AWM52
Australian Military Forces, Army headquarters, formation and unit diaries, 1939-1945

1/5/26
DIVISIONS

11 Australian Division
Adjutant General
Quartermaster General
Branch - Milne Force (11 Aust Div AQ Branch - Milne Force)

July - August 1942

1/5/26-0012

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118.
(adapted.)

W. 12210 2/42 — *Unit* HQ MILNE FORCE. — *Date and Time.—From* 30 Jul 42 — *To* 31 Aug 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SYDNEY	30 Jul	1745	Instructions received from Land Forces Maj-Gen CLOWES with Div HQ selected from 1 & 10 Aust Divs required for special task.	
"	"		Recommendation of W.E. for HQ and Div Tps and recommendations of personnel to comprise HQ submitted to LHQ	Appendix "A".
"	31 Jul	1000	D.S.D. Conference:- (1) Maj-Gen MORRIS to Comd L of C and Adm Tps in N.G. (2) Maj-Gen CLOWES to have operational Comd N.G. Force. (3) List recommendations submitted approved ~~save DADOS (O) & (E). MGO to submit~~ recommendations as to these. (4) ORs to be selected from 1 & 10 Aust Divs. (5) Only units of Div Tps asked for approved: (a) 51 Aust Fd Pk Coy. (b) 1 Aust Div Prov Coy. (c) 1 Aust Div Concert Party.	
"	"	1300	1. Approval from Land Forces for despatch to MORESBY of: (a) HQ NGF, incl RAA, RAE, AASC & SIGS. (b) 1 Aust Div Prov Coy & Concert Party. (c) 51 Fd Pk Coy. 2. Estimated date units ready to move, personnal & vehs to be notified.	

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

H. 1cons 2/42 Unit _____ Date and Time.—From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SYDNEY	2 Aug		Army Postal Services asked to despatch Div Postal Unit to NGF.	
"	3 Aug	1445	LHQ notified personnel consisting Div HQ, HQ RAA, RAE, ASC & SIGS will be concentrated ready to move 12 Aug together with reduced MT.	
"	"	1935	Move of Concert Party, Prov Coy and 51 Fd Pk Coy cancelled. Maj-Gen CLOWES' Staff to move Brisbane by rail as soon as organized. Force to be known as "C" Force. Composition of SIGS to be :- (a) HQ 1 Aust Div Sigs. (b) No.1. Coy. (c) No.2. Coy (HQ only) (d) No.3. Coy. (e) Additional personnel to complete WE to be drawn from 10 Aust Div. Also eqpt to full WE Table from 10 Aust Div.	
			Maj-Gen CLOWES to leave for Brisbane 4 Aug to confer land operations.	
"	4 Aug		Approval for despatch of Div Postal Unit refused.	
"	5 Aug.		W/Es approved: (a) HQ NG Force 11/1/3 AIF. (b) RAA 11/30/2 AMF. (c) RAE 11/4/3 AIF. (d) ASC 11/71/3 AMF. (e) Sigs 11/115/3 AIF.	

(3)
Army Form C. 2118
(adapted,)

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

W. 10000 2/42 Unit _____ Date and Time.—From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SYDNEY	6 Aug		Cipher Sec to move with Sigs who will report Brisbane 11 Aug for embarkation 12 Aug.	
"	"		Instructions re Maj-Gen CLOWES to command New Guinea Forces cancelled. Maj-Gen CLOWES now to command forces at Milne Bay.	
"	7 Aug		Land Ops advised details of move of personnel & vehs by road & rail to Brisbane. Movement Order 1st Flight received. Movement Order 2nd Flight received.	
"	7 Aug		Land Ops advise provision for additional G.111(i)	
"	"		Instns received for H2 "C" Force, RAE, AASC, Sigs and 292 LAD to concentrate Brisbane NOT later than 11 Aug 42 preparatory to move 12 Aug 42.	
LIVERPOOL CAMP	8 Aug	0600	First Flight MT leave LIVERPOOL CAMP by road via ARMIDALE for BRISBANE.	
SYDNEY	9 Aug		Maj-Gen CLOWES, Maj SINGE, G.11 and Lieut CLARKE, ADC, left SYDNEY by plane for BRISBANE.	

Army Form C, 2118
(adapted,)

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

W. 3000 2/42 *Unit* _____ *Date and Time.—From* _____ *To* _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
LIVERPOOL CAMP	9 Aug		Second Flight MT leave LIVERPOOL CAMP by road via ARMIDALE for BRISBANE.	
"	"	2215	First Tp Train departed LIVERPOOL for BRISBANE. 350 all ranks.	
"	10 Aug	0555	Second Tp Train departed LIVERPOOL for BRISBANE with 120 all ranks and 50 tons of stores.	
BRISBANE	"	2140	First Tp Train arrived BRISBANE and Tps moved to ASCOT STAGING CAMP.	
"	11 Aug	0600	Second Tp Train arrived BRISBANE and Tps moved to ASCOT STAGING CAMP. First flight MT by road arrived ASCOT STAGING CAMP.	
SYDNEY	11 Aug	1845	Col LITCHFIELD (AA &QMG) "C" Force departed SYDNEY by plane arriving BRISBANE 2240 hrs and reported to LANDOPS.	
"	"		Maj-Gen CLOWES and two officers arrived PORT MORESBY.	
ASCOT	12 Aug	1215	Tps entrained ASCOT for HAMILTON WHARF and embarked on the M.S. CREMER.	

(5)
Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

W. 1CON 2/42 *Unit* _____ *Date and Time.—From* _____ *To* _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
ASCOT	12 Aug		Second Flight HQ MT moving by road arrived ASCOT.	
BRISBANE	"	1933	After overcoming considerable trouble with Wharf Labourers and using Tps to assist load, the CREMER sailed.	
MILNE BAY	13 Aug		Maj-Gen CLOWES, Comd, Lt-Col CHILTON, G.1, Col MAITLAND, ADMS and Maj McKENZIE, CRE, arrive Milne Bay by service plane. Heavy Rain and roads very muddy.	
BRISBANE	"		Conference held at LANDOPS BRISBANE decided that this Force would no longer be identified as "C" Force but, in future, would be known as "Milne Force".	
"	"	1245	Col LITCHFIELD, AA & QMG, left LANDOPS BRISBANE arriving TOWNSVILLE 1600 hrs same day.	
"	14 Aug	1045	Col LITCHFIELD departed TOWNSVILLE and arrived PORT MORESBY 1745 hrs.	
MILNE BAY	"		ADMS made recce of possible sites for 2/5 Fd Amb and CCS.	
"	15 Aug		Comd Milne Force confirmed siting of Med Units. 11 Fd Amb to establish two ADS - one on Route 7, the other opposite HAGITA HOUSE near HAGITA FORD.	

Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

W. 1CON 2/42 *Unit* _____ *Date and Time.—From* _____ *To* _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MILNE BAY	16 Aug		Comd 18 Bde, G.1 and ADMS confirm site CCS and decide that one Coy 2/5 Fd Amb to establish a convalescent depot at LADAVA MISSION.	
"	17 & 18 Aug		Time spent in recce and conferences between senior officers and Brig FIELD.	
"	18 Aug		ADMS visits ANGAU re native surgical hospital to be established at WAIGANI by 11 Fd Amb. ADS to be established by 11 Fd Amb as soon as 10 CCS arrives. 2/5 Fd Amb to establish small ~~infections~~ hospital at WAIGANI.	
"	19 Aug	0345	Col LITCHFIELD, AA & QMG and Maj SINGE, G.11, departed MORESBY and arrived MILNE BAY 0745 hrs.	
			Advice from Adv LHQ that 90 days ammunition to be held by 123 FOD.	Appendix "B"
"	20 Aug		Heavy Rain. 368 Dental Unit arrived. 3 transports arrived with HQ Milne Force and 10 CCS, who were short of Med supplies and eqpt.	
"	21 Aug		6 ins rain had fallen during night and everything was grounded. Both fords were impassable and most camps are under water. All ranks remained at the Staging Camp. All stores from the ships had to be unloaded into a common dump in the mud. Considerable amount of stores and stationery were ruined.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted,)

W. 1000 2/42 *Unit*_____ *Date and Time.—From*_____ *To*_____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MILNE BAY	22 Aug		Maj-Gen CLOWES assumed comd of Milne Force as from 0900 hrs, the combined Force to be known as Milne Force. Skeleton staff established HQ at No.1. House.	
			A further four inches of rain had fallen during the night.	
			HAGITA FORD still impassable and Tps had to remain at STAGING CAMP.	
			First Routine order issued by Maj-Gen CLOWES at Milne Bay, Serial No. 41/42.	Appendix "C"
"	23 Aug		Native Labour Circular No.6. issued.	Appendix "D"
			ADMS took Lt-Col WALL of 10 CCS to inspect site of CCS.	
			100 natives engaged in preparing site of CCS.	
			KALOHI CREEK had overflowed its banks.	
"	24 Aug		AA & QMG, DAAG, DAQMG with heads of services made recce of proposed Force HQ site.	
"	25 Aug		HQ Milne Force moved from No.1. House GILI GILI to Map Ref GILI GILI 3" to mile 972988.	
			News received that enemy was about to land.	
			"A" Coy 11 Fd Amb ordered to evacuate LADAVA MISSION and move to new position on Route 3. 10 CCS, who had not recovered their surgical stores from dump or had any tentage erected were ordered to receive battle casualties.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

