

AWM52

Australian Military Forces, Army headquarters,
formation and unit diaries, 1939-1945

1/5/8 DIVISIONS

4 Australian Division General
Staff Branch (4 Aust Div GS
Branch)

May 1944



1/5/8-019B

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit HQ 4 AUST DIV (AIF)

Date and Time.—From 1 MAY 44 To 31 MAY 44

| Place. | Date. | Hour. | Summary of Events and Information. | Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c. |
|--------|-------|-------|---|--|
| | MAY | | | |
| | 1. | | GOC 4 Aust Div (Maj-Gen J.J. MURRAY) conferred with 11 Aust Inf Bde Comd (Brig J.R. STEVENSON) and BN (Maj LACH) ref general matters and watercraft position. | |
| | | | GOC visited 51/51 Aust Inf Bn, 2/9 Aust A Fd Regt, 20 Aust Mot Bt and D Coy 2/3 Aust MG Bn. | |
| | 2. | | GOC 4 Aust Div (Maj-Gen J.J. MURRAY) left LERAUKE 0700K for Post 5. Arrived at Post at 2030K. | |
| | | | 4 Aust Div Intelligence Summary No 51 issued. | Appendix 'A' |
| | 3. | | GOC 4 Aust Div (Maj-Gen J.J. MURRAY) discussed general matters with personnel of Post 5 - morale good. | |
| | | | Warning Order received - B Coy 2/3 Aust MG Bn plus det sig el to move from LERAUKE and 4 Aust Div Area to KARENLAND. | |
| | | | Warning Order (O.4956) issued. | |

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|--------|-------|-------|---|--|
| | MAY 4 | | WX33892 Capt OL BENNET G.III(AIR) arrived from SOUTH to take up appointment. | |
| | | | Aircraft from 23 San RAAP strafed AA posn (Practice). During practice one Vultee Vengeance crashed in sea. Pilot and Observer killed. | |
| | | | GOC 4 Aust Div (Maj-Gen J.J. MURRAY) arrived at MERLUKE from Post 5 1900K. | |
| | 5. | | GOC 4 Aust Div (Maj-Gen J.J. MURRAY) conferred with Lt-Col CAMERON, Adm Comd 11 Aust Inf Bde - also visited pl of 4 Aust Div Carr Coy and site of 4 Aust Div Report Centre. | |
| | | | LEJ Instruction (SM.4239) on Protected documents distributed. | Appendix 'B' |
| | | | Lt PLUMB SSIC arrived THURSDAY IS. | |
| | | | Warning Order (O.4882) issued - 28 Aust Cam Unit will move from THURSDAY IS to MAINLAND. | |

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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| | MAY 6. | | GOC 4 Aust Div (Maj-Gen J.J. MURRAY) and party arrived 1300K from MERAUKE by air. | |
| | | | GOC 4 Aust Div visited det 2 Aust Water Tpt Gp, det 7 Aust Movt Control, 102 Aust Bde Wksp and ACF. | |
| | | | Instruction issued placing 2 Aust Water Tpt Gp RAE, 8 Aust Docks Operating Coy and 1 Pl 1 Aust Port Maintenance Coy under command HQ RAE 4 Aust Div as from 2359 hrs 6 May 44. | Appendix 'C' |
| | 7. | | GOC 4 Aust Div (Maj-Gen J.J. MURRAY) conferred with GSO.I, (Col K.M. GRAHAM), AA & SNG (Lt-Col R.P. McLELLAN) and CRE (Lt-Col H.B. MURN) ref outcome of visit to MERAUKE. | |
| | | | GOC 4 Aust Div left for THURSDAY ISLAND 1400 hrs. | |
| | | | Amendment No 1 to 4 Aust Div Location Statement No 11 issued. | Appendix 'D' |
| | 9. | | His Excellency the Governor of Queensland (Sir Leslie WILSON) | |

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted)

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Date and Time.—From.....To.....

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|--------|------------------|-------|---|--|
| | MAY 9 (contd) | | arrived by air 1630X. | |
| | | | B Coy 2/3 Aust MG Bn departed by steamer from MERRAUKKE. | |
| | | | 4 Aust Div Intelligence Summary No 32 issued. | Appendix 'E' |
| | 10. | | His Excellency the Governor of Queensland and GOC 4 Aust Div left for BADU. | |
| | 11. | | Det (1 offr 56 OR) 4 Aust Catercraft Wksp arrived THURSDAY IS by steamer. | |
| | 12. | | Instructions for 4 Aust Div School for IT Drivers issued. | Appendix 'F' |
| | | | Instruction issued for use of New Army Message form C2134. | Appendix 'G' |
| | | | 1000 hrs Vice Regal party left THURSDAY IS for visit to FRIDAY IS. | |
| | 13. | | Vice Regal party visited 1 ACH on HORN IS and 6 ACH on | |

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

Unit.....
Date and Time.—From..... To.....

Summary of Events and Information.

Remarks and references to
Appendices, Diaries, &c.

THURSDAY IS.

MAY 14.

1200 hrs Vice Regal party arrived HQ 4 Aust Div.

1415 hrs Vice Regal party inspected AWC Works and Hq 75
Wing RAAF.

15

1000 hrs Vice Regal Party visited Hq 23 Sqn RAAF.

1310 hrs Vice Regal party enplaned at HIGGINSFIELD for
CHARTERS TOWERS.

16.

GOC 4 Aust Div conferred with GSO.I, AA & QMG, ADMS (Col
G.S. ROBINSON) and CEAE (Lt-Col SHEEHAN).

GOC 4 Aust Div visited COMAL OK MISSION and inspected
farm area.

4 Aust Div Intelligence Summary No 33 issued.

Appendix 'H'

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form G. 2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit..... Date and Time.—From..... To.....

| Place. | Date. | Hour. | Summary of Events and Information. | Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c. |
|--------|--------|-------|--|--|
| | MAY 17 | | GOC 4 Aust Div departed 1000K for THURSDAY IS. | |
| | | | 50 Sqn AL Sec departed by steamer for SOUTH with 84 Sqn RAAF. | |
| | | | 11 Aust CRE (Works) (less det) departed area for MERAUKE. | |
| | | | Warning Order (SD.4215) one pl 15 Aust Wks Coy (2 Offrs 109 ORs) moving from MILEASE BRISBANE to MERAUKE to relieve one pl under comd 11 Aust Inf Bde. | |
| | | | | |
| | 18 | | GOC 4 Aust Div had lunch with Lt-Comd GRAHAM (US NAVY). | |
| | | | 4 Aust Div Operation Instruction No 22 issued. | Appendix 'I' |
| | | | | |
| | 19 | | GOC 4 Aust Div and party commenced visit of islands 0825K - arrived COCONUT IS 1730K - after dinner proclamation read to councillors and populace. | |
| | | | Warning Order (SD.4274) received - 4 Aust Water Craft Wksp less det already moved will move BRISBANE to THURSDAY IS. | |

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|--------|--------|-------|--|--|
| | MAY 19 | | Amendment No 2 to 4 Aust Div Distribution List No 3 issued | Appendix 'J'. |
| | 20 | | As from 0001K 21 May 79 Aust Dental Unit under comd No 4 Aust Div (C.5161) | |
| | | | Message received from First Aust Army (SD.4297) GOC First Aust Army expects to visit 4 Aust Div 22 May - proceeding to MERAUKE next day. | |
| | | | GOC 4 Aust Div departed COCOANUT IS for YORKE 0830K - | |
| | | | Itinerary altered slightly in view adverse weather. | |
| | | | Arrived YORKE IS 1230K met by Mr TURNER (Native Affairs) and Councillors - no preparations had been made for reception in view of changed plans. | |
| | | | Departed for STEPHENS IS 1600 hrs - arrived 1830 hrs. | |
| | 21 | | Message from First Aust Army (C.5059) advising NEI Fusilier Coy to be withdrawn from MERAUKE. | |

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|--------|--------|-------|--|--|
| | MAY 21 | | GOC 4 Aust Div visited STEPHENS IS and inspected COP - Departed STEPHENS IS for DARNLEY 0900K - arrived 1120K - Reception by Councillors and populace. Departed DARNLEY for MURRAY IS 1340K - arrived 1820K.. | |
| | 22. | | GOC First Aust Army (Lt-Gen STURDEE) and party arrived by air 1230 hrs at HIGGINSFIELD. Party visited MUTEE HEAD in afternoon. Designation of 15 Aust Employment Coy changed to 15 Aust Works Coy. GOC 4 Aust Div departed MURRAY IS for YORKE IS 1015K - arrived YORKE IS 1630K- met by Mr TURNER (Native Affairs) and councillors - inspected native hospital. GOC 4 Aust Div inspected COP MURRAY IS and addressed personnel. NEI Fusilier Coy withdrawn from BERAUKE. | |

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| | MAY 23 | | LHQ Instruction 65178 on Training of Tradesmen distributed. | Appendix 'K' |
| | | | 4 Aust Div Intelligence Summary No 34 issued. | Appendix 'L' |
| | | | 11 Aust Inf Bde advised that establishment of ELLANDEN RIVER Post had been completed. | |
| | | | GOC 4 Aust Div departed YORKE IS for THURSDAY IS 0600K - arrived THURSDAY IS 1630K. | |
| | 24. | | LHQ Instruction 63056 on Officer Conversion Training issued. | appendix 'L' |
| | | | GOC First Aust Army and party departed by air for HERAULE. | |
| | | | GOC 4 Aust Div visited HQ TORRES STRAIT Area. | |
| | 25. | | Instruction issued ref System of Unit Training for Units and attaching copy of LHQ 61874. | Appendix 'M' |

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Army Form ~~C~~ 2118
(adapted.)

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| | | | GOC First Aust Army and party arrived by air from MERAUKE | |
| | | | 1045K - short tour of THURSDAY IS. | |
| | | | Message from 11 Aust Inf Bde that FELO reports direct | |
| | | | passage MOPPI to AMOREP via WILDEMAN RIVER now open and | |
| | | | suitable for work boats and larger in emergency and running | |
| | | | time by motor launch from KIRIAN to AMOREP 38 hours. | |
| | | | | |
| | MAY 26 | | 4 Aust Div Location Statement No 12 issued | Appendix 'C' |
| | | | 24 B25s of 38 US Bomber Gp of 5 USAF using MERAUKE as | |
| | | | base for bombing of BABO and OTAWARI. | |
| | | | GOC First Aust Army arrived on MAINLAND from THURSDAY IS - | |
| | | | visited 102 Aust CCS. | |
| | | | GOC First Aust Army and party departed by air for SOUTH. | |
| | | | | |
| | 27 | | Det 5 Aust Ed Svy Coy (1 offr 9 OR) departed MERAUKE by | |
| | | | steamer. | |

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Army Form C. 2118
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| | MAY 28. | | GOC 4 Aust Div departed for THURSDAY IS. | |
| | 29. | | Amendment No 1 to 4 Aust Div Operation Instruction No 22 issued. | Appendix 'P' |
| | | | Warning order (O.5269) issued for 4 Aust Div Postal Unit will move from TOWNSVILLE to 4 Aust Div Area. | |
| | 30. | | GOC accompanied by Lt-Col J. CRIST (LHR), Maj S. WRIGHT (DAG) and Capt THOMAS (GSG.II(L)) departed on visit to ISLANDS in connection with election. 0200H - arrived ST PAULS 1200H - met by Councillors and people - discussed island matters with councillors. | |
| | | | Departed ST PAULS for MANTING 1500H - arrived 1745 - reception by Councillors and people. | |
| | | | 4 Aust Div Intelligence Summary No 35 issued. | Appendix 'Q' |

(Erase heading not required).

Date and Time.—From..... To.....

10. 166. 3.43. -- 1574.

SECRET

HQ 4 AUST DIV .

4 Aust Div Revsit No 308 to 1200 K 1 May 44

NW SECTOR

LAND

HOLLANDIA - On 27 Apr Allied patrols reconnoitered the SOUTH shore of SENTANI LAKE. Only weak enemy delaying actions are reported in the area.

SEA

SORONG

29 Apr - 1 cruiser
1 destroyer

2 Large M/V 85 mls NNE of SORONG

JEFMAN ISLAND 29 Apr - 1 Aircraft carrier with many a/c on deck reported 3 mls EAST of JEFMAN ISLAND.

AIR

WAKDE ISLAND - On night 28/29 Apr 36 B25's and 6 B24's dropped approx 17 tons of bombs scoring direct hits on trucks, stores, AA positions and starting large fires. The whole area was thoroughly strafed.

Aircraft sighting revealed only one twin engined bomber on the WEST end of the strip.

TANIMBAR ISLAND - On 29 Apr three enemy u/1 aircraft were observed over the area.

NE SECTOR

LAND

AITAPE - on 27 Apr patrols reaching CHINAPELLI reported the area clear of enemy. A further patrol reached TEPIER (4 mls WEST AITAPE) without making contact with the enemy.

MADANG AREA - On 27 Apr a NORTH bound patrol reached the rd junction 2 1/2 mls NORTH of ALEXISHAFEN. The patrol reports the whole area heavily mined. Further patrols reached SANUP, AMELE, SEIN, GASUP, MERKANHAM areas are all clear of enemy. (All area 6 mls SW MADANG)

AIR

WEWAK AREA - On 29 Apr 32 A20's dropped 30 tons of bombs on stores and personnel areas. Hits were scored on buildings, trucks and supply dumps, starting fires.

SEPIK RIVER AREA - A20's and P70's dropped approx 15 tons of bombs on the villages of MARUI, BURUI, ANGORAN and MARIENBERG. 12 buildings were set on fire and trucks damaged.

HANSA BAY - CAPE CROISILLES - On 29 Apr P39's & P47's dropped approx 35 tons of bombs scoring hits on personnel and supply areas. The whole area was thoroughly strafed.

DISTRIBUTION

As per Revsit No 304

C. C. Williams
CS 4 Aust Div.

SECRET

NS 4 AUST DIV (AIF)

4 AUST DIV REVSIT NO 309 TO 1200K 2 MAY 44

NW SECTOR

LAND

TANIMBAR IS : On 30 Apr Allied recon aircraft sighted wire entanglements along OLENDIR BAY (WEST coast SELAROE IS), also on SE coast ADAOET peninsula (NORTH SELAROE IS).

SEA - ENEMY

GZELVINK BAY : 30 Apr - 1 destroyer, 1 transport NORTH Coast NOENFOOR IS.
1 3000 ton motor vessel in MANORWARI harbour.
Vessel received direct hit.

KAIMANA - large number small craft

AUSTRALIA - enemy submarine 76 mls NNE MELVILLE IS, course SOUTH by EAST.

SEA - OWN

30 Apr - An Allied naval task force successfully bombarded WAKDE IS.

AIR

DUTCH NEW GUINEA : 7 B24s bombed the airfield and installations at KAMIRI on NOENFOOR IS on 30 Apr. On the same day 40 Allied heavy units bombed and strafed targets on WAKDE IS with unstated results.

NE SECTOR

LAND

ALEXISHAPEN : 27 Apr - Our tps established OP at HAIAR (3 1/2 mls NNW ALEXISHAPEN). Patrols operating inland from MADANG and ALEXISHAPEN made no contact.

AITAPE : 28/29 Apr. An Allied patrol reached DANDANAIN River (32 mls ESE of AITAPE).

SEA-OWN : 28/29 Apr Allied lt naval craft destroyed 6 enemy barges in NIGHTINGALE BAY (WEWAK Area). 2 barges were carrying 50/60 personnel each, others were transporting eqpt and stores. 3 PWs were captured.

AIR

NEW GUINEA : 29 Apr - 12 A20s dropped bombs and thoroughly strafed the WEWAK area. Villages along the SEPIK River were bombed and strafed by 41 P47s, 23 A20s and 4 P70s on 29/30 Apr. Many huts were destroyed and fires started. A suspect W/T station was also damaged.

26 P39s carried out a coastal sweep from ULIGAN Harbour to HANSA BAY on 30 Apr. 7 trucks were destroyed and others damaged. A motor pool at CONDOR PT was left u/s.

DISTRIBUTION as per Revsit 304

Col
Col
GS 4 Aust Div

CRH/HLW

14/0
S E C R E T

HQ 4 AUST DIV (AIF)

4 AUST DIV REVSIT No 310 to 1200K 3 MAY 44

NW SECTOR

HOLLANDIA : On 29/30 Apr Allied Forces effected an unopposed landing on DENTA (17 miles WNW of DEPAPRE). Attacking a hill 2 miles NORTH of KEFAAR our forces killed 79 Japs and successfully dispersed the enemy force.

SEA

MANOKWARI : 29 Apr - 1 large M/V in the harbour

GEELVINE BAY : 1 May - 75 barges near SAJATI (95 miles WSW CABBURVILLE).

KATMANA : 1 May - 4 probable small u/i vessels and many barges.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS : 26/30 Apr - Two cruisers, 1 destroyer, 8 escort and 8 cargo vessels.

WAKDE ISLAND : On 30 Apr Allied warships heavily bombarded WAKDE ISLAND causing fires and ammunition explosions. Catalinas assisted in the attack. No opposition was encountered.

AIR

ENEMY INSTALLATIONS

SCHOUTEN ISLAND : Reports to hand state that a new strip was observed NW SOEPHORI ISLAND (NW of BIAK ISLAND). The strip is reported to be 4500 feet long, with many revetments.

NE SECTOR

LAND

AITAPE AREA : On 29/30 Apr allied patrols operating 3 miles SOUTH of DRINDARIA RIVER along the escape route, report nil enemy contact.

ALEXISHAFEN : On 30 Apr patrol from ODRORBERG (4 miles NORTH of ALEXISHAFEN) to REMPT RIVER, report nil contact with the enemy.

AIR

NEW GUINEA : On 1 May 57 A20s and 2 P40s dropped approx 57 tons of bombs on stores and personnel areas at WEWAK. Huts were destroyed. NIGHTINGALE BAY was heavily strafed. 16 P39s and 16 P47s dropped approx 40 tons of bombs on personnel and supply area at HANSA BAY. The bridge across SARULA RIVER was destroyed and several fires started.

Distribution

As per Revsit No 304

Challenger
Col
CS 4 Aust Div

CCM/HIN

S E C R E T

HQ 4 AUST DIV (AIF)

4 AUST DIV REVSIT No 311 to 1200K 4 MAY 44

NW SECTOR

LAND

HOLLANDIA - TANAHMERAH BAY - Allied reports received on 1 May state that there is now practically no enemy resistance in the area.

AIR

AROE IS - On 1 May 7 Allied a/c made a harrassing raid on DOBO severely damaging targets in the town area.

NE SECTOR

LAND

AITAPE - 200 Japs were encountered at KAKTI on 29 Apr, during the ensuing clash 68 were killed. On 1 May NIL enemy contact was reported in the JALUP/TAPA villages.

AIR

NEW GUINEA : 19 A20s bombed and strafed the WENAE area and targets on MUSCHU IS on 2 May. Huts and bridges were destroyed.

In the HANSA BAY area 37 P47s, 12 F39s and 23 A20s dropped 36 tons of bombs on AA posns, stores and dump areas with considerable success. Targets in the vicinity of ULIGAN Harbour were also attacked by 12 A20s on the same day. All bombs fell in the target area.

W. J. Villings
Cdr
GS 4 AUST Div

Distribution as per Revsit No 304

1/10 Dr Diary

SECRET

4 Aust Div Revisit No 312 to 1200k 5 Apr 44

NW SECTOR

LAND

HOLLANDIA - On 2 May Allied tps with naval cover landed unopposed at WARI (13 mls NW HOLLANDIA), 16 enemy surrendered voluntarily.

SEA

MANOKWARI - 2 May - 2 large motor vessels - 2 destroyers 68 mls WNW MANOKWARI.

AIR

TIMOR - 15 Allied a/c attacked FENFOET and KOEPANG on 2 May. Direct hits were scored on the warehouse and barracks areas.

AIR-ENEMY

Two enemy a/c dropped and undetermined number of bombs on HOLLANDIA on night 2/3 May. No details are available.

NE SECTOR

LAND

AITAPE - 2 May KAMTI village was occupied. On the same day an Allied patrol reached SERRA (30 mls WNW AITAPE)

MADANG-ALEXISHAFEN - Due to flooded river the progress of allied patrols WEST of ALEXISHAFEN has been slow.

HANSA BAY - Reports received on 2 May state that the road from POTSDAM Harbour EAST of DOGUMUR BAY show signs of heavy traffic.

AIR

NEW GUINEA - 36 A20's, 14 B25's and 20 B24's dropped 166 tons of bombs on MUSCHU and KAIRIRU IS also on WEWAK-BORAM strips on 3/4 May. Both strips are now definitely U/S. Several AA posns at BORAM were destroyed. In the HANSA BAY area 16 P39's, 9 A20's, an unstated number of P47's bombed and heavily strafed AA posns and targets in POTSDAM and AMAR plantations. Personnel and dump areas in the vicinity of ULIGAN Harbour were also attacked by 12 A20's, 5 P39's, 4 P47's.

CAROLINES - 30 Apr/1 May - TRUK was attacked by a large force of carrier based a/c which dropped 800 tons of bombs. 126 enemy a/c were definitely destroyed.

DISTRIBUTION

As 1st Revisit 304

Col. [Signature]
CS 4 Aust Div.

CCM/CWC

SECRET

HQ 4 AUST DIV (AIP)

4 AUST DIV REVSIT NO 313 TO 1200Z 6 MAY 44

NW SECTOR

LAND : NIL activity reported.

AIR :

DUTCH NEW GUINEA : MAFPIN airfield on WAKDE IS was heavily bombed and strafed by 15 B25s on 4 May. Fires were started but damage generally was unobserved.

TIMOR : On 2 May 6 Allied a/c attacked targets in the area from MANATUTO to CAPE CHATER. Buildings in the course of construction at CAPE LAIVAI were damaged.

NE SECTOR

AJN

WEWAK : 46 A20s, 11 B24s and 4 P47s dropped 88 tons of bombs on WEWAK, BORAM and DAGUA strips, also heavily strafed the road from CAPE WOM to CAPE PUSS (8 mls NN WEWAK). Damage was estimated as heavy.

HANSA BAY : On 3 May 24 A20s, 4 P39s and 3 P70s bombed and strafed villages AA posns and personnel areas in the vicinity of BOGIA and HANSA BAY. Results were generally unobserved. On the same day 74 a/c attacked targets along the coast from ULIGAN Harbour to HANSA BAY.

DISTRIBUTION as per Revsit No 304

[Signature]
Col
GS 4 Aust Div

CRH/ARJ

S E C R E T

HQ 4 Aust Div (AIF)

4 AUSTRALIAN DIV REVSIT NO 313 to 1200X 7 MAY 44

NW SECTOR

LAND

HOLLANDIA AREA - On 4 May our patrols made light contact with the enemy EAST of TAMI RIVER.

AIR

SCHOUTEN ISLANDS - On 5 May 23 B24s dropped 26 tons of bombs on supply area SOUTH of MOBIER airfield. One large and several smaller fires were started.

TIMOR - Six aircraft bombed PENFOEI scoring hits on the barrack area road to KOPANE.

NE SECTOR

LAND

AITAPE - On 4 May patrol operated WEST to vicinity PRITZWITZ PT. Light contact with the enemy was made.

MADANG - ALEXISHAPEN - The road from MILILAT Plantation to Strip No 1 is reported clear of mines. Local patrols made no contact.

SEPIK RIVER - Native reports on 25 Apr state that Japs moved out of SEPIK RIVER area by tracks leading towards WEWAK.

SEA

SEPIK RIVER - On 5 May 1 x 500/1000 ton freighter was sighted NW side of mouth of river, serviceability undetermined.

AIR

WEWAK - On 5 May 32 A20s dropped approx 29 tons of bombs along the coast from CAPE WOM to BUP. A bridge near CAPE WOM and many huts were destroyed. An entire village at CAPE KARAWOP appeared to be burning. At WEWAK an oil dump was left burning.

SEPIK RIVER - 4 F47s and 1 F70 strafed villages along the SEPIK RIVER to MARIENBERG. Results generally unobserved.

Distribution:

As per Revsit No 304

[Signature]
for Col,
GS 4 Aust Div.

4 AUST DIV REVSIT No 314 to 0900K 8 May 44

NW SECTOR

LAND

HOLLANDIA : Active patrolling continues. On 5 May patrols killed 43 Japs 2 1/2 miles SSE of DEPAPRE. A party of Japs contacted at BERAP (12 miles SOUTH of DENTA) is considered to be an enemy outpost for a garrison at GENJEM (17 miles SW of DEPAPRE). Our troops at WARI are still in contact with Japs.

SEA

BIAK ISLAND : 5 May - one destroyer SE tip.

TIMOR (KOEPAANG) : 6 May - two small medium merchant vessels.
10 barges,
one 1000/1500 ton freighter transport.

SEMAOE ISLAND : 6 May - One 2000/4500 ton freighter transport.
One merchant vessel, both NE course.

CERAM : 6 May - One 500/1000 ton freighter at AMAHAI.
One 2000/4500 ton freighter transport NORTH of CAPE NAKAA (central northern coast CERAM) course WEST by SOUTH).

AIR

DUTCH NEW GUINEA : Ref Revsit No 313 attack on MOKMER Strip. It is now reported that 49 aircraft participated in the strike. On 5 May six aircraft bombed and strafed KEAUKWA, results were mainly unobserved due to bomb bursts. There was F4U fighter interception but light AA was encountered from known positions.

TIMOR : On 6 May 13 aircraft bombed and strafed PENFOEI airfield, damaging two grounded aircraft.

NE SECTOR

LAND

AITAPE : On 6 May patrolling continued, resulting in^a further 36 Japs killed and one captured.

MADANG-ALEXISHAFEN : On 5 May patrols to area 10 miles NW of ALEXISHAFEN observed no enemy movement.

AIR

NEW GUINEA : Nine aircraft bombed and strafed HANSA BAY area resulting in one large probable fuel fire on ARIS ISLAND (16 miles NE HANSA BAY).

SECRET

HQ 4 AUST DIV (AIF)

4 AUST DIV REVSIT No 315 to 0900K 9 MAY 44NW SECTORLAND

HOLLANDIA : On 5 May an amphibious patrol to BOUGAINVILLE BAY (23 miles SSE of HOLLANDIA) contacted the enemy at WATONG (1 mile EAST of BOUGAINVILLE BAY). Five Japs were killed but it is estimated that a larger group is in the area. Enemy casualties in the HOLLANDIA area to the 6 May are estimated at 732 killed, 161 captured.

SEA

GEELVINK BAY - 6 May : One medium cargo vessel at BOSNEK (BIAK IS)
7 May : One 2000/4500 ton freighter transport and two small merchant vessels seven miles SOUTH of NAMBER (NOEMFOOR IS) course SE.

KAIMANA - 7 May : 2/3 500/1000 ton freighters (probably luggers.
12/15 barges
Two 500/1000 ton freighters and two small northbound vessels TRITON BAY and IRIS STRAITS.

CELEBES - 6 May : Four destroyers
Three escort vessels
7/8 cargo vessels 80 miles NNW of MENADO

BORNEO - 6 May : 11 vessel convoy, incl 19000 ton auxiliary tanker, northward bound from KAL AMPUNIAN ISLAND. (NW of BORNEO).

AIR

BIAK ISLAND : On 6 May 19 aircraft bombed supply area at MOKMER. One of 17 intercepting fighters was destroyed.

ZAIMANA AREA : On night 6/7 May 4 aircraft bombed KAIMANA and 12 aircraft bombed the airfield at UTAROM with unstated results.

KAI ISLANDS : The airfields were attacked by eight aircraft on 6 May.

TIMOR : On 6 May six aircraft bombed military barracks in the KOEFAK area.

NE SECTORLAND

ADMIRALTY ISLANDS : The remaining Japs on LIANUS IS are estimated at 100/125. Enemy casualties to date are known dead 310, estimated dead 1100, captured 159.

AITAPE : Native reports state that 100/300 well armed Japs were at PAUP (19½ miles ESE of AITAPE) on 4/5 May.

MADANG - ALEXISHAFEN : On 6 May a PT boat patrol to BAGABAG ISLAND report no sign of Jap activity. Patrols operating WEST from MADANG and ALEXISHAFEN and in the ALELE area observed no enemy movement.

SEPIK RIVER : Aerial recce on 6 May reveal much constructional activity.

AIR

NEW GUINEA : The area from WEWAK to HANSA BAY is still receiving much attention. On 7 May a total of 87 aircraft bombed and strafed supply area and bridges in the WEWAK area. Installations in the HANSA BAY area were attacked by 15 aircraft the same day.

Wright
COL
GS 4 Aust Div

Distribution

As per Revsit No 304

4 AUST DIV REV3IT No 316 to 0900K 10 MAY 44

NW SECTOR

LAND

HOLLANDIA : On 8 May a further 22 Japs were captured at the EAST end of SENTANI LAKE and along the PIM track. Total casualties to date 871 killed, 183 captured.

SEA

DUTCH NEW GUINEA - 7 May - 13 barges vicinity SARMI
8 May - 2 freighters one destroyer SOUTH coast BIAK IS
3 500/1000 ton freighters off SORONG

MISOOOL IS - 8 May - 1 2000/4500 freighter tpt off CAPE
(SW SORONG) JAMTOE (NE tip of island) course EAST

CERAM 2 1000/1500 freighter tpts Cape
NANAA (central NORTH coast).

HALMAHERA IS - 8 May - 1 5500/7000 ton freighter tpt
4 2000/4500 ton " "
1 1500/2500 ton " "
1 1000/1500 ton " "

All in the vicinity of WEDA and WASILE BAYS

AIR

DUTCH NEW GUINEA : The area between SARMI and SAWAR was heavily bombed and strafed by 61 a/c on 7 May. The bridge across the ORAI RIVER was damaged and buildings destroyed. Nine of twelve intercepting fighters were destroyed. Over JEFMAN IS 7 a/c on recce destroyed one of 11 intercepting a/c.

AROE IS : 6 a/c attacked DOKA BARAT strip on 7 May with unstated results.

NE SECTOR

NEW GUINEA : The road from MADANG to ALEXISHAPEN is now repaired and is taking jeeps. From ALEXISHAPEN to 4 mls NORTH the road has been cleared of mines and there is no evidence of mines near the KEMPE RIVER.

AITAPE - 8 May : It is reported that the Japs will endeavour to escape from the area via TOMI (24 mls WSW AITAPE) thence westward by inland tracks. Native reports state 2 large Jap forces moving WEST from SUAIN Plantation (43 mls ESE AITAPE). One for ce moving inland along coast. Patrolling continued on 6/7 May with contact at AITERAP & DA'DANAIN Rivers (34mls SE AITAPE).

NEW BRITAIN : Reports received on 8 May state that some stragglers reached PUT PUT (24 mls SOUTH CAPE GAZELLE) via coastal track. HOSKINS airstrip was occupied by our tps without opposition on 8 May. The entire enemy garrison at ULAMONA (4 mls SW UBILI) is reported killed.

AIR

NEW GUINEA - 6/7 May. The coastal strip from ULIGAN Harbour to HANSA BAY was bombed by 21 a/c, scoring hits in personnel areas at POTSDAM and ULIGAN Harbours. WENAK area was bombed and strafed by 19 a/c on 8 May. Large fuel fires were started at BORAM and WOM PT.

Distribution as per Revsit 304

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13 4 Aust Div

CRH/HLW

S E C R E T

HQ 4 AUST DIV (AIF)

4 AUST DIV REVSIT No 317 TO 0900K 11 MAY 44

NW SECTOR

LAND

HOLLANDIA : On 6 and 7 May patrols killed 44 Japs and captured 39 (including 22 brought in by natives). The total casualties are now estimated at 915 killed and 227 captured.

SEA

GEELVINK BAY : 9 May - Three vessels probably two 2000/4500 ton freighter transports and one 500/1000 ton vessel 12 miles SOUTH by EAST of CAPE AIKAR (NOEMFOOR ISLAND).

KAI ISLANDS : 9 May - Two 500/1000 ton vessels stationary 11 miles WEST of LANGGOER.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS : 7 May - Four escort vessels
Two cargo vessels headed for BASILAN STRAITS (SW of MINDANAO ISLAND)

AIR

DUTCH NEW GUINEA : On 7 May 29 aircraft bombed and strafed SAWAR SAREI area, with unstated results. MOKMER airfield received a pounding by a total of 94 aircraft on 7 and 8 May. Several buildings were destroyed and many small fires started. Seven of 15/20 intercepting enemy fighters were destroyed and one grounded aircraft.

