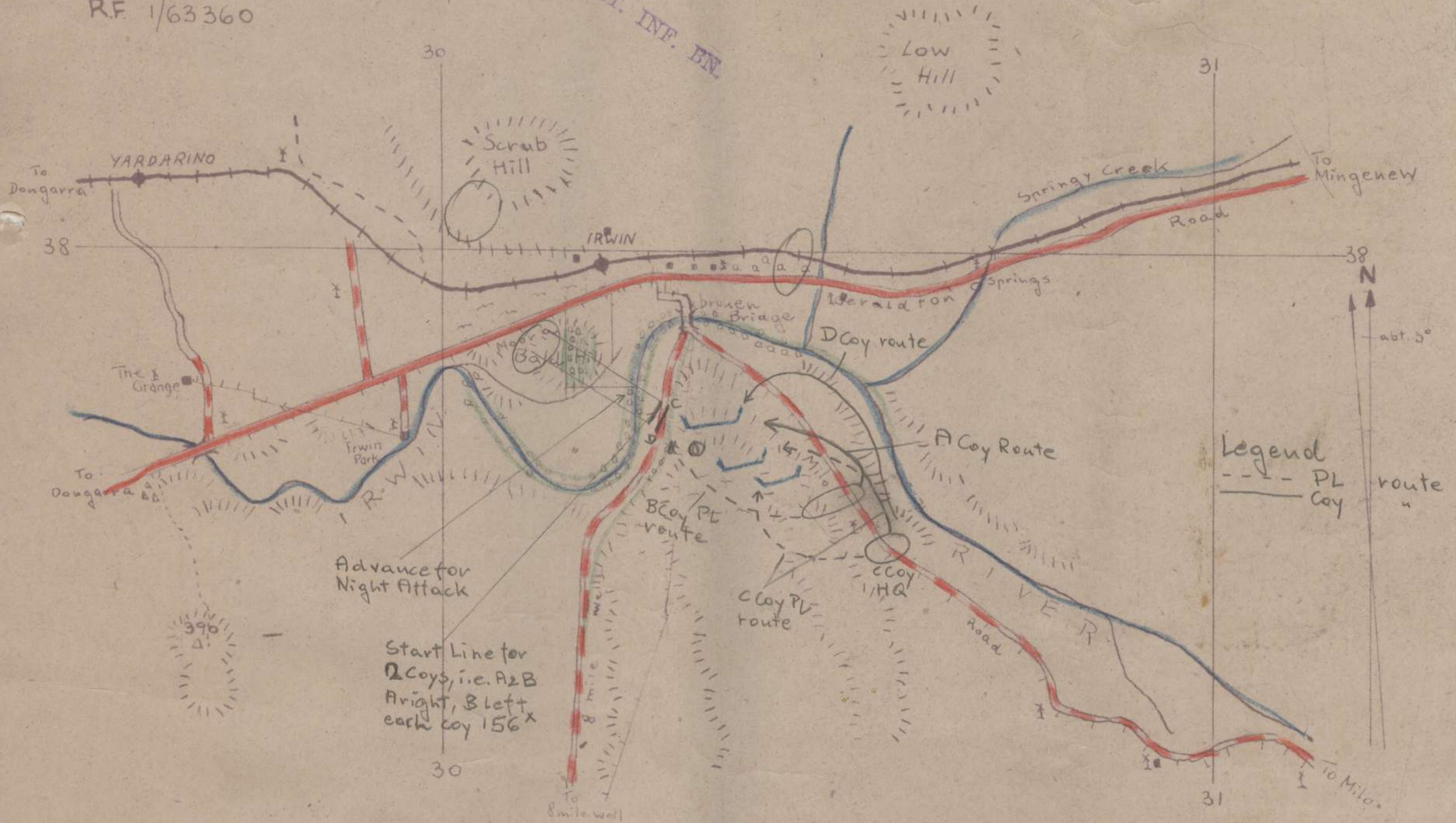
ENLARGEMENT

DONGARRA STRAT

VIC. IRWIN STATION

RF. 1/63360

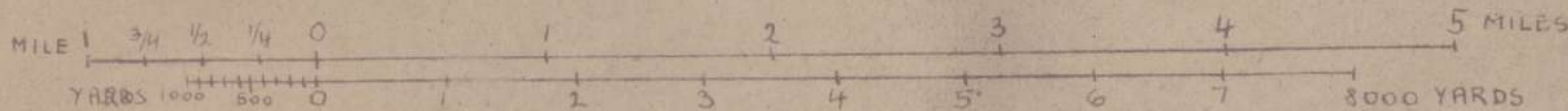
56 AUST. INF. BN



Advance for Night Attack

Start Line for 2 Coys, i.e. A & B
A right, B left, each coy 156x

Scale 1 inch to 1 mile



Under Instruction
Capt. Boardman J.S.

Made by H. Schwarz
"I" Sec., Pen 50. 21 Jan 43

MOVEMENT TABLE.
56 AUST. INF. BN. X BN. EXERCISE NO. 5.

SECRET.
23 JAN. 1943.

REF. MAP. Dongara Enlargement. 1" = 2 Miles.
Mingenew - Irwin Area.

ROUTE. Moora - Geraldton Rd.

S.P. Entrance to 54 Bn. lines.

Time head of column past S.P. 1500 hrs. Leave Unit lines 1448 hrs.

SPEED & DENSITY. to S.P. 40 V.T.M. - 10 M.I.H.
past S.P. 10 V.T.M. - 20 M.I.H. 440 yds. between Blocks.

ORDER OF MARCH.

C Coy. plus M/C Sec. and two Sec. Carriers 1 Det. A/Tk. Two Det. Mortars.

Bn. H.Q. and one Sec. Carriers.

D Coy plus two Det. Mortars.

A Coy.

B Coy. and one Sec. Carriers, two Det. Mortars and one Det. A/Tk.

B. Ech.

ASSEMBLY AREA. Each Sub-Unit will assemble in own lines and be prepared to take correct place in column.

All B Ech. Vehicles to report to H.Q. Coy. Area by 1400 hrs.

ALLOTMENT OF A.A.S.C.

TROOP CARRIERS.

A Coy. 5 X 3ton, B Coy. 6X3 ton, C Coy. 6 X 3 ton, D Coy. 2 X 3 ton and 4 X 30 cwt.

Bn. H.Q. 2 X 3 ton, H.Q. Coy. 1 X 30 cwt.

56 AUST. INF. BN.

BLOCK NO.	SUB UNIT.	MEMBER OF VEHICLE.	TIME PAST S.P.	DISPERSAL POINT.	TIME ARRIVAL DISPERSAL POINT.	REMARKS.
1	M/Cycles two See Carrier. one Pl C Coy.	9	1500	327382.	1540.	
2.	C Coy Less one Pl plus two Det mortar one Det A/T.	11	1503	do	1543.	Guides will be placed on Road to guide Coy Ops in respective areas.
3.	Bn Hq One Det A/A	10	1506	327381.	1540.	
4.	Support Platoon	12	1510	do	1544.	
5.	B Coy Plus two Det Mortars.	13	1514	326381	1547.	
6.	A Coy.	11	1518	323379	1547.	
7	B Coy plus one See Carriers two Det Mortar one Det A/T.	17	1522	323381	1551.	
8	B.Eth.	12	1527	332384	1615.	
9	Do	12	1531	do	1619.	

1. 56 Aust Inf Bn will move from Camp Area to MT. LEFROY AREA -317366 on 13 Jan. 43.
Bn Battle Practice will be fired on 13/14 Jan. 43 (See separate orders and Adm. Instructions)
2. TFS. TAKING PART. A, B, C, D, Coys; HQ Coy, less Pioneer Pl, Sigs on switch duty, Q Staff; Bn. H. Q. less Pay Staff, one Orderly Room clerk.
3. DRESS BATTLE ORDER, - Steel helmet, less groundsheet, waterbottles filled.
4. STORES Blankets (2) and groundsheet per man will be loaded in one Coy F.W.D.
Coy cooking gear and rations will be loaded in F.W.D.
Cooks will travel in ~~trucks~~ vehicles.
Ammn will be loaded under Q.M.'s arrangements. Space on Blanket truck and Cooks Kitchen may be used.
Ammn. Required. - .303 = 24,000
Mortar Bombs = 18 bombs.
Verrey Signals. = 3 Green
" " = 6 Red.
WATER CART - moves under Q.M. arrangement.
R.A.P. - Stores loaded onto small FWD and move with convoy.
Sig Stores - to be loaded on FWD.
Tools - WET picks and shovels to be taken by coys.
ADM. Stores - Red and Blue Flags = 4
Red and White " = 2 Supplied by Q.M.
White Armbands = 12 and loaded on vehicles
5. TIMES REVEILLE 0600
BREAKFAST 0700
MARCHING PERSONNEL leave 0800 -under C.O.
M.T. CONVOY leave 0830 -under 2 i/c
Coy Comds Conference 0745 Bn. H. Q.
6. MARCHING PERSONNEL Coys will ensure that as many men as possible take part in the march. Only men absolutely required will travel in M.T.
Band personnel under Sgt. Gilliard, will parade as S.B's and move with Bn. H. Q. to exercise.
Signal personnel will march and carry sufficient flags for visual signalling.
M.C. Orderlies will report to T.O. at 0800 hrs.
Carriers will travel with marching personnel.
C.O.'s carrier will report to C.O. on MILO RD.
Mortars will travel with marching personnel.
Bn. will march deployed.
Assembly Area for Marching Personnel - Bn. H. Q.
Axis of Advance -133°.
Fwd. Coys A right (direct) D left
Rear Coy B right C left
Fwd Coys use screen formation each on front 400 yds - depth Coy 600.
Rear Coys - one ~~rup~~ with depth 400 yds. Sec. Gps to be used.
Bn. HQ will be in the centre.
Carriers will protect front and flanks and move in bounds
Mortars - two dets. with each leading coys.
- two dets. with ~~xxxxx~~ Bn. H. Q.
ATKS. Move by bounds with carriers.
7. M.T. COIN. Will report to T.O. and move at 0830 hrs direct.
8. Coys must ensure that personnel to be trades tested on 13/14 Jan 43 are NOT taken on exercise.
9. Coys will render parade state to caterer before leaving camp

26

10 SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

No blank amm. will be taken to range. Live Ammn. will be issued immediately before exercise and surplus withdrawn immediately afterwards.

A.A.F.C 7's to be completed.

BUSH
11. ✓ FIRE PRECAUTIONS

Q.M. will ensure that firefighting equipment is carried.

WILL.C.KEAST. Adj^t ^{Capt.} 56 Aust Inf Bn.

56 AUST. INF. BN.

Ref. Map 4 miles to 1" DOWNBARRA SHEET
 "I" Sec SKETCH

1. INSTRUCTIONS FOR EXERCISE

(a) GENERAL 56 Aust Inf Bn exercise No 2 will take place at MT LEFROY FIRING RANGE from 1100 hrs 13 Jan 43 to 1300 hrs 14 Jan 43 under direction MAJ. R.T.BRYEN.

(b) OBJECT To exercise Tps in Bn ATTACK under service conditions using BALL AMN and H.E. MORTAR BOMBS.

(c) LESSONS To teach rifle coys the advantages of mutual support in the attack
 To demonstrate to rifle coys the value of M.M.G. and Mortars as supporting fire in the attack
 To teach Inf support weapons the importance of co-operation.

(d) TPS TAKING PART 56 Aust Inf Bn.

(e) ENEMY. Silhouette ⁴ targets represent rifle men.
 " " " with flag attached represent H.M.G positions

(f) ASSEMBLY Bivouac Area MT LEFROY area

(g) UMPIRES
 "A" Coy CAPT CLARK
 "B" " LT. BRAITHWAITE
 "C" " " MACAULEY
 "D" " " KILBY

(h) SAFETY OFFRS. MAJ STEVENSON
 CAPT. BOARDMAN

(i) CONFERENCES

Serial	Date	Time	Place	Who to attend	Remarks
1.	13/14 Jan	1200 hrs	MT LEFROY	Safety Offrs Umpires Coy Comds	Receive Orders
2...	"	1800 hrs	" "	" "	Discuss i

(j) NEUTRAL SIGNALS Safety Offrs, Coy Comds and Umpires will be responsible for the following signals

To HALT exercise RED verry
 " " " LONG WHISTLE BLASTS
 OBJECTIVE REACHED GREEN verry

(k) SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS Safety Precautions One carrier (two personnel) will picket opening in fence along TRACK N.W. of MT LEFROY
 Patrol will carry RED FLAG and halt all personnel moving in direction of Battle practice area, until "All Clear" is signalled
 Coy Comds will carry out examination of arms and equipment before and after firing.

(l) ARMY Stores Required

Red and Blue Flags 1 to each Umpire
 Red and White Flags 1 to each Safety Offr
 White Arm Bands 2 to each Umpire

AMM
 5 rds 303 per rifle man
 40 " 303 " L.M.G.
 250 " 303 " M.M.G.
 2 " H.E. Mortar bombs per Det

(2)

Tools All coy will arrange to have N.M. of tools dumped in coy Ass Area

Latrine Screens 1 per Coy

Water Water is to be taken only from water carts all other sources of water supply is OUT of BOUNDS

(iii) Tpt. Kitchen trucks (3 ten F.W.D.)
Coy stores will be carried on kitchen truck
Baggage trucks one 15 cwt F.W.D. per coy.

Water cart one F.W.D. vehicle to move under orders of Q.M.

(iv) Medical Coy Comds will ensure that all men carry Field Dressing
Snake Bite Outfit will be carried by all Pl Comds.

(v) EXERCISE XHDS. 1300 hrs 14 Jan 43.

2. OPENING SITUATION

Japanese forces estimated at one mobile mixed Bde have landed at DONGARRA at 0400 hrs 11 Jan 43

At 0 00 hrs 13 Jan 43 air int' reports advanced elements estimated at strength of one Aust Inf Bn moving in the direction of Mt LEFRON

56 Aust Inf Bn in bivouac at IRARANDA WATER HOLE ref 339346 has been ordered to move to and deny to the enemy by 1630 hrs 13 Jan 43 the high ground S.E. of MT LEFRON.

NARRATIVE 1

56 Aust Inf Bn with "A" coy as adv gd is held up on TRACK by enemy fire from WHITE HILL and MOUND HILL.

No Change from Verbal Orders
Ref Map PNGARDA 4 miles to 1"
"J" See BRANCH

INFORMATION

1. Enemy tpr are now in possession of HIGH GROUND S.E. of MT LEPROK
Estimated strength equal to one Aust Inf Bn.
2. Enemy M.H.G. positions have been located and fed slope of WHITE HILL vicinity ROCK RIDGE and MOUND HILL vicinity ROCK RIDGE.
3. "A" Coy 56 Aust Inf Bn have been held up on TRACK by enemy fire.

INTENTION 4. 56 Aust Inf Bn will capture high ground from WHITE HILL to MOUND HILL.

METHOD 5. Pod Tps
"D" Coy Right Route...re-entrant attack engages left flank.
"C" " Left Route re-entrant attack engages Right Flank
"A" " to give supporting fire from present posn.

6. Objectives
"D" CoyWHITE HILL
"C" "MOUND HILL.

7. Exploitation and Consolidation
"D" Coy 300 yds S.E. WHITE HILL
"C" " 400 yds E. W. MOUND HILL

8. Res.
"D" Coy rear Bn HQ
Role. To be prepared to counter attack either flank
Pursue enemy on either flank.

9. Carriers
One Sec "D" Coy
One Sec "C" "
One Sec remain "A" Coy
One Sec rear Bn HQ. Role. to cover consolidation and pursuit task.

10. Messages
Two Dets "D" Coy
Two " " "C" "
Two " " "A" "

- ADMIN
11. R.A.F. BN.HQ.
 12. Walking Wounded Rear "A" Coy
 13. S.A.A. Res BN HQ.

- INTERCOMM.
14. Bn HQ COMSE 400 yds EAST of TRACK TERMINUS
 15. Communication between coys and Bn HQ
One 108 set to Bn. HQ
One 108 set to each Coy
L/T to be established on consolidation.

16. Light Signals Objective reachedGREEN
1. Synchronization of watches 1200 hrs.

(2)

56 AUST. INF. BN.

ALL

METHOD OF ISSUE
TIME OF ISSUE

By Hand
1100 hrs

Capt
V.G. KEAST Adjut 56 Aust Inf Bn

DISTRIBUTION

- 1. "A" Coy
- 2. "B" "
- 3. "C" "
- 4. "D" "
- 5. "Carrier Pl".
- 6. "Mortar Pl".
- 7. C.O.
- 8. File
- 9. File
- 10. 5 Aust Inf Bde
- 11. war diary.

BUSH FIRE CONTROL ORDERS.

(To be read in conjunction with 5 Aust Inf Bde Bush Fire Control Orders)

1. 56 Aust Inf Bn will be held responsible for area as shown on Map held in Intelligence Office. All Coy Comds must study this Map.
2. Coys will each establish a fire fighting squad commanded by an officer or sgt. The squad should consist of approx 20 all ranks. Such squads will work under the command of the Bn Fire Control Officer. HQ Coy will have a fire fighting squad of 1 offr 1 sgt 3 Cpls 35 Ptes.
3. The Bn Fire Fighting Organisation will be as follows:-

(i)	Fire Control Offr	-	2i/c
(ii)	Fire Control HQ	-	Bn.HQ.
(iii)	Fire Watchers	-	Personnel from I Sec & Regt Police.
(iv)	Fire Watchers O.P.	-	To be arranged as required.
(v)	Fire Fighters	-	Coy squads, plus additional personnel as required.
4. The Bn 2i/c will immediately take charge on being informed of an outbreak of fire. He will -
 - (i) Allot tasks to coys and to water carts.
 - (ii) Co-opt assistance of Adjnt; whose duty it will be to inform Bde HQ and all coys of Bn that fire has broken out. On being ordered by 2i/c, Adjnt will arrange with Bde for additional firefighters and water carts. Adjnt will arrange with T.O. for necessary tpt especially F.V.D.s to be available for own tps
 - (iii) Keep informed, through I.C. and Coy Comds of nature of fire and have Adjnt keep Bde HQ informed of situation. I.C. will collect all available information for Adjnt to send to Bde - as per DRIS 415
5. On observing a fire the fire watchers will take Map bearings and report immediately to 2i/c or Adjnt.
6. T.O. on being ordered by Adjnt, will control all unit transport & pilot vehicles incl F.V.D.s and Water Carts, as required by 2i/c.
7. QM will arrange to have necessary pumps shovels and fire beaters made available to coys on being ordered to do so by the 2i/c.
8. (a) Normally coys will NOT go firefighting unless ordered to do so by 2i/c. Fires seen will be reported to Bn and while waiting orderstraining will be carried on.
(b) In cases of emergency senior offr or N.C.O. will immediately take control and fight the fire. He will maintain control until knowledge of fire reaches 2i/c.

W. Keast
Capt.
W.C. KEAST Adjnt 56 Aust Inf Bn

BUSH FIRE CONTROL ORDERS.

(To be read in conjunction with 56 Aust Inf Bde Bush Fire Control Orders)

1. 56 Aust Inf Bn will be held responsible for area as shown on Map held in Intelligence Office. All Coy Comds must study this Map.
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(iv)	Fire Watchers O.P.	-	To be arranged as required.
(v)	Fire Fighters	-	Coy squads, plus additional personnel as required.

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 - (i) Allot tasks to coys and to water carts.
 - (ii) Co-opt assistance of Adjut; whose duty it will be to inform Bde HQ and all coys of Bn that fire has broken out. On being ordered by 2i/c, Adjut will arrange with Bde for additional firefighters and watercarts. Adjut will arrange with I.O. for necessary transport especially F.V.D.s to be available for own use.
 - (iii) Keep informed, through I.O. and Coy Comds of nature of fire and have Adjut keep Bde HQ informed of situation. I.O. will collect all available information for Adjut to send to Bde as per DLS 415

5. On detecting a fire the fire watches will take Map bearings and report immediately to 2i/c or Adjut.

6. T.O. on being ordered by Adjut, will control all unit transport & pilot vehicle F.V.D.s and water carts, as required by 2i/c.

7. QM will arrange to have necessary pumps, shovels and fire beaters made available to coys on being ordered to do so by the 2i/c.

8. (a) Normally coys will NOT go firefighting unless ordered to do so by 2i/c. Fires soon will be reported to Bn and while waiting orderstraining will be carried on.
- (b) In cases of emergency sentry duty or N.C.O. will immediately take control and fight the fire. He will maintain control until knowledge of fire reaches 2i/c.

M. Keast
 Capt.
 M.C. KEAST Adjut 56 Aust Inf Bn

Ref Map 4 Miles to 1" DONGARRA SHEET
 1" See SKETCH

1. INSTRUCTIONS FOR EXERCISE

(a) GENERAL. 56 Aust Inf Bn Exercise No 2 will take place at MT LEFROY FIELD FIRING RANGE from 1100 hrs 13 Jan 43 to 1300 hrs 14 Jan 43 under direction MAJ.R.T.BRYEN.

(b) OBJECT To exercise tps in BN ATTACK under service conditions using BALL AMN and H.E.MORTAR BOMBS.

(c) LESSONS To teach rifle coys the advantages of mutual support in the attack.
 To demonstrate to rifle coys the value of M.M.G. and Mortars a supporting fire in the attack.
 To teach Inf support weapons the importance of co-operation.

(d) TPS TAKING PART 566 Aust Inf Bn

(e) ENEMY. Silhouette targets ^{PKE} resent riflemen
 " " " " with flag attached represent M.M.G. positions

(f) ASSEMBLY Bivouac Area MOUNT LEFROY area

(g) UMPIRES
 "A" Coy CAPT CLARK
 "B" " Lieut Braithwaite
 "C" " " MACAULEY
 "D" " " KILEY
 "

(h) SAFETY OFFRS MAJ STEWENSON
 CAPT BOARDMAN

(i) CONFERENCES

Serial	Date	Time	Place	Who to attend	Remarks
1.	13/14 Jan	1200hrs	MT LEFROY bivouac area	Safety Offrs Umpires Coy Comds	Receive orders
2.	"	1800hrs	" "	" "	Discuss 1

(j) NEUTRAL SIGNALS. Safety Offrs, Coy Comds and Umpires will be responsible for the following signals.

To HALT exercise.....RED very
 " " "LONG WHISTLE BLASTS
 OBJECTIVE REACHED.....GREEN very

(k) SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS Safety precautions One carrier (two personnel) will picquet opening in fence along track N.W. of MT LEFROY
 Patrol will carry RED FLAG and halt all personnel moving in direction of Battle practice area, until "All Clear" is signalled.
 Coy Comds will carry out examination of arms and equipment before and after firing.

(l) ADMINISTRATES REQUIRED

Red and Blue Flags1 to each Umpire
 Red and White Flags.....1 to each safety offr.
 White Arm Bands2 to each Umpire.

ARM

5 rds 303 per rifle man
 40 " 303 " L.M.G.
 250 " 303 " m.m.g.
 2 " H.E.Mortar bombs per Det.

(2)

56 AUST. INF. BN.

Tools All Coy will arrange to have all of tools dumped in Coy Ash Area

Latrine Screens 1 per Coy

Water Water is to be taken only from water carrier all other sources of water supply is OUT OF BOUNDS

(iii) Ypt. Kitchen trucks (3 ton F.O.D.)
Coy stores will be carried on kitchen truck
Luggage trucks are 15 cwt F.O.D. per Coy.

Water carrier are F.O.D. vehicle to move under orders of C.M.

(iv) Medical Coy units will ensure that all own carryfield dressing
Make side outfit will be carried by all 11 units.

(v) REARRANGE TIME, 1300 hrs 14 Jan 43.

2. GRADING ATTENTION

Japanese forces estimated at one mobile sized Bde have landed
at YUNNAN at 0600 hrs 11 Jan 43

At 0600 hrs 13 Jan 43 air int' reports advanced element
estimated at strength of one Aust Inf Bn moving in the
direction of Mt LEFFROY

56 Aust Inf Bn in Division at YUNNAN WATER BARR ref
39346 has been ordered to move to and dig to the enemy
by 1630 hrs 13 Jan 43 the high ground S.E. of Mt LEFFROY.

SUMMARY 1

56 Aust Inf Bn with "A" Coy as adv pt is held up on TRACK
by enemy fire from CHINESE HILL and WINDY HILL.

No Change from Verbal Orders
Ref Map DONGARRA 4 miles to 1"
"I" Sec SKETCH

INFORMATION

1. Enemy top are now in possession of HIGH GROUND S.E. of MT LEPROY
Estimated strength equal to one Aust Inf Bn.
2. Enemy M.H.G. positions have been located and fwd slope of WHITE HILL vicinity ROCK RIDGE and MOUND HILL vicinity ROCK RIDGE.
3. "A" Coy 56 Aust Inf Bn have been held up on TRACK by enemy fire.

INTERVIEW 4. 56 Aust Inf Bn will capture high ground from WHITE HILL to MOUND HILL.

METHOD

5. Fwd Tps
"D" Coy Right Route...re-entrant attack engages left flank.
"C" " Left Route re-entrant attack engages Right Flank
"A" " to give supporting fire from present posn.

6. Objectives
"D" Coy WHITE HILL.
"C" " MOUND HILL.

7. Exploitation and Consolidation
"D" Coy 300 yds S.W. WHITE HILL
"C" " 400 yds N.W. MOUND HILL.

8. Res.
"D" Coy rear Bn HQ
Role. To be prepared to counter attack either flank
Pursue enemy on either flank.

9. Carriers.
One Sec "D" Coy
One Sec "C" "
One Sec remain "A" Coy
One Sec res Bn HQ. Role. to cover consolidation and pursuit task.