W. 1600 2/42 *Unit*_____ *Date and Time.—From*_____ *To*_____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MILNE ~~FORCE~~ BAY	26 Aug	0100	Gun fire commenced at 0100 hrs and during the night the enemy landed Tps on the NORTH side of MILNE BAY opposite LEFT flank of 61 Bn. Strenuous efforts were made all day to clear sick from forward areas to WAIGANI to make room for battle casualties.	
"	27 Aug		Shelling by enemy cruisers continued during the night. General position NOT very clear. 61 Bn has suffered casualties but number is NOT known to HQ Milne Force. Ground strafing attack by Zeros. ~~Attack costly to enemy.~~	
			CCS now admitting battle casualties and all sick have been transferred to MDS at WAIGANI. Hyperdomic Syringes arrive by air from DDMS NGF.	
			~~Admn Instn No.1. issued defining admn responsibilities of Comds and Heads of Services. To be used as a basis for admn of Milne Force.~~	Appendix "E"
"	28 Aug		ANSHUN sailed from BRISBANE with remainder of HQ personnel:- 1 Aust Fd Cash Office, 12 AL Sec, 38 AMCU, 292 LAD, HQ 33 AA Bty, General Reinfordements, 18 de Gp Reinforcements, ~~2/1 Pioneer Bn ("D" Coy only), ADM of Hygiene.~~	
			General position still NOT very clear.	
			Difficulty in getting returns from Units, such as AAF W.3006.	
			2/10 Bn suffered casualties during the night.	
			Fighting is now on No.3. ~~trip~~ (Aerodrome)	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

W. 1CON 2/42 *Unit* _____ *Date and Time.—From* _____ *To* _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MILNE BAY	29 Aug		Difficulty experienced in providing sufficient MT as vehs other than 4-wheel drive type are useless in this country.	
			10 CCS were working under difficulties, having only one surgeon, who was doing major surgery.	
			Circular A.46 "Spreading of Rumours" was issued.	Appendix "F"
			ADCS Store destroyed by demolition following receipt of rumours by officer responsible for demolition.	
"	30 Aug		Contrary to expectations no shelling took place during the night.	
			Heavy rain was falling.	
			Capt WHITING arrived from MORESBY as DADMS.	
			Urgent instruction sent to Units to forward AAF W.3006 Returns.	
			Comd Milne Force directs that C of I be assembled to inquire into and report on circumstances surrounding the destruction of ADCS Store at Milne Bay.	Appendix "H"
"	31 Aug		2/12 Bn passed through FDLS and moved on to KB mission. Mopping up commenced. "B" Coy 2/5 Fd Amb establishing ADS at GILI GILI. Casualties were evacuated by ketch to GILI GILI wharf.	
			NGF asked for immediate despatch of reinforcements for all Units MILNE FORCE.	Appendix "G"
			A summary of casualties was compiled.	Appendix "J"

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

(10)
Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

W. 1CON 2/12 *Unit*_____ *Date and Time.—From*_____ *To*_____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MILNE BAY	31 Aug		Immediately action was joined with the enemy the admn system broke down. Units failed to submit routine returns such as AAF W.3006	
			Difficulty was experienced in obtaining infm re casualties. For a period, the only source of infm re casualties was the 10 Aust CCS.	
			To combat rumours it was decided to issue a daily official communique from HQ Milne Force on local operations together with ABC News Service. Milne Force Bulletin No.1. Issued.	Appendix "I"
			Throughout the operation extreme difficulty was experienced in providing MT for operational, shipping, med and engr purposes.	
			Four wheel drive (FWD type 3-ton) and American 6-8 and 10 wheelers are the only useful vehs, at least during the present weather.	
			All available MT is required 24 hrs per day and little or NO maintenance is possible.	
			Total heavy MT available for all purposes in Milne Bay is only 32 vehs.	
			A report by ADMS on medical position at Milne Bay as at 31 Aug 42.	Appendix "K"
			The ration position at Milne Bay is serious. Only 14 days supplies remain for all tps and 7 days for natives.	
			All Canteen Stocks were frozen and used for issue to Hospital Units only.	

APPX 'A'

SECRET

HQ NEW GUINEA FORCE

30 Jul '42

AQ 8H103

LHQ

NEW GUINEA FORCE

1. Further to memo of even date recommending WE for HQ and Div tps above force herewith recommendations covering raising of such HQ and Div tps.

2. N.G.F. HQ

To be raised from personnel as shown on Schedule "A" hereto.

3. DIV TPS HQ

As per Schedule "B".

4. DIV TPS

As per Schedule "C".

5. AIF (ENLISTMENT).

In connection with nominations in paras 2, 3 and 4 above and the tps required as per para 8:-

(a) All the officers nominated for posting to N.G.F. HQ have volunteered and have been approved by respective formation comds for AIF.

(b) All the officers selected for Div Tps HQ are in a similar position.

(c) Of the units proposed to be transferred ALL have at least 75% of strength as accepted volunteers AIF. It would be an easy matter to build these units up to 100% AIF strength in each unit from other available AIF accepted volunteers from 1 and 10 Aust Div HQ units.

(d) It is proposed to transfer only such O.Rs mentioned in para 8 hereof, as are accepted AIF.

The obvious advantage in having all the above tps AIF and immediately available for service ANYWHERE needs no emphasis here.

6. ADDITIONAL TPS

It is recommended that urgent consideration be given to the provision of additional Tps as under:-

(a) ARTY

(i) One 25-pr Regt (to replace 13 Aust Fd Regt). In this case it is requested that 18-pr guns now with 13 Fd Regt be allowed to remain for use as Beach Guns and for other direct fire tasks.

(ii) One A.T. Regt.

(iii) One Recce Bn

(iv) One Survey Bty

(v) One Div Cipher Section (to be attached to Div Sigs.)

7. REINFTS.

Owing to extensive wastage on medical grounds, distance from available reinfts together with difficulties of transport and the important resultant time factor, it is strongly recommended that reinfts equal to 20% of all arms should be immediately concentrated in MORESBY area.

It is understood that recent statistics have shown that upwards of 33 1/3% of unit strengths are practically always NOT available for duty owing to sickness. It is understood that in one signal unit the percentage NOT available for duty has risen to 48%.

Recent inspections by LHQ Staff have also indicated that personnel are in many cases working continuously without rest due to inability to replace medical casualties.

It is therefore apparent that without adequate reinfts available ON THE SPOT efficient maintenance of the objective will NOT be possible.

8. O.Rs.

(a) In connection with O.Rs for N.G.F. HQ and HQ Div Tps it is recommended that Second Aust Army be requested to make available from HQ 1 Aust Div and 1 Aust Div Tps HQ certain named NCOs and Ptes (keymen) as selected by Comd N.G.F. and that the balance of O.Rs required be supplied from suitable personnel from 10 Aust Div.

(b) In the case of Div Tps it is requested that units be transferred as shown in Schedule "C" hereto.

9. EQUIPMENT.

(a) N.G.F. HQ. It is recommended that all equipment (incl MT) equal to WE for Div HQ plus accomodation, stores and equipment as laid down be supplied from equipment now held by 1 and 10 Aust Divs and that Second Aust Army be requested to so arrange.

(b) DIV UNIT HQ. Similar to N.G.F. HQ.

(c) DIV UNITS. That full MT and weapons as shown on W.E.T. plus prescribed accommodation, equipment and stores move with units. Where existing units to be transferred as per Schedule "C" are not to full WE then shortages to be made up from 1 and 10 Aust Divs. Second Aust Army to be requested to arrange accordingly.

Major-General
(C.A. CLOWES)
Comd N.G.F.

30 Jul '42.

Schedule "A"

N.G.F.

N.G.F. HQ. Based on WE II/I/3 (AIF).

