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

(Erase heading not required).

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	
11	9 Dec	1115	AUSTRALIA declared state of WAR existing with JAPAN as from	
			1700 hrs 8 Dec 41.	
n	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.	
11	15 Dec	2140	6 P.T.P. marched into Camp.	
11	16 Dec	1000	4 Drivers M.T. marched into camp. Dispersion of tents through	
			out Coy. Areas. Slit trenches being dug.	

Lieut. Ruhard Manon.
I.O. 52 BN.

(Erase heading not required).

	Unit5	2_BATTALIC	Date and Time.—From 17 Dec 41 To 21 Dec 41.	
Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SEYMOUR	17 Dec	1000	Ten drivers M.T. marched out to A.A.S.C. Completion of tent	
			dispersal and slit trenches.	
*	18 Dec	1700	Troops marched in. Essential issues completed by 2130 hrs.	
			Number of Troops 230.	
11	19 Dec		Number of troops marched out 59. First day of individual	
			training including bayonet training, route march, P.T. and	
			Swimming parade.	
"	20 Dec	0800	Full day training. No week-end leave. Many rumours going	
			through Camp regarding leave and a move to battle-station.	
		1916	Important Q message received from DOMO.Field dressing to be	Originators No. Q 142
			to be issued forth with to all ranks. Requisitions for identity	Time of origin 1525
			disces to reach MITA 1800 hrs 22 Dec. Signed E.A. GRIFFIN MAJ.	Priority IMPORTANT.
	21 Dec	0730	R.C. Church parade. Training carried on as usual.	***
D.3485/5,39.—C.4788.				11101

Lieut. Kickard Masson I.O. 52 Bn

(Erase heading not required).

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information Remarks and references 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.
10	22 Dec	1000	Q.M. reports complete stores of medical equipment except
			field dressings. Some disatisfaction amongst Troops regarding
			Xmas leave.
"	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 .
		1530	G.O.C. 3 Div addressed all Div security Officers about the
			attitude of 3 Div Troops.

Lieut Kichard Sauron. I.O. 52 Bn

(Erase heading not required).

	Unit	52 BATTAL	JON 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.	
		1900	Night training cancelled. Local leave granted. Four A.W.L.	
	25 Dec	0630	Xmas day, no training. Swimming parade. Camp open to visitor:	s. A
**	26 Dec	1530	Mortar and A.A. shoot - Guilds Hill Area.	
		1615	Fire started by mortar bomb about three acres burnt.	
11	27 Dec	0815	Platoons move out for three day bivouac. Area MITCHELTOWN.	
	28 Dec	0815	Most Troops out of Camp. Tactical exercises being carried	
			out by platoons.	
**	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.	
D.3485/5,39.—C.4783.				101

D.3485/5,39,-C.4783.

Lieut Malard Sauran I.O. 52 Bn

(Erase heading not required).

	Unit	52 BATTA	LION Date and Time.—From 30 Dec 41 To 31 Dec 41.	
Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SEYMOUR	30 Dec	0200	Reveille. Troops prepare to move out of camp for Rifle-range	
		0300	Move timed to commence.	
		0630	Rifle-range reached. Firing throughout the day. Night firing	
			followed.	
"	31 Dec	0815	Firing continued on Range.	
		1630	Troops moved back to Camp.	
		1000		
.3485/5.39.—C.4783.				Kasard Sanon.

I.O. 52 BN.