

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

Item number: 8/3/62

24 Infantry Battalion
1943, Report on Markham River,
part 4 of 4

SMITH FORCE PATROLS SINCE 28 AUG 43

<u>OUT</u>	<u>IN</u>	<u>OBJECT</u>
25AUG	29AUG	Recce VAGAU - KARESTE - FIRMBASE track. Completed 29Aug.
30AUG	30AUG	To cut track along SOUTH side BUANG R. to coast. Track cut approx 3000yds to 570213.
30AUG	30AUG	To cut track NORTH side BUANG R. in direction SUGARLOAF. Track reced and cut 3000yds to 575227.
31AUG	2SEP	To obtain infm of extent of Jap mvt. along beach track. Patrol contacted enemy at 632292, approx. 2000yds NORTH BUANG mouth. Enemy Cas. 3 Killed. Own " 1 OR killed
25AUG	29AUG	To booby trap L of C along beach track. Unable to reach coast because of deep swamps. Reached point 622265-619228, saw coast line approx 1 mile away. Heard considerable barge mvt. night K/27-28.
4SEP	5SEP	To recce mortar posn ,Kai-Amn dump. Reached edge of swamp 619228. Suitable mortar posn NOT found Several points found suitable for Kai-Amn dumps.
5SEP	5SEP	To recce OP site and 3in mortar posn SOUTH side BUANG R. Reached point 605215. Impossible transport mortar along this track. NO OP site found.
6SEP	6SEP	To booby trap track SOUTH side BUANG R. Booby trapped track to 605225. Also booby trapped 1200yds fresh cut track to 566214.

MESSAGE FORM

9130

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

2 0/p

No. of Groups

GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

OUT

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO Mark "W" near Gasa

FROM adv Gasa

Originator's Number

071

Date

17

In Reply to Number

Beach 0 ref 070 0 SMITH FORCE composed of 7 pln
table two det smv one det mm 6 following 15th NORTH
along beach 0 Disposition remainder BIX 0 Coy 40
under CSM one sec 12 pln plus 14 details DANBE TRININ
P/BPS area 0 one sec 12 pln TIMINE One WAMPIT 0
please advise disposal

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN
BY ANY MEANS: (* (EXCEPT)) WIRELESS

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

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNATURE.....
* ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND
INSERT "INCLUDING."

SIGNATURE.....

[Handwritten signature] 8/16/17/9

0930

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I. 1010.

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER
L	1014	H.S. Jones									

T.O.R. 1015

MESSAGE FORM

9025

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

I

No. of Groups
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

TO

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)
Goodhound rpd Mark near Basa

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

Understood allied A/C straffing beach
TRACK Salanana Lae @ Own troops
operating BUANG RIVER mouth

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DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNATURE
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SIGNATURE

[Signature] 2/16 14/19

1255

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I. 1310

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER
<i>[initials]</i>	1308		<i>[initials]</i>								

T.O.R. 1420

MESSAGE FORM

9021

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

I

24

No. of Groups

GR.

37

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

Bixa reptd Smith force Basa fear

FROM

Basa fwd.

Originator's Number

9891

Date

14

In Reply to Number

BUILDER 2 moving to BIXA en route
SMITH force K/14 Lt SMITH
will not exercise command and
will remain FIRM BASE pending
arrival BUILDER 2

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNATURE.....
* ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND
INSERT "INCLUDING."

SIGNATURE.....

[Signature] 26/14/9

1130

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

1131

T.O.R.

1200

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER
4/17	1155	<i>[Signature]</i>		4/17							

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No. **8948**

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	IN	2-LIC -	No. of Groups	OFFICE DATE STAMP
	OUT		GR. 43	

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO **base rptd Bika bixa**

FROM **MARK.**

Originator's Number **U 68**

Date **12**

In Reply to Number **061**

if not already done ensure total two pls two det mortars at SMITH force. send on pl. BIXA plus one det mortar to obtain this total remaining pl BIXA occupy dambr area

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS: (*(EXCEPT)) WIRELESS	THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CYPHER IF LIABLE TO INTERCEPTION OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS.	ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY ca	TIME OF ORIGIN 2000
SIGNATURE..... * ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND INSERT "INCLUDING."	SIGNATURE.....	8649	T.H.I.

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER
F	2130	446									

2001
T.O.R. 2150

MESSAGE FORM

89399
Serial No.

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

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO	wampit force		
FROM	1st Aust Corps	Originator's Number	Date
		0/399	12
	indication enemy evacuating SAMAMANA area		
	probably using coast tracks		
	possible info from BUANO		
	mut		

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS: (* (EXCEPT)) WIRELESS	THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CYPHER IF LIABLE TO INTERCEPTION OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS.	ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY	TIME OF ORIGIN
SIGNATURE.....	SIGNATURE.....	110 119	0940 1/12
* ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND INSERT "INCLUDING."			T.H.I.

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER
F/T			1700								1710

T.O.R. 1700

MESSAGE FORM

8714

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

PA.

OUT

No. of Groups

GR.

83

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

Smith r ptd Bixa mark Rear Basa

FROM

ADV. BASA.

Originator's Number

046

Date

7

In Reply to Number

518

032 reads as following @ By first light 4 sep you will occupy a position on BEACH track SALAMAUVA LAE north BUANG RIVER and deny use of this track to enemy moving from SALAMAUVA to LAE @ 043 required advice as no what action taken to carry out these instns. @ no reply yet received @ Answer to 043 will be given immediately to gether with reason for delay

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SIGNATURE..... * ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND INSERT "INCLUDING."

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SIGNATURE.....

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

2015

T.H.I.

2035

T.O.R.
2145

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER
L/T	213	WP.									

MESSAGE FORM

8684

Serial No.

CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS

IN

VEZ-41C - O-P I

OUT

No. of Groups

GR.

32

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

SMITH FORCE rd Base Bixa

FROM

MARK

Originator's Number

U14

Date

6

In Reply to Number

Mortar shells BUANE MOUTH keep up

harassing fire incl TWO inch mortar pan used
DAMBI VICKERS if wanted replace with SUNSHINE Spare

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

1021

SIGNATURE.....
* ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND
INSERT "INCLUDING."

SIGNATURE.....

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

1021

T.O.R.

10215

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER
✓	1021		S.								

BITQ near rpt'd KIMA, KULLU

Detn. BITO.

I 48

16

Latest available info of BUANG Riv action K/160
Killed Lieut Saunders ☉ missing believed killed
L/Agt Fox ☉ wounded NOT brought into firm
base by 0140 K/16 Pte off^c Kenzie J. S.

AUG.

0840

0850

Patrol File

PATROL REPORT

FIGHTING PATROL

REF MAP - WAGO 1 inch

FROM - LIEUT SMITH

DATE - 13 Sept 43

PATROL STRENGTH - 1 Offr 5 NCOs 32 ORs

ARMAMENT - 3 in Mortar 2 in Mortar 3 Brens 8 Owens 26 Rifles 2 Grens
per man

OBJECT - To recce coastal track along NORTH side BUANG RIVER.

WEATHER - Raining most of the time.

ROUTE OUT - From FIRM BASE MR 594235 along NORTH arm of river to 608226.
Then in half circle to 612234 and ROBINSON CREEK. Along creek to
624235 where mortar posn was sited.

ROUTE IN - Went SOUTH WEST back to FIRM BASE 594235.

TIME OUT - 0730k/11 TIME IN - 1405k/13

LOAD CARRIED - 4 days rations, 2 Emergency rations, mosquito nets and
personal gear, 21 3 in HE Mor bombs, 18 2 in HE Mor bombs,
6 Mag per Owen gun, 100 rds per man, 2 telephones and cable.

RESULT OF PATROL - patrol was unable to reach the coast on the NORTH side of
the BUANG because of the very thick and dense undergrowth.
It was impossible to move with the weight of amn, weapons
and kai. supply line could NOT have been put into practice

DETAILS - Patrol under Lieut SMITH left FB 0700k/11. 5 extra men were taken
for the purpose of carrying mortar bombs. Going for the first three hrs was
fairly easy, ground very sodden with the recent hy rains, there was NOT any
definite track to follow. An occasional pig track was found but apart from
this, attack had to be made by the leading secs. The undergrowth became
very difficult and with the weight of mortar bombs and extra amn and 4 days
kai it was becoming almost impossible to get through. Lunch the first day
was at approx 602228. The 5 then who had been carrying amn returned to FB.
From this area patrol proceeded on scrub bashing until ROBINSONS CK was
reached at 612234. Continued EAST along creek to 613228. The night halt was
called here. At 0700k/12 continued along ck until a mortar posn was sited
at 624235. It was impossible to go past this posn with amn and stores so it
was decided to seek an OP to see how far the coast was. The surf could now
be heard, 3 ORs climbed a big tree and the water could be seen at approx
1500 yds distance. The shore could NOT be seen so range was taken where
edge of trees met the sea. Mortar was set up with secs covering posn. By this
time it was getting late so second night spent at this posn. Reveille was
at 0500k/13 and everyone was in posn for mortar shoot at 0545k/13. The first
of the 21 bombs on 90 degrees true 1500 yds was fired at 0600. (The range of
the following 20 bombs were as follows, 3 at 1500 yds, 42 degrees left
1550 5 to 2 degrees left 1600 yds 4 6 Degrees right 1550 yds 4 8 degrees
right 1600 yds. OP reported that all these appeared to fall along the edge
of the timber. All bearings were taken from SUGARLOAF. After shoot patrol
returned to FB arriving in at 1405k/13. The coast could NOT be reached on
this side of the river with the gear the patrol had to carry. It is extremely
thick on this side. NO sign of any Jap mvt was made at any time.

Seen

PATROL REPORT

Patrol File

RECCE PATROL

REF MAP -WAGO linch

FROM -B Coy

DATE -8Sep.43

PATROL STRENGTH -10offr 3NCOs 17ORs.

ARMAMENT - 1 3" mortar 2Brens 7Owens 1Snipers rifle 1lrifles 2Grens per man.

OBJECT - To mortar strafe enemy ambush at map ref 617218

WEATHER - Fine and clear.

ROUTE OUT - Moved out from FIRMBASE mr593325 across BUANG through island along newly cut track over SOUTH arm to main SOUTH track EAST along SOUTH track to mr 608224.

ROUTE IN @ Same as route out.

TIME OUT - 0700k/8

TIME IN -1700k/8

FOOD CARRIED - 1 meal 2 emerg. rations. LOAD - Booby trap material mortar stores and amn.

RESULT OF PATROL -1200k/8 12 bombs were fired from mr608224 OP could NOT be sited NO direction - had to be taken from map fired on a bearing of 107 deg from posn. After shoot an ambush was set up at mr 607223 and was manned between 1215 and 1600k/8. Booby trap field was laid along track at mr 611219. NO fire in reply to our mortar NO mvt was observed. Set ambush posn at mr 607223 booby trapped track at mr 611219.

DETAILS.- Patrol left FB at 0700k/8 after crossing SOUTH side of BUANG proceeded EAST down track until mortar posn was sited 0930k/8 mr608224. A recce was made for a suitable OP site but none could be found owing to thick jungle so it was decided to fire from a bearing on the map. Mortar was set on a bearing of 107 deg with the first bomb set at 1100yds. Two secs were fwd of mortars and 3 men to the left flank while the shoot was on. Everything was set up by 1100 hrs booby trapped field was completed by 1030k/8. At 1110k/8 patrol had lunch bomb was fired at 1200hrs distance 1100yds then 1150 1200 1250 1300 1350 1500 1600 1600 2000 2000 2000 yds. There was a 4 deg traverse right and left between each shot. Result of shoot could NOT be observed. 1215k/8 our ambush was taken up at mr 607223. Ambush was sited between 5 to 12yds off track along ridge for a length of 70 yds track could be covered for 115 yds. Mortar det returned to camp at end of shoot. Remainder took posn in ambush. Nat camouflage was used as much as possible. If the Japs had come NO one was to fire until ambush master Lt SMITH fired the first shot from rifle. Rifle men were to concentrate on gren throwing as much as possible while the remainder were using automatic fire. One man with Owen was to rear of WEST end of ambush to cover any fwd scouts that may have come through. Ambush was manned between 1215 and 1600k/8 between these times NO enemy mvt was seen. Patrol vacated ambush at 1400 and returned to FB arriving 1700k/8. There was NO fire in reply to our mortar fire and believe that it was either put out of action by our fire or had since been moved. All bombs should have landed on the target area. NO Jap mvt was seen or heard during the day.

LOOKING WEST

MEMORY PANORAMA OF THE BUANG HEADWATERS & WATERSHED

MAPOS

6000 FT

"THE BUANGS"

LEGIT

LITTLE LOGS

KARESTE

BUANG R

ANIR CR

TIME: 1130 hrs

DATE: 13 SEP 43

Donald J. Langford
Cpl

PATROL REPORT

RECCE PATROL

REF MAP - WAGO 1 inch.

FROM - LIEUT SMITH

DATE - 8 Sept. 43.

PATROL STRENGTH - Sgt CARLYON 3 NCOs 14 ORs.

ARMAMENT - 5 Owens 2 Brens 10 rifles 2 grenades per man.

OBJECT - To booby trap newly cut track and river track SOUTH of BUANG RIVER.

WEATHER - Fine at first, heavy rain 1750k/6.

ROUTE OUT - Along newly cut track to waterfall at MR 566213. Set field went NORTH EAST and picked up lower track at 570212. Followed track down to MR 605222.

ROUTE IN - Along lower track to MR 562214 over river back to FIRM BASE.

TIME OUT - 0830k/6. TIME IN - 1810k/6.

LOAD CARRIED - 1 days rations, 2 emergency rations and booby trap material.

RESULT OF PATROL - Tracks were booby trapped at MR 566213 and 570212.

DETAILS - Patrol moved along newly cut track SOUTH side BUANG until waterfall was reached at MR 566213. Grenade trap was laid 150 yds WEST of water-fall along track between two fallen rotten logs. Thin wire was used for this trap. Then moved 50 yds EAST of waterfall, grenade trap was laid on the crest of this spur, both of these traps are instantaneous. Scrub-bashed NORTH EAST to lower track and proceeded EAST until a barricade was reached at MR 601223. This is probably the first one encountered by Sgt FOX 15 Aug. Proceeded another 300 to 400 yds to MR 605222. Two open patches of kunai and a log bridge were passed just before barricade was reached. Field was laid at MR 605222. Grenade, 1 3 inch mortar bomb and anti-personnel traps were set. While traps were being set remainder of patrol was used as a protective force. Job was finished at 1645 and patrol returned by a lower track to FIRM BASE. At 1715 very heavy shower of rain was encountered and made going very hard. Patrol arrived FIRM BASE at 1810k/6. NO sign of any Jap movement was seen during patrol.

Patrol Leader. Sgt CARLYON W.A.

PATROL REPORT.

Patrol File
RECCE PATROL.

REF. MAP. WAGO 1 inch.

From. LIEUT. SMITH.

DATE. 5 September 43.

PATROL STRENGTH. 1 Offr. 2 N.C.O's. 7 OR's.

ARMAMENT. 3 BSMG's. 7 rifles 2 grenades per man.

OBJECT. To recce suitable O.P. site and 3 inch mortar posns. SOUTH side
BUANG?

WEATHER. Fine and clear.

ROUTE OUT. Along newly cut track SOUTH side of BUANG. to M.R. 590210 continued
on bearing 105 (true) to M.R. 601207 N.E. to 605215.

ROUTE IN. Same as route out.

TIME OUT. 0815k/5.

TIME IN. 1710k/5.

LOAD CARRIED. 4 meals and 2 emergency rations.

RESULT of PATROL. Impossible to transport mortar along this track, NO O.P.
site for mortar posn found.

DETAILS.

Found it impossible to transport mortar along this route after leaving
590210. Had to scrub bash around a cliff base. Going was very hard at
601207 three of patrol went about 1000 yds. to 605215. Nothing could be ob-
served at this point or anywhere else along the route because of the very
steep and thick jungle. It would have been impossible even if a mortar posn.
had been found to transport it along this route

Signed : - LIEUT. SMITH.
Patrol Leader.

8/67/9

PATROL REPORTRECCE PATROLREF MAP - WAGO 1 inch.FROM - LIEUT SMITH.DATE - 5 September 1943PATROL STRENGTH - Sgt WARNER 1 NCO 5 riflemen 1 mortar man.ARMAMENT - 3 Owens 4 rifles 2 grenades per man.OBJECT - To recce mortar posn, kai and ammunition dump.WEATHER - Fine and clear.ROUTE OUT - FIRM BASE to fresh cut track MR 555219 SOUTH down track to creek at MR 558218 EAST along NORTH track to MR 602230 continue along track to 608226 SOUTH EAST to 618220 NORTH to 619228.ROUTE IN - Same as route out.TIME OUT - 1010 4 Sep. 43TIME IN - 1000 5 Sep. 43.LOAD CARRIED - 2 days rations and 2 days Emergency Rations.RESULT OF PATROL - Suitable mortar posn could NOT be found, kai and ammunition dump could be made at several points along the track.

DETAILS - For the first 1½ hrs after hitting main track along NORTH side, going was very hard. Ground is rather hilly all the way. Then ground flattens out and very good time can be made. At MR 602230 halted for lunch 1230 hrs to 1315 hrs k/4. Continued in SOUTH EAST direction and came out on NORTH side of BUANG at MR 60226. Track at this stage was very soft and slightly sandy. Went SOUTH EAST again, came out on river at 613220. NO observation could be seen at this point so decided to move to 619228 when reached edge of swamp nothing could be seen owing to very thick foliage. Ground around this area was very soft and muddy and almost impossible for a mortar to be used in this posn. Patrol then returned by same route to MR 602230. A recce was made for about 150 yds NORTH to see if any track could be picked up. One was found, possibly the one made by the last patrol on k/31 returned to MR 585225 where night was spent. Returned to FB at 1000k/5. Consider the track would be under water if and when it rains. NO sign of any Jap movement was seen during patrol.

Patrol Leader

Sgt WARNER R.N.

CONTACT REPORTRef Map WAGO

PATROL CONCERNED Recce patrol B Coy 24 Aust Inf Bn.
STR 1 Offr 4 ORs.
ARMS 1 Owen 4 Rifles
TIME OUT 0800k/31. Aug.
TIME IN 1145k/2. Sep.
TIME OF CONTACT 1205k/1. Sep
PLACE OF CONTACT 632242 WAGO 1 inch.
CASUALTIES Enemy. 3 killed. Own. 1 killed.

DETAILS

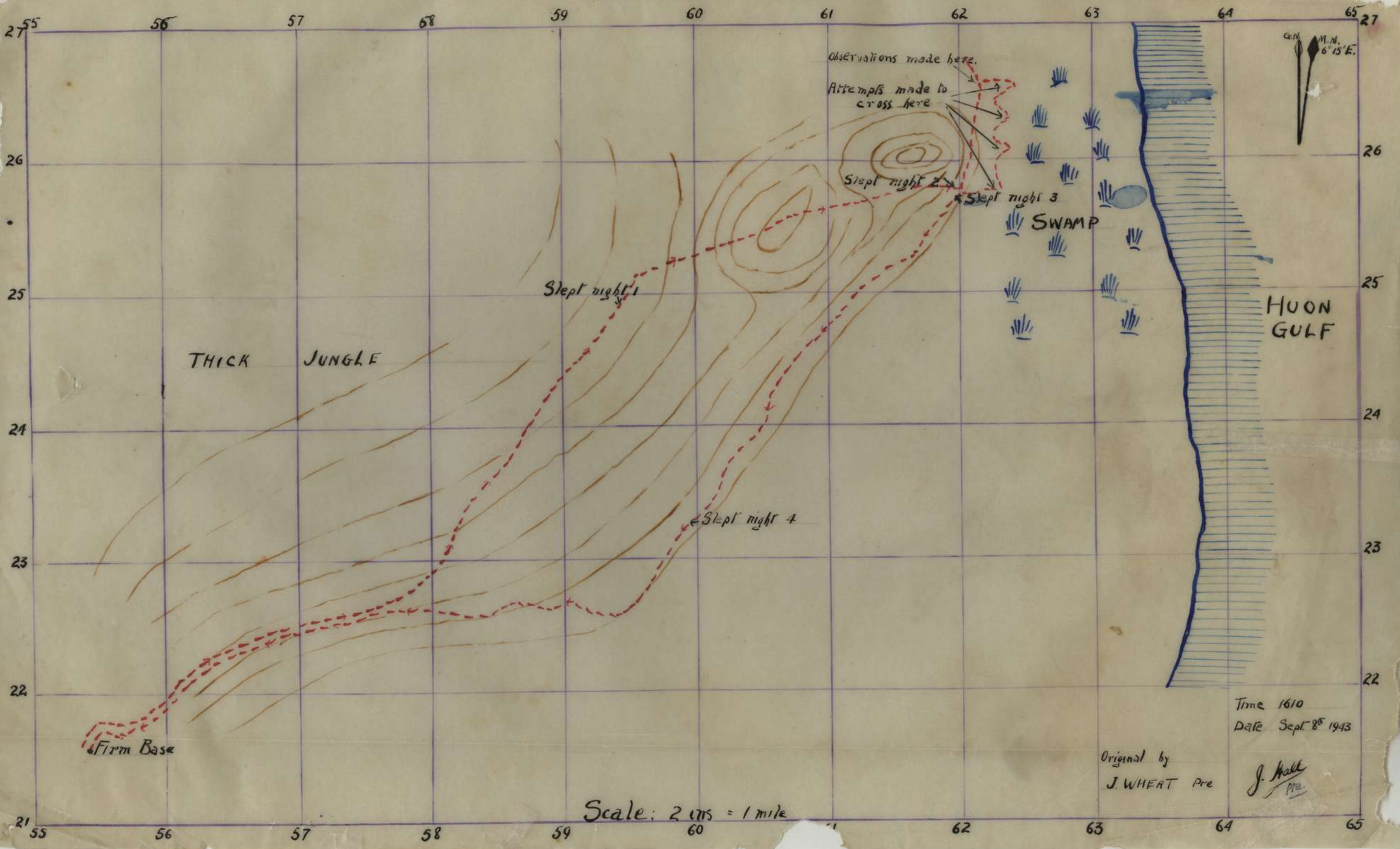
In accordance with I 120 informing us of NO infm from coast sent 12 Aug BUILDER 1 SMITH Force decided to patrol to coast to see extent beach was being used and to gather any other infm of any use. Patrol 1 Offr and 4 ORs was drawn up, arrangements were made for 1 Scout fwd all the way remainder of patrol 10 to 15 yds in rear. Closest placed, 5 to 8 yds in thick jungle. When cutting through thick jungle leader passed Owen back and did the jungle bashing for the remainder of the patrol to come through. Each took turn to lead. Patrol was very knocked up on returning and it will take some days before they return to normal.

Patrol leader W.E. SMITH Lieut.