APPT	TO BE FILLED BY	PRESENT POSTING	REMARKS
Comd	Maj-Gen CLOWES, C.A.	Comd 1 Aust Div	
ADC	Lieut CLARKE, I.	A/ADC 1 Aust Div	9 Fd Regt awaiting appt as ADC
G1	Col CHILTON, F.C.	G1 N.G. L of C Area	
GII	Maj SINGE, C.W.	45 Bn	
GII (Learner)	Capt RUTLEDGE, E.J.	GII Learner 10 Aust Div	
GIII (Learner)	-	-	Appt to be filled in N.G.
GIII (Int)	Capt SHORT, A.	GIII (Int) 10 Aust Div	This officer at present on loan as Instructor to E.C. Sen Offrs School.
G.III (Int)	Capt THOMPSON, R.H.B.	GIII (Int) 10 Aust Div	
AA & QMG	Col LITCHFIELD, J.C.	AA & QMG I Aust Div	
DAAG	Capt WILLIS, J.W.	A/DAAG 1 Aust Div	Present posting S/C 9 Aust Inf Bde already recd as LAAG 1 Aust Div.
DAAG (Learner)	Capt HILLS, E.W.	10 Aust Inf Bn att 1 Aust Div	This officer just completed S & C School DUNTROON and has been allotted to 1 Aust Div by LHQ as S/C learner.
DAQMG	Capt BAILEY, K.A.	S/C 28 Inf Bde	
DAQMG (Learner)	Capt WUNDERLICH, R.	13 Bn att 1 Aust Div	This officer has just completed S & C School DUNTROON and has been att to 1 Aust Div as S/C learner
Liaison Officers (3)	Capt THOMAS, R.E. Lieut BODMAN-WETHAM, T.	1 Aust Div) 1 Aust Div)	Both these officers already recd as I/O's 1 Aust Div. Third LO to be selected in N.G.
Perm Pros C's M.	Lt-Col HOYES, J.	GSO 10 Aust Div	This officer has wide experience as a CO and would be valuable as a quick replacement in event of casualty to G1.
LSO	Capt LARKINE, A.	LSO NSW L of C Area	This officer has already been recd by First Aust Army as LSO 1 Aust Div
Chaplains (3)			It is understood that these are already available in NG.

APPT	TO BE FILLED BY	PRESENT POSTING	REMARKS.
ADMS	Col MAITLAND C.J.	AAMS)	Appointed by DGMS LHQ.
DADMS	Maj MACARTEY I.S.	AAMC)	
DADMS (Learner)			To be appointed by DGMS LHQ.
DADH			
ADOS	Maj KEARNS F.J.	ADOS 1 AUST DIV	(These officers are all young men recently accepted AIF. On 10 Aust Div HQ are :- Major Stone (age 53) as ADOS. & Captain Newman (age 45) as DADOS(O) both ex ordnance Dept., available for transfer to 1 Aust Div together with Captain Fortune (age 37) as DADOS (E).
DADOS (O)	Lieut McINTOSH N.J.	Appt pending as DADOS (O) 1 Aust Div.	
DADOS (E)	Maj TURKINGTON A.J.	DADOS (E) 1 AUST DIV.	
DADOS (Learner)			To be secured from personnel in N.G.
DAPM	Lieut HAWKESWOOD H.W.	Pending Appt as DAPM 1 Aust Div.	
Camp.	Capt ATKIN J.	Amenities Officer 1 Aust Div.	
Aust Camp.	Lieut FREEMAN H.	CC 6 Def & Emp Platoon	
Amenities Offr.	Sgt RICH C.	Pending appt as Amenities offr 1 Aust Div.	
Catering Adviser.	Lieut JAMES C.	Pending appt as catering adviser 1 Aust Div.	

WAR DIARY

APPX B

MOST SECRET

Adv LHQ
19 Aug 42.

DDOS ADV. LHQ ADM INSTN NO. 3

1. The approved Amn holdings for 8 Adv Amn Depot and 23 Fd Amn Depot are 60 days based on General Staff Tables of weapons. To enable stocks to be maintained at this figure the initial holdings of these depots will be built up where necessary to 90 days. Arrangements are being made for the despatch of the balance of amn to complete to approved holdings.

2. Replenishment will be from 2 Aust Adv Amn Depot based on bi-weekly airmail statements of receipts, issues and holdings of amn on A.A. Form F.109. Copies of F.109s will be furnished direct to the following by the officers in charge of abovenamed depots -

DOS LHQ
DDOS Adv LHQ
DDOS NG Force

3. On receipt of the above F.109s at Adv LHQ DDOS L of C will arrange for issuing depot to be notified of amn to be issued.

4. DDOS L of C will arrange for demands for shipping space to be submitted to local MC group concerned.

5. On receipt of advice that freight space has been allotted, amn will be called forward for shipment.

6. Package markings will be communicated to issuing depots and receiving depots by DDOS L of C.

7. Any variations in the holdings for depots as approved by the Staff will be communicated to all concerned.

X

(Sgd) C.T. Hinson Col
DDOS ADV LHQ.

APPX "C"

COPY.

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED.
The information contained in this document is not to be communicated, wither directly or indirectly to the Press, or to any person not holding an official position in His Majesty's or the United States Services.

Serial No. 41/42.

Copy No.

MILNEFORCE

ROUTINE ORDERS PART I

by

MAJOR-GENERAL C.A. CLOWES D.S.O. M.C.

Date 22 Aug 42.

"G"

202. PASSWORD: (Ref S.M. M 4 20 Jul)

Period	from	1800	22	Aug	42	to	1800	23	Aug	Serial	No.	14
"	"	"	23	"	"	to	"	24	"	"	"	19
"	"	"	24	"	"	to	"	25	"	"	"	2
"	"	"	25	"	"	to	"	26	"	"	"	12

(SGD) W. SINGH. Maj.
for Col. G.S.

"A" & "C".

203. LOCATION OF FORCE CEMETERY. Attention of units is directed to present location of Force Cemetery which is situated at Map Ref 094008 (GILI GILI Sheet).

(SGD) J.C. LI[illegible]FI LE. Col.
AA & QMG.

DISTRIBUTION LIST 'A".

APPX 'B' D

WAR DIARY

[illegible]

[illegible] O. [illegible].

[illegible] SEC.

23 AU. 42.

(1) [illegible]pply of [illegible]ative [illegible]our will be reorganised forthwith in accordance with the following instructions :-

(a) All native labour at present allotted to [illegible] and [illegible]nits will be returned to the control of [illegible] at [illegible]ative Labour Lines by 17[illegible] hrs 21 Aug 42.

(b) [illegible] and [illegible]nits will submit fresh demands for the [illegible] native labour required to [illegible] by [illegible] 23 Aug 42.

(c) It is desired to emphasise that the numbers available are very limited and co-operation of Comds to keep the demands to an absolute minimum would be appreciated.

(d) Demands for labour should state the number of boys required, the nature of the work on which they are to be employed, and give an adequate estimate as to the probable period for which required. Comds etc, Comds will not forward unreasonable demands from Units and will endorse their remarks as to priority on Unit demands. No labour will be available on 30 Aug 42 as new allocation will not be effected until 31 Aug 42.

(2) Subsequent demands for labour will be submitted as necessary to [illegible] and, if approved, passed to [illegible] for action. In all cases Unit demanding will be advised as to availability of labour.

(3) [illegible] and [illegible]nits will not demand labour direct from [illegible], who have been requested not to supply unless on authority [illegible].

[illegible] Col.
[illegible]

[illegible].

7 [illegible]st Inf [illegible]de	4
13 [illegible]ust Inf [illegible]de	4
[illegible] ([illegible]ar [illegible]tts)	3
[illegible]	3
[illegible]	2
[illegible]	1
[illegible]	2
[illegible]	3
[illegible]	1
[illegible]	1
[illegible]	1
[illegible]	2
[illegible] [illegible]rwin [illegible]	1
[illegible]	1

[illegible]

War Diary

SECRET. APPX "E"

Copy No....4....

HQ MILNE FORCE ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTION No.1.

HQ
MILNE FORCE
AUG 42.
27 AUG 1942

GENERAL.

1. The following outline administrative plan will be taken into use forthwith by all HQ and Units of Milne Force and will be read in conjunction with HQ Milne Force Op Instn No.6. Additional detailed instructions will be issued from time to time as appendices, and amendments will be published in HQ Milne Force Routine Orders as necessary.

2. Instructions issued by HQ Milne Force up to 0859 hrs 22 Aug 42 will continue to be effective, if applicable, until instructions to the contrary are issued. In this regard particular attention is directed to appendix "A", in which instructions with regard to treatment of the native population and behaviour of troops in the presence of natives are repeated.

"A" BRANCH.

3. Field Returns AF W.3006, W.3008 and W.3009 will be submitted to Records Office, New Guinea L of C Area, in accordance with printed instructions recently issued by Records Office. Any unit which has not received such printed instructions will advise this HQ.

4. Strength State W.3006 is to be submitted through Bde HQ, if applicable, to HQ Milne Force, daily by 0900 hrs.

5. One copy of AF W.3008, compiled as at 0900 hrs each Saturday, will be submitted through normal channels to reach this HQ by 0900 hrs each Monday.

6. Native Labour will be demanded as necessary in accordance with HQ Milne Force Circular No. A.25 dated 23 Aug 42.

7. Working Parties, guards etc., will be detailed from the rearward Bde, as necessary, by this HQ. Comds who supply such details from time to time, will ensure that at least one Coy or similar operational unit is undergoing training at any given time.