10. Motorcycles
Two Lets "D" Coy
Two " " "C" "
Two " " "A" "

ADMIN

11. R.A.P. Bn.HQ.
12. Walking Wounded Rear "A" Coy
13. S.A.A. Res Bn HQ.

INTERCOM.

14. Bn HQ GCPSE 400 yds EAST 66 TRACK TERMINUS
15. Communication between coys and Bn HQ
One 108 set to Bn. HQ
One 108 set to each Coy
L/T to be established on consolidation.

16. Light Signals Objective reachedGREEN
1. Synchronisation of watches 1200 hrs.

AGL.

56 AUST. INF. BN.

METHOD OF ISSUE
TIME OF ISSUE

By Hand
1100 hrs

Capt
W.C. KNABT Adjt 56 Aust Inf Bn

DISTRIBUTION

- 1. "A" Coy
- 2. "B" "
- 3. "C" "
- 4. "D" "
- 5. "Carrier Pl".
- 6. "Mortar Pl".
- 7. C.O.
- 8. File
- 9. File
- 10. 5 Aust Inf Bde
- 11. War Diary.

*Troops (has diary) & Chap Bde
One file*

Syllabus No.4.
(Dates to be advised later)

56 AUSTRALIAN INF. BN.

SYLLABUS FOR NIGHT TRAINING - 56 AUSTRALIAN INF. BN.
ONE WEEK WORK BY NIGHT AND SLEEP BY DAY. - ATM 11.

DAY	TIME	SYLLABUS	REFERENCE	REMARKS
1.	0900 -1230	At disposal of Coy Comd.		
	1230 -1330	Lunch		
	1345 -1445	Lecture night operat.	Harvey precis No. 13, F.S.R.2.Chap.8 ATM 11 Para 19.	A/25, I.T. 37. Chap ATM 3.appx B,C
	1500-1545	Lecture on prismatic compass.	Notes on Map.Reading(N.M.R.)Chap 10 Sec.64 - 6	
	1600 - 1630	"Eyes at night"	Salt Dec'42.page 18.	
	1630 -2100	Meal and rest		
	2045 -2100	Parade		
	2100- 2200	Silent movement, crawling, sound test, etc.	I.M.T. Chap.9. Sec.46	M.T.P. Pam 33.
	2300 -2400	Individual stalk	M.T.P. pam 33	
	2400 -0100	Meal(served tactically.		
	0100 -0200	Compass March	N.M.R. Appx 2 Sec.2.	
	0200 -0300	Weapon Training (Bren)	S.A.T. Pam.4 lesson 13-16 (incl.)	
	0300 -0400	Bayonet Training	S.A.T. Pam.12.	
	0400 -0500	Posting of sentries by night.	I.M.T. Sec.111 Pam 33.	
	0500 -0600	P.&.R.T.	Man.P.&.R.T. Table 1.	
2.	2045 -2100	Parade		
	2100 -2200	Tool Drill	M.F.E.	
	2200 -2300	Section Stalk	Pam.33	
	2300 -2400	Keeping direction by stars	N.M.R. Appx.2 Sec.4	Active Service conditions
	2400 -0100	Handling of P.O.W.	F.S.P.B. pam.3, Sec. 13-15 incl. I.M.T. Sec.131-132 incl.	Use troops, make it real
	0200-0300	Weapon Training (TSMG)	S.A.T. pam.21. Less. 1 to 3 incl.	
	0300 -0400	Bayonet Training	Bayonet Training S.A.T. pam.12.	
	0400-0500	Preparation for dawn attack.	Harvey precis A-25.	Note S.A.A. weapons, equipment rations etc.
	0500 -0600	P.&.R.T.	Man.P.&.R.T. Table 1.	
	3.	2045-2100	Parade	
2100-2200		Recce Patrol	I.M.T.Chap 9 Secs 67-70 (incl) I.T.37, Chap. 9,	Pay particular attention to security measures before and after. Insist on written report from everyone.
2200-2300		Grenade Training	S,A.T. Pam 13 Lessons 2 & 8	A peice of white rag tied onto grenade may help.
2300-2400		Gas Respirator Drill	Wearing of respirators	
2400-0100		Meal		
0100-0200		Compass March	N.M.R.Appx 2 Sec 2	
0200-0300		Weapon training(A/Tk)Rifle)		
0300-0400		Bayonet Training	S.A.T.Pam 12	Over assault course
0400-0500		Procedure for night occupation		
0500-0600		P & R.T.	Man P & R.T. Table 2.	

SYLLABUS FOR NIGHT TRAINING 56 AUST INF BN (CONTINUED)

56 AUST. INF. BN

TIME	SYLLABUS	REFERENCE	REMARKS
4. 2045-2100	Parade		
2100-2200	Preparation of patrol exercise	I.M.T.chap 9 sec 66-73 (incl)	Orders, weapons, S.A.A. Security etc just as you would if it were real
2200-2400	Patrol exercise	I.T.37,P.53I.M.T.Sec.125 A.T.M.4 Appx B.A.T.M.9 Appx c.	
2400-0100	Meal		
0100-0200	Gas, respirator drill		
0200-0300	Weapon training (grenade discharger)	S.A.T.Pam 13 less 3-5 (incl)	
0300-0400	Gas		
0400-0500	Negotiating obstacles	Over assault course	Walls, ditches wire etc.
0500-0600	Cross country run	Pl arrangements 3 or 4 legs with compass bearings and time limits.	
<hr/>			
5. 2045-2100	Parade		
2100-2200	Preparing a raid	A.T.M 8 Sec 21	
2200-2300	The raid or lamp stalk		
2300-2400	Unarmed combat	Man P & R.T.Chap.9	
2400-0100	Meal		
0100-0600	Coy free for all	A.T.M. 4 appx.B	Coy Comds to arrange suitable courses, Pl as patrols.
<hr/>			
6. 2045-2100	Parade		
2100-2200	Lecture Night attacks.	Harvey Precis A/25	I.M.T.sec 44-46
2200-2300	Formations and movements for night operat.	" "	Practice
2300-2400	" " " "	" "	" "
2400-0100	Meal		
0100-0200	Procedure for night attack.	Harvey Precis A/25	
0200-0300	" " " "	" " "	
0300-0400	Weapon training (grenade throwing.) (lying & kneeling) etc.	S.A.T. Pam 13 lesson 8&9	
0400-0500	Compass march	N.M.R. Appx 2 Sec 2	
0500-0600	P & R.T.	Man of P & R.T. Table 2	

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. A strict light and smoking discipline must be enforced at all times.
2. Q.M. staff and cooks will be exercised to feed the troops under active service conditions.

W.C.KEAST Adjnt 56 Aust Inf Bn Capt

56 INF MOVE TO BATTLE PRACTICE AREA 12 JAN. 43

Ref. Map. DONGARRA Sheet

4 mile - 1 inch.

88 AUSTR. INF. BN.

1. 56 Aust Inf Bn will move from Camp Area to MT. LEPROY AREA - 317366 on 13 Jan. 43.
Bn Battle Practice will be fired on 13/14 Jan. 43 (See separate orders and Adm Instructions)
2. EYE TALKING A, B, C, D Coys; HQ Coy, less Pioneer Pl, Sigs on switch duty, Q Staff; Bn. H. Q. less Pay Staff, one Orderly Room Clerk.
PACK.
3. DRESS BATTLE ORDER - Steel helmet, less grommet, water bottles filled.
4. STORES Blankets (2) and grommet per man will be loaded in one Coy FWD.
Coy cooking gear and rations will be loaded in F.W.D.
Cooks will travel in vehicles.
Amm. will be loaded under Q.M.'s arrangements. Space on blanket track and Cooks Kitchen may be used.
Amm. Required - .303 = 24,000
Mortar Bombs = 18 bombs
Very Signals = 3 Green
" " = 6 Red.
MARCH GEAR - moves under Q.M. arrangement.
R.A.P. - Stores loaded onto small FWD and move with convoy
Sig Stores - To be loaded on FWD
Tools - MT picks and shovels to be taken by coys.
ADM. Stores. - Red and Blue Flags = 4
Red and white " = 2 Supplied by Q.M.
White Ambands = 12 and loaded on vehicles
5. TIME REVSILLE 0600
BREAKFAST 0700
MARCHING PERSONNEL leave 0800 - under C.C.
M.T. CONVOY leave 0830 - under 2/1/c
Coy Comd. Conference 0745 hrs Bn HQ.
6. MARCHING PERSONNEL Coys will ensure that as many men as possible take part in the march. Only men absolutely required will travel in M.T. Band personnel under Sgt Gilliard, will parade as S.B's and move with Bn. HQ to exercise.
Signal personnel will march and carry sufficient flags for visual signalling.
M.O. Orderlies will report to T.O. at 0800 hrs.
Carriers will travel with marching personnel.
C.C.'s carrier will report to C.C. on MILO RD.
Mortars will travel with marching personnel.
Bn. will march deployed.
Assembly Area for marching personnel - Bn. H. Q.
Axis of Advance - 135°.
Fwd. Coys. A right (direct) D left.
Rear Coy B right C left
Fwd Coys use screen formation each on front 400 yds. - depth Coy 600.
Rear Coys - one up with depth 400 yds. Sec. Gps to be used.
Bn. H. Q. will be in the centre.
Carriers will protect front flanks and flanks and move in bounds.
Mortars - two dets. with each leading coys.
- two dets with Bn. H. Q.
ATCs Move by bounds with carriers.
7. M.T. CONVOY. Will report to T.O. and move at 0830 hrs direct.
8. Coys must ensure that personnel to be trades tested on 13/14 Jan. 43 are NOT taken on exercise.
9. Coys will render parade state to enterer before leaving camp.

10. SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

No. blank amm will be taken to range. Live amm will be issued immediately before exercise and surplus withdrawn immediately afterwards.

A.A.F.C 7's to be completed.

Bush
11. ✓ FIRE PRECAUTIONS

Q.M. will ensure that firefighting equipment is carried.

(WILL C. KEAST) Adjnt 56 ^{Capt.} Aust Inf Bn

56 AUST. INF. BN

56 Bn

SEEN
C.O. 14/12 21/C
Adj. Asst. Adj. SECRET
R.S.M. R.Q.M.S. Copy No.

56
5 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BDE.

56 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BN.

EXERCISES FOX.

Bn. Exercises involving movement to the Coast

(Ref. Map DONGARRA 4 miles to 1 inch)

1. Ref. 5 Aust. Inf Bde. Tng Memo 6 (Para 6) of 1 Dec 41 and 5 Aust. Inf Bde Tng Programme Dec 42.
2. Bn Tactical exercises 1. Attack, 2. Defence will be held in DONGARRA area under direction of Comd 5 Aust. Inf Bde.
3. OBJECT. To exercise units in movement to oppose enemy forces which have obtained a footing in Bde Area.
4. LESSONS. 1. Mobile Defence
2. Attack by encirclement
3. Control and protection of M.T.
5. PROGRAMME. Programme for period 13-21 Dec attached, and is secret to each Bn.
6. IDENTIFICATION. 56 Bn, Hats K.F. down
54 Bn, Steel helmets
44 Bn, Hats K.F. up
7. REP. OF FIRE. Rifle, blank, ING and ING-Torch or Lucas, Mortars-Geli.
8. CONFERENCES. As notified by director.
9. SPECIAL INSTN. 1. Strict grass fire precautions will be ^{observed} ~~observed~~.
2. Fences if cut will be repaired before returning to camp.
3. Gates will be left closed.
4. Bayonets by day naked
by night scabbards tied on.
5. All cultivation, buildings, and house paddocks out of bounds.
10. MESSAGES. All messages will be prefixed by word FOX.
11. UMPIRES. 5 Aust. Inf. Bde HQ will supply two officers and 44 Bn, 56 Bn 54 Bn will supply three officers each for Bde umpires pool and will be absent from unit for period 14-21 incl. Umpires will report at Bde HQ to BM at 2000 hrs on 13 Dec. Transport to be supplied by unit. Umpires will be rationed with units to which they are attached and will wear white arm brassards.
H. McCool
King
W. Anley
12. RATIONS AND WATER. Rations and water will be drawn in normal manner by units at R and W.Ps. Commanding officers will endeavour to conform to war conditions in respect to water supplies. Ration vehicles used to draw bulk rations will be neutral whilst so employed.
13. CAMP PICQUETS. Camp picquets during absence of units will be arranged by units.

R. T. Bryen
R. T. BRYEN, Maj.
BM. 5 Aust. Inf. Bde.

11 Dec. 42.

SECRET

56 AUSTRALIAN INF. BDE.

56 Aust. Inf. Bde.

HQ. 5 Aust. Inf. Bde.
10 Dec. 42.

INDEX - EXERCISE FOX.

Ref. Map DONGARRA 4 miles to 1 inch.

56 Aust. Inf. Tng programme period 14-23 Dec incl will be as under:-

Serial	Dec.	Instructions.
1.	14/16	Battle practice.
2.	17 ✓	56 Bn to take up position in the field, move from camp and occupy mobile defensive posn as directed.
3.	Night 17/18	Tactical movement in mobile defensive as situation develops.
4.	18.	Tactical manoeuvre in development of tactical situation.
5.	19	Swimming and P. & R. T. Ref. 285374.
6.	Night 19/20	Bivouac vicinity 294367.
7.	20	Act as Jap. Bn. Be prepared at short notice to move NORTH along track for offensive operations against defending forces.
8.	Night 20/21	Tactical movement in Mobile defense as situation develops.
9.	21	Tactical manoeuvre in development of tactical situation.
10.	22	Swimming and P. & R. T. Ref. 285374.
11.	23	Return to camp.

Bn Comds after first contact to be prepared to manoeuvre on own initiative against opposition as it is a two sided exercise.

Bde will arrange timings up to first contact.

Bde will control to keep exercise within proper bounds.

for *W. Hutchinson*
Capl
 R. T. BRYEN, Maj.
 BM. 5 Aust. Inf. Bde.

~~800+~~
~~1300+~~
 We need any
 1100
 1000

A 112
 B duty 90/100
 C 170 150
 D 100

~~2100~~
~~1000~~

} Hours
 } Cars
 } 4 MG
 } Two Sec Coms

20 4 MG 4 MGs

MMG^s - 250 H.P.G. in 4 belts.

Light signals =

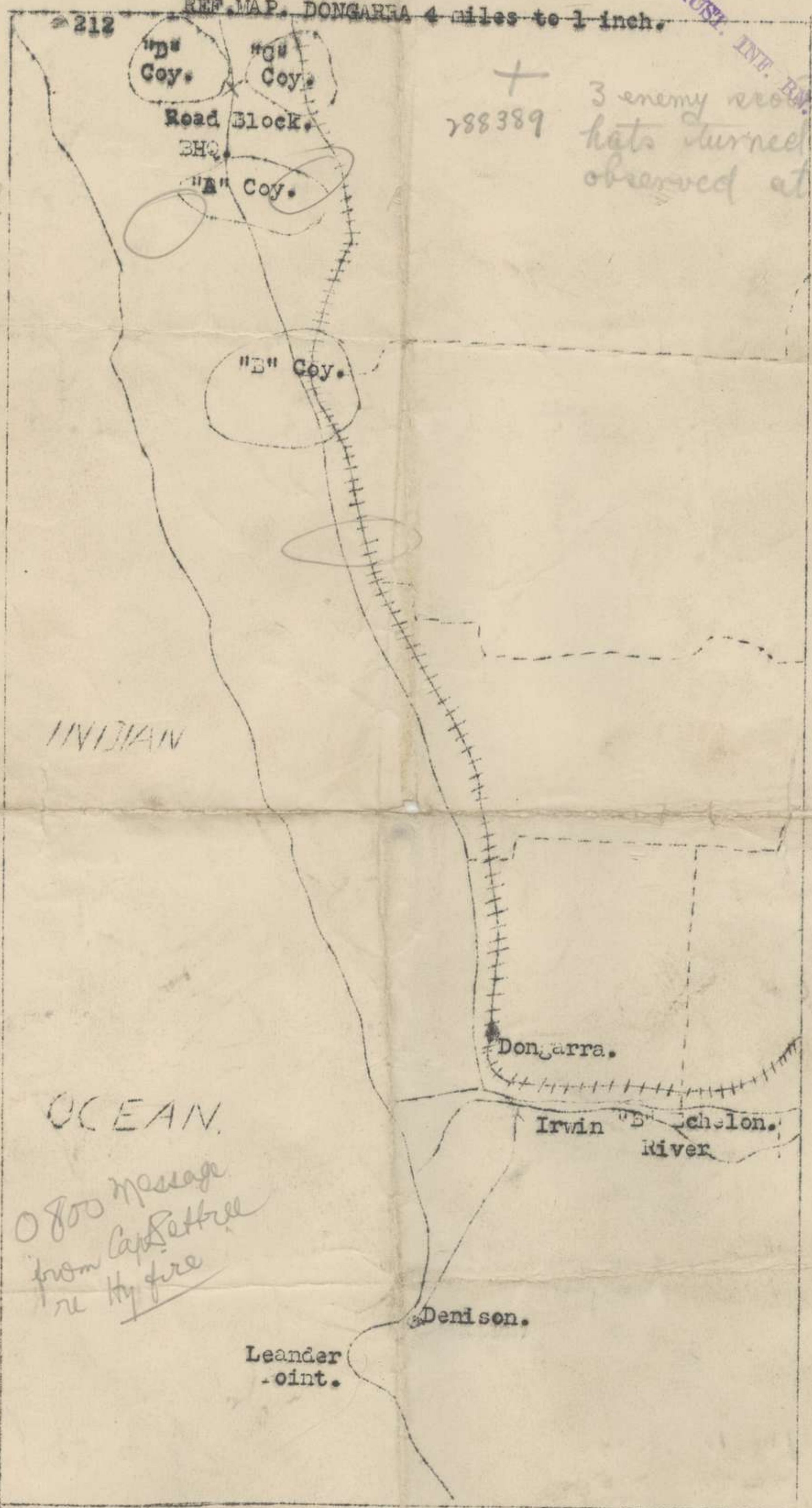
SKETCH - EXERCISE "FOX."

56 AUSTR. INT. BATT.

REF. MAP. DONGARRA 4 miles to 1 inch.

Conv. 1280
Had very
dusty MMG.
Team not
taught to
use MMG
work.

+
288389
3 enemy troops with
hats turned up
observed at + 288389
12.10 hrs
M. B. Matthews



Scale 1 inch. = 1 mile.
Yds. 1000, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5000
By "I" Section. 56th.
Date 16 Dec. 42.

SKETCH - EXERCISE "FOX."

60

REF. MAP. DONGARRA 4 miles to 1 inch.

212

"D" Coy. A "C" Coy.

Road Block.

BHQ. "A" Coy.

"B" Coy.

Carriestops

AUSI INF. BATT.

Re
Wireless
Silence
Runner
from A+C

INDIAN

OCEAN.

Dongarra.

Irwin "B" Echelon.
River

Denison.

Leander
Point.

Scale 1 inch. = 1 mile.
Yds. 1000 0 1 2 3 4 5000
By "I" Section. 56EF.
Date 16 Dec. 42.

56 Aust Inf Bn.
AUSTRALIA
27 Jan.43 .

ARTILLERY SHOOT

INFANTRY CO-OPERATION.

56 AUST. INF. BN.

1. R.A.A. will conduct a shoot on 29 Jan.43. on Field Firing Range with live ammunition.
56 Aust Inf Bn. will provide one composite rifle coy to co-operate in exercise .

2. TROOPS TAKING PART. :-

Director of 56 Aust Inf Bn Tps. - Maj. R.T. ~~Wright~~
O.C. Capt. J.R. FARRELL B.
2 I/C Capt. L.J. WILLIAMS D
C¹S.M. W.O.11 S.J. AXFILL C
C.Q.M.S. S/Sgt J. MARSHALL HQ
P & O.Cpl. L/Sgt A.E. ELRINGTON HQ
Coy HQ details less one cook to be supplied by B Coy (12 Ptes)
Cook NOT drawn from B Coy - L/Cpl ~~LEWIS~~ C. HQ.

First Pl.

Comd. Lieut E. Brwning "A"
Pl. Sgt Sgt J. Cassidy "A"
Pl. HQ Details from A Coy (5 Ptes)
1 Sec - Cpl Barnes "A" A Coy men (10 Ptes)
2 Sec - Cpl Logue " " " "
3 Sec - ~~L/Sgt Randall~~ " " " "
2 Sgt Whitaker HQ " " "

Second Pl.

Comd. Lieut J.L. Bennett C
Pl. Sgt Sgt A.F.S. Gunner B.
Pl. HQ details C Coy (5 Ptes)
4 Sec. L/Sgt N.J. Mulcahy B B Coy men (10 Ptes)
5 Sec. Cpl F.M. Cassells E " " " "
6 Sec. Cpl D.A. Young C C " " " "

6th 16th 16th 16th

Comd. Lieut A.O. Curran D.
Pl. Sgt Sgt A.L. Cheney D.
Pl H.Q Details D Coy (5 Ptes)
7 Sec. Cpl. B.S. Mahy C C Coy men (10 Ptes)
8 Sec. Cpl J.L. Osborne D D Coy men (10 Ptes)
9 Sec. Cpl H.J. Osborne D " " (" ")

All Pls. and Sections will be complete ones. N.C.O.'s NOT selected and desirous of attending may take part in ranks.
Sig. Details - Sgt Nolan J. HQ and five sigs.

"I" Details - Cpl. E.G. Scarvell En.HQ and 2 "I" men.

3. OFFICERS - Additional as detailed later will attend exercise as spectators.
4. TRANSPORT. - Coys will provide own tpt.
5. MESSING - Meals for composite coy and additional spectators will be drawn from caterer by S/Sgt Marshall .
Messing states from Coys will be rendered to caterer by 1200 hrs 28 Jan.43 .
B Coy will provide kitchen truck and water cart .

56 AUST. INF. BN

6. DRESS - Battle order, less respirator with steel helmet.
Rank badges worn by Offrs and N.C.O.'s.
All ranks should ensure that attire is as neat as should be for such an exercise .
7. MOVEMENT.
Tps. will move in unit convey under direction T.O. on evening of 28 Jan. 43 .
8. BLANKETS GREATCOATS.
Will be carried under coy arrangements .
9. STORES .
B Coy will provide one Verrey pistol and two cartridges - RED - for use in exercise .
10. Additional information will be issued as received from 5 5 Aust Inf Bde .

DISTRIBUTION - Normal.

Will C Keast Capt.
WILL.C.KEAST Adjnt 56 Aust Inf Bn.

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AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.

ROUTINE ORDERS

PART I.

BY

MAJ. R.T. BRYEN.

ADM. CMD. 56 AUST INF BN,

Serial No. 63

Nos. 241 to

Date 6 Jan. 43.

56 AUST. INF. BN.

241. HN. DUTIES. The following roster for dutycoys will operate :-

DATE	COY	ORD. OFFER.
8 Jan. 43	C	Lieut J.L. Bennett.
9 Jan. 43	D	" S.J. Braithwaite
10 Jan. 43	HQ	" A.O. Curran.
11 Jan. 43	A	" W.J. McCrone
12 Jan. 43	B	" E. Browning
13 Jan. 43	C	" C.M. McClellan
14 Jan. 43	D	" J.A. Kiley

242. TRANSPORT GERALDTON :- All vehicles proceeding to GERALDTON must have G2 endorsed by Bde T.O..

243. NUMERAL PRONUNCIATION

With effect from 1st Jan. 43, the use of the existing numeral pronunciation will be discontinued and the following will be adopted

One	(1)	..Wun
Two	(2)	..Too
Three	(3)	..Thur-ree
Four	(4)	..Fo-wer
Five	(5)	..Fi-yiv
Six	(6)	..Six
Seven	(7)	..Seven
Eight	(8)	..ate
Nine	(9)	..Niner
Zero	(0)	. Zero.

244. POWERS OF SENTRIES AND GUARDS

1. Regulation 84 of the National Security (General) Regulations Statutory Rules 1942, (No. 374) provides that, without derogating from or restricting the existing powers or rights of sentries and guards, a military sentry or guard stationed or posted at, on, in, or in the neighbourhood or vicinity of, any prohibited place, protected area, controlled area, or any premises used by the Commonwealth, or used for defence purposes or for essential services, or any vehicle, vessel or aircraft used by the Commonwealth, or any enclosed wharf or picking-up place, or any merchant vessel lying in port, or any road, pathway, or waterway, specified in an order by the Minister, which passes through or near a prohibited place or work of defence, may be armed, and may-

- (i) use his weapons against, or otherwise attack, any person who, in disregard of a warning given by a sentry or guard, approaches, enters, leaves, or passes over or in the vicinity or neighbourhood of, or attempts to approach, enter, leave or pass over or in the vicinity or neighbourhood of that place, area, premises, vehicle, vessel, aircraft, wharf, picking up place, road, pathway or water way, or who, after being arrested for so doing, escapes; and
 - (ii) use his weapons against, or otherwise attack, any person attacking him or who is reasonably suspected of being about to attack him.
2. There are, however, certain principles which must guide all sentries and guards in the execution of their duty as such, and in the exercise of the right to resort to arms.
3. Those principles are :-
- (a) Sentries and guards will be ordered to take any action required to ensure the safety of their posts or to defeat the activities of enemy or suspected enemy agents.
 - (b) If necessary, they will fire upon or otherwise attack any persons threatening the safety of their posts or engaging in hostile actions.

