

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

Item number: 8/3/95

58/59 Infantry Battalion

1943, Operation Orders &
Instructions, Salamaua Campaign

1 Dec 44

STAFF DUTIES
MILITARY HISTORY SECTION

1. Herewith enclosed Operation Orders and Instns from SALAMAUA campaign for inclusion in unit War Diary.

| <u>FILE NUMBER</u> | <u>SUBJECT</u> |
|--------------------|---|
| OP 2/43 | 58/59 Aust Inf Bn Operation Instn No 1 |
| OP 3/43 | " " " " " " " " 2 |
| OP 4/43 | " " " " " " " " " 3 |
| OP 5/43 | " " " " " " " " " 4 |
| | " " " " " " " " " 5 |
| OP 6/43 | " " " " " " " " Order " 1 |
| OP 7/43 | " " " " " " " " " " 2 |
| OP 8/43 | " " " " " " " " " " 3 |
| OP 9/43 | " " " " " " " " " " 4 |
| | Patrol programme |
| OP 11/43 | Report on augmenting charges - bombs 3" mor. Order of Day issued by Comd 15 Aust Inf Bde |
| OP 13/43 | Reply to order of the Day |
| OP 14/43 | File relevant to MALOLO Operations |
| OP 15/43 | 3 Aust Div Operation Instns No 5. |
| OP 16/43 | Employement of recce party 58/59 Aust Inf Bn |
| OP 17/43 | 3 Aust Div instn to move to MISSIM area, and attached documents |
| OP 18/43 | 15 Aust Inf Bde Operation Instn No 1. " " " " " " " " Instns Nos 4 to 14/ " " " " " " " " " 16/17 " " " " " " " " Order of Battle 8 Jun 43 |
| OP 19/43 | Messages in connection with postponement D Day. |
| OP 20/43 | 15 Aust Inf Bde Movement Order No 2 |
| OP 21/43 | Dropping of 3" mortars. |
| OP 22/43 | Screed re weather reports from forward troops. |
| OP 23/43 | Sequence of events preceeding Double T |
| OP 24/43 | Systems for describing dates of operations |
| OP 25/43 | Special Oder by Gen Sir Thomas BLAMEY " " Order by Gen Sir Edmund HERRING. Invention - delayed action to 3" mortar fuse No 150 Mk 1. Implementing of Operation Oder No 1. |

2. Please Acknowledge

W. H. H. H. Lt
 I.O. 58/59 Aust Inf Bn

Secret

Copy No

HQ 58/59 Aust Inf
17 July '4358/59 AUST INF BN OPERATION INSTN No 1.

Ref Map KOMIATUM 1/25000

- OBJECT 1. (a) To maintain offensive action and gain information of enemy dispositions off BOBDUBI RIDGE from NAMLING TO FRANCISO R.
(b) To gain control of the KOMIATUM TRACK. All visible areas of the track to be registered and harrassed by fire.

- INFORMATION 2. ENEMY
(a) Enemy till control BENCH CUT TRACK to NORTH of VICKERS POSN 702953.
(b) ENEMY still in occupation of OLD VICKERS POSN on COCONUT RIDGE.
(c) Small enemy force has taken up posn on ERSKINE CREEK. vicinity 704951.
(d) At 1730K/18 119 Enemy were seen to move NORTH along KOMIATUM TRACK. On being engaged by mortar and MMG fire were diverted to the EAST of KOMIATUM TRACK and by-passed portions of track under observation.

3. OWN TROOPS
(a) WELLS O.P. HQ 2/3 Aust Ind Coy
(b) 690932 One Pl 2/3 Ind Coy
(c) NAMLING One Pl 2/3 Ind Coy
(d) GWAIBALON A Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn with under comd 13 and 14 Pls C Coy 58/59 Bn Coy HQs and one Pl B Coy 58/59 Bn astride ERSKINE CREEK
(e) 702950 One Pl B Coy 58/59 Bn astride BENCH CUT TRACK.
(f) 701951 C and D Coys no change.
(g)

- INTENTION 4. 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will attain the objects in para 1(a) and 1(b) above.

- TASKS 5. (a) A and B Coys to carry out vigorous patrolling to harrass known enemy dispositions on the night 17/18 July.
(b) D Coy to send recce patrol to COCONUT RIDGE to obtain information of enemy movts in this area, To be carried out night 17/18 July.
(c) Preparations will be made for the relief of B Coy 58/59 Bn by D Coy 58/59 Bn. This relief will be effected only on orders from this HQs.
(d) D Coy will take over responsibility of B Coy and advance to the NORTH END of the BENCH CUT TRACK and establish a firm base from which they are to prevent an enemy movt along the KOMIATUM TRACK.
(e) This does NOT relieve A Coy of the carrying out of tasks already allotted viz.
I. Attack on ORODUBI.
II. Recapture posn on ERSKINE CREEK.

- PLAN 6. MMGs
(a) One sub section C Coy area to carry out harrassing fire tasks on OLD VICKERS POSN. Task will be divided into three periods and carried out as under.
I. First period 2100 hrs
II. Second period 2200 hrs
III. Third period to commence on return of recce patrol from OLD VICKERS POSN (see patrols)
Ann expenditure NOT to exceed 4 belts for the entire task.

Secret

Copy to

ES/50
ES/50 sent in
17 July '43

SECRET

- (b) One sub section from 18 Pl area to carry out harrassing tasks on COCONUT RIDGE. Task will NOT commence until return of D Coy recce patrol from COCONUT RIDGE AREA.

XXXXXXXX

7. MORTARS

- (a) One detachment A Coy area to harass KOMIATUM TK and engage opportunity targets.
- (b) One detachment A Coy to range on ONODUBI during daylight and be prepared to carry out harrassing tasks on night 17/18 July when ordered by this Hqs.
- (c) One detachment C Coy area to carry out harra sing fire tasks on OLD VICKERS POSN in conjunction with on e sub section MMGs as above. Task to be carried out as under.
 - i. 2100 hrs 10 bombs H.E.
 - ii. 2200 hrs 10 bombs H.E.
 - iii. On return of C Coy recce patrol from OLD VICKERS POSN area further 10 bombs H.E.
- (d) One detachment 18 Pl area to carry out harrassing tasks one COCONUT RIDGE. Task will NOT commence until return of D Coy recce patrol from COCONUT RIDGE AREA.

8. PATROLS

At the completion of MMG and mortar tasks from C Coy area at 2200 hrs C Coy will sen out a recce patrol to OLD VICKERS POSN to ascertain accuracy of fire and observe any enemy movts. The third fire task will NOT commence until the return of this patrol

ADM

- 9. R.A.P. established 673974
- 10. ANGAU Native carriers will be available morning 18 July for collection of casualties.
- 11. AMMH Bn reserve KUNDA BRIDGE All mortars to keep reserve of thrity bombs.
- 12. SECURITY Copies of this instn maps and codes will NOT be taken forward of Coy Hqs.
- 13. B.E.Q. Established at 675974
- 14. SIG COMM line.

INTERCOMM

ACKNOWLEDGE

Method of issue *Hand*
 Time of signature *as above*

[Signature]
 Capt
 Adjt 58/59 Aust Inf Bn

Distribution

| | | |
|-----------------|--------|--------|
| Rifle Coys | copies | 1 - 4 |
| MMGs | " | 5 |
| Mortar | " | 6 |
| C.O. | 2 | 7 |
| 15 Aust Inf Bde | | 8 |
| War Diary | | 9 - 10 |
| File | | 11- 12 |

SECRET

O. P. 3/43

COPY NO 10

HQ
58/59 Aust Inf Bn
21 July 43

58/59 AUST INF BN OPERATION INSTRUCTION NO 2

Ref Map K MIATUM 1/25000

OBJECT

1. To maintain control of BOBDUBI RIDGE and to gain control of KOMIATUM TRACK.

INFORMATION

2. ENEMY

- (a) The enemy retains his original posns at COCONUTS, OLD VICKERS POSN and ORODUBI.
- (b) 1930K/14 enemy forced 8 Pl out of ERSKINE CREEK 701950 and consolidated. 1325K/20 it is estimated he has strength of 80 at 700950 and 100 at 701952.
- (c) 1700K/17 enemy was forced out of GRAVEYARD 697941 and it was found that he had extensive defences along NORTH-SOUTH RIDGE and BENCH CUT EAST of GRAVEYARD and GWAIBALON. 18 July he re-occupied GRAVEYARD.
- (d) 0930K/16 enemy was forced from AMBUSH KNOLL 691932. 1235K/20 enemy approached AMBUSH KNOLL from NORTH EAST and SOUTH and after digging in close to our perimeter attacked from the SOUTH.
- (e) 1510K/19 signs of enemy movement were found along the BUIRIS CREEK night of 18/19 July. Traces of 50 Japs were found. 1515K/19 enemy fired on patrol near BUIRIS CREEK.

COMMENTS

- (a) The enemy is strengthening in GWAIBALON - ERSKINE CREEK AREA and will probably try to regain BOBDUBI RIDGE by extending WESTWARD and occupying the RIDGE TRACK.
- (b) The enemy is strengthening his position ORODUBI - WELLS to prevent any threat to his right flank and possibly to gain the SOUTHERN portion of BOEDUNI RIDGE and threaten cut L of C to MUBO AREA.
- (c) The BUIRIS CREEK AREA is being probed to prevent us surprising him in that area and probably to ascertain the strength of our left flank.

3. OWN TROOPS

58/59 Aust Inf Bn - C Coy RIDGE TRACK 696965 - 698964 - 696963.
B Coy ERSKINE CREEK AREA 700951 - 702953 - 703952.
A Coy GWAIBALON AREA 697949 - 698946.
2/3 Aust Ind Coy - Coy HQs and A Pl NAMBLING AREA 691938.
C Pl and 2 secs B Pl AMBUSH KNOLL 691932.
One Sec B Pl WELLS O P 685926.

COMMENTS

- (a) It is considered that patrols moving between A Coy and C Coy 58/59 Bn are NOT sufficient to close the gap between these Coys and prevent the enemy occupying in force posns on the RIDGE TRACK.
- (b) Energetic action is necessary to prevent the increase in enemy activity developing and allowing him to gain the initiative.

INTENTION

4.

58/59 Aust Inf Bn will continue offensive operations to maintain control of BOBDUBI RIDGE and to gain control of the KOMIATUM TRACK.

METHOD

- 5. C Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will maintain standing patrols on RIDGE TRACK between GWAIBALON and OLD VICKERS POSN. TASK to hold BOBDUBI RIDGE and prevent enemy from occupying RIDGE TRACK.
- 6. Maintain pressure on all enemy posns. TASK to prevent further enemy movement WESTWARD.
- X 7. 16 Pl D Coy 58/59 Bn established ambush posn BUIRIS CREEK AREA at 703994. Watching patrol at 703978.
- 8. 18 Pl D Coy 58/59 Bn will maintain recce patrols to the COCONUTS. TASK to gain definite information of enemy strength and whether is being reinforced at that area.
- 9. ALL Coys will harrass the enemy continually day and night by patrols and fire and prevent him taking offensive action and thus obtaining the initiative.
- 10. DIRECTIVE
Coy comds will when putting the above task into operation
 - (a) Give definite tasks to patrol comds and ensure that definite answers are received.
 - (b) Arrange the task in detail to ensure that there is a definite plan which is clearly understood by subordinates thus making the execution of the plan more simple and effective.
- 11. Bn 21/c will move to A, B and C Coys areas to check Coy dispositions and co-ordinate defence.

INTERCOMMUNICATION

- 12. Communications must be rapid and accurate. Coy comds will ensure that all information is passed quickly and accurately to BHQ. A constant and rigorous check will be kept on line communication to ensure that less important matters are NOT allowed to cause congestion.
- 13. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Time of signature 1030 hrs

Capt

Method of issue Hand

Adjt 58/59 Aust Inf Bn

DISTRIBUTION :-

| | | | | |
|-----------------|--------|----|---|----|
| Rifle Coys | copies | 1 | - | 4 |
| MMGs | | | | 5 |
| Mortars | | | | 6 |
| C D | | | | 7 |
| 15 Aust Inf Bde | | | | 8 |
| File | | 9 | - | 10 |
| War Diary | | 11 | - | 12 |

Secret

Copy No 9

HQ
58/59 Aust Inf Bn
21 July '43

58/59 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY OPERATION INSTRUCTION No 2

Ref Map KOMIATUM 1/25000

OBJECT 1. To maintain control of BOBDUBI RIDGE and to gain control of KOMIATUM TRACK.

INFORMATION 2. ENEMY

- (a) The enemy retains his original posns at COCONUTS, OLD VICKERS POSN AND ORODUBI.
- (b) 1950K/14 enemy forced S Pl out of ERSKINE CREEK 701950 and consolidated. 1325K/20 it is estimated he has strength of 80 at 700950 and 100 at 701950.
- (c) 1700K/17 enemy was forced out of GRAVEYARD 697941 and it was found that he had extensive defences along NORTH - SOUTH RIDGE and bench out EAST of GRAVEYARD and GWAIBALON. 19 July he re-occupied GRAVEYARD.
- (d) 0930K/16 Enemy was forced from AMBUSH KNOLL 691932. 1235K/20 Enemy approached AMBUSH KNOLL from NORTH EAST AND SOUTH and after digging in close to our perimeter attacked from the SOUTH.
- (e) 1510K/19 signs of enemy movement were found along the ERM BUIRIS CREEK night of 18/19 July. Traces of 50 Japs were found. 1515K/19 enemy forced on patrol near BUIRIS CREEK.

COMMENTS

- (a) The enemy is strengthening in GWAIBALON - ERSKINE CREEK AREA and will probably try to regain BOBDUBI RIDGE by extending WESTWARD and occupying the RIDGE TRACK.
- (b) The enemy is strengthening his position ORODUBI - WELIS to prevent any threat to his right flank and possibly to gain the SOUTHERN portion of BOBDUBI RIDGE and threaten out proposed L. of C. to MUBO area.
- (c) The BUIRIS CREEK AREA is being probed to prevent us surprising him in that area and probably to ascertain the strength of our left flank.

3. OWN TROOPS

58/59 Aust Inf Bn - C Coy Ridge track 696965-698964-696963.
B Coy ERSKINE CREEK AREA 700951-702953-703952.
A Coy GWAIBALON AREA 697949-698948
Coy HQs and A Pl NAMLING AREA 691936
C Pl and 2 secs B Pl AMBUSH KNOLL 691932.
One Sec B Pl WELIS O.P. 695926

Comments

- (a) It is considered that patrols moving between A Coy and C Coy 58/59 Bn are not sufficient to close the gap between these Coys and prevent the enemy occupying in force posns on the RIDGE TRACK.
- (b) Energetic action is necessary to prevent the increase in enemy activity developing and allowing him to gain the initiative.

INTENTION

4. 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will continue offensive operations to maintain control of BOBDUBI RIDGE and to gain control of the KOMIATUM TRACK.

METHOD

- 5. C Coy 58/59 Bn will maintain standing patrols on RIDGE TRACK between ONAIBALON AND OLD VICKERS POSE TASK to hold BOUOUBI RIDGE and prevent enemy from occupying ridge track.
- 6. Maintain pressure on all enemy peaks TASK to prevent further enemy movement WESTWARD
- x 7. 16 Pl D Coy 58/59 En established ambush post BUIRIS GREEN area at 703824. Watching patrol at 703878.
- 8. 18 Pl D Coy 58/59 Bn will maintain recon patrols to the COCONCIE. TASK to gain definite information of enemy strength and whether enemy is being reinforced at that area.
- 9. ALL Coys will harass the enemy continually day and night by patrols and fire and prevent him taking offensive action and thus obtaining the initiative.
- 10. DIRECTIVE
Coy Comds will when putting the above task into operation
 - (a) Give definite tasks to recon patrol comds and ensure that definite answers are received
 - (b) Arrange the task in detail to ensure that there is a definite plan which is clearly understood by sub-ordinates thus making the execution of the plan more simple and effective.
- 11. Bn 2 i/c will move to A, B and C Coy areas to check Coy dispositions and co-ordinate defence.

INTERCOMMUNICATION

- 12. Communications must be rapid and accurate. Coy comds will ensure that all information is passed quickly and accurately to HQ. A constant and rigorous check will be kept on line communication to ensure that less important matters are not allowed to/congestion.
cause

13. AGENCY LETTERS

Time of signature *Bob. Richardson* Capt
AGJt 58/59 Aust Inf Bn.
Method of issue *Hand.*

Distribution.

| | | | | |
|-----------------|--------|----|---|----|
| Rifle Coys | copies | 1 | - | 4 |
| HQs | | | | 5 |
| Mortars | | | | 6 |
| G.O. | | | | 7 |
| 18 Aust Inf Bde | | | | 8 |
| File | | 9 | | 10 |
| War Diary | | 11 | | 12 |

x 7. *To closely watch and debay enemy in that area.*

MOST SECRET
Copy No #13HQ
58/59 Aust Inf Bn
5 Aug. '4358/59 AUST INF BN OPERATION INSTRUCTION NO 3Ref Maps KORIATUM 1/25000
SALAHUA 1/25000INFORMATION

1.

ENEMY

- (a) SHODUBI Dig in in located posns from GRAVEYARD 697943 along ridge to SHODUBI 698939 both incl.
- (b) BRUSHY CREEK
In posn NORTH PINNACLE and SOUTH PINNACLE astride BRUSHY CREEK on west side of BRUSH CUT TRACK north flank at 704957 protected by trip wires 7 to 8 feet in depth and from 6 inches to 1 foot high. No movement has been seen in the immediate vicinity of this wire.
- (c) COCONUTS AREA
Dig in in strength in NORTH, SOUTH and CENTRE COCONUTS and on KNOLL 696969 west of OLD VICKERS POEN. Enemy force at present attacking A Coy 2/7/ Aust Inf Bn from spur 697968.
- (d) From operations during the past ten days it is evident that the enemy is satisfied with his dispositions on southern half of KORIATUM TRACK. It is considered that offensive action by the enemy in this area is unlikely

2.

OWN TROOPS

- (a) 58/59 Aust Inf Bn
Fwd HQ GRAVEYARD 697949
A Coy Area 703958
B Coy with under command
No 4 Pl Ridge track area 696964
C Coy less one pl Area 703957
14 Pl 704938
D Coy GRAVEYARD AREA 697949
Comp Pl 698961
- (b) 2/3 Aust Indep Coy.
Coy HQ 696945
A Pl TIMBERED KNOLL 696945
B Pl HARKING RIDGE 692937
C Pl PAPER'S DOVE 697946
Comp Pl 698947.
- (c) 2/7 Aust Inf Bn
HQ 697968
A Coy OLD VICKERS POEN 698969
B Coy NEW SHODUBI AREA 694975
- (d) ~~xx~~ 17 Aust Inf Bde as per 15 Aust Inf Bde summaries.

INTENTION

3/ 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will take over area of responsibility now held by 2/3 Aust Indep Coy.

METHOD

4. DISPOSITIONS
(a) 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will take over present dispositions of 2/3 Aust Ind Coy.
(b) 2/3 Aust Ind Coy will take over present dispositions of 58/59 Aust Inf Bn.

5. TIMES OF RELIEF
(a) The inter change of sub units will be completed by 1800 hrs 7 Aug '43.
(b) Actual move of sub units will take place as per App "A"

6. INTER UNIT BOUNDARIES.
As per App "B"

7. TASKS GIVEN IN NEW AREA
(a) A Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn to prevent enemy movement north from GRAVEYARD - ORODUBI AREA.
(b) 1.B Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn to be disposed to give depth to posn in TIMBERED KNOLL AREA.
ii. To give depth to D Coy in BASKINE CREEK AREA.
(c) D Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn to maintain present dispositions and prevent enemy movement west from known locations in BASKINE CREEK - BENCH CUT TRACK AREA.
(d) 1.C Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn to prevent enemy movement west from ORO DUBI AREA
ii. Observe movement on KORIATUM TRACK with a view to engaging with fire by MGs and mortars
iii. To maintain close liaison with 2/6 Aust Inf Bn with a view to mutual support and protection of the inter Bde boundaries.
(e) GUWAIBALON FORCE. (Comp Pl and No 4 Pl 58/59 Aust Inf Bn)
i. Defence of GUWAIBALON AREA.
ii. Force to be mobile. will be prepared to move to counter enemy movement in 2/3 Ind Coy area.
iii. To maintain close liaison with 2.3 Ind Coy.
H.B. OC GUWAIBALON FORCE will be notified later.

8. FIRE SUPPORT - Arty.
(a) F.O.O. now located WELLS O.P. will engage targets fwd and within area of responsibility 58/59 Aust Inf Bn.
(b) Requests for Arty support and arrangements with F.O.O. will only be made through this H.Q.

9. MORTARS
(a) One det under comd C Coy.
TASK. To observe and engage enemy movement along KORIATUM TRACK.
(b) One det under comd A Coy.
TASK. Defensive fire along A Coy front.
(c) Two dets under comd B Coy.
TASK. engage opportunity targets on KORIATUM TRACK and GRAVEYARD ORODUBI AREA.
(d) One det under comd D Coy
(e) One det under comd GUWAIBALON FORCE.
(f) Dets which are not allotted for any specific task will come under comd OC GUWAIBALON area for close defence.

10. MGs
(a) One section under comd C Coy on HANLING RIDGE
TASK. as for mortar task para 9(a)
(b) One sub section under comd GUWAIBALON FORCE
TASK. as required in mobile defence as per paras 7(a) and (b)

11. PATROLS
- (a) Although enemy is on the defensive in this area it is emphasized that this unit may have to take offensive action against his positions in the near future.
 - (b) 1. Constant and vigorous patrols will be carried out to ascertain enemy movement and details of his dispositions
 - 2. To ensure that no enemy movement is made without our knowledge.
 - (c) Listening posts will be established. Instructions and details of which will be issued later.

ADMINISTRATION

12. ARMY AND SUPPLIES
- (a) Reserves of ammo and supplies at present in areas will be handed over by mutual arrangements between this HQ and 2/3 Aust Inf Bn.
 - (b) Adequate reserves on ammo, rations and water will be held in areas liable to be cut off. Minimum of 4 days.
 - (c) All other areas will hold a minimum reserve of two days ammo, rations and water.
 - (d) Mortar detachments located mortar knoll area supply of 100 bombs to be constantly maintained. Mortar deta in A, B and D Coy areas minimum supply 30 bombs to be maintained.

13. MEDICAL R.A.P. will remain in present location ULIAP ERHEK. Further details will be issued in Adm Instrn No 2 which will be issued in conjunction with Op instrn No 3.

14. SECURITY
- (a) Copies of this Instrn will not be taken fwd of Coy HQs. Notes will be taken of essential paras and Instrns will then be destroyed.
 - (b) HQ will be notified immediately Instrn is destroyed.

INTERCOMMUNICATION

15. HQ will be established at 696945.
16. Communications during relief
Lines and equipment in present location will be taken over by incoming sub units. Present communication at HQ will only be altered by mutual agreement between this HQ and 2/3 Ind Coy.
17. LATERAL COMMUNICATIONS
- (a) Lateral links will be arranged between all units and alternative lines laid to ensure comm at all times.
 - (b) This unit will arrange lateral L/T link with 2/6 Aust Inf Bn

18. UNIT SIGNS
Unit signs and sign posts will be displayed at unit HQs to facilitate movement within the Bde Area.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

Time of signature 0030hr
Method of issue Hand

Capt
Majt 15/59 Aust Inf Bn.

Distribution.

| | | |
|-----------------|---------|---------|
| A Coy | Copy No | 1 |
| B Coy | " | 2 |
| C Coy | " | 3 |
| D Coy | " | 4 |
| Arty | " | 5 |
| MMCs | " | 6 |
| Mortars | " | 7 |
| Sigs | " | 8 |
| C.O. | " | 9 |
| C.S. | " | 10 |
| 15 Aust Inf Bde | " | 11 |
| File | | 12 - 13 |
| War Diary | | 14 - 15 |

RELIEF OF 58/59 AUST INF BN BY 2/3 AUST INF COY

MOST SECRET
Appendix "A"
to 58/59 Aust Inf Bn
Op Instr No 3
Copy No.

| Serial a | Date b | Sub Unit c | Strength Diffrs O.Ps d | Present Location. e | Area to which to move f | Task on completion of move. g |
|-------------|-----------|--|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| 1. | 5 Aug | C Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn | 2 56 | Area NEWMANS JUNG 733032 | NANLING RIDGE KORIAN KNOLL | (a) To prevent enemy penetration west from BOBDUBI. (b) To liaise with 2/6 Aust Inf Bn. |
| 2. | 5 Aug | E Pl (2/3 Aust portion) Ind Coy. (E Pl) | 2 40 | NANLING RIDGE MORTAR KNOLL. | Area NEWMANS JUNG | (a) To establish a firm base on BENCH CUT TRACK in vicinity of NEWMANS JUNG for defence of BOBDUBI Ridge. (b) To harrass KORIAN TR and BOBDUBI-SLANAVA TR by raids and ambush |
| 3. | 6 Aug | A Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn | 2 55 | Area NEWMANS JUNG | TIMBERED KNOLL | To contain enemy in GRAVSTAND AREA |
| 4. | 6 Aug | F Pl 2/3 Aust Ind Coy | 3 44 | TIMBERED KNOLL | Area NEWMANS JUNG | As per serial 2 |
| 5. | 7 Aug | B Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn | 4 53 | GARDENS | FARRIS BOWL 697948 | (a) To give depth to posn in TIMBERED KNOLL (b) To give depth to D Coy 58/59 Bn in BASKING Creek Area. |
| 6. | 7 Aug | Portion G Pl 2/3 Aust Inf Coy | 1 2. | FARRIS BOWL | GARDENS | As decided by C.O.2/3 Ind Coy |

| Serial a | Date b | Sub Unit c | Strength Offrs O.Ns. d | Present Location e | Area to which to move f | Task on completion of relief g |
|-------------|-----------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|---|---|
| 7 | - | D Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn | 2 73 | HUSKINE CREEK | No move | As at present |
| 8 | - | Comp Pl 58/59 Aust Inf Bn | 19 | CUMMINS POST | As arranged by COs 58/59 Aust Inf Bn and 2/3 Aust Inf Coy. | To be used to extend Northern flank of 58/59 Bn and protect inter-unit boundary between 58/59 Bn and 2/3 Inf Coy and to act as link between 2/3 Inf Coy on BENCH CUT and D Coy 58/59 Bn in HUSKINE CREEK area |
| 9 | - | Tr. A Pl 58/59 Aust Inf Bn | 1 19 | GARDBUS | as per serial 8 | As per serial 8 |

TO BE SUPERIMPOSED OVER KOMIATUM 1/25000
TRACE SHOWING
UNIT AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY AND
INTER UNIT BOUNDARIES
AS ORDERED
IN 15 AUST INF BDE OP INSTN NO 11

68
+
99

72
+
99

2/7 AUST INF BN

• OLD VICKERS POSN

Incl 2/7 BN

2/3 AUST INDEP COY

• GRIFFS TRACK

Incl 2/3 INDEP COY

58/59 AUST INF BN

• GWAIBALON

• TIMBERED KNOLL

• MORTAR KNOLL

• NAMLING RIDGE

INTER BDE BDY

68
+
93

72
+
93

SECRET

HQ
58/59 Aust Inf Bn
5 Aug. '43

58/59 AUST INF BN ADM INSTR No 2
(ISSUED IN CONJUNCTION WITH OF INSTR No 3)

1. GENERAL

- (a) 58/59 Aust Inf Bn has now assumed a defensive role in this area and it is anticipated that for a period operations will be of a static nature. During this period sub-unit comds will avail themselves of every opportunity to thoroughly overhaul and re-organise their comds.
- (b) Individual members of subunits will be given the opportunity of resting for a brief period in Beach area. A rest camp with bathing laundry and other facilities has been established for this purpose.
- (c) It is emphasised however that this new phase of the operation is NOT to be regarded as a rest period. Sub-unit comds will maintain a close and constant watch on the administration and internal economy of their comds. The MOST vigorous efforts will be made to apply to the greatest advantage lessons learnt since the commencement of the present operation.

2. REST CAMP

- Established on ULRAF CREEK vicinity WAF 688961.
- (a) Object. To periodically enable all ranks to avail themselves of a complete rest for a minimum period of 24 hours. During this period every available facility will be utilised for the care and comfort of troops. This period will enable the soldier to return to his sub-units refreshed, re-equipped and fit.
- (b) At present accommodation is available for thirty men. It is intended to increase this accommodation to enable 50 men to be rested at a time. Allotment of present accommodation will be made as follows and will be increased accordingly as accommodation is available.
- | | |
|----------------|--------|
| Each Rifle Coy | 6 men. |
| SWAINSON Force | 4 men |
| HQ area | 2 men |
- (c) It is emphasised that men must return to their sub-unit before the second detail leaves for the rest area. Parties will report to the rest camp not later than 1200 hrs on the day allotted. OC camp will be advised by signal from Coys names of personnel reporting in with each party. Officers quarters will be established and officers will be released as operational requirements allow. Individual officers will be notified by signal when they are to report to the rest area.
- Sick personnel will NOT report to the rest camp.
- (d) The rest camp will be under the direct control of the Q.M. Cpl HYDE J.R. is appointed OC Camp and will be directly responsible to the QM for internal economy and Administration. The QM ~~will~~ in conjunction with Cpl HYDE will see that the following facilities are made available and maintained.
1. Adequate housing bedding and feeding of ~~xxxx~~ all resting personnel.
 - ii. All reading matter and other amenities to be supplied as they come to hand.
 - iii. Unit barber to be on constant attendance.
 - iv. Wet or clean clothing will be made available for men returning to their sub-units.
 - v. In conjunction with the FMO medical inspection and treatment, if required, of resting personnel.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

FOR AWARDS

Attention is drawn to special instr issued by this HQ on the 4 Aug. '43 regarding the submission of such recommendations. Coy comds will make thorough inquiries into circumstances of any acts of bravery etc and submit recommendations in accordance with the abovementioned instr. Time limit will be notified later but it is MOST essential these recommendations be forwarded as soon as possible.

4. PROMOTIONS AND
REVERSION ON NCOs

In the course of re-organising their comds sub unit comds will enquire closely into the merits and capabilities of W & NCOs. A number of recommendations for reversion of NCOs have been received and approved. It is considered however that some NCOs are still not up to the standard required. This is conclusively indicated by reports received regarding the low standard of morale since the beginning of the present operation. Reports will be submitted forthwith on inefficient and unsatisfactory NCOs. Such personnel will be replaced by men more capable of carrying out tasks allotted. Reports including W & NCOs and TG personnel will be submitted.

5. LOSS OF STORES

Losses of arms amm and eqpt will be investigated by sub unit comds as closely as recommendations for awards, to ascertain the culpability of individual troops regarding such losses. Charges will be laid in accordance with these findings. Several reports have been received at this HQ concerning shameful abandonment of weapons in critical circumstances. It is pointed out that such actions may be instrumental in the failure of a particular operation.

6. AMMUNITION

Coys will carry out a complete check and thorough examination of amm taken over from other units. Demands will be submitted accordingly to bring holdings to as near as possible to Scale "A".

7. ACCOMMODATION

Sub unit comds will ensure that troops are provided with the best available accommodation during this new phase of the operation. Conditions should allow troops to make themselves reasonably comfortable and dry under overhead cover. Ground sheets and half tents will be issued to Coys as they are supplied. The importance of this matter and its effect on morale cannot be too greatly stressed.

It is considered that if men are permitted to live in unhygienic and animal conditions there is always the possibility of some men behaving as such and generally lower the morale and self respect of an entire sub-unit.

8. HYGIENE

Hygiene personnel from HQ will periodically visit Coy areas and advise on matters of hygiene and sanitation. Thereafter hygiene Sgt will inspect and report on all Coy areas. A very serious view will be taken of any laxity or carelessness which has occurred in the interior.

9. RATIONS AND MEALS

A number of cooks have recently arrived in the area and will be allotted to Coys by the Q.M. As most of these cooks have just returned from schools the utmost advantage will be taken of their experience and ability to greatly improve the standard of meals in subunits.

Q.M. and Sgt Cook will visit Coy areas to advise and supervise all matters appertaining to rations xxx stores and eqpt.

10. MEDICAL

In the improved conditions under which it is intended the Coys will now function the health of the men is to be a primary consideration. Constant visits will be paid to Coy areas by the RMO who will submit reports on the general health and well being of the troops. Coys are to derive the utmost benefits from these visits and will put into instant operation any suggestions put forward by the RMO for improving and maintaining the general health of all ranks.

11. SALVAGE Attention is drawn to 58/59 Aust Inf En Adm Instn No 1 of 5/8/43. These instns will be immediately implemented.

12. SHAVING Attention is drawn to confidential memo to Coy comds regarding this matter. Instn is to be rigidly enforced.

13.

It has been noted that numbers of letters arriving at B ech for stamping have not been franked. The shortage of officers in Coys is appreciated but instructions were issued in confidential memo to Coy Comds regarding this matter. Letters arriving at B ech will be stamped only and must be franked by officers in Coys.

14

Copies of this Instn will not be carried forward of Coy Comds. If practicable notes will be taken and the Instn will be destroyed. All personnel on sub unit Bns will be organised into squads for the defence of Areas. Specific tasks and areas of responsibility will be allotted. As far as possible sub unit Bns will be so sited that forces available can hold tactical ground. It is advised that the C.O. regards the supervision of Adm as his personal responsibility. Sub unit Comds can expect frequent visits by the C.O., S.I.C. and Adj't who will carry out inspection of Adm generally and all aspects of internal economy. The most serious view will be taken of any laxity observed during these inspections. It is further advised that comparisons will be drawn regarding these matters between Coys. The highest standard will be aimed at and maintained at all times.

Capt.
Adj't 58/59 Aust Inf Bn.

Distribution.
As for Operation Instn No 3.

O.P. 5/43.

MOST SECRET

Copy No 9

Hq
58/59 Aust Inf Bn
9 Aug. '43

58/59 AUST INF BN OPERATION INSTRUCTION No 4

Ref map KOMIATUM 1/25000 (as amended by "I" Sec 58/59 Bn)

INFORMATION

1. MISSION as per 58/59 Aust Inf Bn Op Instrn No 3.

2. OWN TROOPS

- (a) (i) A Coy. Coy Hq, 2 and 9 PIs PARKERS BOWL
7 PI TIMBERED HOLL.
 - (ii) B Coy IRSKINE CREEK AREA
 - (iii) C Coy 14 PI BOSTON BOYS HUT
13 PI HAWLING RIDGE
15 PI MINTAR HOLL
 - (iv) D Coy Vicinity BERRINES POST
 - (v) GWAIBALON PROTECTIVE FORCE 697954.
- (b) 2/3 Aust Inf Coy.
- (i) Coy Hq ARTIE FALLON 699982
 - (ii) Comp Pl 58/59 Aust Inf Bn u/c 2/3 Aust Inf Coy CUMMINS POST

INTENTION

3. 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will maintain control of area incl HAWLING to incl CUMMINS POST by
- (a) Offensive patrolling
 - (b) recce patrolling with a view to establish routes for eventual offensive operations.

MISSION

4. TASKS
- (a) A Coy : Patrol and improve track HAWLING RIDGE-PARKERS BOWL-TIMBERED HOLL.
 - (b) B Coy : Recce and strong fighting patrols to ascertain and harass enemy localities in IRSKINE CREEK AREA.
Establish routes for an eventual attack on IRSKINE CREEK AREA.
In conjunction with 2/3 Aust Inf Coy to fix enemy position on BENCH CUT TRACK north from IRSKINE CREEK AREA.
 - (c) C Coy Contact patrols on inter Bde boundary to 2/3 Aust Inf Bn.
Patrol east from HAWLING RIDGE towards OROPOKI to prevent enemy closing in towards HAWLING RIDGE.
 - (d) GWAIBALON PROTECTIVE FORCE. Protective patrols from GWAIBALON incl to junction with 2/3 Aust Inf Coy on the north along BOBBUBI RIDGE TRACK.
 - (e) In addition to the above tasks all coys will during these 2 patrols operations endeavour to ascertain targets for artillery and aircraft incl bomb line.

DIRECTIVE

- 5.
- (a) All patrols will be given a serial number.
 - (b) Patrols will be properly briefed as to task by Coy Comds.
 - (c) Patrol map will be kept at Coy Hq.
 - (d) Patrols will be interrogated on return by Coy Comd who will be responsible to submit Patrol report in the sequence laid down.
 - (e) Written patrol reports will be submitted without delay to Hq 58/59 Aust Inf Bn. Any urgent information being sent by L/T.
 - (f) Patrols will prepare track traverses and establish reliable information of tracks, topography, own and enemy locations.
 - (g) Members of "I" Sec will be available to assist patrols in traverses etc.

COUNTER ATTACK
PLAN

6. COUNTER ATTACK PLANS
- (a) All Coys will prepare plans for the counter attack of vital positions which must be retained.
 - (b) Plans will be prepared for:-
 - (i) Immediate counter attack
 - (ii) Deliberate counter attacks
 - (iii) Arrangements will be made to concentrate all available Bn weapons and Arty onto areas gained by the enemy. It is hoped by such a concentration to blast the enemy off the position before he can become established
 - (iv) Routes to be used for counter attack will be thoroughly reconnoitered by all those likely to take part.
 - (c) Coys will be prepared to counter attack on localities of flanking units in the vicinity of Inter Bn boundary. Close liaison is necessary for this.

7. IMPROVEMENT OF TRACKS
- (a) By reconnoiter all units will select Ls of C for supply, patrols etc.
 - (i) To enable more rapid movement.
 - (ii) To give covered approaches for supply lines.
 - (iii) Alternative routes in the event of the normal L of C being cut by the enemy.
 - (b) Improve tracks selected.

8. LIASION
G Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will liaise with B Coy 2/3 Aust Inf Bn.

9. PLANS
- (a) Plan for patrols will be put into effect immediately.
 - (b) All plans for counter attack will be prepared and completed and submitted to this HQ on 12 Aug. '43.

ADMINISTRATION

10. As per 58/59 Aust Inf Bn Adm Instr No 2.

INTER-COMMUNICATION.

11. Patrols
- (a) Where possible I/T will be carried by patrols to facilitate the rapid passage of information to HQ.
 - (b) Where I/T is not available additional runners will be sent returning at stated intervals with information obtained.

12. COUNTER ATTACK
- (a) Early information is required of enemy attacks so that counter attacks can be prepared.
 - (b) Reserve of cable will be allotted to Coys for move with counter attacking forces to ensure rapid communication.