8. Discipline: Comd Milne Force has expressed his concern at the unshaven state of many troops on the island and desires that every man shave daily and be as well turned out as possible under the circumstances. In this regard, it is the duty of every offr to be an example to his men. Discipline with regard to protective clothing at sundown is to be rigidly enforced.

9. Swimming: All troops will be warned that drinking water is drawn from the river immediately upstream from HAGITA FORD and that swimming is prhhibited upstream from notice.

MEDICAL.

10. Command: The following units are placed under comd of ADMS HQ Milne Force :-

11 Aust Fd Amb
2/5 " " "
10 Aust CCS
308 Dental Unit
368 Dental Unit

11. Medical returns will be rendered as under :-

(a) By RMOs of all units to ADMS -
(i) Weekly - ADMS Pro-forma "A" (to be issued shortly)
(ii) When necessary - VD questionaire - one copy.
By all Medical Units to ADMS.
(b) (i) Daily - ADMS Pro-forma "B" (to be issued shortly)
(ii) Weekly - ADMS Pro-forma "A" (to be issued shortly)
(iii) Weekly - A.36 - also one copy direct to Records Office NG L of C Area.
(iv) Weekly - A.30.
(v) Monthly - A.31 - also one copy direct to Records Office NG L of C Area.
(vi) When necessary - VD questionaire - one copy.

12. All clinical records of personnel discharged from a medical unit will be forwarded to Records Office NG L of C Area on the Saturday following discharge.

13. Units will ensure that patients evacuated beyond RAP are accompanied by serviceable tents mosquito.

14. Malaria, Suppressive Treatment: An extract from Milne Force Routine Orders, Serial No. 5/42, is repeated for information and necessary action :-

"The following medical technical instn is issued for action by all units and dets. Offrs comd units and dets will ensure that they obtain sufficient supplies of quinine :-

Dosage: Dose will be five (5) grains of quinine hydrochloride, bihydrochloride, or sulphate, given each day of the week. Orders regarding any change will be issued by higher command.

Medical officers will not modify the dosage or suppressive treatment ordered by higher authority.

Method of Administration: Tablets should either be taken after a meal or should be followed by copious draughts of water. Each man will be watched while he takes the tablet; his name and number will be taken, and the necessary entry made in a register kept for that purpose.

Treatment will commence within seven days of landing for all ranks.

Further instructions will be issued later."

15. The necessity for rigid adherence to these instns cannot be over emphasised and any departure therefrom will be treated as a grave breach of discipline.

"Q" BRANCH.

16. AASC. The following units are placed under command of CASC Milne Force :-

25 Aust Coy ASC.
2/6 Aust Coy ASC.

17. Supply Plan is contained in Appendix "B" attached.

18. MT Pool: CASC will establish a pool of MT for all general transport requirements of units of Milne Force.

19. Following upon receipt of Census of Warlike Stores (MT), vide Appendix "D" para 1, further instructions as to the composition of the pool will be issued. In the meantime the pool, as at present constituted, will remain, and units will continue to supply vehicles as before.

20. Lieut I.R. Carson, 9 Light AA Bty, will remain detached for duty with HQ Comd AASC, as Transport Offr.

21. All demands for general transport will be submitted to HQ Milne Force and co-ordinated by "Q" Branch. Units will NOT use their vehicles for general purpose transport unless with the prior permission of HQ Milne Force. Requisitions for transport from the MT Pool will be submitted, in duplicate, to this HQ on AAF G.1 or similar pro-forma at least 24 hrs before transport is required.

22. Sea Transport: Demands for sea transport, which includes small inter-Island vessels, will, in future, be submitted to this HQ. Arrangements have been made with NOIC to the effect that sea transport will only be allotted on instructions from this HQ.

23. CASC, in co-operation with ANGAU will be responsible for the return loading of sea transport to ensure that the maximum economy is achieved at all times. Demands in all cases should be submitted not less than 24 hrs in advance.

24. Postal: The Field Post Office will remain at present location. Should quantities of mail be beyond the ability of the present staff to effect deliveries, the Sgt-in-Charge will request this HQ to provide assistance in order that a constant flow of mail continues to units. In this case, units will be requested to supply suitable personnel to assist in mail sorting, and delivery of mail will depend on the standard of assistance provided.

25. Traffic Control: DAPM will be responsible for co-ordination of traffic control and will ensure that Pro personnel are stationed on each side of HAGITA FORD. All MT Drivers will be warned that instructions of Pro personnel are to be obeyed implicitly.

26. Bdes will continue to be responsible for traffic control in their respective areas but will, from time to time, detach Pro personnel for duty as required by DAPM.

27. Road Discipline: A maximum speed limit of 20 mph for all types of vehicles will be observed throughout the area controlled by HQ Milne Force.

Vehicle lights will NOT be masked, the full beam being employed unless instructions to the contrary are received. Drivers will dim lights as necessary to avoid "blinding" approaching vehicles.

28. Preservation of Natural Camouflage: Every care will be taken to ensure that no coconut palms or other foliage is cut down unless absolutely necessary and on the instructions of a responsible offr.

Under no circumstances are Rubber Trees to be cut down as such action destroys a very valuable natural resource, which it is hoped to exploit at an early date. All ranks must be impressed with the necessity of conserving these natural resources, not only for their value, but also for the concealment they afford.

29. Camouflage - Tents: Pending the issue of camouflage emulsion, ALL tents will be camouflaged with palm leaves and other appropriate material, which will be renewed from time to time as necessary. Comds will ensure that all tents in use by their units are camouflaged by 3 Sep 42.

RAE.

30. Comd: The following units are placed under comd of CRE Milne Force :-

HQ RAE Milne Force.
2/4 Aust Fd Coy RAE.
24 Aust Fd Coy RAE.
5 Sec 1 Bomb Disposal Coy.

For Engineer Plan see appendix "C" attached.

ORDNANCE.

31. Comd: The following units are placed under command of ADOS HQ Milne Force :-

Det 2 Aust Hvy AA Wkshp Sec
Det Aust Lt AA Wkshp
101 Indpt Bde Gp Ord Wkshp
101 Indpt Bde Gp Ord Fd Pk
18 Bde Sec 7 Aust Div Ord Wkshp
18 Bde Sec 7 Aust Div Ord Fd Pk
123 FOD
23 FAD

ADOS will be responsible for technical and personnel matters for the following units :-

2/47 LAD
241 LAD

For Ordnance Administrative Instructions see Appendix "D" attached.

32. HQ Milne Force - Staff: For inf of HQs and Units present HQ Milne Force is organised on the basis of a HQ of a Div (W/E 11/1/3)

Names of Comd and principal Staff Offrs are published herewith for information :-

Comd	Maj-Gen C.A. Clowes, DSO MC.
Aide-de-Camp	Lieut I. Clarke.
GSO 1.	Col F.O. Chilton, DSO.
GSO 2.	Maj C.W. Singe.
GSO 3. Int.	Capt T. Speight.
AA & QMG	Col J.C. Litchfield.
DAAG	Maj J.W. Willis.
DAQMG	Maj K.G. Bailey.
LSO	Capt A. Larkins.
DAPM	Capt R. Hawkeswood.

ADMS	Col G.J. Maitland, DSO DCM.
ADOS	Lt-Col F.J. Kearns.
CO Sigs	Lt-Col W.G. Clementson.
CRE	Maj M.G. McKenzie.
CASC	Lt-Col C.M.T. Walker, ED.

Bde HQ and Units under Comd Force HQ will address all correspondence to "HQ Milne Force" and NOT to individual officers, either by name or appointment.

33. Salvage: A comprehensive scheme for the collection and disposal of salvage is now being prepared and detailed instructions will be issued shortly. In the meantime, ALL units will establish salvage dumps within unit areas and arrange for collection and storage of salvage.

34. The following appendices, referred to above, are issued herewith :-

Appendix "A"	Dealings with Natives.
" "B"	Supply Plan.
" "C"	Engineer Plan.
" "D"	Ordnance Administration.

35. The distribution of this Administrative Instruction is intended to provide sufficient copies for each HQ to retain one and forward one to each main unit or important detachment under comd. If sufficient copies are NOT received, further small supplies are available at HQ Milne Force. Any surplus copies should be returned.

36. Ack.

..Col
AA & QMG MILNE FORCE.

DISTRIBUTION.

7 Aust Inf Bde	5 Copies
18 Aust Inf Bde	5 "
AADC	3 "
RAE	3 "
Sigs	4 "
AASC	3 "
Ord	3 "
Med	3 "
RAN	1 "
RAAF	2 "
USA SOS	3 "
ANGAU	2 "
HQ NG Force (for information)	2 "
Comd	1 "
DAPM	1 "
Camp	1 "
G	1 "
A	1 "
Q	1 "
War Diary	2 "
File	1 "
Spares	10 "

HQ MILNE FORCE ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTION No.1.

Appendix "A".

