

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

**Item number: 8/3/7**

**2/7 Infantry Battalion**

**June 1943**



APPENDIX WAR DAIRY JUN 43

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*Henry G. ...*



26 JUL 1943

## 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	1 JUN 43		<p>A party comprising Lt cols GUINN and WOOD and <del>LYMONS CRE</del>, Maj WATTS, Capt GULLETT and IO moved to the dropping ground. Lt col <del>LYMONS</del> and Maj WATTS left for WAU while Lt col WOOD returned to BnHQ, later in the day visiting the SADDLE defenses. The remainder of the party moved to LAKON CK and thence via the track passing through WAIPALI village to HOUSE KIAP where Lieut WILES provided lunch. Lieut WILES then led the party to the WAIPALI pl area where the CO, after inspecting the posns altered the whole pl area. <del>The suitability of using this area as a dropping ground was also investigated.</del> The suitability of using this area as a dropping ground was also investigated. During the late afternoon the Brig arrived with special secret instructions regarding impending movements for this BDE. At 1715 hrs an enemy mortar fired into the area fwd of MAT MAT feature without causing casualties. Later in the evening C Coy stood to on hearing mvt but as this did not develop the Coy stood down again. The BDE IO left this morning on his return to SKINDEWAI.</p>	
	2 JUN 43		<p>During the morning the two Bn comds were in conference with the BRIG studying all relevant aerial photographs and maps connected with the instructions which the Brig had brought with him. More detailed information of certain areas was copied from a map which the Brig had in his possession while further information in the hands of this unit was added to the map. At 1200 hrs the comd of the area passed from Lt col GUINN to Lt col <u>GUINN</u> and after the signing of the handover documents Lt col GUINN wished the CO of 2/6 BN every success in the new area. After the midday meal the Brig and CO left GUADAGASAL and moved back to HOUSE BANANA where they will remain for the night. During the afternoon the relief of C Coy was effected and this Coy also moved back to HOUSE BANANA. Maj NELSON who is in charge of the advance party at WAU spent the day carrying out a recce of the two Coy areas at BULOLO. Upon his return to WAU he was taken suddenly and evacuated to hospital.</p>	WOOD
	3 JUN 43		<p>The Adjut, Capt DIXON moved off from GUADAGASAL during the morning and a further party of 13 from BnHQ commenced the return journey to WAU. Meanwhile the CO accompanied the Brig from BANANA to Skindewai where he will remain for the night. The only personnel still remaining at GUADAGASAL are a pl of A Coy the A/A pl, Mortar Detachements, some signallers, the IO and Sig Offr, all of whom will be returning within the next two or three days.</p>	Henry G. Guinn Lt Col



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Unit 2/7 AUST INF BN

Date and Time.—From \_\_\_\_\_

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
WAU	3 JUN 43 (Cont)		C Coy continued from HOUSE BANANA to the SUMMIT where they staged for the night. Meanwhile the BnHQ had been opened at WAU in a building known as GORDON'S FARM which was previously occupied by 2/7 AUST INDEP COY. Maj DUNKELY who has now returned from WAU FIXED DEF is in charge of the HQ, having taken over after the evacuation of Maj NELSON to hospital.	
	4 JUN 43		C Coy moved from the SUMMIT and was met at the JEEPHEAD by transport which conveyed them to WAU where they occupied a def posn on the high ground to the SOUTH of the drome. This is known as POST 12 WAU DEF Scheme. The CO and ADJT continued from SKINDEWAI to the jeephead where they were also met by transport and conducted direct to the new BnHQ. The relief of the remaining pl at WAIPALI was effected and upon completion of this the pl moved back to HOUSE BANANA where they staged for the night.	
	5 JUN 43		Maj NELSON left by plane this morning to attend a Comd School at BEENLEIGH near BRISBANE. Late in the afternoon the CO proceeded to BULOLO where he will inspect the areas occupied by B and D Coys and at the request of the GOC remain at 3 AUST DIV HQ for a few days rest. A concert for the entertainment of 2/7 Bn personnel was conducted by 46 L.A.D. and was much appreciated by all who were able to attend. It was noticeable that some of the actors in this show were old members of this unit for amongst them figured such personalities as Jack ROBSON and Laurie SETFORD. The IO was successful in emulating Maj NELSON in that he was able to effect the return trip in a single day.	
	6 JUN 43		At 0945 hrs a force of enemy planes approached WAU from the East and attacked the drome and immediate vicinity. A Coy was the closest to the scene of action and when two bombs straddled the Coy HQ one of the smaller buildings was demolished and another slightly damaged. Personal equipment belonging to one of A Coy's cooks was also damaged by straffing. Two bombs fell on the drome but no damage of permanence was caused. An interesting spectacle was the barfage of <del>XXXXX</del> BOFORS shells which were pumped into the air and it is claimed that at least one enemy plane succumbed to this.	

*Henry G. Quinn. Lt Col*



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GUADAGASAL	6 JUN 43 (Cont)		A diversion was caused <sup>when</sup> an unsuspecting WIRRAWAY came towards WAU, but when the state of affairs became apparent the plane made a speedy getaway in the direction of MORESBY. A football match between 2/5 Bn and this unit was played on the sports ground and the 2/7 Bn was successful in defeating their oponents by 9.14 to 5.16. A factor which made the return to WAU very enjoyable was the receipt of mail and parcels in which all the troops shared.	
	7 JUN 43		The IO proceeded to BULOLO taking with him all maps, op instns etc relating to the unit's activities relating to MUBO. These were handed to the CO who outlined to the GOC operations by the Bn in that area. The IO met 3 DIV Int personnel and was able to pass on much interesting information to them. The Coys commenced a programme of rifle and close order drill with various other smartening up exercises. Meanwhile parties from A and C Coys commenced work on the drome constructing dispersal bays for future use it is understood by BOOMERANGS. Having regard to A Coys proximity to the drome and also their experience of yesterday the tps are taking a lively interest in this work. In accordance with instructions received regarding the lack of small arms fire against low flying A/C in the raid yesterday all BREN guns have been mounted for A/A def. This assures a very warm reception for any "visitors" unwise enough to come within range of the guns. The pl of A Coy which remained at WAIPALI arrived in the WAU area this afternoon. The Mortar detachments left behind also returned to HQ Coy during the day.	
	8 JUN 43		The last troops to leave the MUBO area rejoined the unit this afternoon when the A/A pl under Lieut ROBERTSON arrived back in WAU area. The CO also returned in the late afternoon after his visit to BULOLO. The only remaining elements of the Bn which has not returned from MUBO is a detachment of the PIONEER Pl which is on construction work at SKINDEWAI. Arrangements are being made to organise a tabloid sports meeting and competitive section rifle shooting contest between the three Coys in the WAU area. It is noted from the GULINEA GOLD ref was made to the COs letter of the acknowledgement of 22 Bomber Squadron's gift of tobacco at MUBO and also that the Sqn had received the grenade discharger forwarded to them in appreciation of the service.	

*Henry G. Quinn. Local*



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
WAU	9 JUN 43		<p>During the morning The C.O. proceeded by Jeep to BALLAMS where he conferred with Lt Col CONROY, 2/5 Bn. In the afternoon he met Gen MORSHEAD and Maj Gen SAVIGE at the south end of the drome and from an advantage point in that area was able to point out various phases of the repelling of the enemy's attack on WAU. After this the party moved to Bn HQ where afternoon tea was provided. In a typical gesture Maj Gen SAVIGE came to the I room and spoke appreciative words of the work accomplished whilst fwd at MUBO stating it was the best work he had seen. Upon completion the afternoon tea the party accompanied by the Adjutant and the I.O. moved fwd to the SWING BR. During the journey the action of A and C Coys in the vicinity of WATSON'S RIDGE and B Coy at LEAHY'S FARM was outlined, also the operation of the 2/5 Bn at CRYSTAL CK. After Lt Gen MORSHEAD and party had departed the CO and IO moved to EDIE CK for a rest period. The Adjutant understands that the rest(?) period will be devoted mainly to walking(?) down the BULLDOG RD. Arrangements are being attempted through 3 AUST DIV to send one coy to EDIE CK for a period of seven days for a period of rest. Each coy it is supposed will participate in these arrangements.</p>	
	10 Jun		<p>Pls of B and D coys at BULOLO commenced work on the drome at that place constructing dispersal bays for the BOOMERANGS which it appears will be stationed there simultaneously with those at WAU. One pl is also supplied at WAU and BULOLO on each occasion that transports arrive to unload the planes. This task has to be accomplished at the greatest possible speed in order that there will be no delay in the planes taking off again. Since the return of the tps to the WAU BULOLO area there has been a most satisfactory issue of canteen and comfort fund goods, tobacco and cigarettes have been supplied in adequate quantities and in addition such items as socks chocolates etc have been much appreciated by the coys. Another welcome change has been the supply of bread which is made available as and when flour stocks permit and to this end the arrival of transports is watched with interest by all.</p>	

*Henry G. Quinn, Lt Col.*



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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
WAU	11 Jun 43		<p>Reports from BULOLO indicate that two coys in that area are enjoying an ample supply of fruit and vegetables. The enjoyment of these boons is not the only life of the troops however, for apart from the duties on the drome, smartening up exercises are engaged in while a pl from D Coy has the task of guarding the FSD approx 5 miles out along the rd to SUNSHINE. A comprehensive course for NCOs is also being prepared by Lieut GERRARD of D Coy. A party from B Coy has the task of guarding the Fd Punishment Centre. An important event was registered in the eyes of the tps at least, when <del>the</del> night an issue of fresh meat was supplied to all coys. Cooks are having an interesting time as they experiment with various dishes and it has been found that the paw paw both boiled and fried is a successful substitute for pumpkin or choko. The grinding of army biscuits through the mincer has also been found a suitable source of flour for pastry making. The officers were invited to Bn HQ to participate in the Housy Housy night which proved most successful. This is the first occasion for many months where officers of the Bn have been able to get together for a little light entertainment. The RSM decided to invite sjts and WOs to Bn HQ for evening meals and a game of cards. The first of these evenings will take place tonight. The Adjt was advised this evening that Sjt WEBB had died at the MDS. This is most disappointing to the Bn as it was thought that after one month from the date of injury he would be well on the way to recovery.</p>	
	12 Jun 43		<p>There were three air red alerts during the day but the only planes which ventured into the WAU BULOLO area were four OSCARS at a height too <del>great</del> for the disappointed AA gunners to engage them. Apparently however the JAPS had used the opportunity provided by the absence of our own fighters to indulge in a close recce of the L of C from SUMMIT to GUADACASAL. Since the return of the tps from the fwd areas their attention has been once more turned to the broader theatre of war and much interest is being displayed in the whole NEW GUINEA situation as well as further afield. Much satisfaction was expressed when it was learned that the Island of PANTELLERIA had capitulated.</p>	

*Henry G. Quinn. Lt Col*



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WAU	12 Jun 43		News of the world reaches the tps either by wireless or per medium of GUINEA GOISS while they are kept posted with local information by sit reps supplied by the I Sec. This has done much to disperse many wild rumours which have been circulating. Sjt WEBB was buried in WAU Cemetry this morning. Members of the Mortar Pl acted as pall bearers.	
	13 Jun 43		Due to the number of officers who have left to attend schools and also those who have been evacuated to hospital there is at the moment quite a dearth of commissioned rank in the unit. C Coy is the most severely effected in this way, <del>from</del> <sup>for</sup> the OC Lieut DINSMORE who was to proceed to a school has taken ill and Lieut FIETZ who was apptd to relieve him has also succumbed to the bite of the malarial mosquito. Lieut THOMAS from D Coy is the latest to take over and assume comd of the coy. RC Church Pde was conducted at WILDES at the north end of the drome by Padre O'KEEFE. The CO and the IO also returned from EDIE CK for the day to attend to certain matters requiring attention and to keep intouch with the activities of the unit. They moved back to EDIE CK during the afternoon. Arrangements were made for the Pioneer Pl to move to the same area in order to undertake work on the BULLDOG RD. A football match between 3 Div Sigs and a combined RAA F and B Coy team resulted in a win for the signallers.	
	14 Jun 43		The whole unit is now fully engaged in a variety of duties and activities ranging from 2 pls guarding FSD, two pls unloading transports and working parties on the drome constructing dispersal bays on which task even the S.Bs have been impressed. The new tank attack pl is receiving instr in the use of their weapons from personnel from 3 DIV while instrs from the 7 MMG Bn are training the MMG pl. Personnel from the RPs are also maintaining rd control pts under direction of 3 Div Provosts. Amongst the items provided by the ACF has figured some games incl Housy Housy and Monopoly. As one passes the various sub unit areas it is not uncommon to hear on the still night area a raucous voice shouting "Clickety Click 66" or a babel of voices hoggling over the buying and selling of houses hotels etc. Due to the demands made on the Bn for working parties guard duties etc the arrangements for tabloid sports and shooting contests had to be postponed indefinitely.	

*Henry S. Quinn, Lt Col*



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	15 Jun 43		B and D Coys at BULOLO were privileged to attend a talkie show shown at 3 Div HQs where they were able to enjoy "DUKE GIRL" starring the Oomph Girl Ann Sheridan. A recreation hut for the use of A C and HQ Coys has been completed in HQ Coy area. The hut will be equipped with various games and a small library donated by the Red Cross.	
	16 Jun 43		Approval has been granted by 3 Div to personnel proceeding to EDIE CK for a rest period commencing as from tomorrow; in view of the working parties and duties one pl only can be released at a time. <del>ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN ARRANGED THAT THE REST PERIOD WILL BE</del> Arrangements have been made that the rest period of B and D Coys will be diverted from EDIE CK to KULOLO. The same arrangements will apply however but it is not anticipated that any tps from that area will be able to be released till Saturday next.	
	17 JUN 43		The scheme whereby personnel will proceed to EDIE CK area for a rest period was put into effect today when 8 pl A Coy under Lieut McCORQUODALE proceeded to the site selected for the purpose. The rest period will last 5 days and it is proposed that trg will be undertaken during the morning while the afternoon is left free for the benefit of the tps to rest or spend in a recreational manner. At the invitation of CSM ROBSON HQ Coy the Sjts of BnHQ spent an enjoyable evening with the Sjts of that Coy in a "HOUSIE HOUSIE" night. A tasty supper of coffee and sandwiches was provided. In responding to WO ROBSON'S welcome the RSM WO JENNER stated this occasion was the first for a long time since so many of the Sjts had gathered together in such a manner. The talkie previously shown at BULOLO was repeated in WAU tonight, the apparatus being set up near the hangar on the drome.	
	18 JUN 43		Enemy planes paid further attention to this area when this morning a lone plane straffed the SUMMIT and later in the day carried out a recce of BALLAMS area. The CO returned late in the afternoon and later spent the evening studying maps in relation to certain documents he had received from 3 DIV.	

*Henry G. Quinn. L. Col.*



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WAU	18 JUN 43 (Cont)		<p>Meanwhile a second "HOUSIE HOUSIE" evening was spent by all the offrs in the WAU area at BnHQ. A swimming carnival was conducted by B Coy in one of the large dredge holes in the BULOLO. Capt BARR and Sjt TENNANT officiated at the contest and quite an exciting and entertaining day was spent.</p>	
	19 JUN 43		<p>The CO left this morning to proceed on a three week visit to the MISSIM area where in the role of an observer he will be able to obtain a full picture of the terrain and operations in that area. Disappointing news was received when it was learned that Lieut CAPUANO had succumbed in MORESBY to injuries received in the first week of the units operations at MUBO. This is the second member of the unit who has made a gallant fight for his life for it is two months since Lieut CAPUANO was wounded and it was thought that he would be well on the road to recovery. BnHQ Sjts returned HQ Coys evening when tonight all the Sjts and WOs in the WAU area were invited to a Euchre tournament. Over 20 attended and enjoyed the evening. RSM JENNER already has in hand arrangements for another such night.</p>	
	20 JUN 43		<p>Soon after the transports with their fighter cover had left the area this morning a force of approx 20 enemy fighters approached the WAU area and spent half an hour in circling the locality but keeping out of range of the A/A def. One plane did venture a dive on the drome and this was the signal for a veritable hail of fire to be unleashed. A much more satisfactory target was available later in the day however when 7 twin engined bombers attacked WAU, BALLAMS, and the WAU-BALLAMS road. Bombs were dropped in HQ Coy area much to the chagrin of the cooks who returned to find their cookhouse badly dented and the much prized cake damaged beyond hope of pair. BOFORS, MMG, LMG, and rifles were all employed against the raiding planes and it was noticeable that only one run was made over the area. One man who was in the pool when the attack started just beat a piece of shrapnel to a slit trench and was fortunate in only receiving a slight scratch. The L.A.D. received hits and eight vehicles, 3 huts, and some other gear were damaged.</p>	

*Henry G. Quinn. Lt Col*



WAR DIARY

2/7 AUST INF BN

WAU

20 Jun 43  
(Cont)

News from MUBO discloses that two large attacks were made in that area, one being directed at MAT MAT and the other at GUADAGASAL. One man was killed, a small amn dump was hit, and the natives at ANGAU dispersed into the jungle. 15 men from A Coy left during the day to proceed to BLACK CAT where they will relieve a pl of 2/5 Bn which maintains a standing patrol in that area. Pilots from 4 AC RAAF Sqn visited BnHQ this afternoon and met Lieut TROON who had come specially from BULOLO in order to pass on information regarding the DUALI area.

21 JUN 43

A further party to enjoy a rest period at EDIE CK comprising men from HQ and C Coys left this morning for that centre. Meanwhile the A Coy party will return after the arrival of these personnel. The TK/A pl personnel who have been receiving instruction from 3 DIV instructors had their first experience at firing the weapon this morning when a practice shoot was conducted on the arty range west of WAU. It was learned that the enemy had become aggressive in the MUBO area and had launched a heavy attack against D Coy 2/6 Bn on LABABIA RIDGE. This however was repulsed with heavy loss to the enemy.

22 JUN 43

Chief interest today was centred on the enemy's attack on LABABIA RIDGE. Contact was still being maintained by the enemy till late tonight and it was learned that mortar fire was being directed at the BASE CAMP. The ADJT proceeded by jeep to BULOLO to finalise matters requiring his personal attention at B and D Coys in addition to contacting representatives of both the A and Q branches at 3 DIV.

23 JUN 43

Gratifying news was received tonight when it was learned that after 3 days of aggressiveness against 2/6 Bn the enemy had withdrawn and the position on LABABIA RIDGE re-established. Early in the morning the ADJT and a member of the Int Sec had proceeded to the AILO's office where they were able to indicate many landmarks to the WIRRAWAY crew on aerial photographs. This was to assist these airforce personnel in the recce of that area. Range practice is being engaged in by the unit on a range to the North of WAU. Coys are taking turns to visit this range but BnHQ personnel had their opportunity today. Practice in the use of grenades is also being carried out. An interesting interlude was provided when a Flying Fortress after being unable to locate fwd dropping grounds flew over WAU drome dropping supplies by parachute for those areas.

Henry J. Quinn, Lt Col



WAR DIARY

2/7 AUST INF BN

WAU

24 JUN 43

The rest camp at EDIE CK was inspected today by the 2 i/c, ADJT, and RSM who had journeyed to that area by jeep. The troops had been out on a route march along the BULLDOG ROAD and returned looking fit and happy. Maj DUNKLEY's party lunched at KAINDI where some of the offrs and tps from the unit are convalescing.

25 JUN 43

After their having been no transports since last SUNDAY it was with delight that the tps greeted the appearance of these vital links with the outside world this morning, and nearly all were the recipient of "A good mail". With the transports also arrived two BOOMERANGS on a visit and these also attracted the eyes of the ever watchful tps. The 2 i/c Maj DUNKLEY and the RSM WOI JENNER proceeded to BULOLO where a thorough inspection of the Coy areas and respective guards was carried out. A football match between A and C Coys was played this afternoon and although both Coys claim they were only represented by scratch teams a creditable performance was put up.

26 JUN 43

A marked increase in allied air activity has been noticeable in this area during the past two days and has been the cause of much speculation by the tps. A MITCHELL while circling over the area after an attack to the East released 3 parachutes, one of which the unit's jeep immediately set about recovering. The other two were well over towards the BALLAMS-WANDUMI area.

27 JUN 43

The C of E Church Parade was conducted by Padre SHERWIN in HQ Coy area at 0800 hrs this morning when representatives from all the Coys in the area attended. During the afternoon Maj DUNKLEY proceeded to a vantage point at the Southern end of the WAU drome where he met Maj-Gen STEVENS GOC 6 AUST DIV and here Maj DUNKLEY was able to point out to the General the various phases in the battle for WAU. The General was accompanied by Brigadier HAMMER and other high ranking offrs. Later in the afternoon the whole party came to BnHQ where afternoon tea was provided. Further details of the WAU operations were pointed out to Maj-Gen STEVENS prior to his leaving BnHQ. A swimming carnival in which rival teams were supplied by HQ Coy and the 7 MMG Coy was held this afternoon in the WAU swimming pool. HQ Coy were successful in winning the carnival by 114 points to 68 the principal event, <sup>being won</sup> by Pte G.W. EDWARDS.

28 JUN 43

An NCO School conducted by the RSM was commenced at 0830 hrs this morning when NCOs from the 3 Coys in the WAU area attended in order to receive instruction in parade ground procedure. During recent months it has not been possible to give much attention to this aspect of training.

*Henry G. Quinn L. Col*



WAR DIARY

2/7 AUST INF BN

- WAU 28 Jun 43 It was found that such a school was necessary particularly as many NCOs have been appointed and not had the benefit of parade ground work. The 2 I/c inspected the site for a proposed "fire and movement" range for use by a pl. On his return to Bn HQ a surprise visit was paid by Lt col WILTON who while in the area gave approval to the use of the range.
- 29 Jun 43 Since the unit's return to WAU the Bde Education Offr has been paying periodical visits to the coys, delivering lectures on various subjects. The tps have taken a keen interest in these and often asked many pertinent questions. This offr is also responsible for the movie entertainment which takes place from time to time and this is always enjoyed by the tps.
- 30 Jun 43 The object of the intense aerial activity was evident today when news was received ~~of the~~ that a force of US tps had landed at NASSAU BAY while the 58/59 Bn had commenced offensive action in the BOBDUBI AREA. A deep interest is being displayed in these moves and during the morning the 2 I/c Maj DUNKLEY addressed the offr in the area on the subject and instructed them to keep their tps fully posted with developments which would be supplied to them by sitrep. An order limiting the use of motor tpt due to the shortage of petrol was received today and by this instruction the jeep attached to this unit cannot be used.

*Henry S. ... Lt Col.*



NOT

R.A.P. WAR DIARY.

2/7 Aust. Inf. Bn.

ACTION IN MUBO AREA

- Apr 10 We have had two months of training, rd making, and swimming in the pool near our RAP. We have had a new addition to the RAP family Geo W ILLIAMS, Doc's new batman. Also ten new additions to the S.B. family- mostly QUEENSLANDERS who arrived with other reifcts for the Bn on Feb 13. They and our own veterans mixed well and we soon had them well versed in first aid and the topography of the surrounding hills. We were all in good condition again.  
We marched off at 0815 hrs. The "BOONGS" had carried our gear, 8 (40 lb) boxes, fwd and we carried our packs and a few haversacks only.
- Apr 13 Scotty BENNETT was left in charge of the RAP at SKINDIWAI Staging Camp. The rest of us reached 2/5 Bn RAP at the SADDLE at 1530 hrs.
- Apr 14 In the morning we said farewell to Capt MCPHERSON<sup>2/5 Bn R.M.O.</sup> and his staff as they began their return journey, and took stock of our surroundings. The RAP tent was dug into the steep southern slope of the SADDLE, The nearest "Pisser" was 5 minutes walk down the hill, and 15 minutes up so we obtained a "Boong" to carry water up to us.  
During the next few days we made a log floor and some tables for the RAP and generally made ourselves more comfortable. We were looking after the Mt Bty and "D" Coy for ~~781~~ sick pdes, the other coys being scattered at WAIPALI, MAT MAT, LABABIA BASE CAMP, ~~SADDLE~~, HILL 7, REEVES OP and GAUDAGASAL. We found it quite a problem supplying all the medical orderlies even down to an isolated sec at RIVER JUNCTION. The ADS was at GUADAGASAL and their Capt O. WILLIAMS<sup>2/2</sup>, with Maj LESLIE as surgeon. We found them <sup>2d. Amb.</sup> on the midst of a move further up the track, as a landslide was threatening their existence.  
Doc visited MAT MAT and had a good view of OBSERVATION HILL and MUBO drome.
- Apr 16 Sjt LAW was wounded in the lower leg on a three man patrol in the area at the foot of VICKERS RIDGE, One man returned to "C" coy at LABABIA BASE CAMP for stretcher bearers to carry him in the next day.
- Apr 17 Doc visited LABABIA BASE CAMP ~~at~~ in the morning expecting Sjt LAW to be brought in some time during the day. He was met with the news that he could not be found. While the search was on he went to LABABIA OP and admired the view of DUALI and LABABIA IS and SALAMAUA PENINSULA and HUON GULF. While there news came that Lieut CAPUANO had been wounded in the chest on a patrol down the JAP track to ards the PIMPLE. So he returned to BASE CAMP to find that two SBs and four men had gone out to bring him in. With Sjt CAPUANO a 24th Bn observer and a cousin of the Lieut as escort DOC followed down the track and found that Lieut CAPUANO had just been lifted onto a blanket and pole stretcher. He was breathing with difficulty and suffering from a moderate degree of shock. The sucking chest wound was stitched, morphia and sulphamilamide administered and the difficult carry up the steep track commenced. The track was barely formed, and a man had to be sent ahead with a bayonet to slash a way through. After two hrs the party was only half way up, and exhausted, so sent for a relief squad. BASE CAMP was reached at 1630 hrs - ,four hrs carry altogether. CAPUANO's condition, in spite of the carry, had improved, and the "Boongs" carried him the rest of the way to the ADS (3 1/2 hrs). Torches were supplied for the last of the carry but much of it was done in semi-darkness and even then they moved with amazing speed and smoothness. What a contrast to our laborious carry! DOC returned to the RAP that evening. Sjt LAW had been found and was to be carried in next day. It was reported thath his condition was surprisingly good.
- Apr 18 Maj LESLIE reported that CAPUANO was doing well.



