

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

Item number: 8/3/35

2/43 Infantry Battalion

November 1942

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript. **NOVEMBER 1942**

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

2/43 AUST. INF. BN.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Ref map el ALAMEIN 1/50,000 Sidi el RAHMAN 1/25,000.	NOVEMBER			
	1.		Night 31 OCT / 1 NOV. Bn relieved 2/48 AUST INF BN. area 87063040.	
	2.	2100	Bn withstood enemy counter-attacks throughout the day.	
	32/3		"C" Coy patrol beyond Bll (87093046) 2100 hrs.	1. 5.
	3.		Two remost coys (A and D) 2/43 Bn relieved A and C Coys, 2/28 Bn.	5.
	4.	1657	Enemy were found to have withdrawn from Bll, (87093046) and Northwards	5.
			Bn was ordered to move its F.D.Ss. forward as far as possible in order to maintain pressure on the enemy (within 3" mortar range)	
		1657	Shell landed in midst of Bn "O" Gp. causing 12 casualties.	2. 5.
		1900	Adjustment of F.D.Ss. commenced.	5.
	5.	0300	All coys in new positions.	5.
		1800	109 re-inforcements arrive for the unit.	5.
		1930	Two enemy aircraft bombed Bn area.	
	6.		Bn prepared to move to position near beach RAS EL SHAGIG. (8746530637) B.H.Q.	
	8.		C.O. attended Bn. from A.D.M.S. to arrange re-distribution of officers.	3.
	9.		Salvage parties began regular daily operation (10 per coy plus truck) to areas 87063012 to 87173027 to 87302995 to 87403008.	
	10.	1000	Meeting of officers re Bn sports to be held on 13 NOV.	14.
	12.	1500	Heats run off.	
		1535	Bde Comd. (Brig. EVANS) attended Bn Mess to meet officers.	
	13.		Bn sports. 1000 hrs--heats. 1400 hrs--main events. Brig EVANS attended sports during afternoon.	
		1600	Lt Col W.J. WAIN returned to Bn.	
	14.		C.O. inspected Coys during morning.	
		1430	Bn Parade.	
		1500	Bde Comd. inspected Bn.	
	16		"I" Offrs conference at Div 1000 hrs - to discuss lessons learned from recent opps.	
	17	0830	Commencement of 14 day's course to train Coy Intelligence men.	
	19		Conference of all officers to discuss tng Syllabus.	
	21		Attention is drawn to 2/43 Aust Inf Bn Admin order No 1 (Salvage)	12.
	22.		C.O., Coy Comds, and R.M.O. travelled under Bde arrangements to view tank battlefield south of Side RAHMAN.	14.
	23? 26	0900	Students from Bn reported to 24 Aust Inf Bde for two course in desert navigation. Nov 26	
	25.		Warning order - moving to Pallestine of 9 Div.	16
	25.		Warning order - moving to Pallestine of 24 Bde.	17
	28		2/43 Bn. Movement orders No 3, 4, and 5. (movement to Pallestine).-destination Khassa.	20, 21, 22
	29		Skill at arms day for 24 Aust Inf Bde. (2/43 Bn won 6 and drew one event out of 15 events) next 2/28, 2/32.	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

2/43 AUST INF BN

^{Nov}
~~OCTOBER~~ 1942.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	NOV		<u>LIST OF APPENDICES</u>	
Ref maps.				
SIDE el RAHMAN	2.	1806.	Bn to put out fighting force 2 offr 40 OB s. 2 NOV (Bde O.O.)	1.
1/25,000 over print.	4.		Bde O.O. no 22. (Bn will assist in maintaining pressure on the enemy and take immediate advantage of any weakening of the enemy's position without incurring large losses.)	2.
EL WISHKA	6.		Bde O.O. no 23. (Bn moves to Bivouac area RAS EL SHAQIQ on 6 Nov to rest and refit)	3.
1/25,000 over print	9.		Bn. R.O's no 9. Paras 46-54.	4.
EL MAHK KHAD	10.		Report on Operations commencing 31 Oct 42	5.
1/25,000 over print.	11.		Bn "I" Summary	6.
	20.		Bn "I" Summary	7.
	12.		Personal message from Army Commander.	8.
	15.		Notes on enemy minefield methods.	9.
	16.		A.I.F. orders part 1. Paras 55-60.	10.
	18.		Syllabus of Bn Intelligence course for tng Coy "I"men	11.
			A.I.F. orders part 1 Paras 61-64	12.
	20.		2/43 Aust Inf Bn Training Inst No 1	13.
			Bn. Intelligence Summary.	14.
	21.		2/43 Aust Inf Bn Admn Order No. 1. (Salvage)	15.
	23.		A.I.F. orders part 1 Paras 66-68	16.
	25.		Warning order-move to Pallestine. (xxxx) 9 Div.	17.
	25.		Warning order-move to Pallestine. - 24 Bde.	18.
	26.		2/43 Aust Inf Bn. I. Summary.	19.
			A.I.F. orders Paras 69. Also Paras 70-75.	20.
	28.		2/43 Bn Movement order No. 3.	21.
	28.		2/43 Bn Movement order No. 4.	22.
	29.		2/43 Bn Movement order No. 5.	23.
	6 7.		Field Return of officers.	24.
	7.		Field return of Other Ranks.	25.
	11.		Field Return of Officers.	26.
	11.		Field Return of Other Ranks.	27.
	14.		Field Return of Officers	28.
	14.		Field Return of Other Ranks.	29.
	21.		Field Return of Officers	30.
	21.		Field Return of Other Ranks.	31.
	29.		Field Return of xxxx Officers	32.
	29.		Field Return of Other Ranks.	

24 Aust Inf Bde OO. No 22

SECRET

ref map SIDI ABD EL RAHMAN

Copy No 3

1:25000.

4 Nov 42

LNFM,

9 Aust Div is to

- (a) maintain pressure on enemy
- (b) reorganise
- (c) take immediate advantage of any weakening of the enemy's position without incurring large losses.

2.

FWD tps 9 Aust Div, right 24 Aust Inf Bde,
left 20 Aust Inf Bde.

its bde body incl to 20 Aust Inf Bde +
reg line

26 Aust Inf Bde in div res.

3.

(a) 40 RTR under comd 20 Aust Inf Bde
is for employment with either 20 or 24
Aust Inf Bdes

(b) 9 Aust Div Com is to withdraw at
1400 hrs 4 Nov 42 into div res

in area TRIG 33. 875301 - TELL EL EISA

and remain at short notice to

reverse. The enemy should be withdrawn

(2)

from the dis front.

(c) COMP FORCE is to be relieved by 24 Aust Inf Bde and sub units are to rejoin parent units.

4. Tps in support 24 Aust Inf Bde

2/8 Fd Regt.

2/3 Fd Coy.

under comd.

10 Aust A/Th Bty

two tps 11 Aust A/Th Bty

C Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn

one sec 9 Aust Div Pro Coy.

5 INTENTION 24 Aust Inf Bde will

(a) maintain pressure on the enemy and take immediate advantage of any weakening of the enemy's position without incurring large losses.

(b) Reargumie by first light 5 Nov

6. METHOD.

FWD Tps

Right 2/28 Bn with in support

58 Bty 2/8 Fd Regt

two tps 10 Aust A/Th Bty

(3)

one pl C Coy 2/2 MG Bn
Left 2/43 Bn with in support
16 Bty 2/8 Fd Regt.

two tps 10 Aust A/Tk Bty

one pl C Coy 2/2 MG Bn
incl 2/25 Bn

7. INTER BN BNDY. LITTLE ITALY 87203054,
V.P. 870305, bend in rd 86873074

8. RESERVE 2/32 Bn

two tps 11 Aust A/Tk Bty

one pl C Coy 2/2 MG Bn

9. COMPOSITE FORCE when relieved by 2/25 Bn
and 2/43 Bn will return sub units
to their parent units.

10. 2/3 Pm Bn when relieved by 2/13 Bn
will move into div res in the area
North of rd in 871303.

11. 2/3 Fd Coy will provide dets with each
2/28, 2/43, 2/32 Bns and Tac Role HQ.
for mine detecting and clearance
during night 4/5 Nov

12. PROTECTIVE PATROLS

2/32 Bn will be responsible for

(4)

patrolling SV of reg to left front

2/3 pm Bn until relieved by 2/13 Bn

13. TIMINGS. 2/28 Bn ^{and 2/43 Bn} will occupy new FOLS
by 2300 hrs

14. ROUTES as received and cleared by bns.

15. INTERCOMN.

Tac Bde HQ will close present location
and open ~~at~~ ^{same time} at

16. Report occupation of new areas by following
my code words by wireless:-

2/28 Bn PACIFIC

2/43 Bn ATLANTIC

2/32 Bn ARCTIC

2/3 pm Bn INDIAN

ACK

Dr Jackson maj

Issued by Sigps and L.O.

B.M. 24 Aust Int Bde.

Signed at 1735

⑤.

DISTRIBUTION

2/28 Bn.

1

2/32 Bn

2

2/43 Bn

3

2/3 pm Bn

4

COMPOSITE FORCE.

5

2/8 Fd Regt.

6

10 Bty 3 A/Tk Regt.

7

2/3 Fd Coy.

8

K Sig Sigs

9

C Coy 2/2 MG Bn

10

2/11 Fd Amb.

11

20 Aust Inf Bde.

12

9 Aust Div

13

Comd

14

Main Bde HQ.

15

File

16-17

war diary

18-19

MESSAGE FORM.

2/43 Aust Inf Bn War Diary
Appx no 11
Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	IN	(885) Received 2025 2 NOV.	No. of Groups.	Office Date Stamp.
	OUT		G.R.	

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY)

TO 43 Bn, 32 Bn, 28 Bn, 2/3 Bn Bn

FROM 24 Aust Inf Bn	Originator's Number 502	Date (Dec) 2	In Reply to Numbers
---------------------	-------------------------	--------------	---------------------

Infr	0	Gencom	have	surrounded	in
large	0	in	part	few	has
0	0	enemy	then	not	got
away	0	500	deserts	strong	offensive
within	0	which	may	send	pending
be	0	0	all	units	will
put	0	fighting	force	2 1/2	400/0

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means.	If liable to be intercepted or fall into enemy hands, this message must be sent IN CIPHER.	Originator's instructions Degree of priority	Time of origin.
---	--	---	-----------------

Signed _____ Signed (BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.) _____

System in	Time in	Reader	Sender	System out	Time out	Reader	Sender	System out	Time out	Reader	Sender

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

811/PMEA/2.10/41.

MESSAGE FORM.

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	IN	②	No. of Groups.	Office Date Stamp.
	OUT		G.R.	

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY)

TO

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Numbers
and on NW 43 0 has Cones	0 0 0 0 0 0 0	per 0 and 11 all will MORGAN	and 28 By through jackets fire WAVERLEY BALLANT
off's present Hunn over start 0 on	0 0 0 0 0 0 0	point ed BARREI time arty WARRINGTON	32 to 0 Coast 2100 simulated

This message may be sent **AS WRITTEN** by any means.

If liable to be intercepted or fall into enemy hands, this message must be sent **IN CIPHER**.

Originator's instructions
Degree of priority

Time of origin.

Signed

Signed (BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

811/PMEA/2.10/41.

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. G.R.	Office Date Stamp.
	OUT		

3

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY)

TO

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Numbers

LONDON
10
taking
some
quick
return
order will NOT commence until patrol return

~~to~~
to
of
thruing
joubll
if

~~to~~
2
PW
out
means
patrol

~~plus~~
plus 5
and
to

from
0
maintain
Infor
take
reorganization personally

2 min
objct
whether
by
or

This message may be sent **AS WRITTEN** by any means.

If liable to be intercepted or fall into enemy hands, this message must be sent **IN CIPHER**.

Originator's instructions
Degree of priority

Time of origin.

*G.B. ...
May*

LO

1806

Signed

Signed (BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

System in	Time in	Reader	Sender	System out	Time out	Reader	Sender	System out	Time out	Reader	Sender

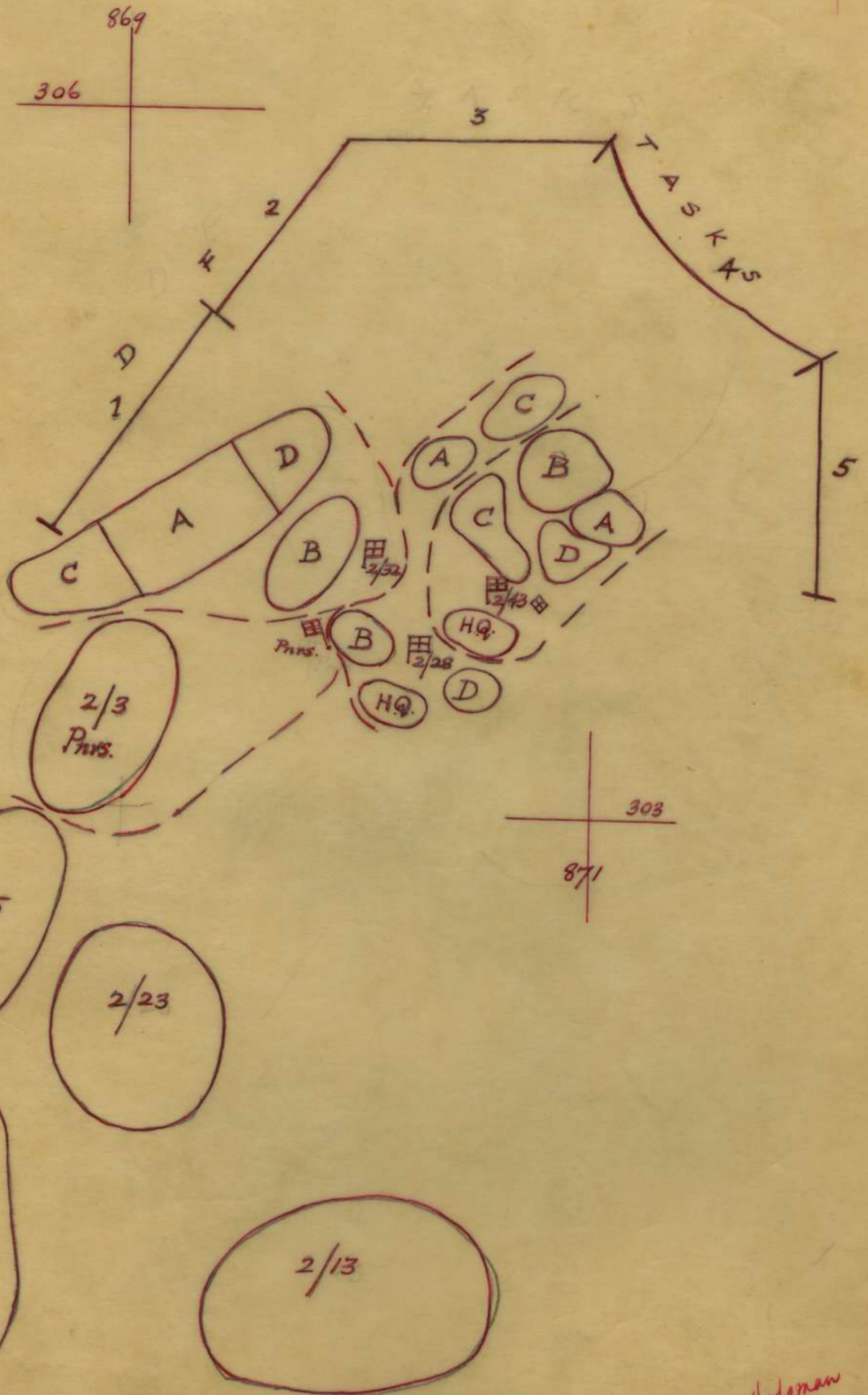
T.O.R.

811/PMEA/2.10/41.

2/43. Aust Inf Bn. War Diary
Appx no 2.

24 BDE DISPOS'NS. FROM 1 TO 3 NOV.

Ref Map
El Rahman 1/25000.



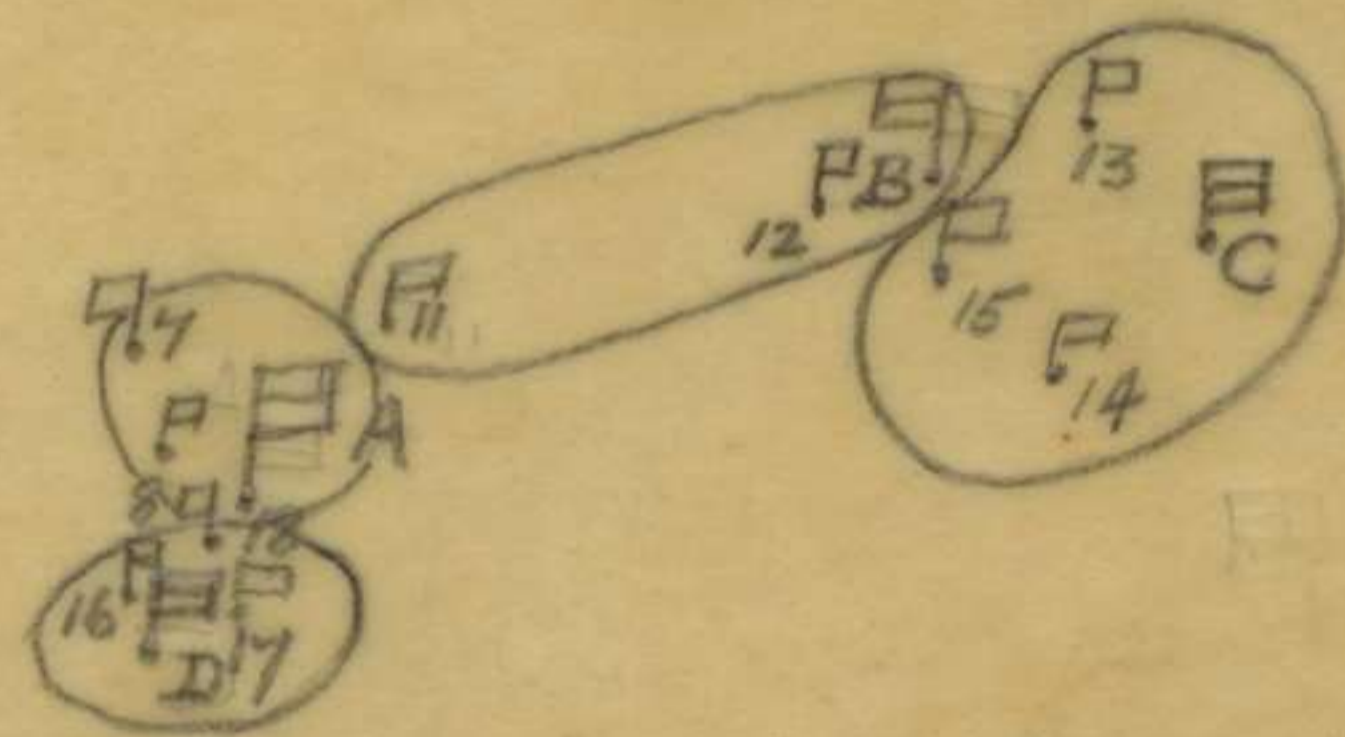
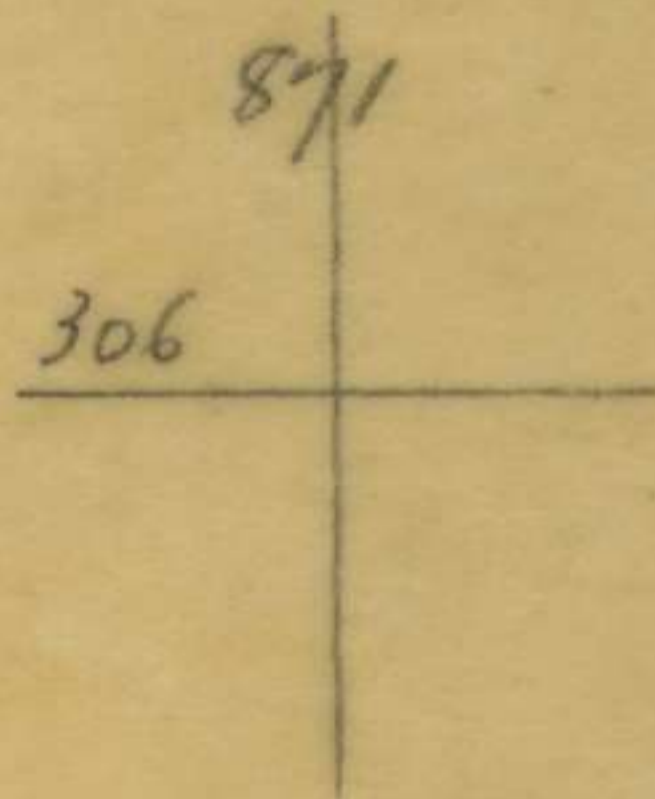
3 Nov. 42

W. Hodgman
2/43 Bn
9 Sec.

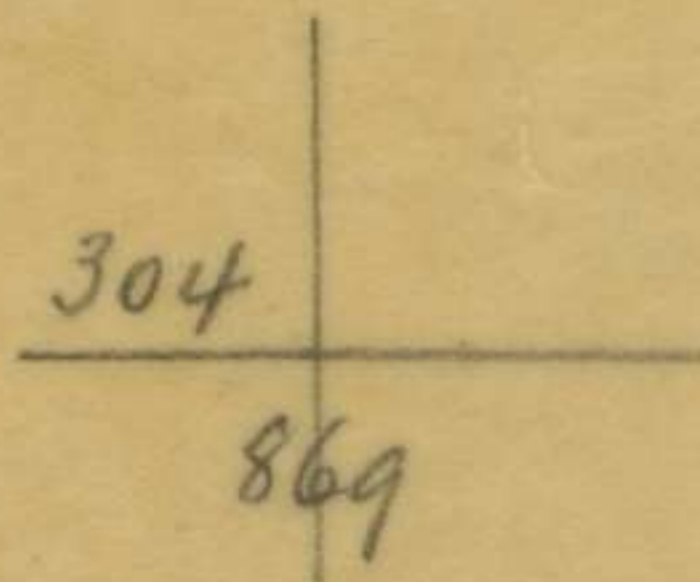
2/43 Bn War Diary
App No 2

2/43 Bn Disps
'BII' AREA.

Ref Map EL RAHMAN
1/25000



5 Nov 42



B

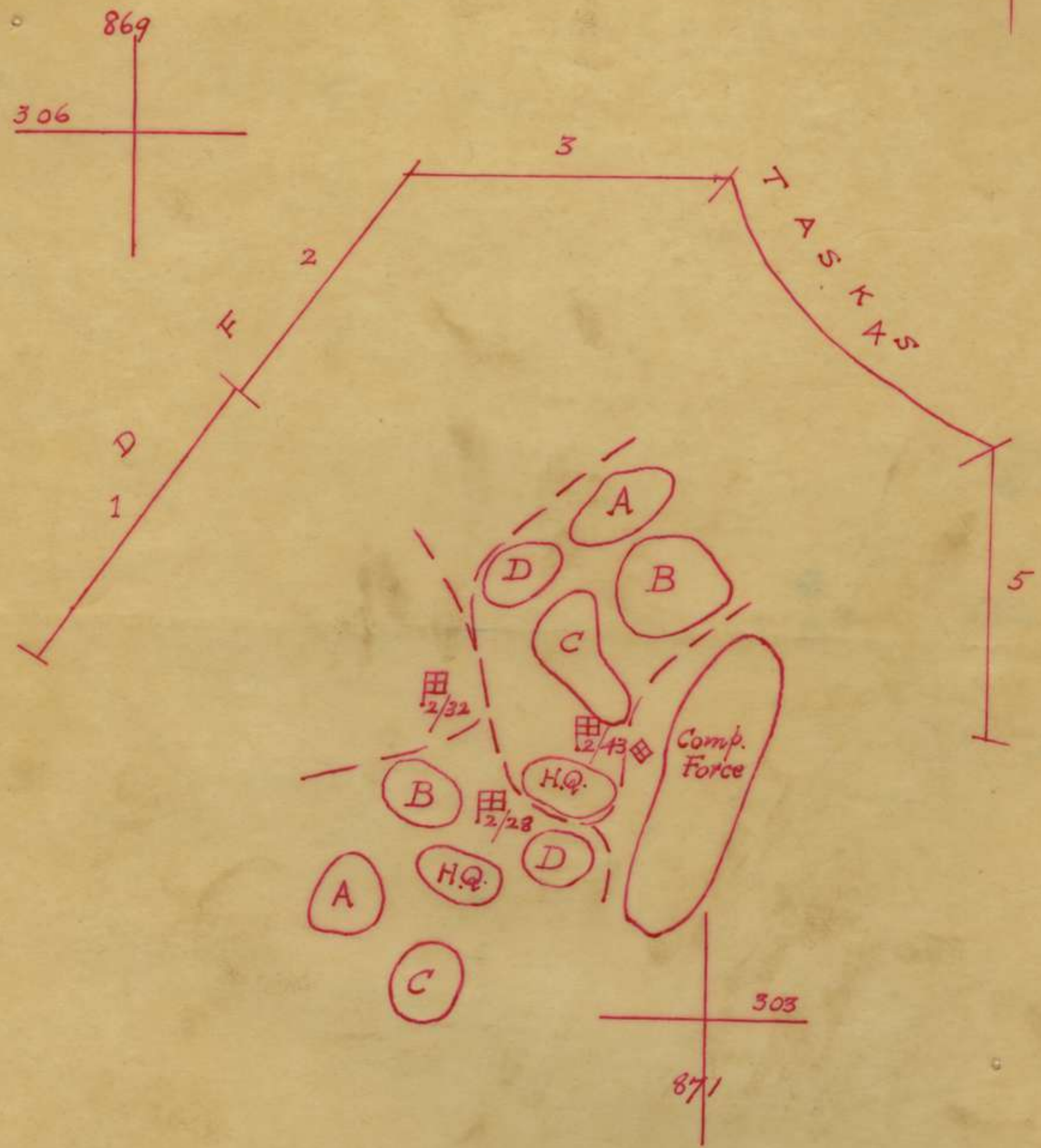
2/43 Aust Inf Bn Was Liany.