DEALINGS WITH NATIVES (Extract from HQ Milne Force RO 11/42 of 23 Jul 42)

"(a) The Aust administration in New Guinea has spent yrs in securing the respect and co-operation of the natives. All ranks must assist in maintaining this relationship. A District Offr (Capt L. AUSTIN) and a det of Australian New Guinea Administration Unit is established in this area. All dealings with natives will be through the DO and his advice on general matters relating to natives will be followed.

(b) The following infm on native customs is to be promulgated to all ranks (preferably in a lecturette):-

(i) Village Policemen are appointed to control gps of villages. Single villages have as their heads Councillors who are appointed by the people themselves. Most Village Policemen (VCs) understand English to a certain extent and, when properly approached, will be able to give valuable infm to men and patrols. The VC reports to the Magistrate all breaches of the peace. In this and his other adm work he is assisted by the Councillors.

(ii) Natives are encouraged to take a pride in themselves and their houses, villages, gardens and roads. The house and garden are often the only assets the native possesses; he lives by these. Therefore any damage caused to these assets without first asking his permission or without giving due compensation will undoubtedly lead to lack of co-operation between native and white man, and a loss of the good-will now existing. The native's pride in himself must also be safeguarded; this can be done by observing the physical and moral rules of decency.

(iii) Natives themselves do not show their private parts or go entirely naked, even in their own villages, and they are liable to punishment for doing so in front of white people. Tps must not appear naked or relieve themselves in the sight of natives. Lack of self-respect in this matter would lower the white man in the natives' estimation.

(iv) Pilfering from cargo, stores in transit or in dumps, besides being a punishable offence, is also a bad example to natives. Severe penalties are imposed on natives for theft in order to train their minds against it. They are very observant and soldiers must avoid pilfering of any kind.

(v) Fowls, pigs, dogs and other livestock in and around villages are all owned by someone and must not be treated as public property. They may be acquired by purchase. This applies to coconuts also. Every tree has its owner.

(vi) All natives in this district are primed to give infm of things they see and hear which they think may be valuable to us. They also bring to the centre salvaged gear from wrecked planes. For this they are rewarded by the Government. Any native who reports with infm or equpt should be sent to the DO for the reward.

(vii) In purchasing food or articles from natives care should be exercised that an exorbitant price is not paid nor should insufficient payment be given.

(viii) No native working for the Government, whether casually or permanently, is to be given payment for work done in the course of duty. This applies expecially to policemen. If a VC or councillor is consulted for infm or gives other assistance, it is in order to give him some small compensation. Assistance given

to patrols by VCs or councillors should be reported to DO.

(ix) Natives are human beings and have human feelings. When treated as human beings, they give valuable assistance. Any other treatment is wrong and can have unfortunate results."

HQ MILNE FORCE ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTION NO. 1.

SUPPLY PLAN — Appendix "B"

SUPPLIES (A) RATIONS:

1. All supplies of rations will, until further notice, be delivered ex Supply Depot Lever Bros factory.

2. Indents will be submitted in duplicate through BASCO on form AB55 according to the following instructions:-

(a) For Normal Ration (N.G. scale)

One indent each seven days covering one week's requirements. Units will submit indents to permit present timetable of delivery. Indents will be in possession of BASCO (or Supply Offr (see later)) by 1000 hrs two days prior to delivery day.

Meat, fresh, delivered bi-weekly, will have to be picked up by individual units on day of issue. Every attention must be paid to this instruction as meat quickly deteriorates owing to temperature and climate.

Units recently arrived will have their delivery day as follows:-

10 CCS	- Monday.
Sig Coys (if indenting independently)	- Friday.
1 BD Coy	- Friday.
HQ Milne Force	- Saturday.

(b) For Native Ration (ordinary and police scale)

ANGAU will submit through BASCO 7 Aust Inf Bde indent covering a normal monthly consumption.

Indent to be in possession of Supply Officer 30 days prior to estimated date of consumption.

Supplies will be handed over to ANGAU in bulk for holding in ANGAU bulk store.

(c) For Reserve Ration (N.G. scale)

As per Milne Force Op Instn No. 6 para 6 (b), units will submit indent for seven days Reserve Ration to be stored and held as instructed.

CO's units will be held personally responsible for proper protection and storage. Certificate to this effect will be endorsed on each form AFW3810 submitted.

Reserve Ration which is somewhat similar to normal ration will be consumed under CO units instruction, when circumstances such as flood or enemy action prohibit the delivery or receipt or normal rations. In such cases a certificate or consumption will accompany an indent to replenish rations consumed.

(d) For Emergency Ration (as distinguished from "(c)").

Where unexpected movement of troops occurs, units will submit indents (through BASCO) to supplement rations already delivered. Whenever possible, normal N.G.

scale ration will be issued, but if unavoidable, or if required, Emergency scale ration (pres. meat, service biscuit, tea, sugar) will be issued.

(e) For Emergency Concentrated "Iron" Ration.

All personnel are required to carry in personal gear one issue (sealed tin) of Emergency concentrated Ration.

Indents will be submitted before 30 Aug '42 covering requirements. Units at present holding Reserve "Chocolate" Ration will submit indents for new type ration together will certificate as to condition of "chocolate" ration. As a convenient distinction between ration "(d)" and "(e)", ration "(e)" will be known as an "IRON" ration.

(f) Accounting.

Form AFW3810 will be submitted to BASCO by 1600 hrs each Sunday together with unit copy of each AB55. Where possible copy of daily form AFW3006 or AF14 will also be submitted.

Weekly overdrawal of rations will be carried forward and adjusted as soon as possible. Underdrawals will be forfeited.

BASCO's will check above forms for accuracy and then submit to HQ CASC before 1800 hrs on Monday of each week.

Outlying detachments drawing rations in advance will prepare weekly form AFW3810 showing decreasing overdrawal. Suitable notation will be made in "Remarks" Column.

SUPPLIES (A) (b).

Expense

Indents for 7 day entitlement will be submitted in duplicate on AB55 through BASCO each Friday by 1000 hrs. If necessary schedule of items required will be attached. Delivery will be each Sunday.

Receipts of Expense Supplies from overseas has been irregular and any items not delivered will be requisitioned each week until obtained. Entitlement for items not received will be forfeited if unavailable.

Conversely, items delivered but still on hand at end of each weekly period, will be shown as "not required" on form AB55.

SUPPLIES (B) AMMUNITION:

As per ADOS appendix, no ammunition is, for time being, to be held by ASC.

Replenishment of expended ammunition will be effected by ASC ex Ordnance and will be the subject of a later instruction.

SUPPLIES (C) PETROL, OIL & LUBRICANTS:

Unit supplies will be drawn daily on demand per form AB55a from petrol dump west of Supply Depot Lever Bros factory.

Under no circumstances without authority of CASC will petrol, oils or greases be drawn direct from any dump.

Further instructions will be issued later.

Appendix "B"

GENERAL:

(a) Ration supplies brought from overseas by units will not be retained by units but will be handed over to CASC.

Units holding such supplies will notify BASCO or Supply Officer before 28 Aug '42. Arrangements will then be made by CASC to take over such stocks.

(b) BASCO 7 Aust Inf Bde and 18 Aust Inf Bde will arrange liaison with all Aust Army Units and also ANGAU within Bde Boundaries as set out in Op Instn No. 6 para 3.

RAAF and American Forces will be dealt with in a subsequent Instruction. Meanwhile these troops will deal direct with Supply Officer.

(c) Accumulation of ration stocks in excess of entitlements is not to be countenanced. CO's units will be responsible to ensure that where any stocks are held subsequent indents will specifically mention the items not required.

(d) Stocks must be regularly turned over to avoid deterioration.

(e) Requisite Stationery Stocks relative to all Supply matters is a unit responsibility and in view of the lag between demand and receipt, should be watched closely.

(f) All enquiries re ASC function or policy will be directed to and dealt with by HQ CASC.

HQ MILNE FORCE ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTION No. 1.

Appendix "Q"

ENGINEER PLAN

1. (a) Responsibility:

The CRE is responsible for all engineer work and engineer assistance to units Milne Force, except aerodrome and dock construction.

(b) All requests for engineer assistance will be passed to HQ Milne Force and units will NOT make requests direct to Engineer Units.

2. (a) Engineer Units under Command HQ USA SOS Milne Force:

Coy "E" 45 Engr Regt USA SOS.
43 Engr Regt (Less HQ and "E" Coy) USA SOS

(b) Responsibilities.

(1) Responsible for construction, maintenance and repair by enemy damage of all aerodromes, taxiways, dispersion areas and access roads.

(2) Responsible for construction and repair of docks and such other work as directed by HQ Milne Force or HQ USA SOS.

3. Engineer Work: Owing to large amount of engineer work required in this area all units are requested to execute as much work as possible without engineer assistance. Requests for engineer work or advice should be kept to a minimum and working parties provided where skilled labour is unnecessary.

4. Engineer tools, equipment and materials: All requests for engineer tools, equipment and materials will be passed to HQ RAE Milne Force, who will direct where they may be obtained.

Units will not retain surplus materials in unit areas but will return to Engr Stores dump.

