

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

Item number: 8/3/7

2/7 Infantry Battalion
September - October 1942

SEPT^B MONTH
SEPTEMBER
1942 YEAR

3rd District Records

54 11 20

A.I.F. FORM C 2118A

WAR DIARY

For material required, see F.S.R. Vol. 1, Sec. 174

(RENDER UNDER SECRET COVER)

UNIT 2/7 Aust Inf Bn

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS <small>Routine training details and information given in Casualty Returns are NOT required</small>	REFERENCES TO APPENDICES	C.O.'S REPORT AND COMMENTS ON MONTH <small>(On Operations, Equipment, Movement, Health, Administration, etc)</small>
Seymour	1	<p>The C/O/ Lt. Col Guinn with Capt. Carstairs left today to proceed to the combined Operations Tactical School at port Stephens in N.S.W.</p>		<p><i>6/3/42</i></p> <p><i>Signature: Henry G. Guinn</i></p>
	2	<p>A football match between the 2/6 and the 2/7 Bns. was played on Seymour football ground during the afternoon. The game was played by scratch teams hurriedly collected by both sides and resulted in such a severe trouncing for our team that we blush as we publish the score of 2/6 Bn. 18 goals to 2/7 Bn. 1 goal.</p>		
	3	<p>Today at 1200 hrs. all coys called parades and the men stood for the 2 minutes silence that was being observed throughout Australia. Others whose duties did not permit them to be on parade left off their tasks and observed the silence where they were working.</p> <p>The encouraging news of the past few days of the operations by our men in the various theatres of war should be an inspiration to us as we embark on the fourth year of this struggle.</p>		
	4	<p>Today saw the conception of our new band when Capt. Dunkley very ably assisted by Capt. SHUGG bandmaster from Army H.Q. , provided an almost complete set of band instruments. There was a little difficulty at first in persuading the powers that be to provide instruments where there was a lack of bandsmen, but the eloquence of our capable Adjutant overcame this obstacle and it is hoped that once again we will be able to march behind our own band for the first time since our other set of instruments was abandoned in Greece.</p>		
	5	<p>A normal day in camp. A limited number of personnel proceeded on two day leave.</p>		

A150 Mob Print Sec AIF-25M-1/11-G.

LIST OF APPENDICES

- | | |
|-------|----------------------------------|
| No. 1 | R.O. No. 37/42 Dated 24 Sep. 42 |
| 2 | Training Bivouac 26 " " |
| 3 | Training Inst. No 1 28 " " |
| 4 | Demonstration Exercise 28 Sep 42 |
| 5 | Mobile Defence " " |
| 6 | Westernland Magazine |
| 7 | Map Singleton 1" to 1 mile |
| 8 | Ceylon and People |
| 9 | Receipt for Cypher Document |
| 10 | War Diary (original copy) |

SEPTEMBER MONTH
1942 YEAR

A.I.F. FORM C 2118A

WAR DIARY

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UNIT *2/7 Aust Inf Bn*

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Seymour	6	Many relatives of troops took advantage of the beautiful spring day to visit the camp which was open to the public all day.		
	7	Route marches for all coys were the order of the day. After a morning parade each coy set off across the paddocks and completed a march of about 5 to 6 miles returning to camp in time for dinner.		
	8	Today the train times for our coming move were received, and as a result all leave ceases on Thursday night.		
	9	Route marches were the order of the day for all coys in addition to weapon training in the afternoon.		
	10	Today our move was postponed to a later date. The coys continue to do weapon training and route marches.		
	11	The last of the two day leave was granted to members of the Bn. today. No further leave will be granted pending movement orders. Route marches are being conducted in all coys.		
	12	At 2200 hrs today all leave ceased for the Bn. An advance party has already been sent to Singleton N.S.W. and today they were required to send a further advance party to Greta where it is learned that the Bn. will be proceeding.		
	13	A football match against the 2/6 Bn. was played today when we were successful in winning the day by 10 . 7 to 6 . 1, which was quite a reverse to the match a week ago. The remainder of the advance party at Singleton moved to the Greta camp.		

Signature *Henry R. Quinn*

SEPTEMBER MONTH
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Seymour	14	<p>Today we were honoured by a visit from Mt Gen. Savige who is very well known to this Bn. He visited the troops messes chatting with many old acquaintances whom he had known when he commanded the 17 Bde. He is now commanding a division in Queensland.</p> <p>Some of our new band instruments were tried out when the drummers had their first lesson.</p>		
	15	<p>At 0830 hrs a Bn. parade was held after which the troops proceeded on a route march led by Capt. Mc Corkeill and on their return our new Salvation Army welfare officer Maj. Drew provided coffee for them. It was much appreciated by all after marching through drizzly rain most of the morning.</p> <p>In the afternoon lectures and training took place in all coys, while the "1" sec. prepared a course for a night compass march to be done by the sergeants. Maj Brock also conducted an Orderly Room when many offenders who overstayed their home leave were dealt with.</p>		
	16	<p>Route marching was the order of the day, each coy taking a different direction in the surrounding district. The march was a long one testing many soft feet, although very few men fell out of the march. The day was a cold one and a brisk pace was kept up throughout.</p>		
	17	<p>The day was spent striking tents and cleaning the camp area in preparation for our coming move to another state.</p>		
	18	<p>Bn.H.Q. and A coy prepared to move this morning. Reveille was at 0500 hrs. when palliases and blankets were returned to the Q store. Breakfast was at 0600 hrs. and at 0700 hrs. the movement commenced.</p>		

A150 Mob Print Sec AIF-25M-4/41-G.

Signature *Henry Drummond*

SEPTEMBER MONTH
1942 YEAR

A.I.F. FORM C 2118A

WAR DIARY

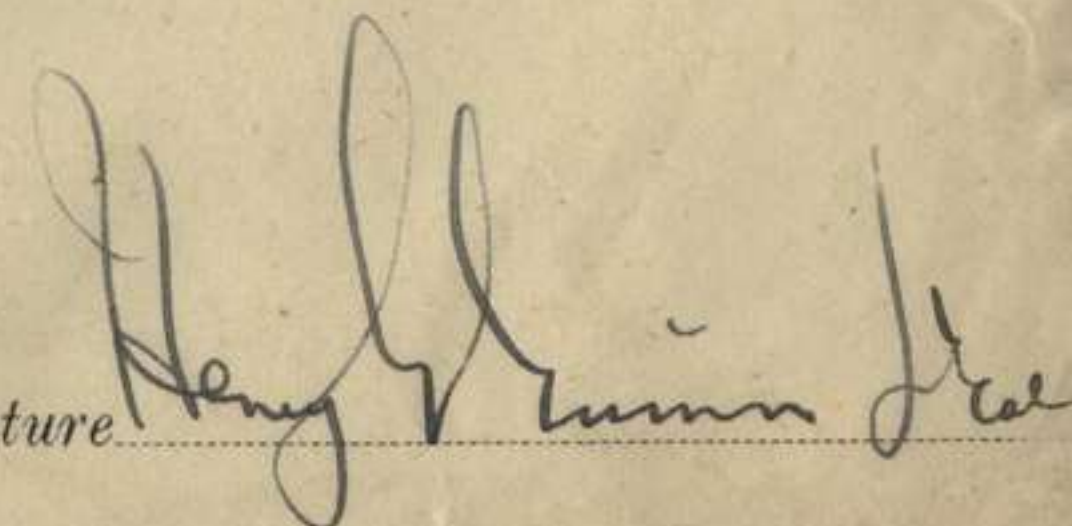
(RENDER UNDER SECRET COVER)

UNIT 2/7 Aust Inf

For material required, see F.S.B. Vol. 1, Sec. 174

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Seymour	18	contd. The troops embussed for Mangalore at 0715 hrs. and entrained at 0815 hrs. the train pulling out 0915 hrs. A stop was made at Shepparton at 1115 hrs. for lunch, and leaving again at 1200 hrs. the Murray River was crossed some time later, while at 1345 hrs Tocumwal was reached where the troops detrained. Tea was at 1600 hrs., after which a N.S.W. train was boarded which left Tocumwal at 1655 hrs. Jerilderie was reached at 1945 hrs. where the local Red Cross and Comforts Fund had prepared a light snack which was appreciated by everyone and for which the troops gave them three hearty cheers before entraining.		
Greta	19	After travelling allnight the next stop was Temora at 0945 hrs. where breakfast was partaken of. The next stop was Cootamundra at 1210 hrs. for the mid-day meal. The engine broke down at Binalong at 1700 hrs. delaying the train until 1800 hrs. Yass was reached at 1850 hrs. where the troops dined departing for another night's travel at 1950 hrs.		
	20	After travelling all night a stop was made at Gosford at 0700 hrs. for breakfast after which the train proceeded to Greta arriving at 1215 hrs. The camp area was reached at 1245 hrs. B coy had preceded Bn. H.Q. and A coy in this move and arrived at Greta at 0830 hrs., while late in the night in the night C coy also arrived in the new camp.		
	21	The last coys of the Bn. to reach Greta came this morning when H.Q. coy arrived at 0530 hrs. and D coy at 0830 hrs. From 1400 hrs. there was a steady stream of troops marching with their complement of gear as each coy made its way to their permanent quarters in "Silver City" as this portion of the camp has been named by the troops.		

A150 Mob Print Sec AIF-25M-4/41-G.

Signature 

SEPT
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GRENIA	22	<p>The first Bn parade in the newcamp was held this morning when the C O Lt Col Guinn told the troops that they would have to be 100% physical fit as there was a job ahead, and that they in the training of the next few days would find ample opportunity to remedy the relaxation of the past few weeks. He told them that on the following Monday the Bn would carry out a demonstration exercise at which many Army Chiefs would be present.</p> <p>Coy's marched off to the training where in the morning section exercises were carried out and in the afternoon Pl. exercises were held. Meanwhile the C.O. B.I.C. and I Sgt went out to recon areas suitable for coy exercises to take place on the next day.</p> <p>Commencing at 1900 Hrs, Cpls of all coys including Cpl Cooks and even the Postal Cpl, set off on a night compass march which had been prepared by the Bn L Sec. This was the second Bn exercise of this nature and brought out similar results, for although the night movement was quite good much more practice is needed to develop a high degree of night sense</p>		
	23	<p>Was a Bn conference called by the C.O. The Brig introduced Lt Col Wolfenden from the HQ who lectured on the tactics and procedure to be used on the forthcoming demonstration exercise by the Bn as well as the 2/5 and 2/6 Bns</p>		
	23	<p>At 0830 Hrs C. coy moved out to a Rd junction north of Brandon and occupied a defensive position which sited to illustrate a mobile defence by using a reserve counter attacking Pl</p>		

A150 Mob Print Sec AIF-25M-4/41-G.

Signature *Henry Guinn*

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GRETA	23	<p>A coy leaving camp at 0930 Hrs moved to a Rd junction and from there there moved to a point compass bearing through the timbered country and attacked using infiltration and flanking methods. A coy moving a little to the left of the object attacked but was mopped up by the defence.</p> <p>D coy which had to a R V for lunch, took over the defence from C coy which moved out to a training area followed by A coy to a similar area. B coy had been sent across country by the C.O. and was met and given orders by umpires and then moved towards the junction for the attack. The coy moved steadily into the advance sending out one Pl in a wide encirclement on the right flank. After contacted with D boys Lwd Pl, Capt Carstairs sent in reserves Pl in an encirclement to the left. This encirclement which was carried out quickly, came in rear of the defence and attacked Coy R.Q. Bcoys leading Pl pressing on launched a surprise attack on the flank of D Coy's reserve section who were hotly engaged by the the encircling attackers. In this the attackers were successful, at the completion of the exercise the four Coys moved by Pls on a compass bearing back to Bn lines.</p>		
	24.	<p>At 0900hrs all officers and Pls were as Pl Comdrs At 1000hrs the C.O. moved to an R.V. at Thistle Hill where a conference of unit C.O.s, the Brigade staff and Lt. Col Wollenden was held. Coys carried on normal training in coy areas, the rifle coys using the command course close to the Bn lines. The O.Cs of coys Pl Comdrs and acting Pl Comdrs moved to the R.V. at 1100 hrs and assembled with officers of unit</p> <p>under command of the 2/7 Bn. The</p>	NO 1.	<p>Signature <i>Henry J. Drummond</i></p>

A150 Mob Print Sec AIF-25M-4/41-G.

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1942

2/7 Aust Inf Bn

Seymour 24 contd. The Brig. introduced Lt. Col. Wolfenden who went through the exercise in detail pointing out features on the ground. After lunch the C.O. detailed roles for coys. in the exercise making A coy the enemy in defence and giving the vanguard position to B coy. D coy followed by C coy were to execute the bypass movement, while B ech. vehicles remained on the road until it was cleared. The Bn. bivouac area was also recced and coy areas allotted. Earlier in the day all the Bn's equipment less the pack was collected and at night returned camouflaged with a green paint.

25 The Bn. moved from the Greta lines on a compass bearing to bivouac area crossing the Molly Morgan Range on the way. The coys moved independently setting off by pls at 4 minute intervals commencing at 0930 hrs. All coys were in position and had lunched by 1400 hrs.

In the afternoon coy commanders took pl cmdrs and N.C.O.s to the scene of their activities in the exercise to come. The lines were visited by the B.M. at approx. 1800 hrs. By this time all units under command were in position.

26 At 0830 hrs the C.O. called a conference of his O and R groups giving them his orders for the operation. This was to be the first rehearsal of the demonstration exercise.

The vanguard moved off and contact was made at the road block. B coy moved into positions for encirclement and attack. On contact and appreciation of the situation the C.O. ordered a bypass and the main body comprising D coy Bn.H Q. and C coy set off on an encirclement designed to cut the road in rear of Thistle Hill, where a Road block would be placed at the enemy's rear. To complete the picture D coy would become the vanguard and the Bn. would move on its way along the road while B coy on completion of operations would follow through the road block, ascertain that the enemy was clear, open the road block to allow B ech. vehicles to proceed on their way, and then take up a position as rearguard to the Bn.

B coy, although delayed a little by carriers after the contact moved quickly and firmly into the attack and were fast in mopping up, on the other hand D coy led the main body in an encirclement that proved to be too wide thus delaying the arrival of the Bn. on the road long enough to allow B coy to conclude their part, reassemble and move on down the road past the point where the road block would have been placed by the main body.

The C.O. coy commanders, pl commanders and actg. pl commanders all moved to Thistle Hill to watch the 2/5 and 2/6 Bns' demonstration.

Nº 2.

Henry Drinnan

SEPTEMBER

1942

SEYDENT

Greta 26 cont'd.

The Bn was moved back to its bivouac area. The Brig gave his constructive criticism of the Bns first rehearsal pointing out minor points to be remedied. As the 2/6 Bn officers were waiting for the Brig. the CO moved the 2/7 Bn officers a little distance a way and gave them definite instructions for improvement in the Bn's procedure for the following days. He also read out a screed which had been passed on from the Brig. in which very definite statements were made about the unit's procedure and maintenance in the bivouac areas. This document gave the 2/7 Bn full marks in all aspects of the arrangements in the bivouac area. Tactical layout, vehicle dispersion, track discipline, piquets and even the unit's sign were all mentioned. In all these the Bn had observed the Bn S.O.s and as a result scored this good report from Bde.

During the night the C.O. obtained the services of 4 officers and 24 O.R.s of 4 Bty 2/2 Fd. Regt. who were split up into 4 patrols under guidance of the Bn I section. These patrols visited various coy lines and by infiltration tested the Bn perimeter for alertness and security. The result was somewhat amazing as C coy was the only coy to challenge effectively and A coy the only coy to report immediately to Bn H.Q. after being raided. H.Q. coy, which was visited by the C.O. and Adj. with a small party, were very fortunate in having a coy cmd. next morning, as he was found peacefully slumbering in his cot. the raiding party being directed to his H.Q. by various reclining figures who offered no challenge, no queries and plenty of opportunities to sabotage their establishments. The Adj. not content with this, essayed a return visit within a few minutes, but was pounced upon by irate O.R.s disturbed from deep sleep and ~~became~~ became embroiled in a struggle which took place on the aforesaid coy cmd. valise. He finally succumbed gracefully having at least two troops sitting in the vicinity of his kidneys.

2

27

The second ~~exercise~~ rehearsal of the demonstration exercise commenced on time, the contact being made just a few minutes before 1100 hrs. When the main body commenced its bypass orders were given that no vehicles would move across country as on the previous day vehicles had scattered widely over the country side searching for gates and gaps in fences in order to follow the moving troops. B coy moved smartly in their role, while the main body moving on a shorter route, cut the main road, placed the road block and continued on its way before B coy had moved down the road after mopping up on Thistle Hill.

The Bn lunche in a bivouac area on the Rothbury road. After lunch ~~the~~ coys moved off on a compass bearing for the bivouac area. The transport moved in coy blocks via Rothbury road.

The C.O. and coy cmd. reported to Thistle Hill for a report by the Brig.

2/7 Aust Inf Bn

Henry Dennis Hor

SEPTEMBER

1942

Greta 28

The day of the demonstration was quite uneventful as the exercise was carried out with a precision and speed of movement which checked almost to the second with the time table laid down. The only people late were the Wirraways representing our air support and these were some minutes overdue.

After lunch the transport returned to Greta camp while coys moved to Thistle Hill where the 2/5 and 2/6 Bns' ^{exercise} ~~was~~ was in progress. Thistle Hill was swarming with a bevy of Army leaders and senior officers. Everybody appeared to be impressed with the bearing and fitness and ability of the 17Bde troops. Lt. Gen. Sir Ivan McKay spoke and commended the troops who had carried out the demonstrations, thanking them and recommended that the lessons shown in the demonstration should be practised in the units represented on the hill.

Much gratification was expressed when it was learned today that Maj Brock who has been ~~sitting~~ 2I.C. of the Bn since it was reformed after Crete received his promotion to Lt. Col. and was given a comd. viz. 51 Bn.

After the demonstration coys moved independently on a compass bearing back to camp and covered the distance very smartly as they knew they were heading for home after three days in the "blue".

29

Today was a day of administration and as such was utilised by the troops to make up what arrears they had in the way of washing. Quite a few it would appear are missing the "dhobi man" of Ceylon and are taking rather hard the personal appearance at the wash tub once again.

The I sgt during the morning recced an area suitable for exercises in ambush under conditions somewhat similar to Ceylon and in the afternoon coy comd. visited the area to formulate the outline for these exercises.

30

The coys moved out on a bearing which brought them to the training area selected yesterday. A coy and D coy were the first to arrive at approx 1030 hrs. The C.O. and I sgt arrived as A coy moved down the road to occupy a defensive position and on the way this coy was ambushed by the mortar pl as a sidelight to the exercise which was to follow. The C.O. gave A coy a short informal talk as they rested during a 10 minute halt, when he put them in the picture with regard to the forthcoming move and with a simple facts cleared up any lurking rumours. He then outlined the exercise and clearly indicated the tactical reasons and the lessons which would be brought out. Similarly this talk was given to all coys in turn.

2/7 Aust Inf Bn

Nº 3, 4, 5.

Henry J. Guinn Dal

SEPTEMBER

1942

Greta 30 contda

D coy moving down the road were to attack A coys defensive position. The mortar pl supplied one detachment with the defenders and the attackers. D coy advanced along the axis of the road but confused A coys fwd. pl by moving off the road under cover of the undergrowth. On contact D coys two reserve pls carried out a bypassing movement coming in on A coys right rear flank. A coys reserve pl and sections had been moved to meet this and an example of mobile defence was brought out. Examples of control made it clear that leadership by section leaders and pl comds in reforming the sections and pls after attacking and annihilating is most important. Control of 8" mortars is most effectively carried out by from coy H.Q.

B coy being only one pl strong were given a pl from A coy and one from D coy making a composite coy which occupied the defensive position, the pls being comd. by sgts. and the coy by sgt Fietz. C coy acted as the attackers. Once again mobile defence proved most effective in dealing with the attackers.

After the exercise coys had an evening meal and then waited till dusk before setting out on a night compass march for the Bns lines at Greta.

2/7 Aust Inf Bn.

Henry L. ...