13. Acknowledge.

Time of signature 0800 hrs

Method of issue Hand

[Signature]
Capt
Adjutant 58/59 Aust Inf Bn

Distribution.

| | | |
|---------------------|------|--------|
| A Coy | Copy | 1 |
| B Coy | " | 2 |
| C Coy | " | 3 |
| HEADQUARTERS | | |
| PROTECTIVE FORCE | | 4 |
| Sigs | | 5 |
| Comd | | 7 |
| 15 Aust Inf Bde | | 8 |
| File | | 9-10 |
| War Diary | | 11-12. |

SECRET

Copy No 10

HQ
58/59 Aust Inf Bn
8 Aug. '45

58/59 AUST INF BN OPERATION INSTRUCTION No 4

Ref map ZONIATUN 1/25000 (as amended by "I" Sec 58/59 Bn)

INFORMATION

1. MISSION as per 58/59 Aust Inf Bn Op Instrn No 3.

2. OWN TROOPS

- (a) (i) A Coy. Coy HQ, B and D Pls PARRENS BOWL
7 Pl TIMBERED HOLL.
 - (ii) B Coy HASKINE CREEK AREA
 - (iii) C Coy 14 Pl DOCTOR'S CUT HUT
13 Pl HANLING RIDGE
15 Pl MOUNT KIDDE
 - (iv) D Coy Vicinity BIRCHES POST
 - (v) SWAIBALON PROTECTIVE FORCE 897954.
- (b) 2/3 Aust Inf Coy.
- (i) Coy HQ MOUNT PARRENS 899902
 - (ii) Comp Pl 58/59 Aust Inf Bn u/c 2/3 Aust Inf Coy CUMMINS POST

OPERATION

3. 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will maintain control of area incl HANLING to incl CUMMINS POST by

- (a) offensive patrolling
- (b) recon patrolling with a view to establish routes for eventual offensive operations.

METHOD

4.

TASKS

- (a) A Coy : Patrol and improve track HANLING RIDGE-PARRENS BOWL-TIMBERED HOLL.
- (b) B Coy : Recon and strong fighting patrols to ascertain and harass enemy localities in HASKINE CREEK AREA. Establish routes for an eventual attack on HASKINE CREEK AREA. In conjunction with 2/3 Aust Inf Coy to fix enemy position on DOCTOR CUT TRACE north from HASKINE CREEK AREA.
- (c) C Coy Contact patrols on inter Bde boundary to 2/3 Aust Inf Bn. Patrol east from HANLING RIDGE towards OROCHI to prevent enemy closing in towards HANLING RIDGE.
- (d) SWAIBALON PROTECTIVE FORCE. Protective patrols from SWAIBALON incl to junction with 2/3 Aust Inf Coy on the north along BOBUBI RIDGE TRACK.
- (e) In addition to the above tasks all coys will during these patrols operations endeavour to ascertain targets for artillery and aircraft incl bomb line.

REMARKS

5.

- (a) All patrols will be given a serial number.
- (b) Patrols will be properly briefed as to task by Coy Comds.
- (c) Patrol map will be kept at Coy HQ.
- (d) Patrols will be interrogated on return by Coy Comd who will be responsible to submit patrol report in the sequence laid down.
- (e) Written patrol reports will be submitted without delay to HQ 58/59 Aust Inf Bn. Any urgent information being sent by I/T.
- (f) Patrols will prepare track traverses and establish reliable information of tracks, topography, own and enemy locations.
- (g) Members of "I" Sec will be available to assist patrols in traverses etc.

ATTACK

6. COUNTER ATTACK PLANS
- (a) All Coys will prepare plans for the counter attack of vital positions which must be retained.
 - (b) Plans will be prepared for:-
 - (i) Immediate counter attack
 - (ii) Deliberate counter attacks
 - (iii) Arrangements will be made to concentrate all available Bn weapons and arty onto areas gained by the enemy. It is hoped by such a concentration to blast the enemy off the position before he can become established
 - (iv) Routes to be used for counter attack will be thoroughly recessed by all those likely to take part.
 - (c) Coys will be prepared to counter attack on localities of flanking units in the vicinity of inter Bn boundary. Close liaison is necessary for this.

7. IMPROVEMENT OF TRACKS
- (a) By recon all units will select Ls of C for supply, patrols etc.
 - (i) To enable more rapid movement.
 - (ii) To give covered approaches for supply lines.
 - (iii) Alternative routes in the event of the normal L of C being cut by the enemy.
 - (b) Improve tracks selected.

8. LIAISON
C Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will liaise with B Coy 2/6 Aust Inf Bn.

9. PLANS
- (a) Plan for patrols will be put into effect immediately.
 - (b) All plans for counter attack will be prepared and completed and submitted to this HQ on 12 Aug. '43.

ADMINISTRATION

10. As per 58/59 Aust Inf Bn Adm Instr No 2.

INTERCOMMUNICATION.

11. Patrols
- (a) Where possible I/T will be carried by patrols to facilitate the rapid passage of information to HQ.
 - (b) Where I/T is not available additional runners will be sent returning at stated intervals with information obtained.

12. COUNTER ATTACK
- (a) Early information is required of enemy attacks so that counter attacks can be prepared.
 - (b) Reserve of cable will be allotted to Coys for move with counter attacking forces to ensure rapid communication.

13. Acknowledge.

Time of signature *0800 hrs.*

Method of issue *Hand*

[Signature]
Capt
Adjt 58/59 Aust Inf Bn

Distribution.

| | | |
|------------------|------|--------|
| A Coy | Copy | 1 |
| B Coy | " | 2 |
| C Coy | " | 3 |
| SWAMPALON | | |
| PROTECTIVE FORCE | | 4 |
| Sigs | | 5 |
| Comd | | 7 |
| 13 Aust Inf Bde | | 8 |
| File | | 9-10 |
| War Diary | | 11-12. |

58/59 AUST INF BN OPERATION INSTRUCTION NO 5

Ref Map KOMIATUM 1/25000

INFORMATION1. OWN TROOPS

- (a) 58/59 Aust Inf Bn
 (i) B H Q - GWAIBALON AREA 697953.
 (ii) A Coy - PARERS BOWL AREA 698946.
 (iii) B Coy - ERSKINE CREEK AREA 699948.
 (iv) C Coy - NAMLING RIDGE AREA 693936.
 (v) D Coy - DUNNS TRACK AREA 701954.
- (b) 2/7 Aust Inf Bn
 (i) B H Q - ULIAP CREEK 688969.
 (ii) A Coy - OLD VICKERS POSN 698969.
 (iii) B Coy - NORTH COCONUTS 705977.
 (iv) D Coy - FRANCISO RIVER - NEW BOEDUBI AREA 696964.
- (c) 2/3 Aust Indep Coy
 (i) Coy HQ - ARTIE FADDEN 699961.
 (ii) A Pl - OLD BOEDUBI TRACK 705972.
 (iii) B Pl - NEWMANS POST 704958.
 (iv) C Pl - WEST of RIDGE TRACK 698964.
 (v) Composite Pl - RIDGE TRACK 699965.

2. ENEMY

- (a) COCONUTS AREA - The enemy is still holding out in SOUTH COCONUTS. He has no apparent L of C to his position in this area.
- (b) MIDDLE SPUR AREA (area 702974) - Patrols report increased enemy activity in this area. Two enemy strong points have been located; one containing 1 MMG 2 LMGs 1 heavy Mortar 1 light Mortar and several rifles, the second containing 1 LMG and several rifles. During night 15/16 Aug our harrassing fire into this position was answered by Jap fire from LMGs and Mortars. Jap L of C to this area appears to be from STAGING CAMP area 708968.
- (c) STAGING CAMP (708968) - A patrol along corridor between BENCH CUT and KOMIATUM TRACK on 15 Aug reports new enemy positions in vicinity 706967 and activity in vicinity 708968.
- Comment on (b) and (c) - It appears the enemy is attempting to establish himself in the high ground on the EAST end of MIDDLE SPUR. He is ensuring his L of C to it by digging a firm base in the STAGING CAMP AREA.
- (d) KOMIATUM TRACK - Movement on the KOMIATUM TRACK has been reported by listening post of 2/3 Aust Indep Coy (707957).
- (e) ERSKINE CREEK AREA - Jap movement in this area does NOT indicate any new activity. Our patrols have reported Jap positions at 703954, 702950, 702949, 701948. A patrol on 15 Aug located Japs approx 250 yds SOUTH of NEWMANS JUNC.
- (f) GRAVEYARD - ORODUBI AREA - Nothing fresh is reported here. On 15 Aug 11 Japs fully equipped moved from GRAVEYARD into ORODUBI.

INTENTION3.

To harrass known enemy locations and draw enemy attention from NORTHERN end of BOEDUBI AREA.

METHOD

4. TASKS

- (a) 1. A Coy with under comd 1 det Mortars will harrass enemy in GRAVEYARD AREA and in near SOUTHERN POSNS.
 - (ii) Task to be carried out with 2 in. and 3 in. Mortars and Red and Illuminating flares.
 - (iii) Ammn Expenditure.
 - 3 in. Mortar - 50 rounds HE
 - 2 in. Mortar - 44 rounds HE
 - (iv) Fire Plan
 - Ranging 0800 hrs - 0815 hrs
 - Smoke and flares to be fired in conjunction with ;
 - Concentrated fire from 0815 hrs - 0830 hrs.
 - (v) Supporting weapons
 - 1 sub section MMGs in PAPERS BOWL AREA.
 - Task
 - Engage opportunity targets vicinity NORTHERN end of KOMIATUM TRACK and MUIE TRACK.
- (b) (1) B Coy with under comd 2 dets Mortars will harrass enemy posns in SOUTH PIMPIE AREA with 2 in. and 3 in. Mortars.
 - (ii) Fire Plan
 - Range on SOUTH PIMPIE from 0800 hrs - 0830 hrs.
 - Concentrated fire from 0830 hrs - 0845 hrs. Thence Smoke and HE.
 - Small arms fire will engage target during concentration
 - (iii) Ammn Expenditure
 - 2 in. Mortar - 25 bombs
 - 3 in. Mortar - 50 " HE
 - 50 " Smoke.
- (c) (1) C Coy with under comd one det Mortars and one section MMG will harrass enemy posns in ORODUBI and GRAVEYARD AREAS.
 - (ii) Fire Plan
 - Ranging 0800 hrs - 0830 hrs
 - Concentrated 0830 hrs - 0845 hrs. Thence SMOK and HE.
 - (iii) Amn Expenditure
 - 3 in. Mortar - 50 rounds HE
 - MMG - ten belts
- (d) D Coy one pl to establish ambush posn on main KOMIATUM TRACK between 707963 SOUTH to 706950.
 - Ambush party to consist of one offr and fourteen GRs.
 - Tasks
 - (i) Establish ambush and prepare "daisy chain" booby traps. for large parties of enemy.
 - (ii) Small parties of enemy will be engaged by SAA.
 - (iii) Wounded and unarmed personnel will be engaged with bayonet.
 - (iv) When surprise has been lost ambush will be immediately re-established at another posn between 707963 and 706950.
 - (v) Ambush party will be changed every twenty-four hours to maintain continuous operations in this area.

5. PATROLS

- (a) ALL Coys will carry out active and aggressing patrolling against enemy posns in conjunction with and under cover of fire plan.
- (b) SPECIAL PATROLS
 - (i) A Coy - Fighting patrol of twenty-four hours duration to the SOUTH of enemy posns via BENCH CUT TRACK.
 - (ii) B Coy - Fighting patrol to enemy kitchen vicinity SOUTH PIMPIE 702951.
 - Will by-pass enemy posns, engage kitc hen area and establish ambush on enemy L of C.
 - (iii) C COY - Fighting patrol under comd Lieut EGAN to establish ambush posn between GRAVEYARD and ORODUBI.

ADMINISTRATION

6. MEDICAL

- (a) All wounded will be cleared from forward areas and MUST NOT be allowed to fall into enemy hands. All dead will be buried as soon as possible.
- (b) A D S established KELLY'S CAMP
R A P ULIAP ck 688958

Medical contd.

Forward medical posts will be established at GWAIBALON at 1200 hrs 17 Aug.

(c) Line of Evacuation

A, B and D Coys will evacuate to R A P via GWAIBALON
C Coy will evacuate via NAMLING to A D S KELLYS

(d) Native Bearers

Twenty-three natives will be available in BHQ area to evacuate casualties from A B and D Coy areas.
ANGAU will supply natives for onward carry from GWAIBALON

7. AMMN

Bn reserve established ULIAP CREEK 688958.
Coy reserves will be maintained as at scale laid down by special instr issued.

8. SECURITY

Copies of this instr will NOT be taken forward of Coy HQ.
All personnel will destroy any envelopes or private papers likely to compromise unit identification.

9. RATIONS

- (a) Each Coy will carry at least two day reserve of rations/
- (b) Patrols will carry twenty-four hours F O R. Consumption of this ration to be strictly supervised by patrol comd.
BHQ will be notified regarding consumption of F O R's.

INTERCOMMUNICATION

10.(a) BHQ established GWAIBALON 697953.

(b) Comms - L/T to A B and C Coy areas.

D Coy special runner to NEWHAIS JUNG, thence L/T to BHQ.

Acknowledge

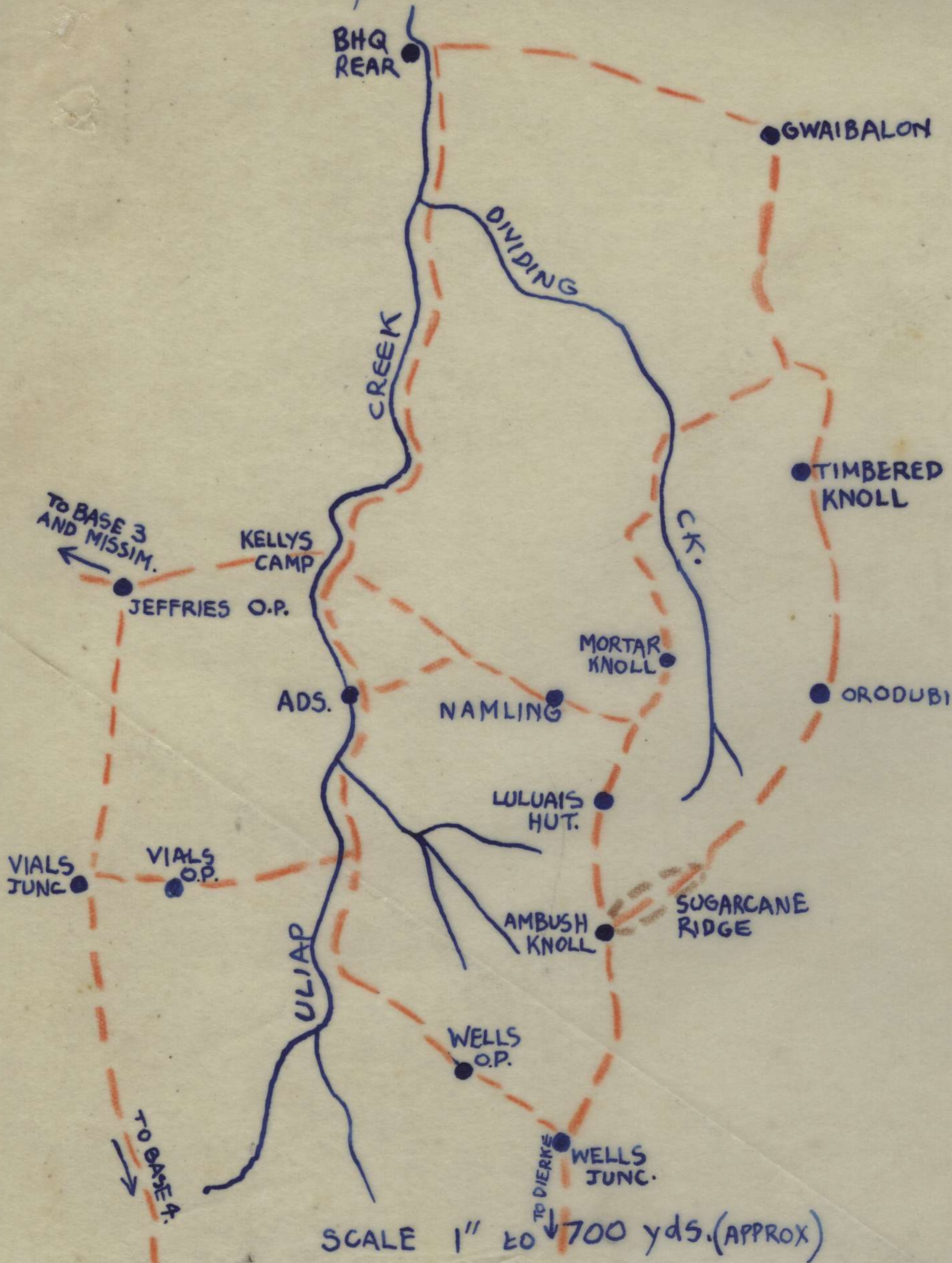
Capt
Adjt 58/59 Aust Inf Bn

Time of signature *1200 hrs*
Method of issue *Hand*

DISTRIBUTION :-

- A Coy copy No 1.
- B Coy 2.
- C Coy 3.
- D Coy 4.
- MGS 5.
- Mortars 6.
- Q M 7.
- R M O 8.
- Comd 9.
- 15 Aust Inf Bde 10.
- File 11 - 12.
- War Diary 13 - 14.

APPX. "A". to 58/59 AUST. INF. BN. OP INSTN. No 6



O. P. 6/43

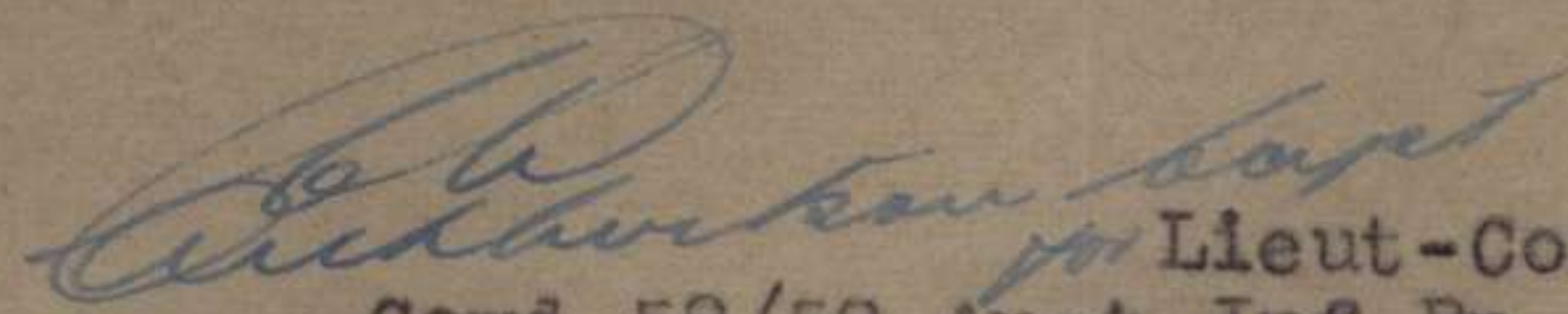
HQ
58/59 Aust Inf Bn
2 Aug. '43

HQ
15 Aust Inf Bde

Following on phone conversation with B.M. later confirmed by your message 0927. Herewith report on check carried out to ascertain the whereabouts of all unit copies of our Op order No 1.

To date all copies have been traced or evidence of their destruction been provided with the exception of Copy No 1 which was issued to A Coy. It is thought that Major HEWARD may have had this order in his possession on the day he was reported missing. As this is the only copy which cannot be traced it is assumed that this is so.

Coys have been instructed to destroy all copies of O.Os issued and to take only relevant notes from current orders.


Lieut-Col
Comd 58/59 Aust Inf Bn.

MESSAGE FORM

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----|----------|-----------------------|------------|
| CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS | IN | MM T LIC | No. of Groups. GR. | Serial No. |
| | OUT | | 19 | O.P. 6/43 |

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

59/59 AUST INF BN

FROM

15 aust inf BDE

Originator's Number

0324

Date

26

In Reply to Number

0

| | | | | | |
|-----|-------|----|--------|---|---|
| OP | order | NO | 1 copy | 8 | 0 |
| ack | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

Wt. 32412/1098. 750M. 12/40. P.I. 51-8146

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

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

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

1815

SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I. 1816

| SYSTEM IN | TIME IN | READER | SENDER | SYSTEM OUT | TIME OUT | READER | SENDER | SYSTEM OUT | TIME OUT | READER | SENDER |
|-----------|---------|--------|--------|------------|----------|--------|--------|------------|----------|--------|--------|
| | | | JF | | | | | | | | |
| F/P | 0405 | | | | | | | | | | |

T.O.R. 1905

O.P. 6/43

DOUBLE T

MOST SECRET
Copy No 12.

26 June '43

HQ
58/59 Aust Inf Bn

58/59 AUST INF BN OPERATION ORDER NO 1

Ref Map KOMIATUM 2" to 1 mile
BOEDUBI AREA enlargement 4" to 1 mile

INFORMATION

1. ENEMY

ENEMY

- (a) As per 3 Aust Div Int Summaries and 2/3 Ind Coy patrol reports.
- (b) Patrol reports indicate enemy is NOT holding southern portion of BOEDUBI RIDGE in great strength i.e. ORODUBI - OLD VICKERS GUN POSN at 699995. He has defensive works on the northern portion of ridge from tk junc 704996 to NORTH COCONUTS 706001. Latest estimated strength 400 but present indications are that strength is considerably less.

2. OWN TROOPS

- (a) 58/59 Bn at present concentrating in MISSIM AREA
- (b) 2/3 Aust Ind Coy less one pl at present in MISSIM AREA one pl 2/3 Ind Coy patrolling BOEDUBI AREA.
- (c) D Coy 24 Aust Inf Bn in posn HOE AREA to prevent infiltration and provide flank protection.

INTENTION

3. XXXXXXXX

58/59 Aust Inf Bn will capture BOEDUBI RIDGE with a view to controlling KOMIATUM TRACK.

METHOD

4. Phase 1.

- (a) A Coy with under command 1 det mortars.
OBJECTIVES ORODUBI - GWAIBOLON and ERSKINE CREEK
Route - MISSIM - BASE 3 - NAMLING and ORODUBI
- (b) C Coy with under command one mortar detachment
Objectives . Village 697989 - VICKERS POSN 699995
Route. MAIN TRACK - KUNDA BRIDGE - ULIAP CREEK.
- (c) B Coy with under command one detachment mortars
Objectives. GOVT BENCH CUT TRACK from INCL Ck crossing
705987 to Tk junc 708993
Route MAIN TRACK - ULIAP CREEK - VILLAGE 697989.

(d) Reserve D Coy with under command one mortar Det
Tasks. to prevent encircling movement along
new BOEDUBI TRACK and guard river crossings
at 693000 and 681005 also guard KUNDA BRIDGE
AREA 688995

5. MORTARS
One detachment close support each rifle Coy
Two dets observe target from area NORTH of
FRANSICO RIVER 697998.
Two dets remain Bn reserve.

6. MMGs
One sec at OLD VICKERS POSN
(a) Tasks. NORTHERN PORTION BOEDUBI RIDGE
(b) One sec in reserve under Bn control.
Probable tasks.
(i) Fire support BURRIS RIVER - FRANSICO RIVER
JUNC.
(ii) Covering main KOMIATUM TRACK from B Coy Area

7. AIR

7. AIR

Heavy air strikes will be delivered BOEDUBI RIDGE morning of D day. Time to be notified by signal. Bomb line ULIAP CREEK. No advance east of ULIAP CREEK until completion of air strike.

8. GUIDES

2/3 Aust Inf Coy will provide 3 guides per Coy to advise sub-unit comdrs regarding routes to objectives from ULIAP CREEK. Guides will NOT rptd NOT be employed as forward scouts.

9. ASSEMBLY AREAS

- (a) A Coy track junc 688963
- (b) C Coy NEW BOEDUBI AREA line of track junc 690995 - track junc 691987.
- (c) B Coy NEW BOEDUBI AREA.
- (d) One sec NMGs to assemble in C Coy area.

10. TIMINGS

- (a) A Coy at track junc 688963 on night of D minus 1 and D
- (b) C Coy at NEW BOEDUBI AREA line of track junc 690995 to track junc 691987 on night of D minus 2 and D minus 1.
- (c) B Coy NEW BOEDUBI AREA on night of D minus 1 and D

11. RIVER CROSSING

Pioneer Giff 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will prepare river crossing at KUNDA BRIDGE AREA 688995 to be ready for use on night of D minus 3 and D minus 2 NOT to be finally erected until ordered.

12. START LINE

ULIAP CREEK.

13. START TIME

To be notified by signal.

14. ACTION ON OBJECTIVE

- (a) A Coy will consolidate in the following area BOEDUBI - GWAIBOLON and BRISKINE CREEK to prevent enemy advance along tracks in those areas
- (b) C Coy consolidate in areas VICKER POSN and VILLAGE
- (c) B Coy in PL perimeters to be selected by Coy Comdr.

15. WORKS POLICY

- (a) Weapon pits
- (b) Fire lanes
- (c) Booby traps
- (d) Completion of perimeter defence.

16. TOOLS


30 picks and 30 shovels will be available per Coy and will be carried forward with the attacking troops. It may be necessary to dig in hastily sited posns to resist immediate enemy counter attack or for protection against bombing. The above works policy will be carried out as soon as situation permits.

17. LIMITS OF EXPLOITATION

KOMIATON TRACK From track junc 710992 to river crossing 713965

ADMINISTRATION

18. AMMN
Scale A will be dumped at assembly areas along main
MAIN TRACK west of HUNNS POST and will be carried
forward.
19. R.A.P.
Area track junc 674995 will be sited well clear of
MAIN TRACK.
15 Aust Fd Amb will establish medical post NEARS
CREEK AREA.
20. RATIONS
two F.O.R. and one emergency ration will be carried on
the man.
21. WATER
empty water containers will be carried from the Coy
assembly areas and all water drawn from ULIAP CREEK
and water courses to the east will be sterilized.
Water bottles will be filled.
22. DRESS
Fighting order. Blankets spare boots and clothing
to be dumped in Coy areas prior to moving forward
- INTERCOMM. 23. HQ ALANS CREEK crossing 678995
A Coy will carry one 203 set, for direct comm with HQ
until line comm is established along ULIAP CREEK
Line comm to remaining coys.


Adjt 58/59 Aust Inf Bn

ACK.
Method of issue. *Hand*
Time of signature *2000 hrs*
Distribution Copies 1 - 4 Rifle Coys
5 NMGs
6 Mortars
7 Comd
8 15 Bde
9 -10 War Diary
11 -12 File.

DOUBLE T

O. P. 6/43
MOST SECRET
Copy No 11

26 June 43

HQ 58/59 Aust Inf Bn

58/59 AUST INF BN OPERATION ORDER NO 1

Ref Map KOMIATUM 2" to 1 mile
BOEDUBI AREA enlargement 4" to 1 mile

INFORMATION

1. ENEMY

- (a) As per 3 Aust Div Int Summaries and 2/3 Ind Coy patrol reports.
- (b) Patrol reports indicate enemy is NOT holding southern portion of BOEDUBI RIDGE in great strength i.e. ORODUBI - OLD VICKERS GUN POSN at 699995. He has defensive works on the northern portion of ridge from tk junc 704996 to NORTH COCONUTS 706001. Latest estimated strength 400 but present indications are that strength is considerably less.

2. OWN TROOPS

- (a) 58/59 Bn at present concentrating in MISSIM AREA.
- (b) 2/3 Aust Ind Coy less 1 Pl at present in MISSIM AREA. One Pl 2/3 Ind Coy patrolling BOEDUBI AREA.
- (c) D Coy 24 Aust Inf Bn in posn HOPE AREA to prevent infiltration and provide flank protection.

3. INTENTION

58/59 Aust Inf Bn will capture BOEDUBI RIDGE with a view to controlling KOMIATUM TRACK.

4. METHOD

- (a) A Coy with under command 1 det mortars.
OBJECTIVES ORODUBI - GWAIBOLON and ERSKINE CREEK
ROUTE - MISSIM - EASE 3 - NAMBLING and ORODUBI.
- (b) C Coy with under command one mortar detachment
Objectives - Village 697989 - VICKERS POSN 699995
Route - MAIN TRACK - KUNDA BRIDGE - ULIAP CREEK.
- (c) B Coy with under command 1 mortar detachment
Objectives - GOVT BENCH CUT TRACK from INCL CREEK crossing 705987 to TK junc 708993
Route - MAIN TRACK - ULIAP CREEK - VILLAGE 697989.
- (d) Reserve D Coy with under command one mortar detachment
Tasks - To prevent encircling movement along new BOEDUBI TRACK and guard river crossings at 693000 and 681005 also guard KUNDA BRIDGE AREA 688995.

5.

5. MORTARS

One detachment close support each rifle Coy.
Two dets observe targets from area NORTH of FRANCISO RIVER 697 998.
Two dets remain Bn reserve.

6. MNGs

- (a) One sec at OLD VICKERS POSN
Tasks - NORTHERN PORTION BOEDUBI RIDGE.
- (b) One sec in reserve Bn control.
Probable tasks -
 - (i) Fire support BURRIS RIVER - FRANCISO RIVER JUNG.
 - (ii) Covering main KOMIATUM TRACK from B Coy Area.

7. AIR

Heavy air strikes will be delivered BOEDUBI RIDGE morning of D day. Time to be notified by signal. Bomb line ULIAP CREEK UNTIL completion of air strike.

8. GUIDES

2/3 Aust Ind Coy will provide 3 guides per Coy to advise sub-unit comds regarding routes to objectives from ULIAP CREEK. Guides will NOT rptd NOT be employed as forward scouts.

9. ASSEMBLY AREAS

- (a) A Coy track junc 688963.
- (b) C Coy NEW BOEDUBI AREA line of track junc 690995 - track junc 691987.
- (c) B Coy NEW BOEDUBI AREA.
- (d) One sec MMGs to assemble in C Coy area.

10. TIMINGS

- (a) A Coy at track junc 688963 on night of D minus 1 and D.
- (b) C Coy at NEW BOEDUBI AREA line of track junc 690995 to track junc 691987 on night of D minus 2 and D minus 1.
- (c) B Coy NEW BOEDUBI AREA on night of D minus 1 and D.

11. RIVER CROSSING

Pioneer Offr 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will prepare river crossing at KUNDA BRIDGEAREA 688995 to be ready for use on night of D minus 3 and D minus 2 NOT to be finally erected until ordered.

12. START LINE

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~. ULIAP CREEK.

13. START TIME

To be notified by signal.

14. ACTION ON OBJECTIVE

- (a) A Coy will consolidate in the following area - ORODUBI - GWAIBOLON and ERSKINE CREEK to prevent enemy advance along tracks in those areas.
- (b) C Coy consolidate in areas VICKERS POSN and VILLAGE
- (c) B Coy in Pl perimeters to be selected by Coy Comd.

15. WORKS POLICY

- (a) Weapon pits
- (b) Fire lines
- (c) Booby traps
- (d) Completion of perimeter defence.

16. TOOLS

30 picks and 30 shovels will be available per Coy and will be carried forward with the attacking troops. It may be necessary to dig in hastily sited posns to resist immediate counter attack or for protection against bombing. The above works policy will be carried out as soon as situation permits.

17. LIMITS OF EXPLOITATION

KOMIATUM TRACK from track junc 710992 to river crossing 713965.

ADMINISTRATION

18. AMMUNITION

Scale A will be dumped at assembly areas along **MAIN TRACK WEST** of **NUNNS POST** and will be carried forward.

19. R.A.P.

Area track junc 674995 will be sited well clear of **MAIN TRACK**. 15 Aust Fd Amb will establish medical post **MEARS CREEK AREA**.

20. RATIONS

Two F.O.R. and one emergency ration will be carried on the man.

21. WATER

Empty water containers will be carried from the Coy assembly areas and all water drawn from **ULIAP CREEK** and water courses to the east will be sterilized. Water bottles will be filled.

22. DRESS

Fighting order. Blankets, spare boots and clothing to be dumped in Coy Areas prior to moving forward.

INTERCOMMUNICATION

- 23. BHQ **ALLANS CREEK** crossing 678995.
A Coy will carry one 208 set for direct conn with BHQ until line conn is established along **ULIAP CREEK**.
Line conn to remaining coys.



Capt
ARjt 58/59 Aust Inf Bn

ACK.

Method of issue *Hand*
 Time of signature *2000 hrs.*
 Distribution
 Rifle Coys copies 1 - 4
 MMGs 5
 Mortars 6
 C.O. 7
 15 Aust Inf Bde 8
 War Diary 9 -10
 File 11 -12

O.P. 7/43

SECRET

Copy No 11

HQ
58/59 Aust Inf Bn
14 July 43

58/59 AUST INF BN OPERATION ORDER NO 2

Ref Map KOMIATUM 1/25000

OBJECT

1. (a) To maintain offensive action against the enemy on the BOBDUBI RIDGE from NAMBLING to the FRANCISO RIVER.
- (b) To gain control of the KOMIATUM TRACK to assist operations by 17 Aust Inf Bde on the SOUTH.

DIRECTIVE

2. At this critical stage of the operations it is essential that every sub-unit comd retain the offensive spirit and use every effort to inculcate that spirit into troops under his comd. The object will NOT be obtained if a defensive outlook is permitted to creep into sub-units comds plans. We must use every endeavour to make the enemy conform with our intentions.

INFORMATION

3. ENEMY

WELLS O P REPORTS

1755K/12 63 Japs moved out of ORODUBI to the WEST
 1200K/13 Jap ambush located area 690932 between WELLS and NAMBLING.
 1615K/13 - 1745K/13 20 Japs in consultation at ORODUBI after which 15 dispersed into the scrub. The remainder studied two maps for sometime. Continuous movement was observed in ORODUBI during the afternoon 13 July.
 Enemy still control BENCH CUT TRACK to NORTH of VICKERS POSN 702953. At the present time this is the chief obstacle to the obtaining of the above objects.
 Enemy still in occupation of VICKERS POSN and COCONUT RIDGE.

4. OWN TROOPS

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| (a) GOODVIEW AREA | B Coy 2/5 Aust Inf Bn |
| (b) BASE 4 | HQ 2/3 Aust Ind Coy |
| (c) WELLS JUNC 685926 | C Pl 2/3 Aust Ind Coy |
| (d) NAMBLING | 13 Pl C Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn |
| (e) GWAIBALON | A Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn |
| (f) 702953 | B Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn |
| (g) 699969 | C Coy less 13 Pl with under comd 16 Pl D Coy |
| (h) 695979 | D Coy less 16 Pl with under comd Composite Pl HQ Coy. |

INTENTION

5. 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will attain the objects mentioned in para 1(a) and 1(b) above.

METHOD

6. (a) B Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn with under comd one detachment of Mortars will attack at 1245K/14 and clear enemy troops from BENCH CUT TRACK and continue the advance along the BENCH CUT TRACK to the NORTH.
- (b) LIMIT OF EXPLOITATION
To the NORTH the SALAMAUA - BOBDUBI TRACK.
To the WEST KOMIATUM TRACK.
- (c) D Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn less 16 Pl with under comd two dets Mortars, one of which in support of 18 Pl, will on receipt of B Coys success signal send a strong fighting patrol around the NORTHERN end of BOBDUBI RIDGE following the NORTH bank of the FRANCISO RIVER to FORD 716974 and contact B Coy at TRACK JUNC 705967.
The joining of these two forces will release portion of B Coy for the establishment of strong patrols along the BENCH CUT TRACK.

METHOD (contd)

- (d) C Coy less 13 Pl with under comd 16 Pl D Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn and one detachment Mortars.
14 Pl to constantly patrol the RIDGE TRACK between C and A Coys areas with the object of preventing enemy infiltration from the BENCH CUT TRACK.
15 Pl C Coy with 16 Pl D Coy will hold present posns.
- (e) A Coy with under comd one detachment of Mortars and one sub section of MMGs to hold present posns against enemy attack from the SOUTH.

Fire Tasks

3" Mortar to range on ORODUBI with the object of putting down harassing fire at night. Ranging to be complete by 1500K/14. Harrassing fire to be put down at four (4) hourly intervals during the night 14/15 July. Rate of fire 5 rounds rapid.

MMGs Task to prevent enemy movement along the KOMIATUM TRACK.

7. SUPPORTING FIRE

Mortars - One detachment to engage Mountain Gun on KOMIATUM TRACK from ERSKINE CREEK AREA.

One detachment in support of 18 Pl D Coy opportunity targets COCONUTS RIDGE.

One detachment BAMBOO KNOLL AREA.

Task OLD VISKERS POSN

MMGs - One sub section 18 Pl D Coy area.

Task To prevent enemy movement along COCONUT RIDGE.

One sub section BAMBOO KNOLL AREA.

Task To prevent enemy movement on D Coys right flank and rear.

One sub section in support C Coy.

ADMINISTRATION

- 8. R A P now at 673974.
- 9. ANGAU. Boys will be available to be sent to GWAIBALON AREA for the collection of casualties.
- 10. AMN. Bn reserve KUNDA BRIDGE AREA.
All mortars to keep 30 bombs in reserve for defensive fire tasks.
- 11. DRESS All troops will be issued with clean clothing as supplies permit.
- 12. SECURITY Copies of this order, maps and codes will NOT be taken forward of Coy HQ's.

INTERCOMMUNICATION

- 13. BHQ will be established 675974.
Sig plan to be issued later. Line comn only.
- 14. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Time of signature

2000 hrs
[Signature]

Method of issue

Capt
Adjt 58/59 Aust Inf Bn

DISTRIBUTION :-

| | | | |
|-----------------|----|---|----|
| Rifle Coys | 1 | - | 4 |
| Mortars | | | 5 |
| MMGs | | | 6 |
| C O | | | 7 |
| 15 Aust Inf Bde | | | 8 |
| War Diary | 9 | - | 10 |
| File | 11 | - | 12 |

O. P. 7/43

SECRET

Copy No 12.

HQ
58/59 Aust Inf Bn
14 July '43

58/59 AUST INF BN OPERATION ORDER No 2

Ref Map HONIATUM 1/25000

OBJECT

- 1. (a) To maintain offensive action against the enemy on the BOBUBI RIDGE from HANLING to the FRANCISCO RIVER.
- (b) To gain control of the HONIATUM TRACK to assist operations by 17 Aust Inf Bde on the SOUPE

DIRECTIVE

- 2. At this critical stage of the operations it is essential that every sub-unit could retain the offensive spirit and use every effort to inculcate that spirit in the troops under his comm. The object will not be obtained if a defensive outlook is permitted to creep into sub-unit comdr's plans. We MUST use every endeavour to make the enemy conform with our intentions.

