

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

Item number: 8/3/9

2/9 Infantry Battalion

January 1943

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

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

29 Aust Inf Bn

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

1 Jan 43 to 31 Jan 43.

| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-------|--------|------|---|--------------------------------------|
| BUNA | Jan. 1 | 0800 | 2/12 Bn attacked through coconuts to beach, after arty and mortar concentrations and with the support of tks. During morning recce party sent to new area. Heavy fire from own tps across Bn area. Movement on beach unidentified. | |
| | | 1645 | 20 mortar bombs from our own tps fell in B Coy area. Casualties 5 killed 20 wounded. Mortar pl sent forward to relieve C Coy who in turn filled gaps in the line. A Coy, under command 2/12 Bn, ordered into line 1615 hrs, held line during night. | |
| | 2 | 0800 | Fwd Coys reported row boats and rafts out to sea off BUNA MISSION. These were strafed by our aircraft. 2/12 Bn commenced advance to S.E. | |
| | | 1500 | Area reported clear of enemy except mouth of SIMENI CREEK. U.S. tps pushing N.W. reported to have contacted 2/12 Bn at 232252. Patrol from B Coy sent forward to investigate false mouth SINEMI Creek and were fired on. | |
| | | 1815 | Pl of B Co attacked posn on island formed by false mouth of Creek. 19 Japs killed. | |
| | | 1600 | Advanceguard 1/128 U.S. Bn arrived. | |
| | | 1900 | One Coy 1/128 U.S. Bn arrived - change over completed by 2000 hrs and Bn moved to B Echelon area in heavy storm. 32 U.S. Div reported capture of BUNA MISSION. Receipt of 18 Bde Op orders 098. | |
| | 3 | | A Coy relieved Hq Coy 2/12 Bn and attacked behind tks. Attack was successful by 1650 hrs. Recce part from Bn to new area during morning and Bn moved to area (303245) in the afternoon. One pl A coy remained at BR 294244. | |
| | 4 | | Bn settled in; pioneers etc commenced to dismantle old Jap pillboxes some of which contained 12-14 bodies and 2 M.M.Gs and 3 L.M.Gs. | |
| | | 1500 | C.O. called to Bde and received instructions to move to SANANANDA on 5 Jan. Bn placed on notice. | |
| | | 1800 | C.O.'s Conference. Bn's estimate of Jap casualties from 18 Dec to 2 Jan id Dead 500-550. M.M.Gs and L.M.Gs overrun: - M.M.Gs 40 L.M.Gs 70. (There can be no degree of accuracy attached to these figures) | |

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1 Jan 43 to 31 Jan 43.

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| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|-----------|---------|------|--|--------------------------------------|
| BUWA | Jan. 5. | 0630 | Bn moved on march to SANANANDA. | |
| | | 1750 | Arrived at Bivouac Area S.E. side of GIRUWA RIVER, at Br 190162 ref map POPENDETTA, 1 ¹ / ₂ to 1 mile. | |
| SOPUTA | - 6 | 1000 | Offrs Conference. Men wash up and rest. 3 Offrs and 118 O'Rs reinforcements marched in. | Ref map. GONA LOCALITY |
| | | 0800 | C.O.'s Conference. Advance party moved to 49 Bn area 186253 GONA LOCALITY | |
| SANANANDA | No. 9 | 0700 | Bn moved to new area. | REVISED. 1/2 mile |
| | | 1200 | Change over completed. Bn posns:- C Coy Right fwd across crk, D Coy Left across crk, A & B Coys forming perimeter to East of crk linking C Coy on Left flank and B Coy connecting D Coy on Right flank. | |
| | 10 | 1100 | D Coy commenced attempt to advance line, but strong opposition was encountered from front and Coy returned to original line. Two killed and two wounded. Line then extended from C Coy's Left flank to connect with D Coy 2/12 at 184251. During day patrols located and plotted enemy posns along front. Enemy observed and heard to be building def. | |
| | 11 | | Patrols from A Coy crossed to dead tree on track SANANANDA-SOPUTA 183255 then back to crk 186255 then South along crk. | |
| | | 1130 | Bde Comd's Conference. | |
| | | 1500 | Bn Comd's Conference. | |
| | 12 | 0700 | B Coy moved into posn on Right flank from 185256 to A Coy at 185255 then to crk 186254. | |
| | | 0800 | B Coy crossed Start Line on time, but A Coy started late and after advancing a short distance became pegged down by fire. In the meantime, B Coy advanced, clearing area of Jap snipers to line from 184255 to 185254 along crk. One pl rushed forward across crk and although Japs were seen to be moving back the pl was recalled to hold line of crk and await A Coy's move. Much of the ground traversed by B Coy had been held by Australians in Nov; graves, bodies and old fortifications marking the line. Two pls U.S. Inf moved forward with B Coy then held line back along edge of high timber to 186258, thus protecting this Bn flank. | |
| | | 0930 | B Coy had reached its objective and commenced to dig in. A Coy advanced and by extending to the Right contacted B Coy's Left flank while C Coy pushed its Right flank forward and contacted A Coy's left flank at 186254. | |

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices | | | |
|------------|------|------|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|--|
| SANANDA RD | JAN | 12 | <p>During A & B Coy's action, D Coy laid down by fire on Jap posns and advanced line fwd of SNIPERS TREE 185252 in contact with 2/12 Bn's right flank.</p> <p>During afternoon Coys dug in new posns and were advised to prepare trench posns suitable for a lengthy period of trench warfare. During this action Lieuts JACKSON and LLOYD, coy comds of B & A Coys respectively, were killed; Attempt by 2/12 Bn to advance up M.T.Rd was unsuccessful.</p> <p>1600 Coys reported strong M.G. posts on front and on B Coy's left flank at 183256. Enemy M.G. post 183253 enfiladed A Coy's front preventing further fwd movement. It was definitely established that the enemy were using weapons which had been captured on some previous occasion from our own tps.</p> | | | | |
| | | | 13 | 1000 | <p>Patrol from B Coy felt out enemy posns on Right flank and definitely established 4 L.M.Gs and one possible M.M.G. at 18252545 to 18302540. One Coy 2/10 Bn under command and in reserve to 2/9 Bn.</p> | | |
| | | | | 1200 | C.O's Conference. | | |
| | | | | 1500 | Sgt MARTIN J.A. crawled forward from B Coy's right flank and grenaded enemy L.M.G. post across crk. | | |
| | | | 14 | 14 | 0800 | <p>Report from captured Jap that 100 Japs were attempting to escape N.E. B Coy patrol reported no resistance from pits across crk and enemy posns were occupied by our tps. 2 L.M.Gs found in pit. C Coy patrol went fwd to A/A pit at 184252, reported area clear and our tps moved to occupy ground. All coys now advanced and message from 18 Bde advised 2/12 Bn moving fwd with 2/12 coming round on 2/10 left flank.</p> | |
| | | | | | 1400 | A Coy had occupied track junction and D & C Coys passed through them and occupied 500 yds Jap track contacting 2/10 Bn and 7 Div Cav Regt. 2/12 relieved A Coy at track junction 182253. | |
| | | | | | 1700 | <p>Bn had formed perimeter from 18022509 for 500 yds to 17252508. Bn captured 20 M.Gs and a number of Brens and T.S.M.Gs. 35 Japs killed. Japs in bad condition from starvation and disease. Area had received very heavy shelling, the timber being cut down into a maze of tangled branches. Enemy offered no organised resistance.</p> <p>Casualties 1 Died of wound, 1 wounded, 3 evacuated sick.</p> | |

