

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

Item number: 8/3/7

2/7 Infantry Battalion

May 1943

30 JUL 1944

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C. 2118

(as stated.)

(Erase heading not required).

H. 100M

Unit 2/7 AUST INF BN

Date and Time.—From To

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GUADAGASAL	1 MAY 43		<p>Maj NELSON, acting for the CO, guided two visitors, viz : Major NIMMO and F/Lieut STIRLING to MAT MAT where they were introduced to Capt BARR and taken to a position of vantage to witness the air strike on the PIMPLE. Seven BOSTONS arrived and bombed and strafed this area in a most accurate and devastating manner. As usual Arty smoke was used and the column of smoke resulting has proved to be an excellent indication for the planes. A Coy returned to their positions after the bombing and small listening patrols sent fwd reported slight activity on the PIMPLE. Maj NELSON left the visitors on MAT MAT and crossed to A Coy via VICKERS RIDGE where he contacted Capt TATTERSON to offer any assistance in that Coy's attack of the following day. Padre O'KEEFE visited A Coy and after speaking with the lads returned to report that they were all in excellent spirits and ready for the attack. During the morning the CO gave Lieut TROON his instructions for the DUALI raid. Capt BAIRD was present as OC D Coy, also Lieut WATSON of ANGAU who is supplying guides for the pl to lead them to DUALI. On the completion of the conference the CO and IO moved to the dropping ground in order to witness the air strike. During the afternoon Maj O'HARE visited BnHQ and received final instructions for the laying of deceptive smoke prior to the attack on the PIMPLE. Lieut DARRYL, OC Pioneer pl arrived from SKINDEWAI to make arrangements for Field Works in the area. Lieut MCCORQUODALE moved through the area and reported to A Coy. The CO wrote two messages of encouragement, one to A Coy on the eve of their attack, the other to G COY encouraging them in the re-organisation.</p>	
	2 MAY 43		<p>At approx 1025 hrs six BOSTONS arrived and commenced strafing areas in the vicinity of GREEN HILL and BUIGAP junction, following this with bombing attacks on the same areas. The Mountain Bty fired four rounds into the PIMPLE AREA as deception to the enemy. This was the signal for A Coy to move into the attack on the PIMPLE. The enemy had vacated the PIMPLE during the strike, moving unexpectedly down the SOUTH slopes towards our own tps. The advancing tps were fired on before they reached the PIMPLE area. The enemy re-occupied the defensive posns and the situation developed into much the same state as it has done in other attacks.</p>	

Henry G. Quinn J. Col.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form
(add)

H. 100M

Unit 2/7 AUST INF BN Date and Time.—From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GUADAGASAL	2 MAY 43 (Cont)		<p>The enemy were well dug in with numerous automatic weapons pinning down our advancing sections. Today's attack resulted in one offr and one OR being killed and 3 ORs wounded. The offr, Lieut Laurie SPARKE who was an original member of the BN had recently been commissioned after completing an OTS. He had served long and well with B Coy of this unit and on his return was posted as pl comd 7 pl. His death is a great loss to the unit. A Coy withdrew from the PIMPLE area to a def posn for the night. The CO and Maj NELSON remained at BnHQ throughout the day in order to watch the progress of A Coy. The IO, with Maj NIMMO and F/Lieut STIRLING moved to LABABIA OP. From this point they were able to witness the air strike by the BOSTONS which were flown by RAAF pilots. Movie shots and still photos were taken and should prove most valuable as the photographer took them from the stand at LEE'S OP. On the return trip the photographer was able to procure shots of wounded being evacuated by native bearers and also a small party of A Coy lads toiling up a steep muddy slope. These personnel were led by Cpl Harry BOYLE recently awarded MM. A small recce patrol from B Coy moved to the Northern end of MUBO drome where they observed a party of enemy who obviously manned an ambush posn. The party returned and information was most valuable as it nullifies any reports that the enemy has evacuated the BITOI VALLEY area. Eight Pioneers arrived from SKINDEWAI to commence work on the numerous field works and improvements which are necessary in the area. The work carried out by parties on the main track is already showing results and when completed should reduce going times considerably.</p>	
	3 MAY 43		<p>Immediately after breakfast F/Lieut STIRLING took movie and still photos of the CO and staff. The two visitors left soon after in order to reach the hospital before the stretchers moved off to SKINDEWAI. The CO and IO left BnHQ for A Coy. On the way out the CO passed through D Coy and had a brief discussion with the workers on the track. Capt BAIRD OC D Coy, met the CO in the SADDLE area. While here the CO had a short discussion with Maj O'HARE of the Mountain Bty. Lieut GERRARD joined the party and the CO inspected the Def works on LABABIA RIDGE. He then moved fwd into an area of jungle and explained his wishes to Capt BAIRD of how D Coy were to commence trg on night mvt in jungle as a preparatory move for an attack on the PIMPLE.</p>	<p><i>Henry G. Quinn</i></p>

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted)

H. 100M

Unit 2/7 AUST INF BN Date and Time.—From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GUADAGASAL	3 MAY 43 (Cont)		<p>The CO proceeded to the BASE CAMP with the party, except Lieut GERRARD who returned to his pl to organise the trg directed by the CO. Arriving at A Coy the CO had a long discussion with Capt TATTERSON and other offrs who were present. Whilst there he also sent for Cpl BOYLE to congratulate him on his conduct at WAU which gained him the MM. Details for A Coy's mvt to a safe area were left to Capt TATTERSON to attend to but broadly it is planned to move out tps far enough back to place them in a safety area as up to date the bombing and straffing has been away from our posns.</p> <p>On the return trip the CO called in at the RAP to congratulate Sjt RUSSELL on his excellent job with C Coy. The Doctor had come to visit the Adjt who has been ill for some days. It was learned this afternoon that Pte GARRARD had died of wounds. Lieut TROON contacted two natives in the BITOI OVERFLOW area and detained them for interrogation by Lieut WATSON of ANGAU. At 1830 hrs Lieut WATSON rang BnHQ and gave the details of information gained from the natives. This information should prove most valuable to Lieut TROON in the DUALI area and to 3 AUST DIV in directing counter moves in the KOMIATUM - SALAMAUA locality.</p>	<p>[Watsons report on natives attached as an appendix] <i>Wally</i></p>
	4 MAY 43.		<p>Padre O'KEEFE spent the day in visiting B Coy at MAT MAT devoting considerable time to talking with the lads whom he had not seen for many weeks. Two patrols moved out from B Coy to recce areas West and North in the vicinity of KITCHEN CK. A Coy listening patrols reported normal enemy mvt in the PIMPLE area while one patrol which moved along LAW's track reported no mvt seen. Lieut TROON's patrol which had bivouaced in the BRADLEY FORCE BASE CAMP area contacted enemy at approx 1030 hrs. One enemy was killed and one probably killed. The enemy opened fire with MMG which was covering the track and an LMG on the right flank protecting the MMG posn. There were also snipers in the trees to the right. Lieut TROON withdrew his pl to the RIVER JUNCTION booby trapping the area as he left. The IO was in contact with Lieut WATSON later in the day and he reported having collected more valuable information from the natives. He stated that he would return to this HQ on May 5 bringing the native informants with him. Lieut TROON reported two of his personnel were very ill with Malaria and arrangements were made for them to be evacuated early tomorrow.</p>	

Henry G. Quinn. J. Col.

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Unit 2/7 AUST INF BN Date and Time.—From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GUADAGASAL	4 MAY 43 (Cont)		Maj NELSON with Padre SHERWIN visited WAIPALI, KIAP, DR BOY, and BUIBAINING. Maj NELSON returned to BnHQ but Padre SHERWIN remained to conduct a service for the tps tomorrow. During the day the CO visited the hospital and spoke to lads who were wounded in the recent operations. The works programme is already showing marked results in the BnHQ area as stairways and corduroyed paths spring into being.	
	5 MAY 43		During the morning CO and IO drafted further requests for air strikes on May 6 and 7 outlining the intention and method for A Coy's further attack on the PIMPLE. They then proceeded to MAT MAT where the CO gave Capt BARR instructions for active patrolling on OBSERVATION HILL. Lieut WATSON had returned from the RIVER JUNCTION and lunched at BnHQ after which the drafting of his report was commenced. He had with him two boys who had been working for the Japanese, and the information gathered was most comprehensive. It included detailed timings for carrier lines, locations of dumps and enemy dispositions. The natives of DUALI and SALUS villages numbering some 200 completed the trek from RIVER JUNCTION to ANGAU this afternoon. Old men, "marys", children and the carrier line which the Japs were expecting to report to the mouth of the FRANCISCO RIVER were all safely in the area by nightfall. Capt BAIRD accompanied by Lieut TROON reported to BnHQ and after the evening meal Lieut TROON gave a detailed account of his pls activities. The pl had carried out the task in a commendable manner and Lieut TROON was to be congratulated on the control he demonstrated throughout. Figures showing the malaria incidence amongst sub-units which have moved to the DUALI area indicates that it is a very bad one for tps to operate in. Evacuations from A Coy indicate a fairly high malarial incidence in that area. Other Coys in particular D Coy are showing a high percentage of dysentery.	
	6 MAY 43		The CO and IO accompanied by Capt REED and Maj IRWIN of 2/2 FD AMB proceeded to the dropping ground from which point they were able to witness stores being dropped by parachute followed by biscuit dropping during which the party narrowly escaped being hit by bags of rice. This was followed by a visit by WIRRAWAY which dived in across the dropping ground releasing a package addressed to the CO. This on being opened later was found to contain a gift of tobacco, matches, and papers from 4 AC Sqn.	

Henry G. Quinn

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GUADAGASAL	6 MAY 43		<p>This generous gesture is greatly appreciated and what little we can do will be undertaken when this HQ is visited by the representatives of the Sqn. The air strike was watched as three BOSTONS bombed and strafed the PIMPLE area. During the strike A Coy had moved to a safety area returning to their posns at the completion. Patrols were sent out and enemy was heard in the PIMPLE area. Three patrols moved out from B Coy to reece OBSERVATION HILL thoroughly to ascertain dispositions on that feature. Maj NELSON moved to HILL 7 accompanied by Lieut WADE OC MMG pl and met Lieut DINSMORE there in order to have a more comprehensive picture of the def plans in the WAIPALI BUIBAINING area. Padre SHERWIN proceeded to SADDLE and LABABIA where he conducted services. Lieut WATSON, ANGAU, interrogated the two natives further and valuable information was gained in relation to two crashed aircraft. During the afternoon Maj O'HARE visited BnHQ and Arty timings were ascertained for A Coy's attack on PIMPLE on 7 May. During the evening signals from 17 BDE added complications to the very simple plan adopted for this attack.</p>	
	7 MAY 43.		<p>During the morning A Coy moved to a safety area where they waited during the air strike by 3 BOSTONS 1000 hrs. The bombing and strafing was not concentrated in the PIMPLE area but straddled the feature, bombs and strafing falling wide EAST and WEST. The Mountain Gun opened up at completion of strike and laid a concentration in the PIMPLE area. The bombardment covered A Coy's mvt to an attack posn. The Arty lifted 300 yds as our tps moved fwd. A Coy attacked with 9 pl on right and 7 pl on left and 8 pl in reserve. 9 pl moved to a posn approx 40 yds from the enemy before being pinned down by fire. The sec out to right flank also pinned own. 7 pl moved down to a approx 35 yds before being pinned down. At this stage 8 pl were moved from reserve posn and carried out an encircling mvt to the left flank. They in turn reached posns some 30 yds from the enemy before being held down. As fwd mvt was impossible and the situation as the result of steady rain the Coy was withdrawn to a def posn. Our casualties were 1 killed and 4 wounded, Cpl LAY being the one killed whilst Cpl H BOYLE was amongst the wounded. Although these casualties are unfortunate indeed it reflects a great deal of credit to the units selection of NCOs.</p>	

Henry J. Quinn

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(adapted)

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H. 100M

Unit 2/7 AUST INF BN Date and Time.—From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GUADAGASAL	7 MAY 43 (Cont)		<p>Both C and A Coys have suffered a high proportion of casualties among sec leaders most of whom have been with the Bn for some time. Without fail each sec leader wounded had moved fwd in an attempt to reach and neutralise the enemy guns so cunningly sited. B Coy had a number of patrols out during night 6/7 May and the information gained proved most valuable. The patrols had covered OBSERVATION HILL North and towards KITCHEN CK area and in addition the Eastern slopes overlooking BITOI RIVER. Further evacuations from D Coy produced another alarming situation. The total evacuations this week including battle casualties now number 70 odd. Most of the evacuations are from DCoy and dysentery and malaria are the main causes. Drastic steps are being taken to maintain rigid anti-malarial precautions and hygiene measures are being undertaken. During the morning the CO prepared an appreciation of the PIMPLE area which was fwd to GOC Maj-Gen SAVIGE at his request.</p>	
	8 MAY 43		<p>Padre SHERWIN held communion service for BnHQ personnel leaving afterwards for WAH. The IO and Maj NELSON moved to A Coy area and had a long discussion with Capt TATTERSON. The attack on the PIMPLE was subject of a resume which covered the action section by section in every phase. The topography was discussed. The policy of patrolling was outlined for A Coy and the right flank was to receive closer attention in a wider, deeper encircling mvt. The spirit of A Coy is excellent the tps being quietly confident that although the attack was not successful their part had been fulfilled in a manner which defied criticism. Returning through the BASE CAMP the party called on Mountain Bty and supplied Maj O'HARE with details of the wounded lad who had been injured by a shell which fell short in the treetops. B Coy sent a fighting patrol to WOODY ISLAND area also instructions were given for two patrols to move to KITCHEN CK area. During the afternoon three US Air Corps representatives viz Maj BAILEY, Capt CLAGGETT, and Capt McCUBBEN arrived from MORESBY. They had been familiar with the requests for air xxxxxx support in the area made by this unit. Copies of traces compiled by the Int Sec showing enemy information collated from Lieut WATSON's report were despatched to BDE. In addition a sketch enlargement of the PIMPLE area was compiled and a report on the fighting patrol to DUALI prepared and submitted to BDE.</p>	

Henry P. ...

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Unit 2/7 AUST INF BN Date and Time.—From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GUADAGASAL	8 MAY 43 (Cont)		The CO made two reports to BDE as follows : (a) OBSERVATION HILL (b) The PIMPLE AREA and A Coy's attack.	
	9 MAY 43		<p>During the morning the IO Moved to B Coy to pass on verbal instructions for a fighting patrol, strength 1 offr and 20 ORs which was to move to the BUIGAP area of the JAP L of C and ambush the boyline and escort on Wednesday morning. Lieut WALKER and 20 ORs from 10 pl have been selected and are prepared for at least a four or five day trip. The IO gave a complete resume of recent activities of 2/3 Indep Coy on this L of C and also relevant details from Lieut WATSON's report. Two native boys have been supplied by Lieut WATSON to assist the party in reaching the desired ambush area. Owing to the situation which developed on LABABIA RIDGE the patrol was later cancelled and the pl is to remain in the area until the situation is clarified. At approx 0815 hrs a booby trap was sprung on A Coy's front. As this had previously occurred due to falling limbs etc the normal group was sent to investigate and report while the Coy stood to. The report came quickly that enemy tps were moving on the right flank. Single shots were exchanged and the situation developed rapidly as contact with the enemy spread across A Coy's FDLs. The enemy appeared to be forcing the right flank when the main attack developed on the left. A solid engagement ensued in which A Coy acquitted themselves in a manner typical of the days seen in WAU. The enemy although flung back from these early attempts continued probing for the extent of our flanks. A pl from D Coy commanded by Sjt HUBBLE moved to assist A Coy and occupied a posn in the def area. During the afternoon the CO accompanied by Maj BAILEY and Capt CLAGGETT moved towards A Coy. While proceeding along the Jap track the CO found that too great a gap existed between the junction posn and the rear elements of A Coy. He sent an instruction to Capt TATTERSON some 400 yds back in depth along the track. Returning to the BASE CAMP he gave instructions for the details there to send a party to contact this section. From the BASE CAMP calls were made for Arty support and concentrations were brought down on the PIMPLE area which was as near as the Arty dare shoot owing to A Coy being involved some 400 yds from this point.</p>	

Henry G. ...

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H. 100H

Unit 2/7 AUST INF BN

Date and Time.—From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GUADAGASAL	9 MAY 43 (Cont)		<p>The RMO who had been with A Coy during the day attending to a wounded man was making his way up the track when he was fired on and forced to return to A Coy. This information was passed to BnHQ by Capt TATTERSON who had become concerned at the fire developing in his rear. The next report came from Sjt HUBBLE who with his sec had been forced to withdraw from the posn taken up in rear of A Coy. Before withdrawing his party had inflicted seven certain casualties. This meant that the enemy were in a position astride the track behind A Coy cutting them off from the Bn. No communications now existed with A Coy. The fwd OPs were withdrawn to the BASE CAMP area while the RIVER JUNCTION was warned and the lines to A Coy and the RIVER JUNCTION disconnected. The personnel at the Junction area all occupied def posns and remained in a state of readiness. All Coys and attached tps were also placed in a state of readiness and the following mvts arranged:</p> <p>The pl of the Carrier Gp in the SADDLE under comd of Lieut NEWTON was relieved by a composite pl formed by BnHQ personnel. This pl from the Carrier Gp had moved from BANANA to the SADDLE during the day and on being relieved moved at 0130 hrs to the BASE camp area on LABABIA. The second pl of the Carrier gp was ordered fwd from BANANA to replace Lieut NEWTON's pl. It is most fortunate that the visiting air support offrs are in the area at such an important time as during the evening signals requesting air support were sent to BDE while BDE in return sent numerous signals requesting information and querying details of the request.</p>	
	10 MAY.43		<p>The second Carrier pl moved during the night from BANANA and arrived in the SADDLE at approx 0800 hrs taking up the def posn vacated by 17 pl D Coy. Lieut NEWTON's pl arrived in the BASE CAMP at 0600 hrs after a trip in the darkness which will never be forgotten by the men who took part. On arrival at the BASE CAMP junction area Capt BAIRD assumed comd and organised a force which would move to relieve A Coy. A pl commanded by Lieut THOMAS commenced a mvt along the Jap track. Before long one section was under fire and soon pinned down. Lieut THOMAS took the remaining two secs and endeavoured to move wide in order to encircle the enemy. A small gp was sent to assist the section under fire and carry out a flanking move which came to nought.</p>	

Henry G. ...

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(adapted.)

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H. 100M

Unit 2/7 AUST INF BN

Date and Time.—From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GUADAGASAL	10 MAY 43 (Cont)		<p>Capt BAIRD organised the Carrier pl into a strong patrol, some 30 strong, and they moved down the track in a drive towards A Coy. The patrol did not move very far before it was in contact with the enemy def posn astride the track. The patrol was successful however in extricating the sec commanded by Sjt HUBBLE which had been pinned down throughout the day. Lieut THOMAS returned with his two sections and reported that he was unable to relieve A Coy or even establish contact. The force commanded by Capt BAIRD occupied a def posn in the vicinity of BASE CAMP. B Coy had sent recce patrols to OBSERVATION HILL and these returned with much information which indicated that OBSERVATION HILL was only lightly held.</p>	
	11 MAY 43		<p>The CO and IO accompanied by the Mortar Officer left for LABABIA. O'HARE joined the party at the SADDLE and they moved on accompanied by two sigs. On reaching the junction track area the CO found Capt BAIRD had organised the elements of D Coy and the carrier gp even to the cooks into two pls and all these tps were waiting quietly in an assembly area in that vicinity. The CO spoke to Capt BAIRD and outlined the situation which was only too clear. A Coy had been isolated for two days with no contact with the remainder of the Bn and only a determined force led by resolute leaders could effect the relief. He spoke to the pl comds and also to Maj O'HARE who would move with Capt BAIRD as FOO for the Battery. The CO then moved amongst the tps speaking to men and NCOs alike and it was a grim determined force which moved off into the jungle. The CO returned with the IO after he had attended to adm details for the Arty and the anticipated consolidation which would follow the relief of A Coy. In order to complete the story of Capt BAIRD's force moving to relieve A Coy the words used by Maj O'HARE may well be quoted: "Never before have I seen such troops, such movement, or such leadership. Capt BAIRD a quiet figure inspired the troops always, controlled their movements in a masterly fashion and executed one of the most difficult of jungle movements. He moved the troops in bounds passing one pl through the other. The troops themselves were excellent and their bushcraft and movement was of standard which was really amazing to watch."</p>	Maj

Henry G. Quinn. JCO

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To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GUADAGASAL	11 MAY 43 (Cont)		<p>The relief of A Coy was effected and the relieving force found the Coy still in the best of spirits and 100% full of fight. A Coy had been heavily attacked during the morning but as during the previous two days the attacks had been repulsed with heavy loss to the enemy. The news of the relief was a happy moment and everyone agreed that A Coy had done a really glorious job and further their leader Capt TATTERSON had proved himself a fount of inspiration and coolness to all his tps and others under comd. Although slightly wounded he had carried on throughout the whole of the show in his own inimitable manner. After the relief A Coy immediately withdrew along the Jap track some hundreds hundreds of yards to a far better def posn which they quickly consolidated. Capt BAIRD's force covered this mvt and assisted in the removal of stores to the new area. Late in the afternoon Capt BAIRD moved his force to the def locality at the track junction and BASE CAMP area. The CO in his trip out to the BASE CAMP had slipped and given his knee a nasty knock. By the time he had returned to BnHQ his knee had become very painful and swollen. Capt WILLIAMS 2/2 Fd Amb came to BnHQ during the afternoon and indicated that at least two or three days rest was necessary if the CO did not wish to become incapacitated for a much longer period. During the late afternoon the BM Maj ESKELL and Lieut BURKE arrived from WAU. A message was received from the BRIG congratulating the unit on its good work and later a further message was received from the GOC Maj-Gen SAVIGE in similar terms. The air strike which was intended to further disorganise the enemy did not eventuate owing to bad weather. B Coy recce patrols returned from OBSERVATION HILL with information which further proved that the enemy had lightened his troops on that feature/to annihilated A Coy.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>man endeavour</i></p>	
	12 MAY 43		<p>Maj NELSON, the IO, Maj BAILEY, Capt CLAGGETT, and Lieut BURKE left for A Coy area. Maj NELSON passed on the CO's instructions for the def of LABABIA feature by two Coys. A Coy are to occupy a posn in depth on the Jap track. D Coy with the carrier gp under comd are to occupy the track junction and BASE CAMP areas. On the track to LABABIA wounded being evacuated were encountered and although some looked very ill their spirit was wonderful.</p>	

Henry G. Quinn *1st Col.*

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GUADAGASAL	12 MAY 43		<p>Capt TATTERSON was very busy re-organising A Coy's defenses and the new area. One of the episodes which now provides no end of amusement and a great deal of rivalry amongst the cooks is the action of Tim TYRER A Coy cook. During the Coy's period of isolation the enemy made several determined attacks and during one of these this cook was able to disprove the theory that men who provide the meals are not of the fighting type. From his weapon pit close to the cookhouse Tim heard the noise of a Jap crashing his way through the undergrowth. Suddenly an arm appeared, thrust aside a branch and then a Jap peered out at Tim. Seizing his rifle Tim despatched the Jap in a manner which had the approval of all A Coy. The two American air pilots then accompanied the IO to LABABIA OP but owing to the poor visibility they were unable to see anything. The BM remained in the BnHQ area throughout the day although most of his time was spent in discussion with the CO who was resting in accordance with Dr's orders. During the morning D Coy 2/6 Bn arrived in the SADDLE area and took over the def posns recently vacated by D Coy of this Bn. A patrol from C Coy moved to HOUSE COPPER and contacted Lieut McBRIDE 2/5 Bn who was carrying out a recce of that area for def posns. A figure who had been of untold assistance to the Adjt in arranging boylines has been the ANGAU representative Cpl ALLEN. During the ops on LABABIA feature he personally controlled the native stretcher bearers and carrying parties in a most creditable manner. His coolness always maintained order amongst the natives who in turn have done an excellent job in areas close to the scene of action.</p>	
	13 MAY 43		<p>Maj NELSON accompanied by the BM left for WAIPALI area moving via GUADAGASAL dropping ground. They spent the day visiting Pl areas occupied by C Coy. During the day the first phase of Coy reliefs was effected when 13 pl C Coy moved via HILL 7 to the left pl posn of B Coy. During the night 12/13 May a message had been received from the Brig instructing that D Coy 2/5 Bn should not move past SKINDEWAI. As this message had not been received until the Coy had reached BANANA they had been permitted to move on to the SADDLE. Arrangements were made today however for the return of the Coy to the SUMMIT area. It is interesting to note that one of the pl comds of this Coy is none other than Lieut Howard MARTIN who left the unit at GRETA and received his commission with a motorised unit since disbanded.</p>	

Henry G. Quinn

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GUADAGASAL	13 MAY 43 (Cont)		The US air support pilots are compiling a comprehensive report on direct air support with ground tps, and were assisted in many details by the IO. Later a draft was submitted to the CO who made further amendments. The visit by these two offrs will have beneficial results not only to this unit but to all units with whom the US air corps gives air support. The IO worked on a draft for a report on recent ops on LABABIA RIDGE a copy of which is enclosed as an appendix. Late in the afternoon two US Colonels and two Sjts arrived from WAU. A Coy were busy clearing fields of fire and developing their def posns throughout the day.	
	14 MAY 43		During the morning A Coy sent two pls to WAIPALI while a pl of B Coy moved from MAT MAT to LABABIA. As this pl was moving via VICKERS RIDGE a single Jap was encountered and shot. This is rather unfortunate as it transpired that he was unarmed and without equipment and would have been an easy prisoner. D Coy sent one pl to occupy the area vacated by one of A Coy pls. D Coy has had a party of natives assisting in clearing fields of fire in the jungle and erecting a new BASE CAMP area. The natives used to clear the fields of fire require some controlling as they quickly grasped the idea of the fire lanes and in their enthusiasm attacked quite large trees. The two US Colonels visited the dropping ground after the planes had been over the area and found rather a chaotic state. 36 parachutes had been dropped containing .303 amn and 3" Mortar bombs. Owing to the faulty attachment of chutes to the packages only 8 containers landed successfully. The remaining 28 on opening, the container wrenched off shot to the ground and spread amn and bombs in all directions. It is not the scattering of the amn alone which is the problem but damage to bombs renders them US until checked by an Ordnance offr. Capt DEXTER OC D Coy 2/6 Bn arrived with his Coy which occupied posns in the SADDLE area. He reported to the CO who gave him an outline of the present situation and suggested that he bring his pl comds and NCOs to the "I" room on the following day to be given a full picture of the DUALI, NASSAU BAY and LABABIA RIDGE areas. Maj NELSON, the BM, Lieut BURKE, and the US personnel visited LABABIA OP and on the return trip called on Maj O'HARE of the Mountain Bty. One of the regrettable moments of the day was when Maj BAILEY and Capt CLAGGETT left on their return journey to WAU.	

Henry L. Quinn PCol

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

H. 100M

Unit 2/7 AUST INF BN

Date and Time.—From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GUADAGASAL	15 MAY 43		<p>Capt DEXTER brought his offrs and NCOs to the "I" room where the IO gave them a complete outline of recce and contact in the DUALI area, finishing with the situation in the MUBO area. All patrol reports, maps, and aerial photographs were made available to these personnel to acquaint themselves with the topography. Capt DEXTER remained for lunch and later in the afternoon was in conference with the CO. He also had a short talk with Lieut WATSON of ANGAU but as it was then late arrangements were made for Lieut WATSON to meet his offrs for a discussion on the following morning. Maj REFSHAUGE 2/2 FD AMB arrived and is to investigate the malarial incidence which has occurred after to recent operations. He is also investigating the state of carriers and boylines from a medical evacuation point of view. Maj NELSON, the BM, and the US Colonels left for MAT MAT during the afternoon to observe that flank and for Maj NELSON to contact Lieut DINSMORE whose Coy is relieving B Coy in that area. The relief of Coys is progressing quite well. Capt TATTERSON accompanied by CSM 'Jock' SYM called in at BnHQ to see the CO who is still resting his knee. At 1305 hrs a Jap recce plane similar to a WIRRAWAY flew over the area straffing the dropping ground and ANGAU. On its approach to GUADAGASAL the plane dropped a bomb which fell in KITCHEN CK, this report being confirmed by a C Coy patrol which was on OBSERVATION HILL. Following the visit of the recce plane two enemy A/C flew over the area dropping bombs and straffing in the dropping ground. Fortunately no damage or casualties were suffered in either attack. One of the most amusing aspects of the second attack was when the cook who had left the kitchen was heard to remark "B- these B- Japs, I've just got pies in the oven".</p>	
	16 MAY 43		<p>The CO, Lieut WATSON, and Capt DEXTER had a conference during the morning and Lieut WATSON passed on information regarding tracks in the DUALI NASSAU BAY areas. From his knowledge of this country Lieut WATSON was able to give very valuable information which will materially assist in the future. Capt DEXTER with his recce group moved to the LABABIA BASE CAMP in order to arrange the relief by D Coy 2/6 Bn of D Coy this unit. After the mvt of a pl of A Coy to WAIPALI and a pl of B Coy to LABABIA relief of Coys was completed.</p>	

Henry G. ...

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C 3118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

H. 100M

Unit 2/7 AUST INF BN

Date and Time.—From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GUADAGASAL	16 MAY 43 (Cont)		This places A Coy in the WAIPALI area, B Coy on the Jap track, C Coy at MAT MAT, D Coy LABABIA BASE CAMP, and this latter Coy will be relieved on 17 May as already indicated. One of the US Colonels, Lt Col TOLSON moved to the dropping ground area with a BREN gun and waited all day for the enemy A/C to re-appear. The other US colonel, Lt-Col JONES accompanied the IO on a visit to D and B Coys on LABABIA to observe the defenses and fire lanes. Later a visit was paid to LABABIA OP where Lt Col JONES by a fortunate clearing of the weather was able to observe the PIMPLE, OBSERVATION HILL, LABABIA ISLAND and DUALI and was able to confirm enemy mvt on the BITOI OVERFLOW.	
	17 MAY 43		The CO and IO moved to the Mountain Bty where Maj O'HARE heard verbal instructions for a fighting patrol being given to Lieut NEWTON by the CO. xxx Capt BAIRD was also present. This patrol is to move to a posn on the enemy L of C in BUIGAP CK and ambush the boyline and escort which usually travels from KOMIATUM to the BITOI junction area each Wednesday and Friday. After issuing these instructions the CO accompanied by Maj O'HARE and Capt BAIRD inspected the SADDLE defenses and outlined plans for their further development. During this period Lieut NEWTON was given all information of enemy dispositions and the topography of the country likely to be encountered. The CO and IO then returned to BnHQ while Lieut NEWTON's force of 22 ORs moved on to REEVE'S OP where they will rest during the 18th May. Maj NELSON and Lt col TOLSON moved to MAT MAT where they contacted Lieut DINSMORE OC C Coy. The then moved on to 13 pl posn which is in the native garden on the Northern slopes of MAT MAT feature. From this point they intended moving to HILL 7 but through indefinite instructions supplied them soon found themselves wandering on a track on to very mountainous country and certainly not in the direction of HILL 7. Returning to 13 pl the correct track was located and the return trip via HILL 7 effected. D Coy 2/6 Bn relieved D Coy 2/7 Bn during the day. Considerable boat activity in the vicinity of LABABIA ISLAND and DUALI was observed by LABABIA OP and aroused considerable interest in view of D Coy 2/6 Bn's role in that direction. 2 RAAF offrs namely F/Offrs CURTIS and ROWE arrived at BnHQ to observe in the fwd areas.	

Henry L. Quinn J. Col

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C 2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

H. 100M

Unit 2/7 AUST INF BN

Date and Time.—From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GUADAGASAL	18 MAY 43		<p>The CO, Lt col TOLSEN, F/offrs CURTIS and ROWE and the IO moved to the SADDLE to contact Maj O'HARE prior to moving on to LABABIA. On the way Arty sigs were passed laying an independant line for an FOO who will be established permanently with the fwd Coy on the Jap track. Further along the Jap track the party passed Lieut CATERSON of the Mountain Bty moving with his party to B Coy where he will act as FOO. Cpts BARR and DEXTER were met in the vicinity of the track junction and an RV arranged for lunch at B Coy. The party moved on to LABABIA OP and there all the points of interest were pointed out to the visitors. The F/offrs appreciated the trip more than most as it presented to them a new and interesting angle on areas which they had flown over so frequently in the WIRRAWAY. After using binoculars and the telescope to advantage the party was considering its return when a large formation of enemy A/C appeared from the North and made wide circling sweeps over the area. The party returned to B Coy and lunched. While the visitors yarned with B Coy offrs the CO, Capt BARR, and IO moved around B Coy area checking the recent defensive works carried out. These defenses are rather extensive and include well dug and rivetted weapon pits while excellent fire lanes have been made by skillfully thinning out the lighter jungle. These areas have also been heavily booby trapped fwd and to the flanks. As D Coy 2/6 Bn's defenses link with those of B Coy a very solid base has been established and should the enemy endeavour to repeat his attack as carried out on A Coy every preparation has been made to inflict an even more thorough thrashing. The party moved back towards the SADDLE and on the way met Lt col JONES with his two Sjts. They had been living with C Coy on MAT MAT for two days and were moving to B Coy where they would remain for a similar period. Lt col JONES is very anxious to move with the patrol which will make contact with the enemy. The party moved to the YMCA and partook of their welcome hospitality in the shape of a cup of coffee. Padre O'KEEFE was found inside the tent indulging in a similar brew. This tent is a place where the Padre can often be found as the comfort the YMCA representative dispenses to all passing tps gives him an opportunity to meet many of the lads. It might well be added that Padre O'KEEFE has won the respect and friendship of all members of the unit with his untiring efforts to contact all Coys and also by his wonderful nature.</p>	

Henry P. Quinn

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

H. 100M

Unit 2/7 AUST INF BN Date and Time.—From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GUADAGASAL	18 MAY 43 (Cont)		<p>He startled everyone this evening by announcing that in his opinion it was time he commenced carrying a rifle to deal with any Jap who should be foolish enough to waylay him on his jaunts to the Coys. Maj O'HARE visited BnHQ and expressed the appreciation of his section for comforts issued to them from 2/7 Bn Regtl Funds. The detachment of 2/2 FD AMB expressed similar appreciation for like distribution. Regtl Funds had also provided our own tps with the same issue of tobacco etc and as these sub-units are under comd they have received this issue. An unfortunate accident ^{occurred} in the standing patrol area below HILL 7 when Lieut Harry WAUGH contacted a booby trap and was superficially wounded by shrapnel in the leg. 2 RAAF Sjts arrived from WAU late in the evening to spend some time with the unit observing the fwd areas,</p>	
	19 MAY 43		<p>The CO, IO, and the two RAAF offrs moved to MAT MAT area where Lieut DINSMORE was contacted. The CO discussed a policy for the laying of HAISMITH BOOBY TRAPS on OBSERVATION HILL and a patrolling policy which is to be intensified and made more aggressive in all fwd Coys. During the morning the two RAAF Sjts were given an insight into the operation of the Int Sec by the Sjt and at the same time put them into the picture with regard to local topography and disposition of the unit in the area by use of maps and aerial photographs. After lunch they were conducted to the dropping ground from which point the topography was pointed out to them. The fighting patrol led by Lieut NEWTON with 22 members of D Coy and Carrier pl moved out early this morning to undertake the task of setting an ambush on the enemy L of C on Saturday 21 May. In accordance with Lieut WATSON's interrogation of the DUALI natives the usual twice weekly boyline should move down the track in BUIGAP CK to the terminal store on that date and it is on this track that the ambush is proposed. B Coy sent a fighting patrol of 1 offr and 16 ORs to the PIMPLE area. This patrol was accompanied by Lt col JONES and his two Sjts. On reaching the PIMPLE area a move was made to the left flank from where the sound of voices and rattling of dixies could be heard but no enemy seen. During the patrol the personal effects were recovered from the body of Pte GILL killed in C Coy's attack on the PIMPLE. An EY rifle was also found and brought back.</p>	

Handwritten signature and date
19 May 43

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C 2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

H. 100M

Unit 2/7 AUST INF BN Date and Time.—From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GUADAGASAL	19 MAY 43 (Cont)		For some time now a fire has been reported daily by LEBABIA OP on OBSERVATION HILL at approx 1600 hrs. At 1615 hrs the Mountain Bty engaged this fire and on the fourth shell landing in the area a large column of smoke rose 400 ft into the air. There has of late been an increasing number of accidents with booby traps culminating today in one member D Coy 2/6 Bn being killed in the BASE CAMP area and a second member injured at the RIVER JUNCTION. The CO instructed that a signal be sent to all sub-units under comd expressing concern at the frequency of these accidents and instructing that greater care and supervision of these traps be exercised in the future.	
	20 MAY 43		Lieut colonel TOLSEN and the IO proceeded to LABABIA RIDGE. On the way Ltcol TOLSEN who is very interested in jungle tactics as employed in this unit queried many points and on reaching suitable ground on the track a TEWT or CPX would be conducted. Eventually the pair reached B Coy where they lunched with Capt BARR. After lunch Capt BARR conducted them fwd and showed Lt col TOLSEN ground which gives an indication of the PIMPLE disposition. The two RAAF Sjts went to LABABIA and from LEE's OP were able to observe the PIMPLE which they had previously seen from the rear of BOSTONS as they straffed that area. Returning via the SADDLE Lt col TOLSEN was present when the Mountain Gun was about to be fired at Jap cooking fires and he was given the privilege of firing the first round. He then said goodbye to Maj O'HARE as his party was to leave for WAU on the following day. Lt col JONES spent the day with the CO going into details of recent operations into adm matters and also details of the Bn organisation. After breakfast F/Offrs CURTIS and ROWE said goodbye as they commenced their return journey to WAU. A new visitor reached BnHQ during the afternoon when Capt IRWIN of the LHQ JUNGLE TACTICAL SCHOOL arrived. He is remaining for a short period to observe the operation of the unit in the area. Maj NELSON accompanied by the Padre moved to HILL 7 where he discussed the defensive position and booby trap policy for that area with Lieuts ROBERTSON and HILL.	

Henry G. Quinn Lt Col.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

H. 100M

Unit 2/7 AUST INF BN

Date and Time.—From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GUADAGASAL	21 MAY 43		<p>Lieut Colonels JONES and TOLSEN with their Sjts left for WAU this morning. They had been excellent Company and very keen to learn anything of value gained from recent operations in this area. Both warmly thanked the CO and staff for assistance given them during their stay and left with voluminous notes, maps and sketches. The CO and IO proceeded to HILL 7 via GUADAGASAL RIDGE. As they crossed the ridge an extensive dog fight broke out overhead between approx 15 zeros and 11 Lightnings. In the melee which followed the Lightnings did not appear to have the fight all their way as one was seen to go into a steep power dive with two zeros close on his tail and finally the plane plunged out of sight towards the sea to the EAST. Another Lightning closely pursued by a Zero jettisoned his belly tank and swooped into a cloud bank. Pushing on the CO arrived at HILL 7 just prior to lunch and inspected the pens paying particular attention to the sighting siting of the MMGs. The left gun was found to be in an unsatisfactory position and a new site was recce -d to enable the gun to carry out the task indicated by the CO. Lieut ROBINSON was instructed to have work on the position commenced during that afternoon. The CO and IO were then joined by the Sig O who had also arrived at Hill 7. The party then lunched with Lieuts ROBERTSON and HILL prior to returning to BHQ. Whilst crossing the dropping ground, a large party of women were noticed at the ASC collecting rations for the ensuing week. It is interesting to note that the regular diet and improved conditions have produced a marked improvement on these people who were brought in from DUALI. Lieut NEWTON's fighting patrol returned this evening having reached a point within one hours march of their objective. Here an enemy ambush was located and as the patrol withdrew, the enemy continued to endeavour to cut them off by travelling along the high ground to the flank. The question of Air Support was discussed with the two RAAF Sjts by the IO, who put them in the picture with regard to the unit's point of view in connection with air-strikes and requests for same.</p>	
	22 MAY 43		<p>Pte D. SMITH of "A" Coy, who has been missing since the first attack of that Coy on the PIMPLE on 2 MAY returned to our lines this morning. He had been missing a total number of twenty days.</p>	

Henry L. Quinn, Maj

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

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H. 100M

Unit 2/7 AUST INF BN

Date and Time.—From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GUADAGASAL	22 MAY 43 (cont)		<p>In this time he had eaten 3 Operational Rations, berries, and lived mainly on water. During the time in which he had been lost, the greater part had been spent behind the enemy's lines in STONY CREEK and GREEN HILL areas. On his return he was able to supply valuable information in relation to enemy movements, dispositions, and the location of certain weapons. The circumstances of his return were rather unusual as, weakened by his lengthened exposure and lack of food, he had only been moving a few hundred yards daily. Still carrying his tommy-gun all his magazines, water bottle and other equipment, by sheer determination alone did he keep pushing on. He came in on the higher slopes of VICKERS RIDGE and finding one of our tracks followed it to the BITOI RIVER. Disregarding his weakened state he attempted to cross the river which at this point flows swiftly. A member of 14 pl C Coy who had gone to the river to lift booby traps saw him just as he was swaying in the current. Although physically weak he is still strong in spirit and C Coy's cook "Bernie" OBRIEN has taken him under his care with a special diet.</p> <p>Maj NELSON proceeded to LABABIA RIDGE to contact Capts BARR and DEXTER in order to check on routine patrolling policies for the two Coys. Maj NELSON also passed on to Capt BARR further instructions regarding special patrolling to be carried out to the flanks and rear of the PIMPLE. Maj NELSON also inspected the def posns including the clearing of undergrowth for firelanes. The two RAAF Sjts left BnHQ this morning to return to WAU taking with them a map marked with the current situation in the area. Another map marked with information of tracks and data which will be of assistance to pilots forced down in any areas adjacent to this. An Engineer offr and two sappers arrived from WAU to check tracks and features for a possible line for a road and also to gain further information of the MUBO drome for future use.</p>	
	23 MAY 43		<p>After being postponed for nearly a week the air strike in DUALI - NASSAU BAY area took place at 0730 hrs this morning when 6 BOSTONS and 6 BEAUFIGHTERS bombed and strafed the area. After completing this mission a mild sensation was caused when one of the BOSTONS while flying over the dropping ground area suddenly swooped from the sky, opened its bomb bays, and out fell two large objects. To the relief of all these objects were found to be parcels of tobacco, matches and papers accompanied by a large placard.</p>	

Henry G. Quinn J. Col

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

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H. 100M

Unit 2/7 AUST INF BN Date and Time.—From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GUADAGASAL	23 MAY 43 (Cont)		<p>This depicted a BOSTON swooping towards a typical AUSTRALIAN DIGGER and bore the words " Best of Luck from 22 RAAF SQUADRON." Cpl NAISMITH who has been out with a patrol which was to cover him while he laid a series of his own type booby traps on OBSERVATION HILL returned this morning after a successful mission. A tent was located in the upper approaches to KITCHEN CK and here five traps were set across the opening of the tent while a further 25 were set on all tracks leading into the area. At first light the first of these was heard to explode and later in the morning there was a whole series of explosions from that area. Capt BROOKE the Engineer Offr proceeded to MAT MAT and observed the MUBO DROME from the OP. Capt IRWIN who had been out with B Coy left this morning on his return to WAU. An instruction has been received that owing to the present air position no further droppings will take place in fwd areas until the position is clarified. This will necessitate careful economy with rations and other stores.</p>	
	24 MAY 43		<p>During the morning Capt STURRICK, L.O. 3 AUST DIV arrived from SKINDEWAI bringing with him a translation of documents captured in A Coy area. These proved most interesting and reflect further credit to A Coy as they had stemmed what was to be a main drive to the SADDLE area. Capt STURRICK remained till after lunch collecting information of fwd areas before returning to SKINDEWAI. During the afternoon Lieut WATSON visited this HQ and finalised details of native labour with the ADJT and also gave information to L.O. 3 Div in relation to local areas. At 1515 hrs a Jap type 97 recce plane circled the area and strafed the dropping ground. Later in the evening a warning order was received from BDE stating 2/7 Bn would be relieved by 2/6 Bn and that a recce party would leave in the morning to proceed to WAU.</p>	
	25 MAY 43		<p>Early this morning Maj NELSON left BnHQ to proceed to WAU in charge of the recce party to prepare the way for the unit's return to that area. The remainder of the party comprising WOii SYM and 6 member proceeded from A Coy area at WAIPALI and will stage the night at SKINDEWAI proceeding on to BALLAMS tomorrow. Maj NELSON has fond hopes of reaching WAU within a day and BnHQ is awaiting results of this attempt with interest.</p>	

Henry G. Quinn local

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

H. 100M

Unit 2/7 AUST INF BN

Date and Time.—From _____

To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GUADAGASAL	25 MAY 43 (Cont)		<p>The CO accompanied by the IO proceeded to the SADDLE where the IO inspected the substantial def posns being prepared in that area. These are in the nature of fireboxes pill boxes being covered with a roof of logs over which earth and camouflage has been placed. The MMG guns have also been set up for A/A def should any further visitors similar to yesterday come low enough to be engaged by them. The IO continued on to MAT MAT taking with him recent photos and maps and instructions for fighting patrols to proceed to KITCHEN CK tomorrow. Approval has been received for air strike on OBSERVATION HILL and KITCHEN CK and it proposed that the fighting patrol will move into the area after this strike. The patrol will be led by Lieut HERROD, the NCOs and half of the personnel being provided by C Coy and the remainder by D Coy. While at MAT MAT the IO was able to question a patrol which returned from WOODY ISLAND area and also in point enemy cooking fires regularly reported from that area. During the morning Capt BROWN 2/5 Bn arrived at BnHQ and during the afternoon the I staff were able to put him in the picture regarding recent developments and the present situation in the area.</p>	
	26 MAY 43		<p>The IO remained at MAT MAT over night and was able to view the air strike which took place this morning. Five BOSTONS from 22 Sqn carried out the attack and very effectively dealt with many known points of enemy activity. Two of his ambush posns received direct hits with heavy bombs while the remaining bombs were very close to their targets. After completing a comprehensive strafing of OBSERVATION HILL 3 BOSTONS flew to the dropping ground area and very successfully bombarded that spot with writing material and tins which were found to contain fresh bread. This gesture by 22 Sqn is certainly much appreciated and a letter expressing this was despatched by the CO to the Sqn. Following up the air strike which lasted 25 minutes Lieut HERROD's fighting patrol moved on to OBSERVATION HILL from their place of safety in BUIAPAL CK and should on their return be in a position to give a good account of the effectiveness of the aerial attack. Prior to the strike the CO accompanied by Cpts BROWN and DUELL moved to the dropping ground area and was able to watch the planes as they carried out their mission and to appreciate the accuracy of the "comfort" bombing. During the afternoon the CO and IO worked on the re-drafting of the Operation Order for handing over.</p>	

Henry G. ...

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

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H. 100M

Unit 2/7 AUST INF BN Date and Time.—From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GUADAGASAL	27 MAY 43		<p>Lieut HERROD with his fighting patrol returned after completing his task in the KITCHEN CK OBSERVATION HILL area. He brought back excellent information of the accuracy of the air attack. The patrol killed one Jap and observed ample evidence of the enemy having suffered casualties from the aerial bombardment. A patrol from B Coy moving to carry out the normal investigation of the PIMPLE area was ambushed in the old A Coy area. The patrol was moving carefully when Pte PINCOTT was shot and fell wounded. The enemy engaged the patrol and Pte SANDERS was shot from behind by an enemy who scuttled off into the undergrowth gaining the main enemy force. Lieut MACKIE moved fwd to contact Pte SANDERS and was wounded about 7 yds from him. The patrol was unable to reach the bodies of any of the wounded although several attempts were made. Lieut FIETZ arrived with 10 men and made further attempts to reach the wounded men without success. Lieut FIETZ had spoken to Pte PINCOTT who told him not to make any further attempts to reach him as further casualties would result unnecessarily. He said that it would be better to wait till dark when he would attempt to crawl towards him as they came to his assistance. This plan was agreed on and Lieut FIETZ sited weapons to give the wounded protection. During this period of waiting an enemy attempted to move towards Pte PINCOTT, who, observing this, raised himself and threw a grenade. The Jap crawled away screaming and moaning and finally died by the track. This effort must have opened a chest wound as when Lieut FIETZ was able to reach the bodies both Ptes SANDERS and PINCOTT were dead. It was 2255 hrs before Lieut FIETZ and party reached the Coy lines owing to the slow movement along the track in the pitch black night. Capt GULLETT and Lieut WARD, representatives of 2/6 Bn arrived in the area as advanced elements of that unit. The enemy gun opened up during the afternoon firing 17 rounds onto LABABIA RIDGE.</p>	
	28 MAY 43		<p>The representatives of 2/6 Bn are becoming familiar with the duties of their respective opposites, viz ADJT and Sig Offr. News came from BDE that the Brigadier had moved to BULOLO for a conference with Maj-Gen SAVIGE. The IO moved to the Mountain Bty to contact Maj O'HARE who was leaving to visit MAT MAT for several days in an endeavour to pin point the enemy gun should it re-commence shelling.</p>	

Henry G. Quinn
Local

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

H. 100M

Unit 2/7 AUST INF BN Date and Time.—From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GUADAGASAL	28 MAY 43 (Cont)		The Int Sec worked on traces for handover and also appendices for an Op Instn issued by the CO to cover roles for this unit. The CO of 2/6 Bn Lt col WOOD arrived in the area accompanied by Capt KELLOCK IO 17 BDE. The CO immediately ^{put} Lt col WOOD in the picture with regard to local conditions while the IO was able to undertake the same service for Capt KELLOCK.	
	29 MAY 43		The CO with Lt col WOOD, Capt GULLETT, Capt KELLOCK, and the IO left for the dropping ground area where the visitors were oriented to the locality. The party moved to the SADDLE where Capt BAIRD was contacted and the posns there inspected. Stopping for a cup of tea at 17 pl area the party remained a short time before pushing on to LABABIA BASE CAMP. Here they had lunch with D Coy 2/6 Bn, after which Lt col WOOD remained with Maj DEXTER and the remainder moved on to Capt BARR. Details of the def were discussed also the forthcoming handover. The party returned calling an at the YMCA at the SADDLE. The first tps of 2/6 Bn arrived during the afternoon and moved into posn in the BASE CAMP area. The 2/5 Bn Padre and a Salvation Army offr have been moving in the area conducting services.	
	30 MAY 43		The CO and Lt col WOOD accompanied by Capt KEELOCK and the IO proceeded to MAT MAT. The party met Maj O'HARE who was returning after several days spent with C Coy. Lieut DINSMORE met the party before they moved onto MAT MAT feature. The party were given the picture by Mr DINSMORE on MAT MAT and before leaving the CO was given a tin of butterflies by Pte O'BRIEN C Coy cook who has been collecting them for some time. The two COs then returned spending the afternoon first in a conference with Capt TUTT and Lieut CORNELL of ASC., Capt DIXON Capt GULLETT and Capt MARSDEN discussing supply aspects the C.O. then gave Lieut col WOOD a complete picture of this Bn's roles and passed on handover files disposition traces etc for his perusal. Similar details were gone into with Capt MARSDEN by the I.O. while Capt GULLETT had already been put in the picture by Capt DIXON. During the evening the C.O. sent a signal stating that Lt col WOOD was perfectly agreeable to the handover being completed at an early date and requesting that this should be effected by 0600 hrs on the morrow.	

Henry J. Quinn JCO

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted)

(Erase heading not required).

H. 100M

Unit 2/7 AUST INF BN Date and Time.—From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GAUDACASAL	30 May 43		Lt col WOOD sent a similar signal and a reply arrived from the BM 17 BDE stating that the Brig had not returned and the handover was not to take place. At 0800 hrs B Coy commenced their movement from LABABIA to SKINDIWAI while D Coy moved out from the SADDLE for BANANA at 1300 hrs.	
	31 May 43		The I.O. acted as guide to Capt GULLETT in moving to MAT MAT meeting Maj WATTS en route. Maj WATTS had been to the dropping ground with the C.O. The party arrived at MAT MAT then moved to MAT MAT OP where Capt GULLETT received a complete outline of the situation on the ground. Maj WATTS displayed much ineter interest in the MUBO drome. The booby trap posn was finalised by the I.O. with C Coy before returning in the afternoon. The two C.Os spent the afternoon discussing aspects of the units' roles. The Bde I.O. visited LABABIA OP.	

Henry J. Quinn L^{Col}.

APPENDIX WA R DAIRY MAY 43

- No 1 Op Order to A Coy
" 2 Field Return Offrs and ORs 1st MAY
" 3 Location State
" 4 Infm from natives
" 5 Fire plan for Arty on PIMPLE
" 6 Report on infm fr om natives
" 7 Oulline plan to Bde for A Coy attack on PIMPLE
" 8 Lieut WATSON's report on natives
" 9 Outline plan to A Coy for attack on PIMPLE
" 10 Appreciation PIMPLE Area
" 11 Instructions re sitreps
" 12 Report on patrol along BITOI River
" 13 Report on A Coy attack on PIMPLE
" 14 Report on PIMPLE Area
" 15 Field Return Offrs and ORs 8 MAY 43
" 16 Report on use of Arty
" 17 Report on Enemy attack on A Coy
" 18 Congratulations from Brig on defence LABABIA
" 19 Congratulations from CO to A Coy
" 20 Request to keep D Coy 2/5 Bn ~~for 7 days~~ under Comd 7 days
" 21 Message to Coys re A Coys defence
" 22 Coy reliefs 13 MAY 43
" 23 Dispositions on completion of reliefs
" 24 Field Return Offrs and ORs 15 MAY 43
" 25 Changes in dispositions 17 MAY 43
" 26 **Patrol** Policy
" 27 Instructions for ambush Jap Boyline
" 28 Report from BENA FORCE
" 29 Report on BRADLEY FORCE
" 30 Field Return Offrs and ORs 22 MAY
" 31 Instn on patrolling
" 32 Appreciation by Brig MOTEN
" 33 Patrol and contact reports
" 34 ~~BKNA~~ X BENA FORCE War Dairy
" 35 Copy MUBO 1/25000
" 36 Appendices for hand-over file MUBO Area
" 37 Phases of PIMPLE Operations
" 38 Booby traps set by patrol in KITCHEN CREEK
" 39 Set of Air photos MUBO Area
" 40 Log for MAY
" 41 Duplicate War Dairy APR 43

Henry J. ...

403

LOFU
FOX I

019 1

ref	ref	MURBO	LOCALITY	SHEET
○	14 FM	○	ENEMY	○
patrol	reports	BUSA	indicate	enemy
house	consolidated	PIMPLE	area	○
strength	ist	40	○	3
1946	/	1945	identified	○
it	is	known	that	enemy
has	10 M/M	GUN	○	MORTAR
is	mainly	KITCHEN	CR	of all
of	being hit	FIRE	in	PIMPLE
area	○	during	recent	AIR
STRIKES	enemy	movs	from	PIMPLE
to	cover	is	STORY	CR
area	OWN	INTENTION	SITREPS	LOFU
will	attack	and	consolidate	PIMPLE
area	○	METHOD	○	AIR
FORCE	will	but	strip	PIMPLE
area	days	APRIL	55	1947
1	○	DAY	1947	2
planes	will	strip	GREEN	1444
followed	by	bombing	attacks	making
of several	runs	across	PIMPLE	○
planes	T.O.T.	1040 1/2	1045 1/2	○
ARTY	will	indicate	height	area
using	SMOKE	○	○	1947
2	ARTY	will	indicate	PIMPLE

using	3	if	3	the
SMOKE	0	on	THIRD	round
SMOKE	LOFU	will	attack	PIMPLE
0	LIMIT	of	EXPLOITATION	0
FWD	SLOPES	PIMPLE	area	0
CONSOLIDATION	will	be	conced	out
IMMEDIATELY	in	an	to	recd
enemy	counter attack	0	troops	will
IMMEDIATELY	take	measures	against	many
shelling	0	areas	from	and
to	flank	will	be	booby
trapped	0	MORTARS	UP	0
areas	between	present	from	from
and	PIMPLE	must	be	cleared
of	all	enemy	including	TRAP
SNIPERS	0	2	DETS	3
MORTAR	under	com	LOFU	will
be	held	in	reserve	0
ZERO	will	coincide	with	THIRD
SMOKE	SABIN	on	PIMPLE	0
INTERCOMM	0	LINE	0	BHQ
present	location	0	ADMIN	as
in	reference	INSTR	0	above
represent	confirmation	of	verbal	order
issues	1100	this	30	APRIL
0	ack	(1)	2 SECS	A/A P6

James D. ...

COME UNDER COMD LOFU
A/A PR COMD TUBE NOTIFIED
1120

PART D NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH

SUB RANK AND HIGHER RANK IF HELD	PERSONAL NUMBER	NAMES AND INITIALS	APPT	WHETHER WITH UNIT	REMARKS
Lt col	VX 33	GUINN H.G.	C.O.	Yes	
Capt A/Maj	VX 48	PICKEN K.S.	2 I/C	No	LHQ Tact Sch
"	VX 237	NELSON StE.D.	OC Coy	Yes	
"	VX 55298	DUELL N.S.	" "	"	
Lieut A/Capt	VX 14161	PRINGLE F.B.	" "	"	
"	VX 39195	BARR F.A.	" "	"	
"	VX 3927	SMITH A.	2 I/c Coy	No	LHQ Tac Sch
"	VX 5660	TATTERSON L.V.	OC Coy	Yes	
" T/Capt	VX 10378	DIXON R.F.	Adjt	"	
"	VX 13489	GOOLD F.J.	Q.M.	"	
"	VX 35458	BAIRD V.C.	2 I/c Coy	"	
"	VX 42593	ROOKE A.N.	" "	No	Spec Duty
"	VX 10322	DINSMORE B.M.	Pl Comd	Yes	
"	TX 2870	RICE J.A.	S.O.	"	
"	NX 105195	MACKIE J.	Pl Comd	"	
"	VX 52876	ROBERTSON A.M.	" "	"	
"	VX 3852	THOMAS P.C.	" "	"	
"	VX 16067	WILES J.A.	" "	"	
"	VX 7125	FIETZ W.H.	" "	"	
A/Lieut	VX 5182	GUDE P.T.	I.O.	"	
"	VX 4676	WAUGH H.	Pl Comd	"	
"	VX 5870	WALKER L.G.	" "	"	
"	VX 18511	TROON J.	" "	"	
"	VX 5455	SPARKE L.F.	" "	"	
"	VX 5845	FOOT G.	" "	No	OCTU
"	VX 34417	ROBERTSON A.	" "	"	Spec Duty
"	VX 12682	NEWTON T.E.	" "	Yes	
Lieut	NX105175	HILL J.	" "	"	
"	NX101652	EDWARDS O.L.	" "	"	
"	NX 79365	MALLET H.G.	" "	"	
"	NX 79948	McCORQUODALE A.	" "	"	
"	NX 86476	SMITH R.J.	" "	No	LHQ Sch of MI
"	NX 68151	HERROD J.E.	" "	Yes	
"	NX 3823	GERRARD R.D.	" "	"	
"	NX 30055	DARRYL L.J.	" "	"	
"	NX 27155	PRITCHARD K.J.	" "	"	

OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER UNITS

Padre Capt	VX 90116	O'KEEFE	P.G.	AA ChD	Dec 42	Padre
Capt	NX 77377	PETERSON	B.H.	AAMC	Sep 42	RMO

W Edwards Lieut

2/7 AUST INF BN

2/7 AUST INF BN
HQ 17 AUST INF BDE
HQ 3 AUST DIV

Date 1 May 43

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS NO 13 NG

WF
11/12F/3
33 812

2/7 AUST INF BN

PART A Strength Surplus or Reinfects Required

RANK	POSTED STRENGTH	SURPLUS	REINFORCEMENTS
Lt col	1		
Maj	2		
Capt	8		
Lieut	274		
Q.M. Capt	1		
	36		

PART B OFFICER JOINED DURING WEEK

Lieut	ROBERTSON	A.M.	27/4/43	From Hosp
"	PRITCHARD	A.M.	27/4/43	"
Lieut	ELLIS	C.H.	27/4/43	Wounded
"	WORLE	H.J.	27/4/43	"
"	TYRES	H.W.	30/4/43	Hosp

OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER UNITS

Padre Capt	VX 9016 O'KNEE	P.G. AA GND	Dec 42
Capt	KX 7377 PETERSON	R.H. AASC	Sep 42

2/7 AUST INF BN
HQ 17 AUST INF BDE
HQ 3 AUST DIV

Date: 1 May 43

WE 11 12E/3 2/7 AUST INF BN 1 May 43

33 812

PART A Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements Required

DETAIL	POSTED STRENGTH	SURPLUS	DEFICIENT
WO1	1	1	
WOLL	6	6	
S/Sgt	5	3	2
Sgts	31	33	2
Cpl	69	72	3
ORs	700	560	140
	812	675	142

PART B OTHER RANKS ATTACHED

A/Sgt RUSSELL W. CID 2/2 Aust Fd Amb
 A/Cpl BENNETT L. C. " " "
 Pte McKEON G. " " "
 " NEARY A.J. " " "
 Sgt BOOTH W. AAPS
 Cpl STOBO N. AEME
 Pte ROBSON J.E. "
 " SETFORD L. "
 A/Sgt CONGRESS G. AAMC
 " STINSON E.R. AAPC

[Handwritten signature]

2/7 AUST INF BN

Date 1 May 43

PART D DUE TO OTHER RANKS RETURNED TO THE REGULAR SERVICE

2/7 AUST INF BN 1 May 43 2/7 AUST INF BN 1 May 43

Reinfts Required 33

PART A Strength 137 General Duties or Reinforcements

DEFICIENT	SURPLUS	POSTED STRENGTH	DETAIL
CMF Personnel 3		1	WO1
		6	WO2
2		3	B\2gt
	2	33	Sgt
	3	72	Cpl
140		260	ORA
142	2	672	812

PART B OTHER RANKS ATTACHED

2/7 AUST INF BN HQ 17 AUST INF BDE

W. J. C. HQ 3 AUST DIV HUSSELL A\2gt

G. " BENNETT A\Cpl

A. J. " MCKIBBIN Pte

" " MERRY "

W. APPS BOOTH Sgt

" " STORO Cpl

" " ROBINSON Pte

" " SETFORD "

" " CONGRESS A\2gt

" " STIMSON "

W. Edwards

2/7 AUST INF BN

Date 1 May 43

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN
OUT

794

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.
OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 17 lde

FROM 3/7 lde

Originator's Number

2316

Date

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)

ref	make	MUBO	locality	1/25000	5
to	locstat	as	at 0	2359K/27	10
o	BN HQ	285155	o	A	15
copy	less	7	pl	plus	20
pl	carrier	g/v	in	transit	25
to	WAV	pl	7	pl	30
HQ	plus	sec	120120	sec	35
plus	det	mtm	187165	one	40
sec	057015	o	B	copy	45
HQ	plus	det	mtm	391394	50
10	pl	389396	11	pl	55
385391	12	pl	less	sec	60
392394	sec	12	pl	standing	65
partial	385407	o	C	copy	70
HQ	plus	det	mtm	305392	75
13	pl	224440	14	pl	80
310386	15	pl	less	sec	85
295390	one	sec	15	pl	90
344410	o	D	copy	HQ	95
290187	composite	D	copy	pl	100
plus	det	mtm	284197	pl	105
carrier	g/v	less	sec	plus	110
det	mtm	324230	o	A/A	115
pl	less	sec	262260	one	120
sec	A/A	pl	235205	o	125
D	copy HQ	2/6	lde	385373	130

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

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

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DESIRE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNATURE

SIGNATURE

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

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN
OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.
OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM Originator's Number Date In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)		Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number	
10	pl	390381	17	pl	5
383571	18	pl	less	sec	10
650438	sec	18 pl	457411	o	15
sec	mtw	lty	312217	o	20
8	pl	B	coy	7	25
MMG	bn	o	pl	HQ	30
pl	sec	guns	269260	o	35
one	gun	245223	one	gun	40
330239	one	gun	2/7	bn	45
243390	o	det	2	coy	50
RASC	275170	o	det	2/2	55
fd	amb	260115			60
					65
					70
					75
					80
					85
					90
					95
					100
					105
					110
					115
					120
					125
					130

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TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNATURE

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SIGNATURE

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T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN
OUT

100

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.
OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM

17 dust inf bde

Originator's Number

1215

Date

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)

ref	map	MVBO	locality	1/25000	5
dispan	2/7	aust	inf	bn	10
at	1800K/16	o	Bn HQ	2916	15
.	A	coy	HQ	1212	20
7	pl	less	1	sec	25
1111	one	sec	7	pl	30
June	8	pl	1916	9	35
pl	pl	det	mt	0611	40
.	B	coy	pref	john	45
pl	track	3939	o	C	50
pl coy	HQ	pl	det	mt	55
3140	13	pl	2344	14	60
pl	3138	15	pl	less	65
1	sec	2939	1	sec	70
15	pl	3541	o	D	75
coy	less	2	secs	pl	80
pl	camer	gpl det	mt	1	85
sec	D	gpl	3938	standing	90
6444	one	o sec	D	patrol	95
4541	.	A/A	pl	cy	100
pl	camer	gpl	3323	2824	105
D	coy	HQ	2/6	6	110
2920	16	pl	3323	by	115
det	mt	3323	17	pl	120
pl	det	mt	2921	18	125
					130

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T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN
OUT

No of Groups
GR.

Serial No.
OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)

3122	01	see	mtu	bly	5
3122	01	mtu 7	pe	B	10
coy	7	MG	Bm	o	15
pel	HQ	3323	o	one	20
gun	3425	one	gun	2921	25
one	see	2824	one	gun	30
2/7	one	2939	o	det	35
2	coy	AASC	2716	o	40
det	2/2	FD	AMB	2613	45
					50
					55
					60
					65
					70
					75
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					85
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					95
					100
					105
					110
					115
					120
					125
					130

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TIME OF ORIGIN

2000

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SIGNATURE

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T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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

D A D O
F O X I

O 22

4

O 1086

ref	air	photo	83/M	3
0	MUBO	LOCALITY	sheet	0
two	natives	contacted	area	SBW
0	DUALI	SALUS	natives	being
returned	to	ANGAU	HQ	ref
2814	GUADAGASAL	area	0	to
line	leaves	mouth	FRANCISCO	RIVER
moves	area	OLD	SALAMAUA	KOMIATU
tracks	0	urgent	message	forwarded
to	WATSON	instructing	him	to
report	these	HQ	MAY	5
bringing	natives	into	gone	inform

Henry G. Gurney

IMMEDIATE.

1835

510

KOLO
FOX I

0 32

6

FIRE
attack
7
burst
which
intermittently
ZERO
PLUS
area
O
ZERO
300
RPGPM

PLAN
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PLUS
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for
MAY
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RPGPM
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one

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eres. 200m.
canal, into 1200

[Signature]

1620

To DADO

From FOXI

Originator's Number 026

Date 5 MAY 43

PART ONE (.) ref air photo 83/M series (.) 5 inch series
 4AC BADEN BAY 14 APR (.) WATSON REPORT (.) under instr Comd
 2/7 AUST INF BN left 2/7 AUST INF BN area MAY 3 on
 patrol (.) object of patrol (.) recce to NASSAU BAY to
 contact free natives and ascertain if enemy in occupation villages
 in that area (a) arrived RIVER JUNC 1345K/3 where message
 was recd from Lieut TROON re apprehending of some DUALI
 KANAKAS (.) set out for DRY CK area and interrogated DR BOY
 and TUL TUL of DUALI who stated enemy dispsns were (.)
 ref phot 4 83/M series TA2W4 TA5W4 (.) TB2W4 TB5W4 (.)
 ref photo 5 five inch series D8UI FOUI (.) photo 11 5 inch
 series along rd D7T2 D7T5 to E5T2 E5T5 (.) ref photo 45/46
 5 inch series along river A6T4 A5T0 to B5S4 B6S 7 to C7S3
 C7S6 along river AOS4 AOS6 to B9S0 B9S4 to C8S4 C7S6 (.)
 ref photo 39/40 5 inch series along coast B3U2 B3U0 to
 B8U0 B8U1 along coast C6U2 C7T8 to D8U4 D8U0 (.) ref photo
 35/36 5 inch series along coast A6U5 A5U2 to BLU0 B3U3 (.)
 above force occupied these areas after retreat from WAU (.)
 later reinforced by tps brought from SALAMAUA by pinnace at
 night (.) enemy informed natives that area was treated as
 rest area (.) NO enemy occupying LABABIA ISLAND (.)
 PART TWO will follow (.)

PART TWO WATSONS REPORT (.) rations in DUALI area are scarce
 (.) all gardens near DUALI and neighbourhood have been
 cropped (.) DUALI and NASSAU BAY NOT connected by telephone (.)
 native personnel completely evacuated from DUALI and SALUS village
 (.) numbers moving into ANGAU area approx ~~XXXX~~ 200 (.) others
 to follow (.) boy line previously moving LOKANU night 3/4 MAY
 intercepted and broke bush some have already reported this area
 (.) natives report that carrier lines permitted to cross mouth
 FRANCISCO RIVER to collecting point young coconut grove ref
 photo 15 83/M series AE A4S7 AEA8S8 (.) large enemy force
 reported in occupation areas north FRANCISCO RIVER (.)

(2)

all stores delivered to collecting point by truck from tunnel which has been built into EASTERN face KEHA POINT (.) opening of tunnel which faces sea is at rd level ref SALAMAUA revised one inch to one mile 732051 (.) this tunnel is store for all goods brought to SALAMAUA by barge and submarine (.) carrier line assembles 1500 rpt 1500 hrs each TUESDAY and THURSDAY at young coconut grove ref photo 15 83/M series AEA4S7 AEA8S8 (.) natives cross FRANCISCO RIVER by water level kunda bridge ref photo 15 83/M series AEB2S8 AEB5R0 (.) PART THREE following (.)

PART THREE WATSONS REPORT (.) route taken by boy line is old SALAMAUA KOMIATUM MUBO route (.) TIMINGS (.) leave SALAMAUA collecting point 1500 hrs arrive KOMIATUM 2000 hrs approx (.) departure KOMIATUM is prior to dawn arriving terminal area BUIGAP approx 0845 hrs each WEDNESDAY and FRIDAY (.) boy line escorted by 13 Japs 8 rifles 1 LMG move fwd of line and 4 rifles in rear (.) after departure from KOMIATUM complete escort from KOMIATUM complete escort move in rear (.) KOMIATUM STORE HOUSE and DUMP ref 83/M series photo 12 plantation AE95X3 (.) TERMINAL STORE HOUSE ref 85/X series photo 11 right A4Y9 A7Y7 right A8W8 B2W5 (.) STORE HOUSE mentioned apparently Q stores for those areas (.) number of shells for mtn gun have been incl in recent carrier line

PART FOUR WATSONS REPORT (.) SUGGESTIONS for AIR STRIKES (.) enemy has informed natives that ENGLISH and AMERICANS only bomb strafe these areas during morning (.) mvt after mid day and prior to 0900 hrs following morning quite safe (.) the enemy work on this assumption (.) NASSAU BAY (.) enemy locations quoted from photo 45/46 5 inch series approach from NORTH to SOUTH along line of RIVER (.) enemy locations quoted from photos 35/36 39/40 5 inch series approach from sea (.) SALAMAUA (.) bombings for SALAMAUA 1430 to 1500 hrs collecting point area (.) tunnel dump approach from sea (.) STORE HOUSES KOMIATUM TERMINAL STORE BUIGAP area 0830 hrs (.) during day Jap force KOMIATUM move to re entrant EAST and WEST of hut area sq AE9W ref photo 12 83/M series (.) enemy have recently concentrated force

(3)

at MALOLO 699063 ref map SALAMAUA revised one inch to one
mile (.) further reports state enemy is firmly emplaced with
weapon pits on coast 751061 to 736040 covering SAMOA HBR ref
SALAMAUA REVISED one inch to one mile (.) original copy this
signal being fwd by courier (.)

