

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

Item number: 8/3/46

9 Infantry Battalion
January 1943

9TH. BATTALION

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

N. 100M

Unit 9TH. BATTALION

Date and Time.—From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GILI GILI	1 Jan. 43		<p>The Bn commenced the New Year with every available man working on the clearing of fwd def. areas.</p> <p>E Coy personnel pushed on with the construction of the two M.M.G. pill-boxes in D Coy. area, while Pnr.Pl. personnel continued with the construction of towers for the searchlights sited along the MAIWARA RIVER in A Coy. area.</p> <p>The Bn was notified officially to-day that a P 39 a/c had crashed at MULLIN'S HARBOUR, but that the pilot had been saved.</p> <p>Light rain fell to-day. The weather generally remains hot and muggy, and the strength of the Bn is 29 offrs and 533 O.R's.</p>	<p><i>S. J. Davis</i> Lieut.</p>
<p><i>W. J. ...</i> Maj admn cand. 9 Aug 43</p>				

9TH. BATTALION

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

H. 100M

Unit 9TH. BATTALION

Date and Time.—From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GILI GILI	3 Jan.	<p><i>DD</i></p> <p><i>DD</i></p> <p><i>DD</i></p> <p><i>DD</i></p> <p><i>DD</i></p> <p><i>DD</i></p>	<p>O.P.D and R.C. Church Services were held in the Bn area at 0900 hrs. The remainder of the day was devoted to 'make and mend' by all personnel.</p> <p>The Acting C.O., Adj., all Coy. Comds. and the Carrier Offr. attended a sand table exercise held at 7 Aust. Inf. Bde from 0900 hrs to 1300 hrs. The exercise included the incorporation of Inf., Tks., and Arty. in an attack on aerodrome defences and jungle and island terrain. Directing staff was the Bde Comd., Brig. J. Field, the B.M., and the 2 I.C. 2/5 Fd. Regt.</p> <p>At 0847 hrs Bn Sigs reported a break in I/T commn. with GEIBARA. W/T commn. was immediately established with the 101 set stationed at WAGA WAGA, and a party was sent out to repair the line.</p> <p>At 1110 hrs. they reported that the break had been repaired.</p> <p>C Coy reported this morning that there were now 13 cargo ships in the Bay.</p> <p>At 1915 hrs. A Coy. reported that the MAIWARA RIVER had broken its banks, and had submerged portions of K 1 sec. post, and that the KALOHI was 2 ft. 3 in. above normal. Both were rising rapidly.</p> <p>Hy rain again fell throughout the day. The strength of the Bn is 29 offrs. and 529 O.R's.</p>	<p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p>
				<p><i>S. J. King</i> Lieut.</p>

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

M. 100M

Unit 9TH. BATTALION

Date and Time.—From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GILI GILI	10 Jan.		<p>O.P.D. and R.C. Church Services were held in the Bn area at 0900 hrs to-day. The remainder of the day was devoted to 'make and mend' purposes by all personnel.</p> <p>At 1945 hrs., another unit concert was held at B.H.Q. It was attended by the Lt. Col. Meldrum., Adm. Comd., 7 Aust. Inf. Bde, the EM., Staff Capt., and Bde. L.O's. and I.O., the Acting C.O., 61 Aust. Inf. Bn., and by an estimated number of 200 of all ranks from the Bn.</p> <p>The concert, which was again arranged by the Band Sgt., was highly successful. It consisted of a series of songs, musical items, vaudeville sketches and impersonations by representatives from almost every Coy.</p> <p>The Bn. Band was not able to give any items because of the number of players evacuated to hospital suffering from malaria.</p> <p>At 0015 hrs. this morning, a hy. explosion was heard from the approximate direction of WAGA WAGA (SOUTH).</p> <p>Immediate contact was made with the WAGA WAGA patrol, who reported that a Beaufort Bomber which had been circling the area for some time, had crashed high up in the mountain ranges South of Waga.</p> <p>At 0730 hrs., a patrol under Lieut. Whyatt, O.C. GIBARA patrol, set out from WAGA WAGA to search for the plane. Friendly natives guided them on an arduous two and a half hour climb to the scene of the crash, a point approximately 100 feet from the summit of the range at an estimated height of 3500 feet.</p> <p>The plane had apparently flown head-on into the side of the range, which at this point is extremely steep and covered with thick jungle.</p> <p>The terrific impact had exploded the torpedo which the plane was carrying and set it on fire.</p> <p>Fragments of the plane and the remains of three members of the crew were discovered within a quarter mile radius of the scene of the crash.</p> <p>The patrol buried the remains of the crew, and salvaged an M.M.G. which was in good condition, and some rolls of amm., and then set out on the return trip to WAGA WAGA. Late in the aftn they were contacted by Air Force officials.</p> <p>The strength of the Bn is 30 offrs and 516 O.R's. The weather remains fine and hot.</p>	

L. P. Whyatt
Lieut.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

H. 100M

Unit 9TH. BATTALION

Date and Time.—From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GILI GILI	17 Jan.	<i>SS</i>	<p>Q.P.D. and R.C. Church Services was held this morning. The former was held as usual in the Bn. area at 0900 hrs., while, because of the shortage of padres, the R.C. Service was held in conjunction with 29 Aust Inf. Bde at 1000 hrs.</p>	
		<i>SS</i>	<p>At 1240 hrs an air raid red which heralded the area's heaviest air raid to date was sounded.</p>	
		<i>SS</i>	<p>At 1245 hrs. a formation of 24 Mitsubishi 22 ^{bombers} with an escort of 20 Zeros were seen coming in over Milne Bay on a N.W. direction. NA Btys. went into action without effect.</p>	
		<i>SS</i>	<p>Approximately 150 bombs were dropped on and around No. 3 strip, completely destroying 6 planes, and damaging others. Several vehicles, some petrol and amm dumps, and tents were hit.</p>	
		<i>SS</i>	<p>No bombs fell in the Bn. area. The all clear was sounded at 1335 hrs.</p>	
		<i>SS</i>	<p>All personnel devoted the day to 'make and mend' purposes. The weather is fine and hot and the strength of the Bn is 29 offrs. and 506 O.R's.</p>	
				<i>L. J. ... Lieut.</i>

War Diary

9 Aust. Inf. Bn.

SECRET
Copy No. 12.
1 Jan. 45

OPERATION ORDER NO. 2.

Ref. Map MILNE BAY PROV. 2" to 1 Mile (2nd Ed.)

INFORMATION

1. Enemy : It is anticipated that further enemy operations against MILNE BAY area may be either -

- (a) Sea-borne with infantry in large numbers and medium tanks or tankettes ;
- (b) Air-borne, using parachutes or personnel planes, which may crash-land on incomplete runways or clearings.

2. Own Tps. : (a) 7 Aust Inf Bde, with 2/5 Aust Fd Regt, 4 Bty 101 Aust A/Tk Regt under comd are acting as fwd tps undertaking defence against enemy tps from seaward on MILNE BAY from inc junc KALOHI CK and MAIWARA RIVER on the right to RABI on the left, and protection of GURNEY FD and TURNBULL FD against air-borne or other attack.

(b) 9 Aust Inf Bn has been given the task of beach defence on GABAGABUNA BAY from inc junc of KALOHI CK and MAIWARA RIVER on the right to incl AWADUMA CK on the left.

- (i) Under comd 9 Aust Inf Bn for operations are : 10 Bty 2/5 Aust Fd Regt, 'B' Tp 4 Bty 101 Aust A/Tk Regt, and two guns 'A' Tp 4 Bty 101 A/Tk Regt, and 'D' Coy 2/1 Aust Pioneer Bn, and 1 pl 32 Aust Employment coy under comd 'C' Coy.

(ii) Other tps in the area occupied by this unit who will be employed in the defence, with their relative strengths and arms are :

- (a) Approx. 220 all ranks 32 Employment Coy situated in LADAVA MISSION area and armed with one TSMG and 220 rifles.
- (b) Approx 90 all ranks 2/6 Hy A/A Bty stationed near LAUIAM CK and armed with two .5 MMGs, two Bren LMGs, nine TSMGs, one Boys A/Tk rifle, four pistols, four 3.7 guns and 86 rifles.
- (c) Approx 12 all ranks RAAF Marine Sec and US Air Corps stationed at RAAF JETTY in GABAGABUNA BAY and armed with nine rifles and one twin LMG of doubtful quality.

INTENTION

3. 9 Aust Inf Bn will deny to the enemy beach and river area from incl junc KALOHI CK and MAIWARA RIVER to incl AWADUMA CK, and the approaches to GURNEY FIELD along Routes 1 and 3.

METHOD

4. Fwd Tps : The beach will be covered by three coys, D Coy (Less one pl) with one pl B Coy on the right, C Coy with one pl 32 Employment Coy under comd in the centre, D Coy 2/1 Aust Pioneer Bn on the left, A Coy will cover the MAIWARA RIVER area.

5. Inter-Coy Boundaries : 'A' Coy from incl junc KALOHI CK and MAIWARA RIVER to a point on the MAIWARA RIVER at 000967. D Coy from MAIWARA RIVER at a point 000967 to incl JUNCTION CK 009976. C Coy with one pl 32 Employment Coy under comd from AIR FORCE JETTY 015973 to incl LAUIAM CK 031988. D Coy 2/1 Aust Pioneer Bn from excl LAUIAM CK to incl AWADUMA CK.

6. Fire Plan : (1) MMGs

<u>Location</u>	<u>Task</u>	<u>Bearing of Fixed Line</u>
(a) Sec 21 Pl (G.17) 985966 A Coy area.	Bend on SAMARAI RD 950x. Opportunity targets same area.	130° 30'
(b) Sec 21 Pl (G.25) 990963	Bend in river 994959 700x. Bend in river 985963 500x.	131° 267°
(c) Carriers (G.18) 996964	SAMARAI RD 850x. Opportunity targets in that area.	201° 30'

<u>Location</u>	<u>Task</u>	<u>Bearing of Fixed Line</u>
(d) Sec 20 Pl. (G.10) 000967	South side of minefield 300x. Opportunity targets.	82° 30'
(e) Sec 20 Pl. (G.12) 002967	Right bank of MAIWARA RIVER 1200x. Clearing on south bank of river.	218°
(f) Carriers (G.18) 006973	CORAL CAUSEWAY 1600x East point GOHORA BAY	72° 30'
(g) Carriers (G.20) 010977	SW corner GABAGABUNA BAY 950x. RAAF JETTY 500x.	182° 114° 30'
(h) Sec 19 Pl (G.25) 026984	Beach north shore of Bay 1050 x Point 025977 300x.	59° 178°
(i) Sec 19 Pl (G.19) 031988	Point 025977 1300x. One gun only ; North shore 035988 500x.	201° 86°
(j) Carriers (G.9) 033996	South along wire towards beach 850x.	176°
033995 (G.15) (One gun only each G.9 and G.13)	Along wire 600x.	45°
(k) (One gun only) 039991	Across GILI GILI JETTY 500x.	53°
(1) (G.4) 995039 039995	One gun only for sec protection.	
(2) Mortars		
(a) Two dets A Coy MAIWARA RIV. area	Clearing on south bank of river 987963. Clearing on SAMARAI RD 995959	
(b) Two dets D Coy vicinity RICKETY CK	SW corner GABAGABUNA BAY 009967. Beach north of RICKETY CK 009974. Beach W of AIR FORCE JETTY 013967.	
(c) One det C Coy LADAVA MISSION area	Mouth of GOHORA CK 021973. Beach E of ck mouth 023975.	
(d) One det D Coy 2/1 Aust Pioneer En GILI GILI area.	GILI GILI JETTY area. Beach at 034939.	
(3) A/Tk. Guns.		
(a) One gun (B.1) Route 9 MAIWARA VILLAGE area.	Covering minefield 'A' on MAIWARA RD.	
(b) One gun (B.4) Route 9 MAIWARA VILLAGE area.	Covering Labour Lines Rd.	

<u>Location</u>	<u>Task</u>	<u>Bearing of Fixed Line</u>
(c) One gun (A.2) ^{(5) A/A} 1131300 ⁰⁰³¹¹¹	Covering Route 9, and anti-berge.	
(d) One gun (B.2) vicinity junc Routes 5 and 9	Covering rd junc.	
(e) One gun (A.2) BnHQ area.	Covering minefield 'B' and Route 3.	
(f) One gun (A.4) Radio Locator area.	Covering Route 3.	

(4) Hy A/A Guns.

(a) Four guns on beach S of mouth MAUIAM CK. A/A defence and engagement of enemy MLCs in bay.