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| Place | Date | Hour | Summary of Events and Information | Remarks and references to Appendices |
|----------------------|------|------|--|--------------------------------------|
| KILLERTON TAK JANIS. | 16. | 0715 | C Coy moved as protection for 18 Bde from track junction KILLERTON-JAP TRACK, then B Coy, Battle Hq, A Coy and D Coy. Bn formed perimeter camp at 179302 at 1800 hrs. B Echelon moved to coconut grove 178286. | |
| | | 1540 | B Coy moved to KILLERTON VILLAGE to come under comd 2/10 Bn. Two secs of B Coy searched for track to village without success. | |
| | | 1500 | Received notification of MILNE BAY decorations. | |
| SANANANDA. | 17 | 0830 | Bn less B Coy moved to KILLERTON VILLAGE through deep swamp. | |
| | | 0950 | Village reached. C Coy patrol moved East to clearing 192501, no enemy were encountered and patrol was recalled to VILLAGE to follow Bn to 196289 where perimeter defence was formed after relieving a Coy of 2/10 Bn. Two patrols sent North and East reported no signs of enemy. | |
| | | 1500 | Bn moved through thick sago swamp and dense scrub without opposition and arrived at 207295 at 1915 hrs and prepared in perimeter in Kunai grass patch. During the night approx 10 inches of rain fell. | |
| | | 0700 | Patrol from each D & A Coys pushed fwd to 187294 and 189294 reported no signs of enemy. | |
| | | 0800 | Bn advanced. Fwd coys pushed their way through overgrown native gardens and sago swamps, in many places up to the men's waists in water and mud. B & D Coys met opposition from pillboxes at 209296 and 208296 which was soon overcome and Bn pushed on to beach at 211297, capturing a number of Japs and coolies. | |
| | | 1100 | Bn had gained objective. B Coy then occupied VILLAGE. A Coy then moved along coast and formed perimeter covering mouth GIRUWA RIVER. C Coy covered plantation from Point to A Coy's left flank. Our casualties up to the occupation of SANANANDA One killed Two wounded. Enemy dead 21. 22 Japs and Koreans captured also 21 coolies mostly forced labour from HONG KONG. | |
| | | 1300 | C Coy withdrew from posn across Point and moved South along M.T. Road to help 2/12 Bn whose fwd elements were held up at 211288. C Coy met resistance at 214294 which was overcome and continued to advance to 214290 reaching this posn by 1745 hrs. Opposition was encountered from Right of rd and overcome by mortar fire enabling Coy to advance to 214289 where further opposition was met and Coy withdrew to 214295, being | |

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| SANANANDIA | 18 | | unable to take up a defensive posn owing to deep water. Throughout the day, this Coy had been advancing through deep water, thick jungle and swamps waist deep. | | |
| | | 1640 | A pl of D Coy moved to 208297 to contact pl of 2/10 Bn; failing in this cleared out Jap posn at 214295 and returned to Bn perimeter at 1930 hrs. | | |
| | | 19 | | During night 18/19 Jan, Vickers shot up party of 20 Japs attempting to cross GIRUWA RIVER from East to West. C Coy killed four attempting to reach SANANANDIA POINT. | |
| | | | 0700 | One pl C Coy moved South along M.T. Rd while one pl D Coy moved West along Coast to attack known Jap posns. B Coy moved South along M.T. Rd to relieve C Coy and attack Jap posns. One Pl from D Coy moved West to track junction 210295 then S.W. to 207292, killing 4 Japs, then N.W. towards Coast at 208298. Unable to locate M.G. heard firing, patrol returned to Bn Hq and reported. | |
| | | | 1200 | D Coy moved West to 209295. | |
| | | | 1300 | One pl D Coy moved fwd to 208296 through heavy sago swamp. Reserve pl cut track to 207297. | |
| | | | 1400 | B Coy contacted 2/12 Bn. Pillboxes on left of rd prevented rd being opened. B Coy were then withdrawn 100 yds to Right of rd. 2/12 Bn then attacked but were unable to advance. | |
| | | | 1815 | B Coy again advanced against posns which they had previously cleared, but which had been re-occupied by the Japs, but attack was not successful in wiping out all resistance and with the approach of darkness, Coy formed perimeter. Casualties 2 killed 13 wounded. Great difficulties were encountered in evacuating wounded to R.A.P. along flooded track with the corduroy washed away. 3 prisoners sent to 2/9 bn others sent out through 2/12 Bn. | |
| | | | 1530 | One sec C Coy sent to investigate report of crashed Wirraway at 216292 found it and reported no sign of occupants except blood on flying cap in rear cockpit. Casualties:- 3 killed, 12 wounded, 1 died of wounds, 7 evacuated sick. | |
| | | | | | |

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|-----------|------|------|--|--|--|
| SANANANDA | 20 | 0015 | Enemy attempt to cross GIRUWA RIVER broken up by Vickers. Enemy barges landed and withdrew with number of enemy at 0200. | | |
| | | 0845 | C Coy relieved B Coy. | | |
| | | 0730 | Arty and M.M.Gs concentrated on pillbox area 211297 and West for 15 minutes. D Coy pushed one pl West but was again held up by 2 L.M.Gs, one M.M.G. guarding narrow approach to pillbox area. | | |
| | | 1200 | Mortar shoot on pillbox area, One pl D Coy sent to contact C Coy 2/10 Bn. No 7 Pl A Coy sent to join C Coy 2/10 Bn as reserve. | | |
| | | 1100 | C Coy advances on Left of rd after arty concentration and attacked posns at 21052865 but were again held up by M.G. fire. Coy's casualties 4 killed 13 wounded. Perimeter formed with D Coy 2/12 Bn for night. | | |
| | | | | Bn casualties 6 killed, 18 wounded, 7 died of wounds, 3 evacuated. Barges again seen to pick up enemy East of GIRUWA RIVER, and were engaged by Vickers at point blank range. Arty laid down harassing fire until morning. | |
| | | 0820 | Arty and mortar concentrations commenced on Jap posns at 211297. Arty off target and concentration postponed. | | |
| | | 1100 | C Coy advised pocket on left of M.F. rd at 211287 cleared in conjunction with 2/12 Bn. In these actions 2/12 had under command one coy 2/9 and one coy 2/10 Bns. 40 prisoners were taken. C Coy then returned to Bn perimeter. | | |
| | | 1130 | A Coy reported tps of 127 U.S. Regt made contact at GIRUWA RIVER. | | |
| | | 1615 | One pl D Coy attacked Jap posns at 209298, 6 Japs were killed but attack was repulsed. | | |
| | | 1700 | Two pls moved from Bn area to search area South of GIRUWA RIVER for Jap hospital reported there, but only swamp and no sign of habitation was found. | | |
| | | | Casualties Lieut E.R. BRODZIAK died of wounds, O'Rs 7 killed, six wounded, 13 evacuated sick. | | |
| | | | Patrol sent fwd at first light found posns at 209298 occupied. | | |
| | | 0645 | Mortar barrage on posns. | | |
| | | 0715 | One pl C Coy attacked (pl of 2/10 Bn) with covering fire from second | | |

