

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

Item number: 8/3/27

2/27 Infantry Battalion

July 1945,
Operation "Oboe Two"

Several papers loose in this diary. Also some notes re
2/27 Bu History are included.

Y.

15.ii.56.

2/27 BATTALION UNIT HISTORY.

List of Original War Diaries, Appendices and Miscellaneous Papers forwarded from Australian War Memorial, Canberra.

These represent a first instalment for each of the phases and place us in a position to commence the writing of the Battalion History.

As soon as these records are returned to Canberra they will be replaced by a further instalment and thus provide a continuity of material.

The Commandant - 4 M.D. has agreed to allow a certain number of these diaries to be lodged for safe custody with the Savings Bank of South Australia, Adelaide, to facilitate easy reference by the Editorial Committee provided they are not removed from the precincts of the Bank.

ADELAIDE.

29th July, 1947.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL - CANBERRA.

24th July, 1947.

LIST OF ORIGINAL WAR DIARIES, APPENDICES AND MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

2/27 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

	<u>Date.</u>
1. War Diary	May, 1940.
2. War Diary	June, 1940.
3. War Diary Appendix	June, 1941. June, 1941.
4. War Diary Appendix	July, 1941. July, 1941.
5. War Diary Appendix	August, 1942. August, 1942.
6. War Diary	September, 1942.
7. War Diary Appendix	September, 1943. September, 1943.
8. War Diary	October, 1943.
9. War Diary (a) Appendix (b) Appendix containing aerial photos	July, 1945. July, 1945. July, 1945.
10. Rough notes in 7 parts	July, 1945.
11. Sketches and Fire Plans	July, 1945.
12. Reference Maps	July, 1945.
13. Battle Maps	July, 1945.
14. Patrol Reports	July, 1945.
15. Sitreps & Messages	July, 1945.
16. C.O.'s & General (Correspondence)	July, 1945.
17. War Diary	August, 1945.
18. Message Forms Appendices M 1 to M 160	August, 1945.
19. Patrol Reports Appendices P 1 to P 32	August, 1945.

1 JULY 45

DAILY SUMMARY

REF MAP BALIKPAPAN 1 : 1:0000

On 1 July 7 Aust Div landed at BALIKPAPAN on a three Bn front. 2/27 Aust Bnf Bn, the assault Bn of 21 Aust Inf Bde was designed to land on GREEN BEACH but was actually landed on YELLOW BEACH. Units of the US Navy Task Force, RAN and DUTCH Navy carried out pre F Day bombardment programme and also a pre-arranged bombardment from H -120 to H plus 10. A/C from 13 US AirForce, RAAF and from Carriers provided strategic and close sp bombing of the objective area. Two US UDT Teams blew gaps in the offshore obstacles and checked the shore for mines. Carried ashore in LVTs, B Coy on the left linked with 2/12 Bn. A Coy was on the right with 18 pl D Coy on the extreme right to provide flank protection for the two assault Coys. Five minutes before H-hour the assault waves hit the shore and disembarked from the LVTs. The Coys quickly moved inland while forming up into battle formation. B Coy with 11 pl on the left, 12 pl on the right, and 10 pl in res were NOT able to keep contact with 2/12 Bn. 11 pl and 12 pl advanced rapidly inland ~~wk~~ against very light opposition and, by 0920I, had occupied RATION - an objective of the 2/12 Bn. 10 pl and Coy HQ swung further to the EAST and, by 0920I, had cleared SPUR 4 and occupied ROMILLY. B Coy had thus occupied objectives as planned. Coy HQ was established on SPUR 3. Wireless comn within the Coy was NOT good and Coy could NOT contact the fwd pls on RATION.

A Coy assaulted with 8 pl on the left, 7 pl on the right and 9 pl in res. 8 pl moved inland keeping contact with 12 pl B Coy and, without meeting serious opposition, occupied RATION in conjunction with 11 and 12 pls. 7 pl, landing near WILMOUTH'S CREEK, swung to the EAST and advanced up SPUR 2. 9 pl followed quickly and cleared SPUR 3 and linked with 7 pl. Driving inland to ROTTNEST, 7 pl contacted ENEMY in the re-entrant between SPUR 1 and SPUR 2 and also on the upper slopes of SPUR 1. After a short, sharp action, the ENEMY fled in disorder and the advance continued. At 1010I the capture of ROTTNEST was accomplished. ROTTNEST was the planned objective of A Coy.

2/27 Bn held a line from RATION to ROMILLY and ROTTNEST and had established the beachhead as planned.

18 pl D Coy, providing Right flank protection, drove along the shore line to the mouth of the KLANDASAN RIVER without meeting any opposition. A Standing Patrol of one sec was established here and the remainder of the pl moved NORTH to the Pipeline. At this point the pl came under fire from an ENEMY posn on STALKOEDO - the pl halted.

D Coy, less 18 pl, landed in sp wave at H plus 3 and, pending clarification of the situation of A and B Coys were in reserve, 17 pl then cleared SPUR 1 and a KNOLL at 604599 - there was slight opposition on SPUR 1 but the posn was quickly cleared. 16 pl moved SOUTH of SPUR 1 and then passed 17 pl by 1030I and cleared the area on CHARLIE'S SPUR between ROTTNEST and KNOLL 605602. A four-man JAP post was quickly liquidated without any casualties to our own troops. BnHQ had by this time established on SPUR 1. The pls on RATION had repulsed several counter attacks and at 1100I were relieved by 2/12 Bn and then rejoined their Coy in the ROTTNEST - ROMILLY area.

At 1025I C Coy, moving along the line of VASEY H'WAY, attacked CHARLIE'S SPUR - 14 pl fwd, 15 pl Right rear Right of road, 13 pl Left rear Left of rd. When 300 yds from CHARLIE'S SPUR, Coy came under ENEMY fire - our cas 4 wounded, one of whom remained on duty. 13 pl moved to Left flank and level with 14 pl with the task of gaining high ground on CHARLIE'S SPUR to assist 14 pl fwd. 15 pl moved to the Left of the rd as reserve pl. Coy pushed fwd - 14 pl held up on lower slopes of CHARLIE'S SPUR by 2 JAPS in a bunker posn - one man KIA. 13 pl continued advance and gained high ground.

DAILY SUMMARY 1 JULY (Cont)

KNOLL 605602. 14 pl fired at slit in bunker while grenades were hurled into the posn. The ENEMY was wiped out and pl advanced and captured CHARLIE'S SPUR. 15 pl then moved EAST down CHARLIE'S SPUR to clear NE slopes and ~~junc~~ rd junc area. They came under fire from and ENEMY post on EAST end of CHARLIE'S SPUR. 2 JAPS attempted to get away but both were killed - our cas 1 wounded. When CHARLIE'S SPUR had been cleared 13 pl pushed down the NORTH slopes towards "Huts and Garden Area" 608601 but were held up by ENEMY fire from this area and also LMG and MMG fire from KING. 14 pl with two tanks in sp then moved fwd and cleared "Hut and Garden Area" One JAP with an incendiary held to his body was killed while attempting to creep on tank. The ENEMY had withdrawn to KING feature. ENEMY fire from 2 LMGs and 3 MMGs held up further adv as tanks could NOT cross A/Tk ditch and difficult terrain. Pl then concentrated on CHARLIE SPUR. Plans were made to mortar KING and FLEAY but were NOT carried out as a Cav patrol moved into area. C Coy consolidated on CHARLIE'S SPUR.

With the capture of CHARLIE'S SPUR 2/27 Aust Inf Bn had completed the task assigned for F day in operation OBOE TWO.

At approx 1300I D Coy less 18 pl moved back from CHARLIE'S SPUR and searched all spurs and reentrants in the beachhead area for JAP stragglers with NIL results. D Coy established a def posn on the high ground between A and B Coys. 18 pl less one sec standing patrol were recalled from AUSTER FLAT and took up a posn on SPUR ~~4~~ connecting BnHQ and the remainder of D Coy.

Meanwhile stores were being unloaded and landed and the rds were being cleared; B Ech was established in 21 Bde Unit Stores Area.

During the afternoon the Bn dug def posns for the night and sent out short local patrols. A Coy on ROTTNEST patrolled fwd and contacted 2/16 Bn on RAVENSHOE.

The Brig and CO inspected the Coy areas and passed on to the tps the happenings on the Div front and the results achieved during the day.

At 1840I a party of JAPS (estimated str 20) attempted to escape from tunnels on left flank of B Coy in the direction of ROTTNEST. B Coy opened fire and reported killing 6 JAPS for the loss of one of our own men. The fire continued until dark and a search of the area at first light the following morning revealed 20 ENEMY dead. Throughout the night C Coy maintained contact patrols with 2/14 Bn standing patrol on Br over KLANDASAN RIVER

ENEMY CAS	31 KIA 1 PW
OWN CAS	2 KIA 1 offr and 7 ORs wounded

A COY WAR DIARY

I JULY 45

OBOE TWO

010430 I Refeille, 0500 hrs breakfast

0630 I Coy embarked in LVTs

0750 I Coy left ship together with ~~other~~ first wave for assault on A Coy portion of GREEN BEACH at BALIKPAPAN. LVT No 10 in trouble during move to the shore and withdrew from assault line but was able to beach some minutes after other Coy craft had touched shore. LVTs beached after Coy craft had witnessed the terrific bombardment of landing area by the air force and navy. LVTs landed on the right flank of YELLOW beach well below intended landing area and Coy after disembarking moved along extensive rubble of beach coming opposite to SPUR 3 and SPUR 2 ~~whilst~~ whilst Coy original objectives were SPUR I and SPUR 2. Coy advance crossed VASEY HIGHWAY and onto both spurs with no opposition. 7 Pl on right forward, 8 Pl on left forward and Coy HQ and 9 Pl in the rear. Coy advanced over the spur and through gardens with ROTTNEST feature as main objective. Still meeting ~~no~~ NO opposition as Pls neared ROTTNEST summit. OC Coy called on 9 Pl to relieve 7 Pl on RIGHT flank and advance and occupy ROTTNEST. 9 Sec 9 PL occupied this feature and then 9 Sec moved from ROTTNEST down to CHARLIE SPUR. Large coastal gun and range-finder located between ROTTNEST feature and CHARLIE SPUR. ~~See~~
Cas own TX I4322 Pte Stephens D.G. WIA I:7:45.

