

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

**Item number: 8/3/76**

**37/52 Infantry Battalion**  
**June 1945, Appendices**

SUBJECT: WEEKLY REPORT

2 Aust Sup Depot Pl (AIF)

1 JUN 1945

FILE

CO  
32/57 Aust Inf Bn.

Why at Mavelo?

1. OPERATIONS: The main body of this Pl arrived in this area from WIDE BAY at approx 1730 hrs 28 May 45. Pl is engaged in maintaining 37/52 Aust Inf Bn Gp. Personnel from this Pl are operating Supply Points at Mavelo, Staging Post Nos 1 & 2, also at Hoskens DID.
2. MORALE: Morale remains high.
3. AMENITIES: This Pl is fortunate in this respect in that we have a complete softball set, 2 footballs, 1 Volley Ball, and 1 cricket set. Plans are being made for organised matches each Sunday - operations permitting.
4. RATIONS: No maintenance shipment of SWPA rations have been received this week - approximate holdings as to date are 28 days. Total rations issued this week:

European	-	9531
Native	-	840
5. POL: Stocks of POL are adequate.
6. FRESH SUPPLIES: Ship ~~222~~ TP244 is expected to arrive 2nd or 3rd of this month with freezer cargo consisting of 1296 lbs of butter, 6382 lbs of beef, 6388 lbs of carcass mutton, also hospital ~~of~~ supplies - liver 63lb, chicken 40lb, and 288 sets of brains.
7. CASUALTIES: NIL
8. PERSONAL NOTES: NIL
9. CLIMATE: Very hot with little rain.

RECEIVED  
11 JUN 1945

RECEIVED  
14 JUN 1945

*J. A. Collins*  
..... Capt  
(J. A. COLLINS) OC

*[Handwritten signature]*

Signal Officers Report to O'zbek

1. Patrols.

Signalless with standing patrols at Sai  
river, supplying comms line to WTT

2. Letter Op. Activities

Nth.

3.  morale  
Excellent.

4. Amunites  
Nth

5. Latrons

Good

6. Basualtes

Nth

7. Personal notes:

Nth.

8. Remarks re climate

Good. Some trouble being caused to  
WTT comms about 2300 night owing to  
atmospherics.

Adams Lt.

6/30

B Coy  
131. 0600 1 June 45.

Coy Comd's WEEKLY REPORT.

(1) PATROLS.

Local patrols WATU 25-27 & 28 7/17 45. (NMS)

(2) OP. ACTIVITIES

- (a) SAI patrol NO 1 (11 PL)
- (b) SAI patrol NO 2 (12 PL) relieved 14 PL NO 1 B  
1<sup>st</sup> June
- (c) Coy HQ & 10 PL moved from WATU &  
established MAVELU 31 May 45.

(3) MORALE: Good.

(4) AMENITIES:

- (a) Recorded musical programme afternoon 31 7/17 45
- (b) Playing cards supplied by Cpl FARR.

(5) RATIONS: Good.

(6) CASUALTIES. Three (3) vaccinations do 4 7th Amb (P.O.)

(7) GENERAL NOTES.

All B Coy patrols on SAI river came under  
command B Coy HQ as from 0600 1<sup>st</sup> June 45.  
Coy HQ & 10 PL not yet completely dug in &  
in MAVELU. Estimated time of completion  
of defenses to 3/000K.

*[Signature]*  
11003 Coy.



WEEKLY REPORT ENDING 1 JUN 45

37/52 Aust Inf Bn Rear.  
1 Jun 45.

Patrols

No patrols have been undertaken.

Other Operational Activities

Lt GRIFFIN has been appointed officer in charge of protection, and Tk A and MMG positions have been sited. Sketch will be forwarded as soon as completed.

Morale

Excellent.

Amenities

No organised sport has yet been arranged but a team of Americans from supply ship taught C Coy something about soft-ball during a late afternoon match. S.A. hut operating.

Ordnance Stores

No ordnance shipments have yet arrived, but working on existing stocks from Ord Fd Pk all coys have been supplied with essentials in boots, webbing and shirts. A very small proportion of normal sizes in trousers were soon disposed of, but until stocks of suitable sizes are received in both shirts and trousers it will be impossible to outfit the battalion.

The shortage of watches GS and the high proportion requiring workshop attention has particularly inconvenienced forward coys. In reply to an urgent signal, advice has been received from ADOS 5 Aust Div of the despatch of 50 watches GS on 30 May 45.

Personal Notes

Maj GREEN and Capt SARTORI visited NANTAMBU and many Q matters were discussed. System of despatch, receipt and distribution should improve, particularly as complete staffs should soon be operating.

Casualties

Two hospital evacuations.

VX145778 Pte WOODWARD V.F. - Diarrhoea (since returned)  
VX109294 " TAIT F.R. - Accident, result of a fall  
(probable evacuation to LAE).

Climate

Perfect.

Ammunition

Ammunition Examiner's report attached.

RATIONS

Covered mainly by AASC report. Difficulty is satisfactorily delivering carcass mutton has been followed by application for unit refrigerator.

..... *J. E. P. ...* Capt

RQM 37/52 Aust Inf Bn

C.O. 37/52A

SUBJECT. MEDICAL EVACUATIONS/.

1. PRESENT DISPOSAL OF TROOPS.

- Rear Bn. at Nantambu. ✓
- Fwd. Bn. at Watu. ✓
- 2 Coys (less 2 platoons) at Mavelu. ✓
- 1 platoon at Sai. ✓
- 1 platoon at ~~N.G.I.B. Outpost.~~ **Sai R. Crossing (1 day MARCH)**
- 1 ~~Pl~~ **Pl of NGIB AT Sai R. (2 DAYS MARCH)**

2. TIMES AND DISTANCES BETWEEN AREAS.

- Nantambu to Watu <sup>2 1/2</sup> hrs by barge. OR
- Watu to Mavelu <sup>1/2</sup> hr by barge and approx 2 hrs walking.
- Sai to Mavelu <sup>1/2</sup> hr by barge and 1 1/2 hrs walking.
- ~~N.G.I.B. C.P.~~ to Mavelu --approx 5-6 hrs walking.
- At least double walking time required for stretcher carries.
- 1 NGIB Pl Sai — 2 DAYS MARCH (STRETCHER CASE).**

3. PRESENT METHOD OF EVACUATION.

The Bn R.A.P. at Watu is the central and final point for all evacuations to Nantambu. A barge goes daily from Nantambu via Watu to Mavelu and returns by the same course to Nantambu. Evacuations are normally carried out by means of this barge, all cases passing through this R.A.P. Barges can pull in to Sai, but barge traffic to Sai is, at least, temporarily cancelled at present.

4. LOCATIONS OF MEDICAL PERSONNEL.

- Main R.A.P. at Watu. R.M.O. ✓  
R.A.P. Sgt and Regtl. S.B.s ✓  
R.A.P. orderly.
- Mavelu. R.A.P. Cpl and trained Coy Orderly.
- Sai. <sup>1 Pl B</sup> Trained Coy Orderly.
- ~~N.G.I.B.~~ <sup>Sai. 12 Pl B</sup> Trained Coy Orderly.
- Nantambu. <sup>Sai NGIB Pl</sup> Trained Orderly. <sup>1 Td AMB.</sup>

5. PROSPECTS/

It is hoped that an old Japanese barge will be stationed at Watu for the use of the C.O. ~~Whether this barge will prove to be reliable is very much open to doubt.~~ It is probable that it will often be back at Nantambu undergoing repairs. This barge, when it is available, can be used to evacuate cases.

6. DIFFICULTIES.

In the event of operational activities it is considered that "operations" will have first priority of use of this barge (the C.O.s barge). The landing beaches at Sai, Mavelu and Watu are of a very limited nature, the waters are full of reefs, and navigation at night - except on bright moonlight nights - is difficult and dangerous by barge.

7. Experiences To Date.

Fatal booby trap casualty at Mavelu. Fortunately a barge had had to remain at Watu for the night and I was able to see the patient within 3/4 of an hr after notification. Severe case of food poisoning at Mavelu at 210 Ohrs; hard to diagnose by phone. Fortunately 3 others developed similar symptoms. The Japanese barge was available at Watu, but it was a very dark night, and a barge evacuation would have been most hazardous. Had this case turned out to be an acute abdomen, the patient would probably have had to wait until morning.

Lacerated hand at Sai.---fortunately not as bad as anticipated. Occurred at 1800 hrs. No barge available, except from Nantambu. Walked to Mavelu where he remained until next morning.

8. RECCO MMENDATIONS.

That more adequate methods of evacuation of patients be urgently considered. In the event of battle casualties occurring, it appears at present that there will be no method of evacuation to M.D.S. Stretcher carries will go to Mavelu, (to which site I presume the Bn. R.A.P. will move) but I consider that all available barges will be used for supplies, transport of troops etc.

With the present set-up a barge travelling from Nantambu to Mavelu to evacuate casualties from that point, would take a minimum of 6 hrs travelling time, if conditions were ideal, and no breakdowns occurred. Taking into account the time taken to evacuate the patient from the scene of operations to Mavelu, it means that there is a time lag between time of injury and treatment at the M.D.S. of at least 12 hrs in some cases, and in others, longer. eg. N.G.I.B. / O.P. Were transport available always from Watu, this time lag would be considerably cut down.

We have been fortunate so far, but with operations, serious accidents or illnesses occurring the present method of evacuation would greatly prejudice the chances of recovery of the patient.

Therefore I again recommend that this problem be given urgent consideration.

*R. O. Hamill* Capt.

R.M.O. 37/52 Inf. Bn.

I-6-45.



17 AAD Detachment.  
37/52 Aust Inf Bn.  
28 May 45.

05.165

Adj.  
37/52 Aust Inf Bn.  
.....

JAPANESE AMMUNITION.

The following Japanese Ammunition was in shed sighted in the barge point camping area:-

120 Rds 75MM HE Plugged.  
300 " 70MM HE Plugged.  
180 " 35MM AP HE base fuze.  
100 Projectiles 75MM HE Plugged.

2. All projectiles were rusty and cartridge cases showing season cracks, corrosion and discoloration. On 22 inst. 2 cwt of strip and flake cordite found lying loose on the floor of the shed was collected and destroyed by burning. On 23 inst. another cwt was also destroyed. Under the circumstances, this Amn had to be disposed of owing to the constant danger to the camp area occasioned by the loose cordite being indiscriminately strewn round the floor of the shed. The only possible means of disposing was by dumping in deep water and one load has already been dumped at sea. The remainder will be dumped as soon as a barge is available.
3. The reason that such action as outlined above, was not put into effect by the Supply Depot A.E. was due to the fact that owing to the lack of Artillery, this Japanese Amn may have been needed by the 36 Bn.

*[Signature]*  
S/Sgt.  
A.E. 17 AAD Detachment.

Copies to :-  
ADOS 5 Aust Div.  
IOO 17 Aust AAD.  
File.

FILE

D. Coffey  
1. ~~May~~ 45.

Subject: Weekly Report - 16 0600 hrs. 1 Jun. 45

1. Operational Activities

- (a) Standing patrols. L.P. 1. 2. 3 from 0600 hrs to 1100 hrs. 26, 30 May and 1 Jun. 45.
- (b) 17 pl. Staging area post. 2.  
18 pl. Staging area post. 1.
- (c) 5. Sec. post. dug in.

2. Morale

Excellent

3. Amenities

<sup>lighting</sup>  
(a) Thermionic lamps supplied during week for tent lighting. Recommend that one or two power lamps be procured for lighting mess hut when completed.

(b) Sports: As yet no sporting material has been issued and as there is ample space for volley ball courts recommend that volley balls be procured as soon as possible. Cards, draughts and other games would also be appreciated by troops.

4. Rations

No complaints but when new kitchens are built meals should improve.

5. Personal Notes

Very little progress was made in the coy area during week owing to work parties. The building of jetty and patrole thus practically all personnel were engaged in these duties.

over

6. Casualties and Medical

(a) No evacuations.

(b) Health of troops is excellent, and only minor  
skin troubles are being treated at C.A.P.

7. Climatic

No comments.

M. J. D. Coy  
Capt.  
Q.C.D. Coy

MESSAGE FORM

C. Coy.  
Army Form 2510 (Large)  
(Rev. 1st July 1918)

Subject: Weekly Report to June 15.

Office Date Stamp: I.O.

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A)	Originator	Date—Time of Origin
<p>1. <u>PATROLS</u>: See patrols to</p> <p style="text-align: right;">For Action</p> <p>(a) <u>BIAI TRACK.</u></p> <p>(b) <u>MARKLO TRACK.</u></p> <p>(c) <u>SOUTH TRACK.</u></p> <p>from 0600 to 1800 on days as</p> <p style="text-align: right;">TO</p> <p>under</p> <p style="text-align: right;">29 May.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">31 May.</p> <p>All N.M.S.</p>		

2. OPS: Nil.

3. MORALE: Excellent.

4. AMENITIES: (a) Few at present. Playing courts for sports not yet started. Due to priority being given to other works in area.

(b) New lanterns an advantage for ops for reading and writing purposes at night.

5. RATIONS: (a) Supply satisfactory but quality during week leaves much to be desired. Trouble caused by unsatisfactory conditions in present cookhouse and alterations in staff due to movement of ops to and from area. Complaint should be remedied this week.

6. CASUALTIES: (a) Evacuations — one P.V.O.

This message may be sent as written except by day means  
 It should be interpreted as follows:—  
 (1) If the message is sent by day means, it is to be interpreted as written.  
 (2) If the message is sent by night means, it is to be interpreted as written, unless otherwise stated.  
 (3) If the message is sent by wireless, it is to be interpreted as written, unless otherwise stated.  
 (4) If the message is sent by other means, it is to be interpreted as written, unless otherwise stated.

MESSAGE FORM

Army Form 02136 (Large)  
(Date of Issue) (Adapted Sept. 1945)

Register No.

Call

Ser. No.

Priority

Transmission Instructions

(a) WORKS - have proceeded reasonably well

during past week, but shortage of manpower and materials have effected tasks considerably.

At present dak, Cookhouse, mess but have been compressed as far as possible until materials for roofing etc. come to hand.

One new pt area is complete and now occupied.

Co HQ area cleared and work in process of excavation.

Two pt areas - clearing just commenced.

(b) PERSONNEL - 13 pt plus 2 pt returned from NANTANBU area 1 Jun 45.

(c) DEFENCE - New positions sited and digging in by sec to commence 3 Jun 45.

G. Blappner  
Capt

O.C. C COY

*[Handwritten signatures]*

Time Cleared	Time of Day	System of	Originator's Instructions	If liable to be intercepted or fall into enemy hands, this message must be sent in cipher	This message may be sent as written by any means except wireless	Signed
			Degree of Priority			

# MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

Call	Ser. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions
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ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

Office Date Stamp	Date—Time of Origin	Originator	FROM (A)
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Message Instructions	GR	TO	(w) For Information (INFO.)
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ORIGINATOR'S No.	TO
------------------	----

*[Faint handwritten text and scribbles]*

Time Cleared	Time	System	Op
	THI or TOR		

Signed  
 This message may be sent AS WRITTEN except } Wireless  
 by any means  
 If liable to be intercepted or fall into enemy hands, this message must be sent IN CIPHER  
 Originator's Instructions  
 Degree of Priority  
 Signed



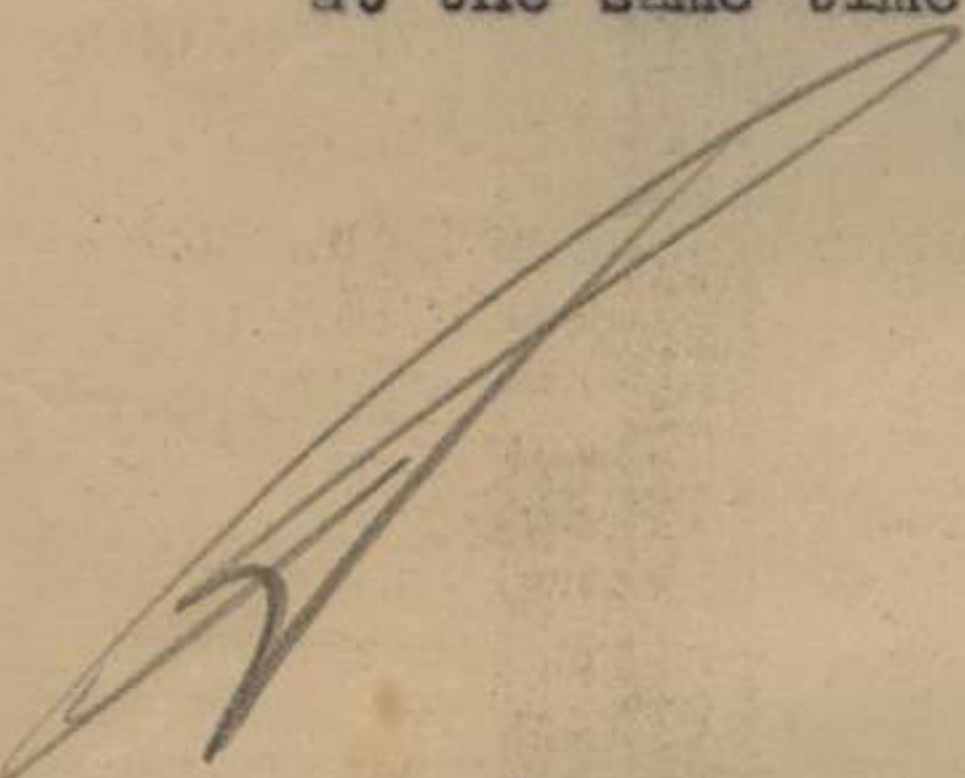
37/52 AUST INF BN

Latrines - Deep trench.  
Kitchen - Will be moved.  
Kitchen Area - Clean.  
Disp. of Garbage - Sea.  
Disposal of sullage - Grease trap.

Drums around bakery could be moved.

SMO of area would like all garbage and tins to be incinerated and placed in deep pits. The main disadvantage is holes will fill in comparatively short time and area would soon become a mass of garbage pits. Would prefer sea disposal, provided garbage is dumped well over the coral reef.

Suggest a well be dug near the creek. The location could be governed by position of new road. At present some units drawing water at the same time as people are using same for washing and bathing.



..... *H. J. Garty* ..... Sgt  
Hygiene Sgt 37/52 Aust Inf Bn





Dispositions of Personnel of No 1 Platoon as at 011200 hrs June  
Strength 2 Officers 29 O/A<sup>s</sup> incl Batman.

NANTAMBU

LIEUT. CHURCH  
SJT. MURPHY  
CPL. TURNER.  
PTE REID  
" DEMARTINI  
" MACKINNON  
" SPOKES  
" SPENCE  
" CRAWFORD  
" GRANTHAM.

HOSKINS

PTE ELLIS.

WATU

LIEUT HANSEN  
SOT. RYAN  
CPL BENNETT  
PTE MC MURTRIE  
" CURRAN  
" WRIGHT  
" DIXON  
" MC DONELL  
" YOUNG  
" NEWTON  
" JAGGER  
" THOMAS (BATMAN)  
CPL STUCKEY

CAMP No 1.

PTE. KENNEDY

CAMP No 2.

PTE COULDRIDGE

SAI PATROL No 1

PTE PRIESTLEY

PTE TRUEMAN

SAI PATROL No 2.

PTE SCOTT

MAYELO SWITCH

CPL. THOMPSON

PTE ROCKNAHL

" TAYLOR

3 COPY

4 AUST INF BDE TRG INSTR NO 8

HQ 4 Aust Inf Bde (AIF)  
4 Jun 45.

GEN

1. Some aspects of unit activity within this fm show a regrettable lack of thoroughness. Maint can be improved and there is marked evidence that at least some tps merely go through the motions of trg showing neither efficiency nor interest.

SCOPE

2. (a) Weapon trg.  
(b) Range Practices incl aslt courses.  
(c) Fd firing exercises.  
(d) Foot and rifle drill, guards and sentries.  
(e) Adm incl maint of eqpt and weapons.  
(f) Trg of offrs in the punctilious performance of their duties to the men under their cmd.