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|-----------|------|------|---|---|
| SANANANDA | 22 | | pl but were unable to advance. | |
| | | 1100 | Enemy now restricted to 75 yds along beach. | |
| | | 1130 | Arty concentration on beach posn. | |
| | | 1145 | C Coy 2/10 less one pl attacked along beach N.W. while units 2/10 pushed forward S.E. | |
| | | 1300 | Beach reported clear. Patrols were then sent to investigate area 208298 and second patrol to 205296. | |
| WYE PT. | 23 | 1531 | Message of praise received from Generals Blamey, Herring and Vasey. Bde consolidated coast line as per 18 Bde instruction. Casualties 2 killed, 5 died of wounds, 15 evacuated. | |
| | | 1315 | 2/9 Bn moved to take over WYE POINT area. Bn in posn and dug in. Bn Hq WYE POINT 200308. 16 O'Rs evacuated sick. | |
| | | | A Coy patrol to KILLERTON VILLAGE 187304 thence to 192301, returning to village then S.E. to grasslands at 196289 returning to Bn area. | |
| | | | C Coy's patrol from 208298 South across grass patch to 204290, then S.W. to grass patch at 196289. 4 Japs were killed. | |
| | | | 10 O'Rs evacuated sick. | |
| | | | Same patrols as previous day. | |
| | | | WO 11 JESSE J.W., Sgt MC CREADY S.P. and Sgt POWER D.D. appointed A/Lieuts. 8 O'Rs evacuated sick. | |
| | | | Same patrols as previous day. 5 Japs killed. C.O.'s Conference to gather information learned. 16 O'Rs evacuated sick. | |
| | | | Patrols as above. 34 O'Rs evacuated. | |
| | | | 0800 | Advanceguard of Bn left Bn area and arrived at new area in POPONDETTA Rd 175163 at 1400 hrs. 25 O'Rs evacuated. |
| Soputa | 29 | 0800 | Bn less advanceguard left Bn area. Native carriers were used to jeep and head for gear. Rd in fair condition after first $\frac{3}{4}$ mile South of SANANANDA where arty and swift running swamps had destroyed corduroy. | |
| | | | Evacuations to R.A.P. for dysentery and P.U.O. now increasing. Responsibility for defence SANANANDA handed to 2/163 U.S.Bn. | |
| | | | 26 O'Rs evacuated. | |
| | 30 | | Bn settling into new area. | |
| | 31 | | Packs and heavy gear from BUNA began to arrive. | |

MARCH TABLE.

for move of 18 Aust Inf Bde from SANANANDA to SOPUTA 29 and 30 Jan 43.

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|---|---|---|---|--------------------------|-------------|---|-------------|
| ROUTES & START POINTS) | } | - | A | - | MT rd | Start Point | - | Bde HQ. |
| | | - | B | - | West KILLERTON TRACK. | Start Point | - | Unit Lines. |

| SERIAL | UNIT | ROUTE | HEAD OF COLUMN PASSES START POINT. | REMARKS. |
|----------------|--|-------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <u>29 JAN.</u> | | | | |
| 1. | 2/10 Aust Inf Bn | B | 0700 | Unit rear party will remain until stores cleared. |
| 2. | 2/12 Aust Inf Bn less Beach Defence details. | A | 0700 | (a) Unit rear party will remain until stores cleared. (b) Beach defence details will remain until re- lieved by 2/163 US Bn when this HQ will be notified. |
| 3. | 2/9 Aust Inf Bn | A | 0800 | Unit rear party will remain until stores cleared. |
| 4. | HQ 18 Aust Inf Bde | A | 0900 | |
| 5. | Beach Defence details 2/12 Aust Inf Bn. | A | 1000 | See note to Serial 2. |
| <u>30 JAN.</u> | | | | |
| 6. | Det 2/5 Aust Fd Amb | A | | DETAILS TO BE NOTIFIED. |

279 Aust. Inf. BN

Ref Map Bona Locality (revised) 4" = 1M.
Spec. Enlargement No 1 1" = 95 yds
Photo map N.G.F./P.M/001 1:2 1/5000

Date 11 Jan 43

Information 1. ENEMY As given at C.O.'s conference
1500 hrs 11 Jan 43

2. OWN Tps. A.B.C. & Don Cays
MTRs 3 dets
M.M.G 6 GUNS

B. Coy ~~pos~~ 7/10 km, under comb, -

Intention 3. To attack enemy left flank, capture
and consolidate ground remaining from
your last task to approx 250 yds
twenty posns west of ck in area

Method 4. A & B Cays will attack on right flank
1st B. Coy Right & 2nd Coy L.
C & D Cays to remain in present posns,
until consolidation of objective, giving
covering fire on enemy posns. to west.
C. Coy will move to flank posns &
connect with 4. Coy when objective reached
D. Coy to patrol immediate front and
harass enemy positions.

SUPPORTING ARMS

5. Artillery will fire on targets on open
ground to west of present posns
from Z to Z+15
6. Intro Tanks & timing as Artillery
7. M.M.G 2 M.M.G. to remain up comb each
C & D. Cays
2 M.M.G up comb B. Coy to be
used for consolidating B. Flank.