FURTHER TO WATSONS REPORT (.) NATIVES report that approx two
months ago one two engine~~d~~ A/C (.) RAAF markings (.) crashed
burning into sea off SALUS (.) natives have two wheels from
A/C (.) NO survivors (.) approx one month ago one two ~~i~~
engine~~d~~ A/C crashed into sea off LOKANU (.) two tall airmen
swam ashore (.) plane sank (.) airmen contacted KAVIENG boy
named KARLUS who worked as clerk DISTRICT OFFICE SALAMAUA (.)
whilst speaking with natives airmen were captured by JAP patrol (.)
escorted SALAMAUA later embarked submarine destination RABAU (.)
enemy evacuating wounded by SUBMARINE to RABAU (.) supplies to
SALAMAUA by submarine came from RABAU

DAD
FOX 1

034

6
7

OHIO

MAY

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future

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MAY

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in advance

enemy

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if

advance

delayed

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60

break

message

11

MTM

MAY

the

RDS

will

PATROLS

A

Coy
RIGHT

5

flank

moved

no

of

enemy

reported

inattention

enemy

such

O

no

PINIPLE

7

attack

on

PH

ford

O

TWO

flank

O

ONE

RT

O

if

LEFT

flank

PH

will

held

reserve

not

no

deep

in encircling

contact

will

near

O

successful

O

maintained

until

he

held

PH

will

no

assist

extra

reserve

axis

of

necessary

O

O

arty

JAP

back

arranged

with

action

stalls

conference

PM

comd

at

evening

to

MAY

O

line

your

down

in

O

WO

received

1650 1/6

he

WO

set

will

he

installed

BTY

0900

he

7

O

RDS

as

suggested

your

OWN

maintain

of

in

ARTY

FIRE

PHAM

RDS

will

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

No. of Groups
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

**CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS.**

IN

OUT

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

be increased to meet you 01111

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN** BY ANY MEANS.

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

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNED

SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I. 30

T.O.R.

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

489

No 8.

DADO
FOXI

0 28

6

01102

WATSON
SALUS
anxious
will
failure
will
tribes
for
has
in
CAPE
reported
arranged
to
NASSAU
reveals
strength
anticipated
clean
bars

gave
natives
to
take
to
handicap
now
LOKANU
collecting
entered
NASSAU
DINGA
SASCHEN
with
guards
BAY
enemy
DUALI
up
three

promises
which
control
seven
meet
future
working
is
natives
natives
BAY
BAY
WATSON
rece
in
NASSAU
force
area
coys

to
he
days
Such
dealings
for
next
from
south
these
for
party
known
for
BAY
required
on

DUALI
is
this
promises
with
enemy
objective
enemy
villages
of
natives
have
natives
to
information
greater
than
to
sound

Handwritten signature

IMMEDIATE

0905

(511)

LOFU
FOX I

033

0

OP	INSTRUCTION	0	OUTLINE	PLAN
as		019		1
MAY		INTENTION		LOFU
will	attack	and	consolidate	PIMPLE
0	METHOD	0	TWO	DETS
3"	MORTAR	man	comd	LOFU
will	move	to	SAFETY	AREA
7	MAY	during	AIR	STRIKE
m	PIMPLE	0!	on	completion
STRIKE	LOFU	will	move	fund
attack	PIMPLE	0	ARTY	0
ZERO	PLUS	20 15	to	ZERO
PLUS	30	arty 15	engage	PIMPLE
RATE	5 BRGPM	0	ZERO	PLUS
30	to	ZERO	PLUS	40
arty	LIFT	300	yds	0
RATE	1 R.P.G.P.M.	0	ZERO	represent
30	minutes	after	burst	of
FIRST	SMOKE	shell	fired	by
arty	on	approach	of	A/C
0	this	INSTR	issued	in
information	of	verbal	orders	issued
ply	of	MAY	0	ack
pl	D	copy	under	<u>one</u>
0	ack.			comd.

Henry D. [Signature]

SAFE HAND

1700

DADO
FOX I

0 36

7

0 1109

APPRECIATION	PIMPLE	AREA	0	ref
map	MUBO	LOCALITY	SHEET	1/25000
0	ref	AIR	PHOTO	78/0
0	OBJECT 15	0	as	OP
INSTN	No 7	0	ensure	that
no	penetration	by	the	enemy
is	made	from	the	MUBO
area	into	the	WAU -	BULOLO
VALLEY	0	deny	the	enemy
the	area	BUIBAINING -	WAIPALI -	GUADAGASAL
which	will	be	made	a
secure	base	for 15	future	operations
0	offensive	patrolling	in	advance
of	the	line	BUIBAINING -	WAIPALI -
GUADAGASAL	to	keep	the	enemy
NORTH	of	an	EAST -	WEST
line	through	the	junction	of
the	BITOI	and	BUIGAP	CK
0	CONSIDERATIONS	0	STRENGTHS	0
OWN	0	one	BN	less
H.Q.	of	H.Q.	boy	Nos
5	and	6	PLS	0
one	see	MTN	BTY	0
one	PL	M.M.G.	0	disposms
as	location	state	issued	as
at	1800	hrs	30	APR

Henry J. ...

○	ONE	boy	available	for
attacks	○	ENEMY	○	approach
one	Bn	○	disposon	○
part	of	ONE	boy	OBSERVATION
HILL	ONE	coy	GREEN	HILL -
PIMPLE	area	remainder	KITCHEN	CK
and	NORTH	BUIGAP	○	has
east	himself	on	cond	ground
○	sets	ambushes	on	MAIN
approaches	○	these	ambushes	well
concealed	and	dug	in	○
has	dug	strong	defensive	posts
on	PIMPLE	○	lanes	have
been	lightly	cleared	to	enable
whole	feature	to	be	covered
by	fire	from	M.M.G	and
L.M.G	○	this	prevents	rush
tactics	and	use	of	grenades
by	own	own	troops	to
advantage	○	SUPPORTING	FIRE	○
use	of	ARTY -	MORTAR	difficult
owing	to	lack	of	suitable
O.P.s	and	definite	location	of
enemy	weapon	pits	○	close
timber	undergrowth	and	vines	this
area	makes	RIFLE	GRENADES	almost

useless	○	AIR	Co-OPERATION	essential
for	use	of	ARTY	○
use	of	SMOKE	for	identification
of	area	essential	○	TOPOGRAPHY
○	MAIN	FEATURES	○	GUADAGASAL
- SADDLE	main	NORTH	SOUTH	ridge
to	SADDLE	- bridgehead	main	L
of	C	to	WAV	○
WAIPALI	BUIBAINING	cond	LEFT	flanks
○	LABABIA	RIDGE	large	rugged
heavily	timbered	NW	SPUR	has
steep	NORTH	and	WESTERLY	slopes
○	GREEN	HILL	○	ref
map	3749	ref	air	photo
031V3	○	extreme	top	NW
spur	of	LABABIA	RIDGE	is
semi	detached	with	steep	approaches
from	all	sides	○	DIMPLE
○	ref map	373448	ref	air
photo	036 U2	○	is	razor
back	with	precipitous	sides	very
heavily	timbered	○	this	feature
controls	main	approaches	from	GREEN
HILL	to	LABABIA	comds	GREEN
HILL	and	BITOI	RIVER	VALLEY
○	OBSERVATION	HILL	large	feature

WEST	LABABIA	RIDGE	overlooks	GREEN
HILL	○	MAT MAT	SOUTH	OBSERVATION
HILL	combs	approach	from NORTH	along
BITOI	VALLEY	○	country	to
EAST	LABABIA	GUADAGASAL	most	difficult
provides	excellent	RIGHT	flank	protection
○	BITOI	VALLEY	formed	by
LABABIA	on	EAST	OBSERVATION	HILL -
MAT MAT	and	HILL 7	on	WEST
○	BITOI	RIVER	fast	flowing
stream	flows	front	WEST	to
EAST	NORTH	of	WAIPALI	to
SADDLE	then	NORTH	to	GREEN
HILL	then	EAST	to	COAST
○	SADDLE	- GUADAGASAL -	WAIPALI	VITAL
ground	○	LABABIA	- MAT MAT -	ESSENTIAL
ground	○	PIMPLE	essential	to
holding	LABABIA	and	control	of
GREEN	HILL -	JUNC	RIVERS	of map
370515	- N.E.	slopes	of	OBSERVATION
HILL	○	LABABIA	most	suitable
base	for	future	operations	○
TRACKS	○	on	LABABIA	main
tracks	to	GREEN	HILL	JAP
TRACK	○	native	tracks	which
was	from	785373	down	NW

Spent	thoughts	PIMPLE	to	GREEN
HILL	○	LAWS	TRACK	○
bush	tracks	made	by	own
patrols	on	NORTH	SOUTH	hearing
from	3640	○	very	rough
difficult	for	supplies	and	evacuation
of	wounded	○	JAP	TRACK
is	only	feasible	approach	to
PIMPLE	○	NO	water	on
LABABIA	RIDGE	○	all	water
carried	by	natives	○	TIME
and	SPACE	○	owing	to
heavy	country	most.	is	necessarily
very	slow	○	COURSES	OPEN
to	me	○	attacks	and
capture	PIMPLE	with	objective	of
controlling	main	approach	to	LABABIA
and	cond	of	GREEN	HILL
○	immediate	consolidation	on	success
○	preparation	for	counter	attacks
○	enemy	at	moment	not
aggressive	○	will	fight	desperately
to	hold	PIMPLE	○	PLAN
○	full	use	of	available
strength	○	one	coy ○	assigned
by	AIR	STRIKE -	ARTY	to

gain	objective	○	axis	of
advance	JAP	TRACK	○	CONCLUSION
○	Bd	disposed	over	large
area	with	definite	role	○
local	operations	with	small	force
against	enemy	prepared	forms	in
country	such	as	MUBO	area
are	difficult	○	larger	scale
operations	PIMPLE	could	be	by
passed	and	mopped	up	later
○	PIMPLE	IS	NOW	A

CARBUNCLE

Henry Brown

IMMEDIATE

1200

SUBJECT: VERBOSE MESSAGES AND SITREPS

HQ 17 AUST INF BDE.

Ref No.; G2/40.

7 May 43.

2/7 AUST INF BN

1. Messages and sitreps originated at your HQ are being forwarded in memo form instead of in precis form necessary for transmission through signal channels.
2. To reduce signal traffic, the following will apply forthwith:-
 - (a) Messages and sitreps will be in precis form and will be as brief as possible.
 - (b) Correct authorized abbreviations will be used in all messages.

A. Eske.

Maj.

BM, 17 Aust Inf Bde.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

In Association with The Lord Mayor's Patriotic and War Fund



USE MILITARY ADDRESS ONLY

18 Pl.
"D" Coy.
7 MAY '43

Patrol and Contact Report

Ref Map :- Air photo 83.M. SALAMAUVA area photo No 3.

Patrol Found By :- 18 PL. "D" Coy. 2/7 Aus. Inf. Bn.
Patrol Comdr :- Lieut. Troon. J.
Patrol Strength :- 1 and 27 + 2 SIGS + 2 M/Orderlies = 1 and 31.
Native Guides 2. Bearers 8 = 10.
Nature of Patrol :- Fighting.

Weapons carried :- 1 LMG 8 T.S.M.G Balance RIFLES.
3 Grenades 36. per man.

Time Out :- 07.30 hrs 2 MAY. Time In :- 15.00 hrs 5 MAY.

Route Out :- via LABABIA OP. to JUNCTION cross Bayanin
River following tracks along SOUTH of BITOI OVERFLOW. then
DRY-CREEK to River junction proceeding on SOUTH of BITOI OVERFLOW
to AREA (SCR V7)
Route In :- as above =

Object of Patrol :- ~~Narrative~~
To seek and destroy DUALI. village
to capture or annihilate ALL ENEMY troops in area.

NARRATIVE

Patrol after resting for night 2/3 MAY at RIVER JUNCTION
crossed river @ 08.00 hrs to SOUTH bank and proceeded
via main track to DRY CREEK area (Time 1 1/4 hrs)
Tracks of a native boy and his dog were noticed by No 1 boy
and I gave the order for patrol to halt and a search
made for the native. Approx 40 natives including Manjo's
children were discovered in native Gardens bordering
the DRY-CREEK.

2.

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I experienced difficulty in understanding several native boys who seemed very anxious to impart news to me, and despatched (2) two of my men to JUNCTION to contact MR WATSON and inform him of our find - Native boys attached to my patrol were reluctant to move further on. I then left SGT. COX i/c of main body of patrol and pushed on to RECCE the main back forward strength 1 SEC. SGT COX had orders to push on after me as soon as MR WATSON had arrived and information obtained. No signs of ENEMY were noted up to arrival at Area (SC2/V7) where I made a brief RECCE and decided to wait for main patrol and stop for the night. (Time 14.30 hrs.) Location here offered good position for an O.P. and would allow me to view right over native gardens forward and so on to COAST and LABASIA ISLAND.

Own party reached me @ 17.30 hrs and following message from MR WATSON was passed to me - "Have interrogated natives and have been informed of the following: ENEMY occupying positions mouth of BITOI OVERFLOW. appear to be in strength. 2 parties straddling track to DUALI near crossing left bank, placed in position after previous patrol of 2/5 BN. No other parties are reported in your attacking area. ENEMY positioned along NASSAU BAY towards point on far side of BAY from DUALI. Troops appear to be hungry - promise from SALAMAUA now + again calls with some troops and little food." Sgt has had experienced difficulty in getting our natives forward of BASE CAMP. Area and N-1 and N-2 boys persistently informed me that "japs" in area. Patrol were placed in defensive positions for the night 3/4 MAY and 3 double pickup posted. Apart from nervousness shown by natives nothing further occurred during this night.

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3.
A.M. 4 MAY Ptes Lundy - Seemank - + brothers reported sick, and as these men seemed to be in fairly poor shape I sent them back to JUNCTION i/c Sgt CLUES who carried a message for C/o informing him of MR WATSON'S report and my intention to make area (SC2V7) my base camp and to personally recon forward with 3 men to try and estb. ENEMY dispositions -

I decided to leave O.P. estb before I moved out so that any enemy fire or movement might be noticed & reported upon - Bless left the area @ 08.50 hrs and shortly after one of our grenades - (placed 150' forward) was set off. ENEMY then firing 2 shots -

No further action was noticed and patrol stood to waiting for ENEMY to make some move.

This area previously patrolled by myself and 3 ofrs had on 25 Apr - seemed free of ENEMY and no signs of his occupation had been noticed at that date.

At 10.40 I moved to the right flank with a small recon patrol to try and get in on ENEMY position. As we moved slowly forward the Quacker sighted (1) ENEMY who attempted to shoot. Quacker - Quacker shot first and enemy scout was seen to fall with approx 18 SMG shells in and around his furrow. (Range 30') 3 rifle shots were fired at movement on Quacker's right but hit unaimed.

ENEMY then opened up with M.M.G - sighted along main track - LMG sighted 50' - 60' yards on our right and considerable rifle fire was now coming from further to the right on edge of Garden Area -

Recon patrol was withdrawn to main body posts, ENEMY fire being sustained during this period -

ENEMY MORTAR calibre unknown suggest (72 M.M.) judging by time of flight and noise of burst, dropped 3 bombs

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4.
across our positions and seemed to indicate that ENEMY had a prepared post with mortar previously ranged -
Having no intercommunication with Bns apart from runner. I ordered 7 sec to hold the main track and the remainder of patrol to move round and pass back out of mortar fire -

Natives had gone thru' at commencement of firing, and without bearings removal of casualties would have proved most difficult.

Realizing that Mr. Watson's information would have me little of value in attempting to push thru' and the state of health of my men if asked to continue and break bush to Gualti Village. I continued to withdraw to JUNCTION CAMP to report personally to Bn HQ's.

Ordered to return next AM, patrol escorted KANAKA people thru' to LABABIA. O.P. and proceeded back to SADDLE AREA.

Behavior of troops during fire period was excellent. On orders no fire was returned, and ENEMY mortar & M/ps were unable to fire point our positions. During withdrawal the patrol was divided into 3 groups and befooled back to Junction - Grenades were set at three points and positions noted for future Ref -

(a) Native Gardens where ENEMY were in post. ^{we} approx 74 hrs of WEST of previous ambush post and as gardens contain a good quantity of fruits & sugar cane it would seem that ENEMY would find it comparatively easy to maintain a fairly large force in that area. Direct Comms being possible with pinnacles from Babi Downflow area along coast -

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5/

Enemy contacted at (Ref) SCU

Enemy strength est. to be approx 50 men - in fwd area.

Enemy was in Defensive Posn.

Enemy was supported by Mortar MG. ~~MG~~

Est. extent of enemy flanks: Enemy appeared to have
reference ~~posn~~ well dispersed on ^{right} left of their automatic guns
to cover supporting movement. ~~which would prevent a~~
movement to the left. Extent 200⁺ ^{had several}

^{OWN.} Casualties Suffered KILLED. NIL. WOUNDED NIL

Prisoners NIL.

ENEMY. KILLED. 1 probably 2. Wounded 1 possible.

From Link
G. Boy
1300 hrs
2 APR 43

G. Boy

DADO

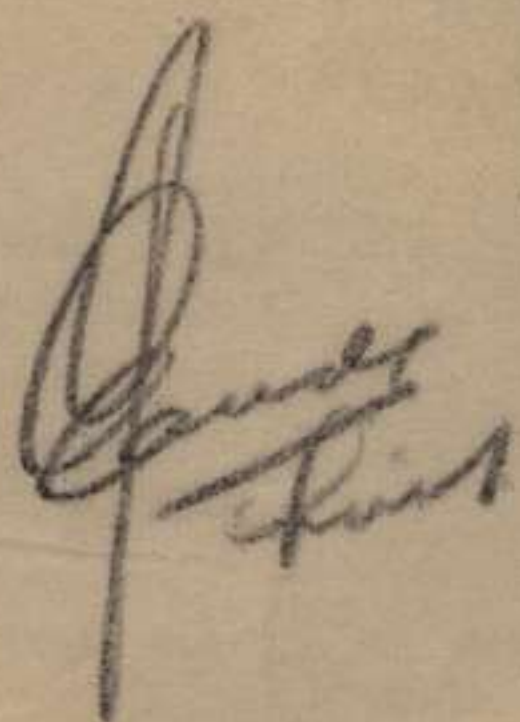
FOX I

037

7

attack	by	A	Coy	on
PIMPLE	preceded	by	bombing	stepping
and	arty	concentration	()	troughs
crossed	SH	1100 1/7	9	pl
to	RIGHT	7	pl	to
LEFT	()	9	pl	moved
to	posn	off road	40	70's
from	enemy	Fish	came	under
fire	front	refuge	in	tree
to	RIGHT	()	see	sent
to	neutralize	area	encircled	to
RIGHT	front	until	confronted	by
precipitous	slopes	with	enemy	posn
over looking	thru	only	had	of
approach	()	that	see	where
held	down	by	fire	()
remaining	two	see	9	pl
were	held	down	by	fire
being	unable	to	continue	advance
()	7	pl	moved	to
posn	approx	35	70's	from
enemy	and	were	knocked	to
advanced	being	held	down	by
enfilade	fire	from	two	M/G
()	reserve	pl	moved	in
def	encircling	not	round	left

flank	becoming	held	down	by
infantry	fire	and	unable	to
continue	advance	()	1430 ¹⁵ /7	heavy
rain	commenced	to	fall	which
developed	into	tropical	down pour	()
this	rendered	poor	hopeless	()
any	being	eventually	with drawn	after
attack	()	casualties	OWN	one
killed	four	wounded	ENEMY	one
killed	()	total	casualties	in
attempt	on	this	feature	are
12	killed	25	wounded	()
a	further	attempt	on	this
feature	will	be	made	from
the	WESTERN	approach		



 Charles F. Smith

2050

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN
OUT

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

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO **DADO**
FROM **FOXI**

Originator's Number **038** Date **8** In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)	attacks	have	been	made	5
four	PIMPLE	o	each	attacks	10
on	been	unsuccessful	o	plans	15
has	attacks	have	been	prepared	20
for	attention	to	minutes	details	25
praying	greatest	difficulty	unable	to	30
o	advantage	of	close	support	35
take	an	strike	and	arty	40
both	own	the	unable		45
o	from	to	gun	supporting	50
estab	o	PIMPLE	feature	has	55
fire	described	person	messages		60
been	by	not	flank	o	65
not	many	to	diff	must	70
difficult	heard	undergo with	o	face	75
and	left	flank	enemy	front	80
and	acted	automatic	weapons	have	85
skillfully	well	concealed	and	which	90
also	locate	o	then	difficult	95
to	all	approaches	o	weapons	100
cover	are	behind	large	trees	105
fire	fire	lanes	had	been	110
o	which	enable	enemy	to	115
opened	all	approaches	o	undergrowth	120
enfilade	fire	lanes	is	tough	125
outside	lines	and	impossible	to	130
of					

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

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

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

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

SIGNATURE

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.
T.O.R.

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

more	through	without	use	of
slashes	o	supporting	five	o
arrests	o	numerous	bombs	have
fallen	no	target	area	rays
back	to	difficult	to	register
direct	hits	o	arty	control
FOO	is	unable	to	o
five	by	direct	observation	o
compelled	to	rely	on	sound
from	of	plan	o	during
second	of	25	APR	FOO
crawled	to	edge	five	lane
and	attempted	to	direct	five
o	numerous	shells	burst	in
trees	o	percentage	delayed	action
shells	used	during	7	MAY
o	three	and	two	such
mortars	are	restricted	for	similar
reasons	o	danger	of	bombs
exploding	on	contact	with	targets
o	lack	of	observation	make
use	EY	rifle	difficult	o
near	part	are	out	with
in	to	endeavour	to	discover
approach	o	shot	see	completing
detailed	sketch	of	area	this

will	be	few	AM	9 MAY
o	personnel	of	both	say
who	have	taken	part	in
attacks	have	endeavored	to	do
then	utmost	o	unit	will
overcome	set	back	o	morale
is	one	hundred	per	cent
o	result	of	patrols	on
OBSERVATION	HILL	following	o	

Henry G. ... IMMEDIATE

1330

PART D

NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH

SUB RANK AND HIGHER RANK IF HELD	PERSONAL NUMBER	NAMES AND INITIALS	APPT	WHETHER WITH UNIT	REMARKS
Lt col	VX 33	GUINN	H.G. C.O.	Yes	
Capt A/Maj	VX 48	PICKEN	K.S. 2 I/c	No	LHQ Tact Sch
"	VX 237	NELSON	StE.D. OC Coy	Yes	
"	VX 55298	DUELL	N.S. " "	"	
Lieut A/Capt	VX 14161	PRINGLE	F.B. " "	No	Rest Camp
"	VX 39195	BARR	F.A. " "	Yes	
"	VX 3927	SMITH	A. 2 I/C"	No	LHQ Tact Sch
"	VX 5660	TATTERSON	L.V. Oc Coy	Yes	
" T/Capt	VX 10378	DIXON	R.F. Adjt	"	
"	VX 13489	GOOLD	F.J. Q.M.	"	
"	VX 35458	BAIRD	V.C. OC Coy	"	
"	VX 42593	ROOKE	A.N. 2 I/C"	No	Spec Duty
"	VX 10322	DINSMORE	B.M. Pl Comd	Yes	
"	TX 2870	RICE	J.A. Sig O	"	
"	NX105195	MACKIE	J. Pl Comd	"	
"	VX 52876	ROBERTSON	A.M. " "	"	
"	VX 3852	THOMAS	P.C. " "	"	
"	VX 16067	WILES	J.A. " "	"	
"	VX 7125	FIETZ	W. " "	"	
A/Lieut	VX 5182	GUDE	P.T. I.O.	"	
"	VX 4676	WAUGH	H. Pl Comd	"	
"	VX 5870	WALKER	L.G. " "	"	
"	VX 18511	TROON	J. " "	"	
"	VX -5845	FOOT	G. " "	No	OCTU
"	VX 34417	ROBERTSON	A. " "	"	Spec Duty
2	VX 12682	NEWTON	T.E. " "	Yes	
"	VX 16557	TYRES	B.W.E. " "	"	
Lieut	NX105175	HILL	J. " "	"	
"	NX101652	EDWARDS	O.L. " "	"	
"	NX 79365	MALLETT	H.G. " "	"	
"	NX 79948-	McCORQUODALE	A. " "	"	
"	NX 8 6476	SMITH	R.J. " "	No	LHQ Sch of MI
"	NX 68151	HERROD	J.E. " "	Yes	
"	NX -3823	GERRA RD	R.D. " "	"	
"	NX 30055	DARRYL	L. J. " "	"	
"	NX 27155	PRITCHARD	K.J. " "	"	

OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER UNITS

Pa dre Capt	VX 90116	O'KEEFE	P.G.	AACHD	Dec 42	Padre
Capt	NX 77377	PETERSON	B.H.	AAMC	Sep 42	RMO

.....*Edward*.....Lieut for Lt col
 COMD 2/7 AUST INF BN(AOD)

2/7 AUST INF BN
 HQ 17 AUST INF BDE
 HQ 3 AUST DIV

Date 8 May 43

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS NO14NG

2/7 AUST INF BN

WB
11/12F/3
33 812

PART A Strength of Surplus or Reinfts Required

RANK	POSTED STRENGTH	SURPLUS	REINFORCEMENTS
Lt col	1		
Maj	2		
Capt	8		
Lieut	24		
Capt Q.M.	1		
	36		

PART B

OFFICERS QUITTED DURING WEEK

VX 5455 Lieut SPARKE L.F. 2/5/43 Killed in Action

OFFICERS JOINED DURING WEEK

VX 16557 Lieut TYRES B.W.E. 5/5/43 From Hosp

[Handwritten Signature]

(REAR) (REAR) (REAR)

VIC 1000 1000
VIC 1000 1000
VIC 1000 1000

SA 1000 1000

2/7 AUST INF BN

Reinfts Required

General Duties

169

CMF Personnel

3

2/7 AUST INF BN
HQ 17 AUST INF BD E
HQ 3 AUST DIV

W. Edwards

.....Lieut for Lt col

COMB 2/7 AUST INF BN (AOD)

Date 8 May 43

[Faint mirrored text from reverse side]

[Faint mirrored text from reverse side]

FIELD RETURN OTHER RANKS IN LIEU OF AFW 3009

2/7 AUST INF BN

8 May 43

WE 11/12F/3

33 812

PART A Strength Surplus or Reinfsts Required

DETAIL	POSTED STRENGTH	SURPLUS	DEFICIENT
WO1 1	1		
WO11 6	6		
S/SGT 5	3		2
Sgts 31	33	2	
Cpl 69	70	1	
Ptes 700	530		170
812	643	3	172

PART B OTHER RANKS ATTACHED

A/Sgt	RUSSELL	W .C.	2/2/ Aust Fd Amb
A/Cpl	BENNETT	L. C.	do
Pte	McKEON	G.	do
"	NEARY	A.J.	do
Sgt	BOOTH	W.	AAPS
Cpl	STOBO	N.	AEME
Pte	ROBSON	J.E.	"
"	SETFORD	L.	"
"	NAPIER	M.	"
A/Sgt	CONGRESS	KANE G.	AAMC
"	STINSON	E.R.	AAPC

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN
OUT

569

No of Groups
GR.

Serial No.
OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO DADO
FROM FOXI
Originator's Number 044
Date 9
In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)

in	Reply	to	02992	from	5
3	Post	Div	4/8	one	10
0	F.O.O.	Not	used	0	15
PIMPLE	previously	registered	by	F.O.O.	20
and	PIMPLE	area	accurately	engaged	25
on	previous	occasions	0	corrections	30
0	when	necessary	made	by	35
a/c	0	two	0	PIMPLE	40
is	and	area	shoot	jungle	45
so	thick	no	weapons	accurately	50
located	0	few	pointing	forms	55
not	possible	few	and	particularly	60
where	type	of	guns	height	65
of	trees	angle	of	descent	70
and	slope	of	terrain	gives	75
hundred	percent	by one	of	three	80
to	four	hundred	yards	0	85
three	0	advance	of	the	90
from	assembly	area	to	PIMPLE	95
on	completion	of	AIR	STRIKE	100
takes	appear	of	to	0	105
no	need	for	only	support	110
during	this	period	0	only	115
support	for	15	mins	was	120
given	as	the	needed	PIMPLE	125
then	left	300	yards	four	130

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

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

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

SIGNATURE

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

No of Groups
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN

OUT

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)					5
next	10	mins	on	to	
tracks	leading	to	PIMPLE	from	10
direction	GREEN	HILL	⊙	you	15
⊙	no	action	taken	by	20
arty	to	engage	enemy	M.P.G.'s	25
or	L.M.G.'s	⊙	visibility	limited	30
from	5	to	20	yds	35
⊙	O.P.'s	in	normal	range	40
not	possible	now	is	an	45
accurate	shoot	due	to	shell	50
bursts	in	trees	overhead	chances	55
of	survival	of	T.O.O.	20	60
yds	from	his	target	are	65
slight	⊙	five	⊙	relative	70
value	AIR	ARTY	support	⊙	75
owing	to	aerial	bombing	not	80
being	concentrated	on	PIMPLE	full	85
effect	not	gained	⊙	bursts	90
of	arty	not	well	enough	95
observed	to	give	any	opinion	100
of	effect	⊙	see	⊙	105
twenty	delayed	action	1/10	sec	110
fuses	used	⊙	seven	⊙	115
no	difficulties	encountered	with	an	120
co-op	shoot	⊙	a/c	helpful	125
two	small	adjustments	to	M.P.I.	130

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

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SIGNATURE

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T.H.I.

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

T.O.R.

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN
OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.
OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)					
made	○	eight	○	when	5
employed	in	previous	shorts	F.O.O.	10
connected	by	line	to	guns	15
wireless	in	reserve	○	both	20
O.P.'s	connected	by	line	○	25
nine	○	rate	of	fire	30
○	Z	minus	15	to	35
Z	PIMPLE	area	5 R.P.G.P.M	Z	40
to	Z	plus	10	left	45
300	yds	to	zone	tracks	50
NORTH	end	of	PIMPLE	one	55
R.P.G.P.M.	○	guns	functioned	satisfactorily	60
○	seen	○	PIMPLE	area	65
heavily	timbered	with	dense	undergrowth	70
observation	by	F.O.O.	or	from	75
commanding	O.P.'s	extremely	difficult		80
					85
					90
					95
					100
					105
					110
					115
					120
					125
					130

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

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SIGNATURE
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SIGNATURE

IMMEDIATE.

1320 K/9

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

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

T.O.R.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

In Association with The Lord Mayor's Patriotic and War Funds



USE MILITARY ADDRESS ONLY

17. Aust Inf Bde
4/7 Aust Inf Bn

0 → See 1. Sec.

Reference 3 Div 02992

Attach 7 May 43

1. FOO was NOT used. PIMPLE had been previously registered by an FOO information had been given that Winaway would ^{be} covered if necessary, the PIMPLE ^{AREA} had been engaged accurately on many previous occasions.
2. The Pimple is an area ^{as the counter is} ~~shoot~~ ^{the most forward} ~~that no infantry have~~ ^{known} ~~never seen a machine gun or~~ ^{yet been} ~~located~~ ^{located} ~~pin pointing of position is~~ ^{NOT possible for arty, particularly when the} ~~zone of the guns,~~ ^{height of trees and angle of descent,} ~~and slope of the area give a 100% zone of~~ ^{3-400*}
3. Advance of our Tps from a point of air strike to PIMPLE area took an hour, there was no need for arty support at this time, (it should be remembered that 50* in the PIMPLE ^{AREA} is out of range) arty support was for 15 minutes as our Tps closed ^{near} the Pimple and was then ^{lifted} ~~raised~~ 300* onto the tracks leading to the ~~point~~ PIMPLE for the next 10 minutes.
4. During the attack no action was taken by arty to engage located machine guns as none were located. Owing to shell bursts in the heavy trees and the fact that visibility is limited from 5 to 20*, OPs in the normal sense are NOT possible, nor is an accurate shoot, as the chances of survival of an FOO

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

In Association with The Lord Mayor's Patriotic and War Fund



USE MILITARY ADDRESS ONLY

2

- 20* from his target are slight x
4. Relative value of air and arty support x Owing to aerial bombing not being concentrated on PIMPLE area full effect was not gained x
5. 20 delay action (Yes see) fuses were used. Cursts were not well enough observed to give ^{any} opinion on effect x
6. No difficulties were encountered with A.C. W inaway was helpful and made 2 small adjustments to M.P.I.
7. When employed previously, FOO was connected by line to guns, with messengers in reserve x Both OP's are connected by line x
8. Rate of fire x Arty Plan 2-15 to 2
PIMPLE AREA 5 x to 9 h m * 2 to 2+10
lift 300* to junction tracks north end of
PIMPLE 1 x to 9 h m x Guns did function satisfactorily
9. The PIMPLE area is heavily timbered, with very thick undergrowth and observation from ^{FOO} ~~nearly~~ or from commanding ~~but distant~~ OP's is extremely difficult x

Priority IMMEDIATE

SUBJECT: ARTY SUPPORT TO ATTACK ON PIMPLE
7 MAY 43.

HQ 17 AUST INF BDE.

Ref No. G 4/16

8 May 43.

2/7 AUST INF BN.

1. Attached is a copy of message received from 3 Aust Div relative to the above subject.
2. Please forward report accordingly by message as quickly as possible.

M. E. Keene

Maj.

BM 17 AUST INF BDE.

advt
Please fwd ~~as~~ on message form
as written. This is urgent.

Henry S. Simon

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN
OUT

573

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

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO DADO
FROM FOXI

Originator's Number 043 Date 9 In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)	became	aggressive	0830	has	5
enemy	MAY	○	lodged	determined	10
q	against	A	boy	and	15
attack	still	in	contact	○	20
is	commenced	on	both	RIGHT	25
attacks	LEFT	flank	○	later	30
and	an	infiltration	on	RIGHT	35
attempted	○	no	supporting	weapons	40
near	been	used	by	enemy	45
have	this	attack	○	A	50
during	comfortably	held	its	ground	55
by	numerous	casualties	on	enemy	60
inflicting	OWN	○	one	wounded	65
○	enemy	has	re-inforced	OBSERVATION	70
○	and	reoccupied	ARCHWAY	and	75
HILL	ISLAND	○	it	is	80
WOODY	that	quite	a	number	85
evident	reinforcements	have	reached	this	90
of	in	the	last	few	95
area	○	Patrol	to	DUALI	100
days	note	yet	returned	○	105
area	from	that	flank	will	110
Threats	two	logs	NABABIA	○	115
require					120
					125
					130

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

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

SIGNATURE

IMMEDIATE

1630

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T.H.I.

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

T.O.R.

MESSAGE FORM

NYDN

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN
OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.
OFFICE DATE STAMP

522

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO DADO

FROM FOXI

Originator's Number

046

Date

9

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)					5
LABABIA	RIDGE	o	enemy	enclosing	
mut	to	left	flank	A	10
coy	from	reached	area	ref	15
3841	of	map	MUBO	locality	20
1/25000	o	enemy	astride	tracks	25
o	NO	contact	with	A	30
coy	o	NO	enemy	in	35
fine	area	ref	3838	o	40
one	pl	corner	gpc	morning	45
to	BASE	CAMP	area	ref	50
3837	o	one	pl	corner	55
gpc	being	moved	pl	to	60
SADDLE	area	o	pl	from	65
BASE	camp	morning	to	relieve	70
A	coy				75
					80
					85
					90
					95
					100
					105
					110
					115
					120
					125
					130

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

1910

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

SIGNATURE

immediate

T.H.I.

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.O.R.

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

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN
OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.
OFFICE DATE STAMP

577

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO **DADO**

FROM **FOX I**

Originator's Number

055

Date

10

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)

BRIG	MOTEN	from	GUINN	5
appreciate	your	wishes	6	situation
in	relation	to	LABABIA	15
7	A	coy	isolated	20
enemy	day	in	our	25
seeks	of	coy	gradually	30
enemy	attempt	to	discovery	35
8	two	attempts	to	redesign
situation	failed	9	further	45
on	larger	scale	'AM	50
MAY	of	water	situation	55
10	use	of	supporting	60
in	heavy	troops	difficult	65
despite	being	casualties	limited	70
enemy	he	appears	low	75
11	further	patrolling	of	80
12	troops	revealed	feature	85
he	lightly	held	13	90
his	feature	apparently	being	95
to	reinforce	LABABIA	14	100
visited	at	coy	area	105
attack	yesterday	reaching	by	110
of	first	front	flanks	115
of	inclination	returned	to	120
camp	and	strengthened	force	125
the	area	with	instructions	130

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TIME OF ORIGIN

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T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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

MESSAGE FORM

**CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS.**

IN

OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.
OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)

peace	an	immediate	free	between	5
A	my	and	BASE	CAMP	10
Q	the	free	was	over	15
at	desk	with	when	arm	20
was	expended	Q	consider	me	25
PN	has	will	a	free	30
so	effectively	carry	out	hole	35
and	since	LABABA	MAT MAT	within	40
reference	during	pressure	by	enemy	45
					50
					55
					60
					65
					70
					75
					80
					85
					90
					95
					100
					105
					110
					115
					120
					125
					130

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
 DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNATURE

SIGNATURE

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T.H.I.

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

T.O.R.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No. *44*

No 18.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

Z P.

OUT

No. of Groups

GR.

52

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(19)

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

2/7 Bn.

FROM

14 BDE.

Originator's Number

01184

Date

11

In Reply to Number

<i>for</i>	<i>GUINN</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>congratulations</i>	<i>on</i>
<i>good</i>	<i>news</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>show</i>	<i>be</i>
<i>opportunity</i>	<i>to follow up</i>		<i>referring</i>	<i>enemy</i>
<i>and</i>	<i>secure</i>	<i>PIMPLE</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>keep him</i>
<i>moving</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>suggest D coy</i>	<i>2/5 bn</i>	<i>be</i>
<i>halted</i>	<i>as</i>	<i>SKINDENI</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>DEXTERS</i>
<i>moves</i>	<i>from</i>	<i>BALKANS</i>	<i>0m 12</i>	<i>may</i>

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

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SIGNATURE

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important

150.5K/11

T.H.I.

1538

T.O.R.

1540

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER
<i>F</i>	<i>1331</i>	<i>MW</i>									

No 19

Army Form C.2128
(Adapted, Large)
(Pads c 90)
Reprinted M 1942-a.w. 10m pads.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.
OFFICE DATE STAMP

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN

OUT

No of Groups
GR.

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO **OC A Coy**

FROM **COMD 2/7 AUST INF BN**

Originator's Number
063

Date
12

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally) Congratulations	to	you	and	A	5
Coy	on	an	excellent	job	10
(.)	The	coolness	and	grim	15
determination	displayed	by	all	eventually	20
rattled	the	enemy	and	elained	25
another	victory	for	the	unit	30
(.)	Hence	another	stepping	stone	35
is	laid	consolidating	the	tradition	40
of	2/7	AUST	INF	BN	45
					50
					55
					60
					65
					70
					75
					80
					85
					90
					95
					100
					105
					110
					115
<i>Henry G. Quinn</i> Lt col COMD 2/7 AUST INF BN					120
					125
					130

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SIGNATURE _____				SIGNATURE _____								T.H.I. T.O.R.			
* ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND INSERT "INCLUDING."															
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MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN
OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.
OFFICE DATE STAMP

629

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO DADO

FROM FOXI

Originator's Number

065

Date

12

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally) unreadable	to	weaken	LABABIA	0	5
one	coy	remains	contact	enemy	10
0	control	BASE	CAMP	TRACK	15
JUNC	OPs	standing	patrol	RIVER	20
JUNC	clan	support	fuel	coy	25
one	coy	task	to	TRACK	30
JUNC	control	all	at tracks	LABABIA	35
LABABIA	feature	0	suggest	returning	40
1D	coy	2/5	by	period	45
seven	days	fu	assisting	completion	50
SADDLE	def	with	fine	lanes	55
					60
					65
					70
					75
					80
					85
					90
					95
					100
					105
					110
					115
					120
					125
					130

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN
1355K/12

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

SIGNATURE
important

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.
T.O.R.

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

MESSAGE FORM

NORI

**CALL
AND
INSTRUCTIONS**

IN
OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.
OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO **DUBU BUSA LABO MICA**

FROM

COMD FOXI

Originator's Number

000

Date

12/1

In Reply to Number

the	excellent	example	not	by	H
copy	in	its	re sent	about	should
self	a	lesson	to	all	3
their	courage	and	determination	to	carry
through	in a	difficulties	was	of	the
highest	order	than	further	proof	that
one	member	you	cannot	if	to

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BY ANY MEANS: () WIRELESS

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INTO ENEMY HANDS.

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNATURE.....

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

SIGNATURE.....

(BELOW THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

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

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

**CALL
AND
INSTRUCTIONS**

IN

OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

<i>to</i>	<i>more</i>	<i>than</i>	<i>equal</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>then</i>
<i>5035</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>carry</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>47</i>	<i>we</i>
<i>have</i>	<i>them</i>	<i>linked</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>SIGNED</i>	<i>HG GUNNY</i>
<i>company</i>	<i>47</i>	<i>AUST</i>	<i>INF</i>	<i>BM</i>	

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* (EXCEPT)
BY ANY MEANS: () WIRELESS

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

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SIGNATURE.....

SIGNATURE.....

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0825

T.H.I.

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

T.O.R.

Army Form C.2128
(Adapted, Large)
(Pads (90)
Reprinted M. Y. 1942—a.w. 10m pads.

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN
OUT

Serial No.
OFFICE DATE STAMP
No of Groups
GR.

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO JUMBO

FROM FOXI

Originator's Number
073

Date
13

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)					5
enter	copy	reliefs	as	show	
below	will	commence	on	13	10
MAY	and	completed	PM	16	15
MAY	0	Disposition	at	1800	20
hrs.	16	MAY	0	LOFY	25
WAIPALI	DUBU	LABABIA	BUSA	MAT MAT	30
LABO	BASE CAMP	0	above	as	35
follows	0	MAY	13	one	40
pl	BUSA	now	REEVES	OP	45
one	pl	DUBU	from	REEVES	50
OP	to	MAT MAT	on	arrival	55
pl	BUSA	0	MAY	14	60
0	one	pl	DUBU	to	65
LABABIA	Two	pls	LOFY	to	70
WAIPALI	Two	pls	LABO	LABABIA	75
0	MAY	15	0	Two	80
pls	BUSA	to	MAT MAT	0	85
MAY	16	0	Two	pls	90
DUBU	LABABIA	one	pl	LOFY	95
LOFY	WAIPALI	0	above	DUBU	100
from	MAT MAT	will	be	completed	105
two	to	first	light	0	110
LABO	will	occupy	rooms	LOFY	115
vacates	as	temporary	measure	during	120
movement	0 pls	will	be	withdrawn	125
back	to	BASE	CAMP	as	130

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

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T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN
OUT

No of Groups
GR.

Serial No.
OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)					
D484	occupy	find	areas.	5	
Adm	as	as	for	10	previous
moves	by	regts	will	15	be
carried	by	coys	will	20	One
HCO	per	the	will	25	remain
in	present	coy	areas	30	for
period	3	days	after	35	relief
completed		boys	will	40	prepare
list	of	sons	ration	45	incl
FD	OPs.	and	ann	50	for
handover	to	incoming	coys	55	
This	140	will	be	60	advised
when	coys	are	in	65	complete
occupation	of	new	areas.	70	
				75	
				80	
				85	
				90	
				95	
				100	
				105	
				110	
				115	
				120	
				125	
				130	

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

1040 5/13

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T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN
OUT

654

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

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO ~~TO 2/6 BR~~ DAD DUFU DURU BUBA LABO KOFI 2/11 DADD
FROM FOXI
Originator's Number 072 Date 13 In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)					5
DISPOSITIONS	FOXI	in	competition	relief	
now	being	affected	⊙	LABABIA	10
⊙	B	coy	⊙	JAP	15
TRACK	⊙	TASK	⊙	maintain	20
control	by	fighting	patrols	⊙	25
recee	patrols	As I	enemy	L of C	30
GREEN	Hill	PIMPLE	⊙	consolidate	35
dy	pan	astride	JAP	TRACK	40
⊙	⊙	coy	2/6	BR	45
⊙	two	pl	BASE	CAMP	50
one	pl	RIVER	JUNC	⊙	55
OP	DUALI	AREA	⊙	TASK	60
⊙	protection	RIGHT	FLANK	⊙	65
recee	patrols	DUALI	NASSAU	BAY	70
area	⊙	until	more	detailed	75
infr	available	regarding	strength	and	80
disposition	enemy	in	above	area	85
⊙	coy	2/6	BR	will	90
carry	but	recee	patrols	and	95
while	favourable	opportunity	is	presented	100
strike	damaging	blows	to	the	105
enemy	with	few	casualties	to	110
own	As	⊙	intellit	FIRM	115
BASE	for	future	roles	as	120
outlined	above	⊙	MAT MAT	⊙	125
C	coy	⊙	TASK	⊙	130

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SIGNATURE				SIGNATURE											
* ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND INSERT "INCLUDING."															
(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)												T.H.I.			
SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	T.O.R.			

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN
OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.
OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM Originator's Number Date In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)	contact	with	enemy	by	5
maintain	rece	and	fighting	patrols	10
on	OBSERVATION	HILL	⊙	setting	15
of	booby	traps	on	enemy	20
attacks	and	known	ambush	posts	25
⊙	fighting	patrols	WEST	of	30
OBSERVATION	HILL	to	enemy	LoC	35
with	object	ambushing	enemy	supply	40
line	or	top	mov	⊙	45
SADDLE	GUADAGASAL	RIDGE	⊙	D	50
Cy	ONE	SEC	CARRIERS	⊙	55
TASK	⊙	defense	GUADAGASAL	RIDGE	60
SADDLE	⊙	completion	of	def	65
posts	extension	of	fire	lanes	70
⊙	HILL	by	⊙	ONE	75
SEC	CARRIERS	A/A	Ph	⊙	80
M/G	training	⊙	def	HILL	85
7	⊙	completion	def	from	90
extension	fire	lanes	⊙	WAI PALI	95
⊙	A	Coy	⊙	TASK	100
⊙	protection	LEFT	FLANK	REAR	105
⊙	further	consolidation	def	from	110
⊙	all	informed			115
					120
					125
					130

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

SIGNATURE

SIGNATURE

TIME OF ORIGIN

1140 K/13

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

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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 and higher temporary rank, if held	Personal Number	Name and Initials	Appointment	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed
Lt col	VX 33	CUTLER H.C.	C.O.	Yes	
Capt w/maj	VX 48	PICKER H.S.	2 1/8	No	Inf Tact Sch
"	VX 237	NEEDON S.D.	OC Coy	Yes	
"	VX 22296	DRELL H.S.	" "	"	
Lieut A/Capt	VX 18161	WATSON F.S.	" "	No	Rest Camp
"	VX 39195	DAVE F.A.	" "	Yes	
"	VX 3837	SMITH A.	2 1/8 Coy	No	Inf Tact Sch
"	VX 3660	WATSON L.V.	OC Coy	Yes	
"	VX 10373	PERON H.P.	Adj	"	
"	VX 13482	WOOD F.S.	OC	"	
"	VX 22296	SMITH V.C.	2 1/8 Coy	"	
"	VX 22293	ROBE A.H.	" "	No	Spec Duty
"	VX 10372	STRECH D.R.	" "	Yes	
"	VX 2870	ALICE J.A.	Sig O	"	
"	VX 22223	BLACK J.	Pl Offr	"	
"	VX 22276	ROBERTSON A.A.	" "	"	
"	VX 20272	HUGHES P.C.	" "	"	
"	VX 10067	WILES J.S.	" "	"	
"	VX 17125	WATSON H.H.	" "	"	
A/Lieut	VX 5132	COSE F.T.	T.O.	"	
"	VX 10511	ROBE J.J.	Pl Cond	"	
"	VX 22276	WATSON H.H.	" "	"	
"	VX 22276	WATSON H.H.	" "	"	
"	VX 5545	FOOT L.C.	" "	No	OCU
"	VX 14117	ROBERTSON A.A.	" "	W	Spec Duty
"	VX 12682	HEWSON T.S.	" "	Yes	
"	VX 10757	WILES B.W.S.	" "	"	
Lieut	VX 10515	HILL J.J.	" "	"	
"	VX 10162	WATSON J.L.	" "	"	
"	VX 79365	WALLET H.C.	" "	"	
"	VX 70068	ROBERTSON A.	" "	"	
"	VX 82178	SMITH H.S.	" "	No	Inf Sch of MI
"	VX 62151	WATSON J.S.	" "	Yes	
"	VX 3893	WATSON H.S.	" "	"	
"	VX 3660	SMITH H.S.	" "	"	
"	VX 27155	WATSON H.S.	" "	"	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held	Personal Number	Name and Initials	Unit or Corps	Date of Attachment	Nature of Attachment	Allowed by W.E. (Insert Yes or No)
Padre Capt	VX 90116	O'KEEFE P.C.	AACHD	Dec 42	PADRE	Yes
"	VX 77377	WATSON S.R.	AANC	Sep 42	MO	"

2/7 ADST INF BR (Unit)
 15 May 43 (Date of Despatch)
 W. Edwards (Signature of Commander)
 HQ 17 ADST INF BR (Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving)

Serial No. NO 15 HQ

A.I.F. 11/12F/

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

W.E. Reference 3

A.M.F.

Date 15 May 43

W.E. 33 X 812

Attached
Allowed by W.E. 2 X 9

2/7 AUST INF BN Unit

PART A. — STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED

1	2	3	4
Ranks and W.E.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached)	Surplus to Establishment	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment)
* ..			
* ..			
Lieut.-Colonels ..	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	
Majors	<u>6</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>
Captains	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>	
Lieutenants ..	<u>19</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>5</u>
2nd Lieutenants ..			
Quartermasters ..	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	
Totals ..	<u>33</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>4</u>

* Insert detail of higher rank as necessary

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

Officers JOINED during week

Rank	Name	Unit or Corps	Date	Cause

Officers QUITTED during week

Rank	Name	Unit or Corps	Date	Cause

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

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

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

(Adapted)

11/12F/3
33 812
2 9

2/7 AUST INF BN (Unit) 15 May 1943 (Date.)

(To be furnished by all units and all Headquarter units.)

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

Table with 4 columns: 1. Detail, 2. Posted Strength counting against authorized establishment, 3. Surplus to Establishment, 4. Reinforcements required. Rows include W.O's Class I, W.O's Class II, Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants, Staff Serjeants, Serjeants, Corporals, Troopers, Privates, etc. Totals: 812, 6470, 172.

*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.

Table with 4 columns: Detail, Unit and Corps to which they belong, Detail, Unit and Corps to which they belong. Includes names like Asgt BOOTH W., Sgt STINSON E.R., Cpl STOBO N., Pte ROBSON J.E., etc.

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

Table with 5 columns: Army No., Rank, Name and Initials, Corps, (Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts if known)).

2/7 AUST INF BN

Unit.

Army Form W.3009
(page 2)

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.O's. Class I.	W.O's. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Staff-Serjeants	Serjeants	Corporals	Troopers, Privates, &c.	TOTAL	W.O's. Class I.	W.O's. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Serjeants	Corporals	Troopers, Privates, &c.		TOTAL
Bricklayers																
Butchers																
Carpenters and Joiners																
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																
Signallers																
Storemen, Technical																
Vickers Machine Gunners																
Cooks																
General																172
General Duty Personnel																
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A)																172

2/7 AUST INF BN

Unit.

Date of Despatch..... 15 May 43

639-N.G.F. P.S. 3m.-3/43

COMD 2/7 AUST INF BN
[Signature] Lieut for Lt. col.
Signature of Commander.

HQ 17 AUST INF BDE

Bde., Divn., Area, &c., with which unit is serving.

NO 16 NG

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

(Adapted)

WE 1120/3

32 745
1 9

2/7 AUST INF BN (Unit) 22 May 43 19..... (Date.)

(To be furnished by all units 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.O's. Class I. 2	2		
W.O's. Class II. 7	6		1
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants 3	3		2
Staff Serjeants			
Serjeants 32	31		1
Corporals 67	69	2	
Troopers, Privates, &c. 633	557		76
745 TOTALS	667	* 2	* 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.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
A/Sgt BOOTH W.	AAPC Yes	Pte ROBSON J.E.	AEHE No
Sgt STINSON E.R.	AAPS "	" NAPIER M.	" No
Col STORO N.	AEHE "	" SETFORD L.	" No
A/Sgt RUSSELL W.C.	AANC "	" NEARY A.J.	AANC No
A/Cpl BENNETT L.C.	" "		
A/Sgt CONGRESS G.	" "		
Pte McKEON G.	" "		

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).)

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN

OUT

671

No of Groups GR.

Serial No. OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

LABO LIBA MIKA HUBBLE RMA ARSC

FROM

FOX1

Originator's Number

079

Date

15

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)

Following changes	in	dispos	will	5
be effected	AM	17	MAY	10
and completed	1800	has	17	15
MAY	LABO	less	OFFICE	20
RIVER	personell	more	SADDLE	25
AREA	LIBA	moves	BASE CAMP	30
LIGHT	CARR	under	cond	35
ADJ	HILL	moves	HILL	40
ADJ	ADM	Rations	amm	45
ADJ	will	remain	areas	50
ADJ	Personal	gear	blankets	55
ADJ	will	be	carried	60
Liaison	between	coys	will	65
made	re	take over	cooking gear	70
and	adjustments	mutually	arranged	75
ADJ	ADJ	RPM	one	80
per	BREM	TSMG	carried	85
movement	ADJ	additional	ADJ	90
gear	will be	prov	HILL 7	95
earliest	ADJ	one	PL	100
will	relieve	secs	LABO	105
JUNCTION	ADJ	DABABIA	19	110
ADJ	ADJ	ADJ	ADJ	115
				120
				125
				130

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TIME OF ORIGIN

1325 K/15

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

SIGNATURE

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T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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

NO 26

Army Form 6-128
(Adapted, 7 Arge)
(Pads of 100)
Reprinted March, 1942—a.w. 10m pads.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.
OFFICE DATE STAMP

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN
OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO DUBU BUSA LABO LIBA

FROM FOXI Originator's Number 083 Date 16 In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)	PATROL	POLICY	○	active	patrolling	5
	by	ford	coys	must	be	10
	enforced	○	enemy	not	must	15
	NOT	be	permitted	without	our	20
	knowledge	○	LABABIA	○	DUBU	25
	will	keep	enemy	in	PIMPLE	30
	area	under	constant	observation	I	35
	for	on	TAP	tracks	II	40
	listening	patrols	to	flanks	III	45
	rece	SOUTH	of	PIMPLE	to	50
	observe	not	on	tracks	leading	55
	from	GREEN	HILL	later	fighting	60
	patrols	will	set	ambush	this	65
	area	IV	BOOBY	TRAPS	to	70
	be	set	on	tracks	SOUTH	75
	and	WEST	of	PIMPLE	○	80
	LIBA	will	carry	out	rece	85
	patrols	in	DUALI	NASSAU	BAY	90
	area	○	when	more	detailed	95
	inform	available	regarding	strength	and	100
	dispos	enemy	in	above	area	105
	is	and	where	favourable	opportunity	110
	damaging	presented	(LIBA	will)	strike	115
	few	blows	to	enemy	with	120
	○	casualties	to	own	the	125
		MATMAT	○	BUSA	will	130

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

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.
OFFICE DATE STAMP

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN
OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO _____ **FROM** _____

Originator's Number _____ Date _____ In Reply to Number _____

(Write horizontally)					5
keep	enemy	under	observation	on	
OBSERVATION	HILL	by	Rece	ank	10
FIGHTING	PATROLS	L	patrols	to	15
watch	and	report	on	all	20
tracks	and	ambush	posns	regularly	25
	KITCHEN	CK	to	be	30
kept	under	close	observation	later	35
fighting	patrols	will	engage	known	40
enemy	posns	this	area	⊙	45
KOMIATUM	MUBO	L of C	⊙	responsibility	50
LABO	⊙	FIGHTING	patrol	weekly	55
to	be	in	posn	to	60
set	AMBUSH	posn	to	FIRST	65
LIGHT	on	alternative	WEDNESDAYS	and	70
FRIDAY	⊙	TASK	⊙	deal	75
with	enemy	parties	and	boy	80
lines	⊙	All	routine	contact	85
patrols	will	be	carried	out	90
DAILY	⊙	SECURITY	⊙	ENEMY	95
o	contents	must	be	retained	100
posns	pockets	of	enemy	dead	105
and	P'sW	WILL of ^{ISE} them	posn	to	110
these	# Q	IMMEDIATELY	on ^{posn} ⊙	valuable	115
inform	has	already	been	obtained	120
by	prompt	action	in	regards	125
to	above	⊙	OWN	⊙	130

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS: () WIRELESS				THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CYPHER IF LIABLE TO INTERCEPTION OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS.				ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY				TIME OF ORIGIN			
SIGNATURE _____				SIGNATURE _____											
* ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND INSERT "INCLUDING."															
(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)												T.H.I.			
SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	T.O.R.			

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

security
to
THIS
fare

measures
departure
INSTN
©

WILL
of
to
ACK.

be
ALL
be

taken
patrols
destroyed

prison
©
by

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

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

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

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

SIGNATURE.....

(BELOW THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

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

T.O.R.

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN
OUT

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

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO LABO
FROM FOXI

Originator's Number 084
Date 17
In Reply to Number

719

(Write horizontally)					5
map	SALAMBAVA	1	in		5
rule	o	confirmation	verbal		10
issued	0930K/17	o	INFORMATION		15
as	supplied	by	10		20
byline	affor	strength	30		25
leaves	KOMIATUM	first	light		30
each	WEDNESDAY	and	answering		35
TERMINAL	STORE	ref	0830		40
has	o	route	byline		45
along	truck	in	BVICAP		50
o	last	known	strength	escort	55
13	incl	LMG	number	o	60
all	move	in	near	byline	65
o	OWN	TPS	o	composite	70
four	from	D	coy	and	75
pl	CARR	GP	strength	1	80
off	22	OR	o	INTENTION	85
off	fighting	patrol	will	ambush	90
annihilate	byline	and	escort	capturing	95
PW	o	METHOD	o	patrol	100
will	move	from	BASE	CAMP	105
17	MAY	to	REEVES	OP	110
resting	there	day	18	MAY	115
o	two	rather	guides	supplied	120
from	ANCAU	will	Contact	patrol	125
18	MAY	o	patrol	will	130

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS: () WIRELESS
 THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CYPHER IF LIABLE TO INTERCEPTION OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS.
 ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY
 TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNATURE
 * ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND INSERT "INCLUDING."
 (BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)
 T.H.I.
 T.O.R.

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

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN
OUT

No of Groups
GR.

Serial No.
OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)					
cross	BUIAPAL	CK	from	just	5
light	19	MAY	more	unobserved	10
to	area	ref	710897	preparing	15
ambush	from	in	depth	and	20
occupying	same	before	first	light	25
21 10	MAY	o	ADM	o	30
requirements	amm	granades	available	REEVES	35
OP	o	6	days	of	40
oper	rations	36	can be	heat	45
12	magnets	lotion	available	REEVES	50
O.P.	o	med	orderly	from	55
D	cy	o	SECURITY	to	60
enemy	identification	tabs	and	document	65
removed	enemy	dead	PW	o	70
PW	sent	this	HQ	o	75
our	the	normal	security	measures	80
from	departure	subject			85
					90
					95
					100
					105
					110
					115
					120
					125
					130

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

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

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN
0930

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

SIGNATURE

SIGNATURE

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

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

T.O.R.



AUSTRALIAN COMFORTS FUND

In Conjunction with

Y.M.C.A.



Lt Col Seco

(Use Military Address only)

No. *BENA FORCE*

17 MAY 1943

To Adjt:

2/7 AVST INF BN

ANSWER TO YOUR LETTER OF 8 MAY '43

We all follow the news with great interest these days particularly as the second para. of your letter practically confirmed our ideas as to the doings of the bn. these past few weeks.

SGT. MOSCROP wrote recently and passed on the casualties mostly out of "C" coy as far as I can remember them, two names were unfamiliar to me however.

I have passed on the notice of promotion to L/CPL. BARRATT (now A/CPL) and L/SGT. WATKINS (now SGT). Both men are thoroughly capable and have proved perfectly satisfactory in their new capacity.

My promotion to T/CAPT was something of a surprise to me as I thought I was still a long way off but nevertheless boosted the ego a trifle. So far Rear Echelon have not advised me.

DIGEST OF EVENTS SINCE MY LETTER 2 MAY '43

- MAY 3 No news from search parties out after plane crash 30 APR. Again fired flares from NO. 1 O.P. 3 1/2 hrs. from camp. One DC3 arrived with stores.
- " 4 NO news again fired flares. Installed DCNS telephone to NO. 3 O.P.

MAIL YOUR LETTERS A.P.O.

DO NOT MENTION MILITARY ACTIVITIES.



AUSTRALIAN COMFORTS FUND

In Conjunction with

Y.M.C.A.



(Use Military Address only)

No.

2

194

MAY

5 Finishing touches to Y.M.C.A. P.B. arrived with message that both search parties had reached crash on 4 MAY. Ten dead, plane wrecked. Both parties returned to camp late in evening.

6 SGT. CHALMERS + A/CPL HALL commence an M.M.G. course for the gunners to last 14 days.

7 CPL. BERRY and patrol leave for MATAHUSA to investigate an alleged Jap. pamphlet found 6 1/2 hrs out of WESA.

8 CPL. BARRET + patrol recce. of BENA-WESA track. Two men leave for LIHONA to act as standing patrol overlooking the RAMU and KAIKULIN crossing.

9 CPL. HUGHES + patrol recce. of BENA-WESA track. Two DC 3 planes in. Six American officers arrive to investigate crash.

10 Americans leave for scene of crash.

11 Telephone installed to No. 4 pip. This puts all O.P.'s + main M.M.G. posts and SIGORA ANGAU H.P. on phones, ten in all.

12 CPL. HUGHES + patrol leave for KAINANTU to relieve A/CPL. MUSTON. Word received that Japs. had crossed river at WAMERIBA. Diverted my patrol which had passed HEMGANDEI en route KUMOKA to YANOPI on

MAIL YOUR LETTERS A.P.O.

DO NOT MENTION MILITARY ACTIVITIES.



AUSTRALIAN COMFORTS FUND



In Conjunction with

Y.M.C.A.

(Use Military Address only)

No.

3

194

- MAY (contd)
- " 12 DURANTINA R. Stress sent to YANOFI to meet HUGHES who sent his rations to KAINANTU for MUSTON. Hughes proceeds to LIHONA opp. KAIGULIN crossing.
 - " 13 CPL WOODHEAD 2/6 IND. COY. arrived from WESA with news that Japs had surprised WESA watching str. codes + wireless in Jap. hands. only Emergency code saved. No. cas. our Jps. 3 cas. Japs.
 - " 14 Daily recess of BENA WESA track continues. Sec. BOOBY TRAP requirements placed in labelled boxes in H.E. DUMP for quick distribution to secs. in event of complete area requiring traps.
 - " 15 Native rumour of 4 Japs at head of ASOROR river area. CAPT. HEINICKIA went to GAROKA to interrogate the natives who had brought story in. Found it to be a fabrication + extracted the native responsible for concocting the story. One CHUO 30 native injured in booby trap on GAROKA track coming in after dark.
 - " 16 STAND TO time altered to 0530 hrs. owing to late setting of moon. A pig set off booby trap and whole force stood to in defence posns. at 1255 hrs. for 1 hr. until cause ascertained. Curse that that pig.
- That's the lot up to date John.

MAIL YOUR LETTERS A.P.O.

DO NOT MENTION MILITARY ACTIVITIES

Yours till my next
 M. G. GORKE / CAPT
 O.C. BENA FORCE.

DADO
FOKI

I 25

21

ref	map	11030	sketch	four
notes	one	mile	⊙	BRADLEY
or	his	own	instructed	to
with drawn	his	force	to	RIVER
JUNE	ref	746 840	⊙	to
been	instructed	to	deny	HE
slopes	LABABIA	RIDGE	to	enemy
⊙	AM	22	apart	to
is	to	in	engage	any
enemy	troops	in	obviously	and
annihilate	then	⊙	will	for
HODECO	message	after	interrogating	BRADLEY

Robert ...

2155

Serial No. 16 NG
A.I.F. 11/120
W.E. Reference /3
A.M.F.
W.E. 32 X 745

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

Date 22 May 43

Attached Allowed by W.E. 1 X 9 Unit 2/7 AUST INF BN

PART A. — STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED

1	2	3	4
Ranks and W.E.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached)	Surplus to Establishment	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment)
* *			
Lieut.-Colonels . .	1		
Majors	2		1
Captains	7		1
Lieutenants . . .	25	6	
2nd Lieutenants .	1		
Quartermasters . .	1		
Totals	36	6	2

* Insert detail of higher rank as necessary

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

Officers JOINED during week

Rank	Name	Unit or Corps	Date	Cause

Officers QUITTED during week

Rank	Name	Unit or Corps	Date	Cause
Lieut	WAUGH H.		18/5/43	Hospital

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

Rank	Name and Initials	Unit or 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.O's, Class I.	W.O's, Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Staff-Serjeants	Serjeants	Corporals	Troopers, Privates, &c.	TOTAL	W.O's, Class I.	W.O's, Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Serjeants	Corporals	Troopers, Privates, &c.		TOTAL
Bricklayers																
Butchers																
Carpenters and Joiners																
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																
Signallers																
Storemen, Technical																
Vickers Machine Gunners																
Cooks																
General															78	Owing to situation surpluses etc on change over of est not clarified
3 CMF Personnel																General
General Duty Personnel																
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A)																

Ch Edwards

Lieut for Lt Col

COMD 2/7 AUST INF BN

Signature of Commander.

HQ 17 AUST INF BDE

Bde., Divn., Area, &c., with which unit is serving.

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS. (Adapted)

WE 11/12C/3
32 745
1 9

2/7 AUSTRALIAN INF BN (Unit) 29 May 1943 (Date.)

(To be furnished by all units 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.O's. Class I.	1		
W.O's. Class II.	2		1
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants	5	1	1
Staff Serjeants			
Serjeants	32	31	1
Corporals	67	69	2
Troopers, Privates, &c.	633	442	191
745 TOTALS	553	* 2	* 194

*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.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
A/Sgt BOOTH W.	AAPS WE Yes	Pte ROBSON J.E.	ARME WE No
Sgt STINSON E.R.	AAPC "	" NAPIER M.	" "
Cpl STOBO N.	ARME "	" SETFORD E.	" "
A/Sgt RUSSELL W.C.	AAPC "	1 OR 2/5 Bn	"
A/Cpl BENNETT L.C.	" "	Batman	"
Pte MCKEON G.	" "		
A/Sgt CONGRESS G.	" "		
Pte NEARY A.J.	" "		

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).

Serial No. NO 17NG

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

A.I.F. 11/120

W.E. Reference 3

A.M.F.

Date 29 May 43

W.E. 32 X 745

Attached 1 9
Allowed by W.E. X

2/7 AUST INF BN Unit

PART A. — STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED

1	2	3	4
Ranks and W.E.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached)	Surplus to Establishment	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment)
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels . .	1	1	
Majors	3	3	
Captains	8	7	
Lieutenants . . .	19	24	
2nd Lieutenants .			
Quartermasters . .	1	1	
Totals	32	36	

* Insert detail of higher rank as necessary

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

~~Officers JOINED~~ during week

Rank	Name	Unit or Corps	Date	Cause
Lieut	WAUGH H.	S of S	26/5/43	Hospital
"	HACKIE J.		27/5/43	"

Officers QUITTED during week

Rank	Name	Unit or Corps	Date	Cause

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

Rank	Name and Initials	Unit or 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 and higher temporary rank, if held	Personal Number	Name and Initials	Appointment	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed
Lt col	VX 33	GUINN H.C.	C.O.	Yes	
pt A/Maj	VX 42	DICKEN R.S.	2 1/e	No	LNQ Taet Sch
"	VX 237	NELSON S.C.B.	CC Coy	Yes	
Maj	VX 5174	DUNKLEY H.L.S.	" "	"	
Capt	VX 55298	DWELL H.S.	" "	"	
"	VX 30195	B. ARR P.A.	" "	"	
out A/Capt	VX 3927	SMITH A.	2 1/e Coy	No	LNQ Taet Sch
"	VX 5660	TATTERSON L.V.	CC Coy	Yes	
" T/Capt	VX 10378	DIXON R.P.	Adjt	"	
"	VX 13480	GOULD P.J.	V.M.	"	
"	VX 35156	BAIRD V.C.	2 1/e Coy	"	
"	VX 52503	ROCKE A.V.H.	" "	No	BENA BENA
"	VX 10533	DINGHORE B.H.	" "	Yes	
"	VX 2870	RICE J.A.	Sig O	"	
"	VX 105195	HACKIE J.	Pl Cond	No	ADS
"	VX 52876	ROBERTSON A.M.	" "	Yes	
"	VX 3852	THOMAS P.C.	" "	"	
"	VX 16067	WILES J.A.	" "	"	
"	VX 7125	PIETZ W.H.	" "	"	
" A/Lieut	VX 5182	GUDE P.F.	I.O.	"	
"	VX 18511	TRON J.	Pl Cond	"	
"	VX 1116828				
"	VX 5870	WALKER L.G.	" "	"	
"	VX 5845	FOOT G.	" "	No	OCTU
"	VX 34417	ROBERTSON A.	" "	No	BENA BENA
"	VX 12682	NEWTON T.E.	" "	"	OCTU
"	VX 16557	TYRES B.H.R.	" "	"	OCTU
"	VX 105125	HILL J.	" "	Yes	
"	VX 101652	EDWARD S C.L.	" "	"	
"	VX 70265	MALLETT H.C.	" "	"	
"	VX 70018	McCONQUODALE A.	" "	"	
"	VX 86476	SMITH R.J.	" "	No	LNQ Sch of M
"	VX 69151	FERRON I.B.	" "	Yes	
"	VX 3823	GERRARD R.D.	" "	"	
"	VX 30055	DARVEL L.J.	" "	"	
"	VX 27155	FRITCHARD H.S.	" "	"	
" A/Lieut	VX 8970	PLANNING W.A.	" "	No	LNQ Sch of M

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held	Personal Number	Name and Initials	Unit or Corps	Date of Attachment	Nature of Attachment	Allowed by W.E. (Insert Yes or No)
Capt	VX 77377	PATERSON B.H.	AANC	Sep 42	R	Yes
Capt	VX 90116	O'KEEFE P.O.	AACHD	Dec 42	Paire	No
"		BROWN J	2/5 Pm			No

2/7 AUST INF BR

(Unit)

29 May 43

(Date of Despatch)

W. Edwards Lieut for Lt c
COMD 2/7 AUST (Signature of Commander)

HQ 17 AUST INF BDE

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

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 and higher temporary rank, if held	Personal Number	Name and Initials	Appointment	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed
Lt col	VX 33	GUINN H.G.	C.O.	Yes	
Capt A/Maj	VX 48	PICKEN K.S.	2 1/c	No	LHQ Tact Sch
"	VX 237	NELSON StB.D.	OC Coy	Yes	
"	VX 55298	DUELL W.S.	"	"	
Lieut A/Capt	VX 12161	WILSON	"	No	Post Camp
"	VX 39195	BARR F.A.	"	Yes	
"	VX 3927	SMITH A.	2 1/8 Coy	No	LHQ Tact Sch
"	VX 5660	TATTERSON L.V.	P.S. Coy	Yes	
T/Capt	VX 10378	DIGON R.F.	Adjt	"	
"	VX 13489	GOULD F.J.	S.H.	"	
"	VX 35458	BAIRD V.C.	2 1/c Coy	"	
"	VX 52593	ROOKE A.N.	"	No	Special Duty
"	VX 10322	DIMSHORE B.M.	"	Yes	
"	VX 2070	RICE J.A.	Sig Offr	"	
"	VX 105195	BLACKIE J.	P1 Comd	"	
"	VX 52876	ROBERTSON A.H.	"	"	
"	VX 3852	THOMAS P.C.	"	"	
"	VX 16067	WILLS J.E.	"	"	
"	VX 7125	FIELD W.H.	"	"	
A/Lieut	VX 5182	GUDE P.T.	I.O.	"	
"	VX 18511	TROON J.	P1 Comd	"	
"	VX 4676	WAUGH H.	"	No	Hospital
"	VX 5870	WALKER L.C.	"	Yes	
"	VX 5845	FOOT G.	"	No	OCTU
"	VX 34117	ROBERTSON A.	"	Yes/No	Spec Duty
"	VX 12682	NEWTON T.E.	"	Yes	
"	VX 16557	TYRES B.W.S.	"	"	
"	VX 105175	HILL J.	"	"	
"	VX 101652	EDWARDS O.L.	"	"	
"	VX 79365	BALLET H.G.	"	"	
"	VX 79948	McCORMACK A.	"	"	
"	VX 86476	SMITH R.J.	"	No	LHQ Sch of MI
"	VX 68151	HERRARD J.E.	"	Yes	
"	VX 3823	GERRARD R.D.	"	"	
"	VX 30055	DANNYL L.J.	"	"	
"	VX 27155	PRITCHARD K.J.	"	"	
A/Lieut	VX 8970	FLEMING W.A.	"	No	LHQ Sch of MI

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held	Personal Number	Name and Initials	Unit or Corps	Date of Attachment	Nature of Attachment	Allowed by W.E. (Insert Yes or No)
Plt	VX 77377	PETERSON B.H.	AANC	Sep 42	R.M.O.	Yes
Lt	VX 90116	O'KEEFE P.G.	AACHD	Dec 42	Padre	No

17 AUST INF BN

(Unit)

2 May 43

(Date of Despatch)

H. Edwards Lieut for Lt col
COMD 2/7 AUST INF BN (Signature of Commander)

HQ 17 AUST INF BDE

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

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN
OUT

801

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.
OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO LOFU DUBU BUSA LABO HUBL rptd 17 Aust Inf Bde

FROM 2/7 Aust Inf Bn

Originator's Number
087

Date
23

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally) PATROLLING	○	recent	patrol	reports	5
in	some	cases	have	been not	10
been	satisfactory	○	information	gained	15
has	not	been	sufficient	to	20
plan	future	ops.	○	ComDS	25
in	issuing	orders	to	patrol	30
comd	must	be	definite	in	35
issuing	of	orders	and	allotment	40
of	definite	tasks	○	what	45
is	required	at	moment	is	50
information	in	relation	to	enemy	55
strengths	-	locations	and	routes	60
used	with	new	to	sending	65
fighting	patrols	○	setting	of	70
ambushes	○	in	general	to	75
harass	enemy	at	every	available	80
opportunity	○	it	MUST	be	85
impressed	on	all	ranks	that	90
valuable	information	is	covered	in	95
pockets	of	enemy	○	identification	100
tabs	are	necessary	to	establish	105
whether	new	units	are	being	110
moved	to	this	area	○	115
ACK	○	ALL	INFORMED		120
					125
					130

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS: () WIRELESS				THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CYPHER IF LIABLE TO INTERCEPTION OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS.				ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY				TIME OF ORIGIN 1050 K/23			
SIGNATURE				SIGNATURE								T.H.I.			
* ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND INSERT "INCLUDING."				(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)								T.O.R.			
SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER				

SUBJECT: OPERATIONAL ROLE 2/6 AUST INF BN

No 32
SECRET.