WEAPON TRG

3. Thoroughness in every detail must be achieved. Special attention will be paid to the following -

- (a) Elementary weapon trg, particularly care and handling.  
(b) Accuracy in aiming and firing. Speed will be subordinated to accuracy.  
(c) Thoroughness will be achieved by short, intense periods, interspersed with questions designed to bring out detailed knowledge of the weapon being used.

RANGE PRACTICES

4. All ranks (incl adm personnel) will fire rifle, LMG and SMG practices and will take part in at least one aslt course.

ADM

5. The following adm matters will receive the personal attention of all coy comds -

- (a) Maint is the responsibility of every offr, NCO and soldier. An intensive campaign will be launched to ensure that every member of the unit becomes maint minded. This can only be achieved by constant attention to detail of all eqpt, weapons, tools, stores and accn.  
(b) Every soldier must have in his possession his full entitlement of clothing, etc, and coy comds will ensure, that it is maintained in a good state of repair. Offrs will hold regular kit inspections and "make and mend" parades. All offrs will attend such parades.  
(c) (i) The soldier's dress must at all times conform to the instrs for the prevention of disease.

(ii) It will be explained to the soldier that careful attention to dress is necessary for his own health and welfare. Cleanliness prevents skin diseases and correct wearing of clothing protects against malaria, dengue and scrub typhus. This, and NOT parade ground "Spit and Polish" is the Div Comds request. Coy Comds will decide whether all boots are polished or greased.

OFF TRG

6. Coy Comds will ensure that every junior offr is instr in the internal adm of his coy and is meticulous in his performance of it. Close attention will be given -

- (a) Correct entry of AAB 83 and AAF F204.
- (b) Carrying of above, plus paybook and field dressing.
- (c) Correct wearing of identity discs.
- (d) Regular checking and supervision of issue of all clothing and eqpt to personnel of his coy.

7. Slackness on the part of a soldier is primarily due to the inefficiency, indifference or slovenliness of some offr. Coy Comds will therefore take immediate action to eradicate these faults, and in cases of poor response, an adverse report will be made on the individual offr.

CONCLUSION

8. The div policy is thoroughness in all things. This policy in relation to health, efficiency and welfare must be kept constantly before all ranks. Its achievement will have a marked effect on cas when we come to more serious ops.

(Signed)

W.J. McPHERSON

Maj

BM 4 Aust Inf Bde

Weekly Report to 080600 NO. 1 Ph.

1. Patrols

2 Sigs with SAI River 1 and 2 Patrols

2. Other Op Activities

NIL

3. MORALE

GOOD

4. AMENITIES

NIL

5. Rations

Good

6. Casualties

Pte Grantham admitted hospital malaria  
from NANTAMBU

7. Personal notes

NIL

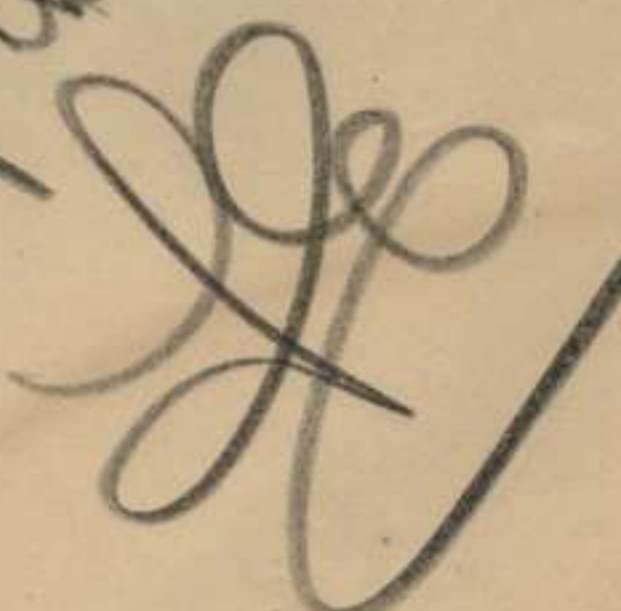
8. Remarks re climate

NIL



Redmond  
et  
001 Ph

Let Tyler and  
Lansen could possibly  
know mate of their Hqs



No 3 PL.  
WATU.  
8 June 45

oc HQ cny

Report as per Para 53 Standing Orders WATU.

Moral - High  
Rations - U Fair & Good.  
Climate - no influence on  
health & moral up to  
the present.

By Me Lt

Amendments:-

hit at present: Site  
Polley court being prepared.  
in PL Area.

cc  
A & Coy

*[Faint, illegible handwriting]*

*[Faint, illegible handwriting]*

*[Faint, illegible handwriting]*

*[Faint, illegible handwriting]*

*[Faint, illegible handwriting]*

*[Faint, illegible handwriting]*

*[Faint, illegible handwriting]*

1935  
MAY 14  
14th May

O.C.  
H.V. Bay.

No. 12  
H.V. Bay

Report as per Para 53 Standing Orders.

1. Operational Activities:

No. 12 moved from Tide Bay to Open Bay arrived at Water 1500 hours. It occupied the N Gun Emplacement vacated by 36 Co. Sec at Water, Sec Nantambur.

2. Morale:

The morale is good.

3. Amenities:

Are nil at present.

4. Rations:

Very Good.

5. Personal Notes:

It is at present fully occupied in maintaining O.P. at Water also in preparing new gun emplacement.



3007

Report.

of casualties:

A bomb: One man with poison foot  
due to walk to Open Bay. This  
will be completely healed in next few  
days.

Otherwise all ok.

7. Climate:

Climate is not affecting the work during  
the day. No cases of heat rash etc reported.

W. Douglas  
To: R. Comins.

*[Faint handwritten notes, possibly "Post" and "3007"]*

WEEKLY REPORT TO. 0600 hrs. 8. JUN 45.  
NO 5 PL. HQ. Coy.

1. OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES.

Pl moved from WIDE BAY. to OPEN BAY. arriving 1500 hrs. 1. JUN 45.

2. MORALE.

Pl in good spirits - after trip.

3. AMENITIES.

nil at present. - Valley hall cannot be constructed.

4. RATIONS.

Satisfactory.

5. PERSONAL NOTES.

Malaria Recounters & Inspection carried out - atebin daily at 0830. - Tent Inspection 2200. During evening inspection it is noticeable that approx 50% of personnel have some portion of body touching net. - Consider narrowness of stretchers the reason. - Request advised

to check nets when changing.  
All personnel employed in  
Construction works.

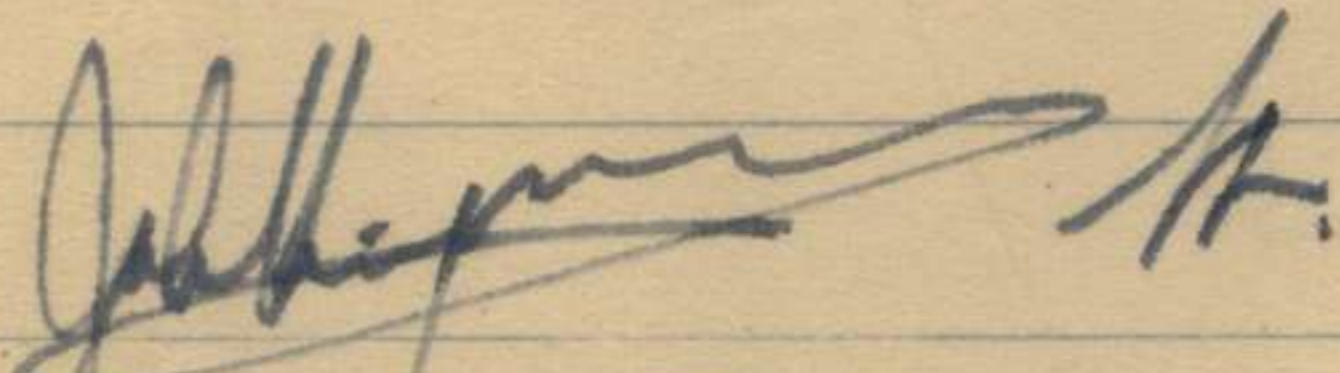
6. CASUALTIES.

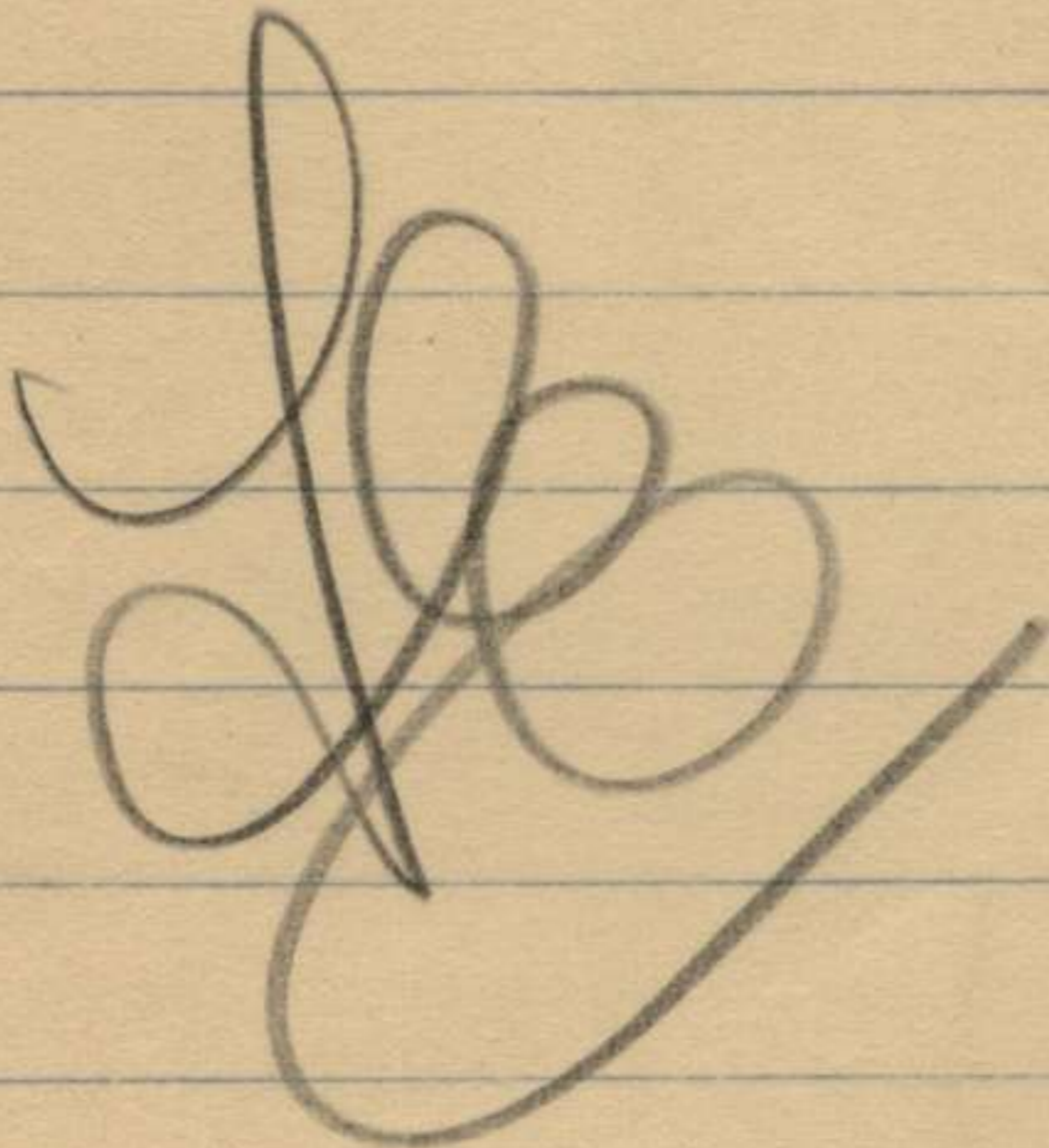
Nil apart from minor abrasions  
received during trip across isle.  
One M.C.O. (CPL. MACKAY) suffered  
Temperature during week.

7.

CLIMATE:

As far as H.Q. - Climate not too  
trying for works programme as  
laid down.

  
O.C. 5 PL.



Copy B

Coy Comds. Weekly Report 10 0000 8 June.

(1) PATROLS.

(a) SAI NO 1 11 Pl.

(b) SAI NO 2 12 Pl.

(c) Local patrol to 12 Pl.

(2)

OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES.

Coy HQ & 10 Pl perimeter defence  
MAVELO area.

(3) MORALE.

Good.

(4) AMENITIES.

(CANTEN) Popular lines of canteen goods not available. Tinned fruit blown & fruit rats deteriorated. Suggest these goods be checked at NANTAMBU before dispatch to fuel area.

(5) RATIONS.

Ample except for breakfast food - suggest frankfurts or spinach, then some tinned.

(6) CASUALTIES.

2 Evac's to 4 Rd Amb 8 June 55  
Pte. ANDREA. (Ring worm)  
- MIOBEL. (Hook worm)

(7) GENERAL.

Confusion often met from rations & canteen supplies etc being sent in composite lots to A & B Coy. As this HQ is now operating separately from A Coy suggest that separate bills of loading & packing notes be made out at NANTAMBU. Chalk marking on boxes would also help of staff at this end.

James S.  
p 00 13 Coy.

Subject - Weekly Report.

C. Coy.  
8 Jun 45.

Adjt.

1. PATROLS - See standing patrols daily from 0600 hrs to 1800 hrs in following areas:

- (a) BATH TRACK.
- (b) SOUTH TRACK.

See patrol to MARELO on 6 Jun from 0800 to 1700 - task check and repair Sig line.

All patrols N.M.S.

2. MORALE - Very good.

3. AMMENITIES -

- (a) Nil as present.

4. RATIONS -

- (a) Generally good. Sugar

supply approx 30 lb light. Approx 50% of sea ration only received.

5. CASUALTIES -

- (a) Nil.

6. GENERAL -

- (a) Works -

1. Kitchen - Work progressing with arrival of sac sac. Estimate kitchen ready to operate approx 11 Jun.

2. Defences - Digging in new posts commenced 8 Jun. Picks and shovels required. Large amount of debris and undergrowth will have to be cleared to provide satisfactory fields of fire.

Works :-

Area : Coy HQ and 15 pe sent areas  
Completed with exception of  
logs and rubbish etc to be  
removed. 13 pe sent area will  
be completed 9 Nov. Work on  
4 pe area not yet commenced.

G. Blappert  
Capt.

R.C. COY.

ORIGINATOR'S NO.

TO (a) For Information (INFO)

For Action

FROM (A) Originator Date—Time of Origin

Office Date Stamp

Message Instructions

Transmission Instructions

Register No.

MESSAGE FORM

(Form of 100) (Adapted from 1913) (Not for use)

D Coy  
8 Jun 45

Weekly Report to 8600 hrs. 8 Jun.

1. Operational activities

- (a) Standing patrol. - 1. P. 3.
- (b) 17 ft. Staging area post 2.
- (c) 18 ft. Staging area post 2.

2. Morale: ... excellent.

3. Amusements

- (a) Sporting materials urgently required.
- (b) Cards, draughts and other games would also be appreciated.

4. Rations

Rations are excellent with the exception of sugar supplies which are light.

5. Personal notes

N/L.

6. Casualties and Medical

- (a) Two men now evacuated to hospital including one malaria case.
- (b) Two men returned from post 1. suffering from ear trouble and skin trouble.
- (c) General health of company good.

7. Works Programme

- (a) Jett completed. 3 Jun 45.
- (c) Cleaning up of area and mess room and kitchen buildings are in progress.

Michael Cap.  
D Coy

WEEKLY REPORT to. 080600.K. A. Coy. 37/52. Aust. Inf. Bn.(1). PATROLS.

5/6 Jun. I One Sec. Patrol along sig line to CAMP. I.

Tasks. (a) Raise and tree sig line at least 6 feet high and off track.

(b) Examine line for tapping or damage.

Time Out. 050800.K.

Time In. 061305 K.

Report. Line raised as ordered, no sign of tapping; line in good condition.

6. Jun. II i M.C.O. 3.0 Hrs. sig line to SAI. R. PI.

Tasks. as for I. above.

Time Out. 060800K.

Time In. 061715. K.

Report Line raised as ordered, no sign tapping, line in good condition.

7. Jun. III. Recce Party. Capt. WEST.

.1. LMT PERSONNEL.

.1. BATMAN.

Protective Patrol. Lt. CARRAWAY plus 8 PI. A. Coy.

Task. Recce for 2. Coy perimeter between. NORTH BANK. SAI R. and SOUTH BANK POTAITI. R.

Report. (a) Area unsuitable.

(b). No sign recent enemy activity.

(2). OPERATIONAL ACTIVITY. Nil.

(3). MORALE. Good. Has shown steady improvement since arriving at MAYELO.

(4). AMENITIES. (a) Cpl. PHAIR, Salvation Army Representative brought up gramophone (portable) and played good selection of recordings while awaiting arrival



of FLIGHT. 7. Was much appreciated by troops.

(b). One case of assorted library Books received from Padre BALE and listed and distributed in accordance with C.O.s. instructions.

(5). RATIONS. Satisfactory except for breakfast foods - see (8) below. Meat now arriving ex large in good condition, none condemned during week under review.

(6). CASUALTIES.

(a). Battle - Nil.

(b). Sickness. Evacuations. 5.

Average daily attendance at C.A.P. for minor ailments. 11. - mainly infected sand fly bites.

(c). Manned out to Schools, leave etc. 3, incl. Capt. OODORELL.

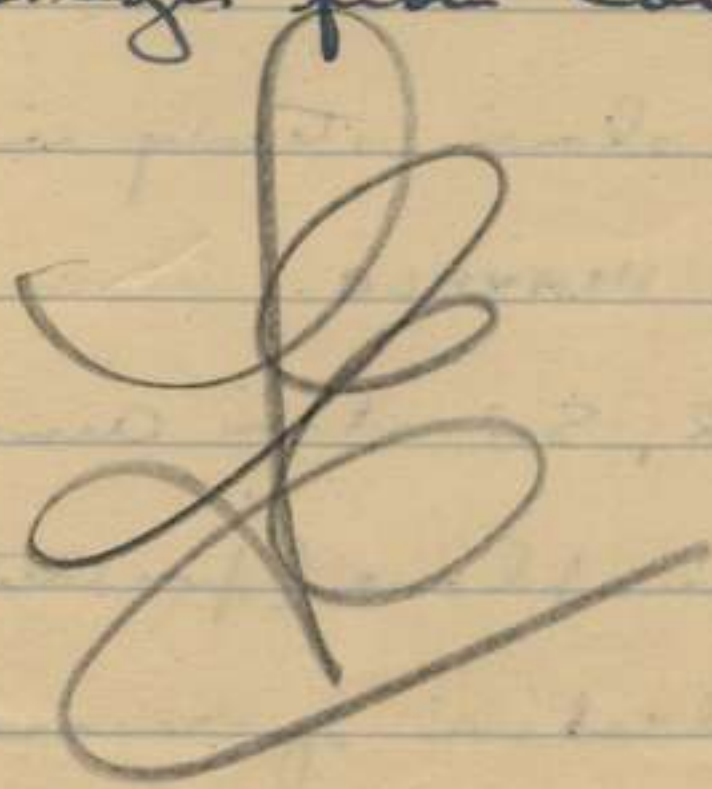
(d). Manned in from X. Unit. Hosp. etc. 14.

(7). PERSONAL REMARKS. Nil.

(8). GENERAL REMARKS.

Suitable breakfast foods appear to be in short supply on ration scale. Oatmeal, Egg Powder and Trimmed Tomatoes only in 6 day rations received 6 Jun.

It is suggested that Regt Funds could be used to augment by purchase of Spaghetts and tinned Sausages from Canteen.



Dr. West  
Capt.