- (c) Before firing upon any person, the sentry or guard will, except that in an urgent case of self defence, challenge that person to "Halt". If that person does NOT halt, the sentry should challenge him again with "Halt or I fire". If he does NOT halt, and no other means are available for stopping him, as for example, by calling on the rest of the guard-it is the duty of the sentry to shoot.
- (d) The sentry will use his intelligence and sense of responsibility in choosing whether he will shoot or not, and must be careful not to allow any suspected person to approach so close that he can be rushed and overpowered.
- (e) GUARDS of enemy prisoners of war An enemy prisoner of war attempting to escape may be fired upon, but a previous summons to surrender will be given if possible.
- (f) Guards of members of forces in custody The use of weapons to prevent the escape of a prisoner (other than an enemy and except as provided in para. 1.(i) is unlawful unless
- (i) The prisoner has committed a felony and cannot otherwise be re-arrested; or
- (ii) it is necessary for self defence and no more force is used than is reasonable in the circumstances.
- The offences which constitute a felony are indicated on pages 146-151 of I.M.L. (Australian edition)
- (g) If a prisoner resorts to violence, forces may be met with by force to the extent reasonably necessary, and the escort may call for help from passers by.

243

DANGEROUS ENCLOSURES IN PARCELS FORWARDED BY POST

1. A fire aboard a ship carrying valuable supplies, including explosives, was recently caused by spontaneous combustion of wax matches included in mails for Army personnel.
2. All members of the forces will be instructed to request their relatives and friends NOT to forward wax matches or charged petrol lighters to them through the post. The dangers as stated above will be explained to troops.
3. Franking officers will delete any request for wax matches or charged petrol lighters from letters.

Will C Keast Capt.
(Will C Keast) Adj't 56 Aust Inf Bn.

NOTICESLOST

Lost. MAPPING CASE with R.T. BRYEN printed on cover on DOUGARRA-GERALDTON ROAD
Finder please return to 56 Aust Inf Bn. Reward on return.

ENTERTAINMENTS

Pictures will be shown in 56 Bn lines on Monday night next, 11 Jan. 43.
for members of this unit.

The information contained in this document is NOT to be communicated either directly or indirectly to the press or to any other person NOT holding an official position in His Majesty's Forces.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.

ROUTINE ORDERS

PART 1.

BY

MAJ. R. T. BRYEN

ADJ COMD 56 AUST INF BN.

Serial No. 64

Nos. 246 to

56 AUST. INF. BN.

246. BN. DUTIES The following roster for duty coys will operate.

DATE	COY	ORDERLY OFFICER.
15 Jan. 43	H.Q.	Lieut A. F. G. Christie
16 " "	A	" J. F. Day
17 " "	B	" M. G. Hardey
18 " "	C	" J. L. Bennett
19 " "	D	" S. J. Braithwaite
20 " "	H.Q.	" A. O. Curran

Note :- Duty coys on 10 Jan. 43 and 11 Jan 43.

will provide DONGARRA TOWN Picquet, to mount DONGARRA 1700 hrs, dismount 2200 hrs. Picquet to consist of 1 Offr. 3 M.C.O's 12 O.R's.

Dress:- Shirt, trousers w/d or shorts, steel helmets belt and sidearms.

247. CHURCH PARADES :-
United Church Parade 0845 hrs 10 Jan. 43 in unit lines.

248. DONGARRA MOVE TO P & R. T. CAMP
56 Aust Inf Bn will move to DONGARRA after the evening meal on 10 Jan. 43, returning on 12 Jan. 43.

249. DONGARRA OUT OF BOUNDS
DONGARRA is OUT OF BOUNDS to all troops at all times.

250. BATHING AREAS
Troops are NOT permitted to bath SOUTH of PIER at PORT DENISON either with or without costumes. Troops only if correctly dressed may visit DENISON VILLAGE and its beach after parade hours. All ranks are reminded that normal parade hours will be observed while in the DONGARRA area. A serious view will be taken of men NOT on parade.

251. A. I. F. ENLISTMENTS
Enlistments to date total 632 all ranks of a strength of 877.
Total percentage to date = 73.2%

252. HOT SHOWERS
Hot showers may only be used under coy arrangements, and at times allotted.
On all occasions hot showers are OUT OF BOUNDS.

253. TRADE TESTS
Personnel to be Trade Tested on 12 Jan. 43 will return to camp from DONGARRA on night of 11 Jan. 43. They will leave BHQ at 0815 hrs on 12 Jan. 43 and proceed to Bde HQ, where they will be Trade tested. Personnel on other days will move from BHQ at 0815 hrs.
W.O. Gaskin to arrange cut lunches for men being tested on 12 Jan. 43. Coys will arrange cut lunches on other days.

254. MALAYAN CLASSES
Classes will be held at DONGARRA during the Units stay there.

255. REINFORCEMENTS AUST. INDEP COYS. AND 1 AUST INDEP. PARACHUTE COY.
Volunteers are being called for service in above. All information obtainable Coy Orderly Rooms. Apply Coy orderly rooms immediately.

W. C. Keast Capt.
WILL C. KEAST. Adj. 56 Aust Inf Bn.

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56 AUST. INF. BN.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.

ROUTINE ORDERS

PART 1.

BY

MAJ. R.T. BRYEN

ADM COMD 56 AUST INF BN?

Serial No. 64
Nos 256 to 266.

256. BN. DUTIES. The following roster for duty coys will operate:-

<u>Date.</u>	<u>Coy.</u>	<u>Ord Offr.</u>
21 Jan 43.	A. Coy	Lieut. A.W. Christie
22 Jan 43	B. "	" M.G. Hardey
23 Jan 43	C. "	" A. Cunningham
24 Jan 43	D. "	" S.J. Braithwaite
25 Jan 43	HQ. "	" A.O. Curran

NOTE. Bde Duties 56 Aust Inf Bn will supply any Bde duties required on 17 Jan 43 Coys Please note.

257. CAMERAS & PHOTOGRAPHY

Ref. Bn R/O Serial 62 No 238. The following are approved photographers in Western Australia -
KODAKS LTD PERTH and Country Districts
TILLYS LTD PERTH.

258. PHONETIC ALPHABET

The following have been amended:-

Delete A. ADAM and substitute A. ABLE
Z. ZED " " Z. ZEBRA

Figure 0 will be pronounced ZERO as from 1 Jan 43

259. COMPLAINTS BY MEMBERS OF THE FORCES.

The attention of all ranks will be directed to AMR&O 293(1) which provides as follows

"Officers and soldiers are forbidden to use any method of obtaining redress of real or supposed grievances other than those prescribed by the AMR or authorised by those orders. Anonymous complaints and complaints through the press are forbidden."

(b) The use of outside influence is forbidden by AMR&O 307 (1) which provides:-

"The use of outside influence to support complaints or applications for personal advantages, or in any matter affecting the position of the Officer or soldier, is contrary to discipline. The only proper course for an officer or soldier is to apply through his C.O. or to complain in accordance with the AMR and these orders. Any attempt to obtain favourable consideration of requests or grievances by other means is forbidden."

(c) The provisions of Division (1) of part IV of the AMR&O will be explained to all formed units on parade at least once in every three months, and to all members in training depots once every month.

The consequences of failing to observe the provisions of that Division will be made clear.

- (d) All complaints or applications of the nature described in para. 2 above receive at any HQ through unauthorised channels will be forwarded to the unit concerned, with a direction that the member will be paraded and informed of the unit order on this matter and that any further failure to observe its provisions will be dealt with as an offence.

260. BY PASSING MIDLAND JUNCTION

All military vehicles travelling from Northern areas to Perth and vice-versa will in future use the Guildford by pass thus avoiding Midland Junction and township.

The by pass is clearly marked and is routed from Guildford (opp. police stn.) to Upper Swan (at a point 2 mile south of railway crossing.)

261. DANGER OF SPIDERS

Owing to the increasing prevalence of red back spiders in some areas, and the danger of bites from these insects, all thunder boxes, latrine seats and seats in messes are to be treated with a blow lamp at least once weekly.

Special attention is to be paid to corners inside thunder boxes

262. M.T. DISCIPLINE

Attention is drawn to the prevailing habit of troops moving by M.T. standing up, and at times riding with portions of their bodies protruding over the vehicles side.

Coy Comds will immediately bring to the notice of all ranks the correct "back to back" method of seating, which is to be enforced on all occasions when troops move by M.T. Disciplinary action is to be taken against offenders in the future.

263. UNAUTHORISED INTERFERENCE WITH EQUIPMENT

Several cases have occurred recently where minor defects in technical equipments have been converted into major defects by unskilled attempts at repair by unauthorised personnel. In particular, clocks and watches which should have been repaired, have had to be condemned as unserviceable because unskilled tampering has aggravated the original damage or caused further breakage of sound parts.

2. As spare parts for certain instruments, particularly watches and clocks, are almost unobtainable, such tampering results in loss of equipment.

3. Previous orders forbidding the repair of technical equipment of all kinds by unauthorised personnel will be strictly enforced.

264. CHURCH SERVICE

Coys will be notified later as to times of Church parades.

255. VEHICLES - GERALDTON

All vehicles proceeding to GERALDTON must have G2 endorsed by Brigade transport officer.

266. MALAYAN INSTRUCTION PARADES

Malayan Lessons will be held as follows:-

20 Jan 43	1530 hrs	1830 hrs
21 Jan 43	0900 hrs 1530 hrs	1830 hrs.

W.C. KEAST Adjt 56 Aust Inf Bn. Capt

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56 AUST. INF. BN.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.

ROUTINE ORDERS.

PART I.

BY

MAJ. R. T. BRYEN
ADM COMD 56 AUST INF BN.

Serial No 65.
No 267.to

267. BN? DUTIES. The following roster for duty coys will operate:-

Date.	Coy	Ord. Offr.
26 Jan 43.	A. Coy	Lieut A.W. Davis
27 Jan 43.	B. "	" E. Browning.
28 Jan 43.	C. "	" J.L. Bennett.
29 Jan 43.	D. "	" C.M. McClellan.
30 Jan 43.	HQ. "	" J.A. Kiley.
31 Jan 43.	A. "	" M.G. Hardey.

268 MEALS FOR PERSONNEL TRAVELLING ON PACK TRAIN.

As from 22 Jan 43 there will be meals provided at, WONGAN HILLS, MOORA and MINGENEW to personnel travelling on Pack trains. Personnel will provide own messing gear.

269. ESCAPES OF PRISONERS OF WAR FROM ENEMY HANDS.

(i) It is the duty of all soldiers if captured by the enemy to effect their escape at the earliest possible moment.

(ii) It is equally important that the soldier having completed his escape should NOT disclose the method by which he, or any companions he may have had, evaded the enemy and achieved freedom.

(iii) The disclosure of such information -

(a) Prejudices the chances of other escapees.

(b) Prevents other members of allied forces from using the same or similar methods of escape

(c) Endangers the lives of those who may have assisted the escapees at any stage of their escape.

4.

4. Therefore, escaped prisoners of war will NOT without the permission G.S.I. of a corps of higher formation, disclose any details of their experiences in connection with their escape
(a) either verbally or writing to their friends and relatives.

(b) either verbally or in writing to the press or broadcast stations.

5. Full details, however, will be given by escaped prisoners of war at the earliest opportunity to the nearest allied Military HQ, from whence it will be transmitted to G.S.I. at L.H.Q. or advanced L.H.Q. direct.

6. This order shall be read in conjunction with G.R.O. A.443/1942 regarding giving parole by Officers and other Ranks

270. ABSENCE WITHOUT LEAVE

1. Attention is directed to the fact that the seriousness of the offence of absence without leave is NOT properly appreciated and that the commission of this offence has become very

prevailent.

2. All officers will ensure that the members under their command are instructed in the reasons for the offence being regarded seriously and will bring to particular notice the facts that absence without leave reflects adversely on the offenders unit, that it throws a heavier burden on his comrades and disrupts leave rosters and that it is not a sign of "toughness" on the offenders part but a betrayal of the national cause by its resulting wastage of transport, manpower and money and impairment of the efficiency and fighting strength of the offenders unit.

271. MISUSE OF ARMY TRANSPORT = THEFT OF PETROL.

1. Whenever it appears that an officer or soldier has used both a Government motor vehicle and Government petrol for an unauthorized purpose he will be charged with the unauthorized use of both the vehicle and the petrol.
2. The charge of unauthorized use of the vehicle will normally be laid under section 11 of the Army Act. If, however, it appears from the evidence that the member charged used the vehicle with the intention of stealing it, the charge will be laid under section 18(4) of the Army Act as one of stealing public property with an alternative charge under section 40 of that Act.
3. The charge of unauthorized use of the petrol (consumed by the unauthorized use of the vehicle) will be laid under section 18(4) of the Army Act as stealing public property, and an alternative charge under section 40 of the Army Act will always be laid.
4. The charges laid concerning the one incident should all be on the one charge sheet and may be heard together.

272. PUBLICITY CONCERNING ESCAPED PRISONERS OF WAR.

1. Members of the A.M.F. will not, unless authorized by the Commander-in-Chief, publish in any form whatever, or communicate, either directly or indirectly, to the press or radio any account of the escape of any person whatsoever from enemy or enemy-occupied territory or of the experiences of such person prior to repatriation.
2. Experience has shown that publicity of this character furnishes valuable information to the enemy and will jeopardize future escapes of Australian and Allied prisoners of war.

273. BROADCASTS OVER ENEMY WIRELESS BY AUSTRALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR.

A member of the Military Forces who becomes a prisoner of war will not transmit messages over enemy wireless. The enemy's design, in arranging such broadcasts, is to enhance his own propaganda.

274. CASUALTIES AFFECTING PAY.

No action will be taken to amend pay book rates consequent upon promotions, remissions of fines or remissions of forfeitures until receipt of the relevant Routine Part 11 Order from Records Office.

A 1. TRAVELLING ON RAIL TRAVEL ON P.O. RAIL.

Personnel travelling on P.O. trains will take cut lunch as there is only one meal provided for on such trains.

275.

SECURITY OF INFORMATION - MAILING OF NEWSPAPERS

1. Owing to several recent attempts to evade censorship on newspapers, and also disclosures of information of military value on such newspapers, it has been decided to prohibit the sending of newspapers by troops under command 3 Aust Corps.

2. This instruction will be passed on to all unit officers.

276

ARMS IN UNATTENDED VEHICLES.

1. Recent cases have been reported of vehicles containing Arms and equipment of a security category being left unattended in public places.

2. This practice must cease, and a guard will be placed over such vehicles or, alternatively, such arms or equipment will be removed from the vehicle and will be kept under supervision at all times.

277

HOTELS - OFFICERS

1. Commencing Mon 18 Jan 43, officers will NOT be permitted to enter a saloon or public bar in any Hotel within a radius of 15 miles of G.P.O. Perth.

2. This does NOT preclude the use by officers of Hotel Lounges and such club bars as are available by reason of Hon Membership that has been conferred on all officers.

278.

REGIMENTAL FUND.

As at 1 Dec. 42 = Cash 17 - 18 - 6
Advance to canteen A/6100 - 0 - 0

Receipts:-	£117 - 18 - 6
Sale timber in Mess Huts	
Bellevue	10 - 0 - 0
Sale Colour Patches	1 - 10 - 0
Sale Colour Patches	1 - 2 - 6
Profits General Canteen	75 - 11 - 2
(NOT unit Canteen)	
	<u>£88 - 3 - 8</u>

Expenditure Dec 42.	
Camp Pie	10 - 10 - 0
Medical Supp	
lies NOT on	
issue	1 - 2 - 6
	<u>£2 - 12 - 6</u>

Balance Cash £103 - 9 - 8
on 1 Jan 43.
Loan Canteen £100 - 0 - 0

£203 - 9 - 8

Audited Capt. J.R. Farrell
Sgt. H. McCulloch.

Previous Months Purchases included
Fruit £25/0/0
Tinned
Camp Pie £20/0/0
Wireless
Sets £100/0/0
Waterbags
& showers £35/0/0
Fishlines £5/0/0
Fly Veils

Present Months Purchases to 19 Jan 43. includes.
Fruit £4/10/0

Sports
Prizes £28/7/6

Each month an Audited balance sheet will be presented in B.R.O.s
Special Canteen Trading Accounts Balance Sheet will be published in next
B.R.O.s

Capt
W.C. KEAST Adjt 56 Aust Ing Bn

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56 AUST. INF. BN.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES
ROUTINE ORDERS

PART 1

BY

MAJ. R.T. BRYEN.

ADM COMD 56 AUST INF BN.

Serial No 66
No 279 to
30 Jan. 43.

279. BN. DUTIES. The following roster for duty coys will operate:-

<u>Date.</u>	<u>Coy.</u>	<u>Ord Offr.</u>
1 Feb. 43.	B. Coy.	Lieut. A.X. Cunningham.
2 Feb. 43.	C. "	" L.H. Macaulay
3 Feb. 43.	D. "	" A.O. Curran.
4 Feb. 43.	HQ. "	" J.F. Day.
5 Feb. 43.	A. "	" G.W. Davis.
6 Feb. 43.	B. "	" E. Browning.
7 Feb. 43.	C. "	" J.A. Kiley.
8 Feb. 43.	D. "	" J.L. Bennett
9 Feb. 43.	HQ. "	" B.W. King.
10 Feb. 43.	A. "	" A.X. Cunningham.

280. FIRE PRECAUTIONS. Coy Comds will arrange for a suitable receptacle for cigarette butts etc for personnel travelling in MT thus minimising risk of fire by butts being discarded from the vehicle.

281. DEDUCTIONS FROM PAY OF MEMBERS.

1. Deductions from member's pay will not be made under A.M.R. & O. 489A in respect of any loss or damage suffered or expense incurred by the Commonwealth on and after the 1 Jan. 1943, but all cases coming within the ambit of A.M.R. & O. 489A and occurring before the 1 Jan. 1943, will be submitted through the usual channels to L.H.Q. for decision.
2. In all cases where the commonwealth has suffered loss or damage or incurred expense and such loss, damage or expense has been occasioned by an offence against the Defence Act, the Australian Military regulations or the Army Act committed by a member, disciplinary action will be taken against the member and particulars of the value of the loss, damage or expense will be included in the charge, so as to enable award or sentence of deduction from pay to be made if the member is found guilty of the offence and the value of the loss, damage or expense proved. In this respect, attention is directed to D.A. 97, A.A. 46, 47, 137, 138 and A.M.R. & O. 418(2)(g), 418(7)(a), 418b, 484 and 543.
3. A member who fails to obey any lawful order or instruction or to safeguard any Government property entrusted to his care is guilty of an offence under A.A. 11 or A.A. 40, whichever is appropriate, if his failure is due to neglect which is blameworthy.
Attention is directed to M.M.L. (Australian Edition), page 427, and the note (as amended by Serial No. 4) on neglect which reads:-
"If neglect is wilful, i.e., intentional, it is clearly blameworthy. If it is caused by an honest error of judgment and involves no lack of zeal and no element of carelessness or intentional failure to take the proper action it is equally clear that it is blameless and cannot be a ground for conviction. Where it is not thus completely blameless the degree of blameworthiness naturally varies, and a court trying such a case must consider the whole circumstances of the case and in particular the responsibility of the accused. For example, a high degree of care can rightly be demanded of an officer or soldier who is in charge of an armoured vehicle or an aircraft or is responsible for its condition or who is handling explosives or highly inflammable material, where a slight degree of negligence may involve danger to life; in such circumstances a small degree of negligence may be so blameworthy as to justify conviction and punishment. On the other hand, such a slight degree of negligence resulting from forgetfulness or inadvertence, in relation to a matter that does not rightly demand a

very high degree of care would not be judged so blameworthy as to justify conviction and punishment. The essential thing for the court to consider is whether the whole circumstances of the case as they existed at the time of the offence the degree of the neglect proved is such as, having regard to the evidence and their military knowledge as to the amount of care that ought to have been exercised, renders the neglect so substantially blameworthy as to be deserving of punishment"

4. A C.O. will not award stoppages of pay in excess of £5/-/-, but whenever it appears that a greater penal deduction than that amount should be awarded he will apply for a court martial.

282. ALTERATIONS TROUSERS W.D.

Coys will instruct all personnel that Trousers W.D. are to be thoroughly washed and dried at least 3 times before alterations are attempted.

Capt.
W.C. KEAST Adjt 56 Aust Inf Bn.

NOTICES

LOST. Rifle No 125227. Coys will check and furnish Nil return by 1800 hrs 1 Feb, 43

PICTURE SHOW. Pictures will be held on 1 Feb 43 at 2030 hrs in vicinity Bn. Hq's.

No on nearby

Feb 12. EXERCISE "FIRE".

On 4/5 Feb 43 the unit held a Bn exercise in co operation with 18 Fd Regt and 104 A Tk Regt. One regt provided a bty in a support and the other a tp. Live amm was fired in the daylight attack.

The exercise took the form of a march to a bivouac area some five miles across country. Then there was a night attack. The approach march was through rough country and tested out all ranks. There was an attack just before dawn and the enemy was followed.

Later in the morn an attack, supported by arty, was launched. Targets had been put up and arty, MMGs and rifles were able to engage all targets as the tps advanced.

In the afternoon the tps marched back to camp on compass bearings.

The exercise was a most successful one and the night attack, in particular, was a great improvement over the one held some days earlier.

VISIT OF 3 Aust Corps COMD.

On 2 Feb 43 the unit was visited by Lieut Gen GORDON BENNETT, 3 Aust Corps Comd and Maj Gen LLOYD of 2 Aust Div.

A guard of honour was drawn up, together with the band, at HQs. The general had a long look at the coys in their normal training. B Coy put up a rather good performance on the Blitz Course, but the A Tk Pl was the outstanding one of the day.

VISIT OF AMERICAN NAVAL PETTY OFFICERS.

A party of US Naval Petty Offrs from Submarine crews attended the unit for a period of one week. They took part in the exercises and general training of the unit while they were here. They appeared very fine types of young men, very keen and well trained. They were also very friendly with the men of the unit, most especially the sgts.

WEEK AT P & RT CAMP, DONGARRA.

The unit spent a week at Dongarra at the P & RT Camp. Normal trng was carried out. Much of the trng took the part of Unarmed Combat, P & RT etc. Capt. McKISSOP of 3 Aust Corps attended and instructed all ranks in tumbling, falling, etc. A great number of men learnt to swim during the period.

All ranks had two periods in the water daily and the period at the beach was thoroughly enjoyed and was of benefit. A number of men had had sores before going to the beach but the salt water cleaned them up very well.

COMPASS MARCH.

On night of 11/12 Feb the unit marched home from Dongarra. All pls came back across country on a compass bearing. The distance was approx 20 miles and pls took from nine hours to fifteen hours to complete the course.

Feb 19 CONCERT BY UNIT CONCERT PARTY.

On 13 Feb a concert party was held in the unit lines. All artists were from the unit. L/Sgt ROSS and Cpl STENNER were the organisers and were assisted by the Padre, Chapl. SMITH. The concert lasted for a period of three hours and interest was maintained throughout. The standard of all artists was very high and the concert was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

The concert was later shown at DONGARRA to civilians and troops in the area. It is anticipated that a further concert will be held by unit artists in the near future.

COY INSPECTIONS.

The CO, 2 i/c, Adjt, RSM, RCMS examined all coy records, personnel, and standard of trg. The Adjt examined all A Records in each coy, while RCMS went through all Q records and had a physical check of all stores on charge to the coys. The CO, with assistants, checked, physically, all arms, equipment and clothing shown on issue to all men.

The 2 i/c and RSM conducted TOETs with all soldiers.

The inspections were "Sprung" on the coys and there was not any time for their preparation. The standard of A Records, Stores, equipment, etc and the trg was particularly high. It was much higher than was expected to be found. Some very minor faults were noticed and some improved methods of general administration were recommended. It is considered that the time spent on this inspection was well worth while.

GUERRILLA EXERCISES BY COYS.

A series of coy exercises have taken place. They have been prepared by coy comds and will be carried out by their own coys. They have taken the form detached coy exercises and were based on coys acting as Guerilla forces. Carriers, pioneers, mortars and ATK guns were in support of these coys and made the combined operations so much more interesting.

APPOINTMENT OF CO AND PROMOTION OF MAJ RT BRYEN TO RANK OF LT COL.

Maj R T BRYEN, BM 5 Aust Inf Bde and the offr who had been administering the command since the transfer of LT Col R.G. DOWNING has been appointed

Commanding Officer of the unit and promoted Lt Col. Lt Col BRYEN had served in 56 Aust Inf Bn during the last war.

~~MOVEMENT~~

Feb 28

MOVEMENT FROM STRAWBERRY TO GERALDTON.

At the end of the month the Bde Gp moved from Strawberry-Irwin area to Geraldton. The unit moved into the area previously occupied by 30 Aust Inf Bn, but no tps took over this unit's old area. 25 Aust Div Cav Regt moved into the area adjacent to our old area.

Some of the buildings in the old area were left standing though others were dismantled to make ~~many~~ buildings in the new area. It is becoming notorious that the unit has to always add a number of buildings to those already up when moving into a new area. Other units do not take the same trouble to prepare comforts for their men as this one does.

Most of the tps moved by rail, together with a great amount of stores and the carriers. The vehicles with additional stores moved by road some two days later.

Maj STEVENSON went to the new area with an advance party and commenced preparing everything for the men moving in. On the arrival of the unit the work of improving the area continued and now practically is in fine order.

The area is much more compact than most previous areas that the unit has been in and the normal administration work of the coys ~~and~~ should be much better managed than in other camps. It is covered with low trees and it is not particularly dusty.

Good training areas for coy work are accessible, while a combined ops camp is at GERALDTON some seven miles away.

ADJT'S VISIT TO D.R.O.

On 25 Feb 43 the adjt went to DRQ PERTH to discuss the transfer of tps to AIF, the accordance of AIF status to the unit and any other matters of interest or importance to the unit. The visit was a well considered one and it was well worth going. It was found that the official figures of AIF personnel was 76% and had been that for some time. It is expected that the unit will be classified an AIF one in the very near future. Arrangements were made to ensure that all personnel, enlisted AIF but without NX numbers were allotted same immediately.

It was also arranged that ORSs from the Bde visit Records Office to complete roll of those who had been Blood Grouped. The unit clerk will go to DRQ next week for the purpose of attending to this matter.

