

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

Item number: 8/3/78

39 Infantry Battalion
January - February 1942

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 39 Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 JAN 1942

To 31 JAN 1942

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries &c.
At Sea	1 Jan 42	0900	Boat Drill boy Parades	
		1400	Inter-Unit-Ship Sports	
		2000	Ships concert and presentation of sports trophies	
			Final concert - A/A Watch Guard. - Weather fine + hot.	
At Sea	2 Jan 42	0900	Boat Drill boy Parades	
			Preparation for disembarkation	
			Ships Magazine "Pa" published	
			A/A Guard Weather fine hot.	
At Sea	3 Jan 42	0900	boy Parade - Special Roll check + Inspection	
			Troop ship Aquitania with 39 Bn personell on board	
			anchored 1 1/2 miles from Port Koresby at 1500 hrs.	
			Troops issued with 10 rounds ammunition each.	
			Disembarkation of troops commenced at 1630 in	
			HMAS Swan HMAS Achilles and life boats from other	

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Date and Time.—From 1 JAN 1942

To 31 JAN 1942

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
At Sea	3 Jan 42		<p>troopers in convoy 39 Bn disembarked by 1930 hrs. Personal baggage & kits placed in heaps at wharf and troops marched to 7 Mile Aerodrome. Settled in by 2300 hrs. No casualties in disembarkation.</p> <p>Convoy from Sydney to Port Koresby consisted of Aquitania, 2 merchant ships carrying heavy baggage, vehicles and provisions. 4600 troops on board Aquitania.</p> <p>Escort ships were HMAS Perth, Canberra, Australia and HMNS Achilles. Corvettes HMAS Swan & Jarra met convoy at 1200 hrs 2 Jan 42 and remained until disembarkation completed. No enemy opposition.</p>	

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Date and Time.—From 1 JAN 1942

To 31 JAN 1942

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Row Houseby 7 mile camp.	4 Jan 42.		<p>encountered throughout trip.</p> <p>commencement of unloading baggage ships. Settling in of boys at temporary bivouac sites. Bn H.Q. situated in front of McGrath's house. A B + HQ bay on left b bay in front. D + MG. on rights and lefts in rear. As no kitchen or cooking utensils available all meals served cold. Plentiful supply of water available from stand pipe near Bn H.Q.</p> <p>No maps of 7 mile area available No aeroplanes on Aerodrome.</p> <p>1000 conference of unit commanders and adjt at Bde H.Q. (Konedobu). Operation order No 1.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
			issued by Bde commander. 39 Bn allotted task of defending 7 mile aerodrome previously defended by 49 Bn. 39 Bn to take over these defences when fighting equipment received from ships. Weather - fine hot.	
Port Moresby 7 mile camp	5 Jan 42		39 Bn Operation Order prepared Dispositions as shown in map attached. Troops instructed to wear battle dress and carry weapons loaded at all times Unloading baggage etc. continued Work continued on improving bivouac sites Rece made of Bn Area by C.O. 2 1/2 adjt. Weather - fine hot.	39 Bn Operation Order attached.

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Date and Time.—From 1 JAN 1942

To 31 JAN 1942

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby 7 Mile Camp.	6 Jan 42		Tents unloaded from ship and allotted to boys. Unloading from boats continued. Recce by boy commanders of boy Areas code names of units allotted by 8 M.D. code name of 39 Bn HOFU. Weather fine + hot.	
Port Moresby 7 Mile Camp.	7 Jan 42.		Conference of I.O's in 30 Bde held at Murray Barracks mosquito nets issued to B.V.B. boys Arrangements made with Hygiene Section an Engineers for building of trench latrines. Further recce by C.O., 2 nd Lt Adj't. boy commanders of Bn Area.	

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Army Form C.2118
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			<p>B + D. Coy moved to battle stations</p> <p>Unloading continued at wharf. Direct telephone line from Port Moresby to McGrath (Bn H.Q.) house completed.</p> <p>Weather—fine hot.</p>	
Port Moresby 7 mile camp	8 Jan 42.	1200	<p>Bn H.Q.'s established in McGrath's house</p> <p>Taken over from B. Coy 49 Bn.</p> <p>Defensive positions held by B Coy 49 Bn</p> <p>Taken over by 39 Bn.</p> <p>Map of 7 mile aerodrome and surrounding district (39 Bn area) commenced by I. Section</p> <p>Unloading at wharf continued.</p> <p>Further recce by C.O. + Adj. S.</p> <p>Weather fine hot.</p>	

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To 31 JAN 1942

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby 7 Mile Camp	9 Jan 42		Balance of Mosquito nets issued. Ammunition Supplies received and distributed as follows— 50 rounds per man plus boy reserve of 50 rounds per man Unloading at wharf continued. Bn H.Q. Sentry mounted at Bn H.Q. Wireless communication established between Bn H.Q. + AB.D Weather fine + hot.	See map attached.
Port Moresby 7 Mile Camp	10 Jan 42	0700	Guard of 1 N.C.O + 6 O.R.'s mounted by 39 Bn at Port Moresby Power House Duties of Sentry (1) To prevent entry of unauthorised persons (2) Watch for signals from Paga Hill Post and (3) raise town alarm if necessary R.A.P. shifted to isolated area S.W. of H.Q. boy.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby 7 Mile Camp	10 Jan 42	0900	Watching Post established by I sect on aerodrome (24hr watch) Emergency or Alternative cable laid from Bn H.Q. to 23 AA position	
		2000	Boy commanders conference. B. boy commander reports food said by native stopped in time - Weather fine hot.	
Port Moresby 7 Mile Camp	11 Jan 42	1200	Field cable laid to A. boy.	
		0900	Rece by C.O. of Smelters Area (Booths Bay)	
		1000	Aerodrome Report: De Havilland 89 Dragon VH-AEA. landed from WAAU with Pilot + 1 passenger	
		1605.	Lockheed Hudson RAAF loaded with bombs arrived from Townsville for refuelling	
		2000	Boy commanders conference Unloading continued at Wharf Weather - fine hot.	

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To 31 JAN 1942

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby 7 Mile Camp.	12 Jan 42	0800	<p>Unloading at Wharf continued.</p> <p>Motor cycle riding school with Lieut Oliver as Instructor commenced 6 officers passed required tests. Recce by A Coy officers of Area around Rouna.</p>	
		0720	<p>Aerodrome Report (a) Hudson Bomber took off and headed in Easterly direction.</p>	
		0745	<p>(b) Lt. Rowland V4-AEA took off and headed in Easterly northerly direction.</p>	
		1800	<p>Water cart commenced water carrying to Smelters at Bootless Bay.</p>	
			<p>Weather - fine + hot.</p>	
			<p>Daily News Summary commenced by P.O.</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby. 7 Mile camp.	14 Jan 42	1100	<p>Ten trucks allotted 1 per boy.</p> <p>Brigade commander + B. Lt. arrived.</p> <p>7 Mile camp also C.O. 17 Field Regt.</p> <p>Rece of bootless area by C.O. + Adj. with B.C. + B.M.</p> <p>Received notice of alteration of B. boy area owing to health reasons.</p> <p>Aerodrome Report</p>	
		0900	Mail Plane VH-ADT landed from Australia.	
		1610	Plane VH-USA (Wandated Air Lines) landed bringing spare parts for mail plane.	
		1900	<p>Conference of I.O's reference preparing Photographic survey of Papua. To be commenced immediately under direction of Lieut Fletcher.</p> <p>1 platoon C. Coy moved to battle station in bootless bay area. Weather - Fine + Hot.</p>	

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Date and Time.—From 1 JAN 1942 To 31 JAN 1942

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby 7 Mile Camp	15 Jan 42.	1830	Unloading of ships at Wharf. Guards posted on Ammunition dumps at 7 mile & 12 mile dumps Kouma Road. (1 N.C.O & 4 O.R's at each dump). Recc of Lookout Ridge by B Coy Recc of Bootless Bay area by C.O. 2 nd Lt & Adj. Lt New Kation Point notified at 4 mile area Aerodrome Report:— Lockheed Hudson bomber A16-146 arrived from TOWNSVILLE 1108 Lt Haviland Dragon VH-AEA arrived from WAU. with 3 passengers. 0605 VH-USA took off headed in N direction 1348 VH-AEA took off headed in N direction 1 Platoon C Coy moved to battle station in Bootless Bay Area. Weather—Fine & Hot.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby 7 Mile Camp	16 Jan 42	0800	Unloading of ships at Wharf. B. Coy moved to battle station at Lookout Ridge 1 Platoon C. Coy moved to battle station in Boothless Bay Area.	
		1890	Maps of Lookout Ridge Boothless Bay Areas commenced. Guards posted on Ammunition dumps at 7 Mile & 12 Mile dumps Buna Road.	
		2200	Coy commanders conference. Aerodrome Report—	
		0545	D. K. Bartenters Lockheed took off headed in N direction	
		0825	VH-ADT arrived with passengers from T.N.G. for Australia.	
		0845	VH-ADT took off for Australia	
		1115	VH-ADS Arrived from Australia with passengers & mail.	

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Port Moresby 7 mile camp	17 Jan 42.		Unloading of ships at wharf. Maps of Bootless Bay, Lookout Ridge Areas continued	
		1800	Guards posted on Ammunition dumps at 7 mile & 12 mile dumps Rouna Road.	
		2200	Boy commanders conference.	
		1600	Boys paid.	
			Aerodrome Report—	
		0325	RAAF Hudson 16-38 took off in N direction	
		0330	RAAF Hudson 16-146 took off in N direction	
		0530	W. K. carpenters VH-ADS took off for T.M.G.	
		1110	RAAF Hudson 16-145 & W. maways 20-128, 20-154, 20-321 arrived from HORN ISLAND.	
		1500	VH-ADS arrived from T.M.G. with passengers for PORT MORESBY + Australia	
		1535	VH-ADS took off for Australia.	

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To 31 JAN 1942

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby 7 mile camp.	18 Jan 42		Unloading of ships at wharf.	
		1800	Maps of Lookout Ridge + Bootless Bay areas completed. Guards posted on ammunition dumps at 7 mile + 12 mile dumps Rouna Road.	
		2200	boy commanders conference. Aerodrome report.	
		0640	RAAF Warraways 20-128 + 20-321 took off headed in N direction	
		0900	VH-AEA arrived from T.N.G. with passengers for Port Moresby.	
		1040	VH-UDY (Guinea Airways) arrived from T.N.G. loaded with rifles, bayonets + equipment.	
		1200	VH-UOX (Guinea Airways) arrived from T.N.G. loaded with rifles, bayonets + equipment.	
		1235	RAAF Hudson 16-145 took off + headed in S.E. direction	
		1410	VH-AEA. took off for W.A.U.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby 7 Mile Camp	19 Jan 42.		Unloading of ship at W wharf. Tactical sketches of boy & Platoon Areas handed to Bde. 15 Platoon C. Coy. moved to new battle station Rootless Bay Area. Station drawing time altered from 0400 hrs to 1600 hrs previous day.	
		1600	Guards posted on Ammunition dumps at 7 Mile + 12 Mile dumps Rouna Road.	
		2200	Coy Commanders conference. Aero Drome Report.	
		0910	VH-UDY took off for YUDDA + TOCODA.	
		1230	VH-UDY returned with passengers from YUDDA + TOCODA.	