LT COL H.G. GUINN

COMD 2/7 AUST INF BN

1. DRESS Dress on leave or on duty outside camp area will be Field Service Dress with gaiters.
2. RAZOR BLADES - DISTRIBUTION OF: Distribution of razor blades will be at the rate of one blade per man per pay day. These are not an issue but are available on purchase and will be provided and paid for by Regimental Funds until further notice.
3. LEAVE - JEWISH HOLY DAY- Special Leave may be granted to Jewish members on the following Jewish Holy Days to enable them to attend religious festivals held locally.
Day of Atonement: Sunday night 20 Sep 42 in time to reach home before sunset until midnight Monday 21 Sep 42.
Feast of Tabernacles: Friday night, 25 Sep 42 in time to reach home before sunset until midnight Saturday 26 Sep.
Eighth Day of Solemn Assembly- Friday night 2 Oct 42 in time to reach home before sunset until midnight 3 Oct 42.
4. DAILY ROUTINE- Ref 17 Aust inf Bde R.Os. No 2 of 22 Sep 42
DELETE Para 5 INSERT

Reveille	0600 hrs
P.T.	0630 " - 0700 hrs
Meals	0730 "
	1230 " --Desaulters Parade 1630 hrs
	1730 "
Tattoo	2130 "
Last Post	2200 "
Lights Out	2230 "

Coys will render Tattoo Roll Call reports to this HQ by 2145 hrs.

H.L.E. DUNKLEY Capt
Adjt 2/7 AUST INF BN

NOTICES

The Commanding Officer, Officers and other ranks desire to express their thanks to Sgt R.S. ROBINETTE for his gift of a bugle to the unit.

37

SUBJECT : TRAINING BIVOUAC

PERSONAL

2

HQ 17 Aust Inf Bde
26 Sep 42.

To Comds 2/5 Aust Inf Bn
2/6 Aust Inf Bn
2/7 Aust Inf Bn

The following matters were noted at Unit bivouac sites last night and this morning :

(a) Tactical Dispositions

2/5 Aust Inf Bn - Nil. Dispersed against air.
2/6 Aust Inf Bn - Nil. Tps concentrated for messing and providing excellent target for air attack.
2/7 Aust Inf Bn
and 52 Aust Bty - well disposed with coys well out for all round protection.

(b) Track Discipline

2/5 Aust Inf Bn - Commencing in morning after tracks made.
2/6 Aust Inf Bn - Nil.
2/7 Aust Inf Bn - Organised and policed from arrival.

(c) Transport

2/5 Aust Inf Bn - Dispersed and concealed from air.
2/6 Aust Inf Bn - Wheel to wheel along fence without cover.
2/7 Aust Inf Bn - A 100% tactical dispersal.

(d) Sentries and Location of HQ

2/5 Aust Inf Bn - No sentries found. Bn HQ hard to find at night.
2/6 Aust Inf Bn - As per 2/5 Bn - Sig centre stated at 0700 hrs - "Think H_q is down road - we only get here last night".
2/7 Aust Inf Bn - Unit sign on road - Sentry knew location of H_q and track to use. No one got into Bn Gp area without password and identification.

(e) Unit Passwords

Not reported to Bde HQ.

2. (f) The Bde Comd directs that Comds give immediate attention to these matters, and organise their training on sound lines.

Alus Major.
B.M., 17 Aust Inf Bde Gp.

SECRET
28 Sep, 42.

3

17 AUST INF BDE GP
TRAINING INSTn No. 1

Ref Maps N.S.W. 1/63,360
SINGLETON & CESSNOCK Sheets

1. Type of Training

As far as local conditions will permit, all tng will be planned to introduce operational and adm problems of jungle warfare. Men will be equipped as lightly as possible and equipment organised into man loads based upon the minimum use of transport.

2. Training Programme.

Tng programme all incl 29 Sep/ 7 Oct is attached as Appx 1. Tng of Units other than Inf Bns on days NOT specified in Appx 1 will be at respective commanders' discretion. Outline of this tng including night training will be submitted to this H.Q. by 1800 hrs, 28 Sep.

3. Night Training.

As far as possible, one third of tng during this period will be carried out by night.

4. Gas

Respirators and gas capes will be carried by personnel during exercises and gas alarms given at odd intervals during day and night periods.

5. Training Areas.

(a) Inf Bns.

Areas for Inf Coy tng all incl 30 Sep / 3 Oct are attached as Trace A. Excepting by mutual arrangement with the bn comd concerned or in respect of dets under bn comd, comds of supporting units will avoid use of these areas during this period.

(b) Other units.

Will submit to this H.Q. by 1800 hrs, 28 Sep details of training areas required for all incl 30 Sep/3 Oct, so that areas may be co-ordinated.

6. Safety precautions.

Ball ammn will NOT be used during exercises. Prior to each exercise unit comds will render appropriate certificate to this H.Q.

7. Private property.

Units will contact land owners in their respective tng areas and inform them of days land will be used. Fences broken will be repaired immediately and measures taken that stock is disturbed as little as possible.

D. M. Mayberry Capt
for Major
B.M., 17 Aust Inf Bde Gp.

DISTRIBUTION:

6 Aust Div
2/2 Aust Fd Regt
3 Bty A/Tk Regt
2/8 Aust Fd Coy
2 Coy A.A.S.C.
2/5 Aust Inf Bn
2/6 Aust Inf Bn
2/7 Aust Inf Bn
2/2 Aust Fd Amb

17 MUST INF BNS GP
 TR. IN. PROG. 29 Sep/ 7 Oct.

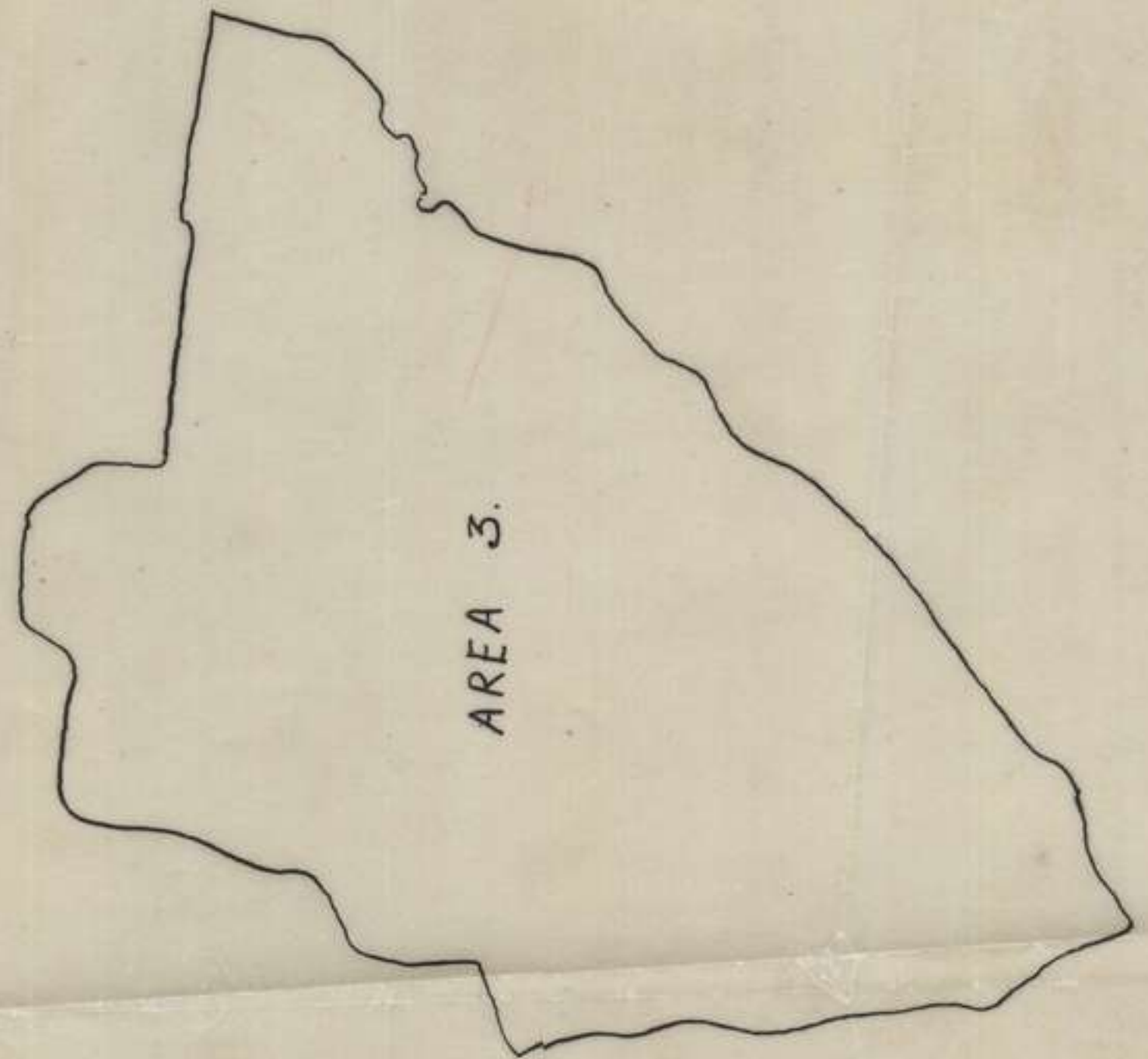
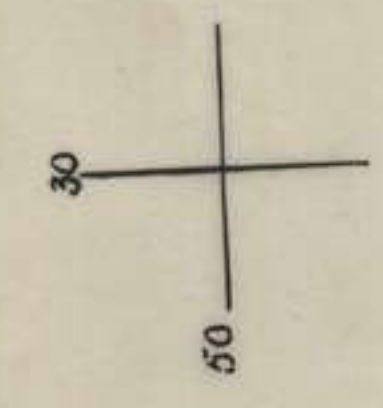
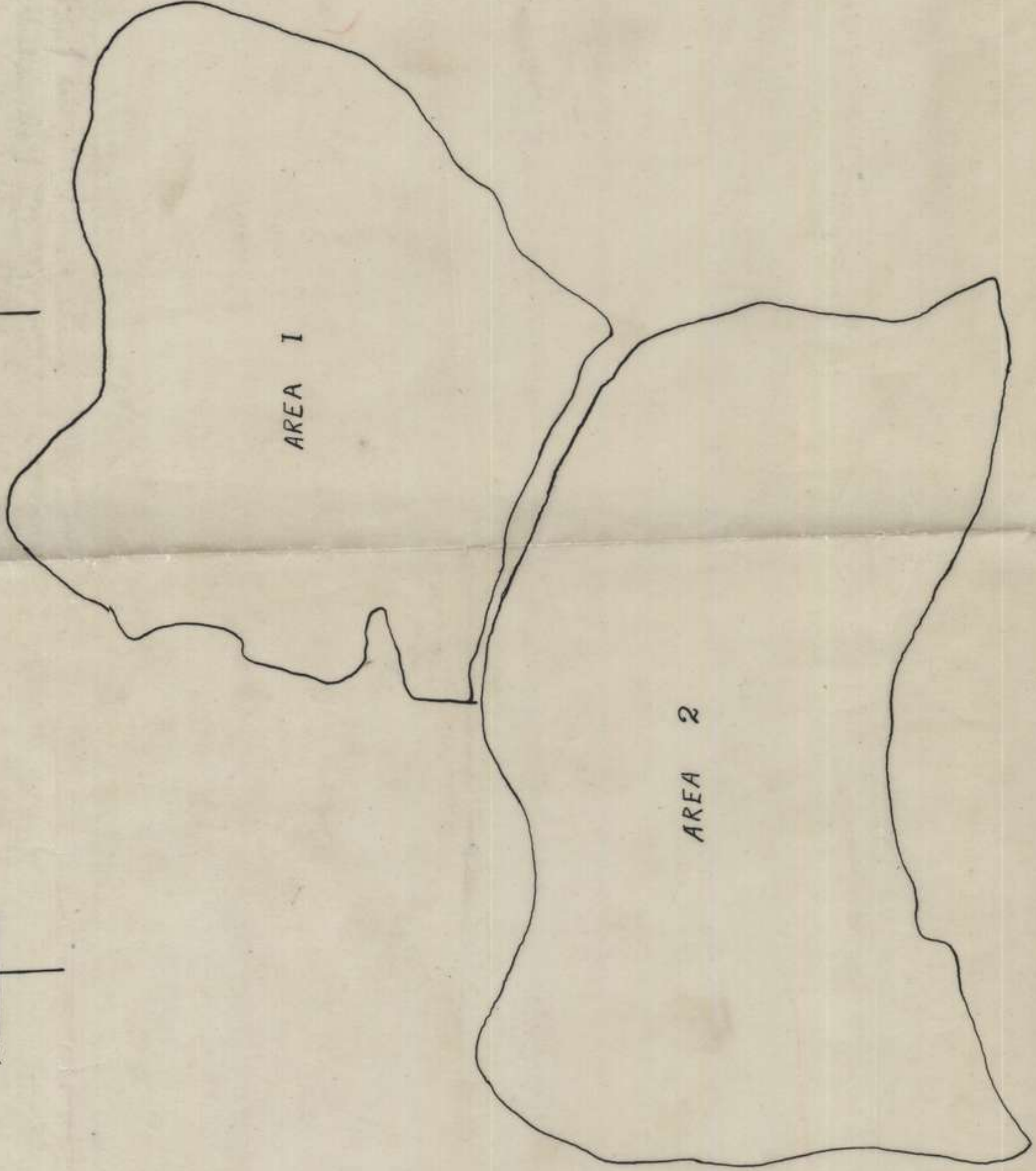
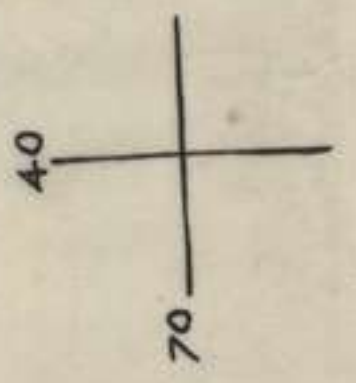
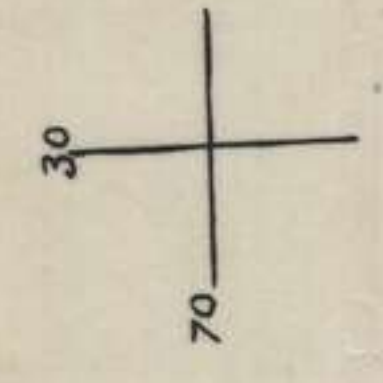
SECRET.
 APP. 1

Serial	Date	Unit	Area	Work	Remarks
1	Sep 29	Inf Bns	-	Unit tng at unit comds' discret -ion. Complete recce. Preparat -ion of Coy exs for 30 Sep/1 Oct & 1/2 Oct.	suggested that on Command & 3rd i/c prepare and supervise exs 1 & 2 respectively
2	Sep 30 Oct 1	Inf Bns & each Tp A/Tk & det -ngers	see Trace A. 2/5 MUST Inf Bn -area 2. 2/6 " 1. 2/7 " 3.	Two day Coy v. Coy exs, incl intervening night. Two Coys & A/Tk & -ngers Ex No. 1. Two Coys & A/Tk & -ngers Ex No. 2.	Each exercise attack and defence. Coys doing attack in ex No. 1, do defence in ex No. 2. Exs will be conducted in most wooded parts of areas
3	Oct 2/ 3	Do.	Do.	Two day Coy v. Coy Exs Coys exchange exs from serial 2.	Do.
4	"	Sde H. .	as ordered	Sde H. . ex set by B.H.	
5	"	2/2 MUST Fd Regt	arty range	arty shoot	
6	Oct 4	all units	Camp	Programme at unit comds discretion	
7	Oct 5/ 7	Do.	POMOLBIN STATE FOREST. CESSNOCK. SHEET -(left centre)	Sde Tp exercise	Details notified later.

100

TRAINING AREAS

TO BE SUPERIMPOSED OVER SINGLETON AND CESSNOCK SHEETS 1:63,360



INT. SEC.
17 APR. INF BOX
27 SEP 42

4
17 AUST INF BDE GP DEMONSTRATION-28 SEP 42

ADVANCE AGAINST MINOR OPPOSITION

REF MAP - SINGLETON 1" to 1 mile.

OBJECT = To demonstrate a method of dealing with minor opposition on the axis of advance by infiltration, envelopment and by-passing.

NOTE - The ground over which the demonstration takes place has been specially chosen to enable spectators to view each phase. Sub-units will in some cases cross open ground in order that their movements may be witnessed.
The ground represents semi-timbered or semi-jungle country which will permit rapid movement and will provide limited observation and fields of fire.

DIRECTING STAFF =

Director - Brigadier M.J.MOTEN, DSO ED Comd 17 Aust Inf Bde
Assistants - Lt-Col F. ST.JOHN C.O. 2/1 Aust A Tk Regt
Lt-Col J.R. WOLFENDEN attd G.S. Adv LHQ
Major R.F. JABOOR Adm Comd 2/2 Aust Fd Regt
Major J.G.S. MOFFATT GSO II 6 Aust Div
Major R.A.C. MUIR BM 17 Aust Inf Bde.

TPS TAKING PART =

2/7 Aust Inf Bn Gp
AC Squadron RAAF Co-operating.

ENEMY - A skeleton enemy will be provided by 2/7 Aust Inf Bn.

LESSONS -

1. Maintenance of speed of advance.
2. Necessity for speed of movement on foot.
3. Supporting weapons well forward ready to come into action quickly.
4. Need for envelopment of automatic battle drill.
5. Quick verbal orders.
6. Maintenance of control by wireless, DR, code signal by coloured flags and lights.
7. Avoidance of opposition by the main body by by-passing.
8. Infiltration and envelopment by advance guard.
9. Construction of road block some distance behind the enemy position.
10. Need for all ranks to be lightly clothed and equipped in order to obtain the maximum speed of movement.

ORDER OF BATTLE -

2/7 Aust Inf Bn
Bty 2/2 Aust Fd Regt
Tp 3 Bty 2/1 Aust A Tk Regt
Sec 2/8 Aust Fd Coy
Det "K" Sec Sigs 6 Aust Div
Det 2/2 Aust Fd Amb

OPENING SITUATION

1. A Japanese Div succeeded in landing at FORSTER and in capturing TAREE and GLOUCESTER.
2. 1. Inf Bde Gp at RUTHERFORD was ordered to oppose any further enemy movement South towards NEWCASTLE.
3. At 0300 hrs on 28 Sep information was received by 6 Aust Div at ANAMBAH that an enemy mobile column equivalent to a Bde Gp was moving from GLOUCESTER towards SCONE.
4. 17 Aust Inf Bde Gp was ordered to concentrate at SINGLETON as quickly as possible and to move to SCONE to oppose this threat from the N.W.
5. 2/7 Aust Inf Bn Gp at GRETA Camp commenced to move to SINGLETON on the morning of 28 Sep, via THISTLE HILL & MINIMBAH Station (2462).
6. At 0930 hrs 150 paratroops were landed one mile West of BRANXTON and 100 in the vicinity of THISTLE HILL.
7. At 1100 hrs the forward elements of the Adv Gd were held up by road block 100 yds West of THISTLE HILL Trig

ORDER OF MARCH - ADV GD

Sec Carriers
2 DRs
Gap - 500 yds
Rifle Pl
A Tk gun
Coy HQ
Sig det with wireless set
Pair from Bn I Sec
Arty recce party
Engr recce party
Tentacle AS Control
Two 3" mortar dets
Sec MMGs
Rifle Pl
Rifle Pl
A Tk gun
Four SBs.

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

1. At 1100 hrs the leading carrier of Adv Gd is held up by road block and is fired on by enemy astride road. Other carriers move off road to right and left, and draw fire to discover extent and nature of opposition.
2. MCs return along road and report location of opposition to Adv Gd Comd and then to Bn Comd.
3. Adv Gd Comd immediately orders deployment of coy and points out to Arty, mortar and MMG representatives, targets from which enemy fire is observed, and orders engagement as quickly as possible.
4. Adv Gd Comd reports by wireless to CO giving location and estimated strength of opposition. CO authorizes Adv Gd Comd to call for air support.