A. Coy.

O.C

13 Aust Fd Coy RAE (A I F)

General notes on OPEN BAY area

1. CONTROL OF WORKS  
Lieut SHIRLEY Responsible for all works  
" CLOSE " " NANTAMBU and WATU area  
Capt MAHONEY i/c work at SULE area.
2. LIAISON WITH 37/52 Aust Inf Bn  
Lieut SHIRLEY responsible, in his absence Lt CLOSE
3. WORKS REPORTS  
Week is from Thursday at 0600 hrs to following Wednesday at 1800 hrs.  
This was done to work in with mail time tables.
4. COMMUNICATIONS  
8 Pl to HQ; No 11 set - reception strength 5  
8 Pl to SULE: Working to Engr Sig Section detachment  
General personnel movement by RAE launch and Aust. barge.
5. HEALTH
  1. To date there has been three to four cases of B.T. malaria, apparently infection was picked up in Wide Bay area.
  2. Generally nothing beyond some skin rashes and minor cuts.
6. CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER UNITS
  1. 37/52 Aust Inf Bn - excellent response
  2. 1 Aust Forest Survey - All technical help with plans and loan of draftsman. - Excellent
  3. M.C. Unit - Excellent
7. PLANT
  1. All dozers have been working for periods up to 3000 hrs.
  2. Tractors - trouble has been found with Big Ends of D4 tractor
  3. Tipplers - General condition - fair  
Winch Truck - Fair, winch does not work  
3 T.G.S. Truck - Grounded for overhaul  
Jeeps - 3 good - 1 grounded
  4. Sheeps foot roller would have been very useful on SULI Air Strip.
8. LABOURS  
Natives - approx allocation 100 out of 300 available to RAE Infantry, for handling stores.
9. LOCATION OF PERSONNEL

	Nantambu	Sule	Hoskins
8 Pl 13 Aust Fd Coy	1 x 44	10	2
HQ " " " "	1 x 4	1	
2 Pl 2/3 RCC		1 x 38	
7 Engr Sig Section		2	
10. MORALE  
Good
11. ENGR STORES
  1. Stocks on hand are low
  2. Replenishment to 1/3 of GRE Dump, ~~stock~~ date unknown at present.
  3. Urgent requirements, direct from LAE by air freight.
12. Circular Saws sent to JACQUINOT, could their return be by Air Freight.

1. APPRECIATION REPORT on current Engineers works and future employment in OPEN BAY area.
2. REF MAPS            OPEN BAY            1 inch to 1 mile  
Cape Deschamps 1 inch to 1 mile  
Megigi                1 inch to 1 mile

3. Date                1 Jun 45

4. Report by Lieut SHIRLEY  
A/F.E.O.  
13 Aust Fd Coy RAE (A I F)

5. OBJECT                    Engineer Appreciation of:  
1. Operations  
2. Works as per Div Instructions  
3. Local requirements

- A Nantambu Area
- B Watu Area
- C Hoskins Area

Each serial is subject of a separate appendix except Serial 1 of para 5

6. OPERATIONS - Nil to 1 Jun 45 and to date no indicated requirements by C.O. 37/52 Aust Inf Bn.

7. LIST OF APPENDICES

1. SULE AIRSTRIP? access Road and barge point
2. Nantambu Small Ships Wharf
3. Radar Site at Ea Ea Point
4. Local works Nantambu area
5. " " Watu Area
6. " " Hoskins Area

8. PRIORITIES OF WORK

A Divisional Work

PRIORITY

1. Suli Air Strip and Barge Point
2. Small Ships Wharf Nantambu
3. Radar Site at Ea Ea Point
4. Road Open Bay to Wide Bay - recce will be done by Lt BROWN on receipt of works instr from RAE HQ

B LOCAL REQUIREMENTS

NANTA MBU

PRIORITY

1. Local Roads
2. RAE Store Sheds
3. RAE Saw Bench
- ADS (cannot be commenced until accomodation stores arrive.

BARGE Point  
BARGE Slipway

2. BAKERY

DID Refrigerator Motor  
RAE Launch repairs  
Water Point  
AIR Strip

WATU

- Priority 1. Temporary Jetty )  
2. Permanent Jetty ) Note Battalion labour only.  
3. CORDUROY Road )

HOSKINS

- Priority 1. Air Strip Maintenance  
2. Water Point operation

9. Detail Plans of main works are being drawn.

Appendix 1.

1. Report on SULI AIR STR IP, Access Road and Barge Point.
2. Ref Map : Cape Deschamp 1 inch to 1 mile
3. Map Ref : 858531
4. Date : 1 Jun 45
5. Report By : Lieut SHIRLEY A / F.E.O. 13 Aust Fd Coy RAE (AIF)
6. OBJECT :
  1. Air Strip to take D.C. 3 Craft
  2. Barge Point to accomodate two A.L.C. 40's
  3. Access Road from Air Strip to Barge Point
7. LABOUR AND PLANT

Serial	Unit etc	Strength	Plant etc	Remarks
1.	No 2 Pl 2/3 R.C.C. RAE	1 x 38	3-D6 Dozers) 1-HD " ) 1-D4 " ) 5-3T Tip trucks 1- Auto Patrol 1- Jeep and trailer	Commenced clearing 19 May
2.	No 3 Sec No 8 Pl 13 Aust Fd Coy RAE	12	1 Compressor) 1 Jap Roller) 4-3T Tip Trucks	Commenced work 25 May on roads & Chinaman
3.	Natives	60-70		Probably commence work 4 Jun

8. Estimated duration of works:
 

A	Air Strip	E.D.C.	2 Aug
B	Road to Barge Point	E.D.C.	Forming 31 May
C	Barge Point	E.D.C.	7 Jul

9. PLANS will be forwarded later

10. General Remarks:

1. A complete re-survey of site was carried out.  
Reason- previous data was not sufficient to commence Earthworks.
2. Strip located from map ref 852527 to map ref 866524
 

Bearing	98°	Magnetic
Length	4200 feet	
Gradients	00' to 300'	1.8%
	300' to 1300'	V.C
	1300' to 4200'	3%

Pavement	100 Ft
Shoulders	50 ft

Note: Shoulders graded but not gravelled.
3. Time spent on re-survey was justified as a slight alteration in design saved 25000 cu yds of earth moving.

## Appendix 1(cont'd)

11. Details of work

Serial	Job	Quantity	Date		Remarks
			Commenced	EDC	
1.	<u>Air Strip</u>				
	Clearing Earth		19 May	30 May	
	Moving	50000 c.yds	28 May	27 Jul	4200 ft long 100 ft pavement with 50 ft shldr shoulders grade but not gravel
	Surfacing	16000 c.yds	13 Jun	2 Aug	12 inch consolidated pavement
2.	HARD STANDING				
	Earth moving	2500c.yds	27 Jul	30 Jul	
	Surfacing	1400 c.yds	31 Jul	2 Aug	500 ft long & 100 ft wide 9 inch consoli- dated pavement
3.	<u>Road to barge point</u>				
	Clearing	8000 ft	24 May	26 May	
	Forming	8000 ft	30 May	31 May	8000 ft of road
	Structures		26 May	30 Jun	
	Gravelling				Awaiting result of compaction
4.	Barge Point		21 Jun	7 Jul	To take two A.L.C. 40's

12. LOCAL RESOURCES

1. Timber on site is sufficient for all structures.
2. Surfacing Material - Volcanic ash. A good deposit located approx 1 mile from strip.  
This will require construction of 1 mile of road, and Chinaman.
3. Engr Stores are mainly ARMCO Pipe, explosives, A.R.C. Mesh and M.S. Rod for spikes.

APPENDIX . 2.

1. REPORT ON SMALL SHIPS WHARF A T NANTAMBE.
2. Ref map. Cape Deschamp, linc to 1 mile.
3. Map Ref 944589
4. Date 1 Jun 45
5. Report by Lieut SHIRLEY, J.B.  
A/F.E.O.  
13 Aust Fd Coy RAE (AIF)

6. OBJECT

To berth small ships up to 190 ft length X Max of 20 ft draft at low water.

7. Preliminary soundings have been taken and access road cleared to site.

8. PLANT REQUIRED

1. Standard Pile Frame plus Prime and Monkey - 1 of each.
2. pontoons
3. F.B.E. Boats 2 off.

9. LOCAL RESOURCES

1. PLANT

- A. One single drum winch.
- B. One "SAKAI" single cylinder Japanese motor in fair condition.
- C. Investigation of Japanese barges for use as pontoons is continuing. Result to date unsatisfactory.

NOTE

: Signal to CE FIRST AUST ARMY despatched asking for details of supply of Pile Frames, Monkey, Prime mover, N.L. pontoons, and sawn timber for wharf.

2. Timber

KAMARERE FROM UBILI TO ULA MONA area.

10. Preliminary plan enclosed under separate cover.

11. LABOUR

No 8 Pl 13 Fd Coy.  
40 Natives.

TIME.

Approx. 2 months.

APPENDIX/ 3.

1. Report on RADA R site at Ea Ea Pt.
2. Ref Map Cape Deschamp, 1 inch to 1 mile.
3. Map Ref 932602
4. Date 1 Jun 45
5. Report by Lieut SHIRLEY J.B.  
A/F.E.O.  
13 Aust Fd Coy RAE (AIF)

6. OBJECT/  
For ship detection.

7. WORK

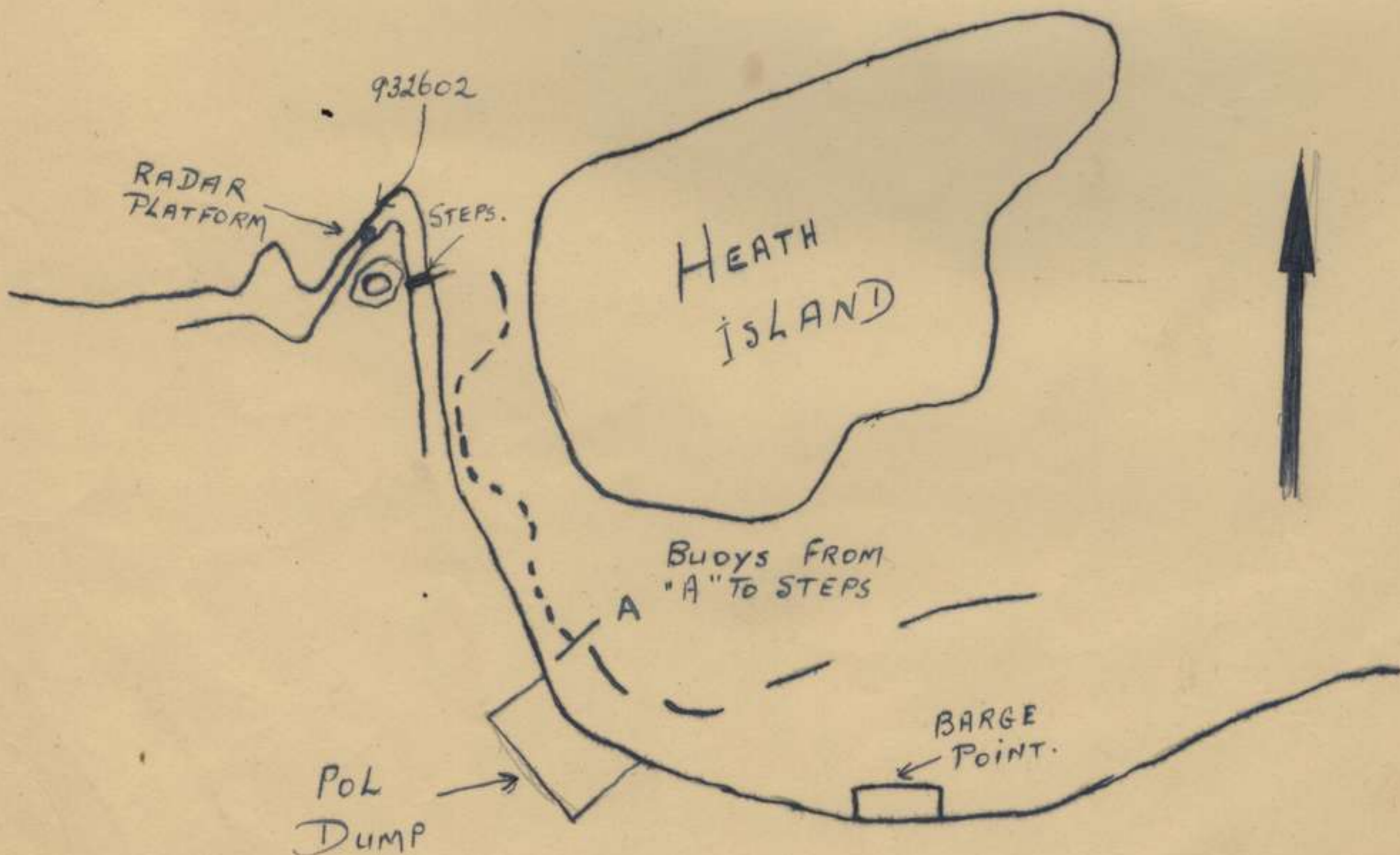
1. Clear and excavate a platform 20' X 20'
2. Build 14 steps up cliff face
3. Buoy entrance channel for A.L.C. 40's

8. LABOUR etc

Serial	Job	Labour		Time	REMARKS
		RAE	NATIVE		
1.	Clear platform	1	20	4 days	Job is to be commenced as soon as notice is received that Radar equipment is on the way
2.	Build steps	1	20	1 day	
3.	Buoy channel	2		1 day	

9. DETAILS OF WORK

see sketch below



EARTH EXCAVATION -- 110 cub yds approx in platform

APPENDIX 4.

1. REPORT on local works NANTAMBU
2. Ref map Cape Deschamp linc to 1 mile
3. Map Ref In area E 950 to 960 N 590 to 593
4. Date 1 Jun 45
5. Report by Lieut SHIRLEY J.B.  
A/F.E.O.  
13 Aust Fd Coy RAE (AIF)

6. OBJECT  
To indicate local requirements to Nantambu area

7. GENERAL

1. Local materials are to be used for all accomodation buildings. Mainly Sac Sac roofing with natives producing enough to roof a 30' X 20' hut daily. All bush poles and vines to be used for securing members as far as possible. The A.D.S. will require Engineers stores, this has already been ~~xxxxxxxx~~ requisitioned.
2. Road material; Only shallow and sparse deposits of volcanic ash, with large stones intermixed.
3. Water: Good supply of waber as per Horricks test. Half a scoop of W.S.P. per 100 galls.
4. The main engineer labour required is on:-
  1. New road bridge
  2. Barge point and slipway
  3. A.D.S.

8. DETAIL

1. Local roads Nantambu.
  - A. Resheet existing road and drain
  - B. New road bridge 110 ft span by 20 ft wide.
  - C. Build two lane roads to proposed water point.
2. R.A.E. store sheds.  
2- 50'x 20' sheds for RAE dump. Job finished.  
Labour - 2 sappers 5 days  
20 Natives 4 days
3. Saw bench. Job in hands of workshops.
4. A.D.S. - Full details of job not yet decided.
5. Barge point and slipway - see separate plan no 1.
6. Bakery - concrete floor 700 sq ft. 75% complete and then work stopped as cement in area had been used up. Oven repairs complete.
7. D.I.D. Refrigerator motors. These are not efficient and proposal is to replace both motors with a jeep engine driving both refrigerators.
8. R.A.E. Launch- Maintenance repairs and finishing construction. Two sappers 2 days.
9. Water point- Awaiting arrival of pump.
10. Air strip - Requires clearing and grading. Suggest leaving until mech. plant can be released from SULE.



APPENDIX 5.

1. Report on local works at Watu point.
2. Ref map Epen Bay 1 inch to 1 mile.
3. Map ref 168543
4. Date 1 Jun 45
5. Report by Lieut SHIRLEY J.B.  
A/F.E.O.  
13 Aust Fd Coy RAE (AIF)
6. OBJECT  
To indicate work required by 37/52 Aust Inf Bn in Watu Area.
7. LABOUR  
All work to be carried out by Infantry and Native labour, with Engineer advice and supervision.
8. General  
The area was reced by the C.O. 37/52 Aust Inf Bn, and Lieut Shirley. and works discussed.

Proposals by C.O. 37/52 Bn.

1. Establish new barge point.
2. 1 Mile of Corduroy track from camp to new barge point.
3. Bridge over Osa Osa creek.

Final project

1. Build temporary jetty of petrol drum piers and arc mesh dock at old barge point.
2. Build Cl.9. jetty 150 ft long X 10 ft wide at old barge point. This is an all weather beach.
3. Establish Water point on main camp side of Osa Osa creek, and just improve ford crossing of creek.

9. DETAIL

1. Temporary jetty 110' x 6' wide. Completed 30 May 45. Plan supplied by Engineers and constructional advice.

Stores used.

A .R.C. mesh	15 sheets
$\frac{1}{2}$ " dia rod	250 feet
12 $\frac{1}{2}$ g wire	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ coils
Cement	2 bags

2. ~~Permanent jetty 150' long x 10' wide. Completed 30 May 45. Plan supplied by engineers~~

Permanent jetty 150' long by 10' wide. ARC mesh piers at 15' crs. ARC mesh deck double thickness.

NOTE: It is proposed to salvage some 4" thick timber from Ulamona and replace as much ARC mesh as possible in the deck.

Stores Required

A.R.C. mesh	100 sheets
12 $\frac{1}{2}$ g wire	3 coils
$\frac{1}{2}$ " dia rod	300 feet

3. Road. To be left until natives and some mech eqpt is available. In the meantime existing corduroy to be drained and covered with coral by Infantry labour. Existing track will serve the purpose of moving guns into water area.

APPENDIX 6.

1. Report on work in Hoskins area.
2. Ref Map Migigi 1 inch to 1 mile
3. Map ref            Maps not available
4. Date 1 Jun 45
5. Report by Lieut SHIRLEY J.B.

A/F.E.O.

13 Aust Bn Coy RAE (AIF)

6. OBJECT

To give engineers maintenance responsibility at Hoskins

7. General

Work is purely maintenance

1. Air Strip to be maintained. Labour - Two sappers  
Work required - Roll and drag formation and watch  
drainage.

Plant - 1x3 ton truck (tip)

Water point operation of no 4 Pumping set.

8. RECOMMENDATION

When SULE Air Strip etc is completed this should remove  
the necessity of having a base at Hoskins.

9. CONCLUSION

This area has not been the subject of an Engineers reconce  
to date Lieut Shirley will inspect area over the 2nd and 3rd  
of June and report will be sent to HQ by signal.

The Air Strip has been worked for 6 days by the 2/3rd  
R.C.C. Auto Patrol.

HQ COY. WEEKLY REPORT.

To 0600 hrs 8 JUN 45.

1. General.

(a) Hereunder reports by PL Comds 1, 3, 4, 5 PLS.

(b) Following is a summary of these reports with addition remarks by OC HQ Coy.

2. OP. Activities.

1. PL. 2. Sup with SAI RIV 1 & 2 PATROLS.

2 .. Recce + occupation of defensive posn  
NANTAMBU.

3 PL. One det MAVELO

Three dets occupied and  
improving defensive posns WATU.

4 PL. One Sec WATU visited one gun  
vicinity TK.A. OP.

5 PL. NIL.

6 PL ..

3. MORALE.

Good. All men are enthusiastic  
and working well.

4. Amenities.

3 Parcels of sporting gear arrived from NANTAMBU during week. Lieut FIFFE is arranging distribution. 5 PL have volley ball court planned. Another court proposed in 3 PL area.

5. Rations.

Satisfactory. Sugar shortage investigated & remedied. Cook house a mess but under construction, and preparation of food should improve after move to new kitchen.

6. Personal Notes.

One application for leave forwarded for consideration. Two men completed A 200 during week.

7. Casualties.

see attached list.

8. Climate: enervating, but bearable. Green Mas

Ho Cay  
8 JUN.

R.	No.	Rk.	NAME.	CASUALTY	DATE	REMARKS
3PL	Vx142127	SGT	MCDHEE, C.M.	Evac 4 3d Amb Pyelitis + urti	5.6.45	
2PL	Vx135936	PTE	WAY W	Evac 4 3d Amb Carbuncle on back	1.6.45	Evac from
1PL	Vx150400	"	GRANTHAM E.C.	?	?	NANTAMBU
6PL	Vx78055	"	ZEIGLER G.A.	P.O.D. Malaria?	1.6.45	
3PL	Sx23822	LIEUT	FORBES D.A.	Evac. 4 3d Amb Tropical Dermatitis	2.6.45	
5PL	Vx142123	PTE	HOCKING AM.	2 1/2 hrs out to be shops	7.6.45	
6PL	Vx109294	"	TAIT FR	Adm 2/8 964 injury to frontal sinus	2.6.45	

*[Large handwritten signature]*

RECEIVED

APPX 20

8 JUN 1945

53 AUST PORT CRAFT COY RAE (AIF)

RETURN OF CRAFT OPERATIONS AS FROM 25 MAY TO 7 JUNE 1945.