Resume
see back

8. S.L. B. Coy Bridge 100 yds W. 318°
4 Coy. Tank S. of bridge 318°
9. Axis of attack 278° ~~MASS~~ ~~direction~~
10. Inter. Coy boundary 100 yds W. of bridge
tall timber
11. Z to Z+15 0800 hrs

B. Coy, 2/10 rem will remain in present
posn. and will not in R. H. H.
Area, until further orders.

THE COMMANDER
THE AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION

Date: 11 Jan 43

1. The following is a list of the
units in the area of the
R. H. H. Area.

B. Coy
C. Coy
D. Coy
E. Coy

Attention

Method

Supporting Units

→

Administration

12. Medical - R. A.P. to remain @ present posn - Cobra L.S. to be attached A. & B. Coy - Duration 3 day supply carried on man
13. Latrines - 3 day carried on man
14. Water - all bottles filled
15. Tools - 13 Shovels each A. & B. Coy will be carried by Carrying Party, from Prov. Pit; will follow behind Coy

Intercomms

16. Both B.S.C. W.T. & Phone Posters - Coy - one D 108 set to each A. & B. Coy & 1 Table #8 - also Phone wireless silence until zero
17. In HQ present posn
18. Report Center ^(C.O.) - Image B. Coy L.S.
19. Tank requiring inf assistance will fire green very light
(B) requiring ~~the~~ tank assistance will fire red very light
(C) Line of flight of very light pistol fired by Inf. will indicate resistance in that direction
(D) Inf assisting tanks to move to them will raise steel helmet on rifle & bayonet
(E) Targets or centres of resistance may be indicated by pointing rifle & bayonet @ arms length.
(F) Positions of all wounded will be marked by fixing ^{rifle} bayonet vertically with bayonet in ground
20. Synchronisation Sig 18. Rde with synchronous watches and 7 ft. Dist time @ 2000 least 2400 hrs. D-1 and @ 0300 and 0600 hrs. Day synchronisation must be exact to within five seconds

Name of signatory

Map
admission 7/9/41 by [unclear]

00 No SANANANDA. Ref map: - GONA LOCALITY - 4" 1/2 Mile
No I
No 2.
(REVISED).

INFORMATION

- (1) ENEMY as per strips.
It is considered that small number
ENEMY occupying SOLUTA Rd
terminus and SANANANDA Pt
Probable ENEMY outposts at
ref ? 212 294.
- (2) OWN Tps. 710 Bn less 1 Coy in
occupation WYE Pt ref
712 Bn plus 1 Coy 710 Bn
astride rd at ref 210 287.
Batt HQ remaining present post
at ref. 207 292

INTENTION

- (3) 710 Bn will capture SOLUTA rd
terminus at SANANANDA

METHOD

- (4) B Coy right D. Coy left
(5) Objective: Coast line 200' West of
SOLUTA Rd terminus
(6) Start time: 0800 hrs
(7) Compass bearing of advance.
80 M.
(8) Resumes: A Coy right C Coy left

(8)

will follow 200' in rear of fwd coys
& will maintain connecting files.
Res coy will be prepared during
advance to deal with respective
points.

(9) Action on gaining objective: A Coy
will capture Sopot A Rg
& will exploit to SANANAN A Pt.

(10) SUP ARMS

(a) ARTY F.O.O will move
with Co during initial stages
of attack.

(b) MORTARS. 3 mortars
with team at Ben H.Q. area
1 Det up each B & D Coys
O's move with each fwd coy

(c) M.M.B. 1 Sec up each B & D Coys
1 Sec up A Coy

Admin

(11) Medical: R.A.P remain
at present Ben H.Q. locality

(12) P.Ws returned to Ben H.Q.

(13) Ammunition: normal coy res
plus Ben H.Q.

(14) Rations 3 days emergency
2 days hard work
carried by on the man

INTER POMM

(15) Batt HQ will move at
rear of B Coy

(16) Bn HQ remain present
position.

(17) Lt. Phones all boys
& Bn HQ.

Res coys will tap in on
prod coy lines at
5 minutes prior to
every clock 1/2 hour.

DISTRIBUTION

A

B

ACK.

C

D

HQ.

C.O

1/c

2nd

3rd

FILE

War diary

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN

OUT

2/9

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)
TO **2/9, 2/10, 2/12 Aust Inf Bns Det 2/5 Aust Fd Amb SC**

FROM **18 Aust Inf Bde**

Originator's Number

O. 175

Date

28 Jan

In Reply to Number

| | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------------|-----|
| (Write horizontally) | | | | | 5 |
| 18 | Aust | Inf | Bde | will | |
| be | relieved | of | present | responsibilities | 10 |
| by | 2/163 | US | Bn | by | 15 |
| 1000 | hrs | 29 | Jan | and | 20 |
| will | move | to | SOPUTA | (.) | 25 |
| Move | will | be | in | accordance | 30 |
| with | attached | march | table | (.) | 35 |
| Rear | parties | will | be | in | 40 |
| sufficient | strength | to | guard | stores | 45 |
| until | cleared | (.) | SC | will | 50 |
| arrange | movement | of | unit | stores | 55 |
| by | native | carriers | and | jeep | 60 |
| (.) | SC | will | also | arrange | 65 |
| movement | of | det | 2/5 | Aust | 70 |
| Fd | Amb | (.) | 2/5 | Aust | 75 |
| Fd | Amb | will | establish | Aid | 80 |
| Post | at | old | Bde | HQ | 85 |
| on | MT | rd | where | Bde | 90 |
| Report | Centre | will | also | be | 95 |
| established | | | | | 100 |
| | | | | | 105 |
| | | | | | 110 |
| | | | | | 115 |
| | | | | | 120 |
| | | | | | 125 |
| | | | | | 130 |

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN**
BY ANY MEANS: (EXCEPT) WIRELESS

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

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

1230

SIGNATURE *[Signature]*
* ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND
INSERT "INCLUDING."

SIGNATURE _____

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

| SYSTEM IN | TIME IN | READER | SENDER | SYSTEM OUT | TIME OUT | READER | SENDER | SYSTEM OUT | TIME OUT | READER | SENDER |
|-----------|---------|--------|--------|------------|----------|--------|--------|------------|----------|--------|--------|
| | | | | | | | | | | | |

2/9 Aust Inf Bn.
Ref Map Milne Bay (Prov) 2nd Edit
2" = 1M.