AROE ISLANDS : On the morning of 9 May six aircraft bombed and strafed DOKA BARAT area.

KAI ISLANDS : The same morning 12 aircraft bombed the airfield at PAAN and LANGGOER with unstated results.

TIMOR : On 9 May three aircraft bombed barracks area at PENFORI.

NE SECTOR

LAND

AITAPE : On 8 May patrolling continued.

MADANG-ALEXISHAFEN : It is reported that the road from ALEXISHAFEN to TOREMPI RIVER was clear of mines on 8 May. Patrols inland to TOMOGURUI (6 1/2 mls WEST of ALEXISHAFEN) observed no enemy movement.

AIR

NEW GUINEA : The area between WEWAK and HANSA BAY is still receiving air attention. Stores and personnel areas at WEWAK and EORAM were bombed and strafed, starting fires on both targets.

[Signature]
Col
GS 4 Aust Div

Distribution as per Revsit No 304

CH/CWC

SECRET

HQ 4 AUST DIV (AIF)

4 AUST DIV REVSIT NO 319 TO 0900K 13 MAY 44

NW SECTOR

LAND

HOLLANDIA : A native report on 11 May states that 40 Japs with MGs are situated in defensive positions near MASRO (SE shore of SENTANI LAKE). Our arty shelled approx 70 Japs at SAPARI (9 mls EAST of CAPE TANAHMERAH). A further 25 Japs were killed by patrols, bringing the total enemy casualties to 1002 killed and 266 captured.

AIR

WAKDE ISLAND : On 11 May 83 aircraft bombed and strafed AA positions. One HAA gun position was destroyed and a coastal gun position damaged. Very large fires were started and an amn dump destroyed.

WISSEL LAKES : On 12 May 6 B25s bombed and strafed ENAROTALI and shores of LAKE PANIAI. Slight inaccurate MG fire was encountered from three praus, two of which were sunk and on probably sunk. All bombs fell in target area at ENAROTALI. On the return trip KAUKENAU was attacked. Some bombs fell close to med AA positions. At 120900K 7 Beauforts bombed and strafed ENAROTALI again, and WISSEL LAKES area. All bombs fell in village area. Nil sightings of personnel in ENAROTALI, possible slight AA from target area. Nil sightings by either strike force of previously reported enemy F/Bs on WISSEL LAKES

NE SECTOR

LAND

AITAPE : (Ref Revsit No 318). It is now reported that the 100 Japs who entered YAKAMUL, departed inland after stealing rations from native food dump. Enemy casualties in this area to 10 May total 572 killed and 26 captured.

ALEXISHAFEN : On 10 May an Allied patrol reached BUNA No 2. No enemy movement was observed.

AIR

NEW GUINEA : On 9 May 30 aircraft bombed and strafed the coastal areas from ULIGAN HARBOUR to HANSA BAY. Villages in the same area were attacked by 15 aircraft the following day. Buildings and supply areas at WOM POINT were bombed and strafed by 8 aircraft, with unstated results.

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4 AUST DIV REVSIT NO 320 TO 0900K 14 MAY 44

W/E

NW SECTOR

LAND

HOLLANDIA : A native report on 11 May states that there is much enemy activity at BANJOP (15 mls SOUTH of DEMA). A further 5 Japs have been killed and 45 captured in the HOLLANDIA Area.

SEA

GEELVINK BAY : Enemy ship sightings on 11 May show three medium vessels at BOSNEK, one medium cargo vessel at WADIBCE, one small cargo vessel and 10 barges at NOKMER, all in the vicinity of BIAK IS.

MANOKWARI : On 12 May one lt cruiser, three merchant vessels (one 6000 tons, one 7000 tons and one 8000 tons) were sighted 17 miles WNW of MANOKWARI, course WEST. The merchant vessels were escorted by four enemy aircraft, but a strafing attack by Allied aircraft damaged the vessels.

KAUKENAU : Sightings on 12 May revealed one 500/1000 ton freighter.

AGATZ : An unconfirmed native report of 10 May states that three small vessels were sighted at the mouth of LORENTZ RIVER, course WEST.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS : On 10 May sightings included ten escort vessels (incl destroyer) and 10 cargo vessels 110 miles NW of MANILA.

AIR

WAKDE ISLANDS : (Ref Revsit No 319). A later report states that, on 11 May, 59 aircraft bombed the ISLANDS causing large and violent explosions. Large intensive fires were also started.

BIAK ISLAND : 42 aircraft bombed the airstrip and AA positions at NOKMER with unstated results. On 12 May four aircraft scored hits on runway and revetment area.

TIMOR : On 12 May 16 aircraft bombed PENFOET, starting large fires and explosions in the barracks area.

BOEROE ISLAND : On 12 May 10 aircraft bombed NAMLEA causing numerous fires and explosions.

NE SECTOR

LAND

AITAPE : On 11 May, following bombing and strafing, our troops occupied the village of MARUBIAN (36 miles SE of AITAPE). Patrolling continues in all other areas.

ALEXISHAFEN : On 10 May forward troops reached MEIGAR (5 mls NW of CAPE CROISILLES) without contacting the enemy.

SEPIK RIVER : Native reports state that the road NORTH from BURUI to HAPRIK was not used by the Japs.

AIR

NEW GUINEA : On 11 May 109 aircraft bombed and strafed bridges and targets from ULIGAN HARBOUR to HANSA BAY. Several bridges were damaged and many others destroyed. On 10 May 45 aircraft bombed and strafed targets at mouth of SEPIK RIVER and WEWAK. Hits were scored on dispersal, personnel and supply areas. On 11 May 106 aircraft bombed and strafed WEWAK, igniting am and fuel dumps and causing explosions and fires.

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4 AUST DIV REVSIT NO 321 TO 0900K 15 MAY 44NW SECTORLAND

HOLLANDIA : On 12 May a Jap force of unknown strength offered stiff resistance to our troops at AJAPO (10 mls WSW of HOLLANDIA). Two miles NORTH of the airfields our forces encountered 35 Japs, killing one. An unknown number of Japs were encountered two miles SW of TAMI Strip. The total enemy casualties to 12 May are estimated at 1117 killed and 328 captured.

SEA

DESLVINK BAY : Sightings on 13 May revealed one 500/1000 ton freighter at MANI BAY and one u/i vessel 10 miles NE of CAPE MANIBOROR (35 mls WNW of NABIRE) course NE.

SOELA ISLAND : On 11 May a convoy of unstated size was sighted SOUTH of SOELA ISLAND.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS : Sightings on 12 May revealed one probable A/C tender, nine merchant vessels totalling 73,000 tons at MANILA HARBOUR and two vessels, totalling 4000 tons at CAVITE.

AIR

WAKDE ISLAND : The airstrip was bombed and strafed by 25 aircraft on 13 May.

NAMBER : On 13 May 10 aircraft bombed the airstrip, with unstated results.

NE SECTORLAND

AITAPE : On 11 May a patrol at BABIANG (35 mls ESE of AITAPE) observed approx 55 Japs preparing defensive positions 2½ miles EAST along the coast. The patrol later met LMG and grenade fire from the same area. A further patrol attacked an enemy biv area 2000 yds SSW of SERRA, killing seven Japs. The total number of enemy killed to 12 May is estimated at 607.

SEA

NEW GUINEA : On 12 May naval units bombarded Jap buildings and positions at KARKAR ISLAND, starting fires and destroying buildings. It is reported that there is a possible radar and wireless station on the SW slopes of the island. The same day naval units bombarded Jap gun positions at WEWAK.

AIR

NEW GUINEA : On 11 May 19 aircraft bombed and strafed the coastal area from BUNABUN HARBOUR to HANSA BAY, destroying a bridge across the KOKUMBA RIVER. On 12 May 45 aircraft bombed and strafed bridges, supply, personnel and AA positions at HANSA BAY. WEWAK was bombed and strafed by a total of 55 aircraft on 12 and 13 May.

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[Signature]
Cpl
GS 4 Aust Div

CH/CWC

SECRET

HQ 4 AUST DIV (AIF)

4 AUST DIV REVSIT NO 322 TO 0900K 16 MAY 44.

NW SECTOR

LAND

HOLLANDIA : 24 Japs were killed and 19 captured at the airfields and SENTANI LAKE area, on 12 May. Groups of 20/30 Japs, all of which were armed and showing aggressive attitude, were contacted by Allied patrols in an unstated area.

SEA

DUTCH NEW GUINEA : On 13 May nine barges were sighted 30 miles WEST of WAKDE ISLAND. Sightings at BIAK ISLAND revealed 37/45 barges.

SINGAPORE : Three A/C carriers, five heavy cruisers, and three or more destroyers were reported 370 miles NE of SINGAPORE, course SOUTH.

AIR

DUTCH NEW GUINEA : On 13 May one aircraft strafed and destroyed two grounded aircraft at WAKDE ISLAND. Following this attack 20 aircraft bombed MAFFIN, SAWAR and WAKDE ISLAND, starting fires on stores and personnel areas at MAFFIN and scoring hits on SAWAR strip. On 12 May 42 aircraft bombed supply and revetment areas at MOKMER.

NE SECTOR

LAND

ATTAPE : Patrols made light contact with the enemy on 12 May, inflicting casualties.

SAIDOR : On 13 May patrols killed five Japs and found 31 dead in the vicinity of YOGAYOGA and MASIDANG.

ALEXISHAPEN : On 13 May patrols were active at AMPLE, AMRON MISSION, KAURIS (7 miles WEST of MADANG) and WERNASS RIVER (8 miles NORTH of ALEXISHAPEN). No enemy movement was observed.

AIR

NEW GUINEA : 26 aircraft bombed and strafed the coastal area from ULIGAN HARBOUR to HANSA BAY, damaging bridges and scoring hits in personnel and supply areas. 79 aircraft bombed and strafed BORAM strip and personnel and stores areas from CAPE WOM to MISSION POINT. Large oil fires were started.

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[Signature]
Col
CS 4 Aust Div

4 AUST DIV REVSIT NO 323 TO 0900K 17 MAY 44

NW SECTORLAND

HOLLANDIA : On 14 May it was reliably reported that Japs were occupying all buildings of five villages in an area 35 miles SW of TANAHMERAH BAY. Aerial recce on the same day revealed large numbers of European type of camouflaged warehouses in the vicinity of BAIM (20 miles WEST of HOLLANDIA airfields). Patrols have killed a further 14 Japs, captured 6, bringing the total casualties to 1176 killed and 366 captured.

SEA

WAKDE ISLAND : 14 May - one possible submarine five miles NORTH of WAKDE IS, course NW by WEST.

GEELVINK BAY : 14 May - one medium cargo vessel four miles SOUTH of BOSNEK. 3/10 barges under way SOUTH of BOSNEK.

14 May - Two small stationary vessels, one northern tip and other southern tip of BIAK IS.

15 May - five small vessels at MANORWARI, one destroyed by Allied planes, leaving the harbour.

CAPE DURVILLE : 13 May - one submarine 30 mls NORTH of CAPE DURVILLE, course EAST.

AROE ISLANDS : 15 May - one merchant vessel at DOSO.

TIMOR : 15 May - photos reveal one 400 ton vessel and six barges at KOEPANG.

BORNEO : 13 May - three tankers and three destroyer escorts off DARVEL BAY, course SOUTH.

14 May - three battleships, three hy cruisers, one A/C carrier and one lt cruiser 90 mls ENE of DARVEL BAY (NORTH BORNEO) course SE.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS : 14 May - one hy cruiser, one lt cruiser, one A/C carrier and three destroyers at DAVAO GULF.

AIR (OWN)

DUTCH NEW GUINEA : (Ref Revsit No 322). An additional 41 aircraft participated in the strike on MAPPIN, SAWAR and WAKDE ISLANDS. On 14 May 110 aircraft bombed and strafed WAKDE ISLAND and the mainland. HAA positions were hit. On 13/14 May a total of 89 aircraft bombed and strafed AA positions and supply areas. The following day a further four aircraft bombed runway and dispersal area. A preliminary report that five of the intercept enemy aircraft were destroyed over BIAK ISLAND.

AIR (ENEMY)

DUTCH NEW GUINEA : On 13/14 May a total of 12 enemy aircraft bombed HOLLANDIA strip, TANAHMERAH BAY and HUMBOLDT BAY without causing damage or casualties.

NE SECTORLAND

AITAPE : On 14 May it was reliably reported that retreating Japs moved inland from the coast EAST of AITAPE, along a southern route by-passing AITAPE. The route is reported to pass SIRIGAYERISI area (26 mls SOUTH of TADJI airstrip). WAFBI (35 mls SW of AITAPE) is believed to be an enemy base camp to which enemy troops escaped late in Apr.

SEA

NEW GUINEA : 15 May - 20 barges sighted at WEWAK POINT.

AIR

NEW GUINEA : On 14 May 36 aircraft bombed and strafed coastal targets from ULIGAN HARBOR to HANSA BAY. Continuing the air offensive in the WEWAK area, 15 aircraft bombed and strafed stores, buildings and AA positions at BORAM on 13 May. 97 aircraft bombed WEWAK, destroying five grounded aircraft, and strafed villages. On 14 May 29 aircraft started fires and demolished buildings at KANKAR ISLAND.

4 AUST DIV REVSIT NO 324 to 0700K 18 MAY 44

NW SECTOR

SEA

DUTCH NG : 15 May - two small freighters or luggers and 15/20 barges at SARMI.
15 May - nine barges MAFFIN BAY
16 May - ten barges 55 mls ESE KAIMANA

GEELVINK BAY : 15 May - one small stack aft freighter or lugger heavily strafed. Five barges SOUTH of VANDORMOEAR IS
16 May - one sub 10 mls SE BOSNEK
15 May - two freighters (one 1000 tons) at BIAK IS.
16 May - ten barges northern tip NOEMFOOR IS..

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS : 16 May - one by one 1t cruiser entrance DAVAO GULF course SOUTH.

AIR

DUTCH NEW GUINEA : 15 May - 100 a/c dropped 264 tons bombs and strafed AA posns, bivouac, personnel and stores area WAKDE, SARMI and SANAR. On 16 May 87 a/c dropped over 200 tons bombs and strafed gun posns and installations MAFFIN BAY and WAKDE IS. Six a/c with fighter escort bombed and strafed KAMIRI - two enemy intercepting fighters were destroyed.

NE SECTOR

LAND

ALEXISHAPEN : On 15 May patrols reached GILAGIL R (14 mls NNW CAPE CROISILLES) without contact. All bridges on coastal road except those over WAGEI and GILAGIL RIVERS were destroyed.

AITAPE : On night 13/14 May our outpost at BABIANG (mouth DANDRIWAD R) was attacked by enemy, estimated at one bn. Attack repulsed. On 14 May enemy infiltrated our line between BABIANG and ULAU (one mile WEST of BABIANG) forcing our troops to withdraw by sea to NYAPARAKE (six mls WNW BABIANG). Withdrawal covered by PT boats which received considerable enemy fire from shore. On 15 May allied patrol repulsed enemy attack on its position CHAROV (2 1/2 mls SOUTH of NYAPARAKE).

SEA

NEW GUINEA : On 13 May allied vessels bombarded enemy posns on KARKAR IS and BUNABUN HARBOUR destroying gun posns KARKAR IS. On 15 May strafing fighters left twelve barges burning at WEWAK PT.

AIR

NEW GUINEA : On 15 May 38 a/c bombed and strafed coastal area ULIGAN HARBOUR to HANSA BAY. 23 a/c bombed and strafed coastal area HANSA BAY to NIGHTINGALE BAY. Most bombs on personnel area both sides BOROI R. 67 a/c bombed and strafed supply area at WEWAK setting on fire approx 300 oil drums at BORAM. 11 a/c bombed and strafed DANDRIWAD R area.

for
Col
GS 4 Aust Div

Distribution as per Revsit No 304

HQ 4 AUST DIV (AIF)

4 AUST DIV REVSIT No 325 TO 0900K 19 MAY 44

NW SECTORLAND

HOLLANDIA Area : On 16 May patrolling continues. Further Jap parties have been contacted and casualties inflicted. The total enemy casualties to date have now been estimated at 1422 killed and 410 captured.

Further unopposed Allied landings have been made at DRAKEST PT and BOEKISI on 13 May (both in IRIS BAY, 8 miles WEST of TANAHMERAH BAY). No details are to hand.

WAKDE AREA : On 17 May Allied forces landed unopposed from cruisers and destroyers at ARARA (on mainland 3 mls SSW of WAKDE ISLANDS). By 1000K the beachhead was extended WEST to TOR RIVER and EAST to TORI (4 mls WEST and 3½ mls EAST of ARARA respectively). Following aerial and naval bombardment at 1143K further Allied forces moved from ARARA by barge and landed on INSOEMANAI IS (smaller of WAKDE ISLANDS). Naval gun fire sank all enemy barges and set two fuel dumps afire on the WEST side of INSOEMOEAR IS (larger of WAKDE ISLANDS).

SEA

DUTCH NEW GUINEA : The only sighting reported from this area was on 16 May when 22/26 barges were sighted SE of BIAK ISLAND.

AIR

DUTCH NEW GUINEA : On 16 May 94 aircraft bombed and strafed gun positions and installations at WAKDE ISLAND, destroying gun positions. Six aircraft bombed mouth of NAMBERANG RIVER (CAPE DURVILLE AREA). A total of 69 aircraft attacked targets at BOSNEK and MOKMER (BIAK ISLAND) with unstated results. Aerial recce over GEELVINK BAY destroyed three of eight intercepting enemy fighters over KANIRI.

NE SECTORLAND

ALEXISHAFEN : On 16 May patrols westward from LURNASS Plantation report area clear of enemy.

WEWAK : Much enemy activity along the coastal area from WEWAK through BUT was observed by recce aircraft on 16 May.

AITAPE : On 16 May much enemy activity was reported at DEIA CREEK (3 mls ESE of KURUBIAN). Captured documents and native reports indicate that the enemy have constructed def positions and using the area as bivouac. The total enemy casualties are now estimated at 664 killed and 23 captured.

SEA

NEW GUINEA : On 16 May one launch was sighted 35 miles up RAMU RIVER, travelling upstream.

AIR

NEW GUINEA : On 16 May 61 aircraft bombed and strafed targets from ULIGAN HARBOR to HANSA BAY. Bridges were destroyed and damaged. AA posns at WOK PT and targets were successfully attacked by 51 aircraft. Troops concentrated at DANDRIWAD RIVER and BABIAN were bombed by 30 aircraft. Fires were started. TABIS (50 miles up RAMU RIVER) was attacked by 8 aircraft with unstated results.

4 AUST DIV REVSIT No 327 to 0900K 31 MAY 44

NW SECTOR

LAND

HOLLANDIA : Natives report small groups of Japs, in poor condition, moving WEST from HOLLANDIA to SARMI, using the inland tracks. On 18 May patrols killed 95 Japs, found three dead and captured 15, bringing the total to 1565 killed and 429 captured.

WAKDE AREA : On 16 May natives report 250 armed Japs passed through TOEM for OTEBER (2³ mls SW of TOEM). On 17/18 May Allied patrols made light contact with the enemy in the vicinity of TEMENTOE and TOR RIVERS, resulting in 54 Japs killed. On 18 May natives report enemy guns and def positions located near WOSKE RIVER (3 mls WEST of MAFFIN BAY) and numerous unoccupied positions near TOR RIVER. The airstrip on WAKDE ISLAND was occupied by Allied tps at 181443K. Stubborn opposition was encountered from the NE corner of the island but by 191820K the whole island was in Allied hands.

KCEMAMBA ISLANDS : On AM 19 May Allied troops landed unopposed on LIKI and NIROEMOAR ISLANDS (approx 30 mls NW of WAKDE ISLANDS). No details are yet to hand.

SEA

CEELVINK BAY : 17 May - Photos revealed 35 barges 26 luggers at MANOKWARI
19 May - One small vessel SE of BIAK ISLAND, cours NORTH by WEST
19 May - One medium merchant vessel at MIOS WAPPI
Two 500/1000 ton freighters at CAPE SANGEN
Three to four 400/1000 ton freighters at DORE BAY.
One 1000/1500 ton freighter tpt at MANSIMAN ISLAND.

AROE ISLANDS : On 19 May one possible submarine was reported WEST of WASIR ISLAND.

TANIMBAR ISLANDS : On 18 May four aircraft attacked three 500/1000 ton stack aft freighters (one at LARAT, one NW of MAROE Is and one NW of JAMDENA Is) resulting in one destroyed and one damaged.

HALMAHERA ISLANDS : 18 May - three 1500 ton merchant vessels two miles NE of HALMAHERA.
One 2000 ton freighter, eight barges at CALELA.
One 2000/4500 ton freighter transport at LOLOERTA.
Two freighters (one 7000/9000 and one 500/1000 tons) at TERNATE jetty.
Three possible light cruisers and six possible destroyers at KAOE BAY.

Intense activity of barges and small merchant vessels reported throughout the ISLANDS.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS : On 17 May one northbound convoy 360 miles SW of MANILA BAY included one destroyer, one aux oiler. On 18 May sightings revealed two destroyers in DAVAO GULF, course SOUTH.

AIR

DUTCH NEW GUINEA : On 19 May 12 aircraft bombed MANOKWARI scoring direct hits on runway and dispersal areas, and destroying or damaging grounded aircraft. Explosions were also caused. Of eight intercepting aircraft one was destroyed.

NE SECTOR

WEWAK : On 18 May a Jap PW stated that the enemy have a large number of barges at the mouth of the SEPIK RIVER. These are to be used for the evacuation of WEWAK and it is reported that the proposed route is up the SEPIK, thence overland to SARMI. A further PW states that out of a number of Japs attempting to walk from WEWAK to ARZDRIVER (tributary of TAMI RIVER) nearly all died of hunger.

AITAPE : On 17 May, allied patrol, after contacting approx 20 Japs established def positions one mile WEST of mouth of DANDRIWAD RIVER. A further patrol, working inland from SOUTH of NYAPARAKE, encountered enemy fire from the vicinity of CHEMIAU (2 miles WEST of mouth of DANDRIWAD RIVER). The total enemy casualties are now estimated at 713 killed and 30 captured.

AIR

NEW GUINEA : On 18 May 65 aircraft bombed and strafed airfields, bridges, stores and supply areas at WEWAK. Hits were scored on gun positions and bridges. On 19 May 24 aircraft bombed and strafed CAPE KARAWOP (17 mls NW of WEWAK) scoring hits on HQ and pers area. Targets entire HANSA BAY area were also attacked by 12 aircraft.

J. Keen
for Col
GS 4 Aust Div

Distribution

As per Revsit No 326

4 AUST DIV ROWSET No 32E to 0900Z 22 MAY 44

NW SECTOR

LAND

HOLLANDIA : On 19 May patrols operating SW of TANAMERAH BAY, reported westward retreat of enemy through GENJEM, was totally disorganised. Rifles and MGs were being discarded. The total enemy casualties to 19 May are estimated at 1828 killed and 455 captured.

Aerial recon at MAFPIN BAY on 19 May revealed approx 50 well armed Japs in good physical condition on the EAST bank of the TOR RIVER. A further 50 well equipped Japs moving EAST, attacked Allied patrols on the WEST of the TOR RIVER. Harassing enemy arty fire was experienced on night 18/19 May. A recon aircraft reported a possible 75 mm gun on coastal road 2000 yards EAST of mouth of TERNPOE RIVER.

WADE ISLAND : The total enemy counted dead to 19 May numbers 550.

SEA

GEELVINK BAY : 19 May - two 500/1000 ton freighters at NAMBER (NOEMFOOR ISLAND)
Estimated 15/20 vessels, majority 1000/2000 tons, and 50 barges at MANOKWARI. Of these, seven to eight were destroyed by attacking aircraft.

JAVA : During an aerial attack on SOURABAYA on 17 May ten vessels, totalling 25000 tons, incl one small tanker and one possible destroyer, received hits. One ship exploded and others probably destroyed. Two floating docks were severely damaged.

AIR

DUTCH NEW GUINEA : On 19 May 26 aircraft bombed and strafed the airstrip at KAMIRI and shipping at MANOKWARI. One of several intercepting enemy aircraft was destroyed. 43 aircraft bombed the beach def and supply areas at BOSNEK and MOKMER (BLAK ISLAND). Two large fires were observed at BOSNEK.

JAVA : Early AM on 17 May 67 aircraft attacked shipping, airfields and installations at SOURABAYA and the airfield at MALANG (48 mls SOUTH by WEST of SOURABAYA). Complete surprise was achieved and results were excellent. WONOKROM oil refinery and ERAAT naval engineering works were completely destroyed. The power house was destroyed by one direct hit. Other naval installations were considerably damaged and storage tanks and stills set on fire. Four grounded aircraft were destroyed and many damaged. 15 grounded aircraft were destroyed at MALANG and many others damaged.

NE SECTOR

WENAK : On night 19/20 May moving lights were observed at LUAIN plantation, also camp fires SE of LUAIN and at MATAPPU.

AITAPE : On 19 May, allied patrols, attempting to encircle Japs one mile EAST of DRIMEOI (1 1/2 mls WEST of BARLANG) were fired on by hy mortars. Our patrols were forced to withdraw towards NYAPARAKE. The total enemy casualties are now estimated at 728 killed 31 captured.

2

SEA

NEW GUINEA : On 18 May allied light surface craft shelled and strafed enemy positions along the NORTH and WEST coasts of KARKAR ISLANDS.

AIR

NEW GUINEA : On 18 May 12 aircraft bombed and strafed HANSA BAY. On 19 May 8 aircraft bombed and strafed SANI village (15 mls WEST of NUBIA) setting most of the houses in the village on fire. 191 aircraft bombed and strafed the coastal area NW of WEWAK. The target area was well covered, and many large fires started. A Radar Station at WEWAK was destroyed.

Arthur E. Kay
Col
CS 4 Aust Div

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As per Revsit No 326

SECRET

HQ 4 AUST DIV (AIF)

4 AUST DIV REVSIT No 329 to 0900K 23 MAY 44NW SECTORLAND

HOLLANDIA : On 20 May a further 74 Japs were killed and 13 captured.

WADE AREA : On 20 May the enemy using mortars, LMGs, grenades and rifles counter attacked our positions on the WEST bank of the TOR RIVER, resulting in 20 Japs killed. The same day our positions at the bridgehead came under intense enemy MG and sniper fire. Recce aircraft sighted by enemy def positions at MAFFIN airfield (4 miles WEST of our fwd elements on WEST bank of TOR RIVER) and along the coastal rd to MAFFIN No 1 (village 2 mls from our fwd posns). On night 18/19 May Allied patrols encountered sniper fire from TEMENTOE RIVER. On 20 May 37 Japs attacked our bridgehead, on main WADE ISLAND. All Japs were killed. To 20 May the total enemy casualties are estimated at 676 killed 1 captured.

SEADUTCH NEW GUINEA :

GEELVINK BAY : 21 May - One 500/1000 ton freighter at MANSIMAN IS and numerous barges at MANOKWARI.

KAIMANA : 21 May - Two 500/1000 ton freighters and numerous barges at UTAROM
One 500/1000 ton freighter at KAIMANA.

HALMAHERA : 19 May : One destroyer, one small cargo vessel off POINT LELAI (NE of HALMAHERA ISLAND) course EAST by NORTH.

20 May : One fuel laden cargo vessel, two escorts MOROTAI STRAITS (NORTH of HALMAHERA ISLAND).

AIR

DUTCH NEW GUINEA : On 21 May 11 aircraft bombed targets at MANOKWARI. 9 aircraft bombed KAMIRI strip, starting fires in revetment area. On 21 May seven aircraft bombed UTAROM airfield.

NE SECTORLAND

NEW GUINEA : On 20 May patrolling continues. Natives report a large body of Japs moved from BUT to MAPRIK approx 14 days ago. Some of these believed to have moved to MARUI. Aerial recce revealed serviceable road from MATAPPU to BUT.

AIR

NEW GUINEA : WEWAK area received considerable attention on 20 and 21 May. On 20 May 158 aircraft bombed and strafed targets from CAPE KARAWOP to SUAIN. Many fires were started at biv areas and installations. Two large explosions were observed between BOIKEN and NINAHAU RIVERS. A further 111 aircraft bombed and strafed troop concentrations and installations on 21 May.

for Col

4 AUST DIV REVSIT NO 330 TO 0900K 24 MAY 44

NW SECTOR

LAND

HOLLANDIA : On 21 May two Japs captured, at BORKISI (IRIS BAY) reported as result surrender leaflets dropped by Allies. Natives in area report 300 enemy fled WEST. Patrols killed 20 Japs, captured four, bringing the total casualties to 21 May to 1861 killed, 468 captured.

WAKDE AREA : The casualties on the main WAKDE ISLAND to 21 May was estimated at 759 killed. On 21 May Allied arty maintained harrassing fire on MAFFIN NO 1 and on the road WEST to the airstrip. Our troops encountered harrassing fire from Jap 90 mm mortars located one mile SE of MAFFIN NO 1. The total casualties to 21 May, including WAKDE ISLAND are estimated at 858 killed, 1 captured.

MERAUKE AREA : On 21 May signs of recent Jap occupation in villages in vicinity of EILANDEN RIVER and along NOORDWEST RIVER (20 mls NNW of mouth of EILANDEN RIVER)

SEA

DUTCH NEW GUINEA : 21 May - surface units ignited amn dump at SARMI
22 May - one small cargo vessel 70 miles WNW of MANOKWARI.

BOEROE ISLAND : 22 May - one large, two smaller vessels, and one small vessel 37 and 52 miles WNW of NAMLEA respectively.

BORNEO : In addition to vessels which anchored TAWITAWI IS on 14 May, reports state three destroyers, two fleet tankers entered the bay from the SOUTH on 19 May.

AIR

DUTCH NEW GUINEA : On 21 May 34 aircraft bombed pers and supply areas at SORIDO.

AROE ISLANDS : On 22 May 4 aircraft strafed huts, stores and gun positions at KOKA BARAT.

NE SECTOR

LAND

SEPIK RIVER : On 21 May reliable reports state that MINDIMBIT, ANGERMAN and NYINDUGUM (32 mls, 37 mls and 27 mls ESE MARUI respectively) are occupied by the enemy. Native reports state that there is no enemy traffic between TIMBUNKE (36 mls ESE MARUI) and MAPRIK road. On 22 May, further natives report that a party of Japs were camped on the bank of the SEPIK RIVER, a short distance down stream from ANGORAM.

AITAPE : Documents captured on 18 May indicate that the main body of one Jap division was in the jungle SOUTH of MARTBRAN, and moving inland. On 21 May our patrols, SOUTH and EAST of NYAPARAKE contacted several enemy parties and observed others, numbering 50/75, moving along the coastal track one mile EAST of NYAPARAKE. The enemy have occupied TONG and MUSIMBILIM (15 and 20 mls SOUTH of NYAPARAKE respectively). Indications that the enemy at YILI (30 mls S3W of AITAPE) are moving towards LUAI (32 mls SW of AITAPE).

AIR

NEW GUINEA : On 21 May 57 aircraft bombed and strafed pers, supply, store areas and villages at HANSA BAY. On 22 May 21 aircraft bombed and strafed enemy installations at WEWAK.

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[Signature]
Capt.
for Col
GS 4 Aust Div

EMCK/CWC

SECRET

HQ 4 AUST DIV (AIF)

4 AUST DIV REVSIT NO 331 TO 0900K 25 MAY 44

NW SECTOR

LAND

HOLLANDIA : On 22 May reliable natives patrolled to ARZO (25 mls SE SENTANI LAKE) returned and reported 1000 Japs (many sick and wounded) at ARZO. On same day our tps in TAKI area killed 21 and captured 13 Japs; also finding 69 dead Japs. Total enemy casualties to 22/23 May 1873 killed, 472 PW.

WAKDE AREA : On 21 May 15 Jap stragglers were killed on main WAKDE IS. Our bridgehead TOR RIVER extended and reinforced. 25 Japs were killed in MAFFIN BAY area. Natives report Japs occupy BEATA, ANSOEDOE, PODENA, ANOES and ARMPOA (all 20 to 42 mls SE of ARARA). Fwd tps report 1500 enemy tps with ample sups in MAFFIN - SARMI area.

SEA

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

SORIDO : On 22 May 10 barges were sighted.

AIR

DUTCH NEW GUINEA : On 22 May 57 A/C bombed stores, pers area at SORIDO. On night 22/23 May 3 A/C bombed KAMIRI airfield. On night 21/22 May 7 A/C bombed MANOKWARI.