TYPE	VESSEL CAPACITY		Location	Unit	Nature of Employment	No of Trips	Miles Travelled	Cargo (Tons)	Engine Hrs Operated		Personnel Carried	REMARKS.			
	Army No	Name							Tons	Pers			P	S	
A. L. C. 20.	AB1226		20	120	NANTAMBU	A. DETACH. 53 PORT CRAFT COY	SUPPLY RUN ANCHORAGE DUTIES.	34	169.	89.	22	26.	204.		
"	"	AB1228	"	"	"	"	"	24	484	38	59½	59½	287.		
"	"	AB1234	"	"	"	"	"	49	322	155	41¼	41¼	348		
"	"	AB1236	"	"	"	"	"	27	485	70½	72¾	72¾	223.		
"	"	AB1237	"	"	"	"	"	27	422	25	60	60	365.		
"	"	AB1238.	"	"	"	"	"	<del>TOTALS.</del>	60	368	206.	36	38	583.	
								TOTALS.	221	2250	583½	291½	297½	2010.	



Signed: *N. Conroy Lt.*  
 O.C. 53 Aust Port Craft Coy RAE.  
 A. DETACH.

8 JUN 1945

Subject: WEEKLY REPORT

CO  
3752 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

1. OPERATION: This week, ~~x~~ Supply Points at Mavelo, Post 1 and Post 2 were closed and personnel returned to NANTAMBU. HOSKINS DID is still in operation; usual maintenance being carried out for Bn Gp.

2. MORALE: Very Good

3. AMENITIES: If operations permit, competitive will be carried out this Sunday.

4. RATIONS: No maintenance shipment of SWPA rations has been received this week, approximate holdings as to date are 20 days. First Aust Army has been notified of position and have advised that rations will be forwarded at earliest possible time.

Total Rations issued this week:-

EUROPEAN	-	6993
NATIVE	-	784

5. POL: Stocks of POL are adequate.

6. FRESH SUPPLIES: The freezer ship that arrived this week brought enough fresh meat for approx 28 days issue, and approx one months supply of meats for hospital use.

7. CASUALTIES: This week, two personnel were admitted to hospital and placed under observation.

8. PERSONAL NOTES:  
NIL

9. CLIMATE: Hot, with occasional rain.

RECEIVED  
8 JUN 1945

J.A. Collins Capt  
(J.A. COLLINS) OC

ban DID at Hoskins be closed  
ban one man be sent to  
Water?

17 Aust AAD Det,  
37 Aust Inf Bn,  
Australia.  
8 Jun 45.

OS 186.

CO  
37 Aust Inf Bn

AMMUNITION EXAMINER'S REPORT TO 8 JUN 45.

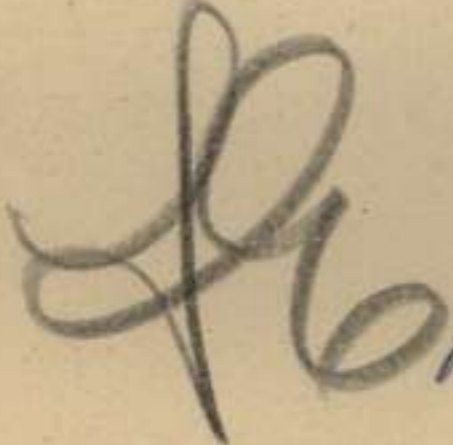
The following report is made on Amn returned to this Det by 37 Bn during the past two weeks.

2. All loose 9MM and 303 Ball has been condemned for front line use but it could be used for training. Approx 20% of SAA has been sentenced US due to corrosion and discolouration while many of the chargers were rusty .

3. Bombs ML 2in Mortar and 3in Mortar HE and Smoke were found to be in a fairly good condition. Approx 90% has been sentenced for local repair while the remainder is US. Due to bad storage in the past, slight rust has been observed on the majority of bombs and slight corrosion on some tails of 2in Mortar. A big percentage of the Carriers returned are US and it would be appreciated if all serviceable Carriers and boxes could be returned for use by this Det.

4. Grenades Hand and Rifle No 36M require 100% inspection and repair as they all show signs of rust. Only a very small percentage of the Detonators returned were in hermedically sealed tins. The seals of these tins should be left untouched as long as is possible as once the seal is broken the moisture attacks the det assembly. Across the flash hole there is a prepared paper which keeps the moisture from the powder in the safety fuze and once this paper becomes damp the det assembly is considered to be US.


5. We are unable to supply the demand of C Coy in respect of grenades Hand No 36M 4 sec owing to the fact that our stock has not been replenished by First Aust Army. An urgent signal has been sent to First Aust Army but these cannot be expected for a few weeks. However, the repair on grenades Hand 4 sec returned by your Bn is in progress and it is expected that we will be able to supply the demands of C Coy within the next 7 days.

 S. J. Barron WO II  
A.E. 17 Aust AAD Det

Unit Armourer Reports as Follows:

1. In my opinion the use of condemned 9 mm ammunition for training is unsatisfactory. My experience with this ammunition (loose) in NEW GUINEA, particularly at FINSCHHAFEN and WAREO, proved it responsible for the large number of bulged barrels in SMG Owens.

2. Use of the 303 ammunition should be satisfactory in rifles only, but I definitely would not recommend its use in LMG Bren for the same reason as stated in para 1.

 R. J. Mathison Sgt  
Armourer Sgt 37/52 Aust Inf Bn



# MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

Call	Ser. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions
------	----------	----------	---------------------------

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

**FROM** (A) 8 PL 3 Aust Fd Coy 08 1130/A

Office Date Stamp  
18 JUN 1945

**TO** 37 BN.  
(re) For Information (INFO.)

Message Instructions **GR**

ORIGINATOR'S No. RETI  
 020600K to 080600K  
 Amenities - Bad  
 Nil  
 Climate - Fair  
 Restricted weekly report period  
 Patrols - Nil  
 Rations - Fair  
 Morale - good  
 Casualties -  
 This covers AEMR  
 Ordnance and Engrs.

*Palmer*

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means { except } Wireless

If liable to be intercepted or fall into enemy hands, this message must be sent IN CIPHER

Signed *B. Shuley*

Originator's Instructions Degree of Priority

Time	System	Op
THI or TOR		
Time Cleared		

Signed

# MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

Call	Ser. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions
------	----------	----------	---------------------------

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

<b>FROM</b>	Originator	Date—Time of Origin
(A)	A DETACH. 53 PORT CRAFT COY.	08. 1000 K

Office Date Stamp

<b>TO</b>	For Action
	37 BN.

(w) For Information (INFO.)

Message Instructions **GR**

ORIGINATOR'S No. JC. 760 RESTRICTED. @ att find craft ops for period 25 May 7 Jun @

This message may be sent **AS WRITTEN** by any means *except*

Signed *Jr. Coady Lt* Wireless

If liable to be intercepted or fall into enemy hands, this message must be sent **IN CIPHER**

Signed

Originator's Instructions  
 Degree of Priority

Time	System	Op
<b>THI or TOR</b>		
Time Cleared		

RECEIVED

18 JUN 1945

18 JUN 1945

RECEIVED

Nº 57

D.S.

ANGAU

NANTAMBU.

8.6.45.

Major Blackson,

2/c.

37/52 Bw.

### Weekly Report.

#### Patrols.

On 1st June five native police left for native villages inland of this area. Object of patrol - to recruit casual labourers for work in new Angau compound.

#### Other operational activities.

On 29th May. 4 native police left for Uhae Bay, escorting 35 free natives. 20 go to RHE compound, 20 to.

#### Morale.

Morale of all European personnel and natives is high.

#### Amenities.

An attempt has been made to procure amenities for personnel, from our A.O. Jacquinot Bay.

Footballs have been provided by us to natives.

Rations.

A fourteen day supply on hand here for both Europeans and natives.

Casualties.① Movements out.

VX 20163, Lt. Ferguson, to Jacquinot Bay.  
22131. on 2/6/45.

② Movements In.

V212077 W.O. Anderson, A.D. from  
Wide Bay on 3/6/45.

NX 49801, Sgt. Lupino, A.B. from  
Kalolo.

General.

OIC Angan visited Talasea on 26/5/45, to confer with D.O. Talasea, Capt. J. Chambers. Arranged to bring from Kalolo, in the near future, up to 200 evacuee natives to be domiciled here.

Climate.

Hot and dry during early part of the week, but fair falls of rain during past three days.

Fredy capt.

WEEKLY REPORT

Unit: "A" Coy 4x Aust Fd Amb

For week ended 0600 hrs: 8 Jun 45

MORALE: Good

AMENITIES: Poor. Sporting gear has to be borrowed from other units. No wireless set. Shortage of reading material.

RATIONS: Very good. Occasional shortages, but on the whole sufficient quantity.

PERSONAL NOTES:

(a) Hospital - The hospital is rather crowded and will have to expand soon, if the present rate of admissions continues.

Medical Supplies - good

Evacuation - Report will be submitted with suggestions for speeding up the evacuation of sick back to ADS from FDL.

(b) Malaria - 8 cases of malaria in past week.

(c) Hygiene - In units visited during past week, it was noticed that not sufficient use is being made of oil and water burners. Units have been advised on the matter. Refuse is usually being incinerated and buried, although some is still being thrown into the sea. Latrines are generally satisfactory. The seats are apt to warp and this can be overcome by bracing with slats and using screws (not nails). Improvements could be made to unit cook-houses, these will be carried out in the near future.

(d) Climate - No remarks

RECEIVED  
18 JUN 1945

*Dance* Capt  
Comd "A" Coy 4 Aust Fd Amb

37/52 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)  
8 Jun 45.

Patrols

None undertaken.

Other Operational Activities.

Covered by report of Officer in charge of Defence.

Morale.

Troops are kept fully occupied mainly on constructional work. They are keenly interested in the preparation of their area, mess hut etc, consequently morale is high.

Amenities

A distribution of sporting equipment has been made both in this area and to WATU. A small library taken over from 36 Bn is now handled by the canteen staff. Canteen is operating efficiently.

Ordnance Stores

No further shipment of ordnance stores has arrived, consequently maintenance of clothing in other than abnormal sizes cannot be maintained. Stocks of the more common sizes in boots are exhausted, 130 Ord Fd Pk advise that vouchers for above mentioned stores are held so that supplies should arrive shortly. 50 G.S. Watches have been received, a distribution has been made on a proportional basis as laid down by WET. All rifle coys now hold 15 G.S. Watches.

Personal Notes

- Capt Rowley raised several points following his interview with you.
- (a) Bren Guns:-- Following a check on Bren Guns of both units under command, and our own Bn the specific guns mentioned were found to be not on charge.
  - (b) Contolled Stores:-- A physical check of all controlled stores is now proceeding.
  - (c) Cooks:-- I submitted to Capt Rowley details concerning cooks which I understand he has forwarded to you. I do not intend to make any drastic changes with cooks as I consider it preferable to let them remain as a "team" in a coy. Minor adjustments will be made for additional kitchens set up and to maintain a balance throughout coys.
  - (d) Bootmaker, Tailor and Equipment Repairer have now been set up at WATU. In the case of the bootmaker and tailor the "second string" has been set up at NANTAMBU.

Rations

Supplies of fresh meat and butter have been maintained. Definite shortage in breakfast foods such as bacon and sausages. No variety in Jam.

Climate

Heavy rain on afternoon and evening of 5th otherwise fine.

Casualties

	Hospital evacuations.				
V24785	Pte NOLAN H.	P.U.O.	VX139789	Pte TAYLOR G.W.	P.U.O
VX11940	Sgt BROWNING H.G.	P.U.O.	VX109192	Cpl FLEW K.J.	P.U.O

.....*J. Stewart*.....Capt.  
ROM 37/52 Aust Inf Bn

Lt GRIFFIN  
Sign

37/52 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)  
Jun 45.

Beach Defence

Tk/A gun positions have been sighted and are being constructed to cover arcs of fire as shown on sketch. Coast watching is maintained continuously by Tk/A personnel. MMG sec posn sighted at North of airstrip to cover arc of 180° and interlock with fire arcs of Tk/A. This posn is not manned but will be prepared and guns mounted.

Ground Defence

MMG sec posn sighted at junc of road and airstrip to cover both road and airstrip. Alternative sec posn has been sighted to cover ANGAU track and native garden.

*Griffin*.....Lt

Officer in charge of Defence.  
37/52 Aust Inf Bn.

Weekly Medical Report for  
week ending 8.6.45.

Total evacuations - 11.

Total sick parade attendances - approx 100

Rations - good. all fresh meat arriving  
this week has been in good condition  
This meat is cooked the moment it  
arrives.

Hygiene. Slowly improving. New latrines are  
being constructed in all areas, and are  
being dug until water is encountered -  
usually at about 8-10 ft

Troops in the whole of this area, particularly  
at Mavelu and Sai, are receiving numerous  
sandfly bites. Quite a few men who have  
received these bites are suffering from a P.U.O  
which is somewhat suggestive of sandfly  
Fever.

Colds are still prevalent at Wata + Mavelu  
and are accompanied by quite high  
temperatures + marked prostration.

Stretch Bearers & R.A.P staff.

Disposal - 1 RHP orderly at Mavelu

1 SB working at Postal

1 SB acting amenities officer.

5 SBs on patrols or at staging Posts

3 SBs in Hospital.

Leaving 10 SBs at Wata

An holding tent for patients has been  
constructed and is now functioning.

Riddamill C/Pl  
RMO 37/52A  
9.6.45



A Troop  
2/14 Aust Fd Regt  
R/A/A  
8 June 45

A CTIVITIES REPORT WK ENDING 8 JUNE 45

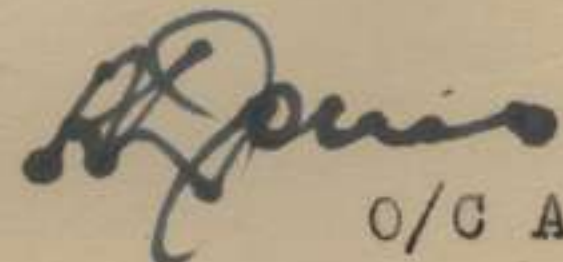
OPERA TIONA L

1. At 1515 hrs 1 June 45 3 offrs 44 Or's A Tp and 1 offr 6 Or's 5 Aust Sur Bty arrived WATU from WIDE BAY via the overland route. One man Gnr LYON A/E was left at camp 5 er route. He has since returned to WIDE BAY and been transferred to H.Q 27 Fd Bty. This disposed the Troop Group with 6 Offrs 62 Or's (incl Sur Bty) at WATU and 11 Or's at NANTA MBU. Most accomodation stores and the D2 tractor were at WATU. The balance of troop's equipt was at NANTA MBU.
  2. 2 June was rest day. Camp construction and preparation of gun position was commenced 3 June. Until 3 June communication with 27 Bty has been maintained from NA NTAMBU and a Noll W/T satation was then brought forward, and from 4 June the link was worked from WATU. At 1430 hrs 4 June Lt LONGWORTH went to NANTAMBU to prepare stores for forward movement. Lt Col. EMBREY called a conference of offrs at 1500 and defined the Bn Group policy effecting malaria precautions. All of our offrs less LT LONGWORTH attended.
  3. Lt TA YLOR went to NANTAMBU on 5 June to co-ordinate movement of guns, stores etc, to WATU. It had been decided to concentrate the whole troop, less all wheeled vehicles at WATU leaving a party at NANTAMBU to maintain the vehicles.
  4. On the morning of 6 June the troops equipment was loaded on two barges and sent forward to WATU. These barges arrived at 1030 hrs all work at WATU area was suspended and all pers were assembled at barge point to unload the barges. There were no facilities for unloading guns. The barges were brought as close in shore as the depth of water would permit, and from there guns were lowered into water and drawn ashore by a combination of man and motor power.
  5. Approx 500 rounds of 25 Pdr shell were unloaded with the guns. This had to be carried by hand along a jetty and dumped at the beach head. By 1700 hrs 6 June the guns were in position and maintenance of the vital parts of the ordnance was carried out.
  6. Lt BOWYER went fwd to A Coy at MAVELO River at 1330 hrs 6 June to recce forward areas for suitable gun positions. It was arranged for him to remain forward for 3 days so that he could accompany patrol throughout the area. On 6 June the Survey detachment commenced a Survey of the coast from WATU to SAI River as a basis for a provisional grid 1/2500.
  7. On the morning of 7 June a muster parade was assembled at the barge point and all stores, less gun stores, were manhandled to the troop area. The state of the road did not permit the use of trucks.
- Lt BO WYER accompanied a party from H/ Q 37/52 Bn up to SAI River by barge. He found a suitable gun position, on the south bank at the mouth of the River. Digging was commenced on the WATU gun position on 7 June.

8. At 0600 hrs 8 June the general situation was :-  
 One Recce offr was forward working in the area North of PALI River reporting on likely gun position so that survey ~~work~~ ~~work~~ could be carried into them. The survey detachment had completed its ground work up to MAVELO River. The guns were in action and digging had commenced. W/T commn. were being maintained WATU - WIDE BAY : An OP party was ready to go forward to A Coy at the MAVELO River : All the wheeled vehicles were at NA NTAMBU because the nature of the ground forward of there was not suitable for their use. Most of the essential work in the camp area was completed.

GENERAL

1. Up to this time general living conditions have been good, as has the health of the troops, with the exception of a few colds, probably contracted on the overland journey, and one case of diarrhoea, together with an injury to the third finger of Gnr LAWLESS' hand, sustained when it was jammed in the breech mechanism of a 2 pr TK A gun, no sickness of any consequence has been reported.
2. Food supplies have been good, and more than the customary amount of fresh meat and butter has been available. A new place, plenty of work, good general supply, and the hope of taking aggressive action against the enemy, has kept morale at a high level, and generally all ranks are contented.

 Capt.  
O/C A Troop.

RESTRICTED

The information given in this document is not to be communicated either directly or indirectly, to the press or any person not authorised to use it.

Serial 16/45

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

ROUTINE ORDERS PART 1

by

Lt-Col F.J. EMBREY - Comd 37/52 Aust Inf Bn (AIF) Group

37/52 Aust Inf Bn (AIF) Gp  
Nos 77 - 85  
9 Jun 45.

77. DRESS

1. All previous orders and instructions concerning dress which have been issued by this HQ are hereby cancelled and the orders following hereunder are substituted therefor;
2. Normal dress will include the wearing of hats, shirts, slacks and gaiters or anklets web, which will be worn at all times except as otherwise authorised.
3. From 0600K to 1730K sleeves may be rolled up, but at all other times they will be fully rolled down and buttoned at the wrist. Shirts will always be buttoned (loss neck button) whenever worn.
4. Torn clothing will be promptly mended and will NOT be worn unmended except in cases of necessity.
5. The guiding principle concerning dress is that normally all personnel will be fully and properly clothed, but Commanding Officers may authorise the following:-
  - (a) The removal of shirts, between the hours of 0600K and 1730K, by troops when actually engaged in strenuous manual work in the open. Also, between the same hours, by troops when driving the following mechanical vehicles: Bulldozers, Angledozer, Autopatrols, Tractors; but in cases of all other vehicles, including engineer tip trucks, shirts will be worn at all times by personnel either driving or riding in such vehicles.
  - (b) The wearing of proper sports clothes by personnel when proceeding to or from or actually engaged in sport, but only when in the open and well clear of scrub. When getting under cover or in scrub, such as on completion of sport, normal dress will be worn.
  - (c) Permission for personnel NOT to wear hats under the following conditions:-
    - (i) When in unit lines or in specified portions thereof;
    - (ii) When engaged in actual manual work under cover or when carrying out duties performed under cover;
    - (iii) When proceeding to or from or actually engaged in sport;
    - (iv) When engaged in training or when driving mechanical vehicles berets may be worn in lieu of hats, but must be worn correctly adjusted.