TX I5480 Pte Turner D.J. injured when disembarking from the LVT and evacuated. I July 45. Throughout the night I/2 July intermittent fire from 7 Pl area on movement on that front, 7 JAPS KIA I WIA JAP recovered in the morning and taken to the RAP for treatment.

B COY WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

1 JULY 45

01 0855 I Coy landed on YELLOW BEACH approx 600 yds WEST of correct landing beach.

NO opposition. Coy moved inland and re-organised. Walkie Talkies failed to operate. II and I2 Pls moved due NORTH as if on correct beach and at 0930 I II Pl captured feature RATION and one medium A/A Gun, NO ENEMY occupying feature, but Pl located approx 15 JAPS on lower ground near hut 40 yds away. Also JAPS moving near tunnel further down northern slopes. I2 Pl consolidated 100 yds in rear of II Pl.

Capt LEE decided to seize Coy objective ROMILLY with IO Pl as II and I2 Pls were NOT in comm. Coy HQ & IO Pl swung EAST along OIL PIPE LINE & moved up SPUR 3 & onto SPUR 4 without opposition. Obj gained at 10101. At 10151 II Pl were relieved by one sec of I2 Pl. II pl returned to coy via SPUR 4 & relieved IO Pl on ROMILLY. IO Pl consolidated 100 yds WEST on SPUR 4.

At 13351 I2 Pl were relieved by 2/I2 Bn. Lt PUDNEY & Pte FURLONG before withdrawing decided to investigate hut previously occupied by ENEMY, now thought to be vacated. JAPS still in occupation opened fire wounding both Lt PUDNEY & Pte FURLONG. Pte FURLONG *though*.

wounded badly repeatedly called out directions of JAP movement to his section further up the hill & enabled fire to be brought down effectively. Later 2/I2 Bn reported 16 JAPS killed in that area. I2 Pl when relieved moved back to Coy & were placed in reserve on SPUR3 with an outpost on pimple between ROMILLY & ROTTNEST.

During afternoon mopping up operations were carried out & two caves were dynamited by Cpl CLARK E of the Engineers causing wiping out of over 15 of the ENEMY who were buried alive.

C COY WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

1 JULY 45

"THE BIG DAY" awaited by all, 0430I REVEILLE, after breakfast all on deck trying to glimpse land, all that can be seen is a terrific fire in the distance, (oil storage tank presumed on fire).

At 0700I men embarked onto landing barges from HMAS WESTRALIA AND all eyes on land watching supporting arms softening up, what with Navy, Air-force etc., we are wondering if there will be an Island left.

At 0900I first wave ashore(A& B Coys)and we were right on their tail. Landing quite O.K. At 0913I on right hand edge of YELLOW BEACH. Coy assembled and pushed on to Bn RV where Coy was ordered to push forward along VASEY HIGHWAY to CHARLIE'S SPUR, I4 Pl forward, with I3 and I5 Pls in reserve. I4 Pl came under LMG fire from CHARLIE'S SPUR three men were wounded and evacuated and Pte THYER recieved slight wound but was NOT evacuated. I3 Pl moved up on left flank with I5 Pl back in reserve. I3 Pl gained high ground with NO serious opposition. I4 PL encountered Bunker posn where Pte HANLON was KIA. Bunker was destroyed by grenades. I4 Pl pushed on and gained CHARLIE'S SPUR. I5 Pl then moved forward to gain rd junct. but came under fire from pillbox, they killed one, possible JAP cas. own L/Cpl SHEPHERD WIA. I3 Pl moved across spur and down flat towards KINGS SPUR & wer e pinned down by fire from huts rear rd junc. I4 Pl supported by two MATILDA TANKS moved to attack houses and relieve I3 Pl but came under MG fire from KING and FLEMING SPURS. Pl called in and Coy consolidated on CHARLIE'S SPUR *for the night*. Quiet night with a possible one JAP in the area .

WAR DIARY
OBOE TWO
CHRONOLOGICAL
1 JULY 45

SECRET

REF MAP : BALIKPAPAN 1 : 10000

010430I Reville

- 0600 Naval bombardment begins
- 0715 HQ, C Coy and one Pl D Coy disembarked from "HMAS WESTRALIA"
- 0812 Own planes overhead bombing beach. Hvy Naval bombardment continues
- 0900 A & B Coys land
- 0906 Bn HQ land
- 0910 CO to ULO
- 0915 B Coy complete phase three. Bde notified
- 0920 B Coy clear SPUR 3
- 0925 B Coy report NO fire from ENEMY
- 0935 B Coy enquire about fire on their right flank
- 0940 A Coy pushing to ROTTNEST. NO opposition
- 0945 CO to Bde - B Coy landed YELLOW BEACH pushed in too far to left. Now moving across to SPUR 4
- 1000 A Coy report We are on saddle 300 yds SOUTH one Pl striking scattered opposition. CO to Brig DOUGHERTY re situation
- 1010 A Coy moving onto ROTTNEST. CO pushes C Coy across AUSTER FLAT to secure STALKOEDO. ROTTNEST and 6 in Naval gun captured
- 1020 Brig contacts CO on SPUR 1
- 1025 A Coy consolidate on ROTTNEST. One sec on CHARLIE'S SPUR
- 1035 C Coy strike isolated fire but are pushing on
- 1045 CO orders all Coys to lay AC panels. Line to be laid to A & B Coys
- 1120 CO orders D Coy Comd Capt Gordon to report to HQ. JAPS suicide SPUR 3
- 1145 CO orders D Coy to remain this side of KLANDASAN RIVER. C Coy to cross river
- 1150 CO to B Coy re situation. B Coy to consolidate. C Coy report on first spur with very light cas. B Coy report have NOT contacted A Coy. Two dead JAPS (shot by A Coy) searched and papers and personal effects taken back to Bde HQ. One JAP after being wounded committed suicide with grenade. C Coy occupy CHARLIE'S SPUR and two Pls are fighting at Rd June. CO orders them NOT to proceed any further after clearing it. Bde notified of capture CHARLIE'S SPUR
- 1230 CO to A Coy re situation
- 1255 CO to D Coy Comd. D Coy report C Coy cleared Rd June EAST CHARLIE'S SPUR. D Coy to move back and clear stray JAPS from SPURS 2 & 3 where JAPS are firing on our HQ
- 1300 CO to C Coy. C Coy report ENEMY MG post 150 yds fwd Rd June CO orders him to attack with M 3 in support

CHRONOLOGICAL (CONT)

1 JULY 45

011310I Line laid to all Coys.

1315 GEN McARTHUR, Lt-Gen MORSHEAD came ashore and paid a call on Brig. A Coy patrol report. See appx P1.

1320 CO on phone to Maj Sims requesting him to pin point ENEMY MG firing on their front.

1340 Patrol to investigate.

1420 Brig visits BnHQ.

1427 Brig on phone enquiring 2/16 location.

1430 CO and Adjt fwd to C Coy to prepare attack on feature fwd of RD JUNC. CO infm that CAV have been fwd. CO postponed attack awaiting infm from 2/5 Cav.

1445 B Coy reports Lt Pudney wounded.

1450 Bde infm that 2/14 will attack KING FEATURE, NOT before 1630I

1454 Maj Nicholls to Bde re "stand to" and "stand down" and password.

1510 Brig goes fwd to CHARLIE'S SPUR. A COY PATROL REPORT. SEE APPX P2

1520 C C Coy to consolidate on CHARLIE'S SPUR for night with sp 2 dets M 3in and 1 sec MMG.

1525 Maj Nicholls orders C and B Coys to return their engs and pns to this HQ.

1545 CO informs IO that he is on way to A Coy. A Coy infm. Brig contacts CO and moves to A Coy to inspect 6in coastal gun captured by A Coy. A COY PATROL REPORT. SEE APPX P. 3.