5. Bn Comd halts main body, decides to by-pass opposition on right flank, issues orders regarding route and protection to Comd of Carrier sec leading main body, passes message by DR back along the road to sub-unit Comds and orders main body to proceed. Bn HQ accompanies the main body.
6. Leading Pl of Adv Gd in the meantime moves at a jog trot straight towards the opposition with a sec on either side of the road. The other Pls of the Coy move to right and left flanks at a jog trot with the object of finding the enemy's flanks, moving round them and attacking from the rear. The right Pl moves up re-entrant through timber and engages enemy from the flank and rear. The left Pl moves into timber towards Knoll 350 (2756), changes direction to the right, two secs engaging the enemy from the flank and one from the rear.
7. Coy HQ remains in timber on side of road.
8. Arty, Mortars and MMGs come into action.
9. Dive bombing and machine gunning commences.
10. The main body less Bty Arty and B Ech vehicles preceded by two sec carriers leaves road near road-creek junction 302556, moves up re-entrant, through timber on the enemy's left flank and detaches one sec carriers to guard the flank whilst crossing the creek. A road block is constructed immediately East of the crossing, two Pls and one A Tk gun being allotted to cover it, and the main body continues the rapid advance to SINGLETON preceded by a new Adv Gd and the remaining sec of carriers. The carriers guarding the flank during the crossing of the creek follow the main body.
11. The Adv Gd Comd orders covering fire to cease and the three Pls of the Adv Gd move in with the bayonet, Tommy gun and grenade.
12. The Pls mop up the position, put up their success signals and then move to RV near road block constructed by main body. Coy HQ, Mortars, MMGs, A Tk guns, recce parties etc move forward to RV, the Coy is reorganised as quickly as possible and the advance is continued behind the main body.
13. SBs collect casualties and carry to main road.
14. Arty and B Ech vehicles move forward and continue the advance.

SIGNALS FOR BENEFIT OF SPECTATORS

- (a) From vicinity of adv gd Coy HQ by white sig flag in morse.
Signals given on orders of Coy Comd.

Succession of "As" for 30 secs	-	Arty opened fire
" of "Gs" "	"	- MMGs " "
" of "Ms" "	"	- Mortars " "
" of "Ts" "	"	- Arty, MMGs & Mortars cease firing.
" of "Es" "	"	- Main body commenced by-pass.

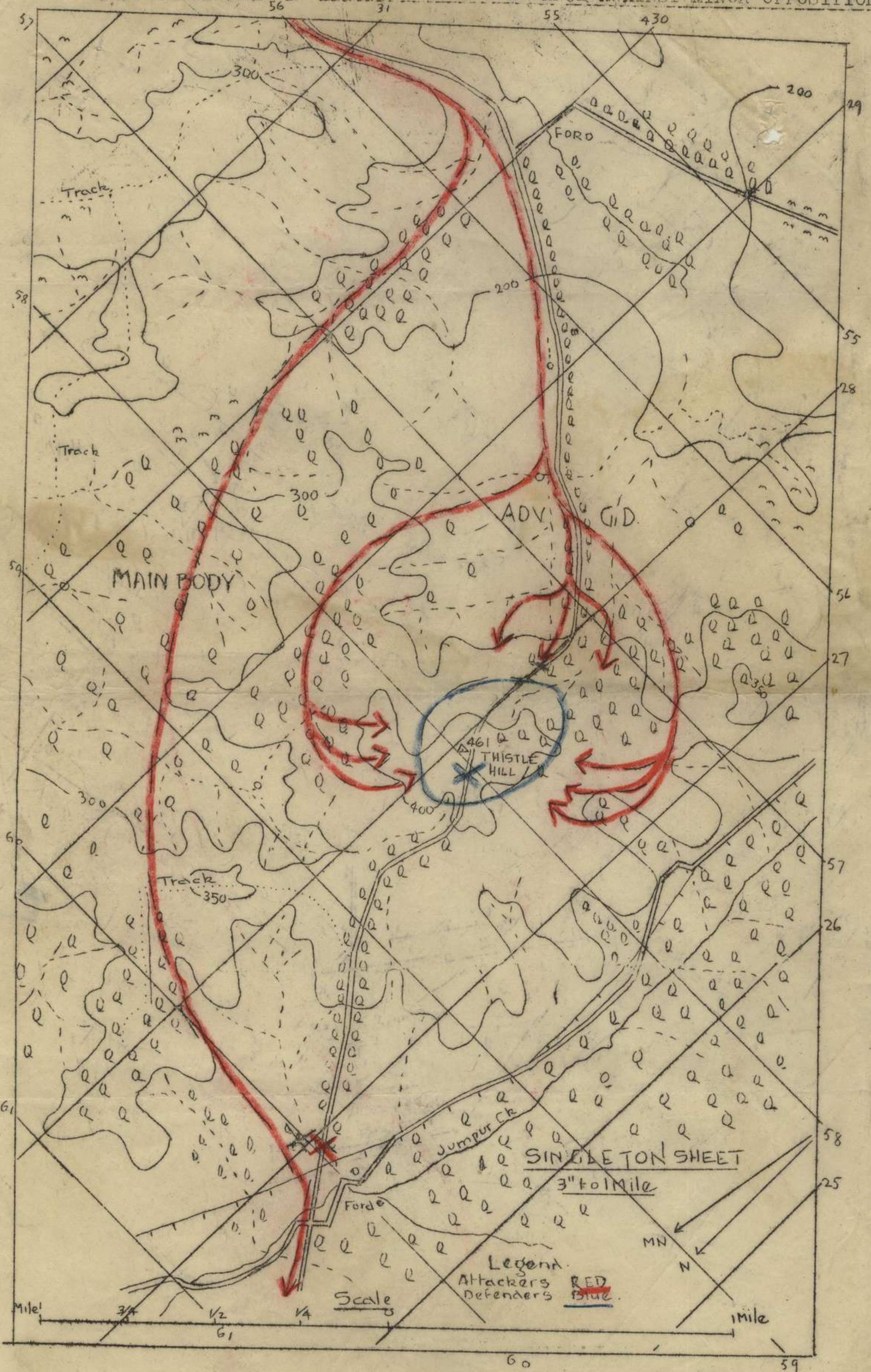
SUCCESS SIGNAL - Put up by flanking pls of adv gd - one white.

REPRESENTATION OF FIRE - Explosives as arranged by Engrs.

- (a) Vicinity of enemy road block - representing opening of fire by A Tk rifles and mortar bombs.
- (b) Vicinity of enemy post after weapons have been signalled to be in action - representing arty shell and mortar bombs.
- (c) Vicinity enemy posts during dive bombing - aerial bombs.

Blank amm to be issued as available for rifles and MMGs.

DEMONS TRATION - 17 AUST INF BDE - ADVANCE AGAINST MINOR OPPOSITION



Drawn by FIScott HQ 6 Aust Div

2/7 Aust 2/12
5

17 AUST INF BDE GP DEMONSTRATION-28 SEP 42

MOBILE DEFENCE

Ref Map - SINGLETON 1" to 1 mile.

OBJECT - To demonstrate a method of aggressively countering Japanese enveloping movements.

NOTE - The ground over which the demonstration takes place has been specially chosen to enable spectators to view each phase. Sub-units will in some cases cross open ground in order that their movements may be witnessed.

The ground represents semi-timbered or semi-jungle country which will permit rapid movement and will provide limited observation and fields of fire.

DIRECTING STAFF -

Director - Brigadier M.J. MOTEN, DSO ED Comd 17 Aust Inf Bde
Assistants - Lt-Col F. ST. JOHN C.O. 2/1 Aust A Tk Regt
Lt-Col J.R. WOLFENDEN attd G.S. Adv LHQ
Major R.F. JABOOR Adm Comd 2/2 Aust Fd Regt
Major J.G.S. MOFFATT GSO II 6 Aust Div
Major R.A.C. MUIR BM 17 Aust Inf Bde.

TPS TAKING PART

Attackers - 2/5 Aust Inf Bn Gp
Defenders - 2/6 Aust Inf Bn Gp
AC Squadron RAAF Co-operating.

LESSONS

1. Erection of strong road block on enemy's axis of advance.
2. Fwd units located to the flanks and in advance of the rd block with the role of counter attacking any enemy in the vicinity - to the front, flanks or rear.
3. Counter attack unit located on or near enemy's axis of advance behind the rd block with the role of moving out to a flank, ambushing if possible, otherwise counter attacking any enemy who succeeded in passing round the flanks of the fwd units. Alternative ambush localities to be recced before-hand.
4. Reserve located in central posn further to the rear with role of dealing with additional enemy encircling movements, to assist other units counter attacking the enemy from a flank, to replace fwd units which have moved fwd to the attack, to lead a counter offensive once the tide of battle has turned in favour of the defenders, or to deal with any unforeseen threat to the posn. Alternative ambush localities to be recced before-hand.
5. Need for active patrolling.
6. Only wiring and digging, necessary to guard against surprise and minimise casualties will be undertaken.
7. Mobility maintained by all units.
8. Mortars and MMGs allotted to sub-units.
9. Arty ready to engage targets without delay.

10. Need for sound comms.
11. Control of battle mainly by wireless.
12. A Tk guns to search for suitable targets.
13. Necessity for quick decisions, quick verbal orders, speed of action and movement.

OPENING SITUATION

1. A Japanese Force succeeded in landing North and South of NEWCASTLE and in penetrating towards SINGLETON as far as BELFORD where their advance was held up by 1 and 17 Aust Inf Bde Gps.
2. 2/6 Aust Inf Bn Gp was ordered to occupy a mobile defensive position in the vicinity of THISTLE HILL to destroy any enemy attempt to envelope round the right flank.
3. 2/6 Aust Inf Bn Gp completed the occupation of the position by 1300 hrs on 28 Sep 42.
4. The C.O. 2/6 Aust Inf Bn decided to ambush any enemy troops approaching the position and gave orders that fire was to be withheld until contact was gained.

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

1. At 1400 hrs enemy light AFVs (represented by carriers) are stopped by road block and one is disabled by an A Tk mine. The others are destroyed by A Tk guns.
2. The leading enemy inf coy deploys, one pl advancing astride the road, the others moving to right and left. Fire is held until the enemy inf are in the open and close to the defenders. They are then engaged by mortars, MMGs and pl weapons. Heavy casualties are inflicted and the attack is held up. Small parties of the enemy attempt to move round the flanks of the fwd coys but are counter attacked by pls of these coys who mop up with the bayonet from the flanks.
3. C.O. orders arty to engage road and creek junctions 302556 and 314559 and calls for air support.
4. At 1410 hrs a message is received by C.O. from a fwd observer that an enemy coy has left the main road and has commenced to move up the creek on the right of the position. C.O. orders right fwd coy to send one pl and the C.A. Coy two pls to a previously recced ambush area near bend in road 266575.
5. The enemy Coy crosses Knoll 350 (2756) and as it reaches road is engaged by all weapons causing heavy casualties. Riflemen of the flanking pls attack with the bayonet from flanks and rear. After dealing with the enemy caught in the ambush a patrol is sent out through the timber to mop up the remainder. Pls then return to their original positions.
6. At 1415 hrs a message is received from another fwd observer that an enemy coy is moving up creek line North of road junction 3055 round the left flank. The C.O. immediately orders one pl of left fwd coy and remaining pl of C.A. coy to move to a previously recced ambush area in vicinity of Knoll 350 (2859).

7. The enemy Coy moves through the timber and towards the high ground. The ambushing pls hold their fire till the enemy is near the top of the rise and then cause heavy casualties with all weapons. The pl on the Northern flank attacks with the bayonet. Some enemy succeed in running back into the timber in the creek. A patrol is sent out to mop up and pls return to original positions.

8. At 1420 hrs another message from a fwd observer reports that another enemy coy is moving round the left flank wider out. A later message gives the position of this coy one mile NE of THISTLE HILL. The C.O. appreciates that the objective of this coy is the road creek crossing in rear of the position (2660) and orders the Reserve Coy to move to an ambush area on spur 300 (278605). The enemy coy is observed crossing clearing 288598 and is engaged by arty fire. The C.O. orders aircraft to dive bomb and machine gun the coy as it continues its move. The Reserve Coy is informed of the movements of the enemy by wireless.

9. The enemy coy is ambushed successfully, a high proportion of casualties resulting from the fire of all weapons. Pls attack with the bayonet, tommy gun and grenade from flanks and rear. Enemy survivors scatter into the timber and one pl of reserve coy is ordered to follow up and patrol the area. The remainder withdraw to their original areas.

SIGNALS TO BE USED BY DEFENDERS

Success signal - one RED - To be put up by each coy when its counter
 one GREEN attack or ambush has been successful.

 - one WHITE Signal to RAAF giving location of
 defenders tps.

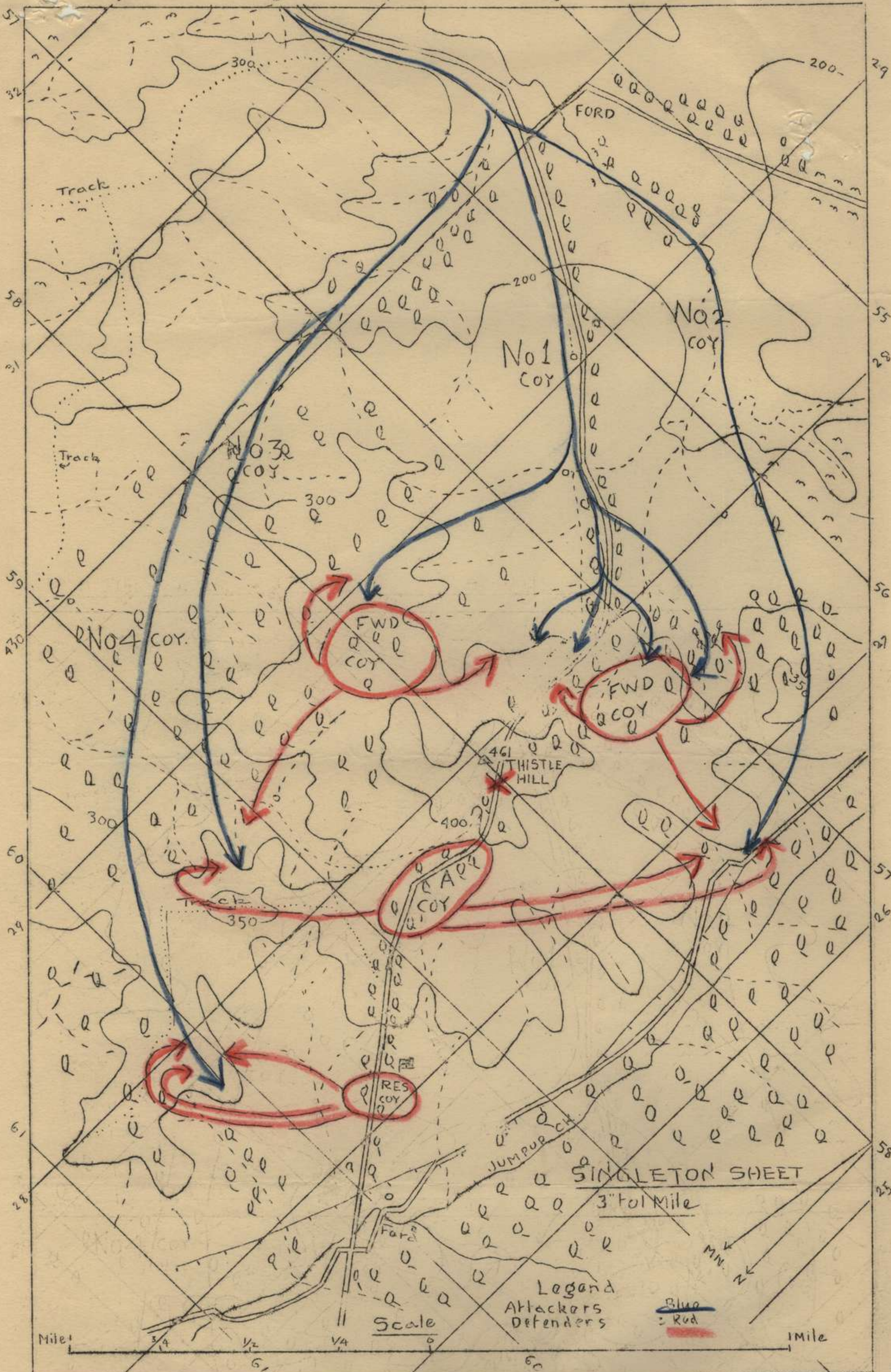
Ground strips will be used.

REPRESENTATION OF FIRE

Explosives as arranged by Engrs:-

1. Vicinity of rd block - to be fired when leading carrier approaches - representing A Tk mine. Smaller charges follow - representing A Tk gun fire against remaining carriers.
2. Vicinity fwd coy posts - representing enemy mortar fire.
3. With enveloping pls of No 1 enemy coy - representing defenders mortar fire.
4. With Nos 2, 3 and 4 enemy coys - representing defenders mortar and arty fire and aerial bombs as appropriate.

BLANKS.- to be issued as available for rifles and MGs.



Drawn by F. Scott HQ 6 Aust Div 22 May 42

MOBILE DEFENCE

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

The main principle is that no fixed defensive position shall be occupied but that units will occupy allotted areas from which they send out patrols to discover enemy movement.

The next principle is that the defending force will attack the enemy wherever found.

In these attacks adequate forces shall be detailed to ensure success, mortars, artillery, aircraft - in short, all weapons available being used to break up enemy formations and to assist in the attack.

Mobility is essential.

Sound communications throughout are imperative.

DISTRIBUTION

1. A strong road block will be established on the enemy's axis of advance. The post selected should be such as to make it difficult for enemy to "sly clear" of the block thus evading it or going round it. Cuttings on a bend in the road, or just over the top of a hill, bridges and fords etc are most suitable.

Road blocks must be covered by fire, especially A Tk fire. The unit detailed to cover a road block should not sit behind the block but should be at least 100 yds from it as it must be expected that the road block will become the centre of activity of enemy arty, mortars and aircraft.

2. To the flanks and in advance of the road block, ie outside the enemy axis of advance Coy or Bn areas will be allotted. The role of the units in these areas is to counter attack every enemy formation approaching the area, special attention being devoted to the flanks so that any enemy force attempting a wide encircling movement will be attacked and destroyed. Active patrols will be constantly combing every covered approach by which the enemy may be moving.

The attacks should be aided by mortar and arty fire and if possible, bombing and machine gunning from our aircraft.

3. A counter attack force (coy or bn) will be located on or near the axis of the enemy's advance in the rear of the road block - some distance behind.

This force will patrol to both flanks and to the rear to discover any enemy formation that has succeeded in infiltrating through the forward areas held or in by-passing the defence. The patrols to the rear will watch specially for any enemy parties which may be attempting to establish a road block behind the defence. Immediately any enemy movement is reported, Coys or platoons or even the whole Bn should be detached to attack and destroy the enemy which has found his way round the defended area. This force should always keep a small party in hand to cover the rear of forward areas. To enable this to be done this force must maintain constant contact by patrols with all forward formations.

4. A Reserve should be in the hands of the Comd to deliver the coup-de-grace to the enemy when he has committed himself to his plan and has to deploy his force. The temptation to use this reserve prematurely to adjust home minor loss should be avoided if possible. Of course, there will be occasions when the enemy has gained some success which if not dealt with immediately may develop into a major success. In such cases the reserve or part of it, should be committed. At the earliest possible moment another reserve should be established, either by recalling the original reserve after it has completed its task or, if that is not practicable, by withdrawing troops from portions of the front not engaged.

FUNCTIONS OF VARIOUS ARMS

A TK ARTY must be disposed to meet a tank attack from any direction. Where there is insufficient A Tk Arty for this purpose, Fd guns should be placed so that they can serve the dual role of A Tk and Fd guns. ATk gunners should be prepared to go forward searching for tanks and should not be content to sit back and wait for tanks to run into their guns. The nature of these sorties will depend on the type of country in which operations are taking place. In timber and scrub country tank hunting squads equipped with A Tk grenades would suffice. In open country it may be necessary to take 2 pdrs forward under inf protection. If possible, guns will be set aside for this roving commission.

FD ARTY must be prepared to give instant support to the inf in every c/attack. In this war of fast movement, practically all targets are fleeting. Any delay in bringing fire to bear on reported enemy movement makes the task of the inf more difficult. This demands good communications between the FOC, the inf comd and the guns. Owing to the fluidity of the force the most suitable means of communication is by W/T.

There will frequently be insufficient time available to make a thorough recce for gun positions. The alternative to well concealed gun positions is a frequent change of gun positions. The moment the enemy has "spotted" our gun positions the guns should be moved to alternative positions.

MORTARS provide immediate support for the inf and should be able to concentrate fire within a few minutes on enemy movement or on areas in which the enemy is reported. To facilitate this, the distance between the mortars and the fire controller should be reduced to a minimum. The mortars should be located to enable voice control, frequent changes of position being made to compensate for inadequate cover.

FRONTAGES. With "mobile" defence, the defenders can be moved out to meet the enemy and can concentrate their strength where it is most needed. With a mobile defence system a Bn can "cover" a frontage of a mile and can move its "frontage" to oppose a wide flanking movement or to deal with a frontal attack wherever it is needed.