2

A PR 19 "Doc" is to take 2 Fld Amb orderlies, and 7 SB s and accompany A Coy 2<sup>nd</sup> 2/5 Bn with a D Coy 2<sup>nd</sup>/7 BN Pl in reserve, on a fighting patrol towards DUALI. Object: To obtain Jap prisoners and possibly attack some villages on NASSAU BAY. The rest of the R.A.P. was left behind to look after the BN Doc and Co. left at 1230 with A Coy and completed the steep descent to River Junction (3000ft) at 17<sup>30</sup> hrs. That night they were attacked viciously by mosquitoes of all types, including Anophelines. No mosquito nets had been carried. The climate here, of course, closely simulated that of Milne Bay. Supplies were carried down by natives.

The medical gear consisted of Doc's surgical haversack, some extra medical supplies in one of the packs, and the natives carried Thomas splints, two bottles of serum, and Medical comforts. All stretchers were to be improvised and the R.A.P. housed under ground-sheets.

Apr 20 They rested all day, then moved forward in the gathering dusk. The first ordeal was crossing the river, which was about 40 yds wide, and swiftly-flowing. The water did not rise above their hips. Then commenced the slow night advance through the coastal jungle. A native guide, a Dua li Boy, kept <sup>them</sup> on the right track. Although it was moonlight, it was so dark beneath the jungle foliage, <sup>they</sup> you could only just make out the ghostly form of the man a yard in front, and ~~you~~ frequently had to reach forward to make sure he was still there. They stumbled along as quietly as possible. On either side was a wall of blackness set with numerous phosphorescent fungi. Soon they emerged into the DRY CREEK BED, where they could at least see where they were going in the moonlight. They crossed and re-crossed the little stream here, many times, with the result that wet trousers began to chafe <sup>their</sup> wet thighs. Soon they entered swampy jungle, consisting largely of bamboo, through which the moonlight could just filter.

Apr 21 At 0100 hrs BASE AREA was reached. Previous recce patrols had learnt that a party of Japs visited the native gardens an hour further on for fruit at about 0900 each morning. So a platoon went forward to put an ambush in these gardens and capture some prisoners, from whom it was hoped to gain valuable information. That morning an unarmed party of 8 Japs were ambushed, Two were killed and 6 got away. No doubt the latter soon informed their HQ of their presence in the area. Capt Bradley sent a recce patrol forward. It ran into a Jap ambush further on in the gardens and rapidly returned, fortunately without casualties, the whole force immediately beat a quick retreat to the River Junction, in case they were cut off. They met Lieut Gerrard's Pl coming forward with the boongs and supplies-so they returned with them.

Apr 22 Maj. Nelson arrived during the morning and took Lieut Gerrard's Pl and one A Coy Pl forward, and a little beyond DRY CREEK BED movement was observed, so they returned and the operation was called off, as the element of surprise, essential to success had obviously been lost, and the men were fatigued.

Operational rations had been used throughout. They provided enough energy and an all-round diet, but became monotonous very quickly. The stew blocks could not be cooked when fires were out of the question, and they were not "satisfying". For the first time in military history, the cry was heard "Oh! for a good solid tin of "Bully Beef"!" However they served their purpose very well.

Apr 23 Doc and his assistants returned to the Saddle. The 3,000 ft climb to Lababia O.P. tried them sorely. On arrival at Saddle, Doc found that he was the father of a two week's old daughter, his first. This revived him although shouts of "Daddy!" now greeted him where-ever he went. Sgt Russell and Ptes McKeon and Neary had nobly kept the R.A.P. flag flying during his absence.

Apr 24 No rest for the weary- we find that plans had been hatched for an attack by C Coy on the Pimple. Half of the Coy under Capt Pringle was to attack to the rear of the Pimple, while the other half under Lieut Dinsmore held the Japs in front. One squad of S.B.s under Cpl Hare, accompanied the first half, and Doc, Sgt Russell and another squad the second half. The two forces were expected to join that evening, but the attack failed and both halves were pinned down. By late afternoon 6 had been killed, and 3 wounded (1. Flesh G.S.W both thighs- 2. G.S.W rt shoulder- 3. G.S.W rt forearm) were housed in the R.A.P. tent at rear coy HQ. There were more wounded, but it was too dark to get them in. Sjt Russell went to see a wounded man in one of the forward sections-about 20 X in front of a Jap MG post, and found he had a sucking chest wound. It was pitch dark so he



stitched it up with the light of a cigarette, and lay with him all night.

Apr 25 At dawn, Doc and the stretcher-bearers went forward to Sgt Russell's patient and got him back to Adv Coy HQ, cutting a track as they went. Three other walking wounded came in. Cpl Ron Allen (ANGAU) had his 50 native bearers waiting at rear Coy HQ, and some came down to Adv Coy HQ to carry the stretcher cases back to rear Coy HQ. Here all the wounded were fixed up and sorted out, and the natives <sup>took</sup> 3 stretcher cases back to the ADS, the rest of the wounded walking.

Lt Tyers' pl, who had made a miraculous escape after being surrounded, had 5 walking wounded whom the SBs looked after. Pte Robinson was killed.

During the day rear Coy HQ had a visit from the Colonel. The RAP was moved back to a native humpy near the kitchen. It rained hard that night, the hut leaked profusely, and Doc and Sgt Russell were nearly drowned in spite of sleeping with hats and groundsheets on.

Apr 26 Doc visited Lieut Tyers' pl on the Vicker's track. Their walking wounded had already been sent back to the ADS. Several of the men had Diarrhoea, probably due to the dirty unsanitary condition of Vicker's Camp (NOT due to our own men).

Apr 27 There was another air strike on the Pimple on the morning, and unfortunately some of the bombs landed around Coy HQ, the RAP and kitchen. One man was killed and 5 wounded. The only serious wound was a perf. abdominal (Lieut Ellis). Lieut Worle got some shrapnel in his ankle. The natives were only a few hundred yards up the hill during this bombing and strafing, but behaved admirably, and under Cpl Allen's iron rule, did not panic. In the afternoon, Capt Pringle had a nervous breakdown and had to be evacuated. Lieut Tyers and his men rejoined us. Doc and Sgt Russell reconstructed the RAP with a couple of U.S.A. tents.

Apr 28 C Coy again attacked the Pimple, but retired with one wounded.

Apr 29 Doc, Sgt Russell and the SBs returned to the Saddle, and enjoyed a shave and bath.

Apr 30 Doc visited the ADS (now Mango Hosp). Capt Reid had replaced Capt Williams.

May 2 A Coy had relieved C Coy, and Doc and Pte McKeon went forward to them in the morning. The attack on the Pimple failed. There were 4 wounded and one missing. One SB (Pte O'Neil) was killed. Lieut Spark had a nasty sucking wound of the chest, and died later as the natives were carrying him to the ADS. Doc and McKeon returned to the RAP in the evening.

18 Pl D Coy went on a patrol down towards Duali.

May 3 Many men in D Coy are going down with malaria (infected down towards Duali) -- also some of the SBs who were down there.

May 6 Malaria evacuations continue at an alarming rate. Maj Irwin and Capt Reid lunch at the RAP and we discussed malaria precautions on fighting patrols.

May 7 Doc and Pte Neary, with 8 SBs, went forward to serve A Coy in another attack on the Pimple (now the BOIL). Again the attack failed, and we had one killed and 3 wounded. We found the good old Mark IIs a great advantage over the blanket and pole stretchers for working in front of the forward RAP. Two NYDNs and several <sup>RU.D's</sup> were evacuated. The difficult conditions and constant nervous tension were beginning to tell.

We found our two-USA-tent RAP, which two of us can easily carry in our packs, very handy. It consisted of two USA tents placed end to end, with poles along each side to support 5 stretchers. If necessary 5 more cases can be placed underneath these. The next day we returned to the Saddle.

May 9 Practically the whole RAP attended a very nice Mothers' Day service on the Saddle in the morning. Then an urgent message came to proceed up to Lababia Base Camp, as A Coy had been attacked in their positions on the Jap track. So Doc and Pte McKeon went up with 4 SBs to Base Camp. At 1600 hrs word came that an A Coy man had been wounded in the chest. So Doc and 4 SBs went down the Jap track to get him back to Base Camp before dark. McKeon waited behind for some more medical gear from the Saddle, as it was



now obvious that we would have to remain overnight. About 200 yds above A Coy positions they saw some of our own men laying booby traps on the right. Fifty yds further down they observed movement in the jungle about 20 yds to the right, but thinking it was our men laying booby traps, did not worry. Immediately however, they were fired on by an LMG and several rifles at close range. They went to ground and began to slide down the muddy track on their stomachs, seeking cover in the hollows in the ground. Japs closed in on the track above them, and fired straight down the track. Their fire was returned by Pte Pope, who, in a couple of minutes came racing down the track with a flesh wound of the thigh. Doc, Cpl Hair and Pte Snell then also made a dash for it, and they all reached Coy HQ to tell Capt Tatterson the track had been cut. Pte Lambert was missing. McKeon was told to stay at Base Camp just before the line was cut. One man had been killed and 2 wounded. The latter and Pope were housed in a small lean-to which<sup>w<sup>as</sup></sup> slightly dug into the ground, which was just as well, because a hail of lead frequently chipped the surrounding trees one to three feet above them as they lay on the ground. The Jap attacks were all repulsed.

The stretcher had been lost on the track. The only medical gear Doc had was his surgical haversack and some shell dressings, bandages and sulphanimide in the SBs haversacks. One man had mult. SW, including some shrapnel in the knee, and another had a GSW forearm (fract. radius and ulna) and both shoulders. The forearm was quite comfortably bound to the chest. It was great fun giving morphia in the pitch darkness during the night without making a sound.

May 10

All Jap attacks were again repulsed. Some more walking wounded (nothing serious) crawled up to the RAP. Doc had plenty of sulphanimide for them all. They were dispersed around the RAP in hollows in the ground, as the lead was flying pretty close to the ground from all directions, and the Japs were using 2" mortars and grenade dischargers. The men were very tired and hungry. There was enough food, but little opportunity to eat it. But morale was good.

May 11

Our relief had not yet come. Tatterson made plans to break bush on the left flank next morning. Doc was very worried as it would be next to impossible getting even two stretcher cases out. Then Sgt Webb sustained a sucking perf. GSW lf upper chest, with fract. clavicle and paralysis of the left arm. He was severely shocked.

At 1400 hrs, a D Coy scout reached them, and a few minutes later Capt Baird and his men. Their relief had come! The Japs had retired. There was much handshaking all round. Fresh SBs and the Faithful Cpl Allen and his boongs arrived, and the casualties quickly evacuated to Base Camp, where Capt Reid and Sgt Russell were waiting. Three stretcher cases were sent on to ADS. Walking wounded and sick waited at Base Camp that night as it was too late to reach the ADS before dark.

Doc learnt with relief that Lambert had broken bush when attacked on the track, and lay concealed in the undergrowth, during the night of May 9. There were Japs sleeping all around him, but he managed to get out before dawn and reach Base Camp unharmed.

Our total casualties for this show were 3 killed, and 12 wounded. It was estimated that we killed about 50 Japs, and probably wounded about 100.

May 12

RAP, SBs, sick and wounded formed a weary procession back to the Saddle in the morning. Doc visited BHQ in the afternoon as the Colonel had twisted his knee. The RAP received 3 boxes of Red Cross fruit.

May 13

Doc and Pte Neary paid a flying visit to Lababia in the late afternoon. Two men had walked into a booby trap. One had slight SW, but the other had a piece of shrapnel through his larynx. He was coughing up blood, but apparently there were no serious complications as he could still talk. The natives carried him back so fast that Doc and Pte Neary had to run to keep pace with them!

May 14

6 cases of Red Cross fresh fruit arrived from Moresby -- pears, apples, oranges and tomatoes.



- May 16 Visit by Maj Refshauge and Capt Reid. Malaria precautions on fighting patrols discussed.
- May 17 We began to move the RAP about 400 yds up the main track (towards Guadagasal). The new position was on a steep slope, but much better camouflaged. It took a lot of digging in. Doc visited the ADS. Maj Yeates had replaced Maj Leslie as surgeon.
- May 18 Doc visited A Coy, now having a well-earned rest at Waipali. He found Capt Tatterson having a hair-cut and had one himself. The condition of the men, who had a gruelling time at the Pimple, was slowly improving. Sgt Vaughan evacuated to ADS with malaria. As usual, he had been doing a great job.
- May 20 We completed the move to our new site. The SBs were further up the hill, and our own kitchen on the track close by. Pte Dixon made an excellent cook, and Pte Williams was the "Q" man, our supplies coming through D Coy. We now settled down to a comparatively quiet time.
- May 24 Doc visited Lieut Herrod's pl at Reeve's OP. Mokka bites were prevalent.
- May 25 Colonel Guinn and Padre O'Keefe lunched at the RAP and appreciated Dixon's cooking. Reg Rye, the YMCA rep., ran a concert on the Saddle in the evening, and much local talent was evident. We treated a patient with "crabs" in the eyelashes.
- May 26 Colonel Williams, senior physician at the 2/9 AGH, and Maj Yeates lunched at the RAP, and also appreciated Dixon's cooking. We thus became famous.
- May 27 Lieut Mackie walked in with GSW shoulder from a fighting patrol near the Pimple.
- May 30 2/7 Bn now began the move back to Wau, being relieved by 2/6 Bn. Sgt Russell and McKEON left Doc and Neary to wait for Capt Quinn, RMO 2/6 Bn.
- June 3 Visit by Maj Mainland, DADMS 3 AUST DIV, and Capt Reid.
- June 4 Capt Quinn arrived.
- June 5 The remainder of the RAP and SBs, leaving their expendable (and some non-expendable) stores for the 2/6 Bn, began the march back to Wau. The MUBO CAMPAIGN had ended.

*B. W. Peterson, Capt.*  
R.M.O.



SUMMARY OF EVACUATIONS AT WAU.

29/1/43 -- 9/4/43.

Strength on arrival: 415

		%
P.U.O.	179	62
Clin. Dysentery	46	16
Diarrhoea	6	2
Scabies	2	-
Skin Diseases	8	3
U.R.T.I.	-	-
V.D.	-	-
Other diseases	51	18
Accidents	3	
	<u>295</u>	<u>100%</u>

*About 250 reinforcements  
on 13/2/43.*

REMARKS. Nearly all the P.U.O.'s were malarial relapses, except 19 cases of Scrub Typhus from A Coy, which were infected in a small area on the main track between Swing Bridge and Kaisinik. Quite a number of malarial relapses originated during or just after the action, when exposure, fatigue, and neglect of atebrin were the main causes. Neglect of suppressive atebrin was due to conditions during action. When things quietened down, it was taken conscientiously.

Cases of dysentery originated in all Coy areas, but by ~~far~~ far the worst area was Crystal Ck., which had previously been occupied by the Japs., whose hygiene is notoriously bad.

SUMMARY OF EVACUATIONS? MUBO AREA.

4/4/43 -- 5/6/43.

Strength on arrival: 733

		%
P.U.O.	221	75
Clin. Dysentery	21	7
Diarrhoea	3	1
Scabies	1	-
Skin Diseases	3	1
U.R.T.I.	1	-
V.D.	-	-
Other Diseases	24	8
Unknown	14	5 (probably mostly P.U.O.)
Accidents	<u>7</u>	<u>3</u>
	<u>295</u>	<u>100%</u>

REMARKS. Nearly all P.U.O.'s were B.T. Malaria. Of these, about 55 were infected near Duali, and about 40 in Mubo Area (Milne Bay men were counted as relapses, but probably some were re-infections.)

*B. Peterson, Capt.*

*R.M.O.*



114

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AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE  
ROUTINE ORDERS NO 5NG

to be Published

7 Jun 43

J. H. G. GUINN

by

COMD 2/7 AUST INF BN

BREAKING DOWN OF ARM . The breaking down of service or arm in anyway other than that authorised by trg public hand books, regulations in existence or instructions issued from HQ is strictly forbidden.  
The breaking down of such arm by unauthorised persons is prohibited.

If any information is required on the internal construction of any type of service arm, reference can be made to Ordnance Officers.

Enemy arm will normally be broken down by RAE units (and Bomb Disposal units) under instructions from formation.  
GRO G3

2. IGNITER SETS - GRENADE 26M - SUSCEPTIBILITY TO MOISTURE.

The 22 rim fire cartridge used in igniter sets for Grenade 26M are very susceptible to moisture.

The following procedure will be observed :

(a) Should the soldered cylinder, in which igniter are issued, be broken and the whole of the contents not used, the cylinder will be resealed with adhesive tape or similar material.

(b) Detonators showing corrosion or verdigris will be suspect. Such detonators will be referred to Ordnance Officers.

Ready for use grenades will be kept to a minimum, consistent with operational needs. This should not exceed four days requirements in advance.  
GRO G3

LEAVE WITHOUT PAY : When leave without pay is granted the following will not be payable for the period :

- (a) Pay including deferred pay.
- (b) Field allowance.
- (c) Command allowance
- (d) Special allowance
- (e) Exchange allowance.
- (f) Dependants allowance.
- (g) Travelling allowance
- (h) Subsistence allowance.
- (i) Any allowance payable under regulation 9 of WAR (M) (Military Forces) Regs.

Leave without pay will not be imposed on a member compulsorily and, consequently, will always be covered by a written application from the member stating that leave without pay is desired.  
GRO A367

4. PROPAGANDA LEAFLETS : Propaganda leaflets designed for use against the enemy or amongst the natives have been despatched to private addresses through the mail.

Whilst it is appreciated that most of these leaflets would do little harm if published, there are others which may have serious repercussions if disseminated among certain sections of the Australian and American communities.

It is therefore forbidden to enclose such matter in mail. Franking officers will ensure that this regulation is enforced.  
NGFO G154

INTERFERENCE WITH SIGNAL COMMUNICATION : Instances have occurred where field cable and copper wire lines have been cut and portions removed. This results in disruption of essential communication.

Use of field cable for purposes other than that for which it is intended is strictly forbidden



Deliberate damage to signal communication and theft of field cable is to be regarded as an offence triable by Court Martial. In all such instances the offender will be charged and a Summary of Evidence taken.

NGFO G182

6. TRANSMISSION OF CASH TO AUSTRALIA : In view of the difficulty of obtaining currency from Australia, the transmission of cash by members of HGF is restricted. Funds can be sent to any address in Australia by :
  - (a) Postal Notes obtainable from F.P.O.
  - (b) Remittance of cash or paybook credit through unit Pay Officers. Franking officers will see that cash is not enclosed in letters to Australia.Members may allow pay to accumulate in paybooks, and may also pay in cash to be credited.
7. POSTAL RATES : Postal articles not exceeding four ounces will be delivered in Australia and its territories FREE of any postal charge. This concession will not apply in the following cases :
  - (a) Registration fees on registered articles.
  - (b) Postage on articles exceeding four ounces.
  - (c) Articles for transmission by Air Mail.Troops stationed within and including JEEPHEAD will have stamps available from Jepphead FPO WAU and FPO BULOLO. Troops outside JEEPHEAD will NOT require stamps on letters to ensure Air Mail transmission to all States. Where postage stamps are available, endorsements such as 'ON ACTIVE SERVICE', FLM etc are not necessary and will cease. All such endorsements will be deleted by Censoring officers.
8. GRENADE TRAINING : Members should be trained in the use of grenades both throwing and rifle bombing so that the majority will pass the five TsOET. A return giving the results of these tests will be forwarded to BnHQ not later than 24 JUN 42 showing number tested and number qualified. Those who do not qualify will receive further training.
9. INFORMATION REGARDING LOCATION OF GRAVES : Letters of condolence to next of kin or others will NOT disclose place of burial of deceased personnel. Reference can be made to actual burial service but will contain no information regarding location of graves.
10. PISTOLS, POSSESSION OF :
  - (i) Pistols of any type or description shall not be sold, purchased or exchanged.
  - (ii) On or after 15 Apr 42 it will be an offence for any member of the AMF to have in his possession or custody any pistol other than one issued to him by Army authority or where he has the permission referred to in part (iii) hereof.
  - (iii) Permission may be granted by a Formation Comd to any member to have in his possession a pistol other than one issued to him: such permission to be in writing, signed personally by Formation Comd.
  - (iv) All ranks in possession of pistols not issued to them or not provided for under the last para will forthwith surrender the same to the QM IMMEDIATELY ON RECEIPT OF THIS INSTRUCTION.
  - (v) All ranks having pistols in their possession are held personally responsible therefor and will immediately report the loss of such pistol.
  - (vi) The loss of a pistol is to be regarded as an offence for which the offender is to be tried by Court-Martial, unless the Formation Comd otherwise directs. In all cases of loss of pistols, the offender will be charged and Summary of Evidence, which will be forwarded to the Formation Comd, will be taken.



(3).

11. PAY : Requisitions for cash will be submitted to PAY SGT by 1000 hrs 9 JUN 43. Cash will be available for collection by 1200 hrs 10 JUN 43. Payments will only be made on Thursday of each fortnight. Times as above will be adhered to for all future pay periods. Remittances for WAU area will only be dealt with on THURSDAYS and FRIDAYS of each week. Separate arrangements will be made for BULOLO area.
12. MALARIAL PRECAUTIONS : Personnel are reminded of the necessity for continuance of all precautions as per BSOs. Shirts may only be removed when engaged in heavy work, within Coy lines. Slacks will be worn at all times; the cutting down of slacks converting them to shorts will cease forthwith; any breaches of this instruction will be treated as a serious offence.
13. CAMP STORES : Coys are responsible for safeguarding of all camp stores taken over in Coy areas or any additions subsequently made. No stores will be removed or transferred to other Coys without prior authority of Q.M.
14. CONTROLLED STORES : During recent weeks certain controlled stores and weapons have been exchanged between Coys or taken on charge from other units. Coys will take immediate steps to have a complete re-register of all arms and controlled stores on issue to them showing type of store or weapon, quantity held, and where necessary registered numbers. Coys still in possession of AUSTEN GUNS and associated stores will return such weapons to QM by 1800 hrs 9 JUN 43.
15. CLOTHING INDENTS : Indents will be submitted to QM on SATURDAY of each week, - those items available will be collected on SUNDAYS. Issues will only be made to COMS or representative, - NOT to individuals.
16. PERSONNEL FOR AERATED WATER FACTORY :
- (a) Personnel with experience in cordial or aerated water manufacture, or with a natural inclination for mechanical work and a desire to learn a trade, are required for the maintenance and operation of aerated water factories to be established in NEW GUINEA.
  - (b) Applications will be submitted through Coys to reach this HQ by 1800 hrs 9 JUN 43 giving full particulars of qualifications etc..

R.F. DIXON ..... Capt

ADJT 2/7 AUST INF BN



AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE  
ROUTINE ORDERS NO 5NG

Not to be Published

7 Jun 43

BY COL H.G. GUINN

by

COMD 2/7 AUST INF BN

1. BREAKING DOWN OF ARMN . The breaking down of service or armn in anyway other than that authorised by trg publications, hand books, regulations in existence or instructions issued from HQ is strictly forbidden.  
The breaking down of such armn by unauthorised persons is prohibited.  
If any information is required on the internal construction of any type of service armn, reference can be made to Insp Ord Officers.  
Enemy armn will normally be broken down by RAE units (incl Bomb Disposal units) under instructions from formation HQ.  

GRO G34
2. IGNITER SETS - GRENADE 36M - SUSCEPTIBILITY TO MOISTURE.  
The .22 rim fire cartridge used in igniter sets for Grenade 36M are very susceptible to moisture.  
The following procedure will be observed :
  - (a) Should the soldered cylinder, in which igniter are issued, be broken and the whole of the contents not used, the cylinder will be resealed with adhesive tape or shellac.
  - (b) Detonators showing corrosion or verdigris will be suspect. Such detonators will be referred to Insp Ord Officers.Ready for use grenades will be kept to a minimum, consistent with operational needs. This should not exceed four days requirements in advance.  

GRO G342
3. LEAVE WITHOUT PAY : When leave without pay is granted the following will not be payable for the period :
  - (a) Pay including deferred pay.
  - (b) Field allowance.
  - (c) Command allowance
  - (d) Special allowance
  - (e) Exchange allowance.
  - (f) Dependants allowance.
  - (g) Travelling allowance
  - (h) Subsistence allowance.
  - (i) Any allowance payable under regulation 9 of WAR FINANCIAL (Military Forces) Regs.Leave without pay will not be imposed on a member compulsorily and, consequently, will always be covered by a written application from the member. Stating that leave without pay is desired.  

GRO A367
4. PROPAGANDA LEAFLETS : Propaganda leaflets designed for use against the enemy or amongst the natives have been despatched to private addresses through the mail.  
Whilst it is appreciated that most of these leaflets would do little harm if published, there are others which may have serious repercussions if disseminated among certain sections of the Australian and American communities.  
It is therefore forbidden to enclose such matter in mail.  
Franking officers will ensure that this regulation is enforced.  

NGFO G154
5. INTERFERENCE WITH SIGNAL COMMUNICATION : Instances have occurred where field cable and copper wire lines have been cut and portions removed. This results in disruption of essential communication.  
The use of field cable for purposes other than that for which it is intended is strictly forbidden.