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To 31 JAN 1942

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby 7 Mile Camp	20 Jan 42	0900	unloading of ship at wharf. Adv. Guard of 1 OFF + 230 R's from 1 st Reinf. moved to training details Murray barracks. N/A sentries maintained by all boys water carted to B+6. boy	
		1700	1 st Reinf moved to training details Murray Barracks	
		1800	Guards posted on Ammunition dumps at 7 Mile + 12 Mile dumps Rouna Road. Aerodrome report.	
		0430	Phone message from Corporal PORT, MORESBY that a bomber was overdue + to keep lookout for same.	
		0800	VH-UDY left for YODDA + TOCODA with Supplies	
		1000	VH-UDY arrived with cargo of rubber.	
		1100	VH-UDY left for YODDA + TOCODA with further Supplies	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby	20 Jan 42	1330	VH-UDY returned from YODDA + TOCODA.	
7 Mile Camp		1800	VA-1639 Hudson Bomber arrived.	
		2100	Plane heard, Flares lit, no plane landed.	
Port Moresby	21 Jan 42		Unloading ship at wharf	
7 Mile Camp			2 nd recce of Bootless Bay Area.	
			b. boy patrolling area from battle station to sea.	
			A/A sentries maintained by all boys	
			Water barked to b.r.b. boys.	
		1800	Guards posted on ammunition dumps at 7 mile + 12 mile dumps Rouna Road.	
			Aero drone Report.	
		1015	VH-UDY took off for YODDA + TOCODA.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby	21 Jan 42	1240	UA 16-39 Hudson bomber took off for TOWNSVILLE.	
7 Mile camp		1245	VH-UDY returned from YUDDA & TOCODA.	
		1425	VH-UDY took off for YUDDA + TOCODA.	
		1630	VH-UDY returned from YUDDA + TOCODA.	
			Rece of TUPUSELEI Area by I. Sec.	
			Native Pad only to TUPUSELEI HEAD (Port Moresby to cap.)	
			Rece Report forwarded 30 Inf Bde.	
Port Moresby	22 Jan 42		Rece of area beyond 12 mile vally.	
7 Mile camp			N of Bootless Bay by I. Sec.	
			Country found to be a series of hills	
			& ridges.	
			Aerodrome Report:	
			A pilot from one of the planes which evacuated.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby	22 Jan 42.		Salamao stated that Worrays are useless against the enemy fighters.	
		0845	Lockheed Hudson A 1638 took off for Australia	
		1005	Worrway A20-156 landed from LAE.	
		1025	VH-UBI landed from WAU.	
		1012	New Guinea Airways plane VH-UOW landed with coacac from LAE.	
		1014	" " " VH-UOX " " WAU.	
		1340	2 Lockheed Hudson A16-106 + A 16-88 landed from N.S.W.	
		1626	2 " " A 16-129 + A 16-126 " Australia.	
		1305	Air raid warning sounded by b/c 4c B boy Guard at Lower House Moresby. Flags from naval Signal Station taken for signal from Paga Station. False Alarm. All clear sounded 10 minutes later. A number of coons seen travelling along Kouna Road with possessions as result of warning.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby 7 Mile Camp	23 Jan 42.		<p>Instructions received from S.M.D. to remove civil aircraft from 7 Mile Aerodrome</p> <p>Arrangements made for aircraft to be toed to bush approx 1 mile away</p> <p>Wireless reports received of landings in RABAU & SOLOMON ISLANDS - Not confirmed.</p> <p>Showers of rain fell late afternoon. Morning Fine + Hot.</p> <p>Digging of Gen H.Q.'s slit trenches</p> <p>Weather Fine + Hot - Showers at night.</p> <p>Intelligence report received from C. Coy.</p> <p>Slit trenches completed. Rain reported. 1900 to 2000 hrs</p> <p>Roads wet but passable.</p>	

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(adapted.)

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To 31 JAN 1942

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby 7 Mile camp.	24 Jan 42		Report received from pilot that aerodrome at LAE was wrecked by bombs & machine gun fire. Also reported that Warrisay planes are useless against enemy fighters. All New Guinea Airways planes except 2 fled to Australia.	
		0700-1135	VH UXE Garnett type of plane attempted landing at WAU but each time forced to return on ac of bad weather.	
		1230	Lockheed Hudson mail plane left for bairns with 14 passengers	
		1345/1350/1410	3 Hudson bombers left on bombing raid. Intelligence report C. Coy. - break mission station running. Report of strange craft. bootless Intel. Proved to be fake. Trading steamer steaming outside reefs received 4 days emergency rations.	

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Port Moresby 7 Mile Camp.	24 Jan 42.		4 days emergency rations issued to boys Loading parties despatched for ammunition loading Capt Badger evacuated to camp Hospital	
Port Moresby 7 Mile Camp.	25 Jan 42.	0920.	Administrator (Dir. Walter 16 th Div) arrived 7 mile aerodrome in Fokker plane (Faith in Aust.) Entertained by Col. Bonran. Latest information re situation at Lae Bololo & Wau received. Flare lit at aerodrome at midnight (0000 hrs) preparatory return of bombers. Bombers returned 0710 + 0730 reported Rabaul in hands of enemy. Heavy AAA fire from land batteries. 1 bomber forced down out of petrol.	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby	25 Jan 42.		Works on Battle H.Q. commenced.	
7 Mile Camp.		0845	Fokker VH-UXY landed from NW direction bringing Administrator.	
		1100	Mail Plane Lockheed VH-ADS landed from bairns.	
			Weather Fine + Hot.	
Port Moresby	26 Jan 42	1100	Shower of rain (about ½ inch)	
7 Mile Camp.		0815.	b. boy. :- native craft in Bootless intercepted by proved to be friendly. Barted + Dannel were received by C Coy.	
		0845.	Aerodrome :- Hudson VH-APS arrived from WAU with coacuss	
		0930	" " returned to WAU.	
		1145.	" " arrived from WAU with coacuss.	

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Port Moresby 7 Mile Camp	26 Jan 42	1245.	Gannell returned from WAU.	
		1415.	1 Bomber (Hudson) took off for SALAMOA. A16-111	
		1640	Hudson VH-ADS. left for WAU.	
		1830	" " returned with evacuees.	
			Work by Eng's preparing Aerodrome for Demolition commenced.	
			Australia Day - celebrated in Australia.	
Port Moresby 7 Mile Camp.	27 Jan 42		Lieut Stokes evacuated to Hospital.	
			Pay Day.	
		1930	Rain commenced - approx 1/2 inch.	
			Aerodrome Report:-	
		0645.	biwif Plane (Faith in Aust) test flight returned 5-min later.	
	0715	" " " " left for WAU.		
	1015.	Hudson bomber left Aerodrome.		

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Port Moresby 7 Mile Camp	27 Jan 42	1025	Werrisway A 20-156 landed from 3 mile drome	
		1115	" " left & returned to drome.	
		1240	Faith in Aust returned from WAO. with evacuees	
		1415	Hudson A 16-111 lands from WAO.	
		1710	Both VH-WQR test flight.	
		0900	Received report from Bde that GAMATRA had reported that 3 enemy flying boats were sighted flying direction PORT MORESBY. No aircraft sighted PORT MORESBY area.	
Port Moresby 7 Mile Camp.	28 Jan 42	0945		own AFA Post sounded air raid warning High flying unidentified plane heard and 23 AFA bty seen taking post. All personnel went to slit trenches. All clear sounded at 1015 hrs. Unconfirmed report received

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Port Moresby 7 Mile Camp	25 Jan 42.		from Airforce that enemy plane had been sighted on recce flying direction PORT MORESBY.	
		1205	High flying unidentified plane sighted by Paga Hill Post and flying 7 Mile Aerodrome direction. Check asked for by B.I.O.	
		1210	check made & proved to be Hudson bomber which landed 7 Mile Aerodrome.	
			Aerodrome Report:-	
		0450 0645	Hudson Bomber left drome. Flares lit.	
		0645	No. 2 (VH-UQR) left for WAO.	
		0700	Faith in Aust. left for WAO.	
		1125	No. 2 (VH-UQR) arrived from WAO.	
		1215	Hudson A16-126 arrived from Salamoa.	

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Port Moresby 7 Mile Camp.	28 Jan 42.	1235	Faith in Aust returned from W.A.U.	
		1300/4	3 Hudsons left A16-111, A16-129, A16-126,	
		1700	both Plane test flight.	
		1745	Hudson A16-167 arrived from TOWNSVILLE.	
		1750	" A16-169 " " "	
		1930/5	Hudsons A16-126, A16-111 + A16-129 returned.	
			Fokker plane damaged while being hoed onto Aerodrome.	
			G.O.C. paid call to 39 Bn.	
			Weather Hot + muggy.	
			Digging of Pits for Pill Boxes commenced.	
	6. boy (Boots) of conducted seaward recce from MOTUHUNUA (concealment + camouflage)			
	Engineers reconditioning Mission Station Pump			

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Port Moresby 7 mile camp	28 Jan 42.		Work on Hangars S. side of Aerodrome commenced Fatigue parties for above supplied by 39 Bn.	
	29 Jan 42.	1600	Col. Hatten (B. L.) visited 39 Bn. Wiring of areas around Bootless Inlet commenced by C. Coy. Telephone from 13 Pl. to Bn H. Q. Gun emplacements (M.G.) commenced. Report received from C. Coy of shipping in Bootless area 9 hours late. check made and owing to source of information obscure report discounted.	
		1700		
		1530	Lt. Col. Kessel arrived at 7 mile aerodrome. Met by B. L. Alternative M.G. positions selected in Lookout Ridge area and N.W. end of Aerodrome. as instructed by Bde Sentries doubled at all	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby 7 mile camp	29 Jan 42		ports due to bad visibility. Report received from Bde that 46 Jap ships lost in Massassar Strait.	
			Visit to Bn H.Q. by 2 Airforce officers. Weather hot & buggy. Mosquitoes particularly bad.	
			Aerodrome Report:-	
		0635	Gannett plane left drome.	
		0640	Both plane left drome.	
		0845	Gannett returned bad weather prevented plane from landing at WAU.	
		1105	Hudson Bomber A16-111 left drome.	
			Still large quantities of people to be evacuated from WAU.	
		1415/20	Bombers A16-129, A16-127, A16-139, A16-126 departed.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 39 Bn.

Date and Time.—From 1 JAN 1942 To 31 JAN 1942

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby 7 Mile camp	29 Jan 42	1525	Lockheed Hudson mail plane arrived with new engine for Lockheed Electra wrecked at WAU.	
		1605	Bomber A16-111 returned. 1735 A16-169, 1750 A16-167, 1800 A16-129, + 1810 A16-126.	
		0630	Received report from Bde that a number of planes were heard flying high over Cape Nelson—Later revealed to be own planes.	
	30 Jan 42	1515	S. boy reported steamer moving N.W direction towards PORT MORESBY. Bde I.O. notified. Report received from Bde that steamer was due in at PORT MORESBY.	
			Aerodrome report:	
		0530	Lockheed Hudson Bomber took off.	
		0545	" " " " "	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 39 Bn.

Date and Time.—From 1 JAN 1942

To 31 JAN 1942

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby 7 Mile Camp	30 Jan 42.	0815.	Booth arrived from WAU with evacuees.	
		1025	Hudson Mail Plane VA-ADT arrived from WAU with evacuees.	
		1030	Faith in Aust left for WAU.	
		1125	Booth left for WAU.	
		1140	Hudson Mail Plane left for WAU.	
		1345	Faith in Aust returned to drome - weather bad.	
		1355	Hudson Bomber (A16-126) returned.	
		1405	Hudson Mail plane arrived from WAU with evacuees.	
		1623	Hudson A16-111 left drome.	
		1629	Hudson Mail plane left for WAU.	
		1700	Bomber A16-111 left drome.	
Port Moresby 7 Mile Camp	31 Jan 42.	1305.	Air raid alarm sounded by AFA Port cause of alarm AFA heard an alarm sounded on Aerodrome as plane coming into land had engine trouble	

NAT

ARMY FORM C.2128.
(Pads of 100.)
(Revised Sept., 1936.)

27872

MESSAGE FORM.

Serial No. **5**

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN

(COPY)

OUT

SECRET

No. of Groups
GR.

55

OFFICE DATE STAMP

34th Army

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

HQ 3 MD TNG DEPOTS - Repeated S C INF TNG BDE DAR LEY

FROM

S COMD

Originator's Number

04

Date

10

In Reply to Number

00000

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be

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to

accomodate

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tps

quartered

and

stationed

within

fifty

miles

of

coast

(.)

Air

sentries

to

be

mounted

and

maintained

forthwith

(.)

Blackout

plan

to

be

completed

ready

for

immedi

action (.)

All addresses report completion (.) All informed (.)

Ack

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

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

Originator's instructions
Degree of priority

Time of Origin.

0920

SIGNED

G.H. BUSH Lt. Col

Important - by cipher

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SIGNED

T.H.I.

1025

T.O.R.

je

System In.	Time In.	Reader.	Sender.	System Out.	Time Out.	Reader.	Sender.	System Out.	Time Out.	Reader.	Sender.