(5) Lt A/A Guns (Bofors)

One gun (with .5 MMG) Route 1 GILI GILI JETTY area 039995.

One gun (with .5 MMG) on beach GILI GILI area 040991.

Task : Engagement of enemy MLCs with MMGs engaging landing tps, and A/A defence.

One gun (with .5 MMG) Route 3 at 990989. Task : A/A Defence and $\sqrt{}$ Tk defence on Route 3.

(6) Arty.

(a) Fwd Guns : Guns C.1 (008970) and C.4 (025978 (039991) situated in the fwd area on the beach will be used for anti-berge defence.

(b) Rearward guns : Guns 'D' Tp (989986) on Route 3 will be used for targets as required within the area.

(7) Beach searchlights :

(a) Locations along coast and river. (A) Master light D Coy area 009970. (B) 009972. (C) 010977. (D) 017975. (E) C Coy area 018976.

(F) Master light C Coy area, 025977. (G) 027983. (H) 027984.

(b) R.1 A Coy area 985966; R.2 989964; R.3 997963; R.4 000967.

(c) Policy : On warning of possible landing on shore of MILNE BAY one man from sig pl and one from 'I' Sec will proceed per boat to HAIWOLA ISLAND, taking with them Lucas lamp, map, binoculars, compass, material for noting observations, they will also take with them their arms and equipment, material for anti-malarial precautions (mosquito net, cream, facenet, quinine for three days), water and rations for three days.

(d) When enemy forces cross the line drawn north and south from observers' posn signaller will signal with Lucas lamp to the master lights (A 009970 and F 025977) on beach.

(e) On receiving this signal master lights will sweep the bay to pick up any enemy craft. The arty will engage targets immediately they come within range, other lights will NOT be switched on at this stage.

(f) Remainder of lights in both C and D Coy areas will be fixed in relation to the MMG or ~~MG~~ fixed lines of fire, and will NOT be moved off this line, only to be switched on when one white flare is fired by the coy comd on whose front landing seems imminent.

(g) Lights in A Coy area on MALWARA RIVER will be mounted on stagings constructed to give suitable beam over fallen scrub, etc., on the southern side of the river. These lights will only be switched on when a green flare is fired by the pl comd in whose area the light is situated.

(8) Role of Reserves : B Coy (less one pl) in Bn HQ area on Route 3 will be prepared to counter-attack and restore the posn in either A, D or C Coys as required. HQ Coy less detached and elements of Bn HQ will be organised and plans prepared for counter-attack.

9. Carriers : One sec under comd B Coy A/P Pioneer Bn, with guns dismounted for fixed line tasks in that coy area.

10. Priority of Tasks : (a) Wiring - It is essential that all wiring be completed as a priority task.
(b) Clearing of long grass and other obstacles from fields of fire, followed by -
(c) Development of weapon pits and defensive localities.

11. Armn. Supply : Each coy will maintain 30,000 rds .303" SAA and 7000 rds .45" TSMG, and also 308 No.36 HE grenades (4 sec 260 (or two per man), and 7 sec 43) in its coy area.

12. Demolition : The following bridges will be prepared by the pioneer pl for demolition : (a) Bridge RICKETY CK Route 9 007973; (b) Bridges junc Routes 5 and 9 009977; (c) Bridge LAUIAM CK, Route 3 029989; (d) Bridge AWADUMA CK Route 1 043994. (Orders regarding the responsibility for this task will be issued separately.

13. A/Tk Minefields : (a) Field 'A' Route 9 (007936) MAIWARA VILLAGE area. (b) Field 'B' Route 5 (008978) B Coy area. (c) Field 'C' on Route 3 (023979) LADAVA MISSION area. (d) Field 'E' Route 1 south AWADUMA CK, (041994) GILI GILI JETTY area. (e) Field 'F' Route 1 (018005), Slaughterhouse area.

Minefields will be guarded 24 hours per day by coys in whose areas minefields are laid, and laid on orders of C.O. in posns already indicated.

14. Pioneers : Pioneers will develop and complete A/Tk obstacle on Route 5 already commenced, and will supervise the construction of tank destruction areas in conjunction with O.C., A/Tk To under comd.

15. Liaison between Coys : Each coy comd will liaise with the coy on his right and left and ensure that there are no gaps in the defence between coys.

16. A/C Policy : Enemy A/C will NOT be fired on by small arms fire, unless our tps are being directly attacked, and that the enemy A/C are within range. If attacked all small arms will engage enemy A/C vigorously, but under the direct control of the senior offr or NCO in the pl area.

By day it can be expected that any assault in force will be attacked by our own A/C. This is extremely unlikely to occur at night.

17. Times of Stand-to : Stand-to for all fwd coys will be until further notice 0615 to 0600 and 1945 to 1930.

18. Patrols : All patrols will be supplied by 'B' Coy (orders for GIBARA patrol issued separately to O.C. patrol). On no account will tps be removed from the fwd area for any reason, except evacuation to the RAP, without reference to BEQ.

19. Regimental Police : (a) A regimental police post will be established on Route 3 in Bn HQ area and will be maintained at all times.

(b) The duty of the R.P. on duty at this post will be to control all traffic, guide walking wounded to the RAP and to collect and smugglers from the line, and to generally give directions.

20. Time Available : The time available to complete the defensive works programme cannot be determined. It is therefore imperative that the tasks in hand be proceeded with at all speed.

ADMIN. ARRANGEMENTS

21. SA& Reserve : Res for Bn HQ, HQ Coy, A, B and D Coys, and supp arms will be located at Bn HQ, for C Coy and D Coy 2/1 Aust Pioneer Bn and supp arms will be at C Coy HQ.

22. Rations : Two days' rations res will be maintained at each coy defended locality. In addition eight days' rations will be carried by the QM out of which three days will be issued when operations are imminent.

23. Water : Max quantity of water in containers will be held in all sec posts.

24. 'B' Ech. : QM will arrange for the dumps in present area to be in a state of readiness to be moved to another posn if circumstances require, and no movement is to be made until ordered by Bn HQ.

25. RAP : Until action commences all sick will be evacuated to the RAP at its present position near Bn HQ. When action commences wounded from Bn HQ, HQ, A, B and D Coys will be evacuated to the RAP in its present posn. Wounded from C Coy and D Coy 2/1 Aust Pioneer Bn will be evacuated to the RAP established by the 2/5 Aust Fd Amb near the junc of Routes 1 and 3. Should this RAP be moved or destroyed evacuation will be direct to the ADS of 'B' Coy 11 Aust Fd Amb near the slaughterhouse.

INTERCOMN.

26. Bn HQ will remain in its present posn.

27. Signal Comn : All coy HQs will be connected by line, A Coy HQ will have extensions to 3 and 9 pls, also to GIBARA patrol, thence to WAGA WAGA SOUTH.

W/T commn will be maintained between WAGA WAGA SOUTH and Bn HQ 24 hrs per day. (Supplies being available) R/T sets SCR 536 'walkie-talkie' sets will be issued to coys and will be maintained individually. All coys will maintain one coy runner to be attached to Bn HQ permanently.

28. Air-raid Alarms : Air-raid alarm will be communicated to all coys under the present arrangement.

29. Gas Alarm : Each coy will place an empty 4-gal petrol drum in a central spot, and this drum will be beaten vigorously as a gas alarm. Infrm that the enemy is using gas must be communicated to Bn HQ as a priority message, on the first indication of its presence. Respirators will be kept in sec posts when these are occupied.

30. Call for Defensive Fire : Pl comds will signal personally if an attack is made on their fronts. The signal will be one green Verrey light. Coy comds will then signal personally when the attack is made on their coy fronts, the signal in this case being three red Verrey lights.

31. Password : This will be issued daily by Bn HQ.

32. ACK.

Signed at 1200 hrs.
Issued by D/R and runner.

[Handwritten Signature]
.....Liout.

Serial No. 22
W.E. Ref. 11/12/2
W.E. 36 x 874
Attached allowed by
W.E. 1 x 6

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

(Adapted)

9 Aust. Inf. Battalion (Unit) 2/1/43 19 (Date).

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

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	-	-	1
W.Os. Class II.	6	-	2
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants	3	-	3
Staff Serjeants	1	-	1
Serjeants	41	-	19
Corporals	86	-	23
Troopers, Privates, &c.	436	2	297
TOTALS	531	2	345

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

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
ATTACHED AGAINST W.E.		OTHER ATTACHMENTS NOT ALLOWED BY W.E.	
Pay Sgt. (1)	1 Sgt. A.A.P.C. Armourer (Cpl.)	Hygiene Sgt.	11 Fd. Hygiene
Bootmaker (Cpl)	1 Cpl. A.A.O.C.	J Sec. Sigs. (1)	
Postal Cpl.	1 (Sgt) Fd. Post. Unit	24 Fd. Coy. (1)	
Fitter (T.G.1)	1 (T.G.1) A.E.M.E.		
Cpl. A.A.M.C.	Posting filled by member 9 Bn.		
DETACHED			
3/Sgt. at Records Office, Warwick			

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

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts if known).
SUPERNUMARY TO W.E.				
	L/Sgt. (1)	Duty at Minna Force	11 Aust. Div.	
	Cpl. (1)	" 7 Aust. Inf. Bde.		
	Cpl. (1)	" Salvation Army Welfare Hut.		

Serial No: 22

W.E.Ref. 11/12/2 **FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS**

W.E. 36 x 874

Attached allowed by W.E. 1 x 6 9 Aust. Inf. Battalion (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached)	Surplus to Establishment	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment.)
Lieut.-Colonels			1
Majors			2
Captains			4
Lieutenants			1
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals	28		8

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank	Name	Corps	Date	Cause
Lieut.	ZIMMER, L.H.	9 Aust. Inf. Bn.	29/12/42	Marched in from Hospital

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank	Name	Corps	Date	Cause
T/Lt. Col.	MATTHEWS, G.R.	9 Aust. Inf. Bn.	30/12/42	Trans. out to special duty
Lieut.	KLOVER, H.A.	"	"	Struck off posted strength
Lieut.	ROBERTSON, A.	"	28/12/42	"

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

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

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held	Personal Number	Name and Initials	Corps	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed
Major	Q15601	SUTCH, A.J.W.	Adm. Comd.	Yes	
T/Capt.	QX40822	PERCIVAL, G.M.	O.C.D Coy	"	
T/Capt.	QX40871	BEECH, A.T.	O.C.A Coy	"	
T/Capt.	Q16396	SMITH, C.J.K.	O.C.E Coy	"	
T/Capt.	QX40820	TOON, A.C.	Q.M.	"	
T/Capt.	QX40823	KELLY, J.L.	O.C.B Coy	"	
T/Capt.	QX40882	MENDERSON, D.G.	2 I.C.C Coy	"	
T/Capt.	QX40830	HOLLOWAY, C.G.E.	O.C.C Coy	"	
Lieut.	QX33609	PICKERING, L.A.	4 Pl.	"	
Lieut.	QX40826	WANLESS, J.E.A.	14 Pl.	No.	Sick (M.D.S.)
Lieut.	QX40869	LEVER, K.W.	15 Pl.	Yes.	
Lieut.	QX40835	MULCAHY, E.R.	9 Pl.	"	
Lieut.	QX40832	HOLMES, R.H.	7 Pl.	No.	School-Arty.A/T. Puckapunyal
Lieut.	QX36425	PEACHEY, J.W.	13 Pl.	Yes	
Lieut.	QX40825	WOOD, H.D.	17 Pl.	"	
Lieut.	Q16928	BOYS, K.R.	1 Pl.	"	
Lieut.	QX40834	ROBERTS, F.B.	2 I.C.E Coy	"	
Lieut.	QX40833	SWAN, H.P.J.	3 Pl.	No	N.G.F.School-Camou- flage.
Lieut.	QX40837	HAMMOND, E.M.	19 Pl.	No	Arty.School-Pucka- punyal
Lieut.	Q121041	WYATT, F.J.	16 Pl.	Yes	
Lieut.	NP4912	GAUL, A.J.	O.C.H.Q.Coy	"	
Lieut.	NP10119	ZIMMER, L.H.	12 Pl.	"	
Lieut.	QX38589	COCHRANE, G.A.	Adjut.	"	
A/Lieut.	Q90512	WERDA, E.C.	11 Pl.	"	
A/Lieut.	SX3083	VINEY, W.M.	2 Pl.	No	N.G.F.School-Camou- flage.
A/Lieut.	Q18289	TAYLOR, N.R.	8 Pl.	No	School-Port Moresby
A/Lieut.	QX37916	THOMPSON, A.D.	T.O.	Yes	
A/Lieut.	Q1173	PLATZ, S.J.G.	I.O.	"	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held	Personal Number	Name and Initials	Corps	Date of attachment	Nature of attachment
Capt.	Q112810	MONAHAN, P.J.	A.A.M.C.		M.O.(Allowed by W.E.)

