

**AWM52**

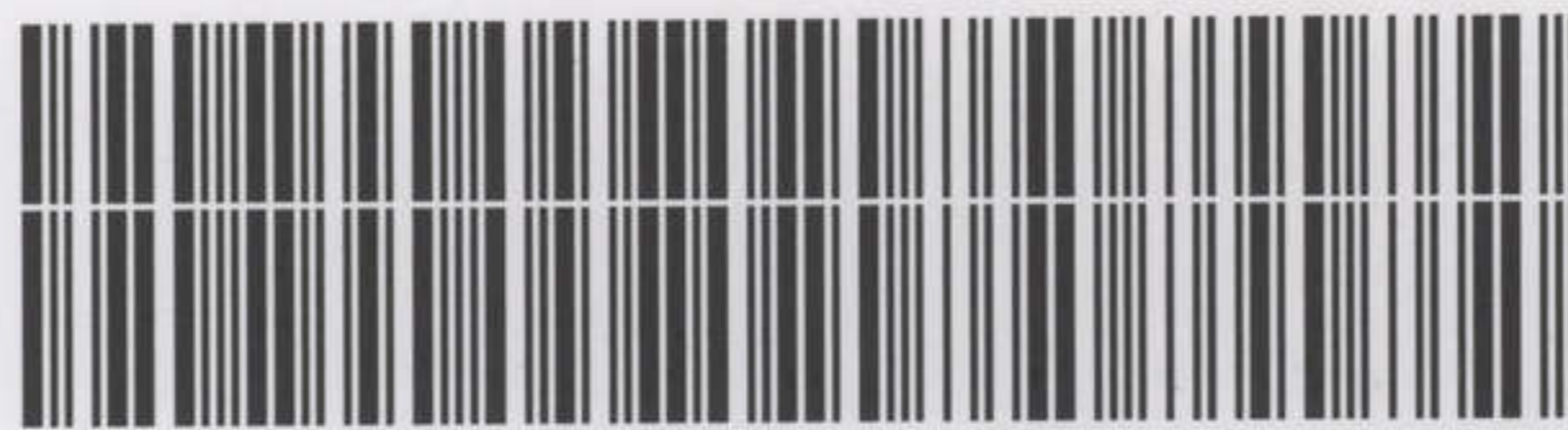
**2nd AIF (Australian Imperial Force) and CMF  
(Commonwealth Military Forces) unit war diaries,  
1939-45 War**

Miscellaneous - POW  
Independent Companies

**Item number:** 25/3/5/3

**Title:** 2/5 Independent Company

April to June 1943



AWM52-25/3/5/3

25/3/5

AUSTRALIAN ARCHIVES  
ACCESS STATUS

~~OPEN WITH  
EXCEPTION~~

1943

ORIGINAL

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL  
ACCESS STATUS

OPEN

2/5 INDEPENDENT COY.  
MISCELLANEOUS  
DOCUMENTS  
~~(PART 3)~~

PATROL FILE (c)

HQ 2/5 Aust Ind Coy  
22 April, 43.

PATROLS TO MARKHAM POINT

PATROL No 1.

Patrol Personnel . A/Cpl ATFIELD A.T. , Pte EDWARDS L., Pte STRINGER F.  
of A platoon 2/5 Aust Ind Coy.

Object of Patrol. 1. To establish , if a suitable position could be obtained , an O.P. giving early warning of Jap movement along the south bank of MARKHAM RIVER.  
2. To observe movements and habits of sentry reported in this area by 2/6 Bn (D Coy).

Time of Setting Out. 0900 hrs 18 April 43 from BENS O.P.

Movement of Patrol.

1015 arrived OOMSIS village.  
1120 found old but clear Jap footprints around swampy area, followed track along kunai spur, keeping off skyline all the while .  
1215 found spot where enemy had, at one time, spent some hours. Thought to be site of old O.P. This spot within a hundred (100) yards of timber. Found wrappings (as from chocolate) , a page of book written in foreign language and a form sheet.  
1221 found booby traps sprung (either by own violation or by some animal) .  
1232 traces of another old O.P. positions- traces of fire and resting places of palm leaves.  
1420 Lunch at fair sized creek.  
1515 came to first hut then to where a second had been.  
1526 found spot where Jap had previously camped- bivouac area on DEEP CK. Here found old food tins ( Two of our own emergency rations tins , stamped DD , thrown in bushes alongside. Thought possibly left by previous patrol) Crossed by log over stream and moved along track , which appeared to have been used recently.  
1700 immediately on arriving at the top of a very steep climb movement below was heard about 20 yards away followed by a swish of paddies and voices and a glimpse of a grey coloured hat. Thought to be "sentry" . Undergrowth too thick to see further. Examining the ground bootprints were found - some herringbone pattern , some split toe Jap sandal pattern. Were unable to get any further toward boat and it moved off. Presumed that at this time the man watching was taken away. Moved further up ridge but could not see . Waited for 20 minutes here but saw no further movement, and so moved up the spur in the hope of finding a suitable O.P.  
1840 found no suitable O.P. but came across track presumed to lead to old LAE O.P. Camped for the night.

19 April

0545 thick fog .  
0745 fog lifted. Found good spot for view of HEATHS by climbing tree ( nearest limb 20 feet from ground) . Suitable for O.P. but dangerous as it appears Jap moves around all this vicinity.  
1100 arrived DEEP CREEK .  
1300 could not find suitable spot to watch guard but found a suitable spot to observe any boat , but still not able to see guard's position ( 1 yard visibility)  
1530 boat seen coming up river from direction of LAE. Contained 6 Japs and 2 natives. All , except 1 native got out of boat . No weapons visible, men stripped to waist, wearing no headgear, trousers of grey material. Jap commenced fishing with net - some beating water wildly while others waded down-stream with nets.  
1620 boat moved upstream, men still wading with net and disappeared .  
1720 decided to investigate sentry's position. Waited and then moved up carefully. Found no sign of him. Decided he had moved off with others. Returned to DEEP CK and camped.

20 April

0740 set out for BEN'S O.P.  
1100 met Cpl BAKER and Pte BONNELL near hut. A/Cpl ATFIELD and Pte EDWARDS returned to BEN'S O.P. at 1500 having left Cpl BAKER R.M. , Ptes STRINGER F. and BONNELL J.M. to carry on patrol from DEEP CK.

PATROLS TO MARKHAM POINT (continued)PATROL No 2

Patrol Personnel Cpl BAKER R.M., Pte STRINGER F. , Pte BONNELL J.M.  
of A platoon 2/5 Aust Ind Coy.

Object of Patrol As for Patrol No 1.

Time of Setting Out Full details are not yet to hand . The following is a brief outline.

Movement 21 April

Moved through Jap bivouac area on DEEP CK down to the same spot where the "sentry" had been heard. Found nobody and went up to point where "sentry" was presumed to have been. Only old tracks were found. Turned right in a south-easterly direction over wooded spur . Crossed flat stretch of 3-400 yards width on to next spur . Up this latter spur the track , presumably to old MARKHAM O.P., runs. Followed this track in an easterly direction toward LABU. Proceeding along this track came to a slip-rail tied across the track. From there could observe a hut about 50 yards away. Remained WELL hidden and observed for 2-3 minutes. At this moment Japs opened fire with 2 MG'S (thought LMG's) and Pte BONNELL was killed outright with first burst. Anticipating a Jap move to prevent any of the patrol returning the 2 remaining men withdrew and made their way back to BEN'S O.P. The time that the Japs opened fire was approx 1030 hours.

CONCLUSIONS.

It would appear that the original Jap reported to be a sentry at Markham Pt. is one of a fishing party in the deep pool below Markham Pt. spur who is posted as a guard while the main party is fishing.

Evidence of the presence of Jap patrols some distance up the track leading to the old O.P will be further substantiated when more detailed reports are to hand.

The Jap has evidently a standing patrol some considerable distance beyond Markham Pt. on the old track leading from LABU to the O.P. As an aiming post for his fixed lines of fire, he has evidently fitted the slip-rail mentioned in the above report across the track and possibly some 50 yards beyond the actual forward position of the patrol. It is this position which was reached by Cpl. Bakers patrol.

It is my opinion that this standing patrol is to prevent access to the LABU hide-out or to the mangrove lined channels where his barges are kept during daylight.

Another patrol has gone forward to the same area but no suitable O.P. has been found. It is my considered opinion that recce patrols constitute the only way of gaining information but that continual daily recce patrols might entice the enemy to follow them up and track them down to Babensis and thus put Tojo in danger of either being found or of having his L of C cut.

Further details and circumstantial evidence in the way of Jap wrappers and papers are due at this H.Q. tomorrow and will be forwarded to you without delay.

As an O.P. on Heaths Tojo still remains the only practicable O.P.

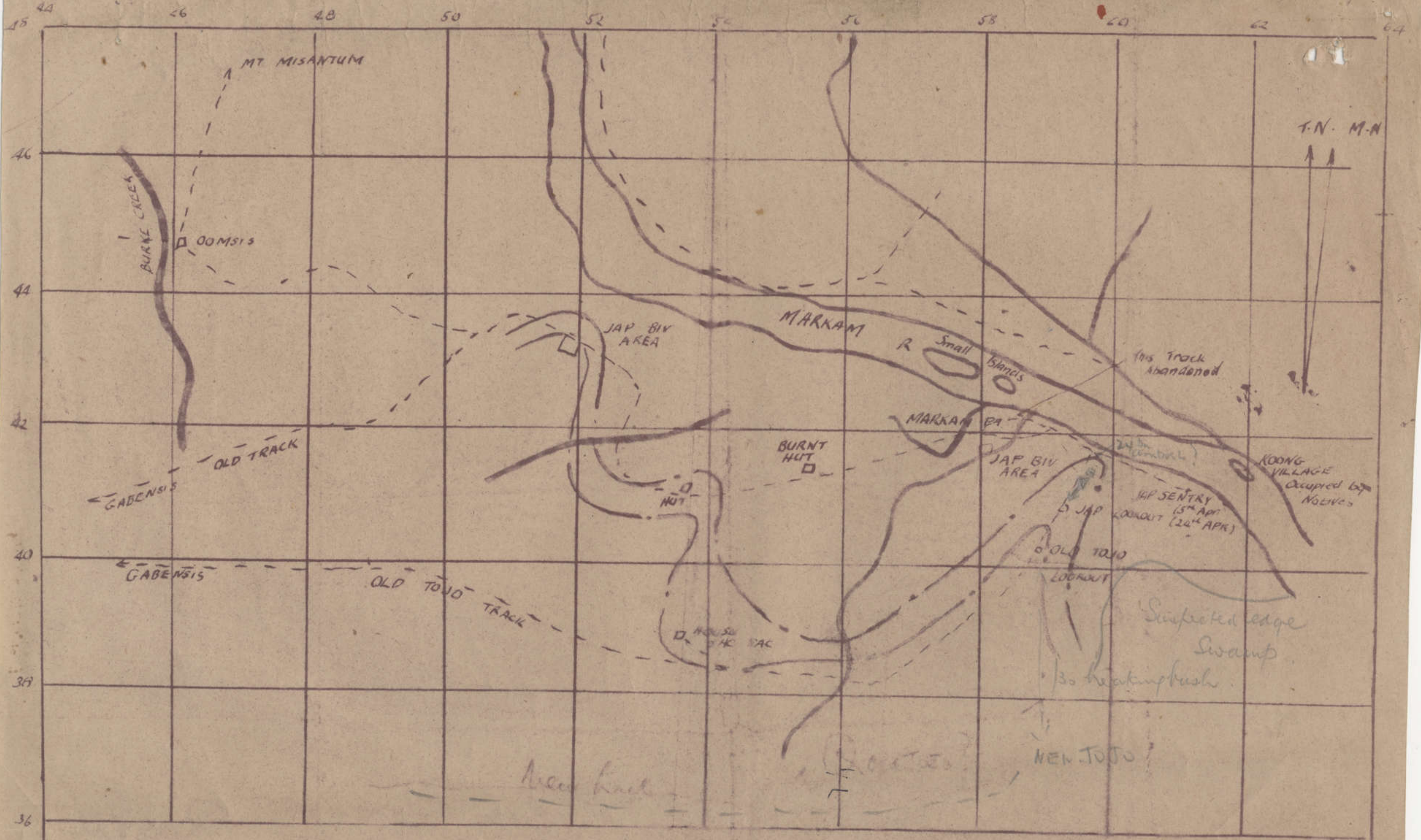
*Copies: 1 to H.Q. Kanga  
1 to 2/6 Bn.  
1 to File.*

*h. L. Williams*  
.....Capt.  
( O.C., 2/5th Aust Ind Coy. )

PATROL FILE

Narrative	0800 hrs.		Keft Ben OP.
	0900 hrs.		Arrived GABENSIS.
	1010	"	Passed through swampy flat country to HOUSE SAC SAC. Good water.
	1120	"	Track rising from SAC SAC to hummock.
	1320	"	Hummock to OLD TOJO. Summit to TOJO 1½ hrs. towards LABU track. JAP walked through TOJO area. Evidence JAP toffee papers. JAPS wore sneakers. JAP moved from OLD TOJO towards HOUSE SAC SAC., over the hammock and out a short track downhill towards MARKHAM POINT but did not proceed far along this track. JAP patrol approx. 14 days ago. Observation from OLD TOJO, HEATHS still intact. LAE looked practically unoccupied compared with six months ago. Roads appear overgrown and in disuse. No signs enemy activity. OLD TOJO camp and HOUSE SAC SAC in a dilapidated condition. HOUSE SAC SAC consists of 3 huts.
	1800	"	Returned to HOUSE SAC SAC and slept the night.
23rd April	0730	"	Left HOUSE SAC SAC and proceeded to OLD TOJO OP.
	1010	"	Arrived TOJO OP and continued observation of LAE.
	1800	"	Returned HOUSE SAC SAC and camped the night.
24th April	0730	"	Left HOUSE SAC SAC.
	1000	"	Arrived BENS OP.

CAN BE SUPERIMPOSED ON LAE PART 2  
1 INCH TO 1 MILE



REVISED SKETCH MAP MARKHAM PT.

Scale 1 INCH TO 1 MILE

Completed by  
INT SEC HQ A.I.C  
20-4-45

Wampit 14/3/43

Major Vertigan.  
C. O. A.N.G.A. U.  
Markham District.

Intelligence - Native Agents

A native agent reported here today. He had visited Yalu on Thursday March 4. He saw no Japanese there, but observed that they had used the mission building as sleeping quarters. The rest of the information contained herein was obtained from the local natives during his stay in munum.

YALU: Japs arrive each Wednesday and spend the night there. Return next day to where they came from.

Note: Wednesday has been frequently mentioned as being the day on which the Japs patrol to Yalu. Information as to whether they spend the night there or not is not conclusive and is vague. It appears certain, though, that they occupy the mission building for part of the time that they are there, and it might be a good place to mine.

STOREHOUSE: The local natives have never mentioned to him that such a store exists on the Markham road nor that the Japs have built themselves houses here as reported previously - between Yalu and Munum.

Note: It is very likely that the natives would have mentioned it if such a store and quarters existed, though he did not ask them. Such buildings may exist, though the reported location may be wrong.

Gabmatzung & Gabsonke: The local natives told him that they knew of no patrols going to Gabsonke, but that a patrol went to Gabmatzung. How often and when, they did not say.

NARAKA POR: The Japs do not go to Narakapor and Operator 40 sends me the following message by my informant: If our patrols want to cross the river and recce, land at Narakapor and commence from there, for the Nasawapum-Yalu-Munum area.

TULTUL OF YALU: I have arranged through my informant for the Tultul of Yalu to come to Gabensis and send a message to here when I, or Captain Kyngdon probably, will go out and see him. He lives in Yalu village and sees a lot of the Japs and should be able to supply more detailed information of Jap operations there.

JAP FOOD SITUATION: All reports are agreed that the food situation with the Japs is serious. They are exploring every avenue of possible food supply - green bananas, young Taro leaves and edible leaves from the bush. They are smoking dry banana leaf. Similar reports come from my other agents.

Native Attitude: The natives are extremely resentful at the Japs and, I think, that we can count on them now for any help. The Japs have revisited their gardens, even immature crops and are interfering with their women to a great degree. This latter is causing the local population much worry and feeling is high.

*John J. Murphy*  
(John J. Murphy) Capt.  
A.N.G.A. U.

10/10/45  
RECEIVED  
PNSCHAFEN  
NEW GUINEA

REPORT  
Maj. Fortigan  
C.O. ANZAC  
Markham Dist.

Intelligence Report - Native Agents

1. Operator 39 reported here today that he has been exploring the creeks running into Lake Hertzog on the Western shore. He left there on 8/3/45 and reports that he carried on the exploration of the Labu area where operator 38 had left off and which I reported on 27/2/45. He confirms the fact that the vicinity of Labu villages once occupied by the Japs has been vacated. The barges that were hidden in the creeks on the western shore of Lake Hertzog now number twelve and have gone further up in one of the creeks for about a quarter of a mile. They are now located as follows: On a line west from No 1 Labu about 600 yards from the mouth of a creek whose mouth lies on the western shore of Lake Hertzog (Labu Lagoon) about due west of No 1 Labu (Huon Gulf - Special - map). Operator 39 declares that a run along a line passing through No 1 Labu and the creek mouth will pass over the position of the barges. There is a small body of Japs with the barges - about 100.

Reliability presence and number of barges is 100%; of location is 50%; of make up personnel - 20%.

2. On evacuation of Labu after strafing raids, the greater part of the Japs went to Salamau and some went to Lee area.

3. One barge was destroyed and two of the occupants killed at the mouth of the Markham by our bombs about a fortnight ago - probably on Tuesday 23rd Feb.

4. The Jap commander and at least two of his officers are now located with a small body of troops in four large houses built under tall trees at approx 5680 on Huon Gulf (Special) map. The houses are near an old garden and are along a track which runs roughly east from the north bank north of Markham Pt and roughly opposite a large island in the river. *Probably* not visible from the air. Reliability full.

5. Japs are using taro leaves and stalks *as food* buying them from the Labu natives. They are at the natives constantly to supply *food*, and their stocks appear to be pretty meagre. The Labu natives haven't got much to sell and I have told them to make an occasional trip with taro leaves in order to keep contact with the Japs for purposes of picking up information.

NOTE: When Labu and area was last bombed, bombs fell south of the present position of the barges.

\*\*\*\*\*

Another Jap overland force from Madang: Operator 49 reports a native rumour that another Jap party travelling overland from Madang was in Wankun on Monday 8th and are intended for Lee. They are *accompanied* by Jap women. It is said that at Wankun they got the natives in by *enticing* them to try the Jap women, which they did. This is native rumour only and I have been unable to contact the native who brought it to *Naragoma*. Wankun is on a line running NW from Kaiapit to Marawasa to my cancelled coordinates, and nearer to Marawasa - 4 mile strat. Series 183, Markham, first edition.

*John J. Murphy*  
(John J. Murphy) Capt  
A.N.G.A.U



# Lutheran Mission

FINSCHHAFEN  
NEW GUINEA

## REPORT.

FROM .....

STATION .....

YEAR ENDED .....

*[Faint, mostly illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]*

26 food  
Capt. Decker

*[Faint, mostly illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]*

*[Handwritten signature or initials.]*

Copy.

Maj VERTIGAN  
ANGAU  
WAU

PATROL FILE

WAMPIT.  
27 Feb 43

INT REPORT - NATIVE AGENTS.

OPERATORS 46 & 47

Went to BWUSSI and the coast there on 19 Feb, left on 24 Feb. They saw NO Japs going from LA E to SALAMAUA and natives told them they had seen none either.

PATH FROM SALAMAUA TO BWUSSI & MOUTH OF BUANG RIVER.

Partly observed by 46 and 47 on the part from the bench into BWUSSI. Natives informed then that brs had been built over a ll but one of the creeks from SALAMAUA - footbrs only - and the path put in good order.

PATROL TO MOUTH OF BUANG RIVER AND BWUSSI.

The routine has been altered. The patrol is now made weekly - a one day trip SALAMAUA to BUANG mouth and return.

Patrol strength is 30 of which 20 break off and go into BWUSSI and 10 continue on to the mouth of the BUANG RIVER.

After a look around the small party return from the river mouth pick up the BWUSSI party and return to SALAMAUA. This occurs every Monday or Tuesday.

I should say all over reliability of this part is about 80%.

Cpl KOKATU of the RPC, who knows this area well, has asked permission to go down to a spot that he considers a good ambush and pick off the leader of the patrol. He could get away easily enough but whether he would bowl the leader or NOT is open to doubt. If he were successful, it would have propaganda value for the formation of a body of native stalkers to deal with snipers, if such were ever contemplated at a later date. In my case he could lead a fighting patrol down if that were considered.

DAILY WATCH IN BUACAP & ASINI WITHDRAWN.

The natives informed 46 & 47 that the watch has been withdrawn since WAU battle, but that the garrison at KE LA is maintained.

JAP FOOD SUP.

The Japs are gathering as much food as they can from local villages and are also gathering bamboo shoots.

A Jap who has apparently been appointed kiap is named TIPON.

He addressed the natives at BWUSSI and told them that the Japs in SALAMAUA had very little food and that the small supplies they held would soon run out.

He exhorted the natives to make every effort to bring all the food they could to the Japs, because if the Japs could get NO food the ALLIES would defeat them and retake SALAMAUA. And then the ALLIES would wreck a severe vengeance on the natives.

He said the ALLIED planes had sunk their ships and shot down their planes and NO food was getting to SALAMAUA. The JAPS have NO cigarettes according to the natives and are buying brus.

NATIVE SITUATION.

The local natives on the SALAMAUA area were informed by the Japs that WAU had been taken and the ALLIES slaughtered. However the news of the WAU battle has leaked down to the beach.

The natives are grumbling and growing hostile at the fact that the Japs are slowly using up all the native pigs and are causing a serious shortage of food.

Payment for pigs and food is, according to the natives entirely inadequate. otherwise the Japs appear to treat the natives fairly well.

The natives at BUSAMA and BWUSSI expressed a pious and hearty wish that the ALLIES would come and deliver them.

This may be genuine due to the Japs stripping the area of food or it may be a precautionary step by the natives after hearing the news of WAU.

In any case the natives made their bed and it gives me great pleasure to announce that they are forced to lie on it. Should I have the opportunity to do so later, I shall be happy to add a few lumps to the mattress.

The Japs recruited the able bodied men at BWUSSI ostensibly for the purpose of carrying to MUBO.

.....

#### OPERATOR 38

Operator 38 visited LABU villages on the beach on 21 and left on 25 Feb. Explored the spit and native houses and part of LAKE HERTZIG

#### JAPS VACATED LABU.

The whole of the spit was deserted and there were NO pinnaces in the creeks on the Eastern Bank of the lake.

The whole area occupied by the Japs on the spit was devastated by the aerial attack, probably of 18 and 19.

All the houses occupied by the Japs were shattered. Only under two were slit trenches found. a small slit trench about 3 or 4 ft long under each. NO signs of other slit trenches were seen.

The bush over the creeks on the Eastern side where a few pinnaces were was riddled by MG fire.

The Western bank was only partially explored.

38 went along the fringes of the mangroves and a short way up a creek where pinnaces were kept. He saw NO signs of the Japs but saw where bombs had landed in the target area and considers that there were undoubtedly casualties among the Jap personnel as the whole area was cut about.

The remainder of the creeks on the western side of the lake are now being investigated by operator 39. It is possible that a few barges still remain in hiding.

In a previous raid I reported that operator 39 saw a barge sunk and another damaged. It is now confirmed that two were sunk and a third ~~so~~ badly damaged that it was abandoned at LABU.

Operator 38 inspected the damaged barge and said it was of NO further use.

From the beach at LABU he saw an object tied to the wharf at LAE WHICH APPEARED to be a damaged barge.

From here during an air raid on LAE he saw an AA firing from near a fig tree on the hill above the police barracks in LAE.

#### JAP ENQUIRIES RE RDS FROM LABU TO GABENSIS

The Tultul of LABU told 38 that previous to the air raids on 18 & 19 the Japs at LABU had, on three separate occasions, enquired about a rd from LABU to GABENSIS.

The Tultul denied the existence of the rd. This I regard as true 100%. The LABU and GABENSIS natives have their own interest definitely at stake here.

#### NATIVE SITUATION.

No 2 LABU has shifted to the base of SUGARLOAF SOUTH of LAKE HERTZIG. Their houses will be visible from the air and they have asked me to inform the air force that they will hoist a lava lava on a mast in the village so that the pilots will know there are NO Japs in the village. The Lava Lava will probably be white.

The other LABU settlements are contemplating doing this.

They have informed me that, if by any chance, the JAPS note this and imitate it, they will abandon the practice and send me word.

They have also asked me to inform the Air force that fires in the bush South of the MARKHAM and Eastwards from GABENSIS are native cooking and meeting parties only.

A BUSAMA boy told the natives that the JAPS under the pretext of checking the census of INASINI, KILA, BUEKEP, BUSAMA and LOKAKU lined the natives and separated the unmarried girls from the married women and took them to SALAMAUA as prostitutes. The natives in the area are very incensed at this.

This native also reported that the natives are getting short of food and growing hostile.

The Tultul also reported that the Japs at LABUZ had on three occasions demanded three or four ~~xxx~~ young girls to come and stay for one month then go back and be relieved by others. This has caused some consternation and the LABU natives are busily marrying off the girls.

MUNUM

38 after his return met a native at GABENSIS whom he had left in MUNUM to spy. This native told him that he had been informed by the natives there that the half caste, MASSAKE with a Jap patrol, had said to them - "Wait for a time. The Japs are looking for the workshops and, when they find them, they are going to destroy them and then you wont see so many planes coming." PORT MORESBY and AMERICA were mentioned and also warships.

I cannot make any connection concerning this statement. It may be just an excuse for a bit of boasting to regain face, or may be connected with fifth column in PORT MORESBY, AUSTRALIA, AMERICA or may be something to do with paratps. The first suggestion seems to me the most likely.

This native also informed ~~xx~~ 38 that the Japs slept in a house about 100 yards Eastwards from NADZAB post every night and had sentires patrolling the GAMATZUNG MISSION during the night.

They left the house about dawn and returned towards LAE. They arrive at this house about 1700 hrs every afternoon.

The house used to be a store run by a chinaman employed by LEO POLAND. I regard reliability of this statement as being about 60%.

OPERATOR 45.

Reported at DAIGEN on 21 Feb 43.

Had been at CHIVASING since arrival of Jap overland force from MEDANG, He learnt that the first Jap force met these natives who ran away from SALAMAUA at BOGAJIM. The natives said that the Japs had brought them from RABAUL and sent them home.

He was informed by the natives that the following account was given them by the native half casts :

His name was MASAKE and the force went up the MENJEM RIVER from MEDANG, At AMARI the Japs caught and killed a soldier and a black mission teacher. They came ~~xxxx~~ to DUMPUPU and then took KAIAPIT.

The natives sent word from DUMPUPU to KAIAPIT and down to CHIVASING. The women and children were hidden. Word was sent to CHIVASING that the Japs were asking about KIRKLANDS.

The CHIVASING people had time to work up a story for the Japs and told them NO tracks existed and that they had NO canoes.

The Luluai of CHIVASING was at SANGAN and very definitely says that NO Japs went to ONGA. They also know nothing about the force said to have made to BOANA, The Luluai at SANGAN did NOT remain there long - he rushed back to CHIVASING to warn his people as his statement that NO Japs went to ONGA may or may NOT be correct.

.....

I would like to suggest that pamphlets be dropped over SALAMAUA coastal and near coastal area, naming the vilages of LOKANU, LOGUI, KILA, ASINI, HOTE, BUAKAP, BUSAMA and BWUSI.

They have also asked me to inform the Air Force that lives in the bush  
All these villages supply food to the Japs and whether they are forced  
to do NOT, it would be to our advantage to chase them away from  
contact with the Jap.

The pamphlets could inform the natives that we know what they are  
doing, give them a weeks notice and then give each village  
a bomb or two and straffing from time to time at irregular short  
intervals.

The Japs might be caught in BWUSSI on Mondays or TUESDAY, around about  
1000 hrs.

It appears that quite a volume of food obtained by the Japs from  
these areas and as soon as the supply is cut off the better.

Signed. JOHN J MURPHY . Capt

ANGAU. WAMPIT AREA.

This native also reported that the Japs are looking for the workers and that they  
are going to destroy them and then you want to see  
"Wait for a time. The Japs are looking for the workers and that they  
are going to destroy them and then you want to see  
PAGES coming. " PORT MORESBY and AUSTRIA were mentioned and also  
W. ...

I cannot make any connection concerning this statement. It may be just  
an excuse for a bit of boasting to regain face, or may be connected with  
fifth column in PORT MORESBY, AUSTRALIA, AUSTRIA or may be connected to  
do with ... The first suggestion seems to be the most likely.

This native also informed me that the Japs sleep in a house about  
100 yards Eastwards from WADZAN post every night and had sentries patrol-  
ling the CAMATUNG MOUNTAIN during the night.

They left the house about dawn and returned towards ... They arrive  
at this house about 1700 hrs every afternoon.

The house used to be a store run by a Chinaman employed by IGO ...  
I regard reliability of this statement as being about 60%.

OPERATOR 45.

Reported at BALGON on 31 Feb 45.

Had been at CHIVASING since arrival of Jap overland force from WADZAN.  
He learnt that the first Jap force met there natives who ran away from  
BALANAU at BOGALIM. The natives said that the Japs had brought them  
from ... and sent them here.

He was informed by the natives that the following account was given them  
by the native ... :

His name was MASAKI and the force went up the ... river from WADZAN.  
At AMARI the Japs caught and killed a soldier and a black mission teacher.  
They came from ... and then took ...

The natives sent word from ... to ... and down to CHIVASING. The  
women and children were hidden. Word was sent to CHIVASING that the Japs  
were asking about ...

The CHIVASING people had time to work up a story for the Japs and told  
them ... that they had ...

The ... of CHIVASING was at ... and very definitely says that ...  
Japs went to ... They also know nothing about the force said to  
have made to ... The ... at ... did NOT remain there long -  
he ... back to CHIVASING to warn his people as his statement that ...  
Japs went to ... may or may NOT be correct.

I would like to suggest that pamphlets be dropped over ... coastal  
and near coastal areas, naming the villages of ...

Major Vortigan  
 District Officer.

Intelligence Report - Native Agents

Operator 43 visited Gabsonke village and Gabmatzung Mission on Monday 21/2/43. He met Operator 44 who told him that the Japs had changed their arrangements at Gabmatzung. The standing patrol mentioned in a previous report has now been abandoned - after only a few days maintenance. The arrangement now is a daily patrol arriving in the morning of each day and returning to a camp near Yalu. While at Gabmatzung, at least four sentries are posted as follows. One in a kopiek tree about halfway between Mac's camp and the mission at Gabmatzung, and watching the landing ground and the road from Mac's camp. The second is in a mango tree watching the road from Kirkland's crossing after it passes through Shep's camp. The mango tree is one of several on this road not far out of Gabmatzung. The third is on a rise roughly S.E. of Gabmatzung and watching ~~the~~ Dearip village and the Gabsonke natives track from the Marikham, opposite Maranina, to Gabmatzung. The fourth is in a coconut palm watching the track from Gabsonke village to Gabmatzung. The strength of the patrol is not known. Operator ~~43~~ 43 went to Gabmatzung at about 0800 hours and found abundant evidence of a Jap party being there - tins, cigarette packets etc., but the patrol for that day had not yet arrived. He did not remain at Gabmatzung for long. Operator 44 told him that almost invariably the Jap interpreter with the patrol visited Gabsonke on settlement for a few pupaws and bananas. He always came ~~with~~ alone.

Confirmation was obtained that the fires observed from the air about Feb 7th were made near Teroren by Chivasing and Teroren natives hunting for wild pigs. Operator 43 himself received some of the pigs. He further informs us that the total population of the new Gabsonke settlement N.E. of the village is 3 adult males, including operator 44, and about 15 young boys.

Agents have been dispatched to investigate alleged drum building at WANGAT near the Loron River.

Aerial photographs showing the mouth of the Brop, mouth of the Wangit and the area round Gabsonke, Gabmatzung and Madab are urgently required for us to check information and to have an intelligent understanding of reports received. Without these photographs, it is very easy to be misled and to misunderstand. It is six years since I have been in that area and I have not a clear picture of the terrain and tracks. A sketch map is attached, compiled mainly from the description of my informant and a tracing from a sketch map of the Marikham valley. The accuracy is not guaranteed. Should you be able to obtain an aerial photograph, could I have the approximate scale of distances with it.

The above information can be regarded as fully reliable.

*J. J. Murphy*  
 (John J. Murphy) Capt.  
 O/C A.N.G.A.U., Wangit Area.

5

23  
Sept 28 3 43

The District Officer,  
Majahan District.

Intelligence Report - Native Agents

This information comes from Operator 41 who sent an observer into Muman on 8/2/43. The observer left Muman on 10/2/43. He reports as follows through Operator 41:

Japan Concentration at Muman - Reported Explorer: This was a patrol of about 300 which came to Muman from Lee and returned after a night's camp. Canoes and rafts, as reported, were being prepared; but not for the Japs. The natives themselves used them to cross the river and make a new settlement on the South bank of the River east of Lake Wainin.

Motor Transport to Muman Village: A motor road is now being used as far as the village of Muman. Every Wednesday M/T brings a patrol to Muman and returns there. This road is also used by foot patrols which pass Muman. The informant could not say what they did after they left the vicinity of Muman.

Kirklands and Sheldons Under Observation: The informant was impressed by a party of Japs on 12/2/43 and taken to Coboosko where a Jap patrol was. He was with the party of them it went down to the River from Coboosko. The Jap Officer surveyed the south bank in the vicinity of Kirklands and said "No boats here". This was late in the afternoon of the 12th. After dark - about 1900 hrs a number of the Japs stripped and swam to an island in the river. They returned and after sleeping at Coboosko for the night returned to Lee early on the morning of the 13th. The Jap Pidgeon Speaker remained in Pidgin. "We wan't make an attack now, there are not enough of us - only 150". When the informant asked the officer when they were coming back to make an attack, he replied that he was not going to tell him. There were some Uagwupun impressed into the carrying line and they told the informant that the Jap patrols took a regular peak through a telegraph at the south bank in the vicinity of Kirklands and Sheldons. The informant declared that this party came from Lidang and camped in Coboosko before sending to Muman for carriers. I doubt this, however, as the party seemed to know a lot about the area. My opinion is that they doubtless came from Lidang, but with one of the parties previously reported, and that they reached Coboosko as a patrol from the new forward post between Yaku and Uagwupun and doubtless had a few of the old hands with them. There have been no fresh arrivals reported by any other agents, who had an opportunity to observe any force arriving overland from Lidang at the date given.

How Houses Observed from air: Two large Mumi houses and a large conical tent observed from the air and which appear to be roughly N.E. of Coboosko village are native houses only built by the Coboosko natives - new settlement. The village itself is empty. The conical "tent" is a Mumi construction.

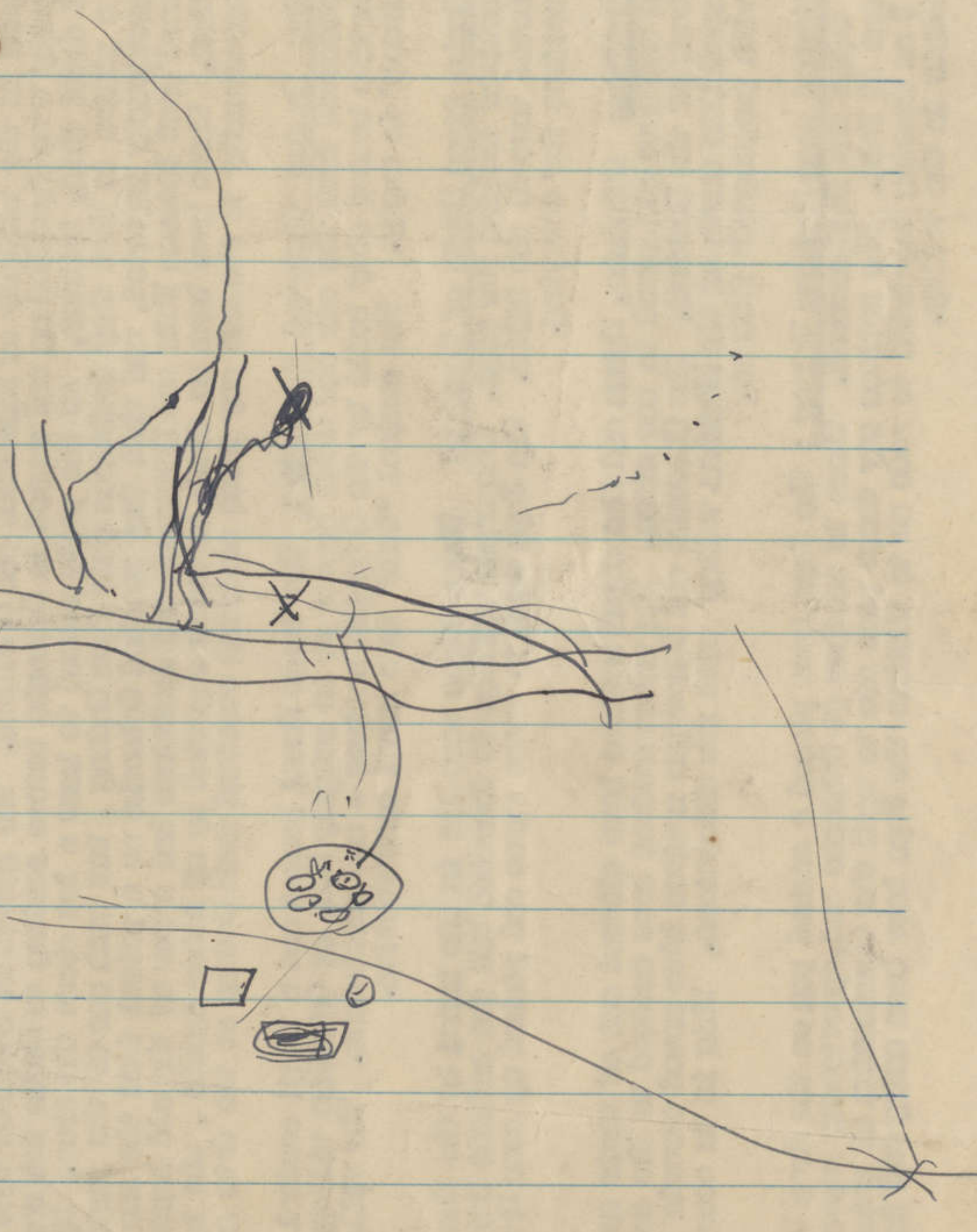
Smoke fires North of Muman: These fires were lit in the Mumi by the Uagwupun natives looking for pigs. Uagwupun village is deserted and the natives have moved towards the hills. The Japs went to these fires and picked up some Uagwupun natives for carrying.

Native Agents: Coboosko, Muman and Uagwupun natives have cleared out of their settlements and have all moved to new sites. The Muman natives have crossed to the south bank of the Muisim. The Coboosko and Uagwupun natives have moved towards the foothills north of the Muisim valley with few exceptions. This is in accordance with propaganda from us.

Marked posts Muisim Valley: The Japs have placed a marked peg on the Brog River where the road crosses. There is another at Coboosko and, previously reported, one at Yaku. The natives say these pegs are to mark the termination of patrols. I am causing enquiries to be made as to whether the Japs have been using any instruments in the valley.

Teveran

Chivasing





This report, except where qualified, can be regarded as having full reliability. I  
may be able to further enlarge on this report in a few days time

(John J Murphy) Capt  
O/C A.H.C.A.U Hospital Area

PATROL REPORT

PATROL  
FILE

REF No. DG

SKETCH MAP ATTACHED  
PATROL FORM BY BOBB 15 Pl.  
PATROL STRENGTH 1 N.C.O. 3 O.Rs. *1 Native guide*  
TIME OUT 1030 hrs 23 Feb. 43  
OBJECT:\*

PATROL COMD A/CPL SMITH A.J.  
NATURE OF PATROL RECCO  
TIME IN 1730 hrs 27 Feb. 43

1. To make recce TIMNE -BULANTIM-track
2. To investigate attitude of natives toward us or enemy.
3. To see if enemy patrols have been in area.

ROUTE OUT: From TIMNE over MT.CHUNGOL to MUMBUN  
ROUTE IN : MUMBUN via main SNAKE RIVER trail to BULANTIM-MAPOS-PATEP-1-PATEP1-TIMNE

NARRATIVE:

23 Feb. Patrol left TIMNE and proceeding <sup>ed</sup> along main WAMPIT track for 1 hour, then took track branching to right, proceeded for 2 1/2 hrs along watercourse to some small shelters where we had lunch. Continued another 2 hrs up watercourse to group of shelters where patrol camped for the night.

24 Feb. Proceeded up stream on track for 1 1/2 hrs in heavy rain, track now becomes extremely rough. Track turns to right up steep spur for 1 hour very steep climb and reached false spur. Continued climbing for further 1 1/2 hrs reached small shelter with cleared outlook over MARKHAM VALLEY and ~~near~~ <sup>found</sup> LAE; ~~near~~ <sup>near</sup> and low lying clouds prevented observation. After 1 hour climb track branches. Followed left hand track and climbed for further 2 hrs and reached highest point of track. Estimate this point to be 8500 or 9000' high. This is the highest point of MT.CHUNGOL. Followed track down further to watercourse and around mountain to small shelter overlooking SNAKE VALLEY above RARI. From here track is well marked but drops very steeply for 1 hour to watercourse and along kumai ridge above RARI. A further 2 hrs very steep descent brought the patrol to MUMBUN on main SNAKE track, camped here.

25 Feb. Followed main track for 1 hour to Bulantim then for 2 hours to Mapos, camped here.

26 Feb. Intended staying at Mapos for day as patrol needed rest after strenuous climb, but Kanakas refused to trade with carriers and as their food supplies were exhausted decided to push on to Partip I. This trip took 8 hours.

27 Feb. Proceeded Timne from Partip I via Partip 2, camped. This trip took ~~6 1/2~~ <sup>6 1/2</sup> hours.

REPORT.

Track from Timne to Bulantim well marked in places but very hard to follow along watercourses, native guide necessary. Very steep descent last 3 hours Main Snake Trail easy grade and in good condition.

CONCLUSION.

1. Enemy unlikely to use track as they ~~will have to~~ <sup>could not</sup> find it without native help and owing to steep nature of track would be almost certain to use main Snake Trail.
  2. Natives definitely afraid of Japs and would let us know immediately they came into Valley.
  3. No enemy patrols have been near the area.
- The natives at Mumbun were very friendly and assisted the patrol in every possible way. Mumbun is a large native village with numerous gardens and <sup>t</sup> there appears to be a large number of natives living there. The natives at Mapos were not helpful and would not give our boys food. Mapos is split into 3 or 4 villages over an area of about 4 square miles and we did not see many natives.

SUMMARY OF STAGES  
OUT. STAGE. 1. TIMNE to CAMP. 5 1/2 hours  
STAGE. 2. CAMP to MUMBUN II hours

*WAO*

(over)

Continued,

IN.

STAGE 1.	MUNDUN TO BULANTIM	1 hour.
	BULANTIM to NAPOS	2 hours
STAGE 2.	NAPOS to PARTP I.	8 hours.
STAGE 3.	PARTP I. to PARTP 2.	3½ hours.
	PARTP 2. to TIMNE.	3 hours.

*W.R. Smith's copy*

SIGNED

*A/CP. G. J. Smith*

# GOLD AND POWER LIMITED

UPPER WATUT

VIA WAU, T.N.G.

CABLES TELEGRAMS  
& RADIOGRAMS  
"GOPOL"  
WAU AND SYDNEY

SYDNEY AGENT  
H. G. HYDE  
15 HAMILTON STREET  
TEL. B 5979 B 1536

29th. August 1941.,

The Police Master.,  
Bulwa.

Dear Sir,

Many thanks for returning native to us yesterday. He was one of our I/L and deserted with two others a few days ago.

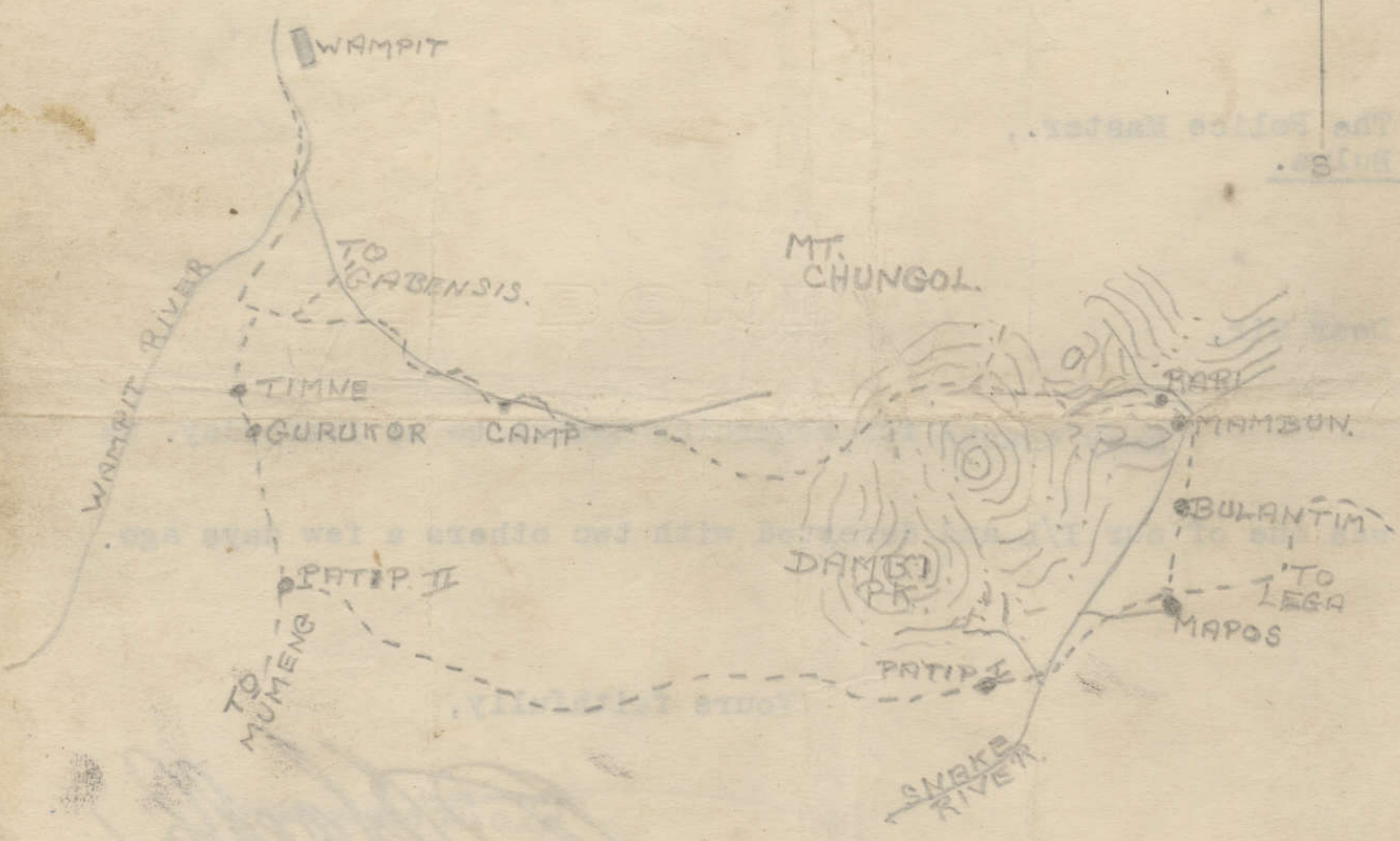
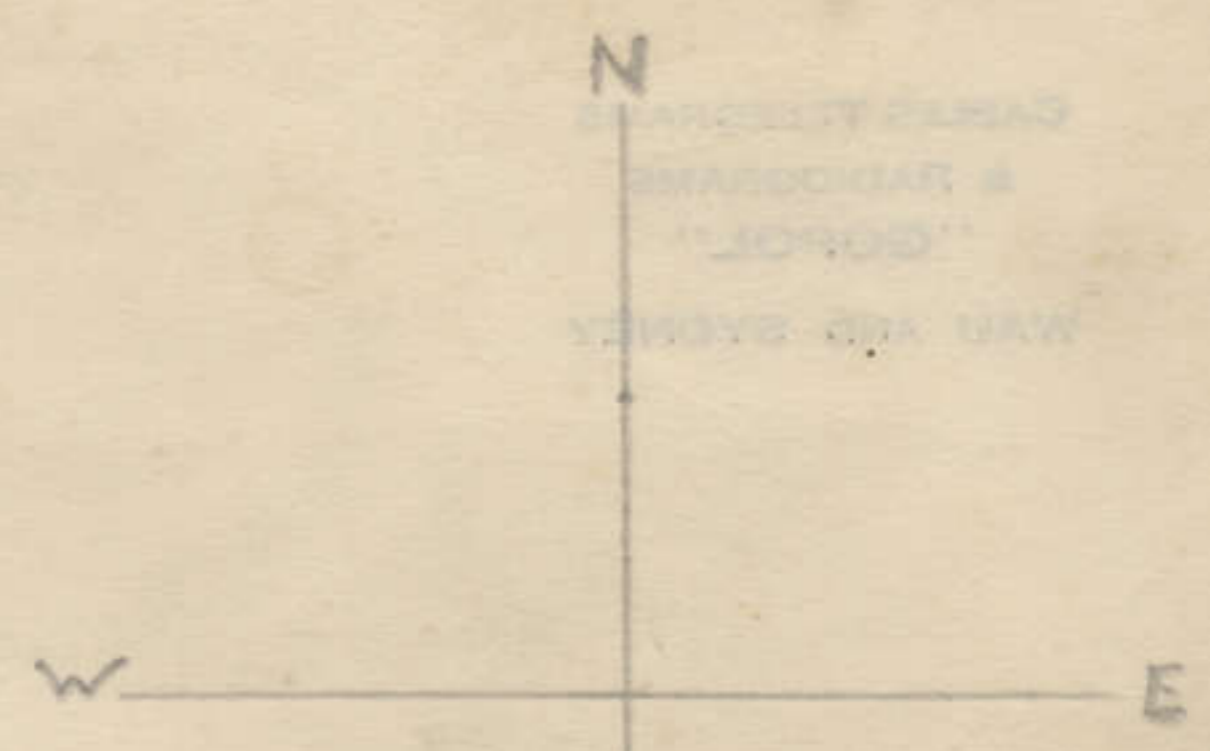
Yours faithfully,

  
H. G. HYDE  
GOLD AND POWER LIMITED

GOLD AND POWER LIMITED  
MAP OF ROUTE TAKEN

UPPER WATUT  
VIA WAW, T.N.G.

STOCKY AGENT  
H. S. WIDE  
18 HARRISON STREET  
TEL. 2015 BIRD



# MESSAGE FORM

*File*

Serial No.

**CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS**

IN

OUT

No. of Groups  
**GR.**

OFFICE DATE STAMP

*2836*

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO *LEHR*

FROM *BUDO*

Originator's Number

*I619*

Date

*23*

In Reply to Number

<i>Five</i>	<i>of</i>	<i>unknown</i>	<i>origin</i>	<i>and</i>	<i>NOT</i>
<i>native</i>	<i>reported</i>	<i>map ref</i>	<i>396369</i>	<i>approx</i>	<i>NADZAB</i>
<i>①</i>	<i>KUPO</i>	<i>patrol</i>	<i>searched</i>	<i>back</i>	<i>in</i>
<i>vic</i>	<i>of</i>	<i>map</i>	<i>ref today</i>	<i>also</i>	<i>BEN -</i>
<i>WAMPIT</i>	<i>and</i>	<i>BEN -</i>	<i>TIMNE</i>	<i>tracks unsuccessfully</i>	
<i>① KUPO</i>	<i>suggests</i>	<i>rece patrol</i>	<i>from</i>	<i>TIMNE</i>	<i>where</i>
<i>guides</i>	<i>available</i>	<i>to VAGAU</i>	<i>Can</i>	<i>you do</i>	<i>it</i>

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

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

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

SIGNATURE *[Signature]*  
(BELOW THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS  
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

*2140*

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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

# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	IN	No. of Groups GR.	OFFICE DATE STAMP  3048
	OUT		

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO **LEHA M/L KUPO**

FROM <b>BUDO</b>	Originator's Number <b>I 684</b>	Date <b>27</b>	In Reply to Number <b>—</b>
<b>REP</b>	<b>my</b>	<b>I 619</b>	<b>and</b>
<b>I 183</b>	<b>and</b>	<b>KUPO'S</b>	<b>I 620</b>
<b>advise</b>	<b>repeat</b>	<b>of</b>	<b>and</b>
<b>repeat</b>	<b>⊙</b>	<b>of</b>	<b>⊙</b>

**LEHA'S**  
**087**  
**Repeat**

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

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

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS  
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNATURE.....

SIGNATURE.....

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

(BELOW THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

**1035**

**T.H.I.**

**T.O.R.**

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

1. C. O.  
2. PATROL FILE  
SECRET

PATROL REPORTS → MARKHAM AREA

HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde (AIF)  
21 Jun 43  
I 8

24 Aust Inf Bn

1. Herewith patrol reports of MARKHAM AREA received from 2/6 Aust Inf Bn.
2. These may be of some value to the unit.

*B. H. Trauer*  
Major  
BM 15 Aust Inf Bde

*See*



PATROL REPORT

Ref map LAE PARTWP No 2      Scale 1 inch to 1 mile      Date 4 May 43

Patrol found by 14 Pl

Patrol comd Sjt Fels (2/6 Bn)

Nature of patrol      Recce

Strength of patrol 10 men

Time out 1400 hrs 1 May 43

Time in 1300 hrs 3 May 43

Objt of patrol HAS THERE BEEN ANY JP ACTIVITY BETWEEN OOMSIS AND  
MARKHAM POINT

Route out BEN OP \_ OOMSIS \_ MARKHAM PT.

Route in Reverse to route out

Part I

YES. There has been a Jap patrol as far as kunai spur East of Oomsis

Part II

Patrol left Ben OP 1400 hrs 1 May 43 and went to Oomsis where it arrived after one hour. A recce of the surroundings of Oomsis was made by the patrol comd and one NCO. Patrol slept the night at Oomsis. On the morning of the 2 May 43, after an early breakfast patrol departed from Oomsis at 0630 hrs. The track crosses Burke Ck 5 mins from Oomsis and enters a banana plantation on the other side. The track winds through the plantation for 15 mins and is hard to locate it then passes a narrow strip of timber and winds through another plantation. Shortly the track peters out altogether and the patrol had to break bush to the edge of the kunai. From then on the patrol track is fairly distinct and rises steeply along the top of a kunai spur. Time taken to reach the top was approx one hour. From the top the track after 70 yds enters the jungle. It was on top of the spur that tracks of a recent Jap patrol have been found. Some green branches were seen on the kunai track which could not be more than 24 hrs old. Also foot prints were discerned on the track. Patrol then cautiously moved into the jungle on the edge of which a small clearing exists which had once before been occupied by the Japs. In that clearing papers from ration packets have been found also cigarette ends (Japs are smoking native tobacco). Patrol remained in clearing for half an hour and moved on. For 20 mins the track is very steep until a "window" in the timber is reached. On a fine day the terrace at Lae and plantations at Malabang can be seen from there, but owing to the mist all the patrol could see was a strip of the sea and a stretch of the Markham river. From then on the descent is extremely steep and after 20 mins the bottom is reached. A small creek flows in the direction of the Markham. We had a drink and moved on. From then on the track continues in thick jungle at a very slight grade down hill. We moved very cautiously on the edge of the track trying not to leave too many footprints. After 40 mins we stopped for a spell. From there the going is quite flat and

the ground is pretty wet in places although on exactly mddy. 20 mins further we came on a small native lean-to on the edge of the track. There were no signs of the Jap ever having used it. Half an hour further on a similar hut is reached also showing on signs of recent occupations. At 1200 hrs Approx deep Ck was reached. The creek is about 40 ft wide, appears to be deep is flowing very slowly and is littered with logs and trees. The track runs down stream alongside the creek for about 40 yds where the creek is crossed by a log. Our patrol did not cross the creek.

We spread out on the bank and observed the opposite side for about half an hour. Then leaving two men on sentry, watching the crossing the remainder went back along the track and had lunch. Sentries were maintained all afternoon when 1 NCO and 2 ORs went across on a recce to Markham Pt. During their absence we again spread along the bank to protect their crossing back. They returned after one hour and a half at 1800 hrs.

They had nothing unusual to report.

We kept sentries on the bank until dark, and withdrew along the track for about 50 yds. Then we "broke bush" for about another 50 yds. and bedded down for the night. Men slept in twos to keep warm, but even then sleep is almost impossible on account of swarms of mosquitoes.

In the morning we again maintained watch on the crossing of Deep Ck. until 0700 hrs. when we moved back. We moved pretty fast and arrived back at Oomsis at 1030 hrs. After a meal at Oomsis we returned to Ben OP where we arrived at 1300 hrs.

#### Remarks.

Top of kunai spur is 1 hr 30 mins from Oomsis.

The country from the top of the kunai spur is very thick jungle infested by mosquitoes, and in patches swampy. Visibility along the track is limited and no suitable ambush position exists.

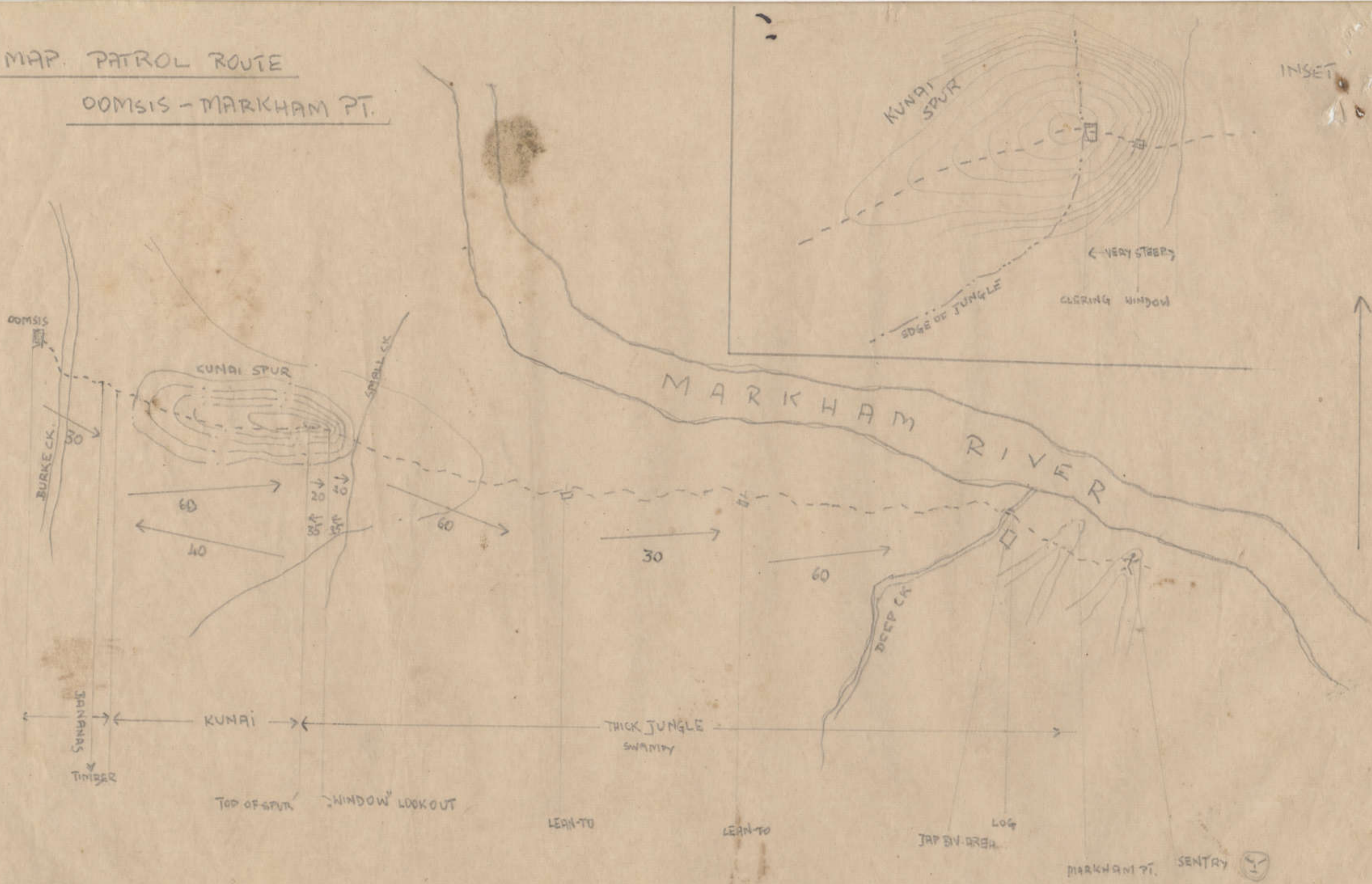
The clearing just below the kunai spur appears to offer an ideal ambush position. From the small creek to the clearing is about one hour very hard climbing and any one coming from that direction is sure to have a spell in the clearing. The approach onto the spur could not

be observed from the north bank of the Markham in the early hrs of the morning on account of the mist which always hangs around till approx 0900 hrs..

Signed M. Fels Sjt..

SKETCH MAP. PATROL ROUTE

OOMSIS - MARKHAM PT.



SCALE 1 inch to 1 mile

DATE 4 May 43

(Fels)

# Patrol Report

REF MAP see sketch attached

DATE 25<sup>th</sup> April 1945

Patrol Led By (A.P.N. 215<sup>th</sup> Infantry Coy) PATROL COMMANDER ~~PTC MITCHELL~~

PATROL STRENGTH INCO 200

TIME OUT 0800 hrs 22<sup>nd</sup> April - TIME IN 0930 hrs 25<sup>th</sup> April

OBJECT OF PATROL. Piece of old Logo track for fresh signs of Gap activity

0730 hrs Left Ben OP

0840 - arrived at GABENSIS to first good water

1010 - passed through swampy flat track to House Sac Sac, good water

1120 - good track leading from H. Sac Sac to

~~the~~ Summit

1320 - Summit to OP (old Logo) 15 hrs <sup>(long distance)</sup>

Japanese walked through OP area. Gap toffee papers, page of book were seen along the track. Similar Gap papers were sent forward to C HQ by a previous patrol a few days ago. Gaps used sneakers. Gaps moved from from old Logo OP toward H. Sac Sac over the Summit - cut a short track downhill towards Markham Point, but did not proceed far along this track. They made this patrol approx 14 days ago.

OBSERVATION from Old Logo OP - Heath's is still intact. Lac looks practically unoccupied compared with six months ago. Roads are overgrown and in dis-use. No sign of enemy troops. Old Logo Camp H. Sac Sac in a dilapidated state. H. Sac Sac consists of 3 Huts which are water proof. Footprints of our troops going to Logo Chiapan suddenly, no visible sign off but it

Conclusions would be easy for gops to pick the track  
Gabensis natives are in touch, in constant  
communication, with Labu Kai, going to the  
sea for lime, for use with hotel ants.

It is a three-day patrol to old Lopo of  
Necessary to fill water bottles at first  
good water from Gabensis, as there is  
little water for two days. Essential to  
sleep under cover of a night during to rain  
and heavy dew.

Pte Mitchell W.F.



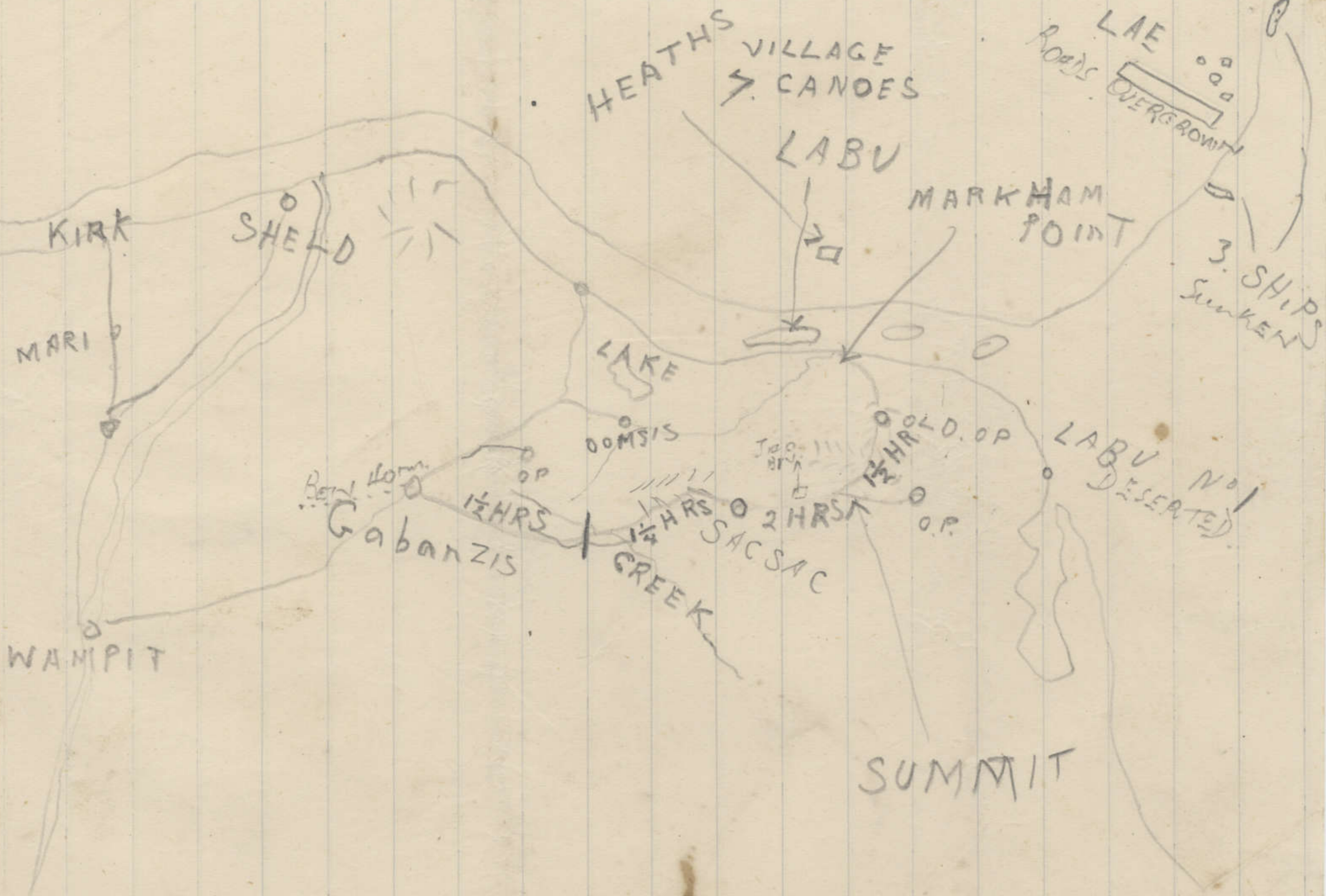
AUSTRALIAN COMFORTS FUND  
(Victorian Division)

With which is Affiliated  
R.S.L. WAR SERVICE FUND, THE SALVATION ARMY,  
AND Y.M.C.A.

Faint pencil sketches and handwritten notes on lined paper. The sketches include a map of Australia with labels for 'MIRK', 'SHEPHERD', 'HEALTHY VILLAGE', 'CAMP', 'LADY', 'JOINT', 'THE', 'SHEPHERD', 'CAMP', 'LADY', 'JOINT', 'THE'. There are also some illegible handwritten notes and a small rectangular box with dots inside.



AUSTRALIAN COMFORTS FUND  
1915-1918  
1919-1920  
1921-1922  
1923-1924  
1925-1926  
1927-1928  
1929-1930  
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2097-2098  
2099-2100



## Patrol Report

REF MAP see sketch attached

Date 20<sup>th</sup> April 43

Patrol Strength 1 MCO. 2 ORS  
 A Pln 2/5<sup>th</sup> Indep Coy  
 Patrol Comd Cpl Baker  
 Wator of Patrol (piece) 4.3  
 Cpl Baker RN

Time Out 0730 hrs 2/5<sup>th</sup> Indep Coy

Object of Patrol (1) To observe Gap Sentry previously reported at Markham Pt

(2) To find suitable OP overlooking Hathi

Route Out Route In (see narrative)

Narrative - 0730 hrs Left Ben OP

0810 - Passed lone tree

0845 - Arrived at Oomsu Village

1050 - Entered jungle where Gaps Bivouac

1055 - Passed where Body trap had been placed on Kabu track (Spring) had inspected on a previous patrol

1100 - Met Cpl Atfield &amp; Edwards on their return from Markham Pt

1125 - Crossed small creek

1215 - Came to first lean-to that had lunch

1300 - Passed second Hat

1430 - Met Pte Stringer at Deep Creek, where he had remained behind from previous patrol

1530 - Proceeded to a position, to observe Gap Sentry, where previously seen by Cpl Atfield's patrol

1730 - Again moved to a position to watch movement of sentry, but he was not there, then descended to Kabu track over next ridge then seeing tracks of Gaps, also where they had rested, because of the chocolate paper and small cooker (Samples of paper small tin enclosed)

1830 - Moved back to position where we intended to bivouac for the night



80830 hrs - Left Bit Area to investigate sentry position. He was not there, so descended to make further recce of track leading to Markham Point. Pamphlets were found approx 300' up track.

1000 - Moved from track in scrub to get better view of Old Rae OP track. Were then fired on by two Gap Mms & one rifleman from 50' away. The Mms firing four long bursts, killing Pte Bonnell in the first burst, the rifleman firing four rounds. We were well hidden in the scrub at the time when four or five Pte Stringer was two yards in front of Pte Bonnell, who was slightly on his left; Cpl Baker was about thirty yards to the right rear, but could not see the enemy from his position. We were in a standing position at the time Pte Stringer fired one round which was the only shot fired by the patrol. Cpl Baker then fell back onto the Markham track to give covering fire for Pte Stringer to also fall back. The Gaps fired in all, three bursts at him (Pte Stringer) who then scrub-bashed and arrived back at Deep Creek, meeting Cpl Baker there. They then proceeded back to Ben OP.

1010

1500

Conclusion: - (At the time of his death Pte Bonnell was in possession of Rifle, Grenade & 38 Revolver - 50 Rds - 303 - Wallett - Paybook Pack. At the time of firing Pte Stringer saw one man standing and one kneeling on ground. On his right ten yards from Gaps was a Kunai, put parallel with the Gap position. The track was barricaded

by poles in sliprail fashion with small stakes interwoven. Was up to five feet in height and approx fifteen yards in front of gap position.

1. It is my opinion that the Gaps have a standing patrol in this area, with the object of defending further encroachment along the track.
- " Observation of Heath's, is by tree only, which is in the danger area. It is also half an hour from water and in my opinion unsuitable.

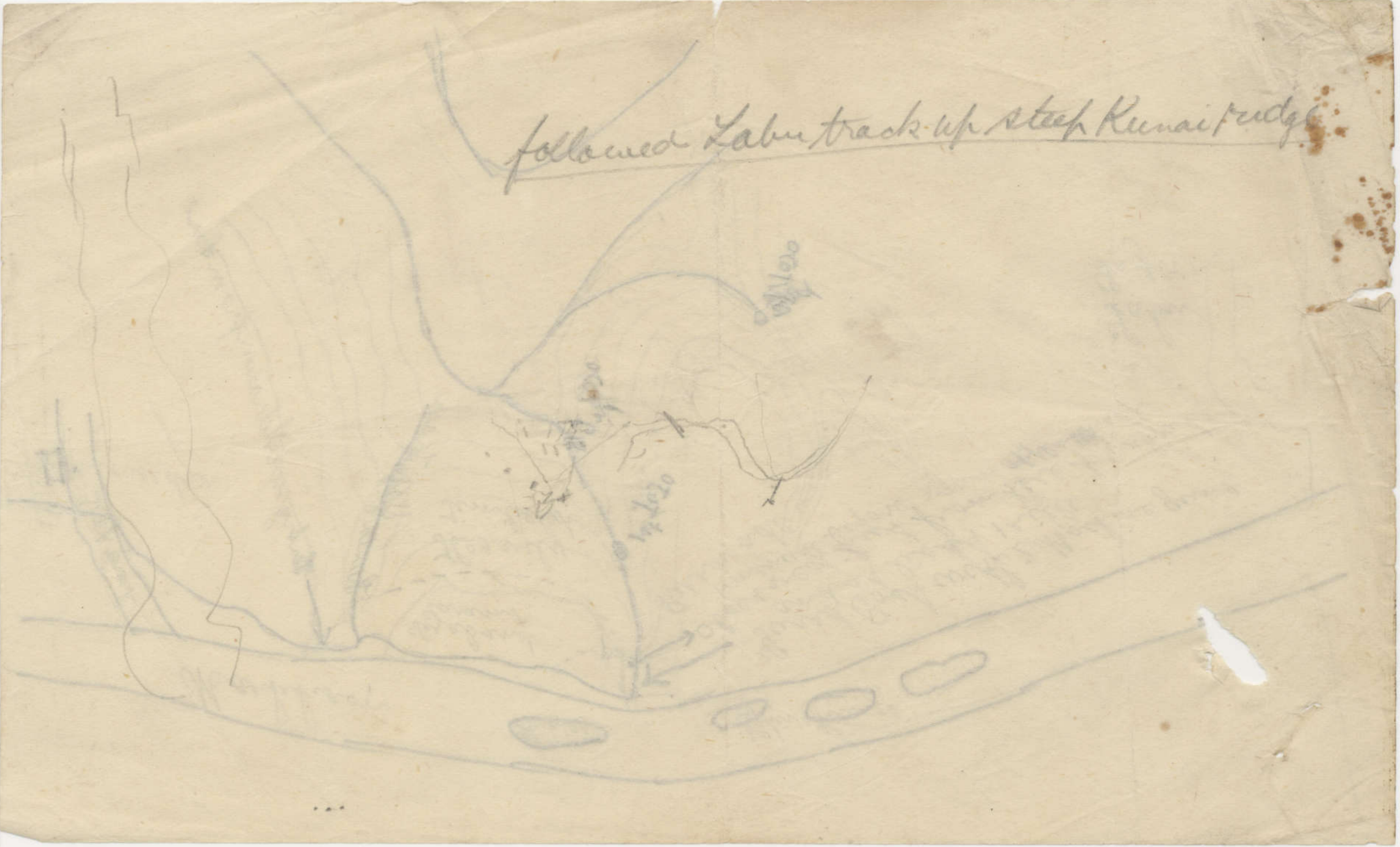
S. P. L. Baker A.C.

20-4-45;

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followed Labu track up steep Kunai ridge



PATROL REPORT

Reference Map - see sketch attached.

Patrol formed by: A Pln 2/5 Aust. Ind. Coy.

Patrol Comd. - Capt ATFIELD.

Patrol Strength - INCO. + 20/Rs.

Time Out - 0900 hrs 18 Apr. Time In - 1500 hrs 20 Apr.

Object of Patrol - (i) To observe Jap. activity previously reported at Markham Pt.  
(ii) To find suitable SP overlooking HEATHS.

Route out and Route in - see sketch map.

Narrative - 0900 hrs left base.  
1010 - crossed swampy village.  
1130 - found clear but old Jap footprints at edge of swamp at foot large bald spot. all way to top of spur Jap trail through Kuma off skyline.

1216 - found spot where number of enemy had remained for sometime apparently to watch patrol at work. found various wrappings and page of book also type of form (maybe message).

1221 - came across heavily trap recently sprung by some animal.

1231 - came across traces of fire and old palm leaves used for resting.

1420 - lunch at a creek.

1515 - Arrived at hut and then a second completely destroyed.

1626 - arrived at bivouac area at Dist Co. - also found some Emergency Ration tin (one partly) may have been discarded by one of previous patrols. Track appeared to have been recently used.

1700 hrs - At top of steep climb heard movement about 20 yds below and then burst of paddles and noise. Timber extremely thick obscuring view. Found traces of footprints.

Optic - type.

Could not see boat but saw glimpse of  
Grey Cap through caves. This position was  
Forest the position described in previous  
patrol report (AD 36). This man disappeared  
and seems that he was taken off by the boat  
squad. <sup>waited for twenty minutes but no</sup> <sup>proceeding to position</sup>  
sign off then proceeded to Recco for <sup>at</sup> overlooking  
HEATHS.

Searched until 15.10 hrs but light failed so camped  
for the night.

19 Apr.

0545 - Heavy mist  
0745 - Mist cleared and found ~~spot~~ spot where  
HEATHS might be observed if trees could  
be climbed - difficult as lowest limbs are  
more than 20 feet from ground. Could not  
find open ground from which to view  
HEATHS.

1100 - Arrived DFCG

1126 - Plane overhead - machine gun fire  
heard from direction of HEATHS.

1300 - Searched for suitable spot to obtain  
views of any Jap on bank - nature of  
country (heavy timber) makes it  
extremely difficult to obtain unrestricted  
view.  
Could not find Jap (not in same pos<sup>n</sup>)  
at previous day.

1530 - Boat (~~with~~) with sail coming up stream  
from LHC - 6 Japs + 2 natives on board  
opposite our position 6 Japs and  
natives got out of boat commenced  
fishing with nets some beating  
water wildly while others waited  
down stream with nets.

1620 - Boat moved upstream with  
Japs wading with nets.

1720 - Moved to try and contact  
any Jap on bank - heard noise  
but Japs disappeared before they  
could be seen. Moved up to point  
where noise heard and saw where  
Jap had been.

then returned vicinity of DEEP Co. and  
Camped.

14th

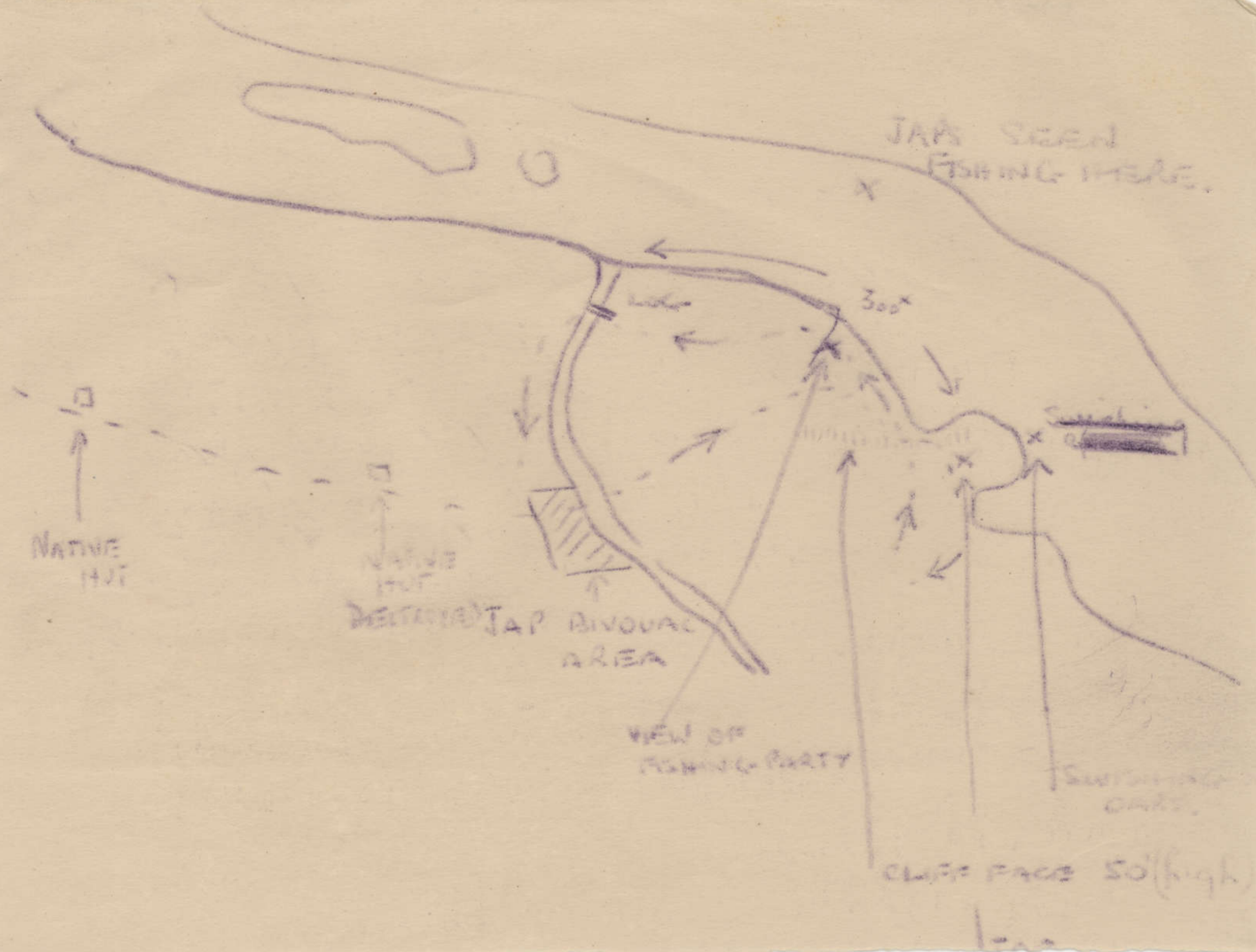
0740 - Left DEEP Co. and return along track  
to HUT - met Cpl BAKER and Pte BONNELL.  
Cpl BAKER - Pte BONNELL - Pte STRINGER  
returned to post where previous Japs  
had been heard and seen on ~~the~~ SOUTH  
BANK OF MARKHAM.