1548 Stand, to 1830I to 1930I
" " morning 0530I to daylight.

1600 A, B and C Coys notified. Overlay showing their positions, required by 1900I

1604 D Coy in position 601599. A Coy trace to hand.

1608 IO to BM. 2/16 Bn to have first call on all sp arms.

1620 Brig and CO arrive at A Coy HQ.

1645 ADS 2/6 Fd Amb opens VASEY HIGHWAY 602596 at 1540I

1658 C and D Coys overlays of disposns

1700 Sitreps from A and B Coys

1715 Reported carriers between ROTTNES and RAVENSHOE fired on by ENEMY vicinity KING FEATURE

1745 B Coy sitrep and overlay SEE APPX M1

1746 CO arrives at BnHQ

1750 Sec patrol from 18 pl report re-entrants RIGHT of ROTTNES clear of ENEMY.

1800 Sitrep to Bde SEE APPX M2

1840 B Coy attacked by 20 JARS. Cas ENEMY 6 killed OWN 1 killed. Bde notified. All Coys infm.

WAR DIARY
OBOE TWO page 3
CHRONOLOGICAL (cont)
1 JULY 45

011900I B Coy report JAPS who attacked where trying to escape from tunnel near stores area

1943 All Coys notified that sitreps are required at ten minutes to each hour throughout night

2039 B Coy report one naked JAP killed while trying to escape from tunnel

2048 Sitnor all Coys. Bde infm. 21 Bde message - water points spring 61145973, two scoops, NO poison. WELL at 597594, five scoops, NO poison. VASEY HIGHWAY clear for Jeeps 400 yds beyond KLANDASAN BESAR

2135 A, B, C, D Coys report sitnor. Bde notified

2150 A & C Coys report sitnor. 2 ic Maj Nicholls enquires of C Coy patrol to bridge between C Coy and 2/14 Bn

2205 B & D Coys report sitnor. Bde notified

2255 C Coy report contacted 2/14 Bn at bridge. 2/14 Bn have standing patrol there.

2257 B Coy sitnor

2310 A Coy sitnor

2320 D Coy sitnor. Bde notified

2350 A, B, & D Coys sitnor. Bde notified. Overlay FIREPLANS from all Coys

A Coy FIREPLAN	See Appx S 1
B Coy "	" " S 2
C Coy "	" " S 3
D Coy "	" " S 4
B Coy Activities Sketch F-Day	" " S 5
2/27 Aust Inf Bn "BATTLE MAP"	" " S 6
2/27 " " " "STRIP MAP"	1-10 July 45 See Appx S 7
2/27 " " " " " "	10-20 July 45 " " S 8

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

F Plus 1 - 2 JULY 45

REF MAPS: BALIKPAPAN. 1:25,000, SEPINGGANG. 1:25,000.

During the night there was some ENEMY mvt but all attempts at infiltration were repulsed. Local patrols probed fwd but did NOT contact ENEMY. At 0715I JAPS in tunnels fwd of ROMILLY tried to escape to their own lines but were seen by A Coy. 7 JAPS were killed and one wounded - taken prisoner. The PW gave infm re ENEMY defences fwd of ROTTNEST.

In order to clear the right flank and to make route to STALKOEDO secure D Coy attacked and captured SANDY SPUR and then patrolled fwd.

Preceded by mortar and arty fire, which commenced at 0945I, the Coy moved into the attack at 1145I. Tanks and MMGs were in support of the attack and the objective was captured by 1300I. The ENEMY offered little resistance - we suffered NO cas but 4 JAPS were KIA.

D Coy remained on SANDY SPUR and C Coy ON CHARLIE'S SPUR whilst the remainder of the Bn on ~~OKX~~ relieved 2/14 Bn on STALKOEDO feature. BnHQ was established on RANDWICK with B Coy on REWARD and HQ and A Coy EAST of RANDWICK.

4 and 5 pls under comd Lt Devine moved to Rd junc **628595** to form a base for patrols to LADY SCHOFIELD at first light next morning

Before last light D Coy moved from SANDY SPUR to a posn on RANDWICK between BnHQ and B Coy. B Ech moved from 21 Bde Unit Stores Area to the Rd Junc area **607602**.

At 1430I CO went fwd to contact 2/7 Cav Regt and to recce ~~XXXXX~~ ENEMY posns on LADY SCHOFIELD with view of Bn attack on the posn next day.

The Bn relieved 2/14 Bn on RANDWICK and REWARD and allowed 2/14 Bn to continue their advance on SEPINGGANG.

During the night there was very little activity - one man in C Coy was wounded by an infiltrating JAP who escaped.

OBOE TWO

CHRONOLOGICAL

2 JULY 45

REF MAP: BALIKPAPAN 1:25000 SEPINGGANG 1:25000

- 020030I A Coy ~~lxxxx~~ report, lone JAP fwd their area,; fired upon but escaped. Bde notified.
- 0100I All Coys sitnor. Bde notified.
- 0200I All Coys sitnor. Bde notified.
- 0250 A, B, C, Coys sitnor. D Coy report killed one JAP trying to infiltrate.
- 0300 Sitrep to Bde.
- 0400 All Coys sitnor. Bde notified.
- 0455 " " " " "
- 0530 C Coy standing to. IO to C Coy and C Coy patrol made contact with 2/14 Bn. IO to A Coy - score of JAPS killed for A Coy - 13 counted. IO to B and D Coys - ENEMY KILLED TO DATE + 39
- 0550 IO to Bde IO. Sitrep to Bde ~~M3~~ SEE APPX M3
- 0715 Stand down. Ten to fifteen JAPS running down from EAGLE FEATURE to spur of ROTTNEST fired on by A Coy; Bde infm
- 0735 Warning order to D Coy - Be prepared to move and clear SANDY SPUR. *FOR O.O., SEE APPX. 01.*
- 0815 A Coy sending wounded JAP in infm
- 0825 BM ~~1230~~ that JAP stretcher case on way down from A Coy
- 0830 CO fwd to C Coy
- 0840 CO contacts C and D Coys, Comd, Cav Comd and Tk Comd
- 0900 Tk offr to report to CO at RD JUNC where two of his men are waiting. CO and recce gp fwd. A Coy patrol report. See appx P.4.
- 0912 A Coy confirms 7 dead JAPS; sending documents back immediately
- 0915 CO points tasks to mortar offr and indicates objective to D Coy Comd and Tk Comd. Arty Comd receives his tasks. ENEMY cas total 46 killed, 4 probably killed, one ~~ENEMY~~ PW.
- 0945 M 3 in firing on to SANDY SPUR
- 0950 Arty firing on to SANDY SPUR. D Coy will attack SANDY SPUR at 1145 I with arty and M 3 in sp.
- 1007 PW reveals some details of ENEMY def fwd of ROTTNEST.
- 1010 IO 21 Bde to 21c asking if MMG of 2/14 Bn can be of any assistance in attack on SANDY SPUR.
- 1032 Brig to Maj Nicholls. 2/14 Bn to move along VASEY HIGHWAY to SEPINGGANG. B Coy 2/27 Bn move on to RANDWICK. A Coy to patrol fwd of ROTTNEST ~~until~~ relieved by 25 Bde today. 2/27 Bn area incl ROTTNEST - NE to SPUR 605612 thence along SANDY SPUR TO RIVER along same to BRIDGE 613608 thence to RANDWICK. 2/5 Cav under comd 21 Bde to patrol to PUMP STN, LADY SCHOFIELD - LANCE. 21 Bde HQ to move to STALKOEDO.

WAR DIARY

CHRONOLOGICAL (CONT)

PAGE 2

2 JULY 45

021040I MMGs fire on SANDY SPUR.

1050I B Coy - ENEMY cas to date 31 killed 4 prob.

1105I A Coy ask permission to bury 7 JAP dead. All documents removed. Permission given.

1125 CO to 2ic. D Coy will attack at 1145 with support from tp of tks, pl MMG's and one det M3in.

1130 B 25 planes spray area with DDT.

1140 IO phoned A Coy to ascertain posn of JAP gun firing on small craft in bay. Situated fwd 2/16 Bn. One shell burst in BHQ area.

1145 D Coy commenced assault on SANDY SPUR. Report of D Coy's attack see appx. *Q.1*. A sketch map see appx *Q.1*.

1148 Bde notified A Coy patrolling ROTTNEST to EAGLE and RAVENSHOE. Bde to notify 2/16 Bn.

1210 D Coy pushing on to objective. Terrain difficult.

1212 D Coy report Phase 1 completed. No Cas.

1220 A Coy patrol to re-entrant NORTH of CHARLIE'S SPUR. NIL report.

1221 A Coy advised 2/16 Bn will patrol from SPARROW to RIVER to recce for crossing. D Coy and OP advised.

1226 CO asks A Coy for infm re hy explosion - aerial bomb.

1235 OP advise cannot contact D Coy, but have joined link of line half way to D Coy HQ.

1245 CO to D Coy - Coy still adv. No opposition.

1300 Warning order - BHQ will move to KING FEATURE. CO outlined situation on D Coy front to Bde.

1305 D Coy out of comm by line and wireless.

1310 D Coy occupied SANDY SPUR.

1332 CO seeks infm from Bde about 18 Bde. No infm.

1357 Bde infm D Coy suffered ~~40~~ cas.

1415 BHQ closed down - moving to KING FEATURE.

1430 CO fwd to 2/5 Cav posn to recce in preparation for relieving them.

1600 D Coy shelled by own naval gunfire. No cas. BHQ at 615596.

1700 Bde HQ at 613593. Sitrep from ACoy. ~~MA~~ SEE APPX M4.

1730 Bn less C Coy in Def posn RANDWICK REWARD area. C Coy on CHARLIE SPUR.

1800 Sitrep 3 to Bde. A Coy 020715 - engaged approx 15 JAPS moving from EAGLE to ROTTNEST. Cas ENEMY 7 killed 1 PW. B Coy - Further search tunnel area revealed additional 15 dead JAPS. 1200 B Coy moved to REWARD. C Coy - 1600 moved to RANDWICK. D Coy - ¹³¹⁰~~1230~~ captured SANDY SPUR

CHRONOLOGICAL (Cont)2 JULY 45

021800II Cas not known. ENEMY cas to this Sitrep 22 killed 1 PW.
Grand total 61 killed, 4 prob killed, 1 PW wounded.

1815 Orders received for ~~B~~BHQ to move back to RANDWICK feature.

1900 ~~B~~BHQ arrived at RANDWICK.

2030 Line through to Lt Devine. A patrol from C Coy to contact
Lt Devine's patrol every two hours during night.

2100 CO in conference with Sig Off, TO, and SP Arms Comd outlining
plan for attack on LADY SCHOFIELD. QM to report to BHQ.