CO'S VISIT TO NORTHAM

Over the weekend the CO visited NORTHAM Camp to see a series of exhibitions of various stages of training. He was away from the unit for a period of three days and considered the time well spent as he saw many new phases of training. It is intended to put on some of the exhibitions here.

SEARCH FOR TRADESMEN.

The army is continuing the search for tradesmen and Maj AGGS, seconded from 25 Aust Inf Bn for the purpose, again paid a visit to the unit to try to find suitable personnel. He is examining and interviewing every private soldier in the bn to find if any tradesmen or potential tradesmen have been overlooked. Likely types of men are being trades tested by a mobile trades testing centre at present in the area.

DENTAL UNIT ATTACHED TO BN.

Owing to the teeth of the men in the unit being in such a shocking state the ADMS made a dental unit available to the Bn under Capt GRIFITH. It was certainly needed. This unit has been on full time duty for a period of fifteen months and in that time there has been no dental treatment from army or civilian sources available to the majority of the men. Most of the men had come from small country villages and they had come into camp with their teeth in bad order. Since then the teeth have gone from bad to worse. It is considered that the dental unit will be required in the unit on full time duty for at least twelve months.

War Diary

REF MAP DONGARRA 4 miles = 1"
"1" Sketch

56 Aust Inf Bn.

Exercise No 7
Exercise SECRET
56 Aust Inf Bn
1st. Feb. 43

INSTRUCTIONS FOR EXERCISE

1

- (a) GENERAL 56 Aust Inf Bn. Exercise with tps will be conducted in MINGENEW-DONGARRA area. On 4th and 5th Feb 43 under the Comd of Maj Bryan.
- (b) OBJECT
Exercise (1) To exercise Comd, sub-comds and tps.
(2) In night ops.
In attack by encirclement, with Arty support and Unit support weapons, with ball amn, H.E. shells and H.E. bombs
- (c) LESSONS
- Exercise (1) To teach the Bn the procedure for the conduct of a night op.
(2) To teach Battle discipline
(3) To teach Comds and sub Comds to carry out their duties at night.
- Exercise (2)
(1) To teach all ranks the value of cooperation with support weapons in the attack.
(2) Quickness of decision of Comds.
(3) Speed in operation.
- (d) Tps Taking Part
- Exercise (a) All Coys 56 Aust Inf Bn.
(b) 56 Aust Inf Bn plus one Bty 18 Aust Fd Regt
(c) Enemy Tps. one Tp 14 A/TK Bty.
- Enemy Tps
Exercise (1) Controlled enemy comprising A/A Pl. and other pers as arranged by Bn H.Q. Under Lieut Macauley are identified by white paper strip two inches wide back and front of hat.
(2) Silhouette targets.
(f) DRESS. Battle order less respirators- Steel helmets.
(g) Representation of Fire.
- Exercise (1) Rifle - Blank.
L.M.G. - Torch.
M.M.G. - Blank firing attachment.
Mors. - Gelegnite bomb.
Grenade - Paynes grenade.
(2) Ball Amn.
- (h) Umpires - Safety Offrs - Directors - and other Neutral pers.
Umpires and safety offrs will be detailed by Bn HQ. Umpires and Directors to wear white arm bands.
- (i) Conferences. All Offrs at Bn HQs. 1930 hrs 3 Feb 43. Final conference on ground before exercise commence.
- (j) Special Instructions.
(1) Messages and reports. All exercise messages and reports will be prefixed by the word FIRE. All messages regarding genuine casualties will be prefixed "Genuine Casualty".
Examination of arm and equipment.
Coy Comds will carry out examination of arm and equipment before and after firing.
(2) ADM. Stores.
Red and Blue flags - 1 each Umpire.
Red and white flags - 1 each Safety Offr.
White arm bands - 1 each Umpire.

(2)

Exercise (1) AMM. 5 Rds 303 Ball per rifleman.
40 Rds 303 Ball per L.M.G.
250 Rds 303 Ball per H.M.G.
2 - 2" Mortar H.E. Bombs - each Det.

TOOLS. All coys will arrange to have W.E. of tools, dumped in coy ass area.

LATRINE SCREENS 1 per coy.

WATER. Water is to be taken only from water carts
All other sources of water supply Out of Bounds.

TPT. per coy.

Kitchen truck.
1 Store truck.
1 Baggage truck.

Water Cart controlled by H.Q. coy.

MEDICAL Coy Comd will ensure that all ranks carry field dressing.

EXERCISE ENDS 1200 hrs 5 Feb 43.

OPENING SITUATION

5 Aust Inf Bde concentrated in MOORA area has been ordered to move to DONGARRA = GERALDTON area where enemy landings have been effected.

44 Aust Inf Bn acting as Adv Gd to the Bde contacted enemy in STRAWBERRY at 1200 hrs 4 Feb 43.

44 Bn have succeeded in driving enemy back vicinity LOW HILL ref 305382 where strong fixed defences have been encountered.

NARRATIVE (1)

At 1700 hrs 4 Feb Comd 5 Aust Inf Bde ordered 44 Aust Inf Bn to hold general line from 085810 to 085799 and 56 Aust Inf Bn to capture LOW HILL feature by NIGHT ATTACK and proceed on morning 5 Feb to clear enemy from NORTHERN side of roads DONGARRA-GERALDTON. At 1900 hrs 4 Feb 43 C.O. of 56 Aust Inf Bn issues his orders for night attack

Will C Keast
Capt
WILL C KEAST) Adjt 56 Aust Inf Bn

War diary

56 Aust Inf Bn. Exercise "FIRE"

INSTRUCTIONS FOR EXERCISE.

1. Further to "INSTRUCTIONS FOR EXERCISE" of 1 Feb.43.
2. 56 Aust Inf Bn will move from camp with minimum Tpt. only at 1530 hrs on 4 Feb.43, and take up positions in SPRINGY CREEK area as per enlargement, from which point the exercise will commence as per narrative 1.
3. 18 Aust Fd Regt and 14 Aust A/Tk Bty tps will proceed to area independently and report to Bn. HQ at 1900 hrs 4 Feb.43.
4. SAFETY PRECAUTIONS.- In final phases of exercise SAFETY OFFICERS will travel in carriers carrying a WHITE signal flag and during time firing is taking place will be on inner flank of coy. Safety angles will be taken from carrier.
5. In attack on ONYX RIDGE and LONG RIDGE by A Coy and C Coy respectively, if tps have advanced beyond line of RED flags, when engaging enemy targets they will be withdrawn to line of RED flags immediately firing ceases. Arty will not open until tps. are in rear of RED flag line.

W.C. Keast
 -Capt.
 WILL. C. KEAST Adj't 56 Aust Inf Bn

Distribution.

Same asz O.C.'s.

56 Aust Inf Bn. Exercise "FIRE."

56 Aust Inf Bn O.O. 7.

SECRET.
Copy No. 18. 18
Date 4 Feb 43.

Ref map DONGARRA 4 miles = 1 inch.
enlargement 2 miles = 1 inch. (attached)

- INFM.
1. Enemy forces estimated strength approx. one Aust Inf Bn, is holding IRON KNOB - GONA HILL - LOW HILL area.
 2. 44 Aust Inf Bn is holding general line 085810 to 085799.
- INTENTION.
3. 56 Aust Inf Bn will capture the IRON KNOB - GONA HILL features by night attack.
- METHOD.
4. FWD Tps. - C Coy. Right. objective IRON KNOB.
D Coy. Left. " Gona HILL.
 5. Reserve. A Coy Right.
B Coy Left.
 6. Protection. - A Coy will provide protection including rear protection from present location to 500 yds in front of F.U.P.
 7. Disposal at P.of A.- On arrival at P of A. coys will deploy in line of pls at 15 paces intervals with connecting file between pls.
C and A Coys on right of track. (indicated)
D and B Coys on Left of track. (" ")
Res Coys will move from P.of A with fwd coys and will halt approx 200 yds in rear of F.U.P.
 8. Deployment at F.U.P.- as per appx. A attached.
 9. F.U.P. marked by Adj.
(a) By tape each Coy frontage.
(b) By peg or other distinguishing mark at Right flank of each pl.
(c) By Pl guide.
 10. Protection at F.U.P.-
A Coy will provide active patrols in front of F.U.P. from Z - 30 to Z plus 10. They will then rejoin Coy at F.U.P.
 11. Timetable.
Leave present location 0235 hrs.
Form up P of A. 0325 hrs.
Leave P of A. 0405 hrs.
Arr. F.U.P. 0425 hrs.
ZERO. 0430 hrs.
 12. Bearing of attack- 270° mag.
 13. Distances and rates of Advance.
(a) From present location to P.of A. 3,300 yds, rate of advance 200 yds in 3 mins.
(b) From P.of A to F.U.P. 1,000 yds, rate of advance 100 yds in 2 mins.
(c) From F.U.P. to objective 900 yds, rate of advance 100 yds in 3 mins.
 14. Exploitation and Consolidation.
Fwd Coys will consolidate on objective at ZERO. reserve coys will move fwd to F.U.P. on success signal B Coy will encircle on left flank around Southern side GONA HILL and exploit to LOW HILL. If enemy opposition encountered. C coy will provide covering fire for attack by B coy on LOW HILL.
On success signal from fwd coys. A Coy will move fwd from F.U.P. approx 500 yds, and be prepared to counter attack on either objectives.

56 Aust Inf Bn .Exercise. "FIRE"

56 Aust Inf BN O.O. 8.

(No. change from verbal orders)

Secret.
Copy No. 18
5 Feb. 43 .

INFM.

1. Enemy elements have retired in direction of NORTH-WESTERN and TABLE TOP RIDGE.

INTENTION

2. 56 Aust Inf Bn Gp. will move from present location, contact and destroy balance enemy forces.

METHOD.

3. Diamond formation - fwd B. coy.
centre Right - C Coy
Left - A coy
res. D Coy

Approx 600 yds distance from Fwd to centre coys and 400 yds from centre to reserve coy.
Approx 400 yds interval between centre coys.

4. Carriers - one sec. each with B.C and A coys.
one sec. reserve with Bn.HQ

5. Mortars - 2 dets each with B,C, and A Coys.

6. Arty - On reserve coy clearing LOW HILL feature, arty will step up to vic. depression SOUTH OF LOW HILL where they will ~~wait~~ remain until further instructed.

6.A. A./TK. 56 Aust Inf Bn A/Tk Pl will give A/Tk protection to fwd coy.
-Bty 14 A/Tk Regt. will give A/Tk protection to balance of disposition.
F.O.O. with Bn.HQ.

7. ZERO - move from present locations 0900 hrs.

ADM.

8. R.A.P. will move in rear of Bn.HQ
W.W.C.P. vic. LOW HILL.

DISPERCIN.

9 Bn.HQ. will move in rear of centre of centre coys.

10 Noxman distribution 1 08 sets.

11. Arty F.O.O.

Ack

Issued by hand at 0800 hrs.

W.G. Keast
Capt.
WILL. G. KEAST Adjt 56 Aust
Inf Bn.

Distribution

A Coy	copy no	1.	C.O.	copy no.	11.
B coy	" "	2	2 I/C	" "	12
C "	" "	3	I.O.	" "	13
D "	" "	4	Q.M.	" "	14
HQ "	" "	5,6,7,	5 Aust Inf Bde		15,16
? Tp 18 Aust Pd Regt.		8,9	File		17.
? Tp 14 A/Tk Regt		10	War diary		18,19.

56 Aust Inf Bn. Exercise "FIRE"

56 Aust Inf Bn. O.O. No 9.

(No change from verbal orders)

Secret.
Copy No. *27.18*
5 Feb 43.

Ref map DONGARRA 4 miles = one inch.
Enlargement 2 miles = one inch attached.

INFM.

1. B Coy is in contact with enemy tps approx. one coy strength fwd of GREEN HILL.
2. Enemy posts have also been located on CENTRE RIDGE and fire has come from direction of LONG RIDGE.

INTENTION

3. 56 Aust Inf Bn Gp. will attack and destroy enemy forces.

METHOD

4. FWD TPS.

Right - C Coy, to encircle on right flank and attack enemy posn vic. CENTRE RIDGE.

Left - A Coy. to encircle left flank and attack enemy posn. when located on LONG RIDGE.

B Coy continue to attack enemy from present location and assist fwd movement of encircling coys.

5. RES. - D Coy move fwd to approx. 600 yds in rear D Coy. and be prepared to counter attack to either flank, or to pursue enemy on axis of advance.

6. SUPPORTING ARMS. - no change from present allocation.

ADM.

7. R.A.P. with res. coy.
8. S.A.A. Res. vic. WINDMILL 051819.
9. W.W.C.P. - LOW HILL.

INTERCOMM.

10. Bn. Comd HQ will move in rear C Coy. F.O.O. with Bn. Comd HQ.
11. LIGHT SIGNALS. - Objective reached. GREEN.- GREEN. Held up require further support. RED = RED.
12. Synchronisation.

ACK.

Issue by hand at hrs.

Will Keast
WILL C KEAST. Adjt 56 Aust Inf Bn. Capt.

Distribution.

A Coy	Copy No	1.	C.O.	Copy No	11.
B Coy	" "	2.	2 I/C	" "	12.
C Coy	" "	3.	1.0.	" "	13.
D Coy	" "	4	Q.M.	" "	14.
H.Q. Coy	" "	5,6,7.	5 Aust Inf Bde	" "	15,16,
Tp. 18 Aust Fd Regt.	" "	8,9.	File.	" "	17.
Tp. 14 A/Tk Bty.	" "	10.	War Diary.	" "	18,19.

15. Fire Support.- ONLY TO BE GIVEN IF CALLED FOR.
ARTY.- 3 mins, intense on each objective.

F.O.O. will go fwd with B Coy and be prepared to provide concentrations on LOW HILL area.

M.M.G's. - in first phase M.M.Gs will be prepared to give flanking fire to fwd coys on call for defensive fire. One sec carriers to support attack by B coy at first light. balance to move fwd at first light and support consolidation.

Mortars will move fwd at first light.
Two det to be attached to each C.D and B Coys.

- ADM. 16. R.A.P. at centre of F.U.P. thence vic Bn HQ.
17. Res.S.A.A. at F.U.P. thence vic Bn HQ.

18. Guides. I.O. will provide guides from present location to P.of A AND from P.of A. to Rear of F.U.P.

Pl Guides.- (2 per pl.) will report to Adjt at 0100 hrs.

Guides to wear WHITE paper mark on hat.
A Coy will provide two patrols of 10 O.R's each to report at same time as pl guides.

19. Special Instructions.

- (a) No smoking or lights after leaving present location.
- (b) Strict silence to be observed throughout.
- (c) Bayonets will be fixed, magazines charged but reflex NOT loaded.
- (d) All equipment will be carefully checked to ensure against rattles.
- (e) No firing unless on an order from an officer.
- (f) If enemy encountered tps will go in silently with the bayonet unless otherwise ordered.

- INTERCOMM. 20. Bn HQ. will move fwd with attack as per appx A and on success signal from B coy will establish in depression approx 500 yds WEST of GONA HILL.

M/T Silence until success signal from fwd coys then normal traffic.

Light Signals.- success signal fwd coys GREEN-GREEN.
Success signal B Coy. GREEN-WHITE.
Call for support or defensive fire RED-RED.

21. Synchronisation of watches at P.of A.

ACK.

Issued by hand.
Time of issue 1900 hrs.

Distribution

A. Coy.	copy no	1
B. "	" "	2
C. "	" "	3
D. "	" "	4
H.Q."	" "	5,6,7,
? Tp 18 Aust Fd Regt		8,9,
? Tp 14 A/Tk Bty.		10

W.C. Keast
Capt.
W.C. KEAST Adjt 56 Aust Inf Bn.

C.O.	copy no.	11
2 I/C	" "	12
I.O.	" "	13
Q.M.	" "	14
5 Aust Inf Bde	" "	15,16
File	" "	17
War Diary	" "	18,19

FORECAST OF EVENTS.

Ref map DONGARRA 4 miles = ~~one~~ inch.
 I Sec. SKETCH. 2 miles = ~~one~~ inch.

Ser.	Date	Time	Place	Situation	Action of Controlled Enemy.	Messages and Remarks.
1.	4 Feb. 43	1530 hrs	Camp	Move from camp for debussing area map ref. 095808		Order of march C.A.B.D. Bn. HQ A/Tk Pl. Carriers, Mortars.
2.	4 Feb. 43	1700	Debussing Area	xxxxx debussing xxxxx Verbal orders issued for night attack.		
3.	Night 4/5 Feb. 43	1900	Debussing Area	xxxxxx evening meal	enemy occupy posn.	Messing by Coys from B ech. Area
4.	5 Feb. 43	0100	Debussing Area	xxxxx Pl guides and protection patrol report to Adj. t.		Patrol from A Coy.
5.	5 Feb. 43	0235	Debussing Area	Coys leave for P. of A.		
6.	5 Feb. 43	0325	P. of A.	Form up at P. of A.		check protection.
7.	5 Feb. 43	0325	P. of A	Coffee		
8.	5 Feb. 43	0400	Fwd F.U.P.	Covering force patrol fwd of F.U.P.	enemy patrol out	
9.	5 Feb. 43	0405		Coys leave P of A.		Formations as per Appx. "A"
10.	5 Feb. 43	0425	F.U.P.	Coys arrive F.U.P.		
11.	5 Feb. 43	0430	F.U.P.	ZERO		
12.	5 Feb. 43.	0430	F.U.P.	Rear coys move forward to F.U.P. (posn fwd coys occupied.)		
13.	5 Feb. 43	0440	F.U.P.	Covering force return to coy posn. (F.U.P.)		
14.	5 Feb. 43	0454	GONA HILL & IRON KNOB.	Enemy open fire .		
15.	5 Feb. 43	0500	GONA HILL & IRON KNOB.	A Coy move fwd from F.U.P. for approx 500 yds and prepares for counter attack roll.	enemy withdraw to LOW HILL	Success signal.

56 Aust Inf Bn Exercise "FIRE"

Secret.

FORECAST OF EVENTS

Ref map DONGARRA 4 miles = 1 inch
I Sec. SKETCH 2 miles = 1 inch.

Seq.	Date	Time	Place	Situation	Action of controlled Enemy	Messages and Remarks.
1.	4 Feb. 43	1530	Camp	Move from Camp for debussing area map ref. 095808		Order of march - C.A.B.D Bn. HQ, HQ (A/Tk Pl. Carrier Mortars.)
2.	4 Feb. 43	1700	Debussing area	Verbal orders issued for night attack.		
3.	night 4/5 Feb. 43	1900	Debussing area	Evening meal	Enemy occupy posn.	Messing by coys from B Ech. Area
4.	5 Feb. 43	0100	Debussing area	Pl guides and protection patrol report to Adjnt.		Patrol from A Coy.
5.	5 Feb. 43	0235	Debussing area	Coys leave for P of A.		
6.	5 Feb. 43	0325	P of A	Form up at P. of A.		Check protection.
7.	5 Feb. 43	0325	P. of A	Coffee		
8.	5 Feb. 43	0400	Fwd. F.U.P.	Covering force patrol fwd of F.U.P.	enemy patrol moves out	
9.	5 Feb. 43	0405	P of A	Coys leave P. of A.		Formations as per Appx "A"
10.	5 Feb. 43	0425	F.U.P.	Coys arrive F.U.P.		
11.	5 Feb. 43	0430	F.U.P.	ZERO		
12.	5 Feb. 43	0430	F.U.P.	Rear coys move fwd to F.U.P. (posn of fwd coys occupied.)		
13.	5 Feb. 43	0440	F.U.P.	Covering force return to coy posn. (F.U.P.)		
14.	5 Feb. 43	0454	GONA HILL & IRON KNOB.	Enemy open fire.		
15.	5 Feb. 43	0500	GONA HILL & IRON KNOB.	A Coy move fwd from F.U.P. for approx. 500 yds and prepares for counter attack. XXXXXXXX fall.	Enemy withdraw to LOW HILL.	Success signal

Ser.	Date	Time	Place	Situation	Action Controlled Enemy	Messages & Remarks.
22.	25 Jan.43	XXXXXXXXXX 0401	TWIN TREE RIDGE	B,D,A&C Coys depart P of A		
23		0405	" " "	Covering up party take up posn.in Adv. of F.U.P.		One Pl. C Coy Covering Party for the marking F.U.P. One Pl. C Coy Covering Party
24		0425	F.U.P.	A,B,Coys arrive F,U.P. D & C Coys in res. posn.		
25.		0430 ZERO	" "	Night Attack begins.		
26		0500	BALD HILL	Fwd Coys reach posn vicinity fence.	Enemy open fire.	
27		0510	" "	ATTACK SUCCESSFUL	Enemy withdraws towards DONGARRA	
28		0515-0600	" "	Consolidation on BALD HILL.		

Ser.	Date	Time	Place	Situation	Action Controlled Enemy	Messages & Remarks
12	24 Jan. 43	1200	BANKSIA HILL	C.O. 56 Aust Inf Bn decides to attack and capture TWIN TREE RIDGE		Attack by encircling - D & A Coys R Flank One Pl. "B" demonstrating Pl. "L" L Flank.
13		1220	" "	One Pl. B Coy (demonstrating Pl) move to L Flank.		
14		"	" "	D & A Coys move to encircle on R flank.		
15		1310	TWIN TREE RIDGE	Attack successful	Enemy fall back to rear posn. - BALD HILL ref 301379	
16		1400	" " "	Consolidation on TWIN TREE RIDGE complete		
17		1600	" " "	<u>Information</u> 54 Bn. attack BALD HILL. Objective NOT gained, consolidated in vicinity WEST of IRWIN ref. 302379		TOKEN ATTACK
18.		1600	" " "	56 Bn has received orders to carry out NIGHT ATTACK on enemy posn. on BALD HILL		
19.		1630	" " "	Warning order to Coy Comds. Night Attack.		
20		1700-2000	" " "	Recce. and preparation by Comd and subordinate Comds. for night attack.		
21	25 Jan. 43	0341	" " "	B, A, D & C Coys arrive at P of A.		

Umpire's Report on

REF. MAP DONGARRA.
4 MILES TO INCH

"A" Coy. 56 Aust. Inf. Bn. 6-8-JAN 43.

1st Day. 6 JAN 43.

Moved from coy lines at 0911 hrs. and moved in direction WALCOTT SOAK ^{Ref.} 313 383.

Company moved deployed in groups and formation was good and axis of advance was maintained correctly.

Halt at 1000 hrs when Coy Comdr called pl comdrs and held short conference.

Several routines were laid down known as plan "A", "B" + "C" to have time in event of sudden enemy encounter.

Advance resumed 1024 hrs.

Message received 1024 that enemy had been sighted; Coy Comdr went forward & made recon. Enemy were moving along Southern slope LOW HILL in westerly direction.

1040 hrs a pl. was detached and entrusted to make quick attack on enemy flank and after inflicting damage, rejoin coy at a copse near WALCOTT SOAK.

Arrived WALCOTT SOAK 1140 for lunch.

Sentries were posted all round area.

Moved off 1345 hrs. and immediately enemy were detected in lunch area. (1355 hrs).

A complete section was surprised and captured but were released by "D" Coy Comdr. and on returning roused main body who retired in westerly direction.

"D" Coy marched to HILL 390 ^{ref.} 297376

Enemy contacted in defensive position vicinity IRWIN railway station.

"A" Coy would suffer some early casualties

Enemy.
D Coy
44 Bn.

but quickly attacked over unfavourable ground.
 Consider attack would not succeed as
 (1) Company came under L.M.G. fire before
 deploying.
 (2) Ground and cover in favour of defenders.
 Enemy were a coy of 54 Bn.
 Arrived bivouac area 0840 hrs.

2nd Day. 7 JAN 43.

Moved off at 0630 hrs. in direction WARRADONG
 SPRING. Ref.

Truck 99 (05) was stopped on track leading
 into timbered area at 0822 hours, loading
 with bed rolls.

Considered to belong to D coy 44 Bn but
 despite all efforts no contact was made.

Arrived map ref. 30373725 at 0905 hrs;
 Coy was placed in defensive position until
 1000 hrs when advance was resumed.

1028 hrs when marching on bearing 126° mag
 enemy were sighted estimated strength 1 coy.
 plan "A" was put in execution and at
 1031 hrs enemy scout was observed
 giving rifle signal (enemy in sight in large
 numbers.)

plan "A" in effect, consisted of leading pl
 acting as holding force while rear pls
 moved around on both enemy flanks.

It is considered that "A" coy having developed
 an attack very quickly won the battle.

Coy advanced again 1100 hrs.

Arrived at copse vicinity

at 1200 hrs and halted for lunch until 1330 hrs.
Arrived WARRADONG SPRING at 1630 hrs.

Enemy observed moving on hill to westward at 1730 and attacked with 2 pls in extended line.

Having been observed in plenty of time and as A Coy occupied good cover the attack was unsuccessful.

Counter attack was launched by 2 sections at 1800 hrs.

Evening meal and bivouac WARRADONG SPRING.

3rd Day 8 JAN 43.

Moved 0500 hrs and marched on bearing 2° in direction STRAWBERRY HILL.

Halted OLD COACH ROAD 0705 and had breakfast. Resumed advance 0731.

1002 Coy was halted and a patrol went forward to make recon of hill.

Coy Comdr followed with CSM at 1025 hrs.

and remainder of Coy followed at 1048 hrs. position was occupied at 1143 hrs and all round defence was obtained.

Defence was purely static, there being no patrolling or counter attacking.

Observation was excellent.

Enemy sighted approaching from SOUTH at 1535 hrs in widely deployed group formation. Enemy (C Coy 56 BN) attacked right flank and moved through in extended line.

Owing to defenders being on dominating ground and also as attackers were enfiladed by pl on left flank the attack must be unsuccessful.