886 6/9

ROUTE TAKEN BY SUGARLOAF PATROL 25-29 AUG 43

REF MAP WAGO 1 IN.
ENLARGED TWICE

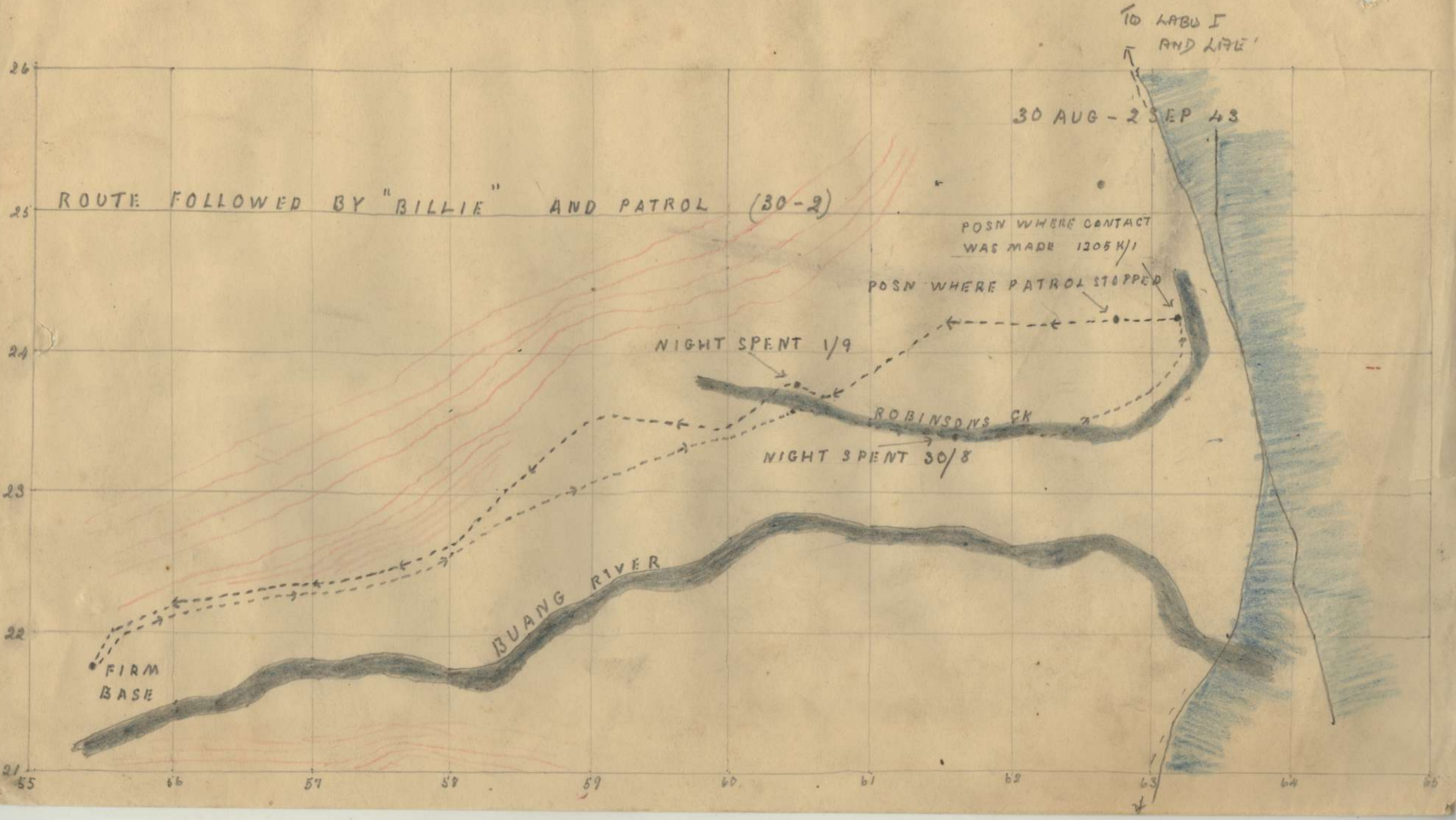


Time 1610
Date Sept 8th 1943

Original by
J. WHEAT Pre

J. Hall
Pre.

Scale: 2 cms = 1 mile



ROUTE FOLLOWED BY "BILLIE" AND PATROL (30-2)

30 AUG - 2 SEP 43

TO LABU I AND LIFE

POSN WHERE CONTACT WAS MADE 1205 H/1

POSN WHERE PATROL STOPPED

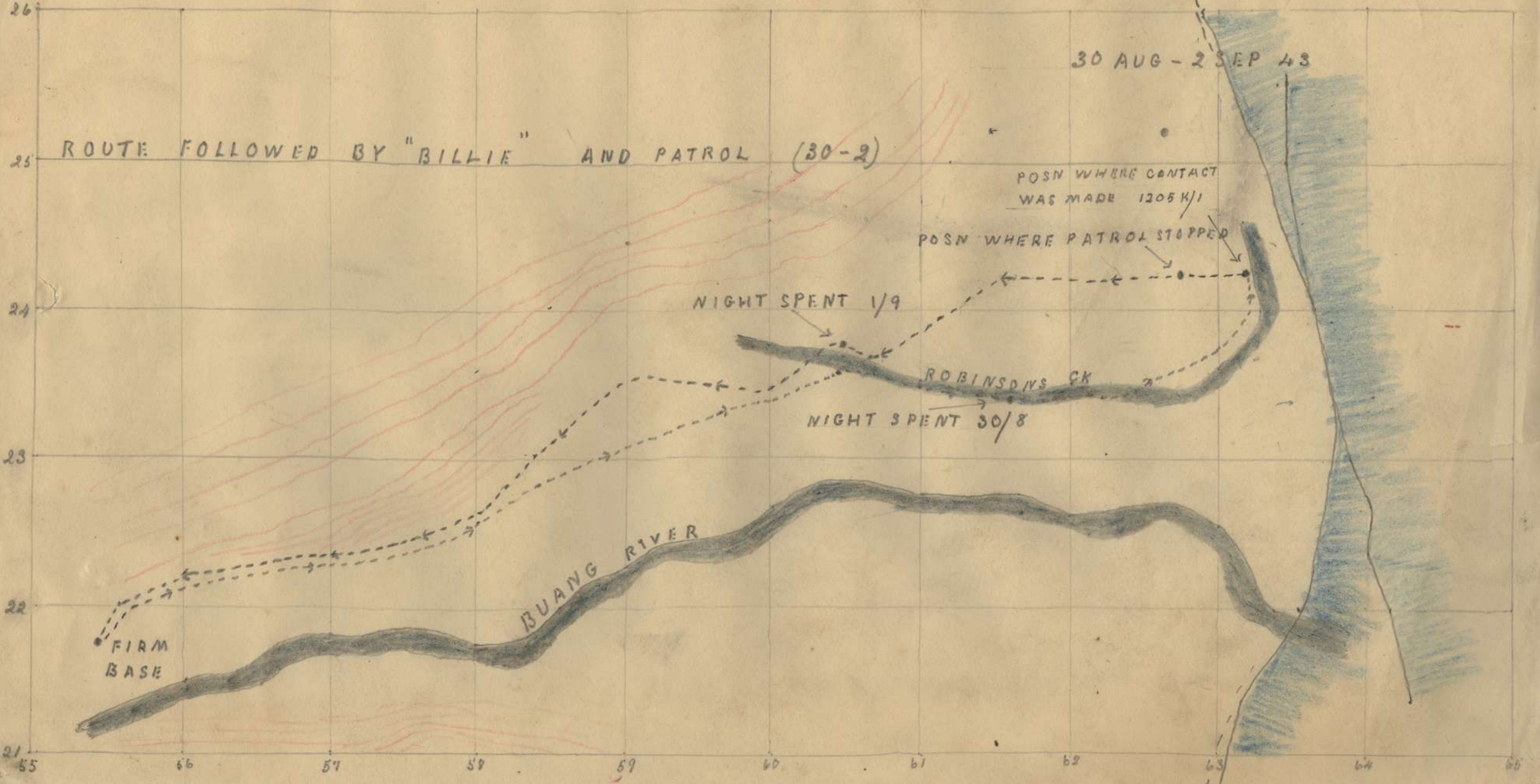
NIGHT SPENT 1/9

ROBINSONS CK

NIGHT SPENT 30/8

BUANG RIVER

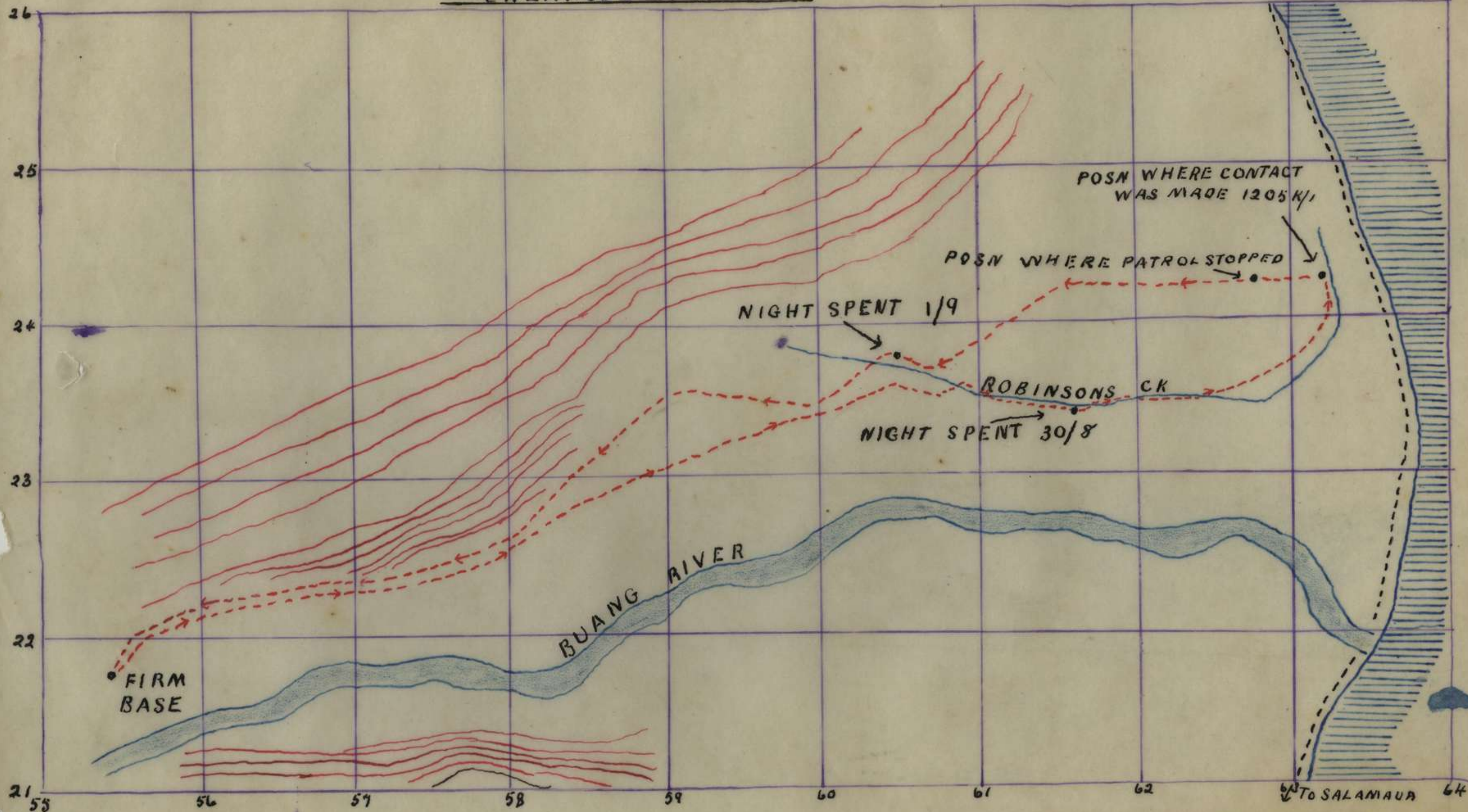
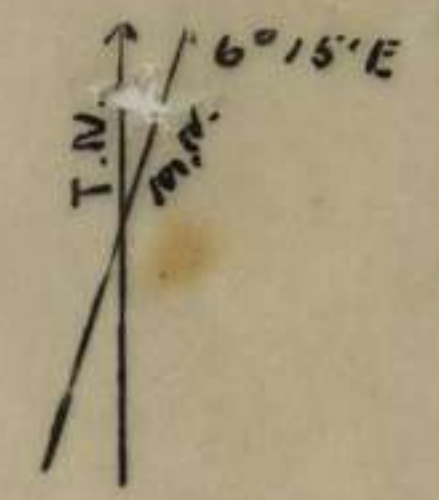
FIRM BASE



ROUTE FOLLOWED BY "BILLIE" AND PATROL 30 AUG - 2 SEP 43

Patrol File

REF MAP WAGO 1:IN.
ENLARGED TWICE



TIME 1615
DATE 8 SEP 43

J. Trainor PTE

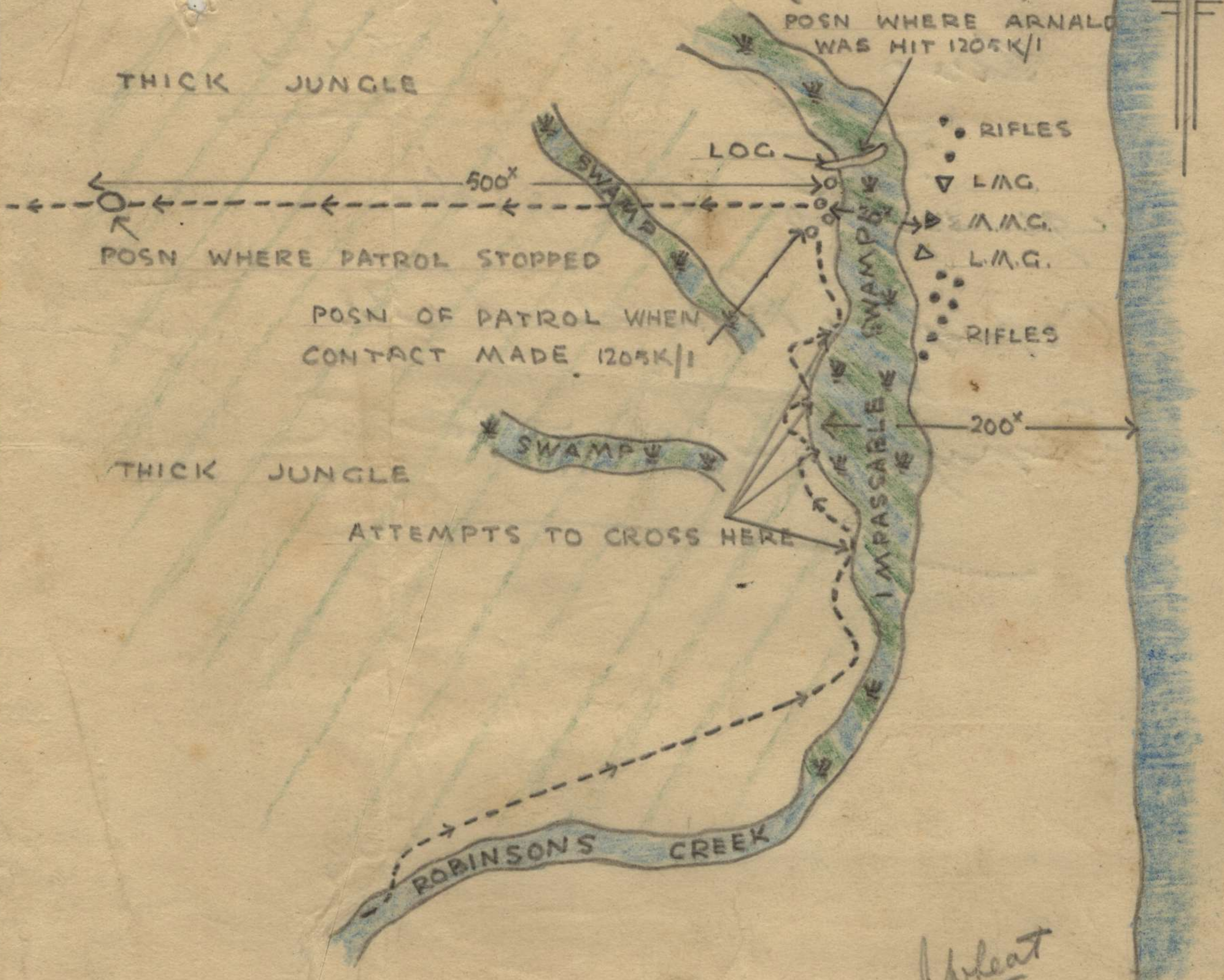
ORIGINAL BY
J. WHEAT PTE

TWICE

POSN WHERE PTE ARNALD WAS HIT 1205K/1

Ref Map WAGO MR. 632 242 (Not To Scale)

N



J. Wheat
PTE
1100K/3

Two copies of each

Original to Coy file

1 Copy to Personal file

1 Copy to Adv Base

Patrol File

POSN WHERE PTE ARNOLD WAS HIT 1205 K/I

Ref Map WAGO MR. 632242 (NOT TO SCALE)



Time 1200hrs
 Date Sept. 8th 1943
 J. Parnett
 Pce

B Coy file

(S) B COY

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

REF MAP WAGO 1 inch

DATE 15 AUG 43

PATROL FOUND BY 11 and 12 PLS

PATROL LEADER L/SGT FOX

PATROL STRENGTH 1 OFFR 3 NCOS 12 ORS

TYPE OF PATROL Fighting Patrol

TIME OUT 0650 hrs 15 Aug 43

TIME IN 1720 hrs 15 Aug 43

OBJECT OF PATROL To harass enemy and booby track as close as possible to Jap Ambush Posn 631219

ROUTE OUT NORTH bank BUANG RIVER to 611224 then along SOUTH bank

ROUTE IN Same as out

NARRATIVE Patrol left Firm Base 543214 at 0645 hrs under L/SGT FOX 1 offr 2 other NCOS and 12 ors. The patrol moved along NORTH bank BUANG RIVER to approx 611224 then crossed river to SOUTH bank and struck main VA track. At approx 620218 struck manmade barricade reported patrol k/12. This was of fallen trees and vines about 1 week old or less. After passing 2 more of these barricades at approx 1/2 hr inwards behind each barricade there were NO signs of tracks. On approaching the fourth of these, this obstruction was slightly L shaped across the track.

Warning was given by L/SGT FOX who commenced firing his OSMG.

Contacted enemy at map ref 614218 at 1545k/15.

Enemy strength estimated 30 to 40 men.

Enemy was in ambush posn.

The patrol was advancing EAST along track when they struck ambush.

Enemy was supported by at least ONE .5 MG, 2 bren type LMGs and several sub-machine guns.

The depth of the ambush was 150 yards approx.

Own cas 2 killed 1 wounded.

Enemy cas 3 killed unknown wounded.

REMARKS The first burst of ambush fire caught L/SGT FOX in the chest and wounded PTE MCKENZIE in the leg. LIEUT SAUNDERS was shot in the upper thighs and stomach. L/CPL PAXINO and PTE HOURIGAN moved into the scrub and took cover. L/CPL PAXINO showed great presence of mind and moved back and helped LIEUT SAUNDERS to cover and bandaged his wounds. He and PTE HOURIGAN, who found them in the bush, stayed with LIEUT SAUNDERS until 1800 hrs when he died.

The two then remained until 1900 hrs and moved out to return to camp. During the time they were in front of the ambush at 614218 at NO time was there any apparent movement from the Japs. The enemy fired continuously for 15 minutes, then spasmodically for another 10 to 15 minutes. CPL DYBING who was in the centre of patrol showed coolness and proved himself a fine leader. He assumed command of the patrol and personally covered the track, firing with his OSMG to allow the men to fall back and reform. He then put up covering fire which enabled several members to cross the river and escape. This action was one of merit. PTE MCKENZIE reported that on his way back he and 2 men helping him out went bush and came across several tracks that the Japs used while making the barricade, also a hut full of dry wood.

DEDUCTIONS It is impossible with force available SMOKY, for force to reach coast by VA track.

Enemy is content to sit and wait for our patrol.
Special lesson learned by series of barricades.

REMARKS The first burst of ambush fire caught WSGT FOX in the chest and wounded PTE MCKENZIE in the leg. LIEUT SAUNDERS was shot in the upper thigh and stomach. WSGT FOX and PTE HURRIGAN moved into the scrub and took cover. WSGT FOX showed great presence of mind and moved back and helped LIEUT SAUNDERS to cover and bandaged his wounds. He and PTE HURRIGAN, who found them in the bush, stayed with LIEUT SAUNDERS until 1800 hrs when he died.

Enemy was supported by at least ONE 3 MG, 2 Bren type MGs and several sub-machine guns. The depth of the ambush was 150 yards approx. Own cas 2 killed 1 wounded. Enemy cas 3 killed unknown wounded.

ambush. The patrol was advancing EAST along track when they struck enemy strength estimated 30 to 40 men. Contacted enemy at map ref 614218 at 1845 hrs. Warning was given by WSGT FOX who commenced firing his

INTELLIGENCE REPORT TO 1400 HRS

4 AUG 43

FROM SMOKEY

Ref Maps = WAGO and LOWER BUANG ENLARGEMENT.

OPS - NO further actual contact has been made with the enemy since k/30, but a patrol led by BUILDER I SMOKEY on k/2, found fresh Jap footprints at map ref 580219. An ambush posn was sited in this vicinity for some time - 1035 to 1330k/2, but NO enemy were seen.

A temporary fwd FIRMBASE has been established on LINIA CK map ref vic 543214, till the island has been cleared, and for this purpose 2 patrols, each with a strength of 1 N.C.O. and 9 men with 2 OSMG's and 1 BREN per patrol, have left this morning, the intention being to clear to approx grid 588 E. As the "Island" is riddled with dry watercourses and creek bed systems, there is a great amount of ground to be gone over.

Thus 1 patrol, under CPL MAWBY, has gone along the SOUTH TRIBUTARY, and the other, under L/CPL WALSH, along the NORTH TRIBUTARY. When word is received that all is clear, the Force's Firm Base will be established in area at extent of this patrol.

HEALTH OF TROOPS- One case of diarrhoea, several cases where boots, through constant and hard use, have deteriorated and had harmful effects on feet. Boots do not last for long here - neither does clothing. The usual predominance of rashes. Med eqpt is quite satisfactory, except for sticking plaster, of which there is little.

MESSING AND RATIONS - NO cheese or marmite came with the last kai line, and sugar is still low. Fd ops rations have been used quite rapidly with the existence of the patrols both daily and standing. Another kai line is due today and will come right through to LINIA CK. CPL OLSEN will arrive at fwd Firm Base today and will act as the Force's cook, facilitating arrangements somewhat.

Rice IN QUANTITY is perhaps needed the most.

MORALE - Fairly good. News from SALAMAUA has had a heartening effect, and a chance to be of assistance shortly has an effect.

COMNS- As the sig wire at Firm Base LA is only enough for about 1200 - 1400 yds, comn between fwd Firm Base and L/T will be by runner. Sitreps may thus be effected. For the 0500k SITREP we have found it very hard to raise MOPO, and thus it has been often considerably delayed.

SECURITY - As a waterproof wallet has now arrived, maps and any other security documents will be kept in it at Firm Base. Tps destroy any identifiable articles, such as env elopes.

GENERAL - A panorama from LA has been done and should reach you either before or with this report.

L/CPL LENNARD with CPL OLSEN arrived Firm Base LA yesterday (k/3).

BUILDER I SMOKY (OLD) IS suffering from what is evidently a relapse of Malaria and has been confined to bed.

2 Exercise books are badly needed to keep Messages etc. in. Rain is frequent and heavy in this area. "Yankee" tents are proving "the goods". We could do with about six more.

(Signed) E. R. ROBINSON LIEUT.

Time - 1400 hrs.

Date - 4 Aug 43.

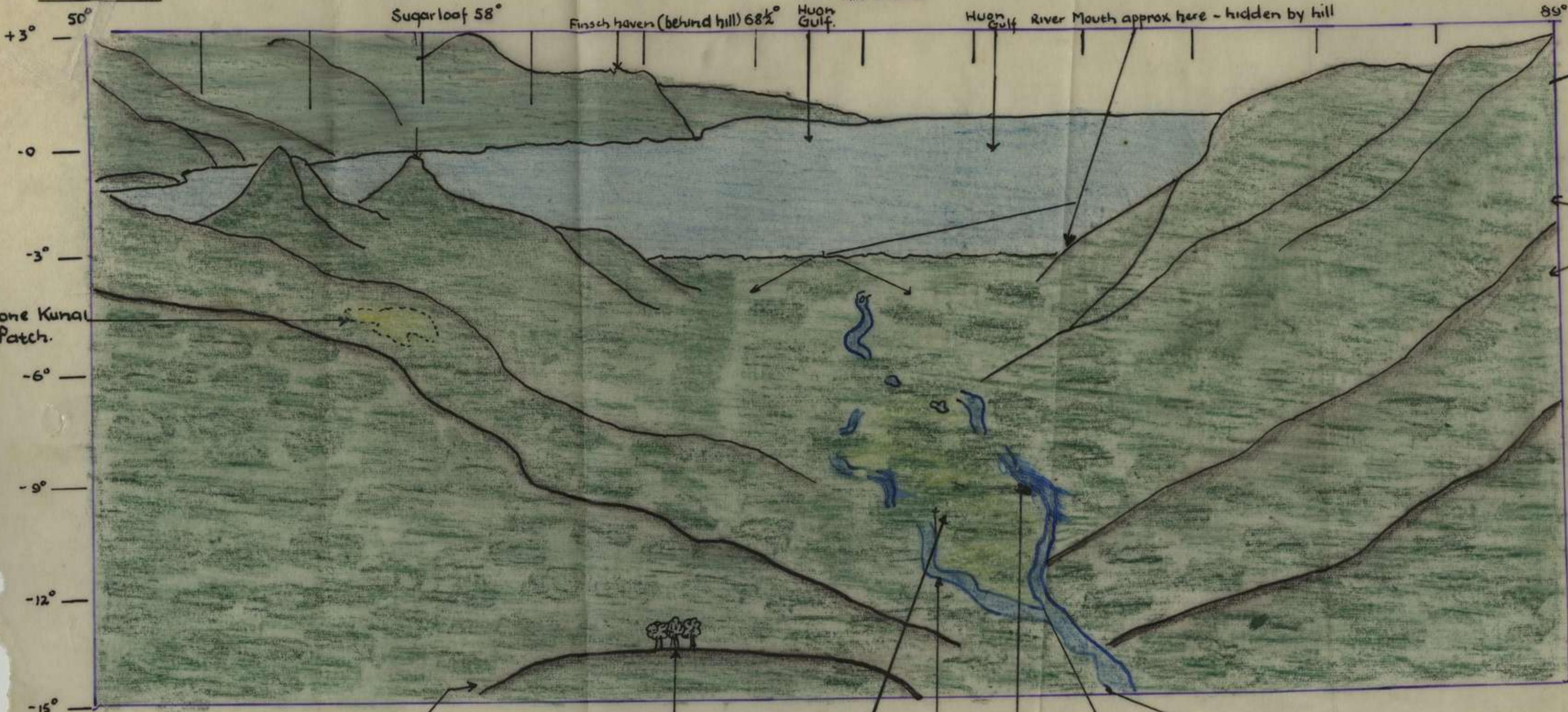
(Signed)

DONALD A. LANGFORD.
A/CPL.

PANORAMA. LOOKING EAST DOWN THE BUANG R. TO HUON GULF FROM LEGA R.H. (APPROX 3000 FT. A.S.L.)

BEARING & MAG.

M.R. 521209



Visibility = Fair
 Time = 0945 hrs
 Date 3 Aug 43
 (Signed) Donald A Langford
 A/cpl I Sec.

net 1830 hrs
 Date 11 Aug 43
 [Signature]
 I. Sec

"Island" is dissected with dry water courses - Jungle & Kunal covered

B Coy Fall

REPORT ON ACTIONS OF CPL DYBING ON K/15

Cpl DYBING who was in the centre of patrol when the ambush was sprung immediately took control of the portion of the patrol behind him. He stood in the centre of the track firing his Owen gun to enable the men to reform and return the ENEMY'S fire. On ascertaining L/Sgt FOX was killed and Lieut SAUNDERS badly wounded he took control and ordered the men to give covering fire to enable several members who were endeavouring to cross the river to reach safety. He continued with his fire for 10-15 minutes and as NO further movement of our troops in the ambush could be seen ordered the remainder of his force to withdraw and then returned to the FB to report. The action of this Cpl shows great resource and initiative and it was through his action that several members of the patrol were able to reach safety.

(Sgd) E.R. ROBINSON Lieut.