2230 QM reported to ~~B~~BHQ, received orders for attack. CO requests
hot meal for troops prior to attack.

2255 All Coys Sitnor. Bde infm.

2300 C Coy reported 1 JAP infiltrated their perimeter, wounded
one man and escaped. Bde infm.

2355 A B and D Coys Sitnor. C Coy on the alert. Bde infm.
Overlay B Coy dispositions see appx .S/O.
Fire plan A Coy see appx .S? .

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

F plus 2 - 3 JULY 45

REF MAPS: *SEPINGGANG 1:25,000*

Recce by Bn R and O Gp to LADY SCHOFIELD at 0800I established that the ENEMY had withdrawn during the night.

The mvt of the unit was held up pending instructions from Bde.

Bn received orders to relieve 2/14 Bn on SEPINGGANG strip with role of defence of airstrip.

The Bn less C Coy moved to and occupied defensive posn around the ~~xx~~ Airstrip. C Coy arrived in area later and were held in reserve in BnHQ area.

During the night contact patrol ton 2/14 Bn was carried out by a sec of C Coy also a security patrol to 14 pl on WEST end of strip. There was NO ENEMY activity in the Bn area.

Disposns B Coy holding EAST end of strip at SEPINGGANG BESAR; D Coy right and aA Coy left holding NORTH side of strip; 2 pl, 4 pl and 5 pl holding WESTERN end and BnHQ and C Coy on SOUTH side of strip.

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

3 JULY 45

CHRONOLOGICAL

REF MAPS: SEPINGGANG. 1:25,000.

- 030055I All Coys sitnor. Bde infm
 0145 CO enquires about SA fire on C Coy front
- 0155 All Coys sitnor. Bde infm
- 0225 Switch advises all lines clear. Testing all lines 10 mins to and 20 mins after the hour.
- 0250 Sitnor all Coys. Bde infm
- 0350 " " " " "
- 0500 A, B and D Coys Sitnor. Bde infm. C Coy and 4 and 5 Pl out of comn.
- 0520 D Coy report quiet night
- 0600 Sitrep No 4 to 030600I. 022250 at CHARLIE SPUR one JAP infiltrated C Coy perimeter. Cas OWN 1 wounded. D Coy 2 July SANDY SPUR. ENEMY cas 4 killed.
- 0625 C Coy still out of comn, line OK to 4 and 5 Pl
- 0630 CO asks Bde where Arty are firing. Infm LADY SCHOFIELD being shelled
- 0715 CO and Bn R and O G ps fwd on recce for attack on LADY SCHOFIELD.
- 0750 CO orders smoke bombs to be laid on LADY SCHOFIELD feature. Maj Nicholls infm by 21 Bde that 1 tp 2/5 Cav occupy LADY SCHOFIELD. CO infm.
- 0814 Mtr shoot on feature cancelled.
- 0845 CO to Bde. Bn O Gp recce area 628598
- 0915 Bn notified that LADY SCHOFIELD was occupied by R and O Gps. NOT Cav as previously reported. Maj Nicholls A, C and D Coys and gives warning order for move to def of SEPINGGANG air strip. Order of march A, BHQ, elements of HQ Coy, D Coy.
- 0920 B Coy to move independently to air strip.
- 1000 21 Bde informs that hostile shelling reports must be reported by quickest possible means and later confirmed in writing. Bde notified this HQ closing down present posn.
- 1115 Bn arrived at SEPINGGANG air strip and relieved 2/14 Bn, who are to advance to MANGGAR air field.
- 1730 Bn disposns ~~Bn~~ HQ 656603, 2pl 641599, 4 pl 643599, 5 pl 642601, A Coy 648604, 7 pl 651603, 8 pl 647604, 9 pl 650605, B Coy 664607, 10 pl 665607, 11 pl 664608, 12 pl 660606, C Coy 655603, 13 pl 654601, 14 pl 655601, 15 pl 654602, D Coy 652604, 16 pl 652603, 17 pl 652605, 18 pl 654605. Standing patrol 9 sec 656606.
- 1820 Password received from Bde.
- 1825 Password to all Coys. Stand to times changed - Coys notified.
- 1920 All Coys in comn. Bde line still out.
- 2115 1 Offr and sec of C Coy to move at 2200 to contact 2/14 Bn. Comn to 2/14 poor. Patrol to find 2/14 Bn intentions and any other infm. B Coy advised.
- 2350 Line through to 21 Bde

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

CHRONOLOGICAL (CONT)

3 JULY 45

032358I Patrol report back from 2/14 Bn. Lt Twist to see duty offr.
Report 2/14 at 685615. A Coy fire plan see appx .S.11..
Enlargement of B Coy posn see appx .S.12..

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

F plus 3 - 4 JULY 45

US UDT carried out demolition of 200 yds of offshore obstacles to allow tanks and arty to be landed.

C Coy moved NORTH along VASEY HIGHWAY to keep contact with 2/14 Bn who were held up on MANGGAR airfield by fire from large calibre guns

C Coy established 15 pl at BATAKAN BESAR Coy HQ and 13 pl MANGGAR KETJIL and 14 pl 722645. 14 pl maintained contact with 2/14 Bn 5 pl moved into area vacated by C Coy and a pl of 2/1 MG bn occupied 15 pl area.

For first time Bn encountered JAP mines in quantities; disposal areas on the airfield and tracks leading NORTH from VASEY HIGHWAY were mined with depth charges and aerial bombs.

A patrol from B Coy found 60 natives in village (662622) approx 1½ miles NE of SEPINGGANG-strip.

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

CHRONOLOGICAL

4 JULY 45

REF MAPS: SEPINGGANG & MANGGAR 1:25000.

- 040025I C Coy security patrol contacted Pnrs
- 0320 Message from Bde. Four LCT and LCM landing on beach. Obstacles from approx 663807 from SEPINGGANG BESAR SW for 200yds will be blown approx 040900I. All Coyd notified.
- 0550 Sitrep to Bde.
- 0850 B Coy advised to keep at least 600 yds away from beach obstacles when blown.
- 0915 Cav patrol left 0900I. Route JUTE - JUDGE - JUMPY and expect to contact 2/27 Bn in vicinity of 660612 by approx 1200 I. A, B and D Coys notified.
- 0920 C Coy move. They will proceed VASEY HIGHWAY to MANGGAR airstrip
- 1000 CO fwd to BATAKAN - BESAR to inspect B and S area.
- 1030 C Coy reach BATAKAN + BESAR. CO pushes patrol inland along track.
- 1045 Patrol informs there are numerous BOOBY TRAPS along side of track. Engrs fwd to delouse them. Air Force informs us that they are very displeased because our pers guarding airstrip have dug weapon pits in middle of runway.
- 1100 CO pushes along track until met by patrol 2/14 Bn. BSitrep from 2/7 Cav. *SEE APPX M 8.*
- 1200 CO to Maj Nicholls - have not located any loot in area.
CO to OC C Coy re his task.
- 1248 C Coy location 697625
- 1250 2/14 Bn reached 727650. NO contact with ENEMY. Land mines located.
- 1255 2/14 Bn on edge of MANGGAR airstrip.
- 1300 CO returns to BnHQ
- 1440 C Coy report patrol along KING feature to track 686627. Located ENEMY dump of tents, amn and food. Appears to be fresh dump. Patrol fired by two JAPS. Further patrol being sent out to clear area. Bde infm.
- 1455 Sitrep from Bde. *SEE APPX M 9.*
- 1500 CO calls for A, B and D Coy Comd to report to BnHQ. Sitrep from 2/7 Cav.
- 1530 CO in conference with A, B and D Coy Comd. Gen infm - DLD. will probably establish at SEPINGGANG airstrip. Natives report JAPS retreating 40 mile inland with PW incl Australians. If we move road will be clear to enable use of transport for Mtr and MMG
- 1710 Infm from Bde - 2/14 being heavily shelled. One Coy ordered to hold MANGGAR Airstrip. One destroyer engaging ENEMY guns.
- 1715 C Coy disposns HQ and 15 pl 713637, 13 pl 697625, 14 pl 720643
C Coy patrol report finding JAP staff near HERO feature and are making recce ground for track to main rd.
- 1730 B Coy report patrol found 60 natives in village 662622.

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

CHRONOLOGICAL (cont)

page 2

4 JULY 45

041800I Sitrep No 7 to 041800I. C Coy patrol located ENEMY dump at 687628. Showed signs recent use. NMS. Patrol reports Rd SE from village area 693632 to BATAKAN BESAR heavily mined and booby trapped. 1730I B Coy report patrol to KEEN BIV AREA to track 658620 to Bn HQ. Located approx 60 natives at hut area 662622. C Coy disposns HQ + 15 Pl 713637, 13 Pl 697625, 14 Pl 720643

1905 PASSWORD NO change

2100 BM to IO re further infm about C Coy patrol fired on from HERO

2305 Sitrep from 21 Bde

2225 C Coy to IO - patrol fired on by two JAPS as reported earlier was 2/14 patrol NOT 2/27 Bn patrol

2230 Out of comm by line to 21 Bde
Disposns 2, 4 & 5 Pls

D Coy FIREPLAN

Trace of insignia off MERCURY car found By C Coy

Patrol report from C Coy

Sketch of Bn HQ area

21 Aust Inf Bde ~~Infm~~ Resume No 3

Sitrep from 21 Bde to 7 Aust Div

2/7 Cav Regt Patrol Plan

See Appx S 15

See Appx S 16

See Appx S 13

" " P 5

" " S 14

" " G 1

" " M 6

" " M 7

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

5 JULY 45

Bn firmly established at SEPINGGANG airfield.

C Coy patrolled BATAKAN BESAR barracks area and ~~found~~ fired on a party of 12 JAPS. Patrols to the beach between PACER RD and MANGGAR KETJ found dumps and stores but NO JAPS.