9 Aust. Inf. Battalion

(Unit)

2/1/43

(Date of Despatch)

Adm. Comd.

(Signature of Commander)

Major.

7 Aust. Inf. Bde.

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

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

From 0001 hrs. 28 Dec. 42 to 2359 hrs. 3 Jan. 43

9 Aust. Inf. Bn.

Was Original

CHANGE OF COMD.: On Wednesday, 30 Dec., the C.O. (Lt.-Col. Matthews) ~~left~~ relinquished comd. of the Bn. The 2 I.C. (Major Sutch) was appointed adm. comd.

FIELD WORK: Throughout the week all Coys worked on grass cutting and clearing in fwd defence areas. Every available man, including specialists from H.Q. Coy., was used on this work. Morning mess parades were held at 0700 hrs instead of 0730 hrs to enable the men to make an early start. Considerable progress has been made, but it is expected that at least another week will be required to complete the work.

During the week E Coy. personnel were engaged on the construction of M.M.G. pillboxes in D Coy area. Two of these posts are being built at present.

'I' SEC. WORK: 'I' Sec. personnel completed the large scale map of B.H.Q. area on Tuesday, 29 Dec. This map shows all topographical features and clearings within a radius of 250 yds of B.H.Q. on a scale of 25 yds to the inch.

During the week the large scale maps of the Coy. def. areas were also brought up to date.

PATROLS: On Friday, 1 Jan., 17 pl., D Coy., which has been maintaining the standing patrols on the SOUTH coast, was relieved by 16 pl., D Coy., under Lieut. Whyatt.

Pl. H.Q. remains at GIBARA, with outposts at WAGA WAGA (SOUTH), and GOMADODO.

The standing patrol at ELIBOLEBOLELI is still being maintained by 1 Sec., 10 Pl., B Coy.

INTERCOMM.: Comm. is still being maintained between Bn and Bde by W/T, L/T, and D/R, and between Bn and the SOUTH coast patrols by W/T and L/T.

The 101 W/T set at WAGA WAGA daily makes contact with the 101 W/T set at Bn.

L/T is used for comm. with D Coy., 2/1 Aust. Pnr. Bn.

T.E.W.T.: On Tuesday, 29 Dec., the C.O., all Coy. Comds. and Lieut. Werda acted as umpires in the 61 Aust. Inf. Bn. exercise with tps. in the RABI area. The C.O. was chief umpire of the exercise.

On Sunday, 3 Jan., the Acting C.O., Adjt., Coy. Comds., and Carrier Offr. attended a sand table exercise held at 7 Aust. Inf. Bde from 0900 hrs to 1300 hrs. The exercise included the incorporation of inf., tks., and arty. in an attack on aerodrome defences and jungle and island terrain. Directing staff was the Bde Comd., Brig. J. Field, the B.M., and the 2 I.C. 2/5 Fd. Regt.

WORKING PARTIES: Bde working parties were supplied from the various Coys. on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday, Dec. 28, 30, 31 and Jan. 2 respectively.

CHURCH PARADES AND MAKE AND MEND: O.P.D. and R.C. Church Services were held in their respective areas at 0900 hrs on Sunday, 3 Jan. The remainder of the day was devoted to make and mend purposes by all personnel.

RUMOUR: A rumour that 11 Aust. Inf. Div. will be relieved shortly
by 5 Aust. Inf. Div., and that it will then return to the mainland, is at present very persistent throughout the Bn.

Dates mentioned for the time of departure are Jan. 8, 15 and 16.

It is also strongly rumoured, in fact emphatically stated by some personnel, that 11 M.D.S. will evacuate to the mainland between 14 and 16 Jan.

The non-arrival of mail has also lead to the general ~~belief~~ inference that it is being held on the mainland until the unit returns.

The ~~sec.~~ impression is that these rumours are being circulated widely by the personnel of outside units attached to 11 Aust. Inf. Div.

MORALE: Morale remains at the usual high standard.

MEDICAL: Evacuation of malaria cases to hospital dropped this week to *31, the lowest recorded since October.*

DEMONSTRATION: On Monday, 28 Dec., a demonstration was given by ~~four~~ four Mark LLL tks near the junc. of Routes 3 and 9. All available personnel attended. The men were shown all features of the tks., and were then given a demonstration of the tks in battle formations, and their fire power. The general target was the mangrove fringe at the southern end of GABA GABUNA Bay, and floating drums in the Bay.

..... Lieut.

~~I.O. 9 Aust. Inf. Bn.~~
=====

DENTAL UNIT: The attached sec. of 2/1 Aust. Dental Unit continued throughout the week with its check on the dental health of all personnel, although the absence of two members who are suffering from malaria continues to greatly restrict their work.

John Smith
..... Lieut.

I.O. 9 Aust. Inf. Bn.

ORDERS TO GIBARA PATROL

Copy no. 4

To the officer commanding :-

1. You will establish yourself, Pl. H.Q. and one section in the village of GIBARA, disposing your other two secs., one at WAGA WAGA and the other at GOMADODO.
2. (a) A patrol will leave WAGA WAGA daily at 0730 and proceed to GOMADODO returning to WAGA WAGA.
 (b) A patrol will proceed from GOMADODO at 0830 hrs daily and will establish contact with a patrol from Pl.H.Q. at GIBARA, meeting preferably at BUI BUI.
 (c) A patrol from Pl.H.Q. at GIBARA will also proceed at 0730 hrs daily to establish contact with the standing patrol at ELIBOLEBOLELI.
3. You will commence the construction of a defensive position at the village of GIBARA immediately, large enough for Pl.H.Q. and two secs. This defensive position will be cleared and wired, and weapon pits constructed according to the plan laid down by the C.O.
4. In the event of enemy landing on the south coast of Milne Bay, the following action will be taken :-
 - (a) An immediate signal to B.H.Q. stating that the enemy has landed, followed by details of the strength of the force as it becomes available.
 - (b) If a landing is made east of WAGA WAGA the force there will stay in position and get as much information about the enemy as they can. If the enemy advances westward, and the section at WAGA WAGA is forced to withdraw, the sec. cmd. will take all his equipment with him, including telephone and R/T set, and will proceed to GOMADODO.
 - (c) If the enemy lands between WAGA WAGA and GOMADODO, the sec. at WAGA WAGA will continue to give information by W/T for as long as possible, and if forced to, will take to the mountains and make their way independently back to B.H.Q.
 - (d) The force at GIBARA will remain in its defensive position and continue to send back messages to B.H.Q. with accurate information as to the enemy's movements, strength, etc. The p/l. cmd. must bear in mind that his main object is to gain information and if he can remain at GIBARA he will continue to do so, if necessary remaining there to the last man and the last round in order that communication to B.H.Q. can still be maintained. He will not leave the defensive area at GIBARA without orders, and he must take with him his telephone, and all his items of weapons and equipment.
 - (e) In the event of an enemy landing between WAGA WAGA and GOMADODO, the sec at GOMADODO will remain as long as possible in order to gain information, and then proceed to Pl.H.Q., taking with it all articles of weapons and equipment, including telephone, after first advising Pl. cmd. of what is happening.
 - (f) In the event of an enemy landing east of GOMADODO the pl. cmd. will maintain his present ~~xxxx~~ section positions with constant patrolling on the roads, sending as much information back to B.H.Q. as can be ascertained.

4 Jan. 43

[Handwritten Signature]

Major
Adm. Comd. 9 Aust. Inf. Bn.

DISTRIBUTION.

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| 1. O.C. Patrol | 5. Coy. supplying patrol |
| 2. Bn.H.Q. | 6. Bde.H.Q. |
| 3/4. War Diary | |

Was Heavy

9 AUSTRALIAN INF. BN. ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTION NO. 17

111. FRUIT AND VEGETABLES FROM NATIVES : To ensure continuity of supply and even distribution of native-grown fruit and vegetables, ALL purchases will in future be made by ANGAU, from whom they will be collected and distributed by AISC.

The practice of units or individuals buying such produce from native or any other sources will cease forthwith, and it is pointed out that trading in Army rations is an offence, consequently any person who exchanges issue foodstuffs for fruit or vegetables is liable to a heavy penalty. The single exception will be spotting stations which are allowed an issue of tobacco for the purchase of goods from natives.

112 : BOMB LOCATION AND DISPOSAL : No person other than RAE personnel detailed for the purpose will interfere with unexploded bombs, shells, exploded bomb fragments, craters, damaged buildings or installations. Souveniring enemy ammunition and components of bombs will not be permitted as these components in the right hands may lead to valuable information being obtained.

Where bombs or shells fall in coy. areas the coy. in the locality will be responsible for placing a picquet to keep all personnel outside a distance of 100 yds radius of all unexploded bombs and shells until the area has been inspected by RAE personnel specially trained in bomb disposal and advice issued that the area is safe.

All personnel of coys should be instructed to report immediately the presence of any crater, bomb, booby-trap, gas bomb, shell grenade, any explosive mechanism or any sample of gas contaminated material. This instruction is not, however, meant to deter personnel from making every effort to minimise damage caused by incendiary bombs.

5 Sec 1 Bomb Disposal Coy will be responsible for the disposal of all unexploded bombs in the Milne Bay area. This sec will be assisted as required by squads from RAE units located in the Milne Bay area.

113. TRAFFIC CONTROL : 813 M.P. Coy (U.S. Forces) and 11 Aust Div Pro Coy are jointly responsible for traffic control in Milne Bay area.

114. ACCOMMODATION OF NATIVES : Instances have come to notice where natives have been permitted to share quarters with tps. Action will be taken by coy comds to ensure that this practice is not indulged in. Any natives who are employed in this area will be accommodated in native camps or otherwise, by direction of ANGAU.

115. BATHING : Troops are prohibited from bathing in the Wehuria Ck for a distance of two miles above the water-point at Wehuria Bridge (Map ref. Milne Bay provisional 053007).

116. INFRINGEMENT OF POSTAL REGULATIONS : The address of sender will NOT appear on parcels lodged at A.P.Os. The only information required is : (a) Address of addressee. (b) Full description of contents. (c) Regimental no. and name of sender.

The sending by post of grenades, fuses, live cartridges or other explosives is strictly prohibited. It is not only a serious breach of regulations, but also a criminally lunatic act endangering the safety of postal personnel, aircraft, shipping and mails carried.

It should be noted that severe dermatitis and burns are likely to be incurred by inexperienced personnel removing the filling from bombs, shells, etc.

117. SECURITY : To prevent any possibility of the enemy gaining identification from mail, all personnel will immediately destroy envelopes and wrappers on receipt of personal mail. Stamps and contents may be retained provided that the letter contains no indication of addressee's unit.

(Over)

118 : GREEN ENVELOPES - POSTAL CHARGES : In order to correct any misunderstanding which may exist in regard to postal charges on green envelopes posted on the mainland or in Tasmania, the attention of all ranks will be drawn to the following instructions :-

(a) When the green envelope contains one letter only - the green envelope will be addressed to the person for whom the letter is intended and bear the appropriate postage stamp. If it is intended that the letter be sent by air mail, the appropriate additional postage stamp will be affixed and the green envelope marked "By Air Mail."

(b) When the green envelope contains two or three letters - the following conditions must be observed :-

(i) Each letter enclosed in the green envelope must be placed in an addressed envelope which must bear the necessary postage stamps and be left unsealed. The green envelope will be addressed to the "Deputy Base Censor" and will not bear any postage stamps.

(ii) The words "By Air Mail" must be written on the green envelope if any of the letters enclosed therein are prepaid for transmission by airmail.

Letters, etc., not exceeding four ounces in weight, posted in Papua and New Guinea for delivery within the Commonwealth are exempt from postage, except when airmail transmission on the mainland or in Tasmania is desired, in which case the appropriate airmail fees are applicable.

119. GRENADE HAND NO. 69 IK.I (BAKELITE) : A number of these grenades have been returned from units with the detonators inserted upside down. This is most serious as a high percentage of blinds will occur if the grenade is incorrectly armed. Inquiries have also shown that personnel are in many instances not conversant with the correct method of throwing. Following is the method of preparing and throwing.

To prepare the grenade : Remove the base plug and insert the detonator (which is issued separately) open end toward the striker. Replace the base plug and screw it well home. This is most important as a loose detonator may prove dangerous, although the rubber support on the base plug provides a safety factor.