SPEED. The most important factor to ensure success is speed - speed in detecting the enemy intentions, speed in passing information back, speed in moving out counter attacking parties, speed in bringing into play all available weapons, arty, mortars, aircraft etc, speed in reorganising the units which have become disorganised by battle.

SPEED demands that -

- (1) Men should be lightly clad and accoutred.
- (2) Men should be physically fit.
- (3) Communications should be perfect.
- (4) Officers should make quick decisions.
- (5) Perfect team work exists.
- (6) All men should be "on their toes" in readiness for instant action.

RESOLVE. All ranks must firmly resolve that not one man of the enemy shall pass through or round their position and that the enemy shall not only be stopped but be destroyed.

OCTOBER

1942

Greta

WAR DIARY

Oct 42

801

R202490 2nd Aust Coy Bn

A Farewell evening was given by the officers and sgt's to both Lt Col Brock and Maj Crawford on the eve of their departure to take over their respective comds.

~~3/4~~

1 Further promotions in the Bn were announced today when it was revealed that W.O.1 Bolger, W.O.11 Martin and sgt Murray were receiving direct commissions and being transferred to a motorised Bde. In addition it was learned that Sgts. Sparke, Troon, and Walker were proceeding to an O.T.S. Maj. Crawford also left the Bn. to take over comd. of the I.T.B. while Capt. Dunkley replaced him as O.C. H.Q. coy. W.O.11 Jenner was promoted to the position of R.S.M. Certain N.C.Os who had been with the I.T.B. returned to the Bn. while others from the Bn proceeded to the I.T.B. with Maj Crawford.

The pioneer pl added another string to its bow when they set up a dye works to transform the clothing and equipment of the Bn. from its original khaki colour to sundry hues in the blue and green category. The troops have become very green conscious and there is no limit to the articles which go through dye drum.

Orders as to what was to be carried on the move were issued today and these stated that only the pack would be carried in which shirts, slacks, and summer underwear would be placed. The remainder of the gear including S.D. uniforms and great coats would be put in the kit bag for storing. The transport which will be going with the unit left tonight for the rail head while the remainder was handed over to Bde H.Q.

2 The process of dying clothing and equipment continued during the day. Kit bags were also stacked for loading on transport which will take them to the kit store while the issuing of gear including clothing to make the Bn. fully equipped was in process.

3 Movement orders for the movement of the Bn to an Operational Station were issued this morning. A draft of 142 reinforcements including 8 officers also arrived during the day many of whom were members of the A.M.F.

A Bn parade in full marching order was held at 1400 hrs when the C.O. gave warning of movement to the troops and also carried out an inspection to ensure that all troops were fully equipped and had their equipment properly fitting.

4 By 0900 hrs all gear was stacked on the Bn. parade ground while the huts and their immediate surroundings were thoroughly cleaned.

The first party to move comprised Bn. H.Q. A, B, C, and D coys with Capt Walker as O.C. train. Leaving the camp area at 1115 hrs the party marched to the Greta Station where lunch was partaken of whilst awaiting the arrival of the train. Departing from Greta at 1340 hrs this party proceeded to Taree where a meal was supplied by the R.R.R. After 1 1/2 hrs at this place the journey continued taking them still further north.

No 1.

No 2.

No 3.

Wke 17

Henry G. Quinn L'col

WAR DIARY

SEPTEMBER
1942

Q'land

5

Dawn found the train party somewhere in the vicinity of the Queensland border and at 0945 hrs a quick change was made at South Brisbane to a train of a smaller gauge. An hour later Ascot was reached and the troops were moved into the race course at that place. The second part of the Bn. which left Greta a few hours later arrived at Ascot at approx. 1715 hrs. C and D coys were quartered in the grandstand while the remainder of the Bn. was placed under canvas.

Brisbane leave was granted to 10% of the unit while a larger percentage were allowed to attend the local theatre.

6

Commencing with P.T. in the morning training designed to keep the troops fit was carried out during the day. Consequently most of the coys engaged in route marches.

All the officers attended a conference at Bde at 1630 hrs to hear a lecture by Lt. Roughton of Land H.Q. in which he gave latest information re Jap equipment and weapons.

7

A similar routine to yesterday was carried out and in the afternoon the reinforcements were drafted out to the respective coys.

8

Once again route marching was indulged in while in addition weapon training was carried out.

9

Areas suitable for sporting activities had been reced and this morning some of the coys visited them in order to provide a little variety to the route marching of the past few days.

In addition to the normal leave which has been granted a party also proceeded on "home leave" whereby they visited homes arranged by the Aust. American Club and were there provided with dinner and entertainment.

10

A larger percentage of the Bn were allowed to proceed on leave to Brisbane as from 1330 hrs while a party also left to play tennis under a similar arrangement to the "home leave" of yesterday.

All equipment which had not already been camouflaged was treated with a green bituminous paint. Packs and respirator haversacks were also treated in a similar manner.

Nº 4

Henry G. Quinn L'cal

WAR DIARY

OCTOBER

1942

Ascot

11 The occupants of the grandstand had reason to be happy over their position when this morning revealed that most of those under canvas had suffered rather a dampening experience at the hand of last night's heavy rain. Apart from flowing through the tent soaking both gear and occupants the rain also loosened tent pegs causing more than one tent to collapse gracefully on to the ground. The downpour continued throughout the day and by nightfall many of the aforesaid tent dwellers had transferred their habitation to the grandstand.

Voluntary Church Parades were conducted during the morning for both Protestant and R.C. personnel and in each case the service was held in the local Church.

12 The day was spent in drying out the gear and clothing as well as reinstating the many sagging tents. Last minute issues of equipment were also made during the day including a piece of green dyed hessian to cover the steel helmet.

he Capt Cudden rejoined the unit this morning after being recalled from the school which was attending. and was immediately given comd HQ Coy. thus allowing Capt Dunkley to carry out his duties as 2/c of the Bn.

13 Instructions were given at reveille for all gear to be packed as previously laid down and when packed to be stacked on the Parade ground in order that the tents could be cleaned and straightened out. All this was done by 1000 hrs when an inspection by the Camp Commandant was carried out.

Leaving the Race course at 1415 hrs A coy led the Bn in the march to the wharf followed by B, C and D coys with Bn H.Q. and H.Q. coy bringing up the rear. By 1630 hrs the whole Bn was on board the ship S.S. Tasman. The Tasman is a Dutch ship of some 6000 tons and for this trip is carrying over 900 troops. The quarters are not nearly so comfortable as on previous trips for very few have even hammocks let alone the bunk of our last ship. Instead strips of three ply have been provided on which to lie. Washing and latrine facilities are none too adequate while messing takes ^{place} in the living quarters.

At 1735 hrs a tug was slowly drawing the ship into mid stream and soon after we were gliding down the Brisbane River to Moreton Bay. At 1800 hrs boat drill was held to familiarize the troops with their boat stations. Upon reaching Moreton Bay the anchor was dropped and the ship lay there till approx 2100 hrs when the voyage was resumed

14 Morning revealed that the convoy consisted of three ships escorted by a sloop while a plane was always in attendance.

The day was typical of the much publicised Queensland weather with a breeze sufficiently strong enough to ~~pick up~~ whip the tip of an occasional wave over the side thus providing quite a few unsuspecting troops with an unlooked for shower bath.

Nº 5.

Henry G. Quinn L'ed

WAR DIARY

OCTOBER

1942

- Ascot 14 contd An issue of a Comforts Fund parcel and also a new emergency ration and mosquito ointment was made to reach man during the day.
- 15 Maj. Rowan of the 2/5 Bn and the M.O. Capt Peterson lecture each coy, during the day the former speaking on the subject of New Guinea while the M.O lectured on health and hygiene in relation to tropical countries
When the alarm for Air Raid sounded a realistic touch was added by the ships A. A. guns which broke into sudden action.
Late in the day the escorting sloop left the convoy while the Tasmah with a burst of speed soon left the two other ships far behind.
- 16 Further lectures were given to coys today, one of which consisted of a demonstration of what can be obtained by the correct useage of the new emergency ration. Each tin contains concentrated milk tablets and preparations of mixed fruit and M. and V. and by the addition of suitable quantities of hot water to these quite a considerable amount of nutritious food will be provided.
The ship maintained a faster speed than on previous days and there was no sign of the other two vessels. Our course however took us past very many small islands and these held the interest of the troops throughout the day.
- 17 At 0530 hrs the ship dropped anchor off the North Queensland town of TOWNSVILLE. Except for those able to procure the use of field glasses however, a clear view of the town was to be denied to us, for three hours later the anchor was once again weighed and the voyage north continued. After leaving TOWNSVILLE the ship with the 2/6 Bn rejoined the convoy together with a naval ~~escort~~ escort.
- Throughout the day the coastline was followed very closely and again the sight of land kept the attention of all on board well occupied.
- 18 The coastline had apparently been left during the night for morning light showed us to be well out to sea. The weather continued fine although very warm and the sea remained calm.
- A presentation of a leather bound album was made by the ship's captain to the CO. in recognition of the good discipline of the troops on board. The Capt considered the 2/7 Bn the best disciplined unit to have sailed on his ship.

N° 6

N° 7.

Henry. G. Quinn L'col

OCTOBER 1942

WAR DIARY

AT SEA 19

Instructions were given in the morning for all gear to be packed in preparation for disembarkation.

At approx 1500 hrs land was once again sighted and at 2100 hrs our destination which proved to be GILI GILI on MILNE BAY ^{REACHED} It was then announced that the disembarkation would not take place till morning.

20

Reveille was at 0500 hrs while breakfast was at 0600 hrs. The ship pulled alongside the wharf at 0830 hrs and half an hour later B.HQ. lead the Bn on to the wharf. Here trucks were waiting and quickly splitting the troops into groups of 17 they then loaded them and left immediately for the camp area. The trip was over some twelve miles over a very slippery and muddy road. On the way some of the barges used by the Japs in the landing were visible while at another point a very unusual notice caught the eye. It read "Give way to planes" and it was very pleasing to note the number of planes on the drome there.

The camp was reached at 1020 hrs and it was found that there was only cover for half of the Bn and much of this was unserviceable. This was proved an hour later when a tropical downpour soaked those without tents while most of those with tents were busy endeavouring to keep their gear from being soaked by water coursing through the tents.

A programme of work designed to make the site more fit for habitation was soon got under way and the troops continued to work all the afternoon clearing away much of the rubbish accumulated there and also collecting timber for bedding supports.

21

Heavy rain fell during the night and in the morning the first consideration ~~was~~ the drying of blankets and clothing. The Bn stores arrived during the day and a party was kept busy unloading. Tents were amongst the stores received and these were speedily erected so that by night-fall the whole unit was under canvas.

Late in the day the C.O. and the "I" Sgt visited the area which the Bn will be taking over. Upon his return the C.O. gave a lecture to all officers and N.C.O's, on the subject of "Combined Operations".

Nº8

Nº9.10

Nº11

Henry G. Quinn Liel

OCTOBER 1942

WAR DIARY

22. The Coy Comds proceeded with the C.O. to the new area in order to carry out a recce to prepare for the Bn's move there. The Coys carried out section exercises in movement through the jungle.

All Officers and Sgts acting as Pl Comds attended a lecture by ~~W.C.~~ CUMMINS of 2/9 Bn and the B.M. of the 7 Bde on Japanese tactics in the Milne Bay operation. This lecture was held at 17 Bde HQ.

23. All gear was packed and tents struck by 0730 hrs and at 0800 hrs Bn HQ led the Bn in the move to the new area previously occupied by 2/12 Bn. B and D Coys marched to the area through a number of tropical showers but kept comparatively dry by making use of ground sheets. Excepting for the Pioneer Pl the whole of HQ Coy remained at the old area as a loading party, the movement of the stores being very slow with the number of trucks at the disposal of the Bn.

The R.M.O. was called into service in the new area very soon after his arrival when two members of another unit received serious injuries from a grenade which they had found and accidentally caused to explode. The Pioneer Officer was then given the task of searching the area for any further explosives of this kind.

24. The Bn's position is located within a few hundred yards of No.1 Strip on which some squadrons of fighters are stationed. Accordingly there is quite a considerable amount of aerial activity going on overhead, and the noise of engines warming up each morning is the usual accompaniment to the call to 'stand to' which takes place from 0545 to 0615 Hrs.

Most of the Coys were engaged in cleaning up the area throughout the day ~~as the~~

25. The re-arrangement of tents has been taking place, most of the tents in the low lying areas having now been struck and moved to more suitable sites. Owing to the dampness of the ground it is necessary for beds to be raised and many of the sections have gone so far as to put floors in their tents. These are constructed from a variety of materials the most popular being laths stripped from sago and coconut palms.

Nº 12.

Nº 13, 14

Nº 15

Henry G. Quinn-Lid

WAR DIARY

OCTOBER 1942

26. As maps of the area are most incomplete and also unreliable, the C.O. ordered that a series of recce patrols of Pl strength should work through the area in conjunction with members of the 'I' Section with a view to obtaining information suitable for adding to the map and also making it more reliable. At the same time troops would become familiar with the country and also gain practice in movement.

Accordingly A Coy sent a patrol to the North while B Coy sent two to the South, all of which were able to provide much interesting information upon their return. A programme of jungle clearing to provide fields of fire is also in hand and Pls from A and D Coys worked on this.

27. Patrols from A B and C Coys moved to the North South and South West respectively, covering areas similar to those recce yesterday and once again much interesting information was gathered.

The Brig. visited the area during the morning and interviewed various personnel recommended for commissions.

28. Today saw the first clear sunny day which has been experienced since our arrival on the Island and opportunity was taken to air blankets and clothing which once wet have proved most difficult to dry properly.

Patrols were again sent out by A and C Coys. The C.O. and I Sgt recce areas to the S.E. and in the afternoon a T.E.W.T. for all Coy Comds was held under the direction of the C.O.. The signal Pl also carried out tests of the 108 set and found that by throwing a length of wire on to a tree for use as an aerial that excellent results could be obtained.

As from 1800 hrs A Coy worked on a 6 hour shift unloading stores from a ship at the jetty. B and C Coys followed A Coy with further shifts of 6 hours.

No 16

No 17

No 18

Henry G. Gairns, Lieut

WAR DIARY

OCTOBER 1942.

29. A patrol was supplied by D Coy to recce the Western section of the Bn's area.

The first mail of any quantity was received today and was eagerly sought after by the troops. In connection with letter writing a letter card has been provided and this can be sent by Air Mail for the cost of 1d.

30. Patrols today were supplied by A and B Coys while the Pioneer Pl is busily engaged in constructing a new route into the Bn area.

31. A further T.E.W.T. was conducted by the C.O. for all the Coy Comds. Working parties from the Bn are working day and night shifts constructing a road through to the ammunition dump to the North of the Bn's area. This work is being supervised by the 2/4 Fd Coy.

~~Nº 19~~

Nº 20

Henry. R. Quinn Lical

LIST OF APPENDICES.

- No. 1. ROUTINE ORDERS 2 Oct 42.
2. ✓ MOVEMENT ORDER no.1 (a) 3 Copies.
3. ✓ MESSAGE FROM 2nd ARMY HQ.
4. ✓ ROUTINE ORDERS 10 Oct 42.
5. ✓ SHIPS STANDING ORDERS S.S.TASMAN.
6. LETTER FROM Mr.T.WOODWARD.
7. ✓ ROUTINE ORDERS 18 OCT 42.
8. ✓ MORESBY ARMY NEWS SHEET 19 Oct 42.
9. VOYAGE REPORT S.S.TASMAN.
10. DISEMBARKATION SERIALS.
11. ✓ ROUTINE ORDERS 21 Oct 42.
12. ✓ ROUTINE ORDERS 22 Oct 42.
13. FIELD RETURN 24 Oct 42.
14. SCHEDULE OF UNLOADING DUTIES.
15. ✓ FIELD RETURN 25 Oct 42.
16. ✓ MORESBY ARMY NEWS 26 Oct 42.
17. ✓ ROUTINE ORDERS 27 Oct 42.
- ~~18. RECEIPT OF CYTHER DOCUMENTS.~~
- ~~19. OPERATIONAL ORDER No.1. COPIES 18,19,20.~~
20. ✓ FIELD RETURN 31 Oct 42.

War Diary

NO 1

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED

ROUTINE ORDERS

2 Oct 42.

BY

No 38/42

Lt-Col H G GUINN

COMD 2/7 AUST INF BN

1. COURT OF ENQUIRY re ILLEGAL ABSENCE OF SOLDIERS.

A Court of Enquiry consisting of the following officers is convened to enquire into and report on the absence of the following soldiers:-

President Capt N E DUELL

Member Lieut B M DINSMORE

The Court will report in the terms of A M R & O paras 445/482 :-

VX 7420	Pte	BARRETT L G
VX 5555	"	BAMBRIDGE M L
VX 62997	"	BLACK R K
VX 63675	"	BENN R K
VX 45558	"	CROSBY R
VX 63743	"	COLE R G
VX 58172	"	DINGLE R E
VX 37796	"	DEAN R
VX 34112	"	BULLMAN C R
VX 25819	"	BLACKHAM H V
VX 11843	"	BRYAN L T
VX 59223	"	FARLOW S
VX 43980	"	EDMONDSTONE B K
VX 51795	"	EDGECOCK R D
VX 15026	"	HAYES E R
VX 19637	"	JONES W P
VX 55238	"	KING A V
NX 33804	"	KELLY A H
VX 43270	"	MILLS R C
VX 21916	"	McMAHONY R L
VX 52224	"	McCAPTHY J
VX 14323	"	McPIERSON J
VX 19560	"	O'CONNOR H
VX 62509	"	PEAK L
VX 35663	"	REES C R
VX 11665	"	STEE T J
VX 14764	"	WETTON W
VX 14765	"	WETTON R
VX 59567	"	WHITEOAK G F
VX 12672	"	NINYETT J E

W K EDNEY LIEUT
A/ADJT 2/7 AUST INF BN

55
42

T Sec

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED

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2 Oct 42.

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VX 19560	"	O'CONNOR H
VX 62509	"	PEAK L
VX 35663	"	REES C R
VX 11665	"	STENT J
VX 14764	"	WETTON W
VX 14765	"	WETTON R
VX 59567	"	WHITEOAK G F
WX 12672	"	NINYETT J E

W K EDNEY LIEUT
A/ADJT 2/7 AUST INF BN

SECRET

2/7 AUST INF BN
3 Oct 42

Copy No 15

M O V E M E N T O R D E R N o I (A)

N^o 2.

MOVE OF 2/7 AUST INF BN
FROM GRETA

- I. 2/7 AUST INF BN will M O V E from GRETA.
2. The MOVE will be by RAIL in two flights as per Appendix "A".
3. Details of Rail Parties and composition of trains as per Appendix "A".
4. ADMIN - DRESS - Tropical Dress - Full marching order as per BSOs.
5. RATIONS - (a) 2 days rations will be carried in bulk.
(b) Meals en route will be provided by Railway Refreshment Rooms.
Tps will use own knives, forks and spoons.
(c) O.C. Trains will present AF F59 for all meals taken at Rly Refreshment Rooms.
(d) AF F59 will be collected by O.C. Train from Bn Orderly Room.
6. DRINKING WATER - All ranks will entrain with water bottles filled and same will be re-filled en route as opportunity permits. The strictest economy is to be exercised in the use of all water on trains.
7. ALCOHOLIC BEVERIDGES will NOT be consumed during the journey either when travelling or halted at stations. It is the responsibility of all Officers to see that all tps under their comd carry out this instruction.
O.C. Train will post a picquet at all R.R.R. Bars.
8. AMN - 1st Line as per BSOs.
9. ACK ACK - O.C. Train will be responsible for protection of attack from the air. One gun per Pl will be in readiness to meet any emergency.
10. ROLLS - 5 copies of AF MOB3 (or pro formas) will be fwded to Lieut EDGAR at GRETA immediately prior to departure of each train.
11. LINES - All lines will be clean and ready for C.Os. inspection by 0900 hrs on day of move.
12. R.A.P. will travel with BHQ.
13. ACK.

-----Lieut
A/ADJT 2/7 AUST INF BN

APPENDIX "A"

- I. BN will move in two gps - (a) Gp under Comd Capt K.R. WALKER
(b) Gp " " Capt H.L.E. DUNKLEY
2. Gp (a) will comprise BHQ, A, B, and D Coys and I3 Pl of C Coy.
Gp (b) " " I4 & 15 Pls of C Coy and HQ Coy.
3. MOVE TO ENTRAINING STN - March.

