

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

Item number: 8/3/9

2/9 Infantry Battalion

April - June 1941

MAY 24 1941

REF MAP: TOBRUK
1/50,000WAR DIARY ~~OF INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required)

Unit 2/9 Battalion AIF

Date and Time.—From 1 Apr 41 To 30 Apr 41

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
IKINGI MARYUT	4 Apr	1900	Bn received warning order for move to TOBRUK.	
		2000	Pack for operations. Ready to move by 0600 hrs 5 Apr. Lt. Col MARTIN to Brigade.	
		0630	Road Party left for Tobruk.	
ALEXANDRIA	5 Apr	0845	Bn entrained at IKINGI MARYUT for ALEXANDRIA. Owing to delay in loading tanks on troopship, Bn was unable to embark on 5th, Troops slept on quay on night 5/6 Apr.	
		0700	Bn embarked on "THURLAND CASTLE"	
		0800	"THURLAND CASTLE" sailed from ALEXANDRIA for TOBRUK. Ship's Staff - OC Troops, Major W.E.F. LUBKE; Ships Adjt, Lieut W.R.E. ISAACS; Ships QM, Lieut C.M. ARNOLD.	
TOBRUK	7 Apr	1130	Arrived TOBRUK	
		1215-1430	Bn disembarked. Clocks advanced one hour (daylight saving)	
		1630-2300	Bn moved by route march approx 16 kilos along EL ADEM RD= to	

[Handwritten Signature]
Lt. Col.
Candigan

WAR DIARY ~~OR INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required)

Unit 2/9 Battalion AIF

Date and Time.—From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
			perimeter. Occupied Posts R 37 to R 57 both incl. D, B and	
			A Coys fwd, C and HQ Coys in reserve. BnHQ at BIR IASIN .	
			Lt.Col MARTIN acting Brigade Comd, Major LUBKE acting CO.	
TOBRUK	8 Apr		Bn occupied in strengthening perimeter defences, repairing wire, section posts. Patrols sent out by day and night.	APP I: Enlargement Sewing dispositions
	9 Apr		Air raid on TOBRUK	
	10 Apr	1800	Bn relieved by 13 Bn. Moved to WADI AUDA by MT. All troops in new position by 0400 hrs 11 Apr. One troop carrying MT carrying personnel of D Coy overturned near PILASTRINO, as a result of which 13 OR were injured and evacuated to hospital.	
	11 Apr	1100	Lt.Col MARTIN returned to unit.	
		2100	Lt.Col MARTIN called to Brigade.	
		2300	Bn ordered to move into position near EL ADEM RD 412426 for counter attack role. All troops in position by 0500 hrs.	

J. Martin
Lt Col
Commander

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Unit 2/9 Battalion AIF

Date and Time.—From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
TOBRUK	12 Apr	0800	Attack did not develop and Bn moved into reserve at FORT PIL- ASTRINO. Took up position of readiness to counter-attack either SOUTH or SOUTHWEST	App II: Operation Instr. 1+2 Attached. App III: Enlargement showing dispositions
			Stand to. Reported large body of enemy infantry supported by tanks approaching Posts R 32 and R 34.	
	14 Apr	0345	Reported enemy through wire - immediate stand to.	
		1103	Second stand to. Reported enemy through perimeter at R 31. Patrols consisting of one pl C Coy (Lieut FORSTER) and one pl D Coy (Lieut A.H. MARSHALL) went fwd 3000 metres SOUTH and SOUTHWEST respectively. No enemy seen.	
	16 Apr	1800	Stand to. Enemy tanks cruising in front of ACROMA RD Sector.	
		2115	No attack developed. Stand down.	
	17 Apr	1335	Stand to. Reported 12 enemy tanks through wire in WESTERN Sector.	
	18 Apr		Detached 2 NCOs 8 OR to B/O Bty 1 RHA to man guns in captured	

J. Arthur
Cand 9/1/44

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

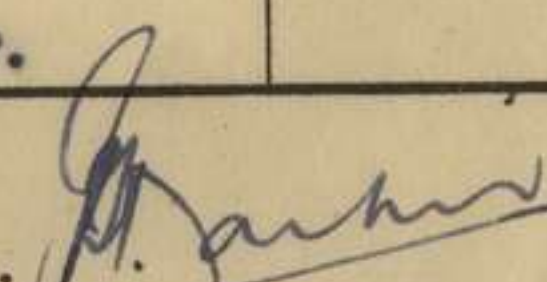
Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

Unit 2/9 Battalion AIF

Date and Time.—From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
TOBRUK			enemy tank, dug in near PILASTRINO.	
	21 Apr		Lieut D.J. JOYCE evacuated sick to 4 AGH.	
	22 Apr	0655	Enemy shelled Bn area. Approx 90 shells fell in area between 0655 and 0710 hrs. 32 OR killed, 3 wounded.	APP IV: SKETCH OF AREA SHOWING SHELL BURSTS
	25 Apr	1910	Enemy shelled bn area. 3 OR wounded.	
	25 Apr	1725	Enemy aircraft dive-bombed Bn area. 5 OR wounded, one 15-cwt truck destroyed.	APP V: ENLARGEMENT SHOWING AREAS BOMBED. APP VI: 9 Bn INT. SUMMARIES
		2330	Order from Brigade to be ready to stand to, as tanks and infantry are massing fwd of Posts R 11 to R 37.	APP VII: 18 Bn INT SUMMARIES APP VIII: 9 Bn ROUTINE ORDERS APP IX: 9 Bn FIELD RETURNS
	29 Apr	1915	Enemy aircraft dive-bombed Bn area. 4 OR killed, 6 wounded. One 15-cwt truck destroyed.	CO: Lt. Col J. E. G. MARTIN, O. B. E. 2i/c: Major W. E. F. LUBKE
	30 Apr	1915	Enemy aircraft dive-bombed perimeter defences, followed by heavy enemy artillery bombardment in vicinity ACROMA RD. Enemy broke through perimeter defences in ACROMA sector.	Adj: Capt C. C. F. BOURNE

Strength 29 Apr: 31 officers 679 OR.

Comd  Aus Bn

Lt. Col.

8/3/9

2/9 BN

APR 41

MOVEMENTS A - LIBYA

IKINGED TO
TOBRUK

Movement to TOBRUK, 4-7 Apr
into reserve at FORT
PI LASTRINO, 12 Apr.

2/9 BN
APR 41

MEDICAL CASUALTIES - LIBYA

22 Apr

3 ORs killed, 5 wounded, by
shellfire.

2/9 BN
APR 41

29 Apr

4 ORs killed, 6 wounded, by
dive bombers.

MAPS - LIBYA

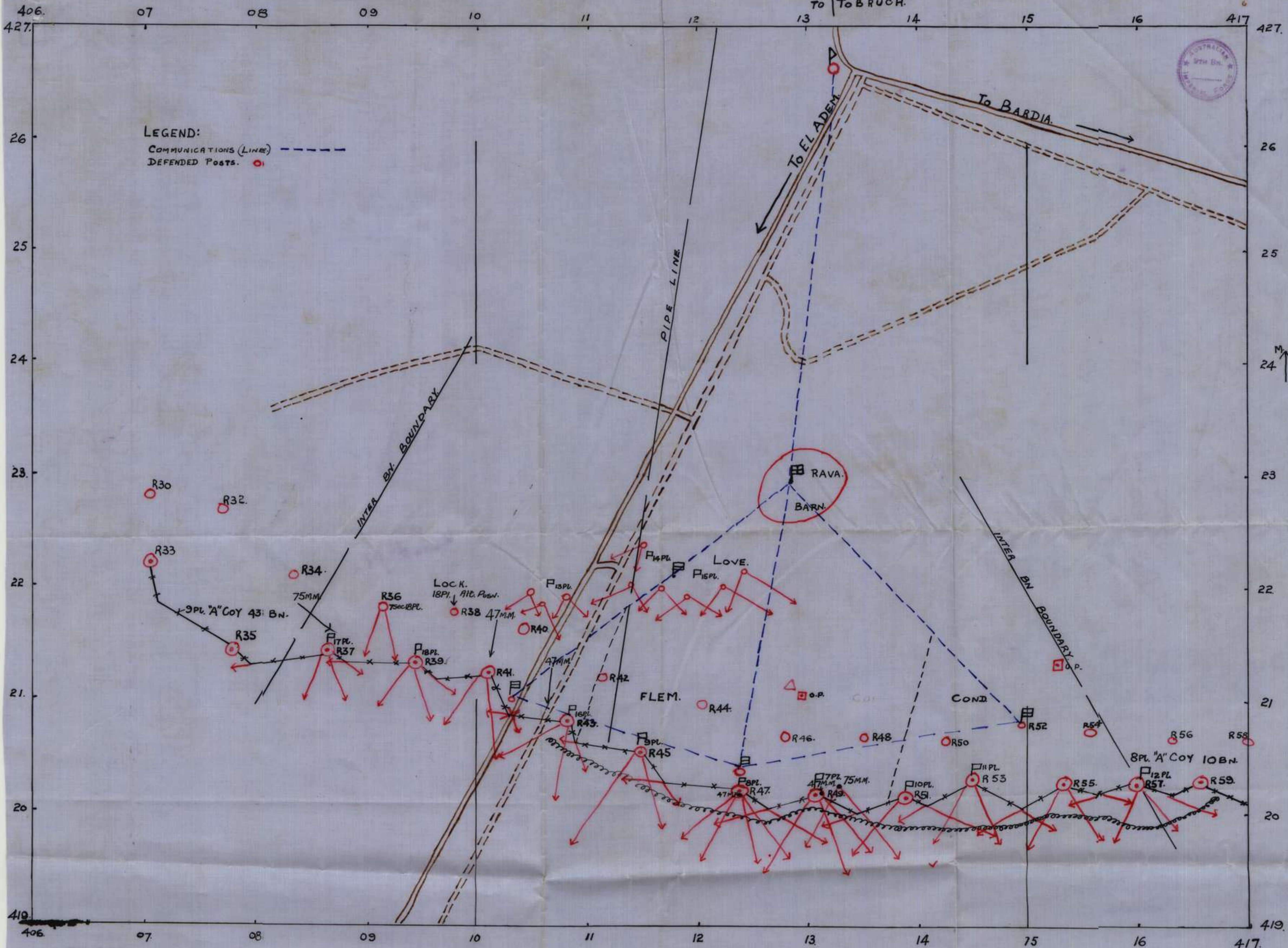
TOBRUK MAPS

Defence positions, shelling and
bombing summaries, APPENDED.

2/9 BN
APR 41

APPENDIX E: WAR DIARY - APRIL 1941
Q AUS BN.

PORTION of TOBRUCH SHEET 1/50,000



LEGEND:
COMMUNICATIONS (LINE) - - -
DEFENDED POSTS. ○

SCALE 1/25,000 - SIDE of Sq = 1094'

Headquarters
26.4.41

APPENDIX II
WAR DIARY
APRIL
1941.

SECRET



9 Bn Operation Instruction No. 1

Alarm Posts for Counter Attack

On receipt of the code words "ATEM" or "READY" coys will assemble at ALARM posts shown in attached sketch. In the former case, the assembly positions are on the top of the escarpment, for "READY" on the plain below the escarpment.

On receipt of the code word "ATEM" unit transport will move into the coy areas for loading. Loading will be carried to coy. alarm posts on receipt of the code word "READY" and transport will be moved into these areas.

RASC transport will in both cases stand by in the transport park awaiting instructions for loading.

The Order Group will in both cases report to Bn.HQ immediately the warning order is received.

9 Bn. Operation Instruction No. 2

Tank Penetration

The code word "On Guard" passed from Bn.HQ ONLY will indicate that tanks have broken through the outer perimeter of the TOBRUK defences. "On Guard Three" will mean that 3 tanks are within the perimeter. On receipt of this message all coys will "stand-to" and be prepared to resist any attack.

Each rifle coy will maintain on a 24-hour tour of duty a "tank hunting platoon" equipped with molotov cocktails and grenades as well as the normal weapons. Platoons should carry out this duty in rotation.

"Tank hunting platoons" will act on coy orders for local tasks, or may be sent further afield by Bn.HQ. In particular, C and D Coys will be prepared to attack in the area of the transport park.

M. J. [Signature]
Capt.
Adjt., 9 Bn, AIF

ACK

Distribution:

A Coy
B Coy
C Coy
D Coy
HQ Coy
46 Aus A.Tk Bty
RASC Coy
CO
QM
TO
War Diary
File

SECRET

○ ATTEM
○ READY



DOLE ALARM POSTS - PILASTRINO.
 Attached to DOLE Operation No 1.



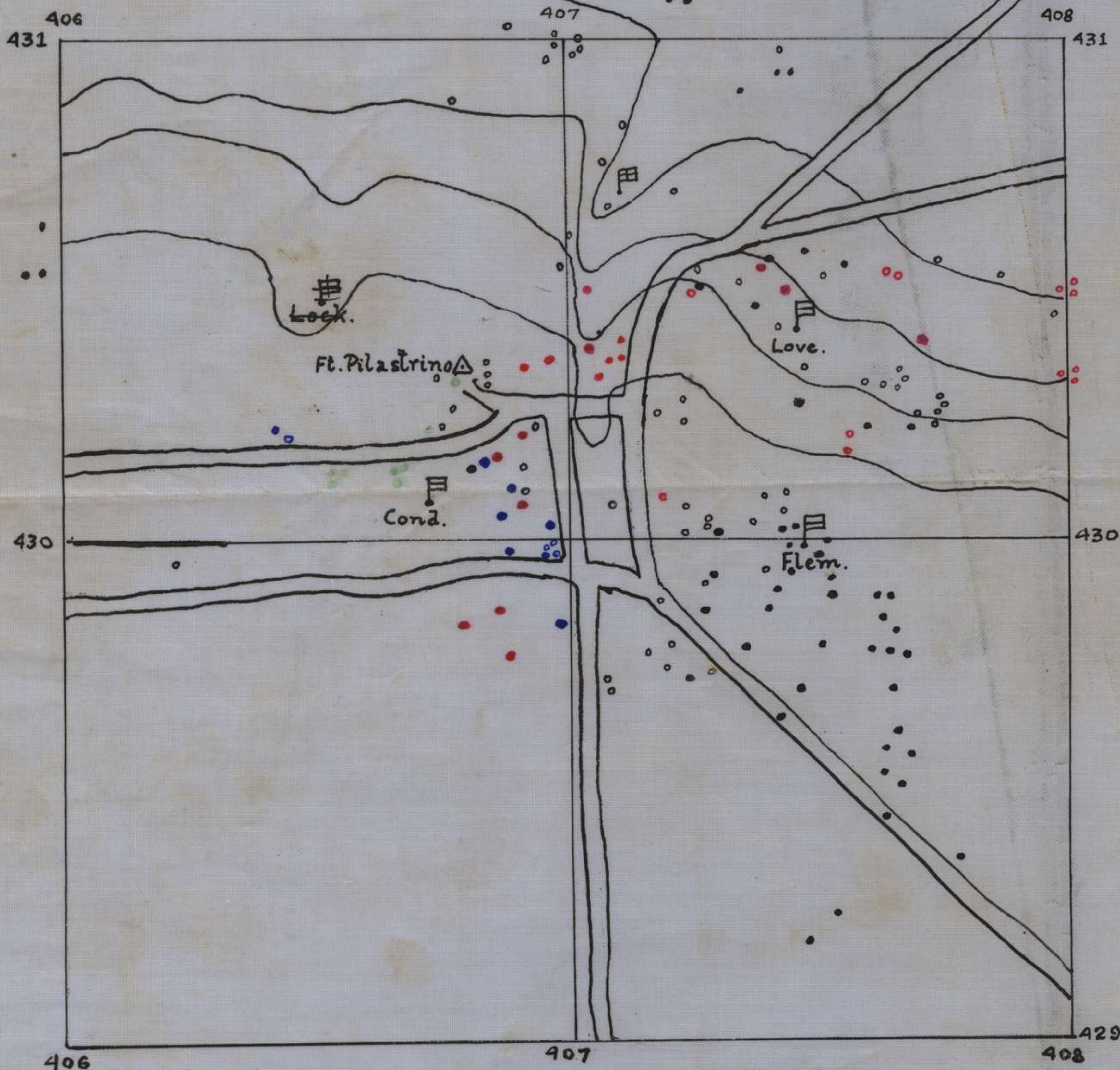


WAR DIARY
APPENDIX TO
APRIL 1941

Shelling Summary.

Famo
LOCK

- Shell Holes:-
- Apr. 22 ○
 - " 24 ●
 - " 25 ◉
 - " 30 ◊
 - May 1. ●
 - " 2. ●
 - " 3. ●



SCALE 1:12,500 SIDE OF SQ = 1094 YDS.

432

406

408

432

SCALE 1/12,500 SIDE of Sq = 1094^x



APPENDIX III
WAR
DIARY
APRIL
1941

M.T. PARK.

R.A.P.
[Symbol]

Stretcher Bearers
Pioneers.

LOCK. [Symbol] 18 PL.

Mortars.

Ft. Pilastrino.

LOVE. [Symbol]

Hegiag. Chargia.

COND. [Symbol]

FLEM. [Symbol]

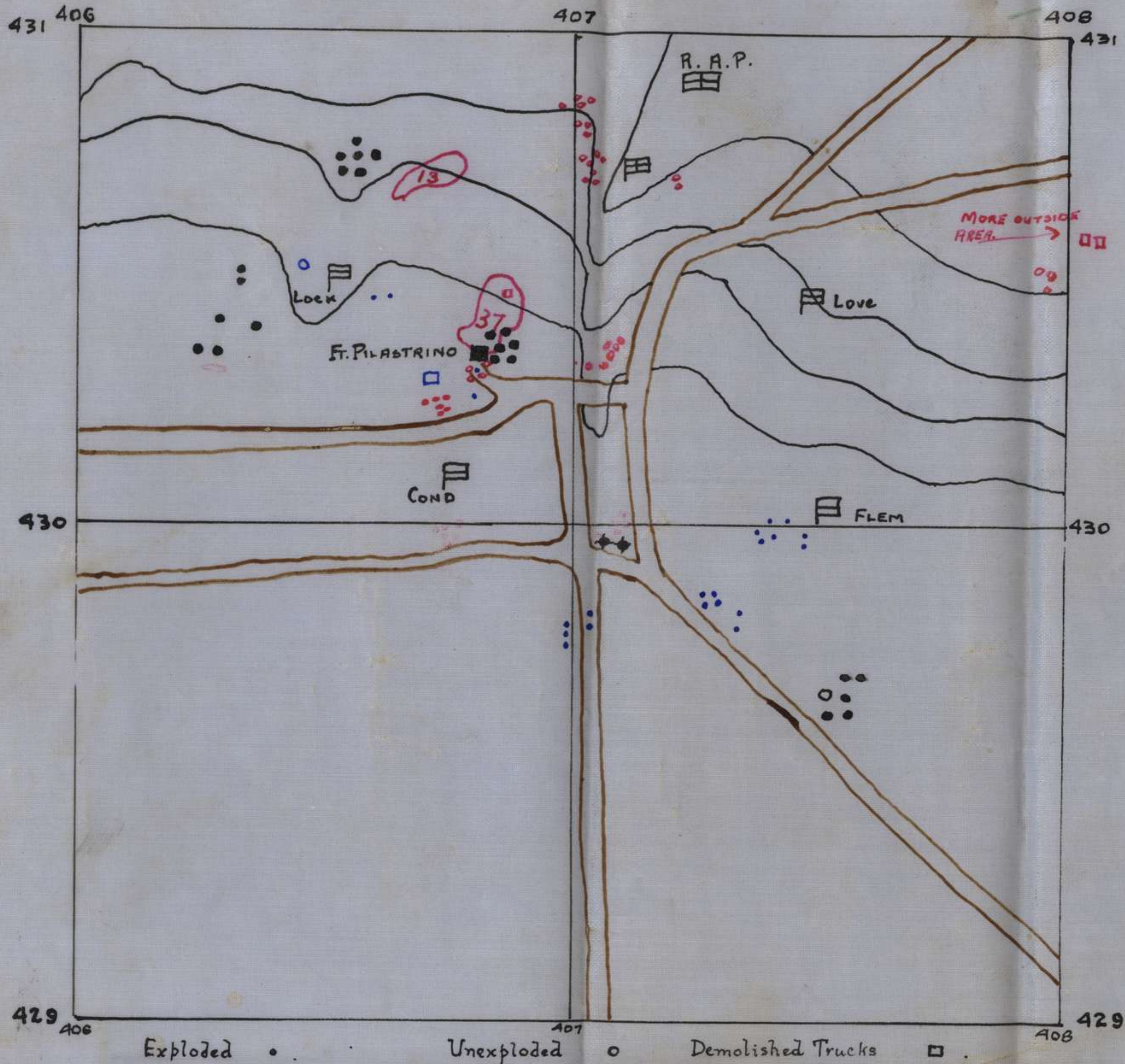
430

430

406

408

KEFA BOMBING SUMMARY.



WAR DIARY
APPENDIX V

N.
↑
APRIL
1941

28 Apr. - Blue.
29 Apr. - Red.
1 May - Black
3 " ◆

DOLE Intelligence Report No.2



From information received to 1900 hrs 16 Apr 41

The following information timed 1115 hrs 15 Apr is reported from MEF:-

1. Enemy Forces around TOBRUCH

(a) 27 BRESCIA Div less one regt.
Total inf strength 2500
Guns 27 75 mm.
12 100 mm.

(b) 5 Col Armd Div (GERMAN)
Strength:-

Two bns inf after battle casualties - under 1000
One MG Bn - 800 less casualties
Tanks after battle casualties - under 20

Medium 22-tonners.

The whole may be under comd SCHYERIN.

2. Enemy Forces CAPUZZO, SALUM, BARDIA

Composite forces taken from ARIETE Armd Div and 5 GERMAN Col Armd Div, the whole probably under comd Gen. ROMMEL.

Possible Composition -

Tanks 50 (probably GERMAN)
M.13's 20
C.Vs 33

Two BERSAGLIERI regts consisting of two lorry borne Bns each of a strength of 600.

Two gps of 12 of 75/27 field guns.
Six 100/17 Hows.

5 Col Armd Div comprising -

Tanks 50 to 60 lt tanks Mk II 9 ton
20 wheeled tank mountings

Recce units now disposed - not more than 50/
combination side-cars

3. Enemy Intentions

These appear to be to mask, to persevere and to contain forces at TOBRUCH etc by local offensive action so as to enable mobile force under ROMMEL to penetrate as deeply as possible into EGYPT. His MT is inadequate but ROMMEL evidently hoped to exploit the soft spot reinforcing his tpt situation (if our resistance will allow him). His belief that he has defeated enemy in front of him may lead him into difficulties. "Air recce today should show more detailed distribution as between BARDIA (IKINGI MARYOT) and CAPUZZO".

4. At 1700 hrs the following official message was received "Enemy arrangements for attack on TOBRUCH - Long-range aircraft from SICILY will operate against harbour and town. AFRICAN based aircraft will co-operate with AFRICAN corps concentrating on AA and arty positions, also shipping".

APPENDIX VI
WAR DIARY
APRIL - 1941



DOLE Intelligence Summary

Based in information received up to 2015 hrs 15 Apr 41:

1. 14 Apr

Total enemy planes destroyed 17, three of ours; total enemy tanks destroyed 19, two of ours and one light recce tank; 203 PWs captured including nine officers (incl one Med Col); 110 enemy dead counted but Maj RISSON acting CRE 9 Aus Div reports that outside wire last night an RAE party saw three enemy tanks destroyed by mines and "not hundreds of dead but droves of them", also effect from our arty fire unestimated; our casualties total 45 including wounded from 20 Bde including two officers; two ORs of RTR killed; last night generally quiet but one own patrol silenced enemy MMG in WADI 395434; 12 Bn suffered two killed three wounded from morning dive bombing attack; 9 Bn one wounded on Tommy gun patrol.

2. 15 Apr

At 0340 hospital ship abandoned owing to near bomb miss; sick embarked on destroyed for ALEXANDRIA; Tac R 0715 reported no movement seen WEST of TOBRUK save at ACROMA where 50 large MT and six arm'd cars dispersed; SW EL ADEM 60 MT and six tanks; at 405415 200 to 300 enemy MT dispersed; at 0910 23 Bn reports arty heavily shelled enemy who have deployed towards left flank 48 Bn; estimate 1000 inf 3000 yards out; the 2000 inf reported at 397426 had moved from the NORTH after being shelled by our arty; these at 0800 hrs appeared to be advancing to attack posts R1, R3, R5 and got to 397426; 1000 enemy inf at 399425 were seen working down wadi EASTwards towards Post R27; NO Aus casualties.

During this afternoon a Bn of the 24th Bde carried out offensive patrols along the DERNA Rd in the course of which an enemy force estimated at one Bn were surprised and 60 ITALIAN prisoners were taken. While returning to their area our tps encountered further enemy estimated at a Bn. An action followed during which about 200 ITALIANS entered the wire, but the patrol was able to get its prisoners back safely. Subsequently mopping up of the enemy was undertaken inside the wire and was proceeding satisfactorily. During the afternoon the enemy carried out some shelling to the SE and EAST of FORT PILASTRINO, the majority of the bursts occurring along the TOP of the ESCARPMENT.