HQ 17 AUST INF BDE.

Ref No.: G13/23.

26 May 43.

Lt-col F.G. WOOD,
2/6 AUST INF BN.

Copy to: 3 Aust Div (without attachments)
2/7 Aust Inf Bn " "
2/5 Aust Inf Bn " "

1. Attached are copies of the following:

Appreciation of the Situation by Brig. M.J. MOTEN.
17 Aust Inf Bde Op Instn No.8.
Policy for Operations in MUBO area.

2. The role allotted 2/7 Aust Inf Bn in 17 Aust Inf Bde Op Instn No.8 will be assumed by 2/6 Aust Inf Bn at such times as sub-units of your bn are familiar with the terrain and the tactical situation in their operational areas. You will advise 17 Aust Inf Bde immediately when such is the case.

3. 2/6 Aust Inf Bn will then be placed in command of all troops in the MUBO area inclusive Sec 1 Aust Mtn Bty.

4. Until you advise as in para 2 above, CO 2/7 Aust Inf Bn will continue to command all troops in MUBO and will assume command all troops as they come into the area.

M.J. Moten BRIG.

COMD 17 AUST INF BDE.

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

SERIAL No. 1.

REF MAP MUBO LOCALITY SCALE 1/25000 DATE 22 MAY 43

PATROL FOUND BY. COMPOSITE PATROL D Coy PATROL COMD Lieut NEWTON

PATROL STRENGTH 1 offr 21 ORs NATURE OF PATROL Fighting

TIME OUT from SADDLE 1100K/17 TIME IN to SADDLE 1200K/22

OBJECT OF PATROL To ambush enemy boylines moving on KOMIATUM MUBO L of C.

ROUTE OUT REEVE'S OP BUIAPAL CK to OBSERVATION HILL thence WEST of head waters of KITCHEN CK and NORTH CK. ~~KOMIATUM~~

ROUTE IN From ref 2564 patrol returned via VIALI's Track OBSERVATION HILL BUIAPAL CK REEVES OP.

NARRATIVE Left REEVE'S OP 19 MAY 0700 hrs followed track NORTH EAST to creek. Down ck to junction of BUIAPAL, up BUIAPAL 600 yds where Ck running N to S and turns and flows W to E. Used faint track made by B Coy psprols travelling practically EAST till struck VIALI's track approx 150 yds above ambush area ref 290504 then made recce towards ambush to find definite posn. Travelled North along VIALI's track for approx 500 yds to ref 2753 broke bush travelling along SE slopes of OBSERVATION HILL, then practically due NORTH crossed well used track running EAST to WEST, found tracks two hours old. At approx 1600 hrs during shelling KITCHEN CK about due WEST of NORTH CK ref 2857 shells bursting behind and to the right. During shelling native boys with patrol reported that after shell bursts they could hear KANAKA cargo boys calling out and shouting as they travelled NORTH along KOMIATUM track. Proceeded on over several small pissers to head waters NORTH CK ref 2859. Took bearings on dropping ground, GOBWEB GARDEN, 190 deg. Camped night at 2961. Posted three sentries for protection. On 20 MAY sentries woke Mr NEWTON 0430 hrs as they suspected mvt down the slope in an Easterly direction. Mvt continued for approx half an hour and disappeared. Moved patrol at 0630 hrs proceeding on bearing approx 15 deg M to ref 2963 where patrol halted and made recce fwd and both flanks. Suspected being followed but could find no trace so proceeded practically NE to ref 3163 where scouts reported mvt in front. Patrol was in low ground in head of creek running NE. Halted and recce made on all flanks for approx 200 yds in depth. Recces made by Sgt HALL and one man and Mr NEWTON and one man. No enemy sighted but enemy could be heard on both flanks and fwd, on higher ground than patrol. Enemy could not be engaged on account of position of patrol. Whilst there could check position by high peak EAST of BUIGAP CK with spur running SW direction and also big spur running into junction BUIGAP BITOI and could see down BITOI where it runs NE - SW. Patrol moved due WEST in endeavour to gain high ground but enemy moved in same direction maintaining hold on high ground. Placed patrol in position ref 2564 astride VIALI's track. Sent fwd recce patrol NORTH. One JAP sighted by patrol comd. No chance to deal with him as he broke bush smartly towards NE. Decided to close to projected ambush area as would endanger mvt of future patrols so travelled NW in endeavour to go round with object of striking track in area ref 3472. Camped night at ref 2468 and were too far from KOMIATUM to get in posn at least before 1100 hrs 21 MAY. As instns stated had to be out of area by 0830 hrs 22 MAY it was decided to abandon projected ambush and endeavour to recce route for future ops. Returned to ref 2564 by scrub cutting then proceeded down VIALI's to ref 2559, struck disused JAP track decided track went WEST towards BUIAPAL CK and followed it till a large steep re-entrant met at ref 2258. Good strong ck flowing rapids. Followed along EAST bank till struck spur running Southerly direction, followed it down to BUIAPAL. Climbed down cliff face to BUIAPAL CK bed. BUIAPAL runs through gorge on SW Slopes of OBSERVATION HILL unfit for travel owing to jungle and precipitous banks of ck and slopes in vicinity. Met BUIAPAL at ref 2053 returned via BUIAPAL and branch ck and track to REEVES arriving 1645 hrs 21 MAY. Stayed night and moved to SADDLE via MAT MAT AM 22 MAY.

REMARKS Suggest future patrols move late AM. Route direct to VIALI's track then WEST until clear of KITCHEN and NORTH CK areas. Patrol strengths should not be more than 20 ORs. OP Rations satisfactory. MUBO LOCALITY sheet considered quite accurate.

Patrol & Contact Report

No 4 of 20 May 43

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

SERIAL No. 2.

REF MAP MUBO LOCALITY 1/25000

19 MAY 43

PATROL FOUND BY 13 Pl C Coy

PATROL COMD Pte GRIFFITHS

PATROL STRENGTH 3 ORs

NATURE OF PATROL Recce

TIME OUT 0820K/19

TIME IN 1545K/19

OBJECT OF PATROL 1. To find destination and report on condition of track from REEVES OP to HILL 7 feature.
2. Signs of enemy mvt in this area
3. Water situation.

ROUTE OUT From REEVES OP Ref 2344 SOUTH approx 600 yds thence WEST approx 5000 yds to a track junction. SOUTH from this point approx 300 yds thence EAST along main Ridge of HILL 7 and higher MAT MAT.

ROUTE IN Main track from HILL 7 to REEVES OP.

NARRATIVE General condition of track - fair. Becomes faint around native garden area, long grass makes going difficult here. Very steep after leaving deserted Indep Coy camp area ref 2044. Remainder of track easy to follow. Destination being at Junction of HILL 7 and MAT MAT.
NO sign of enemy movement. NO water at any point on track. Numerous suitable sites for ambushes were noted along track.

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

SERIAL No. 3.

REF MAP MUBO LOCALITY 1/25000

21 MAY 43

PATROL FOUND BY 13 Pl C Coy

PATROL COMD A/Cpl ERICSON

PATROL STRENGTH 3 ORs

NATURE OF PATROL RECCE

TIME OUT 0500K/19

TIME IN 1600K/20

OBJECT OF PATROL 1. To investigate suspected ambush posn in area NATIVE garden Map Ref 2849
2. To find enemy defences and possible strengths in KITCHEN CK area.

ROUTE OUT Detoured off main track around OP posn and gardens, coming back onto track above BUIGAP CK. Thence followed known track to suspected ambush posn ref 2849

ROUTE IN via same route.

NARRATIVE 1. Suspected ambush posn on OBSERVATION HILL was unoccupied.
2. Left Ridge of OBSERVATION HILL proceeded down KITCHEN CK for approx 3/4 hrs, found 4 tunnels dug into side of cliff. Very solid construction. Probably air raid shelters. Large enough for 2 men. Two huts also observed this area ref 3352 approx 10 ft and 10 ft constructed from rocks with roof of logs and stones. Too dark to observe the interior. Few yards further on was observed a tent (RD type) with opening facing in a WESTERLY direction. Three enemy came from creek to tent carrying water. Patrol moved to area for bivouac. Morning 20 MAY at 0700 hrs two enemy came round corner of track near position where patrol had track under observation. Enemy in front carried rifle, dressed in ~~khaki~~ ^{khaki} and wore cap. Although two were observed patrol estimated 4/5 enemy had moved on track by examining footprints after enemy had left area. Enemy moved up the creek towards the higher ridge. Patrol then moved back to Coy lines via route taken out.

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

SERIAL No. 4.

REF MAP MUBO LOCALITY 1/25000

DATE 20 MAY 43

PATROL FOUND BY 14 pl C Coy

PATROL COMD Cpl WEBSTER J.V.

PATROL STRENGTH 3 ORs

NATURE OF PATROL RECCE

TIME OUT 0500 hrs 19 MAY

TIME IN 1530 hrs 20 MAY

OBJECT OF PATROL To locate ambush at Map Ref 3145 and find if occupied, strength etc.

ROUTE OUT DOWN track from C Coy HQ to BUIAPAL through timber on opposite side.

ROUTE IN Crossed BUIAPAL CK a mile above out crossing and back through timber to Coy.

NARRATIVE Left Coy at 0500 hrs, crossing BUIAPAL CK in darkness into timber on opp side. When passing through timber found huts and bomb proff shelters, also water well ref 314416. Not been occupied for long time. Cut MUBO - OBSERVATION HILL track on top of rise above GARRISON HILL. From there track along razor back through kunai to another hill at foot of which ambush is situated. Sentry was discovered in a cleverly camouflaged shelter on side of track. Was six yds from him, appeared to be arranging camouflage on his head, was sitting at right angle to track, did not see us. Shelter which presume is over weapon pit is built into bush with long prickly leaves about six feet long and leaves turned into shelter. Long leaves hanging down in front to form curtain through which his face was placed. Retraced steps along track 150 yds, turned off in bush MAT MAT side and circle to point about 100 yds below ambush. Lay low for a time in case we had been seen. Heard noise like heavy tin falling. Spent about 4 hrs crawling up close and listening and observing - no result. Crawled along track after dark and listened two hrs - no result. Did recce along track at daylight. As to kunai grass and slope on KITCHEN CK side too steep to get along. After breakfast recced likely place for water point on MAT MAT side. Found track leading towards BUIAPAL CK. No fresh tracks, had not been used for at least 2 or 3 weeks. Heard hammering in ambush area crept up and listened for about 3 hours. No further noise or mt. Packed up at 1300 hrs and left area by track leading toward BUIAPAL CK from ambush. Track finished at watering place 500 yds from ambush. Two bamboo water ~~shunts~~ chutes catching good stream water. JAP empty amn box and two large enamel dishes nearby. Had not been used lately. Followed watercourse down to BUIAPAL good going but very steep near junction. Crossed BUIAPAL under cover and back sloping timber on MAT MAT side to Coy.

REMARKS Ambush is easily located by cutting MUBO OBSERVATION HILL track just inside the timber on slope up from GARRISON HILL. Following slope up to top of hill along razor back through two small patches and KUNAI. In a patch of KUNAI are two logs one on top of the other making barrier 3 ft high. Top log has machet marks and JFW 1-1-43 is written on right front. Piece of toilet paper was concealed under bottom log for future reference. 90 cautious paces further along is log lying diagonally across track with bomb scar on bottom side of it. Bomb hole on right of track opposite. From here track runs alongside of razor back and ambush is about 50 yds further on. From diagonal log dangerous ground. Between twin logs and diagonal log a small tree has been felled with all evidence of it taken away and the stump covered with dry leaves, this has been placed on top by hand within the last few days. Mosquitoes very bad day and night. The night was not cold and although we had wet clothing with dry pullover on spent a reasonably comfortable night.

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

SERIAL No. 5

REF MAP MUBO LOCALITY 1/25000 ~~XXXXX~~ DATE 19 MAY 43
PATROL FOUND BY 11 pl B COY PATROL CMD Lieut MALLETT
PATROL STRENGTH 1 offr 16 ORs plus NATURE OF PATROL RECCE FIGHTING PATROL
1 US Col and 2 US Sgts

TIME OUT 0830 hrs TIME IN 1400 hrs

OBJECT OF PATROL 1. To ascertain if enemy still in PIMPLE area.
2. To observe enemy activity.

ROUTE OUT JAP track

ROUTE IN JAP Track

NARRATIVE : Patrol moved via JAP track tactically to A Coy old posn where body of dead Jap located which was searched and identification tab removed. Patrol continued to possible ambush posn ref 375435 located previous day. Investigated same but found no enemy in occupation. Further along track body of Pte F GILL NX 93545 was found and pay book and wallet removed. An EY rifle was next located and brought back. Patrol then moved round left flank of PIMPLE and much damage caused by bombing was noted mid badly chopped and fallen trees. Patrol stopped and listened, hearing noise of dixies being rattled coming from PIMPLE. Two loud coughs were then heard to right of patrol which withdrew 60 yds to fire posn. No further mvt was seen or heard.

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

SERIAL No. 6

REF MAP MUBO LOCALITY 1/25000 Date 20 MAY 43
PATROL FOUND BY 10 Pl B Coy PATROL CMD Lieut WALKER
PATROL STRENGTH 1 offr 15 ORs NATURE OF PATROL Fighting.

OBJECT OF PATROL Recce of PIMPLE area also deal with any opposition in way.

ROUTE OUT JAP Track

ROUTE IN JAP Track

NARRATIVE : Patrol moved along JAP track passing A Coy's old posns and also the possible ambush ref 375435 at the log barricade previously reported. Continued along track to point where there is a track junction, one track running to top of PIMPLE and other to left flank. Patrol took up posn at the junct and listened for approx 1 hour. Enemy voices were heard quite clearly to right front, but no mvt was observed. Patrol returned by same route.

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

SERIAL No. 7.

REF MAP MUBO LOCALITY 1/25000 DATE 20 MAY 43
PATROL FOUND BY 11 pl B Coy PATROL CMD Pte MILLIER
PATROL STRENGTH 3 ORs NATURE OF PATROL RECCE

TIME OUT 0800K/20 TIME IN 1715K/20

OBJECT OF PATROL Recce LAWIS Track

ROUTE OUT Vickers track to LAW's TRACK JUNCTION thence NORTH along LAW's Track.

ROUTE IN Same

Replace in 2/7 Bn W.D.

May 1943

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

SERIAL No. 10

REF MAP MUBO LOCALITY SCALE 1/25000 DATE 21 MAY 43
PATROL FOUND BY 12 pl B Coy PATROL COMD Lieut MACKIE
PATROL STRENGTH 1 offr 15 ORs NATURE OF PATROL Recce
TIME OUT 0800K/21 TIME IN 1300K/21
OBJECT OF PATROL Recce PIMPLE area. Deal with any enemy met with. on track.
ROUTE OUT JAP Track
ROUTE IN JAP track
NARRATIVE Patrol moved along JAP track through A Coy old posn to track junction near PIMPLE ref 375440. Moved to left flank as far as fire lanes where patrol took up fire posns to observe and listen. Enemy voices were heard but NO enemy mvt seen.

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

SERIAL No. 12

REF MAP MUBO LOCALITY SCALE 1/25000 DATE 22 MAY 43
STRENGTH 1 offr 15 ORs PATROL COMD Lieut MALLETT
TIME OUT 0800 K/22 TIME IN 1200K/22
PATROL FOUND BY 11 pl B Coy NATURE OF PATROL Recce
OBJECT OF PATROL Observe enemy on PIMPLE and ensure that no move has been made.
NARRATIVE Moved along Jap track to old A Coy posns, moved further 150 yds to black log across track. At right of log is creeper screen which could be used as possible enemy ambush. Moved a further 150 yds and on right of track is log with posns dug front and rear ref 375435. Directly behind log is track leading off to right. Patrol left main track and moved through undergrowth approx 100 yds to posn which appeared to be left of PIMPLE. No tracks were crossed. Went to ground and listened. Heard sounds of chopping on left of PIMPLE and noise of a gun being cocked twice. Then returned home via same route. There has been no enemy mvt on track since yesterday's patrol.

NARRATIVE Moving from base camp along VICKERS TRACK patrol then followed LAW's Track to a point where there were two large bomb craters. From this point the track was so badly covered with fallen trees and branches that it was impossible to follow further. There were no signs of recent use - no enemy seen or heard.

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

SERIAL No. 8

REF MAP MUBO LOCALITY SCALE 1/25000 Date 22 MAY 43

PATROL FOUND BY 15 pl C Coy PATROL COMD Cpl HANDSAKER

PATROL STRENGTH 3 ORS NATURE OF PATROL RECCE

TIME OUT 0500K/21 TIME IN 1400K/22

OBJECT OF PATROL Recce of WOODY ISLAND.

ROUTE OUT Along WEST BANK of BITOI

ROUTE IN Same

NARRATIVE Patrol left at 0500 hrs moved along lower slopes of GARRISON HILL thence to the Banana Grove ref 3446 reached point ref 3446 found that ground was too open to cross, patrol returned to lower slopes GARRISON HILL where they observed and later bivouaced. No enemy seen. Patrol noted that ground in vicinity Banana Grove was very soft and footprints made were distinct.

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

SERIAL No. 9

REF MAP MUBO LOCALITY 1/25000 DATE 22 MAY 43

PATROL FOUND BY 14 pl C Coy PATROL COMD Cpl DONNELLY

PATROL STRENGTH 3 ORs NATURE OF PATROL Recce

TIME OUT 0500K/21 TIME IN 1530K/22

OBJECT OF PATROL Recce of GARRISON HILL

ROUTE OUT Move from pl posn 2939 along BUIAPAL to reentrant at 2944 Moved up this re-entrant to 3145 .

ROUTE IN Returned as above

NARRATIVE Patrol moved out as route given to re-entrant ref 2944 bivouaced the night. Morning 22 MAY patrol moved up ridge to 3145 and at 1100 hrs contacted 2 enemy who appeared to be a patrol who were examining footprints on track. Patrol engaged enemy, killing one, before withdrawing and returning to Coy lines.

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

SERIAL No. 11.

REF MAP MUBO LOCALITY SCALE 1/25000 DATE . 23 MAY 43
PATROL FOUND BY 13 pl C Coy PATROL COMD Cpl ERICSON
PATROL STRENGTH 6 ORs and Cpl NAISMITH TYPE OF PATROL FIGHTING
TIME OUT 1200K/22 TIME IN 1100K/23
OBJECT OF PATROL To booby trap track leading from OBSERVATION HILL
to KITCHEN CK.

ROUTE OUT Along ck to BUIAPAL thence up slopes OBSERVATION HILL to gardens
continuing to KITCHEN CK by track located by patrol SERIAL No.3

ROUTE IN Returned by same route as that out.

NARRATIVE Moving from REEVES OP the patrol followed ck running NORTH, to
junc with BUIAPAL CK, thence moved up BUIAPAL CK to point where
patrol ascends OBSERVATION HILL. On reaching ambush area near
crest of OBSERVATION HILL ref 2950 it was found to be in
occupation by enemy forcing patrol to skirt to left, after which
they occupied a posn for the night. At first light patrol
moved to tent previously located ref 3352 and here surrounded
same with NAISMITH BOOBY TRAPS in addition to booby trapping
all tracks leading to the area. Owing to the enclosed nature
of the posn it was not possible to remain and observe, so patrol
withdrew further up re-entrant. At first light 2/3 booby traps
were heard to explode. Patrol then moved back to crest
OBSERVATION HILL and at 1030K23 heard whole series of explosions
of the traps and rifle fire. Patrol skirted ambush posn and
returned to REEVES OP.

Details of booby traps set are as follows :

Across opening of tent and in area 5 booby traps. (5 Grenades)
Within radius of 300 yds of tent on tracks in area 25 booby
traps. (25 Grenades)
On junction of track leading from ambush posn to KITCHEN CK
10 booby traps were set junc ref 318516. (10 Grenades)
This represented total of booby traps carried by patrol.
(40 GRENADES)

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

SERIAL No. 13

REF MAP MUBO LOCALITY SCALE 1/25000 DATE 22 MAY 43
PATROL FOUND BY 11 pl B Coy PATROL COMD Pte WILLIAMSON
PATROL STRENGTH 3 ORs NATURE OF PATROL Recce
TIME OUT 0820K/22 TIME IN 1600K/22

OBJECT OF PATROL To move along LAW's Track and try to find the continuation of track where it has been destroyed by bombings.

ROUTE OUT Along VICKER's to LAWS TRACK.

ROUTE IN As above.

NARRATIVE Moved along VICKER's track to junction ref 3739
Moved along LAW's Track approx 30 yds and noted a very faint track leading to the WEST. As LAW's Track had been recced on previous day decided to reconnoiter this track. Although commencement of track was faint, after following it for approx 300 yds it developed into a well defined track, recently used by enemy. At ref 3642 approx patrol heard enemy voices, encircled posn of enemy by 150 yds and heard enemy voices once more. Patrol took posns to observe and listen, no movement seen voices faded away. Patrol crossed track and moved back along line to posn where enemy had been first heard, voices were again heard in this area. Patrol waited and voices again indicated that enemy had moved back along track. Patrol broke bush to LAW's track then returned to VICKER's track, thence to Coy area. It was noted that few feet along new Jap track a tree had been marked ME 11.

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PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

SERIAL No. 14

REF MAP MUBO LOCALITY SCALE 1/25000 DATE 23 MAY 43
PATROL FOUND BY 12 pl B Coy PATROL COMD Cpl JONES
PATROL STRENGTH 3 ORs NATURE OF PATROL Recce
TIME OUT 0800K/23 TIME IN 1520K/23
OBJECT OF PATROL Recce area from right flank B Coy, towards PIMPLE to ascertain whether evidence of enemy movement in that direction could be found.

ROUTE OUT As per nattative.

ROUTE IN As per narrative

NARRATIVE ; Patrol moved down Jap track to standing patrol ref 3841 then moved on bearing due EAST until head of re-entrant ref 3941 was reached. The Eastern side of this re-entrant was followed in general Northern direction to ref 4045 where re-entrant took definite bend to WEST ~~WEST~~ towards PIMPLE. Patrol moved along this for 300 yds then adopted listening posn. No movement was seen or heard. Patrol then moved ~~across~~ re-entraht returning on opposite side to approx ref 4043 then moved into bottom of re-entrant. Here evidence of the re-entrant having been used by troops was found but not of recent date. Patrol eventually returned to standing patrol by same route as that followed out. No tracks running EAST from PIMPLE area were located by the patrol.

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

SERIAL No. 15

REF MAP MUBO LOCALITY SCALE 1/25000 DATE 23 MAY 43
PATROL FOUND BY 10 pl B Coy PATROL COMD Lieut WALKER
PATROL STRENGTH 1 offr 15 ORs NATURE OF PATROL Recce
TIME OUT 1200 hrs TIME IN 1545 hrs
OBJECT OF PATROL To maintain contact with enemy and ensure no fwd movement.
ROUTE OUT Along Hap track to junct of 375440, took track to left flank and followed it for 25 yds.
ROUTE IN As above.
NARRATIVE Up to this point no noise heard ~~in~~MS . At this point heard sounds of chopping on immediate front, and sound of voices on right. Remained in this area for 15 minutes and returned.
REMARKS No sign of enemy footprints on whole route.

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

SERIAL No. 16

REF MAP MUBO LOCALITY SCALE 1/25000 DATE 24 MAY 43
PATROL FOUND BY 11 pl B Coy PATROL COMD Sgt TENNANT
PATROL STRENGTH 8 ORs TYPE OF PATROL Fighting Patrol
TIME OUT 1530K/23 TIME IN 1530K/24
ROUTE OUT Left from Coy area, followed VICKERS TRACK to Junct LAWS TRACK
then followed new track.
ROUTE IN As for route out.
OBJECT OF PATROL To ambush enemy patrol reported to be using new track.

NARRATIVE Patrol set ambush at a point 150 yds along the new track at
1630K/23. The track was then reced for a further 300 yds
but original posn found to be most suitable. Patrol remained
in ambush posn until 1330K/24. No mvt was heard or observed
during this time. The patrol then reced track for 600 yds
when it was found that it joined the old Jap track SOUTH of
A Coys old posn ref 375425 4

REMARKS Any previous mvt along this track would have been obliterated
by the heavy rain which fell while the patrol was in the ambush
posn. This track has three approaches to the VICKERS and
LAWS Tracks. Two Jap bodies found at the junct with the old
Jap track had been previously searched.

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

SERIAL No. 20

REF MAP MUBO LOCALITY SCALE 1/25000 DATE 24 MAY 43
PATROL FOUND BY 12 pl B Coy PATROL COMD Lieut MACKIE
PATROL STRENGTH 1 offr and 15 ORs TYPE OF PATROL Recce
TIME OUT 0930K/24 TIME IN 1330K/24
ROUTE OUT Along Jap track to junc ref 375440 .
ROUTE IN As above
OBJECT Recce area in vicinity of PIMPLE.

NARRATIVE Patrol moved along Jap track to old A Coy posn searching t
this area thoroughly. No signs of enemy activity found.
Patrol continued along track to junc ref 375440 covering
the track for 20 yds on either side as they moved along it.
At this point a loud voice was heard as if giving a command.
Patrol adopted listening posn but only noises heard thereafter
were occasional coughs. Patrol remained in the area for
35 minutes but had difficulty in observing and listening
owing to the heavy rain which was falling.

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

SERIAL No. 19.

REF MAP MUBO LOCALITY SCALE 1/25000 DATE 26 MAY 43
PATROL FOUND BY 15 pl C Coy PATROL COMD Cpl BLACK
PATROL STRENGTH 3 ORs TYPE OF PATROL Recce
TIME OUT 0300K/ 25 TIME IN 1800K/26
ROUTE OUT From Vickers Ridge across river to NORTH end of drome
then to ref 3445.
ROUTE IN Same route.
OBJECT OF PATROL Recce WOODY ISLAND area.

NARRATIVE Patrol moved from Vickers area to island in river ref 3143 then across river to bank North end MUBO drome. From here enemy sentry was observed near white rock at ref 326444 and at 1200K/25 this sentry was relieved by two men. Noise of digging could be heard and such sounds indicated that a number of men were at work. This noise was accompanied by occasional clanging as if of a shovel and pick striking together. Patrol remained in posn till late afternoon, then moved fwd to ref 333442 at which point it was considered that the digging was proceeding at ref 330450. The digging ceased at 1700 hrs. After first light digging recommenced. Patrol commenced return and found it necessary to crawl for long distance to avoid observation by sentry already mentioned.

REMARKS Patrol could not recognise BANANA PATCH which has been a ref point up to present owing to the fact that there are quite a number of such patches in that vicinity.

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

SERIAL No. 21.

REF MAP MUBO LOCALITY 1/25000 DATE 25 MAY 43
PATROL FOUND BY 10 pl B Coy PATROL COMD Pte Pembroke.
PATROL STRENGTH 3 ORs TYPE OF PATROL Recce
TIME OUT 0815K/24 TIME IN 1000K/25
OBJECT OF PATROL 1. To follow re-entrant between PIMPLE and GREEN HILL
2. To observe any tracks or mvt or enemy disposns.
ROUTE OUT As per Narrative.
ROUTE IN As per Narrative.

NARRATIVE Patrol moved down JAP TRACK to standing patrol ref 3841 then moved on bearing due EAST until head of re-entrant ref 3941 was reached. This was followed for 300 yds from which point a noise like a box falling was heard. The patrol listened for 2 hours but nothing further was heard. ~~The patrol listened~~ Continued along re-entrant to ref 4144 where another re-entrant joined from the EAST. A further 200 yds another re-entrant from the EAST was followed for approx 100 yds. Patrol climbed to the side of re-entrant - observed and listened for 1 hour, NMS or heard. Returned to main re-entrant continued to ref 4145 where it dropped steeply and opened out. Remained 1 hour to listen and observe but could only hear faint noise of BITOI RIVER. Retraced steps to ref 4141 where camped the night. Heard nothing all night.
25 May followed main re-entrant 100 yds then heard or saw nothing, returned to Coy HQ by route out.

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

SERIAL No. 18

REF AIR PHOTO No.3 83/M series. Date 25 MAY 43
PATROL FOUND BY 18 pl D Coy 2/6 Bn PATROL COMD Cpl McELGUNN
PATROL STRENGTH 3 ORs TYPE OF PATROL Recce
TIME OUT 1800K/23 TIME IN 1530K/25
ROUTE OUT On course parallel to BITOI OVERFLOW, on Southern side keeping off the track.
ROUTE IN Along track.
OBJECTIVE Recce DUALI area.

NARRATIVE Patrol moved out at dusk from June BITOI, BUYAWIM RIVERS ~~at first light~~ to avoid observation. At first light the party proceeded through undergrowth to South of track endeavouring to avoid track as much as possible, finally reaching point ref SD5S2 when it was impossible to penetrate the thick growth any further. At this point the sound of chopping on Northern side of OVERFLOW could be heard and a slight smoke column was visible. Patrol then moved on to track and commenced the return journey. The native garden ref SET was passed through and no evidence of enemy occupation could be found nor was there any fruit in the garden. The suspected ambush ref SCU was also passed through and only evidence found of such posn were two circular areas where undergrowth had been thinned out. No weapon pits could be located. No result of air strike 23 MAY could be found in area searched.

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

SERIAL No. 22.

REF MAP MUBO LOCALITY SCALE 1/25000 DATE 27 MAY 43
 PATROL FOUND BY B Coy PATROL COMD Pte HEALEY
 PATROL STRENGTH 3 ORs NATURE OF PATROL Recce
 TIME OUT 0600K/25 TIME IN 1300K/26
 OBJECT OF PATROL To recce LAW's track to the PIMPLE.
 ROUTE OUT VICKER's TRACK.
 ROUTE IN Same.

NARRATIVE The patrol moved down VICKERS track to ref 3739 where a new track of a bearing of 37 deg M was noticed. The patrol followed along this track to ref 4841 where they found evidence of a number of tps having slept on either side of the track as well as numerous enemy footprints thought to have been made in the previous two days. They continued to ref 4842 where the bush had been cleared and trees felled. They returned from this point.

REMARKS It has now been ascertained that there are two tracks off VICKERS track between BASE CAMP and LAW's track running NORTH. The first of these leads to A Coy's old posn and is apparently the one followed by patrol No 16, while the second was the one located by patrol No.13 and followed by this patrol.

:PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

SERIAL No 26

REF MAP MUBO LOCALITY 1/25000 27 MAY 43
 PATROL FOUND BY C and D Coys PATROL COMD Lieut HERROD
 PATROL STRENGTH 1 offr 16 ORs NATURE OF PATROL FIGHTING.
 TIME OUT 0800K/26 TIME IN 1230K/27

OBJECT OF PATROL :- Fighting patrol to follow up air STRIKE and make contact in KITCHEN CK and ambush areas.

ROUTE OUT : Patrol left pl area ref 224440 , moved BUIAPAL to RV area - moved to OBSERVATION HILL - skirted AMBUSH AREA, moved into KITCHEN CK returned to AMBUSH POSN.

ROUTE IN : From AMBUSH Posn to lower OBSERVATION HILL thence BUIAPAL.

NARRATIVE : Patrol moved from pl area ref 2244 at 0800K/26 to R.V. BUIAPAL CK ref 2648. AIR STRIKE from 0900/0925K/26. Patrol moved up slopes of OBSERVATION HILL skirting ambush posns in area ref 2850 2950 Moved to head of KITCHEN CK ref 3152. Patrol remained in this posn while recce gp moved fwd to area ref 3352. Tent was located and recced - no enemy seen. Patrol left area returning to TRACK area ref 285484, moved to ambush in area ref 282495. Posn had been vacated by enemy, ample evidence of enemy having suffered casualties from accurate bombing. Bombs had fallen in areas of prepared MG posns and weapon pits. Patrol attempted to force ambush posn ref 2950. Patrol fired on by 3 enemy. Patrol killed one enemy. Owing to posn being sited on narrow razor back, patrol was unable to close with enemy. After several determined attempts to encircle, patrol withdrew.

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

SERIAL No. 23.

REF MAP MUBO LOCALITY SCALE 1/25000 DATE 25 MAY 43
 PATROL FOUND BY 11 pl B Coy PATROL COMD Lieut MALLETT
 PATROL STRENGTH 1 offr 15 ORs TYPE OF PATROL Recce
 TIME OUT 1330K/25 TIME IN 1800K/25
 ROUTE OUT Along Jap Track
 ROUTE IN By same track.
 OBJECT OF PATROL Recce PIMPLE area.

NARRATIVE

Patrol followed JAP track from B Coy posn to junc at ref 375440 when patrol moved to left flank. Here a listening posn was adopted and patrol heard the sound of chopping, coughing and murmur of voices. Patrol did not observe any enemy mvt, and from patrolling during past week it is evident that enemy has not moved fwd along Jap track.

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

SERIAL No. 24

REF MAP MUBO LOCALITY SCALE 1/25000 DATE 26 MAY 43
 PATROL FOUND BY 10 pl B Coy PATROL COMD Lieut WALKER
 PATROL STRENGTH 1 offr 15 ORs NATURE OF PATROL Recce
 TIME OUT 0930K/26 TIME IN 1520K/26
 OBJECT OF PATROL To see that enemy has not moved fwd.
 ROUTE OUT Jap Track
 ROUTE IN Jap Track

NARRATIVE

Patrol moved along Jap track passing A Coy's old posn to track junc ref 375440 one running to top of PIMPLE and other to left flank. Patrol took up posn at the junc and listened, at first heard no sound but later heard voice as if giving command, after which talking commenced. Found numerous rubber footprints on track to PIMPLE but none between track junc and B Coy posn. Remained in area 15 mins, moved back along Jap Track to NORTH of A Coys old posn where laid an ambush from 1200K/26 to 1500K/26. No result from this ambush so returned Coy posn from this point.

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

SERIAL No. 25

REF MAP MUBO 1/25000 DATE 27 MAY 43
PATROL FOUND BY 10 pl PATROL COMD Cpl HARE
PATROL STRENGTH 3 ORs TYPE OF PATROL Recce
TIME OUT 0815K/26 TIME IN 1600K/27
ROUTE OUT Along re-entrant EAST of B Coy posn.
ROUTE IN Same as out.
OBJECT OF PATROL Recce area NORTH of PIMPLE

NARRATIVE : The patrol moved EAST from B Coy standing patrol posn and contacted the head of a re-entrant at ref 700847 and followed this in a Northerly direction to ref 702859 where the valley fell away sharply and it was possible to hear clearly the BITOI RIVER further to the NORTH. A spur running in a general Westerly direction was then followed and at ref 699860 and old pad not recently used was found. Moving fwd a short distance the murmur of voices could be heard to the right of the patrol which adopted a listening posn. The patrol bivouaced in the area for the night and heard voices and occasional coughs while there. At first light the patrol moved 200 yds to the SOUTH and found old AUSTRALIAN OP RATION tins in addition to an enemy propoganda pamphlet. The patrol moved 100 yds further to the WEST but could not locate the track running from the PIMPLE to GREEN HILL. The patrol then returned.

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

SERIAL No.29

REF MAP MUBO SCALE 1/25000 DATE 27 MAY 43
PATROL FOUND BY 10 pl B Coy PATROL COMD Pte POUNDER
PATROL STRENGTH 3ORs TYPE OF PATROL Recce
TIME OUT 0815K/27 TIME IN 1615K/27
ROUTE OUT Along VICKER's, LAW's tracks.
ROUTE IN Same as out.
OBJECT OF PATROL Recce from LAW's track to PIMPLE.

NARRATIVE Patrol moved from VICKER's track along LAW's track to the bomb craters ~~at~~ ref 692855. From this point the patrol continued NORTH through the undergrowth to ref 653897 then moved some hundreds of yards to the EAST. Voices could then be heard and the patrol adopted a listening posn. Further voices were heard then LMG fire broke out to their right. Patrol then withdrew.

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

SERIAL No. 27

REF PHOTO 83M series No.3

DATE 27 MAY 43

Patrol found by 18 pl D Coy 2/6 AUST INF BN PATROL COMD A/Cpl FISHER

Patrol Strength 30RS TYPE OF PATROL Recce

TIME OUT 1750K/26 TIME IN 1330K/27

- OBJECT OF PATROL
1. To observe area ref SDU and SET for likely enemy ambush positions.
 2. Observe mvt if any in this area.

NARRATIVE : At 1750K/26 the patrol left the RIVER JUNCTION, and moved along the BITOI OVERFLOW track intending to bivouac at the native hut ref SD8W3, it was raining and very dark and after 1 1/2 hrs travel we were ~~unable~~ unable to locate the hut. The patrol remained under some trees until 0115 hrs. The rain having stopped and the moon being just up we moved along the main track until 0335 hrs when we broke bush and waited for daylight. At 0600 hrs we moved for approx 20 mins due SOUTH up a ridge and then EAST for approx 1 hour. We came to a clearing approx 400 yds by 40 yds which was bounded by BANANA trees and grass about 2 ft 6 in high in the centre. There was no sign of life nor of anyone having worked there. The bush we had moved to up to this point had not been thick and it was merely a matter of pushing our way through it. We observed for 20 minutes at the clear patch, the time then being 0735 hrs. I cannot recognise the patch on the photo but it was some distance from the OVERFLOW as I could not hear the noise of the water. The clearing was running in a SOUTH - SE direction. We crossed the Western end of it and 50 yds farther on came on to the main track. We followed the track along for 1/4 hr until it branched where a faint track ran to the left towards the OVERFLOW. We moved along this to the overflow and could see a garden on the other side which gave the appearance of being overgrown. There were no signs of mvt on either this track or on the main track although the latter was well defined. We returned to the fork and carried on down the main track for another 20 minutes. The track was firm. At this stage we broke bush on both sides for approx 100 yds in an endeavour to discover further clearings but we could find no breaks in the bush at all. We went back onto the track and retraced our steps, the time now being 0940 hrs. We returned along the track slowly and found signs of footprints made by AUSTRALIAN boots but they gave the appearance of being old. We came to the place where we had broken bush at 0335 hrs the previous night. The track was crossing and re-crossing a small running ck the whole time. We then returned direct to the RIVER JUNCTION arriving there 1330 hrs.

REMARKS : On a close study of the photo I am pretty sure we inspected clearing ref SD7UL moved ~~the~~ across the top end of it to the track and followed the faint track to ref SD2U3. I consider that the point where we broke bush to both sides was at ref SD5U8. From that point the track was followed the whole way back to the RIVER JUNCTION. There was no sign of anybody or any positions. In parts the track was slightly overgrown and bushes had to be brushed aside. Where we stopped on the outward journey there were few mosquitoes but further on they were extremely prevalent. Water was plentiful the whole time. Mosquito lotion kept the mosquitoes off the face and hands but they still bit through our shirts. Whilst stopped during the night we heard what sounded like a dog barking three times in all. It appeared to come from somewhere up on Mt STEWARD on the ridge running down towards the OVERFLOW. It could be heard quite distinctly in spite of the fact that it was raining heavily all the time.

(sgd) A/Cpl FISHER

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

SERIAL No. 28

REF MAP MUBO LOCALITY SCALE 1/25000 DATE 27 MAY 43
PATROL FOUND BY 12 Pl B Coy PATROL COMD Lieut MACKIE
PATROL STRENGTH 1 offr 15 ORs TYPE OF PATROL Recce
TIME OUT 1200K/27 TIME IN 2255K/27
ROUTE OUT Along Jap track
ROUTE IN Same as above
OBJECT OF PATROL Recce PIMPLE area.

NARRATIVE Patrol moved from B Coy posn along the Jap track and when approaching A Coy's old posn heard the rattle of tins. A shot followed and Pte PINCOTT fell to the ground. The patrol moved off the track and Pte SANDERS while taking aim from behind a tree was shot in the back by a Jap on the flank who immediately moved back to his own troops after firing the shot. The patrol then attempted to move fwd on either side of the track but was unable to do so. The patrol comd then moved fwd to recce and was shot in the shoulder while 7 yards from Pte SANDERS. A runner had already moved back to B Coy and at this point Lieut FIETZ arrived with 10 men. He attempted movement to the right but could not make progress on account of enemy fire. A bren gun was then set up to draw the enemy fire which was successful but the place from which the fire came could not be ascertained although estimated to be only 25 yds from the bren gun. Pte PINCOTT called out to wait till dark before attempting to remove him. An attempt was made to move to the left but this also was unsuccessful due to enemy fire. Late in the afternoon one Jap was seen to be moving towards Pte PINCOTT who also apparently noticed him and threw a grenade causing the Jap to crawl away screaming and moaning. The moaning subsided soon after as the Jap collapsed and died. At 1700 hrs there was much shouting from one Jap to another, also the sound of chopping apparently in an endeavour to indicate the presence of a large number of tps. After dark the patrol reached the two Privates and found them both dead. Pte PINCOTT's death was caused, it is believed, by the throwing of the grenade ~~opening~~ opening a chest wound. Owing to the proximity of the enemy it was impossible to remove the bodies so the personal effects were obtained. It is estimated that the enemy used two LMGs and a number of rifles in this engagement.

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

SERIAL No. 31.

REF MAP MUBO LOCALITY 1/25000 DATE : 29 MAY 43
 PATROL FOUND BY 10 pl B Coy PATROL COMD Cpl PUNIARD
 PATROL STRENGTH 7 ORs NATURE OF PATROL Recce
 TIME OUT 0830K/29 TIME IN 1530K/29
 OBJECT OF PATROL To establish listening post near A Coy's old posn.
 ROUTE OUT Post standing patrol ref 3841 to ref 3942.
 ROUTE IN Same.

NARRATIVE : THE patrol moved past the standing patrol ref 3841 to ref 3942 from which point A Coy's old posn could be observed. They remained in the posn for 3 1/2 hrs during which time voices could be heard coming from A Coy's old posn.

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

SERIAL No. 33.

REF MAP MUBO LOCALITY SCALE 1/25000 DATE 30 MAY 43
 PATROL FOUND BY 14 pl G Coy PATROL COMD Cpl O'SHEA
 TIME OUT 1300K/29 TIME IN 1230K/30
 PATROL STRENGTH 3 ORs NATURE OF PATROL Recce

OBJECT OF PATROL : 1. Whether ambush posn ref 3145 occupied.
 2. Ascertain strength enemy.
 3. Recce area for setting booby traps.

NARRATIVE : The patrol moved from G Coy posn at MAT MAT across the BUIAPAL CK to GARRISON HILL. The main track running up this feature was followed to the logs across the track located by patrol No. 4. One man moved fwd from this posn towards the ambush and heard enemy voices. He returned to the logs after which the patrol moved around the left flank towards the ambush. A posn was reached when chopping could be heard followed by the sound of a tree falling. Voices could also be heard. After listening for some time the patrol withdrew down the feature to bivouac for the night. At 0600K/30 they again moved past the logs by the left flank and again voices could be heard, accompanied by the rattle of tins. From the noises it was estimated that 20 men were in the area. Patrol moved through the bush contacting the enemy 'pissar' track found by patrol No.4 and returned by this track to the BUIAPAL.

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

SERIAL No. 34.

REF MAP MUBO LOCALITY SCALE 1/25000 DATE 29 MAY 43
 PATROL FOUND BY 11 pl B Coy PATROL COMD Sgt GIBSON
 PATROL STRENGTH 8 ORs NATURE OF PATROL Fighting

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

SERIAL No. 32.

REF MAP MUBO LOCALITY SCALE 1/25000 DATE 31 MAY 43
PATROL FOUND BY 13 pl C Coy PATROL COMD
PATROL STRENGTH 3 ORs TYPE OF PATROL Recce
TIME OUT 1330K/29 TIME IN 1130K/31
ROUTE OUT From REEVES to STONY CK to NORTH. From junc with
BULAPAL CK to ref 2549 thence to enemy ambush posn
and along track to KITCHEN CK.
ROUTE IN By same route.

OBJECT OF PATROL : 1. Ascertain if enemy ambush ref 2850 occupied.
2. Recce KITCHEN CK area.

NARRATIVE : The patrol moved from REEVES along the ck running NORTH to its junc with BULAPAL CK. The BULAPAL was followed to ref 2549 at which point an attempt was made to reach the track running from enemy ambush posn ref 2850 down to GARRISON HILL, by making a detour to the EAST through the bush. As progress was difficult the patrol returned to ref 2549 when they bivouaced for the night 29/30 MAY. At first light the patrol moved towards the enemy ambush by the usual patrol route and on approaching the posn broke bush to the EAST coming in to the track running to GARRISON HILL. Here the patrol listened and heard much mvt and voices indicating the presence of a number of troops. The patrol continued towards KITCHEN CK contacting a faint track which was followed to the upper part of KITCHEN CK. At this point it was discovered that two enemy were moving down the track examining their footprints. Owing to the difficulty of moving out of KITCHEN CK which ~~is~~ is narrow with precipitous sides patrol withdrew skirting both the enemy and the ambush posn.

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT

No 33

SERIAL No. 34

REF MAP MUBO LOCALITY SCALE 1/25000 DATE 29 MAY 43
PATROL FOUND BY 11 pl B Coy PATROL COMD Sgt GIBSON
PATROL STRENGTH 8 ORs NATURE OF PATROL Fighting
TIME OUT 0830K/28 TIME IN 1230K/29
OBJECT OF PATROL To set ambush on track reported by PATROL 13
ROUTE OUT From Base Camp along VICKERS TRACK
ROUTE IN Same

NARRATIVE : The patrol moved down VICKERS TRACK to track junc ref 3739 and followed new track to ref 3840 where an ambush posn was set up from 0920K/28 to 1100K/29. No enemy mvt was seen or heard during this time after which the patrol moved to 3841. As no movement was seen and nothing heard the patrol returned. No enemy footprints were noticed at any point on this track.



AUSTRALIAN COMFORTS FUND

In Conjunction with

Y.M.C.A.

(Use Military Address only)

No.



4 JUN 1943

Australian Imperial Forces.

To Adjt.

2/7 AUST. INF. BN.

Enclosed is a copy of the WAR DIARY for May '43. This repeats portion of the doings for the month as passed on in my letter of 17 MAY but will give you a complete record for the INTELLIGENCE records for this month.

Since the arrival of 2/7 IND. COY. of 29 MAY we have been busy passing on info. and assisting them to build dumps and dig extra pens. to accomodate the influse of men.

The top did a very low recon. three days ago but did NOT stop long, since then he has NOT followed it up with any of his heavier stuff.

The whole show is going smoothly and we would welcome an intrusion to upset the equanimity of this delightful valley.

How did the br. fair in the recent fighting which you mentioned? Saw Spiky Walker's decoration in a copy of New Guinea Gold the other day.

Please pass on my regards to the C.O. and officers of 2/7.

I been Johnny

MAIL YOUR LETTERS A.P.O.

DO NOT MENTION MILITARY ACTIVITIES.

O.C. 2/7 AUST. INF. BN. DET.

BENA FORCE.

5761 NAC 76
JUN 1943

War Diary

Det of 2/7 INF BN

ATTACHED BENA FORCE

DATE

MAY 1 On receiving a radio from Airforce saying B24 is missing & maybe BENA area Lieut Robertson & party have again set out in a South Eastern direction to see if they can locate it. Two Douglas planes came in to-day with stores. They flew round over the area where we think the plane maybe but could not locate it.

- 2) Received a report about a plane crash from natives east of No 1 op so Sgt Esson & party of police left to investigate. Fired flares in the hope it may guide any survivors from the crashed plane. Flares being fired between 1900 & 2000 hrs at 10 min intervals
- 3) Still no news from search parties again fired flares from No 1 op after dusk in the hope it may guide in any survivors. One Douglas plane came in with stores for BENA force.
- 4 Still no news from search parties again fired flares from No 1 op after dusk.
Put the telephone on to No. 3 op. thus increasing again the already large BENA sig net work.
- 5 BENA y.m.c.a. now completed.
Word came in to-day by police boy runner that both parties had reached the crashed plane yesterday. Found it to be a total wreck & the crew of 10 dead & badly burnt. The natives had buried all the airmen but the search parties re buried each man wrapped in a blanket in a separate grave. Both parties returned & two of the airmen were not found but most likely they were completely burnt in the front cockpits which were buried deep in to the ground.

MAY

- 6 The Sgt of the m.m.g. is conducting a m.g. school for the m.g. section starting to-day.
-
7. A patrol of 4 men including Gpl Berry + Ptes Norton Whitlow + Mc Pherson left for Matahaua to investigate an alledged JAPANESE leaflet found $6\frac{1}{2}$ hrs this side of WESA.
-
8. Gpl Barrett + patrol of 3 men reced track BENA-WESA for $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours out from BENA.
Pte Symonds + Booby left for Lihona from where they will observe JAP movement in the vally below.
-
- 9/ Gpl Hughes + patrol of three men reced the track BENA-WESA for $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours from BENA
Two Douglas planes came in to-day bringing more stores + mail for BENA force. 6 American airmen arrived here + are going out to the scene of the plane crash
-
- 10/ Party of Americans with Sgt Essen (ANGU) as guide left early this morning for scene of plane crash 2 days South of BENA BENA.
-
- 11 Put in new telephone to NO. 4 o.p. which is situated on the hill passes north from BENA BENA.
-
- 12 Gpl Hughes + a patrol of 3 left for KAINANTU at 0800 hrs but as we received word of JAPS crossing river at WAIMERIBA the patrol was recalled + ordered to LIHONA-via-YANOFI
Pte Dunn was sent to meet them at YANOFI with more stores.

- 12 Sgt Chalmers & patrol of three reced track BENA-WESA for $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours out from BENA.
-
- 13 Cpl Barrett & a patrol of three reced the track BENA-WESA for $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours out.
Cpl WOODHEAD arrived from WESA to report that the station was surprised by a JAP patrol & that the wireless & cypher code had fallen in to JAP hands. He says he hit several JAPS before withdrawing but does not know if he killed any or not.
Pte Dunn returned from YANOFI at 1900 hrs with Pte Hodges who hurt his knee & could not go to Lihona.
- 14 Cpl Berry & a patrol of three reced track BENA-WESA for $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours out from BENA.
Booby traps & gear put in to boxes & placed in readiness for each section to take out & set up in any emergency.
-
- 15 Native rumour has it there are 4 JAPS in the headwater area of GARFUKA valley so while Capt Heinicke Angau went to investigate. We took precautions & set up Booby traps on the tracks leading from that area. At 2030 hrs a native caused some excitement in carelessly kicking a trip wire with a grenade on the end of it. He was very lucky & escaped with a slight cut on the leg.
-
16. Cpl Berry & a party patrolled track BENA-WESA for $3\frac{1}{2}$ hrs out from Bena. The whole force stood to in their posn. at 0530 hrs.
Booby traps are again set to - night so natives beware.

MAY

- 17 Cpl Barrett with party of three patrolled track BEWA-WESA for $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours out from BENA. at Dusk the booby traps were set again & at dawn the force stood to. Pte Symonds returned from Lihona at noon with a report from Cpl Hughes.
- 18 Cpl Berry & patrol patrolled BENA-WESA track for $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours out from Bena. Pte Morris returned this morning after he completed the dumps of stores at YANOFI & TARU. The booby traps are set again now.
- 19 Cpl Barrett & patrol of three patrolled BENA-WESA track for $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours out from Bena. Patrol of 4 men are operating in area of old Lihona. Patrol of 4 men operating on track KAINANTU-KUMIANG. These patrols cover possible JAP approach to this base from RAMU Valley where JAPs are operating in large patrols.
20. Patrolling still continuing & booby traps are set at night. In camp bridge buildings scrub clearing are progressing according to plan.
- 21 Cpl Hughes returned to camp from LIHONA leaving two men there to watch for any en. movl across the RAMU RIVER. Kainantu was bombed by eleven JAP planes 4 bombs fell harmlessly between Str buildings & SDA mission. AIYURA was also bombed & strafed but very little damage was done & no casualties.

MAY

- 22 Kainantu + Aiyura bombed + strafed by seven enemy planes but very little damage was done & no casualties. One Douglas escorted by four Lightnings came in with stores for the force to-day.
-
- 23 Beece planes have been very active this area to-day recing the valley from KAIWANTU to MINGENDE but I don't think they picked up our posn. at BENA-BENA
-
- 24 Reports came through by radio that Mingende has been strafed & bombed to-day. Bena Force still patrolling in the KAINANTU area Sihona area & on the BENA WESA track.
-
- 25 Area near Mingende aerodrome & radio str was the scene of a heavy air raid to-day. Five natives were killed six horses & two sheep killed. Beece planes have again passed over our area but have so far not seen anything that they consider worth bombing.
-
- 26 Kainantu was again bombed to-day but damage was slight. MTHAGEN & neighbouring areas have also received attention from the Jap Airforce. Both dromes have been hit several times.
-
- 27 Received word to say the 2/7 AUST. IND. Coy. would probably arrive on MAY 29 by plane from MORESBY.
-
- 28 Preparing areas & huts for extra troops. Making arrangements for the arrival of so many

MAY

- 28 transport planes on the BENA DROME.
After the arrival of Lieut White at LIHONA our patrol there has now been withdrawn.
-
- 29 BENA-BENA was the scene of much air activity to-day when 24 Douglas escorted by 24 lightnings came in with the 2/7 AUST. IND. Coy under Comd. of Maj. McCaddy.
-
- 30 Very busy day getting stores & GPs moved to their new quarters. The siting of new posns & showing the officers of the 2/7 AUST. IND. Coy. our fixed posns. Bena Force H.Q. will now be moved from drome area to Sigora where MAJ. McCaddy is at present.
-
31. Still very busy getting stores moved off Bena plateau in case of enemy raid, & everyone settled into their new quarters. The natives have been kept very busy carting in more fire wood for all the addition cook houses.

Signed. N. Rourke

CAPT.

O.C. 2/7 AUST. INF. BN. DET.

BENA FORCE.

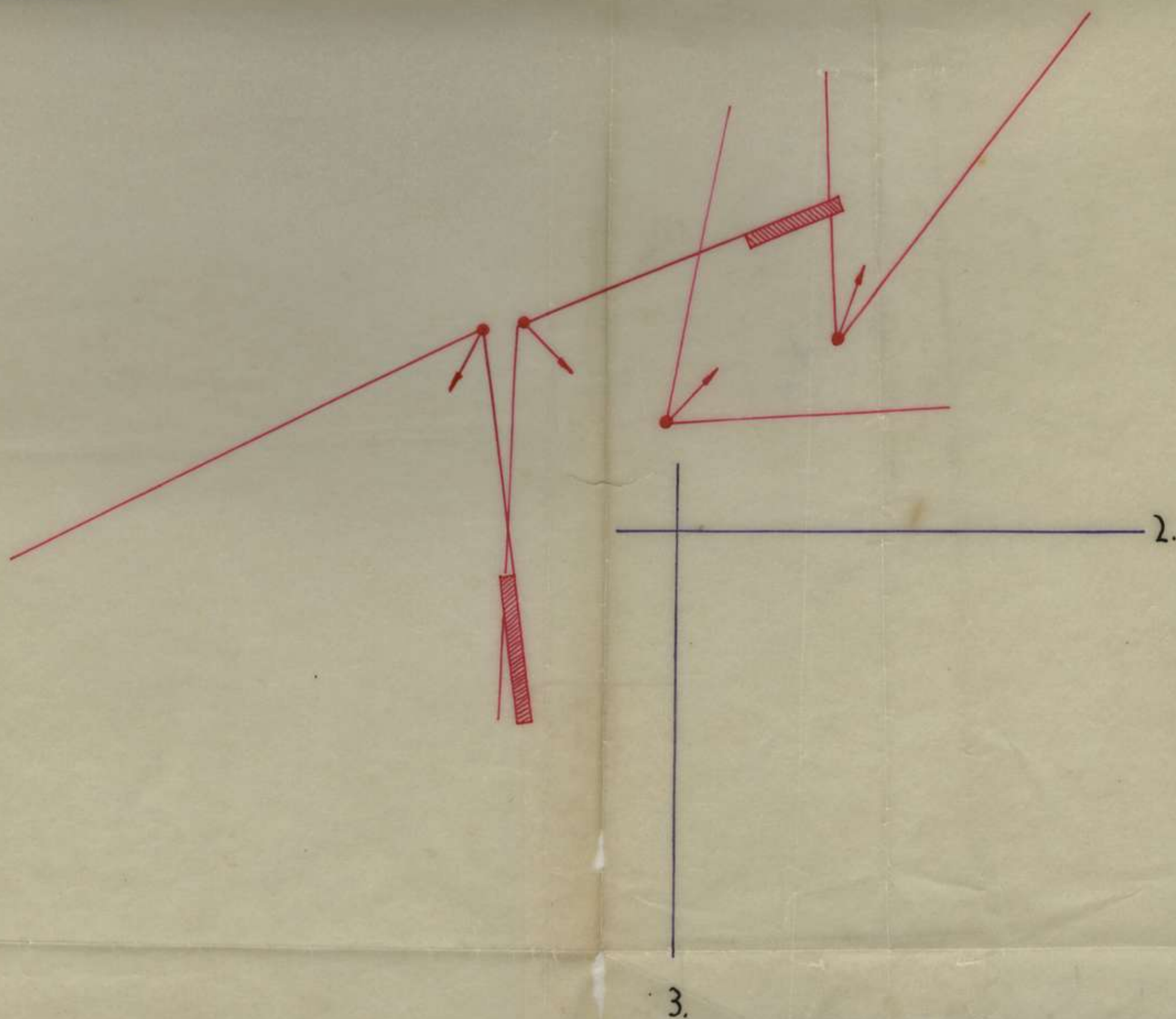
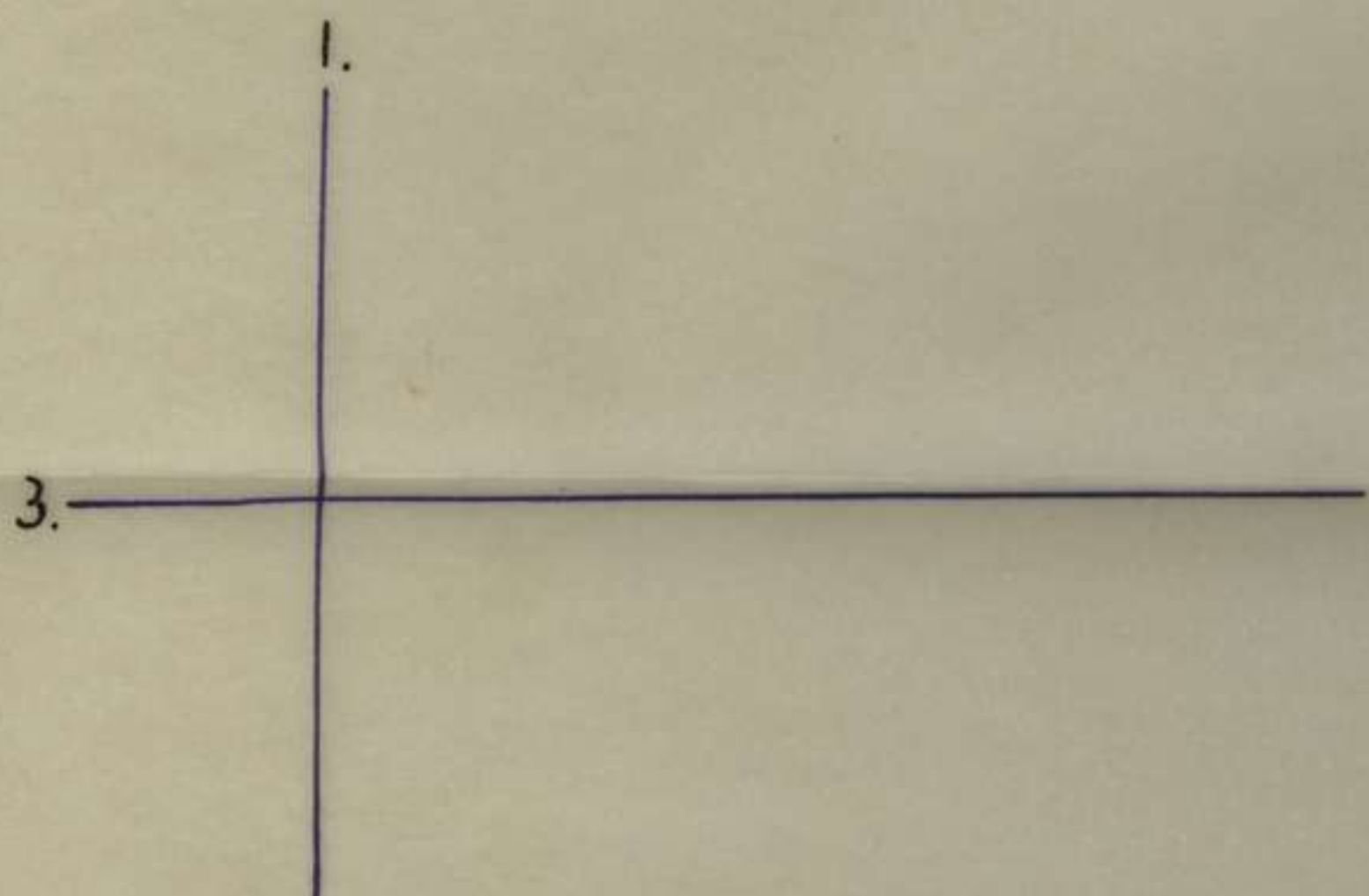
M. M G. — FIRE — PLAN

As at 2000 hrs 16 May '43

Overlay from Mubo Locality sheet.

R.F. 1:25000

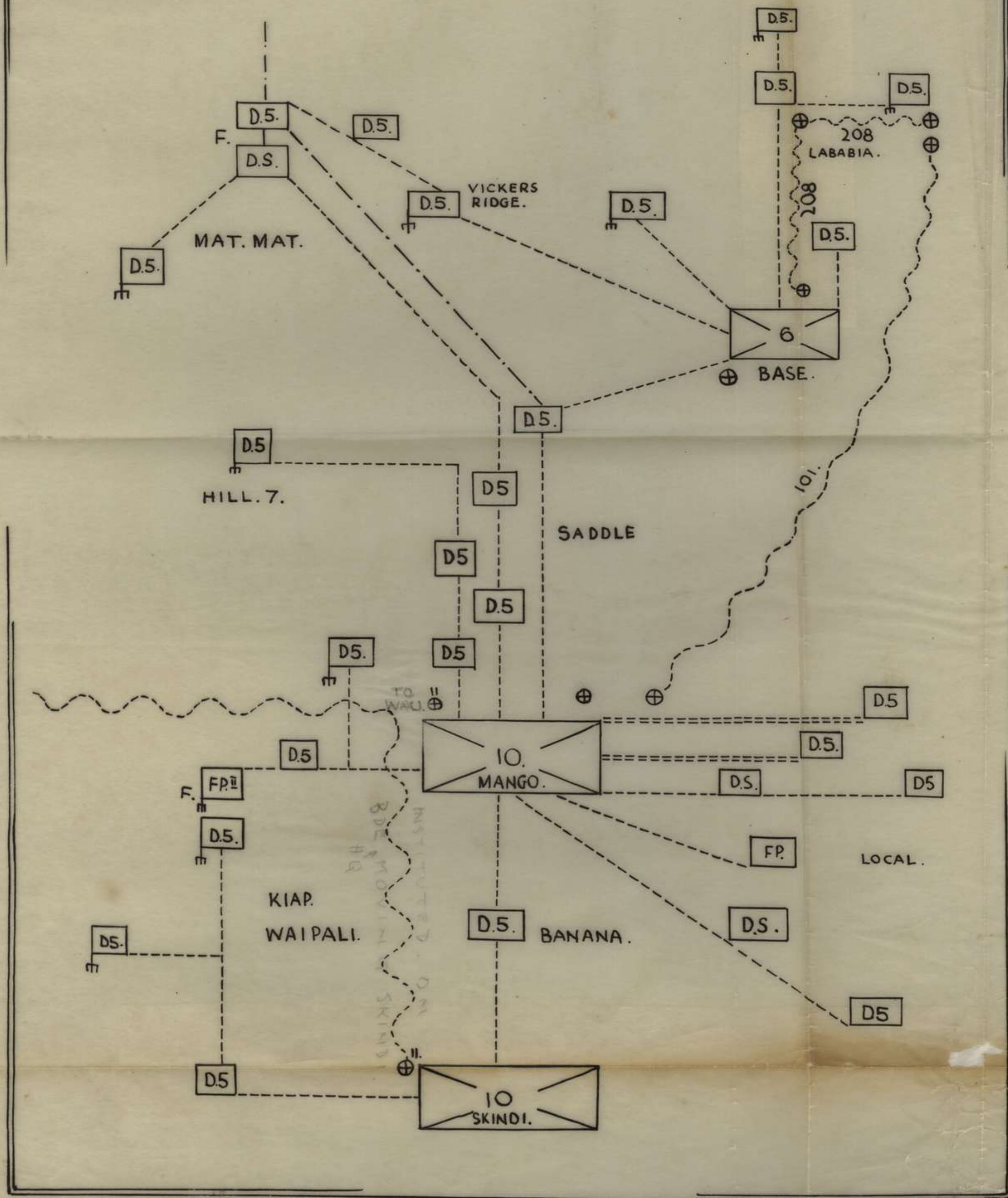
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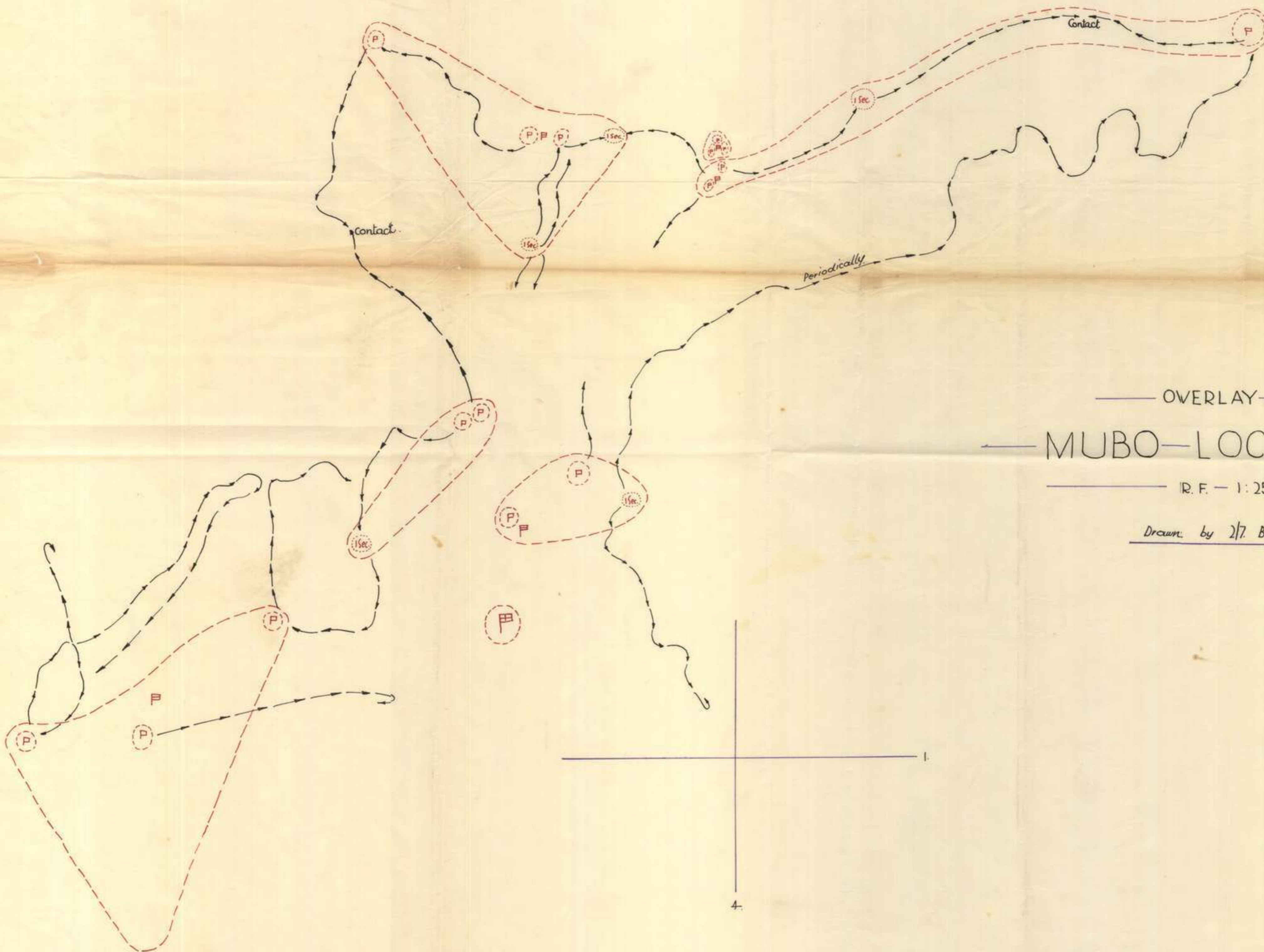
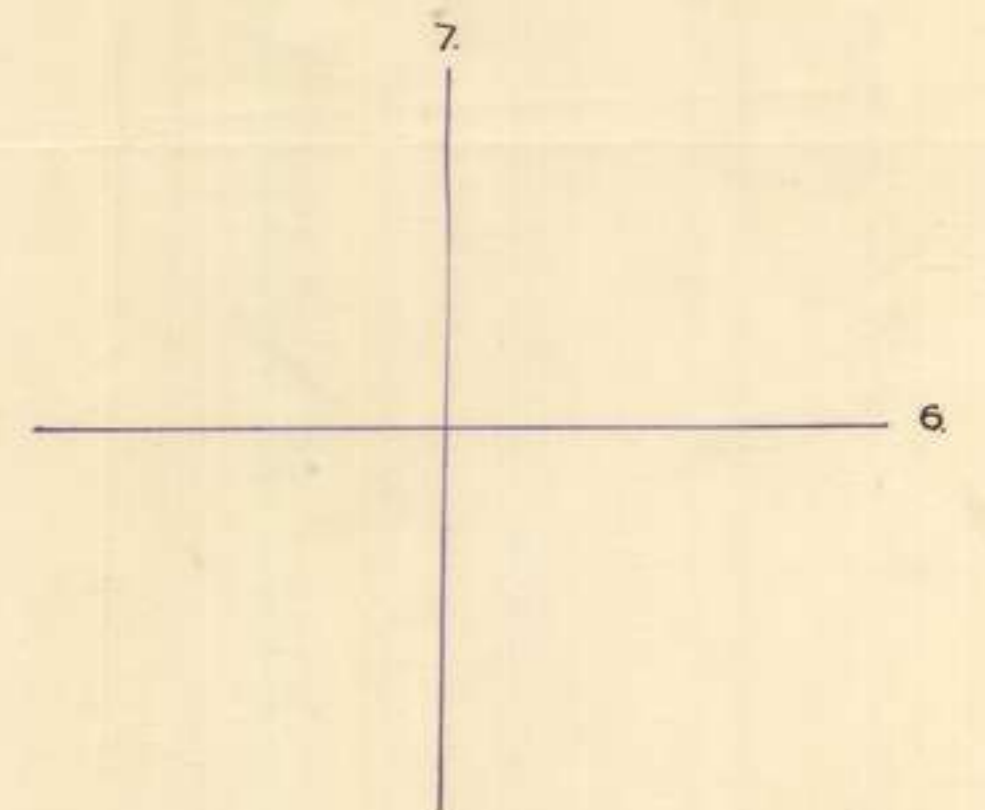
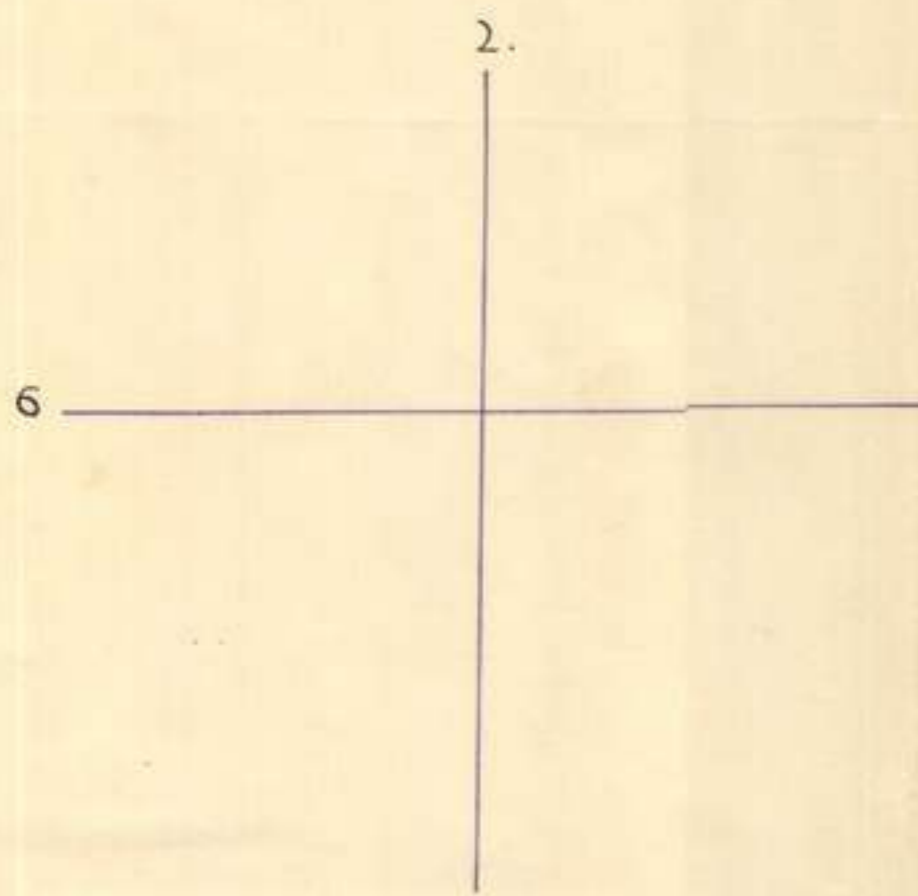
Drawn by 2/7 Aust. inf bn. int sec.