6. Sunbathing is permitted between the hours of 1230 and 1330 daily, as this helps to prevent skin diseases. The hours allotted should not be exceeded. Disciplinary action will be taken against personnel who, through sunbathing, receive burns or other harmful effects rendering them in any way incapable of carrying out their normal duties.

78. DRAINS

Units and sub-units will maintain drains in their own areas, except malarial drains.

79. MOVEMENT OF NATIVES

All natives not on work parties to have pass when moving through the area.

80. LAKATOIS

To be clearly marked as to ownership, with due regard to security.

81. ANGAU

(a) ANGAU camps are out of bounds to all ranks.

(b) All native villages out of bounds.

(c) Fraternization. Troops will not fraternize with natives, except in course of duty. Natives themselves have been instructed in this regard.

82. WASHING POINTS

European personnel will not wash in or near native washing points; these points out of bounds to all ranks.

83. PROTECTED ANIMALS, BIRDS AND PLANTS

Except in emergency, due to operational requirements, all ranks will observe the law of the States and Territories and Commonwealth relating to the protection of animals, birds and plants.

84. DAMAGE TO TIMBER

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

85. SELF INFLICTED WOUNDS

(a) In a recent trial by DCM a soldier was found guilty of the offence of wilfully injuring himself with intent thereby to render himself unfit for service and was sentenced to undergo detention for eighteen (18) months.

(b) Attention of all ranks is directed to provisions of A.A. 18, regarding self-inflicted wounds in general, and to the instance described above in particular.

*B. K. Rawler* Capt  
Adjt 37/52 Aust Inf Bn

HRS upto 11-6-45

	P	S
AB 1226	226	208
1228	210	210
1234	407	407
1236	<del>372</del>	<del>372</del>
1237	353	353
1238	430 $\frac{1}{2}$	430 $\frac{1}{2}$

ENGINEER STATES  
APPROX 150 hrs in SYDNEY  
NOT INCLUDED

38 to ALC'S.

1 part W/A company

3

6 men

—

3 men

—

then signal

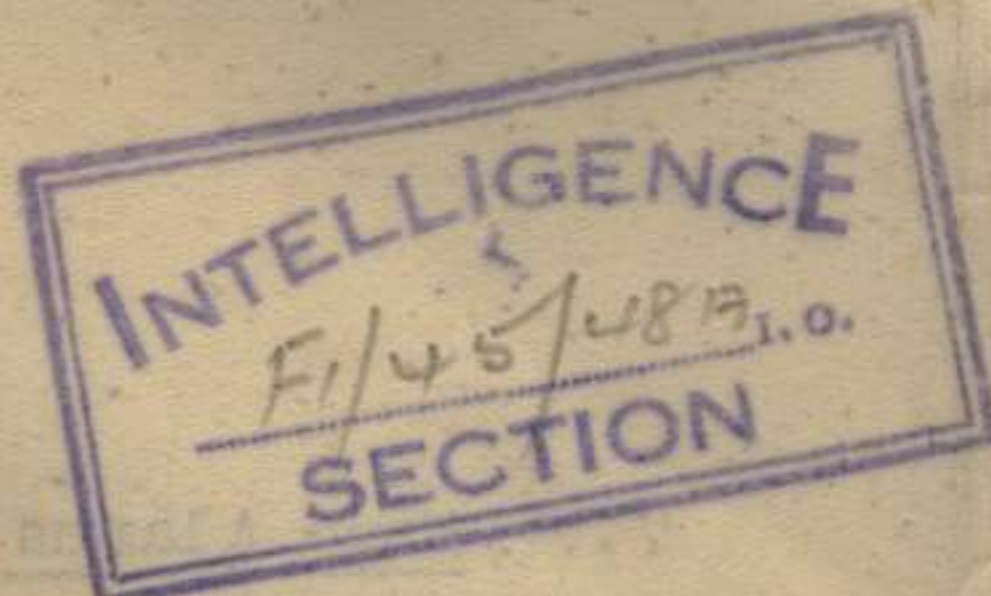
38 [unclear]

Command A/W [unclear]

9

INT SEC *Inf Only*

FIRE ORDERS



37/52 AUST INF BN GROUP

37/52 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)  
11 Jun 45.

1. (a) Fire Picquet. The following personnel are detailed as Fire Picquet for 37/52 Aust Inf Bn area -

- Sgt REHEMAN W.T.
- Pte WEBB E.
- " TAYLOR G.W.
- " HUNTER J.
- " ELLIS W.
- " PILGRIM W.
- " GOONAN J.
- " THORNTON R.A.

- (b) Each unit and sub-unit will detail a fire picquet.
- (c) Sand and water containers will be placed outside all administrative buildings, dumps and stores. Water containers will be kept filled and will be emptied weekly and filled with fresh water.
- (d) Coy Lines. All water containers in Coy lines will be kept filled.

2. Small Fires

These will be dealt with by personnel nearest the fire.  
Action -

- (a) Extinguish or remove burning substance to a safe distance from any other inflammable material.
- (b) Report to Bn HQ.

3. Tent Fires

Personnel on spot will deal with. Action -

- (a) Wake occupants, if necessary
- (b) Remove lantern and strike tent
- (c) Extinguish with earth, sand or water
- (d) Report fire and action taken to Bn HQ.

4. Huts or Buildings

Personnel nearest the outbreak will -

- (a) Sound the alarm
- (b) Assist in the removal of stores
- (c) Assist fire picquet in extinguishing the fire
- (d) Report fire and action to Bn HQ.

5. Vehicles

Personnel nearest the outbreak will -

- (a) Sound the alarm
- (b) Move nearby vehicles if possible
- (c) Use fire extinguisher or sand to smother fire, and assist fire picquet if necessary
- (d) Report outbreak to Bn HQ, together with names of witnesses.

6. Scrub Fires

- (a) Sound the alarm
- (b) Attempt to stop fire from spreading pending the arrival of Fire Picquet.

INTELLIGENCE SECTION

7. Fire Alarms

Alarm gongs will be placed outside each unit and sub-unit orderly rooms. Personnel sounding the alarm will stand by the alarm gong and direct Fire Picquet to the location of fire, and will report to Bn HQ when the fire has been extinguished.

8. General

- (a) On alarm of "Fire" being sounded all personnel in lines will assemble on their parade ground and await instructions from unit orderly room.
- (b) The remains of all fires detailed in paras 3, 4, 5, 6 will be left until orders are given for their removal by Bn HQ.
- (c) Vehicles will be moved from area of fire - 100 yards at least.

*R Rowley* Capt  
Adj't 37/52 Aust Inf Bn



APPENDIX "A"

STANDING ORDERS FOR FIRE PICQUET

1. Assembly area - Between Sig Office and Q Store.
2. On alarm being sounded, Fire Picquet will move quickly to assembly area and await orders from OC Picquet.
3. OC Picquet will -
  - (a) Ascertain location of fire.
  - (b) Move picquet to location of fire, taking all available fire fighting equipment.
  - (c) Deal with fire in accordance with the procedure outlined in Bn Fire Orders.
  - (d) Be responsible for the training of the Fire Picquet.
  - (e) Ensure that the picquet is kept up to strength.
  - (f) Ensure that fire alarms and fire fighting equipment are in serviceable condition at all times.
  - (g) On Friday of each week, OC Fire Picquet will stage a practice assembly of fire picquet, under direction of Orderly Officer.

21 AUST. MALARIA CONTROL UNIT (AIF)  
12 Jun 45.

C.O.

37/52 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

MALARIA REPORT CAPE HOSKINS AREA

A larval incidence survey and inspection of M.P.T was carried out by Cpl LYNE. 21 A.M.C.U., on the 9-10 Jun 45.

Malaria discipline throughout the area was found to be generally lax, the following points being noted:-

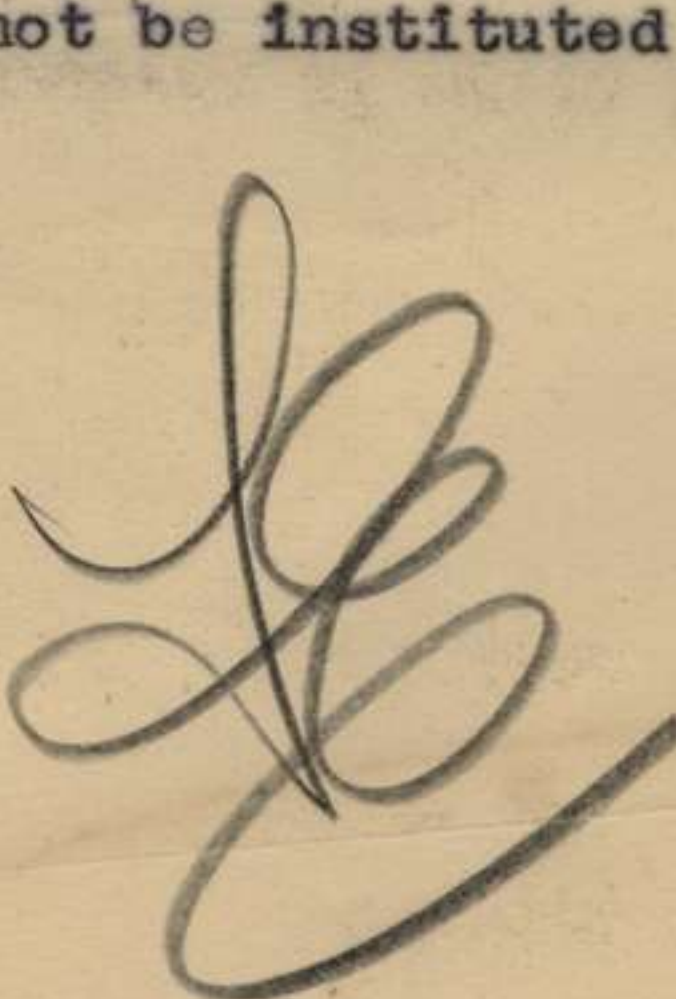
1. Personnel with shirt-sleeves rolled up as late as 1900 hrs.
2. Personnel bathing after sunset.
3. No Atebrin parade held, Atebrin being placed on mess-tables and personnel helping themselves; no supervision.
4. Personnel staging did not erect nets until after dark and several slept without nets.
5. Anopheline breeding was located along airstrip and in gravel-pits and wheel-ruts; also adult mosquitos were observed. These have been identified as *An. punctulatus moluccensis*, a carrier of malaria.

(Signed) A.G. LYNE... Cpl  
Conducted survey.

(Signed) Gilbert C. Phillip  
O.C. 21 Aust. Malaria Control Unit.

WO 11 CLARKE J.H.  
Det CAPE HOSKINS

Please explain if above is correct and why action should not be instituted for D.C.M.

  
Adj't 37/52 Aust Inf Bn Capt.

A 74  
13 June 45

Report of Brig. Reece

CO

57/52 Aust Inf Bn



1. There are 3 areas in the MAVELO - SAI R district which I consider can be used for gun positions
2. MAVELO DOOR has all the technical qualifications but in the main it has 3 disadvantages which make it a place to be avoided if possible.
  - A. It is approx 500' from Barge Pt
  - B. The entrance track would require a considerable amount of work to permit use of vehs for supplies
  - C. Its worst aspect is from that of a living area for troops if it was occupied for any length of time. It is about 10°-15° better than a coastal area and being confined by timber denies any outlook and may lead towards severe boredom.
  - D. It appears ideal for a quick and brief occupation for operational purposes.
3. SAI R mouth on South bank provides a gun position which would not need very much preparation. A suitable barge pt could be located close by. Sand flies and crocodiles, both of which are prevalent, may

2  
cause some difficulties.

1. The track junction north of ACQ area at 270 543 is a most suitable area. It would require the clearing of approx 30 trees, but from the NORTH I do not consider this clearing could be observed. Much of the low brush could be left standing. This area is just beyond ACQ's present boundary.

The occupation of it would necessitate the closing of the present MANVELO PTH track entrance and the cutting of a new one.

Generally this position would occasion rather more work than the others, but I consider it would be most suitable from the ROLF point of view.

Alfred Capt  
OC ATB

Ref map OPEN BA Y one inch.

To Capt Sartori O C B Coy.

ESTABLISHMENT OF PATROL BASE

Confirmation of verbal orders.

INFM

1. As per verbal INF summary

INTENTION

2. To establish patrol base at SAI RIVER ref 251567.

3. TASKS
- (a) To recce and cut track from coastal track to connect with track to SAI two outpost.
  - (b) SAI two outpost to recce and junction with (a) above.
  - (c) Recce site for ANGAU camp SOUTH of patrol base.
  - (d) Barge landing point to be constructed at 247562.

METHOD

4. A and B coys plus one det mortars under comd.
5. One pl outpost at POFAITI RIVER ref 269601.
6. 12 pl B coy to remain in present posn.
7. Arty offr and Engr sjt to report MA VELU 13 Jun.
8. TASKS
- (a) Arty offr to recce gun posns as per verbal orders and include in perimeter.
  - (b) Engr sjt to recce and construct PUNT system across SAI RIVER at 252568.

ADM

9. B coy HQ and 10 pl to move to SAI R 14 Jun.
10. Barge to report MAVELU 0800 hrs 14 Jun.
11. At NO time will barge move fwd of 253577.

INTER-COMM

12. L/T normally but pigeons or 108 set as alternative.

13. ACK.

DISTRIBUTION

A Coy	A.I.B.
B Coy	A tp 2/14 Pd Regt
12 pl B Coy	Rear 37/52
	4 Bde

*[Signature]* Lt-COL  
 Co md 37/52 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)



*Int See*

Subject:- RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HONOURS AND AWARD.

37/52 Aust Inf Bn(AIF)

J1/45/4

15 Jun 45



All Coys.

1. Hereunder text of GRC MS281/44, paras 12 (iv) and 12 (vii) in regard to dating of signatures on AF's W3121.

- (a) The recommending officer will sign the citation in the appropriate place showing his rank, appointment, unit and the date on which he signed.
- (b) When completed and signed by the recommending officer both copies of the AAF W3121, pinned, not clipped together, will be passed up through brigade, division and higher headquarters to LEQ for submission for approval. Brigade, division, etc, commanders will sign the recommendation and will show the date on which they signed. In addition, the date of receipt from the unit and date of despatch to higher formation will be filled in. Only the original citation need be signed by each successive recommending officer. The duplicate may be endorsed "(signed) .....". It is essential that there should be no delay in passing recommendations from one formation HQ to another, and particular care should be taken to obtain the appropriate force, army or corps commander's signature before a unit or formation transfers to another command.

2. Recently, a case occurred where a soldier performed an act of bravery four days prior to being killed in action. Through an oversight, the CO of the unit initiating the recommendation for an award omitted to include the date of his signature on the citation. When the citation was received at formation HQ this omission was noted and a date later than that on which the citation was initiated and the soldier was killed was inserted. As the only awards which may be posthumously made are VICTORIA CROSS, GEORGE CROSS, and Mention in Despatches, difficulty has arisen in getting the recommendation approved.

3. It is stressed that it is of the utmost importance that the provisions of GRC MS281/44 particularly paras 12 (iv) and 12 (vii) be strictly adhered to when citations are being prepared for recommendations for awards, and it is desired that action be taken to inform all concerned accordingly."

*R. Rawley* Capt.  
Adj. 37/52 Aust Inf Bn.

J. H. Sec

ORDER FOR ISSUE OF THE RIBBON OF THE 1939/43 STAR



37/52 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)  
13 Jun 45  
A4/45/13.

1. In the Army, the 1939/43 Star will rank after the Africa Star. No person may receive both the Africa Star and the 1939/43 Star. No person who is entitled to the Africa Star will be awarded the 1939/43 Star.
2. The ribbon of the 1939/43 Star is dark blue, red and light blue, in three equal vertical stripes. The dark blue stripe is intended to mark the services of the Naval Forces and of the Merchant Navy, the red stripe that of the Army, and the light blue stripe that of the Air Force.
3. The ribbon of the 1939/43 Star will be worn with the dark blue stripe furthest from the left shoulder immediately after the ribbons of prior war medals.
4. To qualify for an award, an individual must have been on the strength of and have actually served with a unit or formation in one or more of the qualifying operations or commands specified in para 5 and, if service is in accordance with sub-para (a) of para 5, for the period set forth in that sub-para. An individual will not be regarded as having been on the strength of a unit or formation unless he was taken on strength by name in the routine orders, Part II, of the unit or formation concerned within a war establishment vacancy or supernumerary thereto.
  - (b) Units, individuals, detachments and parties which moved into or through the area of a qualifying command for the purpose of visits, tours, inspections, leave, staging or any other reason of a temporary nature, which were matters of local arrangements that had no relation to the operational functions of the qualifying commands, are not eligible for the award by virtue of such visits, etc only, nor shall time so spent count towards the qualifying period necessary for the award; provided that, where there are special circumstances concerning such visits or where any one visit lasted for more than 30 days, application, together with a statement of the facts of the case, may be made, through the usual channels, to HQ, for special consideration.
5. The 1939/43 Star will be granted to personnel who performed service in accordance with the following conditions -
  - (a) Service in any one or more of the operational commands listed in the Schedule "B" to this order, between the dates set opposite the particular commands, for an aggregate period of six months; or
  - (b) Any service under sub-para (a) of this para, during which the member has, before completion of the full qualifying period of six months, either -
    - (i) won an honour, decoration or mention in despatches; or
    - (ii) died on service; or
    - (iii) been evacuated as a result of wounds or sickness arising out of service, the wounds or sickness not being due to misconduct.

6. In the case of an ex-member of the AMF, the following provisions will apply -

(a) Application will be made to the HQ, L of C area of enlistment;

/(b)

(b) The commander, L of C Area, will appoint an officer to carry out the functions of the members CO for the purposes of this order.

(c) HQ, L of C area of enlistment, will issue the ribbon of the 1939/43 Star in accordance with this order to each ex-member whose application is approved.

7. Issue of ribbon. A free issue of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches of the material - sufficient to make up two medal ribbons - will be issued to all ranks authorised to wear the ribbon. Any issue of the ribbon will be recorded on Page 10 or 11 of the member's Record of Service Book. When the ribbon is worn without the medal, it will be  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch in length.

8. Coys will submit to this HQ, number only of personnel qualified to wear 1939/43 Star, and number of personnel with service as a member of the permanent staff of a ship, or with the AA defence of merchant shipping, aggregating six months sea-going duty in dangerous waters from May 1940 to Jan 44.

*B. Howley* Capt  
Adjt 37/52 Aust Inf Bn



Weekly Progress Report  
No 2 PL 2/3 R.C.C.

Period ending 13 JUN.

Report by

Job No	Priority	Work + Location	Length Feet	Date Comm.	% Comp in Period	Progress Total E.D.C.										Week ending Man Hours			Plant			Remarks			
						10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	Spr	Other	Native	Hours	Spr	Other		Native	Hours	
1	1	UBILI Air Strip Earthworks	4200' 300	28/5/45	15%	→										2/8/45	608			337	1251		761		
2	2	Chinaman construction		4/6/45	70%	→										11/6/45	335				385				
3	3	Road to Chinaman Surfacing		11/6/45	100%	→										13/6/45	345			268	<del>279</del> 345		268	<del>179</del>	

*J. Stanley*

*J. Buckley Capt.*

Ref Map. Cape Deschamps, 1 inch to 1 mile  
 Megigi 1 inch to 1 mile

WORKS REPORT, NO 8 PL.  
 13 Aust Fd Coy. R.A.E. (A.I.F.)