NE SECTOR

LAND

ATTAPE : On 23 May Allied outpost at NYAPARAKE forced to withdraw 2500 yds westward following enemy attack with estimated two coys with MGs and mortars. Our patrol returning to SERRA from WARAFU killed further twelve Japs.

AIR

SEPIK RIVER : On 22 May 18 A/C bombed and strafed TINBUNKE and TAMBUNON. Both villages badly damaged.

WEWAK AREA : On 22 May 191 A/C bombed and strafed villages, stores and installations.

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EMCK/HW

S E C R E T

HQ 4 AUST DIV (AIF)

4 AUST DIV REVSIT No 332 to 0900K 26 MAY 44

NW SECTOR

LAND

HOLLANDIA : On 23 May patrols killed 59 Japs, found 7 dead, captured 7, bringing total casualties to 1921 killed and 484 captured.

WAKDE AREA : On 22 May 13 Japs killed and 1 captured on main WAKDE IS. On 23 May Allied tps advanced towards MAFFIN No 1 against hy rifle and MG fire. Recce a/c reports much enemy activity 1500 yds WEST of MAFFIN No 1 and large installations at MT HAKKO (one mile SSE ORAI RIVER mouth). Captured documents dated 16 Jan disclose HQ 36 Div located this feature. Total enemy casualties WAKDE - MAFFIN ops 909 killed and 5 captured.

SEA

DUTCH NEW GUINEA : On night 22/23 May PT boats strafed lights ANSANMANOEAR ISLAND (midway between WAKDE IS and SARMI) and beach EAST of SAWAR.

SORONG : On 23 May two small warships and one cargo vessel sighted 2 miles NORTH of CAPE DORE.

TANIMBAR ISLANDS : On 24 May one 250 ton motor vessel destroyed and one 500/1000 ton stack aft freighter left burning NW of JAMDNA IS. Destruction of two 500/1000 ton stack aft freighters (ref Revsit 327) confirmed.

NE SECTOR

LAND

HANSA BAY : On 23 May PT boats sighted enemy gun pits between NEPTUNE PT and BOGIA. No enemy tps observed.

WEWAK : On 23 May native patrols reported area inland from BUT MISSION and ROCKY PT (two miles WEST of MATAPAU) permanently occupied by enemy. No arty observed. Main enemy strength located in BUT area.

AITAPE : On 23 May allied patrol observed 120 Japs crossing HARECH RIVER at point two mls WEST of CHAROV (two and one third mls SOUTH of NYAPARAKE). Native patrol reports enemy occupied SALATA (23 mls SSE BABIANG) in force. Total enemy casualties 786 killed.

AIR

HANSA BAY : On 23 May 24 a/c bombed and strafed AWAR area.

WEWAK : On 23 May 4 a/c strafed stores and dumps in area. On 24 May 46 a/c bombed and strafed KARAWOP and coastline to CAPE DJERUAN.

AITAPE : On 24 May 13 a/c in support of ground forces bombed and strafed targets EAST of AITAPE.

Distribution as Per Revsit No 326.

per count
Ref
for Col
GS 4 Aust Div

4 AUST DIV REVSIT NO 333 TO 0903K 27 MAY 44

NW SECTORLAND

HOLLANDIA : Patrol reports received on 24 May state that with the exception of the area SOUTH of the SENTANI LAKES enemy contacts are diminishing throughout the entire area. There are indications from documents captured that the enemy intended attacking DEMTA (18 mls WEST CAPE TANAHMERAH) on an unspecified date. From aerial recon and native reports it appears that the main body of enemy force for this purpose was between TAKAR (8 mls SE TOEM) and ANDOES (38 mls SE TOEM) with adv elements at ARMORA (32 mls WEST DEMTA).

MAFFIN BAY : On 24 May our tps pushing WEST encountered SA and automatic fire from WEST and ENE of MAFFIN village and later by mortar, MG, sniper and grenade fire from posns along the EAST bank of the TOR River. Allied arty destroyed the WOSKE River bridge over which by two way enemy traffic has been observed. An attack on our tanks on the EAST bank of the TOR River by 200 Japs was repulsed with 40 enemy killed. Parties of unstated strength have also been contacted EAST of the TEMENTOE River - Total casualties to date in the area 971 killed, 5 captured.

SEA

HALMAHERA IS : A convoy consisting of one destroyer, one small patrol craft, two freighter tpts (one 5500/8000 tons, one 2000/4500 tons) was sighted on 25 May off MOROTA IS moving on a SSS course.

BORNEO : On 23/24 May 4 large destroyers, 3 large tpts and 2 small cargo vessels were sighted off the WEST coast of BORNEO heading towards SINGAPORE.

AIR

DUTCH NEW GUINEA : 24 B25s on an attack mission to BABO on 26 May failed to reach objective. 18 B25s bombed and strafed the alternative target at DOBO (AROE IS) sinking a 30 ft lugger. Only moderate MG fire was encountered.

NE SECTORLAND

AITAPE : By 24 May Allied tps were established EAST of DRINUMOR River (7 1/2 mls WNW HYAPARMAKE). Patrols encountered an enemy force of undetermined size two mls SOUTH of YAKANUL.

AIR

NEW GUINEA : 25 May 16 a/c bombed and strafed targets along HANSA BAY. On the same day 207 fighters and bombers attacked the WEWAK area, in two waves of 142 and 65. Large fires were started. Close support was given to Allied ground tps by strafing attacks by 10 a/c, of targets in the AITAPE Area, on 26 May.

MARSHALL IS : On 23 May 217 Allied by bombers dropped 230 tons of bombs on WOTJE Atoll with unstated results.

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William L. Col
GS 4 Aust Div

SECRET

HQ 4 AUST DIV (AIF)

4 AUST DIV REVSIT No 334 to 0900K 23 MAY 44NW SECTORLAND

HOLLANDIA : Enemy snipers were reported active along the PIM road on 26 May. On the same day 176 Japs were seen moving westward SOUTH of SENTANI LAKE.

HAFFIN BAY : No organised enemy resistance has been encountered by our troops along the TEMETTOE RIVER. Aerial recce reports considerable movement to the WEST between ARMOPA and TAKAR incl one armed party estimated at 300 2 mls EAST of TAKAR. On the western sector our tps crossed the TOR River against enemy fire on 24 May. Holding a line along the WEST bank our forces commenced an encircling movement of the enemy's right flank. During the advance 62 Japs were killed. By 25 May fwd elements were holding a line from the jetty (600 yds WEST river mouth) SE to TOR River. Our naval units shelled the area WEST of HAFFIN IS in support of the advance. By 26 May the enemy were withdrawing towards HAFFIN airfield. Total enemy casualties to date 1135 killed 6 PW captured.

SEA

BORNEO : Photos taken on 24 May reveal 10 battleships and cruisers - 6 a/c carriers - one large aux tanker - 40 warships and med cargo vessels off TAWI TAWI IS off NE tip of BORNEO.

AIR

DUTCH NEW GUINEA : On 26 May 23 a/c attacked the town area at MANOKWARI causing large fires and explosions. 24 B25s attacked BABO and OTAWIRI on 27 May, nil interception or AA fire encountered. No a/c were sighted at OTAWIRI, one enemy bomber was probably destroyed at BABO. Several buildings were also destroyed.

NE SECTORLAND

AITAPE : Our patrols made light contact with the enemy one mile EAST and WEST of YAKAMUL on 25 May - All villages in the area 22 mls SOUTH of AITAPE are now reported clear of enemy.

AIR

NEW GUINEA : On 25-26 May 99 Allied a/c bombed and strafed supply dumps and installations at WEPAK and DAGUA. Direct hits were scored in the target area and fires started. Support was also given to ground tps at AITAPE by strafing attacks on ARSO by 4 a/c.

CAROLINE IS : On 20/21 May carrier-based a/c dropped 148 tons of bombs in 373 sorties on MARCUS IS destroying amn and supply dumps and damaging gun positions and buildings.

William
GS 4 Aust Div

Distribution as per Revsit 326.

4 AUST DIV REVSIT NO 335 TO 0900K 29 MAY 44

NW SECTORLAND

HOLLANDIA : On 26 May Allied arty and mortars fired on 40 Japs in the vicinity of SEKOLIE (1½ mls SOUTH of SIMBORO). Patrols found 300 dead Japs and killed a further 56 along trails SOUTH of GENJEM. Natives report that many Japs are located in the vicinity of TARFIA (4 mls NW of DENTA).

MAFFIN BAY : On night 25/26 May intermittent sniper fire was experienced by our troops in the vicinity of TIRPOAM RIVER. On 26 May the Allied advance towards MAFFIN airstrip continued. Forward elements reached a position 1½ miles WEST of MAFFIN No 1. Other troops patrolled the high ground ½ mile SE of the strip. Troops attacked a hill one mile SSE of airstrip and encountered two enemy coys in def positions one mile SE of the strip and at LINE TREE Hill (½ ml SE of the strip). Indications on morning 27 May show latter force withdrawing from positions. Enemy killed to 27 May numbers 1171.

BIAK ISLAND : Following naval and aerial bombardment Allied troops landed at BOSNEK at 2215K on 26 May and despite slight opposition from mortars and automatic weapons on the right flank, by daylight had gained the ridge overlooking BOSNEK. Forward elements advanced WEST and by 271109K reached MANDON (2 mls WEST of BOSNEK). The perimeter now extends one mile EAST and WEST of BOSNEK. Allied cruisers continued shelling the airstrips whilst aircraft bombed BOROKIE strip and dispersal areas (ten mls WEST of BOSNEK).

SEA

DUTCH NEW GUINEA :

SCHOUPEN ISLANDS : 27 May - one destroyer, one 7000/9000 ton transport or aux vessel, 13 mls NORTH of CAPE WAICOS, course EAST.

AIR (OWN)

DUTCH NEW GUINEA : On 26 May 21 aircraft bombed SORIDO. On 27 May 10 aircraft bombed airfield at BABO destroying or damaging two grounded aircraft.

TIMOR : On 27 May 44 aircraft bombed SOB village starting fuel fires.

AIR (ENEMY)

DUTCH NEW GUINEA : On 27 May one bomber dropped four bombs on MT boats at SARMI PT. Nil damage was caused.

NE SECTORLAND

AITAPE : 25 May indications of several small Jap patrols on inland trails two miles SE of YAKAMUL.

SEA

ST MATTHIAS GP : On 26 May Allied escort vessels destroyed one submarine 80 miles NW of CAPE SIEMENS.

AIR

NEW GUINEA : On 26 May four aircraft bombed gun positions in the vicinity of AWAR strip. A further 24 aircraft bombed and strafed WENAK area. On 27 May 77 aircraft bombed and strafed stores, supply and personnel areas in the WENAK area, destroying dump SOUTH of BORAM strip.

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W. M. Allington
for Col
OS 4 Aust Div

4 AUST DIV REVSIT No 336 TO 0900K 30 MAY 44.

NW SECTOR

LAND

HOLLANDIA : 27 May - Patrolling continues with further casualties inflicted on Jap parties. Total enemy casualties to date 2387 killed, 512 PW taken. An unconfirmed native report states that a party of 8 Jap naval personnel are between DOROMENA and JAFASE (NE TANAMERAH BAY). Party are possible Admiral SUDO and staff.

MAFFIN BAY - On the western sector Allied tps occupied hill 1 ml SSE of airstrip on 27 May, then commenced to advance on to strip. A patrol one ml upstream from TOR RIVER mouth encountered MG and mortar fire from party of 60 Japs.

BIAK IS - On 27 May Allied tps were encountering only sniper fire at SORIARIK (1½ mls EAST BOSNEK). Troops on the WEST flank were located at PARAI (5½ mls WEST BOSNEK) and were moving WEST unopposed. No organised opposition was encountered in the general BOSNEK area - resistance only sniper fire. Eqt and supplies captured incl number naval guns, several steel pill boxes and CW eqpt.

SEA

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

Photos taken on 26 May revealed one 400 ton freighter, one 700 ton freighter tpt, 32 luggers and 10 barges at MANOKWARI. One destroyer one 250 ton freighter, one 2800 ton freighter tpt, 5 luggers and 20 barges at SORONG. One 500 ton freighter off TIMORKA on a NNE course.

AIR

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

In support of Allied landing on BIAK IS 13 heavy bombers attacked coastal targets in the vicinity of BOSNEK; fires were started and direct hits scored on the runway at NOEMER. Following the landing 70 Liberators with escorting fighters carried out neutralizing attacks on the airfields adjacent to BOSNEK. Targets on JAPEN IS were also attacked. 10 B25s bombed and strafed the BABO area on 29 May. Fuel fires were started, several buildings demolished. Bombs were dropped on TIMIKA on the return trip. One SSF was possibly damaged. Light AA fire only was encountered.

Col
Col
GS 4 Aust Div

Distribution as per Revsit No 326

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APPENDIX A

SECRET

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4 AUST DIV INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 31

Compiled from information received

From 1200 hrs 24 Apr 44 to 1200 hrs 1 May 44

- (a) Information contained herein is for circulation down to Battalions or equivalent units.
- (b) Items sidelined in the margin will not be reproduced in any form.
- (c) Except as specified above, items contained in this Summary may be reproduced for the information or instruction of all units, but the source must be quoted as 4 Aust Div Intelligence Summary No 31.

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4 AUST DIV INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 31PART IOPERATIONSNW SECTORLANDDUTCH NEW GUINEA

TIMIKA - JAPERU :- Unconfirmed native reports received during the week stated that there were 50 Japanese and approximately 200 trained natives armed with small weapons at JAPERU. The report also stated that there were no launches or barges in the area. Following this information two P40s made a low level reconnaissance flight over the area from JAPERU to TIMIKA on 28 Apr but sighted neither personnel, new buildings nor shipping at either village. TIMIKA Strip appeared deserted with grass growing on the runway. In contrast with the previous strike on TIMIKA on 22 Feb when intense anti aircraft fire was encountered and all posts were manned, on this occasion no anti aircraft fire was met nor was any activity apparent.

HUMBOLDT BAY :- Allied troops have taken advantage of the enemy's initial surprise and have exploited to the WEST and SOUTH without meeting any organised resistance.

By 23 Apr the town areas of PIM and HOLLANDIA were entirely in Allied hands and the advance towards the airstrips then commenced. Medium opposition was encountered from the NE tip of SENTANI LAKE, this was overcome on 25 Apr and, crossing the LAKE in amphibious craft Allied troops seized CYCLOPS strip by the same afternoon. One hundred Japanese were killed during this clash. SENTANI and HOLLANDIA strips were occupied on the following day and by 27 Apr our troops had reached TAMI airfield (18 mls SSE of HOLLANDIA).

Following the landing large quantities of stores were found in the HUMBOLDT BAY Area, including much ammunition and many aircraft motors still in crates.

There is evidence that the enemy expected a landing at WEWAK and had concentrated his forces in that area.

TANAHMERAE BAY :- The Allies in this sector landed in two waves. The first landed in the vicinity of DE PAPRE and immediately moved SOUTH to MARIBOE (1½ miles SOUTH of DE PAPRE). Other troops landed at TABLACOEPA (3 miles NORTH of DE PAPRE) and met slight opposition whilst moving SOUTH to contact the DE PAPRE force. Patrols operating to the SOUTH reached SABRON on 23 Apr and reported only slight enemy resistance. No defences or defensive positions however were located from the original beach head to HOLLANDIA airstrip. The enemy left a complete Radar equipment, new aircraft still crated, ration, supply and medical dumps and a large amount of documents.

There is some evidence that enemy are located in strength in the vicinity of GOMJEM (15 miles WEST of SENTANI LAKE). There are also indications of an escape route WEST via the SW corner of SENTANI LAKE, and it is possible that many of the original garrison in this area escaped by this route.

SEADUTCH NEW GUINEA

Unusually large concentrations of enemy shipping have been sighted at KANUKWALI, BORONG and in the vicinity of the GEEVINK BAY islands during the week. The swift adoption of bases in this

area has no doubt been forced upon the Japanese by the sudden seizure of his airfields at HOLLANDIA and AITAPE. It is estimated that at least 25000 tons of merchant shipping plus escorting vessels off loaded at either NOEMFOOR or BIAK ISLANDS, whilst 90 to 100 barges were seen along the southern coast of BIAK ISLAND in the vicinity of MOKMER strip and 200 were off MIOS ISLAND. Barges have also evidently been used fairly extensively between SORONG and MANOKWARI as on 27 Apr attacking Allied aircraft sank 10 laden with troops off CAPE WAIOS (100 miles WNW of MANOKWARI). On 29 Apr an interesting sighting was made off SORONG. A convoy consisting of one 3500 ton aircraft carrier with many aircraft on deck, one light cruiser, one destroyer and two large merchant vessels, was seen approaching that port.

There were no reports of any enemy shipping along either the EAST or WEST coasts of NEW GUINEA or at any of the larger bases in the NW Sector during the period under review.

AIR (OWN)

The Allied Air Force over the past week has concentrated on enemy airfields installations and personnel areas to the NORTH and NW of DUTCH NEW GUINEA.

In preparation for the Allied landings in HUMBOLDT and TANAHMERAH BAY on 22 Apr naval aircraft attacked and neutralized all enemy airfields in the HOLLANDIA - AITAPE Area. During these operations 13 intercepting fighters were shot down and 67 grounded aircraft were destroyed. Extensive damage was also caused to fuel and ammunition dumps. These attacks no doubt greatly facilitated subsequent Allied advances.

The enemy appear now to have transferred the remnants of his battered Air force to the strips at NAMBER and KAMIRI on NOEMFOOR ISLAND, MOKMER on BIAK ISLAND and SAMATE on JEFMAN ISLAND, whilst there are still some probably on WAKDE ISLAND. All these airfields have been the target for successful heavy and medium bomber attacks, and approximately 450 tons of HE bombs and incendiaries have been dropped in the target areas.

No large scale air strips have been reported on any other enemy bases in this sector.

AIR (ENEMY)

Renewed interest has been shown by the enemy in the southern DUTCH NEW GUINEA area. Patrols extending from CAPE VALSCH to MERAUKE then NW over the PRINCESS MARIANNE STRAITS to the EILANDEN RIVER have been sighted on several occasions. Details of the CAPE VALSCH - MERAUKE patrol are given under Section 2 Tactics, of this Summary.

PART IISection 1 EQUIPMENTNEW TYPE JAPANESE BARGE

A new type barge was encountered by PT boats in the SUNABUA area on the night of 4/5 Apr. The barges which were heavily laden, were described as 110 feet in length and box-like in shape. They are believed to have been propelled by twin screws and were travelling at 8-10 knots.

JAPANESE 7.7 (.303 in) "TYPE 92" LEWIS TYPE LMG

A detailed description and photographic reproductions are attached to this summary as Appendices 'C(i)' and 'C(ii)' respectively.

(First Aust Army Int Summary No 103)

Section 2 TACTICSJAPANESE AIR RECONNAISSANCE. - CAPE VALSCH - MERAUKE

On approximately 12 Dec 43, the enemy started to seriously reconnoitre the CAPE VALSCH - MERAUKE area, and after experimenting with routes and times, he finally hit upon a route which in shape resembles the present one.

On 22 Jan 44, a reconnaissance bomber was intercepted and shot down, and that was immediately followed by the destruction of another reconnaissance bomber with its fighter escort. The reconnaissances were then abruptly terminated, and until quite recently, reconnaissances of the area ceased.

Having resumed the reconnaissance, the enemy, remembering his lesson, shows commendable caution by varying his route slightly from time to time, as well as his time schedule. Nevertheless, a mean pattern is discernible.

The route, as set forth in the sketch map, is the means of all sightings and possible flight lines based on such sightings. It is possible that no one reconnaissance plane flew the actual route set forth, but none of the probable flight lines deviate too much. It is believed that no one route, rigidly adhered to, is flown, because of extreme caution on the part of the enemy.

CHARACTERISTICS

- (a) LANGGOER is the point of origin and return, and the reconnaissance appears to be flown three or four times a week by what is believed to be a medium bomber. On rare occasions it is flown by more than one aircraft.
- (b) It does not appear to be flown more than once in any day, but some of the flights are in the morning, and some in the afternoon. Morning flights predominate.
- (c) The reconnaissance is flown both clockwise and anti-clockwise, the latter being in the majority.
- (d) When performing morning anti-clockwise flights, the aircraft is in the vicinity of MERAUKE, between 0900-1000; when performing morning clockwise flights, the aircraft is in the vicinity of 'MERAUKE' between 1100-1200.

- (e) When performing the afternoon anti-clockwise flights the aircraft is in the vicinity of MERAUKE between 1415-1440, and when performing afternoon clockwise flights, the aircraft is in the vicinity of MERAUKE approximately 1600.
- (f) The reconnaissance has, on rare occasions, been observed as much as 50 miles south of CAPE VALSH.

(First Aust Army Int Summary No 103)

Section 3 GENERAL

THE DECLINE OF JAPANESE MERCHANT SHIPPING

The following has been adapted from a report dated 1 Mar 44 issued by the Intelligence Division, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Navy Department, WASHINGTON, and previously published in toto in AAF Intelligence Summary No 200 :

"At the commencement of the PACIFIC War JAPAN had available for use some 6,369,729 gross tons of merchant shipping made up of vessels of 1000 gross tons or above. This was supplemented by captures and seizures, the taking over of smaller vessels, and their construction programme which up to 1 Feb 44 is estimated to have provided 1,020,000 gross tons; the sum result of these activities brought the available total to 8,769,501 gross tons. Of this total it is estimated that the Japanese have lost 3,502,424 gross tons due to Allied action, and these losses in conjunction with the amount under repair and those ships taken over for conversion to Naval vessels has reduced their total of shipping available for operational requirements to some 4,671,511 gross tons ... a comparative loss of 40% of their merchant fleet.

In the construction of steel vessels it was estimated that the enemy would, in 1944, produce a total of 800,000 gross tons of vessels over 1,000 g.t. each, and of this total some 125,000 g.t. would be invested in tankers. It seems likely that the enemy will try to step up this figure but it is doubtful if their capabilities will permit any excess in the steel ship-building field. In the meantime the Japanese are continuing to publicise the wooden ship-building efforts. In this regard however serious difficulties have been encountered in the form of shortage of materials, machinery and labour, and as only limited numbers have so far been constructed, the programme will need to be greatly accelerated in 1944 to have any noticeable effect upon the general situation.

The Japanese Merchant Fleet has no doubt been strongly supplemented by the salvage of vessels in Far Eastern waters but this field is being reduced in scope by the advance of the Allied offensive so that the enemy is now leaving vessels behind rather than acquiring them through an advance. The enemy continues to employ numerous cargo vessels for the transport of oil in order to offset the tanker losses and it is considered that some 50 cargo vessels are engaged in oil transport as their primary function.

It can be concluded from a study of these factors that the enemy merchant shipping position has reached a critical stage in that their available tonnage is so taken up with normal requirements that it permits little margin for an increase in any one transport category. Furthermore it can be expected that with the mounting Allied offensive, increasing the percentage of losses, the situation will become more acute and will probably be evident in some of the following forms :-

- (a) Steady sacrifice of economic tonnage.
- (b) Increased use of cargo vessels for the transportation of oil.
- (c) Provision of heavier escort protection and the routing of a larger percentage of vessels in convoy, thus resulting in a slower turnaround.
- (d) Increased difficulties in the transportation of troops and supplies. "

(First Aust Army Int Summary No 103)

PART III

TOPOGRAPHICAL

REVIEW OF SITUATION AND POTENTIALITIES HOLLANDIA - AITAPE AREAS

GENERAL

Although occupied by the Japanese in Apr 42, HOLLANDIA was not put to immediate use by the enemy. They did station a small force there to establish a tangible link between the NE and NW Sector, but it was obvious that, with their advance into NEW GUINEA progressing favourably from the NE Sector, there was little need for the exploitation of a base so placed on the extreme northern coast of NEW GUINEA, and the total troops in occupation were estimated at 100. Little information was gained regarding activities at HOLLANDIA until Jul 43, when it was reported that "a considerable number of Japanese were present and were being maintained by the regular visits of warships and supply vessels." It was also reported that two airfields and a sea-plane base at SENTANI LAKE were in use. At this time it became evident that HOLLANDIA was being used extensively as a transit base for the switch-over of aircraft from the NW to the NE Sector to meet operational necessities. In Nov 43, aerial reconnaissance disclosed that the Japanese had three potential strips in the area, and since that time their efforts in regard to airfield construction have made available to them three operational strips with the attendant anti-aircraft defences, revetments, dispersal areas, and storage dumps whilst another airfield is, or was on 21 Mar 44, under construction at SEKOLIE.

With the pressure of the Allied advance along the NE coast of NEW GUINEA, and the incessant pounding of the important airfields in the WENAY area, the Japanese gradually swung their available airpower over until, by Mar 44, the role of HOLLANDIA changed from that of a rear air base to the most important airfield group along the north coast of NEW GUINEA. On 30, 31 Mar and 3 Apr a total of 288 grounded aircraft were destroyed during Allied air attacks, and this, in addition to the extensive damage to ground installations, virtually deprived the enemy of the use of this as a major air base.

Coinciding with the airfield development, HOLLANDIA had also assumed an important role as the central control point for vessels moving maintenance stores and supplies along the north coast of NEW GUINEA, and it is considered that this may be the headquarters for the newly-organised NEW GUINEA

SHIPPING UNIT. The relationship between HOLLANDIA and shipping movement in this area has previously been shown on a map attached as Appendix 'B' to 4 Aust Div Intelligence Summary No 28.

Since early Feb 44, there has been a rapid increase in the estimate of enemy strength at this base - no doubt consistent with the activities already mentioned - and it is considered that on 19 Apr 44 a total of 15,000 troops were present in the HOLLANDIA - VANIMO locality. This total is made up of HQ 18 Army (ex WEWAK), elements of 36 Div, I. of C, Construction and Anti-Aircraft Units.

The combination of airfields and potentialities for harbour and airfield development at HOLLANDIA enhances the military value of this area; especially when it is realised that HUMBOLDT BAY and its reaches provide the only extensive anchorage between WEWAK and GSELVINK BAY, a distance of 450 miles.

A feature of this area is the CYCLOPS Mountains rising from the sea to 7000 feet. The southern streams from the western watershed of these mountains radiate over the DEJAOE alluvial plain before entering SENTANI LAKE. This lake is 220 feet above sea level and drains into the sea via the TAMI RIVER. It is on the DEJAOE plain that the Japanese have built three operational airfields, connected by motor road to JAUTEPA BAY.

TOPOGRAPHICAL - HUMBOLDT BAY

HUMBOLDT BAY which includes HOLLANDIA BAY is well surveyed and would provide anchorage for upwards of 60 Liberty ships in 12-15 metres. Small craft may obtain sheltered anchorage in the SE part of the bay, south of CAPE KASSOE. Present port facilities are believed to be poor, but improvement should be simple.

TANAHMERAH BAY

This bay is mostly too deep for anchorage and it is exposed to a heavy swell in the NW season. Within the bay there are only two beaches considered suitable for landings but exit for foot troops from the beach in both cases is not difficult.

AIRFIELDS.

- (a) HOLLANDIA - an operational bomber airfield 6200' x 340', surfaced, and including dispersal lanes and 80 revetments. Extension is possible to 9700'.
- (b) SENTANI - an operational bomber airfield 5300' x 400' surfaced and including dispersal lanes and 10 revetments. Extension is possible for 5000' at both ends of the present strip.
- (c) CYCLOPS - an operational fighter strip 3900' x 250' surfaced, including dispersal lanes. Extension is possible for from 2000' to 4000'.
- (d) SEKOLIE PLAIN - Photographs of 21 Mar 44 disclose a fourth strip under construction at SEKOLIE, six miles SSE of HOLLANDIA. It is sited on comparatively flat grass land and is already 4600' long. It is capable of extension to 8000'. Other grassland areas in this vicinity also appear to be potential airfields.

SEAPLANE BASE

SENTANI LAKE was used by the Dutch Government as a sea-plane alighting area. The lake is deep and it is considered that there are sufficiently long runs in every direction to provide a good sea-plane base.

ROADS AND TRACKS

- (a) HOLLANDIA TOWN - AIRFIELDS (23 miles) - HOLLANDIA Town is connected to PIM on JAUREBA BAY by a graded track suitable for bicycle and horse traffic in all weather. It could be widened and improved for MT. Distance five miles.

From PIM the Japanese have improved the track to take MT. The first six miles are over undulating country, the highest point being 300 feet. The track is already graded and further improvement would be easy using gravel available along the way. The remaining 12 miles cross DEJAOE plain and there are long stretches of good straight road.

- (b) DEPAFRE - AIRFIELDS - 11 Miles. The track was graded and small bridges were built pre-war, but it is now likely to have fallen into disrepair. No Japanese activity has been noted along this track, which traverses undulating forested country.

AITAPE

AITAPE was probably occupied by the Japanese shortly after Dec 42 when they took possession of WEWAK. It has not been used extensively in an operational role mainly because shipping facilities are not up to the standard of those at other bases. Nevertheless, the establishment of an operational airfield at TADJI - with three serviceable strips - has probably increased the importance of the locality.

It was estimated on 19 Apr 44 that strength in the area totalled 2000 troops composed mainly of elements of 20 Division, although it is of interest to note that shortly after the Allied landing it was reported that 50 Japanese had been killed and 76 captured in this area.

The main feature of military importance near AITAPE is the large flat kunai area at TADJI on which the Japanese already have three airfields serviceable or under construction.

The hinterland from AITAPE is comprised of a flat coastal plain six to eight miles in depth and mostly covered by rain forest. TORRICELLI MOUNTAINS, well inland, rise to 3500 feet. The plain contains many large swamp areas. On the drier raised portions close to the beach there are some large kunai areas, the main one being at TADJI.

There is no good all weather anchorage on this coast, though some shelter is afforded at AITAPE in the SE season. With modern landing craft most of the beach front presents landing places.

AIRFIELDS

Late aerial reconnaissance shows that there was three strips under construction at TADJI, the largest being 6800 feet x 315 feet. The surface is sandy loam which tightens with rain. Extension of 3000 feet is possible. Two other strips have been commenced, one 4800 feet x 265 feet with a possible extension of 3500 feet, and the second shows signs of development to 6000 feet.

PART IVSECURITYSECURITY OF INFORMATION

Everywhere we see security posters; in offices, in hotels, on railway stations, buses, etc., all produced in an effort to make military personnel security-minded, and yet it seems that in some instances little effect has been achieved.

One poster - which pointed out that by a soldier writing his name, number and unit on walls of buildings, cafe menus, etc., he may be giving away information to the enemy - was found to have been used by a number of personnel from a nearby unit who evidently thought that the poster was a more suitable place to write their name, unit, etc., than the wall. Thrown in for good measure also was the date.

This had evidently been done by some self-considered humorists as a joke and may possibly have been amusing to a certain type had it occurred in times other than war.

Had these artists realised, however, that by writing the name of their unit and date on the poster they may have been responsible for supplying an enemy agent with the location of the unit and the date at which it was in that area, they would have seen how the joke may have been not only 'on them' personally but also on the whole unit.

A brief perusal of the Regimental numbers proudly displayed would indicate that the personnel responsible have only recently been called into the army and have never yet been in an operational area and seen the terrible consequences which may eventuate from their foolish actions.

Such instances as this show that we cannot be too careful with any information we have, and it is the duty of everyone to be security-minded thus ensuring that in no way have they been responsible for any leakage of information.