— SIG DIAGRAM.—

— As at. 2000.HRS. 16.MAY.43 —

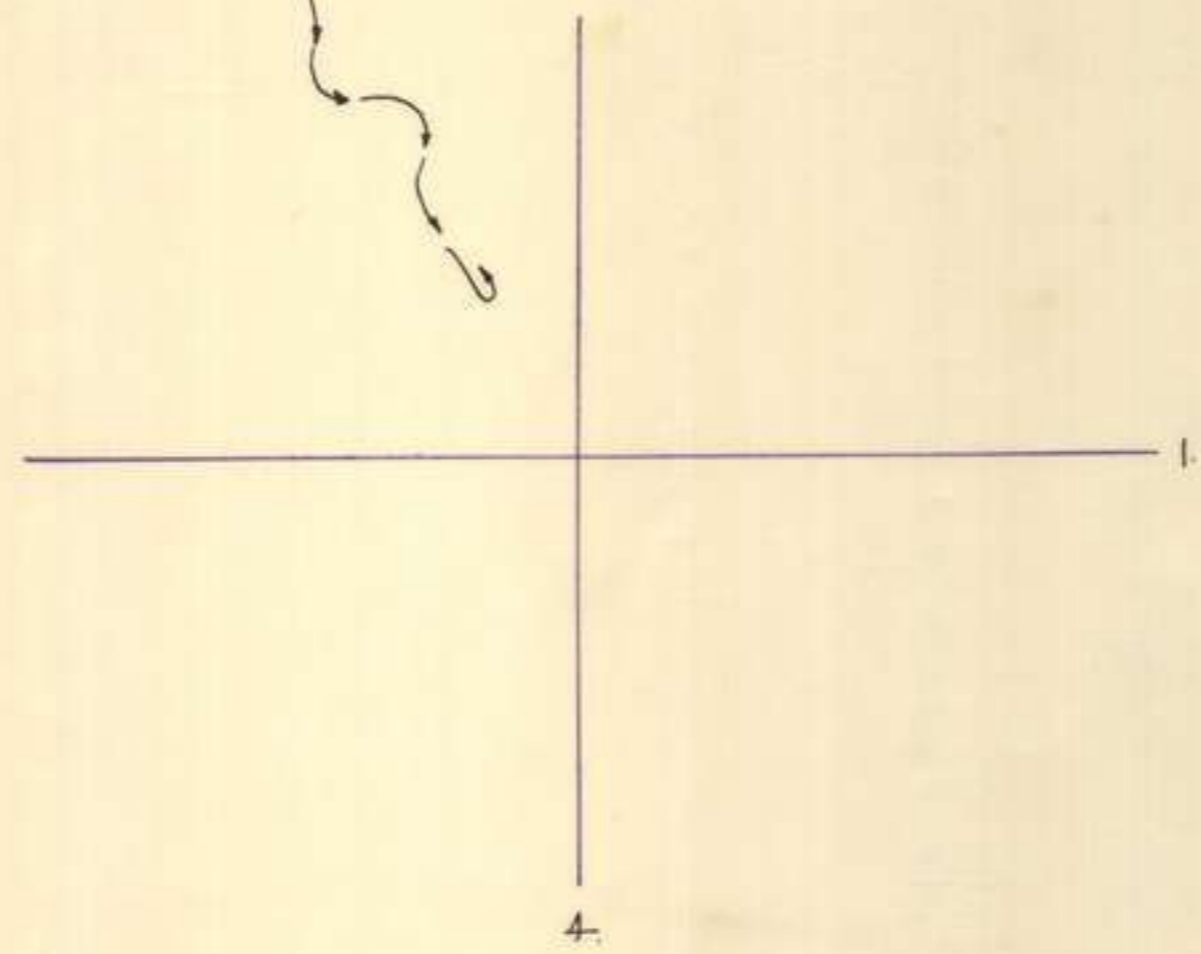


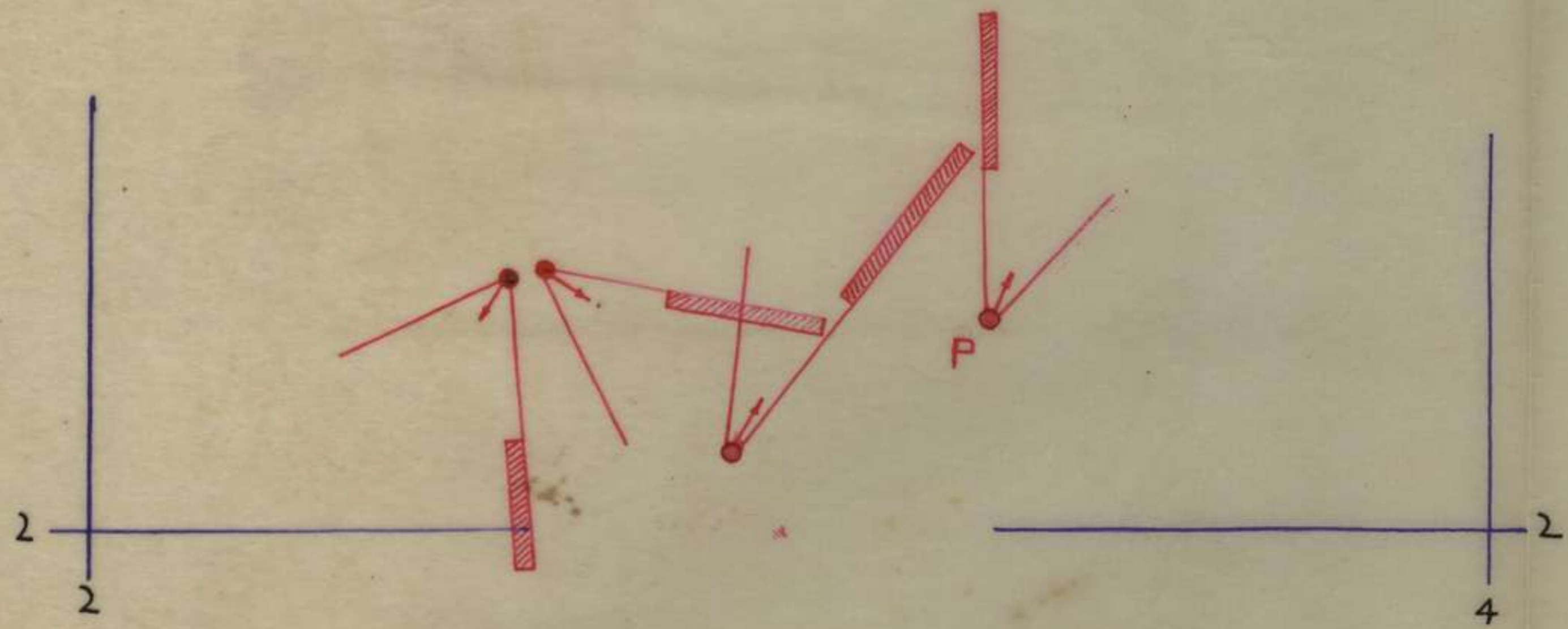
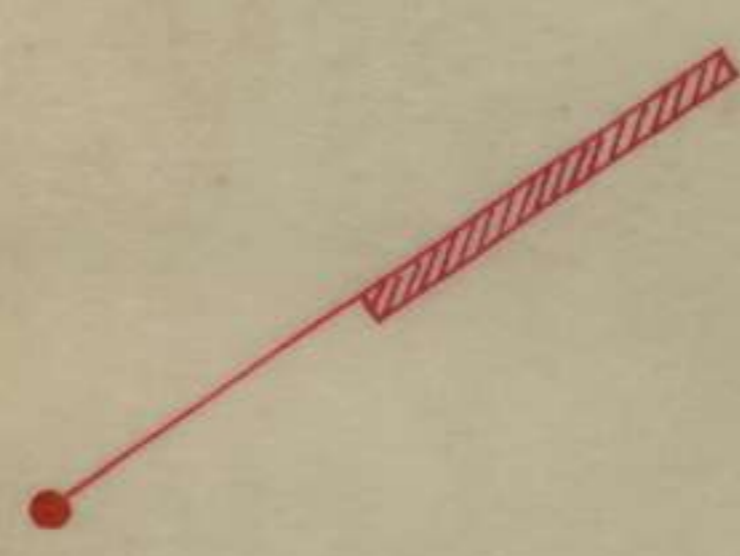
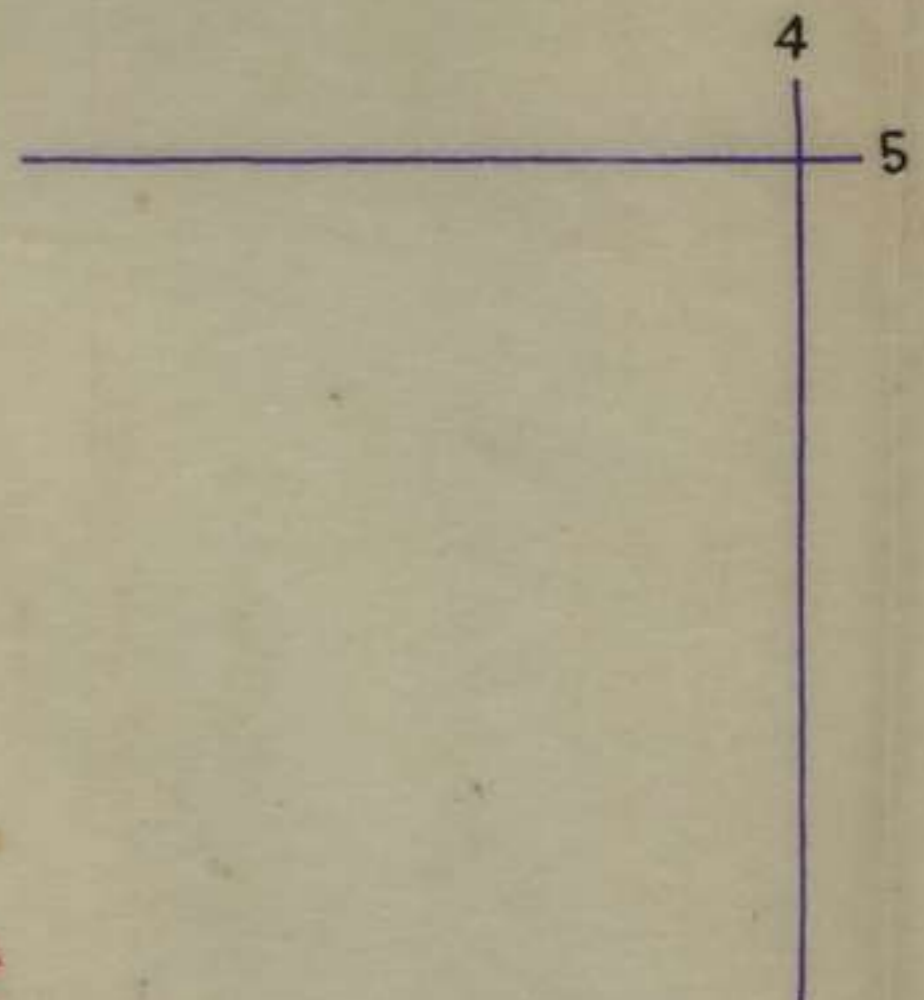
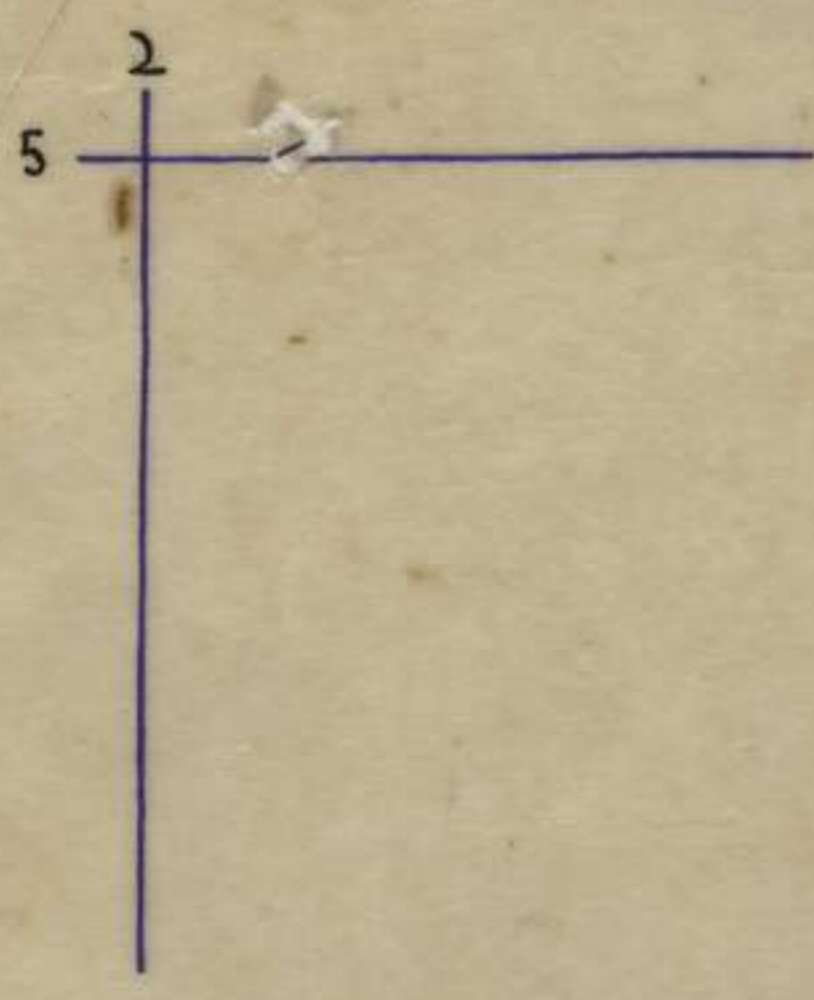
— OVERLAY — SHOWING —
— ROUTINE — PATROLS —
— AS — DONE — BY — 2/7 — AUST — INF — BN. —



— OVERLAY — FROM —
— MUBO — LOCALITY — SHEET —
— R. F. — 1: 25,000 —

Drawn by 2/7 Bn int sec. May '43





DISPOSITION BPL. BCoy 7. MG. Bn.

8 May '43

- Trace from -

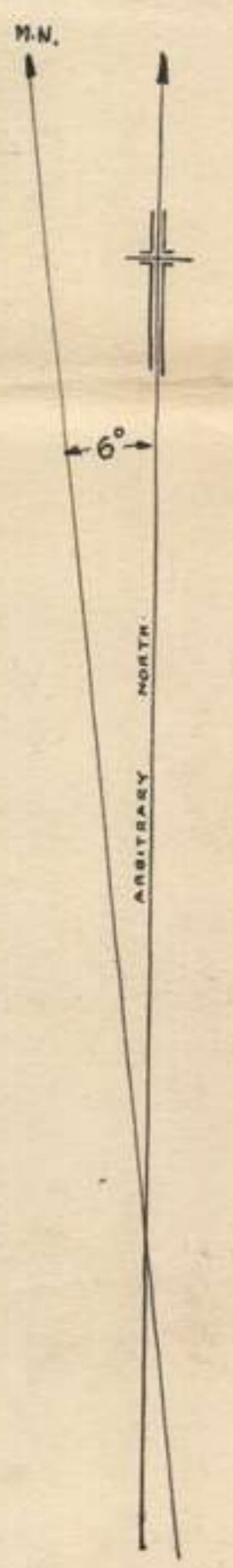
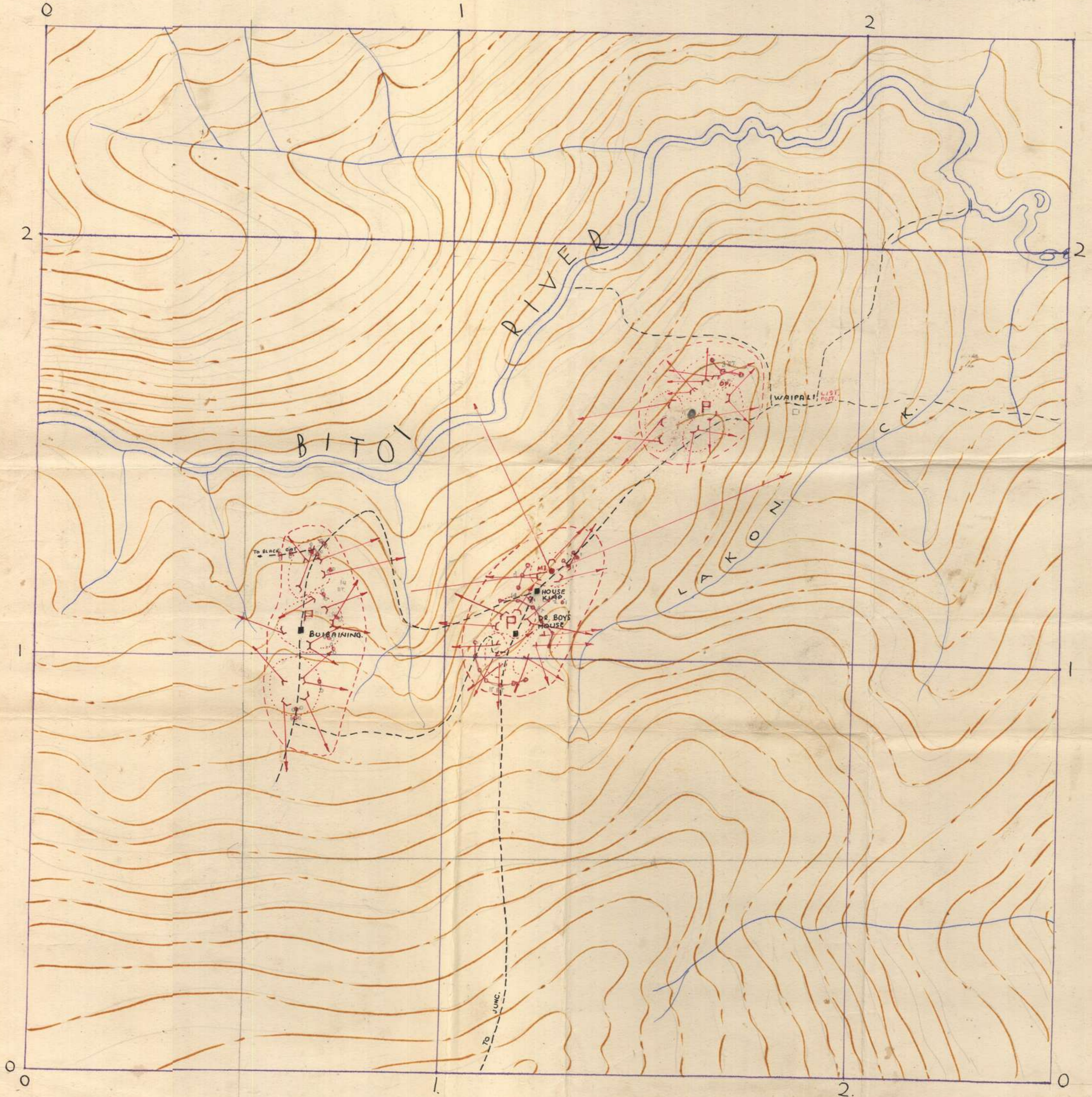
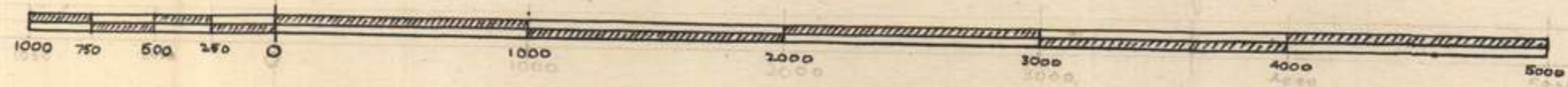
MUBO - LOCALITY - SHEET - R.F. 1:25,000.

SKETCH MAP.

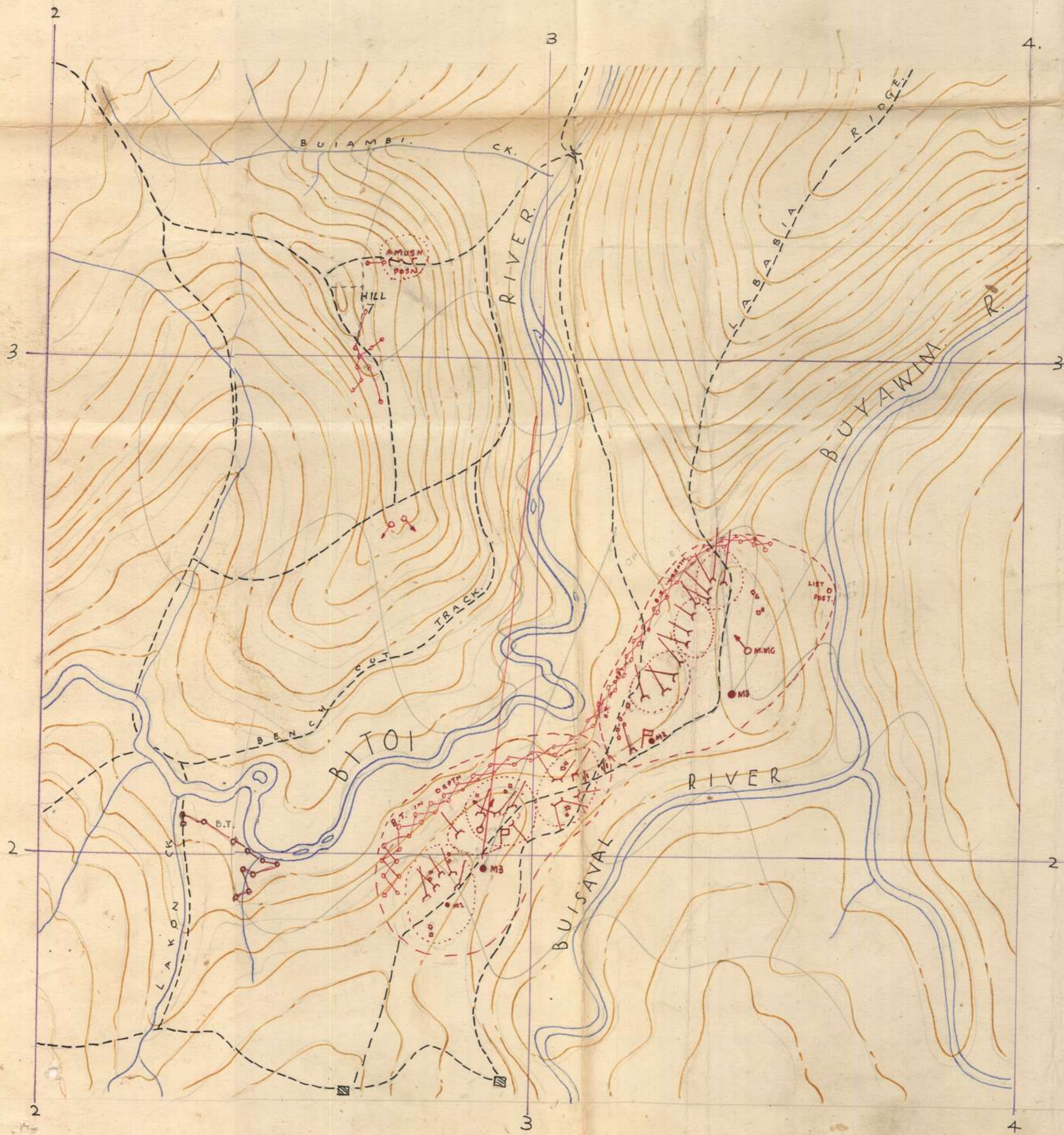
DEFENCES — BUIBAINING — WAIPALI — AREA

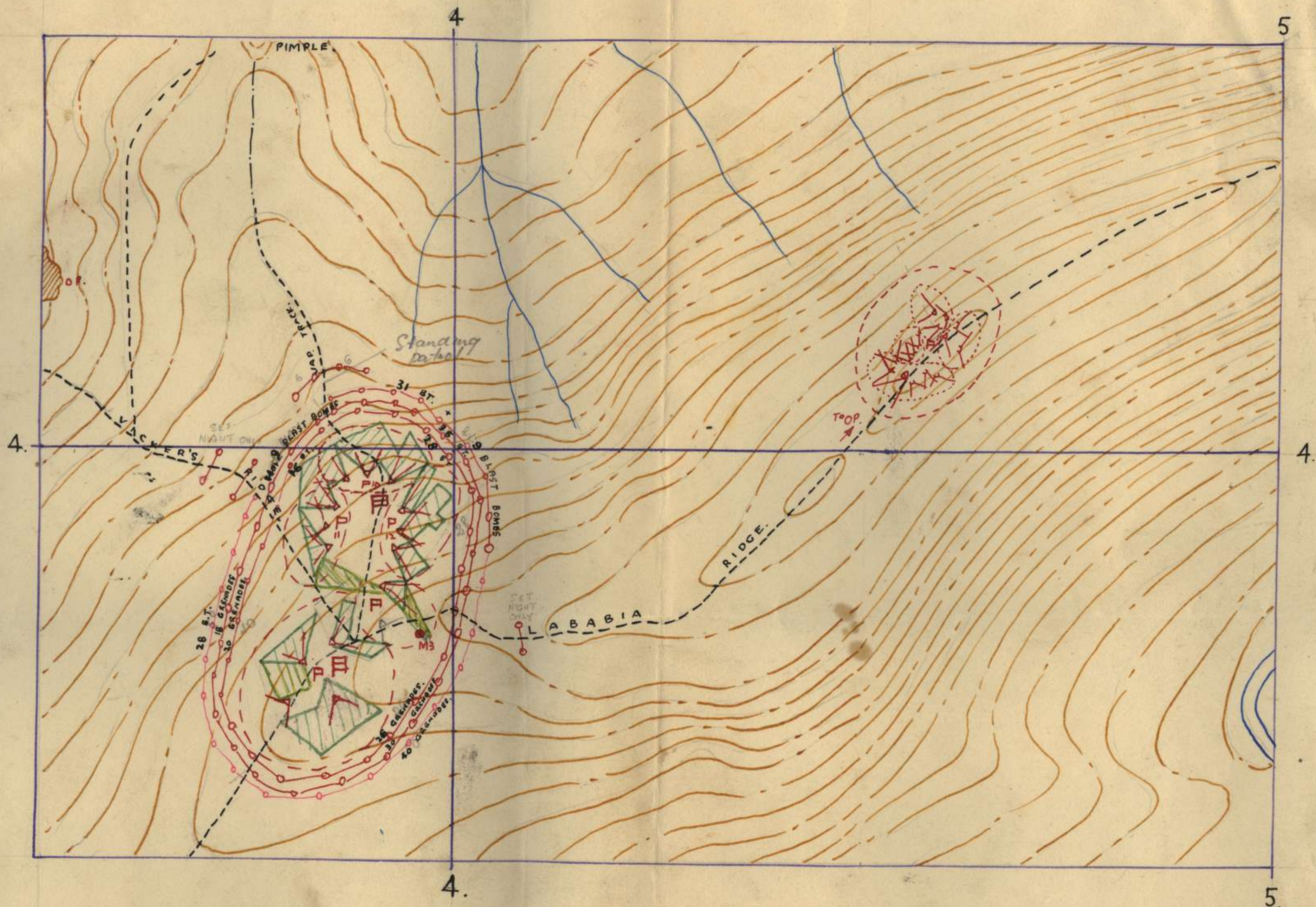
R.F. 1:12,500

SCALE — 5.6 inches — to — 1 MILE



DEFENCES — SADDLE — AREA





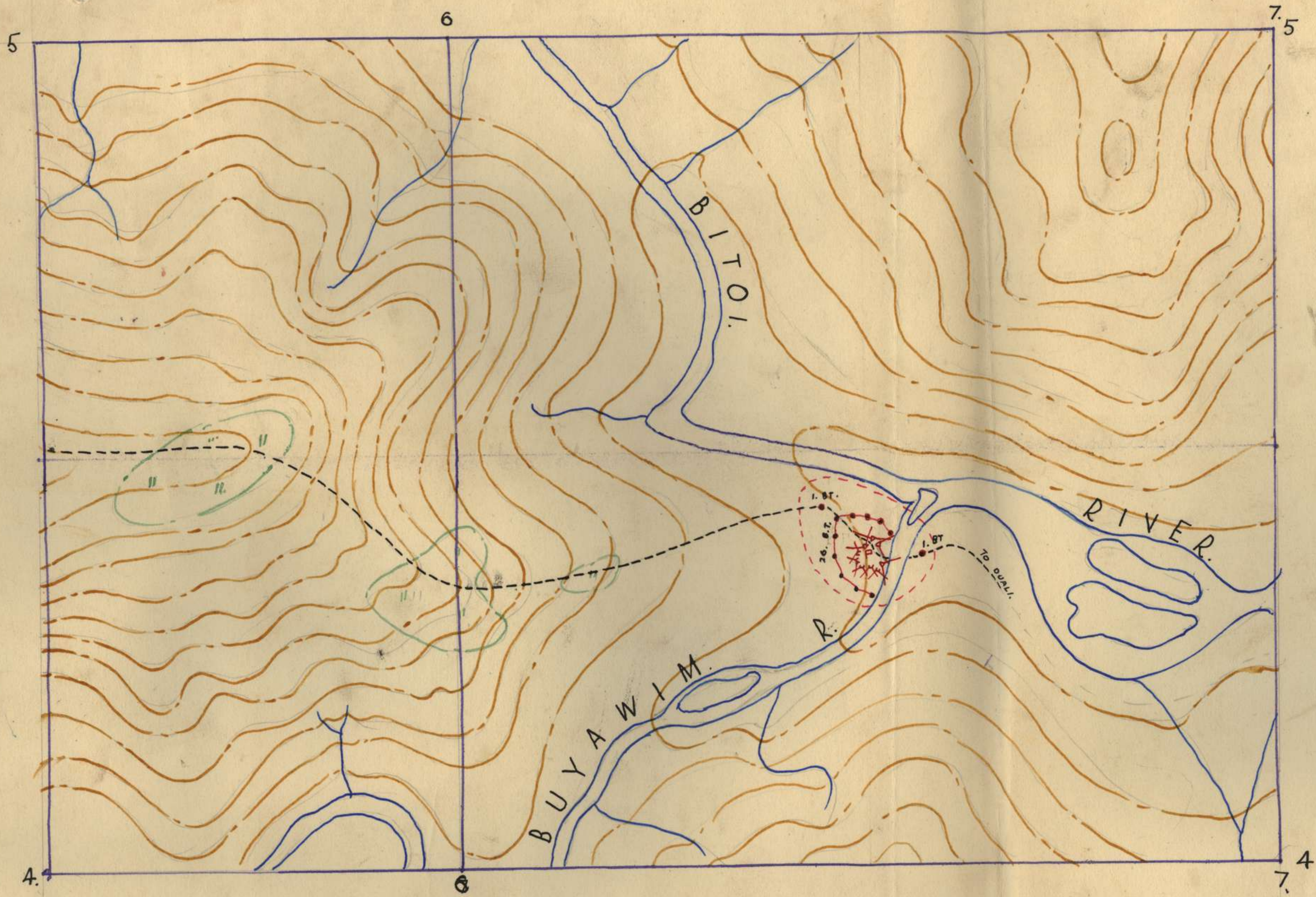
— DEFENSES — LABABIA — RIDGE —

R.F. 1: 12,500.

SCALE 5.6 ins To 1 MILE

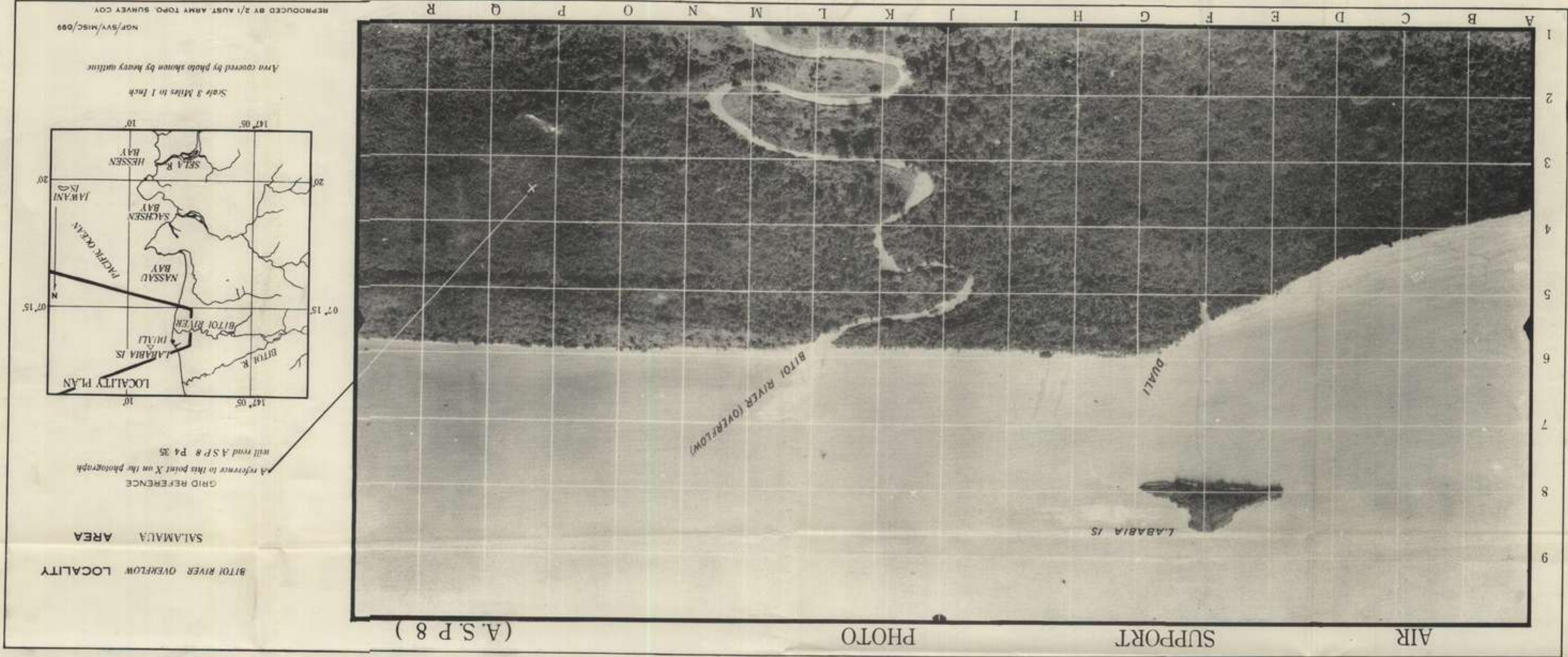
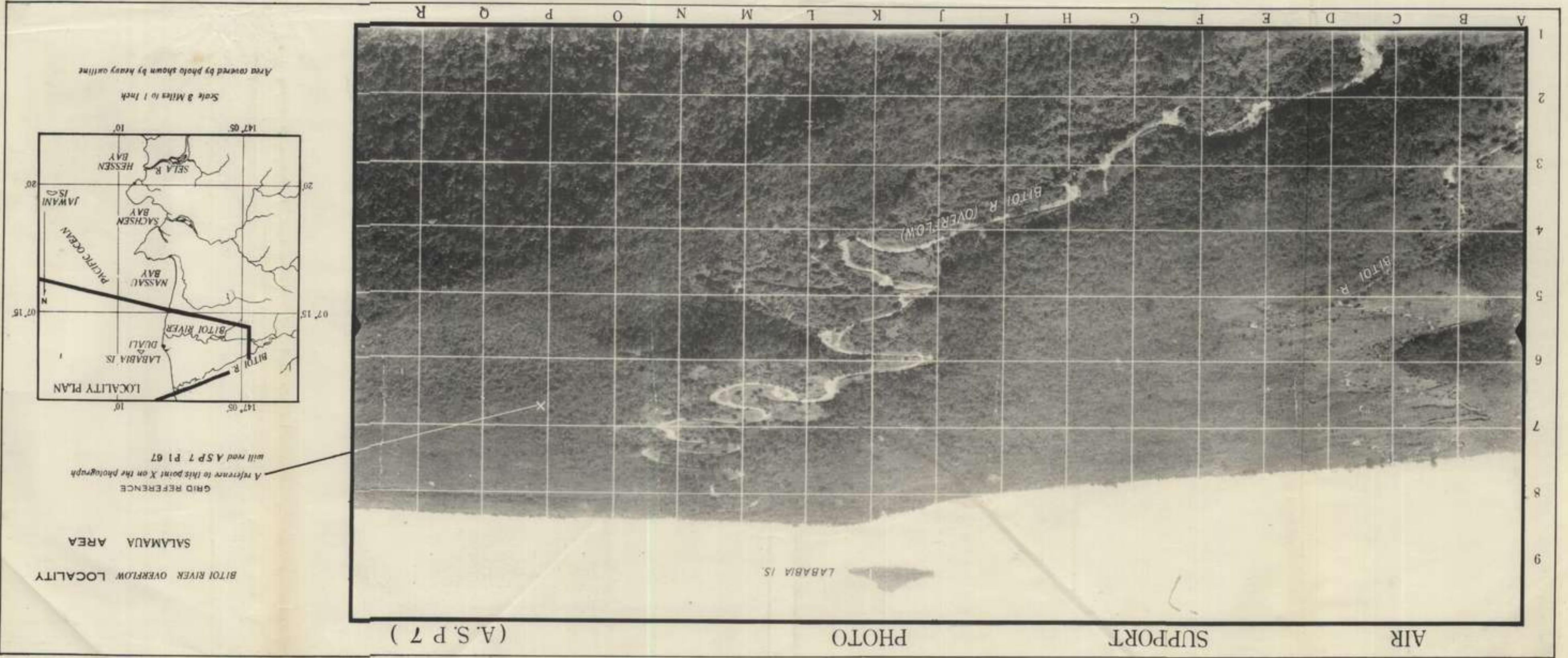


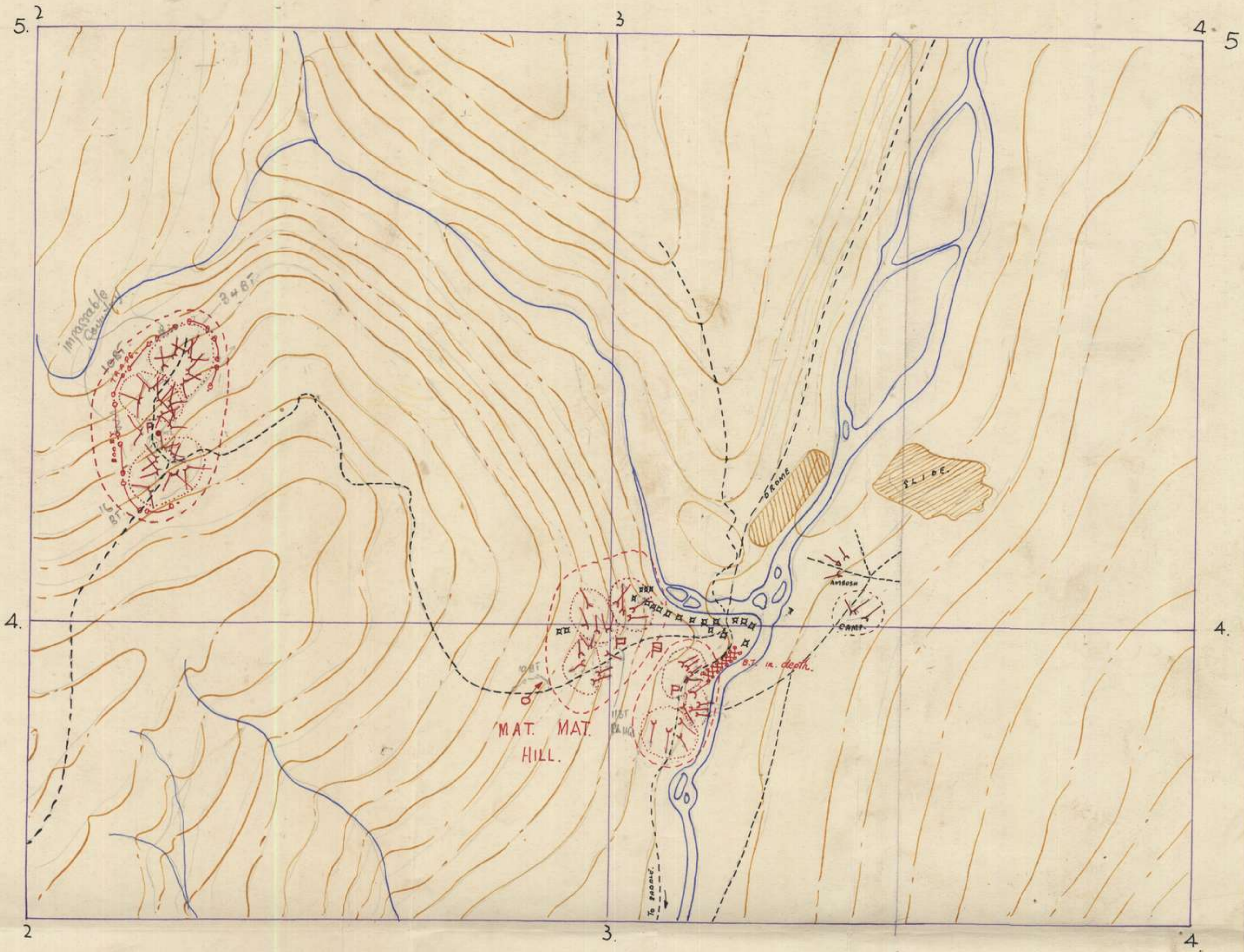
No. 36.



DEFENCES RIVER JUNC. AREA.

R.F. - 1:12,500.





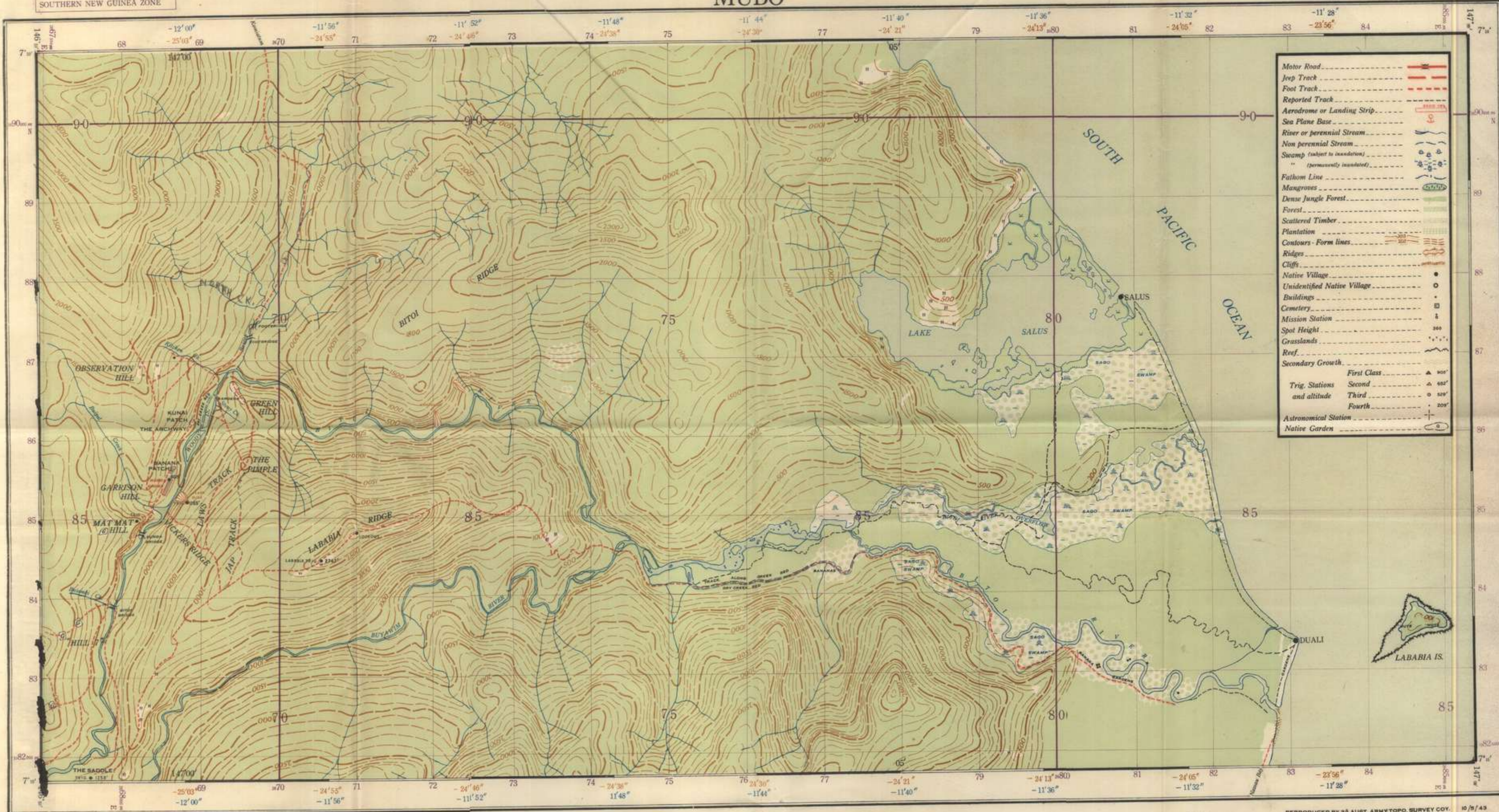
— DEFENCES of MAT-MAT —

— SCALE 5.6 inches to 1 MILE —
 R.F. 1:25,000.

NEW GUINEA MUBO

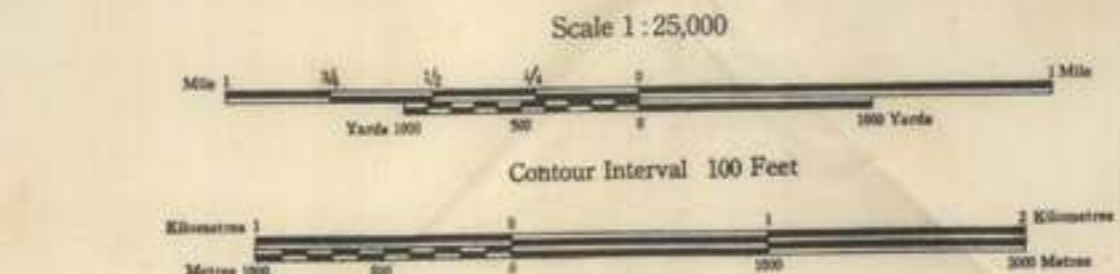
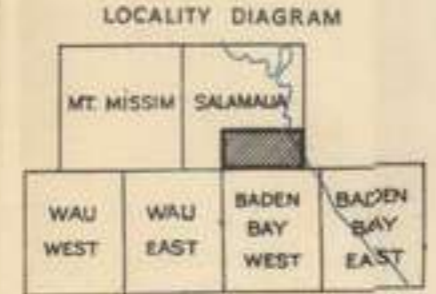
REFER TO THIS MAP AS
1:25000 ARTILLERY SERIES
NEW GUINEA MUBO
FIRST EDITION

NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES GRID
SOUTHERN NEW GUINEA ZONE



Motor Road	—
Jeep Track	- - - - -
Foot Track	- - - - -
Reported Track	- - - - -
Aerodrome or Landing Strip	—
Sea Plane Base	—
River or perennial Stream	—
Non perennial Stream	—
Swamp (subject to inundation)	—
" (permanently inundated)	—
Fathom Line	—
Mangroves	—
Dense Jungle Forest	—
Forest	—
Scattered Timber	—
Plantation	—
Contours - Form lines	—
Ridges	—
Cliffs	—
Native Village	—
Unidentified Native Village	—
Buildings	—
Cemetery	—
Mission Station	—
Spot Height	—
Grasslands	—
Reef	—
Secondary Growth	—
Trig. Stations and altitude	—
First Class	—
Second	—
Third	—
Fourth	—
Astronomical Station	—
Native Garden	—

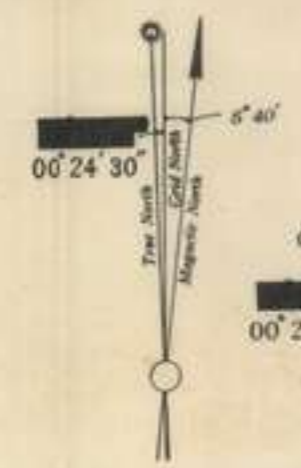
Crown Copyright Reserved.
The framework of this map depends upon an Astronomical Fixation at Guadagal by 3 Aust. Fd. Svy. Coy.
Lat. 07° 15' 33.6"
Long. 146° 58' 42.0"
and adjacent fourth order trig. points.
Lambert Conic Orthomorphic Projection
Surveyed and compiled in April 1943 by 3 Aust. Fd. Svy. Coy. with aid of Air Photographs and Intelligence reports.
Air Photography by 8th. Photo Squadron
Missions: Sch. 53 y and 30 x



THIS MAP IS AN OFFICIAL DOCUMENT IF FOUND IT MUST BE RETURNED TO THE NEAREST MILITARY HEADQUARTERS OR DISTRICT OFFICER

The brown (convergence) and blue (time: correction) figures within the borders of this map are for artillery purposes.

Officers using this map are requested to make any necessary alterations and amendments on the face of the map itself and forward to A. D. Survey H. Q. N. G. F.



GRID NORTH IN THE CENTRE OF THIS SHEET LIES 00° 24' 30" EAST OF TRUE NORTH

REPRODUCED BY 2d AUST. ARMY TOPO. SURVEY COY. 10/5/43

TO GIVE A GRID REFERENCE ON THIS SHEET	
Fix an attention to the reader's coordinate figures of the corners and margins. They are for finding the coordinates.	
PAY ATTENTION TO LARGE NUMERICAL FIGURES AND THOSE PRINTED ON THE FACE OF THE MAP.	
POINT LABABIA TRIG.	
East	North
70	84
5	5
REFERENCE 705845	
Scale	1:25,000
Height	1000
Reference to source	—

Bombing + strafing by
4 BOSTONS 1027 K/24.

Bombing + strafing by
3 BOSTONS 0900/25.

JAP 70 M.M. Br. gun
suspected in this
area

CAPT. PRINGLE held
down
1600K/24.

The two forces approx.
400' apart.
Time of assault
1650K/24.

MAJ. NELSON. estab.
contact. MG Posn.
1800K/24.

Air strike 1000/1020K/27.
4 bombs A/A pl.
Cas. 1 killed. 5 wounded.

JAP. 70 MM. gun fired
20 rounds.
1305/1800K/28.

JAP. 70 M.M. gun
fired 3 rounds on
Vickers 1305/25

JAP. 70 MM gun
fired 1305/1340K/24.
18 rounds on Vickers.
2 rounds Kunda br.

Jap force moved behind
14 pl. prior to withdrawal.
1100K/25.

Jap force on pimple
Est. 40/50 with 2 MMG.
7 LMG 0900K/25.

Mtn. bty laid down
concentrations and
harrassing fire
P.M./25.

3 BOSTONS bombed
pimple on indication.
Smoke shells by mtn.
bty. 0900K/26.

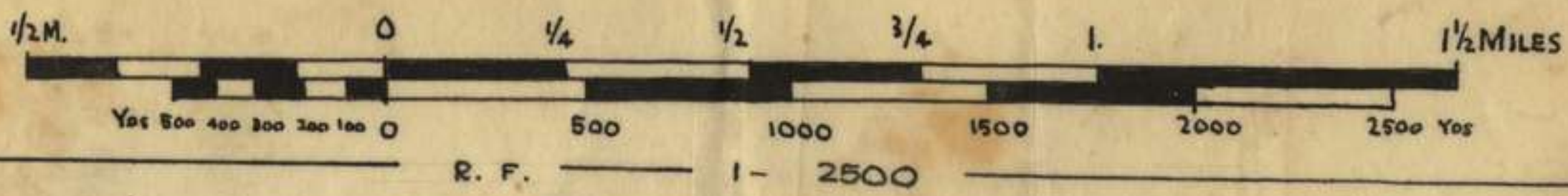
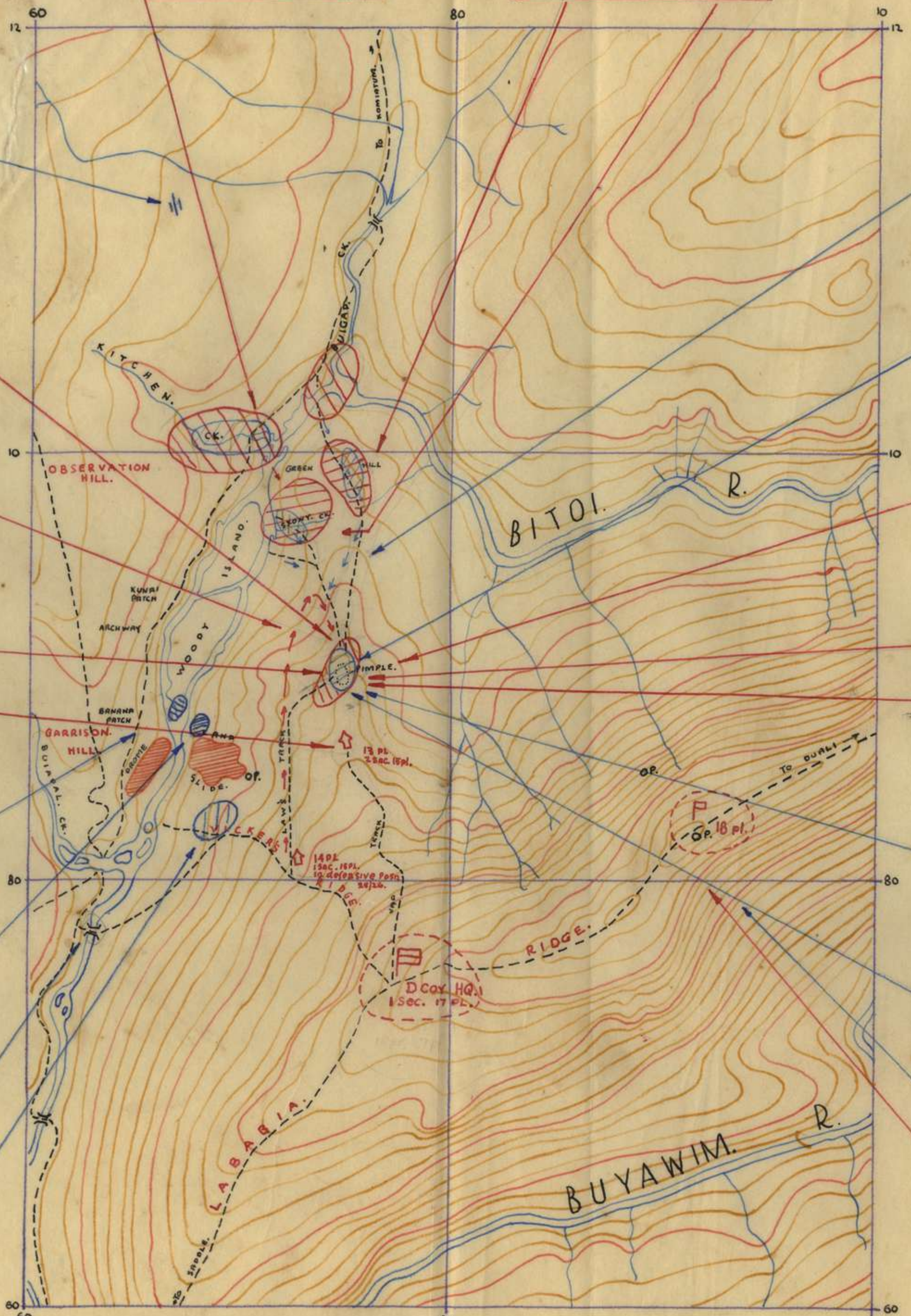
3 BOSTONS bombed
& strafed.
1215 K/26.

A/A pl. patrol.
contacted. patrol of
6 led by apparent
Marine. Marine killed
En reinf. 50/60 digging
in on PIMPLE 1630K/25

Patrol found. RT posns
unoccupied but enemy
returned forcing patrol
to withdraw. A.M./28.

O. P. evacuated due to
Presence of enemy 1945/25.

Recc patrol. D coy
found no enemy in
area. 18 pl. moved fwd.
to occupy + defend.
0800 K/26.



Enemy moved forward.
contacted our F.D.L.
0815K/9

Enemy 70 M.M gun
fired 17 Rds. no cas
or damage.
1425K/7.

3 Bostons bombed and
strafed Area
1002K/7

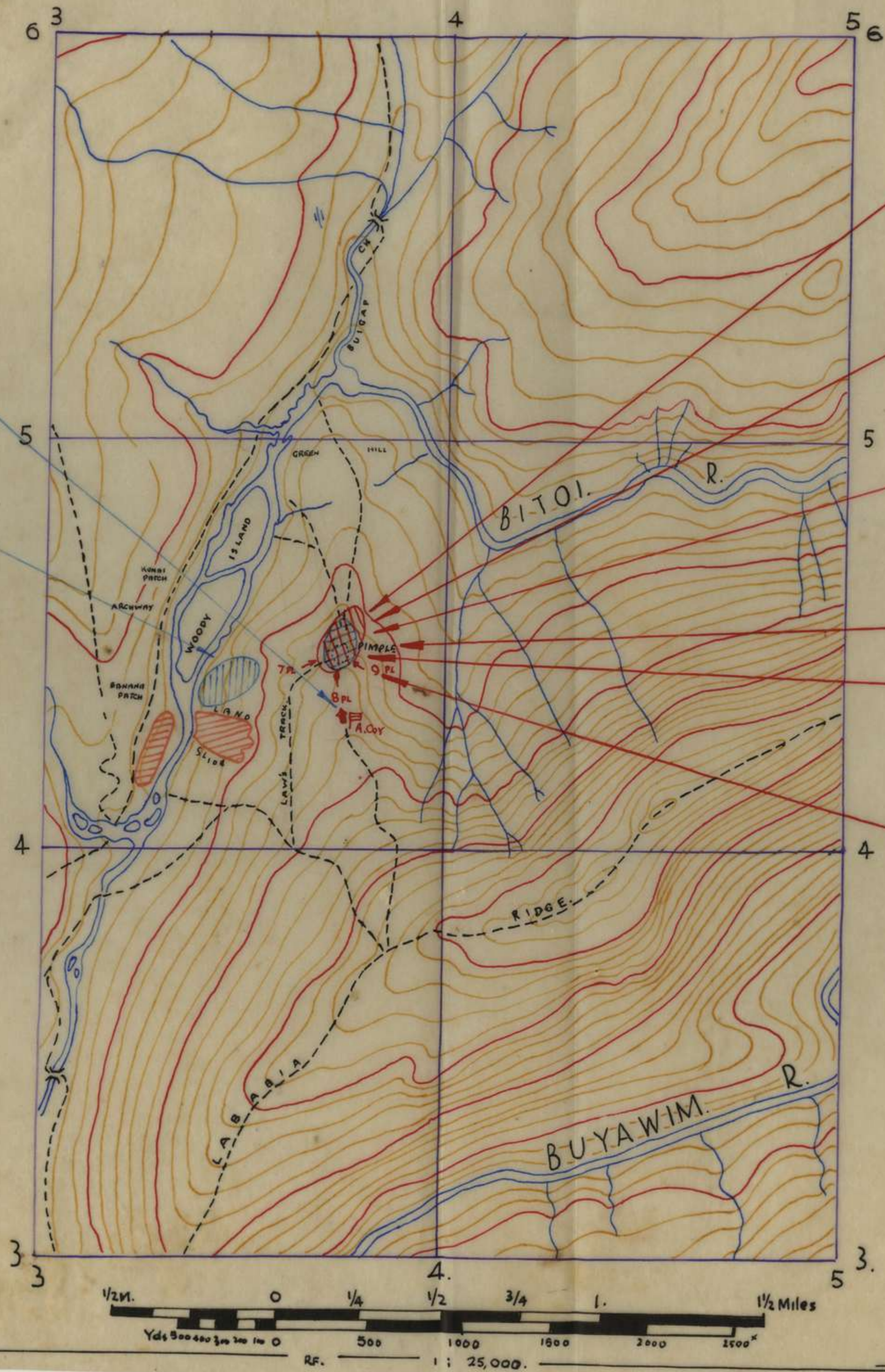
Arty. commenced
Concentrations on Area
1045K/7.

O.P. Reports isolated
shots odd burst LMG.
fire
1100/1140/7.

Right section left pl. con-
tacted by right pl. Sec
left pl on fire strip AUTO
firing single shots left Sec
moving to silence gun
12300K/7

Left pl. under fire. 1 killed
2 wounded 1300K/7.
Reserve pl moving to
encircle left flank.
1425K/7.

O.P. Reports heavy TSMG
fire MMG fire 1325K/7
centre and right pl.
pinned down
1515K/7

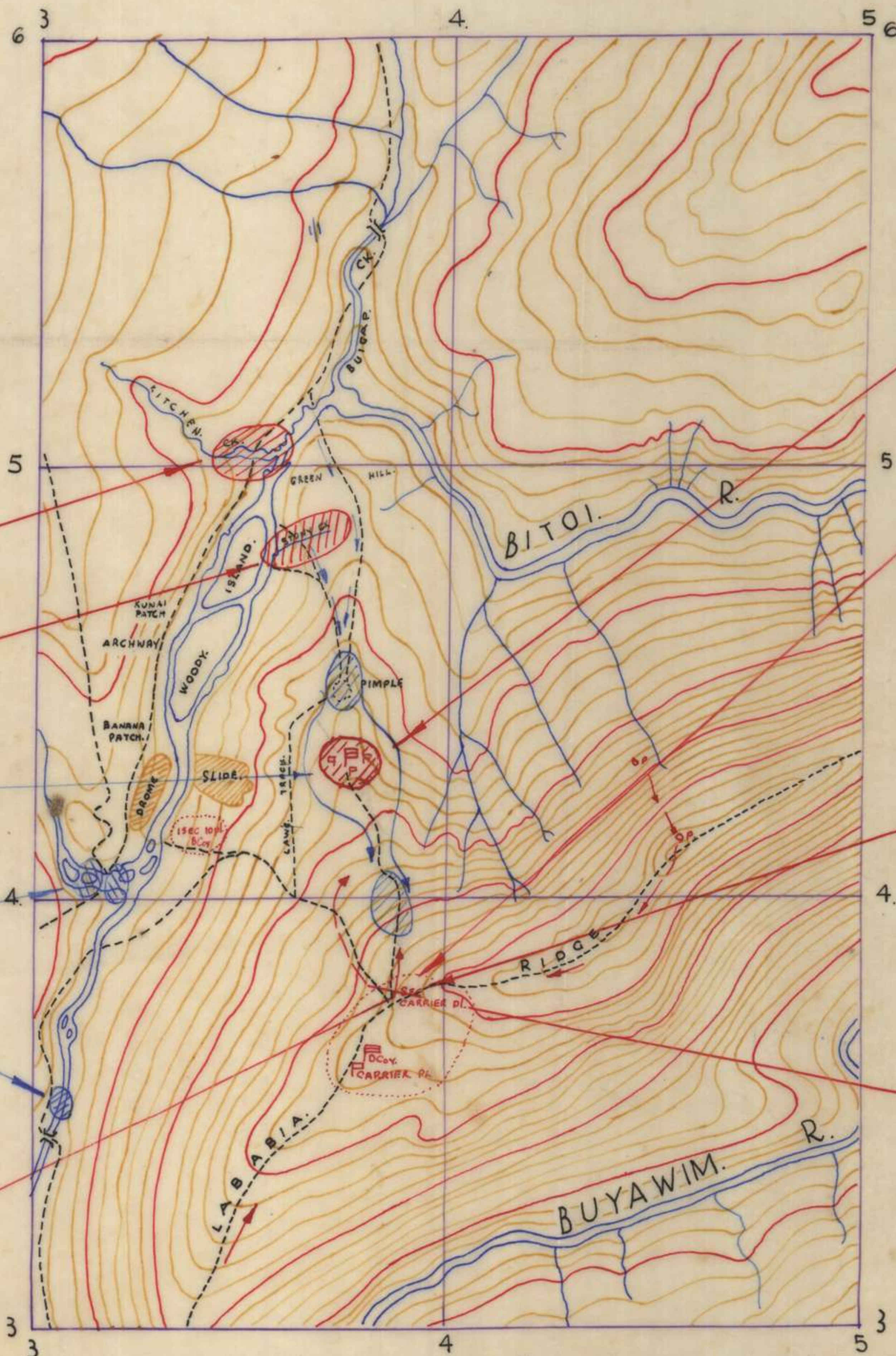


1810/10 Mtn bty fired
10 Rds. KITCHEN CK.
10 Rds. STONY CK.

Large enemy force has
encircled A Coy.
1835/9.

0900/10 Enemy 70. m.m.
gun fired 3 rounds.
no damage or cas.

Force 60 strong under Capt.
Baird moved fwd along
Jap track 1000x/11 reached
area where wire was cut
1300x/11 no enemy contacted
1410x/11 Lt Thomas reports A
coy contacted by Capt Baird
force without meeting enemy.
A Coy was coming back
1500x/11 A Coy was coming
back & killed 9 wounded.
Total enemy casualties
estimated as 63 killed
many wounded.



A COY OUT OF CONTACT
1835/9.
Situation quiet night 9/10
1 sec 16pl returned BASE CAMP
AREA enemy engaged on
way back as they were cutting
a track behind A COY.
Lt. Thomas instructed to relieve
A coy and hold ridge along
Jap track. 1839/9.