To throw : Remove the safety cap which covers the tape and lead weight. The grenade is then ready for throwing. Whilst it is in the air the tape will unwind and withdraw the safety pin.

The tape weight and pin must not be removed before throwing or a premature will result.

120. MOTOR TRANSPORT : Work tickets, duly completed, are to reach the transport office not later than 1800 hrs each Saturday.

5 Jan. 45

A. Hodgman
Lieut.
Adj. 9 Aust. Inf. Bn.

DISTRIBUTION : As per List 'B'

Serial No: 23
W.E.Ref. 11/12/2
W.E. 36 x 874
Attached allowed
by W.E. 1 x 6

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

9 Aust. Inf. Battalion (Unit) 9 Jan. 19 43 (Date).

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

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1 Detail.	2 Posted Strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishments).
W.E.			
W.Os. Class I.	1	-	1
W.Os. Class II.	8	6	2
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants	6	3	3
Staff Serjeants	1	1	
Serjeants	41	22	19
Corporals	86	63	23
Troopers, Privates, &c.	731	410	323
TOTALS	874	2	371

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

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
ATTACHED AGAINST W.E.		OTHER ATTACHMENTS NOT ALLOWED BY W.E.	
Pay Sgt. (1)	1 Sgt. A.A.P.O. Armourer (Cpl)	Hygiene Sgt.	11 Pd. Hygiene
Bootmaker (Cpl)	1 Cpl. A.A.O.C.	J Sec.Sigs. (1)	
Postal Cpl.	1 Sgt.Fd.Post.Unit	24 Pd. Coy. (1)	
Fitter (T.G.1)	1(T.G.1) A.E.M.E.		
Cpl. A.A.M.C.	Posting filled by member 9 Bn.		

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

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts if known).
SUPERNUMARY TO W.E.				
	(1)	Duty at 11 Aust.Div.		
	(1)	" 7 Aust.Inf.Bde.		
	(1)	" Salvation Army Welfare Hut.		

9 Aust. Inf. Battalion Unit.

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

Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)
Ammunition Examiners			Fire Control Operators			Panel Beaters		
Armament Artificers			Fitters			Pattern Makers		
Armourers			Fitters and Turners			Pharmacists		
Artificers, Artillery			Fitters, Cycle			Photographers, dry plate		
Axemen			Fitters, Drivers			Photographers, wet plate		
Bakers			Fitter's Mates			Photo-Writers		
Battery Surveyors			Fitters, M.V.			Plate Layers		
Battery Comdrs. Asst.			Fitters, Railway Signal			Plumbers		
Blacksmiths			Fitters, Signal			Predictor Numbers		
Boilermakers	1	1	Grinders			Printers		
Bricklayers	2	2	Gun Layers			Radiator Mechanics		
Butchers	1	1	G.P.O. Assistants			Radiographers		
Camouflage Modeller	1	1	Gun Operators			Range Takers	7	4
Carpenter and Joiner	6	1	Hammermen			Riggers		
Clerks	12	3	Height Takers			Riveters		
Clerks, Engineering			Helio Operators			Saddlers		
Clerks, Supply			Instrument Mechanics			Saddle Tree Makers		
Clerks, Technical			Instrument Mechanics, Surgical			Saw Doctors		
Coachmakers			Instrument Operators			Sawyers		
Computers			Intelligence Duties	7	2	Shoemakers		
Concretors			Joiners			Signallers	32	8
Cooks			Leather Stitchers			Signwriters		
Cooks, Hospital	23	8	Linesmen			Stokers, Stationery Engine		
Coppersmiths			Linesmen, Signals			Storemen, Technical	4	3
Dental Clerk Orderlies			Lithographers			Surveyors		
Despatch Riders			Machinists			Surveyors, Engineering		
Dispensers			Masons			Tailors	3	2
Draughtsmen			Masseurs			Telescope Identification Numbers		
Draughtsmen, Architectural			Mechanics, Dental			Textile Refitters		
Draughtsmen, Mechanical			Mechanics, M.T.	3		Tinsmiths		
Draughtsmen, Signal			Mechanics, Typewriter			Toolmakers		
Draughtsmen, Topographical			Mechanics, Wireless			Turners		
Driver Mechanics	28	14	Millwrights			Vulcanizers		
Driver Operators	86	48	Miners			Wagon Erectors		
Drivers, Transportation Plant			Moulders			Watchmakers		
Electrical Fitters			Nursing Orderlies			Watermen		
Electricians			Nursing Orderlies (Mental)			Welders		
Electricians, Eng. Units			Nurses, Trained			Well Borers		
Electricians, Signal			Observation Post Assistants			Wheelers		
Engine Artificers			Operating Room Assistants			Whitesmiths		
Engine Hands I/C			Operators, Signal			Wiremen		
Equipment Repairers			Opticians			Woodturners		
Farriers	1		Painters			Mortar Nos.	54	28
Amun. Nos.	4	2	Hyg. Dutymen	4	3	R.S.M.	1	
Batmen	38	29	Scouts	6	4	R.Q.M.S.	1	
Gen. Dutymen	2	1	S. Bearers	21	8	W.O. Caterer	1	
M.C. Orderlies	9	6	Water D'men.	2	2	T'pt. Sgt.	1	1
Orderlies	35	14	Storemen	7		C.S.M.	6	3
Pioneers	11	1	L.M.G., Rifle			C.Q.M.S.	6	3
Police	4	1	& A/Tk. Nos.	369	151	M.M.C. Nos.	75	29
Totals (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)	2	120			170			81

Notes— (a) If rank other than Private is involved give details on back.
(b) Authorized Trades or Specialists not included in list above will be added as required in spaces provided.

9 Aust. Inf. Battalion Unit.

Adm. Comd.

7 Aust. Inf. Bde.

Major.

Signature of Commander.

Date of Despatch 9/1/43

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

Serial No. 23

W.E. Reference A.I.F. _____
A.M.F. 11/12/2

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

W.E. 36 X 874

Date 9/1/43

Attached Allowed by W.E. 1 6

9 Aust. Inf. Battalion Unit

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks and W.E.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels	<u>1</u>		<u>1</u>
Majors	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
Captains	<u>11</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>4</u>
Lieutenants	<u>21</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>1</u>
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals	<u>36</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>8</u>

* Insert detail of higher rank as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name	Unit or Corps.	Date.	Cause.
<u>A/Lieut.</u>	<u>ENGLAND, S.M.</u>	<u>9 Aust. Inf. Bn.</u>	<u>6/1/43</u>	<u>Promoted to Cap. Rank</u>

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Unit or Corps.	Date.	Cause.
<u>Lieut.</u>	<u>WANLESS, J.E.A.</u>	<u>9 Aust. Inf. Bn.</u>	<u>4/1/43</u>	<u>Struck off posted strength (In hospital 8 days)</u>

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

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

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Appointment.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No.).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Major	Q15601	SUTCH, A.J.W.	Adm. Comd.	Yes	
T/Capt.	QX40822	PERCIVAL, G.M.	O.C.D Coy	"	
T/Capt.	QX40871	BEECH, A.T.	O.C.A Coy	"	
T/Capt.	Q16396	SMITH, C.J.K.	O.C.E Coy	"	
T/Capt.	QX40820	TOON, A.C.	Q.M.	"	
T/Capt.	QX40823	KELLY, J.L.	O.C.B Coy	"	
T/Capt.	QX40882	HENDERSON, D.C.	2 I.C.C Coy	No	Sick (M.D.S.)
T/Capt.	QX40830	HOLLOWAY, C.C.E.	O.C.C Coy	Yes	
Lieut.	QX33609	PICKERING, L.A.	4 Pl.	"	
Lieut.	QX40869	LEVER, K.W.	15 Pl.	"	
Lieut.	QX40835	MULGARY, E.R.	A/2 I.C.C Coy	"	
Lieut.	QX40832	HOLMES, R.H.	9 Pl.	No	School-Arty.A/T/ Puckapunyal
Lieut.	QX36425	PEACHEY, J.W.	13 Pl.	Yes	
Lieut.	QX40825	WOOD, H.D.	17 Pl.	"	
Lieut.	Q16928	BOYS, K.R.	1 Pl.	"	
Lieut.	QX40834	ROBERTS, F.B.	2 I.C.C Coy	"	
Lieut.	QX40833	SWAN, H.P.J.	3 Pl.	"	
Lieut.	QX40837	HAMMOND, E.M.	19 Pl.	No	Arty.School-Pucka punyal.
Lieut.	Q121041	WHYATT, F.J.	16 Pl.	Yes	
Lieut.	NP4912	GAUL, A.J.	O.C.H.Q Coy	"	
Lieut.	NP10119	ZIMMER, L.H.	7 Pl.	"	
Lieut.	QX36569	COCHRANE, G.A.	Adjt.	"	
A/Lieut.	Q90512	WERDA, E.C.	11 Pl.	"	
A/Lieut.	SX3083	VINEY, W.M.	2 Pl.	"	
A/Lieut.	Q16289	TAYLOR, M.R.	8 Pl.	No	School-PortMoresby
A/Lieut.	QX37916	THOMPSON, A.D.	T.O.	Yes	
A/Lieut.	Q1173	PLATZ, S.J.C.	I.O.	"	
A/Lieut.	Q16516	ENGLAND, S.M.	12 Pl.	"	
	QX43385				

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Unit or Corps.	Date of Attachment.	Nature of attachment.	Allowed by W.E. (Insert Yes or No.)
Capt.	Q112810	MONAHAN, P.J.	A.A.M.C.		M.O.	Yes
Chaplain	QX40847	COUPE, C.J.C.	A.A.Ch.Dept.		Padre	No

9 Aust. Inf. Battalion

(Unit.)

9/1/43

(Date of Despatch.)

Adm. Comd.

7 Aust. Inf. Bde.

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

Major

(Signature of Commander.)

Way diary
Original

SECRET.

INTelligence Summary

INCE 0001 HRS. 4 JAN. TO 2359 HRS. 10 JAN. '43

9 AUGST. INF. BN.

FIELD WORK: Throughout the week all available personnel continued

with grass cutting and clearing in the fwd. def. areas.

B Coy. personnel continued with the construction of the four M.C.O. pill-boxes in B Coy. area, two of which are now being built in C 20 sec. area, at the junc. of Routes 3 and 9.

'I' SEC. WORK: 'I' sec. personnel made a complete check on all clearing

and wiring in the In. area during the week. Wiring and clearings in B Coy., 2/1 Aust. Inf. Bn., area was also checked.

On Tuesday, Jan. 5, "A" minefield was checked, and the posn. of the mines staked preparatory to the men moving in to clear the field of grass.

1/Opl. J. Stackpole returned to the sec. on Wednesday, 6 Jan. from 2/3 Convalescent Depot. This now brings the sec's. strength to one OFTR., one M.C.O., and four O.I.'s.

PATROLS: Patrols remain as set out in our 'I' Summary to 3 Jan., '43.

INT RECON: Recon. remain as set out in our 'I' Summary to 3 Jan. '43.

GRAND TABLE: A grand table exercise to illustrate the method of co-operation

between the inf. and inf. was held at 7 Aust. Inf. Bde from 0900 to 1200 hrs on Saturday, Jan. 5. It was attended by the Acting C.O., Adjnt., all Coy. Comds. - with the exception of Capt. Holloway and Lieut. Gall, who were A.O.D. - and the Carrier Offr. Bty. Comds of 2/1 and 161 A/Tk Regts. also attended.

Directing staff was Brig. J. Field, then Bde. Comd., and the B.N.

RETURN OF PERSONNEL: On Wednesday, 6 Jan., Padre G.L. Coupe returned to

the unit from 2/9 Aust. Inf. Bn., to which he was attached as padre during the recent action in the HUNA area.

On Thursday, 7 Jan., Lieuts. Swan and Vincy returned to the unit from BOMB HOLLOWAY, where they had been attending a camouflage school.

SCHOOL: An M.C.O. School consisting of 30 personnel from all Coys.

was commenced on Monday, 4 Jan. It was continued throughout the week.

AERIAL RECON: On Friday, 8 Jan., the Acting C.O., Adjnt., I.O.

and all Coy. Comds. were taken up on an aerial recon. of the In's defences. Immediate steps have been taken to rectify major faults in the unit's camouflage system, and a report is being submitted to Bde.

AWARDS: Notification was received in 11 Aust. Inf. Div. Memo A Q 218

that Military Medals had been awarded to OX 3055 Opl. A.G. Irwin and Q 15775 Pto. L.F. Baumann, both of A Coy., in recognition of the part they played in the HUNA BAY action of Aug./ Sept., '42.