(First Aust Army Int Summary No 103)

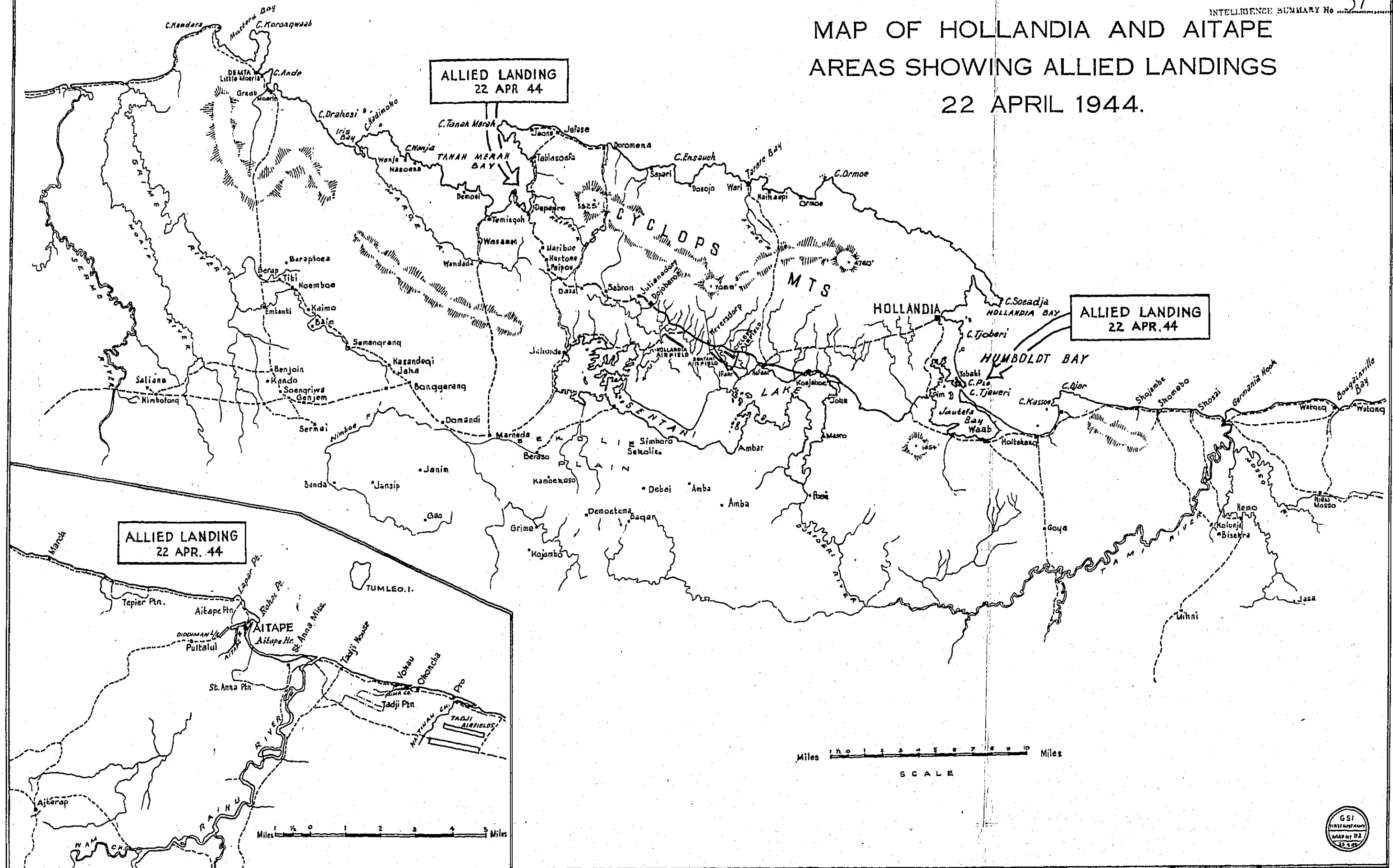
Vincent Col
GS 4 Aust Div

Distribution as per Summary No 30

SECRET

APPENDIX 4 Aust Div 31
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 103

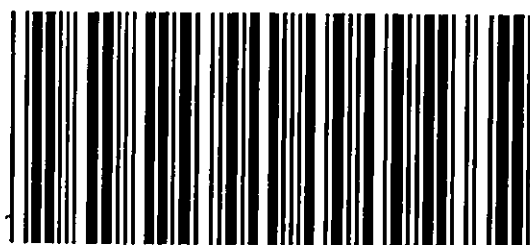
MAP OF HOLLANDIA AND AITAPE AREAS SHOWING ALLIED LANDINGS 22 APRIL 1944.

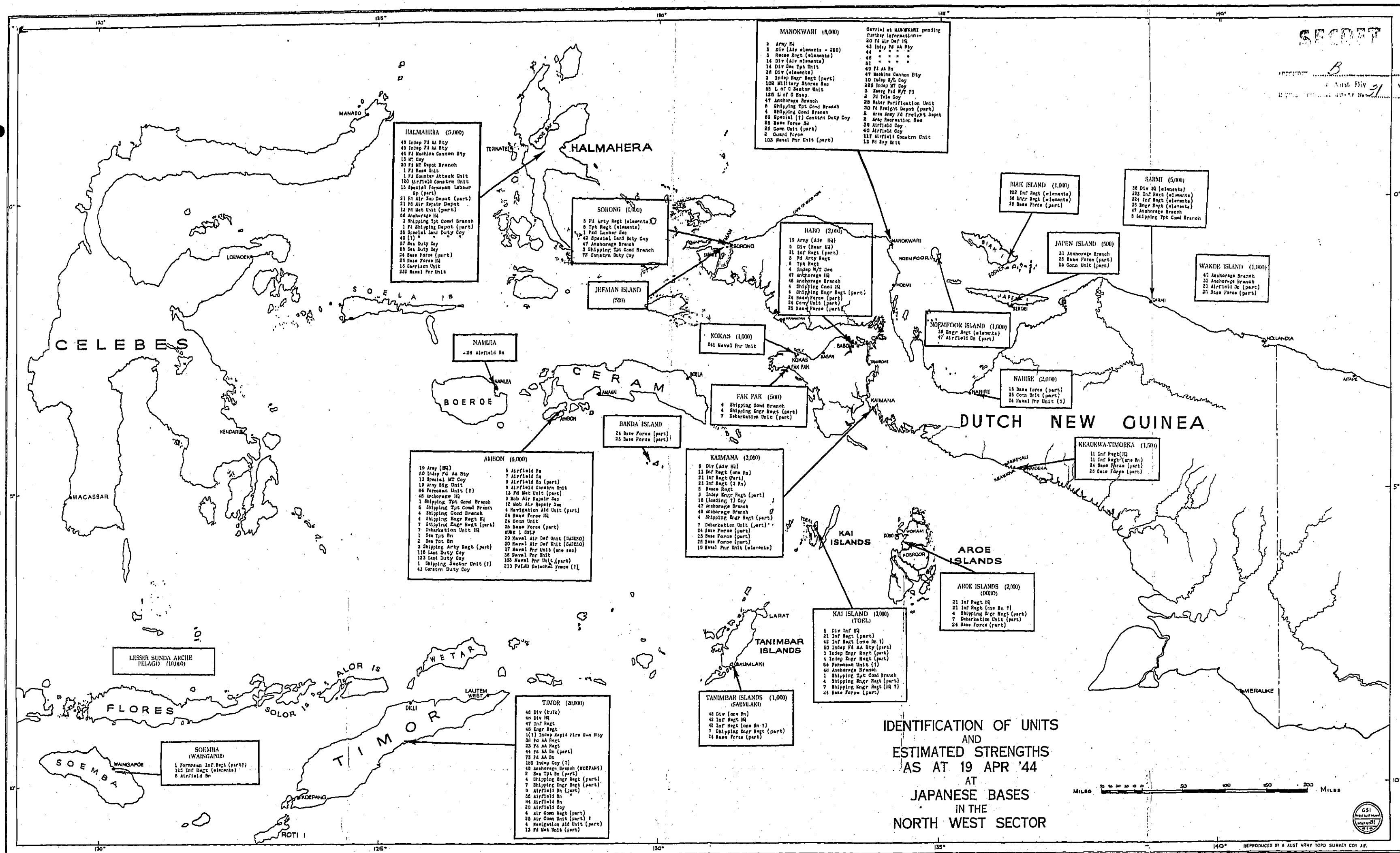


FIR/MISC/5005

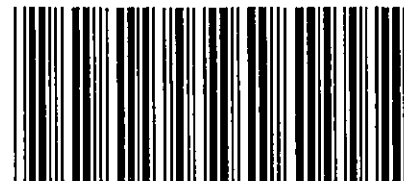
REPRODUCED BY 6 AUSTRALIAN ARMY TOPOGRAPHY COY AIF, APR 44

001699P





0017008



JAPANESE 7.7mm (.303 in) TYPE 92 (1932) "LEWIS" TYPE LMG

Photographs and details of this weapon were collated from reports by Ordnance Intelligence Unit USAFISPA and DADA MGO Branch LHQ.

This weapon is similar to the British Lewis, .303, LMG, excepting for the type of mounting used, and for the following components of the gun:-

- (a) This gun has a hand grip, whereas the British Lewis has a butt. Their attachment to the body is similar. The hand grip, plus the type of mounting, suggests that this weapon is mainly used for AA purposes.
- (b) The cocking handle is positioned on the left side. No provision is made, as with the Lewis, for the cocking handle to be used from either side of the weapon.
- (c) The rear sight, tangent aperture, is exactly the same as that found on the Lewis, excepting for the graduation on the leaf. The Lewis sight leaf is graduated from 0 to 1900 yards, while the Japanese copy is graduated from 0 to 1700 metres.
- (d) The means of locking the gas regulator differs in that it has a locking cap and split retaining pin, whereas the Lewis has a regulator key.
- (e) An additional component on the Japanese copy, is a coiled buffer spring, located in the rear of the piston. It is designed to take up the shock of recoil, should the piston be driven firmly to the rear, or should the muzzle of the gun be elevated for firing at aircraft.
- (f) No provision is made on this weapon for a bipod for ground firing, nor are sling swivels provided for carrying purposes.

MOUNTING:

The gun is mounted on a Cradle Type Mounting, and is held in position by means of a clamp band and clamping screw. This clamp is positioned about the band on the radiator casing of the gun, found just forward of the rear end of the casing.

The legs of the tripod are of tubular steel, and may be locked at various angles from the vertical. The tripod legs do not end in feet, but are attached to square flat plates which have a hole in the centre. These holes are used for the insertion of bolts to secure the tripod to the deck of a ship. The tripod head can be rotated in a full circle. Azimuth is calibrated in two mil intervals from 0 to 6400 mils.. When the tripod head is mounted for ground use, it is estimated that the limits of elevation are approximately minus 15 to plus 60 degrees. Without removing the gun from the mount, the main portion of the tripod head can be moved from a horizontal to a vertical position, and the gun attached to the top of the head for anti-aircraft use. In this position it is estimated that the limits of elevation are approximately minus 80 to plus 85 degrees. It is estimated that an experienced operator could change from the ground to the anti-aircraft position in not more than fifteen seconds.

SIGHTS:

The gun is provided with AA sights. The front sight is positioned in a bracket, located on the left side of the mounting clamp band. The rear sight bracket is found on the left of the tangent rear sight. Into this bracket is fitted the rear AA sight.

MAGAZINES:

The magazines for this gun are identical in appearance, size and capacity with those used on the Lewis Gun, and are therefore interchangeable.

AMMUNITION:

The ammunition used with this gun is rimmed, and is of 7.7mm calibre. This ammunition, in calibre, and dimensions, is very close to that of the British .303, Mk VII ammunition. This means that this ammunition may be fired from British .303 Machine Guns or .303 Service Rifles, and likewise in respect to our own .303 rimmed ammunition.

Samples are held of three types of 7.7mm ammunition, these are, Ball, AP and Tracer.

REMARKS:

All characteristics of this weapon, and its mountings point to it being employed, mainly for anti-aircraft purposes, but it is considered that it may be employed in ground roles, as the cradle is fitted with fixed mounting pins, and the legs can be adjusted to make a fairly low mount.

Although identical with the Lewis Gun, component parts of these weapons are not interchangeable with that gun.

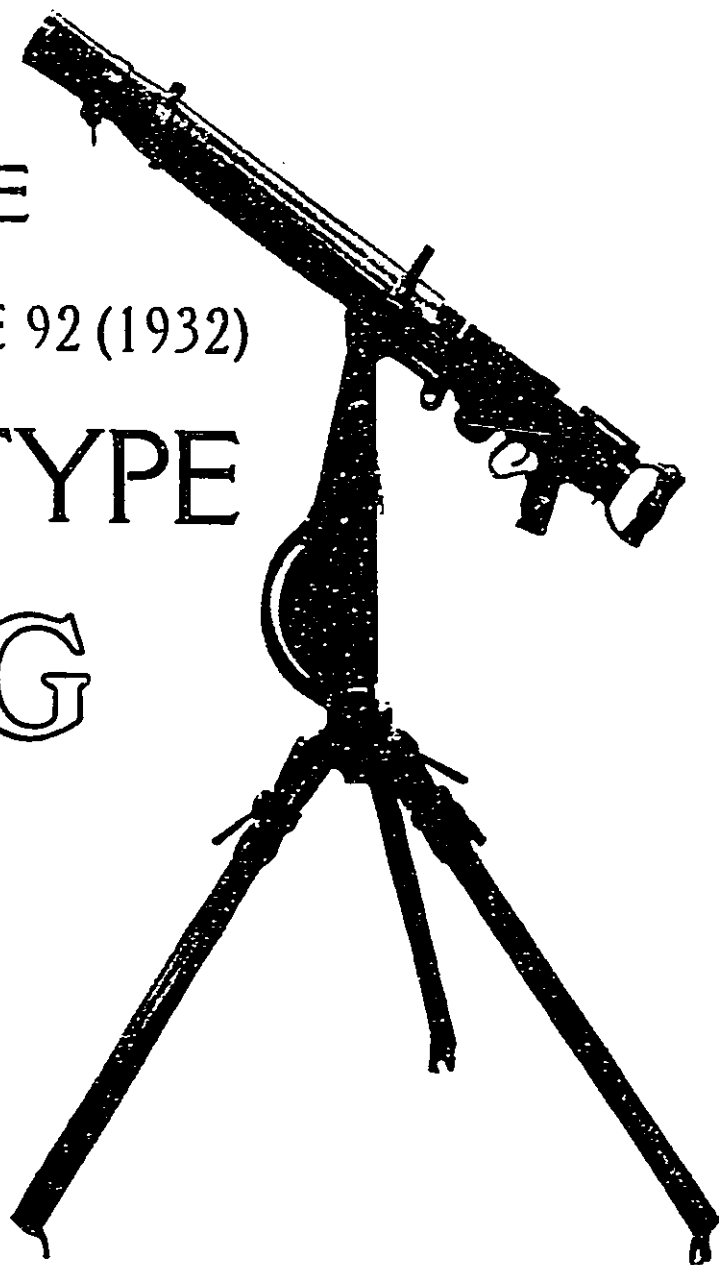
(AMF Review No 90)

JAPANESE

7.7 mm (.303 in) TYPE 92 (1932)

LEWIS TYPE

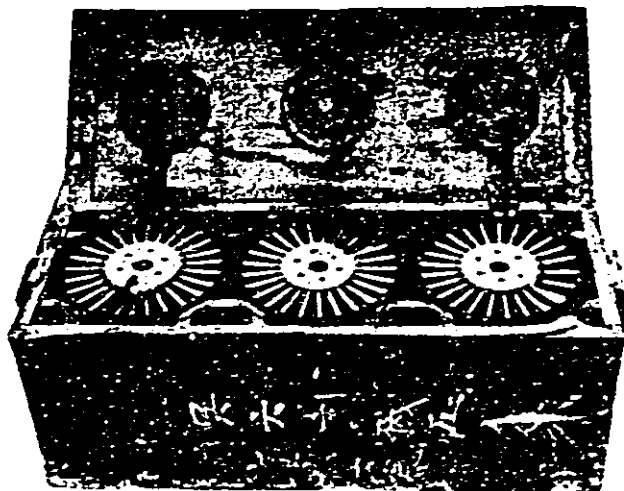
L M G



MOUNTED IN AA POSITION



MOUNTED FOR GROUND USE



AMMUNITION CHEST—CAPACITY 21 MAGS.

NST/HLW

HQ 4 AUST DIV (AIF)

5 MAY 44

D 5/1/5

Subject : PROTECTED DOCUMENTS - CLASSIFICATION AND HANDLING OF

Subtended for information and action is copy of LHQ SM4239 of 27 Apr 44.

2. Attention is drawn to page 7 para 2.
3. The instructions will be observed as from receipt of this memo.

[Signature]
Col
GS 4 Aust Div

Distribution

List 'D'

Copy for infm to : NOIC
75 Wing RAAR
US Navy

SD8

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

(Chief of the General Staff)

Headquarters,
Victoria Barracks,
MELBOURNE SC1

SM4239

27 Apr 44.

PROTECTED DOCUMENTS - CLASSIFICATION AND HANDLING OF

1. The following instructions have been received from the War Office, after considerable delay, and will be observed as from receipt of this memo -

"GENERAL

The combined Chiefs of Staff have approved of a combined security classifications agreement as set out hereunder. This agreement is to be given effect by all British and American Services in all commands and theatres of war as from 15 Mar 44.

Amplifying regulations and instructions based on the agreement will be issued by the several services not later than 1 Apr 44. In case of the British Army these instructions will be contained in a new pamphlet replacing 'Classification and Handling of Protected Documents 1943' which will be promulgated and issued under authority of an ACI. Until this new pamphlet is issued, any instructions contained in the current pamphlet which do not conflict with the following terms of the agreement will still apply. Detailed instructions as regards signal communication will be issued separately.

Existing classified documents will be regraded only as and when occasion demands.

COMBINED SECURITY CLASSIFICATIONS AGREEMENT

The combined security classifications agreement reads as follows :-

NEED FOR CLASSIFICATION

1. To safeguard official matter, it must be examined and graded into categories so that it may be recognised and accorded proper handling. To grade matter accurately and uniformly, the following general policy and definitions have been agreed upon by the Combined Chiefs of Staff to become effective 15 March 1944. The detailed instructions based thereon will be issued by the several services concerned not later than 1 April 1944.

DEFINITIONS

2. For the purpose of this agreement, the following definitions apply :

- a. Documents : Any form of recorded information.
- b. Materiel : Any article, substance, or apparatus.
- c. Handling : Care in transmission and custody.
- d. Distribution : Extent of actual or authorized issue of specific matter.
- e. Cryptographic System : Code and/or cipher and instructions therefor.
- f. Registered matter (document) : Any classified document or device registered usually by number and periodically accounted for.
- g. Order of Battle : Important dispositions of our forces with the identities of the units and formations composing those forces in or adjacent to operational theatres.
- h. Munitions of War : Any item used for war.

CATEGORIES

3. Official matter requiring classification shall be examined and graded under one of the following categories :

TOP SECRET (Signal abbreviation TOPSEC)
SECRET
CONFIDENTIAL
RESTRICTED

4. The United States regards TOP SECRET as a subdivision of SECRET. On the other hand, the British regard TOP SECRET as a distinct category. Although this difference in view is recognised it is immaterial to this agreement under which complete working uniformity is obtained by the adoption of agreed definitions, examples and rules of treatment, for the handling of all classified matter.

5. Providing the following definitions and rules for handling are mutually accepted and rigorously implemented, the difficulties can be overcome.

TOP SECRET

6. Certain secret documents, information, and materiel, the security aspect of which is paramount, and whose unauthorized disclosure would cause exceptionally grave damage to the nation shall be classified TOP SECRET.

7. The following are some examples of matter which normally will be graded TOP SECRET :

- a. Plans or particulars of future major or special operations.
- b. Particulars of important dispositions or impending moves of our forces or convoys in connection with a above.
- c. Very important political documents dealing with such matters as negotiations for alliances and the like.
- d. Information of the methods used or success obtained by our Intelligence Services and Counter-Intelligence Services or which would imperil secret agents.
- e. Critical information of new and important munitions of war, including approved scientific and technical developments.
- f. Important particulars of cryptography and cryptanalysis.

SECRET

8. Documents, information, or materiel, the unauthorized disclosure of which would endanger national security, cause serious injury to the interests or prestige of the nation, or any governmental activity thereof, or would be of great advantage to a foreign nation shall be classified SECRET.

9. The following are some examples of matter which normally will be graded SECRET :

- a. Particulars of operations in progress.
- b. Plans or particulars of operations not included under TOP SECRET.
- c. Instructions regarding the employment of important new munitions of war.
- d. Order of Battle information and locations and moves affecting the Order of Battle.
- e. Knowledge of enemy materiel and procedure, the value of which depends upon the enemy not knowing that we possess it.
- f. Vital military information on important defenses.

- g. Certain reports of operations containing information of vital interest to the enemy.
- h. Adverse reports on general morale affecting major operations.
- i. Important improvements to existing munitions of war until accepted for service use.
- j. Photographs of vulnerable points or vital installations under our control.
- k. Certain developments projects.
- l. Important cryptographic devices unless assigned to a lower category.

CONFIDENTIAL

10. Documents, information, or materiel, the unauthorised disclosure of which, while not endangering the national security, will be prejudicial to the interest or prestige of the nation, any governmental activity, an individual, or would cause administrative embarrassment, or difficulty, or be of advantage to a foreign nation shall be classified CONFIDENTIAL.

11. The following are some examples of matter which normally will be graded CONFIDENTIAL :

- a. Matters, investigations, and documents of a personal and disciplinary nature, the knowledge of which it is desirable to safeguard for administrative reasons.
- b. Routine operational and battle reports which do not contain information of vital interest to the enemy.
- c. Routine intelligence reports.
- d. General military radio frequency allocations.
- e. Military call signs, unless so collected together that they reveal the Order of Battle.
- f. Meteorological information of designated areas.
- g. Unit movements of non-operational significance in areas within or adjacent to operational theatres.
- h. Certain technical documents and manuals used for training, maintenance and inspection of important new munitions of war.
- i. General tactical lessons learned as a result of operations.
- j. Aerial photographs of territories under our control in or adjacent to operational theatres.

RESTRICTED

12. Documents, information or materiel (other than TOP SECRET, SECRET or CONFIDENTIAL) which should not be published or communicated to anyone except for official purposes shall be classified RESTRICTED.

13. The following are some examples of matter which normally will be graded RESTRICTED :

- a. Information of moves of ~~non-operational~~ significance in areas remote from the theatres of war.
- b. Training and technical documents for official use only or not intended for release to the public.
- c. Certain routine documents relating to supply and procurement.
- d. Aerial photographs of territories under our control remote from operational theatres.
- e. Photographs of enemy, enemy occupied or dominated, areas except those which reveal secret sources.
- f. Strength returns of units remote from operational theatres.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

GRADING

14. The designation of persons responsible for grading and regrading will be a function of the appropriate authorities.

15. Each document should be graded according to its own content and not necessarily according to its relationship to another document. This also applies to extracts from graded documents.

16. The grading of a file or group of physically connected documents shall be that of the highest graded document therein.

RE-GRADING

17. IT IS THE OBLIGATION OF ALL AUTHORISED TO KEEP CLASSIFIED MATTER CONSTANTLY UNDER REVIEW AND TO DOWNGRADE IT AS SOON AS CONDITIONS PERMIT.

TRANSMISSION OF CERTAIN MESSAGES BY ELECTRICAL MEANS.

18. Messages which have been transmitted or are to be transmitted in a high-grade cryptographic system of one nation will not be relayed or transmitted by the other nation between point of origin and destination by electrical means in clear language or unapproved "scrambler" system, or low-grade cryptographic system.

HANDLING (TREATMENT)

19. No person is entitled solely by virtue of his rank or position to knowledge or possession of classified matter. Such matter is entrusted only to those individuals whose official duties require such knowledge or possession.

SECRET

20. SECRET matter will be handled in accordance with the following rules :

- a. The highest grade cryptographic systems available will be used for the transmission of SECRET messages.

- b. It is the responsibility of the commissioned officer or equivalent official holding custody of CONFIDENTIAL documents to ensure that appropriate security precautions are taken at all times.

RESTRICTED

23. RESTRICTED matter will be handled in accordance with the following rules :

- a. RESTRICTED documents will be transmitted by such approved channels as will provide a reasonable degree of security.
- b. Registered RESTRICTED documents will be transmitted to and from foreign countries in the same manner as registered SECRET documents. "

2. Amplifying regulations and instructions based on the above agreement will be promulgated as early as possible. Until such instructions are issued, any instructions contained in GRO 634/43 which do not conflict with the terms of the above quoted agreement will still apply.

3. It is to be noted that the "TOP SECRET" classification is considerably more restricted than the "MOST SECRET" classification was previously (vide GRO 634/43).

4. There is a dangerous tendency to overclassify messages and documents arising from the desire to attain maximum secrecy. This practice, however, causes the higher classifications to lose their significance and often results in relaxation of security measures due to the large volumes of documents and messages given high classifications.

E W WOODWARD Brig
for Lieutenant-General
Chief of the General Staff

HQ 4 AUST DIV (AIF)

O 100/14/44

11 Aust Inf Bde (3)
 TORRES STRAIT Area (3)
 RAA 4 Aust Div
 RAE 4 Aust Div
 Sigs 4 Aust Div
 AASC 4 Aust Div
 AQ (3)
 ADMS
 ADOS
 CEME

Copy to:
 First Aust Army
 War Diary (2)

Subject : COMMAND AND ADMINISTRATION

1. In order to centralise control and administration of certain units concerned with water transportation, the following instructions will take effect as from 2359 hrs 6 May 44 and HQ 4 Aust Div O 100/14/38 is varied as hereunder :
 - (a) The following units will be under command HQ RAE 4 Aust Div with the exception of small craft mentioned in (c)
 - 2 Aust Water Tpt Gp RAE
 (less dets under command CAIRNS Fortress and dets not under First Aust Army)
 - 8 Aust Docks Operating Coy
 - 1 Pl 1 Aust Port Maintenance Coy
 - (b) All communication and returns to and from these units will be through HQ RAE 4 Aust Div.
 - (c) Small craft, on the basis of one per OP for operational purposes, will come under direct command of Comd 11 Aust Inf Bde Gp pending arrival of special patrol craft allotted by LHQ. Types as agreed between Comd 11 Aust Inf Bde and 2 Aust Water Tpt Gp, through CRE 4 Aust Div.
2. Adm Instn will be issued separately.

Vincent Col
 GS 4 Aust Div

6 MAY 44

WAR DIARY

4 Aust Div (AIF)

HSL 1/2

APPENDIX

AMENDMENT NO 1 TO 4 AUSTRALIAN DIV LOCATION STATEMENT NO 11

1. Herewith amendment No 1 to 4 Aust Div Location Statement No 11.
2. Please acknowledge on the attached slip.

[Signature]
Capt

Col,
4 Aust Div.

DISTRIBUTION:

As per 4 Aust Div
Location Statement No 11.

7 May 44

Serial No

| | | |
|----------|--|----------|
| A 7 | delete map reference and insert 643840 | |
| A24(a) | Insert new serial | |
| | 24(a) 1st 1st Aust Bn (AIF) (AIF) | |
| | THURSDAY 10 MAY 1944 | 452357 |
| A22(a)) | Insert new serials | |
| A22(b)) | A22(a) 159 Aust Gen Bn Coy (AIF) (AIF) 3 Pl | |
| | BURNLEY 10 MAY 1944 | 634974 |
| | 3 Pl " " " " " " THURSDAY 10 MAY 1944 | 462359 |
| | A22(b) 223 Aust Sup Depot Pl (AIF) | |
| | RED IS PT | 540024 |
| A23 | delete "and D" - | |
| | delete remarks in Remarks Column | |
| B20 | delete | |
| B29 | delete | |
| B30 | delete | |
| C 7 | delete "less one tp" | |
| C 9 | Insert map reference 46673050 | |
| C10 | delete DCRE | |
| | insert 11 Aust CRE (Works) (AIF) | |
| C14a | Insert new serial | |
| | "14a 10 Aust Gen Bn Unit RAE (AIF) Bn 6423 | |
| C43 | Insert Remarks Column "det at TANAHMERAH" | |
| C45a | Insert new serial | |
| | "45a 172 Aust LAA Bn Wzsp Sec A31E | 46673050 |
| C53(a) | Insert new serials | |
| C53(b) | 53a 49 Aust Sqn Al Sec - 45413058 - LHQ unit | |
| | allotted 86 Sqn | |
| | RAAF | |
| | 53(b) det 29 Aust L of C Sal Unit | 44753010 |

4 AUST DIV INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No 32

Compiled from information received

From 1200 hrs 1 May 44 to 1200 hrs 8 May 44

- (a) Information contained herein is for circulation down to Battalions or equivalent units.
- (b) Items sidelined in the margin will not be reproduced in any form.
- (c) Except as specified above, items contained in this Summary may be reproduced for the information or instruction of all units, but the source must be quoted as a Aust Div Intelligence Summary No 32.

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PART I

OPERATIONS

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| AIR | 1 |
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4 AUST DIV INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No 32PART IOPERATIONSNW SECTORLANDDUTCH NEW GUINEA

HUMBOLDT - TANAHMERAH BAY Area - Land operations in this sector during the week has been confined mainly to active patrolling with isolated clashes. Enemy organised resistance however has not been encountered since the original landings on 22 Apr. It is now considered that of the 15000 troops estimated to be in the HOLLANDIA area, the main bulk consisted of constructional and L of C troops and that possibly not more than 2000 were fighting troops. There is a possibility that a proportion of the enemy force escaped by an inland route up the coast towards SARMI. To prevent this action Allied troops under cover of naval bombardment made unopposed landings at DETA and WARI (45 and 15 miles NW of HOLLANDIA respectively). Patrolling from both villages has continued with contact being made only in the vicinity of WARI. Known enemy casualties to date are 642 killed and 48 prisoners captured.

SEA - OWNDUTCH NEW GUINEA

On 30 Apr an Allied naval task force successfully bombarded WAKDE ISLAND. Fires were started and explosions caused. No enemy opposition was encountered.

SEA - ENEMY

Following the previous large concentration of enemy merchant shipping reported in GEEHVINK BAY and along the NW coast of DUTCH NEW GUINEA, sightings made during the period under review show a sharp decline. Allied air attacks have no doubt taken a heavy toll of this shipping and the enemy now appears loath to expose any more of his naval forces to our heavy bombers than is absolutely necessary.

AIR - OWN

The airfields of MOKNER and KAMIRI on NOEMFOOR ISLAND and MAFFIN or WAKDE ISLAND continue to receive considerable attention from the Allied Air force, and these targets have been repeatedly attacked by both heavy and medium units with apparent success. The enemy's remaining aircraft strength in NEW GUINEA is now mainly sheltering on these strips.

Another raid was carried out by six Beauforts on 6 May on KEAUKWA the enemys most southern garrison along the DUTCH NEW GUINEA coast. Bombs were dropped from tree top height on the village area but results were mainly unobserved due to bomb bursts obscuring the target. There was no fighter interception, but light anti aircraft fire was encountered from known positions. In contrast with the previous strike on 22 Feb when all posts were manned, on this occasion the enemy appeared completely surprised.

AIR - ENEMY

Apart from two small scale and half hearted attempts to intercept Allied attacking aircraft along the northern coast of NEW GUINEA, and one harmless night raid on our positions at HOLLANDIA by two daring Jap bombers, there has been no enemy air effort in the entire NEW GUINEA theatre. Once again the

completeness of the air supremacy at present enjoyed by the Allied Air Force is clearly demonstrated.

PART II

Section 1 EQUIPMENT

A. interesting German Target Beacon device is described in a report by RAF Middle East Command. In effect, this device is a special radio transmitter, designed to be dropped to mark a target area for subsequent attack. The apparatus is similar in shape and size to a standard 50 kg bomb, and can easily be carried by aeroplanes used for reconnaissance and pathfinding. On impact with the ground, an inertia switch closes, setting in operation a short-wave transmitter, which then commences to radiate signals at pre-determined intervals, on which bomber or other formations may home.

Aeroplanes carrying a suitable form of homing apparatus could fly direct to a target marked by the device, and it would also be suitable for indicating a dropping area for paratroops or supplies. It is thought that the beacon "bomb" is intended to be dropped, if possible, into ground soft enough to allow it to bury itself, leaving only the antenna exposed. The casing is of steel, similar to that of an ordinary thin-cased bomb, while the tail is of synthetic insulating material.

(First Aust Army Intelligence Summary No 104)

JAPANESE 75mm (2.95 in) INCENDIARY SHELL

A preliminary report on the identification of the above ammunition was published in 4 Aust Div Intelligence Summary No 29. This shell has now been examined and a description is attached as Appendix 'A(i)' to this summary. Appendix 'A(ii)' illustrates the shell.

Section 2 TACTICS

ENEMY AERODROMES IN WESTERN DUTCH NEW GUINEA

The Allied landings at HUMEOLDT BAY, TANAPMERAH BAY, and AITAPE on 22 Apr, and the operational use to which the HOLLANDIA and TADJIL airfields, have been put within a few hours of their capture, has again brought into prominence the enemy's comprehensive policy of aerodrome development in Western DUTCH NEW GUINEA and the adjacent islands, and the possible uses to which they can now be put.

With the Allied Air Forces operating from the newly acquired airfields on either side, it is extremely doubtful if the Japanese will make any further attempt to use, operationally, the airfields in the WEWAK and HANSA BAY areas, and with our new bases uncomfortably close to the WAKDE group of airfields, he is unlikely to use these for anything other than staging purposes, or as emergency landing grounds.