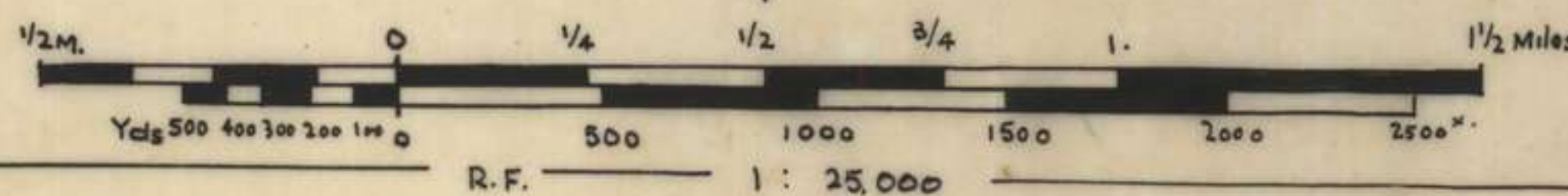
Capt Baird pl arrived at
BASE CAMP 0600/10
Lt Thomas moved to relief
A Coy 0630/10

1 sec Lt Thomas pl pinned
down from rear. Other 2
secs to encircle to left.
0700/10.

Sgt. Hubble's sec. 16pl
moving along down Jap.
track. 1000/10. Shots and
grenades heard.

Lt. Thomas contacted the
enemy. 1200/10 engaged by
Auto. weapons and m.m.g.
Approx 200' from first posn.
Moved around right flank
to VICKERS track, arrived
BASE CAMP 1255. Carrier
pl replaced Lt Thomas pl.
moved fwd and down
Jap track to force enemy
off track

Still no contact with A Coy.
all quiet night 10/11.



ME 01

BOMBED + STRAFFED BY 6.
BOSTONS
1025K/30 1040K/30

BOMBED + STRAFFED BY 7.
BOSTONS
1025K/1 1100K/1

Lieut. Spark left pl wounded.
right pl. making assault
with grenades
1225K/2.

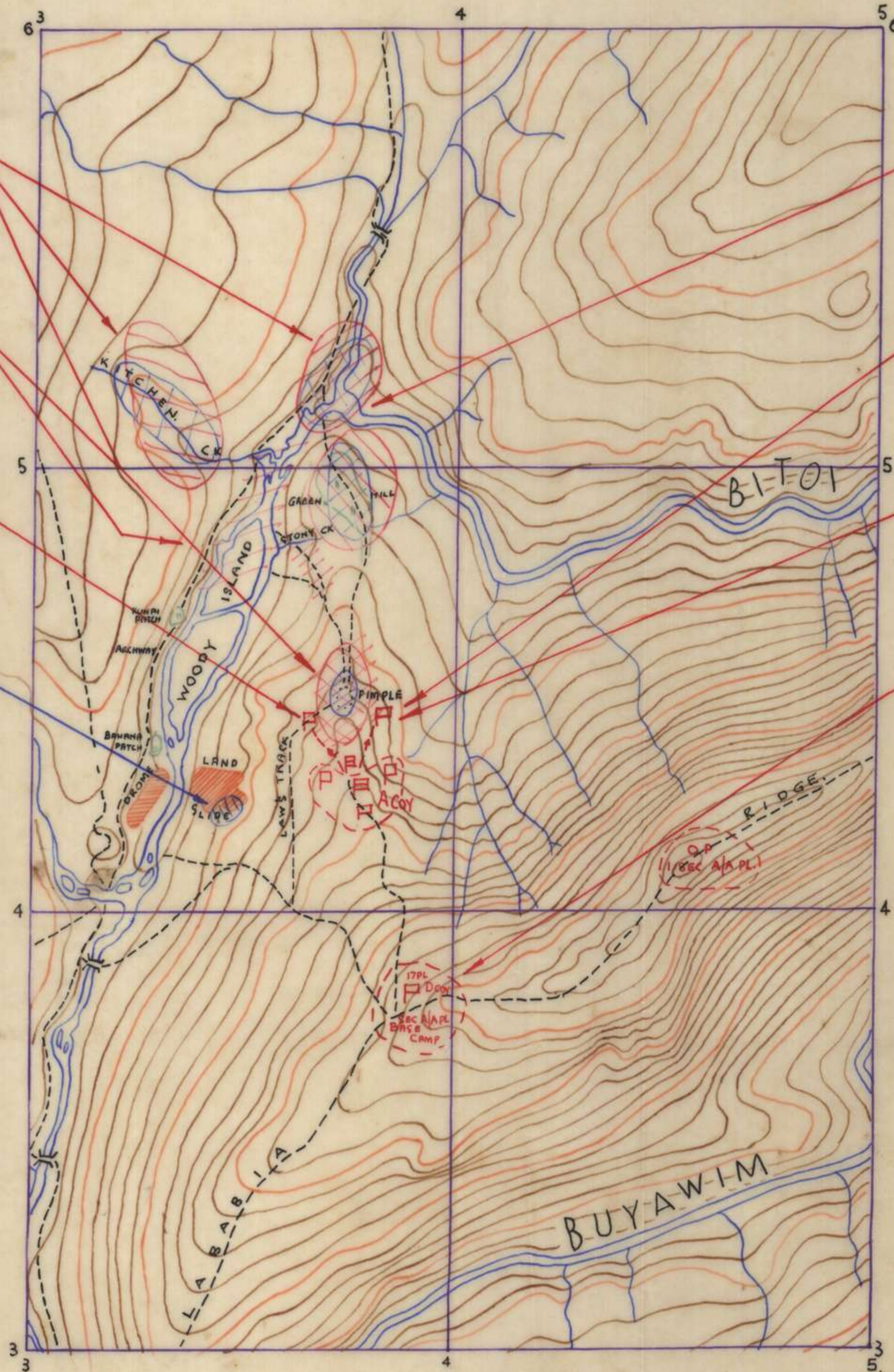
Jap 70 MM gun fired 5
rounds
1653/1745/30

BOMBED + STRAFFED BY
BOSTONS
1130K/2 1100K/2.

Right Pl. held down, no
news of left pl.
1208K/2

1 sec. right pl within 10^x enemy
posns. 4th sec to assist on
their right flank.
1300K/2.

A coy ordered to return
to base camp. area
1345K/2.

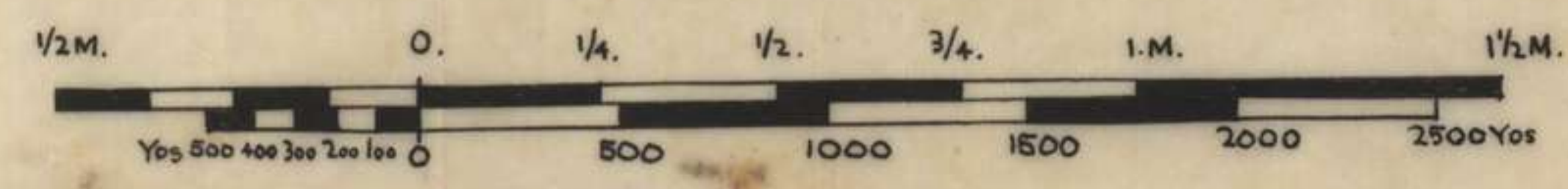


— SCALE —

— 2.53 inches to — 1. — MILE —

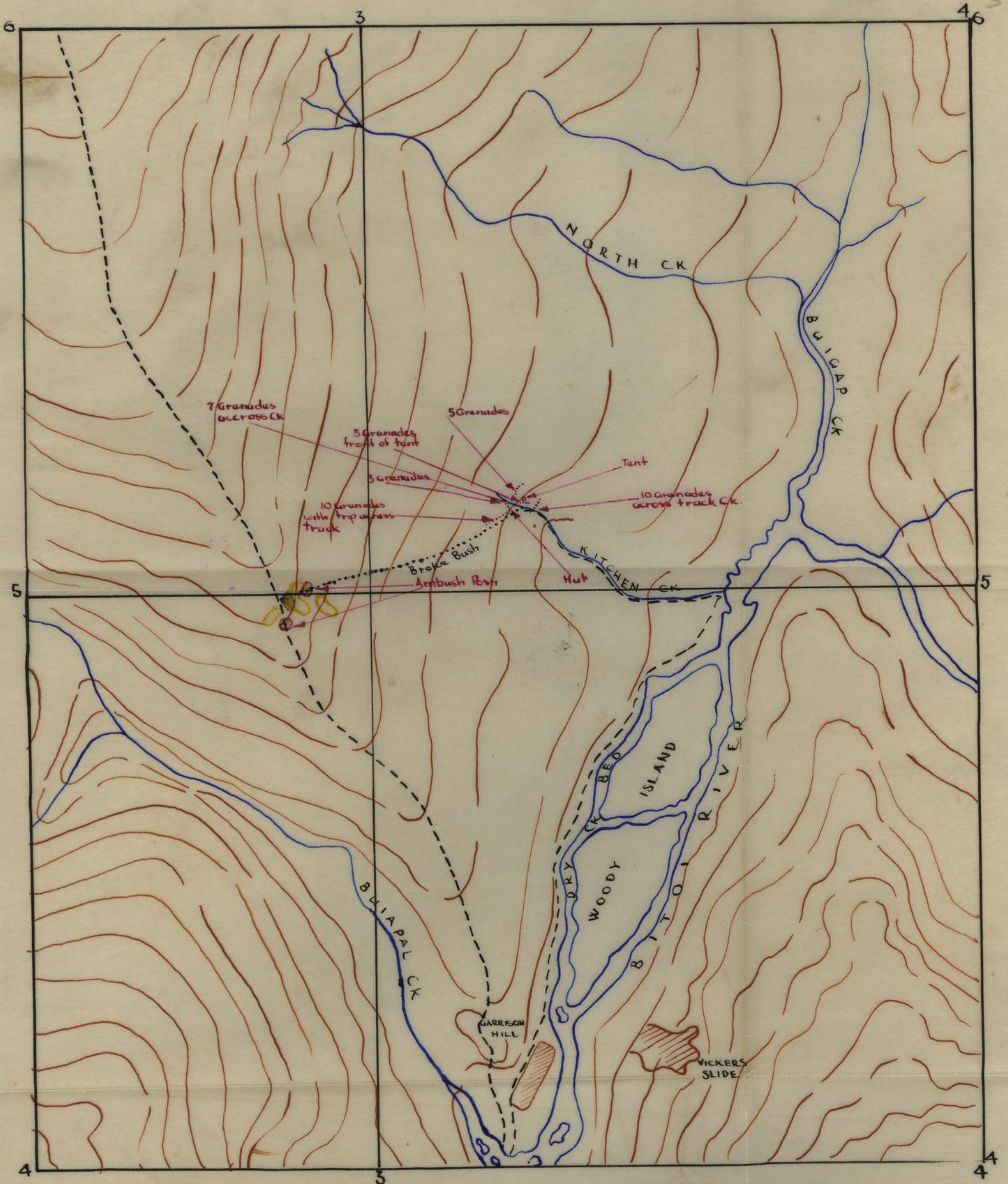
— R.F. 1:25,000 —

— TRACE — from — MUBO — LOCALITY — SHEET. —



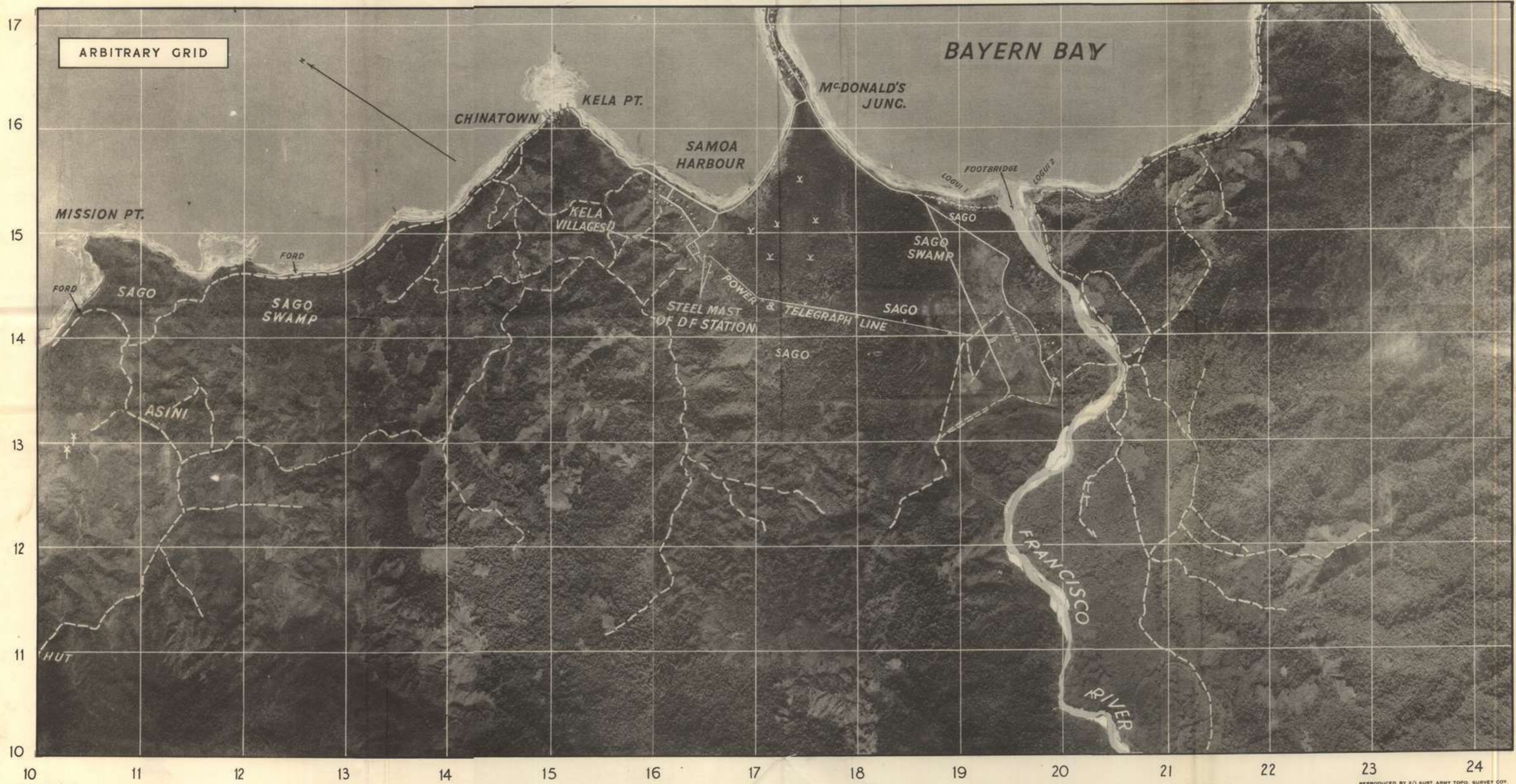
SKETCH OF B.T. SET BY PATROL N° 11

1038



ENLARGEMENT FROM MUBO LOCALITY 1/25000
 SCALE 5.06" - 1 MILE

PHOTO MAP
SALAMAUA

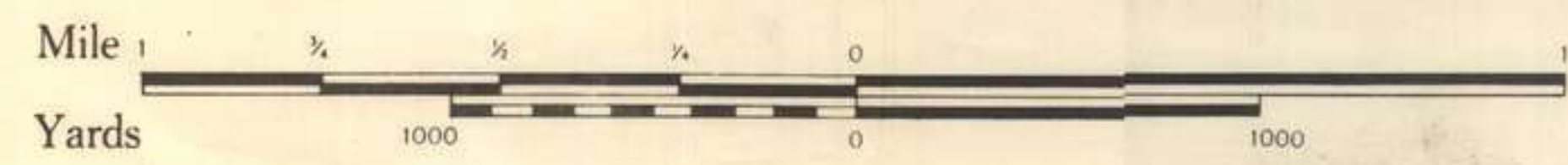


ARBITRARY GRID

map/uvv/wmc/096

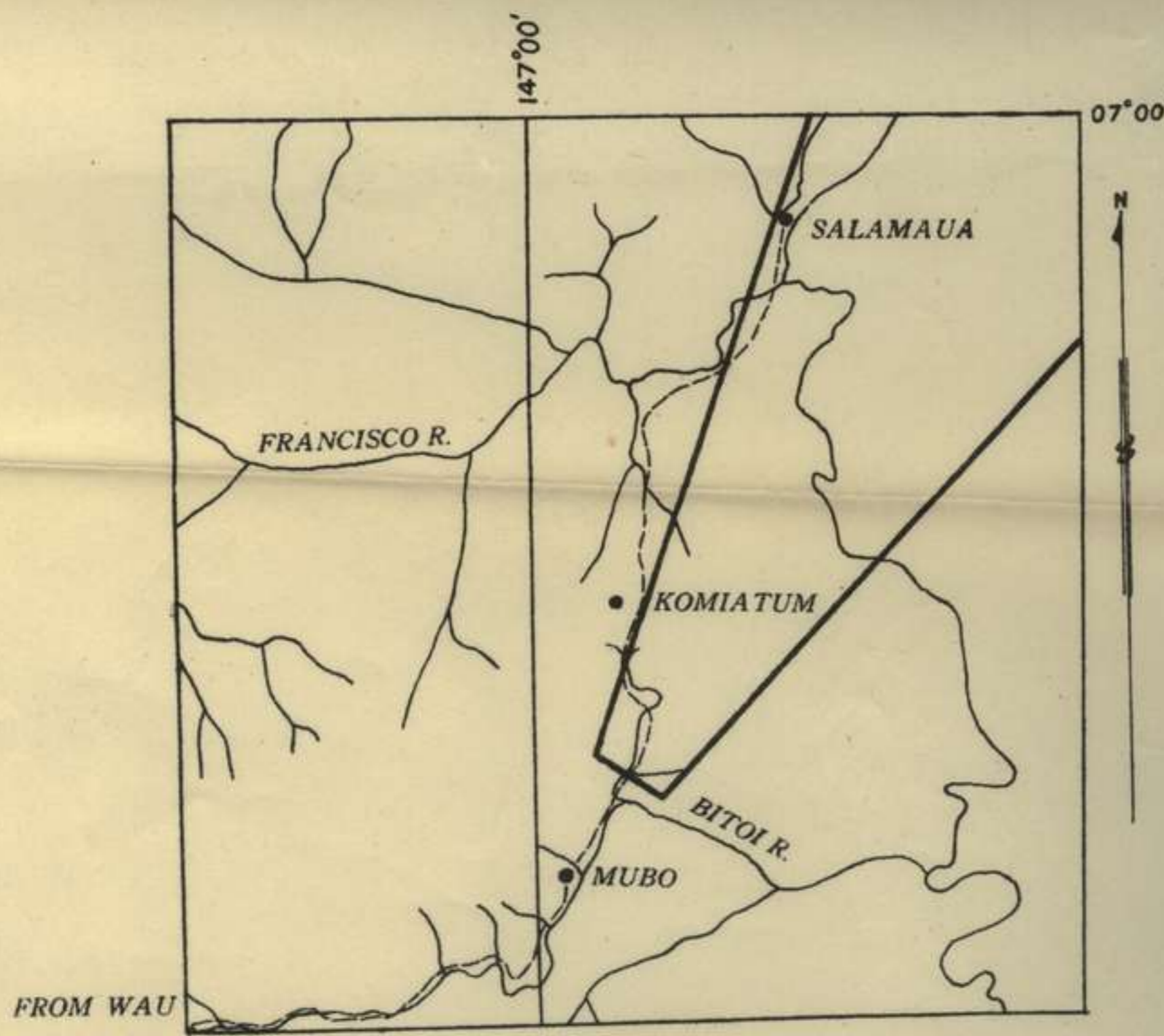
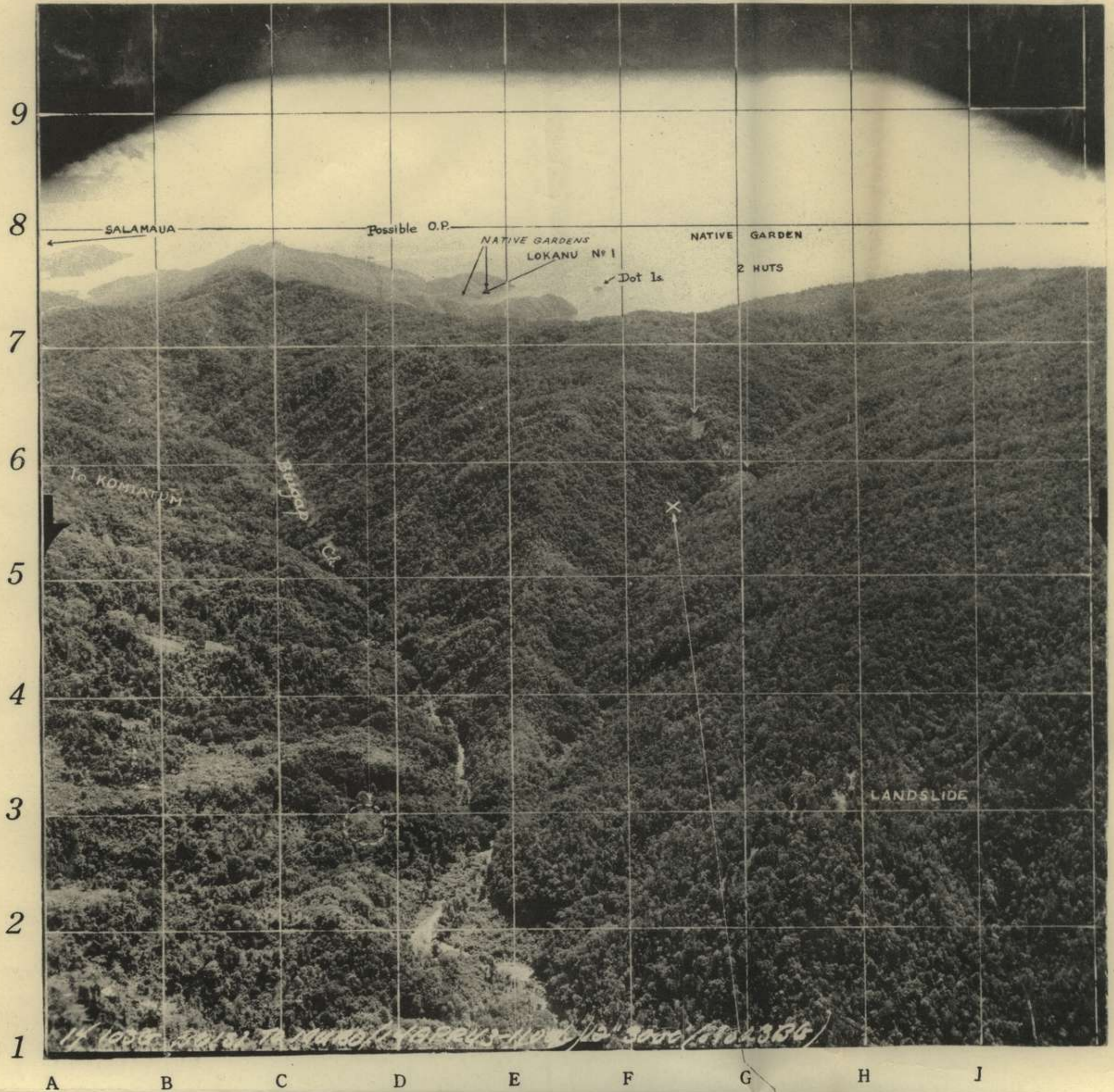
REPRODUCED BY 2/1 AUSTRALIAN ARMY TOPO. SURVEY COY.

Scale (Approx.) 1:12,500



AIR-SUPPORT PHOTO No. 2 (ASP2)

BUGIAP CK.
SALAMAUA AREA



GRID REFERENCE

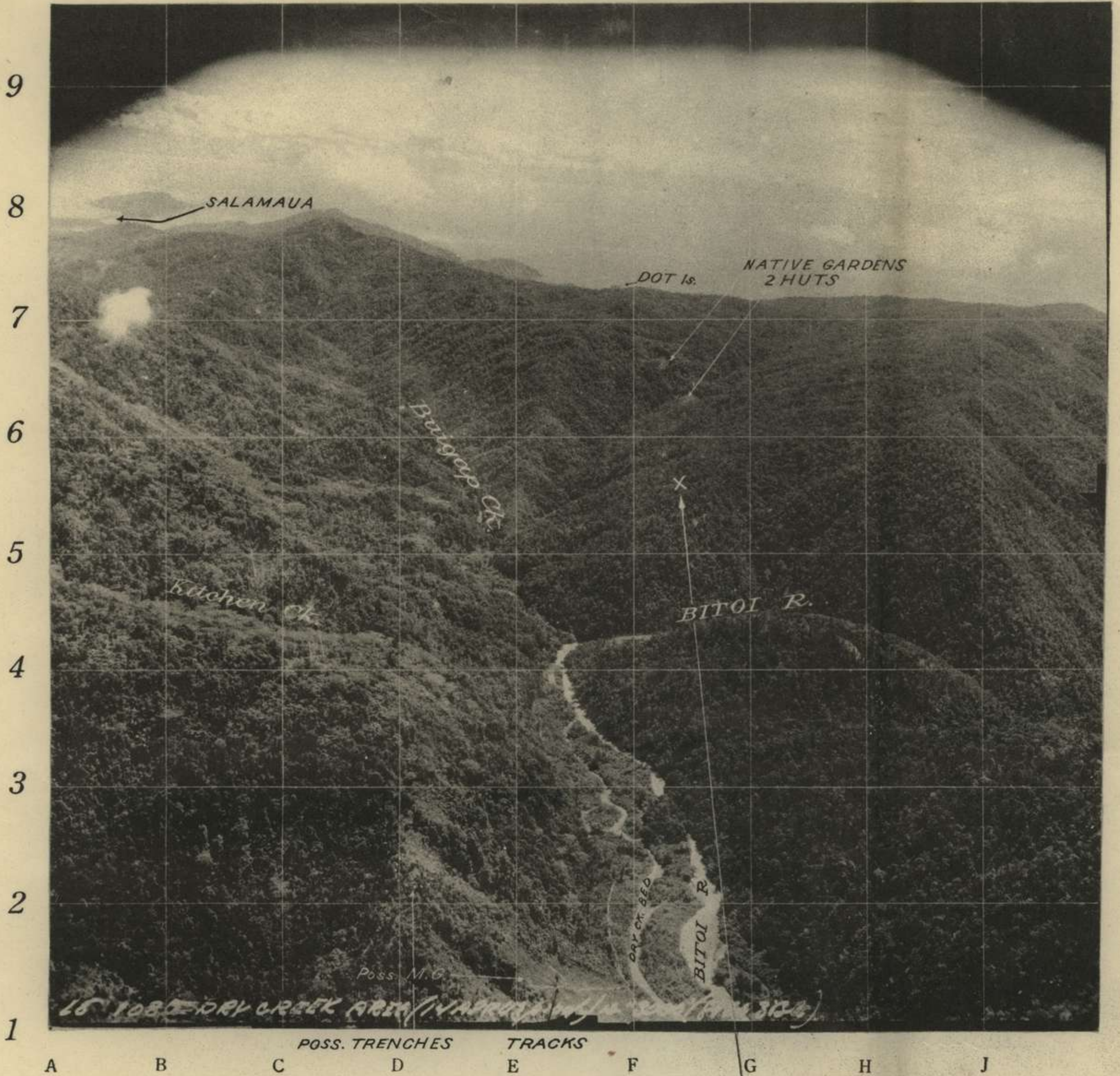
A reference to this point X on the photograph will read ASP2 F456

DRAWN & REPRODUCED BY 2/1 AUST ARMY TOPO. SURVEY COY

SVY/MSC/055
21/4/43

LOCALITY MAP Area covered by photo shown by heavy outline Scale 4 M-1"

AIR-SUPPORT PHOTO No.1 (ASPI)

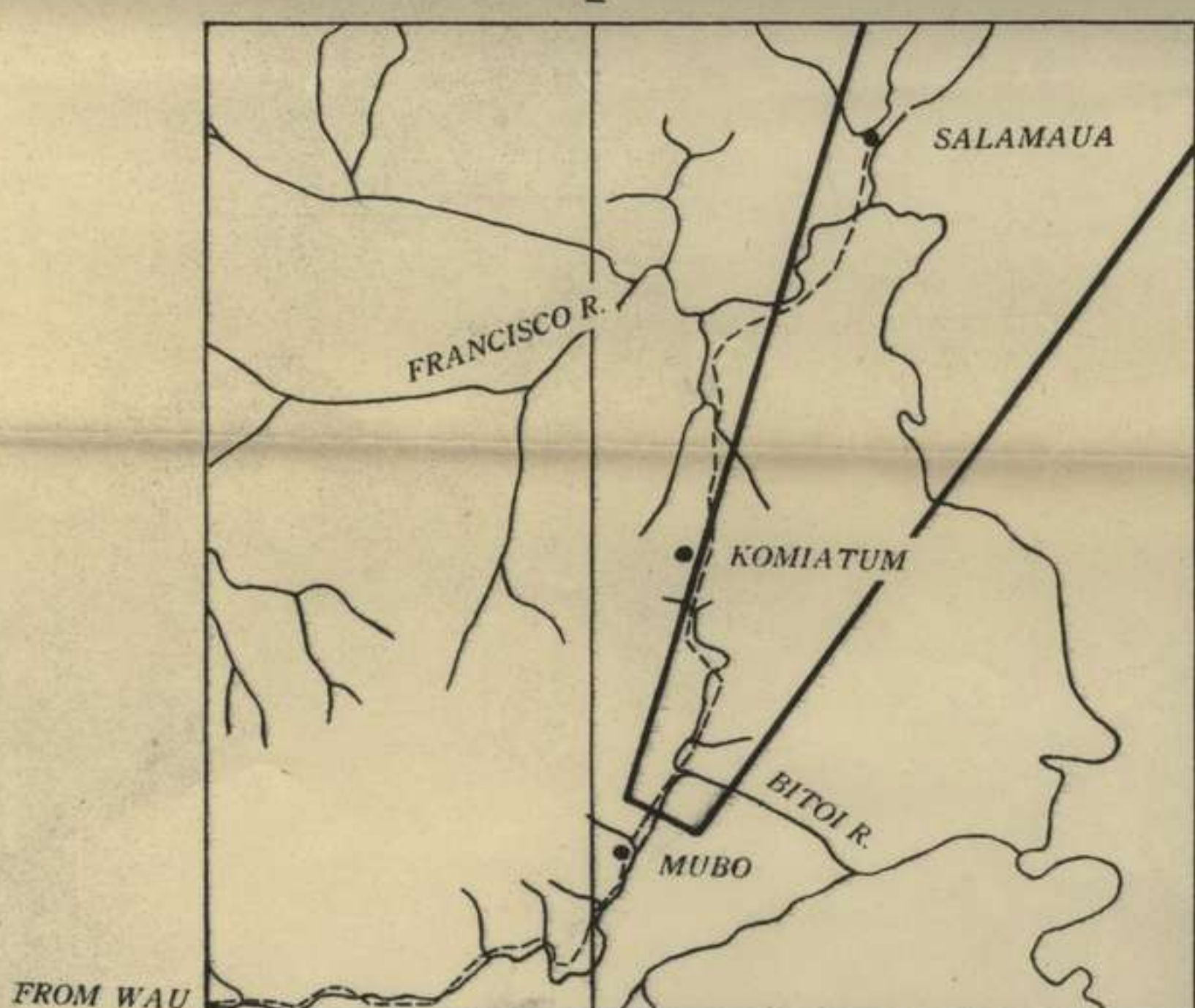


GRID REFERENCE

A reference to this point X on the photograph will read ASPI F 4 5 6

DRAWN & REPRODUCED BY 2 1 AUST. ARMY TOPO. SURVEY COY 21/4/43

SVY/MISC/054

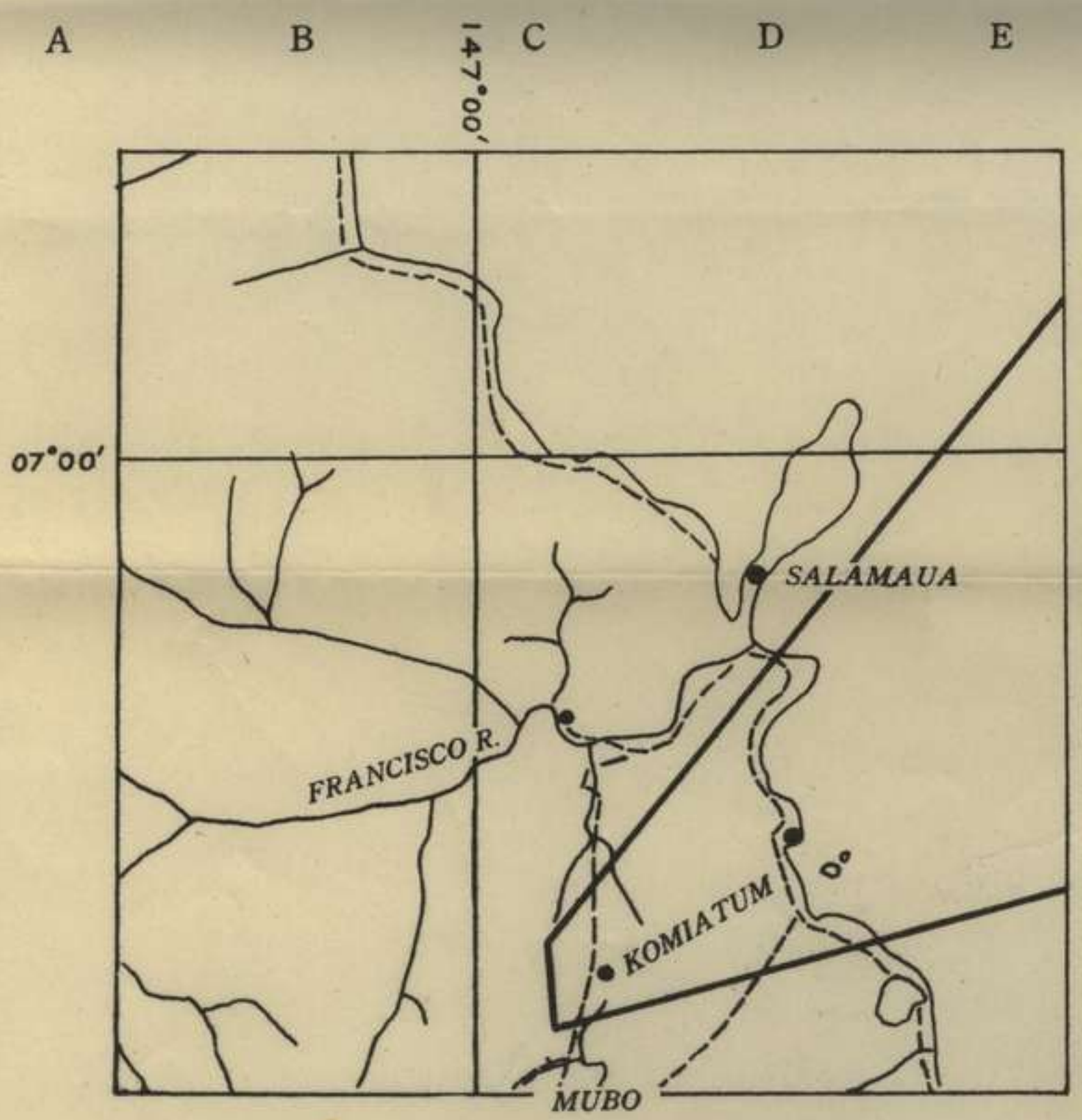
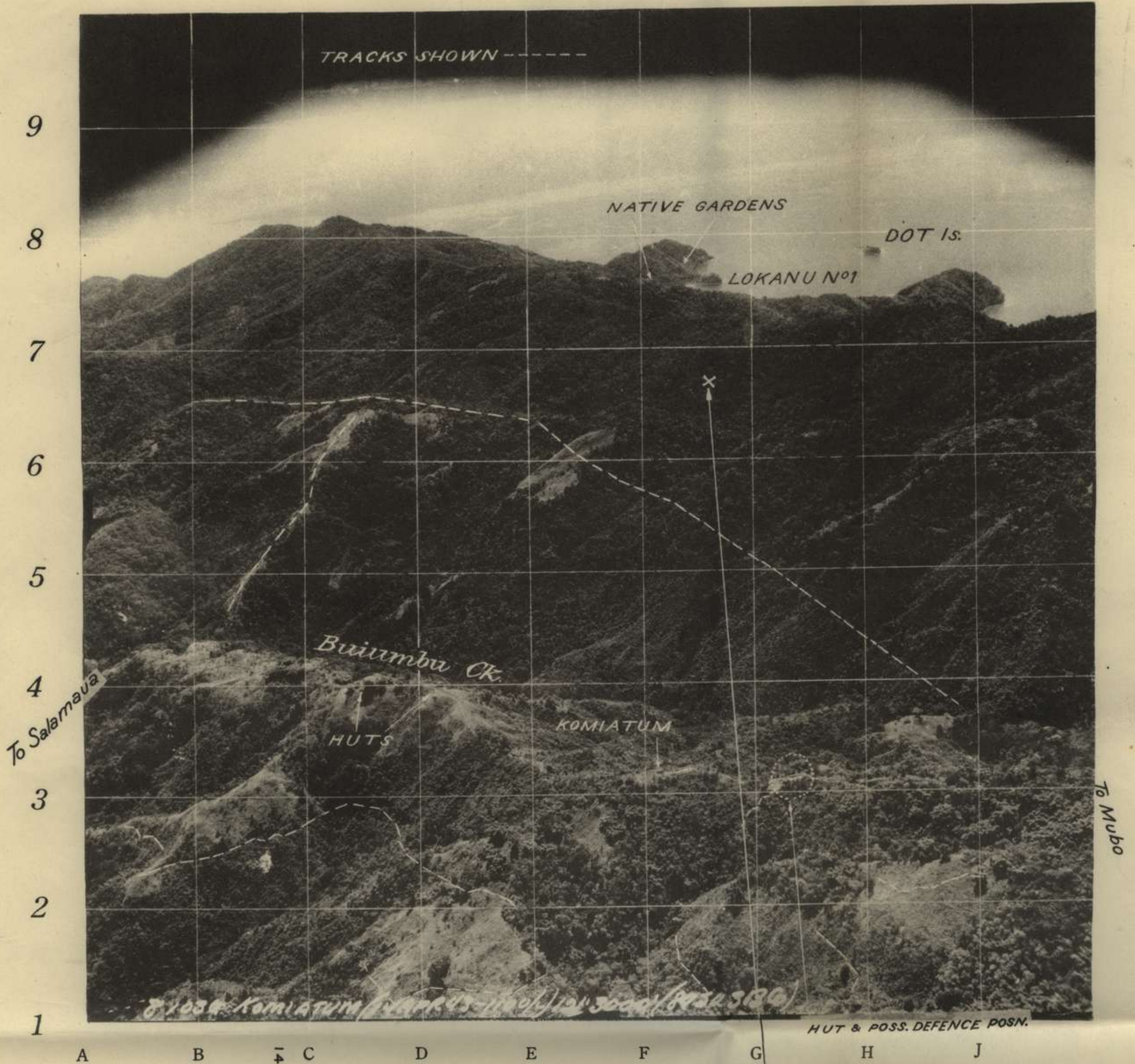


LOCALITY MAP Area covered by photo shown by heavy outline Scale 4 M=1"

AIR-SUPPORT PHOTO No. 3 (ASP3)

KOMIATUM

SALAMAUA AREA



HUT & POSS. DEFENCE POSN.

GRID REFERENCE

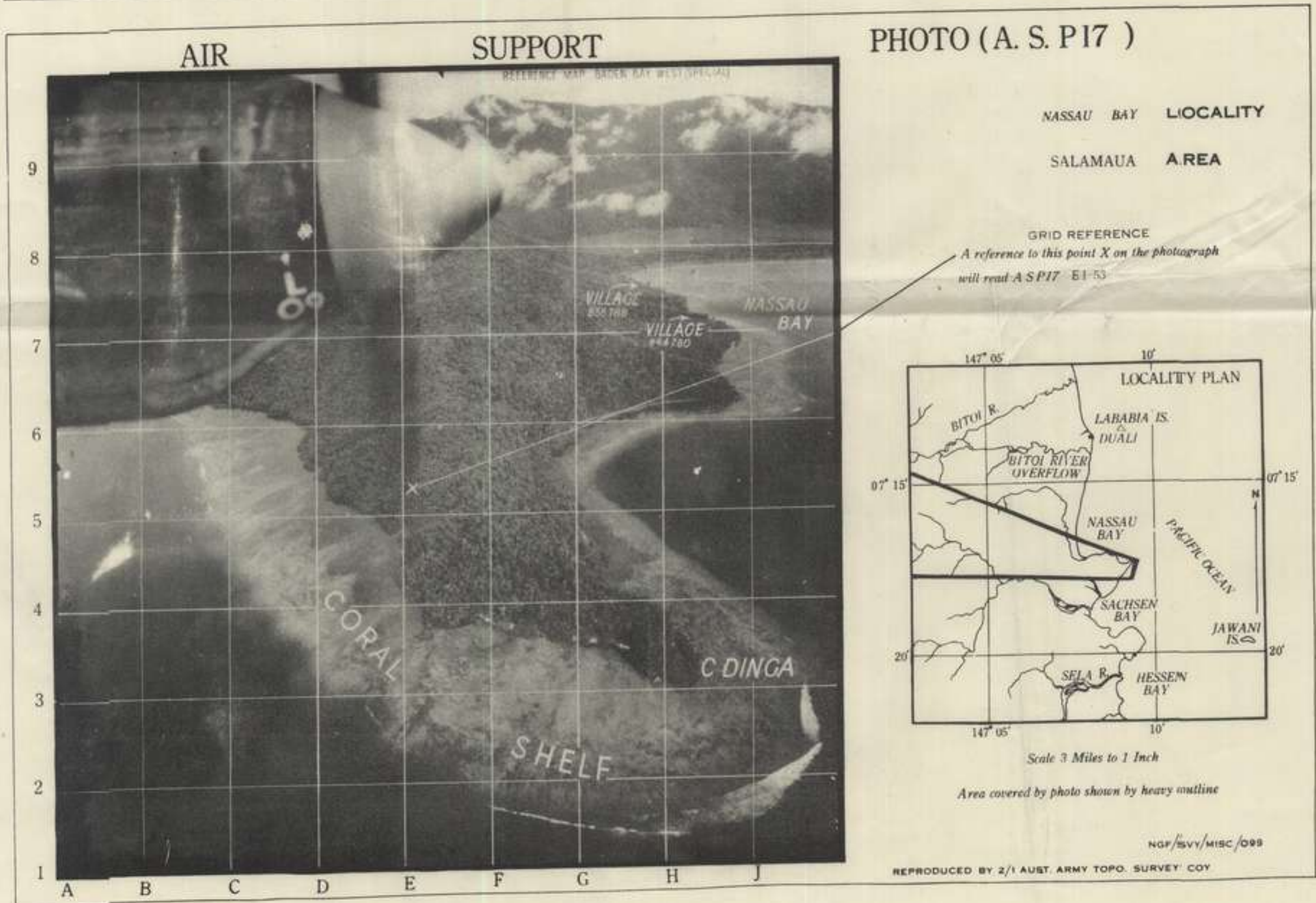
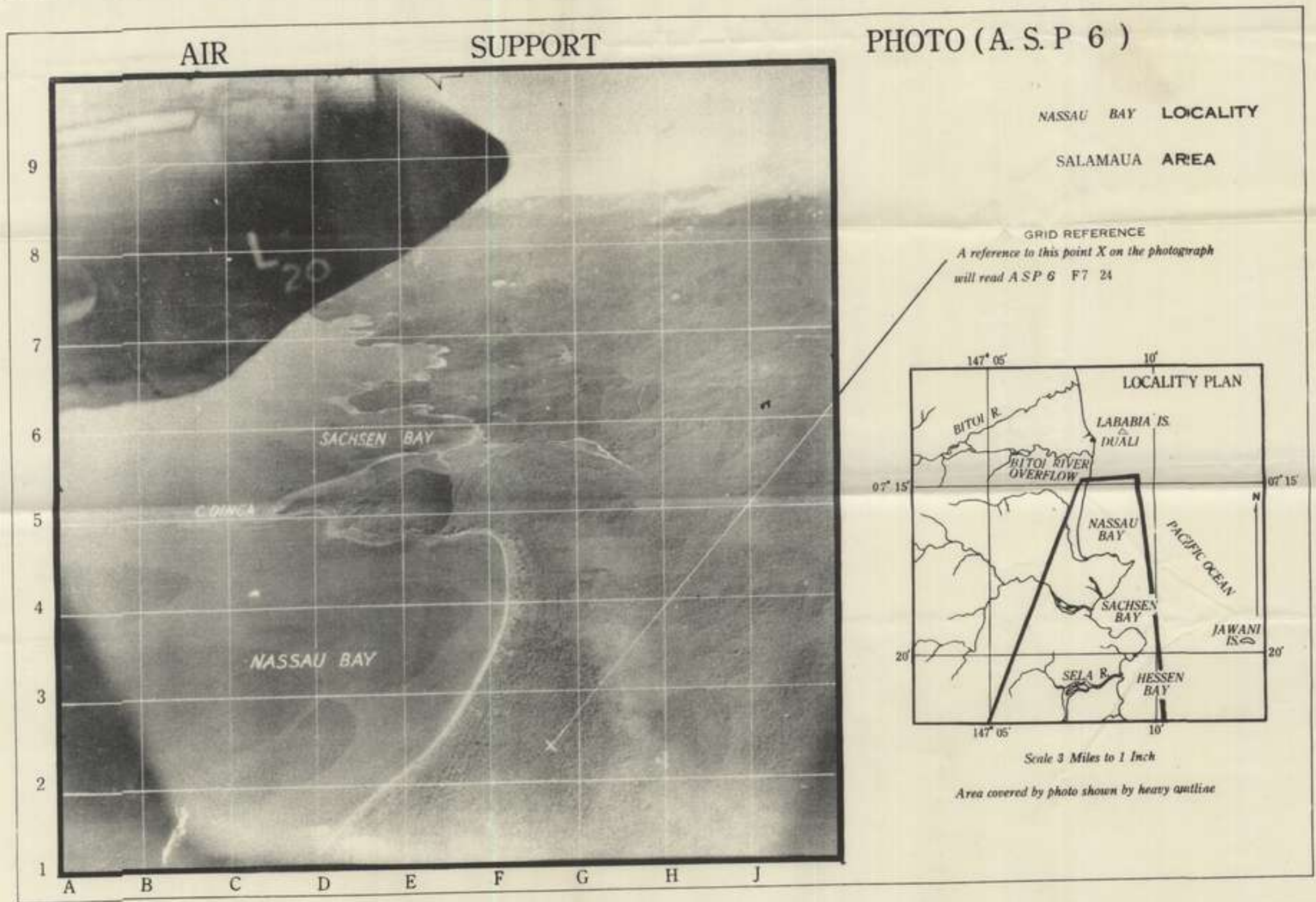
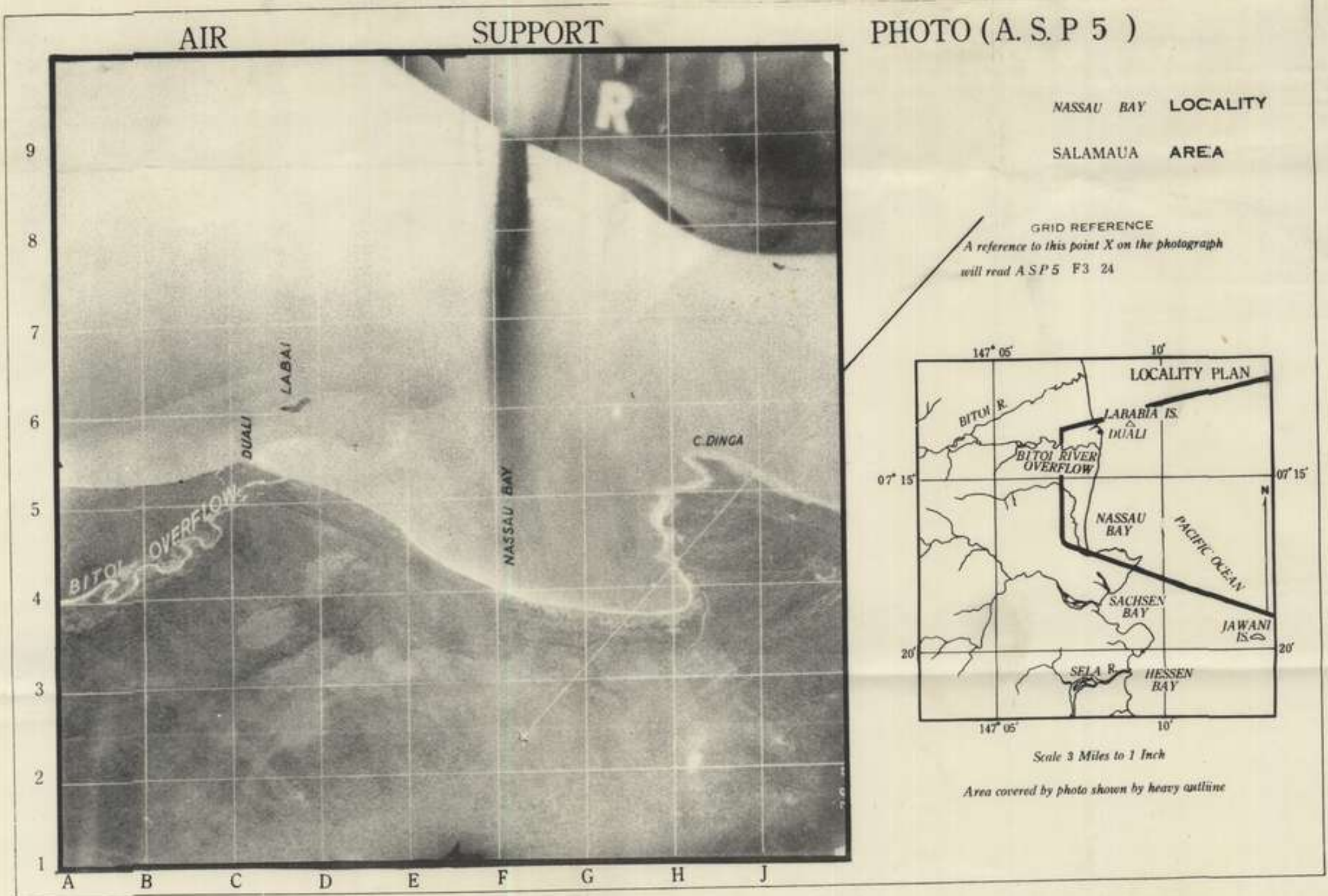
A reference to this point X on the photograph will read ASP3 F 6 6 7

DRAWN & REPRODUCED BY 2/1 AUST. ARMY TOPO. SURVEY COY.

SVY/MISC/056

21/1/43.

LOCALITY MAP Area covered by photo shown by heavy outline Scale 4 M=1"



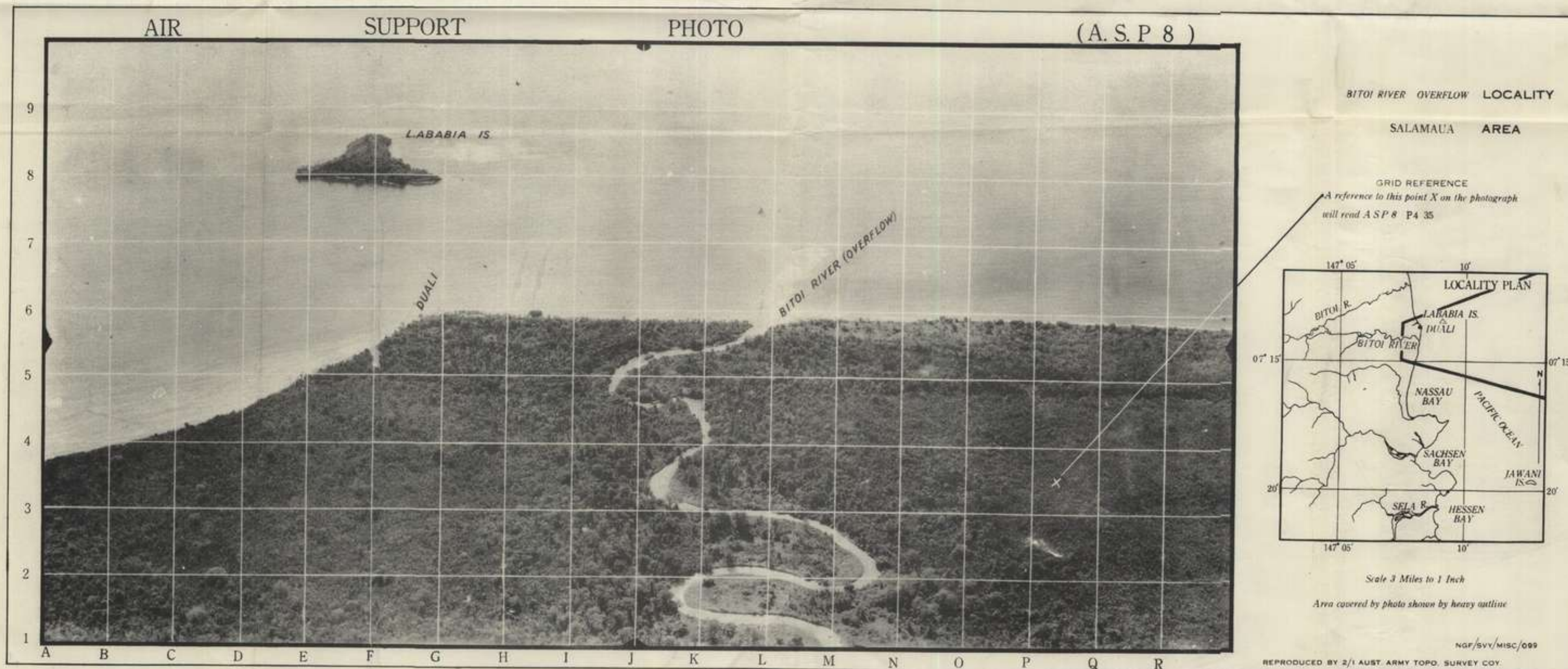
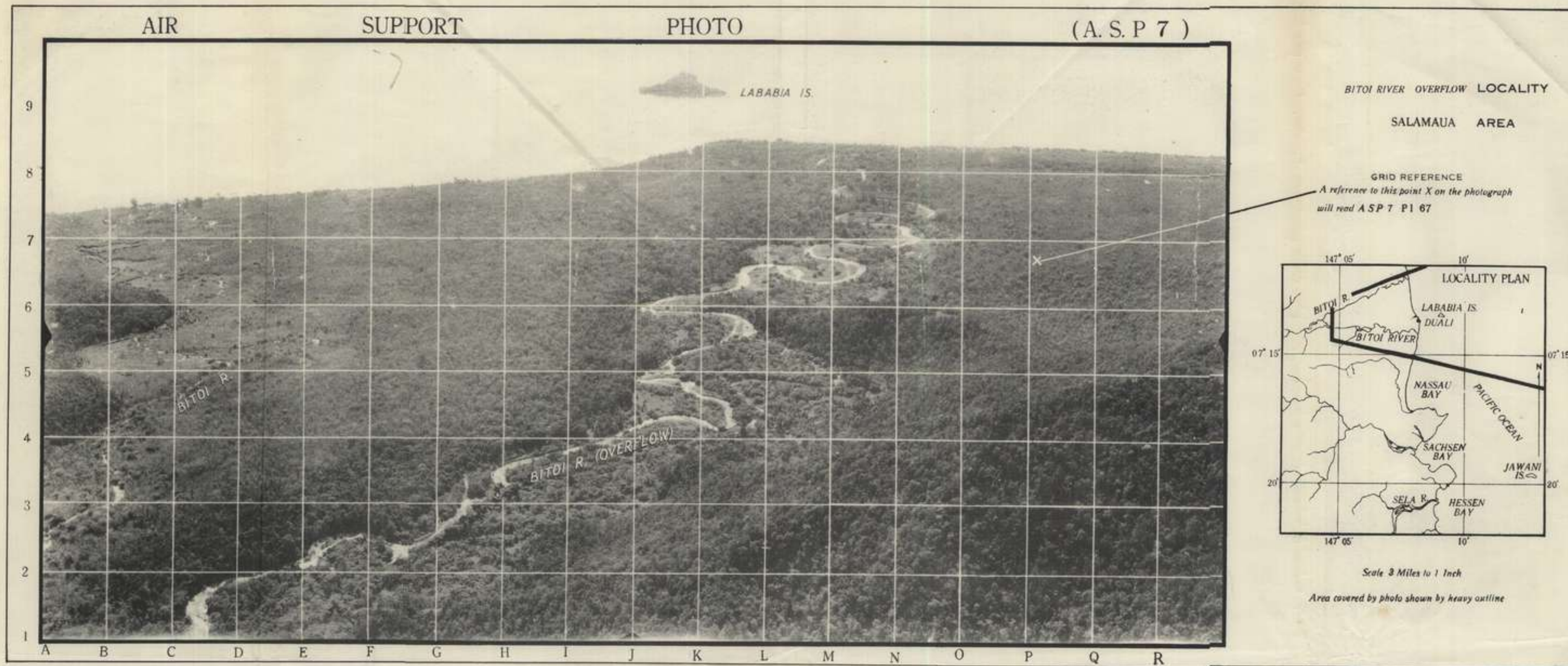




PHOTO No 33R

VIEW FROM VICINITY OF MUBO
LOOKING SOUTH EAST

REPRODUCED BY
69th ENGR CO. (TOR)
Detachment

NGF/SVY/052

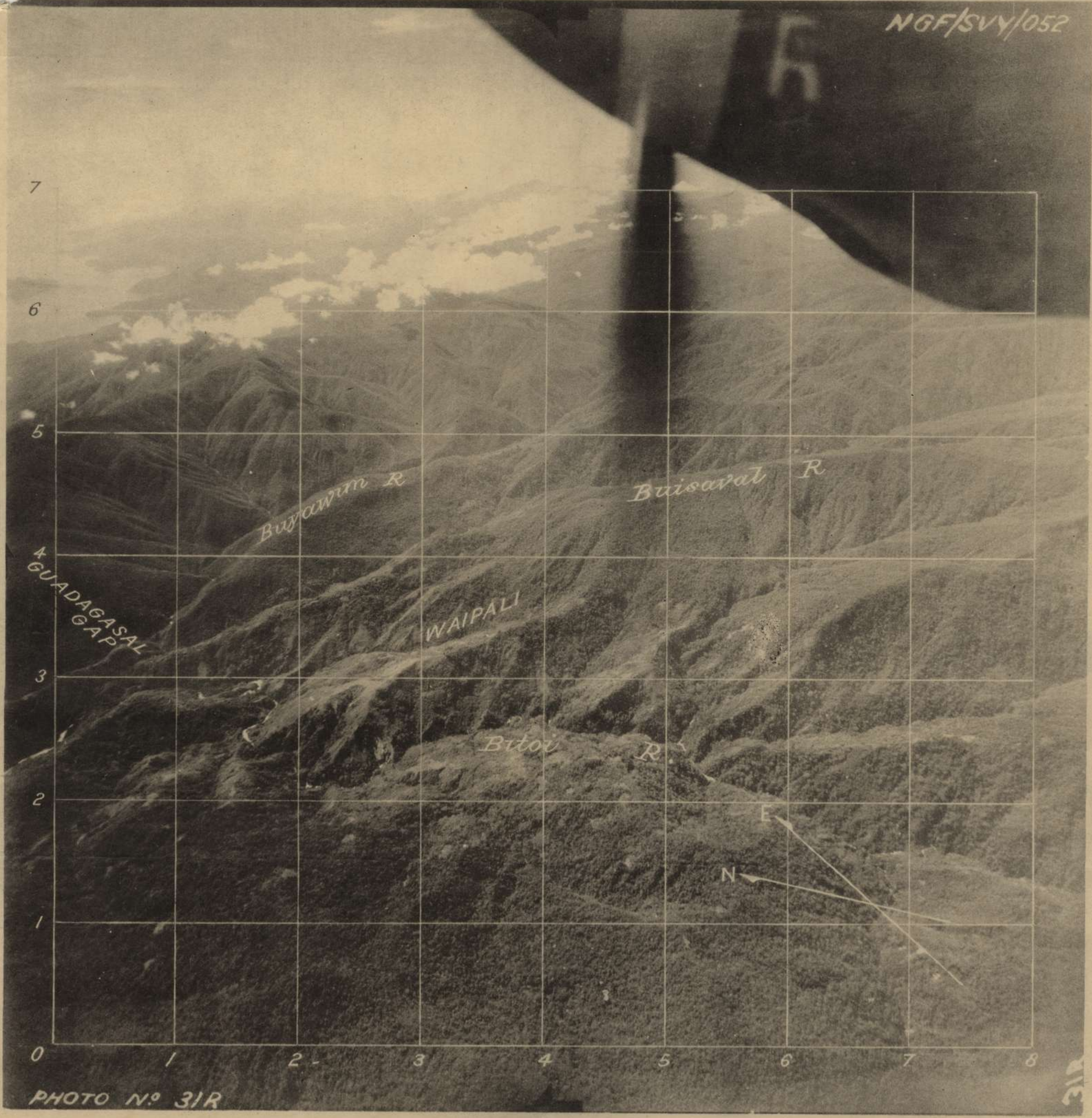


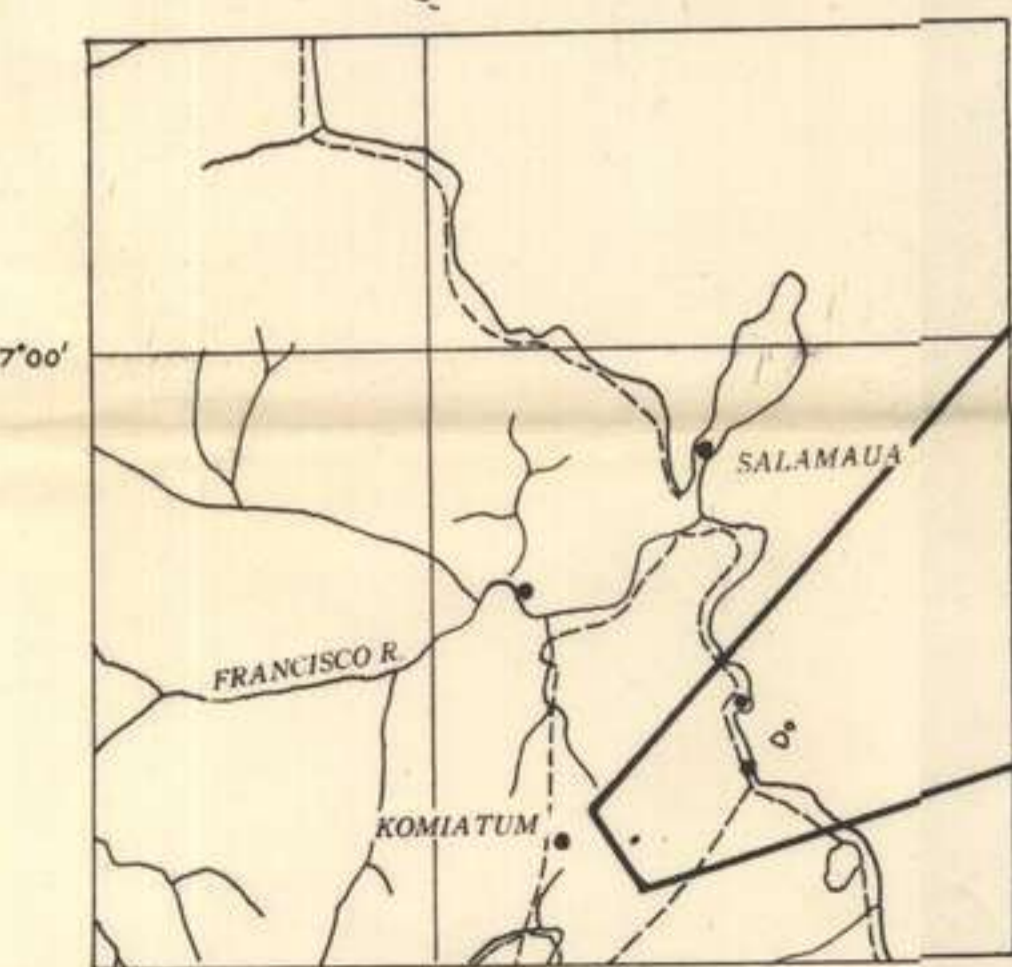
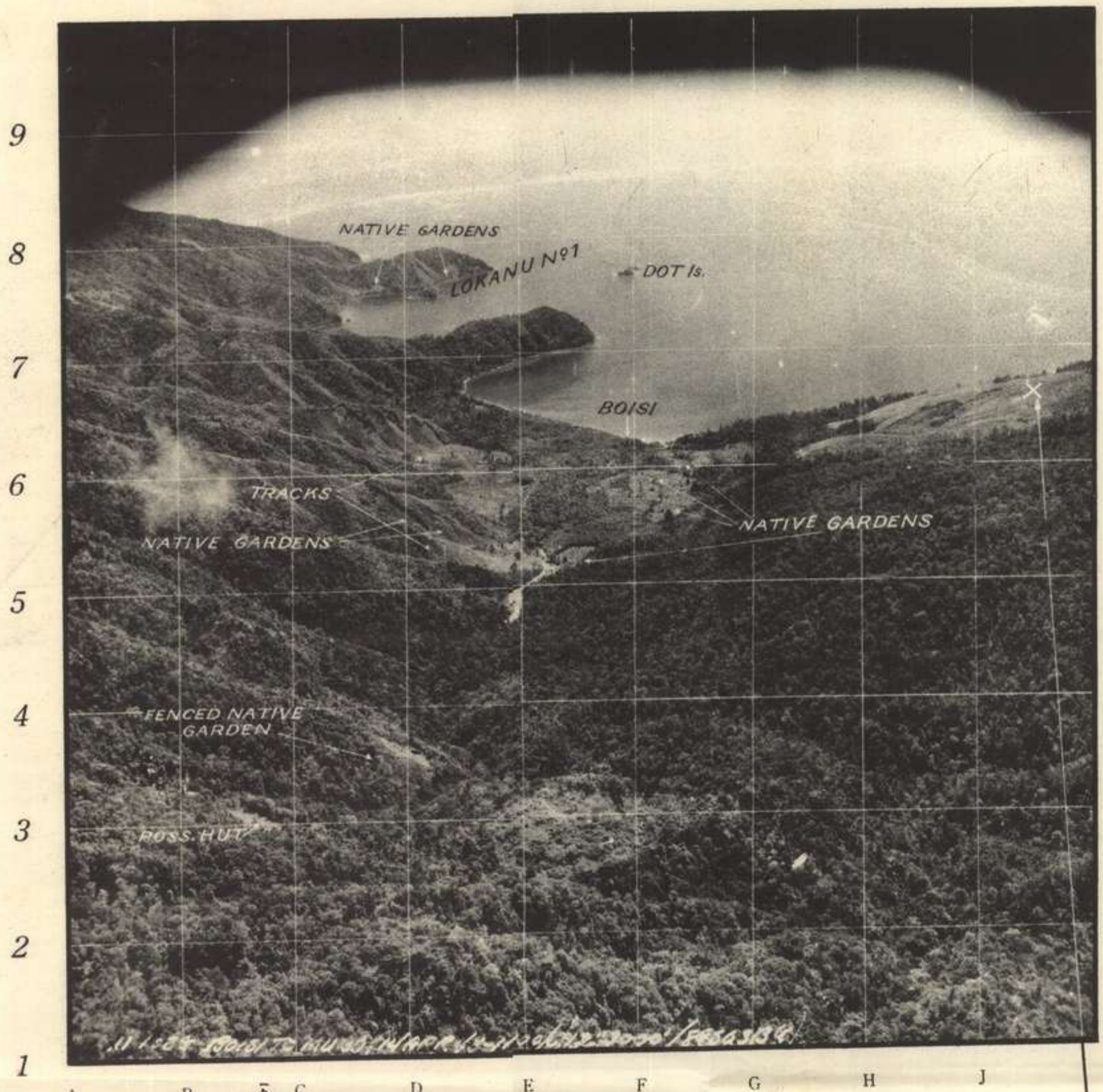
PHOTO N° 31R

VIEW FROM VICINITY OF WAIPALI
LOOKING SOUTH EAST

REPRODUCED BY
69th ENGR. CO. (TOR)
Detachment

AIR-SUPPORT PHOTO No.4 (ASP4)

LOKANU
SALAMAUA AREA

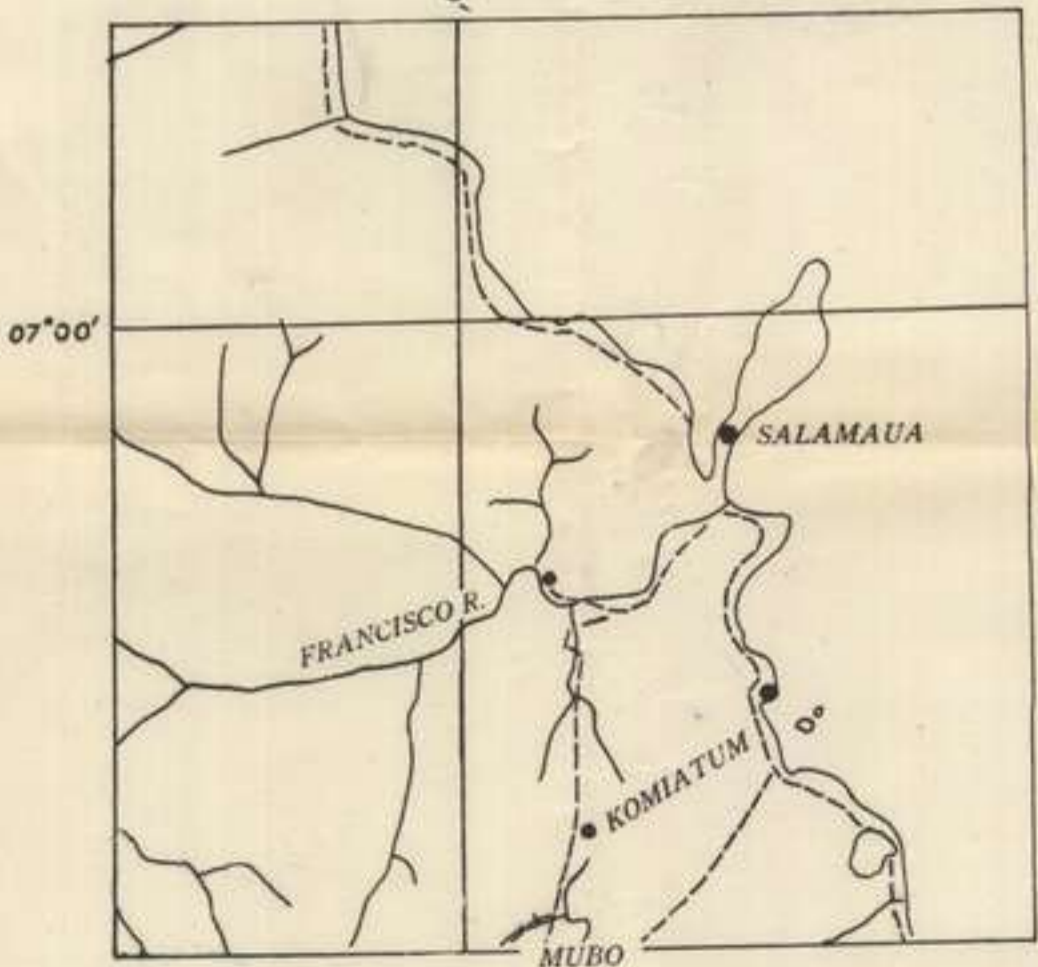
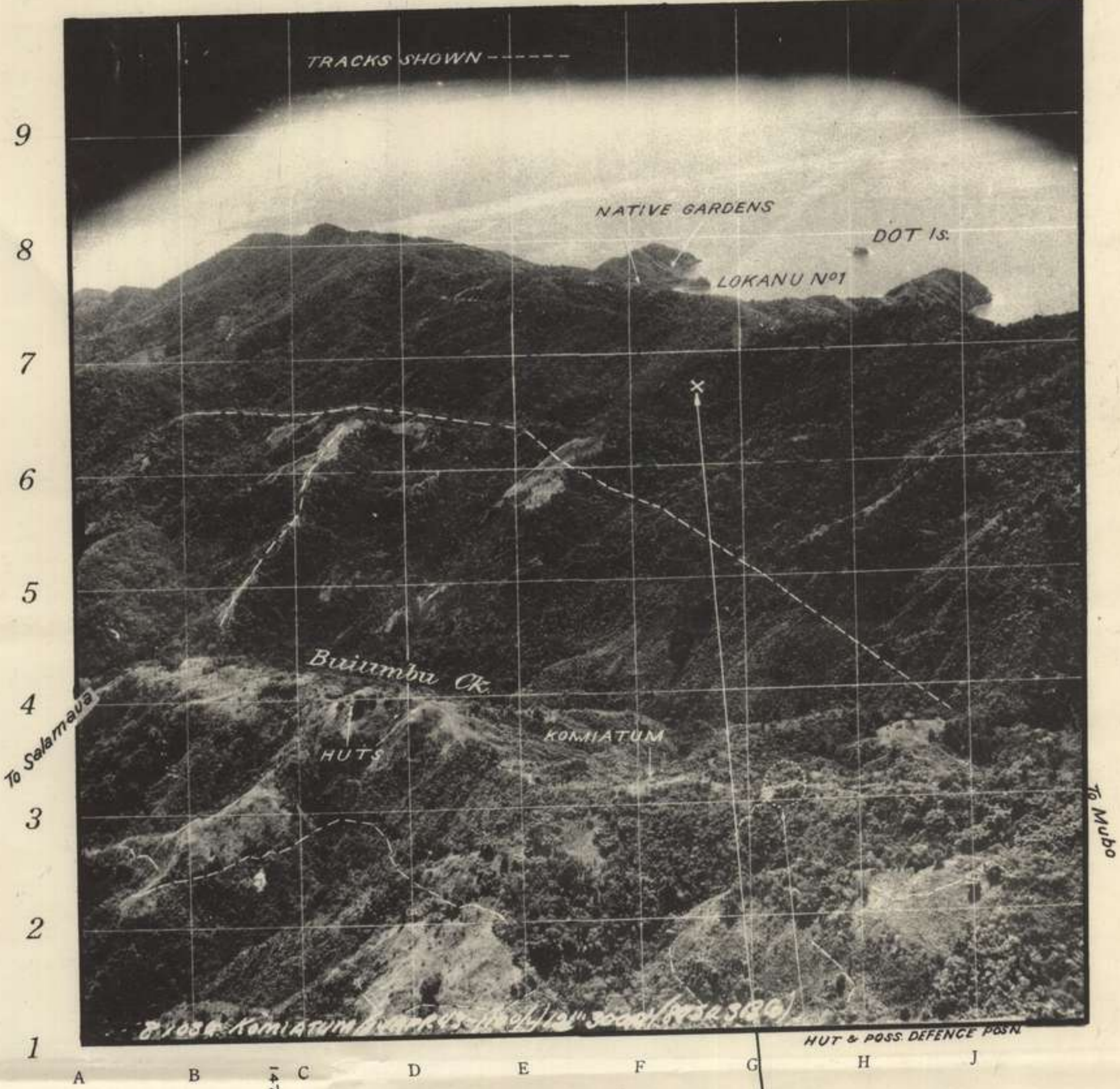


LOCALITY MAP Area covered by photo shown by heavy outline Scale 4 M=1"

GRID REFERENCE
A reference to this point X on the photograph will read ASP4 J 5 6 6
DRAWN & REPRODUCED BY 2/1 AUST. ARMY TOPO. SURVEY COY.
SVY/MISC/057
21/4/43.

