

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

**Item number: 8/3/70**

**31 Infantry Battalion & 31/51**  
**Infantry Battalion**

**November 1945, Nauru & Ocean**  
**Islands**

SECRET

PAGE No.

W . A . R . D . I . A . R . Y .

31/51 AUST INF BN (AIF).  
NAURU - OCEAN ISLAND  
FORCE.

+ note: Nauru-Ocean  
Force is made  
up of B and D  
Coys+ att tps.

Month of BER 1945.

LOCATION	DATE	TEXT	APPENDICES, REMARKS
		<p style="text-align: center;"><u>W A R D I A R Y</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>NOVEMBER 1945</u></p> <p>A <u>Diary of Events</u> of the Third Month of Occupation of NAURU</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>and with</u></p> <p><u>War Diaries</u> of <u>OCEAN ISLAND</u> <u>FORCE</u> for the period 25 Sep 45 when the Force departed from TOROKINA to 20 Nov 45 when the Force disembarked at NAURU after completion of the Task at OCEAN ISLAND.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">+</p> <p><u>War Diary</u> of 31/51 Aust Inf Bn (AIF). RABAUL is submitted in a separate volume.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">+</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Contents</u></p> <p>1. War Diary - NAURU FORCE with Appz 'A' -INTREP 3. 2. War Diary - OCEAN ISLAND FORCE - Sep, OCT, NOV 45.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">..+.</p>	



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NAURU	1 Nov 45	<p>by the B.P.C. staff and the RAN wireless transmitter station.</p> <p><u>PHOSPHATE COMMISSION CONSTRUCTION.</u>            Construction is at present centred on the refrigeration plant (employing 20 Koreans) and bricklaying. A quarter in the Chinese Location has been prepared for the reception of the white staff arriving on the 'TRIENZA', and a number of concrete barracks repaired and roofed in this connection.</p> <p><u>DAILY MAINTENANCE.</u>            A small body of Koreans are engaged daily on necessary tasks. Eleven Korean mechanics service the 'Toyoda' trucks, four man the pumps on the water distributing trucks, and a watchmaker and a tailor are also employed daily.</p> <p><u>JAPANESE EQUIPMENT &amp; MACHINERY.</u>            The bulk of the Koreans are allotted to loading and bringing in equipment, KVA electric generating sets, stone crushers, petrol engines, and similar items. The large machines must be dismantled and cased,, and preparation of the crates occupies a gang of Koreans under the supervision of Australian carpenters. This preparation is necessary for the shipment of the equipment which is not required by the Phosphate Commission or Civil Administration.</p> <p><u>MOVEMENTS OF 'TRIENZA'.</u>            A signal was received this afternoon relayed by SUVA radio, that the ship anticipates arriving at NAURU at daylight on Sunday 4 Nov. Preparations are complete here to receive the cargo.</p> <p><u>TRANSPORTATION TO RABAU.</u>            A signal originated from First Aust Army and received today suggested that the 300-ton A.V. 2059 "Enid" be employed in transferring the garrison personnel and stores from OCEAN ISLAND to NAURU, and requesting that the problem be discussed with the master</p>	

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No. th of NOVEMBER 1945.

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NAURU	1 Nov 45	<p>of the vessel on its arrival at NAURU. OCEAN ISLAND Force advised that all unit stores could be lifted by the ship's winches except the H.D.7 tractor crane.</p> <p><u>NAURUAN POPULATION CONCERN FOR EXILES:</u> At a meeting of Nauruan chiefs and the Administrator today concern was voiced on behalf of the islanders regarding the lack of information relating to the Nauruans, who, with their head chief, were transported to the Carolines in 1943. Japanese plans at the time for sending more Nauruans into exile were disrupted by a timely torpedo attack off Nauru by an American submarine, which destroyed a Japanese merchant vessel. This ship had been marked for the task of carrying the Nauruans from their native shore, to the islands to the north.</p>	
OCEAN IS.	1 Nov 45	<p><u>OCEAN ISLAND ACTIVITIES.</u> The programme of troop activities parallels that at NAURU, excepting that there is no Korean or native labour available. By comparison, the task has been much simpler than at NAURU, as OCEAN is of small dimensions, and the Japanese garrison numbered only a few more than 500.</p> <p>Today the programme was highlighted by the completion of hygiene work, collection, dumping, and crating of Japanese equipment. The equipment includes searchlights, rangefinders, and Enfield rifles.</p> <p>More coast defence guns were demolished today.</p> <p><u>Civil Administration.</u> Administration passed into the hands of Major WAKEFIELD, of the British Civil Administration. He is responsible to the Resident Commissioner, at TARAWA, Col. FOX STRANGWAYS.</p>	

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NAURU	2 Nov 45	<p><u>GENERAL:</u></p> <p>The day broke with overcast skies and heavy black clouds. Humidity climbed until early afternoon when there was a brief fall of rain, but this was merely a prelude to a downpour which occurred during the evening.</p> <p>The slight falls of the past week have worked wonders with the landscape, and bare powdered earth has been transformed into grassed expanses, pleasing to the eye after the harsh glaring monotone of last month.</p> <p>The new vegetation is hiding the scars of war and Japanese occupation, including the scorching inflicted by the cleansing fires of the hygiene details.</p> <p>In the native villages the Nauruans, Gilbertese, and Banabans, under the instructions of their head men and the watchful eye of the Civil Administration, have brought tidiness to replace disorder. Coconut stumps are dug out and burned, and the ashes returned to the soil, all brambles cleared, and the roads widened.</p> <p><u>WORKS:</u></p> <p>Australian carpenters and Korean carpenters worked today on a building to house the Radar, W/T, and meteorological equipment of the RAAF det from 39 Q.B.U.</p> <p>The attention to preparation of roofs and spoutings of new buildings for rain catchment has paid dividends with the falls received today.</p>	<p>Appendix '2'            Works Sheet.</p>
NAURU	2 Nov 45	<p><u>ALTERATION OF WATCHES - DAILY ROUTINE:</u></p> <p>In order to conform with the time in use by the civil administration all clocks and watches will be put back half an hour. Local time will then be 'L' Zone time plus 30 minutes. A copy of the administrative instruction is attached.</p>	<p>Appendix '3'.</p> <p><i>[Handwritten signature]</i></p>

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LOCATION	DATE	TEXT	APPENDICES, REMARKS
NAURU	2 Nov 45.	<p><u>INTELLIGENCE REPORT 3.</u> This report, covering activities from 13 - 31 Oct 45 was completed today for despatch to HQ First Aust Army (AIF). A copy is attached.</p>	Appendix 'A'
	3 Nov 45	<p><u>WORKS PROGRAMME - NAURU.</u> Priority task at present is the handling of Japanese equipment and crating it, in view of the expected arrival of the vessel 'Enid'. The 'Enid' is to backload these items of commercial value for Torokina. Searchlights, predictors, searchlight lenses and reflectors, are included in the equipment. Rapid progress is being made in the construction of the RAAF wireless and meteorological station, adjacent to the RAN station and the civil administration centre. The building is of Japanese timber and glass casements. The 60 Koreans employed on hygiene work in the MENEN district are finding ample work. When this area is completed, which was strongly defended and garrisoned by the Japanese, it is considered that the remainder of the task on the island will not take long to complete. Copy of Works Sheet is attached.</p> <p><u>REDUCTION OF MEDICAL ATTACHMENT.</u> First Aust Army instructed today that the number of personnel of the 19 Fd Amb det, NAURU, should be reduced to one medical officer and 12 other ranks. The balance are to be evacuated to Torokina by the Catalina scheduled to arrive at NAURU in a few days.</p> <p><u>AIR SUPPLY FOR OCEAN ISLAND.</u> Official approval was received today for the Catalina to drop mail and supplies to the garrison at OCEAN, during its next trip to NAURU.</p>	
OCEAN ISLAND			

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	3 Nov 45	<p><u>DEMOLITION OF FIXED DEFENCES:</u> Our troops at OCEAN ISLAND today completed the demolition of all Japanese heavy guns in fixed emplacements.</p> <p><u>BURIAL SERVICE FOR Mr. CARTWRIGHT:</u> A burial service was conducted today at the European cemetery for the former Government Secretary, Mr. Cartwright, who died in 1943 during the Japanese occupation as a result of semi-starvation or mal-treatment. A white cross was erected over his grave.</p> <p><u>ADMINISTRATION - ROUTINE ORDERS:</u> Orders by Lt Col KELLY, Serial 5, issued today place the Boat Basin and Boat Shed areas out of bounds whilst a vessel is in port.</p>	Appendix '5'.
	4 Nov 45	<p><u>SHIPPING ARRIVALS:</u> AV 2059 'Enid' arrived at NAURU from TACKINA at 0600L this morning. Cargo is made up of of aviation fuel ( 249-44 gal drums of 100 octane, and 10-44 gal drums of oil) for the RAAF, and 95 packages of engineer stores including 48 drums of cement, and ordnance stores.</p> <p>One bag of mail was received, as well as amenities in the form of 11 cases of ACF stores.</p> <p>Both ALC 15's were used throughout the day for unloading the 'Enid', and unloading was completed at 1600L. Fuel and stores were carried in trucks to dumps conveniently placed for access.</p> <p>The small RAAF detachment was increased by the arrival of a member who travelled with the aviation fuel and stores.</p> <p>Backloading of the vessel commenced immediately after the cargo had been discharged. At one stage the master of the ship, Lt. HUTCHINSON, found difficulty in taking on cargo, due to the rolling of the vessel. Shore arrangements were in the hands of the Q.M. Capt. G.V. ROBERTS. To load the heavy searchlight cradles it was necessary to use the derrick crane on the boat basin wall.</p>	





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NAURU	4 Nov 45	<p>Although a large quantity of crated equipment was loaded, using the smaller dockside cranes, the large derrick was now diverted to a new use.</p> <p>This was due to the arrival of the SS 'TRIENZA' at 0645L. With its large gray weather-stained sides it offered a contrast to the diminutive 'Enid'. The Phosphate Commission vessel lowered to the water eight small barges, to be used for transferring cargo from ship to the dockside. Manned by Chinese crews these first brought ashore 41 civilians and their gear.</p> <p>Among the civilians were four members of the Civil Administration staff - Mr. Gollan - A.W.A. wireless technician Mr. S.M. Clark - Postmaster, on loan from P.M.G. An architect, and a building foreman.</p> <p>The A.W.A. technician is to establish a commercial wireless link with Sydney.</p> <p>The architect is to draw plans for new civil administration offices, residences, and public buildings such as the Government hospital.</p> <p>The 'Trienza' disembarked 37 of the staff of the Phosphate Commission, including the Manager of Nauru - Mr. Kirk, who was here at the time of the re-occupation in September, as a passenger on SS 'River Burdekin'. Others of the group are tradesmen and overseers. The staff to commence work at OCEAN ISLAND, headed by the Manager, Mr. Bridges, were also passengers on the 'Trienza'.</p> <p>Many members of the B.P.C. staff renewed old acquaintances among the Chinese and Nauruan population. Some surveyed the ruins of their former homes, and others the wrecks of their motor cars, piled on a scrap dump.</p> <p>Some of the overseers engaged in the supervision of the Chinese wharf workers, as trucks, stores, provisions began to</p>	

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NAURU	4 Nov 45	<p>come from the 'Trienza' in a thin procession of barges, which edged in one at a time to the basin wall at a point beneath the cranes.</p> <p>The backloading of the AV 'Enid' was to have continued until midnight but work was interrupted at about 2000 hours when the crane broke down due to an electrical fault.</p> <p><u>WORKS:</u></p> <p>To keep pace with the loading of equipment on the 'Enid' 46 Koreans were called for today, although Sunday is normally a rest day for work details. Twelve of these were employed in moving KVA sets and the balance on crating items for shipment. Copy of Works Sheet is attached.</p> <p><u>OCEAN ISLAND:</u></p> <p>In accordance with a policy of keeping Ocean Island forces informed as far as possible, a further Revisit (No.9) was despatched by signal today from this HQ, advising of the departure of the 'TRICNA' from Melbourne on the 1st Nov 45, and the arrival of the 'TRIENZA' and 'ENID' at NAURU.</p> <p><u>DISTRIBUTION OF WAR SOUVENIRS:</u></p> <p>All sub-units of NAURU FORCE today conducted a ballot to decide the owners of the articles distributed on a unit strength basis. Most prized were the binoculars, of which there were a limited number. No swords were distributed as the last instruction received from First Aust Army directed that these be held in bulk pending directions.</p>	<p>Appendix '6'.</p>

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LOCATION	DATE	TEXT	APPENDICES, REMARKS
	5 Nov 45	<p><u>WORKS SCHEDULE:</u> 332 Koreans were detailed for work today. Of these 110 were absorbed in hygiene work and clearing debris. The hygiene squads are working near MENEM POINT, and the clearing party on MARIE STOPES AVENUE.</p> <p><u>SHIPPING:</u> Backloading of the 'Enid' was resumed today. Lt. HUTCHESON expressed a wish to leave for Torokina at nightfall, as the auxiliary engine of his ship was out of action, and only 10 days supply of water remained. Due to the rolling of the ship it was not possible to attempt any heavy lifts. Loading of crates continued throughout the day.</p> <p>The B.P.C. commenced unloading their ship using a portion of their fleet of small barges. The vessel was at times standing well off shore, as the moorings have not yet been restored, and a long trip for the barges resulted. This retarded unloading of the vessel. Tractors, trucks, technical equipment came ashore.</p> <p><u>AIRCRAFT MOVEMENTS:</u> Advice was received from 3 Aust Div that the Catalina would depart from PIVA strip, TOROKINA, at 060530 hours (K time).</p> <p><u>MEDICAL SERVICES:</u> The Administrator has been anxious to obtain the services of two medical officers for the Government and Phosphate Commission health services. To date the Department of External Territories has not been able to engage practitioners willing to serve here. A shortage of qualified men has been heightened by the resumption of civil services in PAPUA and NEW GUINEA. Until civil doctors</p>	<p>Works Sheet Appendix '7'</p>

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NAURU	5 Nov 45	arrive at NAURU he is desirous of having the two A.A.M.C. officers of the 19 Aust Fd Amb retained here. However, an instruction was received First Aust Army today that only one medical officer could be retained at NAURU. In this connection it is interesting to note that the health of troops on the island has been good. Apart from minor skin complaints, there have been a few recurrences of malaria, whilst in the Chinese ward several are being treated for beri beri and ulcers, an outcome of Japanese rule of the island.	
OCEAN	5 Nov 45	<p><u>TRANSFER OF STORES TO B.P.C. and CIVIL ADM:</u></p> <p>Those items of Japanese equipment required by the Phosphate Commission and Civil Administration were today transferred. The list includes electric motors, electric transformer, electric welding machine, two alternating current and two direct current dynamos, Toyoda trucks, Nissan sedan cars, motorcycles, firefighting outfits, and a diving suit and gear, as well as smaller tools, and telescopes. 11,000 gallons of heavy diesel fuel are to be transferred to the Phosphate Commission.</p> <p>The Civil Administration had made a claim for the Japanese Daihatsu MLCs, but these proved unserviceable, and the last of them was towed out and sunk on the 2 Nov.</p> <p><u>AIR SERVICE, AIR DROP TO OCEAN ISLAND:</u></p> <p>OCEAN ISLAND was advised today that the air courier service will leave TOROKINA on Saturday morning of each week, make a drop at OCEAN on Sunday morning, and return from NAURU to PIVA on Monday. OCEAN ISLAND advised that a white 'T' would be displayed on the sports' oval to mark the dropping zone.</p>	

