

AWM52
2nd Australian Imperial Force and
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diaries, 1939-45 War

Item number: 8/3/62

24 Infantry Battalion

November 1943

27 DEC 1943

WAR DIARY.

UNIT. 3rd Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

Date & Time from 000hrs. 1 Nov 43 to

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of events and information.	Remarks Referenced to appendices
CAMP DIDDY	Mon 1 Nov	1525	<p><u>A Coy.</u> 25 ORs returned to CAMP DIDDY 48668 from 3 Aust Air Maintenance Coy. NADZAB.</p> <p>Evacuations from this Unit to Hill CDB were 3, making a total of 69 evacuated from the unit since 27 Sep - the date the unit arrived in the NADZAB area.</p> <p>An issue of Comforts comprising tobacco, cigarettes and sweets was distributed throughout the unit.</p> <p>Following the mvt of Bde Comd (Brig HAMMILL D.S.O.) to LAE to temporarily adm Comd 3rd Aust Div; the C.O. (Lieut SMITH) was temporarily adm Comd NADZAB area.</p> <p>In an attempt to place canteen distribution on an equitable basis the C.O. has directed that an account be kept for each man. Non smokers will not be compelled to accept tobacco etc but will accumulate a credit which can be used when sweets etc arrive. Any man leaving the unit will be issued with canteen orders to the value of his credit.</p> <p>A warning has been issued that tps must NOT fire on A/C unless positively identified as hostile or w/c attacks. Fire must in all cases be controlled.</p> <p><u>A Coy.</u> Coy HQs 544047 NA ZAB 1-25000. 1 sec 9 Pl 55528 HEATHS 1-25000 as standing guard.</p>	
Yalu				
BRAP RIVER		0500	<p><u>B Coy.</u> Four reconnaissance fighting patrols left B Coy camp area 351568. Str of each patrol 3 ORs</p> <p>1st patrol left for PYRAMID HILL 300825 and returned 1630hrs. NO mvt seen.</p> <p>2nd patrol left for CHIVALISING 212303.</p> <p>3rd patrol left for WAWIN 367664 and TELERANG 188669 and</p> <p>4th patrol left for OLD MUNKIP 367664</p>	
KUMBUM		0700	<p><u>C Coy</u> patrol 1 OFFICERS ORS 1 INCL 1 sig. 1 int sec, with 15 natives left BAINDUANG 346700 on a 2 day patrol along SIO. M. Patrol moved through NAMBANGA at 1010hrs.</p> <p>2 Japs killed at FOOTAH (L) 665835 approx. The Japs were armed. The village was searched and the patrol reports NO further trace of Japs at FOOTAH.</p> <p>It has been stated that without the assistance of the natives the patrol could NOT have reached FOOTAH. From the report, the track falls very steeply to BRUP (L) 665835 and from that village to NAMBANGA it is particularly steep, rough kanaka track; the gradient reported as being 1 in 2. The patrol reported that this portion of the track is impassable.</p> <p>Patrol arrived at NAMBANGA and camped night in vicinity</p>	
		1700	<p>Patrol 3 ORs & natives left BAINDUANG for KANAKA 663744. Object to clear enemy from tracks and recon each track for possibility of the passage of larger patrols.</p>	

Date & Time. 1 Nov 43 to

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of events and information.	Remarks and references to appendices &
KUMBUM	Mon 1 Nov		Enemy casualties reported 1 Nov. 2 killed. Total enemy casualties since 12 Oct 43 157 killed. 2 wounded. 115 found dead. 13 POW.	Sitrep 92 Message 1438
NGAFIR CK		1800	D Coy. 16 and 17 composite plis less 1 sec arrived at NGAFIR Creek. 1 sec BLAKES CAMP. 1 unit 23 OIs arrived BLAKES CAMP en route NGAFIR Crk.	Sitrep 93 Message 1464
CAMPDIDDY	Tue 2 Nov	1130	BHQ. 2 I.C. (Maj FLEAY D.S.O.) arrived at BHQ from two areas.	
		2359	Coy code names changed as follows - BHQ - BADA to KODU HQ Coy. BIKI to DIFA A Coy - BORD to BITO B Coy - BIXA to BOMO C Coy - DUDI to KAPO D Coy - DIFA to KOMU	Sitrep 94 Message 1475
		1800-1900.	A/A practice held in NADZAB area.	
YALU		1820	Lieut THOMAS and Lt GIFFORD evacuated by A/C from BOANA to 111 CCS NADZAB. A Coy. No report.	
RAE RIVER		1030	B Coy. Patrol returned from OLD MUNKIP 367664. Nil report.	
		1530	Patrol which left for CHIVALISING L/1 returned not having reached their destination - unable to find track. Nothing to report.	
		1630	Patrol returned from WAWIN 227641. Patrol did not reach TALERANG as it would have taken one more day to complete patrol. Nothing to report.	
KUMEM M U		1045	C Coy. SIO patrol contacted and killed a Japs who were armed with grenades in gardens 1. In 45 min time of 100100MUAM (1) R-668875. Identity disc and some papers were found on the Japs.	
		1700	Patrol spent night on Kumar spur (L) R-708895. NO JAPS RECEIVED FROM KASANOBE AREA.	
			Total enemy cas. since 12 Oct 43. 157 killed. 2 wounded. 115 found dead. 13 POW.	
		1800	203 Comd est with SIO patrol from BALINDUANG. traffic passed up to 2000hrs. Special patrol from BALINDUANG to patrol 2 days out from KA SANOBIE along rd to SAMANZING reached KASANOBE but could NOT get natives to carry past that point. The LUNAL stated that SAMANZING was a 3 day trip from KASANOBE and that NO Japs had been seen in the area.	

UNIT. 24 Aust Inf Bn. (AIF)

Date & Time from 000Lhrs 5 Nov 43 to

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and information...	Remarks and Reference to appendices etc
CAMP DIDDY	Fri 5 Nov	1045	Fuller, lone comms established with Station Comd MADZAN. No comms yet established with B Coy HQ at SAMM River. Comms to this Coy ceased when 15 Aust Inf Bn relinquished signal control of the area on 1125L/3. To date no attempt appears to have been made by Sigs at Station Comd to connect this line to their switchboard despite frequent requests from this Unit. The Coy's role at present is WEST flank protection of KUMBUM Hillfield.	Station 102 Message 1647
		1100	Maj. GUC, of RGF, accompanied by Maj. LOUIS of 7 Aust Div visited these HQs at CAMP DIDDY and interviewed the C.O. (Lt Col SMITH) re siting of a convalescent camp.	
		0930/1030	Two cas. were evacuated from BOANA to MADZAN by A/C.	
YALU		1725	A Coy. Patrol of strength 5 which left YALU 545546 at 0800L/5 to search track from MADZAN to 583433 for search of 3 graves of Aust soldiers reported by P.O.W. returned and reported no trace of the graves could be found.	
CAMP DIDDY		1430	H Coy. No 3 Pl arrived at BOANA 499713 to take over that area from 14 Pl C Coy.	
		1700	32 personnel arrived YALU from CAMP DIDDY to replace B Coy personnel at present moving to SAMM River area. This party came under Comd A Coy and will be engaged on construction 2 Aust Corps HQ at YALU.	
SAMM RIVER		1215	B Coy. Coy Comd (Capt FLEMING) arrived KUMBUM 577695 to arrange transfer of duties from C Coy and to establish Coy HQs.	
		1715	32 personnel previously under Comd A Coy at YALU arrived CAMP DIDDY en route KUMBUM area.	
			On completion of change over from C Coy 10 Pl will occupy the BAMBUNG area; 11 Pl will be established at BAMBOK 599708 with secs at HONGBAIN 625742 and KUMBUM 577695. 12 Pl will be stationed at BOANA.	
		0830	Patrol strength 5 ORs left 351568 for PYRAMID Hill 306525 to occupy any enemy in area. Patrol returned 1130hrs. Nothing to report.	
KUMBUM		0800	C Coy. Patrol str, 4 left BAMBUNG 645780. A 5 day patrol along track KAS NOBE 65374 - BAMBUNG. Patrol will move 2 days out from KAS NOBE and return. Object of patrol will be to clear the area of enemy, and to recce tracks for possibility of passage of larger patrols.	
		1010	14 Pl arrived BLAKES CAMP 490687 from BOANA and will move to CAMP DIDDY 6 Nov. Remainder of C Coy will not move from present areas in the SAMM Valley until CB Coy troops arrive in the area.	
BOANA CK			D Coy. Nothing to report.	

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UNIT 24 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

Date and Time 6 Nov 43 to 7 Nov 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and information.	Remarks and reference to appendices etc
CAMP DIDDY	Sat 6 Nov	1515	<u>BHQ.</u> Cpl STEVENS R.J. was presented with D.C.M. ribbon by C.O. (LtCol SMITH)	
		1640	<u>A.C.</u> Church parade held.	
		0703	1 A/C commenced dropping at BOANA 499713. 9 runs made. all SOUTH to NORTH. Recovery of cargo estimated to be 80%. Dropping completed 0755hrs.	Sitrep 103 Message 1658
		0855	Bombing commenced on MADZAB. 1 large fire was started on No 2 strip, burned for 30 minutes.	
		0900	Air raid warning received.	
		0902	10 DINAH type bombers and 10 fighters passed over CAMP DIDDY flying NORTH.	
		0915	6 A/C strafed No 2 Strip.	
		1107	All clear.	
YALU BRAP RIVER			<u>A Coy.</u> Nothing to report.	Sitrep 104 Message 1702
		0715	<u>B Coy.</u> 12 P1 left CAMP DIDDY for KUMBUM 577695. arrived BLAKES CAMP at 1130hrs where they bivouaced night.	
		0900	Capt FLEWELLEN (Coy Comd) moved from KUMBUM to BANBUANG on receipt of message.	
KUMBUM			<u>C Coy.</u> No report from KASANGEE patrol.	
		1510	14 P1 arrived CAMP DIDDY.	
NGAFIR CK			<u>D Coy.</u> Nothing to report.	
CAMP DIDDY	Sun 7 Nov	0810	<u>BHQ.</u> Nine enemy bombers, escorted by fighters, bombed the MADZAB drome (No 4 strip) starting 4 fires.	
		0823	Enemy A/C were intercepted by Allied fighters NORTH of MADZAB, two enemy bombers were observed to crash, 1 of which burst into flames in the air. Reports of these crashes were also received from BOANA 499713, KAMEN 612693, KUMBUM 577695, BANGDAP 625730 and compass bearings were taken from these areas. By cross reference it is estimated that enemy planes crashed at approx sqs 4878 5178, 5781, and a possible crash at 6182. No official info has been received from Area Comd as to casualties or damage.	
		1310	12 enemy fighters (appeared to be ZEKES) flew over CAMP DIDDY heading NORTH then turned approx WEST. Allied planes circled area but were NOT observed to contact enemy.	
		1030-1047-1050	22 explosions heard in direction of LAE.	

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UNIT. 24 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

Date & Time 7 Nov 43 to 9 Nov 43

Place	Date	Hour	Remarks and Information	References
YALU ERAP RIVER	Sun 7 Nov	1610	<u>A Coy.</u> Situation normal.	Sitrep 105 Message 1708
KUMBUM		1900	<u>B Coy.</u> 10 PI arrived at CAMP DIDDY from 351508 en route for BAINDUANG 645780.	
		1900	<u>B Coy.</u> No word from KASANOBE patrol.	Sitrep 106 Message 1721
NGAFIR CK		1900	Following checking by means of rangefinder, locations of villages etc in the MARKHAM river valley have been corrected and have been pinpointed on the BOANA 1 inch sheet.	Sitrep 107 Message 1740
CAMP DIDDY	Mon 8 Nov	2350-0015	<u>B Coy.</u> Nothing to report.	
		0000-0025	<u>B.M.C.</u> Explosions heard at CAMP DIDDY 459031 from direction of LAE.	Sitrep 108 Message 1734
		0900	<u>C.O.</u> (Lt Col SMITH, G.F.) visited 5th Aust Div HQ to discuss the 5th Aust Div HQ. <u>C Coy.</u> ERAP RIVER re-established.	Sitrep 109 Message 1772
YALU A ERAP RIVER			Capt. DUMBY, Lieut. HARRIS and DAWSON arrived at CAMP DIDDY from PORT MORESBY.	Sitrep 110 Message 1797
KUM B UM		1700	<u>A Coy.</u> 12 PI arrived KANOBMAIN 625742 from KUMBUM 577695 and will proceed to BAINDUANG 645780 on L/S.	Sitrep 111 Message 1802
NGAFIR CK		1700	<u>C Coy.</u> No report has been received from patrol which left BAINDUANG 645780 for 3 day patrol along track KASANOBE 653744-SAMANZING in search of Japs who may have moved over this route in the direction of FINSCHAVAN.	
CAMP DIDDY	Tue 9 Nov	0920	<u>BHQ.</u> Air Raid warning. 0933hrs. All clear. No A/C sighted.	
		1103	Air raid warning received. An unknown number of enemy A/E were observed over NADZAB drome at approx 25000 ft and were intercepted by Allied Fighters.	Sitrep 112 Message 1813
		1145	CAMP DIDDY O.P. 451663 reported parachute seen to fall SOUTH of MARKHAM River, EAST of MARKHAM PT on bearing of 145 deg approx sq.5742. Observers reported that NO A/C were seen to crash but visibility was poor at the time because of low cloud ceiling.	

UNIT. 24 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

Date & Time 9 Nov 43 to

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and information.	Remarks and references to appendices etc
CAMP DIDDY	Tue 9 Nov	2000	<p><u>BHQ.</u> Comd NADZAB AREA COMD advise that U.S. PILOTS had reported that the pilot of a damaged Jap fighter was seen to parachute out of the machine whilst over the MARKHAM River. The location was given as sq. 5842 and the spot where the airman landed was reported to be an Island assumed to be NEW LABU Island. Observations from A Coy at YALU however, indicate that the airman parachuted to earth approx opposite NARAKAPOR airfield sq.5050. It was reported further that during the descent 5 Allied A/C circled thr are continuously. It has NOT been ascertained whether this airman is Allied or Jap.</p>	
YALU		1100	<p>Flight Lieut JONES (RAAF) and Lieut WHITEAKER (ANGAU) visited BHQ.</p> <p><u>A Coy.</u> Following advice of possible Jap-airman on NEW LABU Island, a patrol will move from HEATHS 597448 at first light to track and river junc 583433 and light a signal fire. NADZAB area Comd has arranged for B 25 A/C to fly over the area at 0930hrs. 10 Nov and to indicate the enemy airmans position by firing a RED verrey light. Receipt of the signal will be acknowledged from ground by flag and attempts will then be made to effect a capture.</p> <p>Simultaneously a patrol strength 4 under 2 I/C (Maj FLEAY DSO) will move by jeep from CAMP DIDDY to NARAKAPOR airfield at first light and there set up similar signal fire. The B 25 A/C will search that area before proceeding to NEW LABU ISLAND and will signal a RED VEREY light if the airman is located and a green verrey light if he is NOT in that area. If in the area, the patrol will attempt to capture the enemy pilot.</p>	
ERAP RIVER		1400	<p><u>B Coy.</u> Warning order issued that 1 Pl B Coy will be based at BOANA 499713 as a standing patrol. This is to implement the Bn role of maintaining one Pl only. in the BOANA area. The remaining troops in that area will return to the general NADZAB area in the next few days.</p>	
KUMBUM		0740 1500 1400	<p>Coy HQs and 10 Pl left BLAKES for KUMBUM.</p> <p>Arrived at KUMBUM.</p> <p>12 Pl arrived BAINDUANG from HANOBMAIN.</p>	
		1300	<p><u>C Coy.</u> 5 day patrol KASANOBE-SAMANZING returned to BAINDUANG. reported No enemy seen.</p> <p>Patrol of 1 Offr 3 ORs 1 native which left BOANA at 0800L/8 to search for Jap A/C which crashed in flames at approx 0825L/7. returned to BOANA and reported that the badly smashed A/C had been located on the side of a steep hill approx sq.4974. The body of the gunner was taken from the wreck and buried nearby but no other bodies were recovered. The patrol leader reported that the A/C was apparently a mass of molten metal when it crashed and very little gear was salvageable.</p>	

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UNIT. 24 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

Date & Time. 9 Nov 43. to

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and information.	Remarks and references to appendices etc
KUMBUM	Tue 9 Nov		<p><u>C Coy continued</u> Some articles however were recovered . The the opinion of the patrol leader the wreck would be very hard to locate from the air. Although the ruins were practically unrecognisable the opinion of the patrol leader was formed that, because of its bulk the machine was a bomber with an aluminium alloy body and a pure aluminium airscrew. The following articles were salvaged from the plane - 1 book (possibly Code book) 9 .5 rounds, 1 aluminium plate.</p>	
NGAFIR CK			<p><u>D Coy.</u> No change.</p>	
CAMP DIDDY	Wed 10 Nov	2012	<p><u>BHQ.</u> 6 heavy explosions followed by 3 light explosions were heard in direction of NADZAB.</p>	
		2017	<p>Air Raid warning received.</p>	
		2033	<p>All clear received. No A/C heard.</p>	
		1940	<p>A practice shoot of 2 inch mortar flares was carried out. The practice took place in heavy rain and a number of flares failed to ignite, particularly RED and GREEN.</p>	
			<p>As enemy activity in the area has ceased, instructions have been issued that with the exception of 1 Pl B Coy, the troops in the BOANA-SANAM Valley will return to NADZAB area and will concentrate in the ERAP River area. 351568. The Pl remaining in the BOANA area will patrol all tracks in the BOANA area. movement is expected to commence L/11. As A Coy have completed the construction of 2 Aust Corps HQs at YALU they will return to the Bn area and will concentrate at NGAFIR CREEK site vicinity 449605. Movement will commence L/11.</p>	
YALU		0800	<p><u>A Coy.</u> Patrol strength 2 left YALU 545549 to search from HEATHS to vicinity sq. 4852 for Jap airman who was reported to have parachuted from his damaged aircraft at approx 1140L/9 following enemy air activity over NADZAB.</p>	
		1500	<p>Patrol returned and reported that the B 25 which was to fire flares did Not do so . No enemy was seen but 2 natives reported that a kanaka had told them that a man had landed at BWARIP 439523. Enquiries are being made by Lieut WHITTAKER ANGMU, NADZAB to determine the authenticity of this report.</p>	
		0500.	<p>Patrol strength 4 left YALU and lit a signal fire at NARAKAPOR to indicate their posn when B 25 passed over.</p>	
		0945.	<p>The B 25 flew over a mud Island opposite NARAKAPOR and fired red flare to indicate posn where parachutist landed. The patrol was unable to cross to the Island as NO boat was available and the current was too swift to attempt crossing without a craft.</p>	

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UNIT. 24 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

From 10 Nov 43 to. 11 Nov 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of events and information.	Remarks and references to appendices
YALU.	Wed 10 Nov	1045.	<u>A Coy</u> Patrol in searching the bank of the river found footprints of a man and a native at 512498. The prints came from the waters indicating that the two persons possessed a boat. One man was wearing a pointed rubber soled boot, using left leg only. From the posn of the natives prints it appeared that the native was assisting the other man. The prints followed the river track from NARAKAPOR towards LAE and were traced by the patrol to approx. 516496 where a heavy shower of rain completely obliterated the tracks. Search continued all day but no enemy seen. The patrol returned to YALU at 1820hrs.	Sitrep 113 Message 180
ERAP RIVER		2100	<u>B Coy.</u> Capt DUELL assumed Comd of Coy. 10 Pl HQs plus one sec established BAINDUANG 645780 with one sec SOKULEM 624812 and 1 sec AVIN 671790. 12 Pl and 1 sec established BAMBOK. 599708 with one sec HANOBMAIN 625742.	Sitrep 114 Message 1843
BAINDUANG BAMBOK				Sitrep 115 Message 1897
KUMBUM		1100	<u>C Coy.</u> OLD MUNKIP patrol strength 3 returned to camp at 351568 and reported the ERAP River still flooded and uncrossable.	Sitrep 116 Message 1940
NGAFIR CREEK.			<u>D. Coy.</u> Training continued.	
Camp Diddy	Thu 11 Nov		<u>BHQ.</u> Comms to BOANA 499713 has been out since 2359 hrs 10 Nov. Linesmen have inspected and checked the sig line as far as CAMP 1 590695 and report the line to be in order to this point. 1500-2005. No conn with Station Comd NADZAB. Following the firing of 2 inch mortar parachute flares the native line working at CAMP DIDDY deserted. They became scared of the flares. Infm received from 2/1 A.G.H. that Sgt ROLFE D died 11 Nov.	
YAL U		0915	<u>A Coy.</u> Patrol strength 4 left YALU for NARAKAPOR in search of Jap airman who was reported to have parachuted from a damaged aircraft on 9 Nov. The patrol returned and reported that road and tracks YALU-NARAKAPOR were impassable. No further sign of Jap airman seen. A further party is patrolling from HEATHS-NARAKAPOR-YALU in an endeavour to locate and capture Jap airman.	and report
		1130	1 Offr 4 ORs 42 Aust Inf Bn arrived at YALU being Adv party of force to relieve A Coy.	

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UNIT. 24 Aust Inf Bn. (AIF)

Date 11 Nov 43 to.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of events and information.	Remarks and reference to appendice
BOANA	Thu 11 Nov		Following a native report that 6 Japs are buried at KANANGANDBANG 671807, a patrol will leave BOANA to verify report. Time and date of departure of patrol to be advised.	Sitrepl 17
ERAP RIVER		0815	<u>C Coy.</u> Patr 1 left 351568 for PYRAMID Hill. 306525.	Mseeage 1842
		1430	Patrol returned and reported they were unable to cross ERAP River which is in flood.	
		0800	2 day patrol left 351568 for OLD MUNKIP 368669.	
NGAFIR CREEK.			<u>D Coy.</u> Training continued.	Sitrepl 118 Message 1962
CAMP DIDDY.	Fri 12 Nov	1300-1325	Air raid RED. NO enemy A/C seen.	
		1500	Comms reestablished with BOANA. Following reestablishment of comms, Capt CAMERON advised that a cloud burst on night 10/11 Nov had flooded the BUSIP and BUNBOK Rivers and had destroyed all bridges. A temporary bridge was commenced at 0700L/11 at 492692 and was completed by 1400L/12. Troops moving xxxxx back to CAMP DIDDY and ERAP RIVER areas are now crossing at this point.	Sitrepl 119 Message 1971
		1827	A severe earth tremor was felt in the Camp Diddy- NGAFIR CREEK area which lasted approx 2 minutes. Some huts were shaken but none collapsed and NO damage was caused.	Sitrepl 120 Message 1976
YALU			<u>A Coy.</u> The patrol strength 4 which left YALU L/11 and unsuccessfully searched the NARAKAPOR area for the Jap airman who parachuted to a mud Island following air combat over area on 9 Nov located and captured the airman in vic. HEATHS 598449 this morning. The airman was wounded in the chest and wore one boot only. He was examined by a medical Offr attached to a nearby U.S. Camp and finally admitted to hospital at LAE. The airman is 16th prisoner captured by the Unit.	Sitrepl 122 Message 2006
		1750	Coy HQs est. NGAFIR CREEK 450606. The Coy has completed its construction task at HQ 2 Aust Corps, and today moved 39 ORs to the new camp site. The remainder of the Coy, including the patrol at present bivouacing at HEATHS will move to NGAFIR CREEK 13 Nov.	
ERAP RIVER?		1021	<u>B Coy.</u> 2 day patrol which left ERAP RIVER site 0800L/11 returned and reported ERAP RIVER flooded and they were unable to cross.	
			10 P1 will remain at BOANA and will carry out patrolling duties in BUNBOK and SANM River valleys. 12 P1 at present at BAMBOK 599708 but moving KUMBUM L/13 en route CAMP DIDDY and ERAP RIVER.	

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UNIT 24 Aust Inf Bn. (AIF)

Date 12 Nov 43 to

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of events and information.	Remarks and references to a pendices etc
BOANA	Fri 12 Nov	1100	<u>C Coy.</u> Patrol which left BOANA 0700L/11 with coffin to disinter the body of the U.S. pilot killed in air crash at the ERAP River headwaters on 23 Oct. returned and reported all bridges over BUNBOK River had been washed away by flood that they were unable to cross. A further patrol will leave BOANA 0700L/13. and will move via BLAKES 491686 across the BUSIP and then along WEST side of BUNBOK River to the place of burial. They are expected to reach OLD MUNKIP 368669 on 17 Nov.	Sitrep 122 Message 2027
		1730	13 P1 HQ established GUMBUK 505681. Portion of P1 still at KUMBUM preparatory to moving to ERAP River area.	Sitrep 124 Message 2043
NGAFIR CREEK			<u>D Coy.</u> Training continued.	
CAMP DIDDY	Sat 13 Nov	1725	<u>HQ Coy.</u> 32 personnel previously engaged on construction work at HQ 2 Aust Corps YALU returned CAMP DIDDY. 458631.	Sitrep 125 Message 2070
		1510	Capt BUNBURY arrived en route to Adv LHQ where he will be posted as G III Ops. (D)	
YALU		1130	<u>A Coy.</u> Patrol 1 Offr 5 ORs left NGAFIR CK 450606 to investigate report from Lieut WHITTAKER ANGAU that the two natives who had taken canoe down the MARKHAM River on L/10 had told him that they had seen a submerged A/C in the river xxxxxx approx opposite NARAKAPOR airfield. The river was in flood at the time, and the natives could NOT see whether the machine was allied or enemy as only part of an airscrew was visible. Patrol returned at 2215 hrs and reported native canoes unsuitable for the task. Unable to reach A/C which is reported broken and almost completely submerged.	
			G 3 (I) 5 Aust Div rang and advised that the Jap airman captured L/12 by Cpl MACFARLANES patrol at HEATHS was A Sgt Pilot who was flying a fighter A/C. His A/C was shot down by a P 40 on 9 Nov. He was wounded in the shoulder but not seriously. He was evacuated to N.G.F. this morning. The Pilot told the interpreter that he had been in WEWAK only 2 weeks and did not have much info about the place. He was one of a flight of 25 fighters which left WEWAK on morning of 9th and they were later joined by some more fighters making the total 30-40, NO bombers were in the flight. NO orders had been received by the pilot, he said orders came from the Flight leader when they were in the air.	
ERAP RIVER.		0800	<u>B Coy.</u> Patrol left ERAP River camp 351568 for OLD MUNKIP 368669. The patrol will also search for alternative fords across the ERAP.	

UNIT. 24 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

Date 13 Nov 43 to

PL ACE	Date	Hour.	Summary of events and information.	Remarks and References to appendice
ERAP RIVER	Sat 13 Nov.	1420.	<u>B Coy</u> Coy Hqs moved through CAMP DIDDY en route CAMP DIDDY and ERAP River camp.	
BOANA		0800	<u>C Coy.</u> Patrol left to recover the body of U.S. Pilot buried 24 Oct. They will move via GOIN. SUGU. and BALAWANG and will return to NADZAB via ERAP River.	
BLAKES		1500	15 Pl arrived BLAKES CAMP 491687 en route CAMP DIDDY and ERAP River camp.	Sitrep 186 Message 2082
		1645	HQ 13 Pl left CAMP DIDDY for ERAP River.	
		1745	Remainder 13 Pl arrived CAMP DIDDY and camping there night 13/14.	
		1915	Coy Hqs arrived CAMP DIDDY.	
NGAFIR CREEK		1715	<u>D Coy.</u> Coy left NGAFIR CREEK 450605 on night march NADZAB area. expected to return morning 14 Nov.	Sitrep 127 Message 2106
CAMP DIDDY.	Sun 14 Nov.		<u>BHQ.</u> ANGAU have advised this HQ that in future all natives sent out by them in the BOANA-MT SALAWAKET-LAE areas where there is a possibility of stray parties of Japs being in the area will be provided with a pass which will consist of a 1/- invasion note torn in bottom right hand corner.	Sitrep 128 Message 2122
NGAFIR CK.			<u>A Coy.</u> Camp construction and maintenance of new site.	
ERAP RIVER			<u>B Coy.</u> Patrol which left ERAP RIVER camp 351568 0800L/13. for OLD MUNKIP 368669 returned 1100L/14. Patrol did not reach crossing to OLD MUNKIP due to a landslide at approx map ref 370665.	
BOANA			<u>C Coy.</u> No further report has been received of patrol which left BOANA 0800L/13 to recover the body of U.S. Pilot burried 24 Oct.	Sitrep 129 Message 2174
		1000	Coy Hqs and 13 Pl left CAMP DIDDY 458632 for ERAP River CAMP 351568 arriving 1700L.	
		0818	15 Pl left BLAKES CAMP 491687 for CAMP DIDDY. Arrived CAMP DIDDY 1630h s and camped there night 14/15 Nov.	
NGAFIR CK			<u>D Coy.</u> Training and tests of elementary training for qualification for efficiency pay continued.	
CAMP DIDDY	Mon 15 Nov	1235	<u>BHQ.</u> Brig MORIARTY and G 2 visited CAMP DIDDY area.	
		1430	Lieut KENT U.S. Army Air force arrived at CAMP DIDDY and will move to BOANA 16 Nov to investigate the Jap bomber shot down NORTH of BOANA 9 Nov.	
		1445		
NGAFIR CK			<u>A Coy.</u> Camp construction training etc.	