MESSAGE FORM

1455

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN

OUT

Recd. 14/12/41

No. _____

Serial No. _____
 OFFICE DATE STAMP
GR. 14 DEC 1941
 H.Q.S. COMD. INF. TRG. BDE.
REGISTRY

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

C.O.'s ALL UNITS

39 BN

FROM

S. COMD INF TRG BDE

Originator's Number

316/140

Date

14

In Reply to Number

PREPARE ESTABLISHMENTS

ADOPT INSTANTANEOUSLY (.)

COMPLETE

BLACKOUT ACK.

ALL

MILITARY

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS:

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

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

Retained

TIME OF ORIGIN

1130

SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

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

T.H.I.

Capt. T.O.R. Bde

1455

39 Bn A.M.F.
MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN
OUT

Recd. 12 / 17 / 41
No.

No. of Groups **GR.** OFFICE DATE STAMP

Serial No. 316/140
14 DEC 1941
H.Q.S. COMD. IN
REGISTER

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO H.Q. S.COMD INF TRG BDE

FROM H.Q. S.COMD TNG DEPOTS.

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

A.H.Q. JAPANESE OF OCCASIONS REFERENCE ALTERNATIVE PROVIDED	INSTRUCTS AIR TROOPS WILL SLIT AND WHEREVER	THAT ACTIVITY AND BE TRENCHES DUMMY PRACTICABLE	IN CONCEALMENT TRANSPORT RIGIDLY AND POSITIONS ALL	VIEW AND ON ENFORCED FOREGOING WILL INFORMED	OF DISPERSION ALL (.) TEXT BE ACK.
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------

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

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

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

1030

Approved

SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

J.P.
1500

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

PASSENGER ROUTING ORDER PART I NO 1/42.

By

Major Col. H.H. Conran commanding 39 In. NEW FORCE.

1. D.R. S.

This service is intended for quick and economical delivery of letters etc. It can only be quick if despatches are taken over at once and if others are handed to the D.R. without delay. No P.O. will order a D.R. on this special service to wait to collect a message or despatch.

2. PRECAUTIONS MEASURES.

- (a) GENERAL. Port Moresby Garrison will be ready to receive any enemy landing from the sea or from the air at all times. All Commanders will do their utmost to ensure that their Units and Sub-Units are trained and available to implement this instruction.
- (b) CONCEALMENT. It is essential that the dispositions and quarters of all sub-units should be concealed from observation, particularly from the air. The following will form a basis for the plan of concealment of tents, buildings, vehicles etc, in all areas outside a radius of 1 mile from H.Q. S.M.D.
 - (i) Tents will be pitched or parked at least 100 yards from all other quarters or vehicles.
 - (ii) All will be concealed or camouflaged and where possible, dummy objects will be constructed.
 - (iii) Lights will only be used for administrative purposes and these only till 1800 hours each night. Lamps so used will be shaded so as to show the minimum amount of light.
- (c) AVAILA BUREAU OF RE SUPPLY. All Units will maintain their strength on the following basis.
 - (a) Coast watching posts and air sentries will be manned continuously.
 - (b) At least 75% of Unit strength will be within 5 minutes call of battle stations.
 - (c) No member will be further away than 1/2 hour's call from his sub-unit H.Q. unless on some special duty.

3. POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS.

Personnel arriving in NEW FORCE are to be instructed to have their care expenditure addressed in the return number to their Unit a address, Port Moresby, New Guinea stamps must be used, "AIR MAIL" to be printed on envelope. If insufficient stamps double deficiency has to be paid as tax at other end. RATES. 1/2 or 4d - 1 or 7d - 1 1/2 or 13d - 2 or 1/2d + 2 1/2 or 1/6d. AIR MAIL IN AND OUT COSTS A WEEK.

4. SAFETY.

LARDERS. must be made and kept fly proof and the usual precautions strictly observed.

SEWER PLACES. Sewer water must not be run on to the ground as it forms an excellent fly breeding site. A soap trap must be provided and the outflow run into scullage pits filled with stones.

KITCHEN WASTE. Water must also be run through a grease trap before going into the scullage pit. Grease and soap soon block the pits if not trapped. Food scraps must be removed by passing water through straw strainer.

FOOD SCRAP PITS. must be put into covered bins and care taken that none is spilled on the adjacent ground, to feed and attract flies. Scraps must be buried or burned, but it is as close to bury if it has already been fly blown. Dry materials should be placed in separate receptacles and burned.

EMPTY TINS. attract flies and should be burned before being buried or dumped. If not buried each tin should be punctured several times at its base so to prevent it collecting water to breed mosquitoes.

5. THE MIND OF PAPUANS.

You have come to a new country, having customs, traditions and a way of life that will be quite strange to you. It is a vast country, with a very large native population, with whom you will, of necessity, come into contact. The native scale of superiority among the races here is:-
(i) His white master. (ii) The native. (iii) The half caste. Almost as soon as you arrive you will be classed by the natives and it is up to you to maintain your position in class. On no account fraternise with either the native or the half caste. If you do so, you will immediately, in the eyes of the native become equivalent to "ALL SAME HALF CASTES SHIT NOTHING". This results in the native not being prepared to in his own mind, lower himself to work for soldiers, and finally result in the complete loss of prestige of all whites. Don't endeavour

5 continued.

to speak "pidgin" until you are reasonable sure of it. Not much pidgin is spoken here anyway. It is better to speak simple English which you know, than pidgin which you don't. The native is very quick to detect indelicacy, which makes him lose confidence in, and respect for you. He dislikes being "passed about" just as much as any body else. Natives selling wares may attempt to overcharge you: seek advice from an older hand as to the proper price to pay for things. NEVER ON ANY ACCOUNT.

- (a) Rob, cheat, or otherwise take a native down
- (b) Break your word to him,
- (c) Treat him as an equal. He's not. At the same time he is a British citizen and has certain definite rights which the civil courts very jealously uphold.
- (d) Strike him. Apart from anything else the law provides heavy penalties for this.
- (e) Take any of his property. Remember always, that every piece of land, no matter how wild or remote, and everything that is on it is the property of some native. To take anything, a banana, a coconut, paw paw or even a flower, without permission is to steal it. You wouldn't steal from any body at home. Don't do it here.
- (f) Touch a native woman, let alone interfere with her. This is one of the most serious crimes that can be committed in this territory.

6. MEDICAL INSTRUCTIONS.

- (a) DYSENTERY, is now at its peak incidence and special precautions must be taken by fresh troops possessing no immunity to this disease.
 - (i) All cases of diarrhoea must report at once to the R.M.O. and be treated as dysentery until proved otherwise.
 - (ii) Hands must be washed after visiting latrines and before meals and personal cleanliness strictly observed.
 - (iii) Dysentery is spread by flies which breed in grease and soapy water spilled on the ground. Food scraps and empty tins attract and feed flies.
 - (iv) All eating gear must be thoroughly washed in hot soapy water if possible containing soda.
- (b) MALARIA, is caused by a mosquito which is infected in malarial native villages. Precautions to be taken to prevent the contraction of malaria include:
 - (i) Daily dose of quinine, this must be regular. Irregular dosage leads to difficulty in diagnosis and treatment and is useless as a preventative. Regular dosage will in 99% of cases prevent an attack of malaria.
 - (ii) Troops must keep away from native villages, especially at dusk and dawn when the mosquito usually feeds.
 - (iii) Troops on guard duty should protect as far as possible exposed parts - legs, wrists and face.
 - (iv) Nets must be used when practicable.
 - (v) Empty tins must not be thrown away as they hold water which breed mosquitoes. If they cannot be buried they should be well punctured at the base.
- (c) THE T. must always be protected. Troops must not on any account walk about barefooted owing to the risk of infection with TRICHINELLA. Various poisonous fish live in the shallows and sea water.
- (d) WATER. Casual water must not be drunk if no safe water is available casual water must be boiled unless otherwise tested and declared safe for drinking.
 - (e) Owing to excessive sweating by fresh troops a simple fluid intake is required to avoid heat exhaustion. Manna salt is required to be placed in the canteen that each person has one salt tablet per pint of drinking water is recommended.
 - (f) Eat all fresh fruit and vegetables offered to you. The supply is limited and care should be taken on the ground on personal details as this is the only source of necessary vitamins.
 - (g) Minor abrasions must be promptly treated at the R.A.P. as these are prone to become septic and develop into chronic ulcers if neglected.

7. APPOINTMENTS

Ident. Col. H.C. Weston is appointed to command 50th Inf. Brigade as from 5 Jan 42.

8. TIME

8 H.D. will revert to Eastern Standard time as from 0800 hrs 7 Jan 42, at which hour all clocks will be put back one hour.

8. Contaminated. This contains verbal instructions issued on 6 Jan 43.

9. AIR GAS TRAINING.

- (a) The standard of A/G training is to be raised throughout this Military District.
- (b) On receipt of this memo, Units are to inspect a 11 A/G equipment hold, and forward A.A.F. 6870 B duly completed to reach this H.Q. by 15 Jan 43. Fortnightly thereafter, face pieces must be removed from haversacks for a few hours. Once a week they must be carefully wiped dry.
- (c) Storage and handling of A/G stores and equipment in tropical climates call for special precautions, vide P.A.G. 2 Sec. 8 and 11.
- (d) A/G training is to be strictly in accordance with P.A.G. 1 Amend. 2 Sec 99, 2, great deal of war gases etc being omitted. Duties of Gas sentries and alarms must be clearly understood.
- (e) Standard T.O.E. 2. (P.A.G. 1 Amend 2 Sec 101, 104) must be frequently applied, without exception to every member of Unit.
- (f) Haversacks will be inspected daily for unauthorised articles and marking of respirators to be done according to regulations.
- (g) Maps of Gas H.Q. O's and Officers must be forwarded to this H.Q.
- (h) The possibility that gas will be used is real, and if introduced will probably be used in all theatres of war simultaneously. Certain persistent gases could prove most effective in certain areas in this MILITARY DISTRICT.

10. CUTTING OF TREES. Units are not to cut down trees or saplings in their Unit areas thereby denuding the area of suitable colour from air observation.

11. ALCOHOLIC STIMULANTS. In this climate it is inadvisable to partake of alcoholic stimulants before sundown. Unit Commanders will bring to notice of their troops that alcoholic beverages should not, in the interest of their health, be taken before sundown.

12. RETURNS.

A return will be forwarded to this H.Q. by 14 Jan 43 of the name, rank, and qualifications of all personnel who, in civil life were:-

- (a) Barristers and/or Solicitors
- (b) High Court of Justice
- (c) High Court of Australia
- (d) The Supreme Court of State
- (e) Articled Law Clerks
- (f) Law Clerks.

13. RECRUITING MILITIA, A.I.F. and R.A.A.F.

- (i) As from 10 Dec 41, and until further advice, no member of a Militia Unit, either in Camp or on the strength of a Unit not called up will be released for enlistment in A.I.F. or R.A.A.F. All members will continue to train with their Militia Units. This instruction, particularly where it applies to R.A.A.F., is intended to refer only to new applicants for enlistment in R.A.A.F. only, and any tentative discharges or releases agreed to prior to 10 Dec 41 are to be effected.
- (ii) Members may still continue to off or for enlistment in A.I.F. or R.A.A.F. Applicants for A.I.F. should be medically examined and if they are medically fit for Active Service, their applications will be recorded by Units and they will be placed on A.I.F. reserve list, which is to be maintained ~~by~~ by Units.
- (iii) Members of Militia Units who desire to volunteer for service with the R.A.A.F., are permitted to complete the R.A.A.F. application form and O's will forward that application form to the nearest R.A.A.F. Recruiting Centre.
- (iv) All members of Militia Units who apply for enlistment in A.I.F. and R.A.A.F. are to be given a certificate to the effect that they have volunteered for enlistment in the service mentioned and that they will be called upon when required.
- (v) A return will be submitted by all Units to reach this H.Q. not later than 10th and 25th day of each month commencing 10th Jan 43., which is to show the total number of applicants for enlistment in the A.I.F. The return will show the number recorded on the A.I.F. Reserve List as on 8th and 23rd day of each month respectively (vide H.Q. 94900)

14. DISCIPLINE.

COMMAND

Boy Commanders are to instruct their troops regarding the dangers involved in exposing their bodies to excessive sunlight thereby rendering them liable to be casualties through sunburn. Troops, when on duty will be properly clothed in the tropics. At no time will troops move in such a state as to lower the prestige of the white race.