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NAURU	5 Nov 45	<p><u>NAURUAN POPULATION TRANSPORTED TO TRUK GROUP BY JAPANESE:</u></p> <p>On 1 Nov the Nauruan chiefs voiced the feelings of the people in expressing concern at the lack of information regarding the large number of Nauruans who were transported from NAURU by the Japanese. The Administrator, Mr. M. RIDGWAY, requested information from the Department of External Territories, Canberra.</p> <p>Today a reply was received, containing information obtained through army channels from the Japanese commander at TRUK, HQ of Fourth Japanese Fleet and 31 Japanese Army command, which was surrendered on 2 Sep 45 to the CinC United States Forces, Central Pacific.</p> <p>The report stated that the transfer was effected in two groups. The first group was comprised of 2 missionaries, 7 Chinese, and approximately 500 Nauruans, and left NAURU on 15 Aug, to arrive at TRUK on 23 Aug 43.</p> <p>The second group comprising 600 Nauruans approximately, left NAURU on the 21 Aug and arrived at TRUK on the 28 Aug 43.</p> <p>Father KAYSER succumbed to illness on 21 Oct 44 and approximately 338 Nauruans suffered the same fate, the majority from local diseases - amoebic dysentery.</p> <p>The location of the survivors at the 1st Oct 45 was given, with Father CLIVAZ on MONDAY ISLAND, and 762 Nauruans, comprising 389 male and 373 female on various islands in the TRUK group. The majority, including the head chief, are on WEDNESDAY ISLAND.</p>	
NAURU	6 Nov 45	<p><u>SHIPPING:</u></p> <p>Loading of the 'Enid' continued today. The equipment loaded included range finders and stands, predictors and stands, observation instruments - stands and binoculars, searchlights, radar equipment, freezing plant, motors and generators - AC and DC, and 5 cases (88) .303 in calibre CMF rifles.</p>	

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NAURU	6 Nov 45	<p>The 'Enid' departed for Torokina at 1920 hours (L time). The equipment which remains for later shipment includes 3 Saki Kerosene engines, 2 diesel engines, 1 - 25 and 2 - 40 KVA generating sets, and 4 stone crushers.</p> <p>Unloading of the 'TRIENZA' continues, with Koreans working two shifts. Rations for Chinese and native population, building material, steel frames, and timber continue to come ashore. The new trucks of the Phosphate Commission, with B.P.C. drivers, are being used to move the cargo from dock to dumps.</p> <p>A light utility consigned to the Civil Administration is now in use.</p> <p><u>LABOUR EMPLOYED:</u></p> <p>The number employed on hygiene remains constant - 60 Koreans and Australian overseers. The number on the Marie Stopes Avenue cleaning up is reduced to 50 whilst the ship is unloading. A total of 288 are called for on the Works Programme schedule attached.</p> <p><u>ARRIVAL OF CATALINA:</u></p> <p>The Catalina from PIVA landed on the strip at 1445L. The crew of the plane is substantially the same. In addition to mail the freight comprised cased meat (2894 lbs) and butter (108lbs). These fresh supplies are very welcome. The amount received is sufficient to fill the refrigerator at the DID.</p> <p>A passenger on the plane was S/Sjt C. Scales, a photographer of the Military History Section, who has carried out a number of assignments, both ground and air, on BOUGAINVILLE. His task on this visit is to cover the air service, and also activities and points of interest on NAURU. Previously he travelled to OCEAN ISLAND with the occupation force on the SS 'River Burdekin'.</p> <p>The air crew were entertained at the Officers' Mess.</p>	Appendix '8'

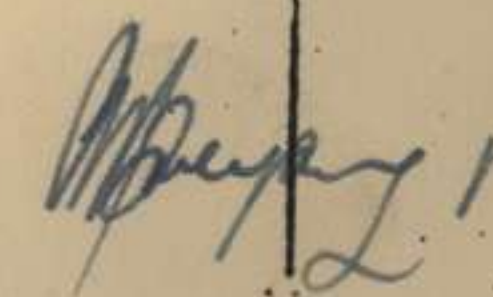
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NAURU	6 Nov 45	<p>First Aust Army has directed 3 Aust Div to use the air courier service to supply fresh rations for the forces here, sufficient for three issues per week.</p> <p><u>GENERAL:</u> Land Forces, Melbourne, advised today that 174 cases of canteen supplies had been shipped on SS 'TRIENA'.</p> <p><u>OCEAN ISLAND:</u> A signal was sent to OCEAN Island Force advising that the Catalina would drop mail on 7 Nov 45. The det of 222 Aust Sup Depot Pl at OCEAN has moved, and now has its HQ at the old garrison camp. A cricket match played between one platoon and the others provided necessary recreation for the troops.</p>	
	7 Nov 45	<p><u>WORKS:</u> A consolidated table shows how Korean labour has been allocated during the period 1-6 Nov inclusive. This is attached. The Works Sheet for today is also attached. Construction of the RAAF hut is almost completed, while work continues on the B.P.C. refrigeration chamber. Replacement of copper coils, door packing, and reconditioning of engine and compressor is necessary to put this plant into operation. In the Chinese Location Australian overseers are in charge of a scheme of rebuilding the block houses. Cement bricks are taken from wrecked houses and used to reconstruct those less damaged. Shortage of cement hindered the work at one stage. Hygiene and clearing work continues, and also the crating of equipment. Unloading of the 'TRIENZA' is proceeding slowly.</p> <p><u>AIR SERVICE:</u> The Catalina dropped mail at OCEAN ISLAND this morning.</p>	<p>Appendix '9'. Appendix '10'.</p>

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NAURU	7 Nov 45	<p><u>MOVEMENT OF NATIVES INTER-ISLAND:</u> Advice was received today by the B.P.C. NAURU that 90 native labourers are available at TARAWA for engagement at OCEAN ISLAND.</p> <p>The Phosphate Commission, Melbourne office, advised the British Commissioner's office at SUVA that the commission is unable to authorise the use of the 'TRIENZA' for the movement of Banabans and Gilbertese from NAURU.</p>	
	8 Nov 45	<p><u>MISSIONARY RESUMPTION OF WORK ON NAURU:</u> The London Missionary Society is anxious to resume activities at NAURU, according to a signal received from the Department of External Territories today, and desires permission for Rev. Welsh to return by the beginning of 1946.</p> <p><u>DEPARTURE OF CATALINA:</u> The Catalina took off from NAURU for PIVA at 0630L. The following were emplaned: Capt C.H. WOOD, Medical Officer; five other ranks of 19 Fd Amb including L/Cpl Meier B.H. Pte. Matthews L.C. Pte Kennedy L, Pte O'Shea J. Pte Smith L.J.; two personnel of 31/51 Aust Inf Bn on Occupational Release (L/Sjt Mirob M. and Cpl Strike H.E.), and one on compassionate release (Pte Gough R.). Outward official and private mail was also carried.</p> <p><u>WORKS:</u> Works Sheet is attached as an appendix. Today for the first time B.P.C. trucks attended at the pick up point on the airstrip where the various gangs of Koreans assemble prior to work. Two gangs of 50 Koreans are to work shifts on the handling of cargo from the 'Trienza', while a gang of 30 will handle stores at the A.A.S.C. depot.</p>	Appendix No. 11. Works Sheet.





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NAURU	8 Nov 45	<p>Two tasks were completed yesterday - the construction of the RAAF hut, and the reconditioning of the B.P.C. refrigeration chamber.</p> <p><u>R. A. A. F. METEOROLOGICAL AND WIRELESS STATION.</u></p> <p>The detachment of 39 O.B.U. operating this station is made up of a warrant officer meteorologist, two sergeants including a wireless operator-mechanic, and a leading aircraftsman.</p> <p>Tests have been conducted with the transmitter, with 39 OBU and NorCom RAAF, but it has insufficient output to "work" New Guinea, so the RAN link to MADANG is used to pass signals to NorCom.</p> <p>A test with the Catalina established a range of 400 miles. Weather reports are being sent daily in code from NAURU.</p> <p><u>FURTHER INVESTIGATION OF WAR CRIMES ON NAURU.</u></p> <p>The investigating officer, Lt. A. SPRILYAN today reopened his enquiries, and interrogated native and Chinese witnesses.</p> <p>A memo dated 29 Oct relating to War Crimes, Nauru, received by air courier service, attached the report of the Investigating Legal Staff Officer of 4 Base Sub Area, Torokina, and copies of the statements of two principal Japanese, Lt Comdr NAKAYAMA and Lt SAKATA, made before him. In this memo First Aust Army (AIF) asks for comment on the evidence taken.</p> <p>In reply our memo INT.796 of 7 Nov was despatched by return courier to First Aust Army (AIF), with a copy to 3 Aust Div; this detailed the names of all native, Chinese, and Japanese witnessed, whose statements had been submitted to First Aust Army by this HQ. It also reported that all evidence available did not appear to be in the hands of 3 DIV, and accordingly a complete file was in course of preparation here, with fresh evidence incorporated.</p>	Appendix. 12.

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## W . A . R . D . I . A . R . Y .

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LOCATION	DATE	TEXT	APPENDICES, REMARKS
OCEAN IS	8 NOV 45	See War Diary of OCEAN ISLAND GARRISON, Sheet No.4, Nov 45.	Attached appendix
NAURU IS	9 NOV 45	<p><u>WORKS:</u>            Tasks for Korean Labour today, with Australian overseers designated, are set out in Work Sheet for 8/9 Nov 45 attached.</p> <p><u>UNLOADING OF 'TRIENZA':</u>            Handling of cargo is being carried out by shifts of 50 Koreans each, with three 31/51 Bn overseers to each shift. Work continued from 1630 hrs to midnight, 8 Nov, and resumed at 0630 hrs 9 Nov, with a fresh gang of 50, who were relieved in turn by a gang reporting at 1630 hrs. With each gang of 50 there are 2 No.1 boys (Koreans) who correspond to corporals in an army organization. The Korean unit is a civilian, and not a regular army force.</p> <p>With each shift two Japanese 3-ton trucks are used, with drivers from the Bn. detachment at the 76 Tpt Pl.</p> <p><u>DEPARTURE OF 'TRIENZA':</u>            The unloading of the vessel was completed at 1730 hrs local time and it departed for OCEAN ISLAND.</p> <p>100 Koreans are being carried on the ship to work cargo at OCEAN ISLAND. They are under the supervision of six Army overseers with Sjt FERROUX in charge.</p> <p><u>JAPANESE EQUIPMENT ASSEMBLED AT OCEAN ISLAND:</u>            Advice was received from OCEAN ISLAND FORCE today that the equipment held awaiting shipment consisted of 14 crates of search-light equipment, 5 cases of rangefinders, 7 cases of radar, 8 cases telescopes (8 and 12 cm), 3 large and 3 small electric generators, 1 case portable electric signal lamps, 1 case miscellaneous equipment, totalling 42 crates. 71 .303 rifles and 44 bayonets are held.</p>	<p>Appendix '13'.</p>

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31/51 AUSTRALIAN INF BN (AIF).

NAURU - OCEAN ISLAND

FORCE.

+ note: Nauru-Ocean  
Force is made  
up of B and D  
Coys+ att tps.

Month of NOVEMBER 1945.

LOCATION	DATE	TEXT	APPENDICES, REMARKS
NAURU IS.	9 NOV 45	SHIPMENT ON SS "TRIONA" ex MELBOURNE: MILBASE MELBOURNE advised by signal today that 24 tons of rations and 7 tons of expense stores had been shipped on 'TRIONA'.	
NAURU IS.	10 Nov 45	WORKS: With 100 Koreans absent on the MV "TRIENZA", only 184 Koreans were engaged today. of whom 59 are directly employed by the Army, including 20 for stacking AASC stores, mechanics, carpenters, water cart details, and camp duties. For the B.P.C. parties are used on building, plumbing, and sewerage tasks. FATE OF FIVE EUROPEANS: Further investigations were made today and statements taken from Chinese and native witnesses. AIR TRAVEL FOR CIVILIANS FROM NAURU: In reply to an enquiry whether civilians, principally B.P.C. staff, could travel by the air courier service to and from TOROKINA, First Aust Army advised that this was approved provided documentation and completion of indemnity were carried out. TORPEDOES and DEPTH CHARGES, NAURU: A number of Japanese navy torpedoes and depth charges are stored in a cave or tunnel here. In view of their probable monetary value, they were not dumped to sea along with ammunition and aerial bombs. A direction was sought from First Aust Army regarding disposal, and the matter was referred to the Naval Officer in Charge, New Guinea. Today the NOIC advised that Lieut. CROFT, RMSO, will visit NAURU to inspect the equipment. FIRST MOTION PICTURE SCREENING: The projector which accompanied the staff of the B.P.C. on their arrival from MELBOURNE was brought into operation tonight, as the unloading of the 'TRIENZA' was completed yesterday. There was a large attendance at the screening of the British film "CONVOY".	Appendix '44' '15'  (There is NO Appendix No. 14).

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NAURU - OCEAN ISLAND  
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LOCATION	DATE	TEXT	APPENDICES, REMARKS
OCEAN IS	10 NOV 45	<p><u>ARRIVAL OF MV"TRIENZA":</u> The ship arrived at 0715L, and disembarked 38 civilian employees of the Commission, headed by Mr.G.BRIDGES, Manager of the works at OCEAN ISLAND.</p> <p><u>CRICKET:</u> In a match against the Gilbertese, 'B' Company team was beaten by 5 runs, the first defeat suffered by the Australian team</p>	See War Diary OCEAN ISLANDGRN. NOV 45.
NAURU	11 NOV 45	<p><u>ARRIVAL OF RAAF AIR COURIER:</u> The RAAF Catalina landed at 1400L with a cargo of mail, fruit, fresh meat, eggs, and butter. A passenger was Cpl. H.McDonald of Military History Section, Torokina, and formerly of this Bn</p> <p><u>A.WIRELESS A/SIA RADIOGRAM SERVICE:</u> The AWA technician, Mr.GOLLAN, assisted by two Nauruan wireless operators, has set up his equipment and is conducting tests with SYDNEY prior to commencing a regular schedule of operations. It is intended to establish an R/T service in addition to the radiogram service.</p> <p><u>WORKS:</u> Today, Sunday, was observed as a rest day, and no Koreans were employed on B.P.C. works. At OCEAN ISLAND the Koreans were employed on the unloading of the 'TRIENZA', and Army personnel were active on barges, winches, and driving trucks.</p> <p><u>'TRIONA' DOCKED IN BRISBANE:</u> Aust Commonwealth Naval Board advised that because of defective under water discharge the ship had put in to BRISBANE on 10th Nov for repairs.</p>	See War Diary as above.