Appx No 2

2/43 BN. DISPOS'NS.

4·NOV.

Ref Map
El Rahman 1/25000



4 Nov. 42.

T. W. Hodgman
2/43 Bn
19 Sec

2/43 dist inf Bn War Diary

copy no 3
SECRET
COPY NO 3

6 Nov 42.

24 Aust Inf Bde G.O. No. 25

Ref map: SIDI ABD EL RAHMAN 1/25,000

INFM

- 1. The withdrawal of the enemy is now general and so far there is no evidence where he intends to stand.
- 2. 9 Aust Div has come into pos to rest and refit.

INTENTION

- 3. 24 Aust Inf Bde will move to bivouac area RAS EL SHAQIQ on 6 Nov to rest and refit.

METHOD

- 4. Units will move from present locations to bivouac areas shown on att trace on 6 Nov. Recces will commence forthwith.
- 5. Full scale precautions against enemy air attack will be taken. No operational roles are allotted.

6. Timings

- (a) Morning 6 Nov - HQ 24 Aust Inf Bde and 2/32 Bn.
- (b) Afternoon 6 Nov - tail of 2/43 Bn will clear T.P. 1 on MAIN Rd at 87703047 by 1500 hrs. Head of 2/32 Bn will not pass T.P. 1 before 1530 hrs.

7. Route

- (a) 24 Aust Inf Bde (less 2/32 Bn) MAIN Rd to 87573012 - 87703023 - thence sea track.
- (b) 2/32 Bn direct.

8. Sp Arms under Comd

Sub units of sp arms under comd will revert to comd present units forthwith.

9. Minefds

Engrs 9 Aust Div are arranging to fence enemy minefds and lift Hawkins minefds.

Although bivouac areas have been examined for mines and booby traps, complete immunity of the area cannot be guaranteed.

All ranks will be warned of the danger of mines and booby traps, of which the enemy has had much time to lay in the area.

ADM

10. Traffic Control

(a) Transport proceeding W on the MAIN Rd has right of way. Avoid interference with traffic on MAIN Rd to greatest possible degree.

- (b) Sec 9 Aust Div Pro will provide T.Ps as follows -

T.P. 1	87703047
T.P. 2	87573012

T.P.3 - 87703083

11. B Ech Unit B Ech will join them in bivouac areas.

12. Salvage Salvage of bivouac areas will continue and guards will be placed on crashed aircraft in the area until taken by RAF recovery.

13. Sanitation Great care will be exercised in clearing the area from the sanitary aspect and in disinfecting.

INTERCOMM

14. Bde HQ (a) Main Bde HQ moves to 87453067 at 1100 hrs.

(b) Tac Bde HQ closes present location 1500 hrs and will join Main HQ.

15. Telegraph Route. 87253031 - 87453070 will NOT be interfered with, as it is required by Sigs 9 Aust Div.

16. Report Report arrival in bivouac areas to Main Bde HQ.

ACK

Issued by LOS
Signed at 1100 hrs

B.M. 24 Maj.
B.M. 24 Aust Inf Bde.

<u>Distribution</u>	<u>Copy No</u>
2/28 Bn	1
2/32 Bn	2
2/43 Bn	3
K Sec Sigs	4
2 Pl HQ Gd Bn	5
9 Aust Div	6
Comd	7
S.C.	8
T.O.	9
War Diary	10-11
File	12-13

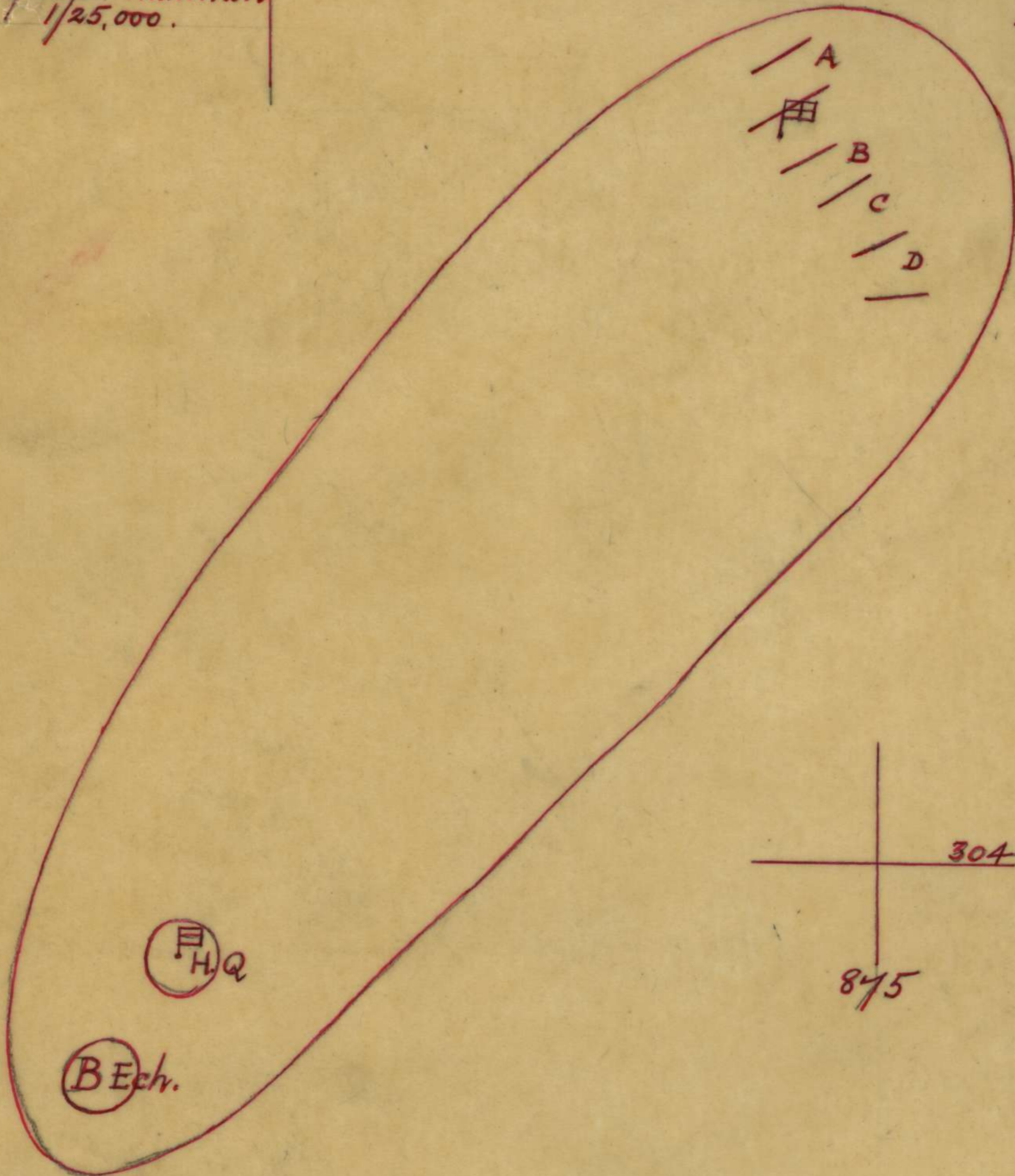
873 2/43 Aust. Inf Bn War Diary

Approx Mo 3

2/43 B.N. DISPOSN'S RAS EL SHAQIQ AREA

307

Ref Map. El. Rahman
1/25,000.

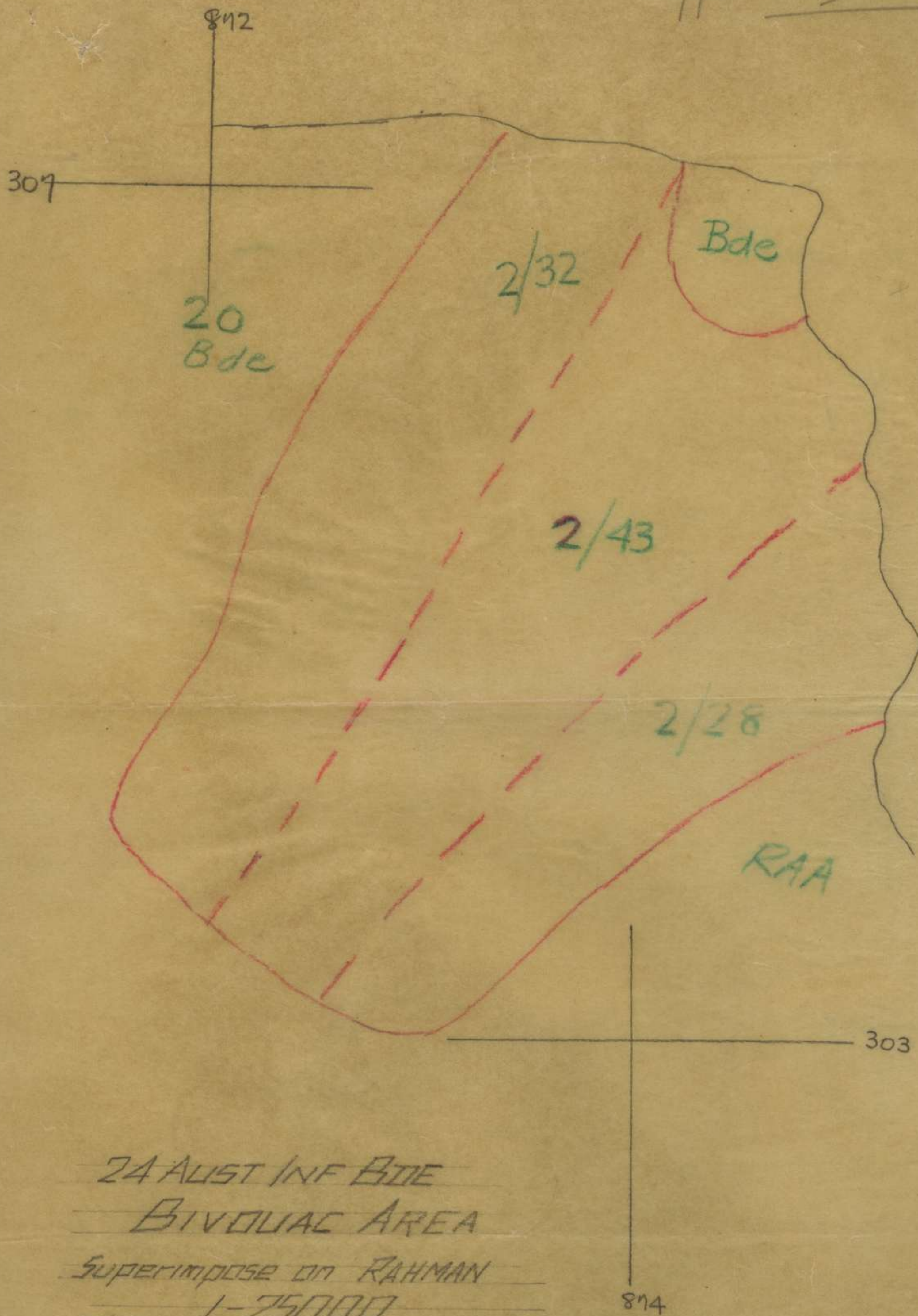


9 Nov. 42

V. W. Hodgman
9 Secy
2/43 Bn.

2/43 Aust Inf Bn War Diary

Appx no 3



24 AUST INF BDE

BIVOUAC AREA

SUPERIMPOSE ON RAHMAN

1-25000

War Diary

2/43 Bn War Diary
Appo No 95

2/43 Aust Inf Bn
In the Field
10 Nov 42

REPORT ON OPERATIONS COMMENCING 31 OCT 42

1730 hrs 31 Oct 42 Bn was advised to be prepared to relieve 2/48 Bn. Bn to be ready to move 1900 hrs. Convoy moved out along DIAMOND rd and reached vicinity Pt 29 86833007 by 2200 hrs where all except A Ech vchs were left and tps marched the remaining 4 to 5 miles to area 87063040 vicinity BLOCKHOUSE on ry. The change over to this stage needs no comment. On reaching this point things were found to be in a very confused state. Due to hy fighting, casualties and shelling 2/48 and Pnrs had been forced to withdraw SOUTH of the main rd. Tps were very weary. Little or no overhead covering had been left, nor had our predecessors been able to wire their posns. Hurriedly convened conference of Comds 2/28, 2/43 and 2/3 Pnr Bns decided on the posns as per trace "A". 2/43 Bn HQ was sited on the SOUTH side of ry 200 yds WEST of blockhouse 87073038 and personnel dug into SOUTH side of embankment.

1 Nov 42 Sunday

Morning found the tps in the hastily prepared defences ready and expecting a counter attack. At 1000 hrs grp 3/400 inf were seen massing at 868305 and arty fired DF2. During rest of the day our posns were heavily shelled with air and ground burst and anti tk shells and intermittent MG fire.

1215 hrs A Tk guns went into action two tks were seen slowly advancing towards NW flank,

1245 hrs Six enemy tks closed in.

1305 hrs B Coy called for DF NORTH of 10 Pl.

1320 hrs 3 guns in the open on the ridge SOUTH of the ry SIDI RAHMAN area shelled ry embankment.

1330 hrs Message from 7 Pl. "Will have to move back. Tks and inf are attacking". There were hy casualties and leading elements were withdrawn 1325 hrs.

1333 hrs Men were seen returning to the ridge and B Coy were holding the attack.

1530 hrs Enemy tanks were on the ridge. Most of 10 Pl having been overrun.

1555 hrs All firing ceased.

1615 hrs Mobile gun appeared on ridge almost due NORTH of BHQ and commenced shelling area. 3 rds were fired and it was knocked out. Second gun appeared 50 yds to the right and was knocked out and burning at 1620 hrs.

1640 hrs Maj LIGERTWOOD wounded.

A cipher message originated at 1600 hrs indicated that the Composite Force was to advance, preceded by a sqn of Div Cav, to a posn to protect 2/43 Bn's right and rear flanks.

Total casualties for 1 Nov 42 9 Offrs 100 ORs, 8 being killed incl Capt HARE OC B Coy.

2 Nov 42 Monday

Much quieter than its predecessor, shelling being on a greatly reduced scale.

Following a message from Bde indicating that GERMANS had surrendered in large numbers in the SOUTH, and that the GOC directed strong offensive action as it was imperative that the enemy did not get away, a patrol from C Coy was organised. It was pointed out that vigorous action might avoid a Bde attack and the 2/43 Bn were ordered to send a patrol beyond B11, 87093046 - objects -

1. PW for identification

2. Ascertain whether enemy were thinning out.

C Coy comprised, 2 Offrs 38 ORs. Capt J W N MINOCKS comd, Lieut S A PERKINS 2 l/c.

Time out 2100 hrs. Arty barrage was provided 2055 hrs. to 2110 hrs.

On reaching the crest patrol encountered by LMG, mortar, LMG fire and were forced to withdraw after reaching a posn 50 yds beyond. Our casualties 4 killed incl both offrs 4 missing believed killed 10 wounded.

During the night 2/3 Nov the following changes in dispositions were made. The two rearmost Coys (A & D) 2/43 Bn relieved A & C Coys 2/28 Bn. Comp force took up posn vacated by 2/43 Bn Coys and 2 2/28 Bn Coys moved to rear of their two Coys SOUTH of the ry.

3 Nov Tuesday

It was early evident that the enemy had withdrawn from B11 and patrols to this area found it clear and NMS 3000 yds NORTH towards the coast. A PW was taken from a trench in this area - found to be from 90 Lt Div.

A further patrol, 1 Offr 3 ORs, Lieut ZECK Comd, moved to ridge 87103045 at 1000 hrs.

Moved along ridge just south of crest about 100 yds SOUTH of the main rd. Old well established diggings and sangars were seen most of the way - 6 trucks and one tp carrying vehicle approx 872304 (unable to say if derelict or not). There were several tks seen NORTH of trucks. NMS near them. One 88 mm gun plus much amm approx 87173036. Two 20 mm guns in same area. Some of our tks are US.

Present enemy FDL appears to be a line 1500 yds WEST of left fwd coy trig 17, 86953017, and SW. Most of the tps spent the day scrounging numerous weapons, own and foreign, and many other articles of equipment were recovered.

1455 hrs B.H.Q. and Coys were thoroughly strafed by our own returning fighters and a similar high standard of co-operation was afforded us by the arty during the morning.

Four shells landing in Bn area.

During night 3/4 Nov a shell landed on top of embankment on the Adjts dugout and within a few feet of the CO who was in his OP - both had miraculous escapes, the former being buried but otherwise unharmed, the latter suffered only blast and shock, being evacuated next day. Maj H J WILLIAMSON was then Admn Comd.

4 Nov Wednesday

A patrol from A Coy, Lieut WALLER Comd, moved out at 1400 hrs from their area to a posn about 1000 yds WEST. Object to discover location of enemy FDL preparatory to moving the Bn forward. The patrol, having reached line 86983053 to 87013055 was fired on and arty assisted its retirement by putting down smoke. Patrol reached own lines 1600 hrs. Bn O Gp was called immediately. Enemy guns in square 867306 had been shelling Bn area spasmodically all day, and at 1657 hrs a shell landed in midst of the O Gp, causing 12 casualties, incl IO Lieut A L F MACDONALD, OC HQ Coy Lieut R EASTON, A Tk Pl Comd Lieut B J CRAWFORD, OC D Coy Capt B J HEMMINGS, OC C Coy Lieut F A DAVIES, 2 L/c A Tk Pl, Lieut J J SCOTT, RMO Capt COLYER. Stretcher bearers were quickly on the scene and all that was possible done for the casualties.

The original plan to move our FDL fwd 1000 yds had to be continued, and a further O Gp held in rear of the BLOCKHOUSE at 87073039 at 1830 hrs. The adjustment of our FDL was made without incident, there being only one casualty. The tps, although nearing the point of exhaustion, worked all night, and morning found posns well down - but the enemy had flown. An early message indicated that the 20 Bde had a Coy on SIDI RAHMAN and the Div Cav were passing through. A feeling of intense relief was evident, and salvage parties (private and official) went into action.

On the evening of 5 Nov 109 reinforcements arrived for the unit, and around about the atmosphere of GUY FAWKES and frivolity prevailed. Flares of all types were being fired from near and far.

At 1930 hrs two enemy aircraft bombed our Bn area, the casualties being 6 killed, 12 wounded, of whom half were reinforcements.

Midday 6 Nov found the unit prepared to move again, this time to a posn near the beach. Bn HQ closed at 87123047 at 1430 hrs and reopened at 8746530637 at 1600 hrs.

The few days ending 6 Nov were disastrous ones for the Bn, and many personalities one has come to associate with the 2/43 Bn will fight no more, but "WE WILL REMEMBER THEM" The following story recently told by members of an arty unit has some significance. The gun crews, by arrangement with the amn drivers, acquired a few extra rounds and when the troop commander ordered 5 rds gunfire - they fired 6 - the extra round for BILL or TOM.

The following verse from KIPLING was written very recently on the flyleaf of a notebook belonging to the late Lieut A L F MACDONALD:-

No easy hope or lies shall bring us to the goal
But iron sacrifice of body, will and soul
There is but one task for all
For each one life to give
Who stands if Freedom fall?
Who dies if England live?

Charles Zeck
Lieut
IO 2/43 Aust Inf Bn.

53. DISCIPLINE.

- (a) An officer convicted of seven offences of fraudulent misapplication of public property (A.A. 18 (4)) and two offences of improperly borrowing money from subordinates (A.A. 40) was sentenced to be dismissed from His Majesty's service and to be put under stoppages of pay until he had made good the amounts misapplied and borrowed.
- (b) A sapper convicted of absenting himself for 72 days (A.A. 15 (1)) and of wearing a badge of rank to which he was not entitled (A.A. 40) was sentenced to undergo detention for eight months.
- (c) A private soldier convicted of being improperly in possession of a Biretta pistol (A.A. 40) being improperly in possession of a Smith & Wesson revolver (A.A. 40) and of improperly disposing of a prismatic compass (A.A. 40) was sentenced to undergo detention for six months.
- (d) A private soldier convicted of two charges of deserting His Majesty's service (A.A. 12 (1)(A)) in the Field one charge of escaping from close arrest (A.A. 22) and one charge of drunkenness (A.A. 19), was sentenced to be imprisoned with hard labour for two years.
- (e) A driver convicted of house breaking and larceny (A.A. 41) and of improperly neglecting to render assistance to an officer apprehending a soldier (A.A. 40) was sentenced to undergo detention for six months.
- (f) A private soldier convicted of absenting himself without leave for three days in the Field (A.A. 15 (1)) was sentenced to be imprisoned with hard labour for one year.
- (g) A private soldier convicted of deserting His Majesty's service in the Field (A.A. 12 (1)) was sentenced to be imprisoned with hard labour for two years.
- (h) A private soldier convicted of stealing public property in the Field (A.A. 18 (4)) was sentenced to undergo detention for 120 days.
- (i) A private soldier who pleaded guilty to a charge of being improperly in possession of certain public property (A.A. 40) was sentenced to undergo detention for six months.

54. UNIT FINANCE.

Bn Regt Funds from 1 SEP to 13 OCT 42.

		Australian Currency	
Date	Transaction	Receipts	Expenditure
Sept	Balance as at 31 AUG 42		
"	By Australian Canteen Profits for MLY 42	359- 3- 4	
"	To purchase vegetables, groceries etc	214- 4- 2	
"	" " wireless set		100-11- 6
"	By cash from L O B Canteen profits	8-10- 4	35-18- 8
"	" Australian Canteen Profits for JUN 42	199- 1- 7	
		<u>2780-19- 5</u>	<u>196-10- 2</u>
Oct	Balance as at 30 SEP 42	644- 9- 3	
"	To purchases Primus Parts		18- 7- 9
"	" " vegetables, groceries		69-19- 2
"	" " Christmas cards		15-10- 0
"	By Australian Canteen profits for JUL 42	145-12- 0	
"	Cash transferred to 24 I T B		160- 0- 0
		<u>2790- 1- 3</u>	<u>363-16-11</u>
	Balance as at 13 OCT 42	426- 4- 4	
	On loan to Regt Canteen	250- 0- 0	
	TOTAL	<u>2676- 4- 4</u>	

Bn Regt Canteen Profits
 From 14 JAN 42 to 30 JUN 42
 From 1 JUL 42 to 13 OCT 42

Egyptian Currency	
	216.175
	<u>66.342</u>
TOTAL	<u>282.520</u>

These profits have been made entirely from the return of bottles and containers.

John Clarke Capt.

2/43 AUST INF BN - INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY 11 NOV 42

To be destroyed on or before 20 Nov 42.

1. LESSONS LEARNT IN RECENT OPERATIONS

MGS unable to give of best owing to shortage of amm. Scale should at least be doubled.