This makes it apparent that operations in future will be from the airfields in the HALMAHERAS, CERAM, KAI, and possibly Western DUTCH NEW GUINEA, and that the enemy will endeavour to make a serious attempt to bar the way to areas strategically or economically vital to him. To do this, he must be prepared to change his old policy to one of vigorous offensive action.

The Japanese policy of constructing airfields on the "group" system of wide dispersal was to effect two purposes - positively, as bases for his attacking airplanes, and negatively, as a means of dissipating Allied air effort.

The groups on the HALMAHERAS, CERAM, and KAI ISLANDS have been under construction for some time past, and the majority of these airfields are already operational. This, however, is not the case in Western DUTCH NEW GUINEA and the islands immediately adjacent.

Despite intense constructional activity, possibly only BAGO is operationally serviceable in the BAGO group of four airfields; possibly only MOEMI is operationally serviceable in the MOEMI group of three airfields; and only KAMIRI, of the two airfields on NOEMFOOR ISLAND can yet be used to any great extent.

Of the three new strips recently sighted on ELAK ISLAND, (in the SCHOUTEN GROUP), only one is operational, and of the reported possible strips on MAPIA ISLANDS (00.55N - 134.16E) and ROON ISLAND (02.18S - 134.34E), if they are being constructed, would be in the very earliest stages of development.

This aerodrome "group" development in Western DUTCH NEW GUINEA seems to have come only in time to be overtaken by the dangers it was designed to avoid, for now, from the HOLLANDIA strips, the whole of DUTCH NEW GUINEA and the islands immediately adjacent, are within range of both medium and heavy Allied bombers and it is a foregone conclusion that they will not be neglected by the Allied Air Forces.

The enemy's reactions in this respect to the Allied landings will be interesting to observe, and his future policy in regard to his DUTCH NEW GUINEA aerodromes will no doubt give him much food for thought.

(First Aust Army Intelligence Summary No 104)

PART III

TOPOGRAPHICAL

ATTITUDE OF NATIVES IN SOUTH WEST DUTCH NEW GUINEA

GENERAL

Up to 1935, 1/6th of the coastal area of DUTCH NEW GUINEA was still not under official control and the interior had no official administration at all. However, as a result of proposals put forward in 1935, great strides were made in the last few years before the war and stations in the interior and Government sub-stations were opened up. The section of the coast from OMEBA RIVER (4°10'S 134°45'E) to MERAUKE was only partly under control prior to 1935.

Attached as Appendix 'B' is a map which shows the approximate limits of Japanese and Allied influence over the natives along this coast.

AREA UNDER JAPANESE INFLUENCE

From OMBA RIVER to the OTAKWA RIVER the inhabitants of the southern part of the coastal plain have been under government and mission influence for some time. They have given up their nomadic habits and settled down in fairly large villages, usually on the coast or close to it. There were Government posts and mission stations at OETA and KAUKEHAU and each village had an Indonesian mission teacher.

The OTAKWA RIVER is a natural division in classifying the natives along this coast, as the tribes East and West of that river have been antagonistic to each other for many years. The natives east of the river have been under control only a comparatively short time and are much more warlike than those west of the river.

It is therefore significant that the farthest known Japanese outpost is at JAPERU on the west bank of the OTAKWA RIVER and they traverse the coast between TIMIKA and this point fairly regularly. As the natives in this area have been accustomed to government control, domination by the Japanese should be simple. Information from two natives who escaped from the enemy and reported to an Allied post in Jan 44 confirms this fact and gives names of a number of Malays and natives in that area who are definitely pro-Japanese.

NEUTRAL AREA

West of KAPI and the LE COCQ RIVER as far as OTAKWA RIVER there are no regular villages. It is one large swamp area and the rivers are visited regularly by bands of natives from the MANOWE district further east.

The OTAKWA RIVER natives regard this area as a fishing and hunting ground which belongs to the MANOWE (KAPI-AYAM) natives and they do not venture into it. The MANOWE natives were in the habit of raiding natives west of the OTAKWA RIVER.

This comparatively uninhabited area thus forms a natural division between the part of the coast which is dominated by the Japanese and the section which is under Allied influence. The existing hostility between the natives of each part should tend to keep the native sympathies in both areas static.

(First Aust Army Intelligence Summary No 102)

PART IV

SECURITY

BROADCASTS BY PW

The question is often asked by soldiers if taken prisoners of war why are we forbidden by the Allies from participating in broadcasts, arranged by the enemy, in which we are allowed to send messages to our wives and families.

The following extract from a RAAF Security Bulletin is self-explanatory and if read to all military personnel should be sufficient explanation as to why such broadcasts are forbidden :-

"It must be made clear to personnel that such broadcasts are arranged for propaganda purposes, and it is interesting in this connection to note how a prisoner in Japanese hands was made the victim of a highly ingenious fake broadcast which had a strong propaganda value. He was questioned by an announcer who, unknown to him, was speaking into a dead microphone, and thus the prisoner was seemingly presented as answering questions from another announcer of whose existence he was wholly unaware.

The bogus announcer, speaking into the dead microphone, would ask an innocuous question such as "are you resigned to your internment" while the actual announcer, heard by all listeners but not by the prisoner, was asking some controversial question such as "Are you convinced of the futility of opposing the onward march of Greater JAPAN?" Under these circumstances the prisoner's reply of "Yes, I am quite resigned to it" appeared as a defeatist statement showing lamentable morale. This is but another example of the trickery that may be practiced on prisoners, and of the need for the utmost caution and reticence."

(First Aust Army Intelligence Summary No 104)

DISTRIBUTION as per Summary No 30

M. J. Howard
for Col
GS 4 Aust Div

JAPANESE 75mm (2.95 in) INCENDIARY SHELLHISTORY:

Five rounds of this hitherto unknown type of shell have been forwarded for examination but it is as yet unknown whether any more have been recovered. Whilst the use of this type of filling is new in artillery ammunition, the same filling and principle is employed in the 90mm Incendiary Mortar Shell, 50 kg Incendiary Bomb and a stick-type hand grenade. Of the five rounds received, one was recovered without a fuse and the other four were in their original packing. A translation of characters on all four sides of the box indicates that the ammunition is meant for use with the Type 41 Regimental Gun. Translation of an extract from captured documents, however, states that the same ammunition can be employed with Type 94 Mountain Gun and the Type 38 Field Gun.

ECONOMIC FEATURES:

One round without fuse was recovered in a Japanese supply dump at KERAI-AI, North coast of NEW BRITAIN, during late February or early March 44 and the other four, complete with packing and fuses, were captured at LOS NEGROS - ADMIRALTY ISLANDS on or about 18 Mar 44.

The primers of all five shells bore the inscription OSAKA ORDNANCE Aug 1942. The base of the four packed shells bore an inspection stamp MAGOYA ARSENAL and the following dates, Nov 38, Feb 39, Apr 42 and Aug 42. The base of the single shell was stamped Dec 40. Only one burster was examined which consisted of picric acid and dated Dec 34. The two conventional Type 88 instantaneous fuses examined were translated to read OSAKA ORDNANCE Jan 43.

CHARACTERISTICS:

| | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Length of round, complete | : 50.8 cm (20 in) |
| Weight of round, fused | : 6.48 kg (14 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb) |
| Weight of projectile, filled and fused | : 5.36 kg (11 $\frac{3}{4}$ lb) |
| Weight of incendiary filling | |
| (a) liquid (WP-CS2 Solution) | : 300 gm (10.5 oz) |
| (b) pellets (rubber) | : 317 gm (11.18 oz) |
| Type and weight of propellant, plus silk bag | : 279 gm (9.8 oz) |
| | Nitrocellulose powder |

MARKINGS:


The projectile is painted blue-grey with a red band, $\frac{5}{8}$ in wide, directly below the fuse. Several markings, one under the other, each of which is about $\frac{5}{8}$ in high, are painted in white on the side of the projectile midway between the bourrelet and driving band. The plus, or plus and minus signs, applying to the discrepancy above the standard weight (+ \pm) and underneath, the figures 16.6, which appear on two shells, meaning June 1941 and on the other three 16.11, November 1941. Following these, appear the signs X and ∇ , the second of which is the Kana symbol (KA) and is used to denote an incendiary shell. The meaning of the first

Kana symbol, ヱ , is not quite clear and has been used, in some cases, to denote a common shell and also the symbol for KOBE Steel Mfg Co.

The following figures, letter and marking, $\frac{1}{8}$ in high, were painted on the sides of all cartridge cases:-

18.9A



The figures 18.9 indicate that the shell was fully assembled in Sep 43, and it is thought that the letter "A" denotes lot A. The symbol, , probably indicates the arsenal in which the final assembly was made but has not been identified as yet. A translation of the markings on the various components of the shell, denoting arsenal and dates of manufacture are given in the foregoing paragraph Economic Features.

The markings of these projectiles are not consistent with those on other Japanese incendiary munitions with a similar filling. The 90mm Incendiary Mortar Shell has red and blue bands at the tip of the projectile, a yellow band midway between the bourrelet and tail and a white band at the tail. The 50 kg Incendiary Bomb was painted blue-grey with superimposed 1 in yellow and white bands.

DESCRIPTION:

FUSE - The Type 38 Instantaneous Fuse was found packed with the shells and translation of captured documents states this to be the standard fuse for use with the Type 41 Regimental Gun. An examination of this fuse is being made to ascertain whether any difference exists between it and other Type 38 fuses used with shells for the Type 94 Mountain Gun. It has been established that this type fuse is used with the 70mm Battalion Gun and possibly the Type 38 Field Gun.

INCENDIARY FILLING - The projectile cavity was packed with 96 small, cylindrical pellets approximately $\frac{7}{8}$ in long by $\frac{1}{2}$ in in diameter made of natural rubber and slate grey in colour. They were immersed in a solution of white phosphorous in carbon disulphide and due to the porous nature of the rubber, the WP Solution (White Phosphorous), had penetrated to a depth varying from $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ inches.

The solution was a milky yellow colour. The solvent was identified as carbon disulphide and the solute as white phosphorous combining to make a solution of the following ratio:-

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------|---|--------|
| Carbon Disulphide | 12.2% |) | WP-CS2 |
| White Phosphorous | 87.8% |) | |

PACKING - Shells are packed, fitted with fuse hole plugs and as a safety measure, in the event of leakage of the incendiary filling, a cloth bag containing 340 gms of finely powdered clay fits tightly over the nose of the projectile so that the powder is in contact with the projectile.

TACTICAL USE:

Translation of an extract from captured documents shows the tactical use for which the shell was made, apparently at the beginning of the CHINA Incident and at the request of forward troops.

The type of shell is classified as chemical ammunition and is used to destroy combustibles (wooden buildings, trees, grass and any materials used for camouflage, etc.) by burning.

The incendiary filling (K4) used in the shell are subject to spontaneous combustion and ignite spontaneously when exposed to the air. The bursting radius is approximately 20m and it burns approximately two minutes.

PRESERVATION:

Further translations quote methods of preservation and special precautions from "Ammunition Handling Regulations" and "Chemical Warfare Regulations". These state that the shell is normally kept in a special yellow phosphorous container but if this is not possible, it will be given the same attention and care as our own ammunition. It may be stored for two years and except for those defective, due to leakage, should be used as soon as possible. If a leakage does occur, a warning is issued not to handle the shell with bare hands and if the leakage is small, it may be used immediately after cleaning with copper sulphate solution and water. If the leakage is extensive or the round is not fired immediately, it should be either exploded or drowned in deep water where it will not be recovered and so endanger personnel.

(AMF Review 91 - from a report prepared by 42 US Chem Lab Coy 18 Apr 4)

JAPANESE 75mm (2.95in) INCENDIARY SHELL

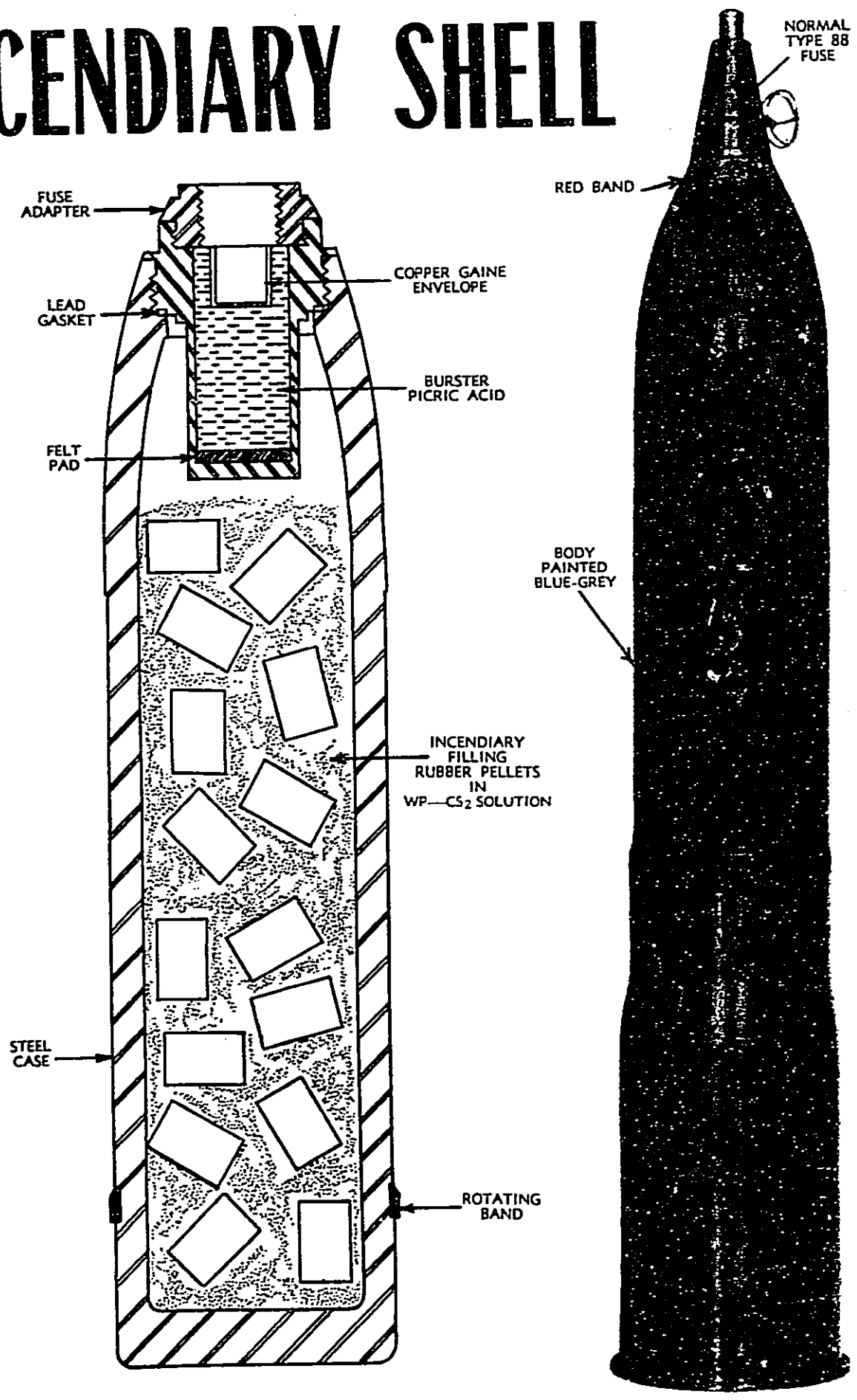


DIAGRAM
3/4 SCALE

SECRET

EXTENT OF
ALLIED INFLUENCE

ALLIED PATROL
ENCOUNTERED JAP
PATROL ON 22 DEC 43

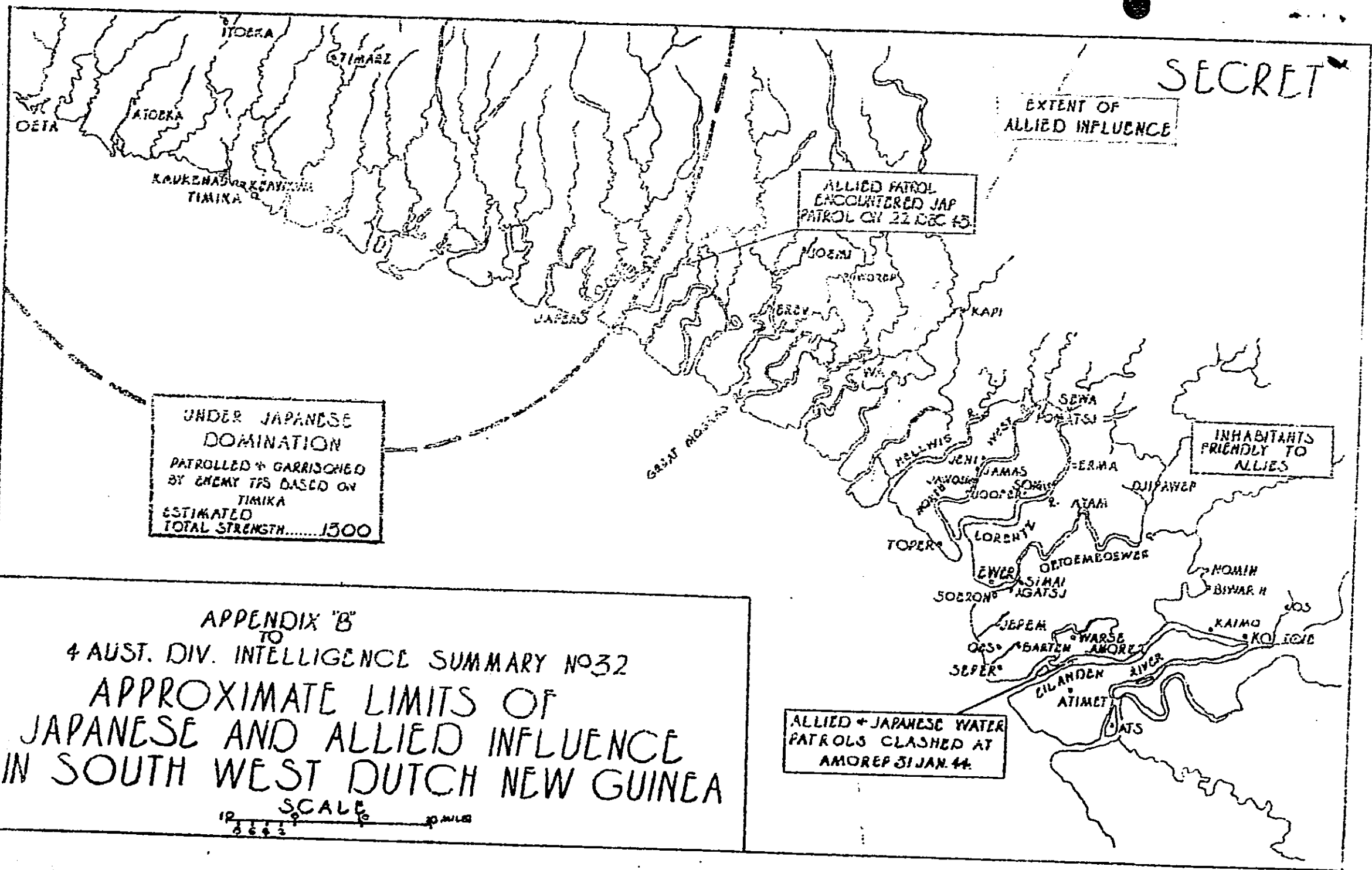
UNDER JAPANESE
DOMINATION
PATROLLED & GARRISONED
BY ENEMY TFS BASED ON
TIMIKA
ESTIMATED
TOTAL STRENGTH.....1500

INHABITANTS
FRIENDLY TO
ALLIES

ALLIED & JAPANESE WATER
PATROLS CLASHED AT
AMOREP 31 JAN 44

APPENDIX "B"
TO
4 AUST. DIV. INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 32
APPROXIMATE LIMITS OF
JAPANESE AND ALLIED INFLUENCE
IN SOUTH WEST DUTCH NEW GUINEA

SCALE
0 5 10 MILES



HQ 4 AUST DIV (AIF)

G.337/5/4

4 AUST DIV SCHOOL FOR DRIVERS MT

1. The object of the above school is as follows :-
 - (a) To ensure a uniform high standard of maintenance of vehs in accordance with Mechanical Vehicle Training Pamphlets Nos 2 and 3 and DME Technical Instruction C 19-22.
 - (b) To raise the general standard of Driving in the area.
 - (c) To ensure that all units have the required number of drivers qualified to drive the classes of vehs held on strength.

SCOPE OF SCHOOL

2.
 - (a) The number, type and duration of course will be varied as required, thus ensuring that the individual weakness of each student is being covered and that maximum benefit will be derived by all students.
 - (b) Special courses will be run for transport Sgts at a later date.
 - (c) The following subjects will be covered :-
 - I. General principles of internal combustion, lubrication, transmission etc.
 - II. Particular application of the above subject to MC, trucks, 15 cwt and 3 ton detailing assembly groups.
 - III. Driving instruction (as required by individual students).
 - IV. Driving in Convoy.
 - V. Unditching.
 - VI. Drivers part in recoveries.
 - VII. Fault finding and diagnosis.
 - VIII. Details of maintenance procedure revised by C 19-22.
 - IX. Forms to be carried and completed by drivers.
 - X. Lectures - Road law etc.
 - (d) Each student will be allotted a veh for maintenance. New vehs will NOT be used.

DURATION

3. Each course will be of 10 days duration.

| | | |
|-------------|---|----------------------|
| No 1 Course | : | 22 May - 1 Jun |
| " 2 " | : | 5 Jun - 15 Jun |
| " 3 " | : | |
| " 4 " | : | To be notified later |

LOCATION

1. 4 Aust Div Carr Coy area.

INSTRUCTORS

5. Chief Instructor - Lt LEB ABBOTT, 5 Aust MG Bn
Asst Instructors - Sgt McDONALD RM, Fortress Wksp
Cpl DONNELLY GR, 329 Aust LAD

Any officer under command HQ 4 Aust Div may be called upon to lecture or instruct as required.

VACANCIES ALLOTTED

| 6. Unit | No1 Course | No2 Course | No3 Course | No4 Course |
|---------------------|------------|--|--|------------|
| TORRES STRAIT AREA | 2 | 10 Incl 3 for 51 Aust AA Regt | 10 Incl 3 for 51 Aust AA Regt | 4 |
| HQ RAE 4 Aust Div | 1 | " | " | 1 |
| RAE units | 2 | " | " | 2 |
| Sigs 4 Aust Div | 1 | " | " | 1 |
| 26 Aust Inf Bn | 1 | " | " | 2 |
| 105 Aust Art Fd Amb | 1 | " | " | 1 |
| HQ 4 Aust Div | 2 | " | " | 1 |

NOMINAL ROLLS

7. Nominal rolls will be forwarded to reach this HQ 4 days prior to the commencement of each course.

REPORTING

8. Student will report to the Chief Instructor at 1500 hrs on the day prior to the commencement of each course.

Students arriving by ferry from THURSDAY ISLAND will be transported from RED ISLAND POINT to camp site by 159 Aust Gen Tpt Coy.

ADMINISTRATION

9. (a) Rationing: Staff and students will be rationed and messed by 4 Aust Div Carr Coy.
- (b) Accommodation Stores & School Equipment: 4 Aust Div Carr Coy will be the accounting unit and will submit indents for such additional eqpt and stores as may be required.
- (c) Equipment: The following eqpt will be supplied through normal channels.

10. Vehs: MC 4) Released from
Truck 15-cwt GS 4x4 1) 15 Aust AOD and to
" 3-ton GS 4x4 CWT 2) receive Wksp attent-
" " " " FD 2) ion under the
direction of CEME.

One jeep for each course will be made available by units on a roster basis as follows:-

| | | |
|------------|---|-------------------|
| No1 Course | - | HQ 4 Aust Div |
| " 2 | " | HQ RAA 4 Aust Div |
| " 3 | " | HQ RAE " " " |
| " 4 | " | 26 Aust Inf Bn |

To be delivered to the school 1200 hrs on the day prior to the commencement of each course in first class mechanical order.

11. Fuel to be complete for all vehs.
12. Stripped assemblies as required will be supplied by CEME in conjunction with AODS.
13. Blackboards - two, chalk, stationery, vehs diagrams.

GENERAL

10. Students will take the following:-

Rifle, bayonet, helmet steel, web eqpt, haversack, water bottle, groundsheet, blankets, mosquito net, personal clothing and necessities, messsing gear, hat, note books and pencils, working overalls (if issued).

Half-heavy boots only will be worn.

Distribution List (D)

(Mess Serials 1, 2, 22, 23, 27, 29, 32).

W. J. Thomas
for Col
CS 4 Aust Div

17 MAY 44

✓ NST/RCH

HQ 4 AUST DIV (AIF)

C 2/1/129

ARMY MESSAGE FORM C2136
MESSAGE WRITING

Further to 4 Aust Div C 2/1/32.

1. The introduction of the new Message Form (AF C2136) will necessitate the adoption of certain minor changes in the principles of message writing as laid down in FSPB Para 2(v).
2. The pamphlet "Message Writing and R/T 1944" is to be issued on a basis of "1 copy per officer" and it is assumed that these changes will be included in instructions laid down therein. As some delay in the issue of "Message Writing and R/T 1944" is anticipated, however, the following instructions are forwarded for the guidance of all concerned.

INFORMATION ADDRESSEES

3. As the "Addresses To" space on the new form is divided into two spaces - ("For action" and "For information") the use of the word "rptd" to separate these two categories of addressees will be discontinued.

PUNCTUATION SIGNS

4. Special Morse characters are used by signals for the transmission of the full stop, hyphen, bracket and oblique stroke and these signs may be used by originators. Where other punctuation signs are required to be used, however, they must be spelt in full.

EXAMPLES

- (a) The sentence :-

NIL supplies "Message Writing and R/T 1944" received.

would be written on the message form as follows:-

NIL sups quote message writing and R/T 1944 unquote
received

- (b) the figure 29.5
would be written 29 point 5

WRITING OF FRACTIONS

5. Where a fraction is required to be preceded by a whole number (e.g. 22 $\frac{1}{2}$) the word "and" will be inserted between the last whole number in the expression and the fraction.

EXAMPLE

- (a) The expression "1 $\frac{1}{16}$ " is written as follows:-

1 and 1/16

6. Should the originator so desire, expressions such as shown in the example given in paras 4(b) and 5(a) above, may be written in words.

EXAMPLES

Twenty nine point five
and
one and one sixteenth.

DISTRIBUTION
List D.

W.D. Thomas
for Capt
Col.
GS 4 Aust Div
12 May 44

SECRET

Copy No 14

4th AUST DIV INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 33

Compiled from information received

From 1200 hrs 5 May 44 to 1200 hrs 15 May 44

- (a) Information contained herein is for circulation down to Battalions or equivalent units.
- (b) Items sidelined in the margin will not be reproduced in any form.
- (c) Except as specified above, items contained in this Summary may be reproduced for the information or instruction of all units, but the source must be quoted as 4th Aust Div Intelligence Summary No 33.

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4 AUSTRALIAN DIV INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 33

PART I

OPERATIONS

NW SECTOR

LAND

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

HOLLANDIA - TANAMERAH BAY : Throughout the past week operations in this sector have been confined to clashes between our patrols and isolated enemy parties. Despite early indications of enemy counter attacks against the HOLLANDIA perimeter, to date no large scale organized resistance has been encountered, and as yet there is no definite indication as to the enemy's possible intentions regarding his large body of troops still in the WENAK-HANSA BAY area.

A feature of the fighting in the area has been the number of Japs who have been captured and have surrendered to Allied soldiers. Since the original landings on 22 Apr 1947 enemy have been killed and 322 prisoners taken, of these 107 gave themselves up.

Allied amphibious patrols have operated as far SOUTH as BOUGAINVILLE BAY (23 miles SSE HOLLANDIA) and along both shores of SENTAIN LAKE. Land patrols have also moved WEST to BUNDOF and NW as far as DEXTA (36 and 14 miles respectively from HOLLANDIA). Enemy parties of unknown strength have been contacted by coast patrols, but in all cases our forces have succeeded in accounting for the enemy.

SEA

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

A steady flow of enemy shipping is again reported from the SCHOUTEN ISLAND bases. MANOK on the mainland and BUNER on BIAK and NAMER on NOEMFOO ISLANDS now appear to be the largest bases in this area. On 10 May a convoy of 21000 tons of merchant shipping with cruiser and fighter escort was in the vicinity of MANOKWARI, whilst smaller concentrations with numerous barges were regular sightings in SEELINK BAY.

Along the Western coast of DUTCH NEW GUINEA increased small craft activity reported from S RONG to as far SOUTH as KAGENAU is probably only normal supply maintenance rather than any attempt at large scale building up of these bases.

On 10 May an unconfirmed native report stated that three small vessels were sighted at the mouth of the LORENTZ River near AGATZ. This is the approximate extent of earlier Japanese penetration SE along the coast.

HALMAHERA ISLANDS : Another large concentration of enemy shipping was revealed by actual photographs taken on 6 May in WEDA and WASILE BAYS. It is estimated that between 26000/44000 tons of merchant shipping were in these anchorages. Possibly an attempt to forestall Allied penetration from DUTCH NEW GUINEA.

REPORT ON THE STRIKE

WAKAI ISLAND and the coastal strip from SAKI to SAWAR were the main targets for Allied heavy and medium bombers during the past week. A total of 161 offensive bomber sorties were carried out against WAKAI IS with considerable success.

The airstrips on BLAK and the KAWA airstrip and nearby installations and anti aircraft positions were also heavily bombed and strafed on several occasions.

On 12 May 6 B25s bombed the airstrip at WAKAI and the shores of LAKE PANIHI. Slight anti-aircraft fire was encountered from three guns, two of which were down and one probably down. All bombs fell in target area at WAKAI. On the return trip the B25s were again bombed and strafed by enemy fighters. The B25s again bombed and strafed the target area. There were no sightings of any personnel at WAKAI and no possible light or smoke the target area was encountered. No trace of the previously reported enemy flying boats on WAKAI LAKE was seen. Further strike area.

AIR - ARMY

No attacks by enemy aircraft have been reported on any Allied bases. However Japanese pilots did attempt to intercept our attack aircraft in the vicinity of WAKAI ISLAND on two occasions. On the first occasion 6 of 12 interceptors were shot down whilst on the following day seven of a force of 20 were similarly shot. Since 8 May there has been no further air-borne enemy strikes.

PART IISection 1 EQUIPMENT

Helmets of Compressed Silk : An article in the Japanese illustrated newspaper "Science of Living", dated 10 Oct 43, gives details of a new type of helmet for the Japanese Army. It is made of compressed silk composition known as "Berghum" and is claimed to be proof against falling shrapnel.

The main advantages of this type of helmet are stated to be as follows :-

- (i) It is one-third the weight of the existing pattern.
- (ii) Due to being made from a non-ferrous composition, it provides no interference to compasses.

The helmet is similar in appearance to the German pattern helmet but has a shorter vizor. It has not, as yet, been identified in operations.

(First Joint Army Intelligence Summary No 105)

PART IIITOPOGRAPHICAL

With the possibility of future Allied moves in the PACIFIC area, a short description of the YAP ISLANDS has been prepared for reference purposes.

GEOGRAPHY

The YAP group consists of four large and 10 small islands, all surrounded by a coral reef. As a group they are roughly in the form of an arrowhead, pointing SW. YAP, the largest island, is 10 miles long and has a surface reported height of 575 ft. It is separated by an artificial canal from POMIL-OMIL ISLAND on the east, which has an elevation of about 200 ft. The island of MAP is separated from POMIL-OMIL on the north by a narrow channel, and another narrow channel separates MAP from RUMPH ISLAND at the north. The ten small islands are insignificant in size.

The SW end of YAP ISLAND is low and swampy in places, but the east end has a range of rolling hills. POMIL has hills rising from a plateau, and the other two islands are hilly. None has an elevation of over 200 ft.

Average annual rainfall totals about 120 inches. There is a distinct seasonal variation in rainfall at YAP, the wettest season being from July through September, with an average of 16 inches per month. Light intermittent rains are also frequent during this period, when the monsoon belt oscillates over the YAP area. The driest season is January through April, the period of NE trades, with an average rainfall of about 6 inches monthly. The intervening months are transition periods between these regimes.

AIRFIELD

Runway - A runway, bearing approximately NE-SW, is under construction three miles SW of YAP town, in the south portion of the island.