Deliberate damage to signal communication and theft of field cable is to be regarded as an offence triable by Court Martial. In all such instances the offender will be charged and a Summary of Evidence taken.

NGFO G182

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8. GRENADE TRAINING : Members should be trained in the use of grenades both throwing and rifle bombing so that the majority will pass the five TsOET. A return giving the results of these tests will be forwarded to BnHQ not later than 24 JUN 43 showing number tested and number qualified. Those who do not qualify will receive further training.
9. INFORMATION REGARDING LOCATION OF GRAVES : Letters of condolence to next of kin or others will NOT disclose place of burial of deceased personnel. Reference can be made to actual burial service but will contain no information regarding location of graves.
10. PISTOLS, POSSESSION OF :
- (i) Pistols of any type or description shall not be sold, purchased or exchanged.
  - (ii) On or after 15 Apr 43 it will be an offence for any member of the AMF to have in his possession or custody any pistol other than one issued to him by Army authority or where he has the permission referred to in part (iii) hereof.
  - (iii) Permission may be granted by a Formation Comd to any member to have in his possession a pistol other than one issued to him: such permission to be in writing, signed personally by Formation Comd.
  - (iv) All ranks in possession of pistols not issued to them or not provided for under the last para will forthwith surrender the same to the QM IMMEDIATELY ON RECEIPT OF THIS INSTRUCTION.
  - (v) All ranks having pistols in their possession are held personally responsible therefor and will immediately report the loss of such pistol.
  - (vi) The loss of a pistol is to be regarded as an offence for which the offender is to be tried by Court-Martial, unless the Formation Comd otherwise directs. In all cases of loss of pistols, the offender will be charged and Summary of Evidence, which will be forwarded to the Formation Comd, will be taken.



(3).

11. PAY : Requisitions for cash will be submitted to PAY SGT by 1000 hrs 9 JUN 43. Cash will be available for collection by 1200 hrs 10 JUN 43. Payments will only be made on Thursday of each fortnight. Times as above will be adhered to for all future pay periods. Remittances for WAU area will only be dealt with on THURSDAY and FRIDAYS of each week. Separate arrangements will be made for BULOLO area.
12. MALARIAL PRECAUTIONS : Personnel are reminded of the necessity for continuance of all precautions as per BSOs. Shirts may only be removed when engaged in heavy work, within Coy lines. Slacks will be worn at all times; the cutting down of slacks converting them to shorts will cease forthwith; any breaches of this instruction will be treated as a serious offence.
13. CAMP STORES : Coys are responsible for safeguarding of all camp stores taken over in Coy areas or any additions subsequently made. No stores will be removed or transferred to other Coys without prior authority of Q.M.
14. CONTROLLED STORES : During recent weeks certain controlled stores and weapons have been exchanged between Coys or taken on charge from other units. Coys will take immediate steps to have a complete re-register of all arms and controlled stores on issue to them showing type of store or weapon, quantity held, and where necessary registered numbers. Coys still in possession of AUSTEN GUNS and associated stores will return such weapons to QM by 1800 hrs 9 JUN 43.
15. CLOTHING INDENTS : Indents will be submitted to QM on SATURDAY of each week, - those items available will be collected on SUNDAYS. Issues will only be made to CQMS or representative, - NOT to individuals.
16. PERSONNEL FOR AERATED WATER FACTORY :
- (a) Personnel with experience in cordial or aerated water manufacture, or with a natural inclination for mechanical work and a desire to learn a trade, are required for the maintenance and operation of aerated water factories to be established in NEW GUINEA.
  - (b) Applications will be submitted through Coys to reach this HQ by 1800 hrs 9 JUN 43 giving full particulars of qualifications etc..

R.F. . . . . DIXON . . . . . Capt

ADJT 2/7 AUST INF BN



AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE  
ROUTINE ORDERS NO 5NG

to be published

7 Jun 43

J. H. G. GUINN

by

COMD 2/7 AUST INF BN

BREAKING DOWN OF AMM . The breaking down of service or amm in anyway other than that authorised by trg public hand books, regulations in existence or instructions issued from HQ is strictly forbidden. The breaking down of such amm by unauthorised persons is prohibited.

If any information is required on the internal construction of any type of service amm, reference can be made to Ordnance Officers.

Enemy amm will normally be broken down by RAE units (Royal Bomb Disposal units) under instructions from formation.

GRO G30

2. IGNITER SETS - GRENADE 26M - SUSCEPTIBILITY TO MOISTURE.  
The 22 rim fire cartridge used in igniter sets for Grenade 36M are very susceptible to moisture.

The following procedure will be observed :

(a) Should the soldered cylinder, in which igniter are issued, be broken and the whole of the contents not used, the cylinder will be resealed with adhesive tape or similar.

(b) Detonators showing corrosion or verdigris will be suspect. Such detonators will be referred to Ordnance Officers.

Ready for use grenades will be kept to a minimum, consistent with operational needs. This should not exceed four days requirements in advance.

GRO G342

LEAVE WITHOUT PAY : When leave without pay is granted the following will not be payable for the period :

(a) Pay including deferred pay.

(b) Field allowance.

(c) Command allowance.

(d) Special allowance.

(e) Exchange allowance.

(f) Dependants allowance.

(g) Travelling allowance.

(h) Subsistence allowance.

(i) Any allowance payable under regulation 9 of WAR TIME (Military Forces) Regs.

Leave without pay will not be imposed on a member compulsorily and, consequently, will always be covered by a written application from the member stating that leave without pay is desired.

GRO A367

4. PROPAGANDA LEAFLETS : Propaganda leaflets designed for use against the enemy or amongst the natives have been despatched to private addresses through the mail.

Whilst it is appreciated that most of these leaflets would do little harm if published, there are others which may have serious repercussions if disseminated among certain sections of the Australian and American communities.

It is therefore forbidden to enclose such matter in mail. Franking officers will ensure that this regulation is enforced.

NGFO G154

INTERFERENCE WITH SIGNAL COMMUNICATION : Instances have occurred where field cable and copper wire lines have been cut and portions removed. This results in disruption of essential communication.

Use of field cable for purposes other than that for which it is intended is strictly forbidden.



Deliberate damage to signal communication and theft of field cable is to be regarded as an offence triable by Court Martial. In all such instances the offender will be charged and a Summary of Evidence taken.

NGFO G182

6. TRANSMISSION OF CASH TO AUSTRALIA : In view of the difficulty of obtaining currency from Australia, the transmission of cash by members of NGF is restricted. Funds can be sent to any address in Australia by :
  - (a) Postal Notes obtainable from F.P.O.
  - (b) Remittance of cash or paybook credit through unit Pay Book.Franking officers will see that cash is not enclosed in letters to Australia. Members may allow pay to accumulate in paybooks, and may also pay in cash to be credited.
7. POSTAL RATES : Postal articles not exceeding four ounces will be delivered in Australia and its territories FREE of any postal charge. This concession will not apply in the following cases :
  - (a) Registration fees on registered articles.
  - (b) Postage on articles exceeding four ounces.
  - (c) Articles for transmission by Air Mail.Troops stationed within and including JEPHEAD will have stamps available from JEPHEAD FPO WAU and FPO BULOLO. Troops outside JEPHEAD will NOT require stamps on letters to ensure Air Mail transmission to all States. Where postage stamps are available, endorsements such as 'ON ACTIVE SERVICE', FIM etc are not necessary and will cease. All such endorsements will be deleted by Censoring officers.
8. GRENADE TRAINING : Members should be trained in the use of grenades both throwing and rifle bombing so that the majority will pass the five TsOET. A return giving the results of these tests will be forwarded to BnHQ not later than 24 JUN 42 showing number tested and number qualified. Those who do not qualify will receive further training.
9. INFORMATION REGARDING LOCATION OF GRAVES : Letters of condolence to next of kin or others will NOT disclose place of burial of deceased personnel. Reference can be made to actual burial service but will contain no information regarding location of graves.
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  - (a) Personnel with experience in cordial or aerated water manufacture, or with a natural inclination for mechanical work and a desire to learn a trade, are required for the maintenance and operation of aerated water factories to be established in NEW GUINEA.
  - (b) Applications will be submitted through Coys to reach this HQ by 1800 hrs 9 JUN 43 giving full particulars of qualifications etc..

R.F. DIXON ..... Capt

ADJT 2/7 AUST INF BN



BF21/BI6/6

H.Q.  
BENA FORCE  
8 June '43. No 5

DISTRIBUTION LIST "B"

CODE INSTRUCTION No. 1.

1. Attached hereto please find unit code names in blocks for use within units.
2. Within units etc., code names will be used as W/T or L/T calls as required.
3. Attached also is list of code names for place names in area under command BENA FORCE. These will be used for all references in signals to such places.

*L. A. L. L.*  
Lieut for Major  
Commanding BENA FORCE

*Supplies*



1405

H.Q.  
BENA FORCE  
8 June '43.

UNIT CODE NAMES

A NGAU . . . . .	DOTA
. . . . .	MUNA
. . . . .	KARA
. . . . .	DUSA
2/7 Aust Indep Coy . . . . .	CASI
. . . . .	DUNI
. . . . .	LASI
. . . . .	PESI
Det. 2/7 Bn . . . . .	HATE
. . . . .	LOME
. . . . .	POSE
A.A.S.C. . . . .	COTO
. . . . .	MOTO

SUB - STATIONS

ASALOKA . . . . .	DAHLIA
AIYURA . . . . .	MARIGOLD
BENA BENA . . . . .	PEA
BUNDI . . . . .	BALSAM
CHIMBU . . . . .	WILDFLOWER
DENGERAGU . . . . .	DAFFODIL
ONGA or GADSUP . . . . .	CANNA
MT. HAGEN . . . . .	SUNFLOWER
KAINANTU . . . . .	NASTURSUM
GAROKA . . . . .	ROSE
GORGME . . . . .	FRESIA
KOMUKA . . . . .	ZINNIA
WEISO . . . . .	COSMOS
LIHONA . . . . .	CARNATION
RAMU H.Q . . . . .	LILAC
KERAWAGI . . . . .	LUPIN
KOREIPA . . . . .	VIOLET
KOR KOR . . . . .	BLUEBELL
WATERBUNG . . . . .	ASPIDASTRA
CHUAVE . . . . .	HYACINTH
MINGENDIE . . . . .	GERANIUM
KUMIANG O.P . . . . .	CALIOPSIS
SIGOYIA . . . . .	TARGET



T Sec

WEEKLY REPORT

H & Coy

WEEK ENDING.

12 JUN 43

A. (a) POSTED STRENGTH 6 offrs 204 OR  
 (b) Repts. vgd. 3 PL 1 offr 14 ORS } .8 11 in  
 6 PL 1 offr } MOS

on new WE total strength is over.

- (c) Lost to hospital 24 Returned 19.
- (d) morning file all available
- (e) bay orderly room . 1.
- (f) No remanded to C.O. 1.
- (g) Inspections - Paybooks once. Gas equipment as per special report to D.M. FEET. twice. TEETH once.

Arms, Equip clothing specialists gear. all checked and shortages listed for replacement.

(H) malaria seems to have increased during last 8 weeks. all recurring cases. Lined only rare cases now. Only one man out of 20 picked for test for lack of vitamins was considered affected. about 20% of coy need dental treatment. Health very fair. Improving daily since return. many minor complaints being treated on off duty periods



B/ (a) Deficiencies in G1098 scale. Total not known in view of existing difficulties. Shortages of War like stores are being requisitioned for.

(b) Stores received - as per attached.

(c) Supply of rations - Fair

(d) meals and cookhouse Good.

(E) State of clothing equipment etc - On return very poor. Daily improvements as issues are being made.

(F) Special remarks - Digging equip, Bayonets, Helmets steel and mosquito nets are the main worry. In almost every case it seems to be due to war to MOS. Re issues cannot be made at present about 60% of Coy are without nets.

Why?

Gardens and Huts are almost non-existent as these impressions need replacement.

Rations scale in some commodities not so good as fuel. Bread is appreciated also Fruit Vegetables and Fresh meat made as a special issue very much appreciated and very beneficial.

(C) 418. Progress in Hy Ex. etc Only E.D. and Pl & Coy still carried out daily. Standard exceptionally good.

C. D Specialists Hy not yet started but in hand for next week.



GENERAL REMARKS

- Discipline - Very good. - Outstanding NCOs - bpl Jones 1 Pl, Sgts Hall & Wilton 4 Pl. WO" Robson.
- Sport. Since returning the coy has played
- (1) Football against 2/5 BN results 2/7 8-15. 2/5 5-15. The team except 2 were all HQ.
  - (2) Cricket against 2/5 BN. Team represented men from A.C. HQ coy. 2/5 BN won by 1 wickets and 61 runs.
  - (3) Several inter-pl swimming contests held. One held on 8 Jun were contested and trophies given as prizes. A recreation hut is now complete and evening entertainment is being arranged. Lighting is the trouble.
- Morale of the coy is excellent; and those men back with the unit who had seen more activity in the recent action than others are picking up remarkably well.
- War diary notes on activities of last two months will be submitted later.
- Issues of Smokes etc and sporting & recreational equipment made over the last few weeks from ACF and Regtl Funds ~~is~~ acknowledged & were much appreciated. Reference is made of the presentation of the American D.S.C. to Mrs Walker the mother of the Late Lieut. Ian Walker.
- honourably signed  
bapt.



C. G. M.S.'s Weekly Report.

Week ending.  
12-6-43.

Received from RQM:-

Blankets 100. - Lanterns 1 - Slacks 30prs - Singlets 71  
Drawers. 83 - Groundsheets. 17. Rifles 11. MIMG's 4.  
Dubbin 150. Soap 200 Cakes - Mosquito Net 36 Bots.

Received from A.C.F. & Army Issue:-

Tobacco. 791 cys. Cigs 164 Small pks - Big Papers. 520 - PK's 51 pks.  
Matches 288 Lins - Choic's 25 Lins - Locks. 432 pks.  
Razor Blades 192. Face Washers 150.

212. Respirators Complete - 270 Anti Gas Ointment -

212. Pkts. Eyeshields - 150 Anti Dim were  
examined by Coy N.E.O.s and were found to be  
in the following condition:-

Respirators. Good. Anti Gas Oint. most of this would  
probably be condemned by an expert. Ointment containers  
are hard to open & affected with rust from lids  
of containers. Eyeshields. In fair order.

Anti Dim. In good order. Gas Capes (13) held in  
Q Store are rather the worse for wear.

Equipments & Bayonets are not yet available.

Received from RQM. 11/6/43.

Boots. 102 pks. Shirts 98, Slacks 91, Socks 120 pks.

Lamp hurricane 2. Laces 50 pks.

Items supplied by RQM are nearly up to  
requirements of Coy. Items other than those  
stated are not yet available.

Coy has been issued with the items  
drawn from RQM.

*[Signature]*

A. C. Ome  
H. G. Coy  
A. Hackelnd.



act



*A*  
 ..... COY      2/7 AUST INF BN  
 WEEKLY REPORT - WEEK ENDING *12th Nov 1943*

- A.
- (a) POSTED STRENGTH *300* ..... and *7600* .....
  - (b) REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED *200* ..... and *4800* .....
  - (c) CHANGES IN STRENGTH DURING WEEK *Stuck off 5. down on 8.00* .....
  - (d) PERCENTAGE OF MEN ON NORMAL TRAINING DURING WEEK *33%* .....
  - (e) No. OF COY ORDERLY ROOMS HELD DURING WEEK *Nil* .....
  - (f) No. REMANDED TO C.O. *Nil* .....
  - (g) INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT :-
    - (i) BOOTS *Each man has at least one pair of good Boots* .....
    - (ii) FEET *In excellent condition* .....
    - (iii) PAYLOOKS *2 in for continuation, Rest good condition* .....
    - (iv) RESPIRATORS *Party cleaning & checking 12 June '43* .....
    - (v) KIT AND CLOTHING GENERALLY *Fair to good* .....
    - (vi) ARMS AND AMMUNITION *Rifle up through Enemy Area  
ammunition correct* .....
    - (vii) MEDICAL AND DENTAL *8 men received Dental treatment* .....
    - (viii) VEHICLES, INCLUDING BICYCLES .....
  - (h) SICKNESS *5 examinations for week, all P.O. Coy. Med. Stock  
fair, in need of Adhesive tape, Whitfield's Oint* .....

- B.
- (a) DEFICIENCIES IN G1098 SCALE .....
  - (b) STORES RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK *Singab 28, O'pants 30  
Gross 18 hats 11; Tent 2 men 9; Lantern 7; Rifle 12  
Blankets 20 Boots 10 Shirts 20 trousers 20 10x50  
Pack kit 1. Tin Mess 3. Mugs 3. Knif 1 fork 1 Spoon  
Dublin tin 10. Fair* .....
  - (c) SUPPLY OF RATIONS .....
  - (d) MEALS AND COOKHOUSE *Good* .....

(over)



(e) STATE OF CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT GENERALLY WITHIN COY .....

*Since moving to present area sufficient issues  
have been received to re equip Coy.  
turn out is good generally.*

(f) SPECIAL REMARKS .....

C.  
(a) PROGRESS IN TRAINING EXERCISES, W/TRG CARRIED OUT (Including  
night exercises and lectures). .....

*Men not employed on  
WK parties have received instruction in elementary  
Drill & w/p.*

(b) STATE OF TRAINING WITHIN COY, FITNESS FOR OPERATIONS .....

*Not yet fit for further ops.*

(c) SCHOOLS AND COURSES ATTENDED AND RESULTS OBTAINED BY PERSONNEL

(d) AID REQUIRED FOR SPECIALIST TRG - MATERIALS, LECTURES ETC.

GENERAL REMARKS eg. DISCIPLINE, OUTSTANDING N C Os AND MEN,

SPORT AND RECREATION, INFORMATION FOR AUSTRALIA, WAR DIARY

NOTES .....

*Discipline fair, NCOs exercising good  
control. Daily insp. show good care of arms  
& Equip. The change of location is proving  
beneficial. Great improvement in general health appearance.*

*L. J. Thomson Capt.  
O.C. H. COY.*

NOTE:- THIS REPORT TO REACH BHQ BY 1200 hrs EACH SATURDAY.



# "D" Coy. Weekly Report

Week-Ending 12. June 1943.

- 1/ (A) Posted Strength 4 OFFRS. 94 ORS.  
(B) REINFORCEMENTS. Required 1 OFFRS 30 ORS.  
(C) CHANGES in STRENGTH during Week 12 ORS MARCHED IN. 1 OR. MARCHED OUT.  
(D) N° of Coy <sup>orderly</sup> Rooms Held. Nil.  
(E) N° REMANDED TO C.O. Nil.

(F) SICKNESS within Coy. 1 CASE MALARIA EVACUATED.  
Numerous cases of boils throughout the Coy.

2/ (A) PERCENTAGE OF MEN ON NORMAL TRNG.

(B) Schools & Courses ATTEND. (RESULTS. ETC. TO HAND). Lt 28595 Sgt Johnson A.I.  
left for N.G.F. Junior Leaders Course 11 June 43.

(C) Aid. Required FOR SPECIALIST TRNG. 4 sec & 7 sec <sup>repacked & ballastate</sup> cartridges required for training purposes. || <sup>to investigate</sup>

(D) STATE OF FITNESS & TRNG. OF COY FOR OPERATIONS. Fitness of Coy only fair,  
Troop generally are unable to stand up to strenuous exertion.

(E) SPECIAL REMARKS.

3/ (A) DEFICIENCIES IN G1098. 1 Bren held by B.H.G. Taken over by R.S.M.  
on 12/6/43. 1 T.S.M.G. - U.S. returned to armourer.

(B) STORES RECEIVED DURING WEEK.

Boots. A.B. 7 PRS.

Reg. Issue. (Tobacco Cigarette)

(C) SUPPLY OF RATIONS Satisfactory.

(D) MEALS & COOKHOUSE. Meals good. Cookhouse satisfactory.

(E) OUTSTANDING N.C.O'S & ITEMS FOR WAR DAIRY

(F) STATE OF CLOTHING & EQUIPMENT WITHIN COY. Pouch. necessary  
req. have been placed with R.G. || O.M. to follow up

(G) SPECIAL REMARKS.

McBeard Capt.  
OC D Coy



Prov. D R L S

1899

B.H. Q.  
2/7 B<sup>M</sup>



367

Certified  
Official  
R. J. Thompson  
Pte



Weekly Report

Week Ending 12.6.43

- A/
- (a) Posted Strength 3 OFF 149 ORs
  - (b) Reinforcements required 2 OFF 76 ORs
  - (c) Changes in strength during week 1 OFF 15 ORs evacuated to hospital 1 OFF 16 ORs marched in.
  - (d) Percentage of men on normal training during week
  - (e) No. of bay orderly rooms held during week Nil
  - (f) No. remanded to C.O. Nil
  - (g) Inspections carried out Daily.
    - (1) Boots OK
    - (2) Feet OK
    - (3) Bay Books OK
    - (4) Respirators —
    - (5) Kit and clothing generally.

(6) Arms and Ammunition. Excellent.

(7) Medical and Dental. 15 awaiting call dental.

(8) Vehicles including Bicycles.

(m) Sickness. 12 on sick parade. Troops seem to be

settling down & responding to better conditions.

(a) Deficiencies in G1098 scale

(b) Stores received during week, Boots A.B 26 pair, Shirts K.D. 30  
Slacks K.D. 44, Socks 75 pair, U. Pants bottom 15 pair,  
Singlets bottom 15 pair, Grandshirts 21

(c) Supply of Rations just Adequate

(d) Meals and cookhouse Excellent.

(e) State of clothing and equipment generally within Coy.

Excellent.

Special Remarks.

DJ



91

(a) Progress in Training Exercises, W/Ing carried out (including night exercises and lectures).

During the work parties & other diversions, little training has been done, except for short period in morning.

(b) State of Training within Coy. Fitness for operations

Consider Coy is fit for operations. R.M.O. gave good report on physical condition of troops.

(c) Schools and courses attended and results obtained by personnel  
NIL.

(d) A/c required for specialist Ing - Materials, Lectures, etc.

(e) General Remarks - eg, Discipline, outstanding P.O's and men, Sport and recreation, Information for Australia, War Diary, Notes

Discipline is being drastically enforced. Parades designed along "Guards" turnout. N.C.O's generally good, but lack experience of handling men - they are being given every opportunity to acquire this experience.

*Handwritten signature*  
D. M. M. Hunt

O.C. C. Coy



QNI  
E

.....<sup>3</sup> COY 2/7 AUST INF BN

WEEKLY REPORT - WEEK ENDING <sup>12 JUNE 43</sup> .....

- A. (a) POSTED STRENGTH .....<sup>3</sup>..... and .....<sup>96</sup>.....
- (b) REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED .....<sup>2</sup>..... and .....<sup>25</sup>.....
- (c) CHANGES IN STRENGTH DURING WEEK .....<sup>S.O.S: 1/10 - T.O.S: 6</sup>.....
- (d) PERCENTAGE OF MEN ON NORMAL TRAINING DURING WEEK .....<sup>99%</sup>.....
- (e) No. OF COY ORDERLY ROOMS HELD DURING WEEK .....<sup>N/A</sup>.....
- (f) No. REMANDED TO C.O. ....<sup>N/A</sup>.....

(g) INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT :-

- (i) BOOTS .....<sup>7.5 main difficulty</sup>..... *When full incident arrives, Quota will be held*
- (ii) FEET .....<sup>Fair - many still tender</sup>.....
- (iii) PAYBOOKS .....<sup>Pay Books - Correct</sup>.....
- (iv) RESPIRATORS .....
- (v) KIT AND CLOTHING GENERALLY .....<sup>Fair</sup>.....
- (vi) ARMS AND AMMUNITION .....<sup>7/11 Correct except 3 2" Mortars without firing pins</sup>.....
- (vii) MEDICAL AND DENTAL .....<sup>Medical supplies good - Dental 4 springs attending Coy.</sup>.....
- (viii) VEHICLES, INCLUDING BICYCLES .....

- (h) SICKNESS .....<sup>examination</sup>..... *1 for medical exam. 1 malaria 1 abrasion foot*  
*1 injury knee 1 injury ankle 1 rheumatism* ..... <sup>6</sup>

- B. (a) DEFICIENCIES IN G1098 SCALE .....
- (b) STORES RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK .....<sup>As per attached list</sup>.....
- (c) SUPPLY OF RATIONS .....<sup>Fair</sup>.....
- (d) MEALS AND COOKHOUSE .....<sup>Good</sup>.....

(over)



(e) STATE OF CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT GENERALLY WITHIN COY *fair*

*boots and gaiters first priority as they are short.*

(f) SPECIAL REMARKS *As guards are being mounted*

*boot points would be appreciated if available*

*Dubbin  
?  
Q.M.*

(a) PROGRESS IN TRAINING EXERCISES, W/TRG CARRIED OUT (Including night exercises and lectures)

*blow over dice, route marches & a little w/ trg*

(b) STATE OF TRAINING WITHIN COY, FITNESS FOR OPERATIONS

*Trg - good  
fitness - the slow marches show effect on the previous and I would not consider them ready for operations.*

(c) SCHOOLS AND COURSES ATTENDED AND RESULTS OBTAINED BY PERSONNEL

*What about NCO school?*

(d) AID REQUIRED FOR SPECIALIST TRG - MATERIALS, LECTURES ETC.

GENERAL REMARKS eg. DISCIPLINE, OUTSTANDING N C Os AND MEN,

SPORT AND RECREATION, INFORMATION FOR AUSTRALIA, WAR DIARY

NOTES *Discipline - good. Football matches and swimming carnival being arranged.*

*J. Allan Capt*  
O.C. B COY.