Units requiring engineer tools and equipment from Engr Stores Dump will state quantity required and purpose and period for which required, when making application and will return same on completion of work or, if in excess of 1 week, obtain further permission.

As a shortage of engineer materials exists, at present, maximum use should be made of bush timber and local materials. Materials should not, however, be removed where they provide necessary concealment and cover from air observation.

5. Bomb Disposal: Immediately after all clear sounds after each air raid, Unit Comd in whose areas bombs have fallen, will be responsible for placing picquets to prevent unauthorised personnel from moving in the area.

BD Sec, who will be issued with special pass by CRE, will be responsible for carrying out immediate recce, and disposal of UXBs in accordance with category in which UXBs are classified by HQ Milne Force and for collection of bombs or fragments which would be of value for purpose of information.

The term "UXB - Unexploded Bombs" means any unexploded bomb (HE, gas or incendiary), land or sea mines, mortar bombs or unexploded enemy ammunition.

Appendix "Q"

All personnel are warned not to touch unexploded bomb fragments as acute dermatitis may result.

All personnel are also warned not to pick up unexploded enemy ammunition or cannon shells as they are liable to detonation by a sudden change of direction.

The presence of UXBs may be recognised by slightly elliptical hole from 6-18" diam and 6 to 15 feet deep. Picquets should keep all unauthorised personnel outside diam of 100 yds in case of buried bomb or 300 yds in case of unburied bomb, or as otherwise advised by OC BD Sec.

All personnel should be instructed to quickly report to HQ RAE the presence of any item requiring attention of BD Sec.

CC BD Sec will be responsible for normal reporting to HQ RAE and for informing unit commanders when picquets can be removed.

ROAD CONSTRUCTION - MILNE FORCE AREA

(a) Engineer Instruction No. 1 - Road construction detailing standard method of road construction to be adopted in this area is attached.

(b) In order to rapidly improve and construct roads in this area the construction work and maintenance should be carried out by following units urgently in the order shown.

18 AUST INF BDE

2/12 Aust Inf Bn -

1. Route 4, 1.5 miles E of Flying Fox Bridge.

2. Route 13.

2/9 Aust Inf Bn -

1. Route 4. From Hagita Ford West of point 1½ miles from Flying Fox Bridge.

2. Road from Route 4 to CCS.

2/10 Aust Inf Bn -

1. Route 1 from Pontoon Wharf to Junction Route 17.

2. Route 10.

3. Route 8.

7 AUST INF BDE

25 Aust Inf Bn -

1. Route 1 from Junction Route 17 to West End Runway No. 1 Aerodrome.

2. Route 17.

9 Aust Inf Bn -

1. Route 3.

2. Route 2.

Appendix "C"

61 Aust Inf Bn -

1. New road from Pontoon Wharf to Route 5.

2. Route 5 to Batuiua.

3. Route 13.

3/4 AUST FD COY - All bridges west of but exclusive of Hagita Creek as per separate instructions. Final bridges to be Class 18 two-way traffic. Immediate bridge construction to be Class 18 single way traffic.

24 AUST FD COY - All bridges east of and inclusive of Hagita Creek as per separate instructions. All bridges to be as above.

All Units are responsible for access roads running into unit areas.

ROAD CONSTRUCTION - MILNE FORCE.

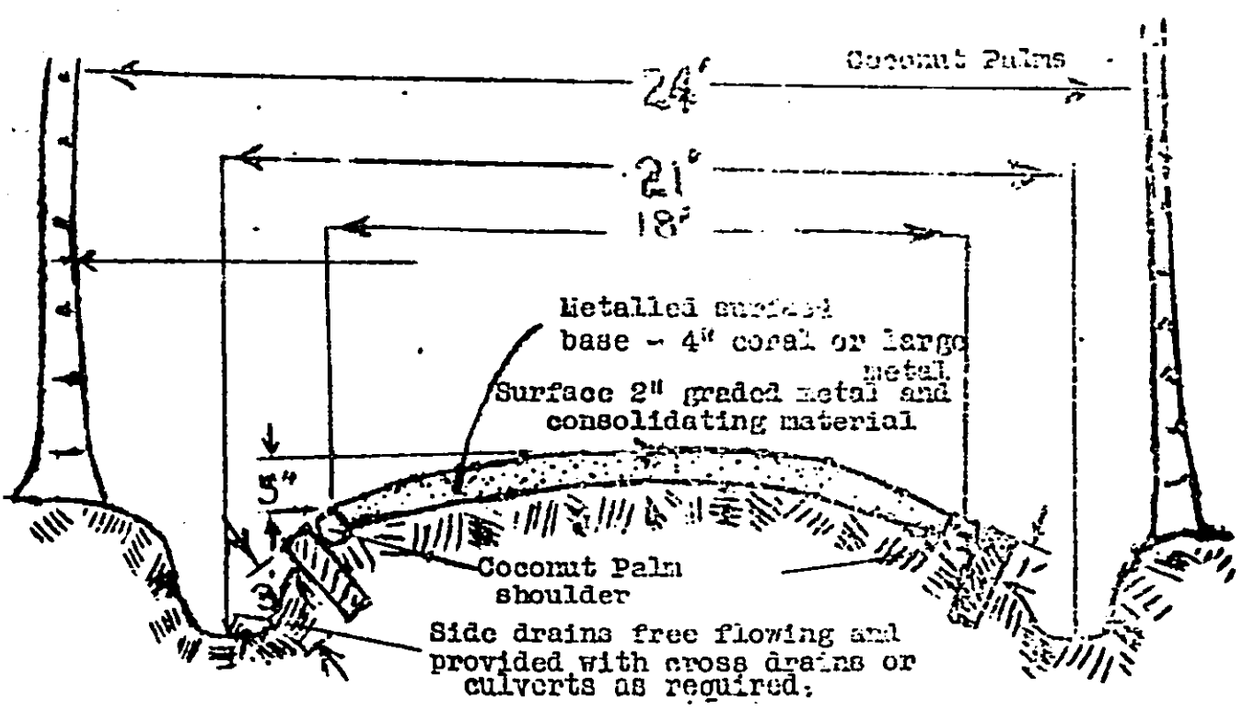
Reference Maps: Gili Gili 3 Inches = 1 mile.
Waigani 3 Inches = 1 mile.

1. Present Construction - Present road network in this area is shown on Gili Gili and Waigani maps. With the exception of small sections of improved road all roads are of poor construction and narrow even for single way traffic.

Only 30% of present network have been formed and metalled, the width of metalled surface in these cases being 8 feet. Two way traffic and wet conditions have removed the shoulder with subsequent refilling of side drains and destruction of the original metalled surface.

2. Proposed Work - The road programme in this area should be based on two-way all weather roads and to carry out work the following should be done.

(1) In view of local conditions and available materials road design should be as in diagram:-



Appendix "C"

(8) Work should be carried out in the following order:-

(a) Clearing of coconut palms or foliage for width of 24 feet (palms are normally planted in rows 24 feet apart).

Palms should not be cleared any more than is necessary as they provide concealment from oblique aerial observation.

(b) Forming of natural surface as in diagram. Care should be taken that material surface has 5% crown and is graded free from wheel ruts and holes.

(c) Natural surface should then be allowed to consolidate with light vehicles and be constantly graded and maintained during this period.

(d) Side drains should then be constructed at not less than 21 feet apart and provided with cross drains or culverts to ensure that water is drained from road.

It is most important that water should not be allowed to accumulate on side of road.

(e) Coconut palms should then be laid on either side of road so as to provide artificial shoulder 18 feet apart, and held in position by 4' sections of palm placed, 3 per longditudinal section, with at least 3 feet in ground and solidly tamped.

(f) Natural surface after being consolidated and graded free of ruts and holes should then be metalled with 4 inches of coral or large gravel. 2 inches of graded gravel should then be laid, graded and consolidated with traffic or equipment.

(g) It is most important that the metalled or gravelled surface should be constantly maintained and all ruts and wheel tracks filled in during consolidation period.

(h) Where width of formation is not restricted by rows of coconut palms, the drains should be 30 feet apart with sloping shoulders from drain to 18 foot width of road formation.

HQ MILNE FORCE ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTION No. 1.

APPENDIX "D".

ORDNANCE ADMINISTRATION.

1. WARLIKE STORES & MT VEHS.

Census returns showing position as at 20 Aug 42 will be submitted to ADOS Milne Force not later than 1600 hrs 5 Sep 42. In future, all MT Vehs (incl A B & AASC Vehs) will be included in Warlike Stores returns. Veh returns will continue to show Army Reg No, Make, Type, Engine No, and size of tyres.

2. AMN.

Census returns will also show full particulars of amn held by each unit. Each unit will hold 1st and 2nd line quantities. Indents will be submitted to ADOS for quantities required to complete.

3. 123 FOD.

Existing Ord Depot will service all troops west of HAGITA FORD. A dump is being developed east of the Ford to service units located on that side. Until the dump is developed, existing Depot will service all units in the Force.