15th - Reported in at BEN O.P.

### CONCLUSIONS.

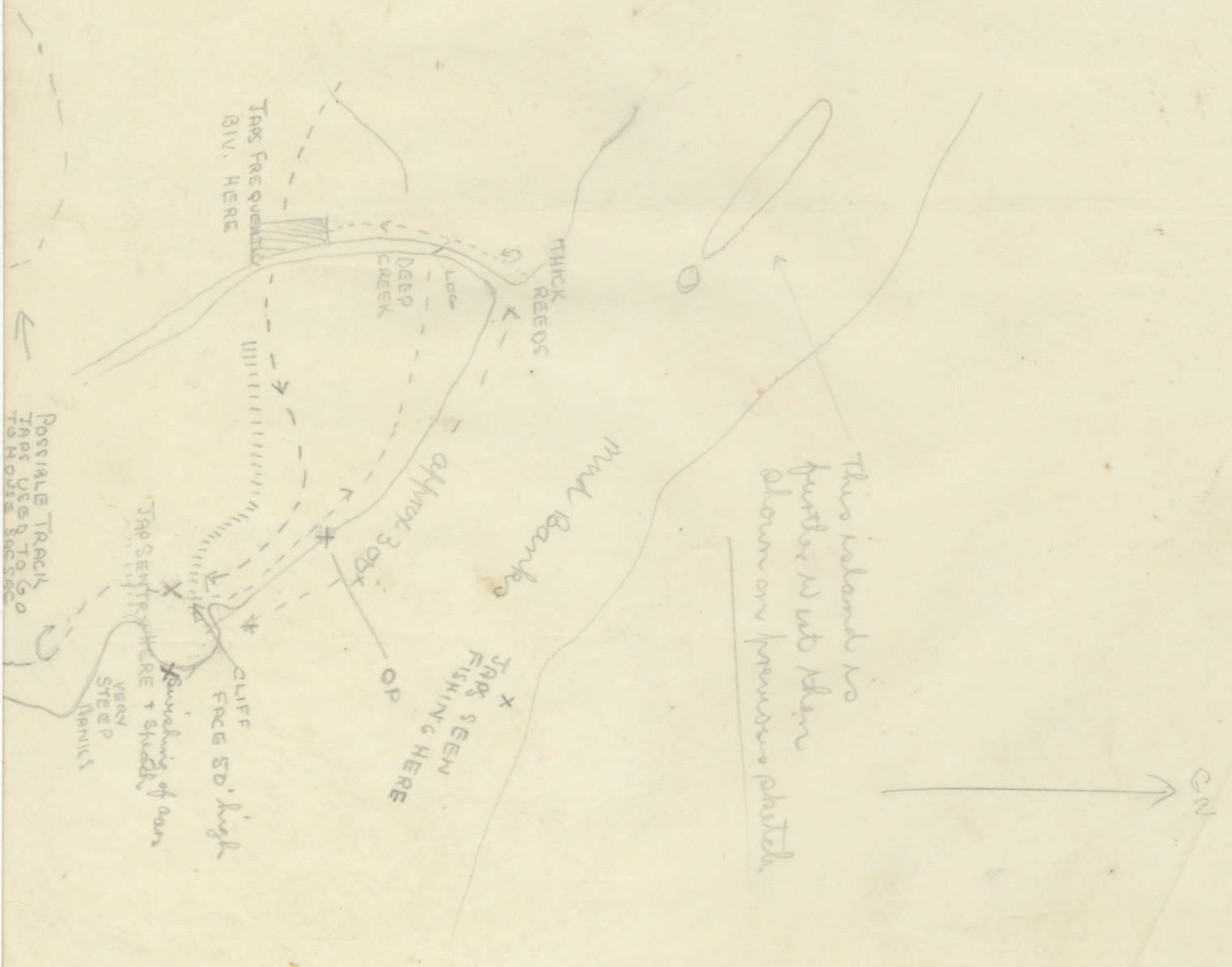
- (i) ~~Jap or Japs are present on bank in~~  
~~the vicinity where Japs are~~  
~~fishing and does not appear to~~  
~~be always in same position.~~
- (ii) Jap or Japs are present on bank in  
~~the~~ vicinity where Japs are  
fishing and does not appear to  
be always in same position.
- (iii) The Jap or Japs appeared to be  
picked up at approx. 1700 hrs by  
Japs in fishing boat.
- (iv) No suitable O.P. could be found that  
gave unrestricted view of HEATHS.

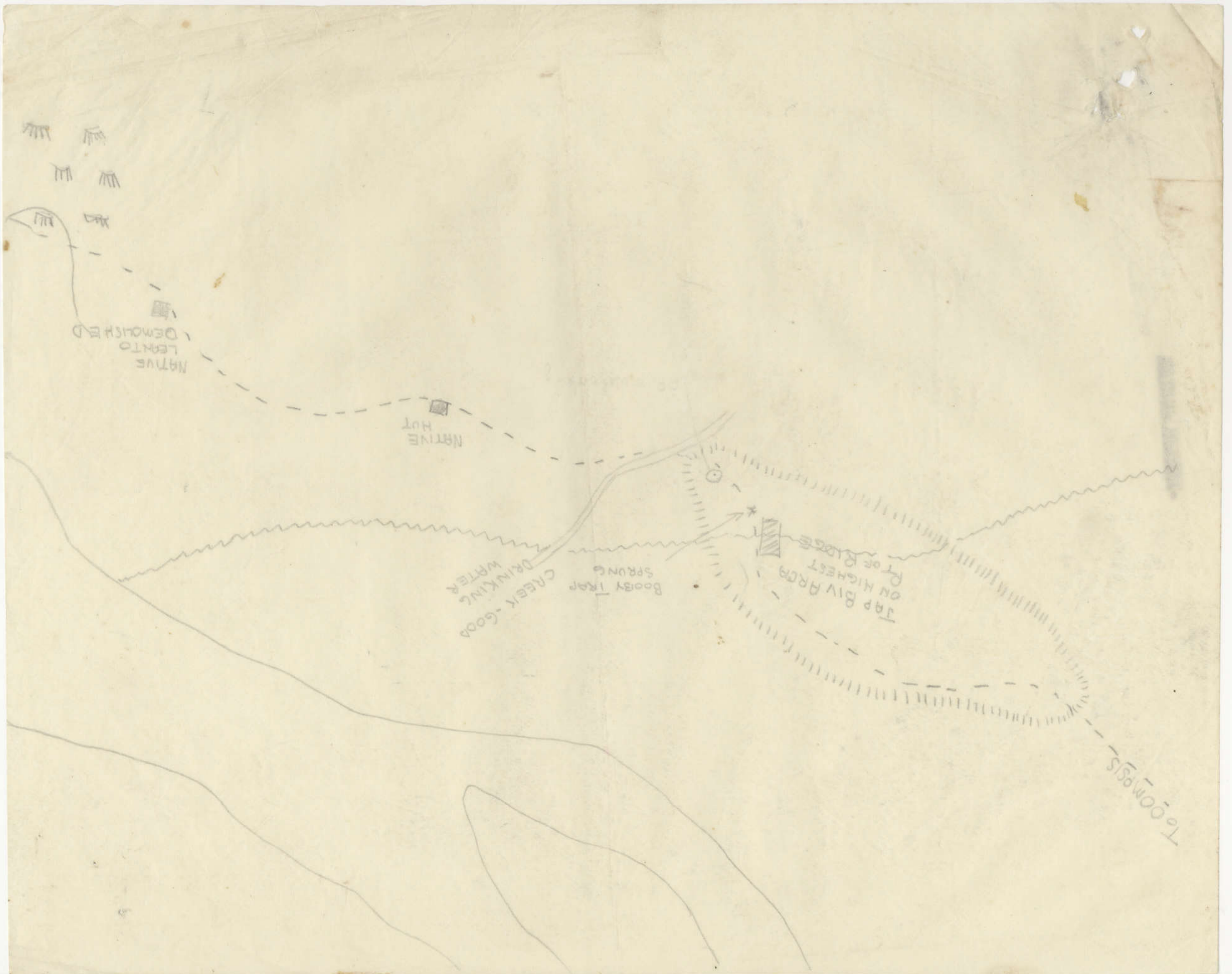
Signed J. A. Field (Maj)  
20 Apr.





1. Where did second meet first patrol.
2. Emergency Ration tin - where they came?
3. Markham Pt. Lookout - where King Heathy?
  - is it good view of Heathy?
  - sit on Jap Tracks.





PATROL REPORT.

REF No D 33

REF MAP ATTACHED SKETCH MAP

1 INCH TO 1 MILE

11 APR. 43

PATROL FOUND BY 16 PL. "D" COY. PATROL COMD LIEUT L. ROACHPATROL STRENGTH 1 OFFR 2 O.RS, 2 NATIVES MUNUM PATROL OF 2 O.RS 1 NATIVENATURE OF PATROL COVERING PARTYTIME OUT 1400 HRS 8 APR. 43TIME IN 1130 HRS 11 APR. 43OBJECT OF PATROL To provide protection for MUNUM PATROL from O.P. to BWARIP and return  
To ensure MUNUM PATROL crossed River at times stipulated.ROUTE OUT TRACK O.P. -- BWARIPROUTE IN REVERSE OF ROUTE OUTNARRATIVE.

Patrol left O.P. on 8 Apr. and moved to BWARIP as per attached sketch map arriving there at 1745 hrs without incident.

I then climbed a tree and thoroughly searched country up and down and across MARKHAM RIVER through glasses, without observing any movement.

During this time the rubber boat was inflated and carried to the River's edge.

At 1820 hrs the MUNUM Patrol embarked and pushed off and were last seen at 1830 hrs approx 1 mile downstream.

On the days of 9-10 Apr. an O.P. was maintained overlooking MARKHAM RIVER and at no stage was enemy or Kanakas movement observed.

We also carried out small recess in BWARIP area, with nil results.

At 1710 hrs on 10 Apr. our O.P. reported a native canoe was moving up River, this canoe carried the MUNUM Patrol who landed at BWARIP at 1850 hrs.

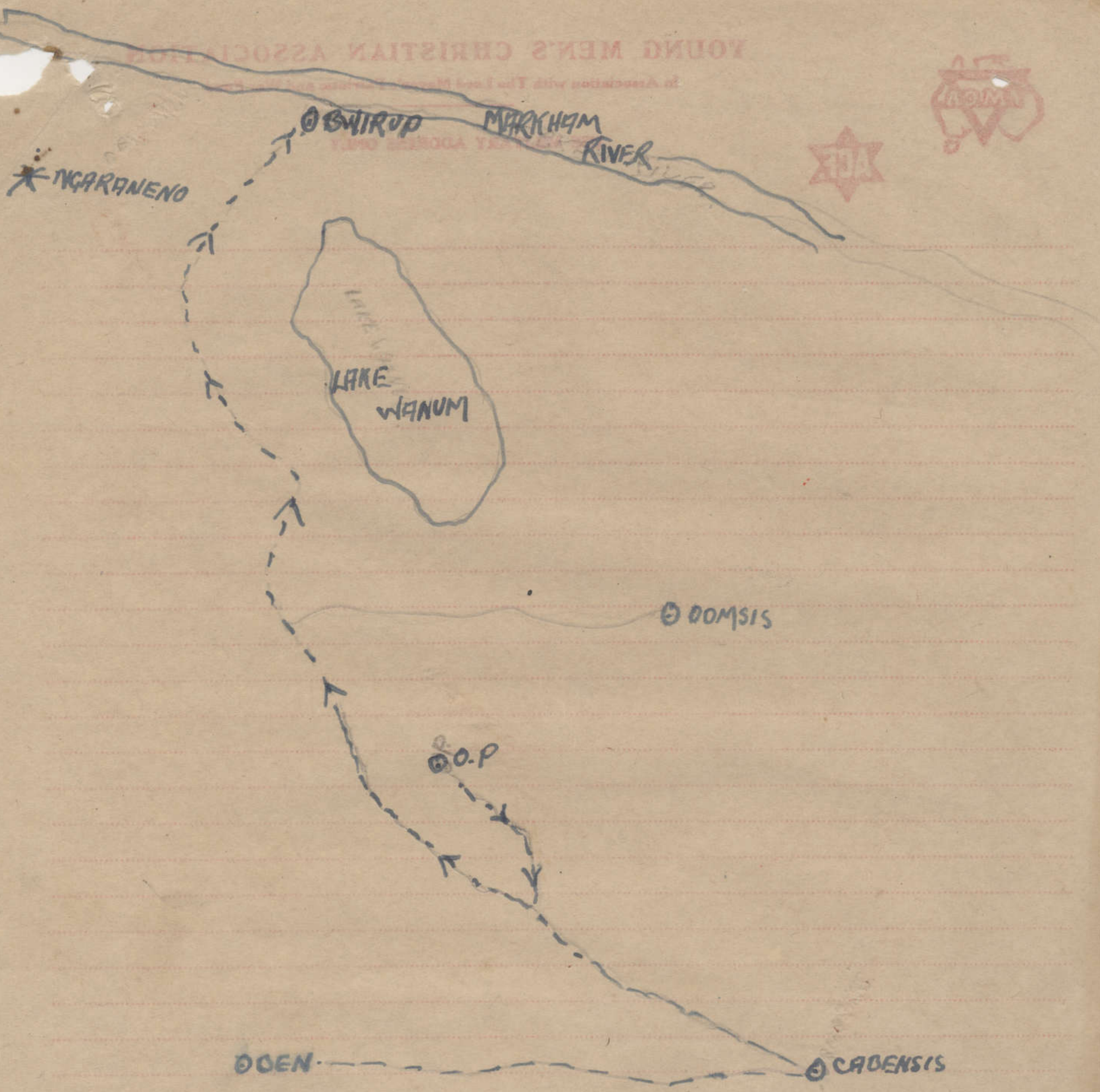
(The crew of this boat included the native ELEMEN of NARAKOPOR who confirmed the information as given by Spl Saith's report.

He also stated that any future movements of large Jap patrols through MUNUM area would be reported to GABENSIS as soon as possible.)

We spent the night of 10/11 Apr. at BWARIP leaving there at 0800 hrs on the 11 Apr. and arriving at O.P. at 1130 hrs.

Signed L. Roach Lieut.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION  
In Association with The Land...  
Y.M.C.A. ADDRESS ONLY



SKETCH MAP - O.P. - BWIRUP  
SCALE 1" to 1 MILE

*Boach Lunt.*

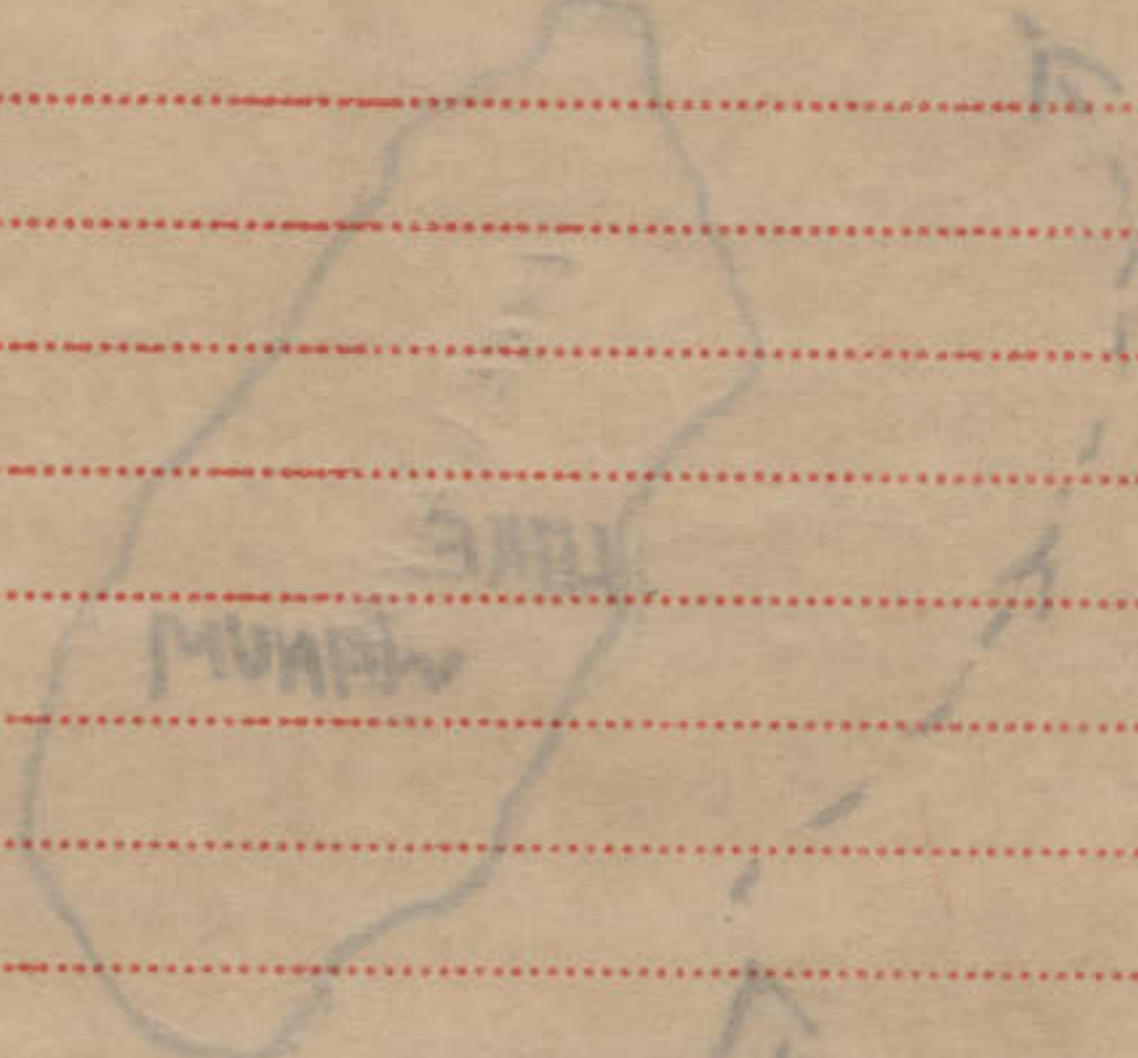
# YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

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



USE MILITARY ADDRESS ONLY

A series of horizontal red dotted lines for writing an address. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page.



2001 1 1 1918  
2001 1 1 1918

d.

## PATROL REPORT.

Ref. MAP. .... Huon Gulf special.

SCALE. 4 Miles = 1".

PATROL FOUND by ... 18 ph. DON. Coy.

PATROL. COMD. .... P/Oe. Gihh.

PATROL. STRENGTH. ... PATROL. CMD. & 1. O.R.

NATURE OF PATROL. .... Recce.

TIME. OUT. .... 0830 hrs. TIME. IN. .... 1300 hrs.

ROUTE OUT. .... From NEARDONENA Camp, to Wampit River crossing, thence to Hanaka hide-out via EAST side of Wampit River.

ROUTE IN. .... Track back over same route.

OBJECT OF PATROL. ... To see track from NEARDONENA to BEN.

### NARRATIVE.

On Apr. 6<sup>th</sup> 43, patrol moved from NEARDONENA camp to Hanaka hide-out. Patrol followed track from hide-out, which appeared to lead in general direction of BEN. Patrol followed track to top of Kunai hill SOUTH of hide-out, and track gave out. Patrol retraced track back to foot of hill and tried another track, which led around edge of jungle at base of hill. This track led EAST toward LAKE WANNON thru marsh, and after approx.  $\frac{1}{2}$  hr. march from base of hill, the track gave out. From where track gave out, to BEN, the country was all open Kunai hills, and any track thru to BEN, would have been clearly visible. The natives gave information that there was definitely no track thru from NEARDONENA to BEN, and this info. would be reliable.

as natives belong to NEW MIARI and know all tracks.  
They say that the only way to reach BEN. from MENDONSA  
is per canoe down MARKHAM Rv. to BUNRIP, thence  
by main track to BEN. Only other alternative track is  
via WHIPIT and out other main track from there.

Pte C. Gill.

SGT. HEDDERMAN

15065

PATROL REPORT

Ref Map: Sketch Map att.  
Patrol by: 16 Pl D Coy.  
Patrol Comd: Pte MORTYN V L.  
Nature: Recce.  
Time Out: 0930 hrs 30 Mar 43.  
Time In: 1100 hrs 1 Apr 43.  
Strength: 3 ORs (Ptes MORTYN, GIBBONS, MEGAN); 1 native (ANKORA)  
Object: (a) To endeavour to locate JAP habitations opposite MARKHAM PT in vicinity of HEATHS.  
(b) To follow JAP track as far as possible to LABU, collecting all available infm of that area.  
Route Out: OOMPSIS-LABU track.  
Route In: Reverse of Route Out.

Narrative:

Stage I - OP (L)R4545 to PT "A" (as per sketch map)

Left OP at 0930 hrs and proceeded to COMPSIS; inspected booby traps and found OK.

Left OOMPSIS 1120 hrs by track over open kunai, which continued for  $\frac{1}{2}$  hrs.

Took all precautions to keep off skyline.

Proceeded to PT "A", this being a spur.

Stage II - PT "A" TO PT "Y"

Patrol left main track and followed ridge for some distance NORTH, with object of viewing MARKHAM RIVER and, if possible, HEATHS.

Visibility owing to jungle NIL.

Rejoined track, proceeded to ck and halted for 1 hr.

left ck at 1430 hrs and travelled for  $\frac{1}{2}$  hrs.

There is a swamp on the left and high ground on the right; it is on this high ground SOUTH that the LAE OP is located.

Bivouaced here, at PT "Y", for night 30/31 Mar 43.

Stage III - PT "Y" to PT "B"

Left at 0715 hrs 31 Mar 43 and followed high ground SW for 1 hr.

At this pt a view was obtained towards LAE - NO enemy movt detected.

Continued for another  $\frac{1}{2}$  hr but was unable to find opening in jungle for a lookout.

This being PT "O", height above sea level approx. 500 ft.

Native boy (ANKORA) climbed a high tree and reported the following:

- (a) HEATHS NOT visible.
- (b) NO huts visible in area around HEATHS opposite MARKHAM PT.
- (c) NO movt at all on the river.

Left this pt at 1000 hrs and moved down ridge to main track, which was reached at 1130 hrs.

Travelled EAST for  $\frac{1}{2}$  hrs to large ck; stopped 1 hr.

At 1330 hrs crossed ck where tree had been felled - work believed that of JAPS for bridging purposes.

Track follows down stream for short distance, then turns NE.

MARKHAM RIVER is reached 15 mins from ck.

Note: At this pt the track is only 20 yds from RIVER and a small kanaka track leads upstream for a short distance to a neglected native garden on edge of RIVER.

This showed NO signs of JAP movts, tracks or landing places.



MARKHAM

~~C Coy~~  
Patrol file

RD/130

38

Subject: PATROL REPORT

SECRET

HQ KANGA FORCE

Headquarters  
2/6 AUST INF BN  
Ref No IR/42  
5 Apr 43

TRACK OOMPSIS-EAST TOWARDS LABU

Fwded herewith is report of recce patrol conducted  
by D Coy, 2/6 AUST INF BN along above track.

Lt col  
Commanding 2/6 Aust Inf Bn

It is thought that this is the approx posn of MARKHAM PT.

Retraced steps to main track and continued EAST until reaching spur after 20 mins travel.

At this pt there is a small kunai patch visible 100 ft above track.

Left track and cautiously moved to kunai patch, PT B.

This kunai ridge has all signs of being a JAP lookout.

It was NOT occupied at time of arrival, but it has been used frequently of late.

A track which showed signs of use led off to the EAST.

It cannot be understood why this lookout was so clean and it is probable that suspicion has been aroused by patrol in this vicinity some 6 days ago.

Observation from PT "B"

Good view of MARKHAM RIVER upstream for 3 mi.

A large island, covered by jungle, is seen at pt opposite MARKHAM PT.

Three islands devoid of jungle are visible to the NORTH.

Observation from this lookout NORTH of MARKHAM RIVER is NIL.

Observation WEST is poor - track cannot be seen further than 300 yds.

Mt NGARONENO or Mt MISANTUM cannot be seen.

Observation EAST - Jungle and swamp visible but high trees make observation of junc MARKHAM RIVER-SEA impossible.

Conclusions drawn from PT "B"

- (a) JAPS use this lookout mainly for viewing RIVER.
- (b) It may be used as the "eyes" for HEATHS, as the latter is flat and would afford NO observation from SOUTH of RIVER.
- (c) It may be a fwd OP for a def area further EAST in direction LABU.
- (d) It would be an excellent A/C OP.
- (e) It may be used as an OP for spotting WEST when enemy may be using water craft on RIVER.

Pt "B" was the furthest Easterly pt reached by the patrol.

The main track continued to the EAST in the direction of LABU NO 1 and appeared to be a good track.

Stage IV - Return Journey

The patrol retraced its steps and arrived at OP (L)R4545 at 1100 hrs 1 Apr 43.

Conclusions:

Had MARKHAM RIVER under observation at frequent intervals throughout patrol, but could NOT see any enemy movt.

There were NO fresh JAP tracks WEST of PT "B".

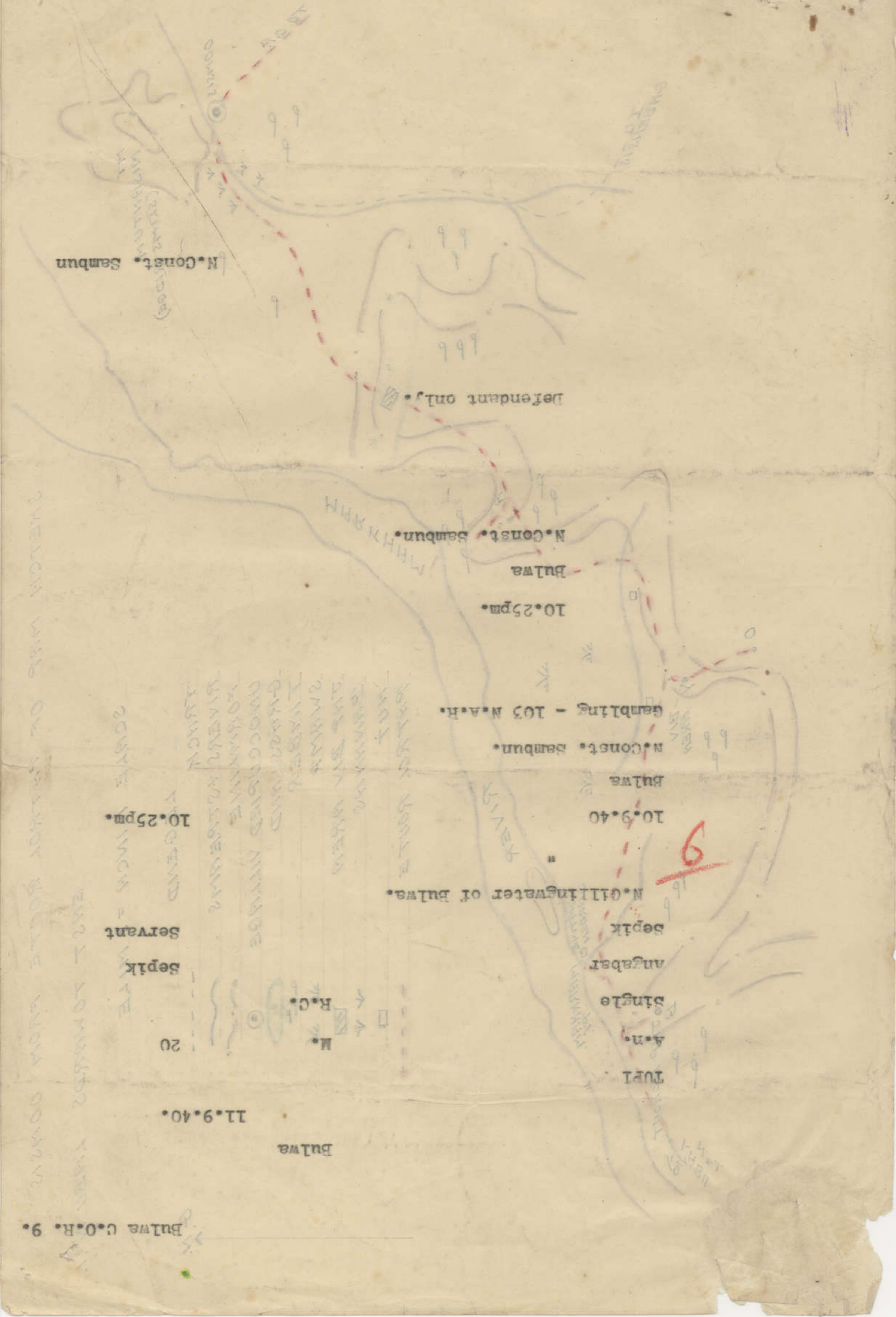
At NO stage were signs of JAP habitation seen, either NORTH or SOUTH of RIVER.

The object of the JAP patrol into our area may have been that they were "jittery" and wished to ascertain if we had any tps in the vicinity of LABU, or if we were massing tps in that area for an attack on LAE.

The track was excellent as far as followed and it appeared to be good to the EAST of the pt we reached.

NO exhibits were found.

(Sgd) V L MORTYN pte



SKETCH MAP OF PATROL ROUTE FROM OOMSIS

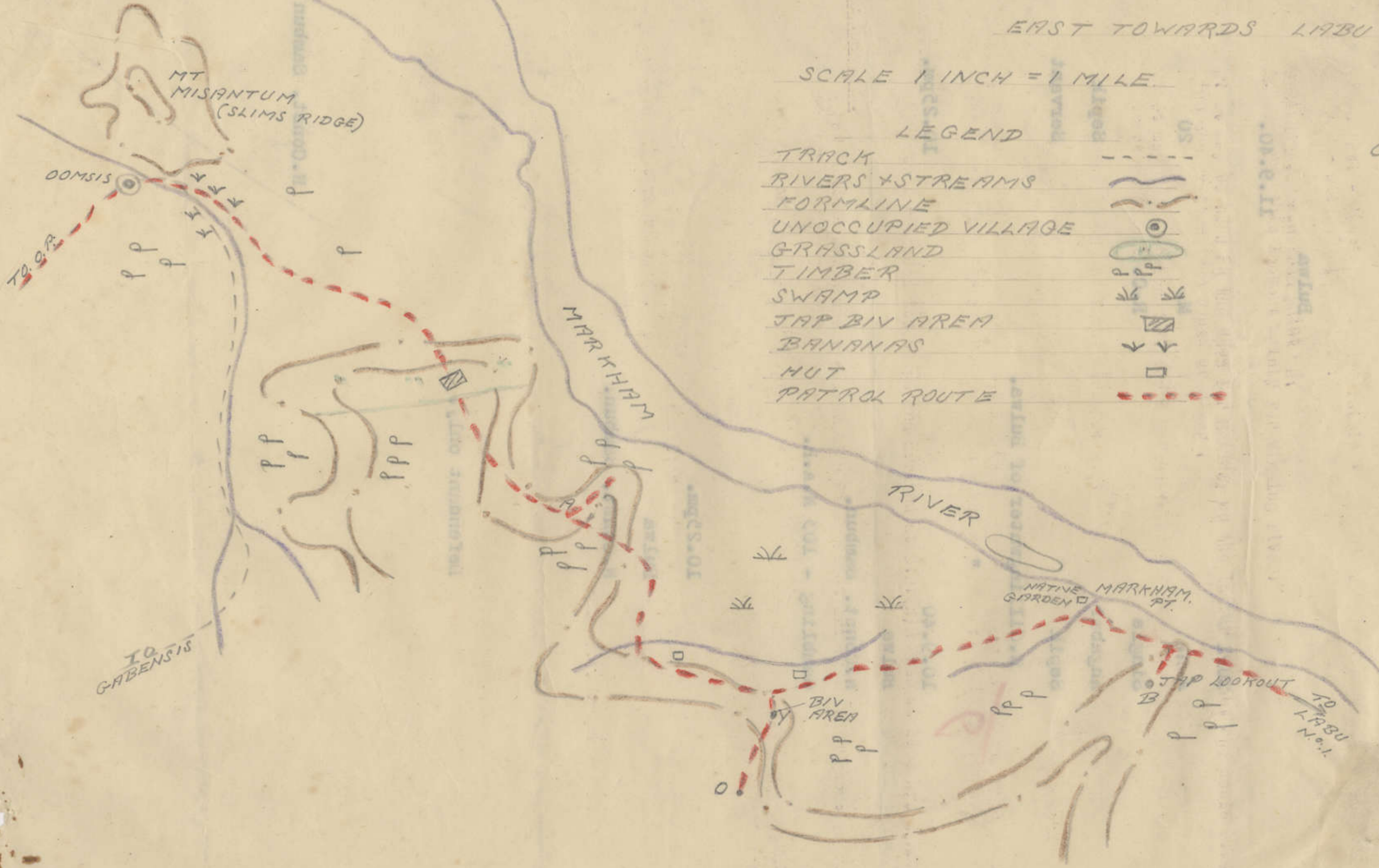
EAST TOWARDS LABU No. 1.

SCALE 1 INCH = 1 MILE

LEGEND

TRACK	---
RIVERS & STREAMS	~~~~~
FORMLINE	~ ~ ~
UNOCCUPIED VILLAGE	○
GRASSLAND	○
TIMBER	pp
SWAMP	∨ ∨
JAP BIV AREA	▣
BANANAS	∨ ∨
HUT	□
PATROL ROUTE	- - - - -

G.N. ↑



400  
ft

750  
ft

Spur of  
Mt MISANTOP.

Timbered  
Ridge.

Markham River

Kunai  
Spur.

FLAT Marshy  
Plains.

Jap. track.  
(patrol approx. 1950).

Mansis  
Village  
(hidden by hills).

line of  
Burke Co.

Colt.  
Capt. H. Shepherd  
1943

HEAT TINS

PANORAMA.  
Fwd. OP (Ht. 650 ft).

Vis. - Very fair.

Date - 1 Apr 43.

Drawn - 1/594 Stempfle Day 10/43

MANUAL OF DIRECT AIR SUPPORT

SECURITY

HQ 15 Aust Inf Bde  
16 Apr 43  
G4/31

24 Aust Inf Bn ✓  
57/60 Aust Inf Bn (Rear)  
58/59 Aust Inf Bn

1. Herewith 2 copies of above manual, with amendments.
2. These manuals will be carried with the unit, and NOT returned to Stationery Depot when the unit moves.

*B. H. Rams.*

Major  
BM 15 Aust Inf Bde

*AD/  
in library*

REF MAP SKETCH MAP ATTACHED

1 INCH to 1 MILE

1 APR. 43

PATROL FOUND BY 17 PL. "D" COY.

PATROL COMD SGT GIBSON J.S.

PATROL STRENGTH 1 N.C.O.

NATURE OF PATROL RECCE

TIME OUT 0800 HRS

TIME IN 1800 HRS

OBJECT OF PATROL To recce track branching left off main NARAGOOMA track, 10 mins walk East of NARAGOOMA VILLAGE and find out where track comes out. BEARING 113 deg.

ROUTE OUT MAIN TRACK TO NARAGOOMA, FROM THERE RETURN TO TRACK 10 MINS EAST OF VILLAGE AND THEN CONTINUE ON S.E. TO BOBS.

ROUTE IN MAIN BOBS TO KIRKS TRACK.

NARRATIVE.

On the 1 APR.43 patrol left KIRKS at 0800 hrs and proceeded West on main track to NARAGOOMA, arriving at 0900 hrs.

On making recce of NARAGOOMA Village found no natives, there or any sign of enemy movement.

Leaving village at 0930 hrs patrol returned along main track towards KIRKS and 10 mins later arrived at track leading S.E. off main track. Took this track, which went for 2 mins through bush and then comes out on kunai feature.

From here continued on up kunai spur for 20 mins and came out on the top of a high kunai hill. On the way up this hill we passed 3 Natives, going in the direction of NARAGOOMA, carrying bananas. From high kunai hill, an excellent view can be obtained of the country North of the MARKHAM RIVER.

We observed from this hill for 30 mins but could see no signs of any enemy movement. Took bearing from this point to NARAGOOMA village 278 deg. and also KIRKS 40 deg.

Left high kunia hill at 1030 hrs and after proceeding for 4 mins downhill came to small swamp in a gully. Track crosses this swamp and leads around gully. Three mins walk from swamp, reached a track junction.

Track in good condition up to here, although passing through kunai knee deep.

There is a track turning left from the junction -bearing 93 deg. Fifty yards down from junction on this track going left, there is a small dry water course. Track is well worn - consider it possible, that this track is used by natives, moving between NEW MARI and NARAGOOMA. Proceeded along track on a bearing of 155 deg.. Six mins along this track, an old Sig. line crosses it, and after another one minute's walk NEW MARI can be seen to the S.E. on a bearing of 110 deg. After a further 12 mins old Sig line crosses the track again, from here track leads down through kunai for another 4 mins and then peters out in bush. This track from the junction up to this point is hard to follow, being overgrown with grass and does NOT appear to have been used for some considerable time.

From here continued on down through bush for about 150 yards and reached dry creek.

Made recce of ground adjoining this creek but could not find any trace of any track. On travelling South from this creek for about 200 yards patrol came out into kunai and picked up an old Kanaka track, which we followed, up steep kunai spur for 500 to 600 yards, but could not see any tracks leading in direction of BOBS.

On returning to position first reached on creek made recce S.E. into bush, but again could not locate any tracks.

Returning again to creek I continued on down creek bed and after 12 min travel, found track, with old Sig wire running along side, the time being now 1300 hrs.

Left this point at 1315 hrs and followed track South along Sig wires and after 20 mins travel through bush came out onto a kunai hill. The track here has been cut around the side of a kunai hill.

After following this track along the side of the kunai hill for 12 m' it lead through bush for a further 6 mins where it ran into the main BOBS- K. TRACK. Twelve minutes further on BOBS is reached.

Reached BOBS AT 1405 hrs.

Time of Patrol 1400 hrs

Angerhues, Alfer, Mohrort, Christlicher, Heidnischler, Ge, Zummer, Zantende

WAMPIT

Walter  
Killebrew  
Hoyes

*[The main body of the document contains several columns of text, which are mirrored and bleed through from the reverse side of the page. The text is largely illegible due to the bleed-through and the age of the paper.]*

Ob  
Verheiratet

Zeit  
der Geburt

Ort  
der Geburt

Anter

Bemerkungen



SKETCH MAP OF TRACK LEADING LEFT

OFF MAIN NARRAGOOMA TRACK  
10 MINS. EAST OF VILLAGE.

FROM MAIN NARRAGOOMA TRACK  
BACKWATER

MIRRS TRACK TO NARRAGOOMA

SCALE 1 INCH = 1 MILE

N.S.

TRACK LEFT OFF NARRAGOOMA TRACK

HIGH KUNAI HILL

SWAMP

CREEK

TRACK TURNING LEFT AT JUNCTION

TRACKS JUNCTION

OLD SIG WIRE

SIG WIRE

LEGEND

- TRACKS - - - - -
- CAMPS ■
- VILLAGES ●
- RIVERS & CREEKS ~~~~~
- TIMBER P
- KUNAI GRASS ||||
- KUNAI HILLS ⊖

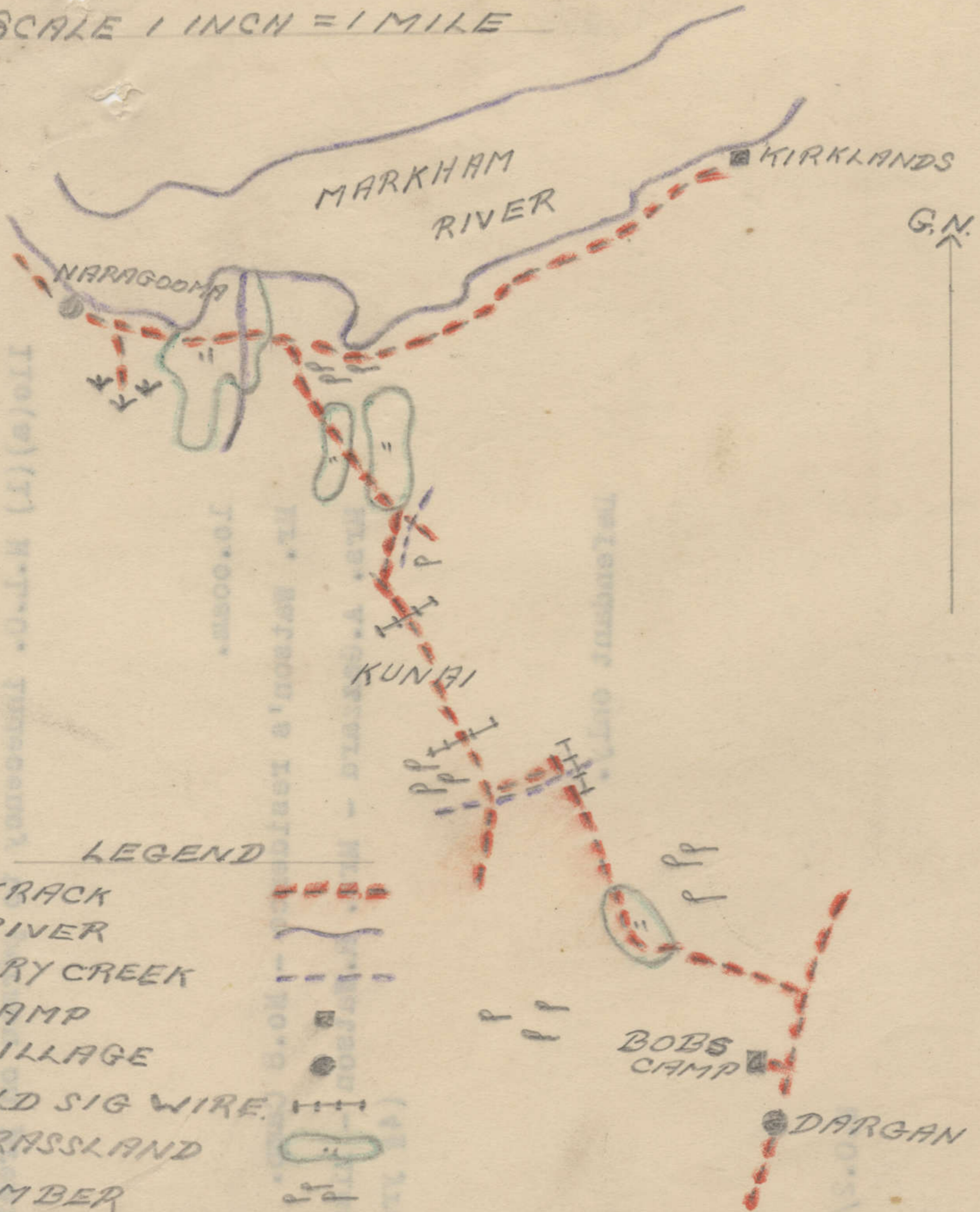
NEW MARI

TRACK BOBS TO MIRRS

BOBS

SKETCH MAP OF TRACK NARRAGOOMA  
TO BOBS CAMP.

SCALE 1 INCH = 1 MILE



LEGEND

TRACK	----
RIVER	~~~~~
DRY CREEK	- - - -
CAMP	■
VILLAGE	●
OLD SIG WIRE	
GRASSLAND	○
TIMBER	~~~~~
BANANAS	∨ ∨



PATROL REPORT.

REF No D 29

MMP REF SKETCH MAP ATTACHED

SCALE MILE TO 1 INCH

28 MAR. 43

PATROL FOUND BY 17 PL. "D" COY.

PATROL COMD SGT GIBSON J.S.

PATROL STRENGTH 1 N.C.O.

NATURE OF PATROL RECCE

TIME OUT 1245 HRS

TIME IN 1725 HRS

OBJECT OF PATROL. Recce of track leading from KIRKS to NARREGOOMA LOOKOUT.

ROUTE OUT TRACK LEADING WEST FROM KIRKS TO NARAGOOMA AND LOOKOUT.

ROUTE IN REVERSE OF ROUTE OUT

NARRATIVE.

On the 28 Mar patrol left KIRKS at 1245 hrs, and proceeded West along track leading to NARRAGOOMA. For first 7 mins track passes through bush. Here track takes a left hand turn, and then leads through bush for 3 mins, comes out on top of kunia ridge; at this point a junction. The main NARAGOOMA track goes West along ridge and the other track goes left (bearing 120 deg) which joins track over kunia ridge (Track mentioned being used as communication between BOBS and KIRKS before GIBSON hit track was made)

For 10 mins from here, track leads along kunai ridge. On right of ridge there is bush (between ridge and river). On left gully containing some low bush and sago palms. Here again the track passes into bush. Three after coming into bush, there is a small patch of bananas on right. For 8 mins from here the track goes through very heavy kunai and pit-pit grass. Track still continuing through bush, but much more scattered than that previously gone through. There are also some bananas growing amongst kunai; majority of them being on the right of track. Ten mins from this point track goes into heavier bush, with some bananas growing on either side and with kunai grass bordering either side of track. So far the thickest bush has been on left hand side of track. Five mins march track continues on through bush, and leads out onto the right edge of bush, where it continues on for 3 mins, with bush on left, and very high pit-pit grass on right - noticed some paw paw trees here. Track here passes through banana patch, on right, about 100 yds by 100 yds in extent. For next 2 mins track goes through kunai with only a few scattered trees on right and heavier bush on left. Some bananas also growing at this point, and noticed some paw paw trees, on left. For 2 mins the track now passes along backwater from MARKHAM RIVER. Observed that the bank was being under-mined, by force of water. Next 5 mins march track passes through bush with only odd banana plants growing here and there. Three mins further on track branches left off the main track (bearing 148 deg M) Was informed by natives that this track would take me to BOBS. Three mins after passing track leading to BOBS, came to running creek (good drinking water). Just after crossing creek there is a small patch of bananas on right. About 100 yds before reaching village there is a Kanaka track, leading left off main track, (bearing 128 deg M). This track is used by natives for purpose of collecting food. Reached NARRAGOOMA at 1354 hrs.

Made recce of village, village consists of 15 huts situated in a clearing surrounded by timber, 50 yds South from back-water off MARKHAM RIVER. Village not occupied, but several natives there collecting food. Questioned natives and by informations gained, there are no indications of enemy being in vicinity.

Noticed several pigs and some fowls in village.

Left village at 1425 hrs for lookout.

Track taken (bearing 350 deg M). This track leads West along above mentioned back-water. Three mins along track came to wash-away 10 yds long and 4 to 5 yds wide. The water has badly under-mined bank here, and track deviates to go around wash-away. Two mins on from here track crosses small creek (dry) and leads into bananas patch.

One min along track from last mentioned creek, another small creek is crossed. Two mins later on pass over a gutter caused by water over-flowing river bank. After passing this point the banana plantation merges into bush. One min further on a track branches left, off main track on bearing of 245 deg M. This track leads up to native cemetery. From here track goes for 1 min through bush, and comes out into kunai. Two mins later comes into bananas. Three minutes on, track crosses small creek. One min later another small creek is crossed. One min later cross small gutter.

From here for 1 min track followed edge of River. For 4 mins track passes through kunai grass close to River bank, with bush on left of kunai. Here track turns left into bush and 4 mins later small patch of bananas is reached on right of track. Track then turns slightly left and leads over small kunai feature for 4 mins and Lookout is reached.

Reached Lookout 1455 hrs.

Can obtain good view of opposite side of river from Lookout. By climbing kunai hill South of Lookout can get better view of flat country adjoining River on North side.

Receded track past Lookout for 300 to 400 yds where track turns S.W. into bush.

100 yds past Lookout track crosses small creek (dry) only runs when weather is wet.

There was no water in creeks or gutters crossed, excepting a running creek mentioned previously 10 mins East of Naragooma village.

River very low at time of recce. All creeks etc are known to carry water, when river is high.

Track in good condition owing to dry weather, but is very heavy going in wet weather Observed from Lookout till 1530 hrs. No sign of any enemy movement noticed

Left Lookout for KIRKS at 1530 hrs as same route as that taken out. arrived

NARAGOOMO 1555 hrs. Left NARAGOOMO for KIRKS 1625 hrs and arrived KIRKS 1725 hrs

KIRKS - NARAGOOMA 1 hr.

NARAGOOMA - LOOKOUT 30 mins

Signed J.S.Gibson Sgt.

SKETCH MAP OF TRACK KIRKLANDS TO LOOKOUT

SCALE 1 INCH = 1 MILE

VIA NARAGOOMA

N.O. 5/0

LONE KUNAI HILL

G.N.



LEGEND

- TRACKS -----
- RIVERS & STREAMS ~~~~~
- CAMPS [square symbol]
- VILLAGES [circle symbol]
- GRASSLAND [oval symbol]
- TIMBER [tree symbol]
- SWAMP [swamp symbol]
- BANANAS [banana symbol]
- NATIVE CEMETRY +
- O.P. [circle with O.P. symbol]
- LOOKOUT [circle with LOOKOUT symbol]
- FOOT BRIDGE [X symbol]
- SAGO PALMS [Y symbol]

Delongue's Outlet

N.O. 5/0

N.O. 5/0

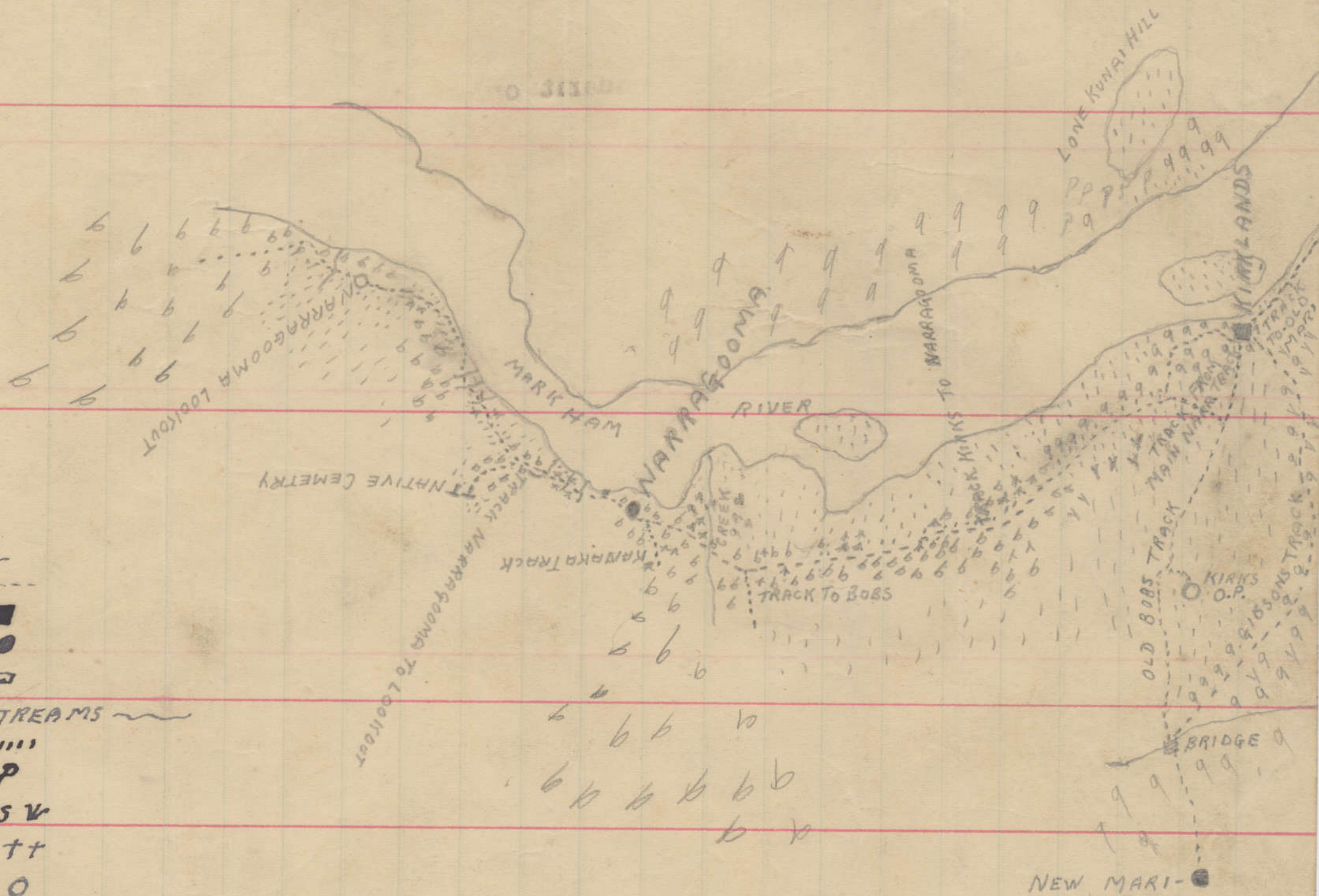
N.O. 5/0



SKETCH MAP OF TRACK KIRKS. TO ~~NEW MARI~~ LOOKOUT VIA NARRAGOONGA

SCALE 1 INCH = 1 MILE.

GN.



LEGEND

- TRACKS ---
- CAMPS ■
- VILLAGES ●
- HUTS □
- RIVERS & STREAMS ~~~~~
- GRASS |||||
- TIMBER P
- BANANAS V
- CEMETRY ++
- LOOKOUTS O
- SAGO PALMS Y



PATROL REPORT.

REF No D 28.

REF MAP. A. HUON GULF SPECIAL 4 MILES to 1 INCH  
B. LAE TOWNSHIP (ATTACHED)

23 MAR. 43

PATROL FOUND BY. L8 Pl. BOBS. PATROL COMD. A/Cpl KURTZ G.A.H.

PATROL STRENGTH : 1 N.C.O., 1 Police Boy, 4 Native Carriers .

NATURE OF PATROL: Visiting .

TIME OUT : 0900 hrs. 23 Mar. 43 , TIME IN : 1200 hrs. 27 Mar. 43 .

OBJECT OF PATROL : 1. To escort Native line to LAE O.P.  
2. To observe from LAE O.P. and obtain information from personnel stationed there .

NARRATIVE :

STAGE A:

Left WAMPIT 0900 hrs. 23 Mar. 43 and arrived at Water Boom ( Native name for meeting point of two rivers ) at 1630 hrs. Spent the night here .

STAGE B: Left Water Boom at 0800 hrs. 24 Mar. and arrived LAE O.P. 1700 hrs. 24 Mar. 43 .

OBSERVATION 24 MAR. 43.

Observed from 1900 hrs 24 Mar. until 1945 hrs . All I saw in this period was one barge leaving LABU No 1 for LAE . Light then failed and a fog came over.

From 2100 hrs until 2230 hrs I observed from the O.P.. It was a complete blackout with not a light showing .

OBSERVATION 25 MAR. 43.

At 0645 hrs one barge left LAE for LABU No 1. At 0800 hrs one of our recce planes flew to the South of the O.P. and turned in the direction of SALAMAUA . No A/A fire or bombs bursts were heard .

At 0930 hrs a lorry travelled the drome from the North end and stopped at No 2 blast bay . This lorry stopped , backed into the blast bay and stayed there for about an hour N.B. The O.P. people say that when a raid is anticipated lorries are concealed in the blast bay.

When a fortress appeared the lorry drove very quickly into the bush on the Eastern side of the drome.

At 1030 hrs one fortress on recce was fired at by two A/A shells from the North end of the drome and three A/A guns on the South end. On a second run the fortress was fired at by three A/A guns on the South end, one from BUTIBUM (L)R 7142 and four guns from the North end of the drome.

On the Fortresses third run it was fired at by Three A./A guns from the North end of the drome and three A/A guns from the South end . The fire on each run was very inaccurate . No bombs were dropped. At 1150 hrs the Fortresses made another run and dropped a string of five bombs <sup>south</sup> North East side of the MARKHAM ROAD near the drome . No damage appeared to have been done.

When the bombs were dropped there was more A/A fire from the Northern end of the drome and the North East end of SINGANA plantation (L)R 8545 . At 1200 hrs the plane disappeared South . No movement was detected during the time the Fortress was over-head.

At 1210 hrs one barge left LAE and rounded VOCO POINT and went to MALAHANG . Here it disappeared. A

At 1215 hrs a party of thirty Japs was seen arriving at the cross roads (L)R 6047 from NADZAB direction and seated themselves in the shade.

At 1345 hrs a lorry arrived at the drome and went into No 2 blast bay.

At 1400 hrs another lorry arrived at the drome and went into No 2 blast bay.

At 1415 hrs busho~~lowies~~ pulled out and disappeared into the bush at the East side of the drome .

At 1430 hrs one of our planes flew over LAE from the North West. There were two A/A shells fired from the Northern end of the drome. The plane dropped no bombs and flew to the South East.

At 1500 hrs the party of 30 Japs previously mentioned as sitting in the

shade at the cross roads moved along the LAE- NADZAB ROAD in the direction of NADZAB .

The barge which went to MALAHANG at 1210 hrs returned to LAE .

At 1225 hrs a truck went along the road from BUMBU through BUTIBUM VILLAGE in direction of MALAHANG Drome, and disappeared into the bush .

At 1530 hrs the barge left LAE for LABU No 1 . This was the barge previously mentioned which came from MALAHANG at 1500 hrs .

At 1550 hrs another lorry through BUTIBUM VILLAGE toward MALAHANG Drome and it appear to be loaded with Coolies .

At 1600 hrs a Fortress appeared from the MARKHAM valley , and passed <sup>over LAE</sup> turned and made a run over LAE from out at sea . It dropped five bombs from BURNS PHILPS bulk store to the North end of the drome on the edge of the LAE- NADZAB road. No visible damage was done . Eight A/A shells were fired from the North end of the drome.

At 1650 hrs smoke was observed from MALAHANG Drome .

At 1705 hrs lorry movement was observed at BUTIBUM . Smoke also was observed below THE TERRACE . This suggests cooking fires.

HOUSE At 1730 hrs two Japs came in from NADZAB direction and went into HEATH'S HOUSE.

.At 1735 hrs a barge left LAE and arrived at MALAHANG.

AT 1740 hrs a barge left LABU No 1 and arrived at LAE .

AT 1745 hrs the barge previous<sup>MENTIONED</sup> left MALAHANG and came back to LAE.

At 1810 hrs two barges left LABU No 1, one apparently being towed and went to LAE.

At 1840 hrs one barge sighted off MALAHANG POINT heading toward LAE . Two barges left LAE for MALAHANG, stayed there for five minutes and then went round MALAHANG POINT and next seen going towards BUSU RIVER.

At 1850 hrs one barge left LABU No 1 and arrived at LAE .

At 1910 hrs three barges left LABU No 1 for LAE. One barge left LAE for LABU No 1 . Fog then obscured further vision . The visibility all day was very good and it was possible to see TAMI ISLAND about 70 miles along the coast from LAE.

Nothing was seen or heard by night - complete black-out.

OBSERVATION 26 MAR.43

0530 hrs planes heard and explosion<sub>s</sub> in direction of SALAMAUA .

0600 hrs planes (at least about five or six ) were over LAE. Heavy <sup>A/A</sup> fire from both North and South of the drome, M.G. fire and Bom Boms - could not pick the position of same.

At 0615 hrs bombs dropped at LAE and towards MALAHANG and BUTIBUM . There was loud explosions and large fires at LAE.

At 0630 hrs a loud explosion in the fire at LAE and a large column of dense black smoke . Flames estimated 200 feet high . This was in the vicinity of DIDDYMANS

At 0635 hrs there was another explosion and the flames rose to 150 feet.

At 0645 hrs planes left in the direction of SALAMAUA

STAGE C.

Left O.P. at 0900 hrs 26 Mar.43 and arrived BEN 1800 hrs 26 Mar.

STAGE D.

Left BEN AT 0830 hrs and arrived WAMPIT 1200 hrs.

Signed G.H.A. Kurtz Cpl.

PATROL REPORT.

REF No D 27

REF MAP HUON GULF SPECIAL 4 MILES to 1 INCH  
SKETCH MAP ATTACHED 1 MILE to 1 INCH

26 MAR.43

PATROL FOUND BY 16 PL. "D" COY PATROL COMD LIEUT ROACH

PATROL STRENGTH 1 OFFR 2 O.RS 1 NATIVE BOE NATURE OF PATROL. RECCE  
(ANGORA)

TIME OUT 0815 hrs 25 MAR. TIME IN 1100 hrs 26 MAR.

OBJECT OF PATROL. To determine Jap line of advance and withdrawal 18-22 MAR.

ROUTE OUT AS DESCRIBED IN NARRATIVE ROUTE IN AS DESCRIBED IN NARRATIVE

NARRATIVE

STAGE A. Left OOMSIS at 0815 hrs 25 Mar. and proceeded East through banana plantation for 15 minutes, here examined booby traps (one found to be sprung apparently by small animal.) and then followed Jap track up and along high ground for 1 1/2 hrs. At this point the track entered the jungle and the Jap patrol had bivouaced here, I consider on night of 19-20 Mar..

The area was littered with empty ration cartons, paper, message forms and partially eaten rations, one cigarette picked up was made from paw paw leaf and thick paper. The Japs had slept together, evidently for warmth and did not use mosquito nets, no attempt at sanitation, latrines only two yards from beds and above ground.

The amount of grass cut and used for bedding indicate that the patrol was approx 150 in strength.

STAGE B. Entered jungle at 1100 hrs and followed track down for 15 minutes; from here an excellent view of the sea and the area North of LAE is obtained.

A further 10 minutes down a steep grade in a S.E. direction and a creek is crossed ( This is the only drinking water along this track.)

From here the track is very distinct though the Japs had blazed several trees suggesting that it was the first time that they had used it.

About 1 hr East of creek is a native shelter which had not been used lately

We proceeded on through thick jungle and at approx 1200 hrs entered swamp and a few minutes later passed by another native shelter.

(Going along track through swamp the Jap foot prints are very plain). From the second native shelter the track is along level ground with high ground on the right and after 10 minutes advance, the tracks follows a creek, which is crossed twice in the next hour.

We halted at 1300 hrs, had lunch, and at 1330 hrs moved along track again until 1400 hrs. Here we came to a deep creek which appears to run into the MANKHAM RIVER. Two logs bridge the stream and the area is strewn with enemy ration tins suggesting that they frequently mess in this locality.

STAGE C. Left creek at 1405 hrs and retraced track back to OOMPSIS arriving at 1835 hrs. Examined booby traps and slept in village for the night 25-26 Mar. On morning 26 Mar returned to O.P. (L)R 4545 arriving at 1100 hrs.

CONCLUSION. The track leading through the swamps is very clear and quite good, and from observations made I would say that it leads through to LABU.

It is evident that the Japs patrol started from this point

DISTANCE COVERED. From OOMPSIS to Jap's old bivouac area is approx 8 miles and from this point it would be approx 6 to 8 miles further on to the sea.

AIR ACTIVITY. During latter stages of patrol the Lae area was subjected to an air raid. A/A fire and bomb explosions sounded very loud and close. The planes circled over our heads.

BOOBY TRAPS. We set a booby trap 15 minutes East of the Jap's bivouac area of night 18-19 Mar.43.

Report on ANGORA No 195

This native is very zealous and was of great assistance through the patrol and is very efficient in fieldcraft.

PAGE 2

The attached exhibits were picked up at Jap bivouac area of night 18-19 Mar. 43

Signed D. Roach . Lieut.



PATROL REPORT.

REF No D26.

REF MAP SKETCH MAP 2 MILES to 1 INCH (ATTACHED) 26 MAR.43  
PATROL FOUND BY. 16 PL. "D" COY. PATROL COMD PTE MURPHY J.J.  
PATROL STRENGTH 2 PTES NATURE OF PATROL RECCE  
TIME OUT 1430 hrs 24 MAR. TIME IN 1800 hrs 25 MAR.  
OBJECT OF PATROL To find track MT MISANTUM to BWARIP on North of LAKE WANUM  
ROUTE OUT AS DESCRIBED IN NARRATIVE ROUTE IN AS DESCRIBED IN NARRATIVE

NARRATIVE

STAGE A. O.P.(L)R4545 to OOMPSIS  
Left O.P.(L)R at 1430 hrs and proceeded to OOMPSIS.  
Slept overnight 24-25 MAR.

STAGE B. OOMPSIS to point marked Y on sketch map.  
Left OOMPSIS at 0815 hrs and travelled by track North of MT MISANTUM.  
Found tracks of small parties of Japs approaching OOMPSIS from MT MISANTUM believed to have been made 19-20 Mar. Signs were found that about ten men had had eaten at point marked X. Signs were also showing that the Japs had returned to OOMPSIS from LAKE WANUM.  
At spot marked X exhibits were found - i.e. L type message form, 1 carton wrapper, 1 lid of food tin.  
Followed track West for 30 minutes and reached junction of tracks, marked Y.

STAGE C. Point marked Y to point marked Z (ref sketch Map).  
Track overgrown running on East edge of LAKE. No signs of any foot prints, track petered out one mile from point Y. Returned to point marked Y.

STAGE D. Point marked Y to point marked W.  
Japs had used this track on return East from West edge of LAKE WANUM; distance from point marked W to point marked Y is one mile.

STAGE E. Point marked W via GABENSIS - BWARIP track to O.P.  
Followed track made by Japs and known as such till BWARIP- GEBENSIS track was reached and then back to O.P.

CONCLUSION. It may be possible to achieve object - 3 days patrol from OOMPSIS necessary.

Signed D.B. BURKE. LIEUT.

marked Y.

Stage B. Y to Point

Z. Track overgrown  
running on East edge of  
lake. No signs of any  
footprints, track faded  
out one mile from P.Y.

Returned to Y.

Stage D. Y to W.

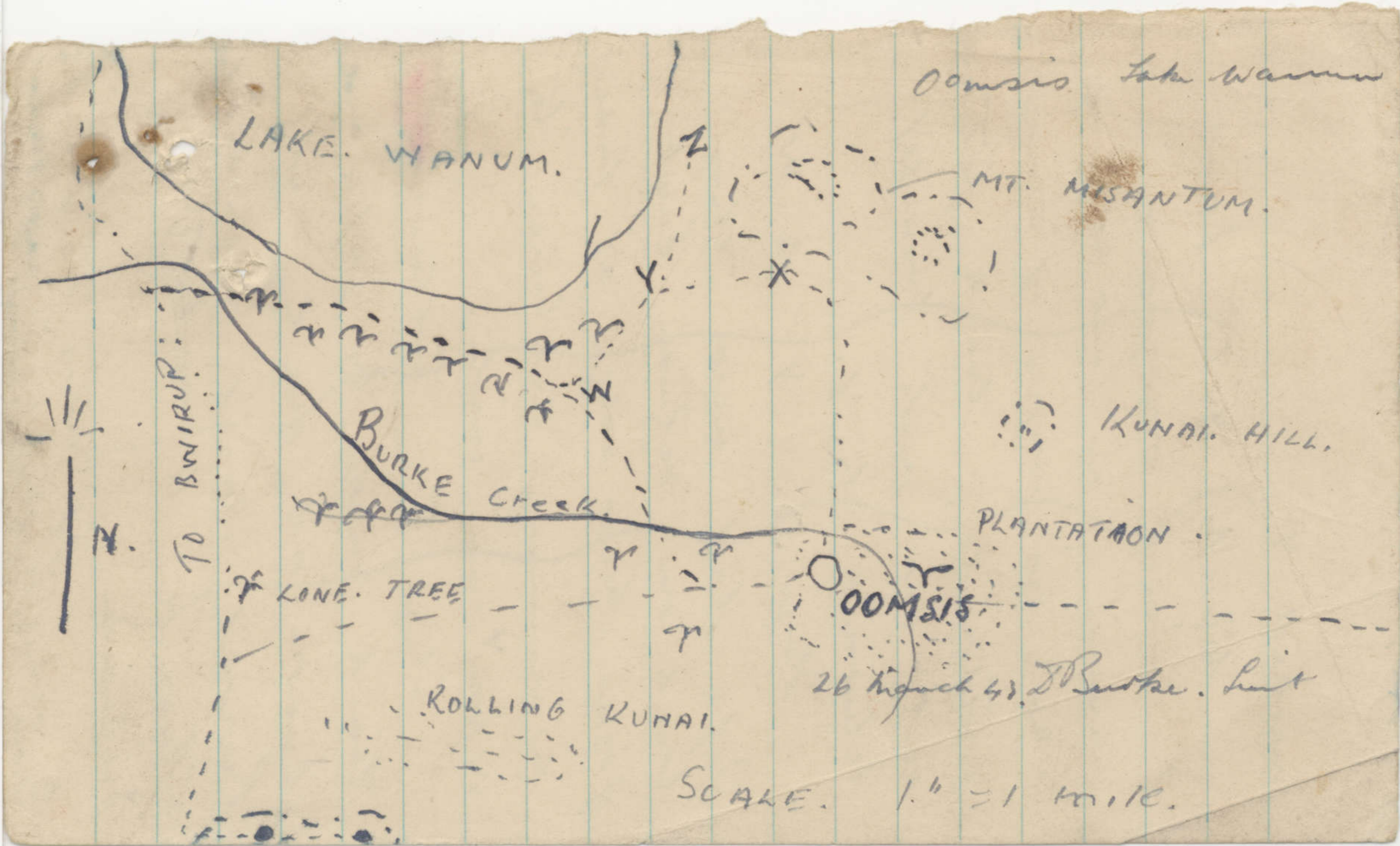
Gaps had used this  
track on return East  
from West edge of lake  
to W, distance to  
W from Y one mile.

Stage E. Followed

track made by Gaps and  
known as such till  
Burrow track was reached  
returned to P.Y.

Conclusion.

It may be possible  
to achieve object 3 days Patrol  
from P.Y. necessary.





PATROL REPORT

REF No D25.

MAP REF. HUON GULF SPECIAL 4 MILES to 1 INCH 23 MAR.43  
SKETCH MAP ATTACHED

PATROL FOUND BY 16 PL. "D" COY. PATROL COMD. A/CPL SMITH A.J.

PATROL STRENGTH. 1 N.C.O. 2 PTES 2 NATIVES NATURE OF PATROL RECCE  
(ANGORA & WITA)

TIME OUT. 0800 hrs TIME IN. 1730 hrs

OBJECT.

1. To pick up and follow track used by Japs and proceed along same for  $\frac{1}{2}$  days march.
2. To lay Booby traps on the track in a suitable position.

ROUTE OUT. LOOKOUT to OOMPISIS ROUTE IN REVERSE OF ROUTE OUT.

NARRATIVE.

STAGE A. LOOKOUT TO OOMPISIS

Left O.P. at 0800 hrs travelled to spot marked X this being a fork in the track.

At this spot a tree had been marked as shown in the attached sketch. Signs were there of tracks made by Japs on their move to LAKE WANUM.

Followed main track made by Japs from OOMPISIS and arrived at OOMPISIS 1000 hrs.

STAGE B. OOMPISIS to MT. MISANTUM

Crossed BURKE CREEK travelled North by numerous tracks, at least ten, made by small groups of about ten men each group.

These tracks led from MT MISANTUM to OOMPISIS but did not return. Followed tracks to MT MISANTUM found that small parties had come in East and North of summit.

Tracks only were visible, no signs of camps or halting places.

NOTE. Set two booby traps approx 100 yds from BURKE CREEK.

STAGE C.

Travelled East from OOMPISIS found main track made by Japs on their return East.

NOTE. The Japs <sup>came</sup> in at position East of OOMPISIS and split at banana plantation to encircle OOMPISIS N.E. E and N.

It is firmly believed that at least 150 Japs constituted party.

Signed D.B.Burke. Lieut.

TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA.

Hau Police District,  
Milne Police Station,  
14.11.37.

The Inspector of Police,  
Hau.

SUBJECT: Late J. McMillan - Personal Effects.  
REFERENCE: W.P. 31/2 of 10.11.37.

I beg to report that all personal effects of above mentioned man were listed by the Milne Manager, B.C.D. Co. on 15.10.37, and locked up in an empty room of the Company premises at Milne.

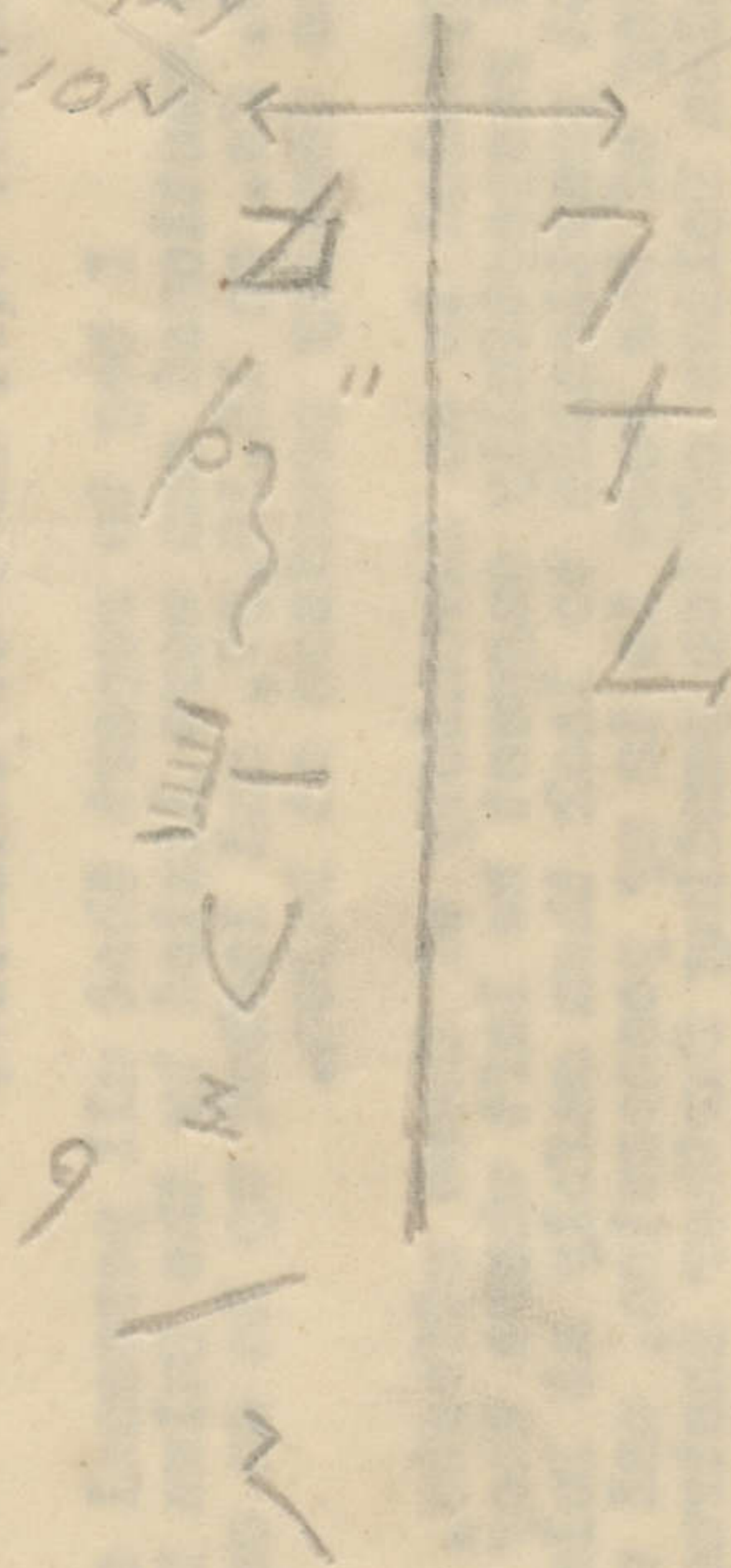
Appended is an inventory of these effects, which I would respectfully suggest be left where they are, as it is not practicable to look them safely at Milne Station. The key of the room is in my possession, and will be left in Milne Police office pending further instructions.

16	shirts (4 of them silk).
4	White drill trousers.
1	Khaki trousers.
1	" Shirt.
1	" Trousers.
4	Bath towels.
3	Pyjama suits.
6	Pillow slips
4	Bed Sheets.
2	Dressing gowns.
1	Overcoat, grey.
1	" blue.
1	Vest, woollen.
1	Complete suit dark clothes - serge.
1	Scarf.
3 prs.	Shoes, white.

REF SKETCH MAP ATTACHED.  
COPY OF MARKINGS CUT  
INTO TREE

POINTING  
IN WESTERLY  
DIRECTION ←

POINTING  
IN EASTERLY  
DIRECTION →



REF MAP HUON GULF SPECIAL, ENLARGED  
 SKETCH SHOWING AREA RECCED BY JAP PATROLS  
 MARKED TREE  
 BOOBY TRAPS LAID BY OUR TPS

SCALE 1 INCH = 1 MILE



LEGEND

- TRACK -----
- RIVER ~~~~~
- FORMLINE - - - - -
- GRASSLAND [dotted pattern]
- TIMBER HEAVY [PP PP PP]
- TIMBER LIGHT [P P P]
- SWAMP [wavy lines]
- VILLAGE [circle]
- CAMP [square]
- DROME [rectangle]
- JAP ROUTE INTO AREA [red arrow]
- JAP ROUTE OUT OF AREA [black arrow]
- JAP BIN AREA [hatched rectangle]
- MARKED TREE [X]
- BOOBY TRAPS LAID BY OUR TPS [circle]
- BIANINANS [arrow]

LOW SWAMPY GROUND MARKHAM PT

PATROL REPORT.

REF NO D23.

22 MARCH 43.

REF MAP. HUON GULF SPECIAL . 4 MILES TO 1 INCH.  
PATROL FOUND BY . I6 PLATOON BOBS  
PATROL STRENGTH. 2 O/Rs.  
TIME OUT. 0730 HOURS 22 MARCH 43.  
TIME IN. 1430 hours 22 MARCH 43.

PATROL COM. CPL BARLOW. T.W.  
NATURE OF PATROL . RECCE.

OBJECT OF PATROL . TO VERIFY KANAKA REPORTS THAT JAPS HAD VACATED OOMPSIS AREA  
ESTABLISH ROUTE TAKEN BY JAPS.

ROUTE OUT. BACK TRACK TO OOMPSIS.  
ROUTE BACK. MAIN TRACK OOMPSIS - NO 2 LOOKOUT.

NARRATIVE.

STAGE 1. Left BEN 0730 hours . Proceeded along track E. of GABENSIS until  
BURKE CREEK WAS reached (L) R4843.

STAGE 2. Followed BURKE CREEK south, until I arrived in vicinity of  
OOMPSIS and E. of it. No signs of any JAP movement south from here.

WE left the creek and proceeded on right bank until we came  
upon signs of a large body of JAPS having moved both ways on the MARKHAM POINT-  
OOMPSIS track . Followed trail of JAPS into OOMPSIS . Signs of JAPS having gone  
through there , but they did not stop ( no sign of food having been consumed etc)

STAGE 3½ Recce'd area around OOMPSIS and found signs of two track used by the  
JAPS. I. The way they went to BWIRIP track. )  
2. The way they returned. ) SEE SKETCH.

STAGE 4. Recce d both tracks until they joined up , and 10 minutes in  
the direction W.N.W.

STAGE 5. Returned to main OOMPSIS track and thence to NO 2 LOOKOUT  
1430 hours.

There is no sign of JAPS having moved along main OOMPSIS track  
between BWIRIP track and OOMPSIS.

SIGNED T.W. BARLOW.

CPL.

PATROL REPORT.

D 22 22 MARCH 43.

REF MAP. HUON GULF SPECIAL . SCALE 4 MILES TO 1 INCH  
PATROL FOUND BY 16 PLATOON D. COY. PAROL COMM. PTE V.L. MORTYN.  
PATROL STRENGTH . 3 O/Rs. NATURE OF PATROL RECCE.

TIME OUT 0700 HOURS 22 MARCH.

TIME IN . 1215 HOURS 22 MARCH.

OBJECT OF PATROL. TO VERIFY KANAKA REPORT THAT JAPS HAD VACATED BWIRIP AREA  
ALSO ESTABLISH ROUTE TAKEN BY JAPS.

ROUTE OUT. ALONG BWIRIP TRACK.

ROUTE IN. REVERSE OF ABOVE.

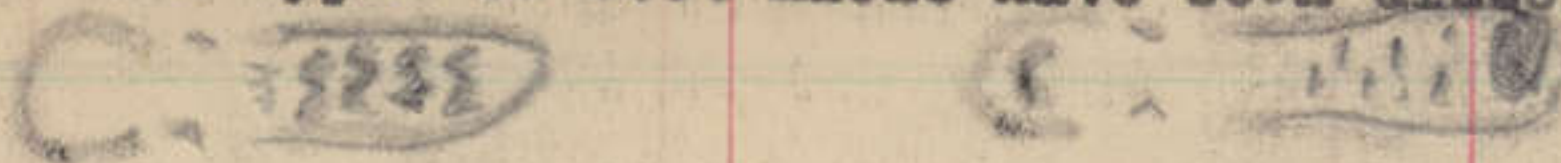
NARRATIVE.

STAGE 1. Left O.P. (L) R 4545 at 0700 hours , arrived LAKE WANUM HUT  
0745 hours .

