

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

Item number: 8/3/94

57/60 Infantry Battalion

April 1944



# 57/60 AUST. INF. BN

## BOGADJIM - OPERATION

### 13 MAR. 16 APR.



13 APR - PATROLS TO BOGADJIM EXPLOITING ALL TRACKS IN KUBABI MISION AND GORI RIVER AREA - 4 TRUCKS ONE OVERTURNED EWD OF 619433 - PATROL TO BOGADJIM OCCUPIED VILLAGE 1330 HRS 14 APR 1944

NO DEFENCES OR SIGNS OF MOV'T IN THE AREA - PATROL TO MOUTH OF GORI RIVER AND TO KUBABI MISION TO 400 YDS OF MINDJUM R. PATROL ENROUTE LOCATED A DUMP OF ENGINEERS TOOLS AT 650973 - A TOTAL OF 7 TRUCKS - MT & LT TO 8066 TRACK FROM 625970 TO 655976 IS HEAVILY OVERGROWN - NO SIGN OF USE

INFM FROM TULTULS OF 15 BNAI BELAINA 3 WEEKS AGO - 21 MAR - JAP EVACUATED YABIA (NOT KNOWN) STAYED 3 DAYS BELAINA KEKUI MOVED TO AIVAU - BALKAK THEN TO JUNG OF GUAN - NABUL RIVERS - 5V 3 DAYS THEN MOVED TO SINARTI - UIA - LUN - ATO - SONO - ANELE

TRACKS IN BELAINA - BNAI AREA OVERGROWN - NOT USED FOR ROUTINE PATROLS MANY MONTHS BY JAPS.

PATROLS TO SAUMONNA BNAI - KEKUI - BELAINA - 9 APR - AND 12/13 APR - NO MOV'T EMPTY FOXHOLES 5TH OF BELAINA -

ACOV - AM 11 APR - PASSED DOWN SPUR TO RD - SIGNS OF WOUNDED ON POSN (2ND) - ENEMY WITHREW FROM BRG.

10 APR - POSN WAS CONTACTED BY PATROL EXPLOITING DOWN SPUR - Hvy FIRE DROWN FROM POSN - A COY LESS 7 PL OCCUPIED HIGH GRND ON GARDENS AND FIRST POSN NIGHT 10/11 APR.

12 APR - BRIDGE 9 - AMBUSH POSN YACATED 12 HRS PREVIOUS TO OCCUPATION - ONE DEAD JAP CAPABLE OF HOLDING 20 TO 30 NIGHT 13/14 APR - PATROL ENVOICED BRIDGE 10 AM'S - PATROL TO BRIDGE 9

1245 HRS 5 APR - A COY ADVANCED TO AIVAU

1830 HRS 4 APR - AN ADVANCE PATROL 500 YDS SOUTH OF AIVAU - AFTER ADV FROM YAUVA

31 MAR 1 APR - DURING NIGHT JAP COUNTERATTACK - ENEMY FROM HIGH GROUND TO SOUTH AND EAST FROM WEST OF ROAD IN MOUNTAIN - ATTACKED IN STRENGTH AND SKIRMISHING MOST OF NIGHT BETWEEN VIC BR 21 AND 5TH OF YAUVA. MORTAR AND SA. FIRE FROM JAP - DURING ACTION 6 JAP WITH BLUE TROUSERS - KHAKI JACKETS & BEAKED CAPS - 15 KILLED - 20 WOUN - 200 - DOWN NIL.

DURING MORNING 1 APR - TWO EWD PLS WITHREW TO B COY AREA - COOPERATIVE TO INSECURE LOC TO 30 MAR 1600 - B COY EWD PL VIC OF MABELERU FIRED ON BY LMG'S NORTH & SOUTH BANKS OF

26 MAR - 1600 N 12 LMS WITH PACKS OBSERVED MOVING NORTH - SUCCESSFULLY ENGAGED BY MTN GUN NO ESTIMATE OF CAS

POSN ON 2400 ABANDONED 26 MAR - DEFS ON 2400 FEDERAL OLD W.P. AND HUT. POSN AT 533785 WELL CONSTRUCTED PILLBOXES - FOXHOLES ESTIMATED CAPACITY 20 TO 30 - ONE SLEEPING HUT KITCHEN.