REPORT ON ACTIONS OF L/CPL PAXINO K/15

AT 1545 hrs K/15 L/Cpl PAXINO who was the last man in the leading group when the ENEMY opened fire. L/Cpl PAXINO returned the fire with his OSMG. He saw the patrol leader L/Sgt FOX hit and fall over backwards still firing his OSMG. Pte MACKENZIE who was in front of L/Cpl PAXINO was wounded and turned to get out of trap. In doing so he knocked L/Cpl PAXINO off the track causing him to lose his OSMG. L/Cpl PAXINO crawled back onto the track to recover his OSMG. Whilst doing so he covered his actions by throwing a grenade into the ENEMY'S posn. Then while crawling to safety he encountered Lieut SAUNDERS who had been wounded and who couldn't get out by himself. L/Cpl PAXINO assisted Lieut SAUNDERS to crawl into a posn of comparative safety. While doing this they encountered Pte HOURIGAN. The three then got into a small depression approx 20 yds from the ENEMY'S gun posns. Every movement brought a burst of fire in their direction. L/Cpl PAXINO then dressed the wounds sustained by Lieut SAUNDERS. They stayed in this depression until 1900hrs. At 1800hrs Lieut SAUNDERS died of wounds received in the action. All his personal effects were removed from the body, but they were unable to bring him or remove his body to safety owing to the fact of the proximity of the ENEMY posns and the distance they had to crawl to get clear. At 1900hrs darkness had fallen and L/Cpl PAXINO & Pte HOURIGAN crawled to safety and returned to the FB at 2255hrs K/15. L/Cpl PAXINO states that during the 3hrs they were in front of the ENEMY'S posn he heard NO sound or any mvt either forward or back on the Enemy's part.

(Sgd)

E.R. ROBINSON Lieut.

GENERAL COMPREHENSIVE REPORT ON PERIOD BETWEEN

28 JUL & 21 AUG 43 OF ACTIVITIES SMOKY FORCE

BY INTELL CPL ATTACHED SMOKY DURING THAT PERIOD

Ref map WAGO 1 inch & accompanying sketch.

GENERAL TAC-SIT:- The posn has altered somewhat since the JAPS pushed 12 pl out of FB on COAST near 633237.

FB had been established near LEGA, at MR 522214 on my arrival, well concealed and with water 5 mins away.

A patrol from LEGA on 23 Jul had encountered an enemy ambush at 552212 on the WEST end of the island. This has been the limit of their adv along the LEGA track of .5 MG was stated to have been used.

On 30 Jul a recce patrol of 7 Japs were ambushed by us in the same area. Since this patrol, there have been very few past 628218.

On 6 Aug we encountered a strong Jap ambush posn at 631219, about 1/2 mile off the coast. Attempts to break the same would have been useless with force at our disposal.

On 12 Aug, a patrol to coast reached old FB at 633237 and found by estimate of fire power and evidence of enemy activity by many and fresh footprints that the enemy had strongly fortified the coast.

On 15 Aug one of our patrols struck the extended of fwd shifted ambush of the Jap at 629218 approx. He was in much str:- AT LEAST on .5 and three Bren or Bren type MGs.

With FB at LINIA CK established at 543214 on LINIA CK at 1545k/3 Aug, our patrols were now in a better strategical posn.

It will be seen that, after pushing us back, and coming to 552212, the enemy has been content to SIT and HOLD and consolidate and concentrate his def plan along the coast, with the ambush, 631219 - 629218 to HOLD, and with his base in the area in the vic of the BUANG mouth.

He is actually liable and would be vulnerable to, any attack from 500 yds NORTH of the river mouth by scrub bashing by a reasonably large force (say one full pl str) but either strafing and/or bombing along the coast track, the ambush posn 631219 - 629218 and the R mouth area would be ESSENTIAL if any large measure of success were to be had.

The enemy evidently intends, by his actions, to prevent any flank attack on either DAE or SALAMAUA and to keep open his L of C between same. The sinking of barges may have had some effect. I would estimate the enemy str along the coast, including LABU, as being in the region of 500, with anything up to 200 between the 21 N grid and SUGARLOAF. these figures may be low.

With the force at our disposal, and what is perhaps more important - the COMBINATION of this force - any tasks except that purely of recce must be considered out of the question temporarily.

OPS:-

<u>Date (Time)</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>SALIENT POINTS.</u>
1245k/30 Jul	552212.	M.R. 17 Japs ambushed by us - Premature shot - enemy withdrew hurriedly with evidence of Jap gaiter found 14 Jul at WEST end of 552212, Pte CRAVEN may possibly have wounded one of them.
1545k/3 Aug.	543214	FB established by 11 pl on WEST side of LINIA CK in excellent posn.
1545k/4 Aug.	543214	11 pl comprise SMOKY FORCE.
1020k/6 Aug	631219	On patrol 1 offr 3 NCOs 18 ors crossing to SOUTH bank encountering the main track to beach, and proceeding 200 yds or so EAST along it, Cpl MAWBY & Lieut ROBINSON shot a point blank range one Jap, sentry for ambush posn - one shot by Japs just missed these two - NO hope of busting posn so we withdrew-ambush approx 50 yds in depth - could NOT ascertain enemy str - were party dug in - CLIFF on SOUTH side, river 10 yds away, on NORTH.

Date (Time)	PLACE M.R.	ESSENTIAL POINTS (continued)
1740k/12 Aug	635243 & 633237 (OLD 12 pl FB)	Lieut ROBINSON, Cpl MAWBY, Ptes JONES & JOHNSON KULU attached, got 2 UNARMED Japs, evidently relieving the .5 MG posn to the NORTH of track junc 635243 at 635243 - enemy opened up, apparently on fixed lines with .5 MG and Bren and Bren type LMGs. Their automatic fire power being to the NORTH of this posn and mainly rifle fire to the SOUTH - we returned through old FB - were very fortunate NOT to be cutt-off - surprised aided us.
0900k/13 Aug.	633237 (patrol was at 618236 approx)	Full-scale attack launched on FB posn with about 24 4 in mor bombs & MGs - did NOT follow us far the evening before, evidently - time of contact enabled us to make good cover in bush - our str was 1 offr 2 NCOs 15 ors.
1545k/15 Aug	629218	Patrol sent to booby-trap track as near as possible to this vic ran into well placed and strongly fortified Jap ambush - passed 3 barricades, (first at 621218, found day previous) - 4th barricade constituted part of enemy plan of ambush. - L/Sgt FOX, patrol leader killed instantly - Lieut A SAUNDERS hit in stomach and chest, badly wounded - Pte J MACKENZIE wounded in thigh but NOT seriously - all the rest except L/Cpl PAXINO & Pte HOURIGAN, got out, with Cpl DYBING & a small force further back along track covering withdrawal - one .5 MG and 3 Bren or Bren type LMGs AT LEAST, and considerable No of automatics in ambush - estimated str - NO less than 30 & NO more than 50 - depth ambush approx 150 yds - barricade at EAST end of posn, CLIFF to SOUTH, and RIVER to NORTH - patrol very fortunate to get off so lightly - Japs bad shots and underestimated us - 3, maybe 4, Japs killed - wounded unknown.
1720k/15 Aug	543214	Cpl DYBING and 3 ors returned to FB.
1800k/15 Aug	629218	Lieut A SAUNDERS died of wounds received. L/Cpl PAXINO (& Pte HOURIGAN who had remained under cover, the former assisting Lieut SAUNDERS, left posn.
2250k/15 Aug	543214	These 2 returned to FB.
0830k/16 Morning K/18 Aug	543214 578230	Pte J MACKENZIE, wounded, and the two men who remained with him, and assisted in, returned to FB; patrol str was 1 offr, 3 NCOs, 12 ORs. COAST patrol under Lieut CHILDS found disused bench cut, wide and stony, track running EAST-WEST.
0900k/18 k/18	605260 543214	Fighting base established - 1 NCO 4 ORs returned to FB through ill-health. 10 pl now comprise SMOKY FORCE.
1125k/18	614262	Chopping of trees heard at a bearing of 356 degrees mag and further EAST of this posn - felling probably along CK marked on map NORTH of SUGARLOAF. Patrol could NOT reach coast.

The rubber sent down was unable to be used, (i) Owing to it's bulkiness. (ii) NO natives will go past LINIA CK. (iii) There is NO possible hope of it's being carried through the sac-sac.

MORALE: - The morale of the troops would, if traced, constitute a very interesting graph, with its peak during the stay of 11 pl under Lieut ROBINSON, and its lowest after the clash of k/15 at 629219, and during the early portion of 10 pls period under Lieut CHILDS.

- Things which affected morale:
- (a) for good
 - (i) Sound, sensible leadership;
 - (ii) The receipt of parcels;
 - (iii) The receipt of better rations;
 - (iv) The encounters with the enemy which were successful;
 - (v) The better FB posn on LINIA CK at 543214.

- (b), for bad (i) Incompetent leadership by someone in whom the men had NO confidence whatever; [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED] This factor perhaps above all others, has the most effect;
- (ii) Incompetency in the handling of supplies; [REDACTED] TOM
- (iii) VERY LITTLE, if any, rest after the stay down the BUANG.
- (iv) The encounter of k/15 and the resultant cas. [REDACTED]

MESSING & RATIONS:- The last kai line to come in before my departure was an excellent one & lacked hardly a thing. Rations have improved immensely. As a great amount depends on the cook i/c, the quality and quantity of the actual meals varied somewhat. There was a tendency to "hold out" on the rations, e.g., the making of a morning cup of tea without sugar and milk when there was any amount of both these items. A mess hut has been built, & tables put therein.

HYGIENE & SANITATION:- S/Sgt BARNES who went to FB and stayed there, has organised this sit as close as is possible to the wishes of the RMO, The posn at 543214 was very satisfactory.

HEALTH OF TPS:- The "itch" - mocha bites, rashes, ringworms and tinea abounded. Some men were in a very bad state for a short time. The med work done by Pte W.A. RUSSELL was excellent and deserves much praise.

There was co-operation in the fwding of med supplies and this was much appreciated. Diarrhoea occurred in some cases, but with Chlorodyne treatment, it was soon remedied.

SECURITY:- The unit number was cut out of mail for the members of SMOKY FORCE at MAPOS. This obviated the immediate destruction of envelopes to some extent.

TOPOGRAPHICAL:- (A --- MAPOS - LINIA CK.
(B --- LINIA CK - COAST.

A. A Going Map, MAPOS to LINIA CK is an accompaniment of this report. The track between these two points rises for about 1 1/2 hrs from MAPOS to the SUMMIT of the range and from then on it falls 1-4, often 1-3. It is very rarely a dry track, and is covered with mud and many roots of trees, and logs. Along the top of the range there is perpetual cloud, and slush. The going is very hard.

Water is obtainable at a Little Ck, about 1/2 hr EAST past the SUMMIT and at LINIA, where a track cuts into LINIA Ck to the LEFT (NORTH) of the track; at LEGS FB, and at the LEGA TRICKLE, approx 525212; next at the base of the spur, at LINIA CK.

The track follows EAST down a spur, at the point of which is the junc of LINIA Ck and the BUANG R.

The type of country is jungle with moss-covered trees, ever dripping with moisture, near the top of the range; and then out between LEGA R.H. 521209 and LINIA Ck.

B. The valley track of the BUANG and the BWUSSI valleys, runs to within several hundred yards of the coast.

To the NORTH, the mtn spur there, after 590226 runs in a NE direction to SUGARLOAF, the last peak in this spur. Between this latter spur and the river, is sac-sac and rain forest intermingled with a fairly large Ck, (ROBINSON CK) running EAST from the spur. The sac-sac has many vines and much timber, with very much wait-a-while. It is exceedingly difficult to negotiate and an OIL COMPASS is essential, MRS in it are very difficult to give.

The river itself is very swift flowing (about 10 knots average) is NOT the easiest to cross, and is subject to sudden floodings after big rains when it is almost hopeless to attempt a crossing.

To the NORTH and SOUTH of it, mainly the SOUTH, watercourses abound, also Cks. These provide many alternate lines of approach and any FB sited in this area is FIRM only in name.

The main track to the coast, opened up by 10 pl, lies, after passing through the Island, i.e. after 579221, to the SOUTH of the river, but crosses many watercourses in the process.

It does NOT cross the river again after 578221, and this is only King the SOUTH trib, which is a shallow, ambling stream.

A pad we used much, runs on the NORTH bank of the river. We could NOT follow it after approx 618226.

Huts, built by NGRV are encountered at various points, in varied states of repair, many being useable.

ACCOMMODATION:- With FBs abounding, accommodation is NOT in a bad state.

(a) 4 huts recently renovated along the SUMMIT ridge, - approx 20 men fairly good condition NO water (see GOING MAP)

(b) LINIA R.H. - one hut, hopeless condition, water handy.

(c) LEGA R.H. - 3 fairly large huts - approx 30 men - water 10 mins.

(d) LEGA F.B. - 4 huts, approx 28-30 men - good condition - water 5 mins.

(e) LINIA CK F.B. - 7 good lean to's, kitchen and mess hut and RAP - 25 men - Yankee tents, additional (18 men) - total, 43 men approx.

TIME: 1715 hrs. -

DATE: 23 Aug 43.

(Sgd) ELECTRICIAN SMOKY, Donald A LANGFORD. Cpl.

TOPOGRAPHICAL:
(A) --- MAPS - LINIA CK.
(B) --- LINIA CK - COAST.

A Going Map, LINIA CK is an accompaniment of this report. The track between the two points rises for about 1/2 mile from the summit of the mountain on its side 1-2, then 1-3. It is very nearly a dry track covered with many roots of trees, and logs. Along the track there is a perpetual cloud, and slash. Water is obtained at LINIA, where a track at LEGA R.H. and at LINIA CK. The track follows the spur, at LINIA CK and the June of LINIA CK and the type of soil with moisture, near the LEGA R.H. and LINIA CK. The valley track several hundred yards or more to the NORTH, then to SUBARABLE, the last river, is across and the (ROBINSON CK) running east from each timber, with very much water. It is very difficult to negotiate and an OIL COMPASS is essential, MAPS are very difficult to give. The river itself is very swift flowing (about 10 knots average) is NOT the easiest to cross, and is subject to sudden floodings after big rains when it is almost impossible to attempt a crossing. To the NORTH, the SOUTH, watercourses abound, also CKs. These are very steep lines of approach and any FB sited in this area is FIRM only in name. The main track to the coast, opened up by 10 pl, lies, after passing through the Island, i.e. after crossing the SOUTH of the river, but crosses many watercourses in the process.

INTELL REPORT TO 1700 Hrs 19 AUG 43

FROM SMOKEY FORCE

To Int O

Ref map WAGO one in.

OPS:- 0945k/19 5 men - 1 NCO and 4 ORs returned from the SUGARLOAF - COAST patrol because of sicknesses. The remaining 9 - 1 offr and 8 ORs continued with the patrol and are expected back evening of k/20.

The native carriers deserve the highest praise for their work in this country, and in particular, YUM, a boss-boy, who took it on himself to do the most part of the carrying of Pte J S MACKENZIE, who was wounded, between FB, LINIA CK and MOPO.

A standing patrol of 4 - 2 on a Bren posn at the junc of LINIA Ck and BUANG RIVER and 2 men with an OSMG at junc main track and LINIA Ck, on WEST side of Ck, (see sketch LINIA CK FB area) - are now placed at 2 strategical points in the area.

MORALE:- Not very good; some are still particularly nervy; but there has been a slight improvement in the last day or so.

MESSING AND RATIONS:- An excellent kai line, the best ever to reach SMOKEY FORCE, came in morning of the 19 th. Needless to say, the tps much appreciate it, and their well-being has improved in consequence.

HEALTH TPS:- The majority of men continue to need med treatment for various ills. Colds are becoming more prevalent now. With 14 out on the SUGARLOAF - COAST patrol, the posn a few days ago was such, that only 4 men in this FB area were available for patrol work other than the Standing Patrol. Now, 5 of that, SUGARLOAF patrol were sent back because of illnesses.

With the incidence of maladies and sickness in this coy through the periods spent in this area, it would be very surprising were there one pl str of fit and able men capable of doing a job, in a very short time.

As stated before, the nervous strain appears to be greater here than in some other areas, and this has the effect of upsetting the whole Physical and Mental structure.

Pte W? A. RUSSELL continues to do an excellent job.

HYGIENE AND SANITATION:- S/Sgt BARNES is in the area at present, supervising this position.

GENERAL:- BUILDER I BOMO arrived at FB approx 1600k/19. He is preparing a Special Report.

Cpl LANGFORD is leaving FB afternoon K/20 & LA morning k/21.
A short Service was held at 1330k/19 in the FB area.

TIME: 1050 hrs.

DATE: 20 Jul.

(Sgd) ELECTRICIAN SMOKEY Donald A LANGFORD. Cpl.

GOING MAP

MAPOS - LINIA CK : LINIA CK - MAPOS

GENERAL REPORT . THE TRACK FOLLOWS DOWN A STEEP SLOPE TO LINIA CK IS WELL DIFINED BUT IS CONSTANTLY SLIPPERY AND MUDDY AS RAIN IS VERY PERSISTENT. THE GRADE IS 1-4 SOMETIMES 1-3 . WATER IS OBTAINABLE AT SEVERAL PLACES AND THERE IS ALSO ACCOMMODATION AT THE HUTS ON THE SUMMIT OF THE RANCE, AT LEGA R.H., LEGA F.B.

THE HUTS (4) 20 MEN . LEGA R.H. 30 MEN LEGA F.B. 28 MEN LINIA CK F.B. 25 MEN. (43 WITH U.S. TENTS)

TIMES OF TRAVEL FOR 1 SEC

MAPOS - LEGA 6:0
 LEGA - LINIA CK. 1:15
 LINIA CK. LEGA 2:0
 LEGA MAPOS 8:0

TRACK TIME

6 ↓ 15 8 ↑ 30

AUG 28
 1100 HRS

REF MAP WAGO 1 INCH

LINIA CK - MAPOS

MAPOS ACCOMMODATION FOR APPROX 2 MEN 2 LARGE HUTS GOOD CONDITION. 2 KITCHENS. OPERATING THEATRE WATER 10MTS NATIVE FOOD OBTAINABLE

CLEAR COUNTRY. GARDENS

TRACK FALLS 1-5

2 HUTS ON RIGHT OF TRACK

2 HUTS GOOD CONDITION TRACK FALLS GRADUALLY FOLLOWS ALONG RIDGE

TRACK RISES 1-5

SMALL CK GOOD WATER IS ONLY A TRICKLE

TRACK RISES AND ZIGZAGS GRADIENT 1-4 OFTEN 1-3 VERY DIFFICULT ROOTS OVER TRACK

LINIA GRASS PATCH ONE

TRACK FALL 1-5

SMALL TRICKLE TO NORTH OF TRACK OFF A SMALL PATCH OF GRASS

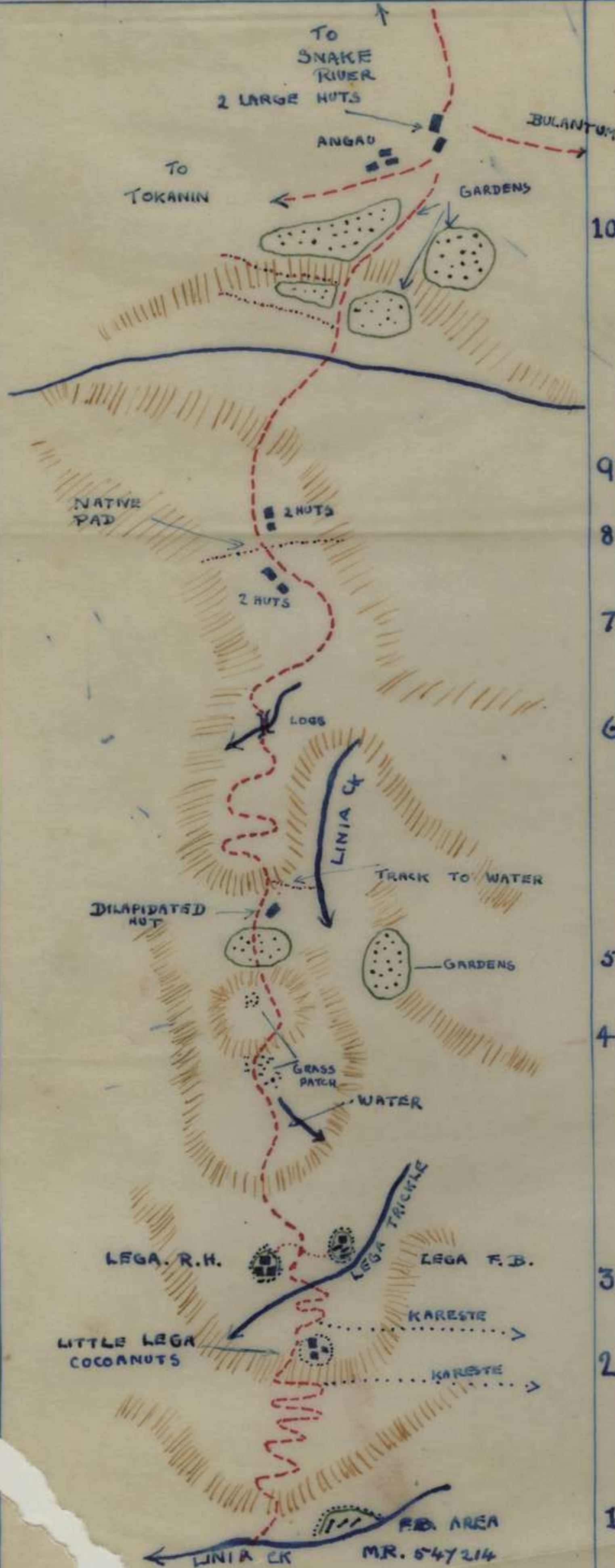
TRACK RISES AV. GRADIENT 1-4 ROOTS ACROSS TRACK

LEGA R.H. 3 HUTS GOOD REPAIR NO NATIVE FOODS LEGA TRICKLE SMALL CK GOOD WATER

LITTLE LEGA SOME DELAPIDATED HUTS IN AREA. OVERGROWN NEWLY CUT TRACKS TO KARESTE

TRACK RISES 1-4

FOOD WATER
 LINIA CK 30' W 1-5' D
 FORDABLE



8 ↑ 30 ↓ 15
 M.R.
 MAPOS
 0 ↑ 40 ↓ 55
 9 CHANGE
 0 ↑ 10 ↓ 10
 8 0 ↑ 30 ↓ 40
 7 SUMMIT
 0 ↑ 35 ↓ 20
 6 LITTLE CK
 1 ↑ 30 ↓ 45
 5 LINIA
 0 ↑ 20 ↓ 25
 4 TOP RISE
 2 ↑ 50 ↓ 1
 1 ↓ 50
 3 LEGA
 MP 521209
 0 ↑ 30 ↓ 20
 2 LITTLE LEGA
 M.R. 531212
 1 ↑ 20 ↓ 50
 1 LINIA CK
 MR 543212

GOING MAP - MAPOS - LINIA CK. ; LINIA CK - MAPOS.

GENERAL REPORT: The track follows down a steep spur, to LINIA CK. is well-defined but is constantly muddy and slippery, as rain is very persistent. The grade is about 1-4, sometimes 1-3. Water is obtainable at several places, and there is also some accommodation at the huts on the summit of the m., at LEGA R.H. & LEGA F.B. The 4 huts - 20 men; LEGA R.H. 30 men; LEGA F.B. 28 men; LINIA CK F.B. 25 men (43 with U.S. tents.)

Times of Travel for 1 Sec.:

MAPOS - LEGA.	6-00	} 7-15
LEGA - LINIA CK.	1-15	
LINIA CK - LEGA	2-00	} 10-00
LEGA - MAPOS.	8-00	

Track Time:

6 ↓ 15 8 ↑ 30

24 Aug. 43.

Donald. C. Langford.
Cpl.
"I" Sec. 24 Bn.

Ref Map: WAGO One In. LINIA CK - MAPOS GOING MAP. N.

MAPOS. Accommodation for approx. 25 men. 2 large huts, excellent condition, 2 kitchens, operating theatre. Water. 10 mins. Native food obtainable.

Clear Country. Gardens.

Track falls, 1-5.

2 huts on right of track.

2 huts, Good condition.

Track falls gradually. follows along ridge.

Track Rises, 1-5.

Small ck. Good Water. Is only a trickle.

Track Rises, and Zig-Zags. av. gradient, 1-4. Often 1-3. Very difficult. Roots over track.

LINIA. Grass Patch. One old shelter. Water handy. Track Falls, 1-5.

Small Trickle, to NORTH of track. off, at a small patch of grass.

Track Rises, av. gradient 1-4. Roots across track.