STAGE 2 Followed track towards BWIRIP and after 10 minutes came upon  
track cut by the JAPS onto the BWIRIP track. 10 minutes further along the BWIRIP  
track we came onto "JAP BIVOUAC AREA NO1. (L) R 4351, signs of approximately  
1000 JAPS ( conservative estimate) having bivouaced in this area one night (19/20 MARCH )  
Signs of food consumed : concentrated rations, small proportion  
of tinned foods. Burners were used for cooking. Signs of natives being with the JAPS  
have also been observed.

STAGE 3. Proceeded further along the track and came onto  
"JAP BIVOUAC AREA NO 2." , where a similiar body appeared to have stopped.  
Food had been consumed here.

Two types of boot marks have been discerned :



STAGE 4 . Proceeded further along track to BWIRIP . From JAP BIVOUAC  
AREA NO 2. there is no sign of a large body having gone onto  
BWIRIP. Tracks of a small party ( no more than 10) have been observed leading to BWIRIP.  
Tracks of same party having returned were also clearly seen.

Apparently this was a small RECCE patrol.

STAGE 5. We turned back and returned to where the JAP track comes onto  
the BWIRIP track. We followed the JAP track across BURKE CREEK , and 20 minutes  
the other side of a swamp. ( Direction EAST SOUTH EAST.)

The track has been travelled on both ways .

STAGE 6. We returned along JAP track to BWIRIP track and arrived back at  
1215 hours.

REMARKS JAP track apparently goes to the vicinity of, or to, OOMPISIS.

SIGNED PTE MORTYN V.L.

PATROL REPORT . D.19

20 MARCH 43.

REF MAP . HUON GULF SPECIAL . SCALE 4 MILES TO 1 INCH.

PATROL FOUND BY 18 PLATOON BOBS.

PATROL COM. A/CPL KURTZ.

PATROL STRENGTH. 1 N.C.O. 1 O/R.

NATURE OF PATROL RECCE.

TIME OUT 0900 HOURS 20 MARCH 43

TIME IN 1030 HOURS 20 MARCH 43.

OBJECT OF PATROL . TO LOCATE THE JUNCTION OF THE WAMPIT AND GARAGOS RIVERS.

ROUTE OUT. FROM WAMPIT ALONG THE BANK OF THE WAMPIT RIVER.

ROUTE IN. THROUGH A BANANA PLANTATION AND AROUND WAMPIT E.L.G. TO WAMPIT.

NARRATIVE

THE PATROL left WAMPIT and travelled by the bank of the WAMPIT RIVER for 15 minutes, then crossed the sand on the edge of the river and passed through a Banana Plantation on the Eastern side for 15 minutes, crossed the WAMPIT immediately on leaving the Banana Plantation.

At this point there are 4 native shelters recently used by natives. The patrol then followed the Western side of the WAMPIT for 200 yards then recrossed to the Eastern side again and followed the water to the junction of the GARAGOS RIVER approximately 400 yards.

From the Banana Plantation to the GARAGOS RIVER is 15 minutes walking time. The time from WAMPIT to the GARAGOS RIVER is 45 minutes.

The patrol found the walking very difficult as it was crossing wet sand and river stones.

Whilst travelling through the Banana Plantation heavy kunai grass and undergrowth ( jungle type ) . The WAMPIT RIVER is approximately 3 feet deep and very swift flowing where the patrol crossed.

The patrol crossed the WAMPIT at the two above mentioned points and passed directly through the Banana Plantation and arrived at WAMPIT. E.L.G. on the Northern end and followed the track to WAMPIT.

TIME FOR RETURN TRIP 45 minutes.

Signed G. KURTZ .  
A/CPL.

PATROL REPORT.

REF NO D 20

22 MARCH 43

REF MAP. SKETCH MAP AS ATTACHED. SCALE 1 INCH TO 1 MILE.

PATROL FOUND BY I6 PLATOON BOBS?

PATROL COM. LIEUT BURKE.D.B.

PATROL STRENGTH I OFFICER IO/R.

NATURE OF PATROL. RECCE.

TIME OUT . IO15 HOURS I7 MARCH 43.

T

TIME IN. I215 HOURS I8 MARCH 43.

OBJECT OF PATROL. RECCE GABENSIS OOMPSIS TRACK.

ROUTE OUT. AS DESCRIBED IN NARRATIVE.

ROUTE IN. OOMPSIS LAKE WANUM TRACK. GABENSIS BEN.

NARRATIVE.

STAGE I. GABENSIS TO BURKE CREEK

Travelled East , crossed GARAGOS RIVER - 25 feet wide 2 feet deep, clear water. Continued for 15 minutes until we passed through a gap in GABENSIS HEIGHTS. A further 10 minutes and a small creek was crossed running North- 10 feet wide 1 foot deep.

Left gabensis II 00 hours I7 March .

BURKE CREEK was reached.

Travelled N.E. for 15 minutes until

Plantations are situated on both sides of the track .

Throughout this part of the journey

STAGE 2. BURKE CREEK TO OOMPSIS.

hours went slightly West of North for 15 minutes until Fels Creek was found, flowing into BURKE CREEK .

Left junction, track BURKE CREEK I200

BURKE CREEK bed and sides of creek being used. From FELS CREEK to cliff face track runs East of North for 25 minutes until a steep cliff on east of creek is reached.

There is no defined track to OOMPSIS

steep ridges that are very thickly timbered- tall trees jungle vines and scrub. Continued for 30 minutes until scrub thinned out left BURKE CREEK and travelled for 5 minutes until Banana plantation was reached.

The East and West banks of the creek constitute

A further 15 minutes by track through plantation and OOMPSIS was reached at I330 hours.

Returned to BEN morning of I8 MARCH.

REMARKS.

This is a good track for patrols . BEN, LAKE WANUM, OOMPSIS and return by route just described. 2 day patrol.

Suggest that all tracks in GABENSIS AREA (COMPANY LOCALITY) be given ROUTE NUMBERS, this will enable simplification for references.

SIGNED .. D.B. BURKE.  
LIEUT.



5

~~SECRET~~

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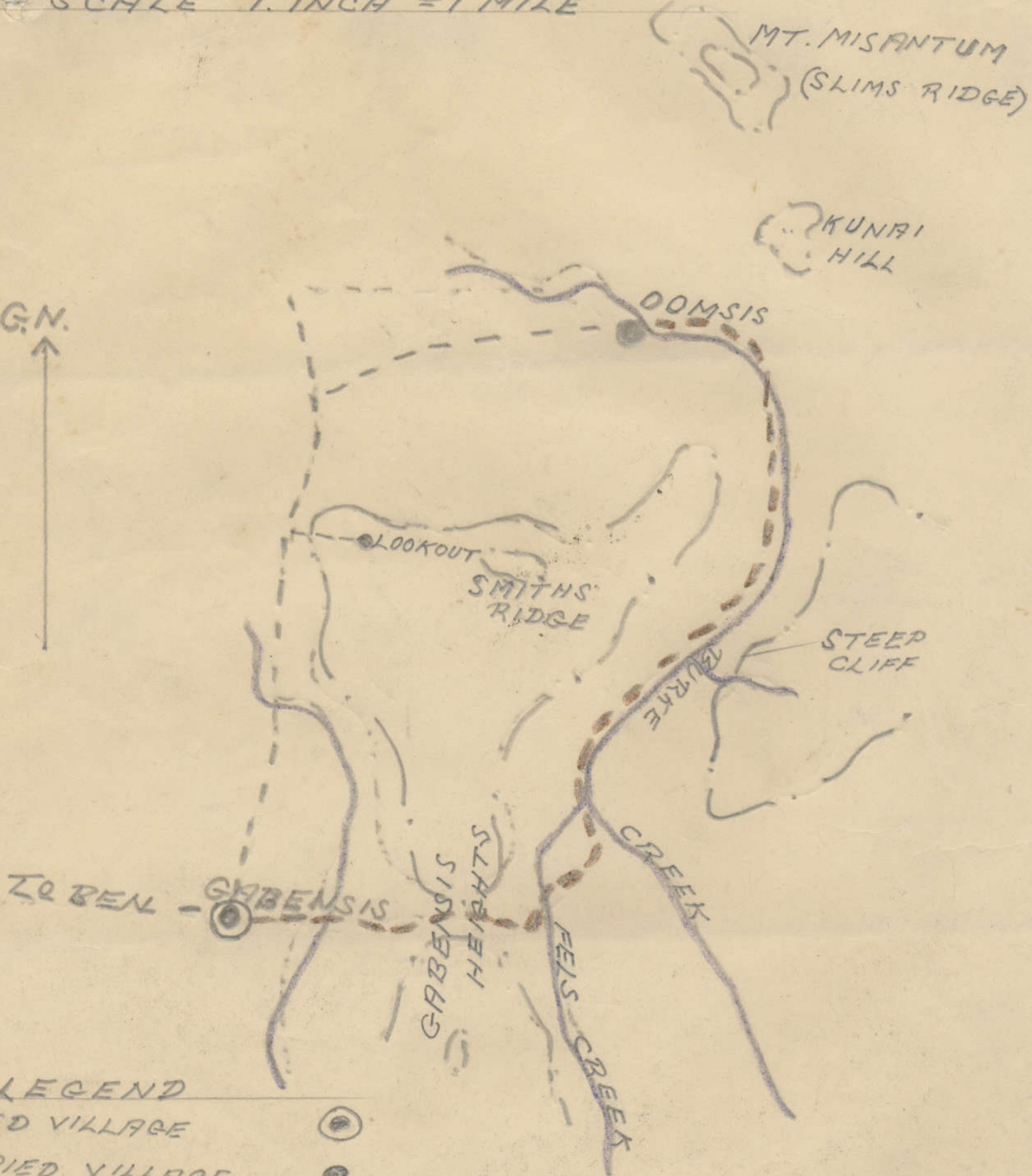
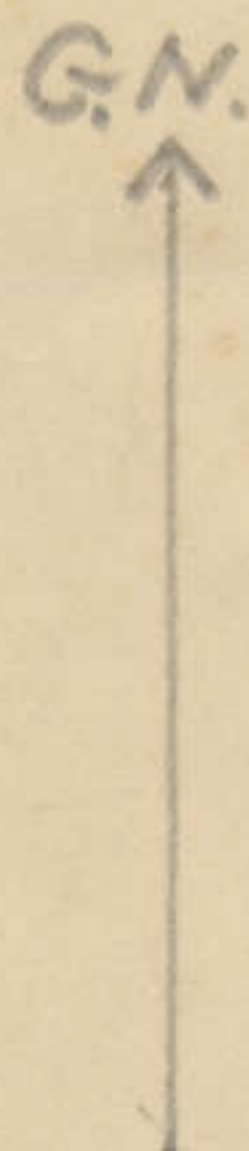
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SKETCH MAP OF GABENSIS OOMSIS TRACK

ALTERNATE TRACK

SCALE 1 INCH = 1 MILE



LEGEND

- OCCUPIED VILLAGE 
- UNOCCUPIED VILLAGE 
- STREAMS 
- FORMLINE 
- LOOKOUT 
- TRACKS 
- ALTERNATE TRACK 

PATROL REPORT.

D 24.

22 MARCH 43.

REF I.P. HUON GULF SPECIAL 4 MILES to I inch.  
 PATROL FOUND BY 16 Platoon. BOBS PATROL COM. PTE R. MCGAN.  
 PATROL STRENGTH 2 O/Rs  
 TIME OUT 0900 HOURS 16 MARCH 43.  
 TIME IN 1330 HOURS 19 MARCH 43.  
 Route out . As per previous reports.  
 ROUTE IN. " " " " " "

NARRATIVE. The patrol moved from BEN at 0900 hours 16 MARCH arrived O.P. 1600 hrs 17 MARCH.

OBSERVATIONS. 17 MARCH 43.

Owing to cloud formation the visibility was nil.  
 No lights were observed on the night 17/18 .

18 MARCH 43

LAE AND COAST NORTH OF LAE. At 1000 hours cloud lifted and LAE was observed.  
 At 1015 , truck approx 30 cwt covered in at back travelled about 20 miles per hour from S. end of BROME to Transport Building N. edge of DROME. .  
 No further movement noticed.

1045 One REGCE plane overhead , not identified.  
 1100. Pinnace proceeded from N. to MALAHANG BAY keeping close inshore all the way. An anchored approx 50 yards from shore. No further movement noticed.  
 1115. Speedboat probably from FINCH-HAVEN travelled parallel to coast well out to sea ( approx 5 MILES), then pulled into MALAHANG BAY, travelled to wreck and stopped for 15 minutes then tied up at LAE J ETTY. This is the first appearance of this kind of craft observed by O.P. personel. Impossible to see if persons left the boat.

LABU 0800 HOURS 18 MARCH. Observed barge leaving LABU for LAE at 1200 hours and arrived LAE approx 1300 hours . Large native canoe appeared off LABU two persons appeared to be fishing. Canoe remained until 1400 hours.  
 No other movement in LABU area.

HEATHS 1200 HOURS 18 MARCH. Observed 2 JAPS. I moved along from HEATHS HOUSE to junction of HEATHS TRACK MARKHAM ROAD. The second JAP was met here. The O.P. personel said this was the changing of a guard stationed there.

PATROLS RETURN. Left on the return journey to BEN at 1430 hours 18 MARCH.  
 Arrived 1330 hours 19 MARCH.

NOTE. This is the second time that personel from this Coy have observed small craft tying up to this wreck. It might be profitable to bomb and destroy it. The wreck appears to be used for some purpose salthough I cannot guess what it could be .

SIGNED.

A.E. CLARK.

Checked LT BURKE.

14 th MARCH 43

REF MAP. A. HUON GULF SPECIAL 4 MILES to 1 INCH  
B. SKETCH MAP ATTACHED

PATROL FOUND BY I8 PLATOON BOBS.

PATROL COM. CPL MCELGUNN. J.T.

PATROL STRENGTH I N.C.O. 2 PTES.

NATURE OF PATROL RECCE.

TIME OUT. 0900 HOURS 11 MARCH 43

TIME IN 1200 HOURS 14 MARCH 43

OBJECT OF PATROL. TO RECCE MT NGARONENO .

ROUTE OUT. FROM WAMPIT THROUGH BOBS CAMP AND OLD MARI TO MT NGARONENO.

ROUTE IN . REVERSE OF ROUTE OUT.

NARRATIVE.

Patrol moved to BOBS CAMP arriving at 1100 hours and moved through to OLD MARI at 1530 hours. The track from BOBS to OLD MARI was in bad condition, being very muddy.

Patrol left OLD MARI at 0730 hours 12 MARCH and proceeded to WAMPIT RIVER, arriving at 0815 hours finding log over river partly submerged and dangerous to cross.

As river was still rising it is doubtful if log is passable for next few days.

Leaving river, patrol proceeded to summit arriving at 0945 hours. There is no covered approach to summit as mountain is covered by kunai grass about 18 inches high.

The summit is round and offers no cover whatsoever. It would be impossible to camouflage a shelter on summit, but a lean to could be constructed about half an hour from the top in a RE-ENTRANT. The view from top of the MT is excellent.

1. GABMUTZUNG MISSION is clearly visible and appears about 200 to 300 yards from the northern bank of the river.

2. NADZAB DROME.

NADZAB DROME runs N.W. and appears to be about 800 to 900 yards north of the river. The country round the DROME is fairly open, mostly open kunai with scattered timber merging into jungle on the east. To the west the country is fairly open to the ERAP RIVER and beyond. To the north the country appears to be open to the rugged mountains in the background.

3. GABSONKEK can be picked up by scattered huts nestling in the timber.

4. NADZAB VILLAGE, is visible - a cluster of huts.

5. The main NADZAB -LAE road cannot be seen as it is overcovered by trees.

6. Failed to pick up NGASAWAPUM, MUNUM, YALU or HEATHS because of the trees.

7. LAKE WANUM and the country round GABENSIS can be seen.

8. THE SEA can just be picked up, but only a small portion. The mouth of the MARKHAM RIVER could NOT be seen.

9. THE MARKHAM RIVER is visible for miles to the east and west.

No movement was noticed during the day in any direction.

It took about 30 minutes to reach the foot of the MT from the summit.

On return journey patrol inspected village at foot of MT finding several huts in good repair. Returned to OLD MARI at 1830 hours on 13 MARCH and found track from OLD MARI to track junction <sup>at 1830 hrs</sup> before ~~NEW MARI~~ almost impassible with water and mud about 3 feet 6 inches deep.

Track from junction to BOBS CAMP in good condition. (TRACK JUNCTION (L)R 3452 )

Arrived BOBS at 1800 hours.

Left BOBS 1030 hours 14 MARCH , arrived WAMPIT 1200 hours 14 MARCH.

REMARKS.

<sup>OLD</sup> It would be necessary to erect a bridge over WAMPIT for patrols stationed at NEW MARI.

There is no water on MT, nearest water in WAMPIT RIVER about 1 1/2 hours march from summit.

There are no natives in area and food was not apparent.

Banana plantation around village at foot of MT but there was no fruit on the plants .

Signed.

J.T. MCELGUNN. CPL.

SKETCH MAP NABZAD AREA

8°0'31"0"



LEGEND.

- TRACK
- MT. ROAD
- VILLAGE
- MISSION
- RIVER
- JUNGLE
- DROME
- MOUNTAIN

J. M<sup>c</sup> ELGUNN. CPL.

14/3/43.

Bulwa

8.3.41.

San-hu

B.L. 3017.

A.N.

M

11/3/43

W.O. 2/c

Morobe

Telephone Operator.

H.G. Ltd.

Bulwa.

8.3.41

9.00am.

Bulwa.

W.O. Hoggard.

Stealing.

3.00pm.

Bulwa.

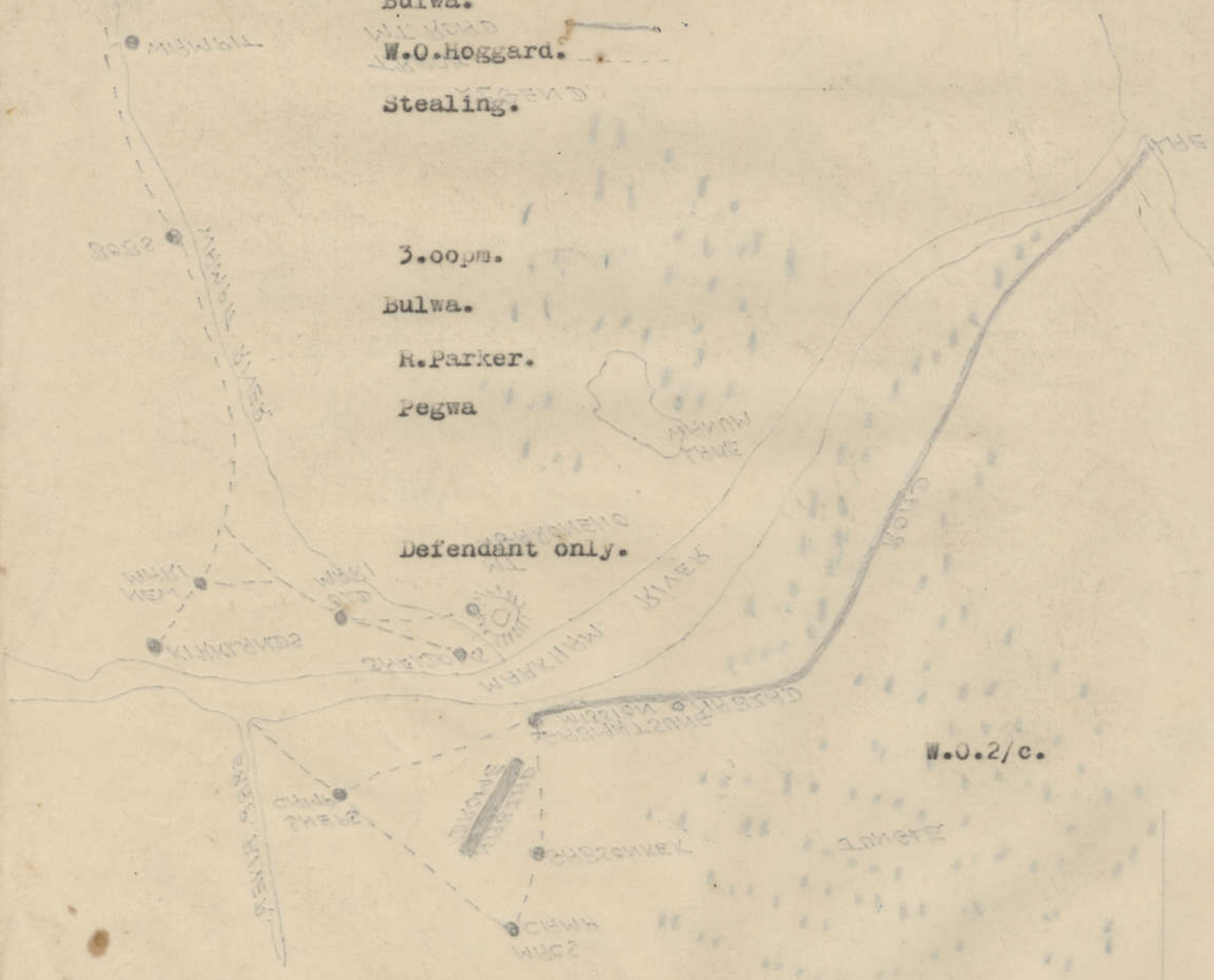
R. Parker.

Pegwa

Defendant only.

W.O. 2/c.

W.O. 2/c.



REF MAP.

PATROL FOUND BY I6 PLATOON BOBS.

PATROL COM. CPL BARLOW.T.W.PATROL STRENGTH. I NCO. I O/R.NATURE OF PATROL . VISITINGTIME OUT. 0800 HOURS I3 MARCH 43TIME IN. I300 HOURS I6 MARCH 43OBJECT OF PATROL. TO ESTABLISH ESCORT RATION LINE TO NO I. O.P. AND TO OBSERVE FROM O.P.ROUTE OUT. BEN- NOI.O.P. TRACK.ROUTE IN. REVERSE OF ROUTE OUT.NARRATIVE.STAGE A. BEN TO HALFWAY CAMP.

At 0800 hours I3 MARCH 43 we left BEN and travelling by usual O.P. track arrived at first huts at 1100 hours. Stopped here for lunch. At 1200 hours we continued on our journey arriving at HALFWAY CAMP at 1700 hours I3 MARCH 43 where the night was spent.

STAGE B. HALFWAY CAMP TO O.P.

At 0800 hours I4 MARCH we left HALFWAY CAMP and after about 3½ hours travelling we arrived at O.P. at 1120 hours.

OBSERVATIONS- I4 MARCH 43

LAE At 1430 hours a grader was observed moving about the aerodrome, where it appeared to be working until 1615 hours, at which time it disappeared and was not seen again.

At approximately 1545 hours a large BARGE left LAE harbour and moved around the coast to MALAHANG harbour.

LABU. No activity was noted until 1530 hours when a PINNACE was observed leaving LABU and making towards LAE harbour. After making a wide detour to avoid mud-banks at mouth of MARKHAM RIVER it arrived at LAE harbour at 1610 hours.

NOTE. There appeared to be two figures dressed in white uniforms in the PINNACE who we took to be JAPS. No further activity was noticed until 1700 hours when a dense fog settled over the whole area which prevented any further observations being made.

OBSERVATIONS I5 MARCH 43.

LAE At 0800 hours a large fire was seen burning on the NORTH side of WEBB'S and it continued to burn throughout the morning.

At 1015 hours a motor lorry appeared on the DROME It stopped at DROME H.Q. for about 10 minutes when it moved off in the direction of LAE stopping at the TERRACE ( JAP H.Q.) . After a period of 25 minutes it drove off and disappeared from our view.

At 1100 hours a BARGE left LAE harbour and went around the coast to MALAHANG harbour.

LABU. No activity of any sort noticed during the morning of I5 MARCH 43.

HEATHS. At 1140 hours a motor lorry loaded with what was thought to be TROOPS appeared at junction of roads on north side of HEATHS. It stopped at GUARD POST for about 10 minutes and then moved on in the direction of YALU, disappearing into the plantation.

At 1200 hours we observed GUARD changing at HEATHS.

At 1300 hours a light fog cut off our observations.

At 1400 hours no further activity was noticed.

At 1415 hours I5 MARCH we commenced the journey to BEN, arriving HALFWAY CAMP at 1730 hours, where we spent the night.

At 0800 hours I6 MARCH 43 we left HALFWAY CAMP arriving BEN at 1300 hours.

REMARKS. I. The appearance of grader on the DROME was thought by the O.P. personnel to perhaps imply that some unusual event was impending as this was the first occasion

NO. DIS ( CONTINUED)

it has been seen since previous to expected arrival of the CONVOY which was later sunk during which period it was observed working on the DROME.

2. It is thought by the O.P. personnel that the JAPS are using LABU as their main BARGE BASE. Lately they have been noticed giving all BARGES a thorough overhauling. This was thought to perhaps imply that shipping activity was expected.

3. Two A.A. guns and a few M.Gs. have been noticed firing at our aircraft from LABU AREA.

*L.R. [unclear]*

Signed.. T.W. BARLOW.

CPL.

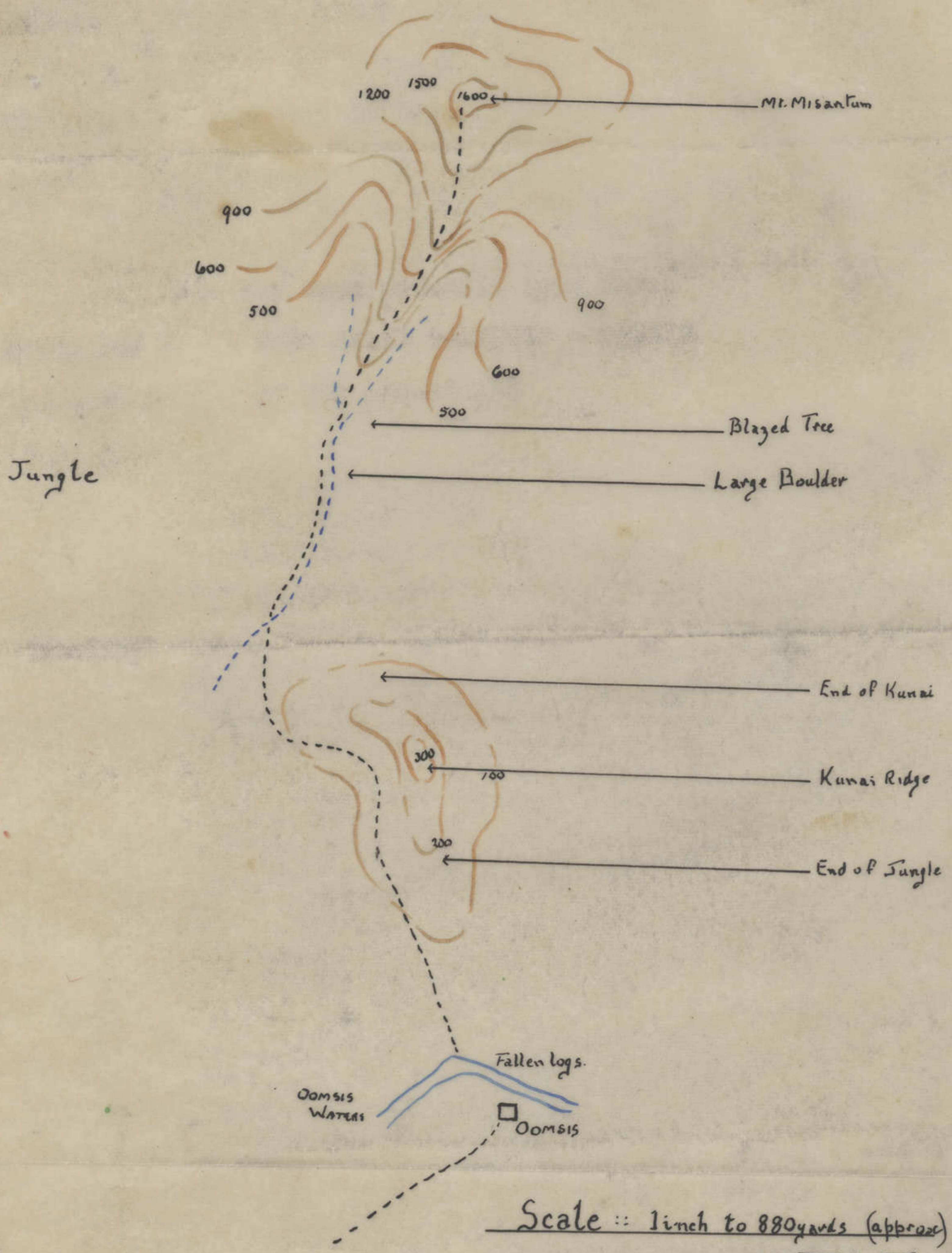


MARKHAM

24

SKETCH MAP  
Track = Oomsis - Mt. MISANTUM

NORTH



Inf Sec 2/6 Bn.  
17 Mar 43

RD/104

PATROL REPORT

Ref Map : SKETCH MAP ATT

Patrol found by : 16 Pl D Coy 2/6 VAUST INF BN - Cpmd Sgt M FELLS

Patrol Strength : 1 NCO & 1 Pte.

Nature of Patrol : RECCE

Time Out : 1500 hrs 9 Mar 43

Time In : 2000 hrs 11 Mar 43

Object of Patrol :

- (a) To find approach to MT MISANTUM (SLIMS Ridge) and good fd of vision of NORTH bank of MARKHAM R.
- (b) Recce land EAST of line GABENSIS - OOMSIS till 5 vert grid and find way into GABENSIS from EAST.

Route Out : Main track GABENSIS - OOMSIS

Route In : As per object (b)

Narrative :

BEN - No 2 LOOKOUT 1500 - 1630 hrs 9 Mar 43  
slept at LOOK OUT.

LOOKOUT - OOMSIS 0650 - 0745 hrs 10 Mar 43

Two natives joined us at 0830 hrs acting as guides.

Stage 1.

Left OOMSIS at 0900 hrs and followed OOMSIS WATERS (down) until creek takes sharp turn SW. There are a few fallen logs marking the spot. Crossed the creek here and entered jungle. A track exists but is hard to locate. By keeping on a bearing approx 340 degrees easy progress can be made (the jungle being almost devoid of under growth) until open Kunai is reached. There, an easy distinguishable track is followed round the reverse slope of low Kunai ridge. After approx 15 mins the track enters the jungle. Here again the track is almost undistinguishable. It is not necessary to follow the track. By going on an approx bearing of 10 degrees a prominent dry water course is reached. This water course is followed in the new direction for approx 45 mins until the water course is distinctly split in two by a steep narrow spur. There is a very large tree, clearly blazed, at the junc. The spur is well defined and can be easily followed to the top of the mountain. On reaching the top we cut three distinct fds of vision

- (a) Overlooking Mt NGARONENO , MARKHAM , GABMATZUNG MISSION , NADZAB E.L.G.
- (b) Overlooking native hide out belonging to NGASAWAPU natives. The village of NARAKAPOOR can be observed although the village is hidden by jungle. The river can clearly be seen within an arc between MT NGARONEMO (west) and NARAKAPOOR (East) The MARKHAM rd cannot be seen.
- (c) This overlooks rolling Kunai ridges up to our OP 4647. The OP itself cannot be seen, being hidden by Kunai. The whole of Mt MISANTUM is thickly covered with timber. There are no tracks leading off EAST, NORTH or WEST from the summit; the only one being the one

by which we came - SOUTH.  
 There is no water on the way, but a few coconut trees provide welcome refreshment.  
 The patrol remained on the top until 1600 hrs observing in turn the localities mentioned above.

No movt could be seen anywhere and to pick up same a strong telescope would be needed.  
 The Mt is approx 1500 yds from the river.  
 Patrol returned by the same route to OOMPSIS where it spent the night.

Complete trip OOMPSIS - MT MISANTUM (either way) - 2 hrs easy going!

Stage 2

11 Mar 43 - Followed OOMPSIS WATERS (up) along a track ESE.

After 5 mins the track crosses a creek entering banana plantation. - This we scouted for two hrs following innumerable tracks - all leading nowhere.

We returned to the creek at 1100 hrs and decided to follow it upstream.

Our direction was ESE but gradually the creek took a wide turn, firstly SOUTH and finally straightening out SSW.

I estimated that we were travelling more or less parallel to BWIRIP - GABENSIS track, and approx 1½ miles EAST of it.

We followed on this course for 1 hr 30 mins (slow going) when the creek took a sharp turn EAST.

At this pt another creek flows into OOMPSIS WATERS. We followed this new creek for 10 mins when I decided we must be between GABENSIS and No 2 LOOKOUT 4647 and approx 1½ miles EAST. I decided that by cutting due WEST I must strike either the GARAGOS R or the GABENSIS - BWIRIP track.

50 yds WEST of the creek - in the jungle - I began ascending a steep, sharp and well defined spur.

We had to cut our own track through thick jungle. We reached the top of the ridge after 2 hrs of hard climbing. We followed this spur all the time and it was turning due WEST.

We descended the mountain by following a dry watercourse. The going was extremely hard.

The bottom of the mountain was reached in 1 hr 30 mins. A small stream flows into a large watercourse.

We kept on following the latter through a sac-sac swamp until a banana plantation was reached.

A short way through this and we struck the main GABENSIS-BWIRIP track at approx 455460.

The time was 1730 hrs. It took us over 4 hrs to travel approx 1½ miles.

We returned to BEN via GABENSIS.

Sgd M FELS Sgt

~~666~~

PATROL REPORT

Ref Map : SKETCH MAP ATT 1 in to 1 mi

Patrol found by 16 Pl D COY 2/6 AUST INF BN - Comd Pte  
MORTYN V L

Patrol Strength 2 Privates

Nature of Patrol Recce

Time Out : 0815 hrs 8 Mar 43

Time In : 1600 hrs 9 Mar 43

Object of Patrol To recce track from HALF WAY HUTS WAMPIT -  
GABENSIS track - TIMNE.

Route Out : GABENSIS - TIMNE

Route In : Reverse of Route Out.

Narrative :

Stage 1 BEN to HALF WAY HUTS - Left BEN at 0815 hrs and  
travelled main BEN - WAMPIT track to blazed tree  
10 mins WEST of HALF WAY HUTS.

Stage 2 HALF WAY HUTS to WAMPIT - TIMNE track  
Travelled 10 mins then turned SW and followed track,  
which was indistinct, but fairly good surface.  
The track veers to the Left in SW direction.  
For the first 75 mins the track is soft and boggy  
in the low ground and is hard to follow in water  
courses, but can be traced by blazed trees.  
On the high ground it is more distinct, but is  
fairly hard going; the surface is firm but small  
roots make it very slippery.  
Several small watercourses are crossed.  
Over this stretch there is a swamp on the Right,  
and steep rising ground on the Left.  
For the next 40 mins the track is fairly well  
defined, is flat and the going good, with level  
country on both sides.  
There is a KANAKA track going off to the Right on  
this portion, and five small creeks are crossed.  
For the next 40 mins the track runs through low  
ground on edge of swamp and high ground on the Left.  
The track is very boggy and hard to follow in the  
low ground - some water courses are crossed.  
There are some short inclines and declines where  
track leaves the low ground.  
There are two small native huts on the Right of the  
track at the beginning of this stretch.  
At the end of the 40 mins a creek is reached and is  
followed upstream for 100 yds, where it forks.  
The Right hand stream is followed.  
For the next 30 mins there is a steep climb to the  
top of the mountain.  
The track is stony and not slippery. From half way  
up the mountain the Kunai banks of the WAMPIT can be  
seen through the trees.  
With the timber cut down a good view of the WAMPIT  
would be observed.  
Half way down the mountain, 20 yds of the track is  
visible to mountain directly SOUTH.  
After leaving the mountain the track follows down  
a water course for 5 mins and crosses a large stream.  
For the next 35 mins the track runs over low country  
and crosses some small water courses.  
Most of the track over this portion is soft and  
slippery and is hard to follow in the water courses.  
For the next 35 mins there are 2 inclines but other-  
wise the track is well defined.  
The MUMBUN track via MT CHUNGOL is passed 15 mins  
before reaching TIMNE - WAMPIT track.

TIMINGS

HALF WAY HUTS, WAMPIT - GABENSIS track to TIMNE - WAMPIT track	-	<u>4 hrs 30 mins</u>
Junc TIMNE - WAMPIT track to TIMNE	-	<u>1 hr 20 mins</u>
BEN to HALF WAY HUTS		<u>55 mins</u>
BEN to TIMNE		<u>6 hrs 45 mins</u>

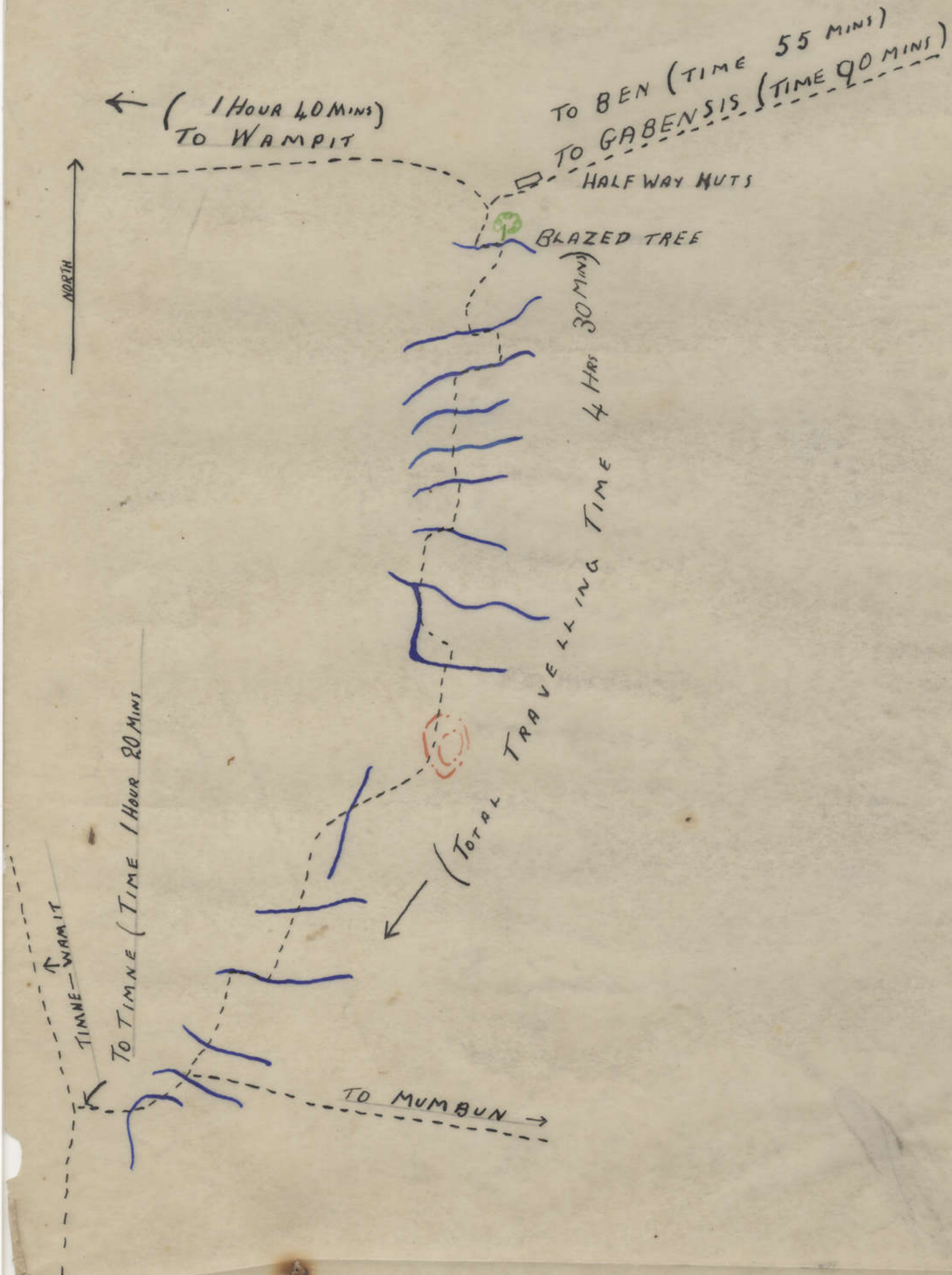
Sgd V L MORTYN Pte  
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SKETCH MAP

SCALE 1 INCH = 1 MILE

TRACK  
HALF WAY HUTS — GABENSIS

TO TIMNE — WAMPIT TRACK



REF MAP. HUON GULF (SPECIAL) 4 MILES TO 1 INCH.

PATROL FOUND BY I8 PLATOON BOBS. PATROL COM A/CPL KURTZ . G.A.H.  
 PATROL STRENGTH I N.C.O. I PTE 2 POLICE BOYS 9 BEARERS  
 NATURE OF PATROL . VISITING  
 TIME OUT I400 HOURS 8 th MARCH 43  
 TIME IN I900 HOURS I2 th MARCH 43

OBJECT OF PATROL. I. TO CARRY SAFE HAND DISPATCHES AND CONTROL NATIVE LINE OF  
 MICELLANEOUS STORES.

2. TO OBSERVE FROM O.P.

ROUTE OUT WAMPIT TO O.P.

ROUTE IN REVERSE OF ROUTE OUT.

NARRATIVE.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Arrived O.P. I2I5 hours IO March 43  
 Left O.P. I3I5 hours II March 43

No details will be submitted of the track except to say that it is very difficult to find, is covered all the way, very mountainous and difficult to negotiate.

WHAT WE SAW.

We observed from I230 hours IO March until I500 hours. Fog then enveloped the mountain and did not lift until 2200 hours.

1. LABU NO I can be plainly seen but no further to the south. At LABU NO I we saw 2 native canoes and 6 barges on the beach at the LABU NO I inlet. LABU itself consists of native huts in a small coconut plantation merging inland to thick jungle.

We noticed a few natives, but could not sight any JAPS. The A.A. position is between LABU NO I village and the ~~and the~~ mouth of the MARKHAM. The people stationed at the O.P. informed us that the A.A. has not opened up for about a fortnight.

2. OUT TO SEA The O.P. personel state that given favorable conditions, they can see about 70 seventy miles through the telescope. Whilst we were there we could only see about thirty mile out to sea. The sea was very calm and we saw a couple of small pieces of wreckage floating. There is only a narrow strip of beach around the bay. The jungle stretching practically to the waters edge. The vision out to sea is practically in a line east of LABU NO I.

3. THE MARKHAM RIVER CAN be seen from its mouth to HEATHS. It is dotted with small islands - some timbered, with grass, others just mud. The Markham appeared swift flowing and the water from the mouth appeared discoloured for about  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile out to sea. Above LABU NO I we could discern a small creek flowing into the MARKHAM.

No movement was detected on any of the islands and the only activity on the Markham was two canoes which jacked upstream by sail and stopped at a point on the southern bank of the stream opposite HEATHS where there is a ~~and~~ village. They then returned to LABU NO I. SMALL

4. LAE. The aerodrome is plainly seen and runs as per map. It is surrounded by timber on 3 sides and appears to stop abruptly at the sea - there is no timber on the sea ward side. There are 2 blast bays on the southern side of the drome and I on the northern side. We noticed about IO wrecked planes scattered on both sides of the drome. 2 appeared to be serviced and ready for use. No movement was noticed on the drome.

Towards the waters edge on the north eastern side of the drome is the GUINEA AIRWAYS hanger and workshops - only the skeleton remains. In close proximity are VACUUM OIL COY'S buildings, BURNS PHILIP stores and behind GUINEA AIRWAYS a large building which is known as WEBBS. These buildings appear to be intact.

The LAE /NADZAB road is not visible in the vicinity of LAE but can be detected for about 2 miles before it reaches HEATHS. To the north ~~east~~ <sup>WEST</sup> of the drome is a small hill with scattered timber and houses, with iron roofs. This is known as the TERRACE.

A road from the drome winding round to the TERRACE can be seen. 2 trucks ( looked like utilities ) travelled down from the TERRACE and apparently took a track to the right as they were not observed approaching the drome. The O.P. personel think that this track might lead to a transport H.Q. The houses on the TERRACE are standing and through field glasses appear to be undamaged. No personel were observed on the TERRACE.

In front of the TERRACE is a lawn and from a pole on the lawn flutters the JAPANESE flag.

About 200 yards out to sea between the aerodrome and the town, the stern front mast and a small portion of the bow of a ship - approximately 5000 tons - can be seen. This ship was hit when the convoy of 4 ships got to LAE about 3 months ago.

Following around the coast ~~axsmall~~ the line of the BUMBU RIVER can be seen. The country is undulating and heavy wooded.

We could not pick up any A.A. positions or defencive positions around LAE.

W.P.

Approximately opposite a line from the TERRACE, a small <sup>WHARF</sup> ~~warfe~~ runs out to sea. No activity was noticed and no barges or pinaces were attached.

5. L. LAHANG. The drome is not visible, but its position was pointed out. All we could actually see here was the COCOA and COCONUT plantations. We could discern no buildings.

Off MALAHANG is a beached vessel estimated at 5000 tons. This is one of the ships in the last convoy to reach LAE.

6. NORTHERN HUON GULF COAST LINE. This was visible as heavily timbered, stretching to the waters edge. We could just discern the mouth of the BUSO river. No buildings were visible. <sup>COUNTRY</sup>

7. HEATHS can be seen very plainly. It appears as flat ground with a COCOA plantation some 20 acres in extent on the northern side of the LAE - NADZAB road. The plantation merges into jungle on the northern, eastern and western sides.

HEATHS house is a fairly large house built on stilts with a thached roof.

It is about I mile south of HEATHS and connected to the LAE - NADZAB road by a track. This track runs along the edge of the jungle which stretches to the east from HEATHS house. To the west of HEATHS house, and south of the LAE - NADZAB road, the country is more open with scattered timber. The extent of vision at HEATHS is about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile west of the plantation. We saw no movement there and could not pick up any gun positions or defensive works.

The O.P. ~~personel~~ state that on some evenings about 30 JAPS arrive in the evening camp in the house for the night and leave in the morning, going towards LAE or to the plantation.

8. OBSERVATION BY NIGHT. At 1850 hours planes were heard landing on the LAE aerodrome. There was no visibility and we were unable to see how many or what type.

At 2200 hours the fog lifted and we observed for one hour and noticed the following :-

HEATHS. No lights visible.

LAE. On the TERRACE, I light. Near VACUUM OIL building I light.

We did not observe any car lights.

The O.P. ~~personel~~ state that sometimes during the night a searchlight shines along the beach front. They think that this searchlight is near WEBBS house and lined on the beached ship off MALAHANG.

9. OBSERVATION II 14 MARCH 44. There was no visibility until 0800 hours and even then it was poor until 1100 hours. We observed from 0800 hours until 1200 hours and noticed the following :-

A. LABU NO I. Only a few natives wandering around.

B. LAE. At 0730 hours planes were heard taking off from the LAE aerodrome. There was no visibility but I do not think there would be more than 4 or 5 planes.

At 0800 hours when the fog partially cleared, we noticed smoke rising from the TERRACE, this appeared to be from a cooking fire. A little while later I lorry was observed moving on the drome in a north westerly direction. The lorry stopped in the middle of the drome, one JAP got out and ran like hell towards the TERRACE. None of our planes were visible. About 5 minutes later he reappeared and drove the lorry into the timber towards HEATHS.

C. HEATHS. There was no movement or any activity until 1150 hours. At this hour 5 JAPS appeared on the track from the plantation and proceeded to HEATHS house which they entered. 3 minutes later 5 JAPS left HEATHS house and proceeded towards the plantation. The O.P. ~~personel~~ think that this is the changing of the guard, as it is a daily performance. NO other activity was noticed.

D. MALAHANG. At 1100 hours 2 small pinaces moved from LAE <sup>WHARF</sup> ~~warfe~~, around the point and to the beached vessel near MALAHANG. One person appeared to go aboard the beached vessel and reappeared in 15 minutes. The pinaces then returned to the LAE <sup>WHARF</sup> ~~warfe~~. We could not see where they moored them. We could not discern the number on board or whether they carried cargo.

#### 10. FURTHER OBSERVATION BY O.P. PERSONEL.

1. Practically every morning a patrol of varying strength - from 50 to 100 ~~personel~~, can be observed marching along the main LAE NADZAB road from HEATHS and in the direction of YALU. They can only see the movement for about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile as then vision is there obscured. They do not know where the patrol goes. At about 1400 hours the patrol is noticed returning to HEATHS plantation. They do not see where they go from there.

2. Up to about a week ago there was plenty of activity noticed around LAE and HEATHS. Since the convoy was smashed there has been very little activity.

3. Just prior to the convoy being smashed there appeared to be a Grand Tour of inspection. A plane landed, and 2 or 3 JAPS in spotless white alighted from the plane. They had a look around the drome, then went up to the TERRACE and I walked across the lawn to the flag. After about I hour from the time of landing they left by the plane.

*THIS PATROL HAS NOT BEEN SEEN FOR ABOUT ONE WEEK.*

WRD

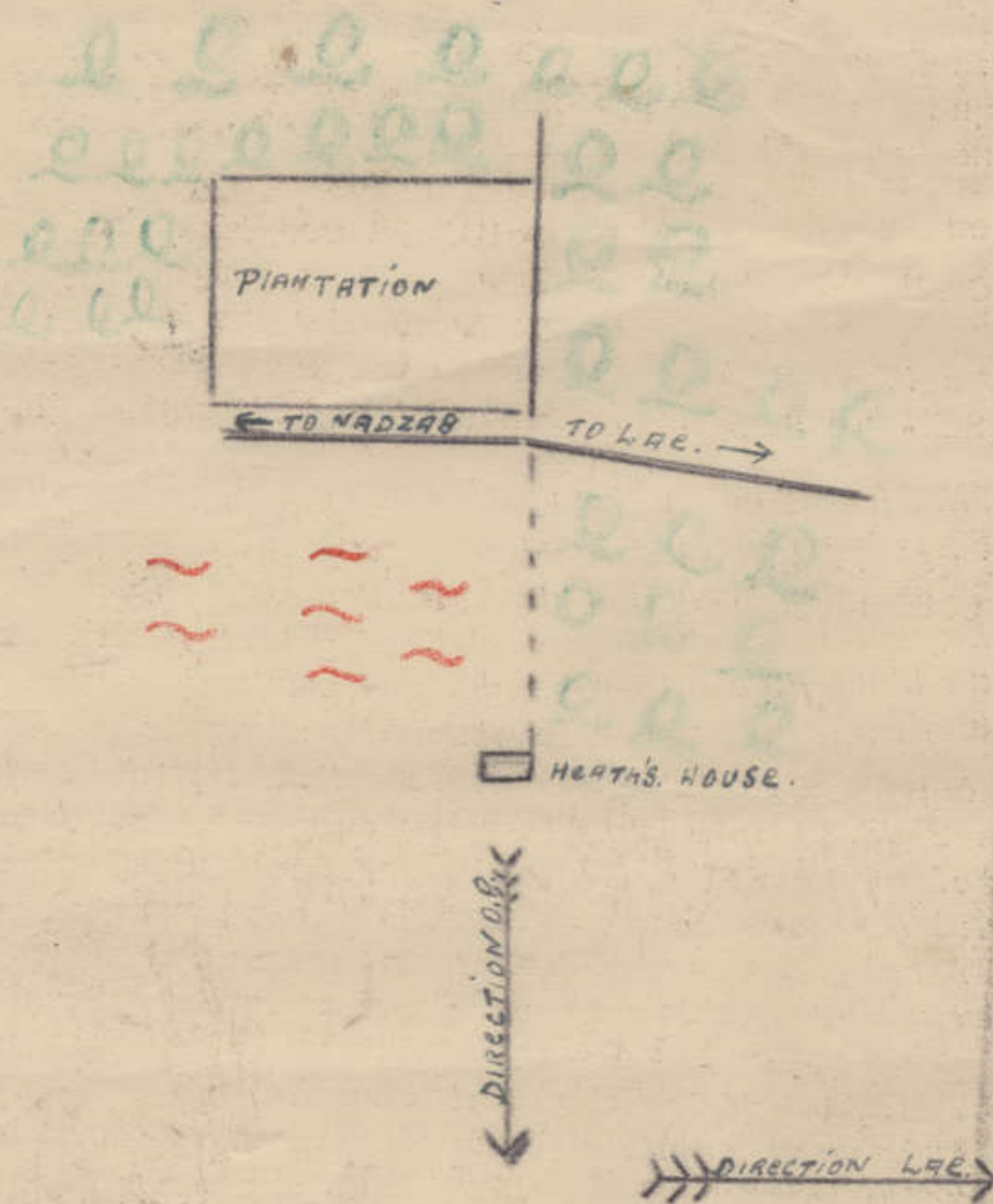


4. Until the last week all movement seemed to be done to a schedule.
5. Quite frequently they have noticed barges being taken in the evening from LABU NO I to LAE. In the morning the barges are back at LABU NO I. They are wise that these barges may be filled with provisions, taken to SALAMAUA and returned before daylight to LABU NO I.
6. During the last month they noticed a submarine in the HUON GULF. This was only seen the once.
7. During some afternoons, several persons come out on the terrace and are observed wearing white skirts. They think these are GEISHA girls taking the air !!

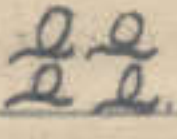




*W.P. Cox*

*G. Lush: a/cpl.*

SKETCH OF HEATHS. (As from O.P.)



Legend.

- Jungle Timber. 
- LAE-NADZAB R.D. 
- TRACK. 
- HEATHS. HOUSE 
- OPEN COUNTRY & SCATTERED TIMBER. 

MARKHAM

20/98

(18)

Ref No D12PATROL REPORTBWIRUP-LAE-MARKHAM RD (5058-5458)

Ref Map: HUON GULF (Special) 4 mi to 1 in  
Patrol Found By: D Coy 2/6 AUST INF BN  
Patrol Strength: 1 NCO, 1 OR, 2 Natives  
Patrol Comd: Cpl BARLOW T W  
Nature of Patrol: Recce  
Time Out: 2000 hrs 5 Mar 43  
Time In: 1600 hrs 6 Mar 43  
Route Out: BWIRUP--NAROKOPOR--NEW MUNUM--OLD MUNUM--  
LAE-MARKHAM RD (5058-5458)  
Object of Patrol: To establish infm concerning a def posn or  
store being constructed between MUNUM and  
YALU.

Narrative: Stage 1 BWIRUP--NAROKOPOR

Left BWIRUP (grid ref 4554) at 2000 hrs 5 Mar 43 by native canoe  
manned by 5 MUNUM natives and crossed MARKHAM RIVER.

The river consists of 3 main channels with sand bars between; at  
most times the natives could reach bottom with poles.

The deepest channel is on the SOUTH side of the river. Depth of  
this channel was NOT taken but the two channels on NORTH side are  
approx 4 ft deep.

The flow of the water is very fast and in an Easterly direction.

Arrived NAROKOPOR at 2130 hrs and slept night; track being difficult  
to locate.

Stage 2 NAROKOPOR--NEW MUNUM

Left NAROKOPOR at 0700 hrs 6 Mar 43 by track shown on att sketch  
and crossed NAROKOPOR CREEK.

The going was heavy and track was indistinct and narrow (one man  
width).

Crossed NAROKOPOR--NGASAWAPUM rd after travelling 10 mins - good  
surface but overgrown.

Thick scrub is on both sides of the track which bears NE from  
NGASAWAPUM rd.

Arrived at NEW MUNUM at 0915 hrs.

There are only 5 native huts in this village; according to the  
guide, natives have gone bush and only come in to work gardens.

NOTE: The guide, a native of MUNUM, whose name is ELEMEN, said this  
is the new village - old one was burned by the JAPS. Map HUON  
GULF (Special) gives OLD MUNUM as grid ref 5157, which I  
suggest is an error; this being the NEW village.

Stage 3 NEW MUNUM--OLD MUNUM

Left at 0915 hrs and located MARKHAM rd at 0930 hrs.

The rd runs exactly EAST and WEST at this pt.

Moved EAST along MARKHAM rd to pt 5258, then turned NORTH and travelled for 10 mins through kunai 6 ft high and also coconut plantation.

For 20 mins passed through native gardens and arrived OLD MUNUM 1000 hrs.

Most of the village has been burned and only 10 huts remain intact.

Natives of this village have gone bush, coming in to work gardens occasionally.

Could NOT find any tracks leading from the village, other than the one on which we travelled from the MARKHAM rd.

The area occupied by the village is approx 1 acre, most of which is overgrown.

NO streams visible near village.

#### Stage 4 OLD MUNUM-LAE MARKHAM RD (5058-5458)

Left OLD MUNUM 1000 hrs.

Track proceeds SOUTH to LAE-MARKHAM rd (grid ref 5058) thence EAST along rd.

Recced area NORTH and SOUTH of rd from grid ref 5058 to 5458.

There was NO sign of tracks leading off the rd and NO sign of kanakas moving in this area.

Boot-marks, with hobnails prominently displayed, were seen on the track.

The tracks of a veh with trailer were also seen - these being about 7 days old.

Arrived grid ref 5458 - recced NORTH and SOUTH of rd until 1130 hrs.

NOTE: There are NO signs of JAP habitations, def post or store-houses from grid ref 5058 to 5458 to a depth of 100 yds either NORTH or SOUTH of MARKHAM rd.

Penetration was made at pt 5458 both NORTH and SOUTH for 400 yds but NO tracks were found.

#### Stage 5 LAE MARKHAM RD-NEW MUNUM

Skirted along the main rd, then turned SOUTH and arrived NEW MUNUM 1230 hrs; nothing to report.

#### Stage 6 NEW MUNUM-NAROKOPOR

Left NEW MUNUM at 1230 hrs and followed track SOUTH same as track in; nothing to report.

#### Stage 7 NAROKOPOR-BWIRUP

Native canoe manned by MUNUM natives was used to recross MARKHAM RIVER; the natives used paddles and sail on canoe.

Leaving NORTH bank of river at 1430 hrs, we arrived BWIRUP at 1600 hrs.

#### Remarks:

By the assurance of all natives from MUNUM concerned in this patrol,

who were found very capable, confident and friendly, the following infm can be quoted as being correct:

JAP patrols at irregular intervals travel from direction of LAE to YALU, sleep over night and then proceed back towards LAE.

They make use of native huts for habitation.

Special Mention:

Special mention is made for services rendered by the following natives:

ELEMEN	from	MUNUM
VARSEE	from	MUNUM
NARAKOR	from	GABENSIS
ALANGAVA	from	WAMPIT

(Sgd) T W BARLOW Cpl

SKETCH SHOWING ROUTE

TAKEN BY PATROL

REF MAP HUON GULF 4MI = 1"

ENLARGED 4 TIMES



LEGEND

ROUTE TAKEN BY PATROL	---
ROAD	—
CREEK	~

7 MAR 43

DATE 14 MARCH 43

REF MAP. SKETCH MAP BEN ) GAB ( MARKHAM RIVER by LIEUT BURKE( FWD YOU 14 MARCH 43)

PATROL STRENGTH. 1 OFFICER 3 O/RS.

PATROL COM. LIEUT BURKE. D.B.

PATROL FOUND BY I6 PLATOON BEN.

NATURE OF PATROL STANDING.

OBJECT OF PATROL. To act as covering party to PATROL proceeding to MUNUM -YALU also to act as guides to that party to a point BWIRUP native village.

ROUTE OUT. BEN GABENSIS- LAKE WANUM -BWIRUP.

ROUTE IN. REVERSE OF ROUTE OUT.

TIME OUT 1300 HOURS 5 MARCH 43.

TIME IN. 1900 HOURS 7 MARCH 43.

NARRATIVE.STAGE A. BEN TO LAKE WANUM.

Left 1300 hours travelled via E.L.G. and GABENSIS VILLAGE- this was practically deserted as the natives work in their gardens for the greater part of the day planting clearing and weeding.

Left the village at 1345 hours and encountered very few natives, about 6 on the track to LAKE WANUM.

Arrived at native hut 435507 approximately at 1545 hours. The area round the hut at this portion of the lake is very thick jungle for a radius of 800 yards.

The stream marked as BURKE CREEK flows in a N.E. direction past the hut.

STAGE B. HUT 435507 TO BWIRUP.

Left at 1550 hours and moved in a N.N.E. direction for 10 minutes and then swung north for a further 10 minutes- found that the BURKE CREEK flows N.E. across track. It was about 25 feet wide and 2 feet deep- the water is excellent and flows quite freely.

The track here is well defined and wide. Continued from the CREEK slightly east of N. for 20 minutes until the N.W. edge of the LAKE was reached, it is here that the jungle meets fairly open kunai slopes reaching to the banks of the LAKE.

Travelled slightly N. of east for 20 minutes along the north edge of LAKE- The track during this portion of the journey is overgrown, narrow and is along a ledge which drops steeply down to the LAKE.

Left the LAKE edge and travelled N.N.E. for 15 minutes until a swamp was reached. Here the jungle is very thick and the track is formed by a few logs very insecurely placed, making progress very slow, and practically impossible in the hours of darkness. For 25 minutes this condition continued until BWIRUP was reached.

STAGE C. BWIRUP- RADIUS OF 440 yards including MARKHAM RIVER.

There are approximately 12 native huts at BWIRUP these are unoccupied and in varying stages of destruction. There are many trees and thick scrub surrounding the village.

On the south edge there is a very muddy stream as shown in the sketch, it is suspected that the water flows from and returns to the MARKHAM RIVER- will confirm this report by CONSOLIDATED SKETCH of this entire area as all the water is fouled by stagnancy or muddy condition as in the creek.

There is a track crossing the creek right at the village which runs to the river, this section is marshy and it appears that the course of the MARKHAM had at one time taken in the entire area north of the creek.

There is quite a good spot to bring canoes right up to this track which is adjacent to the island as shown in the sketch.

For 400 yards a track running due west was followed it is overgrown but appears to be the track running north of MT. NGARONENO to SHELDONS.

Obtained observations from a high tree as follows NGARONENO W.S.W. 250 DEG WEST EDGE OF NAROKOPOR to what I assumed was MT CHUNGOL 187½ DEG.

This feature if it is MT CHUNGOL, stands out from surrounding country and appears to be approximately 6000 feet high.

The mountain is bare and runs to a very sharp apex.

W.P.S.

DI7 (CONTINUED)

The view of the MARKHAM RIVER is very good from MT NGARENONO to approximately  
NAROKOPOR.

Lying at 140 DEG is ( MT MISANTUM or SLIMS RIDGE)  
The patrol returned from BWIRUP to BEN as per route out, 1900 hours  
on 7 MARCH.

Signed ..D. BURKE LIEUT.

N.B. The feature referred to as possibly being M<sup>c</sup>Chungol is M<sup>c</sup>Chungol.

W.P.D. of the Capt.

1. HIGH GOLF SKETCH  
 2. SKETCH MAP ATTACHED  
 PATROL FORM BY 16 PL. "D" Coy.

4 MILLS to 1 INCH  
 2 MILLS to 2 INCH  
 PATROL COMP. CPL BRALOW.T.W.

PATROL STRENGTH 1 N.C.O. 2 S.S.

NATURE OF PATROL RECON

TIME OUT 0900 hrs 5 APR.43

TIME IN 1655 hrs 6 APR.43

OBJECT OF PATROL To keep under observation wooded island opposite MARSHAL POINT for at least 3 hrs by night, and 4 hrs by day, for possible enemy movement.

ROUTE OUT TRACK O.P. - COMSIS - MARSHAL POINT

AD IN REVERS. OF ROUTE OUT

RECAPITULATION. Patrol left O.P. (O.P. 4545) and **proceeded** to COMSIS, here we inspected bobby traps and then sent runner back to O.P. to state that they were O.K. We then followed the JAP TRACK up a high kunai ridge, and at their old bivouac area entered the jungle. Ten minutes later we came to one of our bobby traps which on inspection proved to be O.K. A little further on we obtained an excellent view of MARSHAL POINT and RIVER and the country North and West of LAB, through a small break in the timber.

Then followed track as per attached sketch map and after an hours advance we came to the first native shelter and a further 1/2 hour brought us to the second one.

From here we followed track through swamp and at 1600 hrs reached DEEP CREEK (the limit of Patrol D27) We crossed the creek by means of a recently felled log, searched ground in the vicinity for traces of recent Jap movement, without result.

Then followed the creek down for 15 minutes and then waded across and moved down to River's edge. From here we could see no wooded island opposite MARSHAL POINT, so we proceeded upstream for 300 yards but could see no other island which would compare with the one we were looking for.

We came back to within 200 yds of DEEP CREEK and chose a tree for use as an O.P.. It afforded an excellent view of MARSHAL RIVER for approx 1 mile up and down stream. From this point we could hold the island opposite MARSHAL POINT under constant observation.

This island is approx 800 yards long covered with very little vegetation which affords no cover for enemy troops.

We watched this island from 1615 hrs until 1910 hrs and then established a listening post on edge of River until 2300 hrs.

During this time we saw or heard no enemy movement.

We took up observation again at 2045 hrs 6 Apr. and watched island until 2300 hrs. We were then definitely of the opinion that the Japs were not using the island for any purpose.

Approx 1 mile East of the mouth of DEEP CREEK we observed a timbered ridge running down to the MARSHAL RIVER.

We moved down towards this ridge to see whether there was another island which would fit into the patrol's object and after crossing DEEP CREEK we forced our way through undergrowth and joined the COMSIS-MARSHAL POINT track approx 300 yards East of DEEP CREEK.

Proceeded along track for 10 minutes and then crossed a heavily timbered spur which jutted down to River's edge, the ground there is soft and level and here we found recent foot prints of a small Jap party.

From this point we followed track along, stopping at frequent intervals to observe River but at no stage did we see any further islands other than small mud banks.

Approx 2000 yards East of DEEP CREEK we came to a small clearing and 20 yards ahead of us there was a heavily timbered spur running from MARSHAL POINT down to River's edge.

At this point I looked straight along the track and saw a small shelter on the crest of the spur. This shelter was approx 40 yards from the position where I was standing.

Ten feet on the River side of the shelter a Jap sentry was standing along-side a tree.

He was about 50 yards from the River up the slope of the spur.



He was facing the River and seemed to be in a trance, taking no interest in his surroundings at all. He was dressed in what appeared to be a dark gabardine uniform and was wearing a cap of the same material.

A bayonet was fixed on his rifle and at no time did he look in any direction other than directly across the River.

I covered the sentry until my men had moved back to a position where I could cover my withdrawal. I then joined them and we stayed at this position for approx 10 mins in case we had been seen and a patrol sent after us.

No further Jap movement was noticed however, and at approx 0900 hrs we moved back onto the track and returned to OOMSIS arriving at 1400 hrs. We had lunch and rested here until 1530 hrs.

At this time we met the OOMSIS patrol and returned to the O.P. arriving at 1655 hrs.

#### CONCLUSIONS.

ISLAND The island opposite MARKHAM POINT affords no cover and in my opinion, it is not being used for any purpose what-so-ever.

JAP SENTRY I can't give any explanation as to why this man was facing the River as all he could see in this direction is thick jungle and also approx 1 mile upstream.

He appeared to be thinking rather deeply at the time and it is possible that he was absent-mindedly facing the wrong direction.

I suggest that he is a member of a Jap Standing Patrol covering the track from MARKHAM POINT to the Sea.

BOOBY TRAPS. As we contacted no Jap booby traps, it is evident that our former patrols in this area, have aroused no suspicion.

I would also like to bring to notice the splendid work of Ptes KELLEHER and WADE throughout the patrol, especially the cool manner in which they acted in covering my withdrawal from the Jap sentry.

Signed T.W. Barlow Cpl.

N.B. This patrol penetrated more than a mile further Eastwards than patrol Ref Patrol Report No D30.

The reason for sending the patrol to observe the islands mentioned was because Sgts West and Russell who had just returned from the LAE O.P. were of the opinion that the Japs were using an island off MARKHAM POINT as a hide-out.

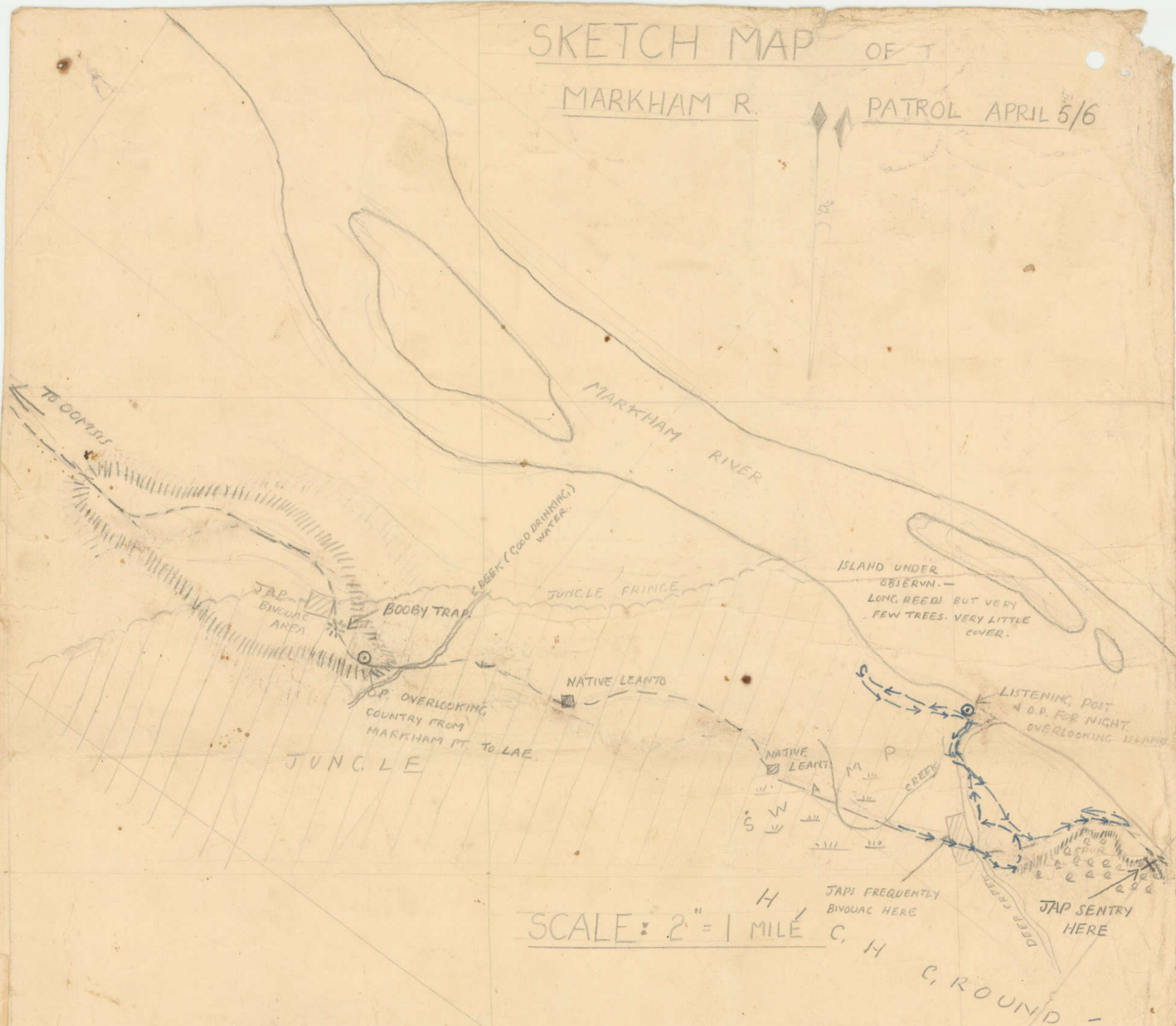
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# SKETCH MAP

OF T

MARKHAM R.

PATROL APRIL 5/6



lft. Barlow J.W.

PATROL REPORT.

REF MAP. Sketch map WAU SALAMAUA LAE AREA 2 mile to 1 inch  
 ENLARGEMENT HUON GULF 1 MILE TO 1 INCH ( FWD 28 FEB)  
 PATROL FOUND BY 17 PL. BOBS PATROL COM CPL J.J. HENDERSON  
 PATR STRENGTH IN.C.O. IPTE.

*Ref No D9*

TIME OUT 0730 HOURS 26 FEB.  
 TIME IN 1830 HOURS 26 FEB.  
 OBJECT. 1. TO RECCE RIVER TRACK KIRKLANDS SHELDONS  
 2. TO ASCERTAIN WHAT OBSERVATION OF THE RIVER CAN BE OBTAINED ALONG THE TRACK  
 AND AT SHELDONS.  
 3. TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER THE TRACK OFFERS A COVERED APPROACH FOR DAILY PATROLS.  
 ROUTE OUT KIRKLANDS TO SHELDONS BY RIVER BANK.  
 ROUTE IN. REVERSE OF ROUTE OUT.

NARRATIVE.

Left camp area and followed track along narrow ridge in direction of gunpost .  
 Ridge runs parallel Markham River and falls away to low swampy jungle on right.  
 Passing two old huts the track reaches the lookout. From the lookout the view  
 embraces the North bank of the Markham River and vision is obtained from the North East  
 to the West. The large and small islands stretching as far as Naragoona can be  
 plainly seen. The lookout is well concealed.  
 150<sup>Yds</sup> East of the lookout is the main Bren position situated on the edge of the ridge  
 From here the track leads to the river where the canoe is beached. Track winds through  
 eight feet kunai, skirts a banana plantation , passes a small hut and enters timber.  
 The travelling time to this point is half an hour. After 15 minutes the track leads to  
 the river bank and skirts the jungle for a further 10 minutes.  
 From here can be seen the North bank but a bend in the river limits the view to the East.  
 Track leads back into jungle country and at only two further points before Sheldons is  
 reached , can a view be obtained of the river. At both points the vision is  
 practically the same as before mentioned.  
 After 1½ hours travelling from Kirklands the track crosses a small stream by means of  
 a log and a further 1½ hours from the point a track branches off the right which goes to OMB  
 Mari. Twenty minutes from the junction Sheldons is reached and a further 15 minutes  
 leads to a lookout constructed in a tall tree, access being by a rope and stick ladder.  
 The view from the lookout is unsatisfactory as only a limited area can be seen.  
 A better view is obtained some 20 minutes further on where the track terminates.  
 The Markham appears to be shallow in some parts and is dotted with small islands and  
 sand banks. It would appear three quarters of a mile wide. The current is swift and is  
 undermining the banks in many places. The greater portion of the Kirklands Sheldons track  
 is through jungle with occasional views of the river. The track is well covered and patrols  
 could not be detected.

TIME.

2 HOURS 15 MINUTES

Signed J.J.Henderson.  
 Cpl.

*Wrote up his report*

MARKHAM

Ref No D10

26

PATROL REPORT

Map: Enlargement HUON GULF 1 in to 1 mi  
Patrol Found By: 17 Pl D Coy 2/6 Aust Inf Bn  
Patrol Comd: Cpl HENDERSON J J  
Patrol Strength: 1 NCO, 1 Pte  
Time Out: 0900 hrs 27 Feb 43  
Time In: 1200 hrs 27 Feb 43  
Object: 1. To recce track KIRKLANDS - NARAGOOMA  
 2. To ascertain what observation can be obtained from the river  
 3. To ascertain if track offers covered approach for daily patrol

Route Out: KIRKLANDS - NARAGOOMA

Route In: NARAGOOMA - KIRKLANDS

NARR

Narrative:

Followed track leading in Westerly direction up stream along bank of MARKHAM RIVER.

From a pt a short distance from KIRKLANDS, where an old boat and shed is located, the last view of the opposite bank of the river is obtained until NARAGOOMA is reached - the reason being that a large island obscures the view, separated from the Southern shoreline by 20 or 30 ft of water.

Track passes an old hut and winds through timber and rises to a ridge about 15 ft high and winds through waist-high kunai.

From this ridge the BOBS\_KIRKLANDS track can be seen.

The track follows through the kunai for 150 yds and drops to the river flats, passing through two native gardens and tall kunai.

The track is very faint but can be picked up by travelling in a Westerly direction, yet has been seldom used.

45 mins from KIRKLANDS a well-worn track branches off in a Southerly direction which is thought to lead to a native hideout.

This will be investigated by a patrol.

A further 15 mins the track enters NARAGOOMA, which is a deserted native village.

Observation is NIL along the track because of island and timbered country.

Only at NARAGOOMA can a view be obtained of the river.

Track is rough and difficult to follow.

Patrol could NOT be detected as track offers a covered approach.

Time Out: KIRKLANDS..NARAGOOMA - 1 hr.

Time In: NARAGOOMA\_KIRKLANDS - 1 hr.

(Sgd) J J HENDERSON Cpl

(Sgd) W R DEXTER Capt

J.J.

MARKHAM

23/120

27

Ref No D9

PATROL REPORT

Ref Map: Sketch Map WAU\_SALAMAUA\_LAE area 2 mi to 1 in  
Enlargement HUON GULF 1 mi to 1 in

Patrol found by: 17 Pl D Coy 2/6 Aust Inf Bn

Patrol Comd: Cpl HENDERSON J J

Nature of Patrol: Recce

Patrol Strength: 1 NCO, 1 Pte

Time Out: 0730 hrs 26 Feb 43

Time In: 1830 hrs 26 Feb 43

- Object:
1. To recce river track KIRKLANDS\_SHELDONS.
  2. To ascertain what observation of the river can be obtained along the track and at SHELDONS.
  3. To ascertain whether the track offers a covered approach for daily patrols.

Route Out: KIRKLANDS\_SHELDONS by river bank.

Route In: Reverse to Route out.

Narrative:

Left camp area and followed track along narrow ridge in direction of gunpost.

Ridge runs parallel to MARKHAM RIVER and falls away to low swampy jungle on right.

Passing two old huts the track reaches the lookout.

From the lookout the view embraces the NORTH bank of the MARKHAM RIVER and vision is obtained from the NE to the WEST.

The large and small islands stretching as far as NARAGOOMA can be plainly seen.

The lookout is well-concealed.

150 degrees EAST of the lookout is the main Bren posn situated on the edge of the ridge.

From here the track leads to the river where the canoe is beached.

Track winds through 8 ft kunai, skirts a banana plantation, passes a small hut and enters timber.

The travelling time to this pt is 1/2 hr.

After 15 mins the track leads to the river bank and skirts the jungle for a further 10 mins.

From here can be seen the NORTH bank, but a bend in the river limits the view to the EAST.

Track leads back into jungle country and at only 2 further pts before SHELDONS is reached can a view be obtained of the river.

At both pts the vision is practically the same as before mentioned.

After 1 1/2 hrs travelling from KIRKLANES, the track crosses a small stream by means of a log and a further 1/2 hr from the pt a track branches off to the right which goes to OLD MARI.

2.

20 mins from junc SHELDONS is reached and a further 15 mins leads to a lookout constructed in a tall tree, access being by a rope and stick ladder.

The view from the lookout is unsatisfactory, as only a limited area can be seen.

A better view is obtained some 20 mins further on where the track terminates.

The MARKHAM appears to be shallow in some parts and is dotted with small islands and sand-banks.

It would appear  $\frac{3}{4}$  mi wide.

The current is swift and is undermining the banks in many places.

The greater portion of the KIRKLANDS\_SHELDONS track is through jungle with occasional views of the river.

The track is well covered and patrols would NOT be detected.

Time: 2 hrs 15 mins

(Sgd) J J HENDERSON Cpl

(Sgd) W R DEXTER Capt

Scale - 1 inch to 1 mile

1:63360



LEGEND

MT. ROAD	
TRACK	
RIVER	
VILLAGE	
AERODROME	
CAMP	
SWAMP	
TIMBER	
FORM LINE	
MISSION	
GRASSLAND	
SUSPENSION FOOT BRIDGE	
O.P.	

(L) R

3

4

5

2/6 Bn Int Sec

PATROL REPORT.

*Ref No D11*

REF MAP HUCH GULF SPECIAL  
 PATROL STRENGTH 18 PL. BOBS  
 PATROL STRENGTH 1 N.C.O. 1 O.R.  
 TIME OUT 0800 hrs *3 Mar 43*

SCALE 1 inch to 4 miles  
 PATROL COMD CPL McELGUNN J.T.  
 NATURE OF PATROL RECCE  
 TIME IN 1100 hrs *3 Mar 43*

OBJECT:

To recce track running South from foot bridge at WAMPIT on West side of WAMPIT RIVER to track junction (L)R 3139.

NARRATIVE

The patrol moved South from bridge through banana plantations and river flats for 40 mins then struck main TIMNE track at point where it crosses WAMPIT RIVER on the Northern bend. The track follows round the bank of the river.