The following report from the fwd area reached 1 RTR shortly after 2000 hrs, but has NOT been confirmed: "An attack has been made on the DERNA Rd area. We have captured 700 ITALIAN prisoners. The enemy have made some progress, but are being shelled and are being slaughtered on all sides. They are just waiting an opportunity to run away".

M. J. Dole Capt
for. Lieut.
IO, DOLE

Issued at 2200 hrs, 15 Apr.

Distribution to sub-units.

PJR



5. Shelling at the rate of 4 rds per gun per 6 min from 4 guns took place from 1425 hrs to 1600 hrs with intermittent shelling subsequently, when the enemy evidently attempted searching fire for our arty positions fwd of FLEM's position. No damage to either personnel or military material occurred. Our arty replied throughout the afternoon, but the effect of our fire is not yet known.
6. During the afternoon an offensive patrol from PIPO went fwd in the locality of posts S.13 and S.15 and sighted enemy some distance from the wire. They succeeded in isolating the enemy and returned with approximately 60 prisoners, all of whom were ITALIAN. It seems that the WESTERN front from roughly square 400427 (ref TOBRUCH sheet 1/50000) northwards is held by ITALIANS solely, while to the SOUTH and SOUTH-EAST the great majority of enemy comprises GERMANS.
7. SEAR reports that several patrols went fwd from their defended locality and patrolled to 1200 hrs. While the majority furnished nil returns one patrol carried out most valuable work. It went forward as far as the ESCARPMENT and in a traverse located an OP, which was destroyed with a loss of three enemy killed; our losses nil. In subsequent movement the patrol obtained valuable information regarding dug-in and MG positions in that area.
8. NOWA reports having obtained one GERMAN prisoner as a result of patrol activity on their front
9. A report from HORA states that prisoners taken on their front today totalled 2 officers and 60 OR.
10. 500 ITALIAN prisoners are now coming in along the ACROMA Rd WEST of PILASTRINO.

W. P. Swan Lead.

Lieut.

IO, DOLE

Issued at 2230 hrs.

To: FLEM
COND
LOVE
LOCK
BARN

War Diary
File

PJR



FAMO Intelligence Report.

Based on information received to 1100 hours 17 Apr 41

1. General.

Reports from PW indicate that because of an imminent attack, enemy morale is good. Their officers have told them that the campaign will soon be over. We can also assure them on this point. Enemy tps are now suffering from lack of water - the ration is now two litres for four days.

2. Enemy Identification since last report includes

61 Motorised Inf Regt of 30 Div.

3. Enemy Ground Activity

During the lateafternoon and evening of yesterday, the enemy inf suffered severe reverses at the hands of 26 Bde. 2/48 Bn, after a successful patrol, captured 74 prisoners. The enemy advanced and some groups penetrated the wire, 2/23 Bn launched a local counter attack and inflicted very heavy casualties on the enemy. Prisoners were also captured by 2/24 Bn and by 1815 hrs, 26 Bde reported that the sitch had been completely restored and that no enemy remained inside the wire. Prisoners totalled 2 Officers 111 O.R. and it is estimated that enemy casualties were in the vicinity of 250. Own losses - 1 killed, 3 slightly wounded.

4. Enemy equipment.

- (a) GERMAN tank - PANZER Mk II - The most vulnerable portion of this vehicle is the visible portion of the hull between the tracks, the protective steel plating being approx $\frac{1}{2}$ " thick compared with $\frac{3}{8}$ " to $\frac{7}{8}$ " over the rest of the turret and hull. The driver sits on the front left hand side of the vehicle (looking forward) and is somewhat protected on the right hand side by a massive gear box. The arms carried in these tanks are 20 MM HMG.
- (b) All enemy A.F.Vs are more vulnerable in the flanks and rear than in the front. An AFV climbing an obstacle, exposes the belly which is the weakest part and should be fired on immediately. 303 amn will damage wheels and tracks of all types of Armd C. The ricochet effect will damage gear box, axle and engine if fire is concentrated on hard ground in front of Armd Cs. When using 55 amn aim should be taken at the base of the turret, rear of the body and all vizors. For 6 wheelers, aim at the radiator in front of the car. 55 amn will also penetrate certain parts of the sides and rear of both 6 and 8 wheelers.
- (c) Two pounders will penetrate 6 and 8 wheelers anywhere, while both types are particularly vulnerable to A/Tk mines. Tanks - fire at the sprockets, suspension turrets and at the base of the driver's vizor. A.Tk Guns and A.Tk rifles are NOT essential to deal with tanks. Several cases have occurred in ME where individual inf men have disabled tanks by ingenuity - guts - rifle fire and petrol bombs.



5. Enemy Air Activity.

4 JU 52 (tp carrying) were shot down 15 Jan 41 in CAPUZZO area.

6. Special sita report to 1100 hours 17 Apr 41 issued as a result of contact being made with SEAR and PIFO.

SEAR reports that night patrols went forward from BIR EG GIASC ref TOBRUCH sheet 1/50,000, 4025,4273 to square 400425 where they were observed by lone sentry on escarpment skyline. The enemy commenced shelling square 400425 but there were no resultant casualties. Patrols found NO sign of recent enemy M.T. movement along escarpment EAST to BIR EL CARMUSA, 40314238. A twelve gun battery was located in square 398424. M.T. concentrations were observed in squares 400422 and 402420. No enemy occupation of dug in MG posts, squares 403422, 404422 and 406420 at 0100 hours. Some enemy infantry movement was reported in squares 406418 407418, 408418. Plane circled over SEAR area 0250 hours then flew towards GRUM and bombs were heard exploding in enemy territory. PIFO reports that on the afternoon of 16 Apr, patrols of three carriers and one officer 20 O.R. went forward of Trig 209, 39794293, and at 1600 hours encountered enemy estimated 2000 italians. Our troops fired few shots, but charged with fixed bayonets. The enemy surrendered. While sorting was proceeding, 15 enemy tanks charged from an escarpment and opened fire on the prisoners. Our troops were forced to abandon some prisoners but managed to bring in 800 including one Colonel and 26 officers. All were hungry and thirsty. On 16 Apr 100 prisoners were taken NORTH of S 17. Total number of prisoners taken along PIFO front during the last 48 hours - 1100, all of whom were italians. Fifty enemy scattered formations were observed approaching from ACROMA at 1000 hours. PIFO patrols arranging reception.

W. B. van Laack

Lieut.

I.O. FAMO.

Max Kearney

1941
RECEIVED

FAMO INTELLIGENCE REPORT.

(From information received to 1400 hrs 22 Apr.41).



During the last 12 hours sorties on both our southern and south-western fronts have met with success, some hundreds of prisoners having been taken and a quantity of arms and equipment captured or destroyed. Our losses in men and material were very slight.

A company of inf. from 20 Bde set out from Post R 37 early this morning and advanced on a bearing of 248 deg. for a distance of about 3500 yds. They took up a position at 0530 hrs and awaited arty. cooperation according to a time program. With the coming of dawn they observed about 50 enemy messing to their immediate front, but being unable to move forward owing to our own impending arty fire they were unable to make contact. One piece of our arty was off-line and caused our tps. to retire for about 200 yds along the line of approach. As soon as they had reached their new position they experienced enemy fire from their left rear. At that time our F.O.O. moved forward to their position in a tank, whereupon several enemy sections to the front retired precipitately from their position. Our tps moved fwd to clinch the position, but the enemy then went to ground and, together with other tps to their rear, opened fire. Enemy in this area numbered about a bn. About two bns were noticed about 1000 yds in rear. Realising that he was heavily outnumbered the comd of our forces ordered a withdrawal, whereupon enemy arty fire was brought to bear on them. This barrage which was at gunfire rate, followed our tps for 400 yds, and continued on the position vacated by them, evidently in an endeavor to prevent our forming up and launching another attack. Our tps returned along the line of approach with ~~no~~ loss of one killed and eight wounded.

On the 26 Bde front one coy of 23 Bn (on the right) and one Coy of 48 Bn cooperated in a most effective pincer movement, accounting for over 500 prisoners, at least two anti-tank guns, and some valuable information. The two coys moved from the Bde front about 1000 metres apart laterally. They went out for about 3000 metres, then converged, contacted one another, and commenced a drive for prisoners in the area bounded by their respective lines of approach. The "bag" of over 500 Italian prisoners included two arty officers one of whom was in possession of a marked map and an operation order. At least two anti-tank guns were destroyed or captured, while in addition an unconfirmed report states that four arty pieces were destroyed. Our losses were two wounded, one A/Tk gun destroyed and one porte destroyed.

It is reported that Indian patrols from the extreme northern sector have gone forward a distance of seven miles without making any contact with enemy.

Tac R at 1130 hrs reported as follows: 1. At ACROMA 30 M.T. dispersed; 2. Ref. 384439 badly dispersed concentration of A.F.V.'s, M.T. and tanks; 3. WADI SQHIFET EL CHUER 397426 200 mixed M.T. well dispersed; 4. Ref. 40184132 possible H.Q., 10 staff cars, two tents, and many tracks; 5. Bend in road EL ADEM - TOBRUCH 100 M.T. widely dispersed; 6. Perimeter camp ref 417415, 20 or 30 mixed M.T.; 7. Main BARDIA road N.M.S.; 8. Ref. 42544226 up to 20 M.T. dispersed.

Our arty along DERNA road shelled the SGHIFET EL CHUER concentration referred to above at 1230 hrs and heavy damage was reported.

W. P. Mansfield Lieut.

I.O.L. FAMO.

9 Bn. INTELLIGENCE REPORT.



File
(From Information received to 1230 hrs. 23 Apr. 41).

Generally speaking there has been little enemy activity in TOBRUCH AREA during the past 24 hours. Artillery activity during the night was only very slight, and there was no attempt at incursion.

On the 20 Bde. front the usual fighting patrols went forward of the wire, but could not establish contact with the enemy at any point. Similarly the patrols forward of the 26 Bde. area furnished nil returns.

About 0800 hrs. a concentration of approximately 200 inf. and some tanks was observed moving fwd on the 26 Bde. front, but well directed arty fire resulted in the movement breaking up.

During the airraid on TOBRUCH shortly after 1130 hrs. ^{five} planes are known to have come down. Of these ~~three~~ were positively identified as GERMAN, and ~~one~~ as BRITISH. The majority of the bombs dropped fell towards the SOUTHERN side of the harbor, amongst derelict shipping, but as far as can be ascertained no direct hits were registered. At least 15 GERMAN planes took part in the raid. There ~~was~~ was some machine-gunning in the later stages of the raid, chiefly in the vicinity of the BARDIA road aerodrome.

Radio reports indicate that the Navy, assisted by the Fleet Air Arm has again successfully raided TRIPOLI harbor, sinking three supply ships and one destroyer.

Official sources state that GIARABUB is now definitely held by the GERMANS, who are accumulating considerable supplies there, possibly with a view to making a thrust towards the CANAL. The supplies referred to are transported to GIARABUB chiefly by air. At least two more GERMAN troop-carrier planes have been destroyed in the CAPUZZO area. Our advanced elements working fwd of MERSA MATRUH have entered SALUM, which is not occupied by enemy forces. Part of the GERMAN tank forces now in BARDIA area are to be released for action in TOBRUCH area.

W. R. Evans Lieut.

I.O. 9 Bn.

AUSTRALIAN
9TH BN.
IMPERIAL FORCE

INTELLIGENCE REPORT.
From Information Received to 1600 hrs. 24 Apr. 41.

A raid on enemy positions in CARRIER HILL area succeeded on morning 22 Apr., and resulted in capture of 16 offrs. and 352 ors., while nearly 50 enemy were killed. Own casualties 2 killed 10 wounded. The tps taking part were: C Coy. 48 Bn, totalling 4 offrs. 93 ors., three I tanks, one sec. carriers, one tp of 4 A/Tk guns (R.H.A.), arty F.O.O. Shortly after leaving the perimeter the tanks and carriers went forward so fast that the Inf. lost contact, but carriers rejoined Inf. just as the attack went in. Objective was battery of arty. The coy. moved in arty. arrowhead formation with one pl. fwd, and 350 yds between pls. O.C. moved in a carrier 50 yds ahead of point pl. O.C. led his coy. round to the western slopes of CARRIER HILL, and climbed to a view point from which he observed about 35 M.T. and 100-150 M/Cs. He then took one pl. fwd to cover of a reentrant and then moving N.E. for 300 yds saw the enemy battery, which was still firing at the perimeter defences. The carrier sec. then arrive and the Coy. cmd. decided to send the carrier sec., followed at a distance of about 500 yds by two inf. pls., round by the left to rear of battery, while other pl. attacked from southern flank. One carrier went ahead and circled round the battery firing continuously with the Brens from down to 50 yds. The other two carriers followed suit. The enemy swung heavy M.Gs. and 47 m.m. (?) Bredas on the carriers and Inf. with little effect. After strong resistance the inf. came in with a bayonet charge, upon which the enemy quickly surrendered. In the final assault Brens were fired from the hip with good effect. Mapping up of entrenched inf. on both flanks of the battery position followed, with carrier support, as far as ACROMA track which was the limit of exploitation laid down. No enemy tanks were encountered. Attempts were made to remove parts from the guns but this proved difficult and it is thought that only two were put out of action in the limited time available.

An attack by enemy inf. was made on the 48 Bn. front from 0730 hrs to 0830 to-day. The enemy came within 300 or 400 yds of the wire, but were routed by mortar, arty, and small arms fire, whereupon two offrs. and 46 ors. approached the wire and gave themselves up. Enemy casualties were very heavy. A few hours later another formation of 100 enemy approached, but were put to flight by arty fire. At 1400 hrs. a patrol from 18 Cav. brought in two offrs. and 20 ors. (incl. four GERMANS). One of the Germans was an arty F.O.O. During the afternoon our arty silenced several guns which had been firing out from the 15 Bn front.

The 15 Bn. has replaced the 17 Bn in the front line, the latter having come back as Bde. reserve.

General BLANEY has been appointed as Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Middle East Forces.

W.R. EVAN ISAACS
Lieut.

I.O. 9 Bn.

File

File

KEFA INTELLIGENCE REPORT.



(From Information Received to 1300 hrs. 25 Apr. 41.)

While conditions during the last 24 hours have been quiet to the WEST and S.W., contact has been made with the enemy to the SOUTH and EAST, to our advantage.

Late yesterday afternoon a patrol from the 24 Bde front contacted enemy at an F.O.O. post and, after having killed two GERMANS, brought in two offr. prisoners and one or. It appears that the patrol comprised three men. They came upon the O.P. suddenly and M.G. fire was opened on them. One managed to get back, and brought up reinforcements, but in the meantime the remaining two had worked round the post and taken it. About 0230 hrs. a fighting patrol from the same Bde. contacted a fairly strong enemy position at 42554225 (ref. GAMBUT sheet 1/100,000). After a skirmish two GERMANS came forward indicating that they were surrendering, but when a few yards from our patrol one of them fired a shot which struck one of our patrol in the stomach. They were thereupon shot. Casualties at this particular post were five enemy killed. At adjacent posts our patrol used hand grenades effectively and 22 more GERMANS were either killed or put out of action. In addition the patrol destroyed one M.G., one M/C, and one A/A gun with a barrel stated to be about 8ft. long. Our losses in the engagement were: Wounded one, missing one. Except for the arrival of strong GERMAN reinforcements from UADI SIDI BELGASSEM our patrol would have exploited the position further.

During the early evening raid on TOBRUCH yesterday three enemy planes were destroyed and possibly a fourth. The S.W. corner of ADMIRALTY HOUSE sustained a direct hit, otherwise damage was very slight.

The official tally of prisoners taken in yesterday's operations on the 26 Bde. front is seven officers and 118 ors.

W. G. ... Lieut.

I.O. KEFA.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

SECRET

18 Aust Inf Bde Int Sum No. 20

From information received to 1700 hrs



18 APR 41

DEFENCE OF TOBRUK

1. Numerous columns of MT each lorry containing up to 20 infantry and escorted by small parties of A.F.Vs. continue to approach TOBRUK from the West.
2. Last night attacks were made with infantry supported by some A.F.Vs. from both the South and the East. All attacks were repulsed with casualties to enemy vehicles and to personnel. The main thrust was made astride the EL ADEM-TOBRUK rd.
The expected attack at dawn today did not materialise.
3. It is deduced that at present the enemy is busily engaged concentrating his forces in the TOBRUK area and that recon units supported by lorried infantry are endeavouring to determine the nature and extent of our position.
For the present it is unlikely that he will be capable of developing an attack in great strength but it is certain that thrusts will continue to be made on all fronts. Should these succeed it is certain that he will be quick to follow up success by the use of reserves which appear to be located on wheels in front of each of our Bde sectors and are capable of being moved quickly to reinforce success.
4. Enemy air activity has today been very slight and no casualties or damage have been reported. Raids on previous days have caused a limited amount of damage. Our Air Force appears today to have been reinforced as several of our bombers have appeared today over enemy lines.

[Signature]

Capt.
BIO 18 Aust Inf Bde.

1800 hrs.

5. It is reported that our air force has been considerably reinforced. Yesterday it cleaned up 60 enemy M.T. and today 100.

SECRET

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY



18 Aust Inf Bde Int Sum No. 21

From information received to 1400 hrs

13 Apr 41

1. General

Apart from ordinary patrols there have been no reports of enemy action since last night. Air activity over TOBRUK has been slight.

2. Enemy Forces

Opposing us are --

5 German Colonial Div, which is a light arm'd div.
132 Ariete Div, which is an Italian lorried inf div.

In reserve and approaching TOBRUK --

27 Brescia Div, which is a lorried Italian inf div.

3. Armament

75 mm 1906 Italian gun with range of 8000 yds.
100/17 How., Italian, range 5000 to 6000 yds.
75 mm German gun which is rather better than the corresponding Italian gun.
105 mm German How. with a very powerful shell burst.

Approaching TOBRUK are --

145/35 mm Italian guns with range of 12000 yds.
150 mm German guns of similar range.

A/Tk Weapons

47 mm A/Tk both German and Italian.
35 mm A/Tk and A.A. guns
20 mm A/Tk Breda.

Tanks

The tanks opposing us are believed to be 22-ton German tanks with one 75 mm gun and two LMGs having a crew of four or five (depending whether it is a comd tank or not) which carries radio and can cross trenches up to nine feet wide. The performance of the Boys A/Tk rifle against these tanks is as yet unknown but details are expected later as to vulnerable parts etc..

4. Part of the above mentioned 5 German Colonial Div yesterday entered BARDIA and the last report stated that fighting was proceeding there. Probably about eight tanks and 12 AFVs were detached for the attack. It is believed however that we had very few tanks indeed in BARDIA the whole of our Support Group reinforced by 22 Inf Bde (Guards Bde) being based on SALUM.

5. Units are reminded that the BBC Broadcast News ("TOBRUK Truth") is procurable daily at the DID Indent Office, TOBRUK.

Shood

Capt.
BIO 18 Aust Inf Bde.

18 AUST INF BDE INT REPORT.(From information received up to 2000 hrs)1. Southern Front

Seventeen enemy guns including four medium drawn up in line opposite about Posts R51 to R55 shelling along HL ADEM rd periodically the shells lobbing from 1500 to 2000 yds inside perimeter on a general East - West line; Our guns have replied and obviously inflicted many casualties on the enemy 18 ambulances being actually seen drawing up and departing from the areas shelled; enemy snipers are active; Enemy tactics have been to come forward in a sweeping movement in three waves of 20 AFVs each and then a final wave of ten tanks (total 70 tanks) on a 1200 yd front; this followed by three waves of a total of 800 infantry (300, 300 and 200) broken up into parties of six infantry three or four yds apart; this happened on one occasion on 11th inst and the whole 800 men got into an anti-tank ditch; Arty fired on the ditch with mortar fire on either end of the arty barrage was put down and when this was lifted two pls individual fighting patrols went out; no bodies were seen in the ditch dead or alive; patrols went 150 yds further on and were engaged heavily by MG fire; when they returned through the ditch there were still no signs of enemy mining and what became of the enemy is still a mystery (they definitely did not cross the wire); yesterday a patrol of a sgt and two men crossed the wire and left one of their men in the ditch to guide them back; the sgt and the other man proceeded to about 150 yds when they were fired on from three directions by MGs; they went to ground and after waiting awhile made back across the ditch, crossed the wire under very heavy fire and both got home.

AFVs - Tanks use one white light as concentration or rallying point; this also indicates some impending activity; two lights indicate dispersal or withdraw signal; definitely no tanks or infantry have ever crossed the ditch or the wire; our bombers engaged 60 or 70 vehicles concentrated in Square 40420; at 1300 hrs today R.H.A. engaged 80 large enemy MT tp carriers; there has been no enemy activity in this sector today except shelling; no infantry have been in sight.

2. Eastern Sector

The Eastern sector has been quiet all day; one enemy unit identified as the 2 BRLESA German MMG Regt; Yesterday the A/Tk guns in this sector knocked out two enemy MT and on examining them this morning found that they were very lightly armoured with a cloth hood, seating for nine with rifle racks and MMG mounting; considerable enemy MT movement the last two nights but no infantry seen; the MT movement is nearly all eastwards towards BARDIA while there is continuous MT movement about three kilos from perimeter leading to wadi SIDI BEL GASSEN where it is believed that the enemy have two btys.

5. General

The enemy occupied BARDIA last night and SALUM was evacuated by our troops today after the pass on SALUM hill had been blown; at 1715 hrs today the enemy employed some shelling and smoking on Southern sector and under cover of the smoke moved their guns forward and then attempted to engage our arty posns South of PW sage; they were outranged however but our guns were able to range onto the enemy guns with accuracy and one enemy truck was completely burned; at 1800 hrs 500 MT well dispersed were seen four miles NW of Post 31; RAF will bomb these tomorrow; Nine large tp carrying planes approached TORRUK today; Four landed at 1500 hrs South of Post 31 and probably supplied provisions; it is also known that six enemy tp carrying planes landed at 426424 and are thought to have been carrying arty parts; these six planes were engaged by our arty; enemy dropped propoganda pamphlets today.

4. It is appreciated from the foregoing and other information that the enemy may attempt attack tonight or early morning.

5. 9 Aust Div Int Sum No 9 has been received and attached units who have not received a copy may view same at this HQ.

F. J. Cook

Capt. B10 13 Aust Inf Bde.

T.O.O. 2210 hrs.

Five - Tanks use one white light as concentration or rallying point; this also indicates some impending activity; the light indicates dispersal or withdraw signal; definitely no tanks or infantry have ever crossed the ditch or the wire; our bombers engaged 60 or 70 vehicles concentrated in 2 squares at 1300 hrs today R.A.A. engaged 80 large enemy tp by artillery; there has been no enemy activity in this sector today except shelling; no infantry have been in it.

Eastern Sector

3.

The Eastern sector has been quiet all day; one enemy unit identified as the 3 BRITISH GERMANS MG Regt; Yesterday the Artillery in this sector knocked out two enemy MT and on examining their morning round they were very lightly armed with a light hood, setting for mine with rifle tanks and MG mounted; considerable enemy MT movement the last two nights but no infantry seen; the MT movement is nearly all eastwards towards BARDIA while there is continuous MT movement about three miles from perimeter leading to wall 2111 MIL GARDEN where it is believed that the enemy have two days.

SECRET

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

From information up to 1200 hrs



1. 14 APR

Total 17 enemy planes destroyed, three of ours; total enemy tanks destroyed 19, two of ours and one light recon tank; 205 PWs captured including nine officers (incl one Med Col); 110 enemy dead counted but Maj RISSON, Acting-CRE 9 Aust Div reports that outside wire last night and RAE party saw three enemy tanks destroyed by mines and "not hundreds of dead but droves of them"; also effect of our arty fire unestimated; our casualties total 45 including wounded from 20 Ede including two officers; two ORs of RTR killed; last night generally quiet but one own patrol silenced enemy MMG in Wadi 395434; 12 Bn suffered two killed three wounded from morning dive bombing attack; 9 Bn one wounded on Tommy gun patrol;

2. 15 APR

At 0340 hospital ship abandoned owing to near bomb miss; sick embarked on destroyer for ALEXANDRIA; Tac R 0715 reported RMS West of TOBRUK save at ACROMA where 50 large MT and six armd cars dispersed; SW EL ADUM 60 MT and six tanks; at 405415 200 to 300 enemy MT dispersed; at 405415 200 to 300 enemy MT dispersed; at 0910 23 Bn reports arty heavily shelled enemy who have deployed towards left flank 48 Bn; estimate 1000 inf 3000 yards out; the 2000 inf reported at 397426 had moved from the North after being shelled by our arty; these at 0800 hrs appeared to be advancing to attack Posts R1, R3, R5 and got to 397428; 1000 enemy inf at 399425 were seen working down wadi eastwards towards Post R.27; no Aust casualties.

SN 200k

Capt
BIO 13 Aust Inf Ede.

T.O.O. 1230 hrs

DOLE

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY



18 Aust Inf Bde Int Sum No. 22.

From information received up to 1200 hrs

16 Apr 41

The following information timed 1115 hrs 15 Apr is reported from MEF:-

1. Enemy Forces around TOBRUK

(a) 27 BRESCIA Div less one regt.
 Total inf strength 2500
 Guns 27 75 mm
 12 100 mm

2000

1200

1800

(b) 5 Col Armd Div (German)
 Strength: +
 Two Bns inf after battle casualties -- under 1000
 One MG Bn -- 800 less casualties
 Tanks after battle casualties -- under 20
 Medium 22-tonners.