YAP TOWN

YAP town is situated on the coast near the middle of the east side of YAP ISLAND, at the head of TOMIL HARBOUR.

The largest concentration of buildings is in the YAP town area. On the south side of the inlet, 3/4 of the town, are approximately 150 buildings, including 25 warehouses. Approximately 70 buildings of varying size are on the north side of the inlet.

There is a cable station in YAP town (exact location unknown) with branches to GUAM, MANILA and IALAN.

HARBOUR FACILITIES

Wharves, piers and other harbor facilities are at YAP town on one of the channels to TOMIL HARBOUR. Wharves with warehouses line both shores of the inlet 3/4 of the way.

Secondary piers and wharves for small boats are along the east shore of the island.

(First Am. Army Intelligence Summary No 105)

PART IVSECURITYSECURITY IN COMBAT

Reports received over a long period of an increased security precautions on the part of the Japanese. There have frequently been signs of the systematic destruction of documents by burning, and documents are now taken in anticipation of a retreat. Generally, enemy documents carried have had no identification tags, documents or personal papers of any description. The padding of helmets has usually been completely removed. Where the pouch was left intact it seldom contained items of value. The Japanese appear to search their own dead whenever practicable. Furthermore, recent reinforcements have had no identification insignia removed from their clothing before arriving in this theatre. Documents show that security instructions have been issued frequently by enemy formations and directions are being made to ensure that documents of value do not fall into our hands, as in the following extract from AFIS JVA Bulletin No 103:-

"According to G-Force report, the enemy have broadcasted that they are obtaining intelligence from diaries taken from dead enemy officers and men and are using them for propaganda purposes. Every unit must check its captured diaries and notebooks more thoroughly. Make sure that these articles do not fall into enemy hands."

It must be remembered, also, that the enemy are quite capable of gleaned very valuable information from our intentions, Order of Battle, etc. from captured documents. Our efforts must therefore be unstintingly directed towards making this valuable source of

to the enemy by practising rigid security. Emphasis is given to this necessity by the following examples:-

Not only are the Japanese searching their own dead but they lose no opportunity of searching ours. Recently a visiting officer was killed and his body searched by the enemy. His batman, whose body was not found, had fortunately left his personal papers at HQ, but this was not done by the officer. It seems certain that the neglect of this precaution resulted in the enemy getting all the papers carried by the above officer.

(First Amer Army Intelligence Summary No 103)

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Summary No 30

Col
US 1 Sub Div

WAR DIARY - 4 AUST DIV - MAY 1944
APPENDIX I

NST/CWC

SECRET

COPY NO 20

HQ 4 AUST DIV (AIF)

1 MAY 44

4 AUST DIV (AIF) OPERATION INSTRUCTION NO 22
LAND DEFENCE OF CAPE YORK - SE DUTCH NEW GUINEA

1. 4 Aust Div Operation Instruction No 21, not to 11 Aust Inf Bde, is CANCELLED.

INFORMATION

2. ENEMY

(a) The enemy is in occupation of the southern portion of NW DUTCH NEW GUINEA, AROE, KAI, and TANIMBAR ISLAND GROUPS, with a force consisting of one division (5 div) and headquarters probably at KAIMANA. In addition, the northern portion of DUTCH NEW GUINEA is occupied by the newly arrived elements of three divisions, the total strength of which approximates, at present, to little more than one division.

(b) Observations and reports covering the ARAFURA SEA and SW DUTCH NEW GUINEA area indicate that the role of this force is at present defensive, the main activities being confined to development of airfields and construction of defences against air and sea attacks. There are no indications of any attempt to exploit any further to the SE than JAPERO - TIMIKA which is lightly held at present.

(c) Reverses to the enemy in NEW BRITAIN and AUSTRALIAN NEW GUINEA together with the recent successful landings by ALLIED FORCES in the AITAPE - HOLLANDIA area, will possibly result in increased concentrations in the area to the NW of AUSTRALIA.

3. OWN

(a) The TORRES STRAIT Area referred to herein includes the TORRES STRAIT ISLANDS and CAPE YORK PENINSULA NORTH of latitude 12° SOUTH. This area is further sub-divided and may be referred to where applicable as follows :

1. TORRES STRAIT ISLANDS.
Includes all TORRES STRAIT Islands.
11. MAINLAND AREA.
Includes all CAPE YORK PENINSULA NORTH of 12° SOUTH.

(b) The retention of the TORRES STRAIT Area is of great importance in denying the enemy approach to NE AUSTRALIA by way of the ARAFURA SEA or DUTCH NEW GUINEA.

(c) Allied Naval Forces are taking the necessary measures to provide naval support against enemy sea-borne movement in the Eastern ARAFURA SEA. Naval measures include the establishment of certain facilities at MERAUKE and THURSDAY ISLAND.

(d) Facilities for the operation of fighter and bomber aircraft have been established at MERAUKE, HORN ISLAND, MILLINGIMBI and HIGGINSFIELD on CAPE YORK PENINSULA, and an airfield is being established at TANAHMERAH. Allied Air Forces are carrying out regular reconnaissances designed to provide a minimum of 36 hours warning of enemy sea borne movement towards TORRES STRAIT and MERAUKE.

Ka.4

(e) The normal functions of AIB operating in enemy occupied territory are conducted by NEFIS. This Dutch Organization is primarily responsible for gaining strategical intelligence information from excluding EILANDEN RIVER to the NW and NORTH.

(f) 4 Aust Div is responsible for the land defence of the TORRES STRAIT Area, MERAUKE, TANAHMERAH and such localities in SE DUTCH NEW GUINEA as are required for the defence of this area against land, sea and air attacks.

4. INTENTION

To defend TORRES STRAIT Area and SE DUTCH-NEW GUINEA against land, sea and air attacks with a view to,

- (a) denying the use of this territory to the enemy, and
- (b) using this territory as a safe base from which to initiate attacks into enemy held territory.

METHOD

5. TROOPS AVAILABLE

- (a) HQ 4 Aust Div (AIF) and Div Tps
see Appx 'A'
- (b) SE DUTCH NEW GUINEA
11 AUST INF BDE GP, which comprises all Australian, US and NEI Forces serving in SE DUTCH NEW GUINEA, excepting those specifically excluded:
see Appx 'B'

Commander - BRIG JR STEVENSON

(c) TORRES STRAIT AREA

Which consists of all land forces in the TORRES STRAIT ISLANDS and on the mainland of CAPE YORK PENINSULA NORTH of 12° SOUTH, less (a) above.

This area is divided into two sub areas.

- 1. TORRES STRAIT ISLANDS (Island Troops) see Appx C
- 11. MAINLAND AREA (Mainland Troops) - see Appx C

Commander - Lt-Col AW AUBREY, HQ TORRES STRAIT Area.

6. SE DUTCH NEW GUINEA

11 Aust Inf Bde Gp will

(a) Defend MERAUKE Area with a view to preserving for our use the airfield and port facilities.

(b) Establish and maintain the following outposts.

MAPPI
KINAAM
OKABA

EILANDEN
TANAHMERAH

(c) Establish and maintain two or three COAST WATCHING POSTS between the EILANDEN and the DIGOEL RIVERS.

Each post manned by no more than 12 men equipped with a launch.

The number of posts will depend on what vantage points can be found in the area. EILANDEN POST may be incorporated as one of these posts.

Their tasks will be as follows :

- 1. To watch the entrances to the EILANDEN and ODAMMOEN

RIVERS, and

- ii. To explore the inland waterways running into and connecting these two rivers.

(d) Observe and report enemy air, land, sea and inland waterway movement in the area MERAUKE to inclusive the DIGOEL RIVER to TANAHMERAH and inclusive PRINSES MARIANNE STRAIT.

(e) Operate such inland water and other patrols as the commander may consider practical and necessary.

(f) Protect the TANAHMERAH airfield against ground and air attack.

(g) Maintain the MERAUKE and TANAHMERAH airfields.

(h) Instal and defend RADAR Stations as follows :

- i. TANAHMERAH.
- ii. Others as may be ordered.

(i) Establish and maintain the EILANDEN POST as a forward supply base at the mouth of the EILANDEN River for use by our own forces and detachments of the Allied Naval and Air Forces, AIB, NEFIS and FELO operating in or forward of that area.

(j) Prepare plans for the clearing of channels and the installation of water navigation aids on waterways in SE DUTCH NEW GUINEA, particularly those required for the supply of TANAHMERAH and the EILANDEN River.

(k) Arrange for the reception by sea or air, and accommodation of an Infantry Bde Gp, which will either

- i. Assist in the defence of the area.
- ii. Carry out an offensive operation using MERAUKE as a firm base.

(l) Arrange for the reception by sea or air and accommodation of an Infantry Bn less one coy, from the MAINLAND for use for local defence. Vide 4 Aust Div Op Instn No 20 of 8 Dec 43.

7. TORRES STRAIT AREA

HQ TORRES STRAIT Area will

(a) Defend HORN ISLAND and HIGGINS airfields.

(b) Deny to the enemy such sea channels as are covered by TORRES STRAIT Fixed Defences.

(c) Protect installations, including fixed defences at THURSDAY, GOODE, HAMMOND and ENTRANCE ISLANDS; harbour installations at PORT KENNEDY, MUTEE HEAD, RED ISLAND PT.

(d) Instal and defend RADAR Stations as ordered from time to time.

(e) Defend the TRUNK SWITCHING CENTRE, CAPE YORK PENINSULA.

(f) Prepare for the reception and accommodation on the MAINLAND of an Inf Bde Group, arriving by sea or air. Site as arranged by HQ 4 Aust Div.

(g) Prepare Mainland Bn less one coy to move to MERAUKE by sea or air. Coy remaining on MAINLAND will be held for defence HIGGINS Airfield.

(h) Appoint Mainland Comd in conjunction with HQ 4 Aust Div.

8. ANTI-AIRCRAFT DEFENCES

(a) Control of anti-aircraft defences will be exercised in accordance with LHQ STANDARD OPERATIONAL PROCEDURE INSTRUCTION No 6 of 11 Jul 43.

(b) Anti-Aircraft guns will be sited to carry out their primary role of defence against aircraft, provided that this condition is satisfied, consideration in siting will, where practical, be given to their use in a secondary role against land and sea attack.

(c) All Anti-Aircraft guns will have prepared alternative positions.

9. COAST DEFENCES

Coast Defence weapons will be given secondary roles against land attack and their tasks will be linked with those of the field troops.

10. DEMOLITIONS

Demolition policy (vide 4 Aust Op Instn No 19 as amended by amts No 1 and 2) will be planned and executed in the respective areas under command.

11. CO-ORDINATION OF PLANNING AND OPERATIONS

The principles of inter-service co-ordination of planning and operations as laid down in First Aust Army's Operation Instructions No 33 of 21 May 43 and No 34 of 23 May 43 will be followed.

12. PLANS

(a) 11 Aust Inf Bde Gp will submit plans to this HQ as required by paras 6 (k) and 6(1) by 10 Jun 44

(b) 11 Aust Inf Bde Gp may expect prior warning of the arrival of reinforcements as follows :

- | | | | |
|-----|------------|---|---------|
| 1. | A Bde Gp | - | 14 days |
| 11. | One Inf Bn | - | 24 hrs |

(c) 11 Aust Inf Bde Gp will submit recommendations ref Para 6(j) to this HQ as soon as practicable.

(d) 11 Aust Inf Bde Gp will submit their Demolition Plan (para 10 above refers) to this HQ by 10 Jun 44.

(e) Plans required under paras 7(f) and 7(g) will be prepared by the MAINLAND Commander in conjunction with HQ 4 Aust Div. Plans will be completed by 31 May 44.

(f) Plans for the defence of TORRES STRAIT Area (paras 7, a, b, c, d and e refer) will be submitted to this HQ by 31 May 44.

13. ADMINISTRATION

13. AMN

(a) In addition to normal unit 1st line holdings, a minimum of 30 days (quiet) and 30 days (intense) War Usage Rates will be held in TORRES STRAIT AREA and SE DUTCH NEW GUINEA, as under :-

TORRES STRAIT AREA

(b) 30 days (intense) will be located for units on each island THURSDAY, HAMMOND, GOODE, ENTRANCE and HORN. 30 days (quiet) for these islands will be held in 12 Aust ~~AMN~~.

For all units located on the Mainland, CAPE YORK area, 30 days (intense) and 30 days (quiet) will be held in 12 Aust ~~AMN~~.

SE DUTCH NEW GUINEA

(c) As arranged by 11 Aust Inf Bde.

14. RATIONS

TORRES STRAIT AREA

(a) 60 days reserve for all units TORRES STRAIT AREA will be held as instructed by HQ 4 Aust Div.

SE DUTCH NEW GUINEA

(b) 90 days reserve for all units 11 Aust Inf Bde.

15. POL

TORRES STRAIT AREA

(a) 60 days for all units TORRES STRAIT AREA will be held as instructed by HQ 4 Aust Div.

SE DUTCH NEW GUINEA

(b) 60 days for all units as arranged by 11 Aust Inf Bde

INTERCOMMUNICATION

16. CODE NAME

The code name for the plan of defence outlined in this instruction is "MOULTRIE".

17. LOCATION OF HEADQUARTERS

(a) HQ 4 Aust Div (AIF) - MAINLAND

(b) HQ 11 Aust Inf Bde Gp - MERAUKE

(c) HQ TORRES STRAIT Area - THURSDAY ISLAND

18. REPORT CENTRES

HQ 4 Aust Div will establish REPORT CENTRES at MERAUKE and THURSDAY ISLAND to facilitate liaison and control.

19. W/T AND LINE COMMUNICATIONS

See Appx D

20. LIAISON WITH RAAF

(a) Closest liaison will be maintained with RAAF by all Headquarters with a view to the interchange of information and ensuring closest cooperation in operations and training.

(b) The channel of command in the MERAUKE Area to be observed by 11 Aust Inf Bde Gp will be as laid down by First Aust Army Gp Instn 30 of 19 Apr 43.

(c) The channel of communication with RAAF in the TORRES STRAIT Area will be as laid down by 4 Aust Div T 1/6/20 of 11 Apr 44.

Liaison for operations between Army and RAAF in the TORRES STRAIT Area will be made through HQ 4 Aust Div unless otherwise ordered.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

Signed at 1730 hrs. 18/5

W. J. G. Graham Col
GS 4 Aust Div

DISTRIBUTION

| Unit | Op Instn Copy No | Appx A Copy No | Appx B Copy No | Appx C Copy No | Appx D Copy No | Dist By |
|------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------|
| 11 Aust Inf Bde | 1-2 | 1-2 | 1-2 | 1-2 | 1-2 | Safe |
| TORRES STRAIT Area | 3-5 | 3-5 | 3-5 | 3-5 | 3-5 | Hand |
| RAA 4 Aust Div | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | " |
| RAE 4 Aust Div | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | DRLS |
| Sigs 4 Aust Div | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | " |
| HQ Comd AASC | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | Hand |
| 4 Aust Div | | | | | | DRLS |
| GOC | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | Hand |
| G(O) | 11 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 11 | " |
| G(I) | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | " |
| AQ | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | " |
| A | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | " |
| Q | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 | " |
| ADMS | 16 | 16 | 16 | 16 | 16 | " |
| ADOS | 17 | 17 | 17 | 17 | 17 | " |
| CEME | 18 | 18 | 18 | 18 | 18 | " |
| WAR DIARY | 19-20 | 19-20 | 19-20 | 19-20 | 19-20 | - |
| FILE | 21 | 21 | 21 | 21 | 21 | - |
| <u>FOR INFORMATION</u> | | | | | | |
| First Aust Army | 22 | 22 | 22 | 22 | 22 | Safe |
| NOIC THURSDAY IS | 23 | 23 | 23 | 23 | 23 | Hand |
| 75 Wing RAAF | 24 | 24 | 24 | 24 | 24 | DRLS |
| US NAVY | 25 | 25 | 25 | 25 | 25 | " |

SECRET

Appendix 'A' to 4 Aust
Div Op Instr No 22 of
12 May 44

Copy No 20

OPERATIONAL ORDER OF BATTLE

DIVISIONAL TROOPS

| Serial No | Units | Remarks |
|-----------|---|---------|
| A 1 | <u>HQ</u> | |
| A 2 | HQ 4 Aust Div (AIF) 305 Aust LAD AEME (AIF) | |
| A 3 | <u>INT</u> 'P' Aust FS Sec (AIF) | |
| A 4 | <u>Arty</u> HQ RAA 4 Aust Div (AIF) | |
| A 5 | <u>Engrs</u> HQ RAE 4 Aust Div (AIF) | |
| A 6 | <u>Sigs</u> Sigs 4 Aust Div (AIF) (less all inf, bde and arty secs) | |
| A 7 | 233 Aust LAD AEME (AIF) | |
| A 8 | 39 Aust Cipher Sec (AIF) | |
| A 9 | <u>AASC</u> HQ Comd AASC 4 Aust Div (AIF) | |
| A 10 | <u>Pay</u> 4 Aust Div Fd Cash Office (AIF) | |
| A 11 | <u>Postal</u> 4 Aust Div Postal Unit (AIF) | |
| A 12 | <u>Pro</u> 4 Aust Div Pro Coy (AIF) (less 3 secs) | |

SECRET

Appx 'B' to 4 Aust Div
Op Instn No 22 of
18 May 44

Copy No 20

OPERATIONAL ORDER OF BATTLE

11 AUST INF BDE GP

PART I - OPERATIONAL TROOPS.

| Serial No | Unit | Remarks |
|-----------|---|---------------------|
| B 1 | <u>MERAUKE</u> | |
| B 2 | HQ 11 Aust Inf Bde (AIF) | |
| B 3 | Sig Sec | |
| | 242 Aust LAD (AEME) (Type J) (AIF) | |
| B 4 | <u>INT</u> | |
| B 5 | 101 Aust Fd Security Sec (AIF) | |
| | 'K' " " " " (AIF) | |
| B 6 | <u>Arty</u> | |
| | 2/9 Aust A Fd Regt and Sig Sec | 18 Bty on Mainland |
| | (less 18 Bty) | |
| B 7 | 2/68 Aust LAD (AEME) | |
| B 8 | 172 Aust LAA Bty | |
| B 9 | <u>Engr</u> | |
| B 10 | 16 Aust Fd Coy | |
| | Det 57 Aust Fd Pk Coy (AIF) | |
| B 11 | <u>Sigs</u> | |
| | 105 Aust Cipher Sec (Type E) (AIF) | |
| B 12 | <u>Inf</u> | |
| B 13 | 20 Aust Mot Regt (AIF) | |
| B 14 | 31/51 Aust Inf Bn | |
| | 13 Pl D Coy 2/1 Aust HQ Gd Regt | Attached HQ 11 Aust |
| B 15 | 1 Pl 4 Aust Div Carr Coy (AIF) | Inf Bde |
| B 16 | No 1 NEI Fusilier Coy | |
| B 17 | <u>AASC</u> | |
| | 157 Aust Gen Tpt Coy (AIF) | |
| B 18 | <u>Med</u> | |
| B 19 | 19 Aust Fd Amb (AIF) (less Lt det of B Coy) | |
| | 12 Aust Malaria Control Unit (Type B) (AIF) | |
| B 20 | <u>Ord</u> | |
| | 102 Aust Bde Ord Fd Pk (AIF) | |
| B 21 | <u>AEME</u> | |
| | 172 Aust LAA Bty Wksp Sec (AIF) | |
| B 22 | <u>Pro</u> | |
| | Det 4 Aust Div Pro Coy (AIF) | |
| B 23 | <u>Postal</u> | |
| | Det 4 Aust Div Postal Unit (AIF) | |
| B 24 | <u>TANAHMERAH OUTPOST</u> | |
| | <u>Inf</u> | |
| | A Coy, 2 Pl and two dets mortars | |
| | 26 Aust Inf Bn | |
| B 25 | <u>Medical</u> | |
| | Lt Det of B Coy 19 Aust Fd Amb (AIF) | |
| B 26 | <u>AEME</u> | |
| | Det 102 Aust Bde Wksp (AIF) | |

OPERATIONAL ORDER OF BATTLE

11 AUST INF BDE GP

PART II - STATIC TROOPS

| Serial No | Unit | Remarks |
|-----------|---|-------------------|
| | <u>MERAUKE</u> | |
| | <u>Int</u> | |
| B27 | Det 1 Aust Fd Censorship Coy | |
| | <u>Arty</u> | |
| B28 | 52 Aust Comp AA Regt | |
| B29 | 76 Aust Mob SL Bty (AIF) | |
| | <u>Engr</u> | |
| B30 | 11 Aust CRE (Works) (AIF) | |
| B31 | 16 Aust Cam Unit (AIF) | |
| B32 | Det 2 Aust Water Tpt Gp | |
| | <u>Svy</u> | |
| B33 | Det 2 Aust Fd Svy Coy (AIF) | |
| | <u>Sigs</u> | |
| B34 | 1 Aust Comp Sig Sec (AIF) | |
| B35 | 52 Aust Comp AA Regt Sig Sec | |
| B36 | 24 Aust Pigeon Loft | |
| B37 | Det 11 Aust WT Sec (Hy) (AIF) | |
| | <u>AASC</u> | |
| B38 | 222 Aust Sup Depot Pl | |
| B39 | 238 " " " " (AIF) | |
| B40 | 51 Aust BIPOD Pl (AIF) | |
| B41 | Det 45 Aust Baking Pl | |
| | <u>Medical</u> | |
| B42 | Det 104 Aust Adv Depot Base Medical Stores (AIF) | |
| B43 | 101 Aust Mob Bact Lab | |
| | <u>Dental</u> | |
| B44 | A Sec 79 Aust Dental Unit (AIF) | |
| B45 | F " " " " " " | |
| | <u>Ord</u> | |
| B46 | 14 Aust Adv Ord Depot | |
| B47 | 11 Aust Adv Amn Depot (Type A) | |
| B48 | 12 Aust Amn Repair Shop | |
| B49 | Det 10 Aust Mob Laundry | |
| | <u>AEME</u> | |
| B50 | 52 Aust Comp AA Regt Wksp (LE) (AIF) | |
| B51 | 76 Aust Mob SL Bty Wksp Sec (AIF) | |
| B52 | 102 Aust Bde Wksp (AIF) | Det at TANAHMERAH |
| | <u>Pay</u> | |
| B53 | 75 Aust Depot Cash Office | |
| | <u>Misc</u> | |
| B54 | One pl 15 Aust Wks Coy | |
| B55 | Det 7 Aust MC Gp (Type D) | |
| B56 | Det AACS | |
| B57 | Det QLD L of C Records Office | |
| B58 | 47 Aust Sqn AL Sec (AIF) | |
| B59 | 49 " " " " (AIF) | |
| B60 | Det 29 Aust L of C Salvage Unit (see also RAAF and US Units) | |
| | <u>TANAHMERAH</u> | |
| B61 | 10 Aust Cam Unit (AIF) | |
| B62 | Det HQ 79 Aust Dental Unit (AIF) (see also RAAF Radar Sta) | |

| Serial No | Unit | Remarks |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|------------|
| B 63 | NAVAL NOIC | MERAUKE |
| B 64 | RAAF HQ 72 Wing | MERAUKE |
| B 65 | 12 Sqn | " |
| B 66 | 44 OBU | " |
| B 67 | 72 Wing Sigs and Ops Room | " |
| B 68 | 120 Sqn (NEI) RAAF | " |
| B 69 | 6 Medical Receiving Sta | MERAUKE |
| B 70 | 316 Radar Sta | KOMBIESE R |
| B 71 | 322 " " | TANAHMERAH |
| B 72 | 323 " " | BOEPOEL |
| B 73 | 40 " " | MERAUKE |
| B 74 | 151 " " | " |
| B 75 | 113 Fighter Control Unit | " |
| B 76 | 1 RSU Det | " |
| B 77 | US Units HQ USA Forces MERAUKE | " |
| B 78 | 15 Weather Sqn USAAF | " |

S E C R E T

APPX 'C' to 4 Aust Div
Op Instn No 22 of
12 May 44

Copy No 20

OPERATIONAL ORDER OF BATTLE
TORRES STRAIT AREA

Part I - OPERATIONAL TROOPS

| Serial No | TORRES STRAIT Islands | Serial No | Mainland | Remarks |
|-----------|----------------------------------|-----------|---|--|
| | <u>Arty</u> | D 1 | 18 Bty 2/9 Aust A Fd Regt | |
| | | D 2 | 7 Aust Fd Coy (AIF) | |
| | | D 3 | 27 Aust Fd Coy (AIF) | |
| | | D 4 | 57 Aust Fd Pk Coy (AIF) | |
| | | | (less det at MERAUKE) | |
| | | D 5 | 329 Aust LAD AEME (AIF) | |
| | <u>Inf</u> | D 6 | 26 Aust Inf Bn (less A Coy, 2 pl and two dets mortar) | (On arrival of 55/53 Aust Inf Bn 26 Aust Inf Bn (less A Coy 2 pl & two dets mortars) will be located for the defence of the TORRES STRAIT ISLANDS. 55/53 Aust Inf Bn will be located for the defence of the MAINLAND area. |
| C 1 | One pl 4 Aust Div Carr Coy (AIF) | | | |
| C 2 | TORRES STRAIT Lt Inf Bn | | | |
| C 3 | TORRES STRAIT Pnr Coy | | | |
| | | D 7 | 4 Aust Div Carr Coy (AIF) (less two pls) | |
| | <u>AASC</u> | | | |
| C 4 | 3 Pl 159 Aust Gen Tpt Coy (AIF) | D 8 | 159 Aust Gen Tpt Coy (AIF) (less 3 Pl) | |
| C 5 | 46 Aust Sup Depot Pl | D 9 | 223 Aust Sup Depot Pl | |
| C 6 | 47 " " " " | | | |
| | <u>Medical</u> | D10 | 105 Aust Lt Fd Amb (AIF) | |
| | <u>Misc</u> | | | |
| C 7 | Det 29 Aust Sal Unit | D11 | 48 Aust Sqn AL Sec | |
| | | D12 | 51 " " " " | |
| | | D13 | 29 Aust Sal Unit (less two dets) | |

NOTE : Units or Sub Units will not be transferred between TORRES STRAIT Islands and MAINLAND without authority of HQ 4 Aust Div.

OPERATIONAL ORDER OF BATTLE
TORRES STRAIT AREA

Part II - STATIC TROOPS

| Serial No | TORRES STRAIT Islands | Serial No | Mainland | Remarks |
|-----------|--|-----------|------------------------------------|---------|
| | <u>HQ</u> | | | |
| C 8 | HQ TORRES STRAIT Area (AIF) | | | |
| C 9 | Det 1 Aust Fd Censorship Coy | | | |
| | <u>Arty</u> | | | |
| C10 | HQ Coast Arty TORRES STRAIT | | | |
| C11 | GOODS Bty | | | |
| C12 | MILMAN Bty | | | |
| C13 | ENDEAVOUR Bty | | | |
| C14 | KING Sec | | | |
| C15 | Q Aust Hy Bty Coast (HE) | | | |
| | <u>Anti Aircraft</u> | | | |
| C16 | 51 Aust Comp AA Regt (AIF) | D14 | 56 Aust Comp AA Regt (AIF) | |
| C17 | AA Ops Room (Type C) | | | |
| C18 | 74 Aust Mob SL Bty | | (less det THURS IS) | |
| C19 | Det 56 Aust Comp AA Regt (AIF) | D15 | 71 Aust Mob SL Bty (AIF) | |
| | <u>Engrs</u> | | | |
| C20 | HQ 1 Aust AA & Frt Coy RAE | D16 | 28 Aust Cam Unit | |
| C21 | 21 Aust Frt Works Sec | D17 | 30 " " " | |
| C22 | 22 " " " " | | | |
| C23 | 51 Aust E & M Sec | | | |
| C24 | 3 Aust Water and Power Sup Sec | | | |
| C25 | HQ 2 Aust Water Tpt Gp (less det at MERAUKE) | | | |
| C26 | 8 Aust Docks Operating Coy | | | |
| C27 | 1 Pl 1 Aust Port Maint Coy | | | |
| | <u>Sigs</u> | | | |
| C28 | TORRES STRAIT Sigs | D18 | 42 Aust Pigeon Loft | |
| C29 | 46 Aust Cipher Sec (Type E) (AIF) | D19 | 56 Aust Comp AA Regt Sig Sec (AIF) | |
| C30 | HQ 6 Aust Pigeon Sec | | | |
| C31 | 23 Aust Pigeon Loft | | | |
| C32 | 51 Aust Comp AA Regt Sig Sec (AIF) | D20 | 11 Aust WT Sec(Hy) (AIF) | |
| C33 | 13 Aust Line Sec | | | |
| | <u>AASC</u> | | | |
| C34 | 45 Aust Baking Pl (less det at MERAUKE) | D21 | Det 46 Aust Baking Pl | |
| C35 | 46 Aust Baking Pl (less det) | | | |
| | <u>Medical</u> | | | |
| C36 | 1 Aust Camp Hospital (AIF) | D22 | 102 Aust CCS (AIF) | |
| C37 | 6 " " " (AIF) | | | |

| Serial No | TORRES STRAIT Islands | Serial No | Mainland | Remarks |
|-----------|--|-----------|--------------------------------------|---------|
| | <u>Dental</u> | | | |
| C38 | D & C Secs 79 Aust Dental Unit | D23 | HQ & B Sec 79 Aust Dental Unit (AIF) | |
| | <u>Ord</u> | | | |
| C39 | 23 Aust Lt Laundry Unit | D24 | 15 Aust Adv Ord Depot | |
| | | D25 | 12 Aust Adv Amn Depot | |
| | | D26 | 116 Aust Bde Ord Fd Pk (AIF) | |
| | | D27 | 24 Aust Lt Laundry | |
| | <u>AEME</u> | | | |
| C40 | Fortress Wksp TORRES STRAIT (AIF) | D28 | 116 Aust Bde Wksp (AIF) | |
| C41 | 51 Aust Comp AA Regt Wksp Sec (AIF) | D29 | 56 Aust Comp AA Regt Wksp Sec | |
| C42 | 74 Aust Mob SL Bty Wksp Sec (AIF) | D30 | 71 Aust Mob SL Bty Wksp Sec (AIF) | |
| C43 | 10 Aust Radio Maint Sec | | | |
| C44 | 4 Aust Water Craft Wksp | | | |
| | <u>Pay</u> | | | |
| C45 | 15 Aust Depot Cash Office (Type A) (AIF) | | | |
| | <u>Postal</u> | | | |
| C46 | Det 3 Aust L of C Postal Unit | | | |
| | <u>Pro</u> | | | |
| C47 | TORRES STRAIT Pro Pl (AIF) | | | |
| | <u>Misc</u> | | | |
| C48 | Det AACS | | | |
| C49 | TORRES STRAIT Det VDC | | | |
| C50 | 4 Aust Div Sec Rec Camp | | | |
| C51 | 7 Aust MC Gp | | | |

NOTE : Units or Sub Units will not be transferred between TORRES STRAIT Islands and Mainland without authority of HQ 4 Aust Div.

WAR DIARY - 4 AUST DIV - MAY 1944
APPENDIX J.

AEK/HLW

S E C R E T

HQ 4 AUST DIV (AIF)

D 100/1/32

Distribution List 'B'
(Branches and Formations Only)
Plus Serials 36 to 39

Subject : DISTRIBUTION LIST No 3 - AMENDMENT No 2

The undermentioned amendment is notified :

- Serial 2 - Amend to read -/2/11/44
" 4 - Amend to read 1/1/1/10
" 10 - Amend to read 1/1/1/3


for Col
GS 4 Aust Div

17 MAY 44

WAR DIARY - HAUST DIV - MAY 1944
APPENDIX K

GAH/GRC

HQ 4 AUST DIV (AIF)

G.319/67

Subtended for information is a copy of INQ memo 65178 of 15 May 44.

DISTRIBUTION 'LIST G'
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provision for branches of
Formations, HQ of arms &
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(less serials 12-24 incl, 26,
27, 28, 31)

[Signature]
Col
GS 4 Aust Div

23 May 44

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES
(Chief of the General Staff)

Headquarters,
Victoria Barracks,
MELBOURNE. S.C.I.

65178

15 May 1944

TRAINING OF TRADESMEN - RETURN TO UNITS FROM COURSES
OF UNSUITABLE PERSONNEL

From time to time Technical & Refresher Courses for unit personnel are conducted at the various Army training establishments which carry out technical and specialist training of reinforcement personnel in the DP3 stage of training as laid down in INQ Trg Instrn No. 3A.