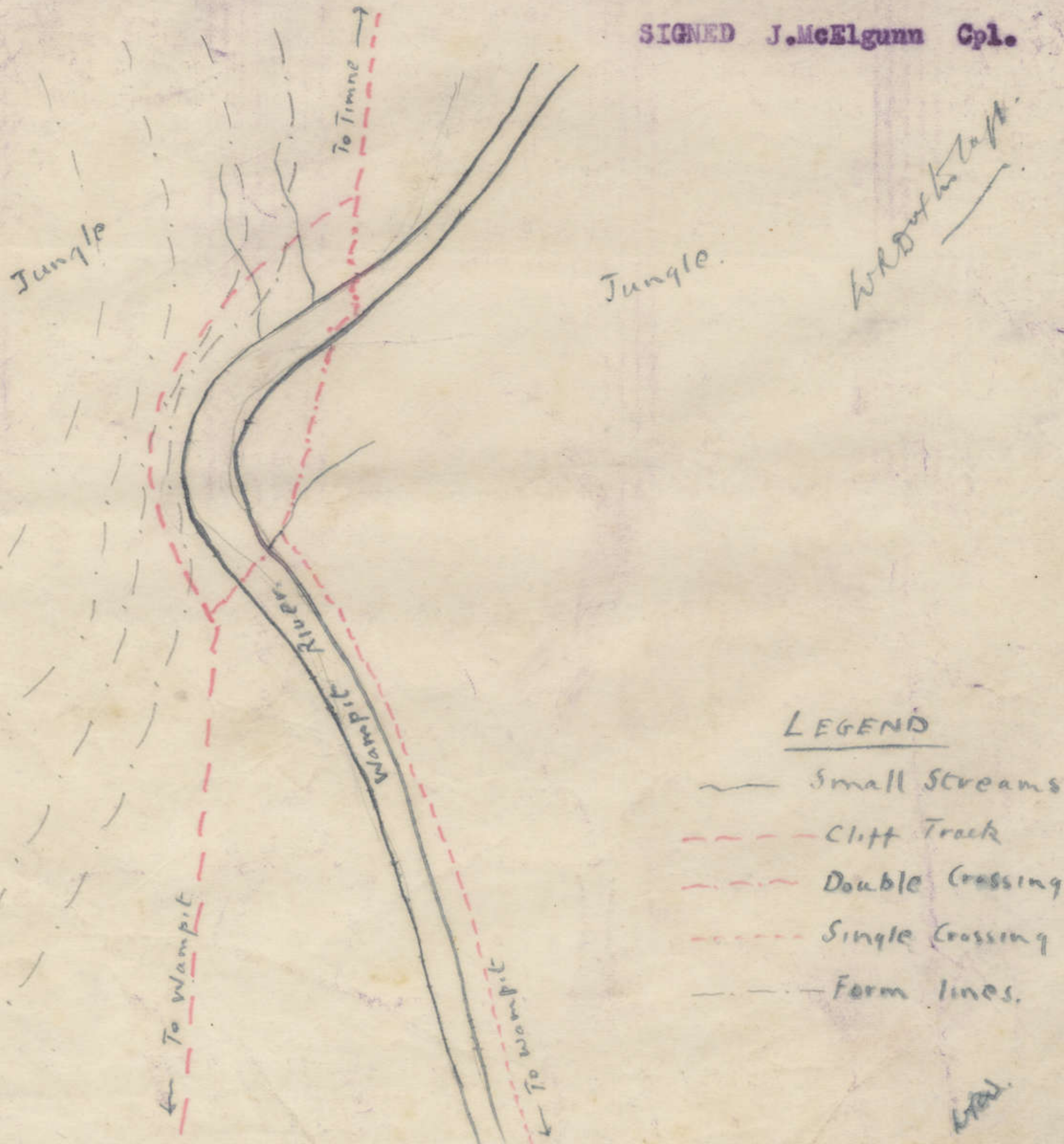
Track is good and much better than the one in use on East side of river. It is frequently used by Native L of C.

Sketch of the ~~as under~~ alternative WAMPIT RIVER tracks. *as under.*

The tracks are known as the :-

- a. THE CLIFF TRACK - used when WAMPIT is in heavy flood.
- b. THE DOUBLE CROSSING - used by Native L of C when not loaded with cargo
- c. THE SINGLE CROSSING - used by Native L of C when loaded with cargo.

SIGNED J. McElgunn Cpl.





PATROL REPORT.

REF No D 21

REF MAP HUON GULF SPECIAL 4 MILES to 1 INCH

PATROL FOUND BY 17 PL. BOBS

PATROL COMD A/CPL FISHER J.C.

TIME OUT 0745 HRS 1 MAR.43

TIME IN 1645 HRS 1 MAR.43

PATROL STRENGTH 1 N.C.O. 1 O.R.

NATURE OF PATROL RECCE

OBJECT OF PATROL RECCE OF TRACK LEADING FROM KIRKS TO SHELDONS LOOKOUT VIA OLD MARI.

ROUTE OUT TRACK LEADING EAST FROM KIRKS TO SHELDONS LOOKOUT VIA OLD MARI

ROUTE IN TRACK LEADING WEST FROM SHELDONS TO KIRKS.

NARRATIVE.

1 MAR.43.

Patrol left KIRKS at 0745 hrs 1 MAR.43 and proceeded in an easterly direction along the track to OLD MARI.

The track itself although fairly good was very muddy, and in places the going become hard owing to high kunai grass and pit-pit.

After travelling some 20 mins a canoe crossing is reached, and continuing on for approximately 2 hrs from there a track junction is reached. One track goes on to SHELDONS. The patrol took the right track and after travelling for 15 mins a creek is reached, which is known to flood with heavy rain and it then becomes difficult to pass and proceed to OLD MARI.

After travelling a further 25 mins the patrol reached the OLD MARI - SHELDONS track junction. Taking a turn to the right the patrol proceeded 30 mins down track and reached OLD MARI. THE TIME BEING 1130 hrs.

Made a quick recce of OLD MARI VILLAGE which consists of about 15 native huts - pigs seemed to be plentiful.

Left OLD MARI and proceeded in North Easterly direction on track to SHELDONS.

Approximately 10 mins along track from OLD MARI, track branches, right hand track leads to the SWAMPIT RIVER and MT NGARONENO and left hand track goes to SHELDONS. Patrol took left hand track and a further 20 minutes brought to a track junction, the track going to the left leads to KIRKS. Proceeding another 20 mins along track patrol crossed the creek again and arrived SHELDONS at 1230 hrs. Made a quick recce of SHELDONS. It consists about 25 huts widely scattered.

Fifty yards on the other side (North side) of creek is a track branching off to the left.

Half an hours march along this track is the junction which connects up with KIRKS - OLD MARI track.

Half an hour from the creek is the LOOKOUT in the middle of a banana plantation.

The LOOKOUT is the only place that good observation can be obtained across the MARKHAM RIVER, the only other place one can see across the MARKHAM RIVER is within half an hour of KIRKS were a view of the River can be obtained for a quarter of an hours walking.

Patrol observed across the River until 1530 hrs and saw no movement or signs of enemy.

At 1430 hrs patrol left the LOOKOUT for KIRKS and arrived there at 1645 hrs (Straight march)

MARCHING TIMES . FROM KIRKS TO SHELDONS VIA OLD MARI 2 3/4 hrs

" SHELDONS TO KIRKS 2 hrs.

REMARKS.

The track throughout the whole passes through kunai grass and pit-pit for approximately 3/4 of an hr and through jungle for approximately 2 hrs.

No bearings were taken as no compass was available.

SIGNED. J. C. Fisher A/Cpl.

SKETCH MAP OF TRACKS KIRKLANDS TO  
 OLD MARI AND SHELDONS LOOKOUT

SCALE 1. INCH = 1 MILE



LEGEND

MAIN TRACK	-----	BANANAS	▼ ▼
FAINT TRACK	.....	SWAMP	⋈ ⋈
CAMPS	■	GRASSLAND	■
VILLAGES	●	TIMBER	⋈ ⋈
RIVERS + STREAMS	~~~~~	LOOKOUT OFFICE	●
HUT	□	CEMETRY	+++

IN THE NAME OF THE  
 TO MR. HOWARD... 1882 TO 1883  
 I wish to report further that I sold this man  
 also enclosed.  
 of which see of 25-9. is enclosed in serial no. 21403

Registration for one copy of Bulwa. Fee of 5/-d. is included in Cheque No. 371409 also enclosed.

I wish to report further that I sold this weapon to Mr. Mowatt, and that Registration 4883 is current in my name to 4.3.40.

Warrant Officer 2.c.



MORRIS RIVER  
 MORRIS RIVER  
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1 INCH = 1 MILE  
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REF MAP 1. HUON GULF (SPECIAL)

4 MILES to 1 INCH

27/28 FEB. 43

2. SKETCH MAP ATTACHED

PATROL FOUND BY 17 PL. BCBS

PATROL COMD L/SGT HEDDERAISEN J.W.

PATROL STRENGTH 1 SGT 1 CPL 1 O.R.

NATURE OF PATROL RECCE

TIME OUT 0530 hrs 27 Feb. 43

TIME IN 2100 hrs 28 Feb. 43

OBJECT:

Observe "NADZAB DROME" and report on any movement or works in progress.

ROUTE OUT ~~3153 to 4157~~ As per sketch map *Ref Map 3153-4157 & as per sketch map attached.*

ROUTE IN As per sketch map

NARRATIVE:

Leaving Kirklands Dump the patrol followed the slightly timbered Kunai ridge down to the edge of the Markham. The track is fairly defined and rather slippery. A boat crew of four kanakas awaited us at this point and we embarked for the other side of the Markham. The Markham flows at various rates, at the time we crossed the rate was about 9 to 10 knots an hour and its flow causes a fair drift down the river before the opposite bank is reached. If the river was in flood a canoe would have difficulty in getting across. The time to cross going over was about half an hour. We landed between two streams of the Erap Delta, forded one stream and followed the northern bank up, through kunia and pit pit six to ten feet high very thick and surface very boggy. Followed the bank of the Erap River up for about three miles. Turned right in an easterly direction and struck through kunia towards strip of jungle. This stretch of kunia is about 4 miles across, and very difficult travelling and movement would be easily observed by any one watching from a tall tree near edge of jungle. On reaching the jungle we penetrated it for about 50 yards and then changed direction in a more south easterly direction. Moving through jungle for another mile approximately we struck more kunia which surrounds the Nadzab Drome. Moving through jungle was very heavy going, the undergrowth was very thick with a lot of vine known as wait a while. We found that while moving through the jungle it was hard to move soundlessly because of the frequent use of the bush knife for cutting way through. Direction while in jungle or kunia is hard to keep and we found that we had to climb several trees so as to avoid cutting through on to open spaces where we would be easily picked up. WE spent the night of 27 Feb in the jungle about 1 hour from the drome <sup>28 Feb 43</sup>. WE selected a suitable site on the North Easterly edge of the drome to observe from. The trees are not tall enough for good observation, as the country is flat and observation from trees in that area is not suitable. All we could see was the south easterly part of the drome. No movement was noticed on or about the drome, there are wooden tripods scattered on the drome. Have been informed that they were put there by the N.G.V.R. Saw scattered palms in the direction of Gabsonkek but couldnt see any huts and could also pick out area of the Gabmutzung Mission. Watched these areas from 0800 hours on the 28 Feb till 1400 hours on the 28 Feb and failed to see any movement. ~~Left the observation post.~~ Left the observation post at 1400 hours 28 Feb and moved through swamp in jungle in westerly direction till reaching Kunai then changed direction slightly to south westerly direction and moved through kunia striking several swamps covered with pit pit. Reached the junction of one stream of the Delta of the Erap and Markham river. Most of this journey was very difficult going. the Erap forms a delta and there are as many as 4 streams to cross which are very hard to cross owing to the rate of flow and depth. It is 5 feet deep at one point of crossing and it would not be possible to cross if in flood. Reached a point opposite Kirklands dump and fired arranged signal of shots for personal stopping at Kirklands to send the boat crew across to pick us up. After firing signal the wait is about half an hour and the return crossing takes three quarters of an hour. The same crew of four that took us over brought us back. In reference to previous reports by natives of Japs being able to see ridge leading down to Kirklands

WRA

(Continued)

We climbed a rather small tree at the farthest point we reached on the Trap river and could see the ridge quite plainly. It would be possible to observe any movement along the track above Kirklands. Also this ridge can be seen from the tree we used to observe the drome. From tall coconut trees around the Gabmatzung Mission it would be possible to see the Kirklands area, but not the camp itself.

During the patrol no signs of the enemy nor any enemy movement was seen. We had no casualties.

TRAVELLING TIME

DISEMBARKATION POINT TO O.P.  
O.P. TO EMBARKATION POINT

10 HOURS  
6 HOURS.

*Went on the left.*

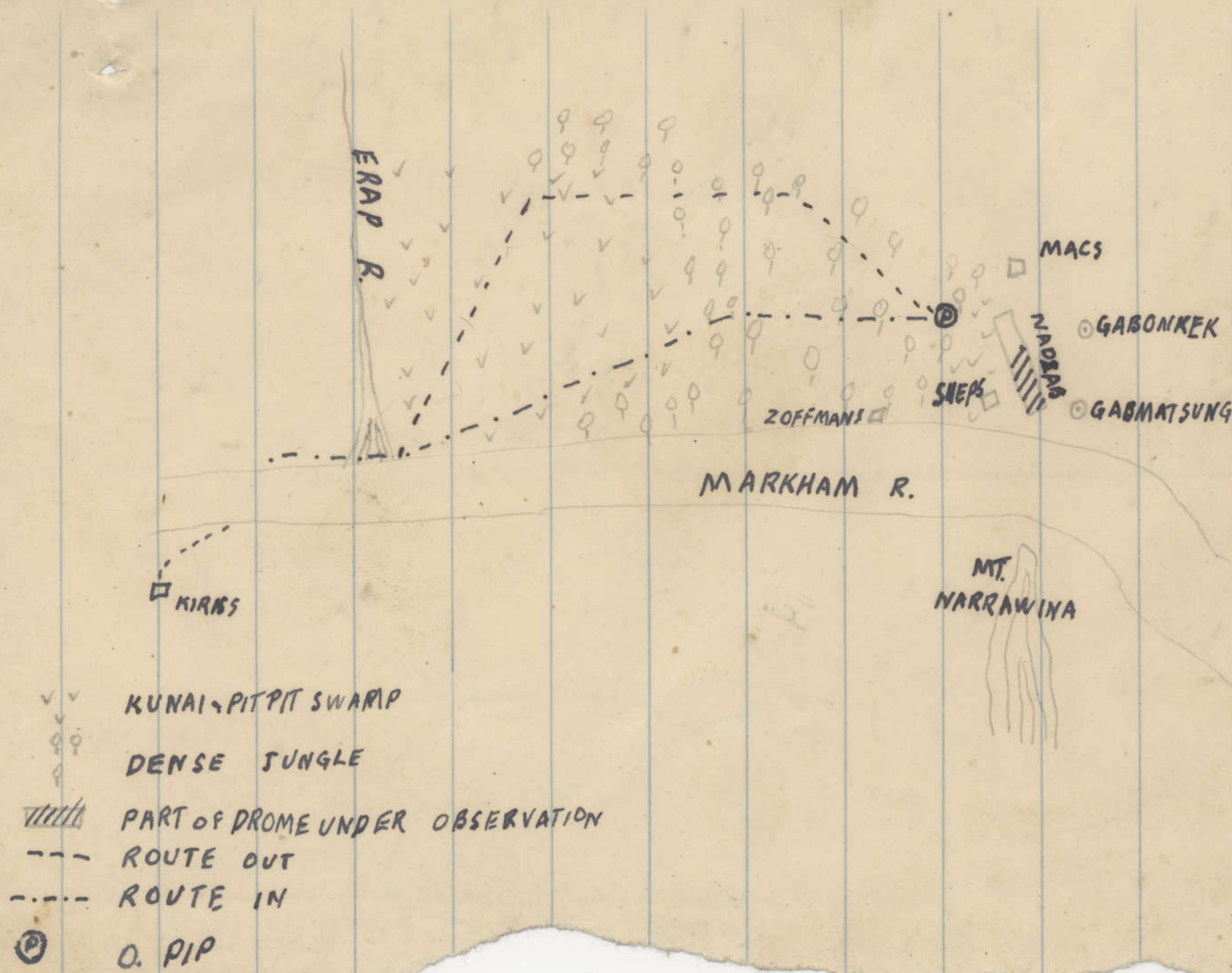
Signed J. W. Hedderman

L/SGT.

RATROL ROUTE - 27/2/43 - 28/2/43

PERSONNEL

L/Sgt. HEDDEMAN  
Cpl LEE (Guide)  
Pte WHITE



RECC66PATROL.

Ref No D1

REP MAP HUON GULF SPECIAL 4 inches to 1 mile

25 Feb. 43

Patrol found by GAMA

Lieut Symmons T.R. i/c

Patrol strength 1 Offr 2 O.R.s ( 1 Int. man).

Time out 0840 hrs 22 Feb.43 Time in 1100 hrs 25 Feb. 43.

OBJECT.

1. To recce track to Kirklands and Sheldons and find out all information from men of 5 Ind Coy stationed there.
2. To find concealed track up NGARONENO and if possible establish O.P. there

ROUTE.

From WAMPIT (L) R 3242 to BOBS CAMP (L)R 3245 . BOBS CAMP to KIRKLANDS (L)R3152 and returned to BOBS CAMP. BOBS CAMP to NGARONENO (L) 4155 return to WAMPIT via BOBS CAMP.

NARRATIVE.

Pte Aulton H.W. and Burge left WAMPIT 0840 hrs 22 Feb.43 and proceeded to BOBS CAMP where Lieut SYMMONS took of patrol at 1045 hrs.

Patrol left BOBS CAMP at 1100 hrs and arrived at KIRKLANDS AT 1300 hrs.

Track from WAMPIT to BOS CAMP -6- Time 2 hrs . Track leaves WAMPIT and crosses at WAMPIT RIVER by suspension foot bridge at approx. pt (L)R3241 keeping to level country all the way. For first hour the track is lined on both sides by thick under-growth . At end of hour track follows around base of thickly timbered hill, which rises steeply to East 15 minutes.

On right of track is dense sago swamp .Track then again comes into flat heavily timbered country for another 15 mins then passes trough DARGAN a large deserted village situated at the foot of a kunia hill at pt (L)R3244 . 5 mins past DARGAN ~~XX~~ track turns left up dry water course arriving BOBS CAMP a few mins later.

Track BOBS CAMP to KIRKLANDS - time 2 hrs - good track.

For first 15 mins track skirts a timbered and kunia hill then emerges into and follows through a banana plantat ion for a prox. 1 hr . Thirty minutes from BOBS CAMP track to SHELDONS branches off to right . A further 50 mins from track junc. (L)R3550 passes through NEW MARG (L)R3251, BANKORA (L)R 3248 is situated on opposite side of WAMPIT river to that shown on map 10 mins past NEW MARI TRACK leaves cover of timber and climbs over a grssy hill until KIRKLANDS is reached 40 mins later. Track leaves timberso as to skirt swampy country between KIRKLANDS and SHELDONS

W.R.D.

(2)

*Approach No. 1*

The last 40 mins walk is over kunia ghill and any movement around camp area could easily be observed from across the MARKHAM RIVER. Country across the MARKHAM is very low-lying and covered with vast stretches of kunia and clumps of timber. North of the MARKHAM KNOWN TRACKS FOLLOW MARKHAM RIVER to LAE and along left bank of ERAP up to native village in hills.

Another track leaves KIRKLANDS AND FOLLOWS ALONG South bank of MARKHAM to SHELDONS )- time 1½ hrs.

Gun posn at KIRKLANDS manned by 2 men by day, is situated on narrow strip of high ground 600 yds downstream. A good view can be had both up and down stream.

The river at this pt is 900 yds wide with a low flat grassy island mid stream.

Track ~~from~~ SHELDONS passes the posn. Swamp at rear would make any movement from that direction very difficult.

Sgt GRAHAM of ANGAU has cleared all natives out of NEW MARI leaving only a few of his own picked boys who would inform him or the post at KIRKLANDS of any enemy movement in area.

Patrol left KIRKLANDS 1600 hrs arriving at BOBS CAMP 1800 hrs sleeping there the night.

23 Feb. 43. - Patrol left BOBS 1000 hrs and arrived OLD MARI 1200 hrs.

From track junc. (L)R3350 to OLD MARI track is only 63. For first hr track passes through thick under-growth and patches of thick kunia. Track is very muddy and in places is entirely under water. For last ½ hrs track crosses over open kunai country, still very muddy. After rain track would be in much worse condition.

OLD MARI is situated just off kunai country, in shelter of timber.

SHELDONS is a further 30 mins walk from OLD MARI, over a slightly muddy track.

Track to KIRKLANDS branches off this track 10 mins from OLD MARI. FROM a lookout in a tree near ~~KIRKLANDS~~ SHELDONS it is possible to see location of NABZAD drome only, on a bearing of 22 degrees (M). It is also possible to see upstream towards KIRKLANDS - but view downstream is very limited.

24 Feb. 43. Patrol on recce of Mt. NGARONENO.

Track to NGARONENO leaves the track to SHELDONS 7 mins from OLD MARI. From the turn-off it is 30 mins walk to a log crossing across the WAMPIT RIVER and then another 20 mins walk to the foot of the mountain.

NGARONENO is NOT suitable for an O.P. It is 1-2 hrs climb to the top and all approaches could be observed in places from across the river, and quite easily from the air. The whole of the mountain is covered kunai only, and any O.P. would be exposed to terrific heat. Any shelter built would stand out very plainly.

At end of 1 hrs climb, patrol had a view of NABZAD drome, but could have been observed from drome itself. *Estimated height of MT NGARONENO 1200' - 1500'*

Through field glasses the Drome appears to be littered with three legged wooden obstacles.

25 Feb. 43. Patrol returned to WAMPIT.

Signed.

*Eolin Burgess*

*WR Wright Capt*



RECCE PATROL

Ref Map HUON GULF (SPECIAL) 4 mi to 1 inch.

Patrol found by D Coy 2/6 Aust Inf Bn - Lieut TR SYMMONS i/c

Strength: 1 Offr 2 ORs (1 Int man).

Time Out: 0840 hrs 22 Feb 43

Time In: 1100 hrs 25 Feb 43

Object: To recce track to KIRKLANDS and SHELDONS and obtain all infm from men of 2/5 Aust Ind Coy stationed there.

To find concealed track up NGARONENA and if possible est OP there

Route: From WAMPIT (L)R 3242 to BOBS camp (L)R 3245. BOBS camp to KIRKLANDS (L)R 3152 and returned to BOBS camp.  
BOBS camp to NGARONENA (L)R 4155 returned to WAMPIT via BOBS camp.

Narrative:

Ptes AULTON and BURGE left WAMPIT 0840 hrs 22 Feb 43 and proceeded to BOBS camp where Lieut SYMMONS took comd of patrol at 1045 hrs.

Patrol left BOBS camp at 1100 hrs and arrived KIRKLANDS 1300 hrs.

Track from WAMPIT to BOBS camp

Time - 2 hrs. Track leaves WAMPIT RIVER by suspension foot br at approx pt (L)R 3241 keeping to level country all the way.

For first hr track is lined on both sides by thick undergrowth.

At end of hr track follows around base of thickly timbered hill, which rises steeply to left for 15 mins.

On right of track is dense sago swamp.

Track then again comes in to flat by timbered country for another 15 mins, then passes through DARGAN.

A large deserted village situated at the foot of a kunai hill at pt (L)R 3244.

5 mins past DARGAN track turns left up dry watercourse arriving BOBS camp a few minutes later.

Track from BOBS CAMP to KIRKLANDS.

Time - 2 hrs.

Good track.

For first 15 mins track skirts timbered and kunai hill, then emerges into and follows a banana plantation through for approx 1 hr.

30 mins from BOBS camp, track to SHELDONS branches off to right.

A further 30 mins from track junc (L)R3550 passes through NEW MARI (L)R 2251; LANKORA (L)R3248 is situated on opposite side of WAMPIT RIVER to that shown on map.

Ten mins past NEW MARI, track leaves cover of timber and climbs over grassy hills until KIRKLANDS is reached 40 mins later.

Track leaves timber so as to skirt swampy country between KIRKLANDS and SHELDONS.

The last 40 mins walk is over kunai hill and any approach

to or movt around camp area could easily be observed from across MARKHAM RIVER.

Country across MARKHAM is very low lying and covered with vast stretches of kumai and clumps of timber.

NORTH of the MARKHAM, known tracks follow the MARKHAM RIVER to LAE and along left bank of ERAP up to native village in hills.

Another track leaves KIRKLANDS and follows along SOUTH bank of MARKHAM to SHELDONS. Time 1½ hrs.

Gun posn at KIRKLANDS manned by 2 men by day is situated on narrow strip of high ground 600 yds down stream.

A good view can be had both up and down stream.

River at this pt is 900 yds wide with a low flat grassy island in mid stream.

Track to SHELDONS passes the posn.

Swamp at rear would make any movt from that direction very difficult.

Sgt GRAHAM of ANGAU has cleared all natives out of NEW MARI, leaving only a few of his own picked boys who will inform him or the post at KIRKLANDS of any enemy movt in area.

Patrol left KIRKLANDS 1600 hrs, arriving at BOBS camp 1900 hrs and sleeping there the night.

#### 23 Feb 43

Patrol left BOBS 1000 hrs and arrived OLD MARI 1200 hrs.

From track junc (L)R3350 to OLD MARI track is only 03.

For first hr track passes through thick undergrowth and patches of thick kumai.

Track is very muddy and, in places, is entirely under water.

The last ½ hrs track crosses open kumai country - still very muddy.

After rain track would be in much worse condition.

OLD MARI is situated just off kumai country country.

SHELDONS is a further 30 mins walk from OLD MARI over a slightly muddy track.

Track to KIRKLANDS branches off this track 10 mins from OLD MARI.

From a lookout in a tree near SHELDONS it is possible to see location of NAZDAB drome only on a bearing of 22 degrees (M).

It is also possible to see upstream towards KIRKLANDS but view downstream is limited.

#### 24 Feb 43

Patrol on recce of MOUNT NGARONENO.

Track to NGARONENO leaves track to SHELDONS 7 mins from OLD MARI.

From this turnoff it is 40 mins walk to a log crossing the WAMPIT RIVER and then another 20 mins walk to the foot of the mountain.

NGARONENO is NOT suitable for an OP.

It is 1 to 2 hrs climb to the top and all approaches could be observed in places from across the river and

3.

quite easily from the air.

The whole of the mountain is covered by kunai only and any OP would be exposed to terrific heat.

Any shelter built would stand out very plainly.

At end of 1 hrs climb, patrol had a view of NADZAB drome but could have been observed from the drome itself.

Est height of MOUNT NGARONENO - 1200 to 1500 ft.

Through fd glasses the drome appears to be littered with 3-legged wooden obstacles.

25 Feb 43 Patrol returned to WAMPIT

(Sgd) C BURGE Pte

(Sgd) W R DEXTER Capt

PATROL REPORT

Ref Map: HUON GULF (SPECIAL) 4 mi to 1 inch

Patrol Found By: 18 Pl, 2/6 Aust Inf Bn.

Patrol Strength: 1 NCO, 1 Pte.

Patrol Comd: A/Cpl KURTZ G H A.

Nature of Patrol: Recce.

Time Out: 0845 hrs      Time In: 1700 hrs

Object: To recce track from WAMPIT to BEN and observe any tracks leading off the main track.

Route Out: From WAMPIT to BEN direct.

Route In: From BEN to WAMPIT.

Narrative:

Leaving WAMPIT the track winds across the drome and travels through tall kunai for 20 mins, to the GARAGOS RIVER - 40 ft wide and 6 to 8 ft deep - which is subject to sudden flooding.

The river is crossed by means of a timber br under construction.

Two unused huts are on the WAMPIT side of the river.

Leaving the GARAGOS RIVER the track winds through heavily timbered country for 20 mins, when the GARAGOS is re-crossed - 40 ft wide and 6 to 8 ft deep - by a tree trunk felled across the stream.

From this pt the track has a firm surface for a further 15 mins and then travels for 40 mins over logs laid lengthwise.

The surface is very wet and muddy and the track is hemmed in by thick jungle.

For the next 15 mins track has a firm surface and comes to 6 unused palm leaf huts in a small clearing on the bank of a creek.

These huts are known as 'the half way huts'.

From the huts the surface is hard for 10 mins and then crosses tree trunk and muddy ground for 30 mins and emerges on to a firm surface for 15 mins when BEN is reached.

The greater portion of the track is covered by thick timber and the going is fairly hard. The logs made the trip very tiring.

20 mins before reaching BEN a track branches off to the right which is said to go to TIMME WATERS. This is being reced.

Time WAMPIT to BEN - 2 hrs 30 mins; time BEN to WAMPIT - 2 hrs 30 mins.

Today a soldier suffering from blackwater fever (a member of 2/5 Ind Coy) was carried from BEN to WAMPIT by eight natives. They worked in relays and took about 6 hrs to

2.

do the journey.

The natives were all in when they arrived at WAMPIT.

(Sgd) G H A KURTZ A/cpl

(Sgd) W R DEXTER Capt

# Erwachsene

MARKHAM

RD/382  
1  
copy

Ob Verheiratet	Zeit der Taufe	Ort der Taufe	Täufer	Bemerkungen
				BOBS. 25/Jan/43.
<u>REPORT ON RECCE. PATROL TO NGASAWAPUM 19th - 21st JANUARY, 1943.</u>				
<b>PERSONNEL:</b>	Sgt. Chaffey Pte. Hames Spr. Goldsworthy Sgt. Fels	2/5th Independent Coy " " " " " " 2/6th Infantry Battalion.		
The patrol was accompanied as far as Gabsonkek by C.M. Jacobsen, a peace time planter from Lae and now attached to the U.S. Air Force, who was over on a special mission for the Air Force.				
<b>OBJECTS:</b>	The patrol was intended to cover the area on north side of Markham River at least as far as Munun to ascertain the extent, if any, of Jap activity west of Heaths and to contact the natives to obtain information from them.			
<b>INSTRUCTIONS TO OUR PATROLS:</b>	It is pointed out to all members of patrols leaving Markham HQ that their main object is to ascertain if there is any evidence indicating that the Japs are moving their positions further west from Heath or increasing their activity in any way. All enemy patrols in the past have been in much too great a strength to be attacked by our patrols and consequently clashes must be avoided where possible. Members of patrols carry weapons purely for their own protection in the event of being surprised and it always understood that it is a case of every man for himself to act on his own initiative.			
<b>ROUTE:</b>	(Note: All times are L time). The patrol departed Bobs 19th Jan. 43. and proceeded to Macs Camp via Kirklands. On 20th Jan. 43. the Gabsonkek natives were contacted in their hideouts after which the patrol continued on the back track from Gabsonkek to Ngasawapum and then into the Ngasawapum hideouts where the Jap force was met. Sgts. Chaffey and Fels and Spr. Goldsworthy made onto the Ngasawapum - Didi track and returned via Didi to Macs Camp which was reached at 0100 hrs on 21st Jan. 43. 3 natives accompanying the patrol as carriers and travelling about 30 yards behind the patrol dropped their cargo when the fighting broke out and scattered immediately. 2 boys on their first trip over the river returned to Macs Camp which they reached at 2030 hrs on 20th Jan. and informed Jacobsen that the patrol had struck trouble at Ngasawapum. The remaining native made for Emerys Camp behind Munun where he spent the night expecting that possibly some members of our patrol may have turned up there. The following morning he returned through Macs Camp without contacting any natives or Japs, to the Markham river where he spent the night of 21st Jan. and crossed to Kirklands the following morning. From the point where the Japs were contacted Hames was last seen making in the direction of Ngasawapum village - see map attached. All personnel with the exception of Hames and missing native left Macs Camp at 0600 hrs on 21st Jan. and returned to Bobs via Kirklands.			
<b>NATIVES:</b>	The Gabsonkek natives, as on previous occasions, were very friendly but the only information they could give of Jap activity was that they continued to come out as far as Yalu as in the past. They keep very much to themselves and dont contact the natives down towards Lae very often. We were given no indication that the Ngasawapum natives had become antagonistic towards us and very much pro-Japanese in their outlook.			



# Erwachsene

Ob Verheiratet	Zeit der Taufe	Ort der Taufe	Täufer	Bemerkungen
		2.		
NATIVES cont.:				
<p>The Ngasawapum natives were found to be back in their original hideouts which are north east of their village and had been vacated for approximately six weeks following the Jap raid on Emerys Camp behind Munun on 25th October, '42. Our recon patrol of 15 - 19th December, 1942, visited this area and the natives on this occasion were very friendly and this particular patrol gave a large number of injections to these natives. On this occasion however these natives would not talk to the patrol and did a considerable amount of shouting to one another round about and subsequent happenings force the patrol to report that these natives have become pro-Japanese in their outlook and are prepared to actively assist the enemy. We are convinced that they informed the Japs of our presence and in addition to this they chased our own natives and endeavoured to stop them when making their escape.</p> <p>The disinclination of these natives to talk to members of the patrol was not taken as evidence of Jap presence although the patrol was on the alert at all times. There has always been a fear in the minds of natives on the north side of the river that our patrolling in their villages and hideouts would compromise them and bring reprisals from the Japs. After the shooting of Sgt. Emery the Luluai and Tul Tul of Munun were beaten by the Japs. Also the Tul Tul of Ngasawapum was beaten in addition to which a Ngasawapum boy, Apin, was taken back to Lae and calaboosed. At different times natives have been met who declined to give their names for fear that the news would go back to the Japs that these particular individuals helped us.</p> <p>There is always the possibility of there being native spies in these villages such as Yalu and Butibum natives visiting them who would carry the talk back to Lae. Consequently their behaviour was not sufficient to make the patrol suspect the presence of Japs.</p> <p>Various explanations for the Ngasawapum's 'change of face' are possible:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The fact of the Japs being on the spot in large force may have decided them to support the enemy.</li> <li>2. Possibly the Japs have influenced Apin as to their superiority over the English, which after all has been demonstrated continuously in this area and he has been brought back to his village to organise them into working for the Japs.</li> <li>3. The loss of Sgt. Emerys influence, who was the last of the Lae civilians in the area may have lost us our last hold on these natives.</li> </ol> <p>The sympathy of the natives has always been forthcoming to the N.G.V.R men since to the native mind the Japs have come in and taken their property.</p> <p>The soldiers, who after <sup>all</sup> do not understand natives, may be regarded just as much as invaders as the Japs with the result that the natives lean to the strongest side.</p> <p>Our prestige has suffered considerably as a result of our inability to show any strength against the Japs and all the talk of 'behind' which has been dished out by us must become a standing joke to the natives when every time the Japs come on the scene we have to drop everything and run for the bush.</p> <p>Their response to reality is quite understandable.</p> <p>No other natives were contacted apart from Babsonkeks and Ngasawapums.</p>				



# Erwachsene

Ob Verheiratet	Zeit der Taufe	Ort der Taufe	Täufer	Bemerkungen
			5.	<p><b>CONTACT WITH ENEMY:</b></p> <p>After leaving natives contacted in the first two groups of houses it was intended to visit the Tul Tul of Ngasawapum at his house - see map attached.</p> <p>The track continued through thick bush for about 200 yds and continued on through a garden which was separated from another garden by a strip of timber approximately 8 ft. wide.</p> <p>When within approximately 15 yds of the timber 2 Japs were observed through the gap in the timber moving into position behind banana trees in the second garden.</p> <p>The patrol halted and immediately opened fire with TSMG. At the same time the Japs opened fire from the timber along which they appeared to be spread for a distance of approximately 10 yds either side of track.</p> <p>It is estimated that 8 weapons were firing from the ambush but it is not considered that this represents the total Jap strength. Our fire forced the Japs to cover for the fractionary period necessary to enable us to break and run. We were caught in the open and are forced to no other conclusion than that the Japs are rotten shots. Up to this stage Goldsworthy was the only casualty. He was struck a glancing shot on the back of head which opened scalp but he was able to travel and it was only in the latter stages of the journey back to Macs Camp that he felt the strain due to loss of blood.</p> <p>Had it not been for the 2 Japs shifting their positions and disclosing their presence we would have walked right into them. Hames was last seen making in the direction indicated on map while other three men went back the way they came for a short distance <del>and</del> enabling them to rejoin although separated during the engagement. This party broke bush for a short distance, went passed houses previously visited and on to a track which links up with the Ngasawapum - Didi track.</p> <p>Just as the houses were passed a long burst of firing was heard about 300 - 400 yds south in the area shown on map and it is thought that Hames was cut off by a party of Japs coming in on a side track. Travelling via Didi the party reached Macs Camp at 0100 hrs on 21st Jan., first contacting Gabsonkek natives in their hideouts but not passing through Gabsonkek village, as it was thought that the Jap patrol might come to the Mission and Gabsonkek.</p> <p>The Gabsonkek natives had first of all heard of the fighting from the 2 native carriers who arrived back at Macs Camp earlier in the night.</p> <p>All personnel departed Macs Camp 0600 hrs in case Japs came to Mission and Gabsonkek area and located our whereabouts.</p> <p>No useful purpose could have been served in remaining at Macs as regards Hames because if he was safe, there were numerous ways in which he might return and all tracks could not be watched. If he reached Macs he would be safe and if the Japs came to Gabsonkek with native guides our presence would only compromise the Gabsonkek natives.</p> <p>We told these natives what had happened and to look out for Hames who did not know the area and who may have been lost in the bush. If they found him to take him to Kirklands for which they would be well paid.</p> <p>The missing Sepik native, Alangavi M3428, returned to Kirklands the following morning but could give us no information re Hames.</p> <p><b>ENEMY STRENGTH:</b></p> <p>There is nothing to indicate the strength of Japanese patrol except that at least 8 automatic weapons opened fire on our patrol and the Gabsonkek natives reported that 'plenti pella' came up to the Mission and Gabsonkek. It is pointed out that the last Jap patrol that visited Narakapor early in December numbered 15.</p>

# Erwachsenene

Ob Verheiratet	Zeit der Taufe	Ort der Taufe	Täufer	Bemerkungen
		4.		<p><b>SEPIK NATIVE , 'ALANGAVI' M3428:</b>            This native has accompanied practically every patrol on north side of river and his example to other native labourers and knowledge of the area has been of great service to our patrols, and his work is deserving of recognition. Natives who accompany our patrols receive no extra remuneration for the risks they run and it is recommended that this native be given some token of appreciation for his work and as an example to others to do likewise. It is also recommended that natives accompanying patrols be given extra pay more in keeping with the services rendered.</p> <p><b>FURTHER PATROL TO GABSONKEK :</b>            On 23rd January Cpl Lega, N.G.V.R., and Cpl Becket, 2/5th Ind. Coy. contacted ex-FB Yaem and one other native at Gabsonkek who informed them that Hames had been killed by a burst of machine gun fire in the back and buried at Ngasawapum by natives under Jap instructions This probably accounts for the second burst of firing heard by remaining members of patrol.            They were also informed that the Japs came on to Gabsonkek and the Mission the same night and stayed in the vicinity until daylight, then returning towards Lae. The Japs shot a horse near the Mission about 2200 hrs on 21st Jan. This shooting was not heard by Jacobsen or natives at Macs Camp but was heard by native Alangavi who reported it as coming from the direction of Ngasawapum when he was at Emerys camp.            No evidence of Japs having been in Gabsonkek village was found but heavy rain on nights of 21st and 22nd January may have extinguished any footprints.</p> <p><b>CASUALTIES:</b>            WX17445 Pte. Hames N.W. -- believed killed in action.            SX11480 Spr. Goldsworthy E.R. - wounded in action.            It is considered that Pte Hames was killed by a party of Japanese which cut him off when escaping from the ambush in Ngasawapum gardens. This conclusion is based on native information that he was killed by being shot in the back and buried by the Japs at Ngasawapum. This is borne out by the burst of firing heard in the direction taken by Hames and the layout of the area - see map.            Spr Goldsworthy received a gunshot wound in the scalp from which he lost a lot of blood. He was attended to by the medical officer, Capt. Stout, on his return to Eobs 24 hours after receiving the wound. It was found that the skull was not fractured and his condition is satisfactory.</p> <p><b>FUTURE OPERATIONS:</b>            With the Ngasawapums actively pro- Jap it is recommended that future patrols be stronger and in sufficient strength to withstand a clash with the enemy whose activities on the north side of the Mz Markham can be expected to increase following the recent landing at Lae and the possibility of a move towards the Bulolo valley. The attitude of the Munun natives is not yet known and an endeavour will be made to contact them through Gabensis.            It is strongly recommended that the Air Force be requested to carry out a low level recce of area north of Markham. Requests for aerial photographs of the area have been repeatedly asked for but to date none have been received.            If the Japanese intend to establish themselves further out than at present we should have these photographs to indicate targets for the Air Force's future operations.            West of Yalu we have not the advantage of any high ground from which to observe enemy activity and even without having pro-Jap natives to cope with it is not possible to effectively recce this area without assistance asked for from the Air Force!</p>

*W.A. Chaffey lat.*

# Taufregister

Ungefähres Alter

Wohnort

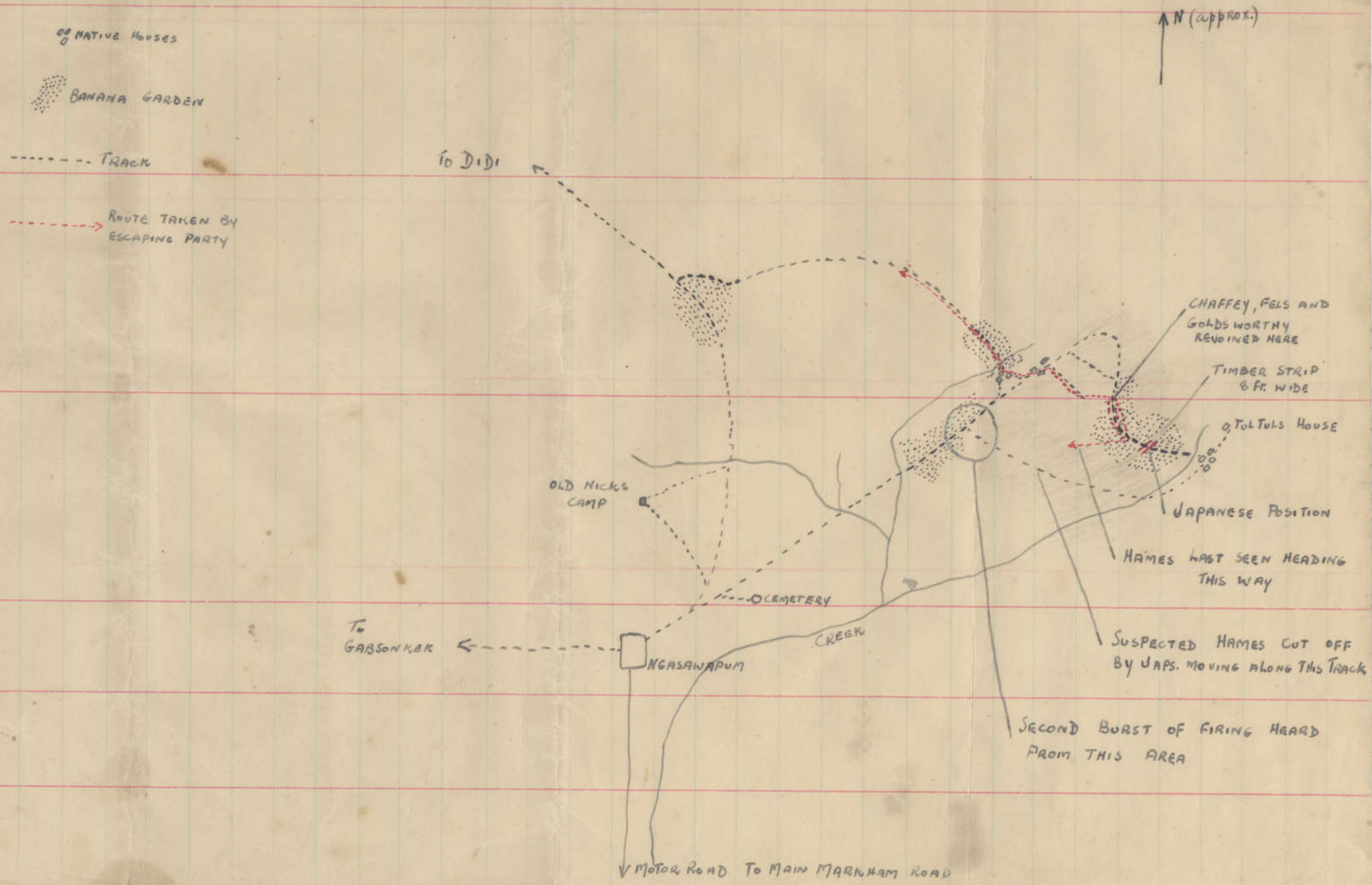
Christlicher Name

Heidnischer Name

Geschlecht

Nummer des Jahres

Laufende Nummer



SUNSHINE RANGE  
PATROL FILE 41

7:50  
17/4/43

RECCE REPORT

TRACK : BULOLO-MANKI

<u>Patrol Comd:</u>	A/Cpl BRADSWORTH R S	<u>Ref Map:</u>	Sketch Map
<u>Patrol Strength:</u>	1 NCO, 3 ORs (Int Sec)		att
<u>Time Out:</u>	0800 hrs 16 Apr 43		
<u>Time In:</u>	1600 hrs 16 Apr 43		

PART I

Object: To recce track BULOLO-MANKI and determine whether any alternative track exists from MANKI-BULOLO.

Conclusion: There are NO alternative tracks between MANKI and BULOLO.

PART II

Narrative:

Patrol left HQ 2/6 AUST INF BN at 0800 hrs 16 Apr 43 and for 18 mins proceeded through dense bushes, which fringed a two-wheeled track; then crossed small stream spanned by wooded br.

The br is capable of carrying 30 cwt vehs.

From here patrol continued to a pt 9 mins further, from which a pad led off at 145 degrees.

This pad had NOT been used for a considerable period.

The two-wheeled track terminated at this pt, where the ground commenced to rise gradually.

After a further 18 mins, through an open grass patch, patrol entered by timber.

After travelling through timber for 1 hr 23 mins, patrol observed a track leading off at 60 degrees.

This appeared to be unused.

During the next 43 mins patrol crossed 4 small cks, all of which were bridged by logs.

Track then emerged from timber into open kunai grass which, after a further 15 mins, led into MANKI village.

Patrol left MANKI village at 1310 hrs and returned to HQ 2/6 AUST INF BN at 1600 hrs.

Remarks:

Track BULOLO-MANKI is very steep and, in parts, the gradient is approx 1 in 5.

Track is also very muddy, which increased travelling time.

It is the opinion of the patrol that movt of, e.g., a coy, would be very difficult as track from pt where ground commences to rise is very narrow and innumerable logs have fallen across track which, in two places, is difficult to negotiate.

All cks en route provided excellent drinking water.

The use of track by enemy tps is unlikely for it is vulnerable to ambush.

It would, however, be possible for small patrols to penetrate to BULOLO.

Although MANKI is situated on the crest of the WATUT RANGE, it is NOT suitable for the purpose of est an OP as the only pts visible are BULOLO-WATUT valley WEST of SUNSHINE and kunai spurs in vicinity BLACK CAT track.

After a thorough recce and questioning of natives it was ascertained that an alternative track MANKI-BULOLO did NOT exist.

A track was found from MANKI which led to WATUT RIVER but, owing to

2.

hy timber, it was NOT possible to observe RIVER.

Food, such as bananas, tomatoes, cucumbers, kow-kow and sugar cane is available from native garden at MANKI, but NOT in quantities sufficient for a large body of tps.

The dispersal of tps whilst on the move along BULOLO-MANKI track would be extremely difficult owing to hy timber.

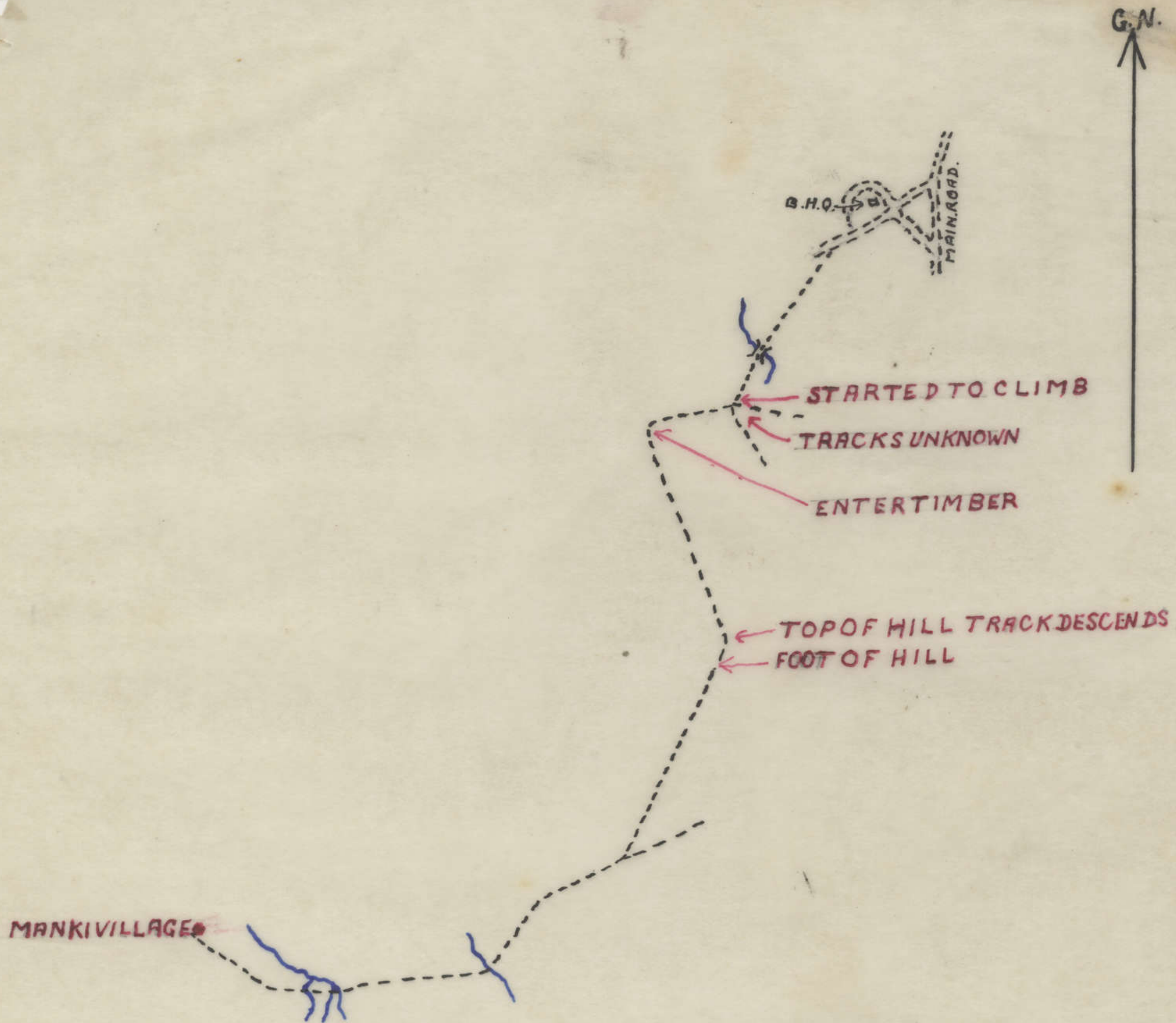
Tp mvt off the track would NOT be possible.

*Bradsworth* . A/Cpl

Int Sec 2/6 Aust Inf Bn

SKETCH SHOWING

TRACK FROM 2/6 BN HQ TO MANKI VILLAGE

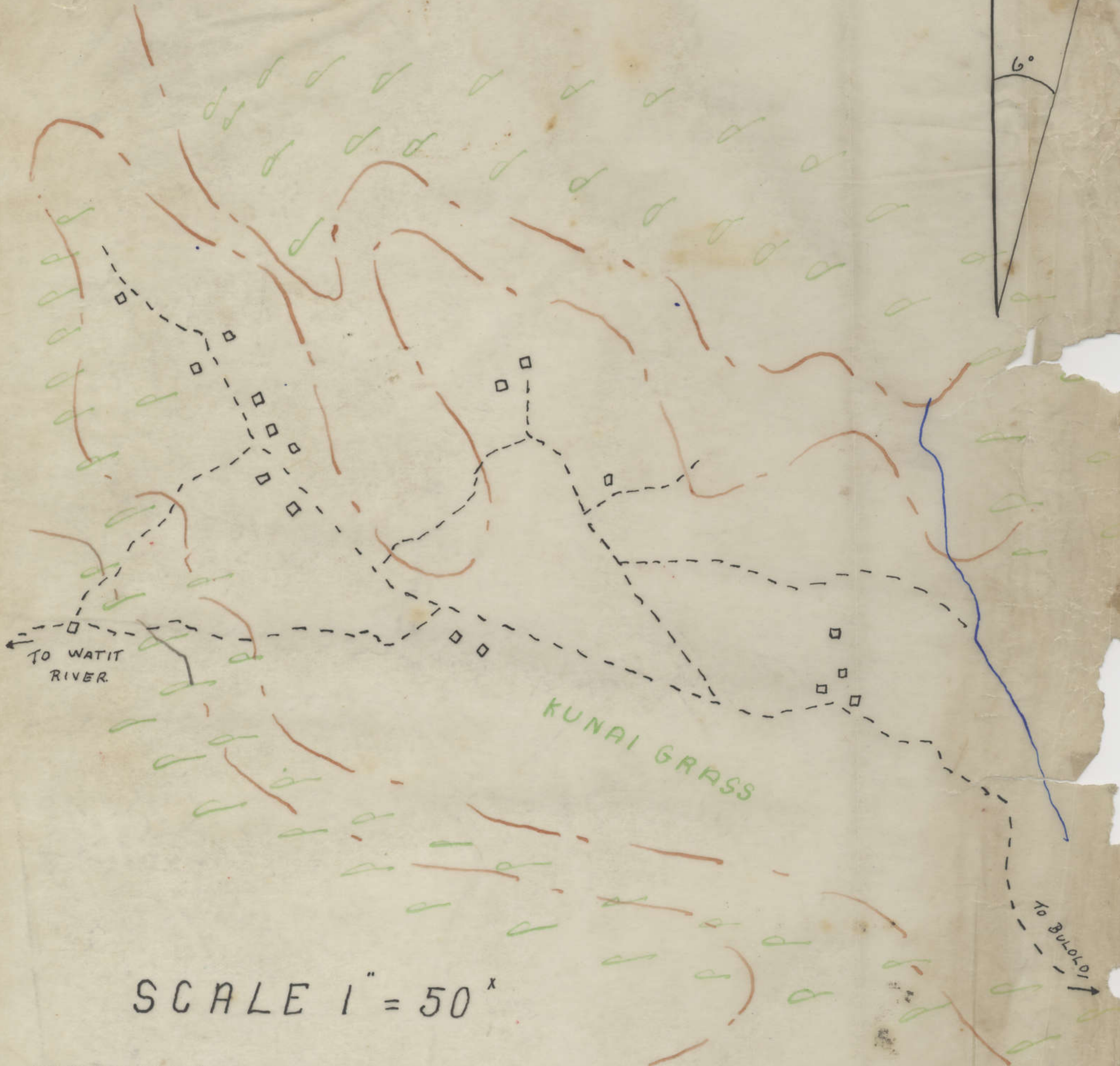
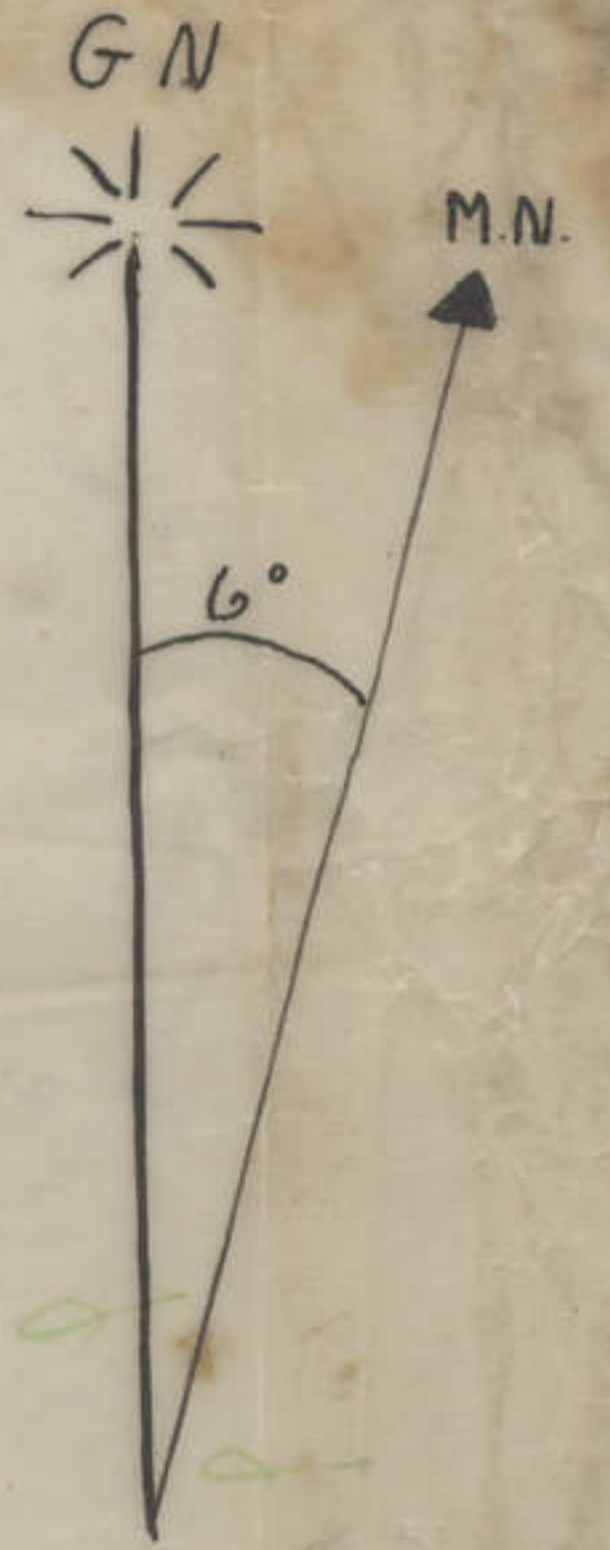


2" = 1 HOUR

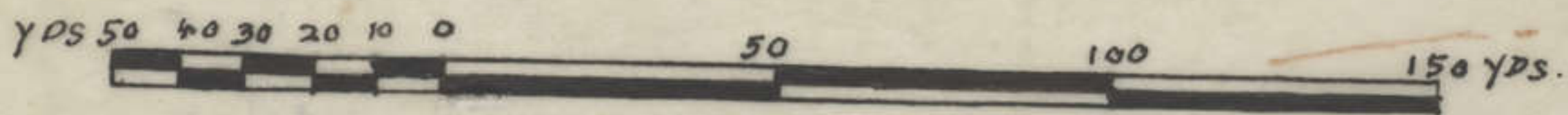
METHOD - TIME AND COMPASS.

*Bradworth a/cpl.*

# SKETCH OF TIANKI VILLAGE



SCALE 1" = 50'



METHOD - EYE AND COMPASS.

Bradsworth, a/cf

SKETCH MAP SHOWING: AREA RECCED BY JAP PATROL

: MARKED TREE

: BOOBY TRAPS LAID BY OUR TFS

Ref Map Huon Gulf Special 1 inch to 4 miles Enlarged



LEGEND

Track	---	Drome	■
River	—	JAP Route into area	---
Form Line	- - -	JAP Route out of area	---
Grass Land	⊙ ⊙ ⊙	Jap Biv Area	▨
Timber: Heavy	⊙ ⊙ ⊙	Marked Tree	X
Light	⊙ ⊙ ⊙	Booby Traps laid by our tps	○ ○ ○
Swamp	⊙ ⊙ ⊙	Q.P.	○ ○ ○
Village	●	Bananas	⊙ ⊙ ⊙
Camp	■		

SCALE: 1 inch to 1 mile





REF MAP HUON GULF 4 MILES TO 1 INCH  
SKETCH MAP OF PATROL MADE BY LIEUT D. BURKE 26 MAR 43



# SKETCH MAP W6 + W7

## BEN-GABENSIS-MARKHAM-AREA



LEGEND	
Villages uninhabited	□
Villages inhabited	●
Huts	•

Scale :: 1 inch to 1 mile

Int Sec 2/6 Bn  
17 MAR 43

See M 20 Apr 43.

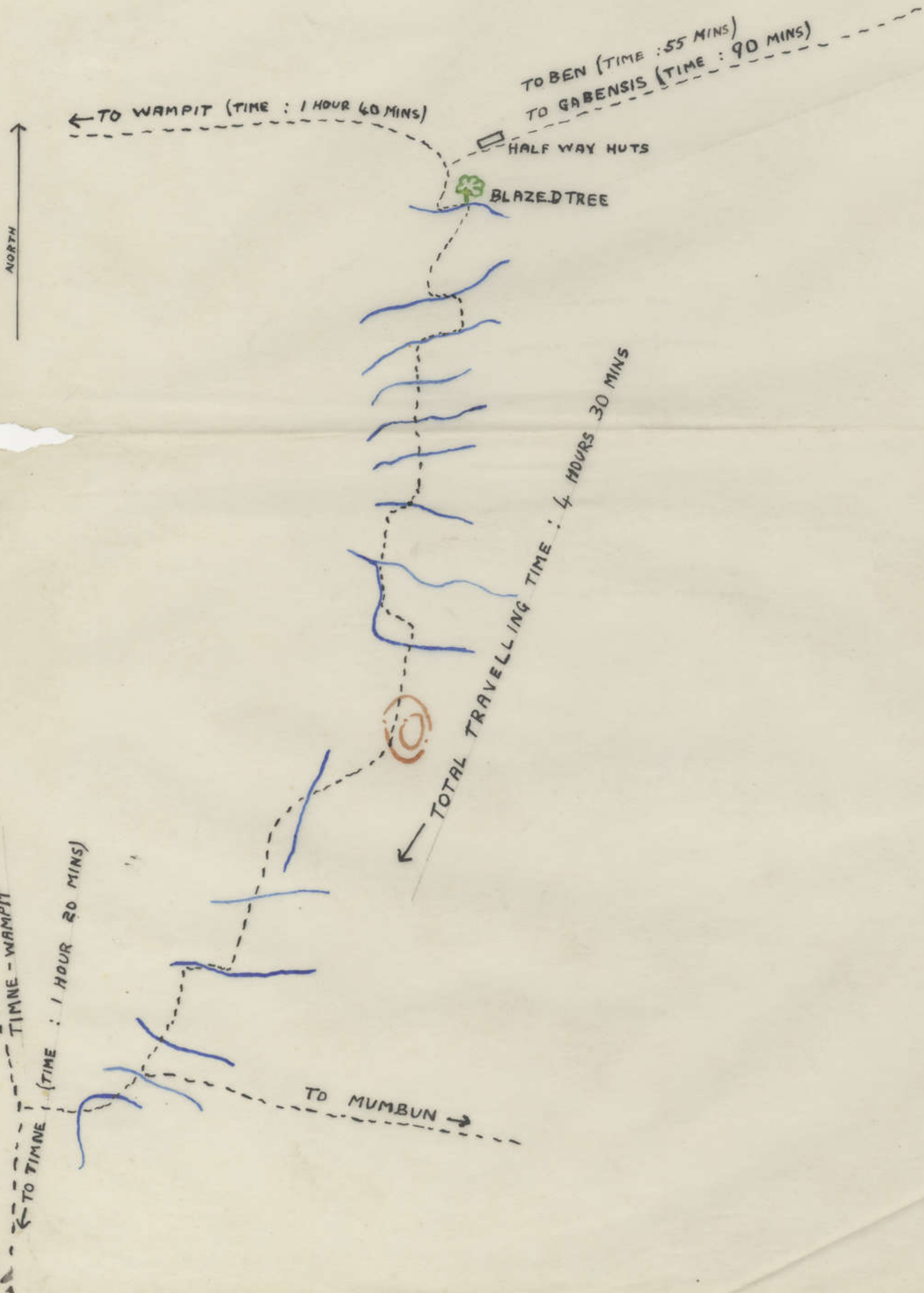
W(11)

SKETCH MAP

SCALE 1 INCH TO 1 MILE

TRACK HALF WAY HUTS - GABENTHIS

TO TIMNE-WAMPIT TRACK



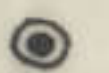



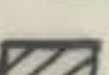
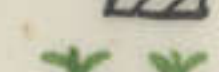
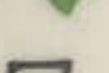


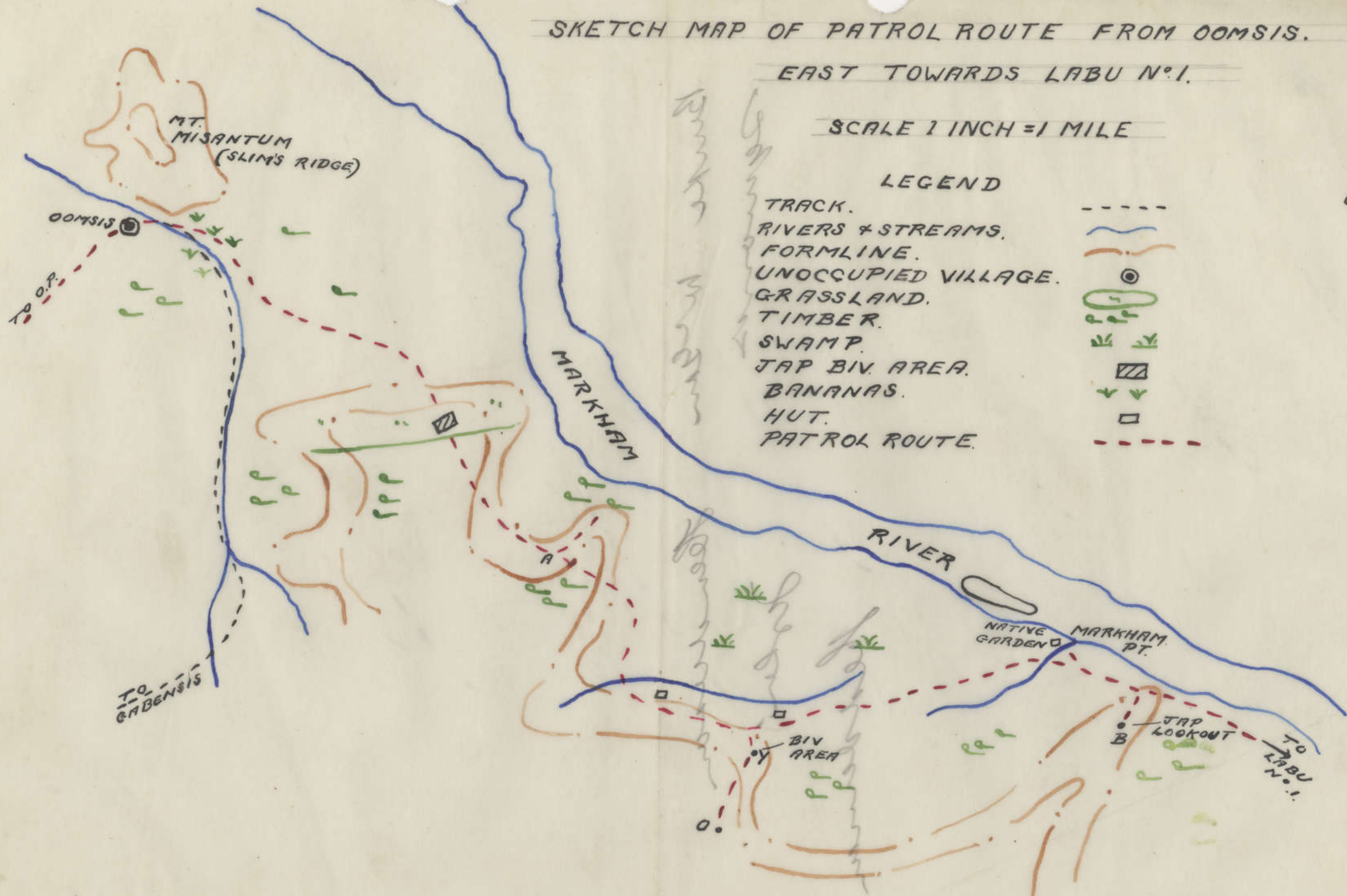
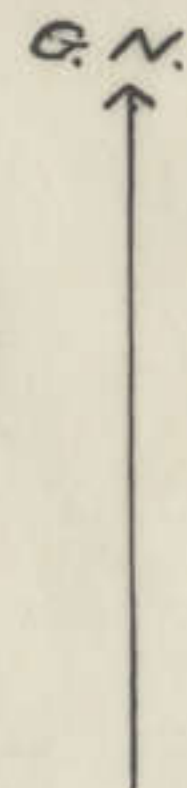
SKETCH MAP OF PATROL ROUTE FROM OOMISIS.

EAST TOWARDS LABU N°1.

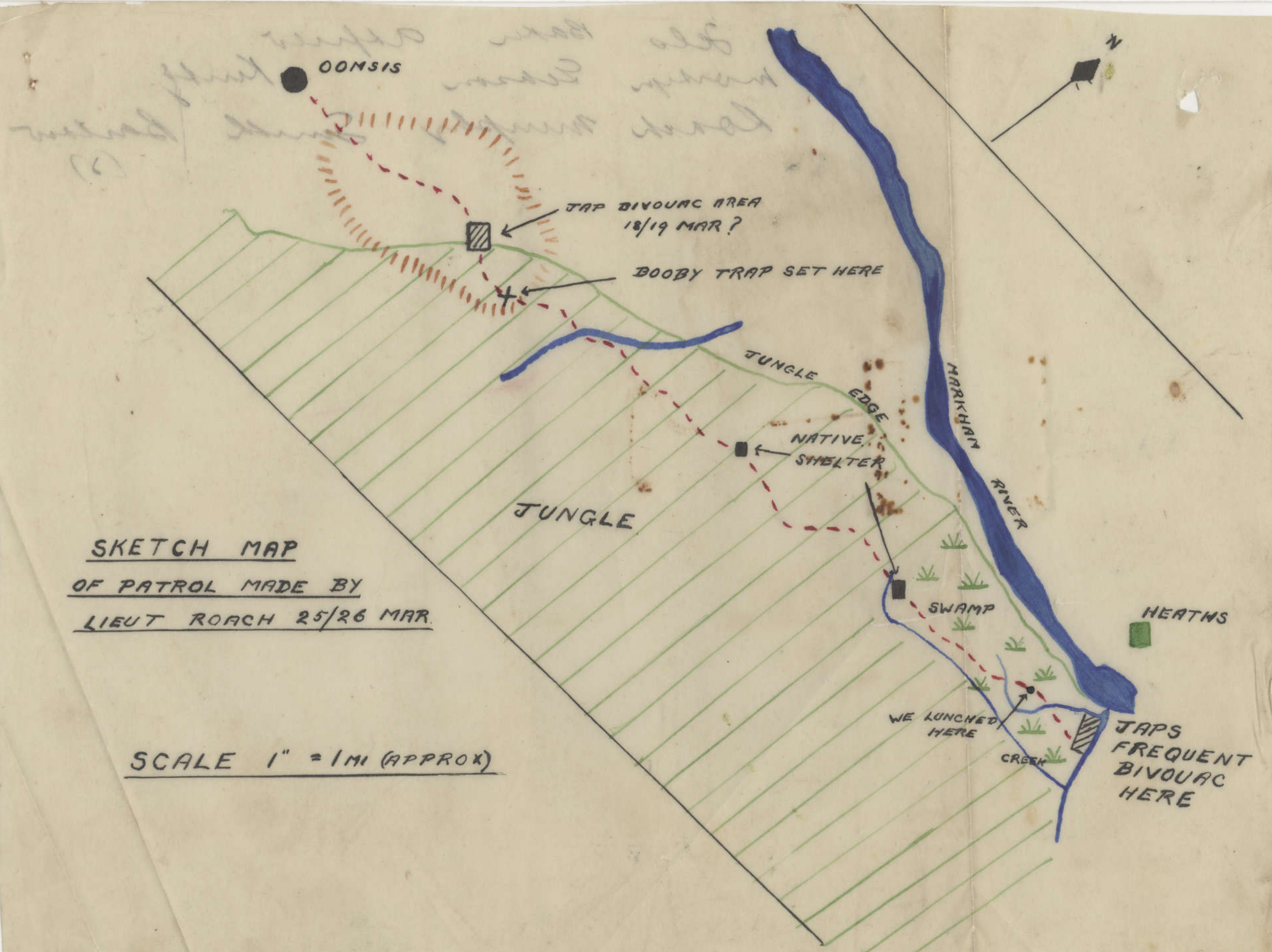
SCALE 1 INCH = 1 MILE

LEGEND

- TRACK. -----
- RIVERS & STREAMS. 
- FORMLINE. 
- UNOCCUPIED VILLAGE. 
- GRASSLAND. 
- TIMBER. 
- SWAMP. 
- JAP BIV. AREA. 
- BANANAS. 
- HUT. 
- PATROL ROUTE. - - - - -



(M 16)



OOMSIS

JAP BIVOUAC AREA  
18/19 MAR?

BOOBY TRAP SET HERE

JUNGLE  
EDGE

NATIVE  
SHELTER

JUNGLE

MARKHAM  
RIVER

SWAMP

HEATHS

WE LUNCHE  
HERE

CREEK

JAPS  
FREQUENT  
BIVOUAC  
HERE

SKETCH MAP  
OF PATROL MADE BY  
LIEUT ROACH 25/26 MAR.

SCALE 1" = 1 MI (APPROX)

PARTIP

RD/200 (11)

Subject: RECCE PATROL REPORT

SECRET

HQ KANGA FORCE

Headquarters  
2/6 AUST INF BN  
15 Mar 43

1. Fwded herewith is report of recce patrol, conducted by Int Sec 2/6 AUST INF BN, to ascertain existence of native pad from PARTIP II to TIMNE along river bank and possibility of conversion into MT track.

*F. S. Wood* Lt col  
Commanding 2/6 Aust Inf Bn

PART 1

252  
Mey  
of 1918

2/16 B.N.  
of 1918

NO KINGS

[Redacted]

Subject: [Redacted]

TO THE  
5/8 1918

SECRET

SECRET

[Redacted]

REPORT BY SHERLOCK - ANGAU from MAPOS. 18 Mar 43.

T Report having sent two Native Constables to LEGA to gather infm of any Jap movements in that area. LEGA village was originally built by the natives of DUVONG and BULANTIM who have now moved back to their villages so that now there are NO natives living in LEGA or the vicinity. The houses are in a state of disrepair and the gardens covered over with grass and bush.

Police report that there is No sign of Jap ever having been in the village or near it. In LEGA itself the road is comparatively clear but following the BUANG River down to its mouth the road is overgrown with grass and at the mouth of the River is almost completely obliterated by bush. The beach road as viewed from LEGA is hidden by trees. The road from LEGA to VAGAU (Not inspected) is reported by natives to be also overgrown and difficult to find from the BUANG River mouth end.

The Japs have had no reason to visit LEGA since there are no natives there and may perhaps be ignorant of the existence of it because of the closing of the roads and the fact that it is not visible from the LAE-SALAMAUA beach road.

There is now a Cpl and 3 men from 2/6 Bn permanently stationed at MAPOS to patrol and watch the roads in this area. As soon as I am well enough I will take a member of this patrol and personally inspect the LEGA area.

In the meantime I am sending police to BWUSSI to gather infm of Jap movements in that area.

*ES*



RECCE REPORT

Ref Map:

HUON GULF (Special) 4 mi to 1 in

Object:

To ascertain existence of native pad from PARTIP II to TIMNE along river bank and possibility of conversion into MT track

PART I

There is NO native pad along river from PARTIP II to TIMNE.

Recce down stream from PARTIP II showed ground on right of river to be gradual, with exception of two or three places where bench cut track would be necessary.

The area is timbered for approx  $\frac{1}{2}$  distance; the remainder being kunai grass.

There are 3 tributaries of the WAMPIT to be crossed and numerous small streams, the largest of these being 10 yds wide and 2 ft deep.

PART II

Left PARTIP II at 0800 hrs 12 Mar 43 and, accompanied by Cpl MACKAY (ANGAU) proceeded along track NORTH of camp until reaching village.

Passed through village and followed pad down very steep hill for  $\frac{3}{4}$  hr; est 800 - 1,000 ft drop to river.

The pad petered out in native gardens 200 yds from creek and the Luluai told us that there was NO existing track further on.

Proceeded down stream for 2 hrs, searching ground on either side for signs of pad.

NO trace of pad on either bank and it was useless to proceed any further down stream as it would have meant walking in water all the way to TIMNE and this would have taken considerable time.

Cpl MACKAY told Luluai (who had accompanied us) that some of his boys would have to cut a track along to right bank of the creek from PARTIP II to TIMNE.

Luluai said: "NO boys to do job, but monkeys (younger boys) would start cutting track soon".

It is timbered for most of the way along right bank of river and very thick all the way along left bank.

Formation of ground on right of river as far as could be seen was gradual and I would say track could be cut through without crossing any very high ground.

On left of river high ground rises abruptly from the stream all the way down stream.

The bed of the river and even ground close to water's edge could NOT be used for permanent track as the river is liable to flooding.

Returned to PARTIP II camp at 1600 hrs.

*H. Rankin*

A/Sgt

Int Sec 2/6 Aust Inf Bn

NOT BE  
TO  
DONE

PATROL REPORT

Ref Map: Sketch map att  
Patrol found by: 16 Pl D Coy 2/6 Aust Inf Bn  
Patrol Comd: A/Cpl SMITH A J  
Patrol Strength: 1 NCO, 3 ORs, 1 native guide  
Nature of Patrol: Recce  
Time Out: 1030 hrs 23 Feb 43  
Time In: 1730 hrs 27 Feb 43  
Objects:

1. To recce TIMNE\_BULANTIM track
2. To investigate attitude of natives towards us or enemy
3. To see if enemy patrols have been in area

Route Out: TIMNE - over MOUNT CHUNGOL - MUMBUN  
Route In: MUMBUN via main SNAKE RIVER trail - BULANTIM - MAPOS\_PATEP I\_PATEP II\_TIMNE

Narrative:23 Feb 43

Patrol left TIMNE and proceeded along main WAMPIT track for 1 hr, then took track branching to right; proceeded for 2½ hrs along water course to some small shelters where we had lunch.

Continued another 2 hrs up watercourse to gp of shelters, where patrol camped for night.

24 Feb 43

Proceeded up stream on track for 1½ hrs in hy rain - track now becomes extremely rough.

Track turns to right up steep spur for 1 hrs very steep climb and reached false spur.

Continued climbing for further 1½ hrs and reached small shelter with cleared outlook over MARKHAM valley and toward LAE.

Mist and low-lying clouds prevented observation.

After 1 hrs climb track branches.

Followed left hand track and climbed for further 2 hrs and reached highest pt of track.

Estimate this pt to be 8,500 or 9,000 ft high.

This is the highest pt of MOUNT CHUNGOL.

Followed track down further to watercourse and around mountain to a small shelter overlooking SNAKE valley above RARI.

From here track is well-marked but drops very steeply for 1 hr to watercourse and along kunai ridge above RARI.

A further 2 hrs very steep descent brought the patrol to NAMBUN on main SNAKE track.

Camped here.

25 Feb 43

Followed main track for 1 hr to BULANTIM, then for 2 hrs to MAPOS.

Camped here.

26 Feb 43

Intended staying at MAPOS for day, as patrol needed rest after strenuous climb, but kanakas refused to trade with carriers and, as their food sups were exhausted, decided to push on to PATEP I.

This trip took 8 hrs.

27 Feb 43

Proceeded to TIMNE from PATEP I via PATEP II .

This trip took 6½ hrs.

Report:

Track TIMNE\_BULANTIM well marked in places but very hard to follow along watercourses and native guide necessary.

Very steep descent last 3 hrs.

Main SNAKE trail easy grade and in good condition.

Conclusion:

1. Enemy unlikely to use track as they could NOT find it without native help and, owing to steep nature of track, would be almost certain to use main SNAKE trail.
2. Natives definitely afraid of JAPS but would let us know immediately they came into valley.
3. NO enemy patrols have been near the area:

The natives at MUMBUN were very friendly and assisted the patrol in every possible way. MUMBUN is a large native village with numerous gardens and there appears to be a large no of natives living there.

The natives at MAPOS were NOT helpful and would NOT give our boys food. MAPOS is split into 3 or 4 villages over an area of about 4 square mi and we did NOT see many natives.