The whole may be under comd SCHYERIN.

2. Enemy Forces CAPUZZO, SAJUM, BARDIA.

Composite forces taken from ARIETE Armd Div and 5 German Col Armd Div, the whole probably under comd Gen. ROMMEL.

Possible composition-

Tanks 50 (probably German)
 M 13's 20
 C.V's 33

Two MERSAGLIERI regts consisting of two lorry borne Bns each of a strength of 600.

Two gps of 12 75/27 field guns.

Six 100/17 HOWs.

5 Col Armd Div comprising --

Tanks 50 to 60 lt tanks Mk II 9 ton.
 20 wheeled tank mountings

Reece units now disposed -- not more than 50 combination side-cars.

3. Enemy Intentions

These appear to be to mask, to persevere and to contain forces at TOBRUK etc by local offensive action so as to enable mobile force under ROMMEL to penetrate as deeply as possible into EGYPT. His MT is inadequate but ROMMEL evidently hoped to exploit the soft spot reinforcing his tpt situation (if our resistance will allow him). His belief that he has defeated enemy in front of him may lead him into difficulties. "Air recce today should show more detailed distribution as between BARDIA (IKINGI MARYUT) and CAPUZZO."

4. 9 Aust Div "I" Sum. No. 11 has been distributed direct to some units. Other units may view same at this HQ.

Handwritten signature

Capt
 Bde.

BIO 18 Aust Inf

DISTRIBUTION: 1 per unit.

18 AUST INF BDE

SECRET

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

From information received to 1200 hrs



17 APR 41

16 APR

Total prisoners today - ITALIAN 29 off (incl one Col) 303 ORs all 1 Bn 62 Regt TRENTO Div; GERMAN 2 off; ITALIAN Bn attacked 1940 hrs over 48 Bn front and were repulsed by arty fire; whilst withdrawing at 2000 hrs they were fired upon by GERMAN tanks alleged to be supporting the attack; Bren carriers advanced and rounded up remainder of ITALIAN Bn; 1645 hrs enemy shelled Posts R8, R9 but shells lobbed 200 yds short; at 2005 hrs enemy shelled Posts R5, R7; at 2100 hrs four enemy mortars engaged Post R6; from all operations our casualties very slight.

17 APR

No activity save one H.A. machine gunned in Bn area; no Australian casualties reported.

W. Look

SIC 18 AUST INF Bde. Capt.

TOO 1200 hrs.

SECRET

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY



18 Aust Inf Bde Int Sum No. 23

From information to 1100 hrs

18 Apr 41

1. General

There was no activity reported on the morning of 17 Apr and out tps were engaged bringing in overnight prisoners. One E.A. dropped bombs at 1215 hrs in 43 Bn sector. At 1300 hrs 12 enemy tanks were reported as having broken through the wire due West of PILASTRINO apparently heading for PILASTRINO. These tanks were engaged by anti-tank guns and our own tanks. A total of three enemy tanks were destroyed and one undamaged was captured. Rival claims to this success led to some confusion in the earlier reports. The remaining eight enemy tanks escaped back through the wire. At 1215 hrs it was reported that eight enemy tanks supported by arty, mortar and inf had crossed wire from ACROMA rd. The Bde stood to but it was later discovered that the tanks had not in fact crossed the wire but appeared to be on sentry go with hulls down. At 1200 hrs a dive-bombing and MG attack by some 30 E.A. resulted in casualties to 12 Bn of three killed and six wounded the latter including Lieut SELF. Two of 12 Bn trucks were damaged and six vehicles of 309 MT Coy were lost. Certain unexploded bombs were located in 12 Bn area and will be disposed of today. There may, however, be other unexploded bombs. A Tac R timed 2000 hrs advised that a force of 50/60 armd cars and tanks was moving North astride EL ADEM-TOMRUK rd at 408416 apparently unsupported by MT. 100 MT were three miles SW of BIR SACTA; 20 MT moving East down EL ADEM-BARDIA track 415408; NMS coastal area coastal area East TOMRUK; slight activity DERNA rd; flashes, assumed gun flashes, 419418 BIR BU ASATEN.

At 1010 hrs 18 Apr it was reported that 43 Bn had been attacked from ACROMA direction by an enemy force estimated at one Bn not supported by tanks. The enemy were driven off in confusion and 12 Bn was ordered to send off carriers and a coy to round up the enemy.

Regarding 50/60 armd cars and tanks no trace of them could be found this morning by patrols. When located by Tac R units will be advised.

The totals of confirmed and counted enemy casualties are as follows:-

 E.A.s.	 47 (incl 16 destroyed on ground at DERNA)
Killed	300
AFVs (incl tanks)	23

Prior to the reported attack at 1010 hrs as above mentioned the only enemy activity reported was that at 0710 hrs ANOG reported enemy in the vicinity of Hill 3944290 who were being engaged by SAA.

Three old Italian 6-in guns in 10 Bn sector have been put into working order. Yesterday two shells fired from one of these guns were reported as having lobbed on the enemy EL ADEM aerodrome. Further firing has been suspended under orders.

2. Mines

It is now reported that the whole of the outer perimeter is mined except in places where there exists an anti-tank obstacle at least ten feet wide by ten feet deep. A diagram of these mines together with all other mines within the perimeter is in course of preparation at this HQ.

3. Wiring

A diagram of the wiring of the inner perimeter is in course of preparation at this HQ from information supplied by Bns and engra. The gaps are being shown.

Frank

Capt.
BIO 18 Aust Inf Bde.

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The total of captured and counted enemy casualties are as follows:-

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

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY18 Aust Inf Bde Int Sum No 24From information received to 1600 hrs1. General

Reports from PW indicate that a large scale attack was to have been launched on the TOBRUK defences on or about 16 Apr 41. There appears to have been no coordination between enemy tanks and inf units.

The past 24 hrs has been quiet in all sectors save for EA. Air attacks during the night 18/19 Apr caused no Aust casualties. About eight enemy planes dive-bombed and machine-gunned tps at 1510 hrs today but again no casualties are reported.

Mines were dropped in the harbour and in the channel in the early hours of yesterday morning.

The probable total enemy forces near or approaching TOBRUK are being worked out and will be available later.

2. Enemy Identifications

An apparent enemy order of battle has been received at this HQ from which it appears that the enemy may have about 150 effective Italian tanks and 60 to 80 German tanks in the TOBRUK area. Most of these tanks would be light to medium. Air Tac R however has never at any one time reported more than a total of 62/80 tanks and AFVs in the area around TOBRUK.

15 M/G Bn of the German 15 Armd Div has been identified as being at BARDIA. The PW states that this and the 33 A/Tk Bn are the only units of 15 Armd Div now in CYRENAICA but mention by these prisoners of 194 mm L. Motorised Inf Regts lends strong colour to the belief that 15 Div is a full armed as opposed to a Colonial Armd Div and from reports of movements from SICILY it appears that 15 Armd Div has now disembarked in TRIPOLITANIA. While realising time, space and maintenance difficulties it is thought that 15 Armd Div may be concentrated near TOBRUK by 1 May.

St. Cook

Capt.
BIC 18 Aust Inf Bde..

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

SECRET



18 Aust Inf Bde Int Sum No. 25

From information received to 1900 hrs

Ref Map: TOBRUK 1/50,000

1. General

All sectors generally quiet.

At 2015 hrs 19 Apr it was reported that approximately one Bn enemy inf accompanied by MT which might include tanks were approaching trig pt 209 at 39794293. All units were warned to be on the alert but were not stood to. The enemy however were engaged by our arty and no attack developed.

A sortie had been planned for night 19/20 Apr by 20 Bde but in the intense darkness one truck was blown up by one of our own lines and other trucks were damaged by collision and the sortie therefore not proceeded with. One patrol of 20 Bde got caught in fixed lines of fire and suffered one killed and one wounded.

2. EA Action

Of the sqn of EA which dive-bombed TOBRUK at 1510 hrs 19 Apr four were brought down, three of them by AA fire and one by RAF. There has been no hostile air attack since. Bombs which were dropped South of PW cage at 0907 hrs today were dropped in error by our own aircraft.

3. PWs.

It is reported that the total number of PWs taken in this area to 1900 hrs 19 Apr total 2683 which is inclusive of 779 LIBYANS and 50 from the Italian Hospital. There are no particulars available as to when or how some hundreds of these PWs were taken.

4. Enemy Order of Battle

Attached as Appx 'A' is an enemy Order of Battle prepared from existing knowledge. A Tac R timed 1900 hrs 19 Apr states "inf adv extended order half a mile from wire, along wire from track, 4150414 rd from ACROMA followed up by 15 MT including tanks and armoured cars. 393430--30-- 10-ton tanks. From 356415 to 390411 -- well dispersed convoy of MT moving East. BIR SACTA area MT dispersed. 406414-- 60/100 tanks dispersed. 426416 -- 27 MT incl 10 AFVs two medium tanks. Area 430420 -- three Mt and three empty gun posns. GAYALA landing ground (LG) and ACROMA track to West -- NMS.

This Tac R confirms previous Tac Rs in suggesting that the enemy tank and AFV strength is definitely below the establishment shown in the attached Order of Battle.

5. Thermos Bombs

An unconfirmed report has been made to Div HQ that there are Thermos bombs in area 40304290.

6. Troop Movements

18 Cav has relieved 24 Bn on the perimeter defences. A patrol of 18 Cav at 1450 hrs reported ten tanks and one small gun at 399440.

LIQIPIST MORT VOR BO

[Handwritten signature]

will possibly be in two areas by 1 PM

Capt
BIO 18 Aust Inf Bde.

ZOVER

APPARENT ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE

From information received up to 0900 hrs 20 Apr 41

HQ German - African Corps

G.O.C. - Gen ROMMEL - possibly at X roads SE TOBRUK 439419

TOBRUCH AREA:

132 ARIETE Div - G.O.C. - Gen BALDASSARE

32 Tank Regt

- 1 Bn CV33
- 2 Bn CV33
- 3 Bn CV33
- 4 Bn CV33
- 7 Bn M 13

} established 46 tanks each Bn, but casualties unknown

} at most 29 tanks left.

132 Mot Arty Regt

132 Mixed Engin Coy

NOTE: From information received from a PW 1300 hrs 20 Apr 41 5 Bn 5 BERSAGLIERI Regt are probably located in TOBRUK area.

27 BRESCIA Div - G.O.C. - Gen CREMASCOLI

61 Mot Inf Regt (att from "TRENTO" Div)

- 1 Bn
- 2 Bn - definitely identified.

Tank Gp (att from 5 Armd Div - Hy tanks 25 Mk III - 10 Mk IV)

- 3 Mot MG Bn
- 2 Mot Arty Regt

MARDIA SOLIUM CAPUZZO SIDI OMAR AREA

5 Armd Div - G.O.C. - possibly Gen STREICHER.

8 BERSAGLIERI Regt (att from ARIETE Div)

12 Lorry-borne Inf Bn

5 Lorry-borne Inf Bn - (PW says this is probably in TOBRUK area)

3 M/C Bn

75 Arty Regt

3 Recce Unit (15 light tanks - 20 A.C.'s)

39 A/Tk Bn

39 Sig Bn

39 Eng Bn

* (INSERT)

5 Tank Regt (60 tanks Mk I II III)

2 M.G. Bn

15 ARMD DIV

15 M/C Bn

33 A/Tk Bn

} possibly adv tps of this div.

BETWEEN TRIPOLI AND TOBRUK.

27 BRESCIA Div:

- 19 Inf Regt
- 20 Inf Regt
- 27 MG Regt
- 2 A/Tk Coy
- 27 Eng Bn

} Unlocated but possibly on way from TRIPOLI

102 TRENTO Div

62 Regt

2 Bn - Guard duties BARGE

7 BERSAGLIERI Regt

102 Div Arty Regt on way from TRIPOLI

15 ARMD DIV

104 and 115 Mot Inf Regt

15 Recce Regt

15 Tank Regt

} will possibly be in fwd area by 1 May

SECRET

18 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE REPORT



From information received to 1400 hrs

22 Apr 41

At 1900 hrs 21 Apr EA attack by about 30 EA dive bombed TOBRUK causing slight damage to two ships but no fires anywhere; no official casualty list yet available but casualties believed to be very slight; Naval sources report that four EA were brought down.

A Tac R yesterday reported enemy in vicinity CARRIER HILL 398428 where an unestimated number of inf were digging; 26 Bde was ordered to carry out a raid on CARRIER HILL at about Dawn on 22 Apr support to be given by tanks and arty; reports now state that raid by ~~XXXX~~ ANOG supported by tp DYKE on CARRIER HILL successful; total prisoners to 1100 hrs 16 Offrs 352 ORs mostly ITALIAN arty; one 75 mm bty destroyed; own casualties 1 killed 12 wounded; raid by DOCK on isolated enemy 395435 successful; prisoners to 1100 hrs 1 Offr 78 ORs; own casualties slight but unknown; raid by GRUM with two tps CANS on enemy posn 401424 not successful; enemy alert and in superior force; raiding party withdrew with loss of one light tank and small number wounded; EA bombed and MGD our btys about EL ADEM - BARDIA rd June 413425 also front of ANOG 397429; EA now attacking ITALIAN prisoners and escort 401430 and causing casualties.

Tac R timed 1130 hrs 22 Apr reads "ACROMA 30 MT dispersed; 384439 - badly dispersed concentration of AFVs, MT and tanks; Wadi SCHIFIT EL SCHUER 397426 - 200 mixed Mt well dispersed; 40184132 - possible HQ, ten staff cars and two tents on side of hill; bend EL ADEM-TOBRUK rd 100 mixed MT; main BARDIA rd NMS; 42544226 - 20 MT dispersed.

Stook

Capt
BIO 18 Aust Inf Bde..

SECRET



18 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE REPORT

23 APR 41

From information to 1000 hrs

At 1150 hrs 22 Apr three EA (possibly MESSERSCHMIDTS) MGd 12 Bn area but caused no casualties; one truck was struck but not impaired; these planes attacked from the West, kept an average height of 50 ft and were not seen until almost on the area.

No activity reported between 1400 hrs 22 Apr and 0600 hrs 23 Apr.

Tac R 1845 hrs to 1930 hrs 22 Apr - "Five hundred MT along main DERNA rd between 390438 and 375442; GAZALA rd HO - 50 MT dispersed; fighters over GAZALA North LG and four EA on ground; GAZALA South LG NMS; ACROMA - 20 MT and 10 AFVs dispersed; vicinity CARRIER HILL - 10 MT some burnt out and possibly all; South of BIR SACTA - 100 MT mixed well - dispersed; 402415 along track 10 MT moving NW; North of EL ADEM - 60 MT 40 large tanks; NMS SIDI BU AMED; 30 to 40 MT at Wadi 430425."

Thermos mine fields are reported at 395429 and 396429.

At 1250 hrs 22 Apr 18 Cav reported 20 enemy with one Mortar, two MGs at 39674400; a patrol killed three enemy.

Reported that raiding party landed BARDIA area night 19/20 Apr, damaged rd bridge in Harbour area and burned motor tyre dump.

Shard

BIO 18 Aust Inf

Capt.
Bde.

Demo

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

SECRET

AS Aust Inf Bde Int Sum No. 28

From information received to 1400 hrs



25 APR 41

1. GENERAL.

Apart from shelling there has been no ground activity by either side reported. At 2000 hrs yesterday our arty damaged several trucks at 39444513. There were frequent air attacks on TOBRUK and the Channel. The SW corner of ADMIRALTY HQ was damaged but no attempt was made to bomb the harbour. Three EA and possibly four were brought down. There was no activity reported during night 24/25 Apr, nor up to 1400 hrs today.

A message timed 1700 hrs 24 Apr from ME stated that one coy 2/12 Bn was embarking for TOBRUK. On arrival 13 Bn will be at full strength.

2. ENEMY REINFORCEMENTS

Information from ME includes statements from PWs and other sources indicating that the whole of the 15 Arm'd Div (German) had not completed disembarkation in TRIPOLITANIA by 11 Apr but may have done so by 18 Apr. If so the earliest possible date on which this 15 Arm'd Div can be concentrated around TOBRUK will be 8 May. Captured documents confirm PS that the original German plan for the movement that started 24 Mar had the limited objective of ACEDABIA. The later intention is stated to be that the German attack on TOBRUK is to begin and end this month. The ME comment on this is that although such attack seems improbable prior to the arrival of 15 Arm'd Div it is possible that the enemy through under-estimating the strength of our garrison here may take the plunge with existing forces.

3. TAC Rm

(a) 1531 hrs 24 Apr 250 to 300 mixed MT withdrew NW from CAPUZZO commencing move 1130 hrs 24 Apr. The mobile force had been in action against them.

(b) 1635 hrs 23 Apr; 300 MT South of CAPUZZO; no tank tracks; one mobile coln engaged the MT from 1700 hrs till dark. Considerable increase in MT North and NW of CAPUZZO including arm'd cars; presence of tanks not yet established; Mobile force is continuing offensive tonight and tomorrow in the area SALUM barracks and aerodrome and West and North of CAPUZZO.

(c) Strat/R 1400 hrs reports small MT movement along rd ACEDABIA-BENGEAZI; bombed 70 EA on DERNA landing ground and MT on rd GAZALA - TOBRUK successfully; Hurricanes ground strafed 40 personnel on lorries at BARDIA causing casualties and panic.

(d) Tac R 1600 hrs 24 Apr. At GIARABUB 23 MT near Yort; no EA on LG; NIS along frontier; MT concentration has moved from CAPUZZO.

[Signature]
Capt.
SIC 18 Aust Inf Bde.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

18 Aust Inf Bde Int Sum No. 26



23 APR 44.

From information received to 1730 hrs1. Enemy Activity

EA carried out several bombing raids today the first being at 1200 hrs when 13 EA attacked TOBRUK Harbour and caused slight damage to EL GUBBI aerodrome and personnel. Six EA were shot down for certain while our losses were three aircraft two pilots of which are safe. Subsequent raids appeared to be directed against the harbour but damage is reported to be slight. No reports have yet been received as to the number of aircraft engaged or brought down though at least one was seen to crash. No other enemy activity was reported.

2. Own Activity

The PWs captured in the raids about dawn 20 Apr included the following:

190 PWs from 139 Arty Regt
 109 from 3 M/C Bn
 51 from BRESCIA A/Tk Coy
 32 from 1 Arty Regt CELERE Div (which is attached BRESCIA Div as anti-tank tps).

3. Enemy Intention

A report has been received from ME that a PW has stated that the enemy intention is to withdraw German tanks from SALUM, CAPUZZO, BARDIA for reinforcement of the ARIETE Div for further attacks on TOBRUK. It is commented that recent movements of MT and AFVs as reported by air Tac R appear to support this.

4. Wireless News

BBC news confirmed by 9 Aust Div states that the British navy have bombarded TRIPOLI sinking 11 merchantmen and one destroyer, and destroying three tp carrying planes and the docks.

5. Air Tac R.

Tac R 1440 hrs to 1520 hrs today states - "BARDIA-EL ADEM sector NMS except at 427416 30 to 40 M² well dispersed. Band EL ADEM-TOBRUK rd 200 MT well dispersed. 40354128 six or seven tents. Line eight gun pits 40304245 to 40204260. CARRIER HILL NMS. Twenty to 30 inf at 394427. Wadi 39304350 nine MT believed US. Also reported three gun pits two occupied at 39354365

6. Extracts from Notes on Enemy Tactics and Org in the ME are attached as Appx "A".

Capt.

BIC 18 Aust Inf Bde...

Appx "A" will follow.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

SECRET



24 APR 41

18 Aust Inf Bde Int Sum No. 27

From information received to 1500 hrs

1. Enemy Air Activity

EA made dawn attacks on TORUK harbour today dropping several mines in the channel.

2. Enemy Ground Activity.

There was no activity during the night 23/24 Apr but at first light today enemy attacked Western perimeter about 397429 from the direction of ACROMA. The following particulars of the attack are reported - "attack supported by covering fire but no tanks yet seen. By 0830 enemy inf had adv to within 400 yds of our FDLs and were beaten off by fire of all arms. We have two officers and 140 ORs prisoners. Attack broke up in confusion. Fighting patrols are now leaving to collect abandoned weapons. Many enemy dead are reported. Own casualties as yet nil."

3. Own Activity

In yesterday's air battles at least eight enemy aircraft were definitely destroyed. The only ground activity is as mentioned in para 2 above.

4. Wireless News.

The BBC wireless news at 0800 hrs GMT today included the following:-

(a) ENGLAND. British bombers attacked the port of BREST for the tenth night this month; main attack on Britain last night was on a town on the SW coast but the raid was over by midnight and the situation at all times was in hand; also scattered attacks on towns in South and East. Another battleship of 35,000 tons mounting ten 14-inch guns and 16 5½-inch guns has been launched. A P. & O. auxiliary cruiser was torpedoed in the ATLANTIC.

There has been an immense delivery of American aircraft with the loss of only one machine. A previous record of 10½ hrs for the ATLANTIC crossing has been broken by a bomber's flight of 7½ hrs.

(b) GREECE. King GEORGE of GREECE has arrived in CRETE. Two armies in Western GREECE have capitulated. On other fronts the Greek troops although outnumbered are holding on. Our forces are digging in in preparation for expected big attack. Reports from ANKARA state that the German losses in GREECE have been staggering.

(c) NORTH AFRICA. The shelling of TRIPOLI was the heaviest naval concentration ever made on one point, 1000 tons of shells being poured in besides concentrated air attacks with bombs and incendiaries.

(d) EAST AFRICA. The pressure around DESSIE is continuing and increasing.

St.roud
Capt.
AIO 18 Aust Inf Bde.

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NINTH BATTALION ROUTINE ORDERS

By Lt. Col. J.E.G. MARTIN, Officer Commanding 9 Bn., A.I.F.

1 Apr 41.Part 1No. 5.

1. DUTIES:- To mount at RETREAT 1 Apr 41.

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| (a) Duty Coy: | D Coy. |
| Next for Duty: | C Coy. |
| (b) Orderly Officer: | Lieut. R.A. MALONEY. |
| Next for Duty: | Lieut. R.W. FORSTER. |
| (c) Orderly Cpl: | QX 588 Cpl. GREIG T.W. |
| Next for Duty: | QX 1222 Cpl. MURRAY J.R. |

Each Coy will supply one runner to Bn H.Q. - with bicycle.

2. DUTY COY WILL SUPPLY:

No. 1 GUARD: 1 Sjt., 1 Cpl., 7 O.R.

No. 2 GUARD: 1 Cpl., 1 L/Cpl., 13 O.R.

No. 1 PICQUET: D.A.D.O.S. Picquet to report to Bn H.Q. at 1600 Hrs today 1 Apr 41 consisting of 1 N.C.O., 4 O.R. - DRESS - Full marching order.

No. 2 PICQUET: IKINGI MARYUT CANTEEN PICQUET consisting of 1 Sjt., 1 Cpl., 10 O.R.

DUTIES:

1. Maintain a 24 hr guard on the Canteen under instructions of W.O. in charge of Canteen.
 2. Mount guard over Sig Office under comd O.C. KSec Sigs.
 3. Maintain a 24 hr Guard on Water Tower at IKINGI MARYUT Railway siding.
- O.C. Picquet to submit to Bde H.Q. his Guard Report by 1200 hrs on the following day.
Guard will report to Bn H.Q. at 1600 hrs today 4 Mar 41. Dress - Full marching order.
Guard Personnel will carry rations for 24hrs.

3. ANTI-MALARIAL MEASURES:

1. As from today 1 Apr 41. S.D. will be worn for Evening Meal.
2. Shorts must NOT be worn after sundown.

C.C.F. BOURNE Capt
Adj. 9 Bn., A.I.F.LOST:

Wristlet Watch of the following description:-
Rectangular dial, brown leather case, with outer cover. The glass of the watch is broken and is at present covered temporarily with mica, held in place with ~~XXXXXXXX~~ adhesive tape.

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NINTH BATTALION ROUTINE ORDERS

By Lt. Col. J.E.G. MARTIN, Officer Commanding 9 Bn., A.I.F.



2 Apr 41.

Part 1.

No. 6.

1. DUTIES: To mount at RETREAT 2 Apr 41.

(a) Duty Coy:	A Coy.
Next for Duty:	B Coy.
(b) Orderly Officer:	Lieut. J.R. BEAL.
Next for Duty:	Lieut. G.O. SUTHERS.
(c) Orderly Cpl:	QX 217 Cpl. AVERY J.D.
Next for Duty:	QX 415 Cpl. DeVANTIER R.

Each Coy will supply one runner to Bn M.Q. - with bicycle.

2. DUTY COY WILL SUPPLY:

No. 1 GUARD: 1 Sjt., 1 Cpl., 7 O.R.
No. 2 GUARD: 1 Cpl., 1 L/Cpl., 13 O.R.

C.C.F. BORUNE Capt.
Adj. 9 Bn., A.I.F.