A and D Coys sent out local security patrols.

One pl of NEI tps came under comd of this unit and occupied a posn on WEST end of strip.

B Coy moved to KING feature (BATAKAN BESAR) and established a patrol base. Local security patrols were sent out but did not contact ENEMY. C Coy maintained hourly contact with 2/14 Bn throughout the night.

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

CHRONOLOGICAL

5 JULY 45

REF MAPS SEPINGGANG & MANGGAR 1:25,000
050335I Bde running out another line.

0400 In ~~comm~~ with Bde and D Coy.

0600 Sitrep No. 8 to Bde. Sitnor.

0900 Adjnt fwd to C Coy. CO re-arranges his HQ.

1030 Staff car captured by C Coy arrives at HQ - in excellent running order. Bde line out - Bde moving up.

1135 Area sprayed by planes with DDT.

1225 Maj Nicholls to BM re infm of JAP hospital reported in KNIFE feature area. B Coy to send patrol to investigate.

1235 Bde advised new maps to hand.

1245 B Coy advised two patrols going out to biv area during afternoon.

1250 B Coy advised two NICA reporting to Coy to accompany patrol to search ~~XXX~~ for JAP hospital reported in KNIFE area.

1320 CO reported in from C Coy and phoned Bde. C Coy report that at 1100 patrolling BATAKAN-BESAR barracks area - found track W to HERO. Contacted approx 12 JAPS carrying arms only. Patrol fired on JAPS.

1330 One sec of 2/1 MG Bn to be at BATAKAN-KETJIL at 1430I - to move with B Coy to HERO.

1400 One pl NEI tps to come under comd CO. to arrive this area in half an hour.

1635 C Coy report - 1. Coy recce from 728645 to 733647- old water pt and air raid shelter. 2. Approx 60 cubic yds material suitable for road repair end of PACER road ref 733646. 3. Two or three concrete wells. 4. Good B class road from VASEY HIGHWAY to beach. 5; 721640 to 726643 (a) old hospital area with large buildings in good condition approx 100yds by 50 ft. Numerous latrines and beds. (b) Chemical stores at 722640 containing full bottles of medicine and bandages. 6. At 721643 large shed containing 20 x4 gall tins of thick grease. Approx 8 aircraft belly tanks and one refrigerator being sent to Bn.

1645 B Coy line to Bn.

1655 Unconf report of two JAPS shot in Arty area 200 yds E of ~~BN~~ HQ.

1657 Maj Nicholls passed infm to D Coy.

1715 Bde infm re 2/14 Bn

1730 C Coy line out.

1732 WP est at 671612.

1755 Adjnt to 2 pl - NEI offr to report to CO at 1915I.

1855 D Coy patrol to check story re two JAPS reported in Arty area. Patrol reported contacted Arty and pers on strip who knew nothing about it. Patrol found old hut and some old rice. Coys notified.

1915 CO to B Coy - 1 pl NEI to move to B Coy area in morning.

1930 CO to C Coy - hourly patrols to contact 2/14 Bn during night. CO ordered patrol of 1 Offr and 2 secs to patrol to JOLLY FLAP.

2100 IQ arranged with Engrs to transport NEI tps from airstrip to B Coy.

WAR DIARY
OBOE TWO
CHRONOLOGICAL
5 JULY 45

052135I BM enquired how far B Coy patrol went fwd of HERO feature
2140 2 Pl advised NEI tps moving through them at 0630I
2320 Sitrep from A,B,D Coys. Sitnor. Bde notified
2359 All Coys Sitnor. Bde notified.

C Coy Patrol Report.	See Appx P 6
C Coy " "	" " P 7

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

6 JULY 45

The NEI pl was placed u/c B Coy for the day's patrolling.

B Coy based on KING feature patrolled NORTH through HERO and HABIT; NW to HARDY and also to SEPINGGANG BESAR via HARDY. 4 JAPS were contacted at HAIL. NO other ENEMY seen, but mines were plentiful. B Coy returned to SEPINGGANG for the night.

C Coy patrolled from MANGGAR KETJIL to HARK. Patrol to JUNK found only old JAP posns.

15 pl patrol found signs of JAP mvt in JOE- JOLLY - FLINT - FLIP area.

13 pl patrolled from BATAKAN BESAR to FISH without gaining contact.

5 PL moved fwd to PACER RD for protection of 2/14 Bn LofC

WAR DIARY
OBOE TWO
CHRONOLOGICAL
6 JULY 45

REF MAP : SEPINGGANG 1:25000 *MANAGAR. 1:25,000*

060025I C Coy in contact by phone with Bde and infm to be relayed to BnHQ
C Coy Sitnor.

0055 From Bde - C Coy Sitnor; patrols contact 2/14 Bn every hr.

0058 All Coys Sitnor. Bde infm.

0152 A, B and D Coys Sitnor. 2 pl Sitnor. Bde infm. C Coy Sitnor.

0255 A, B and D Coys and 2 pl Sitnor. Bde infm. C Coy report Sitnor
between Coy and 2/14 Bn.

0350 A, B and D Coys and 2 pl Sitnor. Bde infm. C Coy out of comm
with Bde.

0500 All Coys Sitnor. C Coy in comm with Bde.

0555 All Coys Sitnor. Bde infm.

0635 CO, Adjt and IO fwd to B Coy.

0735 B Coy report 6 JAPS disturbed at 692624 at 0610I - ENEMY withdraw
Bde infm.

0745 B Coy disposns - 10 pl 692623, 11 pl 690624, 12 pl 692625

0810 CO laid down patrol policy to B Coy. 10 pl to patrol from KING
feature along high ground through HERO - HEAVY - HAVEN - HAREM -
HAIL - HABIT and return through HACK along high ground to
SEPINGGANG BESAR. WT sets to move with patrols and report each
feature clear to B Coy HQ. 13 pl to patrol from BATAKAN BESAR
NORTH along high ground through HUNGER - HOLY - FISH. 14 pl
to patrol from pl HQ along high ground through JOE - FOLLY - FLAP

0840 NEI patrol attached to B Coy to patrol with 10 pl.

0845 10 pl moved out. CO enquired if set has moved out with C Coy
patrol. Requested reports from bound to bound,

0900 Sec of 12 pl to patrol to HARDY feature.

0910 10 pl report from 687635.

0917 10 pl patrol struck opposition 685638. Sniper fired on NEI tps-
fire returned.

0935 B Coy comd reported 10 pl and NEI patrol fired on by sniper at
685638 on HERO feature. Patrol pushed on to HEAVY and found one
.5 MG and amn. CO ordered gun to be destroyed. Bde infm.

0940 CO reported CD gun knocked out by 6 pdr - NOT confirmed.

0945 One native brought in by BS pers - found at 658607

1000 10 pl reported uncertain of posn because of thick timber. Passed
JAP sec post two days old. 13 pl moved out.

1030 Infm re 10 pl to Bde.

1037 10 pl reported contact with 11 pl.sec.

1048 CO to 10 pl comd re his posn. pl comd to report his bounds by
Mortar's phone.

1117 CO to 10 pl comd. Patrol following NORTH along JAP sig wire. CO

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

CHRONOLOGICAL (CONT)

6 JULY 45

- 061117I CO to 10 pl comd. Patrol moving NORTH along sig wire (JAP)
CO ordered pl comd to follow wire and report progress.
- 1120 WT contact with all patrols NOT functioning.
- 1145 NEI reported still moving.
- 1200 12 pl sec patrol reported in - patrol to HARDY feature. Numerous
JAP posns found all facing EAST. Truck found on KISS feature;
also numerous booby traps and mines. Tracks leading in all
directions noted. JAP posns showed NO signs of recent occupation.
- 1225 Bde infm re patrol. Comn the first since 0900I. Bde IO to I sec
- 2/16 Bn area - 6 guns in area - 2 at 738677, 1 each at 737678,
737683, 743678, 745680. 4 MG at 747678 and 4 probable MG at
745677. 2/16 Coys C on MALANG, RAVENSHOE and A and B moving
to GATE.
- 1300 Sec of 12 pl to patrol along route of 10 pl and check sig wire
and search area for sniper who fired on 11 pl posn.
- 1320 GOC visited CO. Subjects of discussion - tps welfare, cas and
ENEMY cas. General presented with bottle of saki. Reply to
query as to advance to Oilwells, evasive.
- 1340 NEI reported located 4 ENEMY on HAIL feature. Reported that
may have to return by same route because of difficult terrain
and lack of time. NEI and 10 pl reported held up on HAIL feature
by 4 ENEMY.
- Bde
1350 Bde SC and IO visited 2ic.
- 1410 Patrol to HAIL reported returning by same route.
- 1415 Bde re-opens from 683614 at 061500I. CO sending patrol from 12
pl through HARDY feature to HABIT, thence through HACK - HAIR -
KEEL - to SEPINGGANG BESAR. To return via HARDY, thence RIGHT
to SEPINGGANG BESAR if NO track through HACK - HAIR.
- 14³55 CO fwd to C Coy.
- 14⁴5 Infm from 15 pl a patrol - left MANGGAR KETJIL, moved to HARK
feature where they found bunker showing signs of recent occupation.
- 1450 Bde IO re captured map - JAP track from HAIL to HABIT - EVENT -
ESSAY - ENVOY - EMERY - COCOA - COKE - MILFORD HIGHWAY.
- 1500 CO contacted 14 pl comd and infm that patrol moved NW to 715658,
then WEST to JUNK where they found an OP and numerous bunkers.
- 1510 Bde advised of 2 sec patrol moving to HAIL, return if possible
SOUTH through HACK - HAIR - HALO - KEEL, alternative return
route through HARDY - KITTY.
- 1540 15 pl patrol returned. to JOE through JUNK. Numerous signs of
ENEMY along track through JOE - JOLLY - FLINT - FLIP.
- 1600 CO to 10 pl comd, returned from patrol. Track fair to HAIL.
- 1805 Sitrep No 10 to Bde. *Appx M 10.*
- 2045 Warning order to 5 pl to prepare to move to 727651. Rations for
5 pl going fwd to B Coy.
- 2130 B Coy request overlay showing ENEMY posns, 2/16 Bn disposns

WAR DIARY
OBOE TWO
CHRONOLOGICAL (cont)
6 JULY 45

062130I B Coy requested overlay, showing JAP posns, 2/16 Bn disposns and 25 Bde Bdys.