INFORMATION

3. ENEMY

WELLS O.P. REPORTS

1735K/12 63 Japs moved out of ORODUBI to the WEST

1800K/13 Jap ambush located area 690932 between WELLS and HANLING.

1615K/13 - 1745K/13 20 Japs in consultation at ORODUBI after which 15 dispersed into the scrub. The remainder studied two maps for some time. Continuous movement was observed in ORODUBI during the afternoon 13 July

Enemy still control BENCH CUT TRACK to NORTH of VICKER POSH 702953. At the present time this is the chief obstacle to the obtaining of the above objects.

Enemy still in occupation of VICKER'S POSH and COCONUT RIDGE.

4. OWN TROOPS

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| (a) GOODVINE AREA | B Coy 2/5 Aust Inf Bn |
| (b) BASE 4 | HQ 2/3 Aust Inf Coy |
| (c) WELL JUNG 685026 | C Pl 2/3 Inf Coy |
| (d) HANLING | 13 Pl C Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn |
| (e) GWAIBALON | A Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn |
| (f) 702953 | B Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn |
| (g) 690932 | G Coy less 13 Pl with under comd 16 Pl D Coy. |
| (h) 693979 | D Coy less 16 Pl with under comd composite Pl HQ Coy. |

INTENTION

- 5. 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will attain the objects mentioned in para 1(a) and 1(b) above.

METHOD

- 6. (a) B Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn with under comd one detachment of Mortars will attack at 1245K/16 and clear enemy troops from BENCH CUT TRACK and continue the advance along the BENCH CUT TRACK to the NORTH, X
- (b) LIMIT OF EXPLOITATION.
To the NORTH the SALAMAVA - BOBUBI TRACK.
To the EAST HONIATUM TRACK.
- (c) D Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn with under comd two detachments Mortars, one of which in support of 13 Pl, will on receipt of B Coys success signal send a strong fighting patrol around the NORTHERN end of BOBUBI RIDGE following the NORTH bank of the FRANCISCO RIVER to FORD 716974 and contact B Coy at TRACK JUNG 705967.
The joining of these two forces will release portion on B Coy for the establishment of strong patrols along the BENCH CUT TRACK.

METHOD (Contd)

- (d) C Coy less 15 Pl with under comd 16 Pl D Coy 53/59 Aust Inf Bn and one detachment of Mortars.
14 Pl to constantly patrol the RIDGE TRACK between C and A Coys areas with the object of preventing enemy infiltration from the BERRI CUT TRACK.
15 Pl C Coy with 16 Pl D Coy will hold present posns
- (e) A Coy with under comd one detachment of mortars and one sub section of MNGs to hold present posns against enemy attack from the SOUTH

Fire tasks.

3" mortar to range on ONODUNI with the object of putting down harassing fire at night. Ranging to be complete by 1500/14. Harassing fire to be put down at four (4) hourly intervals during the night 14/15 July. Rate of fire 5 rounds rapid.

MNG Task to prevent enemy movement along the KOMIATUM TRACK

XXXXXXXXXXXX

7.

SUPPORTING FIRE Mortars. One detachment to engage Mountain gun on KOMIATUM TRACK from BERSKINE CREEK AREA.

One detachment in support of 18 Pl D Coy opportunity targets COCONUT RIDGE

One detachment BAMBOO KNOLL AREA

Task OLD VICKERS POSN

M.N.Gs. One sub-section 18 Pl D Coy area

Task To prevent enemy movement along COCONUT RIDGE.

One sub-section BAMBOO KNOLL AREA

TASK To prevent enemy movement on D Coys right flank and rear

One sub-section in support C Coy

ADMINISTRATION

8. R.A.P. nos at 673974

9. ANOAU. Boys will be available to be sent to GWAIBALON AREA for the collection of casualties.

10. AMH. In reserve KUNDA BRIDGE AREA.

All mortars to keep 30 bombs in reserve for defensive fire tasks.

11. DRESS All troops will be issued with clean clothing as supplies permit.

12. SECURITY Copies of this order/^{maps and codes} will not be taken forward of Coy HQ's.

INTERCOM

13. NHQ will be established 675974.
Sig plan to be issued later. Line comm only.

14. ACKNOWLEDGE

[Signature]
Capt
Adj 53/59 Aust Inf Bn

Time of Signature *[Signature]*
 Method of issue *[Hand]*
 Distribution.
 Rifle Coys 1 - 4
 Mortars 5
 MNGs 6
 C.O. 7
 15 Aust Inf Bde 8
 War Diary 9 - 10
 File 11 - 12



O.P. 8/43

SECRET

Copy No 12

HQ
58/59 Aust Inf Bn
28 July '43

58/59 AUST INF BN OPERATION ORDER No 3

Ref Map KOMRATUN 1/25000

INFORMATION

1.

ENEMY

- (a) The enemy retains his original positions at CONCHES OLD VICTIMS POON BISHAN CHERR CHANZYAD AND POKHUBI.
- (b) 5/20 enemy estimated 60 on BISHAN CHERR ambushed a patrol at 708994. 5/21 enemy again ambushed a ration party at same place.

2.

OWN TROOPS

- (a) A Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn GWAIBALON AREA 696946
- (b) B Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn astride FRANGSO by NEW BISHAN AREA 696975
- (c) C Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn RIBIN TRACK 696965 - 696964 - 696963
- (d) D Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn GWAIBALON AREA 696946.
- (e) 2/3 Aust Inf Coy will relieve A Coy 58/59 Bn in present area. Change over to be complete by 0900 hrs 5/28.
- (f) Two troops 2/5 Pk Regt will be in support

OPERATION

3.

58/59 Aust Inf Bn will attack and capture OLD VICTIMS POON.

METHOD

4.

- (a) C Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn with under command No 7 Pl A Coy two detachments mortars one section 880s will attack OLD VICTIMS POON at 1500 hrs
- (b) One Pl A Coy will remain in support at C Coy base 697967
- (c) A Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn less one Pl will cover track junc 696962 and patrol BENCH CUT TRACK and site ambush post 707976.
One Pl to remain in support C Coy as stated.

5.

ASSIGNMENT FORM C Coy 697967

6.

ACTION ON DEFENSIVE

- (a) Consolidate and immediately prepare positions for counter attack.
- (b) One Pl to cover exploitation and assist in consolidation.

7.

AUX

Two troops 2/5 Pk Regt will support the attack by engaging enemy in OLD VICTIMS POON.

RESULTS AS FOLLOWS.

| Unit. | Date of Fire | No of rounds. | Target | Time | Type. |
|--------|--------------|---------------|-------------------|------------|-------|
| 2 tps. | Normal | 152 | OLD VICTIMS POON. | 1455-1457. | R.S. |
| " | Intense | 30 | " | 1457-1500. | R.S. |

*Amended 1200/28
66
C. J. ... Capt.*

8/ MGS

One sub section B Coy area will engage any enemy movement on COCONUT RIDGE.
FIRE TASKS TO COMMENCE AT COMPLETION OF ARTY TASK.
and prevent enemy counter attack.
Amm allotment 10 belts .

9. MORTARS

Two detachments in B Coy Area to engage targets on COCONUT RIDGE.
Fire task to commence at completion of Arty task.
Amm allotment 60 bombs per mortar.

AMPLIFICATION

- 10. R.A.P. Now established JUNO UNLAP CROSS AND GWALDALON TRACK. 688961.
- 11. AMCAL Native will be readily available in C Coy area for evacuation of casualties.
- 12. AMM
(a) Am Reserve established at 688968.
(b) 3 days additional reserve of amm will be readily available from dump established vicinity in reserve at above map reference
- 13. RATIONS 3 days reserve of rations will be held vicinity B echelon at 688968. A Coy Pl in support C Coy will carry fwd Amm & stores at completion of task.

ARTY COMMUNICATION

- 14. HQ fwd. established at 688949.
" rear established at 688961.
- 15. Success signal. Flares.
- 16. Synchronisation by sigs at 1200 hrs.

17. AGE.

Time of signature *300 hrs.*

Method of issue *Hand*

[Signature]
Capt
Adj't 58/59 Aust Inf Bn.

Distribution.

| | |
|-------------------|----------|
| Rifle Coys copies | 1 - 4 |
| Artillery | 5 |
| MGS | 6 |
| MORTARS | 7 |
| C.O. | 8 |
| 15 Aust Inf Bde | 9 |
| War Diary | 10 - 11 |
| File | 12 - 13. |

O.P. 8/43

SECRET

Copy No 13

58/59 Aust Inf Bn
23 July '43

58/59 AUST INF BN OPERATION ORDER No 3

Ref Map EMBLATER 1/25000

INFORMATION

1.

ENEMY

- (a) The enemy retains his original posns at COOKS OLD VICKERS POSE POSITION CHIEF GRAVEYARD AND CHURCH.
- (b) 8/20 enemy estimated 50 on BURRIS CREEK ambushed a patrol at 703904. 8/21 enemy again ambushed a recon party at same place.

2.

OUR TROOPS

- (a) A Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn GWAIBALON AREA 696946
- (b) B Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn entrance 696950 by NEW BRIDGE AREA 696975
- (c) C Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn RIDGE TRACK 696965 - 696964 - 696963
- (d) D Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn GWAIBALON AREA 696946.
- (e) 2/3 Aust Inf Coy will relieve A Coy 58/59 Bn in present area. Change over to be complete by 0800 hrs 8/23.
- (f) Two troops 2/6 Rd Regt will be in support

INTENTION

3.

58/59 Aust Inf Bn will attack and capture OLD VICKERS POSE.

METHOD

4.

- (a) C Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn with under comd No 7 Pl A Coy two detachments mortars one section HQs will attack OLD VICKERS POSE at 1500 hrs
- (b) One Pl A Coy will remain in support at C Coy base 697967
- (c) A Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn less one Pl will cover track junction 696962 and patrol BURRIS CUT TRACK and site ambush posn 707976. One Pl to remain in support C Coy as stated.

5.

ASSEMBLY POSN C Coy 697967

6.

ACTION ON OFFENSIVE

- (a) Consolidate and immediately prepare posns for counter attack.
- (b) One Pl to cover exploitation and assist in consolidation.

7.

AUX

Two troops 2/5 Rd Regt will support the attack by engaging enemy in OLD VICKERS POSE.

FIRE PLAN AS FOLLOWS.

| Unit. | Date of Fire | No of rounds. | Target | Fine | Type. |
|--------|--------------|---------------|-------------------|------------|-------|
| 2 tps. | Normal | 122 | OLD VICKERS POSE. | 4445-4451. | H.R. |
| " | Intense | 30 | " | 4457-4460. | H.R. |

Amended 1200 8/28

[Signature] Capt.

84 File

One sub section B Coy area will engage any enemy movement on COCHUIT RIDGE.
Fire task to commence at completion of Arty task.
and prevent enemy counter attack.
Amm allotment 10 belts .

9. REFUSE

Two detachments in B Coy Area to engage targets on COCHUIT RIDGE.
Fire task to commence at completion of Arty task.
Amm allotment 80 bombs per mortar.

ADMINISTRATION

10. R.A.F. Now established JUNGLE CLEARANCE AND
CAMPFIRE TRACK. 688961.
11. AIDAN Native will be readily available in C Coy
area for evacuation of casualties.
12. AMM
(a) Am Reserve established at 688968.
(b) 3 days additional reserve of amm will be
readily available from dump established
vicinity in reserve at above map reference
13. RATIONS 3 days reserve of rations will be held
vicinity B echelon at 688968. A Coy Pl in
support C Coy will carry fwd Amm & stores
at completion of assault.

INTERCOMMUNICATION

14. HQ Red. established at 688949.
" rear established at 688961.
15. Success signal. Flares.
16. Synchronisation & By sigs at 1200 hrs.

17. ACK.

Time of signature

Method of issue

Capt
Adjt 58/59 Aust Inf Bn.

Distribution.

| | |
|-------------------|----------|
| Rifle Coys copies | 1 - 4 |
| Artillery | 5 |
| AMM | 6 |
| REFUSE | 7 |
| C.O. | 8 |
| 15 Aust Inf Bn | 9 |
| War Diary | 10 - 11 |
| File | 12 - 13. |

O.P. 9/43

SECRET

COPY NO 13

HQ
58/59 Aust Inf Bn
29 July 43

58/59 AUST INF BN OPERATION ORDER NO 4

Ref Map KOMIATUM 1/25000

INFORMATION

1.

ENEMY

- (a) As per 15 Aust Inf Bde Intelligence summary No 20.
- (b) Enemy still retains three main posn ORODUBI - ERSKINE CREEK - COCONUTS.
Estimated strength NOT known.

2.

OWN TROOPS

- (a) A Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn less 1 pl RIDGE TRACK AREA 697968.
- (b) B Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn B ech area 688965
- (c) C Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn with under comd 7 Pl A Coy OLD VICKERS POSN.
- (d) D Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn GWAIBALON AREA 698946.
- (e) 2/3 Aust Ind Coy attacked ORODUBI AREA with Mortar and Arty support 1600K/29. No report yet to hand.
- (f) 2/7 Aust Inf Bn now under command 15 Aust Inf Bde. HQ group and A Coy KUNDA AREA.
B Coy relieved B Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn 1200K/29 NEW BOBDUBI AREA 688975.
- (g) 2/5 Aust Inf Bn are attacking KOMIATUM AREA 30 July. Attack to be supported by aerial bombing and it is expected that considerable movement will take place on KOMIATUM TRACK during and after this operation.

INTENTION

- 3. 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will occupy posn across the KOMIATUM TRACK and prevent any enemy movement.

METHOD

- 4. The operation will be carried out in two phases.
PHASE 1.
 - (a) Occupation of posn astride KOMIATUM TRACK. A Coy 2/7 Aust Inf Bn will relieve C Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn with under comd 7 Pl A Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn evening 29 July. C Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn and 7 Pl A Coy on relief will move to VILLAGE AREA for night 29/30 July.
 - (b) C Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will move to BENCH CUT TRACK via GRIFF TRACK and take up dispositions as follows:
 - (i) One Pl JUNC GRIFF AND BENCH CUT TRACKS.
 - (ii) One Pl between JUNC GRIFF AND BENCH CUT TRACKS AND ERSKINE TRACK.
 - (iii) One Pl on BENCH CUT between incl OSBORNE CREEK excl GRIFF AND BENCH CUT TRACK JUNC. Move to commence 0830K/30.
 - (c) A Coy to move by same route proceeding to KOMIATUM TRACK via line of OSBORNE CREEK and take up posns and carry out intention as stated in para 3.
 - (d) Composite Pl at present under comd B Coy will be relieved by a Pl of 2/7 Aust Inf Bn morning 30 July and will move to area GRIFFS TRACK - RIDGE TRACK 699962.
 - (e) D Coy maintain present dispositions and will prevent enemy movement from ERSKINE CREEK AREA to WEST.

5. PHASE 2
B Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will attack COCONUT RIDGE 30 July.
6. FIRE PLAN
 - (a) Arty
11 Bty 2/6 Aust Fd Regt will register targets on COCONUTS RIDGE morning 30 July.
100 rounds 25 pdr amm have been allotted to support B Coy attack.
 - (b) MORTARS
 - (i) Mortar detachment at present in posn WEST of FRANCISO RIVER will remain until relieved. Amm allotment of 30 bombs for support of Phase 2 of operations.
 - (ii) Mortars at present under comd A, C, and D Coys to remain and carry out tasks as ordered.
 - (iii) One detachment to be withdrawn from OLD A Coy posn 698946 and placed under comd C Coy.
 - (c) MMGs
 - (i) One sub section to remain in present posn WEST of FRANCISO RIVER to support Phase 2 of the operation. Amm allotment 8 belts. Sub section to remain in present posn until relieved by 2/7 Aust Inf Bn.
 - (ii) One sub section at present GWAIBALON AREA will come under comd A Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn 0800K/30 to be built up into one complete section when sub section at present on OLD VICKERS POSN is relieved by 2/7 Aust Inf Bn.
7. LIMIT OF EXPLOITATION
Phase 2 of the attack B Coy will exploit to KOMIATUM TRACK via OLD BOBDUBI TRACK.
8. ZERO
To be notified later.
9. PATROLS
 - (a) B Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn to continue active patrolling to find approaches to COCONUT RIDGE.
 - (b) A Coy standing patrol at 706976 TRACK JUNC to be relieved by a patrol of same strength from C Coy.

ADMINISTRATION

10. MEDICAL
 - (a) R.A.P. to remain at present posn JUNC ULIAP CREEK and GWAIBALON TRACK 688961.
 - (b) Fwd Medical post at JUNC of GRIFF and RIDGE TRACK 699962. Line of evacuation OSBORNE CREEK - BENCH CUT TRACK - GRIFF TRACK - RIDGE TRACK - GWAIBALON.
11. AMMUNITION
 - (a) Bn reserve ULIAP CREEK 688965.
 - (b) 10 belts per MMG, 30 bombs per Mortar to be established OSBORNE CREEK.
 - (c) 500 rounds per Bren.
 - (d) C Coy will arrange carrying parties for amm fwd to A Coy. A Coy to carry scale "A" as far as possible.
12. RATIONS
A Coy will carry two days F.O.R.
13. SUPPLY
L of C ULIAP CREEK - VILLAGE + RIDGE TRACK - GRIFF TRACK will operate until shorter L of C WEST of OLD VICKERS POSN can be established.
14. ANGAU
Will supply native bearers as required for evacuations of casualties and carrying of supplies.
15. DRESS
Ground sheets, hat nets, mosquito lotion will receive particular consideration particularly in the case of A Coy.

INTERCOMMUNICATION

16. B H Q GWAIBALON AREA with comd post probable location JUNG of GRIFFS and BENCH CUT TRACKS.
B H Q REAR present location 688961 JUNG ULIAP CREEK and GWAIBALON TRACK.

17. COMMS
A Coy L/T cable requirements approx 2 miles.
B C oy L/T cable requirements approx 1 1/2 miles.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

Time of signature 2025 hrs
Method of issue Hand


Adj't 58/59 Aust Inf Bn Capt

DISTRIBUTION :-

| | | |
|-----------------|--------|--------|
| Rifle Coys | Copies | 1 - 4 |
| MMGs | | 5 |
| Mortars | | 6 |
| Arty | | 7 |
| 2/7 Aust Inf Bn | | 8 - 9 |
| C O | | 10 |
| Q M. | | 11 |
| 15 Aust Inf Bde | | 12 |
| File | | 13 -14 |
| War Diary | | 15 -16 |

O.P. 9/43

SECRET

Copy No *814*

HQ 58/59 Aust Inf Bn
29 July '43.

58/59 AUST INF BN OPERATION ORDER No 4

Ref Map KOMIATUM 1/25000

INFORMATION

1.

ENEMY

- (a) As per 15 Aust Inf Bde Intelligence summary No 20.
- (b) Enemy still retains three main posn ORODUBI - ERKINE CREEK - COCONUTS.
Estimated strength not known,

2.

OWN TROOPS

- (a) A Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn ~~with~~ less one pl RIDGE TRACK AREA 697968
- (b) B Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn B echelon area 688965
- (c) C Coy ~~58/59~~ 58/59 Aust Inf Bn with under comd 7 Pl A Coy OLD VICKERS POSN.
- (d) D Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn GWAIBALON AREA 698946.
- (e) 2/3 Aust Ind Coy attacked ORODUBI AREA with Mortar and Arty support 1600K/29. No report yet to hand.
- (f) 2/7 Aust Inf Bn now under comd 15 Aust Inf Bde. HQ group and A Coy KUNDA AREA.
B Coy relieved B Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn 1200K/29
NEW BOEDUBI AREA 688975.
- (g) 2/5 Aust Inf Bn ~~are~~ are attacking KOMIATUM AREA 30 July. Attack to be supported by aerial bombing and it is expected that considerable enemy movement will take place on KOMIATUM TRACK during and after this after this operation.

INTENTION

3.

58/59 Aust Inf Bn will occupy posn across the KOMIATUM TRACK and prevent any enemy movement.

METHOD

4.

- ~~The~~ The operations will be carried out in two phases.
PHASE 1.
- (a) Occupation of posn astride KOMIATUM TRACK. A Coy 2/7 Aust Inf Bn will relieve C Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn with under comd 7 Pl A Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn evening 29 July. C Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn and 7 Pl A Coy on relief will move to VILLAGE AREA for night 29/30 July
- (b) C Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will move to BENCH CUT TRACK via GRIFF TRACK and take up dispositions as follows
 - (i) One Pl JUNG GRIFFS AND BENCH CUT TRACKS.
 - (ii) One Pl between JUNG GRIFF AND BENCH CUT TRACK AND ERSKINE TRACK.
 - (iii) One Pl on BENCH CUT between Incl OSBORNE CREEK excl GRIFF AND BENCH CUT TRACK JUNG. Move to commence 0830K/30.
- (c) A Coy to move by same route proceeding to KOMIATUM TRACK via line of OSBORNE CREEK. and take up posns and carry out intention as stated in para 3.
- (d) Composite Pl at present under comd B Coy will be relieved by a Pl of 2/7 Aust Inf Bn morning 30 July and will move to area GRIFFS TRACK - RIDGE TRACK 699962.
- (e) D Coy maintain present dispositions and will prevent enemy movement from ERSKINE CREEK AREA to the WEST.

5. PHASE 2.

B Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will attack COCONUT RIDGE
30 July.

6. FIRE PLAN.

(a) Arty

11 Bty 2/6 Aust Fd Regt will register targets on
COCONUTS RIDGE morning 30 July.
100 rounds 25 pdr amm have been allotted to support
B Coy attack.

(b) Mortars

- (i) Mortar detachment at present in posn WEST of
FRANCISO RIVER will remain until relieved. Amm
allotment of 30 bombs for support of phase 2 of
operations.
- (ii) Mortars ag present under comd A, C and D Coys to
remain and carry out tasks as ordered.
- (iii) One detachment to be withdrawn from OLD A Coy posn
698946 and placed under comd C Coy.

(c) MMGs

- (i) One sub section to remain in present posn WEST
of FRANCISO RIVER to support phase 2 of the operation
Amm allotment 8 belts. Sub section to remain in
present posn until relieved by 2/7 Aust Inf Bn.
- (ii) One sub section at present GWAIBALON AREA will come
under comd A Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn 0890K/30 to be
built up into one complete section when sub section
at present on OLD VICKERS POSN is relieved by
2/7 Aust Inf Bn.

7/ LIMIT OF EXPLOITATION

Phase 2 of the attack B Coy will exploit kms to
KOMIATUM TRACK via OLD BOBDUBI TRACK.

8. ZERO

To be notified later.

9. PATROLS

- (a) B Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn to continue active patrolling
to find approaches to COCONUT RIDGE.
- (b) A Coy standing patrol at 706976 TRACK JUNG to be relieved
by a patrol of same strength from C Coy.

ADMINISTRATION

10. MEDICAL

- (a) R.A.P. to remain at present posn JUNG ULIAP CREEK and
GWAIBALON TRACK 698961.
- (b) Fwd Medical post at JUNG of GRIFF and RIDGE TRACK.
699962.
Line of evacuation OSBORNE CREEK BENCH CUT TRACK
GRIFFS TRACK RIDGE TRACK GWAIBALON.

11. AMM.

- (a) In reserve ULIAP CREEK 698965
- (b) 16 belts per MMG 30 bombs per mortar to be established
OSBORNE CREEK.
- (c) 500 rounds per Bren
- (d) C Coy will arrange carrying parties for amm fwd to
A Coy. A Coy to carry scale "A" as far as possible.

12. RATIONS

A Coy will carry two days F.O.R.

13. SUPPLY L of C ULIAP CREEK - VILLAGE - RIDGE TRACK - GRIFF TRACK -
will operate until shorter L of C WEST of OLD VICKERS
POSN can be established.

14. ANGAU Will supply native bearers as required for evacuation
of casualties and carrying of supplies.

15. DRESS Ground sheets hat nets mosquito lotion will receive
particular consideration particularly in the case of
A Coy.

Over

INTER COMMUNICATION

16. B.H.Q. GWAIBALON AREA with comd post probable location
JUNG of GRIFFS AND BENCH CUT TRACK.
B.H.Q. REAR present location 698961 JUNG ULIAP CREEK and
GWAIBALON TRACK.
17. COMES
A Coy L/T cable requirements approx 2 miles.
B Coy L/T cable requirements approx $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

Time of signature *2015 hrs.*

Method of issue *Hand*



Capt
Adjut 58/59 Aust Inf Bn

Distribution.

| | | | |
|-------------------|----|---|----|
| Rifle Coys copies | 1 | - | 4 |
| MMGs | | | 5 |
| Mortars | | | 6 |
| Arty | | | 7 |
| 2/7 Aust Inf Bn | 8 | - | 9 |
| C.O. | | | 10 |
| Q.M. | | | 11 |
| 15 Aust Inf Bde | | | 12 |
| File | 13 | • | 14 |
| War Diary | 15 | - | 16 |

of Maps KUMIATUB 1/25000
BALANUA 1/25000

HQ
58/59 Aust Inf Bn
27 Aug. '43.

- A COY.
- (i) To patrol track from vicinity 713983 to the N.E. TRACK. To contact B Coy 2/7 Bn and locate any enemy dispositions and strengths in this area.
 - (ii) Patrol to B Coy 58/59 Bn at 714973 twice daily.
 - (iii) Patrol to HQ twice daily. Patrol will report in at Intelligence Office.
 - (iv) Patrol to C Coy 58/59 Bn at 717987 using a direct route.
- B COY.
- (i) Patrol to standing patrol 2/7 Bn at 693988.
 - (ii) Patrol to C Coy 2/7 Bn twice daily.
 - (iii) Patrol to TR/A Pl 2/7 Bn at 703003 by a direct route.
 - (iv) Patrol SOUTH down spur to Comp Pl 58/59 Bn at JUNG. FRANCISCO RIVER and BURIS CREEK twice daily.
 - (v) Patrol down spur 709997 to 713987 to HQ. Report in at Intelligence Office.
- C COY.
- (i) Patrol SOUTH along SAMY CREEK to HQ twice daily. Report in at Intelligence Office.
 - (ii) Patrol SOUTH along TRACK to C Coy 2/7 Bn vicinity 718993.
 - (iii) Patrol to B Coy 58/59 Bn at 709997. Garden Area in square 7199 will be constantly patrolled.
- D COY.
- (i) Will maintain ambush post on BALANUA TR vicinity 709971.
 - (ii) Patrol to B Coy 2/7 Bn
 - (iii) Patrol TRACK on Coy Area to 710980 to 705988 to 715973 to Coy Area twice daily.
- COMP. PL.
- (i) Patrol Tracks WEST of BURIS CREEK to FRANCISCO RIVER and ALLAN CREEK.
 - (ii) Patrol NORTH along BURIS CREEK to TR/A Pl 2/7 Bn.
 - (iii) Patrol NORTH bank of FRANCISCO RIVER to HQ twice daily. Report in at Intelligence Office.

Coys will be prepared to carry out special patrols as ordered by this HQs.

Time out and time in and strength of patrols will be reported to this HQs.

The following points will be covered in addition to usual report.

- (i) Track times, each way.
- (ii) Condition of tracks.

All patrols will report in at all centres en route who will notify this HQs.

If contact is made with enemy a report will be forwarded to this HQs from nearest phone with full details.

ACKNOWLEDGE

Distribution

| | | | |
|-----------------|------|----|----------|
| A Coy | Copy | To | 1 |
| B Coy | " | " | 2 |
| C Coy | " | " | 3 |
| D Coy | " | " | 4 |
| Comp Pl | " | " | 5 |
| 2/7 Aust Inf Bn | " | " | 6 |
| C.O. | " | " | 7 |
| 15 Aust Inf Bde | " | " | 8 |
| File | " | " | 9 - 10 |
| War Diary | " | " | 11 - 12. |



Adjt. 58/59 Aust. Inf. Bn.

Capt

15 AUST INF BDE OPERATION INSTN NO 8HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde (AIF)
26 Jul 43

Ref Map: KOMIATUM 1:25000

OBJECT

1. To destroy enemy in the ERSKINE CK and OLD VICKERS GUN POSITION areas and gain complete control of BOBDUBI RIDGE.

INFORMATION2. Enemy

- (a) The enemy retains his original positions at COCONUTS, OLD VICKERS POSITION, ERSKINE CK, GRAVEYARD and ORODUBI.
- (b) K/20 enemy, estimated 60, on BUIRIS CK ambushed a patrol at 703994. K/21 enemy again ambushed a ration party at same place.

3. Own Troops

- (a) 58/59 Aust Inf Bn:

| | | |
|-------|-------------|-----------------------|
| A Coy | GWAIBOLON | area 698946 |
| B Coy | ERSKINE CK | area 699947 |
| C Coy | RIDGE TRACK | 696965-698964-696963. |
- (b) 2/3 Aust Indep Coy:

| | | |
|--------|---------------|--------|
| Coy HQ | NAMLING | 691938 |
| A Pl | GWAIBOLON | 697948 |
| B Pl | NAMLING RIDGE | 692937 |
- (c) 17 Aust Inf Bde:
 - (i) 2/5 Aust Inf Bn are in defensive positions in area MT TAMBU - GOODVIEW JUNG.
 - (ii) 2/6 Aust Inf Bn

| | | |
|-------|---------------------------------|---------|
| Bn HQ | WELLS JUNG | 684926 |
| A Coy | 684911 - 684922 - 682920-683914 | |
| B Coy | 684925-689929-688928-691932. | |
| C Coy | AMBUSH KNOLL | 692935. |
 - (iii) 2/7 Aust Inf Bn less two coys and portion of HQ Coy is moving into 15 Aust Inf Bde reserve in area NUNNS POST. Expected time of arrival NUNNS POST - 28 Jul.
 - (iv) US Troops consisting of approximately one Inf Bn supported by artillery are moving north and northwest in area TAMBU BAY.
- (d) Artillery. In support 15 Aust Inf Bde are two troops of 2 guns each of 2/6 Aust Fd Regt. OPO is established at WELLS OP. OPO is also established at GWAIBOLON.

Comment

- (i) With pressure being exerted by 2/6 Aust Inf Bn from the south and 2/3 Aust Indep Coy from NAMLING RIDGE, the enemy position in the GRAVEYARD is NOT as threatening as it was previously.
- (ii) It is thought A Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn positions are actually further south than previously believed. It is definite however, that the enemy force in GRAVEYARD and that in ERSKINE CK area are separated by our troops.
- (iii) Control of BOBDUBI RIDGE and KOMIATUM TRACK can be gained most quickly by the capture of ERSKINE CK and OLD VICKERS POSITION and containing the enemy forces in COCONUTS and GRAVEYARD areas.

INTENTION

4. 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will drive the enemy from known enemy localities on BOBDUBI RIDGE by the capture of ERSKINE CK area and OLD VICKERS POSITION.

METHOD

5. The operation will be carried out in two phases :
- (a) PHASE I - Attack and capture of enemy positions in ERSKINE CK area on 27 Jul 43.
 - (b) Phase II - Attack and capture OLD VICKERS POSITION NOT before 30 Jul 43.
6. PHASE I
- (a) One coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn with, under command, A Pl 2/3 Aust Indep Coy, will capture enemy positions in ERSKINE CK area and exploit to KOMIATUM track. ~~XXXXXX~~
 - (b) After exploitation to KOMIATUM TRACK positions will be taken up to prevent any enemy movement north or south along KOMIATUM TRACK.
 - (c) Re-organize and consolidate quickly on BENCH CUT TRACK in depth to prevent attack from north and south.
 - (d) Hold eastwards of the junction of the ERSKINE and BUIRALI CKS as a base for operations on the KOMIATUM TRACK.
 - (e) This attack will be a planned deliberate attack with fire support as ordered by CO 58/59 Aust Inf Bn. In no way is the attack to be considered a raid.

7. PHASE II

- (a) 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will capture the OLD VICKERS POSITION.
- (b) Organize immediately reliable recce parties to recce all approaches to OLD VICKERS POSITION.
- (c) Cover any noise of recce parties when close to enemy positions by harassing fire.
- (d) From information obtained, organize attack in sufficient strength to ensure success.
- (e) See Appendix A for points to consider in organizing the attack.

8. PATROLS

Fighting patrols instructed to :

- (a) Obtain definite information of any enemy strength on BENCH CUT between ERSKINE CK and OSBORNE CK
- (b) Exploit to track junctions 705967 and 708968.
- (c) Harass any enemy encountered.
- (d) If clear, establish strong fighting patrol at track junctions with supply line along GRIFFS TRACK east from C Coy.
- (e) Ascertain enemy activity and intentions in the BUIRIS CK area north of FRANCISCO R.

9. MOPPING UP

Ensure that arrangements are made for mopping up isolated posts. Men are to be detailed to watch for snipers

10. Consolidation

- (a) Rapid re-organisation and consolidation is essential on success.
- (b) Defence in depth with immediate digging to ensure holding of positions gained.
- (c) Adequate tools are to be carried.
- (d) Avoid huddling in the consolidation layout.
- (e) Place standing patrols out quickly for all round protection and to widen frontage held.
- (f) A suggested sketch of defensive layout Appendix B.

11. Arty.

- (a) CO 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will make arrangements with OPOs at GWAIBOLON and WELLS for arty support required.
- (b) Arty support for planned attacks and definitely located enemy targets only to be arranged.
- (c) All requests for harassing tasks to be made through this HQ.
- (d) Arty support will be limited to ammunition made available by OPOs and the requirements of other troops in the area.

12. MMGs and Mortars

These weapons are to follow closely the attack ready for close support during the attack, reorganisation phase, and consolidation.

13. Deception

Use any methods that will harass and demoralize the enemy.
See Appendix A.

14. Offensive Spirit

All ranks must be fully seized with the vital importance of these operations and be determined to defeat the enemy.

15. Zero

To be advised by 58/59 Aust Inf Bn.

ADMINISTRATION

16. Rations

- (a) Three days reserve will be placed at GWAIBOLON and C Coy area by 15 Aust Inf Bde.
- (b) Hot meals for forward troops at earliest opportunity.

17. Ammunition

- (a) Adequate reserve to be held at GWAIBOLON and C Coy area prior to attacks so that offensive operations may be easily maintained.
- (b) 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will retain sufficient ammunition to meet any emergency.
- (d) Ammunition carried on the man will be sufficient to maintain the force in the attack and to resist counter attacks. Consideration is to be given to the fact that it may be difficult to get reserve ammunition forward.

18. Tools

Picks, shovels, entrenching tools and matchetts to be carried on the man in the attack.

19. PW

GWAIBOLON thence Bde HQ.

20. Medical

ADS (a) ADS KELLYS CAMP (ULIAP CK) 684941.

- (b) Wounded men evacuated by SBs only. Adequate SBs to be arranged.
- (c) The attacking ^{force} will NOT be used for carrying wounded.

INTERCOMMUNICATION

- 21. L/T
 - (a) L/T laid close behind attacking troops to enable rapid communication with higher HQ. Alternatives to be laid.
 - (b) All lines to be checked by linesmen for faults. Lines to be built up.
- 22. W/T
 - (a) 208 sets with attacking coys.
 - (b) L/T and W/T to Bde HQ at NUNNS POST.
- 23. Runners
 - (a) Runners detailed and instructed.
 - (b) Establish report centres to save runners' time. R
- 24. Reports
 - (a) Immediate reports of own and enemy situation to be sent back at frequent intervals by all possible means
 - (b) Sketch maps showing dispositions on success and requests for ammunition, support, etc, to be sent back rapidly.
- 25. Signals
 - (a) Success signal will be arranged.
 - (b) SOS - Arrange signal and task with arty.
- 26. Synchronisation of Watches
By sigs at 1800 hrs D minus 1.
- 27. ACKNOWLEDGE.

Acked I 47 1700x/26

B. H. Evans
Major

Time of Signature: 0115 hrs

BM 15 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION

| | <u>Instn</u> | <u>Appx A</u> | <u>Appx B</u> | <u>Method of Issue</u> |
|--------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|------------------------|
| 58/59 Aust Inf Bn | Copy No 1 | 1 | 1 | Hand |
| 2/3 Aust Indep Coy | 2 | 2 | 2 | Hand |
| Comd | 3 | 3 | 3 | Hand |
| SMC | 4 | 4 | 4 | Hand |
| 3 Aust Div | 5 | 5 | 5 | DRLS |
| 17 Aust Inf Bde | 6 | - | - | DRLS |
| File | 7 | 6 | 6 | |
| War Diary | 8 | 7 | 7 | |

1. PLANNING

- (a) Careful planning is essential to ensure a successful operation.
- (b) All ranks should be fully informed of the situation and the details of the operation.
- (c) If Comds and men know clearly their tasks, routes, objectives action on success etc before the operation is commenced, or in other words they have their drill for battle, their minds are free to think and use their initiative.

2. RECCE

- (a) Immediate recces will be made of all approaches to OLD VICKERS POSITION and ERSKINE CK.
- (b) Recce Parties and Guiding
 - (i) To enable routes, assembly areas, start lines and objectives to be planned.
 - (ii) Blaze tracks by marking trees, use of cable for guiding, noting prominent objects etc to guarantee that routes can be followed by attacking forces day or night.
 - (iii) Note time taken to easy recognizable objects at the speed that an attacking force would move.
 - (iv) Allowance for pauses to recover from fatigue.
 - (v) The times noted will permit the use of supporting fire if required, and the use of harassing fire to cover noise of approach.
 - (vi) Reliable recce parties who can be relied on to produce the information required will be selected. Recce parties will need to be briefed in detail as to their tasks and study ground over which they intend to move.
 - (vii) Recce parties will later be available to act as guides
 - (viii) Consider use of army pattern torch lamps with the open face covered with coloured paper to reduce beam for the purpose of guiding parties by night to assembly areas close to the objective. These lights would be hung on trees facing the line of our advance and would be switched on only when in position.
 - (ix) Compass bearings taken to give an accurate or general bearing of the attack whichever is suitable as an alternative means of keeping directions.
 - (x) Train ~~in~~ key men in the above methods so that they will have confidence in the methods employed. For instance, viewing the lights from the enemy side and noting that the beam can only be seen at a few yards.