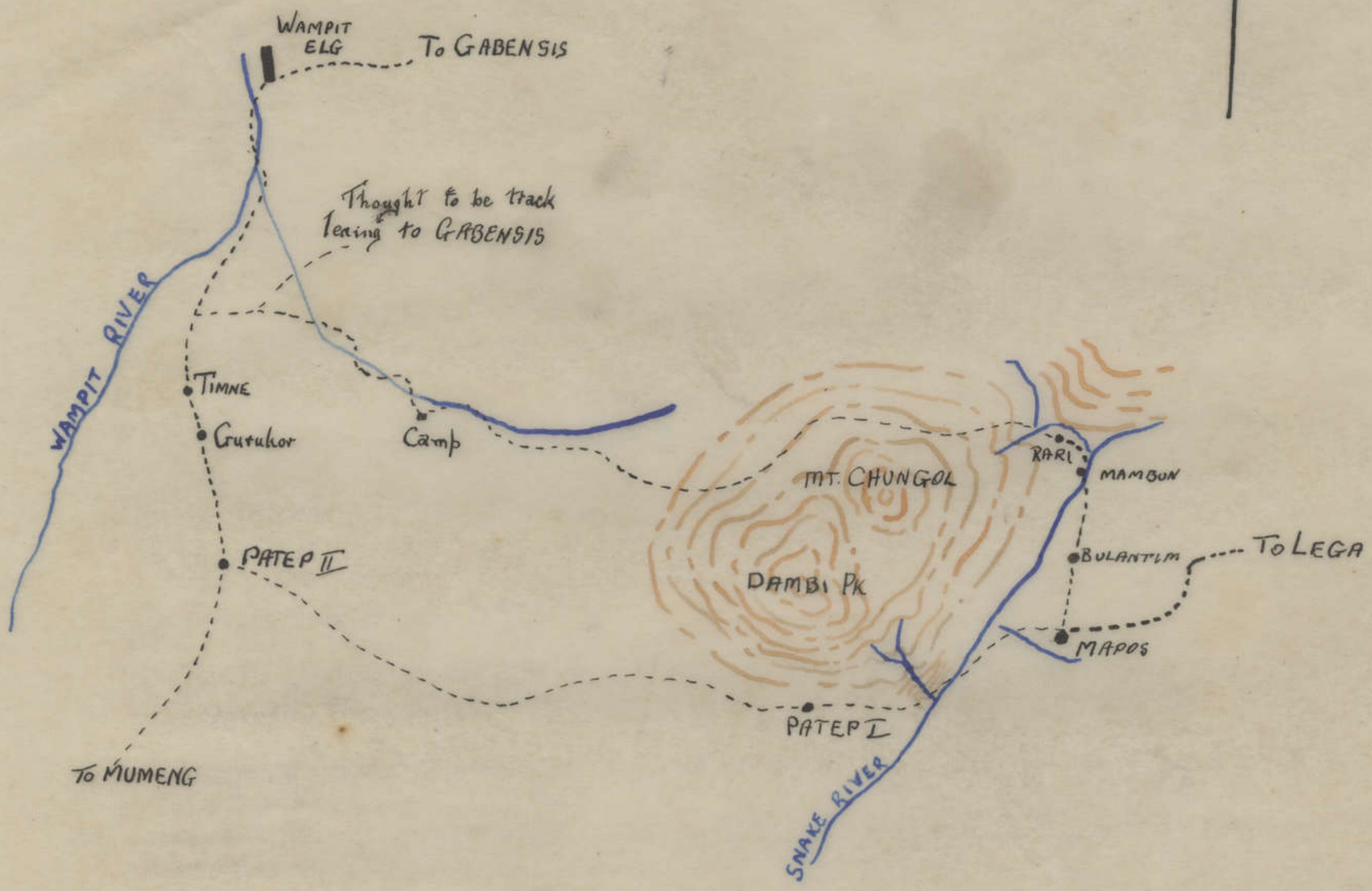
<u>Time Out:</u>	Stage 1	TIMNE_Camp	5½ hrs
	2	Camp_MUMBUN	11 hrs
<u>Time In:</u>	Stage 1	MUMBUN_BULANTIM	1 hrs
		BULANTIM_MAPOS	2 hrs
	Stage 2	MAPOS_PATEP I	8 hrs
	Stage 3	PATEP I_PATEP II	3½ hrs
		PATEP II_TIMNE	3 hrs

(Sgd) A J SMITH A/Cpl

(Sgd) W R DEXTER Capt

M4

TRACE OF  
PATROL ROUTE  
TIMNE ——— BULANTIM



Int Sec  
2/6 BN

PATROL AND CONTACT REPORT.

Ref Map HUON GULF SPEC. Scale. 4 miles to 1 in. Date 24 Feb. 43.

Patrol found by 18 pl D Coy. Patrol Comd. R.D. URQUHART.

PATROL STRENGTH. 1 Offr 2 ors 1 native. NATURE OF PATROL RECCE.

Time out. 1200 hrs/19 Time in. 1800/22.

OBJECT OF PATROL. 1. Recce MAPOS -LEGA track. 3 hrs. 2. VAGAU-LEGA track 2½ hrs.

ROUTE OUT. KWATOMANE - VAGAU.

ROUTE IN. VAGAU - KWATOMANE.

NARRATIVE 1.

Left KWATOMANE 0800 hrs 19 Feb arrived MAPOS 1700 hrs 19 Feb. Stayed night at MAPOS MISSION. left MAPOS 0900 and patrolled MAPOS-LEGA track for 3 hrs. A track leading to BWUSSI was followed for ¼ hr. There tracks examined closely and no sign of enemy or any recent footprints likely to be made by them. Both tracks in good condition. Some timber had been cut just off these tracks but believe them to have been Kanakas cutting Yam sticks. One hr from MAPOS A belt of timber about 30-40 yards wide and 50 yards in length on either side of track cut but only as a bird trap and cut by KANAKAS.

NARRATIVE 2.

Left MAPOS 0900 hrs 21 Feb arrived VAGAU 1230 hrs Patrolled from 2½ hrs along VAGAU-LEGA track to peak of mountain. Owing to rain and clouds the sea could not be observed but breakers could be heard. According to a native boss boy sea can be observed from this point, believe this to be correct providing day is fine. Surrounding country cannot be observed well from here owing to thick jungle. Track in good condition and passes through thick jungle. Very steep to lookout and from Look out to LEGA steep drop. Track examined closely and absolutely NO sign of recent enemy.

GENERAL. Track covered with leaches. Water plentiful. Observation on either side of track or forward limited to a few yards owing to thick jungle. Natives at VAGAU friendly although not anxious to show the track which they are not using as they apparently are frightened of Japs coming on it. According to them the track is hidden at the LEGA KARESTE end but do not place too much credence in this. Track from VAGAU to MARKHAM PT could not be found although its quite possibly there. Did not have time to investigate fully this track. According to native reports there is a good track from GUNAIA to GABENSIS.

Emergency landing ground at VAGAU although not thoroughly investigated, looks as if when cleared would make quite a good drome. Water and food plentiful.

Signed D URQUHART.  
Lieut.

TIMES.	BULWA - KWATOMANE.	9 hrs
	KWATOMANE - KWASANG	1 hour
	KWSANG - MENGGA.	2½ hrs
	MENGGA - MAPOS	2½ hrs
	MAPOS - BULANTIM	1 hr
	BALANTIM - VAGAU	2 hrs
	VAGAU - LEGA	5 hrs
	MAPOS - LEGA	6 hrs.

MAPOS-LEGA Recce continued.

GENERAL. 1½ hrs from MAPOS Kanaka track turns ~~right~~ left to BALANTIM. 1½ hrs from MAPOS kanakas track turns right to BWUSSI. (previously mentioned this track followed for 3¼ hrs. 1½ hrs from MAPOS Kanaka track turns left to KARESTE. All the above tracks branch off the main MAPOS LEGA track. Leaving MAPOS it is a steep climb for half an hour through Kunai grass and then for 1½ hrs you climb through thick jungle. The track follows through jungle to LEGA. On a fine day the sea may be seen from the mountain peak.

WEATHER. was dull and cloudy.

Several other kanaka tracks lead off the main track which were not  
receded but are believed to be kanaka tracks leading to gardens  
NATIVES encountered - all friendly and vegetables may be purchased at

MAPOS

WATER plentiful at MAPOS and also along MAPOS-LEGA track/

Signed D Urquhart, Lieut.

ANGAU, BULOLO.  
28-2-43.

I.O. 2/6 Bn.

NATIVE PATROL REPORTS.

Five native police returned here yesterday after making a  
recce of the BLACK CAT - MISSIM Trail and the MISSIM ) YAMAF area.  
ROUTE. The patrol left WAU and proceeded to the BLACK CAT camp  
where they stayed the night. Next day they travelled down the BLACK CA  
CAT for approx 2 hrs and then turned NORTH following an overgrown trail  
They followed this trail for three days arriving at SELEBOB late on the  
third day. During the last two days the track is quite distinct as it  
is used as a hunting pad by MISSIM natives but nearer the BLACK CAT  
the track is very indistinct and the patrol had to cut its way along  
portion of it. On no portion of this track was there any sign of enemy  
activity. From SELEBOB the patrol climbed to PILIMUNG to the West and  
next day returned to SELEBOB and proceeded to MISSIM.

From MISSIM they followed up the FRANCISCO River to BOBADU  
and back to PILIMUNG. From PILIMUNG to PARTER 3 in one day and  
next day from BULOLO via BULWA.

ENEMY ACTIVITY. No trace of enemy movement of any kind in any part of  
the area covered by the patrol nor any evidence of attempt by enemy to  
spread influence amongst natives of the MISSIM YAMAF area.

All natives friendly to patrol and informed them that they would send  
warning of any enemy activity in the area.

Signed F.W. SHAND, Capt.

Track covered with laches. Water plentiful. Observation  
on either side of track or forward led to a few yards owing to this  
jungle. Natives at VAGAU friendly although not anxious to show the  
track which they are not using as they apparently are frightened of  
laches coming on it. According to them the track is hidden at the LEGA  
KARSTE and do not place too much credence in this.  
Track from VAGAU to KARSTE could not be found although its path  
possibly there. Did not investigate fully this track.  
According to native reports there is a good track from KARSTE to  
GAREMIS.  
Emergency landing ground at VAGAU although not thoroughly  
investigated. Looks as if well cleared would make quite a good track.  
Water and food plentiful.

3 hrs	WATONAWA - WATONAWA
1 hour	WATONAWA - WATONAWA
2 1/2 hrs	WATONAWA - WATONAWA
2 1/2 hrs	WATONAWA - WATONAWA
1 hr	WATONAWA - WATONAWA
2 hrs	WATONAWA - WATONAWA
2 hrs	WATONAWA - WATONAWA
2 hrs	WATONAWA - WATONAWA

MAPOS-LEGA Recce continued.  
GENERAL. 1 1/2 hrs from MAPOS Kanaka track turns right to KARSTE.  
1 1/2 hrs from MAPOS Kanaka track turns right to KARSTE.  
(Previously mentioned this track followed for 2 1/2 hrs.)  
1 1/2 hrs from MAPOS Kanaka track turns left to KARSTE.  
All the above tracks branch off the main MAPOS-LEGA track.  
Leaving MAPOS it is a steep climb for half an hour through  
linal grass and then for 1 1/2 hrs you climb through thick  
jungle. The track follows through jungle to KARSTE on a  
line day the see way passed from the mountain peak.

Ref No D7

PATROL REPORT

Ref Map: HUON GULF (SPECIAL) Scale: 4 miles : 1 in Date: 24 FEB 43

Patrol Found by: 18 P1 D COY Patrol Comd: Lieut R D URQUHART

Patrol Strength: 1 Offr, 2 ORs, 1 Native Nature of Patrol: RECCE

Time Out: 1200 hrs 19 Feb 43 Time In: 1800 hrs 22 Feb 43

Object of Patrol (1) Recce MAPOS - MEGA Track 3 hrs  
(2) Recce WAGAU - LEGA Track 2½ hrs

NARRATIVE I

Left KWATAMANE 0830 on 19 Feb; arrived MAPOS 1700 hrs 19 Feb.  
Stayed night at MAPOS mission.

Left MAPOS 0900 and patrolled MAPOS-LEGA track for 3 hrs.

A track leading to BWUSSI was followed for  $\frac{3}{4}$  hr.

These tracks examined closely and NO sign of enemy or very recent footprints likely to be made by them.

Both tracks in good condition.

Some timber had been cut just off these tracks but believe them to have been Kanakas cutting yam sticks.

One hr from MAPOS a belt of timber about 30 - 40 yds wide and 50 yds in length on either side of track cut, but only as a bird trap and cut by Kanakas.

$1\frac{1}{4}$  hrs from MAPOS Kanaka track turns left to BULATIM.

$1\frac{1}{2}$  hrs from MAPOS Kanaka track turns right to BWUSSI (previously mentioned this track followed for  $\frac{3}{4}$  hr).

$1\frac{3}{4}$  hrs from MAPOS Kanaka track turns left to KARESTA.

All the above tracks branch off the main MAPOS - LEGA track.

Leaving MAPOS it is a steep climb for  $\frac{1}{2}$  hr through kunai grass and then for  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hrs you climb through thick jungle.

The track follows through jungle to LEGA.

On a fine day the sea may be seen from the mountain peak.

Weather was dull and cloudy.

Several other Kanaka tracks lead off the main track which were NOT reced but are believed to be kanaka tracks leading to gardens.

2.

Natives encountered - all friendly and vegetables may be purchased at MAPOS.

Water plentiful at MAPOS and also along MAPOS - LEGA track.

NARRATIVE II

VAGAU - LEGA Track

Left MAPOS 0900 hrs 21 Feb 43; arrived VAGAU 1230 hrs.

Patrolled for 2½ hrs along VAGAU - LEGA track to peak of mountain. Owing to rain and clouds the sea could NOT be observed but breakers could be heard.

According to native boy sea can be observed from this pt and believe this to be correct, providing day is fine.

Surrounding country can NOT be observed well from here owing to thick jungle.

Track in good condition and passes through thick jungle.

Very steep to lookout and from lookout to LEGA steep drop.

Track examined closely and absolutely NO signs of recent enemy.

General

Track covered with leeches; water plentiful; observation on either side of track or fwd limited to a few yds owing to thick jungle.

Natives at VAGAU friendly, although NOT anxious to show the track which they are NOT using as they are apparently frightened of Japs coming on it.

According to them the track is hidden at the LEGA KARESBE end but do NOT place much credence in this.

Track from VAGAU to MARKHAM PT could NOT be found although it is quite possible to be there.

Did NOT have time to investigate fully this track.

According to native reports there is a good track from MUNIAU to GABENSIS.

Emergency landing ground at VAGAU although NOT thoroughly investigated looks as if when cleared it would make quite a good drome.

Water and food plentiful.

(24) RD URQUHART Lieut



TIMES

BULWA - KWATOMANE	9 hrs
KWATOMANE - KWSUNG	1 hr
KWSUNG - MENGGA	2½ hrs
MENGGA - MAPOS	2½ hrs
MAPOS - BULANTIM	1 hr
BULANTIM - VAGAU	2 hrs
VAGAU - LEGA	5 hrs
MAPOS - LEGA	6 hrs

PART 20/96

SECRET  
D Coy  
2/6 Aust Inf Bn  
14 Feb 43

SUMMARY OF REPORT-RECCE PATROL MAPOS AREA

Ref Map HUON GULF SPECIAL 4 mi. to 1 in.

STRENGTH OF PATROL

1 NCO, 2 Ptes and 1 Int Sec man.

OBJECT OF PATROL

To recce from MAPOS L(R)4222, a distance of 3 hrs along MAPOS-LEGA track. Recce MAPOS-VAGAU track and to report on any enemy activity in this area.

DURATION OF PATROL

Left BULWA 0830 hrs 8 Feb 43  
Returned BULWA 1630 hrs

CARRIERS

Native boss-boy DORIS and 4 boys

NARRATIVE

The patrol arrived KWATOMANE L(R)3513 at 1815 hrs 8 Feb 43. Bivouaced for night. Left KWATOMANE 0900 hrs 9 Feb 43. Arrived MAPOS 1730 hrs 9 Feb 43. Bivouaced for night.

MAPOS-LEGA TRACK. Left MAPOS 0900 hrs 10 Feb 43 and travelled for 2½ hrs along track. On descending a steep valley, boot marks were noticed leading into the scrub. These tracks were not fresh and only the heel marks could be seen. Sound of light chopping were heard down a wide track leading off to the right. The patrol followed this track, but could see nothing. There were no signs of recent cutting. They met several KANAKAS with matchets and came to the conclusion that NATIVES were cutting tracks to new villages as there were very few NATIVES at MAPOS and some surrounding villages. Further back on the track to MAPOS they had noticed a large tree which had been felled by someone used to using an axe as the chips were very large. Nothing suspicious was seen, and the patrol returned to MAPOS and bivouaced for the night. At MAPOS the paramount chief TON or TOL had gone bush. The KIOP at SUNSHINE knows where he is. Apparently, according to boss-boy DORIS, who appears very reliable and knows the vicinity, many natives have gone bush from this area and are building new villages.

MAPOS-VAGAU TRACK. Left MAPOS 0900 hrs 11 Feb 43 and arrived VAGAU 1210 hrs. Here no sign to indicate enemy activity was noticed. The patrol bivouaced for night at MAPOS. The patrol arrived at KWATOMANE on the return journey at 1700 hrs 12 Feb 43, and reached BULWA 1630 hrs 13 Feb 43.

PATROL LEADER

A/Cpl HENDERSON. J. J.

Signed W. R. DEXTER. Capt  
O.C. D Coy 2/6 Aust Inf Bn.

SECRET  
D Coy  
2/6 Aust Inf Bn  
14 Feb 43

REPORT ON COUNTRY BULWA-VAGAU

Ref Map HUON GULF SPECIAL 4 mi. to 1 in.  
Enlargement from HUON GULF SPECIAL 1 in. to 1 mi.  
With additional detail marked in by D Coy 2/6 Aust Inf Bn.

1. AREA JUNC WATUT AND BULOLO RIVERS L(W)2697, EAST TO GRID LINE L(W)4096,  
NORTH TO GRID LINE L(R)4010, WEST TO GRID LINE L(R) 3010.

TYPE OF COUNTRY

Steep KUNAI hill country with wooded valleys. Small seepages water fairly scarce. Numerous KANAKA tracks leading to gardens and to PARTIP3 (Native name DANGALAU). Movement off the tracks is fairly difficult owing to the height of the KUNAI grass, the steep hills and blind wooded gullies. However it would not be difficult to move a large body of men in open formation across this country during the hours of daylight. It would be most difficult during the hours of darkness. A well formed road (marked MOTOR ROAD on enlargement) capable of carrying any type of tpt. leads off the main BULWA-SUNSHINE road approx. 300 yds North of the AERODROME and winds round the hills for a distance of approx 4½ miles to the UPPER POWER HOUSE. The last 1½ miles is wet and sloppy. This infm. has been passed on to the Arty who are considering a Bty. posn along this Road for their guns. From PARTIP3 a good track to KWATOMANE L(R)3513 cuts this Road about ½ hr from PARTIP3. The KUNAI country from a line WATUT-BULOLO river juncs to North L(R)2510 Extends East for a distance of 4 to 5 miles and then rides into the thickly timbered KUPER RANGE. From UPPER POWER STATION TO BAINNE POWER STATION a good open water race winds round the hills carrying a good quantity of clear drinking water. Thus there is water right along the MOTOR ROAD.  
BULWA is 2200 ft above SEA LEVEL.  
PARTIP3 is 1500 ft higher than BULWA  
(This infm from Survey people who passed through)

SECRET  
D Coy  
2/6 Aust Inf Bn  
14 Feb 43

## 2. TRACK BULWA-KWATOMANE

The time taken to cover this track is approx 8-9 hrs -One good day's march. From BULWA to track junc L(R)2907 is approx 2 hrs. At this point is stationed a STANDING PATROL of 1 Sgt and 3 Ptes who recce along all tracks and have an excellent O.P. from which they can see all the surrounding country. From BULWA to this post the track is fairly flat and follows the line of the Stream. After leaving the post you climb for approx 1½ hrs over KUNAI hills-the track follows line of least resistance as there are higher features on either side. At this point there is a KUNAI hut on a small stream in a narrow strip of trees. Leaving the hut you climb a steep hill for 1 hr and come into thick timber which runs practically to KWATOMANE. From this ridge you can see KWATOMANE and MUMENG. You proceed through the timber for 1½ hrs and come out into open country on top of a Spur. Here the track drops very steeply to a stream and from the stream you climb up a very steep hill to KWATOMANE-this takes 1½ hrs.

KWATOMANE is approx 6000 ft above Sea Level. STANDING PATROL is stationed at KWATOMANE with O.P. which can see track running East to YASINGLE also to West MUMENG can be seen as well as portion of SNAKE RIVER VALLEY. To the South you can see BULWA. It is thought that an ALDIS LAMP could be used from BULWA to KWATOMANE O.P.-we are going to experiment with lights.

Track leading East from KWATOMANE to YASINGLE is reced every day for 3 hrs. The track is in thick timber for 1½ hrs and then comes out on to grassy Spur which it descends and goes into thick timber again. Patrols have been as far as Small Native Village which natives refer to as named GELLI (not marked on Map but about 3 hrs from KWATOMANE) The natives report that a track leads from GELLI to the BAINNE POWER HOUSE -this has not been reced as yet.

Track leading East from post L(R)2907 has been followed for 5 hrs. For 2½ hrs the track rises along grassy ridges until it meets timber country. Here the track turns abruptly to the Left and drops into a valley and rises very sharply. The track here is wide and well formed. The patrol climbed a steep hill and descended the other side to a creek. From here the patrol noticed that the track rose very steeply to clear ridges-3 or 4 huts were seen in the distance. The patrol did not go further fwd than the Creek. From the highest point before descending to the Creek the Patrol could see PARTIP3 3 very clearly.

SECRET  
D Coy  
2/6 Aust Inf Bn  
14 Feb 43

3. TRACK KWATOMANE TO KWASANG

Time taken 1 hr. Heavily wooded country all the way. KWASANG is about the same Altitude as KWATOMANE. O.P. is established at KWASANG and can see MAPOS to the North and observe any movement down this track for 3½-4 hrs. To the East are high timbered hills and nothing can be seen there. To the West can be seen the track climbing from SNAKE RIVER to PARTIPL. and portions of the SNAKE TRAIL. All on the East is high, heavily timbered country, all on the West is open country. To the North the track runs through open country, dropping and climbing to heights of 1000 ft over KUNAI spurs.

4. KWASANG TO TOKANIN

Time taken 2½ hrs. Open country with light scrub on the spurs. The track crosses numerous streams and some of the crossings are slippery and treacherous. The track skirts BOGAMATU (1½ hrs from KWASANG) and MANGGA. The villages are small. Track running East from TOKANIN leads over grassy hill, and up grassy valley for 1½ hrs when it becomes hilly and wooded. Portion of the SNAKE TRAIL can be seen.

5. TOKANIN TO MAPOS

Time taken 3 hrs. Open garden country. Track rises and falls over spurs jutting out from main mountain feature on East. To West country falls away to SNAKE VALLEY. Several small villages and extensive gardens along the track. Portion of the SNAKE TRAIL can be seen from various parts of the track.

6. MAPOS

It is impossible to see LAE from MAPOS owing to the intervening high mountain ranges. Very few natives at MAPOS, rather a large spread-out village in 3 groups. The paramount Chief-TON or TOL has gone bush as have most of the inhabitants. There is a POLICE STATION, a MISSION HOUSE and a few huts at the MISSION. The view from MAPOS is limited-can see no further North than DOWONG. The morning mists which do not lift until about midday completely obscure the surrounding country. MAPOS would be ideal as a base from which to patrol LEGA and VAGAU. Water plentiful.

7. MAPOS-LEGA TRACK

Track reced for 2½ hrs. Travel East through open country for ½ hr. Track then rises steeply through heavily wooded country and is very grassy. The country is very high and you are often travelling through clouds. 1 hr from MAPOS the track turns N.E. and follow this direction along a narrow ridge for 1 hr. Numerous small tracks branch off to either side. Natives state these tracks are hunting tracks, and tracks leading to isolated huts. The track now turns East and descends by a wide grassy track to a valley. ½ hr down the valley the track forks-this is as far as has been reced. At this time the patrol heard sounds of chopping and investigated without success. Mists and clouds cut out any view. There is no water along the trail covered by patrol, but after 2½ hrs walking, water was heard at the bottom of the valley.

SECRET  
D Coy  
14 Feb 43

8. MAPOS TO VAGAU

Time taken 3 hrs. Track through open country, falls all the way after leaving MAPOS to SNAKE RIVER L(R) 4325. Follows River for 20 mins and then cross approx opposite GAMBIA village Spur. The crossing is knee-deep and 20 ft wide, but the River is subject to sudden floods when crossing would be treacherous.

Numerous villages are passed on the track-BULANTIM appears a large village with a large population. There is an ENGLISH SCHOOL there.

20 mins after crossing the SNAKE RIVER, a small stream is crossed, tributary of the SNAKE RIVER. The track follows the SNAKE RIVER and the country rises sharply on either side-heavily timbered on East and fairly open on West. Recrossed SNAKE RIVER 20 mins after crossing tributary, track swings to right and comes out into a large valley in which is situated the VAGAU EMERGENCY LANDING GROUND. BIGO can be seen about 1 mile to the North. VAGAU is situated further to East of DROME than shown on Map. The valley is surrounded by wooded hills to North and East and more open hills to South and West.

MUNIAU can be seen to the West and natives report that a track runs from MUNIAU to GABENSIS, but that no track connects BIGO to MARKHAM POINT.

Boss-boy DORIS states that by climbing a point-about 3 hrs climb to the East from VAGAU-a hill is reached from which LAE can be overlooked.

9. GENERAL

From KWATOMANE to VAGAU the track alternately climbs and descends spurs which jut out from the main mountain range to the East. Villages are numerous as are native gardens. The country in the vicinity of the track is open country.

The natives met were inclined to be helpful.

Food is very hard to get from the natives-the only way to get same is to carry trade.

Water is plentiful on the track, but has to be carted usually a distance of 300 yds to the villages.

The boss-boy DORIS is an excellent guide and his presence with a patrol, to talk to natives and point out the country is invaluable. We intend using him on further patrols.

Signed W.R.DEXTER.Capt  
O.C. D Coy 2/6 Aust Inf Bn

PATROL ACTIVITY

SECRET  
D Coy  
2/6 Aust Inf Bn  
14 Feb 43

Ref Map HUON GULF SPECIAL 4 mi. to 1 in.

**BULWA.**

An O.P. of 3 men is established on a high feature  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile S.E. of the DROME. The men live here, have a good pair of binoculars and are connected by telephone to Coy HQ. They have an excellent view-point of the surrounding country and report all movements.

Every day 4 two-man patrols go out from BULWA and comb the country in a semi-circle North, East and South to a distance of 4 to 5 miles.

Every 2 or 3 days a patrol goes out West of the WATUT RIVER.

These patrols cover the ground and valleys that can not be seen from the O.P. and mark any tracks found, on an enlarged map. They do not keep to tracks but go straight across country.

**PARTIP 3**

Standing patrol of 1 Cpl and 3 Ptes with excellent O.P. covering all directions. 2 men daily recce East whilst remainder man the O.P.

At present a patrol has been sent from BULWA to endeavour to get as far as PILIMUNG.

PARTIP 3 hill is clearly visible from BULWA and the bearing from BULWA 79 Degrees Magnetic.

**TRACK JUNCTION L(R) 2907 (ELLEN'S POST)**

Standing patrol 1 Sgt and 3 ORs-excellent O.P.

Patrol recce surrounding tracks every day.

Patrol of 2 men is starting tomorrow to endeavour to reach YASINGLE and BOBADU.

**KWATOMANE**

Standing patrol 1 Offr (Lieut URQUHART) and 4 Ptes. Excellent O.P.-patrol recce to KWASANG every second day and recce East along track towards YASINGLE every second day.

Am sending a patrol from here in a couple of days to BOBADU.

**KWASANG.**

Standing patrol 1 NCO and 3 Ptes. Excellent O.P.

Recce patrol each day to TOKANIN thence East for  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 hrs along BWUSSI track.

**RECCE PATROL TO MAPOSAND AREA**

Report att. 6 day patrol. Am sending Lieut URQUHART and small patrol to endeavour to push through to LEGA and have a good look at country and see if he can observe the coast from LEGA.

From infm. received I believe this to be possible. Also wish to send small party to VAGAU to climb hill to see if possible to observe LAE.

**PATROL ORDERED BY Lt col FLEAHY**

This patrol was ordered by Lt col FLEAHY from BULWA after the air battle to endeavour to find enemy plane which crashed in the hills. The patrol cut their way through dense jungle for 2 days, but made very little progress. Their task was practically a hopeless one as the country was very close and looking for a plane in that type of country was like looking for a needle in a haystack. The patrol returned without finding the plane.

**PATROL REPORT PARTIP3 TO PILIMUNG OR YAMMAP**

This report has just come to hand. Patrol left morning 12 Feb, returned evening 13 Feb.

Travelling along track running East from PARTIP 3. The track is good, rises and falls over lightly timbered hills with KUNAI grass on either side of track. A stiff climb brings you to a Sugar Cane garden. Track runs

To ALL N.C.Os.

4 MARCH 43

.....17.....Platoon

You are now acquainted with the correct method of submitting a patrol report to this H.Q. A pro forma has been issued and if you have not seen same and are not already acquainted with its contents then ask your Platoon Sgt for it. The future excuse that you have not seen it will not be accepted.

It appears that there is an impression amongst some N.C.Os that Patrol Reports are unnecessary and a waste of time. In a country like this, unexplored and largely unsurveyed this is not so, as a patrol which may appear to you to be silly, when put together with other reports, makes a LOT OF SENSE.

I bring under your notice the gravity of submitting an incorrect report. All reports are sent through the BN intelligence section and on occasion further.

ON THE REPORT THAT YOU REPEAT YOU SUBMIT MAY DEPEND THE LIVES OF MANY MEN, and the same report may greatly influence an action, in other words it may mean the difference between victory and defeat. GIVE THE MATTER A LITTLE SERIOUS THOUGHT AND REALIZE THE TRUTH OF THIS STATEMENT. There is absolutely no excuse for an incorrect patrol report in the field.

REALIZE the importance of the work that you are doing and take note of this THE PATROL REPORT IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT PARTS OF A PATROL.

They are not hard to write correctly, all that is required is that you put down accurately what you saw what you did, how long it took and any relevant remarks that you think towards solving the object of the patrol.

The nature of the work that you submit is the standard on which your ability is judged at B.H.Q. So take a pride in it.

Reports need not be long rambling affairs, I dont want those.

What is required is a report that is brief and concise and to the point.

An example, A one page report can contain more useful information than six pages of BOLONY.

All your reports are checked here NONE ARE OVERLOOKED. They are submitted under your names.

I appreciate the fact that there is no decent paper to write them on, thats nothing to worry about, Use any old paper, REMEMBER ITS NOT THE PAPER THAT MAKES THE REPORT ITS WHAT IS WRITTEN ON IT. Your reports are all typewritten before being submitted

and its your job to see that the Coy Clerk does not have to decipher a lot of scrawl. TAKE A LITTLE TIME AND CARE WHEN COMPILING YOUR REPORT FOR IT MAY BE ON THE BRIGADIERS TABLE IN A FEW DAYS TIME AND HE MAY DECIDE TO MOVE TROOPS OR ACT IN SOME OTHER MANNER ON IT.

If you are not sure of any points with these reports then for the love of Heaven ask ( YOU ARE NOT EXPECTED TO KNOW EVERYTHING AND IF YOU THINK YOU DO THEN WAKE UP TO YOURSELF FOR THERE IS ALWAYS SOMEBODY WHO KNOWS A LITTLE MORE ABOUT SOMETHING THAN YOU DO YOURSELF? AND THAT APPLIES TO EVERYTHING.

ASK AND CONTINUE TO ASK UNTIL YOU ARE SURE. ASK YOUR PL COM? PL SGT, Fellow CPLs, in fact anybody likely to know.

IF FOR ANY REASON YOU SEND MEN FROM YOUR SECTIONS ON PATROLS IT IS YOUR DEFINATE DUTY TO SEE THAT THEY ARE FULLY AQUAINTED WITH WHAT THEY HAVE TO DO AND HOW THEY ARE TO DO IT. POINTS TO REMEMBER WHEN WRITING PATROL REPORTS ARE,

- 1. SEQUENCE
- 2. ACCURACY.
- 3 CLEARNESS
- 4. GRAMMAR
- 5 PUNCTUATION
- 6. NEATNESS.
- 7. SPELLING.

Before leaving on patrol TRY and obtain from PL COM the following instruments  
I. PRISMATIC COMPASS 2. MAP OF AREA 3. WATCH 4. PROTRACTOR.

ALWAYS ENDEAVOUR TO ATTACH A ROUGH SKETCH MAP OF THE PATROL ROUTE.

Each N.C.O. will sign his name to this form after reading same. Pl Sgt will return this form to me (Signed by all N.C.O.) when he is satisfied that they have all seen the pro forma.

*[Signature]*  
W.O. J  
C.S.M

PL SGT, *A. S. Gibson* NO 4 SECTION  
NO 5 SECTION *Cpl. Fisher* NO 6 SECTION



NO. 1 SECTION  
NO. 2 SECTION  
NO. 3 SECTION  
NO. 4 SECTION  
NO. 5 SECTION  
NO. 6 SECTION  
NO. 7 SECTION  
NO. 8 SECTION  
NO. 9 SECTION  
NO. 10 SECTION

TO THE DIRECTOR  
GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
MILITARY SECRETARIAT  
CANTONMENT  
MADRAS  
1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th inst. in relation to the subject mentioned above and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the appropriate authorities for their consideration.  
2. I am sorry to hear that you are unable to attend to your duties on account of illness. I hope you will be able to return to work as soon as possible.  
3. I am sorry to hear that you are unable to attend to your duties on account of illness. I hope you will be able to return to work as soon as possible.  
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10. I am sorry to hear that you are unable to attend to your duties on account of illness. I hope you will be able to return to work as soon as possible.

SGT GIBSON  
BOBS

Return to C.S.M.

TO THE DIRECTOR  
GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
MILITARY SECRETARIAT  
CANTONMENT  
MADRAS  
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REF MAP ATTACHED SKETCH MAP

1 INCH TO 1 MILE

8/10 APR.43

PATROL FOUND BY 16 PL. "D" COY.

PATROL COMD A/CPL SMITH A.J.

PATROL STRENGTH 1 N.C.O. (A/Cpl Smith A.J.) 1 O.R. (Pte Hurn) 1 Native (ZENAC)

NATURE OF PATROL R3383

TIME OUT 1320 hrs 8 Apr.43

TIME IN 1850 hrs 10 Apr.43

OBJECT OF PATROL To observe any movement of enemy in NEW MUNUM- OLD MUNUM AREA, keeping LAE-NADZAB RD. under close observation.

ROUTE OUT BWARIP- MIAP- NARAKOPOR thence track NARAKOPOR- NEW MUNUM- OLD MUNUM.

ROUTE IN REVERSE OF ROUTE OUT

## NARRATIVE

STAGE 1. We left BWARIP at 1320 hrs 8 Apr. and crossed MARKHAM RIVER by means of rubber boat landing at MIAP at 1915 hrs. Then hid boat and proceeded to Village which consists of 3 deserted huts. We spent the night here and at 0630 9 Apr. left for NARAKOPOR in rubber boat arriving there at 0715 hrs.

STAGE 2. We then hid in a banana plantation whilst the Native Zenac contacted the Native Yarsee at NARAKOPOR re Jap movement in area.

On learning that no Japs were in area we moved into village and questioned natives about enemy movement in NEW MUNUM- OLD MUNUM area.

We spent the remainder of day searching tracks leading from NARAKOPOR to MUNUM and NEW MUNUM.

(The MUNUM MENTIONED above is not marked on our maps to date. It is approx 1200 yards North of NARAKOPOR and consists of 8 large huts)

Approx 1000 yards North of MUNUM we found a Jap track branching off to the left and leading to a few orange trees. This track shows signs of constant use.

Patrol then moved back and spent night 9/10 Apr at NARAKOPOR.

STAGE 3. Left Village at 0600 hrs 10 Apr. and moved up to MUNUM, here the native ZENAC arranged with local natives to work in their gardens along the track MUNUM-NEW MUNUM and to inform us if Japs moved along this track.

We then proceeded to NEW MUNUM by means of a back track, ZENAC acting as scout, arrived at NEW MUNUM at 0725 hrs and hid here while our native scouted LAE- NADZAB RD.

When informed that the area was free of enemy we moved up to the LAE- NADZAB RD. and took up a position of observation looking up and down the road for approx 300 yards.

The road in this locality is over-grown by kunal grass and is now a foot track no wider than two feet.

No transport has been over this portion of the road in recent months.

We remained at this point until 1000 hrs <sup>without</sup> result, so decided to move down road East of NEW MUNUM - OLD MUNUM.

Approx 300 yards down road we crossed a wooden bridge spanning a deep creek. This bridge is badly in need of repair and in its present condition could not hold  $\frac{1}{2}$  ton in weight.

We moved on and took up a fresh position approx 800 yards East of NEW MUNUM- OLD MUNUM track.

We observed from here until 1400 hrs without any further result.

We then moved back to the track OLD MUNUM-NEW MUNUM - NARAKOPOR AND proceeded to the last named Village arriving at 1515 hrs.

Patrol then embarked on the native <sup>ELIEMEN'S</sup> canoe and sailed up MARKHAM RIVER arriving at BWARIP at 1850 hrs.

Here we joined our covering party and our subsequent movements are covered in their report.

HERE-WITH information gathered from natives at NARAKOPOR and I treat it as 100% correct.:-

- LAE- NADZAB RD. The Japs are repairing portion of this road between HEATHS and YALU  $\frac{1}{2}$  the remainder of the road to NADZAB has not been covered by mechanical transport since Jap occupation of this area.

2. ENEMY PATROLS. Approx twice a week a patrol of ten men move from HEATHS to NEW MUNUM and here patrol divides into two parties of five one party moving to MUNUM, the other one to NGASAWAPUM.

At these villages they take native food, such as pigs, fowls, taro and bananas etc. by force and then move back to MHWUMUNUM Rgfora and proceed back to HEATHS. Weapons carried by this patrol are reported to be 1 rifle remaining men carrying grenades.

3. FOOD SITUATION Japs in MARKHAM VALLEY are very short of food and native state that they are starving, several have collapsed and died in MUNUM AREA.

They are supplementing their rations with young leaves and roots of pw paw trees and several types of weeds.

4. HEATHS. Japs have constructed three huts between MASTER HEATHS and MASTER HARRY'S houses and approx 300 troops are living in these abodes

During recent AIR RAID only one bomb fell at HEATHS causing no damage, during such raids all troops move down and take cover in creek flowing through plantation.

5. YALU Japs have taken all native food in this village so the native have gone bush.

CONCLUSIONS.

FUTURE PATROLS To successfully observe enemy movement in MUNUM area it would be necessary for our patrols to remain here for at least four days.

LAU-NADEAB RD. The portion of this road that I observed was unfit for any transport other than foot traffic but could be made fit for use in a short time.

During our patrol in MUNUM area we walked around in bare feet and advise future patrol to do the same so that native will not be suspected of helping us.

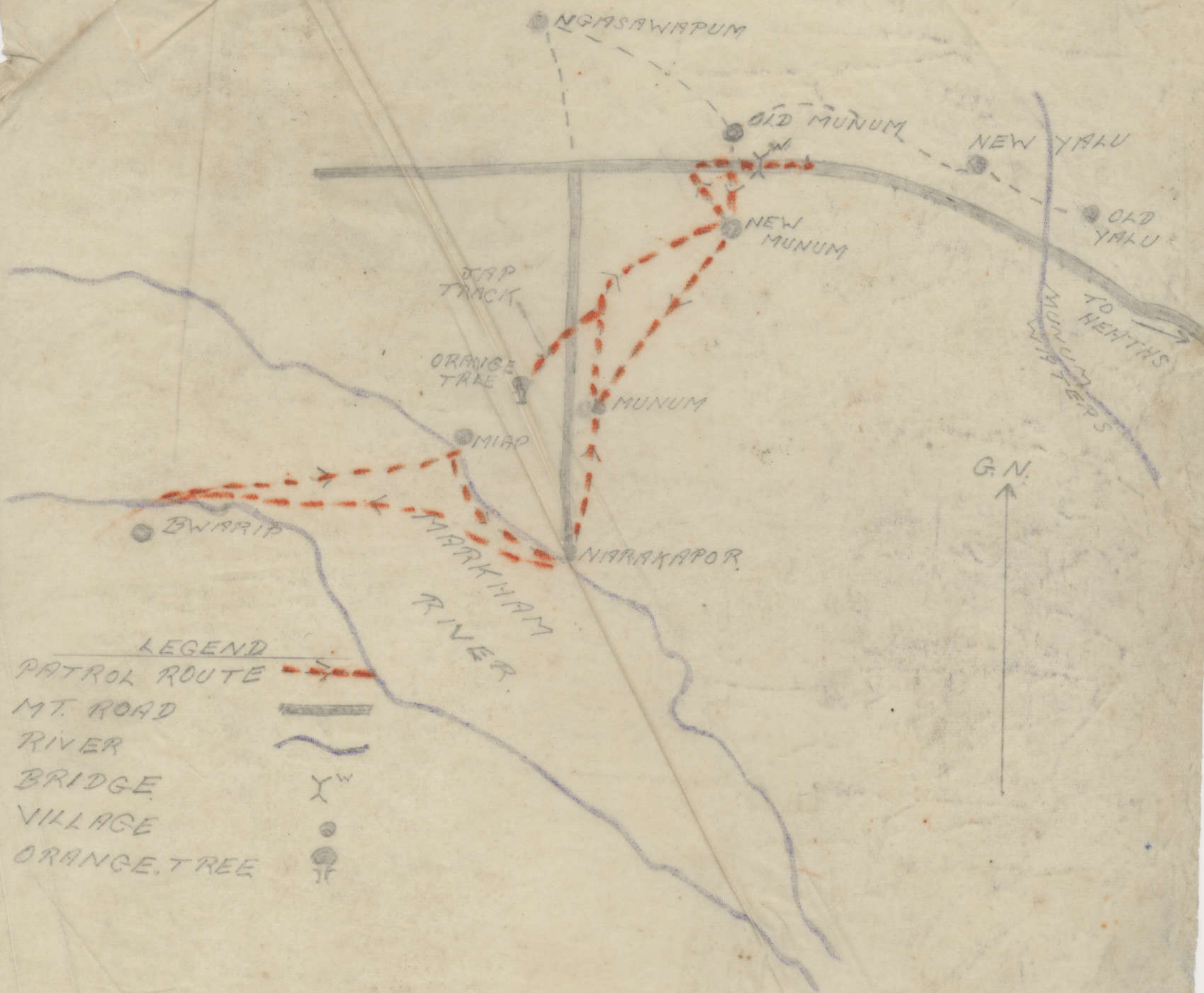
RUBBER BOAT. This type of boat is an excellent means of crossing MARKHAM RIVER being very buoyant.

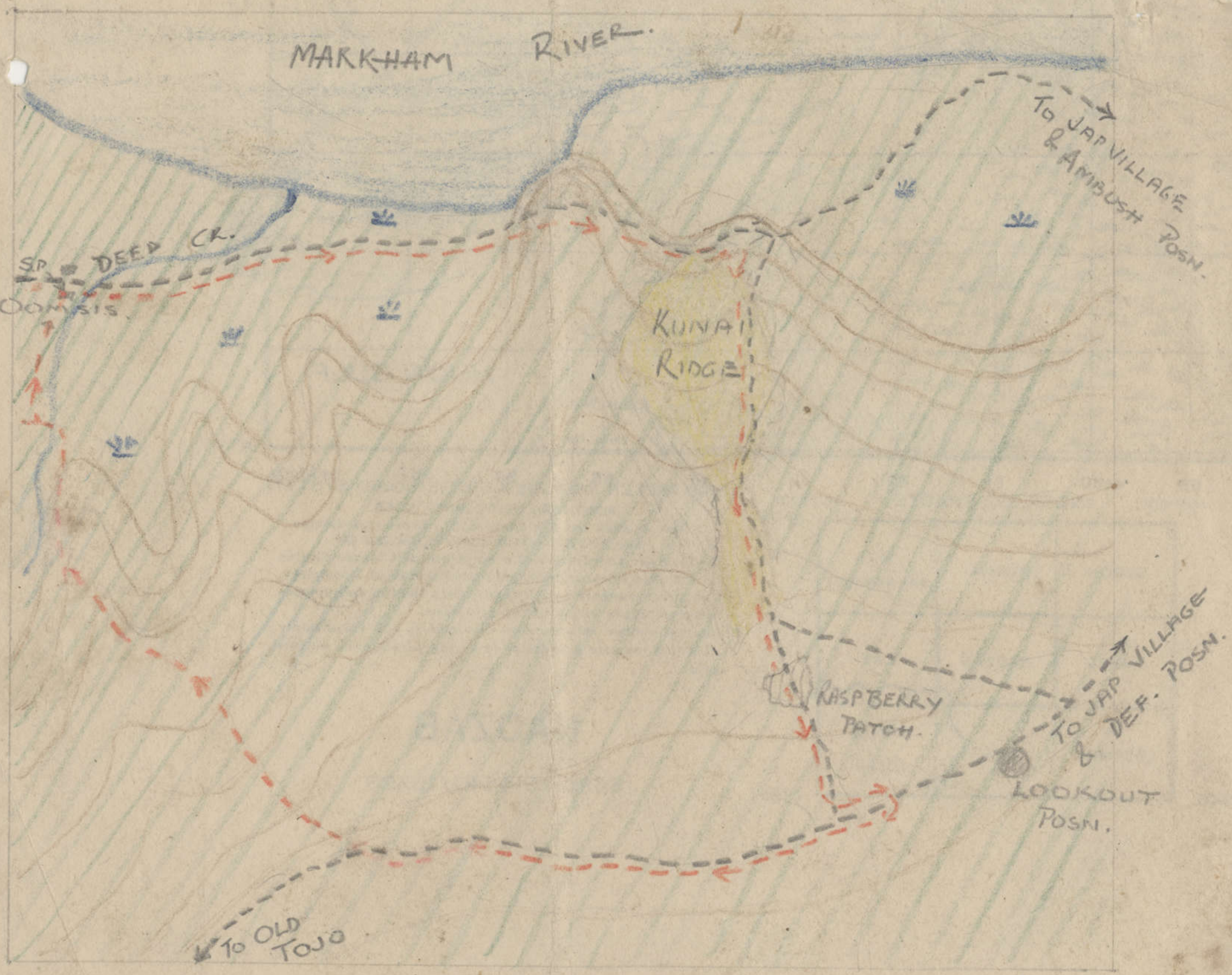
In order to maintain secrecy I suggest that future patrols of a similar nature in this area be conducted on same lines as one above.

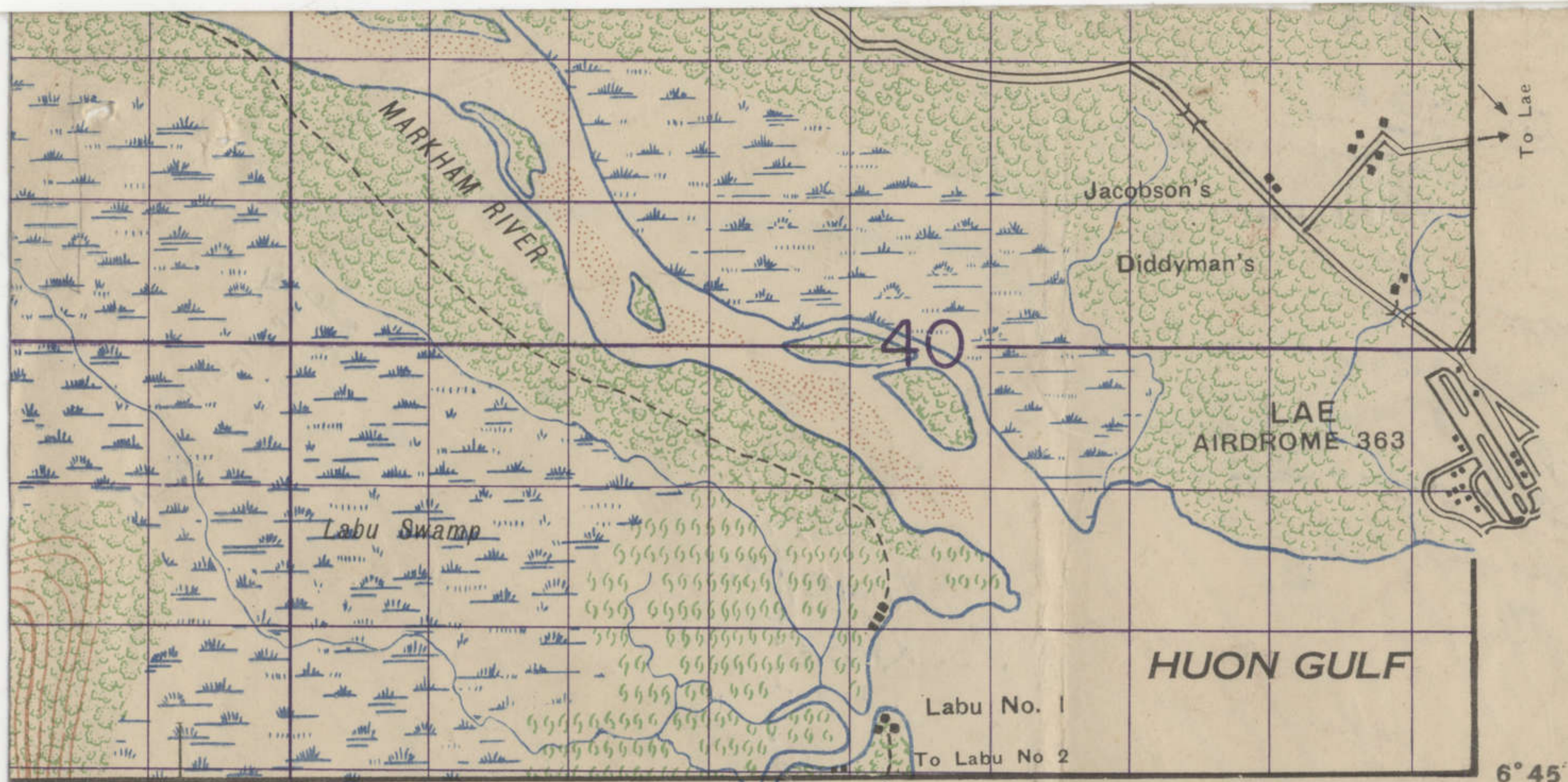
Signed A.J. Smith A/Cpl.

SKETCH MAP OF PATROL ROUTE TO  
OLD MUNUM - NEW MUNUM AREA

SCALE 1/4 INCH = 1 MILE







8 59 2660 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 2668000  
 146°20' INDEX TO SHEETS 147°20' 6°15'

LERON	BOANA	MT SALAWAKET
WAIME	NADZAB	LAE
ROAMER	WAGO	HUON GULF

1000 METER MODIFIED BRITISH GRID SYSTEM  
 SOUTHERN NEW GUINEA ZONE

Origin of grid: Lat 8°S Long 150°E, whose coordinates are X=3,000,000 M and Y=1,000,000 M  
 To give the coordinates of a point use only larger figures on the grid lines, and add estimated tenths of kilometers. The small numbers at the corners are the full coordinates referred to the origin of the grid zone.  
 Nearest similar reference on this grid is 500 km distant. ALWAYS indicate grid letter in giving a reference on this grid.

# NADZAB

S630 - E14640/15X20

ation 1940  
 3'

7°00'

6°45'

Copy.

Most Secret

Subject

Standing Patrol - Markham Point

Headquarters  
2/6 Aust. Inf. Bn  
Ref No HQ/3/6  
13 April 43

C.O 2/5 Aust. Ind. Coy.

You will establish a small standing observation patrol in area vicinity of MARKHAM POINT

2. Object

1. To obtain early warning of any JAP movement SOUTH of MARKHAM RIVER in this area

JAP sentries on SOUTH side of river to be observed daily

2. To endeavour to locate suitable OP in this area from which view of HEATHS may be obtained

3. It is suggested that the patrol be relieved every two or three days and that sufficient rations be carried to cover period out, in order to obviate any maintenance.

4. Report covering patrol to MARKHAM POINT, together with sketch, is all for info.

5. Please advise this HQ when arrangements are completed giving full details.

F. G. Wood Lt Col  
Commanding 3/6 Aust Inf Bn

Copies to - War Diary (3)  
Standing over file  
File.

Copy.

Patrol Report

Ref. Map

- (1) HUON GULF (Special) 4 mi : 1 in
- (2) Sketch map (attach) 1 mi : 1 in

Patrol fauna by

16 Pl. "D" Bay 2/6 Aust Inf Bn

Patrol boundaries

Sp. Banlaw. T. W

Patrol strength

1 NCO & 010

Name of Patrol

Ricee.

Time out

0900 hrs 5 Apr 43

Time in

1655 hrs 6 Apr 43

Object

To keep under observation wooded islands opposite MARKHAM POINT for at least 3 hrs by ~~day~~ <sup>night</sup> and 4 hrs by ~~night~~ <sup>day</sup> for possible enemy movements.

Route out

Track OP-00MSIS-MARKHAM Pt.

Route in

Reverse to route out.

Narrative

Patrol left OP (L) RE 545 and proceeded to 00MSIS where booby traps were inspected and runner sent back to O.P. to report that they were O.K.

We then followed the TAP track up a high kunai ridge and, at old TAP bivouac area, entered the jungle.

Ten minutes <sup>LATER</sup> we came to one of our booby traps which, on inspection, proved to be O.K.

A little further on an excellent view of MARKHAM Pt and RIVER and country NORTH and WEST of LAE was obtained through a small break in the timber.

Then followed track (as per all sketch map) and after 1 hrs adv, the first native shelter was reached and a further 3 hrs brought us to the second.

From here track was followed through swamp and at 1600 hrs DEEP CK was reached.



The creek was crossed by means of a recently felled log and ground in the vicinity was searched for traces of recent JAP movement without result.

Then creek was followed down for 15 mins. Patrol waded across and moved down to edge of river.

From here NO wooded island opposite MARKHAM PT could be seen, so patrol proceeded upstream for 800 yds but could see NO island which would compare to the one being sought.

Patrol returned to within 200 yds of DEEP CK and chose a tree for use as an OP.

This tree afforded an excellent view of MARKHAM RIVER for approx 1 mi up and down stream and, from this pt, patrol could hold island opposite MARKHAM PT under constant observation.

This island is approx 800 yds long and covered with very little vegetation, which affords NO cover for enemy troops.

We watched this island from 1515 hrs until 1910 hrs and then established a listening post on edge of river until 2300 hrs.

During this time NO enemy movement was seen or heard.

Observation was resumed at 0545 hrs 6 Apr 43 and island was watched until 0800 hrs.

Patrol was then definitely of the opinion that JAPS were NOT using the island for any purpose.

Approx 1 mi EAST of the mouth of DEEP CK we observed a timbered ridge running down to the MARKHAM RIVER.

Patrol moved towards this ridge to ascertain if there was another island which would fit into the patrol's object and, after crossing DEEP CK, we forced our way through undergrowth and joined OOMSIS MARKHAM PT track approx 300 yds EAST of DEEP CK.

Proceeded along track for 10 mins and then crossed heavily timbered spur which jutted down to river's edge.

The ground here was soft and level and recent footprints of a small JAP party were found.

3.

From this point, patrol followed track, stopping at frequent intervals to observe river bank, at NO stage, were any further islands (apart from mud banks) seen.

Approx 2,000 yds EAST of DEEP CK patrol came to a small clearing and 25 yds ahead, was a heavily timbered spur, running from MARKHAM PT to river's edge.

At this point patrol comdr looked straight along track and saw a small shelter on crest of spur.

This shelter was approx 40 yds distant 10 ft on the river side of the shelter a TAP sentry was standing beside tree.

The sentry was about 50 yds from the river up the slope of the spur.

He was facing the river and seemed to be taking NO interest in his surroundings.

The sentry was dressed in what appeared to be a dark gabardine uniform and was wearing a ~~hat~~ cap of the same material.

A bayonet was fixed to his rifle, and at NO time, did he look in any direction other than directly across the river.

Patrol comdr covered sentry until remainder of patrol had moved to a pass from which they could cover his withdrawal.

I then joined them and we remained at this point for approx 10 mins in case we had been seen and a patrol sent after us.

NO further TAP movement was noticed and patrol moved back on to track at approx 0900 hrs we moved into OOMSIS.

We had lunch & rested here until 1530 hrs. At this time we met the OOMSIS patrol and returned to the CP at 1655 hrs.

### Conclusions

Island  
The island opposite MARKHAM PT affords NO cover and, in my opinion it is not being used for any purpose whatsoever.

TAP sentry  
I can give ~~no~~ explanation as to why this man was facing the river as all he could see in this direction is thick jungle and also approx 1/2 mi up stream.

TP. Sentry (continued)

He appeared to be thinking rather deeply  
and it is possible that he was absent-  
mindedly facing the wrong direction.

I suggest that he is a member of a JAP  
standing patrol covering the track from  
MARKHAM PT to the sea.

Bobby traps.

As we contacted NO JAP Bobby traps  
it is evident that our former patrols in  
this area have aroused no suspicion.

I would also like to bring to notice  
the splendid work of Ples Kelleher & Wade  
throughout the patrol, especially the calm  
manner in which they acted in covering  
my withdrawal from the JAP sentry.

Signed. J. W. Barlow, Cpl.

The reason for sending the patrol to  
a base the islands mentioned was  
because Sgts West & Russell who had  
just returned from LAE OP, were of  
the opinion that JAPS were using an  
island off MARKHAM PT as a hideout.

Signed W. R. Neeken, Capt.

PATROLS TO MARKHAM POINT (continued).PATROL No 2.

Patrol Personnel Cpl BAKER R.M., Pte SPRINGER F., Pte BONNELL J.M.  
of A Pl 2/5 Aust Ind Coy.

Object of Patrol As for Patrol No 1.

Time of setting Out Full details are not yet to hand. The following is a brief outline.

Movement 21 April Moved through Jap bivouac area on DEEP CK down to the same spot where the "sentry" had been heard. Found nobody and went up to point where "sentry" was presumed to have been. Only old tracks were found. Turned right in a South-easterly direction over wooded spur. Crossed stretch of 3-400 yards width on to next spur. Up this latter spur the track, presumably to old MARKHAM O.P., runs. Followed this track in an easterly direction toward LABU. Proceeding along this track came to a slip-rail tied across the track. From there could observe a hut about 50 yards away. Remained WELL hidden and observed for 2-3 minutes. At this moment Japs opened fire 2 MG's (thought LMG's) and Pte BONNELL was killed outright with first burst. Anticipating a Jap move to prevent any of the patrol returning the 2 remaining men withdrew and made their way back to BEN'S O.P. The time that the Japs opened fire was approx 1030 hrs.

CONCLUSIONS. It would appear that the original Jap reported to be a sentry at MARKHAM PT is one of a fishing party in the deep pool below MARKHAM PT spur who is posted as a guard while the main party is fishing. Evidence of the presence of Jap patrols some distance up the track leading to the old O.P. will be further substantiated when more detailed reports are to hand.

The Jap has evidently a standing patrol some considerable distance beyond MARKHAM PT on the old track leading from LABU to the O.P. As an aiming post for his fixed lines of fire, he has evidently fitted the slip-rail mentioned in the above report across the track and possibly some 50 yards beyond the actual forward position of the patrol. It is this position which was reached by Cpl BAKER's patrol.

It is my opinion that this standing patrol is to prevent access to the LABU hide-out or to the mangrove lined channels where his barges are kept during daylight.

Another patrol has gone forward to the same area but no suitable O.P. has been found. It is my considered opinion that recon patrols constitute the only way of gaining information but that continual daily recon patrols might entice the enemy to follow them up and track them down to SABENSIS and thus put Tojo in danger of either being found or of having his L of C cut.

Further details and circumstantial evidence in the way of Jap wrappers and papers are due at this H.Q. tomorrow and will be forwarded to you without delay.

As an O.P. on HEATHS Tojo still remains the only practicable O.P.

Copies 1 HQ KANGA  
1 2/6 Bn  
1 File

Signed N.L. WINNING Capt.  
O.C., 2/5 Aust Ind Coy.

68 5/4

1917  
1918

1917  
1918

The following is a list of names of persons who were members of the 1st Battalion, 1st Infantry Regiment, Australian Imperial Force, during the period 1917-1918.

The names are listed in alphabetical order of their surnames.

1. [Name] 2. [Name] 3. [Name] 4. [Name] 5. [Name] 6. [Name] 7. [Name] 8. [Name] 9. [Name] 10. [Name] 11. [Name] 12. [Name] 13. [Name] 14. [Name] 15. [Name] 16. [Name] 17. [Name] 18. [Name] 19. [Name] 20. [Name] 21. [Name] 22. [Name] 23. [Name] 24. [Name] 25. [Name] 26. [Name] 27. [Name] 28. [Name] 29. [Name] 30. [Name] 31. [Name] 32. [Name] 33. [Name] 34. [Name] 35. [Name] 36. [Name] 37. [Name] 38. [Name] 39. [Name] 40. [Name] 41. [Name] 42. [Name] 43. [Name] 44. [Name] 45. [Name] 46. [Name] 47. [Name] 48. [Name] 49. [Name] 50. [Name] 51. [Name] 52. [Name] 53. [Name] 54. [Name] 55. [Name] 56. [Name] 57. [Name] 58. [Name] 59. [Name] 60. [Name] 61. [Name] 62. [Name] 63. [Name] 64. [Name] 65. [Name] 66. [Name] 67. [Name] 68. [Name] 69. [Name] 70. [Name] 71. [Name] 72. [Name] 73. [Name] 74. [Name] 75. [Name] 76. [Name] 77. [Name] 78. [Name] 79. [Name] 80. [Name] 81. [Name] 82. [Name] 83. [Name] 84. [Name] 85. [Name] 86. [Name] 87. [Name] 88. [Name] 89. [Name] 90. [Name] 91. [Name] 92. [Name] 93. [Name] 94. [Name] 95. [Name] 96. [Name] 97. [Name] 98. [Name] 99. [Name] 100. [Name]

Continued

The following is a list of names of persons who were members of the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry Regiment, Australian Imperial Force, during the period 1917-1918.

The names are listed in alphabetical order of their surnames.

1. [Name] 2. [Name] 3. [Name] 4. [Name] 5. [Name] 6. [Name] 7. [Name] 8. [Name] 9. [Name] 10. [Name] 11. [Name] 12. [Name] 13. [Name] 14. [Name] 15. [Name] 16. [Name] 17. [Name] 18. [Name] 19. [Name] 20. [Name] 21. [Name] 22. [Name] 23. [Name] 24. [Name] 25. [Name] 26. [Name] 27. [Name] 28. [Name] 29. [Name] 30. [Name] 31. [Name] 32. [Name] 33. [Name] 34. [Name] 35. [Name] 36. [Name] 37. [Name] 38. [Name] 39. [Name] 40. [Name] 41. [Name] 42. [Name] 43. [Name] 44. [Name] 45. [Name] 46. [Name] 47. [Name] 48. [Name] 49. [Name] 50. [Name] 51. [Name] 52. [Name] 53. [Name] 54. [Name] 55. [Name] 56. [Name] 57. [Name] 58. [Name] 59. [Name] 60. [Name] 61. [Name] 62. [Name] 63. [Name] 64. [Name] 65. [Name] 66. [Name] 67. [Name] 68. [Name] 69. [Name] 70. [Name] 71. [Name] 72. [Name] 73. [Name] 74. [Name] 75. [Name] 76. [Name] 77. [Name] 78. [Name] 79. [Name] 80. [Name] 81. [Name] 82. [Name] 83. [Name] 84. [Name] 85. [Name] 86. [Name] 87. [Name] 88. [Name] 89. [Name] 90. [Name] 91. [Name] 92. [Name] 93. [Name] 94. [Name] 95. [Name] 96. [Name] 97. [Name] 98. [Name] 99. [Name] 100. [Name]

Captain Sheppard?

The following is a list of names of persons who were members of the 3rd Battalion, 1st Infantry Regiment, Australian Imperial Force, during the period 1917-1918.

The names are listed in alphabetical order of their surnames.

1. [Name] 2. [Name] 3. [Name] 4. [Name] 5. [Name] 6. [Name] 7. [Name] 8. [Name] 9. [Name] 10. [Name] 11. [Name] 12. [Name] 13. [Name] 14. [Name] 15. [Name] 16. [Name] 17. [Name] 18. [Name] 19. [Name] 20. [Name] 21. [Name] 22. [Name] 23. [Name] 24. [Name] 25. [Name] 26. [Name] 27. [Name] 28. [Name] 29. [Name] 30. [Name] 31. [Name] 32. [Name] 33. [Name] 34. [Name] 35. [Name] 36. [Name] 37. [Name] 38. [Name] 39. [Name] 40. [Name] 41. [Name] 42. [Name] 43. [Name] 44. [Name] 45. [Name] 46. [Name] 47. [Name] 48. [Name] 49. [Name] 50. [Name] 51. [Name] 52. [Name] 53. [Name] 54. [Name] 55. [Name] 56. [Name] 57. [Name] 58. [Name] 59. [Name] 60. [Name] 61. [Name] 62. [Name] 63. [Name] 64. [Name] 65. [Name] 66. [Name] 67. [Name] 68. [Name] 69. [Name] 70. [Name] 71. [Name] 72. [Name] 73. [Name] 74. [Name] 75. [Name] 76. [Name] 77. [Name] 78. [Name] 79. [Name] 80. [Name] 81. [Name] 82. [Name] 83. [Name] 84. [Name] 85. [Name] 86. [Name] 87. [Name] 88. [Name] 89. [Name] 90. [Name] 91. [Name] 92. [Name] 93. [Name] 94. [Name] 95. [Name] 96. [Name] 97. [Name] 98. [Name] 99. [Name] 100. [Name]

HQ 2/5 Aust Ind Coy  
22 April 43.

PATROLS TO MARKHAM POINT.

PATROL No 1.

Patrol Personnel. A/Cpl ATFIELD A.T.; Pte EDWARDS L., Pte STRINGER F.  
of A Pl 2/5 Aust Ind Coy.

Object of Patrol. 1. To establish, if a suitable position could be obtained, an O.P. giving early warning of Jap movement along the South bank of MARKHAM RIVER.  
2. To observe movements and habits of sentry reported in this area by 2/6 Bn (D Coy).

Time of Setting Out. 0900 hrs 18 A pr 43 from BENS O.P.

Movement of Patrol. 1015 arrived OOMSIS village.  
1120 found old but clear Jap footprints around swampy area, followed track along kunai spur, keeping off skyline all the while.

1215 found spot where enemy had, at one time, spent some hours. Thought to be site of old O.P. This spot within a hundred (100) yards of timber. Found wrappings (as from chocolate), a page of book written in foreign language and a form sheet.

1221 found booby traps sprung (either by own violation or by some animal).

1232 traces of another old O.P. position - traces of fire and resting places of palm leaves.

1420 Lunch at fair sized creek.

1515 came to first hut then to where second had been.

1526 found spot where Jap had previously camped - bivouac area on DEEP CK. Here found old food tins (Two of our own emergency rations tins, stamped DD, thrown in bushes alongside. Thought possibly left by previous patrol). Crossed by log over stream and moved along track, which appeared to have been used recently

1700 immediately on arriving at top of a very steep climb movement below was heard about 20 yards away followed by a swish of paddles and voices and a glimpse of a grey coloured hat. Thought to be "sentry". Undergrowth too thick to see further. Examining the ground bootprints were found - some herringbone pattern, some split toe Jap sandal pattern. Were unable to get any further towards boat and it moved off. Presumed that at this time the man watching was taken away. Moved further up ridge but could not see. Waited for 20 minutes here but saw no further movement, and so moved up the spur in the hope of finding a suitable O.P.

1840 found no suitable O.P. but came across track presumed to lead old LAE O.P. Camped for the night.

19 April 0545 thick fog.

0745 fog lifted. Found good spot for view of HEATHS by climbing tree (nearest limb 20 feet from ground). Suitable for O.P. but dangerous as it appears Jap moves around all this vicinity.

1100 arrived DEEP CREEK.

1300 could not find suitable spot to watch guard but found a suitable spot to watch any boat, but still not able to see guard's position (1 yard visibility).

1530 boat seen coming up river from direction of LAE. Contained 6 Japs and 2 natives. All, except one native, got out of boat. No weapons visible, men stripped to waist, wearing no headgear, trousers of grey material. Jap commenced fishing with net - some beating water wildly while others waded downstream with nets.

1620 boat moved upstream, men still wading with net and disappeared.

1720 decided to investigate sentry's position. waited and then moved up carefully. Found no sign of him. Decided he had moved off with others. Returned to DEEP CK and camped.

20 April 0740 set out for BEN'S O.P.

1100 met Cpl BAKER and Pte BONNELL near hut. A/Cpl ATFIELD and Pte EDWARDS returned to BEN'S O.P. at 1500 having left Cpl BAKER R.M., Ptes STRINGER F. and BONNELL J.M. to carry on patrol from DEEP CK.

DS/6

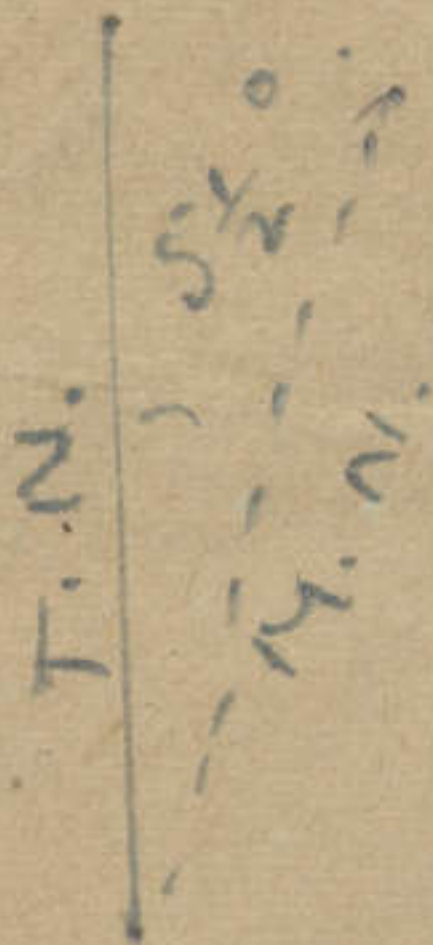
BEN.

WAMPIT CABANSIS.

45 MINS

BLAZED TREE.

4 HOURS. 30 MINS



TOTAL TRAVEALING TIME

SCALE

= 1 MILE

||

SKETCH MAP

TRACK. HALFWAY - CAB. BEN. SIS. TO. TIMNE. - WAMPI

WEATHER. FINE.

TO. TIME. 1 HOUR. 20 MINS.

TO. TIME. WAMPIT.

MUMBUN

TO. YAGAU

WF

6967



PATROL REPORT.

Ref No D 13

REF MAP SKETCH MAP ATTACHED

1 inch to 1 mile

10 MAR.43.

PATROL FOUND BY 16 PL. BOBS

PATROL COMD

PTE MORTYN V.L.

PATROL STRENGTH 2 PTES

NATURE OF PATROL

RECCE

TIME OUT 0815 hrs 8 MAR.43

TIME IN 1600 hrs 9 MAR.43

OBJECT OF PATROL:

To recce track from HALF-WAY HUTS WAMPIT-GABENSIS track WAMPIT-TIMNE

ROUTE OUT GABENSIS to TIMNE

ROUTE IN Reverse of route out.

NARRATIVE.

STAGE 1. BEN to HALF-WAY HUTS. Left BEN at 0815 hrs travelled main BEN- WAMPIT track to blazed tree 10 minutes West of HALF-WAY HUTS.

STAGE 2. HALF-WAY HUTS to WAMPIT-TIMNE track. Travelled 10 minutes then turned South West and followed track, which was indistinct, but fairly good surface. The track veers to the left in S.W. direction. For the first 75 minutes the track is soft and boggy in the low ground and is hard to follow in water courses, but can be traced by blazed trees. On the high ground it is more defined, but is fairly hard going, the surface is firm but small roots make it very slippery. Several small water courses are crossed. Over this stretch there is swamp on the right and steep rising ground on the left. For next 40 minutes the track is fairly well defined, is flat and good going with level jungle country both sides. There is a Kanaka track going off to the right on this portion, and five small creeks are crossed. For the next 40 minutes the track runs through low ground on edge of swamp and high ground on the left. The track is very boggy and hard to follow in the low ground - some water courses are crossed. There are some short inclines and declines where the track leaves the low ground for short distances. There are two small native huts on the right of the track at the beginning of this stretch.

At the end of the 40 minutes a creek is reached, which is followed upstream 100 yds, where it forks. Take the right hand stream.

For the next 30 minutes there is a steep climb to the top of the mountain.

The track is stony and not slippery. Halfway up the mountain the kunai banks of the WAMPIT, can be seen through the trees. With the timbers cut down a good view of WAMPIT would be observed. Halfway down the mountain, 20 yds of the track is visible to mountain directly South.

After leaving the <sup>mountain</sup> the track follows down a water course for five minutes and crosses large stream. For the next 35 minutes the track runs over low country and crosses some small water courses. Most of the track over this portion is soft and slippery and is hard to follow in water courses.

For next 35 minutes there are two inclines but otherwise the track is well defined. *via Mt Chungol.*

The MUMBUN track is passed 15 minutes before reaching TIMNE-WAMPIT track.

Total time from HALF-WAY HUTS, WAMPIT-GABENSIS track to TIMNE-WAMPIT track is : 4 HRS 30 MINS.

Plus 1 HR 20 MINS to TIMNE

Plus 55 MINS BEN to HALFWAY HUTS

TOTAL FROM BEN to TIMNE

6 HOURS 45 MINUTES.

Signed V.L.Mortyn Pte.

*Wampit to Caps*

Report on Patrol in which Sgt Reynolds Wounded

1/ Strength of Patrol. Sgt Reynolds' Last's Grade is 1st Lt. Ref. No. 11402 AB. etc.  
2/ Arms. 2 M. G. Rifles, 1 Pistol, 6 Grenades, 1 mortar of regular type  
3/ Object. To obtain photos from Ledge 552 421 to VADZAB.  
4/ Narrative. Patrol departed DEERCK MR 530436 at 0700 for Ledge 552 421, at MR 530424 patrol noticed fresh Australian & native footprints which they followed until ambushed at approx MR 545 413. Sgt Reynolds' Patrol were on the track and Lieut Marsh had gone down to ledge in order to take photos he was about 50 yds from patrol when it was ambushed. Reynolds was in the last step had walked into the centre of ambush, when he was fired on from a very close range. The first shot hit Reynolds' arm and when he went to grab his own gun to return the fire he found his right arm was useless, when he was hit the force of the shot knocked him down. The enemy fired several bursts from an LMG at an approx distance of 30 to 40 yds at him and at the same time automatic Rifle and sub machine gun fire was directed at him. As soon as Reynolds saw the trap he was in endeavoured to warn the remainder of the party and ordered them to get out and not to wait for him. However the natives did not go but stayed and covered Reynolds who had by this time risen to his feet and was endeavouring to make a break for it, after hand to hand killing two of the enemy for certain and making the fire of the remainder of the ambush practically cease, Reynolds made good his escape and managed to return to Deerck without further injury.

Lieut Marsh it appears was not actually with the patrol at the time of the ambush. However the enemy directed LMG fire at him, according to Sgt Reynolds he was in no form to take part in the action.

It appears that as soon as Reynolds was fired on he realized his position and

and thinking he was done for ordered his patrol to get out, he showed absolute disregard for personal safety and his main worry at the time seems to have been the safety of the remainder of the patrol.

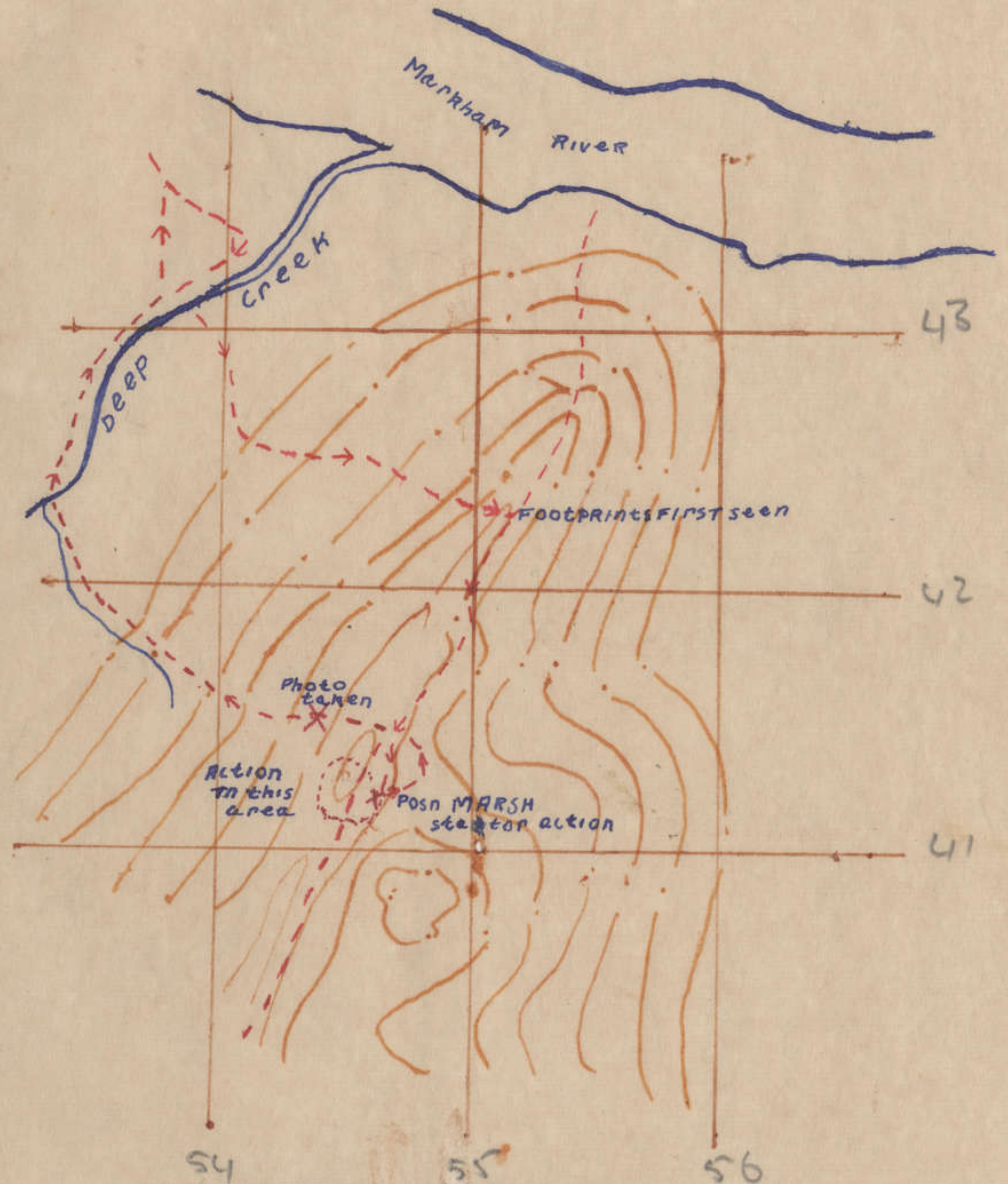
4 Strength of Enemy Ammunition  
1 HMG 1 LMG & 1 automatic Rifle  
Enemy observed  
one new Guinean wearing Jap uniform and Steel helmet was seen to be a member of the LMG crew

5 Casualties  
Our Sgt Reynolds wounded Enemy, 2 killed  
[The following text is extremely faint and largely illegible, appearing to be a detailed account of the engagement.]

SKETCH MAP OF

ACTION OF 25 JULY 43

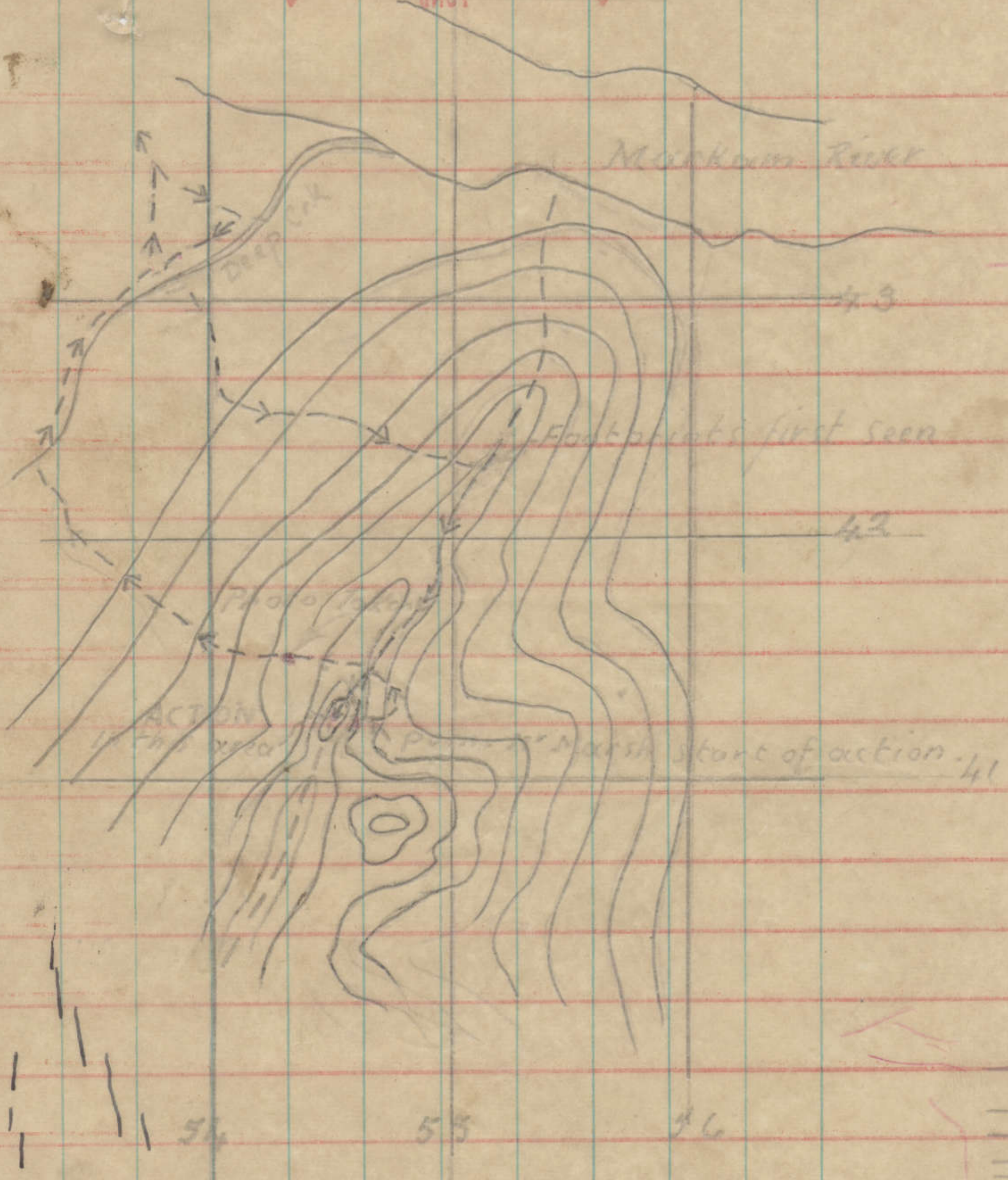
By Lieut MARSH L.R.