15. DISCIPLINE.

All troops now in 8 Military District are on Active Service. This calls for the highest standard of discipline from all ranks. Without discipline all military bodies become mobs and worse than useless. What is aimed at is that high standard of discipline which springs from a military system administered with impartiality and judgment so as to induce in all ranks a feeling of duty. As from this promulgation of this order the disciplinary provisions applicable to Active Service will be enforced previously it has been possible to treat a breach of discipline as affecting chiefly the off order concerned himself. A breach of discipline is not an offence against the Unit and the Army. An undisciplined soldier is a positive danger, not only to himself but to other soldiers. All breaches must, for the safety of all be treated as such.

16. UNLOADING VESSELS.

The Commandant wishes that the importance of speed in unloading the two vessels now in port be impressed on all ranks. He appreciates what has already been done under adverse conditions but it is of the utmost urgency that the cargoes be brought ashore at the earliest possible moment. He relies on all ranks to ensure that not a minute is wasted which can by an extra effort be saved. Commanding Officers of Units providing unloading parties must see that they are properly organized for the task required. To a certain extent, delay may mean frustration of plans for the defence of Australia, as well as the unnecessary sacrifice of lives both here and elsewhere.

J. W. H. H. H. Capt.
Adjutant 50th Bn. Inf. Force

BATTALION ROUTINE ORDER PART I. No 3/42

by
Lieut Col H.M. Conran.
Commanding 39 Battalion Emu Force.

1. PAY.

Requisitions for Pay must reach Bn.H.Q. by 1600 hrs on each alternate Thursday. The date that next requisition is due is Thursday 5/2/42. Care must be taken that requisitions cover all attached personnel. Coys are responsible for paying attached Troops.

2. MAIL.

Mail will be forwarded to Bn.H.Q. daily. This will enable mail to be posted in time for any special mails that may be notified. Weekly mail closes at 0900 hrs at Bn.H.Q. each Thursday.

3. BLACKOUT.

Full Blackout precautions are to be observed from Dusk on 27/1/42. Coys will arrange for one tent or dugout to be available for administration and reception and despatch of written messages.

4. ARMS & AMMUNITION.

Regular inspection of Arms and Ammunition will be made.

O.C. COYS are responsible for the following :-

That all personnel of his Company have their weapons in good order and that they have correct allotment of ammunition. It is again pointed out that ammunition must not be expended except for authorized training purposes or against the enemy.

5. RETURN OF PERSONNEL WHO HAVE QUALIFIED FOR COMMISSION AT OFFICERS PRODUCING SCHOOLS.

Coys will submit to Bn. H. Q. immediately a nominal roll of all other ranks who have qualified for Commissions at Officer Producing Schools. The following information will be included :-

Army No.	Name.	Rank.	Unit.
and particulars of the school at which the member qualified.			

Nil returns will be submitted in cases where Coys have no personnel coming within the above category.

6. PASSAGE OF M.T. THROUGH NATIVE VILLAGES.

In order to minimise the risk of accident and ensure the safety of small children and domestic animals, drivers of M.T. will not exceed a speed of 10 Mile per hour when passing through Native Villages.

7. PROGRESS OF TRANSPORT PAST CAMP HOSPITAL AREA MURRAY BARRACKS.

The Camp Hospital Area at Murray Barracks is not to be used by Drivers of transport as a turning or passing point. Drivers will wait at the passing point or at the top of the road until the way is clear for their vehicles to proceed.

8. REPAIR OF EQUIPMENT.

All demands for repair work on equipment by Ordnance Workshops must be accompanied by an A.A. Form F 3a or chit signed by a responsible officer of the Unit concerned.

Some indication as to the nature of repair required is to be included. Verbal requests will not be entertained.

TIGHTENING OF CHASSIS AND BODY BOLTS AND NUTS.

An immediate inspection is to be made by all Coys. Transport Officers of vehicles on charge for loosening of bolts and nuts throughout vehicles. Particular attention is to be paid to spring bolts on front and rear axle.

Owing to the corrugated nature of the road this inspection and tightening check should be made weekly.

9. PETROL AND LUBRICANTS.

All Coys will submit their demands for Petrol and lubricants on A.B. 55a so as to reach their respective Supply Officers not later than 1000 daily - OVER - P.T.O./

9. (CONTINUED).

PAGE 2.

Any Coy desiring advice regarding the distribution and/or supply of Petrol and lubricants, will telephone Moresby 136 for information and thereby contact A.A.S.C. Petrol Coy H.Q. Notwithstanding this instruction, all Units must submit A.B. 55 (a) as in para 2 above.

10. LOSSES OF RIFLES AND EQUIPMENT - WHARF.

The following losses have been reported by men employed at the Wharf during unloading operations :-

- (a) Rifle No 633 00, full set of equipment with 150 rounds of S. A.A. in pouches. Knife fork, spoon and mug in haversack.
 (b) Rifle No 63228, full set of equipment, respirator, Stee l helmet and puttees, on issue to 024828 Pte E.Kingsman, 49 Bn. Respirator and stee l helmet branded with name and number. All units are to make enquiries and reports to be forwarded this H.Q.

11. ECONOMY IN THE USE OF ROPES; CORDAGE, TWINES AND STRING.

The Department of Supply and Develop ment has pointedd out that because of the difficulty of obtaining supplies of fibre for the manufacture of ropes, cordage, sewing twines, binder twine andd string it is ess ential that everybody and particularly Government Departments should exercise the utmost economy in the use of these articles. They should be used as many times as possible before being discarded.

All old rope binder twine and similar types of cardage should be saved for tea sing and manufacture again into other commodities. Dirty sisal from Gas Producer Units should not be dis carded, but should be clean and used several times until it is of no further use.

All specifications should be revised with the object of s aving as much fibre as possible. It is felt that everybody must be pre pared to accept and us e the type, size and quality of rope cordage or twine that will do the particular job in hand, regardless of colour appearance and special preferences. It is particularly important to conserve supplies of Manilla fibre and Manilla rope.

12. DRESS. Respirators, Helmets Steel and Pistols need not be worn at all times. However they must be in a position where they are available for use within 5 minutes.

13. REMOVAL OF SAND (ELA BEACH)

Sand must not be removed within 15 yards of any telephone and electric light post on Ela Beach. Several poles have fallen down in this area thus disrupting communications.

14. ACCOUNTING FOR OILS ETC (APPENDIX "B").

The following procedure of Accountancy will be followed by all Coys having bulk quantities of petrol, oil and grease on charge.

(1) Indenting for Bulk Supplies.

A.A.B. 55 (a) will be made out in triplicate by the indenting Unit. The original and duplicate copy will be submitted to A.A.S.C. Petrol Coy who will on completion of the indent sign the duplicate as having issued supplies demanded and returned to the indenting Unit. The Receiving Officer will receipt the original for A.A.S.C. Petrol Coy. The triplicate copy will remain in the boo k. The duplicate copy signed by A.A.S.C. Petrol Coy acts as a receipt voucher to the Petrol, Oil and Grease Account (A.A.F. II5) of the indenting unit.

All A.A.B. 55 (a)'s sho uld be numbered consecutively starting at 1 on the 1st of each month.

(2) Issue to vehicle by Units.

A.A.F. F. 78 will be prepared in duplicate to record daily issues of petrol, oil and grease and the original will be used as a supporting vouvher to F II5.

Separate F. 78 will be kept for recording issues made to vehicles of other Units. A.A.F. F. 78 will be numbered consecutively, starting at 1 on the 1st day of each month and will show the date, army No of vehicle, quantities of each commodity and drivers signature acknowledginh the receipt.

P.T.O/

I4 Continued.

(5) Summary of Daily Receipts and issued of petrol, oil & grease.
 This form must be kept by every Unit including Division and Brigade H.Q. operating Departmental or privately owned M.T. vehicles or otherwise using Petrol, Oil and Fuel Oil or grease etc. for launches, stationary engines, cooking or heating. The form is designed to record each Units daily receipts, issues and remaining balance of each stock. The form must be made out in duplicate. Columns are provided for each stock subdivided into receipt, voucher No. Receipts, issues and balance. One column is provided for the number of the A.A.F. F. 78 from which the days issues are recorded.
 At the conclusion of the day, the Transport Officer or Q.M. of the unit will record in the Summary of Daily Receipts & Issues, the receipts and issues for the day. The quantities of the stocks received will be entered from the information contained on the A.A. B. 55 (a). The quantities of the stock issued will be entered from the totals of the columns on the A.A.A.F. F. 78. In respect of each stock the Transport Officer or Q.M. will insert the balance on hand, being the difference between the Receipts and issues. Each day the same entries will be made and the balance at the end of each day will be ascertained by adding the receipts for the day to the balance on hand the previous day and subtracting the issue for the day.
 At the end of the month the Receive and Issued Columns must be added for each stock. If the progressive balance figures at the end of the last day of the month do not agree with the difference between the total receipts and issues column plus the balance on hand at the start of the month, it will indicate that there is an arithmetical error in the extractions of the daily balances which must be corrected.
 At the end of the month the Accounting Officer of the Unit will detach the original of the A.A.F. F. 78 and attach to it all supporting vouchers being originals of A.A.F. 78's and A.A.B. 55 (a)'s. The whole will then be forwarded to A.A.S.C. Petrol Coy. H.Q. together with the undermentioned certificate attached signed by the C.O. of the Unit and Transport Officer or Q.M.

CERTIFICATE.

I certify that the attached Petrol, Oil and Grease account has been checked by me and is a true statement of all receipts and issues for the month of1942., I have checked the running records (A.A.F.G.2's & G.5's) of all vehicles and certify that they are in agreement with issues shown, that all vehicles to which issues were made were on the authorized strength, that no unnecessary running was undertaken, and that no unauthorized issues were made. All petrol, oils and grease issued for the purpose other than for M.T. vehicles have been properly accounted for

.....
 Signature of T.O or Q.M.

.....
 Signature of C.O.

F 78's supported by F 78's and A.A.B. 55(a) will be submitted to headquarters A.A.S.C. Petrol Coy not later than the 5th of each month following that to which the account refers.

I5. LOSS OF EQUIPMENT.

Coys will make inquiries regarding the loss of equipment by personnel of the 15 Field Reg.
 Large & small webbing, Service Uniform, Greatcoat, Groundsheet, I blanket, I pair sandshoes, waterbottle & I towel. Placed on lorry on disembarkation at Port Moresby.
 I Helmet, Steel No 160 & I Respirator
 I Respirator with reading glasses, money belt, Ist Aid kit & pocket knife inside haversack of same.
 I bags kit, containing 2 pr. socks, Service Dress (Tunic & Trousers)
 I Guernsey (Army Issue) I pr. gaiters, I forage cap, I hat washing,
 2 pr. underpants, 2 singlets, I pr shorts, I pr sandshoes, I toothbrush, 2 tunic badges of wealth, 2 Colour patches & I paybook
 I helmet Steel No 225.
 I set webbing equipment containing personal gear., left to be loaded on lorry in front of Papua Hotel. J.A.E. FINDLAY CAPT.
 ADJUTANT 39 Bn. A.M.F.

BATTALION ROUTINE ORDER PART I. No 2/42

By

Lieut Col H.H. Conran.
Commanding 39 Battalion Emu Force.

FILE

1. NOTIFICATION OF MINED AREAS.

Certain areas of the Coast of Port Moresby are closed with British mines and are dangerous to watercraft of all kinds. Army personnel proceeding on fishing or canoe trips will obtain information from H.Q. 8 M.D. or H.Q. 50 Inf Bde which ever is applicable, to ascertain the extent of the mined areas. No Army personnel will enter the mined areas.

2. POSSESSION OF AND FIRING OF SPORTING RIFLES AND GUNS.

Units will withdraw all sporting rifles and guns from members and will only release them when the owner is proceeding on approved leave. No such rifles and /or guns will be fired within 1000 yards of any camping area or native village.