It was noticed that on occasions insufficient use was made of A Tk devices. Where the enemy counter attacks were sustained for any length of time the scale of 3" Mortar amm was inadequate. Many excellent targets were missed owing to shortage of amm.

Wherever possible mines should be laid immediately on occupation of a posn. Mines were not laid until 2nd night.

Tps must learn to keep under cover when under close obs. Failure to do this disclosed strength and disposition.

Insufficient time was allowed for the raiding party to make proper preparation. On one occasion only 25 mins was allowed from the time orders were received until the raiding party got under way.

2. GENERAL

The enemy with what forces he could muster from his armour and the remnants of 90 Lt Div is fighting a rear guard action in an attempt to save his personnel and what eqpt he can remove under the pressure of our ground forces and the constant hammering from the air.

7 Nov. The enemy's delaying action at FUKA appears now to have been a fatal step. It gave our striking force of tke and motorised inf an opportunity to hit that part of the Axis army which still remained as an organised fighting force. Details are scarce of the action but it is certain that it was disastrous for the Italian armour, 60 M 13s being destroyed or abandoned near GALAL. At the same time a large number of the retreating Italians and a considerable part of 164 and 90 Lt Divs were caught on the main rd together with their vehs. It appears too that some of the Axis tps in the south who had been lucky enough to find tpt and reach the main rd were also captured, as PW are reported from the RAMCKE Bde and FOLGORE Div, including Gen FRATTINI the comd of Folgore Div. Since this action the enemy has abandoned MATRUH and his next delaying action has been SW of CHARING CROSS. Our armour is pushing on to the south of this posn and it is only a matter of time before the westward move begins again. Air reports show that most of the onomy MT is now west of BARRANI and air photos show three lines of vehs on the rd at the foot of SOLLUM Hill. Our Bs have not been slow to take advantage of this and today 70 of them attacked this concentration.

At present we do not know how much of the onomy fighting force that originally held the ALAMEIN line is still in being, but few of the Italians can remain and the Panzer Army with its tk runners reduced to a very low ebb, will find it hard to delay the powerful force now advancing towards the frontier.

8 Nov. Few details are yet to hand but it appears that there was some action against our Armoured Cs at SIDI BARRANI of purely a delaying nature. F, B and Strat R reports large concentrations of MT, Inf and guns at the foot of the SOLLUM escarpment at both SOLLUM and HALFAYE Passes. These passes have received almost constant attention from the air and from reports are in a very bad state for handling a large volume of MT traffic. Strat R also reports by MT traffic moving west of SOLLUM-BARDIA-GAMBUT.

In the GALAL area 60 M 13 and 14 German tks were found either destroyed or abandoned. MATRUH was completely in our hands by 0830 hrs after some sharp fighting and work is proceeding to open the port. PWs are still being collected. Area 870280 1100 PW incl Comd PAVIA Div and from further south 1920 PW, FUKA area 1000 PW.

Difficulty is experienced with the going which is bad after recent rains and this is slowing up the adv.

It is expected that there will be further contact in the BARRANI Area and a determined attempt to further delay us at SOLLUM.

3. REPORT ON GEN RITTER von THOMA, COMD AFRIKA CORPS

Gen RITTER von THOMA fell into the hands of our armoured forces 5 Nov 42. He has Comd the corps in both recent battles. He stated that the Sep Battle was lost because the German misappreciated our Defensive plans. They had no idea that we were manning the ALAM HALFA ridge. Their plan on that occasion was to reach the sea North of ALAM HALFA, then to turn West and take the ALAMEIN defended posn from the East. von THOMA described the ALAMEIN defended posn as the key to ALEXANDRIA. It is yet another example of a German obsession. In July they had failed to take ALAMEIN. Their attention was rivetted to the same thing. The Gen stated that although he himself thought that we would make our recent attack in the NORTH, he was in a minority and the general German opinion was that we should attempt to break through about MONASSIB. They thought, he said, that our attack had been held at first, but it was

not until three days ago when their tk strengths were low, and British tks continued to appear in numbers, that they envisaged the possibility of withdrawal. The situation was made worse, he said, by the loss of half his remaining anti-tk guns from our arty fire on the 3 Nov. The Italians, he said, had failed them. The idea of mixing Bns was unsuccessful, for we always attacked the Italian sectors and thus the Germans were cut off. Mobile battle grps had to be formed because by themselves the Italian tks were too light. These too had been unsuccessful. Gen von THOMA, stated that although they had known we had a new type of American tank, the quality and number of these we had produced had astounded them. At 1200 hrs 4 Nov von THOMA spoke to ROMMEL. He told him that British Tks and Arm'd Cs and a mass of MT were moving round his southern flank. ROMMEL told him it was nonsense. It must be British Arm'd Cs only and nothing to worry about. The main British forces were committed frontally, and nothing could be available to go further south. von THOMA then sent out a Tac R which confirmed his report. ROMMEL still refused to believe it. He said "It is impossible that they have come through the TRIESTE Div without their reporting it to me". von THOMA went out on a personal recce in his tk to see once more. He found a force with certainty, and it had got there because, far from reporting, the TRIESTE Div had not even stayed to wait and see. The Gen said that recently he had read a German I Summary which said that from the new Comd of the EIGHTH Army a new type of warfare must be expected. He said that they had found a new type of warfare, and had found it too much for them.

GENERAL (Further to Para 2)

9 Nov. The enemy did not abandon MATRUH completely as at first thought, but left a small force to block our advance down the rd. The town was cleared after our armoured units had moved round to the west. Meanwhile after delay caused by soft going, south-east of MATRUH, our main arm'd force is now moving west in two grps. The leading elements of the northern grp on the rd have reached BARRANI, after slight opposition in the area of Kilo 90, 640364; the second grp moving south of the escarpment, is now southwest of SOFARI, and there are unconfirmed reports that our arm'd cars are operating near CAPUZZO and SIDI AZEIZ (5038). For the last two days there has been a mass of enemy MT at the foot of HALFAYA and SOLLUM passes, and it appears that our bombing succeeded in blocking the passes temporarily. SOLLUM pass at least now appears to be clear and air reports today showed a continuous stream of vehs between SOLLUM and BARDIA, but there is no doubt that the delay imposed on the enemy will enable our main striking force to make contact again in the near future. All reports of movement between HALFAYA and SIDI OMAR (4936) may indicate that the enemy intends to make a stand on the frontier to cover the movement westward of his MT.

10 Nov. The westward movement continues on both sides. SIDI BARRANI has been cleared of enemy and some PW taken. Our light arm'd forces engaged the retreating enemy in the vicinity of BUG BUG at 1030 hrs and the enemy is apparently covering his retreat with field arty. By 1230 hrs the main fwd arm'd force moving further south was clear of the MADDELENA gap and its arm'd cars well on the way to GAMBUT. A further force of our arm'd cars and MMGs was reported in the CAPUZZO area. The main enemy MT movement is much further to the west but the volume of heavy aa fire reported by our planes as coming from the SOLLUM area indicates that the posns there are still held.

11 Nov. Infa so far is limited to air reports which give details of enemy westward MT movement. 1030 hrs to 1230 hrs rd BARDIA-TOBRUCH - continuous westward traffic nose to tail and many MT stationary on roadside rd TOBRUCH-GAZALA and Axis bypass BUAMID-EL ANEM westward nose to tail. Trig CAPUZZO. Movement in grps west of 49 grid. This movement westward from TOBRUCH is significant and rather indicates that the enemy does not intend to make TOBRUCH his main operational base for a determined stand. Many fires are also reported in TOBRUCH, GAZALA, and at BUAMID. 1300 hrs report confirms this movement and locates a grp of 300 vehs incl tks also moving west at 470400. The enemy forces behind our fwd elements are so scattered that air recce is now being used to locate potential PW.

Charles Zeck
Lieut.,
IO 2/43 Aust Inf Bde

2/43
War Diary
2/43 Bn Aust Inf Bn War Diary
Appx no 7.

EIGHTH ARMY

Personal Message from the Army Commander

TO BE READ OUT TO ALL TROOPS.

1. When we began the Battle of Egypt on 23 October I said that together we would hit the Germans and Italians for six right out of North Africa.

We have made a very good start and to-day, 12 Nov., there are no German and Italian soldiers on Egyptian territory except prisoners.

In three weeks we have completely smashed the German and Italian Army, and pushed the fleeing remnants out of Egypt, having advanced ourselves nearly 300 miles up to and beyond the frontier.

2. The following enemy formations have ceased to exist as effective fighting formations :

Panzer Army.—	15 Panzer Div.	20 Italian Corps.—	Ariete Armd. Div.
	21 Panzer Div.		Littorio Armd. Div.
	90 Light Div.		Trieste Div.
	164 Light Div.		

10 Italian Corps.—	Brescia Div.	21 Italian Corps.—	Trento Div.
	Pavia Div.		Bologna Div.
	Folgore Div.		

The prisoners captured number 30,000, including nine Generals.

The amount of tanks, artillery, anti-tank guns, transport, aircraft, etc., destroyed or captured is so great that the enemy is completely crippled.

3. This is a very fine performance and I want, first, to thank you all for the way you responded to my call and rallied to the task. I feel that our great victory was brought about by the good fighting qualities of the soldiers of the Empire rather than by anything I may have been able to do myself.
4. Secondly, I know you will all realise how greatly we were helped in our task by the R.A.F. We could not have done it without their splendid help and co-operation. I have thanked the R.A.F. warmly on your behalf.
5. Our task is not finished yet; the Germans are out of Egypt but there are still some left in North Africa. There is some good hunting to be had further to the West, in Libya; and our leading troops are now in Libya ready to begin. And this time, having reached Bengasi and beyond, we shall not come back.
6. On with the task, and good hunting to you all. As in all pursuits some have to remain behind to start with; but we shall all be in it before the finish.

B. L. MONTGOMERY,
General,

G.O.C.-in-C., Eighth Army.

12-11-42

1. Depth of M - The actual belt of mines may be anything up to 200 yds deep with a further danger area of up to 250 yds in front containing widely spaced scattered mines. The distance between the front fence (if any) and the rear fence may be anything from 100 to 500 yds.
2. Density of mines - As will be seen from the para on pattern, the most used patterns give a density of rather less than 1 mine per yd. A density of 2 mines per yd is seldom employed except when blocking roads, tracks or defiles.
3. Pattern - There appears to be no standard pattern, although there is a mass of info on different patterns used, varying with the units laying, time available, operational conditions etc. These can be classified broadly under the following heads:-
 - (a) Regular pattern - This is the most common. Mines in a row are spaced at equal distances, with equal distances between rows, and the mines of 1 row equally spaced between the mines of the previous row. A variation of this method is to vary the distances between rows. In no reported case, except for scattered mines, has the distance between mines in a row been unequal.
 - (b) Regular pattern offset - By means of a pacing drill a certain variety is introduced into the regular pattern. The distance between mines in any one row is equal, but one row is slightly offset from the previous row, and the next row is again offset by a different distance. Once a few mines have been located, the pattern soon becomes apparent, and mines will be found where expected.
 - (c) Scattered mines - In front of most regular minefield belts, and particularly in front of gaps, there may be found mines scattered at random and unmarked. These are either continuous at very wide and irregular spacing or in clumps more closely spaced but laid to no pattern inside each clump.
4. Spacing - The average observed spacing between mines in a row is six yds; it has never been less than three yds and seldom greater than 10 yds, except in scattered fields. The commonest observed distances between rows are five yds and 10 yds. Shallow minefields usually consist of from 2 to 4 rows of mines. Deep minefields generally consist of several belts of mines with considerable distances between belts, and with seldom more than eight rows of mines in any one belt.
5. Marking - The front edge of forward minefields is often not marked. The rear edge normally is marked, usually with a trip wire, or short posts, though a cattle fence, concert or stone coils are sometimes used. Cases have been reported of the rear edge being unmarked. A common marking is a single row of concert running along the centre of a field parallel to the rows of mines. In a large minefield there may be several rows of mines in front unmarked, then a row of concert, more mines, then concert and so on, finishing up with a row of concert on the rear edge. The marking of fields by furrows, commonly used at FOMUK has only been reported once on the present front, and in that case the field was a dummy one. Only one case has been reported of continuous wire running irregularly within a field. No info is available of signs used to mark field, except those given in para 9 - gaps. It is believed that skull and crossbones indicate the presence of AP mines or booby traps. In rear areas, enemy minefield may be expected to be well marked with cattle fences and warning devices in GERMAN and/or ITALIAN.
6. Type of Mines - On the present front the enemy have been using mostly British mines - M2, M3, M4, M5 and V, TELLER mines, FRENCH mines, and more recently CV21 (previously designated as CRT) mines have also been found.
7. Use of Booby Mines - Fields of Teller mines have been found with a proportion fitted with booby traps. In one case Teller mines were in groups of 20, with about one third fitted with pull traps, and one third with tension traps. Teller mines, each fitted with a pull igniter and a loop of wire, projecting above the top of the mine as a trip wire have also been found, but it has been the exception rather than the rule to find any booby traps. One lone instance has been found of crude booby trapping of a French Light Infantry mine by attaching one end of a 12" long trip wire to a hook on the lid of the mine, and the other end to a pull igniter on an M mine. A patrol from this Bn found an extensively booby trapped post. German egg type mines were found hanging on the wire at close intervals and M mines, wired together in pairs, and ignited with a pull type igniter were also found. In most fwd posts Teller mines connected up as booby traps, with a long wire attached, were found. It is thought that these may be carried to a post just outside the enemy fwd wire at night, and ignited by means of the attached wire on the approach of our infantry.
8. Use of AP Mines - The only case of the use of AP mines reported was when Italian M4 mines were found laid in front of the outer wire of a minefield. The use of this mine has increased during the last three weeks of Sep. These recent fields contained some M mines but mostly Italian M4. Spacing of M4 and M mines have all been from 7 to 10 yds between mines, all laid in a single row. Layout is usually mines and wooden pegs alternatively at 4 to 5 yds spacing, with trip wires from the mines running to the wooden pegs on both side of each mine.
9. Gaps - Little info is available about gaps through minefields, but the following have been reported:-
 - (a) Width - 10 yds in one case and 7 yds in another.

- (b) Method of clearing - Usually two or three rows of Teller mines with boards placed on one or all of the rows to ensure designation of mine if vehicle attempt to pass through. Normally closed.
- (c) Marking - In the Northern sector two types of gap markers have been found.
 - (1) Painted signs, as in sketch on either side of the gap:-
 - (2) Luminous tubes 1' long placed on the tops of mines to mark a route for patrol. These tubes are visible at three yds.
- (d) General - It is reported that gaps are a favourite place for laying Teller mines without any marking, wire or signs. Gaps are sometimes covered by groups of scattered mines laid up to 2000 yds in front of the gap, and unmarked.

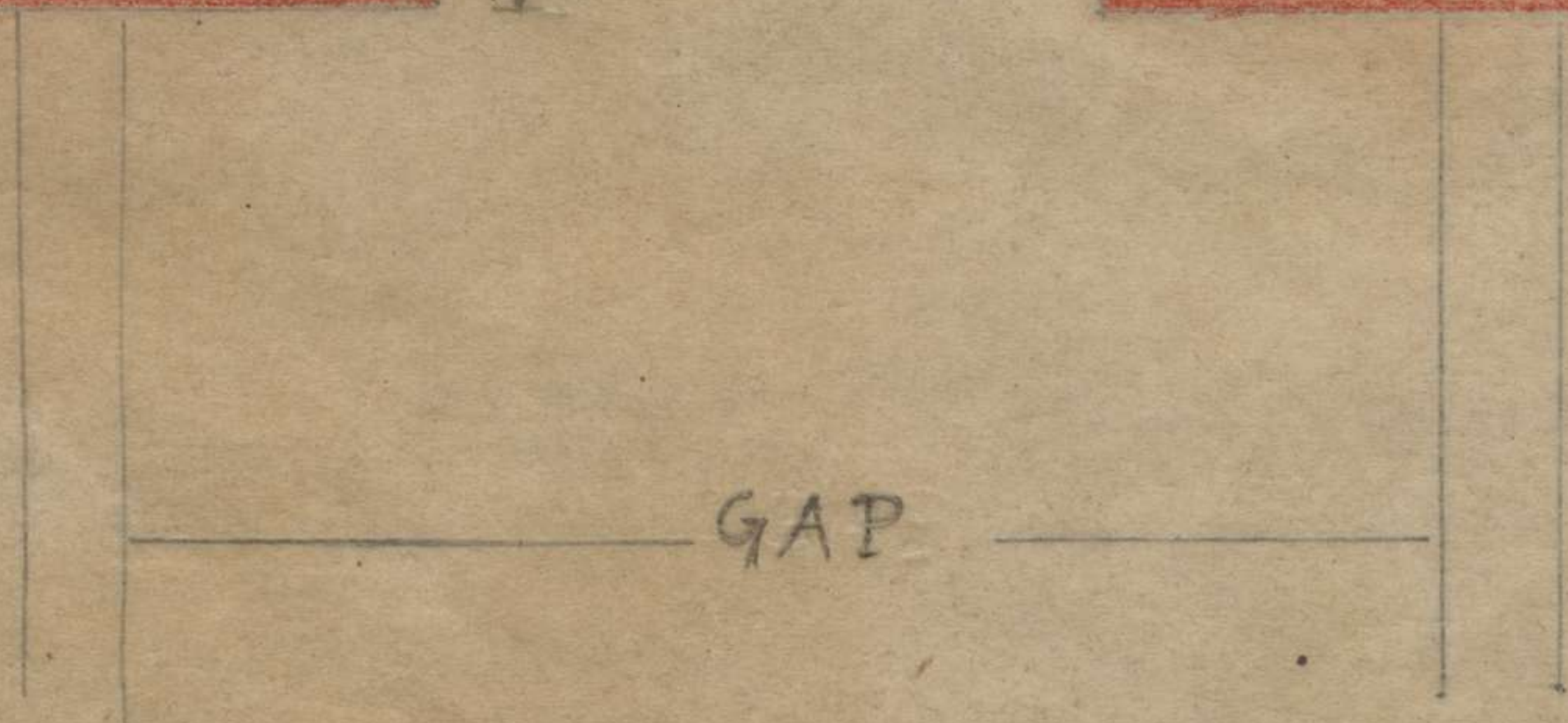
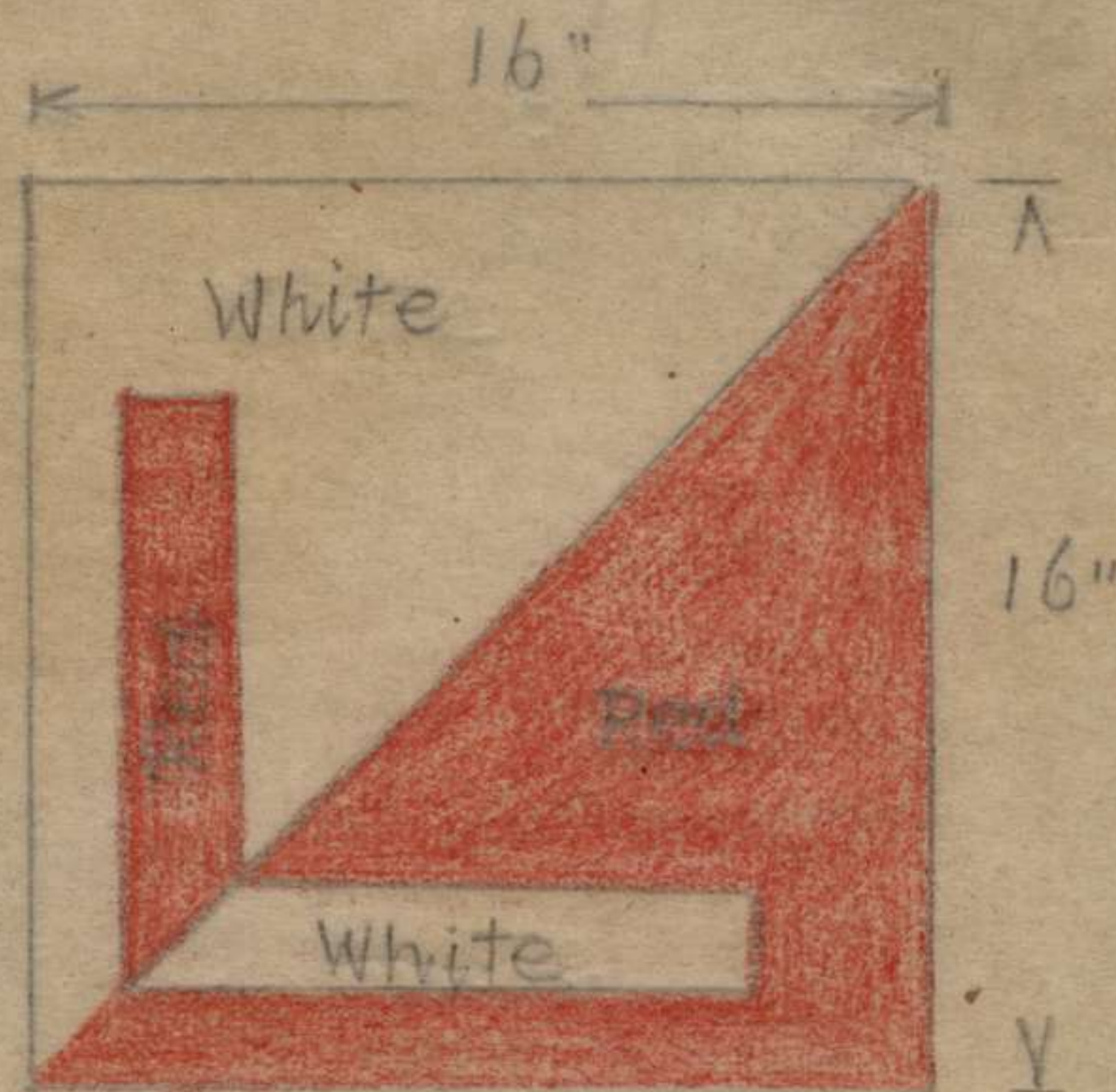
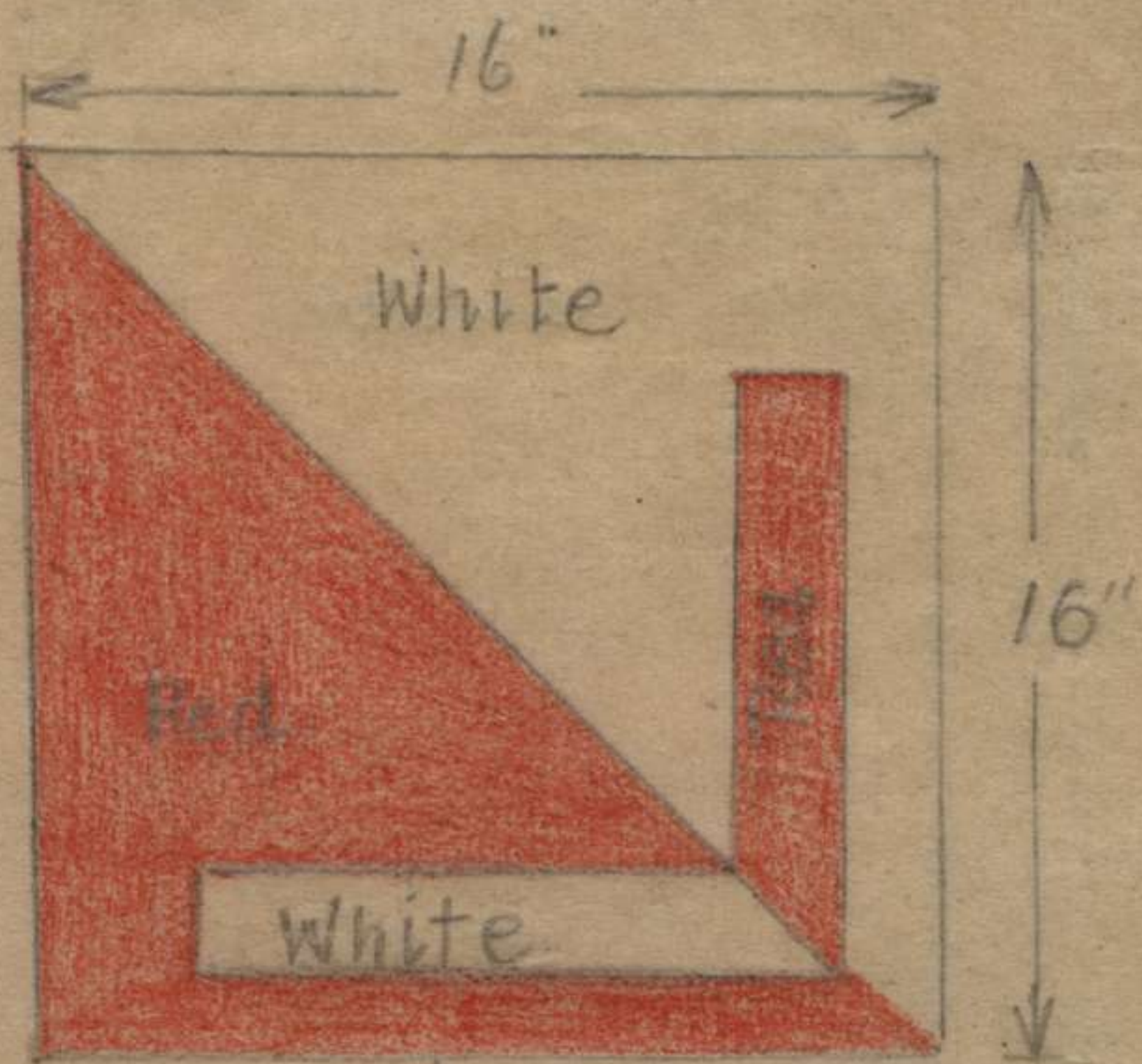
10. Typical siting - One report states that the minefield is usually 200 to 300 metres in front of the HDL and covered by fire and listening posts. In another report the distance from HDL to the main minefield is given as varying from 200 to 1000 metres. A listening post was also located by a patrol 100 to 150 yds behind a minefield. It can be definitely stated that it is the enemy's practice by day to cover all main minefields with small area fire from close range, and by night to maintain anti-lifting patrols and listening posts often located within the minefield itself.