PLANE CRASH: At 0025 hrs. on Sunday, 10 Jan. a by explosion,

accompanied by a vivid flash of light, was heard from the approximate direction of WAGA WAGA (SOUTH).

Immediate contact was made with the ~~WAGA~~ patrol, who reported that a ~~BLAUFORT~~ BOMBER had crashed in the ranges behind WAGA on a Magnetic Bearing of 177 deg.

At 0730 hrs. a patrol led by Lieut. Whitt, C.O. GIBRA patrol, set out to search for the plane.atives guided them to the scene of the crash, which was about 100 ft. below the summit of the 3500 ft. range south of WAGA WAGA.

The plane had apparently flown head on into the side of the range, which at this point is extremely steep and covered with thick jungle, caught on fire, and exploded a torpedo bomb, the tail of which was discovered some distance from the plane.

Within a quarter mile radius of the scene of the crash, the patrol discovered the remains of 3 bodies and fragments of the rest of the plane.

One machine gun and several rolls of am. were salvaged from the wreck.

The patrol buried the remains of the crew, and then set out on the two and a half hour climb down to WAGA WAGA.

Late in the afternoon they were contacted by ~~WAGA~~ Base Operation office from 100 Sqdn., No. 1 strip.

DEDICATION CEREMONY: Approximately 100 personnel of all ranks from this

unit attended the Dedication of the Bilue Bay War Cemetery at 0900 hrs. on Thursday, 7 Jan., when the remains of all who fell during the action of August/September were buried.

WEATHER: Heavy rain fell in the area during the week. At 1945 hrs on

Tuesday, Jan. 5, both the MAIBARA RIVER and MAIBARA CR. broke their lower banks, after registering rises of 5 ft. and 5 ft. 6 in. respectively. Parts of K 1 and K 2 sec. areas were submerged.

DENTAL UNIT: The attached sec. of 2/1 Aust. Dental Unit continued

during the week with its systematic check on the dental health of all personnel. Their work, however, is still greatly restricted by the absence of personnel suffering from malaria.

ENTERTAINMENT: At ¹⁹⁴⁵ 0725 hrs on Sunday, 10 Jan., another unit concert was

held at B.H.Q. It was attended by Lt.-Col. Moulden, Adj. Comd. 7 Aust. Inf. Bde., the B.H.Q. Staff Capt., and Bde L.O's, and by an estimated number of 300 of the men. The concert, which was again organised by the Band Sgt., was again highly successful, featuring songs, musical items, and short sketches by personnel from nearly every Coy. Rain commenced to fall at ~~0830~~ 2030 but the audience refused to move until the end of the show.

CHURCH SERVICES AND 'MAKE AND MEND': C.O. and A.C. Church services were

held in the In area at 0900 hrs on Sunday, 10 Jan. The remainder of the day was devoted to 'make and mend' by all personnel.

MORALE: Morale remains at the usual high standard.

[Signature] Lieut.
I.O. 9 Aust. Inf. Bn.

9 AUSTR. INF. BN. ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTION NO. 18

121. WEARING OF BELTS MADE FROM BELTS M.G. 250 RD. OR BELTS STRIPLESS :
 It has been noted that some personnel have been wearing belts made from unauthorised material as above. The mutilation of good operational stores for this purpose is a serious offence, and if the articles were U/S before mutilation, they should still have been returned as salvage. The wearing of such belts in the future will be the ground for severe disciplinary action.

122. MAINTENANCE OF ARMS : In this area particular care needs to be taken in care and cleaning, over and above normal daily cleaning. All metal parts of each weapon should be cleaned and oiled regularly, and check should be made at frequent intervals to ensure that nothing is overlooked, e.g., additional stripping of Bren should be done at least weekly. In this connection it has been found in one coy. that additional stripping disclosed extensive rusting under butt plates, in piston post spring and recess. Though recoil spring and buffer must not be removed from T.S.M.G. (R.O.57), these components can be examined and oiled without removal.

This check should be carried out with all weapons. Attention is drawn to instruction (List C) of 14 Oct. 42.

123. SALVAGE - AMMUNITION : Care is to be taken to preserve all brass, ammunition boxes, mortar bomb carriers, igniter set drums etc., all surplus to be returned to R.S.M. as salvage. All cartridge cases and chargers should be picked up from range immediately following each practice. Should any of the above items be held in coys. now, they are to be returned to R.S.M.

124. REPORTS ON RANGE AND FIELD FIRING PRACTICES, ETC. : In future, immediately following each practice, in addition to the normal advice of ammn expended, the following advice is to be rendered to this H.Q. :-

Date	Type of Practice	No. of all ranks exercised	No. of rds. fired	Defects in weapons	Defects in ammn.
------	------------------	----------------------------	-------------------	--------------------	------------------

In the columns will be shown the details of each weapon and type of ammn. used. Defects should be stated in detail - type, suspected cause, range (in case of mortar shoot), etc. For example :-

1943	Jan.- Ranging practice 3" Mortar	24	48	Nil	3 'drop-shorts' fired at - yds. fell at - yds. Faulty secondary charge
	Range practice rifle	0	600	Two rifles with faulty extractors - receiving attention from armourer.	Nil.

125. RIFLES NO. 1 MK. 3 AND MK. 3 (STAR) - REMOVAL OF STOCK : The practice of removing the fore-end portion of the stock of the rifle No. 1 Mk. 3 (star) between the trigger guard and the outer band results in completely destroying the accuracy of the rifle. This practice will cease forthwith. Coy comds. will take disciplinary action in all cases of this nature detected in future.

126. CLOTHING & EQPT. - INCLUSION IN PARCELS ADDRESSED TO CIVILIANS : Personnel are forbidden to include eqpt. or other articles comprising personal issues in parcels forwarded to civilian addresses. Franking officers will pay particular attention to this order as any breach will lead to the removal of the articles from parcels by base censorship and the subsequent debit therefore against the soldier.

(over)

127. FIRE REPORTS : Coy. comds. will ensure that when fire reports are submitted, detailed particulars of the following matters are given : (a) When was the fire first discovered ? (b) Who made the discovery ? (c) What immediate action was taken ? (d) When was the fire alarm sounded ? (e) What action was taken by fire picquet, fire parties, fire squad ? (f) Who was in charge of fire fighting operations ? (g) Were the fire fighting appliances and water supplies efficient and sufficient ? (h) When was the fire extinguished ? (i) What was the cause of the fire ? (j) Who was responsible for the outbreak ? (k) What was the damage to persons, stores and equipment, property ? (l) Whether the unit fire orders were correctly drawn up and published.

128. CAPTURED ENEMY DOCUMENTS, EQUIPMENT, ETC. : Coy. comds. will impress on all ranks the value and importance of captured documents, office records and equipment. Speed in making these articles available for examination by the appropriate authorities is essential. Prisoners will be immediately searched and great care will be taken in preventing their destroying any papers in their possession. No disciplinary action will be taken in any case of theft (souveniring), tampering with, failing to report possession of, or being in unauthorised possession of, captured enemy material.

129. UNAUTHORISED INTERFERENCE WITH EQPT. : There have been cases recently where minor defects in technical eqpt. have been converted into major defects by unskilled attempts at repair by unauthorised personnel. As spare parts for certain instruments, particularly watches and clocks, are almost unobtainable, such tampering results in loss of equipment.

130. DANGEROUS ENCLOSURES IN PARCELS FORWARDED BY POST : A fire aboard a ship carrying war supplies, including explosives, was caused recently by spontaneous combustion of wax matches included in mails for Army personnel. All members of the forces will be instructed to request their relatives and friends not to forward wax matches or charged petrol lighters to them through the post. The dangers as stated above will be explained to troops. Franking officers will delete any request for wax matches or charged petrol lighters from letters.

131. USE OF SERVICE AMMN. FOR DRILL PURPOSES : The use of live service ammn. for drill purposes is not permitted. Such use with cartridges, Q.F. H.E. 40-mm., is particularly dangerous, as the fuse can be easily damaged and premature close to or in the bore of the gun may be caused. Suitable drill 40-mm. cartridges will be made available for drill purposes.

132. CARE OF PAYBOOKS - FORWARD AREAS : All troops proceeding to forward areas are to place their paybooks in anti-gas wallets and keep them in their shirt pockets.

133. SUPPRESSIVE QUININE : As from 11 Jan 43 taking of two tablets daily of quinine sulphate as a suppressive measure will cease. Such treatment will continue by taking one atabrin tablet daily after the evening meal for six days of the week.

134. RESULTS OF COURTS MARTIAL : A D.C.M. on 21 Dec. 42 sentenced QX2062 Spr. B. E. Dunge, R.A.E., 2 Docks Op. Coy., R.A.E., to six months' detention for stealing at 8000 More by on 22 Oct. 42 71 packets of cigarettes, the property of the U.S. Army.

A D.C.M. on 21 Dec. 42 sentenced N85857 Bdr. Warner, J.D., 32 Aust. Hy. A.A. Bty., Aust. A.A. Cp. to reduction to the ranks and fined him £20 for so negligently handling a T.S.H.G. on 7 Nov. 42 as to cause it to discharge, thereby injuring the big toe of his right foot.

24 Jan. 43

[Signature] Lieut.
Adj. Gen. Inf. Bn.

DISTRIBUTION

Serial No. 24

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

A.I.F. _____
W.E. Reference _____

A.M.F. 11/12/2

W.E. 36 X 374

Date 16/1/43

Attached
Allowed by W.E. 1 X 6

9 Aust. Inf. Battalion Unit

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks and W.E.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels	1	-	1
Majors	6	1	2
Captains	11	6	5
Lieutenants	21	21	-
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals	36	-	8

* Insert detail of higher rank as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name	Unit or Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Lieut.	WANLESS, J.E.A.	9 Aust. Inf. Bn	9/1/43	Marched in

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Unit or Corps.	Date.	Cause.
T/Capt.	HENDERSON, D.G.	9 Aust. Inf. Bn	14/1/43	Struck off posted stgth. (In hospital 8 days)

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

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

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Appointment.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No.)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Major	Q15601	SUTCH, A.J.W.	Adm. Comd.	Yes	
T/Capt.	QX40822	PERCIVAL, G.M.	O.C.D. Coy	"	
T/Capt.	QX40871	BEECH, A.T.	O.C.A. Coy	"	
T/Capt.	Q16396	SMITH, C.J.E.	O.C.E. Coy	"	
T/Capt.	QX40820	TOON, A.C.	Q.M.	"	
T/Capt.	QX40823	KELLY, J.L.	O.C.B. Coy	"	
T/Capt.	QX40830	HOLLOWAY, C.G.E.	O.C.C. Coy	"	
Lieut.	QX33609	PICKERING, L.A.	4 Pl.	"	
Lieut.	QX40826	WANLESS, J.E.A.	14 Pl.	"	
Lieut.	QX40869	LEVER, K.W.	15 Pl.	"	
Lieut.	QX40835	MULCAHY, E.R.	A/216 A Coy	"	
Lieut.	QX40832	HOLMES, R.H.	9 Pl.	No	School-Arty. A/T. Puckapunyal
Lieut.	QX36425	PEACHEY, J.W.	13 Pl.	Yes	
Lieut.	QX40825	WOOD, H.D.	17 Pl.	"	
Lieut.	Q16928	BOYS, K.R.	1 Pl.	"	
Lieut.	QX40834	ROBERTS, F. B.	2 I.C.E. Coy	"	
Lieut.	QX40833	SWAN, H.P.J.	3 Pl.	"	
Lieut.	QX40837	HAMMOND, E.M.	19 Pl.	No	Arty. School-Puckapunyal.
Lieut.	Q121041	WHYATT, F.J.	18 Pl.	Yes	
Lieut.	NP4912	GAUL, A.J.	O.C.H.Q. Coy	"	
Lieut.	NP10119	ZIMMER, L.H.	7 Pl.	"	
Lieut.	QX36569	COCHRANE, G.A.	Adj. Gen.	"	
A/Lieut.	Q90512	WERDA, E.C.	11 Pl.	"	
A/Lieut.	SX3083	VINEY, W.M.	2 Pl.	"	
A/Lieut.	QX43139	TAYLOR, M.R.	8 Pl.	No	School-Pt. Moresby
A/Lieut.	QX37916	THOMPSON, A.D.	T.O.	Yes	
A/Lieut.	Q1173	PLATZ, S.J.G.	I.O.	"	
A/Lieut.	QX43385	ENGLAND, S.M.	12 Pl.	"	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Unit or Corps.	Date of Attachment.	Nature of attachment.	Allowed by W.E. (Insert Yes or No.)
Capt.	Q112810	MONAHAN, P.J.	A.A.M.C.		M.O.	Yes
Chaplain	QX40847	COUPE, C.J.C.	A.A.Ch. Dept.		Padre	No.