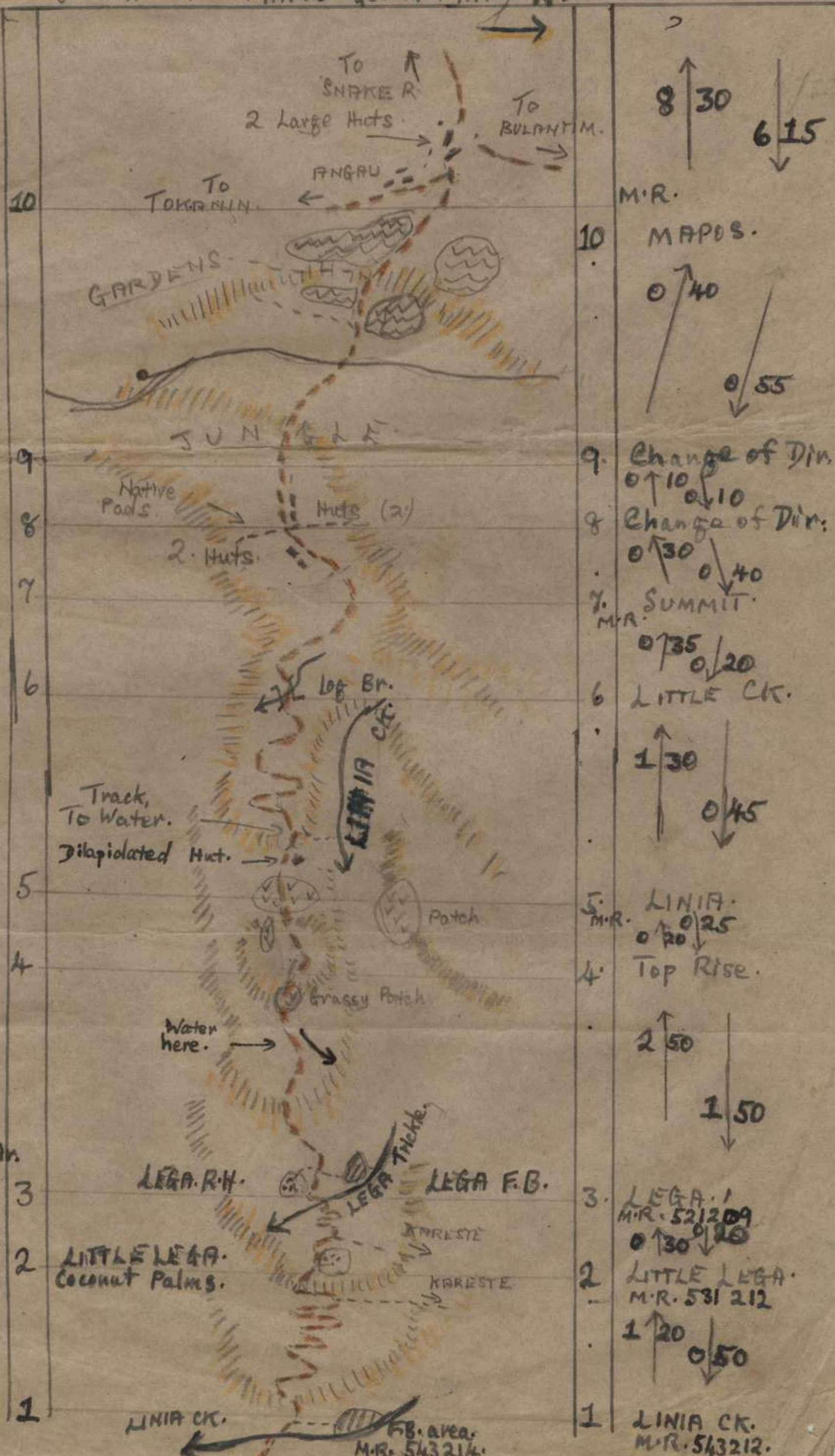
LEGA R.H. 3 Huts in Good Repair. No Native Foods.

LEGA TRICKLE. Small ck. Good Water.

LITTLE LEGA. Some dilapidated huts in area. Overgrown. Newly cut track, to KARESTE. Track Rises. 1-4.

Zig-Zags.

LINIA CK. 30 ft. W. 1/2 D. Swift Flowing. Good Water. FORTABLE.



8 ↑ 30 ↓ 6 15

M.R.

10 MAPOS.

0 ↑ 40 ↓ 0 55

9 Change of Dir. 0 ↑ 10 ↓ 0 10

8 Change of Dir. 0 ↑ 30 ↓ 0 40

7 SUMMIT. M.R. 0 ↑ 35 ↓ 0 20

6 LITTLE CK. 1 ↑ 30 ↓ 0 45

5 LINIA. M.R. 0 ↑ 20 ↓ 0 25

4 Top Rise.

2 ↑ 50 ↓ 1 50

3 LEGA. M.R. 521209 0 ↑ 30 ↓ 0 20

2 LITTLE LEGA. M.R. 531 212 1 ↑ 20 ↓ 0 50

1 LINIA CK. M.R. 543212.

From B Coy 24 Bn.

PATROL STRENGTH. Lieut. SMITH and 4 OR's.PATROL LEADER. Lieut. SMITH.ARMAMENT. 1 O.S.M.G., 4 rifles, 2 grenades per man.OBJECT. To reach beach via NORTH side of BUANG River.WEATHER. Fine and clear.ROUTE OUT. From FIRM BASE 554218 NORTH to 557221 then to main track at 580225 went on bearing approx 60 degrees to creek 605237. Followed creek down to 616235 and spent the night; continued down creek to 625235, left creek coming out on NORTH bank. Walked on bearing approx 50 degrees to 632242.ROUTE IN. From 632242 WEST for 500 yds. to 627242 continued for 2½ hrs. then SOUTH-WEST striking creek 625235 up creek to 607236 and camped night. Left creek at 605237 travelled WEST then along river flat to main track back to FIRM BASE.TIME OUT. 0800k/31.TIME IN. 1145k/2.LOAD CARRIED. 3 days rations 2 emergency rations.RESULT. Patrol contacted enemy defence line half moon shape 15 to 20 yds. length at M.R. 632242 at 1205k/1. Pte ARNOLD R.E. was half way across log over swamp when a shot from M.M.G. hit him and he staggered and fell across log; a further burst was seen to hit him immediately. Rest of patrol engaged enemy and 3 possible kills were claimed. Patrol then withdrew.DETAILS. Patrol after leaving 616235 continued on until swamp was reached at approx 622238 proceeded up firm strip of ground to 632242. There was about ²⁰ yards of thick swamp WEST and EAST of this position. Lieut. SMITH, Ptes. LLOYD, MEYER, and CHALLMAN were sitting on the bank while Pte. ARNOLD tried to move along a log running EAST and WEST. Coast at this point was estimated to be 200 yds. away. As ARNOLD was nearing centre of log one shot from M.M.G. 20 yds. in front caught him. He was seen to stagger and fall on to the log on which he was walking; immediately afterwards a burst from the M.M.G. was again seen to hit him. The Jap position was in a half moon with 1 M.M.G., 2 L.M.G. in the centre with rifles on their right and left flank. Lieut. SMITH sent burst of Owen gun fire into the Jap left flank; at the same time the remaining 3 of the patrol fired their rifles into the same position. Fire in the Jap left flank seemed to cease and it is thought that our fire probably accounted for three Japs. After patrol knew that Pte. ARNOLD was killed moved into a pre-arranged position 500 yds. WEST of the position of contact. Waited 10 minutes to see if anything could be heard. A further burst of 12 shots was heard and NO mvt. was heard from there on. To get to this position patrol had to pass through 20 yds. of swamp which at times was up to their necks. They were continually pulling each other out. Bullets could be seen hitting the mud as they were moving. Patrol then cut through almost impossible jungle and proceeded back to FIRM BASE as shown above. Lieut. SMITH lost rifle during engagement. Lieut. SMITH threw a grenade into M.M.G. position, but it failed to explode. Patrol was very knocked up after returning and it will take and will take some days for them to return to normal again.

Signed : Lieut. SMITH.E.W.

Patrol Leader.

PATROL REPORT

RECCE PATROL

REF MAP- WAGO 1 inch.

FROM - LIEUT SMITH.

DATE - 30 AUG 43.

PATROL STRENGTH - 1 OFFR 7 ORS.

ARMAMENT - 2 OSMG 5 rifles 2 grens per man.

OBJECT - To cut track along SOUTH side BUANG RIVER to the coast.

WEATHER - Fine and clear.

ROUTE OUT - From FIRM BASE to bench cut track at map ref 555219 along track to 557221 down creek to 559216 cut track to 558215 through centre of island to NORTH arm at 556214 crossed SOUTH arm at 557213 cut to 558211 along to small creek at 560211 continued 90 degrees to 564211 reached waterfall at 566211 stopped at 570213.

ROUTE IN - Same as route out.

TIME OUT - 0830 hrs.

TIME IN - 1615 hrs.

LOAD CARRIED - 2 days rations and 2 emergency rations.

RESULT OF PATROL - Track cut approx 3000 yds.

DETAILS - After leaving FIRM BASE went down bench cut track to 557221 then along creek to NORTH arm of BUANG 559216. Started cutting at this point. Jungle was very thick but nothing impossible. Moved to centre of island at 558215 travelled WEST SOUTH WEST to 555214 then cut to NORTH arm at 556214 crossed to SOUTH arm and started cutting at 557213 to the 500 ft level at 558211 kept cutting track on that level until small creek was reached at 560211. Continued at 90 degrees up to feature 600 ft at 564211. At 566211 a small waterfall was reached and it was necessary to continue up another 100 ft to 570213. This posn was reached at 1400 hrs when the patrol started back to FIRM BASE. NO trace of any Jap movement was seen at any time. Observations were impossible owing to thick growth of the jungle. The track was kept away as far as possible from the river and was cut between the 600 and 700 ft level. The going was rough at times because of heavy timber and rocks but patrol cut approx 3000 yds in the first day.

Patrol Leader. W.E. SMITH Lieut.

PATROL REPORT

RECCE PATROL

REF MAP- WAGO 1 inch.

FROM - LIEUT SMITH

DATE - 30 AUG 43

PATROL STRENGTH - 1 NCO 5 ORS.

ARMAMENT - 3 OSMG 3 rifles 2 grens per man.

OBJECT - To cut track NORTH side BUANG in direction of SUGARLOAF.

WEATHER - Fine and clear.

ROUTE OUT - FIRM BASE to bench cut track at 555219 down creek to 559218 along track to 566220 then NORTH EAST to 575227.

ROUTE IN - Same as route out.

TIME OUT - 0830 hrs.

TIME IN - 1645 hrs.

RESULT OF PATROL - Track was reced and cut for approx 3000 yds.

LOAD CARRIED - 2 days rations and 2 emergency rations.

DETAILS - Left FIRM BASE at 0830 hrs and proceeded to bench cut track at 555219 then along track to 559218. Moved along track at 60 degrees to 566220. At this point cutting started and proceeded at 40 degrees to 575227. The growth was very thick here and many big rocks were encountered around the many re-entrants. This point was reached at 1445 hrs and patrol returned to FIRM BASE by the same route. Going on this side of the river is very hard but track was cut through to distance of approx 3000 yds from FIRM BASE on the first day. NO sign of any Jap movement was seen.

Patrol Leader. L/Cpl CROFT.

CONTACT REPORT.

Ref. Map WAGU.

PATROL CONCERNED

Fighting Patrol from 11 Pl. from F.B. LINIA^{CK}/543214

STR. 1 Offr. 3 N.C.Os. 18 O.Rs.

ARMS 2 Brens. 4 O.S.M.Gs. 16 rifles.

TIME OUT. 0815K/5

TIME IN. 1615K/5.

TIME OF CONTACT. 1020K/6

PLACE OF CONTACT. 631219 Jap ambush posn.

CASUALTIES. Enemy. 1 killed. Own. NIL.

DETAILS.

When within about 5 to 600 yds. of the coast and the Patrol was advancing along the main track to the BUANG R. mouth, Cpl. MAWBY and Lieut. E.R. ROBINSON advanced up two steps on the track and were immediately fired upon by rifle. Simultaneously, the two opened up, Cpl. MAWBY with a burst of his OSMG and the latter with a rifle, at point blank range into 1 Jap who appeared to have been the sentry. The remainder of the patrol brought fire to bear on the general ambush area enabling these two to get clear. We kept up a fire of Bren, and rifle, evacuating the posn. at 1230K/6.

(Sgd) Donald A. LANGFORD.A/Cpl.
1100 hrs.
7 Jul. 43.

INTELLIGENCE REPORT TO 1400 hrs. 7 JUL. 43.To.
I.O.From SMOKY Force.Ref. Map. WAGO. 1"

OPS. A patrol from F.B. M.R. 543214, on LINIA CK, extending over two days contacted the enemy in a strong ambush posn. at 631219 at 1020K/6. In the ensuing action one rifle shot from the enemy passed between the heads of Cpl. MAWBY and BUILDER 1. Simultaneously, they both opened fire, (the former with his OSMG and the latter with rifle) at a Jap evidently the sentry who was caught off his guard and who was only a few yards distant. Our patrol was very fortunate, as we would otherwise have soon been partly decimated. The two concerned showed a very quick presence of mind.

The ambush posn. is such, that one passes along the main track with the cliff on the SOUTH side and the BUANG R. about 10 yds. away, on the NORTH. There is a rather open approach from the WEST, with NOT over much cover.

Evidently, the Japs keep a standing patrol here to keep us from reaching the coast, only a short distance away. However, we consider it possible to reach the coast by jungle bashing on the NORTH bank, although this will take some time, through the swampy country. Next time it will be with the camera that is coming; also, we intend booby-trapping the coast track.

Sketches of the patrol will accompany.

MORALE. Good. The hard conditions have a bad effect on it but more so, the treatment received per supply lines, in which, at various stages, there has been much misunderstanding or mistakes made.

E.G. Conditions are harder, because a considerable number of "Yankee" tents have been lying at MOPO, (also groundsheets) for some time. These we hope to procure shortly.

MESSING AND RATIONS. Have improved. Rice should be among the first priorities. Men returning from Patrols can especially do with it. With a cook, Cpl. OLSEN, his part of the organisation is better off. As it rains continually here. The lighting of fires is a tremendous job. Some alcohol sent down for this purpose, received to-day, will prove very helpful indeed. We can still do with Cheese & Marmite.

COMFORTS. Some parcels arrived here to-day and were much appreciated. The YMCA rep. sent us down some Comforts which we were very pleased to get. As there has been NO issue powder for a long while, there is very little in anyone's possession. The wet conditions require some drying agent.

HEALTH. The continual wet conditions, have brought out colds, sores and rashes on the majority of the men.

CONDITIONS. "It's always raining", about gives you the picture. Fine days as to-day (at present) are rare. When out on patrol, one wades through the river and creeks many times. Consequence is-wet, miserable conditions the whole time. Fires are a very hard job, & clothes, boots & eqpt. go in a very short time. The men are standing up to it well.

HYGIENE & SANITATION. Sludge pits are being dug & latrines, also hot water for rinsing dishes is being provided when the fire permits.

MAPS etc. As there is so much in the country round here, there will often be discrepancies in sketches, maps etc. Please take it that later maps & sketches supersede any previous one. e.g. Along the NORTH arm and side of the BUANG R. gives one a different idea altogether from the SOUTH side.

Mapping is very difficult, & needs much time spent on it.

COMMS. P.Bs. will NOT stay at F.B.; and will only come down when messages are to be brought down, when we can then send messages back.

REINFTS. The sec. fron. arrived here at F.B. at 1830K/6.

My paper stock is running low.

(Sgd.) Donald A. LANGFORD. A/Cpl.
TIME. 14⁰⁰ hrs.
DATE. 7 Aug.

COPY.

BUILDER 1 BITO.

BUILDER 1 SMOKY.

Sir, the following is a report on my activities since assuming command Smoky force 31 July.

- 31 Arrived LA 16.00 hrs 31 relieved Lt Dawson and checked over all weapons and ammunition.
- K/1 Inspected installations at LA went over entire situation with Lt Dawson & pl Langford & Sect.
- K/2 Personally led reconnaissance fighting patrol to search for new location for F.B. decided base Linia Creek 543214 100 yds ago 1 inch.
- K/3 Moved F.B. to 543214 kept patrol active.
- K/4 Despatched pl. Mawby with patrol to secure base approx position 586224 pl Mawby reported by message signs of recent Jap activity 593226
- K/5 Left base with patrol and absorbing pl Mawby's patrol making total strength of patrol 1 off 3 NCO'S 18 OR'S covered all ground forward to 617225 by 18.00 hrs K/5
- K/6 Moved into swamp country then as going although not impassible but extremely hard moved out into Luang River at 623221 picked up track to beach and at 631219 ran into Jap ambush. Casualties killed 1 Jap. 1 own killed.
- K/7 Patrol out to cover country out to 516245.

Sir, have reason to believe Japs have standing patrol at Luang Mouth from which they patrol the valley. Sir, you suggest per Builder 1 Lomo to establish F.B. in vicinity 586225 in order to secure track to Karesti and LA. If this suggestion was carried out it would secure only the Karesti track which is extremely difficult to find but leave track to LA and MAPOS open. The situation is such that the Luang River valley is a maze of water courses and dry creek beds, these would leave any F.B. forward of Linia Creek open to encirclement and enable the enemy to cut LA off and operate on LA MAPOS track. This course is one which must be denied them. At Linia Creek the position is such that LA MAPOS track is secure main BUANG KARESTI track 245214 (red overlap) is also secured. As a base it is as convenient for patrol as anything further forward, as more men can be spared for active patrolling. Karesti track 56221 is secured by fact of patrols being forward of this area at all times.

Since the accident in which the PB was killed the natives will not cross LINIA CREEK, in fact will not even stay at F.B. this makes Lomo very difficult and as no member of this patrol has been in the valley before no information is forthcoming re the country. I would definitely need a guide for SUGAR LOAF patrol and as the natives are panicky I don't know how to overcome this difficulty at present.

The conditions here are bad the men being wet 80% of the time and extremely difficult to dry clothes and blankets. Through this 60% of the men have colds and the majority contracting sores and rashes.

Everything possible is being done to alleviate the conditions but more American 2 man tents needed to ensure the men have a dry place to sleep in while not patrolling or other wise engaged. Since the action yesterday morale has received a big boost. pl Langford & Sect is forwarding sketch of area, it will give you a better appreciation of the terrain in the locality.

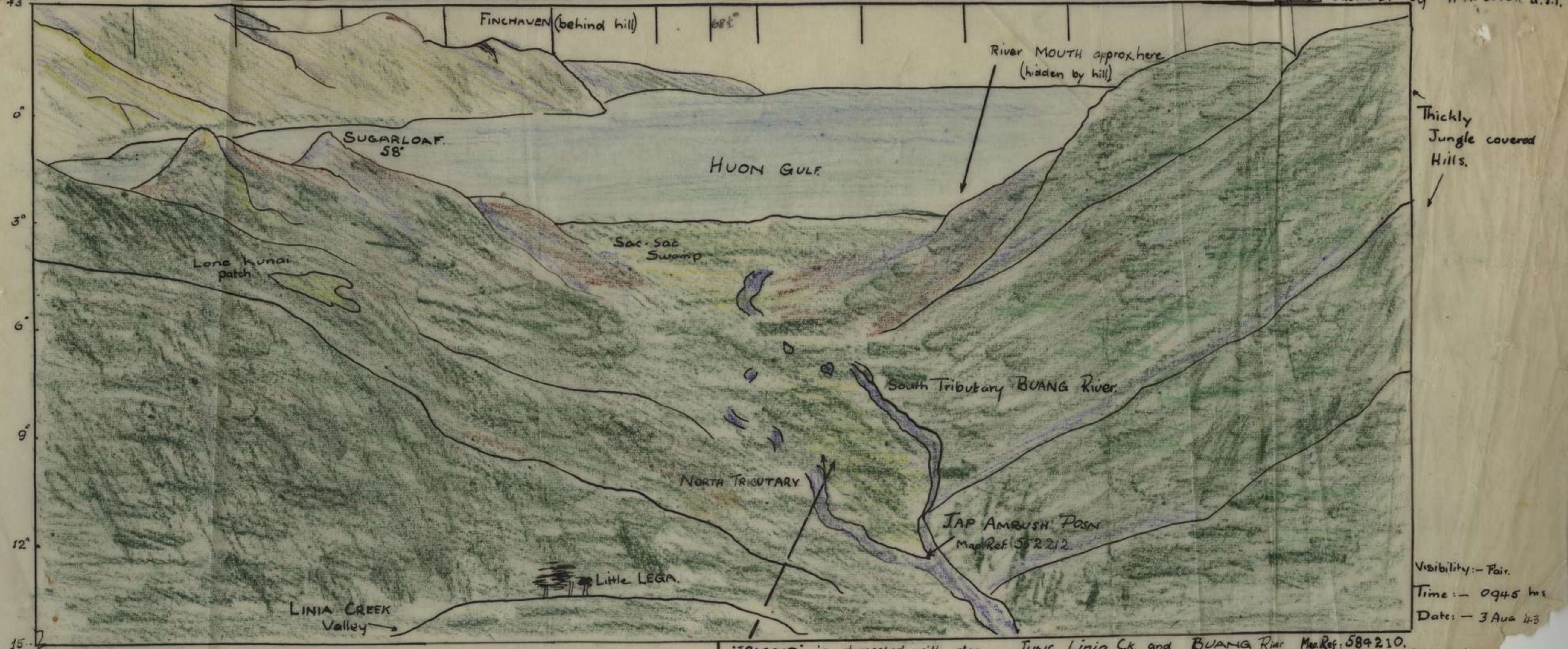
E.R. ROBINSON

Lieut

Bealings Mag.
AS 50°

PANORAMA LOOKING EAST DOWN the BUANG RIVER to the HUON GULF from LEGA. R. HUT.

Ref Map WAGO 1 inch. LEGA REST HOUSE
Map Ref. 521209. 89° approx 3000ft a.s.l.



0°
3°
6°
9°
12°
15°

68 1/2° 'ISLAND' is dissected with dry Junc. Linia Ck and BUANG River Map Ref. 584210.
water courses - jungle and Kunai covered

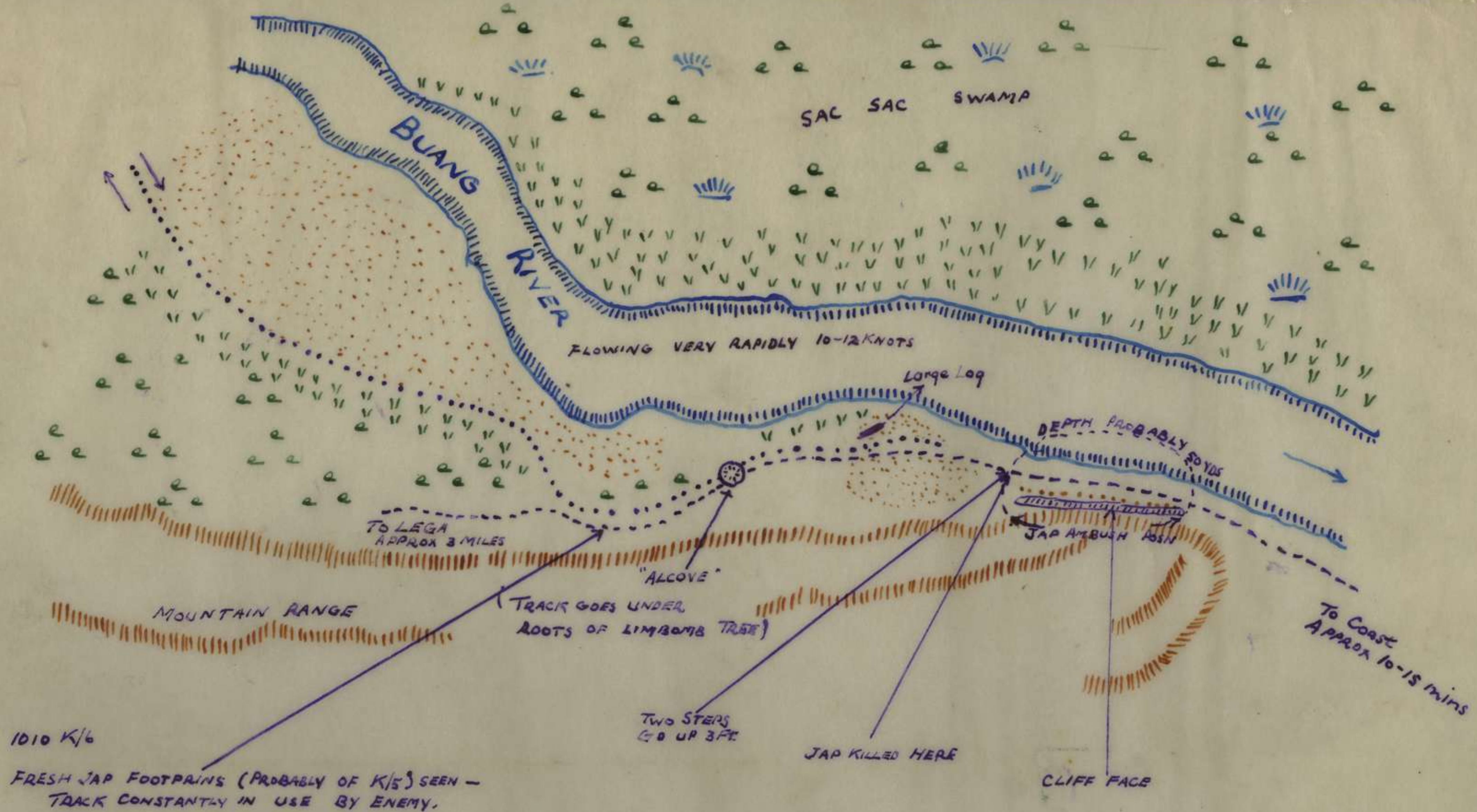
Visibility: - Fair.
Time: - 0945 hrs
Date: - 3 Aug 43

Sketch by: - Donald A.

Trace by: [Signature]

ROUGH SKETCH. JAP AMBUSH POSN STRUCK BY PATROL 1020 K/8 AUGUST 1943

REF MAP
WAGO 1 inch.
MAP REF
631219



LEGEND:

- ROCKY GROUND
- KUNAI
- SWAMP
- PATROL ROUTE

SCALE: 1 INCH = 50 YDS APPROX

TIME 1500 HRS
DATE 7 AUG 43
DRAWN BY DONALD A. LANGFORD A/CPL

Time 1500 hrs
Date Aug 12 '43
D. Langford
Pte

Ref Map. WAGO. 1 in.

Scale - 1 in - 1 ml.