11. Miscellaneous Info

- (a) Until recently, most mines were being laid on the surface. Now a greater proportion of fields have the mines buried, but mines are often badly concealed, so that by daylight their positions can, with practice, be located by eye. This should not, however, be relied upon.
- (b) All reports on CVFI mines have given them as being set at pressure 3, i.e. NOT ANTI PERSONNEL. In many cases the safety pin has been found still in place, making the mine entirely ineffective.
- (c) Teller mines and sometimes our own mines have been found laid 2 or 3 on top of one another, the bottom mine being sometimes laid upside down. Such groups are occasionally booby trapped.

12. Conclusion - The most important point to realize is that the far edge of a main minefield is frequently unmarked. Furthermore, whether the main field is marked or unmarked there may be some scattered mines laid at random and unmarked in front of this field. Also, enemy minefields normally consist of several belts laid in depth, with considerable gaps between belts rather than in one belt consisting of a large number of rows. Finally, info on enemy minefield methods is meagre, and every effort must be made to feed reports through Engineer channels on any minefields encountered, no matter what the source of the report (which should of course be stated). For ease of subsequent collation info should be grouped under the headings given in this report.

Charles Zuck
 Lieut.,
 I.C. 2/43 Aust Inf Bn.



Lt-Col W. J. WAIN

16 Nov 42

No 10

In the Field

55. TROPHIES OF WAR AND OTHER CAPTURED MATERIAL

(a) Captured technical and optical eqpt and pistols will be returned to ADOS and NOT to Salvage.

(b) AIF (ME) Orders No 236 and 1046 are repeated hereunder and will be read on parade as directed in these orders:-

AIF (ME) Order No 236

(i) (a) Captured material which may be claimed by units as trophies of war will be notified through HQ AIF, to GHQ (ME) with particulars of the circumstances of capture, when a decision will be given on the claims.

(b) If the material claimed cannot be retained by the Unit it will be clearly marked with the Unit's name and evacuated through Salvage channels to be taken charge of by the Deputy Controller of Salvage in accordance with Field Service Regulations Vol I 1930 Sec 137 para 5

(ii) (a) Captured material required for issue for further use will not, as a general rule, be regarded as trophies of war. Amongst this material are the following items:-

Revolvers and Pistols
Rifles

Amn

Rangefinders

Dial sights and parts

Telescopes, Binoculars

Optical Stones

Technical Eqpt

Cine and other cameras

Wireless sets

Signalling instruments and parts
Surveying and drawing instruments
Gun parts, Tools, spares, magazines etc
MT Spares and tools
Typewriters, duplicators etc.
Military literature, Maps & Manuals
Private Cars and other vehs
Medical Eqpt

Money in Italian Currency

Other items which are clearly of value.

(b) It is known, however, that large quantities of the items listed are in the possession of units and individual officers and other ranks. Coys will accordingly take all possible steps to recover such items. The retention of any such articles will involve disciplinary action.

(iii) It is notified that loot includes any property or money in the possession of or under the control of any officer or soldier which has not been obtained by issue by free gift on the part of the lawful owner or for lawful purchase for fair value. So called souvenirs of battle are incl in the term. The possession of loot by any member of the AIF is forbidden.

(iv) Any officer of the AIF detected in the possession of loot will be tried by Court Martial. Other ranks will be dealt with as considered fit by superior authority not below the rank of Colonel.

(v) This order will be read three times on parades and posted on Coy Notice Boards.

AIF (ME) Order No 1046 - Arms - Retention of Non Service types

(i) All members of AIF are forbidden to have any arms, weapons or amn other than W.D. Service type unless they are in possession of a certificate signed by the C.O. of the Unit authorising the retention of such weapons.

(ii) C.Os are authorised to sign such certificates only when :-

(a) Exgencies of the service require that the member should be armed with a weapon not of service type.

(b) The weapon is personal property obtained from a legitimate source, or

(c) Is unserviceable and its only value is as a souvenir.

(iii) In the case of sub-para (c) these arms are to be held only in addition to and NOT in lieu of W.D. issue.

(iv) All ranks will hand in all arms and weapons for which a certificate is not granted.

(v) This order will read on parade three times and posted on Coy Notice Boards.

56. CLEANING OF AREA

(a) When units have cleared all useful salvage from the areas allotted, rubbish and other material which is not worth salvaging will be burnt or buried.

(b) Documents or maps found during salvage operations will be given to Intelligence Officer

(c) Areas in the vicinity of derelict vehs will be left clean and tidy.

57. DRESS

1. GOC 9 Aust Div has directed that Officers and ORs will NOT wear cloth AUSTRALIA with BLACK background.
2. Cloths AUSTRALIA with Khaki background may be worn.

58. GERMAN ELECTRIC BOMB FUSES

Coys finding serviceable GERMAN electric Bomb fuses will return them to Div salvage dump.

59. INDISCRIMINATE DISCHARGING OF FIREARMS

Indiscriminate discharging of firearms will cease forthwith. All future firing of weapons will be under Coy arrangement with an officer in charge, who will ensure that the correct safety precautions are enforced.

60. PUNISHMENTS BY COURTS MARTIAL

The following sentences imposed by Courts Martial held in the Div are published for information:-

- A Pte soldier convicted of two charges of desertion and one of escaping from Close Arrest was sentenced to imprisonment for three years.
- A Pte soldier convicted of desertion was sentenced to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.
- Two Pte soldiers convicted of desertion were each sentenced to one year's imprisonment.
- A Pte soldier convicted of striking a superior officer was sentenced to 18 months detention.
- A WO II convicted of AWL from a Con Depot was fined £5 and reduced to Cpl.
- Two Pte soldiers AWL for 2 days were sentenced to one years detention and one years hard labour respectively.
- A Pte soldier convicted of desertion was sentenced to one years imprisonment with hard labour.

J. G. ... Capt ..
1st 2/43 Aust Inf Bn.

NOTICES

SPECIAL

SPECIAL MESSAGE

Army Comd wishes all tps to know that the PRIME MINISTER ordered Church Bells to be rung throughout BRITAIN on the 7 Nov 42 in celebration of our victory.

A.C.F. DISTRIBUTIONS

The undermentioned items were received from the Australian Comforts Fund for distribution on the dates shown:-

17 Oct 42	1 Oz tobacco	3 Xmas Cards)
	1 Pk Cigarette Papers	Three envelopes)
	1 Handkerchief) per man
7 Nov 42	1 Oz Tobacco	1 Pk Cigarette Papers)
	2 Razor blades)

LOSS OF RIFLE

Rifle No 71279 was taken in error from leave truck on 15 Oct 42. Rifle No 51540 branded on sling NX 921 L.C. LACKE was left in its place. Coy having missing rifle in its possession please notify this HQ.

LOST

On 7 Nov 42 from truck on track SOUTH of ry between EL DABA and GALAL Stations, Green bedding roll containing bed sleeping bag etc. Roll marked "H.W. GBLIN" Finder please notify this HQ.

2/43 Bn War Diary.
Appx no 10
IN INTELLIGENCE COURSE

(Lect = Lecture. I.C. = Instructional course. I.E. = Indoor exercise, O.E. = Out door exercise.)

- Lect. 1 hr. Objects of course, subjects and stand sought.
- Lect. 50 min. Description and object of intelligence.
- I.C. 50 mins. Map reading. (a) preliminary examination (b) topographical and technical terms. (c) conventional signs. troop dispositions, etc (d) limitations due to scale.
- I.C. 50 min. Prismatic compass. Description and holding of compass. How to take bearings.
- I.C. 50 min. Prismatic compass. The principal points of the compass, bearings, magnetic variations, compass errors, conversion, magnetic, true, and grid north.
- I.C. 50 min. Map reading, how to set a map, how to locate your position on a map, resection, representation of the shape of the country, contours.
- O.E. 1 hr. Map reading, comparison of ground and map, study of hill features, and drainage features, study of conventional signs.
- I.C. 50 min. Prismatic compass. Night marching on compass bearings, Aids to maintaining direction by day and night.
- Lect. 1 hr. Map reading, Systems of reference, local map systems, and modified British Grid.
- O.E. 1 hr. Map reading, setting maps, location of three or four different positions identifications of surrounding objects from map to ground and from ground to map.
- O.E. 1 hour Prismatic compass. Night march on compass bearings.
- Lect. 1 hrs. The nature and sources of information required.
- I.E. 50 min. Map reading. The service protractor, description, construction of scales from protractor.
- Lect, 50 min. Selection and occupation of O.P. How and what to observe.
- I.C. 50 min. Field sketching. Object of field sketching, conventional signs for natural objects, form lines, finish of sketch.
- O.E. 1 hour. Practice in observing from O.P.s and keeping a record of things seen.
- Lect. 50 min. Situation and other maps.
- Lecture. 50 min. Battle procedure.
- I.E. 50 min. Introduction to OE. 7
- O.E. 7 2hrs. Map reading. Visualizing the shape of the ground from the map. What one may expect to see, selection of covered lines of approach and of defiladed lines of approach.
- O.E. 8. 1 hr. Prismatic compass. Night march on compass bearings.
- O.E. 1 hour. Preparing to act as unit guides and exercise on above.
- Lect. 50 min. Messages, verbal and written messages, including code names and abbreviation
- Lect 50 min. Above continued.
- I.E. 50 min. Field sketching. Making of eye and memory sketches.
- O.E. 2 hrs. Field sketching. Making an eye sketch map.
- I.C. 50 min. Gridded sketches and battle codes.

- O.E. 2 hrs Transmitting information by gridded sketch and battle code.
- O.E. 2 hrs. Prismatic compass, night march on compass bearings.
- Lect~~ur~~ 50 min Recce and recce reports.
- Lect. 50 min. Examination and disposal of P.W. and captured documents.
- O.E. 2 hrs. A recce.
- I.E. 50 min. Fd. Sketching, methods~~x~~ and objects of enlargements.
- I.E. 2 hrs. Fd. Sketchinb, making an elarggement.
- O.E. 2 hrs. Filling in detail on enlargements and plotting tp dispostions.
- Compass traverse.
-

2/43 Aust Inf Br Warkany
 Appr no. 11

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

ROUTINE ORDERS

Part 1
 by

LT. COL. W.J. WAIN

COMD. 2/43 AUST INF BR

No. 11

In the Field

18 NOV 42

61. NEUTRALIZATION OF MINES AND BOOBY TRAPS.

1. The procedure laid down in Fd Eng Pamphlet No. 2 1940 Sec 6 Para 4 is at variance with that in several parts of M.E.T. Pamphlet No. 6 Part 9 in respect of the sequence of actions in neutralizing mines with GERMAN Pull Igniters and trip wires.
2. The procedure laid down in M.E.T. Pamphlet No. 6 Part 9 will be observed whenever possible, i.e., when a nail or other improvised safety pin can be inserted in a recognised hole in the igniter, this will be done before any trip wire is tampered with.

62. FIELD CENSORSHIP.

Field Censorship Regulations, Middle East Forces, 1942, para 15, is hereby cancelled and replaced by the following:-

"it is forbidden to write on Service matters to the Press, civic authorities or any public body. Correspondence to Members of Parliament is permitted provided no breach of security is occasioned."

"Articles of a non-Service nature it is desired to despatch for publication in the Press will be forwarded, properly enveloped, addressed and stamped, in an outer cover, through units to H.Q., A.I.F., (M.E.)."

63. CAPIES, ANTI-GAS.

1. Capes, anti-gas, may in future be worn, not only for protection against gas, but also as rainproofs at the discretion of local commanders. In order to conserve rubber, they will be worn as far as possible in lieu of ground-sheets.
2. Capes will not be rolled when wet. They should be dried in natural temperatures and not in front of fires or near stoves.
3. When not in use capes will, whenever possible, be left hanging up.
4. The anti-gas cape may in future be carried in any one of the following four positions as ordered by the local commander, having regard to the existing circumstances, and in accordance with the items of equipment which are being worn at the time, i.e., battle order, marching order, etc:-
 - (i) The "worn" position as at present taught.
 - (ii) The "rolled quick release" position as at present taught. This is a convenient method of carrying the cape when equipment is not worn.
 - (iii) Rolled and carried inside the equipment haversack either in place of the water bottle, which should then be worn on the right side, or of the ground-sheet if room can be found for this item in unit M.T. If the latter course is adopted, the gas cape may be worn to give protection against rain. The cape should be folded to a width of 11 inches, with tapes and whipcord inside, and then rolled; it should be placed in the haversack on top of all the other items.
 - (iv) Rolled and attached to the back of the equipment belt by means of the tapes. This is a convenient method of carrying the cape when the haversack is not worn. In this position, the cape should be rolled as at present taught.

64. BERETS BLACK.

Berets black will be worn by personnel of Cav. Regiments only. A.I.F. (M.E.) Order No. 296 of 11 APR 41, is amended accordingly.

Attention is drawn to A.I.F. (M.E.) Order No. 337, of 9 MAY 41, which cancelled authority for members of A.A.O.C. to wear berets.

DISCIPLINE.

The undermentioned sentences by Courts-Martial are published for information:

1. A warrant officer, convicted of absenting himself without leave in the Field (A.A.15(1)), was sentenced to be reduced to the rank of corporal and to be fined the sum of five pounds.
2. A corporal, convicted of conspiring with other soldiers to steal private property (A.A.41), two charges of stealing public property (A.A.18(4)), and two charges of improperly using an Army vehicle to improperly carry away public property (A.A.40), was sentenced to be reduced to the ranks, to undergo detention for 13 months, and to be put under stoppages of pay to make good the sum of £32/6/12.

3. A private soldier, convicted of absenting himself without leave in the Field for 5 days (AA.15(1)), was sentenced to suffer field punishment for 90 days and to forfeit all ordinary pay for 90 days.

Alfred J. ...
Adjt., 2/43 AUST INF BN. Capt.,

NOTICES

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE

Comd., 9 Aust Div has received the following message from Comd., Eighth Army:-

"I want to congratulate you on the magnificent work your division has done on the right of the line. Your men are absolutely splendid and the part they have played in this battle is beyond all praise. Please tell the division that I am delighted with the way it has fought."

ARRIVAL OF MAILS IN AUSTRALIA

Advice has been received that mails posted in M.E. between 1 SEP and 12 SEP 42 were received in MELBOURNE by 31 OCT 42.

COMFORT FUND ISSUES

The following comforts have been received direct from the F.F.C.F.,

- (a) 8 parcels containing stockings, face washers, handkerchiefs, pullovers and 3 small bottles of herbs.
- (b) 5 parcels containing 140 prs socks, 28 prs stockings, 120 handkerchiefs, 30 balaclavas, 30 prs mittens, 140 face washers, 3 jars of herbs. Of these the 2/43 Comfort Club and 2/43 Junior Club supplied 15 balaclavas, 9 pullovers, 10 prs stockings.
- (c) 10 parcels of newspapers.

2/43 Bn Was Diary 12
copy no

Copy No. 11
20 NOV 42.

2/43 AUST INF BN TRAINING INST No. 1.

1. Training will now be on a weekly basis for a period of six weeks commencing 23 NOV.

2. ROUTINE:-

The following routine will be observed -

- Reveille 0630 hrs
- Sick Parade 0700 "
- Breakfast 0730 "
- 1st Parade 0830 "
- 1st Break 1000 to 1015 hrs (Lecturette - current events)
- Dismiss 1200 Hrs
- Luncheon 1230 "
- 2nd Parade 1330 "
- 2nd Break 1445 to 1500 hrs (Lecturette - current events)
- Dismiss 1630 hrs
- Evening meal 1645 "
- Night Exercises 1830 to 2130 hrs - or later if situation dictates

3. ROUTE MARCHES.

3 ten mile route marches each week will be under-taken by Coys.
The allotment of days will be as below:-

Rifle Coys

- A & C Coys MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY
- B & D Coys TUESDAY, THURSDAY & SATURDAY

HQ Coy

- No. 1,2 & 3 Pls MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY
- No. 4,5 & 6 Pls TUESDAY, THURSDAY & SATURDAY

4. DRESS.

Training Parades -

Unless otherwise ordered dress on all training parades will be as below:-

- Boots
- Puttees
- Shorts
- Shirt
- Pullover if required
- Hats, felt khaki turned up
- Drill order
- If on route march water bottle on side with w.p. sheet and 1 days reserve ration in haversack.
- Each man to carry 50 rounds S.A.A. at all times.

Church Parade -

As above but only side arms.

5. TURN OUT.

Turn Out at all times will be regimental, particular attention being paid to cleanliness of equipment and clothing.

6. COMPLIMENTS.

Compliments will at all times be paid.

7. SMARTNESS.

Officers will at all times insist on smart and good bearing of their comds.

8. INSPECTIONS.

Daily inspection of arms and accoutrements will be made by Pl Comds on first parade. Blankets and personal gear to be arranged in an orderly manner and frequent inspection of dug-outs made.

9. PARADE STATES.

Coy Training Parade States outlining personnel actually on parade and other duties to be rendered this HQ NOT later than 0845 hrs each day.

10. GENERAL.

While a training period of six weeks is envisaged Coy Comds will at all times be prepared to move at short notice,
Reasonable improvement in living quarters will be carried out consistent with limited supply of materials available.

11. TRAINING PROGRAMME.

- (a) This programme is subject to alteration.
- (b) Programme to include the following progressively over period NOT less than one month:-
- (c) Progressive tables on P.T. & R.T., one hour daily.
- (d) Weapon training, competitive and 30x Range practices.
- (e) Route Marches - 3 per week of 10 miles.
- (f) Coy Parades, inspection and smartening up rifle exercises.
- (g) Guard Mounting and Sentry Duties.
- (h) Training of Specialists and reserve Specialists.
- (i) Lecturettes of 20 minutes duration.
- (j) Bayonet Assault Course provided by Bn.
- (k) Compulsory $\frac{1}{2}$ hour daily swim.
- (l) Field firing on progressive basis and co-operation with supporting arms. Grenades all types.
- (m) Patrols, fighting and recce by day and night, incorporating use of compass and aids and control.
- (n) Movement by night, Pl and Coys, with and without transport.
- (o) Recce and occupation of defensive posn by night as a drill.
- (p) Reorganisation and exploitation.
- (q) Mine laying incorporated in Coy scheme using firstly devitalised mines, thence live pattern.
- (r) TEWTS for Pl to be organised by Coy Comds.
" " Coy " " " " Bn.

12. LECTURES.

Coy Comdrs to arrange lectures by Pl Comdrs to their Pls on tactical and current events.

Bn to arrange lecture on Battle procedure and drill within Pl, Coy and Bn covering:-

- (a) In attack
- (b) In defense
- (c) Reorganisation & exploitation
- (d) Use & co-operation of supporting arms
- (e) Artillery (if lecture available)

13. CADRES.N.C.Os.

Coy Comdrs to commence immediately N.C.O. and prospective N.C.O. cadres, and to be personally under supervision of Coy Comdrs.

Officers.

Bde to arrange cadres as notified from time to time.

Bn to arrange lectures to officers on following subjects:-

- (a) Recapitulation MR & FS, Compass & aids.
- (b) Lessons learnt on recent ops.
- (c) Battle procedure & drill.

14. COYS will submit by 1800 hrs each THURSDAY syllabus of ensuing week set out on attached proforma.

Training where-ever possible will be developed on "Bull Ring" principle.

15. SPECIALIST TRAINING.

HQ Coy Comdr to arrange progressive syllabus of training of specialist personnel culminating in use of supporting arms with Rifle Coys.

16. NIGHT TRAINING.

2 periods a week of NOT less than 3 hours to be devoted to night training.

14/5
Capt.,
Adjt., 2/15 MUST INF BN

3. It is expected that the living quarters will be supplied out of the available supply of materials available.

DISTRIBUTION:-

A Coy	1
B Coy	2
C Coy	3
D Coy	4
HQ Coy	5
24 Aust Inf Bde	6
C.O.	7
2 i/c	8
Adjt	9
FILE	10
WLS BILLY	11-12

(a) This program is subject to alteration.
 (b) Program to include the following:
 (c) from one month.
 (d) Progressive tables on P.T. & C.T.
 (e) General training, competitive and 300.
 (f) Route marches - 3 per week of 10 miles.
 (g) Coy marches, inspection and 300.
 (h) Drill marching and General Drill.
 (i) Training of Specialists and Reserve.
 (j) Instruction of 20 minutes duration.
 (k) General 1 hour daily.
 (l) 1/2 hr daily on progressive table and co-operation with working party.
 (m) Oversee all types.
 (n) Patrols, lighting and sleep by day and night, incorporating the use of compass and sign and control.
 (o) Movement by night, 24 and 300, with and without transport.
 (p) Pace and operation of alternative pace by night as a drill.
 (q) Reorganisation and explanation.
 (r) Mine laying incorporated in Coy marches using locally developed mines, these live mines.
 (s) Mines for 24 to be organized by Coy Comd.

Coy Comd to arrange lectures by 24 Comd to their 24 on tactical and
 output of 24.
 It is to be arranged for on tactical procedure and drill with 24. Coy Comd to
 arrange:
 (a) In effort
 (b) In 1/2 hr
 (c) Reorganisation & explanation
 (d) Use of co-operation of working party
 (e) 1/2 hr daily (if lecture available)

Coy Comd to arrange lectures by 24 Comd, and progressive N.C. of 24.
 It is to be arranged for on tactical procedure and drill with 24. Coy Comd to
 arrange:
 (a) Reorganisation & explanation
 (b) Use of co-operation of working party
 (c) 1/2 hr daily (if lecture available)

The to arrange lecture by 24 Comd to their 24 on tactical and
 output of 24.
 It is to be arranged for on tactical procedure and drill with 24. Coy Comd to
 arrange:
 (a) Reorganisation & explanation
 (b) Use of co-operation of working party
 (c) 1/2 hr daily (if lecture available)

2/43 AUST INF BN - INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(To be destroyed on or before 29 NOV 42)

1. ENEMY METHODS.

The following infm is given by a British NCO captured by a German column south-east of MATRUH and who escaped two days later:-

- (a) He was captured when his tk was knocked out by four 8-wheeled Armd Cs each mounting a 20 mm gun and LMG and each fitted with a railing-type wireless aerial.
- (b) After capture he was questioned in English. His interrogator said that he had been captured by 90 Lt Div.
- (c) He was transferred to the half-track tractor of an 88mm gun and saw this gun in action against our tks. Owing to the very loose formation kept by the German column it was some time before the gun came into action even though it was not unhitched from the tractor nor lowered off its wheels. The gun was one of a tp of three acting in sp of and about a mile behind a German tk column, estimated at about 40 tks. About 300 yds behind the guns was a British type ACV apparently used by the comd of the column.

During the action, the 88mm guns were shelled by our 25-prs and the crews were very unwilling to leave the protection of the armd shield. When the German tks began to withdraw, the whole column moved off in a mad scramble though a few 50 mm guns were being dug in to act as a rearguard. The heavier guns also stopped occasionally and fired a few rounds before moving on again.