4. REPAIRS TO VEHS AND ARMAMENT.

All repair services will be co-ordinated by ADOS, Milne Force, through DADOS (3). For the present, 2 Aust Hvy AA Wkshps Sec Det will service Hvy AA Units and Det Lt AA Wkshops Sec will service Lt AA Btys. The units east of HAGITA FORD will be serviced by 241 LAD and 101 Ind Bde Gp Ord Wkshp. Other Units west of Ford will be serviced by 2/47 LAD and 18 Bde Ord Wkshop.

GENERAL.

Indents will NOT be submitted for Controlled Stores, which will only be released on instructions from Force HQ.

All indents for non-controlled stores will be submitted to ADOS, Milne Force. Expense stores will be demanded fortnightly.

As far as possible, all indents will be collected from units by Ord W.Os.

APPX

A.46

HQ
MILNE FORCE.

29 AUG '42.

Subject : SPREADING OF RUMOURS

I. The Force Comd desires to draw attention to the dangerous effect resulting from the spreading of rumours, and reports NOT known to be based on fact.

A very serious case of this occurred today through circulation of groundless infm that there had been a Japanese break-through. This apparently arose through the action of certain individuals who opened fire on a number of cattle which were in the vicinity of a minefield in the back area.

2. Spreading of rumours is most disturbing to morale, and the proper conduct of operations. In this particular case it led, amongstother things, to Canteen stores being destroyed. Every precaution must be taken to prevent occurrences of this kind, and all ranks must be specially and personally warned as to the very serious results which may arise through irresponsible acts of this kind.
In the event of any further occurrences of this nature, every effort must be made by responsible Officers to whose notice any suspicious reports are brought, with the object of bringing the offenders to Court-Martial.

3. The unauthorised and promiscuous firing of rifles is dangeroud in itself, even under normal conditions. In circumstances such as this, as is evidenced in this case, it may lead to very serious consequences. Instance of this kind are to be treated as serious offences.

J.C. Litchfield Col.
AA & QMG MILNE FORCE

DISTIBUTION.	COPIES
7 Aust Inf Bde	5
I8 Aust Inf Bde	5
AADC	2
RAE	3
SIGS	4
AASC	3
ORD	8
MED	6
RAN	I
RAAF	3
USA SOS	8
ANGAU	2
HQ NG FORCE (for information)	2
COMD	I
DAPM	I
CAMP	I
G	I
A	I
Q	I
WAR DIARY	2
FILE	I
SPARES	2

Army Form C.2126
(Pads of 100)
Reprinted May, 1943—G.W. 25,000

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN

OUT

No. of Groups GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO N.G.F.

FROM MILNE FORCE

Originator's Number AQ. 3

Date 29 Aug

In Reply to Number

SECRET (.) EXCLUDING BATTLE CASUALTIES PRESENT TOTAL STRENGTH SIX INF BNS HERE IS 173 OFFRS 4424 OR's (.) 49 OFFRS 856 OR's REQUIRED TO COMPLETE W/E (.) ~~ALL OTHER UNITS SIMILAR POSITION (.) BATTLE CASUALTIES ANTICIPATED WILL ABSORB~~ AT LEAST SIMILAR SHORTAGE (.) THEREFORE REQUEST URGENT DESPATCH OF TWO REPEAT TWO REINFORCEMENTS ALL UNITS MILNE FORCE (.)

This message may be sent: AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS:

If liable to be intercepted or fall into enemy hands, this message must be sent IN CYPHER

Originator's Instructions Degree of Priority: IMPORTANT

Time of Origin: 1115

Signed J.C.LITCHFIELD

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

System In	Time In	Reader	Sender	System Out	Time Out	Reader	Sender	System Out	Time Out	Reader	Sender

APPX H

A 6064

HQ
MILNE FORCE.

30 AUG 42.

The General Officer Commanding Milne Force directs the assembly of a Court of Inquiry consisting of the undermentioned Officers at a time and place to be appointed by the President.

PRESIDENT.

Lt-Col J. Moyes. HQ Milne Force.

MEMBERS.

Major Francis L. Irwin. HQ USA SOS SW PA.
Capt C. Donaldson. HQ CASC Milne Force.

It is also directed that Capt Antony Larkins LSO HQ Milne Force appear to assist the Court, the GOC being of the opinion that such appearance would be for the public benefit.

The Court will take evidence upon oath, inquire into and report upon :-

All the circumstances surrounding the destruction, on 29 Aug 42, of the Australian Defence Canteens Services Store, Fall River, with particular reference to the following :-

(a) The incidents leading up to the destruction of the said store.
(b) The actual destruction of the said store.
(c) The nature of the instructions issued by HQ Milne Force relative to the preparation of the said store for destruction and the circumstances in which it should be destroyed.
(d) The recipient of such instructions and the action taken by him, including the precise nature of the orders issued by him.
(e) The precise nature of all orders relative to the matter which were issued subsequently.
(f) The action taken following the destruction of the said store.
(g) The nature and approximate value of the stores destroyed.
(h) The nature, quantity and value of any serviceable stores salvaged.

All witnesses will be detailed to attend and A.R & O 663 and 663A will be complied with.

The proceedings will be completed in quintuplicate and forwarded to reach HQ Milne Force by the 5th day of September, 1942.

Dated this 30th day of August, 1942.

Col.
AA & QMG MILNE FORCE.

Copies to:

HQ New Guinea Force (for information)
Lt-Col J. Moyes.
Major Francis L. Irwin.
Capt C. Donaldson.
Capt A. Larkins.
War Diary (2)
File.

APPX "F"

MILNE FORCE BULLETIN No. 1.

Issued by

HQ MILNE FORCE 31 Aug '43

GENERAL:

1. To combat rumours it has been decided to issue a daily official communique from HQ Milne Force on local operations together with ABC News Broadcast.

2. Below is a short resume of operations in MILNE BAY to date and the full text of the ABC Broadcast 1900 hrs 30 Aug.

3. Maj-Gen Clowes, DSO, MC, Comd MILNE FORCE, wishes it to be known that the statements on MILNE BAY ops contained in this broadcast are definitely NOT founded on fact. Although it is true that we are at present in contact with the enemy, there is no warrant for such statements. These do not represent the true situation NOR are they representative of official reports made by him to higher authority.

4. The seriousness of the situation has been grossly exaggerated by the ABC and their views are not in any way shared by Comd or his staff.

5. The Force Commander expresses his pleasure and satisfaction at the splendid performances on the part of all ranks in very arduous and difficult conditions. He wishes to thank everyone for their stout efforts and is confident these will continue.

LOCAL DETAILS:

6. Operations to date have been as follows:-

On night 25/26 Aug enemy landed tps about eight miles from GILI GILI along the northern coast of MILNE BAY. Landing was made from four transports protected by three cruisers and two smaller naval vessels under cover of naval gunfire. RAAF who had attacked this convoy twice 25 Aug and again on 26 consider that one troopship and the two smaller naval vessels were sunk.

Our tps went forward immediately after the landing and enemy has been successfully held east of No. 3 Landing Strip.

Night 26/27 Aug a further convoy of four warships and two transports entered MILNE BAY and possibly landed further tps.

Fighting has been confined mostly to patrol clashes although more serious clashes occurred on No. 5 Strip and at KB MISSION night 28/29.

Reports have been received that in the vicinity of GABI and KB MISSION there are large numbers of enemy dead lying about. Our casualties are light.

RAAF have annihilated several large parties of JAPS and our own LMGs accounted for some 90 on No. 5 Strip alone. Most formidable enemy weapon to date has been use of medium-size tanks - two of which have now been destroyed. It is probable that there may be more but NOT many.

On the evening 29/30 one cruiser, and nine destroyers were reported entering MILNE BAY and it was believed we would be shelled, but convoy

departed early morning 30 Aug after being attacked by our bombers.

30 Aug was quiet but early this morning enemy attacked vicinity Stephens House. Attack was successfully beaten off. During attack several small shells landed near House No. 1 fired from what is thought to be a small naval or mountain gun about the size of our 2 pdr.

WIRELESS NEWS - Sunday 30 Aug 42.

News prepared by Dept. of Information.

7. SOUTH WEST PACIFIC. Japanese naval forces are covering their troops landed at Milne Bay. Allied planes have had great success in this area but the position has grown worse. One Japanese cruiser and eight destroyers were in Milne Bay on Saturday night and may have landed light reinforcements.

8. Allied bombers attached many aerodromes in the Buka Area (Solomon Islands) at night scoring hits on runways and dispersed areas Rabaul also was attached 10 tons of bombs being dropped around the aerodrome. Six Zeros took off to intercept the bombers and four were shot down.

9. NEW GUINEA. In the Milne Bay area bitter fighting continues with little definite result. The position in this area has deteriorated, and may be said to be serious. Japanese reinforcements were landed on Saturday night. Due to poor flying conditions Allied planes were unable to prevent the entry into Milne Bay of the Japanese Naval Forces.