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NAURU - OCEAN ISLAND  
FORCE.+ note: Nauru-Ocean  
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LOCATION	DATE	TEXT	APPENDICES, REMARKS
NAURU	11 Nov 45	<p><u>PERSONNEL FOR GARRISON REMAINING AT NAURU:</u> First Aust Army advised today that on withdrawal of the main garrison from NAURU, the platoon remaining is to be composed of personnel with the lowest priority under the points scheme. Personnel with over 190 points are to be despatched to the mainland for disposal.</p> <p><u>OFFER OF APPOINTMENT - Capt. G.V. ROBERTS.</u> Capt. G.V. Roberts, Q.M. NAURU FORCE, was today asked, at the instruction of 11 Aust Inf Bde (AIF), whether he would be willing to accept an appointment as Brigade Liaison Officer in the Commonwealth Forces of Occupation, JAPAN. He replied that he was not willing to accept an appointment.</p>	
NAURU	12 Nov 45	<p><u>A.W.A. WIRELESS LINK:</u> The radio service linking NAURU with A.W.A. SYDNEY commenced regular operation today. A number of GLT radiograms are being despatched to Australia by members of the force. Formerly these telegrams were passed by Navy Wireless to OCEAN ISLAND, where a commercial station is operated by the British Civil Administration which links with SUVA Radio. The operator at OCEAN is a Gilbertese whilst at NAURU there are two Nauruan operators, including one who returned from Australia with the occupation forces on 13 Sep 45.</p> <p><u>INVESTIGATION RELATING TO FIVE EUROPEANS:</u> Further evidence was taken today, when native witnesses were interrogated by the Intelligence Officer. The enquiry is now completed for the present.</p> <p><u>CATALINA FLIGHT TO OCEAN ISLAND:</u> The RAAF Catalina (F/L PRIEST Captain) took off for OCEAN Is. at 0730L and returned at 1030L, after dropping fruit and vegetables along with mail for the garrison there.</p>	

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NAURU - OCEAN ISLAND  
FORCE.

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Month of NOVEMBER 1945.

LOCATION	DATE	TEXT	APPENDICES, REMARKS
NAURU IS.	12 Nov 45	<p><u>WORKS:</u>                      A total of 260 Koreans were allocated to various B.P.C. works in hand, including building of huts in the Chinese Location, stowing and sorting cargo, water supply and sewerage, preparation of mooring buoys, and salvaging electrical gear.</p> <p><u>Destruction of Cantilever Jetty:</u>                      The steel cantilever jetty situated north of the cantilever loaders, was formerly equipped with tramlines and a conveyor belt from No.3 Plant, so that phosphate could be loaded when the big swinging cantilever loaders were not in operation. However, the jetty received a direct hit under naval bombardment, and upon occupation of NAURU in Sep 45 was a rusted tangle of twisted iron trailing in the water.</p> <p>The Phosphate Commission plan to erect a new prefabricated jetty on the concrete piers, and it therefore became necessary to demolish the wreck to make way for the new jetty. Sjt. A. WOODS, pl sjt of the Battalion Pioneer Platoon, was given the task of destruction.</p> <p>He was engaged on the work today, using large explosive charges, but the inflow of the tide hampered him.</p> <p><u>UNLOADING OF 'TRIENZA':</u>                      Using the two Aust Army L.C.15's and four B.P.C. barges, a further 220 tons of cargo were unloaded today. Tractors, trucks, compressor plants, portable electric power plants, have been landed ashore.</p> <p>One Korean suffered an accident during the unloading and was admitted to hospital with two broken ribs.</p>	Appendix '16'
OCEAN IS			
NAURU IS.	13 Nov 45	<p><u>DEPARTURE OF CATALINA:</u>                      The Catalina took off from the strip at 0630L hrs, for PIVA Strip, TOROKINA. The navigator of the first flight to NAURU, F/L N. MASON remains on the island, convalescing from appendicitis operation on the 30 Oct.</p>	

Month of NOVEMBER 1945.

31/51 AUST INF BN (AIF).  
NAURU - OCEAN ISLAND  
FORCE.

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LOCATION	DATE	TEXT	APPENDICES, REMARKS
NAURU IS	13 Nov 45	<p>Nauru personnel travelling to TOROKINA consist of two members of 31/51 Bn with occupational releases, and four members of attached units, with two members of 'D' Coy being discharged under high priority points score. The remaining three passengers are a member of the RAN, and a member of the RAAF, with Cpl McDonald of Mil History Section.</p> <p><u>AASC RATION HOLDINGS:</u>            HQ AMF was advised today that the Supply Pl is issuing rations to 262 Europeans, 1384 natives, 163 Chinese, and 538 Koreans. Several Nauruans and Chinese hold European status by decree of the Administration, and receive an European scale of rations.            Holdings of supplies allow for 60 days European, 2 days for Chinese and native, and 52 days for Koreans. From 1 Nov all rations for Chinese and natives have been charged to the B.P.C. and Civil Administration respectively.            At OCEAN ISLAND 150 Europeans and 97 natives are being rationed, with holdings of 16 and 213 days respectively.</p> <p><u>EMPLOYMENT OF KOREANS:</u>            253 Koreans were employed at NAURU Today. There is practically no change from the schedule set down for 12 Nov.</p> <p><u>WAR CRIMES - NAURU:</u>            After considerable effort in the form of interrogating local inhabitants, and recording their statements and evidence, then collating all available information bearing on the matter, a comprehensive file was completed on 12 Nov 45. Included is a sketch showing the Chinese Location, and the position of the house in which the five Europeans were quartered prior to their disappearance.            The file was despatched to First Aust Army, with a copy to</p>	Appx '17'

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31/51 AUST INF BN (AIF).

NAURU - OCEAN ISLAND

FORCE.

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Month of NOVEMBER 1945.

LOCATION	DATE	TEXT	APPENDICES, REMARKS
NAURU IS	13 Nov 45	<p>3 Aust Div, Torokina, under cover of memo INT.817.</p> <p>It is proposed to treat the atrocities to the native and the Chinese population of NAURU in the same manner, preparing a complete record of any information that can be obtained on NAURU.</p>	
OCEAN IS	13 Nov 45	<p><u>UNLOADING 'TRIENZA' (m.s. 6300 tons).</u></p> <p>See War Diary of OCEAN ISLAND GARRISON, November 1945, Sheet 6, attached as an appendix to this diary.</p> <p>The RAAF Met. Station at NAURU is supplying weather reports to OCEAN ISLAND for the information of the 'TRIENZA'. Winds are blowing from W to SW at 4-6 knots, with smooth sea.</p>	See Appendix
NAURU IS	14 Nov 45	<p><u>FALL OF RAIN:</u></p> <p>Light intermittent rain fell from overcast low cloud from 0615 hrs local time. At 0800L the wind was blowing from NE at 5/10 knots but by 1100 hrs the wind had dropped and the sea was calm to slight.</p> <p><u>WORKS PROGRAMME:</u></p> <p>Progress is being maintained on reconditioning the fresh water supply system, and assembly of huts in the Chinese Location is going ahead. 42 Koreans are employed sorting and stowing cargo.</p> <p>The assembly of bulldozers on B.P.C. H.D.7 tractors is being carried out by sappers of Army engineer det.</p> <p><u>LETTER OF APPRECIATION FROM ADMINISTRATOR:</u></p> <p>Lt Col KELLY today received from the Administrator of NAURU a letter expressing appreciation for the assistance given during Lt Col Kelly's term as Military Governor.</p> <p><u>LOADING OF JAPANESE EQUIPMENT AT OCEAN ISLAND:</u></p> <p>First Aust Army sent an instruction that Japanese equipment crated at OCEAN ISLAND be loaded on the 'TRIENZA' for direct shipment to Australia.</p>	<p>Appendix '17"A'</p> <p>Appendix '18'</p>



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NAURU - OCEAN ISLAND

FORCE.

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Month of NOVEMBER 1945.

LOCATION	DATE	TEXT	APPENDICES, REMARKS
OCEAN IS.	14 Nov 45	<p><u>RAINFALL:</u> Light rain during the day yielded 60 points.</p> <p><u>UNLOADING OF 'TRIENZA':</u> Tonnage of cargo handled today was reduced by the breaking down of the 64 KVA Japanese generator supplying power to the cranes.</p>	<p>See OCEAN ISLAND War Diary Sheet.6.</p> <p>Appendix '19'</p>
NAURU IS	15 Nov 45	<p><u>B.P.C WORKS:</u> In addition to the works carried on from the 14th Nov, a new task was commenced today, with 21 Koreans under a 'D' Coy corporal employed on repairs to the cantilever loaders. A footway is being constructed along the elevated conveyor housing leading up at an angle seaward from the hopper.</p> <p>Repair of the cantilevers is a major task and many trusses severed by shrapnel will require replacement. The whole conveyor system must be replaced. Rust incrustation is severe and it will be the work of months to scrape the steelwork prior to painting.</p> <p>Assembly of the B.P.C. bulldozers will provide an efficient means of filling the huge tank traps which segment the coastal plain. At present the trenches are proving convenient for dumping debris from bombed out houses, and rusted machinery from the wrecked workshops.</p> <p><u>ADMINISTRATIVE LINK WITH OCEAN ISLAND:</u> The radio telephone link between Navy Signals Office, NAURU, and commercial station VQK at OCEAN ISLAND, is proving of value to the O.C OCEAN ISLAND GARRISON, Capt. B.W. GIRARD, who is able to discuss problems associated with the winding up of affairs at OCEAN ISLAND, with the Adjutant, NAURU FORCE, Lt. A.E. SMITH.</p> <p><u>PROJECTED MOVEMENT TO RABAU:</u> Lt Col KELLY has been requested by First Aust Army to discuss with Mr. GAZE, General Manager of the British Phosphate Commission, the use of the 'TRICNA' or 'TRIENZA' for movement of the garrison, less one platoon, to RABAU. Mr. GAZE is travelling</p>	

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LOCATION	DATE	TEXT	APPENDICES, REMARKS
NAURU IS	15 Nov 45	<p>on the S. 'TRIONA', which is at present undergoing repairs in BRISBANE and is expected to leave port on 17 Nov.</p> <p><u>SPORTING FACILITIES:</u> Working parties are laying down a cricket pitch of concrete on the No. 1 Airstrip. Mats will be used for play on the pitch. A tennis court has been cleared on the No.2 Airstrip, making use of the concrete surface constructed by the Japanese. Wire netting has been salvaged and erected around the court. Racquets, balls, and net, are drawn from the Bn. sports' store.</p> <p><u>FURNITURE STORE No.2 PHOSPHATE PLANT:</u> Until the handing over of control to the Civil Government on 1st Nov, the store of furniture and equipment recovered from Japanese barracks and camps, housed under the No.2 Plant, was under the control of this force. Most of the articles recovered by Army working parties were the property of the former European residents of NAURU, and include pianos, refrigerators, household furniture and B.P.C. technical equipment. With the Phosphate Commission now in control of its plant, admittance to the store is granted only to the B.P.C. Manager, and engineer, and the Force Adjutant and Q.M.</p>	
OCEAN IS		<p><u>OCEAN ISLAND:</u> Power for dockside cranes unloading cargo is now being provided by two B.P.C. portable generators, and the Japanese 40 KW set is not being used.</p>	
NAURU IS	16 Nov 45	<p><u>WORKS:</u> About 20 infantry and engineer personnel are engaged in supervising Koreans employed today on B.P.C. works. 254 Koreans are working, including 8 to service the Japanese trucks in use by the Transport Platoon.</p>	Appendix '20'

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NAURU - OCEAN ISLAND  
FORCE.

Month of NOVEMBER 1945.

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LOCATION	DATE	TEXT	APPENDICES, REMARKS
NAURU IS	16 Nov 45	<p>Building and water supply continue to be prime objectives, essential facilities for the expansion of works by the B.P.C.</p> <p><u>CAMP SITE FOR 'B' COMPANY:</u>          Troops of 'D' Company have cleared an area and erected tent frames for the use of 'B' Company, which is expected to arrive shortly from OCEAN ISLAND in the 'TRIENZA'. A kitchen has been constructed and water storage provided.</p> <p><u>COMPLETION OF CRICKET PITCH:</u>          The cricket pitch has been completed, sited out of the path of the Catalina, which is expected to land tomorrow.</p> <p><u>COMD OFFICER'S CONFERENCE:</u>          At a conference of officers of the Force this morning the C.O. Lt Col KELLY presided. He informed the assembly that the BPC had advised projected movements of the 'TRIENZA'. Discharge of cargo at OCEAN ISLAND would be completed on 17 Nov and the ship would then move to TARAWA to embark 97 natives. After disembarking these at OCEAN ISLAND on 20th Nov, the ship would depart on the 22nd with the garrison bound for NAURU.          However, this plan was subsequently altered at the orders of Mr. GAZE, wirelessly from the 'TRICNA'.</p>	
NAURU IS	17 Nov 45	<p><u>DESTRUCTION OF CANTILEVER JETTY:</u>          The Pioneer P1 today completed destruction of the steel work of the cantilever jetty, north of the cantilever loaders, with the use of explosive charges.</p> <p><u>B.P.C WORKS PROGRAMME:</u>          The daily works sheet is attached as an appendix. 260 Koreans are employed. The schedule of works is unchanged.</p> <p><u>ARRIVAL OF AIR COURIER:</u>          The Catalina landed at 1355L, after a flight of over 7 hours from PIVA, TOROKINA. Mail, fresh supplies, and clothing were offloaded.</p>	Appendix '21'

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NAURU - OCEAN ISLAND  
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LOCATION	DATE	TEXT	APPENDICES, REMARKS
NAURU IS	17 Nov 45	<p><u>ARMY AMENITIES FILMS:</u>            W.O.I of Aust Army Amenities, Torokina, travelled on the Catalina, bringing two films for screening at the weekend for the entertainment of Army personnel and civilians. He will check on the B.P.C equipment for use with the Army films, and also inspect the Japanese projectors held here.</p> <p>There was a large audience at the showing of the pre-release film, "Junior Miss" tonight. Many were attracted by the film of the running of 1945 Melbourne Cup.</p> <p><u>KOREAN CAMP CONCERT:</u>            The Korean unit staged a concert for their own entertainment tonight, which was attended by a group of officers from the Force. They found the spectacle interesting but largely incomprehensible.</p>	
OCEAN IS	17 Nov 45	<p><u>LABOUR &amp; SERVICES RENDERED BRITISH PHOSPHATE COMMISSION:</u>            Attached as an appendix is a signal from OCEAN FORCE to NAURU FORCE setting out man hours and material expended by the Force on behalf of the Phosphate Commission during period 16 Oct to 15 Nov.</p>	Appendix '22'
NAURU IS	18 Nov 45	<p><u>WORKS:</u>            Today, Sunday, was observed as a rest day. No Koreans were employed and consequently no works sheet was issued.</p> <p><u>FLIGHT TO OCEAN ISLAND:</u>            The Catalina completed a flight to OCEAN ISLAND where mail was dropped, and landed at NAURU at 1030L.</p> <p><u>FILM SCREENING:</u>            A large majority enjoyed the screening of the film, "Rhythm on the River", starring the ever-popular Bing Crosby.</p> <p><u>PREPARATION OF CAMP SITE:</u>            Anticipating the arrival of the 'B' Company Group from OCEAN ISLAND on the 'TRIENZA' tomorrow, troops of 'D' Company worked today to complete their camp site.</p>	

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NAURU - OCEAN ISLAND  
FORCE.