KK

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NINTH BATTALION ROUTINE ORDERS

By Lt. Col. J.E.G. MARTIN, Officer Commanding 9 Bn., A.I.F.

3 Apr. 41.

Part 1.

No. 7.

1. DUTIES: To mount at RETREAT 3 Apr 41.

(a) Duty Coy: D Coy.
Next for Duty: B Coy.

(b) Orderly Officer: Lieut. A.H. MARSHALL.
Next for Duty: Lieut. G.O. SUTHERS.

(c) Orderly Cpl: QX 395 Cpl. LARARD J.D.
Next for Duty: QX 415 Cpl. DeVANTIER R.

Each Coy will supply one runner to Bn H.Q. - with Bicycle.

2. DUTY COY WILL SUPPLY:

No. 1 GUARD: 1 Sjt., 1 Cpl., 7 O.R.

No. 2 GUARD: 1 Cpl., 1 L/Cpl., 13 O.R.

C. C. F. BOURNE Capt.
Adj. 9 Bn., A.I.F.

KK

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NINTH BATTALION ROUTINE ORDERS.

By Lt. Col. J.E.G. MARTIN, Officer Commanding 9 Bn., A.I.F.

4 Apr 41.

Part 1.

No. 8.

1. DUTIES: To mount at RETREAT 4 Apr 41.

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| (a) Duty Coy: | B Coy. |
| Next for Duty: | A Coy. |
| (b) Orderly Officer: | Lieut. G.O. SUTHERS. |
| Next for Duty: | Lieut. A.O. HOAD. |
| (c) Orderly Cpl: | QE 415 Cpl. DeVANTIER R. |
| Next for Duty: | QX 1221 Cpl. WALTERS A. |

Each Coy will supply one runner to Bn H.Q. - with bicycle.

2. DUTY COY WILL SUPPLY:

No. 1 GUARD: 1 Sjt., 1 Cpl., 7 O.R.

No. 2 GUARD: 1 Cpl., 1L/Cpl., 13 O.R.

No. 1 PICQUET: IKINGI MARYUT CANTEEN PICQUET: Consisting of ~~1 Sjt., 1 Cpl., 10 O.R.~~ 1 Sjt., 1 Cpl., 10 O.R.

DUTIES:

1. Maintain a 24 hr Guard on the Canteen under instructions of W.O. in Charge of Canteen.
 2. Mount Guard over Sig Office under Comd O.C. K Sec Sigs.
 3. Maintain a 24 hr Guard on Water Tower at IKINGI MARYUT Railway Siding.
- O.C. Picquet to submit to Bde H.Q. his Guard Report by 1200 hrs on the following day.
Guard will report to Bn H.Q. at 1600 hrs today 4 Apr 41. Dress - Full marching order.
Guard Personnel will carry rations for 24 hrs.

No. 2 PICQUET; D.A.D.O.S. Picquet to report to Bn H.Q. at 1600 hrs today 4 Apr 41 consisting of 1 N.C.O. 4 O.R. Dress - Full marching order.

C.C.F. BOURNE Capt.
Adjt. 9 Bn., A.I.F.

KK

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NINTH BATTALION ROUTINE ORDERS

By Lt. Col. J.E.G. MARTIN, Officer Commanding 9 Bn., A.I.F.

17 Apr 41.

Part 1.

No. 1.



1. DUTIES: To mount at Bn H.Q. at 1800 hrs today 17 Apr 41.

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| (a) Duty Coy: | C Coy. |
| Next for Duty: | D Coy. |
| (b) Duty Officer: | Lieut. R.W. FORSTER. |
| Next for Duty: | Lieut. TATNELL. |
| (c) Duty Cpl: | QX 1222 Cpl. MURRAY J.R. |
| Next for Duty: | QX 588 Cpl. GREIG T.W. |

Each Coy will supply one runner to Bn H.Q. at 1800 hrs each day.

C.C.F. BOURNE. Capt.
Adj. 9 Bn., A.I.F.

KK

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FAMO ROUTINE ORDERS

By Lt. Col. J.E.G. MARTIN, Officer Commanding FAMO.

18 Apr 41.

Part 1.

No. 2.

1. DUTIES: To mount at Bn H.Q. at 1800 hrs today 17 Apr 41.

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| (a) Duty Coy: | D Coy. |
| Next for Duty: | A Coy. |
| (b) Duty Officer: | Lieut. TATNELL. |
| Next for Duty: | Lieut. D.J. JOYCE. |
| (c) Duty Cpl: | QX 4047 A/Cpl. GILLESPIE W.K. |
| Next for Duty: | QX 1531 Cpl. ELWORTHY G.C. |

Each Coy will supply one runner to Bn H.Q.

C.C.F. BOURNE Capt.
Adj. FAMO.

KK

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FAMO ROUTINE ORDERS

By Lt. Col. J.E.G. MARTIN, Officer Commanding FAMO.

19 Apr. 41.

Part 1.

No. 3.

1. DUTIES: To mount at Bn H.Q. at 1800 hrs 19 Apr 41.

- | | | |
|-----|-----------------|----------------------------|
| (a) | Duty Coy: | A Coy. |
| | xNext for Duty: | H.Q. Coy. |
| (b) | Duty Officer: | Lieut. D.J. JOYCE. |
| | Next for Duty: | Lieut. H.J.D. HAMILTON. |
| (c) | Duty Cpl: | QX 1531 Cpl. ELWORTHY G.C. |
| | Next for Duty: | QX 573 Cpl. MARSDEN H.S. |

Each Coy will supply one runner to Bn H.Q.

KK

C.C.F. BOURNE Capt.
Adj. FAMO.

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FAMO ROUTINE ORDERS

By Lt. Col. J. E. G. MARTIN, Officer Commanding FAMO.

20 Apr. 41.

Part 1.

No. 4.

1. DUTIES: To mount at Bn H.Q. at 1800 hrs today 20 Apr 41.

- | | | |
|-----|----------------|----------------------------|
| (a) | Duty Coy: | H. Q. Coy. |
| | Next for Duty: | A Coy. |
| (b) | Duty Officer: | Lieut. H. J. D. HAMILTON. |
| | Next for Duty: | Lieut. G. O. SUTHERS. |
| (c) | Duty Cpl: | QX 573 Cpl. MARSDEN H. S. |
| | Next for Duty: | QX 1109 Cpl. BIGNELL F. B. |

Each Coy will supply one runner to Bn H.Q.

C. C. F. BOURNE Capt.
Adj. FAMO.

KK



FAMO ROUTINE ORDERS.

By Lt. Col. J.E.G. MARTIN, Officer Commanding FAMO.

21 Apr 41.

Part 1.

No. 5.

1. DUTIES: To mount at Bn H.Q. at 1800 hrs today 21 Apr 41.

- | | | |
|-----|----------------|----------------------------|
| (a) | Duty Coy: | A Coy. |
| | Next for Duty: | B Coy. |
| (b) | Duty Officer: | Lieut. G.O. SUTHERS. |
| | Next for Duty: | Lieut. A.M. BENSON. |
| (c) | Duty Cpl: | QX 1109m Cpl. BIGNELL F.B. |
| | Next for Duty: | QX 1215 Cpl. LEMMON A.P. |

Each Coy will supply one runner to Bn H.Q.

2. AMMUNITION: NOT
Coys will accumulate extra ammunition. All issues of ammunition will come through Bn H.Q.
Coys will be kept up to 1st line requirements by Bn H.Q. and it is essential for reasons of carrying capacity that this is NOT exceeded.

3. SWIMMING PARADES:

1. Personnel will be detailed for swimming parades daily in R.O.s.
2. 5 trucks will be supplied by R.A.S.C. to report at 0925 hrs and 1325 hrs daily.
3. One Officer will be detailed as O.C. Party and he will be responsible for the parade and will pay particular attention to the following:-
 - (a) A.A. guns to be mounted and air Sentries posted at all times.
 - (b) Transport to be well dispersed.
 - (c) Life Saving Picquet to be organised and to patrol beach at all times.
 - (d) Communication to be established with rear SEGA from the beach and contact maintained at all times. Capt. PARRY-OKEDEN to be advised of the exact location of the parade.
4. All Pl. Officers will accompany their men and the party will be ready to act as a fighting force if the necessity should arise.
5. O.C. Parade will report to Bn H.Q. on the departure and return of the party.

4. SWIMMING PARTY 22 APR. 41.

A.M. Leave Camp at 0930 hrs, to be back in camp by 1230 hrs.
O.C. Parade - Capt. FLEMING.
No. 7 Pl. A Coy.
No. 13 Pl. C Coy.
% age H.Q. Coy.
% age Bn H.Q.

P.M. Leave Camp at 1330 hrs, to be back in camp by 1630 hrs.
O.C. Parade - Lieut. LOVETT.
No. 8 Pl. A Coy.
No. 14 Pl. C Coy.
% age H.Q. Coy.
% age Bn H.Q.

C.C.F. BOURNE Capt.
Adj. FAMO.

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FAMO ROUTINE ORDERS

By Lt. Col. J.E.G. MARTIN, Officer Commanding FAMO.

22 Apr 41.

Part 1.

No. 6.

1. DUTIES: To mount at Bn H.Q. at 1800 hrs today 22 Apr 41.

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| (a) Duty Coy | B Coy. |
| Next for Duty: | C Coy. |
| (b) Duty Officer: | Lieut. A.M. BENSON. |
| Next for Duty: | Lieut. A.H. MARSHALL. |
| (c) Duty Cpl: | QX 1215 Cpl. LEMMON A.P. |
| Next for Duty: | QX 4799 Cpl. ROBERTS D.V. |

Each Coy will supply one runner to Bn H.Q.

2. SWIMMING PARTY - 23 Apr 41.

A.M. Leave Camp 0930 hrs, to be back in camp by 1230 hrs.
O.C. Party - Capt. F.E.C. LOXTON.
12 Pl. B Coy.
18 Pl. D Coy.
% age H.Q. Coy.
% age Bn H.Q.

P.M. Leave Camp 1330 hrs, to be back in camp by 1640 hrs.
O.C. Parade - Lieut. G.O. SUTHERS.
10 Pl. B Coy.
16 Pl. D Coy.
% age H.Q. Coy.
% age Bn H.Q.

C.C.F. BOURNE Capt.
Adj. FAMO.

KK

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FAMI ROUTINE ORDERS

By Lt. Col. J.H.G. MARTIN, Officer Commanding FAMI.

23 APR. 41.

Part 1.

No. 7.

1. DUTIES: To mount at Bn H.Q. at 1800 hrs, 23 Apr. 41.

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| (a) Duty Coy: | C Coy. |
| Next for Duty: | D Coy. |
| (b) Duty Officer: | Lieut. A.H. MARSHALL. |
| Next for Duty: | Lieut. A.O. HOAD. |
| (c) Duty Cpl: | QX 4799 Cpl. ROBERTS D.V. |
| Next for Duty: | QX 217 Cpl. AVERY J.D. |

Each Coy will supply one runner to Bn H.Q.

2. SWIMMING PARTY - 24 APR. 41.

A.M. Leave Camp at 0930 hrs, to be back in camp by 1230 hrs.

O.C. Party - Lieut. R.W. FORSTER.

9 Pl., A Coy.
15 Pl. C Coy.
% age H.Q. Coy.
% age Bn H.Q.

P.M. Leave Camp at 1330 hrs, to be back in camp by 1630 hrs.

O.C. Party. - Lieut. A.O. HOAD.

7 Pl. A Coy.
13 Pl C Coy.
% age H.Q. Coy.
% age Bn H.Q.

C.C.F. BOURNE Capt.

Adit. 9 Bn., A.I.F.

KK

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FAMO ROUTINE ORDERS

By Lt. Col. J.E.G. MARTIN, Officer Commanding FAMO.

24 Apr 41.

Part 1.

No. 8

1. DUTIES: To mount at Bn H.Q. at 1800 hrs today 24 Apr 41.

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| (a) Duty Coy: | D Coy. |
| Next for Duty: | H.Q. Coy. |
| (b) Duty Officer: | Lieut. A.O. HOAD. |
| Next for Duty: | Lieut. J.R. BEAL. |
| (c) Duty Cpl: | QX 217 Cpl. AVERY J.D. |
| Next for Duty: | QX 4431 A/Cpl. JACKSON S. |

Each Coy will supply one runner to Bn H.Q.

2. SWIMMING PARTY - 25 APR 41.

A.M. Leave Camp at 0930 hrs, to be back in camp by 1230 hrs.

O.C. Party - Lieut. A.F. NIXON-SMITH.

11 Pl. B Coy.
17 Pl. D Coy.
% age H.Q. Coy.
% age Bn H.Q.

P.M. Leave camp at 1330 hrs, to be back in camp by 1630 hrs.

O.C. Party - Lieut. A.H. MARSHALL.

12 Pl. B Coy.
18 Pl. D Coy.
% age H.Q. Coy.
% age Bn H.Q.

C.C.F. BOURNE Capt.
Adit. FAMO.

KK.

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FAMO ROUTINE ORDERS

By Lt. Col. J.E.G. MARTIN, Officer Commanding FAMO.

25 Apr 41

Part 1

No. 9.

1 DUTIES: To mount at Bn H.Q. at 1800 hrs today 25 Apr 41.

- (a) Duty Coy: H.Q. Coy.
Next for Duty: A Coy.
- (b) Duty Officer: Lieut. J.R. BEAL.
Next for Duty: Lieut. A.F. NIXON-SMITH.
- (c) Duty Cpl: QX 4431 A/Cpl. JACKSON S.
Next for Duty: QX 4508 Cpl. WILMIE K.

Each Coy will supply one runner to Bn H.Q.

2 EXPLOSIVES IN KITS:

Numerous instances have occurred recently of explosives of various types having been found in kits deposited at the A.I.F. Kit Stores for safekeeping. On no account will ammunition of any kind, whether enemy or otherwise, be deposited in A.I.F. Kit Stores.

3 STOLEN VEHICLES:

Reports have been received that vehicles are being stolen under varying circumstances. In some cases they have been taken from city streets, and in others removed from Unit lines. The stealing or unauthorised use of military vehicles by A.I.F. personnel will be made a Court Martial Offence, and, in the case of a stolen vehicle being found in the possession of a Unit other than that to which the vehicle is on charge, the C.O., of the Unit in which the vehicle is located will be held responsible.

No army vehicle is to be left unattended in a city street, and strict precautions will be taken by Officers in charge of transport to ensure that the vehicles in their charge are not removed by any unauthorised person.

4 GUNS, MACHINE, BREN - RODS, CLEANING:

Damage to the extractor way of the gun, machine, Bren, .303 inch, frequently occurs when the guns are cleaned with Rods, Cleaning, M.G., MK. 11 "B". This damage may be avoided if a piece of bicycle pedal rubber, cut to approximately one inch in length is drawn on to the handle end of the cleaning rod.

5 SWIMMING PARTY - 26 APR 41.:

A.M. Leave Camp 0930 hrs, to be back in camp by 1230 hrs.
O.C. Party - Lieut. W.H. NOYES.

8 Pl. A Coy.
14 Pl. C Coy.
% H.Q. Coy.
% age Bn H.Q.

P.M. Leave camp 1330 hrs, to be back in camp by 1630 hrs.
O.C. Party - Lieut. A.M. BENSON.

9 Pl. A Coy.
15 Pl. C Coy.
% age H.Q. Coy.
% age Bn H.Q.

C.C.F. BOURNE Cap
ADJT. FAMO.

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KEFA ROUTINE ORDERS

By Lt. Col. J.E.G. MARTIN, Officer Commanding KEFA.

26 Apr 41.

Part 1.

RG. 10.

1. DUTIES: To mount at Bn H.Q. at 1800 hrs 26 Apr 41.

- (a) Duty Coy: A Coy.
Next for Duty: B Coy.
- (b) Duty Officer: Lieut. A.E. NIXON-SMITH.
Next for Duty: Lieut. C.B. PARBURY.
- (c) Duty Cpl: QX 3098 Cpl. LATIMORE C.V.
Next For Duty: QX 5035 A/Cpl. PRICE P.R.

Esh Coy will supply one runner to bn H.Q.

G.C.F. BOURNE Capt

Adjt. KEFA

Abseiling party - 27 Apr 41

*AM. Leave Camp 0730 hrs, to be back in
Camp by 1230 hrs*

OC party. Lt. C.M. Arnold.

10 pl B Coy

16 pl D Coy

1/2 H Coy

1/2 Bn HQ

*P.M. Leave Camp 1330 hrs to be back
in Camp by 1630 hrs*

OC party Lt. G.O. Suthers

11 pl B Coy

17 pl D Coy

1/2 H Coy

1/2 Bn HQ

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KEFA ROUTINE ORDERS

By Lt. Col. J.E.G. MARTIN, Officer Commanding KEFA.

27 Apr 41.

Part 1.

No. 11.

1. DUTIES: To mount at Bn H.Q. at 1800 hrs today 27 Apr 41.

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| (a) Duty Coy: | B Coy. |
| Next for Duty: | C Coy |
| (b) Duty Officer: | Lieut. C.B. PARBURY |
| Next for Duty: | Lieut. L.G.C. EVANS. |
| (c) Duty Cpl: | QX 5035 A/Cpl. PRICE P.R. |
| Next for Duty: | QX 395 Cpl. LARARD J.D. |

Each Coy will supply one runner to Bn H.Q.

2. SWIMMING PARADE - 28 Apr 41

A.M. Leave camp 0930 hrs, return by 1230 hrs.

O.C. Parade - Lieut. E. BARNES.

9 Pl. A Coy.
15 Pl. C Coy.
% H.Q. Coy.
% Bn. H.Q. Coy.

P.M. Leave camp 1330 hrs, return by 1630 hrs.

O.C. Parade - Lieut. A.O. HOAD.

7 Pl. A Coy.
13 Pl. C Coy.
% H.Q. Coy.
% Bn. H.Q.

C.C.F. BOURNE Capt.
Adit. KEFA.

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KEFA ROUTINE ORDERS

By Lt. Col. J.E.G. MARTIN, Officer Commanding KEFA.

28 Apr. 41.

Part 1.

No. 12.



1. DUTIES: To mount at 1800 Hrs 28 Apr 41 at Bn H.Q.

(a) Duty Coy: C Coy.
Next for Duty: D Coy.

(b) Duty Officer: Lieut. L.G.C. EVANS.
Next for Duty: Lieut. H.C. SALISBURY.

(c) Duty Cpl: QX 395 Cpl. LARARD J.D.
Next for Duty: QX 459 Cpl. HALL J.C.

Each Coy will supply one runner to Bn H.Q.

2. SWIMMING PARTY - 29 Apr. 41.

A.M. Leave Camp 0930 hrs, return to camp by 1230 hrs.

O.C. Party - Capt. CONDON.

12 Pl. B Coy.
18 Pl. D Coy.
% age H.Q. Coy.
% Bn H.Q.

P.M. Leave camp 1330 hrs, return to camp by 1630 hrs.

10 Pl. B Coy.
16 Pl. D Coy.
% age H.Q. Coy.
% age Bn H.Q.

C.C.F. BOURNE Capt.
Adit. KEFA.

KK

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KEFA ROUTINE ORDERS

By Lt. Col. J.E.G. MARTIN, Officer Commanding KEFA.

29 Apr 41.

Part 1.

No. 13.

1. DUTIES: To mount at Bn H.Q. at 1800 hrs today 29 Apr 41.

- | | | |
|-----|----------------|--------------------------------|
| (a) | Duty Coy: | D Coy. |
| | Next for Duty: | H.Q. Coy. |
| (b) | Duty Officer: | Lieut. H.C. SALISBURY. |
| | Next for Duty: | Lieut. L.F. FRANCIS. |
| (c) | Duty Cpl: | QX 459 Cpl. HALL J.C. |
| | Next for Duty: | QX 4162 A/Cpl. LEADBETTER V.C. |

2. SWIMMING PARADE - 30 Apr 41.

A.M. Leave camp 0930 hrs, return to camp by 1230 hrs.

O.C. Party - Lieut. A.M. BENSON.

8 Pl. A Coy.
14 Pl. C Coy.
3/8 age H.Q. Coy.
3/8 age Bn H.Q.

P.M. Leave camp 1330 hrs, return by 1630 hrs.

O.C. Party - Lieut. NOYES.

9 Pl. A Coy.
15 Pl. C. Coy.
3/8 age H.Q. Coy.
3/8 age Bn H.Q.

C.C.F. BOURNE Capt.

Adj. KEFA.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

For official use only.

A.M.R. & O 1587.

KEFA ROUTINE ORDERS

By Lt. Col. J.E.G. MARTIN, Officer commanding KEFA.

30 Apr 41.

Part 1.

No. 14.

1. DUTIES: To mount at Bn H.Q. at 1800 hrs today 30 Apr 41.

- (a) Duty Coy: H.Q. Coy.
Next for Duty: A Coy.
- (b) Duty Officer: Lieut. L.F. FRANCIS.
Next for Duty: Lieut. D.C.J. SCOTT.
- (c) Duty Cpl: QX 4162 A/Cpl. LEADBETTER V.C.
Next for Duty: QX 4689 Cpl. WALTON J.L.
rifle
Each Coy will supply one runner to Bn H.Q.
H.Q. Coy will supply three runners to Bn H.Q.

2. P.A.D.

1. All Ranks will carry Field Dressings at ALL times.
2. Any member rendering first aid to a casualty will, if possible, ensure that a blanket is wrapped around the wounded man before the arrival of stretcher bearers.
3. The practice of sending trucks to the R.A.P. for stretcher bearers will cease. If trucks are available, they should remain in Coy areas prepared to carry casualties to R.A.P. Stretcher parties will be demanded by phone.

3. SWIMMING PARADE - 1 May 41.

A.M. - Leave camp 0930 hrs, return by 1230 hrs.

O.C. Party - Lieut. A.F. NIXON-SMITH.

11 Pl. B Coy.
17 Pl. D Coy.
% H.Q. Coy.
% Bn H.Q.

P.M. - Leave camp 1330 hrs, return by 1630 hrs.

O.C. Party - Capt. F.E.G. LOXTON.

12 Pl. B Coy.
18 Pl. D Coy.
% H.Q. Coy.
% Bn H.Q.

C.C.F. BOURNE Cap.
Adit. KEFA.

NOTICE:

Fruit, Camp Pie, Cake, tobacco and cigarette papers issued in the last few days are gifts from "The Australian Comforts Fund"

May 41

9 AUST INF BN

TOBRUCH

MAY 41

8/3/41

OPERATIONS

LOCATION Bn disposed in southern PILASTRINO area.

ENEMY ACTIVITY during the month was mostly confined to minor skirmishes and patrols. Snipers and arty fire causing some casualties to our troops.

BN ACTIVITIES Primarily consolidating and where possible extending fwd defence lines. More important activities were -

COUNTER ATTACK launched on POSTS R8 to R1 on night 3-4 May. Except for the recapture of POST R8 and inflicting severe enemy losses this operation failed due to difficulties of locating objectives and careful enemy defence plans.

CASUALTIES were 9 killed 57 wounded 4 missing.

5 MAY Fwd coys push line of FDL's fwd in face of arty and MG fire, sustaining losses of 9 killed 21 wounded 2 missing.

UNTRAINED REINFORCEMENTS Some reinfts joining unit found to have enlisted in Feb or Mar 41 and had little or no training.

UNIT STRENGTH as at 31 May, 29 Off 547 O.R's.

MAPS Fire traces and Bn dispositions.

JUN 19 1941

also rec
9 Aus Bn



WAR DIARY

In Lieu AF C 2118

Unit:

9 Aus Bn

From 1 May to 31 May 41

Sheet one

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References
TOBRUCH	1 May	0945	Dive bombing attack on Bn area at PILASTRINO by 20 EA. Casualties, 1 wounded; one 15-cwt truck damaged.	Ref Maps: TOBRUCH 1/50,000, enlargements. attached.
		1240	Shelling of area NORTH of BnHQ. NO casualties.	
		1310	Second dive-bombing attack on Bn area - NO casualties.	
		1710	Shelling of Bn area; Casualties, 1 wounded.	
		1910	Third dive-bombing attack on Bn area - casualties, 2 wounded. Enemy continued attack on ACROMA area today and appears to hold a gap of 1,500 yds SE from post S3 incl. Lieut W.R.E. ISAACS and Lieut J.R. BEAL evacuated sick. Lieut. B.M. LOVETT returned to unit from hospital.	
TOBRUCH	2 May	1810	Machine gunning by 9 EA - NO casualties.	
		1930	Air raid - 2 bombs and some machine gunning, NO casualties. Lieuts C.M. ARNOLD and L.T. FRANCIS evacuated sick. Promotions - The following have been promoted to the rank of Captain - Lieuts C.M. ARNOLD, W.W.D. DAUNT (to remain seconded), A.J. ANDERSON (appointed QM), B.M. LOVETT, E. BARNES.	
TOBRUCH	3 May	1300	O Group called. CO issues preliminary orders for counter-attack on Posts R8 to R1.	
		1500	Lt.Col. MARTIN to Brigade conference.	
		1710	Bn O Group - final co-ordinating conference.	
		1945	Bn moved from PILASTRINO area to start line, R13-R14.	
		2045	Start time postponed for 30 minutes.	
		2115	Attack commenced. For report on Bn operations night 3/4 May, see Appendix "A" attached. Casualties for operation - Lieut A.H. MARSHALL and 8 OR killed in action Lieut H.C. SALISBURY and 57 OR wounded 4 OR missing Lieut H.J.D. HAMILTON evacuated sick.	