W. E. 13 June 45.

Serial	Location	Description	Man Days			Av. No Men Employed / Days			PLANT Hours	Percentage		E.D.C.	A.D.C.	Remarks
			RAE.	INF.	Boong.	RAE.	INF.	Native		Period	Total			
1	863533	works. Sule Air Strip	84	-	-	14	-	-						(orders to Sule 11 June 45.
2	Megigi	works. Hoskins Area.	12	-	-	2	-	-						
3	915588	Logging For Barge Pt.	5	-	50	1	-	10	30.	25	55	20 Jun		
4	do	Barge Pt.	48	-	-	8	-	-		15	45	25 Jun		
5	do	Slipway.	24	-	-	8	-	-		25	45	20 Jun		
6	do	Road Bridge	72	-	24	12	-	4.		20	60	23 Jun		
7	do	Admin + Supervision	66	-	-	11	-	-						
8	do	R.A.E. Dump.	6	-	10	1	-	10.						
9	do	Camp Maintenance	12	-	-	2	-	-						

J. Shuley, Lieut.  
 F.E.O. 1.  
 13 Aust Fd Coy.  
 14 June 45.



Mechanical equipment.

2/3 R.C.C

Week-ending. 13.6.45

Serial No	Type	Army Serial No	Location	Mileage.	Remarks.
	Ford GPW	146252	Platoon Duties	109	
	" "	155567	" "	65	
	" "	157619	" "	129	
	Ford 4x4 Tip.	54729	UBILI Strip	104	
		55421	" "	104	
		55740	Nantambu		w/shops Bearing in Gear Box
		59468	UBILI Strip	110	
		54997	" "	76	
		55084	" "	86	
		131746	" "	68	
		131840	" "	112	

J. M. L. L.

A. D. H. L. Capt

Mechanical Equipment

2/3 R.C.C.

Week ending 13.6.45

Serial No	Type	Army Serial No	Location	Hours Worked	Hours Maintenance	Hours W/shops	Reason	Remarks
255663	No 12 Auto Patrol	3075	UBILI Air Strip Gravel Pit Road	54	17	2	Repairs to Pilot Motor Pump. New blade fitted.	
	Roller (Jap)	-	UBILI Air Strip	42	15	3	Electrical repairs	

J. Shealby  
S. D. Carey Capt

TNT Sec



4 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION TRG INSTR 9

37/52 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)  
42/45/6  
14 Jun 45

GEN

- 1. Attached hereto copy of 4 Aust Inf Bde Trg Instr 8
- 2. The principles laid down in 4 Aust Inf Bde Trg Instr No 8 will be observed by all Coys.

SPECIAL TRG

- 3. As far as is consistent with the carrying out of the role detailed in 4 Aust Inf Bde Op Instr 2, every opportunity will be taken to train all ranks in the following :
  - (a) Recce and reports thereon
  - (b) fighting patrols
  - (c) ambushes
  - (d) speedy and silent mov through jungle country
  - (e) trg in observation from concealed OPs and accurate recording of all details seen
  - (f) co-op with arty
  - (g) constant practice in the use of weapons (both speedy and sure handling and accuracy of fire)
  - (h) instr in the use of flame throwers (when received)

*[Signature]* Capt  
Adjt 37/52 Aust Inf Bn

SCHEDULE "B"

Operational Command	From	To
FRANCE	3 Sep 1939	9 May 1940
IRAQ	10 Apr 1941	31 May 1941
PERFIA	25 Aug 1941	28 Aug 1941
CHINA	11 Dec 1941	31 Dec 1943
BURMA	11 Dec 1941	21 Feb 1942
BURMA (including the whole of the provinces of BENGAL and ASSAM)	1 May 1942	31 Dec 1943
NEW GUINEA	7 Mar 1942	31 Dec 1943
ITALY	3 Sep 1943	31 Dec 1943
PALESTINE	7 Jan 1940	31 Dec 1943
SINAI	7 Jan 1940	31 Dec 1943

NOTE - NEW GUINEA

("NEW GUINEA" includes North EAST NEW GUINEA, PAPUA and DUTCH NEW GUINEA.)

For these purposes -

- (i) "North East NEW GUINEA" includes MANAM, KARKAR, LONG Island and the smaller islands adjacent to the mainland of North East NEW GUINEA, but does not include the BISMARCK ARCHIPELAGO, (NEW BRITAIN, NEW IRELAND and the ADMIRALTY Islands) or in the SOLOMON Islands, BOUGAINVILLE or BUKA or adjacent islands.
- (ii) "PAPUA" includes the islands of the d'ENTRECASTEAUX between 8° and 9° 40' south latitude and 141° and 145° east longitude and 8° and 12° south latitude and 145° and 155° east longitude.
- (iii) "DUTCH NEW GUINEA" does not include the MOLUCCAS.

Promulgation of eligibility for the 1939/45 Star and the Campaign Stars for ITALY, FRANCE and GERMANY, AIR CREW EUROPE, BATTLE OF ATLANTIC, BURMA and PACIFIC Area will be made as soon as conditions are finalized and an ACI is issued.

37/52 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)  
14 Jun 45.

HYGIENE REPORT ON NANTAMBU AREA

OC NANTAMBU AREA

Forest Survey.

Kitchen - very clean and tidy.  
Garbage area - clean.  
Disposal of waste water - Cement grease trap. Working quite satisfactorily.  
Disposal of garbage - Sea.  
Latrines - Several seats require attention.  
Area generally very good and tent lines good.

130 Aust Bde Wksps

Latrines - New latrine erected. Requires engr seats. Absence of flies.  
Area clean and tent lines very tidy.

Water Transport

Kitchen - Clean.  
Garbage - Tidy.  
Disposal of waste water - Cement drain to sea.  
Disposal of garbage - Sea.  
Latrines - Have suggested placing 44 gal drum with small holes pierced in it under the present seat.  
Area clean and tent lines good.

AASC Area

Kitchen - Quite fly-proof and kept in clean condition.  
Garbage area - Tidy.  
Disposal of waste water - New 44 gal drum type grease trap in course of completion.  
Disposal of garbage - Incineration.  
Latrines - Down draught has been placed in existing latrines. Seat requires attention.  
Area has improved greatly since last inspected. Tent Lines good.

Engineers

Kitchen - Clean.  
Garbage area - Tidy.  
Disposal of waste water - Not satisfactory. Have suggested using 44 gal drum type of strainer.  
Disposal of garbage - Incineration. New incinerator in the course of construction.  
Latrines - Fairly good. Urinals have just been placed in position.  
Area generally is poor. Tent lines very untidy.

*Party*  
Sgt  
Hyg Sgt 37/52 Aust Inf Bn



37/52 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)  
14 Jun 45.

HYGIENE REPORT ON NANTAMBU AREA

OC NANTAMBU AREA

37/52 Aust Inf Bn

Kitchen - Clean.  
Garbage area - Tidy.  
Disposal of waste water - Grease trap, 44 gal drum type.  
Disposal of garbage - Incineration.  
Latrines - Good.  
Area generally is good and tent lines tidy.

Water point

Ambulance have new point at back of strip.

*Sub units have been advised of faults  
pointed out & steps taken to rectify.*

*Rowley*

No 3 Platoon Weekly Report 14 June

- 1 Inspections Inspection of Ph stores reveals minor repairs, <sup>rege</sup> no weapons & rig gear. A report has been called for on tools, the result of which should be that we get allotted to the pl the authorised quota.
- 2 Operational One detachment still attached to Invd Coy. Others engaged in def of area, personnel on O.P. duty.
- 3 Work Personnel allotted to Coy for work within area: Ph ammun shelter built No 1 Post now being remodelled.
- 4 Morale still very good no occasion for disciplinary action.
- 5 Amenities nothing in this in furtherance to last week. Looking gear in demand.
- 6 Rations
- 7 Personnel Notes This week saw the introduction of our "Marine Food Detachment" and under C/L Andrews

influence, keenness was more evident  
than first, but good work was done  
in the making of nets, several  
members devoting their leisure moments  
to further the efforts in this direction.

Results are equally awaited, so is  
"good fishing" here next week.

Information as to the British operational  
work is eagerly sought, but only sketchy  
details appear to be available.

8: Casualties - Hit

9: Blindfold

By the way

ES

O.C.

B. J. Bay

104th

B. J. Bay

Weekly Report

1/ Inspections:

Weapon Inspections carried out daily at 0845 hrs. Arms good.

2<sup>nd</sup> and Ammunition Inspection carried out weekly; last on 9<sup>th</sup> June 45. Guns and ammunition found to be in good condition and well maintained.

2/ Operational Notes:

3/ Works: Gun emplacements are now completed.

A new O.P. has been constructed and is almost complete.

Under Constr: 1/ Two Bren pits

2/ 2" mortar sites (Two)

3/ Reservoir/Ammunition dump.

4/ Morale (a) Discipline. Good

(b) Crimes Nil

(c) Morale of men is very good.

## Weekly Report

5/ Amenities: The amenities in the platoon at the moment is nil.

However the following are items which would be appreciated

- 1/ Playing cards.
- 2/ Chinese Checkers
- 3/ Draughts.

6/ Rations: The rations in this area are very good and there are no complaints. There are no recommendations to put forward for the improvement of same.

7/ Casualties: Platoon evacuated to Baytamber with poison foot caused by the march from Hide to Open Bay.

8/ Climate: The climate here has not hindered the work of the platoon  
Pers notes?

W.

15/1000 K

HQ Coy WEEKLY REPORT.  
up to 0600 hrs Friday 14 June 45.

1. Operations.

~~9 PL.~~

3 PL. one det, 6 men previously att  
to A Coy, now att to B Coy as  
from 14 Jun.

4 PL. gun emplacements WATU complete.  
OP partially completed.  
under construction -

Two Bren Pits.

" 2" mortar "

Reserve Open dump.

OC 4 PL visited Sec at NANTAMBU  
during week.

2. Morale. No major disciplinary action  
required in Coy during past week.  
Men are generally cheerful, &  
working well.

3. Amenities.

Cpl Phair arrived from rear, &  
has established a centre near the  
Canteen.

Volley ball courts are under construction  
Fishing gear required.

in Pnr & Mor PL areas.

#### 4. Rations

A/Sgt Harrison took over control  
of Area ration store.

The following are items which,

(a) have been in short supply -

Jinned Pork & beans.

.. Spinish (silver beet),

.. peas.

(b) have not been available:

Jinned asparagus

.. Beetroot

.. bacon

.. sausages.

dehydrated onions.

#### 5. Personal notes.

3 Pt Comd submits an account of  
the fishing activities. This could  
be re-written at greater length if  
desired, and reports submitted  
weekly.

3 + 4 PL pers are anxious to fire  
their weapons, preferably with the  
enemy as target.

6. Casualties.

Admitted to hosp:

Sgt Browning 7 Jun from NANTAMBU.  
Pte Coombes. 13 .. infected toe.

Rejoined unit.

Pte Way rejoined MMG PL 12 Jun.

Increase in strength in area:

Pte Yates moved up from NANTAMBU  
to assist in canteen.

Pte Phair moved into area.

5 pers of 2 DIV Sigs and

2 pers of .. Cypher Sec moved into area

~~man~~ Pte Woods from rear to assist in <sup>Return</sup> Store

Following men were transferred to  
No 1 PL.

Pte Walsh from A Coy  
.. Branch .. B Coy  
.. Ingram .. HQ Coy.

7. Climate.

My weather made working  
& living conditions good during  
week.

Green May



Angau  
Nautambu  
15.6.45.

Major Clarkson,

2/c,

37/52nd Coy.

Weekly Report.

RECEIVED

16 JUN 1945

Patrols: Native police patrol returned from inland area on 7.6.45. Recruited 18 casual labourers for work in Angau compound. Report no movement other than local natives there.

Four constables returned from Iol on 8.6.45, after escorting 35 natives to White Bay. Nothing to report from his patrol. Three constables left on 11.6.45, escorting 17 natives to White Bay.  
Other operational activities  
Nil.

Morale.

Morale of all European personnel is high. Native morale has suffered considerably owing to death of two natives during past week.

Amenities.

Sgt. Leitch visited this camp this day, and has promised to send sporting equipment for use of our personnel. At the present time we have no equipment here.

Rations.

A week's supply on hand for both Europeans and natives.

Casualties.

Movements out. nil.

Movements In. Capt. Anthony DADONW, 5 Aust. Div. arrived this day from Wide Bay.

Medical.

Deaths occurred during the past week of two natives, one of meningitis and one from TB kidney trouble. Pneumonia is very prevalent amongst the aborigines, & everything is being done to better the medical situation here. Great help has been given us in this regard by Maj. McGowan & Maj. Davies.

General

One native evacuee, KAKO, arrived here 14/6/45 after being apprehended by NGB. This native now at Angan awaiting disposal to his own area, Gaswata, New Britain.

Climate.

Good average rain during week, with strong winds on two occasions.

Lead capt.  
K. J.

1. Weekly Report from R.A.E. Group.  
Nantambu and Sule. Period ~~1200~~ 081200 to 151200/K.
2. Report by Lt. Johnson  
F.E.O. I.  
13ant. 4d Co, R.A.E.
3. Patrols - NIL.
4. Activities - see works reports attached
5. Messale - Good: Competitive sport will help to  
keep standard of messale high: Improved  
mail service once Sule Strip is complete  
will be another factor.
6. Amenities - NIL: Unit provides its own concert party.  
Reading matter is scarce due to poor  
surface mail facilities.
7. Rations - Monotonous, particularly lack of  
breakfast foods.  
X Unit gardens would help if vegetable  
seeds could be obtained.
8. Casualties - Only sickness due to East trouble  
and skin rashes. Hot showers  
systems would probably lower  
the incidence of skin rashes.
9. Climate - Has not impeded the works program  
more than a couple of hours, due  
to heavy rain.
10. General works report covers period from  
Thursday at 0600 to following  
Wednesday at 1800 hrs. This is  
laid down by C. R. E.

Johnson Lt.

151200/K.

RECEIVED  
16 JUN 1945

X Anger supplying two boys  
and Sgt (B<sup>2</sup>) to commence  
unit garden  
Adj

No. 1.

SUMMARY OF EVENTS TO 0800 hrs 15 Jun 45.

1. The contents of this report give a brief resume of the following:-
- (a) Patrol activity.
  - (b) Changes in location.
  - (c) Projected patrols.
  - (d) Additional topo info.

This report will in future be rendered by SDS weekly.

2. Patrol Activity. Ref map OPEN BAY NEVSELO one inch series.

- (a) 7 Jun (Patrol SBP4) Object to locate suitable patrol base between SAI and POTAITI R mouths. Patrol reported NO suitable base this area.
- (b) 9 Jun (Patrol SBP7) Object to traverse coastal and lateral tracks between MAVELU AND SAI R mouths. Result:- coastal tracks traversed; No lateral tracks located.
- (c) 10-13 Jun (Patrol SBP5) Object to traverse inland track from 292543 to SOUTH end COOPERS CLEARING 286614. Track traversed as per overlay attached; now known as SPICER track. NO enemy or hostile natives encountered.
- (d) 11-13 Jun (Patrol SBP6) Object to traverse coastal track from SAI R to SOUTH end COOPERS CLEARING and recce in sqs 2761, 2861. Result:- Area traversed as per overlay attached. Track from 279618 to 285614 now known as MA G'S track.  
Enemy activity:- Our patrol fired on by LMG, rifle and grenade from NORTH bank of SANGANMAGAIR ck at 13000LK. Own cas one wounded.
- (e) 15-17 Jun (Patrol SBP9) Object to junct and est co mns with 13 bde patrol at Camp 2 ref 382478. Patrol NOT yet completed.

3. Changes in location.

- (a) 9 Jun 17 and 18 pls rejoined D Coy at 169535 from Camps one and two.
- (b) 14 Jun B Coy HQ plus 10 pl moved from MAVELU R mouth to join 11 pl at SAI R 249565. B Coy less 12 pl now est at 249565. A rty C.P. at MAVELU 222544 closed down and moved with B Coy to SAI R. New C.P. now at 249565.  
18 pl D Coy moved to NANTAMBU to relieve 14 pl C Coy.

4. Projected Patrols and Changes

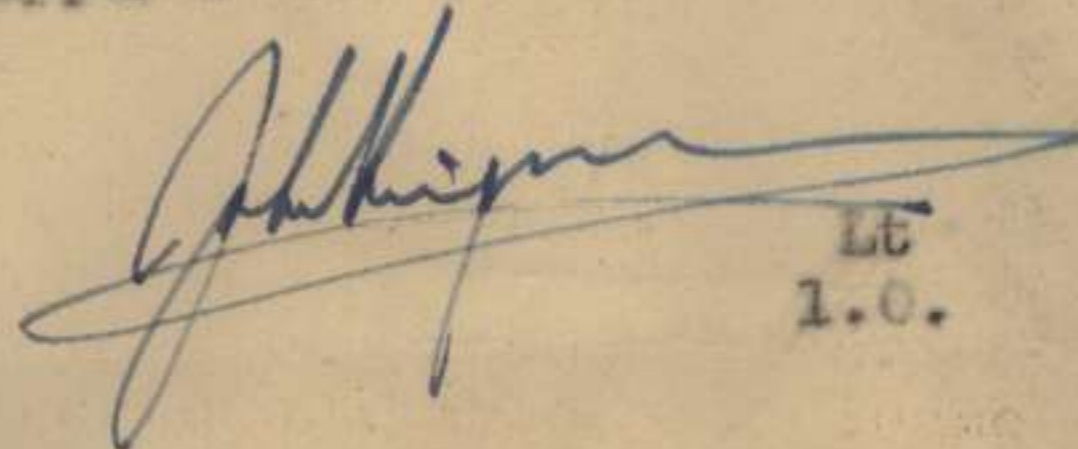
- (a) 15-19 Jun (Patrol N4) Route - Patrol along SPICER'S track to NORTH end of COOPERS CLEARING to grid 63.  
Task:- To locate enemy posns and strength in COOPERS CLEARING area. Patrol cancelled owing to sickness in N.G.I.B. Delay estimated 1 - 2 weeks.
- (b) 14 Jun (Patrol SBP 10) Task:- To cut track from coastal track 246560 to SAI 2 outpost at 292543. Task commenced 14 Jun. When completed will be known as HBLAN'S track.
- (c) 16 Jun (Patrol SBP 11) Object to traverse tracks as shown to approx on overlay (appx B). Patrol base (1 pl) to be est 23 Jun at SAI R approx 338960. Progress of tasks will be referred to by number as per overlay (Appx B).  
GENERAL Object of patrol activity and cutting of lateral tracks is to check and correct existing tracks

(2)

on maps, shorten L of C to SAI 2 outpost and CAMP 2, to gain knowledge of inland tracks leading NORTH, to conceal movement of own troops and prevent possible enemy penetration SOUTH of COOPER'S CLEARING.

5. Additional Tape Infm

As per attached overlays Appx A and B.



Lt  
I.C.

Lt Col  
Comd 57/52 Aust Inf Bn Op (AIF)

subject: WEEKLY SUMMARY OF EVENTS

37/52 Asst Inf Bn (AIF)  
15 Jun 45



B.M.  
H.Q. 4 Aust Inf Bde (AIF)

1. Attached copy of Weekly Summary of Events to 0800 hrs  
15 Jun.

4 AUST. BDE.

No. 264

DATE 24 June

*Harrison*

Asst Adjt 37/52 Aust Inf Bn (AIF) Lt

SECRET

Copy No. 8  
15 Jun 45

PATROL INSTRUCTION NO SBP 11



Ref Maps: OPEN BAY 1" to 1 Mile  
MEVELO 1" to 1 Mile

To Lt BROWN - O C 17 Pl " D " Co y

INFM

1. To be checked with I.O. before movt.

INTENTION

2. You will establish a base camp at SAI R (342555) and will traverse all tracks in area defined below.

METHOD

3. TASKS
  - (a) To recce and traverse tracks indicated by I.O. on your map and numbered 1 to 8.
  - (b) To confirm the existence of tracks as shown on map.
  - (c) To find if any connection exists between track at your camp and SPICER's track.
  - (d) To recce and cut a direct track to SAI 2 (Lt PRITCHARD). Agreement may be made with Lt PRITCHARD regarding division of labour.
  - (e) To discover if track in sq 3359 is continued beyond camp site shown on map.