3. PILFERING.

It has come to notice that various members of the Army are removing without authority Canteen stores, supplies, ordnance stores, engineers stores, and civilian property. These offences are most prevalent.

Such acts are offences under A.A.44 and the maximum penalty is penal servitude. Action is to be taken to bring to the notice of all personnel the seriousness of such offences, and also of the fact that such pilfering has caused a serious setback to the war effort.

In future all such acts will be dealt with with the utmost severity. Officers and N.C.O's under whose notice such offences are committed will be held responsible for such acts and dealt with accordingly.

4. LEAVE.

(a) Attention is directed to District Routine Orders No 1 para 5 sub para c.

(b) Units may grant 24 hours leave in every 21 days for each member of their Unit.

(c) Units will ensure that not more than 6% of their Unit is on leave at any one time.

(d) Members on leave may proceed to any locality within 20 miles of the H.Q.

(e) All members on leave must be in possession of a leave pass.

(f) Leave personnel proceeding to Port Moresby ~~may~~ may be transported by supply launch or AASC M.T. when available.

5. PASSES.

(a) All personnel stationed in Port Moresby will be issued with a pass signed by their Commanding Officer stating the nature of the duty which necessitated the member moving within the town area.

(b) All Units not stationed in Port Moresby will similarly issue passes to members of their Units who are required to proceed to the town area on duty. Such personnel will be reduced to a minimum. Officers of and above Field Rank need not be in possession of passes.

6. Relief of Personnel in Tropical Stations.

In view of the existing international situation, it has been decided that the scheme for the relief of personnel in Tropical Stations is to be discontinued pending further instructions.

7. SPEED LIMITS, ALL VEHICLES, PORT MORESBY.

The following speed limits will be observed by drivers of all vehicles:-

Area

Maximum Speed.

BATTALION ROUTINE ORDER PART I NO 2/42 continued.

<u>AREA</u>	<u>MAXIMUM SPEED.</u>
Roadway passing Area & R.A.A.F. H.Q., The Wharf Area, Port Rd and Musgrave Street.	5 M.P.H.
Elsewhere in Port Moresby Town Area	20 M.P.H.
Areas other than those referred to above	20 M.P.H.

8. PERSONNEL EVACUATED TO HOSPITAL.

On being evacuated to hospital, personnel will take with them, blankets, respirator and steel helmet and such personal property as is needed; e.g., shaving gear. Section leaders or Platoon Commanders of personnel being evacuated will take action to have the remainder of the soldiers' belongings (including Arms and Equipment) packed labelled, and forwarded to Q.M. of Unit for transfer to Kit Store G.D.&T Depot. Unit Q.M.s will obtain a receipt for delivery of these kits to G.D.&T. Depot on A.A.F.F14 (packing note) one copy of which will be delivered to or held in safe keeping for the soldier. Upon discharge from hospital, soldiers will present this receipt to N.C.O. i/c Kit Store to obtain delivery of his belongings. In the case of those personnel who will not be returned to their Units an A.A.F.F6 (transfer voucher) will be passed to G.D.&T Depot by the Unit transferring. This, together with card A.A.F.F200 or form F.52 will be forwarded with the soldiers' kit and papers.

9. COMMONWEALTH SAVINGS BANK AND PAYBOOK FACILITIES.

The following arrangements at the Commonwealth Savings Bank will operate forthwith:-

Deposits Not less than £ 25 will be accepted.

WITHDRAWALS. Not more than one withdrawal per fortnight.

To avoid any inconvenience to personnel, owing to the restrictions imposed on Savings Bank Deposits, it is advised that pay may be allowed to accumulate in paybooks.

10. RETURN OF PETROL DRUMS. (PORT MORESBY)

All Coys will furnish a return to this H.Q. of all 44 gal petrol drums held by them. The return to be compiled and to reach this H.Q.'s by 1200 22 Jan 42.

These drums will not on any account be removed from any dump of either full or empty drums, by any personnel, on any pretext whatever.

Units requiring petrol drums for use other than petrol will obtain same by requisition on the Petrol Coy H.Q. Mr Sefton's Residence Ela Beach, Phone 136.

11. INSPECTION OF M.T.

With reference to District Routine Orders No 2 dated 7 Jan 42 para 28 Q, arrangements have now been made for a mobile M.T. Inspection Squad to commence operations immediately.

An Inspector will, from time to time, visit all Units for the purpose of examining M.T. on charge and will make a thorough examination of the mechanical condition of the vehicles. If, in the opinion of the Inspector, or any Ordnance Workshop Officer, a vehicle is considered unfit for use, that vehicle will be grounded and will not under any circumstances (excepting enemy action) be used until released by one of the Officers above mentioned.

(a) The M.T. Inspector is empowered to ~~halt~~ halt:- Any vehicle which is, in his opinion, being driven in a manner considered to endanger its mechanical efficiency.

(b) Any vehicle damaged to such an extent that he considered it unfit for service.

(c) Any driver deemed by him to be inefficient

The attention of C.O.'s is again directed to the necessity for ensuring that all M.T. personnel are conversant with "Standing Orders for the operation and maintenance of ~~M.T.~~ Mechanical Vehicles".

BATTALION ROUTINE ORDER PART I NO. 2/42 continued.

12. STORES - REQUISITIONS TO ORDNANCE.

(a) Requisitions for Stores will be submitted where possible 7 clear days prior to date Stores are required for issue or return.

(b) Urgent demands must be kept to a minimum. Supplies cannot be expected on URGENT REQUISITIONS in less than 48 hours from the time requisition is lodged.

(c) Requisitions should be forwarded per D.R.L.S. and not delivered to Requisition Section by hand, with various personal requests.

(d) Requisitions must be correctly prepared by Units as regard nomenclature, Vocabulary Sections and Grouping. Separate A.A. Forms F 1, F 1A, and F. 2 (Return Reg.) and F 20 requisitions are required for each group. A statement showing grouping of Sections in Ordnance Storehouses will be supplied to Units by D.A.D.O.S. if requested. It is not an Ordnance Duty to amend and correct badly prepared Requisitions. Such will be returned to Units for resubmission.

(e) The more time Unit representatives spend in requisitions section bringing requisitions in by hand, requesting information etc., which normally available to Units in Standing Orders etc., and making requests for priority issue, the less time the Section has to deal with requisitions submitted.

(f) Units will help themselves by restricting visits and time spent in Requisition Section to a minimum.

13. MAINTENANCE - MOTOR VEHICLES AND MOTOR CYCLES.

Due to the conditions under which Motor Vehicles are operating in this District, it is essential that particular attention be paid driver's Maintenance by Units and as far as possible daily inspection will be made to ensure that this has been carried out.

As the replacement of these vehicles and cycles is unlikely, it is requested that this matter be treated as extremely important

14. RETURN OF LICENCED M.T. DRIVERS.

A return will be submitted to B.H.Q. not later than 23 Jan 42. at 1200 hrs by all Coys showing total number of licenced M.T. Drivers on strength.

J.A.E. FINDLAY CAPT.
ADJUTANT 39 BN. BRU FORCE.

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

59 Bn. Enl. Force. (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
	*		
	*		
Lieut.-Colonels	1		
Majors	1		
Captains	0		
Lieutenants	31		
2nd Lieutenants	7	7 (1st Lt's)	
Quartermasters	1		
Totals	45		

*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

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

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

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Lt. Col.	V 50227	H. E. Coonan	39 Bn	Yes	
Major	V 50177	A. D. Callow	"	"	
Capt.	V 50173	J. A. E. Findlay	"	"	
"	V 50172	H. Robinson	"	"	
"	V 4537	J. Hughes	"	"	
"	V 25464	J. C. Barrow	"	"	
"	V 50226	G. P. Hillman	"	"	
"	V 50225	G. H. Radger	"	"	
"	V 30032	E. H. Merritt	"	"	
"	V 45410	E. J. Kelly	"	"	
"	V 58355	H. R. MacLeod	"	"	
"	V 42384	W. G. T. Merrett	"	"	
1st Lt	V 58742	B. J. French	"	"	
"	V 58709	S. J. Du Ve	"	"	
"	V 58319	H. H. Kelly	"	"	1st Reinforcement
"	V 144464	J. P. Hoppe	"	"	1st Reinforcement
"	V 3031	J. K. Avery M.C.	"	"	
"	V 40093	E. B. Honey	"	"	
"	V 40096	W. C. Pentland	"	"	
"	V 40104	D. J. Simonsen	"	"	1st Reinforcement
"	V 55032	H. A. Oliver	"	"	
"	V 55264	D. I. H. McClean	"	"	1st Reinforcement
"	V 50190	J. V. Templeton	"	"	
"	V 45401	B. E. Vance	"	"	
"	V 25513	K. H. Lovett	"	"	
"	V 1791	A. D. W. Eager	"	"	
"	V 58020	H. W. Corbould	"	"	
"	V 55062	H. D. Whelan	"	"	
"	V 40106	H. W. Hall	"	"	
"	V 45263	W. G. Hoffman	"	"	
"	V 38275	A. W. Salmon	"	"	
"	V 37045	F. E. Neel	"	"	1st Reinforcement
"	V 39101	A. G. Garland	"	"	
"	V 42403	H. W. Sorenson	"	"	
"	V 41043	H. P. Connolly	"	"	
"	V 43412	J. P. Hirst	"	"	
"	V 55291	H. H. Sword	"	"	1st Reinforcement
"	V 57914	F. E. Males	"	"	
"	V 56054	P. E. Gartner	"	"	
"	V 57600	J. H. Stokes	"	"	1st Reinforcement.
"	V 36203	A. W. Moore	"	"	
"	V 25610	T. P. O'Neil	"	"	
"	V 45264	A. F. Cole	"	"	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Capt.	V 143531	Edwards, D.	A.A.M.C.		Medical Officer

39 Bn. Bn Force.

(Unit.)

(Signature of Commander.)

9 Jan 47

(Date of Despatch.)

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

39 In. Army Force. Unit.

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

Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)
Ammunition Examiners			Fire Control Operators			Panel Beaters		
Armament Artificers			Fitters			Pattern Makers		
Armourers			Fitters and Turners			Pharmacists		
Artificers, Artillery			Fitters, Cycle			Photographers, dry plate		
Axemen			Fitters, Drivers			Photographers, wet plate		
Bakers			Fitter's Mates			Photo-Writers		
Battery Surveyors			Fitters, M.V.			Plate Layers		
Battery Comdrs. Asst.			Fitters, Railway Signal			Plumbers		
Blacksmiths			Fitters, Signal			Predictor Numbers		
Boilermakers			Grinders			Printers		
Bricklayers			Gun Layers			Radiator Mechanics		
Butchers			G.P.O. Assistants			Radiographers		
Camouflage Modeller			Gun Operators			Range Takers		
Carpenter and Joiner			Hammermen			Riggers		
Clerks			Height Takers			Riveters		
Clerks, Engineering			Helio Operators			Saddlers		
Clerks, Supply			Instrument Mechanics			Saddle Tree Makers		
Clerks, Technical			Instrument Mechanics, Surgical			Saw Doctors		
Coachmakers			Instrument Operators			Sawyers		
Computers			Intelligence Duties			Shoemakers		
Concretors			Joiners			Signallers		
Cooks			Leather Stitchers			Signwriters		
Cooks, Hospital			Linesmen			Stokers, Stationary Engine		
Coppersmiths			Linesmen, Signals			Storemen, Technical		
Dental Clerk Orderlies			Lithographers			Surveyors		
Despatch Riders			Machinists			Surveyors, Engineering		
Dispensers			Masons			Tailors		
Draughtsmen			Masseurs			Telescope Identification Numbers		
Draughtsmen, Architectural			Mechanics, Dental			Textile Refitters		
Draughtsmen, Mechanical			Mechanics, M.T.			Tinsmiths		
Draughtsmen, Signal			Mechanics, Typewriter			Toolmakers		
Draughtsmen, Topographical			Mechanics, Wireless			Turners		
Driver Mechanics			Millwrights			Vulcanizers		
Driver Operators			Miners			Wagon Erectors		
Drivers, Transportation Plant			Moulders			Watchmakers		
Electrical Fitters			Nursing Orderlies			Watermen		
Electricians			Nursing Orderlies (Mental)			Welders		
Electricians, Eng. Units			Nurses, Trained			Well Borers		
Electricians, Signal			Observation Post Assistants			Wheelers		
Engine Artificers			Operating Room Assistants			Whitesmiths		
Engine Hands I/C			Operators, Signal			Wiremen		
Equipment Repairers			Opticians			Woodturners		
Farriers			Painters					
						Sergeants	6	
						Corporals	6	
						Privates.	133	
Totals (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)							147	

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

39 In. Army Force.

Unit.