[Signature]
Comd 9 Bn Lt. Col.
A. I. F.

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References
TOBRUCH	4 May	0700 1125 1300 2000	Bn back at PILASTRINO. Bn comes under command 20 Aus Inf Bde. O Group called. Lt.Col. MARTIN issues orders for Bn move to BIANCA. Bn took over defence of BIANCA area from 2/1 Pnr Bn and 2/10 Bn. Companies prepare and improve FDLs.	
TOBRUCH	5 May		Forward companies push line of FDLs forward, engaged by enemy LMG and arty fire. Casualties, 9 OR killed in action. Lieut D.C.J. SCOTT and 21 OR wounded. 2 OR missing.	
TOBRUCH	6 May		Enemy sniping on front, otherwise little activity, 1 OR, previously reported wounded, died of wounds. 4 OR wounded. Lieut A.O. HOAD evacuated sick.	
TOBRUCH	7 May	1300	Brigadier MURRAY, comd 20 Bde, at BnHQ to go on recce of Bn area with Lt.Col. MARTIN. Slight shelling and some sniping - 2 OR wounded. Advice received of following awards from JAGHBUB operation - MC - Capt B.N. BERRY MM - Sjt W.F. MacINTOSH MM - Pte M.A. TAYLOR. Capt C.M. ARNOLD and Lieut L.T. FRANCIS return to unit. Lieut N.A. WORTHINGTON evacuated sick. <i>The distribution of 700 pbs. of cigarettes from 9 Bn. comforts fund.</i>	
TOBRUCH	8 May		Companies continue to improve defences, digging and wiring. A Coy moved forward 300 yards, commenced digging in and wiring. Slight shelling.	
TOBRUCH	9 May		Some enemy MT movement during the night 8/9 May SW of BIANCA. Wiring and developing of our section posts continued throughout the night. Pte G.S. HOEPPER, Int. Sec., occupied a derelict tank on our left flank as an OP in an attempt to sketch enemy positions. OP occupied from before dawn until after dark. Lieut. H.C. SALISBURY returned to duty.	

Comd 9 Bn

Lt
A. L. N.

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References
TOBRUCH	10 May		Daylight patrol proceeded SOUTH some 250 yards along second STONE WALL from BIANCA and located MG post and working parties, also 10-12 trucks. Extensive recce patrols at night. An attempt was made to establish OPs SOUTH of ACROMA RD and WEST of BIANCA. Pls digging these positions were intermittently fired on by MGs. They were ordered to withdraw from these new posts at daylight. Slight shelling at 0945 hrs. Harassing fire by 8cm Mortar during the day and at 2300 hrs. Dust storm in the afternoon. Lieut W.R.E. ISAACS returned to the unit.	
TOBRUCH	11 May		Enemy 75mm arty and 8cm mortar fired on B and D Coys from 0930 to 1515 hrs. Snipers active on B Coy's front. Shelling from 1745 to 0200 hrs. Companies continued to improve their positions during the day, and wiring was continued at night. One OR wounded.	
TOBRUCH	12 May		Some sniping by the enemy - one OR wounded. Patrolling by forward companies, several enemy posts engaged with fire. Lieut A.O. HOAD returned to duty.	
TOBRUCH	13 May		Enemy working party at Pt 172 (400430 sq) engaged by our 3" mortar at 1450 hrs. Results NOT known. Our snipers report 1 killed and 1 wounded. Active patrolling at night Bty of 4 field guns and one large AA gun located about 40034294. Enemy working parties observed. One patrol fired on by heavy Bredas, also LMGs and mortars. One OR wounded.	
TOBRUCH	14 May	0800	Under command 18 Aus Inf Bde. Spasmodic mortar fire and sniping during the day. Our wire further strengthened at night.	
TOBRUCH	15 May		Spasmodic arty fire outside Bn area.	

Comd.

9 Bn

Lt. Col.
A. I. F.

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References
TOBRUCH	15 May	1545	<p>One ATK 2-pdr gun was fired from our FDLs at a large enemy MG emplacement in area 401429 and razed it to the ground.</p> <p>During the afternoon recces were carried out for adjustment of Bn front in conformity with the Brigade plan.</p> <p>During the night 16 Pl D Coy occupied NIXONS POST and commenced developing position in the wall facing SOUTH. No 15 Pl, D Coy, dug in facing SOUTH along the ACROMA RD telephone wire between 40114301 and 40124301. 13 Pl C Coy went into defensive position with right flank on OLD 24 BNHQ and left flank 150 yds NW of right flank of 15 Pl. Owing to difficulties of co-ordinating our flank on the right with 10 Bn left flank, 13 Pl was unable to proceed with digging, and at daylight occupied 24 BnHQ. 10 Pl B Coy proceeded 150 yds WEST of BIANCA and found digging difficult owing to rock. This pl withdrew to its former position before daylight.</p> <p>The Bn now holds a general line from OLD 24 BnHQ (40074305) to NIXONS POST to BIANCA, while to the SOUTH of BIANCA the position is unchanged.</p>	<p><i>Operation Order no. 4 attached - Appendix "B"</i></p>
TOBRUCH	16 May	1415	<p>Some shelling in BIANCA area</p> <p>Approx 100 enemy seen filtering across Pt 209 towards EAST. Engaged by our arty. Two ATK guns firing on our right coy silenced by our arty and ATK Rifle fire. Some mortar shelling in vicinity of BIANCA, between 2020 and 2045 hrs.</p> <p>General line between NIXONS POST and OLD 24 BnHQ was advanced 150 yards from line established previous night. Carr Pl moved into reserve in area vacated by C Coy astride NORTH and SOUTH ACROMA RDS.</p> <p>4 OR wounded.</p>	
TOBRUCH	17 May		<p>Some enemy shelling and sniping. 1 killed and 4 wounded.</p>	

Comd 9 Bn

Lt. Col.
A. I. F.

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References
TOBRUCH	17 May	1400	B Coy mortar knocked out enemy MG sangar. Slight enemy MT movement SOUTH of OLD 24 BnHQ and SW of BIANCA. Line of NIXONS POST defences now consolidated. New post pushed 150 yards to SOUTH, one sec MGs dug in in the area and one 3" mortar in close support.	
TOBRUCH	18 May	1415	NIXONS POST reported approx 100 enemy moving from NORTH to SOUTH over escarpment in small parties. Arty FOO saw dust behind S6, possibly MT. Engaged by our arty, but results NOT known. Six troop carriers 1400 yds SOUTH of C Coy engaged by MG, Bren and rifle fire.	
		1430 - 1530	Some shelling in D and C Coys areas. Our snipers report possibly 6 enemy casualties. Lieut R.W. FORSTER and 2 OR wounded. Armd tp carriers flying Red Cross flag moving on our front. Wiring and strengthening of our positions continued. Left pl of A Coy relieved tonight by 13 Bn.	
TOBRUCH	19 May	1030 1500	Working party seen 800 yards WEST of OP at 40064300. Group of enemy approx 30 seen at point 40104295, dispersed by mortar fire. Pl. of A Coy relieved yesterday resting in reserve. Normal enemy digging and general movement heard during the night. A Coy moved left flank approx 150 yds WEST to conform with move by 13 Bn, and a firm junction made with right flank of 13 Bn. The whole of the Bn front is now wired, also considerable lengths of trip wire laid. Dummy trenches have been constructed on our line WEST of BIANCA, and listening posts established along the whole front at nights. Capt C.M. ARNOLD evacuated sick; 1 OR died of wounds; 2OR wounded.	
TOBRUCH	20 May		Slight shelling, but very little enemy movement, which limited our sniping activity. Enemy digging and MT movement reported by our patrols. 12 Pl B Coy relieved 10 Pl B Coy. 2 OR wounded.	Comd 9 Bn Lt. Col. A. I. F.

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References
TOBRUCH	21 May		Slight enemy sniping and some intermittent shelling and mortar fire. Usual movement and sound of working parties and MT along the front. One pl B Coy relieved one pl D Coy during the night 21/22. D Coy is now in reserve. Arty harassed enemy at irregular intervals during the night.	
TOBRUCH	22 May		Scattered shelling and some sniping by the enemy, but generally quiet. Usual nightly movement of MT and digging, and also pneumatic drill heard in the vicinity Pt 209 from 2215 to 2230 hrs. Our FDLs consolidated during the night, a number of alternative section posts being built, wire thickened and trip wire added.	
TOBRUCH	23 May		Severe dust storm. Practically NO activity along the front. We continued work on our defences during the day. Constant patrolling was carried out to prevent possible infiltration of small parties under cover of the dust. Enemy digging and drilling again heard at night. Our mortars fired on located targets. The following were distributed from 9 Bn Comforts Fund - 72 cans Beer 50 tins State Express cigarettes 14 pkts Biscuits 8 bottles pickles. 210 pkts Players The following were distributed from Australian Comforts Fund - 196 prs Sox 1300 sheets writing paper 250 tins Fruit 600 post cards 128 tins Potatoes 180 lead pencils 900 cakes soap 50 envelopes 5 packs playing cards	
TOBRUCH	24 May		Severe dust storm continues. No activity, save usual enemy digging and drilling at night. Our FDLs and wire strengthened. C Coy transferred right pl area to 10 Bn. Capt B.N. BERRY, MC, Lieut J.F.T. SPARKES and 34 OR from X List rejoined the Bn. Lieuts W.J. FULTON, Lieut. J.H. WOODROFFE, and 17 OR drafted from Reinforcements. One wounded GERMAN surrendered to A Coy at approx 0300 hrs.	

Comd

9 Bn

Lt. Col.
A. I. E.

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References
TOBRUCH	25 May		<p>Very little enemy activity during the day except some heavy shelling about BIANCA and NIXONS POST, and including ROAD from BIANCA to BnHQ. During the night, work was continued on enemy defensive area which is being consolidated with MG posts and deep trenches. B, C and D Coys re-organised on a three-platoon basis. Defensive areas re-allotted and positions taken up during the night. A, B and C Coys forward, D Coy in reserve astride NORTH and SOUTH ACROMA RDS, EAST of BIANCA. Carrier Pl in reserve NORTH of ACROMA RD.</p> <p>The forward companies consolidated their areas during the night. At present, some wire obstacles have been placed in front of the FDLs, and some trip wires round section posts. 2 OR killed Capt O.E.J. CONDON and 1 OR wounded.</p>	
TOBRUCH	26 May		<p>Active shelling of the Bn area, including BIANCA, and the ROAD between BIANCA and BnHQ. NIXONS POST shelled by four 88mm guns. Enemy working parties active on all located posts. Wiring and general strengthening of FDLs continued at night. 15 Bn working parties digging new blue line defences. Lieut J.F.T. SPARKES detached to 13 Fd Coy RAE for duty.</p>	
TOBRUCH	27 May		<p>Light shelling on BnHQ area and BIANCA, also on the ACROMA RD during the day. At 1935 hrs, BnHQ area was heavily shelled (80 shells in 5 Minutes). Occasional bursts of MG fire, no enemy digging SOUTH of NIXONS POST, but considerable digging to the WEST. Construction of section posts in our reserve company area by our troops, and also by working parties from 15 Bn. A Coy moved into reserve, being relieved by D Coy.</p>	<p><i>[Signature]</i> Comd 9 Bn Lt. C A. I. F.</p>

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References
TOBRUCH	28 May		<p>Some sniping by the enemy during the day, and our 2" and 3" mortars engaged an enemy section which was seen to enter the tank ditch about 40054295. Normal enemy night activity on the centre and on the right of our front.</p> <p>Wiring and general consolidation of our positions continued at night.</p> <p>For three days past, NO enemy activity has been observed in new areas, but during that time, consolidation of known positions has been continued. Lieut N.A. WORTHINGTON returned to duty.</p> <p>1 OR previously reported wounded died of wounds. 3 OR wounded, 1 OR injured.</p>	
TOBRUCH	29 May		<p>Generally quiet, with the exception of a few scattered MG bursts at night in front of the left coy. NO drilling was heard.</p> <p>Wiring and general consolidation continued at night without interruption. B Coy moved into reserve, relieved by A Coy</p> <p>1100 BnHQ area shelled.</p> <p>1400 Brig G.F. WOOTTEN, Comd 18 Aus Inf Bde, visited Bn. 1 OR killed accidentally, 2 OR wounded, 1 OR previously reported wounded died of wounds.</p>	
TOBRUCH	30 May		<p>Generally quiet throughout the day, except for some slight shelling. Heavy shelling before dusk. NO unusual activity at night.</p> <p>Wiring and improvement of our FDLs continued at night without interruption.</p> <p>Construction of new BnHQ in reserve coy area commenced.</p> <p>Lieut N.A. WORTHINGTON to special signal course at 9 Aus Div from 31 May to 6 Jun 41.</p> <p>Weather very hot.</p>	

Comd 9 Bn

Lt. Col,
A. I. F.

Place	Date	Time	Summary of Events	References
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TOBRUCH

31 May

Some shelling during the day and shortly before dusk, also some sniping.
 General normal movement by enemy working parties and MT at night.
 Our mortars active on newly located targets on our left front,
 Wiring and improvement of our FDLs continued at night.
 Two ZOLOTHURN ATk guns placed in position during the night.
 C Coy moved into the reserve area, relieved by B Coy.

57 OR reinforcements joined the Bn.

Note: A number of these reinforcements enlisted in QUEENSLAND in February and March 1941 and consequently have had little or no training before reaching the Bn.

1 OR killed, 3 OR wounded.

CO: Lt. Col. J. E. G. MARTIN.

2i/c: Major W. E. F. LUBKE

Adjt: Capt. C. C. F. BOURNE

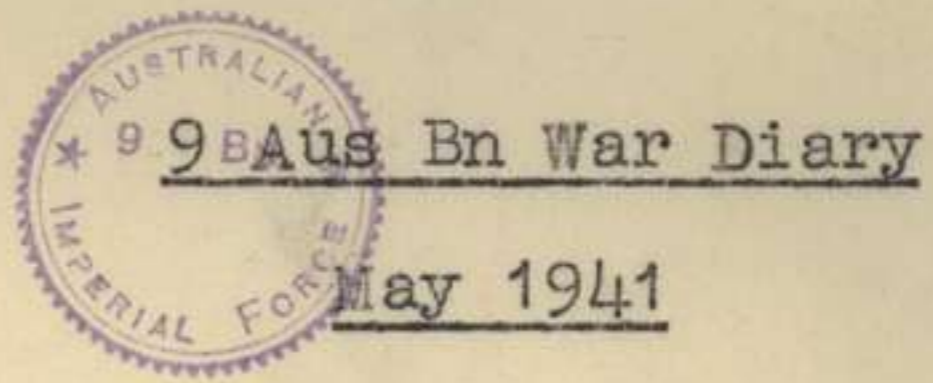
Strength on 31 May: 29 Officers, 547 Other Ranks

Comd

9 Bn

A. I. F.


Lt. Col.



List of Appendices

- "A" Notes on the operations of night 3/4 May, by Lt.Col. J.E.G. MARTIN.
- "B" 9 Bn. Operation Order No.4 of 15 May 41.
- "C" Copy of messages received from the Prime Minister of Australia and Maj.Gen BLAMEY.
- "D" General Remarks, by Major W.E.F. LUBKE.
- "E" Sketch shewing development of FDLs in the BIANCA area of the SALIENT.
- "F" Shelling map for the period 4 - 15 May 41.
- "G" Shelling map for the period 16-31 May 41.
- "H" Field Returns for May.

PJR


Comd 9 Bn Lt. Col.
A. I. F.

col.

War Diary

Report on 9 Bn Operation at TOBRUCH - Night 3/4 May 1940.

Appendix "A"
AUSTRALIAN * 9th BATTALION * IMPERIAL

Objective.

Posts R8 - R1.

Plan.

2 Phases.

1st Phase	Objectives	R8-7-6-5.
2nd Phase	"	R4-3-2-1.

Tps to carry out.

<u>1st Phase</u>	A on Rt	Objectives	Posts R8 "White House" R6.
	D on Left	"	Posts R7 - R5.
In Reserve	C on Rt,	B on Left.	
<u>2nd Phase</u>	C on Rt	Objectives	Posts R4 - R2.
	D on Left	"	Posts R3 - R1.

Start Line

R13-R14. Z. 2045 hrs.

In support.

Arty Group with timed concentrations on Posts, and flank barrage 400 yds North of Road R6 - R10.

Mortars. One det close support fwd coys.

M.Guns. In reserve.

Engrs. (a) In rear attacking coys to clear roads of mines.

(b) Establish dumps of wire and tools at predetermined points.

Lt. Tanks. In reserve at R14 for tasks at first light.

I. Tanks. Block at R12.

Bn HQ. R14 to R10 on capture 1st objectives - R6 on completion of attack.

Result of Operation.

The attack failed.

Post R8 was captured and held.

The garrison of R7 was destroyed.

Crews of 7 A.Tk guns were killed and the guns were damaged but not destroyed.

Four Lt Tanks CV3 were destroyed.

Our Casualties.

Lieut A.H. Marshall and 10 OR killed.
Lieut Salisbury and 56 OR wounded.
4 OR missing.

Casualties inflicted on enemy (independent of shell fire) possibly 200.

Description of Battle.

The unit moved to the S.L. on a compass bearing in open formation. Route PILASTRINO Pt. 157 (40574286) R14.

The area was shelled as Companies were leaving their defensive areas, causing some delay. The time allowed for the move after issue of final orders was also inadequate, and the unit reached the S.L. 35 minutes late. The arty programme was delayed 30 minutes when it was realised the unit was late and the other 5 minutes was taken up by not stopping on the S.L..

A very heavy barrage fell on the S.L. throughout the period the unit was crossing, and another heavy creeping barrage was met in the vicinity of Posts R9 and R10. This seemed to be well timed from the flanks.

These, coupled with the darkness, caused some confusion, and rear and fwd coys became somewhat intermingled.

On both flanks heavy M.G. fire came from positions - on the right - within the minefield, and on the left, outside the wire, as well as fire of Hy Mortars and A.T. guns firing HE along the road R6-R10.

Coys had planned objectives which each Pl must capture and "hold", but at the outset calculations on the right flank were upset when the left forward pl South of the road failed to find R8, which was actually attacked by the pl North of the Road. R8 is North of the Road, WHITE HOUSE South of the Road, and the A.T. guns expected at WHITE HOUSE were some 700 yds further West.

Post R8 was ~~not~~ occupied, but 200 yds further West a garrison was turned out of an entrenched position.

W.H. NOYES

Lieut ~~NIXON SMITH~~ with his Pl failed to find his objective R8, but going on located 7 A.T. guns (reported very like our 2-pdr). These he went round and shot up from behind, destroying by fire or bayonet a garrison of 80 on these guns and a Heavy Breda. The guns were damaged, but not destroyed. He then encountered 7 C.V.3 tanks. Three of these were set on fire by forcibly opening the turrets and dropping in Mills bombs, and then reclosing the lid. A little further on this party met 3 Lt Tanks and a Heavy Tank, and another Lt Tank was put out of action. A party of about 200 were manning trenches a little further West of the tanks. His party then made contact with the rest of his Coy, which failed to locate R6 and withdrew to reorganise having lost the arty programme. 13 prisoners were brought back

On the left flank Post R7 was apparently boxed in by arty and M.G. fire, but a determined attack by the remnants of one Pl gained the A.T ditch around the post. The garrison then ignited two blankets which brilliantly illuminated the area. This brought to their assistance a heavy tank and three arm'd cars which attacked them with M.Guns. The garrison was killed except for 2 prisoners, which were brought back under fire.

Post R7 was occupied by 4 47 mm guns and a Hy Breda.

The whole force, out of contact with HQ withdrew by degrees to Post R14, except for the garrison of R8.

Here coys and pls were resorted and reorganised, and B. and A. Coys were sent respectively to R7 and R8 to prepare attacks on R5 and R6, by creeping up to 400 yds, then putting down 4 minutes concentration, and rushing the posts.

This attack was estimated to commence at 0415 hrs, but at 0340 hrs the Bn was ordered to return, but to hold R8.

Enemy.

Attacking tps report enemy were mostly "Italians."


Casualties.

<u>Killed</u>	Lieut. A.H. Marshall and 10 ORs.
<u>Wounded</u>	Lieut. Salisbury and 56 ORs
<u>Missing</u>	4 ORs
<u>Total</u>	2 Offrs and 70 ORs.

Comments.

The following conclusions were reached as a result of this attack:-

1. Attacks on individual posts in this area - with little arty preparation - offer a greater chance of success than a heavy barrage and concerted attack on a timed programme. The enemy appeared to have a carefully prepared plan to meet such an attack.
2. Unless the tps actually know the ground, the darkness and confusion caused by shell fire and casualties to Offrs and NCOs make it extremely difficult for a night attack to follow arty concentrations. In this case tps were searching in the dark for posts that could easily be passed at 50 yds. In this case it was hoped that tracks and the perimeter would be adequate guides, but inaccuracies of the map and the indefinite location of "WHITE HOUSE" upset calculations very early.
On the left flank, the barrage (enemy) was the greatest hindrance.
3. At night time the hardest part of an offr's job is to keep control of his comd. In this case, some of our officers require much more experience yet, and are inclined to "lead" small attacks instead of controlling the whole force.
4. Communication from Bn HQ to coys without R.T. in these circumstances are of very little value. Only two R.T. sets (109) were available and broke down before transmitting a message. Efforts to secure other sets before the operation failed. 'I' Sec, DRs and LOs were used but the only really useful communications were from F.O.Os whose services were invaluable.
- (5) Heavy shell fire upset the morale of many men who had lost their leaders, but when collected at stragglers posts and reorganised quickly they were again effective fighting units.


 Lt-Col.
 Comd 9 Aus Bn.



*was signed
May 1941,
Appendix B.*

SECRET

9 Aus Bn Operation Order No.4

Copy No:

Ref Map: TOBRUCH 1/50000

15 May 41

- INFORMATION
1. Enemy holds posn in front of D Coy along general line 40004310 - 40064304 - 40094297.
 2. D Coy holds line 40144309 - 40124307 - 40144303 - 40144304 - 40154304.
- INTENTION
3. 9 Aus Bn will establish the line of the ACROMA RD to form a junc with 10 Aus Bn at OLD 24 BN HQ (40074305) on the right.
- METHOD
4. Two pls C Coy will hold the ACROMA RD from excl NIXONS POST 40134301 to excl 24 BN HQ 40074305.
 5. D Coy will occupy NIXONS POST and intermediate posts to link with B Coy on a general line of the TELEPHONE LINE and will establish a post on the fwd slopes in the vicinity of TWIN CAIRNS approx 40134302 to support C Coy.
 6. C Coy will send one sec to move with the pl of 10 Aus Bn which is occupying 24 BnHQ to establish a common post as a link between bns. The location of the post will be decided by Comds concerned. Force to be in 24 BnHQ by 2015 hrs.
 7. Main Body will commence the move at 2045 hrs.
 8. Forming up area C Coy will be in rear of D Coy posn in vicinity 40144305.
- ADMIN
8. Posts will be dug in, wired and sandbagged.
 9. Engr Stores - 3000 sandbags, 30 coils Dannert wire and pickets will be delivered to D Coy HQ and guided from there as required by C Coy, D Coy to arrange guides. Store trucks will RV at D Coy HQ at 2200 hrs. Picks and shovels will be carried on the man.
 10. Post Stores - Rations and water will be dumped and transported under arrangements by QM and TO to new posns as required by C Coy Comd.
- Intercomm
- 11; Sig O will arrange to run a telephone line from D Coy to new location of C Coy HQ.
 12. Coy Comds concerned will report to BnHQ when occupation of new areas is complete by the code word ARRIVED.

Signed at *1940* hrs

[Signature] Capt
Adj't 9 Aus Bn

DISTRIBUTION = by orderly

- | | |
|--------|-----------|
| C Coy | Sig O |
| D Coy | Comd |
| A Coy | 10 Aus Bn |
| B Coy | 13 Aus Bn |
| HQ Coy | File |
| QM | War Diary |
| TO | |

PJR

KEFA
[Handwritten initials]



In The Field.
7 May 41.

The following messages have been received by the G.O.C. TOBRUK PORT FORTRESS:-

1. From the Prime Minister of Australia.

"I have been watching with pride the magnificent performance of you all at TOBRUK. Against odds you are, I believe, putting up a fight which will live in our history and I am confident that you will win. I feel it a great honour to be not only your Prime Minister, but your friend. Please convey to all ranks the greetings and the thanks of AUSTRALIA. MENZIES."

2. From Lieut General Sir THOMAS BLANEY G.O.C. A.I.F. M.E.

"Prime Minister sends message to convey intense admiration for heroic efforts which will be immortal in history of our people. Personally believe your great showing will have decisive value. Stick to it."

These messages are to be promulgated to all ranks.