KOMIATUM
SALAMAUA AREA

AIR-SUPPORT PHOTO No.3 (ASP3)

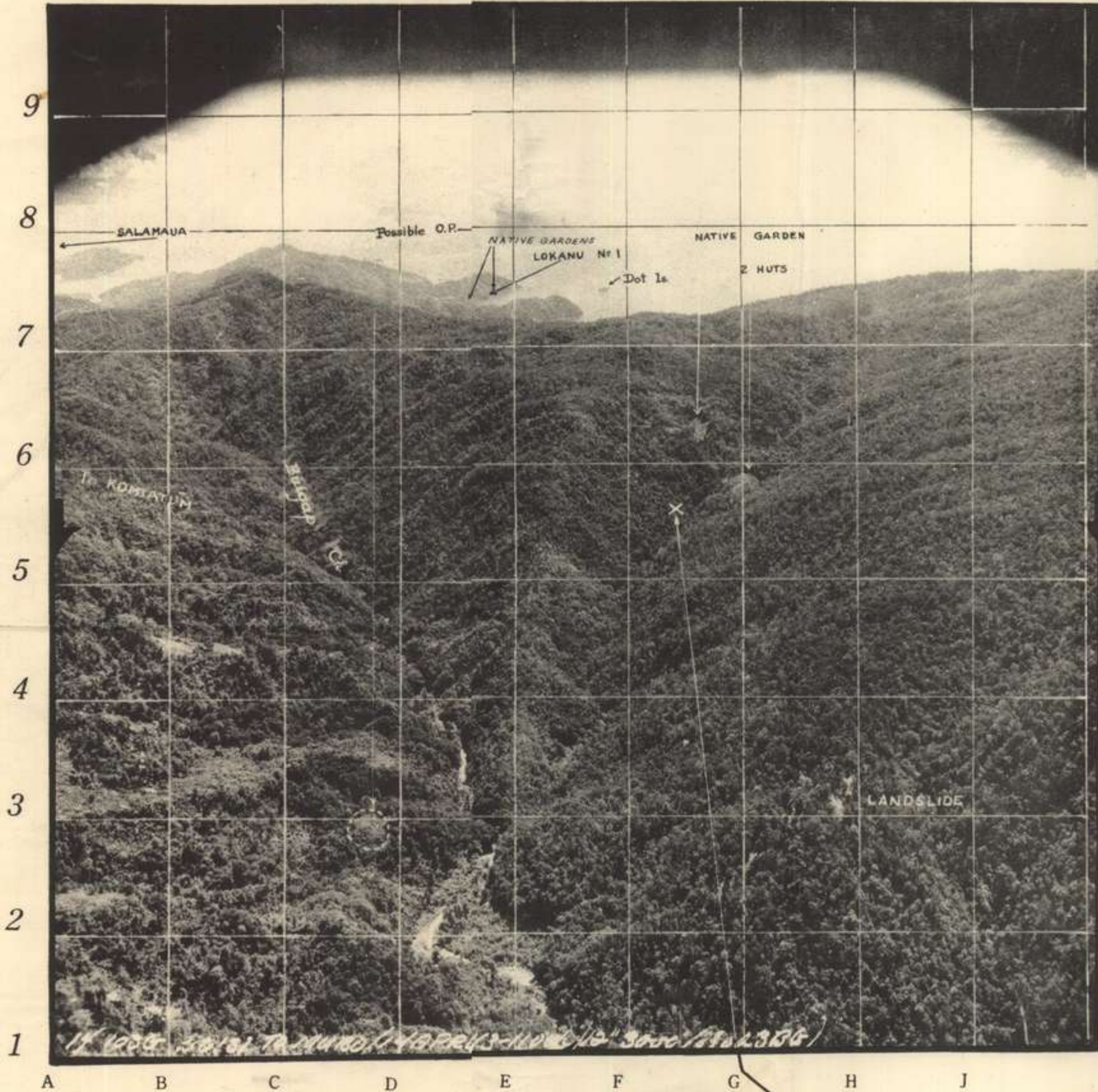


LOCALITY MAP Area covered by photo shown by heavy outline Scale 4 M=1"

GRID REFERENCE
A reference to this point X on the photograph will read ASP3 F 6 6 7
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SVY/MISC/056
21/1/43.

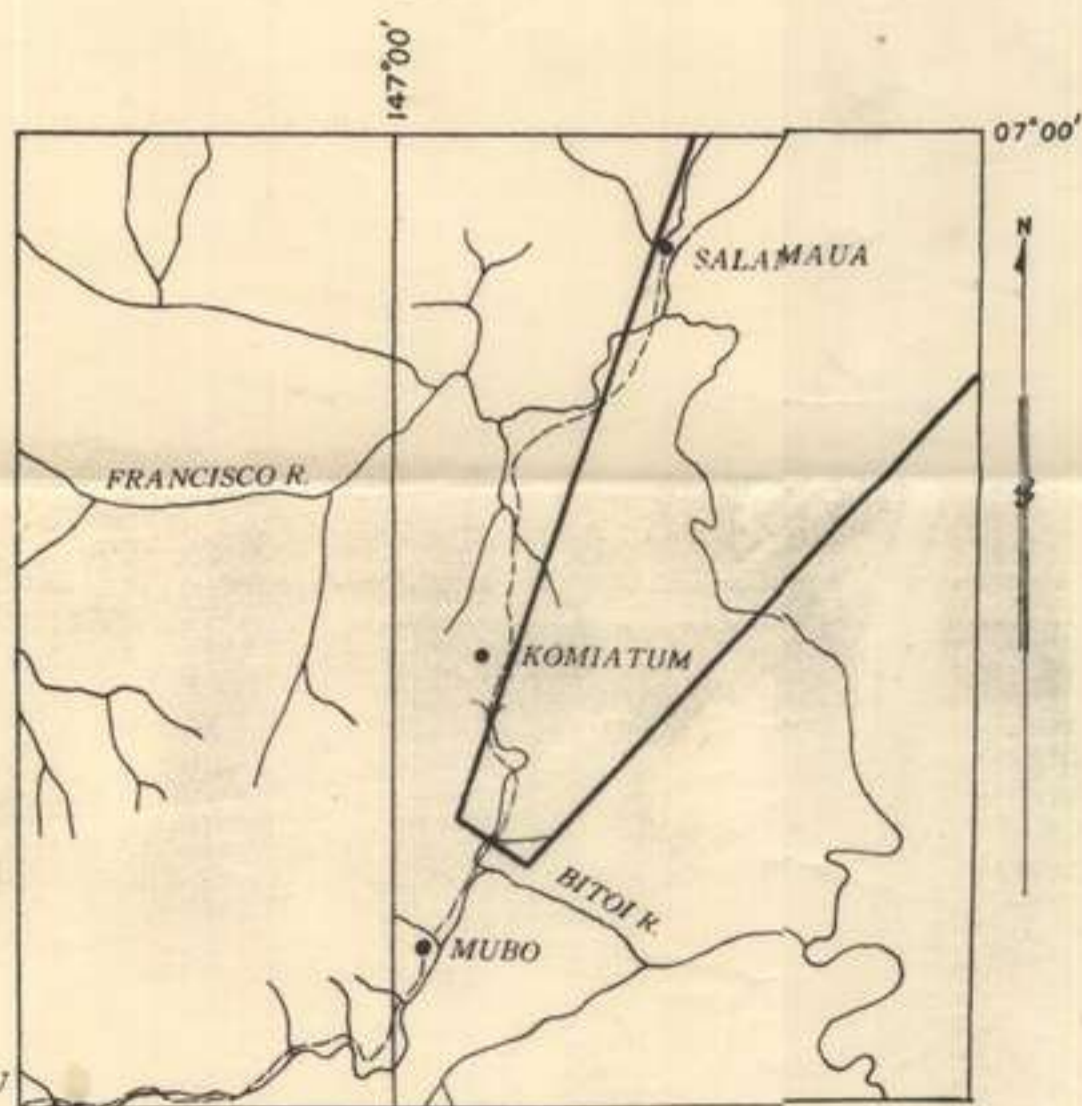
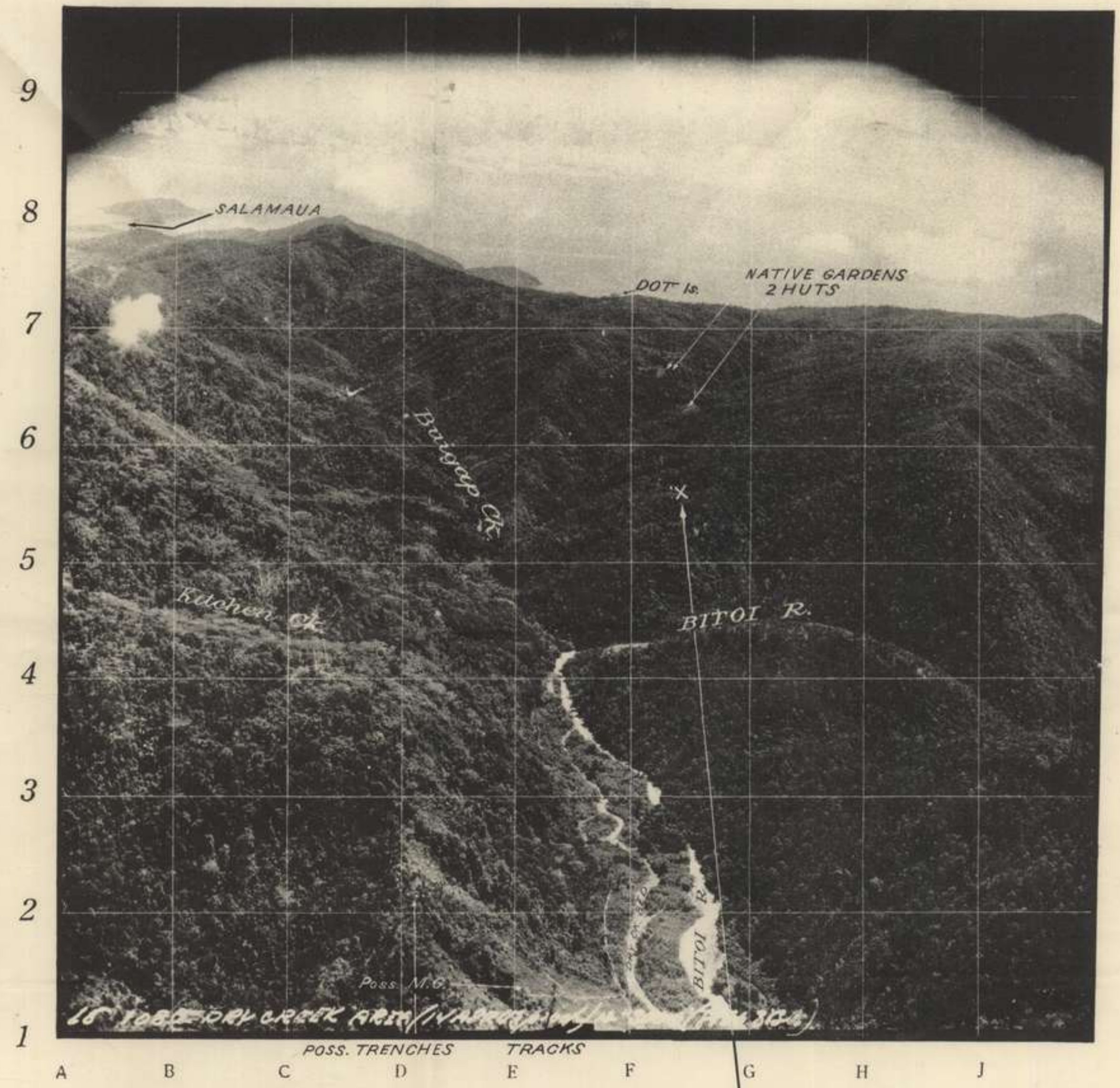
AIR-SUPPORT PHOTO No. 2 (ASP2)

BUIGAP CK.
SALAMAUA AREA



AIR-SUPPORT PHOTO No. 1 (ASPI)

BITOI - BUIGAP
SALAMAUA AREA



GRID REFERENCE

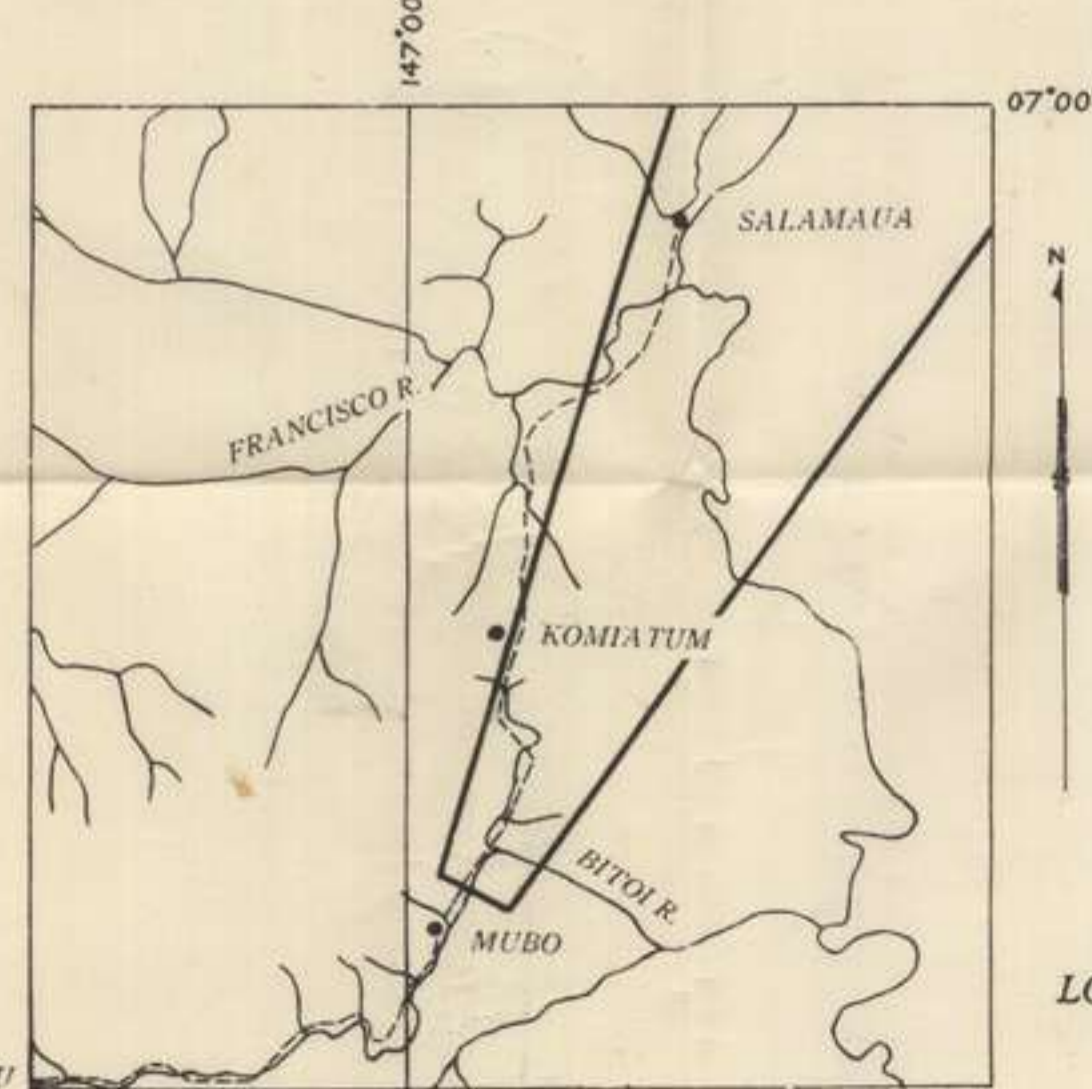
A reference to this point X on the photograph will read ASP2 F456

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SVY/MSC/055

21/4/43

LOCALITY MAP Area covered by photo shown by heavy outline Scale 4 M=1"



GRID REFERENCE

A reference to this point X on the photograph will read ASPI F456

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21/4/43

SVY/MISC/054

LOCALITY MAP Area covered by photo shown by heavy outline Scale 4 M=1"

REF MAP

LOG DIARY

MAY

PLACE

DATE

Ref No	Unit	IN T.O.O.	T.O.R.	Unit	T.O.O.	Orig No	Text of Message	Action Taken
397	17 Bde	2103	2135			0105	air strike 1 May 06 hostiles with bomb and stripe PIMPLE 1030 to 1100 hrs.	
398				DADO	0920	190	strip to 0900 ^N /O OP reports plane heard over at 0215 ^N /O patrol from B Coy moved to ascertain if enemy in occupation WOODY ISLAND area 0445 O A Coy reports PIMPLE area silent.	
399	DADO	0935	1115			01059	following received from AIR FORCE. QUOTE O recommend more smoke to used on target and continue inter mittently during BOMBING. only as white smoke obscured by bomb smoke unquote O arrange accordingly	
400				LABO	0800	185	ref air photo 83 M SALAMPUR area photo N30 INFM O ENEMY O TAC/R reports indicate enemy in occupation village SOUTH of BITIO O FLOW. MASSAIL BAY area enemy strength unknown in occupation. LABABIA ISLE O down patrol report No enemy SOUTH of BITIO O FLOW to grid S O it is not know if village DUALI is occupied by enemy O OWN TPS O as per strip O INTENTION O TO raid and destroy DUALI village to capture	

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
400 could						195	food elements of pl. are moving @ handling of natives @ PL COMD will be responsible to ensure NATIVES at no time are in danger and @ exch special boys allotted for purpose they MUST NOT be used as guides @ natives food will be under strict supervision of pl comd to ensure rations are NOT consumed especially
401			DADA	1300		191	strip to 1200 ^k /1 @ 7 BOSTON'S bombed and strafed RIMPLE area 1020 ^k /1 to 1050 ^k /1 @ bombing and strafing most accurate @ patrol from B coy to WOODY ISLAND moved fwd 1000 yds withdrew on commencing air strike @ no enemy seen @ further patrolling this area being undertaken
402	17 BDE	0900	1340	1		01058	3 dm strips 16 to 2000 ^k /1 quote MARKHAM area @ pl 2/5 inclip coy left PATER 7 @ 800 ^k /30 @ MUBO area @ air strike 30 APR most accurate A coy 2/4 th returned @ coy LABABIA area 30 APR @ MISSIM area @ one sec c pl - 2/3 inclip coy occupied post b9994 @ SALAMUA moved aug 29/30 APR @ 48 JAPS observed from NAMLING moving SOUTH towards KOMIATUM 1600 ^k /30 @ unquote

No	Unit	In TCO	TOR	Unit	Out TCO	Orig No	Text of Message
contd 400						185	<p>or <u>annihilate</u> All enemy pts in area @ METHOD @ one pl LABO will move AM 2 MAY to junction BITOI BUIRWIN RIVER @ ON AM 3 MAY pl will move to area SET rpt SET and estab from base @ rece patrol will cross BITOI and move to DUALI during day 4 MAY for track infm and occupants of DUALI @ prior to moving first light 4 MAY line comm DUALI NASSAU BAY will be cut @ force will then move fwd to objective @ P.W's will be taken if possible @ dependent on situation pl will then withdraw to firm BASE PM 5 MAY or continue movt to RIVER JUNCTION @ BDM @ MED @ one med orderly 10 native bearers will be attached AM 1 MAY for raid @ AMM @ 10000 SHA 303 2000 TSMG 90 4 200 GRENADES 30 7 200 GREN will be in posn at RIVER JUNC PM 1 MAY @ limited heat pliers patrol 200 yds sig wire will be issued prior to movt @ RATIONS @ 30x8 FD OP rations in posn RIVER JUNC @ above stores will be taken fwd of RIVER JUNC as required @ COMM @ 208 terminal will move with pl 208 stationed LABBIA OP thence line to FOXI @ RT code as appendix I to this instr. will be used only @ TAC/R plane will make contact daily @ ground strip as supplied will be placed in open country on its arrival @ head of arrow will point in direction</p>

REF MAP

Log Diary

Place
Date

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
403				LOFU	1420	019	<p>ref maps MUBO LOCALITY SHEET @ INFM @ ENEMY @ patrol report BUSA indicates enemy have consolidated PIMPLE area @ strength est. 40 @ 2 MMG @ 4 LMG identified @ it is know that enemy has 40MM GUN @ MORTAR in vicinity KITCHEN @ capable of bringing fire on PIMPLE area @ during recent AIR STRIKES enemy moved from PIMPLE to cover in STONEY CK area. @ OWN @ as it is INTENTIONS @ LOFU will attack and consolidate PIMPLE area @ METHOD @ AIR FORCE will bomb staff PIMPLE area day APRIL 30 MAY 1 @ DAY MAY 2 plans will staff GREEN HILL followed by bombing attacks making approach runs across PIMPLE @ plans TOT 1030 / 21045 / 20 ARTY will indicate target area using smoke @ MAY 2 ARTY will indicate PIMPLE using 3 rpt 3 rds SMOKE then @ ON THIRD round SMOKE LOFU will attack PIMPLE @ LIMIT of EXPLOITATION @ FWO SLOPES PIMPLE area @ CONSOLIDATION @ will be carried out IMMEDIATELY in order to resist enemy counter attack @ troops will IMMEDIATELY take measures against enemy shelling @ areas fwd and for flanks will be booby trapped @ MURVING @ UR @ areas between present fwd posns and PIMPLE must be cleared of all enemy including TRE SNIPERS @ 2d @ 3" MORTARS under cover LOFU will be held in reserve @ INTERCORREL @ LINE @ BHQ present location @ ADMN issues separately INSTR @ above presents</p>

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
403 could						019	confirmation of verbal orders issued 1100 hrs 30 APRIL @ ack @ 2 SECS P/A PL COME UNDER COMD LOEU P/B PL COMD TO BE NOTIFIED
404				2/3 INB COY	1425	192	your patrol which left K/27 to contact this unit NOT yet reported @ have you any information of its location @ please advise @
405				LIKO	1430	193	Received trace showing route patrol MATMAT MISSIM @ appreciate your thoughtfulness
406				ALL UNITS 4/c	1515	194	password for period 1800 ^{K/1} to 1800 ^{K/2} @ LILAC
407	PHONE 1635						LOEU ack 019
408				DADO	1830	195	strip 1800 ^{K/1} @ O.P. report 4/1 plane aircraft flew EAST over LABABIA RIDGE @ enemy fires in normal areas @ C coy signor.
409	17/1300			17/1300	2145	01063	3 Div strip 18 to 2000 K/1 Quote @ MUBO area @ A Coy 2/5 Bn arrived BALLAMS 1 MAY @ patrol B Coy 2/7 Bn moved out to WOODY ISLAND area @ air strike 1020 to 1000 K/1 reported accurate @ MISSIM area @ 1115 K/1 BUGASI JUNE O.P. reports 5 JAPS moved SOUTH towards KOMIATUM @ returned NORTH towards SALAMAVA 1420 K/1 @ unquote all informed
410	17BOE				1915	01060	3 div strip 1643 to 1745 K/30 @ fine enemy shells landed vicinity VICKERS RIDGE 1643 to 1745 K/30 @ Two shells emitted white smoke three shells black smoke @ unquote.

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
411	17BDE	0800	0845			01065	strike 2 MAY 6 BOSTONS 1030 to 1100 hrs BY GREEN HILL arty smoke out PIMPLE as arranged
412				17BDE	0930	796	subref to 0900 K/2 @ OP reports all plane flew over area 0600 K/2 @ A Coy reports PIMPLE area sitnar @ further patrol B Coy moved fwd investigate Woods ISLAND area 0445 K/2 LIBUT Troop & PI left Base Camp
413							arty shot from Main Bty and arrival of planes
414	Phone						A Coy HQ moved fwd to last position - 18 with shot head to date
415	Phone						17 Pl D Coy moved to Baker Camp - left Baint with pl
416	17Bde	0955	1110			01076	3 div subref 19 to 0800 K/2 Quote @ sitnar @ unquote all informed
417	17Bde	1025	1115			01068	A/C sighting 1 MAY @ large rectangular boxes stacked in lightly timbered patch ref SALAMAVA perused 1 mi to 1 mile 795890 @ tent on ridge approx 1 1/2 mile EAST of PIMPLE @ during strike 1 MAY second smoke sig shell observed fell at least 300 to 100 yds SOUTH of first smoke shell which fell in centre of target @ advise if the roads fired by our guns
418	BALU	0715	1125			0403	our patrol unable to reach MAT MAT owing enemy activity KITCHEN CS area @ returned NAMBAING 1 MAY
419	Phone						left Jatterson reported right flank pinned down no more left flank - 3 casualties
420	Phone						left Jatterson reports that 1st platoon wounded and unable to reach him @ 1st Wile pl preparing assault with grenades

No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
421	Phone	1305					Capt Jatterson reports 1 sec left pl within 10yds of enemy forms, using grenades. Requested 4 th sec to move on his right. Lt Sparkie returned to safety - wounded high on right shoulder
422				DADO	1310	I 97	subseq to 1200 K/2 @ BOSTONS bombed strafed GREEN Hill area 1030 K/2 to 1100 K/2 @ ntn bly fired three deception rds smoke on PIMPLE 1030 K/2 @ two pls novel fired to rt and left flanks PIMPLE meeting enemy resistance @ third pls actively engaging enemy @ own cas Lt Sparkie 3 OR's wounded @ fighting patrol D Coy moved to RIVER JUNG ref MUCO LOCALITY 1/25000 6545 preparatory to move to DUALI area
423	Phone		1345				Capt Jatterson advised that if pl could not move further while left pl advanced down @ 66 instructed Capt Jatterson to withdraw Coy - leaving enough to cover withdrawal of wounded after dark.
424				DADO	1435	I 98	smoke referred to was NOT left NOT from shell fired from ntn bly @ No report of enemy gun being fired heard @ smoke may have resulted from candle or bomb from our own a/c.
425				DADO	1435	O 20	attack on PIMPLE not successful @ enemy did NOT evacuate PIMPLE during deception runs @ PIMPLE feature ^{is} definite razor back with precipitous sides @ enemy has dug in forms close to heavy timber on north side @ lanes have been lightly cleared to enable whole feature to be covered by fire from MMG and LMG @ ntn pls are compelled to move slowly during adv @ this prevents push tactics and use of grenades to advantage @ request will be made for bombing and strafing

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
425 (cont)							runs from NORTH to SOUTH as a counter to dug in pits @ located pits will be mortared @ D Coy being specially trained in night operations for night or first light attempt on PIMPLE @ country similar to PIMPLE area has been chosen
426				CAPT BAIRD	1445	N 1	17 Pm will return to SADDLE this PM @ ack
427				SGT HALE	1445	N 2	Warning Order @ Prepare for relief tomorrow 3 @ ack
428					1450		left Johnson reported that inflicted ^{casualties} at least 10 Japs killed. Lt Waugh instructed to remain LOFU to select suitable O.P.s for observing PIMPLE and Bitot R with view to accurate mortar fire these areas.
429	Phone				1540		Capt Baird reported from BASE CAMP LABABIA that Lt Waugh had died
430	Phone				1545		A Coy returned to defensive form. Report 10 Japs killed 3 OR's wounded
431					1530	I 99	all to Password for period 1800 K/2 to 1900 K/3 is LEGAL
432				DADO	1915	I 101	subref to 1800 K/2 @ it has been ascertained enemy moved fwd from PIMPLE towards our posns during air strike pt pt being fired on just after leaving St. @ this pt estimates 32 enemy pt flank with tree snipers @ left pt approached within 50 yds enemy posns and report 5 or 6 LMG @ JAPS stated to be wearing shorts shirts and in good condition @ our cas 10 Japs killed 3 OR's wounded @ in cas 3 killed 3 wounded @ patrol B Coy moved to point ^{ref} map MUBO locality 1/25000 3344 where enemy est 7 heard talking @ ^{low} patrol continuing but enemy immediately became silent @ patrol listened then withdrew

REF MAP

Log Diary

Place
Date 2 May '43

Reg No	Unit	In TCO	TOR	Unit	Out TCO	Orig No	Text of Message
432 (cont)							shot was fired as patrol crossed BUIPAL CK. Watch maintained on contact area. One JAP observed to move on to tracks 1720 K/2, look toward WOODY. ISLAND returned to cover. O. P. reports v/l plane heard northerly direction 1320 K/2 followed by two explosions.
433				DADO	1920	I101	ref MUBO locality SHEET 1/25000. INTELLIGENCE. It has been ascertained that during AIR STRIKE MAY 2 enemy left from PIMPLE area, moved TOWARD our traps. enemy has dug from NORTH side of large trees & grass. patrol reports enemy occupy from BITOI DRY CK BED area. Several enemy observed in AMBUSH form ref 3344 apt 3344. INTENTION. move own traps TOWARD PIMPLE prepare AMBUSH form. request AIR STRIKE for MAY 3 as MAY 2. STRIKE to include line of BITOI DRY CK BED NORTH from 3344 apt 3344. own traps SOUTH apt SOUTH line 3041-3241 4046 apt 3041 3241 4046.
434	BUSA	0745		None			C Coy report light from BUIDAIKONG on bearing 355° to LALIBU feature. Advised to send patrol to investigate. A.M. 3 May.
435	1781	2150	2225			1072	ref map MUBO locality. own map ref PIMPLE and new enemy dug from
436				DADO	2235	I103	ref map MUBO locality to map ref PIMPLE 13745. ref I101 report enemy had dug from north side large trees & grass. these grass are in PIMPLE area & enemy occupied from PIMPLE area on approach on the
437	1781	2215	2240			1072	Alert requested from 1000 to 1030 hrs. will confirm later

Msg No	Unit	In TCO	TOR	Unit	Out TCO	Orig No	Text of Message
438				DADO	0930	L104	subp to 0700 K/3 @ Japs D Coy moved from RIVER JUNG ref MUBO LOCALITY 1/25000 6545 to DUALI area 0700 K/3 @ A Coy reports PIMPLE area subp also one further OR missing @ OP reports NMS @ WATSON ANGAN dep 0700 K/3 for piece NASSAU BAY area
439	17 Bde	0940	1115			01075	3 subp subp 21 to 0800 K/3 quiet @ Mission area @ piece patrol in 2 May land on by Japs from Bidubi area @ 30 Japs moved into NOTE first light 2 May @ patrol from A pl reports no enemy NOTE or vicinity 1600 K/2 @ Mubo area during air strike 2 May enemy moved back from PIMPLE toward our line @ night Jpl fired on almost immediately on crossing 1st line @ est 32 enemy night plunk @ left pl approached within 50 yds enemy pens @ est 5/6 LACs in area @ our cos 1 Jpl 1 OR killed 3 OR wounded @ enemy casualties 3 killed 3 wounded @ Rif Mubo H. in B Coy patrol moved to 6038490 heard 7 Japs talking
440	17 Bde	1040	1140			01076	air force advised at 1035 K/3 that air strike not approved for 3 May due to lack of detailed info relative posn of our Hqs in relation to beach line @ new enemy posns and PIMPLE both NORTH of beach line and cannot understand your plan if our Hqs are to remain SOUTH of beach line @ please advise further details for air strike 4 MAY.
441				1 Room	1215		It Iron holding two natives who indicate that no Japs in Duali village but three fences located at of air photo 83M No 4 TCV T9W T3W. It was

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
							suggested to Mr Iron that he await arrival of Lt Watson who would be in part to thoroughly interrogate the native.
442				DADO	1300	1105	atrop to 1200K/3. A coy reports PIMPLE area situatn o OP reports B 17. flying southerly direction 1045K/3. Two Hqs over Guadalcanal dropping area 1020K/3
443				DADO	1330	1106	ackd 01076
444	LOFU		Phone		1225		limit of tree enclosed booty trap - two grenades exploded
445	17Ble	1135	1340			01077	3 div atrop 20 to 1800K/2. Quote o Museum area o also coy HQ 2/3 2nd coy moved to 652991 of Salamans raised 848945 o Micro area o latins bombed and strafed GREEN HILL area 1030 to 1100K/2 o mine bly fired 3 deception rds of smoke through area of photo 88G 629411 at 1030K/2. Two Hqs moved last night and left flank PIMPLE o met enemy resistance o attack not successful o enemy did not evacuate during deception mvs by a/c in Pimple o our casualties reported to 1300K/2. 1 off 3 OR wounded o lightly killed D coy moved near zone SALAMAVA raised 1748735 o requests
446				DADO	1700	1108	the strike request o out map Mulo locality o Intelligence o it has been ascertained that during strike May 2 enemy vacated PIMPLE to area approx 377440 where terrain gave cover against SOUTH to NORTH approach by A/C o our troops contacted enemy SOUTH of Pimple o enemy withdrew to original posns Pimple area o 8 LMG 20MG identified in prepared posns

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
446 (cont)							line approx 376 445 372 446 370 445 @ INTENTION a bomb strike PIMPLE MAY 4 MAY 5 requesting that a/c approach target NORTH to SOUTH that Full effect be produced against enemy posts which are all sited NORTH side large selected areas @ also to neutralize enemy who move to areas where terrain previously gave protection @ own troops will follow strike and MAY 5 with attack on PIMPLE area @ REQUEST bombing, trapping concentration PIMPLE area MAY 4 MAY 5 using combination BEAUFIGHTER Boston a/c @ approach by a/c NORTH to SOUTH @ own troops SOUTH bombline 4043 3043 rpt 4043 3043 @ PIMPLE to bombline @ 300 yds @ bombline to OWN troops @ approx 500 yds area 3941 rpt 3941 @ approx 300 yds area 3542 rpt 3542 @ ARTY will also indicate target area.
447	DUBU	Phone		1900			2 two-man patrols leaving camp area at first light May 4 proceeding to west of OBSERVATION Hill and KITCHEN Ck area to observe. Expected time of return no earlier than PM. May 5 or at latest MAY 6
448				DADO	1945	2110	Report 1800 K/3 @ FIGHTING PATROL comd. LIEUT TROON on mission to DUALI area about as far as 2 natives BITOI OVERFLOW DRY CK bed of PCV @ natives dedamed of ensil LIEUT WATSON report to ANGAU interrogated. Then WATSON reports @ what natives from villages DUALI (could)

Reg No	Unit	In TOC	TOR	Unit	Out TOC	Orig No	Text of Message
							<p>SALUS have been collected @ present numbers approx 100 wish more to come in @ they will return to this area MAY 5 @ information from natives states that JAPS impressed LINE of DUALI SALUS natives which moved to LOKANU by road today @ line will sleep LOKANU night MAY 3 @ move to mouth FRANCISCO RIVER MAY 4 @ see JAPS bring cargo across river by PINNACE @ line moves KOMIATUM MAY 5 @ MAY 6 moves to BOIGAP BITOI JUNG AREA which is terminal of cargo @ LINE when collects JAP wounded from BOIGAP BITOI JUNG area and return SALAMAUA wounded as to be picked up at KOMIATUM further they state large numbers JAP dead along MUBO KOMIATUM track partially buried under earth shown over middle of bodies only @ natives state large numbers of wounded have been evacuated from MUBO recently @ this is no doubt due to bombing and strafing @ according to natives JAP submarine visits SALAMAUA nightly and off loads RICE and latrines @ natives have revealed that JAP FORCE which</p>

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
							<p>withdrew from NASSAU. Half remained MUBO area whilst other half withdrew to coast via LABABIA ridge @ RIVER JUNC track @ prior to recent movement A Coy 2/5 BN to DUBU area position this force occupied DUBU village remainder in coconut plantation SOUTH along road to NASSAU BAY @ since contact was made this force enemy dispositions are now @ ref 82/M 4 air photo @ enemy force vacated DUBU village for huts in heavy timber area TRVO mouth BITOI OVERFLOW @ enemy activity track in area approx TBW @ COCONUT GROVE photo 9.5 inch series BADEN BAY Jul 47 C</p> <p>14 April @ enemy reported by natives to be SOUTH again in LABABIA PASSAGE area @ this is local name for area vicinity DINGOM POINT @ IAP these areas very short of food owing to scarcity of native food @ supply of their own rations are infrequent and light @ enemy have not visited natives gardens SOUTH of BITOI OVERFLOW since contact was made by patrol A Coy 2/5 BN Contol.</p>

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
							could enemy in these areas concealed from air observation by heavy timber @ no further reports received from LIEUT TROON patrol @ A Coy report received @ OP mil report @ further detailed report from WATSON will be despatched later
449	19 Bde					01083	NO restriction 4 May @ Resubmit request for 5 and 6 May @ Type of A/C and Direction of Run will be decided by AIR FORCE who do NOT like strafing in direction of our line @ All ref will be made with Air Photos where possible @ Map ref undesirable for direction plots in this type of A/C
450				all unit			Passwords for period 1800K3 to 1800K4 @ RELAY
451	19 Bde					01094	reply our 01096
452						1109	Ack Reply to your 01096 due to absence bond affr. Jwd area @ bond affr since returned and request AIRSTRIKE 4 MAY signed I108 giving full details
453				DADO		0110	Setref to 0900K/4 @ Two patrols B Coy moved out at first light to recon area OBSER-HILL KITCHEN CK @ OP reports THREE explosions heard direction SAE @ 0840K/4 @ A Coy reports PIMPLE area Setref
454				DADO		021	fully appreciate necessity for the being withdrawn from danger area @ signed I108 give ref of the being withdrawn to area 39410 This Area is 500X EAST of AXIS of NORTH-SOUTH strike Stroud

No	Unit	In TCO	TOR	Unit	Out TCO	Orig No
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Text of Message

Pimple O on completion of strike ops move back to original
 Posns O if ENEMY should move toward our Posns we could then deal
 with them more effectively. A request for STRIKE MAY 5-6 will be
 made later MAY 4.

455				DADO	1050	1111
-----	--	--	--	------	------	------

ref an strike photo 78/O O request bombing strafing concentration Pimple
 area ref 036V2 ref 036V2 May 5, May 6. but the east line
 03 west line 05 O distance from target area to our ops in area 029TT
 ref 029TT 800 yds with the 500 yds east of North to south line of
 approach through target area. Further request that runs be made north
 to south O reasons already stated. A note will indicate target area with smoke

456	Chom	Rice	Yanic			
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Sgt. Nelson reported back from Irons patrol giving same info as Lt Watson.
 Irons has established base and proceeding on road to Duato. In light
 of info received since Irons departure Sgt Nelson was instructed that Irons
 base was not to pass road at Duato if they become heavily involved.
 Confirmation of nature reports re enemy is requested also PW.

457				DADO	1300	1113
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retreat to 1200 ref 4. OP reports up plane approached DVALL area from NE
 11051/4 engine was heard plane seen returning to NE 1110K/4 O fighting patrol
 D Coy reports base established ref photo 83/M 3 SET O Irons carrying out
 road DVALL area AM 4 MAY. A Coy listening patrol to PIMPLE area report
 slight enemy not heard.

Log Diary

Place
Date

Reg No	Unit	In TOC	TOR	Unit	Out TOC	Orig No	Text of Message
458	17/dec	1305				^M 1087	I Div Sidup 22 2000K/9 quote @ MUBO AREA @ D. Coy parcel of our sidup 20 moved from river JUNE towards DUMAI 0800K/9 @ enquire all informed
459	17/dec	1455	1520			1089	ref our 01086 @ seven search group should read 100 rpt 100
460				DADO		114	no record of receipt signal 01086 @ please advise
461				2nd Coy		115	password from 1800 hrs K4 to 1800/K5 @ SLICK
462	17/dec	1625	1735			1090	I Div Sidup 23 to 0800K/4 quote @ MISSIM area to 1800K/3 @ I/3 Indefinite attack BOB DUBI proceeding @ enquire all inf.
463	17/dec	1815	1740			1086	information required as follows @ definite route taken carrier line moves FRANCISCO RIVER to KOMIATUM @ detailed location where two natives were collected and to which area they are to be returned @ further investigation by LIEUT WATSON required @ agreed enquire all
464				DADO	1835	022	ref air photo 93/M 3 @ MUBO LOCALITY sheet @ two natives contacted area SBW @ DUALI SALUS natives being returned to ANGOV HD of 2814 QUADAGASAH area @ leaf lines leaves mouth FRANCISCO RIVER moves via OLD SALAMAU KOMIATUM area @

Contd

Place
Date

eg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
							urgent message forward to WATSON instructing him to report where HQ MAY 5 bringing natives who gave information
465				DADO	1910	1116	sitrep to 1800K/4 @ 1300K/4 O.P. report 4 engined A/C. flew south from LAE circled LABABIA RIDGE then flew SOUTH along coast a plane was some distance away when two explosions were heard a patrol A Coy. reced to area 3744 report trap MUBO locality N.M.S.
466	DADO	2325	2350			01094	3 Div consider that further gaps with channels are being made from MUBO area. this is based on native reports obtained by WARFE who quote large body native gaps made from MUBO to SALAMBUA on night 1/2 & 2/3 May. Can you send more pellets to Woody Island area in addition to that sent to OBSERVATION HILL to see if verify these reports & advise latest news from Iron
467				DADO	0845	023	our photo of read 036V2 rpt 036V2 which is PIMPLE & not 3642 as you say. An request being resubmitted as suggested & our I III gives clear indication of our this plane dummy strike
468				DADO	0845	024	patrol has been arranged to investigate WOODY ISLAND & IRON north to reach DUALI. reced patrol contacted enemy close vicinity of photo 83/M No 3 SCU. enemy opened fire with 1kg mtr & MMG LMG tree sniffer also active. IRON returned back same night 4/5 May & further details when Iron reports the day

Reg No	Unit	In TOC	TOR	Unit	Out TOC	Orig No	Text of Message
469				DADO	0900	025	ref air photo 78/a @ ref map MUDO LOCALITY 1/25700 @ INTELLIGENCE @ during air strike MAY 2 enemy moved from PIMPLE toward our troops taking advantage of terrain which gave cover against SOUTH to NORTH approach @ INFORMATION @ ENEMY in prepared defensive form PIMPLE area @ posts dug in NORTH side heavy timber in PIMPLE area @ eight LMG two MMG identified in area 376445 372446 370445 @ Own troops in occupation area @ 3743 @ INTENTION @ attack and consolidate PIMPLE area @ METHOD @ during our strikes MAY 6 MAY 7 troops will be withdrawn to area ref 029 T1 air photo 78/a SAFETY 800 yds SOUTH of 500 yds EAST of target area @ following strike MAY 7 own troops will mine fire and attack PIMPLE @ AIR STRIKE @ request bombing strafing concentration PIMPLE area ref 036 U2 apt 036 U2 MAY 6 MAY 7 @ own troops withdrawn to areas 029 T1 apt 029 T1 051 U3 apt 051 U3 EAST of GRID 03 apt 03 WEST of GRID 05 apt 05 @ request NORTH SOUTH approach by a/c to counter enemy move to safety areas @ arty will indicate target area with smoke. subrep to 0900 15/5 @ A coy reports PIMPLE area situation @ info re D coy fighting patrol as in 024/5 @ OP info reports
470				DADO	0920	I118	
471	DADO	K/H 1945	K/H 2355			01092	your photo ref 03642 incorrect for form of PIMPLE @ Air strikes will be delayed another 24 hrs @ resubmit stating clearly intention and method with photo refs of all objectives and posts of own troops @ Reply both by wireless and fullphone @ ack (In reply to I 111)

Msg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
472	DADO	0946	1030			01096	3 Div subrep 25 to 0800 K/5 quote O MISSION area O 2/3 Indep Coy action 3/4 MAY successful O 36 JAPS observed with names BOZDUBI SALAMANA 4 MAY O coy consolidation BOZDUBI O unquote all info ad
473	LOFU	1130	Phone				Patrol led by Sgt Maddison + 3 OR's moved out from LOFU for 175° on bearing 45° M where they saw signs of 4 to 5 men. Their tracks were very fresh and appeared approx 1 hr old and came from direction of PIMBLE in southerly direction and apparently returned by same route. These enemy moved in line 4 to 5 yds apart and moved to depression in ground where they appeared to wait for a while.
474	LACABA	1140	Phone				Impressed natives moved through O.P. area.
475	DADO	1307			1120		WATSON returned reports JAPS have prepared ambush area on tracks used by you to raid Kominatum O enemy force approx 10 waiting on track.
476	DADO	1330			1119		subrep to 1200 K/5 O OP report 6 explosions heard direction Salamana 1150 K/5 6 patrol B Coy left first light May 4 returned AM 5 May O noted areas 2848 ref MVB0 quality 1/2500 O enemy OP inspected Mission track noted short distances O no enemy met seen or signs occupation O patrol to KITCHEN CK area not yet returned O patrol moving out to reach OBSERVATION HILL night 5/6 May O Watson returned debriefed report to follow.
477	FOXIA	1545			1120		password from 1800 K/5 to 1800 K/6 O MALLET
478	DADO	1550			026		PART ONE O ref an photo 83/M series O 5 inch series 4 AC BASED BA 7 14 APR O WATSON REPORT O

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
478 (cont)							<p>under instr cond 2/7 Aust Inf Bn left 2/7 Aust Inf Bn area MAY 3 on patrol @ Object of patrol @ river to NASSAU BAY to contact free natives and ascertain if enemy in occupation village in that village area @ arrived RIVER JUNE 1345 K/3 where message was recd from LT TROON re apprehending of some DUALI KANAKAS @ set out for DRI CK area and interrogated DR BOY and TUL TUL of DUALI who stated enemy disarms were @ ref photo 483/M series TA 2WH TA 5WH @ TB 2WH TB 5WH @ ref photo 5 five inch series DB 11 FO 11 @ photo 11 5 inch series along rd DT T2 DT T5 to EST 2 EST 5 @ ref photo 45/46 5 inch series along river A 6 T4 A 5 T0 to 35 SH B 6 S7 to C 7 S 3 C 7 S 6 along river A 0 S 4 A 0 S 6 to B 9 S 0 B 9 S 4 to C 8 S 4 C 7 S 6 @ ref photo 39/40 5 inch series along coast B 3 U 2 B 3 U 0 to B 8 U 0 B 8 U 1 along coast C 6 U 2 C 7 T 8 to D 8 U 4 D 8 U 0 @ ref photo 35/36 5 inch series along coast A 6 U 5 A 5 U 2 to B 1 U 0 B 3 U 3 @ above force occupied these areas after retreat from WAU @ later reinforced by 1st brought from SALAMABA by ferry at night @ enemy informed natives that area was treated as rest area @ No enemy occupying LABBIA ISLAND @ PART TWO will follow.</p>
479			DADO		1635	026	<p>part TWO WATSONS REPORT @ nations in DUALI area are scarce @ all gardens near DUALI and neighbourhood have been cropped @ DUALI and NASSAU BAY NOT connected by telephone @ natives personnel completely evacuated from DUALI and SALUS villages @ numbers</p>

17 MAY

Log Diary

Place
Date

Msg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
479 cont							<p>moving into ANGHU area approx 200 @ others to follow @ boy line previously moving LOKANU night 3/4 MAY intercepted and broke bush some have already reported this area @ natives report that carrier lines permitted to cross mouth FRANCISCO RIVER - to collecting point young coconut grove ref photo 15 83/M series AEAHS7 AEA858 @ large enemy force reported in occupation areas north FRANCISCO RIVER @ all stores delivered to collecting point by truck from tunnel which has been built into EASTERN face KELA POINT @ opening of tunnel which faces sea is at road level ref SALAMAUH revised one inch to one mile 732051 @ this tunnel is store for all goods brought to SALAMAUVA by barge and submarine @ carrier line assembl assembles 1500 aft 1500 hrs each TUESDAY and THURSDAY at young coconut grove ref photo 15 83/M series AEAHS7 AEA858 @ natives cross FRANCISCO RIVER by water level kunda bridge ref photo 15 83/M series AEBRS8 AEB5RO @ PART THREE following PART THREE WATSONS REPORT @ route taken by boy line old SALAMAUVA KOMIATUM MUBO route @ TIMINGS @ leave SALAMAUVA collecting point 1500 hrs arrive KOMIATUM 2000 hrs approx @</p>

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							<p>Departure KOMIATUM is from 6 dawn among terminal area BUICAP approx 0845 hrs each WEDNESDAY and FRIDAY. by line escorted by 13 jeeps 8 mules 1 LMG more fuel of line and 4 mules in rear. after departure from KOMIATUM complete escort move in rear of KOMIATUM STORE HOUSE and DUMP of 83/01 series photo 12 plantation AE95X3. TERMINAL STORE HOUSE ref 85/X series photo 11 night AW49 AZ47 night ASW8 B2W5. STORE HOUSE mentioned apparently Q stored in these areas. number of shells in mtin gun have been used in recent campaign line to PARTH to follow</p>
480				DADO	1845	026	<p>Part 4 WATSON'S REPORT @ SUGGESTIONS for AIR STRIKES @ enemy has informed natives that ENGLISH and AMERICANS only bomb and strafe these areas during morning @ movement after midday and prior to 0900 hrs following morning quite safe @ enemy works in this assumption @ NASSAU BAY @ enemy locations quoted from photo 45/46 5 in series approach from NORTH to SOUTH along line of RIVER @ enemy locations quoted from photos 35/36 39/40 5 in series approach from rear @ SALAMAUVA @ bombings for SALAMAUVA 1430 to 1500 hrs collecting point area @ tunnel dump approach from rear @ STORE HOUSES KOMIATUM TERMINAL STORE BUICAP area 0830 hrs @ during day JAP force</p>

Log Diary

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480 (cont)							KOMIATUM move to southeast EAST and WEST of hut area so AE 9W ref photo 12 83/M series @ enemy have recently concentrated force at MALOLO 699063 ref map SALAMAVA revised 1W to 1 mile @ further reports state enemy is heavily equipped with weapons pits on coast 751061 to 736040 covering SAMOA HBR ref SALAMAVA REVISED 1W to 1 mile @ original copy this signal being fwd by courier.
481				DADO 1850		1121	sitrep to 1800K/50 patrol B Coy moved towards PIMPLE breaking bush at flank discovered signs of patrol 175 yds away @ no enemy seen @ OP reports visibility poor N.M.S. @ inform re WATSON'S patrol signal 026 @ inform re Day fighting patrol contained signal 024 confirmed by TROON upon return @ enemy force too large to be engaged by one pl @ WATSON'S report confirmed this
482	17 Bde	1120				1090	Ref OP to capture PIMPLE @ engage enemy with rifle, grenade mortar and arch fire in addition to bombing @ On capture of objective report relative effectiveness of each type of support @ time over target to be noted later
483				DADO 2005		1112	ref WATSON'S report part one @ ref for enemy posn quoted area ADS4 ADSC to R980 R984 to CSS4 6786 along river is quoted from air photo 43/44 5 inch series.

LOG Diary

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Date

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484				DADO	2040	I123	ack @ message @ 1090
485	17Bde	2140	2350			D1102	Please advise when WATSON continuing patrol NASSAU BAY area
486				DADO	0753	D 27	can we expect AIR STRIKE MAY 5 @ if so advise T.O.T.
487	17Bde	0215	0935			D1103	T.O.T. 1030 K/6 three A 20's Mt 3 A 20's
488	17Bde	2140	2359			D1101	MAY CAILEY CAPT M CURRITT and CRAGGETT US AIR CORPS leaving Wau MAY 6 en route genl R.Q. Hyett of obtaining idea of topography your area @ these officers will be employed on AIR S.P. control @ please assist these officers
489				DADO	0905	028	In reply to 01102 @ Watson gave promise to DUALI SALUS natives which he is anxious to control @ this will take some days @ failure to meet such promises will handicap future dealings with tribes now working for enemy @ LOXANU is real objective for collecting natives @ enemy has ordered natives from villages on NASSAU BAY south of CAPE DIDRA @ these natives reported SASCHEN BAY @ have arranged with WATSON for natives to guide force party to NASSAU BAY @ known information reveals enemy in far greater strength DUALI NASSAU BAY than anticipated @ force required to clean up area on sound basis three coys.
490				DADO	0925	IMV	subep to 0900 K/6 @ three patrol B Coy moved out first light piece OBSERVATION HILL area @ A Coy reports PIMPLE area subep @ O.P. reports NMS Coy moved back to safety posn. Coy returning to coy location. Coy returned to defensive posns. Patrol sent fwd towards PIMPLE.
491	LOFU	1010					Phone
492	LOFU	1055					Phone
493	LOFU	1120					Phone

Msg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
494	17 Bde	0925	1230			01105	consider TROOD should not have withdrawn without leaving small party to observe enemy movement @ suggest section post at Junc BITOI and BUYAWIM R be increased to a pl from which small patrols of 3 or 4 men would be fwd constantly observing enemy movements @ advise
495				DADO	1245	I 125	divided by bay line gap 70MM shell received after enemy shot on VICKERS RIDGE 28 Apr @ shell deloused and in bamboo container with detonator separately enclosed in plug
496				DADO	1255	029	sec of 10 men considered sufficient for present at Junc BITOI BUYAWIM RIVERS @ this sec has already received instruction re contacting enemy by patrols @ when H.Q. Coy move this area force will be increased to pl strength.
497				DADO	1315	I R 6	retrief 1200 K/L @ 1030 15/6 three BOSTONS bombed straddled PIMPLE area OP reports air strike on target area @ A Coy received first reports received during strike @ listening patrols sent out no report as yet @ OP reports BOSTONS circled LABAZIA ISLAND
498	BALW	0805	1320			15224	Leut CRAWFORD ambushed at ref map SALAMUA Revised 708 942 on Apr 28 @ states at least 30 JAPS in this form at that date @ who is WATSON what route did he follow and when did he observe form
499	DADO	0934	1320			01106	Ques 01103 originated 0245 K/L had T.O.T 1030 K/L 3 A 20's @ this message cleared at approx 0100 hrs
500				DADO	B40	030	FURTHER to WATSON'S REPORT @ NATIVES report that approx two months ago one two engine a/c @ RAAF markings @ crashed burning into sea off SALUS @ natives have two wheels from

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500 (cont)							a/c @ No survivors @ approx one month ago one two engine a/c crashed into sea off LOKANU @ two tall airmen swam ashore @ plane sank @ airmen contacted KATIENG boy named KARAS who worked as clerk DISTRICT OFFICE SALAMAVA @ whilst speaking with natives airmen were captured by JAP patrol @ escaped SALAMAVA later embarked submarine destination RABAUL @ enemy evacuating wounded by SUBMARINE to RABAUL @ supplies to SALAMAVA by submarine came from RABAUL
501				BALU	1430 1430	1430	LIEUT WATSON ANGAN patrol officer @ information gained from DUALI natives who were employed by enemy boy from SALAMAVA to MUBO @ natives with WHITTAKER should know of other tracks to LOC SOUTH of KOMIATUM @ WATSON is known to WHITTAKER @ congratulations on your successful attack BORDUBI
502	LOF	Phone		1445			Bpl Tattersall reports patrol moved to mt flank where encountered thick vines and jungle which made movement without noise impossible - saw no signs of bombing no movement seen
503	17Ade	1150		1420		01107	3 Div Sep 26 to 2000 K/5 @ Missim area @ to 0700 K/5 @ mopping up small enemy pockets north end BORDUBI RIDGE nil progress @ MUBO area @ by enemy mortar MMG and LMG fire on DUALI patrol ref SUTRE 22 @ patrol withdrew since 14/5 @ all informed
504	17Ade	1150		1570		01107	Sep 27 to 0800 K/6 @ MARKHAM AREA @ patrol C Coy 24 Bn contacted @ enemy ref WAN SALAMAVA LAE TRACK MAP approx 509403 @ enemy casualties 1 killed two probably @ our casualties one wounded @ Missim area @ 1100 to 1200 K/5 @ Bpl 2/3 Lnd Coy fired on

eg No	Unit	In T00	TOR	Unit	Out T00	Orig No	Text of Message
504 (cont)							
505	17Bde	1250	1510			01109	3 separate parties of 200 Japs moving north at 713964 SALAMAVA under killed 15 GOC 3 and Dir would like appreciation of situation in PIMPLE area by word of Bn Please forward
506				14/c Sqn 1530		031	THANKS @ gift greatly appreciated @ will be pleased to put you up.
507	17Bde	1210	1545				Part 2 of Strip 27 @ at 1030 K/S fire opened on 30 JAPS moving south at same point @ 10 JAPS killed @ during mopping up BOBDOBI RIDGE JAPS contacted at three points @ now surrounded @ our casualties one missing
508				all units of C	1600	I128	Password to 1800 hrs MAY 7 is CUMULATIVE.
509	17Bde	1200	1650			01110	on which flank of PIMPLE did A Coy patrol move @ from which directions will attacks be made on PIMPLE tomorrow @ ensure that ARTY see proportion of shells with force 23 SB delayed action.
510				L020	1620	032	FIRE PLAN arty for attack on PIMPLE area MAY 7 @ ZERO MINUS 20 @ burst of first shell of which arty will see SMOKE immediately during AIR STRIKE @ ZERO PLUS 20 to ZERO PLUS 30 arty engage pimple area @ RATE two R.P.G.P.M @ ZERO PLUS 20 to ZERO PLUS 40 lift 200 Japs @ RATE one R.P.G.P.M @ ask.

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511				LOFU	1700	033	OP. instruction @ OUTLINE PLAN as in OIG of 1 MAY @ INTENTION @ LOFU will attack and consolidate PIMPLE @ METHOD @ Two BATS 3" MORTAR under comd LOFU will move to safety area 7 MAY during AIR STRIKE on PIMPLE @ On completion STRIKE LOFU will move fwd attack PIMPLE @ ARTY @ ZERO PLUS 20 to ZERO PLUS 30 arty engage PIMPLE rate 2 RPGPM @ ZERO PLUS 30 to ZERO PLUS 40 arty lift 300 yds @ RATE 1 RPGPM @ ZERO represents 30 minutes after burst of first smoke shell fired by arty on approach of A/C @ This INSTR. issued in confirmation of verbal orders issued PM 6 MAY @ Act.
512				LOFU	1800	None	Patrol returned A Coy patrolled left flank to PIMPLE @ Approached close heard SAPs falling @ also observed fall when north end of PIMPLE slightly to left @ Possible SAP OPC unable to observe owing to visibility
513	17 Oct 1640		M45			0111	you may use up to one hundred rds each MIN gun for attack on 7 MAY @ Act.