WAR DIARY.

UNIT 24 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

Date 15 Nov 43 to

14

P LACE	Date	Hour	Summary of events and Information.	Remarks and reference to appendices etc
BOANA	Mon 15 Nov		<u>B Coy.</u> No report received from patrol which left 13 Nov to recover body of U.S. pilot buried in ERAP River headwaters.	
			A patrol strength 4 will leave BOANA 0880hrs. on a 6 day patrol to BAINDUANG 645780 This patrol will investigate native report of 6 Jap graves at KANANANDBANG 671807 not previously reported.	
		1517	12 Pl arrived CAMP DIDDY 459632 from BLAKES on way to camp at ERAP River.	
ERAP RIVER		1130	<u>C Coy.</u> 15 Pl arrived ERAP River 351568 thereby completing the concentration of C Coy in that area.	
NGAFIR CREEK			<u>D Coy.</u> Training continued.	
			Capt C.C.BUNBURY moved by air to PORT MORESBY to take up oosn of G 3 Ops (L) Adv LHQ. The following message was received by the Unit from Col CRABB Comd U.S. Second Air Task Force.	Sitrep 130 Message 2190
			"Your men are to be congratulated on the capture of Japanese airman. The effort put forth is extended to each and every man with that group of men. You may be assured that in any future incident of this nature you will receive our wholehearted esngkatz co-operation. Again Thanks to each man."	Sitrep 131 Message 2221
CAMP DIDDY	Tue 16 Nov		<u>BHQ.</u> To clarify the posn regarding this Unit's task of defending the NADZAB area, the C.O. (LtCol SMITH) 2 I/C (Maj FLEAY D.S.O.) Sig Offr. (Lieut BEATTIE) and I.O. (Lieut BUNSELL) visited NADZAB Area Comd, and SECOND AIR TASK FORCE. Liaison was also effected with U.S. Army A.A. Defence HQs. on the question of defence of airfields. In addition three parties commenced traverses of the roads in the area with a view to amending and adding to the existing NADZAB sheets, roads and airstrips which have recently been constructed. Because of the number of new roads etc builtm complete traverse is expected to take some days.	
NGAFIR CK			<u>A Coy.</u> No change.	
BOANA		0800	<u>B Coy.</u> Patrol strength 2 from 10 Pl left BOANA 497714 on a 6 day patrol to BAINDUANG 645780. They will contact village TULTULs in conjunction with ANGAU and search for any signs of Jap stragglers.	
		1300	12 Pl arrived ERAP River 351568. This brings B Coy strength in that area to 2 Pls. the third Pl being stationed at BOANA.	
ERAP RIVER. NGAFIR CK			<u>C Coy.</u> No change <u>D Coy.</u> No change.	

WAR DIARY.

UNIT 24 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

Date 17 Nov 43 to

15

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and information.	Remarks and Reference to appendices etc
CAMP DIDDY	Wed 17 Nov.	0235-0315	<u>BHQ.</u> RED Alert. No A/C heard.	
		0323-0445	Red alert. Explosions heard in direction of LAE.	Sitrep 132 Message 2232
		0600	U/I A/C heard in EAST also sound of explosions. NO alert received.	
			Arrangements made to drop supplies at BOANA at 0800L was cancelled because of bad weather. Th dropping is now expected at 0800 hrs. 18 Nov.	Sitrep 133 Message 2250
			Mapping of NADZAB area is continuing and foot traverses of the main tracks should be completed 18 Nov. A/A posns will be pinpointed as known. 4 men will establish a T.C.P. at Area Comd NADZAB on 18 Nov.	
			Requisitions have been requested for Christmas orders to be purchased from Canteen.	
NGAFIR CK			<u>A Coy.</u> NO change.	
BOANA			<u>B Coy.</u> No report from patrol which left BOANA L/12 to recover U.S. Pilots body, No report from patrol to BAINDUANG which left 0800hrs 16 Nov.	
ERAP RIVER			<u>C Coy.</u> No change.	
NGAFIR CK.			<u>D Coy.</u> No change	
XXXXXXXX CAMP DIDDY	Thu 18 Nov	1700	<u>BHQ Coy.</u> 19 personnel of mortar Pl arrived CAMP DIDDY 452624 from BOANA.	
			With the exception of tracks NW of No 2 Strip, all the main tracks in the NADZAB area have now been traversed.	Sitrep 134 Message 2260
NGAFIR CREEK.			<u>A Coy.</u> Training continued.	
BOANA			<u>B Coy.</u> No report receivee from patrol which left BOANA 13 Nov to recover body of U.S. Pilot. No report from patrol which left BOANA 16 Nov to patrol to BAINDUANG.	Sitrep 135 Message 2277
		0730.	Plane 277 commended to drop at BOANA. one run NORTH to SOUTH. 9 runs SOUTH to NORTH Estimated recovery 90 per cent. Dropping completed 0755 hrs.	
ERAP RIVER			<u>C Coy.</u> Capt C.C. ROBINSON Comd C Coy evacuated to PORT MORESBY for medical board and placed on Unit X list.	

Date & Time 18 Nov 43 to

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of events and information.	Remarks and reference to appendices etc
NGAFIR CK	Thu 18 Nov		<u>D Coy.</u> Training continued.	
CAMP DIDDY	Fri 19 Nov		<u>BHQ</u> All main roads in NADZAB Area have now been traversed by "I" sec personnel of this Unit. Infm received is now being added to the existing sheets. The patrol which left BOANA 13 Nov to recover the body of the U.S. Pilot, Lieut DUNHAM, who was killed at the ERAP RIVER headwaters on 23 Oct reached NADZAB at 1530 hrs. and delivered the body to the U.S. Army for burial. The patrol leader C 1 KNIGHT reported that the A/C which was only slightly damaged was located in sq. 4076. The journey was reported to be particularly hard and dangerous. At one stage local stags natives would not allow the line natives from BOANA to proceed along a ledge track because of the danger. The track at this point was only 1 foot wide with a sheer drop of 500 ft. The patrol reported that the natives gave every assistance building ladders and bridges, and even employing native women to dig footholes to assist their progress. The Officials at each village welcomed the patrol and prepared new huts and beds for the men. They exercised every care with the coffin using kunda ropes to raise and lower the body over the cliff faces. They also warned the patrol of an impending landslide whilst the pilots body was being exhumed and were able to get clear before the slide occurred. In the opinion of the patrol leader, the party could NOT have reached the A/C and recovered the pilots body but for these natives. Following the press announcement that the G.O.C. 3 Aust Div. Maj Gen SAVIGE. CBE. D.S.O. M.C. had been created a COMPANION of the Order of the BATH, the following message has been sent - " Offr and men 24 Aust Inf Bn (AIF) desire to extend congratulations to Maj Gen G.S. SAVIGE on award of COMPANION of the Order of the BATH " Maj Gen SAVIGE has been identified with the Unit since he enlisted in the Unit as a Pte in the last war. He rose to the Comd of the UNIT and was promoted Comd 10 Bde eventually being posted Comd 17 Aust Inf Bde AIF in 1939. returning to take Comd of 3 Aust Div in 1942.	See full report Appx K
NGAFIR CK			<u>A Coy.</u> No change	Sitrep 136 Message 2296
ERAP RIVER		0830	<u>B Coy.</u> Patrol of 3 ORs left ERAP RIVER Camp area 351568 for OLD MUNKIP 368669 and returned 1930hrs. NIL report.	Sitrep 137 Message 2320
		0830	Patrol 2 ORs left Camp area for PYRAMID HILL and returned 1150hrs Nil report.	
		0830.	Patrol of 2 ORs left for CHIVAISING 213554.	
CAMP DIDDY.		1630	No report from patrol which left BOANA on 6 day patrol to BAINDUANG on 16 Nov. Patrol which left BOANA 0800hrs 13 Nov to recover body of U.S. Pilot buried 24 Oct returned after handing over the body to U.S.AAF.	

UNIT. 24 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

Date 19 Nov 43 to

Place	Date	hour	Summary of events and information	Remarks and references to appendices
ERAP RIVER	Fri 19 Nov		<u>C Coy.</u> No change.	
NGAFIR CK			<u>D Coy.</u> No change.	
CAMP DIDDY	Sat 20 Nov. 1825		<u>BHQ.</u> A number of bursts of machine gun fire were heard coming from the direction of NADZAB. Several rounds fell in the A Coy area at 451615, one .5 bullet narrowly missing a man. U.S. Military Police are investigating. All Coys have been instructed that they will include Route marches in training at least once each week. This may be to NADZAB to attend the pictures. The following reposting of Offrs in the Unit were made - A Coy. Capt KENNEDY, Lieuts EGAN and BARLING. B Coy. Capt DUELL. Lieuts DAWSON and KENNEDY, C Coy. Capts FLEWELLEN CAMERON, Lieut CASEY. D Coy. Capt WHITELAW Lieuts LOOKER and ROBINSON. Lieut KENNEDY to move to BOANA 21 Nov.	Sitrep 138 Message 2336
NGAFIR CK			<u>A Coy.</u> No change. Training and Ts O.E.T. continued.	Sitrep 139 Message 2361
BOANA			<u>B Coy.</u> Patrol which was to have left BOANA to patrol to BAWAN 562794 has again been postponed, following a report from W.O.BIRD, ANGAU to Lieut DAWSON who was to lead the patrol. W.O.BIRD states that the presence of our patrols in the outlying villages of the BAWAN-SANAM VALLEY area unsettles the natives, thereby upsetting the recruiting of natives which he is carrying out.	
		1700.	Patrol which left BOANA 0800hrs 16 Nov. on patrol to BAINDUANG reached KUMBUM on return journey. No enemy movement seen.	
ERAP RIVER		1510	Patrol of 2 ORs which left for CHIVAISING 213554 19 Nov returned to CAMP area, The patrol followed the track to WAWIN 228640, then proceeded further WEST along the track to a tributary of the RAMU River at approx map ref 198628. They then returned to WAWIN where they bivouaced night 19/20 Nov. At 0820 hrs 20 Nov patrol proceeded down the EAST bank of WAWIN Creek, following a track which had been made by a jeep but discontinued after a short distance. The continued on for an hour but failed to find track to CHIVAISING so returned to Camp area. No movement seen.	
NGAFIR CK			<u>C Coy.</u> No change. Training and Ts O.E.T. continued. <u>D Coy.</u> " " " " " " " "	

WAR DIARY.

UNIT. 24 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

Date 21 Nov 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of events and information.	Remarks and reference to appendices.
CAMP DIDDY	Sun 21 Nov		<u>BHQ.</u> Because of the prevalence of scrub typhus in the area instructions have been issued to the effect that all personnel will bathe daily and will allow a thick layer of soap to remain on the body especially the feet and hairy parts of for approx 5 mins. In addition the daily application of lotion will be applied inside and outside bottoms of trousers besides carrying out the normal application to hands and face.	Sitrep 140 Message 2374
NGAFIR CREEK.			<u>A Coy.</u> No change.	
ERAP RIVER BOANA		1130	<u>B Coy.</u> Patrol which left BOANA at 0800hrs 16 Nov for BAINDUANG returned to BOANA reported NO enemy seen.	Sitrep 141 Message 2390
ERAP RIVER		1100 1315	<u>C Coy.</u> R.C. Church parade held in area. Protestant church parade held in area.	
NGAFIR CK			<u>D Coy.</u> No change.	
CAMP DIDDY	Mon 22 Nov	1100	<u>B.H.Q.</u> Air raid warning All clear at 1200. No A/C seen. Signals listening post heard A/C pilot report 9 bombers with fighter escort in the WSS T	
NGAFIR CK.			<u>A Coy.</u> No change.	Sitrep 142 Message 2404
ERAP RIVER BOANA		2010.	<u>B Coy</u> Patrol to CHIVAISING 213554 which left ERAP RIVER Camp area at 1030. hrs 21 Nov returned and reported No enemy seen. 3 day patrol of 1 NCO 3 ORs to leave BOANA at 0800hrs 23 Nov for KWAMBELANG. thence to KAWALAN and return.	
ERAP RIVER			<u>C Coy.</u> No change	Sitrep 143 Message 2423
NGAFIR CK			<u>D Coy.</u> No change,	
CAMP DIDDY	Tue 23 Nov.	0935 1815	<u>BHQ.</u> RED air warning 1017 All clear. No A/C seen. Red Air raid warning. 1822. All clear. NO A/C seen.	
NGAFIR CK.			<u>A Coy.</u> No change.	Sitrep 144 Message 2449
BOANA		0900	<u>B Coy.</u> Patrol strength. 1 NCO 3 ORs. 4 native carriers left BOANA 497 for KAWALAN Patrol goes OUT along WEST side of BUNBOK River and returns along EAST side.	
ERAP RIVER. NGAFIR CK			<u>C Coy.</u> No change. <u>D Coy.</u> No change.	Sitrep 145 Message 2470

W A R D I A R Y.

19

UNIT. 24 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

Date 24 Nov 43 to 26 Nov 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of events and information	Remarks and References to appendices
CAMP DIDDY	Wed 24 Nov	1600	<u>B.H.Q.</u> ALO attached SATF advised that at 1400 hrs a transport A/C reported a large white V shaped object on a ridge on WEST side of ERAP River, S.W. of OLD MUNKIP 4 men, apparently wearing Australian hts; were seen walking away from the V shaped object, which was reported to be pointing in the direction of LAE.	Sitrep 146 Message 2486
		1530.	A fighter A/C reported what appeared to be 2 parachutes on the ridge, and either 4 or 5 men walking down the ridge towards OLD MUNKIP. The white object was sighted from the Air force control tower at No 5 strip on a bearing of 335 deg and in approx sq.3566.	
		1900	Report received that WIRRAWAY of 4 AC Sqn on TAC R found 2 white markers and 2 men walking up WEST bank of ERAP RIVER towards OLD MUNKIP. One man was wearing white head gear.	
NGAFIR CK			<u>A Coy.</u> Training continued.	
BOANA			<u>B Coy.</u> No report received from KAWALAN patrol.	Sitrep 147 Message 2512
ERAP RIVER			<u>C Coy.</u> No change.	
NGAFIR CK			<u>D Coy.</u> No change.	
CAMP DIDDY	Thu 25 Nov.		<u>B.H.Q.</u> Bn "I" School - duration 9 weeks commenced today. 13 students from Coys and 3 from Intell Sec are attending.	Sitrep 148 Message 2526
NGAFIR CK			<u>A Coy.</u> No change	
ERAP RIVER.		0900	<u>B.COY.</u> Patrol to KAWALAN 526773 returned to BOANA . Nothing to report.	
ERAP RIVER		0745	Patrol 1 NC ^u 2 ORs left ERAP River Camp 349567 form CHIVAISING 213554.	
"		1515	Patrol of 4 ^o ORs left Camp area to investigate report which was received from ALO attached to SATF regarding the V shaped objects. Patrol found U.S. A/A Unit in the posn. 2 L shaped Signal strips had been laid to orient instrument.	
"			<u>C Coy.</u> No change	
NGAFIR CK			<u>D Coy.</u> No change	Sitrep 149 Message 2556
CAMP DIDDY	Fri 26 Nov.	0715	<u>B.H.Q.</u> Adj. (Capt SKINNER) Q.M. (Capt ISHERWOOD), I.O. (Lieut BUNBELL) Sig O. (Lieut BEATTIE) left CAMP DIDDY for DONADABU to attend 15 Aust Inf Bde Staff Course commencing 28 Nov 43.	
		0900	U.S.A.A.F. patrol strength 4 passed through CAMP DIDDY to disinter body of U.S. parachutist killed in Sep vic. 488662. Patrol returned with body at 1910hrs and proceeded to U.S.A.A.F. Q.M. NADZAB.	

WAR DIARY.

UNIT. 24 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

From 26 Nov 43 to 29 Nov 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of events and information	Remarks and reference to appendices et
NGAFIR CK.	Fri 26 Nov		<u>A Coy.</u> Training continued.	Sitrep 150
BOANA		0	<u>B Coy.</u> Patrol strength 4 will leave BOANA 497714 on 27 Nov for BAINDUANG 645780. Expected to return to BOANA 2 Dec.	Message 2578
ERAP RIVER			<u>C Coy.</u> No change	
NGAFIR CK.			<u>D Coy.</u> No change.	Sitrep 151 Message 2601
CAMP DIDDY	Sat 27 Nov	1830	<u>B.H.Q.</u> R.C. church parade held in area.	Sitrep 152 Message 2625
NGAFIR CK			<u>A Coy.</u> No change.	
BOANA		0800	<u>B Coy.</u> Patrol strength 4 ORs 4 natives left BOANA 497714 for BAINDUANG 645780.	
ERAP RIVER.		1100	Patrol to CHIVAISING 213554 which left Camp area 0800hrs 25 Nov returned. Reported presumed Japanese belly tank found at CHIVAISING.	Sitrep 153 Message 2645
ERAP RIVER			<u>C Coy.</u> No change.	
NGAFIR CK.			<u>D Coy.</u> No change.	
CAMP DIDDY	Sun 28 Nov		<u>B H Q.</u> Day of rest throughout the Bn.	Sitrep 154 Message 2671
		1845	Protestant Church parade held in American Second Station Hospital Camp area 449615 attended by HQ, A and D Coy personnel.	
ERAP RIVER		1030	<u>B Coy.</u> R.C. Church parade.	Sitrep 155 Message 2702
BOANA			No report received from patrol which left BOANA for BAINDUANG. 270800L.	
ERAP River.		1030	<u>C Coy.</u> R.C. church parade in area.	
D Coy.		0900	<u>D Coy.</u> R.C. Church parade held in area.	
CAMP DIDDY	Mon 29 Nov.	0700.	<u>BHQ</u> C.O. (Lt Col. G.F. SMITH) and batman left CAMP DIDDY to attend Training Conference at 15 Bde HQs. PORT MORSEBY. Maj. M.L. FLEAY D.S.O. will Adm Comd 24 Aust Inf Bn during absence of Lt Col SMITH.	

WAR DIARY.

UNIT 24 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

From 29 Nov 43, To 30 Nov 43

Place	Date	Time hour	Summary of Events and information.	Remarks and Reference to Appendices
CAMP DIDDY	Mon 29 Nov	1250	<u>BHQ.</u> Party of surveyors from 842 U.S. Engineers arrived in CAMP DIDDY area to survey pipe line to the American camp - Second Station HOSPITAL. which is nearby at 445615.	
NGAFIR CK			<u>A Coy.</u> Training continued.	
BOANA			<u>B Coy.</u> No report received from patrol to BAINDUANG which left BOANA at 0800hrs 27 Nov.	
ERAP River			<u>C Coy.</u> No change - Training.	
NGAFIR CK			<u>D Coy.</u> Training continued.	
CAMP DIDDY	Tue 30 Nov	0800	<u>BHQ.</u> Party of 4 Offrs, 7 NCOs and 6 ORs left their respective Camp areas for LAE to attend D.C.M. Returned at 2130 hrs.	
		2210	A fierce storm occurred at CAMP DIDDY which caused a rise in NGAFIR Ck which swept away the bridge to H.Q. Coy area.	
NGAFIR CK.			<u>A Coy.</u> Training.	
BOANA			<u>B Coy.</u> No report from BAINDUANG Patrol.	
ERAP RIVER			<u>C Coy.</u> No change.	
NGAFIR CK			<u>D Coy.</u> No change.	

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
G.F. Smith Lt-Col.
 G.F. SMITH.
 Comd 24 Aust Inf Bn. (A.I.F.)

From Information received up to 2359L/7.

Ref Maps NADZAB 1 inch - 1 mile
BOANA " "1 OPERATIONS.

NO contact with enemy reported.

- 0810L/7 Nine enemy bombers, escorted by fighters, bombed the NADZAB drome (No 4 Strip), starting 4 fires.
- 0823L/7 Enemy A/C were intercepted by Allied fighters NORTH of NADZAB, two enemy bombers were observed to crash, 1 of which burst into flame in the air. Reports of these crashes were also received from BOANA 499713, KAMEN 612693, KUMBUM 577695, BANGDAP 625730, and compass bearings were taken from these areas. By cross reference, it is estimated that enemy planes crashed at approx squares 4878, 5178, 5781, and a possible crash at 6182. NO official information has been received from Area Command as to casualties or damage.
- 1310L/7 12 enemy fighters (appeared to be ZEKES) flew over CAMP DIDDY heading NORTH then turned approx EAST. Allied planes circled area but were NOT observed to contact enemy.
- 1030L/7 12 explosions heard direction of LAE.
- 1047L/7 6 " " " " " "
- 1050L/7 4 " " " " " "
- 2255L/7 1 U/I A/C heard to EAST flying SOUTH. Returned NORTH 2345L/7.
- 2 PATROLS. 2350L/7 Explosions heard direction LAE.

L/7 NO report of KASANOBE patrol.

3 MOVEMENTS.

- B Coy
- 1610L/7 Coy HQ and 10 pl arrived at CAMP DIDDY from 351568 en route for BAINDUANG 645780
- 1400L/7 12 pl arrived at KUMBUM 577695.
- C Coy
- 0745L/7 14 pl left CAMP DIDDY for 351568. 1040L/7 arrived at 351568.

4 ENEMY EQUIPMENT.

L/7 A small quantity of documents were received at this H.Q. including what appears to be a personal letter and several small cardboard and wooden objects. These were taken from some of the Japs killed on the SIO patrol (see Intrep 28 para 2, Patrols).

5 GENERAL.

Evacuations from this unit since arrival in NADZAB area on 27 Sep 43 total 79. This includes 2 battle casualties, 1 accidental injury and 2 evacuated for dental treatment.

G.F. Smith
..... Lt Col.
G.F.SMITH.

Comd 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F)

SECRET

INTELLIGENCE REPORT No 35.

WAR DIARY
H.Q. 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.)
9 NOV 43.

From Information received up to 2358L/8.

Ref Maps BOANA 1 inch - 1 mile
NADZAB Area

1 OPERATIONS.

NADZAB Area.

2350L/7-0015L/8 explosions heard at CAMP DIDDY 459631 from direction of LAE.

0808L/8-0825L/8 Air Raid warning. NO hostile A/C seen.

2 PATROLS.

NO report has been received from patrol which left BAINDUANG 645780 for 5 day patrol along track KASANOBE 653744-SAMANZING in search of Japs who may have moved over this route in the direction of FINSCHHAVEN.

3 MOVEMENTS.

B Coy

1700L/8 12 Pl arrived HANOBMAIN 625742 from KUMBUM 577695 and will proceed to BAINDUANG 645780 on L/9.

1740L/8 Coy Hq plus 10 Pl arrived BLAKES CAMP 490686 from CAMP DIDDY.

4 TOPOGRAPHY.


Following checking by means of rangefinder, locations of villages etc in the SANAM River valley have been corrected and have been pinpointed on the BOANA 1 inch sheet. A trace of these corrections is forwarded.

5 COMMUNICATIONS?

0900L/7 Communications with B Coy ERAP River 351568 re-established.

6 GENERAL.

1/8 C.O. (Lt Col SMITH G.F.) visited 5 Div H.Q.


..... Lt Col.
G.F. SMITH.

Comd 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).

From Information received up to 2359L/9.

1 OPERATIONS.

- 0920L/9 Air Raid warning received this H.Q. 0938L/9 All clear. NO A/C sighted.
1103L/9 Air Raid warning received this H.Q. An unknown number of enemy A/C (appeared to be ZEKES and OSCARS) were observed over NADZAB drome at approx 25,000 ft and were intercepted by Allied fighters.
1145L/9 CAMP DIDDY O.P. 451633 reported parachute seen to fall SOUTH of MARKHAM River, EAST of MARKHAM POINT on a magnetic bearing of 145 degrees, approx map ref square 5742. Observers reported that NO A/C were seen to crash. Visibility was bad at the time, due to low cloud ceiling.
2000L/9 Comd NADZAB AREA COMD advised that U.S. pilots had reported that the pilot of a damaged Jap fighter was seen to parachute out of the machine whilst over the MARKHAM RIVER. The location was given as square 5842, and the spot where the airman landed was reported to be an island. As the observation from the CAMP DIDDY O.P. placed the landing at approx square 5742, it is assumed that the island is NEW LABU ISLAND. Observations from A Coy, at YALU, however, indicate that the airman parachuted to earth approx opposite NARAKAPOR airfield square 5050. It was further reported that during the descent 5 Allied A/C circled the area continuously. It has NOT yet been ascertained whether this airman is Allied or Jap.

2 PATROLS.

- A Coy Following advice of possible Jap airmen on NEW LABU ISLAND, a patrol will move from HEATHS 697448 at first light to track and river junction 588433, and light a signal fire. NADZAB Area Comd has arranged for a B 25 A/C to fly over the area at 0930L/10 and to indicate the enemy airmen's position by firing a RED VEREY light. Receipt of the signal will be acknowledged from the ground by flag, and attempts will then be made to effect a capture.
Simultaneously, a patrol of strength 4 under 2 L/C (Maj FLEAY DSO) will move by Jeep from CAMP DIDDY to NARAKAPOR airfield at first light L/10 and there set up a similar signal fire. The B 25 A/C will search that area before proceeding to NEW LABU ISLAND and will signal a RED VEREY light if the airman is located, and a ~~GREEN~~ VEREY light if he is NOT in that area. If in the area, the patrol will attempt to capture the enemy pilot.
- B Coy
1400L/9 Warning order issued that one pl B Coy will be based at BOANA 499713 as a standing patrol. This is to implement the Bn role of maintaining one pl only, in the BOANA area. The remaining troops in that area will return to the general NADZAB area in the next few days.
- C Coy
1300L/9 5 day patrol KASANOBE SAMANZING returned to BAINDUANG 657795 reported NO enemy seen. Fall report NOT yet received.

3 MOVEMENTS.

- B Coy
0740L/9 Coy H.Q. and 10 pl left BLAKES CAMP 490687 for KUMBUM. 577695.
1500L/9 Arrived KUMBUM.
1400L/9 12 pl arrived BAINDUANG from HANORMAIN 625742.

Correction

Ref SITREP 114 L/9, 10 pl and 11 pl dispositions incorrectly stated. Correct dispositions for L/9 are as shown above.
11 pl B Coy are still stationed at ERAP RIVER 351568.

4 GENERAL.

- 1100L/9 Flight-Lieut JONES (RAAF) and Lieut WHITTAKER (ANGAU) visited B.H.Q. CAMP DIDDY.

..... Lt Col.
G.F. SMITH.

Comd 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).

From information received up to 2359L/10.

Ref Maps BOANA 1 inch - 1 mile
NADZAB " "1 OPERATIONS.

L/10 NO contact made with enemy.