Map Ref NADZAB 1-1 mile

ACTION AREA 545-413  
Footprints first seen 551-424  
Photo taken 543-416

SHEET 107 25 July 43.



MAP REF NADZAB 1"=1mi.

ACTION AREA 545413

FOOT PRINT FIRST SEEN 551424

PHOTO TAKEN 543416.

Chris

RWH.

COPY.  
PATROL REPORT.

15

To I.C.C.

TYPE OF PATROL, RECCE.

FROM 13 Pl. C Coy. BENS O.P.

DATE 29 May 43.

TOTAL. 21

PATROL STRENGTH 1 off. 2 Cpls. 15 o/rs. (13 Pl) 1 I. Cpl. 1 SB. Sgt. 1 SB. all ranks

ARMAMENT 5 Owen Guns, 16 Rifles, 8 4Sec. & 4 7Sec. Grenades.

OBJECT. (1) Recce. Jap ambush posn. MARKHAM POINT area  
(2) Recce. tracks to OLD TOJO and NEW LABU for enemy activity & movements

WEATHER Heavy rain day 1 & day 2.

ROUTE OUT Day 1. BEN O.P. - COMSIS - DEEP WATER CREEK.

Day 2. DEEP WATER CREEK - South bank of MARKHAM R. to approx. 619408

ROUTE IN Day 3. Reverse of route out. NADZAB 1 inch.

TIME OUT 27/5/43 Day 1. - 0600 - BEN O.P. Day 1. - 1500hrs - DEEP WATER CK.

28/5/43 Day 2. - 0630 - DEEP WATER CK. Day 2. - 1300hrs - DEEP WATER CK.

28/5/43 Day 2. - 1400 - DEEP WATER CK. Day 3. - 1100hrs - BENS O.P. 29/5/43

Ref. NADZAB 1" - 1 Mile.

DETAILS :- Party travelled from BEN O.P. arrived COMSIS 0730, lunch at creek ref. 505446, 1000-1100hrs. Arrived DEEP WATER CREEK 1500hrs. A recce. party of 9 men comd. by Cpl. MURPHY and including Cpl. ROBERTSON I Sec. crossed log over ck. at 1510hrs. and moved forward to JAP ambush posn. Covering party of 4 men comd. by Cpl. WILLIAMSON covered the recce. party from EAST side of ck. Recce. party returned 1700hrs. and reported JAP ambush posn. clear of enemy. They patrolled also the track located by Cpl. GRAY (14 Pl) on 21 MAY but did NOT find where tracks joined. They believed the track mentioned is NOT OLD TOJO track, but is a track leading to a JAP O.P. (I still think this is TOJO track) A JAP message form was found on the track at approx. 557428.

After the return of the recce. party, a perimeter defence in the vicinity of the log across DEEP WATER Ck. was established and sentries posted.

At 0630hrs. stand to was ordered. Conference held 0645hrs., and 0730 Cpls. MURPHY & ROBERTSON, covered by Cpl. WILLIAMSON and 3 Ptes. (incl. 1 SB), crossed the log. They were covered by the remainder of the force from the WEST side of creek for 20 minutes. The ambush posn. was thoroughly examined by the party (see sketch) and Cpl. WILLIAMSON occupied it with his party whilst Cpls. MURPHY & ROBERTSON and 6 Ptes. moved forward 10 minutes past the ambush posn. a JAP camp of 36 Huts & two lean-to's was found. The huts were of average dimensions 24ft. X 16ft. and were well constructed of bamboo with grass roofs, but had earthen floors. Each hut had a bamboo sleeping platform over the greater part of the interior of each hut some three ft. above the ground. Underneath the platform a fire place was usually sited in about the center of the hut. Several of the huts had tins for use as wash basins also under the sleeping platform. It is estimated that the huts would house an average of 15-20 men. Each hut had a two man dug-out situated from 5 to 15 yds. from the hut. The huts had, generally speaking, open fronts, and ~~XXXXXX~~ some had open sides. One well constructed latrine with screen, was seen between the huts and the river track. Another latrine in bad condition was found up the hill towards the rear of the camp. Both the ambush posn. and the camp were sited on the side of very steep spurs. Numerous articles have been found and forwarded under separate cover today per safe hand of Pte. JONES. A track runs from the river track SOUTH between the ambush and the camp and then EAST above the camp. The existence of two lean-to's near the corner of the track (ref. 566424) gave the impression that they were used as listening-posts by night sentries. The ambush was well sited and strongly constructed, but was obvious to see when approaching from DEEP WATER Ck. Two-man and one-man, round weapon-pits, were sited at the rear of the ambush posn generally, although a couple were sited forward of the ambush. It was constructed to give fields of fire (enfilade in one case) to N.E., NW., and from EAST to WEST. From the condition of the huts and the ambush it is thought that they were vacated about two weeks ago. Several wooden chests approx. 3' x 2' x 2' with dove tailed ends and metal handles were seen. The river track immediately in front of the huts was approx. 3' wide with freshly-turned earth and could be made jeepable. Two possible landing posns and gun pits 5' in diam. by 2' deep (approx.) were on the river bank in front of the huts. These posns are suitable for TK/A rifles and M.M.Gs.

WTP:

The patrol then moved 30 mins. (approx.) along the river track to a point where a large native village of approx. 15 huts was seen on a large wooded island near the NORTH bank of the river. Natives of both sexes were seen moving about the village and fishing in the river. About 10 Mins. further EAST is a similar village of approx. 6 huts. This village is also occupied and twelve canoes (native craft) were also seen. NO Japs seen about either village although kept under observation for approx. 15 mins.

Opposite the smaller village the river track petered out and Cpls. MURPHY and ROBERTSON went on alone through bush and native gardens until another track found at approx. 612415. The frame work of a hut in the clearing nearby was noticed. The two Cpls. moved down the new track, after examining the hut and clearing, for approx. 30 mins., until about 1130 hrs, at this point the track again apparently petered out into the MARKHAM. (This track probably continues on to LABU NO.1.)

Thick Pit Pit along the bank hid any view of the sea. The two Cpls. returned through the bush to the Patrol, so as NOT to be seen by the natives, and the party then returned through the Jap huts to the ambush posn, where Cpl. WILLIAMSON and party were contacted at approx. 1230 hrs. After further examining the Jap posn the party returned to the perm. base at DEEPWATER CK arriving at 1300 hrs. NO enemy were sighted during the patrol.

COMMUNICATIONS. Battle phone was laid from BENS O.P. to our ambush posn and communication was excellent (7 miles of cable used). 0830 hrs. 28 May Ptes. OLSEN and BARKER left DEEPWATER CK to carry message of result of recce of 27 May. This infm reached BENS O.P. at 1125 hrs. and was phoned to DEX at 1135. Extension of battle phone beyond our ambush posn was NOT successful.

HEALTH. Generally good, but practically all men suffered from rashes caused by wet clothes, chafing. NO casualties were sustained but evacuation from Jap ambush to our ambush would be particularly difficult if either walking wounded or stretcher cases.

Medical supplies taken (MEDICAL HAVERSACK) were found to be adequate. Socks and boots were a big problem and caused some foot trouble. It is thought that DEEPWATER CK should be considered as a possible means of evacuation up-stream to SAC SAC track.

SUPPLIES. The patrol carried three days rations (1 day operational ration) and two blocks of ration chocolate per man. Rations are considered to be accurate but occupy a fair amount of bulk in each man's kit on forward journey.

CONCLUSION.

1. NO Japanese found in occupation of MARKHAM POINT.
2. NO enemy activity found OLD TOJC or new LABU.
3. River track passable to at LEAST 619408.

(Sgd.) IRVING, W.M.

RANK. Lieut.

DATE 29 MAY 43.

PLACE BENS O.P.

PATROL REPORT.

To. I.O.

26

TYPE OF PATROL.

STANDING

~~RECCE~~

~~FIGHTING~~

From BEN. O.P.

Date 27/5/43.

PATROL STRENGTH 2 N.C.O's. 6 O.R's.

ARMAMENT 1 LMG. 2 SMG. 5 RIFLES.

OBJECT MAN. AMBUSH POSITION + PATROL FWD.

WEATHER FINE DURING DAY; WET AT NIGHT

ROUTE OUT BEN O.P. VIA DOMSIS, TO AMBUSH POSITION.  
(NADZAB 499448 APP)

ROUTE IN REVERSE ROUTE OUT.

TIME OUT 0700 hrs 25/5/43 TIME IN 1330 hrs 27/5/43.

DETAILS. PATROL REPORT.

Tuesday 25/5/43:- Lt/Col. Cooley + 7 O.R's left BEN. O.P. at 0700 hrs arrived Ambush Post 1030 hrs. 1100 hrs U/I A/C passed over position flying in direction of Lae. 1105 hrs approx. 10 loud explosions heard in direction of Lae. 1230 hrs No. 2. Coy "Kakama" + 7 other natives passed thro. Ambush Post from Lae. Natives reported Japs had left Lae. 1300 hrs Lt/Col. Ferris + 2 O.R's patrolled 1 hr (NADZAB 524439 approx) fwd of Ambush Post, arrived back 1500 hrs. Nil Report.

Wednesday 26/5/43:- At 0800 hrs Lt/Col. Cooley + 2 O.R's patrolled fwd of our Ambush Post. to Deepwater bk. (Stedzab approx 545427). Arrived Deepwater bk 1100 hrs. Left Deepwater bk 1130 hrs, arrived Ambush Post 1430 hrs.  
Report of Patrol: No sign of enemy activity. Following articles were found; one rubber condom, approx 2 hrs fwd (NADZAB SQUARE 52443) of our Ambush Post, appeared to have been there sometime. Small empty ration tin found beside creek at NADZAB. 505447, fwd of our Ambush Post. Jap markings on tin; Natives seen previous day returning from Lae carrying similar tins. Ambush party know that natives had meal at same creek. Deepwater creek Patrol heard U/I A/C flying toward Lae, also 2 loud explosions heard, time 0830 hrs. 1015-1030 hrs U/I A/C overhead flying <sup>direction</sup> of Lae, cleared guns overhead. Immediately after A/A fire heard in direction of Lae, South side of river. 1120 hrs U/I A/C overhead direction unknown. 1230 hrs more planes heard overhead direction unknown.

Thursday 27/5/43:- 1 O.R patrolled fwd of Ambush Post 0830 hrs to 0900 hrs. Nil Report.  
Lt/Col. Cooley + 6 O.R's relieved from Ambush Post at 0900 hrs. Left Ambush Post 1000 hrs arrived Ben O.P. 1330 hrs. Lt/Col. Ferris did not return with Ambush Post; attached to Lt. Swings' Patrol. Signature  
Special Patrol. R/Col. VX 1011519.  
Rank  
Date  
Place

Note - Sketch map to be drawn on Back of this sheet.

*(Handwritten)*  
27/5



File

REF. MAP.

NADZAB

1" - 1 ML. - PROVISIONAL ISSUE



SCALE 1" - 1 ML.

PROJECT REPORT

TO GABENSIS

TO BARKUP

PROJECT REPORT

Page

Date

No. 100

39-05-1966

- 1630 Track runs along dry creek bed for  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an hour  
 1645 Track crossed creek  $240^\circ$  and we moved along this  
 It was well worn but there was no sign of boot  
 tracks only boong feet.  
 1735 Branch track ( $100^\circ$ ) but it was getting dark and  
 we did not have time to examine it.  
 1825 Camped for night

June 9

- 0600 Stand to  
 0615 Moved off along same track as previous night and  
 arrived at Fishers Post at 0645 hrs  
 0645-0745 Breakfast  
 0745 Sent two men to report to Bens  
 0845 Left Fishers Post and arrived at Gabensis 0900 and  
 waited there for two men to return from Bens  
 1045 left Gabensis and arrived at Comsis 1220.

L. G. Williamson (Cpl)

VX104542

1645/25

121011V

(1917) 121011V

CPL WILLIAMSON

REPORT

PATROL REPORT.

TYPE OF PATROL.

STANDING  
RECCO  
FIGHTING

To I.C.

To C. Coy 3133

19

FROM 13 11

DATE 8 June 43

PATROL STRENGTH 2 NCO's 5 OR's Corporal Williams

ARMAMENT 3 bows 4 rifles 14 grenades

OBJECT Recco track to Vagau

WEATHER Fine but foggy Visibility Poor

ROUTE OUT Vagau track

ROUTE IN Gabensis - Boniss

TIME OUT 0635 hrs TIME IN 1230 hrs

LOAD CARRIED. Approximately 30 lb per man

DETAILS.

Result of Recco :- track to Vagau not found  
0635 left Captain Dull and party who were to  
booby trap track then proceeded along track on  
a bearing of 240°. Track was fairly well de-  
fined although bearing a disused appearance  
It was also marked at intervals by blazed  
saplings

0720-0815 Breakfast

0740 Heard explosion followed by rifle and  
automatic fire coming from the approx-  
imate direction of where we left the booby  
trap party.

0815 Set off along track again bearing 180°

0840 Fallen down lean-to on left side of track

0845 ~~track~~ for the last half hour track  
was fairly hard to follow. Arrived at  
what we think is abandoned O.P. but  
old lean-to. Too foggy to observe anything  
50 yds from look-out there are three broken  
down huts and a number of our basalt

..... Signature

..... Rank

..... Date

..... Place

2 Copies

to be drawn on back of this sheet.

1 for Dew  
1 for boy fell

bins, boxes and tools. 20 yds further on are  
one old hut and scaffolding for a dig in  
150 yds from last hut there is a tree  
marked with a triangular blaze and the  
letters M.A. on opposite side. Track  
moves downhill for approximately 10 minutes,  
then crosses a dry creek bed and starts climb-  
ing again.

0925 Approximately 200 yds after crossing creek there  
was a broken down lean-to on left hand  
side of track five minutes later we saw a  
V-cut into a root protruding across the track.

0935-0945 Smoke

1005 Branch track moved to the left (160°). Moved  
along it for 40-50 yds but did not notice any  
blazing so returned to main track (265°).

1040-1043 Track moves along narrow rocky saddle

1045 Daub of green paint on tree approximately 10  
ft from ground (left hand side).

1055-1100 Smoke

1110 Reached top of ridge. A good view. Looking  
east from this point. A branch track (360°)  
turns in for about 30 yds and from here you  
can also get a good view eastward. Gradual  
down-hill slope from this point.

1135 Small fence on right hand side of track

1145 5  $\diamond$  blazes cut one on top of the other on tree  
right hand side of track

1150 Single  $\diamond$  blazed on tree

1200 Lighted wires on right hand side of track

1210 Broken down lean-to left hand side of track

1215-1225 Smoke

1310 Broken down lean-to left hand side of track

1340 Side track (280°) moved along it for 200 yds  
then it faded out so returned to main track (45°)

1345 Game across three booby huts and five  
minutes later we came to first running water  
since starting

1350-1515 Lunch

1620 First clear water after descending very  
steep hill for half hour

SKETCH OF TRACK RECCE.  
GABENSIS  
MARKHAM PT - FISHERS POST

by CPL WILLIAMSON on 8/9 JUN 43

LEGEND  
TRACK - - - -  
CREEK ~~~~~  
HEAVILY  
TIMBERED #



DATE 8/9 JUN 43  
WEATHER FINE

Outline of Macmillan Base Log

11 May 1941

This outline is not intended as a 'Going Report' but I shall endeavour to fill in some of the details of present progress from your picture of the area.

Time	Notes	Comments
10.3	Warrant	
11.0	Halfway Auto	Good water, dry day - but going rather pretty tough. one hour of work done
11.00	BEN	Swamp
1.00		1/2 hr men sweep in bog
		Mosquitoes quite plentiful
		Conference with J. Macmillan, James
		Bussell, Beattie
		Chat with Mr. Macmillan
		Rayor blades, taken 2 for patches
		Bed
		Bed make
		2nd Bed make
		Sheep at last
		Tring still unwell. Ordered to return to Dix
07.10	6814	Native turned on. became wild
07.20	CASENSIS	Pt. Casens loc. screw from Owen
08.10	CASENSIS	" "
08.20		Passed junc BEN OF. quick
08.30		No mosquitoes for miles
08.40		Left Williamson section arrived previous day. Had made beds. Kipling chosen
08.50		lands a very good show. All water low
09.00		As a 1 as finish to point
09.10		Left Camp. Kipling loc
09.20		Halfway up Kipling. Open area. mostly rocky. Still like from back. 2 sheep
09.30		2 children 2 set. 2 sheep also seen in beating sun for one hour
09.40		Off again. felt like a new man
09.50	Small Creek	Good water
10.00	Another	Mosquitoes almost unbearable
10.10		Passed by and gave them all
10.20	DEEP CREEK	
10.30		Spoke to Dix on phone. Guyour cable laying show. One in 2 days
10.40		Patrol to 100 steps
10.50		as water is low. 1 man. 2 sheep. 1 goat
11.00		rather quiet now at 100. 2 sheep
11.10		could see that from here not intended as a final point well prepared plan
11.20		from for some of water. 1 sheep
11.30		about 100 steps

The village itself has been built on a hillside. The water is very good but some of the houses are built on the edge of the swamp.

The course first to trace of the gun positions or landing  
 place outlined in Capt. [Name] reports. That he possibly  
 marked for gun positions from [Name] the gun [Name]  
 for the [Name]

Good latrine, planned kitchen with dirt walls dug along by  
 hand possibly constructed by Japs. with a few natives.  
 Plenty of Kuma's rats and [Name] [Name] taken  
 from [Name] of class - 5 of which were found.

Work was not completed and upon the [Name] in  
 which it was left was not hurriedly vacated.

It entered in a [Name] which runs down to [Name]  
 here. Little hills and tracks were well cut but [Name]  
 not [Name]. No graves in the area and apart from  
 mosquitoes a very good camp site for [Name] this area  
 possibly comparable with "Part 1" around the [Name] area.  
 20 area well set out, and some but not yet completed.

Jap antechamber (or [Name]) site on spur with no [Name]  
 of [Name]. A [Name] of [Name] from the light  
 [Name] behind - the approach to the [Name] covered by  
 well [Name] [Name] but could be approached with  
 difficulty. Would probably be [Name].

Ground between Deep Creek and village now [Name]  
 for patrol [Name] and [Name] Sgt Bayles requires to [Name]  
 Deep Creek area.

- 0130
- 0130
- 1006 DEEP CK
- 1013
- 1015 } Rest
- 1020
- 1025 } 2<sup>nd</sup> LEANING
- 1030 } CREEK No dug work so [Name] [Name] [Name]  
 stack in hidden [Name]
- 1035
- 1040
- 1045 } Tr Window
- 1050 } Top of
- 1055 } Kuma Ridge. A steep climb all the way from [Name] [Name]  
 so climbing [Name] [Name] steps for 40 [Name]  
 on much more muddy.
- 1120 } Rest
- 1125 } Oomsis Good meal
- 1130 } Oomsis
- 1135 } Once again a good [Name] from the [Name]
- 1140 } A [Name] camp site with [Name] [Name] [Name]  
 [Name] [Name]
- 1145 } [Name] [Name] Sgt Bayles [Name] [Name]
- 1150 } [Name] [Name] [Name] [Name]



1100 Left OP  
1110 OP  
1120

1130 FWD OP Left OP  
Using back track and only logical one as other is  
along KUNAI hill and quite obvious from the  
flat below.

1155 BEN OP  
Before leaving instructed left through to prepare  
to move to Oomeis - by plan land down

1205 Passed bk

1215 CABENISH Track wet but fair all the way to here

1220 BEN " " " heavy going. Passed into Ben's  
plantation at 1205

General altitude of d/s in area NOT good. Quite  
a difference from 13 PL.

Had chat with MO in Ben Ben OP.  
Mosquitoes had but could be lessened with  
good precaution

1235 BEN

1240  
1250  
Crossed bk on broken log

1255 Walked along 4 trees after passing boundary  
track. Very heavy going

1305 Good water  
Crossed bk.

1315 New logs and had been on track for some time  
1320 Two lean logs

1335 Crossed stream on narrow log.  
1340 Native hut on WAMPIT side

1355 Entered KUNAI. From Ben to here the track  
walking that I have ever done. Had up to  
ankles and stirrups and certainly dead walking  
all the way.

1405 WAMPIT  
1410 OEX.

Although pretty fit, this trip was a definite strain.  
Personal discomfort was so great that all future patrol with  
can condense. Not all the way and quite effective. Q.P. 1. 1. 1.

PATROL REPORT.

9

To. I.O.

Type of Patrol.

STANDING  
RECCE  
FIGHTING.

FROM SGT D. P. HOGAN

DATE 31 MAY 43

PATROL STRENGTH 2 P.O. Good, Bourne & Burke

ARMAMENT 3 Owens and 3 grenades

OBJECT To observe Sabu village

WEATHER Good

ROUTE OUT Across Deep Water Creek, Jap ambuscade camp

ROUTE IN Reverse route out

TIME OUT 0730 hrs TIME IN 1600 hrs

DETAILS.

arrived Jap ambuscade at 0810 hrs - saw  
6 bullets seen proceeding towards Sabu  
bombing heard later.

Passage of Jap camp took half an  
hour

took half hour along good track

0910 hrs brought patrol opposite Sabu village at 0910 hrs

Remained in position throughout day  
observing natives.

Observed no enemy but saw 20 natives  
including women and children

Sabu village seemed to be 20 minutes good  
walking time past the Jap camp on the north bank  
of the river at a point where the river is 80' wide

? Island

Patrol observed about 8 hut, 1 no  
of dog and fowls were seen around the village

Throughout the day 5 natives worked  
hewing a canoe out of a large tree trunk

Three other canoes were observed

beached near a landing  
while passing through many canoes and  
documents were secured which are forwarded

1500

Patrol left to return  
Peace was heard between  
1500 hrs and 1600 hrs

D. P. Hogan .Signature

... SGT Rank.

31 MAY 43 Date

Deep Water Creek Place

Note. Sketch map to be drawn on back of this sheet. see  
map attached to report dated 1 JUN 43

PATROL REPORT.

10

To. I.O.

Type of Patrol.

STANDING  
RECCE  
FIGHTERS.

FROM SGT D A HOGAN

DATE 1 JUN 43

PATROL STRENGTH SGT D A HOGAN (Ceo) J N SIMMONS & D A DOHERTY

ARMAMENT 30 over and 6 grenades

OBJECT To observe lake village and track beyond

WEATHER fine

ROUTE OUT from west bank via the road to the camp

ROUTE IN Reverse of route out

TIME OUT 0700 hrs TIME IN 1200 hrs

DETAILS.

0730 hrs Passed enemy ambush 0730 hrs  
Passed cautiously through enemy camp  
leaving it at 0750 hrs

Half an hour's cautious fire along  
good track brought patrol to <sup>top of</sup> track  
opposite lake village

Observed hut, ~~spade~~ ~~covered~~ ~~logs~~  
and fowl seen previous day by other patrol  
known at point only 80' wide

0915 hrs Summited village was on island with main  
stream of ~~river~~ ~~stream~~  
while observing graves aircraft came over  
in the direction of the line of the river, near  
covered ~~steps~~ ~~observed~~ aircraft cautiously

Shortly afterwards bombing ~~of~~ ~~guns~~ and  
machine gun bursts were heard. The ~~of~~ ~~guns~~ ~~were~~  
very close. Two pieces of shrapnel were heard  
coming down ~~with~~ ~~the~~ ~~stream~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~river~~  
the village. Native cries were heard.

1000 hrs After completion of the bombing, continued  
along track, as track is very open the road left  
on river bank, ~~was~~ ~~observed~~ ~~and~~ ~~circled~~ ~~through~~  
the ~~area~~ ~~with~~ ~~some~~ ~~distance~~ ~~from~~  
track. Moved back to track after about 200'  
and camp on native garden with low reed  
fence. Continued along fence to river bank the  
moves along river.

Observed another native village  
about 12 huts 300' along bank  
from first village. Native men, women and  
children were about. The weidogs and  
fowls. There were ~~10~~ ~~beavers~~ ~~beached~~  
nearly

Note. Sketch map to be drawn on back of this sheet.

A raft with four men and a small motor moved from garden across the river to the village.

1130 hrs

Remained observing the village about 1000 hrs. The track was very open. Decided to return to avoid being seen. Passing through enemy camp, obtained a letter and some papers. Each pit has either beneath it or nearby a deep tunnel-like excavation, probably for normal ammunition requests.

Surmised that camp was ordered to be built and that pits were for dems. Anticipated hits all air raid shelters. He examined enemy ambush positions. 12 weapons pits are dug including four 2 man pits for L.M. Co. It appears that purpose of ambush was to prevent interference with building of camp.

Investigated 2 tracks which move off to south about 3 minutes and 5 minutes west of enemy ambushed location of gap in the line. One label for each near branch off of one track. Tracks lead onto stone burial mounds of considerable heights and forming some obstruction of sight and sound further.

There are two water pits about 2 mins closer to Dab water creek than mentioned. As order is waiting with complete going reports and sketches immediately on file.

Sgt D A Hagan  
1 JUN 43

PATROL REPORT

YOGI

20 A  
2

To. I.O.

TYPE OF PATROL.

STANDING  
RECCE  
FIGHTING

From Forward of ambush pos. Mapref 523,422.

Date 16 May 43

PATROL STRENGTH

1 Lt./Capt. 2 Ptes.

ARMAMENT

2 Owen Guns, Rifle

OBJECT

To observe if West End of Laber swamp is

WEATHER

fine. Visibility Good

ROUTE OUT

Track. Bens O.P. Markham point.

ROUTE IN

Markham Point - Bens O.P. track

TIME OUT

0830 hrs

TIME IN

1630

Ref Map. Lab. Part 2. 1" to mile

DETAILS.

0830 hrs. Left ambush position and proceeded down track to Deep creek.

1200 hrs. Arrived Deep creek and turned South up stream for about 20 mins.

1220. Stopped for dinner. Discovers watch

1300. Crossed deep creek which was waist deep and proceeded up far bank for about 15 mins.

1315. Struck tracks of about four men at foot of hill. Map ref. 572408. These tracks were leading up hill and were tracks of jap. rubber creeper boots.

1330. Thinking Japs to occupy hill not feeling confident with our three men returned to ambush via route out.

1630. Returned at ambush.

B. J. Waller Signature

Lt./Capt. Rank

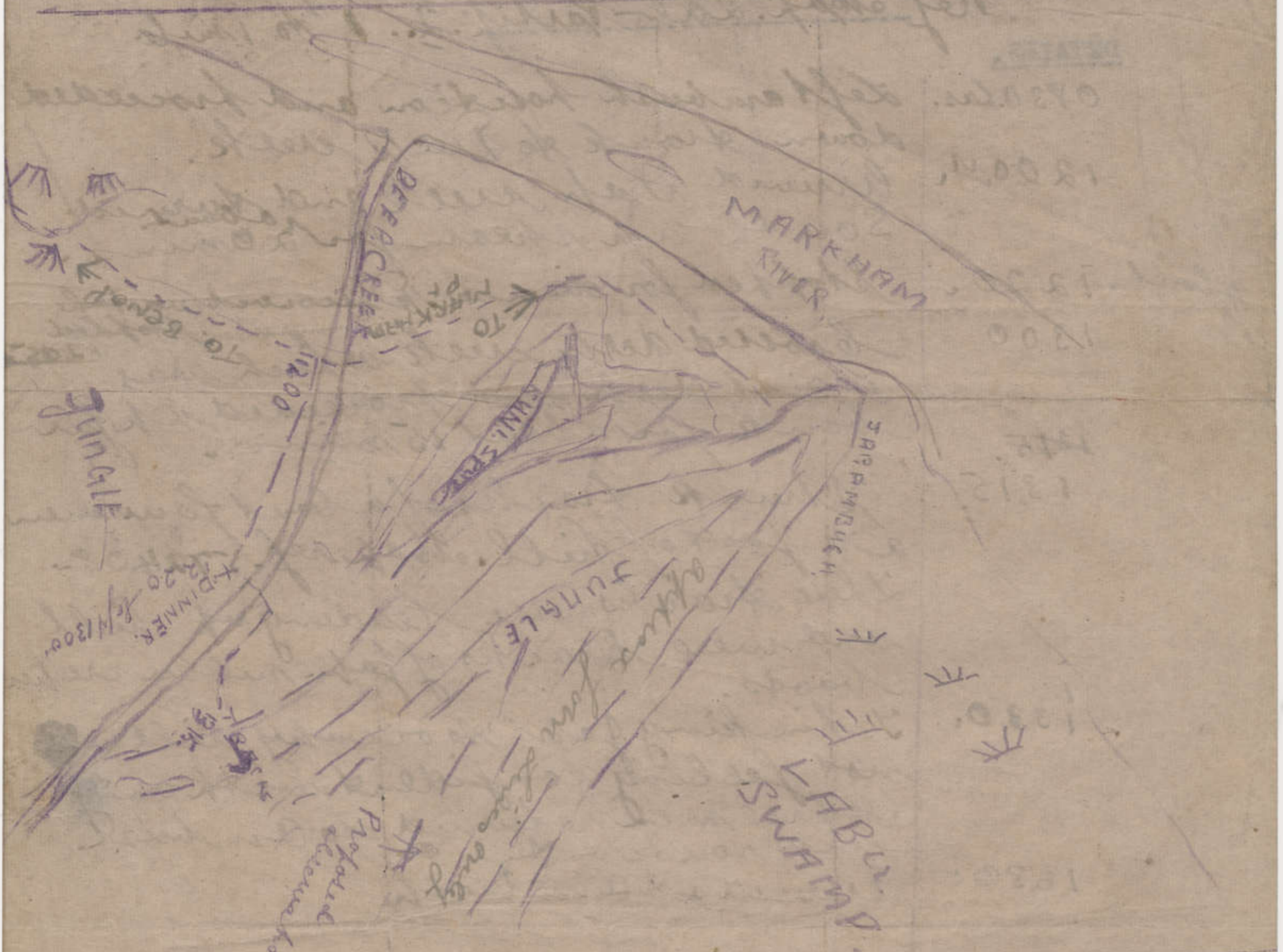
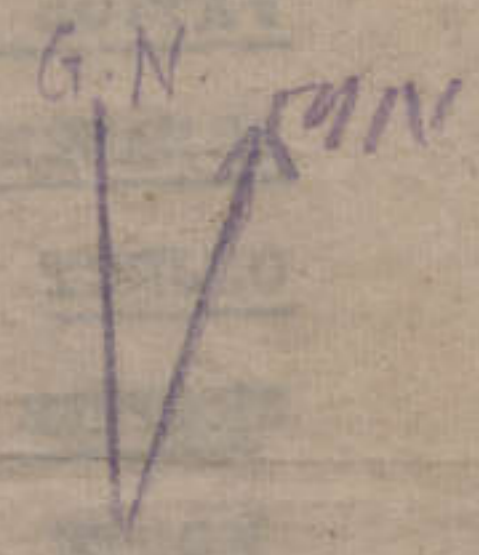
19 May 43 Date

Bens O.P. Place

Note - Sketch map to be drawn on Back of this sheet.

(13)

Handwritten notes at the top of the page, including the date "16 MAY '43" and the phrase "Not drawn to scale".



Made by vision of Lt Col R. Wallis 19 May '43

Faint handwritten notes at the bottom left, possibly including a name like 'G. Wallis'.

PATROL REPORT

Patrol

TO I.O.

TYPE OF PATROL - RECCE

FROM - SGT BOYLE.

PATROL LEADER - SGT BOYLE.

DATE - 27 AUG 43.

PATROL FOUND BY - 4 SEC 14 PL C COY.

PATROL STRENGTH - 2 NCO's 2 ORS.

ARMAMENT - 3 rifles 1 OSMG 2 grens per man.

OBJECT - To gain infm of JAP VILLAGE at MARKHAM POINT.

WEATHER - Fine and clear.

ROUTE OUT - EAST of DEEP CREEK and NORTH to AMBUSH TRACK.

ROUTE IN - MARKHAM RIVER - JAP VILLAGE track.

TIME OUT - 0800 hrs.

TIME IN - 1530 hrs.

LOAD CARRIED - 14 lbs per man.

RESULT OF PATROL - Enemy still in occupation of AMBUSH. Consider patrol successful.

DETAILS - Crossed DEEP CREEK map ref 545434 0800 hrs, removed boots and moved cautiously in NE direction ( towards MARKHAM RIVER ). Reached track running from DEEP CREEK to JAP VILLAGE ( m.r. 565432 ) at 1000 hrs. Moved NORTH to river and observed NORTH bank of MARKHAM RIVER until 1100 hrs through binoculars - NO movement observed. Reached rock face on track m.r. 558433 at 1120 hrs ( track did NOT appear to have been used for approx ONE month ). Reached top of rock face and observed forward and NORTH of river until 1200 hrs - track still unused.

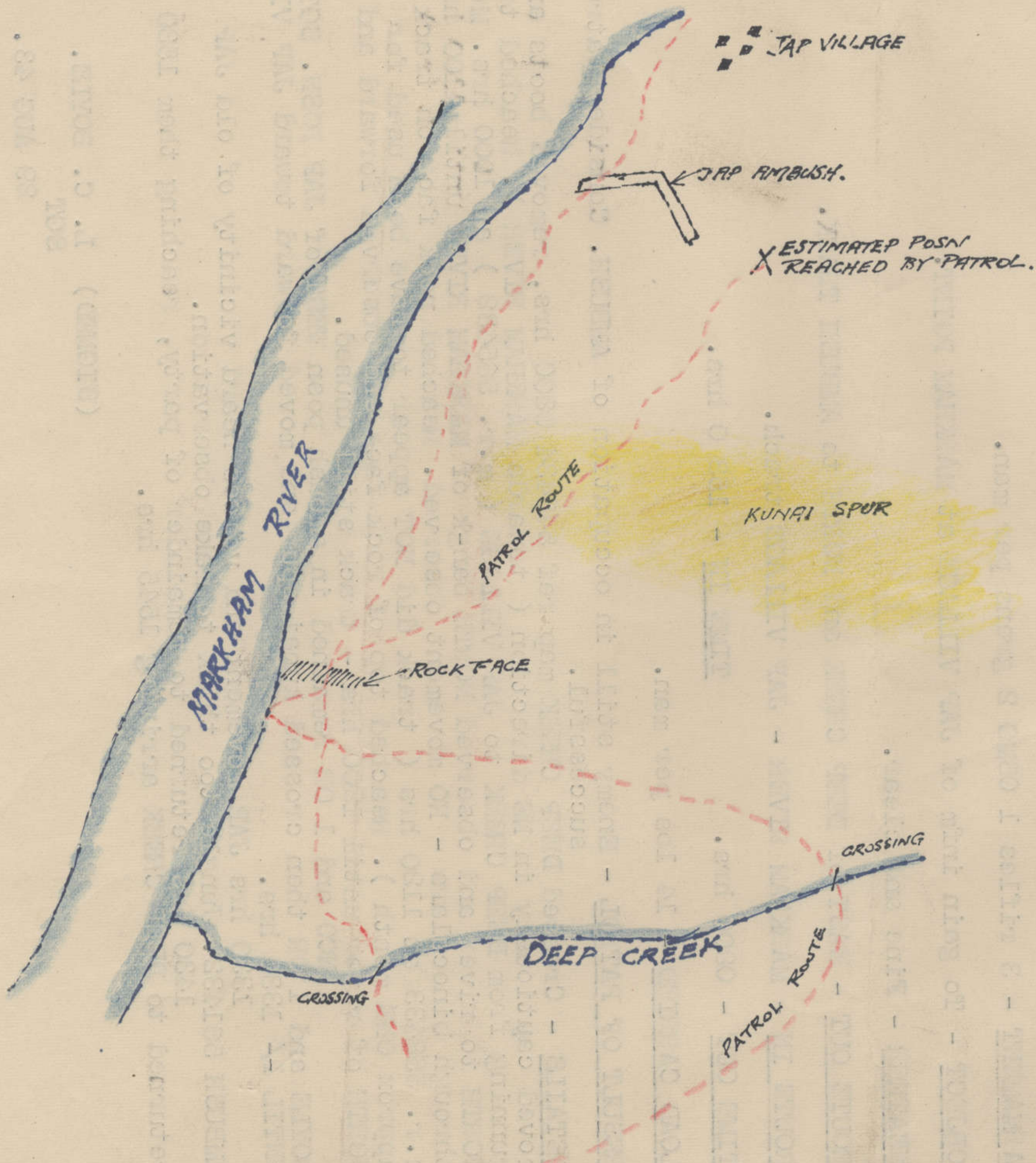
1 NCO and 1 OR remained in ambush posn WEST of JAP POSN. SGT BOYLE and 1 OR then crossed kunai spur and moved forward toward JAP VILLAGE UNTIL 1330 hrs.

1330 hrs JAP movement and voices heard vicinity of old JAP AMBUSH 561432. Jungle too thick to make observation.

1430 hrs returned to remainder of party, reaching them 1530 hrs, returned to DEEP CREEK arriving 1545 hrs.

(SIGNED) L. C. BOYLE.  
SGT

29 AUG 43.





MARKHAM VALLEY AREA

File

C. COY  
24 Aust Inf Bn

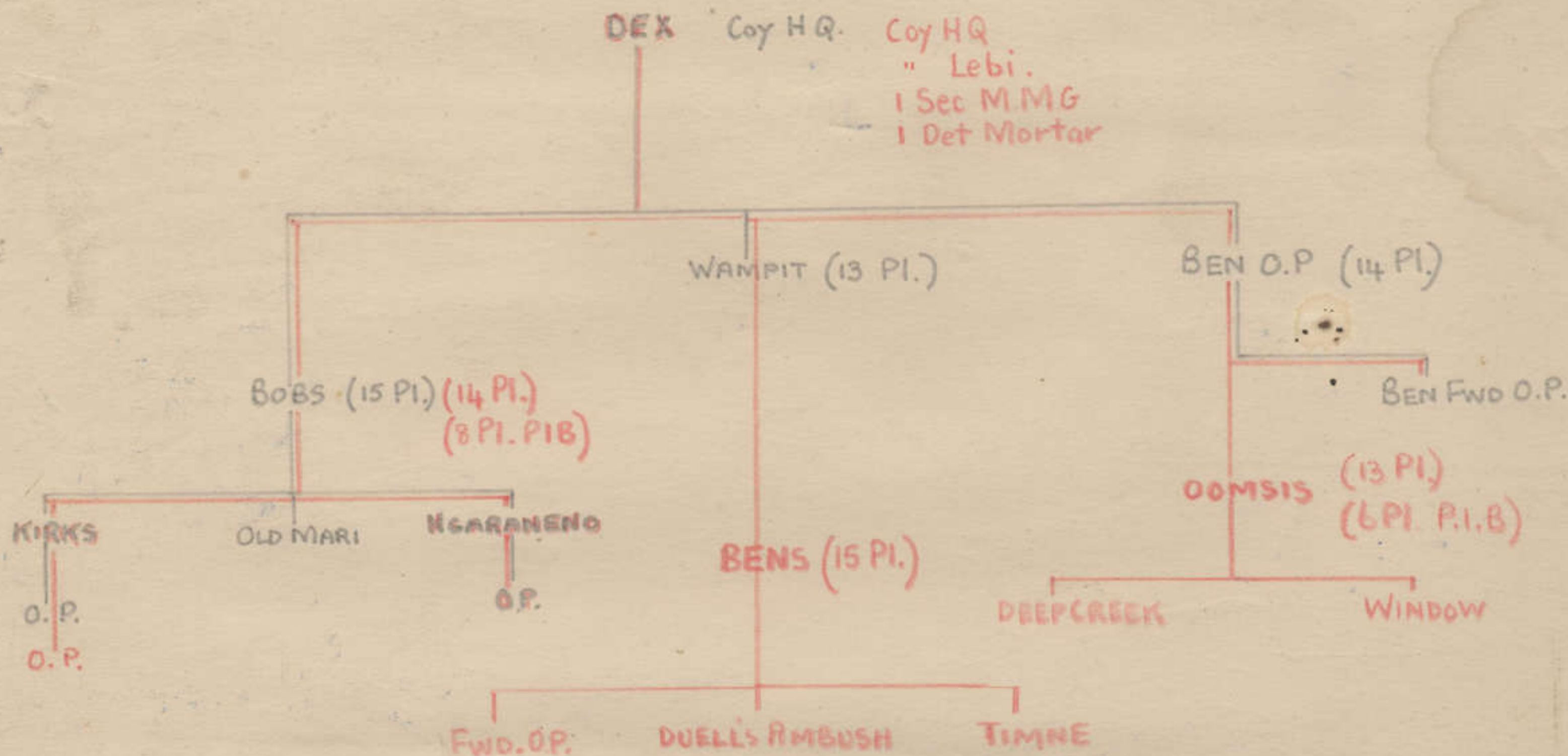
ACTIVITIES OF "C" COY 24 AUST INF BN

The area was taken over from 2/5 Ind. Coy on 26 Apr 43 after having marched from WAU - staged by 2/6 Aust Inf Bn.

Comparison will now be drawn between the activities of the Coy as revealed in the first weekly report - which covered the tasks as set out by 2/5 Ind. Coy - and those at the time the P.I.B took over patrolling.

(Black indicates 31 Apr 43) (Red indicates 10 Jul 43)

1. COMMAND



2. CAMPS and MANNING PERSONNEL

	FIGHTING PERSONNEL				Non FIGHTING PERSONNEL		TOTAL
	Coy	Att'd.	P. I. B.	Total.			
DEX	1.6	2.7	2.6	14	1.8	5.4	1.12
WAMPIT	.51	.5	.1		.51	.6	.53
BOBS	1.12	.20	.1	2	1.13	1.24	1.14
KIRKS (incl. OP)	.10	.4			.10	5.11	.10
OLD MARI	.2				.2		.2
NGARANENO (" ")	.7	.11	.1	2	.8	14.11	.9
BENS	.16	.12			.16	12.	.16
DUELL'S AMBUSH (Fishers Post)	.5	.6			.5	.6	.5
BEN OP (inc FwdOP)	1.16	.3			1.16	.3	1.16
OOMSIS		.17	1.1	3		2.21	4
WINDOW		.3				.3	.3
DEEPCREEK		.11	1.1	11		12.11	.11
TIMNE		1.13	.2			1.15	1.11
	3.125	3.112	.4	2.36	4.14	86	3.137
							10.11

3 OBSERVATION POSTS

(a) NGARANENO

This post was situated on top of a large Kunai hill, and was under observation from JAP posn on the other side of river. A two man dug-out has been made with two camouflaged slit trenches for observation. Post is now manned 24hrs instead of 0800 - 1700.

(b) KIRKS

As NGAR. this post was obvious. The site has now been changed to one with a 220° field of view with no dead ground in front. Manned for 24 hrs as living quarters are provided within 200 yds.

(c) BEN O.P. and FWD O.P.

These posts were both manned to protect OOMSIS - BWARIP tracks as there were no troops forward of this area. Both have now been abandoned.

(6) From the reports of these O.P.'s almost no Enemy aircraft has penetrated Sth of the area without prior warning having been given.

One specific instance has been mentioned which stated that one flight of 5 A/c were shot down as an immediate result of this timely warning. Other indications have been given that the no. of enemy planes casualties have been increased considerably due to the work done by the personnel manning the O.P.

7. PROTECTIVE PLAN

At the time of coming into the area, although the role of the company was the delaying of the enemy on this front to enable the manning of the PARTER defence to be completed, the holding posn. planned was concentrated on the WAMPIT defence, gun posns. having not been completed at this stage.

Many ambush and holding posns have now been dug in, shown on the attached sketches.

A Platoon defensive posn. supported by 1 Sec M.M.G and 1 Det Mortar dug in with alternative sites is now completed in WAMPIT AREA.

Booby Traps are set each night round each of the posts forward of BOBS and BENS

8. MEDICAL

Under the supervision of the R.M.O., hospitals were constructed at each of the following places

1. DEX	16 beds with RAP and operating hut.
2 BENS	16 " " "
3 OOM SIS	8 " " "
4 BOBS	12 " " "

Although a considerable number of cases of dengue were suffered when the COY first came to the Area, the mosquito menace was dealt with so effectively by the M.O. that no cases of dengue were reported during the week 10 Jul 43.

The M.V has been regarded as highly malarious, but again, due to effective precautions and the M.O.'s surveillance, 11 cases of malaria are all that have been diagnosed, and it has been noted that these were contracted only when the patient was in a run down condition.

Rashes of all types have caused more casualties and loss of effective manpower than any other complaint.

Every man who has been to DEEP CK area has been afflicted and in some cases have been out of action up to 3 weeks. The best treatment has been found to be timely injection of NAB.

9. INTER-COMMUNICATION

At present 54 miles of cable are laid down in the Coy area 24 miles of which have been laid by Unit Sigs.

The attached plan shows clearly the work done by these men. Considering the distance and material available, the results have been most satisfactory. At no time has comn. been down for more than 12 hours to any post.

*[Handwritten signature]*

D. Y. Peck Capt.  
Ob. b. boy.  
8/8

4. PATROLS - SKETCH ATTACHED.

WAMPIT - DEX	BOBS BENS	P.B. DAILY	
BOBS AREA	BOBS - K.O.P. - NEW MARI BOBS	DAILY	DAILY
	BOBS - KIRKS - BOBS		DAILY
	KIRKS - NARAGOOMA CHIVASING CROSSING	DAILY	ALTERNATE DAYS
	KIRKS - NEW MARI	"	
	NGARANENO - SHELDONS KIRKS - OLD MARI	"	ALTERNATE DAYS
	NGARANENO - NEW MARI	"	
BENS . OOMSIS AREA	BENS - OOMSIS	"	DAILY
	BENS - DUELLS AMBUSH	Every 2 Days	
	OOMSIS - BWARIP	DAILY	
	BEN OP - BWARIP		DAILY
	Oomsis - MARKHAM POINT.	"	3 DAY TRIP

SPECIAL PATROLS - Sketch attached.

At the time of taking over, very little and indefinite information was available regarding the tracks in the area. To overcome this serious deficiency much time has been spent in the reconnaissance of both old and unknown tracks, shown clearly on the attached sketch. The execution of this work has been made all the more difficult by the lack of reasonably accurate maps. The assistance given us by 2/6 Surrey Bty and the aerial photographs now on hand have enabled the "I" personnel, chiefly Pte J. Wheat, to compile the reasonably accurate map which will be submitted for approval.

5. OFFENSIVE ACTIONS

1. The location of the only enemy force on the Sth of the MARKHAM has now been very definitely pin pointed. Their movement from the defensive posn. has been kept under close surveillance so that any activity was known immediately.
2. Seven Patrol clashes have taken place in the DEEP CK. - MARKHAM PT. area resulting in :-

CASUALTIES

ENEMY	10 KILLED	3 WOUNDED
OWN TFS.	1 MISSING	1 " "
	Believed Killed	

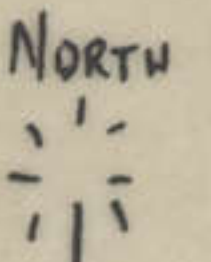
3. Two Mortar concentrations have been put down on the JAP VILLAGE, casualties unknown. The second of these tasks was timed to coincide with the attack on SALAMAUA.
4. The net result of these efforts has been the gaining of information which has been invaluable in the maintenance of the left flank of the SALAMAUA offensive - quoted in BN, R.O.

PATROLS IN ACTIONS -:

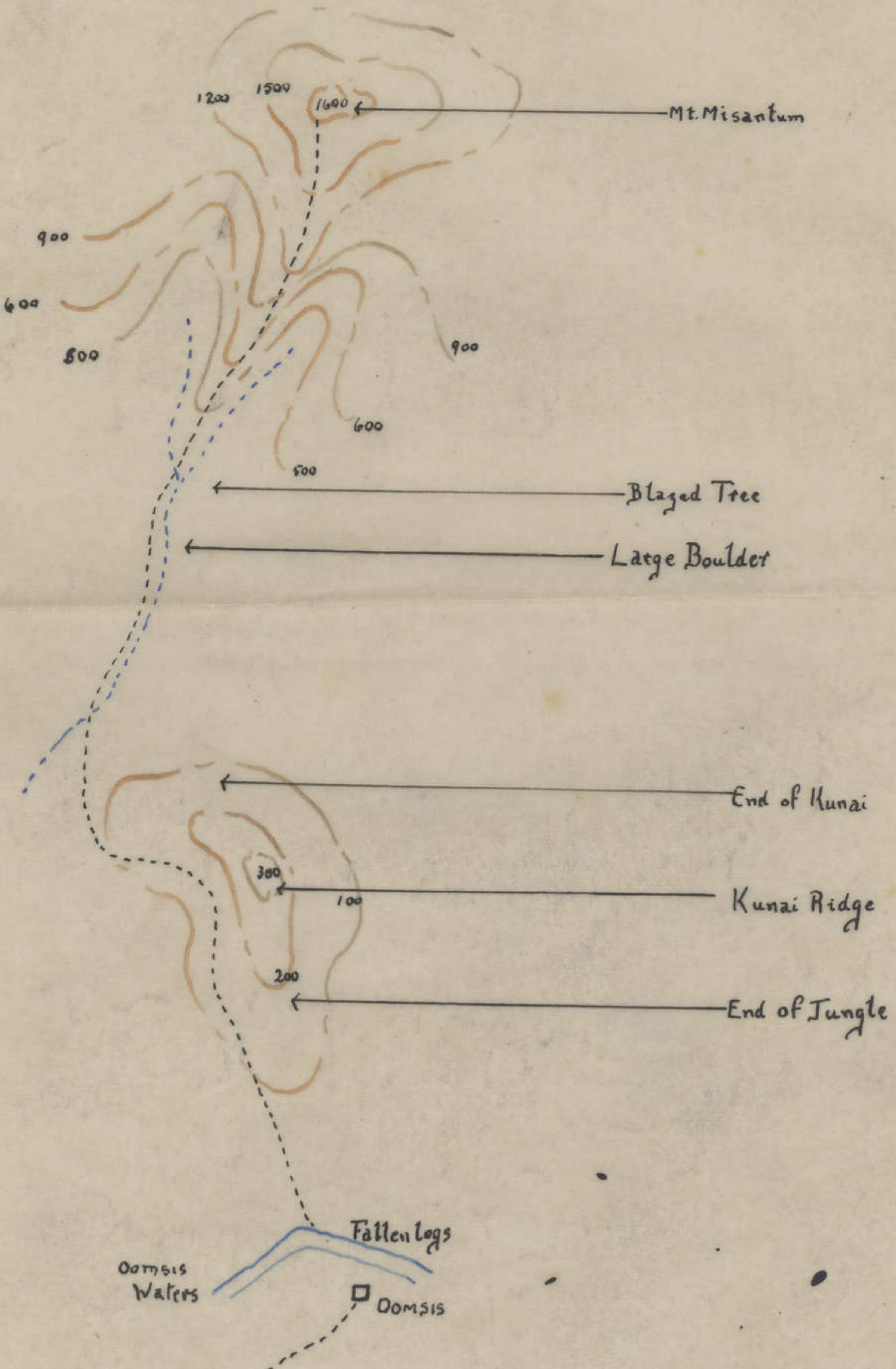
- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 1. 5 MAY - O.C. cpl Gray<br>cpl Mackie<br>Pte Betson<br>" Sherwill. | 3. 8 JUNE O.C. - Cpl Murphy<br>L/cpl Noye<br>Pte O'Brien<br>" Moyman<br>" Course<br>" Schwab              | 5. 19 JUNE O.C. - Lt. Baber<br>cpl. Giblett<br>L/cpl. Betson<br>L/cpl. Christey |
| 2. 3 JUNE - O.C. L/cpl. Staley<br>Pte Berry<br>" Gordon             | 4. 16 JUNE O.C. - Sgt Pope<br>L/cpl Adlington<br>Pte Stevens B.<br>" Boothroyd<br>" Sullivan<br>" George. | 6. 29. JUNE<br>L/cpl. Melnes<br>Pte Waite<br>" Boothroyd<br>" Young.            |
|   |   | 7. 9 JULY<br>UNDER Comd. LEBI.<br>L/cpl Staley                                  |

W. 13

SKETCH MAP  
Track = Oomsis - Mt MISANTUM



Jungle



Scale :: 1 inch to 880 yards (approx)

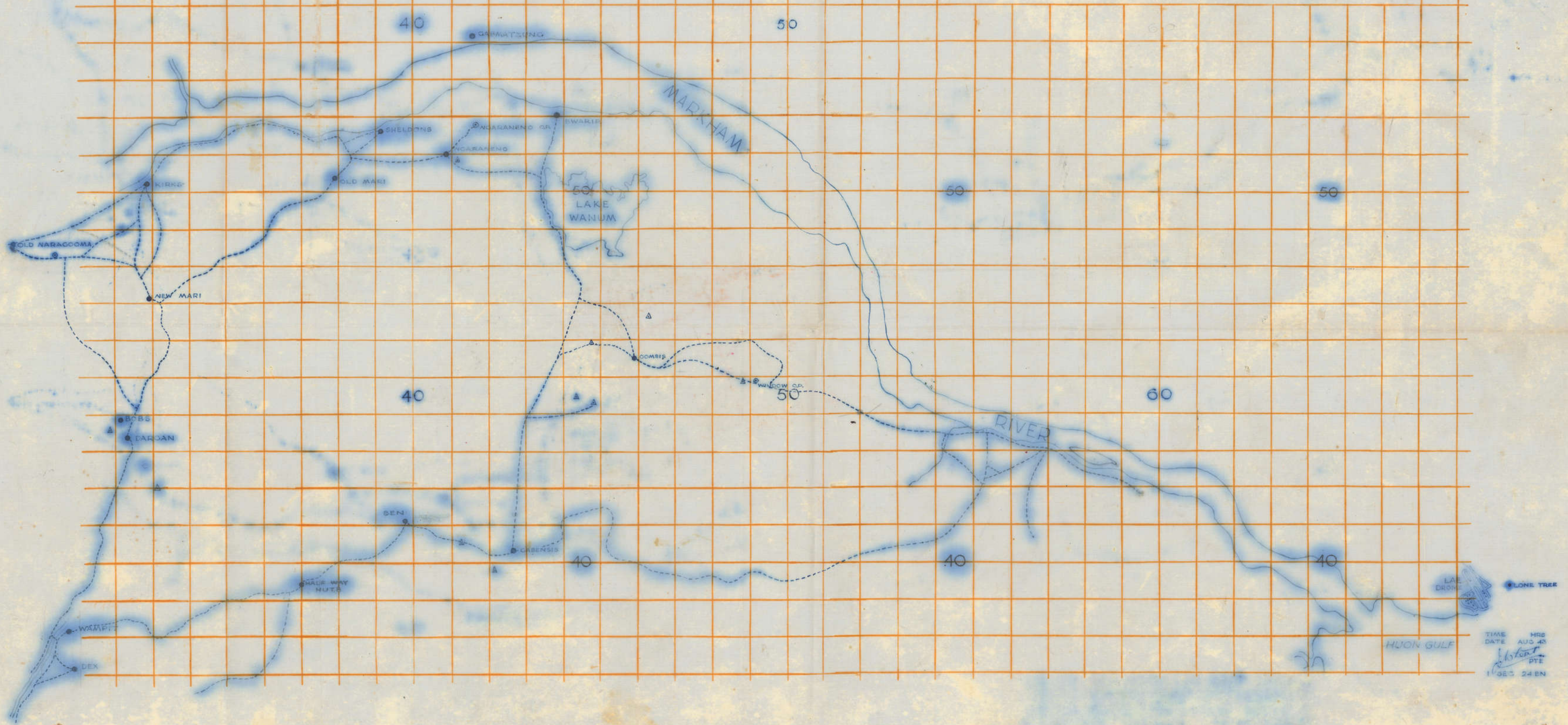
Int Sec  
2/6 Bn 17 Mar 43

AMENDMENTS AND ADDITIONS

# NADZAB

1-63360

COMPILED FROM : SURVEYED  
FIXED POSITIONS, AIR PHOTOS  
(Series LAE NADZAB), INFORMATION  
FROM 24<sup>TH</sup> AUST INF BN. 4/8/43



TIME HRS  
DATE AUG 43  
10:00 PTE  
1 DEC 24 BN

Gomeis Bwarip patrol. 19.6.43

Departed Gomeis. 0800 hrs

arrive Bwarip 1015 hrs

Departed Bwarip 1130 hrs

arrive Gomeis. 1400.

932

D Coy file  
(7)

Strength 1 N.C.O.  
2 O.R.

Arms, 1. Owen Gun  
2 Rifles.

Weight <sup>6</sup> <sup>114 lbs.</sup> grenades.

Object. Patrol track and search Bwarip  
• track for enemy signs.

Information. No sign of enemy on  
track to Bwarip and  
no sign of enemy in village  
of Bwarip. All huts were  
thoroughly searched and also  
creek but no information or  
signs were found. No sign of  
recent occupation.

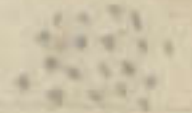
J.O. Better cpl.


1440


NORTHERN VIEW FROM O.P.

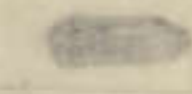
MT NGARONENO


LEGEND

 HEAVILY TIMBERED

 COCONUT PLANTATIONS

 CLEARING IN TIMBER

 SMALL MUD FLATS

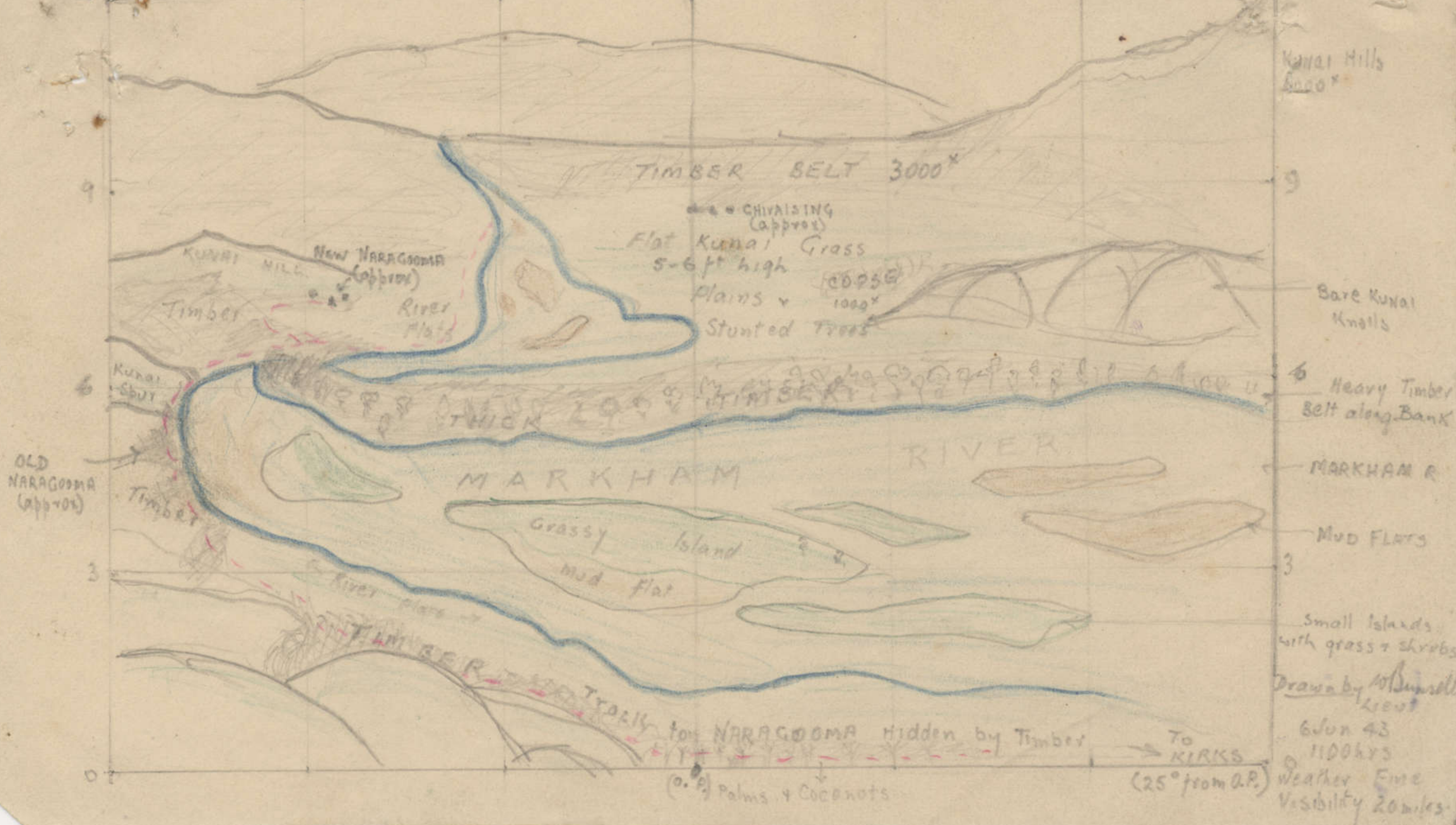
 SMALL CREEK



VX5092 C.G. 9/4 75

Panorama of MARKHAM VALLEY from KIRKS O.P. showing approx posn CHIVAISING and NARAGOOMA.

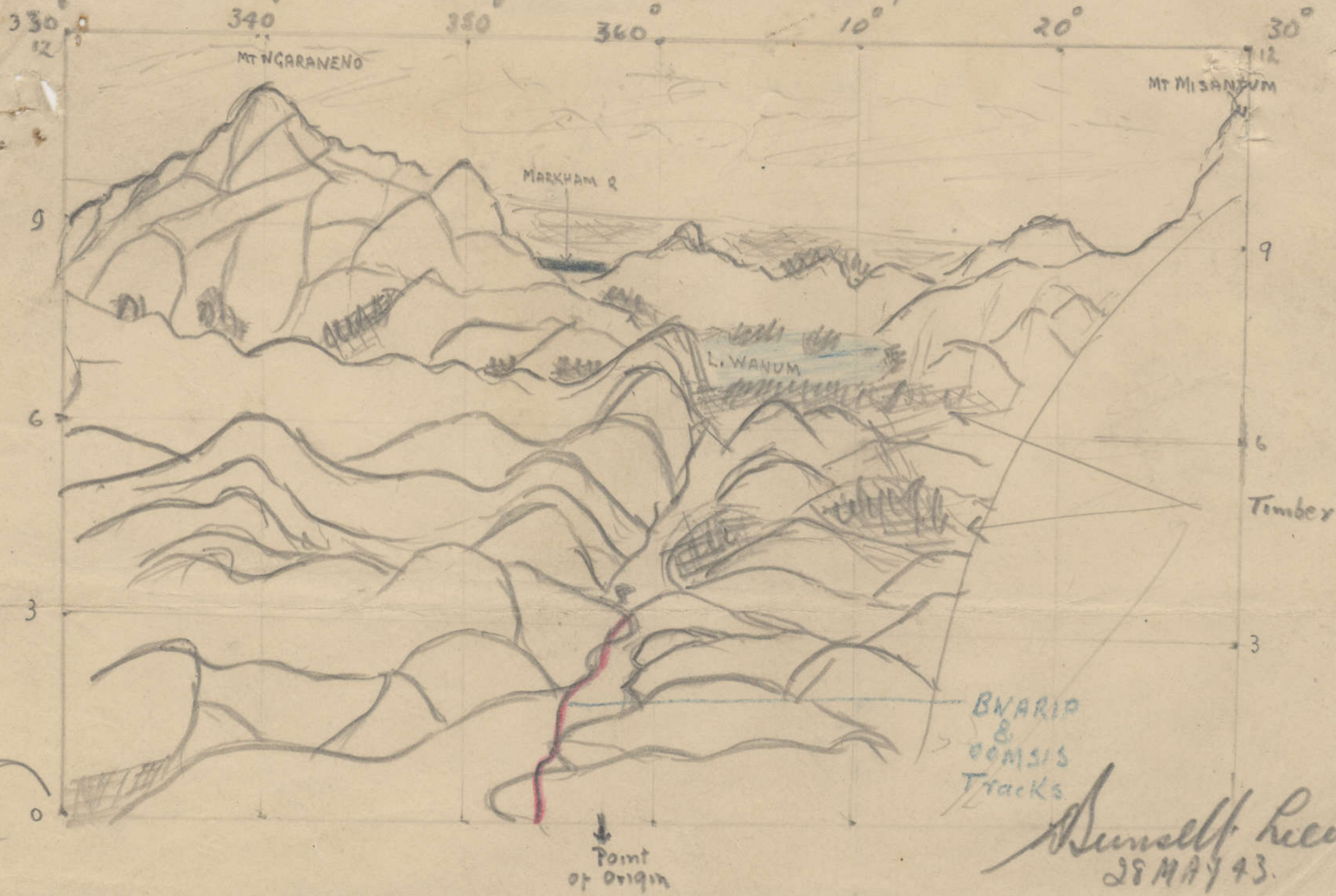
260 270 280 290 300 310 320



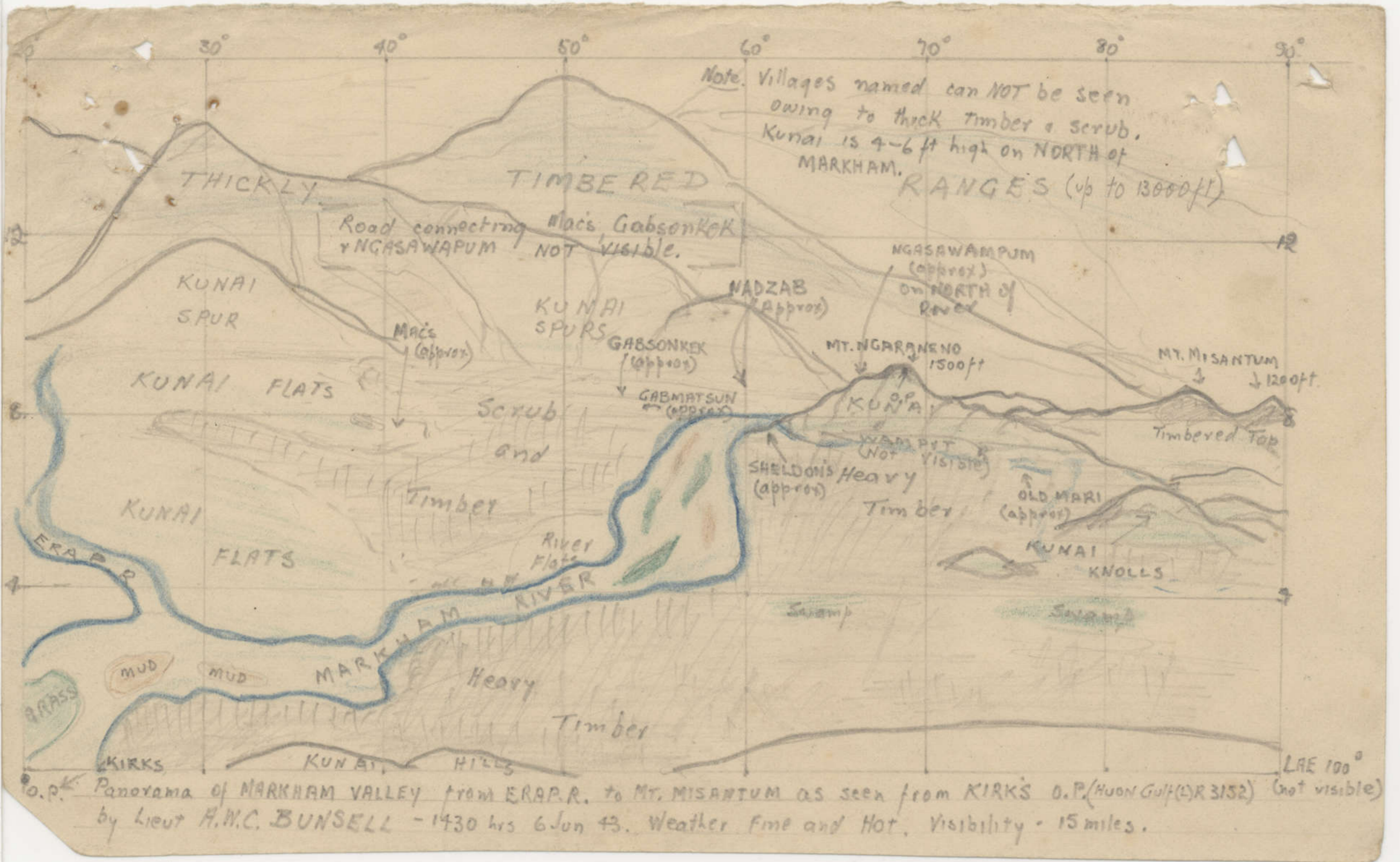
Drawn by 10<sup>th</sup> Dragoon  
 Lt Col  
 6 Jun 43  
 1100 hrs  
 Weather Fine  
 Visibility 20 miles



Panorama MT NGARONENA - LAKE WANUM from BENS O.P.



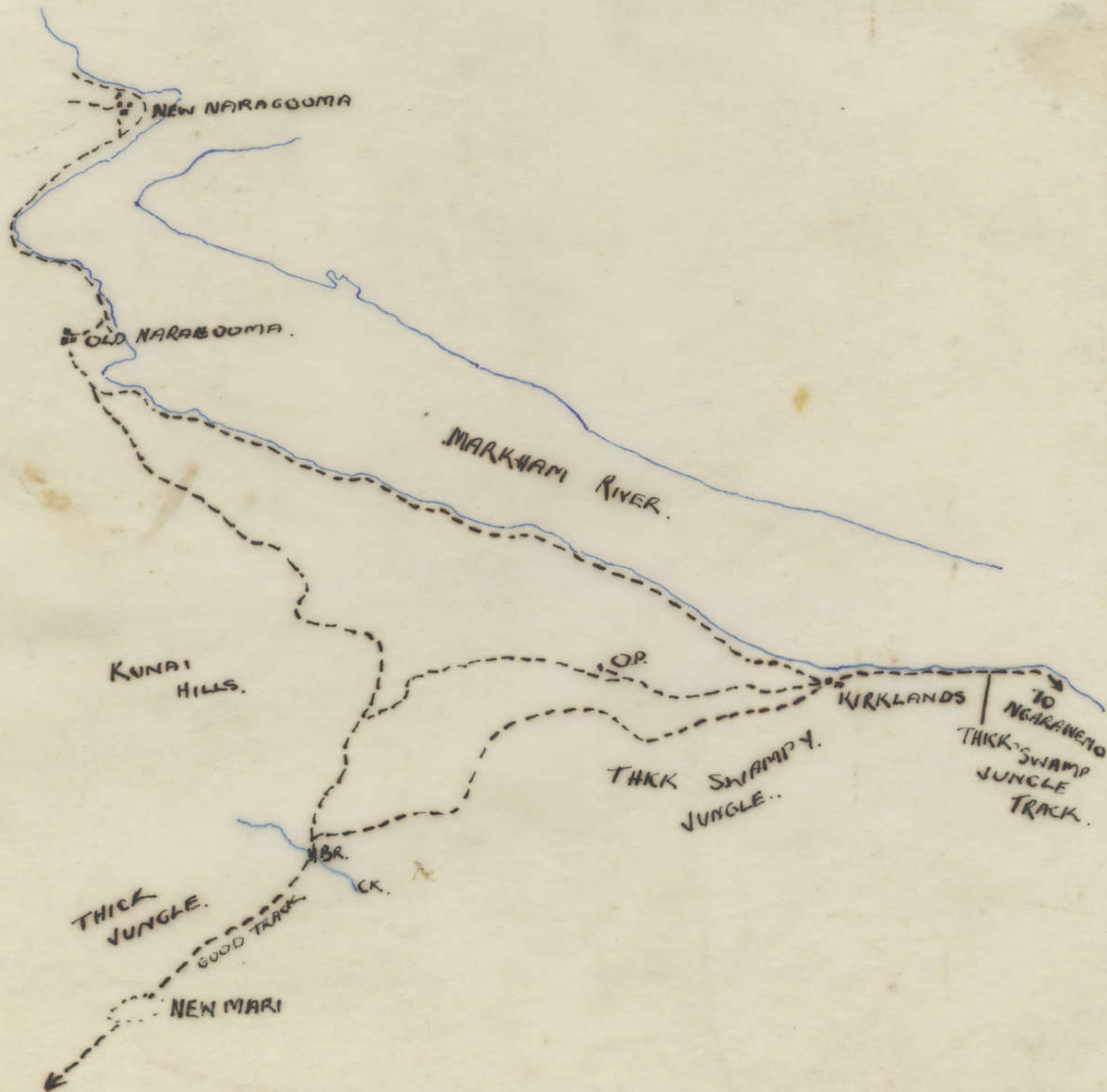
Bunself Recut  
28 MAY 43.



NO 7A.

(83-XX) TRACK from MARKHAM R. TO SUNSHINE DROME)

(25 MAR. 43 - 1100L) 6" FL. - 1535 MM.





(83-XX) TRACK from MAKKHAM R. TO SUNSHINE DROME)

(25 MAR 43-1100L) 6" FL. - 1535 M.M.



BOBS

Nos IV-8v.

(83-xx) TRACK from MARKHAM, K. TO SUNSHINE  
 DROME (25 MAR. '43-1100L) 6" FL. 1535 MM

DARGON  
 DRY CK BED



DRY CK BED

DRY CK BED  
 TO KIAP & WAMPIT TRACK  
 DAX - WAMPIT TRACK  
 ACROSS WIRE OR.

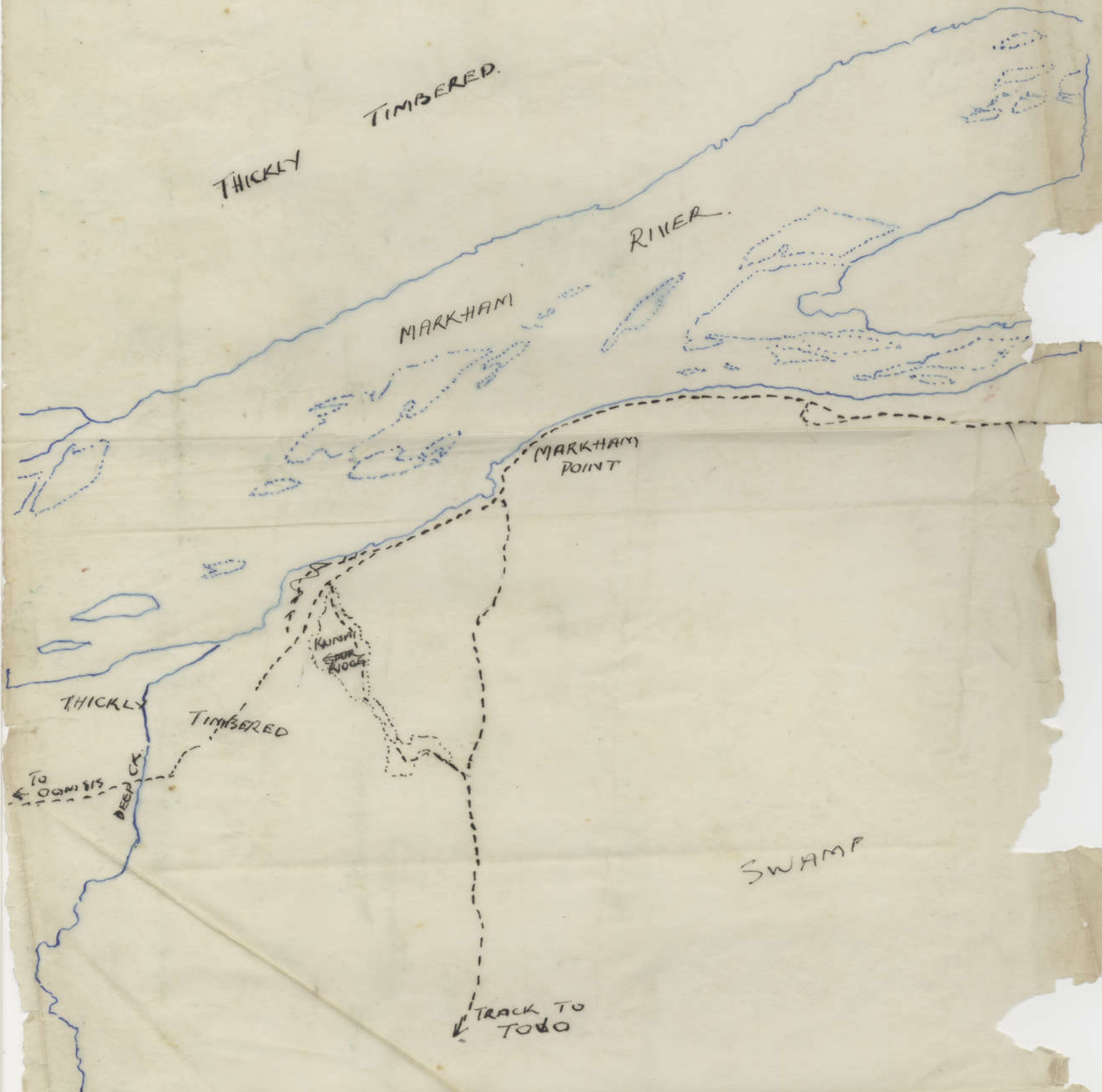
WAMPIT  
 DROME

TRUCK  
 VEHICLE  
 TO WAMPIT  
 SWAMPY

SWAMPY TRACK  
 TO BEN  
 LOG KING

184.v. 83 J-JAC (LAE - NADZAB MOSAIC) (25-MAR-43-1100L)

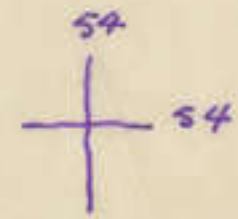
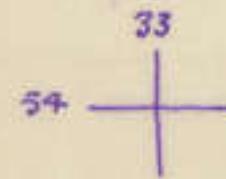
(64-43) 173-207 v.



580430



Copy of this connection  
 sent to 3rd Div 18 Jun 43  
 via Intell. Rpt 18 Jun 43  
 bla



C. Coy Area  
 9 Officers 189 OR's  
 Ref Maps  
 NADZAB & WAIME

16.



C. Coy full

Ambush posn NARAGOOMA AREA



57455  
57456

To Chivasing Crossing

Old Naragooma

Branch of Markam

To Kinks

L.M.G.