APPENDIX "A"
TO MOVEMENT ORDER NO I (A) (contd.)

4. ORDER OF MARCH - Gp (a) BHQ, I3 Pl C Coy, A, B, and D Coys
Gp (b) HQ Coy, I4 & I5 Pls C. Coy.
5. TIMES OF DEPARTURE - Gp (a) II30 hrs 4 Oct 42 entraining at GRETA Rly Stn at I300 hrs on Train No 5.
Gp (b) I300 hrs 4 Oct 42 entraining same Stn at I430 hrs on Train No 6.
6. ENTRAINING OFFRS - (a) Gp - Lieut S. ARNOLD
(b) Gp - Lieut D.B. McINTOSH.
7. RAIL WARRANTS - Lieut EDGAR I7 Aust Inf Bde will arrange with CSO to issue necessary Rail Warrants.
O.Cs. Trains will collect these from Bn Ord Room at 0900 hrs 4 Oct 42.
8. COOKING GEAR AND STORES & OTHER ACCOMODATION STORES - as per instructions to be issued separately by QM.
9. HEAVY BAGGAGE will be moved to GRETA Stn by MT and will be deposited at Unit QM Store for that purpose before I000 hrs 4 Oct 42.
Offrs' valises at QM Store Dump by 0800 hrs.

Kath Edmer
-----Lieut
A/ADJT 2/7 AUST INF BN

Issued at I000hrs 3 Oct 42.

DISTRIBUTION. :- Copy No

1.	C.O.
2.	2 i/c
3.	Adjt
4.	I.O.
5.	Q.M.
6.	RSM
7.	O.C. A Coy
8.	O.C. B Coy
9.	O.C. C Coy
10.	O.C. D Coy
11.	O.C. HQ Coy
12.	RMO
13.	HQ I7 Aust Inf Bde
14.	" " " " "
15.	War Diary
16.	" "
17.	Capt Dunkley
18.	Capt Walker
19.	Lieut S. Arnold
20.	Lieut D. B. McIntosh
21.	File
22.	Spare
23.	Spare

SECRET

2/7 AUST INF BN

3 Oct 42

Copy No 4

M O V E M E N T O R D E R N o I (A)

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3. MOVE TO ENTRAINING STN - March.

APPENDIX "A"
TO MOVEMENT ORDER NO I (A) (contd.)

4. ORDER OF MARCH - Gp (a) BHQ, I3 Pl C Coy, A, B, and D Coys
Gp (b) HQ Coy, I4 & I5 Pls C. Coy.
5. TIMES OF DEPARTURE - Gp (a) 1130 hrs 4 Oct 42 entraining at GRETA Rly Stn at 1300 hrs on Train No 5.
Gp (b) 1300 hrs 4 Oct 42 entraining same Stn at 1430 hrs on Train No 6.
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Offrs' valises at QM Store Dump by 0800 hrs.

Keth Edmer
-----Lieut
A/ADJT 2/7 AUST INF BN

Issued at 1000hrs 3 Oct 42.

- DISTRIBUTION. :- Copy No
1. C.O.
 2. 2 i/c
 3. Adjt
 4. I.O.
 5. Q.M.
 6. RSM
 7. O.C. A Coy
 8. O.C. B Coy
 9. O.C. C Coy
 10. O.C. D Coy
 11. O.C. HQ Coy
 12. RMO
 13. HQ I7 Aust Inf Bde
 14. " " " " "
 15. War Diary
 16. " "
 17. Capt Dunkley
 18. Capt Walker
 19. Lieut S. Arnold
 20. Lieut D. B. McIntosh
 21. File
 22. Spare
 23. Spare

SECRET

2/7 AUST INF BN
3 Oct 42

Copy No 16

M O V E M E N T O R D E R N o I (A)

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8. AMN - 1st Line as per BSOs.
9. ACK ACK - O.C. Train will be responsible for protection of attack from the air. One gun per Pl will be in readiness to meet any emergency.
10. ROLLS - 5 copies of AF MOB3 (or pro formas) will be fwded to Lieut EDGAR at GRETA immediately prior to departure of each train.
- II. LINES - All lines will be clean and ready for C.Os. inspection by 0900 hrs on day of move.
- I2. R.A.P. will travel with BHQ.
- I3. ACK.

[Signature]
-----Lieut
A/ADJT 2/7 AUST INF BN

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Issued at 1000 hrs 3 Oct 42.

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4.	I.O.
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7.	O.C. A Coy
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16.	" "
17.	Capt Dunkley
18.	Capt Walker
19.	Lieut S. Arnold
20.	Lieut D. B. McIntosh
21.	File
22.	Spare
23.	Spare

No 3

TO : 2/5, 2/6, 2/7 Aust Inf Bns; 2/2 Aust Fd Regt; 2/1 Aust A/Tk Regt;
2/8 Aust Fd Coy; 2 Coy AASC; 2/2 Aust Fd Amb; No 2 Gp 6 Aust Div
Ord Fd Wkshops; 6 Aust Div Ord Fd Pk.

FROM : HQ 17 Aust Inf Bde

Date 4 O.N.- 555

2nd	Aust	Army	advise	that
NCO's	drafted	this	formation	yesterday
will	NOT	revert	to	ranks
on	joining	unit	.	any
NCO	who	has	been	reverted
will	be	reinstated	immediately	all
informed	.	ack		

*App Chapman
Capt.*

T00 1330.

Nº 4

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

ROUTINE ORDERS NO 40/42

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED

10 OCT 42

by

COL H.G. GUINN

COMD 2/7 AUST INF BN

CHURCH SERVICES - SUNDAY 11 Oct 42 -

ANGLICAN - A Voluntary Church Parade will be held in St Augustine's Church ASCOT at 1100 hrs.
Coys will parade outside BHQ at 1030 hrs.
Communion - will be celebrated in Govenor's Box
Main Grandstand at 0645 hrs.

RC PERSONNEL will assemble BHQ at 0930 hrs and proceed to St Cecilia's Church, Hants St., HAMILTON.

W.K. EDNEY Lieut
A/ADJT 2/7 AUST INF BN

NOTICE

REGIMENTAL FUNDS - The sum of £239-0-0 was expended on tobacco, cigarettes, matches, cigarette papers and razor blades prior to the departure of the unit from the last to its present location.

COL E.G. GULAN

By

OC TROOPS S.S. TASMAN

13 Oct 42

1. ROUTINE

	Reveille	0600 hrs
	Breakfast	0700 - 0740 hrs (See Appendix A)
	Morning Parade	0830 -
	Sick Parade	0830 hrs
Captain's	COY Inspection	1000 "
	Midday Meal	1200 - 1240 hrs (see Appendix A)
	Afternoon Parade	1330 -
	Change of Duties	1600 hrs
	Evening Meal	1700 - 1740 hrs

DUTIES

The following duties will be supplied by the Duty Coys-

Ship's Orderly Officer

" " Sgt

Ship's Guard (1 Offr 1 Sgt 2 Cpls 24 ORs)

Blackout Picquet (2 Cpls 12 ORs) under comd of Guard Comd

AA & Sub Protection: Each Coy (rifle) will mount three LMGs and one a/tk rifle. HQ Coy will mount 6 LMGs.

Guns will mounted during hours of daylight.

AA Crews will be ~~responsible~~ responsible for maintaining a submarine watch during hours of daylight. Rifle Coys will be responsible for one and HQ Coy for two anti sub posts each of 1 NCO & 2 ORs during hours of darkness.

Above posts will come under comd ship's AA Officer.

113 A.A. will mount four poppers and will maintain a similar watch for AA and submarine.

Mass Orderlies (See Appendix "A")

Sanitary Squads Hygiene Sgt will be responsible that all troop latrine and ablution accommodation is kept clean in accordance with Para 9.

Runners 2 runners to report to Ship's Ord Room at 0815 hrs daily and to remain on duty until dismissed.

2. ALARM SIGNALS

NO1 Boat Stations 6 or more short blasts followed by 1 long blast on hooter.

Action by tps Move to boat stations and standfast leaving 5 feet space between front rank and ship's rail.

NO2 Surface Attack No of long blasts on hooter.

Action by tps AA engage target within range. Remainder of personnel move to "between decks" and take cover.

NO3 Air Attack No of short-long blasts rptd on hooter

Action by tps As in No2.

NO4 All Clear One continuous blast.

NO5 Fire Alarm No of double strokes on ship's bell.

Action by tps Use nearest extinguisher send word immediately to Bridge and OC Tps.

N.B. In case of hooters being out of order these will be given (on ship's whistle)

3. BLACKOUT

There is a blackout in force. Time of blackout is from sunset to sunrise, during which time NO lights of any description are to be shown. Port holes and ship's side opening which are closed by the ship's crew must NOT on any account be interfered with. During blackout there will be NO smoking on deck. Frowler picquets will patrol decks to prevent smoking on deck or showing lights on main deck during night. Detailed orders for blackout picquet will be ~~iss~~ issued separately.

4. BOUNDS

Navigation Bridge

Ship's Officers' Decks and boat decks

Gun decks aft.

Crew's quarters

Bakery gallery pantry and storerooms.

~~XXXXXX~~

ONLY

4. BOUNDS contd. Forecastle Deck will be used by Officers NCOs and Sgts except ~~washing~~ during tng pces as laid down.

5. TROOP DECK OFFICERS One officer will be appointed to each coy or equivalent area. This officer will be responsible that the tps in that area know their boat or raft stations (the place of boat or raft allotted to that particular tp deck) They with tp deck sgts will be responsible for cleanliness of tp decks.

CAPTAIN'S

6. ROOM INSPECTION The following will accompany the Ship's Commander and OC Troops on inspection:-

Ship's Adjutant
" Quartermaster
" Ship's RSM
Unit Comds.

Ranks ~~and duty~~: NOT on duty to be fallen in under NCO present. ALL troopdecks, cabins lounges to be vacated until inspection is over. Complete silence will be observed.

7. REVELLIE All kits to be stowed neatly on racks. Hammocks to be rolled and hung on hooks. Bed boards to be neatly stacked

8. ~~BEHAVIOUR OR RUBBISH~~ DUMPING OF RUBBISH NO rubbish to be dumped over the side except during 1st hour of darkness.

9. TROOP LATRINES No cigarette ends, empty boxes or food rests to be thrown in latrines, washing places etc.

10. HAMMOCKS Hammocks are NOT to be removed from sleeping quarters. ~~xxxx~~

11. WATER Salt water is available all day.
Fresh water is available from 0600-0700 hrs
1100 - 1200 "
1600-1800 "
Water must be economized. Clothes will NOT be washed except as authorised.

12. LIFE BELTS LIFE BELTS WILL BE CARRIED AT ALL TIMES. They will NOT be used as pillows or seats.

13. GAMBLING The games of two-up and crown and anchor are strictly prohibited. Offenders will be severely punished. The game of "housy housy" is permitted.

14. CANTEEN Canteen stores will be available through CQMS's.

15. DOORS Cabin doors WILL be left open at all hours day and night to prevent jamming in cases of emergency.

16. RAILS AND RIGGINGS Sitting on rails, climbing of riggings, entering of life boats is strictly forbidden.

17. Liquor in cabins and sleeping quarters Under NO circumstances will the consumption of liquor in cabins and sleeping quarters be tolerated.

18. SMOKING IN BED This is strictly forbidden.

19. SMOKING Cigarettes are on NO account to be ~~xxxxxx~~ thrown overboard or in wastepaper baskets. They will be placed in boxes provided or in waterways on deck.

20. ELECTRIC FANS AND FITTINGS These must on NO account be touched or interfered with. Clothing must NOT be hung where it can interfere with their free motion

J. DCM. CARSTAIRS *Cape*
Ship's Adjutant

TIME AND ORDER OF MESSING

APPENDIX "A"

DECK	NO OF PERSONNEL	TIME			NO OF MESS ORDS(3-20)	HOT WATER DUTY	REMARKS
		B	L	E			
All personnel aft (attached)	164	0700	1200	1700	8x3= 24	4	Parade at aft Entrance to Galley 5 mins before Meal Time
Lower Tween No1A	120	0710	1210	1710	6x3=18	2	Remain on troop decks until called
Upper " No1 B	120	0720	1220	1720	6x3 = 18	2	do
Lower " No2 CDR	260	0730	1230	1730	13x3 = 39	2	do
Upper " No2 H. Bn.	264	0740	1240	1740	13x3 = 39	2	do

MESSING INSTRUCTION

Permanent Staff Messing Officer Lieut TAPPERSON L.V. Messing Sgt Sgt ^{Robinece} ~~ROBINETTE~~ R.S.
 Runner detailed by RPs 2/7 Aust Inf Bn Mess Orderlies for details see below.

Duties Sgt- To control movement of mess orderlies into alleyway leading to galley.

Runner ~~RUNNER~~- Call orderlies from troop decks when ordered by Sgts.

Orderlies Will not leave troop deck until called by runner. When called they will be paraded by CQMS' and will adhere to route laid down to and from galley. Troop deck officers will be responsible that this is carried out and that orderlies are ready and in groups.

Hot Water Duty Men as detailed above will accompany orderlies to collect hot water and bins for refuse. These will be placed on deck opposite each hatchway both port and starboard. Dirty water will be dumped in gutters on main deck. Under NO circumstances will water or refuse be thrown overboard.

Return of Utensils All dixies, tea kettles etc will be returned and washed immediately after each meal.

Sept 1942

N^o 6

32 Smith Street
Beverly

15th Oct 1942

The Commanding Officer
27 Aust. Inf. Bn.

Sir,

Please accept my sincere thanks for your prompt and courteous reply (R171A) to my letter, also for your kind expressions of sympathy in respect of the death of my brother NX45211

Pte J. J. Woodward.

I have conveyed your message to my parents and the relatives of the deceased and have been asked to tender to you and your unit their sincere thanks for your sympathy. I assure you that all concerned readily appreciate the fact that you have been extremely busy on duties of national importance and unable to communicate sooner.

Wishing the Battalion every success and good fortune.

I am Sir,

Yours respectfully
Woodward.

War Diary

24 Oct 42

Not to be Published

War Diary
N^o 7

ROUTINE ORDERS NO 1

"X16"

Lt Col H.G. GUINN

by

18 Oct 42

OC TROOPS

1. COURT OF ENQUIRY RE THEFT OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

A Court of Enquiry consisting of the following Officers is convened to enquire into and report on the loss of personal property:-

PRESIDENT Major A.T. ROWAN

MEMBERS
Capt H.L.E. DUNKLEY
Capt A.J. LYONS

The Court will report in the terms of A M R & O paras 445-482

J. DeM. CARSTAIRS Capt
Ship's Adjutant

NOTICE

A presentation has been made to the Commanding Officer from the Ship's Captain and Officers inscribed:-

From the Captain and Officers "X16"
As an appreciation to
Lt Col H.G. GUINN
for the aid and assistance and the good discipline
of his troops
during the voyage on board "X 16"
from
BRISBANE - TALL River
from 13.10.42 till 20.10.42.

We extend to the Captain, his Officers and Crew our thanks for their co-operation in making this voyage the happiest on which we have embarked.

MORESBY ARMY NEWS SHEET

Published by the Army Education Service for free distribution to
Defence Services' Personnel in Australian New Guinea

Vol. I.

Monday, 19th October, 1942

No. 38

BRITISH PRISONERS IN IRONS

German "Reprisals"

London, Thursday.—At mid-day today the Germans manacled and put into chains every British prisoner captured at Dieppe. This was broadcast by Berlin Radio and was announced as a reprisal for the alleged binding of German prisoners taken in the small British raid on the Channel island of Sark the previous week-end.

According to German High Command the prisoners will be kept in chains until the British War Office proves that it will tell the truth about the binding of German prisoners and that it has succeeded in having its orders obeyed by British troops.

Berlin Radio said the British prisoners had been shackled because the British reply on the treatment of German prisoners was unsatisfactory.

The British Government has vehemently denied the German allegations of ill-treatment of prisoners, and is arranging for a full enquiry to be carried out by a responsible representative of one of the neutral powers.

The Germans carried out a similar "reprisal" plan on British prisoners in 1917.

Verses by "PINTO"

Our Sense of Wit

*The lad is in the Air Force,
The wife's a V.A.D.
The Army took my fancy,
Look what it did to me.*

*In one way or another,
We all have done our bit,
We still retain our sanity,
Also our sense of wit.*

*That's why I'll write a story
Maybe compose a poem,
If they send the wife to Moresby,
And decide to send me home.*

B.B.—That's Me!

*Cover me deep in the heart of the ashes,
Take me out of my old-fashioned tomb,
Cut the tin right away from my shoulders,
And far away in the air let me zoom.*

*Place a crust o'er my head to conceal me,
Or just bury me deep in the mire,
With a dark sodden mess to surround
me,*

And then place me over the fire.

*Tear my innards apart and then stew
me—*

*But still it is my firm belief,
That I'll come back at night-time to
haunt you,
And I'll be the same Bully Beef.*

BROADCASTS TO TROOPS

The Controller of the A.B.C. Short-Wave Department brings to attention the special session of News for Australian forces in the S-W Pacific from 8.30 to 9.30 o'clock each night. This service is run specially for you, and the A.B.C. would be glad to receive comments and suggestions on the programmes. Send your comments to us, and we will pass them on.

*High up above
In tropic blue skies
To find our army
Come Tojo's spies,
So don't camouflage
For only your section,
But make it a job
For the army's protection.
(Sent in by the Camouflage Section, N.G.F.)*

HOW GOES THE WAR?

Battle for the Solomons

Recent news from both U.S. and Axis sources indicates that a large-scale combined naval, air and land action is in progress in the Solomons. As the U.S. Navy Department has stated, it is not possible to get a clear picture of events while the fighting is still in progress. Allied aircraft have maintained ceaseless attacks against enemy naval forces, impeding their advance and slowing up landings of Jap. troops.

The story commences on Friday, Oct. 9th., when a Japanese naval unit of four large cruisers and four destroyers—part of a larger force—was attacked near New Georgia Island, one cruiser receiving a direct hit and being left sinking, and another receiving minor damage. Three intercepting Jap seaplanes were shot down in this engagement. Meanwhile, U.S. aircraft heavily bombed Jap. seaplanes at their bases at Ysabel, north of Tulagi, and elsewhere.

Jap. Naval Losses

The Japanese naval force appears to have continued its movement in the direction of Guadalcanal, where it was heavily engaged, losses being at least 1 heavy cruiser, 4 destroyers and 1 transport, one American destroyer being sunk in the combined naval-air operation. U.S. ships engaged comprised a naval task force despatched to intercept the oncoming Japanese. Subsequent air action against the dispersing Japanese force severely damaged one destroyer and set fire to another.

It was later announced from Pearl Harbour (broadcast on 13 Oct.) that substantial Jap. forces were being landed at points on the northwest and south coasts of Guadalcanal, in an attempt to seize vital air-fields held by the U.S. forces; and were moving over the dense mountain range to approach the U.S. positions from behind. Simultaneously, U.S. shore positions were under bombardment from the sea.

U.S. Reinforcements Arrive

Wednesday's broadcast report told of a "heavy naval battle now going on off Guadalcanal." The intensity of the engagement is shown by the report that a total of 33 Japanese aircraft had been brought down in the previous 48 hours; and that shore batteries and bombers scored hits on seven Japanese vessels including a battleship.

U.S. Army re-inforcements landed at Guadalcanal during this period, together with additional General Grant tanks. Systematic air action against Jap. bases extended as far as Buin and Buka in the northern Solomons, heavy damage being inflicted. Faisi and Gizo were also raided, and numerous vessels sunk or damaged along the Solomons chain.

No further details of the fighting were announced on Friday, but everything pointed to the continuance of a large-scale engagement.

It is not yet known whether heavy units of the U.S. Fleet have taken part in the engagement.

Possibly to create a diversion, enemy vessels are reported to have shelled positions at Espiritu Santo, in the New Hebrides group (600 miles S.E. of the Solomons) on Wednesday night.

Saturday's broadcast report was as follows: "Fighting is still going on against Japanese troops landed at Guadalcanal, American forces attacking from behind a screen of General Grant tanks." A large fleet of Japanese ships has been reported off Buin and Faisi, 260

miles north-west of Guadalcanal, but the report does not state which way they are going. It may be assumed, however, that they are intended to take part in the Guadalcanal action.