2200 IO returned from Bde HQ. 21 Bde Sig Offr sending cable to Bn for patrol. 5 Pl moved out to 727651 to protect rear of 2/14 Bn

2300 All Coys sitnor. 21 Bde infm

2310 BM to IO - B Coy patrol sanctioned by 25 Bde and Div. RAA requested that patrol does NOT move beyond Inter Bde Bdy (EMERY). BM suggested that Arty FOO move with patrol to arrange Arty fire and to prevent RAA shoot on BATCHO to allow patrol to move fwd to VASEY HIGHWAY. BM to be notified of details before 070700I

2358 All Coys sitnor. 21 Bde infm

14 Pl patrol report.	See Appx P 8
Report and overlay 15 Pl patrol	" " P 10
Overlay Bn disposns	" " S 17
Overlay all patrols for day	" " P 12
B Coy patrol report	" " P 13
B Coy " "	" " P 14
B Coy " "	" " P 15
14 Pl " "	" " P 0
Overlay 14 Pl patrol att to Appx P 9	" " P 11
Overlay 13 Pl patrol	" " P 11
Overlay of track infm from map captured on LADY feature by 2/3 Cav Sqn	" " G 2

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

7 JULY 45

Bn was relieved by 2/7 Cav ^Regt of role of **A**erodrome defence and moved to Hospital area 722640 with D Coy at 734648, 7 pl at SOELILI and A Coy at 732646.

B Coy under orders to move to HAIL and HABIT were forced to cut track from 662622 and by nightfall had reached KEEL. Coy dug in for the night. 4 ENEMY were seen at 661613 at 1000I.

14 pl patrolled from MANGGAR KETJIL NORTH to JOE JEFF and EVER and investigated tracks leading from these features to the MANGGAR BESAR R.

WAR DIARY
OBOE TWO
CHRONOLOGICAL
7 JULY 45

REF MAPS : SEPINGGANG and MANGGAR 1 : 25000

070100I All Coys Sitnor.Bde infm.
0102 Sitrep from 21 Bde. See Appx M 11
0200 All Coys Sitnor.Bde infm.
0300 All Coys Sitnor.Bde infm.
0355 Light firing vacinity MANGGAR br. Conaidered unimportant
because of short duration
0400 All Coys Sitnor.Bde infm
0520 D Coy Sitnor.C Coy reported small amount of firing fwd of Coy
posns during night.B Coy Sitnor
0600 Sitrep to 21 Bde. See Appx M 13
0650 PASSWORD from Bde. Coys infm
0700 CO on phone to BM to discuss move
0705 PASSWORD ack. See Appx M 14
0925 Bn received orders to move to 725646. See Appx M 15
0955 B Coy patrol at 661613 observed two ENEMY 400 yds fwd and
are pushing on.
0940 Ford Mercury captured previously sent to Bde for Brig's use.
1130 2/14 Bn reported captured CD gun was 155 mm. One gun
captured. Unexploded shell from gun still firing identified
as 120 mm.
1150 B Coy patrol reported posn at KEEL. Nothing to report
1300 HQ, A, & D Coys move on route to new posn
1630 Bn HQ now established at 722640. D Coy. at 734648
1700 CO and IO return from 2/14 Bn HQ
1800 LOB pers arrive at Bn HQ
1830 Sitrep to Bde. ~~SC~~ C Coy patrol report to hand. See Appx P 16
1835 A Coy reported Coy HQ plus 8 & 9 Pls at 732646
1845 Infm Bde that B Ech to be established at 723640 for the night
Moving to Bn HQ area at 080800I. Movement order -See Appx M 18
1850 Received copy for infm of Bde sitrep to 7 Div. See Appx-M 16
M 17 M 19, & M20
1900 IO to Bde- CO to have report of natives directed to NICA
by 080800I
2215 D Coy reported one JAP, dressed in white clothing, sighted on
beach. JAP fled when grenader thrown by sentry.
2400 Sitnor.Bde infm
Message from 7 Aust Div announcing death of PRIME MINISTER
JOHN CURTIN. See Appx M 12
Message from 21 Bde. See Appx M 21

Overlay of all patrols for the day. See Appx P 17

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

DAILY SUMMARY - 8 JULY 45

REF MAPS SEPINGGANG and MANGGAR 1 : 250000

B Coy retraced route from KEEL to SEPINGGANG BESAR and then moved NORTH through KEEN KEMP KIDDY to HAIL. 6 JAPS on KITTY fired on patrol but there were NO cas. The Coy was held up at HAIL by JAPS with LMGs and rifles. A patrol around the right flank through HAREM was also held up. B Coy established a def locality for the night.

A patrol by C Coy from BATAKAN ~~BENAR~~ KETJIL to HARRY contacted a JAP sentry group which fled. C Coy patrolled the JUNK FOLLY and EVER areas without making contact. 7 pl established at SOELILI patrolled to JOE without making contact.

A and D Coys moved fwd and established in area 732646 preparatory to moving through 2/14 Bn

BnHQ moved from SEPINGGANG to Hospital area 723640

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

CHRONOLOGICAL

8 JULY 45

REF MAP MANGGAR 1:25000 SEPINGGANG 1:25000

080200I All Coys Sitnor. Bde infm.

0400 All Coys Sitnor. Bde infm.

0500 All Coys Sitnor. Bde infm.

0600 Sitrep to Bde. ^

0800 B Coy patrol left.

0920 CO and IO fwd to 2/14 Bn.

0945 Bde infm Bn B Coy NOT to go beyond line running SE - SW through EDIT - COCOA - CANE because of strike on BATOCHAMPAR. If EDIT reached authority to proceed must be obtained from BnHQ.

1015 B Coy patrol reported patrol at KERP. Fired on by 6 JAPS who moved to KITTTY where it is believed they may have taken up def posns. Pl investigating. Coy Comd infm of infm from Bde re air strike.

1130 Correction to infm - br reported at MANGGAR RIVER. No Br, Causeway Only 75 yds long WEST of River.

1255 B Coy patrol reported in posn on HAIL. Voices heard. Investigating. Bde infm.

1320 B Coy patrol reported 15 JAPS, armed with LMG and rifles, on HAIL. Bde infm.

1335 Bde IO to IO - Cav patrol moving HASTY - HARDY.

1340 D Coy posn 730645.

1500 C Coy sec patrol plus Int and FS pers returned. Patrol fired on 5 JAPS at 081115I on lower spur of HARRY.

1655 C Coy reported patrol returned. Patrol comd on way to BnHQ.

1710 LO from Bde with latest infm re 2/16 Bn. OC B Coy infm Cav through BnHQ that sec with Coy to remain night.

1712 CO and IO to 2/14 Bn.

1725 Adjnt infm Cav sec to remain with B Coy for night.

1735 B Coy to send back 6 Cav pers to guide Cav Sqn to B Coy area. Guides to RHQ.

1800 B Coy infm - unable comm earlier. SITREP NO 13 TO BDE. SEE APPX M24

1801 B Coy infm of disposns on HANK feature - 669641.

1805 Adjnt to Bde - re Cav move. SITREP FROM BDE SEE APPX M23

1850 From Bde - Cav moving to B Coy area 090800I. Adjnt arranging rations for B Coy. B And C Coys line out of operation. Line party gone out.

1950 B and C Coys line again in operation.

1955 B Coy inquired if Cav guides returned safely.

2000 Cav guides reported in. MESSAGE FROM 2180E SEE APPX M25

2035 IO to BM - B Coy reported crashed Liberator on spur SE of JAP posn.

WAR DIARY
OBOE TWO
CHRONOLOGICAL (cont)
8 JULY 45

082035I IO to BM - B Coy reported crashed Liberator on spur SE of
JAP posn. BM to IO - JAPS withdrawn from GATE feature.
2050 IO informed B Coy that ENEMY withdrawn from GATE and
possible that ENEMY might withdraw from HAIL during the night
B Coy to send out patrol at first light to ascertain if
feature is occupied.

Consolidated Patrol Reports	See Appx P 19
A Coy " "	" " P 20
Overlay for all patrol reports for day	" " P 18
Bn HQ and HQ Coy disposns	" " S 18
Sitrep from 21 Bde.	S " M 22
Sitrep from 21 Bde.	" " M 26

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

DAILY SUMMARY - 9 JULY 45

REF MAPS SEPINGGANG and MANGGAR 1 : 25000

A Cav Sqn relieved B Coy on HAIL. The JAPS had NOT withdrawn. B Coy returned to Coy area at SEPINGGANG BESAR. One JAP was killed on HAIL.