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LOCATION	DATE	TEXT	APPENDICES, REMARKS
NAURU IS	18 Nov 45	<p><u>EVACUATION OF OCEAN ISLAND:</u>            An instruction from the General Manager of the British Phosphate Commission, on the 'TRICNA', received today directed that the 'TRIENZA' would proceed to NAURU carrying Korean labourers and the Australian garrison ('B' Company and attached troops) and Navy Signals detachment.</p> <p>The present plan is for the 'TRICNA' to touch at OCEAN ISLAND and then proceed to TARAWA where native recruits will be embarked for passage to OCEAN ISLAND.</p>	
NAURU IS	19 Nov 45	<p><u>CATALINA DEPARTS FOR TOROKINA:</u>            Passenger space on the plane this morning, departing at 0605L, was filled by personnel of the Force returning to Australia for demobilization because of occupational releases and high priority points.</p> <p>The 12 personnel included 2 CRs from each of the 222 Sup Dep P1 (AIF), 76 Aust Tpt P1 (AIF), and RAN SDO. Personnel from 31/51 Aust Inf Bn (AIF) totalling six, included Capt. H.N. BENTLEY, W.O.ii. E.G. EDWARDS, Sjt THOMSON H.L., Cpl. VALINOTI, and Pte. SOMMERVILLE G.T. All these personnel have over 190 points for demobilization.</p> <p>Capt. H.N. BENTLEY, O.C. 'D' Company, joined the Bn in Aug 44 at Townsville, when the unit disembarked from SS 'KATOOMBA' (some personnel travelled on to Sydney in the 'TAROONA'), after serving in MERAUKE area, D.N.G., since June 43. He had been serving with the 44th Battalion in Western Australia. In BOUGAINVILLE operations he served as 2 i/c 'C' Company, and then as O.C. 'D' Company in succession to Maj. T.H.A. TITLEY</p> <p>EDWARDS, VALINOTI, and SOMMERVILLE, served with the 51st Bn in training camps during 1940 and 1941, prior to entering on full time service in Dec 1941.</p>	

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NAURU - OCEAN ISLAND  
FORCE.+ note: Nauru-Ocean  
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LOCATION	DATE	TEXT	APPENDICES, REMARKS
NAURU IS	19 Nov 45.	<p>In MERAUKE area during 1943-44 W.O. EDWARDS served as a Pl Sjt, and for many months commanded the first of the chain of outposts stretching for 200 miles. This was Post '1', located at OKABA, a Javanese village 40 miles NW along the coast from the MERAUKE RIVER. The population included a number of refugee civil servants of the Netherlands East Indies, and Edwards gained a fluent knowledge of Malay. Duties of the outpost were to observe and report movement by air and sea, as Japanese aircraft were active, and for a long time successfully eluded our air patrols.</p> <p>In BOUGAINVILLE W.O.ii EDWARDS served as C.SM. of 'D' Coy, and as acting R.S.M.</p> <p>Cpl. VALINOTI served in MERAUKE and BOUGAINVILLE as a gun sjt in the Tka Pl, and in the GENGA RIVER area carried out many flanking and security patrols. In NAURU he was assistant to the Works Officer.</p> <p>Pte. SOMMERVILLE served since 1941 with the Int Section. In Dutch New Guinea he was a member of many patrols and traversing parties. In BOUGAINVILLE during periods of action he was attached to coys, in the TSIMBA - LALUM areas, and with a number of patrols operating from PEARL RIDGE.</p> <p>Sjt. THOMSON served with the 31st Bn since Sep 1941. In Dutch New Guinea he was in charge of the section which manned the outpost on the DIGCEL RIVER, at the formerly much bombed MAPPI post. In BOUGAINVILLE he was pl sjt of 17 Pl throughout operations.</p> <p><u>WORKS PROGRESS:</u> The programme of works is progressing favourably. Practically no change in the nature of the work is revealed by the Works Sheet.</p> <p><u>WAR CRIMES:</u> Further evidence was taken today in the investigation of crimes by the Japanese against the native and Chinese population of NAURU.</p>	Appendix '23'

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NAURU - OCEAN ISLAND  
FORCE.

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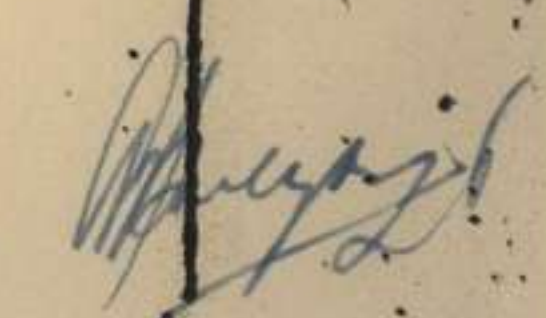
LOCATION	DATE	TEXT	APPENDICES, REMARKS
NAURU IS	19 Nov 45	<p><u>VOYAGE TO RABAU - USE OF B.P.C. SHIPPING:</u> The Force Comd, Lt Col. KELLY, sent a signal to Mr. GAZE, Manager of the British Phosphate Commission, today, with regard to the employment of the 'TRIENZA' or 'TRICNA' for the movement of 330 personnel and stores to RABAU. The signal was directed to the S.S. 'TRICNA' via SUVA Radio.</p> <p><u>ADMINISTRATION - ROUTINE ORDERS:</u> Routine Orders Part I, Serial 6, Nos 24-26, by Comd NAURU FORCE were promulgated to all sub-units today. Copy is attached.</p>	
OCEAN IS	19 Nov 45	<p><u>CLOSING OF NAVAL WIRELESS STATION:</u> No signals were received from OCEAN ISLAND today. The SDO at OCEAN ISLAND closed at 1200L, when personnel embarked with the wireless equipment.</p> <p><u>EMBARKATION OF OCEAN ISLAND GARRISON:</u> All troops boarded the 'TRIENZA' during the afternoon and stores and gear was loaded. A quantity of crated Japanese equipment was left in the store, to be loaded for Australia at a later date, on a B.P.C. vessel. The ship was under way at 1630L.</p> <p>The Force Comd sent an instruction to the Q.C. OCEAN GARRISON Capt. B.W. GIRARD, to breakfast on board the 'TRIENZA', and to disembark his force at NAURU on 20 Nov, after Capt. G.V. ROBERTS and the Medical Officer had boarded ship.</p>	Appendix '24'
NAURU IS	20 Nov 45	<p><u>ARRIVAL OF OCEAN ISLAND GARRISON at NAURU:</u> The 'TRIENZA' arrived at NAURU at 0530L. Troops were landed at 0800L and transported to their camp area adjacent to 'D' Coy at the NW tip of No.1 Airstrip. The balance of the day was spent in erection of tents, handling of stores, and cleaning up.</p> <p>Arrival of the 'TRIENZA' has meant a call for 60 Koreans to handle cargo, and a total of 363 are allocated today. See appx.</p> <p><u>RECREATION - CRICKET MATCH:</u> A team from Adm HQ was successful in a game against 'D' Coy played on the new airstrip pitch.</p>	Appendix '25'

*[Handwritten signature]*

31/51 AUSTRALIAN INF BN (AIF).  
NAURU - OCEAN ISLAND  
FORCE.

Month of NOVEMBER 1945.

+ note: Nauru-Ocean  
 Force is made  
 up of B and D  
 Coys+ att tps.

LOCATION	DATE	TEXT	APPENDICES, REMARKS
NAURU IS	21 Nov 45	<p><u>Commander's CONFERENCE:</u>            Lt Col KELLY informed the assembly that the 'TRIENZA' was expected to complete discharge of cargo by the 23 or 24 Nov, and would then go to TARAWA on a labour recruiting mission which would take the ship up and down the Gilbert Islands. It was due to return to NAURU on the 14th Dec, when the body of troops from NAURU and OCEAN Islands, less one platoon remaining on NAURU, would be embarked with their stores, the ship to depart on 15th Dec, and to arrive at RABAU on 19th Dec.</p> <p>Cabin space tentatively available will accommodate 47. Troops will be accommodated below, on the 'tween decks. The ship's captain will be ready to receive the Adjutant and Int Officer today, so that an assessment of accommodation and facilities required can be made.</p> <p><u>Platoon Garrison - NAURU.</u>            Lt Col KELLY stated that Capt. P. JAMES would be in command of forces remaining on NAURU. The platoon remaining is to be composed of personnel with a low total of points for demobilization. 'B' Coy was instructed to check for available suitable volunteers, and to submit the names to HQ Nauru Force.</p> <p><u>Force Q.M.</u>            Until the departure for RABAU, Lt H.C. CUNNINGTON will hold the appointment of Q.M. of the Force, in succession to Capt. G.V. ROBERTS who is to depart for Australia for demobilization.</p> <p><u>Movements of 'TRIENZA'.</u>            The second B.P.C. vessel is expected to arrive at NAURU on Saturday. It will not be discharging cargo here, but will proceed to OCEAN ISLAND, returning to NAURU on 5th Dec.</p> <p><u>UNLOADING OF 'TRIENZA':</u>            Of 357 Koreans employed, two gangs of 139 and 124 are employed on the unloading, with three Aust troops to each gang. The first gang works from 0600 to 1700, and the second to midnight.</p>	<p>Appendix '26'.</p> 



51/51 AUST INF BN (AIF)  
 NAURU - OCEAN ISLAND  
 FORCE.

+ note: Nauru-Ocean  
 Force is made  
 up of B and D  
 Coy's with the

Events of NOVEMBER 1945.

TO/TOI	DATE	TEXT	APPEAL CES, REMARKS												
NAURU IS	21 Nov 45	<p>Building materials, roofing, timber, and rations are being discharged from the ship.</p> <p><u>INSPECTION OF SHIP'S SPACE:</u>                      Lt. A.E. SMITH AND Lt. A. SPRILYAN of ForceHQ boarded the 'TRIEZA' this morning and conferred with the master of the ship, Capt. GODWIN Japanese Equipment.</p> <p>He advised that the General Manager had given approval for shipment to Australia of all Japanese equipment at OCEAN and NAURU, which had not been transferred to the Civil administration or B.P.C.</p> <p>At OCEAN Is. there are 53 packages, comprising 32 ship's tons and 12 dead weight tons, ready for shipment, and at NAURU the balance not loaded on the 'ENID' amounts to 33 ship's tons and 13 tons dead weight.</p> <p>It is considered advisable that unit equipment and Japanese equipment be loaded into different holds.</p> <p><u>Floor Space in Holds:</u>                      The ship has four holds with the following measurements :-</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>No. 1</td> <td>.....</td> <td>2,200 sq ft</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>.....</td> <td>2,800 sq ft.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>.....</td> <td>2,700 sq ft.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>.....</td> <td>2,300 sq ft.</td> </tr> </table> <p>The Int Officer, Lt. A. SPRILYAN, prepared rough sketches of the ship's accommodation, and marked positions where facilities are to be constructed for troop carrying.</p> <p>It is planned to erect awnings as well as hatch covers.</p> <p><u>Construction of Facilities:</u>                      A small section of Bn pioneers under L/Sjt J. COLE will travel on the ship during its cruise of the GILBERTS, including two carpenters and a plumber. It will be their task to build 20 showers, 20 latrines, 18 washing ablution basins, and cooking facilities with 4 Fowler and 6 sawyer stoves.</p>	No. 1	.....	2,200 sq ft	2	.....	2,800 sq ft.	3	.....	2,700 sq ft.	4	.....	2,300 sq ft.	<p></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>[Signature]</i></p>
No. 1	.....	2,200 sq ft													
2	.....	2,800 sq ft.													
3	.....	2,700 sq ft.													
4	.....	2,300 sq ft.													

Month of NOVEMBER 1945.31/51 AUST INF BN (AIF).  
NAURU - OCEAN ISLAND  
FORCE.+ note: Nauru-Ocean  
Force is made  
up of B and D  
Coys att tps.

LOCATION	DATE	TEXT	APPENDICES, REMARKS
NAURU IS	21 Nov 45	<p>Timber has been loaded on the ship, but if this is not sufficient, the B.P.C. will provide timber from the stocks on board and charge the cost to the Dept. of Army.</p> <p><u>Transport of Troops from RABAU to AUSTRALIA.</u></p> <p>Capt. GODWIN advised that approximately 650 troops could be transported on the 'TRIENZA' from RABAU to AUSTRALIA.</p> <p>The problem of water is important, and enquiries are to be made to ascertain what watering facilities are available at RABAU to replenish ship's stocks for the voyage to AUSTRALIA.</p> <p><u>COMMUNICATION SYSTEM ON CLOSURE OF NAVY SDO.</u></p> <p>All Royal Aust Navy personnel are to proceed to RABAU on the 'TRIENZA' and the naval wireless station will close.</p> <p>The A.W.A. station here will be used to pass army signals. At present the regular schedule links the transmitter with SYDNEY, but the A.W.A. station located at LAE would be a convenient link between First Aust Army and NAURU Garrison Force.</p> <p><u>WEATHER:</u></p> <p>Sky was overcast during the day, and slight showers were received during the evening.</p> <p><u>INTER-COMPANY CRICKET:</u></p> <p>A match between 'B' Coy and 'D' Coy played today resulted in a win for the latter.</p>	
NAURU IS	22 Nov 45	<p><u>ATROCITIES TO CHINESE:</u></p> <p>More evidence was taken today from Chinese witnesses at an interrogation conducted at the Chinese Location by the Intelligence Officer.</p> <p><u>GUARD PERSONNEL ON 'TRIENZA':</u></p> <p>In addition to the pioneer detachment, a guard of 12 drawn from 'B' and 'D' Coys, under Sjt. PERRUX, will travel on the 'TRIENZA' during its mission of recruiting and repatriation in the CAROLINES and GILBERTS.</p>	<p><i>[Handwritten signature]</i></p>

51/51 AUST INF BN (AIF).  
NAURU - OCEAN ISLAND  
F. ROL.

+ note: Nauru-Ocean  
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Month of NOVEMBER 1945.

LOCATION	DATE	TEXT	APPENDICES, REMARKS
NAURU IS	22 Nov 45	<p><u>REPATRIATION OF GILBERTESE FROM NAURU: WITNESSES OF WAR CRIMES:</u>                      Advice was sent to First Aust Army, and repeated to 3 Aust Div, that the Civil Administration plan to repatriate the Gilbertese from NAURU on the 'TRIENZA' on the 25 Nov. The witnesses to the atrocities committed at NAURU and OCEAN Island are included in their number, and accordingly direction is sought whether the witnesses are to be retained at NAURU</p> <p><u>POSTAL ADDRESS, NAURU GARRISON:</u>                      Mail for NAURU and OCEAN Forces is at present addressed to OO4, 'A' and 'B' detachments respectively. An application was made to First Aust Army yesterday for the allocation of a new address to be used by the troops remaining on NAURU, after the movement of the main body to RABAUL. First Aust Army subsequently advised that this address would be OO4 'C' Detachment.</p> <p><u>WORKS: UNLOADING OF 'TRIENZA':</u>                      Discharge of cargo continued today, with two gangs of Koreans composed of 139 and 124 men respectively. See Works Sheet attached.</p> <p><u>PICTURE SCREENING FOR KOREANS:</u>                      A film was shown tonight at the Koreans' camp for their entertainment.</p> <p><u>C.O.'s CONFERENCE:</u>                      The C.O. instructed the medical officer, Capt. RODRIGUEZ, to prepare medical stores for the voyage of the 'TRIENZA' through the Caroline and Gilbert Islands, for the treatment of natives being repatriated from KUSAIE. These islanders were transported from OCEAN ISLAND by the Japanese.</p> <p>Capt. RODRIGUEZ will travel on the ship as medical officer.                      Capt. W. SWANEY will be the medical officer, NAURU, during his absence.</p>	<p>Appendix '27'</p>
	23 Nov 45		

Month of NOVEMBER 1945.