4

Tea was served to "D" Coy at 1645 hrs
and return to camp commenced 1650 hrs.
"D" Coy. arrived back in lines at 1905 hrs.

White, Lieut.
Umpire "D" Coy 56 Aust.
Inf. Bn.

Summary of
Schedule of HS as per A.I.M.?

UMPIRES REPORT. "C" Coy EXERCISE.

7-9 JAN 43.

SERIAL	TIME	EVENT.	UNIT OR LOCALITY	REMARKS.
1	DEPART 0715 hrs 7 JAN 43. ARRIVE 0845 hrs.	ORDERS TO PL COMDS.	17 Coy AREA. Hf. 30373725.	All personell put in the picture. Movement & formation very good.
2	DEPART. of 30373725 1000 hrs. ARRIVE of 303371 1115 hrs.	CONTACT MADE WITH "D" Coy.	Hf 30373425.	Scouts report of enemy moving from NW direction. D Coy attacked center PL & Coy HQ ^{both} being wiped out. Remaining two Pts ^{of C Coy} closed in from flanks. causing casualties in D Coy. Enemy considered to have won battle through surprise attack. (Scouts not far enough to flanks.) - Lunch. - Patrol in all directions.
3	DEPART Hf 303371 1315 hrs. ARRIVE WARRADONG SPRINGS. 1730.	CONTACT WITH "D" Coy	WARRADONG SPRINGS Hf 315365.	Movement & formation again good. Enemy observed from 1-1 1/2 miles in position at WARRADONG SPRING. Encircling movement carried out with only partial success. Very hard position to attack owing to nature of ground & scant cover. Coy sustained heavy casualties & inflicted few. Tea luncheon & breakfast. C & D Coys in position in area. Stand to 0530-0630 hrs 8 Jan 43.

SERIAL	TIME	EVENT	UNIT or LOCALITY	REMARKS
4	DEPART WARRADONG SPRING. 0930 hrs 8 JAN 43. ARRIVE of 315370. 1015 hrs.	CONTACT TO BE MADE WITH DCOY 44 BN.	of 315370.	D Coy 44 BN sighted by fuel scouts moving across front at approx 1 mile distance. Too much time lost in making plan & issuing orders resulting in losing contact with enemy. - no battle.
5	DEPART of 315370. 1200 hrs ARRIVE STRAWBERRY HILL 1610 hrs.	CONTACT WITH DCOY.	STRAWBERRY HILL.	Movement good with exception of close country vicinity 17120. One Sec separated from Coy. Too much noise made in finding them again. Attack on STRAWBERRY HILL well planned & carried out. Disposition of defenders good. Attack made around left flank with effect & position taken. Tea brewed & breakfast. Stand to 0530-0630 hrs. Movement noticed on S.E. end of bluff possibly hangers on.
6.	DEPART STRAWBERRY HILL 0800 hrs 9 JAN 43. ARRIVE of 299386. 1245 hrs.		IRWIN STATION.	Movement & formation good. Time lost beating L.M.C.s firing live amm across front otherwise uneventful until area vicinity IRWIN STATION. where small enemy force were contacted & wiped out.

Davis Capt,
A Coy 56 Aust Inf Bn

EXERCISE SECRET

1 Jan 43.

COY. EXERCISES - FREE FOR ALL - TFGPERIOD 2 JAN - 10 JAN.Ref Maps: DONGARRA STRAT $\frac{1}{4}$ to 1 mile.ROUTE TIMINGS - 56 AUST INF. BN.

"A" COY.

REF.	TIME		TIME		DISTANCE BETWEEN PTS.	OPPOSITION ENCOUNTERED	REMARKS.
	Arrive	Date	Depart	Date			
Camp.	-	-	0700	4 Jan.	-	-	Move out of line
Ref. 3037- 3725.	0900	4 Jan	1000	4 Jan	2-7/10 mls.	"A" Coy 54 Bn	Battle
Well 303371	1100	4 Jan	1300	4 Jan	9/10 miles.	-	Lunch
Warradong Spring 315365	1800	4 Jan	0900	5 Jan	7 7/10 mls.	-	Tea, Bivouac, & breakfast.
31473715	1200	5 Jan	1500	5 Jan	3 6/10 mls.	C. Coy. 54 Bn.	Battle (Defen- sive) & lunch.
Strawberry Hill. 314379	1730	5 Jan	0900	6 Jan	4 3/10 mls.	D. Coy 44 Bn. 0800.	Battle (Defensive) Tea, Bivouac and breakfast. Lunch en route.
Bend in track. 299386	1500	6 Jan	1500	6 Jan	9 5/10 mls.	-	-
Irwin 314380	1700	6 Jan	1800	6 Jan	3 8/10 mls.	C. Coy 54 Bn.	Battle (Attack)
Camp	2000	6 Jan	-	-	3 4/10 mls.	-	Return to lines.
					35 9/10 mls.		

Lt. B.W. King
Harvey
11-1-'43

The Adjutant.
56 Aust. Inf. Bn.

The report you refer to was left
by me on H.Q. Coy Orderly
room table & wanted to
Major Stevenson.

This apparently has not been
delivered & briefly and from
memory the report is as follows in
attached sheet.

King.

C.O. (1) Nothing left in H.Q. orderly room

(2) Notice discrepancies in unit telegram sent &
one delivered. web

UMPIRES REPORT - 3 DAY TREK.

17 COY - 56 BN.

Umpires B.V. King.

Note. I joined this Coy at 2000 hrs 4 Jan at Warradong Spring 315365. Here the Coy was awaiting the evening meal which was held up owing to the difficult nature of country which made progress of kitchen vehicles extremely slow. Water had run out but morale was good & on the arrival of the trucks an orderly meal was served (by Platoons).

The Coy moved at 0900 5 Jan. & had def. 31473715 patrolled by 1200 hrs. & defence position occupied by 1300 hrs.

At 1430 hrs our patrols contacted enemy (Clay 54 Pns) & from 1445 to 1515 hrs fought a successful action. Umpires agreed on result. Namely to 56 Pns.

Coy moved at 1530 hrs & occupied defence position on Stambroy Hill by 1730 hrs. Evening meal announced as

time & Coy messed in sections.

Coy was concentrated slightly throughout night sentries & patrols (small) were posted.

Breakfast was served at 0700 hrs. 6 Jan.

At 0800 hrs our patrols located enemy (D Coy & B Co) which at 0900 hrs attacked with one platoon only.

This attack failed & the platoon was wiped out - whereupon the rest of the attacking force withdrew.

Coy moved at 0930 hrs. & commenced orderly march to Rf. 299386.

Our whole move at 1100 hrs troops were sighted crossing road at approx 2000' distance. No action was taken. Rear platoon kept vigilant.

Coy arrived at 299386 at 1445 hrs 6 Jan.

Note

Welfare then left Coy & marched back to Camp. to attend Harvey School.

Remarks

Good show on part of the Coy.
Coy Cdr. takes too many personal risks.
Monotonous & ~~un~~unimaginative course.
However, section leading & control good.

UMPIRE REPORT.

Coy Trek "B" Coy 56 Bn
 exercise 4" 5" 6" Jan 42.

SERIAL NO.	TIME.	EVENT.	UNIT OR LOCALITY.	REMARKS.
1	0815	ATTACK	DONGARRA MAP REF 30493755	<p>enemy Estimated one Company Moving from coy lines to Map ref 30373725 coy forward scouts located enemy at ref 30493755 coy went to ground and coy comd observed enemy for a 1/4 hr then decided to attack by sending 11 Pl on enemy left flank to draw fire and the main attack with 12 Pl on enemy right flank and 13 Pl to attack from front from the time that 11 Pl was pinned down until the main attack went in was a 1/4 hr thus giving the enemy time to organise his coy for defence in the attack therefor the attacker lost all surprise The enemy was "B" Coy 54th Bn umpire 54th Bn and myself considered 54th had the advantage over "B" Coy 56th Bn attack completed at 0915</p>
2		No	DONGARRA Map	<p>Moving from ref 30373725 to ref Well 303371 Coy formation one Pl forward, sec in line as screen with two scouts forward then coy HQ followed by other two Pl in same formation in rear</p>
3		"	"	<p>From map ref well 303371 to Warradong spring 315365 Coy formation one pl forward sec in line two scouts forward coy HQ followed by other two Pls. Tea Bibouac and breakfast in spring area. pls in around coy HQ, each Pl had patrols patrolling Pl area from 2000 hrs until 0500 hrs. each Pl messed in Pl area, rations were supplied in hot boxes each pl having a hot box messing was carried out well a sec messing at a time</p>
4		"	"	<p>Moving from ref spring 315365 to 315370 Coy formation same, forward scouts located enemy estimated one coy one thousand yds away coy went to ground coy comd observed enemy and decided to stay down, to attack the enemy would have ment he would have to take coy across open ground the risk being too big, the enemy having the same ground to travel over decided to do the same the umpire of 44th Bn and myself decided to ground 44th Bn and make it a draw.</p>

UMPIRES REPORT.

SERIAL NO.	TIME.	EVENT.	UNIT OR LOCALITY.	REMARKS.
5		No	DONGARRA MAP	<p>Moving from ref 315370 to Strawberry hill 314379 . Coy formation one Pl foward, sec in line two scouts foward coy HQ followed by other two Pls . Tea, bivouac and breakfast. Pls bivouac in pl area with coy HQ in centre, pls patrol pl area, s from 2000 hrs untill 0500 hrs messing arrangements carried out well Pls messing in pl areas a sec at the time both meals on time . A little too much noise at night and too many matches being a light.</p>
6		"	"	<p>Moving from Strawberry Hill ref 314379 to ref Bend in track 299386 Coy formation same as above scouts not as keen as they should be to much talking and not watching coy H.Q. enough.</p>
		"	"	<p>Moving from Bend in Trk 299386 to Irwin 302380 same formation as above coy halted and coy comd sent a patrol foward to recce irwin station patrols reported back that a coy of enemy were at station the coy comd decided to attack issued his orders to pl comd and attacked enemy strength were only a pl considered enemy wiped out .</p>

4

RETURNED TO COY LINES

UMPIRE. M. Hardy LIEUT
 M.G. HARDY

BATTLE AND ASSAULT COURSE.
56 AUST. INF BN

1 JAN. 43.

1. OBJECT. (1) To exercise section as a drill in all phases of Sec. tactics.
(2) To provide P.T. and bayonet practice for the individual.

2. REFERENCES - See Appendix "A".

3. TPS. TAKING PART - All rifle Coys by sections in succession.

4. ADMINISTRATION. - Dress, Battle Order, Steel Helmets.
Medical. Medical haversack will be carried by supervising N.C.O. or Offr. rear of Section.
Examination of arms. - All rifles will be examined prior to commencement and subsequent to completion of course.
Safety Precautions. - Picquet of 1 Offr. & 4 O/R's will be stationed along creek ahead of course and to flanks of battle range prior to commencement of exercise.

FORECAST OF EVENTS.

Ser.No.	Situation.	Action	Remarks.
1.	"A"	Sec. occupies Defensive posn.	
2	"A"	Sec. ordered to adv. along right bank of river.	Sec. Comd. checks S.A.A. and organisation of gps. gives orders.
3	"B"	Sec. arrives at fence.	Fence crossed correctly gp. at time, under cover other gps.
4	"C"	Sec. fired on by fatigue man with blank rep. enemy sniper at about 100 yds.	Sec. takes cover, estimates range, eliminates sniper continues advance.
5.	"C" to "D"	Sec. moves forward using ground.	Check use of gps. and scouting field sigs. contrbl.
6.	"D"	Sandbags filled with straw thrown from trees & logs among sec. representing enemy.	Sec. immediately engages with snap shots & bayonet
7	"E"	Sec. 35 yds. from old house. Fatigue man representing enemy doubles around into house.	Sec. throws grenades into house and then clears same advancing cautiously, having been spotted by enemy.
8	"F"	Sec. arrives at "F" Umpire with white flag observed. Sec. to take up fire posn. under cover.	Umpire checks fire posns. then informs sec. ldr. that creek is clear for 500 yds. forward and to get down as quickly as possible.
9.	"G" to "H"	Sec. moves over bayonet assault course.	Every man crosses each obstacle with mutual assistance
10.	"H"	Sec. arrives at "H"	Umpire with white flag tells Sec. Comd. to clear creek of enemy forward.
11.	"J"	Sec. arrives at enemy sec. area.	Correct method of clearing trenches.
12	"K"	Enemy LMG post located at "L" which does NOT observe Sec.	Two gps. move in cover on opposite bank to L.M.G. Remaining gp. stalk LMG.
13	"L"	Umpire with Red flag representing friendly sold. indicates posn. of enemy Sec.	Sec. issued. Sec. attack under covering fire from Bren Gp.
14.	"O"	Action completed.	Examine arms & equip. for bull SAA. and march Sec. EAST of creek to starting point by track.

APPENDIX "A" REFERENCES.

Ser.No.	REFERENCES	Ser.No.	REFERENCES.
1	I.T. P149 Para 109-112	2 & 3	I.T. 106 -108
5	O.T.S. Lec. Notes Gp. Forms.	10	I.T. P158 -163
11	M.T.P. 33 P40 -I. T. Supp P32	13	I.T. Supp. P6.

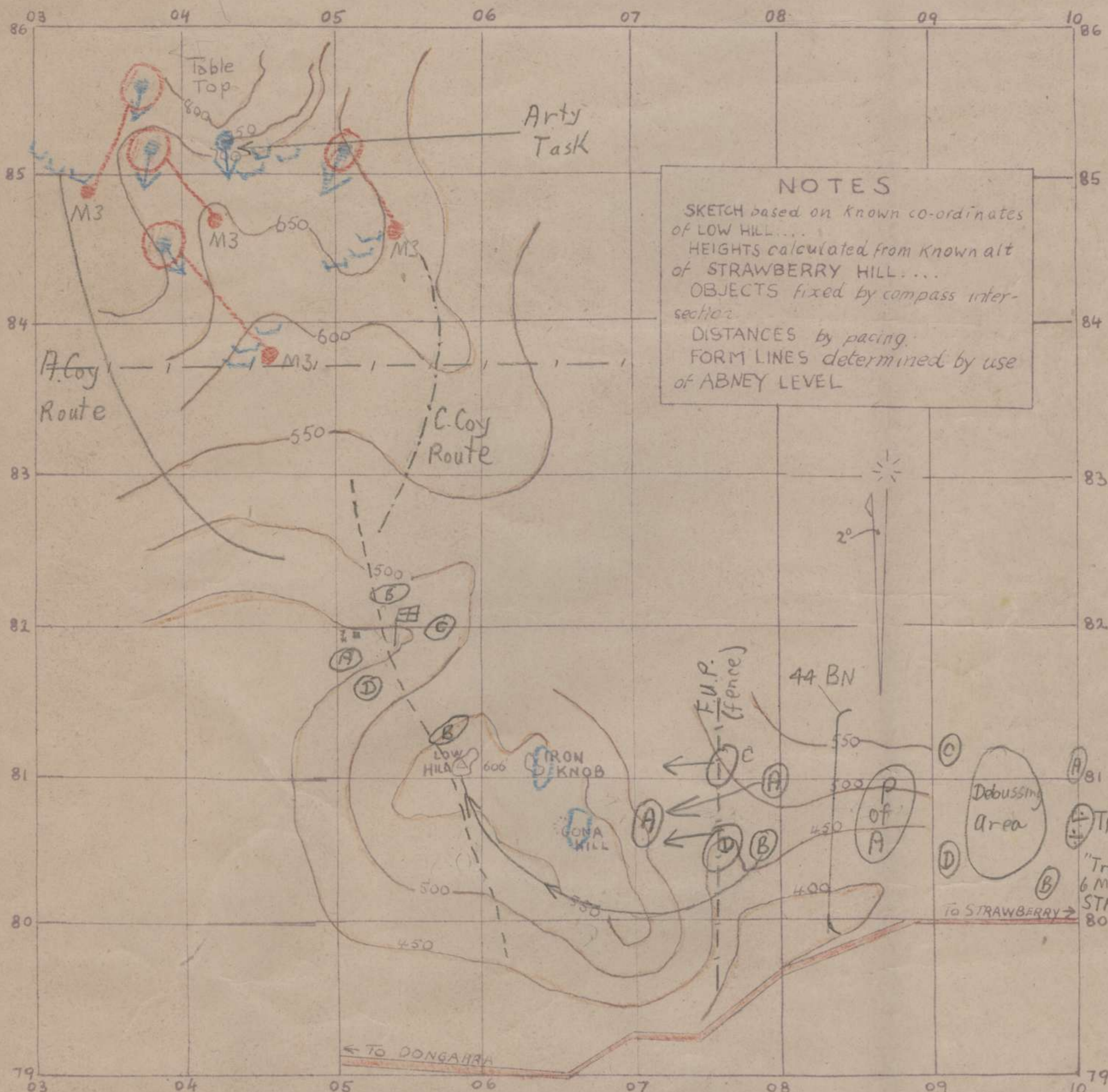
(Sgd) J. R. FARRELL Capt.
(O.C. "B" Coy. 56 Aust. Inf. Bn.

FIELD SKETCH

D

VIC. LOW HILL

RF 1:31680



NOTES
 SKETCH based on known co-ordinates of LOW HILL...
 HEIGHTS calculated from known alt of STRAWBERRY HILL...
 OBJECTS fixed by compass intersection.
 DISTANCES by pacing.
 FORM LINES determined by use of ABNEY LEVEL

Visibility: GOOD
 Time Taken: 8 HRS

Scale 2 inches to 1 mile
 1000 2000 yds

V 1 equals 50 ft

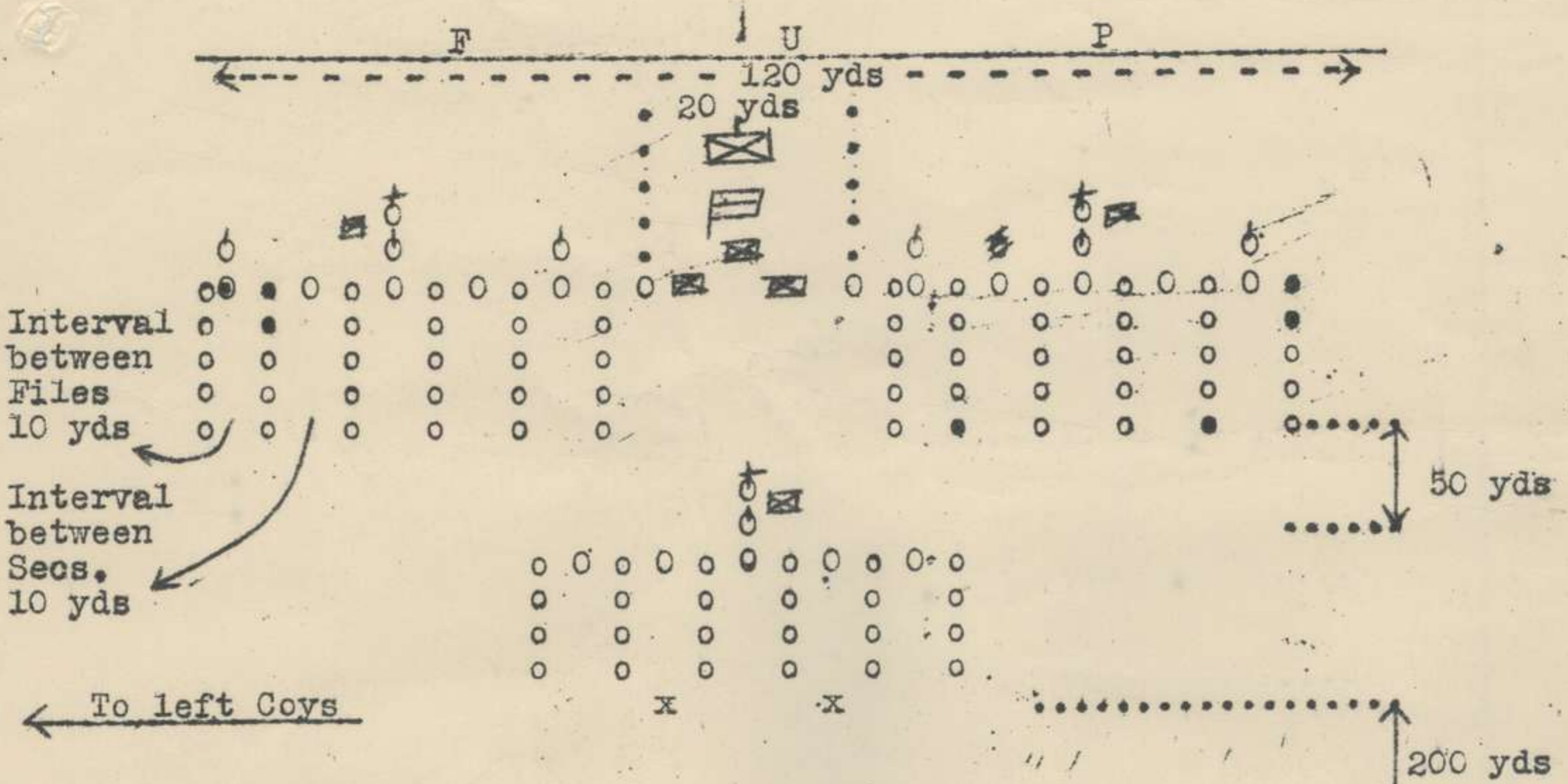
Drawn by I SEC. 54 BN
 Date 28 JAN 43

Traced By I. Sec 56 Bn.

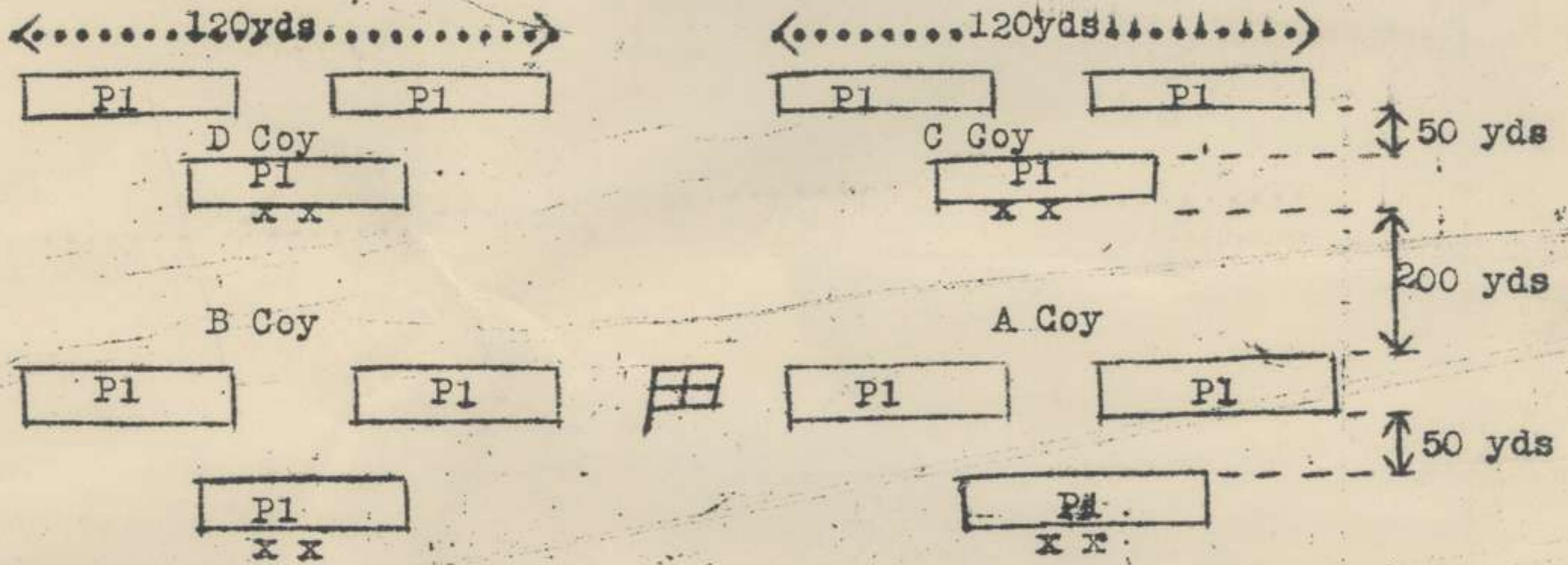
APPX "A" to 56 Aust Inf Bn O.C.

FORMATIONS AT F.U.P.

Right fwd and rear Coys.



RIGHT REAR COY
(same formation as fwd Coy)



LEGEND

- BN H.Q.
- Coy H.Q.
- C.S.M. (with compass)
- Bl Comd.
- Sec Comd.
- Stretcher Bearer
- Runner
- Connecting File

Maj. A.E. STEVENSON
Printed by Pen 50 I Sec
1 Feb 43

Australian



Military Forces

Please quote this Number when Replying

--	--	--

Address

REPORT SNIPERS' COURSE.A. Coy.PICKUP

Did not show the ability of a sniping shot. Doesn't show initiative and displays no ability to try to do a good piece of work.

ROBERTS

Did not display any particular aptitude for sniping. Only completed three days of course. Appears rather slow and to lack dash.

BROWN

Displayed ability of average rifleman. Is very inaccurate in estimation of distance. Inclined to plod along displaying no initiative.

B. CoyREYNOLDS

A better shot than practises indicated. Would make a good sniper but definitely not interested.

HIGGINS

Erratic in both shooting and application to the work engaged upon. May make a sniper but not considered to have reached a sufficient standard as yet.

C. CoyCREARER

A good sniping shot. Keen and displays ability. Rather inclined to lack dash but with practise would make a good sniper.

D. CoySMITH

A good type for a sniper. Displayed initiative and ability but his shooting was not up to a sniper's standard.