- INFO: 1. As Sitreps
- INTENTION: 2. 2/9 Bn will embark at New Wharf. 054994.
- METHOD : 3. Tps and Stores by M.T. to wharf. Tps as per appx 'A'.
Stores under Q.M. arrangements.
4. Start Pt. Rd June 985993.
5. Start times No 1 Flight 1615
No 2 Flight 1630
No 3 Flight 1645.
6. Route. By route 1 to staging Camp 025006 thence to wharf.
- ADMIN : 7. Tpt Allotment of trucks as follows:-
No 1 Flight - 13 x 3 TON.
No 2 Flight - 16 x 3 TON.
No 3 Flight - 11 x 3 TON
Above vehicles are to report to Embussing Pts by 1500 hrs.
For transport of stores 10 x 3 TON
Vehs are to report to the Q.M. at 1300Hrs.
8. WHARF Party. Wharf loading Party O.C. Lieut K.R. WILLS & 28 O.R.'s of Tpt Sec.
T.S.O. Capt R.C. HOOPER
9. Evening Meal. Capt L.G.C. EVANS will report to Staging Camp by 1600 hrs and arrange details for meal at 1700 Hrs.
10. Dress. Full Marching Order- Green slacks- Steel Helmets- Hat K.F. will be up packed, Mosquito Nets in pack.
Haversack will contain Shirt & Shorts G'Sheet in addition to normal personnel gear and rations.
Blanket rolled around pack.
Respirators will be worn.
11. Baggage Offrs Valisis at Q.M. Store by 1300Hrs
Offrs Mess Gear at Q.M. Store by 1330Hrs.
12. AMM 100 Rnds SAA plus 2 Gren per Man.
12 Mags Per Bren
10 Mags Per T.S.M.G.
Coy Res by Coy arrangements.
Bn Res by Q.M. Arrangements.
13. WEAPONS All Weapons will be carried.
6 MMG's with stores.
14. Rations 4 days ^(Dehydrated) per man on the man.
Q.M. will arrange meals during the voyage.
15. Water Full W/B.
16. Medical S.B.'s will remain as present allotment.
17. Anti Malarial 3 Days quinine & Dovers Cream on the man.

18.

Tents & Lines Tents will be left standing in present area. Attention will be paid to cleanliness of lines and ~~condition~~ certificate as to condition of area will be rendered to Bn HQ by 1500 Hrs.

INTERCOMM

Bn HQ will close at present area at 1600 Hrs. Sig O will arrange with J.O. 2/5 Bn re area communications.

[Signature]
Capt.
Adjt 2/9 Aust Inf Bn.

DISTRIB LIST

A Coy
B Coy
C Coy
D Coy
HQ Coy
C.O.
Adjt
2 i/c.

R.M.O.
Q.M.
I.O.
Milne Force
18 Aust Inf Bde
War Diary
File.) For Infmn

APPX 'A' to 2/9 Bn Movement O.

| <u>No 1 FLIGHT</u> | <u>No OF PER</u> |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| O.C. Troops | |
| Capt R.R. GRIFFIN | 1 |
| 'D' Coy | 115 |
| C.O. 1 | |
| Batman 1 | |
| Adjt 1 | |
| Batman 1 | |
| TSMG No 1 | |
| Int Sgt 1 | |
| Int Sec 2 | 28 |
| Sig Sgt 1 | |
| Sigs 159 | |
| Mort Of 1+6 | |
| Batman 1 | |
| RSM&BAT 2 | |
| Mortars 1 Det 7 | |
| MMG Carrier Dvrs) & Fitters) | 25 |
| Pioneers | 7 |
| Tpt | 17 75 |
| Bn Off Staff | 3 |
| R.Q. | 1 |
| Admin | 12 |
| R.A.P. Sgt & 2 | 3 |
| 18 Aust Inf Bde | |
| S.C. 1 | |
| O.R's 12 | |
| J Sec Sigs 7 (101 Set) | 20 20 |
| Med Det 1 & 11 | 12 12 |
| | <u>251</u> |

Sat Day

| <u>No 2 FLIGHT</u> | <u>NO OF PERSON</u> |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| O.C. Troops | |
| Maj W.N. Parry Okeden 1 | |
| Batman 1 | |
| Bn Ord Rm Sgt 1 | 6 |
| Pay Cpl 1 | |
| Sig Off 1 | |
| Batman 1 | |
| A Coy 111 | |
| B Coy 113 | 224 |
| M.M.G's 12 | |
| Mort 126 | 24 |
| <i>Sigs 6</i> | <u>254</u> |

| <u>No 3 FLIGHT</u> | <u>NO OF PERSON</u> |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| O.C. Troops | |
| Capt E. BARNES 1 | |
| Batman 1 | |
| Q.M. & Batman 2 | |
| R.P. Sgt & 3 RP 4 | 8 |
| C Coy 114 | 114 |
| Sigs 12 | |
| HQ Coy HQ 6 | |
| M.M.G's 27 | |
| Mort 19 | |
| Pioneers 8 | |
| Tpt 18 | |
| Admin 12 | |
| R...O. & Batman 2 | |
| RA.P. 2 | |
| 18 Bde HQ 12 | |
| Padre & 1 2 | 120 |
| | <u>242</u> |
| <i>S.O. + 2</i> | |
| <i>Storeman 1</i> | 4 |
| <i>Postal cpl</i> | <u>246</u> |

2/9 Aust Inf Bn.
Ref Map Milne Bay (Prov) 2nd Edit
2" = 1M.

- INFM: 1. As Sitreps
- INTENTION: 2. 2/9 Bn will embark at New Wharf. 054994.
- METHOD : 3. Tps and Stores by M.T. to wharf. Tps as per Appx 'A'.
Stores under Q.M. arrangements.
4. Start Pt. Rd Junc 985993.
5. Start times No 1 Flight 1615
No 2 Flight 1630
No 3 Flight 1645.
6. Route. By route 1 to staging Camp 025006 thence to wharf.
- ADMIN : 7. Tpt Allotment of trucks as follows:-
No 1 Flight - 13 x 3 TON.
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No 3 Flight - 11 x 3 TON
Above vehicles are to report to Embussing Pts by 1500 hrs.
For transport of stores 10 x 3 TON
Vehs are to report to the Q.M. at 1300Hrs.
8. WHARF Party. Wharf loading Party O.C. Lieut K.R. WILLS & 28 O.R's of Tpt Sec.
T.S.O. Capt R.C. HOOPER
9. Evening Meal. Capt L.G.C. EVANS will report to Staging Camp by 1600 hrs and arrange details for meal at 1700 Hrs.
10. Dress. Full Marching Order- Green slacks- Steel Helmets- Hat K.F. will be ~~in~~ packed, Mosquito Nets in pack.
Haversack will contain Shirt & Shorts G'Sheet in addition to normal personnel gear and rations.
Blanket rolled around pack.
Respirators will be worn.
11. Baggage Offrs Valisis at Q.M. Store by 1300Hrs
Offrs Mess Gear at Q.M. Store by 1330Hrs.
12. AMM 100 Rnds S&A plus 2 Gren per Man.
12 Mags Per Bren
10 Mags Per T.S.M.G.
Coy Res by Coy Arrangements.
Bn Res by Q.M. Arrangements.
13. WEAPONS All Weapons will be carried.
6 MMG's with stores.
14. Rations 4 days ^(Dehydrated) per man on the man.
Q.M. will arrange meals during the voyage.
15. Water Full W/B.
16. Medical S.B's will remain as present allotment.
17. Anti Malarial 3 Days quinine & Dovers Cream on the man.

18.