9 Aust. Inf. Battalion

(Unit.)

16/1/43

(Date of Despatch.)

Adm. Comd.

7 Aust. Inf. Bde.

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

Major
(Signature of Commander.)

Serial No. 24 **FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.**

(Adapted)

W.E. Ref. 11/12/5

W.E. 36 x 874

9 Aust. Inf. Battalion (Unit)

16 Jan. 19 45 (Date).

Attached allowed
by W.E. 1 x 6

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

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1 Detail.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1		1
W.Os. Class II.	8	6	2
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants	6	3	3
Staff Serjeants	1	1	
Serjeants	41	24	17
Corporals	86	60	26
Troopers, Privates, &c.	731	1	325
TOTALS	874	1	374

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

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
ATTACHED AGAINST W.E.		OTHER ATTACHMENTS NOT ALLOWED BY W.E.	
Pay Sgt. (1)	1 Sgt. A.A.P.C.	Hygiene Sgt.	11 Fd. Hygiene
Armourer Cpl. (1)	Armourer Sgt. A.E.M.E.	J Sec. Sigs (1)	
Bootmaker Cpl. (1) (In hospital)	1 Cpl. A.A.C.C.	24 Fd. Coy (1)	
Postal Cpl. (1)	1 Sgt. Fd. Post Unit		
Fitter (F.C.1) (1)	1 (F.C.1) A.E.M.E.		
Posting filled by member 9 Bn.	1 Cpl. A.A.M.C.		

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

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts if known).
SUPERNUMARY TO W.E.				
	(1)	Duty At 11 Aust. Div.		
	(1)	" 7 Aust. Inf. Bde.		
	(1)	" Salvation Army Welfare Hut.		

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

Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)
W.L.								
Ammunition Examiners			Fire Control Operators			Panel Beaters		
Armament Artificers			Fitters			Pattern Makers		
Armourers			Fitters and Turners			Pharmacists		
Artificers, Artillery			Fitters, Cycle			Photographers, dry plate		
Axemen			Fitters, Drivers			Photographers, wet plate		
Bakers			Fitter's Mates			Photo-Writers		
Battery Surveyors			Fitters, M.V.			Plate Layers		
Battery Comdrs. Asst.			Fitters, Railway Signal			Plumbers		
Blacksmiths	1	1	Fitters, Signal			Predictor Numbers		
Boilermakers			Grinders			Printers		
Bricklayers	2	2	Gun Layers			Radiator Mechanics		
Butchers	1		G.P.O. Assistants			Radiographers		
Camouflage Modeller			Gun Operators			Range Takers	7	4
Carpenter and Joiner	6	1	Hammermen			Riggers		
Clerks	12	2	Height Takers			Riveters		
Clerks, Engineering			Helio Operators			Saddlers		
Clerks, Supply			Instrument Mechanics			Saddle Tree Makers		
Clerks, Technical			Instrument Mechanics, Surgical			Saw Doctors		
Coachmakers			Instrument Operators			Sawyers		
Computers			Intelligence Duties	7	1	Shoemakers		
Concretors			Joiners			Signallers	32	7
Cooks	23	8	Leather Stitchers			Signwriters		
Cooks, Hospital			Linesmen			Stokers, Stationary Engine		
Coppersmiths			Linesmen, Signals			Storemen, Technical	4	2
Dental Clerk Orderlies			Lithographers			Surveyors		
Despatch Riders			Machinists			Surveyors, Engineering		
Dispensers			Masons			Tailors	3	2
Draughtsmen			Masseurs			Telescope Identification Numbers		
Draughtsmen, Architectural			Mechanics, Dental			Textile Refitters		
Draughtsmen, Mechanical			Mechanics, M.T.	3		Tinsmiths		
Draughtsmen, Signal			Mechanics, Typewriter			Toolmakers		
Draughtsmen, Topographical			Mechanics, Wireless			Turners		
Driver Mechanics	28	17	Millwrights			Vulcanizers		
Driver Operators	36	53	Miners			Wagon Erectors		
Drivers, Transportation Plant			Moulders			Watchmakers		
Electrical Fitters			Nursing Orderlies			Watermen		
Electricians			Nursing Orderlies (Mental)			Welders		
Electricians, Eng. Units			Nurses, Trained			Well Borers		
Electricians, Signal			Observation Post Assistants			Wheelers		
Engine Artificers			Operating Room Assistants			Whitesmiths		
Engine Hands I/C			Operators, Signal			Wiremen		
Equipment Repairers	1		Opticians			Woodturners		
Farriers			Painters			Mortar Nos.	54	17
Armen. Nos.	4	2	Hyg. D'men.	4	3	R.S.M.	1	
Batmen	39	20	Scouts	6	5	R.O.M.S.	1	
Gen. D'men.	2	2	S. Bearers	21	8	W.O. Caterer	1	
M.C. Orderlies	9	6	Water D'men.	2	2	P't. Sgt.	1	1
Pioneers	11		Storemen	7		C.S.M.	6	1
Police	4	1	L.M.C. Rifles			C.O.M.S.	6	
Orderlies	35	12	A/Tk. Nos.	370	166	M.M.S. Nos.	75	29
Totals (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A)	268	126		420	165		191	63

Notes—(a) If rank other than Private is involved give details on back.
(b) Authorised Trades or Specialists not included in list above will be added as required in spaces provided.

9 Aust. Inf. Battalion

Unit.

Adm. Comd.

7 Aust. Inf. Bde.

Signature of Commander.

Major

Date of Despatch 16 Jan. 43.

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

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

SECRET

From 0001 hrs. 11 Jan. '43 to 2359 hrs. 17 Jan. '43.

9 Aust. Inf. Bn.

FIELD WORK: Throughout the week all Coys. continued with work on grass

cutting and clearing in the fwd def areas, with work on weapon pits in their own area, and with road repair work on Route 3.

E Coy. personnel continued with the construction of H.M.A. pill-boxes. Four have now been completed, two in G 20 sec. area, and two more in D Coy. near G 16 sec. area.

A fifth is now being constructed in G 25 sec. area, and another will be built in this area as soon as possible. Two more posts will be built in G 29 sec. area.

'I' Sec. Work: During the week 'I' Sec. personnel traversed the mathes cut by 17 Bde personnel between Route 3 and No. 1 strip.

All Coy. maps were brought up to date.

On Thursday, 12 Jan., Sgt. R. McLuckie returned to the sec. from the mainland, where he had been attending a six weeks 'I' School.

On Saturday, 16 Jan., Pte. J. Bartlett transferred to the cipher sec. of 7 Aust. Inf. Bde.

PATROLS: Patrols remain as set out in our Summary to 3 Jan. 43.

INTERCOMM.: Comm. remains as set out in our Summary to 3 Jan. 43.

SCHOOLS: The N.C.O. School, which was being attended by 30 personnel drawn from all Coys., concluded on Saturday, 16 Jan.

WEATHER: Hy. rain fell in the Bn. area during the week. At 0800 hrs. on Monday, 11 Jan., both the MAIWARA and KALONI had broken their banks, showing rises of 5 ft. and 2 ft 6 in. respectively, and flooding 8 pl. area to a depth of up to 18 inches. By 1550 hrs., however, both had subsided.

On Saturday, 16 Jan., at 2050 hrs. the MAIWARA again broke its banks after light to hy rain had fallen in the afternoon. Portions of 8 pl. area were again submerged.

VISITORS: On Saturday, 16 Jan., the G.O.C. 5 Aust. Inf. Div. (Maj.-Gen. Hilford), Brig. J. Field, and Brig. Monaghan, of 29 Aust. Inf. Bde., were

conducted over the Bn. area by the Acting G.O. (Major Sutch).

On Friday, 15 Jan., the unit was visited by Col. Cameron, G.S.O. 1

Tas. Forces, and Capt. Millard, L.H.Q. School, Bonegilla. They were conducted over A Coy. area by Major Sutch. Object of the visit was to enable them to inspect conditions encountered in jungle warfare.

AIR RAIDS: At 2310 hrs. on Saturday, 16 Jan. an air raid alarm
 was given. No planes were heard or sighted, and the all clear was
 sounded at 2345 hrs.

At 1235 hrs. on Sunday, 17 Jan. air raid red was given and at 1245 hrs. 23 enemy bombers with an escort of 14 Zeros were seen coming in from the East.

A/A batteries went into action. No bombers were dropped in the Bn area.

In the height of the raid, C Coy. reported that a Zero or Jap. Naval bomber flew at about 200 feet over the ships in the Bay. It was engaged by small arms fire from the ships, but passed on in the direction of WAGA WAGA (SOUTH).

ENTERTAINMENT: The Mobile Film Unit visited the area on Friday, 15 Jan., and Saturday, 16 Jan. Films were shown each night, and were largely attended by all ranks.

DENTAL UNIT: The attached sec. of 2/1 Aust. Dental Unit continued during the week with its systematic check on the dental health of all personnel.

CHURCH PARADES AND 'MAKE AND MEND': An O.P.D. Service was held in the Bn area at 0900 hrs. Because of shortage of padres, the R.C. Service was held in conjunction with 29 Aust. Inf. Bde. at 1000 hrs. The remainder of the day was devoted to 'make and mend' purposes.

MORALE: Morale remains at the usual high standard.

L. J. Davis
 Lieut.
 I.O.
 9 Aust. Inf. Bn.

War Diary

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTION NO. 19 - 9 AUST. INF. BN.

135. All troops will wear shirts and long trousers with gaiters or puttees at ALL times. An exception may be made to the wearing of shirts if troops are engaged in heavy manual labour, but immediately after the completion of the work, shirts must be again donned.

Officers and NCOs are to ensure that this instruction is strictly adhered to.

20 Jan. 43

A. Bodin
.....Lieut.
Adj. 9 Aust. Inf. Bn.

DISTRIBUTION : As per List 'B'

Serial No. 24⁵
W.E.Ref. 11/12/2
W.E. 36 x 874
Attached allowed
by W.E. 1 x 6

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

(Adapted)

9 Aust. Inf. Battalion (Unit) 23 Jan. 1943 (Date).

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

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1 Detail.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I. W.E.			1
W.Os. Class II. 1			2
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants 8	6		2
Staff Serjeants 6	4		
Serjeants 1	1		15
Corporals 41	26		20
Troopers, Privates, &c. 86	66		354
751	379	2	394
TOTALS	482	2	394

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

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
ATTACHED AGAINST W.E.		OTHER ATTACHMENTS NOT ALLOWED BY W.E.	
Pay Sgt. (1) (In hospital)	1 Sgt. A.A.P.C.	Hygiene Sgt. J Sec.Sig.(1)	11 Fd.Hygiene
Armourer Cpl(1) (Temp.Det.7 Bde.)	Armourer Sgt.A.E.M.E.	24 Fd.Coy.(1)	R.A.E.
Restmaker	1 Cpl. A.A.O.C.		
Postal Cpl.(1)	1 Sgt.Fd.Post.Unit		
Fitter(T.G.1) (1)	1(T.G.1)A.E.M.E.		
Posting filled by member 9 Bn.	1 Cpl. A.A.M.C.		

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

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts if known).
SUPERNUMARY TO W.E.				
	Cpl. (1)	Duty at 7 Aust. Inf. Bde.		

Unit.