2. These Technical & Refresher Courses are intended only for personnel who hold specialist appointments or qualifications which would entitle them to be so trade grouped where a vacancy exists but who require such extra technical or refresher training. Joining instructions are issued accordingly.
3. Notwithstanding that joining instructions specify that only personnel with specified trade groupings or the qualifications therefor will be nominated, COs of Technical Trg Units in some instances have found that candidates have not the necessary trade qualifications to benefit by the course.
4. Accordingly all personnel nominated by units to attend a Technical or Refresher Course will on marching be subjected, by the CO of the Technical Trg Unit conducting the course, to a preliminary trade assessment to ascertain if they possess the necessary skill, knowledge and ability to absorb instruction.
5. Personnel whilst at the training centre will be kept under observation, and where necessary further tests will be made during the course to ascertain if satisfactory progress is being maintained.
6. Personnel who are considered unsuitable will be returned to their unit's forthwith. Where any soldier is so returned a report showing in detail the reason for such return and recommending the trade or duty for which the soldier appears most suited will be forwarded by the CO of the Technical Trg Unit as follows :-

(i) one copy direct to CO of the soldier's unit.

(ii) one copy through normal channels to the HQ of the formation to which the soldier's unit belongs.

7. On receipt of a report in pursuance to para 6 concerning a soldier who has been trade grouped, the CO of that soldier's unit will take action to effect a relinquishment of the soldier's trade grouping unless the approval of the Formation Command is given to the member retaining his trade grouping. The cross is placed on the CO to apply to the HQ Formation for the soldier's retention of trade grouping if the CO considers such retention is warranted.

8. Personnel from units who are nominated for a Technical or Refresher course who lack the necessary basic technical training but are considered suitable in other respects will proceed with the course. The CO of the Technical Trg Unit will however advise the Technical Training Unit's Formation as early as possible before the expiration of the course, and such Formation will arrange where practicable for the personnel concerned to receive the necessary basic technical training at the conclusion of the course.

9. A soldier who has been nominated by a unit to attend a Technical or Refresher course will in no circumstances be retained at a Technical Trg Unit for any purpose other than attending the course for which he is marched in.

10. A soldier attending a Technical or Refresher Course and recommended for attendance at a basic training course in accordance with para 8 will not proceed with such basic training unless such attendance is concurred in by his Formation.

(JE PARRETT) OCB for
Lieutenant-General
Chief of the General Staff

SECRET

Copy No 45

4 AUST DIV INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 34

Compiled from information received

From 1200 hrs 15 May 44 to 1200 hrs 22 May 44

- (a) Information contained herein is for circulation down to Battalions or equivalent units.
- (b) Items sidelined in the margin will not be reproduced in any form.
- (c) Except as specified above, items contained in this Summary may be reproduced for the information or instruction of all units, but the source must be quoted as 4 Aust Div Intelligence Summary No 34.

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PART I

OPERATIONS

NW SECTOR

LAND

DUTCH NEW GUINEA :

WAKDE ISLANDS : Following exceptionally heavy airstrikes during the preceding week Allied forces occupied WAKDE IS and the adjacent mainland on 17 May. The first landing was made at ARARA (on the mainland and 3 miles SSW of WAKDE IS). No opposition was encountered initially and a beach head, several miles in width, was established. Following aerial and naval bombardment of INSOEMANAI IS (the smaller WAKDE IS) Allied forces moved by barge from ARARA at noon on the same day and occupied the island without opposition. Some opposition was encountered in the landing on INSOEMOAN IS (the larger island). After occupying the airstrip area our forces encountered stubborn resistance from the NW corner of the island, but by dusk on 19 May, was in Allied hands although small isolated enemy parties still remained. Enemy casualties to 19 May were WAKDE IS 550 killed, mainland (MAFFIN BAY area) 54 killed.

HOLLANDIA : Apart from some encounters SOUTH of SERTANI LAKE on 12 and 13 May there has been no aggressive opposition to our forces in the HOLLANDIA - CAPE TANAIMERAH area. Our patrols continue to follow up the westward retreat of the disorganized enemy, who are abandoning arms and equipment. The enemy in this area has suffered the following casualties up to 13 May; killed 1828, captured 455.

The effect of the landing at WAKDE IS will be to cut off the escape of the exhausted remnants fleeing from HOLLANDIA towards SARMI.

JAPERO-ETLANDEN RIVER : A reliable source reports possible enemy landing stages on the D'ARMAVILLE River and signs of previous enemy occupation of huts at KAPI (at head of D'ARMAVILLE River).

A native report states that there are 6 Japs and about 100 natives at JAPERO. Although these natives are equipped with arms, these are kept under strict control by the Japs and the arms of all but a few natives are normally locked up.

SEA

DUTCH NEW GUINEA :

Enemy vessels of medium and small tonnage have been actively engaged in supplying MANOKWARI and the SCHOUTEN ISLANDS. Considerable activity has been centred round BOSNEK on DIAK IS.

An increase in observed barge traffic has been general in GEELVINK BAY. On 15 May 5 small vessels were observed at MANOKWARI and one was destroyed by aircraft. On 19 May 6000-10000 tons of small shipping were observed dispersed among the islands off MANOKWARI, while it is estimated that there were, in the general area, 15 to 20 vessels (averaging 1000 to 2000 tons).

A submarine was sighted 30 miles NORTH of CAPE D'URVILLE on 13 May. This was probably the same submarine which was sighted near WAKDE IS on 14 May.

There has been a noticeable decrease in shipping activity in the vicinity of BARO and KAIMANA. On 15 May 10 barges were observed 55 miles SSE KAIMANA. Moderate shipping sightings have been recorded over the ARON IS including one possible submarine. On 18 May four aircraft attacked three 1000 ton vessels off TANIMBAR IS destroying one and damaging another.

JAVA

During the aerial attack on 17 May 10 vessels, totalling 25000 tons, received hits. One ship exploded and others were probably destroyed. The floating docks were severely damaged.

KALIMANTAN

Intense activity of the enemy with heavy artillery and light naval craft, has been observed throughout the HINDUJAN. This is the focal point for all enemy activity for DUTCH NEW GUINEA and TIMOR, this activity is in direct contact with the western advance of our DOWNTOWN forces.

AIR - OWN

DUTCH NEW GUINEA :

Consistent with the new familiar pattern Allied air attacks on the WAKDE IS increased in weight prior to the landing on 17 May. On 16 May a total force of 33 heavy bombers and 30 medium bombers attacked WAKDE IS. On the same day 45 heavy bombers attacked targets in the SCHWIMMER IS. Daily attacks are being maintained against the GULF OF BAY area with particular attention to shipping at MANCKWARI and the aircraft at KAMIRI.

Since the occupation of WAKDE IS, the main weight of the Allied air attack has been directed on the GULF OF BAY area.

The extent of the Allied air control is graphically illustrated by a recce in strength over WAKDE IS by 10 B-29s on 16 May, when five of a force of 15 or 20 enemy fighters were shot down.

AIR - ENEMY

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

Enemy air effort during the past week has been negligible.

On 13 and 14 May six enemy aircraft were successful night attacks on Allied positions at HOLLANDIA causing neither damage nor casualties.

Some enemy interceptions have been encountered in the vicinity of KAMIRI airbase but this has proved somewhat expensive for the enemy to the extent of eight aircraft without Allied loss.

Section 1. EQUIPMENTA NEW JAPANESE WEAPON

There have been previous indications that the Japanese might in the near future, attempt to rectify their comparative lack of fire power by the addition of some particular type of automatic rifle similar to the OWAN GUN.

This suggestion is now supported by the discovery of an organisation of a "SAKAI" Company at CAPE GLOUCESTER in Nov 43 which had an automatic rifle squad of four men attached to its available strength. Numerous instances have been noted of the enemy making use of captured Allied weapons and this squad may have been armed with such weapons.

In view of this, it is interesting to note a further recent report on the operations in NEW GUINEA by an officer of 102 Inf Regt who has drawn attention to the inadequate jungle warfare weapons in use by the Japanese, and recommends the adoption of an automatic rifle. He also points out the reduced effectiveness of LMG's and MG's due to the terrain etc.

A significant report dated 19 Jan 44 states that 1 Bn 54 Inf Regt held a course of instruction in the maintenance and handling of "the new weapon." The nature of the weapon is not stated but as the instruction is given to Infantry it is probably a result of the aforementioned recommendations. In any case, it can be expected that a new weapon may be contacted in the near future.

JAPANESE 70 MM BARRAGE MORTAR

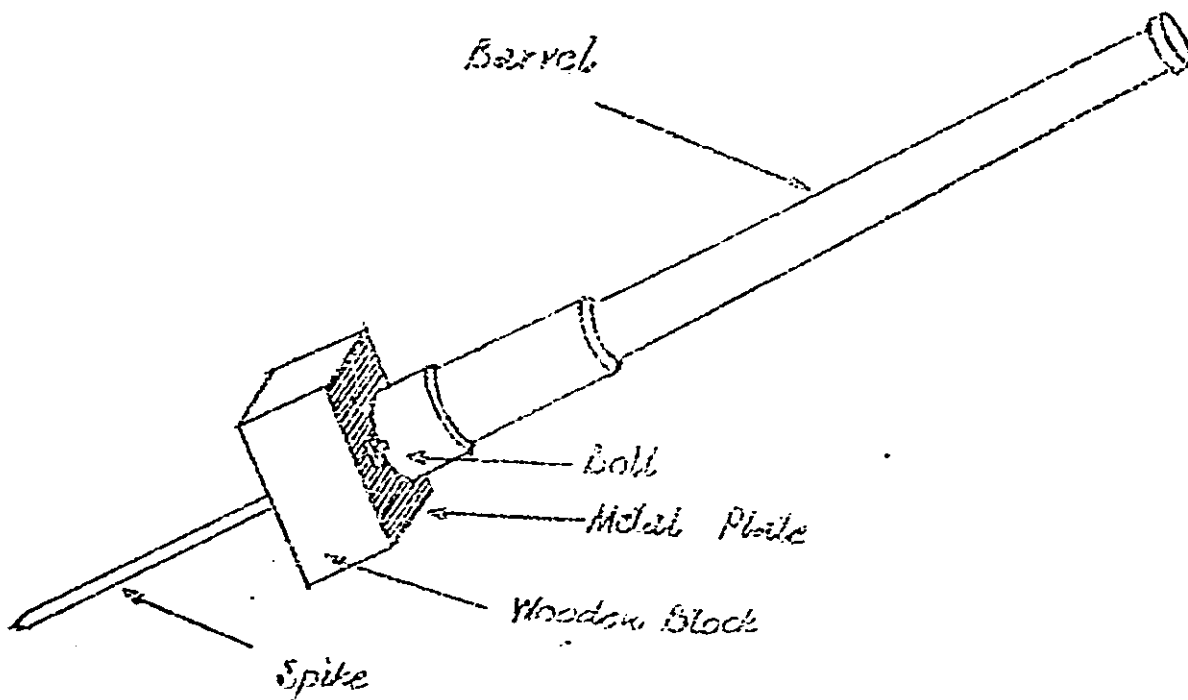
A mortar for discharging the 70 mm barrage mortar shell, which ejects explosive shrapnel tubes attached to parachutes has been found recently at MADANG.

The mortar is simply designed, consisting only of the barrel, wooden base and spike extension rod. The barrel has a smooth bore. The base, a solid wooden block to which a small metal plate is attached by means of two bolts, acts as a shock absorber, preventing the mortar from becoming embedded in the ground. The firing pin is screwed to the base plate by a male fitting, and automatically fires the shell when it is dropped down the barrel. The spike extension rod is of steel and is detachable from the base. Changes of elevation and depression are accomplished by altering the angle at which the rod is pegged into the ground.

Measurements are as follows :-

| | | |
|------------------|---|-------------------------|
| Overall length | : | 75 ins (approx) |
| Length of barrel | : | 48 ins |
| Wooden block | : | 10 ins x 12 ins x 6 ins |

The shell used in this mortar is described in detail in ANP Technical Intelligence Summary No 6.



(First Aust Army Intelligence Summary No 106)

PART IV

SECURITY

PRISONERS OF WAR

It would seem that the enemy interrogators have always a new trick up their sleeves, for week after week reports are received which reveal either new methods of persuading prisoners to talk, or alternatively ingenious variations on old methods. Even the old methods themselves, well known and well publicised though they may be "are still scoring points for the enemy" to quote the comment of a prisoner who recently returned to this country.

A prisoner of war was recently asked if he would like to go to a camp where there were some of his friends. Not unnaturally he said he would. A list of names was then read out to him and he was asked to indicate those whom he knew. Among the names was that of a Squadron Leader who was still in ENGLAND. Fortunately the prisoner saw the trap that had been laid for him; for otherwise his philanthropic interrogator would have been able to draw some useful inferences from the names that were given.

It has been suggested that the enemy may be expected to develop something of a Hollywood technique for interrogation by the employment of female interpreters, who can also be used as hostesses at the little parties which are staged with such apparent guilelessness from time to time. It need hardly be added that these hostesses will be young, attractive - and inquisitive.

Personnel should be reminded that diet can play an important part in breaking down a prisoner's powers of resistance and in lowering his morale. Solitary confinement, allied to insufficient or even unaccustomed food, can do much to produce a mood of depression and of apathy : and can also weaken the mental faculties of the prisoner, who will thus be at a disadvantage in any battle of wits with an interrogator. To this end the Germans sometimes feed a prisoner for a time on nothing but rice, bread and water. The Japanese frequently give him only rice. To those who are unaccustomed to a rice diet, the first fortnight can be very distressing.

Once again it should be brought home to all personnel that one of the secrets of successfully withstanding interrogation is for the prisoner to watch himself as closely as he watches his interrogator.

(First Aust Army Intelligence Summary No 106)

DISTRIBUTION

As per 4 Aust Div Int
Summary No 30 less
50 Aust Sqn AL Sec

[Signature]
Jr. Col Capt
GS 4 Aust Div

War Diary 2

WAR DIARY - 4th Aust Div - MAY 1944
APPENDIX M.

DMT/T2B(a)/4ps/RS

COPY

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES
(Chief of the General Staff)

G319/68

63036

Headquarters
Victoria Barracks,
MELBOURNE SC1
9 May 44

OFFICER CONVERSION TRAINING

1. The following will be the sequence of conversion training of officers from any arm to infantry and from one arm to another arm other than infantry.
2. Conversion of Officers of any Arm to Infantry
 - (a) Lts
 - (i) Modified and condensed A and B Wing Syllabus OCTU - 1 month
 - (ii) C Wing Syllabus OCTU - 8 weeks
 - (iii) Aust Trg Centre (JW) - (if for posting to AIF or NG Garrison) - 1 month
 - Total: - 4 months
 - (b) Capt and Majs
 - (i) C Wing Syllabus OCTU - 8 weeks
 - (ii) LHQ Tactical School (Junior Wing) - 6 weeks
 - (iii) Aust Trg Centre (JW) - (Course modified physically to suit average age of officers, and for officers for posting to AIF or NG Garrison ONLY). - 1 month
 - Total: - 4½ months
 - (c) Lieut cols. Attendance at LHQ Tactical School (Senior Wing), if not previously attended since 1 Jan 43 - 6 weeks
3. Conversion to Other Arms
 - (a) Lts, Capt and Majs
 - (i) Attendance as special wing or syndicate (according to numbers) of Post OCTU Course of arm to which posted (variable) - 4-18 weeks
 - (ii) Aust Trg Centre (JW), as in 2(b) (iii) above, if for posting to AIF or NG Garrison - 4 weeks
 - Total (variable): - 8-22 weeks
 - (b) Lt cols (if applicable). Attendance at appropriate LHQ School (eg, Offrs Courses S of A, SME etc).

??? Lt Gen
Chief of the General Staff.

Distributed by G(SD) on 19 May 44 to:-

1 Aust Corps Aust Trg Centre (JW)
3 Aust Div Rear First Aust Army
4 Aust Div

Distributed by GS 4 Aust Div on 24 May 44 to:-

List 'B': Less serials 15-18, 22-28, 31-33, 35.

GAH/RCH

HQ 4 AUST DIV (AIF)

M 1/2/32

Subject: SYSTEM OF MT TRAINING FOR UNITS

1. Attached for information and action is a copy of LHQ 61874 of 8 May 44 which ~~revises~~ existing instructions relative to preparation of returns for and selecting students to attend the LHQ School of Mechanization.
2. Formations and units will pay close regard to the functions, organisation and scope, as detailed, of the School.
3. MT Training Charts as described in para 12 will be prepared and maintained by formations and units. In order that a consolidated chart can be prepared at this HQ formations as well as units under direct command will submit copies of their charts not later than 15 Jun 44. Numbers only will be shown therein except in the case of the Senior Officers Course where names and appointments will also be given.
4. The summary of requirements to be rendered in terms of DRO G 384/43 Appendix "A" Serial 8 will in future be prepared on the pro-forma and in the manner shown in Appendix "F" to the attached instruction which cancels LHQ 63001 of 17 Apr 43. The DRO is being amended accordingly. In addition to the quarterly summary a similar one will be prepared forthwith and forwarded to reach this HQ not later than 15 Jun.
5. Upon the nomination of a student to attend a course at the LHQ School, a pro-forma on the lines of Appendix "G" will be completed in triplicate, 2 copies for this HQ and the remaining one to be taken to the school by the student.
6. Please acknowledge.

W. J. Thomas
for Col.
GS 4 AUST DIV.

25 May 44

| <u>DISTRIBUTION</u> | <u>Number of copies</u> | <u>No of copies of enclosure</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 11 Aust Inf Bde | 1 | 18 |
| TORRES STRAIT Area | 1 | 18 |
| HQ RAA 4 Aust Div | 1 | 2 |
| HQ RAE 4 Aust Div | 1 | 5 |
| Sigs 4 Aust Div | 1 | 1 |
| 4 Aust Div Carr Coy | 1 | 1 |
| 26 Aust Inf Bn | 1 | 1 |
| HQ AASC 4 Aust Div | 1 | 2 |
| AQ | 1 | 1 |
| ADMS | 1 | 2 |
| 4 Aust Div Pro Coy | 1 | 1 |
| ADOS | 1 | 1 |
| CEME | 1 | 2 |
| Camp | 1 | 1 |
| File | 1 | 1 |
| — War Diary — | 2 | - |

MSL 1/2/28

4 AUST DIV LOCATION STATEMENT No 12

Attached herewith 4 Aust Div Location Statement No 12 as at 2359 hrs 25 May 44.

2. Acknowledge on attached slip.

3. It is requested that any errors in this statement be notified immediately to this HQ by formations or units concerned.

Encl

G3 4 Aust Div

26 MAY 44

DistributionCopy No

| | APPX 'A' Div Tps | APPX 'B' TORRES STRAIT AREA | APPX 'C' 11 Aust Inf Bde |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 11 Aust Inf Bde | 1 - 2 | 1 - 2 | 1 - 2 |
| TORRES STRAIT Area | 3 - 5 | 3 - 5 | |
| RAA 4 Aust Div | 6 | 6 | 3 |
| RAE 4 Aust Div | 7 | 7 | 4 |
| Sigs 4 Aust Div | 8 - 10 | 8 - 10 | 5 - 7 |
| GOC | 11 | 11 | 8 |
| G | 12 - 13 | 12 - 13 | 9 - 10 |
| AQ | 14 | 14 | 11 |
| A | 15 | 15 | 12 |
| Q | 16 | 16 | 13 |
| Comd AASC 4 Aust Div | 17 | 17 | 14 |
| ADMS | 18 | 18 | 15 |
| ADOS | 19 | 19 | 16 |
| CEME | 20 | 20 | 17 |
| Comd Mainland | 21 | 21 | |
| 1st Aust FS Sec | 22 | 22 | |
| Postal | 23 | 23 | 16 |
| Pay | 24 | 24 | |
| 4 Aust Div Pro Coy | 25 - 27 | 25 - 27 | |
| 4 Aust Div Sec Reception Camp | 28 | 28 | 19 |
| Det 1 Aust Pd Censorship Coy | 29 | 29 | |
| 7 Aust MC Gp | 30 | 30 | 20 |
| 48 Aust Sqn AL Sec | 31 | 31 | |
| First Aust Army | 32 | 32 | 21 |
| File | 33 | 33 | 22 |
| War Diary | 34 - 35 | 34 - 35 | 23 - 24 |

Receipt to be detached and returned to this HQ promptly

Unit

Date

HQ 4 Aust Div (AIF)

1. Receipt is acknowledged of Copy No. of Appx A, Copy No. of Appx B, Copy No. of Appx C, of 4 Aust Div Location Statement No 12.

2. 4 Aust Div Location Statement No 11 has been destroyed by fire.

Name

AUST DIV LOCATION STATEMENT NO 12

As at 2359 hrs 25 May 64

Copy No. 344

DIVISIONAL TROOPS

Ref Maps:- THURSDAY ISLAND 1 inch to 1 mile
 ENDEAVOUR STRAIT 1 inch to 1 mile

| Ser- ial No | Unit | Veh No | Location | Map Ref | Projected moves and Remarks |
|-------------------|--|-----------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| A1 | HQ HQ 4 Aust Div (AIF) 305 Aust LAD (AIF) (Type A) | 84 84 | BURSTER CK " | 692954 685954 | |
| A2 | INT TPT Aust FS Sec (AIF) | 84 | " | 692954 | LHQ Tps - det at THURSDAY IS |
| A3 | ARTY HQ RAA 4 Aust Div (AIF) | 59 | WILSON CK | 701927 | |
| A4 | 18 Bty 2/9 Aust A Fd Regt | 134 | MUTEE HEAD | 506951 | |
| A5 | ENGRS HQ RAE 4 Aust Div (AIF) | 82 | BURSTER CK | 703952 | |
| A6 | 30 Aust Cam Unit (AIF) | 39 | " | " | |
| A7 | 7 Aust Fd Coy (less 3 Pl) (AIF) 3 Pl det 2 Pl | 214 | SKULL CK THURSDAY IS | 643940 460357 | |
| A8 | 27 Aust Fd Coy (AIF) | 214 | HORN IS | 523344 | |
| A9 | 57 Aust Fd Coy (AIF) (less det) | 57 | MUTEE HEAD " | 502952 493953 | Ri Stores Det under comd 11 Aust Inf Bde |
| | Stores Pl Bridging Pl | | THURSDAY IS BLACKS CAMP CK | 456358 654907 | |
| A10 | 329 Aust LAD (AIF) (Type A) HQ 2 Aust Water Tpt Gp (Small Craft) (less deta) | 67 | MUTEE HEAD | 495958 | |
| A11 | 14 Aust Water Tpt Op Coy (Small Craft) | | THURSDAY IS | 459355 | Unit |
| A12 | 32 Aust Water Tpt Maint Coy (Small Craft) | | " | " | " |
| A13 | 8 Aust Docks Op Coy (Type C) | | " | 464357 | " |
| A14 | 1 Pl 1 Aust Port Maint Coy (AIF) | | " | 455356 455357 | " |
| A15 | SIGS Sigs 4 Aust Div (AIF) (less all Inf Bde & Arty Secs) Comd Gp | 66 | WILSON CK | 708952 | |
| A16 | 233 Aust LAD ALME (AIF) | 66 | BURSTER CK | 692954 | |
| A17 | 39 Aust Cipher Sec (AIF) | 66 | WILSON CK | 702956 | |
| A18 | 11 Aust WT Sec (Hy) (AIF) | 66 | BURSTER CK | 692954 | |
| A19 | det 67 Aust Special Wireless Sec | | " | " | Det under comd 11 Aust Inf Bde |
| A20 | MG 5 Aust MG Bn (AIF) (less B & C Coys) B Coy C Coy | | WILSON CK | 708952 | |
| A21 | 265 Aust LAD (AIF) (Type M) | | HORN IS MUTEE HEAD THURSDAY IS | 553340 492957 459356 | |
| A22 | INT 26 Aust Inf Bn (less A Coy & 3 pl and two deta mortars, 15 & one sec 14 pl) | | HORN IS | 553357 | |
| A23 | 13 pl & one sec 14 pl | | " | " | |
| A24 | 4 Aust Div Serv Coy (AIF) (less 1 pl) | | RED ISLAND Pl | 664056 | |
| A25 | | 66 | WILSON CK | 703953 | Det under comd 11 Aust Inf Bde |

| Ser- ial No | Unit | Gen No. | Location | Mag Ref | Notes and Remarks |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|------------|--------------|---------|--|
| A23 | AASC | | | | |
| A24 | HQ Comd AASC & Aust Div (AIF) | 69 | BURSTER CK | 685954 | |
| | 159 Aust Gen Tpt Coy (AIF) | 64 | " " | 683974 | |
| | 3 Pl 159 Aust Gen Tpt Coy | | THURSDAY IS | 462359 | |
| A25 | 223 Aust Sup Depot Pl (AIF) | 655 | RED IS PT | 640024 | |
| | MEDICAL | | | | |
| A26 | 105 Aust Lt Fd Amb (AIF) | 139 | WILSON CK | 701930 | |
| | (less C Sec) | | | | |
| | C Sec | | MUTEE HEAD | 498957 | |
| | DENTAL | | | | |
| A27 | HQ Sec 79 Aust Dental Unit | 284 | BURSTER CK | 694953 | A, B, F, & det HQ |
| | B " " " " " | | THURSDAY IS | | secs under comd |
| | C " " " " " | | HORN IS | 613340 | 11 Aust Inf Bde |
| | | | THURSDAY IS | 462359 | |
| | PAY | | | | |
| A28 | 4 Aust Div Fd Cash Office (AIF) | 80 | BURSTER CK | 682954 | |
| | POSTAL | | | | |
| A29 | 4 Aust Div Postal Unit (AIF) | 55 | " " | " | Det at IRON RANGE TOWNSVILLE, HORN IS MUTEE HEAD, MERRAQUE & TANAHMERAH |
| | PRO | | | | |
| A30 | 4 Aust Div Pro Coy (AIF) | 95 | " " | 696951 | Secs at TOWNSVILLE & MERRAQUE |
| | MISC | | | | |
| A31 | 4 Aust Div Sec Reception Camp | 71 | THURSDAY IS | 482661 | |
| A32 | 48 Aust Sqn AL Sec | | HIGGINSFIELD | 731918 | IFC Unit allotted |
| A33 | 51 " " " " | 242 | THURSDAY IS | 726922 | HQ 75 Wing RAAF IFC Unit allotted 23 Sqn RAAF |
| A34 | 29 Aust L of C Scl Sec | | BLACKS CAMP | 660925 | Det at THURSDAY IS & MERRAQUE |
| A35 | 2 Aust Div Concert Party | | Mobile | | |

TORRES STRAIT AREA

Ref map : THURSDAY ISLAND 1 inch to 1 mile
 ENDEAVOUR STRAIT 1 inch to 1 mile

| Serial No | Unit | Veh No | Location | Map Ref | Projected mo and remarks |
|-----------|--|--------|-------------------------|------------------|---|
| B 1 | HQ HQ TORRES STRAIT Area (AIF) | 595 | THURSDAY IS | 450352 | |
| B 2 | INT Det 1 Aust Pd Censorship Coy | | " " | 462353 | INQ Tpa |
| B 3 | ARTY HQ Coast Arty TORRES STRAIT | 599 | " " | 454361 | |
| B 4 | GOODS Bty | " | GOODS IS | 522375 | |
| B 5 | MILMAN Bty | " | THURSDAY IS | 450352 | |
| B 6 | ENDEAVOUR Bty | " | ENTRANCE IS | 554124 | |
| B 7 | KING Sec | " | HORN IS | 553353 | |
| B 8 | 4 Aust Hy Bty Coast (HE)(AIF) | " | HARRISON IS | 469417 | Manning TURTLE Bty |
| B 9 | ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTY HQ 51 Aust AA Regt (Comp) (LE) (AIF) | 881 | HORN IS | 554124 | INQ Unit |
| | 131 Aust HAA Bty | | " " | 515343 | |
| | 157 Aust LAA Bty (less one tp) | | " " | 547335 | |
| B10 | AA Ops Room Type C | | " " | 553351 | |
| B11 | HQ 74 Aust Mob SL Bty A Tp (Hy) | 576 | " " | 544333 | |
| | B Tp (Hy) | | THURSDAY IS | 458361 | Dets at THURSDAY and WEDNESDAY |
| | C Tp (Med) | | HORN IS | 576347 | |
| B12 | HQ 56 Aust AA Regt (Comp) (LE) (AIF) | 909 | " " | 559368 | |
| | 137 Aust HAA Bty | | HIGGINSFIELD | 742927 | INQ Unit |
| | 164 Aust LAA Bty (less dets) | | " " | 724947 | |
| | | | " " | 742926 | Dets THURSDAY IS and RED IS PT |
| B13 | HQ 71 Aust Mob SL Bty (AIF) | 555 | BLADES CAMP | 694994 | |
| | A Tp (Hy) | | " " | 702986 | |
| | B Tp (Hy) | | BIFFIN CK | 627870 | |
| | C Tp (Med) | | HIGGINSFIELD | 756921 | |
| B14 | ENGRS HQ 1 Aust AA & Frt Coy RAE | 501 | THURSDAY IS | 459357 | |
| B15 | 21 Aust Frt Works Sec | | " " | " | |
| B16 | 22 " " " " | | " " | " | |
| B17 | 3 Aust AA Works Sec | | " " | " | |
| B18 | 2 Aust Water & Power Sup Sec | | " " | " | |
| B19 | 28 Aust Cam Unit | 584 | " " | 462357 | |
| B20 | SIGS TORRES STRAIT Sigs (less dets) | 507 | " " | 452354 | Dets HORN, GOODS & ENTRANCE IS |
| B21 | 46 Aust Cipher Sec (Type E) (AIF) | | " " | 450353 | |
| B22 | HQ 6 Aust Pigeon Sec 23 Aust Pigeon Loft | | " " | 452354 | 24 Aust Pigeon Loft under com 11 Aust Inf B |
| B23 | 42 " " " 51 Aust AA Regt (Comp) Sig Sec (AIF) | 881 | RED ISLAND H HORN IS | 632035 547335 | INQ Unit |
| B24 | 56 Aust AA Regt (Comp) Sig Sec (AIF) | 909 | HIGGINSFIELD | 741926 | INQ Unit |

| Serial No | Unit | Veh No | Location | Map Ref | Projected moves and remarks |
|-----------|--|--------|-------------------|---------|--|
| B25 | <u>INF</u> TORRES STRAIT Lt Inf Bn (less A & D Coys) A Coy D Coy TORRES STRAIT Pmr Coy <u>AASC</u> | 598 | THURSDAY IS | 472370 | |
| B26 | 46 Aust Sup Depot Pl (less Det) | | HORN IS | 575321 | |
| B27 | Det " " " " | | GOODE IS | 398328 | |
| B28 | 47 " " " " | 597 | THURSDAY IS | 466371 | |
| B28 | 45 Aust Baking Pl (AIF) (less det) | | THURSDAY IS | 461361 | |
| B29 | 46 Aust Baking Pl (AIF) (less dets) | | " " | 461359 | Det under com 11 Aust Inf Bde Dets HORN IS & RED IS POINT |
| B30 | <u>MEDICAL</u> 102 Aust CCS (AIF) | 151 | SKULL CK | 649939 | |
| B31 | 1 Aust Camp Hospital (AIF) | 566 | HORN IS | 502343 | |
| B32 | 6 " " " " | 592 | THURSDAY IS | 448351 | |
| B33 | <u>ORD</u> 15 Aust AOD (less Dets) | | BLACKS CAMP CK | 684986 | |
| B34 | 12 Aust Adv Amn Depot (Type A) | | " " | 665976 | |
| B35 | 116 Aust Bde Ord Fd Pk (AIF) | | " " | 603985 | |
| B36 | 23 Aust Lt Laundry Unit | | THURSDAY IS | 457368 | |
| B37 | 24 " " " " | | SKULL CK | 646941 | |
| B38 | <u>ARME</u> 116 Aust Bde Wksp (AIF) | 158 | BLACKS CAMP CK | 685985 | |
| B39 | Fortress Wksps TORRES STRAIT | | THURSDAY IS | 447362 | |
| B40 | 51 Aust AA Regt (Comp) Wksp (LE) (AIF) | | HORN IS | 542335 | LHQ Unit |
| B41 | 74 Aust AA SL Fty Wksp Sec (Mob) (AIF) | | " " | 532343 | " " |
| B42 | 56 Aust AA Regt Comp Wksp (AIF) | | HIGGINSFIELD | 744923 | " " |
| B43 | 71 Aust AASL Bty Wksp Sec (Mob) | | BLACKS CAMP CK | 694994 | " " |
| B44 | 10 Aust Radio Maint Sec | 946 | THURSDAY IS | 463361 | " " |
| B45 | Det 4 Aust Watercraft Wksp (Type D) | | " " | | " " |
| B46 | <u>PAY</u> 15 Aust Depot Cash Office (Type A) (AIF) | 581 | " " | 452354 | |
| B47 | <u>POSTAL</u> Det 3 Aust L of C Postal Unit (Type A) | | " " | 462358 | |
| B48 | <u>PRO</u> TORRES STRAIT Pro Pl (AIF) | 560 | " " | 461357 | Det HORN IS |
| B49 | <u>MISC</u> 7 Aust MC Gp | 712 | " " | 460357 | LHQ Tps. De HORN IS, RED IS POINT and 11 Aust Inf Bde LHQ Unit |
| B50 | Det AACS | | " " | 462355 | |
| B51 | TORRES STRAIT Det VDC | | " " | 459359 | |
| B52 | <u>US ARMY Unit</u> Det 126 Sig Radio Int Coy | | HORN IS | | |