C Coy sent a patrol from BATAKAN BESAR to HAREM without making contact. C Coy patrols NORTH of VASEY H'WAY found NO signs of recent mvt

CHRONOLOGICAL

REF MAPS SEPINGGANG & MANGGAR 9 JULY 45
1 = 25000

090200 I Sitnor. Line down from B Coy.

0230 A C & D Coys Sitnor. B Coy still out of comn.

0310 B Coy in comn.

0500 All Coys Sitnor.

0600 Sitrep to Bde - Sitnor.

0700 IO to B Coy - infm re 25 Bde front.

0720 Infm from Bde - ENEMY attacked 2/16 Bn on GATE at 090300 I. Our tps forced to withdraw. ENEMY on GATE. B Coy infm.

0850 Inf from Bde - 2/16 Bn reoccupied GATE at 0830 I and pushing on to GEAR.

0855 Inf to Bde - JAPS still in occupation of HAIL. Repoted crashed AC in HAIL area 668643. Thought to be MARAUDER.

0910 Password received from Bde. Coys infm. Message from 21 Bde see appx M 27.

1055 IO to OC C Coy - if Coy should reach HAREM one section to be sent to contact B Coy at HAWK.

1100 Warning Order to D Coy. To be prepared to move from present posn to HEAVY with under comd two dets M 3".

1105 5 Pl. to move BATAKAN BESAR to construct and improve track NW. B Coy to move to KING feature with u/c one det M 3" and one sec MMG.

1125 Bde infm of patrols going out. One sec 14 Pl, fighting patrol, to contact Cav on HAWK. Bde to infm Cav.

1205 Pers from 2 and 3 Pls. to move to KING feature and await B Coy.

1206 D Coy move cancelled.

1330 G3I requested name plate of crashed AC. B Coy infm.

1430 Infm from Bde re 2/25 Bn - occupied FREIGHT? FILTER? JOINT? JUDGE, MUFFLE. Patrols from MUFFLE along MACDONALD track. 2/16 Bn contacted ENEMY on GRAND.

1530 IO to ALO re targets for Air Strike - 743678 to 747679- 100yds both sides of line-NOT before 102200 I and strike to be followed by attack

1610 OC B Coy reported to Bn HQ. Patrol from HANK, HAVEN, HAREM to 668646 reported by MG at 665645, LMGs at 664644, 666644, 666645. For patrol report and overlay see appx P 21. Sitrep No. 22 from Bde. See appx M 28.

1700 A Coy reported patrol to SOEILLI to JOE at 1030 I. NMS. Infm from Bde- 2/14 Bn occupied No. 6 Gun Posn at 747678. See appx S 19. A Coy patrol report-See appx P 23.

1750 Infm from Bde. Natives captured by 2/14 Bn reported NO JAPS at LAMAROE & SAMBODJA. Also reported JAPS moved through TARATIP 2 days before. See appx M 29.

1805 Sitrep No. 15 to Bde to 091800 I See appx M 30.

1925 A Coy reported 9 Pl. established 733665. OC A Coy re patrol policy for following day. CONSOLIDATED PATROL REPORTS & OVERLAY see appx P 22.
10 Pl. Patrol report See appx P 24.
11 Pl. Patrol report See appx P 25. 15Pl. patrol report See appx B27 P28
14 Pl. Patrol report See appx P 26. C Coy patrol report " " "

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

DAILY SUMMARY - 10 JULY 45

REF MAPS MANGGAR 1 : 25000 *& SEPINGGAN 1:25,000*

This unit relieved the 2/14 Bn of patrol responsibility on the left flank of MANGGAR Airstrip.

7 pl patrolled to BAND and contacted ENEMY - Own cas 2 KIA 1 WIA - ENEMY cas 5 KIA. ENEMY posn was mined and wired and defended with twin .5 MMG.

8 pl patrolled to ENVOY - FROST - CD gun posn. 4 JAPS were killed on FROST with loss of one man KIA.

A Coy established EAST of MANGGAR BESAR RIVER.

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

CHRONOLOGICAL

10 JULY 45

REF MAPS : MANGGAR & SEPINGGANG 1 : 25000

- 100300I Out of comn with C Coy .Sitrep No 24 from Bde. See Appx M 31
- 0500 A & D Coys Sitnor
- 0600 Sitrep No 16.9 Pl location 733665. Quiet night. See Appx M 32
- 0830 A Coy patrols left. Overlay of patrols. See Appx P 29
For consolidated patrol reports. " " "
- 0930 Infm from Bde - 25 Bde area patrol had two killed and three wounded while delousing minefield. One JAP left blew field. Coys infm
- 1115 A Coy reported 7 Pl at 748688, 8 Pl patrol at 782674
- 1130 7 Pl patrol reported Anti-pers mines at 749686. Also barbed wire apron fence posn. NO ENEMY seen
- 1140 Sitrep from Bde. See Appx M 33
- 1210 Bde reported that natives reported 40 JAPS at LAMAROE. 300 left LAMAROE along lateral track NORTH to FROST -BANAL
- 1235 7 Pl patrol at 743769-going easy-barbed wired posns at 749689. 21 Bde infm
- 1335 A Coy reported NO comn with patrols
- 1415 Infm from A Coy-2/14 Bn reported seeing JAPS at FROST- FOOL. JAPS withdrawing to AGOG-BALE. Firing from vicinity -believed to be own patrols
- 1420 Infm from Bde- 2/14 Bn patrol reached ADJIRADEN RIVER. NO contact. br blown-60 foot gap. Patrol trying to find detour. Natives reported seeing only 4 JAPS in TARATIP area in past ten days
- 1430 Adj to Bde-arrangements for 2 Coy patrol in morning. From Bde-one Pl of NEI on WEST side of air strip.
- 1500 Sitrep from Bde. See Appx M 34
- 1530 A Coy reported patrol ENVOY-FROST to CD gun posn found 4 ENEMY posn -one occupied. One dead JAP, 1x88 mm mortar and OP posn found. JAPS ON AGOG -feature mined. 7 Pl patrol from C Coy 2/14 Bn, NORTH track to 749689-BAND. patrol killed 3 JAPS, and 1x20 mm gun. Posns on BAND wired -three LMG, 1x20 mm gun and estimated 20-25 ENEMY. Own cas 2 KIA 1WIA Bde infm. For patrol report -See Appx P 31
- 1700 C Coy patrol of one sec NORTH -lower slopes of JUNK sighted 3 JAPS or natives, probably natives, near hut +area. CO issued OO for move to ADJIRADEN. For C Coy patrol reports-See Appx P 34 & P 35
- 1708 Bde infm that patrol to BAND reported 5 ft wide track leading to VASEY HIGHWAY. Footprints indicate ~~xxxxx~~ mvt towards VASEY HIGHWAY. Track mined with porcelain top mines.
- 1810 Sitrep No 28 from Bde. See Appx M 35. Sitrep 17 to Bde. See Appx M 36
- 1905 Bde gave interpretation of diary taken from JAP killed BAND area. 5 JAPS at posn where diary found, 30 JAPS on BAND. 3 JAPS killed where diary found-othe two returned to BAND. Lt McPhersons patrol r reported in at 1845I. For reports -See Appx P 30 & P 32. 9 Pl patrol reports -See Appx P 33.
- 2200 2/14 Bn requested infm re days patrols-for Capt Gordon OC D Coy. Sitrep No 18 to Bde. Sitnor. Sitrep No 29 from Bde. See Appx M 37.

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

DAILY SUMMARY - 11 JULY 45

REF MAPS SEPINGGANG and MANGGAR 1 : 25000

D Coy moved through 2/14 Bn and occupied a def posn SOUTH of ADJIRADEN RIVER at 754693. 5 pl moved with D Coy and immediately commenced repairing the Bridge over ADJIRADEN RIVER. One pl patrol from D Coy advanced to 758757 and made NO contact.

Tracks leading WEST from VASEY H'WAY in ADJIRADEN area were investigated with NIL results.

A Coy patrols established that ENEMY was still in occupation of AGOG and BAND.

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

CHRONOLOGICAL

11 JULY 45

REF MAPS MANGGAR & SEPINGGANG 1:25000

- 110910 I Infm from Bde. ENEMY reported withdrawn from ENVOY.
- 0912 C Coy reported recce patrol track WEST of JUNK 710642, HARK, HONEY, HUNGER found B & S DUMP at 693663. Object of patrol to delouse mines & booby traps. Standing Patrol at 707646. See appx P 39. Recce patrol report-see appx P 40.
- 1030 Sitrep No. 31 from Bde . See appx M 38.
- 1100 F Troop Arty in ~~supt~~ of 2/14 Bn. 55 Bty in ~~supt~~ 2/27 Bn.
- 1155 D Coy HQ at 763392.
- 1210 From D Coy - NEI Pl. now at D Coy HQ.
- 1235 D Coy infm NEI Pl. to remain D Coy area to protect party working on bridge.
- 1240 IO reced RADAR STATION at 756694. Damaged searchlight and 26 Bales of crepe rubber found. Two phones sent to Bde for examination.
- 1325 A Coy reported observed smoke flare from one of their patrols 500yds EAST of BAND.
- 1330 A Coy reported that timber constructed rafts and pontoons washed down river. Sitrep No. 32 from Bde . See appx M 39.
- 1340 Sitrep No. 20 from 2/15 Bn See appx M 42.
- 1350 D Coy reported patrol reached 766769. NMS. Rd undamaged. Patrolling to 741755.
- 1400 D Coy sec patrol to 762699 returned at 1345 I. See appx P 44.
- 1510 A Coy reported 9 Pl. patrol reported in at 1445I. Patrol fired on by ENEMY. Strength NOT known. NO Cas.
- 1625 7 Pl. patrol reported track branching at 727673 does NOT go to ENVOY but SOUTH then SW and ends at JAP unoccupied posns 732664. For patrol report-see appx P 38;
- 1630 Sitrep No. 33 from 21 Bde. See appx M 40.
- 1715 A Coy reported 8 Pl. patrol FROST FOOL AGOG reached 728691. Heard JAP voices and observed OP overlooking Air strip on AGOG. For Patrol report See appx P 37.
- 1725 D Coy patrol to ADJIRADEN RIVER pushed on to 758757. NO Contact. Rds & bridge good order. For report See appx P 41.
- 1830 2/14 Bn requested infm re A Coy patrols.
- 1900 D Coys - disposns -HQ 17 Pl. and 18 Pl 759689, 16 Pl. 759689. NEI Pl. 764692, 5 Pl. 764691.
- 1910 Sitrep No. 19 to Bde-See-appx M 41.
- 1945 Infm to Bde - D Coy in defence posn at 754693. Bde to advise 2/14 Bn.
- 1955 Infm to Cav- One Coy 2/27 moving to BANGSAL. One Pl. of 2/1 MG BN to ~~EV~~ NORTH side MANGGAR BRIDGE at 120830I.
- 2200 Sitrep No. 34 from Bde See appx M 43.
- 2240 D Coy infm sitrep ~~required~~ hourly-A, B, & C Coys 2 Hourly. Sketch showing rds and areas cleared of mines and booby traps-see appx S 20. 7 Pl. Patrol report See appx P 36. D Coy patrol reports See appx P 42 & P 43.