ADM

4. INTELLIGENCE Two Int Pers attached.
5. DURATION Approx one week depending on progress
6. GUIDES "B" Coy to provide guide to base camp. AIB to provide guide ~~ka~~ forward of SAI R, will indicate AIB tracks which must NOT be used. NO mov EAST of 37 grid.
7. MOVEMENT TO MAVELO by SOS 16 Jun 45. Stage night 16/17 Jun at MAVELO. A Coy will provide accommodation and two hot meals.
8. MOV TO SAI 2 17 Jun 45. Stage night 17/18 Jun. Accommodation and rations provided by 12 Pl.
9. MOV TO BASE CAMP at your discretion.
10. ~~RATIONS~~



10. RATIONS Unexpired portion week's rations carried to MAVELO. Mutual adjustment with "A" Coy and 12 pl for days 16 and 17 Jun. One week's rations and shelter halves to be carried by ANGAU 18 Jun. 4 days carried on tps.
11. MEDICAL Two SB attached - evacuations through 12 pl. Water sterilizing tablets to be taken - no relaxation of malaria control.
12. INTERCOMMUNICATION 108 set and one sig attached same frequency as 12 pl. Report times: wireless- 0800 hrs and 1600 hrs. pigeons to be released 1630 hrs daily. Pigeons for six days to be carried.

Lt-ccl  
Comd 37/52 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

DISTRIBUTION

COPY NO

D Coy	1
Lt BROWN	2
A Coy	3
B Coy	4
Sig O	5
AIB	6
REAR BN	7
War Diary	8 & 9 ✓
File	10

15.6.45

Weekly Medical Report for 37/52 Pm

Evacuations - Total 15.

In this total are included :-

- 4 natives from N.B.I.B.
- 1 man from 2/14 Fld Regt.
- 10 men from 37/52 Pm.

4 men of the 10 were evacuated as P.U.O.

Sick Parades - are not large and consist mainly of very minor complaints including tinea, otitis externa, bullous impetigo. The number of men suffering from severe colds is diminishing slowly.


Rations: - Good. Fresh meat and bread received regularly. An outbreak of 10 cases of diarrhoea occurred as a result of consumption of fresh meat - all settled down rapidly.

Hygiene - Fair, but improving every day. "C" Company is now using its' new kitchen and "D" & "HQ" Coy's kitchens are nearing completion.

Received one frost B.C. on 13.6.45 - mortar fragments in arm, not really serious, but requiring immediate surgical treatment.

A severe outbreak of ? mite or ? influenza has occurred in 1st N.B.I.B. camp, and 3 natives have been evacuated with pneumonia.

General health of Bm is good



R. D. Macmillan Capt  
RMO 37/52 Pm

WEEKLY REPORT

Unit: "A" Coy 4 Aust Fd Amb

For week ended 0600 hrs Friday 15 Jun 45

MORALE: Good.

AMENITIES: We now have a wireless set for the patients, but there has been no improvement during week in amenities for the personnel of this unit. The men find it hard to fill in the evenings, due to the shortage of reading material, games etc. A weekly picture show would be a great help. Inter unit matches are played when ever possible. The most popular game being soft ball.

RATIONS: Very good. Wide variety - plenty of fresh meat, butter, fruit, and fish. Rations leave nothing to be desired.

PERSONAL NOTES:

(a) Hospital - Fewer beds occupied this week and there are no problems in the running of the hospital.

Admissions for week :- P.U.O. 6  
Malaria 1  
Skin Diseases 2  
Battle Casualty 1  
Other Diseases 8

Evacuations for week :- Skin Diseases 2  
Other Diseases 3

Beds Occupied 24 (Surgical 8 - Medical 16)  
( See attached list )

Evacuation - Up to the present has not presented any difficulties but the occasion might arise when more rapid means of evacuation will be necessary. My report to the ADMS suggests need for a medical launch, which would be stationed as far forward as possible and used solely for the purpose of evacuations.

(b) Malaria - Marked decrease in rate this week - ~~one~~<sup>two</sup> cases of Malaria BT only. It is anticipated that this improvement will be maintained.

(c) Hygiene - This week the units in this area were visited by the by the hygiene sgt. 37/52 Aust Inf Bn, who will submit a report. He informed me that the hygiene in most units is most satisfactory. There is very little dysentery in this area and most attacks of diarrhoea seem to be due to the meat.

CASUALTIES: One battle casualty was admitted to this ADS during the week - not an urgent case and if necessary could have been evacuated to this ADS sooner.

CLIMATE: The climate does not seem to affect the troops adversely; they are able to play plenty of sport in the sun. Nights are reasonably cool.

RECEIVED  
16 JUN 1945

*Dunn* Major  
Comd "A" Coy 4 Aust Fd Amb

Beds Occupied

Surgical:-

Mortar fragment wound  
Abscess Right Shoulder  
Infected toe  
Lacerated finger  
Multiple Warts  
Traumatic Ulcer  
Lacerated toe  
Cellulitis left leg

Medical:-

Malaria	4
PUO	5
Skin Diseases	2
Other Diseases	5

Subject: Report on defences NANTAMBU  
area week ending 15 Jun 45.

New Positions: Jap 25 mm twin gun  
position selected at North end  
of airstrip in lieu of MMG sec.  
to cover beach and airstrip.

Works: 12/14 guns have been  
moved to positions previously  
selected. Arcs of fire have  
been cleared and only a  
small amount of clearing  
remains to be done.  
Gun pits have been prepared  
using sandbags and timber  
and are nearing completion.  
O.P. at gun position has  
now been built.

RECEIVED

16 JUN 1945

J. Duffin Lt

ACTIVITIES REPORT WK END 15 JUN 45

OPERATIONAL.

1. At 1300 hrs on 8 June LT TAYLER and 6000 established an OP with A Coy at MANELO. Comms were by W/T only as LTCOL EMBERY had requested that line should not be laid forward from WATU because of the fluid situation and a general shortage of D3 cable. In addition to ATP6 15 miles approx only another 2 miles was available in the area.

LT Sawyer continued his work for gun areas and arrangements were made for CAPT JONES to inspect areas selected on 9th June.

At 1430 hrs LT MILLETT went to NANTAMBU to purchase canteen goods and draw stores.

In order to continue the digging of gun pits 500 sand bags were borrowed from 37/52 Bn.

As a further anti malarial measure the existing stand 20 in arrangement in WATU area was cancelled.

B ROWLEY

The survey detachment selected a point of origin, for a temporary grid, at the mouth of the OSROSA R. Temporary crosses were

E 40,000 N 20,000 HT 2'. Map

Ref 171542

2. At 1340 9 June CAPT JONES went

given

to MAVELO to inspect gun areas selected by LT BOWYER, and to conduct a general recon of MAVELO - SAI area.

The guns were pulled back and inspected by the Artificers who reported favourably on their condition.

Fixation of the pivot gun was made possible by the completion of computations for the WATV-MAVELO area by the survey detachment.

3. On the morning of 10 June CAPT JONES and LT BOWYER visited the SAI R area. LT HALE (pl comd 3/52 Bn) accompanied them fwd of his pl locality. During the recon several crocodiles were seen in the SAI R. Sand flies were very prevalent in this area.

Returning from this area the party reconed vicinity of KALUKAI Pt and returned to WATV at 1430 hrs.

During the day an OP had been dug in on the mouth of the MAVELO R. A good view of the coastal strip was available from this point.

Construction of gun pits was completed. LT MILLETT returned from NANERAMBU with canteen supplies and some ordnance and RAE stores. He had only been able to obtain 500 sand bags. 2500 had been indentured for.

4. 11 June was a rest day for the 2p. The OP party less 2 sigs went up to the SAI R on a recon to acquaint themselves with tracks and the general nature of the country north of MAVELO. This party reported having

seen crocodiles in the S.M.R.

The Troop officers constructed a circular camp on the high ground by the officers' lines.

5. The CP party was relieved on the morning of 12 June by LT MILLET and party, the relieved personnel returned to camp in the afternoon.

Work was continued in the gun and latrine areas. The troop store building and the job of constructing foot paths were recommenced. A reef was built over the new latrines which were opened for use, and the old sea latrine was placed out of bounds.

At 1700 hrs the Bn Lt comm with MARVELO area failed. Comm with the CP was maintained by ATP with W/T out throughout the night.

6. At 0001 hrs 13 June 4 mortar bomb explosions followed by automatic weapon fire was heard. Subsequently it was reported by Lt that the forward pl had heard these explosions north of their area on the S.M.R. Later 37/52 Bn received a message by pigeon from the patrol which was returning from COOPER'S CLEARING. The enemy had engaged the patrol at the time the mortars were heard, and one walking wounded was reported as the only casualty.

Normal Lt comm with MARVELO was restored at 0700 hrs.

At 1430 hrs CAPT JONES went to NANTANGBU to arrange the delivery of stores with HQS and RAC, to draw pay and requisition for clothing coupon forms.

A report on the recce carried out



by the TC and GPO was furnished to Co. 37/52 Bn. In brief the gist of this report was that two suitable gun areas were available north of MARVELO. One at the mouth of SARL on the southern bank, the other approx 100' north of the HCOY locality at MARVELO. The latter would require fairly extensive clearing while the one at SARL could be occupied with very little work. The prevalence of sand dunes appeared the worst feature of the SARL area.

The MARVELO Pt. was not considered a suitable troop position although it possessed the necessary technical qualifications. It would present the difficulty of hauling vehicles over difficult swampy ground, and in order to maintain a troop here, it would be necessary to build a road from the barge point approx 500' away. Additionally it was comparable to a Kunai clearing in respect to heat, and a belt of high timber prevented any views. These things are not conducive to good health and generally contentment.

7. At 0830 hrs on 14 June the OP party were moved forward with B Co. to the SARL. Where camps were reopened at 1200 hrs.

The survey det. left for the SARL at 0730 and traversed from there, along the coast to KALUKAI Pt. It was subsequently found that the SARL was approx 2000' further north than the OPEN BAY 63260 map shows.

At Col EMERY inspected the troop area at 0830 hrs.

8. At 0600 hrs 15 June the general situation

5

was :- The troop was in action at WATV. An OP was established with B Coy at the mouth of the S.A.R. which the survey det was now able to tell us was 10,450° Range. It was quite a relief to know this, as with registration prohibited, <sup>and</sup> a map known to be very unreliable the engagement of DF tasks would have been hazardous to say the least.

### MORALE

1. morale is high. The personal comfort of the troops is being increased as more work is done in the area of the tent lines. A drainage scheme is in progress and this in conjunction with elevated roadway tracks should do much to combat the unpleasantness of the mud.
2. The need for recreational facilities becomes increasingly evident. Plans for sports courts etc., have been drawn up and it is proposed to execute these before all of the work around the troop area is complete.
3. After seven days of very hard and tiring work digging gun pits, and other essential jobs, the rest day on 11 June was greatly appreciated. Most of the men tried their hands and primitive lines at catching fish. The results were indifferent.

### AMENITIES

1. With recreational facilities, amenities is something not yet developed. Apart from two needed presentations by the Salvation Army representative, an ACF issue, less tobacco, no amenities have been available for this week. Several plans are afoot, but the difficulty of procuring materials in this area makes progress slow. Within a week our mess hut should

6.  
be completed. Card tournaments will then be possible. It is hoped that a revival of our "Live To Learn Club" will be viewed sympathetically by the troops. Guest artists will be scarce, and the enthusiasm of the individual will be even more important than formerly.

2. Complaints of shortages of smokers' requisites are general. They are also justified. Such complaints are harder to contend with here than they are in more settled areas where other entertainment is available.

The NCO in charge of the bulk canteen at MANTHAMBO told CAPT JONES that efforts were being made to forward tobacco by air freight. At present he has only sufficient supply for this week.

#### RATIONS.

1. Rations have been adequate and of good quality. The constancy of one kind of jam, melon and lemon, has been the source of the only complaint.

#### CASUALTIES.

1. Gun HUGHES was evacuated to ADS on 12 June as P.V.O. CAPT JONES visited him on 14 June and also called on Capt WATERS who was attending him. His case is still not diagnosed. Blood slides show negative results though his temperature rose to 105° on 13 June.

#### CLIMATE.

1. The only significant point on this subject concerns that of rain, and consequently, mud. Two heavy rains were experienced towards the end of the week, and until constructional work has been completed, any amount of rain will cause unpleasant conditions.

#### PERSONAL NOTES.

1. Every effort has been made to have the infantry and Army officers well acquainted. It is pleasing to observe now, with practically little

7.  
more than a fortnight, in the same area  
with dispersed dispositions, that nearly all  
the Infantry and Artillery Officers are known to  
each other.

1. All of our officers who have been out of the  
WATU area, either forward or to NANTAMBU,  
have commented on the friendliness and  
cooperation with which they have been met.
2. Accommodation, <sup>and signal</sup> equipment has been something of  
a minor problem, alleviated to an extent by  
loans of Antago from 37/52 Bn. The 2nd Ipi Wt Co does  
not lend itself to having the gun position  
separated from the camp area, and providing  
guard tents, covering for command post  
and general equipment, and installing  
an unusual signal layout, has con-  
stituted this problem.

~~to complete~~ This will then permit card  
to

2 Aust Sup Depot Pl (AIF)

15 JUN 1945

15 JUN 1945

Subject: WEEKLY REPORT

CO

37/52 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

1. OPERATION: Normal Supply maintenance was carried out for Bn Gp.
2. MORALE: Good
3. AMENITIES: Competitive games for this unit have been organised for each Sunday, until group competitions are arranged.
4. RATIONS: No maintenance shipment of SWPA rations were received this week, approximate holdings as at this date are 16 days. Advice has been received of three supply ships due to arrive this month.
5. P O L: With the exception of Range Fuel and Chassis Grease, stocks of POL are adequate. DDST First Aust Army has been advised re Range Fuel.
6. FRESH SUPPLIES:  
No Fresh Supplies were received this week.
7. CASUALTIES: NIL
8. PERSONAL NOTES:  
NIL
9. CLIMATE: Hot and humid for most part - stormy, with heavy rain during latter part of week.

RECEIVED  
16 JUN 1945

*J.A. Collins* Capt  
(J.A. COLLINS) OC

'A' Coy. COMDS. REPORT. To. 0600 hrs. 15. Jun.

H.O. A. Coy.

1. PATROLS.

Three patrols were found by this Coy. during the period under review.

(a). TOPO. and. TRACK. RECC. Lt. WHELAN. 4. O.Rs. 9 PI.

Task. Recce COAST and LATERAL TRACKS MAVELO-SAI. R.

Time Out. 090805. K.

Time In. 091540. K.

(b). MAC. PATROL. ref. Patrol Instr. S.B.P. 6.

Time Out. 110730 K.

Time In. 130820 K.

(c). TRACK CUTTING and. RECC. Lt. WHELAN. One. Sec. 9 PI.

Task. Cut. Track from. ~~275547~~ - 246560 - 275547.

Time Out. 140800 K.

Time In. 141630. K.

2. OPERATIONAL.ACTIVITIES.

MAC. PATROL. was attacked night 12/13. Jun. by a party of enemy, strength unknown who fired 4 eds. H.E., probably Type. 89 Grenades from Type 89 grenade discharge, two bursts h.w. C. and rifle into their perimeter. As observation of the enemy could NOT be gained, our troops did NOT open fire.

2. Continued.

Own casualties 1. wounded.

3. MORALE.

Morale throughout the Coy is still good. 7 pls. contact with the enemy has put them on their toes and they are anxious to retaliate. 8 and 9 pls. are healthily nervous and both are keen to be chosen for the next fwd. patrol.

Discipline and smartness in 9 pl. is NOT up to that of the remainder of the Coy. This is mainly due to the weakness of the pl. Sgt. A. recommendation for his replacement is being forwarded separately. This together with cross posting of one or two members of the pl. will effect the necessary improvement.

4. AMENITIES.

2 Valley Balls.

2 Catcher Mitts.

1 pr. Cricketing Gloves

were received during the period. The two valley balls will be very useful as water polo balls, but so far no suitable suggestion has been forthcoming as to how the remainder may be used.

The Coy library is in operation and practically the full stock of books are at present on issue.



5. RATIONS.

No further complaints as to quantity or quality other than those enumerated in last week's report. Fresh rations have arrived in good condition. There are two points however which require checking.

(a) Butter. On two occasions butter was received in a dirty box, causing outside wrapping to become soiled and slightly tainting 2. pounds of butter.

(b) Bread. On three occasions bread boxes had not been cleaned out, there being sand in the bottoms of the boxes and on the outside of the loaves.

6. STORES and CLOTHING.

A small quantity of clothing was received during week. This together with repairs carried out by tailor will enable us to keep going pending arrival of stores ship.

Gaiters. It is considered that one pair of gaiters per man is insufficient in our present role. Could the scale of issue be increased to two pairs per man in future.

Wash Tins. Due to apparent consistent shortage of supplies the condition of wash tins in this camp is causing concern.

Over the past twelve months supplies of new mess tins have been inadequate to replace wastage, though regular requisitions have been lodged. as a result, 45-50% of mess tins in this camp are over twelve months old. and have lost their tinning, causing rust that even daily scrubbing will not keep in check.

7. CASUALTIES.

(a). Battle. 1 Wounded. - shrapnel wounds in fore arm.

(b). Other Causes.

Murdered Out. Schools. 1. Offr.

X. list. (Hosp.) 1. N.C.O. 1. O.R.

Sig. Pl. 1 ..

Bn. H.Q. 1 .. Batman. R.C. Padre.

Compassionate Transfer. 1 ..

Marched. In. from. X. list. 2. O.R.s.

(c). Medical.

Evacuations to R.A.P. 3.

Treated. ~~R.A.P.~~ at. C.A.P. 20.

8. PERSONAL REMARKS.

Three items were received from Bn. during the week for this paragraph, but I do not consider them suitable as they are only of interest to and would only be appreciated by the particular Sec. or Bn. to which they refer. However it is a start in the right direction and I anticipate at least one suitable contribution will be forthcoming for next weeks report.

9. GENERAL REMARKS.

As this Coy now has a trained reserve of personnel experienced in the rapid improvement of weapon pits during the hours of darkness we would be pleased to supply instructions to any Coy interested in this highly technical form of digging.

Attached to this report is a rough sketch of a slower rose evolved by two members of this Coy, which may be of interest.

*[Signature]*

Cott.

15. Jun. 45.

SUBJECT: Coy COMOS Report

WEEK ENDING 0600 15 JUNE 45

Nº 41

By Coy  
57/52 B.M.

1. Patrols.

(a) 08/300 - Capt Larkin + see patrol returned from 5 day patrol. Points visited Camp 1, Camp 2, 13 pl D Coy N.G.I.B. 12 pl. Tasks completed - tying up of reg. wire, recc of tracks, closing of Camps 1 and 2, inspection of areas and arrangements with 13 Bde re further patrolling.

(b) Lt. Pritchard sent 2 patrols, first one 13 JUNE in response to instructions carried by Lt. Spicer, second one 14 JUNE to recc back to 270 548 (successful). This second patrol failed to link up with Lt. Whelan's moving from coast to meet him. Pritchard was ordered by me at 2000 hrs 14 JUNE to move out again on 15 JUNE to find Blaya trees marked by Lt. Whelan at the

limit of his work. Considered that quite good had well shortly link this coy with 12 pl.

2. Operational activities <sup>is to an</sup> indulgence?

(a) This coy has not indulged in any aggressive move towards the enemy but has continued to man the Bnis fwd posns. Up to 140930 K fwd pls were 11 pl at Sai mouth 12 pl <sup>area</sup> ~~at~~ Sai crossing by 1954 with 10 pl and Coy HQ at Mawleh

(b) From 140930 K the coy less 14 pl has been concentrated at Sai mouth.

3. Morale

Due to coys fwd role necessitating continual field work morale is uniformly high. No crimes or punishments occurred.

4. Amenities

During the week the  
 Coy has received the following  
 sporting gear :- cricket bats 2,  
 Baseball bats 2 Wickets 6,  
 Basket Ball 1, 1 set Quoits

In our present area & amenities,  
 apart from indoor games and  
 books, cannot be made use of.  
 Supply of reading material is  
 quite good.

5. Rations

For all meals except  
 breakfast have been satisfactory.  
 Quartermaster advised that  
 sausages were not procurable  
 as yet. Suggest that commodities  
 such as ~~sausages~~ spaghetti, frankfurts,  
 sausages may be possible through  
 canteen services.

6. Casualties

Pk Walsh 11 ft. evacuated  
 to hospital - acute lfe.