3. DECEPTION

- (a) Carry out a program of harassing fire tasks during the period leading up to attacks, at the same time that harassing fire may be used to cover noise in the approach during the actual attack.
- (b) Consider use of coloured Verey Lights fired directly at the enemy during the attack. Frightening tactics. Tracer ammunition could be fired at night from positions surrounding the enemy to confuse him as to dispositions and strengths.
- (c) Use of enemy whistle signals to confuse him further. The enemy use whistles made from kunda.
- (d) Employ mortar smoke occasionally to make the enemy used to it. May be necessary later for guiding and screening recce parties and for future attacks.
- (e) Use any methods that will harass the enemy and make him jittery.

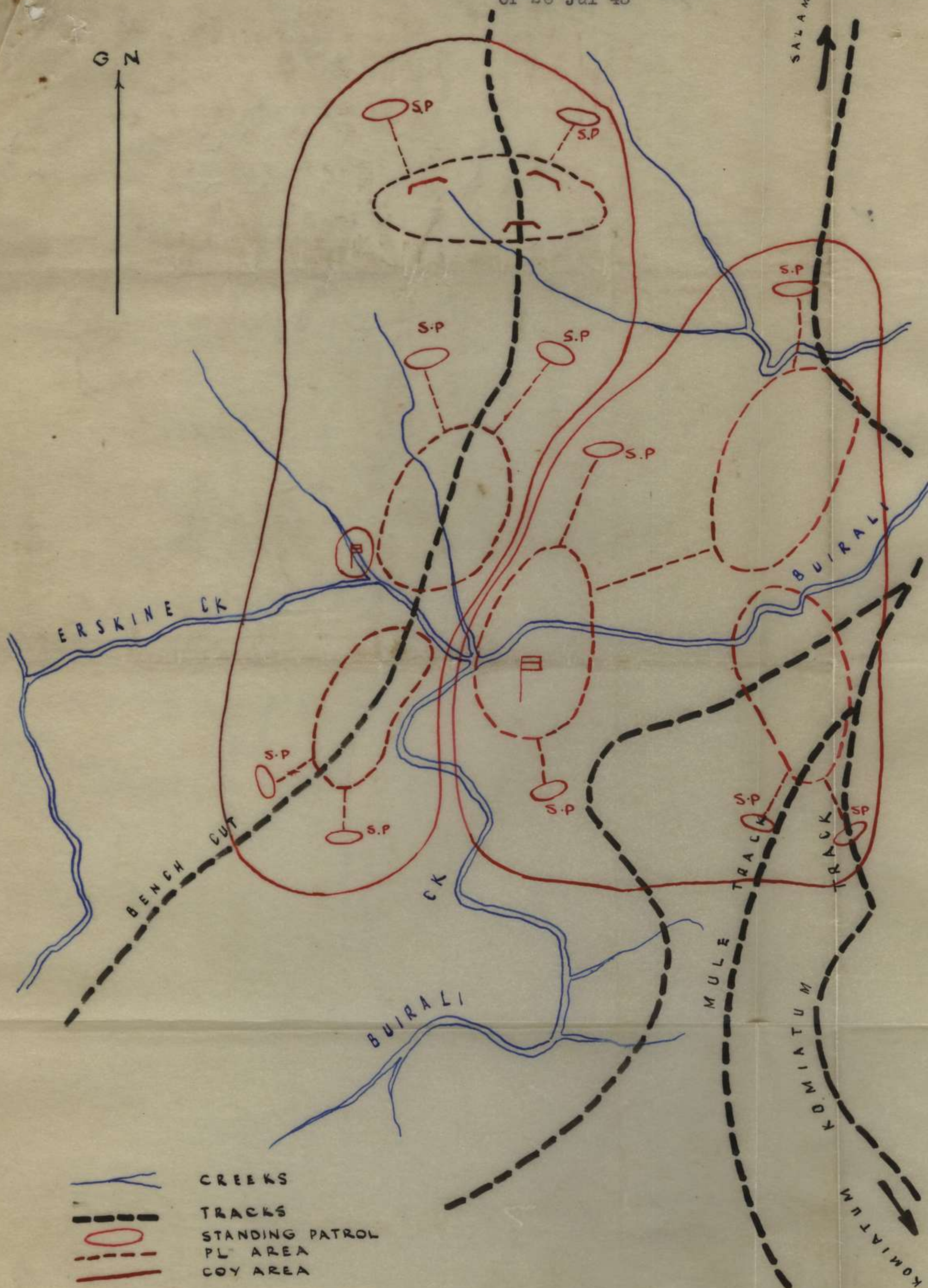
4.

INFORMATION

- (a) All subordinate comds down to sec comds should be instructed regarding the necessity to pass back accurate information with the utmost speed to the next higher comd.
- (b) Information obtained from wounded men is seldom reliable. The only man worth believing is the one who says "We are winning".
- (c) Information that our troops are "cut to pieces" and "there is no one left" should be ignored.
- (d) The only reliable information is from a comd who is at his post determined to carry on the battle.

APPENDIX B

Issued with 15 Aust Inf Bde Op Instn No 8
Of 26 Jul 43



CREEKS
 TRACKS
 STANDING PATROL
 PL AREA
 COY AREA

SKETCH SHOWING A DEFENSIVE LAYOUT
SUITABLE FOR ERSKINE CK AREA [Diagrammatic only]

1. Defence in depth from SOUTH to NORTH along BENCH CUT TRACK at ERSKINE CK
2. Defence in depth from EAST to WEST from JUNCTION BUIRALI and ERSKINE CREEKS to BENCH CUT.
3. Patrols pushed forward to cut KOMIATUM TRACK
4. standing patrols out to widen frontage and for all-round protection.
5. LINKS of LISTENING POSTS and/or standing patrols between PLS and COYS.

HQ: 15 AUST. INF. BDE.
 INT. SEC
 W. GREEN. Plt.
 26. Jul. 43.

15 AUST INF BDE OPERATION INSTRUCTION NO 9HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde (AIF)
28 Jul 43

Ref Map: KOMIATUM 1:25000

OBJECT

1. (a) To move 2/7 Aust Inf Bn into position as reserve bn 15 Aust Inf Bde.
- (b) To relieve B Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn by B Coy 2/7 Aust Inf Bn.
- (c) To move B Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn to GWAIBOLON.

INFORMATION

2. (a) HQ Group and 2 coys 2/7 Aust Inf Bn are proceeding to 15 Aust Inf Bde area.
Location and strength night 27/28 Jul:

| | | | | |
|----------|---|------------------|---|--------------|
| HQ Group | - | OBSERVATION HILL | - | 91 all ranks |
| A Coy | - | VIALS OP | - | 73 all ranks |
| B Coy | - | MISSIM | - | 81 all ranks |

- (b) B Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn dispositions:

| | | |
|--------|--------|----------------------|
| 695975 | Coy HQ | MMG Det, Mortar Det. |
| 697975 | 10 pl | |
| 696976 | 11 pl | |
| 697948 | 12 pl | |

INTENTION

3. Tasks as laid down in para 1 above will be carried out both incl 28/30 Jul 43.

METHOD4. A Coy 2/7 Aust Inf Bn

- (a) 28 Jul - Early lunch KELLYS CAMP.
Night 28/29 Jul - KUNDA IS.
Morning 29 Jul - Recce Party to MEARES CAMP. 58/59 Aust Inf Bn to provide guide.
Night 29/30 Jul - Move MEARES CAMP. 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will provide 3 guides.

5. B Coy 2/7 Aust Inf Bn

- (a) 28 Jul. Move MEARES CAMP for lunch.
HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde will provide guides at ADS MEARES CK by 1130 hrs.
B Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will provide 4 guides at MEARES CAMP by 1500 hrs to guide B Coy 2/7 Aust Inf Bn to KUNDA IS and on 29 JUL to B Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn area.
- (b) Night 28/29 Jul - Move to KUNDA IS. No movement from MEARES CAMP before 1300 hrs.
- (c) Remain night KUNDA IS and effect relief 29 Jul. Rear elements B Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn-NOT less than 1 per sec - will NOT leave until CC B Coy 2/7 Aust Inf Bn is satisfied.

6. B Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn

- (a) Handover to B Coy 2/7 Aust Inf Bn morning 29 Jul, complete with traces of defensive positions, booby trap areas, track and patrol information.

(b) Cpl LESLIE will remain. 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will provide 3 ORs to guide 2/7 Aust Inf Bn on initial patrols and give topographical information.

(c) Move to GWAIBOLON 29 Jul 43.

7. Mortar and MMG Detachments

(a) Mortar and MMG detachment, 2/7 Aust Inf Bn, lunch KELLYS CAMP 29 Jul. 58/59 Aust Inf Bn provide 1 guide at NEW BOBDUBI to guide to B Coy area.

(b) Mortar and MMG Detachment 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will remain and handover 30 Jul.

8. HQ Group less Mortar and MMG detachments

(a) Lunch KELLYS CAMP 29 Jul.

(b) KUNDA IS Night 29/30 Jul.

(c) Move MEARES CAMP night 30/31 Jul. 2/7 Aust Inf Bn will provide guides.

9. Role 2/7 Aust Inf Bn

(a) Reserve Bn 15 Aust Inf Bde.

(b) Recce BOBDUBI RIDGE south to NAMLING to gain knowledge of country with a view to eventual relief of 58/59 Aust Inf Bn.

(c) Recce all routes on north of FRANCISCO River.

(d) 2/7 Aust Inf Bn will NOT be engaged in active operations unless in emergency.

ADMINISTRATION

10. Ammunition

(a) B Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will handover all ammunition, less 10 rounds SAA, 1 bren mag, and 2 mags SMGO per gun.

(b) B Coy will draw deficiencies on arrival GWAIBOLON.

11. Supplies

(a) B Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will handover all rations and draw deficiency at GWAIBOLON.

(b) SC will arrange staging, rations and hot meals.

12. Weapons

(a) BOWO will arrange exchange of one mortar and MMG complete on G.1033. SC will arrange transport of 2/7 Aust Inf Bn mortar and MMG direct to GWAIBOLON.

13. Stores

(a) SC will arrange movement of 2/7 Aust Inf Bn stores from BASE 4.

(b) B Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will handover all 2 man tents to B Coy 2/7 Aust Inf Bn.

INTERCOMMUNICATION

14. Bn HQ, 2/7 Aust Inf Bn, at KUNDA IS (until further advised).

15. L Sec Sigs will provide D Mk V at MEARES CAMP and KUNDA IS by 1500K/28

3.

16. B Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will leave phones and wire in position. B Coy 2/7 Aust Inf Bn will handover one D Mk V to B Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn on arrival in area, and transfer of other phones will be effected at earliest date.

17. ACKNOWLEDGE.

W. Newman Capt
for Major
BM 15 Aust Inf Bde

Time of Signature: 0115 hrs.

DISTRIBUTION:

| | <u>Copy No</u> | <u>Method of Issue</u> |
|--------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| 2/7 Aust Inf Bn | 1 | Hand |
| 58/59 Aust Inf Bn | 2 | Courier |
| 2/3 Aust Indep Coy | 3 | Courier |
| L Sec Sigs | 4 | Hand |
| 3 Aust Div | 5 | DRLS |
| 17 Aust Inf Bde | 6 | DRLS |
| Comd | 7 | Hand |
| SC | 8 | Hand |
| File | 9 | |
| War Diary | 10-11 | |

15 AUST INF BDE OP INSTN NO 10HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde (AIF)
20 Jul 43Ref maps: SALAMAUVA 1:25000
KOMIATUM 1:25000INFORMATION1. Own Troops(a) 58/59 Aust Inf Bn

Fwd Bn HQ : GWAIBALON
 A Coy : is preparing to move to assist in cutting
 KOMIATUM TRACK in area 708967
 B Coy : Two pls preparing to attack NORTH COCONUTS. one
 pl GWAIBALON area.
 C Coy : is preparing to move to assist in cutting
 KOMIATUM TRACK and occupying BENCH CUT from
 excl ERSKINE CK to incl OSBORNE CK.
 D Coy : is containing known enemy in ERSKINE CK area.

(b) 2/7 Aust Inf Bn

HQ : 687969
 A Coy : is occupying OLD VICKERS POSITION night 29/30
 Jul
 B Coy : is disposed area KUNDA IS and NORTH of
 FRANCISCO R.

(c) 2/3 Aust Indep Coy

HQ : GWAIBALON
 A Pl : area 695945
 C Pl : NAMLING RIDGE 693937, MORTAR KNOLL 694938.

(d) D Coy 24 Aust Inf Bn

HOTE area
 One Pl : AMBUSH 672032
 One Pl : CISSEMBOB
 One Pl : DAHO

(e) Arty

11 Bty 2/6 Aust Pd Regt in support of 15 Aust Inf Bde.
 FOOs are allotted to 58/59 Aust Inf Bn and 2/3 Aust Indep
 Coy respectively.

(f) 17 Aust Inf Bde

2/5 Aust Inf Bn : area TAMBU SADDLE
 2/6 Aust Inf Bn :
 HQ : WELLS JUNC
 A Coy : WELLS JUNC
 2 Pl : LULUAI HUTS 691934
 B Coy : SUGARCANE RIDGE 696935
 C Coy : AMBUSH KNOLL 692935

2. Enemy

(a) Known enemy locations are:

ERSKINE CK area.
 GRAVEYARD area.
 COCONUTS area.

- (b) Enemy was contacted in BUIRIS CK on 19 Jul when a small party fired on our troops. On 21 Jul a party of 60 Japs ambushed our troops at 703994.

INTENTION

3. 2/7 Aust Inf Bn less two coys will act as 15 Aust Inf Bde reserve.

METHOD

4. Area of responsibility

- (a) All approaches from SALAMAUA area in area NORTH of FRANCISCO R.
(b) Area on BOBDUBI RIDGE as allotted by 15 Aust Inf Bde.

5. Tasks

- (a) To act as Bde reserve.
To do this, 2/7 Aust Inf Bn will be allotted areas in reserve to hold as firm bases from which 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will work.
- (b) To gather information by recce patrols of all tracks in area NORTH of FRANCISCO R.
Note: Special attention will be paid to BUIRIS CK and area to NORTH of creek junction 705986.
- (c) To patrol areas north of FRANCISCO R to give early warning of any Jap movement in that area.
- (d) To recce routes to any area on BOBDUBI RIDGE held by 58/59 Aust Inf Bn and 2/3 Aust Indep Coy from MEXIA NAMLENG to junc of FRANCISCO R and BUIRIS CK.
- (e) To prepare plans for counter-attack in area from GWAIBALON to NORTH COCONUTS both incl.

ADMINISTRATION

6. Supplies

Ammunition and rations will be supplied from NUNNS POST to Bn HQ.

7. Medical

ADS KELLYS Camp 684940. Route of evacuation via ULIAP CK.

8. Salvage

Det 3 Aust Div Salvage Unit stationed HQ 58/59 Aust Inf Bn. Units will establish own dumps. Notify location to this HQ.

INTERCOMMUNICATION

9. Bde HQ is at 654971.
10. L/T communications will be established to Bn HQ by L Sec Sigs 3 Aust Div.
11. W/T will be established if set available.
12. Visual communications will be established where possible.
13. ACKNOWLEDGE.

DISTRIBUTION (OVER)

ack 0363 1 Aug
B.H. Evans
Major
BM 15 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION

- 2/7 Aust Inf Bn
- 58/59 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/3 Aust Indep Coy.
- D Coy 24 Aust Inf Bn
- L Sec Sigs 3 Aust Div
- 3 Aust Div
- 17 Aust Inf Bde
- Comd
- S.C.
- 3MG 15 Aust Inf Bde
- File
- War Diary (2)

INTENTION

METHOD

TASKS

ADMINISTRATION

INTERCOMMUNICATION

ACKNOWLEDGE

DISTRIBUTION (OVER)

Copy No 1

11
12-13

Time of signature: 1205 hrs

Method of distribution: *Carriers*

[Handwritten signature]

A.H. [Signature]

Major
BM 15 Aust Inf Bde

15 AUST INF BDE OPERATION INSTRUCTION NO 11

HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde (AIF)
Aug 43

Ref Maps: KOMIATUM 1:25000
SALAMAUA 1:25000

INFORMATION

1. Own Troops

(a) 2/7 Aust Inf Bn

HQ 687968
A Coy OLD VICKERS POSITION 698969
B Coy HQ 694975
10 pl 697977
11 pl 695972
12 pl 697975

(b) 58/59 Aust Inf Bn

HQ GWAIBOLON 697949
A Coy 703958
B Coy HQ with under comd 4 pl
696964
10 pl 699964
11 pl plus MMG
698965
12 pl 699967
C Coy less one pl 703957
14 pl 704962
D Coy HQ plus MMG, 3" Mortar
GWAIBOLON
16 pl 699949
17 pl 697947
18 pl 698947
Composite pl plus MMG and Mortar
699961

(c) 2/3 Aust Indep Coy

HQ 696945
A pl TIMBERED KNOLL 698945
B pl NAMLING RIDGE 692937
C pl PARERS BOWL 697946
Composite pl 698947

(d) 17 Aust Inf Bde

As per 15 Aust Inf Bde Intelligence Summaries.

2. Enemy

(a) COCONUTS Area

Dug in in strength in NORTH, SOUTH and CENTRE COCONUTS, and on knoll 696969 west of OLD VICKERS POSITION. Enemy force at present attacking A Coy 2/7 Aust Inf Bn from spur 697968
Located enemy weapons:

- 1 MMG NE side CENTRE COCONUTS
- 2 LMGs NW side CENTRE COCONUTS
- 1 LMG NW side NORTH COCONUTS
- 1 LMG centre of NORTH COCONUTS
- 1 Light mortar NORTH COCONUTS
- 1 Heavy mortar CENTRE COCONUTS
- 1 Light mortar CENTRE COCONUTS.

(b) ORODUBI

Dug in in located positions from GRAVEYARD 697943 along ridge to ORODUBI 696939 both incl.

(c) ERSKINE CREEK

In position NORTH PIMPLE and SOUTH PIMPLE astride ERSKINE CK on west side of bench cut track. North flank at 704957 protected by trip wires 7 to 8 ft in depth and from 6 inches 1 ft high. No movement has been seen in the immediate vicinity of this wire.

INTENTION

- 3. 2/3 Aust Indep Coy will relieve 58/59 Aust Inf Bn in area GARDENS 694965 to GWAIBOLON.

METHOD

4. Dispositions

(a) 2/3 Aust Indep Coy will take over present dispositions of 58/59 Aust Inf Bn.

(b) 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will take over present dispositions of 2/3 Aust Indep Coy.

5. Times of Relief

Relief will be as per Appendix A.

6. Areas of Responsibility on Completion of Relief

(a) 2/3 Aust Indep Coy:

Excl OLD VICKERS POSITION 698969 to incl GRIFFS TRACK 699962 - 703958.

(b) 58/59 Aust Inf Bn:

Excl GRIFFS TRACK 699962 to 703958 - GWAIBOLON - TIMBERED KNOLL 698945 - MORTAR KNOLL 693938 - NAMLING RIDGE 692937 *NAMLING INCL*

(c) 2/7 Aust Inf Bn:

Incl OLD VICKERS POSITION to north of FRANCISCO R.

7. Tasks when in new area.

(a) 2/3 Aust Indep Coy:

(i) To prevent enemy movement onto BOBDUBI RIDGE in area of responsibility.

(ii) To harass by ambush and raids KOMIATUM TRACK and BOBDUBI SALAMAUA TRACK.

(b) 58/59 Aust Inf Bn

(i) To prevent enemy movement onto BOBDUBI- ORODUBI RIDGE in area of responsibility.

(ii) To defend GWAIBOLON area.

(iii) To contain known enemy localities in ERSKINE CREEK - GRAVEYARD - ORODUBI area.

(iv) To patrol to find exact dispositions of enemy in above positions.

(v) To give support to 2/6 Aust Inf Bn in area AMBUSH KNOLL, 692935.

(c) 2/7 Aust Inf Bn

As stated in 15 Aust Inf Bde Op Instn No 10.

8. Mortars

58/59 Aust Inf Bn mortars 3 inch at present in GARDENS area and CUMMINS POST 699961 will remain present location under comd 2/3 Aust Indep Coy.

9. Arty.

(a) 11 Bty 2/6 Aust Fd Regt is in support of 15 Aust Inf Bde.

(b) FOOs are located

(i) Lieut LORD WELLS OP

(ii) Lieut DAWSON GWAIBOLON - KUNDA IS area.

(c) Units will deal direct with FOOs in own areas for immediate tasks.

(d) Requests for arty support for planned attacks or deliberate tasks requiring large allotment of ammunition will be referred to HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde. Bde HQ will then make arrangements with RAA 3 Aust Div.

(e) FOOs will keep 15 Aust Inf Bde advised of ammunition available and harassing tasks being carried out.

10. Liaison

- (a) COs 58/59 Aust Inf Bn and 2/3 Aust Indep Coy will maintain close liaison during relief to ensure that no area is left without sufficient troops to ensure adequate defence of area.
- (b) Close liaison will be maintained at junction points of units to ensure protection at inter-unit boundaries. COs will ensure that subunit comds maintain liaison at all times.
- (c) 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will maintain close liaison with 2/6 Aust Inf Bn and ensure the protection of the inter-bde boundary.

ADMINISTRATION

11. Ammunition and Supply

- (a) Reserves of ammunition and supplies at present in areas will be handed over by mutual arrangement between 58/59 Aust Inf Bn and 2/3 Aust Indep Coy.
- (b) Adequate reserves of ammunition rations and water (a minimum of four days) will be held in all areas liable to be cut off by enemy.
- (c) All other areas will hold a minimum reserve of two days ammunition rations and water.

12. Rest Camps

- (a) All units will establish under unit arrangements a rest camp in area ULIAP CK.
Object: To give a break for 1 to 2 days to the more tired men within the units.
- (b) Special attention will be paid to the following points:
 - (i) Adequate supervision of personnel in rest camp
 - (ii) Adequate housing bedding and feeding of personnel.
 - (iii) Bathing shaving haircuts.
 - (iv) Equipping soldier with new or clean clothing and personal requisites.
 - (v) Medical inspection and treatment.
- (c) The aim is to send the soldier back to his subunit refreshed re-equipped clean and fit.

13. Laundry

Units will establish a unit laundry in vicinity of rest camp for the washing and repairing clothing.

INTERCOMMUNICATION

14. Communication during relief.

Lines and equipment in present locations will be taken over by incoming subunits. Present communication set-up will only be altered by mutual agreement between 58/59 Aust Inf Bn and 2/3 Aust Indep Coy.

15. Lateral communication

- (a) Lateral links will be arranged between all units and alternative lines laid to ensure communication at all times.
- (b) 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will arrange lateral L/T link with 2/6 Aust Inf Bn.

16. Unit Signs

Unit signs and signposts will be displayed at unit HQ to facilitate movement within the bde area.

Time of Signature: 0005 hrs

M. H. ...
Major
BM 15 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION:

See Over.

DISTRIBUTION:

| | <u>Copy No</u> | <u>Appx A</u> | <u>Appx B</u> | <u>Method of Distribution</u> |
|------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------------------|
| 2/7 Aust Inf Bn | 1 | 1 | 1 | Courier |
| 58/59 Aust Inf Bn | 2 | 2 | 2 | Courier |
| 2/3 Aust Indep Coy | 3 | 3 | 3 | Courier |
| L Sec, Sigs 3 Aust Div | 4 | 4 | 4 | Hand |
| 3 Aust Div | 5 | 5 | 5 | DRLS |
| 17 Aust Inf Bde | 6 | 6 | 6 | DRLS |
| Comd | 7 | 7 | 7 | Hand |
| SC | 8 | 8 | 8 | Hand |
| SMD 15 Aust Inf Bde | 9 | 9 | 9 | Hand |
| File | 10 | 10 | 10 | Hand |
| War Diary | 11-12 | 11-12 | 11-12 | Hand |

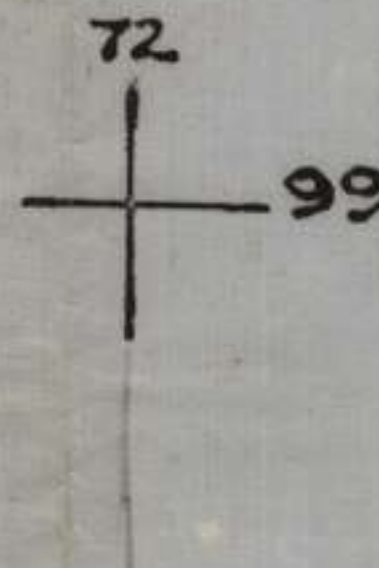
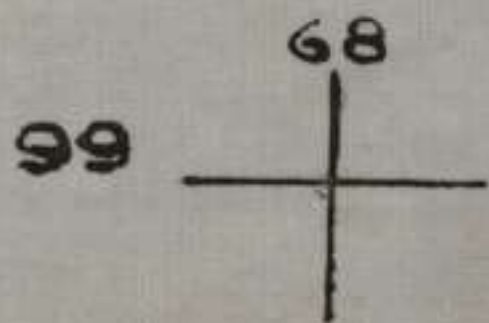
| Serial a | Date b | Sub Unit c | Strength Offrs ORs d | Present Location e | Area to which to move f | Task on completion of Relief g | Remarks h |
|-------------|-----------|------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|---|--|--|
| 7. | - | D Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn | 2 73 | ERSKINE CK | No move | As at present | This Coy remains pre- -sent loc- -ation with present task |
| 8. | - | Comp Pl 58/59 Aust Inf Bn | 19 | CUMMINS POST | As arranged by COs 58/59 Bn and a/3 Indep Coy | To be used to extend Northern flank of 58/59 Bn and protect inter-unit boundary between 58/59 Bn and 2/3 Indep Coy/ on BENCH CUT and D Coy 58/59 Bn in ERSKINE CK area /and to act as | link between 2/3 Indep Coy |
| 9. | - | Tk.A Pl 58/59 Aust Inf Bn | 1 19 | GARDENS | as per serial 8 | as per serial 8 | |

RELIEF OF 58/59 AUST INF BN BY 2/3 AUST INDEP COY

| Serial a | Date b | Sub unit c | Strength Offrs d | ORs e | Present Location e | Area to which to move f | Task on completion of Relief g | Remarks h |
|-------------|-----------|--|------------------------|----------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| 1. | 5 Aug | C Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn | 2 | 56 | Area NEWMANS JUNG 703958 | NAMLING RIDGE- MORTAR KNOLL | (a) To prevent enemy penetration WEST from ORODUBI (b) To liaise with 2/6 Bn | |
| 2. | 5 Aug | B Pl) 2/3 portion) Indep C Pl) Coy | 2 | 40 | NAMLING RIDGE -MORTAR KNOLL | Area NEWMANS JUNC | (a) To establish a firm base on BENCH CUT in vicinity of NEWMANS JUNC for defence of BOBDUBI RIDGE. (b) To harass KOMIATUM TK and BOBDUBI SALAMAUA TK by raids and ambush. | |
| 3. | 6 Aug | A Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn | 2 | 56 | Area NEWMANS JUNC | TIMBERED KNOLL | To contain enemy in GRAVEYARD Area | |
| 4. | 6 Aug | A Pl 2/3 Indep Coy | 3 | 44 | TIMBERED KNOLL | Area NEWMANS JUNC | As per serial 2 | Portion of this Pl may be dis- posed in GARDEN area at discret- ion of CO 2/3 Indep coy |
| 5. | 7 Aug | B Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn | 4 | 53 | GARDENS | PARERS BOWL 697946 | (a) To give depth to position in TIMBERED KNOLL. (b) To give depth to D Coy 58/59 Bn in ERSKINE CK area | |
| 6. | 7 Aug | Portion C Pl. 2/3 Indep Coy | 1 | 21 | PARERS BOWL | GARDENS | As decided by CO 2/3 Indep Coy | |

To be superimposed over KOMIATUM 1:25000

TRACE SHOWING
UNIT AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY AND
INTER UNIT BOUNDARIES
AS ORDERED
IN 15 AUST. INF. BDE. OP INSTN NO 11



2/7 Aust. inf. Bn

• OLD VICKERS POSN

Incl to 2/7 Bn

2/3 Aust. indep. COY

GRIFES TRACK

Incl to 2/3 Indep COY

58/59 AUST. INF. BN.

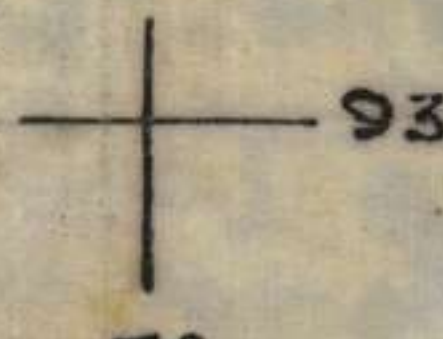
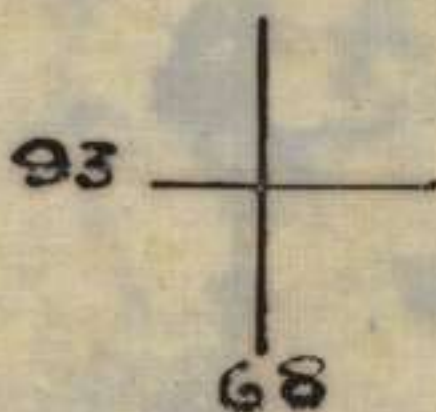
• GWAIBALON

• TIMBERED KNOLL

• MORTAR KNOLL

• NAMLING RIDGE

Inter Bde Bdy



HR. 15 AUST. INF. BDE
INT. SEC.
5. AUG. 43.

15 AUST INF BDE OPERATION INSTRUCTION NO 12HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde (AIF)
7 Aug 43Ref Maps: KOMIATUM 1:25000
SALAMAUA 1:25000INFORMATION

1. Enemy)
2. Own Troops) As per 15 Aust Inf Bde Intelligence Summaries.

INTENTION

3. 15 Aust Inf Bde will maintain control of area NAMLING - BOBDUBI - BUIRIS CK by
 - (a) Offensive patrolling
 - (b) Immediate counter attack against any enemy attack.

METHOD4. patrol Policy(a) 2/7 Aust Inf Bn

Continue reces to :-

- (i) Establish if enemy L of C east of a north-south line through BUIRIS CK NOT including the SALAMAUA - OLD BOBDUBI TRACK.
- (ii) Establish if enemy L of C is via SALAMAUA - OLD BOBDUBI TRACK. (Close co-operation with 2/3 Aust Indep Coy is necessary for this task.)
- (iii) Obtain information regarding any enemy movement along BUIRIS CK to the 01 northing grid line.
- (iv) Obtain information of any enemy movement west of the BUIRIS CK between 97 and 01 northing grids.
- (v) Make track traverses within the above areas and record reliable track information. All information to be submitted to this HQ on traces as it is obtained.
- (vi) Locate and prepare suitable routes for an eventual attack on NORTH - SOUTH COCONUTS.
- (vii) Protective patrols to ensure no enemy penetration west of a NE-SW line through OLD VICKERS POSITION and COCONUTS.
- (viii) Protective patrols east of OLD VICKERS POSITION to restrict any enemy movement between OLD VICKERS POSITION and FRANCISCO R. bend at 705968.

(b) 2/3 Aust Indep Coy

- (i) Protective patrols north and south along BOBDUBI RIDGE to contact flanking units.
- (ii) Co-operate with patrols 2/7 Aust Inf Bn in keeping east and west flanks of OLD VICKERS POSITION clear of enemy.
- (iii) Recce patrols to gain information of all enemy movement along
 - (1) SALAMAUA-OLD BOBDUBI TRACK in the area track junctions 705967 and 708968.
 - (ii) SALAMAUA-KOMIATUM TRACK in 2/3 Indep Coy sector.
- (iv) Provide fighting patrols to harass and ambush enemy moving along tracks in (iii) above.
- (v) Protective patrols along BENCH CUT TRACK to
 - (i) Keep track clear of enemy.
 - (ii) Ascertain enemy northern flank north of ERSKINE CK area.
 (By arrangement with 58/59 Aust Inf Bn, troops in that

area may be used for this purpose.)

(c) 58/59 Aust Inf Bn

- (i) Protective patrols from GWAIBOLON incl to junction with 2/3 Aust Indep Coy on the north along BOBDUBI RIDGE TRACK.
- (ii) Contact patrols on inter-bde boundary to 2/6 Aust Inf Bn.
- (iii) Patrol east from NAMLING RIDGE towards ORODUBI to prevent enemy closing in towards NAMLING RIDGE.
- (iv) Patrol and improve track NAMLING RIDGE - PARERS BOWL area.
- (v) Recce and strong fighting patrols to ascertain and harass enemy localities in ERSKINE CK area.
- (vi) Establish routes for an eventual attack on ERSKINE CK area.
- (vii) In conjunction with 2/3 Aust Indep Coy to fix enemy positions on BENCH CUT TRACK north from ERSKINE CK area.

(d) General

- (i) All patrols will be given a serial number.
- (ii) Patrols will be properly briefed as to task. *by Coy Comd.*
- (iii) Patrol map will be kept at coy and bn HQ.
- (iv) Patrols will be interrogated on return by Coy Comd who will be responsible to submit Patrol Report in the sequence previously laid down.
- (v) COs will probably need to brief and interrogate patrol leaders on the more important tasks.
- (vi) Written patrol reports will be submitted without delay to HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde. Any urgent information being sent by L/T.
- (vii) Patrols will prepare track traverses and establish reliable information of tracks, topography, own and enemy locations.
- (viii) Members of unit "I" sections to be used to assist patrols in traverses, etc.

5. Counter Attack Plans

- (a) All units will prepare plans for, and instruct sub-units required, to counter attack vital positions which must be retained.
- (b) Plans are to be prepared for :-
 - (i) Immediate counter attack. This method best where possible.
 - (ii) Deliberate counter attacks.
 - (iii) Arrangements to concentrate all available Bn weapons and arty onto areas gained by the enemy. Such a concentration will often blast the enemy off a position before he can become established.
 - (iv) Concentration of 3" mortars etc on the areas as in para 5(b)(iii) above will require careful planning.
 - (v) Routes to be used for counter attacks will need to be reced by all those who are to take part.
- (c) Units will be prepared to counter attack on localities of flanking units in the vicinity of inter-bn boundaries. Close liaison is necessary for this.

6. Improvement of Tracks and Ls of C.

- (a) By recce all units will select Ls of C for supply, patrols etc.
 - (i) To enable more rapid movement
 - (ii) To give covered approaches for supply lines.
 - (iii) Alternative routes in the event of the normal L of C being cut by the enemy.
- (b) Improve tracks selected.

7. Liaison

Units will liaise direct. Any points requiring clarification will be referred to this HQ.

8. Plans

- (a) Plan for patrols will be put into effect immediately.
- (b) All plans for counter attack will be prepared and completed by 14 Aug 43. Immediate temporary arrangements can be arranged with sub-units verbally. Plans to be submitted to this HQ by 14 Aug 43.

ADMINISTRATION

9. Administration as per 15 Aust Inf Bde Op Instn No 11.

INTERCOMMUNICATION

10. Patrols

- (a) Where possible L/T is to be carried by patrols to pass information from time to time. This will save a long time lag in awaiting the return of the patrol for information.
- (b) Light assault cable is most suitable for this task.
- (c) 203 sets are worth trying to give rapid communication.
- (d) Where L/T or 208 sets are NOT available additional runners are to be sent, returning at stated intervals with information obtained.

11. Counter Attack

- (a) Early information is required of enemy attacks so that counter attacks can be prepared.
- (b) Reserve of cable is to be held for move with counter attacking forces to ensure rapid communication.

12. ACKNOWLEDGE.

A. H. Brown
 Major
 BM 15 Aust Inf Bde

Time of Signature: 2055hrs

DISTRIBUTION:

| | <u>Copy No.</u> | <u>Method of Issue</u> |
|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| 2/7 Aust Inf Bn | 1 | DRLS |
| 58/59 Aust Inf Bn | 2 | DRLS |
| 2/3 Aust Indep Coy | 3 | DRLS |
| L Sec Sigs 3 Aust Div | 4 | Hand |
| ANGAU, NUNNS POST | 5 | DRLS |
| 3 Aust Div | 6 | DRLS |
| RAA 3 Aust Div | 7 | IRLS |
| 17 Aust Inf Bde | 8 | DRLS |
| Comd | 9 | Hand |
| SC | 10 | Hand |
| SMO | 11 | Hand |
| File | 12 | |
| War Diary | 13-14 | |
| Spares | 15-17 | |

SECRET

COPY NO 2 ...

15 AUST INF BDE OPERATION INSTRUCTION NO 13

HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde (AIF)
13 Aug 43

Ref Maps: KOMIATUM 1:25000
SALAMAUVA 1:25000

INTRODUCTION

1. The following is confirmation of verbal orders issued to COs 2/7 Aust Inf Bn, 58/59 Aust Inf Bn, 2/3 Aust Indep Coy at HQ 2/7 Aust Inf Bn on 8 and 11 Aug.

The detail planning for phase 1 of this operation will be carried out by CO 2/7 Aust Inf Bn.

INFORMATION

2. Own Troops

As per 15 Aust Inf Bde Intelligence Summaries.

3. Enemy

(a) BUIRIS CK Area

- 10 Aug - Patrol attacked by 15 Japs 702994. SP at 704983 engaged by 20 Japs.
- 11 Aug - 8 Japs moving north at ~~703026~~ 703026.
- 12 Aug - Footprints estimated 12 enemy seen 687500 pointing west. Native report states enemy use BUIRIS CK to ASINI.

(b) COCONUTS Area

- 10 Aug - Patrol north from NEWMANS JUNG then 600 yds west up spur reports considerable activity heard. Patrol between BENCH CUT and KOMIATUM tracks saw enemy carrying packs and files moving east and west vicinity BOEDUBI TRACK. Patrol confirmed existence of Jap positions 600 yds north of NEWMANS JUNG on BENCH CUT.
- 12 Aug - 1 Jap moving north at 704969, chopping and voices heard BOEDUBI TRACK 708968.
Comment: This area is suspected to be Jap Staging camp. STEVES TRACK and a parallel track north reported clear. Sig wire seen on west side of BOEDUBI TRACK at 704969.

Note- This wire will be cut by 2/3 Aust Indep Coy during Phase 1 as soon as possible after arty fire commences 14 Aug.

Patrol east from TAYLORS RIDGE heard voices. Patrol to spur leading to ~~SE~~ old graveyard south of SOUTH COCONUTS heard talking. Sig wire seen from graveyard to COCONUTS.

All 2/3 Aust Indep Coy patrols indicate enemy positions between CUMMINS POST OLD VICKERS POSITION and BENCH CUT TRACK.