Tents & Lines Tents will be left standing in present area. Attention will be paid to cleanliness of lines and ~~condition~~ certificate as to condition of area will be rendered to Bn HQ by 1500 Hrs.

Bn HQ will close at present area at 1600 Hrs. Sig O will arrange with S.O. 2/5 Bn re. area communications.

INTERCOMN

Handwritten signature
Adjt 2/9 Aust Inf Bn. for Capt.

DISTRIB LIST

- A Coy
- B Coy
- C Coy
- D Coy
- HQ Coy
- C.O.
- Adjt
- 2 i/c.

- R.M.O.
 - Q.M.
 - I.O.
 - Milne Force
 - 18 Aust Inf Bde
 - War Diary
 - File.
- } For Infmn

APPX 'A' to 2/9 Bn Movement O.

| <u>No 1 FLIGHT</u> | <u>No OF PER</u> |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| O.C. Troops | |
| Capt R.R. GRIFFIN | 1 |
| 'D' Coy | 115 |
| C.O. | 1 |
| Batman | 1 |
| Adjt | 1 |
| Batman | 1 |
| TSMG No | 1 |
| Int Sgt | 1 |
| Int Sec | 2 |
| Sig Sgt | 1 |
| Sigs | 15 |
| Mort Of | 1 |
| Batman | 1 |
| RSM&BAT | 2 |
| Mortars 1 Det 7 | |
| MMG Carrier Dvrs & Fitters | 25 |
| Pioneers | 7 |
| Tpt | 17 |
| Bn Off Staff | 3 |
| R.Q. | 1 |
| Admin | 12 |
| R.A.P. Sgt & 2 | 3 |
| 18 Aust Inf Bde | |
| S.C. | 1 |
| O.R's | 12 |
| J Sec Sigs 7 (101 Set) | 20 |
| Med Det 1 & 11 | 12 |
| <i>MESS SGT</i> | <u>251</u> |

| <u>No 2 FLIGHT</u> | <u>NO OF PERSON</u> |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| O.C. Troops | |
| Maj W.N. Parry Okeden | 1 |
| Batman | 1 |
| Bn Ord Rm Sgt | 1 |
| Pay Cpl | 1 |
| Adjt Sig Off | 1 |
| Batman | 1 |
| A Coy | 111 |
| B Coy | 113 |
| M.M.G's | 12 |
| Mort | 12 |
| | <u>224</u> |
| | <u>24</u> |
| | <u>254</u> |

| <u>No 3 FLIGHT</u> | <u>NO OF PERSON</u> |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| O.C. Troops | |
| Capt E. BARNES | 1 |
| Batman | 1 |
| Q.M. & Batman | 2 |
| R.P. Sgt & 3 RP | 4 |
| C Coy | 114 |
| Sigs | 12 |
| HQ Coy HQ | 6 |
| M.M.G's | 27 |
| Mort | 19 |
| Pioneers | 8 |
| Tpt | 18 |
| Admin. | 12 |
| R.M.O. & Batman | 2 |
| R.A.P. | 2 |
| 18 Bde HQ | 12 |
| Padre & 1 | 2 |
| | <u>120</u> |
| | <u>242</u> |

10 + 2
Post 6/4/4 1 4 2/6
Storeman
SIG OFFICER.

2/9 Aust Inf Bn.
Ref Map Milne Bay (Prov) 2nd Edit
2" = 1M.

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No 2 Flight 1630
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- ADMIN : 7. Tpt Allotment of trucks as follows:-
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No 2 Flight - 16 x 3 TON.
No 3 Flight - 11 x 3 TON
Above vehicles are to report to Embussing Pts by 1500 hrs.
For transport of stores 10 x 3 TON
Vehs are to report to the Q.M. at 1300Hrs.
8. WHARF Party Wharf loading Party O.C. Lieut
K.R. WILLS & 28 O.R's of Tpt Sec.
T.S.O. Capt R.C. HOOPER
9. Evening Meal. Capt L.G.C. EVANS will report to Staging Camp by 1600 hrs and arrange details for meal at 1700 Hrs.
10. Dress. Full Marching Order- Green slacks-
Steel Helmets- Hat K.F. will be ~~ap~~
packed, Mosquito Nets in pack.
Haversack will contain Shirt & Shorts
G'Sheet in addition to normal personnel gear and rations.
Blanket rolled around pack.
Respirators will be worn.
11. Baggage Offrs Valisis at Q.M. Store by 1300Hrs
Offrs Mess Gear at Q.M. Store by
1330Hrs.
12. AMM 100 Rnds SAA plus 2 Gren per Man.
12 Mags Per Bren
10 Mags Per T.S.M.G.
Coy Res by Coy Arrangements.
Bn Res by Q.M. Arrangements.
13. WEAPONS All Weapons will be carried.
6 MMG's with stores.
14. Rations 4 days ^(Dehydrated) per man on the man.
Q.M. will arrange meals during the voyage.
15. Water Full W/B.
16. Medical S.B's will remain as present allotment.
17. Anti Malarial 3 Days quinine & Dovers Cream on the man.

18.

Tents & Lines Tents will be left standing in present area. Attention will be paid to cleanliness of lines and ~~condition~~ certificate as to condition of area will be rendered to Bn HQ by 1500 Hrs.

INTERCOMN

Bn HQ will close at present area at 1600 Hrs. Sig O will arrange with J.O. 2/5 Bn re area communications.

Michael J. ... Capt.
Adjt 2/9 Aust Inf Bn.

DISTRIB LIST

- A Coy
- B Coy
- C Coy
- D Coy
- HQ Coy
- C.O.
- Adjt
- 2 i/c.

- R.M.O.
- Q.M.
- I.O.
- Milne Force
- 18 Aust Inf Bde } For Infmn
- War Diary
- File.

APPX 'A' to 2/9 Bn Movement O.