10. SOLOMON ISLANDS. American Forces now occupy six islands in the Solomon group. These islands have so far been obtained with comparatively small losses. All Japanese attempts to regain a foothold in the Solomons have been unsuccessful.

11. OVERSEAS. The RAF have been keeping up its heavy air offensive on Germany and Occupied France. Details have not yet been released of Friday night's big raid on the important Nazi centres of Nuremberg and Saarbrucken but some idea of the immensity of the raids can be gathered from the British losses which were 30 bombers. In the Middle East, there have been heavy raids on Tobruk and Derna has been heavily raided by United States aircraft.

APPX "J"

copy

LIST OF CASUALTIES

	KILLED	DIED OF WOUNDS	WOUNDED	MISSING, BELIEVED KILLED	WOUNDED & MISSING	MISSING
7 Aust Inf Bde						
9 Aust Inf Bn	It is believed 2 OR's were killed on night 31/8-1/9 '42.					
25 Aust Inf Bn	Nil - 3	Nil - 1	1 - 8	Nil - 2	Nil - Nil	Nil - 2
61 Aust Inf Bn	2 - 5	1 - Nil	2 - 40	Nil - 1	Nil - 2	Nil - 4
Arty	2 - Nil	Nil - Nil	Nil - Nil	Nil - Nil	Nil - Nil	Nil - Nil
111 Aust A/Tk	Nil - 1	Nil - Nil	Nil - Nil	Nil - Nil	Nil - Nil	Nil - Nil
	4 - 9	1 - 1	3 - 48	Nil - 3	Nil - 2	Nil - 6
18 Aust Inf Bde						
2/9 Aust Inf Bn	Nil - Nil	Nil - Nil	Nil - Nil	Nil - Nil	Nil - Nil	Nil - Nil
2/10 Aust Inf Bn	2 - 13	1 - 5	1 - 23	Nil - Nil	Nil - Nil	1 - 26
2/12 Aust Inf Bn	1 - 10	Nil - 1	2 - 16	Nil - Nil	Nil - Nil	Nil - Nil
	3 - 23	1 - 6	3 - 39	Nil - Nil	Nil - Nil	1 - 24

SUMMARY:

7 Aust Inf Bde :- Killed - 5 - 10 Other Casualties 3 - 58
18 Aust Inf Bde :- Killed - 4 - 29 Other Casualties 4 - 63

9 - 39 7 - 121

10 Aust CCS has reported to this HQ heaths of 4 Offrs and 7 OR's who will be included in the above figures.
There are at present 70 Battle Casualties in 10 Aust CCS.
The estimate of enemy dead reported to this HQ is 590.

Ermies Captain.
for DAAG MILNE FORCE
1 Sep 42

APPX K

MEDICAL POSITION, MILNE FORCE, 31 AUG. '42.

TO D.D.M.S., N.G.F.

10 CCS., arrived 21 Aug., and during the 48 hours of the unloading of the ships. 10 inches of rain fell. All the stores had to be dumped into a common dump, in the mud. Many stores were soaked through and ruined, i.e., all those packed in cardboard and those in cardboard cartons inside wooden cases. Even without rain, cardboard or paper packages won't stand the humidity here. The CCS., was unable to move on to its selected site because mud made the road impassable, and the enemy attack here commenced while the CCS., stores were still near the beach, in forward areas. As much as possib le was retrieved, and the CCS., set up in the mud on a temporary site, where they still remain. It was NOT possible to sort out the ess- ential stores quickly; but when this was done it was found that no hypodermic syringes or needles were included in their kit. There were no fittings for oxygen cylinders and no lumber phncture needles. Also only one surgeon is on the strength of the CCS., which, of all medical units in the Army, should have a team of surgeons. The surgeon, an FRCS., carries the rank of Captain. The position was temporarily relieved by detaching a surgeon from the 2/5 Fd. Amb. But by doing this it leaves the Field Ambulances now short of four MO's, as Vercho and an AMC., staff have been sent to the 2/10 Battalion to replace Capt. Lyne who was killed. 11 Fd. Amb., is short of one Medical Officer, and the services RE and ASC have no Medical Officer at all.

The ADS's established on my arrival here were badly situated tactically, and had to be hurriedly moved back. This proved no easy task as they were acting as Field Hospitals and had to be cleared of patients first. Again the old, old story of a Field Ambulance being rendered immobile by acting as a hospital. Now, when the Fd. Ambulances are needed for mobile roles, the hospital position is far from good as the CCS., has NOT yet been able to establish no more than 60 beds, which are reserved for Battle Casualties.

The state of the roads here at present is our worst handicap. No vehicle which has not a four-wheeled drive and chains is of much value. Casualties are being moved in three-ton trucks or American six-wheelers, and to-day the road to both MDS's., is impassable. Over short stretches of road our own ambulances can function. The evacuation is thus a series of loading and unloading posts. In forward areas evacuation is by aid of "hand carry" through the jungle mud, which is playing great havoc with the feet of the troops. No estimate of the dead or wounded is yet possible, and only about 60 Battle Casualties have reached the CCS., to date. 10 have died. Reports this morning indicate that wounded are beginning to arrive at RAP's. If the position gets no worse than at present, we can manage medically; but under most primitive conditions. Soon a hospital ship will be necessary; but I am unable to state what would be the approximate date for its arrival until more exact figures are known of our casualties. Also there is likely to be a reactionary number of sick once hostilities have lulled. Our present Company could NOT cope with this. All medical units are hastily erecting further accommodation. There have been many burns amongst the casualties. There is no Field Hygiene Section here and no DAD of H. The 7th Brigade has some Hygiene Sergeants attached to Battalions and Bde. Headquarters; but the 18th Bde., has none.

REFERENCE MY OWN STAFF: LHQ., assured me that an ADMS's staff would be included in Force Headquarters; but this is NOT so. I have no clerks nor any staff at all, except Capt. Whiting and a Corporal Clerk borrowed from the "A" Branch. I cannot afford to spend my time, at present, training clerks in correspondence, filing and the other duties of an ADMS., office. My Batman is either still in Australia or with the 2/6 Fd. Ambulance at MORESBY, and he

(over)

has all my reference books, papers and correspondence. These could NOT be brought by me as I was sent by air, with a limited amount of kit: So I have no Batman, not much kit, and no books of reference. Could arrangements be made to forward him on to me, please, together with complete ADMS's staff and full office equipment?

While I was at MORESBY I personally arranged with the printing depot to have 10,000 pamphlets printed: "The Prevention of Malaria", and sent on to me for use in the anti-Malaria campaign that I intend to launch here; but these pamphlets have been side-tracked into 7 Aust. Div. Also I drew up ADMS., pro forma "A" and "B" and had the type set for the production of these forms. They also have been found their way into 7 Aust. Div. Could arrangements be made to have these despatched to me as soon as possible?

Malaria figures are hard to get. Before hostilities began, the figure was about five per cent of the Force; but under battle conditions preventive measures have broken down, and we may anticipate a rise. Also in base units the figures have fallen and there are NOT many visible mosquitoes. 75th Squadron, RAAF., who have been here about five weeks, with strength of 400, have had 75 proven cases of Malaria in that time. RAAF., personnel are NOT issued with slacks or shirts with long sleeves. This is inexcusable in a hyperindemic area. The advent of a Malaria Control Unit wouldbe welcome.

The water position needs a lot of careful planning. At present everything is rather haphazard. Chloride of lime is scarce, and there is no de-testing chemical available. There are NOT enough Ambulance Stretchers. I would like a dump of 200 stretchers as soon as possible. Or alternatively more hospital beds so as to be able to withdraw the stretchers used by the CCS., as bedsfor patients. Even the USA., colored troops here sleep on camp beds in their own lines. Very many AAMC., personnel have no brassards and few have AFW.3050.

The CCS., is commencing to issue stores to-day from the Advanced Depot of Medical Stores, incorporated within it. This Depot is very deficient of essential medical stores for use during battle. For example: There are NOT enough shell dressings, morphia or vaseline or other chemicals necessary for the treatment of burns. The Depot has no containers of any sort to issue stores or drugs to medical units requiring them.

Dental Service is well represented here, and three units are functioning. Following is Bed State, 31 Aug. '42:-

Sick	...	225
Battle Casualties	...	50
Empty Beds	...	53

The promotion of the NCO's who were nominated for Commissions three months ago as Bearer Officers would considerably help the Field Ambulances. The general morale here is very good and all troops are doing a splendid job under difficult conditions and many handicaps.

It must be realised that if the Medical Services are to function efficiently they must have the wherewithal to do so: Central Administration cannot take placek without clerical assistance. Medical Units cannot function without essential instruments and stores, and Malaria cannot be controlled unless the anti-Malaria equipment and clothing as laid down, is available for all ranks on arrival in this hyperindemic area.

Colonel.

G.E.G. MAITLAND,
A.D.M.S., MILNE FORCE.