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

Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)
W.E.			W.E.			W.E.		
Ammunition Examiners			Fire Control Operators			Panel Beaters		
Armament Artificers			Fitters			Pattern Makers		
Armourers			Fitters and Turners			Pharmacists		
Artificers, Artillery			Fitters, Cycle			Photographers, dry plate		
Axemen			Fitters, Drivers			Photographers, wet plate		
Bakers			Fitter's Mates			Photo-Writers		
Battery Surveyors			Fitters, M.V.			Plate Layers		
Battery Comdrs. Asst.			Fitters, Railway Signal			Plumbers		
Blacksmiths	1	1	Fitters, Signal			Predictor Numbers		
Boilermakers			Grinders			Printers		
Bricklayers	2	2	Gun Layers			Radiator Mechanics		
Butchers	1		G.P.O. Assistants			Radiographers		
Camouflage Modeller			Gun Operators			Range Takers	7	4
Carpenter and Joiner	6	1	Hammermen			Riggers		
Clerks	12	1	Height Takers			Riveters		
Clerks, Engineering			Helio Operators			Saddlers		
Clerks, Supply			Instrument Mechanics			Saddle Tree Makers		
Clerks, Technical			Instrument Mechanics, Surgical			Saw Doctors		
Coachmakers			Instrument Operators			Sawyers		
Computers			Intelligence Duties	7	8	Shoemakers		
Concretors			Joiners			Signallers	32	7
Cooks	23	7	Leather Stitchers			Signwriters		
Cooks, Hospital			Linesmen			Stokers, Stationary Engine		
Coppersmiths			Linesmen, Signals			Storemen, Technical	4	3
Dental Clerk Orderlies			Lithographers			Surveyors		
Despatch Riders			Machinists			Surveyors, Engineering		
Dispensers			Masons			Tailors	3	2
Draughtsmen			Masseurs			Telescope Identification Numbers		
Draughtsmen, Architectural			Mechanics, Dental			Textile Refitters		
Draughtsmen, Mechanical			Mechanics, M.T.	8	1	Tinsmiths		
Draughtsmen, Signal			Mechanics, Typewriter			Toolmakers		
Draughtsmen, Topographical			Mechanics, Wireless			Turners		
Driver Mechanics	23	17	Millwrights			Vulcanizers		
Driver Operators	23	54	Miners			Wagon Erectors		
Drivers, Transportation Plant			Moulders			Watchmakers		
Electrical Fitters			Nursing Orderlies			Watermen		
Electricians			Nursing Orderlies (Mental)			Welders		
Electricians, Eng. Units			Nurses, Trained			Well Borers		
Electricians, Signal			Observation Post Assistants			Wheelers		
Engine Artificers			Operating Room Assistants			Whitesmiths		
Engine Hands I/C			Operators, Signal			Wiremen		
Equipment Repairers	1		Opticians			Woodturners		
Farriers			Painters			Mortar Nos.	54	16
Imm. Nos.	4	2	Hyg. D'men	4	3	R.S.M.	1	
Latmen	38	18	Scouts	6	5	R.Q.M.S.	1	
Men. D'men.	2	2	S. Bearers	21	8	W.O. Caterer	1	
M.C. Orderlies	9	6	Water D'men	2	2	Port. Sgt.	1	1
Orderlies	35	15	Storemen	7		C.S.M.	6	1
Pioneers	11	1	L.M.C. Rifle	370	184	C.Q.M.S.	6	1
Police	4	1	& A/Park Nos			M.M.C. Nos.	75	28
Totals (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A)	233	127		683	2304		894	2394

Notes—(a) If rank other than Private is involved give details on back.
(b) Authorised Trades or Specialists not included in list above will be added as required in spaces provided.

9 Aust. Inf. Battalion
Unit.

Adm. Comd.
7 Aust. Inf. Bde.

Signature of Commander.
Major

Date of Despatch 25/1/43

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

Serial No. 25

A.I.F. _____
W.E. Reference _____

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

A.M.F. 11/12/2

W.E. 36 874

Date 23/1/43

Attached Allowed by W.E. 1 6

9 Aust. Inf. Battalion Unit

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks and W.E.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels	<u>1</u>		<u>1</u>
Majors	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
Captains	<u>11</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>4</u>
Lieutenants	<u>21</u>	<u>21</u>	
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals	<u>36</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>7</u>

* Insert detail of higher rank as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name	Unit or Corps.	Date.	Cause.
<u>T/Capt.</u>	<u>HENDERSON, D.G.</u>	<u>9 Aust. Inf. Bn.</u>	<u>17/1/43</u>	<u>Marched in</u>

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Unit or Corps.	Date.	Cause.

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

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

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Appointment.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No.)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
T/Lt.-Col.	SX1442	MATTHEWS, G.R.	Marched out to Special Duty		
Major.	Q15601	SUTCH, A.J.W.	Adm. Comd.	Yes	
T/Capt.	QX40822	PERCIVAL, G.M.	O.C.D Coy	"	
T/Capt.	QX40871	BEECH, A.T.	O.C.A Coy	"	
T/Capt.	Q16396	SMITH, G.H.K.	O.C.E Coy	"	
T/Capt.	QX40820	TOON, A.C.	Q.M.	"	
T/Capt.	QX40823	KELLY, J.L.	O.C.B Coy	"	
T/Capt.	QX40832	HENDERSON, D.G.	21c C Coy	"	
T/Capt.	QX40830	HOLLOWAY, C.G.E.	O.C.C Coy	"	
Lieut.	QX33609	PICKERING, L.A.	4 Pl.	"	
Lieut.	QX40826	WANLESS, J.E.A.	14 Pl.	"	
Lieut.	QX40860	LEVER, K.W.	15 Pl.	"	
Lieut.	QX40835	MULCAHY, E.R.	A/21c A Coy	"	
Lieut.	QX40832	HOLMES, R.H.	3 Pl.	No	School-Arty. A/T. Puckapunyal
Lieut.	QX36425	PEACHEY, J.W.	13 Pl.	Yes	
Lieut.	QX40825	WOOD, H.D.	17 Pl.	"	
Lieut.	Q18928	BOYS, E.R.	1 Pl.	"	
Lieut.	QX40834	ROBERTS, F.B.	21c B Coy	"	
Lieut.	QX40833	SWAN, H.P.J.	3 Pl.	"	
Lieut.	QX40831	HAMMOND, E.M.	19 Pl.	No	Arty School-Puckapunyal.
Lieut.	Q121041	WHYATT, F.J.	16 Pl.	Yes	
Lieut.	NX116813	GAUL, A.J.	O.C.H.Q. Coy	"	
Lieut.	NP10119	ZIMMER, L.H.	7 Pl.	"	
Lieut.	QX36569	COCHRANE, O.A.	Adjnt.	"	
A/Lieut.	Q90512	WERDA, E.C.	11 Pl.	"	
A/Lieut.	SX3083	VINEY, W.M.	2 Pl.	"	
A/Lieut.	QX43139	TAYLOR, M.R.	8 Pl.	No	School-Pt. Moresby
A/Lieut.	QX37916	THOMPSON, A.D.	T.O.	Yes	
A/Lieut.	Q1173	PLATZ, S.J.G.	I.O.	"	
A/Lieut.	QX43385	ENGLAND, S.M.	12 Pl.	"	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Unit or Corps.	Date of Attachment.	Nature of attachment.	Allowed by W.E. (Insert Yes or No.)
Capt.	Q112810	MONAHAN, P.J.	A.A.M.C.		M.O.	Yes
Chaplain	QX40847	COUPE, C.J.C.	A.A.Ch.Dept.		Padre	No.

9 Aust. Inf. Battalion

(Unit.)

23/1/43

(Date of Despatch.)

Adm. Comd.

7 Aust. Inf. Bde.

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

*War Diary
Original*

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

SECRET

From 0001 hrs. 18 Jan. '43 to 2359 hrs. 24 Jan. '43.

9 Aust. Inf. Bn.

FIELD WORK: Throughout the week all Coys. continued with work on wiring and the digging and maintenance of weapon pits in their own def. areas.

Some H.Q. Coy. personnel were engaged in cutting a swathe through to Route 16 along JUNCTION CREEK from the Route 3 - No. 1 Strip swathe cut by 17 Aust. Inf. Bde. personnel in order to complete the def. posn. at B.H.Q.

H Coy. personnel continued with the construction of M.H.G. pill-boxes. One in G 25 sec. area has been completed, and work has commenced on another in that posn. Work has also been started on a pill-box in G 29 sec. area.

In all, 5 posts have been completed, two are under construction, and one more remains to be built.

Road repair work on Routes 3 and 9 was carried out.

'I' Sec. Work: During the week 'I' Sec. personnel were engaged in a check on the Bn's. def. system, and on bringing all maps up to date.

PATROLS: Patrols remain as set out in our Summary to 3 Jan. '43.

INTERCOMM.: Comm. remains as set out in our 'I' Summary to 3 Jan. 43

RETURN OF PERSONNEL: On Sunday, 24 Jan., Lieut. E.M. Hammond returned to the unit from the mainland, where he had been attending an A/Tk. School at PUCKAPUNYAL. (Vic.).

VISITORS: On Monday, 18 Jan. and again on Friday, 22 Jan., the unit was visited by the G.S.O 1, 5 Aust. Inf. Div. He was conducted over the Bn. area by the Acting C.O. (Maj. Sutch).
On Wednesday, 20 Jan., Lt.-Col. Sandover, of 2/11 Aust. Inf. Bn., and Major Bowie, of H.Q. 2 Aust. Corps.

AIR RAIDS: On Monday, 18 Jan., air raid red was sounded four times, at 0015 hrs, 0510, 1205 and 2100, with all clear signals at 0045, 0525, 1234 and 2140 hrs. respectively.

No actions resulted from the first three alerts. In the last, however, enemy planes were heard over the area. A/A Btys. went into action, and, although bombs were dropped, none fell in the n. area.

Two air raid reds were sounded on Wednesday, 20 Jan., at 1136 and again at 2115 hrs, with all clears at 1155 and 2315 hrs. respectively.

No action resulted from the first alert, but raiders were again over the area for the second. Two of three bombs were heard to fall in the MAIWARA RIVER area, but no trace of them has been found.

At 0145 hrs. on Thursday, 21 Jan., enemy bombers again raided the area, the all clear finally being given at 0340 hrs. G Coy. reported that a bomb appeared to fall without exploding in the jungle about 300 yds. behind 15 pl. posn. A search was made but no trace of the bomb was discovered.

Air raid reds were sounded at 1240 and 2125 hrs on Friday, 22 Jan., with all clears at 1315 and 2142 hrs. No action resulted from the first alert, but bombs were dropped during the second, none, falling, however, in the Bn. area.

At 0005 hrs. on Saturday, 23 Jan., air raid red was sounded, and enemy bombers raided the area. No bombs fell in the Bn. area, however, and the all clear was sounded at 0107 hrs.

At 0510 hrs. air raid red was sounded, and the area was again raided by enemy bombers. Again no bombs were dropped in the Bn. area, and the all clear was sounded at 0550 hrs.

DENTAL UNIT: The attached sec. of the 2/1 Aust. Dental Unit continued during the week with its work among Bn. personnel.

CHURCH PARADES AND 'MAKE AND MEND': An O.E. D. service was held in the Bn area at 0900 hrs on Sunday, 24 Jan. Mass for RC's. was celebrated at 1000 hrs. near 29 Aust. Inf. Bde. H.Q. as no padre was available for the unit.

MORALE: The morale of the men remains at the usual high standard. The men are in no way perturbed by the recent raids, the only visible effect of which is a slight weariness among the tps. because of the interruptions to their sleep.

W. C. Katz
..... Lieut.
I.O. 9 Aust. Inf. Bn.

War Diary

9 AUST. INF. BN. ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTION NO. 19

135. MALARIA CONTROL DURING AIR-RAIDS : The recent series of night raids, it is considered, may result in a sharp increase in the incidence of malaria, through exposure of troops in slit trenches. It is directed that the following action be taken on a red warning : (a) Personnel will don their shirts and trousers before entering trenches. (b) Slit trenches will be sprayed with the spray gun during occupancy.

136. BAKERS WANTED : Bakers are urgently required for 2/2 Aust. Fd. Bakery. Coys are to submit to this HQ by 1800 hrs L/29 return of personnel desiring transfer, giving qualifications. Personnel selected will be transferred to 2/2 Aust Fd Bakery.

137. PUBLICITY CONCERNING ESCAPED PRISONERS OF WAR : Members of the A.M.F. will not, unless authorised by the Commander-in-Chief, publish in any form whatever, or communicate, either directly or indirectly, to the press or radio any account of the escape of any person whatsoever from enemy or enemy-occupied territory or of the experiences of such person prior to repatriation.

Experience has shown that publicity of this character furnishes valuable information to the enemy and will jeopardise future escapes of Australian and Allied prisoners of war.

138. BROADCASTS OVER ENEMY WIRELESS BY AUSTN. PRISONERS OF WAR : A member of the Military Forces who becomes a prisoner of war will not transmit messages over enemy wireless. The enemy's design, in arranging such broadcasts, is to enhance his own propaganda.

139. CASUALTIES AFFECTING PAY : No action will be taken to amend paybook rates consequent upon promotions, remissions of fines or remissions of forfeitures until receipt of the relevant Routine Part II Order from records Office.

28 Jan. 43

 Lieut.
9 Aust. Inf. Bn.

DISTRIBUTION : As per List 139

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

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

Serial No. 26

A.I.F. _____
W.E. Reference _____

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

A.M.F. 11/12/2 C.M.F.