2 PATROLS.A Coy

- (a) 0300L/10 Patrol No 1 strength 4 left YALU 545548 to search from HEATHS to vicinity square 4852 for Jap airman who was reported to have parachuted from his damaged A/C at approx 1140L/9 following enemy air activity over NADZAB (see para 2 Intrep 36).
1500L/10 Patrol returned and reported that the B 25 A/c, which had been arranged to signal the position of the parachute, did NOT fire any flare in the vicinity of NEW LABU ISLAND where the airman was reported to have landed. NO enemy were seen but two natives in a canoe, who had been sent by ANGAU NADZAB to facilitate the crossing of the river, reported to the W.O. comd the patrol that a Kanaka had informed them that a man had landed at BWARIP 489523. NO time or date was stated. Enquiries are being made by Lieut WHITTAKER ANGAU NADZAB to determine the authenticity of this report.
- (b) 0500L/10 Patrol No 2 strength 4 left YALU and lit a signal fire at NARAKAPOR square 5050 to indicate their position when the B 25 passed over.
0945L/10 The B 25 flew over a mud island opposite NARAKAPOR (approx square 5049) and fired a red flare to indicate the position where the parachutist landed. The patrol however was unable to cross to the island as NO boat was available and the current was too swift to attempt crossing without a craft.
1045L/10 Patrol in searching the bank of the river found footprints of a man and a native at 512498. The prints came from the water indicating that the two persons possessed a boat. One man was wearing a pointed toe rubber soled boot, and was using the left leg only. From the position of the native's prints it appeared that the native was assisting the other man. The prints followed the river track from NARAKAPOR towards LAE, and were traced by the patrol to approx 516496 where a heavy shower of rain completely obliterated the tracks. Search was continued all day but NO enemy was seen. The patrol returned YALU at 1820L/10. Lieut WHITTAKER was again contacted in regard to the natives footprints but was unable to offer any explanation. He stated that to the best of his knowledge all natives in the area were concentrated in the ANGAU compound at NADZAB.

C Coy

- (a) 1100L/10 MUNKIP patrol strength 3 returned to camp at 351568, and reported the ESEP River still flooded, and uncrossable.
- (b) 1300L/9 Patrol of 1 Offr 3 Oas 1 native, which left BOANA at 0800L/8 to search for Jap A/C which crashed in flames at approx 0825L/7, returned to BOANA and reported that the badly smashed A/C had been located on the side of a steep hill approx square 4974. The body of the gunner was taken from the wreck and buried nearby but NO other bodies were recovered. The patrol leader reported that the A/C was apparently a mass of molten metal when it crashed and very little gear was salvageable. Some articles however were recovered and are reported in para 5 this report. In the opinion of the patrol leader the wreck would be very hard to locate from the air. Although the ruins were practically unrecognisable the opinion was formed that, because of its bulk, the machine was a bomber with an aluminium alloy body and a pure aluminium airscrew.
A detailed report with sketch is being forwarded from BOANA and a copy will be forwarded from this H.Q. as soon as practicable.

3 MOVEMENTS AND DISPOSITIONS.B Coy

- L/10 10 pl HQ plus one sec established BAINDUANG 645780, with one sec SOKULUM 624812 and one sec AVIN 671790.
1300L/10 12 pl HQ and one sec established BAMBOK 599708, with one sec HANOBMAIN 625742.

C Coy

- 0930L/10 13 pl left BAINDUANG for KUMBUM. 1730L/10 Arrived KUMBUM.

4. PROJECTED MOVEMENTS.

As enemy activity in the area has ceased, instructions have been issued that, with the exception of one pl B Coy, the troops in the BOANA - SANAM River area will return to MADZAB area, and will concentrate in the BRAP River area 351503. The pl remaining in the BOANA area will patrol all tracks in the BOANA area. Movement is expected to commence 1/11.

As A Coy have completed the construction of 2 Aust Corps HQ at YALU, they will return to the Bn area and will concentrate at NGAFIR CREEK site vicinity 449605. Movement will commence 1/11.

5. ENEMY EQUIPMENT.

The following articles which were salvaged from crashed enemy A/C (reported under para 2) are being forwarded under separate cover to Lt Col BARRINGER Comd MADZAB Area :

- 1 book (possibly code book), 9 .5 rounds, 1 aluminium plate.

6. TOPOGRAPHICAL.

Attached is a track going report from the SIO track patrol (see Intrep 28).

1940L/10 CAMP DIDDY. A practice shoot of 2 inch mortar flares was carried out. The practice took place in heavy rain and a number of the flares failed to ignite, particularly RED and GREEN.

7. GENERAL.

2012L/10 6 heavy explosions followed by 3 light explosions were heard in the direction of MADZAB.

2017L/10 Air Raid warning was received at this H.Q.

2033L/10 All clear received. NO A/C heard.

G.F. Smith
 Lt Col.
 G.F. SMITH.
 Comd 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).

From information received up to 2359L/11. Ref Maps NADZAB 1 inch - 1 mile
BOANA " "

1 OPERATIONS.

NO contact made with enemy.

2 PATROLS.A COY

0915L/11 Patrol strength 4 left YALU for NARAKAPOR in search of JAP airman who was reported to have parachuted from a damaged A/C during combat with Allied A/C L/9 (see Intrep 36 para 1). Route which was to be taken by patrol was from YALU to NARAKAPOR then EAST to river track, moving down track towards LAE. The patrol returned reported that road and tracks YALU → NARAKAPOR were impassable. NO further sign of JAP airman seen.
A further party is now patrolling from HEATHS - NARAKAPOR - YALU in an endeavour to locate and capture the JAP airman.

B COY

Following a native report that 6 JAPS are buried at KANANGANDBANG 671807, a patrol will leave BOANA to verify report. Time and date of departure of patrol NOT yet advised.

C COY

0815L/11 Patrol left 351568 for PYRAMID HILL 306525.
1430L/11 Patrol returned and reported they were unable to cross ERAP RIVER which is in flood.
0800L/11 2 day patrol left 351568 for OLD MUNKIP 368669.

3 MOVEMENTS AND DISPOSITIONS.A COY

1430L/11 1 offr 4 ORs from 42 Bn arrived YALU.
NO further movements or locations advised.

4 COMMUNICATIONS.

Communication to BOANA 499713 has been "out" since 2359L/10. Linesmen have inspected and checked the sig line as far as CAMP 1 590695 and report the line to be in order to this point.
1500L/11-2005L/11 NO communication with Station Comd NADZAB.

G.F. Smith
..... Lt Col.
G.F. SMITH.

Comd 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).

From Information received up to 2359L/12.

Ref Maps NADZAB 1 inch - 1 mile
BOANA " "1 OPERATIONS.A Coy

The patrol strength 4 which left YALU L/11 and unsuccessfully searched the NARAKAPOR area for the Jap airmen who parachuted to a mud island following air combat over the area on 9 Nov, located and captured the airmen in vicinity HEATHS 598449 this morning. A full report has NOT yet been received but it is understood that the airmen was wounded in the chest and was wearing one boot only. He was examined by a medical officer attached to a nearby U.S. unit, and finally admitted to a hospital at LAE. The airmen is the 16th prisoner captured by this unit.

NADZAB AREA 1300-1325L/12 Air Raid RED. NO enemy A/C seen.

2 PATROLS.C Coy

1100L/11 Patrol which left BOANA 0700L/11 with coffin to disinter the body of the U.S. pilot killed in air crash at the ERAP River headwaters on 23 Oct, returned and reported all bridges over the BUNBOK River had been washed away by flood and that they were unable to cross. A further patrol will leave BOANA 0700L/13 and will move via BLAKES CAMP 491686 across the BUSIP and then along WEST side of BUNBOK River to the place of burial. They are expected to reach OLD MUNKIP 368669 on 17 Nov.

B Coy

1021L/12 2 day patrol which left ERAP River site 351568 0800L/11 returned and reported ERAP River flooded. They were NOT able to cross.

3 MOVEMENTS.A Coy

1750L/12 Coy H.Q. est NGAFIR CREEK 450606. The Coy has completed its construction task at H.Q. 2 Aust Corps, and today moved 39 ORs to the new camp site. The remainder of the Coy, including the patrol at present bivouacing HEATHS will move to NGAFIR CREEK 13 Nov.

B Coy

10 pl will remain at BOANA and will carry out patrolling duties in BUNBOK and SANAM River areas.
12 pl at present at BAMBOK 599708 but moving KUMBUM L/13 en route CAMP DIDDY and ERAP RIVER.

C Coy

13 pl. 1730L/12 Pl H.Q. established GUMBUK 505681. Portion of pl still at KUMBUM preparatory to moving to ERAP River area.
15 pl. 1600L/12 arrived KUMBUM from BAMBOK en route ERAP River area.

4 COMMUNICATIONS.

1500L/12 Communications re-established with BOANA.

5 GENERAL.

(a) Following re-establishment of communications, Capt CAMERON advised that a cloud burst on night 10/11 Nov had flooded the BUSIP and BUNBOK Rivers and had destroyed all bridges. A temporary bridge was commenced at 0700L/11 at 492692 and was completed by 1400L/12. Troops moving back to the CAMP DIDDY and ERAP RIVER areas are now commencing to cross at this point.

(b) 1555L/12 1 man was evacuated by A/C from BOANA to ADS 10 Fd Amb NADZAB thence by A/C to PORT MORESBY.

(c) Area Comd NADZAB have advised that Allied A/C will strafe high ground to the WEST of the ERAP River from the MANKHAM River NORTH to grid 60 between 0900 and 1600L/13 depending on weather conditions. All Coys have been advised and patrols in the ERAP area have been cancelled.

(d) 1827L/12 A severe earth tremor was felt in the CAMP DIDDY-NGAFIR CREEK area which lasted approx 2 minutes. Some huts were shaken but none collapsed and NO damage was caused.

(e) Attached is the "Going Report" of track followed by the SIO ROAD patrol from AVIN 2/3-Nov.

Smith
..... Lt Col.
G.F. SMITH.
Comd 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).

SECRET

INTELLIGENCE REPORT No 40.

WAR DIARY App A
H.Q. 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).
14 NOV 43.

From Information received up to 2359L/13.

Ref Maps NADZAB 1 inch - 1 mile
BOANA " " "

1 OPERATIONS.

NO contacts during day L/13.

2 PATROLS.

A Coy

1130L/13 Patrol of 1 Offr 5 ORs left NGAFIR CREEK 450606 to investigate report from Lieut WHITTAKER ANGAU that the two natives who had taken canoe down the MARKHAM River on L/10 had told him that they had seen a submerged A/C in the river approx opposite NARAKAPOR airfield. The river was in flood at the time, and the natives could NOT see whether the machine was Allied or enemy as only part of an airscrew was visible.

2215L/13 Patrol returned and reported native canoes unsuitable for the task. Unable to reach A/C which is reported broken and almost completely submerged.

B Coy

0800L/13 Patrol left ERAP River camp 351568 for OLD MUNKIP 368669. The patrol will also search for alternative fords across the ERAP. NO report yet received.

BOANA AREA

0800L/13 Patrol left to recover the body of U.S. pilot buried 24 Oct. They will move via GOIN 483722, SUGU approx sq 3974 and BALAWANG approx sq 4377, and will return to NADZAB via the ERAP River. They expect to arrive NADZAB on 19 Nov.

Attached is a Patrol Report and sketch showing result of patrol which searched for Jap A/C shot down in flames NORTH of BOANA. The sketch is taken from the District of MOROBE map - WEST sheet and pinpointing on to the inaccurate BOANA 1 inch sheet has proved most difficult.

3 MOVEMENTS.

Hq Coy

1725L/13 32 personnel previously engaged on construction work at Hq 2 Aust Corps YALU returned CAMP DIDDY 458631.

A Coy

1745L/13 Remainder of Coy arrived NGAFIR CREEK Camp from YALU.

B Coy

1420L/13 Coy Hq moved through CAMP DIDDY en route ERAP RIVER Camp.

C Coy

1500L/13 15 Pl arrived BLAKES CAMP 491687 en route CAMP DIDDY and ERAP River camp.

1645L/13 Hq 13 Pl left CAMP DIDDY for ERAP River camp.

1745L/13 Remainder 13 Pl arrived CAMP DIDDY and camping there night 13/14 Nov.

1915L/13 Coy Hq arrived CAMP DIDDY.

D Coy

1715L/13 Coy left NGAFIR CREEK 450606 on night route march NADZAB area. Expected to return morning 14 Nov.

4 ENEMY EQUIPMENT.

Forwarded herewith are identity disc and other articles recovered from the Jap Sgt Pilot captured 12 Nov at 582436 by A Coy patrol.

5 TOPOGRAPHICAL.

Attached is copy of "Going Report" for track BAINDUANG 645780 - AVIN 66883E.

6 GENERAL.

Following 42 Bn report that a Jap A/C was seen to dive into low clouds NORTH of MUSOM during air combat on 9 Nov, a Police Boy was sent to question natives in the area. This P.B. returned to KUMBUM 577695 at 1720L/12 and reported that the natives had NO knowledge of any A/C crashing.

Smith
..... Lt Col.
G.F. SMITH.
Comd 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).

SECRET

INTELLIGENCE REPORT No 41.

WAR DIARY - App-A
H.Q. 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).
15 NOV 43.

From Information received up to 2359L/14.

Ref Maps BOANA 1 inch - 1 mile
NADZAB " "

1 OPERATIONS.

NO contact made with enemy day 1/14.

2 PATROLS.

B Coy Patrol which left ERAP RIVER Camp 351568 0800L/13 for OLD MUNKIP 368669 returned 1100L/14. Patrol did NOT reach crossing to OLD MUNKIP due to a landslide at approx map ref 370665.

BOANA AREA NO further report has been received of patrol which left BOANA 0800L/13 to recover the body of U.S. pilot buried 24 Oct (see Intrep 40).

3 NATIVE REPORTS.

TUL TUL of KAHANGANDBANG 671807 states 6 Japs buried by the natives in that village. This report has NOT yet been verified by our troops.

4 MOVEMENTS.

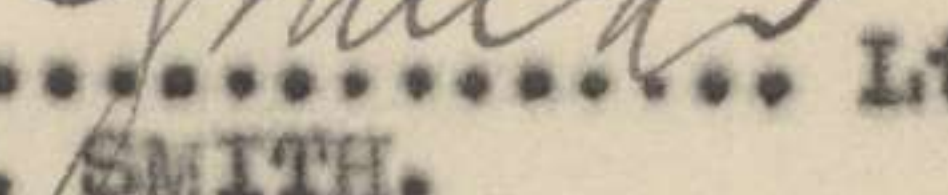
C Coy

1000L/14 Coy HQ and 13 pl left CAMP DIDDY 458632 for ERAP RIVER Camp 351568, arriving 1700L/14.

0818L/14 15 Pl left BLAKES CAMP 491687 for CAMP DIDDY. Arrived CAMP DIDDY 1630L/14 and camping there night 14/15 Nov.

5 GENERAL.

ANGAU have advised this H.Q. that in future all natives sent out by them in the BOANA - MT SALAWAKET - LAE areas where there is a possibility of stray parties of JAPS being in the area will be provided with a pass which will consist of a 1/- Invasion note torn in bottom right hand corner.


..... Lt Col.
G.F. SMITH.

Comd 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).

SECRET

INTELLIGENCE REPORT No 42.

WAR DIARY - App. A
H.Q. 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).
16 NOV 43.

From Information received up to 152359L.

Ref Maps BOANA 1 inch - 1 mile
NADZAB " " "

1 OPERATIONS.

NIL.

2 PATROLS.

BOANA AREA NO report received from patrol which left 13 Nov to recover body of U.S. pilot buried in ERAP River headwaters. A patrol strength 4 will leave BOANA 160800L on a 6 day patrol to BAINDUANG 645780. This patrol will investigate native report of 6 Jap graves at KANANGANDBANG 671807, NOT previously reported.

3 MOVEMENTS.

B Coy
151700L 12 Pl arrived CAMP DIDDY 459632 from BLAKES CAMP on way to camp at ERAP River 349567.

C Coy
151130L 15 Pl arrived ERAP River 351568 thereby completing the concentration of C Coy in that area.

4 TOPOGRAPHY.

Forwarded herewith are "Going Reports" of tracks in the SANAM RIVER valley as follows:--

- (a) BAMBOK 605712 - BANGDAP 625730.
- (b) BANGDAP 625730 - KWAMBELANG 2 636763.
- (c) AVE 668841 - NAMBANGA (L)R 6886 - TOOTEH (L)R 6987.

5 GENERAL.

(a) 151235-1430L Brig MORTARTY and G.2. visited CAMP DIDDY area.
(b) 151000-1020L Air Raid RED in NADZAB area. Area Comd NADZAB 151050-1056L subsequently advised that a force of 55-70 enemy A/C approached NADZAB from the WEST down the MARKHAM VALLEY. They turned back before reaching NADZAB and were heading in the direction of GUSAP when 8 P 40's intercepted.

Enemy losses 10 fighters 2 bombers destroyed.
3 fighters 1 bomber probably destroyed.
Own losses 1 fighter destroyed in head-on collision with an enemy A/C.

The Jap A/C continued on and dropped an unknown number of bombs in the GUSAP strip area. Casualties and damage are NOT known but are believed to be light. Allied A/C again intercepted with the following results:--

Enemy losses 7 fighters 2 bombers destroyed.
3 fighters - bombers probably destroyed.
Own losses NIL.

(c) Lieut KENT U.S. Army Air Force arrived at CAMP DIDDY 151445L and will move to BOANA 16 Nov to investigate the Jap bomber shot down NORTH of BOANA 9 Nov.

(d) Location Statement as at 151800L is attached.


..... Lt Col.
G.F. SMITH.

Comd 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).

SECRET

INTELLIGENCE REPORT No 43.

H.Q. 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).
17 NOV 43.

From information received up to 162359L.

Ref Maps BOANA 1 inch - 1 mile
NADZAB " "

1 OPERATIONS.

Nothing to report.

2 PATROLS.

BOANA AREA

160800L Patrol strength 4 from 10 Pl B Coy, left BOANA 497714 on a 6 day patrol to BAINDUANG 645780. They will contact village TUL TUL's in conjunction with ANGAU, and search for any sign of Jap stragglers.

NO report received of patrol which left BOANA 13 Nov to recover the body of the U.S. Army pilot killed in A/C crash on 23 Oct.

3 MOVEMENTS?

HQ Coy

161200L 1 sec 2 Pl (M.M.G.), 1 det 3 Pl (Mortars) arrived ERAP River camp 351568 for employment in defence of NADZAB area from the WEST.

B Coy

161300L 12 Pl arrived ERAP RIVER 351568. This brings the B Coy strength in that area to 2 pls, the third (No 10) Pl being stationed at BOANA.

The total force now stationed at the ERAP RIVER Camp is 5 pls plus 1 sec M.M.G. and 1 det Mortars.

4 GENERAL.

To clarify the position regarding this unit's task of defending the NADZAB area, the C.O. (Lt Col SMITH), 2 I.C. (Maj FLEAY D.S.O.), Sig Officer (Lieut BEATTIE) and I.O. (Lieut BUNSELL) visited NADZAB Area Comd, and SECOND AIR TASK FORCE. Liaison was also effected with U.S. Army A.A. Defence H.Q. on the question of defence of airfields.

In addition three parties commenced traverses of the roads in the area with a view to amending and adding to the existing NADZAB sheets, roads and airstrips which have recently been constructed. Because of the number of new roads, etc, built complete traverse is expected to take some days.

Smith
..... Lt Col.
G.F. SMITH.

Comd 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).

SECRET

H.Q. 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).
18 NOV 43.

INTELLIGENCE REPORT No 44.

From information received up to 172359L. Ref Map BOANA 1 inch - 1 mile

1 OPERATIONS.

NADZAB AREA

- 170235-0315L RED alert. NO A/C heard.
- 170323-0445L RED alert. Explosions heard in direction of LAE.
- 170600L U/I A/C heard in EAST, also sound of explosions. NO alert received.

2 PATROLS.

BOANA AREA

NO report received from patrol which left BOANA 497714 on L/13 to recover U.S. pilot's body. This patrol is expected to reach NADZAB via EMAP RIVER on 19 Nov.
NO report from patrol which left BOANA 160800L to patrol to BAINDUANG 645780.

3 SUPPLIES.

Arrangements made to drop supplies at BOANA at 170800L were cancelled because of bad weather. The dropping is now expected at 180800L.

4 ENEMY EQUIPMENT.

Forwarded under separate cover is :---
1 Automatic weapon magazine possibly for SOLOTHURN Automatic pistol, together with approx 30 rounds of .32 ammunition. This magazine was picked up by a native in the BAMBOK area.
2 name tags taken from clothing of Japanese killed at HANOBMAIN.
1 Japanese diary found at SALAMAUA.

5 GENERAL.

Mapping of NADZAB area is continuing and foot traverses of the main tracks should be completed 18 Nov. A/A positions will be pinpointed as known.
4 men from this unit will establish a T.C.P. at Area Comd NADZAB on 18 Nov.

G.F. Smith

..... Lt Col.
G.F. SMITH.

Comd 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).

SECRET

WAR DIARY A
H.Q. 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).
19 NOV 43.

INTELLIGENCE REPORT No 46.

Information received up to 182359L.

Ref Map BOANA 1 inch - 1 mile

1 OPERATIONS.

Nothing to report.

2 PATROLS.

BOANA AREA

NO report received from patrol which left BOANA 497714 on L/13 to recover body of U.S. pilot.

NO report from patrol which left BOANA 160800L to patrol to BAINDUANG 645780 (see Intrep No 43).

190800L A two day patrol strength 1 Offr 2 ORs intend to leave BOANA to patrol to BAWAN 562749.

3 MOVEMENTS.

181700L 19 personnel of Mortar Pl arrived CAMP DIDDY 452624 from BOANA.

4 SUPPLIES.

180730L Plane No 277 commenced dropping at BOANA at a height of 80 ft. One run was made NORTH to SOUTH, nine SOUTH TO NORTH. Estimated recovery of cargo 90 per cent. Dropping completed 180755L.

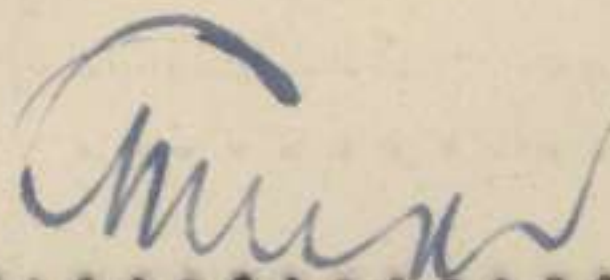
5 ENEMY EQUIPMENT.

Forwarded herewith are copies of a ribbon clasp found at BAINDUANG 645780 on 19 Oct 43, and of a bronze medal and ribbon found at HANOEMAIN 625742 on 21 Oct 43.

A paper bearing printed Japanese characters which was found with the medal is also forwarded.

6 GENERAL.

With the exception of tracks NW of No 2 strip, all the main tracks in the NADZAB area have now been traversed.


..... Lt Col.
G.F. SMITH.

Comd 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).

From information received up to 192359L.

Ref Map BOANA 1 inch - 1 mile
NADZAB " "
WAJME " "

1 OPERATIONS.

Nothing to report.

2 PATROLS.

B Coy

190830L Patrol of 3 ORs left ERAP RIVER Camp area 351568 for OLD MUNKIP 368669 and returned 191930L. NIL report.

190830L Patrol of 2 ORs left 351568 for PYRAMID HILL 306525 and returned 191150L. NIL report.

190830L Patrol of 2 ORs left for CHIVASING 213554. NO report yet received.

BOANA AREA

Patrol which was to have left BOANA 497714 190800L to patrol to BAWAN 562749 has been postponed to 1/20 because of illness of Officer who is to lead patrol (see Intrep No 45).

NO report from patrol which left BOANA on 6 day patrol to BAINDUANG 645780 (see Intrep No 43).

3 GENERAL.

All main roads in NADZAB Area have now been traversed by "T" Section personnel of this unit. Information received is now being added to the existing NADZAB sheets.

The patrol which left BOANA on 13 Nov to recover the body of the U.S. Army pilot, Lieut DUNHAM, who was killed at the ERAP RIVER headwaters on 23 Oct reached NADZAB at 191530L, and delivered the body to the U.S. Army for burial. The patrol leader, Cpl KNIGHT, reported that the A/C, which was only slightly damaged, was located in approx sq 4076. The journey was reported to be particularly hard and dangerous. At one stage, local natives would not allow the line natives from BOANA to proceed along a ledge track because of the danger. The track at this point was only 1 foot wide with a sheer drop of approx 500 ft. The patrol reported that the natives gave every assistance, building ladders and bridges, and even employing native women to dig footholes to assist their progress. The officials at each village welcomed the patrol and prepared new huts and beds for the men. They exercised every care with the coffin, using kunda ropes to raise and lower the body over the cliff faces. They also warned the patrol of an impending landslide whilst the pilot's body was being exhumed, and were able to get clear before the slide occurred. In the opinion of the patrol leader, the party could NOT have reached the A/C and recovered the pilot's body but for these natives.

Attached herewith is copy of report sent to 15 Aust Inf Bde (A.I.F.) on the BOANA - SANAM RIVER operations.

Report is also being prepared on patrol to recover body of U.S. pilot, and will be forwarded on completion.

..... Lt Col.
G.F. SMITH.

Comd 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).

SECRET

INTELLIGENCE REPORT No 47.

H.Q. 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).
21 NOV 43.

From information received up to 202589L.

Ref maps BOANA 1 inch - 1 mile
NADZAB " "
WAIME " "

1 OPERATIONS.

Nothing to report.

2 PATROLS.

BOANA AREA

Patrol which was to have left BOANA 497714 L/20 to patrol to BAWAN 662794 (see Intrep No 46), has again been postponed, following a report from W.O. BIN ANG AU to Lieut DAWSON, who was to lead the patrol. W.O. BIN states that the presence of our patrols in the outlying villages of the BAWAN-SANAM VALLEY area unsettles the natives, thereby upsetting the recruiting of natives which he is carrying out.

201700L Patrol which left BOANA 160800L on patrol to BAINDUANG 645720 reached KUMBUM 577695 on return journey. NO enemy movement seen or reported by patrol, which is returning to BOANA on 21 Nov.

B Coy

201810L

Patrol of 2 ORs which left for CHIVASING 213554 L/19 returned to Camp area 351563. The patrol followed the track to WAWIN 228640, then proceeded further WEST along the track to a tributary of the KUMU River at approx map ref 198628. They then returned to WAWIN where they bivouaced night 19/20 Nov. 200830L patrol proceeded down the EAST bank of WAWIN Creek, following a track which had been made by a jeep but discontinued after a short distance. The patrol continued down EAST bank of WAWIN Creek for approx 1 hour from WAWIN, but failed to find the track to CHIVASING, and did NOT proceed any further, but returned to Camp area. NO enemy movement was seen.

3 GENERAL.

At 201829L, a number of bursts of machine gun fire were heard coming from the direction of NADZAB. Several rounds fell in the A Coy area at 451615, one .5 bullet narrowly missing a man. U.S. Military Police are investigating.

G.F. Smith

..... Lt Col.

G.F. SMITH.

Comd 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).

SECRET

INTELLIGENCE REPORT No 48.

H.Q. 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).
22 NOV 43.

From information received up to 212359L.

Ref Maps BOANA 1 inch-1 mile
NADZAB " "
WAIME " "

1 OPERATIONS.

Nothing to report.

2 PATROLS.

B Coy

211030L Patrol of 1 NCO 2 ORs left ERAP RIVER Camp area 351568 for CHIVASING 213554. NO report yet received.

BOANA AREA

211130L Patrol which left BOANA 497714 160800L on patrol to BAINDUANG 645780 returned to BOANA, reported NO enemy seen. Patrol which was to have gone to BAWAN 562794 L/21, but was postponed following a report from W.O. BIRD ANGAU (see Intrep No 47). This patrol had reached KUMBUM 577695, when above mentioned report was received. Patrol returned to BOANA 211130L, had nothing further to report.

3 ENEMY EQUIPMENT.

Attached herewith is enemy document found in BUANG RIVER area. The finder has requested that it be returned to him if NOT required.

4 GENERAL.

C Coy

211100L R.C. Church parade held in area.
211315L Protestant Church parade held in area.

G.F. Smith
..... Lt Col.
G.F. SMITH.
Comd 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).

SECRET

INTELLIGENCE REPORT No 49.

WAR DIARY
H.Q. 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).
23 NOV 43.

Information received up to 222359L.

Ref Maps BOANA 1 inch - 1 mile
WADZAB " "
WAIME " "

1 OPERATIONS.

221100L Air raid warning. 221800L All clear. NO A/C seen.