No	Unit	In TOC	TOR	Unit	Out TOC	Orig No	Text of Message
514	12th	1700	1745			1112	Move one number 11 set fwd to MTN BTY for air ground. Comm for ^{air} shoot to assist attack. 7 MAY @ Further details later.
515				DADO	1855	035	Zero 7 May 60 minutes after rpt 60 minutes after P.O.T. @ ARTY FIRE PLAN @ ZERO ^{minus} 15. As ZERO PIMPLE area 5 RPEPM @ ZERO to ZERO plus 10 300 yds LIFT into TRACK JUNC RATE one RPEPM.
516				DADO	1900	I129	since 1800 K/6 @ A Coy patrol @ one to rt flank of PIMPLE no movement seen or heard @ second to left flank of PIMPLE heard talking @ OP reports whaleboat left mouth BITOI R carrying 3 persons at 1330 K/6 proceeded to SOUTHERN side LABBIA ISLAND returned 1445 K/6 with two persons @ normal fires observed STONY CK area 1745 K/6 @ B Coy patrol KITCHEN CK returned late PM 6 MAY report later @ A/A pl. relieved by 16 pl D Coy at ref map MUBO LOCALITY 1/25000 3937 @ A/A pl moved to HILL 7 ref 2630
517				DADO	1830	034	PATROLS A Coy 5 MAY moved to RIGHT flank @ reported indications of enemy patrol @ no enemy seen @ attack on PIMPLE 7 MAY @ Two Pa fwd @ one rt flank @ ONE LEFT FLANK @ if advance held reserve P1 will endeavour deep encircling not to enemy rear @ contact will be maintained until successful @ fourth P1 will be held as extra ft reserve to assist if necessary @ in event of advance JAP TRACK @ arty delayed action shells arranged with arty cmd at

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517	(CMA)						conference PM 6 MAY @ owing to break down in line your message received 1650 K/6 @ No 11 set will be installed MTN BTY 0900 hrs 7 MAY @ number of RDS in ARTY FIRE PLAN will be exercised to meet your 01111
518	17Bde	1853	2040			01114	Ref my only short 6 MAY @ DECEPTION Targets PIMPLE @ CODE MTN BTY SLIPPER A/C BOOK GROUND CONTROL SET ALO RULER @ Frequency 4345 /pt 4345 @ listen out at 0900 and 1000 hrs for radio check @ 1st rds 1 smoke 1 HE on target simultaneously @ Fire guns at normal rate commencing 1030 hrs @ Time synchronization 0900 with K section pigs @ advise if this suitable for your plans @ Mps should move to attack clear of line gun target. ack
519				DADO AC Sp	2045	I130	in reply to 01114 ack.
520				DADO	2100	I131	in reply to 01114 movement of troops to attack governed by air strike 7 MAY
521	17Bde	2150	0645			01117	Time over target for strike 7 MAY @ 3 A 20 1000 to 1015 repeat 1000 to 1015 @ ack.
522				DADO	0700	I132	ack @ ZERO for attack on PIMPLE 7 MAY 1100 K/7
523				DADO	0905	I133	setup to 0900 K/7 @ A boy reports PIMPLE area silent @ OP's report 4 shots heard OBSERVATION HILL 0800 K/7 @ details KITCHEN CK patrol setup 1200 K/7
524	17Bde	1915	K/7 1005			01116	ref our 01105 @ no necessity to increase force at JUNC BITOI and BUYAWIM R if you consider 10 men sufficient @ however it is essential that enemy force be kept under continuous observation by small standing patrol of 3 or 4 men.
525			1002				Arty fired 6 rds smoke indication of target for 3 BOSTONS who bombed and staffed PIMPLE area effectively

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
526	LOFU	(Phone)				1033	Capt Tattersall reports coy moving from safety area
527						1045	Arty opened fire on PIMPLE area.
528	LOFU	(Phone)				1120	Capt Tattersall reports shells from arty among our Pps 1 wounded. No moved fwd
529				DADO		036	APPRECIATION PIMPLE AREA @ Ref map MUBO LOCALITY SHEET 1/25000 @ Ref air photo 78/0 @ OBJECT @ as OP INSTA No 70 ensure that no penetration by the enemy is made from the MUBO AREA into the KIAU - BULOLO VALLEY @ deny the enemy the area BUIBAINING - WAIPALI - GUADAGASAL which will be made a secure base for future operations @ offensive patrolling in advance of the line BUIBAINING - WAIPALI - GUADAGASAL to keep the enemy NORTH of an EAST - WEST line through the junction of the BITOI and BUIGAP CK @ CONSIDERATIONS @ STRENGTHS @ OWN @ one bn less HQ of HQ Coy No's 5 and 6 pl @ one section MIN BITI @ one pl MNG @ Disposal as location state issued as at 1800 hrs 22 APR. @ ONE Coy available for attack @ ENEMY @ approx one bn @ Disposal @ part of one Coy OBSERVATION HILL one Coy GREEN HILL - PIMPLE area Remainder KITCHEN CK and NORTH BUIGAP @

Contd

Pg No	Unit	In TOC	TOR	Unit	Out TOC	Orig No	Text of Message
							<p>has set himself on sand ground @ sets ambushes on MAIN approaches @ these ambushes well concealed and dug in @ has dug strong defensive posn on PIMPLE @ lanes have been lightly cleared, so enable whole feature to be covered by fire from M.M.G and L.M.G @ this prevents such tactics and use of grenades by our own spts to advantage @ SUPPORTING FIRE @ use of ARTY MORTAR difficult owing to lack of suitable OPS and definite location of enemy map or pits @ Close Ambush underground and caves this area makes RIFLE GRENADES almost useless @ AIR CO OPERATION essential for use of ARTY @ use of SMOKE for identification of area essential @ TOPOGRAPHY @ MAIN FEATURES @ GUADAGASPI, SADDLE main NORTH SOUTH ridge to SADDLE - bridgehead main L of C to WAU @ WAIPALI - BURBAINING and LEFT flank @ LABABIA RIDGE large rugged heavily Ambushed NW SPUR has steep NORTH and WESTERNLY slopes @ GREEN HILL @ ref map 2749 ref air photo 031V3 @ extreme tip NW spur of LABABIA RIDGE is semi (Cold)</p>

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							<p>detached with steep approaches from all sides @ PIMPLE @ ref map 373 448 ref air photo 036 02 @ is razor back with precipitous sides very heavily timbered @ this feature controls main approaches from GREEN HILL to LABABIA @ and GREEN HILL and BITOI RIVER VALLEY @ OBSERVATION HILL large feature WEST - LABABIA RIDGE overlooks GREEN HILL @ MAT MAT SOUTH OBSERVATION HILL @ and approach from NORTH along BITOI VALLEY @ @ and to EAST LABABIA GUADAGASAL most difficult provides excellent RIGHT FLANK position @ BITOI VALLEY formed by LABABIA ON EAST OBSERVATION HILL - MAT MAT and HILL 7 @ WEST @ BITOI RIVER fast flowing stream flows from WEST to EAST NORTH of NAIPALI to SADDLE then NORTH to GREEN HILL then EAST to coast @ SADDLE - GUADAGASAL - WAIDALI vital ground @ LABABIA - MAT MAT ESSENTIAL ground @ PIMPLE essential to holding GREEN HILL - JUNG RIVERS ref map 370515 - NE slopes of OBSERVATION HILL @ LABABIA most suitable base for future operations @ TRACKS @ on LABABIA main track to GREEN HILL JAP TRACK @ native track which runs from 785 373 down NW through PIMPLE to GREEN HILL @ LAWS TRACK @ bush track made by own patrols on NORTH SOUTH bearing from 3640 @ very rough</p>

Date

eg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
							<p>difficult for supplies and evacuation of wounded @ JAP TRACK is only feasible approach to PIMPLE @ NO water on LABABIA RIDGE @ all water carried by natives @ TIME and SPACE @ owing to heavy country mot is necessarily very slow @ COURSES OPEN to me @ attack and capture PIMPLE with objective of controlling main approach to LABABIA and com d of GREEN HILL @ immediate consolidation on success as preparation for counter attack @ enemy at moment not aggressive @ will fight desperately to hold PIMPLE @ PLAN @ full use of available strength @ one coy @ assisted by AIR STRIKE - ARTY to gain objective @ axis of advance JAP TRACK @ CONCLUSION @ Bn disposed over large area with definite role @ local operations with small force against enemy prepared positions in country such as MUBO area are difficult @ larger scale operations PIMPLE could be by-passed and mopped up later @ PIMPLE is now a CARBUACLE</p>
530				DADO	1255	I 134	<p>attacks on PIMPLE progressing enemy in occupation @ details will be forwarded as situation develops @ AIR STRIKE 1002 K/7 to 1015 K/7 @ bombing strapping not concentrated PIMPLE area @ bombs straddled area falling EAST and as far WEST as WOODY ISLAND @ recce patrol B boy out OBSERVATION HILL reports enemy in occupation AMBUSH posn ref 3246 MUBO LOCALITY 1/25000 @ patrol fired on by enemy 0800 K/7 sitrep 0900 K/7 @ recce patrol B boy moved to ARCHWAY ref 3346 @ no enemy seen @ DP reports 1133 K/7 FORTRESS flew SOUTH along coast @ recce patrol B boy reported sitrep 0800 K/7</p>

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530 (cont)							moved NW OBSERVATION HILL no enemy seen @ this patrol did not fulfill mission which was to reach KITCHEN CK another patrol has been sent.
531	DADO	1205	1430			01118	3 Div SITREP 29 to 0800 K/6 area to 1700 K/6 enemy posns north end BOBUBI harassed by MMG 2 inch mortar fire throughout day @ all informed.
532	LOFC (Phone)				1230		Rt sec left pl. contacted by Lt pl @ sec left pl on fire ship enemy gun firing single shot @ left section moving to silence gun
"	"				1300		Left pl under fire 2 wounded 1 killed
"	"				1425		Reserve pl moving to encircle left flank
"	"				1515		Two pls pinned down by heavy fire - unable to advance or retire
"	"				1615		by retreating to defensive posns
533				all units v/c	1725	L136	password for 1800 hrs ending SMAY POLLUTE
534				DADO	1720	L135	attack on PIMPLE unsuccessful @ details to follow @ our cas one killed four wounded
535				DADO	1910	L137	sitrep 1800 K/7 @ ref map MUBO LOCALITY 1/25,000 @ piece patrol B coy moved to 3246 on EAST slopes OBSERVATION HILL @ observed unoccupied A/A MG posn @ observed EASTERN slopes period too hrs no enemy seen @ piece patrol B boy moved to OBSERVATION HILL area 2951 observed mortar pit beds in RUMAI both unoccupied also track leading towards KITCHEN CK recently used @ body of AUSTRALIAN observed in area 2951 @ no enemy seen @ patrol reported sitrep 1200 K/9 reports body of AUSTRALIAN in area 3047 @

e No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
535	(cont)						enemy 70 m/m gun fired 17 rds 1430 K/7 shells fell fell on VICKERS RIDGE area @ rate rapid @ several shells produced BLACK smoke @ no damage no casualties @
536				DADO	2050	037	A coy report siting in PIMPLE area @ details of attack separate signal. attack by A Coy on PIMPLE proceeded by bombing shrapnel and arty concentrations @ troops crossed SL 1100 K/7 9 pl to RIGHT 7 pl to LEFT @ 9 pl moved to pos approx 40 yds from enemy FDL came under fire from snipers in trees to Right RIGHT @ sec sent to neutralize area encircled to RIGHT flank until confronted by precipitous slopes with enemy pos overlooking their only line of approach @ this sec were held down by fire @ remaining two sec 9 pl were held down by fire being unable to continue advance @ 7 pl moved to pos approx 35 yds from enemy and were unable to advance being held down by enfilade fire from two MG @ reserve pl moved in deep encircling mt ground left flank becoming held down by enfilade fire and unable to continue advance @ 1430 K/7 heavy rain commenced to fall which developed into tropical down pour @ this rendered pos hopeless @ coy being eventually withdrawn after dark dusk @ casualties OWN one killed four wounded ENEMY one killed @ total casualties in attempts on this feature are 12 killed 25 wounded @ a further attempt on this feature will be made from the WESTERN approach

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
537	17 Bde	2030	2130			01121	ref your I 134 and I 137 & I 134 states enemy ambush at rd near MUBO locality 3246 & I 137 states no enemy seen at 3246 & clarify
538				DADO	2205	I 138	ref for control requested I 137 should read 3047
539	17 Bde	2230	2400			01123	No further attack will be made on PIMPLE until ops properly co-ordinated and plan approved by the HQ
540				ALL UNITS	0755	I 139	range practice in field during range WAIPALL area will be conducted by BVSA during day 8 MAY
541				DADO	0915	I 140	subject to 0900 K/S @ A. bay reports PIMPLE area situated @ fighting patrol B boy moved for ARCHWAYS first light @ OP reports considerable rifle fire direction KOMIATUM 0600 K/S @ plane observed over SALAMAVA and explosion heard 0605 K/S
542	17 Bde	0855	1000			01127	please fwd TROOP'S report
543	17 Bde	0925	1035			01128	3 Div subject 31 to 0900 K/S MUBO area @ ref attack PIMPLE 7 MAY @ one jap killed @ during attack 175 rds fired by Mtn BTI @ 1430 K/7 enemy 70 MM gun fired 17 rds on VICKERS RIDGE
544	17 Bde	2150	1035			01122	3 Div subject 30 to 2000 K/7 @ quote @ MUBO area @ attacks on PIMPLE not successful @ Our casualties one killed four wounded @ air strike 1000 to 1015 K/7 NOT concentrated PIMPLE area @ patrol B boy fired on from enemy ambush pos near MUBO 4 in 690353 @ MISSIM area 1300 K/7 @ 9 sec Cpl attacked enemy pos near SALAMAVA pos 708997 @ drove enemy out @ during consolidating enemy attacked in force 3 times @ beaten off @ fourth counter attack preceded by mortar fire forced withdrawal @ sec digging in 250

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
544	(cont)						yds SOUTH down ridge @ 7 sec attempting gain high ground 712005 @ our casualties one wounded @ enemy casualties 17 killed incl 10 men from ambush 709992 @ unquote all informed.
545	176de	0940	1045			I339	please advise location MMG pl under your comd.
546				DADO	1145	I441	ref map MUBO locality 1/25000 disposes MMG pl under comd as follows @ pl HQ 3326 one gun 3425 one gun 2921 one pl Hill SEVEN ref 2530 tracks and location to be fwd 9 MAY
547				DADO	1310	I142	subep to 1700 K/S @ OP reports visibility poor NMS @ A Coy reports PIMPLE situation @ no report need recon gun piece patrol to DUALI area
548				DADO	1330	038	four attacks have been made on PIMPLE @ each attack has been ^{un} successful @ plans for attacks have been prepared paying attention to minutest details @ greatest difficulty unable to take advantage of close support both air strike and arty @ own troops unable to estab posn to give supporting fire @ PIMPLE feature has been described previous messages @ mt by rt flank most difficult owing to cliff face and heavy undergrowth @ front and left flank enemy have skilfully sighted automatic weapons which are well concealed and difficult to locate @ these weapons cover all approaches @ weapon pits are behind large trees @ fire lanes have been opened which enable enemy to enfilade all approaches @ undergrowth outside fire lanes is tangle of vines and impossible to move through without use of slathers @ supporting fire @ airstrikes @ numerous bombs

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548 (cont)							<p>have fallen in target area major back is difficult to register direct hits @ arty @ FOO is unable to control fire by direct observation @ compelled to rely on sound from fwd posn @ during second attack 25 APR FOO crawled to edge fire lane and attempted to direct fire @ numerous shells burst in trees @ percentage delayed action shells used during 7 MAY @ three and two inch mortars are restricted for similar reasons @ danger of bombs exploding on contact with trees @ lack of observation makes use F7 rifle difficult @ recon patrols are out with instr to endeavour to discover approach @ int sec completing detailed sketch of area this will be fwd AM 9 MAY @ personnel of both coys who have taken part in attacks have endeavoured to do their utmost @ unit will overcome setback @ morale is one hundred per cent @ result of patrol on OBSERVATION HILL following.</p>
549						DADO 1410 039	<p>recon patrols on OBSERVATION HILL during 6/7 MAY have definitely proved that feature is lightly held @ four patrols of two day duration only observed three enemy @ one patrol fired on from ref 302446 ref map MUBO locality 1/25000 @ approx 30 japs occupy track junc ref 298506 at night with OP only during the day @ owing to strength being limited unable attempt occupation @ patrols of two day duration are keeping close watch @ fighting patrol to ARCHWAY - WOODY ISLAND moved prior to first light 8 MAY @ recon patrol to KITCHEN CK @ last patrol to this area failed to locate posn @ fighting patrol proceeding ref area 3750 with instr ambush by line enemy escorts AM 12 MAY and capture prisoner</p>
550	17 Bde	1523				01120	<p>ref am 0116 of 6 MAY @ advise action taken.</p>

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
551				all O/cond	1645	I143	paranoid for period ending 1800 hrs 9 MAY 10 FOLLY
552				DADO	1825	I144	strip to 1900 K/8 @ O.P. reports planes heard direction SALAMAU 1315K/8 @ three MITCHELLS flew over area heading SW 1530K/8 @ A coy report PIMPLE area silent
553				DADO	1855	O40	tracks to DOANI is being patrolled each day @ first patrol move to DRY CREEK BED NMS @ patrols have been instructed to patrol to area SET ref photo 3 83M series @ inadvisable to place standing patrols EAST of RIVER JUNE @ area to coast has heavy malarial incidence @ ref your 01127 TROOPS report being fwd by courier AM 9 May
554				DADO	1900	I145	ref air photo 78/0 @ enemy has firmly consolidated PIMPLE @ further softening by air strike considered necessary @ request an strike for 9 MAY on PIMPLE ad approved for 6/7 May @ suggest concentration on PIMPLE with heavier bombs @ bomb line for air @ as in 025 of 6 May @ alternative air strike @ OP reports continued smoke from cooking fires late PM daily in KITCHEN CK BUICAP area @ mem 70 M/M gun respected in area 043W0 ref 043W0 bomb line for alternative strike in KITCHEN CK BUICAP gun area @ air the south of line 04U 06U 05V6 ref 04U 06U 05V6
555				DADO	2015	I146	further to I145 @ quote advise T.O.T unquote @ US airman arrived this 4.0 PM 8 MAY @ are anxious to with air strike whilst in area

Log Diary

Place
Date

No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
556	FOXREP	0900K		FOXREP			herewith OP instr 9 NOT acknowledged here
557				DADO	2135	041	ack receipt OP instr 9
558	17 Bde	2140	2330			01333	From Motin a your patrol to Kitcher lek o advise urgently route taken by patrol and further from station a your signal 839 implies Kitcher lek is not occupied by enemy you 1145 contradicts this please confirm essential that your patrol be imbued with a determination to find the enemy and then keep him under constant observation
559				DADO	2240	042	fail to understand your message o Kitcher lek is occupied o my message adds a quote o that last patrol to this area failed to locate some unguets o patrol is moving to Kitcher lek area AM 9 May o patrol fully res. responsibility
560	17 Bde	2100	2340			01132	patrol so indicated will continue with patrol enemy contacted o after contact made standing patrol of 2/4 men will be left in area to maintain continuous observation enemy must suggest standing patrol should occupy high ground from which observation is possible and maintain incidence lower than surrounding swampy area o all anti-malarial precautions will be taken o and mosquito nets head nets new repellent and gloves o advise if any equip. required
561	17 Bde	2211	2240			01134	no air strike PIMPLE 9 May o air strike on Komatum land south along track to your Betoi Burgh over from 0900K/9 to 0930K/9
562	LOFU (Phone)		0830				A Coy stand to, body trap set off on pt flank, rifle shots heard

leg no	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
563				DADO	0830	01137	In reply to 01137 @ ack @ insts will be adhered to @ details will be fwd later
564				DADO	0925	1146	Subj to 0900K/9 @ OP reports suggest morning DUALI to LABABIA ISLAND late PM 8 MAY @ plane heard direction SALAMAVA 0500K/9 0600K/9 explosion heard 0605K/9 @ B17 flew over area in northward direction 065K/9 @ AC report 0815K/9 enemy moved but contacted over FDL in def from rd 3941 MUBO locality 12560 @ details will follow as situation develops @ this area patrol moved early AM 9 MAY to OBSERVATION HILL KITCHEN CK area.
565	Chon A				0900		Capt Johnson reports contact with enemy in his FDLs with most activity on left flank @ warnings were issued to 16th OP and Capt Bond who is sending pl to base camp area.
566	DADO	0910	1230			01137	3 div strips 33 @ 0800/9 Mission area @ 4 sec relieved 7 sec May 7 @ 4 sec gained high ground 713005 SALAMAVA raised @ harassed enemy into position with grenades @ mid night @ base May 8 @ enemy digging in @ numerous ambushes from 709992 708995 @ NAMBLING @ reports 87 japs moved southward KOMITUM 1600 1500/8 @ MUBO area @ Patrol B Coy report Observation Hill lightly held @ one patrol fired on from rd MUBO @ 68855
567	DADO	1205	1245			01140	3 Div strips 32 @ 2000K/8 @ Quote @ MISSIM area @ 0600K/8 @ enemy

Log Diary

Date

In TOR	Unit	Out TOR	Orig No	Text of Message
568	DADO	1300	1147	<p>messages to BOB DUBI unlocked by one sec K pl 708995 of SALAMAUVA</p> <p>Revised enemy casualties 20 dead many wounded 2000 killed & wounded.</p> <p>ser bratons bombed strip BUIGAP OK south from KOMIBTUM 0900K/9</p> <p>0935K/9 0 08 reports up, plane heard 1140K/9 of three up planes flew high over area 1155K/9 forward south returned 1225K/9 0 A coy reports enemy withdrawing to main base on night and left flank 0 disultion fire from left flank all morning heavy enemy night flank periodically throughout morning 0 one para unaltered of full report when info became available</p>
569	DADO	1320	044	<p>in reply to 02992 K/8 from 3AVST DIV @ one @ F.O.O NOT used @ ^{previously} PIMPLE not registered by F.O.O and PIMPLE area accurately engaged on previous occasions @ corrections @ when necessary made by a/c @ two @ PIMPLE is an area shoot jungle so thick no weapons accurately located @ fire finding posn not possible for arty particularly when zone of guns height of trees angle of descent and slope of terrain gives hundred percent zone of three to four hundred yards @ three @ advance of tps from assembly area to PIMPLE on completion of AIR STRIKE takes approx 1 hr @ no need for arty support during this period @ arty support for 15 mins was given as tps neared PIMPLE then lifted 300 yds for next 10 mins on to tracks leading to PIMPLE from direction GREEN HILL @ four @ no action taken by arty to engage enemy MMG's or LMG's @ visibility limited from 5 to 20 yds @</p>

Reg No	Unit	In TCO	TOR	Unit	Out TCO	Orig No	Text of Message
569	(cont)						<p>O.P.'s in normal sense not possible nor is an accurate shoot due to shell bursts in trees overhead chances of arrival of F.O.O. 20 yds from his target one slight @ five @ relative native AIR ARTY support @ owing to aerial bombing not being concentrated on PIMPLE full effect not gained @ bursts of arty not well enough observed to give any opinion of effect @ use @ twenty delayed action to spec fuses used @ seven @ no difficulties encountered with an co-op shoot @ a/c helpful two small adjustments to M.P.I. made @ when employed in previous shoots F.O.O. connected by line to guns wireless in reserve @ both O.P.'s connected by line @ nine @ rate of fire @ 2 minus 15 to 3 PIMPLE area 5 RPGPM 3 to 2 plus 10 lift 300 yds to jump tracks NORTH end of PIMPLE one RPGPM @ guns functioned satisfactorily @ ten @ PIMPLE area heavily timbered with dense undergrowth observation by F.O.O. or from O.P.'s extremely difficult</p>
570	LOFU (Phone)						<p>Capt Latterson advised that fwd pl reports enemy massing as if for frontal attack.</p>
571	3AVST Div	1147				02992	<p>Obtain and fwd a detailed report on arty sp given to attack on PIMPLE. (MAY) report to include following details @ whether F.O.O. was used @ his location and movements and what observation he had as to targets engaged as an area shoot or were pin point targets. ^{engaged} @ did arty sp commence after air strike finished and cover the advance of our s'ps from the S.L. @ during attack what action was taken by arty to engage located MMG's and LMG's which held up our s'ps @ what was the relative value of arty</p>

Reg No	Unit	In TCO	TOR	Unit	Out TCO	Orig No	Text of Message
516					1700		Capt Jattison says to admin RMO and stretcher party had been sniped while moving Base camp to A boy b 6 instructed 16 pt to patrol area
517	Log (Phone)				1810		Enemy party observed in vicinity Base camp.
518				DADO	1750	I 149	AIR STRIKE (Ref air photo 78/0) enemy lodged determined attack from PIMPLE (A boy repelled attacks) enemy maintaining contact (STONY CK is enemy assembly area for movement to PIMPLE) patrols report enemy reoccupied ARCHWAY WOODY ISLAND (enemy 70M/M gun suspected area 043W0 (request bombing shafting attacks AM 10 MAY following areas (ARCHWAY 051V2 rpt 051V2 (line of WOODY ISLAND BITOI and BITOI KITCHEN CK JUNC ref 050V2 040W0 rpt 050V2 040W0 (line of STONY CK ref 046V0 030V5 rpt 046V0 030V5 (enemy gun posn in area 043W0 rpt 043W0 (own troops SOUTH rpt SOUTH of bombline 050U0 030U6 rpt 050U0 030U6.
519					1835		Report from Sgt Tubbler that enemy cutting track behind A boy had been engaged and all ammo expended. Made way back to Base camp. A boy now out of contact. Warning given to B, C and D boys. OP personnel recalled to Base camp with all equipment. Mr Thomas a/c D boy instructed to endeavor to relieve A boy and to hold ridge along IAD track. do you require us to request air strike on any or all of the following targets

820 17 Bde 1845 1900

Reg No	Unit	In TCO	TOR	Unit	Out TCO	Orig No	Text of Message
571 (cont)							sp. as compared with air sp. during this particular operation. Were delay fuses used in addition to the normal fuses and were the bursts observed. Were any difficulties encountered in use of AC aircraft for directing fire which cannot be overcome by practice and training. Was FOO or OP employed connected by line to the guns. What was the rate of fire at the guns and did the guns function satisfactorily.
572	Phone			A Coy	1600		Capt Jattison advises one casualty in front pl.
573				DADO	1630	045	enemy became aggressive 0830 hrs 9 MAY. Lodged determined attack against A Coy and is still in contact. Attack commenced on both RIGHT and LEFT flanks. Later attempted an infiltration on RIGHT rear. No supporting weapons have been used by enemy during this attack. A Coy comfortably held its ground inflicting numerous casualties on enemy. OWN. One wounded. Enemy has re-inforced. OBSERVATION HILL and reoccupied ARCHWAY and WOODY ISLAND. It is evident that quite a number of reinforcements have reached this area in the last few days. Patrol to DUALI area not yet returned. Threat from that flank will require two coys.
574				FOVI area	1655	1148	LABABIA Password fr 1800K/9 to 1800K/10 - o BALLOT.
575	LOFU (Phone)				1700		Capt Jattison advises some fire to rear of flanks.

Reg No	Unit	In TCO	TOR	Unit	Out TCO	Orig No	Text of Message
							GREEN HILL PIMPLE OBSERVATION HILL WOODY ISLAND ARCHWAY suspected gun post for 10 MAY @ advise urgently with necessary details.
521				DADO	1907	047	YES @ request for air strike has been forwarded I 149 @ T.O.O. 1750K/9
522				DADO	1910	046	LABABIA RIDGE @ enemy encamping mt to left flank A post reached area ref 3844 of map MUBO locality 1/25000 @ enemy astride track @ NO contact with A Coy @ NO enemy in gun area @ ref 3838 @ one pl carrier gfu moving to BASE CAMP area ref 3857 @ one pl carrier gfu being moved fwd to SADDLE area @ pl from BASE camp moving to return A Coy
523				DADO	1935	1150	Sigsig 1800K/9 @ A Coy posn as signal 046 @ B Coy patrol to ARCHWAYS observed three enemy on apparent sending in ARCHWAYS @ chopping and voices also heard WOODY ISLAND and lower slopes OBSERVATION HILL @ enemy 70 m/m gun fired fire ids 1530K/9 @ area shelled lower slopes MAT MAT VICKERS RIDGE and BITOI on line 3140 of MUBO LOCALITY 1/25000
524				B Coy	1935		B Coy half hourly report @ Sigsig
525				DADO	1950	048	Conversation with AIR SUPPORT PILOTS on scene suggest that AIR STRIKE for 10 MAY to be repeated THREE times @ 0900K/10 1000K/10 1100K/10

MAP 9 May

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Place
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Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
526				s/c 17 Bde	2003	049	Drop earliest 200 rds 3.7 shells H.E
527		8 Coy	2025				P. Col report @ Sidbury
528		8 Coy	2120				P. Col report @ Sidbury
529	17 Bde	2125	2141			01145	advise urgency present position A Coy
530				DADO	250	050	since attack at PIMPLE A Coy have remained in contact with enemy location 400 yds south of PIMPLE 3842 o at 1835K/9 enemy cut track in area ref 3841 o have FULL CONFIDENCE in restoring from AM 10 MAY signal 2046 100 1410 advised situation o ref map MOBO locality 1/25000
531	17 Bde	2138	2145			0157	3 Aust Div advise 1 Mtn Bty hold 384 rds 3.7 HE o to the corner 38 rds more should arrive 9 MAY & 10 MAY o advise
532				17 Bde	2200	051	holding at 2200 hrs o 376 rds 3.7 HE o this below reserve to be held on land down your formation o dependent on situation MAY 10 further expenditure may be necessary
533	17 Bde	2125	2200			01144	signal 344 to 200K/9 o MISSILE area o bombing and strafing KOMIATUM 0840 to 0950K/9 all bombs fell within 100 yds of targets o small mm damage hits little damage to huts observed o MOBO area o 0830K/9 determined enemy attack both flanks A Coy 2/7 B Coy from o later attempted infiltration at rear o no supporting fire used o A Coy held ground o inflicted numerous casualties on enemy o one wounded o enemy reinforced OBSERVATION HILL not captured ARCAWBITS and WOODY ISLAND

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
534	5 Bw	2000	2200			A311	Henry to Yvonne & receive patrol 1 off and 4 OR leave Black but AM K/10 ETA 1 hour before 1200K/12 & request representation I see FOXI contact need help HOUSE COPPER & need appreciation def from HOUSE COPPER JAP track & expect remain HOUSE COPPER 1/2 days & please inform you re your ideas def the area & would appreciate advice if RV can be arranged HOUSE COPPER from 4/12 & further news track WANDUMI SKINDY 1/2 Smith and 2 OR depart SKINDY AM K/11 & would appreciate any assistance given him & ETA SKINDY 1200K/10 & please advise urgently
535				5 Bw	2220	052	Yvonne to Henry & situation at moment little sticky & will explain mut your suggestion
536					2300		Capt Baird reports B.H.Q. personnel taken up from 6 Dec waiting arrival before 1st time to moving food - two sets sent by mtn by
537					0100		Capt Baird left double with D of G BASE CAMP
538					0815		B. Conf report of P. Baird
539	17 bde	2250	2325			1146	Have requested air strikes as follows & bombing schaffing ARCHWAY & STONY CK GREEN HILL and from end WOODY ISLAND along coast to mouth of KITCHEN CK & show bombing 054 to 034 @ requested T.O.T 0900K/10 to 0915K/10 and 1300K/10 to 1315K/10 @ will advise actual T.O.T later

Log Diary

Place
Date

No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
540				PADO	2350	053	Your signal giving new homeline @ as our spl line in vicinity PIMPLE homeline MUST be EAST to WEST @ your ref 054 to 024 does not include EAST WEST Co. Ordinal @ advise coordinate using 1912 PHOTO 78/0
541	1260	0030		1460		01148	air signal 01146 should read @ quote new homeline 050 to 030 unquote @
542			0255			phone	Beef report @ Sidner
543			0300	Phone			Base camp @ Sidner
544	Phone		0325				Beef report @ Sidner
545	Phone		0340				Capt. Raid reported little over half way to base camp torch light very feeble and men becoming exhausted.
546	Phone		0355				B. Capt @ Sidner
547				Camp Base	0400		Base camp @ Sidner
548	"		0500				B. Capt @ Sidner
549	"		0505				Base camp @ Sidner
550	Phone		0510	Lawson			B. Capt @ Sidner Rung Chun Thomas @ O'nehan from Laird & Pl @ Thomas advised to be ready to move as soon as Laird arrives as his arrival will be very close to first light
551	Phone		0535	Duby			Sidner @ Sidner

Reg No	Unit	In TOC	TOR	Unit	Out TOC	Orig No	Text of Message
552	178A	0535				01149	TOT ○ SIX BOSTONS WILL ATTACK 1300K/10 ONLY
553		0535					MIN BTY FIRED 6 RDS
554	L980	0545					CAPT BAIRD REPORTED BASE CAMP ○ IN PROCESS OF TAKING OVER FROM LIEUT THOMAS ○ C O INSTRUCTED BAIRD SHOULD THOMAS ENCOUNTER OPPOSITION IN MOVING DOWN TRACK TO A COY THOMAS TO BREAK BUSH AND STRIKE TRACK LOWER DOWN ○ WHEN COMM IS RE ESTAB WITH A COY A COY TO REMAIN FAST THOMAS PL TO MOVE BACK ON HIGH GROUND TRACK JUNG AND DIG IN automatic and rifle coming from direction higher up than Rimpit
555	D484	0615					Rifle Colts TSMA fire coming 300-400' down track. The Base was this would be Thomas party evidently in contact.
556	COFH	0640					
556	BASE/C	0640					
557					0700		Second came pl reported - Br HQ - incli more straight to saddle
558	Base	0715					Capt Baird reports on see Mr Thomas pl jumped down from rear - the two secs making encirclement to left - one sec came pl holding high ground on Jap track - enemy clear proximity this area. Capt Baird state few enemy infiltrated close to Base camp left flank.

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
559				DADO	0905	151	Sidrep 0900K/10 @ ref map MUBO LOCALITY 1/26,000 @ LABABIA RIDGE @ enemy force in area ref 3939 being engaged by sect D Coy @ 2 sect D Coy moving via VICKERS RIDGE track. In force contact with A Coy @ no contact with A Coy @ 0900K/10 @ MOVEMENT of sub units @ elements D Coy in BASE CAMP area ref 3837 @ One sec CARRIER GRP in BASE CAMP area @ One sec carrier grp in SADDLE area @ night 9/10 MAY @ FIGHTING PATROL to BUIGAP 2 of C cancelled until tension eases @ enemy 70 m/hrs guns fired towards 2240 one rd 2195 @ time 0900K/10 @ no cas or damage @ sidrep will be submitted three hourly until situation clarified
560	176th	0905	0930			1152	Bachel 2/9 INDEP COY departed WELLS 0800K/9 to contact 2/76th via VIALLI'S track @ please warn your fwd sq
561	Base			1020			Left hand reports that enemy summit low sec had withdrawn and that position now held by our force @ Sgt Middle sec returning now down track
562	176th	1025	1055			01157	ref 01149 TBT now 1300 K/10 to 1300 K/10
563				DADO	1220	152	Sidrep 1200K/10 @ ref map MUBO LOCALITY 1/26,000 @ LABABIA RIDGE @ one sec D Coy covered during post ref 3939 @ enemy force engaged withdrew NORTH @ contact maintained this force @ no report two sec D Coy moving to contact A Coy @ no report A Coy @ situation quiet @ O.P. ml report.

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Place
Date

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
564	3/C 12th Coy	1025	1230			0159	Warning order @ D Coy 2/6 bn approx strength one hundred all ranks will stage at BALLAMS Summit SKINDY. en route fwd area @ staging camp will station and accommodate Coy @ ETA BALLAMS EVENING MEAL 11 MAY @ Back transport will arrange storage for Coy stores at WAV @ O/C 2/6 Coy will advise staging camp fwd of BALLAMS of ETA must stage before dept @ Oak Following photo inscriptions by NGF from WIRRAWAY PHOTOS 25 Apr @ ref photo 31 run 35 suspected 70 m/m P19 W4 rpt P19 W4 camouflaged structure possible Cook house P38 x 4 camouflaged post possible mortar PH58 x 3 rpt PH58 x 3 Report from Lt Thomas post after one sec becoming pinned down remaining sec was moved down main VICKERS then back track swinging right this track joined gap track Thomas rpt engaged rpt auto 4 mm 2 sec track A Cappiers Thomas est force to be at least 40 @ Our pl unable to char. enemy and when move back up main track 200 from first post of where enemy contacted another strong force est so encountered. Thomas moved around right flank to VICKERS track arriving back at base 1255 @ first contact with enemy approx 1200 hrs
565	DADO	1125	1230			341	

Log Diary

Place
Date

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
							Capt Baird requested to replace carriers by Thomas pl carriers pl to move food and down main Jap track and endeavour to force enemy off track. pl to move cautiously and ensure they are not cut off
566		1520					Heavy firing heard between BASE camp and LOFU
567				DADO	1510	2153	attempt to 1500K/10. 0 hrs per D Coy attempted by pass enemy force. enemy attempt to contact track encountered enemy def pos in depth. est number enemy force 60. 0 Jap track known to be clear distance 500' north Base camp. fighting patrol 32 strong moved 1400K/10 to engage enemy. 0 due to low ceiling and thick cloud formation immediately over target area. 0 unable execute strike. 0 visibility this area had after 1200K/10
568	Bde	1515	1619			Q162	approx 405 DUALI SALUS native now at GUADALCASAL may be returned for use improvement GUADALCASAL SKINDI track for approx 7 days. 0 at end that found posn could be recovered by DIV HQ
569			1637				Capt Baird ordered to return all Hqs to Ambush and Base camp.
570				FOX AREA	1620	T154	password for period 1800K/10 to 1800K/11 @ DELAY
571	17Bde	1600	1655			01159	D boy 2/6 Bn moving fwd AM 11 MAY for OPs in DUALI area. 0 instructions being dropped by WIRRAWAY 11 MAY at GUADAGASAL
572	17Bde	1530	1655			01158	3 Aust Div a/c 35 to 0800K/10 @ Missim area to 1900K/9 @ patrol rec found JAPS in

10 MAY

Log Diary

Place
Date

Reg No	Unit	In TOC	TOR	Unit	Out TOC	Orig No	Text of Message
572							post 710 987 @ harassing fire on to enemy from BOBUBI RIDGE brought no answering fire or mut @ MUBO area @ Enemy attack on A Coy from PIMPLE repulsed @ enemy maintaining contact @ 70MM gun fired rounds on to MATMAT VICKERS RIDGE 1520K/9.
573				DADO	1824	054	AIR STRIKE @ INTELLIGENCE @ no contact has been established with A Coy @ enemy force has been reinforced in area ref 3940. ref map MUBO LOCALITY 1:25,000 @ sizable enemy force now on LABABIA RIDGE with reinforcements area STONY CK @ request AIR STRIKE over area as approved MAY 10 @ suggest A/C employment THREE each 0900K/11 and 1100K/11 @ P.M. strikes doubtful due to prevailing weather conditions
574				DADO	1845	151	atrop 1800K/11 @ ref map MUBO locality 1/25000 @ LABABIA RIDGE @ no contact A Coy @ two attempts dislodge enemy from main gaps track in rear A Coy unsuccessful @ elements D Coy plus sec CARRIER Coy in def from astride track zone ref 3838 Base camp ref 3837 @ OP nil. situation quiet 1800K/10
575				Chon		1915	May Nelson rang Capt Swell insto see patrol to go find Base camp early AM 11.

No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
576	17 Bde.						<p>Brig Major to Col Quinn & watching you fight closely & cannot advise exact It appears essential maintain strong position base camp and relieving parties properly co-ordinated under resolute leaders with good communications keep me fully advised & good luck</p>
577				DADO	9015	055	<p>Brig Major from Quinn & appreciate your wishes & situation in relation to LABABIA gird & A Coy isolated with enemy dug in on all sides & Coy firmly defying attempt to dislodge them & this attempt to rectify situation failed & further attempt on larger scale AM 11 & water situation serious & use of supporting arms in heavy timber difficult & despite heavy casualties in enemy the appearance in strength & further patrolling & OBSERVATION Hill today revealed feature lightly held & personnel the feature apparently being used reinforce LABABIA & personally visited A Coy area during attack yesterday & making by amount of fire from flanks danger of encirclement returned to Base camp and strengthened force in that area with intent to place an intermediate force between A and Base camp & the force was over run at dusk withdrawn when some was expended & considered one too small a force to effectively carry out role and unit Lababia Mat Mat within defences during presence of enemy.</p>
578	17 Bde 2000					01156	<p>one Coy 2/5 in now at Summit can be moved fast to guard post</p>

Reg No	Unit	In TOC	TOR	Unit	Out TOC	Orig No	Text of Message
							commencing 11 May should you require it to occupy Guadalcanal ridge defence line to release your units for action against enemy opposing A coy & advise urgently
579	DADO	20/10		DADO	20/10	056	ref your 01166 01 would appreciate use of coy 2/5 lvs who are at Present Summit
580	17 Bde	2005	2220			1343	following air strike 9 May enemy A/A planes definitely located by ground and an obs. ref lvs 83/M photo 12 AEA2W2 ref AEA2W2 AE96X5 ref AE96X5 and AEF049 ref AEF049
581	17 Bde	2200	2235			01171	suggest presence of enemy force on south and west of A coy in previous photos and this might be exploited
582	17 Bde	2250	2255			01170	air strike is for 10 MPT approved for tomorrow 11 May & one strike only allowed for 10T to be advised
583	17 Bde	2150	2210			01169	D coy 2/5 Bw will move from Summit to Guadalcanal first light 11 May & last strip Skindusa on Present Summit D coy 2/5 Aust inf lvs will come under command of Aust inf lvs on Present from heavy transport D coy 2/5 Aust inf lvs will be withdrawn to Summit
584	17 Bde	2155	2325			01168	3 Aust Div set up 36 to 2000/10 & MISSIM area & one sec 2/3 and coy carried out nerve raid of present BOBDUBI RIDGE using grenade flares

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
							no fire returned but digging heard in MUBo area & enemy engaged from 0900K/10 & No Contact. A Coy in this area of this solo D Co attempt by force enemy push near Vickers P. J. & every attempt to gain track in rear met enemy def from east 600 yds in area of 1400K/10 fighting patrol 32 moved out to engage enemy. 0900K/10 70 mm gun fired 10 shells 787842 on shell 088835.
585	17 Bde	2345	0060			01173	weather report and code required from you as at 0600K/11 for suitability of an strike of oil in detail consult 5 AF ref det you HQ & I field report to this HQ back immediately
586				17 BDE	0605	055	ceiling 8000 to 10000 ft. Visibility maintained
587	Phone				0740		patrol to base camp from saddle moved out
588	Phone				1000		Message from 26 that 66 has moved force to rear and contact enemy - all contact withdrawn 100 yds which all fire brought down
589				DADO	0910	1156	which till 0900K/11 & Base camp reports night quiet & Patrol B Coy returned from KITCHEN CK 1900K/10 & detailed report follows.
590	17 Bde	0845	1700			01177	B Coy 7 and MG Co intend relieving per MMC pl under your command of relieving per leaving WAV 12 MAY & do you approve
591	Phone			Capt Bar.	1055		Patrol from 11 pl reports have found 2nd mule solid footprint in tracks which returning & Patrol investigating

Leg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
592	17Bde	0940	1030			01179	3 div subcorp 37 to 0800K/11. Markham area. D Coy 24 Bn arrived Sunshui from Widdow Camp 1200K/10
593				17Bde		058	chance recovery remote. A Coy area small heavy jungle prevent contains nothing around. note only difficulty sticks could considered sufficient. location. ref photo 78/0. 03807 rpt 03807. will advise if attempt to be made later
594	Phone				1130		2 over morning down gap. track had passed enemy area by 8.30. get out only contacted lobby track. Her enemy heard and left.
595				DADO	1220	1157	subcorp to 1200K/11. low making down gap. track passed me enemy area occupied position day. I set down within 400. A Coy pass.
596	17Bde	0930	1100			01180	WIRRAWAY returned reported visibility your area poor. please signal when weather clear.
597	17Bde	1245	1250			0234	D Coy 1100 strength 4/74 dep Skindie 1245 hrs ETA 1715
598				DADO	1305	1158	visibility 1300K/11. low with low cloud over mountains
598				DADO	1310	1159	ref for A Coy pass 03807 rpt 03807 on photo 78/0
600	17Bde	1235	1300			01182	your ref reads 03807. should then read 03807 ack
601				17Bde	1315	059	relief concerned
602	17Bde	0825	0402			01176	conceding feasibility of dropping water and ammo to A Coy by WIRRAWAY. advise your views and how Coy be located.

Msg No	Unit	In TOC	TOR	Unit	Out TOC	Orig No	Text of Message
603	17 Bde	1200	1330			01183	Winaway with attempt drop area on 038U7 from May 1300K/11
604		Phone St Genant				1400	left Bando force had contacted. A Coy without being engaged by enemy
605				DADO	1407	060	Bny Motid from Guerni o. A Coy relieved 1400K/11 by strong force during doubt gaps track o enemy withdrawal after launching determined attack area A Coy left blank o NO DECO later.
606		Phone			1430		left Jettison very low. stating A Coy was still intact have withstood enemy attack o was seen 2 K 19 W 6 6 inch Coy to move back to more suitable pos
607							switch to 1500K/11 o Coy relieved as advised signal 060 o A Coy was 2 killed 9 wounded o more accurate est enemy was later
608					1712		password for period 1800K/11 to 1800K/12 o RATTLE
609	17 Bde	1437	1545			01186	air strike unable to get in 11 May o do you require strike on same area 12 May
610				DADO	1715		air strike o local map MUGO locality 1/25000 o air photo 78/0 o Intelligence o contact has been established A Coy o enemy forced to withdraw by relieving force o A Coy reports enemy consolidating area ref 3714 o request air strike AM 12 May following areas o bombing (strafing) PIMPLE area 036V2 alt 036V2 o Cheri Stoney lake ref 1045V6 o 059V2 033V4 alt 040V0 059V2 033V4 o down the south bankline ref 030V5 040V5 o distance Pimple to bankline approx 300' o distance bank line over the 500'

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
611						061	NODECO
612				DADO	1845	I/64	My Esell - Lt Brack moved Foxi PM 11 May
613				DADO	1850	I/63	Subj 1800K/11 o ref map MUBO locality 1/25000 to concentration est enemy car reflected by A Coy 50 o believing force killed 13 o A Coy in def from area ref 3940 o D Coy def from BASE CAMP area o chms see def from area track zone ref 3838 o recd patrol B Coy to KITCHEN CK area o moved OBSERVATION HILL area 9951 report NMS. This area patrol moved to area 3352 reported unknown number enemy in tent also three skillfully camouflaged sangars o in area 3251 report 7 two men w/PC and cks have recently used o patrol time out 0530K/9 time in 1830K/10
614	17 hds	R50	2000	1		01 1189	Signal received from GOC QUOTE o gratified receipt your news success final ops relieving situation Coy on LABABIA RIDGE o please extend to GO 2/17/50 and ops engaged my acknowledgements of job well done and my belief the experience and lessons learned in these ops will be beneficial to future ops which may be anticipated now or later

Msg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
615	17 Bde	2130	2140			01192	An strike 12 May not approved by 3 Aust Div
616	17 Bde	2300	2355			01193	Winnery will drop dispersal gradually to move
617	17 Bde	2200	2253			01191	Advised location standing patrol Duda area
618				DADD	2248	I166	standing patrol located James Bator Bayanun River of 6444 m Malk locality 1/25000
619	17 Bde	1505	1540				In Gunnery a congratulations on good news a new may be opportunities to follow up, returning enemy and secure PIMPLE a keep him moving a suggest D Coy 2/5 Bn be held at Skinderson a DEXTERS Coy move full front Ballam 12 May
620	17 Bde	0735	0800			01195	Patrol referred to in our 01191 is that of 3 or 4 men maintaining ab on enemy as set out our 01132 a please advise location of contact patrol
621				B E D Coy		062	The excellent example set by A Coy on its recent patrol should be a lesson to us all a their courage and determination to carry through under difficulties use of the highest order and further proof that one member 2/7 Bn is more than equal to ten rats a carry on 2/7 we have them licked a signal HQ Glinon comd 2/7 Aust Inf Bn
622				A Coy		063	congratulations to you and A Coy on an excellent job a the coolness and good determination displayed by all eventually routed the enemy and claimed another victory for the unit a hence another stepping stone is laid consolidating the tradition of 2/7 Aust Inf Bn

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
623				DADO	0845	064	Standing patrol River zone 10 men & two man patrol moves daily to area SCV. recent operations have not permitted establishing OP as instructed. OC Coy has been instructed to establish OP in area ref SE0V0 by PM 12 May. camp will be estab with OP. ref photo 3 183/M series to deficiencies in anti malarial agent caused the patrol when sticks invented arrived.
624				DADO	0935	1167	Subj to 0900 K/12. A Coy reports area quiet & strong patrol moving along gap with contact enemy.
625				DADO	0955	1168	ack
626	17Bde	1015	1050			01197	Left Mawmilk with 200 body traps of own design morning 13 May. suggest fully laid out in OBSERVATION Hill area and report later on effectiveness.
627						1169	Subj to 1200 K/12 B. Patrol gap tracks report enemy retreat down to PIMPLE area & captured several communications documents being food courier 13 May
628	17Bde	1300	1340			01199	presume you will withdraw at least one Coy back to main def line & advise your intention.
629				DADO	1355	065	inadvisable to weaken LABABIA. one Coy remains contact enemy.

Reg No	Unit	In TOC	TOR	Unit	Out TOC	Orig No	Text of Message
629	contd.						control base camp track gun OPs standing patrol River gun claw sp. feed coy one coy track. TRACK GUN controls full track across LABABIA station. suggest returning D Coy 2/5 low period seven days for assisting completion SADDLE def incl fire lanes
630						066	Message by BM
631	17Bde	1500	1545			DRoc	you back over of inst 9 not used.
632				DADO	1705	170	deh recall - OP INSTR 9
633				FOX ma	1707	171	password to period 1800K/12 to 1800K/13 - RELIC
634	Lofu (Phone)	1800					8 single ^{rele} shots fwd of coy area - thought to be vicinity old area
635	17Bde	1800	1845			01	Re attachment personnel 15 bde @ report required by 15 May on training and activities of these men whilst attached to you during period 12 Apr to 25 Apr
636				17Bde	1900	172	ref to 1800 K/12 @ A Coy reports area interior @ D Coy 2/5 B occupied def posn SADDLE area @ 02 reports visibility poor NMS.
637	17Bde	1915	1900			03	From Motin @ your suggestion re D Coy 2/5 low not approved @ this Coy will not move beyond Skinde. In the present cond will probably be withdrawn to Summit @ 13 May @ Dexters by should arrive Base @ 13 & be used as in OP inst 109 @ your careful consideration to para 6 and advise probable location and disposition for arrival @ DEXTERS Coy may not move more than two day Guadalupe area before moving fwd @ recognize your forces on Lababa

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Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
							as early as possible to comply with spirit of msg of inst No 8. and contain PIMPLE area with minimum no of troops which maintaining maximum reserve south of SADDLE. ack
638				DADO	2005	067	D Coy 2/5 lvt arrived Banana PM 11 May. arrived Dadda area AM 12 May. as by now in posn SADDLE and request reconsideration inst of 031 12 May. lvt arrived D Coy 2/6 Bn
639				Liko	2050	068	one section of FOXI contacted Mr B. de P. New. lvt. a NCO with the unit def plan for WAIPAWI BUIBAINING areas made lesson complete. 10 Liko report received proceeding satisfactory.
640	17 Bde	1820	1940			02	MMG pl will be formed from reserve. lvt. the low. WE for pl. pl HQ and two sec. to pl HQ. 1 lvt. 1 sq. 2 ORs. one sec. lvt. 1 cpl 12 ORs. one sec. 2 cpls 12 ORs. total all ranks 32. pl will be formed by pers of 7 Aust MG lvt. at present in your area. lvt. 2/7 lvt. pl sufficient trained to man guns. pers of Aust MG lvt. will be withdrawal to WAVE area handling all MABs and close to 2/7 lvt. pl. HQ will be advised when 7 Aust MG. lvt. are to be withdrawn. WE for MMG pl tactical scale be dropped. lvt. time to be advised.
641						069	Messing B.M.
642				DADO	2010	070	patrol 2/3. lvt. not yet reported.

Reg No	Unit	In T00	TOR	Unit	Out T00	Orig No	Text of Message
643	17Bde	2145	2205			013	3 DV strips 40 li JoroK/12 o Markham area 12 May D coy less 1 pl estate Power House o Mission area 11 May o enemy from Salamaua Received 710987 reported strips 35 was found to be unoccupied.
644	17Bde	2020	2205			012	2 oftr 2 NCO. N.S. forces arriving from HQ 13 May
645				Weather		I174	weather report 0545 medium cloud visibility good weather fair
646				DADO	0630	I173	CAT 80 unlimiter
647				DADO	0705	I175	ack
648				DADO	0810	I176	CAT 50 S
649				DADO	0915	I177	strip to 0900 K/13 o A bay reports area silent o DP reports NMS o active patrolling continues
650				DADO	1055	I178	in reply to 610/19 o ack
651				DADO	1120	I179	ack receipt air photo UAC ONE NASSAU BAY o DEXTER not yet examined with other copies
652	17Bde	2000	Wunungay				herewith second copy showing suspected telephone line across Islet Nassau Bay o two sets photo less 1 copy this point being held by our elements D coy 2/6 Bn address OC D coy o I.O. 2/6 Bn if DEXTER not available o intended one set each. Int sec D coy 2/6 Bn
653				JUMBO	1040	073	Insti coy strips as shown below will commence on 13 MAY and completed PM 16 MAY o Dispositions at 1800 hrs 16 MAY o LOTU WAIPANI DUBO LABABIA BUSA MATMAT LABO - BASE CAMP o Movement as follows o MAY 13 o one pl BUSA moves REEVES OP

Msg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
							<p>one pl DUBU from REEVES OP to MAT MAT on arrival of BUSA @ MAT MAT @ one pl DUBU to LABABIA Two pls LOFU to WAIPALL Two pls LABO LABABIA @ MAY 15 @ Two pls BUSA to MAT MAT @ two pls MAY 16 @ Two pls DUBU LABABIA one pl LOFU WAIPALL</p> <p>① Movement DUBU from MAT MAT will be completed prior to first light ① LABO will occupy from LOFU vacates as temporary measure during movement ① pls will be withdrawn back to BASE CAMP as DUBU occupy fwd areas ① Adm ① as per previous moves ① EY rifles will be carried by coys ① one NCO per pl will remain in present coy areas for period 3 days after relief completed ① coys will prepare list of stores rations incl I'd OPS and amm for handover to incoming coys ① this HQ will be advised when coys are in complete occupation of new areas</p>
654				all coys DAPP	1140	0 72	<p>DISPOSITIONS FOXI on completion reliefs now being effected ① LABABIA ① B Coy ① JAP TRACK ① TASK ① maintain contact by fighting patrols ① piece patrols to enemy L of C GREEN HILL PIMPLE ① consolidate def posn ashide JAP TRACK ① D Coy 2/6 Bn ① two pl BASE CAMP ① one pl RIVER JUNC ① OP. DUALI AREA ① TASK ① protection RIGHT FLANK ① piece patrols DUALI NASSAU BAY area ① until more detailed info available regarding strength and disposition enemy in above areas D Coy 2/6 Bn will carry out piece patrols and where favourable opportunity is presented strike damaging blows to the enemy with few casualties to own Hqs ① establish FIRM BASE for future ops as outlined above ① MAT MAT ①</p>

Place
 Date

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
654 (cont)							C Coy @ TASK @ maintains contact with enemy by continuous peace and fighting patrols on OBSERVATION HILL @ setting of booby traps on enemy tracks and known ambush points @ fighting patrols WEST of OBSERVATION HILL to enemy LOC with object ambushing enemy supply line on the north @ SADDLE GUADAGASAL RIDGE @ D Coy ONE SEC CARRIERS @ TASK @ defence GUADAGASAL RIDGE SADDLE @ completion of def forms extension of fire lanes @ HILL 7 @ ONE SEC CARRIERS A/A pl @ MG training @ def HILL 7 @ completion def form extension fire lanes @ WAIPALI @ A Coy @ TASK @ protection left LEFT FLANK BEAR @ further consolidation def form @ all informed
655				DADO	1230	I150	sherp to 1200 K/13 @ 13 pl C Coy moving MAT MAT commence affecting coy reliefs @ OP reports NMS - visibility poor
656	17Bde	1045	1300			017	2/3 Ind Coy patrol to contact 2/7 Bn returned to ITS base unable to get through.
657	17Bde	1200	1320			019	D Coy 2/5 Bn will move to SUMMIT 14 May and revert to comp 2/5 Bn on arrival at SUMMIT.
658				DADO	1340	073	D Coy 2/6 AVST INF BN will move to BASE CAMP LABARI PM 16 MAY @ this area most suitable for fulfillment of task @ secondary task BASE camp protection @ def form prepared this area
659				DADO	1345	D74	ack in reply to 019

Msg No	Unit	In TOC	Out TOC	Unit	Orig No	Text of Message
660	17B46	1230	1370		D10	3 div relief 41 to 0900 K/13 @ MARKHAM area @ 18 pl 24 bn arrived BRADCH CK 1300 K/13 @ MISSIM area 1000 to 1045 K/13 column of 70 JAPS and coolies moving SOUTH along KOMIATUM track engaged by MMG ref map SALAMAUA received 702-968 @ enemy casualties 30 killed many wounded @ 1330 to 1415 K/13 2 sec 4 pl was attacked by enemy advancing from point SALAMAUA BOBDUBI ridge heavily mortared @ attack repulsed @ our casualties one wounded enemy unknown @ MUBO area D boy 2/5 bn has arrived SADDLE area all informed.
661				DADO	1545 I182	enemy identification documents leather pouch captured LABABIA RIDGE during recent op. sent by courier AM 13 MAY
662				DADO	1655 I183	AIR STRIKE @ ref air photo 58/P @ INT @ during recent engagement enemy suffered 100 cas incl 50 known killed @ it is known from WATSON'S report that native boy line arrives TERMINAL store house MUBO approx 0830 K/14 with stores and @ this line collects wounded for return SALAMAUA leaving area before 0900 K/14 @ 2/3 IND boy confirm met reinforcements to MUBO on KOMIATUM track @ request bombing attack TERMINAL STORE HOUSE ref P64V0 Mt P64V0 @ strafing attack line BUIGAP CK @ north from point D65W3 to point P65U7 Mt P65W3 to P65U7 @ from the south bomblines P2W, P4X P7X Mt P2W P4X P7X @ the 500 yds south bomblines

Msg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
663				FOY area	1720	184	password for period 1800K/13 to 1800K/14. BALLAD
664	17Bde	1700	1800				approved in reply to 072
665				2/3rd Coy	1805	075	request further details of your patrol @ area reached details of any contact @ would appreciate details of fighting patrol is intended area WEST NORTH OBSERVATION HILL
666				DADO	1835	185	reply to 1800K/13 @ OP reports visibility nil @ A boy reports siting
667	17Bde	1910	2000			023	request an attack 0930K/14 to incl GREEN HILL. send CAT
668				DADO	2115	184	advise if you require this unit to submit request for strike 0930K/14 incl GREEN HILL
669	17Bde	2150	2210			025	on 14 + 15 May there are no hot lat line on enemy located from seven times during hours daylight preferably before 0900 and after 1300 to conform to PIMPLE do not shoot by night. Heat will disclose your position. advise any heat noted by patrols in field area 16 May
670	17Bde	2220	2215			024	Sent 3 DIV strike 42 to 2000K/13. Mission area. 0430K/13 enemy patrol of four approached our position 709995 SALAMAVA missed then withdrew to east one wounded. MHC 702968 fired 13 gaps moving south KOMIATUM killed eight
671	17Bde	2210	2310			027	request submitted by HQ
672	17Bde	0405	0530			028	air strike for M080 area 14 May 43 cancelled

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Place
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No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
673				DADO	0632	I184	CAT 90 unlimited
674				DADO	0801	I187	CAT 70 unlimited
675				DADO	0812	I188	ref 3 Div sitrep H2 @ 13 Japs engaged by MMG ref SALAMAVA revised 202968 is same number Japs employed as escort boylines L of C to BUIGAP indicated WATSON'S report @ day of contact also coincides with timetable of boylines
676				DADO	0805	I189	sitrep to 0900 K/14 @ 4/1 plane flew over FOXI area heading SW 1905 K/13 @ patrol from RIVER JUNC ref MUDO locality 1/25000 4454 moved to point 826833 ref SALAMAVA revised @ no suitable site for OP located no enemy met seen
677	176do	0910	1012			030	Booby trapping of OBSERVATION HILL by Cpl WAISMITH will be carefully planned by Bn HQ to ensure our traps know where they are laid and that they are placed in most effective areas to cause greatest damage to enemy @ not indiscriminate laying of traps will occur @ trapped areas will be clearly marked and copy sent to 3 Ind Coy.
678						076	NO DEC 6
679	176do	1005	1100			I347	2/3 Indep Coy sitrep to 0800 K/14 reports twenty native carriers with cargo going South towards KOMIATUM 1755 K/13 were fired on killing at least one remainder went back towards SALAMAVA
680				DADO	I190	1150	ack receipt sets 5 inch series 4 a/c air photos

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
681				17Bde	1230	1191	retro to 1200K/14. 0 gals killed ref map MUBO locality 1/25000 3339 no items except found paper identification being collected. Day 3/6 in moved in area 1100K/14
682	17Bde	1135	1245			I348	Further over 347 3dun advise 13 gals were independent party
683				17Bde	1315	I192	correct map refs should read 6444 and 826833 not 6444 826833
684	17Bde	1150	1245			I349	query map ref patrol from 4464 to 826833. Pending your advice have taken as 6444 and 726833
685				NADE	1305	077	One pl BADA arrives SADDLE P.M. 14 MAY for relief present pl. Effect relief 15 MAY. Your pl concentrate SADDLE dep for BANANA 16 MAY. Lunch SKINDI stage SUMMIT 17 MAY. Lunch BALLAM'S stage KAISINIA 18 MAY. Further movement as arranged WAU. NADE will remain period 3 days and check plans with incoming pl comd. Strength outgoing pl to be advised this HQ by 1500 hrs 15 MAY. Ack.
686	^{2/3} End Day	0900	1245			043	Ref map SALAMAVA revised. Our patrol followed VEK'S track to 686833 approx where they could find no further trace of track. Hearing firing to their front and left. They scrub bashed found OBSERVATION Hill in attempt to reach MAT MAT. Difficulties of country and limited time available forced their return. A further patrol of 1 off 2 OR's with 2 native guides will proceed MUBO area on recce 15 MAY. Patrol will attempt to contact you

Reg No	Unit	In TCO	TOR	Unit	Out TCO	Orig No	Text of Message
687				FOX	1515	1193	Message RALEIGH
688				17 Bde	1540	1194	ack despatch no 499 dropped by runway AM 14 MAY
689	17 Bde	1640	1730			1350	captured documents received include badge of sgt in 115 regt and badge of an OR 102 inf regt @ 102 was regt which attacked WAV @ 115 virtually destroyed BISMARCK BATTLE remnants apparently being used as reefs
690	17 Bde	1835			1835	1195	retreat to 1500 K/14 @ enemy 70mm gun fired 2 rds VICKERS RIDGE 1225 K/14 @ OP reports 2 explosions direction KOMIATUM 1515 K/14 @ usual fires OBSERVATION HILL 1550 K/14 @ 2 fans seen LABABIA ISLAND 1700 K/14 @ small boat moved from island north along coast 1750 K/14 @ 2 pls A coy moved WAIPALI area one pl D coy moved fwd gap track def from one pl B coy moved def post gap track @ 2 pls by 4 rds fire 0900 K/14 further 6 after 1700 K/14 @ enemy shot retreat T191 proved to be in poor condition @ documents from body being fwd courier 15 MAY
691	17 Bde	1750	1800			031	ref map SALAMAYA 1 in @ patrols operating from RIVER JUNE 745835 will keep west of grid line 77 from now until incl 17 May @ owing to projected AIR OPS in OVERFLOW area @ ack
692				17 Bde	1840	1196	ack message 031
693				17 Bde	0631	1197	CAT O'D

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Place
Date

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
694				17Bde	0800	I198	CAT 30 S
695				17Bde	0920	I199	OP reports aerial activity LAE 1920 out to 2020 K/14 @ bombing heard direction LAE 0815 K/15 @ jap track area reported siting
696				17Bde	0928	I200	20 up a/c with escort flying direction WAW
670				17Bde	11235	I201	planes reported signal I 200 returned direction LAE 0940 K/15 @ OP reports visibility poor
671				LABO, LIBA MIKA HUBBLE ALL AHSE	1325	079	Following changes in dispositions will be effected AM 17 MAY and completed 1800 hrs 17 MAY @ LABO less OP RIVER JUNG personnel move SADDLE AREA @ LIBA moves BASE CAMP @ CARR PL under comd LIEUT HILL moves HILL 7 @ ADM @ Rations and tentage will remain present areas @ Personal gear blankets mosquito nets will be carried @ Liaison between coys will be made re take over cooking gear and adjustments mutually arranged @ RPM one mag per BREN TSMG carried during movement @ additional tentage cooking gear will be fwd HILL 7 at earliest @ one pl LIBA will relieve sec LABO RIVER JUNG OP LABABIA 19 MAY details relief later @ etc.
672				17Bde	1330	I202	area strafed from 1305 K/15 to 1312 K/15 by one single radial engine low winged monoplane non retractable undercarriage carrying two bombs equipped gun fwd and rear @ plane strafed ANGAU AMB area and DROPPING GROUND area @ No obs no damage

Leg No	Unit	In TOC	TOR	Unit	Out TOC	Orig No	Text of Message
673				17Bde	1350	080	request TWO point FIVE calibre A/A MMG be made available @ TASK protection D.I.D. area GUADAGASAL RIDGE.
674	17Bde	1235	1355			043	Reb. our 031 of 1750/14
675				17Bde	1400	I203	our signal I 196 1840 K/14 ack your signal 031 (in reply to 043)
676	17Bde	1200	1400			040	3 div, which 45 to 0800 K/15 @ MISSIM area @ 1545 K/14 6 sec 2/3 indep coy attacked GUNIBOLU 704967 SALAMANA REVISED RESULT NOT KNOWN @ 1600 K/14 7 all moved SOUTH down FRANCISCO River to turn enemy right flank @ large enemy force advancing @ withdrew to resume track NORTH end of BOBDUBI RIDGE @ 1700 K/14 @ 2 sec attached in 698988 from NORTH @ enemy encountered heavy small arms and mortar fire @ Were pinned down @ enemy advanced towards them but were checked @ 1730 K/14 @ our troops withdrew from BOBDUBI RIDGE in good order @ have taken up firm vicinity KUNDA BRIDGE @ the enemy is consolidating on ridge @ No further exploitation WEST @ 2/3 indep coy estimate his casualties 60 killed many wounded @ our total cas 3 killed 9 wounded @ MUBO area @ 1225 K/14 enemy fired 2 70 MM shells VICKERS RIDGE @ HAV area @ 0600 K/15 up a/c over HAV @ all informed
677	17Bde	1200	1430			041	please give locations of coys on MUBO 1/25000 map also when relief expected to be complete
678				17Bde	1415	081	reliefs of coys will be completed PM 16 MAY @ complete location state as at 1800 K/16 will be fwd.

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
679	17Bde	1140	1430			039	3 dim pickup HK to 2000 K/15 @ MUBO area lone JAP killed 689840 MUBO + in @ B Coy 2/5 Bw left SADDLE for SUMMIT 0840 K/14 @ D Coy 2/6 Bw arrived GUADAGASAL 1130 K/14 @ MISSIM area @ 1845 K/13 @ 20 NATIVES carrying cargo SOUTH along KOMIATUM track fired on by our MG 802967 SALAMAVA remain 1 native killed the remainder dropped cargo and disappeared towards SALAMAVA @ 1745 K/14 @ BOBOSI Ridge heavily mortared and shelled @ 200 shells from NUK NUK and EAST KOLA @ shelling precedes attack in force from KOMIATUM track @ JAP drove through to line approx 695 992 north holding out @ 2/3 Intef boy counter attacking to 698 989 from 692 990 and 704 994 @ our casualties to 1100 K/14 @ one killed 4 wounded @ all informed.
680	17			17Bde	1630	I205	1 enemy A/C circled SALAMAVA 1550 K/15 formation 5 A/C approached this area ^{two} broken formation bombed strafed general area GUADAGASAL DROPPING GROUND @ 4 bombs fell area 2815 @ no cas no damage @ 3 remaining A/C flew SOUTHERLY direction
681				17Bde	1655	I206	passwork for period 1800 K/15 to 1800 K/16 @ SKILFUL
682	17Bde	1650	1800			D47	5" calibre MMG's NOT available @ suggest greater dispersal of D 1D
683	17Bde	1730	1800			048	advise urgently if you received our 031 @ your ack NOT yet to hand
684				17Bde	1840	I208	pickup to 1900 K/15 @ B Coy patrol moved down jap track to ref MUBO locality 1/25000 3941 @ fresh footprints observed murmur of voices heard @

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
							rece patrol C Coy moved OBSERVATION HILL investigated ambush post ref 2957 ^{traces} recent enemy occupation found no enemy seen @ OP. reports enemy planes circling LAE SALAMAVA area 1545K/15 to 1635K/15 eight flow direction MUBO area two bombs strafed as indicated signal T205 @ usual fire observed OBSERVATION HILL 1630K/15 @ off planes circling out to sea coast LABABIA ISLAND 1815K/15
685				17Bde	1850	T207	your signal 031 has already been acked TWICE @ report T196 800K/14 @ T203 1400 K/15
686	17Bde	1500	1845			O45	following received from 3 DIV @ convoy of two possible destroyers 1500/1000 two cargo vessels sighted 10 miles WEST of ARAWA approx 0930 15 May course 90 @ in view barge activity to and air cover LAE quoted 14 MAY possible that these ships reached LAE unobserved unloaded rapidly and now on way back @ our air force consider feasible
687	17Bde	1455	1915			O45	Int. info indicates 1 inf bat carried out attack on MAY 9 3d div under impression portion of this force diverted to deal with WARFE at BORDUBI continual active patrolling paying particular attention to flanks and ascertain any alteration of disposition strength enemy your area.
688				17Bde	0635	1208	CAT 60 S
689				17Bde	0805	1209	CAT 0 B

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
690	17Bde	2205				052	3 dir. reports to 2000 K/15 @ Missim area @ 0600 K/15 @ two sees 17 fl 24 on left PILMUNG for HOTE @ 0800 to 0830 K/15 @ BUGASU JUNG reported enemy bombed HOTE @ 0810 K/15 8 dive bombers 20 fighters bombed and strafed KUNDA BR and NEW BOBUBI @ 0900 K/15 more planes bombed and strafed same area @ 1215 to 1310 K/15 @ one type 97 crashed Missim PILMUNG @ dive bombed Missim area DAM 15 MAY 6 sec returned NAMLING @ WAV area @ 0936 K/15 @ 20 bombers (SALLY) 11 fighters (ZEKE) bombed WAV first group of 40 4/PERS bombs fell short across BUALO river @ second group of 20 bombs fell NORTH of CRSTAL CK rd along LITTLE WAV CK @ one native slightly wounded @ damage nil
691	17Bde			17Bde	0930	I210	report to 0900 K/16 @ OP reports star shells searchlight other large lights observed SAGAMAVA 2130 K/15 2230 K/15 @ B17 flying HUON GULF 0615 K/16 @ B coy reports jap track area nitrow
692	17Bde			17Bde	1000	I211	attention being paid to suggestions your signal 045 1455 K/15
693	17Bde	0845				056	2 BARR par. bearing 120 deg
693	17Bde	1020	1120			I351	dossier captured 12 MAY included notes on operation order dated 8 may @ hrs compose four inf coys with bn gun & 1 det fd arty and regt sig sec @ coys probably strength and arty used as inf @ some may have been diverted BOBUBI @ forwarding copy translation @ suggest unit code number on breast identification

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
							Aggs be signalled when found @ example 03 and 04
694	17Bde	1115	1215			057	3 div subefs HQ to @ 800 K/16 @ MISSIM area @ afternoon 15 May @ 2/3 Indep boy moved MISSIM @ 1200 K/15 remaining sec 18 pl D boy 24 bn arrived MISSIM
695				17Bde	1310	I212	subefs to 1200 K/16 @ OP reports upl plane approached from direction SALAMAVA 1100 K/16 returning 1105 K/16 @ other areas sitnet
696	17Bde	1540				I204	patrol advises native garden ref SALAMAVA REVISED 813836 investigated 13 May @ no evidence enemy occupation found @ patrol moved further east than garden area
697				17Bde	1340	082	ack receipt 17 bde appreciation of 3 div OP Enstr HQ 1
698	Foxley				1700	I213	password to 1800 K/17 @ BULL
699	17Bde				1920	I214	subefs to 1800 K/16 @ OP reports enemy not observed ref photo 83M number 3 SCIU 7 1615 K/16 @ motor launch containing 12 pers approached from SE to LABABIA ISLAND veered to west coast island anchored off coast 1755 K/16 @ other areas sitnet
700	17Bde				2000	I215	ref map MUBO locality 1/25 000 disposed 2/7 aust inf bn at 1800 K/16 @ Bn HQ 2916 @ A boy HQ 1212 7 pl less 1 sec 1111 one sec 7 pl ginc 8 pl 1916 9 pl plus del str 0611 @ B boy def posn grp track 3939 @ C boy HQ plus del mtr 3140 13 pl 2344 14 pl 3138 15 pl less 1 sec 2939 1 sec 15 pl 3511 @ D boy less 2 sec plus pl carrier gr det mtr

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
700	(cont)						3938 1 sec D Coy standing patrol 6444 one sec D Coy 4544 @ A/A pl 2824 pl carrier gpr 3323 @ D Coy HQ 2/6 Bw 2920 46 pl plus det mtr 3323 17 pl plus det mtr 2921 19 pl 2819 @ sec mtr 3122 @ 7 pl B Coy 7 MG Bw @ pl HQ 3323 @ one gun 3425 one gun 2921 one sec 2824 one gun 2/7 bw 2939 @ det 2 coy MASC 2716 @ det 2/2 FO Am 261
701				17 Bde	2055	1216	request suppl. MVB. locality sheets 1/25000
702	17 Bde	2145	2215			062	can no info be given enemy not observed photo 83/M No 3 SC107
703				17 Bde	2040	1217	inf an photo 3 83/M Sabalan OP reported enemy mut 1600K/16 to 1615K/16 cat number 15 some may have been natives as ban after body was observed enemy moved about not quite certain SC107 goods #/6 appeared to be digging at rd SC107 which is deep barbed.
704	17 Bde	2140	2230	#2		063	FF auct. inf. ltr close present location 1100K/17 tel HQ open SKINDI WAI see HQ KAISENTRK 1150K/17 all informed
705				17 Bde	0635	1218	CAT 80 unobserved
706	Deg 2/6	0650	0700			W11	LIBA close present area 0830 has no sun new area same time
707				17 Bde	0735	1219	Sabalan OP reports forward boat visible that reported sight 1214 plus 4 slip boats moved from west coast Sabalan Island 0605K/17 to Dushit. all craft loaded with men total approx 80 craft not observed from the mt from ISLAND

Reg No	Unit	In TCO	TOR	Unit	Out TCO	Orig No	Text of Message
708				17 Bde	0800	I220	CAT 20 unlimited
709				DUBU BUSA LABO LIBA		D83	<p>PATROL POLICY @ active patrolling by fwd coys must be enforced @ enemy not must be</p> <p>NOT be permitted without our knowledge @ LABABIA @ DUBU will keep enemy in PIMPLE area under constant observation & fwd on JAP tracks II listening patrols to flanks III recce SOUTH of PIMPLE to observe mot on tracks leading from GREEN HILL later fighting patrols will set ambush this area II BOOBY TRAPS to be set on tracks SOUTH and WEST of PIMPLE @ LIBA will carry out recce patrols in DUALI NASSAU BAY area @ when more detailed info available regarding strength and dispositions enemy in above area and where favourable opportunity is presented LIBA will strike damaging blows to enemy with few casualties to own side @ MAT MAT @ BUSA will keep enemy under observation on OBSERVATION HILL by RECCE and FIGHTING PATROLS I patrols to watch and report on all tracks and ambush points regularly II KITCHEN CK to be kept under close observation later fighting patrols will engage known enemy posts this area @ KOMIATUM MUBO & of C @ responsibility LABO @ FIGHTING patrols weekly to be in posn to set AMBUSH prior to FIRST LIGHT on alternative WEDNESDAYS and FRIDAY @ TASK @ deal with enemy parties and bay lines @ All routine contact patrols will be carried out DAILY @ SECURITY @ ENEMY @ contents must be relayed from pockets of enemy dead and PW then fwd to these HQ immediately @ valuable info</p>

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
709 (cont)							has already been obtained by prompt action in regards to above OWN security measures WILL be taken prior to departure of ALL patrols THIS INSTN to be destroyed by fire ack
710				17Bde	0930	I221	subrep to 0900 K/17 @ enemy and reported signal I-219 otherwise all areas int'nal
711	17Bde	0955	1040			069	Keep 2 bay patrols west of grid line 77 SALAMAUVA 1 inch further 24 hrs to incl 18 may @ pt ack to 3 and div
712				17Bde	1045	I222	ack 069
713				17Bde	1310	I223	subrep to 1200 K/17 @ OP reports two mastered powered craft towing smaller craft both containing per approached LABABIA ISLAND from NORTH 1500 K/17 @ craft anchored at centre north coast where per disembarked @ articles clothing observed hanging on line SE of island.
714				17Bde	1120	I224	LABABIA O.P reports enemy A/C near grouped formation overhead continued flying NE direction @ total number observed 25 all types @ time 1315 K/17
715	LIBA	1135				113	LIBA avoids new area 1100
716				FOR AREA	1630	I225	password for period ending 1800 K/18 @ SUBTLE
717				17Bde	1730	I226	subrep to 1500 K/17 @ OP reports vessel reported subrep I223 moved under sail to DUALI Pt at 1535 K/17 @ unable to observe number occupants @

Log Diary

Place
 Date

Reg No	Unit	In TCO	TOR	Unit	Out TCO	Orig No	Text of Message
717 (cont)							1815 K/17 OP reports vessel sailed from DUALI SE of other areas situation
718	17 Bde	1910	2030			0100	ship to 1900 K/17 @ WAV BULOLO AREA @ 1250 K/17 @ WAV bombed by 22 SALLY'S with 20 ZERE fighters escort @ pattern bombing from 16000 ft @ runs NW to SE @ approx 200 bombs incl HE anti personnel and incendiary fell @ all bombs across SW end of air field @ one bomb on ship @ air field serviceable @ casualties reported to date 1 OFFR 4 OR's @ NG FORCE now considered unlikely convoy reached LAE @ all informed.
719	Deg	0930				084	of map SARAWAK 1 mi 1 mile @ confirmation verbal insts issued 0930 K/17 @ INFM @ as supplied by 10 @ bayline open strength 30 leaves KOMINTUM from first light each WEDNESDAY and FRIDAY @ terminal store ref 649879 @ 230 hrs @ route of bayline along track in BUIGAP valley @ last known strength west 12 incl L.M.G number @ all move in rear bayline @ OWN TPS @ composite force from D cag and pl CARR GP strength 1 off RR OR's @ INTENTION @ fighting patrol will ambush annihilate bayline and escort capturing P.W. @ METHOD @ patrol will move from BASE CAMP 17 MAY to REEVES OP resting there day 18 MAY @ Australian guides supplied from ANGAN will contact before 18 MAY @ patrol will cross BUIADAL CK from first light 19 MAY

Reg No	Unit	In TOC	TOR	Unit	Out TOC	Orig No	Text of Message
719 cont.							move unobserved to area of 710897 preparing ambush loss in depth and occupying same before first light RIMAYO ADM. requirements ammo grenades available REEVES O.P. 6 days food rations 34 canned heat 12 mosquito lotion available REEVES O.P. med orderly from D Coy. SECURITY O. enemy identification tabs and documents removed enemy dead PW & PW food this H.P. own the normal security measures prior departure patrol
720				17 Bde	0835	1226	CAT 120 unlimited.
721				17 Bde	0910	1227	CAT 90 unlimited.
722				17 Bde	0905	228	set up to 0900K/18. OP reports bombing heard NE coast 1905K/17 1940K/17 2010K/17. light cleared DUALI PT 2200K/17. changeover D Coy 2/6 low with D Coy 2/7 low now complete at base camp. D Coy 2/7 low def from SADDLE.
723	D 2/6	0815	0900			W15	set up. Lieut Mosquero 13 ORs moved to RIKO to set camp at 0800 hrs. remainder of morning 19 May. patrols nothing to report
724				17 Bde	1300	1229	set up to 1200K/18. 25 enemy planes flew over area 1115K/18 heading SW. 10 enemy planes flying SW over area 1130K/18. all area silent
725				Force Area	1500	1230	pass word AKTAR.