NOTE:- THIS REPORT TO REACH BHO BY 1200 hrs EACH SATURDAY.



No 8

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

ROUTINE ORDERS 6NG

Not to be Published

17 Jun 43

Lt col H.G. GUINN

by

COLD 2/7 AUST INF BN

1. USE OF SWIMMING POOL:

Swimming Pool is for recreational purposes ONLY, - and will NOT be used for washing purposes

2. ENGINEERING CADETSHIPS

The provision of engineering cadetships (both Civil Engineering and Electrical and Mechanical Engineering) for a limited number of cadets, who may be drawn either from serving personnel or from civilian sources, is under consideration.

2. Although the scheme has not been finally settled or approved, applications will be invited forthwith for cadetships on the following basis:-

- a. Cadets will be selected from candidates between the age of 17 and 20 years, who are medically Class A1, who have become members of the AIF and who have reached Leaving Certificate Standard in English, Mathematics or Science or have equivalent qualifications. Parental consent to join the AIF will be required in respect of any cadet who is not already a member of the AIF.
- b. Cadets selected from civilian sources will be enlisted in the AIF and all cadets will, during their cadetships, remain serving soldiers in the rank of private or sapper, with pay and allowances accordingly. Text books will be provided by cadets at their own expense.
- c. Engineering cadetships will cover a course of military training courses at approved educational establishments and a final course at OCTU, over a period of approximately 3 years. Successful cadets will receive commissions subject to vacancies existing. Pending appointment to commissioned rank, such cadets will be allotted to RAE or AEE units in the ranks.
- d. Cadetships as such will terminate on the cessation of the war, but it is hoped to make arrangements for the completion of the courses which have been commenced, as part of a Repatriation scheme of vocational training.
- e. Cadets who prove unsatisfactory or become medically unfit or who are unsuccessful may have their cadetships terminated and be returned to normal army service.

Personnel with qualifications as required above and desiring to so apply for this cadetship will submit their application with full particulars to reach this HQ NOT later than 22 Jun.

3. LEAKAGE OF MILITARY INFORMATION IN PROCEEDINGS BEFORE CIVIL COURTS

When giving evidence in a civil court, a soldier will merely give his number, rank and name and state he is a member of the AIF, without mentioning the name of his unit.

2. In no circumstances will a soldier divulge in open court the location of his unit, unless the bench rules that a full answer is essential to the case, in which event he will offer to write the information on a slip of paper to be handed to the bench.

3. The danger to the security in disclosing the location of units cannot be too strongly impressed on all ranks.

ARMS - UTILISATION OF

The carving or cutting of names figures or markings on Rifle Stocks will cease. This practice is contrary to Ordnance Procedure and renders the offenders liable to a charge of Damaging Government Property.

5. PACKS AND HAVERSACKS

In order to enable easy identification of packs and haversacks ALL personnel will mark on rear of these stores, their Army No.



6. PISTOLS- POSSESSION OF

Following HGF instruction is again repeated for information and necessary action:

1. Pistols of any type or description shall NOT be sold, purchased or exchanged.
2. On or after 15 Apr 43 it will be an offence for any member of the ATF to have in his possession or custody any pistol other than one issued to him by Army Authority or where he has the permission referred to in para 3 hereof.
3. Permission may be granted by a Formation Comd to any member to have in his possession a pistol other than one issued to such permission to be in writing, signed personally by the Formation Comd.
4. All ranks in possession of pistols not issued to them or not provided for under the last para will forthwith surrender same to the QM immediately on receipt of this instruction.
5. All ranks having in their possession are held personally responsible therefor. All immediately report loss of such pistol.
6. The loss of a pistol is to be regarded as an offence which the offender is to be tried by Court Martial, unless the Formation Comd otherwise directs. In all cases of loss of pistols, the offender will be charged and a summary of evidence, which will be forwarded to the Formation Comd, will be taken.

7. INOCULATION, VACCINATION, BLOOD GROUPING

A return by Coys re above will be submitted to this HQ by 23 Jun 43. TAB, TT injections includes yearly maintenance. Return will show personnel to receive:

X-Ray-Vaccination-TAB-TT-Blood Grouping.  
Numbers only need be shown.

*R. J. ...* Capt  
ADJT 2/7 AUST INF BN

NOTICES

REGTL FUNDS: Distribution of Regtl Funds for period 1 Apr 43 to 10 Jun 43 is as follows:-

FREE ISSUES: £421 - 13 - 2

Cigarettes  
Tobacco  
Chocolate  
Cig Papers  
Soap  
Biscuits  
Stamps  
Writing Material  
Safeties

Payment Regtl Canteen Sgt	Period	
" " Barber	28 Jan - 17 Jun	£35-0-0
	6 Mar- 9 Jun	£17-0-0
Allowance to BENA BENA FORCE		£25-0-0
Purchase Soldiering On Books		3-0-0

TOTAL: £502.11.2

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY. The following have been received from the AUST RED CROSS SOCIETY:-

6,000 Sheets	Writing Paper	100 prs	Pygamas
50	Loose Leaf Pads	144	Pencils
360 prs	Socks	3 Cases	Reading Matter
40	Pullovers	50 prs	Slippers
64 lbs	Cake	1 Case	Household soap
48 "	Chocolate	36 pkts	Playing Cards

The appreciation of the 2/7 AUST INF BN is gratefully expressed for the above.



B COY 2/7 AUST INF BN  
WEEKLY REPORT - WEEK ENDING 19 JUNE 43

- A. (a) POSTED STRENGTH ..... 2 and 94
- (b) REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED ..... 3 and 30
- (c) CHANGES IN STRENGTH DURING WEEK SOS: 1/9 - T.O.S: 5
- (d) PERCENTAGE OF MEN ON NORMAL TRAINING DURING WEEK 90%
- (e) No. OF COY ORDERLY ROOMS HELD DURING WEEK 1 (Result?)
- (f) No. REMANDED TO C.O. ....

(g) INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT :-

- (i) BOOTS GENERAL GOOD - acute shortage 7/3-3
- (ii) FEET Most are improving - many still tender
- (iii) PAYBOOKS Correct
- (iv) RESPIRATORS
- (v) KIT AND CLOTHING GENERALLY Good
- (vi) ARMS AND AMMUNITION All correct except deficiencies already reported
- (vii) MEDICAL AND DENTAL Receiving excellent Dental Treatment - 6 Tinea - 1 Malum
- (viii) VEHICLES, INCLUDING BICYCLES

(h) SICKNESS 1 Malaria evacuated. — fresh case?

B. (a) DEFICIENCIES IN G1098 SCALE

(b) STORES RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK Tobacco 103 lbs - papers: 103 sheets  
Mangel paper 103 lbs - Duxes: 10 - Knives 20 - Forks 15  
Spoons: 7 - Peppers 22 - Soap toilet 206

(c) SUPPLY OF RATIONS Good

(d) MEALS AND COOKHOUSE EXCELLENT

(over)



*Boys  
Team eqpt  
repaired. used*

*Bulbs?*

*Equipment  
repaired to  
detach to  
B & D. Coy's  
22/6/43*

(2)

(e) STATE OF CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT GENERALLY WITHIN COY .....

*Equipment generally in need of repair.  
Equipment is beginning to rot and seams etc give way.*

(f) SPECIAL REMARKS .....

C. (a) PROGRESS IN TRAINING EXERCISES, W/TRG CARRIED OUT (Including night exercises and lectures) .....

*Blow order drill and  
little weapons kg as duties are taking practical  
all personnel.*

(b) STATE OF TRAINING WITHIN COY, FITNESS FOR OPERATIONS .....

*kg - good  
fitness - fair*

(c) SCHOOLS AND COURSES ATTENDED AND RESULTS OBTAINED BY PERSONNEL .....

(d) AID REQUIRED FOR SPECIALIST TRG - MATERIALS, LECTURES ETC. ....

GENERAL REMARKS eg. DISCIPLINE, OUTSTANDING N C Os AND MEN,

SPORT AND RECREATION, INFORMATION FOR AUSTRALIA, WAR DIARY

NOTES *Discipline is very good and smartness increasing*

*due to continued guards*

*Swimming carnival was held (attended) football v 3rd lie ligs  
depart following*

*Sgt Tennant outstanding as acting C.S.M.*

*Yedun Kaban Capt  
O.C. B COY.*

NOTE:- THIS REPORT TO REACH HQ BY 1200 hrs EACH SATURDAY.



## The Swimming Carnival

A score or more of bodies in various stages of dress and undress announced to anyone interested, that B company was holding a swimming carnival in the Dredge Pool, Bulalo on 17 Jan 43. The day was splendid, entirely good and an enjoyable and profitable afternoon was spent. Profitable as regards to platoon competition.

All races were exceptionally well contested, the 100 yds freestyle was won by P/O MacDougall, 50 yds backstroke, P/O Busuttin, 50 yds breaststroke P/O Pounder who also won the Under-14s swim. The diving went to P/O Thompson while the big game and Lemon races were claimed by P/O March and Sgt Brown respectively. The honor of Coy HQ was barely held by the Coy command in the 50 yds freestyle. - num?

Judging was done by Capt Peterson R.M.O and Capt Fletcher Dental unit whilst the starting and judging was carried out by Sgt. Hunt armed with a megaphone like the last Trump and clad in the very latest Army issue towel.

The event of the day was afforded by one unofficial judge and steward, who was adorned in one of Nature's finest suits surmounted by American type giggle hat, following the course of his duties in a most unseaworthy flat, he slowly but surely disappeared to the great delight of the onlookers.

The results of the platoon competition were 1<sup>st</sup> - 10 pl ; 2<sup>nd</sup> - 12 pl  
3<sup>rd</sup> - 11 pl.



B.D. Coy, RIFAF v 3 His Ligs.

On 13 Jun 43 a combined team from B.D. Coy and RIFAF played 3 His Ligs Australian rules football. The game was hard and clean with scores 3-2 - 3-3 in our favor at quarter time. In the second quarter we managed to increase our lead with half time scores 5-8 - 4-6. After the break condition and team work told resulting in Ligs going to the front so that three quarter scores were 16-8 - 9-13 in favor of Ligs. During this quarter No. 1 was injured and retired with a dislocated elbow. Ligs romped away in the concluding quarter and final scores were 6-8 - 10-22 with the honors going to 3 His Ligs.

D Coy representatives Sgt. Cox, No. Halley. B Coy were represented by Lieut. Mallett, No. Mellier, Rigdon, Baker, Anderson, Thompson, MacDougall, Cook, Sgt. Nelson, Cpl. Puviard.

Best player Sgt. Cox, Cpl. Puviard.



Yokohama  
Central Office

232



ADVT.  
2/7 Aust Inf Bn  
263



D. Coy. WEEKLY REPORT. Week ending 18 June 43

- 1/ A) POSTED STRENGTH. 3 OFFRS. 95 ORS.  
B) REINFORCEMENTS, REQUIRED. 2 OFFRS. 29 ORS.  
C) CHANGES, IN, STRENGTH, DURING, WEEK. 1 off 2 OR's marched out  
D) NO. OF, COY, ORDERLY, ROOMS, HELD. NIL. <sup>3 off's marched in</sup>  
E) NO. REMANDED TO, ~~THE~~ C.O. NIL.  
F) SICKNESS, WITHIN, COY. 2 OR's evac. malaria. Bails still prevalent.

- 2/ A) PERCENTAGE, OF, MEN, ON, NORMAL, TRAINING. Bren gunners Nos 1, 2 & 3 in a section, being put through complete course of extraction.  
B) SCHOOL, AND, COURSES, ATTENDED. (RESULTS, ETC, TO, BE, FOUND.)

- C) AID, REQUIRED, FOR, SPECIALIST, TRAINING. 36 grenades both 4 sec & 7 sec, required for training purposes. Req submitted.  
D) STATE, OF, FITNESS, AND, TRAINING, OF, COY FOR, OPERATIONS.  
Fitness of my ~~firm~~ <sup>firm</sup>. A large percentage of men cannot stand up to strenuous exertion, marching in heat etc.  
E) SPECIAL REMARKS.

- 3/ A) DEFICIENCIES, IN, G.1098. 1 Bren taken over by R.S.M 17 May 43.  
1 T-SMG. returned to Ordnance by armourer.  
B) STORES, RECEIVED, DURING, WEEK.

As per list attached.

- C) SUPPLY, OF, RATIONS. Satisfactory  
D) MEALS, AND, COOKHOUSE. Meals good, cookhouse satisfactory.  
E) OUTSTANDING, NCO, AND, ITEMS, FOR, WAR, DIARY.

- F) STATE, OF, CLOTHING, AND, EQUIPMENT, WITHIN, COY.  
Shortage of small size slacks.

- G) SPECIAL REMARKS.

The receipt of the following from A.C.F. acknowledged with thanks.  
160 Pbs socks.  
160 cakes toilet soap  
80 face washers.  
P. Beard Capt  
of D Coy



Adjutant  
2/10/1917 Inf Bn



- A. (a) POSTED STRENGTH *3 off* ..... and *13 OK* .....
- (b) REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED *2 off* ..... and *51 OK* .....
- (c) CHANGES IN STRENGTH DURING WEEK *8 truck off Stk. 8 take on Stk.* .....
- (d) PERCENTAGE OF MEN ON NORMAL TRAINING DURING WEEK .....
- (e) No. OF COY ORDERLY ROOMS HELD DURING WEEK *Nih.* .....
- (f) No. REMANDED TO C.O. *Nih.* .....

(g) INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT :-

- (i) BOOTS *Every man in possession 1<sup>st</sup> class gae. Coy Boot repairs on the job.* .....
- (ii) FEET *In excellent condition a few minor cases of Tinea since arrival - frequent cases.* .....
- (iii) PAYBOOKS *In good order.* .....
- (iv) RESPIRATORS .....
- (v) KIT AND CLOTHING GENERALLY *Good* .....
- (vi) ARMS AND AMMUNITION *Care of arms good. Ammo. good.* .....
- (vii) MEDICAL AND DENTAL *I have received dental treatment. 400<sup>0</sup> evac. 3 P.W. 1 only has case of malaria.* .....
- (viii) VEHICLES, INCLUDING BICYCLES .....

(h) SICKNESS *Rate of sickness in present area has been low. It was only since arriving in present area on 28 May.*

B. (a) DEFICIENCIES IN G1098 SCALE .....

(b) STORES RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK *BAYONETS 15 SCABBARDS 15  
TROUS. BAYONETS 15 TINS MESS 9. PANNIKINS 9. KNIVES 15. FORKS 6. SPOONS 14  
RAZORS 2 COMBS 10. TULLOVERS 14. EQUIP. SETS COMPLETE 12. PACKS 3. STRAPS SUPP. 24  
MORTARS 2. SIGHTS VM 2. CHESTS 3. M. 2.*

(c) SUPPLY OF RATIONS *Fair.*

(d) MEALS AND COOKHOUSE *Best possible meals with rations available. Cookhouse Good.*



(e) STATE OF CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT GENERALLY WITHIN COY .....

*Almost up to date, some towels needed also  
gaiters & hats. Brushes tooth*

(f) SPECIAL REMARKS .....

C.

(a) PROGRESS IN TRAINING EXERCISES, W/TRG CARRIED OUT (Including night exercises and lectures) .....

*Periods of w/t + Drill for those not engaged on wk parties are raising the standard.*

(b) STATE OF TRAINING WITHIN COY, FITNESS FOR OPERATIONS .....

(c) SCHOOLS AND COURSES ATTENDED AND RESULTS OBTAINED BY PERSONNEL .....

*A/SGT. L. H. R. S. to N.C. Tactical School, Junior Leaders Wing.  
13 June '43*

(d) AID REQUIRED FOR SPECIALIST TRG - MATERIALS, LECTURES ETC. ....

GENERAL REMARKS eg. DISCIPLINE, OUTSTANDING N C Os AND MEN,

SPORT AND RECREATION, INFORMATION FOR AUSTRALIA, WAR DIARY

NOTES *Discipline fair, Competitive Range practice*

*as intended could not be carried out owing to wk parties*

*+ 25 men at EDIE CREEK. General attitude of N.C.O's & acting Sec*

*leads is good.*

*A. J. Lawson Capt.*  
O.C. A. COY.

NOTE:- THIS REPORT TO REACH BHQ BY 1200 hrs EACH SATURDAY.



C. COY 2/7 Aust Inf Bn.  
Weekly Report

Week ending 29-6-43

- A/ (a) Posted strength. 2 OFF 54 OR's  
(b) Reinforcements required. 3 OFF 71 OR's  
(c) Changes in strength during week. 2 OFF and 6 OR's evac to Hospital  
1 OFF and 11 OR's marched in. from M.D.S and Rest Camp.
- (d) Percentage of men on normal training during week. 50%  
(e) No of bay orderly rooms held during week. 1  
(f) No remanded to C.O. 1  
(g) Inspections carried out.  
(h) Boots. Yes  
(i) Put. Yes In good condition generally  
(j) Paybooks. Yes  
(k) Respirators.  
(l) Kit and clothing generally. Yes  
(m) Arms and Ammunition. Yes  
(n) Medical and Dental. 8 OR's reported for Dental treatment  
1 OR for Medical.  
(o) Vehicles including Bicycles. NIL  
(p) Sickness. 11 OR's attended sick parades during week.
- B/ (a) Deficiencies in G1098 scale. NIL  
(b) Stores received during week.  
PULLOVERS WEB EQUIPMENT POUCHES BASIC 6 BELTS 3 BRACES 6  
FROGS 2 BAYONETS 3 SCABBARDS 3  
(c) Supply of rations.  
Has been adequate  
(d) Meals and cookhouse.  
Cooking has been excellent and of high standard.



e) State of clothing and equipment generally within Coy  
Position re clothing has improved though some is still required. Some boots need repairing, but new ones are needed, some men having only one pair.

f) Special remarks.

Personnel returning from hospital are lacking certain equipment, e.g. webbing equipment.

Tarnishing is required for camouflage nets in Coy area issued to Coy 20/6/43

g) (a) Progress in training exercises, W/Try carried out (including night exercises and lectures).

Some W/Try has been carried out, and standard has been satisfactory

(b) State of training within Coy, fitness for operations.

Try is satisfactory and Coy is fit for operations

c) Schools and courses attended, and results obtained by Personnel.

\* Cpl Johnson, N., departed for Junior Leaders course

d) Aid required for specialist Try - Materials, Lectures, etc.

Would be of assistance if amm was available for practice firing

Is available on request! Inform Coy command

General remarks eg. Discipline, outstanding N.C.O's and men. Sport and recreation, Information for Australia, War Diary Notes

Discipline Good

Outstanding N.C.O's. As only routine work has been done, none this week

Sport & Recreation Football has been played.

Information for Aust } NIL  
War Diary Notes }

C.

P. C. Thomas

O.C. C. COY.

Lieut



H.Q. Coy WEEKLY REPORT week ending 19 Jun 43

- A/ (a) Posted strength 6 officers 203 ORS.  
(b) Reinforcements required on new WE NIL 2 officers 1 mtr 1 Tk/A.  
(c) changes in strength. 1 OR less. 15 to Corp 15.  
Transfers Out 4. In 3.  
(D) Percentage men on normal try. 1 Pl 25%  
2 Pl 100%  
4 Pl 100%  
3 Pl } essential  
Holding Pl } Duties & Guard.
- (E) NO bay orderly room  
(F) NIL  
(G) Arms daily, Let once, Kit once, Quarters daily  
Malarial precautions 1400 hrs daily  
(H) Health very fair, Let good. 15 to Corp.  
12 malarial 1 new case. 2 Schistosomiasis.

- B/ A Deficiencies in G1098. as requisitioned for.  
B. Shows received during week. see attached.  
C Supply of rations Fair  
D meals and cookhouses good.  
E State of clothing and equipment generally within the pl.  
Fair except for:- clothing. Hats, Belts, Gaiters.  
Equipment. Odd articles short due to evacuation.  
for hospital in field areas and with drawal of certain articles, such as helmets steel, hats mosquito nets, webbing Bayonets, ground sheets.  
(F) replacements requisitioned for and Loss & damage forms being prepared for doubtful cases.

- (C) A.B. State of Log within Coy. 1 Pl Fair, needs refresher in w/T, cipher etc. being arranged coming week.  
2 Pl. mtr try under 7 Aust m.c. Bn progressing favourably.

3 Pl on FSD Guard but 1 det try.  
4.. cadre course Tk/A guns progressing favourably.  
Satisfactory standard for Ops.

C. Schools required for Sigs in w/T etc will endeavour to arrange. NCO school within unit in certain subjects.  
Tk/A & mtr schools when possible. *homan* *Edwards* *left*



C.Q.M.S. Weekly Report.

HQ Coy.  
19-6-43.

Received from R.Q.M.

Packs Universal. 3	—	Straps Haversack carrying left.	38.
Belt Waist. 16	—	" " " " " " " " " " " "	Right 38.
Trogs. 12.		Straps supporting.	6.
Braces Left. 18.		Bayonets. 19.	Pouches Basic. 30.
" Right. 18.		Scabbards 19.	Dill Bottles. 15.
Cullthroughs. 19.			

Returned R.Q.M.

Pistols 13.		Boys R/tauk. Rifles 9.
		" " " " " " " " " " " "
		Mags. 49 in 7 Boxes.

Boots for repair. 4 prs. Sent so repaired at 18-6-43.

Additional Issues from R.Q.M.

Mess Tins. 15.	—	Knives 23.	Forks 19.	Spoons. 20.
Panmikan. 17.	—	Pullovers	Jeasey. 19.	1 Bag Toilet Soap.

Exchanged at R.Q.M. 2 Camp Kettles Oval.

Distributed to Platoons. Soap. Dubbin & Socks.

[Signature]  
 [Signature]  
 A Shackelford C.Q.M.S.  
 HQ Coy.



# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

**CALL  
AND  
INSTRUC-  
TIONS**

IN

OUT

No. of Groups  
**GR.**

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

*2/7 Bn*

*151*

FROM

*17 Bde*

Originator's Number

*999*

Date

*20*

In Reply to Number

<i>3 Dn</i>	<i>advises</i>	<i>KING</i>	<i>has</i>	<i>immediate</i>
<i>DSO</i>	<i>As</i>	<i>VX4740</i>	<i>MAJOR</i>	<i>K WALKER</i>

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

*1502*

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

SIGNATURE.....

(BELOW THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

*T.H.S.*

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

T.O.R.



*C.* ..... COY 2/7 AUST INF BN

WEEKLY REPORT - WEEK ENDING 26 June 43

*Coy area 2 off. 19 OR.*

- A. (a) POSTED STRENGTH *3 off.* ..... and *69 OR.* ..... *BLACK CAT. 1 - 22 "*
- (b) REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED *2 off.* ..... and *55 OR<sup>2</sup>* .....
- (c) CHANGES IN STRENGTH DURING WEEK *4 off strength, 3 taken on.* .....
- (d) PERCENTAGE OF MEN ON NORMAL TRAINING DURING WEEK *33%* .....
- (e) No. OF COY ORDERLY ROOMS HELD DURING WEEK *Nil* .....
- (f) No. REMANDED TO C.O. *Nil* .....

(g) INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT :-

- (i) BOOTS *Good. Some pairs required to complete N.A. Coy. Postmaster under instruction at Bed* .....
- (ii) FEET *Minor cases of lice, responding to treatment.* .....
- (iii) PAYBOOKS *In good order* .....
- (iv) RESPIRATORS *OK* .....
- (v) KIT AND CLOTHING GENERALLY *Fair to good, hats & Gaiters* .....
- (vi) ARMS AND AMMUNITION *Required washing facilities are good, soap plentiful & turned out is generally fair. Daily inspections essential* .....
- (vii) MEDICAL AND DENTAL *Good care of weapons. 300 S.A.R. fired in Range. 7 OR<sup>2</sup> have received dental treatment.* .....
- (viii) VEHICLES, INCLUDING BICYCLES .....

- (h) SICKNESS *14 Evacuations. 3 P.V.O. 1 appeal* .....
- Full Malarial precautions are being taken.* .....

B. (a) DEFICIENCIES IN G1098 SCALE .....

(b) STORES RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK .....

- OK* *Fly spray!* .....
- Leak mosq.* .....

(c) SUPPLY OF RATIONS *Only fair* .....

(d) MEALS AND COOKHOUSE *Meals are fair* .....

*Cook house - excellent order.* .....



(e) STATE OF CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT GENERALLY WITHIN COY .....  
*Req. for new. Submitted 26 June. Recall.*

(f) SPECIAL REMARKS .. *A competitive section shoot is being conducted*  
*Conditions: - Range 300. 5 Rnds. App. not to count. 10 Rnds App. 10 Rnd.*  
*Rapid. Prize parcel donated to Coy by Padre O'Keefe.*  
*3 secs have completed shoot, standard high several exceptionally*  
*good scores, some only a few points short of possible*

C.  
(a) PROGRESS IN TRAINING EXERCISES, W/TRG CARRIED OUT (Including  
night exercises and lectures). *No. 9 Pl. Stationed Black. Cpt.*  
*Continuously in endeavour to locate new tracks or*  
*possible signs of Enemy. O.P. Messing w/ R. forties &*  
*Camp duties have hampered training of other Pls.*

(b) STATE OF TRAINING WITHIN COY, FITNESS FOR OPERATIONS .....

(c) SCHOOLS AND COURSES ATTENDED AND RESULTS OBTAINED BY PERSONNEL .....

(d) AID REQUIRED FOR SPECIALIST TRG - MATERIALS, LECTURES ETC. ....