NEINDORF

Did not appear to be suited as a sniper. Shooting ability very fair but lacks dash.

H. Q. CoyGROGAN

Did three and a half days of course. Showed aptitude for the work. Shooting ability not tested. Mat give good results if trained further.

C.M. McClellan Lieut.
C.M. McClellan.

Date _____

TACTICAL EXERCISE WITH TROOPS.

Ref. Map. DONGARRA STRAT 4 Miles to 1"

INSTRUCTIONS FOR EXERCISE.

1. GENERAL.

A Guerilla exercise will be held 18/20 Feb 43 under the direction of "D" Coy Comd.

2. OBJECT .

To exercise tps in Guerilla Warfare tactics.

3. LESSONS

- (a) Surprise and speed. Attack the enemy unawares with unlooked-for audacity and above all be swift and strike by the quickest and most effective means.
- (b) Careful planning for certain success and safe lines of withdrawal.
- (c) To avoid organised opposition by concealment and attack weak points in enemy's organisation.

4. TROOP TAKING PART.

1 Pl as Guerillas.
1 and 19 Pls as Special Force.

5. ENEMY.

17 Pl as Guerillas.

6. ASSEMBLY

Coy Parade Ground.

UMPIRES.

Lieut.....	from " " Coy.....	Special Force
Lieut.....	from " " Coy.....	Guerillas.

8. NEUTRAL SIGNALS.

To be arranged.

9. CONFERENCES

Conference of all officers, umpires and M.C.O's
1600hrs 17 Feb.

10. REPRESENTATION OF FIRE.

Rifles	Blanks
L.M.Gs	Torch Flashing.
Grenades.	Paines Grenades.

11 (ADD)

11. ADDITIONAL

Dress Special Force. Battle order less respirator and steel helmet.
White brassards will be worn.

Rations . As per separate instrn to each force.
Guerillas Optional.

Water . As per separate instrn to each force.

12. EXERCISE ENDS

Hrs 20 Feb 43

13. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.

Comds will be expected to take prisoners and are reminded of the correct procedure re disposal.

14. GENERAL IDEA.

In accordance with orders issued by Coy Comd., a force of TWO Pls will advance to DONGANA to defend the town and guard supply dumps.
One Pl, organised in three guerilla bands, will oppose, harass during advance, locate and destroy supply dumps.

.....

TACTICAL EXERCISE WITH TROOPS

Ref. Map DONGARRA 4 miles to 1 inch.

Enlargement IRWIN AREA 1 mile to 1 inch.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR EXERCISE.

1. GENERAL.

A Guerilla exercise will be held on ^{24/26th} Feb. 43,
commencing at 14.00 hrs, under "A" Coy Comd.
DIRECTION OF

2. OBJECT.

- i. To exercise all ranks in GUERRILLA Warfare.
- ii. To develop power of command in Junior Leaders.

3. LESSONS.

- i. Recce Patrols and Reports.
- ii. Directional moves.
- iii. Value of caution, concealment, and surprise.

4. TROOPS TAKING PART.

"A" Coy.

5. SKELETON ENEMY.

One man from each sec. under L/Sgt. Randell.

6. ASSEMBLY.

Coy Parade Ground.

7. UMPIRES.

One umpire to each band, to be nominated by Coy Comd.

8. NEUTRAL SIGNALS.

To be arranged.

9. CONFERENCES.

Serial No.	Time & Place.	Whom to Attend.	Purpose.
1		All Tps.	Explanation of exercise.
2.	Prior to exercise.	Umpires.	Receive instructions.
3.	To be notified.	Skeleton Enemy.	Receive instructions.
4.	After exercise.	Umpires.	Discuss Reports.
5.	" "	All tps.	Discuss exercise.

10. REPRESENTATION OF FIRE.

Rifles -----Blanks.
 Explosions -----Mouquet.
 L.M.Gs -----Rattles.
 Grenades -----Paines Grenades.

11. ADM.

Dress. i. Working dress - belt and sidearms - rifle - haversacks to be carried on back.
 ii. Umpires to wear white armbands.
 iii. Enemy to wear Forage Caps.

Amm. 10 rds blank per man.

Food and water.

Supplies for each band will be left at caches. Times and map references to be given later.
 Only water supplied to be used - enemy is suspected of having poisoned all other water supplies.

Medical. All ranks to carry Field Dressing.
 Genuine casualties will be reported to Coy HQ at map ref.....

12. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.

Strict attention will be paid to Field Hygiene in all areas occupied by bands. All messages will be prefixed by band name.

13. EXERCISE ENDS. 1500 hrs. 26 Feb. 43.

14. OPERING SITUATION.

JAPANESE forces which landed at GERALDTON are in occupation of MINGENEW - GERALDTON area.

56 AUST. INF. BN. has been allotted the rôle of harrassing the enemy in this area.

15. NARRATIVE.

"A" Coy has been allotted the IRWIN - YARDARINO area. Coy Comd. has decided to divide the Coy into six guerrilla bands.

16. BAND RVs.

LEADER.	NAME OF BAND.	MAP REF.	SUPPLY POINT.
Cpl. Barnes.	LARK.	984752	977761
Cpl. Jeffree.	MAGPIE.	973777	983775
Cpl. O'Callaghan.	CROW	995793	995782
Cpl. Mahy.	GALAH.	014775	028773
Cpl. Attwood.	CRANE.	027790	038800
Cpl. Sheens.	IBIS.	015808	022798

17. GENERAL OUTLINE OF METHOD.

- i. CONTROL. Exercise will be controlled by messages. Coy HQ will be situated at 039736.
- ii. MOVEMENT. Tps to move off at intervals in pairs to RVs, using sketches made from map.
- iii. RECCE. Band to arrive at RV in time to make a daylight recce of area in which they will be operating.
- iv. ATTACK. According to following Schedule :

ATTACKER	DEFENDER.	TIME.	MESSAGE to be handed to attacker.
LARK.	MAGPIE.	2200.	"Enemy HQ are situated in vicinity of map ref..... You will
MAGPIE.	LARK.	0100.	attack at hrs. Prisoners are required".
CROW.	GALAH.	2130.	After attack, band will receive following message :
GALAH.	CROW.	0030.	"Return to RV and await further orders".
CRANE.	IBIS.	2230.	
IBIS.	CRANE.	0130.	

During the night, each band will be harrassed by controlled enemy.

GENERAL OUTLINE (Cont.)v. DEMOLITIONS.

<u>PHASES</u>	<u>Bands to Carry Out.</u>	<u>Enemy.</u>	<u>Message.</u>
1. To destroy bridge at 983774.	LARK. CROW.	MAGPIE	To our forces : "LARK and CROW will RV at 991766 at 0730 hrs, and destroy br. at 983774 by 0830 hrs!" To enemy : "MAGPIE will hold Bridge at 991766 from 0700 hrs".
2. To destroy bridge at 041797.	GALAH IBIS	CRANE.	To own tps : "GALAH and IBIS will RV at 019792 at 0730 hrs, and destroy br. at 041797 by 0830 hrs". To enemy : "CRANE will hold Bridge at 041797 from 0700 hrs".

vi. AMBUSH.Messages to all bands :

- i. "LARK, MAGPIE, CROW, GALAH, CRANE, IBIS. You will RV at 038796 at ~~XXXX~~ 1130 hrs. O.C. Force, Cpl. Mahy".
- ii. "Information received indicates that tpt of an enemy Coy, which has been in harbourage at 340720, will commence moving NORTH along THREE MILLS Track at 1330. You will attack the convoy!"

Details of Exercise prepared by L/Sgt. F. Randell and Cpl. C. J. Myott.

W.D. Neil (Sgt.)
W.D. NEIL, O.C., "A" Coy.

Distribution

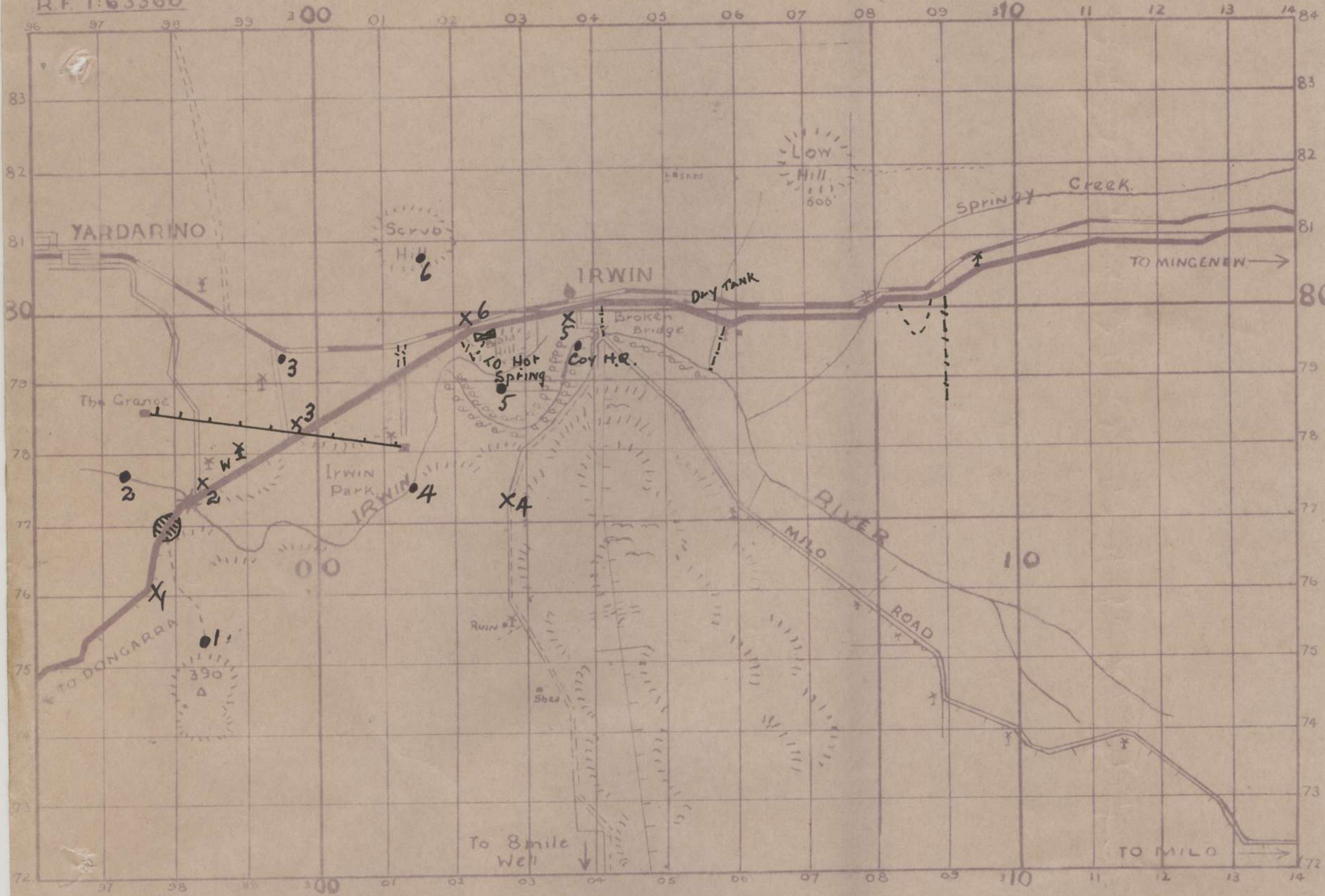
Office File 1.
Bx HQ. 2.

ENLARGMENT

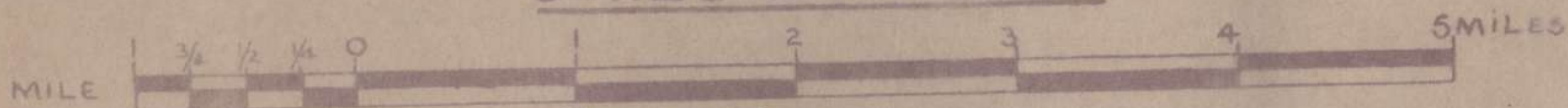
Vic IRWIN

MAG. NORTH
GRID North

R.F. 1:63360



SCALE 1 INCH = 1 MILE



• BAND R.V.
x Supply Point

- | | |
|------------|-----------|
| 1. LARK. | 4. GALAH |
| 2. MAGPIE. | 5. CRANE. |
| 3. CROW | 6. IBIS |

Under Instruction From
Capt J.S. Boardman.

Made by J. Worthy Pte

I Sec Pen 50 14 Feb 43

"A" Coy.

19 Feb. 43

TACTICAL EXERCISE WITH TROOPS

Ref. Map DONGARRA STRAT 4 miles to 1 inch.

IRWIN enlargement 1 inch to 1 mile.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR EXERCISE.

1. GENERAL.

An exercise on Tank Hunting and Destruction will be carried out at ref 941797 on 20 Feb. 43, from 1000 hrs to 1600 hrs, under direction of Coy. Comd.

2. OBJECT.

To teach all ranks the principles of tank hunting and destruction.

3. LESSONS.

- i. Surprise and speed in ambush.
- ii. Vulnerability of tanks.
- iii. Use of Groups in hunting tanks.

4. TROOPS TAKING PART.

"A" Coy.

5. ENEMY.

3 Trucks representing tanks, with Light Duty personnel as crews.

6. ASSEMBLY.

Coy Parade Ground.

7. UMPIRES.

NOT required.

8. NEUTRAL SIGNALS.

To be arranged.

9. CONFERENCES.

Prior to Exercise - Corps. of Demo tps.

10. REPRESENTATION OF FIRE.

A/Tank Mines----- Ballistite.
 S.A.A.----- Blanks.
 Grenades----- Paines Grenades.
 Molotov Cocktails----- Bottles of Water.
 Sticky Bombs----- Flour & Water Bombs.
 Crowbar----- Piece of Stick.
 L.M.C.----- Waving Handkerchief.

11. ADMINISTRATION.

Dress : Battle Order, less Respirators.

12. EXERCISE DATES.

1600 hrs 20 Feb. 43.

13. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

Tps to imagine trucks as tanks, but to ensure that no injury comes to vehicles or crews.

14. GENERAL IDEA.

Morning

1000 - 1050 : Weaknesses of tanks, and methods of destruction.
 1100 - 1130 : Demo. Preparation and Use of Molotov Cocktails.
 1130 - 1230 : Discussion on methods of
 a. Ambushing a tank.
 b. Attacking a tank in harborage.

Afternoon

1330 - 1415 : Demo. Ambush of tanks.
 1425 - 1530 : Demo. Attacking tank in harborage.
 1530 - 1600 : Discussion.
 1600 - 1630 : Return to Camp.

Details of exercise prepared by S/Sgt. S. Llewelyn.

W.D. Neil
 Drawing Lieut (Capt)
 for W.D. NEIL, O.C., "A" Coy.

Distribution.

Office File 1.
 Bn HQ 2.

Ref MapR GERALDTON STRAT 4 Miles to 1 inch.

1. 56 Aust Inf Bn will move to GERALDTON area and take over area at present occupied by 30 Aust Inf Bn.
2. ADVANCE PARTY - 23 FEB 43. PER M.T.
O.C. MAJ. A.E. STEVENSON and Driver CAPT. J.S. BOARDMAN
ONE SGT AND FOUR O/Rs each Rifle Coy (A and B Coys to incl DR in O/Rs and provide one truck each)
CAPT. MASON - FIVE O/Rs - HQ Coy. L/Sgt A.R. GOLDRICK
S/Sgt E.R. HEDDITCH. (incl one cook, one D.V.R.)
Sufficient cooking gear and tentage = 30 All Ranks
3 X 1 ton veh. 1 X 15 cwt Veh (2i/cs)
3. M.T. COLN - UNIT TPT. - 25 FEB 43.
Unit tpt will move in convoy. Movement order issued later.
Vehicles to be fully loaded with tents and coy stores, and unit stores
Two men only to be on each vehicle (Dvr and offsider)
No vehicles - 55 - No personnel 110
O.C. Convoy. - Lt-Col R.T. BRYEN.
Order March - BN. HQ, HQ Coy, A, B, C, D. One Officer or NCO from each Coy will be i/c coy vehicles.
T.O. will ensure each vehicle has correct unit No plates on back and front and also that Div. sign and general appearance is in order
Coys will pay particular attention to vehicle loading. Loads must be neat and tidy.
4. MAIN BODY. - 25 FEB 43 - BY TRAIN.
No of personnel - 650 all Ranks.
O.C. Capt W.D. Neil.
Movement order to be issued later.
DRESS. - Shirt - Shorts or Trousers W.D. - Hat, Marching order.
Clothing must be clean and tidy - colour patch on hat. Torn clothing Must NOT be worn. Web equipment to be clean.
Kitbags and blankets will be taken in louvre van of train.
5. CARRIERS. BY RAIL.
One Dvr per carrier - O.C. Lieut J.A. Kiley.
No of Carriers = 21. No of personnel = 22.
Loading orders issued later.
6. STORES - BY RAIL.
Surplus stores, including Coy stores, will travel by rail. Loading instructions will be issued later.
O.C. Loading Party - Lieut G.W.B. Davis.
Weight of stores = 22 tons.
7. PARTY AT PERENJORI.
Instructions issued later. All clothing, equipment etc belonging to these soldiers will be taken to new area by C.Q.M.S., of respective coys.
8. PERSONNEL AT SCHOOLS ETC.
Additional clothing, equipment etc of such personnel will be taken to new area by C.Q.M.S.
9. AMENITIES.
Food Prep Rooms to be taken to new area.
THUNDER BOXES, BUSH POLES, ETC - orders issued later.
FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS WILL BE ISSUED LATER.

Will Keast

(WILL.C.KEAST) Adjnt. 56 Aust Inf Bn. Capt.

MOVEMENT ORDER No 2Ref MAP GERALDTON STRAT 4 miles = linRef Adm. Instructions of 20 Feb 43

1. 56 Aust Inf Bn will move to GERALDTON area on 22 and 23 Feb 43.
2. TRAIN. A. 22 Feb 43.
 - (a) Depart IRWIN 1330 hrs arrive GERALDTON 1705 hrs.
 - (b) O.C. TRAIN = Capt. J.M. CLARK.
 - (c) Nos TRAVELLING = 337. HQ Coy = 200 A.Coy = 95
B, C, D Coys each one Offr. one Sgt twelve O/Rs
 - (d) LEAVE UNIT LINES 1230 hrs T.O. to arrange tpt to pick up
coys in HQ and A. Coy lines.
 - (e) MESSING

Breakfast	=	0745 hrs
Lunch	=	1145 hrs
Tea	=	On arrival New Area.

CATERER will send five cooks per one x 3 ton vehicle to new area on 22 Feb 43. He will also arrange to have HQ Coy, A.Coy Cooks relieved from cooking midday meal on 22 Feb 43.
 - (f) STORES
19 tons stores to be loaded on train. This will include HQ Coy tents and sufficient of A. Coy tents to house personnel moving on 22 Feb 43. Sufficient Cooking gear of HQ and A. Coys. Stores as desired by Q.M. and HQ Coy, Kitbags Blankets. Q.M. to arrange.
 - (g) CARRIERS 14 Carriers of Carrier P1 will be loaded direction Sgt. A.E. WHITAKER at 1000hrs 21 Feb 43. one person per Carrier will travel with vehicle. Picquets will at all times be left with with carriers.
 - (h) RATIONS for 23 Feb 43
2 Aust Div will Ration 370 - personnel on 23 Feb 43
 - (i) M.T.
A. Coy will take 2 x 1 1/2 Ton vehicles (one vehicle to take 5 cooks see Caterer)
HQ Coy will take 2 x 1 ton vehicles (incl 2 1/2 cs vehicle)
Move in Convoy under orders of 2 1/2 c.
3. TRAIN. B. 23 Feb 43.
 - (a) DEPART IRWIN - DEPART 1220 hrs Arrive GERALDTON 1615 hrs
 - (b) O.C. TRAIN. Capt. J.R. FARRELL.
 - (c) Nos TRAVELLING 288 = BN HQ = 40, B. Coy = 96, C. Coy = 76
D. Coy 76.
 - (d) LEAVE UNIT LINES 1120 hrs per M.T. (T.O. to arrange and collect
tpts fro, B, C, D Coys Areas)
 - (e) MESSING

Breakfast	=	0745 hrs (in unit lines).
Lunch	=	Cut Lunch
Tea.	=	New area. Cooks in new area to arrange meal.
 - (f) STORES
3. Tons - Tents, Kitbags, Blankets, of B, C, and D. Coys.
 - (g) CARRIERS
7 Carriers Sgt. HENZE to receive instructions from Adjt re loading.
 - (h) RATIONS
2 Div., will Ration for 710 men on 24 Feb 43.
4. M.T. MOVE.
All vehicles, less four vehicles moving under direction Maj STEVENSON on 22 Feb 43. will move M.T. Convoy. Instructions issued lat
5. RAIL WARRANTS AND CONSIGNMENT NOTES
Arranged by Adjt.

Further Instructions will be issued later.

W.C. Keast
Adjt
W.C. KEAST Adjt 56 Aust Inf Bn.

24th. Feb. 43.

Ref. Map :

- Geraldton Strat. 4 miles = 1 inch.
& Dongarra Strat. 4 miles = 1 inch.

INFM.

1. Ref. Adm. Instruction of 20th. Feb. 43.
2. 56 Aust. Inf. Bn. H.Q. will move to Geraldton Area on 25 Feb. 43.

METHOD.

3. Movement will be in accordance with March Table Appx. A. att.
4. Protection : A/A. Each block of vehs. will have one A/A. L.M.C. mounted and air sentries will be posted. Lieut. L.H. Macauley will arrange and control A/A. protection.

ADM.

5. Traffic Control : Pointsmen will be est. at the following points and will be picked up when convoy has passed :-
 - (a) Dongarra - 265375.
 - (b) Rd. Junct. - 256423.
6. Stores : Stores will be loaded by 1100 hrs. with exception of necessary kitchen gear for mid-day meal.
7. Rations : Mid-day meal on 25 Feb. 43 will be at 1130 hrs. Evening meal will be carried in hot boxes.

INTERCOMM.

8. 56 Aust. Inf. Bn. H.Q. will close present location 1230 hrs. 25 Feb. 43 and re-open 1630 hrs. 25 Feb. 43.
9. Sigs. will synchronise time with Sig. Office 5 Aust. Inf. Bde. H.Q. at 0630 hrs. 25 Feb. 43.

C. J. Samuelson CAPT.
(C. J. Samuelson).

ACK.

Issued by Runner. *2000 hrs.*
Signed at

DISTRIBUTION COPY NO.

5 Aust. Inf. Bde.	1
C.O.	2
A Coy	3
B Coy	4
C Coy	5
D Coy	6
H. Q. Coy	7
C.M.	8
T.O.	9
Lieut. B.W. King	10
Lieut. L.H. Macauley	11
File	12
War Diary	13 & 14.

Appendix "A".

Ref. Map :-

Dongarra }
Geraldton } 4" = 1 mile.

56 AUST. INF. BN. MOVEMENT ORDER.
25th. FEB. 43.

SECRET.
COPY NO. _____

DENSITY :

10 V.T.M.
440 yds. between blocks.
M.I.H. 20 to Rd. Junct. 256425
thence 15.

DISPERSAL POINT.

264431.
Halt 10 mins. every even clock hour

ROUTE : Irwin - Dongarra - Rd. Junct. 256423 -
Narngulu Rd. and Railway.

S.P. : Irwin Rly. Stn.

Block No.	SUB. UNIT.	NO. OF VEH.	TIME PAST			TIME ARRIVE D.P.	REMARKS.
			S.P.	285375	268409		
1.	C.O.	1					Head of Column to leave Unit Lines at 1257.
	B. Coy.	6	1315	1345	1512	1548	
	A/Tk. Portee	1				1628	
2.	WI Sec.	1					ASSEMBLY.
	Sigs.	2					
	Bn. Office	1	1318	1348	1515	1601	
	A. Coy.	3					
	A/A.	1					
3.	C. Coy.	6					Block 1
	Mortar	2	1321	1401	1518	1604	" 2 " " "
4.	D. Coy.	5					" 3 " " "
	Mortar	1	1324	1404	1521	1607	" 4 "D" " "
	Q. Store	2					" 5 H.Q. " "
							" 6 " " "
5.	H.Q. Coy.	8	1327	1407	1524	1610	1650
6.	H.Q. Coy.	8	1330	1410	1527	1613	1653

"HOT SPOTS"

NON -STOP REVUE

PRESENTED BY 56 AUSTRALIAN INF. BN

ENTERTAINMENT PARTY.

af

1. Overture - Bert and His Boys.
2. Lost Dog - Skit.
3. Song - -Neville Hammond.
4. Sketch - Sydney Domain.
5. Monologue & Song - Dick Goldrick.
6. Song - Kevin Sloane.
7. Sketch - Trial By Jury.
8. Bert & His Boys.
9. Knotty Antics - Aussie Neilson.
10. Song - Jack Smith.
11. Sketch - New News.
12. Mouth Organ Solo - Ivan Fox.
13. Song Trio - Kev.Sloane, Mick Roberts, Jack Smith.
14. Classical Interlude - Arthur Van Andel.
15. Sketch - Death of Napoleon.
16. Trumpet Solo - Bert Gilliard.
17. Song - Mick Roberts.
18. Give a Little Whistle - Alf Tongs, Neville Hammond.
19. The Piano -and How' - Harry Trevilian.
20. Gunga Din - Jeff?Stenner, Gordon Ross.
21. Swinging Along - Bert & His Boys.
22. Song - Reg Floyd.
23. Musso and Adolf - Toni Miranda & Arthur Van Andel.
24. Tickling the Ivories - Harry Trevilian, Gordon Ross.
25. Sketch - The Relief of Strawberry .
26. Introduction of Artists.and Finale.
27. God Save the King.