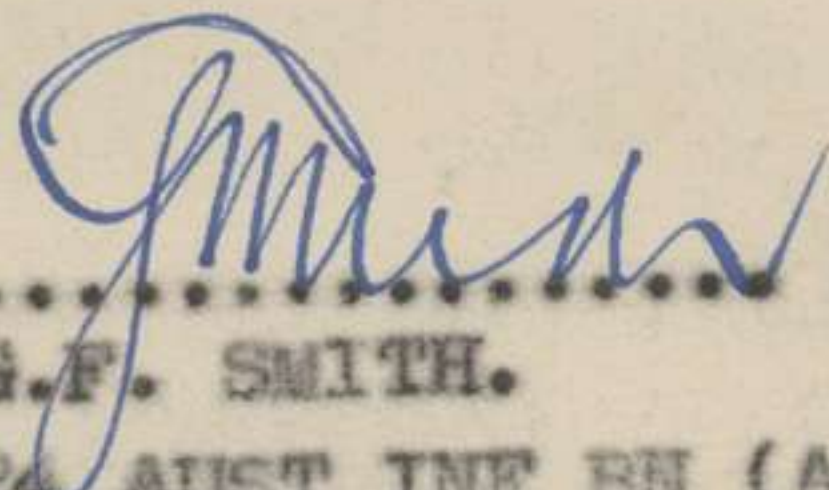
2 PATROLS.

B Coy

222010L Patrol to CHIVASING 213554 which left BRAP RIVER Camp area 351568 211030L (see Intrep No 48), returned to Camp area. NO enemy seen. Track report from patrol NOT yet submitted.

BOANA AREA

3 day patrol of 1 NCO 3 ORs to leave BOANA 497714 230800L for KWAMBELENG 642790 expect to return to BOANA L/26.


..... Lt Col.
G.F. SMITH.
Comd 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).

WAR LIBRARY
App. A

SECRET

INTELLIGENCE REPORT No 50.

H.Q. 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).
24 NOV 43.

From information received up to 232359L.

Ref Map BOANA 1 inch - 1 mile.

1 OPERATIONS.

230935L RED Air Raid warning. 231017L All clear. NO A/C sighted
231815L " " " " 231822L " " " " "

2 PATROLS.

BOANA AREA
230900L

Patrol of 1 NCO 3 ORs ~~and 4~~ ^{COPIES OF WEST ILE BN (A.I.F.)} native carriers left BOANA 49
497714 for KAWALAN 526773. Expected to return L/26.
NOTE:-- KAWALAN is limit of patrol, NOT KWAMBELANG as
stated previously. Patrol goes OUT along WEST side of
BUNBOK RIVER and returns along EAST side, through
KWAMBELANG.

3 GENERAL.

Attached is copy of report of patrol which left NADZAB
on 15 Nov to attempt the salvage of A/C reported by
natives to have crashed into the MARKHAM RIVER. The patrol
continued on to search for Japanese launches on the river,
and then moved to BUANG RIVER to search for the body of
Pte ARNOLD of this unit who was killed there in Sep.
The report and sketch concerning the tail of the A/C found
is of interest because it cannot be identified from the
charts on hand. The leader of the patrol (Lieut SMITH) is
of the opinion that the A/C was a Japanese machine although
NO national markings were seen.
The report of the location of a Jap mountain gun and a
probable 37 mm TK/A Jap gun type 94 is also of interest.
A 37 mm shell was salvaged by Lieut SMITH and is at present
being held at these H.Qs. Lieut SMITH reports that the
weapons could be salvaged without much difficulty.
Sketch of Jap defensive positions vicinity of the BUANG
mouth is also attached to report.

G.F. Smith

..... Lt Col.
G.F. SMITH.
COMD 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).

SECRET

INTELLIGENCE REPORT No 51.

WAR DIARY
H.Q. 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).
25 NOV 43,

FFIA information received up to 242359L.

Ref maps BOANA 1 inch-1 mile
NADZAB " "

1 OPERATIONS.

241600L A/C attached SATF advised that at 241400L a transport A/C reported a large white V-shaped object on a ridge on WEST side of ERAP RIVER, SW of OLD MUNKIP. 4 men, apparently wearing Australian hats, were seen walking away from the V-shaped object, which was reported to be pointing in the direction of LAE.

241530L approx a fighter A/C reported what appeared to be 2 parachutes on the ridge, and either 4 or 5 men walking down the ridge towards OLD MUNKIP. The white object was sighted from the Control Tower at No 5 strip on a bearing of 335 deg and approx in sq 3566.

241900L approx report received that WIRRAWAY of 4 AC SQN on TAC R found 2 white markers and 2 men walking up WEST bank of ERAP RIVER towards OLD MUNKIP. One man was wearing white headgear.

2 PATROLS.

BOANA AREA

NO report received from KAWALAN patrol.

B Coy

242015L Patrol strength 4 ordered from B Coy at 349567 to leave early 25 Nov for OLD MUNKIP area to investigate reports, as above.

3 GENERAL.

Bn "I" school is to commence 25 Nov. Duration of course - approx 9 weeks.

Adj't, Q.M., I.O. and Sig Offr will leave NADZAB on 26 Nov to attend 15 Aust Inf Bde Staff Course at DONADABU. School will be from 28 Nov to 12 Dec.

..... Lt Col.
G.F. SMITH.
Comd 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).

SECRET

INTELLIGENCE REPORT No 52.

WAR DIARY A.
H.Q. 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).
26 NOV 43.

From information received up to 252359L.

ref Maps BOANA 1 inch - 1 mile
NADZAB " "
WAIME " "

1 OPERATIONS.

Nothing to report.

2 PATROLS.

BOANA AREA

251600L Patrol to KAWALAN 526773 returned to BOANA 497714 but had nothing to report.

B Coy

250900L Patrol of 1 NCO 2 ORs left ERAP RIVER Camp 349567 for CHIVASING 213554.

250745L Patrol of 4 ORs left 349567 to investigate report which was received from A.L.O. attached SATF (see Intrep 51). Patrol found U.S. A/A unit in the position. ~~S-M~~ 2 ~~I~~ shaped signal strips had been laid to orient instrument. Patrol returned 349567 251515L. SATF have been advised.

3 ENEMY DOCUMENTS.

24 NOV Papers which are obviously music of a military nature were found on the NADZAB-CAMP DIDDY road and are forwarded herewith.

4 GENERAL.

Bn "I" School commenced today. 16 students are attending the course.

Smith

..... Lt Col.

G.F. SMITH

Comd 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).

SECRET

INTELLIGENCE REPORT No 53.

H.Q. 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).
27 NOV 43.

From information received up to 262350L.

Ref map BOANA 1 inch - 1 mile.

1 OPERATIONS.

Nothing to report.

2 PATROLS.

BOANA AREA

Patrol strength 4 will leave BOANA 497714 on 27 Nov for
BATNDUANG 645780. Expected to return BOANA 2 Dec.

U.S.A.A.F. PATROL

260900L Patrol strength 4, including 1 S/Sgt passed through CAMP
DIDDY to disinter body of U.S. parachutist killed in Sep
vic 488662. 261910L Patrol returned with body and proceeded
to U.S.A.A.F. Q.M. NADZAB.

3 GENERAL.

260715L Adj. Q.M., I.O. and Sig Offr left CAMP DIDDY for
DONADABU to attend 15 Aust Inf Bde Staff Course commencing
28 Nov 43.

..... *G.F. Smith* Lt Col.
G.F. SMITH.

Comd 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).

SECRET

INTELLIGENCE REPORT No 54.

H.Q. 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).
28 NOV 43.

From information received up to 272359L.

Ref maps BOANA 1 inch - 1 mile
NADZAB " "
WAIMA " "

1 OPERATIONS.

Nothing to report.

2 PATROLS.

BOANA AREA

270800L Patrol strength 4 ORs 4 natives left BOANA 497714 for BAINDUANG 645780. Expected to return BOANA 2 Dec.

B Coy

271100L Patrol to CHIVASING 213554 returned ERAP RIVER Camp 349567. Reported presumed Japanese belly tank found at CHIVASING.

3 GENERAL.

271830L BC Church Parade held in CAMP DIDDY Area 459632.

..... Lt Col.
G.F. SMITH.

Comd 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).

SECRET

INTELLIGENCE REPORT No 55.

H.Q. 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).
29 NOV 43.

From information received up to 282359L. Ref Maps BOANA 1 inch - 1 mile
NADZAB " "

1 OPERATIONS.

Nothing to report.

2 PATROLS.

NO report received from patrol which left BOANA 497714 for
BAINDUANG 645780 270800L.

3 GENERAL.

280900L R.C. Church Parade held in D Coy area 448603.
281030L R.C. " " " " ERAP RIVER Area 351568.
281845L Protestant Church Parade held in American Second Station
Hospital Camp area 449615, attended by HQ, A and D Coy
personnel.

..... *N.L. Fleay* Maj.
N.L. FLEAY DSO

Adm Comd 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).

SECRET

INTEGELLIGENCE REPORT No 56.

H.Q. 24 AUST INF BN (AIF)
30 NOV 43.

From information received up to 2923591.

Ref Maps BOANA 1 inch - 1 mile
NADZAB " "

1 OPERATIONS.

Nothing to report.

2 PATROLS.

BOANA AREA

No report received BOANA - BAINDUANG patrol.

3 GENERAL.

As from 290700L Maj N.L.FLEAY D.S.O. Adm Comd 24AUST INF BN (A.I.F) in absence of LT COL SMITH.

290715L LT COL G.E. SMITH (CO) left CAMP DIDDY 455632 for POST MORESBY to attend trg Conference at H.Q.15 AUST INF BDE DONADABU.

291250L Party of Surveyors from 842 U.S. ENGRS arrived in CAMP DIDDY area to survey route for pipe line to the AMERICAN SECOND STATION HOSPITAL which is nearby at 445615.

.....*N.L. Fleay*.....Maj.
N.L.FLEAY D.S.O.

Adm Comd 24 AUST INF BN
(A.I.F.)

SECRET

INTELLIGENCE REPORT NO 57

was sent approx
H.Q. AUST INF BN (A.I.F.)

1 Dec 43.

Ref Map BOANA 1 Inch - 1 Mile

1 OPERATIONS.

Nothing to report.

2 PATROLS.

BOANA AREA.

No report received from BOANA - BAINDUANG patrol due back 2 Dec.

Patrol report of CHIVASING patrol of 25 - 27 Nov 43 with sketches attached enclosed.

3 METEOROLOGICAL.

At 302210L A fierce storm struck CAMP DIDDY, area Ref 455632.

4 GENERAL.

Nothing to report.

N. L. Fleay
..... Maj.
N.L.FLEAY. D.S.O.
Adm Comd 24 Aust Inf Bn
(A.I.F.)

Information contained ~~herein~~ in this document is NOT to be communicated either directly or indirectly to the press or to any person not holding an official position in His Majesty's Service

ROUTINE ORDERS

H.Q. 24 Aust Inf Bn (AI)

PART I

2 Nov 43

LT-COL G.P. SMITH G.O.D. 24 AUST INF BN

KNos. 225-

Serial No 24

**No 225
AVIATION
PETROL
UNLEADED**

No indents will be placed on RAAF or US Army Air Force g for 73 octane aviation gasoline (containing no tetra-ethyl lead) unless specifically required for use in aircraft engines. Any such indents will be endorsed by the officer commanding the indenting unit "required for aircraft engines".

**No 226
CARRYING OF
ARMS**

1. It has been a well broadcast fact that a few JAPANESE continue to inhabit the jungles around LAE, emerging at appropriate times to steal food and even, when opportunity offers, to shoot the odd soldier. In practically every case the selected target was unarmed and answered the challenge by executing an undignified if not disorderly retreat through the jungle.
2. Commanding officers will take action to ensure that:-
 - (a) All ranks carry personal arms when outside camp areas.
 - (b) Working parties carry arms to the scene of their task and ground or pile them (under guard if the situation warrants it) so that they are immediately available in an emergency.

**No 227
NATIVE AND
UNAUTHORISED
SUPPLY OF
EXPLOSIVES
ETC TO
NATIVES**

The supply without authority of any arms ammunition or explosives to natives is prohibited. Severe disciplinary action will be taken in all cases of breach of this order.

**No 228
CARE OF
MORTAR
BOMBS AND
FUZES**

1. Mortar bomb fuzes, under certain conditions, may become armed through rough handling and consequently it is imperative that the greatest care be taken with mortar ammunition. Boxes of bombs should always be carried from place to place. They must NEVER be thrown.
2. All fuzes that are dropped from aircraft are labelled accordingly and when subsequently examined by technical Ordnance personnel are certified "Safe to fire".
3. If a mortar fuze is fired and does not detonate, it will in any case become armed and therefore exceedingly dangerous. No attempt will be made to interfere ~~with or~~ move a blind bomb. It must on no account be fired from a mortar a second time.
4. Blind bombs will be destroyed in situ in accordance with the procedure laid down in GRO 407/43.
5. If any doubt is felt regarding the condition of mortar fuzes they should be set aside and reference made to an Inspecting Ordnance Officer or ammunition examiner.

**No 229
INFORMATION
REGARDING
LOCATION
OF GRAVES.**

1. It has been noticed that letters of condolence sent to next of kin by commanding officers, chaplains and others have, in some cases, disclosed the location of particular units by referring specially to the place of burial of deceased members.
2. Letters of condolence to next-of-kin and others from Commanding officers, chaplains and others will refer only to the actual burial service and contain no information regarding the location of the grave.

**No 230
LOST OR
DAMAGED
PAYBOOKS**

In every case of the loss or damage of a paybook, the O.C. will make enquiries as to the cause of loss or damage. Form WF 121 - declaration of loss of members paybook - will be submitted for signature of the Commanding Officer, accompanied by a separate report showing circumstances of the case and a statement by O.C. as to the results of the inquiry and whether disciplinary action has been taken.

No 231
SUPERANNUATION CONTRIBUTIONS - COMMONWEALTH EMPLOYEES
 Members having allotments in force to the Commonwealth Government to cover Superannuation will advise the Pay Sgt of particulars of such allotment. This is to ensure that cancellation of such allotments as on and from 26 June 43 will not be overlooked.

No 232
NOTIFICATION OF NEW MILITARY ADDRESS
 When a member of the unit is evacuated through illness or when he leaves the unit for sometime he will forward his new military address to the postal orderly of the unit. This will not only facilitate the delivery of mail to the new address, but ensure that correspondence reaches the member at his new address.
 In quite a number of cases, members, who are away from the unit have made applications for leave or transfer and have given their address as this unit.

Obviously, in most cases, no answer can be given to these applications until a considerable time has elapsed and then only after considerable trouble for the unit staff.

Members therefore will NOT, when away from the unit, use the unit address in any correspondence, but will always give their present address.

No 233
TIME FOR REVEILLE

1. To minimise the danger of malarial infection from the activities of the Anopheline mosquito prior to sunrise, all units will ensure that, except for special reasons, reveille is not sounded earlier than one quarter hour prior to sunrise.
2. Particular attention will be given to this order in view of the introduction of daylight saving time.
3. Where for special reasons reveille is sounded before sunrise troops will not be permitted to perform their ablutions until sunrise.

No 234
UNLAWFUL DISPOSAL OF EQUIPMENT

1. Attention has been directed to the unauthorized disposal of AMF equipment to members of the Allied Forces and civilians and the unauthorized receipt of Allied equipment by barter and otherwise by members of the AMF.
2. Members are forbidden to part with, dispose of, or exchange by barter or otherwise, any item of AMF equipment or to receive by barter or otherwise any item of Allied equipment without the consent of the Commanding Officers of their units. Such consent will only be given on the direction of superior authority or when the exigencies of the service render it necessary and reference to superior authority is impracticable.
3. Disciplinary action will be taken against members unlawfully disposing of AMF equipment or unlawfully in possession of Allied equipment, charges being laid under AA 17, AA 18(4) or AA 40, whichever is appropriate.

No 235
REGIMENTAL TRUST A/C

Balance	B.H.Q.	HQ Coy	A Coy	B Coy	C Coy	D Coy	TOTAL
1/10/43	28-16-2	191-15-0	128-17-11	115-3-8	112-9-0	119-16-7	696-18-4
Credited							
During							
Oct 43	8-1-8	44-1-4	23-0-11	21-11-0	21-11-0	20-1-2	135-7-0
	36-17-10	235-16-4	148-18-10	136-14-8	134-0-0	139-17-8	832-5-4
Debited							
during							
Oct 43	19-1-1	63-3-10	30-9-10	35-19-2	34-4-10	31-6-0	214-4-9
Balance							
31 Oct	17-16-9	172-12-6	118-9-0	100-15-6	99-15-2	108-11-8	618-0-7

No 236
PILFERING

1. Many instances of pilfering are occurring on the strips at NADZAB, and at other ration dumps in this area.
2. Rations are in limited supply and consigned mainly for fwd troops.
3. All troops will be advised of seriousness of pilfering & disciplinary action will be taken against offenders.

R E S T R I C T E D

Information contained herein in this document is NOT to be communicated either directly or indirectly, ~~SECRET~~ to the press or to any person not holding an official position in His Majesty's Service.

ROUTINE ORDERS - PART 1

H.Q. 24 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

Ncs 239-

LT-COL G.F. SMITH COMD 24 AUST INF BN

4 Nov 43

Serial No 25

No 239. The following list of controlled stores shown as being on charge to Coys and individuals, are still unaccounted for in Coy returns of "Controlled Stores". In addition to submitting reports on this list Coy Comds will personally supervise a thorough kit inspection of all ranks to ensure that controlled stores are not being retained by unauthorised persons.

CONT-
ROLL-
ED-
STOR-
ES

Severe disciplinary action will be taken against any member of the unit who is in unauthorised possession of any Controlled Stores.

PISTOLS

864209 Lt YOUNG C Coy 992597 Capt Duell C Coy
16271 Capt Graham B Coy 980278 Pte DARTS HQ Coy
87448 Lt Dawson " " 990663 Lt Richards C Coy 995012 Lt Looker D Coy
996035 Pte HAYES HQ Coy

PISTOLS SIGNALLING

4430 Lt Dawson B Coy 4429 Lt BABER C Coy
4435 Sgt EATON C Coy 4442 on charge C Coy 4447 Sgt BOYLE C Coy
126268 Lt Looker D Coy

OWEN SUB-MACHINE GUNS

7908 on charge C Coy 8731 Pte Nugent A Coy
13309 Cpl Briddle B Coy 4234 on charge C Coy 8899 Pte Bennett A Coy
7528 Pte Parino B Coy 9038 on charge C Coy 13657 Pte Eeles HQ Coy
10179 L/Cpl Walsh B Coy 9418 on charge C Coy 13137 on charge HQ Coy
9008 on charge D Coy 13647 L/Cpl BROWN HQ Coy

BREN GUNS

7168 Pte Challinor B Coy 2510 Pte GORDON C Coy
2086 Pte Jacka B Coy 4357 Pte Christie B Coy 2154 Pte Whelan C Coy
4029 Pte Whiteacre C Coy 4571 Pte Banbury C Coy

COMPASSES LIQUID MK III

71372 Cpl Barnett HQ Coy 157998 Lt LOOKER D Coy
114868 Capt Graham C Coy 115755 on charge C Coy 116208 Lt Haederle HQ "

COMPASSES PRISMATIC MK II

9942 Lt Thomas D Coy 21281 Cpl Abbott D Coy
1916 Sgt Gaff C Coy 10824 S/Sgt Chalmers HQ Coy 22830 Lt Childs C Coy
7777 S/Sgt Gilson C Coy 20610 Pte Osmond BHQ 25907 Sgt Caffiso D Coy
9774 on charge HQ Coy 22367 Sgt Spenslow A Coy 24267 Sgt Rolfe D Coy

COMPASSES DOCKET MAGNETIC

2759 Pte Jennings B Coy 38708 Pte Heaton B Coy
1189 Cpl Smith A Coy 6892 on charge B Coy 54484 on charge C Coy
3279 Cpl Wise A Coy 14734 on charge B Coy 75625 on charge C Coy
17286 L/Cpl McKean 2 Coy 36354 L/Cpl Newton B Coy 78510 on charge C Coy
18231 Cpl Jago A Coy 36483 Pte Dooley B Coy 82995 on charge C Coy
18467 Sgt Warner A Coy 43727 Sgt Bartley B Coy 83849 on charge C Coy
35043 Pte Johnstone A Coy 45011 Cpl Smith B Coy 85277 on charge C Coy
47278 Cpl Jordan F A Coy 59128 Pte McDonald B Coy 92729 on charge C Coy
81791 Pte Margery A Coy 59129 Cpl Ling B Coy 93910 on charge C Coy
36316 L/Cpl Grant D Coy 110780 on charge D Coy 94629 on charge C Coy
98058 L/Cpl Featherby D Coy 111819 Cpl O'Brien D Coy 108851 on charge C Coy

WATCHES G.S.

011205 Cpl Downing B Coy 011087 on charge C Coy
011228 Lt Darling A Coy 011107 on charge C Coy 011136 on charge C Coy
1262 on charge C Coy 009852 Pte Osmond BHQ

BINOCULARS MK I

12161 Lt Robinson D Coy 87892 Lt Baber C Coy

BINOCULARS MK II

06666 on charge B Coy 08934 on charge C Coy
02214 Lt Looker D Coy 7682 Sgt Howarth HQ Coy 09437 on charge C Coy

MORTARS 2"

16655 on charge A Coy 33830 on charge D Coy

PROTRACTORS IVORINE

1242 Capt Duell C Coy 1230 Cpl Carney HQ Coy
1096 Pte Oliver BHQ 1245 Sgt Boyle C Coy 0120 Sgt Carlyon HQ Coy
1233 on charge B Coy 1248 on charge C Coy 0124 Pte Parncutt BHQ
1240 on charge B Coy 1251 on charge HQ Coy 0123 Cpl Lowry HQ Coy

N.B. There is also a quantity of un-numbered protractors within the unit.

No 240
USE OF
GRENADES
HAND
JAPANESE
TYPE 91

1. This grenade is in common use by the Japanese and quantities have been captured and used by our troops. Tests indicate that the grenade has certain characteristics which may lead to injury in the hands of inexperienced personnel. These characteristics are:
 - (a) The delay fuse, marked $4/5$ seconds, has been known to burn in much less time. Some tested fuses burned in 3 seconds.
 - (b) While the delay fuse is burning, a considerable quantity of black smoke is emitted through the escape hole at the base of the fuse tube, and small fragments of delay fuse are sometimes forced out. At night or even at dusk or dawn, a definite glow from this hole can be seen.
2. The following precautions will be taken if the grenade is used:
 - (a) It will be thrown immediately after the head has been struck.
 - (b) When striking the grenade, the hand will be kept well clear of the escape hole at the side of the fuse tube.

No 241
COURTS OF
INQUIRY ON
ILLEGAL
ABSENTEES

1. By statutory rule 245, dated 29 Sep 1945, Australian Military Regulation 278A was made, providing for an alternative method of investigation into illegal absence for twenty-one days or more, to that of holding Courts of Inquiry under AMR 276.
2. As dependents' allowance and allotment payable in respect of a member absent without leave can only be suspended under War Financial (Military Forces) Regulation 54 after a Court of Inquiry has declared the member an illegal absentee, Courts of Inquiry will continue, notwithstanding the making of AMR 276, to be held until further notice under AMR 276 in all cases in respect of members absent without leave for 21 days or more.

No 242
ECONOMY IN
USE OF POL
DRUMS

1. Present stocks of all types of POL drums and accessories are at a low level. Advice has been received that unless the present excessive wastage is eliminated, the continued supply of POL to areas operating with drummed stocks may be seriously threatened.
2. In future issues of POL in bulk will only be made on return of the equivalent number of drums, complete with bungs.

No 243
GRENADES,
No 36M -
DESTRUCTION
OF BLINDS.

Due to the possible occurrence of hangfires, as a result of slow burning fuses, it is essential that an interval of fifteen minutes and not five minutes, as previously published, be allowed to elapse before action is taken to destroy blind 36M grenades.

J. J. Thomas
Capt
Adjt 24 Aist Inf Bn (AIF)

No 237
SCRUB
TYPHUS

The incidence of scrub typhus is increasing and it is causing some concern.

To counteract this dangerous disease the following action will be taken forthwith:-


1. Camp Sites

- (a) Kunal grass will be cut within an area of 30 ft from every tent or hut. All rubbish will be removed and burned.
- (b) Foodstuffs must be on no account be brought into sleeping quarters and must be cleared away from the vicinity of such quarters.
- (c) All troops will construct beds at least 2 ft above the ground.
- (d) When wire is available rat traps of standard design will be constructed.

2. Individual

- (a) Gaiters will be worn at all times.
- (b) Tops of socks, inside bottoms of trousers and insides of gaiters will have insect repellent applied once every 24 hrs. Method of applying repellent is to pour 1 teaspoonful on palms of hands which will then be drawn two or three times over above articles. This should be a drill when dressing.

(over)


Capt
A Jt Lt 24 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

NOTICES.

SEEKING AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL SONG - ABC ANNOUNCES COMPETITION

A competition for an Australian National Song is announced by the ABC. The commission hopes to discover a song with the qualities that will cause it to become eventually 'National' says the General Manager of the ABC. Prizes totalling £105 will be awarded for the best songs written by Aust Composers. First prize £60, second £30, third £15. The merits and appropriateness of the lyrics will be taken into consideration. There will also be special prizes of £20, £10 and £5 for the lyrics of the winning songs, if written expressly for the competition. The verses, new or old, must be by an Australian author. The closing date of the competition is Dec 31. If the adjudication can be completed in time, it is hoped to broadcast a performance of the winning songs in the Australia Day programme (Jan 26) on the National relay. Entry forms and copies of competition rules may be obtained from the ABC Manager in each Capital city. There are no entry fees. The competition is open (1) Australian born citizens (2) British subjects and naturalised subjects domiciled in Australia.

FOUND

1 wristlet watch in wax match tin at NGAFIR Ck Camp area after flood. Owner will make application to these H.Qs.

1 wallet at NGAFIR Ck Camp area after flood. Owner will make application to these H.Qs.

From information received up to 2359L/1.

ref maps BOANA 1 inch - 1 mi
NADZAB " "
WAIMB " "
MARKHAM - LAE Strat.

1 OPERATIONS.

C Coy.

- 0700L/1 Patrol of 1 offr 3 ORs, incl 1 Sig 1 Int sec, with 15 natives left BAINDUANG 645780 on a 2 day patrol along the SIO rd.
- 1010L/1 Patrol passed through NAMBANGA Map ref MARKHAM-LAE Strat (L) 6886 on SOUTH side of SANAM River.
- 1220L/1 and 1230L/1 2 Japs killed at POOTOH (L) 6589 approx. The Japs were armed, the village was searched and the patrol reports NO further trace of Japs at POOTOH.
- It has been stated that without the assistance of ^{the} natives ^{at} the patrol could NOT have ^(reached) POOTOH. From the report, the track falls very steeply to BRUP (L) 65865 and from that village to NAMBANGA it is particularly steep, rough Kanaka track, the gradient reported as being 1 in 2. The patrol reported that this particular part of the track is indescribable.
- 1510L/1 Patrol arrived at NAMBANGA, had lunch and will be camping the night L/1 - L/2 in the vicinity.

2 PATROLS.

B Coy.

- 0930L/1 Four recce - fighting patrols left B Coy camp area 351568.
- Strength of each patrol 5 ORs.
- 1st patrol moved to PYRAMD HILL 306525 and returned 1630L/1 - NO mvt seen.
- 2nd patrol left for CHIVASING 212553, 3rd patrol for WAWIN 227641 and TELERANG 188669 and the 4th patrol for OLD MUNKUP 367664.
- Patrols number 2, 3 and 4 are expected to return afternoon L/2.

C Coy.

- 0700L/1 Patrol of 1 offr 3 ORs 15 natives left BAINDUANG 645780 to patrol SIO track (see under para 1- OPs)
- 0700L/1 Patrol of 3 ORs and 5 natives left BAINDUANG for KASANOHE 653744.
- Object of both patrols was to clear enemy from tracks and to recce each track for possibility of the passage of larger patrols.

3 CASUALTIES.

Total enemy cas reported L/1 - 2 killed.

Total " " since 12 OCT 43 - 157 killed, 2 wounded, 115 found dead 13P.V

4 MOVEMENTS .

H Coy.

- 1525L/1 26 ORs returned to CAMP DIDDY 459632 from 3 Aust Air Maintenance Coy NADZAB.

D Coy.

- 1500L/1 16 and 17 composite pl less 1 sec arrived at NGAFIR CK 449605.
- 1 sec BLAKES CAMP moving L/2 NGAFIR Ck. NO time advised.
- 1 offr 23 ORs arrived BLAKES CAMP en route NGAFIR CAMP. NO time advised.