(c) KOMIATUM TRACK - Enemy movements.

- 9 Aug - 5 Japs south 1 north at 708939.
- 10 Aug - 10 Japs south along ridge.
- 11 Aug - 1 Jap north at 708939, 3 south.
- 12 Aug - 3 Japs north, 3 south along KOMIATUM RIDGE.

2/3 Aust Indep Coy listening post ~~xxxxxxx~~
/2 on

on track east of NEWMANS JUNG reports
45 Japs ~~xxxx~~ north, 52 south. 1 party of 32
going south included in above carried rifles only
and were thought to be patrolling the track.

(d) General

OP located 700970 in bomb crater gives observation over
junction FRANCISCO R - BUIRALI CK and surrounding areas.
Areas suspected enemy staging camp and possible HQ
were seen.

OP 696969 gives observation over NORTH CENTRE and
SOUTH COCONUTS.

Captured Documents show a regimental HQ at 709967

INTENTION

4. 15 Aust Inf Bde will capture COCONUT RIDGE on 14 Aug 43.

METHOD - PHASE I

5. 2/7 Aust Inf Bn

(a) Task: To capture NORTH centre and SOUTH COCONUTS.

(b) Force: (i) B Coy
(ii) WALKER FORCE comprising of BENA FORCE and ~~xxx~~
one pl A Coy.

(c) Routes Assembly areas, start lines and timings to be
arranged by 2/7 Aust Inf Bn on completion of recces now
being conducted.

(d) D Coy 2/7 Aust Inf Bn will occupy positions previously held
by B Coy 2/7 Aust Inf Bn.

Tasks: A₈ set out in 15 Aust Inf Bde Op Instns 10 and 12.

6. 2/3 Aust Indep Coy

(a) Task: To cut and hold until relieved by this HQ SALAMAUA -
BOEDUBI TRACK in vicinity 704970. Exact locality
will be at discretion of 2/3 Aust Indep Coy.

(b) Object: To protect any approaches by enemy to COCONUTS area
from east and south during the attack and consolida-
tion of 2/7 Aust Inf Bn on COCONUT RIDGE.

(c) Route: OLD VICKERS POSITION then as decided after reece.

(d) Force: 2/3 Aust Indep Coy will provide a force of approx 45.

7. 58/59 Aust Inf Bn

(a) A, B and C Coys will remain present locations.

(b) D Coy will hold DUNNS RIDGE vicinity 702956 linking up with
B Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn in ERSKINE CK area and with 2/3 Aust
Indep Coy in GRIFFS TRACK area.

8. Fire Plan - Details to be co-ordinated by 2/7 Aust Inf Bn.

(a) Air Support: Bombing has been requested on COCONUT RIDGE
from 0830- 1000 hrs 14 Aug. There will be NO bombing
after 1000 hrs.

(b) Arty:
(i) 2/6 Aust Fd Regt in support. 600 rounds available
for task.
(ii) Concentration will be fired on COCONUT RIDGE from
1000 - 1130 hrs.
(iii) DF tasks will be fired on area 707982 and track
juncs vicinity 708967 from 1130 hrs.

/3 (c) Mortars

- (c) Mortars
(1) 6 Mortars will be used.
(i) (ii) Supporting fire - 100 rounds per mortar.
(iii) Reserve held with each mortar - minimum 50 rounds.
- (d) MMGs
(1) 6 MMGs will be used.
(ii) Supporting fire - 8 belts per MMG.
(iii) Reserve held with each gun - minimum 14 belts.

9. CONSOLIDATION

- (a) On Capture of COCONUT RIDGE, A and B Coys 2/7 Aust Inf Bn will dig in and consolidate.
- (b) Dispositions on consolidation will be:
(i) Two pls - NORTH COCONUTS
(ii) One pl - CENTRE COCONUTS
(iii) One pl - SOUTH COCONUTS
(iv) Two pls - OLD VICKERS POSITION
- (c) COCONUTS RIDGE will be organised against immediate counter attack.
- (d) After consolidation, BENA FORCE will move to OLD VICKERS POSITION and be available for:
(i) Defence of OLD VICKERS POSITION
(ii) Immediate counter attack in COCONUTS area.
(iii) Move to SALAMAUA - BOBDUBI track area for Phase II of this operation.
- (e) 2/7 Aust Inf Bn will ensure sufficient carrying parties are arranged to carry forward rapidly reserves of ammunition and rations.

10. Patrols

Arrangements will be made for protective patrolling during consolidation to maintain contact with the enemy.

11. Liaison

COs 2/7 Aust Inf Bn and 2/3 Aust Indep Coy will maintain close liaison to arrange fire plan and co-ordinate movement of troops.

PHASE II - Outline plan - further details to be issued later.

12. Exploitation

Exploitation will be carried out towards KOMIATUM TRACK with the object of preventing enemy movement north and south along KOMIATUM TRACK.

13. 2/3 Aust Indep Coy

- (a) Task: To capture and hold track juncs vicinity 706967 and 708968 with object of preventing enemy movement north and south along KOMIATUM TRACK.
- (b) Route: NEWMANS JUNC - BENCH CUT - area 707967.
- (c) Force: A force of approx 100 personnel will be made available for this task. The force mentioned in para 6(d) above may be included.

14. 2/7 Aust Inf Bn

2/7 Aust Inf Bn may be required to make available one coy, one det mortars, and one sec MMGs for this phase. This is dependent on the tactical situation on the completion of attack in Phase I.

15. 58/59 Aust Inf Bn

58/59 Aust Inf Bn may be required to make available a suitable force to occupy positions vacated when 2/3 Aust Indep Coy

moves to execute Phase II.

16. Command
Command of all troops in area 706967 and 708968 will be advised later.

17. Consolidation
The area 706967 to 708968 will be prepared for all round defence against attack from all approaches.
A Good river crossing is reported at 715972. It may be possible to cross further to the west. This will need consideration.

ADMINISTRATION

18. Ammunition
AP- GARDENS area 694965
Issues will NOT be made without instruction from this HQ.

19. Rations
- (a) On the man - one days rations plus one emergency ration.
 - (b) Unit reserve (NOT to be consumed without instructions from this HQ) - three days Fd Op Ration.
 - (c) 2/3 Aust Indep Coy in para 6 will carry forward to their positions 3 days rations.
 - (d) 2/7 Aust Inf Bn during consolidation of COCONUTS RIDGE will carry forward ammunition and rations and water for three days.

20. L of C
L of C will be established as soon as possible to new positions. Units will provide for protection of any native carrier lines.

21. Water
Three days reserve per man will be held in each section post.

22. Salvage
Units will collect salvage into unit dumps and notify location to NCO i/c det Salvage Unit.

23. Medical
- (a) A Coy 2/7 Aust Inf Bn RAP 695976.
B Coy 2/7 Aust Inf Bn RAP 695967.
58/59 Aust Inf Bn RAP 686953.
ADS KELLYS
 - (b) Unit carriers will evacuate to 2/7 Aust Inf Bn RAPs.
 - (c) 24 carriers will be based at A Coy RAP, 12 carriers at B Coy RAP for evacuation to 58/59 Aust Inf Bn RAP.
 - (d) Additional 32 Carriers will be based ~~at~~ ^{at} 58/59 Aust Inf Bn for evacuation to ADS KELLYS.

INTERCOMMUNICATION

24. L/T
L/T will be laid behind attacking troops.

25. Lateral lines will be laid wherever possible to provide alternative means of communication.

26. V/S
Visual stations will be sited to provide alternative communication

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

27. Signals

Success Signal }
SDF

To be arranged by 2/7 Aust Inf Bn,

28. ACKNOWLEDGE.

ack'd 0 467

B. H. Francis

Major
BM 15 Aust Inf Bde

Time of Signature: 14/5. hrs

DISTRIBUTION

| | <u>Copy No</u> | <u>Method of Issue</u> |
|------------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| 2/7 Aust Inf Bn | 1 | LO |
| 58/59 Aust Inf Bn | 2 | LO |
| 2/3 Aust Indep Coy | 3 | LO |
| L Sec, Sigs 3 Aust Div | 4 | Hand |
| ANGAU, NUNNS POST | 5 | Hand |
| FOO, 2/6 Aust Fd Regt | 6 | LO |
| 3 Aust Div | 7 | DRLS |
| RAA 3 Aust Div | 8 | DRLS |
| 17 Aust Inf Bde | 9 | DRLS |
| Comd | 10 | Hand |
| SC | 11 | Hand |
| SMO | 12 | Hand |
| File | 13 | |
| War Diary | 14-15 | |
| Spares | 16-17 | |

SECRET

COPY NO 2...

15 AUST INF BDE OPERATION INSTRUCTION NO 14

HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde (AIF)
15 Aug 43

Ref Maps: KOMIATUM 1:25000

INFORMATION

1. Own Troops

As per 15 Aust Inf Bde Intelligence Summaries.

2. Enemy

x (a) BUIRIS CK Area - No recent reports of movement in this area.

(b) COCONUTS Area - The enemy is still holding out in SOUTH COCONUTS. He has no apparent L of C to his position in this area.

(c) MIDDLE SPUR Area (area 702974) - Patrols report increased enemy activity in this area. Two enemy strong points have been located; one containing 1 MMG 2 LMGs 1 heavy mortar 1 Light mortar and several rifles, the second containing 1 LMG and several rifles. During night 15/16 Aug our harassing fire into this position was answered by Jap fire from LMGs and mortars. Jap L of C to this area appears to be from STAGING CAMP area 708968.

(d) STAGING CAMP (708968) - A patrol along corridor between BENCH CUT and KOMIATUM TRACK on 15 Aug reports new enemy positions in vicinity 706967 and activity in vicinity 708968.

Comment on (c) and (d): It appears the enemy is attempting to establish himself in the high ground on the EAST end of MIDDLE SPUR. He is ensuring his L of C to it by digging a firm base in the STAGING CAMP area.

(e) KOMIATUM TRACK - Movement on the KOMIATUM TRACK has been reported by listening post of 2/3 Aust Indep Coy (707957):

| | | | | | |
|---|--------|---------|-------|----|-------|
| | 12 Aug | 43 Japs | NORTH | 52 | SOUTH |
| X | 13 Aug | 40 | " " | 60 | " |
| | 14 Aug | 43 | " " | 41 | " |
| | 15 Aug | 16 | " " | 17 | " |

(f) ERSKINE CK Area - Jap movement in this area does NOT indicate any new activity. Our patrols have reported Jap positions at 703954, 702950, 702949, 701948. A patrol on 15 Aug located Japs approx 250 yds SOUTH of NEWMANS JUNC.

(g) GRAVEYARD - ORODUBI Area - Nothing fresh is reported here. On 15 Aug 11 Japs fully equipped moved from GRAVEYARD into ORODUBI.

INTENTION

3. 15 Aust Inf Bde will capture the track junctions 706967 and 708968 on 17 Aug 43.

METHOD

4. Troops Available

- (a) D Coy 2/7 Aust Inf Bn - Strength 4 offrs, 64 ORs.
- (b) A Pl 2/3 Aust Indep Coy - Strength 2 offrs, 49 ORs.
- (c) B Pl 2/3 Aust Indep Coy - Strength 3 offrs, 43 ORs.

5. The operation will be completed in three phases:

2/ Phase I

- Phase I The establishment of a firm base on high ground vicinity 704965.
- Phase II The capture of track junctions 706967 and 708967.
- Phase III Re-organisation of defences on BOBDUBI RIDGE to ensure adequate security thereof.

PHASE I - ESTABLISHMENT OF FIRM BASE

6. 2/3 Aust Indep Coy

- (a) B Pl
 - (i) Objective : High ground 704965.
 - (ii) Assembly Area : OLD VICKERS POSITION.
 - (iii) Route : OLD VICKERS POSITION - STEVES TRACK - through A Pl position 704970 - generally SOUTH to high ground 704965.
 - (iv) Task I : To dig and consolidate at 704965 in such a position to overlook the BENCH CUT. Site for all round defence.
 - (v) Task II : To give covering fire during movement of A Pl 2/3 Aust Indep Coy from 704970 to 705967.
 - (vi) Task III : To give supporting fire for movement of D Coy 2/7 Aust Inf Bn to track junctions 706967 and 708968.

- (b) A Pl
 - (i) Objective : Area 705967 to link up with B Pl.
 - (ii) Assembly Area : Present position 704970.
 - (iii) Route : 704970 - SOUTH along track to 705967.
 - (iv) Task I : To dig in and consolidate at 705967. Site for all round defence.
 - (v) Task II : To give supporting fire during movement of D Coy 2/7 Aust Inf Bn to track junctions.

PHASE II - CAPTURE OF TRACK JUNCTIONS

7. 2/7 Aust Inf Bn

- D Coy
 - (a) Objective : Track junctions 706967 and 708968.
 - (b) Assembly Area : OLD VICKERS POSITION
 - (c) Route : OLD VICKERS POSITION - STEVES TRACK - 704970 - through A and B Pls 2/3 Aust Indep Coy in area 705967 to 704966 - track junctions.
 - (d) FUP : WEST of A and B Pls 2/3 Aust Indep Coy in area 705967 and 704966.
 - (e) Start Time : Start time will be indicated by flares.
 - (f) Task : To dig in and consolidate track junctions 706967 and 708968. Site for all round defence.

8. Diversions during Phases I and II.

58/59 Aust Inf Bn

- (a) Object : To draw enemy attention from movement of own troops on NORTHERN end of BOBDUBI
- (b) Task I : To demonstrate in ERSKINE CK, GRAVEYARD areas during early morning 17 Aug.
- (c) Task II : To set an ambush of one pl on KOMIATUM TRACK in area EAST of NEWMANS JUNG. On completion of an ambush, the pl will be relieved by another pl. This ambushing will be carried out as often as

3/ possible

- possible.
(d) Details of above tasks will be notified to this HQ.

SUPPORTING FIRE

9. Air Support

Heavy air strike has been requested on track junctions between 0830 and 1100 hrs 17 Aug 43. It has been requested that completion of strike be shown by parachute flare.

10. Artillery

- (a) Two 25 prs and 2 105mm Hows are in support. 100 rounds per gun are available.
- (b) Task I : Harassing fire on vicinity 704966 during advance of B Pl 2/3 Aust Indep Coy.
- (c) Task II : Harassing fire on track junctions 706967 and 708968 during consolidation of A and B Pls 2/3 Aust Indep Coy in area 704966, and movement of A Pl to 705967.
- (d) Task III : Harassing fire on track junctions during forming up of D Coy 2/7 Aust Inf Bn in areas 704966 and 705967.
- (e) Task IV : On signal for start time for D Coy 2/7 Aust Inf Bn attack, fire concentrations on area 708968 to 708964. These concentrations will recede towards the EAST as the troops advance.
- (f) Task V : DF tasks on high ground vicinity 711965 and on track from SALAMAUA vicinity 714968 during consolidation of D Coy 2/7 Aust Inf Bn and later as required.
- (g) Details and timings will be arranged by CO 2/7 Aust Inf Bn.

11. Mortars

- (a) Mortar support will be given from OLD VICKERS POSITION.
- (b) 100 bombs per mortar for a maximum of six mortars.
- (c) Reserve of 50 bombs per mortar will be kept with each mortar.

12. MMGs

- (a) MMG support will be given from OLD VICKERS POSITION.
- (b) 8 belts per gun.
- (c) Reserve of 8 belts per gun will be kept with each gun.

13. Consolidation - Phases I and II

- (a) On gaining the objectives, objectives will immediately be consolidated. Troops will be dug in, overhead cover provided and fire lanes cut.
- (b) COs will ensure that attacking troops carry picks and shovels in their web equipment. Tools will be collected from casualties and taken forward with attacking troops.
- (c) COs will ensure that adequate carrying parties are arranged to carry forward rapidly reserves of ammunition and rations, and that extra tools are provided for consolidation.
- (d) Carrying parties provided will be drawn from troops on BOB-DUBI RIDGE. COs will ensure, however, that the security of the ridge is NOT jeopardised to provide these parties.

14. Command of troops in area track junctions.

- (a) On completion of Phases I and II, all troops in area will be temporarily under command of 2/7 Aust Inf Bn.
- (b) 2/7 Aust Inf Bn area of responsibility will be extended to include area STEVES TRACK to 704966 to 708968.
- (c) Details of reorganisation and areas of responsibility will be issued on completion of this operation.

PHASE III - REORGANISATION AND DEFENCE ON BOBDUBI RIDGE.

- 15. All commanders will ensure that steps are taken to provide adequate protection of their area of responsibility on BOBDUBI RIDGE during phases I and II.
- 16. 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will send 30 all ranks to come under command 2/3 Aust Indep Coy 16 Aug. 2/3 Aust Indep Coy will use these troops to reinforce positions weakened by withdrawal of troops for Phase I.
- 17. 2/7 Aust Inf Bn will use reinforcements arriving in area 16 Aug to ensure the protection of the NORTHERN flank of the brigade, especially the area NORTH of FRANCISCO River.
- 18. Liaison -
COs 2/7 Aust Inf Bn, 58/59 Aust Inf Bn, 2/3 Aust Indep Coy will keep close liaison with each other
 - (a) To ensure that all plans are widely known in each unit,
 - (b) To co-ordinate details and timings of DF tasks, fire plans, signals for movement of troops and DF tasks.

ADMINISTRATION

19. Ammunition

AP - GARDENS 694965 is under control 2/7 Aust Inf Bn.

20. Rations

- (a) On the man - One days rations plus one emergency.
- (b) Unit reserve - Three days Field Operation Rations.
(This unit reserve will NOT be consumed without instructions from this HQ.)
- (c) Attacking troops will carry forward to their positions 3 days rations.

21. Reserves

During consolidation, sufficient ammunition, rations and water for three days will be carried forward.

22. L of C

Ls of C to new positions will be established as soon as possible. All native carrier lines will be escorted adequately by units.

23. Medical

| | | |
|-----|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| (a) | 2/7 Aust Inf Bn RAP |) Location will be notified later. |
| | 2/3 Aust Indep Coy RAP | |
| | 58/59 Aust Inf Bn RAP | |
| | ADS | |
| | | 686953 |
| | | KELLYS |

(b) Unit carriers will evacuate to 2/7 Aust Inf Bn and 2/3 Aust Indep Coy RAPs.

(c) Number of carriers to be based at 2/7 Aust Inf Bn and 2/3 Aust Indep Coy RAPs will be notified later.

(d) Additional 32 carriers will be based at 58/59 Aust Inf Bn for

5/ evacuation

evacuation to ADS KELLYS.

INTERCOMMUNICATION

24. L/T

L/T will be laid behind attacking troops.

25. V/S

Visual stations will be sited to provide alternative communication.

26. Lateral lines will be laid where possible,

27. Signals

Signals for timings)
Success signals) As arranged by CO 2/7 Aust Inf Bn.
SDF)

28. ACKNOWLEDGE.

C. N. Francis
Major
BM 15 Aust Inf Bde

Time of signature: 15.25 hrs

DISTRIBUTION:

| | Copy No (Instruction and Appendix A) | Method of Issue |
|------------------------|--|-----------------|
| 2/7 Aust Inf Bn | 1 | LO |
| 58/59 Aust Inf Bn | 2 | LO |
| 2/3 Aust Indep Coy | 3 | LO |
| L Sec, Sigs 3 Aust Div | 4 | Hand |
| ANGAU NUNNS POST | 5 | Hand |
| POO, 2/6 Aust Fd Regt | 6 | LO |
| 3 Aust Div | 7 | DRLS |
| RAA 3 Aust Div | 8 | DRLS |
| 17 Aust Inf Bde | 9 | DRLS |
| Comd | 10 | Hand |
| SC | 11 | Hand |
| SMO | 12 | Hand |
| File | 13 | |
| War Diary | 14-15 | |
| Spares | 16-17 | |

APPX A.
TO 15 AUST. INF BDE
OP INSTN N° 14
16. AUG. 43

DETAILS OF ASSEMBLY AREAS ROUTES - OBJECTIVES & ARTY-TASKS

To be read in conjunction with 15 Aust Inf Bde - OP INSTN N° 14
16. Aug. 43
REF. MAP. KOMIATUM 1:25000



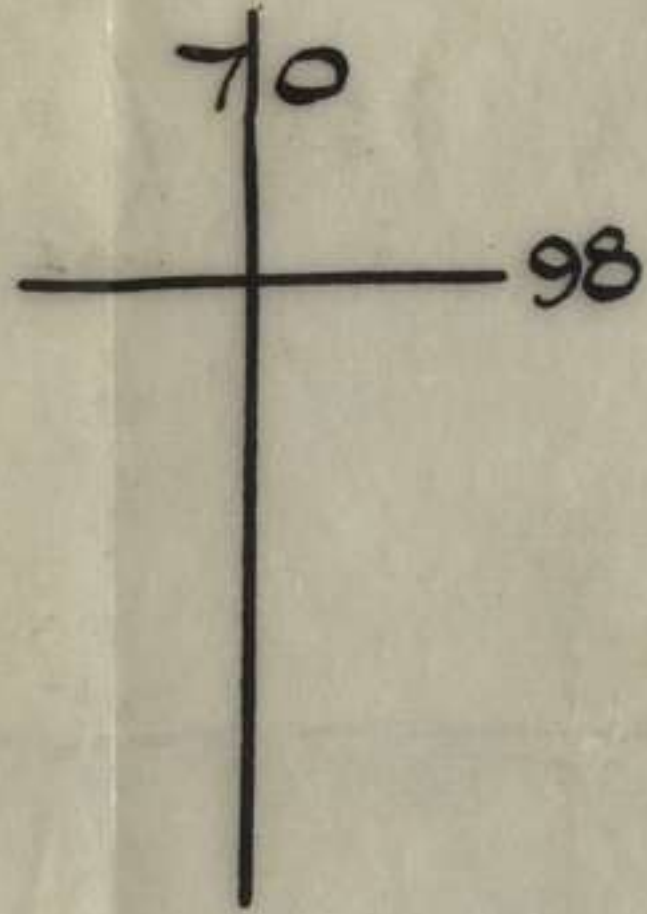
LEGEND

- - - - - D COY 2/7 BN
- - - - - A PL 2/3 INDEP COY
- - - - - B PL 2/3 INDEP COY.

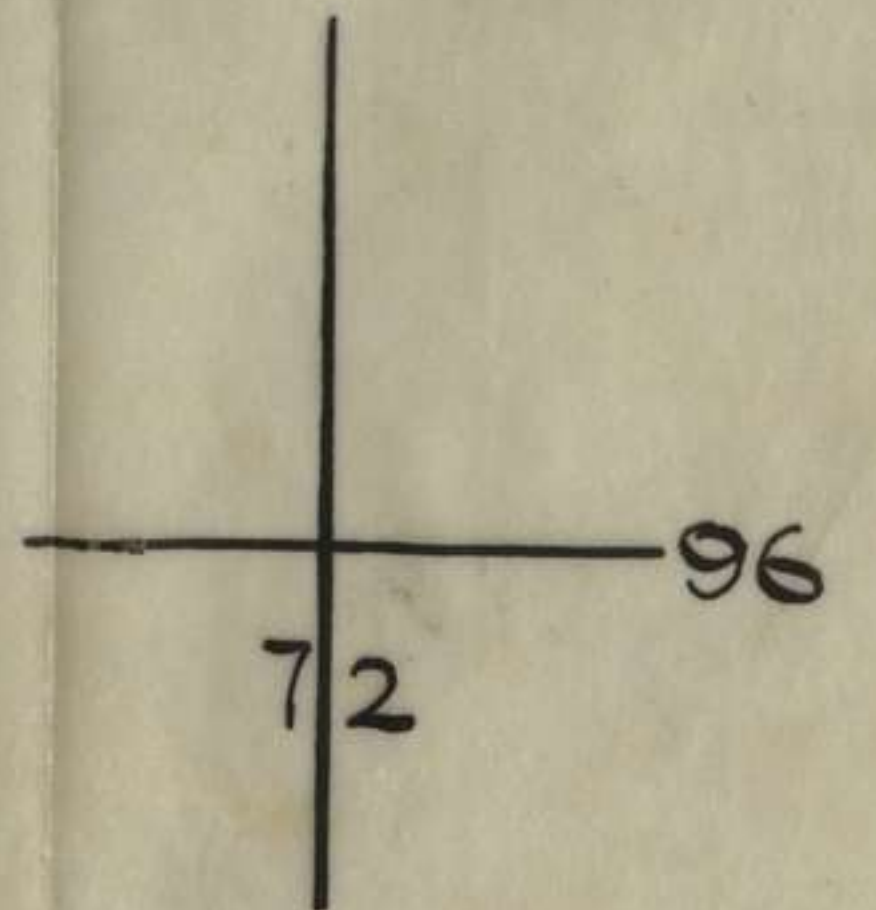
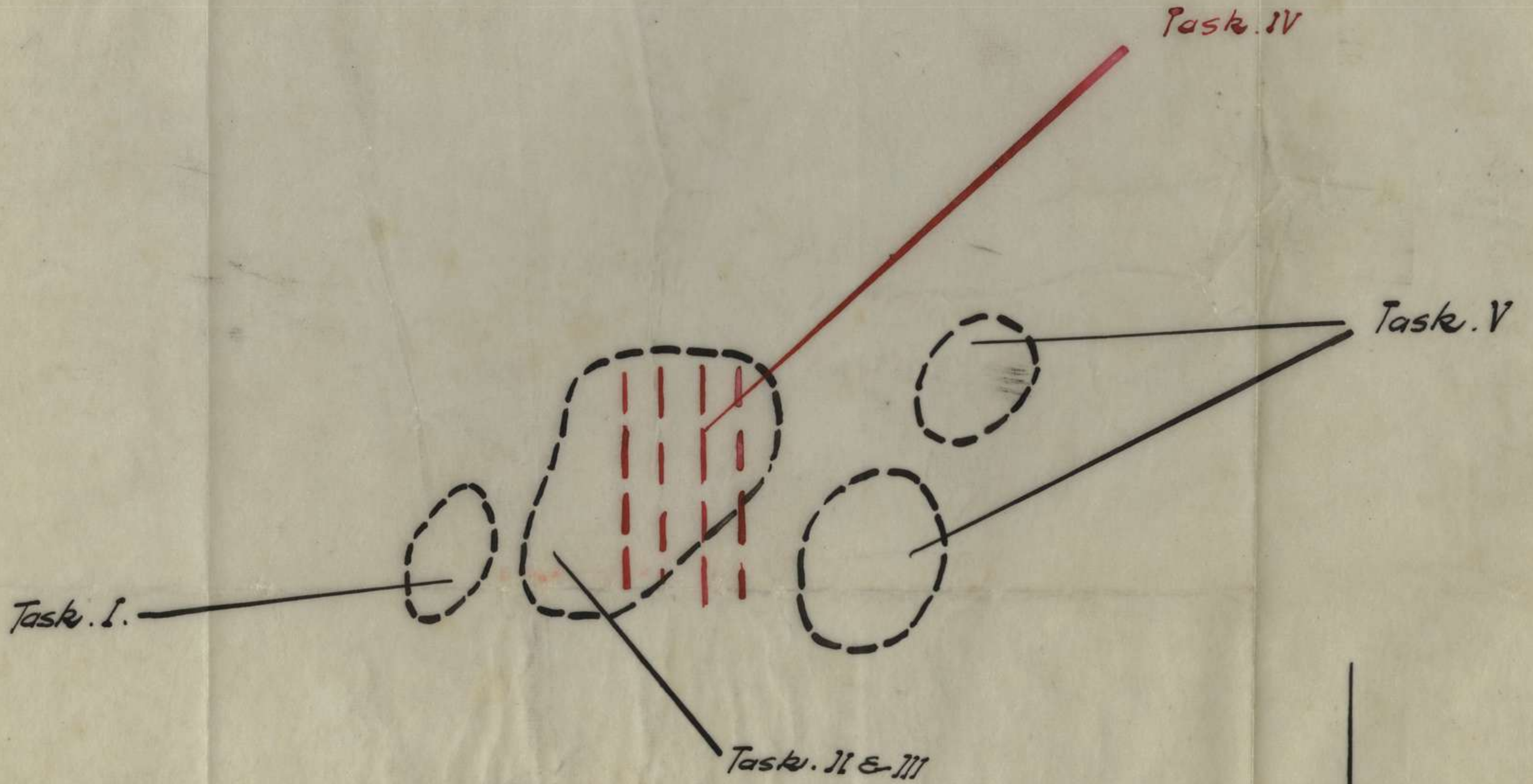
See overlay attached.
ARTY - TASKS

INT. SEC
15 AUST. INF. BDE
16. AUG. 43.

to be superimposed over SKETCH attached
as appendix 'A' to 15 Aust. Inf. Bde. OP. Instr. No 14.
16. Aug. 43.



ARTILLERY - TASKS



16. Aug. 43.

15 AUST INF BDE OPERATION INSTRUCTION NO 16

HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde (AIF)
29 Aug 43

Ref Maps: SALAMAU 1:25000
KOMIATUM 1:25000

This operation instruction cancels 15 Aust Inf Bde Operation Instruction No 15 which will be destroyed.

INFORMATION

1. ENEMY

- (a) Indications are that fresh troops well clothed and newly equipped have reinforced area ROUGH HILL - SAVIGE SPUR - ARNOLDS CREST.
- (b) From efforts made by Japs to hold and regain portion of the SANDY CK basin it seems obvious he considers this basin of great value to his SALAMAU defences.
- (c) This SANDY CK basin area was included in a captured enemy document showing his SALAMAU defences.

2. Own Troops

- (a) As per 15 Aust Inf Bde Intelligence summaries.
- (b) Inter brigade boundary -
Right - All excl FRANCISCO RIVER from 721977 - track junction 709968 - track to 705951 - ERSKINE CK - GWAIBOLOM - KOMIATUM 2 686952.

INTENTION

- 3. 15 Aust Inf Bde will gain control of line ROUGH HILL - SAVIGE SPUR - ARNOLDS CREST - high ground 695997 with a view to using this as a firm base for future operations.

METHOD

4. Ground vital to Defence

The following ground is vital to the defence of BOBDUBI RIDGE:
ROUGH HILL - SAVIGE SPUR - ARNOLDS CREST.

5. FDLs

As per attached trace.

6. Areas of responsibility

As per attached trace.

7. Tasks

(a) 58/59 Aust Inf Bn

- (i) To gain control of ROUGH HILL by offensive patrolling and cutting of Jap L of C SOUTH from HAND.
- (ii) To harass enemy on ROUGH HILL and SANDY CK area.
- (iii) To patrol SOUTH to FRANCISCO RIVER.

(b) 2/7 Aust Inf Bn

- (i) To drive enemy from ARNOLDS CREST area by harassing patrolling.
- (ii) To patrol protectively WEST to 68 easting grid line.
- (iii) To recon approaches to KEHA HILL with a view to future operations in this area.

(c) 2/3 Aust Indep Coy

- (i) Brigade reserve.

- (ii) To occupy eastern slopes of BOBDUBI RIDGE to prevent any enemy threat to OLD VICKERS POSITION XM and COCONUTS.
 - (iii) When ordered by this HQ, to raid areas of ROUGH HILL SAVIGE SPUR, ARNOLDS CREST to harass enemy positions and L of C. First of these raids will begin 30 Aug.
 - (iv) To recon areas to NORTH and NE of FDLs of 58/59 Aust Inf Bn and 2/7 Aust Inf Bn with a view to future operations in both areas.
8. Artillery Support
- (a) Harassing tasks on known enemy positions as arranged by this HQ will be fired daily.
 - (b) DF tasks as required by units will be notified to this HQ by 31 Aug. Bde HQ will arrange with RAA 5 Aust Div.
 - (c) Units will deal direct with FOOs for any immediate tasks.
9. Liaison
- COs will maintain close liaison during raids conducted by 2/3 Aust Indep Coy.
10. Prisoners of War
- A PW is urgently required to assist in future operations. An interpreter is at Bde HQ. All units will make strenuous efforts to obtain PSW.

ADMINISTRATION

11. Ammunition and Supply
- (a) During recent rapid advances, reserves of ammunition and supply became scattered. Units therefore will check carefully holdings of reserves.
 - (b) Salvage and maintenance of ammunition left in previously occupied areas will begin at once.
 - (c) Adequate reserves of ammunition rations and water will be held in all areas liable to be cut off.
 - (d) All areas will hold a minimum of two days ammunition and rations and water.
12. Rest Camps
- A brigade rest camp in vicinity of BOBDUBI dropping ground will be inaugurated. Details later.
13. Laundry
- Unit laundries will be set in operation once again.
14. Improvement of L of C.
- (a) Units will select Ls of C to enable rapid movement, covered approaches and alternate routes.
 - (b) Units will improve tracks selected.
 - (c) Men requiring a change of duty will be used for this track improvement.
 - (d) A reliable officer will be put in charge of track improvement. Unit pioneer sgts will be detailed to assist this officer.

INTERCOMMUNICATION

15. patrols
- Where possible L/T will be laid behind patrols to facilitate communication.
16. Lateral Communication
- Lateral links will be arranged by all units to provide

lateral communication.

17. Alternative Communication

Alternative means of communication will be established between all units. V/S stations will be sited.

18. Unit Signs

(a) Units will signpost areas in accordance with 15 Aust Inf Bde Adm Instn 5/43.

(b) Bde HQ will signpost all L of C routes and installations.

19. ACKNOWLEDGE.

B. H. Drains
Major
BM 15 Aust Inf Bde

Time of Signature; 2330 hrs

DISTRIBUTION:

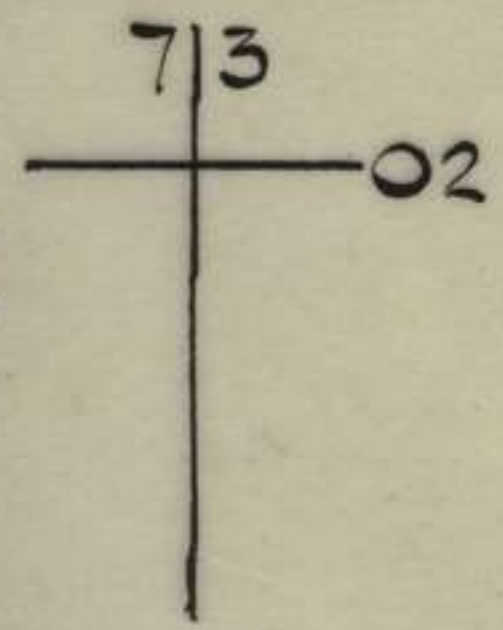
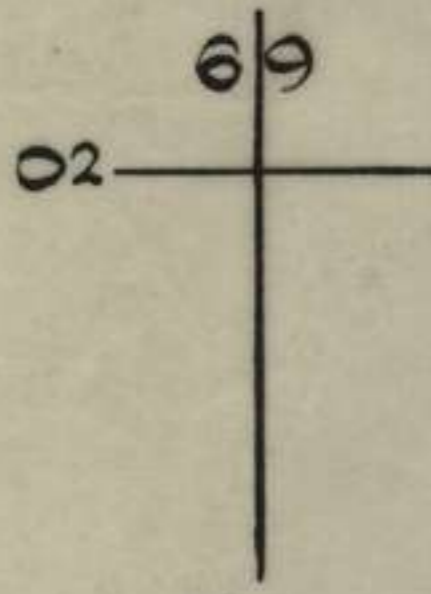
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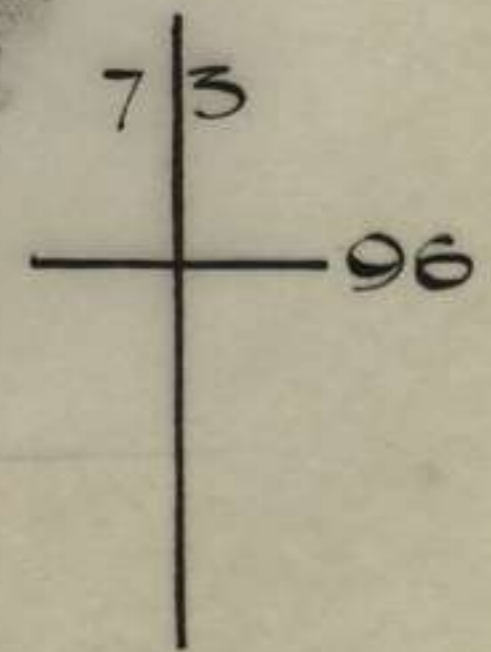
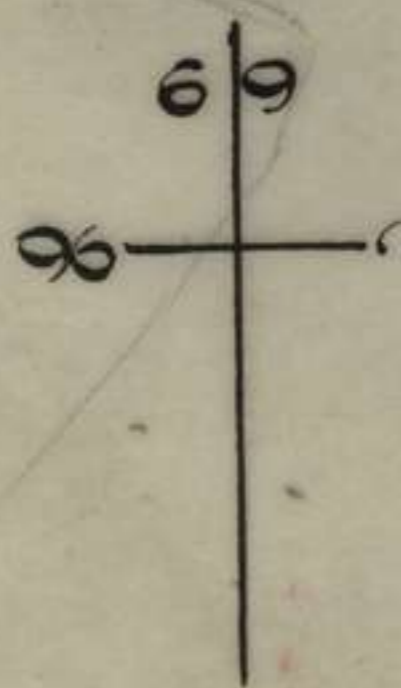
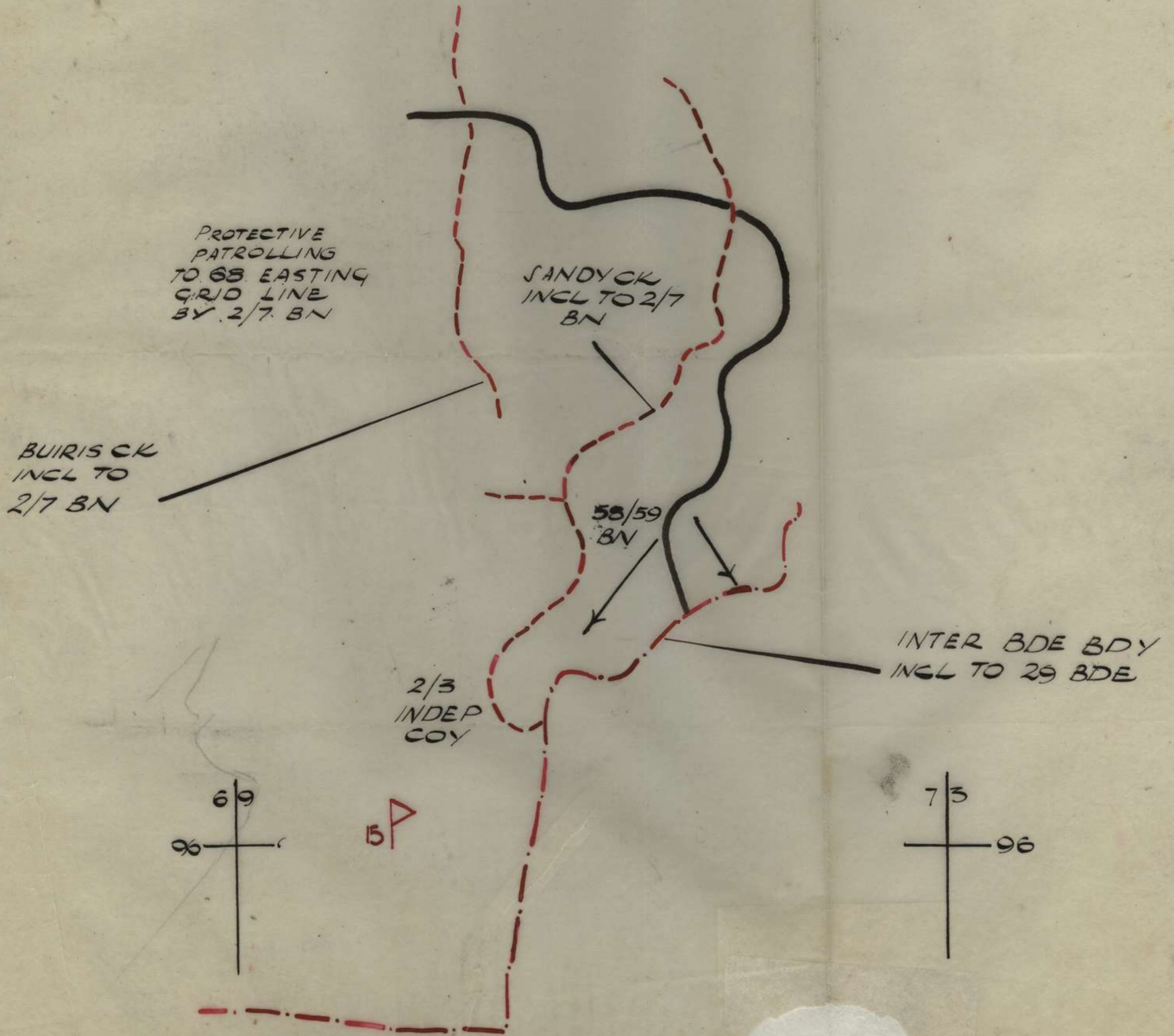
Method of Issue

| | | |
|------------------------|-------|------|
| 2/7 Aust Inf Bn | 1 | LO |
| 58/59 Aust Inf Bn | 2 | LO |
| 2/3 Aust Indep Coy | 3 | LO |
| L Sec, Sigs 3 Aust Div | 4 | Hand |
| ANGAU | 5 | Hand |
| FOO | 6 | LO |
| 5 Aust Div | 7 | DRLS |
| RAA 5 Aust Div | 8 | DRLS |
| 29 Aust Inf Bde | 9 | DRLS |
| Comd | 10 | Hand |
| BM | 11 | Hand |
| SC | 12 | Hand |
| SMO | 13 | Hand |
| File | 14 | |
| War Diary | 15-16 | |

TO BE SUPERIMPOSED OVER SALAMAUA KDMJATUM 1:25000



SHOWING AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY OF UNITS
AND P.D.L's



BDE BDY
BN BDY

15 AUST INF BDE OPERATION INSTRUCTION NO 17

HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde (AIF)
Sep 43

Ref Maps: SALAMAUA 1:25000
KOMIATUM 1:25000

OBJECT

1. (a) To keep pressure on enemy.
(b) To discover enemy's intention.
(c) To prepare for future operations.
(d) To secure present defensive localities.
2. This instruction confirms verbal orders issued to COs 2/7 Aust Inf Bn, 58/59 Aust Inf Bn, 2/3 Aust Indep Coy, 1 Sep 43.