After the tk battle, about a dozen men from the crews of the German tks knocked out were soon walking back but apparently no effort was made to pick them up.

No Italians were seen. The Germans throughout appeared very excited and worried.

2. ENEMY LOSSES.

- (a) The following enemy losses are claimed up to 11 NOV:-

<u>Tks</u>	<u>FO'd</u>	<u>Destroyed, captured and in our hands.</u>
Mk II	4	4
Mk III	109	65
Mk III Special	17	14
Mk IV	28	15
Mk IV Special	9	5
M 13	24	101
L 6	11	11
Unspecified	114	1
TOTAL	416	216
<u>Guns</u>	<u>343</u>	<u>166</u>

- (b) Captured documents show that the losses in offrs from 90 Lt Div since MAY 1942 have been very hy. Between 26 MAY and 10 SEP 42 Force 288 lost 30 offrs. Between 1 APR and 20 AUG 361 PGR appears t have lost 23 offrs, 155 PGR 26 offrs.

3. ENEMY EQUIPMENT. German.

The BURCKHART Gp was equipped with a number of new types of weapons, which it was testing. After these tests by the Gp, the weapons were often adopted by the Parachute inf and finally by the army as a whole. They are as follows:-

- (a) 4.2 cm Pak 41. A taper bore A Tk gun (44-28 mm) with a muzzle break. Best range stated to be 5-600 metres. Not considered by PW to be as good as the 5 cm.
- (b) LG 1 and 2. Little is known of these weapons but they are said to have no trail owing to the use of a new type of recoil reducer. They are mounted on wheels and have a crew of four.
- (c) MG 34(41) or MG 34(S). Similar to the MG 34 but has a very high rate of fire. The piston runs on ball bearings, the ejection system is different and the barrel stronger.

- (d) MG 42. A new type MG made from light alloys.
- (c) Selbstladegewehr. A new automatic rifle based on a Russian model. Fires at 300 rpm using 36 round magazines. Best range 5-600 yds.
- (f) Kampfpistole and sig pistol. The Kampfpistole is similar to the sig pistol but has rifling. Each fires an HE type of grenade.
- (g) Rifle grenades. Three types are mentioned:-
Gew Gr Spr v Pz.
gr Gew Gr 30.
Gew Gr 40.
- (h) Hupfgranate 38. A new type of mortar bomb which bounces before exploding.
- (i) Magnetladung. A 3 kg hollow-charge with 3 magnets on the base and a pull igniter on the top. The charge is designed to be stuck on to a tk after which the igniter is pulled and the charge explodes after a given delay. Owing to its extreme danger to the user, it is known as the "Ritterkreuzladung".
- (j) Do-Gerat 38. A rocket projector of 15 cm calibre. According to a PW the bomb is filled with compressed air and not explosive, so that it bursts the lungs of the enemy tps. Do-Gerat 38 was not brought to Africa with the Bde.

Italian.

An order issued by the Ministry of War and dated 4 AUG 42 gives the following amendments in the nomenclature of tks, to be used henceforth in all documents and ops etc.

Present types	New Nomenclature
L3 L6	L35 L40
M11, M13, M14	M40, M41, M42
P	P40

Armoured cars type 41 and 42 remain unchanged. The renaming of other mechanical types will come into force from time to time.

M. W. Addicks, A/SJ
Actg I.O., 2/43 AUST INF BN

2/43 AUST INF BN ADVN ORDER No 1

Ref Map EL DABA 1:250,000

INFORMATION

1. A quantity of valuable enemy material has been left in the area WEST of the area already cleared by 9 Aust Div.

INTENTION

2. 2/43 party will recon and report on salvageable material in the area as shown on trace "A" accompanying EL DABA sheet 1:250,000

METHOD

3. Reports will include the following information:-
 - (a) Nature of material i.e. amm, clothing, workshop eqpt, etc.
 - (b) Estimated quantities, stating types or natures expressed in 3 ton lorry loads.
 - (c) Location of dumps, using 8 figure Map Ref if possible.
 - (d) State whether British or enemy.
4. Recon will commence on morning of 22 Nov 42 and will be carried out quickly and thoroughly. Reports will be sent in daily if possible and in any event as quickly as they can be compiled. Recon will be completed and reports forwarded to this HQ not later than 1200 hrs 26 Nov 42.
5. Each recon party will be accompanied by one Sapper. The Sapper's duty will be to disarm or remove mines and booby traps which hinder or endanger recon parties. No attempt will be made to disarm ALL mines or booby traps encountered, but the locations of areas in which they are found will be incl on recon reports.
6. The fullest co-operation of all members of unit recon party is desired in order that a comprehensive report can be left after departure of 9 Aust Div from present area.
7. Actual collection of the more valuable salvage will be done under arrangements made separately by 9 Aust Div as far as time permits

PASSES

8. (a) Each recon party detailed as a result of this order will be provided with a pass.
(b) All check posts are being warned by DAIM as necessary.

COMPOSITION OF RECON PARTIES

9. H.Q. Coy Comd will arrange for 3 - 3 ton trucks each with the following personnel to leave "B" Echelon area at 0845 hrs each morning:
 - 1 NCO
 - 1 Driver MF
 - 3 O.Rs
 - 1 *1st Sec
 - 1 Sapper (to be picked up en route at area 86893072, 2/3 Td Coy Engr)

Party to return in time for evening meal each day.

TRACE OF AREA

10. Sgt MADDOCKS to prepare 3 enlargements of area to be reconed on which *1st Sec personnel accompanying recon party will establish indications of areas where dumps are situated. Areas allotted are lettered A, B & C.

Scnd

11. The whole recon party to be under Comd of Sjt BROOKS (Tpt Sjt).

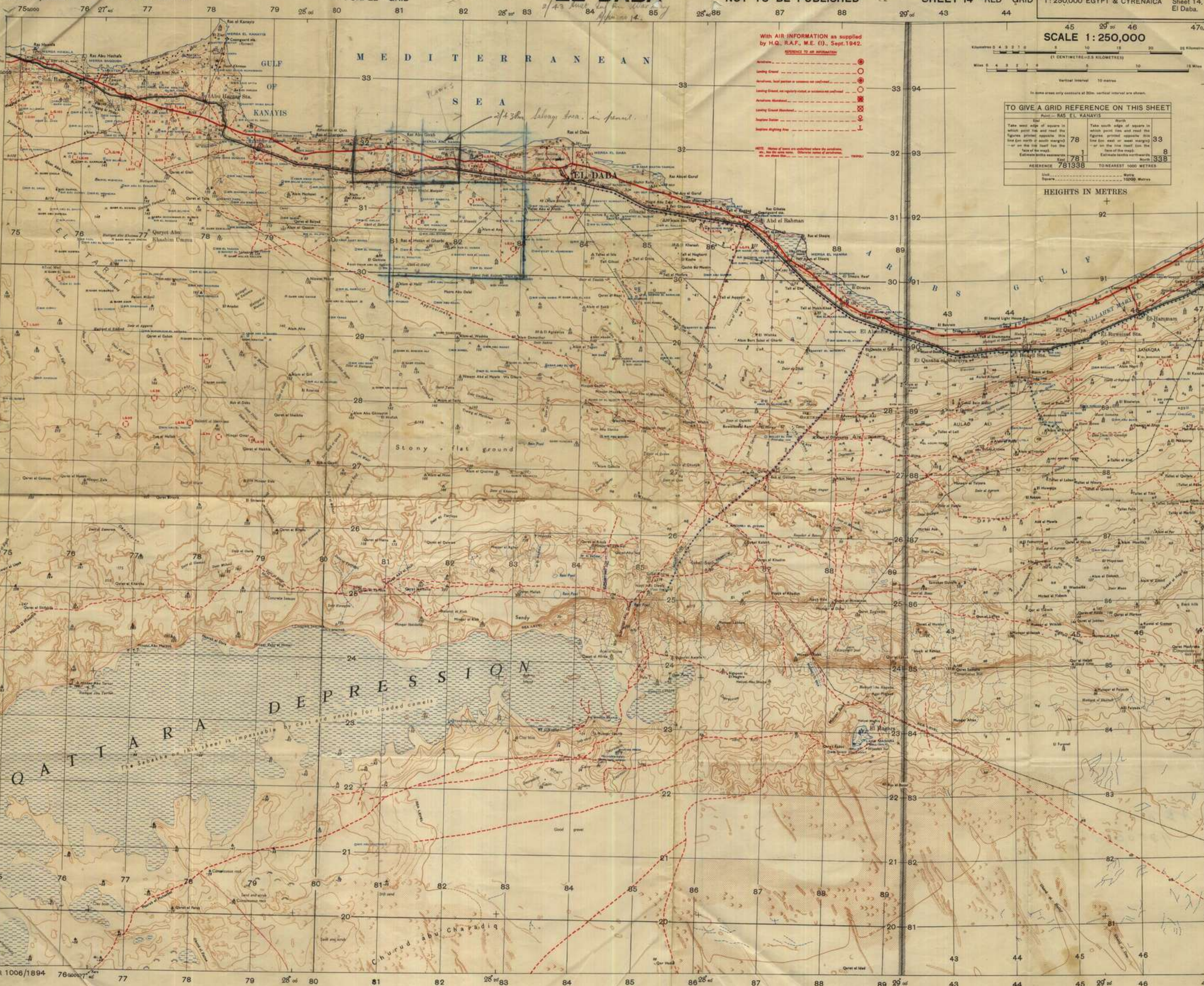
MEALS

12. Q.M. to arrange midday meal for strength of 21 OMs.

Al Bordo Capt.,
Sjt 2/43 Aust Inf Bn.

DISTRIBUTION

H.Q. Coy Comd	1
Parties A, B & C	2 - 4
"I" Sec	5
C.O.	6
File	7

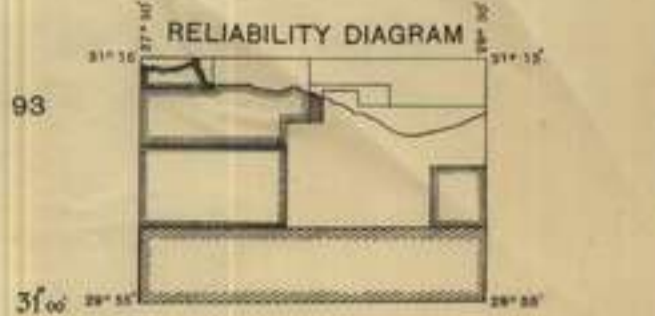


With AIR INFORMATION as supplied by H.Q. R.A.F., M.E. (I), Sept. 1942. REFERENCE TO AIR INFORMATION

SCALE 1:250,000

TO GIVE A GRID REFERENCE ON THIS SHEET

HEIGHTS IN METRES



Legend for Reliability Diagram: From 1:100,000 Western Desert Series, etc.

Magnetic Variation (1942) 0° 02' W. Annual Decrease about 0'

Table with 5 columns: CORNER, LATITUDE, LONGITUDE, CONVERGENCE, CONVERGENCE. Values for NW, SW, NE, SE corners.

- CONVENTIONAL SIGNS: Railway, Main white road, Main narrow road, Roof with natural foundation, Desert route, etc.

Compiled, drawn & printed by 13th Field Survey Coy., R.E. June, 1943. Revised and reprinted by 512 Fd. Survey Coy., R.E. 18 Sept., 1945.

Ref Map "GALAL"
1/25,000

AREA "C"

Maphead full

MAP. REF.	ITEMS	LOADS. 3-TON
81483164	Approx 500 sandbags + drums etc.	1 load
81413162	Kero. tins v/s in dump + several sheets of iron.	1 load
81633167	44 gal drums	1 load

All this area "C" is fairly clear of salvage with the exception of isolated M.T + tanks.

Aerodrome area covers quite a lot of ground + extends to approx 819 easting. A M.E. 109 + troop carrying glider at small. 39,818 & 3178
Area NORTH of rd extending to coast has been already salvaged. A Highland Div Salvage Unit operating in this area. H.Q. roughly at 81573192, contacted them as far forward as Tomb 81453188.

81473194 Mines, flare cartridges + booby traps in heap. Enemy. approx a ton in weight. Est Salvage Unit will take charge of these.

24 Nov 42

Pt B. E. Davis
" J. Keston
2/43 Pm

Ref. Maps "RAS. EL GHARGAN" and "GALALI"
 1/25,000
 "AREA" "B"

Mapped Jell

MAP REF.	ITEMS	LOADS 3-Ton
8135 3175.	Mech. parts + gun Parts etc.	1 load
81313183.	Amm. 20 MM	1 load
81313176.	Amm 47 MM	1 load
8129 3154	12 delect tanks	-
8102 3189	20 44 gal drums	1 load.
80983188	M Amm. shells.	1 1/2 loads
81093185	4 water tanks 3ft 6 by 3ft 6 clothing etc.	1 load
8107 3180	25,44 gal drums petrol (17 full)	1 load
8126 3202	Wooden boxes etc	1 load
810320	Approx 15 delect MT throughout area	8 loads.
8126 3196	Blankets, clothing etc. 25 bales tunics.	4 loads
8124 3201	2 1/2 cables etc. 6 reels long cable	1 load
8138 3197	M/Cycle, Kurluff, Blankets, Amm. 25 bales tunics geyrons Q.M stuff etc.	3 loads
81323155	Approx 13 lbs mainly M. 13. around this point.	

AREA "B"

Mappped file

81203191 Scrap Metal, tank bogies etc 1 load
81233184 Wooden boxes, amm. etc 1 load

Several tanks, M.T. etc in area
but mostly enemy + only odd British
M.T.

24 Nov 42

Mat B. E. Davis
"I" Section
2/43 Bm

Ref Map. RAS. E. Gh. GHARQAN.

1/25,000

23. Nov

Approx Map Ref.	Items	Loads
8063183.	Mainly gas barrels and petrol drums, Truck springs etc.	2
802 80623172.	6 reels by cable, car springs, drums, wooden boxes etc.	3.
80993169.	Timber and 88 MM Amm.	3.
80953187.	3/4 ton timber, tank skids & 40 E.P. mines.	1.
80603177	3 M.T. derelict.	3?
80603170	20 44 gal (empty) drums	1.
80603213.	Tank w/shop and 15 tks in area around it. all derelict. Potting is of value in w/shop.	?
80773167.	M.E. 109. Spandean (2) in good condition and plane also. less instrument panel.	?
<p>(This report, with report dated 22 NOV. covers <u>all</u> area "A"</p> <p style="text-align: center;">————— ————— .</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Mapped 24 Nov.</u></p>		

MAR REF. PROX.	ITEMS	3 Ton Loads
80363182	Benzine & Diesel oil dump, approx 200 - 44 gal drums	10 Loads
80433183	1 R.D. tent & fly. good condition. wooden boxes etc	1 Load.
80413187	3 boxes mech. lubricators, new condition branded NOGRA super 6. 7 per case: 50 cross-cut saws, 1 circular saw: M/c without engine: 2 reels of hy sig cable: 3 tents approx, RD size:.	1 Load.
80443174	36 crates 88 MM Amm.	1 Load
80483174	Small arms Amm. & 47 M.M. amm - Italian	3 Loads
80503170	20 M.M. amm. & spare parts	1 Load.
80433156	Amm.	1 Load
80333167	W/shop parts in crates - new condition, including mech. pumps for petrol etc.	1 Load
80363162	Sig gear, including some sort of motor for charging batteries, 1 at least: Range-Finder-10 ft long & approx 10 ins diameter, approx 6 boxes to hold same: Miscellaneous gear - clothing, boxes, papers etc	2 Loads

From 804
to 807
Earlings
to main Rd

In this large area there is not much salvage,
but estimate 3 loads mainly jerry-cans &
44 gal. drums Over all areas, M.T. are scattered
but none in working order, although suitable
for salvage.

D

22 Nov 42

Maphead
23 NOV

B.E. DAVIS.

I see
2/42 Bin

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

ROUTINE ORDERS

Part 1

by

LT. COL. W.J. WAIN

COMD. 2/43 AUST INF BN

No. 12

In the Field

23 NOV 43

66. DAILY ROUTINE

The following times will be observed throughout the Bn :-

Reveille	0630 hrs
Sick Parade	0700 "
Breakfast	0730 "
Morning Parade	0830 "
Morning Break	1000 - 1015 hrs
DISMISS	1200 hrs
Lunch	1230 "
Afternoon Parade	1330 "
Afternoon Break	1445 - 1500 hrs
DISMISS	1630 hrs
Evening Meal	1645 "
Night Parade	1830 - 2130 hrs

67. VENEREAL DISEASE

The figures relative to cases treated are alarmingly large. To reduce to a minimum the possibility of contraction the following procedure will be adopted :-

- (a) Coys will be responsible for making out leave passes. These will be passed on to Bn HQ for authorisation and will finally be issued by the R M O personally. Each soldier receiving a leave pass will, on back thereof, sign for receipt of prophylactics. Also appearing on each leave pass will be the addresses of P & C centres in ALEXANDRIA and CAIRO.
- (b) On use being made of P & C centre the soldier will be handed a chit signifying attendance.
- (c) On return to unit the soldier will hand to R M O his leave pass together with chit received from P & C centre, or prophylactics if not used.
- (d) It will be treated as a punishable offence if a soldier who fails to visit a P & C centre contracts venereal disease.

68. TIME

Sigs will synchronise watches with Bde at 0730 hrs and 1930 hrs daily. Coys will synchronise between 5 and 15 minutes of these times. In addition Coys will be responsible for synchronisation of watches prior to an operation.

..... Capt.,
 Adjt., 2/43 AUST INF BN.

NOTICES

1. The following articles have been received from L.C.F. through 24 Aust Inf Bde :-

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 3 doz bottles Ink | 1 bundle magazines |
| 1500 envelopes | 36 pkts playing cards |
| 200 writing pads | 50 housewives |
| 16 books | 50 prs stockings |

2. In addition the following articles were received from L.C.F., ALEX :-

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1875 envelopes | 97 writing pads |
| 22 bottles Ink | |

Rec. 1215 hr. 25 Nov. 2197
2/43. Aust Inf Bn. Warr. 104 km
App no 16

Distribution MESSAGE FORM.

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	IN	C.O. <i>Williams</i>	No. of Groups. G.R.	Office Date Stamp.
	OUT	ADJT. <i>Williams</i>		

1 Sec

TO *2/43 Bn*

Q.M. (ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY)
R.S.M.

FROM *24 Bde*

Originator's Number: *Q 397* Date: *25* In Reply to Numbers:

<i>Ref</i>	<i>warning</i>	<i>order</i>	<i>move</i>	<i>of</i>	<i>advance</i>
<i>parties</i>	<i>Q</i>	<i>unit</i>	<i>advance</i>	<i>parties</i>	<i>Ref</i>
<i>87213034</i>	<i>1730</i>	<i>hrs.</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>Nov.</i>	<i>all</i>
<i>informed</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			

This message may be sent **AS WRITTEN** by any means. If liable to be intercepted or fall into enemy hands, this message must be sent **IN CIPHER.** Originator's instructions Degree of priority

Signed *9/2000* Signed (BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.) Time of origin: *1200*

System in	Time in	Reader	Sender	System out	Time out	Reader	Sender	System out	Time out	Reader	Sender

T.H.I.
T.O.R.
811/PMEA/2.10/41.

2194 Received 1030 hrs
25 Nov

WARNING ORDER - MOVE OF 9 AUST DIV TO PALESTINE

1. 9 AUST DIV will move to PALESTINE, commencing NOT before 30 Nov, except for Adv Parties.

2. ADV PARTIES

(a) 24 Aust Inf Bde will send adv parties leaving 26 Nov as follows :-

Bde HQ	1 veh
2/28 Bn	2 "
2/32 Bn	2 "
2/43 Bn	2 "

(b) Destination - KHASSA

(c) Date of arrival of parent unit at KHASSA - 5 Dec 42.

(d) The number of vehs sent by units in adv party will not exceed the above allotment.

(e) The strength of adv parties is at the discretion of unit comds, but all vehs will be fully loaded with personnel or stores. Number of personnel will be notified to this HQ by 1500 hrs 25 Nov 42.

3. COMD

(a) 24 Aust Inf Bde Adv Party will be commanded by Capt C.L.FISCHER HQ 24 Aust Inf. Bde.

(b) 9 AUST DIV adv party convey will be commanded by an offr from RAA.

4. RV & TIME OF DEPARTURE

To be advised. ✓

5. SPEED & DENSITY

17 mph, 20 vtm. ✓

6. STAGING

Night	26/27 Nov	-	WADI NATRUN ?
"	27/28 Nov	-	EAST BANK OF CANAL
"	28/29 Nov	-	BIR ASLUJ

7. TIMINGS & HALTS

To be advised.

8. RATIONS

The unexpired portion of the day's ration plus four days will be taken.

9. WATER AND POL

Replenishment at staging areas. 50 miles res will be carried on all vehs.

Distribution

- 2/28 Bn
- 2/32 Bn
- 2/43 Bn
- Comd
- S.C.
- Capt C.L.FISCHER
- BASCO
- File (2)
- War Diary (2)

<u>Distribution</u>	
C.O.	<i>[Signature]</i>
2 I/C	<i>[Signature]</i>
ADJT.	<i>[Signature]</i>
Q.M.	
R.S.M.	

[Signature] Capt.
S.C. 24 Aust Inf Bde.

2/43 Aust Inf Bn War Diary No.

SECRET
2/43 Aust Inf Bn.,
In the Field,
25 Nov 42.

Appx no. 17

Copy No. 7.....

WARNING ORDER - Move of 24 Aust Inf Bde to PALESTINE

1. 24 Aust Inf Bde is moving to PALESTINE not before 2 Dec 42.

2. ADV PARTIES

- A. 24 Aust Inf Bde adv parties will be leaving 26 Nov 42.
- B. 2/43 Aust Inf Bn adv party will consist of the following :-

Lieut A.J. BURTON
 " R.M. CLERKE
 Batmen 2 2
 Rifle Coys 1 NCO & 1 OR each . 10 8
 HQ Coy 2 " & 2 Drs MT 1/QR 5

- C. Destination - HKASSA
- D. Date of arrival of parent unit at KHASSA - 5 Dec 42
- E. No. of vehs in adv party - 2 (both must be fully loaded).

3. COMD

- A. 2/43 Aust Inf Bn adv party will be comd by Lieut A.J. BURTON.
- B. 24 Aust Inf Bde adv party will be comd by Capt C.L. FISHER.

4. RV AND TIME OF DEPARTURE

- A. 2/43 Aust Inf Bn adv party will rv at "B" Ech at 1630 hrs 25 Nov 42.
- B. 24 Aust Inf Bde adv parties rv 2/43 Aust Inf Bn "B" Ech at 1730 hrs 25 Nov 42.
- C. Time of departure - 0555 hrs.

5. SPEED AND DENSITY - 17 mih, 20 VTM

6. STAGING

Night 26/27 Nov 42	-	WADI NATRUN
" 27/28 "	-	EAST BANK OF CANAL
" 28/29 "	-	BIR ASLUJ

7. TIMINGS OF HALTS

To be advised

8. RATIONS

The unexpired portion of day's ration plus four days will be taken.

9. P O L

Replenishment at staging areas. 50 miles res will be carried on each veh.

P. Gordon Capt.,
 Adjt 2/43 Aust Inf Bn.

DISTRIBUTION

"A" Coy	1
"B" "	2
"C" "	3
"D" "	4
HQ "	5
C O	6
Adjt	7
OC Adv Party	8
War Diary	9 - 10
File	11

SECRET

26 NOV 42

2/43 AUST INF BN - INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(To be destroyed on or before 5 DEC 42)

1. ENEMY METHODS

Appx "A" is extracted from the translation of captured Enemy Intelligence Summary.

Appx "B" is extracted from the translation of appreciation by General STUMME.

On 11 Oct three of our tps were captured on a patrol and were interrogated the next day by 164 Div 'I' branch.

The first "left England in May for Egypt, went by convoy, a very long journey, does not know the route, does not know the name of the port of disembarkation.

Arrived at the front for the first time last night, had previously been in various places, does not know the names of the places.

From further interrogation it appears that the prisoner has no idea as to his unit, his div or his task yesterday."

The second "no longer knows when he left England, has been with various units, but has never been told their names. Says also that he does not know the number of his bn, or of his bde or of his div."

The third "said that he belongs to an independent coy."

164 Div report on the interrogation finishes by complaining that all three prisoners "make a very unintelligent impression."