1 R K 4 min

Trk. in

E. side

To Bobs

- O Owen
- R Rifle

Map Ref Haimel 292484

Drawn by Sgt Marsal  
25/6/43

T



builder 2

To Boss

Map of [illegible]  
[illegible]  
[illegible]

PANORAMA SKETCH No 3

HEAVILY TIMBERED

KUNAI SLOPES

MT MISANTUM SWAMPY



AREA

MT MISANTUM

PANORAMA SKETCH No 2



SWAMPY LAND

TRACK BENS + OOMSI

TRACK TO REEP (KIRKS)

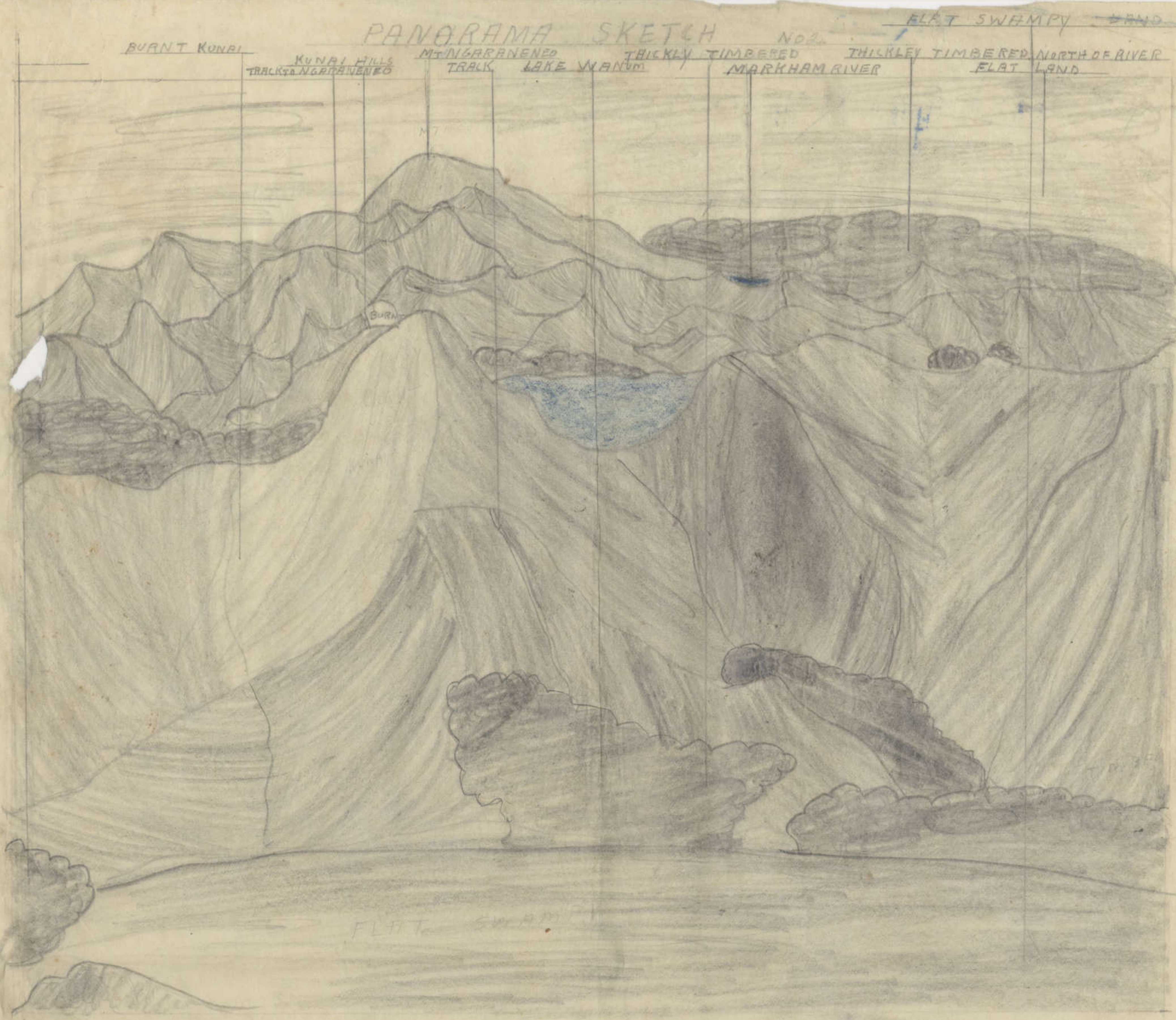
KUMAI HILLS

THICKLY TIMBERED

MARHAM RIVER

THICKLY TIMBERED NORTH OF RIVER  
FLAT LAND

AREA KIRKS TO NGANENED



PANORAMA SKETCH

NO. 2

BURNT KUNBI KUNAI HILLS TRACK to NGARANENED MT NGARANENED TRACK LAKE WANUM THICKLY TIMBERED MARKHAM RIVER THICKLY TIMBERED FLAT SWAMPY LAND NORTH OF RIVER FLAT LAND

FLAT SWAMPY

AREA MT NGARANENED - LAKE WANUM. TAKEN FROM MAP REF SQ. 4844. NADZAB. 1 IN

DATE 16 JUNE 43

VISIBILITY FAIR

WEATHER FINE

By Pte HOCKADAY

DEFENSIVE POSITION - OOMSISS  
Map reference 459 455 (NADZAB I")

GH. MN.

To Bens

To Bwarip

Gabensis Crk.

To Deep Creek

Native Huts

Pl. H.Q.

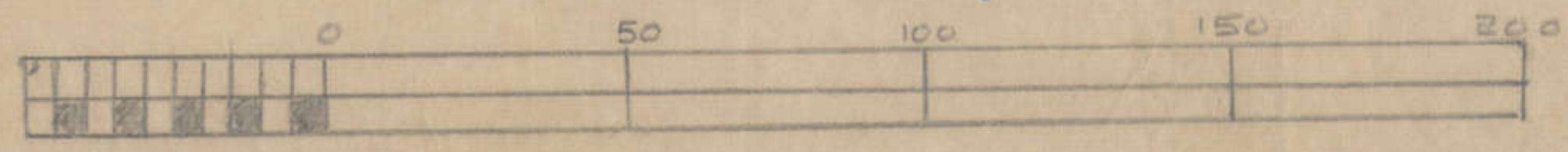
Kitchen

R.A.P.

Banana Plantation

LEGEND	
Tracks	---
Creek	~
Huts	□
Weapon pits	■
Heavy Timber	eee
Banana Plantation	Y Y Y

SCALE 1" = 50 yds.



7270300 Pte Christensen A.C.



Approx. NORTH

Cook House

- ⊗ Owen Gun
- X Rifle Bomber
- Rifle
- ⊙ Bren

Lookout.

Fishers Post.

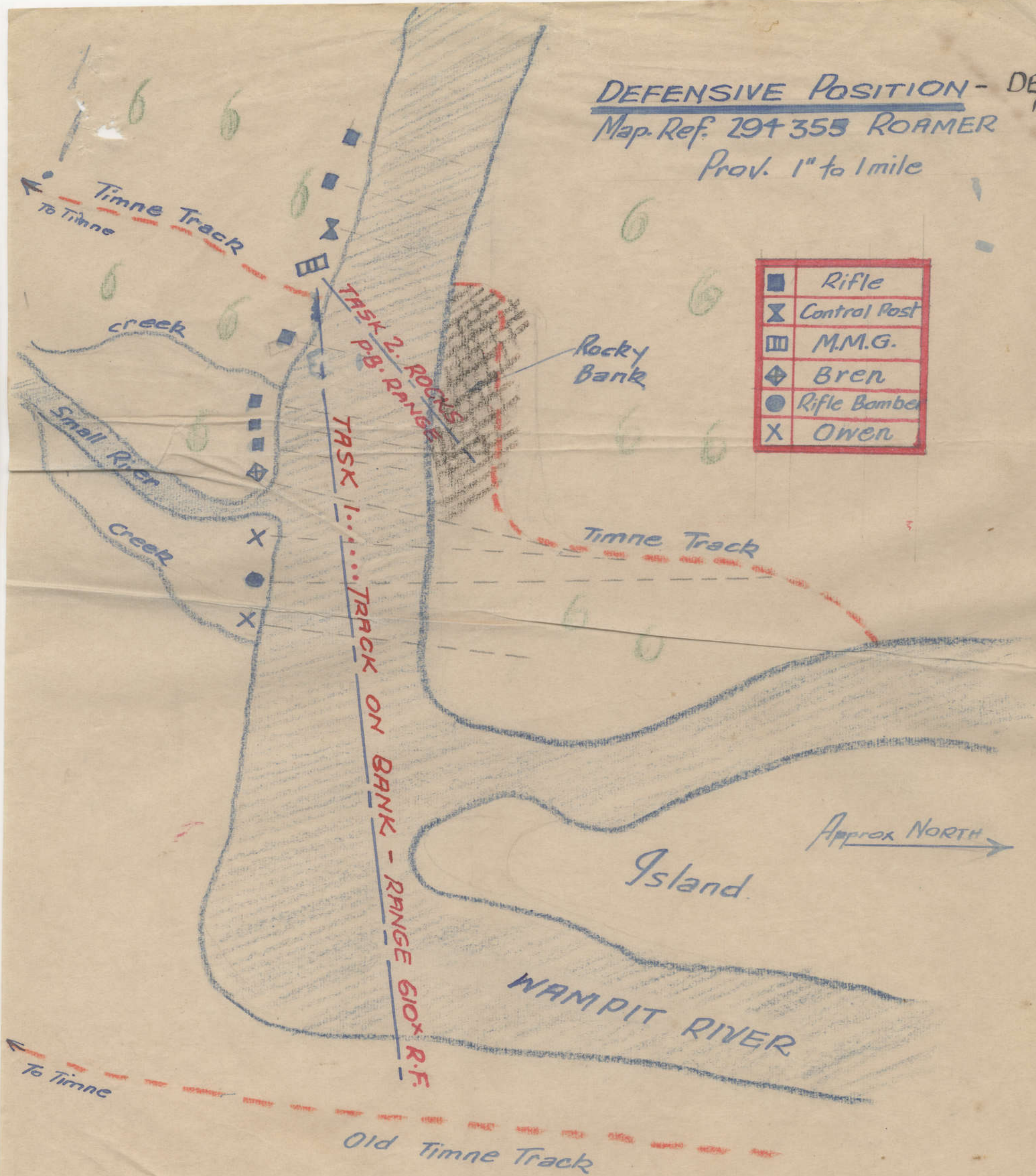
Fishers Creek

DEFENSIVE POSITON - DUELL'S  
AMBUSH 446406

2270300 Pte. Christensen A.C.

DEFENSIVE POSITION - DEX REAR.  
 Map. Ref. 294 355 ROAMER  
 Prov. 1" to 1 mile

■	Rifle
⌵	Control Post
▣	M.M.G.
◆	Bren
●	Rifle Bomb
X	Owen



7270300  
 Pte Christensen A.C.



AMBUSH POSITION  
 OOMSIS - BWARIP TRACK TO BWARIP  
 M.A. 42472 NADZAB LINE

CH. M.M.



Approx. 20' to Gabensis Cr.

1070 yds. to Gabensis Creek.

BREN

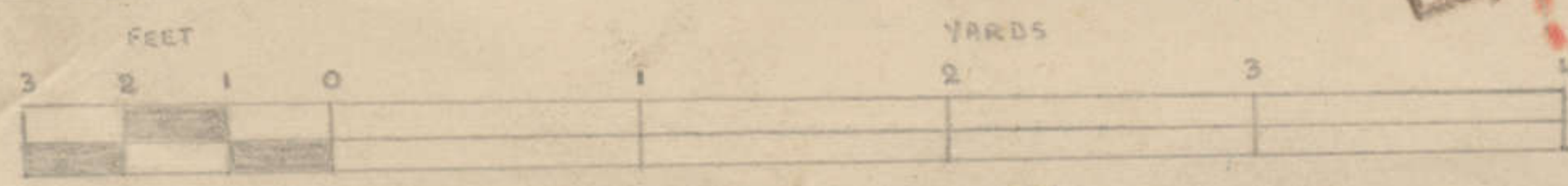
BREN

300 yds to Junction of Bens-Oomsis tracks

To OOMSIS

- LEGEND -

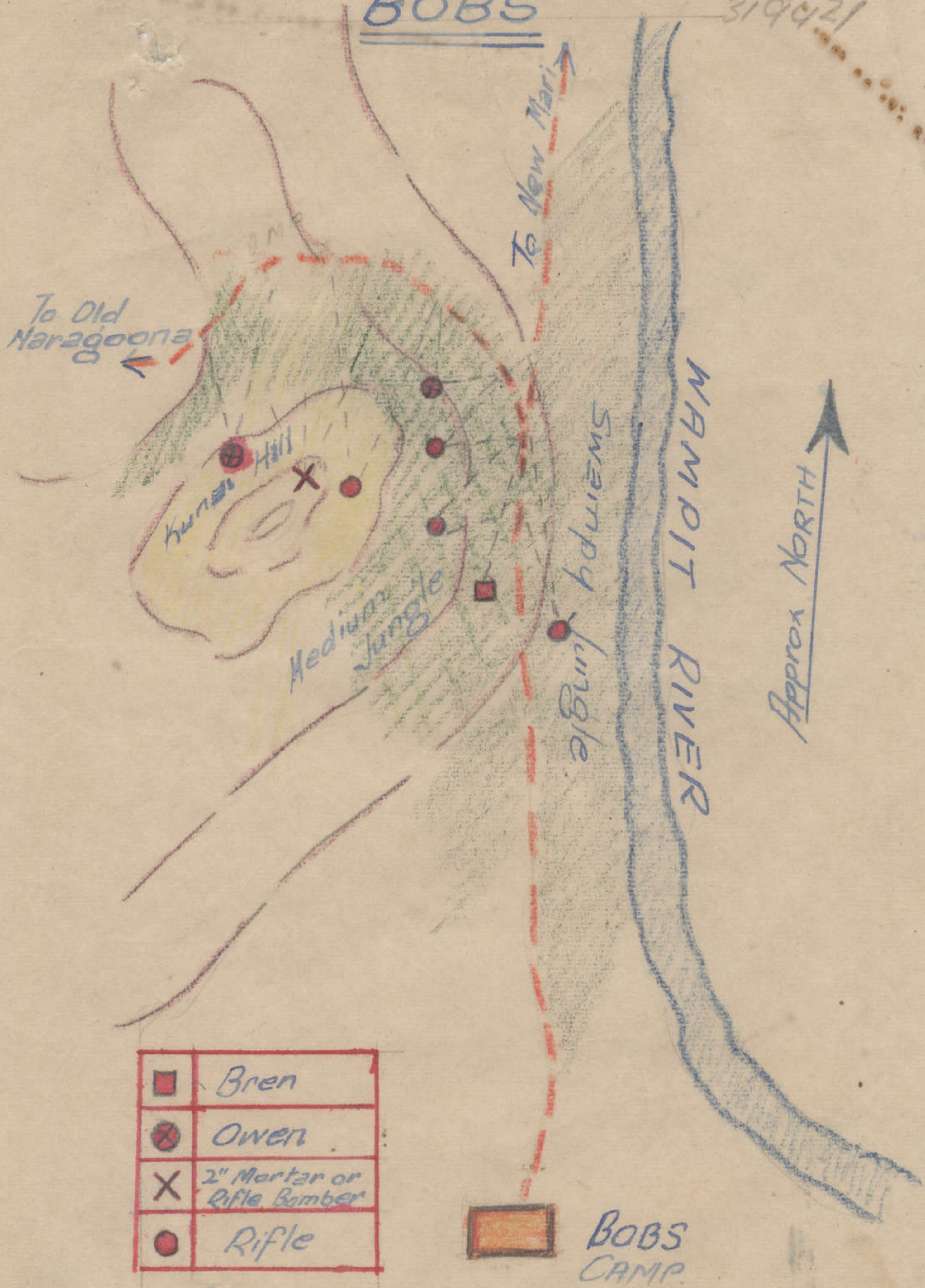
TRACK	
WEAPON PITS	
LIGHT SCRUB	
HEAVY SCRUB	



SCALE 1 inch = 1 yard.

DEFENSIVE POSITION  
BOBS

319421



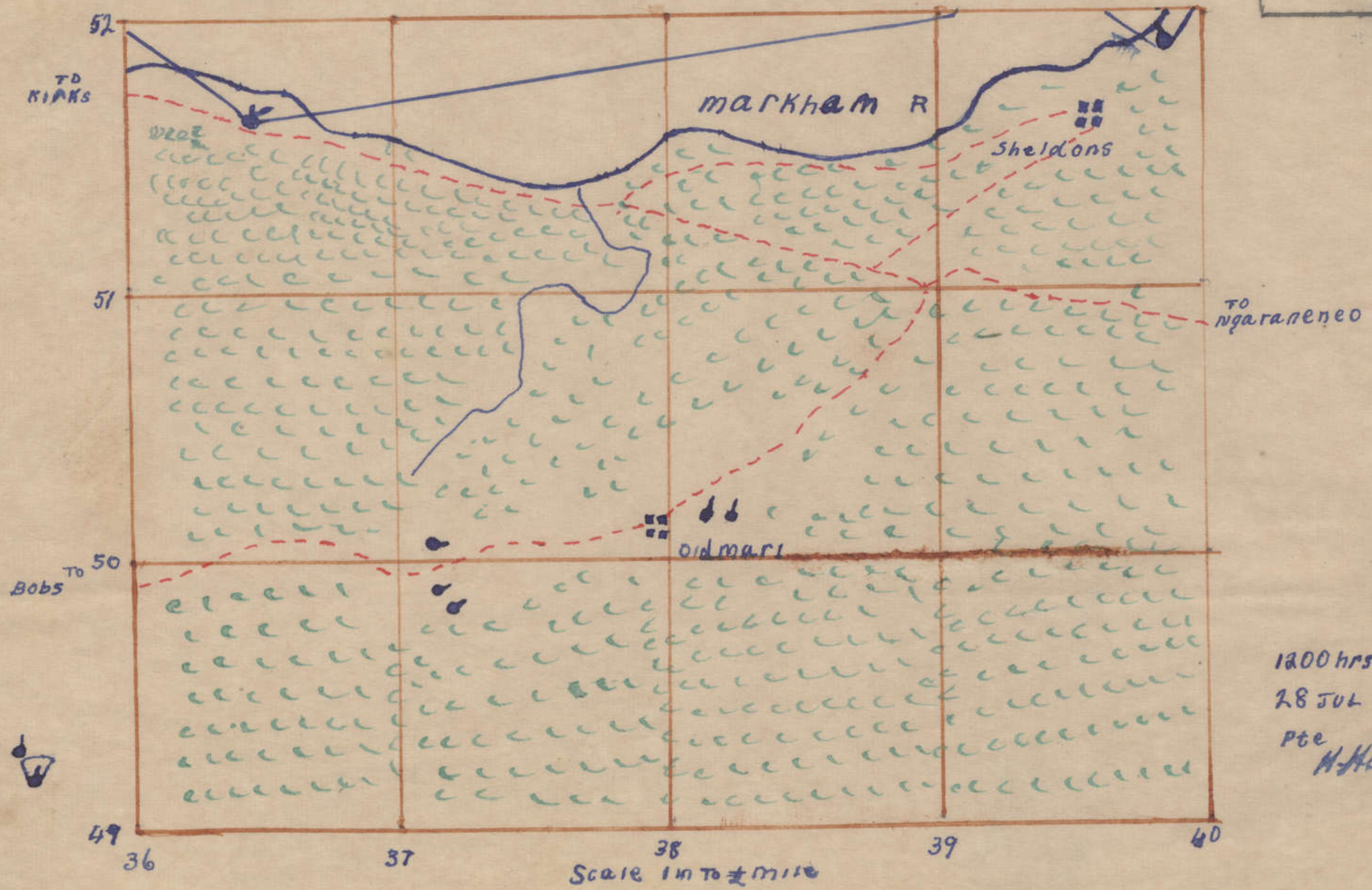
■	Bren
⊗	Owen
X	2" Mortar or Rifle Bomber
●	Rifle

BOBS  
CAMP

V270900  
Pte Christensen A.C.

Defensive Posns Sheldons - Old mari area.  
Ref map NADZAB 1:100,000 1 mile.

SHELDONS  
AREA.



Legend

Weapon Pits  
Fields of Fire



1200 hrs  
28 JUL 43  
Pte  
H. H. ...

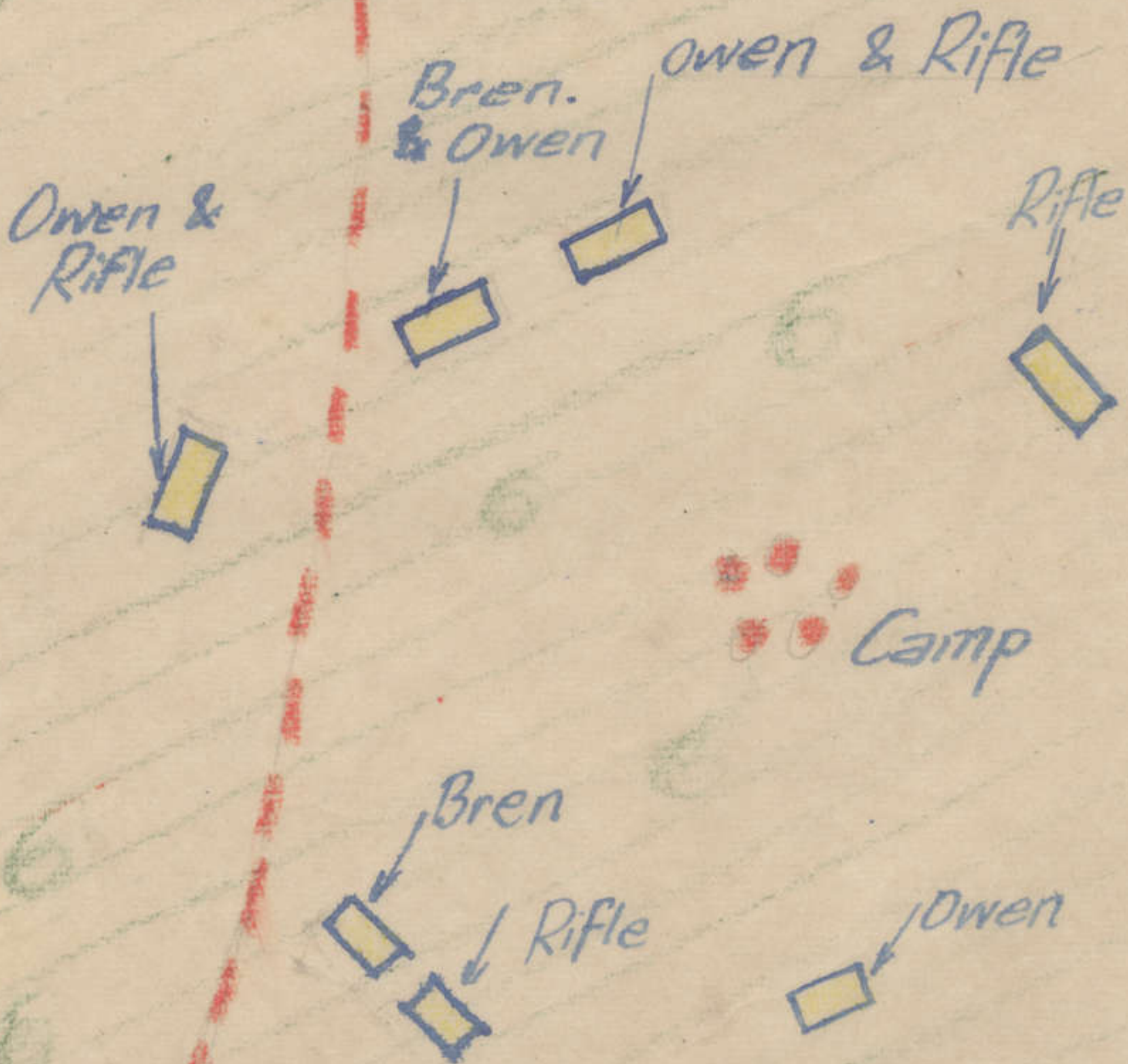
To Markham Pt.



DEEP CREEK  
DEFENSIVE  
POSITION

541436

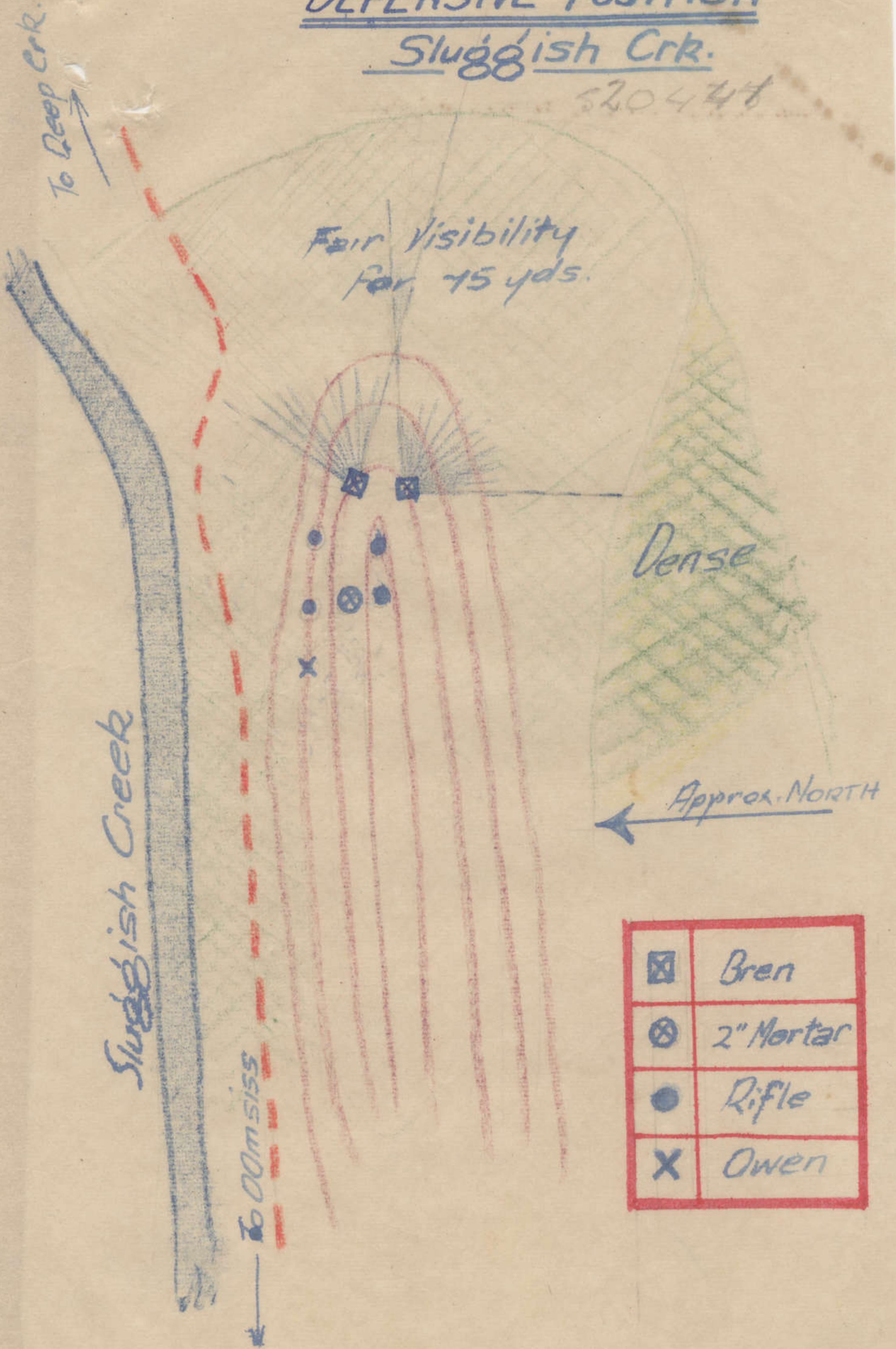
Country flat and  
medium timbered.  
Visibility approx 75yds.



1/270300  
Pte Christensen A.C.

DEFENSIVE POSITION  
Sluggish Crk.

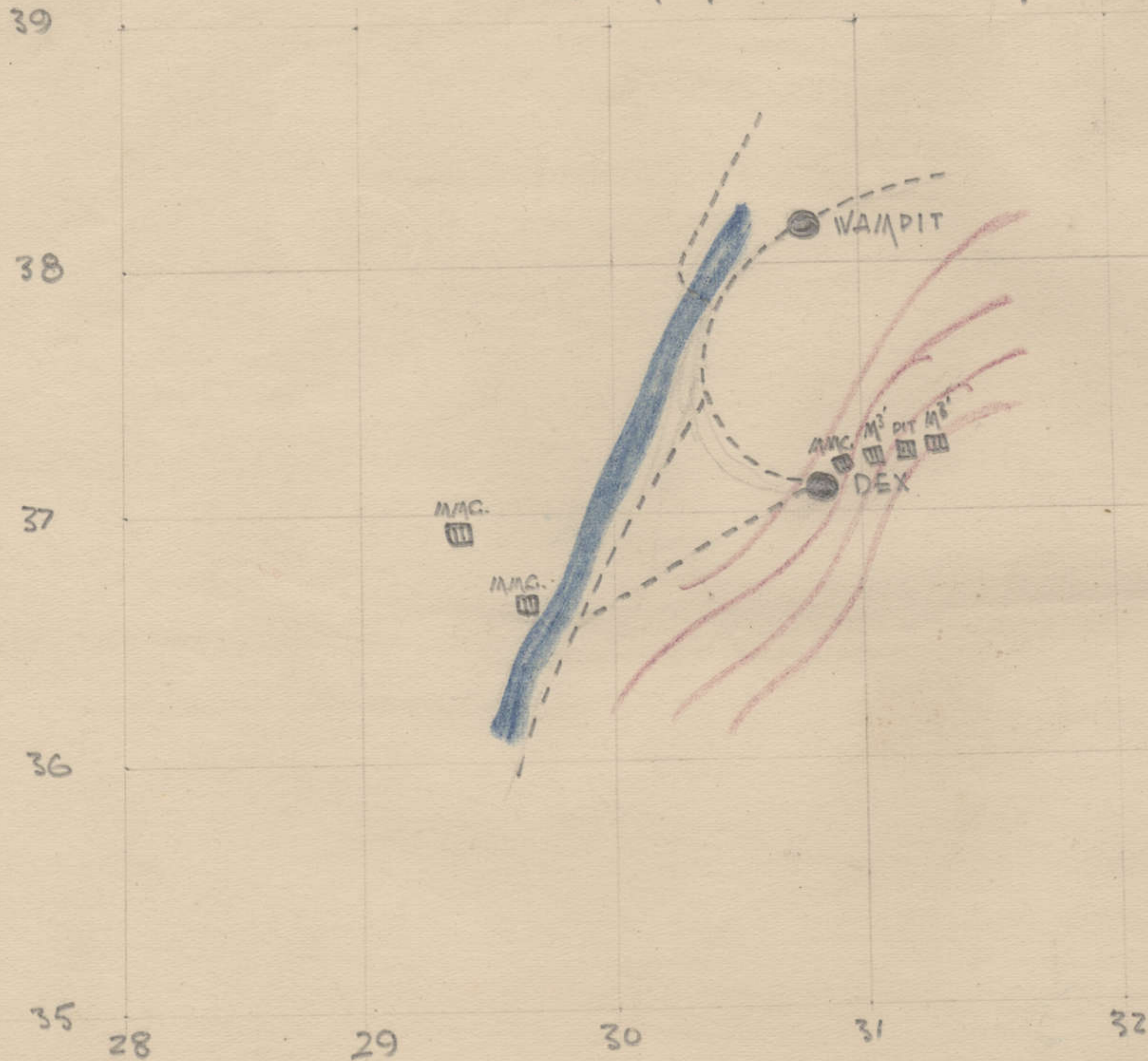
520448



☒	Bren
⊗	2" Mortar
●	Rifle
×	Owen

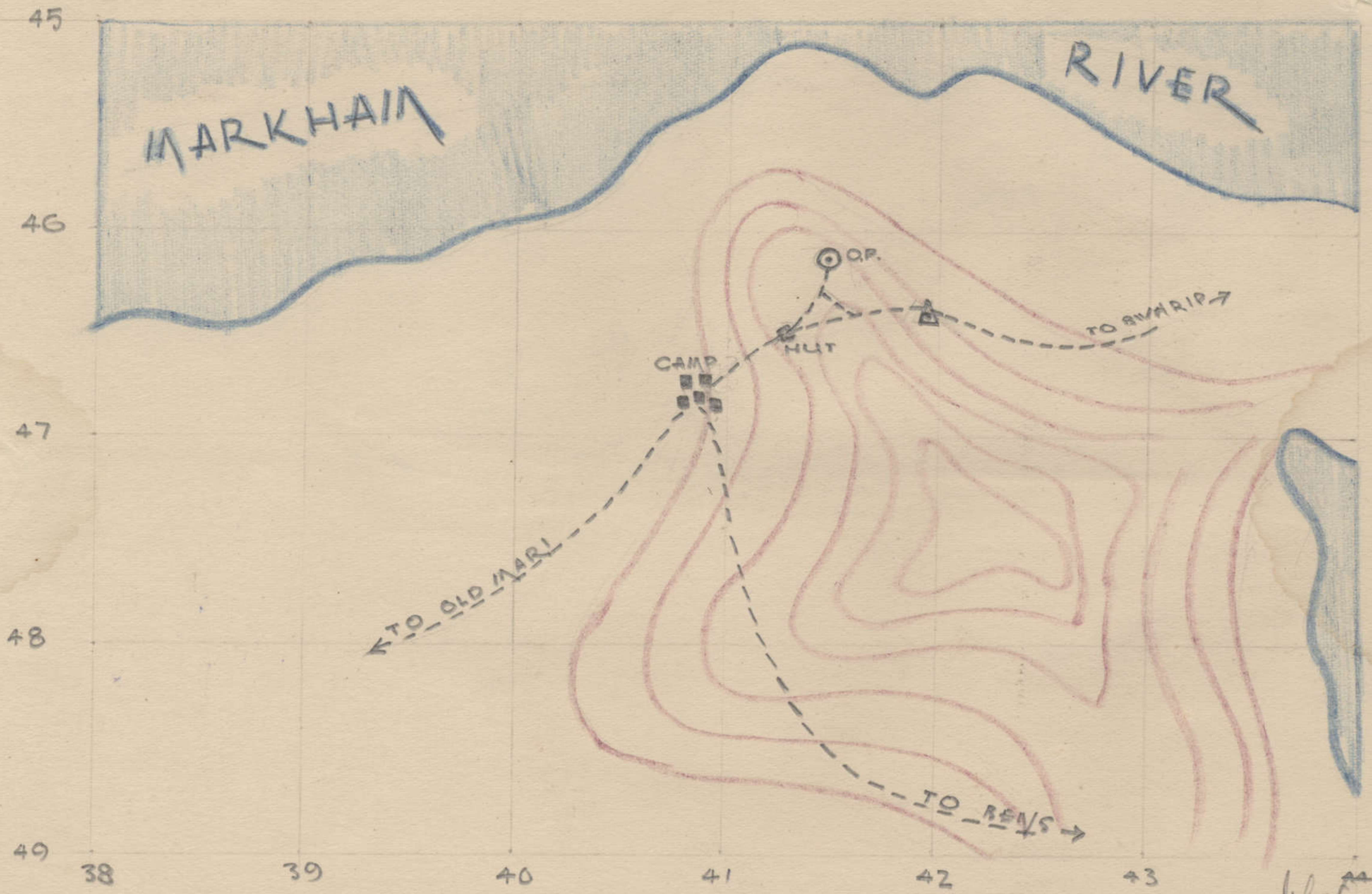
V270300  
Pte Christensen A.C.

DEF POSNS DEX AREA  
Ref Map. NADZAB IIN.



John 733  
T SFC

SKETCH of NGARANENO AREA  
Ref Map MADZAB IIN.



J. J. J. SEC.

53

DEF POSN . KIRKS - NARAGOOMA AREA  
Ref Maps WAIME-NADZAB III.

52

51

50

49

48

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

MARKHAM RIVER

KIRKS

OLD NARAGOOMA

NEW NARI

Robert  
1 SEC



C. COY FILE map folder

# SKETCH OF DEX & WAMPIT AREAS

WITH CONNECTING TRACK

REF. MAP. LAE-PATEP. NO. 2

M.R. — 304366 (DEX)  
304380 (WAMPIT)



SCALE 1" = 100 YDS.



TIME - 1200 HRS.  
DATE - 20 MAY 43

Edo J...  
D.S.

PATROL REPORT.

B  
184<sup>6</sup>

To I.O.

TYPE OF PATROL.

STANDING  
RECCE  
FIGHTING

FROM

~~Sgt. ...~~ Lt. Col. Staley

DATE

24 JUNE 43.

PATROL STRENGTH

1 NCO. and 20 Pte.

ARMAMENT

3 Owen, 1 Rifle, 2 Grenades, 2 ...

OBJECT

To Recce and Observe ... Area.

WEATHER

FINE and Clear

ROUTE OUT

Through JAP VILLAGE

ROUTE IN

Reverse to ROUTE OUT

TIME OUT

0830 Hrs.

TIME IN

1545 Hrs.

DETAILS.

0830 Hrs.

Moved from top of ridge to  
far village, very few natives observed, 2 natives  
in garden, could not pass without being seen,  
Major movement observed.

1230 Hrs.

Moved back to top of ridge above JAP village,  
discovered track and moved along same track, moving  
in direction bearing varying from 240° to 260° along ridge,  
moved along track approx. 1/2 mt., a vine-hand rail  
at intervals at 1/2 mt. came upon 2 pits and 1 lean to  
with 9 weapons pits, some one, others 2 new pits, well  
barricaded excellent. CP. far south of MARKHAM RIVER.  
and surrounding country (SOUTHERN), good view of native  
villages, and some spots, we found. 1 PAGE of book  
presumed to be from GERMAN BIBLE also cigarette pks.  
with JAP pencil writing on it, a scrap of paper with  
ENGLISH and JAP printing & some figures.

1300 Hrs.

Proceeded through barricade along old disused  
track on same bearings, old logs, marks on trees at  
intervals.

1345 Hrs.

Came upon 2 old burnt out huts in the vicinity,  
log fire place and table

1400

Same track, same bearings found look out from  
top of high feature with excellent view of previously  
mentioned area and more extensive view southward.  
approx same area, other side of ridge  
small clearing overlooking river and  
valley, one large and well laid out  
plantation - observed through glasses.

Signature

Rank

Date

Place

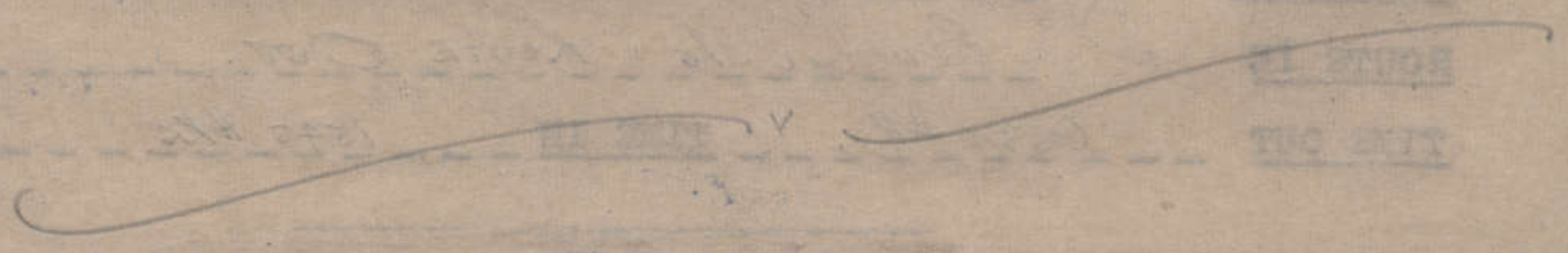
NOTE. Sketch map to be drawn on back of this sheet.

on North Bank of River.

1415 Hk. Proceeded on same track ~~off~~ same bearings, for  $\frac{1}{2}$  hr. further track ~~is~~ on bus line did not permit carrying on.

All pts. mentioned were checked on return

route



*[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten notes and bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]*

NOTE. Station map to be drawn on back of this sheet.

To: I.O.

From: Guides 15.

21 Jun 43

Report on Camp 13 and work carried  
out from 16 Jun 43 - 21 Jun 43

On 16 Jun 43 accompanied by 3 Cpls I arrived  
at Camp 13 and took over command of area  
from 0630 17 Jun 43. By 18 Jun 43 personnel  
in area had all been replaced by 15 Pl personnel.  
Strength 15 + 1 R.A.P. orderly.

### Disposition and layout of Camp 13

After contact with enemy on 16 Jun. Ambush  
posn and camp was moved back along track

about 100x and first priority of work was  
given to setting and digging of weapons pits

Diagram of layout of these is attached.

2 LMGs are positioned with fields of fire

as follows (a) 1 firing down track toward  
DEEP CREEK with a clear view along same

for 100 to 150x. This is a two man pit sited  
behind a large tree and a rifle man protects

left flank. (b) Slightly forward of previous  
posn Gun II fires across and down track

covering right flank of other gun and  
cross firing. (c) other posn as per diagram.

All the posns are manned from first  
light until dark and in addition sentries

are posted for all round warning.

Previous camp pon was left intact with beds  
lean-to's etc and sets of clothes have been  
arranged to give the impression that camp is  
occupied.

Pon is by no means impregnable as country  
is flat and the timber although heavy  
can be covered fairly easily. Tracks at  
pt where pon is dug in is about 10 mins  
walk through bush to southern bank of  
MACKHAM. Pon could be encircled but it  
should be possible to fight way out and  
fight delaying action back along track  
to SUGGISH CREEK where second ambush  
pon is being dug in. This work should be  
completed by 24 Jun. A working party  
of 1 Rpl 6 Co has been engaged on this  
work for 2 days. This ambush pon  
should provide for a long delay  
of any enemy advance being very similar  
to gap pon E of DEEP CREEK.  
Plan at Camp 13.

1. As it is realised that an ambush pon  
near DEEP CREEK could deal with  
relatively small forces patrolling  
up track it could not be held against  
large bodies.
2. All traps are fully covered with  
and following arrangements have been made

WHEN FOLDED THE LETTER CARD MUST CONFORM IN SIZE AND SHAPE WITH THE BLUE BORDER WHICH THE ADDRESS ONLY MAY BE WRITTEN.

BY AIR MAIL

AIR MAIL

LETTER CARD

IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED THIS CARD WILL BE SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL

Affix Stamp here.

in order that they may carry them out as efficiently as possible.

(a) In addition to personal ammunition of SAA and guards, each man packs a proportion of reserve ammo in his pack each morning, together with operational rations.

(b) Men are detailed each ~~to~~ morning to be responsible for the carriage back to SWOOSH CREEK of (i) Telephone (ii) 2" mortar (iii) Reserve grenades. This ensures that troops will have am to inflict maximum casualties as they work back to second pos. " "

(c) Provision is being made at SWOOSH CREEK for safe dumping of 18 2" mortar HE bombs, and reserve Op rations.

Morale morale so far has been excellent and it has not yet been necessary to detail a single patrol. Few men have shown nervousness and rather than affect the morale of good men they have been relieved immediately. This appears hard on the willing workers but as nervous men now unnerve others, these men will be kept at camp 14.

Food and sleeping accommodation.

Food supplies have been good to date but sleeping conditions in spite of use of U.S. tents and papling beds are bad and it is impossible to keep dry. In this regard I would suggest that a

Pl. should not have a term of duty of more than three weeks, as by that time all personnel will be showing signs of tiredness with a lessening of strength and morale.

Patrols Daily patrols have been carried out to

(1) Lookout.

(2) Protective recon patrol to DEEP CREEK and along to mouth of CREEK returning along left flank. This is done twice

(3) <sup>daily</sup> special patrol as per reports.

Booby traps

Camp area has been booby trapped around perimeter. No other booby traps have been

Night precautions

All men sleep in a circle and hourly tours of sentry duty are carried out. All men are checked by 0530.

General remarks

It is desired to bring to your notice that excellent work has been done in particular by Sgt Johnstone. His morale has been 100% and his influence on men under his command has been excellent.

BY AIR MAIL

AIR MAIL

LETTER CARD

IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED THIS CARD WILL BE SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL

WHEN FOLDED THE LETTER CARD MUST CONFORM IN SIZE AND SHAPE WITH THE BLUE BORDER WITHIN WHICH THE ADDRESS ONLY MAY BE WRITTEN.

W. Baker, Pilot

24/6/43

Affix Stamp here.

9/6/43

CAMP 13 DEFENSIVE AREA.

MARKHAM RIVER



SUGARSH CREEK  
AMBUSH POSN.

Ambush Posn NOT to scale.

Q Q Q  
Q Q Q

Q Q Q  
Q Q Q

140 130 220 110 0 440 880 1320  
SCALE 1 in. = 440 yds

- Weapon pits } 1 man
- } 2 men
- Firing Lines →
- Booby Traps <<<<<
- Sentries S

Blair Lieut.  
24/6/43



COPY.

PATROL REPORT

(2)

TO - I O

TYPE - RECCE

FROM - SGT HOGAN.

17 JUN

PATROL STRENGTH SGT HOGAN, L/CPT MCINNIS PTE O'CONNOR

NATIVES - QWELLA, AFIS, ADZAM, KOPE.

ARMAMENT 2 Brenns (7 mag each) rifle (50 cal), 6 grenades

OBJECT To obtain info NADZAB, GABMATZUNG, GABSONKEK, MWAHA, NGASAWUMPUM and NARAKOPOR of enemy pos, armament, morks and for info.

WEATHER Fine - moonlight night

ROUTE OUT Ref map NADZAB. From 392518 to mid island 402527

ROUTE IN a/c main channel to 399534. 3/400 yds east along bank back into river to 415544, through GABMATZUNG to GABSONKEK

GABSONKEK to GABMATZUNG then WEST to 417544, angle SOUTH end of drone to bank at 417538, WEST to 399534, crossed river to 392518.

TIME OUT 1630 hrs 17<sup>R</sup> (SOUTH BANK) TIME IN 1100 hrs 18 JULY (SOUTH BANK)

WEIGHT CARRIED 35 lb average

INF by SGT HOGAN

River crossing took <sup>30</sup> minutes. river low, fair swirling current. Rubber boats had logs strapped on either side, one native each end of left log swimming & pushing boat forward. Boats were satisfactory under these conditions; they were loaded in reeds at point of landing. Walking EAST we struck rubber tracks at map ref 406538 running NE SW from edge of reeds and kunia for about 25 yds to water level. These tracks were approx 28" apart (outside to outside) and each track 2 1/2 to 3" wide. They were smooth and were apparently result of heavy weight

(2)

They could have been made by iron spikes  
where they stepped at roads, there is a bearing  
track through Kurnal, but no other marks of  
wheels could be discerned. We proceeded EAST  
along bank through small channel to a point  
SOUTH of GABMATSONG, entered a track through  
Kurnal running NORTH. Along track for 200 yds  
struck Kanaka huts (discused), crossed a creek  
(5 yds wide 9" deep running NE-SW), further 100'  
to well built Kanaka hut (discused). Stayed  
there 3/4 hr while QWEKA and ADZAB went first to  
GABMATSONG, which they reported clear. 300 yds  
further on struck 1915SION where there is a STEWART  
truck (old & out of repair) TNG 692 (?) and a  
brand new blue bicycle frame. main house  
has a large red roof. huts are in bad repair.  
Some huts have recently been burnt down  
but NO meat or persons were seen. KWEKA  
says Japs come by car to NADZAB (HOUSE KIAT)  
and then 400' SOUTH  
mp 427545 then proceed on foot WEST, to  
GABMATSONG.

Proceeded through Kurnal NORTH to GABSONKOK (NOT  
on track). through hamon a patches, 2 creek.  
There is a track (known as BIG TRACK) running  
EAST from mp 415550.  
GABSONKOK is about size of NEW MARI - natives  
very friendly, bringing us chairs & fruit  
Stayed there 23 hrs to 0010/18 and obtained  
info from natives through QWEKA and

(3)  
and TATA(?), head boy. These things have been  
reported separately and I can NOT vouch for  
its correctness. natives say that Japs come to  
message every day between 1000 and 1200 hrs  
taking everything in sight - pigs, fowls, fruit etc.  
without paying, they take native girls back to  
LAE if they catch them. Natives provided  
mosquito nets, rugs and beds for us.

Got up 0500 hrs, QWEKA would NOT take a  
Kanaka track from GABSONKER to NGHSAWUMPOK,  
because "Japs are come up big track, cut us off"  
He also would not go on main rd to NARAKOPOR  
because of two names Japs at NARAKOPOR and  
2 Japs at NARAKOPOR.

Shortly after 0600 we retraced our steps to  
GABMATSONG (natives obtained all tracks  
made in village and on track) Left GABMATSONG  
0730 hrs, went WEST along disused motor track  
(shown on map), walked up and down along  
SOUTH end of drome, observed NOTHING. Kuna is  
approx 3' to 6' high on drome. No signs seen.  
QWEKA said English Australian had put traps  
on drome (pyramid shape like arms piled).  
The O'Connor, member of patrol has seen them  
from NGARENENO OP.  
Then came SOUTH through Kuna, then EAST  
to Kanaka hut slightly SW of GABMATSONG  
Moved back to NORTH bank.  
There is a track, bearing 130° to highest point

(2)  
of MT. NGARENENO, which natives said was  
used by Japs.  
Found boat and left 0930 hrs. reaching  
SOUTH bank at 1100 hrs.

### BUILDINGS

GABMATSUKE 1 main house mission, 2 dilapidated  
chapels, approx 6 huts. In small gpts, SOUTH and  
WEST of mission are several broken down huts and  
lean-tos belonging to different villages; used when

visiting mission.  
GABSONKEK ~~Approx~~ <sup>approx</sup> 20 ~~huts~~ <sup>huts</sup>, well kept village.

NADZAB DROME - No building or construction seen.

### TRACKS

Tracks covered were good. Track from GABMATSUKE  
to NADZAB drome is overgrown with kumar, and  
looked like old disused motor track. A  
map ref 407544 there is a sapling bridge over  
a bad repair over a creek <sup>10"</sup> 8' deep, 1' deep.

### POSSIBLE JAP OP

We did NOT see any signs of this but KWEILA  
informed us that Japs climbed trees in  
vicinity of mission and observed NGARENENO  
with glasses.

DB

SIGNATURE D. Horgan (Jap)  
TIME 1500 hrs.  
DATE 19 JUN 43.

22 JUNE 43. *See Appendix*

TO. I.O.  
FRM. Sgt. HOGAN.  
DATE. 17 JUN 43.

PATROL STRENGTH. Sgt. HOGAN, L/Cpl. MC INNIS, Pte. O'CONNOR.  
NATIVES. QWEILA, AFIS, ADZAM, KOPE.

ARMAMENT. Two(2) Owens (7 mags. each), one (1) rifle (50 rds), 6 grenades.

OBJECT. To obtain information NADZAB, GABMATZUNG, GABSONKEK, MUNUM, NGASAWUMPUM and NARAKOPOR of enemy strength, armament, movements and forward works.

WEATHER. Fine - moonlight nights.

ROUTE OUT. Reference map NADZAB. From 392518 to mud island 402527 across main channel to 399534. 3/400 yards EAST along bank, back into river to 415541, through GABMATSUNG to GABSONKEK.

ROUTE IN. GABSONKEK to GABMATSUNG then WEST to 417544, across SOUTH end of drome to bank at 417538, WEST to 399534, crossed river to 392518.

TIME OUT? 1630 hrs 17th (SOUTH Bank). TIME IN. 1100 hrs 18 JUN(SOUTH bank).

WEIGHT CARRIED. Thirty Five (35) lb. average.

INFORMATION BY SGT. HOGAN.

River crossing took thirty minutes - river low, fair swirling current. Rubber boats had logs strapped on either side; one native each end of left log swimming and pushing boat forward. Boats were satisfactory under these conditions; they were hidden in reeds at point of landing. Walking EAST we struck wheel tracks at map reference 406538 running N.E., S.W., from edge of reeds and kunai for about 25 yards to water level. These tracks were approx. 28-in apart(outside to outside) and each track  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to 3-in. wide. They were smooth and were apparently result of heavy weight. They could have been made by iron tyres. Where they stopped at reeds, there is a beaten track through kunai, but NO other marks of wheels could be discerned. We proceeded EAST along bank through small channels to a point SOUTH of GABMATSUNG, entered a track through kunai running NORTH. Along track for 200 yards, struck KANAKA huts (disused), crossed a creek (5 yards wide 9-in deep running N.E.-S.W.), further 100 yards to well built KANAKA hut (disused). Stayed there  $3\frac{1}{4}$ -hr while QWEILA and ADZAM went forward to GABMATSUNG, which they reported clear. 300 yards further on struck MISSION where there is a STEWART truck (old and out of repair) TNG.692(?) and a brand new blue bicycle frame (no distinguishing marks). Main house has a large red roof - huts are in bad repair. Some huts have recently been burnt down but NO movement or persons were seen. KWEILA says Japs come by "car" to NADZAB (HOUSE KIAP), map reference 427545, then proceed on foot WEST and then 400 yards SOUTH to GABMATSUNG.

Proceeded through kunai NORTH to GABSONKEK (not on track) - through banana patches, two creeks. There is a track(known as BIG TRACK) running EAST from map reference 415550.

GABSONKEK is about size of NEW MARI - natives very friendly, bringing us chairs and fruit. Stayed there 2300 hrs to 0010/18 and obtained information through QWEILA and TATA(?), head boy. This information has been reported seperately in the attached appendix and I can NOT vouch for its correctness. Natives say that Japs come to village every day between 1000 hrs and 1200 hrs, taking everything in sight - pigs, fowls, fruit etc., without paying; they take native girls back to LAE if they catch them. Natives provided mosquito nets, rugs and beds for us.

Got up 0500 hrs. QWEILA would NOT take us along KANAKA track from GABSONKEK to NGASAWUMPUM because "Japman come up big track, cut us off". He also would NOT go on main road to NARAKOPOR because of too many Japs at NARAKOPOR and two guns at NARAKOPOR.

- 2 - PATROL REPORT (CONTD.)

Shortly after 0600 we retraced our steps to GABMATSUNG (natives obliterated all tracks made in village and on track). Left GABMATSUNG 0730 hrs, went WEST along disused motor track (shown on map), walked up and down along SOUTH end of drome, observed NOTHING. Kunai is approx. 3-ft to 6-ft high on drome. NO tripods seen. QWEILA sais English Australians had put tripods on drome (pyramid shape like arms piled). Pte. O'CONNOR, member of patrol has seen these from NGAREHENO O.P..

Then came SOUTH through kunai, then EAST to KANAKA huts slightly S.W. of GABMATSUNG. Moved back to NORTH bank.

There is a track start point being on bearing 130° to highest point of MT. NGAREHENO which natives state was used by Japs.

Found boat and left 0930 hrs, reaching SOUTH bank at 1000 hrs.

BUILDINGS.

GABMATSUNG. One main house mission, two delapidated chapels, approx six huts. In small groups SOUTH and WEST of mission are several broken-down huts and lean-to's belonging to different villages, used when visiting mission.

GABSONKEK. Saw about 20 huts, well kept village.

NADZAB DROME.- No building or construction seen.

TRACKS. Tracks covered were good. Track from GABMATSUNG to NADZAB DROME is overgrown with kunai, and looked like old disused motor tracks. At map reference 407544 there is a sapling bridge 8-ft wide in bad repair over a creek 10-ft wide, and 1-ft deep.

POSSIBLE JAP. O.P. - We did NOT see any sign of this but QWEILA informed us that Japs climbed trees in vicinity of MISSIONS and observed NGAREHENO with glasses.

SIGNED. D.A. HOGAN, Sgt.

TIME. 1500 hrs.

DATE. 19 JUN 43.

APPENDIX TO SGT. HOGAN'S REPORT.

INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM QUESTIONING TATA (BOSS BOY AT GABSONKEK)  
AND QWEILA (PATROL GUIDE)

1. 300 Japs. crossed MARKHAM RIVER at MARKHAM POINT last WEDNESDAY with declared intention of proceeding toward OOMSIS.
2. 1 White patrol officer (KIUP) and 5 Police Boys were caught and shot by Japs last FRIDAY. The district was mentioned but I could NOT understand the name. The Japs took the KIUP'S horse, machine gun and a rifle down to LAE.
3. Japs now send a patrol of 200 men every day to GAEMATSUNG MISSION. Of these, 100 proceed towards CHINASING (MADANG was mentioned re this patrol - query connection with MADANG road). The other 100 operate from the mission, visiting the various villages, threatening the native boys, and forcing them to carry cargo; taking pigs, fruit, fowls, eggs, etc., without paying. They ill-treat both men and girls, taking the latter to LAE if caught. They are known to have climbed trees and observe NGARENENO with glasses from the missions. This patrol comes by truck as far as HOUSE KIUPAH NADZAB, thence proceeding by foot.
4. On approach of Japs towards GABSONKEK, native women go bush.
5. TATA was forced to carry cargo to LAE by Japs and whilst doing so, obtained information contained in para 1.
6. This cargo is carried along what is referred to as the KANAKA TRACK which runs from GABSONKEK through NGASAWUMPUM. Japs themselves use the lower track known by natives as the BIG TRACK which is the track through HOUSE KIUP at NADZAB and thence to GAEMATSUNG.
7. The natives guides refused to take patrol along KANAKA TRACK for the reasons (a) That Japs would cut them off from BIG TRACK, and (b) that Japs visit NGASAWUMPUM, YALU, MUNUM and other villages.
8. They refused to take patrol along BIG TRACK because they said "Three white masters, too many Japs".
9. Asked about the number of Japs at NARAKOPOR, TATA said there were too many Japs and two big guns.
10. TATA did NOT know of any forward works in the vicinity of KANAKA TRACK. He said "Japs dig hole at HEATHE".
11. They were very much afraid of patrol being discovered by Japs at GABSONKEK, and urged us to leave GABSONKEK by 0600 and return to "white master No.1."
12. Japs are expected to visit GABSONKEK between 1000 hrs and 1200 hrs today (18 JUN).
13. Natives feared Japs would see patrol's boot tracks and said KANAKAS would remove tracks around village.
14. The Japs killed two cows and 1 bear which belonged to GAEMATSUNG MISSION and QWEILA pointed out a track through the kunai which the Japs had made in hunting the cows.

NOTE. At 0600, a gong sounded in GABSONKEK and practically all the natives gathered in a large hut for morning prayers which took 3 to 4 minutes. One native appeared to lead the service and the remainder chanted responses. The whole village including piccaninies appeared to be sitting round fires in the moonlight between the time of arrival of patrol at 2300 until we went to bed at 0010. When asked what time picanninies went to bed, QWEILA replied that they do not go to bed while the moon is up.

SIGNED. D. HOGAN, Sgt.

DATE. 19 JUN 43.

Patrol by Sgt. Hogan  
To Gabsonkkk Date June 17-18 43

arrived 2300  
left base June 17  
" " 18

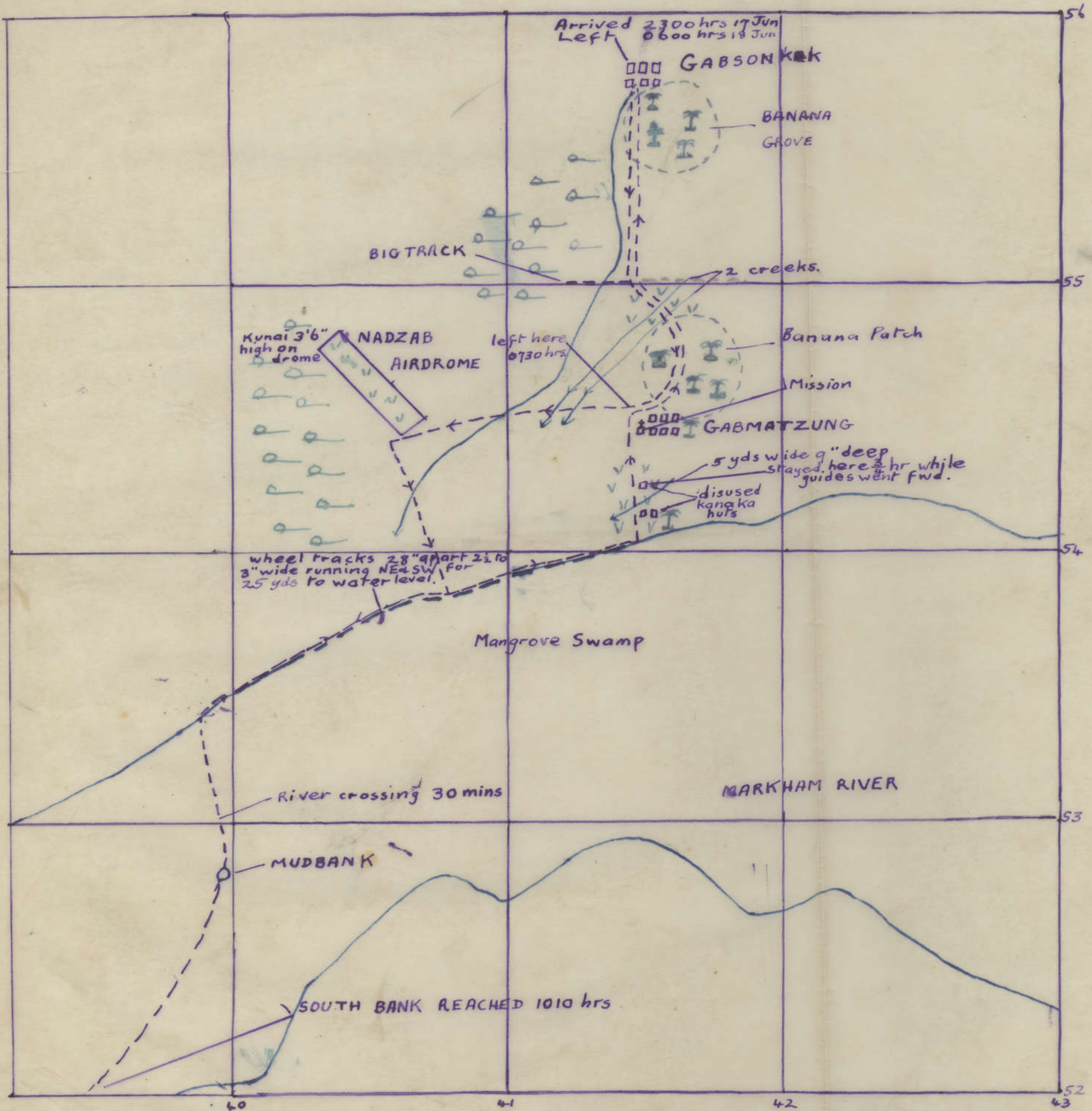
Stayed here 70 mins





PATROL BY SGT HOGAN TO GABSONKEK

DATED JUNE 17-18, 43



G. Outhred Pte  
21 Jul 43.

(7)

To: P.O.

PATROL REPORT

MESSAGE FORM TYPE OF PATROL - RECCE

1  
CALL  
AND  
INSTANT  
TONE

FROM: Sgt EATON of 15 PL.

DATE: 13 JUN 43

PATROL STRENGTH: Sgt EATON, Pte MCKENZIE, Pte MCHUTCHISON and native guide AFIS

ARMAMENT: Started with 2 ovens (200 rds), 1 rifle (50 rds) and 2 grenades per man.

OBJECT: To recce areas NADZAB, GABSONKEX, NGASAWUMPUM and NARAKOPOR; to obtain info of enemy movements, concentrations and activities.

WEATHER: Rain night 11 JUN - fine day 12 JUN

ROUTE OUT: Crossed MARKHAM RIVER 392518 to 402537. Native then went to GABMATSUNG, GABSONKEX and NADZAB, returning to Sgt EATON on NORTH bank.

ROUTE IN: Crossed river 402537 to 406525. Then to track and return to OLD MARI.

TIME OUT: 1840/11 - SOUTH BANK TIME IN: 1800/12 reached SOUTH bank

DETAILS

Sgt EATON'S REPORT

11 Jun 1840 hrs Left SOUTH bank of MARKHAM R. in two rubber boats. While crossing, boat with Pte MCKENZIE and MCHUTCHISON capsized; they spent night on mud flat and returned to SOUTH bank on next morning. Sgt EATON and guide successfully reached NORTH bank map ref 402537 at 1920 hrs. Spent until 0200/12 searching while men went up for other two, and continued march at 0500 till 0800 hrs. Native guide then went first to GABMATSUNG, GABSONKEX and NADZAB, returning to posts on bank where boat was hidden. Jan never plane delayed on crossing on account of bright color of boat. Crossed at 1645 hrs reaching SOUTH bank, map ref 406525, at 1800 hrs arrival (water affected watch). I returned to OLD MARI and reported by phone to Capt DUELL.

Equip lost in river:-  
Pte MCKENZIE - 1 hat, 2 grenades, 1 utility pouch.  
Pte MCHUTCHISON - 1 hat, 2 grenades

OBSERVATION - NGARBENENO OP. is perfectly obvious from NORTH bank

Signed: Sgt Eaton  
Patrol Leader

1445 hrs  
13 JUN 43

Attached

Interrogation notes ref AFIS

15/6

frank frank

(2)  
SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT BY SGT EATON

(by phone 2130 hrs 13 JUN 43)

SUITABILITY OF BOATS USED

The type used, borrowed from 2 RAE office in  
area at time, were rubber, painted yellow,  
similar to rescue boats.

It is considered that this type of boat is  
NOT suitable for use in the MARKHAM RIVER.

They are too light, bounce round, and cannot  
resist the current. The currents experienced  
were very strong and the river fast flowing.

On the final return stage, the boat was  
only about 10 yds from the shore but got  
into a current and was swept helplessly  
down stream for at least 150 yards.

A. Westbrock  
1 Cpl.

ME 15/6.

13 JUN 43

Army Form C.133  
(A Signal, Signal)  
July 1941

**INTERROGATION OF NATIVE  
"AFIS" ON RETURN OF SGT EATON'S  
PATROL**

CALL  
AND  
INSTRUC  
TIONS

INTERROGATED BY: CAPT KYNDON AT 1500 HRS 13 JUN 43

**ANSWERS**

<u>NADZAB</u>	- No Japs there at present Japs have machine guns and one field gun at LAE and intend bringing them to NADZAB and GABMATSUM - No date known.
<u>GABSONKEK</u>	No Japs at present
<u>MUNUM</u> <u>NARAKOPOR</u>	} No Japs at present. These places are visited by Japs, presumably on patrol.
<u>NGASAWUMPUM</u>	
<u>BOANA</u>	Japs are there, engaged on construction of second runway. Recce planes come from direction BOANA
<u>GABMATSUM</u>	Visited by Jap patrol - do not stop.
<u>LAE</u>	Warship at LAE about a week ago and landed rations.

COMPILED BY A. Westbrook  
I Cpt.  
at time of interog-  
ation.

T.H.T.  
15/6  
T.O.R.

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

RECEIVED	RECEIVED	RECEIVED	RECEIVED	RECEIVED	RECEIVED	RECEIVED	RECEIVED	RECEIVED	RECEIVED	RECEIVED	RECEIVED	RECEIVED	RECEIVED	RECEIVED	RECEIVED
TIME	DATE	INITIALS	NAME	POST	UNIT	REGT	BATT	COMP	PLATOON	SECTION	POST	UNIT	REGT	BATT	COMP

Electrician

BITO

Have perused. Many  
thanks.

John A. Chalk

20/8/43

B447  
17 30K/113

24 B

I

I 8/33

P. A T R O L   R E P O R T

HQ 57/60 Aust Inf Bn

Ref Maps ROAMER WAIME 1".                      Date 27 JUL to 1 AUG 43.

Patrol found by 10 Pl B Coy, 2 Sigs 1 "I" See att.

Patrol Comdr Lieut. J.D. BROOKES                      Patrol Strength 14 and 1 Native  
Police and 4 Native Carriers.

Nature of Patrol - Recce.

Time Out. Departed MARILINAN 0745 hrs 27 JUL.

Time In. Return MARILINAN 1200 hrs 1 AUG.

Route Out. MARILINAN - BABWUF - REST HOUSES - WAIME - OLD NARAGOOMA -  
NEW NARAGOOMA.

Route In. Same as route out.

Object of Patrol. Information and to make contact 24 AUST INF BN at  
NARAGOOMA.

PART 1

1. Enemy.

NO enemy troops were sighted during patrol. NO signs of foot marks or camps observed. It is considered that there has been NO enemy activity in this area for a considerable time, if at all. Track marks would be obliterated after a period of rain, etc.

2. Contact with 24 BN.

(a) Patrol based at WAIME RIVER 28 AUG. Patrol 1 Offr 2 ORs 1 police boy and 2 guides arrived NEW NARAGOOMA (Ref. WAIME 1" QR296483) 1525 hrs 29 AUG. Departed NEW NARAGOOMA 0700 hrs 30 AUG. Patrol unable to remain at NEW NARAGOOMA until 31 AUG owing to native rations being short. Signs of recent patrol activity by 24 AUST INF BN to NEW NARAGOOMA in form of Bully Beef tins, Biscuits packets, etc.

3. Topographical.

- (a) Track MARILINAN - BABWUF. Well defined, good going.
- (b) Track BABWUF - WAIME. Fair going. Impossible to follow. Native Guides necessary.
- (c) Track WAIME - NEW NARAGOOMA. Very hard going. Impossible to follow. Native guides necessary. For detailed information see Appx "A" att.

(SGD) JOHN D. BROOKES Lieut. OC Patrol. 2 AUG.

*Handwritten initials/signature*

*Handwritten date: 17/8*

# PATROL REPORT

## PART LI

### 1. Tactical.

- (a) It is considered possible for a body of enemy troops based on CHIVASING to move SOUTH across the MARKHAM R. and along the East side of the WATUT VALLEY. Supply problems would be very considerable and movement of a large body of troops would be slow and difficult. Native guides would be essential for the job.
- (b) Observation of even large scale movement along this side of the valley would be difficult if not quite impossible until the troops reached REST HOUSES area (Ref ROAMER 1" QR 0228).

### 2. O.Ps.

- (a) REST HOUSES. Limited observation of track to WAIME is possible from this position. Track traverses Kunai flats for short distance after REST HOUSES.
- (b) WAIME. NO O.Ps. exist in this area. All high ground covered with heavy jungle. NO observation possible along track.
- (c) HIGH GROUND. vicinity KNOLL (Ref WAIME 1" QR 218486). Observation of MARKHAM VALLEY to WEST and NORTH good. Reasonable to EAST. (This area is well covered from O.P. Mt NGARONEENA).  
(Note. It is considered impractical to use these hills as O.Ps. as communications and supplies would present many almost insurmountable difficulties. The track would be almost impassable in the Wet Season).  
(C.Os. Note - Insurmountable - No such word. I intend to recon this area personally when time and other problems in this area permit).

### 3. Natives.

- (a) The natives from BABWUF village are familiar with tracks running along the EAST side of the WATUT VALLEY to NARAGOOMA. They seem to have little knowledge of tracks leading across the MARKHAM R. to the villages on the NORTH side of the river. It is suggested that natives from PESEN area would be more useful if tracks across the river to vicinity CHIVASING are to be recon. It is considered possible, however, that some of the BABWUF natives may know these tracks leading NORTH across the MARKHAM R., but those taken on the patrol could give NO useful information on this subject.

### 4. Suggestions for Future Patrols.

- (a) Patrol Strength. A large patrol is considerably slower in its movement than a small one.

Native carriers are NOT plentiful and a large patrol of one week duration is forced to carry a considerable amount of rations. A patrol of three men however can, with the aid of three carriers and suitable rations, travel very lightly equipped, which is a great advantage. (COs Note - This will be solved when a standing patrol can be established in WAIME area. NO troops available for this at present).

(b) Communications.

(i) The patrol was provided with 2 Sigs and a No 208 wireless set. Communication was established at 1600 hrs Day 1, but after this the set proved unreliable and NO further contact was made during the patrol. Our signals were received by the Ancher Set, but we were unable to receive any signals. Weather conditions increased the difficulties, as rain fell throughout most of the period. This possibly was responsible for the failure of the set as it was found impossible to keep it dry whilst on the march.

(ii) While communications to Base are desirable for a patrol of several days duration, it is considered that the disadvantages incurred by carrying a wireless set far outweigh any advantages that would be gained. Visual Telegraphy is not possible from the EAST side of the valley to TAMBURIDGE O.P. except from REST HOUSES and for limited periods, when visibility is good, from vicinity KUNAI HILLS.

(5) Duration of patrols in this Area.

(a) It is suggested that a patrol of three men with the necessary native carriers could reach KIRKLANDS DUMP and make contact with troops in that area and gather a considerable amount of information concerning tracks etc in eight days. (See COs Note to para No 4 - Suggestions for future patrols).

(6) Equipment and Rations.

(a) Rations should consist of mainly dehydrated foodstuffs and rice with a small quantity of tinned meats. Ample supplies of tea and sugar should be carried. The patrol carried tinned meats and these were found to be bulky and heavy, and did not form a very satisfying meal.

(SGD) JOHN D. BROOKES Lieut. O.C. Patrol  
2 AUG 43.



TRACK REPORT

Appendix "A"

1. Stages.

- (a) Stage 1 MARILINAN - BABWUF - REST HOUSES.  
Marching time 5½ hours. (NB This time is for patrol of 14 men with heavy packs)  
Estimated mileage 10 miles approx.
- (b) Stage 2 REST HOUSES - BABUT - MUNGENZA - WAIME.  
Marching time 5 hours. (NB This time is for patrol of 14 men with heavy packs)  
Estimated mileage 10 miles approx.
- (c) Stage 3 WAIME - OLD NARAGOOMA - NEW NARAGOOMA.  
Marching time 7¾. (NB This time for patrol 3 men lightly equipped. This time is considered fast going)  
Estimated mileage 17 miles approx.

2. Width of Track.

- (a) Throughout Stages 1, 2 & 3 the track is only a narrow foot path and in parts NO track exists at all.

3. Surface of Track.

- (a) Stage 1.
  - (i) MARILINAN - BABWUF. Good surface in dry weather with occasional patches of mud about 9" deep. Rain makes surface very slippery and going quite hard.
  - (ii) BABWUF - REST HOUSES. Fair surface for most of way. Track follows dry creek beds in some parts. Occasional patches of mud.
- (b) Stage 2.
  - (i) Track good going for first portion. Follows dry creek beds for some of way. Follows edge of swamp for some distance. Fairly hard going through swamp. Crosses ridge, steep climb 10 minutes and drops down to WAIME RIVER. Track bad from top of ridge to river, very muddy in parts. Track crosses WAIME E.L.G.
- (c) Stage 3.
  - (i) Track very overgrown, impossible to follow until KUNAI HILLS. Surface fair for first ¾ hr with patches of mud 9" deep. Steep climb up mountain; very hard going ½ hr. Very slippery after rain. Track descends mountain and follows foot hills along edge of "SAK SAK" SWAMP. Track does NOT exist in this area. Natives pick way through jungle along edge of swamp. Track very muddy in parts: very bad going. Track enters swamp in parts and runs through knee deep mud for

considerable distances.

(Track from WAIME to base of KUNAI HILLS approx 6 hrs march, mostly very bad going. Track made considerable worse by rain).

- (ii) Track from edge of jungle to top of KUNAI HILL. 20 minutes steep climb in parts. Very slippery after rain. Track well defined over KUNAI HILLS. Enters jungle at NE side of hills, hard to follow to OLD NARAGOOMA. Good going. Well defined track, good going, following closely along bank of MARKHAM R. in places from OLD NARAGOOMA to NEW NARAGOOMA. (1 hr march from Old to New village).

4. Landmarks

- (a) Stage 1. (i) OLD MARILINAN - large native village  
(ii) BABWUF Village - large native village situated on North bank of WATUT R. at base of WAMPIT RANGES.  
(iii) REST HOUSES - Four small native huts on Kunai Spur  
(iv) Bearings from McCALL's O.P. to REST HOUSES = 107° Mag  
PYRAMID HILL to REST HOUSES = 65° Mag.

- (b) Stage 2. (i) WAIME RIDGE - Long timbered ridge following South bank of WAIME R.  
(ii) WAIME RIVER.

- (c) Stage 3. (i) Timbered mountain 1 hr march from river.  
(ii) Small Kunai patch in Jungle with Kunai faced spur running into mountains (NB Visible on Aerial Photographs).  
(iii) KUNAI HILLS near MARKHAM R. Track crosses these ridges (marching time 40 minutes). Track is well defined. Track joins main track on top of Kunai ridges. This branch track runs WEST towards Junct WATUT and MARKHAM R. along top of ridges. (NB These tracks should be visible on Aerial Photographs).  
(iv) OLD NARAGOOMA VILLAGE - 10 Native huts - several gardens cleared in jungle around village. (NB Visible on Aerial Photographs).  
(v) NEW NARAGOOMA VILLAGE - 1 hr march past old village (visible on Aerial Photographs).

5. Country adjacent to Track.

- (a) Stage 1. (i) MARILINAN - BABWUF. Country flat, jungle with patches of Kunai. Ranges on Right.

Appendix "A" (Page 3)

- (ii) BABWUF - REST HOUSES. Track skirts hills. Thick jungle and swamp to WATUT R. Country rises sharply to high mountain ranges on right. Country vicinity REST HOUSES mostly Kunai with patches of jungle.
- (b) Stage 2. After leaving Kunai near REST HOUSES track travels through jungle on edge of swamp. Country heavily timbered all round. WAIME R. Valley heavily timbered. River bank lined with high grass in parts.
- (c) Stage 3. Country from WAIME R. to base of KUNAI HILLS jungle and swamp. Swamp very muddy. Considered almost impenetrable. Jungle undergrowth NOT very thick. Small patch Kunai  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hrs march SOUTH of KUNAI HILLS (approx 400<sup>x</sup> wide). KUNAI HILLS devoid of all timber. NO cover along track. Track under observation for some distance from NORTH side of MARKHAM R. Track after leaving KUNAI HILLS follows river flats to NEW NARAGOOMA. Country heavily timbered for most part with jungle and Kunai Spurs running back SOUTH to WAMPIT Ranges. Track under observation from NORTH bank of MARKHAM R. for some distance.

6. River Crossings etc.

- (a) Throughout the track numerous small creeks are crossed, some dry beds others flowing. None of these were "Knee-deep" and NO difficulty was experienced in negotiating them. Their general direction of flow was LEFT to the WATUT R.
- (b) Stage 1. WATUT R. to BABWUF.
- (i) Southerly Approach. Track follows jungle flat skirting spur on Right.  
Northerly Approach. Track passes through native village and follows flat country, mostly village gardens for short distance.  
Width of River 100 feet approx.  
Depth of River 5 to 7 feet approx.  
Rate of Flow NO estimate can be given  
Speed of Flow 4 to 5 Knots.  
Direction of Flow NW direction generally.
- (ii) River NOT fordable here. One native canoe capacity 5 men available only Canoe kept at village. Call N. Police (name MANUM) when canoe required at SOUTH Bank.
- (c) Stage 2. WAIME R.
- (i) Southerly approach. Track crosses WAIME RIDGE and

descends to valley. Very muddy. Track very hard to follow. Crosses WAIME E.L.G. and follows garden to bank of river.

Northerly approach. Track follows jungle flat and crosses high timbered mountain  $\frac{3}{4}$  hr march from river.

Several slow flowing clear streams crossed en route. Track impossible to follow.

Width of river 40 feet.

Depth of river 3 to 4 feet.

Rate of Flow NO estimate can be given.

Speed of flow 2 to 4 Knots (NB Speed varies considerably).

Direction of Flow NW direction generally.

(ii) At present this river is easily fordable. It is considered however, that after heavy rains it would present great difficulties.

(iii) Swamps. The heavy jungle and "Sak Sak" swamp which exists on the flats along the EAST side of the WATUT R. forms an obstacle which is considered almost, if not totally, impassable to troops. Native tracks possibly exist through the drier portions (i.e. possible track PESEN - NARAGOOMA crossing swamps and WATUT R. near junction with MARKHAM R.) NO reliable information could be gathered concerning this subject however.

#### 7. Native Contacts, Villages.

(a) The villages of MARILINAN and BABWUF are occupied. Natives are friendly to our troops.

(b) HOUSE RESTS. Appears to be used occasionally by small groups. On 27 JUL about 15 natives (possibly one family) were camped there.

OLD and NEW NARAGOOMA are deserted.

#### 8. Local Supplies and Accommodation.

(a) (i) BABWUF accommodation for a small number of troops approx 40 available at present. If village were deserted a large number could be housed.

(ii) REST HOUSES. Accommodation available for approx 30 men.

(iii) OLD NARAGOOMA. 10 huts, accommodation 80 men approx.

(iv) NEW NARAGOOMA. Accommodation approx 80 men.

(b) (i) Reasonably large supplies fruit, etc. available MARILINAN and BABWUF.

(ii) Small garden, scanty supply fruit, fair supply root crops available REST HOUSES.

(iii) WAIME. Coconuts only.

(iv) OLD and NEW NARAGOOMA. Gardens in the area appear quite extensive. Possibly reasonable supplies

Appendix "A" (Page 5)

available. NO accurate information gained owing to lack of time.

9. Pests encountered.

- (a) Mesquitoes. Very numerous by day and night throughout timbered area. Anopheles sps observed.
- (b) Bush Meeka. None encountered. Thorough skin inspection by R.M.O. on return failed to discover any traces of bites.
- (c) Leeches, Ticks, etc. None encountered.

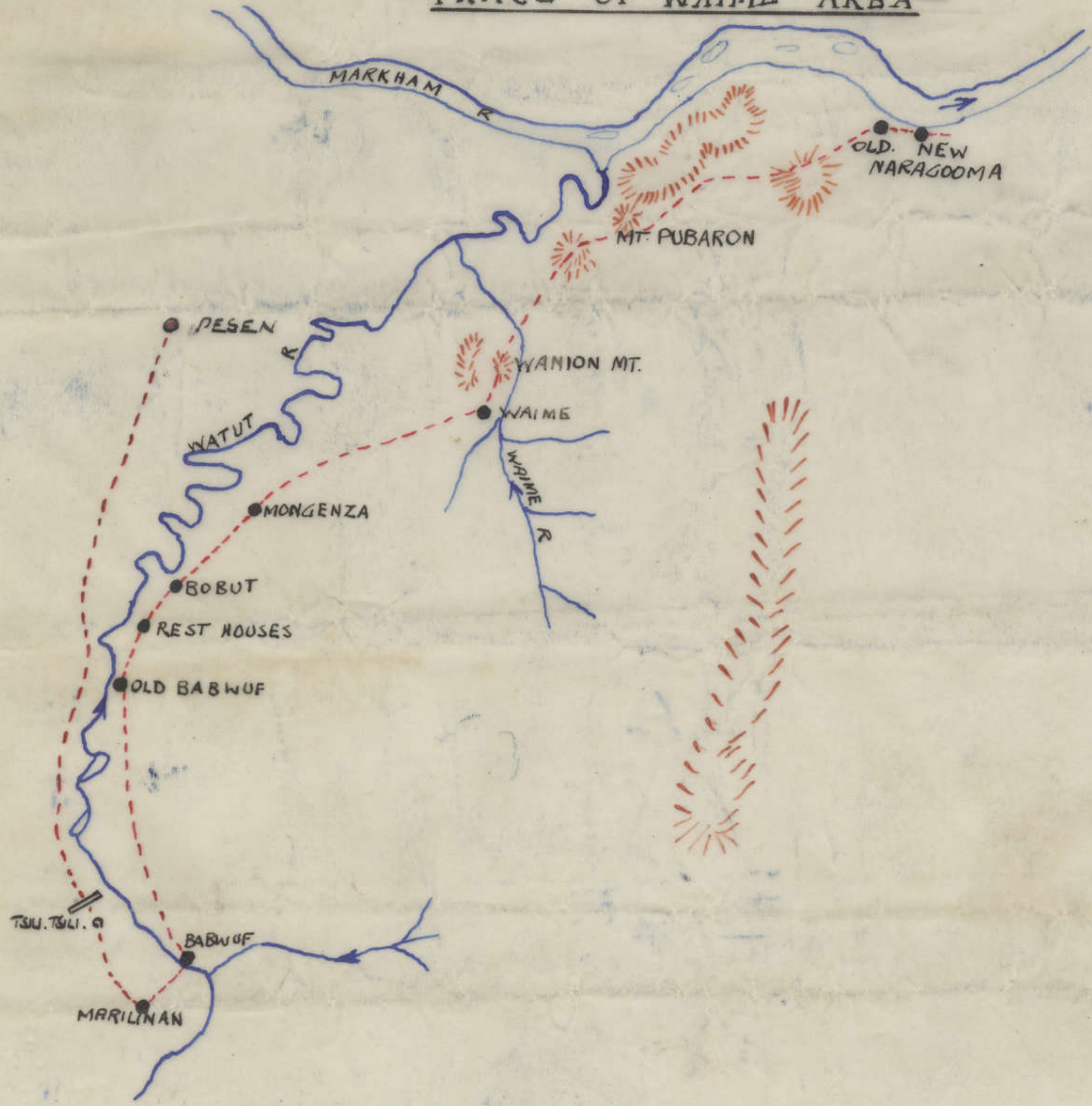
10. Weather.