METHOD

3. Present Tasks

(a) 2/7 Aust Inf Bn

- (i) Improve present defences by digging.
- (ii) Select and dig alternative positions which can be occupied to keep enemy confused.
- (iii) Submit to this HQ sketches of coy localities and field of view.
- (iv) Pinpoint enemy localities and FDLs.
- (v) Locate enemy Ls of C.
- (vi) Find enemy strengths and weaknesses.
- (vii) Ascertain enemy intentions whether offensive or defensive.
- (viii) Harass enemy by raids and ambush fire during night moving up close to enemy positions by night and then striking.
- (ix) Conduct nerve raids to keep him jittery.
- (x) Establish tree OPs.
- (xi) Cut fire lanes in all areas to prevent stealthy approach of enemy.
- (xii) Selection and siting of arty OPs to cover whole front.
- (xiii) Clear areas from which to use 3" mortar.
- (xiv) Record and study all information.
- (xv) Signpost all tracks.
- (xvi) Improve existing Ls of C. Construct alternative Ls of C.

(b) 58/59 Aust Inf Bn
Same as para (a) above.

(c) 2/3 Aust Indep Coy

- (i) Carryout harassing raids on enemy in area of 2/7 Aust Inf Bn and 58/59 Aust Inf Bn.
- (ii) Recce FDLs of both bns with a view to future operations in either area.
- (iii) Signpost areas and tracks as ordered by this HQ.
- (iv) Recce and construct dug in defensive position in area 704977 between NORTH COCONUTS and FRANCISCO RIVER.
- (v) Clear fields of fire in case of Jap counter attack in the following areas at suitable defensive localities ;
along BENCH CUT
area STEVES TRACK
area MALONES TRACK
area TOMMYS TRACK
area NEWMANS JUNC
EAST of FRANCISCO RIVER area 707970-710974.

4. Tasks in preparation for future operations.

It is possible that offensive action will be taken in the near future to capture ROUGH HILL and ARNOLDS CREST.

(a) 2/7 Aust Inf Bn

- (i) Train as per para 5 below for a night attack on ARNOLDS CREST.
- (ii) Recce, make and improve approaches and lines of attack for above attack. Make these tracks as far forward as possible as early as possible.

(b) 2/3 Aust Indep Coy

- (i) Train as per para 5 below for a night attack on ROUGH HILL.
- (ii) Recce, make and improve approaches and lines of attack for above attack.

5. Training for Night Attacks.

(a) Outline plan :

In both attacks, ARNOLDS CREST and ROUGH HILL, the plan will take following sequence -

- (i) Troops to get as close to enemy localities as possible and dig in.
- (ii) Harassing arty tasks prior to attack, at time attack will be launched, to accustom enemy to fire at that time.
- (iii) TIME - Moonlight attack to arrive say one hour before first light.
- (iv) Arty fire to cover noise of final approach.

(b) Training

All units will begin immediate training for night attacks.

Following points will be considered

- (i) Keeping direction-compass.
- (ii) Marking of routes from rear areas to FDLs.
- (iii) Formations for an attack.
- (iv) Keeping contact - use of connecting files.
- (v) Guiding teams - compass bearer pacers.
- (vi) Training of pacers
- (vii) Comparison of map distances to paces on ground - how many paces to 100 yds on map?
- (viii) Time taken to cover map distances.

6. Reports

Reports will be submitted weekly (first report 8 Sep) dealing with progress of following :

- (a) Information of enemy
- (b) Development of defences.
- (c) Construction of tracks and improvement of Ls of C.

ADMINISTRATION

7. General

Opportunity should be taken during coming 10 days to tighten up on general administration.

Following points will be considered :

- (a) War diaries and reports on operations.
- (b) Bn and coy administration.
- (c) Promotions, supersessions and reversions
- (d) Use of rest camp.
- (e) Resting key personnel.
- (f) Checking on AWLs within unit.
- (g) Track improvement by use of engr subsec attached.

8. Movement of Personnel

All personnel moving in the brigade area will carry movement order. *all such per from B.H.D.*

9. Salvage

(a) Salvage detachment will be situated in vicinity B Echelon 2/7 Aust Inf Bn 709976 as from 5 Sep.

(b) All units will collect and return salvage to this detachment.

10. Health

- (a) Hygiene - Dysentery and Diarrhoea figures have increased in the last 7 days. This indicates a necessity for closer supervision. All officers must maintain a high standard of hygiene and sanitation in sub-unit areas. High evacuations are a reflection of the officers concerned.
- (b) Malaria - Malaria has also increased. Constant supervision in malaria precautions must be exercised. Taking of atebirin will be supervised by officers.
- (c) Figures and percentages for period 22-28 Aug 43:

| Unit | Dysentery | | Diarrhoea | | Malaria | |
|--------------------|-----------|-----|-----------|-----|---------|-----|
| | No | % | No | % | No | % |
| 2/7 Aust Inf Bn | 14 | 2.9 | 3 | .9 | 43 | 9.6 |
| 58/59 Aust Inf Bn | 7 | 1.5 | 20 | 4.2 | 16 | 3.4 |
| 2/3 Aust Indep Coy | 2 | .8 | 1 | .4 | 7 | 3.2 |

INTERCOMMUNICATION

11. Line Communication

- (a) All existing lines will be improved.
- (b) Lines will be built up off the ground in accordance with 15 Aust Inf Bde GS Circular No 2. Lines will be poled and spaced.
- (c) Cable will NOT be left lying on the ground.
- (d) All cable NOT in use will be reeled in.

12. Maintenance

All signal equipment should be thoroughly overhauled during this period.

13. ACKNOWLEDGE.

B.N. Hawers.
Major
BM 15 Aust Inf Bde

Time of Signature: 2215 hrs

DISTRIBUTION:

| | Copy No | Method of Issue |
|-----------------------|---------|-----------------|
| 2/7 Aust Inf Bn | 1 | LO |
| 58/59 Aust Inf Bn | 2 | LO |
| 2/3 Aust Indep Coy | 3 | LO |
| D Coy 24 Aust Inf Bn | 4 | DRLS |
| L Sec Sigs 3 Aust Div | 5 | Hand |
| ANGAU 15 Aust Inf Bde | 6 | Hand |
| FOO | 7 | LO |
| 5 Aust Div (AIF) | 8 | DRLS |
| RAA 5 Aust Div | 9 | DRLS |
| 29 Aust Inf Bde | 10 | DRLS |
| Comd | 11 | Hand |
| BM | 12 | Hand |
| SC | 13 | Hand |
| SMO | 14 | Hand |
| File | 15 | |
| War Diary | 16-17 | |

O.P. 11/43/324

REPORT ON AUGMENTING CHARGES - BOMBS 3" MORTAR

HQ
58/59 Aust Inf Bn
19 July '43.

HQ
15 Aust Inf Bde.

Subtended is report by unit mortar officer forwarded for information.

"Under service conditions in the present op it has been found that the only satisfactory augmenting charge for bombs 3" mortar is the British Type NCY."

Herewith report and comparisons of various types of charges used by unit mortar dets ~~will~~ since commencement of ops.

1. CORDITE

The use of cordite produces a very pronounced flash enabling enemy observers to pin-point mortar posns. With these augmenting charges it has been found that there has been a drop of 75 yards in a 1,000 i.e. with range set at 1,000 yards this charge is sufficient to propel the bomb 925 yards approx.

2. BRITISH BULK NCY(AUST PACKED)

This charge is only slightly superior to cordite.

3. AUSTRALIAN NCY

These charges vary to such an extent that accurate ranging was found to be impossible.

The following suggestions are submitted for consideration.

- (a) The practice of sending AUST NCY charges to fwd areas be discontinued owing to their inaccuracy.
- (b) If possible and supplies permit BRITISH NCY only be used.
- (c) Should (b) not be practicable it is suggested that all consignments of bombs sent forward should be of the same type i.e. cordite charged or all British Bulk etc charged.

As these charges vary little within themselves stabilize ranging could be carried out with each type of charge.

A. Paul Henningham
Lieut
O.C. No 3 Pl 58/59 Aust Inf Bn

Forwarded

[Signature]
Lieut-Col
C.O. 58/59 Aust Inf Bn.

MESSAGE FORM

O.P. 12/43
Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

No. of Groups

GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

58/59 Aust Inf Bn

FROM

15 Aust Inf Bde

Originator's Number

0337

Date

29

In Reply to Number

MOST

SECRET

Order

of

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Day

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June

43

BOBDUBI

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T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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Serial No.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

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TO

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

| | | | | | |
|-----------|------------|---------|--------|-------------|-------------|
| we | will | be | in | a | position |
| to | prevent | the | enemy | reinforcing | or |
| supplying | forward | areas | . | Those | forward |
| will | be | trapped | like | rats | in |
| a | trap | it | will | be | your |
| duty | to | see | they | are | annihilated |
| in | attempting | to | escape | . | By |

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TO

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

| | | | | | |
|---------|---------------|----------|---------|-----------|--------|
| your | determination | to | carry | out | the |
| heavy | task | allotted | you | will | win |
| thereby | adding | to | honours | of | a |
| unit | with | a | fine | tradition | during |
| 1914-18 | . | AS | C.O. | of | Ops |
| in | this | area | I | wish | you |
| all | good | hunting | and | very | best |

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No. of Groups.
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Serial No.
OFFICE DATE STAMP

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TO

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

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What

you

have

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Henry

Guinn

Lt-Col

Adm

Comd

15

Aust

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Ede.

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1230

T.H.I.

1433

T.O.R.

1700

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MESSAGE FORM

O.P. 12/43
Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN
OUT

No. of Groups. OFFICE DATE STAMP
GR.

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TO
58/59 Aust Inf Bn

FROM 15 Aust Inf Bde

Originator's Number Date In Reply to Number
0337 29

| | | | | | |
|------|--------|-----------|------------|------------|----------|
| MOST | SECRET | . | Order | of | the |
| Day | . | You | have | been | allotted |
| a | most | important | task | commencing | 30 |
| June | 43 | . | BOEDUBI | RIDGE | which |
| is | your | objective | is | the | key |
| to | the | situation | extending | south | to |
| MUBO | . | Its | occupation | means | that |

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MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

**CALL
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IN

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No. of Groups.

GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

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TO

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

| | | | | | |
|-----------|------------|---------|--------|-------------|-------------|
| we | will | be | in | a | position |
| to | prevent | the | enemy | reinforcing | or |
| supplying | forward | areas | . | Those | forward |
| will | be | trapped | like | rats | in |
| a | trap | it | will | be | your |
| duty | to | see | they | are | annihilated |
| in | attempting | to | escape | . | By |

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T.O.R.

(5/681) Forms C2128/13. Wt. 17936/206. 750M Pads. 7/40. B. & S. Ltd. 51-7280.

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Serial No.

No. of Groups.

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IN

OUT

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

| | | | | | |
|---------|---------------|----------|---------|-----------|--------|
| your | determination | to | carry | out | the |
| heavy | task | allotted | you | will | win |
| thereby | adding | to | honours | of | a |
| unit | with | a | fine | tradition | during |
| 1914-18 | . | As | C.O. | of | Ops |
| in | this | area | I | wish | you |
| all | good | hunting | and | very | best |

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TO

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O.P. 13/43

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN

OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.
OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 15 Aust Inf Bde

FROM 58/59 Aust Inf Bn

Originator's Number
0193

Date
28

In Reply to Number
0337

| | | | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|------------|----------|-------------|
| On | behalf | of | the | officers | and |
| men | of | 58/59 | Aust | Inf | Bn |
| I | thank | you | for | your | expressions |
| of | good | luck | and | good | hunting |
| in | the | coming | operations | . | your |
| order | of | the | day | has | been |
| passed | on | to | all | pers | under |

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

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MESSAGE FORM

**CALL
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IN

OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.
OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

| | | | | | |
|---------|---------|------------|--------------|-----------|----------|
| my | comd | who | are | confident | of |
| their | ability | to | successfully | carry | out |
| the | task | allotted | . | the | tps |
| are | in | fine | fettle | and | I |
| have | every | confidence | in | our | ultimate |
| success | P.D. | STARR | Lieut | Col | Comd |
| 58/59 | Aust | Inf | Bn | | |

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN
1540

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SIGNED

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T.H.I.

T.O.R.

O.P. 14/43

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

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Serial No.
OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 3 aust div

FROM 15 aust inf bde

Originator's Number
0 321

Date
25

In Reply to Number

| | | | | | |
|------------------------------|----------|------------|----------|--------------|-----|
| (Write horizontally) most | secret | (.) | doublet | (.) | 5 |
| air | request | (.) | photo | ref | 10 |
| ASP 9 | map | ref | KOMIATUM | 1 | 15 |
| to | 25000 | (.) | mission | co-ordinated | 20 |
| with | movement | friendly | troops | (.) | 25 |
| BOBDUBI | RIDGE | known | enemy | locations | 30 |
| (.) | One | (.) | ORODUBI | photo | 35 |
| ref | G 375 | repeat | G 375 | map | 40 |
| ref | 697939 | repeat | 697939 | (.) | 45 |
| two | (.) | GWAIBOEDMS | three | huts | 50 |
| photo | ref | G 773 | repeat | G 773 | 55 |
| map | ref | 697949 | repeat | 697949 | 60 |
| (.) | three | (.) | NATIVE | GARDEN | 65 |
| OLD | VICKERS | GUN | POSITION | photo | 70 |
| ref | H 966 | H 366 | H 964 | H463 | 75 |
| repeat | H 966 | H 366 | H 964 | H 463 | 80 |
| map | ref | NATIVE | GARDEN | square | 85 |
| 6996 | central | repeat | 6996 | central | 90 |
| OLD | VICKERS | GUN | POSITION | 697970 | 95 |
| repeat | 697970 | (.) | four | (.) | 100 |
| three | cocoanut | clumps | vicinity | OLD | 105 |
| BOBDUBI | on | line | photo | ref | 110 |
| G 056 | to | G 253 | repeat | G 056 | 115 |
| to | G 253 | map | ref | 704975 | 120 |
| to | 704976 | repeat | 704975 | to | 125 |
| 704976 | (.) | our | outline | plan | 130 |

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

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T.H.I.

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O.P. 14/43

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN
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No. of Groups
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Serial No.
OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM

Originator's Number
0 321

Date

In Reply to Number

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------------------|------------|-----|
| (Write horizontally) one | coy | move | through | WAMLING | 5 |
| to | occupy | area | ORODUBI | GWATBOLOMS | 10 |
| one | coy | move | from | WLIAP | 15 |
| CK | to | occupy | NATIVE | GARDEN | 20 |
| OLD | VICKERS | GUN | POSITION | one | 25 |
| coy | through | NATIVE | GARDEN | to | 30 |
| occupy | area | photo | ref | E 662 | 35 |
| E 061 | E 658 | E 058 repeat | E 662, E 061, E 658, E 058. | ref | 40 |
| 706964 | 709964 | 706967 | 709968 | repeat | 45 |
| 706964 | 709964 | 706967 | 709968 | (.) | 50 |
| request | bombing | strafing | D Day | on | 55 |
| ORODUBI | GWAI BOLOMS | photo | ref | G 375 | 60 |
| G 773 | repeat | G 375 | G 773 | map | 65 |
| ref | 69739 | 697949 | repeat | 697939 | 70 |
| 697949 | NATIVE | GARDEN | OLD | VICKERS | 75 |
| GUN | POSITION | photo | ref | H 966 | 80 |
| H 366 | H 964 | H 463 | repeat | H 966 | 85 |
| H 366 | H 964 | H 463 | map | ref | 90 |
| NATIVE | GARDEN | square | 6996 | central | 95 |
| repeat | 6996 | central | OLD | VICKERS | 100 |
| GUN | POSITION | 697970 | repeat | 697970 | 105 |
| cocoanuts | OLD | BOBDUBI | photo | ref | 110 |
| G 056 | G 253 | repeat | G 056 | G 253 | 115 |
| map | ref | 704975 | 704976 | repeat | 120 |
| 704975 | 704975 | (.) | dispositions | friendly | 125 |
| | | | | | 130 |

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

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T.H.I.

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T.O.R.

MESSAGE FORM

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| CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS. | IN | No. of Groups GR. | Serial No. |
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(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

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| TO | Originator's Number 0 321 | Date | In Reply to Number |
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| | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-----|
| <i>(Write horizontally)</i> troops | clear | NORTH | of | grid | 5 |
| line | 8 | repeat | 8 | EAST | 10 |
| of | line | along | ULIAP | CK | 15 |
| photo | ref | J 380 | J 840 | repeat | 20 |
| L 380 | J 840 | SOUTH | of | grid | 25 |
| line | 4 | repeat | 4 | (.) | 30 |
| TOT | 0830 | hrs | (.) | no | 35 |
| bombing | after | 0900 | hrs | | 40 |
| | | | | | 45 |
| | | | | | 50 |
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| (BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.) | | | T.H.I. |
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| | | | T.O.R. |

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

No. of Groups
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

**CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS**

IN

OUT

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO *2/3 map coy, D Coy 58/59 bn, 58/59 bn rptd 15th*

FROM *15 ant inf 1st Lt*

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

JW

24

| | | | | | |
|------------|----------------|--------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|
| <i>D</i> | <i>coy</i> | <i>58/59</i> | <i>bn</i> | <i>recd</i> | <i>to</i> |
| <i>and</i> | <i>58/59</i> | <i>bn</i> | <i>as</i> | <i>from</i> | <i>2130</i> |
| <i>was</i> | <i>24 June</i> | | | | |
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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

2130

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* ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND
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T.H.I.

T.O.R.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

**CALL
AND
INSTRUCTIONS**

IN

OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 58/59 ans inf bn, 2/3 ans indep coy, D Coy 24 bn

FROM 15 ans inf bde

Originator's Number
0296

Date
22

In Reply to Number

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|------|-----------|------|--------|-------------|-----|
| MOST | SECRET | ⊙ | msg | 15 | ans |
| inf | bde | op | order | No | 1 |
| ⊙ | operation | will | be | referred to | |
| by | code | word | DOUBLE | T | and |
| NOT | POSTERN | ⊙ | ack. | | |
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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

1545

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T.H.I.

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MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

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| <i>2/B Aust mil reg</i> | | <i>01814</i> | | <i>27</i> | | | |
| <i>58/59 Aust inf bn</i> | | | | | | | |
| <i>receipt</i> | <i>acknowledged</i> | <i>of</i> | <i>2/3</i> | <i>accs</i> | <i>and</i> | <i>and</i> | |
| <i>copy</i> | <i>2 premium</i> | <i>orders</i> | <i>numbers</i> | <i>5</i> | <i>and</i> | <i>and</i> | |
| <i>6!</i> | <i>supers</i> | <i>numbers</i> | <i>3</i> | | | | |

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

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MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

**CALL
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No. of Groups
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OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO *15 and my code*

FROM *58/59 and my code*

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

0177

25

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

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2/3 AUSTRALIAN INDEPENDENT COY OPERATION ORDER NO 5

HQ
 2/3 AUST INDEP COY
 26 JUN 43

Ref map SALAMAUA sheet 2 inches to 1 mile.

INFORMATION

1. ENEMY

- (a) For details of enemy strength SALAMAUA area. See 15 Aust Inf Bde Operation Order No 1 and 3 Div int Summaries No 8 and 9.
- (b) MALALO area. From information gained by MAINSBRIDGE patrol (19-20 Jun) and from friendly natives it is estimated that enemy strength in area is disposed as follows:-
 BUSAMA -small force, exact number unknown.
 BUKAUP -10 Japs, five of whom patrol to MALALO daily.
 KNOWN GUN POSNS- in MALALO area are unoccupied.
 COASTAL NATIVES - known to be pro Jap.
 WAMASU- NATIVES known to be friendly.

2. OWN TROOPS

- (a) See 15 Aust Inf Bde Operation Order No 1.
- (b) D Coy 24 Aust Inf Bn in HOTE area.

3. INTENTION

1 sec A Pl under command Lieut Lewin will-

- (a) Attack MALALO patrol and enemy force at BUKAUP.
- (b) Attack and destroy any parties moving along coastal track, either NORTH from SALAMAUA or SOUTH from BUSAMA.
- (c) Destroy all enemy war materials , stores, dumps, barges and launches in MALALO area.

4. METHOD

- (a) Force under command of Lieut Lewin will consist of -
 15 ORs 1 sec A Pl.
 2 ORs Engr sec.
 1 Med orderly.
- (b) Force will move from MISSIM on morning D-3 to HOTE area. From HOTE by night march over open country along MALALO track to timber line, and take posn overlooking MALALO prior to dawn on D day.
- (c) No strike before daylight on D day.
- (d) On completion of maximum possible damage, force will return to MISSIM via HOTE and BUGASU arriving MISSIM morning D plus 4.

5. ADMINISTRATION

Ammunition

- (a) As laid down by patrol comdr.
- (b) Reserves in HOTE area.

6. RATIONS

- (a) All ranks will draw 2 and 2/3 days Field Ops Rations at MISSIM night D minus 4.
- (b) Arrangements have been made with 15 Aust Inf Bde for further 5 days rations to be obtained in HOTE area.
 NOTE - Contact OC D Coy 24 Aust Inf Bn

7. MEDICAL

- (a) RMO will allot one medical orderly with platoon kit to accompany force.
- (b) Line of evacuation of casualties - HOTE-BUGASU-MISSIM.
 NOTE- Contact Sgt Seale, ANGAU, re native carriers.

8. DEMOLITIONS

- (a) 2 Engrs attached to force.
- (b) Explosives as laid down by force comdr.

9. SECURITY

- (a) Move from HOTE to timberline will be made in hours of darkness.
- (b)

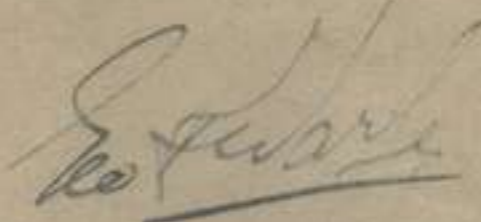
- (b) All troops will be searched for unit identification.
 (c) No maps or written instructions will be carried beyond HOTE.

10. INTERCOMMUNICATION

- (a) NIL sigs allotted to force.
 (b) By runner to W/T station at track OP. Map ref 689059.

11. (a) Vital infm to be sent back immediately
 (b) Detailed sketch and report on return to MISSIM.

12. Acknowledge.



Time of signature *1900* hrs C.O. 2/3 AustbIndep Coy Major

| <u>DISTRIBUTION</u> | <u>COPY NO</u> | <u>METHOD OF ISSUE</u> |
|-------------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| OC A Pl | 1 | Safe hand. |
| 15 Aust Inf Bde | 2 | DRLS |
| 58/59 Aust Inf Bn | 3 | Safe hand |
| D Coy 24 Aust Inf Bn | 4 | Safe hand. |
| War Diary | 5 | |
| File | 6 | |

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

No. of Groups

GR.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

15 and my hole

FROM

08/59 and my hole

Originator's Number

0181

Date

26

In Reply to Number

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| <i>receipt</i> | <i>acknowledged</i> | <i>of</i> | <i>AMENDMENT</i> |
| <i>no</i> | <i>1</i> | <i>15</i> | <i>and</i> |
| <i>hole</i> | <i>op</i> | <i>no</i> | <i>edge</i> |
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DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

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MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

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No. of Groups
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OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

15 Aust inf bat

FROM

54/59 Aust inf br

Originator's Number

0179

Date

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In Reply to Number

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TIME OF ORIGIN

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15 AUST INF BDE OPERATION ORDER NO 1

AMENDMENT NO 1

HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde (AIF)
25 Jun 43

TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH ABOVE ORDER.
AS THERE ARE ALTERATIONS AND AMENDMENTS TO THE ABOVE ORDER
HEADINGS WILL BE SET OUT AND RE-NUMBERED WHERE NECESSARY.

Ref Map: KOMIATUM 1:25000

INFORMATION

1. ENEMY

- (a) It is estimated ... (as in original order).
- (b) Latest information of known enemy positions is given on sketch handed to Comds.
Enemy is known to be in ORODUBI - GWAIBOLOMS - NORTH, SOUTH and CENTRE COCONUTS - GARDENS in area 693965.
- (c) A resume of the enemy movements 5 to 21 Jun based on patrol reports during this time was also handed to Comds.

2. OWN TROOPS

Stet.

INTENTION

3. Stet.

4. AIR SUPPORT

- (a) Air support will be given by bombing and strafing of :
 - (i) ORODUBI (697938)
 - (ii) GWAIBOLOMS (697948)
 - (iii) GARDEN AREA (693965)
 - (iv) OLD VICKERS POSITION (697968)
 - (v) NORTH, SOUTH and CENTRE COCONUTS (area 703975)
- (b) Time over target will be 0830 hrs D Day. There will be no bombing after 0900 hrs.

METHOD ; PHASE 1

5. 58/59 AUST INF BN

- (a) 58/59 Aust Inf Bn, by night approach on D minus 1/D Day, on D Day will capture BOBDUBI RIDGE from ORODUBI incl to NORTH end of ridge. Limit of exploitation to EAST is general NORTH→SOUTH line of KOMIATUM TRACK. 2/3 Aust Indep Coy will supply 12 guides - one for each forward platoon and one for each Coy HQ. Guides will report to HQ 58/59 Aust Inf Bn MEARES CREEK 1500 hrs D minus 2.
- (b) Stet.
- (c) Works Policy
 - (i) Section pits.
 - (ii) Clearings and clearing of firelanes.
 - (iii) Booby traps.
A plan of all booby traps laid will be prepared and forwarded to Bde HQ.
 - (iv) Section posts.
 - (v) Reserves of ammunition, water and rations.

(vi) MMGs and LMGs will be pillboxed sufficiently strongly enough to resist aerial bombing, artillery and heavy mortar fire.

(d) Patrolling Policy

- (i) No movement of the enemy is to be permitted without our knowledge.
- (ii) By offensive patrolling, features NORTH of BOBDUBI and on the NORTH side of the FRANCISCO RIVER will be vigourously patrolled daily.
- (iii) The enemy must NOT be permitted to establish positions on these features.

6. 2/3 AUST INDEP COY

(a) Stet.

(b) Delete 3 men and insert 6 men.

(c) Stet.

(d) Delete whole paragraph.

7. (a) D Coy 24 Aust Inf Bn will prepare ambush positions forward of HOTE towards MAILOLO and inflict maximum casualties on any enemy moving towards HOTE.

(b) Comd of above ambush personnel will establish a booby trap and minefield forward of the ambush mentioned in para (a) above.

(c) If enemy withdraws, contact will be maintained.

(d) If enemy appears in strength, limit of withdrawal of own troops will be CISSEMBOB - DAHO area. CISSEMBOB - DAHO area will be held against attack from any direction. The area will be held at all costs.

There will be NO withdrawal from this area.

ADMINISTRATION

8. Ammunition

(a) Stet.

(b) Stet.

(c) Stet.

(d) Location of Reserves.

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| BUGASU DROPPING GROUND | - One Scale B 58/59 Aust Inf Bn |
| MISSIM | - One Scale B 2/3 Aust Indep Coy. |
| SELEBUB | - One Scale B for whole force. |

9. Rations

Stet.

10. Medical

(a) Light Section Post

MEARES CREEK

(b) Operating Det.

BASE 3

(c) ADS

MISSIM (60 beds)

(d) Evacuation of casualties will be co-ordinated with ANGAU by 58/59 Aust Inf Bn and 2/3 Aust Indep Coy.

11. Tools

Stet.

12. Security
(a) Stet.
(b) Stet.
(c) Insert ; All troops will be searched prior to D Day and papers bearing identifications of units will be removed. Identification discs will be worn.
13. Water.
Stet.
14. POW
(a) POW will be returned under escort to MISSIM.
(b) 2/3 Aust Indep Coy will establish POW cage and will be responsible for the safe custody of POW.
(c) All prisoners will be thoroughly searched. Any documents or papers found on prisoners will be immediately removed and forwarded to Bde HQ.

INTERCOMMUNICATION

15. HQ.
(a) Bde HQ will be established at MISSIM (600964) on D minus 1. Comd post will be established BUGASU JUNCTION area (608971).
(b) Delete: ~~Details to be notified later.~~
16. 11 Sets
Stet.
17. 208 Sets
Stet.
18. L/T
(a) Stet.
(b) Stet.
(c) Stet.
(d) Direct L/T communication to Bde HQ through the comd post will be established.
19. Visual
Stet.
20. Wireless Silence
Stet.
21. Maintenance
Stet.
22. Signal Diagram
Stet

23. GOC's Instruction
Comds will ensure that the contents of the special instruction from the GOC as issued in 15 Aust Inf Bde 0299 of 23 Jun 43 is promulgated to all leaders down to Sec Comds.
24. ACKNOWLEDGE.

B. H. Travers.

Major

BM 15 Aust Inf Bde

Time of Signature *2357* hrs.

DISTRIBUTION

| | <u>Copy No</u> | <u>Method of Issue</u> |
|-------------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| 58/59 Aust Inf Bn | 1 | DRLS |
| 2/3 Aust Indep Coy | 2 | DRLS |
| D Coy, 24 Aust Inf Bn | 3 | DRLS |
| Det 3 Div AASC, SELEBUB | 4 | DRLS |
| Det 2/2 Aust Fd Amb | 5 | DRLS |
| 17 Aust Inf Bde | 6 | DRLS |
| 1 Bn 162 US Regt | 7 | DRLS |
| 3 Aust Div | 8 | DRLS |
| Comd | 9 | Hand |
| SCn | 10 | Hand |
| L Sec, Sigs 3 Aust Div | 11 | Hand |
| War Diary | 12-13 | |
| File | 14-15 | |

THIS DOCUMENT MUST NOT FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS

AND WILL NOT BE TAKEN FORWARD OF BN HQs.

15 AUST INF BDE OPERATION ORDER NO 1HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde (AIF)
22 Jun 43

Ref Maps: MT MISSIM 1st edition 1 inch to 1 mile.
SALAMAUA Revised 1 inch to 1 mile
MUBO 1:25000

INFORMATION1. ENEMY

It is estimated that 1100 enemy are in MUBO - KOMIATUM area and 200 are at DUALI. BOBDUBI area is believed to be held by approximately 500 although patrol reports indicate a lesser number actually in the area at present. SALAMAUA strength is estimated at 2600. This can readily be reinforced by sea.

2. OWN TROOPS

- (a) 17 Aust Inf Bde and a Battalion combat team from 162 US Regiment is to capture present enemy positions in MUBO area and exploit north towards KOMIATUM and north-east towards LOKANU. It is anticipated that this exploitation will be proceeding on D plus 8
- (b) Strong fighting patrol of 24 Aust Inf Bn is to move to the north of RIVER BUANG and establish ambush to prevent enemy movement along coastal track in either direction. This patrol is to be in position by D minus 1 and remain as long as possible to inflict maximum casualties.
- (c) Direct Air Support for initial attack will be available on pre-arranged plan, after which requests for Air Support will be sent to HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde for transmission to 3 Aust Div.
- (d) Order of Battle 15 Aust Inf Bde Gp is shown in Appendix "A".

INTENTION3. Phase 1

15 Aust Inf Bde Gp will capture and hold BOBDUBI RIDGE against expected counter attack and prevent enemy movement in vicinity of BOBDUBI along L of C SALAMAUA - KOMIATUM.

Phase 2

After completion of Phase 1, 15 Aust Inf Bde Gp will capture and hold KOMIATUM area. Separate orders will be issued for Phase 2.

METHOD ; PHASE 14. 58/59 Aust Inf Bn

- (a) 58/59 Aust Inf Bn by night approach on night D minus 1/ D day and dawn attack on D day will capture BOBDUBI RIDGE from inclusive Old Vickers Gun position northwards to north end of BOBDUBI RIDGE. Limit of exploitation to the east is general north-south line of KOMIATUM TRACK, and to the south GWAIBOLOMS.
2/3 Aust Indep Coy will supply 12 guides - one for each forward platoon and one for each Coy HQ. Guides will report HQ 58/59 Aust Inf Bn MEARES CREEK 1500 hrs D minus 2.
- (b) BOBDUBI RIDGE will be consolidated immediately it is captured and will be developed as a defensive position against attack from any direction.
Stages will be :
- (i) Hastily dug and sited individual weapon pits and slit trenches for immediate protection against counter attack.
- (ii) Development of a connected defence system.

~~(c) A force of one (XXXXXX) will hold MEARES CREEK - BUGASU DROPPING GROUND area as a firm base.~~

5. 2/3 Aust Indep Coy

- (a) Detachment 2/3 Aust Indep Coy NOT exceeding 20 all ranks will raid enemy positions at MALOLO, and, after inflicting maximum casualties, make a clean break and withdraw to MISSIM.
- (b) On night D minus 1/D day a patrol of NOT more than 3 men from 2/3 Aust Indep Coy will move into KELA area to place ~~(XXXXXX)~~ demolition charges on anti-aircraft weapons, dumps or other installations/NOT before 0400 hrs D day.
to be fired
- (c) One platoon 2/3 Aust Indep Coy will be based at BASE 3 to resist any enemy attack on this flank, and provide a base for Phase 2.
- (d) Until phase 2 is ordered 2/3 Aust Indep Coy will base one platoon to provide a firm base in MEARES CREEK - BUGASU JUNCTION area, and one section at SELEBUB - PILIMUNG.

6. D Coy 24 Aust Inf Bn

D Coy 24 Aust Inf Bn will prepare ambush positions forward of HOTE towards MALOLO and inflict maximum casualties on any enemy moving towards HOTE. If enemy appears in strength limit of withdrawal will be CISSEMBOB. If enemy withdraws contact will be maintained. CISSEMBOB - DAHO area will be held against attack from any direction.