22 MAR - MTN GUN 75 MM IN NEW VICINITY SHELLED YOKOPI AREA 1730 HRS NO CAS - OUR MTN GUN RETURNED FIRE

SUSPECTED POSN OF 75MM FIRED APPROX 4 SHELLS INTO YOKOPI AREA (BNHQ) FROM 1715 TO 1950 - 18 MAR NO CAS

20 MAR - 12 P39 TL BOSTONS BOMBED AND STAFFED POSNS RESULTS UNOBSERVED. 15 P39 BOMBED AND STAFFED POSNS ON 23 MAR RESULTS UNOBSERVED.

BY AM 14 MAR - A COY OCCUPIED YOKOPI - AND PATROLLED EWD TO DAUMONA AND EWD TO RIVER JUNG 54 317

BODY AT RD AND TRACK JUNG 506740 - C COY - 575 748 EWD BN HQ SAIPA 1. LIT TO ALL COYS - BRIDGES DESTROYED BETWEEN YOKOPI & SAIPA 1.

ROUTINE PATROLLING POSSIBLE LOOKOUT TO WARDS VILLAGE TIVEN DICOY 57/60 BN & TPS OF 210 AUST INF. BN - 18 AUST. INF. SDE.

18 MAR - DURING ADV UP VALLEY 800YD TRAPS WERE ENCOUNTERED EWD OF SAIPA 1 - NO CAS BRIDGES DESTROYED THEN SAIPA 1 AND YOKOPI.

AT 1600 HRS 12 MAR INFEN FROM 7 AUST DIV THAT WARDS VILLAGE HAD BEEN ABANDONED - BY ENEMY - 15 APR WAS TO TEST DEFS AT SAIPA 2 TO SEE IF OCCUPIED 57/60 BN TO MOVE TO YOKOPI WHICH MOVED AT 2100 HRS 15 MAR AT 0450 15 MAR A COY HAD REACHED A PT BETWEEN SAIPA 2 AND SAIPA 1 - B COY 400 YDS IN REAR EWD OR SAIPA 2 - C COY MOVED FROM BROTHERS 1 AND REACHED SAIPA 1 AT 0620 - D COY MOVED BY MOONLIGHT FROM NIGGEA KNOLL TO TALOT JUNG REACHED SAIPA 1 - 0800 15 MAR

12/18 APR - 0830 HRS PATROL 11 OFFR 9 DR'S TO ERIMA VIA BELAINA - KEKUI BNAI - SOUMONNA TO ERIMA AND PALPA RIVER - PATROL FROM BRG MOVED UP SPUR THROUGH GARDENS TO GUAN RIVER TO JUNG OF GUAN AND GORI RIVERS TO RD JUNG AT 655976 RETURN HINGE VIA RD. TO CLEAR ALL TRACKS OF ENEMY - N.M.E

10 APR - A COY 7 PL CONTACTED JAP IN VIC BRG IN STRONG AMBUSH POSN ON BOTH SIDES OF RIVER USED LMG'S - SNIPERS OWN - 2 KILLED - 2 WOUN - POSN KILLED 8 JAPS FLED TO POSN SOUTH ON SPUR

AT 1700 HRS 8 PL CONTACTED JAP IN VIC OF GARDENS - ATTACKING DOWN A PRECIPITOUS - DENSELY TIMBERED SLOPE UNDER Hvy FIRE - LMG'S - MORTAR KILLED 8 JAPS - ONE KILLED 8 JAPS FLED TO POSN SOUTH ON SPUR

12/13 APR - 7 PL CARRIED ON WITH HARASSING FIRE MMS MOR ON JAP POSN FROM VIC BR 7.

14 APR - A COY PATROL CONTACTED ENEMY AMBUSH POSN ON SPUR NORTH OF BR 6. FIRED ON BY MMS LMG MORTAR RIFLES BELIEVED TO BE

NEAR THE BODY CONTIGUE MORTAR BELIEVED TO BE ON PLAT GRND NORTH OF BR 2. PATROL SE ALONG HIGH GRND NO OBSERVATION OF POSN.