*1100 hrs
8 May.*

[Handwritten signature]
Brig.
(J.J. MURRAY).
Comd 20 Aust Inf Bde.
NP

Pass on to Corp.
[Handwritten signature]



Appendix: D

War Diary, MAY 1941

General Remarks:

When the Battalion took over the BIANCA sector of the SALIENT on the afternoon of 4 May 41, the FDLs were located as shewn on the attached sketch, Appendix "E", that is, a general NORTH-SOUTH line, EAST of BIANCA. The CO appreciated that, in order to hold our positions, it would be necessary to deny the enemy possession of BIANCA and the ground WEST of BIANCA, all of which overlooked our FDLs. It was therefore decided to push our positions forward, and this has been done progressively, step by step, until at present our dispositions are as shewn on the sketch, Appendix "E".

Possession of these positions enabled us to observe a great deal more of the enemy's movements than would otherwise have been possible. It has also enabled us to establish an OP well forward from which the Artillery FOO has been able to carry out observed shooting on occupied enemy positions with good effect, whereas formerly the FOO was unable to obtain satisfactory observation of those positions.

When these positions had been established up to 19 May 41, it was appreciated that NO further penetration on our part would be possible without a full scale attack. With the concurrence of the Bde Comd it was decided to consolidate the present FDLs, and these are being constantly strengthened and improved.

By close and active co-operation with 10 Bn on our right flank and 1 Pnr Bn on our left flank, who were later relieved by 13 Bn, these units have also been able to take up positions in advance of their original ones. A firm junction has been established with these two units on our flanks.

The enemy have been busy during all this time in constructing defensive positions within the SALIENT, and these are being strengthened nightly. He also has his positions strongly manned with automatic weapons, and snipers have been active. His machine gun positions, whenever located, have been effectively engaged by our 3" Mortars, while his working parties and MT movement at night are harassed by our mortars and artillery.

In these operations in the BIANCA area, ie, from 4 to 31 May, the following casualties occurred -

Killed 12 OR
Wounded 4 Officers 48 OR
Missing 2 OR.
Died of Wounds 4 OR (previously reported wounded)

[Signature]
Comd
21/5 9 Aus Bn

Major.

Lt. Col.

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

9 Am Bn. (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		2
Captains ...	4		4
Lieutenants ...	16		3
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...			1
TOTALS ...	22.		10.

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Lieut	<i>G. M. Arnold</i>	<i>9 Bn</i>	<i>8.5.41</i>	<i>Returned to duty.</i>
Lieut	<i>L. J. Francis</i>	<i>9 Bn</i>	<i>8.5.41</i>	<i>Returned to duty.</i>
Lieut	<i>H. B. Salisbury</i>	<i>9 Bn</i>	<i>9.5.41</i>	<i>Returned to duty.</i>

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Lieut	<i>A. H. Marshall</i>	<i>9 Bn</i>	<i>4.5.41</i>	<i>Killed in action.</i>
Lieut	<i>H. B. Salisbury</i>	<i>9 Bn</i>	<i>4.5.41</i>	<i>Evacuated wounded.</i>
Lieut	<i>D. G. J. Scott</i>	<i>9 Bn</i>	<i>6.5.41</i>	<i>Evacuated wounded.</i>
Lieut	<i>A. C. Road</i>	<i>9 Bn</i>	<i>6.5.41</i>	<i>Evacuated sick.</i>
Lieut	<i>R. A. Worthington</i>	<i>9 Bn</i>	<i>8.5.41</i>	<i>Evacuated sick.</i>

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

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



PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.
(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank, 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.
Lieut	QX6049	J. E. G. Hardin	9 Bn	Yes	C.O.
Major	QX6031	N. B. D. Lubke	9 Bn	Yes	21/c
Capt	QX6012	O. B. J. Gordon	9 Bn	Yes	OC, B Coy
Capt	QX6008	G. B. D. Bourne	9 Bn	Yes	Ady.
Capt	QX6030	F. E. G. Loxton	9 Bn	Yes	OC, D Coy.
Capt	QX6064	G. W. Fleming	9 Bn	Yes	OC, H Coy.
Lieut	QX6004	G. H. Arnold	9 Bn	Yes	21/c D Coy.
Lieut	QX6018	L. S. G. Evans	9 Bn	Yes	Rt Comd D Coy.
Lieut	QX6003	A. J. Anderson	9 Bn	Yes	Q.M.
Lieut	QX3611	L. J. Francis	9 Bn	Yes	Sig Off.
Lieut	QX6537	G. M. Roberts	9 Bn	Yes	OC, E Coy.
Lieut	QX3165	G. Barnes	9 Bn	Yes	OC, HQ Coy.
Lieut	QX3764	G. O. Tubbers	9 Bn	Yes	Rt Comd B Coy
Lieut	QX253	A. D. Nixon-Smith	9 Bn	Yes	Rt Comd D Coy
Lieut	QX1253	R. W. Forster	9 Bn	Yes	Rt Comd C Coy
Lieut	QX381	J. D. J. Sparkes	9 Bn	Yes	Spec course, CASRO
Lieut	QX6090	A. M. Benson	9 Bn	Yes	Rt Comd C Coy.
Lieut	QX254	W. H. Hayes	9 Bn	Yes	Rt Comd H Coy
Lieut	QX1003	H. B. G. Roberts	9 Bn	Yes	T.O.
Lieut	QX6130	W. P. Talwell	9 Bn	Yes	Rt Comd H Coy.
Lieut	QX1147	G. B. Parbury	9 Bn	Yes	Rt Comd C Coy.
Lieut	QX4387	G. B. Salisbury	9 Bn	Yes	Rt Comd H Coy.

(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	UX12	J. M. Hayes	same	17.8.40	Rt Comd
Chap.	NX70219	P. Reynolds	adcd	9.3.41	Padre
Major		A. W. McQueen	B.502	17.6.41	Welfare Off.

9 Aus Bn.
(Unit.)
10.5.41
(Date of Despatch.)

(Signature of Commander.)
R. A. S. B. B.
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

9 Aus Bn. (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		2
Captains ...	4		✓
Lieutenants ...	18		1
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...			1
TOTALS ...	24		8

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
<i>lieut</i>	<i>W. B. Lucas</i>	<i>9 Bn</i>	<i>10.5.41</i>	<i>} Returned to duty from Hospital</i>
<i>lieut</i>	<i>A. O. Hoard</i>	<i>9 Bn</i>	<i>12.5.41</i>	

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

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

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



PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank, 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.
lieut	QX 6049	J. B. Martin	9 Bn	yes	Co.
major	QX 6031	W. B. J. Moore	9 Bn	yes	2/c
Capt	QX 6012	O. B. J. Bondson	9 Bn	yes	OC B Coy.
Capt	QX 6008	G. B. D. Bourne	9 Bn	yes	Adx.
Capt.	QX 6030	G. B. G. Lockton	9 Bn	yes	OC D Coy.
Capt	QX 6064	G. W. Fleming	9 Bn	yes	OC A Coy.
lieut	QX 6007	G. M. Arnold	9 Bn	yes	2/c D Coy.
lieut	QX 6018	L. G. B. Evans	9 Bn	yes	Pl Comd D Coy
lieut	QX 6003	A. J. Anderson	9 Bn	yes	Q.M.
lieut	QX 3611	L. P. Francis	9 Bn	yes	Sig Off.
lieut	QX 6537	B. M. Howell	9 Bn	yes	OC C Coy.
lieut.	QX 3615	G. Barnes	9 Bn	yes	OC HQ Coy.
lieut	QX 2164	G. O. Luthers	9 Bn	yes	Pl Comd B Coy.
lieut	QX 253	A. D. McCon. Smith	9 Bn	yes	Pl Comd B Coy.
lieut	QX 1505	A. O. Hoad	9 Bn	yes	Pl Comd A Coy.
lieut	QX 2638	W. K. B. Isaacs	9 Bn	yes	S.O.
lieut	QX 1753	R. W. Zanker	9 Bn	yes	Pl Comd C Coy.
lieut	QX 381	J. P. J. Sparkes	9 Bn	no.	Bourse, C.M.R.O.
lieut	QX 6090	J. M. Benson	9 Bn	yes	Pl Comd C Coy.
lieut	QX 2574	W. H. Hoopes	9 Bn	yes	Pl Comd A Coy.
lieut	QX 1003	P. B. G. Roberts	9 Bn	yes	S.O.
lieut	QX 6130	W. P. Jamell	9 Bn	yes	Pl Comd HQ Coy.
lieut	QX 1147	G. B. Parbury	9 Bn	yes	Pl Comd C Coy.
lieut	QX 4387	H. B. Salisbury	9 Bn	yes	Pl Comd A Coy.

(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	VX 8304	A. H. McGregor	same	6.5.41	to R.M.O.
Capt	VX 70219	P. Reynolds	same	9.3.41	padre.
major		A. W. McQueen	B. Coy	17.6.40	welfare off.

9 ans Bn

(Unit.)

17 ans 41

(Date of Despatch.)

(Signature of Commander.)

18 ans Inf Bde

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

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

9 Am Bn (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		2
Captains ...	8		1
Lieutenants ...	16		3
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...			
TOTALS ...	26		6

* 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.
Capt	B. N. BERRY	9 Bn	24.5.41	From "X" Unit
Lieut	J. H. WOODROFFE	9 Bn	24.5.41	From Reinforcements
Lieut	W. J. FULTON	9 Bn	24.5.41	From Reinforcements
Lieut	K. R. WILKS	9 Bn	24.5.41	From Reinforcements

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Lieut	R. W. FORSTER	9 Bn	18.5.41	Evacuated wounded
Capt	C. M. ARNOLD	9 Bn	19.5.41	Evacuated sick

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).
Lieut	R. A. MARONEY	9 Bn	18 Am Inf Reg Bn



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	
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	QV6049	V.E.G. MARTIN	9 Bn	yes	CO.
Major	QV6031	N.E.F. LUBKE	9 Bn	yes	2/c
Capt	QV6012	O.E.J. CONDON	9 Bn	yes	OC B Coy
Capt	QV6047	B.N. BERRY	9 Bn	yes	OC A Coy
Capt	QV6008	E.C.F. BOURNE	9 Bn	yes	ADJ.
Capt	QV6030	F.E.C. LOXTON	9 Bn	yes	OC D Coy
Capt	QV6064	E.W. FLEMING	9 Bn	yes	2/c A Coy
Capt	QV6003	A.J. ANDERSON	9 Bn	yes	QM
Capt	QV6537	B.M. LOVETT	9 Bn	yes	OC C Coy
Capt	QV3615	E. BARNES	9 Bn	yes	OC HQ Coy
Lieut	QV6018	L.G.E. EVANS	9 Bn	yes	Pl Comd D Coy
Lieut	QV3611	K.T. FRANCIS	9 Bn	yes	Lieut O.
Lieut	QV3164	G.O. SUTHERS	9 Bn	yes	Pl Comd B Coy
Lieut	QV353	A.K. NIXON-SMITH	9 Bn	yes	Pl Comd B Coy
Lieut	QV1505	A.O. ITOAD	9 Bn	yes	Pl Comd A Coy
Lieut	QV3638	W.R.E. ISAACS	9 Bn	yes	J.O.
Lieut	QV381	V.F.T. SPARKES	9 Bn	yes	Pl Comd C Coy
Lieut	QV6090	A.M. BENSON	9 Bn	yes	Pl Comd A Coy
Lieut	QV354	W.H. NOYES	9 Bn	yes	T.O.
Lieut	QV1003	A.E.C. ROBERTS	9 Bn	yes	Pl Comd HQ Coy
Lieut	QV6130	W.P. TATNELL	9 Bn	yes	Pl Comd C Coy
Lieut	QV1147	E.B. PARBURY	9 Bn	yes	Pl Comd A Coy
Lieut	QV4387	H.E. SALISBURY	9 Bn	yes	Pl Comd B Coy
Lieut	QV354	J.H. WOODROFFE	9 Bn	yes	Pl Comd D Coy
Lieut	QV3622	W.J. FULTON	9 Bn	yes	Pl Comd D Coy
Lieut	QV4652	K.R. WILKS	9 Bn	yes	Pl Comd D Coy

(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	QV8304	A.H. MCGREGOR	same	6.5.41	Rho
Chap	NV70219	P. REYNOLDS	same	9.3.41	Padre
Major (Hon)		A.W. McILVEEN	B. 202.	7.6.40	Welfare off.

9 Aus Bn

(Unit.)

24 MAY 1941

(Date of Despatch.)

18 Aus Bn (Signature of Commander.)

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

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

Handwritten: 9 Am Bn. (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 ...			
Majors ...			2
Captains ...			2
Lieutenants ...			2
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...			
TOTALS ...			6

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Lieut.	N.A. NORTHINGTON	9 Bn	28.5.41	Returned to duty.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Capt.	O.E.J. CONDON	9 Bn	25.5.41	Evacuated wounded.

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	
Substantive Rank, and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Major	QX6049	J. E. G. MARTIN	9 Bn	Yes	CO
Major	QX6031	W. E. F. LURKE	9 Bn	Yes	S/C
Capt	QX6047	B. N. BERRY	9 Bn	Yes	OC A Coy
Capt	QX6008	C. C. F. BOURNE	9 Bn	Yes	Adj.
Capt	QX6030	F. E. C. LOXTON	9 Bn	Yes	OC, B Coy
Capt	QX6064	E. W. FLEMING	9 Bn	Yes	S/C, A Coy
Capt	QX6003	A. J. ANDERSON	9 Bn	Yes	D.M.
Capt	QX6537	B. M. LOVETT	9 Bn	Yes	OC, C Coy
Capt	QX3165	E. BARNES	9 Bn	Yes	OC, HQ Coy
Lieut	QX6018	L. G. C. EVANS	9 Bn	Yes	Pl. Comd D Coy
Lieut	QX3611	L. T. FRANCIS	9 Bn	Yes	Sig Off
Lieut	QX2164	G. O. SUTHERS	9 Bn	Yes	Pl. Comd B Coy
Lieut	QX2584	A. A. NIXON-SMITH	9 Bn	Yes	Pl. Comd B Coy
Lieut	QX1505	AD. HOAD	9 Bn	Yes	Pl. Comd B Coy
Lieut	QX3638	W. R. E. ISAACS	9 Bn	Yes	J.O.
Lieut	QX381	J. P. T. SARKIS	9 Bn	Yes	Det to 13 Fd Coy.
Lieut	QX6090	A. M. BENSON	9 Bn	Yes	Pl. Comd C Coy.
Lieut	QX354	W. H. NOYES	9 Bn	Yes	Pl. Comd B Coy.
Lieut	QX1003	P. C. G. ROBERTS	9 Bn	Yes	T.O.
Lieut	QX6130	W. P. TATNELL	9 Bn	Yes	Pl. Comd HQ Coy
Lieut	QX1147	C. B. PARBURY	9 Bn	Yes	Pl. Comd C Coy.
Lieut	QX259	N. A. WORTHINGTON	9 Bn	Yes	sig base, 9 Aus Div.
Lieut	QX4387	H. G. SALISBURY	9 Bn	Yes	Pl. Comd B Coy.
Lieut	QX654	J. H. WOODROFFE	9 Bn	Yes	Pl. Comd B Coy.
Lieut	QX3622	W. J. FULTON	9 Bn	Yes	Pl. Comd D Coy
Lieut	QX4652	K. R. WILLS	9 Bn	Yes	Pl. Comd D Coy.

(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	VX 8304	A. H. MCGREGOR	same	6.5.41	RMO
Chap	NY70219	P. REYNOLDS	same	9.3.41	Adm
Major (Hon)		R. W. McILVEEN	B. 702	17.6.40	Welfare Off.

9 Aus Bn

(Unit.)

31 MAY 1941

(Date of Despatch.)

(Signature of Commander.)

Comd 9 Bn
18 Aus Div
A. Bae

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

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

984 A.I.P. (Unit) 10 May 1941 (Date).

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

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
W.Os. Class I.	1		
W.Os. Class II.	5		1
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants	4		1
Staff Serjeants			
Serjeants	24		3
Corporals	39		22
Troopers, Privates, &c.	438		115
TOTALS	511	*	* 142

* 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.
DR 355 Sjt Bunnell	A.A.P.C.	Sjt	
DR 1015 Cpl Bell	ND	7th Div	
DR 476 Sjt Connors	NE	4 Field	
DR 3927 Cpl Campbell	AC		
DR 454 Pl Wilson	NE		

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).
DR 355	W.O.	L. Bunnell	A.A.P.C.	1st Lt

9 Bn A.I.F. 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 TO ESTABLISHMENT.							REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.							REMARKS.
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, &c.	
Bricklayers															
Butchers															
Carpenters and Joiners															
Clerks															
Despatch Riders															
Draughtsmen (topo)															
Drivers H.T. and/or I.C.															
Electricians															
Farriers															
Fitters															
Masons															
Painters and Decorators															
Plumbers and Gasfitters															
Saddlers and Harness Makers															
Signallers													6	6	
Storemen technical															
Vickers Machine Gunners															
Cooks															
General duty personnel										1	1	3	22	109	136
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)										1	1	3	22	115	142

9 Bn A.I.F.
Unit.
Date of Despatch 10 May 41
D.5459.

[Signature]
Signature of Commander.
Comdg. 2/9 Bn. A.I.F.
20
Bde., Divn., Area, &c., with which unit is serving.

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

7 Amos Bn (Unit) *17 May* 19 *41* (Date).

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

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
W.Os. Class I.	1		
W.Os. Class II.	5		1
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants	4		1
Staff Serjeants	1		
Serjeants	73		4
Corporals	42		19
Troopers, Privates, &c.	453		199
TOTALS	528	*	* 224

* 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>Ar 25 Lt. Bannister, I.S.</i>	<i>Q.A.P.C.</i>		
<i>Ar 1455 Sgt. Beale, A.C.</i>	<i>1st Am Bn Balaclava</i>		
<i>Ar 1498 Lt. Bannister, I.S.</i>			
<i>Ar 1499 Sgt. Campbell, A.C.</i>	<i>11 7th Am Bn</i>		
<i>Ar 1494 Sgt. Wilson, A.C.</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).

9 (Australia) Div 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 TO ESTABLISHMENT.							REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.						REMARKS.	
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Serjeants.	Corporals.		Troopers, Privates, &c.
Bricklayers															
Butchers															
Carpenters and Joiners															
Clerks															
Despatch Riders															
Draughtsmen (topo)															
Drivers H.T. and/or I.C.															
Electricians															
Farriers															
Fitters															
Masons															
Painters and Decorators															
Plumbers and Gasfitters															
Saddlers and Harness Makers															
Signallers														3	3
Storemen technical															
Vickers Machine Gunners															
Cooks															
General duty personnel											1	1	4	19	196
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)											1	1	4	19	196

9 (Australia) Div Unit. Lt. Col. *[Signature]* Commanding 2/9 Bn. *[Signature]* Signature of Commander.

Date of Despatch *17. August 1917* Bde., Divn., Area, &c., with which unit is serving.

D.8459.



FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

9 Arm Bn (Unit) 24. 5. 1941 (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 establishment).
W.Os. Class I.	1		-
W.Os. Class II.	4		2
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants	4		1
Staff Serjeants			
Serjeants	25		2
Corporals	44		17
Troopers, Privates, &c.	488		164
TOTALS	566	*	186.

* 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.
QX4396 Cpl CONNORS, M.E.	4 Ia Amb		
QX3927 Cpl CAMPBELL, A.C.			
QX4324 Pte WILSON, K.			
QX25 Lt BURNHEIM, T.T.	a APC		
QY6549 Pte BANISTER, W.J.	18 Aus Inf Bde		
QY1048 Cpl BEALE, N.D.	Postal Unit.		

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).

9 Aus Bn

Unit.



Army Form W. 3009 (page 2)

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

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.							REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.					REMARKS.		
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Serjeants.		Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, &c.
Bricklayers															
Butchers															
Carpenters and Joiners															
Clerks															
Despatch Riders															
Draughtsmen (topo)															
Drivers H.T. and/or I.C.															
Electricians															
Farriers															
Fitters															
Masons															
Painters and Decorators															
Plumbers and Gasfitters															
Saddlers and Harness Makers															
Signallers															
Storemen technical															
Vickers Machine Gunners															
Cooks															
General duty personnel										21	217	164		186	
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)										21	217	164		186	

9 Aus Bn

Unit.

Date of Despatch

24 MAY 1941

D.3458.

Lt. Col.

Signature of Commander.

18 Aus Inf Bde.

Bde., Divn., Area, &c., with which unit is serving.

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

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

H 992 *9 Bn AIF* (Unit) *31 May* 19 *41* (Date)

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

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
W.Os. Class I.	<i>1</i>		
W.Os. Class II.	<i>3</i>		<i>3</i>
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants	<i>4</i>		<i>1</i>
Staff Serjeants	<i>- minus 1</i>		
Serjeants	<i>minus 1</i>		<i>-</i>
Corporals	<i>53</i>		<i>8</i>
Troopers, Privates, &c.	<i>452</i>		<i>200</i>
TOTALS	<i>540</i>	*	<i>212</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>H396 Ox 4257 Lt. CONNORS, N.E.</i>	<i>4 7d Ambr</i>		
<i>Ox 3907 Cpl CAMPBELL, R.C.</i>			
<i>Ox 454 Pte WILSON, K.</i>			
<i>Ox 75 Lt. BURNHEIM, T.T.</i>	<i>2 ADC</i>		
<i>Ox 6549 Pte BANISTER, N.W.</i>	<i>18 Ambr Coy</i>		
<i>Ox 1048 Cpl. BEALE, N.D.</i>	<i>Postal Unit</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).

9 Ans Bn

Unit.



Army Form W. 3009
(page 2)

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

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.							REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.						REMARKS.	
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Serjeants.	Corporals.		Troopers, Privates, &c.
Bricklayers															
Butchers															
Carpenters and Joiners															
Clerks															
Despatch Riders															
Draughtsmen (topo)															
Drivers H.T. and/or I.C.															
Electricians															
Farriers															
Fitters															
Masons															
Painters and Decorators															
Plumbers and Gasfitters															
Saddlers and Harness Makers															
Signallers															
Storemen technical															
Vickers Machine Gunners															
Cooks															
<i>Mortar Details</i>														3	3
<i>Carrier Drivers</i>														2	2
General duty personnel									3	1	8	195			202
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)									3	1	8	200			212

9 Ans Bn

Unit.

Garbin

Lt. Col.

Signature of Commander.

Date of Despatch

1 JULY 1941

18 Ans Bn

D.3459.

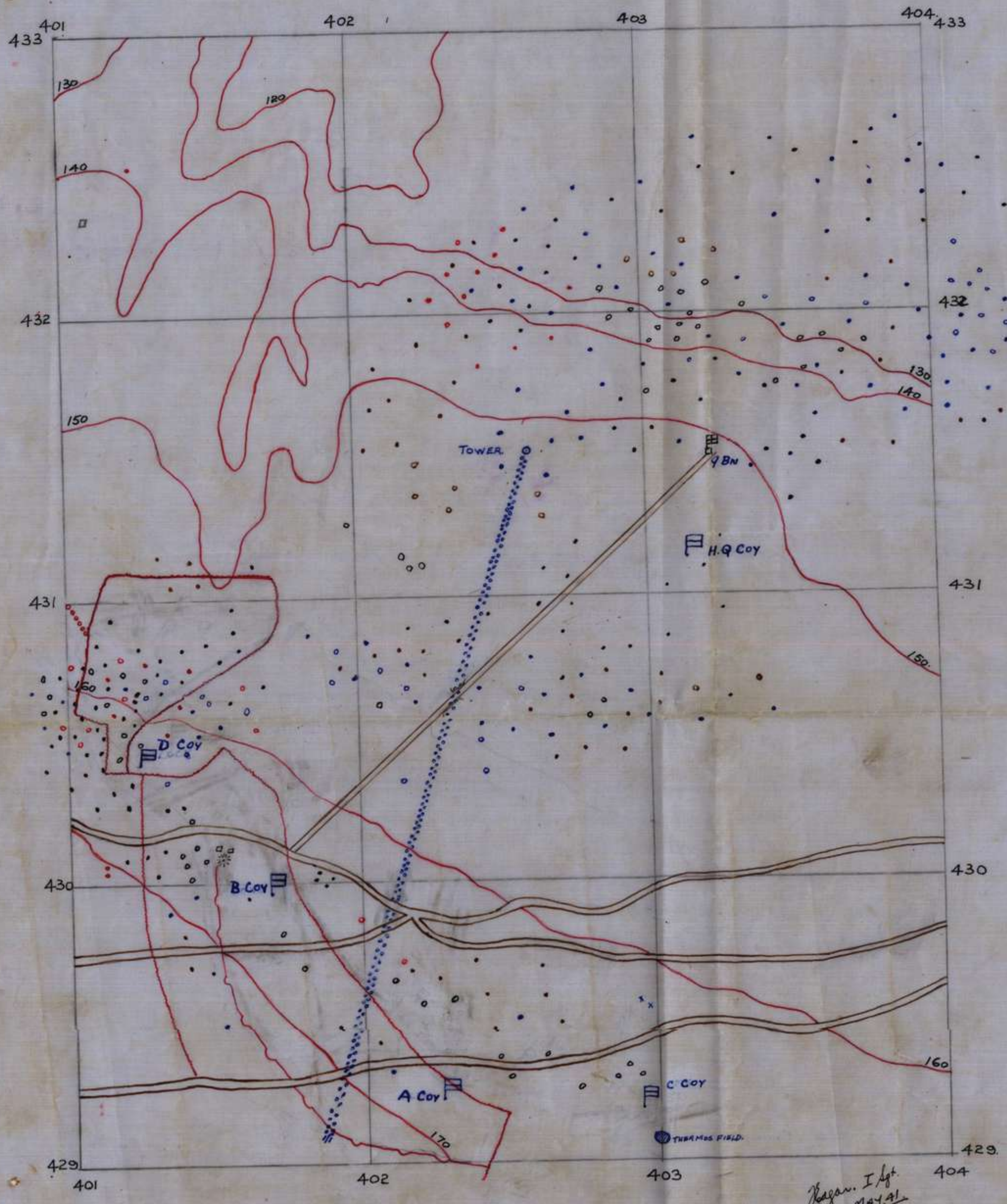
Bde., Divn., Area, &c., with which unit is serving.