| <u>No 1 FLIGHT</u> | <u>No OF PER</u> |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| O.C. Troops | |
| Capt R.R. GRIFFIN | 1 |
| 'D' Coy | 115 |
| C.O. 1 ✓ | |
| Batman 1 ✓ | |
| Adjt 1 ✓ | |
| Batman 1 ✓ | |
| TSMG No 1 ✓ | |
| Int Sgt 1 ✓ <i>o.c.</i> | |
| Int Sec 2 ✓ <i>o.c.</i> | 28 |
| Sig Sgt 1 | |
| Sigs 15 | |
| Mort Of 1 | |
| Batman 1 | |
| RSM&BAT 2 ✓ | |
| Mortars 1 Det 7 <i>13</i> | |
| MMG Carrier Dvrs) & Fitters | 25 |
| Pioneers | 7 |
| Tpt | 17 75 |
| Bn Off Staff | 3 ✓ <i>(incl P.Sgt)</i> |
| R.Q. | 1 |
| Admin | 12 |
| R.A.P. Sgt & 2 | 3 ✓ |
| 18 Aust Inf Bde | |
| S.C. 1 | |
| O.R.'s 12 | |
| J Sec Sigs 7 (101 Set) | 20 20 |
| Med Det 1 & 11 | 12 12 |
| <i>Sgt Day</i> | <u>251</u> |
| <i>Postal Off.</i> | |

| <u>No 2 FLIGHT</u> | <u>NO OF PERSON</u> |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| O.C. Troops | |
| Maj W.N. Parry Okeden 1 ✓ | |
| Batman 1 ✓ | |
| Bn Ord Rm Sgt 1 ✓ <i>o.c.</i> | 6 <i>A Coy</i> |
| Pay Cpl 1 ✓ | |
| Sig Off 1 | |
| Batman 1 | |
| A Coy 111 | |
| B Coy 113 | 224 |
| M.M.G's 12 | |
| Mort 126 | 24 |
| <i>Sigs</i> | <u>254</u> |

| <u>No 3 FLIGHT</u> | <u>NO OF PERSON</u> |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| O.C. Troops | |
| Capt E. BARNES 1 | |
| Batman 1 | |
| Q.M. & Batman 2 | |
| R.P. Sgt & 3 RP 4 ✓ <i>o.c.</i> | 8 |
| C Coy 114 | 114 <i>C Coy</i> |
| Sigs 12 | |
| HQ Coy HQ 6 | |
| M.M.G's 27 | |
| Mort 19 | |
| Pioneers 8 | |
| Tpt 18 | |
| Admin 12 | |
| R.M.O. & Batman 2 ✓ | |
| RA.P. 2 ✓ | |
| 18 Bde HQ 12 | |
| Padre & 1 2 | 120 |
| <i>Sig O & Bat</i> | <u>242</u> |

Bn Steerman
1. 9 man
Pack.

Milne
Spencer
Bary

18 Aust. INF BDE GP. OPERATION ORDER NO. 1

REF MAP - BUNA Locality Revised (approx 4" to 1 m)

BUNA Target Plan No 24

INFORMATION

Own & allies maps being gridded differently any message must specify map used. In this order map used is the BUNA Locality Revised

1. ENEMY

- (a) as contained in topographical notes on BUNA Area dated 11 Dec 42. already issued but NOT to all recipients of this order.
- (b) as given verbally at conferences by Comd. 18 Aust Inf Bde Gp.
- (c) as contained in 18 Aust Inf Bde Gp Intelligence Summary to be issued at 1600 hrs 17 Dec

2. Own Tps

The following tps are under command issued by Bde Gp

- (a) X Sqn 2/6 Aust Armcd Regt
- (b) MANNING Tpt 2/1 Aust 7d Regt
- (c) HALL Tpt 2/5 Aust 7d Regt
- (d) OHARA Tpt 1 Aust Mountain Bty
- (e) Det 2/9 Aust 7d Coy (Engns)
- (f) 128 US Regt (1/126, 1/128, 3/128 US Bns & Cpt. tps)
- (g) 2/7 Aust Inf Bn
- (h) 2/10 Aust Inf Bn
- (i) 17 Aust Inf Bde Carrier Gp.
- (j) Det 2/5 Aust 7d Amb
- (k) Det 10 Aust 7d Amb
- (l) Det 11ASC
- (m) Det 11AOC

3. INTENTION

3 18 Aust Inf Bde Gp. will attack & capture area CAPE ENDAIADERE. NEW STRIP - OLD STRIP. BUNA Mission

METHOD

4 The attack will take place in phases
Phase I. To attack a capture area bounded on
the right by the coast to mouth of
SINEMI Creek (278257) and bounded by a line
through East end of NEW STRIP to West end
of OLD STRIP thence NW along SINEMI
CR to its mouth

5. This order covers the details of Phase I only
Orders will be issued subsequently by
HQ 18 Aust Inf Bde Gp for later Phases

6. Groupings

- (a) Forward 2/9 Aust Inf Bn with support
 - (i) X Sqn 2/6 Aust Armcd Regt less 1 Tank
 - (ii) MANNING Tp 2/1 Aust Td Regt
 - (iii) HALL Tp 2/5 Aust Td Regt
 - (iv) O'HARD Tp 1 Aust MIN Bty
 - (v) Det 2/4 Aust Td Coy

(b) Reserve

- (i) 1 Tank X Sqn 2/6 Aust Armcd Regt
- (ii) 128 US Regt
- (iii) 2/10 Aust Inf Bn (in arrival HAKOKI)
- (iv) 17 Aust Inf Bde Carrier Gp

7. Objectives

- (a) Area bounded by coast on RIGHT by SINEMI
CR on left to mouth of SINEMI CR but including
NEW STRIP
- (b) Bridgehead on West side of SINEMI CR in
Coastal zone of NW^{end} of OLD STRIP and
commencing back OLD STRIP BUNA MISSION

8. START LINES

2/9 Aust Inf Bn will receive a mark SL by
1600 hrs 17 Dec. SL will be up approx 150 yds South
of line now held by 2/122 US Bn.

9. Forming Up Places

- (a) X Sqn 2/6 Aust Armcd Regt less 1 Tank will move

from present form 10 7UP already received before
1800 & 1900 hrs D-1. Sam will be responsible for the
local security during night D-1/D

(b) 2/9 Aust Inf Bn less B Ech will receive 7UP
South of 128 CP & will move there by 1800 hrs
D-1

10. ZERO 0700 hrs, which is time when Tanks in use Inf's.

11. D Day 18 Dec

12. TIMING of Advance Pace of advance will be
regulated by Info. Tanks MUST conform to this
rate of advance

13. Compass Bearing of Advance. 335° True to Cape Endiaderre
then 285° True

14. Supporting Arms

(a) Artillery

(i) MANNING TH 2/9 Aust 7d Regt, HALL TH 2/5 Aust 7d Regt
O'HARA TH 1 Aust Min Bty will fire on targets
already indicated on ground on ENEMY front &
centre from Z-10 to Z. Targets already indicated
in CAPE ENDIADERRE area will be engaged
from Z-10 to Z+10 min

(ii) Rates of fire will be laid down by HQ
18 Aust Inf Bty in accordance with
availability of ammo.