- (a) Day 1. Clear, visibility good.
- Day 2. High clouds, visibility good.
- Day 3. High cloud, clear during afternoon, visibility good. Heavy rain night D 3/4.
- Day 4. Low cloud, rain till 1200 hrs, visibility nil.
- Day 5. Low cloud, light rain all day. Visibility very poor. Heavy rain night D 5/6.
- Day 6. High cloud. Visibility good.

(SGD) JOHN D. BROOKES    Lieut. O.C. Patrol  
2 AUG 43.

*3 copies*

—TRACE OF WAIME AREA—



T.  
VAR APPROX  
6° E.

SHOWING APPROX ROUTE OF PATROL

SCALE: 4M TO 1IN

*John Brookes* Lieut  
OC. Patrol.

2 AUG 43.

*W.A.M.*

LANO

976

CARPENTER YOC1 IR53 22 Q238

ref patrols @ Lint DAWSON was contacted by phone from COCO he was instructed to arrange with Sherlock at MPOS on 16 May

and arrange details of patrol @

CARPENTER left COCO on 16 May and attempted to contact DAWSON from YOC1 but without success @ matters covered in CARPENTER'S report from YOC1 on 17 May @ LABOURER COCO was advised of full details 15 May @ NO report received by CARPENTER from COCO concerning patrol since

Q

FR 2253

original on Mr Bunnell's file 1920 1930

2055

Type 3 copies of Coy 968 (2C)

Record of phone conversation between  
Lieut Ingham & Capt Devellyn 22 May 43.

Ingham mentioned to Dawson that this was <sup>a secret track</sup> ~~the track~~  
to Sugarloaf and Dawson patrol was only told to report  
to DRYAN, MAPS, who would supply guides who knew  
the way to SUGARLOAF, by secret track. These  
2 natives were supplied Capt MAPS Monday 17 May 43.  
Ingham. CPO Bortly, Pte Hillbrick & Pte Palmer.  
Speech used by natives and only one they knew was  
MAPS & LEGA and from there they waded down  
the river to the big bend <sup>Ref 602205 (WSL track map)</sup> from there the natives  
led them to secret track just on right on River (NOT  
main track) said that NO white man had ever been  
on track - part of it had to be cut for 200'. Then  
on to another very slippery track beside the River  
There were 2 broken down huts near the mouth of  
the BUNING <sup>of these</sup> One native shelter was used by Japs,  
~~was~~ about a week ago ~~was~~ ~~near~~ ~~to~~ ~~go~~ ~~and~~  
evidently looking for food. When they got down  
near the ~~mouth~~ mouth of the river the native guide  
went on down and then called them along when he  
had reached the mouth. About a mile from the  
mouth moving NORTH a patrol of 12 Japs were seen  
in single file 20' apart. They also saw a small  
supply ship or submarine 1 mile off the coast from  
the mouth of the river. NO personnel of the patrol  
went near the beach. All tracks were obliterated  
by the native guide (Very careful re tracks). Patrol  
moved into jungle & then waded back along the  
river for 3 hrs journey. They moved on <sup>at</sup> ~~to~~ ~~the~~  
track when they had to get on track. Slept night  
in jungle & returned to MAPS. On Friday found  
a farm near LEGA at 0900 hrs the beach was shopped



by allied ops SOUTH of Suang River and probably  
fired at an enemy patrol

Further information from ANCAPU at MATPOS  
Advised BWUSS1 village visited Monday Wednesday  
by unknown No of Japs looking for food. Jap  
patrol also seen along beach towards direction of  
LAE and probably patrol at BUANG RIVER that  
Capt Rowley saw.

Message of congrats an excellent job from CO. sketches  
& track route to follow.

Enfer phoned to Capt. A. Bowie - Wilson, 3 Div.  
by Lieut Engham. 1830/22.

To PALA COCO  
FROM LANO

0 18 14

of First COCO will send out  
 patrol ~~of~~ as soon as possible  
 strength three to cover LEGA  
 VAGAU MAPCS KARASTE object gain  
 Information of possible presence of  
 enemy and *collect from natives* report on Jap  
 camp at mouth of BUANG  
 RIVER of Two natives sent  
 from LANO this morning to  
 be used as guides only  
 of Patrol to adopt suggestions  
 from W.O. SHERLOCK of Advise ~~xxxx~~ route  
 S.T. and date of return  
 of Second ~~of~~ Another patrol similar  
 conditions to ~~xxxx~~ leave next day

*Amendment Q187*

from Kwasang for mouth of  
 BWUSSI RIVER if SHERLOCK considers  
 practicable 0 Third Because reports  
 of enemy camps BUANG and  
 BWUSSI RIVER mouths stress need  
 alertness and maintenance ~~with~~ all posts  
 0 Fourth Restriction no patrols  
 past 50 grid now lifted  
 0 Present patrol to extend  
 length of patrol <sup>to</sup> by five  
 hrs. *from base* 0 Fifth PALA will  
~~XXXX~~ send four men on MON.  
 to reinforce posts TOKANIN and  
 KWASANG 0 ACK.

*WSD*

IMMEDIATE.

1140

*Re received  
1345/14  
L94*

BUANG

13 miles NORTH of SALAMAVA

11 miles SOUTH of LAE

Conditions - Swampy, impenetrable jungle, infested with  
leeches, crocodiles, heavy rain.

4 July 5 Natives apprehended. Much valuable inform. obtained but allowed to go

9 July. Clash with 4 Japs. No casualties either side  
unfriendly natives.

16 " Jap footprints found on track. No sign of activities

19 " Japs exploded booby traps, 2 bursts LMG fire. Large  
pools of blood found but no contact made.

21 Booby traps exploded - bloodstained trousers, fa messie  
& blood found. Booby traps reset. Party attacked by 200

Japs. Rowley got 2 Kleimuz got 2

Japs had HMG, mmG, automatic rifles & mortars.

Pte MURPHY last to leave ambush post claiming 3 killed  
& others wounded - used OSMG

Known cas. Japs 7 killed; number killed by booby traps not  
known. wounded not known. Ours NIL.

Lieut DAWSON states 14 probably killed. Only 7 certainties (shot)  
Pte HILLBRICK one of the last from ambush post saw 2 SOUTH booby traps exploded but <sup>could not state cas.</sup>

24. Jap ambush post with 1 HMG, 5 LMG, 15 rifles. Patrol of  
6 clashed with enemy, No casualties. 1 Jap killed 25  
yd range others in timber probably wounded

24. Fighting patrol <sup>of 15</sup> led by Lieut DAWSON from LEGA  
via KARESTE in direction SUGARLOAF, could not get  
through.

PATROLS

JUL 9 Cpl Barley to SUGARLOAF - returned exhausted.

JUL 11 Pte Sykes and JACKA to SUGARLOAF

20 Lieut DAWSON & party to SUGARLOAF

Rowley  
Kleimuz  
Murphy  
Hillbrick

\* In the case where a member returns all articles the officer or N.C.O. receiving will insert in this col

	INITIALS	RANK	No.	AGE	ADDRESS.
MCKENZIE	D	L/CPL	NX163888	26	53 Bailey St TAMWORTH NSW
MCHUTCHINSON	S.G.	SA	V205593	20	18 Church St Stanwell Vce
ADLINGTON	GA	L/CPL	VX123367	21	20 Salmon Ave Ormond Vce
BOOTHROYD	O.S.	Pte	V235909	27	Warrba via Baccant
STERMENS	R.T.	L/CPL	V265240	21	Wangrabelle Vce.
STALEY	R.W.	A/CPL	VX104159	27	13 Royal Rd Cambusie
BOYLE	L.C.	Sgt	VX117868	25	Seaholme
GRAY	H.D.	CPL	VX109116	23	GOONDAH Rd Healesville
MACKIE	S.A.	CPL	VX104465	22	Genevieve NSW.
SHERWILL	W.N.	Pte	VX122393	20	18 Carver St Kinnon.
BETSON	A.	L/CPL	VX104402	23	19 Benalla Rd Shepparton
STERMENS	D.G.	Pte	V265241	22	Wangrabelle Vce.

2. O.P. #8-

CO

fBite

Dupa LEBI

IR 453928 -

secret. pitrep 2R2 to 1730/28

dupa @ pitmor LEBI @ pitmor

9d

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1805

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B Coy.

Lieut Repton M.W.	VX 108186	Age 31	11 Clowesburn Avenue, Windsor Vic.
" Dawson P.R.	VX 104476	" 25	547 Torak Road, Torak Vic
" Lane R.G.	VX 23594	" 31	3 Robertson Street, East Coburg. Vic.
Cpl Bartley G.T.	VX 122364	" 30	McCorney Street, Traralgon Vic.
Pte KLEINETZ J.	V128087	" 22	New Maralea via Orbood. Vic
Pte HILLBRICK R.G.	VX 123361.	" 26	Edwards Street, Berwick Vic
Pte Murphy J.H.	V40585	" 26	2 Hooper St. Traralgon Vic
" Howley E.R.	VX 106361		Glenary. Vic.

---

B2 BIXA Mt BASA

B1 " CF 162 - 22

Secrets @ Wapo were fatal new FBO B1 BIXA  
 B1 Smoke 1 Neot 9 ORS bph FB 0600K/22  
 returned 1630 K/22 @ Route out 545214 to  
 582225 @ Route in reverse @ Arms 1 crew  
 3 crews 5 rifles @ Rations @ Details @  
 Recce patrol under B1 BIXA bph FB  
 0630 K/22 to make recce of new ~~FB~~  
 FB from VIC 586225 @ On route out  
 it was decided to keep to high ground  
 and work around the side of the features  
 so as to check on water courses and  
 reliability of map @ water course fine  
 557220 is approx 1000 yds further EAST @  
 CP 568220 is also 1000 yds further EAST @  
 It actually runs from 575228 to 577224  
 to 583224 @ Bench just track from  
 KNRESTE fades out at approx 575225 @  
 At this pt the entrance cannot possibly  
 be seen from BUHNR @ This bench up  
 track does not run in direct line as  
 on map but curves around the head  
 of the numerous chs @ track will  
 dipend upwards KNRESTE and wide  
 enough for 3 low track new FB is  
 situated at 575225 NOT as previously  
 stated. 579215 @ area is well covered  
 from air and ground only track is  
 along NORTH bank @ Map No FB is along  
 bk previously mentioned to 583224 so  
 this is an excellent posn for ambush  
 of the BUHNR @ No value can be taken  
 of the island on the map as the  
 river is dotted with islands a new  
 track has been cut from 575225 and  
 it keeps to flat ground on NORTH  
 banks of BUHNR @ This flat ground  
 varies from 2 ft to 300 but track hugs  
 the ridge of where high ground starts all  
 the way to new FB @ There will start  
 0700K/23 and tomorrow will be occupied  
 all day and setting up the new area  
 carrying stores.

# 2315

7030 17/2/50 1930



IN MESSAGES  
23 Aug

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ROAMER 1 INCH

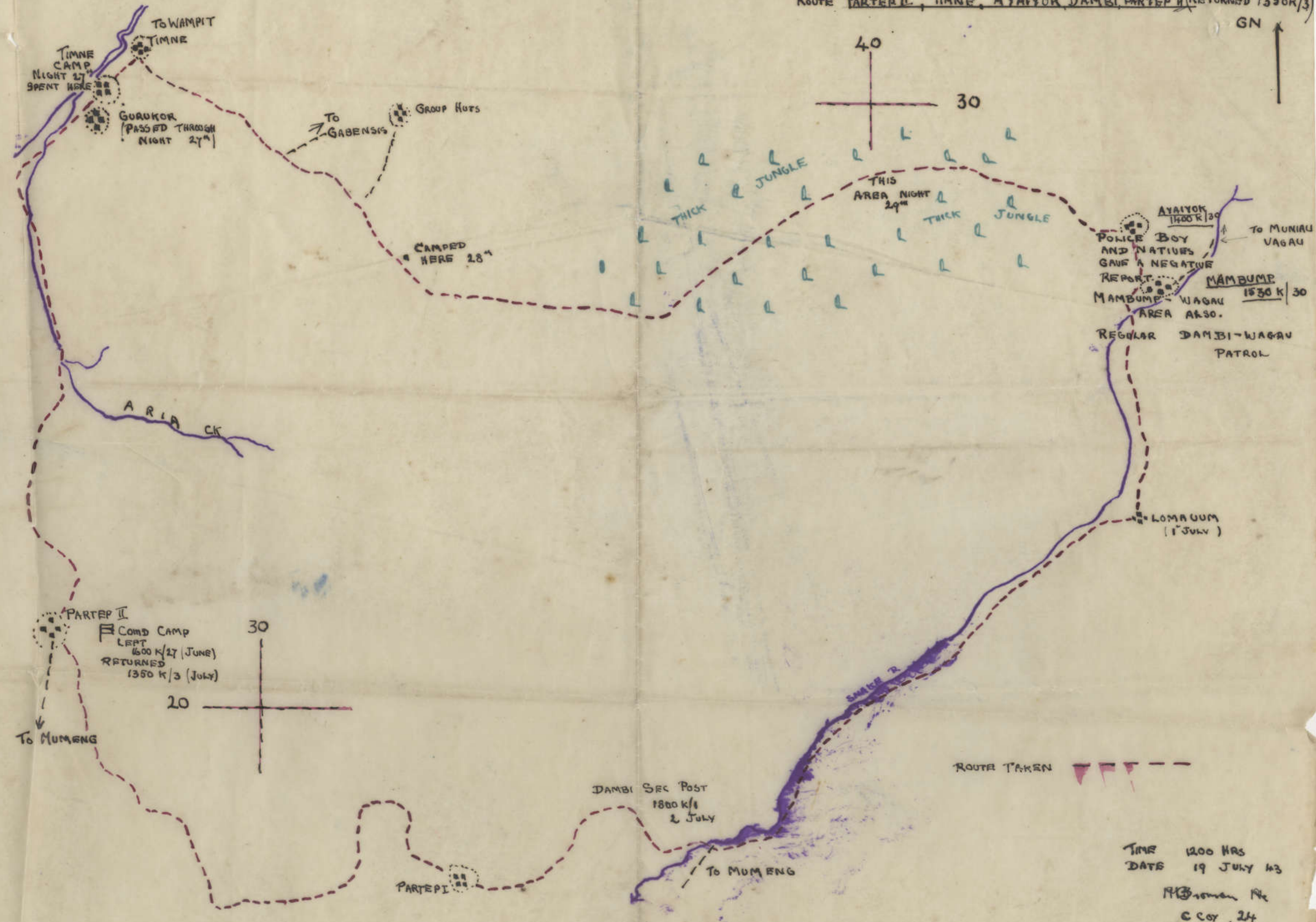
TRACE TO ACCOMPANY REPORT BY ABBOT W. CPL

27 JUNE - 3 JULY 43 (LEFT COMD. CAMP PARTEP II 1600K/27)

B COY

ROUTE PARTEP II, TIMNE, AYAIYOK, DAMBI, PARTEP II (RETURNED 1350K/3)

GN ↑



TIME 1200 HRS  
 DATE 19 JULY 43  
 R. B. Brown R. C. COY. 24



# SKETCH OF MAPOS-VAGAU AREA SHOWING TRACKS TO ENEMY TERRITORY

B Coy File

REF MAP WAV, SALAMAVA, LAE AREA

SCALE 2 MILES TO 1" INCH



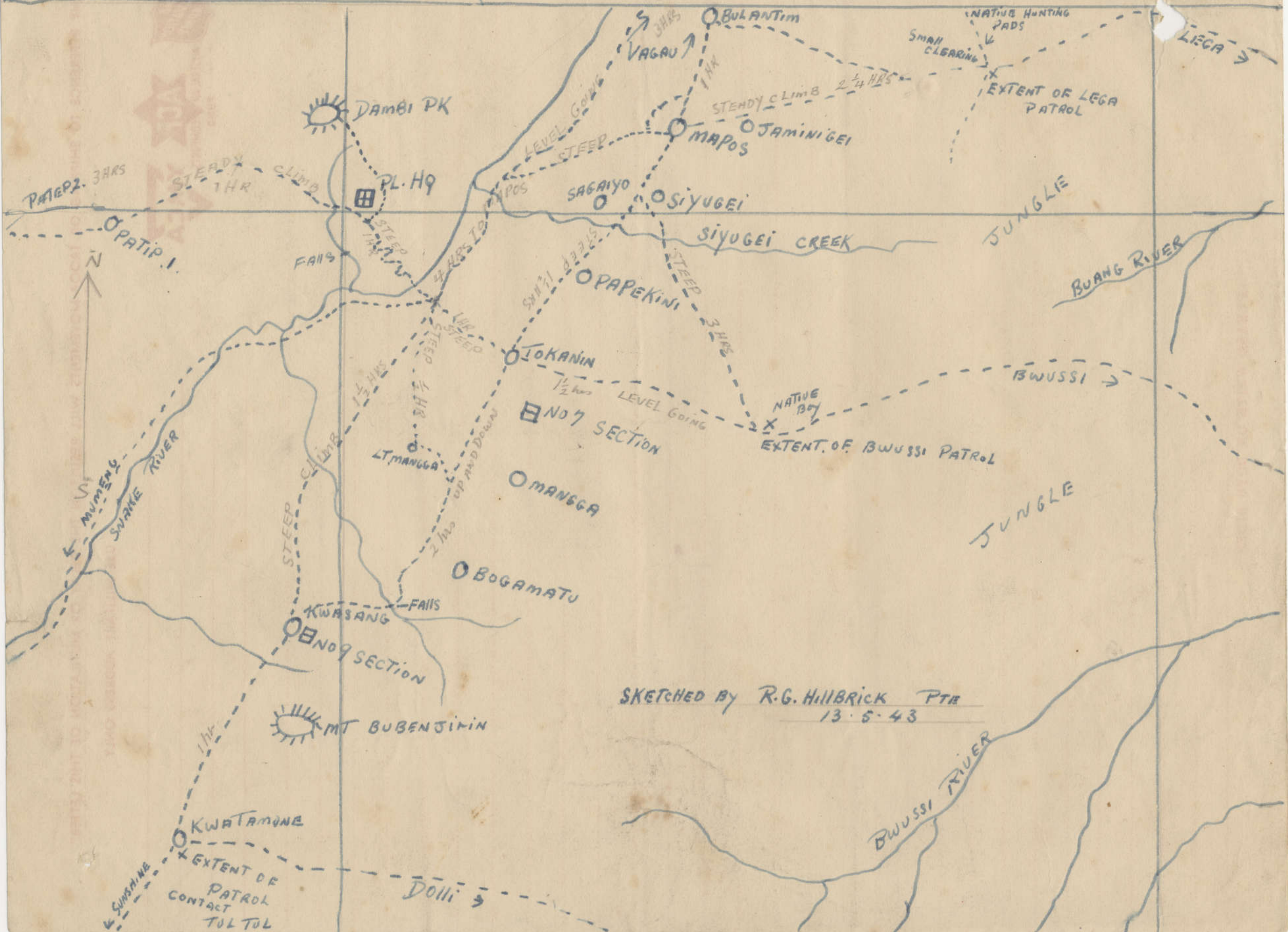
- LEGEND**
- VILLAGES ○
  - TRACKS - - -
  - SWAMPS
  - RIVERS
  - RANGES

SKETCHED BY R.G. HILLBRICK PTE  
PATIP I  
14.5.43

SKETCH OF PATIP. I. - TOKANIN - KWASANG AREA SHOWING POSITIONS TRACKS AND TIMES  
SCALE 1" TO 1 MILE

B Coy Full

REF MAP WAU-SALAMAU-LAE AREA



SKETCHED BY R.G. HILBRICK PTE  
13.5.43

PANORAMA OF MAPOS - KWASANG PATROL AREA AS SEEN FROM PARTIPI O.P. 11-5-43

B Coy Hill

HERTZOG MTS

8000.FT  
HEAVY TIMBERED RANGES



DRAWN BY  
R.G. HILBRICK PTE

PLEASE WRITE ON BOTH SIDES

I OFFICE

"KOKO"

PART 2

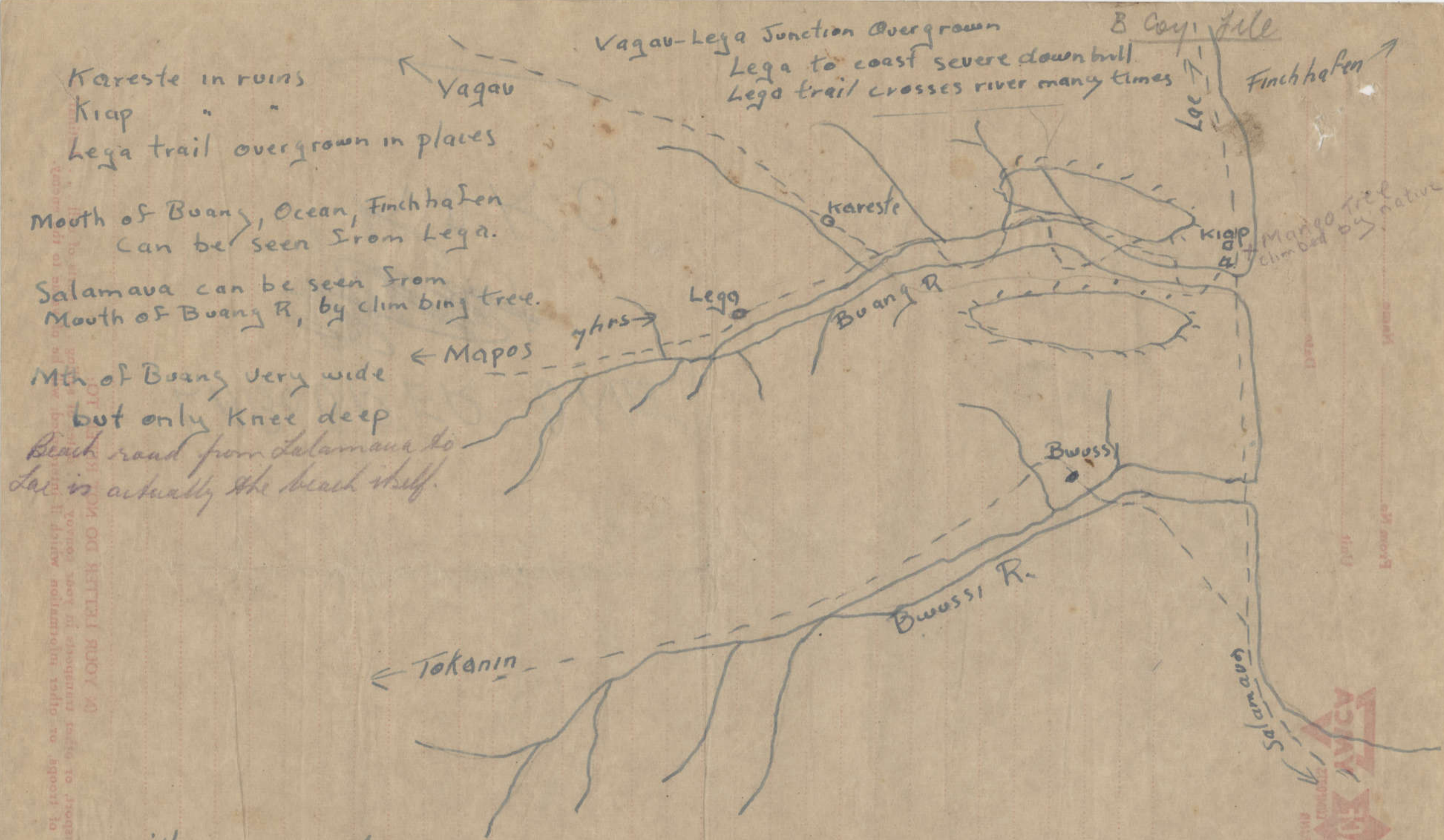
TO BE FORWARDED TO "LANO"  
IMMEDIATELY.



USE MILITARY ADDRESS ONLY

"ANY REFERENCE TO SHIPPING OR TROOP MOVEMENTS WILL RESULT IN THE DELAY OR MUTILATION OF THIS LETTER"

119  
5/595  
1800



Kareste in ruins  
 Kiap " "  
 Lega trail overgrown in places

Mouth of Buang, Ocean, Finchhafen  
 can be seen from Lega.

Salamauw can be seen from  
 Mouth of Buang R, by climbing tree.

Mth of Buang very wide  
 but only knee deep  
 Beach road from Salamauw to  
 Lac is actually the beach itself.

W. Smith  
 15<sup>th</sup> May 43  
 From Kaiti Bay report  
 Very, very rough sketch  
 and well out of scale

W

15. 5







From No. .... Name .....

Unit .....

Date .....

LABOURER ONE

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

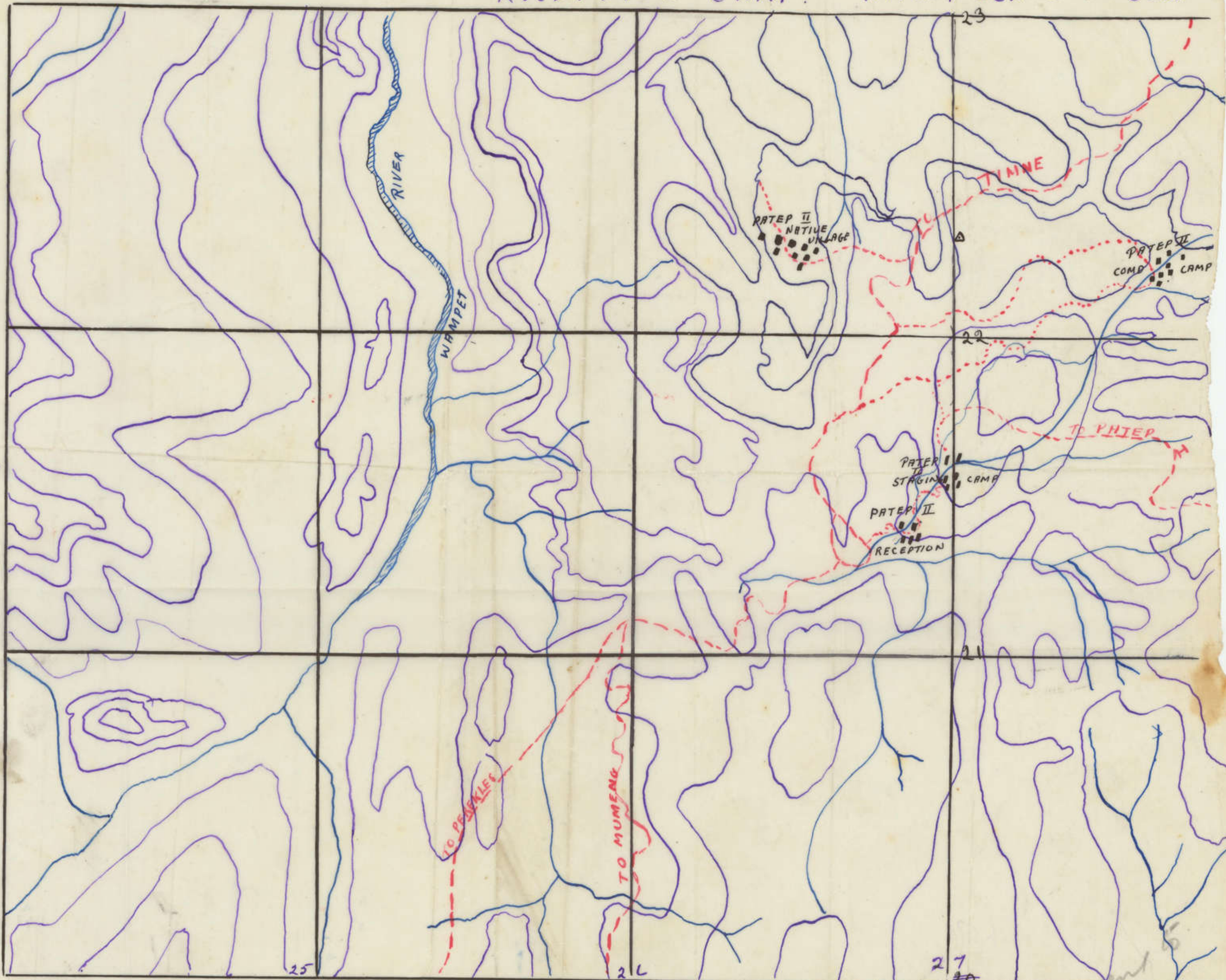
KOKO

IN YOUR LETTER DO NOT REFER TO:

The name of your transport, or other transports in your convoy . . . dates of sailing . . . ports of call . . . destination, descriptions of troops, or other information which if intercepted, will be of value to the enemy.

8-5-43

SKETCH MAP BY PANORAMA & TRAVERSE of area  
NTH West & NTH OF PATEP 2 STAGING &  
RECEPTION CAMP. APPROX SCALE 1" = 800X



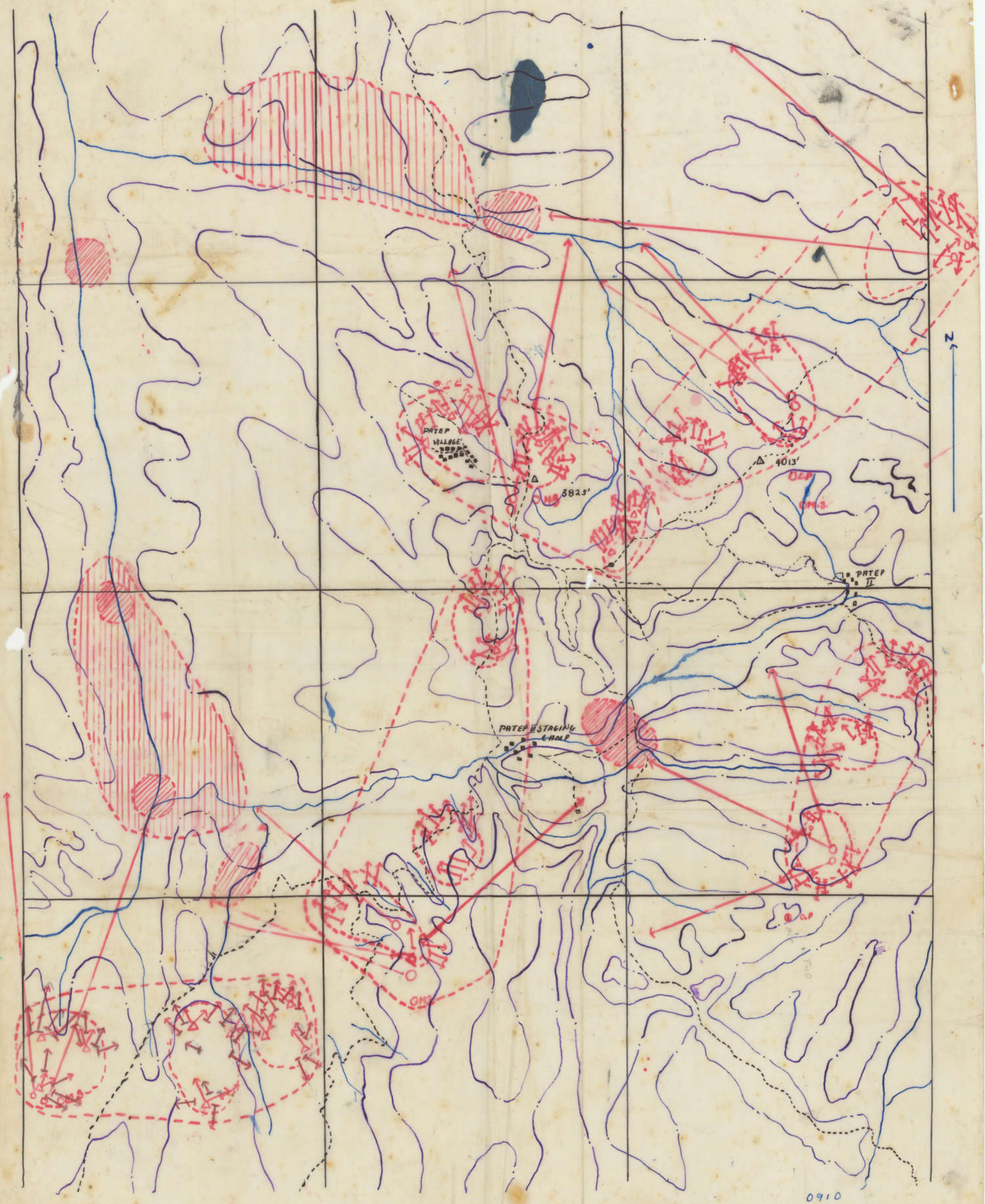
8-5-43  
1445 hrs  
D Henderson  
Pte.  
COCO.

MAP REF  
# COMD CAMP 275 223  
RECEPTION CAMP 269 214  
STAGING CAMP 270 216  
Ref to ch PATEP No 2

800 1600 2400 3200 yds APPROX.  
Scale 1" = 800X

copy sent  
COCO 19/5

COCO B 5 Coy Det Posns

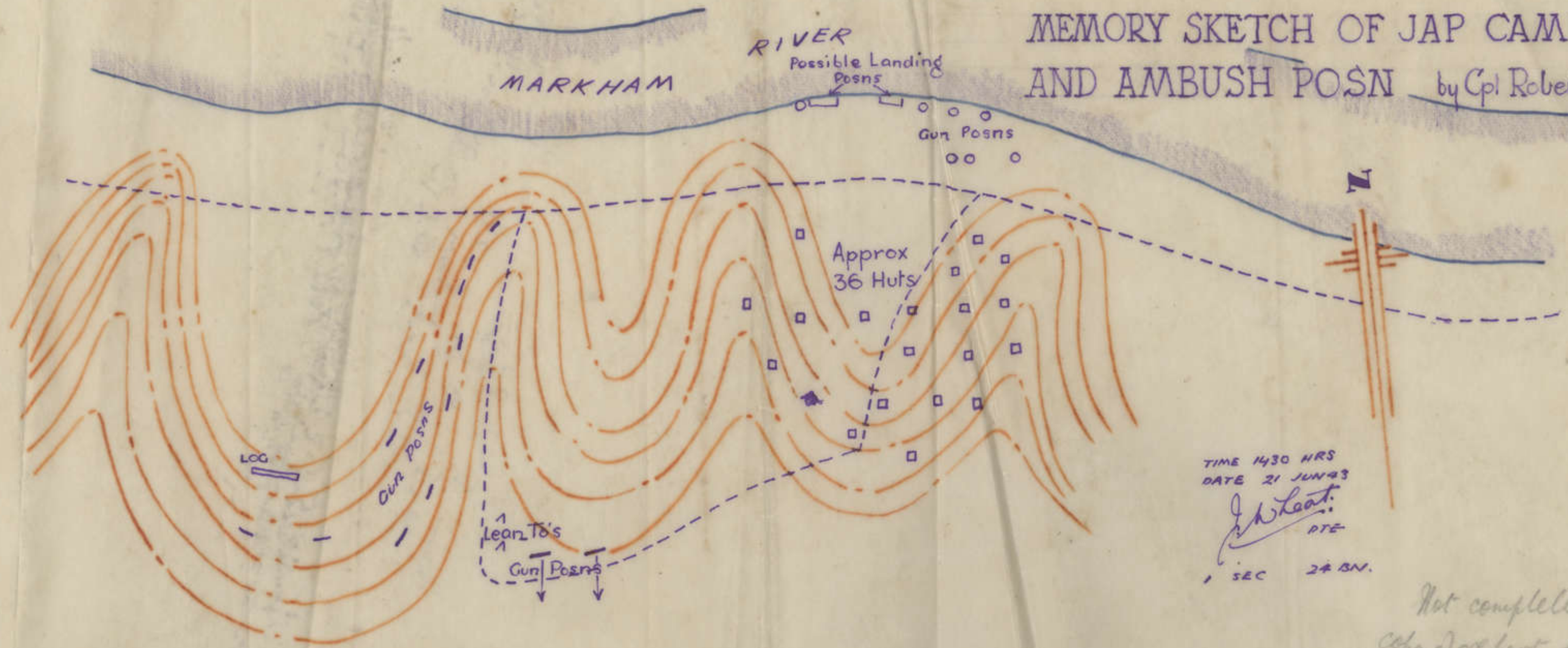


Scale 1" = 250'

0910  
 10 May 43  
 D. M. ...  
 Pt.  
 J. ... of  
 COCO

Send to C. Coy.

# MEMORY SKETCH OF JAP CAMP AND AMBUSH POSN by Cpl Robertson.

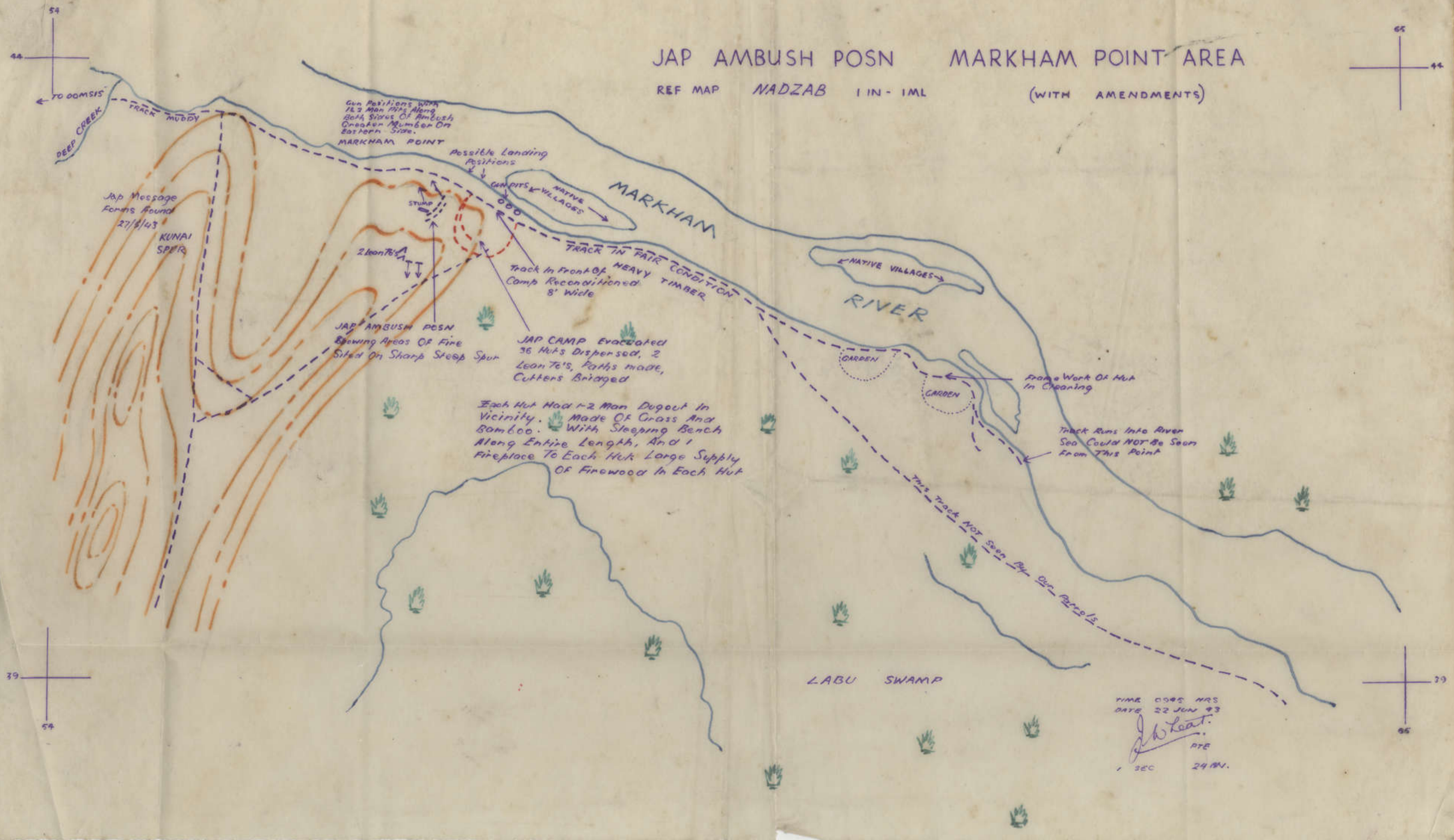


TIME 1430 HRS  
 DATE 21 JUN 43  
*J. Wheat.*  
 DTE  
 SEC 24 BN.

Not completed when typed  
 copy of report forwarded  
 33/6

# JAP AMBUSH POSN MARKHAM POINT AREA

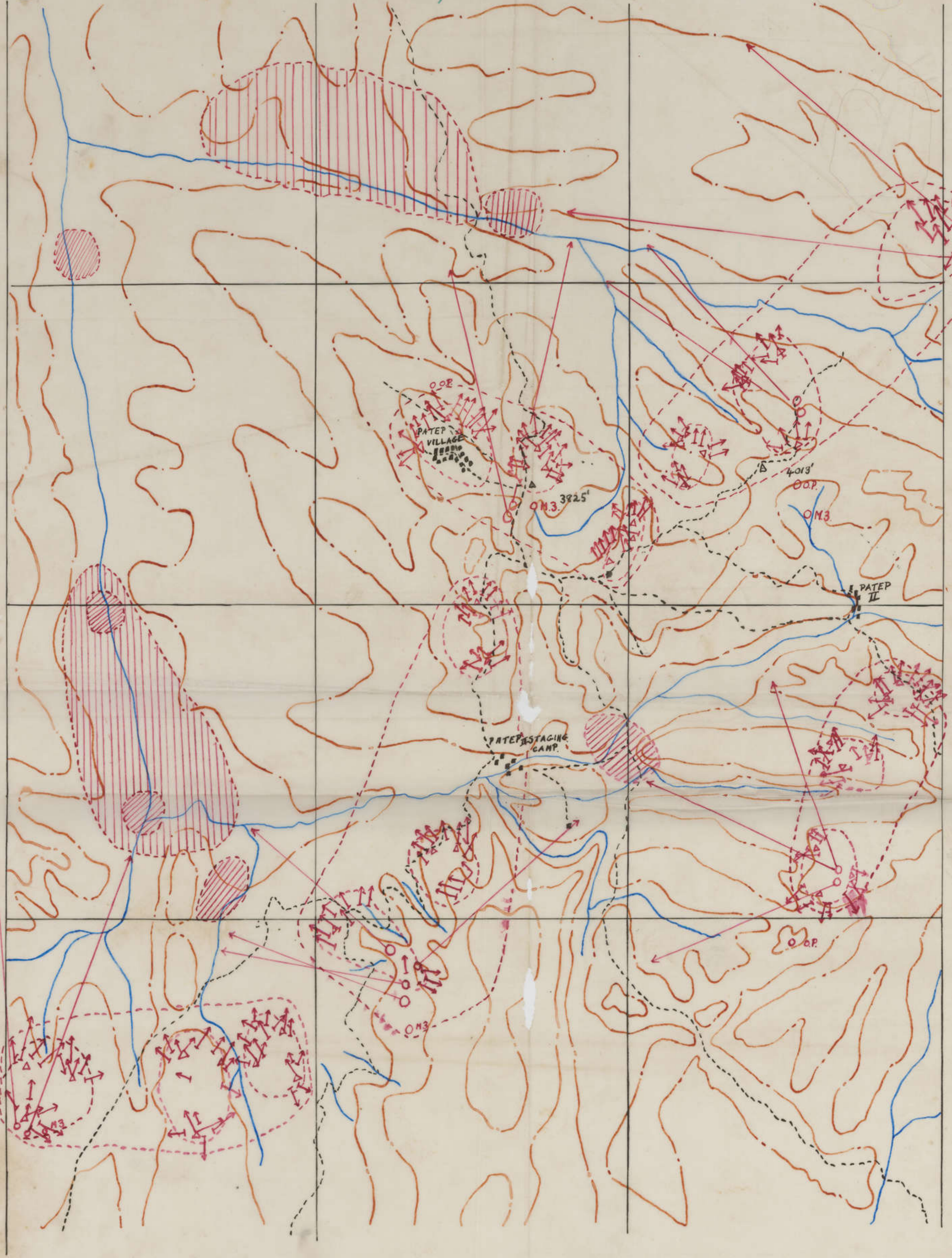
REF MAP MADZAB 1 IN - 1 ML (WITH AMENDMENTS)



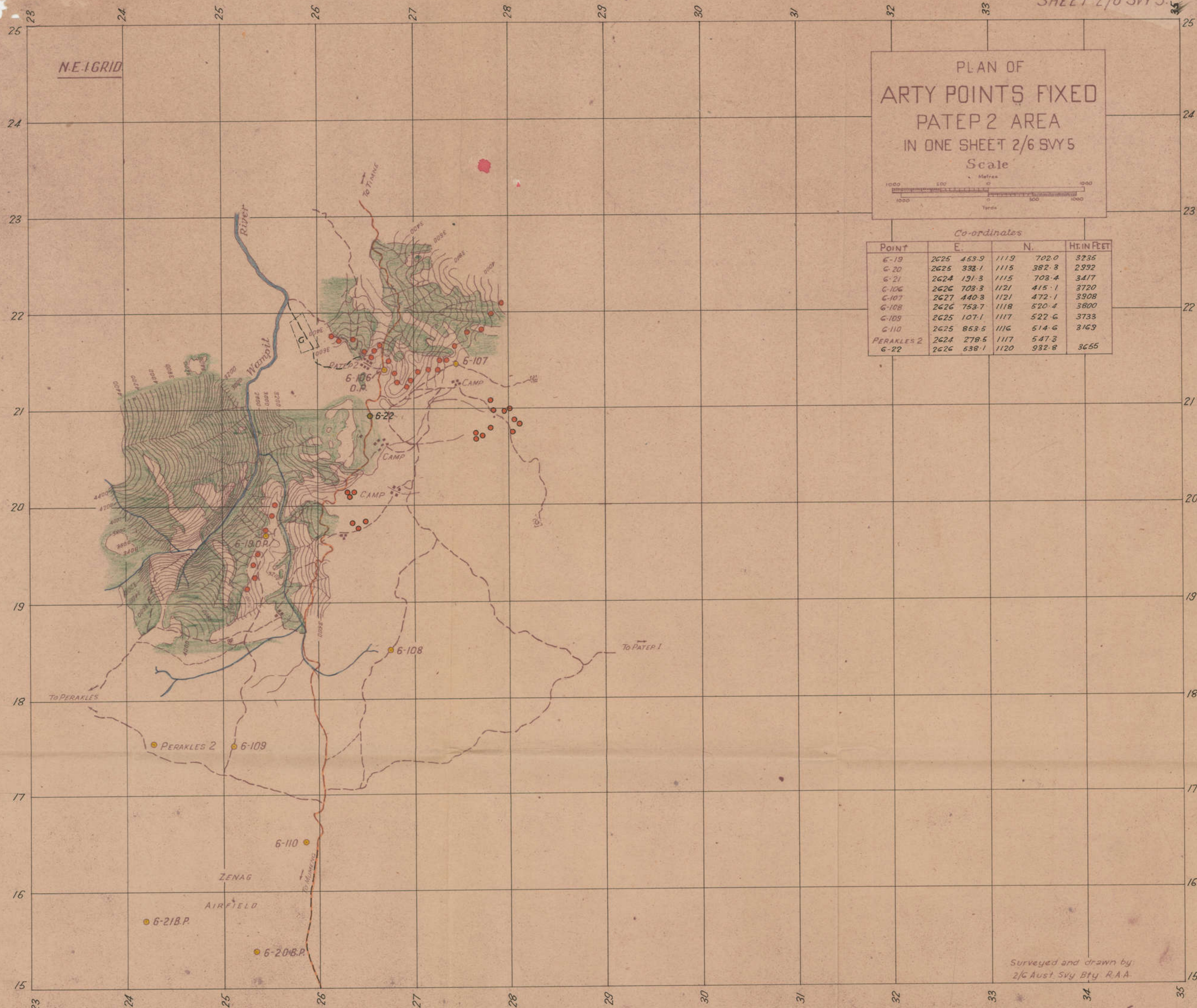
TIME 0545 HRS  
DATE 22 JUN 43  
*J. Wheat.*  
PTE  
1 SEC 24 MV.

B. Coy

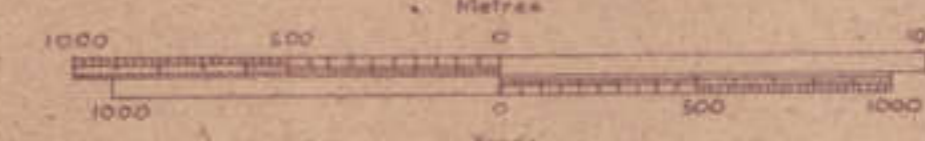
COCO. 5 Coy DEF POSNS.



SCALE 1" = 230'



PLAN OF  
ARTY POINTS FIXED  
PATEP 2 AREA  
IN ONE SHEET 2/6 SVY 5  
Scale



## Co-ordinates

POINT	E.	N.	Ht. IN FEET
6-19	2625 453.9	1119 702.0	3235
6-20	2625 338.1	1115 382.8	2992
6-21	2624 191.3	1115 703.4	3417
6-106	2626 703.3	1121 415.1	3720
6-107	2627 440.3	1121 472.1	3908
6-108	2626 753.7	1118 520.4	3800
6-109	2625 107.1	1117 522.6	3733
6-110	2625 853.5	1116 514.6	3169
PERAKLES 2	2624 278.5	1117 547.3	
6-22	2626 638.1	1120 932.8	3655

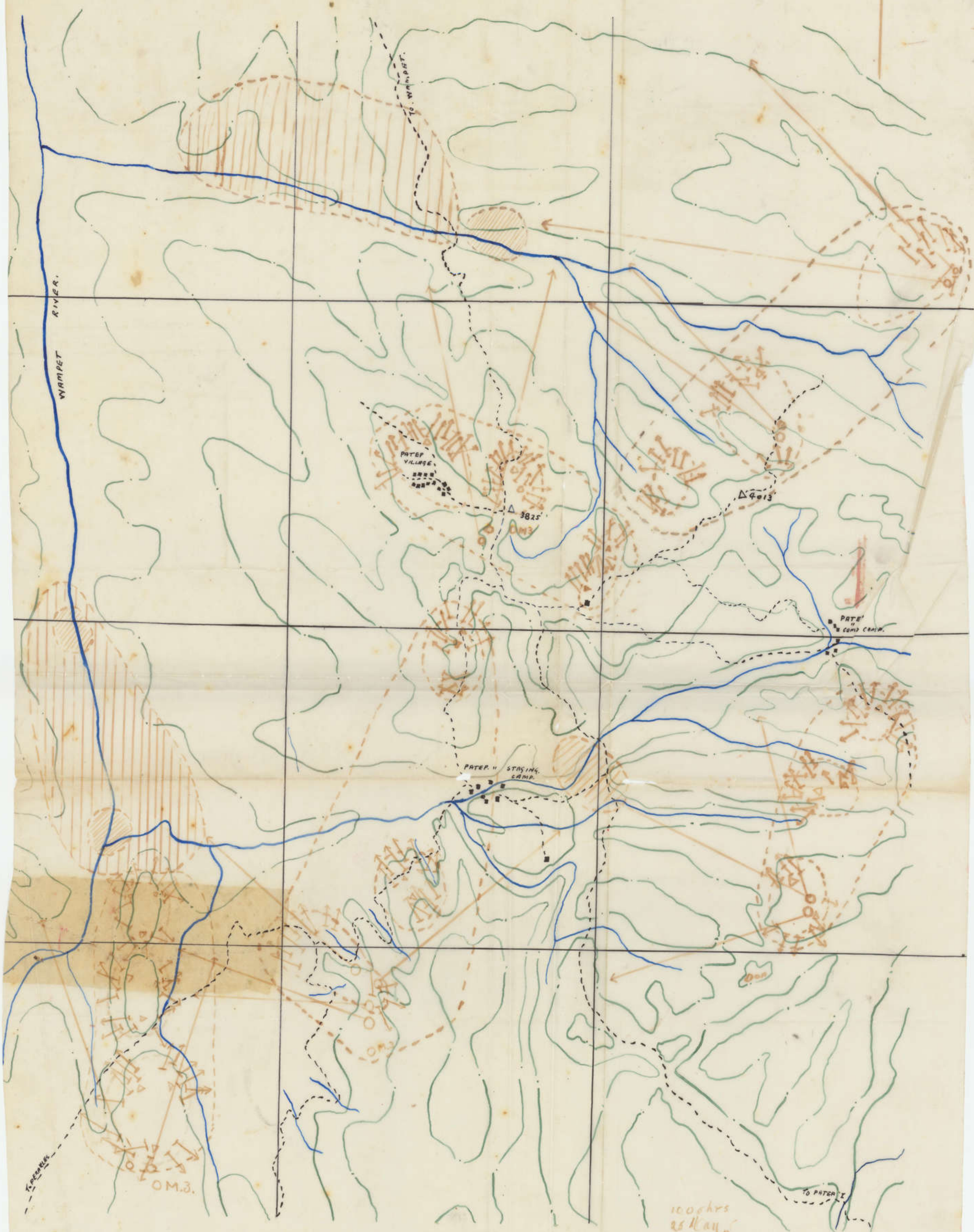
## LEGEND

Contours 50 feet interval	shown thus
Creeks and gullies	do do
Tracks surveyed	do do
Indistinct Pads Investigated	do do
Surveyed Points	do do 6-20
Infantry Positions	do do
Timbered Areas	do do

## NOTES

- 1 Co-ords of Astrofix Bulala adopted
- 2 Heights based on assumed datum of 3450 ft for Wau Astro Fix
- 3 Accuracy: 5 metres in any 10,000 metres
- 4 Refer to this plan as 2/6 SvY 5
- 5 Heights in feet all other measurements in metres
- 6 Marking Peg, Triangular Locksprit and Numbered Indicator
- 7 BP Card Information is available for all Numbered Points

REVISED SKETCH DEF POSNS - COCO-



Scale 1" = 200 yds

100 hrs  
25 May  
D. H. [unclear]



PANORAMA

VIEW

WAR DIARY  
BC Coy File

REF MAP HUON GULF (SPECIAL) M.R. LF. 372212.



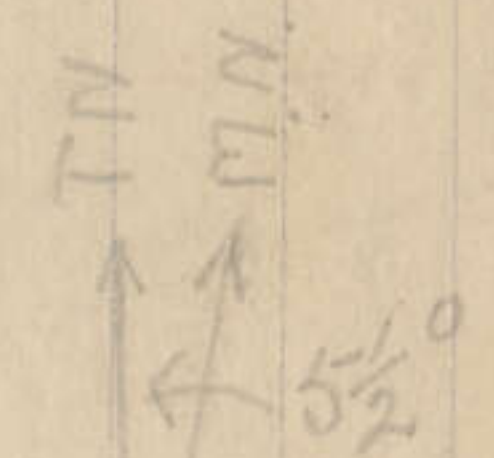
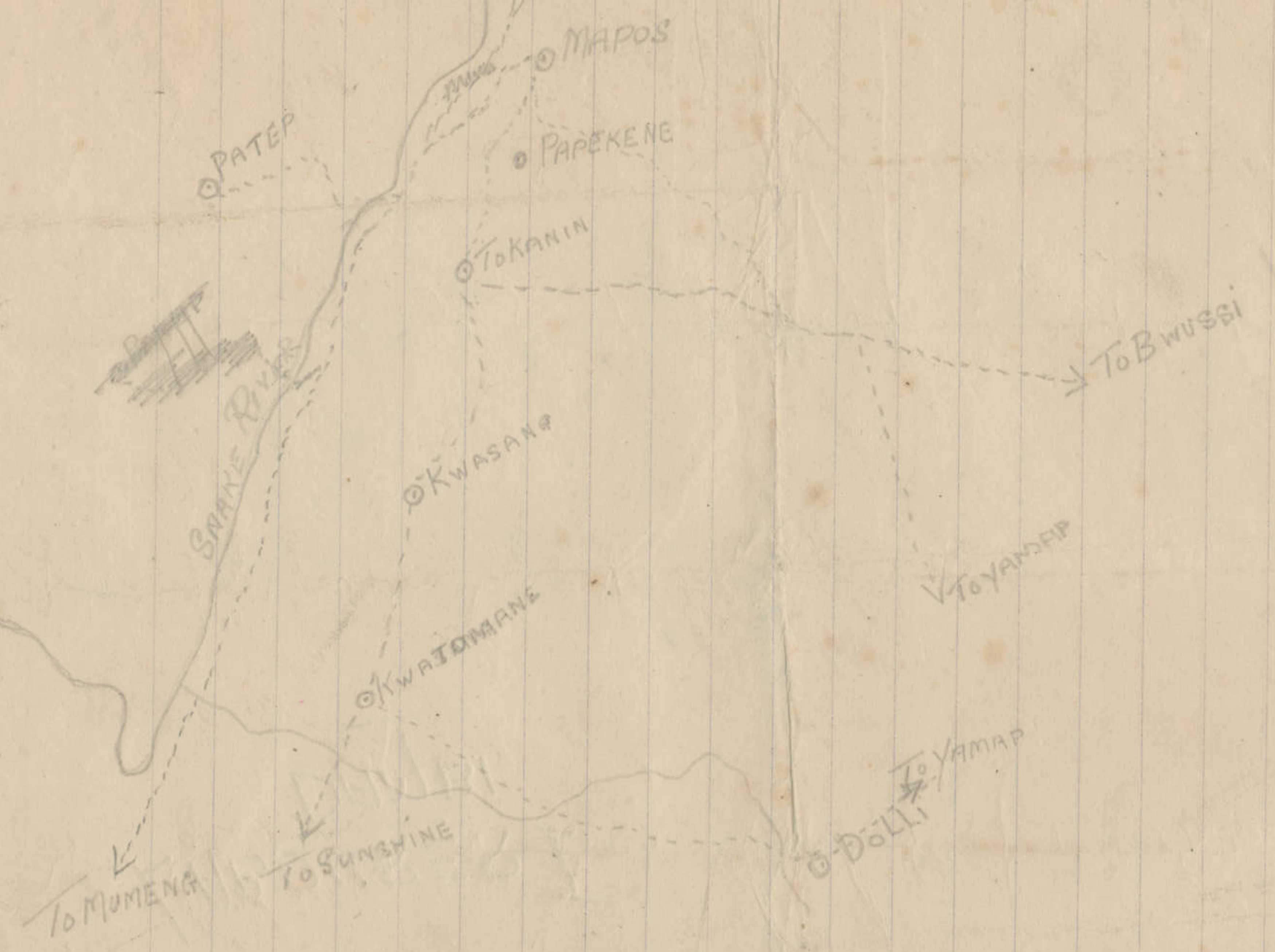
SNAKE RIVER

X  
REVERSE VIEW OF  
DEF. POSNS.  
DAMBI AREA

COPY CAPT. FLEWELLIN  
TIME 1330 HRS DATE 10 JUN.

*A. Oliver*

B. Coy. Tule



LABOURER I  
DAMBI

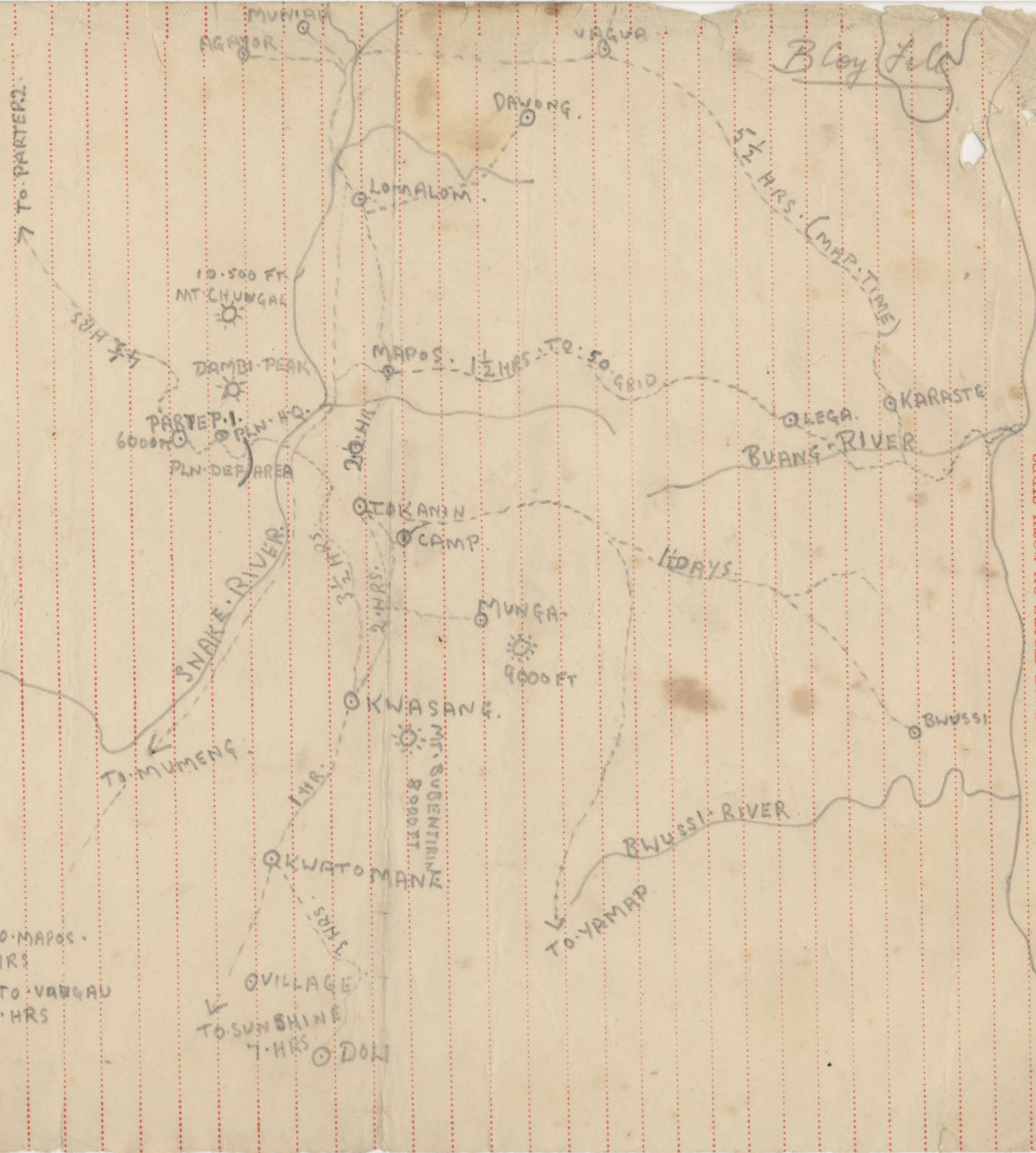
"ANY REFERENCE TO SHIPPING OR TROOP MOVEMENTS WILL RESULT IN THE DELAY OR MUTILATION OF THIS LETTER"

USE MILITARY ADDRESS ONLY



DAMBI-TO-MAPOS. 3 to 4 HRS  
MAPOS-TO-VAGWA 3 HRS

Map 3/5



PLEASE WRITE ON BOTH SIDES

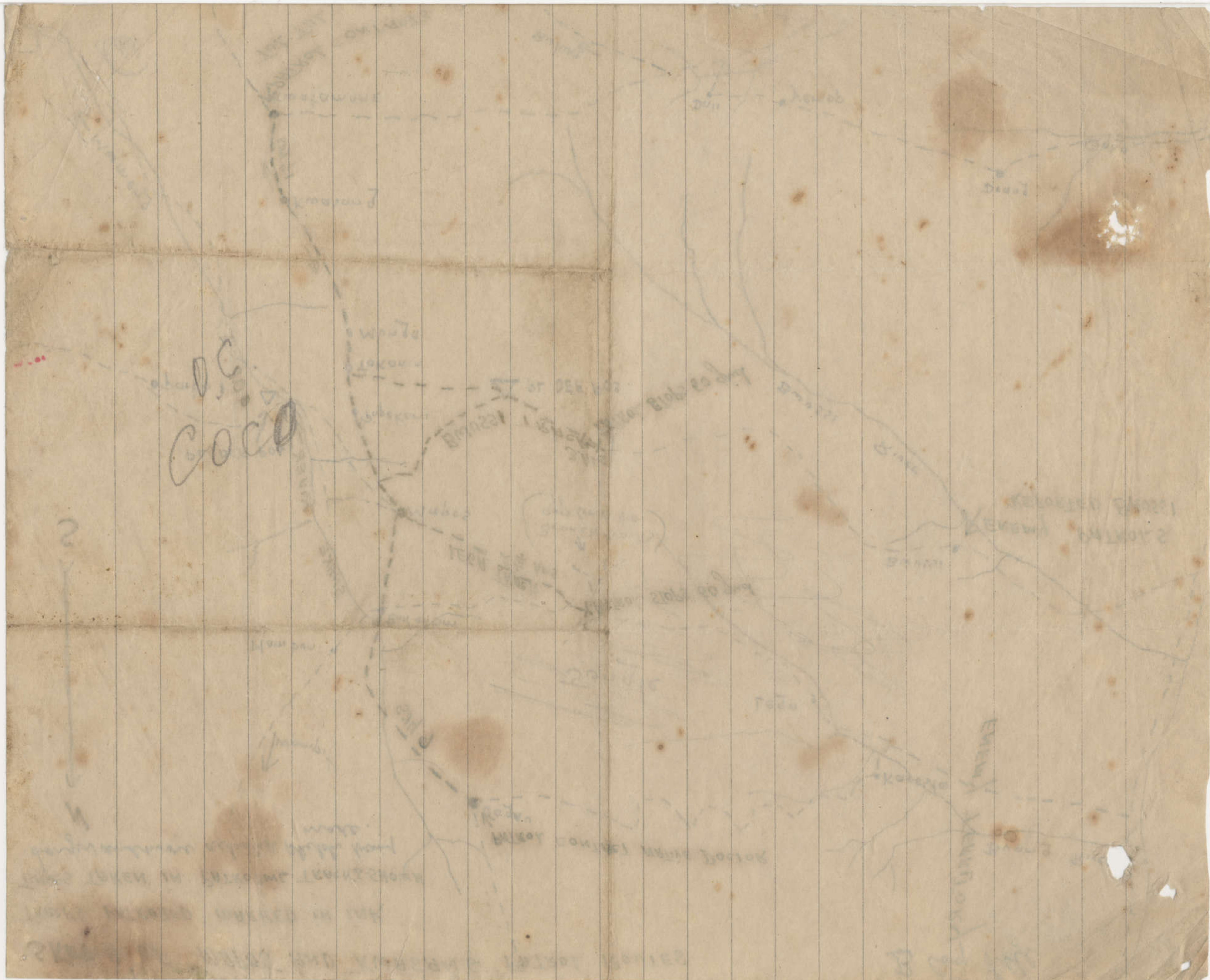
# SKETCH OF "MAPOS" AND "KWASANG" PATROL ROUTES

B. Coy Hill

TRACKS PATROLLED MARKED IN INK

TIMES TAKEN IN PATROLLING TRACKS SHOWN  
Larger and more detailed sketch being made.





PAAPID RAU

Gay File

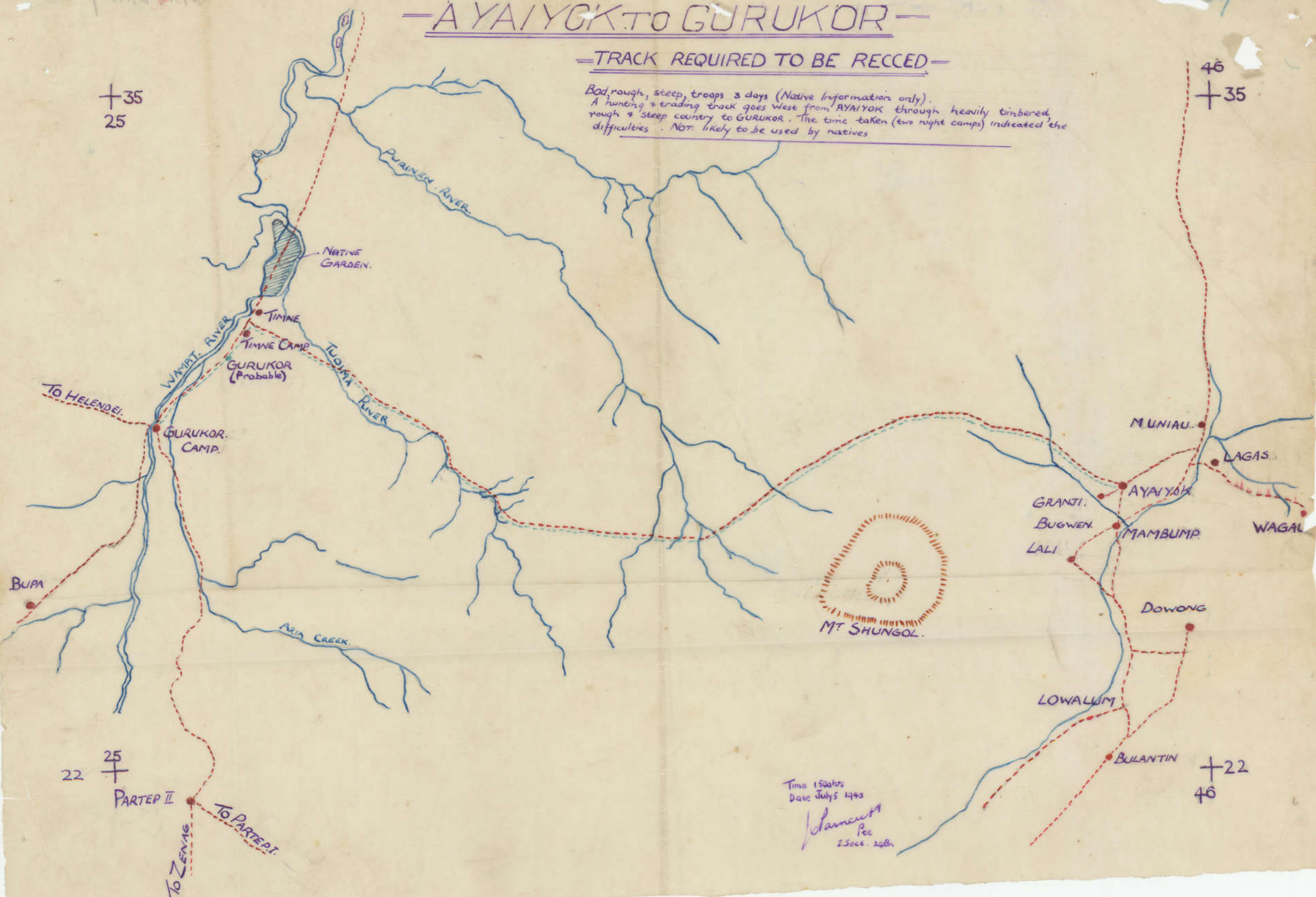
# - A YAIYOK TO GURUKOR -

## - TRACK REQUIRED TO BE RECCED -

Bad, rough, steep, troops 3 days (Native information only).  
A hunting & trading track goes west from AYAIYOK through heavily timbered, rough & steep country to GURUKOR. The time taken (two night camps) indicated the difficulties. NOT likely to be used by natives

+35  
25

46  
+35



22 +25  
PARTEP II  
TO ZENAG  
TO PARTEP I

Time 1500hrs  
Date July 5 1943  
J. Lamont  
Pee  
I. Sec. 24th

+22  
46

WAMPIT-MARKHAM

AREA

2/5 BN & ANGAU



RD/91  
W (4)

SECRET

5 Nov  
Subject: PATROL REPORT - OBSERVATION - NADZAB DROME

Headquarters  
2/6 AUST INF BN  
4 Mar 43

HQ KANGA FORCE

1. Fwded herewith, in duplicate, is recee report of patrol to observe NADZAB DROME and report on any movt or works in progress.

*F. G. W.* Lt col  
Commanding 2/6 Aust Inf Bn

*seen 11/20 eff 43.*

PATROL REPORT

Ref Maps: 1. HUON GULF (SPECIAL) 4 mi to 1 in  
2. Sketch Map att

Patrol found by: 17 Pl D Coy 2/6 Aust Inf Bn

Patrol Comd: L/Sgt J W HEDDERMAN

Patrol Strength: 1 Sgt, 1 Cpl, 1 OR

Nature of Patrol: Recce

Time Out: 0530 hrs 27 Feb 43

Time In: 2100 hrs 28 Feb 43

Object: To observe NADZAB DROME and report on any movt or works in progress

Route Out: Map refs 3153 - 4157 and as per sketch map att

Route In: As per sketch map att

Narrative:

Leaving KIRKLANDS DUMP the patrol followed the slightly-timbered kunai ridge down to the edge of the MARKHAM.

The track is fairly well defined but rather slippery.

A boat crew of four kanakas awaited us at this pt and we embarked for the other side of the MARKHAM.

The MARKHAM flows at various rates, at the time we crossed the rate was about 9 to 10 knots per hr and its flow causes a fair drift down the river before the opposite bank is reached.

If the river was in flood, a canoe would have difficulty in getting across.

The time to cross was about  $\frac{1}{2}$  hr.

We landed between two streams of the ERAP DELTA, forded one stream and followed the Northern bank through kunai and pit pit 6 to 10 ft high; very thick and surface very boggy.

We then followed the bank of the ERAP RIVER for about 3 mi; turned right in an Easterly direction and struck through kunai towards strip of jungle.

This stretch of kunai is about 4 mi across and very difficult travelling and movt would be easily observed by anyone watching from a tall tree near edge of jungle.

On reaching the jungle we penetrated it for about 50 yds and then changed direction to a more SE direction.

Moving through jungle for another mi approx, we struck more kunai, which surrounds the NADZAB DROME.

Moving through jungle was very hard going; the undergrowth being very thick with a lot of vine known as "wait a while".

We found it was impossible to move silently through the jungle owing to the frequent use of the bush knife to cut a way through.

Direction was hard to keep and we found that we had to climb several trees so as to avoid cutting through on to open spaces where we would be easily located.

The night 27 Feb was spent in the jungle about 1 hr from the drome.

A suitable site on the NW edge of the drome from which to observe was selected; the trees in this locality NOT being sufficiently tall for good observation as the country is flat.

All we could see was the SE part of the drome.

NO movt was noticed on or about the drome.

There were wooden tripods scattered on the drome and we were informed that they had been put there by the NGVR.

Scattered palms indicated the direction of GASONKEK, but NO huts could be seen.

We could also pick out the area of GABNUTZUNG MISSION.

These areas were watched from 0800 hrs until 1400 hrs 28 Feb but failed to see any movt.

Our OP was left at 1400 hrs and then moved through swamp in jungle in a Westerly direction until reaching kunai; then changed direction slightly to SW and moved through several swamps covered with pit pit.

Continuing on we reached one of the streams of the delta of the ERAP and MARKHAM RIVERS.

This was in very difficult going.

The ERAP forms a delta and there are as many as four streams to cross, which are very deep and swift flowing.

It would NOT be possible to cross this area when in flood.

We then continued to a pt opposite KIRKLANDS DUMP and fired the pre-arranged signal for a boat to be sent across to pick us up.

In ref to previous reports by natives of JAPS being able to see ridge leading down to KIRKLANDS:

We climbed a rather small tree at the farthest pt we reached on the ERAP RIVER and could see the ridge quite plainly.

It would be possible to observe any movt on the track above KIRKLANDS.

Also this ridge can be seen from the tree we used to observe the drome.

From tall coconut trees around the GABMATZUNG MISSION it would be possible to see the KIRKLANDS area but NOT the camp itself.

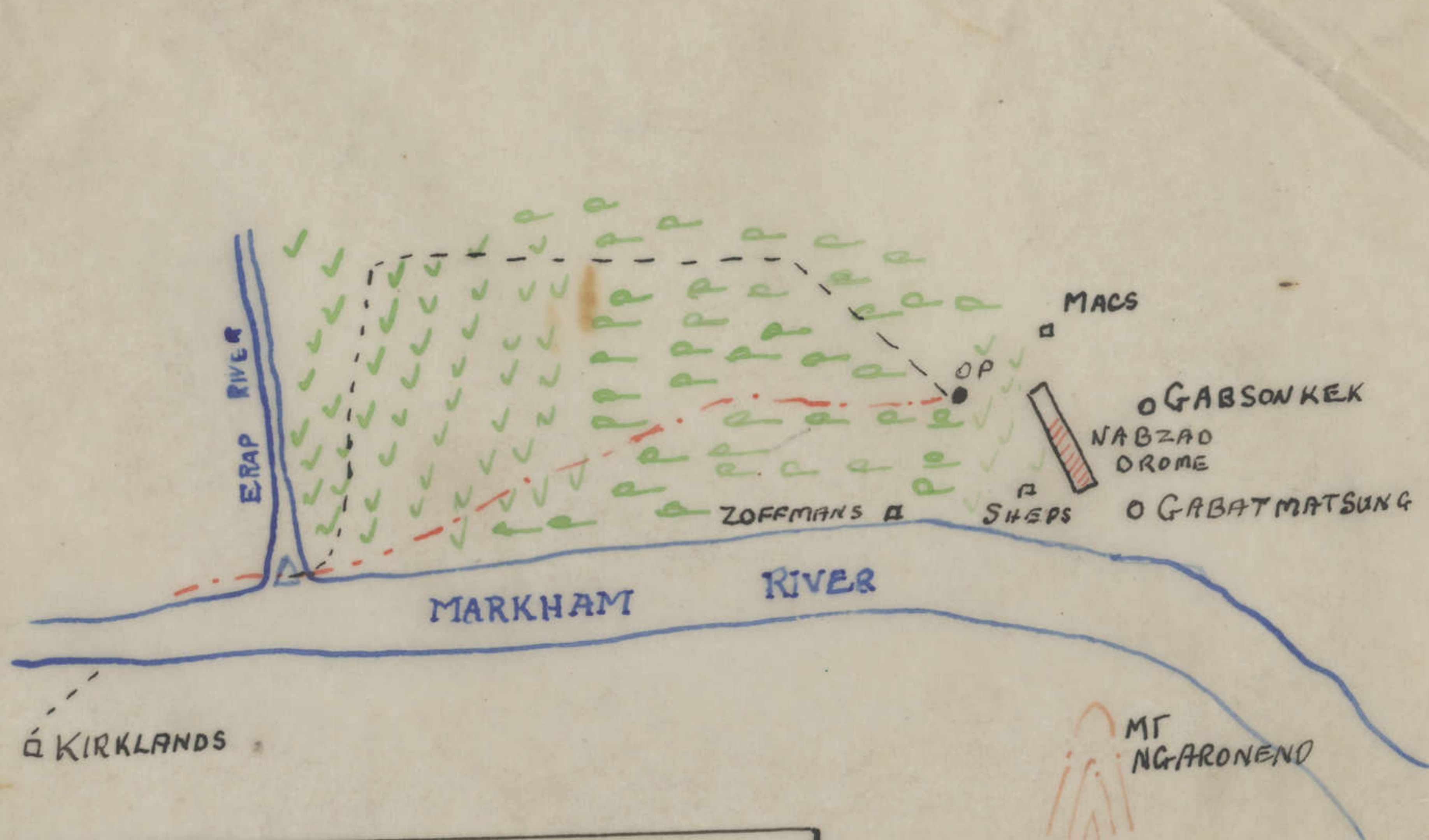
During the patrol NO signs of the enemy nor of any enemy movt was seen.

<u>Travelling Time</u>	Disembarkation Pt to OP	10 hrs.
	OP to Embarkation Pt	6 hrs.

(Sgd) J W HEDDERMAN L/Sgt

(Sgd) W R DEXTER Capt

TRACE OF  
NABZAD PATROL ROUTE 27/28 FEB 43



<u>LEGEND</u>	
Kunai and Pit Pit Swamp	✓✓✓
Dense Jungle	○○○
Part of Drome under observation	▨
Route Out.	- - - - -
Route In	- · - · -
OP	● OP

2/6 BN INT SEC  
AMPR 43