GENERAL REMARKS eg. DISCIPLINE, OUTSTANDING N C Os AND MEN,  
SPORT AND RECREATION, INFORMATION FOR AUSTRALIA, WAR DIARY  
NOTES *A & C Coy played a game of Rugby on Friday, with*  
*practice these teams would put on a fine display should be*  
*encouraged. All NCOs & acting. sec. leaders are doing a fair job.*

*L. J. Dawson Capt.*  
O.C. H. COY.

NOTE:- THIS REPORT TO REACH BRQ BY 1200 hrs EACH SATURDAY.



15. C. Coy 2/7 Aust Inf Bn  
 Weekly Report Week Ending 26<sup>th</sup> June

- A/
- a) Posted Strength 3 OFF<sup>s</sup> 59 ORs
  - b) Reinforcements required 2 OFF 66 ORs
  - c) Changes in strength during Week, 5 ORs evacuated.  
 1 OR transferred to HQ Coy, 1 OFF 9 ORs marched  
 in from base camp. 3 OR transferred from HQ Coy
  - d) Percentage of men on Normal Training during Week 75%
  - e) No of Coy orderly rooms held during Week Nil
  - f) No remanded to C.O Nil
  - g) Inspections carried out
    - 1 Boots yes
    - 2 Hat yes
    - 3 Parbooks yes
    - 4 Respirators No
    - 5 Hat and clothing generally yes
    - 6 Arms and Ammunition yes
    - 7 Medical and Dental. 5 men attended Dentist
    - 8 Vehicles including Bicycles, Nil
    - h) Sickness, 5 ORs reported at Sick Parades

- B/
- a) Deficiencies in G 1098 scale Nil
  - b) Stores received during Week. Boots AB 9 pair,  
 Slacks KD 16, Shirts KD 20, Singlets 4,  
 T. Pants 4, Ground shirts 8, Gaiters 2,  
 Laces 24 pair, Web Equipment complete 4,  
 Packs 5. Shaps supporting 10, Shaps shoulder 5
  - c) Supply of rations, Adequate
  - d) Meals and cookhouse, Good

New  
 10  
 10



e) State of clothing and equipment generally within Coy, clothing has improved Equipment - Fair

f) Special remarks, some equipment is being repaired by equipment repairer

g) a) Progress in training exercises, W/Ting carried out (including night exercises and lectures) T's. O.E.T. Grenade, good results, few men receiving extra practice. Lecture by Educational Officer

b) State of training within Coy, fitness for operations by Coy fit for operations

c) Schools and courses attended and results obtained by Personnel. 1 man attending Hygiene course H.Q. Coy

d) Aid required for specialist Trg - Materials Lectures etc. If possible to be arranged, a lecture by H.L.O on aircraft co-operation.   
 Capt. [Signature]   
 with Lt [Signature]

General remarks, eg. Discipline, outstanding N.C.O's and men. Sport and recreation, Information for Australia, War Diary Notes

Discipline Good

Outstanding N.C.O's Capt. Webster showed out on W/Ting

Sport and Recreation Rugby football was played 25 Jun against "H" Coy Cricchet was played 20 Jun

Information for Australia } Nil  
War Diary Notes }

26 June H3

P. B. Thomas Lieut  
O.C. C. Coy



Weekly Report

H R Coy

week ending 26 June 1943

- A/ a Posted strength. 6 officers 202  
 b reinforcements required 2 officers. NIL.  
 in actual nos over strength in new WE 15 ORS  
 which includes specialists and barriers awaiting  
 disposal. 2 pl down 6 ORS but am awaiting  
 return BENA FORCE
- c change in strength 5 woe to MOS 3 transferred out - 8  
 6 ret from MOS 1 in 7.  
 Less ORS 1
- D Percentage of men on normal try. 1 Pl 100%  
 2 " 100%  
 3 " 25% duty pl for week  
 4 " 100%  
 6 " 100%  
 48 " Guard duties

- (E) bay orderly rooms NIL  
 (F) orderly room unattended NIL  
 (G) Inspections, arms, amm, anti malarial, quarters  
 latrines, kitchens Rec HUT daily. Paybooks  
 once. Lat once. Kit inspection once. Equip-  
 ment once.  
 (H) Sickness Health good. True war PVO, all have had  
 malaria previously.

- B/ (a) deficiencies 61098 - as list to Com. all affixed for.  
 (b) stores received as per appendix A. OK  
 (c) supply of rations. Enby fair. Scale as issued  
 is deficient certain articles, 2 flour, cheese,  
 hormone. This is probably due to Lft.  
 Although a limited supply of Green's Fruit has  
 been received it does not appear to be of the  
 quantities which 3000 unthoused we should get.  
 In absence of bread flour if available would help.  
 (D) meals and workhouses 6000  
 (E) State of clothing. fair. several sizes boots etc  
 required. Hats and Gaiters need urgent re-use  
 and replacement.



B. (E) contd.

Equipment generally fair but much worn. Still a few x mos to be felled out.

(F) A decided improvement in turn out has been noticed as equipment is being replaced. Parties conspicuously by their absence also RTRs. Pals. Since new WE is being worked on Arms. equipment are being stabilized on new scale.

C (a) NIL

(b) Coy within Coy progressing satisfactory.

1 Pl refresher course on after w/T and the more specialized side of signal in progress.

2 Pl/ mmoa try and 7 mmoa instructor progressing satisfactorily. a range practice and field firing shoot in progress today. This pl needs holding up especially with NCOs as at present

3 are at schools. The return of mmoa see at BENT would greatly improve pl.

3 Pl Refresher course for newer men and initial try for a new det just taken in strength of pl has been in progress 2 days. mortar pl has been greatly affected by sickness and at present is most disorganized pl in Coy but is well in hand and hope to show marked improvement by end next week. This pl did 10 days guard duty.

4 Pl. Today finished two weeks course by 24 in instructors. in TR/A gunnery. Pl worked very well and instructors have given me a report on each man's ability. They also inform me that the standard of try reached by our pl was best in Bde, also adaptability and interest by men. The shoot carried out was satisfactory and equalled any they have seen under conditions of fixed targets. The gun drill & discipline during shoot very good. This pl has been reorganized and although is short of 10 CO will continue try.

4 B pl consisting of unallocated personnel doing guard duty at present.

General state of ~~training~~ training good.

(C) Two byts at RCAF school, 2 NCOs in mmoa school

(D) Lectures & specialists school.

GENERAL

Morale good, Discipline good, 6 pl has show acting can do a good job. Promotions with CRE II show report that a good job being done. CRE informed pl could win satisfactorily. Recreation Hut and Library well in demand. E. h installed for night use for hours

6 pl. Bombmaker has coy part time refusers in hand. by equipment has coy support men in try.

Boys from previous note to C.O.C in C.

DN

||

TH



C.Q.M.S. Weekly Report. Week Ending 26-6-43

Received from R.Q.M.

Trousers & D. 14 - Shirts - 15 - Pullovers 2 - Boots 5 prs.  
 Brushes Shaving 16 - Spoons 3 - Forks 3 - Knives 3.  
 Razors 3 - Mosq Nets 87 - Singlets 26 - Drawers 17.  
 Sox 9 - Ground Sheets 16 - Gaiters 1 pr. & Flyspray ✓  
 Oil Bottles Rifle 3. Pullthroughs 2. Equip Sets 4.  
 Trogs 2 - Bag 2 - Scabs 2. Belts Waist 2.  
 W Battle carriers 6. Rifles 8.

OK

Army Issues. Tob-papers - matches - Razor Blades.  
P.C.F. Toilet Soap & Washing Soap.

Returned R.Q.M. Bren Guns 5 - Spare Barrels 6.  
 Wallets 3.

Complete Requisition for all shortages called for by R.Q.M. - in hand! - Boot repairer has no spurs for repairs - 2 prs of boots for repairs handed in this week.

Received from R.Q.M. 24/6/43. 2 Spare parts Boxes  
 Vickers 303" M.G. (Complete) 2 night Aiming Boxes

Commandant  
 26/6/43



ADJY



D. Coy. WEEKLY REPORT.

25 Jun 43.

- 1/ A.) POSTED STRENGTH. 3 OFFRS. 97 ORS.  
 B.) REINFORCEMENTS. REQUIRED. 2 OFFRS. 27 ORS.  
 C.) CHANGES IN STRENGTH DURING WEEK. 4 out 6 in.  
 D.) NO. OF COY. ORDERLY ROOMS HELD. Nil  
 E.) NO. REMANDED TO O.C. Nil.  
 F.) SICKNESS WITHIN COY. 2 evacuees P.O.O. Oshalarin  
 Boils still prevalent.

- 2/ A.) PERCENTAGE OF MEN ON NORMAL TRAINING. Coy occupied with work on Bulala chrome & 1 Pl guard at F.S.D. This guard now relieved by B Coy  
 B.) SCHOOL AND COURSES ATTENDED. (RESULTS ETC. TO HAND.)

- C.) AID. REQUIRED FOR SPECIALIST TRAINING. Grenades 36 both 4 Sec & 7 Sec required for training in throwing & use of rifle dischargers. Practice in use of dischargers particularly necessary.  
 D.) STATE OF FITNESS AND TRAINING OF COY. FOR OPERATIONS.

Health of men is generally good. Very little sickness within the Coy. Standard of training good.

- E.) SPECIAL REMARKS. Bren Grenades have been put through a short refresher course. Standard of training good. Permission to carry out range practice requested. 307 range in vicinity.

- 3/ A.) DEFICIENCIES IN G.I.O.G. 1 Bren (7 Pl) taken over by R.S.M. at Suddell 120 May 43.  
 1 T.S.M. No 22210 U.S. ret'd to armourer 2 May 43.

- B.) STORES RECEIVED DURING WEEK. 4/ Sheets 3 Bootlaces Pro 8 Knives 4 M. 3 Bets Bayonets 29 Scabbards 29 f. rags 24 Pull throughs 27. plugly rags 3

- 4/ C.) SUPPLY OF RATIONS. Satisfactory with exception of tea & coffee, in particularly short supply.

- D.) MESS AND COOKHOUSE. Very good.

- E.) OUTSTANDING NCO. AND ITEMS FOR WAR DIARY.

- F.) STATE OF CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT WITHIN COY. Generally good. Small size slacks, small size boots & hats f.f. required.

- G.) SPECIAL REMARKS. 17 Pl moved to WOLOLO on 24 Jun returning Coy area 30 Jun 43.

Barred Capt  
O.C. Coy.



WEEKLY  
REPORT



*TR*

..... *B* COY 2/7 AUST INF BN

WEEKLY REPORT - WEEK ENDING *26 June 43*

- A. (a) POSTED STRENGTH ..... *2* ..... and *92* .....
- (b) REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED ..... *3* ..... and *32* .....
- (c) CHANGES IN STRENGTH DURING WEEK *7.05: 3 - 8.05: 4* .....
- (d) PERCENTAGE OF MEN ON NORMAL TRAINING DURING WEEK *92%* .....
- (e) No. OF COY ORDERLY ROOMS HELD DURING WEEK ..... *-* .....
- (f) No. REMANDED TO C.O. .... *-* .....

(g) INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT :-

- (i) BOOTS *Still a few per need. other good* .....
- (ii) FEET *Good - few cases tinea* .....
- (iii) PAYBOOKS *All correct* .....
- (iv) RESPIRATORS ..... *-* .....
- (v) KIT AND CLOTHING GENERALLY *Good* .....
- (vi) ARMS AND AMMUNITION *Arms excellent condition* .....
- (vii) MEDICAL AND DENTAL *Dental treatment available* .....
- (viii) VEHICLES, INCLUDING BICYCLES .....

(h) SICKNESS *Tinea 4 - Diarrhoea 1 - Tinea 5*  
*& eruptions. malaria both relapses* .....

B. (a) DEFICIENCIES IN G1098 SCALE .....

*Plus  
20 winter shelter 4  
shelter 4  
shelter 3*

(b) STORES RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK *Web Equip 5 - Belts 1 -*  
*Sunglasses 9 2 - Double Brace 2 - Packs 2 - Books 14*  
*Water Bottle Carriers 5 - Canvas Stools 15 - Shirts 8 - Socks 12 -*  
*Sunglasses 14 - Tobacco 77 - Uniforms 3* .....

(c) SUPPLY OF RATIONS *Fair* .....

(d) MEALS AND COOKHOUSE *Good* .....

(over)



(2)

(e) STATE OF CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT GENERALLY WITHIN COY .....

*Nothing available in good condition  
Equipment being repaired*

(f) SPECIAL REMARKS .....

.....  
.....

C.  
(a) PROGRESS IN TRAINING EXERCISES, W/TRG CARRIED OUT (Including night exercises and lectures) .....

*Practically no trg owing to duties*

(b) STATE OF TRAINING WITHIN COY, FITNESS FOR OPERATIONS .....

*General fitness - fair*

(c) SCHOOLS AND COURSES ATTENDED AND RESULTS OBTAINED BY PERSONNEL .....

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

(d) AID REQUIRED FOR SPECIALIST TRG - MATERIALS, LECTURES ETC. ....

.....  
.....

GENERAL REMARKS eg. DISCIPLINE, OUTSTANDING N C Os AND MEN, SPORT AND RECREATION, INFORMATION FOR AUSTRALIA, WAR DIARY NOTES .....

*Discipline good  
Owing to duties no sport this week*

*Peddie A. G. ... Capt  
O.C. of COY.*

NOTE:- THIS REPORT TO REACH BHQ BY 1200 hrs EACH SATURDAY.



NO 14

D

Notes for War Diary H & Coy April - Jun 43

Early in April try of H & Coy after reorganization had reached a very satisfactory standard and one which showed readiness for ops. To summarise:- 1 Pl had a refresher for weaker personnel for 4 weeks, other more efficient men had attended a 4/T and W/T course at 3 Div Sigs. 2 Pl had been try for some time as m/c pl and although we had only one gun through cooperation with B Coy 7 Div Bn they made available stores and instructors for try which included one field shoot. This pl was in effect a rifle pl with a sub sec m/c. 3 Pl had undergone a refresher course and also had been trained in inf roles such as patrols etc. 4 Pl which was to become T/A pl and as such was organized on paper at that stage consisted of 2 ops and 60 ORs made up from carrier and tft personnel. During march Capt TATTERSON was attached to the coy and was given the job of supervising inf try for these two pls plus either of 5 pl or 2 pl. It was hoped that if the occasion arose or the circumstances demand H & Coy could have put into the field a force, apart from specialists, equivalent to and trained as a Rifle Coy. Rifle discharger cups and 2" mtrs were obtained. Patrolling and inf attack and ambush tactics were practised and several Range practices conducted. In addition both the pls formed from carrier tft personnel and 2 pl had been on the BLACK CAT standing pl patrol. For sometime previous 5 pl had been under comd of 8 Td Coy and were in good fettle. The coy had been fitted out and was quite complete and the functions of 6 pl showed that the Admin pl was functioning. By this time the coy was fit and was ready for action. On 9 April the Bn commenced to move forward to relieve the 2/5 Bn and 2/7 A.I.C. On 12 April H & Coy less Sig terminals was due to move. The coy moved out under comd Capt Latham the normal comd having to remain to hand over to 2/5 Bn when they arrived. The coy moved out less 1 Pl at Black bat and 1 Pl attached to 14 Field Coy. These two pls moved some two days later.



One of the Bn tasks was the construction and repair of staging camp at SUMMIT, MACDOUFF SKINDEWAI and HOUSE BANANA as well as maintenance of the L of C including resorts for native carriers. This task was given to HQ Coy whose HQ had been sited at SKINDEWAI where also the QM set up his Q store and what could be termed B ech area. A few B HQ personnel and several ORs from all coys who could not be sent front line under command Sgt James were attached HQ Coy and based at SUMMIT to control the staging camp. A rear HQ was established at Old Beck with a det of 6 pl to control and feed essential stores to base at SKINDEWAI. On their arrival at BALLANS the carrier pl HQ under command Lieut NEWTON were attached to 3 OIS sgs to cut a <sup>track</sup> ~~line~~ for a laying of a double copper signal line for L of C sgs. They received a pl of A Coy about 19 apr so that A Coy could move complete to MAT MAT. The other carrier pl was based on SUMMIT - MACDOUFF. 5 pl & Coy HQ and 6 pl at SKINDEWAI and at HOUSE BANANA 2 det's mortars that pl being fired with sgs at B HQ and coys. As soon as the show settled down things went ahead at good pace and as we controlled practically the whole of the L of C from jeep head each BALLANS but where we had a small staff to safeguard our interests it was conducted to our satisfaction with the cooperation of ANGAU and AHSC.

Each of the staging camps was to be built to hold 200 staging personnel and to have sufficient bunks, kitchen & latrine facilities. As "messes" were handy showers were erected at all areas. On 20 April Capt Lullman was transferred to command A Coy and on 21 apr 2 pl under Lieut Ellis with 1 mortar moved fire toickers Ridge. Work on all staging camps went ahead as supplies of materials arrived.

By the time the barrier HQ PL had cut its way right through from Ballans and up to end May was as far as HOUSE BANANA having staged at SUMMIT, LITTLE SKINDEWAI, MACDOUFF, SKINDEWAI ~~and~~ NEAL'S CREEK and BANANA.

The four pl had a big task of clearing and cleaning the old dropping ground at SKINDEWAI. They worked solidly for about 3 weeks and the whole area had been made very hygienic, corduroy paths made & the camp site drained. Coy HQ made gardens in areas between paths, not so much from a picturesque viewpoint but mainly to freshen the ground by digging. A bed of Peas and tomatoes was also planted, as well as native ferns



3.  
brought in mainly by the natives ~~who~~ who traded them for cigarette papers. In the first ops on PIMPLE 2pl took part but during those Lieut Ellis was wounded and subsequently died of his wounds and Pte MELBOURNE of the same pl was killed by a bomb splinter. He was our newest reinforcement and had been with the unit only 24 days. During the same attack, Pte Williams a sapper attached to 'C' Coy had his steel helmet "holed" by a piece of "shrap" "Blue" is now never without that bit of head gear. Later the 2pl moved to HILL 7.

In the whole of these ops the saps played a very important role. The "ears" of the unit had a big job far bigger than the WE both for men and equipment was ever intended. 4 exchanges formed part of the big plan and between 70 and 80 miles of wire had to be controlled and maintained. 108<sup>2</sup> were tried but climatic conditions forbade their use. 208<sup>2</sup> were tried but with varied results. Dampness was the bane to efficiency with this equipment. The strain of wirework was great but won through.

Early in the period, pioneers were used for booby trapping and mining def areas.

Mortars were not called on to shoot as conditions offering attacks were unsuitable. Four detachments had def fire tasks and if they had to be used would have proved their worth.

During the difficult days about May 9/10 the two carrier pls were practically the only Infantry reserves at the CO's disposal and both of them were moved first on a forced march from SKINDORWA and BANANA on the night 9/10 May.

Carrier pl on arrival in SADDLE were placed under command of 'C' Coy and moved at night to LABABIA RIDGE. They subsequently did good work and I received excellent reports of their activities from 'C' Coy. Later they formed part of a patrol which moved from MAT MAT around observation Hill and into Ketcher's area. The other carrier pl under LIEUT ROBERTSON was held in SADDLE area. Later after relief by 2/6 BN 'C' Coy they moved to HILL 7 under command LIEUT HILL as LIEUT ROBERTSON took command 2pl. 75% of 5pl was by this time fixed and they formed part of perimeter def of B H 3.



at the time A coy were cut off the fire off Lt Daryl was booby trapping their perimeter and closed the area and got out unbeknown to himself by about 10 minutes. A hrs det under comd Sgt Webb was with A coy and as hrs fire could not be used they did an inf job. Capt Luthers later wrote expressing his satisfaction of the doggedness and determination of these spts and spoke especially of Sgt Webb who was seriously wounded and later died of his wounds.

Last but not least comes 6 pl. The R Co m's was fixed at B H B and kept food spts supplied with all that was sent food. The ruckon Sgt was established at O I O where he operated his food supply line excellently. Hygiene Sec operated at all staging camps and later in food areas and at the time of handing over the whole area was in a sanitary & hygienic condition far better than when ~~handed~~ taken over and under more serious conditions. The fms had a workshop at SKINDOMAI in the early days for themselves and the equipment repairer and later moved to GONDAGASAL where they both operated. Boots was also in evidence and operated firstly at SKINDOY and later food books worked excellently and in view of many staging camps and necessity for fl cooking their strength was increased to fit in the new WE and 23 cooks operated. The Regtl barber also operated and was seen on the tracks from BAWRAMS to SADDLE. WATIPALI MATMAT and LABABAIA ridge. At SKINDOY a tin laundry was established; in the first instance to make available for re-issue, due to shortages, of salvaged clothing left by "other" units. This continued to operate and anyone of any unit could obtain a clean outfit when passing through; their dirty clothes washed for reissue. Continually passing through the staging camps and along the track were groups of observers by from our own and allied air forces and armies and in all instances were the comds of these camps mostly NCO's complimented in their treatment as regards rations and quarters given these parties. Quite a number of hospital personnel passed through SKINDOY and it was used as a clearing base and spts eventually were re-drafted from there to their coys.



The camp casualties for these ops were.

Lieut Ellis 2 pl died of ~~wounds~~ wounds

Sgt Webb 3 pl

Pte Melbourne killed. no 2 pl.

" Tanelly wounded. no 1 pl.

" Hillsley wounded. no 4 pl

Lieut Waugh was later injured by one of our booby traps.

Commander H O cannot see his troops in action but from all reports they acted in good stead and the command has every reason to be proud of his command as so many of his detachments are responsible for so much. Their morale was good and with the exception of one or two minor cases discipline also. It was reported from a camp area that a cook attached to them - Pte TYRER had found a jap near his kitchen and smartly disposed of him. Since then competition between cooks was rife and whilst meals were being prepared cooks were going out to try and emulate Tyler's action.

By the 7 Jun the camp with the exception of the Purple pl which had been retained at SKINNY to erect and establish the new found Base H O, were all back on the old W 40 site.

Then came the usual task. REORGANISATION. REFITTING and TRG for future ops.

Ops soon settled down. Recreation and Sport coupled with Admin was the order of the day for the first week.

Light try and sport for the second and at the start of the 3rd week. Try was commenced.

1 Pl a refresher course with a lot of attention to cipher, W/T procedure and try on 108° & 208° R/T and W/T sets.

2 Pl commenced under instructors from B Coy 7 on 6 Am intensive try. Full equipment was obtained and after two weeks try a range and field firing practice showed excellent results.

3 Pl which had been reduced in numbers by sickness was reinforced from surplus 4 pl men and refresher try started.

4 Pl commenced a two week course of TR/A gunnery instructors with 2 guns & pods from 24 Bn being supplied.



at end of course instructors gave excellent reports on most of Pl and at least 4 potential NCOs were found. Everyone of them being trained infantry spts. 3 members of the pl were transferred from A Coy and one had done similar try previously and is to be an NCO.

The pl of surplus specialists was sent on guard duty at F.S.O. 5 pl was sent on a "Hush Hush" job to assist on the Bulldog rd. They are doing a good job and I presume its activities will be written up by the I.O who was with them.

6 pl still ~~go~~ along in their efficient style and the checking of new and old equipment and stores is keeping them occupied.

At end of June finds the coy in good shape except for officers as only 1 and 6 pl have off comds. NCOs are playing an excellent part in the intensive try now in force. I refer to Sgt Hale 2 pl. Sgt Pringle & Sinclair 3 pl and Sgt Lestrow 4 pl who all his army career has been MT has done Pl Sgt of The/α Pl very efficiently. NCO lectures for 30/40 minutes 3 times a week are in progress on subjects which specialists & NCOs often miss.

The object being to give them general knowledge in case they are called on for Infantry tasks. The excellent morale of the coy is displayed by their interest in sport. During June the coy played 3 cricket matches. conducted 3 swimming carnivals - two under pl and one versus 7 M G B N. Three games of football mainly H B Coy (Aust rules) have been played and one game Rugby League. A Recreation Hut complete with unoffical electric light has been established in H B Coy area and with 60 books sent by Red Cross and a similar number found in the area a library has been started. House House is also played when the lads require it. A feature of the recent swimming carnival was in a novelty 25 yds swim at the end of which a man had to be mounted & shot on a target our pl beat the 7 M G B N team.

During April information was received that Sgt Hall had been awarded the MM for his war action. Another decoration to the coy. During June it was learned that Mrs Walker mother of the Late Lieut Ian Walker received the American D.S.C which had been awarded Posthumously to him and that recalled the B.O.S.A show and started discussions amongst those who were there. The coy is ready again for any tasks which future ops demand.

honorable *[Signature]* 1/2/50



AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

ROUTINE ORDERS NO 7 NG

Not to be Published

30 Jun 43

by

MAJOR H.L.E. DUNKLEY

ADM/COMD 2/7 AUST INT BN

**MAIL :** A review of Second Class Mail Matter held in MORESBY for troops in this area, reveals that amongst second class mail matter a considerable number of newspapers are awaiting onward despatch. These newspapers in many cases are now two to four months old and as the restriction on air transport precludes their move to the area, it has been recommended by Higher Authority that these out of date dailies which have been undelivered for one calendar month be made available to Hospital and Salvage in the PORT MORESBY area. Provision for this action exists in National Security Regulations.

It is advised therefore that all out of date dailies awaiting transport will be disposed of by NGF to hospitals or salvage depots.

**2. CLOTHING COUPONS:** The Clothing Ration Year commenced on 7 Jun 43 and will terminate on a date to be fixed. The service personnel issue for the year 1942-43 may be used until 31 Jul 43. The allotment of coupons for personnel as under is published for information,

Officers Maintenance Issue	70 Coupons per annum
Officers commissioned after 7 Jun	
Initial Issue	90 Coupons
Maintenance Issue	25 "

90 coupons are issued to enable an officer to complete his initial outfit. Greatcoats, caps and uniforms may be purchased without surrender of coupons.