ADMINISTRATION

7. Ammunition

- (a) Scale A ammunition for 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will be dumped at MEARES CREEK by D minus 1.
- (b) Deficiency in 2/3 Aust Indep Coy Scale A will be delivered to MISSIM by D minus 5.
- (c) Deficiency in D Coy 24 Aust Inf Bn Scale A will be delivered to CISSEMBOB by D minus 5.
- (d) Location of Reserves :-

| | | |
|------------------------|---|---|
| BUGASU DROPPING GROUND | : | One Scale B for 58/59 Aust Inf Bn. |
| MISSIM | : | One Scale B for 2/3 Aust Indep Coy |
| SELEBUB | : | One Scale B for whole force. |
| PILIMUNG | : | Two Scale B for whole force. One Scale B for D Coy 24 Aust Inf Bn. |

8. Rations

- (a) MEARES CREEK: All ranks 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will pick up at SELEBUB rations sufficient to outfit each man with 2 Fd Ops and one emergency ration which will be carried forward to MEARES CREEK and constitute unit reserve. SWP rations will be dumped at MEARES CREEK to maintain 58/59 Aust Inf Bn until night D minus 1
- (b) Reserves:

| | | |
|------------------------|---|--|
| BUGASU DROPPING GROUND | : | 2 days Fd Op rations for 600 - 58/59 Aust Inf Bn. 4 days Fd Op rations for 30 troops at BUGASU DROPPING GROUND. |
| MISSIM | : | 4 days Fd Op rations for 300 - 2/3 Aust Indep Coy. |
| SELEBUB | : | 2 days Fd Op rations for 600 - 58/59 Aust Inf Bn. 2 days Fd Op rations for 300 - 2/3 Aust Indep Coy |
| PILIMUNG | : | 1 day SWP and 4 days Fd Op rations for 30 local troops 4 days Fd Op rations for 120 local troops 1 day SWP rations for whole force less 30 at SELEBUB. |
| CISSEMBOB | : | 6 days Fd Op rations for 140 - D Coy 24 Aust Inf Bn |
| BOBADU | : | 4 days Fd Op rations for local troops -30 men |

(c) After D plus 3 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will be maintained by droppings at BUGASU DROPPING GROUND.

9. MEDICAL

MEARES CREEK : One light section 15 Aust Fd Amb.
MISSIM : ADS 2/2 Aust Fd Amb

10. TOOLS

(a) 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will carry forward picks, shovels and axes for Stage 1 of consolidation.

(b) Additional tools will be dumped at BUGASU DROPPING GROUND. 58/59 Aust Inf Bn plan will provide for supply of these forward for Stage 2 of consolidation.

11. SECURITY

(a) No unusual movement of troops or smoke from fires will be allowed to come to the notice of the enemy.

(b) Four Hydra Burners less stands and 20 gals range fuel will be provided at MEARES CREEK for cooking. Cooking fires may be lit at NOT more than two kitchens. NO other fires will be permitted.

12. WATER

During Stage 1 of consolidation, 3 days reserve of water will be established in defensive position.

INTERCOMMUNICATION

13. HQ.

(a) Bde HQ is established at PILIMUNG, map ref MT MISSIM 1 inch 530000.

(b) HQ 2/3 Aust Indep Coy is at MISSIM, map ref SALAMAUA Revised 1 inch 603967.

14. 11 SETS

(a) One No 11 set and operators will be allotted to 58/59 Aust Inf Bn.

(b) HQ 2/3 Aust Indep Coy will maintain one No 11 set.

15. 208 SETS

On any move of HQ of 58/59 Aust Inf Bn or 2/3 Aust Indep Coy communications will be maintained by 208 set to Bde HQ during daylight.

16. L/T

(a) Line communication exists to NUNNS POST, map ref SALAMAUA 1 inch 667991, and BASE 3, map ref SALAMAUA 1 inch 673966.

(b) A cable dump will be maintained at HQ 58/59 Aust Inf Bn for replenishment of expenditure

(c) When L/T is established from Bn HQ to companies, lateral lines will be laid.

- 17. VISUAL
Visual stations for alternative means of communication will be sited.
- 18. WIRELESS SILENCE
Until contact is gained wireless silence will be maintained.
- 19. MAINTENANCE
L Sec Sigs will establish by D minus 5 at MISSIM a maintenance point for all signal equipment.
- 20. SIGNAL DIAGRAM
Signal diagram is attached as Appendix B.
- 21. ACKNOWLEDGE.

B. H. Trauss
Major
BM 15 Aust Inf Bde

Time of signature 12/5 hrs.

DISTRIBUTION

| | <u>Order & Appendices</u> <u>Copy No.</u> | <u>Method of Issue</u> |
|-------------------------|--|------------------------|
| 58/59 Aust Inf Bn | 1 | Safe Hand |
| 2/3 Aust Indep Coy | 2 | " |
| D Coy 24 Aust Inf Bn | 3 | " |
| Det 3 Div AASC, SELEBUB | 4 | " |
| Det 2/2 Aust Fd Amb | 5 | " |
| 17 Aust Inf Bde | 6 | DRLS |
| 1 Bn 162 US Regt | 7 | DRLS |
| 3 Aust Div | 8 | DRLS |
| Comd | 9 | Hand |
| SC | 10 | Hand |
| L Sec, Sigs 3 Aust Div | 11 | Hand |
| War Diary | 12-13 | |
| File | 14-15 | |

POSTERN

MOST SECRET

COPY NO /

APPENDIX "A"
to 15 Aust Inf Bde Op Order No 1
of 20 Jun 43.

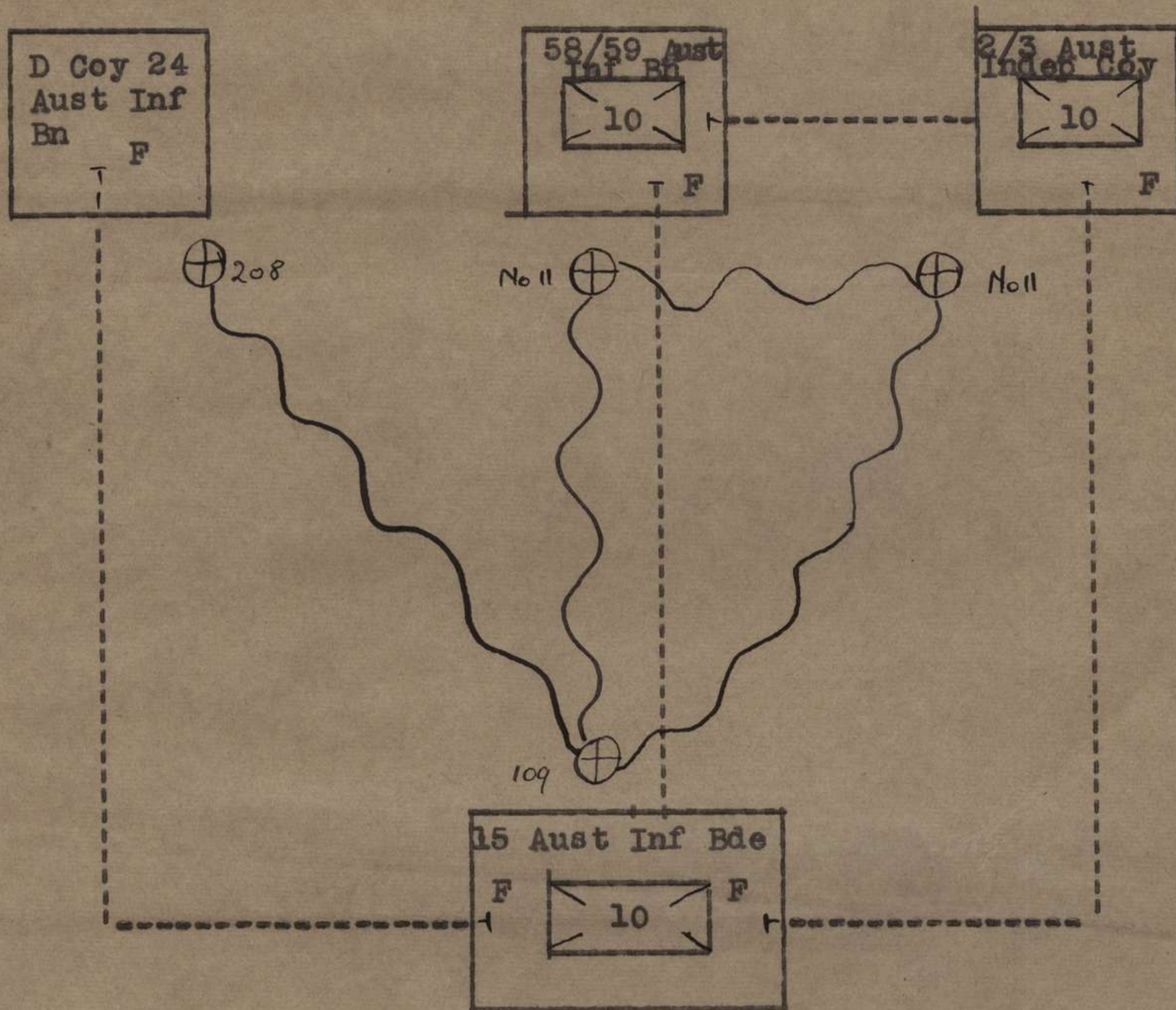
ORDER OF BATTLE 15 AUST INF BDE FOR POSTERN

To commence at a time to be notified

1. HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde (AIF)
L Sec, Sigs 3 Aust Div.
2. 58/59 Aust Inf Bn
3. 2/3 Aust Indep Coy
4. D Coy 24 Aust Inf Bn
5. Det AASC 3 Aust Div.
6. Det 2/2 Aust Fd Amb
Light Sec 15 Aust Fd Amb
7. ANGAU
8. A Coy less two pls 24 Aust Inf Bn (L of C)

APPENDIX "B"
to 15 Aust Inf Bde Op Order No 1
of 20 Jun 43.

SIGNAL DIAGRAM NO 1



NOTE

Daily change of Call Signs and frequencies on 58/59 Aust Inf Bn - 2/3 Aust Indep Coy W/T group will be as per sequences issued by Bde.

D Coy 24 Aust Inf Bn W/T link will be a fixed frequency and Call Sign :

| | |
|-----------|-------|
| Frequency | 2.580 |
| Call Sign | 3 10 |

DOUBLE T.

COPY NO.

HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde (AIF)

22 Jun 43

G 11/145.

MOVE OF 58/59 AUST INF BN.

- The following plan shows moves of 58/59 Aust Inf Bn into forward area. Four parties each NOT exceeding 120 will arrive at places shown on dates indicated.

| PLACE | 21 JUN | 22 JUN | 23 JUN | 24 JUN | 25 JUN | 26 JUN | 27 JUN |
|-----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| MEARES CK | | | | | | A B | C D |
| MISSIM | | | | A | A B | C D | |
| SELEBUB | | A | A | B | C | | |
| PILIMUNG | A | B | B C | C D | D | | |

Note:-

- A - A Coy
- B - HQ Coy
- C - C Coy
- D - B Coy

- Each party will collect one Fd Op ration at PILIMUNG for use during operations. Each man moving forward of PILIMUNG should have two Fd Op Rations and one Emergency Ration.
- Pioneers at MEARES CK area constructing COs office and shelters for stores, also developing tracks to water and obtaining bamboo water containers and drums.
- Recce party, less those at MEARES CK, moves to MISSIM 22 Jun. Daily trips will be made by small parties to MEARES CK to recce thoroughly Coy areas. Coy representatives on recce party will form their Coys at MISSIM and guide them to selected areas.
- Every precaution will be taken to prevent enemy observation of the move. Open stretches of track will be reconnoitred by guides and will be crossed in small parties. No smoke will be allowed to be visible in daytime. Move from SELEBUB to MISSIM will be made at night or in misty conditions.

6. Most forward Coy area selected at MEARES CK should be left vacant for D Coy which will concentrate and move to MEARES CK on afternoon 27 Jun, and will move forward to its area after dark.
7. Staff Captain will arrange staging and will have rations, cooking utensils and tools at BUGASU D. Coy area ready to be picked up by each party.

B. H. Evans
Major
BM 15 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION:

| | | |
|-------------------------|---------|-----|
| 58/59 Aust Inf Bn | Copy No | 1 |
| 2/3 Aust Indep Coy | | 2 |
| D Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn | | 3 |
| S.C. | | 4 |
| B.A.S.C.O. | | 5 |
| 3 Aust Div | | 6 |
| File | | 7-8 |

O. P. 15/43
MOST SECRET

3 AUST DIV OPERATION INSTRUCTION NO. 3

COPY No. 4

Preparation of defensive positions in BOBDUBI and CISSIMBOB-DAHO area

HQ 3 Aust Div
6 Jun 45

To:

Comd 15 Aust Inf Bde.

Reference 3 Aust Div Operation Order No.1 of 27 May 45.

1. Experience in the past, and also in recent operations in this area have proved that it is essential for troops to "dig in" in order to successfully retain their positions against any form of attack - whether it be by infantry, tanks, shelling, mortar or air attacks.
2. It is the intention to develop the BOBDUBI RIDGE area and the CISSIMBOB - DAHO areas into defensive positions against attack from any direction or means.
3. The CISSIMBOB - DAHO area is already in our possession. The preparation of defences in this area will be carried out forthwith. The objects of the defences in this area are:-
 - (a) To protect the left flank of our forces in the MISSIM area.
 - (b) To provide a secure base for offensive patrols towards SALAMAUA on the route HOTE - MALOLO, which route should be controlled by means of daily patrols and the location of an ambush position at a suitable point between HOTE and MALOLO.
4.
 - (a) The BOBDUBI RIDGE is NOT yet in our possession.
 - (b) Orders for the capture of BOBDUBI RIDGE are contained in 3 Aust Div Operation Order No. 1, which order is not altered in any way by this instruction.
 - (c) Development of the defensive position on BOBDUBI RIDGE will be commenced immediately the ridge is captured. The consolidation after the attack is therefore the first stage in the preparation of the defences, which will take the form of hastily dug and sited individual weapon pits and slit trenches for immediate protection against a counter attack which will probably be supported or preceded by shelling, mortar bombs, and air attacks. Tools for this stage must be carried forward by the attacking troops.
 - (d) The second stage of preparation of the defences will be the development of individual weapon pits into a connected system of defences. It will probably be necessary to resite some of the sites hastily chosen during the first stage. Additional tools to complete this second stage will be required early and arrangements to have these tools sent forward must be part of the plan for the whole operation. This second stage must be completed as soon as possible.

(a) The objects of the defences on BOBUBI RIDGE are:-

- (i) To prevent the enemy using the main SALAMAUA-BOBUBI-KOMIATUM tracks as an L of C to reinforce or supply his troops in the KOMIATUM - MUBO area. Although the main KOMIATUM track may not be contained in the defences, it must be controlled not only by fire but also by ambushes and constant patrolling on the track, which operations can be supported and covered by fire from weapons sited within the defences.
- (ii) To provide a secure base for offensive operations towards SALAMAUA and KOMIATUM.
- (iii) To prevent any offensive ~~movement~~ movement westward from SALAMAUA toward the MISSIM area.

5. When it is decided to exploit southwards to KOMIATUM, similar arrangements as outlined in para 4 above will be made for preparation of defences in the KOMIATUM area.

6. Arrangements must be made for reserves of ammunition, supplies and water to be placed in all defended areas or posts. The exact reserves to be held in each defended area will be decided by the local commander, but will not exceed 3 days rations and two refills (scale B) of ammunition in addition to the emergency ration and first line (Scale A) ammunition.

7. Sufficient copies of this instruction are forwarded to enable one copy to be distributed to each of the units under your command if desired.

8. ACKNOWLEDGE

0208
11/6/46

J. H. ...
Lt-col
G3 3 Aust Div

| <u>Distribution</u> | <u>Copy No.</u> | <u>Method of Issue</u> |
|----------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| 15 Aust Inf Bde | 1 - 4 | SAFE HAND - LO. |
| 17 Aust Inf Bde (for infm) | 5 | SAFE HAND - LO. |
| Comd | 6 | HAND |
| GSO I | 7 | HAND |
| AA & QMG | 8 | HAND |
| File | 9 - 10 | |
| War Diary | 11 - 12 | |

EMPLOYMENT OF RECCE PARTY 58/59 AUST INF BN

HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde (AIF)
16 Jun 43
G10/7

1. OBJECT
To employ most usefully personnel of Recce Party 58/59 Aust Inf Bn (at present at PILMUNG) and at the same time NOT to overload forward area.
2. MOVEMENT OF PERSONNEL
 - (a) OC Recce Party (Capt HILBERT) may send any member of party to SELEBUB or BOBADU without reference to this HQ, provided these personnel carry own rations.
 - (b) NO personnel will move to MISSIM or forward of BOBADU without approval of this HQ.
3. TASKS OF RECCE PARTY
 - (a) To enlarge staging camp PILMUNG to hold at least 2 Rifle Coys.
 - (b) To do any building as directed by SC.
 - (c) To learn as much as possible of forward areas by movement of small parties.
 - (d) To learn as much as possible about movement of boylines, handling of natives, supply in this area, inspection of ammunition.

4. PARTIES TO BE ATTACHED D COY 58/59 AUST INF BN
 - (a) Two parties comprised as under will be sent forward for recce duty with D Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn.

| | |
|--|--|
| <u>First Party</u> Capt HILBERT One Coy 2 i/c Pnr Offr 1 batman 2 ORs | <u>Second Party</u> Two Coy 2 i/cs 1 batman 2 ORs |
|--|--|

- (b) Task of first party will be to recce Bn site in MEARES CAMP area.
- (c) Parties will be under command D Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn, and will only move forward of BUGASU JUNG if OC D Coy considers tactical situation permits.
- (d) OC D Coy will make use of parties as he deems fit, but will NOT allow personnel to go forward of MEARES CAMP.

(e) Movement of Parties

| | | |
|--------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| | <u>Dep PILMUNG</u> | <u>Return PILMUNG</u> |
| First Party | 17 Jun | 20 Jun |
| Second Party | 20 Jun | 23 Jun |

5. EMPLOYMENT OF KEY PERSONNEL OF RECCE PARTY

Key personnel will be employed as under in the SELEBUB - PILMUNG area:

- (a) Sig Offr Att 2/3 Aust Indep Coy MISSIM till further notice.
- (b) I Offr To contact Ede IO for instructions.
- (c) MMG Offr To move to SELEBUB and check MMGs.
- (d) Asst Adjt) To contact SC for instructions re witnessing
RQMS) of air dropping, movement of supplies by
Sgt Caterer) boyline, rations and indents.
- (e) Pioneer Offr After recce of Bn site MEARES CAMP, to be attached to 2/3 Aust Indep Coy to gain knowledge of booby traps.
- (f) RSM To contact Sgt McCARRON, Ord Amn Examiner, to gain knowledge of inspection of ammunition after air droppings.

6. 2/3 Aust Indep Coy is requested to give every possible assistance where indicated.

CO 2/3 Aust Indep Coy may alter details of above without reference to this HQ, but will NOT alter policy.

CO 2/3 Aust Indep Coy may also cancel the movement of any party in the forward area, if he deems tactical position prevents it.

B. H. Evans
Major
BM 15 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION:

- 2/3 Aust Indep Coy (2)
- Recce Party 58/59 Aust Inf Bn
- 58/59 Aust Inf Bn (for infm)
- SC (for infm)
- File
- War Diary (2)

[Signature]
Capt.
Adj. 58/59 Aust. Inf. Bn.
1976

O.P. 17/43

58/59 Bn

MESSAGE FORM

TO 15 aust inf bde, 58/59 bn, A coy 24 bn, tpt pool BULOLO, rptd
CRE, sigs, case, daag, gs, adms, ados, adme, postal, dapm
FROM 3 AUST DIV. Q959 18

MOST SECRET . further to 3 div 03451 NOT to all addressees (.)
58/59 Bn less one Coy will move to MISSIM area in daily groups
not exceeding 120 all ran's commencing 19 JUN (.) ROUTE ADM
AMN etc as per 15 Bde Mvt Order No 2 1 Jun as amended by 15 Bde
0781 2nd Jun NOT to all addressees (.) RATIONS one fd op to be
carried per man for use in fwd areas and NOT on L of C (.)
midday meal will be issued by A Coy 24 Bn at POWER HOUSE and
Staging Camps en route (.) TPT POOL BULOLO will supply vehs
as requested by 58/59 Bn to move packs and stores to POWER HOUSE
(.) 58/59 Bn will advise this HQ by signal of A detailed
composition of Gps B daily progress C date of Mvt of CO
Adjut QM (.) ACK (.) all informed

This message must be sent in cypher if liable to interception or to fall into enemy hands

Orig's Instns
Degree of
Priority

T.O.O.

*Forwarded Immediate
via 15 Bde 58/59 Bn
130
18/6*

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No. **9**
OFFICE DATE STAMP

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN **Z 202 P.C.**
OUT

No. of Groups
GR.
53

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO **15 bde 1st div 58/59 in Army 24 in 9th**

FROM **3rd Div**

Originator's Number
0345 1

Date
17

In Reply to Number

| (Write horizontally) | | | | | |
|----------------------|------------|--------|----------|---------|-----|
| most | secret | 0 | 58/59 | cust | 5 |
| inf | in | less | one | coy | 10 |
| will | commence | move | from | BULWA | 15 |
| area | to | MISSIM | area | 19 pine | 20 |
| in | accordance | with | detailed | instrs | 25 |
| issued | by | 9 | ack | | 30 |
| | | | | 2232 | 35 |
| | | | | 2248 | 40 |
| | | | | | 45 |
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| | | | | | 120 |
| | | | | | 125 |
| | | | | | 130 |

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

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

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY
IMPORTANT

TIME OF ORIGIN

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

SIGNATURE.....

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

| SYSTEM IN | TIME IN | READER | SENDER | SYSTEM OUT | TIME OUT | READER | SENDER | SYSTEM OUT | TIME OUT | READER | SENDER |
|-----------|---------|--------|----------|------------|----------|--------|--------|------------|----------|--------|--------|
| L | 2304 | | 76th Div | | | | | | | | |

T.O.R.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN
OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 15 BDE 58/59 BN.

FROM 3 DIV.

Originator's Number
T. 290

Date
4

In Reply to Number

| | | | | | |
|------|-----------|----------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| MOST | SECRET | 0 | One | reffe | roy. |
| and | BN | rece | party | approximately | 65 |
| all | 65 | all | units | of | 58/59 |
| BN | will | more | MISSIM | area | June |
| 6 | and | 8 | respectively | 0 | At Q. in the |
| will | issue | detailed | instructions | for | more |
| 0 | Remainder | 58/59 | BN | is | placed |

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

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T.O.R.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

No. of Groups
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

**CALL
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TO

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

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| | | <i>Op File</i> | | | |
| | | | <i>[Signature]</i> | | |
| | | | Adj. 58/59 Aust. Inf. Bn. | | Capt. |
| | | | | 0/6 | |

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
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T.H.I.

T.O.R.

R140
R244

O. P. 18/43

MOST SECRET

COPY NO 4

15 AUST INF BDE OP INSTN NO 1

HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde (AIF)
Jun 43

RRF MAPS: WAU - LAE - SALAMAUA TRACK MAP 2 miles to 1 inch
MT MISSIM 1 inch.

INFORMATION

1. ENEMY

As per 3 Aust Div Int Summary No 8 of 12 Jun 43.

2. OWN TROOPS

Order of Battle is as set out in Appendix "A" attached.

3. TOPOGRAPHY

The MISSIM area, for which 15 Aust Inf Bde is responsible, is the general area, bounded on the North by incl the track MISSION POINT - MALOLO - HOTE - DOLI - KWATOMANE - BULWA, and on the South by incl the general line LONNU - KOMIATUM, -thence excl the watershed between the BITOI and FRANCISCO Rivers (PIONEERS RANGE)

TASKS OF 15 AUST INF BDE

- 4. (a) To prevent enemy from entering BULOLO VALLEY through above area of operational responsibility.
- (b) To secure the MISSIM - PILMUNG - HOTE area as a firm base to enable offensive raids to be carried out towards KOMIATUM and SALAMAUA when ordered by this HQ.
- (c) To maintain standing patrols to control all tracks leading West from the coast through the MISSIM area.
- (d) To make recon and plans for the capture and securing of BOBDUBI RIDGE and subsequent exploitation to KOMIATUM.
- (e) To make recon and plans for a diversion against SALAMAUA in the MALOLO area.
- (f) To collect and forward information of enemy strengths dispositions and movements.

RESPONSIBILITY

- 5. (a) 2/3 Aust Indep Coy, with D Coy 24 Aust Inf Bn and D Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn under command, will, by active patrolling, establish control of the following tracks :-
 - (i) BOBDUBI - MEARES CAMP
 - (ii) NABBING - BASE 3
 - (iii) MALOLO - HOTE
 - (iv) HOTE - BOHADU
 - (v) HOTE - YEMOP - DOLI - YASINGLI
- (b) Defensive positions will be established in the CISSEMBOB - DAHO area in order to
 - (i) Protect the left flank of our forces in the MISSIM area.
 - (ii) Provide a secure base for offensive patrols towards SALAMAUA on the route HOTE - MALOLO.

METHOD

- 6. (a) 2/3 Aust Indep Coy will establish control of the area of responsibility allotted by daily patrols. A co-ordinated patrolling programme will be arranged in order to cover the whole area. Details of these patrols will be forwarded to this HQ.
- (b) Ops will be established to give early warning of enemy approach and movement.
- 7. 2/3 Aust Indep Coy will send out special reconce patrols as ordered by this HQ.

ADMINISTRATION

8. In accordance with 15 Aust Inf Bde Adm Instn No 1 of 9 Jun 43.

INTERCOMMUNICATION

- 9. Bde HQ is located at PIRMUNG 830000.
- 10. ACKNOWLEDGE. ✓

B. N. Drans.

Time of Signature 2145 hrs

Major
BM 15 Aust Inf Bde

Method of Issue : *DRLS.*

DISTRIBUTION

| | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| 2/3 Aust Indep Coy | Copy No 1 -3 |
| 58/59 Aust Inf Bn | 4 - |
| A Coy, 24 Aust Inf Bn | 5 |
| L Sec, Sigs 3 Aust Div | 6 |
| ANCAU, PIRMUNG | 7 |
| 3 Aust Div | 8 |
| Comd | 9 |
| SC | 10 |
| SNO | 11 |
| File | 12 |
| War Diary | 13-14 |

MOST SECRET

APPENDIX "A"
Attached to
15 Aust Inf Bde Op Instrn
No 1

COPY NO 4.

ORDER OF BATTLE

Hq.

1. 15 Aust Inf Bde
2. L Sec, Sigs 3 Aust Div
2/3 Aust Indep Coy Group
3. 2/3 Aust Indep Coy
4. D Coy, 24 Aust Inf Bn
5. D Coy, 58/59 Aust Inf Bn

AASC

6. Det 1 Aust Sup Dep Coy PILMUNG
7. Det 1 Aust Sup Dep Coy SELHBUB
8. Det 1 Aust Sup Dep Coy MISSIM
9. Det 1 Aust Sup Dep Coy BUGASU DROPPING GROUND

AAMG

10. Det 2/2 Aust Fd Amb
11. Dental Unit attached 15 Aust Fd Amb

MISCELLANEOUS

12. ANGAU PILMUNG

15 AUST INF BDE OP INSTN NO 4
DEFENCES OF CISSEMBOB-HOTE AREA

HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde (AIF)
7 Jul 43

Ref Map: SALAMAUA 1:25000
KOMIATUM 1:25000

INFORMATION

1. Enemy
As per 3 Aust Div and 15 Aust Inf Bde Sitreps to date.
2. Own Troops
D Coy 24 Aust Inf Bn
One Det Mortars 24 Aust Inf Bn
1 MMG 24 Aust Inf Bn
3. Topography
The CISSEMBOB-HOTE area is the general area bounded by the villages HOTE - LABODU - DAHO 1 - DAHO 2 - CISSEMBOB - HOTE.

INTENTION

4. D Coy 24 Aust Inf Bn will provide left flank protection to 15 Aust Inf Bde operations in the BOBDUBI area.
5. Tasks of D Coy 24 Aust Inf Bn
 - (a) To deny to the enemy the CISSEMBOB - HOTE area, thereby acting as left flank protection to 15 Aust Inf Bde.
 - (b) To secure the CISSEMBOB-HOTE area as a firm base for future operations towards SALAMAUA when ordered by this HQ.
 - (c) To establish control of HOTE- MALOLO track by offensive patrolling, by the establishing of ambush positions and the manning of OPS.
 - (d) To make recce towards the native villages of MALAGOWAN - MALOLO.
 - (e) To collect and forward information of enemy strengths, dispositions and movements.

METHOD

6.
 - (a) OC D Coy will prepare an appreciation of the situation as at 1200 hrs 9 Jul 43.
 - (b) This will be submitted to HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde for approval.
 - (c) OC D Coy will then implement the plan adopted.
7. Patrolling
 - (a) D Coy will ensure that the tracks within the area are covered regularly to ensure there has been no enemy movement.
 - (b) One patrol will be sent every two days to MISSIM to provide lateral communication.
8. Works Policy
 - (a) Weapon pits, section posts will be dug.
 - (b) LMG will be pillboxed.
 - (c) Defences will be camouflaged.

ADMINISTRATION

9. Ammunition, Supplies, Water.

(a) Scale A will be held in Section Posts.

(b) Three Pd Ops per man ^{and three days reserve of water} will be held in each section post.

10. Medical

(a) ADS - MISSIM.

(b) D Coy 24 Aust Inf Bn will make arrangements with local ANGAU representative to evacuate to MISSIM.

11. Hygiene

(a) Section latrines will be dug.

(b) All tins and rubbish will be buried.

(c) Malarial precautions will be taken.

INTERCOMMUNICATION

12. Main HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde is at MISSIM.

13. (a) W/T 208 set will be used at Coy HQ to Bde HQ.

(b) W/T 208 set will be used for intercommunication between the ambush position and Coy HQ.

14. ACKNOWLEDGE. *ACK I 225 @ 1545 K/9*

B. H. Havers
Major
BM 15 Aust Inf Bde

Time of Signature *1130* hrs

Method of Issue : *ORLS*

DISTRIBUTION:

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| 58/59 Aust Inf Bn | Copy No | 1 |
| 2/3 Aust Indep Coy | | 2 |
| D Coy 24 Aust Inf Bn | | 3 |
| L Sec, Sigs 3 Aust Div | | 4 |
| ANGAU, MISSIM | | 5 |
| 3 Aust Div | | 6 |
| Comd | | 7 |
| SC | | 8 |
| SMO | | 9 |
| File | | 10 |
| War Diary | | 11-12. |

15 AUST INF BDE OP INSTN NO 5

HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde (AIF)
 8 Jul 43
 NISBIR, JASMA
 VIQ JAMA 8
 bmo0
 08
 0114
 yscid 78

Ref Map: SALAMAUA 1:25000
 KOMIATUM 1:25000

Ref 15 Aust Inf Bde signal O.440 of 4 Jul 43, para six.

OBJECT

1. (a) To establish a firm base in area WEST OF MALOLO for raids on LAE-SALAMAUA TRACK.
- (b) Prior reces -
 - (i) To establish firm base in area MALAGOWAN with present ambush 651033 as backstop.
 - (ii) To locate and recce routes to SALAMAUA-LAE TRACK.
 - (iii) To set ambush positions on TRACK.
 - (iv) To locate enemy establishments in native villages and to inflict damage on these camps by raids.

INFORMATION

2. Enemy
 - (a) ANGAU reports from natives lead to the belief the natives in the following villages are PRO JAP ;
 ASINI, NEW ASINI, BUKAUP, BUSAMA, QUADO (NORTH OF BUSAMA)
 - (b) Native sources also state that the Japanese use these village natives as spies on our movement.
 - (c) Patrols indicate the enemy to be in MALAGOWAN on 6/7 Jul. Numbers estimated to be 50 Japanese.

INTENTION

3. D Coy 24 Aust Inf Bn will establish a firm base in the area WEST of MALOLO from which to carry out harassing raids on the coastal track LAE-SALAMAUA.

METHOD

4. Date of Commencement of Operations
 Operations will commence on advise from this HQ but NOT expected before 13 Jul 43.
5. Patrols
 - (a) D Coy 24 Aust Inf Bn will establish as much information about the enemy movement and dispositions by recce patrols.
 - (b) This information will be obtained prior to commencement of Ops.
 - (c) Information obtained will be forwarded by 13 Jul to 15 Aust Inf Bde together with plan for ops by D Coy 24 Aust Inf Bn. Sketch maps will be included.

6. ACKNOWLEDGE

ACK I 225

15/5 K/9

B. H. Davis

Major

Time of signature 1200 hrs

BM 15 Aust Inf Bde

Method of Issue: *AKAS*

DISTRIBUTION:

See over.

DISTRIBUTION:

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| 58/59 Aust Inf Bn | Copy No | 1 |
| 2/3 Aust Indep Coy | | 2 |
| (MIA) D Coy 24 Aust Inf Bn | | 3 |
| L Sec, Sigs 3 Aust Div | | 4 |
| ANGAU, MISSIM | | 5 |
| 3 Aust Div | | 6 |
| Comd | | 7 |
| SC | | 8 |
| SMO's | | 9 |
| File | v | 10 |
| War Diary | | 11-12 |

OBJECT

1. To establish a firm base in area WEST of MALICO for raids on LA-SALAMATA TRACK.

- (b) Prior recon -
- (i) To establish firm base in area MALICOWN with present ambush positions as backup.
 - (ii) To locate and recon routes to SALAMATA-LAS TRACK.
 - (iii) To set ambush positions on TRACK.
 - (iv) To locate enemy establishments in native villages and to inflict damage on these camps by raids.

INFORMATION

(a) ANGAU reports from natives lead to the belief the natives in the following villages are PRO JAP: ASINI, NEW ASINI, BUKUP, BUBAMA, QUADO (NORTH OF BUBAMA)

(b) Native sources also state that the Japanese use these village natives as spies on our movement.

(c) Patrols indicate the enemy to be in MALICOWN on 2/7 Jul. Numbers estimated to be 30 Japanese.

INTENTION

2. D Coy 24 Aust Inf Bn will establish a firm base in the area WEST of MALICO from which to carry out harassing raids on the coastal track LA-SALAMATA.

METHOD

4. Date of Commencement of Operations
Operations will commence on advice from this HQ but NOT expected before 13 Jul 43.

Patrols

(a) D Coy 24 Aust Inf Bn will establish as much information about the enemy movement and dispositions by recon patrols.

(b) This information will be obtained prior to commencement of ops.

(c) Information obtained will be forwarded by 13 Jul to 13 Aust Inf Bn together with plan for ops by D Coy 24 Aust Inf Bn. Sketch maps will be included.

ACKNOWLEDGE

Major
BM 13 Aust Inf Bde

Time of signature: 1200 hrs

Method of Issue: 4442

DISTRIBUTION:

See over.

(b) Enable 58/59 Aust Inf Bn to gain control of track junction area 708967.

- 7. On completion of "Tank buster" airstrike on 14 Jul 43, to assault and capture OLD VICKERS POSITION.
- 8. Patrol south-east from NAMLING to locate route from ORODUBI used by Jap to establish himself on NAMLING-WELLS OP TRACK at about 690930.
- 9. Be well balanced around the ORODUBI - NAMLING area for a possible attack by the enemy from ORODUBI (See information re enemy from WELLS OP and 2/3 Aust Indep Coy as per 15 Aust Inf Bde 0634 of 13 Jul).

~~10/10/~~

- 10. The above tasks will be put into operation forthwith and CO 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will maintain a continual pressure to ensure that the initiative is held by our forces.
- 11. ACKNOWLEDGE. *ack I 270 0120 K/14 H*

B. H. Travers.
 Major
 BM 15 Aust Inf Bde

Time of Signature *0030* hrs

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| 58/59 Aust Inf Bn | 1 | By Hand |
| 3 Aust Div | 2 | DRLS |
| Comd | 3 | By hand |
| File | 4 | |
| War Diary | 5-6 | |

(b) enable 88/55 Aust Inf to gain control of track
junction area 708257.

On completion of "Tank Buster" attacks on 14 Jul 43, to
assault and capture OLD VIKERS POSITION.

Patrol south-east from WAMLING to locate route from ORCHARD
used by Jap to establish himself on WAMLING-WILMS OF TRACH
at about 0900Z.

Well balanced around the GROUND - WAMLING area for a possible
attack by the enemy from ORCHARD (see information re enemy from
WILMS OF TRACH and 88/55 Aust Inf re 0832 of
13 Jul).

and those tasks will be done in accordance with the
order and the will maintain a continual pressure to ensure
that the initiative is held by our forces.

11. RECOMMENDATIONS.

A. A. Jones
Major
88/55 Aust Inf Bde

1042

Method of issue

by hand

DATE

0930

Time of signature

DISTRIBUTION:

88/55 Aust Inf Bde

3 Aust Div

Comd

File

War Diary

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5-5

15 AUST INF BDE OP INSTN NO 758/59 AUST INF BNHQ 15 Aust Inf Bde (AIF)
19 Jul 43

Ref Map: KOMIATUM 1:25000

OBJECT

1. To maintain control of BOBDUBI RIDGE and to gain control of KOMIATUM TRACK.

INFORMATION2. Enemy

- (a) The enemy retained his original positions at COCONUTS, OLD VICKERS POSITION and ORODUBI.
- (b) 1930K/14 Enemy forced 8 Pl out of ERSKINE CK 701950 and consolidated. 1325K/20 it is estimated he has strength of 80 at 700950 and 100 at 701952.
- (c) 1700K/17 enemy was forced out of GRAVEYARD 697941 and it was found that he had extensive defences along NORTH-SOUTH RIDGE and bench cut EAST of GRAVEYARD and GWAIBOLON. 18 Jul, he re-occupied GRAVEYARD.
- (d) 0930K/16 Enemy was forced from AMBUSH KNOLL 691932. 1235K/20 enemy approached AMBUSH KNOLL from NE and SOUTH and after digging in close to our perimeter there attacked from the SOUTH.
- (e) 1510K/19 Signs of enemy movement were found along BUIRIS CK night 18/19 Jul. Traces of 50 Japs were found. 1515K/19 enemy fired on a patrol near BUIRIS CK.

Comments

- (a) The enemy is strengthening in GWAIBOLON-ERSKINE CK area and will probably try to regain BOBDUBI RIDGE by extending westward and occupying the RIDGE track.
- (b) The enemy is strengthening his position ORODUBI - WELLS to prevent any threat to his right flank and possibly to gain the southern part of BOBDUBI RIDGE and threaten our proposed L of C to MUBO area.
- (c) The BUIRIS CK area is being probed to prevent us surprising him in that area and probably to ascertain the strength of our left flank.

3. OWN TROOPS

58/59 Aust Inf Bn- C Coy: Ridge track, area 696965-698964-696963.
 B Coy: ERSKINE CK, area 700951-702953-703952.
 A Coy: GWAIBOLON, area 697949 - 698946.

A Pl.
 2/3 Aust Indep Coy- Coy HQ and ~~B and C~~ Pls NAMLING area 691938.
CA and Two secs ~~B~~ Pl AMBUSH KNOLL 691932.
 One sec ~~B~~ Pl WELLS OP 685926.