(iii) MANNING TH, HALL TH & O'HARA THs will each
send 700 & Sig party to report to 2/9 Aust Inf
Bn by 1600 hrs 17 Dec

(iv) On orders to be issued by HQ 18 Aust Inf Bty
Hall Th will move 1 25 pdr gun & available
AP shot & normal HE to a position near Eastern
END of NEW STRIP with a view to
engaging enemy TD Boxes on NEW STRIP

ADMINISTRATION

- 16 Rations 3 days emergency rations will be carried to the man
- 17 Comm Front line comm will be carried. Comm will be replenished by Staff Capt 18 Aust Inf Bde Gp on urgent requirement or on normal expenditure returns
- 18 Tank Replenishment Area will be notified
- 19 Artillery Separate orders will be issued
- 20 Chlorination Tablets will be carried by each man
- 21 Assault Boat Staff Capt will arrange to draw 5 ^{officers} assault boats from May 4 up to and will despatch there ^{as} required by 2/9 Aust Inf Bn
- 22 Medical
 - (a) RAT will evacuate stretcher cases & ~~W~~ WW by nearest direct route to coastal track running South from CAPE ENDAIADERE to HARIKO. WW will proceed down this track
 - (b) Evacuation of stretcher cases on coastal track will be organised by SMO May Lavarack 2/5 Aust 7d Amb by Light Sec 2/5 Aust 7d Amb
 - (c) Det 2/5 Aust 7d Amb will establish ADS with 14 Portable US Hospital at ~~310236~~ 310236.
 - (d) Staff Capt will arrange further evacuation by Light Sec 10 Aust 7d Amb for native carriers to DOBODURA
 - (e) Det 10 Aust 7d Amb will establish Light Sec at DOBODURA
- 23 PW will be sent under guard to 128 US Regt CP 308241
- 24 B. Ech
 - (a) 2/9 Aust Inf Bn B. Ech. will move to present Burn area of X Sqn 2/6 Aust Armored Regt by 1800h D-1
 - (b) 2/10 Aust Inf Bn B. Ech. will remain at Burn area on arrival will receipt of further orders

INTERCOMMUNICATION

- 25 HQ 18 Aust Inf Bde Gp remain present location 309238
- 26 Main artery of comm will be coastal track
- 27 Allocation of Wireless Sets
 - (a) 1x101 Set will move with 2/9 Aust Inf Bn
 - (b) 1x101 Set 1x11 Set will remain HQ 18 Aust Inf Bde Gp
 - (c) 5 Portable US Wireless sets & 2 miles US assault cable will be carried by HQ 18 Aust Inf Bde Gp 102/9 Aust Inf Bn by 1600h 17 Dec
 - (d) Capt Quigley S. y. Offr HQ 18 Aust Inf Bde Gp will use for various comm between 2/9 Bn & terminal on coast at HQ 18 Aust Inf Bde Gp as required

B. Mortars of 128 US Regt

- (i) Heavy mortars of 128 US Regt will give support fire on timed programs as arranged by CO 2/9 Aust Inf Bn will comd 128 US Regt on targets indicated on front of attack
- (ii) 128 US Regt will engage observed targets in area of NEW STRIP during Phase I with heavy, light mortars, both HE & available smoke

15. Role & Location of Reserves

(a) 128 US Regt

- (i) 1/128 US Bn will remain present form
 - (ii) at 0600 hrs D-Day 1/128 & 3/128 US Bns will withdraw to a line in rear of present forms to be indicated on ground by Maj Hall 2/5 Aust 7d Regt on D-1
 - (iii) 1/128 & 3/128 US Bns will re occupy their present forms as soon as 2/9 Aust Inf Bn has cleared through these forms.
 - (iv) 3/128 US Bn will remain at immediate notice to take over ground on 2/9 Aust Inf Bn on orders of HQ 18 Aust Inf Bde Gp.
 - (v) upon withdrawal of the 2/9 Aust Inf Bn through 3/128 US Bn HALL Tp 700 will remain with 3/128 US Bn which will have a call on that Tp.
 - (vi) 1/128 US Bn will remain at immediate notice to form a defensive flank facing West & looking up with def. left flank of 2/9 Aust Inf Bn North of NEW STRIP
- (b) 2/10 Aust Inf Bn will on arrival move from HARIKO to bivouac area at present occupied by 2/9 Aust Inf Bn & will remain at immediate notice
- (c) 17 Aust Inf Bde Carrier Gp
- (i) will move at 0700 D Day from present loca to Bwn area 200 yds South of HQ 18 Aust Inf Bde Gp at present occupied by 2/9 Aust Armored Regt & will remain in Bde Res at immediate notice
 - (ii) Det of 17 Aust Inf Bde Carrier Gp will endeavor to recover 2 of carriers fwd of 3/128 from 1st in line running order when ground has been cleared by 2/9 Aust Inf Bn. These carriers will remain 17 Aust Inf Bde Carrier Gp
- (d) Allied Air Forces
- (i) Direct air support will be arranged by 18 Aust Inf Bde Gp
 - (ii) Aircraft noise camouflage will be provided from 1800 to 1915 hrs D-1 & from 0615 to 0700 hrs D Day to cover movement of tanks

28 Frequencies call Signal Code names will be notified by Capt Quilby

29 Wireless restrictions
(a) Except for aircraft shoot-HQ 18 Aust Inf Bde St Arty HQ & Arty Tps + Sqn 2/6 Armd Regt 2/9 Aust Inf Bn will maintain wireless silence until contact is made on D Day
(b) 2/10 Aust Inf Bn will maintain wireless silence until further orders

30 Parwords new schedule will be issued 1800 hrs

D-1
31 Visual Communication Tanks & Inf. The following will be employed
(a) Line of flight of Very Pistol will indicate resistance in that direction
(b) Inf desiring tank assistance to move to them will raise steel helmet on rifle bayonet
(c) Targets or centres of resistance may be indicated by pointing rifle bayonet at arms length
(d) Tanks fall wounded will be marked by frame rifle vertically with bayonet in ground

32 In case it is necessary to post from the operating code word ~~system~~ by ALORAN. This will be used 10 post time zero Su

Synchronisation

33 Sigs 18 Aust Inf Bde St will synchronise with on 32 US Div time at 1600, 2000 & 2400 hrs D-1 & at 0300, 0600 hrs D Day Synchronisation must be exact to within 5 secs

ACK

Issued at 1230 hrs 17 Dec by hand through Sigs
Signalers

Signalers
BM 18 Aust Inf Bde St

Distribution

| | | | |
|------|----------------------------|-----------|-----|
| *Syn | 2/6 Aust Army Regt | Copies No | 1 |
| | only 18 Aust Inf Bde 9h | | 203 |
| | Det 3/6 Aust 7d Coy | | 4 |
| | 128 US Regt | | 506 |
| | 2/9 Aust Inf Bn | | 708 |
| | 2/10 Aust Inf Bn | | 710 |
| | 17 Aust Inf Bde Currier 9h | | 11 |
| | Det ADMC (May Lawrence) | | 12 |
| | 32 US Div | | 13 |
| | Commander | | 14 |
| | ISM | | 15 |
| | SC | | 16 |
| | IO | | 17 |
| | WD | | |
| | 7.2 | | |

14