Underhill<sup>10th</sup> rejoined from hospital.  
The Branch (10 pl) transferred to  
No 1 pl.

7. Personal notes.

(1) 10pl. reconditioned a native  
Lakatoi and launched same  
on 12 June - purpose: to be  
used for fishing and dumping  
rubbish. Craft was too  
cumbersome requiring 25 men  
to launch and 30 men to  
blow. On the night 12/13 June  
despite being tied up with  
various pieces of sig. wire and  
anchored, the hole caused  
it to break moorings. The  
craft was recovered 3 miles  
out to sea on 13 June.  
Since that date it has  
remained a hulk on the  
shore.

(2) Church parades were  
conducted in primitive surroundings  
in this area for both R.C.s  
and O.D.s on 14 June 45.

8. Climate conditions

Conditions for past week have been pleasant and mild. Estimated 30 points of rain for week, consequently equipment has not deteriorated. Helphans continue to give varying performances.

R. R. R. R. capt.



SUBJECT - Weekly Report to 15 Jun 45

C. Coy  
15 Jun 45

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM  
(A)

For Action

Adj.           

1. PATROLS -

Daily see standing patrols from 0600 to 1800 on South track and BATA track. All N.M.S.

2. MORALE -

Sp appear to be contented in this area and are working well. No major breaches of discipline during week.

3. AMENITIES -

Light at present. Musical and Community singing by Sals. Army Rep appreciated also supper provided. Marked scarcity of reading material in this area, makes essential provision of some other forms of recreation during evenings, pending arrival by air and/or surface mail. Am arranging lecture by R.O. one evening next week, and depending on reaction of Sp will endeavour to arrange other lectures of interest. Volley Ball playing court should be in operation during coming week.

4. RATIONS -

Available in sufficient quantities this week. Supplies of butter, bread and meat adequate. Due to the fact that no bacon, sausages, and beans breakfast foods have been short, rendering provision of

Time of Day	Time of Day	Time of Day
Time of Day	Time of Day	Time of Day
Time of Day	Time of Day	Time of Day

Satisfactory breakfast difficult.

Suggest meals could be improved if some of the following commodities,

available at the canteen, were purchased from Regimental funds:

Pickles, Sausages, Baking powder, Spices, and Essences,

5 CASUALTIES:

R. HATCH. M. C. Evac 10 Jun R.T.U. 14 Jun.

6 GENERAL:

14 pe returned from NANTAMBUNGA

15 Jun.

Cookhouse and living areas (each 4 pe) now complete.

Defenses still require completion of digging, fears of fire and overhead cover.

7 CLIMATE:

Excellent during early part of week.

Some rain night 13/14 Jun and

heavy rain night 14/15 Jun.

G. Blappert  
Capt.

00200

Time of Day	System of	Originator's Instructions	If liable to be intercepted or fall into enemy hands, this message must be sent in cipher	This message may be sent as written by any means
		Degree of Priority		
Time Class			Stamps	Stamps

HQ COY.

WEEKLY REPORT.

5 PL report NOT attached due to  
pressure of work . Should be  
available by 1800 hrs 14 Jan.

Green Mgr.

Available by 2000 15 June

---

1. Inspections.

Rife inspection carried out three times during week. Weapons in satisfactory condition. Tent Inspections carried out every second day. Condition satisfactory.

2. Operational notes.

NIL.

3. Works.

172 set and capped personnel moved from NANTAMBU to this area. Tent lines and Battery charging hut installed. New lines being laid throughout the area estimated time of completion 2 weeks. Signal office. This is urgently required. Two rooms required one for repair and one for sig clerk, switchboard and phones.

4. Morale

Good, no cautions or disciplinary action necessary

5. Amenities

NIL at present. Suggest fishing lines and hooks be obtained through amenities

6. Rations

Fair. When mess hall completed will make eating of meals more congenial than under present circumstances. Kamatoas appearing on morning meal with monotonous regularity

7. Personal notes

NIL

8. Casualties

Those men were taken on strength of signal platoon this week. Pte Walsh A boy, Pte Branch B boy and Pte Ingram H boy 6th 2 letter and 5th Div sigs also included on nation strength 14/10/30K.

9. Climate

Suitable for reliable communication during day period over last week

Edwards  
50

Ed

1 AUST FOREST SURVEY COY

RECEIVED  
16 JUN 1945

*True Copy*

WORKS TABLE  
FOR  
FIELD SECTIONS No 4; 6; 7; 9.

Section No 4				SECTION No 6.				7 SECTION. No 2 PLATOON				9 Section			
API No.	LOCALITY	PERIOD		API No	LOCALITY	PERIOD		API No	LOCALITY	PERIOD		API No	LOCALITY	PERIOD	
		FROM	To			FROM	TO			FROM	TO			FROM	To
Until 30 June. Completing Job-12 WIDE BAY Area and moving to TALASSEA								56 & 20	Job 20 PANDI RIVER	30 June	30 Jun.	66 & 69	Job 19 MEGIGI	1 JUN	
40 121 70	JOB 19 STETTIN BAY	30 Jun	14 Jul	104 106 112 113 114	REIN BAY	30 Jun	31 Jul	54 & 52	BIALLA	1 Jul	14 Jul	63 & 46	MALALIA	1 Jun	14 Jun
39 & 79	JOB 31 RUBECK BAY	15 Jul	31 Jul	90 91 105 110 124	Cape GLOUCESTER	31 Jul	31 Aug	29 & 28	MAVELU OPEN BAY	14 Jul	31 Jul	65	KAPIURA	15 Jun	30 JUN
77 78 79	RUDIGER Pt.	1 Aug	31 Aug									53 67 46	WALO Special	1 Jul	31 Jul

It is proposed to move No 2 Platoon with 6 weeks rations early August to ARAWE to complete Jobs 18 & 32 unless it is possible to work on GAZELLE PENINSULA. Wet season on south coast, particularly around ARAWE may interfere with Survey

37/52 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)  
Jun 45.

Patrols

Nil.

Other Operational Activities

A report from SULE of 2 U/I vessels heading in a Northerly direction 131500K. Movement Control at Finschhafen and Lae were checked to see if they were vessels expected here off their course. Movement Control at FINSCHHAFEN and LAE both reported NO vessels on way. YET at 151410K O.L.2 A arrived at NANTAMBU.

Morale

Men are all interested in the development of the area and with arrival of O.L.2 A. with parcels, reading matter etc. Morale should remain at a high level.

Amenities

A Sports Committee met on 10th Jun to discuss plans for organised sport in this area. It was decided to defer arrangements for a fortnight.

Ordnance Stores

The O.L.2 A. has 30 tons of Ordnance Stores and it is expected that this shipment will contain a substantial supply of clothing which should relieve the present position. These stores should be available for issue from Ord Fd Pk during next week.

Personal Notes.

New Mess hut and kitchen should be in operation early next week. The site for new A office has been cleared and pegged. Due to the use of practically all natives for the carrying of rations forward of MAVELO clearing and building operations have been suspended during the last two days. In consultation with Maj Clarkson and Lt Dowsett it has been decided to leave 28 natives at MAVELO as a permanent carrying party to the two outposts. Carrying will commence on Monday 18th Jun. It is considered that this will be a more economical use of available native labour. Another death was reported by ANGAU and following established precedent, engineers are constructing another cross.

Rations

Existing supply of fresh rations are low, O.L.2A. has supplies of SWPA Rations and it is expected that present deficiencies in special commodities and reserves of normal ration will be built up. (This report has been written when O.L.2A. arrived in Bay so it is not expected that AASC report will contain this information). Arrangements have been made with Canteen for purchase of additional commodities, such as baking powder, sauces, Solpack apple etc to improve present ration.

Climate

Hot dry windy weather early in week was of good assistance in clearing operations.

Casualties

Evacuations: VX 135936 Pte. Way W (Indolent abscess right shoulder)  
VX 132181 Pte. Scott L G (PUO (confirmed B.T. Malaria))  
Rejoined from Hospital: VX 139789 Pte Taylor C.W.  
VX 150400 Pte Grantham B.C. VX 109192 Cpl Flew K.J

RECEIVED

16 JUN 1945

.....*J. Sturges*..... Capt  
Q.M. 37/52 Aust Inf Bn.

Bn Hq Rear  
June/16/45.

Lt Col Embrey

Sir,

herewith attached weekly reports ending June 15. I have made a few notes on the relevant pages for your information showing action taken.

Have had three queries from Maj Clarkson ref screeds issued by us here.

- (a) Instr regarding awards to all coys. by co
- (b) Issue of trg instr 9 to all coys.
- (c) Ref 39/43 Star substantially passed

In regard to the first of these, you will recall your conversation with me regarding applying for awards as soon as anything came up, the information which was sent out was intended to leave no doubt in Coy Comd's minds as to the procedure in such circumstances.

I discussed Trg Instr 9 with you and mentioned that I would send it out so that Coy Comds would know what was required by Bde should they ever be asked, and what was intended when you required trg to be carried out.

The 39/43 Star has to be made up and entered in AAB 83 by coys and indents submitted for ribbon, a good deal of research will ~~xxx~~ have to be made by coy clerks before they can do this, estimate 300~~x~~ applications, periods of hospitalization and leave have to be reckoned in this, essential dope only was fwded for coys inf.

All inward mails are seen by Maj Clarkson and all mails



2

fwded for your perusal and direction.

I do not think my office staff or myself have fallen down on this job at any time, and had I considered the inf unessential I would not have fwded it.

Had a message from fwd asking whether OL 11a had been sighted or arrived in NANTAMBU , no OL 11a has been notified to us from either Lae or Finsch , possibly this is a cypher corruption , meaning either OL 2a or OL 11 , the former as advised to you in my message GIR 34 of 15 Jun arrived here at 151400/K , the latter is a rather mixed show , we were first advised by Lae that she had loaded for NANTAMBU on approx Jun 13 with NATIVE rations only , next message from FINSCHAVEN stating she has been held up owing to breakdown in winches and deck gear, next we receive a signal saying she left Finsch 160200/K with 2824 packages rations for AASC NANTAMBU asx all native rations TALASEA--HOSKINS are now the responsibility of ANGAU LAE it would now appear that the rations are EUROPEAN and not NATIVE, this we cannot be sure of until the posn is clarified.

We have been advised by LAE BSA that a new field bakery oven and etceteras are on the way to us , ETA not known, no personnel are being sent with it as far as I can gather, but it should help the show immensely .

I would like to draw your attention to the attached signal (copy) which was sent to Fd Amb after being shown to me Penicillin supplies will NOT, I think, last for the period

3

of non supply, with the meningitis occurring in the ANGAU compound I must confess the short supply has me a little worried in case some of our own lads contact it in some way or another, they have been warned to have no contact with natives at all, do you think it is worth taking up ? would you discuss it with the Doc ? I may be up the wrong tree but would like your direction and advice.

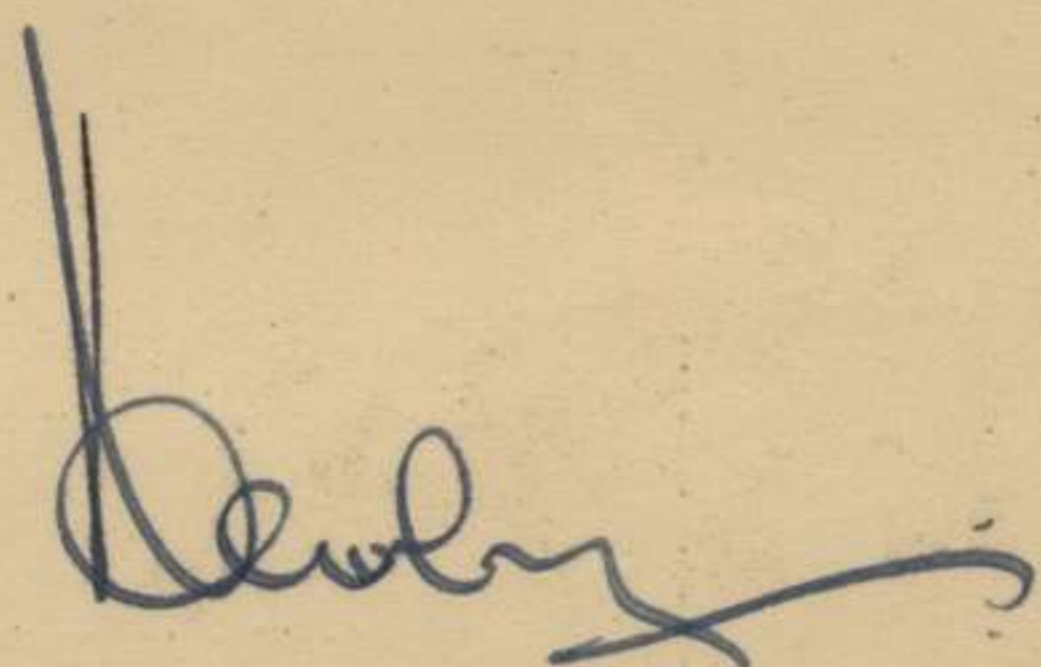
I passed your comments to John Stewart ref the short supply or unserviceability of MESS TINS and GAITERS at A coy , he informs me that no supplies of above are held by him nor are they available at ORD FD PK , should they be on OL 2a they will be fwded immediately.

Extra supplies from Regtl funds in the nature of pickles, sauces, condiments etc are going fwd on WED courier they will be broken into coy lots in proportion to their strengths, by QM here.

Stewart is fwding report to you ref tainted butter and dirty bread boxes.

I shall write to Bde ref the amenities as you request, Leitch is going to fwd to me a copy of the sporting material list he has up there, as the main supply is held by WATU

Withington's report on SDS and PIGEON jeep are attached hereto.



# MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

Call

Ser. No.

Priority

Transmission Instructions

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM  
(A)

Originator

Date—Time of Origin

Office Date Stamp

5 Div

15 1745 K.

For Action

TO

4 Inf Amb. 405 CCS

(w) For Information (INFO.)

Message Instructions

GR

A Coy 4 FD AMB

ORIGINATOR'S No.

MD 1286

RESTRICTED

TO HQ advise  
 enforced circumstances NO repeat NO further  
 supplies penicillin temporary to ensure  
 conservation present stocks all medical units  
 will use penicillin only for battle casualties  
 except urgent medical cases where organism  
 is penicillin sensitive sulphamamide will replace  
 penicillin wherever practicable if cases  
 sulphamamide resistant remainder may be used  
 report normal availability 4 weeks

Copy

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN  
by any means except

Wireless

If liable to be intercepted or fall into  
enemy hands, this message must be  
sent IN CIPHER

Originator's Instructions  
Degree of Priority

Time System Op

THI or TOR

Signed

*[Signature]*

Signed

*[Signature]*

Time Cleared

*[Signature]*

D Coy  
16 Jun 45.

Weekly Report to OCO HQ 16 Jun 45.

1. Operational activities.

(a) Standing patrol. See Str. 2.P.3.

(b) 9 Jun. 19 pl. and 18 pl. rejoined Coy from post. 2 + 1. respectively.

(c) 16 Pl. (L. Speer) patrolled. Speer's track.

Time out. 1400 hrs. 9 Jun 45

Time in 1500 hrs. 13 Jun 45.

(d) 15 Jun. 18 Pl. moved to KANTAMBU to relieve one pl. R. Coy.

2. Morale:

Excellent.

3. Amusements

(a) One volleyball issued to Coy during week, and it is estimated that by end coming week one basket ball court and one volleyball court will be completed.

(b) When mess hut is completed it is intended to have bingo nights and card nights. This should help to brighten up the nights for the Pls.

(c) No P.C.F. issues <sup>of tobacco</sup> have taken place since end of Apr.

4. Rations

(a) Insufficient tea and sugar. To some morning tea to Pls.

(b) Breakfast foods — No variety and rations for breakfast have only been egg powder and a fresh meat stewed.

(c) Fresh meat: Only stewing meat of very inferior quality has been issued during week. It is nine days since meat suitable for roasting has been issued.

(d) Tinned meat issued consisted solely of bully beef. It is preferable that rations included H + V, hash and bully.

(e) Tinned Milk: In view of the shortage of sugar, it would be of great assistance if sweetened milk were issued - proportion  $3\frac{1}{3}\%$ . There has been no sweetened milk issued since arrival in this area, and previously in all areas in N. B + N G, it was the practice to issue both sweetened and unsweetened milk.

(f) Solid Fuel: Recent patrol (16 pl.) report that the latest issue of solid fuel (white colour) is not nearly as efficient as solid fuel (red colour) previously issued. Time taken to boil water with latest issue is 20 mins as opposed to 10 mins previously.

(g) Tobacco & Cigarettes: Tobacco and cigarette ration is totally inadequate for pl's in this area, especially for pl's food on patrol. Cigarettes are not popular and it is recommended that tobacco replace the cigarettes and the issue be 4 oz per week at least. At the end of each week most men are out of tobacco and this leaves an on edge; particularly the coy. comd.

- (h) Tools - there is an acute shortage of shovels, 65, and entrenching and it is recommended that one shovel per 100 men be issued to day.

## 5. General notes.

If practicable, would suggest that one full morning be allotted to maintenance clothing, weapons, eqpt. and kit inspection. Also one half day for sports. This is in addition to Sunday a rest day except for camp maintenance.

## 6. Casualties and Medical.

- (a) General health of troops is good, except for a few minor skin complaints.  
(b) Evacuations during week showed a decided increase.

Total evacuations - 1 - 4.

## 8. Works Programme.

- (a) Mess rooms and kitchen; estimated time for completion end of coming week.

- (b) New latrine being built.

## 9. Climate

R. H. M. Cap!  
S. C. D. Coy.

37/52 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)  
JUN 45.Patrols

A recce patrol, organised by ANGAU, of R.P.C. personnel departed 22 Jun for SULLI. Route followed coastline to SULLI and return inland approx one mile from coast.

Task. Ascertain if area free from enemy O.Ps. and activity generally.

Other Operational Activities

See report of officer in charge of defence.

Morale

Remains at a high level.

Amenities

Sgt Leach visited NANTAMBU and took orders for sporting equipment. The library is servicing all units but is not adequate for the whole area.

Ordnance Stores.

Following the arrival of O.L.2A a proportion of our indents on 130 Fd Pk have been filled. All coys will be issued within the next 4 days.

Clothing. Trousers J.G. were, as usual, mainly large sizes and shirts received will not be sufficient to meet the demand. Boots also are in short supply in certain sizes. The following items were not received and coy requisitions cannot be met - anklets web and berets (tins mess and capes anti-gas - supplies quite inadequate). ✓

Rations

With the arrival of further supplies the issue for the current week will provide more variety. DID are handling all fresh fruit from HOSKINS and issues were made this week to all units.

Fresh meat and butter supplies are exhausted and, as yet, no advice of further supplies has been received.

The following commodities were purchased through Regt funds to augment this week's ration:- herbs, baking powder, Solpack apple, corn flour, vinegar and sauce. The supply of the latter commodity was inadequate - additional supplies will be available next week.

Climate

Has not interfered with normal routine.

Casualties

Evacuations. VX144998 Pte Monsborough, K.G. (Post operation debility )

VX118239 Pte Trueman, F (P.U.O.).

Rejoined Unit From Hospital.

VX111940 Sgt Browning, H.G. (U.R.T.I.).

Personal Notes.

All labour during the week has been utilized in unloading of boats, consequently it has been impossible to concentrate on improvements in the area as hoped.

The new mess hut is functioning and with the exception of the D coy pl all troops are concentrated in the one area. It is anticipated that the new A office will be occupied during the ensuing week. A wksp for the LAD has been completed, a hut for 130 Bde Wksp has been commenced, also new canteen building.

Following a discussion with the Div and Bde L.Os. Mr Whittaker is compiling a report on the supply position which will be taken up by the L.Os. at their respective HQs.

R.Q.M.S. and Caterer have rejoined unit. Caterer is stationed at WATU and will move to forward coys weekly; he will submit weekly reports to me relative to rations and AACC personnel.

*J. D. P. O'Connell* Capt.  
Q.M. 37/52 Aust Inf Bn (AIF).

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23 JUN 1945

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