Signature of Commander.

Date of Despatch 9 Jan 42

30th Brigade, I.I.D.
Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.

War Diary

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

59 BATTALION LNU FORCE. (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels	1		
Majors	1		
Captains	0		
Lieutenants	29	5-1st Rfts)	
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters	1		
Totals	41		

*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

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

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

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Vlt Col	V 50227	H.H. Conran.	39 Bn	Yes	
Major	V 50177	A.D. Gallow	" "	"	
Capt	V 50173	J.A.E. Findlay	" "	"	
"	V 50172	H. Robinson	" "	"	
"	V 4537	J. Hughes	" "	"	
"	V 25484	J.C. Barrow	" "	"	
"	V 50226	C.F. Hillman	" "	"	
"	V 50225	G.H. Badger	" "	"	
"	V 38032	E.N. Merritt	" "	"	
"	V 45410	E.J. Kelly	" "	"	
"	V 58855	M.R. McLeod	" "	"	
B2	V 42084	W.G.T. Merrett	" "	"	
Lieut	V 58742	B.J. French	" "	"	
"	V 58709	S.I. Du Ve	" "	"	
"	V 58819	H.H. Kelly	" "	"	
"	V 144464	J.F. Hoppe	" "	"	1st Reinforcement
"	V 8031	J.K. Avery M.C.	" "	"	
"	V 40093	E.B. Honey	" "	"	
"	V 40096	W.C. Pentland	" "	"	
"	V 40104	D.J. Simonson	" "	"	1st Reinforcement
"	V 55032	H.A. Oliver	" "	"	
"	V 55254	D.I.H. McClean	" "	"	1st Reinforcement
"	V 50190	S.V. Templeton	" "	"	
"	V 55401	S.E. Vance	" "	"	
"	V 25513	K.E. Lovett	" "	"	
"	V 1791	A.B.W. Eager	" "	"	
"	V 58020	R.W. Corbould	" "	"	
"	V 55062	M.D. Whelan	" "	"	
"	V 40106	N.W. Hall	" "	"	
"	V 45268	W.G. Hoffman	" "	"	
"	V 38275	A.W. Salmon	" "	"	
"	V 37085	F.R. Heal	" "	"	
"	V 39101	A.G. Garland	" "	"	
"	V 42403	H.W. Sorenson	" "	"	
"	V 41048	H. PConolly	" "	"	
"	V 43412	J.P. Hirst	" "	"	
"	V 55261	R.H. Sword.	" "	"	1st Reinforcement
"	V 56054	P.E. Gartner	" "	"	
EXEM	V 57800	J.H. Stokes	" "	"	1st Reinforcement.
"	V 25610	T.P. Grigg	" "	"	
"	V 45264	A.F. Gale.	" "	"	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Capt	V 143531	D. Edwards	A.A.M.C.	8/11/41	Medical Officer.

39 BATTALION INF FORCE

(Unit.)

Adjutant.

(Signature of Commander.)

16 Jan 42

(Date of Despatch.)

30 Inf Bde 8 I.D.

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

39 BATTALION EMU FORCE. Unit.

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

Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)
Ammunition Examiners			Fire Control Operators			Panel Beaters		
Armament Artificers			Fitters			Pattern Makers		
Armourers			Fitters and Turners			Pharmacists		
Artificers, Artillery			Fitters, Cycle			Photographers, dry plate		
Axemen			Fitters, Drivers			Photographers, wet plate		
Bakers			Fitter's Mates			Photo-Writers		
Battery Surveyors			Fitters, M.V.			Plate Layers		
Battery Comdrs. Asst.			Fitters, Railway Signal			Plumbers		
Blacksmiths			Fitters, Signal			Predictor Numbers		
Boilermakers			Grinders			Printers		
Bricklayers			Gun Layers			Radiator Mechanics		
Butchers			G.P.O. Assistants			Radiographers		
Camouflage Modeller			Gun Operators			Range Takers		
Carpenter and Joiner			Hammermen			Riggers		
Clerks			Height Takers			Rivetters		
Clerks, Engineering			Helio Operators			Saddlers		
Clerks, Supply			Instrument Mechanics			Saddle Tree Makers		
Clerks, Technical			Instrument Mechanics, Surgical			Saw Doctors		
Coachmakers			Instrument Operators			Sawyers		
Computers			Intelligence Duties			Shoemakers		
Concretors			Joiners			Signallers		
Cooks			Leather Stitchers			Signwriters		
Cooks, Hospital			Linesmen			Stokers, Stationary Engine		
Coppersmiths			Linesmen, Signals			Storemen, Technical		
Dental Clerk Orderlies			Lithographers			Surveyors		
Despatch Riders			Machinists			Surveyors, Engineering		
Dispensers			Masons			Tailors		
Draughtsmen			Masseurs			Telescope Identification Numbers		
Draughtsmen, Architectural			Mechanics, Dental			Textile Refitters		
Draughtsmen, Mechanical			Mechanics, M.T.			Tinsmiths		
Draughtsmen, Signal			Mechanics, Typewriter			Toolmakers		
Draughtsmen, Topographical			Mechanics, Wireless			Turners		
Driver Mechanics			Millwrights			Vulcanizers		
Driver Operators			Miners			Wagon Erectors		
Drivers, Transportation Plant			Moulders			Watchmakers		
Electrical Fitters			Nursing Orderlies			Watermen		
Electricians			Nursing Orderlies (Mental)			Welders		
Electricians, Eng. Units			Nurses, Trained			Well Borers		
Electricians, Signal			Observation Post Assistants			Wheelers		
Engine Artificers			Operating Room Assistants			Whitesmiths		
Engine Hands I/C			Operators, Signal			Wiremen		
Equipment Repairers			Opticians			Woodturners		
Farriers			Painters					
						Sergeants	8	
						Corporals	6	
						Privates	119	
Totals (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)								133

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

39 Battalion EMU FORCE
Unit.

Signature of Commander.

Date of Despatch 16/1/42.

30th Bde S.M.D.
Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

Ward
59 Battalion HQU FORCE. (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels	1		
Majors	1		
Captains	9		
Lieutenants	24		
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters	1		
Totals	36		

*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Capt	Dunlop JH	3rd Bn	22/1/41	Transferred to 2nd Bn

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

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

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Lt Col	V 50227	H.M. Conran	39 Bn	Yes	
Major	V 50177	A.D. Callow	" "	"	
Captain	V 50173	J.A.E. Findlay	" "	"	
"	V 50172	H. Robinson	" "	"	
"	V 4557	J. Hughes	" "	"	
"	V 25464	J.C. Barrow	" "	"	
"	V 50226	C.F. Hillman	" "	"	
"	V 50225	G.H. Badger	" "	"	
"	V 38032	E.N. Merritt	" "	"	
"	V 45410	E.J. Kelly	" "	"	
"	V 58355	H.R. McLeod	" "	"	
"	V 42084	W.G.T. Merrett	" "	"	
Lieut	V 59742	B.J. French	" "	"	
"	V 58709	S.I. Du'Ve	" "	"	
"	V 58319	H.H. Kelly	" "	"	
"	V 8031	J.K. Avery M.C.	" "	"	
"	V 40093	E.B. Money.	" "	"	
"	V 40096	W.C. Pentland.	" "	"	
"	V 40104	D.J. Simonson	" "	"	
"	V 55032	H.A. Oliver	" "	"	
"	V 50190	S.V. Templeton	" "	"	
"	V 55401	S.E. Vance.	" "	"	
"	V 25513	K.H. Lovett	" "	"	
"	V 1791	A.B.W. Eager	" "	"	
"	V 58020	R.W. Corbould	" "	"	
"	V 55062	M.D. Whelan	" "	"	
"	V 40106	H.W. Hall	" "	"	
"	V 45263	W.G. Hoffman	" "	"	
"	V 38275	A.W. Salmon	" "	"	
"	V 37045	F.R. Neal	" "	"	
"	V 39101	A.G. Garland.	" "	"	
"	V 42403	H.W. Sorenson	" "	"	
"	V 41048	H.P. Conolly	" "	"	
"	V 45412	J.P. Hirst	" "	"	
"	V 56054	P.E. Gartner	" "	"	
"	V 45264	A.F. Gale.	" "	"	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Captain	V143531	D. Edwards	A.A.M.C.	8/11/41	Medical Officer.

39 Battalion EMU FORCE

(Unit.)

23 Jan 42.

(Date of Despatch.)

J.M.D.
Capt. A.M.F.
(Signature of Commander.)

30 Inf Bde 8 M.D.

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

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

39 Bn. A.M.F. (Unit) *23. 1* 19 *47* (Date).

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

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1 Detail.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.			
W.Os. Class II.	<i>2</i>		<i>2</i>
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants	<i>4</i>		<i>3</i>
Staff Serjeants			
Serjeants	<i>47</i>		<i>1</i>
Corporals	<i>62</i>		<i>4</i>
Troopers, Privates, &c.	<i>931</i>		<i>19</i>
TOTALS	<i>846</i>	*	<i>29</i>

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

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
<i>V6544 Sgt. Klason W.</i>	<i>A. A. O. C</i>		
<i>V6772 Cpl. Hand J. B.</i>	<i>"</i>		
<i>V147109 " Sgt. ab. Rose Pascal Unit.</i>			
<i>V4586 Sgt. Baunell H. J. D.</i>	<i>A. A. P. C</i>		
<i>V54320 L. Cpl. Shride N. G.</i>	<i>30 Inf. Bde.</i>		
<i>V101748 Sgt. Gush. K. J.</i>	<i>"</i>		

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

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts if known).
<i>V50255</i>	<i>WO. "</i>	<i>Jackman A.H.</i>	<i>39 Bn</i>	
<i>V5581</i>		<i>Reid A.</i>	<i>"</i>	
<i>V54503</i>	<i>S. Sgt.</i>	<i>Grogan R.K.</i>	<i>"</i>	
<i>V50184</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>Hallyer G.L.</i>	<i>"</i>	
<i>V5493</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>Banney J.</i>	<i>"</i>	

0600 HRS FRIDAY 30/1/42 War Diary

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

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

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

39 Battalion HQ Force. (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
Lieut.-Colonels	1		
Majors	1		
Captains	8		
Lieutenants	23		
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters	1		
Totals	35		

*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Capt	Badger G.H.	39 Bn	24/1/42	Transferred to Camp Hospital A.M.S.

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

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known).
Capt	G.H. Badger	39 Bn	Camp Hospital 8 M.S.

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Lt Col	V 50227	H. H. Conran	39 Bn	Yes	
Major	V 50177	A. D. Callow	"	"	
Captain	V 50173	J. A. E. Findlay	"	"	
"	V 50172	H. Robinson	"	"	
"	V 4537	J. Hughes	"	"	
"	V 25464	J. C. Barrow	"	"	
"	V 50226	C. F. Hillman	"	"	
"	V 38082	B. H. Merritt	"	"	
"	V 45410	E. J. Kelly	"	"	
"	V 50355	H. R. McLeod	"	"	
"	V 42084	W. G. T. Herrett	"	"	
Lieut	V 43742	B. J. French	"	"	
"	V 53709	S. I. Du'Ve	"	"	
"	V 53019	H. H. Kelly	"	"	
"	V 3031	J. K. Avery M.C.	"	"	
"	V 40093	H. B. Nancy	"	"	
"	V 40096	W. C. Pentland	"	"	
"	V 40104	D. J. Simonsen	"	"	
"	V 55032	H. A. Oliver	"	"	
"	V 50190	S. V. Templeton	"	"	
"	V 55401	S. E. Vance	"	"	
"	V 25513	K. H. Lovett	"	"	
"	V 1791	A. E. W. Eager	"	"	
"	V 53020	R. W. Corbould	"	"	
"	V 55062	H. D. Whelan	"	"	
"	V 40106	H. W. Hall	"	"	
"	V 45268	W. G. Hoffmann	"	"	
"	V 38275	A. W. Salmon	"	"	
"	V 37045	Neal P. R.	"	"	
"	V 39101	A. G. Garland	"	"	
"	V 42463	H. W. Sorenson	"	"	
"	V 41043	H. P. Conolly	"	"	
"	V 43412	J. P. Hirst	"	"	
"	V 50054	P. E. Gartner	"	"	
"	V 45264	A. F. Gale	"	"	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Captain	V 143531	D. Edwards	A.A.M.C.	2/11/41	Medical Officer

39 Battalion A.M.U. Force (Unit.)

(Signature of Commander.)