Tanks and Artillery

Latest reports indicate that the present engagement is likely to be fought to a decisive finish. The U.S. forces are being hard-pressed both from the rear (where Japs. are approaching over the mountains) and by naval shelling of the dromes which keeps Allied planes from being totally effective. Torpedo boats went out against the Japanese naval vessels that were shelling U.S. positions, scoring a hit on one cruiser.

Saturday's *New York Sun* in a commentary on the present Jap. counter move, said: It is quite obvious that the Japanese are making an all out attempt to take back the Solomons. While the United Nations possess these Islands, the whole Pacific campaign is held up: They are of the utmost importance to Japanese strategy.

Zero Hour for Stalingrad—Around Stalingrad, where the Russian newspaper *Red Star* says a decisive battle is now raging, the Germans are being forced to pay dearly for every inch of ground they gain. They have made some progress in the factory settlement, north-west of the city, but their losses have been tremendous. Fresh forces are being thrown in immediately they reach the front. The Russians have withdrawn to defence lines close to the Volga River. Planes and tanks are supporting German infantry in formations of 500 and 100 respectively in each new attack. Sheer weight of men and metal has proved the deciding factor in all German attacks to date. Berlin blames the snow for the slowness of the Axis advance in the Caucasus. The Russians, however, are claiming they are holding the Germans around Mozdok, near the Grozny oilfields, against all German counter-attacks. Local activity only was reported during the week from the Rjev and Voronej sectors, where the initiative appears to remain with the Russians.

Owen Stanley Front—Progress towards Kokoda has been maintained by our troops during the past week. Saturday's local communique stated that both the Myola and Kagi tracks to Templeton's Crossing had been cleared of all enemy troops, who had offered fairly stiff resistance. By Saturday, our forces had reached Eora Creek village, on the northern side of the highest point on the track, and about 8½ hours by track from Kokoda. Contact with enemy parties was being maintained.

Aleutians Under Attack—From their base at Andreanof Islands, Liberator bombers and fighters have been pounding Japanese positions at Kiska, 125 miles away. Several days last week enemy camps, shore installations and shipping have come under heavy bombardment from the air. U.S. bombers have met with little or no enemy fighter opposition, only a few seaplanes attempting interception.

Malta's Bag—Axis bombers and dive bombers came over Malta in large formations during the week, but after the island's anti-aircraft and Spitfire defences had done their job it was a very sorry lot which made the return journey. For six days up to Friday noon, 103 enemy planes had been definitely destroyed, with 50 others damaged so badly that they probably did not reach their bases.

Australian News

(Department of Information)

One hundred girl conductors commenced duty on Sydney trams last Tuesday. They will collect fares under supervision. Transport officials are reported as saying that "it won't be long before girls are on buses."

New beer prices to operate in Melbourne increase the price of bottled beer by ½d. to 1/7, and 7 oz. glasses ½d. to 7d. There is no increase in the price of a pot of beer.

Troops in the Northern Territory recently had meals of pork from wild pigs lassoed by Australian aborigines. The pigs belonged to a herd of 500 found near an old piggery. They are as fast as greyhounds and are not easily caught.

Difficulty in obtaining tick serum last week almost caused the death of a two-years-old girl at North Shore Hospital, Sydney. The serum was finally obtained from a veterinary surgeon. The child was 10 days in bed with measles before tick poisoning was found. Her legs and neck had become paralysed and her nerves and heart affected.

Unemployed and retired men, boys old enough to start work, and those employed on the manufacture of goods for civilian use only, will comprise the bulk of the 318,000 persons needed by the Federal Government for war work this year. Young girls of working age, women in non-essential jobs, and women of independent means will be called upon to work in Government factories.

Recent amendments to the National Security Regulations prohibiting sales of real estate, explained the Commonwealth Treasurer, were intended only to prevent speculation or investment in houses and land. The regulations require that the consent of the Treasurer be secured for every land or house sale. This consent will be granted in all cases where the purchaser intends to occupy the property immediately. It is not the desire of the Government to prevent anyone from purchasing a home or property for their own immediate use.

Sir Alan Currie, chairman of the V.R.C. and noted pastoralist, died at his home at Ercildoune, Burrumbeet, Victoria, on Monday at the age of 74 years. Sir Alan Currie, former M.L.C., served with the Royal Field Artillery from 1914-18. He was wounded several times and won the M.C. He was a noted breeder of Merinos, and had the only flock descended without infusion with any other blood from the original sheep imported to Australia by Macarthur. Sir Alan was associated with the turf since 1906. He was knighted in 1937.

The N.S.W. Education Minister said he had no objection to the suggestion that boys and girls of leaving certificate standard should be released from school studies next month after examination to assist in harvesting fruit and vegetable crops.

Racing Notes

Saturday's racing highlights from Australia — Metropolitan Handicap: Grand Fils 1, Goose Boy 2, Angus 3, It's Funny 4. Caulfield Stakes: Tranquil Star 1, True Flight 2, Tubitarata 3. (Actually, Tubitarata finished second, but a protest against him was upheld). Caulfield Guineas: Great Britain 1, Amaze 2. Herbert Power Handicap: Portfolio 1, Rex Buzz 2, Wilson 3. Debutante Stakes: Simmering.

Boxing—Bill Fadden 10.7 outpointed Hockey Bennell 10.4½, at Leichardt Stadium on Thursday. George Cook 11.6 defeated Frank Moloney 11.5.

AUSTRALIAN NEWS (contd.)

The Federal Government wants 500,000 individual subscribers to its £100,000,000 War and Austerity Loan. The Treasurer (Mr. J. B. Chifley) said it was possible to-day that everybody receiving a regular income could purchase at least one bond without hardship. It was the Government's wish that a much wider spread of people share the burden of this financial appeal than the 244,000 who oversubscribed to the First Liberty Loan in March.

The Army Minister (Mr. F. M. Forde) announced that in future no Australian soldier under 19 years of age would be sent to New Guinea or Darwin. Further, no soldier under 19 years already in New Guinea would proceed beyond the base area.

The price of butter may rise 1/2d. per lb. The increase may be caused by the Arbitration Court's determination in the wages of dairy employees.

Four workmen caught in a Sydney bus were slightly electrocuted after an accident at Mayfield. They suffered shock and slight superficial injuries. The bus ran into a trailing electric wire. The driver lost control of the vehicle and it collided with an electric pole. A high tension wire fell across the bus, electrifying it a second time. The front off-side tyre caught alight, but the fire was quickly extinguished.

At a labour rally in Sydney, the Prime Minister (Mr. J. Curtin) said the Government could not and would not provide enough tobacco and beer to meet all demands. The main concern at the present time was the supply of shells, ships, planes, tanks, armaments and all those physical things constituting indispensable elements in a war which we have to fight, he said. Mr. Curtin stated also that the first men to share in postwar reconstruction would be those who had done the fighting. "We will see no repetition of the failures and mistakes after the war 25 years ago," he concluded.

An immediate call-up to the Army is being made of all single men under 45 years of age and widowers with no children in New South Wales.

Nine hundred members of the Women's Land Army will be employed to the end of the N.S.W. fruit-picking season. The W.L.A. enrolment is expected to reach 3,000 soon.

A regulation recently gazetted empowers the Federal Government to enter into an agreement with any company to enable it to obtain necessary finance to carry on essential work on war contracts. The Commonwealth can acquire all or portion of the company's shares, if satisfied that the company is unable to obtain finance otherwise.

On his return to Australia from a visit to forward combat areas in New Guinea, the C-in-C in the south-west Pacific (General Douglas MacArthur) addressing troops, said: "You now have a grip on the situation in New Guinea, and I expect you to be worthy sons of your Anzac fathers, and I believe you will be. It is extremely important that you should develop the highest standard of self-confidence and self-reliance. Good luck to you all!"

Commenting on the Rome Radio allegation that Australian soldiers fired in cold blood on Italian prisoners, the Army Minister (Mr. F. M. Forde) said: "The attitude of the Australian Government has always been to treat war prisoners humanely and strictly in accordance with various international agreements. No official report has been received to substantiate claims from Rome that Australians shot Italian prisoners."

In a speech in Sydney at the celebrations on the 31st anniversary of the foundation of the Chinese Republic, the Air Minister (Mr. J. S. Drakeford) said Australian airmen were fighting alongside Chinese airmen against the Japanese over China. The Allies had air superiority over the enemy in New Guinea, and it was hoped ultimately to achieve it in China. "Japan will never conquer China," he added.

U.S. NEWS

(From Brisbane *Courier-Mail*)

Three U.S. heavy cruisers—Quincy, Vincent and Astoria—were sunk by the Japanese in the naval action in the Solomons on August 9. These losses bring the number of U.S. warships sunk in the Solomons to nine, in addition to two destroyers damaged. Japanese losses over a similar period have been 38 vessels sunk. The sinking of the three American cruisers occurred during the battle in which H.M.A.S. Canberra was lost.

The *Herald Tribune's* Washington correspondent says that U.S. supplies are being shipped to Russia and China, via Alaska, by giant cargo planes. Twenty per cent of multiple-engined production at present is devoted to cargo planes.

The Dupont Company has announced a new invention, "air bubbles wrapped in cellulose," which will replace sponge rubber and kapok for military and naval needs.

A Washington message says that the Treasury Department has announced that September war expenditure reached 5,385 million dollars, bringing the total since June to 14,762 million dollars.

An acute coffee shortage is developing in the eastern United States. Hundreds are queuing up at shops, which are limiting customers to half a pound weekly. The scarcity is largely due to hoarding.

The film actress, Madeline Carroll, has been appointed Entertainment Director of the United Seamen's Service. Madeline, whose husband, Stirling Hayden, is master of a schooner engaged in war trade, commented: "This is the most exciting role I have ever undertaken."

William Hitler has been rejected for military service because the Army does not like his uncle, Adolph. William, who is a British subject, is now trying to enlist in the Canadian Air Force.

Kentucky is swinging back to prohibition. Sixty-seven of Kentucky's 120 counties already have outlawed the sale of liquor.

Soldiers prefer soft, sweet music to jitterbug tunes, the War Department found in a survey of the Army's entertainment tastes.

The American Federation of Labour has urged President Roosevelt to establish an over-all board for economic and military strategy. It also called for a psychological offensive, through fomenting popular revolts against Axis leaders.

The *Morning Telegraph*, a 109-year-old newspaper devoted to sports and racing, has been banned from New York news-stands in Mayor La Guardia's anti-gambling campaign. Racing form and other tip-sheets have also been banned. The publishers are appealing to the Supreme Court.

National morale will take care of itself if there is equality of sacrifice and the public is fully informed. This was said by Mr. Elmer Davis, Director of the Office of War Information, testifying before the Senate Committee which is investigating the plight of small businessmen affected by war conditions. Mr. Davis added that people should be told, within the limitations of military security, where we were going, how we were doing in the war, and our general objectives.

Welterweight Ray Robinson won a 10-round decision over Middleweight Jake Lamotta, at Madison Square Garden. It was his 36th consecutive victory.

Cardinals' players, as a result of winning the World Series, will each receive 6102 dollars. Each player of Yankees' team gets 3351. Johnny Beasley, winning pitcher, has received the following telegram from the Marines' Recruiting Office: "If you can toss hand grenades like you pitched for Cardinals, hurry up!" Johnny has enlisted.

AUSTRALIA & RUSSIA

EXCHANGE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The appointment of the Hon. W. Slater, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Victoria, as Commonwealth official representative at Moscow, was announced last week by the Minister for External Affairs (Dr. H. V. Evatt), Andri Vlasov, of the U.S.S.R. Foreign Affairs Commissariat, being appointed to represent his country in a similar capacity in Australia. The nomination, after approval by H.M. the King, was accepted by Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov, who expressed satisfaction at the completion of arrangements and pleasure at the selection of Mr. Slater. "It is fitting," said Dr. Evatt, "that this announcement should be made at this time when the valour, endurance and self-sacrifice of the Russian soldiers and people are once again earning the admiration of the world. We attach special importance to these appointments as evidence of the unity and comradeship binding the nations united against Axis aggression. They signalise the special friendship existing between Russia and Australia as Pacific countries."

A Labour man, modest and unassuming, "Bill" Slater is well known in political, legal and old-soldier circles in Victoria. He is a man of liberal and progressive views and ideals, with a host of friends in all political parties. Elected to the Victorian Parliament at 27 years of age, while serving with an A.I.F. unit in France in 1917, he has since continuously represented the rural constituency of Dundas. He took his law degree at Melbourne University after the war, studying hard while carrying on his Parliamentary duties. He has been Speaker of the Victorian Parliament since 1940. His wife, who holds the M.Sc. degree, and his two sons and one daughter, hope to join him in Russia later on.

When youths of 18 years of age are enrolled under new legislation approved last week, the U.S. Army will be increased by 3,250,000 men to 7,500,000 next year.

HEAVY TAX INCREASES

Drastically increased individual income tax rates which take out 19 cents from the first taxable dollar in the lowest bracket, have been tentatively approved by the Senate. The normal tax has been raised from four to six per cent. The new surtax increases the lowest from 6 to 13 per cent., rising to 82 per cent., compared with the present 77 per cent. Taxation scope has been broadened, bringing in 7,000,000 new taxpayers, with reduced exemption for family heads. Members of the armed services have received an additional exemption of 250 dollars if single, and 300 dollars if married. A further flat 5 per cent Victory tax on incomes over the specific exemption of 624 dollars a year is under consideration.

NATIONAL SERVICE BILL

The Government will be able to control the lives and plans of every American under a National Service Bill to be introduced in Congress soon. The Bill aims at bringing the nation's man and woman-power under the control of a single agency, thus ending the conflict between Army Draft Board and the Civilian Man-power Commission, and also terminating voluntary enlistments for the armed forces. It will compel the registration of all adults and their classification according to skill and experience. The single board, which the Director of Man-power (Mr. McNutt) insists must be headed by a civilian, will have the final power to determine whether a citizen will be more useful to the armed forces, industry, or agriculture. Industrial and agricultural labour will be allotted under a system of priorities, and non-essential businesses will not be allowed to hire labour above a prescribed limit.

THE ISLES OF SOLOMON

WHERE WAR RAGES

Full-scale "civilised" war in all its ghastliness has come to the Isles of King Solomon. "A little while ago" writes John Morris in the *Australasian*, "one might have thought that any of the small islands out in the vast Pacific, where human life had not yet emerged completely from the primitive state, should be free from the ravages and terrors of mechanised war."

"In their lonely beauty, these little islands had come to be regarded as havens of peace and places of refuge from the cares and worries of modern society. That, at any rate, has been the popular belief about them, but that belief is being rudely shattered by World War No. 2."

The popular belief was right—as far as the Solomons were concerned. For 50 years, Christian missionaries have given devoted service to the natives of the Solomons. Some were murdered in the earlier days of their work. But the natives could not be wholly blamed. To kill outsiders, as a pay-back or protection, was the primitive code. That code, however, passed out 20 years ago, after the murder of two Government officers, Bell and Lillies, off the island of Malaita, then the home of the savagest peoples of the islands, now savage no longer.

And now we learn of the murder by the Japanese of four Catholic missionaries, two priests and two nuns, at their little outpost of Christian service, at Ruavatu, on Guadalcanal.

And of the loyalty and devotion to his new code of sturdy old Vouza, sergeant-major of native constabulary, who was prepared to die under Japanese torture rather than "squeal."

(The story of Vouza was published in last week's M.A.N.S.)

BEAUTIFUL TULAGI

From the hill slope on the western side of Tulagi island, the mountains of Guadalcanal stand out clearly 20 miles or so across the reef-studded waters to the west. You must come round the northern end of Guadalcanal to enter Tulagi harbour.

"Beautiful Tulagi.....to stand on the hillside of the little reef-girt isle, and look out once again over the white buildings of the hospital and the swaying tops of the coastal coconut palms, across the passage to the misty majesty of the mountains of Guadalcanal; to drink in once again the sheer, unspoiled natural beauty of this unrivalled South Sea panorama of mountain, reef and palm-girt isle, that indeed were Heaven," wrote one who left the Solomons just before the war, and who had wandered widely over the Pacific. Tulagi is the administrative head-quarters of the British Solomon Islands Protectorate. A local Resident Commissioner, of the British Colonial Service, is in charge, with District Officers on out-stations.

Geographically, the Solomons chain stretches for over 1,000 miles from New Ireland to Santa Cruz. But actually the two islands at the north-western end, Bougainville and Buka, are part of the Territory of New Guinea under Australian mandate. In Bougainville are Buin and Kieta, both used by the Japs as minor bases pushed out from Rabaul.

From Bougainville, the chain continues in a double string through Faisi (Shortland Islands), New Georgia and Vella Lavella—so many of the names are Spanish or Portuguese—Santa Ysabel, Florida, Guadalcanal, Malaita, San Cristoval, and on to Santa Cruz.

These, with the innumerable outlying Polynesian atolls, form the British Protectorate. It is in the region of Florida (Tulagi), Ysabel and Guadalcanal, that action is at present taking place.

Tulagi is between 700 and 800 miles from Rabaul, and a similar distance from Port Moresby. The Rabaul—Moresby—Tulagi triangle is the focal area of the present S-W Pacific war.

9

VOYAGE REPORT.

REPORT OF THE OFFICER COMMANDING (NAVAL, MILITARY OR AIR FORCE) ON THE DISEMBARKATION OF NAVAL, MILITARY OR AIR FORCE PERSONNEL.

(No report need be rendered unless more than 50 third class passengers have been embarked.)

From the " S. S. TASMAN "

On Voyage from BRISBANE to FALL RIVER

If more than ten horses or mules be carried, the Officer Commanding will make a full report on their conveyance, and attach it to his Voyage Report, together with any separate remarks of the Veterinary Officer on board.

If a Remount Officer proceed, his Report will be similarly dealt with. The following points should be touched upon in such reports, viz.: (a) Horse Fittings, type of, (b) Drainage, (c) Ventilation, (d) Water, (e) Forage, (f) Number of Horses embarked, (g) Casualties during the Voyage, (h) any prevalent disease.

PARTICULARS OF EMBARKATION AND DISEMBARKATION.

PORT OF EMBARKATION.	Date of Embarkation.	Service.	Numbers Embarked.										
			1st Class.			2nd Class.			3rd Class.			Horses or Mules.	
			Officers.	Ladies.	Childr'n	Men.	Women	Childr'n	Men.	Women	Childr'n		
BRISBANE	13 Oct 42	Naval Military Air Force	58			6			849				
		Naval Military Air Force											
		Naval Military Air Force											
		Naval Military Air Force											
		Naval Military Air Force											
		Naval Military Air Force											

PORT OF DISEMBARKATION.	Date of Disembarkation.	Service.	Numbers Disembarked.										
			1st Class.			2nd Class.			3rd Class.			Horses or Mules.	
			Officers.	Ladies.	Childr'n	Men.	Women	Childr'n	Men.	Women	Childr'n		
FALL RIVER	20 Oct 42	Naval Military Air Force	58			6			849				
		Naval Military Air Force											
		Naval Military Air Force											
		Naval Military Air Force											
		Naval Military Air Force											

1. Have the requirements of the Sea Transport Regulations, relating to arrangements on board, been complied with?

Yes

(NOTE.—If the O.C. is not in possession of a copy of the Sea Transport Regulations, he should ask to be allowed to see the Master's copy.)

1700 hrs 13 Oct 42 Boat Drill
1030 " 14 " " A.A. followed by Boat Drill
1030 " 15 " "A. A. do

2. On what occasions were exercises in Emergency Stations carried out?

3. Has the ship been kept in a clean and sanitary condition?

Yes

4. Has the Mess for First and Second class passengers been satisfactory in all respects?

Yes

5. Has there been any cause of complaint either as to quantity, quality, or preparation of the food and medical comforts for men and other third class passengers?

No complaints with exception those mentioned in OC Troops General Remarks

6. Have the cooking arrangements for third class passengers been satisfactory and has fresh bread of good quality been baked and issued daily? ..

As above

7. Has an adequate supply of good fresh water been always available for Government passengers? ..

Yes

8. Has the Master carried out his general duties in connection with the Government passengers in a satisfactory manner and afforded every care to the women and children on board?

Yes

9. Has strict attention been paid to the regulations regarding Smoking on board?

Yes

10. Has any sickness been prevalent among the Government passengers, and if so, to what cause can it be attributed?

No No

GENERAL REMARKS (IF ANY) OF THE OFFICER COMMANDING.