Other Ranks Maintenance Issue 25 coupons.

The maintenance issue is for the purchase of rationed clothing such as pyjamas, gloves scarves etc.

When purchasing rationed clothing, coupons will be surrendered in accordance with the published civilian scale. The shop assistant will cut out the necessary number of coupons.

Paybooks are the means of establishing rightful ownership, and will be produced on request.

Where it is desired to have a purchase made by another person, the required number of coupons will be removed in the presence of Comd Offr, Adjnt or Coy Comd and will be pasted on a special form signed by the owner of the ration book and countersigned by the particular officer.

**TREATMENT OF NATIVES:** Troops will be instructed that natives place a high value on their pigs and on no account will any pig be shot if apparently wild ~~xxx~~ be shot. Fruit and vegetables obtained from ANGAU or natives eaten raw, should be well washed before consumption.

**CARTRIDGES SIGNAL 1: INCH:** Owing to the possibility of pierced ears with Signal cartridges, the following precautions will be observed:-

- (a) When firing pistols, Signal 1", the head must be turned away to ensure no eye injury from the blowback of small pieces of metal.
- (b) In addition the firer will, if possible, wear a glove or wrap his hand in cloth or sacking.

**SCARCITY OF TOILET PAPER:** As supplies of toilet paper are extremely low, it is essential that coy comdrs inform troops of the necessity of preventing waste.

P.T.O.



5. UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF PARACHUTES: The continuous delivery of supplies and amn to certain forward areas depends on the quick return of parachutes. The souveniring of parachutes jeopardizes the maintenance of troops in the forward areas.

Any member who has in his possession now or in the future any parachute or part of a parachute without lawful authority will immediately return it to QM for return to Salvage. Disciplinary action will be taken against any member not complying with this order.

6. RIFLES .303 INCH BRIGHT MUZZLES: It is reported that the reflection from bright muzzles has often discovered camouflage troops especially snipers.

Arrangements are being made for muzzles to be left black in future manufacture. As an expedient rifle muzzles will be treated with a dark heat resisting paint. Periodical applications to be made as necessary.

Coy Comds will inform the QM by 0800 hrs 4 Jul of the number of rifles requiring treatment.

7. AMMUNITION BOXES SAA: The maximum care possible will be taken in the handling of amn boxes as their manufacture and repair presents certain difficulties.

Every effort should be made for the quick return of empty boxes for salvage.

8. COLOUR PATCHES: Before troops get in contact with the enemy Coy Comds will ensure that colour patches are removed and left behind.

Colour patches will be worn by all personnel on all other occasions.

*R. J. B. Bilton* Capt  
ADJT 2/7 AUST INF BN

#### NOTICES

The 2/7 AUST INF BN expresses their appreciation for the receipt of the following from the AUSTRALIAN COMFORTS FUND  
3 Jun:-

2	Strategy	2	Housie Housie
2	Darts	2	Monopoly
1	Chess	2	Draughts
2	Dominoes	2	Checkers
24	Playing Cards	3	Crib Boards
1	Case Magazines	1	Peteko Rio



*War Diary*  
G<sup>o</sup> Circular No. 3

*8/16/16 recd*  
*28 Apr*  
HQ 3 Aust Div  
Apr 45.

1. Attached herewith is copy of H. G. Force Mrg Instrn No. 3.
2. The contents of this instrn will be promulgated to all tps under your command.

*W. H. Brown*  
Lt-col  
G 3 Aust Div

Distribution:  
List 'B'



NG Force  
23 Apr 43  
G/1306 /SD

NEW GUINEA FORCE TRAINING INSTRUCTION NO. 3

AN EXCELLENT ARTICLE BY A CO IN NEW GUINEA ON AIR ATTACK  
DISCIPLINE AND PROTECTION

"AIR RAIDS AND MORALE - A PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDY

1. During the last few air attacks on PORT "X" it has become increasingly evident that officers and NCOs in particular, and other ranks in general have not shown sufficient intelligent thought in dealing with the matter of enemy air attacks. In fact far too much unintelligent thought and useless morale breaking chatter is participated in, which reduces a man, who might otherwise be reasonably normal, to a "blithering idiot" during an attack.

2. A man's nervous system is a delicate machine and can easily break when it is not properly "built up" by common sense. With the aid of common sense a man is enabled to use his reasoning power and make decisions.

3. Every soldier should know how to appreciate or estimate a situation; this is a military necessity in any officer, NCO or other rank. In an air attack the appreciation must be instantaneous and the resultant orders should be issued calmly, clearly and concisely. It is suggested that the appreciation should be on the lines set out in the following examples.

EXAMPLE APPRECIATION or ESTIMATE NO.1

4. There are twelve enemy aircraft which appear to have the intention of attacking a target in PORT "X"; they are medium bombers and I'd say they are flying at 10,000 feet, at a speed of 180 mph. I estimate they have selected for their target one of the following:-

- (a) the ship lying in the middle of the port
- (b) the wharf
- (c) the AA positions (a natural enemy)
- (d) a group of tents or dumps which some thoughtless officer has been too "ruddy" ignorant to have had concealed and dispersed properly. Perhaps it was too much trouble.

5. I should say by the course of the planes that they have probably selected the ship as a target, therefore my appreciation or estimate of the situation continues as follows:-

- (a) I am in charge of a working party of 15 men
- (b) we are working in a dump 1800 yards from the port
- (c) I have approximately 60 seconds in which to act before any bombs could possibly drop in this vicinity
- (d) there are good undulations in the immediate area where I can send the men if I think it is necessary (i.e. if the planes change course), and where only a direct hit can cause casualties.

The conclusion which I reach is that we are in no danger for the moment.

6. I therefore order:

- (a) "You men will continue working", or
- (b) "You men may 'knock off' for a minute to watch the show from over there. Don't bunch, don't yell out, and stay where you can hear my orders.

EXAMPLE APPRECIATION or ESTIMATE NO.2

7. The Bofors on HILL 'A' has just fired three rounds at 15 enemy aircraft which are approximately four miles away, and look like medium bombers. They appear to be going to attack PORT "X". Their height is about 12,000 feet and they are flying at about 200 mph; I should say that their target will be :-

- (a) the ship in port
- (b) the corvette, or
- (c) AA positions.



8. My thoughts now are:-

- (a) I am in charge of a working party of 40 men in wharf area
- (b) I'd say I had about 90 secs in which to act (90 secs is a long while - count it on your watch)
- (c) Planes are coming straight towards us

The conclusion which I reach is that we are likely to be in immediate danger, and I must act quickly.

9. I therefore order:

"you 10 men get into that slit trench -  
you 10 men lie in gutter behind road -  
you 10 men lie in gutter other side of road -  
you 10 men disperse over that area and lie down",  
(indicating to them a limited area nearby).

10. The results of the attack are that the planes dropped 30 bombs around the vessel, four of which landed around the wharf, and one barge loaded with four tons of rations is in a sinking condition. One member of our working party has a small scalp wound which he would have avoided by wearing his tin hat. The planes, having attacked, have passed over and are making out to sea with our fighters in contact; therefore my next order is:-

"all parties will report to the sinking barge, dump rations on the wharf and then beach the barge".

11. In the above examples it is desired to point out that these deductions and conclusions can be reached in one second of thought thus allowing ample time for the issuing and carrying out of any orders necessary. It is suggested that officers and NCOs may find good value in practising such situations when a friendly bomber and fighter is approaching, but make sure that the following points are covered first:-

- (a) explain that it is only a practice;
- (b) explain carefully why you are carrying out the practice;
- (c) impress on the men the "time factor", bearing in mind the fact that there is generally reasonable time available to make the disposition you wish in an orderly and well-controlled manner;
- (d) impress on the men the "space factor", bearing in mind the fact that stampeding off for 500 or 600 yards is utter nonsense, the "drill" being to use the best protection immediately to hand. This also applies to drivers of vehicles in exactly the same way;
- (e) point out that a small depression or undulation in the ground is almost as safe as the best constructed slit trench.

12. The observations set out below are given in order to help all concerned understand what it's all about.

#### FEAR

13. Fear is NOT a mental state, but it is that unwholesome feeling in the pit of one's stomach caused by sudden anxiety and shock. This usually causes one's bowels to turn to water, and is a condition which exists in every human being. A soldier is not permitted to make a public display of fear and must under no circumstances reveal to his fellow men that his bowels have suddenly deteriorated into a liquid state.

#### COURAGE

14. Courage IS a mental state, and is simply a man's ability to overcome fear by reasonable thinking and quick appropriate action. Once courage has asserted itself, and reasonable thinking comes to the fore, the bowel regains a degree of solidity, and a comfortable feeling of confidence and satisfaction takes the place of fear, particularly if one has averted what might have been an unnecessary and stupid disaster with possible casualties and loss of life.

#### A CRAVEN

15. A craven is not a man; he is a poor type of human being who is unable to exert sufficient control over his feelings so that courage and commonsense overcome fear. A craven is the most despicable thing a soldier can gaze upon, and incidentally his regard for the slit trench or "funk" hole is extraordinary.



## BOMB HAPPINESS

16. This is a state of mental terror caused generally by a too vivid imagination. When two potential "bomb happies" start their morale-breaking and degrading chatter, they generally tend to influence others who may be in the group and infect THEIR imagination with the disease. Thus "bomb happiness" becomes an infectious disease which can spread with remarkable and regrettable rapidity. Let us stop this nonsensical chatter and turn the men's conversation to more manly channels. Incidentally the "bully" type is first to crack under these conditions.

## THE IMAGINATION

17. A man's imagination plays a very large part in his attitude towards potential danger. A highly developed or vivid imagination is often a curse to a soldier if he allows his mind to "leap" to incorrect conclusions, and so precludes rapid and rational thought which is essential; this has the effect of causing him to panic easily and unnecessarily.

18. A countryman who has been brought up in the usual quiet rural surroundings generally lacks a high imagination because it is rarely necessary for him to have to think or act quickly. He is unaccustomed to the 100 and 1 potential dangers with which the city man, with his "high" rate of living and the rush and bustle of the city, has to contend. Consequently, the country man whose mental process or imagination is often slower, is better fitted by his mode of life to withstand the shocks of battle, such as bombing, for the simple reason that he thinks things out, rather than leaping to highly imaginative conclusions.

19. Overdeveloped imagination and uncontrolled thought is very apparent in some of the ludicrous reports that officers of Headquarters have had to contend with and investigate nightly. Someone sees or hears something unusual and his imagination works at high pressure. He runs to a phone and gives a garbled and generally inaccurate report of what he has seen or heard. An officer then has to go through a lengthy process of ringing up the gun position or sentries, who would have been most likely to have seen or heard the same thing, in order to verify or confirm and account for the incident. In almost every case these incidents have a simple explanation, which the man, making the original report, would have arrived at himself had he not let his imagination run away with him. It should be pointed out to men that it is not desired that sentries should become less alert on account of the above remarks but they should endeavour to make their reasoning powers prevail over their imagination and, if they consider it necessary, give a good, clear and accurate account of any incident for which they cannot satisfactorily find an explanation. This is MOST IMPORTANT and necessary.

## THE SLIT TRENCH

20. The slit trench is an undeniable necessity in PORT X area. A slit trench is commonly known as a "funk hole", but it should never be used as such. Sitting, squatting or lying in a slit trench for long and unnecessary periods is the action of a craven and is the most morale-breaking procedure that a soldier can be permitted to endure. If, having appreciated the situation, you decide that your life is in danger of extinction, far more satisfaction will be gained by simply lying down flat. The relatively small risk you thus take adds "spice" to life and the joy of living. It raises your confidence in yourself and makes you appreciate the relatively small amount of harm caused by bombing. Get into the habit of trying to enjoy an air raid instead of letting it be a misery and ruining your own and lots of other chap's morale.

21. A man who sits in a slit trench for hours uses those hours with his imagination working at high pressure thinking that every bomb released by the enemy aircraft is going to drop right into his personal slit trench and end his miserable existence. This is both degrading and nerve-racking and is most unnecessary.



22. Rules for slit trenches should be:-

- (a) Only order men into slit trenches when it is absolutely necessary.
- (b) Take a few risks and you'll still live alright.
- (c) Teach the men to regard a slit trench with a certain amount of levity and NOT as a domestic residence and the sole means of existence.

#### MORALE BOOSTERS

23. Inactivity during an air raid is both bad and wrong as thoughts are allowed to proceed along inferior channels. If it is a low level attack and you think you and the fellows around you have a chance of bring an enemy plane down, don't miss the opportunity. It's a great achievement and a very well worth while war effort.

24. Organise a little small arms anti aircraft fire, but for goodness sake control it. Take an active interest in what's going on around you. Try to help any fellow who is in trouble even if you have to take a risk to do it. Stop anything that is an utter nonsense and stupid and keep things under control. Be amusing if desirable, but above all be a leader and make those around you confident even though you may only be an other rank.

#### LEADERSHIP

25. This is one of the most wonderful qualities a soldier can possess and it is amazing what can be achieved by the right type of leadership. Men love being led and hate to be driven; they admire and respect a good leader. Rather than lead them into slit trenches the good leader organises them and anyone else about, such as native workers in the vicinity, and directs them into the most secure places; he then worries about his own skin.

A bad leader simply disorganises his squad, demoralises his men and is a nuisance, NOT a leader.

#### NATIVES

26. The native question is a very serious one and is well worthy of consideration by everyone. The native, although a very simple being, is nevertheless a very intelligent person and holds his own life in as high regard as we do ours. As a workman he is one of the most valuable assets we have at PORT X, and there are close on 1000 of them there.

27. The native has been taught that the white man is his superior and he naturally looks to his white master for leadership and guidance. He watches the reaction of the white man in moments of stress and his own actions are based on the leadership and actions around him. If, therefore, the white man panics and stampedes off into the bush, the native does likewise. On the other hand, if the white man stands fast and acts in a reasonable and confident manner, the native follows his example particularly if a white man takes the trouble to reassure him calmly and tells the native where to go for safety and what to do.

28. We MUST adopt this practice as a principle, both for the safety of our native helpers and also for the well being and safety of PORT X. One of the higher principles of civilization is for the strong to help the weak and it is up to us to help and assist those who don't understand things such as air attacks. An other rank may not have an opportunity for leadership in the normal course of events, but he can exert any latent leadership talent he possesses on the native or on his own comrade who needs assistance and he will find the native, whose imagination is not particularly developed, an easy subject to control and give confidence to.

29. An instance of what trouble can be caused took place recently when some apparently "bomb happy idiot" in the area told a few natives that "2000 bombers were coming to blow hell out of PORT X". The native naturally told his cobbles and 600 natives went bush that night. The man who started that "furphy" is a fifth columnist and his thoughtless words may cause great trouble or disruption.



REGIMENTAL PRIDE

30. Lastly, but by far from being the least, is that grand feeling "Regimental Pride". This feeling should be and is considered to be very definitely a part of every soldier's make up. It is a thing to be treasured and should be built up firstly by the Commanding Officer by his bearing, his example and his own pride in his unit and his men. If he is good, courageous, proud and just, he will be a good leader, and his officers, NCOs and men will follow his code of living in routine camp life; they will follow him into battle unflinchingly when the time comes, because they will be too proud of their regiment or unit to let it down.

31. Thus, even in such a trivial thing as an air raid, men who falter in their attitude, will see around them those whose pride in their unit makes them stand fast and forbids them to show fear. Such men should feel ashamed and force themselves to act more courageously in future air raids to come, as come they will!

*R. H. Thompson*

Brig  
GS NG Force

Distribution:

On basis of one per company or equivalent, and attached units or sections.

5 Aust Div	(100)	RAA	( 3)
11 Aust Div	( 70)	RAE	(10)
3 Aust Div	( 60)	CSO NG Force	( 1)
41 US Div	(70)	A	(15)
		Q	(11)
COSC	(30)	Svy	( 4)
ANGAU	( 3)	S & T	(13)
Sigs NG L of C	( 8)	Medical	(18)
Sigs 1 Aust Corps	( 5)	Ordnance	( 5)
NG Air Liaison Gp	( 1)	AEME	(11)
NG Force Trg School	(10)	Provost	( 4)
NG Force School of Sigs	( 8)	Pay	( 4)
PIB Trg Centre	( 1)	Postal	( 3)
HQ (Composite) AA Defences		War Diary	( 2)
NG Force	(11)	File	( 2)
Fixed Defences, Port Moresby	( 5)	Spares	(40)
G(Ops)	( 1)	<u>Copies to:</u>	
G(Int)	( 3)	Adv LHQ	( 3)
G(Air)	( 2)	LHQ	( 5)



27/10/1914



NO. 2

Serial No. NO 18 NG

# FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

A.I.F. 11/120

W.E. Reference 73

A.M.F. ....

Date 5 Jun 43

W.E. 32 X 745

Attached 2/7 AUST INF BN Unit

Allowed by W.E. X

## 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>3</u>	<u>3</u>	
Captains ..	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>1</u>
Lieutenants ..	<u>19</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>4</u>
2nd Lieutenants ..			
Quartermasters ..	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	
Totals ..	<u>32</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>1</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
<u>Lieut</u>	<u>HACKIE J.</u>	<u>S.O.S.</u>	<u>5 Jun</u>	<u>Hospital</u>

## 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))



No 18NG

### FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

(Adapted)

11/12C/3

2/7 AVST INF BN (Unit) 5 Jun 1943 (Date.)

32 x 745

(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.	7		
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants	5		
Staff Serjeants			
Serjeants	32	30	2
Corporals	67	61	6
Troopers, Privates, &c.	633	537	96
<b>745 TOTALS</b>	<b>641</b>	*	<b>104</b>

\*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 BORTH W.	AAPS Yes	Pte ROBSON J.H.	A21P No
Sgt ROBINSON L.H.	AAPC "	" NAPIER H.	" "
Cpl STODD N.	A21P "	" STRONG L.	" "
A/Sgt BIRCHETT	" "		
A/Sgt RUSSELL W.C.	AAPC "		
Cpl BENNETT L.C.	" "		
Pte HOBSON G.	" "		
" NEARY A.J.	" "		
Sgt CONGRESS C.	" "		

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

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



**PART D. — 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	
Capt A/Lt Col	VX 48	PICKEN R.S.	2 1/8	No	Lt Col Tact Sch
"	VX 237	NELSON S.C.	Co Coy	No	Lt Col Tact Sch
Lt Col	VX 5174	DUMBLEY H.L.E.	"	Yes	
Capt	VX 55208	DOYLE R.S.	"	"	
"	VX 39195	BARR P.A.	"	"	
Lt Col A/Capt	VX 3927	SMITH A.	2 1/8 Coy	No	Lt Col Tact Sch
"	VX 5080	PATERSON L.V.	Coy Comd	Yes	
"	VX 10378	DIXON R.F.	Adjt	"	
"	VX 12432	COOKE P.J.	"	"	
"	VX 39458	SMITH V.C.	2 1/8 Coy	"	
"	VX 52593	ROBERTSON A.N.	"	No	GENA GENA
"	VX 10322	DIXON B.M.	"	Yes	
"	VX 2070	HILL J.A.	Sig O	"	
"	VX 105175	HILL J.	1 Comd	"	
"	VX 2070	ROBERTSON A.N.	"	"	
"	VX 3852	SMITH P.C.	"	"	
"	VX 16067	WILKS J.B.	"	"	
"	VX 7125	FLETCHER W.H.	"	"	
A/Lt Col	VX 7182	GODS P.J.	1 O	"	
"	VX 10511	SMITH J.	1 Comd	"	
"	VX 2070	WATSON L.C.	"	"	
"	VX 5045	SMITH C.	"	No	C.O.
"	VX 39417	ROBERTSON A.	"	"	GENA GENA
"	VX 12652	SMITH T.E.	"	"	C.O.
"	VX 16557	TINES B.V.E.	"	"	C.O.
Lt Col	VX 101652	EDWARDS C.L.	"	Yes	
"	VX 79362	WATSON H.C.	"	"	
"	VX 73946	ROBERTSON A.	"	"	
"	VX 60476	SMITH R.J.	"	No	Lt Col Sch of MI
"	VX 68151	SMITH J.B.	"	Yes	
"	VX 3823	SMITH R.D.	"	"	
"	VX 30055	SMITH L.J.	"	"	
"	VX 27155	SMITH L.J.	"	"	
A/Lt Col	VX 8970	SMITH W.A.	"	No	Lt Col 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)
Capt	VX 77377	PETERSON B.N.	AAC	Sep 42	RVO	Yes
"	VX 90116	SMITH P.C.	AAC	Dec 42	Paire	No

2/7 AUST INF BDE

(Unit)

*[Signature]*

(Signature of Commander)

5 Jun 43

(Date of Despatch)

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



NOR

TO BE MADE UP TO AND FOR SATURDAY IN EACH WEEK.

Army Form W.3008  
(Page 1)  
(Adapted)

Serial No. 19 NO

# FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

A.I.F. 11/120

W.E. Reference /3  
A.M.F.

Date.....

W.E. 32 X 745

Attached ..... Unit

Allowed by W.E. X

## 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	1
Lieutenants . . .	19	23	
2nd Lieutenants .			
Quartermasters . .	1	1	
Totals . . .	32	35	1

\* 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.	FRITCHARD K.J.		10/6/43	To Hosp

## 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																
<b>General</b>															104	104
General Duty Personnel																
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A)															104	104

The est will be completed by next return

*W.D. Mackay*  
Adj  
ADJ COLD 2/7 AUST INF BN  
Signature of Commander.

17 AUST INF BN  
Bde., Divn., Area, &c., with which unit is serving.



207

NO 19 NG

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

(Adapted)

11/12C/3  
32x 745

2/7 AUST INF BN (Unit) 12 Jun 1943 (Date.)

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

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted Strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishments).
W.O's. Class I.	1		
W.O's. Class II.	7		2
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants	5		1
Staff Serjeants			
Serjeants	32		4
Corporals	67		12
Troopers, Privates, &c.	633	19	1/83 102
<b>745 TOTALS</b>	<b>643</b>	<b>* 19</b>	<b>* 1/102 121</b>

\*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.	WE	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	WE
A/Sgt BOOTH W.	AAPS (PT MO)	Yes	Pte ROBSON J.	AEME	No
Sgt STINSON E. R.	AAPC	"	" NAPIER M.	"	"
Cpl STOBO N.	AEME	"	" SETFORD L.	"	"
A/Sgt RUSSELL W.	AAPC	"	" NORRIS W. F.	"	"
Cpl BENNETT L.	"	"	" ELGAR S. S.	"	"
Pte McKEON G.	"	"	" MEADOWCROFT J.	"	"
" NEARY A.	"	"	" HANLEY W. D.	" (PT NORES BY)	"
Sgt CONGRESS 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).)



**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/e	NO	LHQ Tact Sch
"	VX 237	NELSON STE.D.	OC Coy	NO	LHQ Tact Sch
"	VX 5174	DUNKLEY H.L.E.	" "	Yes	
"	VX 55298	DUELL H.E.	" "	"	
"	VX 39195	BARR F.A.	" "	"	
Lieut A/Capt	VX 3927	SMITH A.	2 1/e Coy	NO	LHQ Tact Sch
"	VX 5660	TATNERSON L.V.	Coy Comd	Yes	
"	VX 10378	DIXON R.F.	Ajlt	"	
"	VX 13489	COOLD F.J.	O.M.	"	
"	VX 35458	BAIRD V.C.	2 1/e Coy	"	
"	VX 52593	ROOKE A.E.	" "	NO	BENA BENA
Lieut	VX 10322	DINSMORE B.M.	" "	YES	
"	VX 2870	RICE J.A.	Sig O	"	
"	VX 105175	HILL J.	Pl Comd	"	
"	VX 52876	ROBERTSON A.M.	" "	"	
"	VX 3852	THOMAS P.C.	" "	"	
"	VX 16067	WILES J.E.	" "	"	
"	VX 7125	PIETZ W.H.	" "	"	
A/Lieut	VX 5182	GUDE P.T.	I.O.	"	
"	VX 18511	TROON J.	Pl Comd	"	
"	VX 5870	WALKER L.G.	" "	"	
"	VX 5845	FOOT G.	" "	NO	O.C.T.U.
"	VX 34417	ROBERTSON A.	" "	NO	BENA BENA
"	VX 12682	NEWTON T.S.	" "	"	O.C.T.U.
"	VX 16557	TYRES B.W.B.	" "	"	O.C.T.U.
Lieut	VX 101652	EDWARDS O.L.	" "	YES	
"	VX 79365	MALLET H.C.	" "	"	
"	VX 79948	MCCONNODALE A.	" "	"	
"	VX 86476	SMITH R.J.	" "	NO	LHQ Sch of MI
"	VX 68151	HERROD J.E.	" "	YES	
"	VX 3823	GERRARD R.D.	" "	"	
"	VX 30055	DARRYL L.J.	" "	"	
"	VX 27155	RITCHARD K.J.	" "	NO	2/2 AUST FD AMB
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)
Capt	VX 77377	PETERSON B.H.	A.A.M.C.	Sep 42	R.M.O.	Yes
Capt	VX 90116	O'KEEFE P.C.	AACHD	Dec 42	Padre	No

2/7 AUST INF BN

(Unit)

5 JUN 43

(Date of Despatch)

*J.H. Dunkley* Maj  
ADA/COMD 2/7 AUST INF BN  
(Signature of Commander)

HQ 17 AUST INF BDE

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



TO BE MADE UP TO AND FOR SATURDAY IN EACH WEEK.

Army Form W.3008  
(Page 1)  
(Adapted)

Serial No. 11/120  
3

# FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

A.I.F. ....

W.E. Reference 745

A.M.F. ....