Place
 Date

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
726	Phone			LIBA	1815		all from site digging and clearing fire lanes commenced - 0 patrol normal sitrep 1800k/18 • LABABIA OP report of 5 men moving LABABIA ISLAND following times 1415k/18 1500k/18 1600k/18 • ref photo 3 83/M series • 3 figures observed moving area SCOUT • small fire OBSERVATION HILL 1700k/18 • patrol B can moved gap track • encountered LOC BARRICADE recently built across track in area of 2744 MUBO locality 1/25000 • patrol remained in area to observe and listen • NO HAT seen or heard • patrol 2/3 IND COY ETA AM 18 MAY not reported this area 1800k/18
727				17Bde	1850	1231	
728				17bde	0632	232	CAT 0 H
729				17bde	0815	1233	CAT 30 S
730	LIBA	0837	0900			W21	litrep • LIBA sitrep • RIKO small gp attempting to cross swollen river through underwater booby trap • Sgt DEHNE wounded
731				17bde	0935	1234	subrep 1 0900k/19 • OP reports plane heard flying NE 1920k/18 • plane flying south 2015k/18 • patrol number 1 • fighting patrol to ref Salamona on which 710896 ambushed enemy by hand 21 MAY • moved night 18/19 May • number 2 patrol • receive patrol • coy receive track west from ref MUBO locality 1/25000 2243 moved out 0500k/19 • patrol number 3 • receive patrol • coy to Kitchen hill moved out 0500k/19 • patrol number 4 • receive patrol Garrison Hill moved out 0500k/19 • smoke reported STONY CK lat PM 18 MAY

Reg No	Unit	In TOC	TOR	Unit	Out TOC	Orig No	Text of Message
732				17Bde	1310	1235	subject to 1200K/19. a single rifle shot heard from vicinity south end Woody Island 1030K/19 1130K/19 also exploded 1045K/19. a/c plane flew high over area heading north 1045K/19
733	17Bde	1255	1316			0115	air strikes proposed SARAMAUA DUALI NASSAU BAY AREAS 20 May. approx TOT 1500 hrs. find weather report direct to air control by meteor immediate ack.
734				17Bde	1350	1236	ack to above.
735	17Bde	1315	1329			0116	suggest air strike on track KOMIATUM junc bitai buingaf R with a view to harassing JAP L of C. 2/7 BN patrol clear of area 22 may. data and time of strike as desired by you. please advise
736				17Bde	1350	1237	re your signal quote date and time of strike by you unquote. please advise if this info to be supplied by this HQ.
737				FOXI area	1510	1288	should any of a sub unit require maps please advise and copies will be supplied at earliest.
738	17Bde	1538	1545			1406	patrol BALU expected your area. P.M. 18 MAY recalled owing to enemy action BOBDUBL RIDGE. patrol returned NANDING 1800K/18
739				LIBA	1630	1239	LIEUT URQUHART comm. on spot. concurs with his suggestions. 3 doz bottles MOSQUITO REPELLENT early date.
740				FOXI area	1645	1249	password from 1800 K/19 to 1800 K/20. LIBERTY

Reg No	Unit	In TOC	TOR	Unit	Out TOC	Orig No	Text of Message
741	LOLO	1630	PHONE				after shelling of OBSERVATION HILLS a dense column of blue white smoke is rising @ HEIGHT about 400 ft.
742	17Bde	1703	1715			0120	reply to i237 @ no.
743	2/6BN	1650	1715			40	lieut MARSDEN to be T/CAPT @ congratulations for all here.
744	LIBA	1750	1800			425	relief of LABA relief of sec LABO at OP effected by 1000 hrs @ LIKO relief of sec LABO by 1115 hrs effected by 1200 hrs @ all patrols nothing to report.
745				17Bde	1845	1239	sitrep to 1800K/19 @ patrol no 5 fighting patrol to PIMPLE area @ moved out 0850K/19 returned 11400K/19 @ investigated barricade reported sitrep is no enemy found @ continued to left flank PIMPLE listened that area @ heard enemy voices rattling of dummies @ recovered FV rifle also effects dead Australian @ body dead Jap found searched identification tab collected unit serial number 03 rpt 03 @ patrol number two returned 1630K/19 @ N.M.S. @ OP reports usual fire ref MUBO LOCALITY 1/25000 3049 @ engaged by arty 1615K/19 @ on fourth shell in area large column smoke rose 400 ft @ 1650K/19 B17 observed @ bombed SALAMAVA 1705K/19 @ three fires observed GREEN HILL STONY CK area 1800K/19
746	12Bde	1900	2000			408	3 Liv sitrep 55 to 0900 K/19 @ Missim area 18 MAY enemy patrol crossed FRANCISCO RIVER strength H @ 679994 Casal.

Reg No	Unit	In TOC	TOR	Unit	Out TOC	Orig No	Text of Message
							SALAMAVA One inch to one mile area when should N.E
747	3AF			5AF	0635	1241	Our patrols active in food area @ All informed CAT 100 unimiled
748				5AF	0815	1242	CAT 80 W.
749				17bde	0925	1243	retief to 0900K/20 @ OP reports a/c heard NE coast 2010K/19 2310K/19 2240K/19
750	17bde	0813	0930			1240	3 a/c and dir retief to 2300K/19 @ Missim area @ 1810K/19 three S/P landed east side SALAMAVA ISTHMUS @ 0845 K/19 patrol 18 pl 24 bn contacted so enemy HOTE MALOLO track 631040 SALAMAVA news @ casualties enemy 2 killed ours one missing @ 1730K/19 150 japs reported HOTE VILLAGE @ our hrs observing enemy from CISSEM BOB 1000 yds WEST of HOTE @ WAW BULOLO area @ 0845 to 0900K/19 one DINAH circled WAW and BULOLO several times 20000 ft @ 1105 to 1120 K/19 @ 12 ZEKES circled WAW 15000 ft.
751	LIBA	0854	0930			W27	retief return @ patrols nothing to report.
752				5AF of g/f		1244	CAT MUBO area 50 S @ CAT DUALI area 0 mil
753				5AF		1245	CAT MUBO area 30 K @ CAT DUALI area 0 mil
754				5AF		1247	CAT MUBO area 40 N @ CAT DUALI area mist rising @ 80 W
755				17bde		1246	retief to 1200K/20 @ OP reports w/a plane heard flying SE 0820K/20 w/a plane observed flying NE 1010K/20 circled LAE @ mist 3 japs seen of MUBO locality 1/25000 3050
756				all units	1645	1248	password for period 1800K/20 to 1800K/21 @ VOLLEY

Ref No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
757				17/4/44	1201	1249	<p>sitrep to 1500K/20 @ patrol no 3 reported in 1600K/20 @ moved to west end KITCHEN CK observed enemy patrol @ moving toward them @ remained in cover until patrol passed then hid track and observed @ no further contact seen @ returning 11 japs seen vicinity ambush posn ref MUBO locality 1:25000 29500 @ patrol number 4 returned 1500K/20 moved along BUIAPAL CK from jungle with BITOI @ climbed re-entrant to ref 3144 @ jap sentry observed hammering heard @ patrol number 6 @ moved out 0750R/20 returned 1245K/20 @ moved jap track to within 60 yds PIMPLE @ enemy voices heard NMS @ patrol number 7 @ moved out 0800K/20 returned 1715K/20 @ moved LAWS track to ref 3644 where track obliterated by bombing strafing @ no evidence recent use @ O.P. reports bombing LAE SALAMAU by 7 BOSTONS 7 B17 1525K/20 1550K/20 @ smoke fire observed STONY CK area 1800K/20</p>
758	LIBA	1805	1870			W31	<p>sitrep @ LIBA sitnos @ RIKO sitnos @ O.P. sitnos @ patrol nothing to report.</p>

Reg No	Unit	In TOC	TOR	Unit	Out TOC	Orig No	Text of Message
759				17Bde	2018	1250	ref verbal queries re 1 AUST MTN-BTY OP @ ONE @ LEES OP 4500 yds @ VICKERS OP 11050 yds @ MATMAT OP 3600 yds @ FOP TRACK JUNG LABABIA 3250 yds @ PIMPLE FOP 4800 yds note this FOO was observing target this area from distance 25 to 50 yds was fired on by enemy who identified his pos from fire orders @ distance from guns to OP for line comm approx double @ TWO @ FOO will move distance 25/50 yds from enemy to extreme range of guns @ if necessary to gain observation OP will be est beyond range of guns
760				5AF	0635	1251	CAT 100 unlimited
761				17Bde	0705	1252	attn to 0700K/21 @ patrol number 8 near Woody Island moved out 0500K/21 @ patrol number 9 near Ganson Hill moved out 0500K/21 @ OP reports two lights seen morning vicinity SALUS 1920K/20 @ plane heard NE coast 0350K/21 0510K/21
762				17Bde	0710	1253	if you wish restricting patrolling west of 77 SALAMAVA 1 unit @ please advise if patrolling further east may now proceed.
763							commencing 0910 K/21 dogfights over MUBO GUADAGASAL area continued until 0945 K/21 one P39 appeared to crash ^{near} on bearing 103° M from GUADAGASAL estimate plane would crash in sea in SACHEN BAY area. 8 ZEROS returned to base 0940 K/21
764				LIBA	0820	F255	patrolling policy as submitted approved

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
765	176de	0925	0950			T416	3 Div sitrep 60 to 0800 K/21 @ Missim area @ 1945 K/20 two secs 18 pl 24 bn withdrew from CISSEMBOB under pressure from enemy @ two enemy secs 18 pl 24 bn and 8 sec 2/3 Indep Coy now in def posn one br WEST MHIDE 582039 MT MISSIM one inch @ our casualties two wounded one missing enemy casualties estimated 50 to 60 @ 0600 K/21 8 pl 24 Bn left SUNSHINE for JARI 400808 WAU LAE SALAMAUVA two miles one inch @ all informed
766				176de	1230	1255	sitrep to 1200K/21 @ dog fight between LIGHTNINGS ZEROS took place over area 0910 K/21 to 0945K/21 @ one LIGHTNING appeared crash bearing 103 degrees this H.Q. est in SACHEN BAY area @ 8 ZEROS flying north 0945 K/21 @ all areas sitrep
767	176de	1270	1330			0127	continue patrols beyond 77 grid line SALAMAUVA in until further notice @ possible air strike DUALI NASSAU BAY 22 MAY @ will advise details later
768				Soni area	1630	1256	Nassau WOLEN.
769	176de	1801	1257				Sitrep to 1800 K/21 @ patrol number one reported in 1700 K/21 @ contacted enemy ambush 1 hrs march BUIGAP L of C @ details not available full report later @ patrol no 10 @ moved out 0800K/21 returned 1300K/21 @ penetrate to edge fire lanes left flank PIMPLE @ enemy voices heard N.M.S. no extensive movement in area @ Q.R. reports v/c plane fixed wheels flew south along

Reg No	Unit	In TOC	TOR	Unit	Out TOC	Orig No	Text of Message
778 cont.							contacted 18/11 24 bn 529028 MT MISSIM one incl 8 sec plus 1 sub section 9 sec in position 5740290 one sub sec 9 sec in from BOBARDUO first light 21 MAY @ 16 pl 24 BN left POWER HOUSE for PILMUNG @ 09110K/21 all battle over MISSIM @ 2 JAP FIGHTERS BELIEVED crashed BOBDUBI and south side TAMBO @ 1627K/21 JAP see plane over MISSIM @ see patrol moved out fwd to HOTE CISSEMBOB MUBO area @ 21 MAY see patrol moved out west around OBSERVATION HILL @ contacted enemy in ambush posn approx 690887 SALAMAUA revised @ WAU BULOLO area @ 350K/21 @ 16 enemy fighters over WAU @ all informed
779	UBA	1015				W 58	Reinstruction number 9 copy 5 @ ack
780	LOLO	0845				M 54	Reinstruction number 8 copy 6 @ ack.
781				17 Ude	1240	2,60	Six sep So 1200K/21 @ ref map MUBO LOCALITY 1, 25, 000 @ LABABIA OP reports @ SALUS @ approx 19110/1930K/21 lights moving same area as previously reported @ LEES OP reports @ 1030/110K/22 @ Area ref 2951 one enemy in weapon pit 3 moving same area @ ref area 293503 one enemy in weapon pit 2/3 enemy moved into COPSE ref 390504 @ ref for smoke previously reported and

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
							coast 1615K/21 returned northwards 1630K/21 @ usual fires observed OBSERVATION HILL
470	17Bde	1725	1759			0129	3 aust div advise air strike DUALI NASSAU BAY requested for 0730K/22 @ advise patrols to be west 77 grid line @ actual TOT later @ ack.
471	LIBA	1750	1815			W34	relief @ LIBA RIKO OP sitnos @ all patrols nothing to report.
472				SC 17Bde	1815	I258	ack to 0129.
473				SAF Hq	0830	I258	CAT 120 unlimited
474				SAF Hq	0924	I260	CAT 80 unlimited
475				17Bde	0715	I259	relief 0700K/22 @ fighting patrol 6 accompanied by Cpl NAISMITH moving out AM 22 may be by trap @ at ambush track OBSERVATION HILL KITCHEN OK @ OP reports by bombing NE coast 2300K/21 @ 0/1 plane heard SE coast 0510K/22
476	17Bde	0725	0300			0132	air strike DUALI NASSAU BAY postponed until 0730K/23 @ 6 BOSTONS 6 BEAUFIGHTERS expected.
477	LIBA	0855	1000			W36	relief @ sitnos
478	17Bde	0946	1030			1419	3 div relief to 2000K/21 @ MISSIM area patrol from 618022 SALAMAUA revised reported CISSEMOU CLEAR of enemy 1900K/20 @ patrol moved further WEST through DASSO to BOBADU @ N.M.S en route @

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
							shelled 3350 @ patrol reported setup 1259 serial No 11 @ patrol No 12 @ supplies 11 pl B Coy strength 10 off 15 810 time out 0800K/22 expected time of return 1200/22 @ A/ECT @ Contact enemy ascertain if enemy has moved quad to occupy ambush previously reported @ patrol number 13 @ supplied 11 pl B Coy @ STRENGTH @ 9010 @ time out 0820K/22 @ expected time return 1730K/22 @ A/ECT @ follow LAW'S track beyond area where track has been obliterated by aerial activity contact and recc tracks leading from PIMPLE to STONY CK
782				5.A.F. of 1302		259 1254	CAT broken high clouds @ unlimited
783				all subunits 1420		086	SUBJECT @ AIR SUPPORT @ QUOTE @ if at any time friendly troops are brought under fire by our aviation a VERY pistol will be fired IMMEDIATELY @ UNQUOTE @ for information all informed
784				all sub units 1430		1261	password from 1800K/22 to 1800K/23 @ SALVATION
785				1784	1818	1262	Setup to 1800K/22 @ patrol number 3 reported in 1400K/22 no enemy seen @ patrol number 9 returned 1530K/22 two enemy contacted at MUBO LOCALITY 1/25000 3145 one enemy shot @ patrol number 12 returned 1220K/22 moved to left flank PIMPLE enemy voices

Small

Reg No	Unit	In TOC	TOR	Unit	Out TOC	Orig No	Text of Message
785 cont							not heard no enemy seen @ patrol number 13 returned 1600K/22 @ moved to VICKERS LAWS TRACKS junc @ 30yds along LAWS track new track enemy footprints found followed 300yds enemy voices heard no enemy seen @ full reports patrols by courier AM 23 MAY also report b/l SMITH missing since attack PIMPLE 7 MAY reported in 0700K/22 @ OP reports fire mt of PHOTO 83/M number 3 SC107. 1630K/22 @ two figures observed centre and SE end LABRRIA ISLAND 1645K/22 @ usual fire observed OBSERVATION HILL @ inst issued all patrol enemy patrol MUST be engaged on contact
786	LIBA	14/40	2205	1		N41	Setup @ LIBA show OP status RIKO status @ Recce patrol moved east along BITOI OVERFLOW to approx R.96V5 series 83M photo 2 followed footprints estimated 2 to 3 weeks old no enemy seen or heard report following when is land
787	126de	1805	2205			9/40	TOT 0730K/23 @ report required 0500K/23 by 5 BF height and type of cloud and visibility @ ask
788	126de	2105	2205			0 1-3	outside 23 MAY well not safe place @ advise if 24 MAY suitable

Msg No	Unit	In TOC	TOR	Unit	Out TOC	Orig No	Text of Message
789				17bde	2212	1266	Strike 24 MAY suitable @ patrolling will be rescheduled until STRIKE executed
790				17bde	2800	1268	reply 0140 @ O.P.
791	LIBA	1744	2205			1141	Sitrep @ LIBA sitrep OP sitrep RIKO sitrep @ recce patrol moved east along BITDI OVERFLOW to approx R96V5 series 83M photos followed footprints estimated 2 to 3 weeks old no enemy seen or heard. report following when to hand.
792				17Bde	0705	1266	sitrep to 0700K/23 @ patrol number 14 moving out 0830K/23 recce area at flank B coy to PIMPLE @ patrol number 15 moving out 1130K/23 recce gap track PIMPLE area @ patrol number 16 moving out 1530K/23 est ambush track located by 13 patrol @ O.P reports light observed SE end LABABIA ISLAND 1930K/22 to 1940K/22
793				SRE	0820	1267	CAT 250 unlimited
794					0633	1265	CAT 200 unlimited
795	LIBA	0845	0835			1143	sitrep @ sitrep all areas.
796				17Bde	0905	1268	REF MAP MURRO locality 1/25000 @ located MMG posns 0900K/23 @ pl H.9 262260 @ see HILL 7 with gun posns ref 208254 264252 @ one gun SADDLE ref 295223 @ one gun MCKENZIE KNOLL ref

Reg No	Unit	In TOC	TOR	Unit	Out TOC	Orig No	Text of Message
796 cont.							330239 @ one gun MAT MAT ref 293390 @ sketch fire tasks will be submitted
797	17 Bde	0922	0920		1120		3 Div sitrep 63 to 2000K/RR @ MISSIM area @ to 0800K/23 @ new patrol from BUGASU to HOTE area reports east end of ridge clear of enemy @ patrol occupied OP at 611023 SALAMAUA revised overlooking CISSEM BODHOTE valley @ 0700K/22 @ 7 sec moved from MISSIM to BUGASU junction @ MUBO area @ patrol contacted two enemy 677752 MUBO 3 inch @ one lat killed all informed
798	17 Bde	0940	1020		1122		3 DIV sitrep to 0800K/23. Mission area @ fighting patrols moving to HOTE OHIBE track @ one north along HOTE MISSIM track @ HQ B pl. and 5 sec moved NHMLING to Mission @ 16 pl 24 bn arrived Bubany @ new patrol Bobdubi reports Kunda W. clear of enemy 1940K/22 @ further report states no enemy in New Bobdubi village and no mil seen in coconut plantation Bobdubi village
799	17 Bde	1040	1050		0143		continue patrolling east end 77 Salamaua 1 in @ result of an attack 23 MAT required urgently @ ack
800				17 Bde	1055	0269	ack 0143
801				see copy 17 Bde	1050	087	PATROLLING @ recent patrol reports in some cases have not been satisfactory

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
801 (cont)							<p> information gained has not been sufficient to plan future ops. ComDS in issuing orders to patrol comd must be definite in issuing of orders and allotment of definite tasks. what is required at the moment is information in relation to enemy strengths - locations and routes used with view to sending fighting patrols & setting of ambushes. in general to harass enemy at every available opportunity. it MUST be impressed on all ranks that valuable information is carried in pockets of enemy. identification tabs are necessary to establish whether new units are being moved to this area. ack. all informed. </p>
802				17Bde	1145	1270	<p> PATROL No 11 returned A.M. 23 MAY. NAISMITH moved with patrol to KITCHEN CK area. BOOBY TRAP AMBUSH was set on track in area of 3552 where tent had been located by patrol No 30. patrol withdrew to listen. early A.M. 23 MAY TWO traps were heard explode. later remainder of traps exploded followed by wild rifle fire shots. recon patrol will move to area and observe results. </p>
803				17Bde	1210	1271	<p> siting to 1200K/23. patrol number 17 strength 3 O.R.'s 2 native guides moves out 1600K/23 near NASSAU BAY area. expected return P.M. 27 MAY. patrol number 18 strength 3 O.R.'s moves 1600K/23 near </p>

Reg No	Unit	In TOC	TOR	Unit	Out TOC	Orig No	Text of Message
803 cont.							DUALI area @ expected return P.M. 25 MAY @ O.P. reports next OBSERVATION HILL of MUBO LOCALITY 1/25000 R93503 0930K/23 @ 1010K/23 1/1 plane approached from NE circled area returning to NE. 1050K/23 3 planes flew north along coast @ 1105K/23 further 3 planes flying north along coast @ report air strike A.M. 23 MAY being fwd separate signal.
804				17Bde	1325	1270	ref signal 1270 @ ambush set in area ref 335B
805				17Bde	1400	088	ref our 072 13 MAY @ your signal 020 originated 1700 K/13 acked our 072 and approved plan @ copy 072 will be fwd AM 24 MAY.
806				17Bde	1504	1273	Sabaha OP reports 1500K/23 vessel seen in northern waters Dum Gulf @ bearing from OP 40 degrees magnetic @ vessel moving westerly direction @ too distant to state type @ sign
807				LIBA	1530	75	ack to 87
808				Foxl AREA	1712	1274	password to 1800K/24 is GLIBLY
809				17Bde	1820	1275	ref to 1800K/23 @ patrol number 15 returned 1545K/23 @ moved to left flank PIMPLE heard sound voices chopping NMS @ patrol number 14 returned 1530K/23 @ moved along in flank of flank B bay to ref Mubo locality 1/25000 3945 @ no mist seen or heard @ patrol number 14 strength 3 made out 1830K/23 near WOODY ISLAND @ expected return

Leg No	Unit	In TOC	TOR	Unit	Out TOC	Orig No	Text of Message
720	LIBA	0905	1000			W49	retrace @ rice patrols left RIKO 1750 K/23 3 to NASSAU BAY plus 2 guides 3 to DUALI rationed for 5 and 3 days respectively
721	BUSA	0845	1000				berthed op instr 108 destroyed by fire
722				17 bde	1140	1089	AIR STRIKE @ ref air photo 58/P @ INT (c) active patrolling over past weeks has revealed infm enemy mot KITCHEN CK STONYCK areas (c) ambush post ref P15W3 (c) weapon pits mot area @ P18W5 (c) camouflaged hut weapon pits area P25W4 (c) HQ tent pangars air raid tunnels area ref PHOW2 (c) enemy use tracks to PIMPLE area extensively AM late PM (c) assembly areas P63Y8 P64XI track with sig wire runs NORTH along EAST bank BITOI R from area ref P63Y8 (c) REQUEST air strike for AM 26 MAY following areas (c) STRAFFING BOMBING areas P15W3 mft P15W3 (c) P18W5 mft P18W5 (c) P25W4 mft P25W4 (c) HQ area PHOW2 mft PHOW2 (c) ASSEMBLY AREAS P63Y8 mft P63Y8 (c) P64XI mft P64XI (c) FIGHTING PATROL will RV SW slopes of OBSERVATION HILL vicinity BUIAPAL CK move into areas on completion strike STRIKE (c) OWN Hqs SOUTH bombline P10X6 P55Z0 P80X0 mft P10X6 P55Z0 P80X0 (c) distance nearest target area bombline approx 300 yds (c) distance bombline patrol RV approx 300 yds.
723				17 bde	1225	1280	strip to 1200 K/24 @ OP reports own grenade explosions heard OBSERVATION HILL 0830K/24 0925K/24 @ smoke observed ambush area ref photo 383/M series SCU 1106 K/24 mot saw garden SCI07 1115 K/24 @ up plane flew along coast south to north

Reg No	Unit	In TCO	Out TCO	Unit	Orig No	Text of Message
810				17 lde	1840 1276	PM 25 MAY @ OP reports 3 planes seen from waist in garden of SALAMAVA moved on track 808800 @ normal fire strong ch observed 1840K/23 @ vessel sighted 1500K/23 @ vessel last observed approx 1545K/23 still moving west @ mist prevented further observation @ of NAISMITH BT observation still @ 5 BT set area text ref 3352 25 set on track same area 10 set track zone ref 318516
811	D2/6	1740	1850			setup @ situ.
812				17 lde	comms	packet containing copy 072, patrol reports 11, 14, 15, inst in patrolling 087
813	17 lde	2045	2130		0147	as 2/3 indep coy last present NOT harassing JAP L of C request harassing div strikes as follows @ bomb and strike KOMIATUM and tracks south of junction BUIGAP BITOI R @ strike BUIGAP CK area at ref map MUBO locality 3062 enemy ambush post 3561 enemy dump 3868 storage huts 3671 possible enemy camp @ Date and time as decided by you @ Please advise
814				SAFSPGP	0633 I277	CAT 70 S
815				17 lde	0715 I278	setup to 0700K/24 @ patrol number 20 moves out 0930K/24 piece PIMPLE area returning PM 24 MAY @ patrol number 21 moves out 0930K/24 returning AM 25 May @ piece tracks north PIMPLE @ OP reports planes heard east 0110K/24
816				5 AF	0803 I279	CAT 60 S
817				22 SQN RAAF MORESBY	0808 088	units appreciation and thanks for your gift

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
723							115 K/24 returning north to south 1130 K/24 circled NASSAU BAY LABABIA ISLAND 1140 K/24 flew along course of BITOI to GUADAGASAL then returned by same route NASSAU BAY area.
724				FOX I AREA	1315	I281	pass word to 1800 K/25 - WOODHAM I
725				5AFSPC	1315	I282	CAT 30 F
726				7384	1552	I282	type 97 enemy plane straffed GUADAGASAL area 1515 K/24 fire appeared to be directed at old posn ANGAU and det AASC no damage or casualties
727	17bde	1500	1530			O153	request for air strike coordinates with grid Mps (1) ref air photo 58P (2) targets (3) ambush posn P15 W 3 rpt P15 W 3 (4) weapon pits where mud reported P18 W 5 rpt P18 W 5 (5) campfd but weapon pits area P25 W 4 rpt P25 W 4 (6) H.Q. tent pongers air pad tunnels P40 W 2 rpt P40 W 2 (7) assembly areas and tracks P63 Y 8 rpt P63 Y 8 and P64 X 1 rpt P64 X 1 (8) int (9) extensive enemy use of tracks to PIMPLE early AM late PM (10) sig wire runs NORTH along EAST bank BITOI from area P63 Y 8 (11) bomblines (12) P10 X 6 P55 Z 0 P80 Z 0 rpt P10 X 6 P55 Z 0 P80 Z 0 (13) distance bomblines to nearest target approx 300 yds (14) down Mps (15) fighting patrol will RV on SW slopes OBSERVATION Hill vicinity BUAPAL CK meet into areas on completion strike (16) distance patrol RV to bomblines 300 yds (17) bomblines cuts SOUTH tip WOODY ISLAND (18) request strike AM 26 MAY
728				17bde	1630	I283	report AIR STRIKE 23 MAY as observed LABABIA OP (1) a/c approached from SE dropped

Reg No	Unit	In TCO	TOR	Unit	Out TCO	Orig No	Text of Message
728 (cont)							bombs NASSAU BAY area continuing north free top level DUALI SALUS strafing 0725K/23 (1) return went to SOUTH planes strafed LABABIA ISLAND DUALI continuing to NASSAU BAY (1) further bombing heard NASSAU BAY area after which two planes strafed LABABIA ISLAND DUALI SALUS (1) further strafing heard NASSAU BAY area (1) planes then regrouped flew to SE 0815K/23 (1) patrols 17 18 moving NASSAU BAY DUALI area (1) reports of effectiveness of strike on return
729				176de	1755	I284	return to 1800 K/24 (1) patrol number 16 (1) fighting patrol strength 8 OR (1) moved out 1530 K/23 returned 1530K/24 (1) route out (1) from B bay along TICKERS track to junc LAWS track (1) 30 yds along LAWS track then along new track (1) route in (1) along same tracks (1) narrative (1) patrol set ambush 150 yds along new track 1630 K/23 remained in posn till 1330 K/24 (1) no movt seen or heard (1) moved along track 500 yds discovered joined jap track south A coy old posn ref MUBO LOCALITY 1/25000 375H25 (1) patrol number 20 (1) recce patrol strength 10 ffw 15 OR (1) moved out 0930 K/24 returned 1330 K/24 (1) route out (1) along jap track from B bay to PIMPLE returning same route (1) narrative (1) patrol moved along jap track covering both flanks to track junc ref 375H40 (1) loud voice heard as if in command also caught (1) remained in area heavy rain made observation listening difficult (1) OP reports nil visibility

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730	17 Bde	1830	1930			0156	warning order @ 2/7 Bn will be relieved in the MUBO area by 2/6 Bn @ No movt of 2/7 Bn before 0600 K/26 @ 2/7 Bn moving to WAU BULOLO area as follows @ two coys south WAU airfield two coys BULOLO @ 2/7 Bn rece party consisting NOT more 6 all ranks will depart for WAU AM 25 may @ rece parties 2/6 Bn departing WAU 25 may @ 2/7 Bn will come under op comd 3 Aust div on arrival BALLAMS but will continue under adm comd 17 Bde ack
731	17 Bde	1735	1940			L427	detailed location statement as at 2359 Bn MAY will be forwarded to reach this HQ by 1200 hrs 28 MAY.
732	17 Bde	1855	1955			0158	Warning order @ Coy 2/5 Bn at SUMMIT is placed on 6 hrs notice to move to GUADAGASAU area as from 0600 hrs 26 may @ sufficient files to be left at SUMMIT to maintain transit camp and comm of coy moves.
733	17 Bde	1840	2040			0160	Ref our 0156 @ equivalent of one coy 2/7 Bn will move from MUBO area AM 26 may lunch HOUSE BANANA stage night 26/27 may SKINDEWAI lunch 27 May SUMMIT stage night 27/28 may BALLAMS @ details of further movt later
734	17 Bde	1930	2030			0137	Ref our 0156 @ following stores and eqptment will be handed over to 2/6 Bn on subunit lots @ cooking gear axes picks shovels A/TK rifles mortars 3 in 2 in four MMGS and associated stores wft sets phones all types batteries switch boards cable and all other sig eqpt @ QM stores at SKINDEWAI will also be taken over as well as transit camps incl stores & eqpt at present manned by 2/7 Bn

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
							which are MACDUFFS SKINDEWAI HOUSE BANANA @ following moved out on man 10 rinds 303 per rifle 20 rinds per TSMG mosquito nets blankets @ one MMG MMG & associated stores will be taken with bn to WAU @ all belt MMG amm will be handed over to 2/6 bn @ above stores and eqpt for 2/7 bn are being provided under div arrangements on arrival WAU @ Billeting is also being arranged by 3 Aust Div @ Feeding & billeting at all staging camps excpt BALLIAMS will be arranged by 17 Aust inf bde for 2/6 2/7 bns @ Pres pl 2/7 bn will remain SKINDEWAI until further notice
735	2035	2200				D159	ref our 0156 @ to facilitate hand over suggest 2/6 bn should move to MUBO area in gps with pls as follows @ gp 1 @ TK A pl det sig pl @ area with D coy BASE CAMP PIMPLE area @ with sec LABABIA OP sec JUNE BUYAWIM BITOI @ gp 2 @ one coy det mortars sec MMG det sig pl @ area SADDLE @ gp 3 one coy det mortars det sig pl @ area MAT MAT with one sec VICKERS RIDGE @ gp 4 @ one coy det mortars MMG pl less one sec det sig pl @ area coy HQ HOUSE KIAP one pl MMG pl less one sec HILL 7 one pl det mortars BUIBAINING one pl WAIPALI @ 5 @ bn HQ Coy pres pl adm pl @ gp 5 to move to suit requirement 2/6 bn @ suggest recce party should incl rep of pls @ one sgt per pl one offr per coy will remain in area until they give all known info of various areas to incoming coys @ also suggest 2/6 bn should bring full anti-malarial eqpt @ Please advise all informed

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736	17bde	2240	2300			0161	request patrol DUALI NASSAU BAY area question natives re P38 which crashed NASSAU BAY SACHEN BAY area 22 May
737				5AFGP	0633	I285	CAT 60 L
738				17bde	DRLS	I286	patrol reports
739				17bde	0725	I287	subrep to 0700K/25 @ patrol number 22 strength 3 ORs moved out 0600 K/25 recc LAWS track to PIMPLE area @ expected return AM 27 MAY @ patrol number 23 strength 10 off 15 DR's moved out 1100 K/25 recc and observe in PIMPLE area @ expected return AM 25 MAY @ patrol number 19 WOODY ISLAND not yet returned.
740				5AFGP	0820	I288	CAT 80 S
741	LIBA	0847	0900			W54	litnoy
742	17Bde	0825	0855			0162	ref out 0156 @ BULOLO should read KULOLO
743				17Bde	0925	091	ack to 0156
744				17Bde	0920	090	dispositions as your 0159 is a solution for ONE Bn strength @ difficulties will arise when cond 2/6 Bn effects reliefs & detachments plus being answer @ if enemy becomes aggressive LABABIA SADDLE will be his first objective @ provision has been made for firm FIRM defence these areas @ MATMAT held strongly a risk could be taken WAIPALI area
745				17Bde	0912	I289	patrol DUALI NASSAU BAY areas left PM 23 MAY @ patrols will contact

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745 cont							endeavour obtain info of location crashed plane
746	17bde	0940	1030	17bde		0163	Ref our 0159 rear party one off sqt per pl one off per coy will remain with 2/6bn as long as required by them @ 2/6bn will advise bde when this party no longer required and will then be moved under bde arrangements
747	17bde	0840	0950			0157	Air attacks 26 may less assembly areas on BITOI river approach @ bomb line P10x6 to P5520 and line BITOI R @ TOT to be advised @ weather report 0630 K/26 include height ceiling type of cloud and visibility over MvB @ strip @ refer our 0153
748				17bde	1030	I290	could TOT be advised prior to 2359 K/25 as fighting patrol to OBSERVATION HILL will move before FIRST LIGHT
749				LOFU	1010	092	SECRET @ ref our 091 @ MOVEMENT ORDER @ D by 26 may @ D move a.m. lunch BANANA stage SKINDEWAI @ D1 lunch SUMMIT stage BALLAMS @ details further move at BALLAMS @ 4B pl strength 1 off 30 OR's under comd HILL will come under your comd at 1200 hrs D at BANANA then move part your comd @ ack
750				4B pl with LABO		093	SECRET @ MOVEMENT ORDER @ 4B pl will move from LABO area to WAU area @ depart a.m. 26 MAY lunch BANANA @ you will come under comd CAPT TATTERSON 1200 hrs 26 MAY at BANANA @ adm @ marching order ie weapons plus E7 rifles one blanket mosquito nets will be carried @ Amv @ 10 pas SAA per man 20 rds TSMG @ ensure helmets steel carried @ any stores other than those mentioned held your pl to be left in area for hand over

Reg No	Unit	In TCO	TOR	Unit	Out TCO	Orig No	Text of Message
751				17bde	1215	I291	at future date record to be kept on 1033 for receipt incoming unit @ ask siref to 1200 K/25 @ OP reports 3 explosions heard NE direction 0900 K/25 @ the figure observed morning OBSERVATION HILL ref MUBO locality 1/25000 2950 1000 K/25 @ all areas sitew
752				SAFSPGP	1305	I292	CAT 30 J
753	17BdL	1410	1415			0167	six BOSTONS T.O.T 0900 K/26
754				ALL CYS R.A.P. FOXI SKINNY BARANA MADUFFS AASC	1430	094	SECRET @ WARNING ORDER @ FOXI will be relieved BOMO commencing next few days @ cond each area will be prepared to hand over to relieving ffs complete tactical plan etc @ adm for FOXI move @ marching order incl helmets shell sec weapons plus FY rifles one blanket mosquito nets will be carried @ amm 10 rds SAA per man 20 rds per TSMG @ adm for hand over @ cooking gear, tentage, blankets, excessive per man tools mortars 2" and 3" HMMG and associated stores all belts MMG & amm all signal equipment incl cable amm less movement scale rations will be listed on proforma AAF 1033 handed over and signed for each area @ amm rations MUST be stored to give adequate protection from weather @ areas to be clean @ certificate of cleanliness to be obtained before final hand over @ you will ensure that rations are used daily only in accordance usual scale and quantities handed over are an equitable proportion of remaining days rations held @ one MMG

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of message
							and associated stores will return with FOXI @ @ M stores SKINDEWAI will be handed over @ ack all informed
755				FOXIA AREA 1708	F294		password to 1800 K/26 @ ALTONA
756				17 bde	1905	I295	<p> sub up to 1800 K/25 @ patrol number 21 recon patrol strength 3 OR's @ time out 0815 K/24 returned 1000 K/25 @ route out along reentrant east 3 bay post @ route in by same reentrant @ narrative @ patrol moved along jap track to standing patrol ref MUBO LOCALITY 1/25000 38 W then east to reentrant ref 3941 @ followed reentrant to ref 4145 examining all off shoots @ listening post adopted no m/s seen or heard @ patrol number 18 recon patrol strength 3 OR @ since out 1800 K/23 returned 1530 K/25 @ route out parallel to BITOI OVERFLOW @ route in along track @ patrol moved out dusk avoid observation @ followed course of BITOI OVERFLOW avoiding track @ undergrowth ref photo 3 83/M SD5 SR series too dense penetrate @ moved on to track chopping heard smoke visible north side BITOI OVERFLOW @ moved back along track to native garden ref SET @ no evidence enemy occupation no fruit in garden @ suspected ambush ref SCU investigated @ no enemy in occupation @ no m/s or pots found but two circular areas thinned undergrowth @ results air strike 23 May could not be found area pecked @ observer MAT MAT report patrol number 19 returning vicinity junc. BUIAPAL BITOI RIVERS @ DP reports nil visibility </p>
757				17 bde		I297	despatch DRLS Patrol reports Booby Trapping OBS Hill.

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758	Rear	2010	2100			I289	to GUDE and DIXON from NELSON @ arrived WAU repeat WAU 1830 rpt 1830 hrs
759	LIBA	1803	1905			W56	Sitnov all areas
760	176de	1930	2000			I432	ref map SALAMAVA sensed one inch @ WELLS OP 697943 report 150 JAPS with packs and weapons proceeded SALAMAVA - KOMIATUM
761				5AFSPGP	0640	I296	CAT 300 unlimited
762				176de	0703	I298	relief to 0700 K/26 @ patrol number 24 strength 10 off 15 OR's moved out 0830 K/26 near PIMPLE area @ expected return PM 26 MAY @ patrol number 25 strength 3 OR's moved out 0815 K/26 near area north PIMPLE @ expected return AM 28 MAY @ patrol number 26 strength 10 off 16 OR's moved out 0900 K/26 fighting patrol KITCHEN CK after air strike @ expected return PM 26 MAY @ two fires observed STONY CK area at refs 3545 3546 MUBO LOCALITY 1/25000 @ OP reports explosion heard from northern direction 2000 K/25
763				NELSON	0735	I299	FROM GUINN @ fail to understand why you look so long.
764				176de	0745	I300	relief I298 @ fires at refs 3545 3546 should read 3545 3645
765				5AFSPGP	0805	I301	CAT 150 unlimited @ sky overcast nimbus clouds
766	LIBA	0900	0910			W58	sitnov all areas.
768				176de	1220	I302	relief to 1200 K/25 @ patrol number 23 strength 1 off 15 OR moved out 1330 K/25 returned 1500 K/25 @ narrative 2 patrol followed japs back to same ref MUBO locality 1/25000 375440 @ moved out to left flank PIMPLE @

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							adopted listening from heard chopping crying murmur of voices o no mut seen o OP reports air strike most accurate details separate signal later o 0815K/26 large with two sails containing 4 men appeared from north o landed Centre west coast Solabra Island 0850K/26 o 3 men but boat occupants disembarked whole party moved into hut area o second large from north on large sail containing 6/8 men land Solabra Island 0915K/26 o occupants moved quickly into cover as hostiles in area o 0947K/26 plane heard NW direction.
769				5AF	1310	303	bot 23 K
770	17Bde	1440	1500			0172	In reply to 0221 Pl 7 and MC/BW will remain in area until relief completed
771	17Bde	1445	1510			0170	can expedite relief without infringing para two of your A @ 607 o groups 2/4 Bn as set out out 0159 will have to arrive and depart BALLAMS as follows o groups one and two at BALLAMS for night 26/27 May o group one departs 0800K/28 group two 1300K/28 o group three arrive night 1/2 Jun depart 0800K/28 o groups four A and four B o on night 7/8 Jun o depart group four A 0800K/8 group four B 0900K/8 o group five on night 13/14 Jun depart 0800K/14 o only amendment to original groups is sig pl less dets is now group three instead of group five o march tables

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471 cont							are being forwarded by courier to 2/6 2/7 lns with copies to 3 Aust Div AM 27 MAY.
772				FOX AREA: 1620 I 304			forward for period 1800K/26 to 1800K/27 @ PELLET
773				17 Bde 1800 u 303			sitref to 1800K/26 @ patrol number 19 moved out 0300K/26 returned 1800K/26 @ strength 3 OR's @ route out from VICKERS across river then along bank to ref MUBO locality. 1/25000 333442 @ route in same manner @ narrative @ patrol moved from VICKERS to island ref 3143 then across river to ref 3143 @ sentry observed ref 326444 @ relieved by two men 1200K/25 @ patrol continued ref 333442 heard digging proceeding ref 330450 @ remained right next day slow but avoid observation by sentry @ patrol number 24 strength 1 off 15 OR's moved out 0930K/26 returned 1520K/26 @ route out along gap track returned same route @ narrative @ followed gap track to junc ref 375440 @ rubber sole footprints visible here to PIMPLE @ heard voice as if in command @ no enemy seen @ O.P. reports visibility poor @ shot heard OBSERVATION hill 1555K/26 @ usual fire observed 1600K/26 @ fighting, patrol OBSERVATION HILL not yet returned

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
786				17bde	1330	095	AIR STRIKE @ ref air photo 58/P @ INTELLIGENCE @ piece patrol report persistent and extensive activity in EARTHWORKS in area ref P53Y1 P55Y3 @ air photo reveal EARTHWORKS in area P57Y8 @ P57X1 @ CARRIER LINE arrived TERMINAL STORE HOUSE w/ P64V0 approx 0830 hrs 28 MAY @ REQUEST BOMBING STRAFFING AM 28 MAY in following areas BOMBING P53Y1 P55Y3 P57Y8 P57X1 P64V0 apt P53Y1 P55Y3 P57Y8 P57X1 P64V0 @ STRAFFING line WOODY ISLAND ref P58Z9 to P61X5 apt P58Z9 to P61X5 @ OWN TDS SOUTH bombline P40Z0 P60Z0 apt P40Z0 P60Z0
787				Joy Area	1530	L311	Masswood for period @ ALUMINIUM
788				17bde	1645	I312	Patrol No 26 @ ref map MUBO LOCALITY 1/25,000 @ cond LIEUT HERROD strength ONE offw 16 OR @ time out 0800 K/26 time in 1230 K/27 @ patrol moved to R.V. ref 2648 BUIAPAL CK @ moved KITCHEN CK skirting ambush forms @ area vicinity tent placed no enemy seen tent not occupied @ patrol moved to track in area ref 285484 @ moved along to ambush in area 282495 @ form had been vacated by enemy @ ample evidence of enemy casualties from aerial bombing @ bombs had fallen in areas of prepared MG form and weapon pits @ patrol attempted to force ambush form ref 2950 @ patrol fired on by three enemy @ ONE enemy killed @ patrol made several determined attempts to encircle and reach form @ owing to form being sited on narrow razor back, patrol unable to close

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
778 (cont)							all signal gear amm less movement scale rations will be listed on pro-forma AAF1033 handed over and signed for in each area @ amm rations must be stored to give adequate protection from weather @ areas to be clean @ certificate of cleanliness to be obtained before final hand over @ you will ensure that rations are used daily in accordance with scale and quantities handed over are an equitable proportion of remaining days unassumed portion @ ack @
779	LIBA	0853	0900			W62	subref @ subref
780				176de	1205	T309	subref to 1300K/27 @ OP reports bombing heard direction LAE 1050K/27 and SALAMADA 1120K/27 @ mist prevented observation @ 4/1 two engined plane flew high over area SW direction 1115K/27 @ returned flying NE 1100K/27 @ fighting patrol KITCHEN CK observed returning along BOYAPAL CK
781	WURO	1235					fire heard from A Coy old force
782	"	1240					ceased
783	"	1255					runner reported with news that 2ly patrol had contacted during ambush fire 4ly old force were under fire 2 wounded (own) Staff Bahr sent assistance for SP JAP TRICK to help out wounded @
784				50E of	1310	310	CAT. I.R.F.
785	DUBU	1420					patrol unable to assist wounded out Lt Mackie wounded Lt Peitz and 8ORW gone fwd to assist patrol.

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
786				17bde	1330	095	AIR STRIKE @ ref air photo 58/P @ INTELLIGENCE @ receive patrol report persistent and extensive activity in EARTHWORKS in area ref P53Y1 P55Y3 @ air photo reveal EARTHWORKS in area P57Y8 @ P57X1 @ CARRIER LINE @ WOODS TERMINAL STORE HOUSE ref P64V0 approx 0830 hrs 28 MAY @ REQUEST BOMBING STRAFFING AM 28 MAY in following areas BOMBING P53Y1 P55Y3 P57Y8 P57X1 P64V0 apt P53Y1 P55Y3 P57Y8 P57X1 P64V0 @ STRAFFING line WOODY ISLAND ref P58Z9 to P61X5 apt P58Z9 to P61X5 @ OWN TPS SOUTH bombline P40Z0 P60Z0 apt P40Z0 P60Z0
787				17bde	1530	L311	Masses for period @ ALUMINIUM
788				17bde	1645	L312	Patrol No 26 @ ref map MUBO LOCALITY 1/25,000 @ comd LIEUT HERROD strength ONE off 16 OR @ time out 0800 K/26 time in 1230 K/27 @ patrol moved to R.V. ref 2648 BUIAPAL CK @ moved KITCHEN CK skirting ambush posts @ area vicinity tent reced no enemy seen tent not occupied @ patrol moved to track in area ref 285484 @ moved along to ambush in area 282495 @ post had been vacated by enemy @ ample evidence of enemy casualties from aerial bombing @ bombs had fallen in areas of prepared MG post and weapon pits @ patrol attempted to force ambush post ref 2950 @ patrol fired on by the enemy @ ONE enemy killed @ patrol made several determined attempts to encircle and reach post @ owing to post being sited on narrow razor back, patrol unable to close

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
788 (cont)							with enemy @ patrol withdrew returning via BUIAPAL CK to pt area ref 2244 @ patrol comd assessed STRIKE by A/c as being accurate particularly bombing and strafing very effective.
789				17 Bde	1825	1313	<p>libel to 1800K/24 @ patrol number 25 strength 3 moved out at 0815K/26 returned 1600K/24 @ route out along re-entrant east B. by post returning same route @ narrative @ patrol contacted re-entrant running north at ref MUBO 1/25000 7008117 following it to ref 702859 @ a spur running west then followed to ref 699860 where unused pad found and voices heard @ fire night in area heard occasional coughs @ moved south 150 yds first light found old off ration tins also enemy propaganda pamphlet @ main track GREEN MILL not located @ patrol number 29 moved out at 0815K/27 returned 1615K/27 strength 3 OR's @ route out along LAWS track returning same route @ narrative @ patrol followed LAWS track to bomb craters ref 692855 @ moved north through undergrowth to ref 653897 then east to point where voices heard @ adopted listening post hearing ^{further} voices then L.M.G. fire to right @ patrol withdrew @ patrol number 27 moved out 1730K/26 returned 1600K/27 @ strength 3 O.R.'s @ route out near to but avoiding track @ returned same route @ patrol moved through undergrowth</p>

Msg No	Unit	In TOC	TOR	Unit	Out TOC	Orig No	Text of Message
489 cont							awaiting track till area ref photo 3 83M series SD5U8 @ ambush area SCU investigated also area SC207 observed without crossing OVERFLOW @ no evidence presence enemy discovered @ 70MM opened fire 1620K/27 firing 17 rds to 1800K/27 @ rounds fell N.W. slopes LABABIA RIDGE and BUYAWIM R. squares 6884 6883 6882 @ LABABIA OP reports launch moved NORTH from LABABIA ISLAND 1420K/27 one occupant @ PATROL 28 moved out 1200K/27 near PIMPLE area @ in area ref 695853 patrol contacted enemy ambush @ patrol still in contact with enemy 1800K/27 @ own casualties one thought killed one off one OR wounded @ complete details not yet available
490	3 div	2000	2130			0180	secret @ 2/7 BN on relief will occupy rest bn posn WAVU area as previously occupied prior to move fwd area @ that portion 2/5 BN now in WAVU area will move to an area beyond CRYSTAL CK but not further fwd than BALLAM'S
491	17 Bde	1700	1500			0178	request for bombing strafing air strike for 9.14 28 MAY not coordinated with ground ops @ bombing targets @ P5341 and P5343 when patrols report persistent and extensive enemy activity on earthworks @ P5748 and P5741 where without

Place
 Date

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791 cont.							revealed by photo interpretation @ P64V0 terminal store where carriers line believed due 0830 hrs 28 MAY @ strafing line WOODY ISLAND ref P5829 to P6145 @ own the south bombline P4020 P6020
792				51 Fd Coy	0630	I314	CAT HQ D.
793				17 Bde	0725	I315	Sitrep to 0700 K/27 @ patrol number 28 withdrew to B coy posn under cover darkness @ attempt made remove bodies both ORs @ both found dead @ own cas now one off wounded two ORs killed @ usual contact patrol number 30 moving fwd gap track
794				17 Bde	0905	I316	ref map MUBO LOCALITY 1/25000 @ locstat as at 2359K/27 @ Bn H.Q. 285155 @ A coy less 7 pl plus pl carrier grp in transit to WAV @ 7 pl HQ plus sec 120120 sec plus det mtrs 187165 one sec 057015 @ B Coy HQ plus det mtrs 391394 10 pl 389396 11 pl 385391 12 pl less one sec 392394 sec 12 pl less standing patrol 385437 @ C Coy HQ plus det mtrs 305392 13 pl 224440 14 pl 310386 15 pl less sec 295390 one sec 15 pl 344410 @ D Coy HQ 290187 composite D Coy pl plus det mtrs 284197 pl carrier grp less sec plus det mtrs 324230 @ A/A pl less sec 262260 one sec A/A pl 235205 @ D Coy HQ 2/6 Bn 385373 16 pl 390381 17 pl 383571 18 pl less sec 650438 sec 18 pl 457411 @ sec mtr bty 312217 @ 1 pl B Coy 7 MAC bn @ pl HQ plus sec guns 262260 @ one gun 295223 one gun 330239 one gun 2/7 bn 293390 @ det 2 Coy AASC 275170 @ det 2/2 fd amb 260115

Reg No	Unit	In TOO	Out TOO	OR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
795	LIBA	1755	1800K/27				N65	Sitrep @ recee patrol along BITOI OVERFLOW returned RIKO 1345 hrs @ NASSAU BAY recee patrol returned RIKO 1630 hrs.
796				SAFSDGP		0805	I317	CAT 50E
797	LIBA	0901	0905				N66	Sitrep @ recee patrol BITOI RIVER left RIKO 0900 hrs
798				ALL Corp SKINDY		0930	096	ref mtr 094 25/K @ adm for Foxi move @ arrangements may be made to hand over all except two mags per LMG @ advise RQMS excess quantities at once @ one MMG and associated stores may not now be taken @ further details later
799	17610	1125	1215				0184	3 div advise air strike for AM 28 MAY NOT approved
800				17610		1235	I318	sitrep to 1200K/78 @ OP reports heavy rain nil visibility @ normal patrolling proceeding
801				SAFSDGP		1303	I319	CAT 40 H
802				Foxi AREA		1530	T320	password @ SALT.
803				17Bde		1800	I321	sitrep to 1800K/28 @ patrol number 17 moved out 1715K/23 returned 1630K/27 @ strength 3 ORs @ route out along BITOI OVERFLOW across SE slope MT STUART to feature opposite across TABALI RIVER @ return same route @ patrol moved along BITOI OVERFLOW ^{to re-entrant} which faint track was followed in S.E. direction @ track followed over left spur of re-entrant to area of BADEN BAY WEST 7981 where enemy sig form found @

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803 cont.							continued along track till river called by native guides TABALI was reached ◊ crossed river moved through bush SE direction eventually locating track again ◊ footprints found on track also evidence previous use ◊ moved to high ground to south finally locating reaching spot when LABABIA ISLAND visible ◊ location then 808784 ◊ 0835 K/26 canoe landed on coast of ISLAND ◊ second canoe 0910 K/26 ◊ guide stated canoes brought food from SALAMAUA ◊ contacted high up feature to ref 812773 where village at north TABALI river visible ◊ guide called village BASSIS ◊ 14 huts counted no signs mot or smoke but chopping heard ◊ moved back 10 minutes when piece paper with with enemy charisteres found ◊ no further evidence enemy activity, nor could results air strike 23 MAY be observed ◊ patrol number 30 strength 7 OR moved out 0845 K/28 returned 1630 K/28 ◊ moved 150 yds fwd Bay standing patrol to left of track ◊ no mot seen or heard

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803							LABABIA OP reports fire observed BITOI OVERFLOW area bearing 93 degrees mag.
cont							
804				5A75263	0640	I 324	CAT 70 S
805				17bde		I 322	OP Instr No 8 (safe hand)
806				17bde		I 323	Patrol Reports (DRHS)
807				17bde	0715	I 325	subep to 0700 K/29 @ patrol number 31 strength 7 ORs move out 0800 K/28 recc along jap tracks to enemy @ OP reports up plane heard out to sea 0645 K/29
808	LIBA	1755K/29	1500			W 68	subep @ recc patrol along BITOI RIVER returned RIKO reports unable locate track NORTH side river @ left RIKO 1300 hrs to attempt move SOUTH side of river patrol still out
809	4th Recon	1615	1900			L 98	parties capt Tattersall and Hill arrived this area 28/5
810				5A75263	0803	I 326	CAT 150 unlimited
810	LIBA	0800	0900			W 70	Subner
811	17bde	1210	1245			O 185	Send recc patrol to obtain info of possibilities of route for movement of troops from junction of BITOI BUYAWIM rivers along valley of BITOI towards BUIGAP bk junction area @ also to investigate possibility mt on to BITOI ridge @ report to reach this HQ by 2 June a/c
812				17bde	1210	I 327	subep to 1200 K/27 @ patrol 32 strength 3 OR moves out 1730 K/29 near KITCHEN CK area @ expected return AM 31 MAY @ patrol number 33 moves out 1730 K/29 recc GARRISON HILL

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812							area @ strength 3OR @ expected/return AM 31 MAY 1130 K/29 @ U/I planes flew over area to south @ not visible through low clouds
813				17bde	1300	T 328	ack message 0185
814				5AFSPGP	1302	I 329	CAT 15 D
815				Foyi AREA	1500	I 330	Parasused @ GALLERY
816				DUBU LIBA	1430	D 97	SECRET @ ref our D 94 @ DUBU with det under comd will move at 0800 hrs 30 MAY @ Comd LIBA will take over area as previously detailed @ arrive BAKANA 1700 hrs lunch depart 1300 hrs arrive SKINDI WAI 1615 hrs stage @ 31 MAY depart SKINDEWAI 0800 hrs arrive Mc DUFF 0930 hrs depart 0945 hrs arrive SUMMIT 1245 hrs depart 1345 hrs arrive BALLAMS 1630 hrs stage @ amend adm @ 24 BREN mags will be handed over LIBA balance less two for LMG will be left HOUSE MANGO @ det stretcher bearers will report RAP @ ack all informed
817	LIBA	1516		LIBA		W 73	ack 097
818				DUBU LIBA	1450	O 98	ref 097 29/K @ det MORTAR under your comd will repeat will remain until relieved @ ack
819				17bde	1640	O 99	patrols as requested your 0185 will depart LABABIA FIRST LIGHT 30 MAY @ est time return PM 2 JUNE
820				17bde	1800	I 331	reprep to 1800 K/27 @ patrol number 31 strength 7 OR's moved out 0930 K/29 returning 1530 K/29 @ route out along gap track returned same route @ the patrol moved

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820 (cont)							pat track find standing patrol to ref MUBO locality 1/25000 3942 @ look down where A long old forms could be observed @ enemy voices heard no mt seen @ patrol number 34 moved out 0830 K/28 returned 1230 K/29 strength 80R's @ route out along VICKERS track then new track from ref 3739 @ returned same route @ patrol set ambush ref 3840 from 0920 K/28 to 1100 K/29 @ patrol investigated tracks 400 yds @ no mt seen or heard @ OP reports mt availability @ NUMBER ONE GROUP 2/6 hr arrived LABABIA BASE CAMP 1800 K/29
821	LIBA	1700	1735			W75	Act message 098
822	176bc	1755	1820			O186	act your op mshw 8
823	LIBA	1806	1815			W74	Subep @ patrol along BITOI R still out @ TKA pers commenced arrive LIBA 1805 hrs
824				LABO DIBU 4 hrs		O100	SECRET @ ref our 094 @ LABO with det's under comd less 1 sec MMG and det whos MCKENZIE KNOLL will move 1300 hrs 30 MAY @ Comd LIBA will take over area at 1000 hrs 30 MAY @ if required LABO will leave sufficient pers to complete take over @ METHOD stage BANANA ETA 1600 hrs @ 31 MAY depart BANANA 0800 hrs arrive SKINDEWAI 0230 hrs arrive @ 1 Jun depart SKINDEWAI 0800 hrs arrive MCDUFF 0930 depart 0945 arrive SUMMIT 1245 hrs lunch depart 1345 hrs arrive BALLEAMS 1630 hrs stage @ amend adm @ all BREN mags less two per LMG will be handed over @ act all informed

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Reg No	Unit	In TOO	TOR	Unit	Out TOO	Orig No	Text of Message
825				2/6 Bw	1943	5	two dets mortars to move with A Coy instead of one @ ack.
826	47 bde	2125	2200			1442	3 div subep 74 to 2000 K/29 @ TKA PL 2/6 bn arrived base camp 3837 hrs locally C Coy 2/6 bn arrived HOUSE BANANA HQ 15 bde opened 262972 BUKORO one inch all informed
827	17 bde	2210	2350			0186	ref our G 5/16 @ following amendments march tables necessary to expedite relief @ march table 2/6 Bw @ gp 3 @ dep BALLAMS 0800 K/31 NOT 0800 K/2 dep SUMMIT 1100 hrs NOT 1145 hrs arrive McDUFFS 1400 hrs NOT 1445 hrs lunch McDUFF @ dep SKINDY 0800 K/1 remainder gp unchanged @ gp 4A @ dep BALLAMS 0800 K/2 NOT 0800 K/8 dep SKINDY 0800 K/3 NOT 0800 K/9 remainder gp unchanged @ gp 4B @ dep BALLAMS 0900 K/2 NOT 0900 K/9 dep SUMMIT 0800 K/3 NOT 0800 K/9 dep BANANA 0800 K/4 NOT 0800 K/10 remainder gp unchanged @ gp 5 @ dep BALLAMS 0800 K/4 NOT 0800 K/14 dep SKINDY 1000 K/5 NOT 0800 K/15 arrive BANANA 1200 hrs NOT 1100 hrs dep BANANA 1400 hrs NOT 1200 hrs arrive GUADAGASAL 1615 NOT 1415 hrs @ pers will take over staging camps 2 JUN not 14 JUN march tables 2/7 Bw @ gp 3 @ dep SKINDY 1400 K/31 NOT 0800 K/1 0800 K/1 lunch SKINDY arrive McDUFF 1600 hrs NOT 0930 hrs dep McDUFF 0800 K/1 NOT 0945 hrs stages night 31/1 McDUFF arrive SUMMIT 1700 hrs NOT 1745 hrs dep SUMMIT 1900 hrs NOT 1845 hrs arrive BALLAMS 1530 hrs NOT 1630 hrs @ gp 3 will not stage BALLAMS 1/2 Jan @ 3 and div are arranging transport to meet gp 3 1530 K/1 and move gp to camp selected by 3 and div @ gp 4 @ dep MAT MAT 1200 K/2 NOT 1200 K/11 dep BANANA 0800 K/3 NOT 0800 K/5

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							dep SUMMIT 0500 K/4 NOT 0800 K/6 @ g/n 5 @ dep BUIBAINING JUNG W AIPALI 0800 K/5 NOT 0800 K/11 dep SKINDY 0800 K/6 NOT 0800 K/12 @ g/n 6 @ dep GUADAGASAL 0900 K/6 NOT 0900 K/16 dep SKINDY 0800 K/7 NOT 0800 K/17 @ meals and staging under arrangement 17 and ent hse @ essential for success of relief that all timings be adhered to as closely as possible @ ack
828				17 hse	2355	I333	ack 0186
829				17 hse	0635	I334	CAT 50 F
830				17 hse	0700	I335	strep to 0700 K/30 @ patrols numbers 35 36 37 strength each two men moved out 0600 K/30 piece BITOI river from RIVER JUNG to BUIGAP JUNG also BITOI RIDGE @ OP reports planes heard to sea 0040 K/30
831				LABO	0800	0101	SECRET @ ref out 0100 K/29 @ amend METHDD to read @ 31 MAY depart BARANA arrive SKINDEWAI lunch depart 1400 arrive McDUFF 1600 hrs stage Jun 1 depart McDUFF 0800 hrs arrive SUMMIT 1200 hrs lunch depart 1245 hrs arrive BALLAMS 1530 hrs @ ppt will be arranged by 3 Aust div to convey to camp site @ essential these times be strictly adhered to as relief speeded up @ handing over certificates and receipts there HQ when leaving @ ack.
832	LIBA			SAF	0815	I337	CAT 70 S
833	LIBA	0848	0900			W76	strep @ change over according to plan. patrols as ordered left LIBA 0700 hrs @ patrol along BITOI R to coast still out @ otherwise, subna

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844	LIBA	1800	1807			W78	retrep @ listening patrol down JAP tracks still NO enemy sighted heard coughing noticed 2 new graves @ all patrols as per retrep this AM still out @ otherwise sitnow
845	17bde	1915	1930			0187	to Garrison from ESKELL @ bde comm returning this HQ 1300 hrs approx K/31 MAY @ No handover till bde comm returns
846				17bde	2015	I344	ack 0187
847				5AFSPG	0630	I345	CAT 100 unlimited
848				17bde	0715	I346	retrep to 0700 K/31 @ patrol number 39 strength 3 moved out 0615 K/31 @ observe jap track to enemy
849	DIBU	0901	0930			W3889	retrep to 0800/31 @ sitnow
850				5AFSPG		I347	CAT 70 unlimited
851				17bde	1225	I348	retrep to 1200 K/31 @ patrol number 32 strength 30 R's moved out 1330 K/29 returned 1130 K/31 @ route out from BUIAPAL CK at N of 2549 to south enemy ambush at 2850 then track KITCHEN CK @ narrative @ patrol moved REEVES OP to N of 2549 then attempted to move through bush to cut tracks running from enemy ambush 2950 to GARRISON Hill @ unable make progress returned to 2549 @ moved up feature to enemy ambush then started to east hearing much noise and mut indicating number of enemy @ contacted faint tracks running KITCHEN CK @ followed this to upper part KITCHEN CK @ two enemy then observed moving behind patrol examining tracks @ patrol returned starting enemy and ambush @ OP reports poor visibility

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852				5 AFSPGP	1300	I349	CAT 20 J
853	17 bde	1055	1200			I451	3 div return to 2000 K/30 @ MARKHAM area @ 7 pl 24 bn moved to SUNSHINE 1830 K/30 @ 25 JAPS moved south towards MUBO 1530 K/30 70 JAPS crossed FRANCISCO R to 1STHMUS @ 30 may following units arrived from MORESBY port on 58/59 bn 1 rec 15 1st Amb 231 LAD
854	17 bde	1045	1230			Q60	MOST SECRET @ additional dropping ground GUADAGASAL area required to drop reserve @ Please arrange immediate recce @ 3 div suggest WAIPALI area @ be prepared to indicate for air recce as soon as possible @ advice
855				17 bde	1425	O105	MOST SECRET @ WAIPALI feasible @ difficulty carrying of supplies to GUADAGASAL @ recce party moves AM 1 JUN @ full report courier 2 JUN
856				BUSA with BANANA SKINDEY	1420	O106	SECRET @ ref a/c W 094 K/25 096 K/28 @ BUSA with det's under comd less pers MMG pl and those required for final hand over will move 1200 hrs 2 JUN for WAN area @ MMG pers will move to HILL 7 same time @ FOXI pers stage BANANA ETA 1600 hrs 2 JUN @ depart BANANA 0800 hrs 3 JUN arrive SKINDEWAI 1100 hrs lunch depart 1200 arrive M'DUFF 1330 hrs depart 1345 hrs arrive Summit 1645 hrs stage @ depart Summit 0900 4 JUN arrive BALLAMS 1100 hrs @ adm @ amend stores handed over to include one MMG and associated stores BREN mags less two per LMG @ times as laid down to be adhered to @ BUSA will hand over to KALO by 1100 hrs 2 JUN @ pers party to be returned to FOXI when completed @ ack @
857				FOXI SKINDEY	1430	O107	SECRET @ ref a/c W 094 K/25 @ hand over staging camps now altered take effect JUN 2 @ you will be responsible BANANA SKINDEWAI M'DUFF @ ack

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834	17bde	1000	1020			L444	3 Div Strip to 0800K/30 @ Wau Bulolo area @ 1500K/29 A coy 28/59 by state 260971 Buldo one inch
835				17bde	1300	I 338	strip to 1700K/30 @ OP reports four vj planes flying NE 0900K/30 @ must observed in native garden ref photo no 3 83/M series SET
836				5AFSP6D	1325	I 339	CAT 50 S
837				LIEUT BULL Add DIBU	1525	D102	ref our 094 K/25 0100K/29 @ move all pers manning MMG less those required by DIBU to Hill 7 at 0900 hrs 31 MAY @ adm as per instructions @ ack
838				17bde	1540	I 340	Ref your G 13/23 @ prepared to take over comd
839				2/8 24 bty	1545	T 341	THANKS @ will advise day and time later
840				17bde	1555	O103	Comd 2/6 and inf bn now in picture ref your G 13/23 is prepared to take over Comd @ following procedure was adopted @ AM 29 MAY orientation from DROPPING GROUND ref 2816 MUBO LOCALITY 1/25,000 @ inspection SADDLE defensive posn @ PM LAZABIA @ AM 30 MAY MAT MAT @ PM study this units OP INSTN number 8 and APPX @ procedure for air strike requirements documents etc @ relative strengths fwd areas @ 2/6 and inf bn 16 offrs 227 OR's @ 2/7 and inf bn 12 offrs 173 OR @ suggest hand over 0600 hrs 31 MAY
841				17bde	1555	D104	ref Fox 1 move group II @ impossible owing physical condition more than 10 offrs 30 OR's reach SKINDEWAI as ordered @ this fact supported by CAPT REID 2/28d amb who encountered Hqs between GUADAGASAL - BANANA at 1430 hrs @ approx 20 offrs 60 OR's gr II will stage

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841 (cont)							BANANA night 30-31 MAY @ they will move on 31 MAY with group III
842				FOX AREA	1712	I342	pass word @ TRUTHFULLY.
843				17 lds	1830	1343	<p>retief to 1800K/30. Patrol number 33 strength 3 ORs moved out 1300K/29 returned 1230K/30. route out across BUIAPA CK to Gamson Hill then along track to ambush point @ route in from ambush point down pass track to Buiapal then by Buiapal @ mountain @ patrol moved from Coy to Gamson Hill then along track towards ambush point Mt. Mulo locality 9/2500 3145. Patrol reached log across track located by patrol 4 @ not by left flank made towards ambush @ voices heard also chopping and falling of tree @ patrol withdrew bivouaced for night @ moved fwd by left flank @ 0600 K/30 @ voices rattling tin heard est 20 yds in area @ patrol contacted pass track found by patrol 4 returning by it to BUIAPAL @ it is apparent from report that enemy are strengthening certain areas OBSERVATION HILL @ enemy 70mm gun fired 6 rds from 1545 K/30 to 1630 K/30 @ area shelled west slopes LABABIA RIDGE vicinity VICKERS fire point not possible owing to lack observation bursts @ MTN BTY fired three rds @ one rd KITCHEN CK area suspected gun fire @ jap gun did not fire after this @ towards vicinity ARCHWAY 1803 K/30 @ patrol 38 not previously reported @ listening patrol moved down JAP track @ no enemy seen coughing heard @ two new graves observed @ these may be own cas 27 MAY @ DP reports in vicinity @ fires reported KITCHEN CK area 1610K/30</p>

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85.8				FOR AREA	1530	I 349	password @ CELLAR
859	17bde	1540	1700			I 452	Terms BITOI river and OVERFLOW will be discontinued @ refer to either NORTH ARM SOUTH ARM BITOI RIVER
860	17bde	1545	1730			O 159	C O 2/6 and inf bn will take comd all Aps GUADAGASAL WAIPALI area as from 1200 hrs 2 jun '43 @ lde comd arrives GUADAGASAL that time and date @ act's all informed
861				17bde	1645	I 350	ack O 159
862				17bde	1803	I 351	ref to 1800 K/31 @ patrol number 40 not previously reported @ moved out 0930 K/38 returned 1550 K/31 strength 3 OR's @ route out south of BITOI RIVER to coast then along coast across river mouth returning north BITOI RIVER @ narrative @ patrol moved from river junction ref SALIMAUFA one inch 746835 contacted faint track south bank BITOI RIVER @ track ran out patrol broke bush arriving beach 833855 @ three sets boot marks on beach to DUANI @ LABABIA ISLAND observed through mist NMS @ attempted move through bush to DUANI but unsuccessful due to swamp and undergrowth @ broke bush to BITOI mouth crossed river @ faint track north followed but ran out attempted break bush to SALUS but again unsuccessful @ only means progress by beach @ patrol broke bush west one day crossing BITOI half hour from river junction @ patrol number 39 moved out 0615 K/31 returned 1600 K/31 strength 3 OR's @ route out along gap tracks returning same route @ narrative @ patrol moved fwd to point occupied 30 MAY continued

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863				BUSA	1801	0109	Foxi pers attached MMG your area will move with you @ 2 pl will come under your comd annual BANANA 2 Jun @ ack
864				LOFU	1815	0110	SECRET @ ref our 091 K/24 096 K/28 LOFU with del under comd less pers required find land over will move 0800 hrs 5 JUN @ METHOD @ arrive BANANA 1130 hrs lunch depart 1230 hrs arrive SKINDEWAI 1615 hrs stage @ depart 0800 hrs 6 JUN arrive McDUFF 0920 hrs depart 0945 hrs arrive SUMMIT 1245 hrs lunch depart 1345 hrs arrive BALLAMS 1630 hrs @ adm @ BREM maps less two for LMG will be handed over @ receipts and handing over certificates will be handed CAPT GODD SKINDEWAI @ ack all informed
865				HILA 7	1800	0109	SECRET @ ref our 094 K/24 096 K/28 2 pl less pers required to hand over area to relief on 3/4 June will move LOWAU area 1100 hrs 2 Jun @ METHOD @ arrive SADDLE 1330 hrs depart 1345 hrs arrive BANANA 1600 hrs @ 2 pl pers ASMAT MAT will move with BUSA @ on arrival BANANA you will come under comd BUSA and move as directed @ adm @ BREM maps less two for LMG will now be handed over @ MMG pers will take over your normal duties until arrival your relief @ receipts and handing over certificates will be left these HQ @ ack all informed
866	Plt. de	1905	2100			1453	subrep 76 to 1900 K/31 @ 2/5 BN Coy HQ HQ Coy Crystal Bk MMG 10 WIRE BRIDGE 431895 van west @ ACoy 2/6 BN staging SKINDEWAI @ 1 Coy 2/7 staging McDUFFS CCoy 2/6 arrived GUADAGASAN all informed
867	3 Div	2017	2100				SECRET @ ref our 091 K/24 096 K/28