30 Jan 1942 (Date of Despatch.)

30 Jan 1942 (Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

Wave Lines

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

39 *Inf.* A.M.F.

30 Jan 42

(Unit)

19 (Date)

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

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1 Detail.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1		
W.Os. Class II.	9	4	
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants		7	
Staff Serjeants		1	
Serjeants	48	43	3
Corporals	65	65	1 - I
Troopers, Privates, &c.		709	35 4I.
TOTALS	827	822	* 39 42.

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

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
V 6544 Sgt. Mason W.	A.A.O.C.		
V 6772 Cpl Hand J.B.	"		
V 127109 Cpl Sugden	A.E. Base Postal Unit		
V 4586 Sgt. Bonnett J.D.	A.A.P.C.		
V 101743 Sig Crisp H.T.	30 Inf Bde.		
V 101836 " Wauson T.H.	"		

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

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts if known).
V 64994	Cpl	MAES R.A.	39 Bn	Section Leader at Details Murray Barracks.
V 112 698	Pte	MACKIE C.G.	"	Potential N.C.O at Details Murray Barracks.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C-2118
(adapted.)

Unit Date and Time.—From To

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Fos Moresby 7 Mile Camp.	1 Feb 42		Training Instruction 1/42 attached was forwarded bay commanders today Bde commander message attached issued to all bays. Wiring of areas in C bay continued (Boottles) Seaward Recce of Boottles area conducted by C bay bombs Creek running past Missed Station called NAGINA CK (local information revealed this) boored spelling MERIGEDA not MERRIGEDDA (Missed Station) Rain in Morning - rest of day fine & warm 7 Mile aerodrome - Moth VHADT on trip to New concaves. L.H. Mail Plane A.D.T. left for Cairns with evacuees. New Lockheed Bomber arrived from TOWNSVILLE. Recce of CALLOW RD + SMELTERS R'WAY LINE	

HL

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 39 Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Feb 42 To 28 Feb 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby 7 Mile Camp	2 Feb 42		Map of C Bay (Bartles Area) brought up to date showing Army positions & areas of fire. <u>7 Mile Aerodrome</u> - 3 LH Bombers left Drome - 2 Returned. 2 Civil planes departed, 4 Civil Planes landed. Beach Light C Bay area installed (By Maj. Pat Mackay) 178950 Weather - Fine & Hot.	
"	3 Feb 42	0310	air Raid Warning - Moonlight night - visibility Good. C Bay notified 0300 hrs - aeroplanes heard flying high. 8 MD advised planes were Catalana's. - 0315 Bde advised planes were Enemy. One bomb dropped 39 Bn area ^{near} 7 Mile Aerodrome. Search conducted for 2 dud bombs - bombs not located. Bomb crater was 8' wide 3' deep. Area of damage ^(trees) 100'. No casualties or damage. No MG fire in area. Only 4 planes seen operating (reported 9) seaplane type All clear 0345 hrs	

7.215/7.216—C 4784

[Signature]

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 39 Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Feb 42 To 28 Feb 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Pass Mounby 7 Mile Camp	3 Feb 42		7 Mile Aerodrome 4 civil plane left Drome 2 civil Planes returned - 3 L.H. Bomber left Drome 3 LH Bomber arrived. Weather fine & hot	
"	4 Feb 42	0700	7 Mile Aerodrome - Wash Plane VH-UUS departed for NAU. Patrols by C Coy to Tupoeli Head. S.D.A. Mission Station (b bay area) evacuated by Missions Mission Station taken over by O.C. Beach Force. Instruction issued that all tents not camouflaged by 1600 hrs were to be taken down. Patrols commenced in all bays Password issued by BHQ daily. Weather - fine & hot.	

Air Raid Alarms ~~0230~~ - all clear ~~0400~~ - no planes sighted
0400 0415

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form 2118
(adapted)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 39 Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Feb 42 To 21 Feb 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Post Moresby	5 Feb 42		Township Post Moresby out of bounds see message attached.	
7 Mile camp		0255	Air Raid warning sounded as result of Bde message ref enemy planes reported flying direction Post Moresby.	
			Planes heard overhead. No bombs dropped as MG fire in area.	
			5 Planes sighted flying 4 planes V formation & 1 alone.	
			Explosions heard direction of Post Moresby & Rouma.	
			Black light ref map Post Moresby 197950 (Coy) tested - effective range of at least 800 ^{ft} .	
			1 civil plane arrived & 2 departed. 1 bomber (L.H.) arrived	
			Weather Fine & Hot.	
			Padre Earl marched in (Was a Mission in Samarai)	
			CO (Lt. Col Conran) returned from Hospital	

J
B

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 39 Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Feb 42 To 28 Feb 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby	6 Feb 42		7 Mile Aerodrome - LA Bomber A16-130	
7 Mile Camp			return from recce over Rabaul badly shot about + with crew injuries. Claimed they had been attacked by Jap fighters.	
		0220	Air Raid warning } no planes heard	
		0240	all clear } or sighted	
			Instructions issued to natives as follows.	
			① Fire not to be lit between sunset + sunrise	
			② All natives to remain in their houses + not move about either w land or sea during that time.	
			Movement of natives evacuating Port Moresby area reported.	
			Natives appear keen to help our troops and have agreed to report approach of doubtful persons + ships.	
			Weather showery + muggy.	

[Signature]

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 39 Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Feb 42 To 28 Feb 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Ft Moresby	8 Feb 42		<p>Major balloon returned. Nothing to report</p> <p>B. I. O + 90 39 Bn visited native village with view to clearing village. Discovered 5 cars + 1 Motor Truck, and 1 launch + 1 Ketch at village - consider use could be made of these.</p> <p>Arrangements being made to clear village in meantime watch being kept to see these do not leave.</p> <p>Weather showery all day. Road to C bay impassable to Motor Trucks + cars. Carriers being used to get through.</p> <p>Andromeda - VH-ADS Lockheed landed with mail at 0910 + returned 1000</p> <p>3 L Hudson Bombers land + 1 departed.</p> <p>C bay Battle HQ. commenced.</p> <p>Night Patrols all bays</p>	

[Handwritten Signature]

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 39 Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Feb 42 To 28 Feb 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby 7 Mile Camp	9 Feb 42		<p>Confidential Instructions issued to boy commanders from 8MD re bombing News received of landings in Singapore. I.O's unit in Bde arranging exchange of Maps and information.</p> <p>Weather - Showery all day. Road to b. bay impassable except for carriers.</p> <p>Arrangements being made for shipping village in front of MG + Artillery C bay area.</p> <p>Report received from Lieut Templeton re P.I.B. passed to Bde.</p> <p>Practic Shoots being conducted by all boys. MMG, LMG, Tommy Guns Mortars + Rifles.</p>	
		0900	<p>Papa Battery fired Practic Shoot on "Truth" wreck.</p>	

L

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 39 Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Feb 42 To 28 Feb 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby	10 Feb 42		Aerodrome Report. Lockheed Bombers concentrated	
7 Mile camp	11 Feb 42		on Jap ships near Eastmatua - 2 Bombers lost but damaged to Jap ships reported.	
			3 LH Bombers dispersed & sent to Horn Island.	
			b. bay. took possession of small Ketch & diesel engine launch at native village W. of Nagina bk.	
			Recon flight by Jap planes over Port Moresby	
		1045-1130	1st flight consisting of 2 Kawanishi Type 97 circled town @ 17.40 to 20.00 ^{fuel} _{Thomas}	
		1220-1234	2nd " " " " 1 Mitsubishi " 96	
			Defence - Passive - A/A Bty stood by to engage planes if target presented but guns were not fired.	

[Handwritten signature]

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 39 Pz

Date and Time.—From 1 Feb 42 To 28 Feb 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby 7 Mile camp	12 Feb 42		I. Sec made recon. of area immediately East of aerodrome area to Rouna Rd. - Area undulating - no roads - few creeks.	
			13th Regt under command b. bay - Bottlen Area reports Lays & fuze setting tests completed.	
			b. bay Battle HQ. completed with telephone connected	
			Weather - fine & hot. roads dried sufficient to allow vehicles to pass through.	
			Battle HQs. (39 Pz) completed.	
			Patrols each night by B & b. bays connecting with 49 Pz.	
			Pass word issued by Bde each day.	
			Key word - Transportation biphos altered 9 Feb 42	

[Signature]

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 39 Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Feb 42 To 28 Feb 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby	13 Feb 42		Friday the 13th ??? - nothing happened	
7 Mile Camp			M.G. barrier fixed out to carry 1 det motor.	
			It is the intention to fit out other carriers with motors.	
			Mail Plane arrived from Australia with Mail	
			Hudson Bomber working on Tanna around New Guinea	
			Dragon Rapide evacuating civilians from Naka New Guinea	
			Hudson Mail evacuating from Port Moresby to Cairns	
			Cairns Daily Newspaper received from Mail Plane	
			39 Bn Signal Report. - Sig. Officer Lt. Duvic	
			(a) Telephone Don 5's - Lines have been run to A.B.C.D.M.G. HQ	
			and RAP and continuous communication has been effected at	
			all times except for short periods when bombs have fallen over	
			lines. Don 5's with 10 line universal call switch board have	
			proved satisfactory. (MARK II)	

[Signature]

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 39 Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Feb 42 To 28 Feb 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Fort Mearnsby 7 Miles Camp	13 Feb 42		approx 25 miles of line has been used all laid by hand and tied ^{up} to trees. No deliberate cutting of line has been reported.	
			Communication Wires No 108 (Mark II) is held as a standby in case of line break & has proved successful even up to 10 miles in an emergency for short period.	
			Communication - Visual can be used but at night time lights would give positions away.	
			Weather - fine & hot.	
			Sunrise 0600 hrs. Sunset 1830 hrs.	
			At 11	

21

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 39 Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Feb 42 To 28 Feb 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
7 Mile Pore Moresby	14 Feb 42		<p style="text-align: right; margin-right: 20px;">+ York VH-UDY</p> <p>7 Mile Drone, Dugan Rapidly Evacuating civilians from Kokoda - Moth departed 0820.</p> <p>LH Bomber Alb-169 departed 1125 & Alb-103/Alb-149 @ 1640.</p> <p>Work on Pill Boxes almost completed</p> <p>b.o. Adj with B.C + BM made recce of DOKUNA area in barrier.</p> <p>Weather fine & hot.</p> <p>Received official report that Singapore has fallen.</p>	
	15 Feb 42		<p>7 Mile aerodrome - Douglas passenger liner VH-UZT arrived from Townsville with air force personnel. 2</p> <p>I. Sec made recce</p> <p>Magnetic variation in Moresby area 5°30' East.</p>	

[Signature]

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.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.
Post Morosby 7 Mile Camp	16 Feb 42	1205	<p>b. Coy reported enemy plane sighted flying high overhead heading towards Morosby.</p> <p>Was identified as Serial 5A Type 97 KAWASAKI KAWA (Army Hy Bomber). TUAGUBA A/A Bty engaged at heights ranging from 15/20000' firing 12 rds & claim hit on port wing with 2nd salvo. Plane disappeared into a convenient cloud drifting NE; Out of range.</p> <p>MORRIS HILL (near B48) A/A Bty did not open fire.</p>	
		1000	<p>MALAITA (ship) arrived with deck cargo including 1 Sec AA guns with crews. Boat mail arrived.</p> <p>Native village C bay area cleared by 1800 hrs.</p> <p>Native shifted to Goat Gardens 12 Mile on instructions from S.M.D.</p>	

[Signature]

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 39 Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Feb 42 To 28 Feb 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby 7 Mile Camps.	17 Feb 42		Beach Landing Exercise - 6 Coy - Nagama Bk. kinned out with 1 Pl lightly equipped wearing sandshoes kinned with Tommy guns acting as enemy. Exercise commenced with enemy 400' out to sea & water about 12' deep. 2 small parties moved successfully through mangrove swamps. The parties moving through mangrove swamps. The parties stated they had no trouble getting through. 2" to 1 mile situation map showing defence of Port Moresby completed.	
		0900	Paga Battery fired practice shot on Pruthi wreck. 7 Mile Dome - little movement. LHBombes made run over Rabaul Weather fine & hot.	