APP. 'G'

9 BN SHELLING SKETCH.

ENLARGEMENT of TOBRUCH SHEET 1/50,000.



Kagan, I Sgt
MAY 41

SCALE 1/10,000

APP. E

9 BN. DEFENCES. 4 - 31 MAY 1941.

ENLARGEMENT of TOBRUCH SHEET 1/50,000



ENLARGED BY *W. J. Morgan I. Sgt.*
31.5.41.



APP "H"

Q-BN SHELLING SKETCH 16 MAY - 31 MAY

ENLARGEMENT OF TO BRUCH SHEET. 1/50,000.

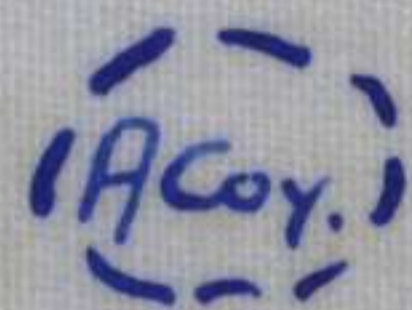


9 BN SHELLING SUMMARY.

DATE.	COLOUR.	No. of SHELLS.	CASUALTIES	OTHER DAMAGE.
MAY. 4	BLUE ○	30	1(W) Lock.	NIL.
5	BROWN ○	13	NIL.	NIL.
6	RED ○	10	NIL.	NIL.
7	BLACK ○	55.	1(W) B.H.Q.	NIL.
8	BLUE ●	90	NIL	NIL.
9	BROWN ○	60	NIL.	NIL
10	RED ●	18.	NIL.	NIL.
11	BLACK ●	104	NIL	NIL.
12	BLUE x	NIL	NIL	NIL
13		NIL	NIL	NIL
14		NIL	NIL	NIL.
15	BLUE. x	2	NIL	NIL.
TOTALS.		382.	2 WOUNDED	NIL.

LEGEND :-

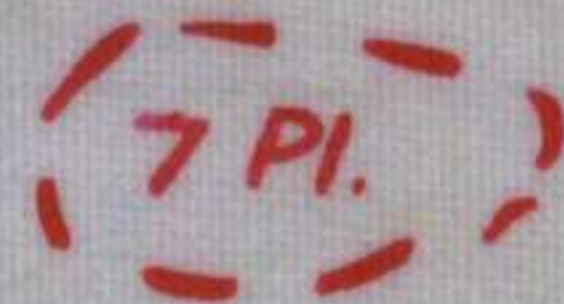
COY. POSNS. ON CHANGE OVER



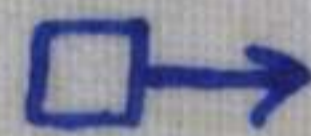
PRESENT COY. AREAS.



PLATOON AREAS.



ANTI-TANK GUNS.



9 BN SHELLING SKETCH. 16 MAY - 31 MAY

DATE.	No. of SHELLS.	Casualties.	Damage.
16 MAY BLACK o	22	NIL.	NIL.
18 " RED o	119	2 VETT 3 WOUNDED (MINE)	NIL.
19 " BROWN o.	64	1 (W) VETT	NIL.
20 " BLUE o	378	NIL.	NIL.
21 " BLACK o	153	NIL	Truck radiator punctured
22 " RED o	30	NIL	1 overcoat - 2 gas capes demolished
23 " BROWN o	113	NIL	NIL
24 " BLUE o	20	NIL	NIL
25 " BLACK o	8	NIL	NIL
26 " RED *	192	1 (W) XTON	NIL
27 " BROWN *	116	2 (W) British	NIL
28 " BLUE *	14	NIL	NIL
29 " BLACK *	90	1 (W) VETT	NIL
30 " RED *	192	1 (W) ATK Coy	NIL
31 " BROWN *	59	1 (K) 3 (W) NESS 1 (K) 2 (W) DONN 1 (W)	Post rations destroyed

1470

12 (W) 1 (K) 1 truck radiator punctured; 1 overcoat + 2 gas capes destroyed; 1 post rations destroyed.

Carried forward

382

2 (W)

TOTAL FOR MAY:

1852

14 (W) 1 (K)

2/9 AUST INF BN

TOBRUCH

JUN 41

OPERATIONS

BN IN
RESERVE

for greater portion of month. Exercises and
training. Tank hunting plns organized.

2/9 AUST INF BN

TOBRUCH

PERSONNEL

BN HONOURS

Granted after May operations, 1 M.C.,
1 D.C.M., 1 M.M.

2/9 AUST
INF BN
JUN 41.

JUL 22 1941

also see sub May 41, ack

WAR DIARY

9 AUST BN

Army Form C. 2118.

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

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

JUNE 1941

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TOBRUCH	1 Jun		<p>Battalion in position in BIANCA sector of SALIENT. Dispositions as shewn in May, War Diary.</p> <p>Some long range MG sniping on our right flank causing 2 casualties. Spasmodic shelling. Work continued on new Battalion Headquarters site.</p> <p>Generally increased enemy movement in the occupied tank obstacle in square 400429. Enemy artillery very active on our artillery positions.</p> <p>Lieut R.A. MALONEY and 60 ORs from X List returned to duty. Lieut C.W. KENDALL joined Battalion from Reinforcements.</p> <p>Casualties - Wounded, Lieut A.F. NIXON-SMITH, 1 OR.</p> <p>Weather very hot.</p>	
	2 Jun		<p>Generally quiet except for slight shelling during the day. Wiring and improvements to our own FDLs continued during the night. Concertinas added to trip wires around section posts. Some part of main belt of frontal wire thickened up, especially at junction with 10 Bn. Special splinter-proof pits for the two ZOLOTHURN 20 mm A/T guns were completed.</p> <p>Reinforcements joined Battalion -</p> <p>Lieut R.A. EMSON, Lieut K.A. HAMILTON and 34 OR.</p> <p>Lieut A.O. HOAD evacuated sick. Weather hot.</p>	
	3 Jun		<p>Quiet during the day except for slight shelling. Canteen stores £E 115.605 distributed free from 9 Bn Comforts Fund.</p> <p>Casualties - 1 OR wounded.</p>	
	4 Jun	2115	<p>Quiet during the day, nothing to report.</p> <p>Relief by 17 Bn commenced.</p> <p>Casualties, 1 OR wounded. Dust storm.</p>	
	5 Jun	0250 0300	<p>Relief by 17 Bn completed.</p> <p>Bn comes under command 20 Aust Inf Bde.</p> <p>Bn now in Divisional reserve in area EL ADEM - BARDIA Rd June -</p> <p>Refs; BnHQ - 41394262 A Coy 41384269 B Coy 41394259 C Coy 41324246 D Coy 41334309 (On AERODROME)</p>	<p><i>[Signature]</i></p> <p>Cmdt 9 Bn Lt. Col. A. I. F.</p> <p>HQ Coy - 41294269</p>

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

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.
(Erase heading not required).

9 AUST BN

Army Form C. 2118.

JUNE 1941

Sheet two

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
TOBRUCH	5 Jun	2030	Bn area shelled - 37 shells. Casualties, 1 OR killed. Dust storm.	
	6 Jun	0300	Battalion returns under comd 18 Aust Inf Bde. Lieut J.F.T. SPARKES, Lieut N.S. WORTHINGTON returned to duty with Bn. Lieut A.M. BENSON evacuated sick.	
	8 Jun		Six officers on recce outside perimeter <i>for projected operations.</i>	
	9 Jun	1500	Three officers on recce outside perimeter. D Company relieved by A Company on AERODROME, D Company moves into A Company area at 41384269.	
	10 Jun	1630	Three officers on recce outside perimeter. Shelling on Bn area. Canteen stores £E 56.19 00 distributed free from 9 Bn Comforts Fund. Lieut J.H. WOODROFFE evacuated injured.	
	11 Jun		Dust storm.	
	13 Jun		Lieut A.M. BENSON returned to duty.	
	14 Jun		Lieut J. PATERSON, Lieut A.F.J.N. WHITE (Reinforcement Officers) joined unit. Lieut W.P. TATNELL transferred to "X" List. Canteen Stores £E 30.420 distributed free from 9 Bn Comforts Fund.	
	15 Jun	0900	Bn comes to one hour's notice for operations outside the perimeter.	
	18 Jun	1600	Operation Order No.12 suspended. Bn stands down from one hours notice. Dust storm.	
	19 Jun	1500	B Company relieves A Coy on the AERODROME. A Company moves into B Company area. Dust storm.	
	20 Jun		32 Reinforcements joined Battalion - 15 from Reinforcements, 17 from "X" List. Dust storm.	

[Signature] Lt. Col.
A.I.F.



GENERAL REMARKS FOR JUNE

After coming out of the line at BIANCA on the night 4/5 June the Battalion remained in Divisional reserve until the end of the month.

During this time preparations were put in hand for the proposed operation outside the perimeter. This included, inter alia, the attendance by the Commanding Officer of conferences at Brigade and Divisional Headquarters as well as numerous conferences at Battalion Headquarters of Company Commanders and officers representing the supporting arms and services. In addition, all officers carried out reccees of routes, minefields, assembly area etc., and companies carried out trial packing of vehicles and embussing and debussing.

When this operation was postponed, companies re-commenced individual training, particular attention being given to the training of recently joined Reinforcements, many of whom had received only about three to four weeks training before joining the unit. In addition to this, companies carried out a programme of digging and improving the defences of their own areas. This work was done under the supervision of the Battalion Works Officer (Lieut K.A. HAMILTON).

Towards the end of the month an exercise in conjunction with I tanks was carried out. This was preceded by a "full dress" rehearsal of the same exercise. The exercise was of considerable value to all officers in demonstrating and bringing out the lessons of co-operation with I tanks.

Construction of a thirty-yard range was commenced on 29 June, but this had not been completed at the time of writing.

In accordance with instructions from Brigade Headquarters, a Tank Hunting Platoon was formed, with Lieut W.H. NOYES as Pl Comd. The platoon, which has been temporarily placed under Headquarters Company, proceeded immediately with training, which included weapon training, PT, embussing and debussing, map reading and use of compass, lectures.

Following the counter-attack by this Battalion on the perimeter on the night 3/4 May 1941, recommendations were submitted for immediate awards in recognition of their gallantry in the above-mentioned operation in respect of one officer and two other ranks. These awards have been granted and are as follows -

- | | | |
|-----------------------|--------|--------|
| Lieut W.H. NOYES | QX 254 | M.C. |
| QX 1399 A/Sjt HOBSON, | R.W. | D.C.M. |
| QX 4141 A/Cpl McGROW, | G.S. | M.M. |



-2-

Full advantage was taken of the opportunity afforded by the Battalion being in reserve to send troops for a swim, and each day, with the exception of the period that the Battalion was standing to at one hour's notice, one company went to the beach at WADI SCIAUSC.

Lt.Col.

Comd. 9 Aust Bn

WEFL

PJR

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

9 Am Bn (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		2
Captains ...	7		2
Lieutenants ...	18		1
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...			
TOTALS ...	29		5

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Lieut	R. A. MALONEY	9 Bn	1.6.41	Returned to unit. Dropped from Reinforcements.
Lieut	E. W. KENDALL	9 Bn	1.6.41	
Lieut	K. M. HAMILTON	9 Bn	2.6.41	
Lieut	R. A. EMSON	9 Bn	2.6.41	

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Lieut	A. F. NIXON-SMITH	9 Bn	1.6.41	Evacuated wounded
Lieut	R. D. HOAD	9 Bn	5.6.41	Evacuated sick
Lieut	A. M. BENSON	9 Bn	6.6.41	Evacuated sick.

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	QV6049	J. E. G. MARTIN	9 Bn	Yes	Co.
Lieut	QV6031	W. E. F. LUBKE	9 Bn	Yes	21/e
Capt	QV6047	B. N. BERRY	9 Bn	Yes	OC of Coy.
Capt	QV6008	C. E. F. DOORNE	9 Bn	Yes	Adjt.
Capt	QV6030	F. E. C. LOXTON	9 Bn	Yes	OC of Coy.
Capt	QV6064	E. W. FLEMING	9 Bn	Yes	OC of Coy.
Capt	QV6003	D. J. ANDERSON	9 Bn	Yes	Q.M.
Capt	QV6537	B. M. LOVETT	9 Bn	Yes	OC, C Coy.
Capt	QX3165	E. BARNES	9 Bn	Yes	OC, HQ Coy.
Lieut	QV6018	L. G. C. EVANS	9 Bn	Yes	Pl Comd of Coy.
Lieut	QX3611	L. T. FRANCIS	9 Bn	Yes	Sig Off.
Lieut	QX2764	G. O. SUTHERS	9 Bn	Yes	Pl Comd of Coy.
Lieut	QX2638	W. R. E. ISAACS	9 Bn	Yes	S.O.
Lieut	NX11009	R. A. MALONEY	9 Bn	Yes	21/e of Coy.
Lieut	QX381	J. F. T. SPARKES	9 Bn	Yes	Pl Comd
Lieut	QX254	W. H. MOYES	9 Bn	Yes	Pl Comd of Coy.
Lieut	QX1003	D. C. C. ROBERTS	9 Bn	Yes	S.O.
Lieut	QX6130	W. P. TATNELL	9 Bn	Yes	Unposted.
Lieut	QX1147	C. B. PARBURY	9 Bn	Yes	Pl Comd of Coy.
Lieut	QV259	N. A. WORTHINGTON	9 Bn	Yes	Asst. Sig Off.
Lieut	QV4387	H. C. SALISBURY	9 Bn	Yes	Pl Comd of Coy.
Lieut	QX654	J. H. WOODROFFE	9 Bn	Yes	Pl Comd of Coy.
Lieut	QV3622	W. J. FULTON	9 Bn	Yes	Pl Comd of Coy.
Lieut	QV4652	K. R. WILKS	9 Bn	Yes	Pl Comd of Coy.
Lieut	QX6134	E. W. KENDALL	9 Bn	Yes	Pl Comd of Coy.
Lieut	QV4862	K. A. HAMILTON	9 Bn	Yes	OC, AA Pl
Lieut	QX3550	R. A. EMSON	9 Bn	Yes	Pl Comd of Coy.

(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.	VX8304	A. H. MCGREGOR	QAMC	6.5.41	Rmo.
Chap	NX70219	P. REYNOLDS	QACHD	9.3.41	Paire.
Major (Hon)		A. W. McILVEEN	B. 202	17.6.40	Welfare off.

9 Aus Bn.

(Unit.)

7 June 41

(Date of Despatch.)

(Signature of Commander.) Lt Col. A. F. Bae

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

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

9 Aus. Inv. (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		2
Captains ...	7		2
Lieutenants ...	} 19		
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...			
TOTALS ...	28		4

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Lieut	A.M. BENSON	9 Inv.	13-6-41	Returned to Unit.
Lieut	J. PATERSON	9 Inv.	14-6-41	} Drafted to Unit from reinforcements.
Lieut	A.F.J.N. WHITE	9 Inv.	14-6-41	

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Lieut	J.A. WOODROFFE	9 Inv.	10-6-41	Evacuated injured.
Lieut	W.P. TATNELL	9 Inv.	14-6-41	Transferred to "X" List.

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.	Q.X. 6049	J.E.G. MARTIN	9th Div	Yes	l/c.
Major	Q.X. 6031	W.E.F. LUBKE	9th Div	Yes	2/c
Capt.	Q.X. 6047	B.N. BERRY	9th Div	Yes	o/c B Coy
Capt.	Q.X. 6008	G.C.F. BOURNE	9th Div	Yes	Adj. G.
Capt.	Q.X. 6030	F.E.C. LOXTON	9th Div	Yes	o/c D Coy
Capt.	Q.X. 6064	E.W. FLEMING	9th Div	Yes	o/c A Coy
Capt.	Q.X. 6003	A.T. ANDERSON	9th Div	Yes	Q.M.
Capt.	Q.X. 6537	B.M. LOVETT	9th Div	Yes	o/c C Coy
Capt.	Q.X. 3165	E. BARNES	9th Div	Yes	o/c H/A Coy
Lieut.	Q.X. 6018	L.G.C. EVANS	9th Div	Yes	Pl. Comd. B Coy
Lieut.	Q.X. 3611	L.T. FRANCIS	9th Div	Yes	Adj. G.
Lieut.	Q.X. 2164	G.O. SUTHERS	9th Div	Yes	Pl. Comd. B Coy
Lieut.	Q.X. 2638	W.R.F. ISAACS	9th Div	Yes	J.O.
Lieut.	N.X. 11009	R.A. MALONEY	9th Div	Yes	2/c D Coy
Lieut.	Q.X. 381	J.F.T. SPARKES	9th Div	Yes	Pl. Comd. C Coy
Lieut.	Q.X. 6090	A.M. BENSON	9th Div	Yes	Pl. Comd. A Coy
Lieut.	Q.X. 254	W.H. NOYES	9th Div	Yes	T.O.
Lieut.	Q.X. 1003	P.C.G. ROBERTS	9th Div	Yes	Pl. Comd. C Coy
Lieut.	Q.X. 447	G.B. PARBURY	9th Div	Yes	Asst. Adj. G.
Lieut.	Q.X. 259	N.A. WORTHINGTON	9th Div	Yes	Pl. Comd. A Coy
Lieut.	Q.X. 4378	H.C. SALISBURY	9th Div	Yes	Pl. Comd. A Coy
Lieut.	Q.X. 3622	W.J. FULTON	9th Div	Yes	Pl. Comd. D Coy
Lieut.	Q.X. 4652	K.R. WILKS	9th Div	Yes	Pl. Comd. B Coy
Lieut.	Q.X. 6134	C.W. KENDALL	9th Div	Yes	o/c A.A. Pl.
Lieut.	Q.X. 4862	K.H. HAMILTON	9th Div	Yes	Pl. Comd. C Coy
Lieut.	Q.X. 3550	R.A. EMSON	9th Div	Yes	Pl. Comd. B Coy
Lieut.	Q.X. 1254	J. PATERSON	9th Div	Yes	o/c H/A Pl.
Lieut.	Q.X. 4878	A.E.M. WHITE	9th Div	Yes	

(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	VX. 8304	A.H. MCGREGOR	A.A. M.C.	6-5-41	R.M.O.
Chap.	N.X. 70219	P. REYNOLDS	A.A. Ch. 40.	9-3-41	Parade
Major (Hon)		A.W. McILVEEN	B 302	17-6-40	Welfare Off.

9 Aus. Div.
(Unit.)

14 June 41.
(Date of Despatch.)

(Signature of Commander.)

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

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

9 Amst Bn (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		2
Captains	7		2
Lieutenants	19		
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
TOTALS	28.		4

* 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	QX6049	J. E. C. MARTIN	9 Bn	yes	CO.
Major	QX6031	W. E. F. LURKE.	9 Bn	yes	21/9
Capt	QX6047	B. N. BERRY	9 Bn	yes	OC B Coy
Capt	QX6008	C. C. F. BOURNE.	9 Bn	yes	dayt.
Capt	QX6030	F. E. C. LOXTON	9 Bn	yes	OC B Coy
Capt	QX6064	E. W. FLEMING	9 Bn	yes	OC, A Coy
Capt	QX6003	A. J. ANDERSON	9 Bn	yes	QM
Capt	QX6587	B. M. LOVETT	9 Bn	yes	OC C Coy.
Capt	QX3615	E. BARNES	9 Bn	yes	OC HQ Coy
lieut	QX6018	L. G. C. EVANS	9 Bn	yes	Pl Comd B Coy
lieut	QX3611	L. T. FRANCIS	9 Bn	yes	sig off.
lieut	QX2164	G. O. SUTHERS	9 Bn	yes.	Pl Comd B Coy.
lieut	QX2638	W. R. E. ISAACS	9 Bn	yes	I.O.
lieut	NX11009	R. A. MALONEY	9 Bn	yes	X wife B Coy.
lieut	QX361	J. F. T. SPARKES	9 Bn	yes	sig off.
lieut	QX6090	A. M. BENSON	9 Bn	yes	Pl Comd C Coy.
lieut	QX254	W. H. NOYES	9 Bn	yes	Pl Comd A Coy.
lieut	QX1003	P. C. G. ROBERTS	9 Bn	yes	T.O.
lieut	QX1147	C. B. PARBURY	9 Bn	yes.	Pl Comd C Coy.
lieut	QX259	N. A. WORTHINGTON	9 Bn	yes	asst. sig off.
lieut	QX4387	H. C. SALISBURY	9 Bn	yes	Pl Comd B Coy.
lieut	QX3622	W. J. FULTON	9 Bn	yes.	Pl Comd A Coy.
lieut	QX4652	K. R. WILLS	9 Bn	yes	Pl Comd B Coy.
lieut	QX6134	C. W. KENDALL	9 Bn	yes	Pl Comd B Coy.
lieut	QX4862	K. A. HAMILTON	9 Bn	yes	H.A. off.
lieut	QX3550	R. A. EMSON	9 Bn	yes	Pl Comd C Coy.
lieut	QX1054	V. PATERSON	9 Bn	yes	Pl Comd B Coy.
lieut	QX4898	A. F. J. H. WHITE	9 Bn	yes	mess off.

(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.	VX8304	A. H. McCREGOR	NAME	6.5.41	RMO.
Chap.	NX70219	P. REYNOLDS	NACLD	9.3.41	Padre.
Major (hon)		A. W. McILVEEN	B. 202	17.6.40	Welfare off.

G Aust Bn.
(Unit.)

21.6.41.
(Date of Despatch.)

(Signature of Commander.)

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

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

9 Aust Bn. (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		2
Captains ...	7		2
Lieutenants ...	} 19		
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...			
TOTALS ...	28		4.

* 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).
<i>Lieut</i>	<i>R.W. FORSTER.</i>	<i>9 Bn</i>	

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	QV6049	V. E. G. MARTIN	9 Bn	yes	CO.
Major	QV6031	W. E. F. LUSKE.	9 Bn	yes	S/C
Capt	QX6047	B. N. BERRY	9 Bn	yes	OC, B Coy.
Capt	QX6508	B. C. F. BOURNE.	9 Bn	yes	adpt.
Capt	QX6030	F. E. C. LOXTON	9 Bn	yes	OC, D Coy.
Capt	QX6064	E. W. FLEMING.	9 Bn	yes	OC, A Coy.
Capt	QX6003	A. J. ANDERSON	9 Bn	yes	Q.M.
Capt	QX6537	B. M. LOVETT	9 Bn	yes	OC C Coy
Capt	QX3615	E. BARNES	9 Bn	yes	OC HQ Coy.
Lieut	QX6018	L. G. C. EVANS	9 Bn	yes	PL Comd D Coy.
Lieut	QX3611	L. T. FRANCIS	9 Bn	yes	Sig Off.
Lieut	QX3164	G. O. SUTHERS	9 Bn	yes	PL Comd B Coy.
Lieut	QX3638	N. R. E. ISAACS	9 Bn	yes	10. S/C
Lieut	NY11009	R. A. MALONEY	9 Bn	yes	Subst D Coy.
Lieut	QX381	J. F. T. SPARKES	9 Bn	yes	OC Am PL.
Lieut	QX6090	AM. BENSON	9 Bn	yes	PL Comd C Coy.
Lieut	QX354	W. H. NOYES	9 Bn	yes	OC T/H PL.
Lieut	QX1003	P. C. G. ROBERTS	9 Bn	yes	T.O.
Lieut	QX1147	L. B. PARBURY	9 Bn	yes	PL Comd C Coy.
Lieut	QX259	H. A. WORTHINGTON	9 Bn	yes	Asst Sig Off.
Lieut	QX4387	H. C. SALISBURY.	9 Bn	yes	PL Comd B Coy.
Lieut	QX3622	W. J. FULTON	9 Bn	yes	PL Comd A Coy.
Lieut	QX4652	K. R. WILKS	9 Bn	yes	PL Comd D Coy.
Lieut	QV6134	C. W. KENDALL	9 Bn	yes	PL Comd B Coy.
Lieut	QX4862	K. A. HAMILTON	9 Bn	yes	OC AA PL.
Lieut	QX3550	R. A. EMSON	9 Bn	yes	PL Comd C Coy.
Lieut	QX1254	V. PATERSON	9 Bn	yes	PL Comd B Coy.
Lieut	QX4878	A. F. J. N. WHITE	9 Bn	yes	OC HQ PL.

(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	NY8301	AM. MCGREGOR	same	6.5.41	R.M.O.
Chap.	MX70219	P. ROYNOLDS	same	9.3.41	Parade.
Major (Hon)		AW. MCILIBEN	B. 202	17.6.40	helping off.