5. SUPPLIES.

- 1600L/1 A quantity of ordnance stores arrived CAMP DIDDY and will relieve the shortage of clothing and equipment to some extent.

6 GENERAL.

L/1 Evacuations from this unit to 111 C.C.S. were 3, making the total of 69 evacuated from the unit since 27 SEP - the date the unit arrived in the NADZAB area.

L/1 An issue of comforts comprising tobacco, cigarettes and sweets was distributed throughout the unit.

Following the mvt of Bde Comd (Brig HAMMER D.S.O.) to LAE to temporarily admin comd 5 Aust Div, the C.O. (Lt.Col. SMITH) will temporarily admn comd NADZAB area.

G.F. Smith

Lt.Col.

G.F. SMITH

Comd 24 AUST. INF. BN (A.I.B.)

[Faint, mostly illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]

From information received up to 2359 L/2.

ref maps BOANA lineh -1 mile
NADZAB " "
WAIME " "
MARKHAM - LAE Strat

1 OPERATIONS.

C Coy.
1045L/2 SIO patrol (see INTREP 28 para 1) contacted and killed 2 Japs who were armed with grenades in gardens 1 hr, 45 mins E.N.E. of TOOTOOMUAH approx map ref (L)R 665875. Identity disc and some papers were found on the Jap

2 PATROLS.

B Coy.
1030L/2 No 4 patrol returned from OLD MUNKIP 367664-had nothing to report.
1530L/2 No 2 patrol which left for CHIVASING 312553 returned. They did NOT reach CHIVASING and could NOT locate track 312605. Nothing to report.
1630L/2 No 3 patrol returned from WAWIN 227641. Patrol did NOT reach TALBRANG 188609 as it would have taken one more day to complete patrol. Nothing to report.

C Coy.
1700L/2 SIO patrol on Kunai SPUR (L)R 706395. Projected mvt NOT known as W/T comms stopped at 2000L/2.
KASANBE patrol - NO report received.

3 CASUALTIES.

Total enemy cas reported L/2- 2 killed.
Total enemy cas since 12 OCT 43 -159 killed 2 wounded 115 found dead 13 PW.

4 MOVEMENTS

D Coy.
NO further mvt reported of 1 offr 23 ORs who arrived BLAKES CAMP L/1 (see INTREP para 4)
1200L/2 2 L/c Maj FLEAY reported back from fwd areas.

5 COMMUNICATIONS.

C Coy.
1200L/2 208 comms est with SIO patrol from BAINDUANG -strength R2, but clear both ways. Traffic was passed up to 2000L/2.

6 ENEMY EQUIPMENT.

1 identity disc, 1 sheet of paper from note book and 30 *256 ball amn will be forwarded under separate cover per D/R.

7 GENERAL.

L/2 1 offr 1 OR evacuated by plane from BOANA to 111C.C.S making a total of 71 evacuated from this unit since 27 SEP 43 -the date the unit arrived in the NADZAB area.
2 ORs waiting at BOANA to be evacuated, expect to be evacuated by plane morning L/3.

G.F. Smith
Lt Col.
G.F. SMITH

Comd 24 AUST INF BN(A.I.)

From information received up to 2359L/3.

Ref maps NADZAB 1 inch - 1 mile
BOANA " "
MARKHAM STRAT 1 in-1 mi.
LAE STRAT " "1. OPERATIONS.C Coy

- (a) 1600L/2 Special patrol of strength 3 with 5 natives comd Lieut BAILING reached a kunai spur approx 6000 ft at (L)R 705895. A Jap camp estimated to be capable of holding 1000 men was found at (L)R 7090. 36 dead Japs were found on the track which was reported to be very steep, rough, and hard going. Gradients were reported to be almost 1 in 1 in places.
- 0900L/3 Patrol reported the SIO road impassable at approx (L)R 704900, because of landslips and sheer rock faces. Natives reported that road was broken in two other places NORTH of the point reached. It is NOT known how the natives obtained this information, although they had previously reported that the Japanese when fleeing over this road, had destroyed bridges, handrails etc which are necessary to traverse the track over the mountains.
- 0930L/3 Patrol killed 1 Jap at (L)R 7089 and found 5 more dead Japs on the return journey to AVIN 671790.
- 1645L/3 AVIN reached 11 further dead Japs found. Enemy cas for patrol 5 killed 52 found dead. Own cas NIL.
- (b) 1300L/2 Special patrol from BAINDUANG 645780 to patrol 2 days out from KASANOBE 665744 along road to SAMANZING (map ref NOT known) reached KASANOBE but could NOT get natives to carry past that point. The LULUAI stated that SAMANZING was a 3 day trip from KASANOBE and that NO Japs had been seen in the area.

CASUALTIES. Total enemy cas in area since 12 Oct.

160 killed, 2 wounded, 13 P.O.W., 167 found dead.

2 PATROLS.

Further patrols are to be sent along road AVIN-SIO and KASANOBE-SAMANZING.

3 MOVEMENTS.D Coy.

- 1700L/3 Remainder of 17 PI arrived at NGAFIR CREEK Camp 449605 completing the movement of D Coy from the BOANA area.
- 1400L/3 15 Bde I.O. (Capt HEDLEY) and ANGAU rep NADZAB (Lieut WHITTAKER) arrived at CAMP DIDDY 456628 from 8 day patrol in ERAP headwaters.
- 1/4 No 3 (Mortar) PI will move BOANA 499713 to carry out mortar training.

4 COMMUNICATIONS.

With the change over of comd of NADZAB area direct comn with 15 Aust Inf Bde ceased. L/T comn is now established direct to L of C Signals Station Comd NADZAB, but comns at present are NOT very satisfactory. Fullerphone comn is NOT yet established. The telephone to D Coy at NGAFIR CK Camp is tied in on this line. Forward of BHQ at CAMP DIDDY 456628 L/T and Fullerphone comn is available through BOANA and KUMBUM 577695 to BAINDUANG 645780. From BAINDUANG W/T comn by 208 set is available for comn forward to special SIO track patrol. A W/T No 11 set is also stationed at BOANA for lateral comn to 29 Bde but is U.S. at present because of battery failure. NO comn has been obtained with B Coy at ERAP River since 1125L/3. Comns were previously obtained through 15 Bde.

5 ENEMY DOCUMENTS etc.

Enemy documents collected in KUMBUM area 31 Oct are forwarded.

6 GENERAL.

- (a) Parashute flares will be fired from both CAMP DIDDY and NGAFIR CREEK Camps at approx 1900L/4, in order to obtain accurate bearings on each camp and thus pinpoint their locations and correct the NADZAB sheet.
- (b) Advice was received from 15 Aust Inf Bde that this unit came under comd 5 Aust Div as from 1100L/3 for ops and general administration. Local Adm will be under NADZAB Area Comd.
- (c) 1430-1625L/3 Comd 15 Aust Inf Bde (Brig H.H. HAMMER D.S.O.) visited CAMP DIDDY and NGAFIR CREEK Camps.
- (d) 1615L/3. 3 cas were evacuated by A/C from BOANA to 111 C.C.S. NADZAB. Advice received from A Coy (under comd 2 AUST CORPS) at YALU that 3 cases have been evacuated. The total evacuations to hospital since the unit arrived in the NADZAB area now number 77. This figure includes 2 dental and 2 battle casualties.

..... *Price* Lt Col.
Comd 24 Aust Inf Bn (A.I.F.)

om Information received up to 2359L/4.

Ref Maps NADZAB 1 inch - 1 mile
WAIME " "
BOANA " "
MARKHAM-LAE STRAT

1 OPERATIONS.

C Coy
1200L/4 SIO patrol returned to BAINDUANG 645780 and reported that the road to SIO is absolutely impassable at (L)R 704900 (see Intrep 30 para 1) NO further contacts have been made.

2 PATROLS.

B Coy
L/4 A 2 day patrol of 1 NCO 5 ORs left B Coy HQ at 351568 for OLD MUNKIP 267669.

C Coy
0800L/5 Patrol is to leave BAINDUANG for KASANOBE 653744 to patrol along track to SAMANZING (map ref unknown). Patrol will move 2 days out from KASANOBE and return. Object of the patrol will be to clear the area of enemy, and to recce tracks for possibility of passage of larger patrols.

3 MOVEMENTS.

HQ Coy
L/4 1 NCO 19 ORs, 3 (Mortar) Pl left CAMP DIDDY en route for BOANA. ETA L/5 (see Intrep 30 para 3). Staging night 4/5 Nov at CAMP 1 487663.
L/5 32 personnel will move from CAMP DIDDY to A Coy at YALU to relieve B Coy personnel at present attached to A Coy at HQ 2 AUST CORPS.

B Coy
L/5 32 personnel at present attached to A Coy will move to CAMP DIDDY to rejoin B Coy which is to effect relief of C Coy in SANAM RIVER VALLEY commencing L/5.

C Coy
L/5 14 Pl will move to BLAKES CAMP 490687 on arrival of 3 Pl at BOANA who will facilitate relief of 14 Pl in addition to original task of mortar shoot.

4 ENEMY EQUIPMENT.

1800L/4 Japanese 1 valve wireless set arrived this HQ and is being forwarded under separate cover. The set was found by a native in the AVIN area on 31 Oct and is minus the valve. Headphones, microphone, battery connections, telegraph key and spanners which are believed to be part of this set were forwarded to 15 Bde on 27 Oct.

5 COMMUNICATIONS.

L/T communication NOT yet established with B Coy. Communication has been out since 1125L/3 when Station Comd NADZAB took over telephone lines previously operated by 15 Aust Inf Bde.
2300L/4 Communication out between Station Comd NADZAB and CAMP DIDDY. NOT yet re-established.

Smith

..... Lt Col.
G.F. SMITH.

Comd 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).

From Information received up to 2359L/5.

Ref Maps NADZAB 1 inch -- 1 mile
BOANA " "
MARKHAM STRAT1 OPERATIONS.

Nothing to report.

2 PATROLS.

- A Coy
1725L/5 Patrol of strength 5 which left YALU 545546 at 0800L/5 to search track from HEATHS to 583433 for search of 3 graves of Aust soldiers reported by P.O.W. returned and reported NO trace of graves could be found.
- B Coy
1/4 Patrol left B Coy HQ 351568 for PYRAMID HILL 306525. NO further report received.
- C Coy
0800L/5 Patrol strength 4 left BAINDUANG 645780 on 5 day patrol along track KASANOBE 653744 - SAMANZING (map ref NOT known).

3 MOVEMENTS.

- HQ Coy
1430L/5 No 3 (Mortar) Pl arrived BOANA 499713 to take over that area from 14 Pl C Coy.
1700L/5 32 personnel arrived YALU from CAMP DIDDY to replace B Coy personnel at present moving to SANAM River area. This party came under comd A Coy and will be engaged on construction 2 Aust Corps HQ at YALU.
- B Coy
1215L/5 Coy Comd (Capt FLEWELLEN) arrived KUMBUM 577695 to arrange transfer of duties from C Coy, and to establish Coy HQs.
1715L/5 32 personnel previously under comd A Coy at YALU arrived CAMP DIDDY en route KUMBUM area.
On completion of change over from C Coy, 10 Pl will occupy the BAINDUANG area, 11 Pl will be established at BAMBOK 599708 with secs at HANOBMAIN 625742 and KUMBUM 577695. 12 Pl will be stationed at BOANA.
- C Coy
1520L/5 14 Pl arrived BLAKES CAMP 490687 from BOANA and will move to CAMP DIDDY 1/6.
Remainder of C Coy will NOT move from present areas in the SANAM River valley until B Coy troops arrive in area.

4 COMMUNICATIONS.

- 1045L/5 Fullerphone communications established with Station Comd NADZAB. NO communications yet established with B Coy HQ at ERAP River. Communications to this Coy ceased when 15 Aust Inf Bde relinquished signal control of the area on 1125L/3. To date NO attempt appears to have been made by Sigs at Station Comd to connect this line to their switchboard despite frequent requests from this unit. The Coy's role at present is WEST flank protection of NADZAB Airfield.

5 SUPPLIES.

Droppings of 1 A/C load of European rations is expected at BOANA 1/6.

6 GENERAL.

- 1100L/5 Maj ROUCH of NGF accompanied by Maj LOBB of 7 Aust Div visited these HQs at CAMP DIDDY and interviewed the C.O. (Lt Col SMITH) re siting of a convalescent camp.
0930 and 1030L/5 Two cas were evacuated from BOANA to NADZAB by A/C.

G.F. Smith
..... Lt Col.
G.F. SMITH

Comd 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).

From information received up to 2359L/6.

Ref Maps HADZAB 1 inch - 1 mile
BOANA " "1 OPERATIONS.

NO contact made with enemy.
 0855L/6 Bombing commenced on HADZAB, 1 large fire was started on No 2 strip, burned for 30 mins.
 0900L/6 Air Raid warning received at this H.Q.
 0902L/6 10 DINAH type bombers and 10 fighters passed over CAMP DIDDY flying NORTH.
 0915L/6 6 A/C strafed No 2 strip.
 1107L/6 All clear given.
 NO official information has been received from AREA COMD HADZAB as to casualties or damage.

2 PATROLS.

A Coy
 1725L/5 Patrol which left YALU 545546 L/5 (see Intrap 32 para 2) returned. Nothing to report.
B Coy
 0830L/5 Patrol strength 5 ORs left 351568 for PYRAMID HILL 306525 to mop up any enemy in area. Patrol returned 1130L/5. Nothing to report.
 1300L/4 Patrol strength 4 ORs left 351568 for OLD MUNKIE 368669 to recce area. Patrol returned 1415L/5. Reported track very ill defined and in places washed away. Patrol attempted to cross ERAP RIVER in several places but were unable to do so due to swiftness of current and depth of water.
C Coy
 L/6 KASANOBE patrol NO report.

3 MOVEMENTS.

B Coy
 0715L/6 12 P1 left CAMP DIDDY for KUMBUM 577695. 1630L/6 arrived BLAKES CAMP 490686 where they will bivouac night L/6, L/7.
C Coy
 1510L/6 14 P1 arrived CAMP DIDDY. Expect to move out 0800L/7 for 351568.

4 SUPPLIES.

0703L/6 1 A/C commenced dropping at BOANA 499713. 9 runs were made, all SOUTH to NORTH. Recovery of cargo estimated to be 80%. Dropping completed 0755L/6.

5 ENEMY EQUIPMENT.

Forwarded herewith is a Japanese identity disc taken from a body at bridge over the SANAM River (L)R 5865 on 3 Nov.

6 GENERAL.

1513L/6 Cpl STEVENS R.J. was presented with D.C.M. ribbon by C.O. (Lt Col SMITH).
 1640L/6 R.C. Church Parade.

G.F. Smith
 Lt Col.
 G.F. SMITH
 Comd 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.).

METEOROLOGICAL NOTES.

MONTH OF NOV 43.

Date	First Light.	Darkness.	Cloud.	Ceiling.	Visibility-	Distance	Wind.	General
NOV								
1	0600	1930	Scattered	15000	Good	8 miles	N.E. breeze.	Fine in morning. Light rain in afternoon.
2	0600	1930	"	10000	Fair	5	" "	Fine thunder in evening.
3	0600	1935	"	10000	Fair	5	" "	Fine. heavy rain at night
4	0610	1940	Overcast	3000	Fair	7	Slight "	Rain in morning.
5	0600	1940	Scattered	8000	"	5	"	Fine
6	0600	1935	"	18000	Good	10	NE breeze	Fine
7	0615	1940	"	25000	"	15	" "	"
8	0610	1930	Clear	30000	"	15	" "	"
9	0615	1940	Scattered	20000	"	15	" "	"
10	0600	1945	"	15000	Fair	10	" "	" Rain at night.
11	0615	1935	" 25	15000	Good	15	" "	"
12	0600	1900	"	15000	"	10	" "	"
13	0600	1945	Overcast	3000	Fair	8	" "	"
14	0620	1940	Scattered	8000	Good	15	" "	"
15	0630	1930	Overcast	10000	Good	10	" "	"
16	0630	1800	"	2000	Poor	3	" "	Rain during day.
17	0645	1940	Scattered	12000	Good	15	" "	Fine and clear
18	0630	1920	Clear	18000	"	12	NW breeze	Fine
19	0615	1935	Scattered	8000	"	12	NE "	"
20	0630	1900	Overcast	7000	Fair	10	" "	Showers in afternoon.
21	0625	1940	"	10000	Good	12	" "	" late afternoon.
22	0610	1915	Scattered	12000	"	15	" "	Fine showers at night
23	0635	1920	"	10000	"	15	" "	Fine.
24	0645	1915	Overcast	8000	"	12	" "	"
25	0630	1925	"	10000	"	10	" "	"
26	0600	1920	Scattered	7000	"	15	" "	"
27	0615	1920	"	12000	"	12	" "	"
28	0615	1930	"	10000	"	10	" "	"
29	0620	1900	"	8000	"	8	" "	"
30	0600	1915	"	10000	"	10	" "	" Heavy storm at 2210hrs

Appx E

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

Army Form W.3008
(Adapted) (Page 1)
(Revised Jan., 1943)

B31/4/43 (Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 6/11/1943 24 Aust Inf Bn(AIF)

W.E. 11/130/2 OFFRS. 320 R's. 739 + OFFRS. 1 O.R's. 34 ATT. BY W.E.
(less 0 x 4 Mainland)

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.				
Rein'ts Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Rein'ts Required.
-	-	-	1	*					
NIL	2	-	1	*					
-	-	1	9	Lieut.-Colonels					
-	-	-	14	Majors	A.A.M.C.	1	-	-	-
NIL	5	-	1	Captains					
-	-	-	1	Lieutenants					
-	-	-	1	Quarter-masters					
				A.A.N.S. and A.A.M.W.S. Offrs.					
				Civilians Counting as Offrs.					
NIL	7	1	26			1	-	-	-

	DETAIL	A.I.P.	C.M.P.	A.W.A.S.	A.A.N.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL	R.A.N.	R.A.A.P.	**	TOTAL
Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in para. 10 of instructions for completion of form will complete Part E(1) & E(2).	A. Class A	27									27
	Class B	NIL									
	E(1)										
	E(2)										

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

** Personnel belonging to a category not provided for in the analysis will be shown in this Col. Particulars will be shown, e.g., 20 U.K. Forces; 10 N.Z. Forces.

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

OFFICERS JOINED DURING WEEK

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit From.	Date.	CAUSE.

OFFICERS QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit To.	Date.	CAUSE.
VX88143	T/Capt	PECK	D.V. Evac to AGH Moresby	1 Nov 43	Transferred to X list
VX104161	T/Capt	FIRTH	R.C. R.S.L.	23/7/43	Notification received 5/11/43

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO (Unit) IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED. / / 194

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	REMARKS (e.g., present whereabouts if known).

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON POSTED STRENGTH

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 6/11/1943 (Total to agree with Columns 4 and 7 of Part A.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held.	Army Number.	Surname.	Initials.	Posting.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.	Date of Detachment.
T/Lt Col	VX104135	SMITH	G.F.	C.O.	Yes		
Maj	VX104136	PIREY	N.L.	2 1/e	"		
Capt	VX104137	CARROLL	K.A.	O.C. HQ	"		
"	VX104144	WHITEHEAD	S.H.	O.C. D	"		
T/capt	VX104147	ISHERWOOD	R.S.	O.C. B	"		
"	VX104148	FLEWELLEN	J.A.	O.C. B	"		
"	VX51557	DHELL	A.R.		"		
"	VX104149	CAMERON	R.A.	2 1/e D	"		
"	VX150345	BUMBURY	C.R.	O.C. C	"		
"	VX85256	SKINNER	F.L.	Adjt	"		
"	VX104150	ROBINSON	G.O.	Asst QM	"		
"	VX104153	KENNEDY	E.M.	O.C. A	"		
Lieut	VX108126	RAYSON	H.W.		No	Detached 1 Aust Corps	3/10/43
"	VX104154	CASEY	H.H.	3 pl	Yes	Det MORESBY for re-allotment	4/8/43
"	VX104162	HARRIS	P.F.	3 pl	No	Det MORESBY for eye test	5/10/43
"	VX104158	IRVING	W.M.		No	Det 15 Bde as L/O	11/8/43
"	VX104156	BEATTIE	A.R.	1 pl	Yes		
"	VX43140	THOMAS	J.C.	15 pl	No	Ill CCS (Sick)	2/11/43
"	VX104160	ROBINSON	E.R.	17 pl	Yes		
"	VX51657	SMITH	W.R.	5 pl	"		
"	VX104163	FINLAYSON	T.A.		No	Det (OC Transit Camp)	20/4/43
"	VX104508	DRECE-BROCKMAN	E.H.		No	Det HQ 3 Aust Div	20/4/43
"	VX104151	BIRSELL	A.W.C.	I.O.	Yes		
"	VX68198	BARLING	D.R.	7 pl	"		
"	VX57168	ESAN	C.J.	21/e A	No	Det 1 Aust Corps	3/10/43
Rx	VX71776	ALDERDEE	C.B.	Asst Adjt	No	Ill CCS (Sick)	31/10/43
<u>ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.</u>							
Capt	VX137479	SENDER	L.	RMO	Yes		

PART E.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER UNITS.

Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held.	Army Number.	Name and Initials.	Unit.	Date of Attachment.	Nature of Attachment.	
Chaplain	VX11284	ENGLISH	J.C.	15 Bde	25/5/43	Chaplain

6 Nov 43

Date of Despatch

G.F. Smith (G.F. SMITH) Lt-Col
Command

24 Aust Inf Bn (AIF) 5 Aust Div

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

Army Form W.3008
(Adapted) (Page 1)
(Revised Jan., 1943)

(Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 13 11/1943 3. 24 Aust Inf Bn (AIF) (Unit)

W.E. 17 1/2 OFFRS. 830 R's. 739 OFFRS. 10 R's. 34 ATT. BY W.E.

(Loss 0 x 4 Mainland)

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

W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.				
Rein'ts Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Rein'ts Required.
NIL	2	-	1	Lieut.-Colonels					
-	-	-	1	Majors					
-	-	1	9	Captains	A.A.N.S.	1	-	-	
NIL	6	-	14	Lieutenants					
-	-	-	✓	Quarter-masters					
				A.A.N.S. and A.A.M.W.S. Offrs.					
				Civilians Counting as Offrs.					
NIL	7	1	26			1	-	-	

	DETAIL	A.I.P.	A.L.P.	C.M.F.	A.W.A.S.	A.A.N.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL.	R.A.N.	R.A.A.P.	**	TOTAL.
Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in para. 10 of instructions for compilation of form will complete Part E(1) & E(2).	A Class	27	NIL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27
	B Class											
	E(1)											
	E(2)											

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

** Personnel belonging to a category not provided for in the analysis will be shown in this Col. Particulars will be shown, e.g., 20 U.K. Forces; 10 N.Z. Forces.

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

OFFICERS JOINED DURING WEEK

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit From.	Date.	CAUSE.
VX104426	Lieut	DAWSON P.R.	From X List	8/11/43	ex 2/5 ABN

OFFICERS QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit To.	Date.	CAUSE.
VX43149	Lieut	THOMAS J.C.	To X List	8/11/43	Evacuated to 2/5 ABN

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO _____ (Unit) IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED. _____/_____/194_____.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	REMARKS (e.g., present whereabouts if known).

PART E. Detail of Present Strength and Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009 at 0600 Hours Saturday 6/11 /1943

Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I.			Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I. (cont.)			Details of Tradesmen. GROUP II. (cont.)			Details of Tradesmen. GROUP III. (cont.)		
W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.
			Forward	1	3	Forward	17	22	Forward	56	67
Ammunition Examiners			Surveyors, Engineering			Operating Room Assts.			G.P.O. Assistants		
Armament Artificer Fitter			Surveyors, E.A.A.			Operator, Keyboard			Hammermen		
Armament Artificer Fitter (Electrical)			Surveyors, Topographical			Operator, Line			Leather Stitchers		
Armament Artificer Fitter (M.V.)			Surveyors, Trigonometrical			Operator, Signal			Orderlies, Nursing		
Armament Artificer Fitter (A.F.V.)			Toolmakers			Operator, Switchboard			Orderlies, Nursing Mental		
Armament Artificer Instrument			Turners			Operator, Wireless			Plate Layers		
Armament Artificer Radio			Watchmakers			Opticians			Rangetakers	4	3
Armament Artificer Signals			Welders			Painters	1		Riveters		1
Armament Artificer Wireless						Panel Beaters			Roughriders		
Artificer, Artillery						Photographer, Dry Plate			Saddlers		
Artificer, Engine						Predictor Numbers			Saddletree makers		
Blacksmiths	1	1				Printers			Shoemaker and Boot Repairer		
Bricklayers						Radiographers			Stevadores		
Computers						Riggers			Stokers, Staty. Engine		
Cooks, Hospital			GROUP II.			Sawyers			Storemen, Technical	4	4
Coppersmiths			Armourers			Signallers	27	28	Tailors	2	1
Dispensers			Axemen			Signwriters			Textile Refitters		1NR
Draughtsmen			Bakers		1	Telescope Identfn. Numbers			Tinsmiths		
Draughtsmen (Architectural)			Bty. Comd's. Asst.			Well Borers			Vulcanizers		
Draughtsmen (Engineering)			Boilermakers			Wheelers			Wagon Erectors		
Draughtsmen (Mechanical)			Carpenters	6	7	Winchman			Whitesmiths		
Draughtsmen (Topographical)			Carpenters and Joiners			Wireman					
Electricians			Cooks			Woodturners					
Electricians (M.V.)			Dental Mechanics								
Electricians (Signals)			Driver-Mech. (Eng. and Med.)								
Fitters	1		Driver-Operator								
Fitters (Cycle)			Drainers								
Fitters (Electrical)			Electricians								
Fitters (Gun)			Electricians (Engineers)								
Fitters (Instrument)			Fire Control Operators			GROUP III.			DETAILS OF NON-TRADESMEN.		
Fitters (M.V.)			Gun Operator			Battery Surveyors			W.O.I.	1	1
Fitters. Railway Signal			Hatchman			Butchers	1	1	W.O.II.	6	2
Fitters, Signals			Height Taker			Clerks	10	10	S/Sgts	5	5
Grinder, Precision			Helio Operator			Clerks, Supply			Sgts	25	24
Mechanics, Instrument			Instrument Operator			Clerks, Technical			Cpls	54	49
Mechanics, Instrument (Signals)			Intelligence Duties	10	10	Coach Trimmers			Ptes	578	411
Mechanics, Instrument (Surgical)			Joiners			Concretors				116	7
Mechanics, Radio			Lineman			Cooks					
Mechanics, Typewriter			Lineman, Signals			Dental Clerk Orderlies			ATTACHED BY W.E.		
Mechanics, Wireless			Lithographers			Despatch Riders			See Back		
Millwrights			Machinists, Metal			Draughtsmen, Signals					
Operators, Excavator			Machinists, Wood			Drivers, H.T.			A.A.M.C.	4	3
Pattern Maker			Masons			Driver Mechanics	4		A.E.M.E.	3	1
Pharmacist			Masseurs			Driver Tptn. Plant			A.A.P.C.	2	2
Photographer, Wet Plate			Mechanics, M.T.			Engine Hands, I.C.			A.A Postal Services	1	1
Photowriter			Miners			Equipment Repairers	1	1			
Plumber	1		Moulders	1		Farriers			A.A.C.C.	23	22
Saw Doctors			Nurses, Trained			Fitters' Mates			A.A.O.C.	1	1
Surveyors			Observation Post Assts.			Gun Layers					
CARRIED FORWARD	1	3	CARRIED FORWARD	17	22	CARRIED FORWARD	56	67	Totals of columns marked * to agree with columns 4 and 7, and 1 and 10 of Part A. respectively.	76	95
										97	183

NOTES.—(a) If rank other than private is involved give details on back.
 (b) Authorised trades or specialists not included in list will be added as required in spaces provided.
 (c) Where A.W.A.S. and/or A.A.M.W.S. personnel are desired show details on back.
 (d) Where replacement not desired note accordingly on return by insertion of N.R. in col. "Reints. Required."
 (e) Where any request or notation is made on back of form, the words "See Back" should be written in one of the blank spaces on this page.

6 November 1943
Date of Despatch

s.w. 6m bks 3/43

(G.F. SMITH) Lt-Col
Signature of Commander Comd

24 Aust. Inf Bn (A.I.F.)
5 Aust Div

Please note, sign
date and forward
to next coy,

H9 | W.D. Stone 2/10
30/10.