L

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 39 Bn Date and Time.—From 1 Feb 42 To 28 Feb 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
<u>Post Mersby</u>	<u>18 Feb 42</u>		<u>Carri section Exercise 18 Feb 42 - Dikona</u>	
<u>7 Mile Camp</u>			<u>Object - Training in fire movement</u>	
			<u>Directed by Major Collins 2/4 39 Bn.</u>	
			<u>Witnessed by B.C., B.M., G.O. & Sgt.</u>	
			<u>Army shoot B. Troop 3rd Regt practice</u>	
			<u>shoot on morning 18 Feb 42.</u>	
			<u>Naval launch - b. bay area.</u>	
			<u>At approx 1630 hrs b. bay reported unidentified launch</u>	
			<u>in Boatless area. M.G.'s opened fire & halted launch.</u>	
			<u>Launch later identified as Naval launch with</u>	
			<u>Army officer on board making receipt for Army shoot.</u>	
			<u>7 Mile Dome Douglas arrived bringing 13 AIF Eng</u>	
			<u>As for personnel - Lockheed arrived</u>	
			<u>bringing 13 AIF Eng & mail.</u>	

[Handwritten signature]

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.211^a
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 39 Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Feb 42 To 28 Feb 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby 7 Mile	19 Feb 42		<p>I. Sec prepared road traverse of Rd east of Lampa's to Laloki River.</p> <p>b.o. + Adj's recce below road for alternative positions.</p> <p>7 Mile Drome - Hudson Bomber returned from Recce over Rabaul area with bullet holes + one of crew killed. Believed Bomber chased by 4 fighters.</p> <p>Douglas plane arrived from Australia with 50 ammo & spare etc.</p> <p>Air force personnel spie arriving on Douglas.</p> <p>Arty short carried out by B Troop 13 Ta Regt</p> <p>C bay crew gave our troops confidence of their supporting arms.</p>	

15 Pt. 6 bay carried out parts of town A/D (2nd) guns.

L

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 39 Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Feb 42 To 28 Feb 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby 7 Mile Camp	20 Feb 42	1415	B. bay commenced work at DOKUNA - cutting of Mangroves & crossing barb wire at Mangroves. Crawl trenches deepened.	
			Trench alarms & occupation of Bruck Point B bay. Patrol Tuprasalei Village & beyond searching for fires appearing previous night. Lt Whelan of patrol reported no trace of fire. 7 Mile Aerodrome - bomber movements & patrols etc. Weather hot & fine.	
			Lt Drysdale of Anzi Tank, Rgt. visited B bay area Mr. Reece	

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WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 39 Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Feb 42 To 28 Feb 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Fort Morsby 4 Mile Camp	21 Feb 42		<p>B. Coy Exercise on beach DOKUNA.</p> <p>Field Firing Practice - Rifle LMG, Tommy + Grenade.</p> <p>^{Rifle LMG} Targets - Rafts moved at 200' + 300'. - Tommy Gun Targets cardboard discs</p> <p>set up in Mangroves. - Grenade throwing done from hole to hole (explosives still holes)</p> <p>Aimed to stimulate fighting spirit.</p> <p>Procedure - Rifle + LMG teams assembled in scrub back from beach line + the exercise commenced from there. going through chain of control - Fire control orders given + shooting good.</p> <p>Grenades - lectured by 2/c + troops ^{fused} own grenades.</p> <p>Grenade throwing was witnessed from a distance of 150'.</p> <p>Exercise proved successful.</p> <p>Weather Fine + Hot</p>	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 39 Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Feb 42 To 28 Feb 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby 7 Mile Camp	22 Feb 42		<p>12 Dornier plane 20 Engined land plane flew over Port Moresby 1345 (approx) A/A Guns Port Moresby opened fire but range too great. Work on light control post recommenced in D Coy area.</p> <p>Language of Coy commander 1400 hrs B.A. Q. —</p> <p>5 members of Bn returned to Australia after Medical Board on Malaita.</p> <p>Douglas plane still making trips daily from O'land to New Guinea bringing air force crew (ground)</p> <p>Weather fine & hot.</p> <p>B Coy boundary located native well 2 1/2 miles E of Lookout Ridge at Ref 145030. Also native village of approx 200 natives located at 140010.</p>	

L.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

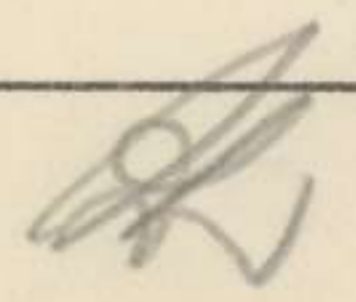
(Erase heading not required).

Unit 39 Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Feb 42 To 28 Feb 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby 9 Mile camp	24 Feb 42		<p>Air Raid: 9 Planes 1st sighted 1215 & departed 1305 (Reports indicate escorted by fighters) - appeared to 2 engine bombers in 2 flights (5 + 4) Dropped bombs, on Yankeville, destroying 4 bldgs & damaging others, near 4th Awt main entrance to aerodrome, 3 on + near SE end of aerodrome damaging 2 planes on ground (old Gannet & LH Bomber) - casualties 1 Officer killed & 1 injured - 1 39 Bn Pte (cooper) suffering from shock. 81 bombs dropped - some petrol drums exploded & burnt. 1 unexploded bomb in Yankeville & 1 repack in D boy area. Planes bombed from 20,000 feet. G.O.C - 8MD visited B+C boys with CO + Caji & witnessed boy exercise. Weather fine & hot</p>	

D.313 /5.29.—C.4788.



WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 39 Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Feb 42 To 28 Feb 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Boreasley 7 Mile Camp	26 Feb 42		Information received that aircraft will roll obstacles on to aerodrome when not in use.	
			Received 20 copies of Map of Logloki & area. Map prepared some time ago & information not correct. Map not reliable	
			8" scale Pyramid Maps (6 copies received) Mapping of new M.G. positions being carried out.	
			Lieut McLean, Dwyer & Stokes returned from Gen. Details Major Badger returned to Australia. Medically Boarded. unfit for Tropical Service.	
			Received word of promotions of Capt Badger, & Barrow to Major & Lieut Templeton, Egan & Avery to Capt.	
			Exercise Exercise being carried out under Major Callow in Tupperley area.	

D.313 /5.29.—C.4788.

[Signature]

39 Bn AM.F WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Unit

Date and Time.—From 1st Feb To 28 Feb 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Fort Moresby 7 Mile camp	27 Feb 42		Petrol drums rolled on to aerodrome to prevent enemy aircraft landing? Work progressing on fighter control post 14 men supplied daily by D bay + with compressor hand rock is broken. Unexploded Bombs inspected by Bomb Disposal Officer - Instructions given were that bombs were to be left for 125 hrs. Weather - Hot Bomb	
	28 Feb 42		Moresby Raid No 4 - Time 1315 to 1400 approx At least 11 bombers accompanied by 6 fighters. Fighters M.G.1 + kammered batallions + launches	

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WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 39 Bn AMF Date and Time.—From 1 Feb 42 To 28 Feb 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Fors Mousley 7 Mile Drome	28 Feb 42	(continued)	<p>Then bombers followed + High Level bombed Harbours. Another flight of bombers High level bombed 7 Mile Drome (39 Bn area) 90 bombs dropped " area.</p> <p><u>Damage</u> 2 bats destroyed 1 damaged</p> <p>Yankeeville - 3 huts shattered. 39 Bn lost some tents etc.</p> <p>One fighter plane came down in sea vicinity MOTU HUNUA. Plane badly smashed but salvaged by Airforce with 6 bay assisting. Lt Money (MG Platoon) went out in native craft + captured Jap pilot who parachuted to safety. Prisoner later taken to Hospital where he was questioned. Prisoner was wearing Navac pattern Singlet.</p> <p>casualties Nil</p>	

John Money
 Captain, 39 Bn. A.M.F.

H.Q. 39 Bn.
1 Feb 42

TRAINING INSTRUCTION I/42

I. The subjoined copy of message received from 8 M.D. is forwarded:-

"Japanese Forces advanced over hill tops, through country considered
"Sufficient obstacle to require only light defence; British held
"valleys. Pillboxes a failure compared with slit trenches. Counter
"attacks by reserve troops after front line absorbed initial shock
"proved most effective. Japanese carried absolute minimum of equ-
"ipment, though even privates had detailed maps of defences and own
"line of advance. Japanese attack in parties of 50, half behind
"with auto rifles and half with grenades. Japanese units showed
"great bravery. Experience showed handicap of army boots and equip-
"ment compared with Japanese rubber shoes and light portable
"weapons. Japanese advanced by night and dug in during day, relying
"on efficient supply lines for rations instead of burdening bodies
"of troops."

2. To meet the lessons from this message all O.C.'s will review their defensive positions and administrative instructions in the following order :-

- (a) Beach defence is the primary task, but, where advantage can be taken of height for rifle sections, that position is to be prepared with a maximum of all round defence.
- (b) Review unlikely landing places with a view to strengthening the defences of those particular areas.
- (c) Place infantry reserves, all arms in defiladed areas where, for counter attack, they will not have to scale heights.
- (d) Counter attacks for fuller effect to be delivered immediately enemy's first phase has lost momentum.
- (e) Use slit trenches in lieu of Armeo pillboxes. Prepare alternative positions as foil for dive bombing and machine gunning.
- (f) Ensure wiring of all positions to prevent being overrun.
- (g) As directed by the Commandant in a previous memorandum, positions not to be given up, even though the enemy has passed a post. This emphasises the necessity of all round defence by fire and wire.. Reserves by counter attack will deal with infiltration.
- (h) O.C.'s will ensure that personnel will be in possession of
 - (a), Arms, equipment (fighting order), grenades, pyrotechnics.
 - (b) Ground sheets, mosquito nets (without poles), iron ration, mess tin and utensils.

The retention of packs, blankets, kit bags is a temporary measure and these will, on an order from Bn. H.Q., be dumped under Coy arrangements and to be moved, if possible, by "B" Echelon.

- (i) Ensure mobility of the soldier at all times, even though on foot.
- (j) Ensure completed plans for the destruction of all kinds of documents if they are likely to fall into enemy hands.

3. (a) Coy will carry out platoon exercises; one exercise per platoon per week.
- (b) Platoons will be exercised in immediate counter attack. (Exercises to be two sided)
 - (c) Weapon training will not be neglected, time must be found each day for troops to get some training.
 - (d) All personnel must pass T.O.E.T. before they are allowed to fire.

J. A. E. Hinds Capt.
Adjutant 39 Bn. A.M.F.

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN

OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY:)

TO

HOFN

FROM

Zom1

Originator's Number

7.55

Date

/

In Reply to Number.

Brigade	commander	instructs	that	all	sightings
of	shipping	and	aircraft	will	be
reported	rapidly	with	all	possible	details
even	at	risk	of	giving	false
alarms	⊙	helter	to	err	on
side	of	safely	⊙	promulgate	to
all	ranks ⊙	proformas	for	sightings	following

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

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

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY.

TIME OF ORIGIN

1755.

SIGNED

SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SYSTEM IN.	TIME IN.	READER.	SENDER.	SYSTEM OUT.	TIME OUT.	READER.	SENDER.	SYSTEM OUT.	TIME OUT.	READER.	SENDER.
4T	1825	T. KEATING									

T.H.I.

1820.

T.O.R.