It should however be noted that these three prisoners later gave away a certain amount of infm, including the identification of their unit and the rumour of an impending attack, to Panzer Arme HQ. It is impossible to say how this infm was extracted, but the lesson is that security is less easy but more important for a prisoner who is taken back to a higher formation HQ.

MI for Panzer Army. Owing to the shortage of tpt in 164 Div the intention was to equip the div with British vehs which it was hoped would be captured. A complete plan of allocation has already been worked out for each unit down to coys.

2. ENEMY EQUIPMENT

Captured documents show that the Germans have developed a Mk IV (which appears in a list of tk types in use by the German Army). This is possibly the heavier tk mounting an 88 mm gun, an eqpt which it is believed the Germans have been attempting to develop for some time. It must be expected that the Germans will if possible try the model out in AFRICA, where they have so often given preliminary canters to new steeds.

3. ENEMY STRENGTH

Estimate enemy strengths 12 Nov :

German		Guns					
(incl Corps and Army tps)	Men	A Tk	Fd	Med & Hy	Inf	88mm	Tks
	17,500	125	30	20	20	25	30
Italian		A Tk	Fed & Med	DP	SP	Tks	Armd Cs
(incl Corps and Army tps)	Men						
	24,500	125	147	18	16	30	25

..... / H. H. H. Sjt
Actg I.O. / 2/43 AUST INF BN

Oberkommando der Panzerarmee
AFRIKA
G.S.I. 8694/42 SECRET

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Situation 10 Oct 42)

1. The British Eighth Army is composed at the front of the 13th and 30th Army Corps. Rear areas probably come under the 10 Army Corps.

C-in-C Lt Gen MONTGOMERY

Main HQ area HAMMAM. Tac HQ, since the beginning of Oct, 20 kms SW of HAMMAM.

2. Organisation of Eighth Army.

(a) Southern and central sector of the Front, 13 Corps (GOC Maj Gen LUMSDEN), with under comd:

7 Armd Div
44 English Div
1 Greek Bde
NZ Div

Behind these divs which are all at the front, the 10th and 1st Armd Divs are held ready.

(b) Northern Sector: 30 Corps (GOC Maj Gen RAMSDEN) with under comd:

5 Ind Div
1 SA Div
51 English Div
9 Aust Div
23 Armd Bde and remnants of 1 Army Tk Bde.

(c) In the rear area, the following units are probably under comd 10 Corps (GOC Lt Gen HOLMES)

50 English Div
10 Ind Div
133 Inf Bde of 44 Inf Div
1 F Bde

Total: 3½ Armd Divs, 9 Inf Divs.

3. We have no precise infm about the number of tps in the DELTA, which could be put in the fd. The fighting strength of these elements is estimated at one armd div (the 15th?) and two inf divs.

Meanwhile all units at the front may have been made up to strength in men and material. Tk strength is estimated to be 800 - 900.

4. Probable role of 13 and 30 Corps on the ALAMEIN line:

(a) General dispositions according to attached sketch (1/100,000)

(b) In the southern sector 7 Armd Div, with 4 Armd Bde and 7 Mot Bde, have a holding role and are carrying out front line reces on the southernmost part of the line.

44 English Div with 131, 132, and (at the present time) 9 Ind Bde under comd, has carried out several recce raids in some force.

1 Greek Bde. May be taking part in Armd C recce tasks in order to gain experience.

NZ Div can be presumed to be in its former area. It is doubtful whether it is yet up to strength in inf. In spite of its reverse on 4 Sep 42, it can be considered fit for an attacking role.

Behind the divs mentioned above, the 1 and 10 Armd Divs are concentrated. 1 Armd Div with 2 Armd Bde and probably 3 Mot Bde.

(?) 10 Armd Div with 22 Armd Bde and 10 Ind Mot Bde.

The taking of PW from the Household Cav Regt on 7 Oct at QOR EL LABAL leads to the presumption that this Recce Unit of the 10 Armd Div is probably being trained in desert recce by 7 Armd Div.

5 Ind Div is confirmed to be in area of RUWEISAT ridge. The following is probably the present composition of the Div:

7 and 29 Ind Inf Bdes, 161 Ind Inf Bde (Mot?).

The greater part of 1 SA Div is confirmed by recent PW statements to be in the area it has so far occupied.

Various signs lead to suppose that 9 Aust Div, with 20, 24 and 26 Aust Bdes, and 51 English Div with 152, 153 and 154 Inf Bdes (admittedly of the latter only 154 Inf Bde has been properly confirmed) - are no longer in the line side by side, but have been split up and mixed. The purpose of this would be to accustom more quickly the recently arrived tps of 51 English Div to present fighting conditions. Moreover the 9 Aust Div can be considered to be, for an attack, the best British tps on the ALAMEIN front.

Each of the four divs of 30 Corps have att a bn from the 23 Arm Bde and remnants of 1 Army Tk Bde (strength about one Tk Bn).

These four bns are equipped with 'I' tks.

Behind the fwd battle area is the presumed location of 50 English Div with 69 and 151 Inf Bdes and an Ind Inf Bde (?). (At the end of Sep 151 Inf Bde carried out recce patrols from rearward posns in area ALAM NAYIL.)

10 Ind Div with possibly 10, 20 and 25 Ind Inf Bdes is still resting. 1 FF Bde was rested in SYRIA. Whether it has already joined the main body at HAMMAM lacks confirmation.

133 Inf Bde, belonging to 44 English Div, was, according to PW statements, still in the rear areas. It must be reckoned that it will shortly arrive at the front.

5. The 44 English Div arrived in SUEZ about 21 Jul 42, and 51 English Div between the beginning and middle of Mar. It is unknown what British tps came over with the convoys which later arrived at SUEZ on 1 Sep and 20 Sep. It is probable, however, that with these convoys there arrived at least one more div (mot). (It remains to be seen whether it was the 53 English Div, as was stated by PW from 51 English Div).

6. The sending up of reinfts in Inf and Tks, the growing activity of the RAF, the bringing fwd of dumps, and setting up of a fwd Army HQ (in area 20 kms SW of HAMMAM) and reports on this subject by agents - all these are factors which point to a coming British offensive.

It can safely be assumed, however, that the enemy after the beginning of his attack, will attempt landings in numerous places on the NORTH AFRICAN coast. Moreover, he will combine his offensive with a mass attack by his numerically far superior Air Force.

NOTE: The above gives some idea of the extent to which the enemy was able to determine our order of battle. On three occasions the source of information is given as PW statements and once, the reports of agents.

Appx "B" to 2/49 Aust Inf Bn
Intelligence Summary 26 NOV 42

TRANSLATION OF UNDATED CAPTURED ITALIAN DOCUMENT

(Sometime between 30 Sep and 20 Oct 42)

AN APPRECIATION OF THE SITUATION - By General STUMME

Conference of 21 Army Div.

Arguments put fwd by General STUMME :

Since the last conference with Marshall ROMMEL, the situation has changed. There is no doubt that the enemy is going to undertake a great offensive. His best tps, the Australians, have been replaced by a less aggressive div. Another div has been put into the central sector. An arm'd bde has been brought up from the coast and is preparing itself for the attack.

ALEXANDER has taken up his post in a tactical command post, but it is always too far back and therefore cannot be properly called a tactical adv post, which is always at the front.

To the above we must add the fact that by means of local recce actions directed chiefly on the central front, the enemy is seeking to test our layout and to place his own fwd defended localities nearer to ours in order to locate the weak pts in our defensive layout.

Our defence against these attacks has been excellent. It suffices to mention that of 9th FOLGORE (i.e. against our attack on MUNASSIB on 30 Sep).

Doubtless the enemy will continue, during the next few days, these attacks and patrol actions. From these we can decide which will be the direction of our attack.

On our part, we must do everything to procure enough amm in the first place, and enough petrol for a battle of manoeuvre.

Besides a greater activity of air and ground recce, we must try and find out exact intentions of the enemy. In such a manner our defence will be greatly facilitated.

After much thought I have decided not to counter attack the enemy's occupation of Q95 (88302645). This is the only success of the enemy but he must not be able to advance further west than Q95.

I order that measures of active defence be taken, above all ground recce and secondly local recce thrusts.

Whereas the OPs and the carrying out of patrols is chiefly a bn responsibility the recce thrusts must be done by the div or armd corps.

On the subject of patrols, we call attention to the fact that it is essential to approach without being seen to act with decision and to take prisoners.

During the recce the sp of arty and all kinds of weapons must be given for the protection of the thrust. There must be no stinting in the amount of force used.

I order that the commanding Generals undertake these attacks with tks, thus the responsibility rests with the tk regts who must liaise with the divs that are in the posns. Our tks must not blow themselves up on our mines, nor on those of the enemy, and their thrusts must have limited objectives, thus not provoking the air force and avoiding a tk battle that would give us away and have a bad effect. The enemy will see that we also are active and everything that is found out by the OPs and thrusts will give us the necessary info from which to deduce the enemy intentions.

Defence against enemy thrusts and against enemy patrol activity :

Firstly we must inspire in front line tps "Sang-froid" and teach them not to get excited if something approaches them. - Not to fire without good observation. - The enemy might be driven off, but we would not see any result.

They must allow the enemy to approach our listening posts protected with wire and minefields, in such a way as to annihilate them when they come within effective range, or to allow them to infiltrate between the posts and then to annihilate them.

The enemy must not succeed in penetrating at night into an adv strongpoint thereby starting a hand-to-hand struggle that, although it causes enemy casualties also causes casualties amongst ourselves. This will be avoided when the wire and minefields have been put down as ordered by Marshal ROMMEL and in such a way as to give all round protection.

The job of the arty during these attacks is to annihilate the enemy when he is withdrawing, but I repeat once again that fire must be observed.

We must be prepared and await the enemy in all directions.

From his activities and from a study of the map I have found several danger spots :

1. A British attack along the coast would find our bases, and the direction would be simple and better for the British. In this of course we would obstruct him.
2. Attack in the central sector towards the large minefield. Of this there are no signs at the moment.
3. Attack in the southern sector.

In my opinion there are some danger spots north of HIMEIMAT about the same posn which we recently passed.

As for the southern flank, we need not worry too much about that.

33 Recce Unit (GRUPPO KASTA) must be withdrawn and given another task in the north.

If we minimise the area of movement leading into the QATTARA Depression and organise good observation and long range fire, I think that we can feel secure with a small force.

The enemy could also begin his offensive by trying to recapture the posns lost during our last attack.

That would mean an attack from the NE towards the SW accompanied by another thrust with the limited objective of squeezing our salient and from there to make a second thrust towards the west. This is an eventuality that we must always bear in mind.

The new defensive layout of African Armd Forces

ROMMEL has ordered this for 20 Oct. Naturally this is our weakest pt in the taking over a new posn while waiting at the same time for the enemy to attack. All the same, we will try to take over the new posn in an orderly way. With regard to this, it is most important to construct immediately the "braces" between the minefields so that the enemy cannot make thrusts in the gaps between the minefields while we are taking over the new posns.

Outposts

These ought to be very well protected by wire, minefields, and armed with A Tk weapons. Their task does not end when the enemy has squeezed by. They have the job of stopping the inf and the enemy sprs. - Keeping contact with the arty OPs and because of this each listening post must not be withdrawn from, without orders.

The regtl cmd or the cmd appointed by the C-in-C are the only authorities to order a withdrawal. In no case will this be left to the discretion of the cmd of the strongpoint.

The posn of resistance begins in the rear part of the minefield and develops to the back of the "braces" that will be constructed in the gaps and will be placed in depth by means of strongpoints as ordered by ROMMEL.

In this posn the enemy will be stranded and finally destroyed by our fire. Thus, we do not present to the enemy a series of objectives and also the attacking enemy inf having overrun the fwd posts will always fall beneath fire of the strongpoints on either side.

This is the chief concept according to which ROMMEL has ordered the new defensive layout. I remember well during defensive ops on the RUSSIAN front only with this defence in depth we achieved the best results, and indeed the Russians once attacked on a div frontage with 12 divs (2,000 men against 24,000 attacking Russians). The twelve Russian divs were annihilated. This success was possible only because no-one fell back either in the adv posts or main posns. The tks were allowed to infiltrate to our rear the inf followed up and were annihilated by MG fire, also observed fire and arty manoeuvre that in one minute could bring to bear all the fire in the desired direction.

70. SHOOTING OF CARRIER PIGEONS

1. Many cases are occurring of carrier pigeons being shot at, and not only have valuable birds been killed or injured, but the training of others seriously upset. This has resulted in the non-delivery or delay of important messages, and it must be realised that messages carried by pigeons are often of an S O S nature, the prompt delivery of which may lead to the saving of men's lives.
2. All personnel are, therefore, forbidden to shoot at pigeons of any sort, and in addition, will report immediately any cases they encounter of pigeon shooting, whether by service personnel or civilians.

71. NOMENCLATURE OF AUSTRALIAN FORCES

1. To ensure standard usage and interpretation, the following definitions are promulgated :-

The expression "Australian Military Forces" means the whole of the military forces of the Commonwealth of Australia. It therefore includes the Australian Imperial Force.

The expression "Citizen Military Forces" means the military forces of the Commonwealth of Australia, other than the Australian Imperial Force and the Permanent Military Forces. It includes the Volunteer Defence Corps.

2. (a) The following abbreviations are authorised :-

- A.M.F. for Australian Military Forces
- A.I.F. " Australian Imperial Force
- P.M.F. " Permanent Military Forces
- C.M.F. " Citizen Military Forces

- (b) It is to be particularly noted that "C.M.F." is not an abbreviation for "Commonwealth Military Forces". Use of the expression "Commonwealth Military Forces" will be avoided.

72. BATTLE CASUALTIES

1. Some confusion has arisen in regard to casualties due to blast.
2. In reporting these casualties, Coys will use the term "Battle Casualty - Blast". 2nd Echelon will similarly record and promulgate the casualty.
3. The classification "Wounded in Action - Blast (explosion, etc)" will NOT be used. If later medical diagnosis may disclose that a wound has been caused it will then be recorded in terms of the specific injury.
4. All records will be amended accordingly.

73. DISCIPLINE

1. The undermentioned sentences by Courts-Martial are published for information :-

- (a) A private soldier, convicted of using violence to his superior officer (AA 8 (2)) in the field; striking his superior officer (AA 8 (2)) in the field; using threatening language to his superior officer (AA 8 (2)) in the field; and losing by neglect his paybook (AA 24 (2)), was sentenced to be imprisoned with hard labour for one year.
- (b) A private soldier, convicted of Deserting His Majesty's Service (AA 12 (1) (a)) in the field, was sentenced to be imprisoned with hard labour for one year.
- (c) A private soldier, convicted of when a soldier acting as a sentinel sleeping on his post (AA 6 (2)(e)), was sentenced to undergo detention for sixty days.
- (d) A private soldier, convicted of forging entries in a Muster Pay Roll with intent to defraud (AA 41), and conspiracy to obtain money by false pretences (AA 41), was sentenced to be imprisoned with hard labour for one year.

74. E.F.M. CHRISTMAS CABLES

1. Standard E.F.M. texts now in use will be suspended during the period 7 Dec 42 to 27 Dec 42, and the following Special Greetings Texts substituted, the letters A to F being used instead of numbers :-
 - A. A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. All well.
 - B. Love and best wishes for Christmas and the New Year. All well.
 - C. Love and best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all at home. All well.
 - D. Love and best wishes for Christmas and the New Year from all at home. All well.
 - E. Love and best wishes for a Happy New Year. All well.
 - F. Every good wish for the New Year.
2. Senders may use one ONLY of these texts. The rules otherwise applicable to Standard Texts will also apply to the "Special Texts".
3. No other E.F.M. messages will be accepted during the abovementioned period but Standard Texts will be reintroduced on 28 Dec 42.

75. "SOLDIERING ON"

Every soldier 9 Aust Div will receive one free copy "Soldiering On" or its value to be credited to paybook if already ordered by individuals.

R. E. Gordon Capt.,
Adj. 2/43 AUST INF BR

NOTICES

The following articles have been received from the Australian Comforts Fund and distributed to Coys :-

Cigarettes	Pkts	772
Tobacco	1 oz "	772
Cig Papers	"	772
Soup Toilet	Tabs	772
Face Washers		400

The following articles have been received from Australian Comforts Fund in addition to above list :-

Footballs (complete)	4
Soccer balls Covers	3
" " Bladders	6
Cricket Balls	3
Rings & Nets	2
Ball Lacer	1

War Diary

2/43 Bn War Diary Appendix
No 19

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

A.M.R. & O. 1587

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

ROUTINE ORDERS

Part I

by

Lt-Col W.J. WAIN

COMD 2/43 AUST INF BN

No 13

In the Field

26 Nov 42

69. DISCIPLINE

1. The undermentioned sentences by Courts-Martial are published for information:-

- (a) A private soldier convicted of four charges of obtaining money by false pretences; (A.A.41), four charges of uttering his paybook; A.A.41, and being improperly in possession of two paybooks; A.A. 40, was sentenced to be imprisoned with hard labour for two years.
- (b) A Private soldier convicted of striking his superior officer in the execution of his office; A.A. 8 (1), and using threatening language to his superior officer; A.A. 8 (2), was sentenced to undergo detention for six months.
- (c) A private soldier convicted of improperly making away with by selling a pair of military boots, public property; A.A. 40, was sentenced to undergo detention for ninety days.
- (d) A private soldier convicted of two charges of passing valueless cheques; A.A. 40 and of absenting himself without leave while under open arrest; A.A. 15 (1) was sentenced to undergo detention for six months.

W. J. Wain Capt.,
Adjt 2/43 Aust Inf Bn.

NOTICE

ARRIVAL OF MAILS IN AUSTRALIA

Advice has been received that mails posted in Middle East between 12 Sep 42 and 5 Oct 42 were received in Melbourne by 4 Nov 42.

2/43 Aust Inf Bn War Diary
Appx no 20

SECRET
Copy No.13
28 Nov 42.

2/43 AUST INF BN MOVEMENT ORDER No.3

Ref Map EL ALAMEIN 1 : 50,000

INTENTION

1. 2/43 Aust Inf Bn will move to concentration area on 1 Dec 42, as per sketch Appx "A" in preparation for move to PALESTINE.

METHOD

2. Areas as per att trace.
3. Timings)
4. Routes) As per movt table Appx "A" att
5. S.P.)
6. Speed and Density :
 - (a) Coastal track 7 1/2 m i h, 20 v t m
 - (b) Main Rd 20 mih 20 v t m
7. Tp Carrying Tpt. T.O. will report to Bde T.O. at 87213034 at 0930 hrs 1 Dec to guide tp carrying tpt to Coy lines.
8. Allotment of Tpt:-
 - Bn HQ 1
 - HQ Coy 7
 - A B D Coys 5 each Coy
 - C Coy 6
9. HQ Coy. HQ Coy and B Ech will move to concentration area not before 0930 hrs and completed by 1100 hrs on 1 Dec 42.

ADMN

10. Salvage. All salvage from present areas will be delivered to 9 Aust Div Salvage Unit before 1730 hrs 1 Dec 42.
11. Coy Areas. These will be left thoroughly cleaned. All latrines and refuse pits filled in and suitably marked FOULED GROUND.

INTERCOMN

12. Bn HQ closes present location 1430 hrs 1 Dec 42 and opens concentration area at same time.
13. Comm. In concentration area, comm will be by D R. Sig Offr to arrange picking up present line by not later than 1200 hrs 1 Dec 42.
14. ACK

Issued by D R
Signed at 1430 hrs 28 Nov 42

J. H. Jordan Capt.,
Adjt 2/43 Aust Inf Bn.

DISTRIBUTION

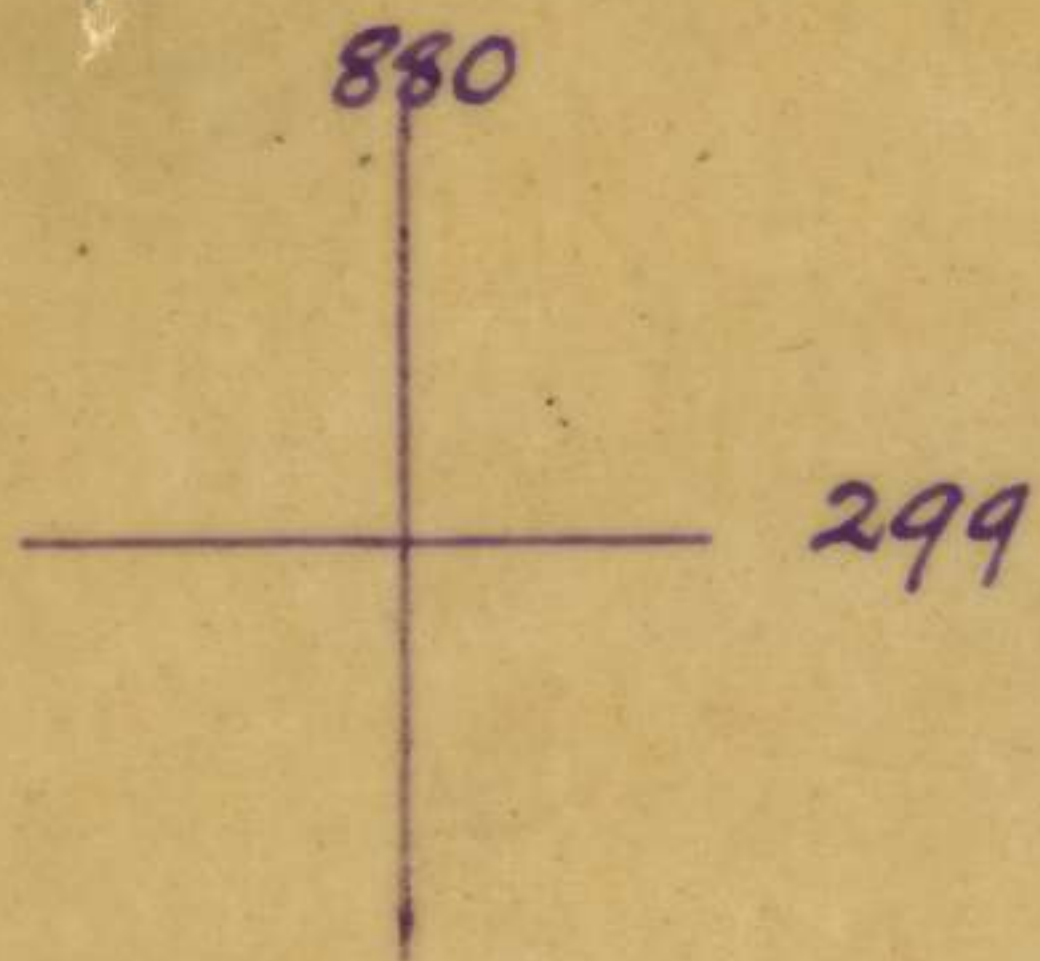
	<u>Copy No.</u>		<u>Copy No.</u>
"A" Coy	1	I.O.	9
"B" "	2	T.O.	10
"C" "	3	Q.M.	11
"D" "	4	R.M.O.	12
HQ "	5	War Diary	13 and 14
HQ 24 Aust Inf Bde	6	File	15
C.O.	7		
Adjt	8		

Appendix "A"