Ref Map WAGO 1 inch

LEGEND - Sac Sac Swamp

Mitnous Country

Route Out 0915 K/G

Route In. 1619 K/G

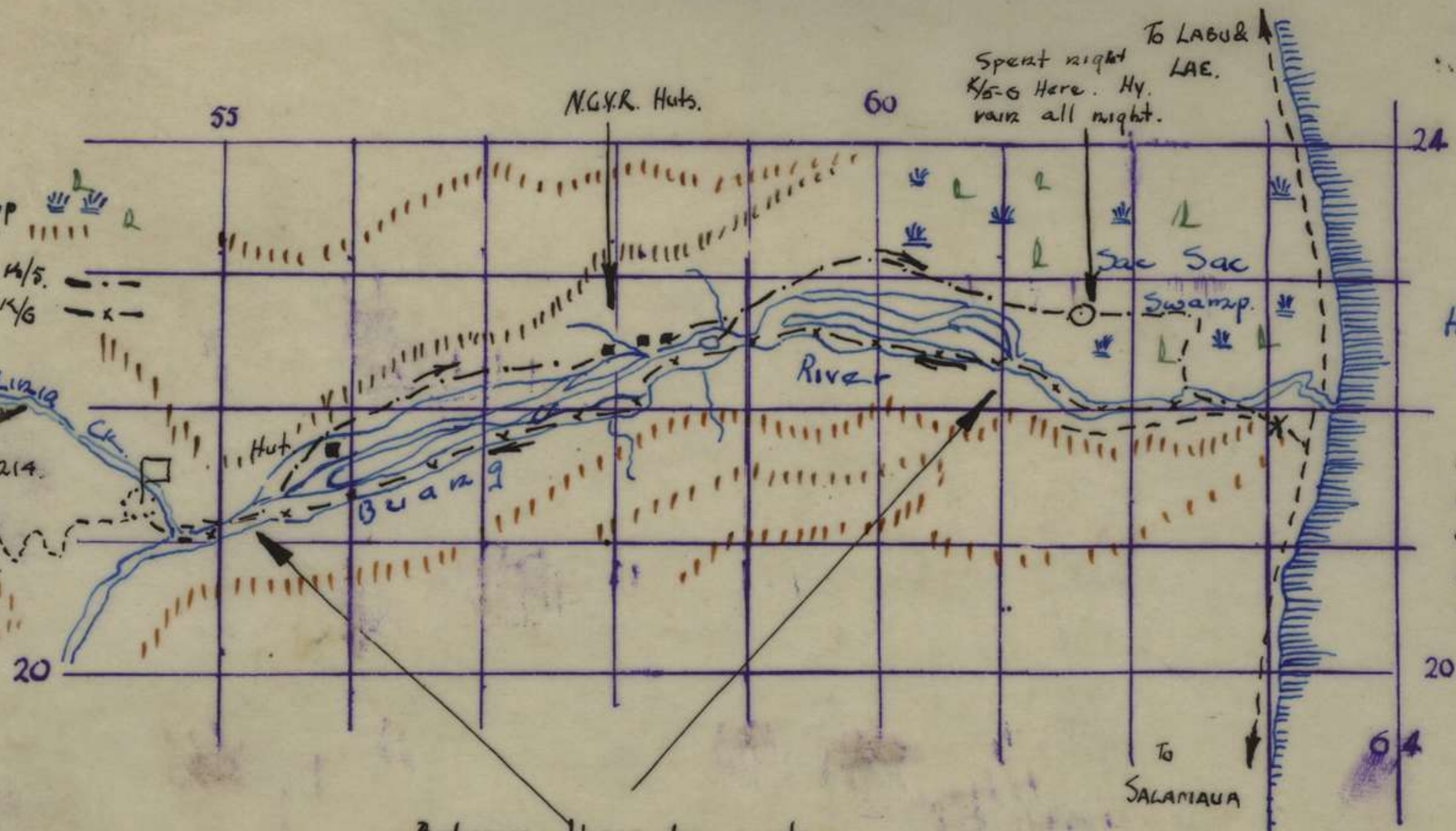
Firm Base 543214.

Limaia Ck.

Hut

Buarq

To LEGA.



Huon Gulf.

1020 K/G We ran into Jap ambusk.
map ref 631219 on main track to coast. Killed 1 Jap. Own Cas. NIL.
Limit of patrol. For idea of Jap ambusk see attached sketch.

Between these two points.
Watercourses abound. profusely
Islands are plentiful.

Sketch to Accompany Patrol Report on Fighting Patrol.

5-6 Aug 43.

Patrol Leader Lt. ROBINSON.

INTELL REPORT TO 1700 hrs. 14 AUG.

Res Map

From SMOKEY

WAGO One IN

OPS As reported in SITREP and PATROL & PATROL CONTACT REPORTS, our patrol to coast 11-13 AUG both incl cut through sac-sac & thick kunda to reach coast + OLD SMOKEY FB NORTH of BUANG R. mouth on evening K/12. FB was in a shambles as japs had evidently wrecked the huts, etc, & eaten rations. Both native & jap footprints (all types) abounded. 3 gen boxes, emptied, were lying in area.

We followed OUT to coast track by the NORTH track from the FB very cautiously. 1737K/12. BUILDER I & Sgt MAWBY reached COAST TRACK and Beach. Saw 2 UNARMED JAPS coming from SOUTH. They were evidently acting as reliefs.

These two personnel opened fire at close range, also Pte JONES, att. of HULL, with OSMG, killing them quickly. Pte JONES showed himself to be very good in this situation. This occurred at 1740K/12. The BEACH TRACK was well used and from all evidences, it would appear that the enemy has Coast Watching & Protection detachments along beach, with their H.Q. between this OLD FB posn and the BUANG R. mouth (see PB's report below).

The japs replied quickly with Brens/or Bren Types MG's, rifle and their WOODPECKER, all apparently firing on fixed lines, & mainly to the NORTH of the track junc. (see sketch)

We returned through the OLD FB posn and headed WEST into the scrub. The enemy, knowing the country in the vic could have cut us off, but we were successful in breaking bush & reaching ROBINSON CK as darkness fell. Here we slept the night and left

ratios being
subst. - 1/4
1/8/1 Over

11/16/8

OPS. cont at first light ⁽²⁾ 1500K. From here we followed UP the bk till 1000K.

At 0900K the Japs opened up on the OLD FB posn with MG fire and about 24 by mortar bombs. (They evidently launched a full scale attack on the posn!)

At 1000K/13 we travelled W and SW through the scrub, coming out on the BUNANG R. approx 618220 and returned along NORTH BANK arriving at FB at 1600K/13.

REMARKS : (i) ALL members of this Patrol needed med attention on return to FB after the continual immersion in water - river, swamp and creek and hacking our way through the sac-sac tangle of bunda, waita-white & vines. For a great part of the Patrol, there was water up to at least the crutch. One PTE PERRY had his feet rotten with TINEA & limped home. The strain on the men was tremendous during the whole show and they stood up to it despite the hardships.

(ii) It would NOT be advisable to use the same route, coming out at FB in any future Patrols to coast. Recommend cross ROBINSON CK and cut in further NORTH to the coast.

(iii) This would necessitate a 4-day Patrol & would be very hard going.

(iv) The bk we followed has been named ROBINSON CK in order to facilitate refs to it in any reports, messages, etc., and because of BUILDER FU's excellent leadership.

(iv) cont. The bk is good drinking water, is fairly quick flowing & has width (average) 8 ft. Depth 3 ft.

(v) An OIL COMPASS is a NECESSITY, & even with this, the going is very hard.

(vi) A boat in the sac-sac is USELESS.

(vii) The most effective time to attack enemy along coast is between 1700 + 1800 hrs, as they have NO time to get organised, & moreover, it is round about hai time.

With the weapons, etc, we possess, we can NOT counter their H in mortar, & by setting out WEST at FIRST LIGHT, the morning following, our forces can make a clean get-away.

(viii) Men DEFINITELY can NOT stand up to this without a GOOD REST afterwards. The human body needs much care & we are NOT SUPERHUMAN.

Recommend heartily strafing of BEACH TRACK, & to assist we give all infm we can to facilitate this.

(ix) Harassing Tactics, as now carried out, are ONLY ones with force available.

(xi) In case Japs decide to come up LA track to try & locate our posn, a patrol of about 16 men are leaving K/15 to booby-trap VA-LA track as near as possible to Jap ambush 631219.

This has been termed the FISHING EXPEDITION and we may get results.

OFS (cont)

(Xii.) The KULU boys did well, especially PTE JONES, as mentioned, & they are settling down.

(Xiii.) We have found by experience that 7d of Rations by themselves are NO GOOD. A certain amount (say about half) of the Rations are better as either Bully Beef or Meat Loaf and Biscuits & either Butter or Jam where possible.

also recommend RICE to be taken out on Patrol. owing to lack of rice we have not been able to do this.

(Xiv) OLD FB from our observation is a DEATH TRAP. AMBUSH POSN, sited between COAST TRACK and BEACH is in a SUICIDAL Posn. BUILDER I found this out by experience.

As I was out on this Patrol, the following info

has NOT been sent back to K/11 - On K/11 it was reported: "BIN (P.B.) informed me this morning that he saw 'Plenty Jap on the smoke last night from his hut [LA.]. I have looked in direction he mentioned and it would appear to come from the beach or jungle to the LEFT (NORTH) of the River mouth."

This, then, was evening of 15/10.

Patrol this ^{morning} afternoon struck a man-made barricade at approx 621218. The Patrol str for a bit any much more minute investigation & so they withdrew.

At 1520K/14 they picked up a JAP PUTTEE with three DDEOGRAPHIS on: I) middle or center = MIDSTREAM,

PIB/Ed II) River (stream)

evidently the owner's name. It would appear that it

(5)

one of the 7 faps were wounded in the encounter with them at this post, M.R. 552212 of 30 Jul. even though our Patrols have failed before to pick the same up. It had been there for some time. NO fap patrols have been up this way now for nearly a fortnight.

10 RE is in process of relieving 11 RE.

MORALE : Good.

MISSING & RATIONS: RICE has NOT yet come to hand in any quantity at all. Another kai line may, however bring some more in to-morrow. NO vegemite (or marmite) has yet been received, but a better quantity of sugar has come through.

A Mess Hut is in process of building.

HEALTH TPS : Still affected very much by conditions.

Pte. W. RUSSELL, as RFP man is doing an excellent job in combating the various troubles, mainly rashes & the itch.

GENERAL : Supply of paper gratefully received.

Lieut SAUNDERS arrived here K/13. S/Sgt BARNES arrived here ^{on K/12}. Supply of tobacco is short, especially as there was only 1 oz. per man in the last issue. Those etc. mentioned previously are now here.

SKETCHES HEREWITH

17/6

[Signature]

Gonard. St. Langford
A/Cpl.

ELECTRICIAN SMOKEY.

УРЕГИОН ЗВОК=А

СКЕЧЕЗ НРКЕМЛН

Handwritten notes, possibly describing sketches or technical details, including the word "GENERAL" written upside down.

SKETCHES

URGENT

INTREP

ELECTRICIAN

BITO

ELECTRICIAN

SMOKEY

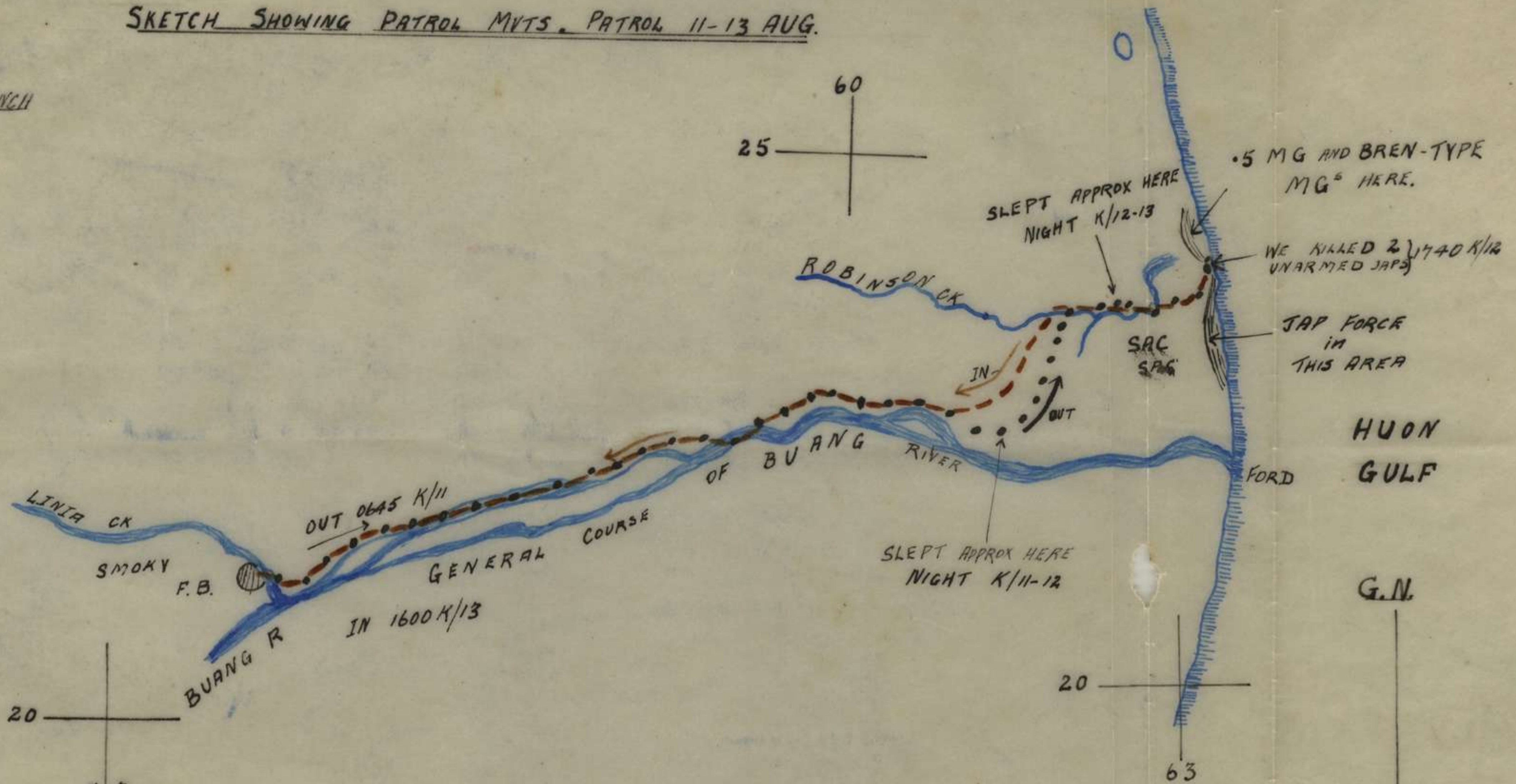
LOKHE

Main body of handwritten text, appearing to be a letter or report, with some lines crossed out.

(P)

SKETCH SHOWING PATROL MVTS. PATROL 11-13 AUG.

REF MAP
WAGO ONE INCH



PLEASE NOTE THAT PAST THE 60 E GRID
THE ROUTE IS APPROX ONLY AS M.R'S
ARE VERY DIFFICULT IN THE SAC-SAC

SCALE 1 INCH = 1 MILE

ROUTE OUT
ROUTE IN

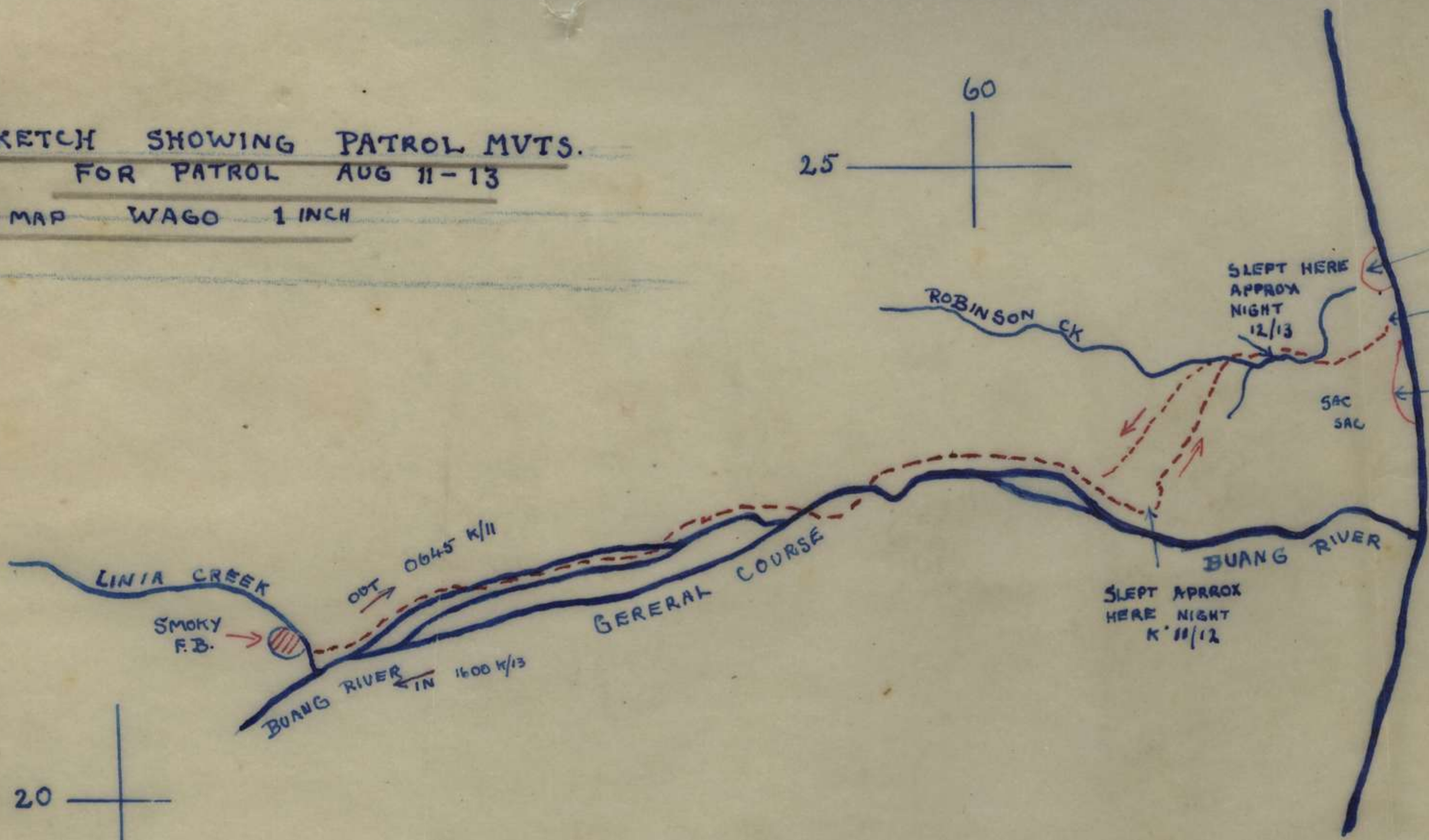
TIME : 1425 HRS
DATE : 14 AUG 43
DONALD A. LANGFORD
A/CPL I SEC

SKETCH SHOWING PATROL MVTS.
FOR PATROL AUG 11-13

REF MAP WAGO 1 INCH

60
25

HUON GULF



.5 MG AND
BREN TYPE HERE
1740 K/12
WE KILLED 2
UNARMED JAPS
JAP FORCE
IN THIS AREA

20
53

GN
↑

PLEASE NOTE
THAT PAST THE 60° E GRID
THE ROUTE IS APPROX ONLY AS M.R.G ARE DIFFICULT
IN THE SAC-SAC
SCALE 1 INCH = 1 MILE

COPIED FROM SKETCH
BY CP LANGFORD
DONE 1425 K/14 AUG

PHD
30 AUG '43

FIGHTING PATROL

SKETCH TO ACCOMPANY PATROL & CONTACT REPORT
OF FIGHTING PATROL K/11 - K/13 AUG '43

THIS COVERS AREA SEEN AND KNOWN AT OLD F.B.
POSN ON COAST TRACK LAE - SALAMAUA N. OF BUANG
RIVER MOUTH

THESE APPEAR TO FIRE ON
FIXED LINES .5 MG. (WOOD PECKER)
LOCATED TO NORTH
ALSO BREN TYPE MGS AND RIFLES

OUR
POSN

OUR OLD AMBUSH
POSN

2 UNARMED
JAPS KILLED
HERE 1740 K/12

T.N.

MAG. N.
APPROX
6° E

JAPS IN THIS
AREA RETURNED
FIRE WITH RIFLES
CONSIDERABLE
ENEMY ACTIVITY
TO SOUTH

HUON
GULF

LOW TIMBER
SCRUB AND TALL GRASS

LOW
PALMS

ENEMY
DOCUMENT FOUND
HERE

BOIN SIDES OF TRACK

OLD FIRM BASE

TRACKS

WEAPON PITS
BESIDES
SMALL HUTS

CREEK

OPEN

PATROL
WENT AND RETURNED
THROUGH SCRUB

TRACK OUT
TO SOUTH

COAST TRACK
(MUCH USED RECENTLY)

SCALE 1 INCH = 50 YARDS

THIS PATROL LEFT F.B. LINA CH 543214 0645 K/11 AND
RETURNED 1600 K/13

TO BUANG RIVER
AND SALAMAUA

COPIED FROM CPL LANGFORD'S SKETCH 1120 K/14 AUG
1200 / 30 AUG

Reports
& Sketches

COURIER

ELECTRICIAN

ADV. BASA

ELECTRICIAN SMOKEY (OLD)

MAN I AMUQITIGER / (ATSA) NOJ AMWON? , BASA PARUB A TEMWONIM 3

SMITH
M. I. AND
C. O. S. A. J. J.
1944

COURIER

TO

EL ELECTRICIAN,
ADV.

BASA LA

ELECTRICITY
SMOKEY

OR	1-15
WTH	3-00
CK	3-00
W.	2-00
W.D.	0-5-00
B.P.	0-6-00

Smoking Restriction

(22)

all Coy.

Herewith pro forma of patrol contact report for the guidance of Coys. These forms will be used on all occasions that contact is made and ~~will~~ a sketch will also be ~~be~~ drawn on the reverse of the sheet illustrating the report.

In cases where ^{distance} ~~contact~~ reports ~~is~~ necessitates the transmission of the report by signal, the distinguishing number should be included instead of the preamble. e.g.

~~1.~~ 1. WAGO 1m 2 ~~1~~ K/2
3 15 DUPTA Cpl Smithers
4 1 NCO 15 ORS fighting etc.
etc. etc.

As previously immediate advice should be forwarded of result of the patrol on its return &

Offr of O.P. & c of

Admir

Alright to send Smith

Should report

1 WAGO

2. 1 AUG

3 11 PL

cap smelters

4 INCO 7 ORS

fighting

5 0730K/1

1935K/1

6. Cut gap L of C between

BOANG mouth and 65212

7

90

2

24

Lead 3

21

Lead 1

Before the submission of
the latest report

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT.

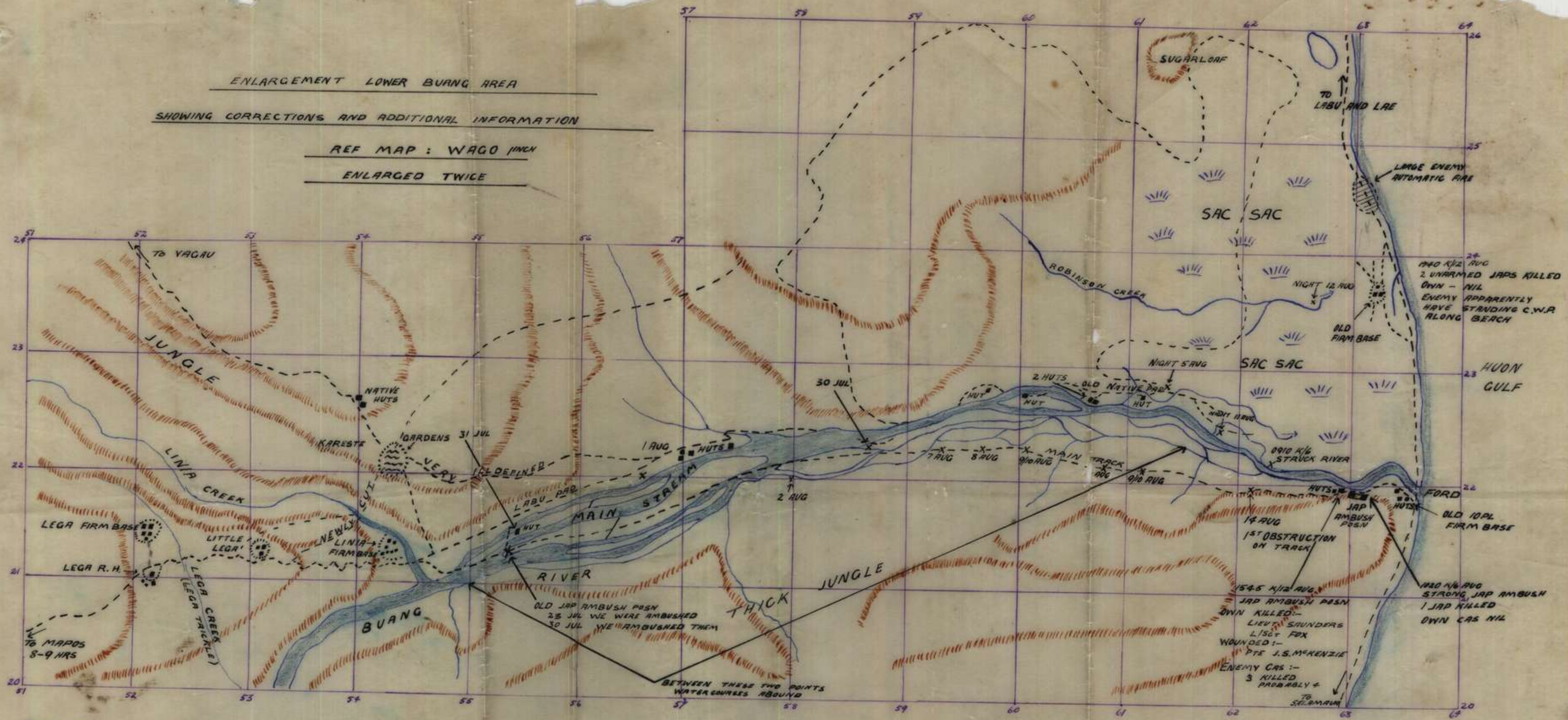
- | | | |
|---------------------|--------|--|
| 1. REF MAP. | Scale. | 2. DATE |
| 3. PATROL FOUND BY | Pl. | Coy. PATROL COMD |
| 4. PATROL STRENGTH | | NATURE OF PATROL. (fighting,
(standing, hccce etc.) |
| 5. TIME OUT | hrs. | TIME IN.
hrs. |
| 6. OBJECT OF PATROL | | |
| 7. ROUTE OUT | | |
| 8. ROUTE IN. | | |
| 9 <u>NARRATIVE.</u> | | |
| (a) | | |

(The following to be used if contact is made with the enemy)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| (b) Enemy contacted at map ref. | (Also indicate by sketch on
reverse side of this report) |
| (c) Enemy strength est. to be - | |
| (d) Enemy was in defensive posn. | Patrolling |
| (e) Advancing | (give direction of advance) |
| (f) Enemy was supported by MORTARS. | MG |
| Arty | AFV |
| (g) Estimated extent of enemy flanks. | |
| (h) Own casualties suffered - Killed. | Wounded. |
| (i) Enemy casualties. | " " |
| (j) Prisoners taken. | |
| 10. REMARKS. | |

.....