Date 2/7 AUG 43

W.E. .... X

Attached ..... Unit

Allowed by W.E. .... X

## 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 ..	3		
Majors ..	19	3	
Captains ..			
Lieutenants ..	1		
2nd Lieutenants ..	1		
Quartermasters ..	32	3	
Totals ..			

\* 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
"	BRIDCHARD K.I.	S.O.C.	12/5/43	In Abs. over 8 days

## 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								1							1	
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																
<del>Bricklayer</del>								1							1	
<del>Dr Mech</del>								7							7	
<del>Carrier Pers</del>								10							10	
All except Bricklayer are carrier personnel pending instrs re Carrier Co.																
CMF Personnel General 3																
General Duty Personnel																121
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A)								19								121

2/7 AUST INF BN

Unit.

Date of Despatch..... 12 Jun 43

*W.D. Dunkley*

Maj

ADM COMD 2/7 AUST INF BN  
Signature of Commander.

HQ 17 AUST INF BDE

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



WE  
 11/12C/3  
 32x745

## FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

(Adapted)

2/7 AUST INF BN (Unit) 19 Jun 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.	7		2
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants	5		1
Staff Serjeants	82		
Serjeants	32		4
Corporals	67		12
Troopers, Privates, &c.	633	18	871 105
TOTALS	639	*	* 1061 124

\*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. WE	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong. WE
A/Sgt BOOTH W.	AAPS Yes	Pte ROBSON J.	AEMEM NO
A/Sgt STINSON E.R.	AAPC "	" NAPLIER H.	" "
Cpl STORO H.	AEMEM "	" SETHFORD L.	" "
A/Sgt RUSSELL W.C.	AAMC "	" NORRIS W.	" "
Cpl BENNETT L.C.	AAMC "	" ELGAR S.	" "
Pte McKEON G.	" "	" MEADOWCROFT J.	" "
" NEARY A.	" "	" HANLEY W.D.	" "
Sgt CONGRESS G.	" "	(PT. LOBESBY)	

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

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



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

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT							REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED							REMARKS.	
	W.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							1	1								
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																
Dr Mech							7	7								
Carrier Pers							10	10								
All except Bricklayer are carrier personnel pending instrs re Carrier op																
GMP 1																
General Duty Personnel															124	
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A)							18	18							124	

2/7 AUST INF BN

Unit.

Date of Despatch..... 19 Jun 43

*[Signature]*

Signature of Commander.

HQ 17 AUST INF BDE

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



**FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.**

(Adapted)

WE AIF  
11/12C/3  
32x745

2/7 AUST INF BN (Unit) 26 Jun 43 19..... (Date.)

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

21 NO

**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	1		
W.O's. Class II. 7	6		1
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants 5	4		1
Staff Serjeants			
Serjeants 32	28		4
Corporals 67	67		
Troopers, Privates, &c. 633	535	18	106
<b>TOTALS</b> 745	<b>641</b>	* 18	* 122

\*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. WE	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong. WE
A/Sgt BOOTH W.	AABS (Pt Mores) Yes	Pte ROBSON J.	ABME (46LAD) No
" STINSON E.R.	AAFC "	" NAPIER M.	" " "
Cpl STOBO H.	ABME "	" SETFORD L.	" " "
A/Sgt RUSSELL W.C.	AAAC "	" NORRIS W.	" " "
Cpl BENNETT L.C.	" "	" HANLEY W.D.	" (Pt MORESBY) "
Pte McKEON G.	" "		
" NEARY A.	" "	2 Postal)	
Sgt CONGRESS G.	" "	2 3 Div ) Att for rations	
Pte WILLIAMS A.W.	AAOC "		

**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).



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							1	1								
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							7	7								
Dr Mech							10	10								
CARRIER Personnel																
CMF Personnel 1																
General Duty Personnel														122	122	
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A)							18	18						122	122	

2/7 AUST INF BN

Unit.

26 Jun 43

Date of Despatch.....

ADJ/CO D 2/7 AUST INF BN

Signature of Commander.

HQ 17 AUST INF BDE

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

Major



Serial No. **21 NG**

A.I.F. **11/120**

W.E. Reference **3**

A.M.F.

W.E. **32** X **745**

Date **26 Jun 43**

Attached  
Allowed by W.E.

**2/7 AUST INF BN** Unit

# FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

## 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 . . .	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	
Majors . . . . .	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	
Captains . . . . .	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	
Lieutenants . . . .	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>1</b>
2nd Lieutenants . .	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	
Quartermasters . .	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	
Totals . . . . .	<b>32</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>1</b>

\* 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	PRITCHARD K.J.		24/6/43	From Hospital

### Officers QUITTED during week

Rank	Name	Unit or Corps	Date	Cause
Lieut	DINSMORE B.M.		19/6/43	S.O.S. } Over 8 days
"	FITZ W.		20/6/43	S.O.S. } in
"	HALLET H.J.		22/6/43	S.O.S. } 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.—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.	No	3 Aust Div
Maj	VX 48	PICKEN K.S.	2 I/c	"	LHQ Tact Sch
"	VX 5174	DUNKLEY H.L.E.	OC Coy	Yes	
Capt A/Maj	VX 237	NELSON S.E.D.	" "	No	LHQ Tact Sch
"	VX 14161	PRINGLE F.H.	" "	"	OC Rest Camp
"	VX 39195	BARR F.A.	OC Coy	Yes	
"	VX 3827	SMITH A.	2 I/c Coy	No	LHQ Tact Sch
"	VX 5665	TATTERSON L.V.	OC Coy	Yes	
"	VX 55298	DUPILL H.E.	" "	"	
Lieut T/Capt	VX 13459	COOLE F.J.	3 M.	"	
"	VX 10378	DIXON R.F.	Adit	"	
"	VX 35458	SAINB V.C.	2 I/c Coy	"	
"	VX 52598	ROOKE A.N.	2 I/c "	No	BENA BENA
"	VX 52576	ROBERTSON A.E.	Pl Comd	Yes	
"	VX 2870	RICE J.A.	" "	"	
"	VX 105195	HILL J.	" "	No	NOF Jnr Ldrs Crse
VX	VX 3852	THOMAS P.C.	" "	Yes	
"	VX 16067	WILES J.E.	" "	"	
<del>VX</del>	<del>VX 7125</del>	<del>WELLS W.</del>	<del>" "</del>	<del>" "</del>	<del>" "</del>
"	VX 5182	COBE P.I.	I.O.	"	
"	VX 68151	HERROD J.E.	Pl Comd	"	
"	VX 3823	GERMARD R.D.	" "	"	
"	VX 30055	DARRYL L.J.	" "	"	
"	VX 79548	MCCORMACK A.	" "	"	
"	VX 86476	SMITH R.J.	" "	No	LHQ Sch of MI
"	VX 101652	EDWARDS O.L.	" "	Yes	
A/Lieut	VX 18511	TROON J.	" "	"	
"	VX 5870	WALKER L.O.	" "	"	
"	VX 5845	FOOT G.	" "	No	OCTU
"	VX 34417	ROBERTSON A.	" "	No	BENA BENA
"	VX 12682	HENTON T.E.	" "	Yes	OCTU
"	VX 16557	TINES B.W.E.	" "	No	OCTU
Lieut	VX 27122	PRITCHARD R.J.	" "	Yes	
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)
Capt	VX 77377	PETERSON B.M.	AAAC	Sep 42	RMO	Yes
"	VX 90116	O'NEAVE P.C.	AAChD	Dec 42	Padro	No

2/7 AUST INF BN

(Unit)

26 Jun 43

(Date of Despatch)

*W. S. ...*  
ADH/COLD 2/7 AUST INF BN

(Signature of Commander)

HQ 17 AUST INF BDE

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



TABLE F

## SECONDED OFFICERS

1 Sub Rank & Higher Temp Rank if Held	2 Army No	3 Surname	4 Init ials	5 Posting to which Seconded	Date of Secondment
Major T/Lt col	VX 130	O'LOUGHLIN	B.J.	A.A.G. HQ 1 AUST ARMY	1st Secondment <del>13/10/42</del> 16/1/41
Major T/Lt col	VX 61	BAMFORD	A.E.	GSO(1) Ops Adv LHQ	25/3/43
Major	VX 78	KNIGHTS	R.W.	Unknown	Unknown
"	VX 325	CRAWFORD	A.G.	OC 17 A.I.T.B.	1/10/42
T/Lt col Major	VX 3557	VIAL	R.R.	GSO1 HQ NGF	5/10/42
Captain	VX 48110	BLAUBAUM	A.K.	DAQMG Northern Territory Force	19/9/42
"	VX 36	McCORKELL	W.H.	DAQMG(Lnr) HQ 1 AUST ARMY	18/11/42
Captain T/Maj	VX 4635	LUNN	H.T.	Senr Instr GWS	14/10/42
T/Maj Captain	VX 1111	CHAPMAN	A.P.	AQMG 6 AUST DIV	8/5/43
Capt	VX 7224	EDNEY	W.K.	17 A.I.T.B.	31/3/43
Capt	VX 3961	THOMAS	H.W.	GSO11(I) 6 AUST DIV	
Capt	VX 1129	HUTCHINSON	A.M.C.	S.C. HQ 17 AUST INF BDE	14/4/42

TABLE G. Nil

£

ER

E

TABLE H.

## OFFICERS EVACUATED TO HOSPITAL

1 Sub Rank & Higher Temp Rank if Held	2 Army No	3 Surname	4 Init ials	5 Hospital to which Evacuated	6 Date of Evac from Unit
Lieut	NX79365	MALLET	H.G.	2/2/ AUST FD AMB	14/6/4
"	VX 7125	FIETZ	W.M.	2/2' " " "	12/6/4
"	VX 10322	BINSMORE	B.M.	2/2 " " "	13/6/4

TABLE I Nil

TABLE J Nil

VX 4621 Lieut E. ARNOLD and VX 4622 Lieut S. ARNOLD have ceased to be seconded and are on way back to this unit.

(B) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS



801

Army Book 39.  
Naval Form M. 119.  
R.A.F. Form 834.

28. JULY 1943

R. M. O'Keefe

2/7 Aust. Inf. Bn

29 Jan 43 - 5 Feb 43

MEDICAL SERVICES

---

PRESCRIPTION BOOK

AND

GENERAL PURPOSES

DIARY.

---

By Authority—R. B. Shankly Pty. Ltd.



2/7 Aust. Inf. Bn.

WAR DIARY.

WAV & MUBO CAMPAIGNS

1943.

B. Peterson Capt.

RMO.



28. JULY 1943

29. 1. 43. Hanning had three months at Milne Bay & two weeks at Pam Pam Park, Pt. Moresby, the unit moved to Wan by plane. The planes were Douglas passengers, converted to transports, flown by U.S. pilots, & carrying a total weight of 5,000 lb. They were, as far as possible, strategically loaded, i.e. R.A.P. & all other types of personnel were split up among the planes, so that if one plane was lost, say, all the R.A.P. staff would not be lost. Each plane carried 14 men (250 lb. allowed for each man & his gear) & about 1500 lb. of stores etc. 800 lb. of medical stores were carried (including blankets & stretchers), divided up among 14 planes.

I carried my surgical haversack, & each of my R.A.P. staff carried a haversack of medical stores, enough to treat the battalion for a week if necessary, in case of accidents.

Much amusement & profanity had been caused during the previous two days, as we had been taken to the drone in trucks



in the early hours of the morning,  
 & then told the weather was too  
 bad for the planes.

But the third time proved it,  
 & to-day most of the battalion  
 landed on Wan drome in "flights"  
 of 6 planes. For many of us, it  
 was our first plane journey, but  
 very few were "air-sick".

At the drome R.A.P. I was  
 met by Maj. Refchange, who  
 was in charge of a Light Section  
 of 2/2 Fd. Amb, & a small  
 surgical team, known as Kanga  
 Hospital. He informed of the  
 general position, which was  
 NOT good. The Japs. were here all  
 night & that <sup>previous</sup> night had infiltrated  
 quite close to the hospital on Big  
 Wan Ck.

My R.A.P. was sited happily in  
 a mortuary behind the Native  
 Hospital at the foot of the drome.  
 Mild excitement was caused by  
 one of the newly-arrived medical  
 panniers exploding. I found that  
 this was due to Mandl's paint  
 mixing with Pot. Permang.  
 (glycerine +  $KMnO_4 \rightarrow$  explosion).  
 A small portion of our medical  
 supplies was thus ruined.



during the day A Coy. had engaged the enemy, & our first casualty was Capt. Jatterson (G.S.W. tips L. index & 2nd finger).

The first night was pitch dark & ominous. Some unfortunate casualties occurred. The first to come in was riddled by a Tommy gun burst resulting in fract. R. femur, fract. R. forearm, & prof. G.S.W.'s of chest & abdomen. His urine was almost pure blood, he was very shocked, & died two hours later about midnight.

Half an hour later a man was brought in with a G.S.W. through the bladder, with fract. pubis & rupt. urethra. He went to Kanga Hospital in good condition on a stretcher placed crosswise on the back of a Jeep. How the driver found his way along the road without lights I don't know.

30/1/43. I made sure that my R.A.P. staff had their haversacks ready, & the stretcher bearers, of whom I had 12, had stretchers & Thomas splints, shell dressings etc. prepared. Most of them were on picket.



R.A.P. Staff : Sgt. W. Russell  
 Cpl. L.C. Bennett  
 Pte. C. McKean  
 Pte. A. Heary.

All good reliable chaps.

At about 0400 hrs I was called to a conference at BHQ, & at 0545 hrs we moved out along Crystal Creek Rd. with BHQ, carrying our haversacks. (prepared for a mobile op. only).

I was about to establish my R.A.P. at another unoccupied native hospital half a mile along the road, at dawn, when the Japs. opened fire from about 100 yds to the north-east. This was rather disconcerting, so the R.A.P. moved back across Big Wan Ck. & lay low in the bushes.

From an embankment I could observe C Coy driving the Japs. back across the field towards the Native Compound. This gave us fresh heart. Seeing a casualty limping back to the native hosp.; my Sgt. & I went across the creek to fix him up. Creeping through the bushes I was nearly shot by the Adjutant, who thought I was a Jap. I failed



to appreciate his amusement, though he had good grounds for caution.

At about 1100 hrs, when the enemy had been pushed back beyond the Native Compound, I established the R.A.P. in a concealed position amongst the bushes near the Native Infectious Diseases Hosp. opposite B.H.Q.

Several wounded were coming in, including Pte Sharpe, one of my S.B's, who had a Prof. G.S.W. Wldo. Snipers were dangerous around B.H.Q.

C Coy was relieved by B Coy & went forward in the early afternoon forward of Fuller's House. With Pte McKeon & a squad of S.B's, I went with them & established a forward R.A.P. in the bushes near Fuller's House. Unexpectedly, there were no casualties. I had a squad of Fd. Amb. S.B's with me as well as my own, & Maj. Kefchange visited us in the ambulance. The ambulance was an old reconditioned Dodge truck, so arranged that it could hold two stretcher cases



+ four or five walking wounded.

We returned in the evening & occupied the Native Infantry's Disease Hosp. near the swimming pool. A few walking wounded from other companies had come in to the rear R.A.P. during the afternoon.

S.Bs. & R.A.P. all did their turn at picket around the R.A.P. that night. We took no chances! Two more wounded were brought in during the night, fixed up in very dim lamp light, & kept there till morning.

31/1/43.

Maj. Refchange visited us. I cannot speak too highly of his help & co-operation. Owing to operational difficulties, he told me he only required approximate weekly sick reports until things had improved.

Late that afternoon a man walked in 3 miles with a small perf. l.s.w. of chest (sucking).

The men up forward are suffering some privations from the cold at night. Rain was frequent



at night too. At least one Coy. is in contact with the enemy at a time, but our casualties so far are surprisingly light. I learnt that two or three walking wounded had gone direct to hosp. (which is closer to the front than my rear R.A.P.) that day.

1/2/43.

Capt. K. Edney walked in during the morning with a G.S.W. R. shoulder, apparently a flesh wound.

2/2/43.

C Coy contacted a strong Jap. force on the thickly wooded heights forward of Fuller's House. I took Cpl. Bennett & Pte. Neary & a squad of S.Bis., & established a forward R.A.P. at Fuller's House. I took this squad forward to C Coy HQ, & two squads of 2/2 Fd. Amb. carriers under Lt. Petersen formed relay posts along the steep, rough, narrow track at intervals of about 300 yds. (100 yds. on this track was like a mile). Anticipating the steepness & difficulty of the track we used the boat-shaped wire-netting stretchers used by



The miners. We could not have evacuated stretcher cases without them, as they had to be half slid, half carried down. They had to be strapped in these stretchers as it was. Mark II's would have been almost useless. It was very hard work, but the S.B.s did a great job. There were four walking wounded, & four stretcher cases, the latter including Capt. Menzies & Lt. McGilroy, all G.S.W's of the links. One man had been killed. The ambulance was waiting at Fuller's House, & all the wounded had been evacuated by 1400 hrs. We returned to the rear R.A.P. in the evening.

Total casualties so far:-

Missing 1

Killed 4

Wounded 31

3/2/43.

Sgt. Russell & I went forward with BHQ & B Coy at 0600 hrs. to A Coy's ridge. The artillery (25 pdrs.) shelled Jap. positions at Leahy's farm at 0745, & at 0800 B Coy attacked & took it, & established themselves on the ridge



forward of the farm.

Many Jap. dead were lying around Leahy's farm, but two little pups were rescued unharmed. We had 6 wounded, all minor. Two SBs. are now out with the companies (1 squad to each coy. except HQ). The RAP. was established near the slaughter house, reinforced by a squad of Fd. Amb. SBs. This time we used Mark II stretchers, as the country was open & the carries not very steep. The ambulance came forward as far as A Coy.

Early in the afternoon I visited A Coy. As I was at Coy HQ news came that two of Lt. McDonald's men had gone down to the creek behind Leahy's farm for water, & had been fired on by a Jap. MG. post hidden in a re-entrant. The MG post was now being attacked. So I went forward with 2 SBs. & an ammunition party, & on arrival found that Lt. McDonald & two of his men had been killed in a heroic attempt to rush & take the post. There were three wounded lying with them about 10 yds in front of the post, & as



soon as the post had been  
silenced by grenades I was able  
to get up to them. One man had  
a gaping abdominal wound  
revealing his liver & stomach. I  
stitched up the skin, but he died  
in 15 mins. Another had a large  
C.S.W. L. elbow with the brachial  
art. spurting freely. It was the  
only occasion I had to use a  
pressure point & tourniquet, &  
found the subclavian quite successful.  
The third had a flesh l.S.W. of the  
buttock, & could walk. The two  
stretcher cases were quickly  
evacuated down the creek to the  
road in case the Japs. further  
up the creek counter-attacked. The  
faithful ambulance was waiting  
at the road.

Maj. K. Walker was also on the  
spot, & shortly after suffered a  
S.W. of the buttock.

I returned to my rear R.A.P.  
in the evening.

4/2/43.

My R.A.P. staff spent the day  
improving our rear R.A.P. & we  
obtained our panniers from the  
mortuary we originally occupied.



Lt. Russell went forward to the companies to replenish the medical stores of Coy. med. orderlies, & make sure the S.B.'s had plenty of shell dressings, <sup>triang. bandages</sup> & Sulphanilamide. S.B.'s always administered the latter in the usual prophylactic doses at the earliest opportunity. I recommended Cpl. Vaughan, (S.B.), who is doing a great job, for promotion to R/Lt.

5/2/43.

I was rudely awakened at 0700 hrs by 30 2/6 Bn & 2/7 Ind. Coy. men who had returned the previous night from Black Cat in a bad state of repair. Their main complaints were infected mokka bites, pharyngitis & U.R.T.I. A few malaria cases are beginning to report from our own Coys. During the early stages of the fight, many forgot to take their atehom, & that plus the privations they endured precipitated some relapses. I complained about the atehom discipline, & it improved rapidly. Late that afternoon, a D Coy platoon occupying the heights above Fuller's House contacted



the enemy, & two were wounded.  
I took Pte McKeon & a squad  
of 7d. Amb. bearers up that steep  
track, arranging that my own  
S.Bs, who were with the platoon,  
should get the casualties back  
a certain distance. One man  
had an abdominal wound from  
which his stomach & transverse  
Colon were protruding. It was  
impossible to get them back inside,  
so I just had to cover the viscera  
as well as I could with shell  
dressings. The other had a fractured  
femur, but he was quite comfortable  
in his wire stretcher (which has  
a ridge to separate the legs) & I  
did not apply a Thomas splint. The  
last part of that terrible carry  
was done in pitch darkness. As  
usual the wire stretchers had to  
be slid down the steep track, &  
although the patients were well  
doxed with morphia, it must have  
been very trying for them. The  
ambulance was waiting at Fuller's  
House. The man with the abdo.  
wound died soon after admission  
to hospital.



6/2/43.

I took Cpl. Bennett forward in the morning in the ambulance to pick up two A Coy wounded who were waiting on the road near Leahy's Farm. During our return journey we heard some strange zooming & bursts of automatic fire. The two wounded were made comfortable in a ditch by the road side & we watched a beautiful dog fight between Jeros & Cobras, in which the latter scored an overwhelming victory.

Our total of malaria cases is now 25.

Late in the afternoon I heard that Lt. McIntosh had struck trouble on the high ground forward of the hospital, so I took Pte. Kearny & 3 squads of S.Bo., ~~with~~ (one our own, two Fd. Amb.) forward to his positions. We picked up 5 walking wounded whom we met on their way back, & on arrival found that Lt. McIntosh & 5 others had been killed, Sgt. Kennedy was seriously wounded but could not be found, & there were two stretcher cases. One had a fractured



gunner, to which we applied a  
Thomas splint. It was dusk, &  
enemy snipers were active, so  
we retreated hurriedly. Mark II  
stretchers would have done as  
the track was not very steep, &  
we wished we had them as we  
had no poles to lash to the sides  
of the wire stretchers, & they were  
awkward to carry. However the  
wounded were carried back to  
the hospital safely just as it  
became pitch dark.

7/2/43.

I visited the hospital to see  
how our lads were getting on &  
get some supplies. We can now  
enjoy the swimming pool at more  
leisure.

8/2/43.

2/5 Pm were now attacking  
the enemy forward of Leahy's  
farm & forcing them back through  
Crystal Ck. area. I saw a horrible  
sight that afternoon just after  
visiting B Coy near Leahy's farm.

Cpl. Hair (S.B.) called me to see  
a dying 2/5 Pm man at Leahy's  
farm. He must have wandered



in the previous night, & had only just been found. He had many bayonet wounds of the back, many bruises, & a harmless G.S.W. of the neck about 3 days old. (judging by the degree of infection). He died as I assumed. After being wounded he had probably got lost & wandered into the Jap. lines, where he experienced their "hospitality", & then escaped.

9/2/43.

Our activity is now restricted to patrols & light skirmishes, & 2/5 Bn is driving the Japs. back towards Wandunui.

13/2/43.

We received about 250 reinforcements, & I acquired 10 new S.B.'s, whom I proceeded to train, including my own S.B.'s as a refresher course. The new S.B.'s are QX's of good type. I am very satisfied with the job done by my S.B.'s. Their work in this type of country is very hard. Their First Aid has been uniformly good. The Fd. Amb. S.B.'s were a tremendous help.



during the "show" my S.B.  
corporals each had a morphia  
needle, also two of my more  
experienced Coy. medical orderlies.  
I would like one man in each  
squad of S.B.'s, & each medical  
orderly, to have a morphia needle,  
but the difficulty is to get sufficient  
needles etc. & morphia solution.

(the tablets were used several times  
by my S.B. corporals, but are  
difficult to manage in action. They  
need chlorinated water).



Summary of Battle Cas. at Blain

29. 1. 43 - 9. 4. 43.

Killed in action	17
died of wounds	7
Wounded	55

Analysis of Wounded.

Head	6
Chest	1 (smoking)
Abdomen	6 (5 died)
Upper limb	20
Lower limb	18
Multiple	6
Back	1
Unknown	3



BoW strength on arrival : 415  
(29.1.43)

Summary of sick Evacuated to Hosp.

WAV 29.1.43 - 9.4.43.

		%.
P. V. O.	179	62%
Clin. dysentery	46	16%
Diarrhoea	6	2%
Scabies	2	-
Skin diseases	8	3%
V. R. T. I.	-	
V. D.	-	
Other diseases	<u>51</u>	<u>18%</u>
TOTAL . . . . .	<u>292</u>	<u>100%</u>

250 reinforcements on Feb. 13.

Remarks. All the P. V. O.'s were considered to be malarial relapses (B. T. <sup>mostly</sup> infected at Milne Bay), except 19 cases of scrub typhus from A Cay, which were infected in a small area on the main track between Spring Bridge + Kaisimik. They had ~~or~~ occupied freshly made kunai huts here on March 13 + 14, & the first case reported on March 21. The next case reported on Mar. 25, & they continued to report till April 1. The first case had been ill on March 20. The others had felt ill for 2 to 5 days before reporting.

The malarial relapse rate was the highest during the week following the action. (see diary, 5.2.43)



Spasmodic cases of dysentery originated in all company areas during the whole period. By far the most area was Crystal Ck., which had previously been occupied by the Japs., who had left the area in filthy condition. Many of my men reported blood-stained stools, <sup>discovered</sup> in Jap. occupied areas.

Latrines during the first three weeks were all of deep trench type, with no superstructure. When things quieted down we were able to get fly-proof latrines made in BHQ & HQ Coy areas, but it was some weeks before latrines could be improved in other Coy. areas owing to frequent moves & lack of material. The discipline of the men as regards covering their faces with dirt was good. Kitchens were good. <sup>This was fairly prevalent.</sup> No malaria precautions were taken other than the taking of atabrin 6 days a week. In the dugouts as then constructed it was impossible to use mosquito nets, & a suggestion that the dugouts should be mosquito-proofed was not tried.