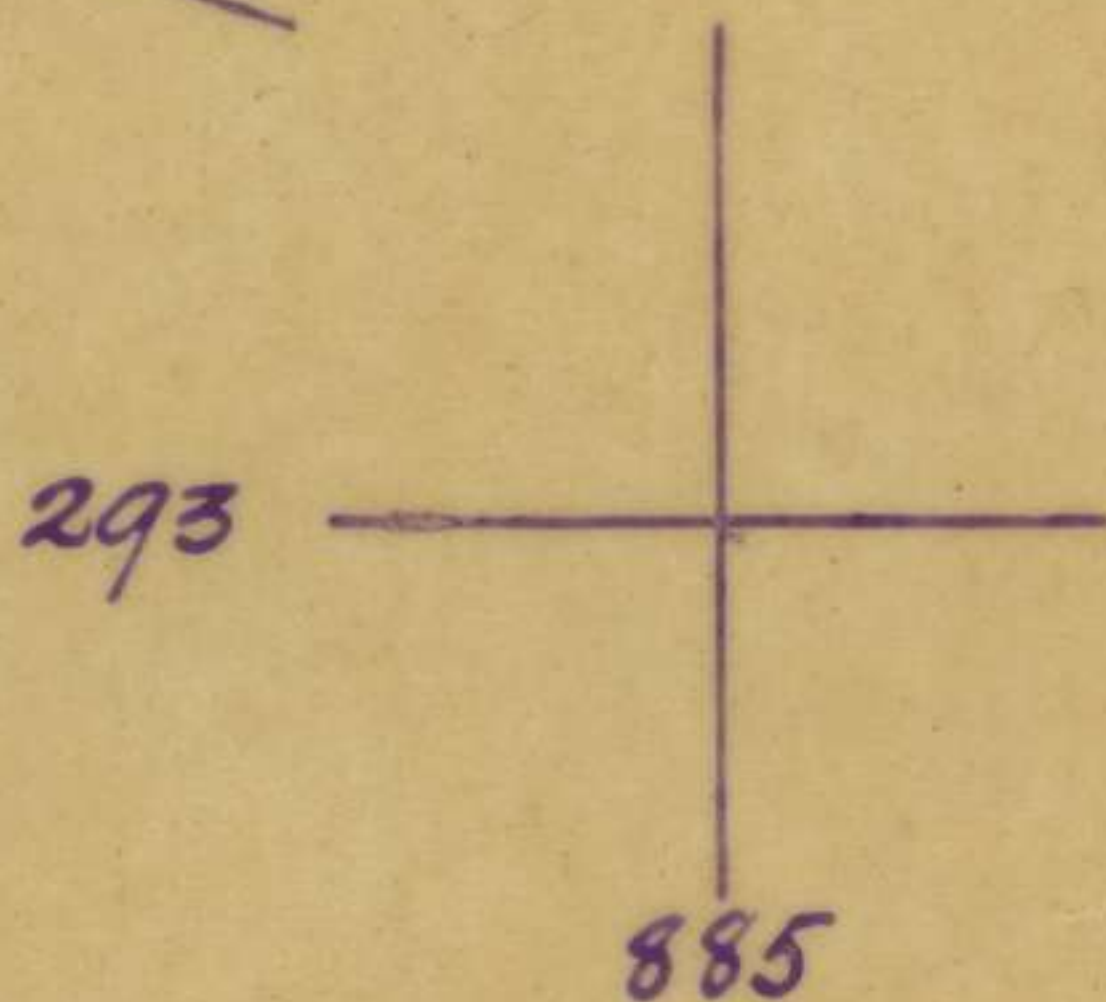
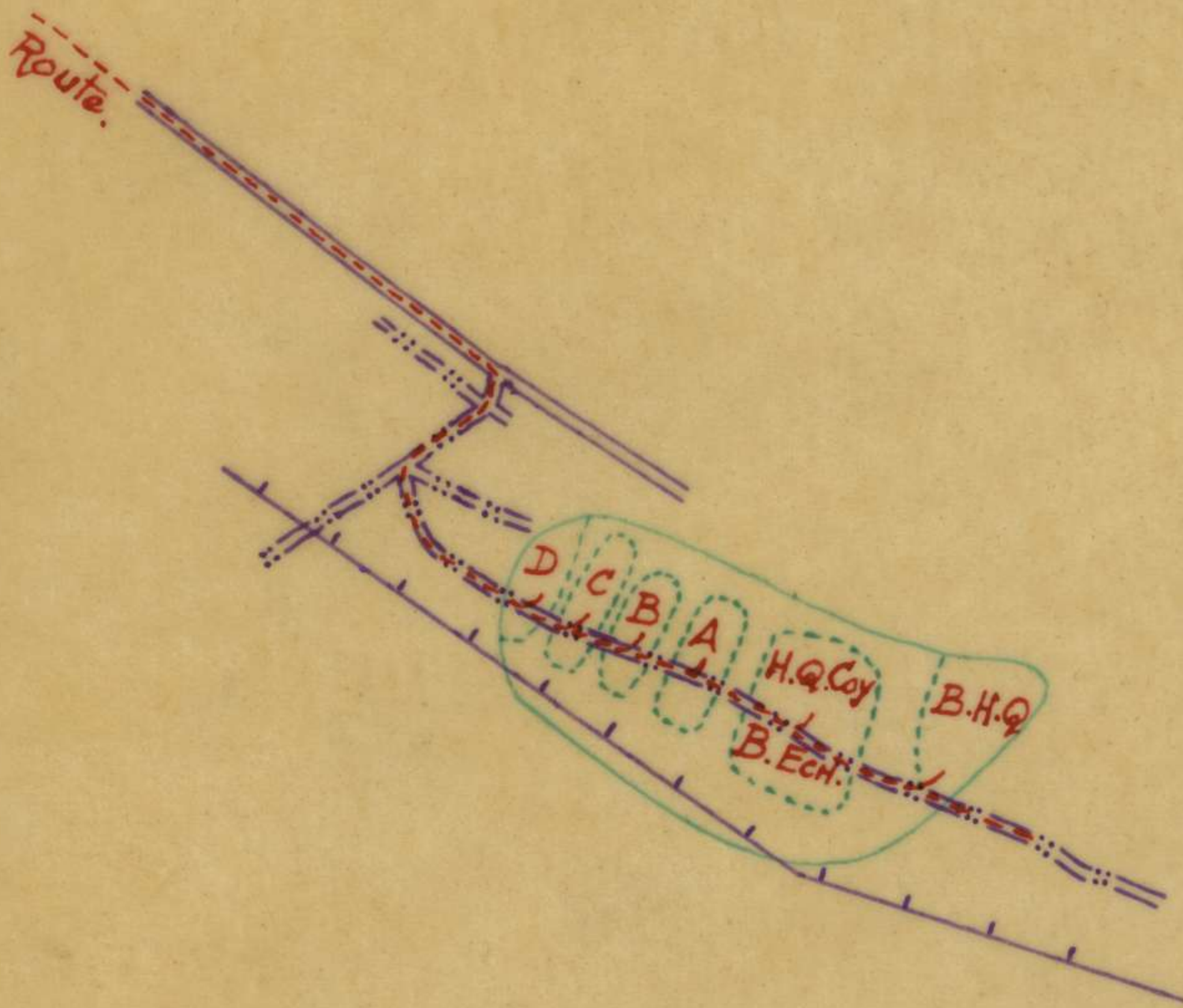
Serial No.	Sub Unit	No. of Vchs	S.P.	Route	Time Past S P	Time of arrival in Concentration area
1	Bn HQ	11	A Coy lines	Coast Track - 87363070 - 87213034 - concentration area.	1430	1600
2	A Coy	9	"	"	1435	1603
3	B Coy	10	"	"	1439	1606
4	C Coy	9	"	"	1443	1609
5	D Coy	9	"	"	1447	1612

REMARKS: HQ Coy and B Ech to move under separate arrangements as per para 9

2/43 Aust Inf Bn War diary
Sketch no 20
(November).



Ref. Map .. EL ALAMEIN
1-50,000



29 Nov. 42.

Traced by
W. Hodgman
2/43 Aust
9 Dec.

2/43 Aust Inf Bn Movement Order
Appx no 21

SECRET
Copy No. 19
28 Nov 42.

2/43 AUST INF BN MOVEMENT ORDER No.4

Ref Maps :-

- 1 ; 500,000 Egypt Series CAIRO and NORTH SINAI Sheets
- Route trace 1 : 1,000,000

INTENTION

- 1. 24 Aust Inf Bde and att tps will move to allotted Camp areas in PALESTINE.

METHOD

- 2. Grouping. The Bde and att tps will move in 2 convoys, in the following order of march throughout :-
 Convoy E - Comd Maj A. B. GILLESPIE, 2/32 Aust Inf Bn
 " F - " Lt-Col W.J. WAIN, 2/43 Aust Inf Bn

Composition Convoy F :-

- 2/43 Aust Inf Bn (less Carriers)
- One Sec 9 Aust Div Pro Coy
- 9 Aust Div Cav Regt
- 11 Coy AASC (less tp carriers)
- 2/3 Aust Fd Amb (less 1 Coy)
- Break-down lorries att

3. Destinations :-

- 24 Aust Inf Bde
- Sig Sec & L A D -- KHASSA
- 9 Aust Div Cav Regt -- MUGHAZI
- 11 Coy AASC -- KHASSA
- 2/3 Aust Fd Amb -- "
- 9 Aust Div Pro Coy -- JULIS
- Break-down lorries -- BARBARA

- 4. Concentrations. Convoys will concentrate (less 2/3 Aust Fd Amb which will join coln at 454907) in ALAMEIN area on 1 Dec 42 in accordance with 24 Aust Inf Bde Movement Order No.2

5. Route :-

- S P)
- Staging)
- Speed & density) see Appx "A" att
- Halts)
- Timings)

- 6. Convoy Adv Parties. An adv party of reps of each major unit will be sent fwd to staging area by convoy Comd, one hr before time of arrival.
 Unit Comds to contact convoy Comd 1800 hrs 1 Dec 42 in concentration area, to arrange.
 2/43 Bn adv party to consist of 2 i/c and 1 D/R each Coy
- 7. Tracked Vehs. Carriers of Bn with an escort of 3 ORs per veh and 1 Offr (Lieut GLOWER) will entrain at AMIRIYA. Entrainment date and orders for move to be issued later.
- 8. Lights. No restriction in use of blacked out lights.

ADMN

- 9. Ann. 1st line scale to be carried.

10. P O L :-

- (a) Vehs will commence with full tanks and 50 miles in res.
- (b) Replenishment as follows :-
 2 Dec - WADI NATRUN
 3 " - COWLEY
 4 " - EAST BANK CANAL
 5 " - ASLUJ

(c) On leaving EAST bank of canal, tanks plus res should be sufficient for at least 180 miles.

11. Supply.

- (a) Unconsumed portion of day's ration, plus 3 days ME hard scale, will be carried on departure.
- (b) 2 days hard scale ME ration will be drawn at EAST BANK CANAL to ensure arrival with 2 days intact.
- (c) Personnel escorting Carriers will carry unconsumed portion of day's ration, plus 6 days ME hard scale.

- 12. Water. Replenishment at Staging area.

- 13. Rec. Breakdown vehs at rear of convoy.

14. Medical. 1 Amb veh 2/3 Aust Fd Amb will travel at rear of Bn. RMO to arrange suitable medical arrangements for Bn.
2/3 Aust Fd Amb responsible for evacuation.
15. Centoon.
(a) Some shortage of supplementary rations may have to be accepted. Normal drawing until departure.
(b) Units will NOT draw beer beyond present scale for consumption. NO beer will be consumed on convoy or carried to destination.
16. Cleanliness of Areas.
(a) Concentration and staging areas will be left in meticulously clean condition.
(b) Unit Comds will report OC convoy on arrival their areas, condition of areas occupied on arrival.
17. Convoy Discipline.
(a) Details laid down in Appx "A" will be strictly adhered to; SO's for Rd Convoys (Annexure to ME GO 121 of 18 Sep 42) will be complied with. Personnel except for adv parties will remain in convoy between staging areas, and will be restricted to staging areas on arrival.
(b) Unit Comds to be responsible for discipline in sub-units of convoy.
(c) Personnel will not ride on cabs, hoods or frames, nor seated on sides of vehs. Offrs and NCOs i/c of individual vehs will rigidly enforce this order.
(d) Unit and sub-unit Comds will delegate this responsibility.
(e) Contravention of this Para will be suitably dealt with.
(f) Enemy Action
In the event of an air raid warning, colns will continue their movt. If there is a direct air attack on the coln, the comd will use his discretion whether to continue the move or stop and engage the enemy aircraft.
When the coln is travelling through the desert, and the vehs are desert worthy, the coln will disperse to 150/200 x interval between vehs. If the coln engages the enemy all available weapons will be brought to bear.
Each Coy of 2/43 Bn will mount 3 AA LMGs and arrange suitable air sentries. Other Unit Comds within convoy to take similar measures.
18. Dress.
(a) Hats, trousers KD, shirts and pullovers will be worn for journey.
(b) Packs carried on t-P carrying vehs will contain personal gear, plus 1 blanket, greatcoat and WP sheet.
Remainder to be carried on A Ech vehs.
19. Security. Unit and sub-Unit Comds will enforce necessary security precautions with regard to arms and amm.

INTERCOMN

20. Recogn signals. Recogn signals will be worn by all unit Comds as follow:-
Fd Amb - GENEVA CROSS Pennant
Other Units - BLUE Pennant
21. R Sec Sign will provide 2 W/T sets, one with CO convoy and one at tail of convoy. 9 Aust Div Cav Regt, by arrangement, to provide centre link. Unit Comds to report each halt or as situation dictates.
22. Code Word. Code word dealing with move "DEANERY" will prefix all messages.
23. Conference. Conference of Unit Comds and sub-Unit Comds 2/43 Bn will be held each day, 1 hr after reaching staging area.
Purpose. To discuss problems en route.
24. ACK.

Issued by D R
at 1855 hrs 28 Nov 42.

R. Hodson Capt.,
Adjt 2/43 Aust Inf Bn.

DISTRIBUTION

	<u>Copy No.</u>		<u>Copy No.</u>
"A" Coy	1	24 Aust Inf Bde	11
"B" "	2	CO	12
"C" "	3	2 i/o	13
"D" "	4	Adjt	14
HQ "	5	IO	15
Sec 9 Div Pro Coy	6	QM	16
11 Coy AASC	7	TO	17
2/3 Aust Fd Amb	8	RMO	18
76 L A D	9	War Diary	19 & 20
9 Aust Div Cav	10	File	21

SECRET

MOVEMENT TABLE

Appx "A" to 2/43 Bn Movement Order No.4

Route :- EL ALAMEIN - AMIRIYA - WADI NATRUN - CAIRO - ISMAILIA - BIR ASLUJ - GAZA - Camp Areas

S P :- Rd junc 88732942 (SPRINGBOK Rd)

Staging :- Night 2/3 Dec 42 - WADI NATRUN
" 3/4 " - EAST bank SUEZ CANAL
" 4/5 " - BIR ASLUJ

Halts :- next page

Speed and Density :- 17 m i h, 20 w t m.

Serial No.	Unit or sub-Unit	No. of Vehs	ALAMEIN 2 Dec		WADI NATRUN 2/3 Dec		Refuel COWLEY KILO 8		SUEZ CANAL 3/4 Dec		BIR ASLUJ 4/5 Dec		GAZA Area	Remarks
			T	P	S	P	Arr	Dep	Arr	Dep	Arr	Dep	Arrive	
1	Bn HQ	6	0800		1500	0800	1030	1100	1800	0730	1730	0730	1035	
2	HQ Coy	39	0801		1501	0801	1031	1101	1801	0731	1731	0731	1036	
3	"A" Coy	9	0808		1508	0808	1038	1108	1808	0738	1738	0738	1043	
4	"B" Coy	9	0809		1509	0809	1039	1109	1809	0739	1739	0739	1044	
5	"C" Coy	10	0811		1511	0811	1041	1111	1811	0741	1741	0741	1046	
6	"D" Coy	15	0813		1513	0813	1043	1113	1813	0743	1743	0743	1048	2/3 Fd Amb joins con- voy from 454907 at approx 0935 hrs
7	Sec 9 Div Pro	1	0816		1516	0816	1046	1116	1816	0746	1746	0746	1051	
8	9 Aust Div Cav Regt	67	0816		1516	0816	1046	1116	1816	0746	1746	0746	1051	Breakdown vehs will halt while 2/3 Fd Amb join convoy behind 11 Coy AASC
9	111 Coy AASC	44	0828		1528	0828	1058	1128	1828	0758	1758	0758	1103	
10	2/3 Aust Fd Amb (less 1 Coy)	30			1536	0836	1106	1136	1836	0806	1806	0806	1111	
11	Breakdown vehs	2	0836		1541	0841	1111	1141	1841	0811	1811	0811	1116	

Appx "A" to 2/43 Bn Movement Order No.4 (Cont)

TIMES OF HALTS

2 Dec 42	3 Dec 42	4 Dec 42	5 Dec 42
0940 - 1000 X	1030 - 1115 (COWLEY)	Halts at Kilos 78 and 150 only (20 min)	0840 - 0900 X
1100 - 1130	1240 - 1300 X		
1340 - 1400 X	1430 - 1500		
	1640 - 1700 X		

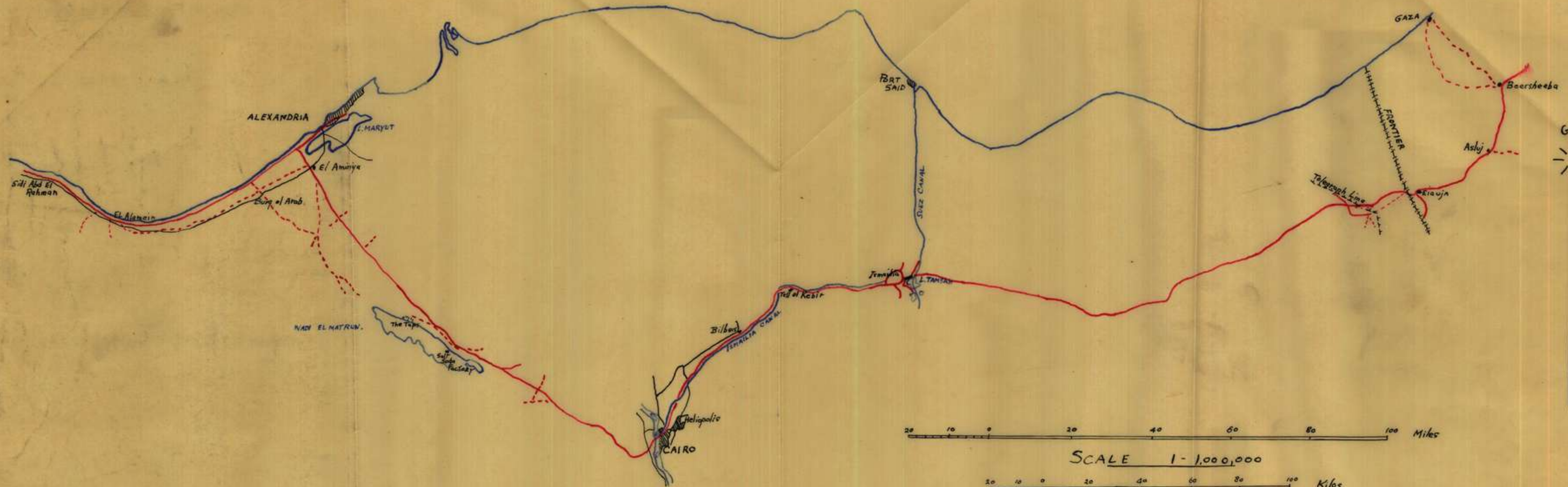
X These 20 min halts may be varied by convoy Comd as and when necessary to avoid any part of the convoy halting in a Camp or congested area.

ORDER OF MOVE AND NUMBERING OF VEHICLES

Serial No.	Sub-Unit	No. of Vehs	Veh Nos.	Remarks
1	Bn HQ	6	CO Adj R/T Van I Van Off Van Tp carrier	1 2 3 4 5 6
2	HQ Coy	39	OC Coy vehs Casualty Truck	7 8-44 45 Casualty truck will travel in rear of HQ Coy
3	"A" Coy	9	OC Coy vehs	46 47-54
4	"B" Coy	9	OC Coy vehs	55 56-63
5	"C" Coy	10	OC Coy vehs	64 65-73
6	"D" Coy	16	OC Coy vehs 2 Spare vehs R A P Amb Unit b/dwr veh T O 2 i/c Bn	74 75-82 83-84 85 " 87 88 89

- NOTE**
- (a) These numbers to be clearly marked on both doors, on the front above the windscreen and on the back of every veh.
 - (b) Last veh of each serial will be marked END of Gp.
 - (c) 4 D/R's will ride in rear of CO's car, and 1 D/R will be allotted to each OC Coy.

2/43 Mat Inf Bn. Was Liany
Hippo no 21



28 Nov 42

RE B. & Davis
"I" Section
2/43 Bn

2/43 Aust Inf Bn War Diary
Appx no 22

SECRET
Copy No.
29 Nov 42.

2/43 AUST INF BN MOVEMENT ORDER No.5

Ref Map: EGYPT 1 : 500,000 CAIRO Sheet
1 : 50, 000 EL ALAMEIN Sheet

INFM

1. Carriers of 24 Aust Inf Bde are to move to PALESTINE by rd and rail.

INTENTION

2/43 Aust Inf Bn carriers will move to PALESTINE.

METHOD Movement

- 2. (a) Carriers will move with HQ Coy to Concentration area 1 Dec 42 in accordance with 2/43 Aust Inf Bn Movement Order No. ~~3~~ 3
- (b) From Concentration area Carriers will move to AMIRIYA in accordance with Comd Movement Table Appx "A" att. A guide will meet convoys at dispersal point.
- 3. (a) 2/43 Aust Inf Bn carrier party will be commanded by Lieut M.H.E.C. GLOVER.
- (b) 24 Aust Inf Bde carrier party will be commanded by Capt J.M. HEAD, 2/28 Bn.
- (c) On arrival at AMIRIYA party will come under comd Capt S.G.W. BURSTON, 9 Aust Div Cav Regt.
- 4. Bivouac Areas will be allotted in AMIRIYA area by Capt BURSTON.
- 5. Entraining. (a) 20 carriers per day will be entrained at AMIRIYA, as flats become available.
- (b) 24 Aust Inf Bde carriers will probably entrain as follow :-

4 Dec 42	-	10 carriers
5 "	-	20 "
6 "	-	14 "
- 6. Security. Unit det comds will ensure that carriers are properly guarded at all times so that tools, parts etc are not removed.

ADMN

- 7. Sups will be drawn daily from No.10 DID by unit dets, in tpt provided under arrangements of 9 Aust Div. Units will ensure that each OC det is supplied with AB's 55, and a certificate that det is rationed to 2 Dec 42 plus 6 days to be taken on rail. Rations will be drawn at AIF scale, but dets will under-draw such items as they are unable to handle.
- 8. P O L Sufficient POL for journey to AMIRIYA only will be taken. Tanks will not be refilled at AMIRIYA unless ordered.
- 9. Discipline. A high standard of discipline will be maintained throughout the journey.
- 10. Medical. One MO, 2/8 Aust Fd Amb, will be available during stay at AMIRIYA.
- 11. Pay. Leave may be granted at discretion of Capt BURSTON during stay at AMIRIYA. Units will arrange to pay personnel on 29 Nov 42, and pay must be acquitted on that day.
- 12. Tentage. Bivouac shelters will be taken.
- 13. ASK.

Signed at hrs
Issued by D R

S Gordon Capt..
Adjt 2/43 Aust Inf Bn.

<u>DISTRIBUTION</u>	<u>Copy No.</u>
Hq Coy	1
5 Pl	2
HQ 24 Aust Inf Bde	3
C O	4
Adjt	5
I O	6
Q M	7
War Diary	8-9
File	10

MOVEMENT TABLE

Appx "A" to 2/43 Aust Inf Bn Movement Order No.5

Ref Map :- EGYPT 1/500,000 CAIRO Sheet
1/50,000 EL ALAMEIN Sheet

1. Route Main Rd EL ALAMEIN - AMIRIYA (Tracked vehs will not travel on bitumen).
2. S. P. Rd junc 88732942 (SPRINGBOK Rd)
3. Halts. 1040 - 1100 and 1245 - 1330
4. Speed & Density. 10 mih 20 vtm
5. Timings.

Serial	Unit	No. of Carriers	T.P.P. mins	Date of Move	Dispersal Pt	TRSP		TP Dispersal Pt		Remarks
						Head	Tail	Head	Tail	
1	2/28 Aust Inf Bn	15	5	2 Dec 42	Rd junc 428005	0850		1550		
2	2/32 Aust Inf Bn	15	5	"	"					
3	2/43 Aust Inf Bn	14	5	"	"		0905		1605	

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

SERIAL 53
(Unit.) For Week Ending 7 Nov 42.

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

War Establishment.	1	2	3	4
	Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
	*			
	*			
	*			
	*			
	Lieut.-Colonels ...			1
	Majors... ..	2		1
	Captains	7		4
	Lieutenants	17		4
	2nd Lieutenants			
	Quartermasters			
	District Officers			
	TOTALS	26		10

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc.).