1. Total number of personnel carried 913
maximum number under present conditions should NOT exceed 850
2. SLEEPING QUARTERS Space available sleeping quarters were inadequate for the number of troops on board. Owing to this I approved the use of 1st class cabin space and accommodation for WOs and Senior Sgts.
3. MESSING Meals were of a very high standard and arrangements most satisfactory with the following exceptions:
 - a. Shortage of tea containers
 - b. Hot water boilers insufficient.
 - c. Bread. Two loaves per 20 men insufficient. This represents Ship's capacity for baking.Suggest that orders for messing as per Ship's Standing Orders be adopted permanently. They have proved most satisfactory.
4. LATRINES Accommodation should be extended. 18 seats for 900 men insufficient. Should be at least 5 seats per 100 men. System used subject to blocking. Provision of urinals necessary.
5. SHOWERS Showers inadequate for numbers carried. More wash basins also required.
6. TRAINING Owing to limited deck space available training was confined to PT and lectures.
7. DISCIPLINE The discipline of troops throughout the voyage was excellent. Marred only by a theft in the native quarters. The loss was made good by the unit.
8. CO-OPERATION Spirit of co-operation between the Ship's Captain and myself was excellent and left nothing to be desired.

N.B.—The remarks are intended to be confined to the general arrangements of the service. Comments of a personal nature, if necessary, should be made the subject of separate and special communications.

Dated at FALL RIVER this 20th day of October 42

Signed Henry G. Quinn Lt Col
Officer Commanding.

GENERAL REMARKS OF THE MASTER OF THE SHIP.

(This should contain not only observations upon the O.C.'s remarks and on the Senior Medical Officer's remarks (if any) in so far as these relate to the ship and her administration but also any other remarks relating to the ship and her administration which the Master may wish to make. It is essential that it should be signed.)

I concur with O.C. troops report.

The troops carried on board this trip was the best disciplined unit I ever carried on board of my ship.

W. D. D. D.

Master.

20-10-42 (Date)

N.B.—The remarks are intended to be confined to the general arrangements of the service. Comments of a personal nature, if necessary, should be made the subject of separate and special communications.

This report is to be filled up and signed by each Officer Commanding when he himself disembarks, in cases where the personnel on board are of one Service only, or where there are military and R.A.F. personnel on board. In cases where Military (and/or R.A.F.) and Naval personnel are conveyed, the instructions contained in the Memorandum relating to the procedure on such voyages issued to Officers Commanding will apply. One copy will be retained by each Officer Commanding, one handed to the Master, and other copies distributed as follows:—

(1) NAVAL TRANSPORTS or FREIGHTSHIPS:—

Two copies to the Senior Naval Officer at the port of disembarkation for transmission to the Secretary of the Admiralty and to the Secretary, Department of the Navy, Melbourne.

(2) MILITARY TRANSPORTS or FREIGHTSHIPS:—

Five copies to the Disembarkation Staff Officer, of which four for transmission to the Secretary, War Office, and one for the General Officer Commanding at the port of disembarkation. One copy to the Sea Transport Officer at the port of disembarkation for transmission to the Secretary, Department of the Navy, Melbourne.

In the case of disembarkations in India additional copies to the Disembarkation Staff Officer, one for transmission to the Quartermaster-General in India, and one to the Embarkation Headquarters at the port of disembarkation.

(3) AIR FORCE TRANSPORTS or FREIGHTSHIPS:—

Three copies to the R.A.F. Officer i/c Disembarkation, of which two for transmission to the Secretary, Air Ministry, and one for the A.O.C. Overseas Command concerned. One copy to the Sea Transport Officer at the port of disembarkation for transmission to the Secretary, Department of the Navy, Melbourne.

NOTE.—In all cases, copies of the report in respect of transports or freightships transmitted for the information of the Secretary of the Admiralty, the Secretary, War Office, the Secretary, Air Ministry and the Director of Sea Transport from ports abroad, are to be despatched as soon as possible, by Air Mail.

St 3299

EVACUATED FROM X16 to HOSPITAL

2/7 Aust Inf Bn

VX 55851	Pte	FARNELL	N.J.	HQ Coy	Scabies
VX 5622	Cpl	CLEGG	C.E.	D "	Mumps
QX 19615	Pte	KEARNEY	P.	D	Hernia
VX 52292	"	ZANTUCK	L.	B "	Infected Dermatitis

2/5 Aust Inf Bn

VX 27251	"	KURZMAN			NED V.D.
----------	---	---------	--	--	----------

19.10.42

The amount of infectious disease was very low, considering the number on board and the crowded conditions. These were two cases of mumps, 6 cases of probable malaria, one case of scabies and one case of influenzal pneumonitis. There was one case of venereal disease(urethritis).

Other cases were one case of infected dermatitis of the face and one of hernia. The rest were minor.

It is to be noted that all the malarial cases were members of the crew.

Hospital and surgery accommodation were very satisfactory.

B. H. Peterson.....Capt

R. M. O. O.

SERIALS FOR DISSEMBARKATION

N^o 10

UNIT	OFFRS	CRS	TOTAL
2/7 AUST INF BN	25	725	750
2/6 AUST INF BN (driver of truck carried on ship)		1	1
2/5 AUST INF BN	3	28	31
2/8 AUST FB COY	1	2	3
2/25 Br Sec Fd Pk Coy		13	13
163 LIGHT A.A.	1	91	92
2/6 A.A.S.C.		6	6
5 AUST LAB COY		1	1
YMCA	1	2	3
17AUST INF BDE		2	2
K Sec SIGS 6 AUST DIV		6	6
To be evacuated to Hospital	2/5 1 2/7 4	5	5
	31	882	913

James Houston Capt
Lt Col
 OC TROOPS "X16"

Recd Car
revised
to be
War
Dunlop

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

ROUTINE ORDER 42/44

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED

IS COL. H. G. QUINN

-37-

21 Oct 42

ORDER 2/7 AU T INF BR

Nº 11
10/11
V

1. MALARIA - PREVENTION AGAINST, ETC.

- (a) The incidence of MALIGNANT MALARIA in the MINE BEY District is amongst the highest in the world and the following instructions are to be read in conjunction with MINE FORCE Medical Instructions issued on 21 July.
- (b) UNIFORM at all times for all ranks will include slacks, gaiters, or short puttees, shirts long sleeved. Shirt sleeves may be rolled during the hours of daylight, but must be rolled down at night. Centries and pickets at night will wear face nets and gloves if available. The practice of going about bare to the waist is expressly forbidden and disciplinary action will follow any unauthorized alteration to clothing such as converting slacks into shorts or shortening shirt sleeves.
- (c) Malaria carrying mosquitoes bite only between sunset and sunrise. Personal protection, therefore, need NOT be taken during the hours of daylight, but from sunset to sunrise the following personal precautions must be taken by all ranks:-

2. USE OF MOSQUITO NETS:

This is the most valuable single method of malaria prevention. Nets must be inspected daily for holes, and repairs effected at once.

3. USE OF MOSQUITO VEILS AND GLOVES:

For Guards and Centries.

4. USE OF ANTI-MOSQUITO CREAM:

This is to be smeared on the hands, face and neck at sunset and thereafter every two hours until soldier gets under his mosquito net.

5. POSTAL:

AIRMAIL LETTER CARDS, are now available at Base Post Office. Issue will be on the basis of two per man per week and Units may requisition accordingly for two week's supply. POSTAGE FREE AIRMAIL ONE PENNY.

STAMPS AND POSTAL NOTES are on sale at Base and Field Post Offices and the practice of endorsing letters "No stamps available" is to be discontinued. Surface mail letters to Australia are carried free of postage if marked on top of the envelope "On Active Service". Air Mail letters cost 3d per half ounce.

REGISTERED ARTICLES will only be accepted up to 14 ounces and under no circumstances will parcels over this weight be registered.

TELEGRAMS. Personnel are advised that owing to strict censorship serious delays are inevitable in the delivery of telegrams to and from this Force.

H. K. HINCH Lieut.
A/ADJUTANT 2/7 AUSTRALIAN INF BR

Nº 1 B Animals

Nº 2 Daves

Nº 3 J. Mudd

Nº 4 Milner

Nº 5 B. J. Inter

Nº 6 Miles. S.

613 F. L. Bailey no.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

ROUTINE ORDERS NO 42/45

12

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED

22 OCT 42

by

LT COL H.G. GUINN

COMD 2/7 AUST INF BN

- I. MALARIA PRECAUTIONS - Many men have NOT been wearing gaiters at night. This practice will result in bites on the legs from the malaria mosquito. All men will wear gaiters after sunset.
2. EFFECT OF ROTTING VEGETATION ETC.- A warning is issued with regard old coconuts, palm fronds and other rotting vegetation which is a source of "Coconut Lice", causing nasty sores in the crutch and fever. These should be avoided on lying down or arranging bedding.
2. PILLAGING OF RATIONS AND CARGO -
 - (a) Attention is directed to the prevalence of pillaging (THEFT) rations, equipment, etc., from wharves.
 - (b) Any member of this unit found to be in possession of any ration or article of equipment to which he is NOT entitled will be charged with an offence.

W.K. EDNEY Lieut
A/ADJT 2/7 AUST INF BN

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

ROUTINE ORDERS NO 42/45

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED

22 OCT 42

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W.K. EDNEY Lieut
A/ADJT 2/7 AUST INF BN

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

2/7 AUST INF BN **24 Oct. 42**

.....(Unit).19.....(Date).

(To be furnished by all units of Cavalry, Infantry, Royal Tank Corps, Royal Army Veterinary Corps, Royal Army Pay Corps, Army Educational Corps, Corps of Military Police, and all Headquarter units).

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1 Detail.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.		-1	
W.Os. Class II.		6	
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants OR Colour-Serjeants		-	
Staff Serjeants		4	
Serjeants		33	
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.		67	
Corporals			
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc.		621	
TOTALS		* 732	* 80

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

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Units and Corps to which they belong.
VX 42704 A/Cpl BENNETT	<u>2/2 Fd. Amb.</u> L.C.	VX 13068 Sgt CONGRESS	<u>A.A.M.C.</u> G
VX 4838 A/Sgt NAISMITH	A.	VX 15062 Cpl BOOTH	<u>A.A.P.S.</u> W.D.
VX 37523 A/Cpl RUSSELL	W.C.	NX 15760 Sgt STINSON	<u>A.A.P.C.</u> E.R.
NX 27039 A/Cpl SIMPSON	A.		<u>HQ. 17 BDE.</u>
VX 12075 Pte NAPIER	M.		
VX 4672 " SETFORD	L.R.		
VX 24971 Pte WILLIAMS	A.W.		

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

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g. present whereabouts if known).

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

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.								REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.								REMARKS.
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour Sergeants.	Staff Sergeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour Sergeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	
Bricklayers																	
Butchers																	
Carpenters and Joiners																	
„ (trained in wheeling duties).																	
Clerks																	
Despatch Riders																	
Draughtsmen (topo)																	
Drivers H.T. and/or I.C.																	
Electricians																	
Farriers																	
Fitters																	
Masons																	
Painters and Decorators																	
Plumbers and Gasfitters																	
Saddlers and Harness Makers																	
Saddle Tree Makers																	
Signallers																	
Storemen technical																	
Vickers Machine Gunners																	
Wheelers																	
General duty personnel								80									
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A).								80									

2/7 AUST INF BN

Unit.

Date of Despatch 25 Oct. 42

2/7 AUST INF BN

Signature of Commander.

HQ. 17 AUST INF BDE.

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

LT col.

I See

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

SCHEDULE FOR UNLOADING DUTIES.

2/7 AUST INF BN

14

DATE	FIRST SHIFT 1800 - 2400	SECOND SHIFT 0001 - 0600	THIRD SHIFT 0601 - 1200	
24/25 OCT.	A COY	C COY	D COY	COMPLETED
28/29 OCT.	B COY	A COY	C COY	COMPLETED
30/31 OCT.	D COY	B COY	A COY	
2/3 NOV.	HQ COY	HQ COY & Bn HQ.	C COY	
4/5 NOV.	D COY	B COY	A COY	
7/8 NOV	C COY	D COY	B COY	
9/10 NOV	HQ COY	HQ COY & Bn HQ	C COY	

TRANSPORT WILL REPORT AT JUNCTION OF ROUTE 1 and ROUTE 7
90 MINUTES BEFORE SHIFT COMMENCES DUTY.

OFFICER COMMANDING SHIFT REPORT TO YELLOW HOUSE 15 MINUTES
BEFORE TIME LAID DOWN FOR COMMENCEMENT OF DUTY.

.....*K. R. Edney*.....Lieut.
A/Adjt 2/7 AUST INF BN.

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS. 15

2/7 AUST INF BN. (Unit.)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels ...	1		
Majors ...	7		
Captains ...	6		
Lieutenants...	15		
2nd Lieutenants ...	1		
Quartermasters ...			
District Officers ...			
TOTALS ...	23		

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc).

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

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

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

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No.)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Lt col. (CO)		GUINN H.G.	AIF	YES	
Capt. (2 1/c)		DUNKLEY H.L.E.	"	"	
" (Coy 2 1/c)		CRAMP S.M.	"	"	
" (Coy OC)		CARSTAIRS J Don.	"	"	
" (OC COY)		WALKER K.R.	"	"	
" (OC COY)		CUDDON W.S.	"	"	
" (Coy 0/0)		DUELL H.S.	"	"	
" (QM T/Capt)		SMITH A	"	"	
Lieut (A/Adjt)		EDNEY W.K.	"	"	
" (OC Coy)		PRINGLE F.D.	"	"	
" (Pl Comd)		DAVIS C.A.	"	"	
" (Coy 2/1/c)		TATTERSON L.V.	"	"	
" (Pl Comd)		MCDONALD A.J.	"	"	
"		McINTOSH D.B.	"	"	
"		PALMER A.N.	"	NO	Det 17 Bde Jungle
"		WALKER I.W.	"	YES	Ing School.
"		WEST G.R.S.	"	"	
"		BAIRD V.C.	"	"	
"		ROOKE A.N.	"	"	
"		SEARS E.C.	"	"	
"		ARNOLD S.	"	"	
"		DINSMORE B.M.	"	"	
"		FERGUSON T.StD.F.	"	"	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Padre		PHILLIPS E.B.	AIF	31/7/42	Padre.
Capt.		PETERSON B.H.	"	23/9/42	R.M.O.

2/7 AUST INF BN.

(Unit.)

25 Oct. 42

(Date of Despatch.)

2/7 AUST INF BN.

(Signature of Commander.)

17 AUST INF BDE.

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

Keith Edney

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

(Unit.)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels ...	1		
Majors ...	6		
Captains ...	15		
Lieutenants...			
2nd Lieutenants ...	1		
Quartermasters ...			
District Officers ...			
TOTALS ...	23		

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc).

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

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

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

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No.)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Lt.col.(C.O.)		GUINN H.G.	A.I.F.	YES	
Capt.(2 i/c)		DUNKLEY N.L.E.	"	"	
" (Coy 2 i/c)		CRAMP S.M.	"	"	
" (O.C.Coy)		CARSTAIRS J.DeM.	"	"	
" (O.C.Coy)		WALKER K.R.	"	"	
" (O.C.Coy)		CUDDON W.S.	"	"	
" (O.C.Coy)		DUELL N.S.	"	"	
" (QM.T/Capt)		SMITH A.	"	"	
Lieut (A/Adjnt)		EDNEY W.K.	"	"	
" (O.C.Coy)		PRINGLE F.D.	"	"	
" (PL.Comd.)		DAVIS C.A.	"	"	
" (Coy 2 i/c)		TATTERSON L.V.	"	"	
" (Pl.Comd.)		McDONALD A.J.	"	"	
" "		McINTOSH D.B.	"	"	
" "		PALMER A.N.	"	No	Det 17 Bde Jungle Tng School.
" "		WALKER I.W.	"	YES.	
" "		WEST G.R.S.	"	"	
" "		BAIRD V.C.	"	No	Det 17 Bde Jungle Tng School.
" "		ROOKE A.N.	"	YES.	
" "		SEARS E.C.	"	"	
" "		ARNOLD S.	"	"	
" "		DINSMORE B.M.	"	"	
" "		FERGUSON T,StD.F.	"	"	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Padre		PHILLIPS E.B.	A.I.F.	31/7/42	Padre
Capt.		PETERSON B.H.	"	25/9/42.	R.M.O.

2/7 AUST INF BN.

(Unit.) Comd. 2/7 AUST INF BN.

(Signature of Commander.) Lt col

31 Oct. 42

(Date of Despatch.)

HQ. 17 AUST INF BDE.

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

MORESBY ARMY NEWS SHEET

Published by the Army Education Service for free distribution to
Defence Services' Personnel in Australian New Guinea

Vol. I.

Monday, 26th October, 1942

No. 39

EDITORIAL

EXIT M.A.N.S.

"There has been evidence over the last week or two of a general need for regular news amongst troops in the Port Moresby area, and especially for news of Australia and the war.

"The publication of M.A.N.S. is an attempt by the Army Education staff to meet that need." With these words, under the heading of "News-Hunger," the Moresby Army News Sheet made its editorial appearance on February 2nd of this year.

"As this first issue shows," we wrote in that same editorial column, "the sheet is not an ambitious journalistic project. It is not intended to be. Its purpose is merely to give you a summary of the main items of current home and world news in the order in which they become available from various news channels."

The passage of M.A.N.S. was not an easy one in those first days. Planned to appear at least twice weekly, printed by the Papuan Courier, the turn of local war events rudely shattered the plan.

The second issue appeared on time one week later—smaller in size and even less pretentious in form, a mere six-column foolscap sheet. It was produced in a native hut twenty-five miles from Moresby, on a small Platen machine with a few kerosene buckets of mixed type, all transported from the town over what was then a mere mule-track.

Two compositors labourously set the type, the printer of the Education Service providing the copy. Delivery was mainly by hand. The little sheet, it is believed, filled a gap at the time.

With the setting up at Fleet St. of the 8 M.D. Printing Unit, it became possible, though not easy, to enlarge the sheet to its present size. Though its road has never been easy—shortage of this or that, lack of power machine printing, and a host of other petty difficulties that were, with the ready co-operation of the Printery personnel, each in turn overcome—M.A.N.S. has made its regular weekly appearance ever since.

And now the time has come in the history of the war in New Guinea when the facilities available to M.A.N.S. are inadequate to meet the growing need. Plans are afoot to produce a daily printed news-sheet, up to date in set-up, to carry on the job over the present wider field that M.A.N.S. has always striven to do for the smaller force. Every effort is being made, it is understood, to launch this bigger project in the earliest possible time.

On behalf mainly of the "old hands" of this force who, we believe, came to look upon the little weekly news-sheet as their own, M.A.N.S. wishes the new venture every possible success. We know the troops will give it a grand welcome. To the O.C. of the N.G.F. Printery and his personnel, and to all those who have sent along items for publication—including, of course, our poetical old friend "Pinto" whose topical verses have regularly provided a welcome lighter touch; to the staff of the local Army Education Section who have spent long hours each week-end on the heavy handle of a hand press; and in particular to the cheerful young Toowoomba Warrant-Officer journalist who has latterly borne the main editorial burden of M.A.N.S. (as well as providing the daily duplicated news-bulletins), my personal appreciation is expressed.

And that goes too, I know, for the mass of the troops.

And so, EXIT M.A.N.S.

W.C.G.

Axis Allegations Against Allies

The German High Command claims that "British fighter-bombers in daylight on October 20 attacked a clearly-marked German Red Cross station on the North African front. They destroyed the operation tent, causing casualties among patients and ambulance attendants. The British are thus deliberately continuing violations of international law regardless of the elementary rules of humanitarianism. The High Command must conclude that Britain no longer wishes to maintain the Geneva Convention."

Moving closer to home, Berlin Radio accuses R.A.F. pilots of bombing their comrades in prisoners of war camps in Germany and occupied territory. Almost as ridiculous a claim is the allegation that American aircraft recently attacked their own transport vessels in the Atlantic. The C-in-C U.S. forces in Europe, (General Eisenhower) last week burst this propaganda bubble with a blunt denial.

Other Axis countries are also stressing the inhumanity of the British race. Italy claims that Allied troops in the Western Desert are shooting down unarmed Italian prisoners in cold blood. Because Australian troops were involved in this allegation, the Australian Army Minister assured Rome that the Allies were strictly adhering to the rules of warfare pertaining to prisoners as laid down in the Geneva Convention. From Tokio also comes a threat, described by Washington as being primarily intended to bolster up morale in Japan. U.S. airmen who took part in the raid on Japanese cities in April are the victims. They are to be punished for their part in what Tokio calls "inhuman acts"—the raids on Japan. Admitting that some U.S. airmen were forced down in occupied territory by bad weather, American authorities state that revenge and cruelty have always been important factors in Japanese psychology.