SECRET

11 AUST INF BDE

Appendix 'C'

Copy No 23

Ref Map - MERAUKE (Special) 1/25000
- TANAHMERAH (Dutch series) 1/250,000

| Serial No | Unit | Vch No | Location | Map Ref | Remarks |
|-----------|---|--------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| C 1 | <u>HQ</u> HQ 11 Aust Inf Bde (AIF) Sig Sec 242 Aust LAD (Type J) (AIF) | 98 " " | MERAUKE " " | 43553167 43553146 44353058 | |
| C 2 | <u>INT</u> 101 Aust Fd Security Sec (AIF) | 98 | " | 45303155 | INQ Unit |
| C 3 | Det 1 Aust Fd Censorship Coy | | " | 45352038 | " |
| C 4 | <u>ARTY</u> 2/9 Aust A Fd Regt & Sig Sec (less 18 Bty) | 34 | " | 45753240 | |
| C 5 | 2/68 Aust LAD (Type D) | | " | 44003410 | |
| C 6 | HQ 52 Aust AA Regt (Comp) (LE) (AIF) | 295 | " | 43153148 | INQ Unit |
| C 7 | 139 Aust HAA Bty | 363 | " | 42533248 | |
| C 8 | 154 Aust LAA Bty | 544 | " | 44953213 | |
| C 9 | 76 Aust Mob SL Bty (AIF) | | " | 42625270 | |
| | 172 Aust LAA Bty of 116 Aust LAA Regt | | " | 46573050 | |
| C10 | <u>ENGERS</u> 11 Aust CRE (Works) (AIF) | | " | 43643140 | |
| C11 | 16 Aust Fd Coy (less 2 Pl) | 89 | " | 45332843 | 2 Pl at TANAHMERAH |
| C12 | 16 Aust Cam Unit (AIF) | 235 | " | 45302382 | |
| C13 | Det 2 Aust Water Tpt Gp (Small craft) | | " | 42503450 | INQ Unit |
| C14 | Det 57 Aust Fd Pk Coy (AIF) | 57 | " | 46122859 | |
| C15 | 10 Aust Cam Unit (AIF) | | TANAHMERAH | VN 6428 | |
| C16 | <u>SVY</u> Det 2 Aust Fd Svy Coy (AIF) | | MERAUKE | 46242846 | |
| C17 | Det 5 " " " " | | " | 46242846 | |
| C18 | <u>SIGS</u> 1 Aust Composite Sig Sec (AIF) | | " | 43303126 | |
| C19 | 24 Aust Pigeon Loft | | " | 43503146 | |
| C20 | 105 Aust Cipher Sec (Type E) (AIF) | | " | 43553146 | |
| C21 | 52 Aust AA Regt (Comp) Sig Sec (LE) (AIF) | | " | 43003179 | INQ Unit |
| C22 | Det 11 Aust WT Sec (Hy) (AIF) | | " | 43403170 | |
| C23 | <u>INF</u> 20 Aust Motor Regt (AIF) | | " | 41903070 | |
| C24 | 26 Aust Inf Bn (A Coy, 2 pl & two dets mortars) | 62 | TANAHMERAH | VN 6428 | |
| C25 | 31/51 Aust Inf Bn (less A Coy) A Coy | | MERAUKE | 46393065 55473651 | Detached outpost dty |
| C26 | 13 Pl D Coy 2/1 Aust HQ Gd Regt | | " | 43853140 | |
| C27 | 1 Pl 4 Aust Div Carr Coy (AIF) | | " | 46202890 | |
| C28 | <u>AASC</u> 157 Aust Gen Tpt Coy (AIF) | 54 | " | 44753010 | |
| C29 | 222 Aust Sup Depot Pl (AIF) | 54 | " | 43253195 | |
| C30 | 238 Aust Sup Depot Pl (AIF) | | " | 42753181 | |
| C31 | 51 Aust BIFOD Pl (AIF) | | " | 42903190 | |
| C32 | Det 45 Aust Bakery Pl (AIF) | | " | 43203220 | |
| C33 | <u>MEDICAL</u> 19 Aust Fd Amb (AIF) (less A Coy & Lt Det B Coy) | 70 | " | 46552993 | |

| Serial No | Unit | Veh No | Location | Map Ref | Remarks |
|-----------|--|--------|-------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | <u>MEDICAL (Contd)</u> | | | | |
| | A Coy | 70 | MERAUKE | 42543350 | |
| | Lt Det B Coy | 70 | TANAHMERAH | VN 6428 | |
| C34 | 12 Aust Malaria Control Unit (Type B) (AIF) | 696 | MERAUKE | 42603321 | LHQ Unit |
| C35 | Det 104 Aust Adv Depot Base Medical Stores (AIF) | | " | 46202990 | " " |
| C36 | 101 Aust Mob Bact Lab (AIF) | | " | 46412992 | " " |
| | <u>DENTAL</u> | | | | |
| C37 | Det HQ 79 Aust Dental Unit (AIF) | 224 | | | Det outpost duty |
| | A Sec 79 Aust Dental Unit (AIF) | | MERAUKE | 46563000 | |
| | R Sec " " " " " | | " | 43153147 | |
| | F Sec " " " " " | | " | 42543330 | |
| | <u>ORD</u> | | | | |
| C38 | 14 Aust AOD | | " | 42453201 | LHQ Unit |
| C39 | 11 Aust Adv Amn Depot (Type A) | | " | 44163171 | " " |
| C40 | 102 Aust Bde Ord Pd Fk (AIF) | 53 | " | 44223071 | |
| C41 | Det 10 Aust Mob Laundry | | " | 42453201 | LHQ Unit |
| C42 | 12 Aust Amn Repair Shop | | " | 44163171 | |
| | <u>AEME</u> | | | | |
| C43 | 102 Aust Bde Wksp (AIF) | | " | 44153071 | Det at TAN-AHMERAH |
| C44 | 52 Aust AA Regt (Comp) Wksp (LE) (AIF) | | " | 42423258 | LHQ Unit |
| C45 | 76 Aust AA 3L Bty Wksp Sec (Mob) (AIF) | | " | 41943255 | " " |
| C46 | 172 Aust LAA Bty Wksp | | " | 46673050 | |
| | <u>PAY</u> | | | | |
| C47 | 75 Aust Depot Cash Office (Type B) (AIF) | | " | 43353195 | |
| | <u>PRO</u> | | | | |
| C48 | Det 4 Aust Div Pro Coy (AIF) | 93 | " | 43943095 | |
| | <u>POSTAL</u> | | | | |
| C49 | Det 4 Aust Div Postal Unit (AIF) | 56 | " | 43352998 | |
| | <u>MISC</u> | | | | |
| C50 | One Pl 15 Aust Works Coy | | " | 42203315 | LHQ Unit |
| C51 | Det 7 Aust MC GP (Type D) | | " | 42403456 | LHQ Tps |
| C52 | Det AACB | | " | 42203410 | " " |
| C53 | Det QID L of C Records Office | | " | 43353195 | |
| C54 | 47 Aust Sqn AL Sec | 242 | " | 44593092 | LHQ Unit allotted 12 Sqn RAAF |
| C55 | 49 Aust Sqn AL Sec | | " | 45412058 | LHQ Unit - allotted 120 Sqn RAAF |
| C56 | Det 29 Aust L of C Sal Sec | | " | 44753010 | |
| | <u>NAVAL</u> | | | | |
| C57 | <u>NOIC</u> | | " | 42253458 | |
| | <u>RAAF</u> | | | | |
| C58 | HQ 72 Wing | | " | 43593155 | |
| C59 | HQ 12 Sqn | | " | 44545595 | |
| C60 | 44 OBU | | " | 44353254 | |
| C61 | 72 Wing Sig & Ops Room | | " | 43603151 | |
| C62 | 120 Sqn (NEI) RAAF | | " | 44353280 | |
| C63 | 6 Medical Receiving Sta | | " | 46502969 | |
| C64 | 113 Fighter Control Unit | | " | 43483106 | |
| C65 | 40 Radar Sta | | " | 40633165 | |
| C66 | 151 " " | | " | 43303280 | |
| C67 | 1 RSU Det | | " | 45353180 | |
| C68 | Det 42 Radar wing | | " | 44243257 | |
| C69 | 316 Radar Sta | | KOMBIESE R. | 08°08'S-132°51'E) Ref Map | |
| C70 | 322 " " | | TANAHMERAH | 06°06'S-140°20'E) Aero- | |
| C71 | 323 " " | | BOZPOEL | 07°33'S-140°37'E) naut- | |
| | <u>US UNITS</u> | | | | ical series |
| C72 | HQ USA Forces MERAUKE | | MERAUKE | 42903245 | |
| C73 | 15 Weather Sqn USAF | | " | 43503145 | |

WAR DIARY - 4 AUST DIV - MAY 1944

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APPENDIX P

Copy No.

19

HQ 4 AUST DIV (AIF)

4 AUST DIV OPERATION INSTRUCTION NO 32
LAND DEFENCE OF CAPE YORK - 66 DUTCH NEW GUINEA

Amendment No 1

1. In paragraph 20(b) delete "Op Instrn 30 of 19 Apr 43" and insert "Op Instrn 34 of 23 May 43".

ACKNOWLEDGE

Time of signature..... 29 1600 K.

[Signature] Col.
GS 4 AUST DIV.

May 44

DISTRIBUTION

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|-------------------------|-------|
| 11 Aust Inf Bde | 1 - 2 |
| TORRES STRAIT Area | 3 - 5 |
| RAA 4 Aust Div | 6 |
| RAE 4 Aust Div | 7 |
| Sigs 4 Aust Div | 8 |
| Hq Comd AAEC 4 Aust Div | 9 |
| GOC | 10 |
| G(0) | 11 |
| G(1) | 12 |
| AQ | 13 |
| A | 14 |
| Q | 15 |
| ADMS | 16 |
| ADOS | 17 |
| CEMS | 18 |
| War Diary | 19-20 |
| File | 21 |

For Information

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|-------------------|----|
| First Aust Army | 22 |
| NOTIC THURSDAY IS | 23 |
| 75 Wing RAAC | 24 |
| US Navy | 25 |

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Copy No 44

4 AUST DIV INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 35

Compiled from information received

From 1200 hrs 22 May 44 to 1200 hrs 29 May 44

- (a) Information contained herein is for circulation down to Battalions or equivalent units.
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Intelligence Functions of Japanese Special Assault Parties

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- Appendix 'A' - Map - Allied Landings WAKDE Area
- Appendix 'B' - Map - Allied Progress in SOUTH WEST PACIFIC from Aug 42 to May 44.

PART IOPERATIONSNW SECTORLANDDUTCH NEW GUINEA

HOLLANDIA : Reports indicate that with the exception of the area SOUTH of the SENTANI LAKES enemy contacts in the vicinity of HOLLANDIA have considerably diminished over the past week.

Documents captured during the fighting indicate that the enemy planned launching a large scale attack on DEMA on an unspecified date. From aerial reconnaissance and native reports it appears that the main enemy force for this operation was between TAKAR and ANDOES (8 and 28 miles SE of TOEM respectively) with forward elements at ARMOPA (32 miles WEST DEMA). Although this action was forestalled by the swiftness of the Allied advance many Japanese were in the vicinity of TAFIA (4 miles NW DEMA) on 27 May.

MAFFIN - SARMI Area : No organised enemy resistance has been encountered by our troops along the TEMENTOE RIVER. Aerial recon reports considerable movement to the WEST between ARMOPA and TAKAR including one armed party estimated at 300 2 miles EAST of TAKAR. On the western sector our troops crossed the TOR RIVER against enemy fire on 24 May. Holding a line along the WEST bank these forces commenced an encircling movement of the enemy's right flank. During the advance 62 Japs were killed. By 25 May forward elements were holding a line from the jetty (600 yards WEST river mouth) SE to TOR River. Our naval units shelled the area WEST of MAFFIN IS in support of the advance. By 26 May the enemy were withdrawing towards MAFFIN airfield. Total enemy casualties to date 1171 killed 6 PW captured.

The enemy is estimated as having two companies dug in in defensive positions around the airstrip. This force is temporarily holding up the Allied advance which has reached points within one half mile of the airfield.

BLAK ISLAND : Following a heavy naval and aerial bombardment Allied troops landed at BOSNEK on the SOUTH coast of the island at 2215K 26 May. Slight opposition from mortars and automatic weapons was encountered on the right flank, but despite this our troops had gained a ridge overlooking BOSNEK by daylight. Forward elements immediately commenced patrolling to the WEST and EAST and by 1100K a perimeter had been established around the village. Allied cruisers continued to shell the airstrips at MOKMER and BOSNEK whilst bombers attempted to neutralize the airfield at EGROKE (10 miles WEST BOSNEK).

EILANDEN RIVER Area : Reliable reports from this area state that no villages on the PI RIVER are now occupied by the enemy, although signs of recent Japanese occupation have been found in villages in the vicinity of the EILANDEN and NOORDWEST RIVERS ; possible landing stages exist at intervals from the mouth of the D'ARMANDVILLE RIVER to a point 14 miles inland.

SEA

DUTCH NEW GUINEA : Sightings of enemy merchant shipping in the GEELVINK BAY have dropped off considerably. Allied air attacks have no doubt taken heavy toll of shipping in these waters and during the past week sightings were confined mainly to small craft, luggers and barges. With the Allied occupation of BLAK IS and possibly other islands in the SCHOUTEN GROUP the enemy's supply and maintenance of his garrisons throughout this area must become more and more embarrassing.

Along the western coast the only shipping reported was three 500 ton freighters and numerous barges at KAIMANA on 22 May and two small warships and one cargo vessel at SORONG on the following day.

HALMAHERA ISLANDS

Convoys consisting of two large freighter transports, one fuel laden cargo vessel and one small petrol craft with escorting destroyers were sighted during the week in the vicinity of MOROTAI STRAITS moving in a southerly direction.

BORNEO

Further evidence of the presence of strong concentrations of Japanese naval units in and around SINGAPORE has been furnished by aerial photographs taken on 24 May when a concentration comprising 10 battleships, six aircraft carriers, one large auxiliary tanker and 40 naval units and medium cargo vessels were revealed off TAWI TAWI ISLAND (NE tip of BORNEO) heading towards SINGAPORE.

AIR

DUTCH NEW GUINEA

Prior to the Allied landing on BIAK IS the airfields of BOSNEK and MOKMER were the main targets for our heavy units. In support of the landing the strips at SORIDO, KIMIRI and NAMBER on NOEMFOOR IS were all subjected to heavy bombardment. Considerable damage was caused to runways, revetments and dispersal areas during these strikes.

On three occasions a squadron of B25s set off on an attack mission to BABO ; due to adverse weather over the target area only one strike was carried out. The town area at BABO and OTAWIRI were bombed and strafed on 27 May. There was no fighter or anti-aircraft fire encountered. One enemy bomber and several buildings were destroyed at BABO.

Other targets engaged were the barracks and town area at MANOKWARI twice, and the airstrip at UTAROM. No opposition was met during any of these raids.

PART II

Section 2 - ENEMY TACTICS

JAPANESE ANTI-AIRCRAFT TACTICS

Until the entrance of BRITAIN, AUSTRALIA and the UNITED STATES into the present war, JAPAN had little use for her anti-aircraft troops. Since she had air superiority over CHINA, there was little occasion for anti-aircraft weapons to go into action against Chinese aircraft. Consequently, the skill and efficiency of gun crews and fire control sections was very poor at the outset of operations in the SWPA theatre.

Before the present war, the UNITED STATES taught Japanese officers, as exchange students, the theoretical and practical skill of anti-aircraft weapons and tactics.

Several very important lessons were learnt during the BISMARCK SEA battle, the salient one being that the naval anti-aircraft crews were much more accurate in their firing than the ground crews. Another factor was the ability of naval gun crews to use barrage fire.

Very little contact was had with the Japanese anti-aircraft up to Jul 1943. This was due to the fact that all missions were carried out at relatively high altitudes, thus compelling the Japanese to use his large calibre anti-aircraft weapons.

From careful examination of bombing results it became evident that considerably less damage was inflicted on Japanese heavy weapon installations than on medium or light installations. This was mainly due to the fact that the high level bombing tactics were changed to lower attacks.

The normal disposition of guns in a Japanese heavy anti-aircraft battery consisted of six to eight guns arranged in an arc, or line, with the fire control in the centre. The light (automatic) weapons (four per battery) were distributed around the battery for defence against low level attacks. Invariably a garden was located nearby which often assisted in the identification of the location of the gun sites.

From the beginning of 1944 radical changes occurred in Japanese anti-aircraft tactics. The system of "following fire" (guns firing at a predicted point) was abandoned for barrage fire. Smaller calibre guns were placed in gun pits previously accommodating large calibre weapons. The former six and eight gun installations were broken up into two and four gun positions with the empty pits serving as alternative positions and were used to create deception as to the strength of the installations. Of course, the effectiveness of the anti-aircraft firing was materially reduced, but the increase in the number of targets to be attacked presented an additional problem to Allied planning.

Since the latter part of 1943 the appearance of unusual bursts became prominent. Para-ack-ack, rocket projectiles, foot square incendiary sheets, multiple hour glass bursts, flaming onions, land mines and barrage mortar bursts being among the many bursts encountered.

The following factors may contribute to the fact that Japanese anti-aircraft firing has recently been reduced in intensity:-

- (a) Lack of ammunition.
- (b) Conservation of ammunition.
- (c) Lack of gun crew personnel.
- (d) Actual abandonment of gun sites.
- (e) Damage to fire control instruments.

Frequently practically all heavy weapons were observed in place but not manned by gun crews.

(First Aust Army Intelligence Summary No 107)

PART III

TOPOGRAPHICAL

THE ISLANDS BARRING THE APPROACHES TO GEELVINK BAY

GEELVINK BAY - the large indentation on the north coast of NW NEW GUINEA lies between DOMBO POINT 1°50'S 137°5'E and CAPE MEMORI 0°52'S 134°10'E, about 210 miles and extends south to NABIRE 3°22'S 135°29'E a depth of about 120 miles.

Across its wide northern entrance stretch two lines of islands firstly KOEROEDOE, JAPEN and MIOS NOEM, with a large number of small adjacent islets, reaching out 140 miles westward from DOMBO POINT, then secondly - 30 miles to the north, and separated from the first line by the deep and safely navigable JAPEN strait, the SCHOUTEN ISLANDS and NOEMFOOR ISLAND extending 120 miles westerly, opposite the middle of the bay. These latter consist of the PADAIDO ISLANDS - a group of small islands, BLAK and SOEPIORI ISLANDS - only separated from each other by a narrow tidal channel, and NOEMFOOR a round island about 15 miles in diameter 50 miles east of CAPE MEMORI.

- 4 -

None of these islands have been developed by Europeans as evidenced by the fact that the white population was less than 50, with about 300 Chinese among a native population of 65,000. They were first visited by Portuguese who met with a hostile reception in the 16th century. SCHOUTEN and LEMAIRE, two Dutchmen sailed through them in 1616, but it was not until 1850 that the Dutch formally took possession. During the past two decades oil prospecting and geological surveys have been undertaken, principally on BIAK, SOEPIORI and the PADAIDO islands.

These islands with the exception of the small coral islets are all rugged, and the natives nearly all live round the coasts, where the climate is relatively cool and temperate. Very little is known of the interior of the larger islands, where there are very few tracks and a small number of uncivilised natives. The coastal natives are more civilised than would appear, and a relatively large proportion are Christians. On these islands the food supply is no more than sufficient for the natives, while water is a problem everywhere. The mountain ranges are invariably of limestone formation and generally water found is brackish.

As elsewhere in NEW GUINEA ISLAND zone, malaria presents the principal problem from the health point of view. The rainfall averages approximately 100" annually, the season being divided between NW monsoon, Nov to Mar and the SE monsoon Apr to Oct. During the former period the winds are continuous and strong, making the north coasts of the islands unsafe for shipping. While the SE monsoon prevails, the winds are lighter and irregular and extensive fogs occur - at times lasting for months. A climatic phenomenon in these islands is the so-called "Wam-Braw", a hot dry wind which sets in from the SW during the SE monsoon, and blows from four to eight days. It appears to start quite suddenly and during its incidence the weather is invariably dry, with light haze at sea level and exceptionally clear air in the upper strata. Natives aver that it only blows at full moon.

Of the inner line of islands, JAPEN - about 100 miles east and west by 10 miles north and south - is the largest and has a substantial native population, about 20,000 living mainly on the NW and south coasts. This line of islands resembles the neighbouring NEW GUINEA coast topographically. The central backbone of JAPEN ISLANDS is a limestone range rising to 5000 feet. MIOS NOEM, a neighbouring island, is very rugged and uninhabited.

In the SCHOUTEN ISLANDS of the outer line SOEPIORI is very rugged as also is the western end of BIAK ISLAND. The remainder of BIAK ISLAND is mostly flat but is broken by steep ridges and gullies. This island like the other carries practically all of its population on the coast - some parts of the east coast being densely populated.

The larger of the PADAIDO ISLANDS which lie SE of BIAK ISLAND are inhabited. They are all low and some are covered with coconuts and separated from each other by deep straits.

NOEMFOOR ISLAND with highest point 670 feet is covered with rain forest. It is undeveloped and has numerous villages containing approximately 6000 natives scattered around its coast. The country is mostly flat and is considered suitable for airstrip construction. The interior is not populated.

The MAPIA ISLANDS, three in number, are all low and flat and have been built up on a coral reef to form portion of the atoll. The narrow passage in the reef is dangerous even for small craft. As with most other atolls there is deep water to the outside reef necessitating ships heaving-to due to lack of anchorage facilities. The lagoon is five and one half miles by two miles, but is not clear.

Generally the main potentialities regarding barge hide-outs and sea-plane anchorages in these islands lie on their south coasts, are there are none of exceptional quality.

(First Aust Army Intelligence Summary
No 107)

PART IV

SECURITY

INTELLIGENCE FUNCTIONS OF JAPANESE SPECIAL ASSAULT PARTIES

Since the initial attack on PEARL HARBOUR the Japanese have continually attempted daring and seemingly impossible operations, relying almost entirely on the element of surprise for success.

The raid on SYDNEY by the Japanese midget submarines is a typical example of such attacks and could have caused much damage but for the vigilance of the defences.

That this spirit of surprise is still manifest, and should always be guarded against, is evident from the following instructions relative to the "Organisation and Methods of Attack by Special Assault Parties", extracted from an enemy document captured in the ARAKAN area :-

"Role. To carry out surprise attacks on enemy HQ and capture enemy Commanders - destruction of enemy's HQ will cause confusion throughout his whole force and destroy him. At the same time enemy secret documents and maps will be captured ; from these we can immediately learn his strength and dispositions and they are of great value to us in future operations. The task is great and its achievement difficult but there is an old saying "You cannot catch a tiger cub unless you go into the tiger's den." The courage necessary to carry out this duty, which is not impossible, is repaid by the results.

Any who resist will be killed, but it must be remembered that the main task is the capture of the commander."

(First Aust Army Intelligence Summary No 107)

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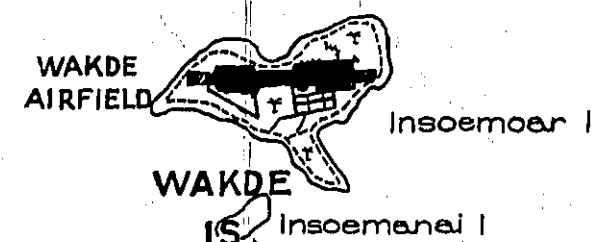
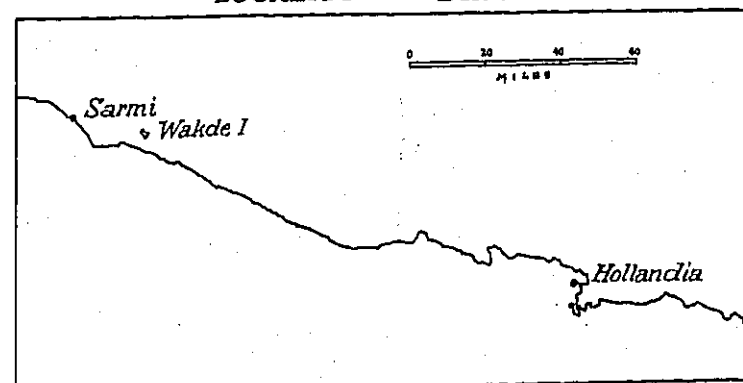
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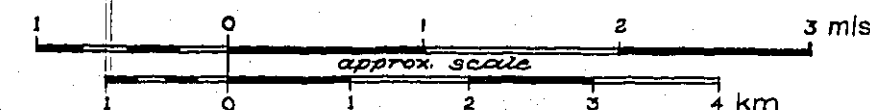
ALLIED LANDINGS WAKDE AREA

APPENDIX A
4 Aust Div
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
TO AMT WAKDE INTELLIGENCE
REVIEWED BY 401 MAT 44
(BASED ON MAPS COURTESY
ALLIED 2200 SEC)

LOCALITY DIAGRAM

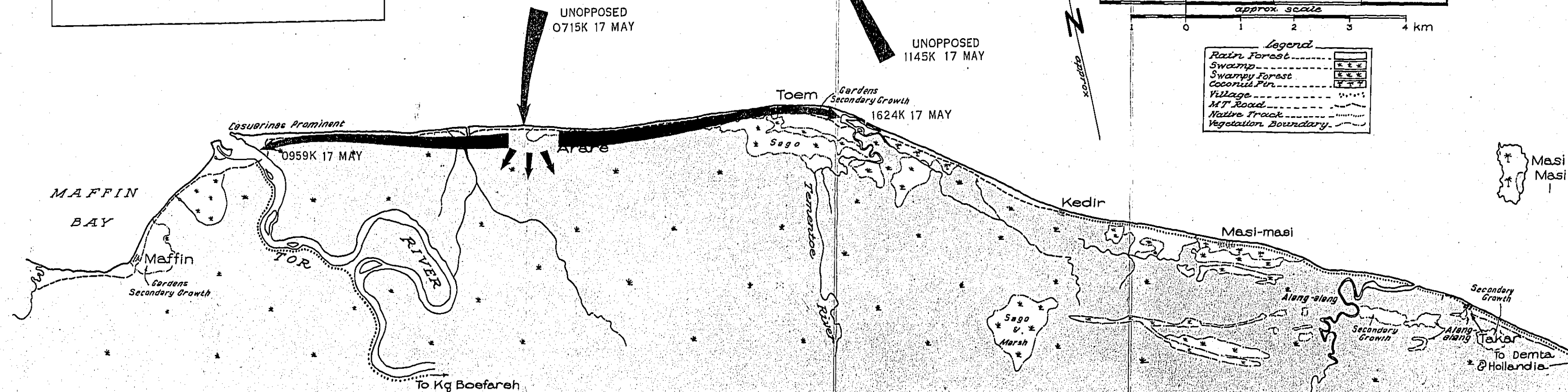


WAKDE COASTAL STRIP



Legend

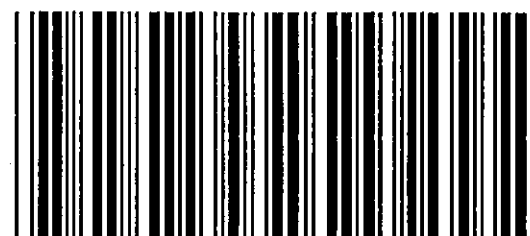
| | |
|---------------------|-----|
| Rain Forest | *** |
| Swamp | *** |
| Swampy Forest | *** |
| Coconut Pin | *** |
| Village | *** |
| MT Road | --- |
| Native Track | --- |
| Vegetation Boundary | --- |



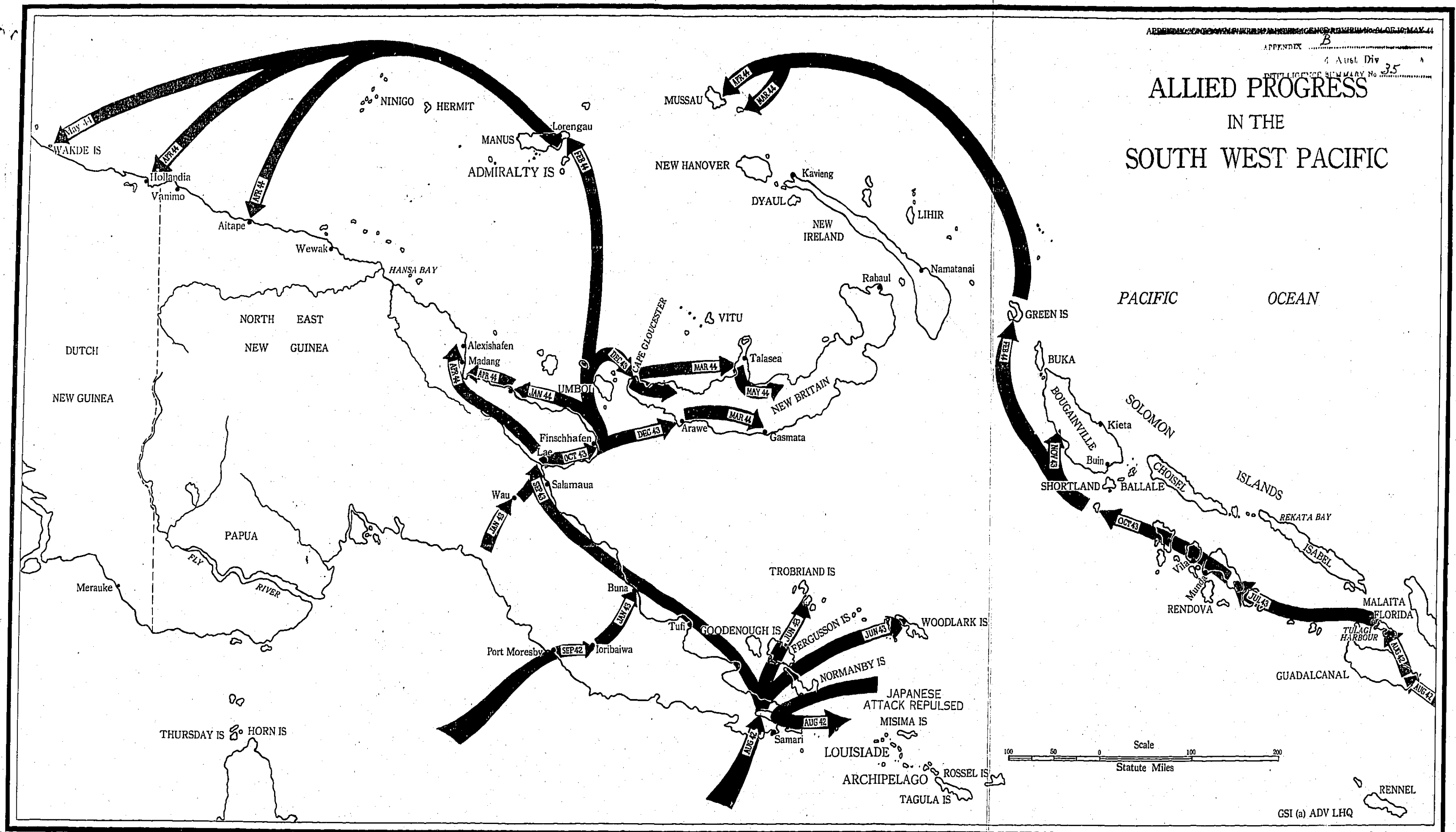
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