Amended 0738 15 Bde 2040K/20

Comment

- (a) It is considered that patrols moving between A Coy and C Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn are NOT sufficient to close the gap between these coys and to prevent the enemy occupying in force positions on the RIDGE TRACK.
- (b) Energetic action is necessary to prevent the increase in enemy activity developing until he gains the initiative.

INTENTION

- 4. 15 Aust Inf Bde will continue offensive operations to maintain control of BOBDUBI RIDGE and to gain control of KOMIATUM TRACK.

METHOD

- 5. Place standing patrols on RIDGE TRACK between GWAIBCLON and OLD VICKERS POSITION.
Task: To hold BOBDUBI RIDGE and prevent enemy from occupying RIDGE TRACK. *C Coy pl. 15*
- 6. Maintain pressure on all enemy positions.
Task: To prevent further enemy movement westward.
- 7. Send strong fighting patrol to BUIRIS CK area.
Task: To closely watch and wipe out the enemy in that area.
- 8. *16 pl 2 Coy with ambush @ 703978. Watching patrol @ 703978*
Maintain recce patrols to COCONUTS. *18 Pl*
Task: To gain definite information of enemy strength and whether enemy is being reinforced.
- 9. Harass the enemy continually day and night by patrols and fire to prevent him going on the offensive and taking the initiative.
- 10. When putting into operation the above tasks, COs will
 - (a) Give definite tasks to sub-units and ensure that definite answers are received,
 - (b) Arrange the tasks in detail to ensure that there is a definite plan clearly understood by subordinates thus making the execution of the plan more simple and effective.
- 11. The Bn 2 i/c will move to A, B and C Coy areas to check coy dispositions and co-ordinate defence.

INTERCOMMUNICATION

- 12. Intercommunication must be rapid and accurate. All comds are to be impressed with the necessity to pass information quickly to higher cmd.

13. ACKNOWLEDGE. *ACK I 335 2215K/20 D.*
Col Newman Capt
in Major
 Time of Signature: *1855* hrs BM 15 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION:

| | <u>Copy No</u> | <u>Method of Issue</u> |
|----------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| 58/59 Aust Inf Bn | 1 | Special Courier |
| 2/3 Aust Indep. Coy | 2 | Courier |
| D Coy 24 Aust Inf Bn | 3 | " |
| 3 Aust Div | 4 | " |
| Comd | 5 | Hand |
| File | 6 | |
| War Diary | 7-8 | |

R. H. Frank

O.P. 19/43

MOST SECRET

.....Lt.-Col.

Comd. 58/59 Aust. Inf. Bn.

15 AUST INF BDE ORDER OF BATTLE

As At 2359 hrs 8 Jun 43

HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde (AIF)
7 Jun 43

- HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde (AIF)
- L Sec, Sigs 3 Aust Div
- 58/59 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/3 Aust Ind Coy
- D Coy, 24 Aust Inf Bn
- A Coy, less 2 pls, 24 Aust Inf Bn
- Det AASC, 3 Aust Div
- Det 2/2 Aust Fd Amb
- Lt Sec 15 Aust Fd Amb
- ANGAU (PILIMUNG)

B. H. Frank

Major
BM 15 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION:

- As Above
- Plus 3 Aust Div
- War Diary (2)
- File (2)

[Signature]

.....Capt

Adj. 58/59 Aust. Inf. Bn.

12/6

MESSAGE FORM

O.P. 20/43
Serial No.

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| CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS | IN | BIB 2 LIC C O.P. | No. of Groups GR. | OFFICE DATE STAMP 4.6.43 |
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(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 15 Bae 17 Bae 24 Bw rptd 58/59 Bw

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| FROM 3 DIV | Originator's Number 03289 | Date 4 | In Reply to Number |
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| 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 |
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T.O.R.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

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No. of Groups
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OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

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Op Sec
[Signature]
Adj. 58/59 Aust. Inf. Bn. Capt

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2130

T.H.I. *2256*

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T.O.R.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No. 0210
OFFICE DATA SHEET
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1/1694

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MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

No. of Groups
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN *Z LC G O:P.*

OUT

3/6/43.

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO *17 Bde 15 Bde 24 Bde rptd 58/59 Bde*

FROM *3 Duv*

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

T279 *3*

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|----------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|------------|--------------------|
| <i>Posters</i> | <i>0</i> | <i>most</i> | <i>secret</i> | <i>0</i> | <i>Indications</i> |
| <i>are</i> | <i>that</i> | <i>d</i> | <i>rptd</i> | <i>day</i> | <i>will</i> |
| <i>be</i> | <i>postponed</i> | <i>0</i> | <i>confirmation</i> | <i>and</i> | <i>details</i> |
| <i>later</i> | <i>when</i> | <i>received</i> | <i>from</i> | <i>NGF</i> | |
| | | | <i>[Signature]</i> | | |
| | | | <i>8th</i> | | |

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

Immediate.

2215

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

SIGNATURE.....

(BELOW THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I. *2308*

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| <i>L</i> | <i>2347</i> | <i>JJ Yimes</i> | | | | | | | | | |

T.O.R.

MESSAGE FORM

O.P. 21/43
Serial No.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|-----|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS | IN | No. of Groups GR. | OFFICE DATE STAMP |
| | OUT | | |

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 15 Aust Inf Bde

| | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| FROM 58/59 Aust Inf Bn. | Originator's Number 0 122 | Date 2 | In Reply to Number |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|-----------|--------------------|

| | | | | | |
|------|--------|-----|---------|-----------|--------------|
| MOST | SECRET | 0 | Receipt | is | acknowledged |
| 15 | Aust | Inf | Bde | Mov Order | No |
| 2 | Q. | | | | |
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DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNATURE.....

SIGNATURE.....

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INSERT "INCLUDING."

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0906

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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

15 AUST INF BDE MOVEMENT ORDER NO 2

HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde (AIF)
 / Jun 43

Ref Map - BULOLO 1 inch
 WAU SALAMAUA TRACK MAP - 2 miles to 1 inch.

INFORMATION

1. OWN TROOPS
 Concentration in BULWA area of HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde, L Sec Sigs and 58/59 Aust Inf Bn was completed on evening 1 Jun 43.
2. ENEMY
 As per sitreps and 3 Aust Div Int Summary No 6.

INTENTION

3. (a) HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde, L Sec Sigs will concentrate PILIMUNG area.
- (b) 58/59 Aust Inf Bn with, under command, one light Section 15 Aust Fd Amb will concentrate in MISSIM area.

METHOD

4. Movement will be as follows :-

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde) | depart BULWA 3 Jun.43. |
| L Sec Sigs) | arrive PILIMUNG 5 Jun 43 |
| 58/59 Aust Inf Bn | dates of movement as advised by 3 Aust Div. |

5. ROUTES

- (a) ROUTE : POWERHOUSE - BRANCH CREEK - BAIUNE - PILIMUNG - MISSIM.
 This route is an organised L of C controlled by 3 Aust Div. Staging camps are organised at present. These camps are to provide accommodation and meals.
- (b) Stages are : BRANCH CREEK
 BAIUNE
 PILIMUNG
 MISSIM

6. AIR DEFENCE

- (a) Passive defence will be adopted. Firing will ONLY be opened if directly attacked.
- (b) Plans for dispersion on attack, will be made.
- (c) Concealment will be adopted if hostile recon planes show interest in the move.

7. RECCE PARTY 58/59 AUST INF BN

Rece party 58/59 Aust Inf Bn, 22 all ranks, will ~~fix~~ move 4 Jun 43.

ADMINISTRATION

8. DRESS

Marching order as per list issued in 15 Aust Inf Bde Order G1/52 of 1 Jun 43.

9. WEAPONS

- (a) One Tk.A Rifle per coy will be carried.
- (b) LMG tripods will NOT be carried.

10. AMMUNITION

Ammunition will be carried as under :-

On the man

| | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Rifle | 50 rds |
| LMG | 100 rds in mags |
| OSMG | 132 rds in mags |
| EY Rifle | 6 No 36 grenades (7 sec) |
| All ranks will carry one 36 grenade (4 sec) | |

As boy loads

| | |
|--------------|------------------------------|
| Mortar 2 in | (18 bombs HE) |
| | (6 bombs smoke) |
| Tank.A Rifle | 20 rds per rifle. |

11. RATIONS

- (a) Route : 3 Aust Div are making arrangements for feeding troops en route.
- (b) Rations to be carried on the man will be advised by a 3 Aust Div direct as necessary.

12. STORES

- (a) Coy stores (i.e. MMG, 3 in Mortars, 2 in Mortars, picks and shovels, medical gear, cooking gear) will be organised in boy loads of 35 lbs for transmission along route.
- (b) Only priority stores will be sent forward with marching tps.
- (c) Packing lists will be forwarded with stores.
- (d) Solidified alcohol, 2 per man, carried on the man, will be kept for use in forward area and NOT used en route.

13. TRANSPORT

3 Aust Div are arranging transport of stores to jeephead at POWERHOUSE.

14. MEDICAL

- (a) Medical posts are available en route at BRANCH CREEK, PARTEP 4, BAIUNE, DOUBLE MOUNTAIN, PILIMUNG, MISSIM.
- (b) Light section 15 Aust Fd Amb will revert to command 15 Aust Inf Bde on arrival in MISSIM area.

15. MALARIA PRECAUTIONS

Strict precautions will be observed. Atebrin will be taken daily - 7 days supply atebrin carried on man will only be used when staging posts do NOT provide atebrin with rations.

Mosquito lotion - 1 bottle per man - will be carried.

16. REAR DETAILS

- (a) Command : Capt BLACKSHAW, OC Bde Rear Details will command all rear details in the area.
- (b) Rear Details will be left in BULWA. 58/59 Aust Inf Bn will detail personnel for security of and to forward stores as required after move of Bn is completed.

INTERCOMMUNICATION

- 17. Communications already exist along route.
- 18. (a) Bde HQ closes present location 0600 hrs 3 Jun 43 and opens PILIMUNG, 2000 hrs 5 Jun 43.
- (b) During move Bde HQ will be located along the route.

SECURITY

- 19. (a) All precautions for security of move will be taken. All orders will be kept in MOST SECRET category until last possible moment. Any idle talk will be silenced. It is vital that there be NO leakage of information either forwards or to the rear.
- (b) No diaries, envelopes, or other papers which give clue to unit identity, will be taken forward of POWERHOUSE.

20. ACKNOWLEDGE.

B.H. Trauss.
 Major
 BM 15 Aust Inf Bde

Time of Signature 2340 hrs

Method of Issue: *D.R.L.S.*

DISTRIBUTION

| | |
|------------------------|-----------|
| 58/59 Aust Inf Bn | Copy No 1 |
| L Sec, Sigs 3 Aust Div | 2 |
| 15 Bde Rear Details | 3 |
| 3 Aust Div | 4-5 |
| Comd | 6 |
| SC | 7 |
| File | 8-9 |
| War Diary | 10-11 |

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN
 OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.
 OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 58/59 aust inf bn, L sec sigs

FROM 15 aust inf bde

Originator's Number
 0 182

Date
 2

In Reply to Number

| (Write horizontally) | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|--------|------------|-------|--|-----|
| MOST | SECRET | (.) | 3 | aust | | 5 |
| div | 03252 | begins | (.) | MOST | | 10 |
| SECRET | (.) | HQ | 15 | bde | | 15 |
| L | sec | sigs | 58/59 | bn | | 20 |
| and | detachments | 15 | fd | amb | | 25 |
| will | move | to | MISSIM | rpt | | 30 |
| MISSIM | area | in | accordance | with | | 35 |
| <i>detailed</i> detached | instructions | to | issued | by | | 40 |
| Q | (.) | move | of | bde | | 45 |
| HQ | and | sig | section | to | | 50 |
| commence | JUNE | 3 | rpt | 3 | | 55 |
| (.) | date | of | move | 58/59 | | 60 |
| bn | will | be | notified | later | | 65 |
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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNATURE
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SIGNATURE

DRLS

1350

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

| SYSTEM IN | TIME IN | READER | SENDER | SYSTEM OUT | TIME OUT | READER | SENDER | SYSTEM OUT | TIME OUT | READER | SENDER |
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T.O.R.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No. *35*

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN

OUT

No of Groups
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO *58/59 aust inf bn. L sec sigs, ~~58~~-3 aust div*

FROM *15 aust inf bde*

Originator's Number

0 181

Date

2

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-------|---------|-------|-----|
| SECRET | (.) | ref | 15 | bde | 5 |
| G1/52 | of | 1 jun | add | to | 10 |
| list | one | spare | pair | of | 15 |
| boots | (.) | ref | 15 | bde | 20 |
| movt | order | no 2 | of | 1 jun | 25 |
| (.) | para | 10 | delete | 6 | 30 |
| no 36 | grenades | 7 sec | 18 | bombs | 35 |
| XXXXXX H E | 6 | bombs | smoke | and | 40 |
| 20 | rounds | tk.a | rifle c | (.) | 45 |
| all | informed | | | | 50 |
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TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNATURE
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SIGNATURE
B.W. Evans

1240

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

1310

T.O.R.

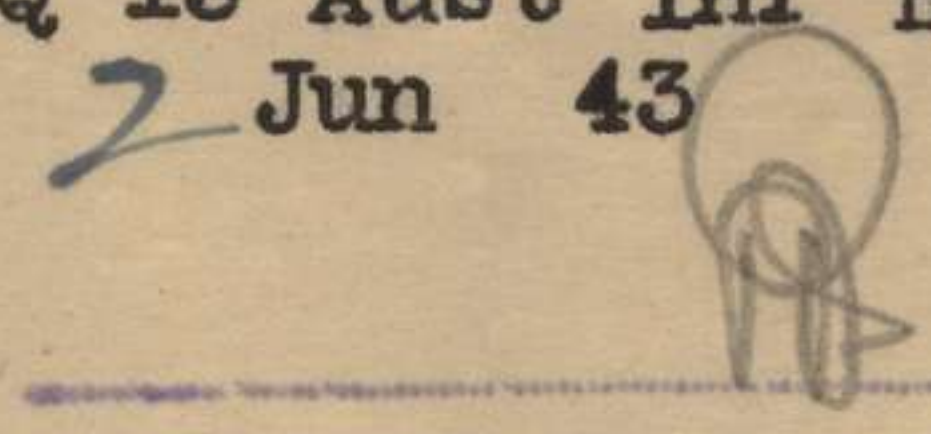
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O.P. 22/43

MOST SECRET

3 INCH MORTARS

HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde (AIF)
2 Jun 43



Lt.-Col.

Comd. 58/59 Aust. Inf. Bn.

58/59 Aust Inf Bn.

1. 58/59 Aust Inf Bn 3 inch mortars are being dropped by air.

2. Probable dates of dropping :-

| | | | | | | |
|---|---------|------|----|---------|---|-----|
| 3 | mortars | will | be | dropped | 2 | Jun |
| 3 | " | " | " | " | 5 | Jun |
| 3 | " | " | " | " | 8 | Jun |

3 Aust Div will advise dates, time and place for mortars to be forwarded.

33 (a) Mortar Officer and 3 mortars to report to 2/25 Fd Park Coy WAU by 2200 hrs 1 Jun. Mortars to be loaded in boxes being made by 2/25 Fd Park Coy.

(b) Parts will be :-
Barrels.
Base plate.
Bipod.
Sight (wrapped in 1/2 blanket)

(c) Mortars as in para 3(a) above will be delivered to Lieut KEETING 4 A/C Sqn WAU at 0700 hrs 2 Jun 43.

Handwritten red initials/signature

Handwritten signature: B. H. ...

Major
BM 15 Aust Inf Bde

SECRET

WEATHER REPORTS FROM FORWARD TROOPS

O.P. 23/43

HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde (AIF)
10 Jun 43
G4/52

2/3 Aust Ind Coy
Det AASC 3 Aust Div
Copy to 58/59 Aust Inf Bn ✓

1. With a view to improving the efficiency of future Air Support operations in the MUBO, MISSIM and MARKHAM valley areas, forward troops in these areas will keep a record of weather conditions throughout the day in accordance with the attached pro forma.
2. These reports will be submitted to reach this HQ by Monday of each week and will cover the period Sunday - Saturday incl, commencing Sunday 13 Jun 43.
3. This information will serve the dual purpose of presenting pilots with concrete knowledge of weather potentialities in sectors where Air Support is furnished, and enabling the aircraft to vary the times of their attacks within certain known limits thereby materially increasing the effectiveness of the attacks.
4. These reports will be compiled by -

Changed

HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde
2/3 Aust Ind Coy

at PILIMUNG
at MISSIM
HOTE
All OPs

Op Ltr

AASC Personnel

at SELEBOB) These will serve as
PILIMUNG) a guide for droppings

[Red Signature]
Adjt. 58/59 Aust. Inf. Bn. *13/6* Capr.

B. W. Evans
Major
BM 15 Aust Inf Bde

WEATHER REPORT TO BE KEPT BY FORWARD TROOPS

From

Location ,.....

For period to

| Date | Earliest hour at which Air attack could be made. | Hour at which weather closed enough to prevent air attack. | WHY Clouds, Fog, Rain etc. | Hour at which weather cleared again (if applicable). | Latest hour during day when weather would permit Air Attack. | General remarks on weather during day indicating amount of rain, fog, thunderstorm activity, wind velocity, etc. |
|------|--|--|-------------------------------|--|--|--|
|------|--|--|-------------------------------|--|--|--|

Summary of Remarks on weather for week:

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS PROCEEDING DOUBLE T

MOST SECRET

O.P. 24/43

| Ser. | Date | Movt of personnel | Rations | Ammunition | Stores | Ops | Remarks |
|------|-----------|--|---|--|---|---|--|
| 1 | D minus 9 | A party, 120 of 58/59 Bn arrive PILIMUNG | 360 rations at staging camp PILIMUNG | | | | Maintenance strength 873 Natives 850 |
| 2 | D minus 8 | A party 58/59 Bn move SELEBUB B party 58/59 arrives PILMUNG | 82 loads Fd Ops by special line to SELEBUB. A Coy 58/59 will carry 120 Fd Ops in addition. Arrange rations C Coy arriving p.m. Normal maintenance to MISSIM | | Collection ordnance stores at SELEBUB | Comd 58/59 arrives PILMUNG p.m. | Maintce 993 Natives 850 Accommodn to be completed SELEBUB for A Coy. |
| 3 | D minus 7 | A party 58/59 stay SELEBUB. B Pty stay PILMUNG. C Pty 58/59 arrive PILMUNG. | Arrange 120 rations MISSIM A party D minus 6 D minus 5. Normal mtce to MISSIM and BUGASU | Proportion Scale A to 2/3 Indep Coy MISSIM. Proportion Scale A 58/59 Bn see remarks. | Douglas load of ord STORES to be dropped. Check POWER HOUSE for 85 loads stores. 58/59 Bn stores to BUGASU See remarks. | Bde Recce and O Gp to BUGASU. (Includes Comd 58/59 Bn 2/3 Indep Coy OC D Coy 24 Bn | Maintce 1113 Natives 850 100 loads SELEBUB BUGASU DROPPING GRD 100 loads twice to MISSIM. 100 on dropping ground SELEBUB |
| 4 | D minus 6 | A party 58/59 move MISSIM. Tfer natives to BUGASU DROPPING GROUND 200. B Party 58/59 move SELEBUB C Party 58/59 Bn remain PILMUNG D party 58/59 Bn arrive PILMUNG. | Rations C Coy MISSIM. Reserve as planned D minus 7. | Reserve move- ment as planned D minus 7. | Move Med Stores MISSIM. 58/59 Bn stores BUGASU DROPPING GROUND. | D Coy 58/59 Bn reverts. D Coy 24 Bn to Bde Comd. Bombing SALAMAUA - mouth FRANCISCO R. Bde R & O gps to vicinity MEARES CREEK. Bde R group at MISSIM p.m. | Maintenance 1233 Natives 850 |

| Ser. | Date | Movt of personnel | Rations | Ammunition | Stores | Ops | Remarks |
|------|-----------|---|--|--|--|--|------------------------------|
| 5 | D minus 5 | A Party 58/59 Bn stay MISSIM. B Party 58/59 Bn move MISSIM. C Party 58/59 Bn Move SELEBUB. D Party stay PILMUNG. | SWP rations for 58/59 Bn at MEARES CREEK. Rations for A and B Parties MEARES CREEK. Rations for C and D Parties MISSIM. Reserve to MISSIM. | Complete 2/3 Indep Coy Scale A at MISSIM. Complete D Coy 24 Bn Scale A at CISSEMBOB. | Hydra Burners and fuel for 58/59 Bn to MEARES CREEK. Water containers. | L Sec Sigs establish maintenance point MISSIM. Details to Div of Air Strike. Recce Group to PILMUNG, | Maintenance Natives 1283 850 |
| 6 | D minus 4 | A Party 58/59 Bn move MEARES CREEK B Party 58/59 Bn move MEARES CREEK C Party 58/59 Bn move to MISSIM. D Party 58/59 Bn move to MISSIM. | Rations C and D Party MEARES CREEK. Reserve rations as planned D minus 7. | Reserve movement as planned D minus 7. | Dropping of Med stores complete - Div Q841. | | |
| 7 | D minus 3 | C party move MEARES CREEK. D Party move MEARES CREEK. | | Reserve BUGASU DROPPING GROUND - MEARES CREEK. | Troops at MEARES CREEK carry stores from BUGASU DROPPING GROUND. | US Combat Team in position LASANGA ISLAND. All troops to be in preliminary positions. Notify 3 Div (para 12 of Div 00) Bombing barges LABU LAGOON. Outline plan position ^{from} 58/59 Bn to be submitted to Bde. | |
| 8 | D minus 2 | | | Reserve BUGASU DROPPING GROUND - MEARES CREEK. | 58/59 Bn stores BUGASU DROPPING GROUND - MEARES CREEK. Troops and natives. | 1300 hrs 12 guides from 2/3 Indep Coy report 58/59 Bn. | Patrolling. |

| Ser. Date | Movt of personnel | Rations | Ammunition | Stores | Ops | Remarks |
|-----------|-------------------|---------|--|---|---|---|
| 9 | D minus 1 | | Scale A for 58/59 Bn MEARES CREEK - Complete | Additional tools for 58/59 Bn at BUGASU DROPPING GROUND. Cable Dump at 58/59 Bn HQ. | Fighting patrols 24 Bn in position North of BUANG R. 17 Bde Patrol diversion BITOI R. Bombing SALAMAUA - mouth FRANCISCO R. Night- 3 men 2/3 Indep Coy fire demolition charges NOT before 0400 hrs Night- US bridge-head NASSAU BAY. | Patrolling. |
| 10 | D Day | | | See Ops (tools) | Check digging in Tools up to Ridge. 1100-1200 Bombing mouth FRANCISCO R. and track west to BOBDUBI (see air plan. A/C available for impromptu tasks. | Form of air support request No 16 in POSTERN "IN" File. 3 days reserve of water in defensive position. ^{BRING} up reserves ammunition and rations. |
| 11 | D plus 1 | | | | Fires on BUGASU DROPPING GROUND if Ridge secured - every day thereafter. Check digging in. Early morning - bombing mouth FRANCISCO R. and track to BOBDUBI (bomblines see air plan) also opportunity targets East of BOBDUBI at our request | Ambushes and patrolling KOMIATUM track - 3 Div Op Instn 3. |
| 12 | D plus 2 | | | | Early morning bombing mouth FRANCISCO R. and track. | |

| Ser. Date | Movt of personnel | Rations | Ammunition | Stores | Ops | Remarks |
|-----------|-------------------|---------|------------|--------|-----|---|
| 13 | D plus 3 | | | | | Early morning NOT before D plus 3 bombing enemy KOMIATUM ● we request. <u>P.M. or Night-</u> Bombing mouth FRANCISCO R. |
| 14 | D plus 4 | | | | | |
| 15 | D plus 5 | | | | | |
| 16 | D plus 6 | | | | | Phase 3 should commence after D plus 5 opportunity targets East BOBDUBI Ridge at our request |

Y

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No. **36**
OFFICE DATE STAMP

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN
OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 58/59 aust inf bn, 2/3 aust indep coy, D coy 24 aust inf bn, det 2/2 aust fd
amb MISSIM, Det ASC SELLEBUR, L see sigs.

FROM 15 aust inf bde
Originator's Number **0 299**
Date **23**
In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)

| | | | | | |
|-----------|--------------|--------------|---------------|------------|-----|
| following | special | instruction | from | GOC | 5 |
| for | promulgation | to | all | leaders | 10 |
| down | to | see | comds | (.) | 15 |
| quote | (.) | jap | very | vulnerable | 20 |
| when | attacking | as | proved | by | 25 |
| recent | fighting | particularly | that | now | 30 |
| in | progress | MUBO | area | (.) | 35 |
| own | troops | DUG | in | with | 40 |
| firelanes | cleared | kill | jap | in | 45 |
| large | numbers | with | insignificant | losses | 50 |
| ourselves | (.) | 21 jun | one | coy | 55 |
| 2/3 bn | defeated | determined | attack | one | 60 |
| jap | bn | by | standing | fast | 65 |
| (.) | attack | finally | crumbled | in | 70 |
| places | only | ten | yards | from | 75 |
| our | fwd | positions | (.) | every | 80 |
| b ader | sec | cmd | upwards | is | 85 |
| the | medium | to | create | confidence | 90 |
| and | success | or | fear | and | 95 |
| defeat | (.) | leaders | must | develop | 100 |
| attitude | of NINA | mind | which | will | 105 |
| inspire | tps | under | their | cmd | 110 |
| to | stand | fast | (.) | remember | 115 |
| always | truth | of | maxim | fear | 120 |
| and | be | slain | (.) | unquote | 125 |
| (.) | lt-col | GUINN | replied | quote | 130 |

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNATURE
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INSERT "INCLUDING."

SIGNATURE

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

| SYSTEM IN | TIME IN | READER | SENDER | SYSTEM OUT | TIME OUT | READER | SENDER | SYSTEM OUT | TIME OUT | READER | SENDER |
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MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN
OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.
OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

-2-

0 299

(Write horizontally)

| | | | | | |
|-----------|---------|-------------|----------|------------|-----|
| your | special | instruction | received | and | 5 |
| passed | on | to | all | under | 10 |
| comd | (.) | have | every | confidence | 15 |
| in | this | bde | carrying | out | 20 |
| its | task | (.) | men | are | 25 |
| keen | and | morale | high | (.) | 30 |
| unquote | (.) | notify | 15 bde | when | 35 |
| above | duly | promulgated | (.) | all | 40 |
| informed. | | | | | 45 |
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THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN** BY ANY MEANS: () WIRELESS

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

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNATURE

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

SIGNATURE

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY)

TO: *ATTN SA*

FROM: *1102*

Capt Bushbertson

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TO: *1102*

FROM: *1102*

DATE: *1102*

CLASS: *1102*

NO. *1102*

REMARKS: *1102*

MESSAGE FORM

SECRET O.P. 25/43

SYSTEM FOR DESCRIBING DATES OF OPERATIONS

HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde (AIB)
19 Jun 43
G10/8

58/59 Aust Inf Bn ✓
2/3 Aust Indep Coy
D Coy, 24 Aust Inf Bn
L Sec Sigs.

1. Herewith G Circular No 12 published by 3 Aust Div.

for *Col Newman Capt*
Major
BM 15 Aust Inf Bde

58/59 Am

SECRET

H. Q. 3 Aust Div
H. Q. 15 IN 5 BDE
JUN 19 43
19 JUN 1943
G 10/8
NO

G Circular No 12

Subject : SYSTEM FOR DESCRIBING DATES OF OPERATIONS

The following system for describing days and dates in plans and orders will be adopted forthwith :-

1. FUTURE OPERATIONS

- (a) Day on which operation begins will be described as "D day".
- (b) Subsequent days will be described as "D plus 1" "D plus 2" etc.
- (c) Days before the operation is to begin will be described as "D minus 1" "D minus 2" etc.
- (d) The word "plus" or "minus" will always be used and NOT the mathematical symbol.

2. AFTER OPERATIONS HAVE BEGUN

On and after D day, the system described in para 1 will not be used. The normal calendar will be used to refer to any particular day.

3. DATES

When writing calendar dates in operation orders, signals and messages, the first three letters only of the month will be used, preceded by the appropriate numeral.

e.g. "16 Jun".

S. Hodgman
for Lt-col
GS 3 Aust Div

Distribution :

List B

SPECIAL ORDER

HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde (AIF)
8 Nov 43.

24 Aust Inf Bn
57/60 Aust Inf Bn
58/59 Aust Inf Bn ✓

1. Attached is copy of Special Order by Gen Sir Thomas BLAMEY, GBE, KCB, CMG, DSO.
2. The delay in the forwarding of this was due to the movement of the Brigade.

B. H. Evans.

Major
BM 15 Aust Inf Bde

g/r

[Handwritten mark]

2011 18752 1111 1111

SPECIAL ORDER

By

General Sir Thomas Blamey

G.B.E., K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.

COMMANDER, ALLIED LAND FORCES IN S.W. PACIFIC AREA
AND COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.

*Headquarters,
New Guinea Force,
19th September, 1943.*

THE capture of LAE is a signal step along the road to victory.

It was due to the intensive bombing of the Air Force and its constant protection of the Navy and the Army from the enemy in the air—To the strong support of the Navy in transporting and protecting the land forces to vital points—To the valour and endurance of all those troops who fought over the severe mountain regions through MUBO, KOMIATUM and TAMBUR to SALAMAUA—To those who moved many miles by sea and by air and marched and fought the enemy to a finish at LAE itself. It was due to the skilful planning of the staff and the bold and able leadership of the Commanders of all grades.

Members of the services of all grades gave their full strength to meet the demands of the fighting troops—To them is due their meed of honour.

The enemy remnant fled and few will escape the hardship of the mountain tracks.

Again the superiority of the combined Allied forces has been overwhelmingly demonstrated.

We will move steadily forward to the end and victory.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES
SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY

by

Lieutenant-General SIR EDMUND HERRING

K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., E.D.

GOC 1st AUSTRALIAN CORPS

Headquarters 1st Australian Corps
13 September 1943.

The capture of SALAMAUA marks the end of a campaign of 7 months duration. It has been a campaign of very great importance to the Allied Cause in the South West Pacific, and I desire to take this opportunity of extending to all of you, Australian and American alike, who have taken part, my heartfelt congratulations. You have all done a magnificent job, have outfought the Jap and have triumphed in spite of the difficult terrain and trying conditions in which you have been called on to fight.

This message is addressed primarily to all of you who have borne the heat and burden of the fighting, to the infantry first and foremost, to the gunners who have so worthily supported them, to the sappers for their grand work in this undeveloped country, to the signalmen who have maintained the vital communications and the medical services who have cared for the sick and wounded in most difficult circumstances.

It is also addressed to all those who have not actually taken part in the fighting, but have made the victory possible by their unceasing and unselfish devotion to duty on the lines of communication by sea and land, to those who have prepared supplies, to those who have loaded them into planes and on to ships, to those who have carried them through the air and over the water, to those who have handled them in all stages of their movement forward and finally those, including the natives, who have carried them to the forward troops.

I would also thank the Air Force for their generous co-operation at all times, and for their magnificent contribution to the victory won.

E. Herring
Lieutenant-General,
General Officer Commanding,
1st Australian Corps.

22/10
Adj. 58/59 Aust. Inf. Bn. *Cpt. Bell*

INVENTION - DELAYED ACTION TO 3 INCH MORTAR ML FUSE NO 150 MK I

HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde (AIF)
3 Oct 43
G4/59

58/59 Aust Inf Bn ✓

Copy to:
Capt N.R. JOHNS.

1. Forwarded herewith is copy of memo received by 5 Aust Div from NEW GUINEA FORCE re the invention of Sgt A V BAILLIE 58/59 Aust Inf Bn.

B. H. Trause

Major
BM 15 Aust Inf Bde

Sgt Bailler in Hospital

J.L.

(COPY)

Subject: INVENTION - DELAYED ACTION TO 3 INCH MORTAR
ML FUSE NO 150 Mk 1 - Ref 3 Aust Div memo G/37/1
dated 9 Aug 43

NG Force
20 Sep 43
G/4215/SD

5 Aust Div

1. The invention of Sgt A.V. BAILLIE 58/59 Aust Inf Bn has been submitted to the Army New Munitions Committee who advises as follows:-

"The idea is an Army requirement, but this particular submission does not fulfil such a requirement. It is considered that due to the difficulties of transport the ideal fuze would be one that could be -

(a) As simple as present fuze

(b) Capable of setting to either delay or instantaneous action."

2. It is desired that Sgt BAILLIE be thanked for his submission and for his interest in working up the invention.

Advise Bailey
COV

(Sgd) H.K. OXLEY Lt-Col
for (F.H. BERRYMAN) Major General
Deputy Chief of the General Staff

ML 3 INCH MORTAR - INCREASED RANGE POLICY

HQ
58/59 Aust Inf Bn
29 Aug 43

G33/43

15 Aust Inf Bde

Ref your memo regarding the above matter the following information is supplied as required.

(a) The adoption of an increase in range for bombs ML 3 inch MORTAR 10 lbs to 2750 is NOT favoured. The limited opportunity of engaging targets at that range in jungle warfare and the consequent difficulty of observation, it is considered outweigh the advantages of increased range.

(b) Any increase in weight of the present weapon is NOT acceptable due to the long distances that weapons have to be carried by gun crews.


(c) It is NOT considered that the adoption of a double harness would materially simplify transportation.

(d) The introduction of a 7½ lb bomb with a range of 2400 yds would be a definite improvement providing, as stated, no increase in weight or modification of the present weapon is necessary.

(e) A range of 3550 yds for a 7½ lb bomb is NOT considered desirable because of the increase in weight of the present weapon which would be necessary.

From the foregoing it will be seen that any increase in weight or modification of the present weapon is NOT considered desirable in jungle warfare.

The most essential improvement required of the present weapon is the introduction of a delayed action bomb, with greatly increased penetrating power for use against strongly built enemy pill boxes and defensive positions.


Major
Adm Comd 58/59 Aust Inf Bn

ML 3 INCH MORTAR - INCREASED RANGE POLICY

INFORMATION

1. Arising out of exhaustive trials, the introduction of a supercharge for use with bombs ML 3 inch mortar has been approved for adoption throughout the Empire.

In future production therefore, bombs ML 3" mortar 10 lb will be provided with :-

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 6 x 210 grain NC(Y) or) |) LARGE secondaries instead of |
| 183 grain cordite | |
| 6 x 100 grain NC(Y) or) |) SMALL secondaries |
| 86 grain cordite | |

2. The consequent increase in the range of 10 lb bomb will be as follows:-

| | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|---------|---------|
| P 3 (reduced) | SMALL secondaries | QE 45° | QE 80 |
| | LARGE " | 885 yds | 275 yds |
| | | 1450 " | 500 yds |
| P 6 (Full) | SMALL " | 1600 " | 510 " |
| | LARGE " | 2750 " | 900 " |

3. Under Jungle conditions ranges in excess of 1500 yards may be difficult to observe, but this may be offset to some extent by the use of smoke bombs for observation.

4. It is planned to introduce a new sight scale to give **REDUCED** and **FULL** charges with **LARGE** secondaries. The current sight scale will be retained for use with **SMALL** secondaries. Pending the introduction of the new sight scales, however, laying may readily be carried out by clinometers.

5. An essential pre-requisite to the introduction of these new secondaries is the strengthening of the base plate by a series of welded ribs. This operation can be undertaken by Brigade LAD's with materials supplied to DDME by OS. Preparations have been made that will enable the modification to be commenced within a few weeks of a decision being taken.

The strengthened base plate will weigh 50 lbs an increase of 5 lbs over the present weight.

6. A new 7½ lb bomb, with large (210 gr NC(Y) or 183 Cordite) secondaries is also in production.

Its performance with a strengthened base plate is as follows:-

| | | |
|------------------------------------|---------|----------|
| Reduced Charge | QE 45° | QE 80° |
| P 3(210 Gr NC(Y) (183 gr Cord) | 650 yds | 1195 yds |
| Full Charge | | |
| P 6 (210 gr NC(Y) (183 gr Cord) | 1905 " | 3550 " |

The lethal fragmentation area of this bomb is 87% that of the 10 lb bomb.

7. A New double shoulder harness for use in lieu of the present single shoulder harness is being produced in experimental quantities. This harness is much more comfortable for the wearer than the present type, and will considerably reduce fatigue.

INTENTION

Prior to incorporating all of the above details into current production for JUNGLE use the Director of Armament, Equipment Division, MGO Branch, LHQ., desires to obtain the views of units that will have to operate under these conditions.

(over)

INFORMATION REQUIRED

(a) Do you favour the adoption of an authorised increased range for bombs ML 3" Mortar 10 lb to 2750 yds. *NO*

(b) Are you prepared to accept an 8 lb increase in the weight of the base plates to obtain an increase in range. *NO*

(c) Will the provision of double shoulder harness effect your decision as at (b) above. *NO*

(d) As an alternative would you be prepared to use a 7½ lb bomb giving a range of approx 2400 yds without any modification to the base plate. or *YES*

(e) Do you feel that a range of 3550 yds for the 7½ lb bomb with a modified base plate is desirable. *NO*

As this matter indirectly affects future production of ML 3" Mortar bombs, a very early decision is requested please.

DOUBLE T

MOST SECRET

COPY NO 2

IMPLEMENTING OF OP ORDER NO 1

HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde (AIF)

23 Jun 43

G12/148

Ref para 5(d) of 15 Aust Inf Bde Op Order No 1.

1. 58/59 Aust Inf Bn

(a) One pl 2/3 Aust Indep Coy will relieve D Coy 58/59 Aust Inf Bn in BUGASU - MEARES CREEK area by 1000 hrs 28 Jun 43. D Coy will concentrate in MEARES CREEK area on afternoon 28 Jun ready to cross open kunai spur to forward coy area after dark or in misty conditions.

2. 2/3 Aust Indep Coy

(a) By 1200 hrs 26 Jun, 2/3 Aust Indep Coy will dispose one section, one half at SELEBUB and one half at PILIMUNG.

(b) This section will be under command HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde and will be used for local defence of the area and escort duties.

3. Staff Captain will co-ordinate movement of stores and will arrange accommodation and rationing at PILIMUNG and SELEBUB.

C. E. Newman Capt
for Major
BM 15 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION:

2/3 Aust Indep Coy

58/59 Aust Inf Bn

SC

3 Aust Div

File

Copy No 1

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