ENLARGEMENT LOWER BUANG AREA
 SHOWING CORRECTIONS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
 REF MAP : WAGO 10000
 ENLARGED TWICE



TRACK TIMES

LEGA R.H. - LINIA CK	1.15 HRS
LINIA CK - RIVER MOUTH	3.00 "
RIVER MOUTH - LINIA CK	3.00 "
LINIA CK - LEGA	2.00 "
LEGA - KARESTA	5.00 "
KARESTA - LEGA	6.00 "

SCALE 2" TO 1 MILE

- MAP REFS**
- L.R. FIRM BASE 522214
 - LEGA R.H. 521209
 - LITTLE LEGA 531212
 - LINIA CK F.B. 543214
 - TRACK XING LINIA CK 546213 (2A)
 - AMBUSH POSN 549210
 - KARESTA 542222
 - OLD JAP AMBUSH POSN 552212
 - EAST END of ISLAND 577223
 - JAP COAST ROCK AMBUSH POSN 631219 STRANDING PATROL
 - KARESTA TRACK JUNCTION 568223

TIME: 0900 HRS
 DATE: 24 AUG 43
 ORIGINAL BY DAVID A LANGFORD
 CPL
 CORRECTED BY C. SARGENT
 PTE

1940 K/2 AUG
 2 UNARMED JAPS KILLED
 OWN - NIL
 ENEMY APPARENTLY
 HAVE STANDING C.M.P.
 ALONG BEACH

NIGHT 12 AUG
 NIGHT 5 AUG
 NIGHT 11 AUG

14 AUG
 1ST OBSTRUCTION
 ON TRACK

1545 K/12 AUG
 JAP AMBUSH POSN
 OWN KILLED -
 LIEUT SAUNDERS
 L1507 FOX
 WOUNDED 1 -
 PTE J.S. MCKENZIE
 ENEMY CAS -
 3 KILLED
 PROBABLY 4

1940 K/6 AUG
 STRONG JAP AMBUSH
 1 JAP KILLED
 OWN CAS NIL

BUANG
56
MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

No. of Groups

OFFICE DATE STAMP

OUT

VE -> - LIC - OP -

GR.

59

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

SMITH *PLD* MARK BIXA BASA REAR

FROM

ADV BASA

Originator's Number

0.61

Date

12

In Reply to Number

most	secret	⊙	indication	enemy	evacuating
SALAMAUVA	area	probably	using	coast	tracks
⊙	every	effort	will	be	made
inflict	casualties	delay	enemy	movement	north
⊙	vital	all	possible	inform	regarding
enemy	movement	BUANG	RIVER	MOUTH	area
be	given	immediately	⊙	ack	TOR

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN** *and repeat*
* (EXCEPT) BY ANY MEANS: () WIRELESS

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

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

immediate

TIME OF ORIGIN

1745

SIGNATURE

* ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND INSERT "INCLUDING."

SIGNATURE

(BELOW THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER
				HT to MOP	1815			HT to REAR BASA	1850		

T.H.I.
1755

T.O.R.

Bay file



ROUTE TAKEN BY
SUGARLOAF PATROL

25 - 29 AUG. 43.

REF. MAP WAGO 1 IN.

ENLARGED TWICE

SLEPT NIGHT 1

SLEPT NIGHT 2

SLEPT NIGHT 3

SLEPT NIGHT 4

THICK JUNGLE

OBSERVATIONS MADE HERE

ATTEMPTS TO CROSS
MADE HERE

SWAMP

FIGHTING PATROL

6 Aug 43

To. I.O.
From B Coy. 24 Bn.

Ref _____

Date. 6 Aug 43 Patrol Leader E. ROBINSON.

Patrol found by. 11 ri.

Patrol strength. 1 Offr 5 NCOs 18 GIs.

Armament 2 Brens 4 OSMCs. 16 rifles. 2 grenades per man.

Object To contact enemy also see if beach is accessible from BUANG River.

Time out. 0800hrs 5 Aug. Time in 1650hrs 6 Aug 43

Weather. Heavy rain the whole time.

Rations carried. Packs - 2 days Field Ops. 2 Emergency/ground sheet & Gas capes

Route Out. NORTH ARM BUANG River. Route in SOUTH arm BUANG River.

Result of patrol. Enemy contacted 1020hrs 6 Aug. Beach could be gained by keeping to NORTH bank. Scrub bashing the last 2000 yards. Cas. Enemy 1 killed. Own NIL.

DETAILS

0800K/5 Patrol left Firm base 543214. The late start owing to the fact food was not in and NO rations available. until boy line arrived.

Moved along NORTH bank of BUANG River contacted and observed Cpl MAWBY's patrol at 569218.

0945K/5 Proceeded along River 592227 lunched at 1200K/5.

Patrol then moved along River over the bush moved along native track general bearing on 86 deg mag. This track is illdefined and only hunted to approx 617225 where the patrol spent the night.

0630K/6 We moved EAST and into swamp and kunai. this was extremely hard to negotiate and at 0910K/6 emerged from BUANG River at approx 624221. We moved EAST along River and at 1010K/6

Patrol Comd moved the patrol out to a track map ref 630219. This track showed signs of recent and constant use by the enemy.

1020K/6 Patrol leader and Cpl MAWBY entered Jap ambush map ref 631219. They were fired on by rifles Cpl MAWBY giving burst of OWEN S.M.G. and patrol leader 1 rd of rifle fire into Jap approx 25 yards away. The patrol moved in and fired on general area enabling these two to get clear. On investigation it was decided by patrol leader that the ambush posn could NOT be cleared without heavy casualties. the posn being too well sited. the area was held until 1230K/6 and the patrol was withdrawn to Firm Base map ref 545210. The men were in high spirits after the action but tired and worn out after 48 hrs in wet clothes and NO sleep.

Deductions Japs have large standing patrol base in general area 633217 they are not exceedingly active at patrolling but content to wait at coast line to stop any forward movement of this force.

Signed. E.R.ROBINSON Lieut.

PATROL REPORT.

FIGHTING PATROL.

REF. MAP - WAGO 1 inch.

FROM - CAPT. FLEWELLEN.

DATE - 31 AUG. 43.

PATROL STRENGTH.- 1 Offr. 1 N.C.O. 15 O.R.'s. 1 "I" man.

ARMAMENT - 2 Brens 6 O.S.M.G. 9 Rifles 2 grens per man booby trap material fuses etc.

OBJECT - To booby trap L of C along beach track 627267.

WEATHER - Fine, 25 -29 Aug.

ROUTE OUT -575226 bearing 40 degrees to 595250 then 80 degrees to 620258 and then 10 degrees to 621266.

ROUTE IN - 621266 190 degrees to 620258 then 270 degrees to 609258 then 210 degrees to 500234 along NORTH arm BUANG RIVER to FIRM BASE.

TIME OUT - 0630k 25 Aug. 43.

TIME IN - 1800k 29 Aug. 43.

LOAD CARRIED - 5 days rations plus 2 emergency rations.

RESULT OF PATROL - Unable to reach coast because of deep swamps.

DETAILS

Patrol under command Capt. FLEWELLEN left 0630k/25 and moved along abearing of 40 degrees along SOUTHERN slopes of SUGARLOAF range. Going was very tough, thick jungle and big rocks were encountered making progress very slow. After 2 hours journey an old track was discovered; this track may be the one used by DUCHATEL'S on his trip to SUGARLOAF. It was ill-defined but could be followed. Unable to give any M.R. for the track owing to the jungle being so thick unable to ^{pick} up any landmarks to state bearing. After 4 hours slow travel this track faded out and we were unable to trace any further. We had to break bush and this work was very exhausting and halts were frequent. First night. Was at 595250. K/26 patrol moved on a bearing of 80 degrees and continued scrub bashing. At NO time up to this stage had the patrol any opportunity to observe surrounding ^{country} owing to thickness of jungle and height of the trees. Impossible to climb any trees. The night halt we had at 620258. On k/27 moved on bearing 10 degrees and proceeded along EAST side of SUGARLOAF. The track was on the edge of swamp and high feature following around ridge until we started to trace N.W. Attempts were made between 622257 and 622265. to cross the swamp. Small creeks were ^{followed} but they faded out in the swamp. Swamp this stage very treacherous. Surf plainly heard. Patrol then climbed on to high ground at approx 621260 to try and gain an O.P. A view was obtained of the coastline. It was approx 1500 yds. away and there was NO sign of the lake shown on the WAGO maps. This tends to show how inaccurate the map is. In my opinion the distance on the journey out is far in excess of what is shown on the map. Patrol returned to 620258. Considerable barge movement was heard throughout the whole night k/27/28. Barges seemed to be following very close to the coast line moving from LAE to SALAMAUA. Surf heard very plainly also bombing of SALAMAUA. K/28 marched on a bearing of 210 degrees. During that day there was considerable air activity in the direction of LAE and heavy A/A was heard. Patrol jungled bashed to 600204 where the night was spent. Day 29 moved on a bearing of 230 degrees to NORTH arm of BUANG RIVER and moved back to FIRM BASE along NORTH track. Patrol at this stage was very tired after 5 days hard and exhausting work. All personnel were suffering from the itch which becomes unbearable. Sleep is hard to obtain. Capt. FLEWELLEN led the patrol for the whole journey and was responsible for direction and carving of track. The patrol had all confidence in their leader, morale at start of patrol was fair, but men gained confidence after the first day. It was necessary k/26 to send 4 members of the patrol back to FIRM BASE. They were suffering from colds and foot complaints and would have been a hindrance had they continued.

Signed:- Capt. FLEWELLEN J.
O.C. "B" Coy.

SMITH

FORCE

A.O.T

L.H.T

LINE TO ENIT

130

152

150

112

110

102

100

82

80

82

[Faint, illegible handwriting in blue ink]

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No. **99**

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN **VEZ BWC "P"**

OUT

No. of Groups
GR. 48

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO **MARK HPTD BIXA**

FROM **ADV BASA**

Originator's Number
067

Date
15

In Reply to Number
U96

BUILDER	1	BASA	0	ANGAU
MAPOS	obscures	back	BUNAI	MARKHAM
overgrown	requiring	recutting	0	last
swamp	waist	deep	0	consider
via	TIMNE	quicker	0	BUILDER
requests	authority	more	BIXA	via
when	BUANG	clear	enemy	TIMNE

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN
1745

SIGNATURE
* ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND INSERT "INCLUDING."

SIGNATURE
(BELOW THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

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

T.H.I. **1750**

T.O.R.

MESSAGE FORM

161

GRAD

Basafud
DUDI Reer

— 1R 688-22

2558

HSWR

Camp to 00545 mil. Rel. mil
low clouds after 1200 k. Wind
10-15 mph @ camp 20 00550 mil
mil mil 1820 fine vis good
wind mil

July 15 2010

1900
1901

Break

T.O.R.



Unit

Date

2

LIC O P 15

158

2556

ADV BASA

BASA REAR

I 1705

22

Secret strip to 1900
nothing to report

1900 / 22 O ~~Number~~

VH 915

1915

1900

1900

Immediate

2005

TO ADV BASH 2 "

LIC

AR38

159
2555

FROM DASH REAR

I 1924

22

ASDR @ 0600 1700 by rain 1730 1830 @
vis excellent till 1905 when brief but
fierce storm occurred @ slight NW
wind with scattered clouds 15000 ft
till approx 1645

VH Jell
1905

1840

1843

~~2005~~

USE MILITARY ADDRESS ONLY

Electrician Basa Adv.

BIKA

I 398

22



Secret RHP No 1930 K/22 © 1 Or 40
Basa Adv 0830 K/22

P₁₉₃₀ P₁₉₃₀ P₁₉₃₀

1930
2000
2005

457
2552

157

LIC

AR 17

24 Bn

~~57/59~~ 58/59 Bn

OX 84 -

22

0149

Lieut EGAR advises that he has no recommendations to submit

~~M 9th~~
1705

22/9

1430

1439

1756

Wasa Rear and Adofwa Smith force
mark force

Dudi

4 129 . 21

(130)

3515

ALL MURRAY SWITCHES when NOT required
further for ops are to be reclaimed
and returned to PAINTER for Future
Use

In AD 1935
Out REAR BASA 1938

1853

1900

1955

29

2119



From No

Name

127

Unit

Date

35/12

Ado Basa
Basa Rear

Bwe

GR 25

I 1712

21

ASEVR

0600

1830

darkness nil

1830

⊙

scattered clouds all day vis good

flight

NORTH

- WEST

breeze

In the 1911

#21/9

1840

1845

1955-29

LIC

GR 22

126

ado Basa
Basa Kear

F 1713 - 21

3511

SECRET SITREP

to 1900 K/21 @ 0900 K/21

SUNSHINE O.P. ref 255026 BULOLO ONE UNIT

closed down

In 1915

1902

1905

1955

2

21/9

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN

OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

3508

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO BLOODHOUND 5 DIV 7 DIV

FROM WAMPIT FORCE

Originator's Number
I 232

Date
21

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)					
Report	from	LEGA	⊙	1815K/21	5
20	V/I	ships	observed	HUON	10
GULF	⊙	counted	14	ships	15
firing	flashes	in	direction	LAE	20
and	SALAMAVA	⊙	5	by	25
explosions	on	coast	vic	BUANG	30
RIVER	mouth	⊙	ships	circled	35
and	appeared	to	be	firing	40
at	each	other	⊙	2	45
A/c	thought	ZEKES	over	GULF	50
⊙	1830K/21	more	ships	sighted	55
approaching	from	SE	⊙	visibility	60
had	⊙				65
					70
					75
					80
					85
					90
					95
					100
					105
					110
					115
					120
					125
					130

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNATURE * ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND INSERT "INCLUDING."

SIGNATURE

IMMEDIATE

1950

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

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

T.O.R.



USE MILITARY ADDRESS ONLY.

we also who
so cant
sent

From No

Name

Unit

Addresses

Date

131

Bisa Bika rptd Basa mark 27 3507
Audi U130 21

LA reports 20 ships HUON GULF 1st firing
some direction LAE some direction
SALAMANA some apparently firing at
each other @ time ~~later~~ afternoon
@ two apparent ZEKES over head
at dusk 5 shells landed vic Buang
River mouth @ BIXA stand by to delay
and enemy mov BUANG and to protect
LoPC to PARTEP 2 @ BIKA to stand by
to protect L of C SUNSHINE - KAVATOMANE
- MAPOS

F-20 ships
by Bika

Immediate

1955
2005

21/9

op op

FOR PTE [unclear]
Civilians
you are to do [unclear]

Handwritten text, mostly illegible due to bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. Some words like "PTE" and "Civilians" are visible.



121

THE ADDRESS ONLY

1 Aust corps rptd Adv Base O.P.

79 3484

Wampit Force

OX 294 . 21 .

reason statement 2359 hrs 20 sept @ aust
 strength 443 @ Wampit 245 @ 176 to 22 sept
 69 to 26 sept field ops 5 days @ partep
 61 to 26 sept field ops 13 days @ mapos
 lega 18 to 28 sept field ops nil @
 Sunshine 119 to 25 sept @ native
 Wampit 127 to 26 sept partep 176 to
 26 sept mapos lega 60 to 28 sept

In the 0705 Immediate 0700
 #2119 0701
 0445

BASA van M ADV
BAXA

GR 40 3485
L 346 21

Strength. Coy 3 off 107 vs
Att. 3 off 77 vs
Det 6 off 141 vs

Sick mil

Total 43 vs
Pander III 13 vs
Dambi 13 vs
Tokannin mapo lega 17

0710
0711
0820

715 B

[Signature] 21/9

USE MILITARY ADDRESS ONLY



USE MILITARY ADDRESS ONLY.

2491

From No Name

Unit Date

L1C

AR27 =

Adv Basa
Bika

H28

-129 -

coy strength 9 and 189 attached 0 and 8
detected 17 and 123! ZENAG 0 and 14
SUNSHINE 2 and 60

VH 0831

H 219

0810
0830

0850

USE MILITARY ADDRESS ONLY.



From No

Name

3478

Unit

Date

Electrician Adv Base

Base

I 394

20

SECRET SITREP

No 1930 K/20 6

SITNOR

1930

1945

1945

1945 Army, CA,

O P

be 74 3461

Plat Coy rpl Adv Base

Wampul Home Qx 292 20

Ration statement to 2359 hrs 19 Sept @ total

strength 445 @ Wampul 234 @ 162 to

22 Sept 66 to 24 Sept fld ops 5 days @ Parlep

58 to 26 Sept fld ops 13 days Mapos Lega 18 to

28 Sept fld ops mil @ Sunshin 135 to

25 Sept @ Native Wampul 127 @ 36 to 19 Sept 91

to 26 Sept Parlep 226 to 26 Sept Mapos Lega 60 to

28 Sept

0700

0701

0754



3460

Base ado

Busa

R192

NIL RETURN



0653
0658 0754

Basa Rear Apt Adv

Bena

L 344

20

3459

Strength Coy 3 off 107 ors

att 3 off 77 ors

Detaches 6 off 150 ors

Total 3 1/4 ors

Sick 1 infected foot

Partep 2 Tambi 17

Dokanun Mapos + Lega 17



POST OFFICE
MALDEN



Date

0650

0653

0754

Rate

From No

Name

Adm Basa
Buka

Gr 13 3458

A 31 20 06

Expended NIL Decrease NIL

Increase NIL

0605
0605
0754

ELECTRICIAN adu BASA
BIXA

I 388

3346

84

Adm taken to 1930 K/17 @ Bonn with SMITH
FORCE discontinued 0900 hrs @ 1st 11th from
PARTER 1430

2 1940 P

#17/9 1930
1931

1955-

MESSAGE FORM

3320

Serial No.

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

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

5th Inf Div rpt MARK

FROM

WAMPIT FORCE

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

BUANG	RIVER	MOUTH	fls	072	det
along	BEACH	bank	msg	24	hr
15			K17	morning	with
				to	contact

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN** (EXCEPT) BY ANY MEANS () WIRELESS

SIGNATURE

* ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND INSERT "INCLUDING."

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SIGNATURE

(BELOW THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

urgent

TIME OF ORIGIN

1010

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

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO BLOOD HOUND ~~PLA~~ MARK REAR BASA

FROM WAMPIT FORCE

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

Q 897

15

MS 45

no	WO.	NCO	24	bn	suitable
appointment	commissioned rank		0	deficiency	posted
offers	on	WE	7	reinforcement	offers
0	actual	number	available	duty	unit
25	0	WE	32	plus	7
reinforcement offers		0	detail	0	one
con	HQ	five	pls	incl.	8

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* (EXCEPT)
BY ANY MEANS: () WIRELESS

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNATURE.....
* ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND
INSERT "INCLUDING."

SIGNATURE.....

(BELOW THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER
											3218

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

3318
out d.

1520

(2)

MAPOS

area

0

me

me

12

H
address

TIMNE
diagram

one

WAMPIT

0

Please

FROM

Originator's number

Date

In Reply to number

TO

USE THIS LINE FOR SIGNS USE ONLY

0930

TO
BY
DATE

OFF

IN

important

(2)

OR

RECEIVED

OFFICE DATE TIME

MESSAGE FORM

RECEIVED (Date) (Time)
THIS FORM IS TO BE USED FOR THE TRANSMISSION OF MESSAGES

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

**CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS**

IN

OUT

(3)

No. of Groups
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

TO

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

8

0

filled

sup.
urgently
OCTU

request
request
graduates

posting
deficiency

lieut.
W.E.

BALDWIN
he

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN**
* (EXCEPT)
BY ANY MEANS: () WIRELESS

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

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

1250

SIGNATURE

SIGNATURE

* ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND
INSERT "INCLUDING."

(BELOW THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SYSTEM TIME
IN IN

READER

SENDER

SYSTEM TIME
OUT OUT

READER

SENDER

SYSTEM TIME
OUT OUT

READER

SENDER

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

MESSAGE FORM

3312

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN
OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO MARK

FROM ADV BASA

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

070

17

U 110

secret	0	all	sig	acked	here
0	BLOODHOUND	K 508	WT	fld	BUILDER
2	BASA	0	sig	under	charge
0	BUILDER	2	BASA	BUILDER	1
BIXA	SMITH	FORCE	and	but	at
master	one	at	mag	moving	LA
E	BUANG	MOUTH	K17	0	no

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN**
*(EXCEPT)
BY ANY MEANS: () WIRELESS

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

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNATURE
* ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND
INSERT "INCLUDING."

SIGNATURE *ALT REAR*
(BELOW THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

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

T.O.R.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	IN	(2)	No. of Groups GR.	OFFICE DATE STAMP
	OUT			

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
offrs	one	as	15
bde	0	further	2
evacuated	1	school	last
1.	LD	0	5
unit	VX48421	lieut	instructor
ARD	CANUNGRA	0	5
ang	refers	0	177/43

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNATURE.....
* ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND
INSERT "INCLUDING."

SIGNATURE.....

(BELOW THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

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

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

3312
continued

(2)

card
HYD
further
div

reference
column
etc

possible
further

is dept
inform

through
follows

11/1/3
2
5

FROM

Originator's Number

DATE

In Reply to Number

TO

(PLEASE PRINT NAME FOR SIGNATURE AND GRADE)

0900

[Signature]

[Signature]

UNIT

IN

(5)

OFFICE

OFFICE DATE

FORM 1000
1947

MESSAGE FORM

ON LINE

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

No. of Groups
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

3300

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO SMITH FORCE

FROM ADV BASA

Originator's Number
I 210

Date
16

In Reply to Number
F3

FOR	BUILDER	2	BASA	⊙	MARK
U109	states	follow	instances	of	1
AUST	CORPS	K 508	of	K/15	⊙
Quon	⊙	5 DIV	the	new	NORTH
of	river	mouth	vic	6324	⊙
WAMPIT	FORCE	PATROL	in	BUANG	RIVER
will	move	to	coast	and	join

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN**
* (EXCEPT)
BY ANY MEANS: () WIRELESS

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNATURE.....
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SIGNATURE.....

(BELOW THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

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

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

**CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS**

IN

OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

3 300

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

These forwarded \odot when contact made
 WARRIT FORCE parcel comes temporarily 5
 AUST DIV \odot UNQUOTE

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN**
 * (EXCEPT)
 BY ANY MEANS: () WIRELESS

THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT **IN CYPHER**
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 INTO ENEMY HANDS.

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
 DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

7255

SIGNATURE
 * ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND
 INSERT "INCLUDING."

SIGNATURE
M. Westhead
 (BELOW THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

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

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

VET

P

Electrician

BASA

ADV

3286

33

BIX 17

I 386

16

Secured return to 1930 K/16 @ 1 or 10-11-12-16
from Part of 2 1330 hrs

p 1940
sgt Bowen Co

16/9

1930 - 2020
7935

INT

at present we have 30
 parsons of this line
 at LEGA and they are
 waiting word to go back
 MAPOS ~~for~~ or remove
 supplies from this area
 2 Required future location
 BIXA required that we
 may if necessary divert
 line direction PARTIP 2.0
 when further supplies
 gained from GRAHAM
 will be funded immediately

16/9
 P 1925
 19/10
 G. D. H.

1855
1900.
20 20
32 84

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No. **3271**
OFFICE DATE STAMP

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO **1 AUST CORPS**

FROM **WAMPIT FORCE**

Originator's Number
I 206

Date
16.

In Reply to Number
K 508

ACK

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN**
* (EXCEPT)
BY ANY MEANS: () WIRELESS

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

0825

SIGNATURE.....
* ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND
INSERT "INCLUDING."

SIGNATURE *Shenfield*

(BELOW THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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

1EZ LIC P GR 199 30
3284

MARK Rptd ADV BASA

BUILDER 2 BASA

F3 16

096298

contact made with 15 Aust Inf Bn K/15 @ 15 Bn HQS
situated on beach opposite Sugar Loaf MR 630258
Definitely established that NO repeated NO
japs in HUANG Pt. Area Mouth Area @ definite
trace of hurried evacuation of japs by barge @
small amount of equipment found and
being fudged @ Patrols stated that 15 Bn was ~~moving~~
moving fwd along beach K/16 @ Buildev 2 BASA
and Buildev 1 BIXA just arrived LA repeated
LA and have as yet NOT contacted GRHAM @
This info gained is from interrogation
of personnel who were in contacting patrol @
Observation from LEGA noted considerable movement
of our barges along coast evidently supplying
this Bn and others with supplies @ Please advise
future MVT of SMITH FORCE @ Reason Ration
line 200 Boys due MUMMING K/18 @

VEZ

LIC

20 Fwd.

GR

47

ade BASA Rha BUIDER BASA

Chargé de

BIKA.

C1

16.

3281

Ref SMITH FORCE 1 W/K/15 - it is noted Sgt
Barlyon was used as bonds of Reche
Patrol. This was contrary to instructions
issued by BUIDER 1 BASA O could
explanation be obtained

F. 1700. Ashworth

out 1930

1615

1625

~~2~~
Tel 2

20 20 55

✓ VEZ O.P.
General Manager

GR. 3265 14

MARK RPTD ADV BASA Location

BUILD 2 2 BASA 16

Patrols reached coast 1445 hrs. contacted
by 15th MR 635235 (B) BUANG RV
mouth area clear of enemy.