~~W.D. Stone~~ 9/11

D

~~W.D. Stone~~ 6/11

17

W.D. Stone 1/11

B

~~W.D. Stone~~ 7/11

W.D. Stone

BASA
30/11

(Margin for Filing Purposes)

A.F. W.3010
(Books of 100)

Serial No B31/50/43

Date of last A.F. W.3010 rendered

27 Oct 1943 Number of sheets
attached to this return 1

24 Aust Inf Bn (AIF) (Unit.)

CASUALTY RETURN—OFFICERS

Detail of casualties to officers which have occurred since last return. The detail should include all battle casualties, accidents, admission to and discharge from hospital, casualty clearing station, &c. Promotions (acting, temporary, local or substantive), transfers, postings, attachments, &c., courts-martial, leave of absence, particulars of marriage and birth or death of children, alteration in next-of-kin with postal address, transfers to "X" List and any other items connected with an officer's service.

Rank	Personal Number	Name and Initials	Corps	Nature and date of casualty	Date		Remarks. (In the case of casualties from wounds or disease, any available information for communication to relatives should be stated)
		<u>REJOINED UNIT</u>					
Lieut	VX51657	SMITH W.E.	HQ Coy	rej from 111 CCS	28 Oct	43	
		<u>INJURY</u>					
Capt	VX88146	PECK D.V.	B Coy	accidentally injured	23 Oct	43	first degree burns both legs bruised chest, and broken jaw (Result of Plane ^{A/c} Crash)
		<u>TAKEN ON STRENGTH</u>					
Capt	VX88146	PECK D.V.	B Coy	ref Cas Ret B31/48/43 of	25 Oct	43	previously reported missing 23 Oct 43 now R T U 29 Oct 43 and taken on strength from X list
		<u>SICK</u>					
Capt	VX88146	PECK D.V.	B Coy	Evac 111 CCS	29 Oct	43	Broken jaw, bruised chest, 1st degree burns both legs.

Dunnell
Signature of Commanding Officer
Col
Comd 24 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

Date 30 Oct 43

24 Aust Inf Bn (AIF) (Unit.)

15 Aust Inf Bn (AIF) (Unit.)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS

B31/44/43 (Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 13 / 11 / 1943 24 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

W.E. 11 / 130 / 2 OFFRS. 32 O.R.'s 739 OFFRS. 1 O.R.'s 34 ATT. BY W.E.
(less 0 x 4 Mainland)

Part A. Posted Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements Required.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.				
Reinfts. Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Reinfts. Required.
-	-	-	1	W.Os. Class I.					
4 NR	4	-	2	W.Os. Class II.					
"	"	"	5	Squadron or Company Quartermaster Sgts.					
-	-	-	-	Staff Sergeants		see back for details			
2 NR	2	2	30	Sergeants					
6 NR	6	1	57	Corporals					
174	174	8	465	Troopers, Privates, etc.					
				Civilians counting as O.R.					
186 *	186	11	560 *	Totals of cols. marked * should agree with details shown in Part E on Page 2.		30 *	4	4	4 *

Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in para. 7 of instructions for compilation of this return will complete analysis of Part B(1) and B(2).

** Personnel belonging to a category not provided for in the analysis will be shown in this Col. Particulars will be shown, e.g., 20 U.K. Forces, 10 N.Z. Forces.

Detail	C.M.E.				A.W.A.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL	R.A.N.	R.A.A.F.	**	TOTAL.
	A.I.F.	U.S.	19	19							
A	473	1	115	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	590
B(1)											
B(2)											

Part B. Other Ranks Attached from Other Units.

Part C. Other Ranks Included in Part A Detached to Other Units.

Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which they belong	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which they belong	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which detached.	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which detached.
2	A.A. Amenities Service			2	15 Aust Inf Bde		
				7	Air Tpt Control		
				14	111 CCS		
				7	3 Div Rear Details		
				1	NG Details Depot		
				2	HQ RAE 3 Aust Div		
				1	2 Aust Base Sub area		
				3	HQ NGF		

Part D. Description of Other Ranks Whose Return to 24 Aust Inf Bn (AIF) (Unit) is Particularly Requested. 13 / 11 / 1943

Army No	Rank	Name and Initials.	REMARKS (e.g., present whereabouts if known).
VX120990	Sgt	BENNETT H.G.	Intell Sgt - X List - Temporarily att 7 Aust Inf Bde
VX137564	Pte	MORTIMER N.W.	1 A.P.S.C. Yerongpilly Q'land

4 Aust Inf Bn (AIF) Unit

(Serial No.)

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON POSTED STRENGTH

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 15/11/1943 (Total to agree with Columns 4 and 7 of Part A.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held.	Army Number.	Surname.	Initials.	Posting.	Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.	Date of Detachment.
T/Lt-C of	VX1285	SMITH	H.P.	CC HQ	Yes		
T/Major	VX361	PIELAY	H.L.	21/c	Yes		
Capt	VX67	CARROLL	K.A.	CC HQ	"		
"	VX104144	WHELAN	B.H.	CC D	"		
T/capt	VX104147	WATERWOOD	H.S.	C.M.	"		
"	VX104148	PIEWELLEN	J.A.	CC B	"		
"	VX51557	DUBIL	A.R.		"		
"	VX134149	CAMERON	R.A.	21/c D	"		
"	VX150348	HUMBURY	C.R.	CC C	"		
"	VX55866	SKINNER	P.L.	Adjt	"		
"	VX104150	ROBINSON	C.C.	21/c C	"		
"	VX104153	SMITH	H.H.	CC A	"		
Lieut	VX108128	RAYSON	H.H.		No	Det MORESBY for re- allotment	4/8/43
"	VX104154	CASEY	H.H.	8 PI	Yes		
"	VX104162	HARRIS	P.P.	3 PI	Yes		
"	VX104158	IRVIN	W.M.		No	Det 15 Bde as L/O	11/2/43
"	VX104156	HEATHIE	A.R.	1 PI	Yes		
"	VX104160	ROBINSON	B.R.	17 PI	"		
"	VX51657	SMITH	W.E.	5 PI	"		
"	VX104163	PINLAYSON	T.A.		No	Det Rear details MORESBY HQ 3 Aust Div	24/4/43
"	VX104308	FRANK-BROCKMAN	E.R.		"		
"	VX104151	HUNSELL	A.W.C.	I.O.	Yes		
"	VX104426	DAWSON	P.R.	12 PI	"		
"	VX68094	BARLING	D.R.	7 PI	"		
"	VX57168	EGAN	C.J.	21/c A	"		
"	VX71776	ALLERDICE	C.B.	ASST Adjt	No	CCS (Sick)	31/10/43
ATTACHED ALLOWED BY V.E.							
Capt	VX137479	SEMER	L.	RNO	Yes		

PART E.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER UNITS.

Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank, if Held.	Army Number.	Name and Initials.	Unit.	Date of Attachment.	Nature of Attachment.
Chaplain	VX111284	ENGLISH J.C.	15 Bde	25/5/43	Chaplain

Nov 43
Date of Despatch

(Signature)
Signature of Commander
24 Aust Inf Bn (AIF) 5 Aust Div.

PART E. Detail of Present Strength and Reinforcements required as shown in

Part A of Army Form W.3009 at 0600 Hours Saturday 13 /11 /1943

Table with columns for Details of Tradesmen (GROUP I, II, III), W.E., Posted Strength, Reints. Required, and various trade categories like Ammunition Examiners, Surveyors, Engineers, etc.

NOTES.—(a) If rank other than private is involved give details on back. (b) Authorised trades or specialists not included in list will be added as required in spaces provided. (c) Where A.W.A.S. and/or A.A.M.W.S. personnel are desired show details on back. (d) Where replacement not desired note accordingly on return by insertion of N.R. in col. "Reints. Required." (e) Where any request or notation is made on back of form, the words "See Back" should be written in one of the blank spaces on this page.

13 Nov 43 Date of Despatch a.w. 6m bks 3/43

Signature of Commanding Officer

24 Aust Inf Bn (AIF) 5 Aust Div

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS

B31/45/47 (Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 20/11/1943 24 Aust Inf (Unit) AIF

W.E. 1126 2 OFFRS. 32 O.R's. 739 OFFRS. 10 R's. 34 ATT. BY W.E.

(less O X 4 mainland)

Part A. Posted Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements Required.

W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.				
Reinfts. Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Reinfts. Required.
				W.Os. Class I.					
3 NR	3		1	W.Os. Class II.					
			5	Squadron or Company Quartermaster Sgts.	(see back for details)				
				Staff Sergeants					
3 NR	3		29	Sergeants					
6 NR	6		50	Corporals					
175	175		464	Troopers, Privates, etc.					
				Civilians counting as O.R.					
187 *	187	12	560	Totals of cols. marked * should agree with details shown in Part E on Page 2.		30*		4	4

Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in para. 7 of instructions for compilation of this return will complete analysis of Part B(1) and B(2).

** Personnel belonging to a category not provided for in the analysis will be shown in this Col. Particulars will be shown, e.g., 20 U.K. Forces, 10 N.Z. Forces.

Detail	C.M.F.		A.W.A.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL	R.A.N.	R.A.A.F.	**	TOTAL.
	Under 19 Years.	19 Years and over							
A									590
B(1)	473	1	115	1					
B(2)									

Part B. Other Ranks Attached from Other Units.

Part C. Other Ranks Included in Part A Detached to Other Units.

Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which they belong	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which they belong	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which detached.	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which detached.
2	AA Amenities Service			2	15 Aust Inf Bde		
				7	Air transport Control		
				16	III CCS		
				8	Rear Details MORESBY		
				2	NG Details Depot		
				2	HQ RAE 3 Aust Div.		
				1	2 Aust Base Sub area		
				3	HQ NGF		

Part D. Description of Other Ranks Whose Return To 24 (Unit) is Particularly Requested. 20/11/1943

Army No	Rank.	Name and Initials.	REMARKS (e.g., present whereabouts if known).
VX137564	Pte	MORTIMER	N.W. 1 A.P.S.C. YERONGPILLY Q'LAND.

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS
ATTACHED ALLOWED ON W.E.

Arm or Corps	Detail	Posted Surplus		Deficient		REINFTS REQUIRED
		WE		WE		
A A M C	S/Sgts	1	-	-	-	-
	Sgts	-	-	1	-	1 NR
	Cpls	-	-	1	-	1 NR
	Ptes	2	1	-	-	-
A E M E	Sgt (Armourer)	1	-	-	-	-
	Cfn (Armourer TG I)	-	-	1	-	1
	Cfn (Fitter Gun TG I)	-	-	1	-	1
A A P C	Sgt	1	-	-	-	-
	Cpl	1	-	-	-	-
AA Postal Service	Sgt	1	-	-	-	-
A A O C	Cpl (Shoemaker)	1	-	-	-	-
A A C C	WO II	-	-	1	-	1 NR
	Sgts	6	1	-	-	-
	Cpls	6	1	-	-	-
	Ptes (TG II)	10	-	2	-	2 (1 NR)
TOTAL		30	3	7	7	[3 NR]

SURPLUS NCO's

Reference Part E:- Signallers - 1 Sgt Surplus to WE (cannot be absorbed in existing WE)

Driver	Mechanics	1 Sgt	"	"	"	"	"
"	"	1 Cpl	"	"	"	"	"

DEFICIENCIES NCO's

WO II:- (ROMS and 2 CSM's) can be obtained in Unit
 Sgts:- (1 tailor and 2 general duties) can be obtained in Unit
 Cpls:- (6 general Duties)

Part D. Description of Other Ranks Whose Return To (Date) is Indefinitely Requested. 2.1.1941

Army No.	Rank	Service and Details	Remarks (e.g. present whereabouts if known)

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

Army Form W.3008
(Adapted) (Page 1)
(Revised Jan., 1943)

B31/13/43 (Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 20 / 11 / 1943 (Unit) 24 AUST INF BR (AIF)

W.E. 11 128 2 OFFRS. 32 O.R.'s 739 + OFFRS. 1 O.R.'s 34 ATT. BY W.E.

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

1				2				3				4				5				6				7				8				9				10			
W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.				ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.																															
Rein'ts Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.					Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Rein'ts Required.																											
-	-	-	1	Lieut.-Colonels																																			
-	-	-	1	Majors																																			
NIL	-	-	1	Captains																																			
-	-	-	8	Lieutenants				A A M C																															
NIL	-	-	13	Quarter-masters																																			
-	-	-	1	A.A.N.S. and A.A.M.W.S. Offrs.																																			
-	-	-	1	Civilians Counting as Offrs.																																			
NIL				DETAIL				- 24	I.P.	C.M.F.	A.W.A.S.	A.A.N.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL.	R.A.N.	R.A.A.F.	**	TOTAL.																					
Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in pars. 10 of instructions for compilation of form will complete Part E(1) & E(2).				A.				25											25																				
				E.(1)				25	NIL																														
				E.(2)																																			

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.
 ** Personnel belonging to a category not provided for in the analysis will be shown in this Col. Particulars will be shown, e.g., 20 U.K. Forces; 10 N.Z. Forces.

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

OFFICERS JOINED DURING WEEK

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit From.	Date.	CAUSE.

OFFICERS QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit To.	Date.	CAUSE.
M150348	2/Capt	BURNBY	C.R. Adv HQ	15/11/43	Appt 250 III(L) (ops) with HQ ANZ 7452 of 4/11/43
(No replacement required - NO vacancy)					
V108126	Lieut	RAYSON	M.W. X List	7/8/43	Evac 2/9 ANZ ex det b 3 Div Recop Camp. vide HQ Pt II No 6 (Officers) of 4/11/43.
(No replacement required until placed on RSL)					

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO _____ (Unit) IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED. _____/_____/194_____.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	REMARKS (e.g., present whereabouts if known).

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS

B31/46/43 (Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 27/11/1943. 24 Aust Inf Bn (Unit) (AIF)

W.E. II / 136 2. OFFRS. 32 O.R's. 755 OFFRS. 1 O.R's. 34 ATT. BY W.E.

(less 0 x 4 Mainland)

Part A. Posted Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements Required.

1 W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				5		6 ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.				
Reinfts. Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.	DETAIL.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Reinfts. Required.
-	-	-	1	W.Os. Class I.						
1 NR	1	-	5	W.Os. Class II.						
1 NR	1	-	4	Squadron or Company Quartermaster Sgts.						
				Staff Sergeants						
1 NR	1	1	31	Sergeants		See back for details				
7 NR	7	1	58	Corporals						
194	194	9	459	Troopers, Privates, etc.						
				Civilians counting as O.R.						
204 *	204	11	558 *	Totals of cols. marked * should agree with details shown in Part E on Page 2.			29 *	-	5	5 *

Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in para. 7 of instructions for compilation of this return will complete analysis of Part B(1) and B(2).

** Personnel belonging to a category not provided for in the analysis will be shown in this Col. Particulars will be shown, e.g., 20 U.K. Forces, 10 N.Z. Forces.

Detail	CLASS A.I.F.	C.M.F. Under 18 Years	C.M.F. 18 Years and over.	A.W.A.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL	R.A.N.	R.A.A.F.	**	TOTAL.
A	472	1	113	1						587
B(1)										
B(2)										

Part B. Other Ranks Attached from Other Units.

Part C. Other Ranks Included in Part A Detached to Other Units.

Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which they belong	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which they belong	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which detached.	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which detached.
2	A A Amenities Service			5	15 Aust Inf Bde	2	NGF Tng Centres
				7	Air transport Control		
				16	111 CCS		
				8	Rear Details MORESBY		
				1	NG Details Depot		
				2	HQ RAE 3 Aust Div		
				1	2 Aust Base Sub area		
				3	HQ NIF		

Part D. Description of Other Ranks Whose Return To 24 Aust Inf Bn (AIF) (Unit) is Particularly Requested. 27/1/1943.

Army No	Rank.	Name and Initials.	REMARKS (e.g., present whereabouts if known).
VX137564	Pte	MORTIMER N.W.	1 APSC Yerongpilly Q'land.

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS

ATTACHED ALLOWED ON W.E.

At 0600 hrs. Sunday 27/11/43. (W. 11/43)

W. 11/43 2 OFFERS 2300R's 755 OFFERS 1 OR'S 24 ATT BY W.E.

Arm or Corps. Details. Posted Surplus Deficient Reinfnts
 W.E. W.E. Reqr'd

10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
<u>A.A.M.C.</u>			S/Sgts	1					
			Sgts	1	DETAIL				
			Cpls	-					1
			Ptes	1					
<u>A.E.M.E.</u>			Sgt (Armourer)	1	W.O. Class I				
			Cfn (Armourer TG I)	-	W.O. Class II				
			Cfn (Fitter-Gun TG I)	-	Squadron or Company Quartermaster Sgt				1
<u>A.A.P.C.</u>			Sgt	1	Staff Sergeants				1
			Cpl	1					
<u>A.A. POSTAL SERVICE</u>			Sgt	1	Civilians counting as O.R.				
<u>A.A.O.C.</u>			Cpl (Shoemaker)	1	Totals of cols marked should agree with details shown in Part E on 11/11/43				
<u>A.A.C.C.</u>			W.O.II.	-					1 NR
			Sgts	6					
			Cpls	6					
			Ptes TG.II.	9					3 (NR)

Part C. Other Ranks included in Part A Detached to Other Units. 29
 Part B. Other Ranks Attached from Other Units. 2
 Part D. Other Ranks Attached from Other Units. 7 (2NR)

Number of O.R.	Unit to which attached	Number of O.R.	Unit to which attached
2	A.A. Postal Service	2	Surplus NCO's

Reference Part E:- Signallers 27 (includes 1 surplus Sgt acting as TG III Sig)
 Drivers Mechanics:- 1 Sgt surplus to WE (cannot be absorbed in existing WE)
 " " " " 1 Cpl surplus to WE (cannot be absorbed in existing WE)

Deficiencies NCO's

W.O.II. (1 CSM) can be obtained in unit.
 S/Sgts (1 CQMS) " " " " " "
 Sgt (1 Tailor) can be obtained in unit.
 Cpl (7 General Duties) can be obtained in unit.

Part D. Description of Other Ranks Whose Return to (Unit) is Particularly Requested. W. 11/43

Serial No.	Rank	Name and Initials	Remarks (e.g. present whereabouts if known)
528	Private	W. E.	
529	Private	W. E.	
530	Private	W. E.	
531	Private	W. E.	
532	Private	W. E.	
533	Private	W. E.	
534	Private	W. E.	
535	Private	W. E.	
536	Private	W. E.	
537	Private	W. E.	
538	Private	W. E.	
539	Private	W. E.	
540	Private	W. E.	

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

Army Form W3008
(Adapted) (Page 1)
(Revised Jan., 1943)

B31/46/43 (Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 27/11/43 24 Aust Inf Bn (Unit)

W.E. II 120 2 OFFRS. 32 O.R.'s 755+ OFFRS. 1 O.R.'s 34 ATT. BY W.E.

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

W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.									
Rein'ts Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Rein'ts Required.					
-	-	-	1	Lieut.-Colonels										
NIL	-	-	1	Majors										
NIL	2	-	7	Captains	AARC	1	-	-	-					
NIL	1	-	15	Lieutenants										
-	4	-	1	Quarter-masters										
				A.A.N.S. and A.A.M.W.S. Offrs.										
				Civilians Counting as Offrs.										
						1	-	-	-					
NIL	7		25	DETAIL	A.I.F.	C.M.P.	A.W.A.S.	A.A.N.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL.	R.A.N.	R.A.A.P.	**	TOTAL.
				A.										26
				E.(1)	26	NIL								
				E.(2)										

Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in pars. 10 of instructions for compilation of form will complete Part E(1) & E(2).

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.
** Personnel belonging to a category not provided for in the analysis will be shown in this Col. Particulars will be shown, e.g., 20 U.K. Forces; 10 N.Z. Forces.

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

OFFICERS JOINED DURING WEEK

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit From.	Date.	CAUSE.
VX41023	Lieut	LOCKER L.W.A.	X list	20/11/43	Ex 2/5 AGH
VX48421	"	KENNEDY M.B.	ARD CANUKRA	20/11/43	T O S from Secondment

OFFICERS QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit To.	Date.	CAUSE.
VX1041507	Capt	ROBINSON C.C.	X list	21/11/43	Evac to 2/11 AGH (no replacement required until placed on RSL)

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO (Unit) IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED. / /194.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	REMARKS (e.g., present whereabouts if known).

24 Aust Inf Bn (AIF) Unit

(Serial No.)

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON POSTED STRENGTH

B31/46/43

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 27/11/1943 (Total to agree with Columns 4 and 7 of Part A.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held.	Army Number.	Surname.	Initials.	Posting.	Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.	Date of Detachment.
T/Lt Col	VX185	SMITH	G.P.	CO	Yes		
T/Major	VX361	FLAY	H.L.	21/c	"		
Capt	VX57	CARROLL	F.A.	OC HQ	"		
"	VX104144	MITELAN	S.H.	OC D	"		
T/Capt	VX104147	ISHERWOOD	H.S.	QM	No	Det 15 Aust Inf Bde Staff Course	26/11/43
"	VX104148	FLEWELLEN	J.A.	OC C	Yes		
"	VX51557	DOELL	A.R.	OC B	"		
"	VX104149	CAMERON	H.A.	21/cc	"		
"	VX35256	SKINNER	F.L.	ADJT	No	Det 15 Aust Inf Bde Staff Course	26/11/43
"	VX104153	KENNEDY	H.H.	OC A	Yes		
Lieut	VX104154	CASEY	H.H.	15 Pl	"		
"	VX104162	HARRIS	F.F.	3*	"		
"	VX104158	IRVING	H.M.		No	Det 15 Aust Inf Bde as L.O	11/8/43
"	VX104156	BRATTLE	A.R.	1 Pl	"	Det 15 Aust Inf Bde Staff Course	26/11/43
"	VX48421	KENNEDY	H.B.	12 Pl	Yes		
"	VX104160	ROBINSON	H.R.	1 Pl	Yes		
"	VX51657	SMITH	H.R.	5	"		
"	VX104163	FINLAYSON	H.A.		No	Det Rear Details	
"	VX104308	DEAKE-BROCKMAN	H.R.		"	MORISKY	7/11/43
"	VX104151	BUNSELL	A.W.C.	I O	"	Det HQ 3 Aust Div.	24/4/43
"	VX104426	DAWSON	H.R.	12 Pl	Yes	Det 15 Aust Inf Bde Staff Course	26/11/43
"	VX41023	LOCKER	H.W.A.	18	"		
"	VX68094	BARLIND	H.R.	7	"		
"	VX57168	EGAN	C.J.	21/CA	"		
"	VX71776	ALDERDICE	C.B.	Asst ADJT	"		
<u>ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.</u>							
Capt	VX137479	BENDER	L.	R M O	Yes		

PART E.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER UNITS.

Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held.	Army Number.	Name and Initials.	Unit.	Date of Attachment.	Nature of Attachment.
Chaplain	VX111284	ENGLISH J.C.	15 Bde	25/5/43	Chaplain

7 Nov 43. Date of Despatch

Comd 24 Aust Div (AIF) 5 Aust Div (AIF)
Signature of Commander
Lt Col

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 6/11/1943 24 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

W.E. II/124 2 OFFRS. 32 O.R's. 739 + OFFRS. 1 O.R's. 34 ATT. BY W.E.
(less 0 x 4 Mainland)

Part A. Posted Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements Required.

W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.				
Reinfts. Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Reinfts. Required.
-	-	-	1	W.Os. Class I.					
4 NR	4	-	2	W.Os. Class II.					
-	-	-	5	Squadron or Company Quartermaster Sgts.					
-	-	-	-	Staff Sergeants					
2 NR	2	2	30	Sergeants	See back for details				
6 NR	6	1	58	Corporals					
167	167	8	471	Troopers, Privates, etc.					
				Civilians counting as O.R.					
179	* 179	11	567*	Totals of cols. marked * should agree with details shown in Part E on Page 2.		30*	-	4	4*

Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in para. 7 of instructions for compilation of this return will complete analysis of Part B(1) and B(2).

Detail	A.I.F.	C.M.F.	A.W.A.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL	R.A.N.	R.A.A.F.	**	TOTAL
A	275	1	120	1	-	-	-	-	597
B(1)									
B(2)									

Part B. Other Ranks Attached from Other Units.

Part C. Other Ranks Included in Part A Detached to Other Units.

Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which they belong	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which they belong	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which detached.	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which detached.
2	A.A. Amenities Service			2	15 Aust Inf Bde		
				115	1 Aust Corps		
				7	Air Tpt Control		
				18	111 CCS		
				4	5 Div Rear Details		
				1	NG Details Depot		
				2	HQ RAE 3 Aust Div		
				1	2 Aust Base Sub area		
				3	HQ NGF		
				1	15 Aust Pd Amb		

Part D. Description of Other Ranks Whose Return To (Unit) is Particularly Requested. 24 Aust Inf Bn (AIF) 6/11/1943

Army No	Rank.	Name and Initials.	REMARKS (e.g., present whereabouts if known).
VX120990	Sgt	BENNETT H.G.	Intell Sgt - X List - Temporarily attached 7 Aust Inf Bde
VX137564	Pte	MORTIMER N.W.	1 A.P.S.C. Yerongpilly Q'land

C.O.'s REPORT FOR MONTH OF NOVEMBER 43.1. GENERAL.

- (a) By the third of the month, "C" Coy patrol along the track AVIN-SIO had cleared the last vestige of Japs from SANAM RIVER area. As the track was found impassible about 2 days out from AVIN, the attempt to cross the SARAWAGGED RANGE (13000ft) to SIO was abandoned.
- (b) "B" Coy were in the midst of a relief of "C" Coy in the BOANA area when orders were received to concentrate the Bn in the NADZAB area for drome defence. One Pl of B Coy was left at BOANA to be on hand in case of a Jap return to the area.
- (c) Total casualties - enemy and own, for BOANA OPERATION, Oct - Nov are as follows -

ENEMY.

	<u>Killed</u>	<u>P.W.</u>	<u>Wounded</u>	<u>Found dead.</u>
Adv BHQ	1			
ANGAU	2			
C Coy	13	1	2	52
D Coy.	144	12		115
Total.	160	13	2	167

OWN 2 wounded.

- (d) A Coy having returned from YALU, the Bn was disposed in NADZAB AREA for mobile defence of airfields. (see attached sketch)
- All Coys commenced training, including Ts O.E.T. for purpose of efficiency pay.
- (e) Reorganisation of Coy Comds and Pl Comds took place, owing to casualties and transfers, on 20 Nov the Unit was Officered as follows-

A. Coy. Capt KENNEDY , Lieuts BARLING. Lieut EGAN.

B Coy. Capt DUELL Lieut DAWSON. Lieut KENNEDY.

C Coy. Capt FLEWELLEN Capt CAMERON, Lieut CASEY.

D Coy. Capt WHITELOW, Lieut LOOKER, Lieut ROBINSON.

H.Q.Coy Capt CARROLL, Capt ISHERWOOD, Lieut BEATTIE, Lieut HABERLE
Lieut SMITH.

B.H.Q. Lt Col SMITH, Maj. FLEAY, Capt SKINNER, Lieut BUNSELL,
Lieut ALDERDICE.

2. ACTIVITIES IN DETAIL.(a) B.H.Q.

- i. Remained at CAMP DIDDY.
- ii. On 3 Nov Unit came under Comd 5 AUST DIV.
- iii. Early in the month air raids on NADZAB gave BHQ and HQ personnel "close ups" of dog fights over area. Many saw Jap planes in flames for first time.
- iv. On 26 Nov. Adj. Q.M., I.O., and Sig O. went to MORESBY for 14 day STAFF SCHOOL run by 15 AUST INF BDE (AIF).
- v. 20 Nov. Fully comprehensive Intell and Sig schools commenced at B.H.Q. CAMP DIDDY.

(b) H.Q. Coy.

- i. Whole Coy remained at CAMP DIDDY excepting for period 5-18 Nov when 3 Pl engaged in practise mortar shoots at BOANA.
- ii One sec No 2 Pl attached to C Coy.
- iii A patrol under Cpl KNIGHT No 5 Pl recovered body of U.S. Pilot Lieut DUNHAM in BOANA area. (see attached report)
- iv Specialist training was undertaken.

(c) A Coy.