31/51 AUST INF BN (ALF).  
NAURU - OCEAN ISLAND  
FORCE.

+ note: Nauru-Ocean  
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Coys+ att tps.

LOCATION	DATE	TEXT	APPENDICES, REMARKS
NAURU IS	23 Nov 45	<p><u>EXPECTED ARRIVAL OF 'TRICNA':</u> The 'TRICNA' (7,200 tons) is due to arrive at NAURU on 24th Nov and will stay a short time before moving on to OCEAN Is.</p> <p><u>UNLOADING OF 'TRIENZA':</u> With the use of large gangs of Koreans working under Australian infantry men, the unloading of the ship was completed today. At the same time Koreans are working on board ship under the direction of Bn. pioneer personnel installing facilities for large scale passenger carrying.</p> <p>The other tasks on which Australian personnel are supervising Koreans are few today, being - erection of steel huts, fresh water supply, and cantilever repairs. A few Koreans are employed for Army purposes, as mechanics, water cart operators, and laundry men at the Field Ambulance.</p>	<p>Appendix '28'</p>
	24 Nov 45	<p><u>GENERAL REVIEW:</u> There was considerable activity today, due to the embarkation of the Gilbertese population of NAURU, the arrival of the 'TRICNA' and its subsequent departure following closely on the 'TRIENZA', and the arrival of the weekly Catalina with mail and supplies. The General Manager of the British Phosphate Commission, Mr. GAZE, who arrived on the 'TRICNA', called on the Force Comd, Lt Col KELLY.</p> <p><u>SHIPPING MOVEMENTS:</u> The 'TRICNA' arrived at NAURU shortly before midnight, 23 Nov. General cargo was not discharged during the day, but canteen supplies for NAURU and OCEAN Forces, including beer, came ashore. Mail loaded at MELBOURNE for OCEAN ISLAND forces was also unloaded, and distributed to troops during the day.</p> <p>A party of 18 Koreans under two NCOs of the Bn. were taken on board during the evening, to work cargo at OCEAN ISLAND, and to assist in preparation and laying of moorings off shore. The ship departed NAURU at 2030 hrs (L time).</p>	<p><i>[Handwritten signature]</i></p>

31/51 AUST INF BN (AIF).  
NAURU - OCEAN ISLAND  
FORCE.

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Month of NOVEMBER 1945.

LOCATION	DATE	TEXT	APPENDICES, REMARKS
NAURU IS.	24 Nov 45	<p>The m.v. 'TRIENZA' loaded 778 Gilbertese and Banabans, and their personal belongings, for repatriation to their home islands. The vessel departed for KUSAIE in the Caroline Group at 1930 L hrs. A few Gilbertese remain on NAURU. A number are being held as witnesses to atrocities, and several are members of the Nauruan Police. Their wives and children also remain.</p> <p>The native population remaining, the Nauruans, are comparatively few in number, totalling roughly 500 men, women, and children. 700 Nauruans are in the TRUK Group awaiting repatriation to NAURU.</p> <p><u>AIR COURIER:</u>                      The R.A.A.F. Catalina landed at 1420L, with freight consisting of 39 cases of fresh food, 13 cases of clothing, mail, and two trunks of film.</p> <p>Cpl. MULHALL, A.A.P.S., arrived to relieve the Postal Sjt, J.D. FITZGERALD who has been posted to a redundant unit.</p> <p><u>WORKS PROGRAMME:</u>                      The works programme is similar to that of 23 Nov, and activity centres on shipping off shore. See copy attached.</p> <p><u>B.P.C. MANAGER, Mr. GAZE, CONFERS WITH FORCE CMD:</u>                      Mr. A.H. GAZE, accompanied by Mr. MILNE, called on the C.O., Lt Col J. KELLY, being introduced by the B.P.C. Manager at NAURU, Mr. B. KIRK.</p> <p>Mr. GAZE is going on to OCEAN ISLAND on the 'TRICNA', but will return to NAURU on that ship prior to departing for MELBOURNE. His visit will enable a number of matters to be discussed, in particular the use of B.P.C. ships for movement of troops and equipment, and the transfer of Japanese and Australian Army equipment to the Commission.</p> <p><u>INTELLIGENCE REPORT OF BATTALION AT RABAU:</u>                      Intelligence Report No.1 of 31/51 Aust Inf Bn (AIF), RABAU, was received by air mail today. A programme of construction and training is outlined.</p>	Appendix '29'.

31/51 AUST INF B' (AIF).  
NAURU - OCEAN ISLAND  
FORCE.

+ note: Nauru-Ocean  
 Force is made  
 up of B and D  
 Coy+ att tps.


Month of NOVEMBER 1945.

LOCATION	DATE	TEXT	APPENDICES, REMARKS
NAURU IS	24 Nov 45.	<p><u>AMENITIES - FILM SCREENING:</u>                      An Aust Army Amenities Service film was screened at the B.P.C. theatre tonight, before an audience comprised of the greater part of the Force. This was the first full length film seen by the OCEAN ISLAND force since their departure from TOROKINA at the end of September.</p>	
	25 Nov 45	<p><u>REST DAY - SUNDAY:</u>                      With shipping cleared last night there was no works programme today.                      Swimming and cricket attracted a number of troops, and a film was screened in the evening.                      A cricket team from Adm HQ was successful against a team drawn from the ranks of Force officers and RAAF officers, from the crew of the Catalina.                      Many troops were occupied answering letters received by air, as this is the first outward mail for 'B' Company personnel from OCEAN ISLAND since the ketch 'KIA KIA' took mail to TARAWA for despatch to Australia via SUVA.</p>	
	26 Nov 45	<p><u>PREPARATION OF WAR CRIMES FILE OF EVIDENCE:</u>                      The file on Native Atrocities at NAURU was completed today by the Intelligence Section, but it was decided to hold this until the following week, when the witnesses are likely to be taken to TOROKINA for further investigation of the cases. The file on Atrocities to the Chinese of NAURU will also be completed during the coming week.</p> <p><u>DEPARTURE OF CATALINA:</u>                      In addition to personnel travelling on duty, and for demobilization, the aircraft which took off for PIVA at 0700L this morning carried two medical evacuations, one a member of the 42 Landing Craft Company who fractured an ankle in an accident at</p>	

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LOCATION	DATE	TEXT	APPENDICES, REMARKS
NAURU IS.	26 Nov 45	<p>OCEAN ISLAND. and the other the first civilian to be transported by the service, Mr. Eccles of the B.P.C.</p> <p>Three passengers were Capt. B.W. GIRARD, O.C. OCEAN Garrison Force, Capt. G.V. ROBERTS, 2 i/c 'D' Coy and Q.M. NAURU FORCE, and Lieut. ROBSON, RAN, S.D.O. OCEAN ISLAND. Capt GIRARD and Capt. ROBERTS are on movement to Australia for demobilization.</p> <p>Capt. GIRARD has had a long association with this unit, first with the 31st and then with the 51st Battalion, of which he was Adjutant. On the amalgamation of the units in April 43 he was appointed Adjutant and held that position for an unbroken period terminating after the cessation of hostilities in Aug 45.</p> <p>Capt. ROBERTS held the appointment of Intelligence Officer in the 31st Bn in Townsville and Cape York areas. He joined the 31/51 Bn in MERAUKE as a pl commander, 'B' Coy, and served under Capt. A.L. SHILTON at POST '6' on the EILANDEN River, Dutch N.G., as patrol leader. He had a similar role in BOUGAINVILLE along the NUMA NUMA Trail, before he was appointed 2 i/c 'D' Coy prior to campaigning at RATSUA. As Q.M. NAURU FORCE he has been responsible for collection and disposal of Japanese equipment.</p> <p><u>INVESTIGATION OF ATROCITIES:</u></p> <p>Further questioning of Chinese witnesses was carried out today at the Chinese Location. In addition to atrocities by the Japanese, deaths of Chinese by starvation, illness, and suicide, during the Japanese occupation of NAURU are also being investigated.</p> <p><u>COLLECTION OF JAPANESE EQUIPMENT:</u></p> <p>An instruction has been received from First Aust Army that Japanese equipment is to be concentrated at NAURU, and guarded by the garrison force. At present a quantity of Japanese equipment is still awaiting shipment from OCEAN ISLAND.</p> <p><u>DAILY WORKS PROGRAMME:</u></p> <p>Clearing cargo, construction, and reconditioning of water services engage a large number of 308 Koreans employed today.</p>	<p>Appendix '30'.</p> 

Month of NOVEMBER 1945.

31/51 AUST INF BN (AIF).  
NAURU - OCEAN ISLAND  
FORCE.

+ note: Nauru-Ocean Force is made up of B and D Coys+ att tps.

LOCATION	DATE	TEXT	APPENDICES, REMARKS
	26 Nov 45	<p><u>DEMOBILIZATION OF UNIT OFFICERS:</u>                      Capt. COMBLEY, formerly O.C. 'D' Coy, who departed for Australia to attend the School of Air Cooperation, CANBERRA, in July, is being demobilized in Western Australia.                      Capt. W.J. WALSH, who succeeded Capt. N.J.HARRIS as O.C. 'B' Coy, at the cessation of hostilities was in Australia attending LHQ Tactical School. Advice has been received that he has been posted to Regtl Supernumary List, and held in NSW L of C Area.                      The Battalion has now lost most of its senior officers through demobilization because of long service and high priority points. They include Maj. R.G.SAMPSON, Capt. B.W.GIRARD, Capt. A.L. SHILTON, Capt. H.N. BENTLEY, Capt. N.J.HARRIS, Capt. W.J.WALSH, Capt. J. COMBLEY, Capt. G.V.ROBERTS; Lt. K.KNIGHT, Lt. E.RANDALL, Lt. E. EBSARY, and Lt. F.REITER.</p> <p><u>INCREASED RATION SCALE FOR KOREANS:</u>                      Approval of First Aust Army was requested on 23 Nov for a 50% increase in ration scale for the Korean unit, on the recommendation of the Medical Officer, Nauru Force. This approval was received on 24 Nov, the reply stating that the increase was authorised for surrendered Japanese soldiers doing hard manual labour, and the Koreans were regarded for this purpose as surrendered Japanese soldiers.</p> <p><u>INVESTIGATION OF JAPANESE ATROCITIES - NATIVE &amp; CHINESE WITNESSES:</u>                      The signal from this HQ advising of the departure of the Gilbertese population from NAURU brought replies from First Aust Army and from 3 Aust Div.                      3 Aust Div signal Q.M. 4488 of 231230K advised that the Atrocities Commission had made a request that the Gilbertese witnesses be held available until further advice.                      First Aust Army advised that it was essential the witnesses be held until identification of war criminals is complete.</p>	



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Month of NOVEMBER 1945.

LOCATION	DATE	TEXT	APPENDICES, REMARKS
	26 Nov 45	<p>A further First Aust Army signal, AG.17924 of 231430K concurred with memo from this HQ INT 816, and advised that passage by air for the investigating officer and important witnesses to TOROKINA was approved. 3 Div was instructed to provide accomodation and arrange for interrogation and identification of Japanese.</p> <p>It is proposed to despatch the Investigating officer and 14 important witnesses from NAURU by Catalina on 3 Dec.</p>	
	27 Nov 45	<p><u>GILBERTESE CREW MEMBERS AT RABAUl RECOVERED FROM JAPANESE:</u></p> <p>A signal from First Aust Army advised that nine Gilbert Island natives, members of the crew of the motor vessel JOHN BOLTON, had been recovered from the Japanese and were at RABAUl awaiting repatriation. Land Forces had made the suggestion that the Comd NAURU FORCE confer with Mr. GAZE of the British Phosphate Commission regarding the use of a B.P.C. vessel for the purpose.</p> <p><u>ARMY LANDING CRAFT AT NAURU:</u></p> <p>First Aust Army signal was received today requiring details of the scheme of port working at NAURU after withdrawal of the main force to RABAUl, and whether Army personnel would be required to work landing craft for army purposes.</p> <p>A reply was despatched that no Army personnel would be required and that no landing craft would be required for Army purposes. The handling of cargo and supplies will be the responsibility of the B.P.C. to whom the L.C. 15's will be transferred.</p> <p><u>OFFICERS TO SERVE IN INTERIM ARMY:</u></p> <p>In response to an instruction from First Aust Army it has been ascertained that there are no officers of NAURU FORCE willing to serve in the interim army, and that there are no NCOs willing to volunteer, who are suitable for appointment to a commission.</p> <p><u>JAPANESE COMMANDERS AT OCEAN ISLAND LOCATED:</u></p> <p>Commanders TOYAMA AND TANIURA of the Japanese Navy, who were commanders at OCEAN ISLAND in 1943, have been located at SASEBO,</p>	

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NAURU - OCEAN ISLAND  
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LOCATION	DATE	TEXT	APPENDICES, REMARKS
	27 Nov 45	<p>a naval depot near the port of NAGASAKI, island of KYUSHU, JAPAN. The question of their arrest in connection with war crimes against Europeans and natives at OCEAN ISLAND is at present under consideration.</p> <p><u>WORKS PROGRAMME:</u>          The daily works sheet issued calls for 20 Army personnel to supervise Korean gangs on Phosphate Commission projects such as cargo sorting, road clearing, cleaning water cisterns, fresh water service, and power house and ice house repairs.</p> <p><u>INVESTIGATION OF CHINESE DEATHS:</u>          The investigation of the deaths of Chinese during the Japanese occupation of NAURU was carried a stage further today at the Chinese Location. The leader of the Chinese, MA NAI FAI, the B.P.C. Interpreter, is the leading witness, and interpreter for Chinese called in as witnesses to Japanese atrocities to their countrymen. Some of the crimes were cold blooded murder by execution and flogging. The pumpkin farm on which 70 - 90 Chinese worked was in the hands of a small group of sadistic overseers who would clout or strike the coolies without pretext. Stealing of a pumpkin twice led to death for underfed Chinese.</p> <p><u>SPORT - CRICKET AND TENNIS:</u>          'B' Coy today decisively defeated a team from Adm HQ, by a margin of an innings and 43 runs. Their combination was developed at OCEAN ISLAND in matches against the Gilbertese police and civil employees.</p> <p>Tennis on the white glaring concrete airstrip is a strenuous and tiring game, but players are to be found with sufficient store of energy or keenness for the game to keep the court occupied. Some of the Koreans show an interest in the game, and can be recruited as ballboys, as the court is sited directly opposite their HQ barracks.</p>	Appendix '31'