Producers	Jeff Stenner, Gordon Ross.
Musical Arrangement	-	Harry Trevilian.
Lighting	-	Wally Armour
Band Leader	-	Bert Gilliard.

.. ..

war diary

The information contained in this document is NOT to be communicated either directly or indirectly to the Press, or to any other person NOT holding an official position in His Majesty's Forces.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES
ROUTINE ORDERS

PART.1.

Serial No.67

BY.

No. 280 to.

MAJ.R.T.BRYEN.

6 Feb.43 .

ADM CO'D.56 AUST INF BN.

280. BN.DUTIES.

The following roster for duty coys and Orderly Officers will operate ;-

Date	Coy	Orderly Officers.
11 Feb.43	B Coy	Lieut Macauley L.H.
12 " "	C "	" Barran J.F.
13 " "	D "	" Davis G.W.B.
14 " "	H.Q. "	" Browning E.

Whilst in DONGARRA area duty coys will supply Town Picquet of 1 Officer, 3 N.C.O's, 12 O.R's.

Tour of duty 1700 to 2200 hrs.

DRESS Shirt, trousers W.D. or shorts, steel helmets and sidearms.

281. AMMUNITION PICQUET.

Personnel who are detailed for Ammunition Guard, are to be warned that under no circumstances is the ammunition to be shifted about or interfered with in any way. Offenders will be severely dealt with.

282. DONGARRA DANCE.

A dance will be held in the Dongarra Hall for 56 Bn. personall on 10 Feb.43.

Allotment per coy 10 men.

Dress.- Optional providing garments are clean and tidy.

Coys to arrange own transport to dance also personall attending must have in possession Leave Pass marked "Dance".

Duty Coy will provide Dance Picquet of 1 Officer. 1 Sgt 4 O.R's.

O.C. Picquet will communicate with Staff Capt. by 1800 hrs for instructions.

283. REGIMENTAL FUND.

Balance at 31 Dec.42	£ 103. 9. 8
Plus loan to Canteen	100. 0. 0
	<u>203. 9. 8</u>
Receipts Jan.43	167. 11. 3
	<u>371. 0. 11</u>
Expenditure	160. 6. 3
	<u>210. 14. 8</u>

Including £100 loan to Canteen.

Chief Items Expenditure.

Cricket Material	£29. 7. 6
Fruit	9. 10. 0
Prizes for Sports	28. 7. 6
Razor Strops	3. 0. 0

Receipts included

Profits Canteens October	85. 18. 5.
November	74. 15. 8.

An amount of £87 .1.7 for Canteens May Jun. have been entered in error previously and was debited to ~~account~~ account in Dec.

Audited

J.R.FARRELL Capt.
H.McCULLOCK.

ISSUE OF S.A.A. TO PERSONNEL TRAVELLING ON TRAINS

In view of reports received on damage to telegraph insulators and destruction of stock by rifle fire, S.A.A. will NOT be carried on the men on any move by rail other than an operational move.

285.

LASHINGS CHOCKS ETD SUPPLIED BY RAILWAYS.

- (a) Attention is drawn to ASO 12/11
- (b) A report from WAGR plainly indicates that the above order is NOT being adhered to and that units are removing ~~xxxxxx~~ lashing chocks etc.
- (c) O.C. trains will ensure that ASO 12/11 is complied with and disciplinary action will be taken in any case where ~~xxxx~~ non observance of this order had been proved.

285.

REGISTRATION OF PARCELS.

- (a) Parcels addressed to members of units of the Field Forces, i.e. to members of units to which the "Australia" form of address applies, are NOT accepted for registration. It is the intention that these conditions should apply only to parcels for members of the Field Forces, but are not to apply in the case of parcels forwarded by the Army to H.Q. of Units and /or Military establishments, and vice-versa. Similar principles are intended to apply also to articles addressed to R.A.A.F. personell, or to R.A.A.F. Units.
- (b) The following directions relative to the acceptance of ~~xxxxx~~ parcels in civil Post Offices should clarify the position.
- (1) Parcels addressed to individual members of the Forces to which the "Australia" mode of address applies, are NOT accepted for registration.
- (2) Parcels addressed to H.Q.'s of Military establishments ~~xx~~ or to Units as distinct from individuals may be accepted for registration, e.g. a parcel presented for registration and addressed.

H.Q. 22 Aust Inf Bn.

AUSTRALIA

or

Command Paymaster

2 Aust Army

AUSTRALIA

or

Advanced Land Headquarters

AUSTRALIA

would eligible for registration.

- (3) Parcels addressed to a member of a Unit at a **FIXED ADDRESS**, e.g.

VX 15734,

Pte Digger T.

2 Aust Inf Tng Bn.

Watsonia

VICTORIA.

may be accepted for registration.

- N.B. (4) Parcels are NOT accepted by Army or Field Post Offices from members of the Field Forces for registration other than official parcels.

Parcels which are initially directed to fixed addresses and which are subsequently re-directed to a Field Unit, will be treated throughout as registered parcels, and will carry the same obligations as for normal registered articles.

286.

GREEN ENVELOPES, CENSORSHIP REQUIREMENTS.

A considerable number of Green Envelopes are being received by Field Post Offices, without the impression of Unit Censor Stamp, and in some cases the certificate on the bottom left hand corner of the envelope

284

N130862	Pte.	TUCKERS A.A. 30 Oct. 42 "WITHOUT URGENT
"C" Coy.		NECESSITY QUITTING THE RANKS Fined £1.
N130748	Pte.	JONES R.C. 7 Dec. 42 "USING IN SUBORDINATE
"C" Coy.		LANGUAGE" Fined £1/-/-
NK24141	Pte.	CARRUTHERS R.J. 10 Dec. 42 A.W.L. Fined £2.
N201093	Pte.	Connellan J.S. DISOBEYING A LAWFUL
"HQ" Coy.		COMMAND Fined 5/- C.B. 7 Days 11 Dec. 42
NX123329	Pte	PICKUP F.E. DISOBEYING A LAWFUL COMMAND
"A" Coy.		Fined 10/- C.B. 14 days. 13 Dec. 42
NK124096	Pte.	NICKEL F.W. 27 Dec. 42 A.W.L. Fined £2/-/-
"C" Coy.		Forf. 2 days pay & allowances.
NX125774	Pte.	SMITH A.V. 26 Dec. 42 DISOBEYING A LAWFUL
"D" Coy.		COMMAND. Admonished.
N130863	Pte	TUCKER A.A. 27 Dec. 42 A.W.L. Fined £4/-/-
"C" Coy.		Forf. 2 days pay & allowances.
N34820	Pte.	HAINES J.H. 27 Dec. 42 A.W.L. Fined £3/-/-
"C" Coy.		Forf. 2 days pay and allowances
NX74141	Pte.	CARRUTHERS R.J. 5 Jan. 43 A.W.L. £4 days
		Detention Forf. 4 days pay & allowance
N34099	Pte.	JELLY A.E. 7 Jan. 43 MALINGERING
"A" Coy.		Charge 2. CONDUCT TO THE PREJUDICE OF
		GOOD ORDER AND MILITARY DISCIPLINE
		C.B. 7 days.
N201137	Pte.	FOLSEN E.G. 7 Jan 43 MALINGERING
"A" Coy.		Charge 2. CONDUCT TO THE PREJUDICE
		OF GOOD ORDER AND MILITARY DISCIPLINE
		7 days C.B.
N22050	Pte.	CARLEY J.S. 9 Jan 43. NEGLECTING TO OBEY
"A" Coy.		STANDING ORDERS Fined £5/-/-
N130710	Pte.	ARMSTRONG J.L. 10 Jan 43. A.W.L. Fined
"D" Coy.		10/- Forf. 2 days pay and allowances
NX126654	Pte.	BAKER H.W. 20 Jan 43 NEGLECTING TO OBEY
"HQ" Coy.		ORDERS. Charge 2. DRUNKENNESS
		Charge 3. RESISTING ARREST Fined
		£3/-/- C.B. 14 days.
N201128	Pte.	MARTIN A.R. 20 Jan. 43 NEGLECTING TO OBEY
"C" Coy		ORDERS. Charge 2. NEGLECTING TO
		OBEY ORDERS. Fined 10/- C.B. 14 day
N34789	Pte.	MIRANDA E. 20 Jan 43. NEGLECTING TO OBEY
"C" Coy.		ORDERS. C.B. 14 days
NX125884	Pte	PARSIAN G.T. 20 Jan 43. NEGLECTING TO
"HQ" Coy.		OBEY ORDERS. Charge 2. RESISTING
		ARREST Fined £1/-/-
N201104	Pte.	FULLER F.G. 20 Jan 43 NEGLECTING TO OBEY
"D" Coy		ORDERS C.B. 14 days.
N201112	Pte.	JAMESION D.A.H. 20 Jan. 43 NEGLECTING TO
"D" Coy		OBEY ORDERS C.B. 14 days
NX116700	Pte.	STEVENS D. 20 Jan 43 NEGLECTING TO OBEY
"HQ" Coy.		ORDERS C.B. 14 days.
NX126595	Cpl.	RYAN S.T. 20 Jan 43 NEGLECTING TO OBEY
"B" Coy.		ORDERS Reprimanded
NX116692	Pte	CHARLTON J. 20 Jan 43. NEGLECTING TO OBEY
"B" Coy.		ORDERS 14 days C.B.
NX116696	Pte.	CURTIS F.T. 20 Jan 43 NEGLECTING TO OBEY
"B" Coy.		ORDERS C.B. 14 days
NX116700	Pte.	STEVENS D. 23 Jan 43 NEGLECTING TO OBEY
"HQ" Coy		ORDERS Fined 10/-
NX95090	Pte.	CARROLL R.J. 22 Jan 43 A. .L. Fined £5/-/-
"D" Coy.		Forf 2 days pay & allowances
N186145	Pte.	THOMSON L.G. 22 Jan 43 A. .L. Fined £3/-/-
"A" Coy.		Forf. 2 days pay & allowances
N34172	Pte.	HENRIKE F. 20 Jan 43 NEGLECTING TO OBEY
"HQ" Coy		ORDERS C.B. 7 days

W. C. Keast.

Capt

is NOT signed.
 The Army Postal Service cannot accept Green Envelopes for transmission, unless these requirements are met.
 In cases where a Censorship Stamp is NOT available, or if it is impracticable to obtain the imprint of the Censor Stamp of a neighbouring unit, such Green Envelopes should be bundled together and labelled "Franked Postal Articles from (Unit)", so that they may be forwarded, to the BASE CENSOR for stamping, by the F.P.O.

1001	1001
1002	1002
1003	1003
1004	1004
1005	1005
1006	1006
1007	1007
1008	1008
1009	1009
1010	1010
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1015	1015
1016	1016
1017	1017
1018	1018
1019	1019
1020	1020
1021	1021
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1099	1099
1100	1100

The information contained in this document is NOT to be communicated either directly or indirectly to the Press, or to any other person NOT holding an official position in His Majesty's Forces.

War Diary

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

ROUTINE ORDERS

PART 1.

BY

MAJ. R. T. BRYEN.

ADM COMD 56 AUST INF BR.

Serial No. 68.

No. 288 to

14 Feb. 43.

288. HT. DUTIES. :- The following roster for duty coys and orderly officers will operate.

Date	Coy	Orderly Officer.
15 Feb. 43	A	Lieut K.J. McDonald
16 " "	B	" A.W.G. Christie
17 " "	C	" J.C. McDonald.
18 " "	D	" C.H. McClellan
19 " "	HQ	" H.G. Hardey
20 " "	A	" J.A. Kiley
21 " "	B	" B.W. King
22 " "	C	" J.L. Bennett

289. TELEPHONE TRUNK LINE CALLS

- (a) Private telephone trunk line calls will NOT be arranged from Military telephones.
- (b) Arrangements may be made at a local Post Office for private telephone trunk line calls which have been booked and paid for thereat, to be received on Military telephones, provided that this procedure does NOT interfere with Servicetraffic.
- (c) Records of trunk lines calls will NOT be kept by Units, but Commanding Officers will ensure by signal supervision that private calls are NOT made.
- (d) DRO 426 of 9 Dec. 42 and ASO 15/19 are cancelled.

290. DISCIPLINE - ABSENCE WITHOUT LEAVE - ARL.

- (a) A warning is issued that a severe view will be taken of all cases of absence without leave on the part of personnel being granted ARL.
- (b) The abuse of the privilege of ARL by personnel who deliberately overstay their leave, besides being dangerously subversive of discipline and causing considerable disorganisation, jeopardises the continuance of this privilege to other personnel.
- (c) In all cases other than those in which personnel voluntarily return to LTD within 24 hrs of the due time of reporting, or in which clear and adequate explanation of the absence is available, summary evidence will be taken upon return of personnel to unit and matter referred to this HQ for direction as to whether such personnel should be dealt with summarily or by Court Martial.
- (d) Attention is drawn to the fact that when a soldier fails to report to the LTD of the State to which annual recreational leave is granted on the conclusion of the leave and is subsequently ~~discovered to have been absent~~ interference of intention to desert may be more readily drawn than in the case of a local absence, and accordingly ~~where appropriate~~ appropriate, a charge of desertion will be laid.

291. HT PASSING MILITARY HOSPITALS

Vehicles passing Military Hospitals will reduce speed to a maximum of 15 mph 500yds before and after passing hospitals. Motor cyclists will take particular care that noise of motor cycles, particularly at night, is not such as to disturb patients.

292.

ROAD DISCIPLINE.

(a) It is noticed generally that vehicles are carrying more personnel than that which is laid down, probably with a view to conserving transport.

(b) Unit Comds are to ensure that under no circumstances are vehicles to be loaded with personnel exceeding the no. authorised.

293.

OUT OF BOUNDS.

As from 12 Feb. 43. SLAUGHTER YARDS, MINGELMEE, will be out of bounds to all tps. other than AASC duties.

2934

MT CONTROL.

Despite previous instructions promulgated to all units some cases have occurred of vehicles proceeding to GERALDTON without prior notification to this HQ.

It is to be clearly understood that ALL AMFsG2 will be submitted for approval and signature by Staff Captain or Bde T.O. for vehicles proceeding to GERALDTON.

This HQ will be notified, in addition, where any vehicle proceeds beyond camp limits (i.e. MINGELMEE OR DOUGARRA)
Attention is directed to GRO Q53/43 in this regard.

Will. Keast
Capt.
WILL. C. KEAST Adjt 56 Aust Inf Bn.

NOTICES.

FOUND.

A sum of money was found on the beach at PORT DENNISON. Owner can apply to BnHQ for same.

The information contained in this document is NOT to be communicated either directly or indirectly to the Press or to any other person NOT holding an official position in His Majesty's Forces .

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

ROUTINE ORDERS

PART 1.

BY

Col R.T. BRYEN

COMP. 56 AUST INF BN.

Serial No.69.

No. 295.to

21 Feb.43.

295. BN.DUTIES:- The following roster for duty coys and Orderly Officers will operate:-

Date	Coy	Orderly Officer
21 Feb. 43	B	Lieut A.X. Cunningham
22 " "	C	" J.L. BENNETT
23 " "	D	" J.F. Day
24 " "	HQ	" G.W.B. Davis
25 " "	A	" A.W.G. Christie
26 " "	B	" J.C. McDonald
27 " "	C	" C.M. McClellan
28 " "	D	" M.G. Hardy
1 Mar. 43	HQ	" J.A. Kiley

296. SECURITY PURCHASE OF CLOTHING

It has been discovered that a system is in operation whereby Army personnel when purchasing clothing from retail stores are being requested to sign a book giving Number, Rank Name Unit and Address. As this procedure is forbidden for security reasons, all ranks are to be informed that in future the production of pay or ration books will be sufficient evidence as to the bona-fides of the purchaser and the retailer is only authorised to enter the soldiers Number, rank and name

297. MT ACCIDENTS -PROCEDURE :-

Attention is drawn to GRO 56/43 (4a). All drivers of army vehicles will be instructed that in the event of an accident involving a third party the procedure as laid down in GRO 56/43 (4a) will be carried out by the driver. The information obtained by the driver concerning insurance of third parties will be included as the last item in the drivers statement on page 2 of A.A.F 913.

298. TOOL HANDLES -PRESERVATION OF.

In order to lengthen the life of wooden tool handles, a liberal application of mutton fat should be made periodically. The handles should be exposed to the sun both before and after such treatment.

298. SALVAGE- COLLECTION AND TRANSPORT OF

It is the duty of all ranks to collect articles of salvage and convey them to unit salvage dumps. Unit Transport Officers will take action to ensure that salvage in unit salvage dumps is moved to Div. Salvage Dumps by using back loading of unit vehicles for the purpose. No opportunity will be lost of transporting articles in Div Salvage Dumps by rail to Base Salvage Dumps.

300
299. DISCIPLINE-ABSENTEES-INTERSTATE.

In order to assist in prompt apprehension of personnel who become A.W.L. while on Interstate Leave, the following will be complied with.

- On receipt of advice from Interstate LTD that soldier has not reported immediate check will be made to ensure that soldier has NOT in fact already reported back to Unit in this State
- Advice from relative LTD will be promptly acknowledged by signal

Not yet reported.

- (c) Units will advise respective HQ by signal immediately any soldier, who has already been the subject of communications as above, does return to his Unit. Copies to Formation and Camps HQ. Every facility, descriptive reports, basic documents etc which will assist with rapid apprehension or Courts of Enquiry on such personnel, will be made available by Units to HQ without loss of time.

302.

MAINTENANCE OF MV.

- (1) Drivers' routine maintenance of all mechanical vehicles except tanks, will be carried out by the Group system as set out in Mechanical Pamphlet No. 2.
- (2) The special fighting and protective equipment of wheeled armoured fighting vehicles will be maintained in the manner prescribed by the relevant Australian Army instruction book or by instructions issued by L.H.Q. from time to time.
- (3) The daily task system of routine maintenance will NOT be used in Australia. All publications and leaflets issued to unit personnel or carried in vehicles which relate to the daily task system will be withdrawn from use forthwith.
- (4) Mechanical Vehicle Learning Pamphlet No. 1. will be carried in all wheel vehicles, carriers (AUST) and with all motor cycles, and will be accounted for on handing over or taking over vehicles as if included in the Vehicle Outfit List.

302.

1. Manufacturing difficulties and the necessity of storing tinned food in unsuitable stores or in the open, combined with frequent handlings, have all combined adversely to affect the ~~stagnant~~ keeping qualities of such food.
 2. It is essential that, before issue or consumption, tinned food shall be subject to rigid inspection and scrutiny by the Supply Service, the unit and the individual soldier.
 3. (a) Tins which are found to be in any way abnormal in appearance or which are
 - (1) badly bent
 - (2) rusted
 - (3) swollen
 - (4) leaking,will NOT be issued and will NOT be opened by units or individuals.
 - (b) Damaged tins will be returned to the supply Officer for inspection and disposal.
 - (c) When damaged tinned commodities cannot be returned to the Supply Officer, they shall be destroyed by incineration, and a certificate of destruction setting out the commodities, quantities and brands so destroyed, signed by a responsible officer, will be rendered as soon as practicable to the Supply Officer.
4. All personnel, especially cooks and caterers, are to be warned against eating or even tasting any tinned commodities which appear abnormal in appearance or smell, as an apparently perfect tin may have developed a pin hole puncture or other defect which would render the contents unfit for human consumption and perhaps fatally poisoning.
 5. All canned vegetables will be removed from the tins and boiled for 20 mins. prior to consumption.
 6. It is essential that, as far as possible, tinned commodities shall be protected from direct exposure to:
 - (a) Sun and heat
 - (b) rain and moisture,and that storage places shall be, as far as possible:
 - (i) well ventilated
 - (ii) dry.

Ex

302

DAMAGE TO TIMBER.

- (1) Members will NOT, except for operational purposes, cut or authorize or direct the cutting of timber growing on private or public property (including forestry reserves) without first obtaining the consent of a person having power to agree to such cutting.

Will. C. Keast Capt,
WILL. C. KEAST Adjt 56 Aust Inf. Bn.

NOTICES.

CONCERT PARTY.

W.A. Lof C Area Entertainment Party will present concert in Unit lines tonight 21 Feb. 43.

FOUND.

Money belt found in showers 18/2/43. ~~Owner~~ Owner may apply to A Coy Orderly Room.

The information contained in this document is NOT to be communicated either directly or indirectly to the Press or to any other person NOT holding an official position in His Majesty's Forces.

War Diary

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

ROUTINE ORDERS.

PART 1.

BY

Lt.-Col. R. T. BRYEN.
COMD. 56 AUST INF BN.

Serial No. 70.

No. 304. to

1 Mar 43.

304. BN. DUTIES: → The following roster for duty coys and Orderly Officers will operate:-

Date.	Coy.	Orderly Officer.
1 Mar 43.	H.Q.	Lieut J.A. Kiley.
2 " "	A.	" A.W.G. Christie.
3 " "	B.	" J.F. Day.
4 " "	C.	" G.W.B. Davis.
5 " "	D.	" J.M. Smail.
6 " "	H.Q.	" K.J. McDonald.
7 " "	A.	" J.L. Bennett.
8 " "	B.	" C.J. McDonald.
9 " "	C.	" J.A. Kiley.
10 " "	D.	" A.W.G. Christie.

305. CLOTHING AND NECESSARIES - ISSUES ON PAYMENT.

Issues, on payment, to individuals of items which are subject to rationing will cease except in the following cases:-

(a) Where issues in replacement of lost or damaged items are ordered to be made at the expense of the individual concerned.-

In this connection, reports made by individuals of the loss by theft or otherwise, of items on issue to them will not be accepted as bona fide without due enquiry, and any attempt in this direction to circumvent the national restrictions on the acquisition of clothing will be firmly suppressed, disciplinary action being taken if necessary.

(b) Where Officers or other ranks desire to augment the authorised scale of issue.-

In these cases, issues on payment will be permitted only on the surrender by the individual concerned of the appropriate number of coupons as laid down by the Rationing Commission.

ATTACH CERTIFICATE.

When clothing is required on payment, it will be necessary for personnel to present to the Q.M. a certificate signed by the O.C. Company.

306. ALTERATION OF NEXT OF KIN - ALTERATION ADDRESS NEXT OF KIN.

All ranks are reminded that information regarding alteration of Next of Kin and alteration of address of Next of Kin must be handed to Coy orderly rooms. Coys will pass this information on to Bn H.Q. immediately.

Will. C. Keast
Capt.
(WILL. C. KEAST) Adj. 56 Aust Inf Bn.

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

56 Aust Inf Bn
(Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels			1
Majors	1		2
Captains	11	1	
Lieutenants	18	2	2
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals	30	1	5

*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

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

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known).
Major	Munnery E.F.	56 Bn	L.H. Reg (Land School) QW
Capt	Evenden LW	✓	X List, 2/1/54
✓	Hough JW	✓	Tactical School QW

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Lieut. Major	NV124420	Stevenson AE	56 BN	YES	2 1/2 Bn
Captn	NV124441	Kearney WC		✓	2 1/2 Bn
✓	NV124436	Neil WD	✓	✓	2 1/2 Bn
✓	NX124407	Jennell RL	✓	✓	2 1/2 Bn
✓	NV124440	Clark GM	✓	✓	2 1/2 Bn
✓	NX124435	Leitch RR	✓	NO	2 1/2 Bn
✓	NX125921	Carlane G	✓	YES	2 1/2 Bn
✓	NX125926	Quinn J	✓	✓	2 1/2 Bn
✓	NX116616	Boardman J	✓	✓	2 1/2 Bn
✓	NX125727	Mason FB	✓	NO	2 1/2 Bn
✓	NX76327	Williams J	✓	YES	2 1/2 Bn
✓	NV125723	Scott MM	✓	✓	2 1/2 Bn
Lieut	NV125736	Brathwaite J	✓	✓	2 1/2 Bn
✓	NX116618	Kelly J	✓	✓	2 1/2 Bn
✓	NX124438	McClelland J	✓	✓	2 1/2 Bn
✓	NX125722	McCree W	✓	NO	2 1/2 Bn
✓	NX125951	McCree J	✓	✓	2 1/2 Bn
✓	NX124439	King RW	✓	YES	2 1/2 Bn
✓	NX125729	Parsons J	✓	YES	2 1/2 Bn
✓	NV125728	Quinn J	✓	✓	2 1/2 Bn
✓	NX125735	McQuaid J	✓	NO	2 1/2 Bn
✓	NX124437	Handley J	✓	YES	2 1/2 Bn
✓	NX123756	Penney J	✓	✓	2 1/2 Bn
✓	NX125737	Bennington J	✓	✓	2 1/2 Bn
✓	NX125738	Stewart J	✓	✓	2 1/2 Bn
✓	NX125739	Stewart J	✓	NO	2 1/2 Bn
✓	D/N 9637	Mackenzie J	✓	✓	2 1/2 Bn
✓	NX126651	Spencer J	✓	✓	2 1/2 Bn
✓	NX119026	Christie J	✓	NO	2 1/2 Bn
✓	NV124446	Smith J	✓	✓	2 1/2 Bn

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Lieut Major	NX12633	Bryson R J	5th Div	12/1/42	Admin Command
Captn	NX 34 327	McPherson J	4th Div	2/7/42	Admin Command
Chaplain	NX118658	Smith J	4th Div	8/1/42	Admin Command
Major	B259	Thompson J	5th Div	1/1/42	Admin Command

56 Aust Inf Bn
(Unit.)

[Signature]
(Signature of Commander.)