- i. After completion of constructional work for CORPS H.Qs YALU, returned to NGAFIR CREEK area, where a new camp site was constructed.
- ii. On 12 Nov, patrol under Cpl LESLIE captured a Japanese pilot who had parachuted down in HEATHS ares.
- iii Training, Ts O.E.T for proficiency pay and range practices were undergone.

(d) B. Coy.

- i. Left ERAP River area for BOANA between 7 - 13 Nov to relieve C Coy.
- ii One Pl remained in BOANA area, remainder returned ERAP area on 13 Nov.
- iii. Routine patrols to CHIVAISING - OLD MUNKIP were often interrupted by flooding of ERAP RIVER.
- iv Training as for other Coys was undertaken.

(e) C Coy.

- i. Patrol under Lieut BARLING reached (L) R 704900 ref map LAE-MARKHAM Strat. 4 miles - 1 inch. They found further progress impossible owing to landslides. Evidence of camps to accomodate 1000 Japs was found, also 5 Japs were killed and 52 found dead in the area.
- ii Relief by B Coy was completed by 14 Nov when Coy moved to ERAP RIVER.
- iii This Coy, although not called upon to bear brunt of operations in BOANA AREA, had rendered valuable assistance to D Coy. Much operational experience had been gained and this rounded off the Coy's fine work South of the MARKHAM.

(f) D Coy.

- i. After a few days well earned loaf, Coy settled in at previous B.H.Q. area at NGAFIR CREEK.
- ii. News to effect that the Coy had souvenirs went round the American Camps like wild fire. Enemy swords and watches were greatly admired and in some cases changed hands for small considerations.
- iii Training proceeded as for other Coys.

(g) MORALE. After operations was excellent.

(h) HEALTH. Long stay in malarious areas was beginning to tell and the Unit as a whole was lethargic, listless and in need of a change of area.

(i) AMENITIES. Provision by 5 DIV of footballs and other sporting gear was much appreciated.


G.F. SMITH Lt Col

Comd 24 AUST INF BN (A.I.F.)

SKETCH — BN-DISPOSITIONS AS AT 30 NOV 43.

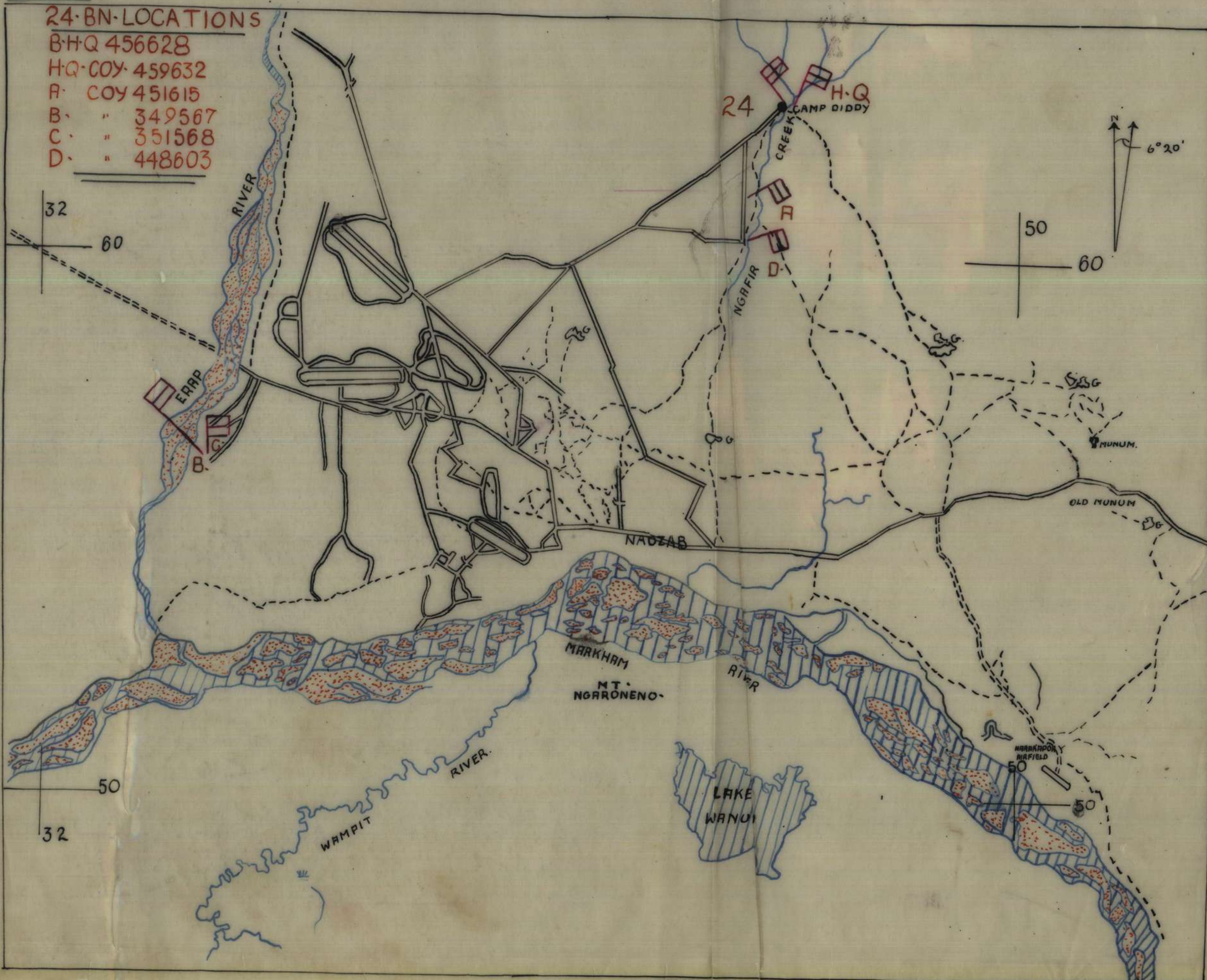
APPX-1 TO — CO'S MONTHLY REPORT NOV-43 —

REF-MAP-NADZAB 1:1mch

R-F-1:83360

24 BN LOCATIONS

- B.H.Q 456628
- H.Q. COY. 459632
- A. COY 451615
- B. " 349567
- C. " 351568
- D. " 448603



Scale - 1 inch to 1 MILE.

DATE - 11 NOV 43 -
T. SEC.

1st WEEK ENDING ²¹ 14 NOV

EDAY	PERIODS							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
D1	Inspection C.O. Drill Rifle Ex M E D	O S M G Pam	Rifle Tng SAT PAM 3	Tk/A Rifle T O E T	L M G SAT PAM 4	FIELD CRAFT Movement through jungle Cutting tracks Movement along tracks Pacing Tng		BAYONET TNG SAT PAM 12
D2	Inspection C.O. Drill Rifle Ex M E D	2" Mortar SAT PAM 8	Rifle Tng SAT PAM 3	Use of compass (practical)	L M G SAT PAM 4	DIGGING All types of weapon pits fox holes etc.		BAYONET TNG SAT PAM 12
D3	Inspection Drill Guards & Sentries MED CHAP 6	2" Mortar SAT PAM 8	Rifle Tng SAT PAM 3	Messages and Reports Verbal	L M G SAT PAM 4	BOOBY TRAPS Lecture	Practical	BAYONET TNG SAT PAM 12
D4	Inspection Pl Drill Rifle Ex. MTP 18 Sec 7 IT 1937 Sec 23	36 Gren- ades Rifle and hand	Rifle Tng SAT PAM 3	Appln of fire recognition of Targets etc SAT PAM 2	L M G SAT PAM 4	SCOUTS AND PATROLS Individual Stalk Jungle training Country Keeping direction etc Pacing Tng		BAYONET TNG SAT PAM 12
D5	Inspection PL Drill Rifle Ex. MTP 18 Sec 7 IT 1937 Sec 23	36 Gren- ade Throwing (dummy)	Rifle Tng SAT PAM 3	Appln of fire Fire control orders SAT PAM 2	L M G SAT PAM 4	BOOBY TRAPS Delousing own and enemy types		BAYONET TNG SAT PAM 12 Recapitulation
D6	Inspection Coy Drill Rifle Ex MTP 18 Sec 7 IT 1937 Sec 23	O S M G Recapit Pam	Rifle Tng Recapit SAT PAM 3	Messages and Reports written.	L M G recapit SAT PAM 4	FIELD CRAFT Individual concealment and camouflage. Use of ground and cover		BAYONET TNG Recapitulation SAT PAM 12
D7			ADMINISTRATION			ORGANISED SPORT		
	Night Tag	D1	Mvt by night Interpretation of Sounds etc	D3	Mvt by night keeping direction with aids Pacing tng		D5	Mvt by night Keeping direction without aids Pacing Tng.

28
2nd WEEK ENDING 2. NOV

DAY	PERIODS							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
D8	Inspection Coy Drill Rifle Ex MTP 18 Sec 7	RIFLE TNG SAT PAM 3	Grenades 68,69,73,75 & S.T. Lecture	Field Signals IT 1937	L M G SAT PAM 4	DIGGING Etc. Siting weapon pits, fox holes Pill boxes etc. concealment & camouflage Cutting fire lanes & fields of fire		BAYONET TNG SAT PAM 12
D9	Inspection Coy Drill Rifle Ex MTP 18 Sec 7	FIELD CRAFT use of scouts mvt & action to be taken		use of compass other aids to navigation	L M G SAT PAM 4	FIELD CRAFT Mvt through jungle keeping direction counting paces etc.		BAYONET TNG ASSAULT COURSE
D10	Inspection Drill-guards & Sentries MED Chap 6	FIELD CRAFT personal camouflage test of patience and physical control	Grenades 68,69,73,75 & S T Practical		L M G SAT PAM 4	DIGGING etc Siting weapon pits fox holes pill boxes etc. concealment and camouflage cutting fire lanes and fields of fire		BAYONET TNG ASSAULT COURSE
D11	Inspection Coy Drill Rifle Ex MTP 18 Sec 7	Enemy Weapons L M G	Appln of fire 2" Mortar fire Control Recapit Orders SAT PAM 2	2" Mortar Recapit SAT PAM 8	L M G Recapit SAT PAM 4	36 Grenade hand throwing (dummy)	36 Grenade Rifle Firing (dummy)	BAYONET TNG ASSAULT COURSE
D12	Inspection Coy Drill Rifle Ex MTP 18 Sec 7	Rifle Tng Tso E T SAT PAM 3	Pacing Tng Kunai 6' 8'	2" Mortar Tso E T SAT PAM 8	L M G Tso E T SAT PAM 4	36 Grenade Tso E T	O S M G TSOET	BAYONET TNG ASSAULT COURSE
D13	30X RANGE GRENADE RANGE 2" Mortar Range Rifle, Bren LMG OSMG Tk/A Rifle Throwing live grenades 2" Mortar Shoot Rifle Grenades (Live) Practices to be organised and arranged.							
D14	ADMINISTRATION ---- ORGANISED SPORT							
Night Training -	D8 Digging weapon pits etc by night		D10 Individual stalk by night		D12 Mvt by night along tracks through jungle keeping direction with and without aids counting paces etc.			

Hqs 24 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

21 Nov 43

PATROL FILE
Clips to SATF
ABPR

Colonel CRABB,
Comd SATF.

Report on Patrol - Recovery Body of 1st Lieutenant Harry H DUNHAM -
U.S. Pilot - BOANA AREA.

1. Personnel. Cpl KNIGHT, (Pioneer) Pte GEE (Mechanic) Pte BROADBENT (Carpenter) Pte MILNER (Owengunner) 1 Police Boy, 1 Boss Boy. 12 natives.
2. Herewith is a report from N.C.O in charge of party of personnel from this Unit allotted task set out above.
3. The report is tendered in full and as written as I think it conveys a truer picture of the patrol than if couched in official language. It may be stated that this is the first patrol report undertaken by Cpl KNIGHT who is a Pioneer Corporal and NOT an Infantry man. In addition to Cpl KNIGHT the party consisted of a carpenter to make the casket for the body, a mechanic to salvage instruments from the plane and an Owengunner for protection.
4. This Unit would like to pay a tribute to the American Pilots who have risked life and limb in flying out our wounded in this most dangerous flying country, also to the "biscuit bangers" who have kept us supplied with food and ammunition under most difficult conditions and have so made possible the successful extermination of our common enemy. We feel that patrols such as the foregoing are the only practical way of showing our appreciation.

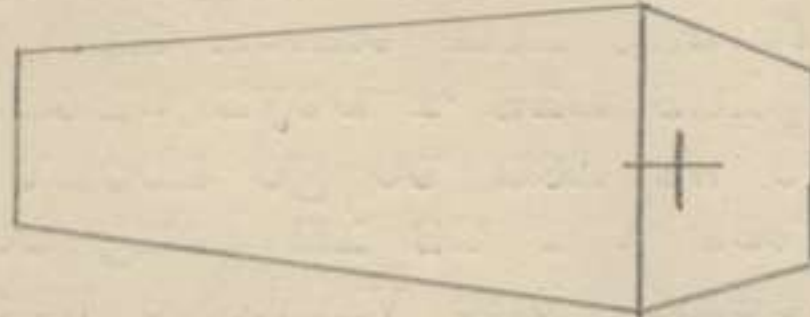
Lt Col.

(G.F. SMITH)

Comd 24 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

PARTY. 2d Dist Inf Bn (AIF) . C. I. KNIGHT, (Pioneer) - Pte GHE (Mechanic)
 Pte BROWNE (Car-ent) - Pte MILMAN (Owengunner)
Natives - 1 Police Boy (SABASAI) Boss Boy 12 other boys.

Shape of Casket built at BOAMA.



NARRATIVE - 1st Day. 13 Nov 43

We left BOAMA at 0815 hrs, our boongs being fully loaded. We went down hill for the first hour when we crossed the BUNBOK River over a bridge which was built the day before, then we crossed the BUSIP River to a place called "BLAKES" Camp. The boongs had a little trouble crossing the bridge, as it was very narrow, with the casket but they got across quite alright so we pushed on from BLAKES at 0930hrs. After we had gone about 600 yards we came across a landslide which we could not pass so we cut a track through the scrub. Pte MILMAN being in front. On the way through he killed a death adder but after awhile we came on to the track again so off we went heading WEST. Well the track was in good order from here so we made fair time considering the loads the boongs were carrying. Then we came across a place called PUFUF which is close to the BUSIP river. We left there at 1100 hrs and on once again. We arrived at a small stream at 1130hrs so I decided to have dinner, giving the boongs 1 tin of bully beef each. They went and got us fruit etc so we had a good meal. At 1300 hrs, we packed our cargo, loaded the boongs and got away. From here we started to climb which never seemed to stop. I was in front at the time but had to stop a lot as the natives who were carrying the casket were going rather slow but doing a great job. Then all of a sudden I saw three "Marys" going through the scrub as fast as they could go. All I could see was bare behinds. They must have thought we were Japs. The boongs tried to call them but without result. The Police boy said he would be set for the night which called a laugh from all. Well on we went still climbing until we at last met a narrow ridge which was the top. From there we could see our destination which gave us the extra kick on. At last we reached a place called GAIN which is 2,400 ft, the time being 1630 hrs. There I met the TUL TUL of the village who wears two red bands around his cap which is given to him by the government. He is second main man in the village. Here we made camp for the night, giving the boongs 1 1/2 lbs of rice each for tea. Before we knew where we were a "monkey" who is a young boong about 5 yrs old had a fire going for us. He was sent by the TUL TUL so we had tea and tried to make the cargo a little lighter for the next day, then off to bed. Just as I was going to sleep I heard rats around the food so Pte GHE and myself got up and spent time chasing rats out.

2nd DAY. 14 Nov 43.

The morning came and the first thing I saw was a fire going which had already been lit by this some "monkey". We had breakfast, packed our cargo then when we lined the boongs up to move, I found I had 4 boongs more also the TUL TUL of the village. He said he was going to help us which made things much easier. I gave him some tobacco which he thought was great. Well we got underway still going WEST, the track being good also rather light. We started at 0620 hrs and after the first hour we passed a village by the name of Dooferiang. There was not a person there also it was rather small. From here we had a good view of MADZAB, compass bearing on Madzab 22deg. From here on the track was uphill and down with quite a few landslides, also trees across the track which made things hard, but the boongs doing a great job, plus the TUL TUL cut their way through scrub. Now they carried the casket in some parts is hard to believe but these boys never gave in so on we went until we came to a rise where we could see a village. I asked the TUL TUL the name of the place which he said was SUGA so on we went until we came to the base of a mountain where SUGA is at the very top, the time being 1200hrs. Here

We had a rest, the day being very hot, also the boongs looking rather tired. Each boong was carrying between 40 and 50 lbs of cargo. The boongs on the casket were also getting very sore shoulders. They carry the casket for about 15 minutes then change over. They carried the casket by putting a pole on the top of the casket with 3 to 4 ft overhanging each end, then making it secure with vines which have the same effect as rope. After we had our rest we decided to tackle this mountain. It was very steep all the way. After we had gone about half an hour we had a stop, the boongs being all in. We told them we would only go to the top then spend the rest of the day there, so on once again then at last we reached the top at 1330 hrs. SUGA is a very large village but once again there was nobody there. ANGAU had taken all the natives. We had dinner, also I paid the TUL TUL plus his 4 boys with tobacco also a little rice, To get water from here we had to go about a mile, the boongs although tired out went and got water for us in long bamboo which keeps it very cool, also clean. Well seeing the village was so far away, we stayed at SUGA for the rest of the day, the boongs getting a well earned rest. We slept in a hut which is always in each village for any white people coming through, they are always clean even though nobody may have been there for months. During the night our boongs found a drum and had a real good sing song. At this village I decided to cut the boongs down in their food as we were getting short of things for trading which we knew we must have seeing that we would need a lot of help before the trip was over. We also cut ourselves down in food to help things along.

3rd DAY. 15 Nov 43

At 0600 hrs we were out of bed, had breakfast, then got ready to move. Here we struck a bit of trouble. The TULTUL plus his 4 boys were going to leave us and go back to their village. We still had a large cargo and things didnt look so good. Then after a lot of talk with the TULTUL he said he would go on for awhile hoping that he would come across some kanakas to take over so we set sail once again. All the way the TUL TUL was calling out across the hills. I asked what he was doing, I was told he was calling for some kanakas to come and help. Well sure enough after we had been on the track for one hour we came across 3 kanakas plus a TULTUL who shook hands with all of us. I asked him where he came from and he said from a place called BALAWANG. To the TULTUL and his 4 boys who had been of such great help to us from day before left us. I thanked them very much and gave them tobacco, we shook hands with the TULTUL and away he went back to his village (GAIN) Well with the TULTUL from BALAWANG and the 3 boys who took over the casket from the boongs I had we set sail the track being good up and down hill. These boys from BALAWANG were making great pace on the casket and it took us all our time to keep up with them. It was new to them and they seemed to be as happy as a baby with a new toy. Well here we came to BALAWANG. It is away from the main track but it is a very small village so we didnt stop. This was the place I was told to go to. From there I would get a guide from that village who would take us to the plane but I found out from the TULTUL of BALAWANG that the plane was a long way from there. It was 1000hrs when we passed BALAWANG, our destination for dinner being a village called CASANE. From BALAWANG we went down for half an hour then a decent climb up, which took an hour. The track was still good. Once we got on the top of this rise we could see CASANE a very big village. The natives called out to the village and the place was full of natives so down we went and within half an hour we were in the village. The TULTUL of the village plus the Doctor boy who wears a red cross on a cap were there to meet us with all the village behind them. The Doctor boy plus TULTUL threw us a salute. They sent boys to get us fruit, water & light a fire for us. They couldnt do enough for us. We still had a little tobacco so we paid them as best we could. The time being 1200 hrs we had dinner then after a talk to the Doctor boy he told us he had been to the plane crash, also that he would come along with us. Well after dinner my Boss boy told me that 3 of his boys were sick so we had a look at them and decided to leave them there with food. I found out that I could reach the plane by the next day so we only took enough boys that we thought we would need for the job which was 12 plus enough food for 2 days leaving the rest at CASANE in charge of the TULTUL where we would get it on the way back. The TULTUL also said he would look after our four sick boys. When we got ready to move after dinner we found out half the men of village wanted to go so we let them come, the boys from BALAWANG staying at CASANE. I paid them for their work in the morning thanked the TULTUL and away they went back to their village quite happy, so that was fixed up. Away we went with my own 12 boys plus about 50 boys from CASANE who took charge

of the casket plus a little cargo. Myself plus Pte MILLNER also Doctor Boy went along in front well ahead of the rest. We had to climb out of the village. Halfway up the hill we met another TULTUL, a rather young chap who speaks well. He said he came from the village of TOUSE also that he knew we were coming. How he found out I don't know. Then I saw him wearing a new knife and scabbard. I had a look at it and there on the scabbard were these words - "Presented to the TULTUL of TOUSE for saving the life of Capt D.V. PECK A.I.F." He said it was given to him at NADZAB. He thought it was great and was very pleased with himself, so on we went up to the top of this mountain, our position being NORTH from CASANE. From here we could see the place where we were going to make camp for the night a long way off. The boys from CASANE who were carrying the casket were up with us now going like this and so on we pushed. The track just being fair, plenty of mud about but rather flat. Then we came across a place by the name of TINAMUNG. Here we also got some willing workers. From TINAMUNG we could see the BRAP River down below about 3000ft. The track down was very bad also rough. As we were going down the TULTUL of TOUSE pointed to a bridge which he had built in the morning so our feet would not get wet. When we arrived at the bridge we saw where a first class job had been done, hand rail and all. Then we looked up at this sheer face of rock. There wasn't a track, it was about 14 ft high, the natives had built ladders and placed them against the rock. A great job had been done, so up we went. How they got the casket up is beyond us. They had big pieces of vine which they took out in front with about 6 boys on it pulling all the way, with 6 or 7 boys behind pushing. It was marvellous. We never thought such a thing was possible. I paid special tribute to the natives here - A wonderful job. Well after that we came to a track straight up. Some parts you could walk, some parts on hands and knees and also more ladders against rock. At last we reached the top. All the way up the natives had this job, the same as when we started at the bottom I cannot say enough about the marvellous job they did up that razorback mountain which was at least 3000 ft. At the top perched on a little piece of ground was the village of NORWAL. The TULTUL of TOUSE as far as we could find out runs this village also. He had a new hut built for us with beds which was a very fine gesture. We were all very tired, natives also. We paid the natives with our own razor blades and tobacco which by this time was getting short, my own razor also but we made them happy which was the main thing. At this village we met a Doong whose name is GARTAN who worked at WAU before the war. Here we got a lot of information from him. He said that he saw the plane flying low up the BRAP River heading NORWAL and heard it crash. He told us that Capt PECK had been washed 500 yds downstream and got caught on a rock and stayed there, also that he buried the Pilot who he said didn't have a weapon with him also that he threw his shirt away because it was covered in blood, also that the plane wasn't burnt. We slept there that night.

THU DAY. 16 Nov 43.

In the morning we were set to go to the plane 3 1/2 hrs away from NORWAL. The Doongs I had wouldn't go. They said the track was too dangerous and it was a track for Kanakas. That made things hard so I went to GARTAN who said he would help and with the aid of the Police boy we got enough to go taking a light meal with us. For the first half hour the track was fair but then we struck a patch of rock running around the side of a mountain without a track on it. The TUL TUL was very worried we would slip for if you did there was 300 to 400 ft drop. We were all frightened to go but when we saw "Marys" in front pushing stone away so that we wouldn't slip so we went on, the TUL TUL showing us where to put our feet. We got over all that safely. The track then was fair, parts of it having this same sheer face of rock. After we had been gone one hour, we passed TOUSE and met some more workers from a place called PHAMUNG. Here we met GARTAN's father. GARTAN told us he got to the plane first and came back for help, also he got Capt PECK out of the river so he really saved his life. On we went, GARTAN's father in front shouting and dancing which seemed to help the boys along. We reached a real razorback this time straight down to the BRAP. The track was only a foot wide in parts with a sheer drop of 500 ft. Once again we had to go down ladders. If you made one slip it was the last one you would make. How these boys got down with the casket is beyond all of us. GARTAN was running things doing a great job all the way. I really can't explain how they got the casket down. I can't find high enough praise for GARTAN plus his boys. We reached the river. It took us

Three quarters of an hour to come down this razorback. Then we had to cut our way through scrub, climb over landslides, wade waist deep in water where we came across a hut, with all things from the plane. They had built this hut to keep things dry. Then we went on and came across the grave of the Pilot close to the river. They had planted flowers around the grave which was very decent of them. Well we went on to the plane reaching it at 1100 hrs. The plane was facing NORTH. As it was only resting on a rock, the natives had to put logs out to the cockpit to get the Pilot (A separate report on plane and damage is attached) The boongs didn't like us getting into the plane as they thought it may fall down to the River. I left Pte GEE to get as many parts as we could carry off the plane while Pte BROADBENT, Pte MILNER and myself went and got the body. He was only 2 ft under the ground. His skull was smashed, his left arm broken, 2 legs broken but all his flesh was still on him. The natives had put leaves on him to keep the dirt away. They think of the least little things. We put the body in the casket, put the lid on, gave it a coat of oil so that part of the job was done. Then the TUL TUL came to me and said it was going to rain and we had better get away before it started as we would get caught by landslides so I sent word to Pte GEE to return to us. He did a great job in a short time getting as much of the plane as he could which was 3 bags full. Pte BROADBENT made a wonderful job of the casket which I forgot to mention before. Just as we were leaving Pte MILNER slipped but lucky for him he only got slight scratches. We started back for camp at 1300 hrs up this same hill or razorback. It took us three hours to get up to the top only taking 2 hrs to come down it of course the casket being much heavier with the body. Once again enough praise cannot be given to the natives, we were all on our hands and knees all the way so now they got up with a casket I don't know. GARTAN still being the main person. We arrived at Camp at 1730hrs lined the natives up paid them with our own tobacco We also gave them first aid treatment for cuts etc.

5th Day 18 Nov 43.

In the morning we set sail for NADZAB. The boys who had gone to the plane the day before carrying the casket still, our own boys carrying the plane parts. Just before we left we presented GARTAN with a belt of the Pilot and inscribed on it "For great service". He was very pleased. I only wish I could have given him something better. So we got away going down this razorback to the bridge over the ERAP. the boongs still doing a great job going down ladder with a casket. You couldn't believe it unless you really saw it. I could fill pages of praise for the boongs. We passed through LIMMONG from there back to CASANE where we had dinner at 1200 hrs here I went and saw the four sick boys I had left behind, 2 of them were fit the other 2 not well enough to travel so I left them there. They will return to BOANA as soon as they are fit. We picked up the rations we had left there and by the time I got the loads of cargo out plus plane parts I had 12 loads which were all the boys I had of my own and GARTAN said his boys were finished. They had also carried Capt MCK down just a week or so before so they have had a hard time and I couldn't get any boys to help. We had 12 of our own but we also had 12 loads of cargo also the casket. Things looked black for us. Then the Doctor boy came up and said his baby was sick. A mosquito had got him so Pte GEE said he would go and see what he could do so he took some atebrian with him but when he saw the baby was only a month or so old he knew it couldn't take an atebrian. The Doctor boy seemed to think he could but they tried by different ways but all failed so Pte GEE hit on a great idea. He told the Doctor Boy to tell his wife to take it, then the baby would get the effect of it. Well he had to show the Doctor boy what he meant so he got the baby put it on the breast of its mother and then the Doctor boy woke up. He was very pleased and gave us some boys for our trip after dinner. We never heard whether the baby recovered. Then GARTAN said he would go with four of his boys so we were set thanks to Pte GEE. We passed BALAWANG where more natives joined in so we pushed on to SUGA. We got there at 1700 hrs. There I paid GARTAN again with rice which I had saved by cutting our natives down. I also gave him a piece of paper so if he ever gets near ANGAU they may be able to pay him and his boys for the great work they did.

6th Day. 19 Nov 43

Well we started off from SUGA, the boys from BALAWANG still with us. GARTAN's boys had gone back. Well we came back as far as GAIN turned off and came to BADIBO then on to MUNKIP where we spent the night. The track was good all the way. I paid the BALAWANG boys with a little rice, but not enough but I couldn't spare any more so I gave them a piece of paper

the same as I gave GARTAN hoping ANGAU will oblige, then we went to bed tired out.

7th Day. 20 Nov 43.