A COY COMMENCED ADVANCE UP ROAD FROM MABELERU FIRST LIGHT 1 APR. AND EST POSN AT YAUVA 1515 HRS 8 PATROL 400 YDS SOUTH OF AIVAU - LARGE QUANTITIES OF STORES - INCL MTN GUN 2 LMG'S - 30 STON TRUCKS ONE 10 HORSE PWR CAR. SOUND IN 6 YAUVA KWATO AREA 1245 5 APR - A COY HQ ESTABLISHED AT AIVAU - B COY AT AIVAU - 1215 HRS 8 APR - PATROL UNABLE TO LOCATE HUTS AT 575740 - 500 YDS SOUTH OF STORES TRACKS IN AREA

PATROL TO 2600 FEATURE WEST OF RD FOUND FOOT PRINTS - 12 AUST CAV COMMANDO SQN PATROL - PRINTS AUSTRALIAN.

COY COULD NOT LOCATE TRACK 50 5683 - CONTACT LOCAL NATIVES WHO LED THEM BY PAD TO YAUVA.

4 APR 1600 - MORTAR FIRE ON ENEMY POSN SE ON 2600 FEAT WITH ARTY IN SUPPORT OF PATROL TO THAT AREA.

31 MAR 1600 - ENEMY FIRE ON CARRIER LINE SE OF BR 21. INCL MOR. MMS. RIFLES - FIRE FROM ENEMY MTN GUN NTH OF YAUVA. FIRE ALSO FROM JAP POSN BEHIND OUR TPS

2 APR - PATROLS TO TEST DEFS VIC BR 21 - DREW NO FIRE FROM JAP POSN - PATROL TO VIC JUNG AND BEGINNING OF JAP LOC'D TO 4000 FEAT SOUTH OF JUNG KOFESI - MINDJUM.

ENEMY POSN ON 2600 - ABANDONED 28 MAR - 20 FOXHOLES - 20 WEAPON DITS - ESTIMATED STRENGTH 20 - POSN WAS OF RECENT CONSTRUCTION & OVERLOOKED YOKOPI.

14 MAR - A COY PATROLLING EWD CONTACT AT 543787 LMG. MORTAR. RIFLE FIRE FROM VICINITY HUTS 542788 AND 542790 - PL COMD KILLED - AT THIS POINT THE ROAD / B BEACH CUT ALONG A STREET BLUES 200 FT ABOVE BEACH IS COMMANDER BY A SECTION OF ROAD ACROSS A GEAR - ENTRANCE.

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PATROL OUT YAUVA TO MOVE VIA BALKAK - SINARTI - ATO - EAST TO TRACK & RD JUNG THENCE NORTH TO SAUMA RETURN VIA MAIN RD.

1330 HRS 13 APR BOGADJIM OCCUPIED

RECENT MOV'T OBSERVED 1515 15 APR - A COY 2760 BN CONTACT - ED 28/59 BN PATROL AT BOGADJIM - N.M.S

CONTACT PATROL OUT OF CCOY AT 1510 HRS 16 APR TO BOGADJIM - CONTACTED THE 2 US DT BOATS AT BOGADJIM BEACH AT 1445 HRS 17 APR

THE SPEED OF MOV'T BY 57/60 AUST. INF. BN FROM BRIDGE 9 HAD INTERFERED WITH THE ENEMY EVACUATION OF THE AREA. BETWEEN KARENALI AND MINDJUM - INDICATIONS THAT REARGUARD OF JAP IN THIS AREA WERE TAKEN OUT FROM VICINITY OF KALIKO BY BARGE THIS OCCURED AT 0830 HRS 12 APR. SUPPOSITION FROM SOUNDS HEARD.

13 APR 1330 HRS - DCOY PATROL WITH A COY PATROL OF 57/59 AUST. INF. BN MOVED TOWARDS WENGA

0830 12 APR - DCOY OUT TO MOVE VIA JUNG KOFESI - MINDJUM RIVERS - DOWN STREAM TO ALIBU 1 - WHERE CONTACT WAS MADE WITH A PATROL FROM 6ELIM OF 10FFR 1205 OF 57/59 AUST. INF. BN.

13 APR - 1130 HRS - 1205 OF 57/59 AUST. INF. BN CONTACTED AT 543787 LMG. MORTAR. RIFLE FIRE FROM VICINITY HUTS 542788 AND 542790 - PL COMD KILLED - AT THIS POINT THE ROAD / B BEACH CUT ALONG A STREET BLUES 200 FT ABOVE BEACH IS COMMANDER BY A SECTION OF ROAD ACROSS A GEAR - ENTRANCE.

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