9 and Bn
(Unit.)
28.6.41
(Date of Despatch.)

18 and Sig Bde.
(Signature of Commander.)
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

9 Ans Bn.

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 TO ESTABLISHMENT.							REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.					REMARKS.		
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Serjeants.		Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, &c.
Bricklayers															
Butchers															
Carpenters and Joiners															
Clerks															
Despatch Riders															
Draughtsmen (topo)															
Drivers H.T. and/or I.C.															
Electricians															
Farriers															
Fitters															
Masons															
Painters and Decorators															
Plumbers and Gasfitters															
Saddlers and Harness Makers															
Signallers															
Storemen technical															
Vickers Machine Gunners															
Cooks															
<i>Drivers 1st Class (Carriers).</i>														<i>3</i>	<i>3</i>
General duty personnel										<i>3</i>		<i>5</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>114</i>	<i>137</i>
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)										<i>3</i>		<i>5</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>117</i>	<i>140</i>

9 Ans Bn.
Unit.

9 Bn Lt. Col.
Signature of Commander.
18 Ans Bde.

Date of Despatch *7.6.41*
D.3459.

Bde., Divn., Area, &c., with which unit is serving.

9 Aus. Br. 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 TO ESTABLISHMENT.							REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.							REMARKS.	
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, &c.		TOTAL.
Bricklayers																
Butchers																
Carpenters and Joiners																
Clerks																
Despatch Riders																
Draughtsmen (topo)																
Drivers H.T. and/or I.C.																
Electricians																
Farriers																
Fitters																
Masons																
Painters and Decorators																
Plumbers and Gasfitters																
Saddlers and Harness Makers																
Signallers																
Storemen technical																
Vickers Machine Gunners																
Cooks																
General duty personnel																
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)																

9 Aus. Br.
Unit.

Date of Despatch *14 June 41.*

[Signature]
Signature of Commander.

18 Aus. Inf. Bde.
Bde., Divn., Area, &c., with which unit is serving.

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

9 Aust Bn (Unit) 28. 6. 1941 (Date).

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

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1		
W.Os. Class II.	5		1
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants	5		
Staff Serjeants			
Serjeants	20		7
Corporals	54		7
Troopers, Privates, &c.	551		101
TOTALS	636	*	116

* 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.
QX4398 Lt J. CONNORS, N.E.	4th Amd.	NX10037 Lt J. FRENCH, W.O.	A.A.D.C.
QX3927 Cpl CAMPBELL, A.C.		QX465 Lt J. GREER, S.A.	
QX454 APl NIKSON, K.		QX3557 APl CORRIGAN, K.	
QX6557 APl BANISTER, W.L.	4th, 18 Ampty Bde	QX515 APl ROYLE, A.C.	
QX1048 Cpl BEALE, M.D.	7th Aust Div Postal Unit		
QX25 Lt J. BORNHEIM, J.S.	A.A.P.C.		

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

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

9 Aust Bn

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 TO ESTABLISHMENT.							REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.							REMARKS.
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, &c.	
Bricklayers															
Butchers															
Carpenters and Joiners															
Clerks															
Despatch Riders															
Draughtsmen (topo)															
Drivers H.T. and/or I.C.															
Electricians															
Farriers															
Fitters															
Masons															
Painters and Decorators															
Plumbers and Gasfitters															
Saddlers and Harness Makers															
Signallers															
Storemen technical															
Vickers Machine Gunners															
Cooks															
General duty personnel									1		77	101		116	
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)									1		77	101		116	

9 Aust Bn

Unit.

Date of Despatch

30.6.41

[Signature]

Signature of Commander.

18 Aust Coy Bde.

Bde., Divn., Area, &c., with which unit is serving.

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

9 Aust Bn (Unit) 21. 6. 19 41 (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.	5		1
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants	5		-
Staff Serjeants	-		
Serjeants	20.		7
Corporals	48		13
Troopers, Privates, &c.	558		94
TOTALS	637.	.	115

* 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.
QX1398 S/L Connors, N.B.	4 7th Amb.	MX10037 S/L French W.O.	A.A.P.C.
QX3907 Cpl Campbell, A.C.		QX1165 S/L Green S.A.	
QX454 Pte Wilson, K.		QX3559 Pte Bourdoin, K.	
QX6549 Pte Banister W.F.	18th Aust Inf Bde	QX515 Pte Royle, A.C.	
QX25 S/L Bunnheim, J.F.	A.A.P.C.		
QX1048 Cpl Beale, N.D.	7th Aust Div Postal Unit		

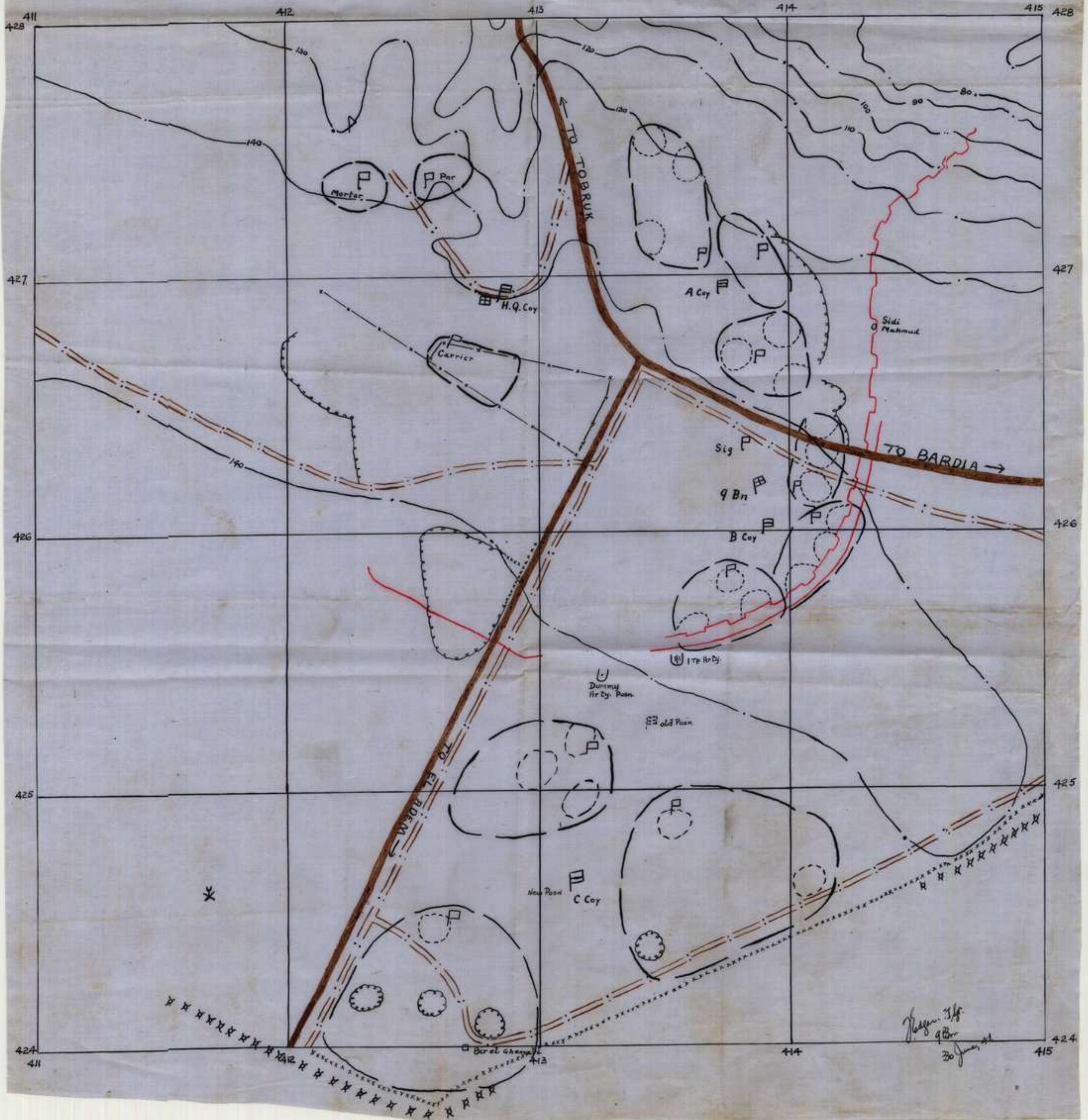
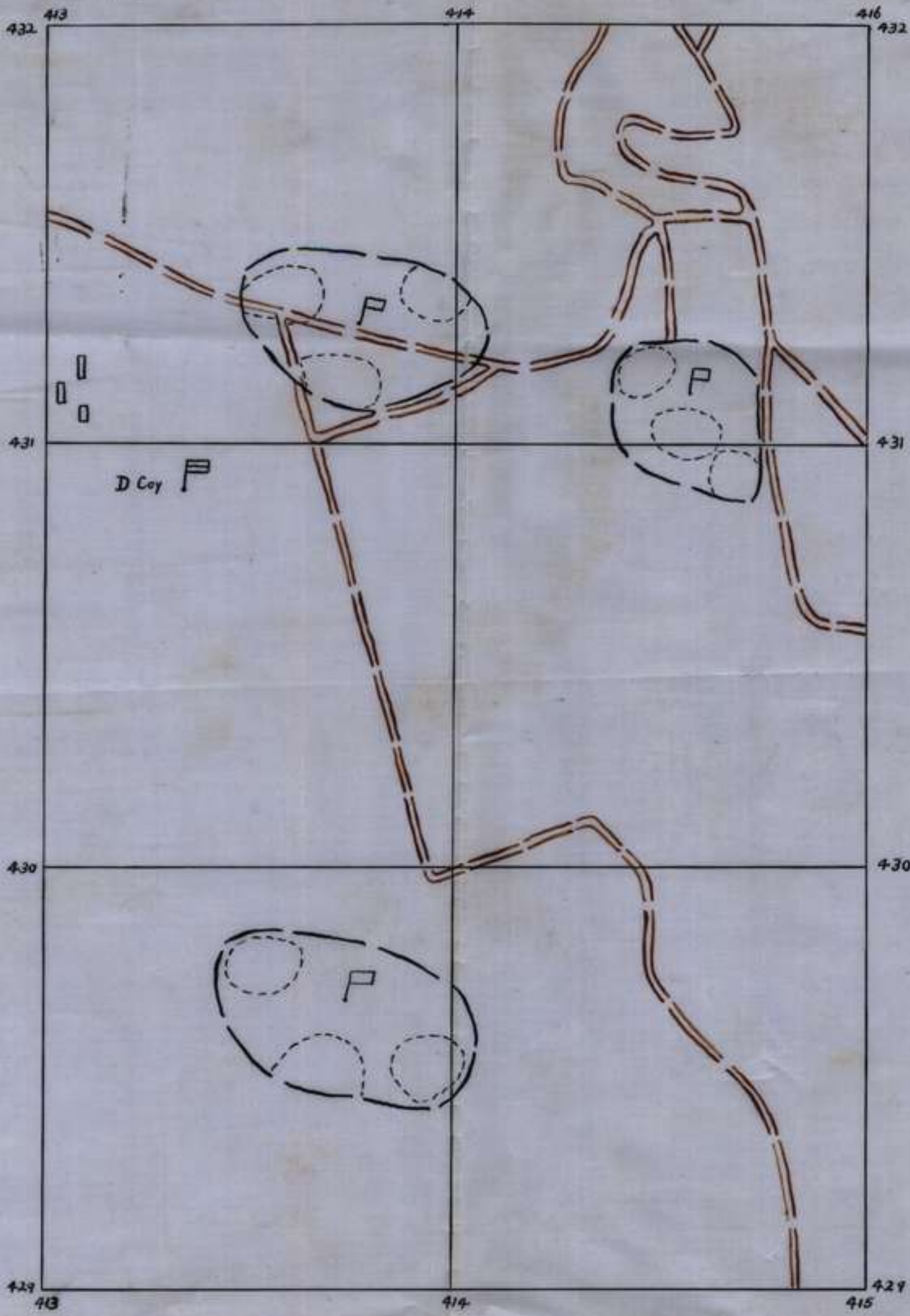
Part C. Description of other ranks whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

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

SCALE 1/10,000.

9 BN AREA. - 5-30 JUNE 41.

ENLARGEMENT of TOBRUCH SHEET 1/50,000.

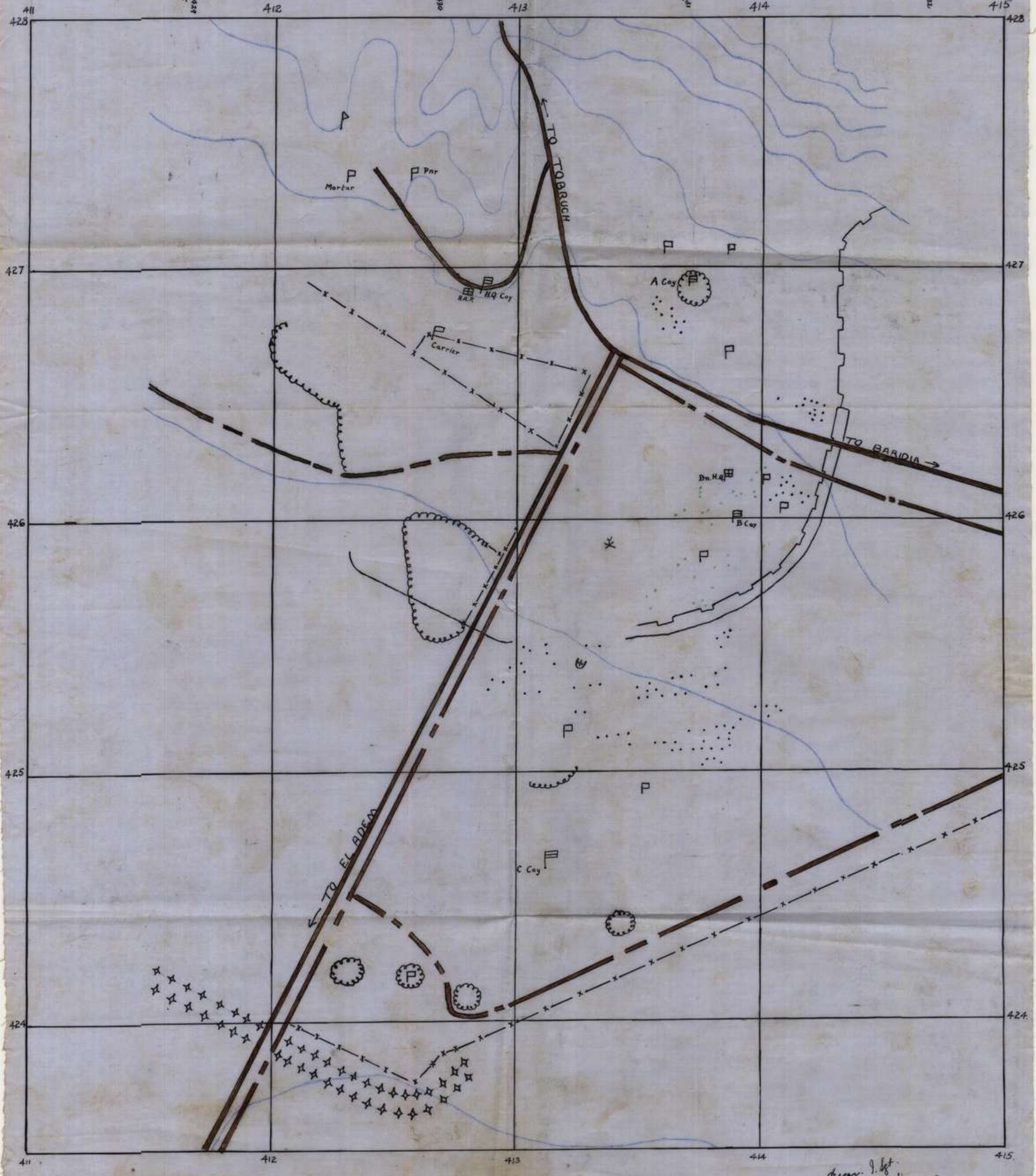
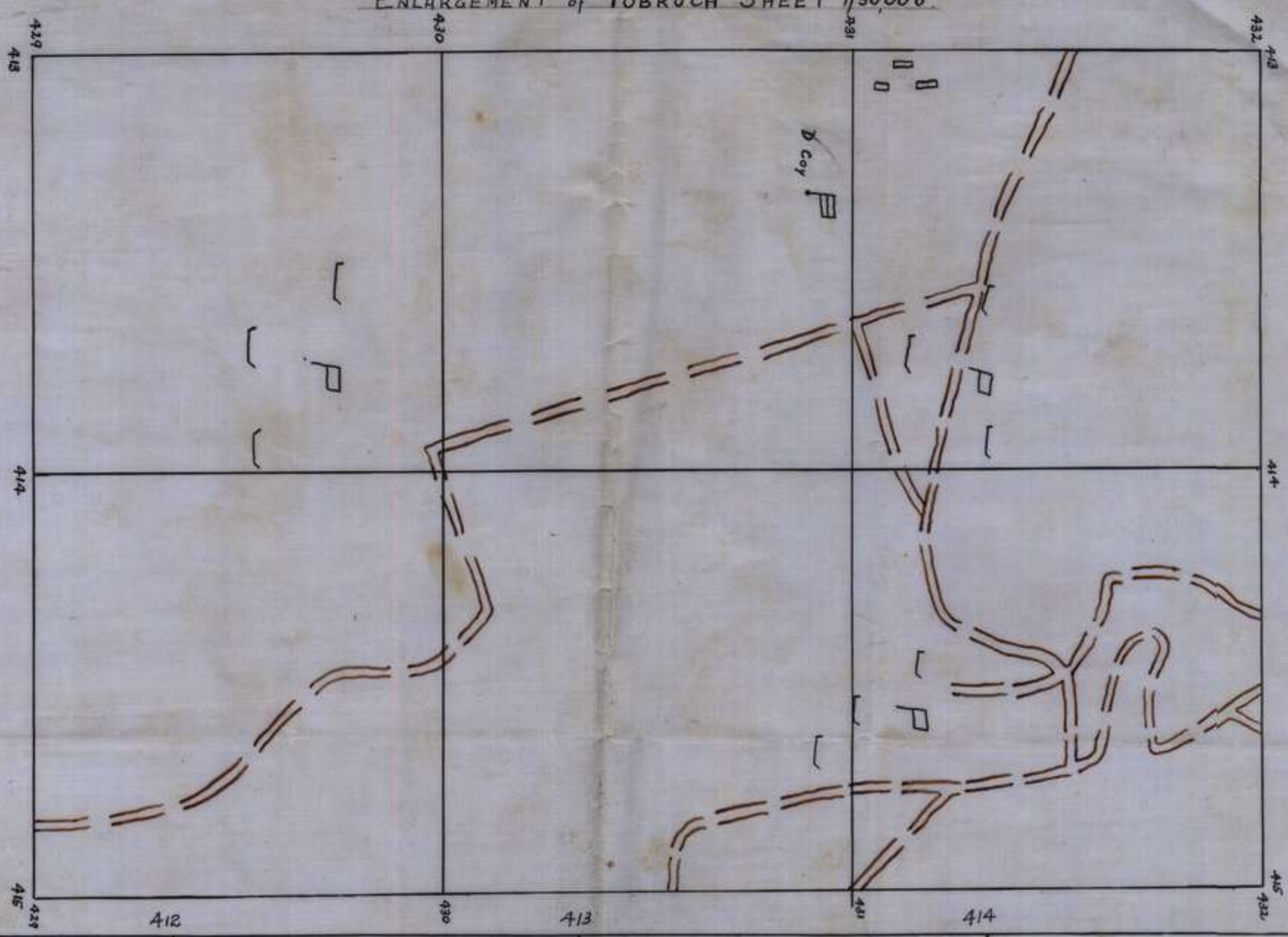


9 Bn Shelling Map

5 June - 30 June

Date	Colour	No of Shells	Area Shelled	Damage	Casualties
5 June	Blue •	37	A + B Coy Areas	Nil	1 o.R. (K) B Coy
6 June - 8 June		Nil			
9 June	Black •	75	Rear C Coy Area	British Arty truck destroyed	Nil
10 June	Green •	30	Bn H.Q. + B Coy Area	Nil	
11 June - 30 June		Nil			
TOTALS:		<u>142</u>			<u>1 (K)</u>
FORWARD:		<u>101</u>			<u>4 (w)</u>
TOTAL FOR MONTH:		<u><u>243</u></u>			<u><u>1 (K) 4 (w)</u></u>

SHELLING SKETCH 5 JUNE - 30 JUNE
ENLARGEMENT of TOBRUCH SHEET 1/50,000



Sign. P. Sgt.

9 Bn Shelling Map

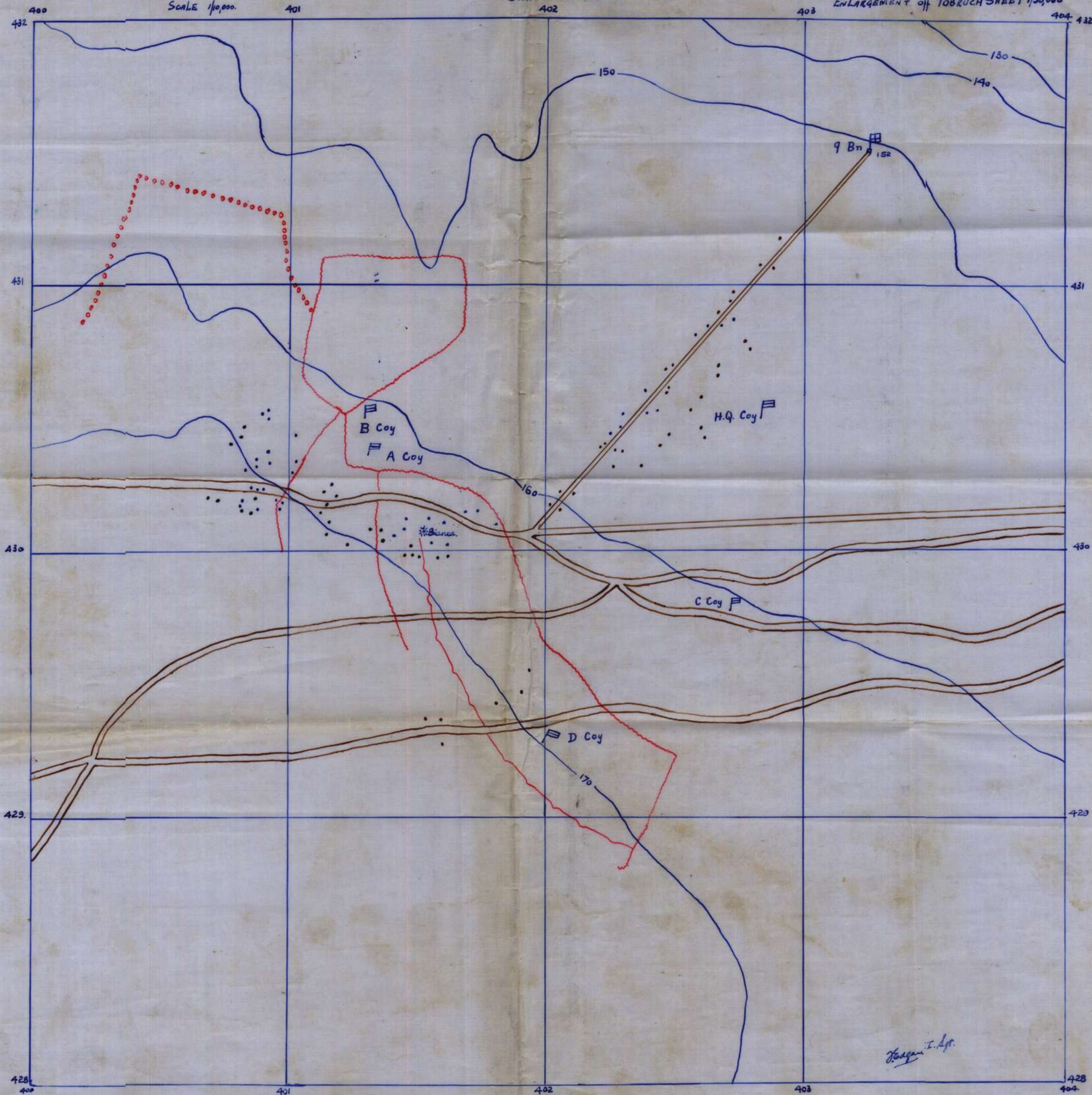
1 June - 4 June

Date	Colour	No of Shells	Area Shelled	Damage	Casualties
June	Blue •	40	Bianca, rd to Bn H.Q. & B Coy	Nil	1(w) B Coy
"	Nil				
3 "	Black •	25	Bianca, A & B Coys	Nil	2(w) B Coy
4 "	Brown •	36	H.Q Coy, rd Bn H.Q. D Coy	Nil	1(w) H.Q Coy
TOTALS:		<u>101</u>		<u>Nil</u>	<u>4(w)</u>

SHELLING SKETCH 1 JUNE - 4 JUNE

ENLARGEMENT OF TOBRUCH SHEET 1/50,000

SCALE 1/10,000



Handwritten signature