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NAURU - OCEAN ISLAND  
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LOCATION	DATE	TEXT	APPENDICES, REMARKS
	28 Nov 45	<p><u>WAR CRIMES INVESTIGATION:</u> Taking of evidence of Chinese witnesses relating to crimes by the Japanese against the Chinese was completed at the Chinese Location today. The evidence is now being prepared and assembled for submission of a completed report to First Aust Army and Atrocities Commission, 3 Aust Div area, BOUGAINVILLE. First Aust Army AG.18147 of 280930K received today approves the passage by air of investigating officer and 14 witnesses to BOUGAINVILLE.</p> <p><u>C.O.'s CONFERENCE:</u> The following matters were discussed at the conference this morning:- <u>Koreans:</u> The C.O. directed the Medical Officer to make a visit of inspection to the Korean unit twice a week. The Medical Officer stated that he was of the opinion that many of the Korean sick were not very ill.</p> <p><u>Mechanical Equipment on Transfer:</u> Capt. K.WILSON is inspecting Australian Army barges and H.D.7 tractor prior to handover to B.P.C.</p> <p><u>Movement of RAN personnel to RABAU:</u> The C.O. advised that Navy personnel would be going to RABAU. Those personnel on draft to Australia would march out from that base.</p> <p><u>WORKS:</u> Of 350 Koreans employed today, 57 are stowing cargo, and 35 road clearing. The bulk are engaged on mechanical engineering works</p> <p><u>AMENITIES:</u> A film supplied by the B.P.C. was screened at the B.P.C. theatre tonight before a large audience.</p>	<p>Appendix '32'.</p> 

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LOCATION	DATE	TEXT	APPENDICES, REMARKS
	28 Nov 45	<p><u>PORTABLE ELCTRIC GENERATORS ON TRANSFER:</u> The portable generating plants providing power for the Navy wireless transmitters are to be transferred to the Civil Administration for lighting purposes, and the RAAF is to drawn power from this source for its communication system after the departure of the Navy SDO.</p>	
	29 Nov 45	<p><u>SHIPPING:</u> The 'TRIONA' is at present employed at OCEAN ISLAND laying moorings off shore. The pre-war moorings were reputed to be the deepest in the world, in 250 fathoms, but a new position has been found and the anchor now rests at 170 fathoms. Two 31/51 Bn corporals with a gang of 12 Koreans are playing an important part in this work under the supervision of B.P.C. personnel, preparing chains and hawsers, linking the chain to the anchor and welding all links. The 'TRIONA' has a specially constructed bow for this work. The mooring buoy chain is renewed every five years, and the steel hawsers linking the anchor chain at the 'jewel' 30 feet below water level, with the two span buoys (which are anchored by chain to the shore) are renewed every three years. No mishaps occurred and noone was hurt when on one occasion a ssteel rope snapped and flew back up the derrick arm. Before working off OCEAN ISLAND the 'TRIONA' called at TARAWA, Gilbert Group, for a few hours to pick up 80/90 Gilbertese labourers brought out to the ship in American landing craft. Advice was received that the 'TRIENZA' reached KUSAIE in the Carolines on the 25th Nov and departed the same night. It is at present somewhere in the Gilbert Group. It is due back at NAURU on the 15th Dec, to embark troops for RABAUL, from which it will carry troops to MELBOURNE. Advice from RABAUL is that there is no water available there for refilling tanks.</p>	

*Handwritten signature*

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LOCATION	DATE	TEXT	APPENDICES, REMARKS
	29 Nov 45	<p><u>WORKS:</u> Details of works for today are shown in Works Sheet attached as an appendix.</p> <p><u>DISTRIBUTION OF SWORDS AS SOUVENIRS:</u> Approximately 125 swords were distributed today by ballot, making an allotment of about 2 swords to every 5 men. The condition of the swords ranges from good to very poor. A number have rusted blades or broken handles. There seem to be none of outstanding value.</p> <p><u>SPORT - CRICKET:</u> A match was played this morning by teams from 'D' Coy and Adm HQ, which resulted in a win for the latter by the wide margin of 7 wickets and 61 runs. A second match was played in the afternoon, a challenge game between the officers and the serjeants. Serjeants won by 70 runs.</p>	Appendix '33'.
	30 Nov 45	<p><u>WORKS:</u> There is little variation in the programme of works for today, listed in Works Programme Sheet attached as appendix.</p> <p><u>ADMINISTRATION:</u> Nauru Force Routine Order Serial 7, No.27 issued today deals with malaria control, requiring strict attention to discipline in this matter.</p> <p><u>C.O's CONFERENCE:</u> The following matters were dealt with at the conference of officers this morning, at which Lt Col KELLY presided.:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>'Triona'</u>. The estimated time of arrival at NAURU of the 'Triona' is 2 or 3 Dec, when moorings will be laid.</li> <li><u>Garrison Rations.</u> Capt. P. JAMES as Garrison commander, will take over 3 months rations from the Sup Depot, for the platoon remaining at NAURU.</li> </ol>	Appendix '34'.  Appendix '35'.

W . A . R . D . I . A . R . Y .

31/51 AUST INF BN (AIF).  
NAURU - OCEAN ISLAND  
FORCE.

+ note: Nauru-Ocean  
Force is made  
up of B and D  
Coys+ att tps.

Month of NOVEMBER 1945.

LOCATION	DATE	TEXT	APPENDICES, REMARKS																																																				
NAURU	30 Nov 45	<p>3. <u>KVA Sets from NAVY to Civil Adm.</u> The Navy have approved the transfer of the portable KVA sets from the Signal Station to the Civil Administration.</p> <p>4. <u>Native Witnesses - War Crimes.</u> It is intended to emplane native and Chinese witnesses of atrocities at NAURU on the next return flight of the Catalina to TOROKINA. The War Atrocities Commission is at present in BOUGAINVILLE.</p> <p><u>EXILED NAURUAN NATIVE POPULATION:</u> First Aust Army advised today that 793 Nauruan are at TRUK and are in fair condition. They will be repatriated when shipping is available.</p> <p><u>POSTING OF OFFICERS - NAURU FORCE:</u> At the end of Nov the officer personnel of NAURU FORCE were as follows :-</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Force Commander</td> <td>-</td> <td>Lt Col J. KELLY.</td> <td>C.O.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adjutant</td> <td>-</td> <td>Lt A.E. SMITH.</td> <td>Adjt.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Int Offr</td> <td>-</td> <td>Lt A. SPRILYAN</td> <td>I.O.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Q. Master</td> <td>-</td> <td>Lt H.C. CUNNINGTON</td> <td>Pl Comd</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Q.C. 'B' Coy</td> <td>-</td> <td>Capt. P. JAMES</td> <td>Coy Comd</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Acting 2 i/c " "</td> <td>-</td> <td>Lt. L. RIGBY</td> <td>Pl Comd</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Acting Q.C. 'D' Coy</td> <td>-</td> <td>Lt. S. DEVLIN</td> <td>Pl Comd</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Works Offr</td> <td>-</td> <td>Lt. W. GREGORY</td> <td>Pl Comd</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Medical Offr</td> <td>-</td> <td>Capt. RODRIGUEZ</td> <td>19 Fd Amb</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>-</td> <td>Capt. W. SWANEY</td> <td>19 Fd Amb</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Supply Offr</td> <td>-</td> <td>Capt. K. WILSON</td> <td>222 Sup Dep P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R.A.N. S.D.O.</td> <td>-</td> <td>Lieut. EBERHARDT</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>P.D.</td> <td>-</td> <td>Lieut.H. TOWN</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">++</p>	Force Commander	-	Lt Col J. KELLY.	C.O.	Adjutant	-	Lt A.E. SMITH.	Adjt.	Int Offr	-	Lt A. SPRILYAN	I.O.	Q. Master	-	Lt H.C. CUNNINGTON	Pl Comd	Q.C. 'B' Coy	-	Capt. P. JAMES	Coy Comd	Acting 2 i/c " "	-	Lt. L. RIGBY	Pl Comd	Acting Q.C. 'D' Coy	-	Lt. S. DEVLIN	Pl Comd	Works Offr	-	Lt. W. GREGORY	Pl Comd	Medical Offr	-	Capt. RODRIGUEZ	19 Fd Amb		-	Capt. W. SWANEY	19 Fd Amb	Supply Offr	-	Capt. K. WILSON	222 Sup Dep P	R.A.N. S.D.O.	-	Lieut. EBERHARDT		P.D.	-	Lieut.H. TOWN		<p style="text-align: right;"><i>[Signature]</i></p>
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*[Signature]* Lt Col.  
Comd. 31/51 Aust Inf Bn (AIF).

Ser	Task	LABOUR Koreans	Guards and Overseers	Tools	Time and place report		TRANSPORT		Remarks
					Guards and Overseers		Veh	Time & place reporting	
1	Water Carts	4			air strip	0740 hrs			report to Tot lines
2	Tailoring & Watch repairing	2			air strip	0740 hrs			report to store
3	Hygiene Menen district	60	12 NCOs pers		air strip	0740 hrs	Lx3 ton	air strip	0740 hrs truck allotted Pd Amb
4	Loading and bringing in crated gear	13	arranged by Cpl CROSSETT		air strip	0740 hrs	2x3 ton	air strip	0740 hrs Engrs truck & 1 extra
5	collecting expt	20	3 NCOs		air strip	0740 hrs	Lx3 ton	air strip	0740 hrs incl 234 231 199 196 & 233
6	Sorting expt	10	Cpl McHUGH		air strip	0740 hrs			
7	Crating expt warehouse area	6	Sgt COLE	car tools	air strip	0740 hrs	Lx3 ton	air strip	0740 hrs allotted to Sgt WOODS 371 374 375 383 390 & 391
8	Plumbing Party	3	Pte SAUER		air strip	0740 hrs			Plumbers
9	BEC Refrig	20	Sgt GUNTHORPE	"	air strip	0740 hrs	Lx3 ton	air strip	0740 hrs for conveying party to job 2 carpenters 18 labourers
10	R.A.A.F. Wireless Hut Marie Stopes location	14	ANCO carpenter	"	air strip	0740 hrs			2 carpenters, 12 labourers overseer to incl Sgt FERROUX
11	clearing parties	75	1 NCO & 3 arranged by		air strip	0740 hrs			march party to job
12	Repairing trucks Chinese location	11	Capt WILSON		air strip	0740 hrs			Korean mechanics
13	Bricklaying	14	Sgt T. OLSON		air strip	0740 hrs			incl bricklayers
14	Bolts etc for crates	3	Pte GLENN		wisps	0800 hrs			Blacksmiths
15	Crating expt warehouse	6	Pte DUFLORE Pte THOMAS	"	air strip	0740 hrs			arranged by Sgt WOODS 540 347 395 461 477 408
16	Crating MIA sets	12	Pte COLEMAN arranged by	"	air strip	0740 hrs			arranged by Sgt WOODS 124 127 147 151 164 182 142 148 149 150 153 160
17	D.I.D.	6	Capt WILSON Lcpl HARDING		air strip	0740 hrs			
18	Crates Ice plant	10	WILSON		air strip	0740 hrs			arranged by Sgt WOODS 367 369 377 379 382 444 456 405 412 419
19	Tinker for Crates	10	Sgt WOODS		air strip	0740 hrs			arranged by Sgt WOODS
20	Load, bring in engine & erect derrick	12	1 Sapper		air strip	0740 hrs	Lx3 ton	air strip	0740 hrs
21	Chinese location		5 overseers		Chinese loc	0800 hrs	1 jeep		0740 hrs

Appendix '1' - War Diary for Nov 45.

*[Signature]* Lt.  
Adjt MAURU Is FORCE.

DISTRIBUTION

	<u>Copy No.</u>
D. Coy	1/2
det 222 Aust Sup Dep Pl	3
det 19 Aust Ed Amb	4
det 76 Aust Gen Tpt 11	5
Navy	6
C.O.	7
Adjt	8
I.O.	9
Q.M.	10
Chinese Interpreter	11/12
Lt GREGORY	13
Opl CROSSETT	14
Sgt WOODS	15
Civil Adm	16
B.P.C.	17
War Diary	18/19
File	20

(a) Works Offr - Lt W.C. GREGORY

(b) Working hours Koreans  
0800 - 1200  
1300 - 1700

Work will be continuous except for breaks between 1000 hrs and 1015 hrs, 1200 - 1300 hrs and 1500 hrs 1515 hrs

(c) Sub units will ensure overseers report on time

(d) Overseers will ensure work is not slackened and rest is only allowed in periods laid down in para (c) hereof.



*19*

Ser	Task	Labour Korean	Guards and Overseers	Tools	Time and place report		TRANSPORT		Remarks
					Guards and Overseers		Veh	Time & place reporting	
1	Water Carts	4			air strip	0740 hrs			report to Tpt lines
2	Tailoring & Watch repairing	2			air strip	0740 hrs			report to C store
3	Loading and bringing in Crated gear	13	arranged by Col CROSSEY		air strip	0740 hrs	2x3 ton	air strip 0740 hrs	Engers truck & one extra
4	capt ROBERTS collecting expt	12	3 NCOs		air strip	0740 hrs	1x3 ton	air strip 0740 hrs	incl 234 231 198 196 & 233
5	Crating expt warehouse area	6	Sgt COLE	carp tools	air strip	0740 hrs	1x3 ton	air strip 0740 hrs	allotted to Sgt WOODS 371 374 375 383 390 & 391
6	Plumbin Party	6	Pte SAUER		air strip	0740 hrs			Plumbers
7	DIC Pefrig	20	Sgt GUNNORGE AASC	"	air strip	0740 hrs	1x5 ton	air strip 0740 hrs	For conveying party to job 2 carpenters, 13 labourers
8	R.A.F. Wireless Hut Marie Stopes location	14	carpenter	"	air strip	0740 hrs			2 carpenters, 12 labourers
9	clearing parties	105	1 NCO & 5 arranged by Capt WILSON		air strip	0740 hrs			overseer to incl Sgt FERROUL march party to job
10	Repairing trucks Chinese location	11	Capt WILSON		air strip	0740 hrs			Korean mechanics
11	Bricklaying	14	Sgt THOMPSON		air strip	0740 hrs			incl bricklayers
12	Bolts etc for crates	3	Pte GIBBON		wksps	0800 hrs			Blacksmiths
13	Crating expt warehouse	6	Pte DUFFOCK Pte F. OIAS	"	air strip	0740 hrs		arranged by Sgt WOODS	340 347 395 461 477 408
14	Crating KVA sets	12	Pte COLEMAN Lcpl HARDING	"	air strip	0740 hrs		arranged by Sgt WOODS	124 127 147 151 164 182 142 148 149 150 153 160
15	Crates ice plant	10	WILSON	"	air strip	0740 hrs		arranged by Sgt WOODS	367 369 377 379 382 444 456 405 412 419
16	Timber for Crates	10	Sgt WOODS		air strip	0740 hrs		arranged by Sgt WOODS	
17	Chinese location	-	5 overseers		Chinese loc	0800 hrs	1 jeep	NO	0740 hrs
18	Hygiene Menen district	60	12 Hyg pers		air strip	0740 hrs	1x3 ton	air strip 0740 hrs	truck allotted Td Amb

323

Lt  
Adjt MAURU IS FORCE.