P. 1435
19/11/45

F-1500
19/11/45

OK

A 1.6/9

MARK
A 17/11/45

1425
1426

1630

19/11/45

Material
Garment - White

ESTIMATED COST

ACTUAL COST

MARK REAR BASE 17/15/16
3250
301 BASA Eptd BUILDER 1 BIXA

SMITH FORCE IW 15

Secret Acrep to 1730K/15 @ 1730K/15 patrols
of 3 NCO's 14 ers under Sgt CARRON left
Firm Base MR 594235 to try and reach
coast via Nth side of BUANG RV patrol
returned to Firm Base at 1720K/15 @
coast was reached @ Patrols reached
Amulush point at 1120K/15 and found
it unoccupied. Found Jap Firm Base
at MR 619219 unoccupied continued
on and reached coast at 1230K/15
contacted Coy of 15 Bn 39 Bde at 1445K/15
MR 635235 scanned Jap coast
defences and returned to Firm Base

at 1720K/ one American GARAND .301
rifle and Jap equipment was found
at their Firm Base and is being fuel
on @ 0655K/15 unidentified aircraft
flying along coast Nth of BUANG Mouth
4 Bursts of Automatic fire and 4 Bombs
were heard to explode 1050K/15 Unidenti-
fied aircraft heard flying Nth along
coast @ 1052K/15 Heavy Bombing and AA
heard direction LABU @ 3 NCOs 17 ers from
10 pl Arrived Firm Base at 1450 K/15 @ 0730K/15
Builder Smith Force and BUILDER 2 BIXA
left for KAREST @ 1745 BUILDER 2 BIXA
arrived at Firm Base MR Patrols following
Intell report of Coast.

1705
1115 TH 1

3248

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND RETURN TIME

IN
OUT

Adw BASA

SMITH. FORCE

1W 15

Secret. Setup to 0530 K/15 @ 1615 K/14 recee. Passer
of 5000 left FB. MR 599 235 for recee last along
Nth bank Buang RV @ 1510 K/14 from secret
approx 6 lach of automatic fire along
coast Nth of Buang RV mouth scumbled
like a wickers

THI 1/15

p 1140
Mowen

(BELOW THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

Signal	Time	Signal	Time	Signal	Time	Signal	Time	Signal	Time	Signal	Time

T.M.T.
T.O.R.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No. *75*
 OFFICE DATE STAMP

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	IN	No. of Groups GR.
	OUT	

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO *B1 Base*

FROM <i>Base</i>	Originator's Number <i>12</i>	Date <i>12</i>	In Reply to Number
-------------------------	-------------------------------	----------------	--------------------

1/2 lb. ... 20 lb. ... 22 lb. ... meat pres. 26 lb. ... meat loaf 30 lb. ... beans 30 lb.

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN *(EXCEPT) BY ANY MEANS: () WIRELESS SIGNATURE _____ * ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND INSERT "INCLUDING."	THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CYPHER IF LIABLE TO INTERCEPTION OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS. SIGNATURE _____	ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY	TIME OF ORIGIN <i>1030</i>
---	--	---	-------------------------------

(BELOW THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

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

T.H.I. *1035*
 T.O.R.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

3214

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

ADV 5 DIV

FROM

WAMPIT FORCE

Originator's Number

I 204

Date

15

In Reply to Number

Two	patrols	on	rece	vic	mouth
BUANG	RIVER	⊙	15	8N	may
contact	⊙	will	you	keep	us
posted	regularly	of	locations	you	the
and	projected	moves	in	immediate	future

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

2130

SIGNATURE

SIGNATURE

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T.H.I.

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

T.O.R.

8270

3 CR 58

Adv. Base mtd Bulder 2 Base (156) 3211

Mark - Ugg - 15 -

* F2/06 P will accept Judds advice @
 Mt P to Markham Point area condition
 - at on and secondary to PUANG
 MOUTH OFFENSIVE and co operation
 with 5 DIV. The O further advice to move
 via NORMAN L of to partep. Timber
 will be given when Buang area
 cleared of enemy

* F2/067

2100
 2015
 2016

A 1519

wampit force
1 Aust Corps

1st Lt Gen Sir [unclear]

RSC Det GR68

Q6494

8

secret © all coffee ground and packed
by BUSHELLS after 31 dec is to be immediately
withdrawn from issue to troops and
held in suspense pending further
instructions & action will immediately be
taken to ensure that NO such
coffee is consumed by troops © any
out issue to units will be immediately
returned to supply depot © all
informed

H/T 1125 [Signature]

1100
1101.

ae

90

152

ibson mqr us 3208

Adv 8 Base EEN

with Mark 0 8/10/48 of 15 June 1948

Do not agree 0 War must be distributed
assist 5 Div 0 Fuller 2 to make
OPHANG mouth and ~~superior~~ DEFENSIVE
action against ~~enemy~~ and liaison
with 5 Div this giving them 2 fronts

0 As much mortar as possible see
my U96 0 Those instructions are to be
followed 0 Object dig in as close as
30 yds from enemy if possible 0
change role from harassing to attack
(M BIXA) # 1574 # 2010 / 1815 - 1820 2000

Base rptd Indai

O P

30

18

mark

433

8

Secret litrep to 1230K/80 no further
activity POINT area by bombing
shipping area NORTH of MARKHAM vic
HEATHS LAE during morning

1230
1235

In 1306

We congratulate our Sunday School scholars who made good passes in the recent Examinations held by the Baptist Young People's Dept.

SERVICEMEN.... Many letters have been received during the past few weeks, of which only a few have been answered as yet owing to exams. intervening. Many thanks - write as often as you can!

Cpl. Gordon PRIESTLEY writes of the arts & crafts of the Fuzzy Wuzzies of N.G. but does not appreciate the fact that 8/10ths of the weather for 8/12ths of the year is rainy!

"It makes us feel a lot better" says Cpl. W. DAY, "knowing that some back home think of us by helping to bring some comfort in very trying moments." L/Cpl. Albert ELDERSHAW recollects the "many times I have received a blessing at the Pendle Hill Baptist Church" & looks forward to rejoining our fellowship in the near future. Some others have written very appreciative letters re the literature sent them, which should be an encouragement to these at home who donated it.

Congrats. to L/Cpl. Norman JACKSON upon his promotion to the rank. He observes "the growing number of those men who doubt the existence of God, apparently prefer the "apes & jelly-fish" theory, & are content with a "religion" which rests upon "doing unto others as you would have them do unto you", or upon a "universal brotherhood of man". (But Paul wrote long ago about "fables" being preferred to the "Truth" - nor were they Aesop's! - II Timothy 4:3-4)

Pte. W. NICOLSON joyfully anticipates the time when "the crooked shall be made straight, the rough places shall be made smooth, and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together" (May God speed the day!)

Once again, the enclosed book comes to you from a friend, (who desires anonymity) PLEASE NOTE: Many of you have not sent in your FAVORITE HYMN of a "Greeting" as yet: there is still time, & we would like YOU to have a "part" in the forthcoming SOLDIERS' RELATIVE SERVICE. So write right off!

NOTE TO RELATIVES & FRIENDS OF SERVICEMEN/WOMEN: If you desire to place your Service-friend's name on our Prayer & Literature-despatch list, please hand same to myself (or any member of the Church) together with full address. These are remembered in prayer every week, & good reading-matter posted every 3 or 4 weeks. No charge made, but donations (for purchases & postage) are always welcomed.

FORWARD MOVEMENT: Supporters of the Baptist Forward Movement will be glad to know that material progress has been made, as reported by the Central C/ee. The first £5,000 has been realized, & a Baptist Business College is to be opened in Feb., whilst a Home for elderly ladies is being funded for early establishment. Other projects in view are: A Baptist Orphanage, placing on the road of more Gospel Waggons, creation of new Churches at strategic centres, extension in Bengal - & many other progressive moves. Mr. M.G. WALLIS is the local Director for the "F.M." & will gladly supply further information. (Contributions range from 2d weekly)

A seasonable word for those "away"- and those "at home" :-

"Surely Goodness and Mercy shall follow me all the days of my life..."

With every good wish,

Yours thru Divine Grace,

Philip N. Simmons

Pastor.

WORLD STATISTICS disclose (1941) that there are
Over 73,400 Baptist Churches,
" 67,000 " Pastors & Missionaries,
" 12,500,000 Members, and
" 8,000,000 " Sunday School Scholars
in the Baptist World Fellowship.

VEZ "LICGT" OP GR 175 3207

Mark Force Miner adobasa

Builder 2 Basa F1 15 - 496

Ack 496 ① Sp mot from Buang area to VAGAU possible ①
 2 days travel from Buang to Vagan ① track will have
 to be cut wider in places ① mot enters ~~at~~ over
 8000 ft mountains and bad track ① VAGAU - MARKHAM
 RT track has never been opened satisfactorily since
 beginning of war ① SUDD advises that this track
 NOT suitable for sp mot as last day of
 journey is through swamps varying from
 high and worst ① Sp would be in NO condition
 to make any contact after such a mot ①
 SUDD also advises after first day travel
 would find us without carriers ① ~~not~~ ^{not} ~~will~~ ^{will}
 regard track as ground NO good ① he ~~will~~ ^{will}
 do whole ~~move~~ ^{move} from LEGA along regular
 line to PART 2 in two days and in
 one lift ① Builder 2 advises move back thru
 normal lines of comm. so sp will be in a
 fit state on arrival at MARKHAM RT ①

Please advise

1810
1815
2000

1820

15/9

Mark Force
 and
 15/9 1915

MESSAGE FORM

3188
Serial No.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO MARK 1st BIXA. REAR BASA.

FROM ADV BASA

Originator's Number

066

Date

15

In Reply to Number

secret	for	BUILDER	1	BASA	①
BUILDER	2	now	MAPOS	adv	NOT
consider	further	movement	to	supplies	to
BUANG	necessary	in	new	adv	5
dir	0827	①	please	admin	

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SIGNATURE
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SIGNATURE

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

important

TIME OF ORIGIN
1630

(BELOW THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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

ELECTRICIAN BASA adw I 379
BIXA

15 150
3204

SECRET SITREP to 1930 K/15 O B.I. BIXA B.2. BASA 1 on

B.H.Q 1 stutcher beam 2 cooks 1 on 10 plw 1 on 12 plw

to MOPO 0830 hrs O B.H.Q 3 on 12 plw to FILI

0830 hrs O I. mel 1 on 10 plw 1 on 12 plw 3

A. Coy from BASA 1230 hrs

15/9

1930 2010
1931

115
130
150
170

19
18 3175 127

WAMPIT force.

Tand corps

0493

14

065

~~no~~ no strapping contemplated

as your ops on [unclear] endangered

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN (EXCEPT BY ANY MEANS. THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CYPHER

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS ONLY)

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

F1030
[unclear]

1519

410211
1355
0910
1200

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

ADJ BASA ~~ADJ BASA~~

3144 101
3149

SMITH FORCE 1W40

Patrol report @ Vagan 1" Flurry Base
Map Ref 594235 @ Builder 1 Smith Force

13 left @ 1 of 5 NCO'S 320rs @ 3 1" Mortar
2" Mortar 3 Bren 8 Owen 26 Rifles 2 Gren

per Man to reach Coastal tracks
along Nth Side BUANG River. Raining
most of the time. Route out from
firm Base Map Ref 594235 along Nth
arm of RIVER to Map Ref 608226 @
then in a half circle to Map Ref 618234
and Robinson Ch @ Along Creek to
624235 where Mortar Posn was sighted

Route Ltr went SW back to FIR AT BASE
Route Ltr went SW back to FIR AT BASE
594235, June out 0730K/11 June In 1105K/13
@ load carried 4 days. rations
two magazines rations, Mosquitoes
nets & personal gear 21 3" HE Mor Bom
bs 18 2" HE Mor Bombs 6 mag per Owen
gun, 100 rds per Man 2 telephones & cable

@ Result of patrol @ Patrol was
unable to reach the coast on the
Nth side of the BUANG because of
the very thick & dense undergrowth
@ It was impossible to move with
the weight of Ann Mcapouse KAI
Supply line could not have been
put into practice @ Detail stop

@ Patrol under Builder 1 Smith
Force left FB 0700K/11 @ 5 extra men
were taken for the purpose of
carrying Mortar 1 Bombs @ going for the
first 3 hrs was fairly easy. Ground
very sodden with the heavy rains
that have been falling recently @
There was not any steep bank track
to follow @ An occasional Pig
was observed but apart from

314401

attack had to be made by the
 leading Recs of the Undergrowth became
 very difficult and with the
 weight of Mortar Bombs extra
 AMM and 4 days K/11 it was
 becoming almost impossible to
 get through. Lunch the first day
 was at approx 602228. The five men
 who had been carrying AMMO
 returned to FIRM BASE from this
 area. Patrol proceeded on trail
 washing until Robinsons. Ck was
 reached at 613234. Continued EAST
 along Ck to 613228. The night halt
 was called at this posn. At 0700K/12
 continued along Ck until a Mortar
 Posn was sighted at 624235.
 It was impossible to go past this
 posn with AMMO & stores, so it was
 decided to see an op to see how far
 of the coast was. The RUF could now
 be heard. 3000 climbed a big tree
 and the water could be seen at approx
 1500 yds distance. The show could not
 be seen so range was taken where
 edge of trees met the sea. Mortar
 was set up with Recs covering posn.
 By this time it was getting late so
 the night spent at this posn. Revell
 was at 0500 K/13 and everyone was
 in posn for mortar shoot at 0545 K/13.
 The first of the 21 Bombs on 90° True
 1500 yds was fired at 0600. The ranges
 of the following 20 Bombs were as
 follows: 3 at 1500 yds, 4 2° Degrees left
 1550 5 to 2° Degrees left 1600 yds 4 6° Right
 1550 yds 4 8° Right 1600 yds. OP Reported
 that all these appeared to fall
 along the edge of the timber
 all bearings were taken
 from Sugar loaf and.

OK being to be conducted at 0730 at MUMENGO & The
MINK R. wants to speak, also.

2 Boong will be coming over in the morning
to collect the flat batteries & 1 empty cable drum
which is being sent to Tenag. Tenag is to be
advised of this & also if the Battery that
is on its way up from Sunshine that they
have to arrange with the yards so
have both recharged & sent back here
 pronto. This is priority. Time
is to be advised if we have not received
a fully charged battery within the
next few days. Any other empty
cable drums here have to be sent
back to SUNSHINE pronto whenever
available.

ZENAG is to be called at intervals &
when they are raised they must be
put through to the main descent rate
at what time even if 3 in the morning.

Phone at daylight to be fixed
at first light with out fail

How long does
it take 0600

Ack
JSC Yang

Staff

101

After Shock Patrol returned
 to Firm Base Arriving in at 3194
 1405 K/130 The Coast could not
 be reached on this side of the River
 with the gear, the Patrol had to
 carry. It is extremely thick on
 this side @ No sign of any ~~any~~
 Jap Movement was made at any
 time.

P

2100hrs
 M. Bowen
 08

14/9

1345 K/14
 1830

2105/14

T.O.R.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No. 30

No. of Groups
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN
OUT

VE "O" P

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO BUILDER I Bldg

FROM BUILDER I Bldg

Originator's Number
JP 115

Date
27

In Reply to Number

2/26 SITNOR O bonnauu parrot returned 1215 2/26
 MALARIA 5- DIARRHOEA and all suffering from
 scrub sores 5- morale very fair

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN**
 *(EXCEPT)
 BY ANY MEANS: () WIRELESS

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 INTO ENEMY HANDS.

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
 DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNATURE
 * ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND
 INSERT "INCLUDING."

SIGNATURE

(BELOW THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER
				1/T	1345						

ADV BASA MESSAGE FORM

13
103
3143

SMITH FORCE

W 39

114

Secret Pickup 0530 K/14 @ Return

A 14/9

0530
2105

P

2030
8820

VE OUP

100 3140

Electrician BASA ADV.

BIXA

I 377

14

Secret SITREP to 1900 N/W O BIXA HQ Changed location from Command Camp to KUPU

4 hrs BIXA HQ 1 Cook 1 SB 1 BHQ (Dumper)

10 or 12 pl arrived KUPU 1430 hrs @ 2 1/2 hrs
and Batman arrived KUPU 1855 hrs

(WRITE THIS LINE IN FOR SIGNATURE USE ONLY)

RECEIVED
DATE
TIME

OUT

HK 2000 hrs
M. J. Bowen

MESSAGE BOOK

NO. of copies

1930
1950
OFFICE DATE STAMP
2075

FORM C 3130
(Revised October 1947)

MESSAGE FORM

CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS.

IN

OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

~~69~~
69

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

Receptor Bomo

FROM

Smoky

Originator's Number

10 13

Date

4

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)

SECRET

SITREP

to 1700/40

2 parts each of 1 N.C.O.

5

and goes left F.B. 543214 proceeded along NORTH Tributary

10

along STH Trib. BUANG R. to establish F.B. near end of island

15

MA 5862240 object to clear island no word yet rec'd

20

from them 0 otherwise SITNOIR

25

1700
1645/5

30

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN

3128

OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO REAR BASA

FROM ADV BASA

Originator's Number

I 198

Date

1st

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)					
LOCSTAT	BIXA	as	at	1200K/15	5
0	CHQ	DAMBI	358183	0	10
10 PL	HQ	pers	3	sec	15
FIRM BASE	594235	0	11 PL	as	20
per	DUDI	locstat	0	12 PL	25
HQ	DAMBI	1	sec	PARTEP 2	30
272212	en	route	DAMBI	1	35
sec	TOKANIN	396160	1	sec	40
attd	DUDI	0	attd	MS	45
7 pe	A Coy	pers	sub- 1 sec	MMG	50
pers	1 det	mov	FIRM BASE	0	55
1 det	mov	LEGA	521210	en	60
route	FIRM BASE				65
					70
					75
					80
					85
					90
					95
					100
					105
					110
					115
					120
					125
					130

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS: (* (EXCEPT)) WIRELESS

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

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNATURE
* ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND INSERT "INCLUDING."

SIGNATURE

1620.

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

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

T.O.R.

Operators

①

Bueller 1 Bits

JF93

21

July

0830 4/21

Track was watching mvt blood blood sticks

head TAP

NORTH

consisting of rece sign act as

who were 150 yds observed beach

dressing wrappers

some of these were 3 yds in from beach

and fled at

booby 100 yds explored booby Trap Reese stains stains used by natives

of party out

of booby

consisting of cpl of 5

north of enemy screen

who were setting

NORTH of many

at least

wrappers found in

these were bloodstained

3 yds in from beach

and fled at

Trap set on native NORTH of AMB POSN Standing patrol on track did not notice any of the booby trap revealed debris cuts sticks with PB states used by natives moving

of party out on the beach

of booby Trap

consisting of cpl of 5

north of enemy screen

who were setting

NORTH of many

at least

wrappers found in

these were bloodstained

3 yds in from beach

and fled at

Time	To	From	Signals Made and Received	Signal Strength	In	Out	Frequency in Kc/s	Remarks

To hrs. on

From hrs. on

Period:

Sheet No.

WIRELESS DIARY

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

A.A.F. C15 (Pads of 50) Revised August, 1942.

Time	To	From	Signals Mailed and Received	Signal Strength	Direction

natives has not seen a warship
 come to lae for a couple
 of months. Natives on SHAMMAVA
 carrier line not allowed to
 go to LAE. Native food is a
 small portion of rice supplied
 -ed by native foods. Natives
 know of no case of
 rape by Japs but threats are
 continually issued of punish-
 ment for desertion. Natives
 in party in-terrogated were
 POROM aghahessu of Shumkhumun
 of year LAE prior to war employed
 by Alan FULLER BOIA of busamang
 area or BUKHO Sapap also
 of busamang but he is usual
 last in the mubo area June 25
 An American educated Jap
 naka mura description short
 fat young with moustache was
 in SHAMMAVA now in LAE he
 acted as liaison officer between
 Japs and natives. He secured
 native labour. Another Jap NIKOUSA
 once of RIBUT kavian and manatana

21810

1

21810

5252

Reprinted October, 1942 - s.w. 10m pads.
(Pads of 100)
(Adapted, Large)
Army Form C.2128

MESSAGE FORM

2

patrol heard gaps talking on beach @ Contact
 with JAPS was unseizable @ PTE KLEINITZ
 shot one dead and PTE ROWLEY sprayed
 two others with OWEN No killing both. @
 JAP in confirmed posn in half circle
 opened up on party with rifles and auto
 weapons causing them to retreat to AMB
 POSN @ Enemy immediately followed party
 by an outflanking move around rear
 of AMB. Posn and also party of enemy
 moved five car BEACH

No. of Group

OFFICER'S STAMP

Reply to Number

Date

Originator's Number

10

15

20

25

30

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN

OUT

③

No. of Groups GR.

Serial No. OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

⑤ (Write horizontally)

close to jungle and then with 100 yds of AMB POSN moved into the jungle. The enemy appeared to have NMG in their rear firing on AMB POSN. Since AMB POSN was not sited for def. against such large forces & to save unnecessary casualties decided to withdraw to the FIRM BSE. No sooner had this move started than the enemy opened fire with HVY MORT. and fired approx 6 rounds. The FIRM BSE was untenable and whole area was completely water logged & posn was in danger of being completely isolated. Then decided to move back along track in direction of LA. Our member were checked at LA while on the move back & 2 were found to be missing Pte KLENITZ and Pte HILLBRICK. At this stage inform was received from PB BARAWINDI that he had seen a party of over 20 Japs crossing the river STH of the AMB POSN. We moved back along track to LA.

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS: (EXCEPT) WIRELESS

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

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNATURE *ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND INSERT "INCLUDING."

SIGNATURE

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

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

T.O.R.

for one hr. where a stocktaking revealed serious short-
ages of food & ~~amm~~ Amn. It was then decided
not move back to L.A. as these shortages would
prevent us putting up any effective resistance

Shortages included Pakk equipment spare
clothing personal gear 2 in MORTAR AMN.
303 Lamm. It was absolutely impossible
to take these articles out with us and

keep our force ^{intact} 1730 K/21 the pl reached LA
1830 K/21 PTE KLEINITZ arrived LA. He
states that he was a member of the patrol
sent out at 1030 K/21 to investigate Booby

Trap and look for enemy MVT NORTH
of river and stated he got separated
from patrol when returning to AMB

POSN He lay in a deserted
fire pan shot JAP and saw them
swimming in on pan from beach

and from the flank there also

MESSAGE FORM

5283

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN
OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.
OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO ELECTRICIAN

FROM Bono

Originator's Number

JF96

Date

22

In Reply to Number

I.1090

(A) one seriously wounded finally killed a large pool of blood discovered near explosion and field dressing wrappers indicated that he was badly wounded no evidence of shots that more than one JAP was hit unless some of the wrappers were used by a second injured man (B) footprints extremely difficult to discern owing to spongy track a footprints discovered indicated there were no more than 3 japs (C) track leading SOUTH to booby trap and then back again leading NORTH for approx 40 yds from this point onward it was impossible to pick up footprints owing to leaves on track (D) no trace of clothing found unless the remnants of a pair of trousers mentioned in TP 18 were those worn by jap injured in this booby trap of shells discovered on right back fired from SMG one of these has been returned to MOTPOS

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

immediat

0720

SIGNATURE * ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND INSERT "INCLUDING."

SIGNATURE

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I. 1000

T.O.R.

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER
L121		Wood									

1225

MESSAGES CONCERNING ACTIONS at BUANG RIVER MOUTH

B. Coy. 24 Aust Inf Bn. from 19 to 21 Jul 43

21 Jul 43. 0830hrs. Booby trap set on native track 100 yds NORTH of Ambush position was exploded. Standing patrol on track watching booby trap. did not notice any movement. Recce of booby trap revealed blood stains debris cut sticks with blood stains on them. Police Boy states sticks used by natives moving ahead of Japs. Footprints of large Jap party out on beach 20 yards NORTH of booby trap. Patrol was sent out at 1030K/21 consisting of Cpl and 5 ORs. Task to recce NORTH of booby trap for signs of enemy movement, also to act as screen for Lieut LANE and 1 OR who were setting fresh booby traps 150 yds NORTH of booby trap. Patrol observed many blood stains on beach and at least 1 dozen field dressing wrappers found in bush nearby. Some of these were blood stained. 3 yards in from beach torn remains of trousers with blood and flesh adhering. At this stage, patrol heard Japs talking on beach, contact with Japs was unavoidable. Pte KLEINITZ shot dead and Pte ROWLEY sprayed 2 others with OWEN MG killing both. Jap in confirmed position in half circle opened up on party with rifles and automatic weapons causing them to retreat to ambush position. Enemy immediately followed party by an outflanking move around rear of ambush position and also party of enemy moved forward on beach close to jungle and then into within 100 yards of ambush posn moved into the jungle. The enemy appeared to have MMGs in their rear firing on our ambush position. Since ambush position was NOT sited for defense against such large forces and to save unnecessary casualties decided to withdraw to Firm base. No sooner had this move started than the enemy opened fire with heavy mortar and fired approx 6 rounds. The Firm base was untenable and whole area was completely waterlogged, and position was in danger of being isolated. then decided to move back along track in direction of LEGA. Our members were checked by Lieut LANE while on the move back and 2 were found to be missing. Pte KLEINITZ and Pte HILLBRICK. At this stage information was received from P.B. BARAWINDI that he had seen a party of over 20 Japs crossing the river south of the ambush position. We moved back along track to LEGA for 1 hour where a stocktaking revealed serious shortages of food and ammunition. It was then decided to move back to LEGA as these shortages would prevent us putting up any effective resistance. Shortages included packs, equipment, spare clothing, personal gear. 2 in mortar and .303 amm. It was absolutely impossible to take these articles with us and keep our force intact. 1730K/21. Pl. reached LEGA 1830K/21. Pte KLEINITZ arrived LEGA. He states that he was a member of the patrol sent out at 1030K/21 to investigate booby trap and look for enemy movement NORTH of river and stated he got separated from patrol when returning to ambush position. He lay in a fire posn, shot Jap and saw them swarming in on position from beach and from the flank there also. Being considerable enemy movement through the jungle from NORTH and SOUTH he then moved back to firm base where he contacted Pte HILLBRICK who was carrying a BREN gun. HILLBRICK left Firm base making for the main trail to LEGA. Pte KLEINITZ remained in the area for a little longer and then set out for LEGA. He states that from his own deliberated opinion that there were at least 200 Japs in the ambush area. As yet HILLBRICK has NOT arrived at LEGA. We presume he is held up by the weight of BREN gun and heavy going. Pte MURPHY one of the last to leave ambush fired a full OWEN gun mag into a group of Japs moving along the beach and is confident he accounted for 3. Will notify you immediately HILLBRICK returns.