6 Feb 43
(Date of Despatch.)

(R.T. BRIG) 5th Div
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

War Diary copy

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

56 Aust Inf Bn (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels			1
Majors	1		2
Captains	11	1	
Lieutenants	18		2
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals	30	1	5

*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

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

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known).
<i>Major</i>	<i>Murray E.F.</i>	<i>56 Inf</i>	<i>2HQ School QLO</i>
<i>Capt.</i>	<i>Overton L.W.</i>	<i>56 Inf</i>	<i>2/1 AGH v 2nd</i>
<i> </i>	<i>HOUGH J.W.</i>	<i>56 Inf</i>	<i>Jackal School QLO.</i>

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Lieut. J. Maj.	NX124434	STEVENSON. A.E.	56 Bn.	Yes	2 1/2 Bn.
J. Capt.	NX124441	KEAST. N.C.		Yes	advt.
	NX124436	NEIL. W.D.		Yes	O.C. 19 Coy
	NX124442	IRKELL. J.R.		Yes	O.C. 13 Coy
	NX124442	CLARK. J.M.		Yes	O.C. HQ Coy
	NX124433	SETTREE. P.R.		No	att. 3 dist of Coy
	NX125724	CALLAN. E.J.		Yes	O.C. C Coy
	NX125726	SAMUELSON. C.T.		Yes	T.O.
	NX125727	REARDON. A.E.		Yes	WD 4 Pl.
	NX125728	SCOTT. M.M.		Yes	at school Harney
Lieut.	NX126327	WILLIAMS. W.T.		Yes	at school Harney
	NX125736	BRAITHWAITE. S.J.		Yes	2 1/2 Bn.
	NX126618	RILEY. J.A.		Yes	3 Pl.
	NX124438	MCCLELLAN. C.M.		Yes	15 Pl.
	NX125712	MCCRONE. W.T.		No	800 2 Bn.
	NX125713	MCDONALD. J.C.		Yes	1st Pl.
	NX124433	KING. B.W.		Yes	6 Pl.
	NX125724	DAVIS. G.W.E.		Yes	10 Pl.
	NX125725	CURRAN. O.A.		No	School Harney.
	NX125735	MCDONALD. K.J.		Yes	12 Pl.
	NX124439	HARDY. M.G.		Yes	19 Pl.
	NX123756	BENNETT. J.L.		Yes	19 Pl.
	NX125737	CUNNINGHAM. H.X.		Yes	13 Pl.
	NX125738	DAY. J.F.		Yes	5 Pl.
	NX125732	STRONG. H.G.		No	att. 5 dist of Bde
	NX126610	MICHAEL. L.H.		Yes	2 Pl.
	NX126631	BROWNING. E.		Yes	8 Pl.
	NX124436	CHRISTIE. H.N.G.		Yes	11 Pl.
	NX124446	SMITH. J.M.		No	School Harney

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Lieut. T. Maj.	NX122633	BRYEN. R.T.	56 Bn.	12/2/42	Adm. band
Bapt.	NX34307	MCMAHON. J.A.	H.A.M.C.	24/7/42	R.M.O.
Chaplain	NX118638	SMITH. P.T.	H.A.C.C.	8/7/42	padre.
MDV	B259	THOMPSON. C.	Sal Army		S.H.W.O.

56 Bn. (Unit.)
12 Feb 43.
(Date of Despatch.)

[Signature]
(Signature of Commander.)
56 Bn. (Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

Ward copy

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

56 Aust Inf Bn (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels	<i>1</i>		
Majors	<i>1</i>		<i>2</i>
Captains	<i>11</i>	<i>1</i>	
Lieutenants	<i>17</i>		<i>3</i>
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals	<i>30</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>5</i>

*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
<i>Lieut</i>	<i>McKrone WJ</i>	<i>56 Bn</i>	<i>16/2/43</i>	<i>To x List joined Commander parade</i>

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

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known).
<i>Major</i>	<i>Murray E F</i>	<i>56 Bn</i>	<i>LHQ School QLD</i>
<i>Capt</i>	<i>Sweett L W</i>	<i>✓</i>	<i>2/1 AGH, x List</i>
<i>✓</i>	<i>Hough J W</i>	<i>✓</i>	<i>Tactical School QLD.</i>

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Lt Col	NX 112633	BRYEN RT	56 Bn	Yes	CO
Leut. 2. Maj.	NX 124434	STEVENSON AE		✓	2 1/2 Bn
✓ 2. Capt.	NX 124441	KEAST WC		✓	advt Bn
✓	NX 124436	NEIL WD		✓	O.C. A Coy.
✓	NX 124442	FARRELL JR		✓	O.C. B Coy.
✓	NX 124440	CLARK JM		✓	O.C. HQ Coy.
✓	NX 124435	SETTREE PR		✓	att. 3rd Aust Bde.
✓	NX 125724	CALLAN EJ		✓	O.C. C Coy.
✓	NX 125726	SAMUELSON CS		✓	TO
✓	NX 116619	BOARDMAN JS		✓	1.0
✓	NX 125727	MASON FH		✓	No 4 PE
✓	NX 125723	SCOTT MM		No	School Harvey
✓	NX 76327	WILLIAMS LT		Yes	O.C. D Coy
Leut.	NX 125736	BRAITHWAITE ST		No	A.R.W
✓	NX 116618	KILEY JA		Yes	No 3 PE
✓	NX 124438	MCIELLAN CM		✓	15 PE
✓	NX 125731	MCDONALD JC		✓	14 PE
✓	NX 124437	KING BW		✓	6 PE
✓	NX 125729	DAVIS GNB		✓	10 PE
✓	NX 125725	CURRAN AO		No	School HARVEY.
✓	NX 125735	MCDONALD KJ		Yes.	12 PE
✓	NX 124439	HARDY MG		✓	19 PE
✓	NX 123756	BENNETT JW		✓	16 PE
✓	NX 125737	CUNNINGHAM AX		✓	13 PE
✓	NX 125738	DAY JF		✓	3 PE
✓	NX 125732	STRONG HG		No.	att. 5 Aust Inf Bde
✓	NP 9630	MACAVIEY LH		Yes	2 PE
✓	NX 126651	BROWNING E		✓	8 PE
✓	NX 119436	CHRISTIE ANG		✓	11 PE
✓	NX 124446	SMALL JM		No	School Harvey.

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Capt.	WX 34307	MC AULIFFE JA	RAMC	24/9/42	RMO
Challam	NX 15658	SMITH FT	HACC	8/7/42	Padre
W.	B 259	THOMPSON J	Sal Army		SAWO

56 Aust Inf Bn
(Unit.)

20 Feb 43
(Date of Despatch.)

W. A. ... Lt Col
(Signature of Commander)
5 Aust Inf Bde
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

War Diary Copy.
FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

56 Aust Inf Bn (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels	1		
Majors	1		2
Captains	12	21	
Lieutenants	17		3
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals	31	2	5

*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
<i>NY 126640 Lieut</i>	<i>EDGE HILL AC</i>	<i>56 Bn</i>	<i>21/2/43</i>	<i>First appointment Commissioned Rank</i>

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
<i>Lieut.</i>	<i>EDGE HILL AC</i>	<i>56 Bn</i>	<i>21/2/43</i>	<i>UCTU. DONEGAN and H. R. W.</i>

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

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known).
<i>Major</i>	<i>Murray G F</i>	<i>56 Bn</i>	<i>LHQ school 2nd</i>
<i>Capt</i>	<i>Doughan J W</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>Medical school 2nd</i>
<i>Lieut</i>	<i>Edgell V A C</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>School of ARW</i>

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Lt. Col.	NX 112633	BRYEN RT	56 Bn	Yes	CO
Lieut. T. Maj.	124434	STEVENSON HE	"	Yes	2 1/2 Bn.
Lt. Capt.	124441	KEAST WC	"	No	DRO. DUTY.
"	124436	NEIL W.D	"	Yes	O.C. A Coy.
"	124442	FARRELL JR	"	Yes	O.C. B Coy.
"	124440	CLARK JM	"	Yes	O.C. A B Coy.
"	124435	SETTREE PR	"	No	att. 3 Aust Corp.
"	125724	CALLAN ET	"	Yes	O.C. C Coy.
"	125726	SAMUELSON CJ	"	Yes	T.O.
"	116619	BOARDMAN JS	"	Yes	1.0.
"	125727	MASON FN	"	Yes	1104 PL
"	125723	SCOTT MM	"	No	SCHOOL HARVEY.
Lieut.	76527	WILLIAMS LT	"	Yes	O.C. D Coy.
"	125736	BRAITHWAITE ST	"	No	A.R.W.
"	116618	CRILEY JA	"	Yes	1103 PL
"	124438	MCCLELLAN CM	"	Yes	15 PL
"	125731	MCDONALD JC	"	Yes	14 PL
"	124437	KING BW	"	Yes	6 PL
"	125729	DAVIS GNB	"	Yes	10 PL
"	125725	CURRAN OA	"	No	SCHOOL HARVEY.
"	125735	MCDONALD RJ	"	Yes	12 PL
"	124439	HARDY MG	"	Yes	19 PL
"	123756	BENNETT JW	"	Yes	16 PL
"	125737	CUNNINGHAM AY	"	Yes	13 PL
"	125738	DAY J.F	"	Yes	5 PL
"	125732	STRONG HG	"	No	att. 3 Aust Inf Bde
"	NP 9680	MACAULEY LH	"	Yes	1102 PL
"	NX 126651	BRONNING E	"	Yes	8 PL
"	119436	CHRISTIE H WG	"	Yes	11 PL
Lieut. T. Capt.	124446	SMITH JM	"	Yes	1101 PL
"	124444	EVERITT LW	"	Yes	S.M.

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Capt.	NX 34307	McAULIFFE JA	AAMC	24/7/43	RMO
Challan	NX 118658	SMITH FT	AACE	8/7/43	Padre
M.	B 239	THOMPSON J	Inf Army	-	SAWO.

56 Aust Inf Bn

(Unit.)

26 Feb 43.

(Date of Despatch.)

RT Bryen

(Signature of Commander.)

(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

(Adapted)

56 Aust Inf Bn (Unit) 5 Feb 43 (Date)

(To be furnished by all units and all Headquarter units.)

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1 Detail.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1		
W.Os. Class II.	8	1	
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants	5		
Staff Serjeants	2	2	
Serjeants <i>Sgt Cooks</i>	³¹ 4	3	4
Corporals	73		3
Troopers, Privates, &c.	701		32
TOTALS	825	* 6	* 39

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

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
Perp Sgt	AAFC	Mo. Orderly	ARMC
Postmaster	20th Postal Unit	Hygiene Sgt	A.A.M.C.
Cannoneer	A.E.M.E.	Palmer Batman	5th Aust Inf Bn
Bootmaker	A.A.O.C.	Fitter M/T	A.E.M.E.
Fitter M/T	A.E.M.E.	Med Sgt	ARMC
Orderly Sgt	AAFC in unit WE	Gen Duty SAND	2d Aust Div
		Fitter M/T	A.E.M.E.
		Fitter M/T	A.E.M.E.

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

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts if known).
NX123883	Sgt	Murphy C.L.	56 Bn.	School Congella
NX126640	✓	Edgellac	✓	✓
N130889	Pte	Murphy W.H.	✓	✓ Karakattan
NX124416	✓	Gosden K.P.	✓	✓
NX123836	Cpl	Coughlan T.K.	✓	X List 2/1 P.S.A.
NX125753	✓	Richs J.B.	✓	✓
NX119431	Sgt	Melville J.W.	✓	School Q.D.
N34108	✓	Kinlyrele W.H.	✓	X List Hospital

56 Aust Inf Bn Unit.

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

Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)
Ammunition Examiners			Fire Control Operators			Panel Beaters		
Armament Artificers			Fitters			Pattern Makers		
Armourers			Fitters and Turners			Pharmacists		
Artificers, Artillery			Fitters, Cycle			Photographers, dry plate		
Axemen			Fitters, Drivers			Photographers, wet plate		
Bakers			Fitter's Mates			Photo-Writers		
Battery Surveyors			Fitters, M.V.			Plate Layers		
Battery Comdrs. Asst.			Fitters, Railway Signal			Plumbers		
Blacksmiths			Fitters, Signal			Predictor Numbers		
Boilermakers			Grinders			Printers		
Bricklayers			Gun Layers			Radiator Mechanics		
Butchers			G.P.O. Assistants			Radiographers		
Camouflage Modeller			Gun Operators			Range Takers		
Carpenter and Joiner			Hammermen			Riggers		
Clerks			Height Takers			Riveters		
Clerks, Engineering			Helio Operators			Saddlers		
Clerks, Supply			Instrument Mechanics			Saddle Tree Makers		
Clerks, Technical			Instrument Mechanics, Surgical			Saw Doctors		
Coachmakers			Instrument Operators			Sawyers		
Computers			Intelligence Duties			Shoemakers		
Concretors			Joiners			Signallers		
Cooks			Leather Stitchers			Signwriters		
Cooks, Hospital			Linesmen			Stokers, Stationary Engine		
Coppersmiths			Linesmen, Signals			Storemen, Technical		
Dental Clerk Orderlies			Lithographers			Surveyors		
Despatch Riders			Machinists			Surveyors, Engineering		
Dispensers			Masons			Tailors		
Draughtsmen			Masseurs			Telescope Identification Numbers		
Draughtsmen, Architectural			Mechanics, Dental			Textile Refitters		
Draughtsmen, Mechanical			Mechanics, M.T.			Tinsmiths		
Draughtsmen, Signal			Mechanics, Typewriter			Toolmakers		
Draughtsmen, Topographical			Mechanics, Wireless			Turners		
Driver Mechanics			Millwrights			Vulcanizers		
Driver Operators			Miners			Wagon Erectors		
Drivers, Transportation Plant			Moulders			Watchmakers		
Electrical Fitters			Nursing Orderlies			Watermen		
Electricians			Nursing Orderlies (Mental)			Welders		
Electricians, Eng. Units			Nurses, Trained			Well Borers		
Electricians, Signal			Observation Post Assistants			Wheelers		
Engine Artificers			Operating Room Assistants			Whitesmiths		
Engine Hands I/C			Operators, Signal			Wiremen		
Equipment Repairers			Opticians			Woodturners		
Farriers			Painters					
<i>Sats</i>		<i>4</i>				<i>W.O class II</i>	<i>1</i>	
<i>CPAs</i>		<i>3</i>				<i>P/Sgt</i>	<i>2</i>	
<i>1st Cooks surplus</i>								
<i>in unit</i>	<i>3</i>							
<i>Ptes</i>		<i>11</i>						
Totals (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)	<i>3</i>	<i>23</i>				<i>MAJOR</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>16</i>

Certified that the figures in red show the number of tradesmen and specialists actually required in this unit

Notes—(a) If rank other than Private is involved give details on back.
(b) Authorised Trades or Specialists not included in list above will be added as required in spaces provided.

56 Aust Inf. Bn Unit.

R.T. BRYEN MAJOR
Signature of Commander. *ppm* (and)
5 Aust Inf Bn
Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.

Date of Despatch *6 Feb 43*

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

(Adapted)

56 Aust Inf Bde (Unit) 12 Feb 1943 (Date).

(To be furnished by all units and all Headquarter units.)

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1 Detail.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1		
W.Os. Class II.	8	1	
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants	5		
Staff Serjeants	2	2	
Serjeants	39		6
SERGEANTS COOKS			
Corporals	71		5
Troopers, Privates, &c.	697		36
TOTALS	818	* 6	* 47

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

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
Pay Sgt	AAP.C	Hygiene Sgt	AAMC
Postman	24th Postal Unit	Postmaster	50th Aust Inf Bde
Armourer	AEME	Teller M.T (3)	AEME
Bootmaker	A.A.O.C	Medical Sgt	AAMC
Teller M.T	AEME	Gen Duty S.A.W.O	2nd Aust Div
Und Room Sgt	AASC ^{absent}		
MO Orderly	AAMC		

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

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts if known).
VX123883	Sgt	MURPHY C.L.	56 Bde	School BONEGILLA
VX126640	W	EDGHELL A.C.	✓	
N130889	P/O	MAYBON. W.A.	✓	KARRAKATTA
VX124116	-	GORDON K.G.	✓	
VX123836	b/pl	COUGHLAN T.K.	✓	X List 2/1 AGH
VX125785	W	RICH T.B.	✓	
VX119431	Sgt	MELVILLE J.W.	✓	School B.L.O
N301108	W	KINLEYSIDE V.A.	✓	X List Hospital
VX114937	W	TILCHRIST C.	✓	X List Hosp.

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

(Adapted)

56 Aust Inf Bn (Unit) 20 Feb 1943 (Date).

(To be furnished by all units and all Headquarter units.)

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1 Detail.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1		
W.Os. Class II.	1		
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants	5		
Staff Serjeants	2	2	
Serjeants	29		7
SERGEANT COOKS	4	3	
Corporals	71		5
Troopers, Privates, &c.	693		38
TOTALS	812	* 5	* 50

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

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
Pay Sgt	AA PC	Hygiene Sgt.	AA MC
Postman	2nd Div Postal Unit	Reedies Postman	5 Aust Inf Bn
Grumener	AE ME	Medical Sgt	AA MC
Bootmaker	AA OC	Gen Duties SAWO	2 Aust Div
Filters MT(4)	AE ME		
Ord. Room Sgt.	AA SC ^{absorbed in} unit NE.		
MO's Orderly	AA MC		

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

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts if known).
NX123883	Sgt	Murphy CL	56 Bn	ARL
NX126640	Sgt	Edghall AC	✓	✓
NX130889	Pte	Murphy WA	✓	School KARAKATTA
NX124416	✓	Cadden KG	✓	✓
NX123836	Opf	Boughlan TK	✓	X 2nd (2/1 AGH)
NX119431	Sgt	Melrose JW	✓	School QLD
N 34108	Sgt	Kinkerside WA	✓	X 2nd Hospital
NX125413	✓	Sheppard HZ	✓	✓
NX126601	WO II	Jackman CH	✓	✓
NX125882	Sgt	Marshall Y	✓	✓

56 Aust Inf Bn Unit.

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

Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)
Ammunition Examiners			Fire Control Operators			Panel Beaters		
Armament Artificers			Fitters			Pattern Makers		
Armourers			Fitters and Turners			Pharmacists		
Artificers, Artillery			Fitters, Cycle			Photographers, dry plate		
Axemen			Fitters, Drivers			Photographers, wet plate		
Bakers			Fitter's Mates			Photo-Writers		
Battery Surveyors			Fitters, M.V.			Plate Layers		
Battery Comdrs. Asst.			Fitters, Railway Signal			Plumbers		
Blacksmiths			Fitters, Signal			Predictor Numbers		
Boilermakers			Grinders			Printers		
Bricklayers			Gun Layers			Radiator Mechanics		
Butchers			G.P.O. Assistants			Radiographers		
Camouflage Modeller			Gun Operators			Range Takers		
Carpenter and Joiner			Hammermen			Riggers		
Clerks			Height Takers			Rivetters		
Clerks, Engineering			Helio Operators			Saddlers		
Clerks, Supply			Instrument Mechanics			Saddle Tree Makers		
Clerks, Technical			Instrument Mechanics, Surgical			Saw Doctors		
Coachmakers			Instrument Operators			Sawyers		
Computers			Intelligence Duties			Shoemakers		
Concretors			Joiners			Signallers		12
Cooks			Leather Stitchers			Signwriters		
Cooks, Hospital			Linesmen			Stokers, Stationary Engine		
Coppersmiths			Linesmen, Signals			Storemen, Technical		1
Dental Clerk Orderlies			Lithographers			Surveyors		
Despatch Riders			Machinists			Surveyors, Engineering		
Dispensers			Masons			Tailors		
Draughtsmen			Masseurs			Telescope Identification Numbers		
Draughtsmen, Architectural			Mechanics, Dental			Textile Refitters		
Draughtsmen, Mechanical			Mechanics, M.T.			Tinsmiths		
Draughtsmen, Signal			Mechanics, Typewriter			Toolmakers		
Draughtsmen, Topographical			Mechanics, Wireless			Turners		
Driver Mechanics		5	Millwrights			Vulcanizers		
Driver Operators			Miners			Wagon Erectors		
Drivers, Transportation Plant			Moulders			Watchmakers		
Electrical Fitters			Nursing Orderlies			Watermen		
Electricians			Nursing Orderlies (Mental)			Welders		
Electricians, Eng. Units			Nurses, Trained			Well Borers		
Electricians, Signal			Observation Post Assistants			Wheelers		
Engine Artificers			Operating Room Assistants			Whitesmiths		
Engine Hands I/C			Operators, Signal			Wiremen		
Equipment Repairers			Opticians			Woodturners		
Farmers			Painters					
<i>Photobooks 2</i>						<i>Sergeants</i>		7
<i>Signalt books 3</i>						<i>corporals</i>		5
						<i>privates</i>		38
<p><i>Certified that the figures in red show the number of specialists and tradesmen actually required in this Unit.</i></p>								
<p><i>(R.T. BRYE N) 60nd 56 Bn</i></p>								
Totals (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)	5							50

Notes—(a) If rank other than Private is involved give details on back.

(b) Authorised Trades or Specialists not included in list above will be added as required in spaces provided.

56 Aust Inf Bn
Unit.

R.T. Brye N
Signature of Commander.
21 Col 60nd 56 Bn

Date of Despatch *20 Feb 92*

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

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

(Adapted)

56 Aust Light (Unit) 26 Feb 1943 (Date).

(To be furnished by all units and all Headquarter units.)

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1 Detail.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1		
W.Os. Class II.	1		
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants	4		1
Staff Serjeants	2	2	
Serjeants	27	3	7
Corporals	71		5
Troopers, Privates, &c.	686		47
TOTALS	804	* 5	* 60

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

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
Pay Sgt.	AA PC	Hygiene Sgt	AA MC
Postman	2nd Postal Unit	Postman	5 Aust Light Bde
Warrant Officer	AEME	Medical Sgt	AA MC
Bootmaker	AAOC	Gen. Order 5 Amv	2 Aust Light
Fitter MT (4)	AEME	Dental (4)	Dental Corp
Order Room Sgt	AASC ^{absorbed in} unit W.O.	T. Sec. Sgt (2)	5 Aust Light Bde
M.O. orderly	AA MC		

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

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts if known).
NX123883	Sgt.	Murphy CL	56 Bw	DR L
N130889	Spl	Maxwell WA	✓	School KARAKATTA
NX124416	"	Gordon KG	✓	✓
NX123836	Spl	Laughlan TK	✓	x List (2/1 AGH)
NX119431	Sgt	Melville JW	✓	School QLD
N34108	Sgt	Wentworth WA	✓	x List. Hosp.
NX125413	"	Bulliard AL	✓	✓
NX126601	WO	Shackin CA	✓	✓
NX125884	Spl	Marshall J	✓	✓

56 Aust. Inf. Bn. Unit.

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

Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)
Ammunition Examiners			Fire Control Operators			Panel Beaters		
Armament Artificers			Fitters			Pattern Makers		
Armourers			Fitters and Turners			Pharmacists		
Artificers, Artillery			Fitters, Cycle			Photographers, dry plate		
Axemen			Fitters, Drivers			Photographers, wet plate		
Bakers			Fitter's Mates			Photo-Writers		
Battery Surveyors			Fitters, M.V.			Plate Layers		
Battery Comdrs. Asst.			Fitters, Railway Signal			Plumbers		
Blacksmiths			Fitters, Signal			Predictor Numbers		
Boilermakers			Grinders			Printers		
Bricklayers			Gun Layers			Radiator Mechanics		
Butchers			G.P.O. Assistants			Radiographers		
Camouflage Modeller			Gun Operators			Range Takers		
Carpenter and Joiner			Hammermen			Riggers		
Clerks			Height Takers			Riveters		
Clerks, Engineering			Helio Operators			Saddlers		
Clerks, Supply			Instrument Mechanics			Saddle Tree Makers		
Clerks, Technical			Instrument Mechanics, Surgical			Saw Doctors		
Coachmakers			Instrument Operators			Sawyers		
Computers			Intelligence Duties			Shoemakers		
Concretors			Joiners			Signallers		15
Cooks			Leather Stitchers			Signwriters		
Cooks, Hospital			Linesmen			Stokers, Stationary Engine		
Coppersmiths			Linesmen, Signals			Storemen, Technical		1
Dental Clerk Orderlies			Lithographers			Surveyors		
Despatch Riders			Machinists			Surveyors, Engineering		
Dispensers			Masons			Tailors		
Draughtsmen			Masseurs			Telescope Identification Numbers		
Draughtsmen, Architectural			Mechanics, Dental			Textile Refitters		
Draughtsmen, Mechanical			Mechanics, M.T.			Tinsmiths		
Draughtsmen, Signal			Mechanics, Typewriter			Toolmakers		
Draughtsmen, Topographical			Mechanics, Wireless			Turners		
Driver Mechanics		5	Millwrights			Vulcanizers		
Driver Operators			Miners			Wagon Erectors		
Drivers, Transportation Plant			Moulders			Watchmakers		
Electrical Fitters			Nursing Orderlies			Watermen		
Electricians			Nursing Orderlies (Mental)			Welders		
Electricians, Eng. Units			Nurses, Trained			Well Borers		
Electricians, Signal			Observation Post Assistants			Wheelers		
Engine Artificers			Operating Room Assistants			Whitesmiths		
Engine Hands I/C			Operators, Signal			Wiremen		
Equipment Repairers			Opticians			Woodturners		
Farriers			Painters					
56 Aust. Inf. Bn. 20						CO MS		1
56 Aust. Inf. Bn. 3						Reinfts.		2
						Reinfts.		27
						Privates		47
Certified that the figures in red show the number of specialists and tradesmen actually required in this unit.								
Did the above list of specialists and tradesmen (R.T. BRYEN) General B.								
Totals (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)	5							60.

Notes—(a) If rank other than Private is involved give details on back.
(b) Authorised Trades or Specialists not included in list above will be added as required in spaces provided.

56 Aust. Inf. Bn. Unit.

Signature of Commander.
R.T. BRYEN

Date of Despatch 26 7/43

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