Water discipline in the first  
three weeks was fair, but not  
100%. After this however, it was  
better enforced.

A Coy was ordered to leave the  
Semb Lyphus area near Kaisiuk  
on April 1.



April 10.

We commenced the move to Mulo Area. The natives had already left with our gear consisting of 8 40-lb boxes, & we carried our packs, & a week's emergency supply in haversacks. Each man in the battalion carried packs only (containing blanket, mosquito net, bottle of anti-mosquito lotion, change of clothing, towel, socks, toilet & messing gear, groundsheet) & weapons.

R.A.P. track times:-

April 10. Wan - Kairink 3½ hrs

April 11. Kairink - Ballams 1½ hrs

Ballams - Summit 4 hrs

April 12. Summit - Skindewai 5½ hrs

April 13. Skind. - H. Banana 2hr. 45 min

H. Banana - Saddle 3hr 15 min.

When we went through the road was through to Ballams. The track became rough & muddy after Ballams, & entered the jungle.

Cpl. Bennett was left as medical orderly at Skindewai. Staging camp.

On the way we met 2/s Bw & 2/s Ind. Coy men coming out, looking much the worse for



wear.

the April 14. We said good-bye to  
100 Capt. McPherson, R.M.O. 2/5 Bn  
his & his staff in the morning.  
They left us an R.A.P. tent, dug  
into the steep southern slope  
of the saddle. The nearest "pissers"  
on (creek) was five minutes walk  
down the hill (& 15 mins. up)  
so I obtained a "boong" (native)  
to carry water up to us. During  
the next few days we made a  
log floor & some tables, &  
made ourselves more comfortable.  
2/5 Bn had left us good supplies  
of ~~non~~-expendable stores (It  
was owing to a misunderstanding  
we brought ours as well). We  
were looking after D Coy & the  
1 Aust. Mtn. Bty. (under Major  
O'Hare) for sick parades, the  
other coys. being scattered at  
Mindemai, Guadagasal, Mat  
Mat, Sabahia Base Camp & Hill  
7. We found it quite a problem  
supplying ~~supplying~~ all the  
medical orders, even down to  
an isolated section at River  
Junction. The A.D.S. was at  
Guadagasal under Capt. O.  
Williams (2/2 Fd. Amb), with



Maj. Leslie as surgeon. We found them in the midst of a move back along the track, as a landslide was threatening their existence.

I visited Mat Mat, & had a good look at Observation Hill & Muho.

April 16.

Sgt. Law was wounded in the lower leg on a 3-man patrol in the area at the foot of Vicker's Ridge. One man returned to Clay at Lahalia Base to fetch S.B's to carry him in next day.

April 17.

I visited Lahalia Base Camp in the morning, expecting Sgt. Law to be brought in. I inspected the camp & found that the latrine was not fly-proof. No materials were available to improve it. Sgt. Law could not be found, & while the search was on I went to Lahalia O.P., & admired the view of Anali & Lahalia Is., the Salamana peninsula & New Gulf. While there news came



that Lt. Capmana had been wounded in the chest on a patrol down the Jap. track towards the Pimple. So I returned to Base Camp, to find that 2 SBs. & 4 men had gone out to bring him in. Fearing a sucking wound, I followed down the track with Sgt. Capmana (24 Bn observer, cousin of the Lt.).

I found that Lt. Capmana had just been lifted on to a blanket- & pole stretchers, had a sucking chest wound, & was suffering from moderate shock & dyspnoea.

When I had stitched it up etc., the difficult carry up the steep track commenced. The Japs. did not molest us. The track was barely formed, & I had to send a man ahead with a bayonet to slash a way through. After 2 hours, we were only half way up & exhausted, so I sent for a relief squad.

Base Camp was finally reached after a total carry of 4 hrs. In spite of this, Capmana's condition had improved, & the beongs took him on to the M.D.S. (3½ hrs).

Touches were supplied for the last part of their carry, but most of



it was done in semi-darkness,  
& even then they moved with  
amazing speed & smoothness  
over a rough, <sup>slippery</sup> track. What a  
contrast to our laborious  
carrying! I returned to the  
R.A.P. in the evening. Sgt. Law  
had been found, & was to be  
carried in next day via the Mat  
Mat track. It was reported that  
his condition was surprisingly  
good.

April 18.

Maj. Leslie reported that Lt.  
Capriana was doing well.

April 19.

I received instructions to  
accompany A Coy 2/5 Bn (Capt.  
Bradley O.C.), with a D Coy 2/7 Bn  
platoon in reserve, on an  
operation down towards Anali.  
Object: to obtain Jap. prisoners  
& attack villages on Nassau Bay.  
I took 2 Hd. Amb. orderlies &  
2 squads of my own S.B.'s. I  
left at 1230 with A Coy, & we  
completed the steep descent to  
River Junction (3200 ft) at  
1730 hrs.



That night we were attacked viciously by mosquitoes of all types, including anophelines, & mosquito lotion was only partially effective, owing to the number of mosquitoes, & sweating (the climate here is like that of Milne Bay). (Normally, in cooler areas, I find the lotion extremely effective). By order, no mosquito nets were carried. This was unfortunate. They could not have been used forward of the Junction on fighting patrols, but men other than those on picket could have used them safely at River Junction in my opinion.

The medical gear consisted of my surgical haversack, some extra medical supplies in one of the packs, & the natives carried Thomas splints, 2 bottles of serum & medical comforts. All stretchers were to be improvised, & the R.A.P. housed under ground sheets.

April 20.

We rested all day, then moved forward in the gathering dusk. The first ordeal was fording the Buyamin River, which was about



40 yds wide, & swiftly flowing.  
The water did not rise above our  
hips. Then commenced the slow  
night advance through the coastal  
jungle. A native guide, a duali  
boy, kept us on the right track.  
Although it was moonlight, it was  
so dark beneath the jungle foliage  
I could only just make out the  
ghostly form of the man a yard  
in front of me, & I frequently  
had to reach forward & touch  
him to make sure he was  
still there! We stumbled along  
as quietly as possible. On either  
side was a wall of blackness  
set with numerous phosphorescent  
fungi. Soon we emerged into the  
dry Creek Bed, where we could  
at least see where we were  
going in the moonlight. We  
crossed & re-crossed the stream  
here many times (it was not a  
dry creek bed), with the result  
that wet trousers began to chafe  
our thighs. Soon we entered  
swampy jungle, consisting  
largely of bamboo, through which  
the moonlight could just filter.  
The mosquitoes were almost  
unbearable.



April 21.

At 0100 hrs Base Area was reached. Previous recon patrols had learnt that a party of Japs. visited the native gardens an hour further on for fruit about 0900 each morning. A platoon went forward to put an ambush in these gardens & capture some prisoners, from whom it was hoped to gain valuable information. ~~That~~ <sup>That</sup> morning an unarmed party of 8 Japs. was ambushed, two were killed & the rest escaped! No doubt the latter soon informed their HQ of our presence in the area. Bradley sent forward a recon patrol. It ran into a Jap. ambush further on in the gardens, & returned, fortunately without casualties.

We all immediately beat a quick retreat to River Junction in case we were cut off. We met Lt. Gerard's D Coy platoon coming forward with natives & supplies. They returned with us.

April 22.

Maj. Nelson arrived during



the morning, & took St. Gerard's  
& one A Coy platoon forward, &  
a little beyond dry creek bed  
enemy movement was observed,  
so we returned, & the operation  
was called off, as the element of  
surprise essential to its success  
had obviously been lost, & the  
men were fatigued.

Operational Rations had been  
used throughout. They provided  
me with enough energy & an  
all-round diet, but became  
monotonous very quickly, the  
stew blocks could not be cooked  
when fires were out of the question,  
& they were not "satisfying" as  
regards bulk. For the first time  
I heard the cry "Oh for a good  
solid tin of hulby beef!" However  
they serve their purpose very well.  
I think it would be an  
improvement to cut out one of  
the sets of stew blocks & substitute  
another tin of camp pie.

April 23.

We returned to the Saddle. The  
3000 ft. climb to Labahia O.P.  
tired us sorely! I found, on  
arrival at my R.A.P. that I was



the father of a two weeks' old daughter (my first). Wife & baby doing well. This revived me considerably.

April 24.

I found that plans had been made for an attack by C Coy on the Limple. Half the coy. was to attack from the rear of the Limple, while the other half held the Japs. in front. One squad of S. B.'s under Cpl. Hair accompanied the first half, & myself, Sgt. Russell & another squad of S. B.'s the second half. The two forces expected to join that evening. But the attack failed, & both halves were pinned down. By late afternoon, 6 had been killed, & 3 wounded (i) Flesh Co. S. W. both thighs (ii) Flesh Co. S. W. R. shoulder (iii) Co. S. W. R. forearm) were housed in the R.A.P. tent at rear Coy HQ. There were more wounded, but it was too dark to get them in. Sgt. Russell went to see a wounded man in a forward section about 20 yds from a Jap. MG post, & found his patient had a sucking chest wound.



It was pitch dark, but he stitched it successfully by the light of a cigarette, & lay with him all night.

April 25.

At dawn I took the S.B.s forward to Sgt. Russell's patient & we got him back without drawing any fire, cutting a track as we went. Three other walking wounded came in.

Cpl. Allen (Angau) had his 50 native bearers waiting at rear Coy HQ, & some came down to Adv. Coy HQ to carry the stretcher case back to rear Coy HQ. Here all the wounded were fixed up & sorted out, & the natives took 3 stretcher cases back to the A.D.S., the rest of the wounded walking. The carry took them  $4\frac{1}{2}$  hrs. (It will be remembered that it took us 4 hrs to get Caprana back to Base Camp!)

Contact had been made with the other half of the company, & Capt. Pringle, who had been with them, rejoined us, leaving Lt. Lyons in charge. They were



still pinned down, & a Jap. came out into the open & told them in English that they were surrounded, they had no hope of getting out, their kitchen at Vicker's Camp was going to be shelled, & they might as well surrender. He was immediately shot for his pains, & later in the day they miraculously got out, & returned to the junction of Vicker's & Law's tracks with only 5 walking wounded, whom the SB's looked after. 1 man was killed a little later.

During the day near by HQ had a visit from the Colonel. When he returned to BHQ he took Maj. Nelson & Capt. Snow, who had joined us that morning, with him.

The RAP. was moved back to a native humpy near the kitchen that evening. It rained hard that night, the hut leaked profusely, & Sgt. Russell & I were nearly drowned, although sleeping with hats & ground sheets on! Everyone was soaked to the skin.



April 26.

The Camp was bombed & strafed by the R.A.A.F., & shelled by our Mtn. guns, but our patrols found the Japs. still in occupation. I visited Lt. Zyer's platoon on Vicker's track. Their walking wounded had already been sent back to the ADS. Several of them had diarrhoea, probably due to the filthy condition of Vicker's Camp (NOT due to our own men).

April 27.

There was another air strike on the Camp in the morning, & unfortunately some of the bombs landed around Coy HQ, R.A.P. & kitchen. One man was killed, & five wounded. The only serious wound was a perf. abdominal (Lt. Ellis). Lt. Blake got some shrapnel in his ankle. The R.A.P. was lucky. The natives were only a few hundred yards up the track during this bombing & strafing, but behaved admirably, & under Cpl. Allen's iron rule did not panic. In the afternoon



Capt. Bringle had a nervous breakdown, & had to be evacuated, we had a visit from the Colonel, Lt. Dunsmore took command of C Coy, Lt. Lyons' platoon rejoined us, & Sgt. Russell & I made a new R.A.P. with a couple of U.S.A. tents.

April 28.

C Coy again attacked the Pimple. They found that the Japs. had vacated. But it was only a "blind", as they had merely moved forward to our flanks, which they proceeded to threaten, so we rapidly retired to rear Coy HQ, with one wounded.

April 29.

Sgt. Russell, the S.Bs, & I returned to the saddle, & enjoyed a shave & bath.

April 30.

I visited the ADS. Capt. Reid had replaced Capt. Williams.

May 2.

A Coy had relieved C Coy & Pte McKeon & I went forward



to rescue them in another attack on the bunker. It failed. We had four wounded, one missing (22 days later he rejoined our lines!) + one S.B. (Pte O'Neil) was killed while trying to get a wounded man out. Lt. Park had a nasty sucking chest wound, & was carried out part of the way by Sgt. Vaughan alone. (my S.B. Sergeant, a fine chap). He died later as the natives were carrying him to hospital. Pte McKeon & I returned to the saddle in the evening.

May 3.

Many men in D Coy going down with malaria - infected down near Anali - also some of the S.B.'s who were down there with us.

May 6.

Malaria cases continuing at an alarming rate. Lt. Gerrard's platoon practically wiped out. Maj. Lomin & Capt. Reid lunch at my R.A.P. We discussed malaria precautions on the Anali show. My opinions



were :-

- (i) Any malaria precautions under those conditions were difficult to carry out, but undoubtedly could have been improved.
- (ii) Mosquito nets could have been carried & used at River Junction. In this particular operation, it was impossible to use them forward of here.
- (iii) Mosquito lotion, if conscientiously used, might have cut down the high rate of infection, but owing to sweating, it would have to be applied at least every half hour while stationary, & every 15 mins. while marching at night.
- (iv) Atchurin was taken properly by most troops, & precautions as regards clothing carried out.

May 7.

A Coy again attacked the Pimple after an air & Mtn. gun strike. Pte Neary & I went forward with 8 S.B's. The Pimple was undoubtedly a Bail now, & the attack again failed. We had one killed &



3 wounded. Up till now we had used blanket & pole stretchers forward of the forward R.A.P., but they were heavy & awkward, the cross-pieces catching on vines & other vegetation, so we reverted to the Mark II's & found them much better. I evacuated two H.Y.D.N.'s & several P.V.D.'s. The constant nervous tension & difficult conditions were beginning to tell.

We found our two - U.S.A. - tent R.A.P., which two of us can easily carry in our packs, very handy. Placed end to end, & with lateral poles to support stretchers, it can easily hold 5 stretcher cases, & if necessary 5 more can be placed underneath. The tents are thoroughly waterproof. They can be put up in a 1/4 hr.

May 8.

I returned to the saddle feeling rather fed up.

May 9.

The R.A.P. attended a very



nice Mother's Day service on  
the saddle in the morning.

Then an urgent message came  
for me to proceed up to Labahia  
Base Camp, as A Coy had been  
attacked in their positions on  
the Jap. track about 300 yds  
above the bridge. So, with 4  
S.B.'s & Pte McKeon, I went to  
Base Camp.

At 1600 hrs. word came that  
an A Coy man had been  
wounded in the chest, so with  
the S.B.'s I went down the  
Jap. track to get him back to  
Base Camp by nightfall. Pte.  
McKeon stayed behind to wait  
for some more medical gear  
from the saddle, as it was  
now obvious that we would  
have to stay at Base Camp for  
the night. About 200 yds  
above A Coy we saw some of  
our own men laying booby  
traps on the right. 50 yds.  
further down, I observed  
movement in the jungle about  
20 yds to the right, but thinking  
it was our own men laying  
booby traps, did not move.  
Immediately, however, we were



fired on by an LMG & several rifles at close range. We quickly went to ground, & began to slide down the muddy track on our stomachs, seeking cover in hollows in the ground. Japs. closed in on the track above us, & fired straight down the track. One of my S.B.'s, Pte. Pope, returned their fire, but in a couple of minutes he came racing down the track with a ~~the~~ flesh wound of the thigh. The rest of us then made a dash for it, as he did not draw much fire, & reached A. Coy HQ to tell Capt. Jatterson the track had been cut. One of my S.B.'s, Pte. Lambert, & the stretcher, were missing. BHQ was immediately informed, & Pte. McKeen told to stay at Base Camp just before the Japs. cut the <sup>sig.</sup> line. At dusk, the Japs. attacked on all sides except the extreme left, but were repulsed. We could not tell how big their force was, but it seemed pretty strong. They could be heard clearing like a team of schoolboys & shouting orders



to each other across our positions. We had one killed & 2 wounded. The latter & Pope were housed in a small hut, which was slightly dug into the ground, which was just as well because a hail of lead frequently clipped the surrounding trees one to three feet above our heads. The firing by both sides was very heavy.

The only medical gear I had was my surgical haversack, & some shell dressings & bandages & sulphamide in the S.B.'s & Coy. medical orderlies' bags. One man had mult. S.W., including some shrapnel in the knee, & the other had a G.S.W. forearm (fract. radius + ulna) + G.S.W.'s both shoulders. This forearm was quite comfortable bound firmly to the chest.

It was great fun giving morphia during the night in pitch darkness without making a sound.

The night was quiet.

May 10.

The Japs. heavily attacked in



the early morning but were again repulsed. A Coy remained steady & cool, & were inflicting heavy casualties. Some more "walking" wounded crawled up to the R.A.P. (nothing serious). The ration & ammunition position gave no immediate cause for concern, but water was very short. I had enough sulphamamide for all the wounded, who were dispersed around my R.A.P. in hollows in the ground, as bullets from all directions were flying pretty close to the ground, & the Japs. were using 2" mortars & grenade dischargers. None of the latter landed very close to the R.A.P.

The Japs. were again repulsed in the afternoon. Latterson estimated their force at about 400. Fortunately it rained & water was collected off tents. The men were tired & hungry, but morale was good.

May 11.

There was still no contact with Labahia. Jap. shouts & the squeals of their wounded could



still be heard during the morning, but the firing was spasmodic. Jattenson made plans to "break bush" on the left flank next morning if no relief came. I was very worried as it would be next to impossible getting even two stretchers cases out. Then Sgt. Webb sustained a <sup>sucking</sup> perf. CoSW L. upper chest, with fract. clavicle & brachial palsy. He was severely shocked.

The firing quietened down about midday. At about 1400 hrs. a D Coy scout reached us, & a few minutes later, Capt. Baird & his men. We could hardly believe our eyes! Our relief had come! They had struck no opposition, although they could not get through the day before. The Japs must have panicked & evacuated. There was much handshaking all round.

Fresh S.B.'s, & the faithful Cpl. Allen & his natives arrived, & the casualties quickly evacuated to Base Camp, where Capt Reid &



Lt. Russell were waiting. The 3 stretcher cases were sent on to the A.D.S. Walking wounded & sick waited at Base Camp that night as it was too late to reach the A.D.S. before dark.

I learnt with relief that Lambert had broken bush when attacked on the track, & lay "doggo" during the night of May 9. There were Japs sleeping all around him, but he managed to get out before daybreak & reach Base Camp unharmed.

Our total casualties for this show were 3 killed & 12 wounded. It is estimated that we killed about 50 Japs. & probably wounded about 100.

A Coy retired to Track Junction that evening, & D Coy & Carriers <sup>Plat.</sup> took up positions a few hundred yards above the old C Coy kitchen.

May 12.

D Coy of 26 Bn arrived.

R.A.P., S.B.'s, wounded & sick formed a weary procession back to the saddle in the morning. I visited BHQ in the afternoon as



the Colonel had twisted his knee.

May 13.

At 11 a.m. & I paid a flying visit to Labahia in the late afternoon. Two men had walked into a booby trap. One had slight S.W., the other had a <sup>small</sup> piece of shrapnel through his tongue. He had some haemoptysis, but apparently there were no serious complications, as he could still talk.

May 14.

6 cases of fresh fruit arrived from Red Cross Monastery - pears, apples, oranges.

May 16.

We had a visit from Maj. Refshange & Capt. Reid. We again discussed malaria precautions on fighting patrols.

May 17.

We began to move the R.A.P. about 400 yds. up the main track (towards Guadagal). The new position was on a steep slope, but much better



camouflaged in case of enemy  
air attacks. I visited the A.D.S.  
& Maj. J. Feates had replaced  
Maj. Leslie as surgeon.

May 18.

I visited A Coy, new resting  
at Waipahi. The condition of his  
men, who had a gruelling time  
at the Rimple, is slowly improving.

May 24.

I visited a C Coy platoon  
at Reeve's O.P. The chaps there  
were busy scratching mokka  
hites. These "mokkas" seem to  
be confined to definite areas.

May 25.

Colonel Guinn & Padre O'Keefe  
lunched at my R.A.P. Mr. Rye,  
the Y.M.C.A. representative  
started concerts on the saddle  
again.

We treated a man with  
pediculic of the eyelashes.

May 26.

Colonel Stan Williams, senior  
physician of 2/9 A.G.H. & Maj.  
Feates had lunch at my R.A.P.



• commented favorably on  
one of my S.B.'s cooking.

May 27.

Lt. Mackie in with a G.S.W.  
of the shoulder from a fighting  
patrol near the Pimple.

May 30.

C Coy 2/6 Bn relieve our D Coy  
on the saddle. Our relief by  
2/6 Bn thus commences.

June 3.

Agt. Maddison of A Coy was  
accidentally wounded in the  
hip by a booby trap.

Maj. Mainland, D.A.D.M.S.  
3 Aust. div, & Capt. Reid  
visited us.

June 4.

Capt. Quinn, R.M.O. 2/6 Bn  
arrives & is welcomed with  
open arms. We <sup>had</sup> exchanged all  
expendable, & some non-expendable  
stores.

I then returned to Kwan  
with Maj. Mainland, R.A.P. &  
S.B.'s following on.



B + D legs were at Bulalo.

HQ, A + C at Man.

As from 6.6.43, separate  
returns were sent in for B + D  
legs by Capt. Brown (3 div.)



Summary of Battle Cas. at Mubo.

10.4.43 — 6.6.43.

Killed	16
died of Wounds	4
Wounded	33

Analysis of Wounded.

Head	3
Chest	4
Abdomen	2 (both died)
Upper Limb	13
Multiple	6
Back	2
Lower Limb	7

Of the chest wounds, 3 were  
perf. sucking, of whom 2  
later died.



Strength on arrival 733.

Summary of Sick Enac. to Hoop.

Mubo Area

10.4.43 — 6.6.43.

		%
P.U.O.	221	75
Chin. Dysentery	21	7
Diarrhoea	3	1
Scabies	1	.
Skin Diseases	3	1
V.R.T.I.	1	-
V.D.	-	-
Other diseases	24	8
Unknown (probably mostly P.U.O.)	14	5
Accidents	<u>7</u>	<u>3</u>
TOTAL	<u>295</u>	<u>100</u>

Remarks.

Nearly all the P.U.O.'s were B.T. malaria. Of these about 55 were injected down near Anali, & about 40 (probably) in Mubo area. It is very hard to say just how many were injected in Mubo area, but all the men who had been to Milne Bay were counted as relapses, though probably some of them were re-infections.

Malaria precautions: owing to difficulties of distribution due to frequent moves, two or three



Suppressive  
platoons were without, at least  
for several days. (about 3 to 5).  
Otherwise the atehwin discipline  
was good. From the start,  
although the men had orders to  
carry a mosquito net, there  
was a shortage of nets. I cannot  
say how much, but probably  
about 25% of the men had no  
nets on arrival in Muho area.  
I complained about this, & over  
500 nets were sent up & the  
deficiencies made good about  
the end of April. It still took  
a couple of weeks to get the  
men accustomed to malaria  
discipline again however. There  
were many occasions of course  
when nets could not, in my  
opinion, be used - on fighting  
patrols, & when in action in  
trenches. But a more conscientious  
use of mosquito lotion & clothing  
discipline would probably have  
cut down the rate of infection  
appreciably. It must be remembered  
of course, that ~~on~~ the coast  
near Anali is a hyper-endemic  
area, & I adhere to my opinions  
expressed on May 6.

Mosquito veils & gloves could



not be obtained. In any case, whether pickets (in action) could see clearly enough with veils on is open to question. I should think gloves would interfere with the rapid & effective use of fire arms.

Fly spray was hard to get, & disinfectants almost non-existent.

Sanitation was fairly good.

Latrines were all of potato-tin type. Most had just the tin lid, ~~but~~ & were not completely fly-proof unless of perfect fit; as many as possible were fitted with flyproof wooden lids.

Where fly-proof latrines could not be built in places such as the Pimple area, deep trenches were used, & even when these were unavailable, the men always covered their faeces well. Water from "pivers" was never sterilised, & no cases of dysentery could be ascribed to this cause. Natives were camped for a while near Tahahia Base Camp & the Pimple area, & frequently defaecated on the ground. Many cases of dysentery probably arose from this.



Flies were fairly prevalent.  
Kitchens & rubbish disposal were  
good.

It may be worth mentioning  
that the men who must keep  
a close watch on malaria  
precautions in action in this  
type of country are platoon &  
section commanders, particularly  
the latter. The company commander  
cannot keep a watch on all  
his men. The section leader can.  
This, I think, is the main weak  
link as far as battalions are  
concerned.



Summary of Sick Evac<sup>d</sup> & treated  
in 8-bed R.A.P. hospital at

MILNE BAY.

20.10.42 — 13.1.43.

	<u>Evac.</u>	<u>Treated in R.A.P.</u>
Malaria M.T.	98	
B.T.	7	
Clin.	74	27
P.U.O.	37	7
Scrub Typhus	1	
dengue	11	4
Rubella	<del>8</del>	
Clin. dysentery	6	
Malaria + dysent.	3	
Blackwater Fever	1	
Unknown	99	
Other diseases	<u>39</u>	<u>17</u>
	<u>384</u>	<u>55</u>

Strength on arrival : 723.

About 42% of these developed  
malarial fever. My impression  
is that there were many cases  
of suppressed malaria in the  
lines, & probably nearly everyone  
was "infected".

Of the total of 439 hospital  
cases, 68% were malaria.

Hygiene & sanitation, & malaria  
precautions were uniformly good,  
& carried out to the full.