U.S. CORRESPONDENT KILLED

Byron Darnton, the brilliant war correspondent of the *New York Times*, was killed while on duty in New Guinea on October 18. Announcing his death, the official spokesman said: "Mr. Darnton served with gallantry and devotion at the front, and fulfilled with distinction the important demands of his high office. The Army mourns him."

He was buried with Army honours at the military cemetery near Port Moresby, his Press colleagues attending the funeral. Darnton served with U.S. forces in France in the last war.

MAY ROBSON DEAD

The death has occurred at Beverly Hills, California, of May Robson, the Australian-born stage and screen character actress, aged 78 years. Despite failing health and eyesight, she had been active in moving pictures until a few months ago. Her last picture was "Joan of Paris."

May Robson was known in Hollywood as "The Gracious Lady." Her kindness stamped her in the cynical society of the film colony as an exceptional figure, the more so because her age and experience gave her a prestige, and her talent a cachet, that might easily have made her an object of envy. In 1926 she made her first film, "Angel of Broadway." She was the daughter of Captain Henry Robson, R.N., of Melbourne.

THE ISLES OF SOLOMON

(Continued from last week.)

The waters enclosed by the arms of this Rabaul-Moresby-Tulagi triangle form part of the Coral Sea—the scene of the large-scale combined naval and air engagement earlier this year which frustrated the Japs' advance by sea towards Moresby.

Samarai, Buna, Salamaua, Gasmata, Buka, Kieta, Faisi, Gizo—attractive names of native origin, on one or other of the arms of the triangle, all figure in the present S.W. Pacific war picture.

The population of the British Solomons is between 90 and 100 thousand natives and not more than 400 Europeans—missionaries, plantation hands and Government officials. Guadalcanal, named by the Spaniards Mendana and Quiros who visited it in the 16th century, is the largest of the islands in the chain. A kunai grass plain stretches along its northern coastal end for 20 to 30 miles, spreading back for a width of 5 to 10 miles to the slopes of the single mountain chain, 8,000 ft high in parts, that runs the 80 mile length of the island. It is on this coastal plain that the Japs built the aerodrome which they are now seeking to recapture from the Americans. Coconut plantations and mission stations are found at intervals round the island, the headquarters of the Marist Mission, under the French Bishop Aubin, being right in the centre of the present scene of action. Gold mining was just being developed in the mountains at the outbreak of war; some of Lever Brothers best South Sea coconut estates are in the vicinity. Ben Boyd, the Australian whaling king, met his end at the hands of the Guadalcanal natives when he anchored his vessel "Wanderer" off the south-west coast in 1851. The place is now known as Wanderer Bay. Blackbirders (slavers of the South Seas) decimated the native population in the latter half of last century, by taking away the able-bodied men for the Kanaka labour needs of Fiji and Queensland. From 1893 ensued a period of protective peace for the people under British administration.

And now war again: not the war of primitive bow and arrow, or of blackbirders' musket, but modern war of air, land and sea. Peace has departed from the Isles of Solomon.

The possession of the Solomons is of great strategic value; in Japanese hands they can threaten the sea routes between Australia and U.S.A. Bases established there could be used for launching naval actions, even invasion forces, against Australia and New Zealand. The Allied plan is to prevent the Japs. from occupying and using these bases and to hold them for our own use; to drive him back along his island tracks towards Rabaul, facilitating the job of dislodging him from that important Australian centre.

Not before then will peace be permanently established again in the Isles of Solomon.

ANSON, HOWE AT SEA

Sister ships of King George V and Duke of York, the new 35,000 ton battleships, Howe and Anson, are in full commission and serving with the Fleet.

Anson has already been in action while escorting a convoy to Russia. Main armament of the new dreadnoughts includes ten 14-inch guns and sixteen 5.25-inch guns. The 14-inch guns are of a new model, with an effective range greater than that of 15-inch guns.

Australian News

Men's shirts, collars and pyjamas in future will be made to standard patterns and sizes. Shirts will be shorter back and front, pyjamas will be minus pockets and the luxury styles of pre-war days will disappear, while patterns for collars will be reduced from over 20 various kinds to six.

The Prime Minister said last week that, during the next six months, Australia must play her part as a productive fighting nation in a measure previously not contemplated. Her full manpower resources must be directed towards the war.

The recent Merchant Navy Day in Melbourne raised £11,000 for the heroes of the sea lanes.

The first Australian song to come from New Guinea, "The Man-Eating Mossies of Moresby," written and composed by Wing-Commander Good, was broadcast over the A.B.C. during the week.

The first march of its kind in Australia's history was seen in Sydney last Saturday when 30 U.S. nurses, Australian nurses, 100 V.A.Ds., 1300 A.W.A.S. and 1,000 W.A.A.Fs. took part. The procession was headed by Matron Croll, of the 113 Australian General Hospital.

Doris Phillips (20), a Sydney girl now working in a London munitions' factory, has been awarded the British Empire Medal for bravery during a London air raid. Miss Phillips went to England with her parents over eight years ago.

A total of £6,640,000 has been paid in premiums under the Federal Government's War Damage Insurance scheme.

The former Federal Treasurer in the Menzies Government (Mr. P. C. Spender), is shortly to visit America. He said last week that the Parliamentary recess afforded him an opportunity to gain a wider knowledge and a fuller understanding of the problems which must still be met and solved.

To avoid confusion, the Army Minister (Mr. F. M. Forde) explained that the abbreviation A.M.F. should be used only with reference to the whole of the military forces of the Commonwealth, including the A.I.F.; the letters C.M.F. when referring to Citizen Military Forces or militia.

To meet labour shortage in primary industries, the Federal Government intends training 10,000 women rural workers.

Rats are invading Sydney. The Lord Mayor (Ald. Crick) has appealed to the public for their co-operation in an extermination campaign. The rats are cunningly negotiating dock traps.

Fixed retail prices for 21 brands of imported cigarettes were announced recently. These brands were originally being shipped to other countries, but due to war conditions they have been landed in Australia and are part of refugee cargoes requisitioned by the Government for sale in Australia. The Prices Commissioner said the public would be unfamiliar with some brands, though Ardath, Craven A and Capstan cigarettes were well-known in Australia. The imported cigarette was often larger and heavier. This was the main reason for somewhat higher prices in some cases.

A fine of £500 was imposed in the Sydney Central Summons Court on J. Gunton (Aust.) Pty. Ltd., trading as F. Kanematsu (Aust.) Pty. Ltd., for attempting to trade with the enemy. Investigations showed that orders had been placed with a Japanese firm after proclamation of gazetted prohibitions.

"VERGELTUNG."

1919—1942?

(by "Base Wallah.")

Vergeltung is the German word for repayment or reprisal. I first heard the word—and learned its sinister meaning for a prisoner-of-war in German hands—in 1917, after Bullecourt. The "Black Hole of Lille" where 1,000 Australians were left underground in a mediaeval fortress dungeon for up to three weeks in conditions of systematic inhumanity, was the spear-head of *Vergeltung*.

And now in 1942 the Hun pronounces a new *Vergeltung*—this time the Canadian prisoners from Dieppe being the victims.

A Portent

I see *Vergeltung* as a portent. It is not the only parallel between 1917 and 1942. Every day, every news session, shows new ones.

The Kaiser had his dream plan of Welt-Anschauung (World Domination). Hitler has his equally ambitious Kampf. In both wars, the German nation (not the leaders only; their people were all behind them, sharing their dream-plans) goose-stepped out full of confident arrogance. *Deutschland uber Alles* (Germany above the World) was the popular ballad of 1914—replaced in 1940 by the Horstwessel of spurious origin. Then as now, one man dominated German life, German thought, German sentiment. Then as now, one man drove the German war machine. The German feeds on progress and success; his is a rigid single-track plan; everything must go according to the plan. The plan—Welt-Anschauung or Kampf—is infallible. Do not the national leader-idols say so?

1914—Hoch der Kaiser! 1939—Heil Hitler!

Russia Enslaved

At the first signs of failure of the plan, confidence begins to weaken. The machine begins to lose its driving force; its works show signs of cracking up. This happened in 1917. In the last war Russia broke—and became enslaved to Germany. There were over 3,000,000 Russians and Poles, military and civilian prisoners, working to keep the German war machine going in early 1918; working and dying like flies. What were the lives of a few thousand miserable moujiks in the grand plan of *Deutschland uber Alles*? But there was Verdun—one of the many graveyards of the plan. And Bullecourt—and Villers Brett, and all the others.

This time poor France provides the slaves; while Stalingrad replaces Verdun; and the plan—Hitler's Kampf—shows symptoms of failure.

Present Symptoms

The present symptoms are those of 1917-18; a whipping-up of civilian morale (the whip being just the wrong weapon for such a purpose); Generals dismissed; propaganda going mad; spirit nourished on recrimination and hate—a diet, too much of which sours the mental stomach; threats of violence replace the old arrogant promise of early victory; hospitals fill with wounded; casualty lists, no longer to be suppressed, grow; victory is delayed and delay must be explained. Hitler makes a speech—it lacks a little of the old cock-sureness and inspiration. Goering promises better days—a whole sausage extra issue to every soldier home on leave.

Whisperings commence at home—the thumb-screw of authority, demanding blind, unquestioning allegiance, presses harder. Resentment smoulders. Three years pass.

This England—of Lloyd George or Churchill; this British Empire, which should have disintegrated—it hangs together; seems even closer bound in its parts.

When will it all end? This year, next year, sometime.....? Dry rot sets in at home; troops on leave from the front find nothing but melancholy

Move Against Malaria

To protect troops fighting in New Guinea from malaria, the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research at Canberra is rushing work on the development of a repellent of the malaria-carrying mosquito before the wet season commences in the north.

The council has two months in which to discover it and manufacture it in large quantities. In the research, six Army and civilian entomologists sit for hours daily in a canvas tent letting mosquitoes bite them. They believe their experiments will yield a substance which will deter mosquitoes from biting for much longer than do present repellents.

The oil of a Tasmanian tree is being used in experiments, but some people are allergic to its smell, and efforts are being made to overcome this.

there. For them there is no respite from fighting.

The "conquered" countries, their spirit is unconquered; it flames up at unexpected times and places. Perhaps there will be no victory in the end. The Hun gets rattled. He must divert attention from the main issue. He takes "reprisals" against Allied prisoners, to show that he is still on top; to convince himself that the plan is still working. Your German is the most gullible person in Europe; his whole nurture and all his traditions have combined to build him that way. In this he is no different in 1942 from 1917.

Victory Vanishes

Goering threatens: the people must keep up their work and spirits—or they will be punished. Hitler himself introduces a new note of warning to his speeches. Goebbels goes to such fantastic lengths in his propaganda that it defeats itself.

Feed 'em on victory! Feed 'em on promises! Feed 'em on lies! Feed 'em on threats! Until they weary of such an unsatisfying diet. What left to appease that growing hunger which the promised victory is the only fare that can satisfy?

The spirit of Stalingrad—and the menace of growing Allied strength—stand in the way. Victory becomes less and less assured. More threats; more lies; more propaganda; more excuses—but still no victory. Dry-rot deepens; confidence shakes; whispers spread; a fertile field for the seeds of revolt.

The Inevitable End

"I grew increasingly convinced," wrote one who recently came out of Germany after closely watching the progress of the plan, "that the whole impressive fabric of Nazi military power was a brittle structure which rested on the ability to win actual military victories, but which lacked both the inner conviction and the moral stamina necessary to give it more than superficial strength. I became convinced that, if victories on the field of battle were denied to it, it would fall apart and vanish, leaving only a wonder that the world had ever been impressed by its appearance of strength."

There is ample evidence that such will be the inevitable end.

"Deutschland Kaputt" (Germany is broken, finished), said young Oskar Landmann, my Bavarian prison guard, in August 1918, through the bars of my 6'x6' *Streng-arrest* cell. (*Streng-arrest* is close confinement. I was undergoing my second term of *Vergeltung*). That's what happened in 1918. I saw it from inside. It culminated in the workers' and soldiers' revolution; started from the naval yards at Kiel and spread like a flame over the face of Germany. The set-up today is the same. The same symptoms begin to appear.

Shall 1918 find rebirth in 1943?

And shall we in our turn exact "Vergeltung"?

CAULFIELD CUP RESULTS

Taking the lead a furlong from home, Tranquil Star went on to win the 1942 Caulfield Cup by half a length from Heart's Desire, with El Golea third. There were 24 runners, course scratchings being Tuhitarata and Damalis.

Colonus set the pace up to the two furlongs post when he was challenged by Heart's Desire and Tranquil Star. From then on the race developed into a duel, El Golea and Skipton proving the most dangerous of a bunched field. A furlong to go, Tranquil Star, under the whip, had the race won.

Details:—Tranquil Star, 8.12 (A. Breasley), 1; Heart's Desire, 7.3 (H. Morris), 2; El Golea, 8.8 (V. Hartney), 3. Others; Velocity, Skipton, True Flight, Distinction, Rex Buzz, The Trapper, Lugano, Wilson, Prairiedale, Sir Locket, Watchguard, Son of Aurous, David Innes, Portfolio, New Warrior, Kooreen been, Colonus, Dark Felt, Hero, Amazed, Hestia.

SPECIAL NOTICE

"Soldiering On"

"Soldiering On" is the Australian Army's Own Christmas Book for 1942. Its 200 pages are packed with interest for every Australian soldier, his relatives, and friends; articles, stories and drawings, humorous and otherwise, by members of the Army; and 56 full pages (16 in colour) of reproductions of Australian Official War Paintings and photographs, many not previously published. To order the book a special form must be filled in. Copies of this form are available at your unit O.R. and a limited number at Army Education. The form, together with your pay-book, should be taken to your pay Sergeant who will debit you with 5/6. That's all you do. The Army arranges for postal delivery to the address stated on your form.

MISSIONARIES RESCUED

Hunted by Japanese for eight weeks, during which they suffered privations in the Guadalcanal jungle, 14 Roman Catholic missionaries—seven priests and seven nuns—have been rescued and evacuated from the Solomons. The missionaries, all members of the Marist Order under the Bishop of the South Solomons, the Rt. Rev. J. M. Aubin, included Brother George, 42 Walters Street, Paddington, Sydney; and Brother Michael, Leopard Street, Kangaroo Point, Brisbane. The party was brought to safety at Kukum in the Guadalcanal district patrol-boat, commanded by a young sub-lieutenant, D. C. Horton, a former asst-district officer in the British Solomons, who is now in the R.A.N.V.R.

Brother Michael, whose family name is Cunningham, served with the 31 Battalion, A.I.F., in the Great War.

New Vic. Speaker

Brigadier Knox (U.A.P., Upper Yarra) was elected Speaker of the Legislative Assembly in succession to Mr. W. Slater, who has been appointed Australian Minister to the U.S.S.R. Brigadier Knox defeated Mr. T. D. Oldham (U.A.P., Boorondara) by 29 votes to 27, on the second count. The new Speaker, who is 57 years of age, commanded the 23 Bn. at Gallipoli and Lone Pine, and served in Egypt, Sinai and France in the last war.

To fill the gap between the cessation of publication of *M.A.N.S.* and the commencement of the daily newspaper referred to in column 1, page 1 the local Army Education Service will continue to issue its duplicated daily news bulletin to all units until further notice.

Contributions totalling some hundreds of pounds have been made to the Commonwealth Austerity Loan by the natives of this Territory. At least one N.G.F. Digger has put the whole of his bank balance and pay-book credit into the loan. Have you got a bank balance or pay-book credit?

General Smuts in England

"Our defence phase is now ended; the stage is set for the last phase, which is offensive," declared General Smuts, Prime Minister of South Africa, in a speech to the British Parliament on Wednesday. "Once the time has come to take the offensive it would be folly to delay, to be over-prepared and perhaps miss the opportunity. We are not likely to do that. It would be unwise to say more on this point."

BEACON TO MANKIND

In a tribute to Britain, General Smuts said: "This is a great occasion for me. I am deeply conscious of the exceptional honour you are doing me."

"The people of this island are the real heroes of this epic world-wide drama. I pay my small tribute to their unbending, unbreakable spirit. I have seen much war damage in Britain. But one thing is not lost. The most precious of all remains—the splendour of spirit which has shone over this land from the soul of its people and been a beacon for the oppressed and the downtrodden in this new martyrdom of man."

NAZI ARMY BLEEDING TO DEATH

Turning to the Eastern front, General Smuts said that Hitler had made a fatal mistake in attacking Russia, where the German Army was bleeding to death. "The appalling blood-letting which is necessary for Hitler's ultimate defeat is being administered by the Russians. They alone can do it. Despite losses, they do not show the least sign of giving in. Their bitter defence will go on, bitter to the end. This impression is confirmed by the best inside information."

"The Allies' course is clear—they must give whatever help is possible in the fullest measure, with the utmost speed. The Russians are bearing more than their share of the common burden."

COLOSSAL AXIS BLUNDERS

General Smuts listed as three colossal Axis blunders—Hitler's failure to press on to London instead of turning off to Paris; the German attack against Russia; and the Pearl Harbour attack. "Will our enemies make a fourth?" he asked. "Will Japan treacherously attack Siberia? Time alone will show."

FAR EAST BLOW

General Smuts said the fall of France had most seriously affected the Allies' Far Eastern position. Vichy had opened Indo-China to the Japanese. "We never dreamed that this back door to Singapore would be opened against us by our ally," he said. Ill-disposed people had taken the fall of Singapore as a proof of decadence. It merely was a consequence of the fall of France, nothing more.

"For Japan just as surely as for Germany, the writing is on the wall," he said. "All that will remain from her spectacular success will be: 'Japan for the Japanese.' I do not deplore Pearl Harbour. It was a heavy price from our viewpoint, but was well worth paying. It suddenly solidified American opinion as nothing else could have done, and America, at one sudden leap, was in the war."

POST-WAR PLANS

"The war," concluded General Smuts, "is a new crusade in which the sort of post-war world envisaged and the social and international order at which we are aiming are most important questions. Our ideas on these matters 22 years ago were much too vague and crude, much too ambitious. They had not stood the test of hard experience. This failure helped to contribute to the present conflict. We are passing beyond ordinary politics and political shibboleths. It is no longer a case of Socialism, Communism, or any other 'ism,' but of achieving common justice and fair play for all."

War diary

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

17

ROUTINE ORDERS No 42/46

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED

27 OCT 42

by

LT COL H.G. GUINN

COMD 2/7 AUST INF BN

1. REMITTANCES OF UNDRAWN PAY - Coys are advised that personnel are allowed to remit only 4/5 of the balance of undrawn pay showing in their paybooks.
2. PILFERING OF COMFORTS - During the night 22/23 Oct 42, a large quantity of cigarettes, tobacco, writing paper, pens, pencils and ink and other comforts were pilfered from a truck between the wharf and the Australian Comforts Store.

These comforts were part of a shipment from the Australian Comforts Fund which was sufficient to provide for distribution to all members the Force.

The Force Comd is gravely concerned at the apparent disregard of some members of the Force for the welfare and comfort of their comrades and he feels that all ranks will join with him in condemning this despicable action and will make every endeavour to ensure that the thieves are apprehended and punished.

3. PERSONNEL FOR CONCERT PARTY - Suitable personnel are urgently required for transfer to MILNE FORCE Concert Party.

It would be appreciated if Coys would obtain nominations from suitable personnel and forward particulars to this HQ by 1200 hrs 29 Oct 42.

W.K. EDNEY Lieut
A/ADJT 2/7 AUST INF BN

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

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.							REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.							REMARKS.		
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour Sergeants.	Staff Sergeants.	Sergeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour Sergeants.	Sergeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.		Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.
Bricklayers																	
Butchers																	
Carpenters and Joiners																	
„ (trained in wheeling duties).																	
Clerks																	
Despatch Riders																	
Draughtsmen (topo)																	
Drivers H.T. and/or I.C.																	
Electricians																	
Farriers																	
Fitters																	
Masons																	
Painters and Decorators																	
Plumbers and Gasfitters																	
Saddlers and Harness Makers																	
Saddle Tree Makers																	
Signallers																	
Storemen technical																	
Vickers Machine Gunners																	
Wheelers																	
General duty personnel																	80
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A).																	80

2/7 AUST INF BN.

Unit.

Comd. 2/7 AUST INF BN.

Signature of Commander. *Henry G. Quinn*

Date of Despatch 31 Oct. 42

HQ. 17 AUST INF BDE.
Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.