23 Jul 43. Report on Special patrol sent to regain contact with enemy. 1 NCO 5 ORs 1 P.B. left 0730K/23 crossed LINIA Creek map ref WAGO 545210 Moved along BUANG River after crossing river for second time and moving along saw on NORTH bank 100 yards further saw fresh Jap footprints going WEST and EAST, also native footmarks were discovered. 0945hrs. Moved along 20 yards and 56 Jap MMG opened up from left flank. only fired a short burst and fired high. As there was no cover patrol withdrew to cover beside rock. 1 Jap was observed standing up 25 yards from rock and was immediately killed MMG was NOT seen from posn in front of us as it

track 30 yards away. 2 more Japs showed themselves as they were attempt to outflank and patrol opened fire but results ~~not~~ observed. Movement was heard on left flank and it was considered that patrol was being encircled. Patrol withdrew to LINIA CREEK and took up ambush position on ~~LE~~ side until 1315 hrs. ~~NO~~ and 1 ~~ON~~ ^{PR} then went for a short distance past LINIA CREEK, and observed ~~NO~~ enemy movement. Patrol then withdrew to LEGA booby trap then moved to LINIA Creek ~~ambush~~ ^{ambush} posn and placed booby trap and remained as standing patrol. Jap ambush posn ref WAGO 552212. Jap strength. 1 MMG 5 LMG or SMG 15 rifles. Description of Jap ambush area facing ~~east~~ ^{east} right to left. ~~South~~ ^{South} of river very high cliffs approx 80 feet high sheer rock, and slopes back very steeply. River 35 yards wide. 30 yards kunai. track. kunai and jungle very flat and any attempt to move on left flank would be seen. Posn cannot be overlooked and ~~no~~ entrance can be made except by track. Patrol ~~and~~ advises WAGO map very inaccurate, and cannot be relied upon. If enemy secure KARESTE village they will be able to overlook LEGA and observe all movement. ^{mvt}

IDENTIFICATION OF SNLP

24 Jul 43. Jap field dressing covers recovered by you 19 Jul are most important, signifying special Special Naval Landing Party (SNLP). Advise immediately type of clothing worn by Japs 19 Jul - 21 Jul and 23 Jul, if possible. Also any other information which may help to identify this Unit. ^{fd}

REPLY TO THE ABOVE MESSAGE

Most of the men who clashed with Japs now out on 3 day patrol. ^{USCM} Information from few men here as follows - Clothing Dark green, including trousers, steel helmet similar to Americans with coarse net covering. Equipment ^{EQT} consisted of webbing waist belt with pouches attached along belt and webbing haversack worn on back. Bayonets were ~~not~~ ^{SMG} observed. Many carried Sub ^{SMG} M Gs with barrel enclosed in cylindrical radiator which had many holes in it. Physique good. Height about ~~5ft~~ 5ft 8 in, and greater. If additional infm obtainable from men now on patrol this will be forwarded.

Action on 19 Jul when booby trap was set off.

1247 hrs. 19 Jul 43. Small party of Japs exploded booby traps at 639229. WAGO 1 in. ~~First~~ LMG fire heard after explosion. Patrol investigated, found blood stains and Jap footprints, but ~~no~~ ^{mvt} movement seen 4 Jap field dressing covers found by patrol by large pool of blood 4 ft from trap.

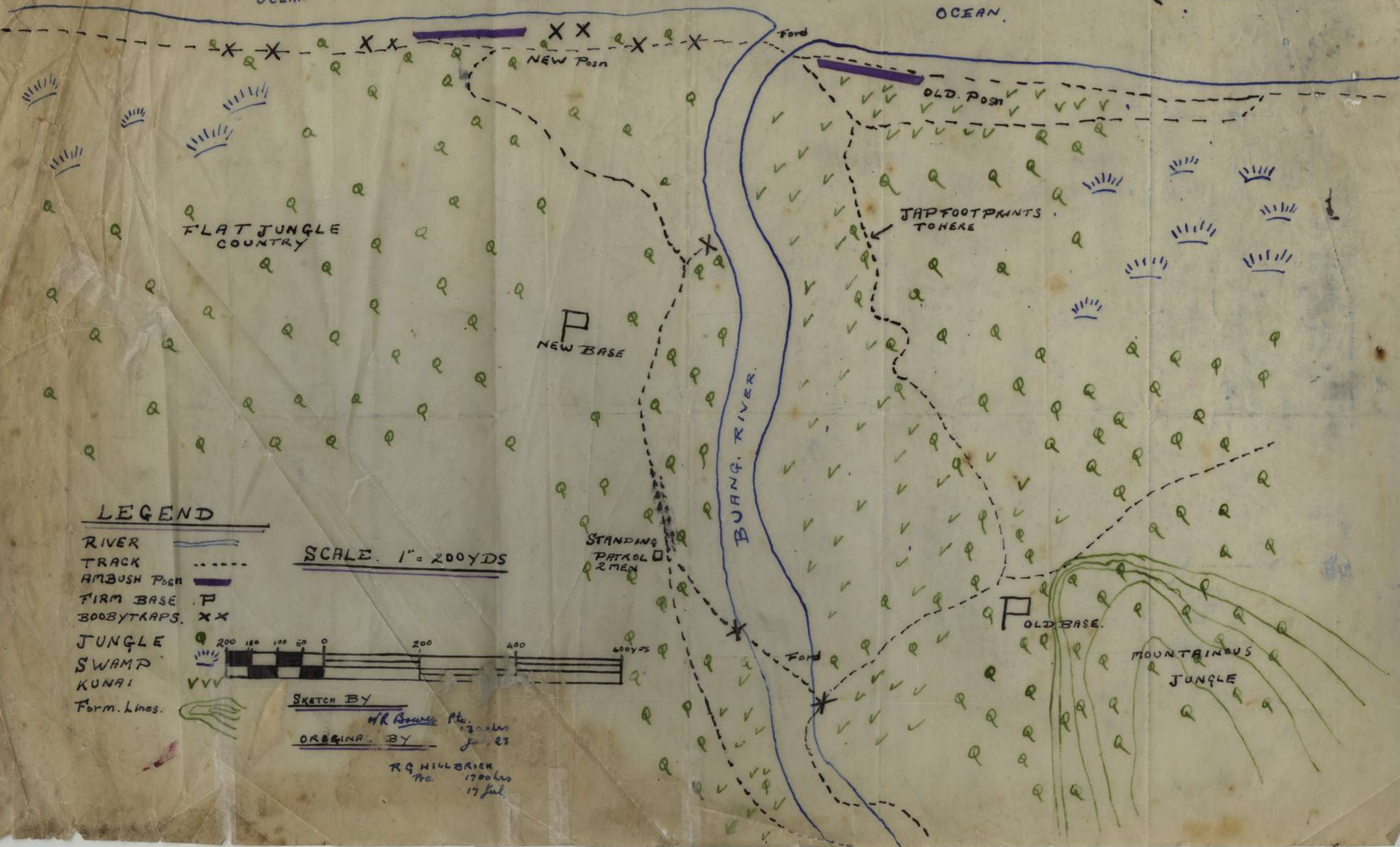
Handwritten signature

SKETCH OF VA AREA.

OCEAN

OCEAN

← TREE NORTH



FLAT JUNGLE COUNTRY

P
NEW BASE

JAP FOOTPRINTS TO HERE

P
OLD BASE

MOUNTAINOUS JUNGLE

BUANG RIVER

STANDING PATROL 2 MEN

Ford

Ford

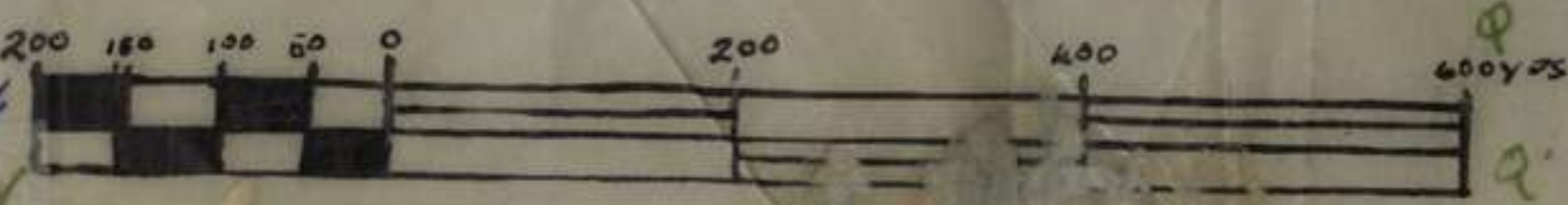
NEW POSN

OLD POSN

LEGEND

- RIVER
- TRACK
- AMBUSH POSN
- FIRM BASE
- BOOBYTRAPS.
- JUNGLE
- SWAMP
- KUNAI
- Form. Lines.

SCALE. 1" = 200 YDS



SKETCH BY
 W R BOWEN Pte. 1700 hrs
 JUL. 23
 ORIGIN BY
 R G HILLBRIEN Pte. 1700 hrs
 17 Jul.

MESSAGE FORM

4823
Army Form 5138
(Revised 1-5-43)
Part of 16
Reprinted on Special Order 10m page

Serial No.
OFFICE OF THE STAFF

No. of Groups
GR.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS
IN
OUT

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

Builder 1 Bits

July

In Reply to Number

Builder 1 Bits

JFG 7

X 2 0 8

TO
FROM

William Brady of 5 MIOKV broke contact with
 enemy officer 1230 4/21 reason for breaking
 contact the ambush force was definitely
 NOT sighted to meet an attack of such
 force from the rear and flank @
 to have remained in force would have
 meant that we would have
 been pinned against the SEA with all
 means of escape cut off and would
 have suffered heavy cas. @ contact was
 not resumed on our way back to
 LA and I thought it was in the
 plan of operation to draw the enemy
 back on to LA @ of enemy was @
 K/20 presumed killed by booby trap
 O/K/21 presumed killed by rifle
 & L.M. 9 feet @ as at least 1 dog blood
 stained old dressing wraps were
 discovered close by the beach and
 the danger area of the booby trap which
 was exploded 0830 hrs was at least
 40 yds along the track it could
 reasonably be presumed that at least
 it had been killed or badly wounded
 @ in addition PTE HILLBRICK peaked
 the booby trap at SOUTHERN end pos.

TIME OF ORIGIN

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CYPHER
IF FLAG IS TO INTERCEPT OR TO CALL
IN TO ENEMY HANDS

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN
BY ANY MEANS (WIRELESS OR OTHERWISE)

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

0830
T.H.T.
0837
T.O.R.

RECEIVER	READER	TIME	OUT	RECEIVER	READER	TIME	OUT	RECEIVER	READER	TIME	OUT

504

Boulder 1 part

Boulder 1 smoky

JF 83

20

July

12/19 ENEMY MOVEMENT in area
 at 1247 hrs The booby trap on
 KANAKA track 100 yds NORTH of town
 was exploded The explosion was
 quickly followed by TWO bursts of
 LMG fire similar to sound of
 OSME fire. Enemy was NOT
 heard moving further south along
 track. @ 1330 hrs RECCO PATROL of
 TWO or inspected trap and found
 a large pool of blood and wrapping
 from FOUR enemy field dressing
 FOUR ft away from exploded trap.
 @ Patrols recced track 500 yds NORTH
 of trap and discovered enemy footprints
 indicating that only a small enemy
 party had been on track. @
 Further search of the area dis-
 closed a small leaf wrapped
 quantity of cooked leaves along side
 track approx 20 yds NORTH of
 booby trap. @ This indicates that
 a NATIVE was in the party but
 could not discern any native foot
 prints. @ A NEW booby trap has been
 set 30 yds NORTH of the exploded one consisting

[Handwritten signature]

MESSAGE FORM

SERIAL NO.

NO. OF GROUPS
GR.

OFFICE USE STAMP

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN
OUT

254

2

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY)

TO: rptd. 24. Aust Div
FROM: 3 Aust Div

ORIGINATOR'S NUMBER

DATE

IN REPLY TO NUMBER

03592

29

(WRITE HORIZONTALLY)

SECRET 0 PITKEL 143 to 2000K/29 0 5
 MARKHAM AREA 0 0632K/29 24 6 10
 mortar fired 6 rds into japs 15
 a / posns spare 5643 madgal 20
 one inch 0 japs repld 25
 with 25 rds from believed 70mm 30
 from PROBABLY on north bank MARKHAM 35
 was 0 0905K/29 party approx 20 japs 40
 ambushed at 545430 0 enemy casualties 45
 6 killed 5 wounded 0 one cashalities 50
 Wkt 0 enemy withdrawn but covered 55
 the bodies with LMG 0 1148K/29 60
 mortar fired further 26 rds into 65
 japs posns incl KPG point 0 70
 1155 - 1202K/29 japs pan repld 75
 with 9 fsh shells 1130K/29 B Coy 80
 PIB lops 7 pl arrived MUMK-16 85
 from SUNSHINE 0 Markham area 90
 0 0930K/28 7 pl PIB and led 95
 rips 3 av arrived THIKI THIKI 0 100
 7 pl PIB established Amak Ch 105
 on 958295 roamer ONE inch 110
 mission 0 0800K/29 HQ 15 rds 115
 CLOSED preliminary and reopened 120
 mission same time 0 C Coy 58/59 125
 by resting for day at 669974 130

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNATURE
* Originator may delete "except" and insert "including"

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY)

T.H.I.

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

T.O.R.

B COY

88

2

O.P

310

hurry upon in card

3966

Jul
Aug

Builder 1 Bito

Builder 1 Bombo

JF#6

10

SECRET 0600^h/9 @ message from builder 1 bito relating to SMOKY to stay in position at VA until relieved if NOT repeat not REACH smoky. 1800^h/9 when patrol had withdrawn LA SMOKY left 0530^h/8 and returned immediately to VA. arrived VA 1490^h/8 @ NO repeat NO enemy movement @ KANAKA tracks belonging to two KANAKA found leading to and from firm base @ tracks lead from beach into approx same position in AMBUSH as where KANAKAS moved in on R/A @ paws paws and basket found between firm base and BEACH @ could be assumed these were two of original - 1 is intercepted @ moral good @ vis poor. raining as usual @ no air activity all day @ now FIRM BASE established 200^h/y yds west of old posn @ on side of hill covering track. 1200^h/9 SMOKY @ AMBUSH sprung @ usual morning recce 1 cpl 5 ors arrived at AMBUSH posn at 0600^h/9 @ 3 of patrol sighted 2 groups each of 2 men JAPS walking NORTH along beach within 5 yards of front of ambush posn @ shots exchanged unavoidable @ no casualties on either side @ cecece patrol moved back through bush to FIRM BASE @ remainder of

0491

MESSAGE FORM.

13

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN

OUT

No. of Groups GR.

Serial No. OFFICE DATE STAMP

O.I.P. X0123

137 (CR 130)

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 3 DIV 16FOI KYMA (KULU BOMO/DUPA) (KERAI)

FROM 24 BN

Originator's Number.

Date.

In Reply to Number.

Reto

794

2

(Write horizontally)

SECRET SITREP 169 to 1800 K/2 @ B Coy @ NO
report BUANG RIVER patrol otherwise
SITNOR @ C Coy 0625 K/2 explosions and
A/A heard directn HEATHS single
A/c heard @ Patrol to LOOKOUT
observed 1145 - 1315 K/2 @ Saw 12
with masts
canoes 2 rowboats on mudbank SOUTH of
NEW LABU ISLAND @ 6 natives 4 BIG JAPS
working on canoes possibly engines as ONE canoe
came up stream too fast for manpower at 1145 K/2
@ Japs using hut on SOUTH side of ISLAND
near mudbank @ HQ Coy SUNSHINE OPO 0845
- 0905 K/2 ONE up A/c over area finally
disappearing N.W. @ 1311 K/2 - ONE up A/c flying NORTH @
1342 and 1355 K/2 - up A/c flying SOUTH 2000 FT @

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY. Informed IMMEDIATE

TIME OF ORIGIN 1848

SIGNATURE * Originator may delete "except" and insert "including."

SIGNATURE (BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

IMMEDIATE

T.H.I. 1855

SYSTEM IN.	TIME IN.	READER.	SENDER.

SYSTEM OUT.	TIME OUT.	READER.	SENDER.

SYSTEM OUT.	TIME OUT.	READER.	SENDER.

T.O.R.

MESSAGE FORM

patrol were 3 mins behind recee.
 party SMOKY reorganised recee party
 at FIRM BASE including himself
 and 12 O/Rs and thorough search
 of area made SOUTH along beach
 but NOT repeat NOT along sand
 tracks along BEACH reveal patrol
 of JAPS approx 10 in strength
 shifting ANBUSH posn to north of
 NA. © will advise exact location later
 © JAPS looked as if they were unaware
 of posn until movement towards posn
 was made second recee took ~~about 5~~ 5
 hrs © JAPS HAD not ~~reced~~ reced posn
 in ANBUSH on right flank.

1405
 1430
 1605

F 1355

Select Adv Base

Buna

1393

20

Secret ~~step~~ to 0730 R/20.0

SITNOR

0730

0730

0754

2

exploded this contained one inst. and one 4 sec green both of which exploded as large number of enemy had pushed through to this area it is considered that at least 2 were presumed killed or badly wounded this makes a most conservative tally of 14 killed or wounded owing to thickness of jungle and enemy action it was not possible to examine enemy casualties hence they are classified as presumed PTE HILL BRICK has already been reported in safe

immediate

0740

1015

L 1210 Hood

1215

O-P

Builder 1 Rito
Builder 1 Bomo

July

~~113~~
113

JF 104

24

I, 1958

most of men who clashed with
 JAP now out on 3 day patrol @ Inf from
 new men here as follows @ clothing
 dark green included trousers @ steel
 helmet similar to AMERICANS with
 course net covering @ equipment consisted
 of webbing waist belt with pouches
 attached along belt and webbing
 haversack worn on back @ bayonets
~~not~~ were NOT observed @
 many carried sub mg with
 barrel enclosed in cylindrical
 radiator which had many
 holes in it @ phy physique
 good @ height about 5-6 1/2 ins
 and greater @ if additional
 information obtainable from
 men now on patrol this will
 be forwarded

F 2150 Hood.

1925

1926

2153

I

2

O..P..

485

5403

Builder 1 Bito

Builder 1 Botno - JF 103 - 23 July

SECRET report on special sent to regain
contact with enemy @ 1 INCO 50 R's 1 RB left
@ 730^h/93 crossed AINE CREEK map ref
WAGO 545210 moved along BUANG
RIVER @ after crossing river for second
time and moving along saw NTH BAHK
100 yds fresh JAP foot prints going west
and east @ also native foot marks
were discovered @ 0945 moved
along 20 yds further and 5-5 JAP
m m g opened up from left
flank @ only fired at short burst
and fired high @ as there was
no cover patrol with drew to
cover beside rock @ 1 JAP was
observed to standing up 25 yds
from rock and was immediately
killed @ Mill g was not seen
from posn in front of us outside
track 30 yds away @ 2 shore japs
shotved themselves as they were
attemping to outflank and patrol
opened fire but results not observed
@ now was heard on left flank
and it was considered the patrol
was being incircled and the

patrol withdrew to LINE CREEK
 ERICAN and took up ambush
 position. LE & A side until
 1315 hrs @ HQ NCO and 1 or
 then went for ashore distance
 past LINE CREEK and observed
 no enemy movement @ patrol then
 withdrew to LE & A ~~side~~ booby
 trap party then moved to
 LINE CREEK ABN 5H
 position and placed booby trap
 and remained as standing
 patrol @ JAP ambush position ref
 was 55-2212 @ JAP strength
 1 mm, 5 cm, or sub. m. g.
 15 rifles @ description of JAP
 a bush area facing east RIGHT
 to left @ south of RIVER very
 high cliffs approx 80 ft high
 sheer rock then slopes back
 very steeply @ river 35 yds wide
 @ 30 yds kunai @ track @ kunai
 and jungle very flat and any
 attempt to move on left flank
 would be seen @ position banner
 be over looked and NO entrance

3

can be made except by
 track of builder 1 SMOKY advised
 W A 90 map very inaccurate
 and can't be relied upon
 if enemy secure KARESTE
 village they will be able
 to overlook LEQA and observe
 all movement of Ref your I 1126 1134
 builder 1 SMOKY and 14 ors will leave
 COOK R4 route via SWARLOAF to
 COAST all movement will be across
 country and will jungle back of patrol
 it will be away approx 23 days
 with the patrol away this length of
 time will be essential for composition
 section 11/11 pl stationed at 17705
 be now stationed at LA of 10/11/11
 need for standing patrol at LINA
 of all for this patrol to maintain
 contact with enemy I need more
 men to work on BIRM BASE and ambush
 point have obtained good men from 11pl
 and have forwarded your msg 109 to
 Smoky of Builder 1. Some have been unable to
 reach LA K/24 owing to straggled men
 and find on pier 2200 2200 17P
 0910 0001

MESSAGE FORM

Reprinted October, 1943 - rev. 10m pads.
Form C. 2128
(Standard Letter)
Size 100

Serial No.
OFFICE USE STAMP
No. of Groups
GR.

2 LIC O.P. 80

CALL
AND
INSTRUC
TION

Builder, Bito

Builder, Bomo - JF 100 - 23 July

PATROL contacted enemy 200 yds down
BUANG RIVER after the second crossing
point of contact along track approx.
2 hrs EAST OF LEGA enemy opened
up with MG fired we withdrew to
another posn. on opposite bank and
saw three JAPS we opened up with
every-thing and withdrew up the
river we have now taken up AMBUSH
posn on the LEGA TRACK near LINIA
CK. cas nil

1145
1210

F ~~1220~~
1220

OK

5694

JF120-28 -

Builder 1 Bito
Builder 1 Bomo

secret PATROL consisting 1 NCO 5 ORP.
 I PB left LAO 530 Y28 a patrol moved
 through out ~~X~~ STANDING PATROL at LINIA
 CK proceeded along shock towards TAP
 ambush crossed river twice and
 then proceed around LEFT flank of
 JAP AMBUSH there was NO embedding
 of JAP having moved few of the young
 to contact us the only footprint
 along track belonged to one native
 and proceeded west as far as second
 river crossing moving around
 left flank the patrol observed most
 in the kunat 1000 hrs a patrol opened
 fire with OSMG and rifle fire
 but NO further mount or results
 was observed 3 grenades were put into
 TAP AMBUSH seen by cup discharge
 distance approx 200 yds all fell
 ambush area as small column
 was visible was observed

in kunia $\frac{2}{NO}$ attempt to reply
to our fire, a patrol moved forward
a short distance and waited
in jungle and observed a NO movement
no attempt was made to follow
our patrol patrol remained for
another 30 mins and then returned
through our standing patrol
back to firm base a patrol
returned at 1445

F 1554

HOOP

1530

1535

1605

[SEE BACK.]

inn "all returned" and will sign his name.

FIGHTING PATROL REPORT.

30 Jul 43

8

I.O.

Ref amap. WAGO 152n.

From. SMOKY. BOMO. Patrol leader. Pte JENNINGS.

DATE, 30 Jul 43.

Strength 1 Int. NCO. 8 ORs. 1 P.B. from 11 & 12 Pls .

Armament. 3 OSMGs 7 rifles.

Object. To recce down Track to mouth of BUANG River as far as possible and observe any Jap movement and to contact and harass enemy.

Weather. Heavy rain falling.

Route- Firm base to Jap Ambush posn 552212 turned and proceeded along North side of River to end of Island 586224. Returned to Jap ambush posn 552212 and took up ambush posn there until 1630K/30. then returned along main track to Firm base.

Time out. 0700hrs. late owing to heavy rain disrupting breakfast cooking arrangements.

Time In. 1715 hrs.

Rations carried. 2 Field OPS and 2 emergency per man.

Details. 1145hrs. observed 2 Japs leading patrol of 7 heading WEST towards Firm base at 576226. Patrol returned to take up ambush posn with Cpl LING and 5 ORs in Jap ambush posn.

1245hrs. 7 Japs began to cross river. We opened fire with OSMG and rifle but owing to one premature shot enemy withdrew very rapidly and results of our fire could NOT be ascertained. One NCO. and 3 ORs went downstream but no sign of enemy. P.B. pointed out KATEST track mentioned in patrol report of 29 Jul. (Cpl LINGS patrol) . At this point it is well defined but definitely unused. This track has been booby trapped.

DETAILS.

0700hrs. Left Firm base and passed through standing patrols and reached JAP AMBUSH 552212 at 1015hrs. Enemy not in occupation. Proceeded along NORTH side of river to 586224 at end of Island and observed under cover.

1145hrs. 2 Japs leading patrol seen heading WEST. travelled along river. Clothes and equipment worn light green uniform american pattern helmets steel. All carrying rifles. NO auto weapons seen. Japs were about 5ft10 in tall and had rifles slung. Went along River NOT on track and were moving leisurely. We returned to 552212 and took up posn there with Cpl LING and his patrol at 220hrs.

1245hrs. 7 Japs began to cross river and we opened fire with OSMG and rifles. NO natives seen with Japs and only one wore pack. 1 NCO 3 ORs reced downstream but NO sign of enemy.

1430hrs. Returned along main track. 1450 hrs at 546212. P.B. indicated track running 80deg mag. previously mentioned. NO sign of use by Jap. 1750 hrs. Patrol reached Firm base.

DEDUCTIONS

The Jap patrol was evidently a weekly one of 1 days duration as we struck enemy in ambush posn 23 Jul. Jap used River to avoid making track and to avoid our booby trap. Jap ambush posn is now occupied by our Standing patrol.