W.E. 36 X 874

Date 30/1/43

Attached _____
Allowed by W.E. 1 X 6

9 AUST. INF. BATTALION Unit

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks and W.E.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels <u>1</u>	<u>-</u>		<u>1</u>
Majors <u>3</u>	<u>1</u>		<u>2</u>
Captains <u>11</u>	<u>7</u>		<u>4</u>
Lieutenants <u>21</u>	<u>21</u>		
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals	<u>36</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>7</u>

* Insert detail of higher rank as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name	Unit or Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Unit or Corps.	Date.	Cause.

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

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

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Appointment.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No.).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
T/Lt-Col.	SX1442	MATTHEWS, G.R.	Marched out to special duty		
Major	Q15601	SUTCH, A.J.W.	Adm. Comd.	Yes	
T/Capt.	QX40822	PERCIVAL G.M.	O.C.D. Coy	"	
T/Capt.	QX40871	BEECH, A.T.	O.C.A. Coy	"	
T/Capt.	Q16396	SMITH, C.J.K.	O.C.E. Coy	"	
T/Capt.	QX40820	TOON, A.C.	Q.M.	"	
T/Capt.	QX40823	KELLY, J.L.	C.C.B. Coy	"	
T/Capt.	QX40882	HENDERSON, D.G.	2IC C Coy	"	
T/Capt.	QX40830	HOLLOWAY, C.G.E.	O.C.C. Coy	"	
Lieut.	QX33608	PICKERING, L.A.	4 Pl.	"	
Lieut.	QX40826	WANLESS, J.E.A.	14 Pl.	"	
Lieut.	QX40869	LEVER, K.W.	15 Pl.	"	
Lieut.	QX40835	MULCAHY, E.R.	A/2IC A Coy	"	
Lieut.	QX40832	HOLMES, R.M.	9 Pl.	No	School-Arty. A/T. Puckapunyal
Lieut.	QX36425	PEACHEY, J.W.	13 Pl.	Yes	
Lieut.	QX40825	WOOD, H.D.	17 Pl.	"	
Lieut.	Q16928	BOYS, K.R.	1 Pl.	"	
Lieut.	QX40834	ROBERTS, P.B.	2IC E Coy	"	
Lieut.	QX40833	SWAN, H.P.J.	3 Pl.	"	
Lieut.	QX40831	HAMMOND, E.M.	2IC B Coy	"	
Lieut.	Q121041	WHYATT, F.J.	16 Pl.	"	
Lieut.	NX116813	GAUL, A.J.	O.C.H.Q. Coy	"	
Lieut.	NP10119	ZIMMER, L.H.	7 Pl.	"	
Lieut.	QX36569	COCHRANE, G.A.	Adj. Lt.	"	
A/Lieut.	Q90512	WERDA, E.C.	11 Pl.	No	School-Port Moresby
A/Lieut.	SX3083	VINEY, W.H.	2 Pl.	Yes	
A/Lieut.	QX45139	TAYLOR, M.R.	3 Pl.	"	
A/Lieut.	QX37916	THOMPSON, A.D.	T.O.	"	
A/Lieut.	Q1173	PLATZ, S.J.G.	I.O.	"	
A/Lieut.	QX45385	ENGLAND, S.M.	12 Pl.	"	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Unit or Corps.	Date of Attachment.	Nature of attachment.	Allowed by W.E. (Insert Yes or No.)
Capt.	Q112810	MONAHAN, P.J.	A.A.M.C.		M.O.	Yes
Chaplain IV Cl.	QX40847	COUPE, C.J.C.	A.A.Ch. Dept.		Chaplain	No

9 Aust. Inf. Battalion
(Unit.)

30/1/43
(Date of Despatch.)

[Signature] Major
Adm. Comd. (Signature of Commander.)

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

⁶/₂ **FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.**
C.M.F.

by 9 Aust. Inf. Battalion (Unit) 30/1/43 1943 (Date).
(To be furnished by all units and all Headquarter units.)

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1 Detail.	2 Posted Strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishments).
W.E.			
W.Os. Class I.	1	-	1
W.Os. Class II.	8	6	2
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants	6	4	2
Staff Serjeants	1	1	
Serjeants	41	25	16
Corporals	86	62	24
Troopers, Privates, &c.	731	367	364
TOTALS	874	465	409

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

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
ATTACHED AGAINST W.E.		OTHER ATTACHMENTS NOT AID. BY W.E.	
-	1 Sgt. A.A.P.C.	Hygiene Sgt.	11 Pd. Hygiene
Armourer Cpl(1)	Armourer Sgt. A.E.M.E.		
Postal Cpl.(1)	1 Sgt. Pd. Post Unit		
-	1 Cpl. A.A.O.C.		
Fitter(T.G.1)(1)	1(T.G.1) A.E.M.E.		
Posting filled by member 9 Bn.	1 Cpl. A.A.M.G.		

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

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts if known).
SUPERNUMARY TO W.E.				
	Cpl. (1)	Duty at 7 Aust. Inf. Bde.		

9 Aust. Inf. Battalion Unit.

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

Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	B/Fwd. 263 Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	B/Fwd. 683 Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)
W.E.			W.E.			W.E.		
Ammunition Examiners			Fire Control Operators			Panel Beaters		
Armament Artificers			Fitters			Pattern Makers		
Armourers			Fitters and Turners			Pharmacists		
Artificers, Artillery			Fitters, Cycle			Photographers, dry plate		
Axemen			Fitters, Drivers			Photographers, wet plate		
Bakers			Fitter's Mates			Photo-Writers		
Battery Surveyors			Fitters, M.V.			Plate Layers		
Battery Comdrs. Asst.			Fitters, Railway Signal			Plumbers		
Blacksmiths			Fitters, Signal			Predictor Numbers		
Boilermakers	1	1	Grinders			Printers		
Bricklayers	2	2	Gun Layers			Radiator Mechanics		
Butchers	1		G.P.O. Assistants			Radiographers		
Camouflage Modeller	6	1	Gun Operators			Range Takers	7	3
Carpenter and Joiner	12	2	Hammermen			Riggers		
Clerks			Height Takers			Riveters		
Clerks, Engineering			Helio Operators			Saddlers		
Clerks, Supply			Instrument Mechanics			Saddle Tree Makers		
Clerks, Technical			Instrument Mechanics, Surgical			Saw Doctors		
Coachmakers			Instrument Operators			Sawyers		
Computers			Intelligence Duties	7	3	Shoemakers		
Concretors			Joiners			Signallers	32	8
Cooks	23	7	Leather Stitchers			Signwriters		
Cooks, Hospital			Linesmen			Stokers, Stationery Engine		
Coppersmiths			Linesmen, Signals			Storemen, Technical	4	3
Dental Clerk Orderlies			Lithographers			Surveyors		
Despatch Riders			Machinists			Surveyors, Engineering		
Dispensers			Masons			Tailors	3	2
Draughtsmen			Masseurs			Telescope Identification Numbers		
Draughtsmen, Architectural			Mechanics, Dental			Textile Refitters		
Draughtsmen, Mechanical			Mechanics, M.T.	3	1	Tinsmiths		
Draughtsmen, Signal			Mechanics, Typewriter			Toolmakers		
Draughtsmen, Topographical			Mechanics, Wireless			Turners		
Driver Mechanics	28	16	Millwrights			Vulcanizers		
Driver Operators	86	54	Miners			Wagon Erectors		
Drivers, Transportation Plant			Moulders			Watchmakers		
Electrical Fitters			Nursing Orderlies			Watermen		
Electricians			Nursing Orderlies (Mental)			Welders		
Electricians, Eng. Units			Nurses, Trained			Well Borers		
Electricians, Signal			Observation Post Assistants			Wheelers		
Engine Artificers			Operating Room Assistants			Whitesmiths		
Engine Hands I/C			Operators, Signal			Wiremen		
Equipment Repairers			Opticians			Woodturners		
Farriers	1		Painters			Mortar Nos.	54	17
Ammo.Nos.	4	2	Hyg.D'men.	4	3	R.S.M.	1	
Batmen	38	15	Scouts	6	5	R.Q.M.S.	1	
Gen.D'men.	2	2	S.Bearers	21	8	W.O.Caterer	1	
M/C Orderlies	9	6	Water D'men.	2	2	T'pt.Sgt.	1	1
Pioneers	11	1	Storemen	7		C.S.M.	6	2
Police	4	1	LMG,Rifle &			C.Q.M.S.	6	2
Orderlies	35	13	A/Tk.Nos.	370	198	MDG Nos.	75	32
Totals (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)	263	122		683	2341		874	2411

Notes—(a) If rank other than Private is involved give details on back.
(b) Authorized Trades or Specialists not included in list above will be added as required in spaces provided.

9 Aust. Inf. Battalion Unit.

Adm. Comd.

Major

Signature of Commander.

7 Aust. Inf. Bde.

Date of Despatch 30/1/43

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

I N T E L L I G E N C E
S U M M A R Y

From 0001 hrs. 25 Jan. '43 to 2359 hrs. 31 Jan. '43.

9 Aust. Inf. Bn.
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MOVEMENT: On Wednesday, 27 Jan., the Bn. was relieved by 15 Aust.

Inf. Bde. At 1100 hrs the Bn commenced to move out from its def. posn. to the new biv. site around HAGITA FORD.

Operation orders for the movement were issued verbally by the Acting C.O. (Major A.J.W. Sutch) to a conference of the C. Group, held at Bn. H.Q. at 1930 hrs. on Monday, 25 Jan. They were confirmed later in the night by a written order.

FIELD WORK: On Monday, 25 Jan., all personnel were engaged on wiring

and work on weapon pits. On Tuesday, all available personnel were engaged in completing the Bn's tactical wiring.

'I' SEC. WORK: On Monday and Tuesday, 25 and 26 Jan. respectively,

'I' Sec. personnel brought all maps completely up to date, and made a thorough check of the Bn. area.

PATROLS: The standing patrols stationed at ELIBOLEBOLELI, GIBARA,

GOMADODO, and WAGA WAGA (SOUTH), were relieved on Wednesday, 27 Jan., and returned to the unit.

INTERCOM: Comms. is still being maintained by L/T and D/R between

Bn and Bde, and between Coys. and Bn.

VISITORS: At 0900 hrs. on Tuesday, 26 Jan., the unit was visited

by offrs. of 15 Aust. Inf. Bn., including the CO. (Lt.-Col. Amies), the I.O., T.O., Q.M. and all Coy. and Pl. Comds.

On Thursday, 28 Jan. the unit was visited by the G.O.C. (Maj.-Gen. Milford).

MINFIELD CHECK: At 1100 hrs on Wednesday, 27 Jan., I Sec. personnel

conducted Lieut. N. Cusack, of 24 Fd. Coy. on a check of "A" Minefield in D Coy. area. Six mines were taken up, three of which were found to be defective because of rust and damp. The fourth tested was found to be normal, and the remaining two were taken away to be checked.

AIR RAIDS: At 0310 hrs on Monday, 25 Jan., air raid red was sounded,

and A/A Btys. went into action as enemy planes appeared over the area. No bombs were dropped in the Bn area and the all-clear was sounded at 0355 hrs.

On Saturday, 30 Jan. there was an air alert from 1750 hrs to 1800 hrs. No enemy planes appeared, however.

DENTAL UNIT: The attached sec. of 2/1 Aust. Dental Unit continued

throughout the week with its check on the dental health of personnel. The sec. has remained in the Bn's old def. area.

ENTERTAINMENT: The Mobile Film Unit showed screenings to large

numbers of all ranks on the nights of 28, 29 and 30 Jan. respectively.

At 2000 hrs on Sunday, 31 Jan., the New Guinea Force A.I.F. Concert Party held a concert in the Bn area. It was largely attended.

Brig.

ENTERTAINMENT (cont.)

Brig. J. Field and the B.M. attended the concert.

WORKING PARTIES: Working parties for Bde were supplied by all
Coys. on 18, 29 and 31 Jan. respectively.

TRAINING: During the latter part of the week, bull-ring
weapon training was carried out by all available personnel.

CHURCH SERVICES AND 'MAKE AND MEND': An O.P.S. Service was
held in the Bn area at 0900 hrs. Mass for R.C.'s was celebrated at
1000 hrs at No. 37 Radio Sta. site.

The remainder of the day was devoted to 'make and
mend' purposes by all except personnel engaged on Bde working parties.

MORALE: Morale is at an exceptionally high standard.

Lt. Watz
.....
Lieut.
I.C. 9 Aust. Inf. Bn.
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