Well once again on the trail down the ERAP River to NADZAB. The track was just like BOURKE St after the trails we had been on. We arrived at NADZAB at 1330 hrs where we called into an American camp who phoned Command who came and got the body plus plane parts. The Americans gave us dinner and treated us like Kings. They arranged transport for us back to BHQ where we got out at 1630hrs. The natives thought riding in a truck was the proper way to travel.

Signed. Cpl. J.A.C. KNIGHT.
VX 104461.

N.B. I wish to state that without the help of natives from village to village the job could not have been done. I only hope they will get tribute from the correct quarter. Most of all GARTAN.

REPORT BY Pte GEE on CONDITION OF PLANE.

Position of Plane.

ERAP RIVER runs very fast between two cliffs about 300 ft high. Plane is hanging by tip of left wing and one wheel to side of cliff 25 to 30 ft directly over river.

CONDITION. Plane is not burnt at any part.

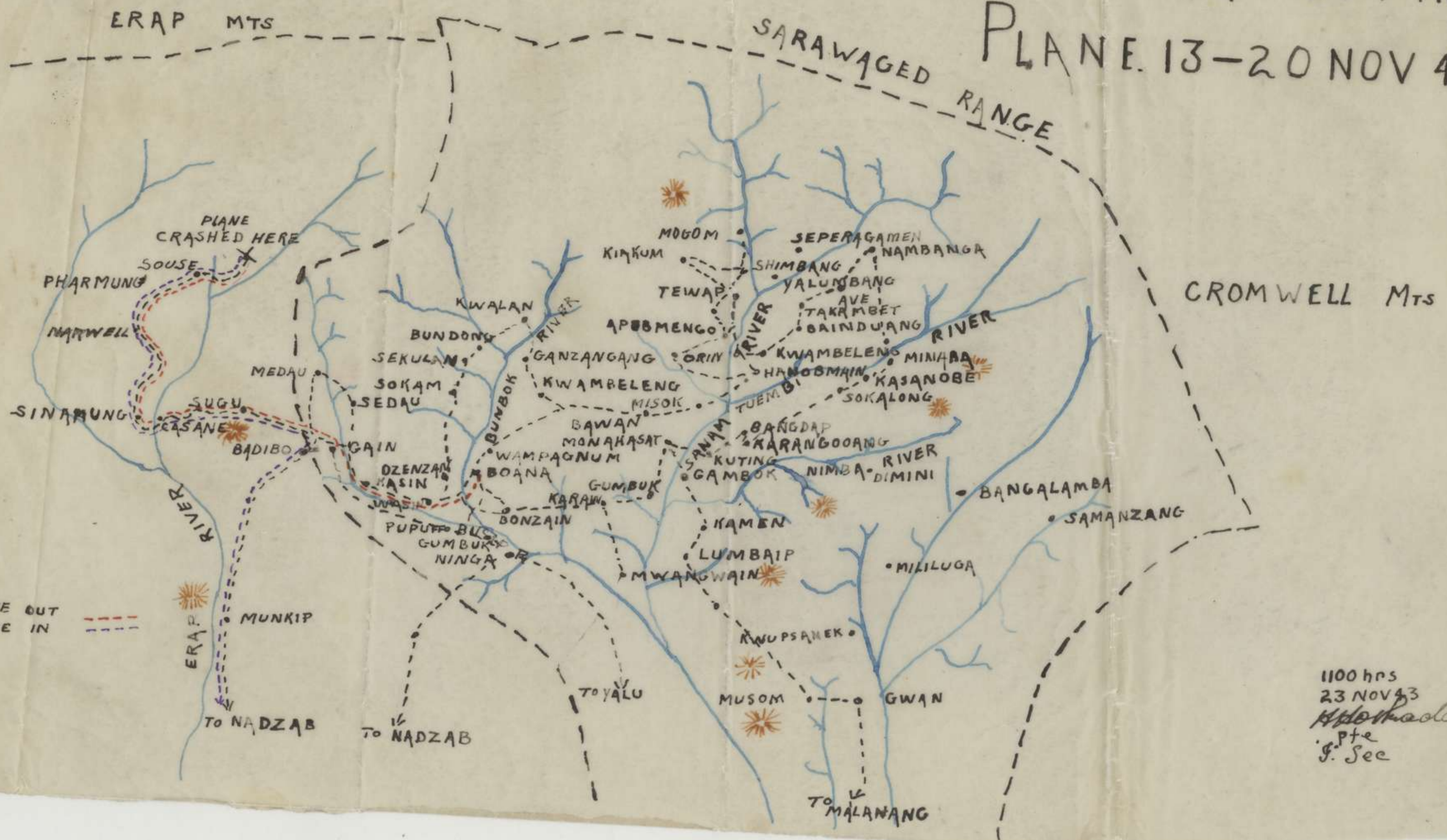
All fabric and some inside fittings badly knocked about.

Owing to dangerous position it was impossible to inspect engine, but from appearance of plane would possibly be O.K.

TO SALVAGE - Would be necessary for a party of Engineers to go out and build a platform under plane to secure it to cliff. Plenty of native labour would be obtainable to carry parts out. The job would have its difficulties owing to very rough country, dangerous trails and subject to landslides. Did not consider lowering of plane as it is directly over fast running river and no river bank to work on.

Signed. Driver. Keith GEE.
V 40761.

ROUTE TAKEN BY CPL KNIGHT'S PATROL IN SEARCH OF MISSING PLANE 13-20 NOV 43.



ROUTE OUT
ROUTE IN

1100 hrs
23 NOV 43
H. H. Madley
Pte
S. Sec

PATROL REPORT.

*C. Coy file
orig with patrol file*
RECCE PATROL.

Ref Maps LAE MARKHAM STRATS.

FROM LIEUT BARLING.

PATROL LEADER LIEUT BARLING.
PATROL FROM 13 Pl C. Coy.
and two specialists N.C.O's

PATROL STRENGTH 1 Oftr 3 N. C. O's
and 208 set.

(LIEUT BARLING SGT COWAN (SIG) SGT BRACK 13 PL CPL LANGFORD (I SEC).

ARMAMENT 1 O. .M.G. 200 Rds 3 Rifles 50 Rds Each.

OBJECTS. (1) To recce AVIN - S10 Rd and ascertain how far it is possible to proceed along it.
(2) To report on the track and the country.
(3) To report on the necessity or otherwise of a larger patrol to follow up, and also the best strength for that patrol.
(4) To mop up any Jap Stragglers en route and obtain any identifications.

WEATHER. L/1 FINE TILL 1700 Hrs L/1

L/2 Fine till 1900 L/1

L/3 Rain from 1335 L/2.

ROUTE OUT. AVIN. M. R. (L-R669841 to NAMBANGA (L) R 6886 thence NAMBANGA across the SANAM RIVER to TOOCOOWAH (L) R 661861 along the NORTH Bank to M R (L) R 704900 where track impassable.

ROUTE IN Through TOOCOOWAH, across the SANAM RIVER to the South Side of River and thence to Avin.

Time Out. 0800 L/1 (AVIN) TIME IN 1645 L/3

1100L/4 BAINDUANG.

RESULT OF PATROL. ref OBJECTS

(1) Track only negotiable to M.R. 704900 approx where there exists a sheer drop at this point, due to wet weather, and the heavy wear caused by the Japs passing over it causing landslides. On the opposite side of the river, there is also a sheer drop (rock face) about 300 Ft. Before the head of the YANAM (SANAM) River is reached, the track is broken in two places by native report.

(2) See going maps and sketches. Track very difficult to negotiate and non-existent in places. Grade I-I in places.

(3) Fighting patrol not necessary. Ideal strength of any patrol in this country traversed 6 or 7 men. No packs to be carried.

(4) 5 Japs killed by patrol and 52 found dead. Small numbers of documents etc sent back.

DETAILS.

1 Nov 0800 L/1 left AVE (AVIN) travelled in general direction N.E. up the SANAM RIVER VALLEY. 0920 L/1 arrived at Bridge M.R.(L)R 665865 approx and followed up a very steep KANAKA trail on the South Side of the River to NAMBANGA M. R.(L)R 6886 which was reached at 1010L/1.

The natives led the patrol over an indistinguishable alternative track to a place (Gardens) called TOOTOH. M. R (L) R. 6987 .

1220 L/1 One Jap in Hut killed.

1230 L/1 A second Jap killed Japs armed with rifle and small amount amn. These were destroyed 1240 L/1. Followed down a precipitous track to a Creek thence S. W. to NAMBANGA, reaching there at 1510 L/1. Camped night in the vicinity NAMBANGA.

2 Nov. 0800 L/2 left NAMBANGA , followed down KANAKA track to Bridge, crosses river 0920 L Passed through TOOCOOWAH M. R. (L) R 661861 approx. Village stinks with Dead Japs in the area. Track from here on is very rough. 1045 L 2 Japs killed in Gardens M. R. (L) R 665875 approx. were armed with Grenades.

1300 L left gardens. Followed track down to large creek. after crossing Creek track broken due to landslides, and extremely difficult to negotiate. It climbed very steeply up rocks and across loose earth, then through

patrol report continued.

gardens and jungle.

1500 L reached Jap Camp site M. R. SQ (L)R 7089 approx. Camp here and on Kunai spur 300 Yds to the N. E. Capable of holding approx 1000 Men. Many Japs dead in area, appeared either to have died from Colds or starvation, or both. Weapons found stripped of their wood, evidently in an endeavour to make fires. No food in this area or beyond.

1530 L After climbing up a hill grade I in I called PIK - PIK reached grasse spur Ref (L) R 705895 approx where W/T was established with BAINDUANG at 1610 L. Camped for night on hillside on M. R. (L) R 701895 approx. Height of Camp approx 6000 to 6500 Ft.

3 NOV. 0830 L Lieut BARLING left with Lului of AVE and proceeded along SIO Road.

0845 L Track found impassable beyond pt approx M. R. (L) R. 704900 due to sheer drops. Track followed in a Northerly direction up the YANAM RIVER valley to the headwaters, and thence over the range to SAMBANGA, but natives affirm track broken in two places before head of valley is reached.

0910 L Left Camp site on return journey .

0930 L Killed One Jap at Jap Camp site.

1320 L passed through TOCCOOMWAH

1330 L Crossed River

1645 L reported in AVIN M. R. (L). R. 66984I

DEDUCTIONS.

Track very difficult and impassable, both to enemy and ourselves.

No need for fighting patrols.

As Japs killed were generally in very weak condition, with little or no kai, clothes or boots, it is considered unlikely that there remains any Fit Japs (if any) SOUTH of patrols limit, especially as patrol covered the area well.

D. A. LANGFORD. CPL.
I.SEC 24 Bn₂

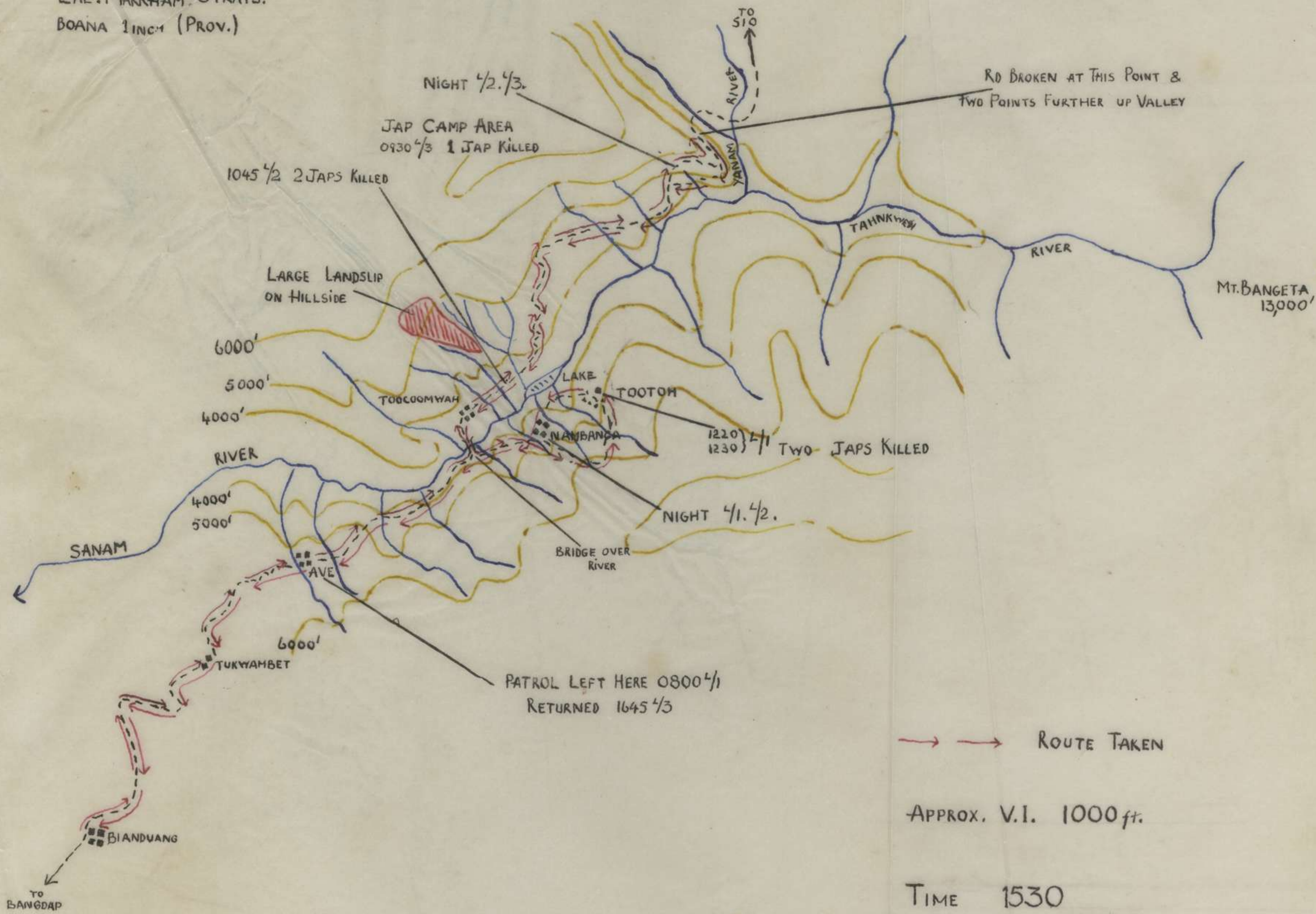
J. BARLING. LIEUT.
patrol leader.

C. BUNBURY. CAPT.
C. Coy. Comd.

SKETCH SHOWING ROUTE TAKEN BY SIO RD. PATROL 1-4 NOV 43

REF: MAPS:

LAE. MARKHAM STRATS.
BOANA 1 INCH (PROV.)



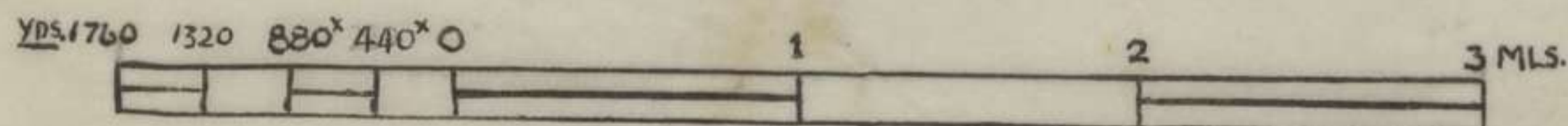
→ → → ROUTE TAKEN

APPROX. V.I. 1000 ft.

TIME 1530

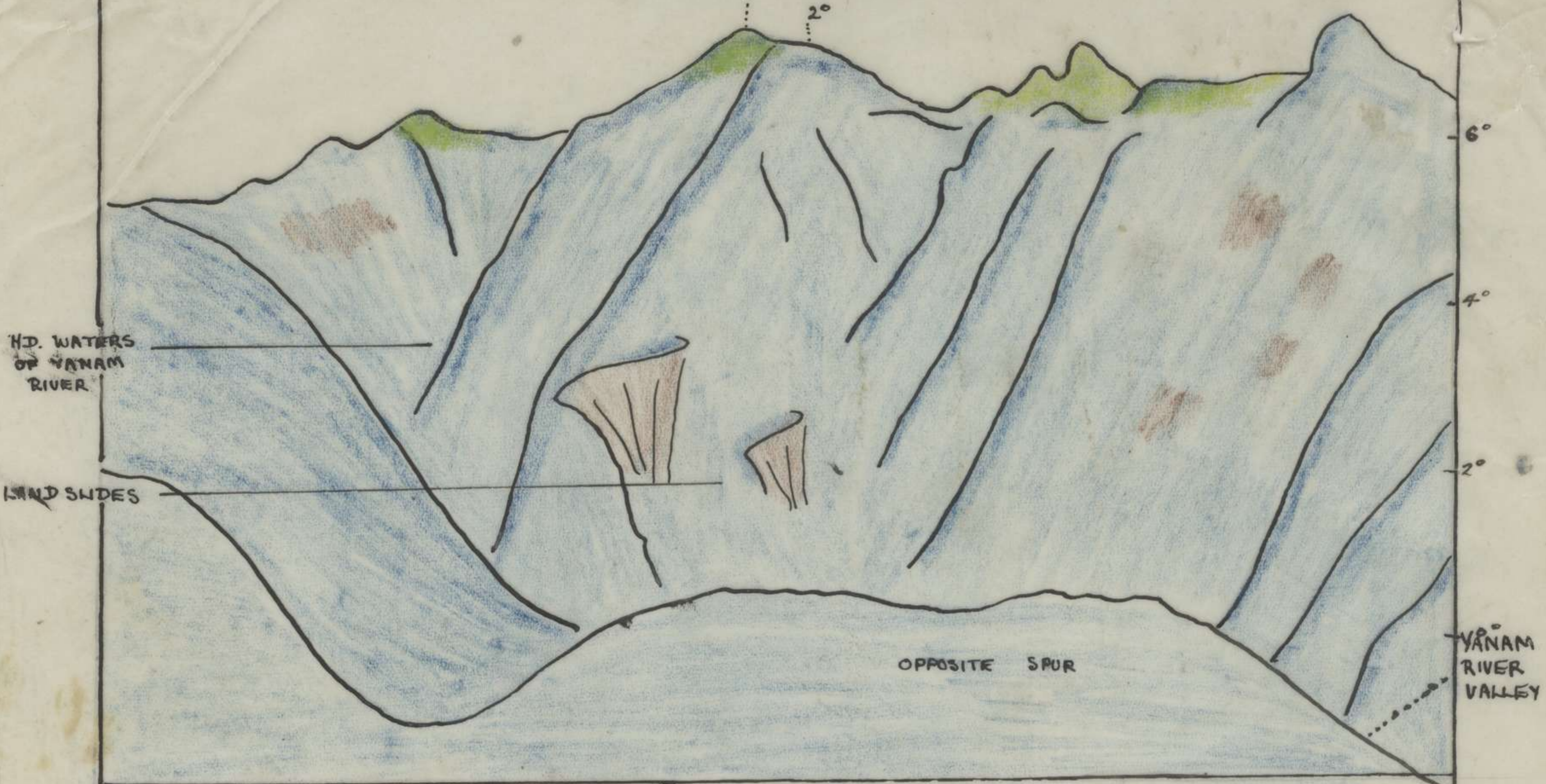
DATE 9 NOV 43

J.A. Robertson. A/Sgt.



APPOX. SCALE 1 INCH = 1 ML.

TAKEN FROM POINT ON S10 RD
MT WESTBROOK 1°



HD. WATERS OF YANAM RIVER

LAND SLIDES

OPPOSITE SPUR

YANAM RIVER VALLEY

AREA : LAE . MARKHAM STRATS. MAPS

MOSS COVERED



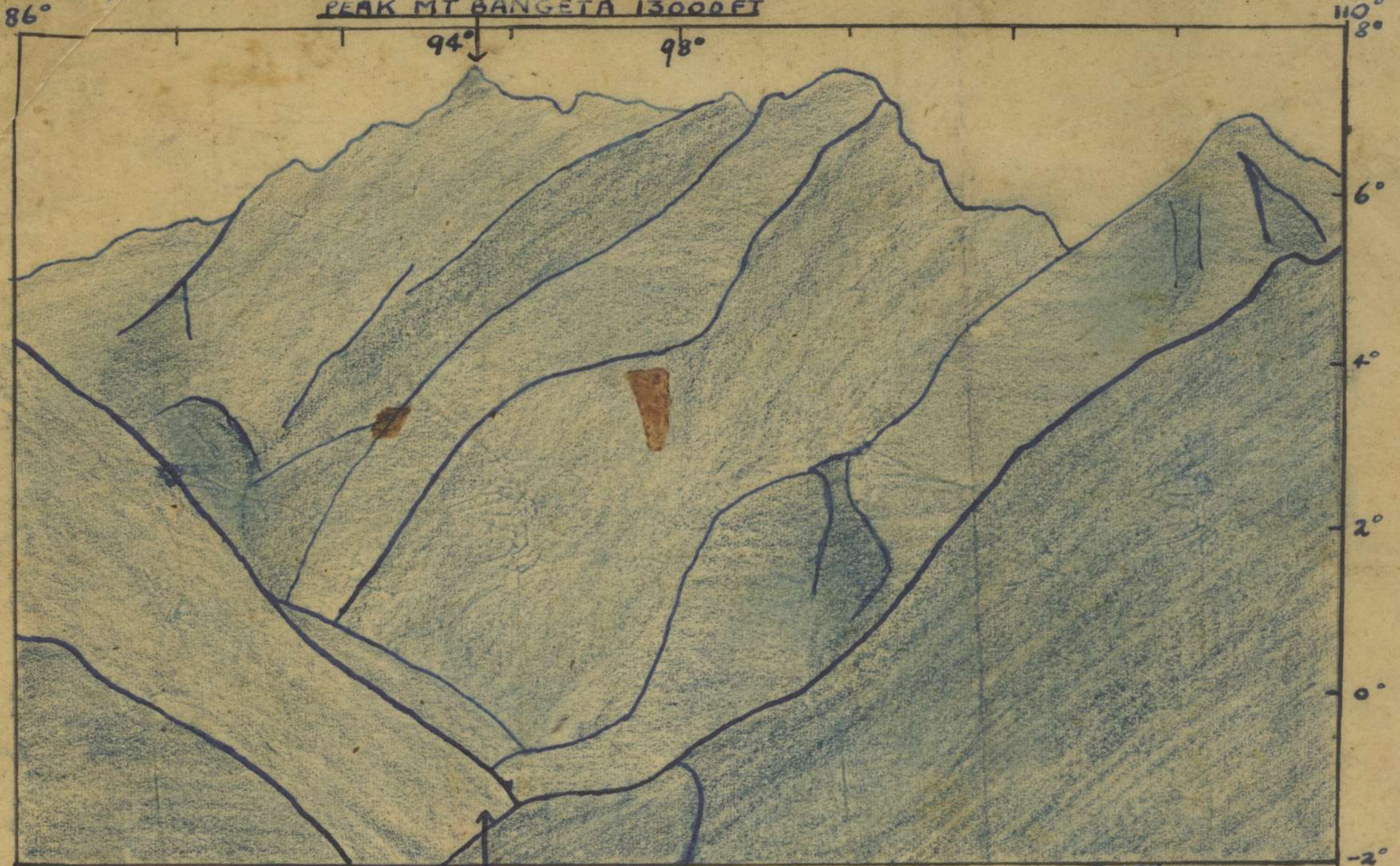
S10 ROAD FOLLOWS UP THIS VALLEY TO THE HD. WATERS THENCE OVER THE RANGE AT 12-13000' TO SAMBANGA & S10. AT PRESENT TRACK BROKEN IN THREE PLACES

COPY : 0730. 3 NOV
VIS. GOOD
TIME 0900 HRS
DATE 29 NOV
VIS GOOD FROM ORIGINAL
PHOTOGRAPH BY
W. COY

PANORAMA FROM POINT ON SIO ROAD M.R. approx (L)R 701895

Ref Maps LAE - MARKHAM STRAITS

3 NOV 43.



TAHNKAN RIVER VALLEY

COUNTRY TIMBERED THROUGHOUT

NO TRACKS

COPY
TIME 1500 HRS
DATE 6 DEC 43
VISIBILITY EXCELLENT

G. J. ...
I Sec.

Q.M.'s REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 43.

INTRODUCTION.

Early in the month the remaining Japs were cleared out of the BOANA - HANOBAIN area and all troops were withdrawn with the exception of one platoon of "B" coy with some attached troops. A coy returned from their D. & E. tasks at 2 Aust Corps and came under command. Dispositions of the coys is now - B.H.Q. and H.Q. coy at CAMP DIDDY, A coy one mile south along NGAFIR CREEK, D coy at the old NGAFIR CREEK camp, B and C coys at ERAP RIVER.

15 Aust Inf Bde moved to MORESBY and the unit came under direct command 5 Aust Div with an operational role of the local defence NADZAB area.

SUPPLY.

BOANA troops continued to be rationed by aircraft droppings, three having occurred during the month and recovery in all cases was good.

The unit is responsible for collecting and distributing all rations to coys, which requires jeep and trailer working all day on this task alone

The number of natives employed in returning stores and equipment to CAMP DIDDY has been reduced to 25 and in addition there are 30 employed in construction of hutments at CAMP DIDDY.

TRANSPORT.

Prior to moving, 15 Aust Inf Bde transferred 2 jeeps and 1 trailer to the unit. Both vehicles had been in operation for some time and were NOT in a very good state of repair. The condition of one of them was apparently due to inability to obtain spare parts, but during the last week 3 Aust Air Maintenance Coy received a limited amount of parts and the condition of the vehicle has been improved.

With only these vehicles available, and the amount of work to be done each day, transport shortage was often acute. 3 Aust Air Maintenance Coy has been very helpful and transported a large amount of ordnance stores and ammunition to unit H.Q.. Without their assistance it would have been impossible to obtain delivery of the stores.

Supplies of P.O.L. were short early in the month, but for the last fortnight ample have been available.

RATIONS.

The position steadily improved and now all items on the scale are being received. The replacement of preserved meat, biscuits and tinned margarine with fresh meat, bread and fresh butter was much appreciated.

Supplies of expense stores was fairly good, but with the incidence of scrub typhus the amount required for preventative purposes exceeds the scale of issue. The R.M.O'S certificate was obtained which provided the necessary authority for increased scale of issue by D.I.D..

CONTROLLED STORES.

As the position of the unit became static early in the month it was possible to visit coys and obtain a physical stock take of all items on charge. Coy records in some cases were NOT in good order or accurate. The only reference which was salvaged from the Q.M. records was the old register and from this it was possible to track down most items. There is still a quantity unaccounted for, but in most cases satisfactory explanations as to their loss or disposal were obtained.

A new register was prepared and at this date it is possible to locate every item on charge. Coys have in their possession a register of all items on charge to the coy and the personnel in it.

Certain items are held in excess of W.E. and there were deficiencies in others. Application has been made to return the forma and the release to the unit of the latter.

STORES. GENERALLY.

5 Aust Div made a large amount of clothing and equipment and other stores available and it has been possible to re-equip the unit with most items.

There would appear to be a large amount of usage or wastage in all items. The amount of replacement necessary confirms previous observations on the necessity of educating all ranks in the care and preservation of all items of clothing and equipment.

MAIL.

Consignments have been arriving nearly every day. There has NOT been a great deal of parcels, but registered mail is being received

MAIL.

regularly. Outward mail has in some cases been reaching addressees on the mainland within 4 days.

CANTEEN.

Purchases totalling £150- 2- 2 were made on 1 Nov 43. Items included tobacco, cigarettes, matches, toilet soap, chocolate and sweets. There has been NO further stocks in the canteen since that date.

COMFORTS
FUND.

NO supplies received for the month.

MALARIA
CONTROL

There has been few cases of malaria within the unit. The area generally is comparatively free of breeding grounds and those that do exist have been treated with malaria oil which is now in good supply.

HYGIENE
AND
SANITATION

The usual high standard has been maintained. Any illness that might be brought about by bad hygiene or sanitation was immediately investigated and the source of the trouble located.

During the month 5 Aust Div hygiene office visited the unit and made a number of suggestions that were adopted and put into operation. Shortage of certain stores was reported and as a result they should be made available at an early date.

R.S. Isherwood
(R.S. ISHERWOOD) Capt.,
C.M. 24 AUST INF BN (AIF)