

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

Item number: 8/3/90

52 Infantry Battalion

December 1941

# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 52 BATTALION

Date and Time.—From 8 Dec 41 To 16 Dec 41.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SEYMOUR	7 Dec	2100	JAPAN declared WAR on BRITAIN and AMERICA	
"	9 Dec	1115	AUSTRALIA declared state of WAR existing with JAPAN as from 1700 hrs 8 Dec 41.	
"	10 Dec	1400	Active Anti-Aircraft defence ordered throughout camp area. A.A. pits mounted immediately under control of Lieut L. Waters.	
"	13 Dec		Warning Order issued by G.O.C. Southern Command for Partial Mobilisation. Date of DAY ONE Monday 15 Dec 41.	
"	14 Dec	1100	Mortars to be borne in Carriers Universal. Change in W.E. pending.	
"	15 Dec	2140	6 P.T.P. marched into Camp.	
"	16 Dec	1000	4 Drivers M.T. marched into camp. Dispersion of tents throughout Coy. Areas. Slit trenches being dug.	

D.3485/5.30.—C.478A.

Lieut. *Richard Dawson*  
I.O. 52 BN.



# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 52 BATTALION

Date and Time.—From 21 Dec 41 To 23 Dec 41.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SEYMOUR	21 Dec	0915	Brigade Church Parade held in Y.M.C.A. marquee. Three men from each Coy. to report to Brigade for Bde. A.A. Platoon. <i>[Signature]</i>	
"	22 Dec	1000	Q.M. reports complete stores of medical equipment except field dressings. Some dissatisfaction amongst Troops regarding Xmas leave. <i>[Signature]</i>	
"	23	1000	Many rumours through Camp about Xmas leave for other units. A report that troops were going to hold a stop work meeting	
		1815	was received from 24 Bn I.O. 1845 hrs. Meeting was held in 24 Bn Area. Deputation elected to parade to Bde. Troops threatened to march out. Brigade Major addressed troops and cleared the situation. <i>[Signature]</i>	
		1530	G.O.C. 3 Div addressed all Div security Officers about the attitude of 3 Div Troops. <i>[Signature]</i>	

Lieut *Richard Jason*  
I.O. 52 Bn

# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

Unit 52 BATTALION

Date and Time.—From 24 Dec 41 To 29 Dec 41.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SEYMOUR	24 Dec	1150	Battalion Parade. C.O. addressed troops. <del> </del>	
		1900	Night training cancelled. Local leave granted. Four A.W.L. <del> </del>	
"	25 Dec	0630	Xmas day, no training. Swimming parade. Camp open to visitors. <del> </del>	
"	26 Dec	1530	Mortar and A.A. shoot - Guilds Hill Area.	
		1615	Fire started by mortar bomb about three acres burnt. <del> </del>	
"	27 Dec	0815	Platoons move out for three day bivouac. Area MITCHELTOWN. <del> </del>	
"	28 Dec	0815	Most Troops out of Camp. Tactical exercises being carried out by platoons. <del> </del>	
"	29 Dec	1400	Conference at Brigade H.Q. of C.O.'s	
		1630	Troops moved back to Camp from MITCHELTOWN transported by A.A.S.C. <del> </del>	

Lieut *Richard Lawson*  
I.O. 52 Bn