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
	WINDLAND	MAJ G D	1/11/42	Commission from MAJ G D
	GRACE	KJ	1/11/42	Home
	LONGFORTH	MAJ	1/11/42	Home
	WRIGHT	MAJ	1/11/42	Home
	HARRISON	MAJ	1/11/42	Home
	GEORGE	MAJ	1/11/42	Home

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
	WINDLAND	MAJ G D	1/11/42	Commission from MAJ G D
	GRACE	KJ	1/11/42	Home
	LONGFORTH	MAJ	1/11/42	Home
	WRIGHT	MAJ	1/11/42	Home
	HARRISON	MAJ	1/11/42	Home
	GEORGE	MAJ	1/11/42	Home

Officers QUITTED during week

Rank	Name	Corps	Date	Cause
Lieut	INGRAM	A.L.P.	2/43 Bn	4/11/42
"	BASTON	B	"	"
Capt	COLYER	HH	"	"
Lieut	CRANFORD	BJ	"	"
Capt	HEMINGS	BJ	"	"
Lieut	DAVIES	FA	"	"
Lt-Col	WAIN	WJ	"	"
Lieut	WALLER	BL	"	"
Lieut	SCOTT	JJ	"	"
Capt	DAVE	AI	"	1/11/42
Maj	LIGHTWOOD	FA	"	"
Lieut	BURTON	AJ	"	"
"	ADAMS	WT	"	"
"	GLOVER	MBEC	"	"
"	CORN	JC	"	"
"	KENNEDY	A	"	"
"	WILSON	JH	"	"
Chaplain	GARD	T	"	"
Capt	MINGOS	JWH	"	2/11/42
Lieut	PENKIE	SA	"	"

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	M. or S.	Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	Date Joined Unit.	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
1		MAJ		WILLIAMSON	Adm Coy	Yes		
2		"		SHEDDEN	Adm Coy	Yes		
3		CAPT		TAYLOR	Adm Coy	Yes		
4		"		CUTCHLOVE	Adm Coy	Yes		
5		"		GURDON	Adm Coy	Yes		
6		"		WILTON	Adm Coy	Yes		1st Sub Coy
7		"		STERNMAN	Adm Coy	Yes		
8		LIEUT	PLANT	LUNSDON	Adm Coy	Yes		
9		"	PLANT	FLEMING	Adm Coy	Yes		
10		"		WORTHLEY	Adm Coy	Yes		1st Sub Coy
11		"		RAMMORE	Adm Coy	Yes		1st Sub Coy
12		"		GEORGE	Adm Coy	Yes		
13		"		HEID	Adm Coy	Yes		
14		"		STONES	Adm Coy	Yes		
15		"		STANFORD	Adm Coy	Yes		
16		"		MCGREGOR	Adm Coy	Yes		
17		"		O'DEA	Adm Coy	Yes		
18		"		MURPHY	Adm Coy	Yes		
19		"		LUNNIE	Adm Coy	Yes		
20		"		LEANE	Adm Coy	Yes		
21		"		MURPHY	Adm Coy	Yes		
22		"		DETON	Adm Coy	Yes		1st Sub Coy
23		"		ZELN	Adm Coy	Yes		
24		"		QUINN	Adm Coy	Yes		
25		"		WATSON	Adm Coy	Yes		
26		"		WRIGHT	Adm Coy	Yes		
27								
28								
29								
30								
31								
32								
33								
34								

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
CAPT		GRACE	Adm Coy	1/11/42	1st Sub Coy
CAPT		WHELAN	Adm Coy	1/11/42	1st Sub Coy

1st Sub Coy (Unit.)
 7 Nov 42. (Date of Despatch.)
 [Signature] (Signature of Commander.)
 [Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.]

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

(Unit) 7 NOV 1942 (Date.)

(To be furnished by all Units of Royal Artillery, Royal Army Service Corps, Royal Army Medical Corps and The Army Dental Corps.)

PART A. STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1 Appointment.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
W.O.'s Class I.			
W.O.'s Class II.	7		
W.O.'s Class III.			
Battery or C.Q.M. Serjeants.			
Staff Serjeants.	8	3	
Serjeants.	34		3
Bombardiers or Corporals.	64		1
Buglers.			
Trumpeters.			
Gunners, Drivers, Privates, etc.	553		197
Total	667	3	207

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

PART B. OTHER RANKS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Appointment.	Units and Corps to which they belong.	Appointment.	Units and Corps to which they belong.
1 Sgt	...		
1 Cpl	...		
1 Cpl	...		
1 Sgt	...		
1 Cpl	...		
1 Cpl	...		
1 Pte	...		
3 Ptes	...		
1 ✓	...		

PART C. DESCRIPTION OF OTHER RANKS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

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

(Unit).

War Diary 24

PART D. DETAIL BY TRADES OF SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED AS SHOWN OF ARMY FORM W. 3009a.

Table with columns for Surplus to Establishment and Reinforcements required, listing various trades like Artificers, Bakers, Clerks, etc., with sub-columns for W.O.'s Class I, II, III, and other ranks.

Unit. Date of Despatch. 24 Nov 42

Signature of Commander. Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.

PART D. DETAIL BY TRADES OF SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED AS SHOWN IN PART A
OF ARMY FORM W. 3009a.

Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus to Establishment.										Reinforcements required.							REMARKS						
	W.O.'s Class I.	W.O.'s Class II.	W.O.'s Class III.	Battery or C.Q.M. Sergeants.	Staff Sergeants.	Sergeants.	Bombdrs. or Corpis.	Buglers.	Trumpeters.	Guns, Drvs., Pts., &c.	TOTAL.	W.O.'s Class I.	W.O.'s Class II.	W.O.'s Class III.	Battery or C.Q.M. Sergeants.	Staff Sergeants.	Sergeants.		Bombdrs. or Corpis.	Buglers.	Trumpeters.	Guns, Drvs., Pts., &c.	TOTAL.	
Artificers, other than those enumerated																								
Bakers																								
Batty. Commanders Assts.																								
Battery Surveyors																								
Blacksmiths																								
Butchers																								
Carpenters & Joiners																								
Clerks																								
Clerks (R.A. Clerks Section)																								
Clerks (Tech. M.T.)																								
Coach Painters																								
Coach Trimmers																								
Computers																								
Cooks (Hospital)																								
Coppersmiths																								
Dental Clerk Orderlies																								
Dental Mechanics																								
Dispensers																								
Draughtsmen (Topo.)																								
Draughtsmen (Mech.)																								
Driver-mechanics																								
Drivers (H.T.)																								
Drivers (M.T.)																								
Drivers (I.C.)																								
Electricians																								
Equipment Repairers																								
Farriers																								
Fitters																								
Grinders Precision																								
Gun Position Officers Assts.																								
Instrument Makers																								
Issuers																								
Laboratory Assistants																								
Masseurs																								
Mechanics																								
Mental Nursing Orderlies																								
Motor-mechanics																								
Moulders																								
Nursing Orderlies																								
Observers (A.S.)																								
Operating Room Assistants																								
Painters & Decorators																								
Panel Beaters																								
Pattern Makers																								
Pharmacists																								
Plumbers & Gasfitters																								
Radiographers																								
Saddlers & Harness Makers																								
Sanitary Assistants																								
Searchlight Operators																								
Signallers																								
Special Treatment Orderlies																								
Storemen (Technical)																								
Surveyors R.A.																								
Telephonists																								
Trained Nurses																								
Turners																								
Typepressers																								
Vulcanizers																								
Welders (Acetylene)																								
Wheelers																								
Non-Tradesmen																								
TOTALS (to agree with Cols. 3 & 4 of Part A.)																								

Unit.

Signature of Commander

Date of Despatch.

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

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

(Unit.) For Week Ending 11 Nov 1915

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

War Establishment.	1	2	3	4
	Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
	*			
	*			
	*			
	*			
	Lieut.-Colonels ...			
	Majors... ..			
	Captains			
	Lieutenants			
	2nd Lieutenants			
	Quartermasters			
	District Officers			
	TOTALS	26		10

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc.).

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

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

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

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	M. or S.	Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	Date Joined Unit.	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
1		MAJ		WILSON				
2				TRISTAN				
3		CPT		TRISTAN				
4				CATCHPOLE				
5				GREEN				
6				WILSON				
7				SIEGMANN				
8		Lieut		LORRELL				
9				FLEMING				
10				WORTHLEY				
11								
12								
13								
14								
15								
16								
17								
18								
19								
20								
21								
22								
23								
24								
25								
26								
27								
28								
29								
30								
31								
32								
33								
34								

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.

2/43 Aust Inf Bn
 (Unit.)
 11 Nov 42
 (Date of Despatch.)

[Signature]
 (Signature of Commander.)
 4 Aust Inf Bn
 (Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/43 Const Coy Bn (Unit.)

Serial 55

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment)
*			
*			
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels	<i>1</i>		<i>1</i>
Majors	<i>2</i>		<i>4</i>
Captains	<i>7</i>		<i>4</i>
Lieutenants	<i>17</i>		
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
District Officers			
Totals	<i>27</i>		<i>9</i>

*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc).

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.	
<i>Lt.-Col</i>	<i>Hain</i>	<i>W.S.</i>	<i>2/43 Bn</i>	<i>13/11/42</i>	<i>From X List</i>

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

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

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

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No.)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Lt. Col		Wain W.J.	1/43 Bn	YES	
Maj		Williamson H. J.	2/10	"	
Capt		Stretton F. A.	OC 4th Coy	"	
"		Taylor D. E.	QM	"	
"		Catchlove W.F.L.	OC C Coy	"	
"		Gordon J. D.	Adj.	"	
"		Wilton J. H.	MR Coy	NO	Inv Staff Sec
"		Sickmann D.C.	OC A Coy	YES	
Lieut	T/Capt	Longbottom R.E.	" B "	"	
"	"	Fleming J. A.	" D "	"	Inv Staff Sec
"		Wortles M.G.	A TK PL	NO	
"		Richmond C. R.	2/10 C Coy	YES	
"		GEORGE A.L.	" B "	"	
"		Reid D.M.	" A "	NO	Act 24 Bde HQ
"		Stokes H.M.	" B "	"	METC No. 6
"		Stanford G.	T.O.	YES	
"		McGregor M.F.E.	OC 15 PL	"	
"		O'Lea V.P.	" 18 "	"	
"		McKee R.R.	" 14 "	"	
"		Lonnie W.S.	" 1 "	"	
"		Berke R.M.	" 2 "	"	
"		Anderson E.G.	" 3 "	"	
"		Beton B.S.	" 8 "	NO	METC
"		Zack C.	I.O.	YES	
"		Quinn R.B.	OC 11 PL	"	
"		Greasley R.H.A.	" 8 "	"	
"		Wright H.J.	" 7 "	"	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Capt		Whelan P.B.	ARCH D	5/10/42	Chaplain
		Connaughton T.W.	AAMC	5/13/42	RMO

1/43 Aust Inf Bn
Nov 42
(Unit.)
(Date of Despatch.)

W. J. Wain Lt. Col
24 Aust Inf Bde
(Signature of Commander.)
(Bde., Di. n., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

PART D. DETAIL BY TRADES OF SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED AS SHOWN IN PART A
OF ARMY FORM W. 3009a.

Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus to Establishment.										Reinforcements required.								REMARKS					
	W.O.'s Class I.	W.O.'s Class II.	W.O.'s Class III.	Battery or C.Q.M. Sergeants.	Staff Sergeants.	Sergeants.	Bombdrs. or Corpis.	Buglers.	Trumpeters.	Guns, Drvs., Pts., &c.	TOTAL.	W.O.'s Class I.	W.O.'s Class II.	W.O.'s Class III.	Battery or C.Q.M. Sergeants.	Staff Sergeants.	Sergeants.	Bombdrs. or Corpis.		Buglers.	Trumpeters.	Guns, Drvs., Pts., &c.	TOTAL.	
Artificers, other than those enumerated																								
Bakers																								
Batty. Commanders Assts.																								
Battery Surveyors																								
Blacksmiths																								
Butchers																								
Carpenters & Joiners																								
Clerks																								
Clerks (R.A. Clerks Section)																								
Clerks (Tech. M.T.)																								
Coach Painters																								
Coach Trimmers																								
Computers																								
Cooks (Hospital)																								
Coppersmiths																								
Dental Clerk Orderlies																								
Dental Mechanics																								
Dispensers																								
Draughtsmen (Topo.)																								
Draughtsmen (Mech.)																								
Driver-mechanics																								
Drivers (H.T.)																								
Drivers (M.T.)																								
Drivers (I.C.)																								
Electricians																								
Equipment Repairers																								
Farriers																								
Fitters																								
Grinders Precision																								
Gun Position Officers Assts.																								
Instrument Makers																								
Issuers																								
Laboratory Assistants																								
Masseurs																								
Mechanics																								
Mental Nursing Orderlies																								
Motor-mechanics																								
Moulders																								
Nursing Orderlies																								
Observers (A.S.)																								
Operating Room Assistants																								
Painters & Decorators																								
Panel Beaters																								
Pattern Makers																								
Pharmacists																								
Plumbers & Gasfitters																								
Radiographers																								
Saddlers & Harness Makers																								
Sanitary Assistants																								
Searchlight Operators																								
Signallers																								
Special Treatment Orderlies																								
Storemen (Technical)																								
Surveyors R.A.																								
Telephonists																								
Trained Nurses																								
Turners																								
Typepressers																								
Vulcanizers																								
Welders (Acetylene)																								
Wheelers																								
Non-Tradesmen																								
TOTALS (to agree with Cols. 3 & 4 of Part A.)																								

243 Aust Inf Bde
14 Nov 42
Date of Despatch.

Unit.

W. May
Signature of Commander
24 Aust Inf Bde
Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/43 Aust Inf Bn (Unit.)

Serial 56.

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment)
*			
*			
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels	1		1
Majors	2		4
Captains	20		
Lieutenants	21		
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
District Officers			
Totals	20 31		5 5

*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc).

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Lieut	B.S. Peters	2/43 Bn	16/1/42	From M.E.T.C.
"	A.V. Gifford	"	20/1/42	From 2/78 Aust Inf Bn
"	B.L. Harvey	"	"	" " " " " "
"	E.M. Bonner	"	"	" " " " " "
"	M.H.E.C. Glover	"	18/1/42	" " AIF(ME) Staging Camp

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Lieut	C. Zeck	2/43 Bn	20/1/42	To M.E.T.C.

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

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

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No.)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
lt. col.		W.J. Whain	2/43 Bn	Yes	
Maj.		H.J. Williamson	2 i/c	"	
Cap.		F.A. Stretton	OC, HQ Bn	"	
"		D.E. Taylor	B.M.	"	
"		W.E.L. Patchlove	OC, C Coy	"	
"		J.D. Gordon	Adj't	"	
"		J.H. Wilton	HQ Bn	No	Jnr Staff Sch
"		D.C. Seckmann	OC, B Coy	Yes	
Lieut	T/Capt	B.E. Longbottom	OC, A Coy	"	
"	"	J.A. Fleming	OC, D Coy	"	
"		M.G. Wrenchley	ATK Pl	No	Jnr Staff Sch
"		C.A. Richmond	2 i/c C Coy	Yes	
"		A.C. George	" B	"	
"		D.M. Pesh	" ATK Pl	"	
"		K.M. Stokes	" D Coy	No	METC No. 6.
"		G. Stanford	T.O.	Yes	
"		M.F.E. McGregor	OC 15 Pl	"	
"		V.P. O'Dea	" 12 "	"	
"		B.R. McKee	" 14 "	"	
"		W.S. Lonnie	" 1 "	"	
"		R.M. Clarke	" 2 "	"	
"		E.G. Anderson	" 3 "	"	
"		B.B. Petron	" 8 "	"	
"		C. Zech	I.O.	No	METC.
"		B.B. Quinn	OC, 11 Pl	Yes	
"		B.H. Greasley	" 5 "	"	
"		H.J. Wright	" 7 "	"	
"		A.V. Clifford	M.C. Pl	"	
"		B.L. Hobbes	OC 17 Pl	"	
"		E.M. Connor	" 18 "	"	
"		M.H.E.C. Glover	2 i/c Bn	"	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Cap.		P.B. Whelan	M.B. Det	5/1/42	Chaplain
"		J.D. Rice	AAMC	2/1/42	R.M.O.

2/43 Aust Inf Bn
(Unit.)
21 Nov 42
(Date of Despatch.)

Lt. Col.
(Signature of Commander.)
2/4 Aust Inf Bde
(Bde., Di.v., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving).

PART D. DETAIL BY TRADES OF SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED AS SHOWN IN PART A
OF ARMY FORM W. 3009a.

Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus to Establishment.										Reinforcements required.										REMARKS				
	W.O.'s Class I.	W.O.'s Class II.	W.O.'s Class III.	Battery or C.Q.M. Sergeants.	Staff Sergeants.	Sergeants.	Bombdrs. or Corpals.	Buglers.	Trumpeters.	Gns., Drvs., Pts., &c.	TOTAL.	W.O.'s Class I.	W.O.'s Class II.	W.O.'s Class III.	Battery or C.Q.M. Sergeants.	Staff Sergeants.	Sergeants.	Bombdrs. or Corpals.	Buglers.	Trumpeters.		Gns., Drvs., Pts., &c.	TOTAL.		
Artificers, other than those enumerated																									
Bakers																									
Batty. Commanders Assts. v.																									
Battery Surveyors																									
Blacksmiths																									
Butchers																									
Carpenters & Joiners																									
Clerks																									
Clerks (R.A. Clerks Section)																									
Clerks (Tech. M.T.)																									
Coach Painters																									
Coach Trimmers																									
Computers																									
Cooks (Hospital)																									
Coppersmiths																									
Dental Clerk Orderlies																									
Dental Mechanics																									
Dispensers																									
Draughtsmen (Topo.)																									
Draughtsmen (Mech.)																									
Driver-mechanics																									
Drivers (H.T.)																									
Drivers (M.T.)																									
Drivers (I.C.)																									
Electricians																									
Equipment Repairers																									
Farriers																									
Fitters																									
Grinders Precision																									
Gun Position Officers Assts.																									
Instrument Makers																									
Issuers																									
Laboratory Assistants																									
Masseurs																									
Mechanics																									
Mental Nursing Orderlies																									
Motor-mechanics																									
Moulders																									
Nursing Orderlies																									
Observers (A.S.)																									
Operating Room Assistants																									
Painters & Decorators																									
Panel Beaters																									
Pattern Makers																									
Pharmacists																									
Plumbers & Gasfitters																									
Radiographers																									
Saddlers & Harness Makers																									
Sanitary Assistants																									
Searchlight Operators																									
Signallers																									
Special Treatment Orderlies																									
Storemen (Technical)																									
Surveyors R.A. <i>ONE 4TH</i>																									
Telephonists																									
Trained Nurses <i>ONE 2ND</i>																									
Turners <i>ONE 1ST</i>																									
Typepressers <i>ONE 1ST</i>																									
Vulcanizers <i>ONE 1ST</i>																									
Welders (Acetylene) <i>ONE 1ST</i>																									
Wheelers																									
Non-Tradesmen																									
TOTALS (to agree with Cols. 3 & 4 of Part A.)																									

2/42 Aust Inf Bn Unit.
21 Nov 42 Date of Despatch.

[Signature] Signature of Commander.
2/42 Aust Inf Bn Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/43 Aust Inf Bn (Unit.)

Serial 57

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment)
Lieut.-Colonels	<i>1</i>		<i>1</i>
Majors	<i>2</i>		<i>4</i>
Captains	<i>23</i>	<i>2</i>	
Lieutenants			
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
District Officers			
Totals	<i>33.</i>	<i>2.</i>	<i>5.</i>

*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc).

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
<i>Lieut</i>	<i>A.J. Purinton</i>	<i>2/43 Bn</i>	<i>24/11/42</i>	<i>From AIF (ME) Singapore</i>
<i>"</i>	<i>A. Kennedy</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>25/11/42</i>	<i>" " " " " "</i>

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
<i>Lieut</i>	<i>A.J. Purinton</i>	<i>2/43 Bn</i>	<i>26/11/42</i>	<i>Adv. Party</i>
<i>"</i>	<i>R.M. Clarke</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>

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

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

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No.)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
2nd Lt		W.J. Wain	2nd Lt	Yes	
Maj		H.J. Williamson	2nd Lt	"	
Capt		F.A. Stretton	OC HQ Coy	"	
"		D.E. Taylor	Q.M.	"	
"		W.E.L. Batchlove	OC C Coy	"	
"		J.D. Gordon	Adj't	"	
"		J.H. Wilton	HQ Coy	No	2nd Aust Inf Bde
"		D.C. Siekmann	OC B Coy	Yes	
2nd Lt	T/Capt	P.E. Longbottom	OC A Coy	"	
"		A.J. Burton	HQ Coy	No	Adv Party
"	T/Capt	J.A. Fleming	OC D Coy	Yes	
"		M.G. Worshley	Adj't	No	9 Aust Div
"		C.B. Richmond	2nd Lt C Coy	Yes	
"		A.C. George	" B "	"	
"		D.M. Reid	" Adj't	"	
"		K.M. Stokes	" D Coy	No	METC No 6.
"		G. Stanford	T.O.	Yes	
"		M.F.E. McGregor	OC 15 Pl	"	
"		V.P. O'Dea	" 12 "	"	
"		P.A. McKee	" 14 "	"	
"		W.S. Lonnie	" 1 "	"	
"		M.H.E.C. Glover	2nd Lt B Coy	"	
"		R.M. Glover	OC 2 Pl	No	Adv Party
"		E.G. Anderson	" 3 "	Yes	
"		B.S. Betton	" 8 "	"	
"		C. Zech	T.O.	No	METC
"		A. Hammond	HQ Coy	Yes	
"		R.B. Quinlan	OC 11 Pl	"	
"		R.H. Guesard	" 5 "	"	
"		H.J. Wright	" 7 "	"	
"		A.V. Clifford	OC 12 Pl	"	
"		D.L. Harvey	OC 14 Pl	"	
"		E.M. Connor	" 15 "	"	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Capt		P.B. Whelan	AA Coy	2/11/42	Company
"		J.D. Rice	AA Coy	2/11/42	R.M.O.

2nd Aust Inf Bde
(Unit.)
29 Nov. 42
(Date of Despatch.)

W. Mayhew
(Signature of Commander.)
2nd Aust Inf Bde
(Bde., Di.n., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

PART D. DETAIL BY TRADES OF SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED AS SHOWN IN PART A OF ARMY FORM W. 3009a.

Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus to Establishment.										Reinforcements required.										REMARKS				
	W.O.'s Class I.	W.O.'s Class II.	W.O.'s Class III.	Battery or C.Q.M. Serjeants.	Staff Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Bombdrs. or Corppls.	Buglers.	Trumpeters.	Guns, Drvs., Pts., &c.	TOTAL.	W.O.'s Class I.	W.O.'s Class II.	W.O.'s Class III.	Battery or C.Q.M. Serjeants.	Staff Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Bombdrs. or Corppls.	Buglers.	Trumpeters.		Guns, Drvs., Pts., &c.	TOTAL.		
Artificers, other than those enumerated																									
Bakers																									
Batty. Commanders Assts.																									
Battery Surveyors																									
Blacksmiths																									
Butchers																									
Carpenters & Joiners																									
Clerks																									
Clerks (R.A. Clerks Section)																									
Clerks (Tech. M.T.)																									
Coach Painters																									
Coach Trimmers																									
Computers																									
Cooks (Hospital)																									
Coppersmiths																									
Dental Clerk Orderlies																									
Dental Mechanics																									
Dispensers																									
Draughtsmen (Topo.)																									
Draughtsmen (Mech.)																									
Driver-mechanics																									
Drivers (H.T.)																									
Drivers (M.T.)																									
Drivers (I.C.)																									
Electricians																									
Equipment Repairers																									
Farriers																									
Fitters																									
Grinders Precision																									
Gun Position Officers Assts.																									
Instrument Makers																									
Issuers																									
Laboratory Assistants																									
Masseurs																									
Mechanics																									
Mental Nursing Orderlies																									
Motor-mechanics																									
Moulders																									
Nursing Orderlies																									
Observers (A.S.)																									
Operating Room Assistants																									
Painters & Decorators																									
Panel Beaters																									
Pattern Makers																									
Pharmacists																									
Plumbers & Gasfitters																									
Radiographers																									
Saddlers & Harness Makers																									
Sanitary Assistants																									
Searchlight Operators																									
Signallers																									
Special Treatment Orderlies																									
Storemen (Technical)																									
Surveyors R.A.																									
Telephonists																									
Trained Nurses																									
Turners																									
Typepressers																									
Vulcanizers																									
Welders (Acetylene)																									
Wheelers																									
Non-Tradesmen																									
TOTALS (to agree with Cols. 3 & 4 of Part A.)																									

Unit.

Signature of Commander

Date of Despatch.

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