Appendix '2' to War Diary - Nov 45.

DISTRIBUTION

Copy No.

D. Coy	1/2
det 222 Aust Sup Dep Pl	3
det 19 Aust Ed Amb	4
det 73 Aust Gen Tpt 11	5
Navy	6
C.O.	7
Adjt	8
I.O.	9
Q.M.	10
Chinese Interpreter	11/12
Lt GREGORY	13
Cpl CROSSETT	14
Sgt WOODS	15
Civil Adn	16
B.P.C.	17
War Diary	18/19
File	20

(a) Works Offr - Lt W.C. GREGORY

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0800 - 1200  
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Work will be continuous except for breaks between 1000 hrs and 1015 hrs, 1200 - 1300 hrs and 1500 hrs 1515 hrs

(c) Sub units will ensure overseers report on time

(d) Overseers will ensure work is not slackened and rest is only allowed in periods laid down in para (b) hereof.

WD  
[Handwritten initials]

Appendix '3' to WarDiary  
31/51 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)  
NAURU - Nov 45.

subject: DAILY ROUTINE

HQ NAURU-OCEAN IS FORCE  
2 NOV 45

D Coy  
Bn HQ  
det 48 Idg Craft Coy  
det 16 Aust Inf Coy RAE  
det 222 Aust Sup Depot Pl  
det 76 Aust Gen Tpt Pl  
det 19 Aust Pl Amb  
Navy

1. In order to conform with time in use by local civil administration all clocks and watches will be put back half an hour as from today 2 Nov 45.

2. The following daily time table will apply on and after 3 Nov .

Reveille	0600 hrs
Breakfast	0630 hrs
Overseers report	
Air strip	0715 hrs
Work commences	0730 hrs
Lunch	1140 hrs
Work recommences	1230 hrs
Work ceases	1630 hrs
Evening meal	1730 hrs
Officers Mess	1745 hrs
Retreat	1800 hrs

*R. Smith* Lt.  
HQ NAURU-OCEAN IS FORCE

Confidential  
2 Nov 45.

31/51 AUST INF BN (AIF).

NAURU - OCEAN FORCE.

I N T E L L I G E N C E

R E P O R T 'S'.

Covering the activities of  
occupation forces on NAURU  
and OCEAN ISLANDS from  
13th - 31st Oct 45.

++

Contents

	<u>PART I &amp; II.</u>
1 - 5	Review of Activities.
5	Dumping of Equipment, Weapons Etc.
6 )	Collection of Japanese Equipment.
7 )	
8 - 9	Hygiene and Sanitation.
10 -13	British Phosphate Commissioners' Works.
14 -16	Allotment of Labour.
17 -18	Activities - Ocean Island.
	<u>PART III</u>
19 -20	Investigation of Atrocities.
	<u>GENERAL</u>
21 -22	Inauguration of Air Service.
24	Ocean Islanders on Nauru.
25	Shipping Movements.

++

Prepared by Int Sec  
31/51 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)  
NAURU - OCEAN FORCE  
NAURU.  
2 Nov 45.

31/51 AUST INF BN (AIF).

NAURU - OCEAN FORCE.

INTELLIGENCE REPORT 3.

Covering the activities of  
Occupation forces on NAURU and  
OCEAN ISLANDS from 13th - 31st  
October 1945.

++ ++

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES:

1. During the above period all major military works on both Islands were completed, the exception being the crating of serviceable Japanese military equipment and machinery on NAURU.
2. The first Allied air service to NAURU was inaugurated on 27th Oct 45 when an R.A.A.F amphibious Catalina landed on No.1 Airstrip.  
A wireless, radar, meteorological station is being set up, for reception of future flights.
3. Military control of NAURU and OCEAN ISLANDS ended on 31st Oct 45. Civilian Administration take over on 1st Nov.
4. Further atrocity cases by the Japanese have been investigated.

PART I.

ACTIVITIES - NAURU ISLAND.

5. DUMPING OF EQUIPMENT, WEAPONS, ETC:

As a result of First Aust Army authorization received on 23rd Oct (AE.SD.9342) all Japanese weapons and other instruments of war were disposed of by dumping into the sea. This task commenced on 26th Oct and was completed by the end of the month. All fixed emplacements were disabled and rendered inert, by laying TNT explosive charges. Breech blocks of all ordnance were dumped.

Dumping of ammunition was completed on 20th Oct 45.

6. COLLECTION OF JAPANESE EQUIPMENT:

All items of enemy equipment and machinery have been collected. Articles for salvage are being crated in preparation for despatch to Australia. Quantities of machinery have been taken over by the Civil Administration and British Phosphate Commission. Items awaiting despatch include - generating plants, radar, and searchlight equipment, naval binoculars, diesel engines, predictors, and stone crushers.

7. Items of equipment taken over by the civilian authorities have been recorded and reported under separate cover.

8. HYGIENE AND SANITATION:

A sketch attached as Appendix 'A' shows shaded areas to illustrate progress up to 31st Oct. These areas have been denuded of pumpkins, drums of excreta, fouled woodwork,

and other refuse.

9. The fly menace has been considerably reduced by this work, and spraying with DDT.

10. BRITISH PHOSPHATE COMMISSIONERS' WORKS:

Main works have been concentrated in creating housing facilities for incoming Phosphate employees, and repair work to existing structures holding mechanical gear.

11. The boat harbour area, Chinese location, European quarters present a prewar appearance, apart from the vacant spaces once holding dwellings and offices. Korean labour under Army supervisors has cleared the rubble and debris that littered the ground. Similar work on the "Marie Stopes Avenue" on the high ground overlooking the boat harbour, commenced on the 22nd Oct and is continuing. This area is the residential location of B.P.C. officials and suffered severely from Allied bombing. An average of 60 Koreans are employed daily on this task.

12. Work on the B.P.C. hardware store was completed on 26th Oct. Work is progressing on reconditioning the salt water pumps at the boat basin for the supply of water for sewerage and other purposes.

13. Unloading facilities at the boat harbour have been overhauled and put in working order in preparation for discharging of cargo on the B.P.C. ships anticipated to arrive early in November.

Chinese crews have received training on Australian barges in order that they will be able to serve B.P.C. barges on arrival.

14. ALLOTMENT OF LABOUR:

An average of 330 Koreans have been employed daily. The general subdivision of Koreans is as follows:

++	Group Leaders	4
+	Platoon Leaders	6
	Orderlies	5
	Clerks	4
	Cooks and Messing Orderlies	30
	Electricians (Generating Plant & Water Pump)	4
	Wood Collectors	15
	Ablution Water Carriers	8
	Drivers	1
	Barbers	4
	Boot Repairers	4
	Hospital Orderlies & General Duties	10
	Bed Patients	48
	Light Duties	49
	R.A.P. Treatment	14
		<hr/>
	Available for Duty	206
		<hr/>
	TOTAL	331
		<hr/>
		537

++ Note:

The Koreans, for purposes of administration control have been subdivided into four companies, each in charge of a senior Korean civilian.

15. The general standard of work has shown marked improvement mainly due to increased nutritive diets. Discipline is good.
16. An average of 250 have been directly employed on collection and crating equipment and hygiene, whilst the remainder were engaged on purely B.P.C. work.  
The whole labour potential will be available to the B.P.C. on the arrival of the Phosphate overseers early in November.

PART II.

ACTIVITIES - OCEAN ISLAND.

17. During this period all arms and ammunition were dumped into the sea and majority of fixed emplacements disabled. Hygiene and sanitation works for the whole island were completed on 31st Oct.
18. All Japanese equipment has been collected, the majority of which has been taken over by civil authorities and B.P.C. A full report is awaiting transportation from that island.

PART III.  
GENERAL

19. INVESTIGATION OF ATROCITIES.

The circumstances leading to the death of a Chinese, N.G.LEE, on NAURU has been investigated.

A copy of the testimony of witnesses is attached as Appendix 'B'.

20. A diary written by Gustav RASCH, native of NAURU, relating his interpretation of events of the Japanese occupation of that island, is attached as Appendix 'C'.

21. INAUGURATION OF AIR SERVICE.

The first Allied plane on NAURU ISLAND landed on No.1 Strip at 1520 hrs (L time) 27th Oct 45. The plane, an RAAF amphibious Catalina, made the trip from TOROKINA in 8 hrs 20 minutes. The Captain, Fl Lieut G. PRIEST, reported favourably on the landing, and said that the strip was entirely satisfactory.

22. On 27th Oct the plane flew to TARAWA for refuelling returning on the same day. Its projected return trip to TOROKINA on the 30th Oct was cancelled due to the sudden illness of the navigator who was later successfully operated on for appendicitis. The plane departed on 31st

23. SHIPPING MOVEMENTS:

Gilbert-Ellice Islands Administration ketch 'Kia' arrived at OCEAN ISLAND on 27th Oct ex TARAWA. 40 employees of the B.P.C. were discharged. The ketch returned to TARAWA on 29th Oct due to engine trouble, cancelled an extended trip to NAURU to collect OCEAN ISLANDERS from that Island.

24. OCEAN ISLANDERS ON NAURU:

A census of Banabans on NAURU reveals the fo

statistics:

Males	186
Females and children under 16 years	<u>160</u>
Total	<u>346</u>



HYGIENE AND SANITATION

Shaded areas illustrate work completed to 31 Oct. 45.



NAURU ISLAND (GILBERT ISLANDS) NACI COMSOPAC No 30A

1st. Avn. Engr. Bn. J112 P75 12.17.43.

INT. SEC.  
51/51 AUST INF BN (AIF)  
NAURU - OCEAN FORCE

18  
W.D.

Ser	Task	Labour Korean	Guards and Overseers	Tools	Time and place report Guards and Overseers	TRANSPORT		Remarks
						Veh	Time & place reporting	
1	Water Carts	4			air strip 0710 hrs			report to Tnt lines
2	Tailoring & Watch repairing	2			air strip 0710 hrs			report to 2 store
3	Hygiene Menen district	60	12 Hyg pers		air strip 0710 hrs	1x3 ton	air strip 0710 hrs	incl 423 424 206 205 203 192 truck allotted Fd Amb
4	Loading and bringing in Crated gear	13 12	arranged by C-1 CROSSETT		air strip 0710 hrs	2x3 ton	air strip 0710 hrs	Engrs truck & 1 extra
5	Capt ROBERTS collecting e pt	25	4 NCOs 1 OR		air strip 0710 hrs	1x3 ton	air strip 0710 hrs	incl 234 231 199 196 & 233
6	Crating e pt warehouse area	6	Sgt COLE	carp tools	air strip 0710 hrs	1x3 ton	air strip 0710 hrs	allotted to Sgt WOODS 371 374 375 385 390 & 391
7	Plumbing Party	6	Pte SAUER		air strip 0710 hrs			Plumbers
8	BFC Refrig	20	Sgt GUTHORPE AASC	"	air strip 0710 hrs	1x3 ton	air strip 0710 hrs	for conveying party to job 2 carpenters, 18 labourers
9	R.A.A.F. Wireless Hut Marie Stopes location	14	carpenter	"	air strip 0710 hrs			2 carpenters, 12 labourers overseer to incl Sgt FERROU
10	clearing parties	100	1 NCO & 5 arranged by Capt WILSON		air strip 0710 hrs			march party to job
11	Repairing trucks Chinese location	11			air strip 0710 hrs			Korean mechanics
12	Bricklaying	14	Sgt THOMPSON		air strip 0710 hrs			incl bricklayers
13	Bolts etc for crates	3	Pte GIBBON	wksps	0710 hrs			Blacksmiths
14	Crating ept warehouse	6	Pte DUPLOCK Pte THOMAS	"	air strip 0710 hrs		arranged by Sgt WOODS	340 347 395 461 477 408 124 127 147 151 164 182
15	Crating KVA sets	12	Pte COLEMAN Lcpl HARDING	"	air strip 0710 hrs		arranged by Sgt WOODS	142 148 149 150 153 160 367 369 377 379 382 444
16	Crates Ice plant	10	WILSON	"	air strip 0710 hrs		arranged by Sgt WOODS	456 405 412 419
17	Timber for Crates	10	Sgt WOODS		air strip 0710 hrs		arranged by Sgt WOODS	
18	Chinese location	-	5 overseers		Chinese loc 0700 hrs	1 jeep	HO 0700 hrs	

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Chinese Interpreter	11/12
Lt GREGORY	13
Cpl CROSSETT	14
Sgt WOODS	15
Civil Adm	16
BFC	17
War Diary	18/19
File	20

(a) Works Offr - Lt W.C. GREGORY

(b) Working hours Koreans 0750 - 1130  
1230 - 1630

(c) Work will be continuous except for breaks between 0930 - 0945 hrs  
1130 - 1230 hrs and 1430 - 1445 hrs

(d) Sub units will ensure overseers report on time

(e) Overseers will ensure work is not slackened and rest is only  
allowed in periods laid down in para (b) hereof.

N.G. LEE : BEATEN TO DEATH BY JAPANESE.

3 Dec 45

C.C. 1280 SO KAN states:-

N.G. LEE was working for the Japanese as a gardener in Buada district. I was working in the same gang as N.G. LEE.

About 5.30 p.m. one day when we had just finished work and gone to our houses in Buada, I saw a Japanese named HATAKI YAMA, an overseer on the farm, go into N.G. LEE'S house which was next door to mine where N.G. LEE lived alone. I listened and heard the Jap ask N.G. LEE if he had stolen a pumpkin. Ng. Lee said he had not. I went and looked in Ng. Lee's house and saw the Jap searching his house but he could not find any pumpkin. HATAKI then told Ng. Lee to follow to his office.

I went back to my house then. After about half an hour, Hataki came to my place and told me also to go to his office.

When I got there I saw Ng. Lee lying on the ground outside Hataki's office with his wrists and ankles bound. He was unconscious and his mouth bleeding. There was another Japanese there named TORI WU MI and also CHAN KAI. Hataki told me to get a bucket of water and pour it over Ng. Lee's head.

After I poured the water over him Ng. Lee started to move his hands and tried to stand up. The Japanese then told me to help Ng. Lee up and I did so after which his hands were tied round a phosphate basket which was about 5 ft. high and 4 ft 6 in diameter.

I saw CHANKAI and HATAKI tie Ng. Lee with the rope that was previously round his wrists. His feet were left tied. The two Japanese referred to then proceeded in turn to beat Ng. across the back with a carry pole ( which is made of hardwood and is about 5 ft long and 2 in in diameter). After about 40 or 50 strokes Ng. collapsed, and fell to the ground unconscious, the basket overturning on top of him.

Hataki then told me to untie him from the basket and to take him to a well dug at the side of the lagoon and put him in. The well was about four feet deep. With CHANKAI I carried Ng. Lee to the well and the Japanese then directed us to throw him in.

The Japs helped us do this and then ordered me to go back to my house which I did. Both the Japanese named helped in putting Ng. in the well.

After about 80 minutes, another Japanese named SANO came to my house and told me that Ng. Lee was dead and that I was to go to the office where Hataki worked and take him back to his house.

Chankai came with me when I got to the office, I found Ng. Lee lying dead on the ground, both his hands and ankles being then untied.

I then helped Chankai carry the body of Ng. Lee to his house. The next morning his body was taken by his friends and buried in the Chinese Cemetery.

NAI FAI MA. No. 1 Chinese B.P.C. Interpreter.

States:- One morning when I went to the Japanese Office in Buada, the Jap in charge of the farm, a Marine Officer named SATO told me that N.G. LEE was suspected of stealing a pumpkin and had been beaten by the Japanese referred to in So Kim's evidence and was unfortunately dead although he himself had tried to revive him but it was too late.

I conducted the burial service on N.G. LEE the same morning.

C.C. 1332 CHAN KAI states:-

I worked in the same gardening gang as N.G. LEE. One night after we had finished work from my house in front of N.G. LEE's, I saw a Japanese named HATAKI YAMA walking from NG'S house towards his office with Ng followig.

After about half an hour Hataki came to my house and told me to bring a bucket and come to his office. When I got to the office I saw Ng Lee lying on the ground with his wrists and ankles tied with ropes. SO KAM was there and I gave him the bucket.

I saw So Kam pour a bucket of water over Ng Lee who then moved and tried to get up. He eventually did so with the help of So Kam, and at Hataki's direction I helped tie his hands round a phosphate basket. Another Japanese named Tori Wumi was there and helped to tie Ng to the basket. Hataki then commenced to beat Ng across the back with a carry-pole which was there. After he had hit Ng about 30 times he handed the carry-pole to Tori who hit Ng about 10 times before he became unconscious and fell to the ground the basket following over on top of him. I was then told to untie him from the basket and help to carry him to a well on the edge of the lagoon about 20 yards away.

We carried him as directed and while we were still holding him the two Japanese pushed him into the well. I could not see clearly what happened then as the Japs. ordered So and me to go back to our houses which we did. Much 20 minutes later a Japanese named SANO came to my house and told me Ng Lee was dead and that I was to go to the office and take him away to his house.

He then went and told So the same and So and I got Ng's stretcher and went to the office and found NG on the ground dead.

We then carried him on the stretcher to his house and left him as it was then dark.

- 1 -

NARRATIVE OF JAPANESE OCCUPATION  
NAURU ISLAND.

by

GUSTAV RASCH

<u>Date.</u>	<u>Time.</u>	
23 - 8 - 42.	9.00. a.m.	1. Japanese Bomber.
	12.00. noon.	9. " "
	1.00. p.m.	1. " "

7.00 p.m. My last time to see Mr. Harmer at the Power House. I went home and Dagabo came to take charge of the Power House.

11.30. p.m. 1. Japanese Warship. (Government Station smashed to pieces except the Residency. ( B.P.C. Boatshed.)  
25 - 8 '42 10.00 p.m. Again the Japanese warship was in port again Mr. Harmer called for me to start the Power House, I arrived there at 11.00 p.m. sharp but it was already started by Mr. Harmer. I ran the Power House and Dagabo came after and then we worked together till next morning with another chinaman. Mr. Harmer after starting the engine went out with Messrs. Doyle and Shugg, and a few other Nauruans and Gilbertese to meet the Japanese warship. Col. F.R. Chalmers was at the Boat Harbour awaiting for the answer from the enemy warship. After midnight about 1.00 a.m. ( 26-8-'42) a few Japanese Soldiers were ashore and hoisted the Japanese flag at the Boat Harbour Mast. A few of them ( about six) were gone out to see the Wireless Station. At 5.00 a.m., Col. Chalmers came out to me at the Power House and told me to carry on my job till we received a new order from the Japanese. This was my last talk with Col. Chalmers.

26-8-'42. At 11.00 a.m., Col. Chalmers, Quin and Shugg, with four of the Japanese Officers and myself were taking a short inspection of the engines. Sometimes Mr. Harmer was called to inspect the Power House with a soldier at his back in full uniform with a rifle and bayonet on.

13-11-'42 First move from Aiwo to Meneng for Ewa.

26-8-'43 Early at the hour of 12.00 O'clock midnight I was in charge of the Power House with Willis when we heard an explosion. We were out quickly and found that it was 2 American aeroplanes bombarding the Airfield in Yarren. The order was to start the engine quickly and so we obeyed.

In the morning about 6.00 a.m., a Japanese Electric Engineer came to me and told me the news about those my European friends but first of all asked me not to tell anybody else otherwise my head will be chicken cutted.

EVACUATION OF NAURUANS.

30th. June, 1943

600 Nauruans and 7 Chinese.  
( Head chief Detuamo)

RECRUITS

11th. July, 1943	50 Gilbertese
16th. " "	450 "
20th. " "	114 "
18th. Aug., "	80 "

EVACUATION

16th Aug., '43	603 Nauruans include Fr. A. Kayser and Clivas.
18th July, '43	Evacuation of Lepers from Nauru.

JULY

About the end of July, 1943, two loads of cargoes of railway lines including four motors and two Transformers were taken on board to be shipped. These were witnessed with my own eyes but a few more were have been on board before I came. There were some more left at the Boat Harbour but these were stopped by the Japanese High Officer.

11th. Sept., 1943. A Japanese Transport was toreroed by a submarine about one or two miles off Yangor, and was chopped into hundred pieces. About 14 lives left.

OCTOBER. Starting of the Airfield. (Ewa)

19th. Nov., '43. Time, 4.20 a.m. I was in charge of the Power House when the air raid siren was sounded. (An aeroplane fighter with two boeings). 6.30 a.m. 80 or 90 planes were sighted by me and my friend Etok while we were sitting talking at the entrance of the Power House Door. A few minutes later we were off into an Air Raid shelter a few yards from the Power House. The first bomb to damage the roof and the back of the Power House.

THE WORST OF ALL THE DAYS BEGINS IN NAURU.

8th. Dec., 1943. I was in charge of the Power House. I shut down the Power Station at 11.00 p.m. but I was ordered to wait, so I'm feeling tied and laid down for sleep.

I told one of my boys to call for me when there's something happening. He called me at 4.50. a.m. because the Air Raid siren was sounded. We started No. 6 engine and left for home.

This was on the ( 8th. Dec., 1943, at the hour of 5.30 a.m.). When I reached the Quarantine Station, the three planes were sighted One after the other, they began firing with Pompoms on Verity Hill. After a few minutes I was at home and hearing from the people in the districts that Enemy warships were sighted. A while after the roaring of cannons from the American Warships were echoed from the horizon.

This firing was ended for about 4 hours and I was started off again for the Power House. When I got there I found that the Engine (No.6) was had been stopped by itself.

DESTROYED

Air Compressor.	Both.
Pony Motor	"
Roof	
Switch Board	Right hand side.
Transformer	1 (one) only.

After brooming and sweeping of the debris the engines No.6 and No.4 were started off again to see but found them both in good order. No. 5 was not been used for about a month owing to the trouble of the Alternating Current.

1st. Feb., 1944. Time - 6.00 p.m.  
Damaged. Condenser House (Roof) Air Raid.

The last Japanese Warship to visit Nauru - 10th January 1944. On the 26th Feb., 1944 is my last time to be in the Power House. No.6 Engine was in good order. In the middle of December, 1943, the No. 4 Engine was removed to Buada district. When the No.4 engine in Buada was already finished we were asked to be there for the first running of the engine. (Etok and Gus). This engine was No. 4 in Buada was ordered to run for a day and the other No. 6 for the next day.

From the month of May, 1944 to November, 1944.

The worst of all the days in Nauru; day after day planes of different types were always come to bombard Nauru. From one plane and up to 45 in a day.

On the 23rd. Oct., 1944, a few bombs were dropped but unfortunately, the Power and the Stanmore House were damaged. From this day, 23rd. Oct., 1944, the Power House was not been good for use, and was closed down till today, the 18th. day of September, 1944.

-----OOO-----

B. P. C. SETTLEMENT.

B.P.C. Settlement was been damaged by AIR RAID, but most of all were smashed and kicked down by the Japanese for firewood, and for fishing. (Bonito and Yellow Tail Fish).

We heard from the Japanese Government Headquarters that the PEACE was signed on the 16th August, 1945, at the hour of 5/15 p.m. On the 21st August, 1945, the first Peace Planes (E) were arrived at 9.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. and were off again. (American).

On the 31st August, 1945.	Another one.)	
7th Sept., 1945	" "	American
8th " "	" Two	Australian.

-----OOO-----



VERSION OF JAPANESE OCCUPATION BY GUS. RASCH.

23rd Aug. 1943: It was about 11 p.m. when the moon was just near the horizon, and when my son called me to wake up from my sleep because a warship was sighted. Just a few seconds after, I heard the roaring of cannons. About 2 a.m., the warship left the island. Next morning, 24th Aug., 42, Lieut. Col. F. R. Chalmers hoisted the "White Flag" at the Govt. Station and at the Boat Harbour mast. At 10 o'clock the same day, an aeroplane came and left.

On the 25th Aug., about 9.30 p.m., the same warship came back again. Words were sent up to the warship that Nauru was surrendered. Messrs. Harmer, Doyle and Shugg, with some other natives went up to the warship on the boat we called "Tern". Mr. Shugg and the natives returned back. It was about 11.30 p.m. After 1.0. a.m., the first Japanese launch came ashore with about a dozen soldiers and a few officers. Some of them went with Col. Chalmers up to the wireless station. Two of them pulled the white flag down and had their Japanese "Rising Sun" hoisted. After that the warship drifted way from the island. Next morning about 9.30 a.m., the warship returned to the port. About 12.0. noon Mr. Doyle came ashore and Mr. Harmer at 5 p.m. After Messrs. Doyle and Harmer came ashore, some of the marines came ashore and stayed.

Order was given to the Europeans to stay in the B.P.C. office as prisoners of war. Three or four days later, they were allowed to listen to the Radio but after that, all amusements were taken from them as the Japs were getting worse. From this day 26th Aug. the Rising Sun of Japan started to fly over Nauru. The Europeans at the time were kept in the B.P.C. Office by order with the exception of Mr. Harmer who was allowed to go out for inspection of the Power Station.

Every time he was out for inspection, a Jap soldier always walks after him with a bayonet. On entering the Power House, he was ordered not to talk to anybody who were in the Power House.

One day after he was stopped from going out any more. on the 29th Aug., at 11.00 a.m., Col. Chalmers, Dr. Quin and Mr. Shugg with four Japanese overseers and two more soldiers and myself were inspecting everything in the Power House including the Ice House. I went back to my work. All were gone away but not knowing where.

Next morning, 27th Aug., the store was closed and the road from Chinese settlement to Fr. A. Kayser's house was closed. Nobody was allowed to pass this way. The Japanese were started to destroy all the important buildings, including stores and other B.P.C. buildings, also the Government buildings. All the useful things were taken. On the 29th Aug., a big transport arrived at Nauru, bringing with her many soldiers and some civilian company workers. Cannons, ammunitions, etc., were also brought ashore.

At this time the Europeans were taken to work very hard every day on any place. First they fed the pigs, secondly, they rooted out the grass, and lastly they dig out a well. These jobs they did were always the same every day until they were shifted.

The Civil Government was taken over by the Company at this time. The Europeans were taken to look after by this Civil Government, and were much better treated than before when they were under the Soldiers' care because one of the Japanese who is not a soldier and whose name is Tom, acting as interpreter, always go to the Europeans to tell them news about Nauru and also give them secretly, some extra food to eat.

In November, the Japanese Rising Sun is getting hotter on the 15th. All people of Nauru were shifted to Ewa District. All the men from ten to 45 years were forced to work for the Airfield, also to work on fortifications. Wages of the Nauruan workers for a day was only a handful of rice. Wives and children were not satisfied, and were starved.

On the 26th March, 1943 at 12 o'clock midnight, two American four engine bombers raided Nauru and the Airfield was damaged. They left at 2.00 a.m. In the morning at 5.30 a.m., another five came, but they did nothing. By this our friends the Europeans were passed away.

On the 29th June, 1943, six hundred and four Nauruans with seven Chinese were evacuated to Caroline Islands. On the 10th., 15th., and 20th July, a great number of Ocean Islanders, arrived at Nauru.

On the 11th July, the inmates of the Leper Station were evacuated to an unknown destination.

On the 15th Aug., 1943, 600 Nauruans with the two Fathers, Father A. Kayser and Father P. Clivas were evacuated. The remaining Nauruans were waiting for the next evacuation.

On the 11th Sept., the ship that was going to take the remaining people arrived. This ship was very unlucky because she was unfortunately torpedoed by an American Submarine about 1½ miles off Nauru. Many lives were lost. We thanked God because we were not leaving our Native Country because that ship has been blown into thousand pieces.

One morning early on the 9th Dec., 1943, many aeroplanes came to Nauru and some warships. The aeroplanes were dropping a lot of bombs doing much damage. The warships bombarded the island, damaging a lot of things and causing many lives. The warships left Nauru at 10.00 a.m.

At the end of December, tobacco was getting less, also rice. Food was getting shorter and shorter every day.

On the 10th Jan., 1944, the Japs last warship arrived. Early in February, the men who worked under the Japs were stopped working, because the food remaining in the Japs stores were getting smaller and smaller every day. From June to September, we had a very frightful time because the aeroplanes never ceased to come, and dropping their bombs.

On the 20th. June, 1944, Arube Mission was pulled down by the Japs. From the 25th April, 1943 onwards, all the natives must work for the Japs as food was getting below zero point. All the people in Nauru including the Japs at the present time are eating pigs, grasses and also fruits from the Rubber Tree. These kind of food were not good before the war and they were not supposed to be eaten. The Japs after sometimes, they practised eating these and they stopped us from getting through their quarters to collect these kind of diets. We were lucky to be alive to this day.

Many people died; Nauruans, Chinese and Gilbertese together through starvation. The remaining people were just like skeletons. From the Quarantine Station to Baisai these places were owned by the natives but the rest were under the control of the Japs. These places owned by the natives undoubtedly too, so stealing was going on very badly. The Japs were eating grasses, pumpkins, rats, dogs etc.

This year, 1944 is a very hard year. At the end of 1944, the rain started to fall heavily on Nauru, and so people were getting a bit healthy. All people of Nauru are mostly living on pumpkins, toddy, sour toddy and fish. Nearly every soldier was going about the natives' homes to beg for food.

The native toddy-men and fishermen had a very hard time working for the Japs. From toddy the Japanese get alcohol, so alcohol drinking is carried on. Everybody drinks this alcohol.

In March a new Jap thinking the building houses like theatre. The buildings are the houses for drinking. They employed all the girls from 10 up to 20 to work in these buildings. Their jobs are just to serve drinks for the soldiers. It is very hard to relate exactly what was going on in these theatres but I will just state what I learned from some of these girls. These girls told me that the Jap Officers were very indecent in their behaviour towards them. Two of these Japs I will now tell you their names. Their names were WAKUI and NATAKE. These two were the worse of them all.

Many theatres were put up, two or three times a week. These Japs always had a good time in these theatres. From these times, drinking was terrible. Nauru is going down during the Japs time. We thank GOD THAT YOU CAME TO OUR AIR IMMEDIATELY on the 18th Sept. If you were not coming as quickly as possible, I think we would have been killed, everyone of us, just exactly the same as the Ocean Islanders.

This is the end of my story.

(Sgd) Gus. Rasch.