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

DAILY SUMMARY - 12 JULY 45

REF MAPS MANGGAR and BANGSAL 1 ; 25000

A Coy moved to BANGSAL and patrolled fwd.

B and C Coys and Comd Gp moved to LAMAROE area and took def posns.

Some bomb craters VASEY H'WAY were found to be mined.

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

CHRONOLOGICAL

12 JULY 45

REF MAPS : SEPINGGANG, MANGGAR & BANGSAL 1 : 25000

120550I Sitrep =No 20 to Bde.Sitnor.

0700 IO to.A Coy with maps and aerial photos of BANGSAL area.

0730 PASSWORD from Bde.Coys infm.Sitrep No 35 from Bde.See Appx M 46

0900 ~~Infm~~ A Coy activity-Coy to move to BANGSAL 120900I-NO patrols further than BANGSAL.Sig gear and res amn to be sent fwd. One Pl 2/1 MG Bn under comd.5 Pl to work on rd from ADJIRADEN RIVER back to MANGGAR airstrip.

1000 ~~WARNING ORDER~~ - B & C Coys plus Comd Gp to move to ADJIRADEN RIVER to-day.SP from Coys MANGGAR br.ST 121245I,order of march B Coy,C Coy. O Gp to leave Bn HQ at 121000I.Sig centre to operate with Comd Gp.Early lunch and cold tea to be ferried fwd;kitchens to operate from breakfast 13 July.B Ech to be ferried fwd as tpt becomes available.Sea kits to be dumped in Coy areas as tpt becomes available.

1030 Message from 21 Bde See Appx M44

1041 Infm from Bde - lines to A & D Coys out.Linesmen on job

1050 Bde Comd Gp to move at 1230I to vicinity 749685

1105 A Coy reported patrol reached point over one mile from D Coy.

1140 Infm to Bde - bomb craters VASEY HIGHWAY mined.

1415 Infm to Bde- adv HQ established 759685.Sitrep No 108 from 21 Bde
See Appx M 57

1503 A Coy reported disconnecting line

1540 B Coy disposns - HQ 751680,10 Pl 751680,11 Pl 751682,12 Pl 75368²

1545 Line through to Comd Gp now situated 758684

1615 C Coy HQ 756684.Sitrep from 21 Bde.See Appx M 48

1745 Brig arrived and discussed patrol policy with =IO

1755 A Coy HQ 765734.Sitrep No 37 from 21 Bde . See Appx M49

1800 Sitrep No 22 to Bde. See Appx M45

1805 Infm by Bde that natives inter^rrogated from SANIPAPH say NO JAPS in this area and believed NONE at SAMBODJA.

1915 2/14 Bn mortar HE and Smoke bombs fell 200 yds WEST of 15 Pl.
2/14 Bn notified.

1935 2/14 Bn advised of patrols for 13 July

2040 2/14 Bn inquired if A Coy guides who went with their patrols ~~if~~ are sure they reached feature AGOG.

D Coy Patrol Report See Appx P45

D Coy " " " " P 46
A Coy Fire Plan. See Appx S 21

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

DAILY SUMMARY - 13 JULY 45

REF MAPS MANGGAR, BANGSAL, ~~SAMBODIA~~ 1 ; 25000

A Coy patrolled NORTH to AMBORAWANG without making contact.

NEI pl was placed under comd A Coy.

Local patrols were numerous but NO contact was made.

WAR DIARY
OBOE TWO
CHRONOLOGICAL
13 JULY 45

REF MAPS : MANGGAR & BANGSAL 1 : 25,000

130745I B Coy inquired re delousing of mines in area. Bde notified
0825 Bde requested to contact engrs re demolition of bombs in B Coy area.
0940 CO to C Coy - will move to B & C Coy areas at approx 1000I
1115 2/14 Bn advised of recce patrol track WEST to BAND and return same route. B & C Coy infm.
1452 Sitrep No 39 from Bde. See Appx M 50
1510 Sitrep No 40 from Bde. " " M 51
1530 A Coy reported 8 Pl patrol reported ENEMY NOT in occupation. of AMBORAWANG (W). CO and Bde infm. For patrol report See Appx P 49
1600 2/14 Bn advised they have found our two men killed on patrol-report later. Message from Bde See Appx M 52
1615 A Coy reported NEI patrol unable to locate track from SOUTH to AMBORAWANG (E) See Appx P 48
1630 Sitrep No 41 from Bde. See Appx M 53
1700 Lt Mc Guire 's patrol reported in. For patrol report See Appx P 50
1800 Sitrep No 23 to 21 Bde. See Appx M 54
1852 C Coy reported 2/14 Bn mortar bombs landing close to FDL 13 Pl area. Bde infm
1900 C Coy & HQ Coy infm this HQ that mortars are from 3 Pl and NOT 2/14 Bn
2200 Sitrep No 42 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 55

Consolidated Patrol Report	See Appx P 47
D Coy " "	" " P 51
B Coy disposns and fire plan.	" " S 22
C Coy " " " "	" " S 23

Document captured on AGOG by 2/14 Bn. See Appx G 3

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

DAILY SUMMARY - 14 JULY 45

REF MAPS MANGGAR, BANGSAL and SAMBODJA 1 ; 25000

A patrol to SAMBODJA found JAPS NOT in occupation. JAPS send in daily patrols to Oil field town. NEI patrol to AMBORAWANG (EAST) found NO signs of ENEMY.

WAR DIARY
OBOE TWO
CHRONOLOGICAL
14 JULY 45

REF MAPS : MANGGAR, BANGSAL & SAMBODJA 1 : 25000

140100I B Coy false alarm - much amm expended on Ant-Eater.
0730 Sitrep No 43 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 65
Password from Bde. Coys infm
1050 Infm from 21 Bde - B Coy 2/14 Bn following track to AGOG^{ph}
Contacted approx 30 JAPS with two LMG between AGOG and BALE
at 726698
1100 Sitrep No 22 from 2/7 Cav (CDO) Regt. See Appx M 57
1305 Sig reported from line inspection fired on ~~frn~~ by 1 rifle
150 yds fwd of ADJIRADEN RIVER. Small patrol to investigate
1306 Sitrep No 45 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 58
1312 B, C & HQ Coys advised that 2/14 Bn will be moving along
track to BAND
1415 A Coy out of comn since 1215I
1445 A Coy in comn. Sitrep No 46 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 59
1615 A Coy advised this HQ that Maj Simms and IO ~~left~~ on recce along
VASEY HIGHWAY. Fired on and forced to abandon Jeep. Batman
returned on bicycle. For patrol report - See Appx P 52
1700 B Coy sitnor
1745 Five natives brought in - two having references from Lt
Norton of NZEF. Bde infm
1855 Don R from A Coy reported that he was fired on by rifle
at approx 773777
2100 Sitrep No 28 from 2/16 Bn. See Appx M 60

Bn HQ disposns. See Appx S 24

D Coy fire plan. " " S 25

NEI Pl patrol report. See Appx P 53

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

DAILY SUMMARY - 15 JULY 45

REF MAPS MANGGAR and BANGSAL 1 : 25000

In preparation for patrolling to SAMBODJA, D Coy moved to AMBORAWANG.
Coy had MMG, Tk/A and 3 in mortar u/c and arty in sp.

A patrol from A Coy preceded D Coy as protection for a line party.

Capt Crafter made a recce of area AMBORAWANG - MILFORD H'WAY in an
AUSTER.

5 pl improved bridge over ADJIRADEN RIVER to take 3 ton MT.

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

CHRONOLOGICAL

15 JULY 45

REF MAPS : MANGGAR & BANGSAL 1 : 25000

- 150710I D Coy moving at 0900I to AMBORAWANG (W) with u/comd one Pl MG Bn, one det 2/2 Tk/A. two dets 3Pl.
- 0845 Patrol of one NCO and 70R to clear rd NORTH ADJIRADEN RIVER to TARATIP. Area to be combed where snipers reported operating 14 JULY.
- 0900 5 Pl to work on ADJIRADEN RIVER bridge to make it serviceable for 3 ton traffic
- 0930 A Coy reported 7 Pl sending patrol fwd to AMBORANG (W) fwd of line party.
- 1000 Bde forwarded copy of ENEMY map showing posns. Bde advised Engrs to check.
- 1010 Public Relations Rep interviewed ^{IO} re patrol to SAMBODJA 14 July
- 1210 Engr Off asked Bn to advise re 75 mm JAP bombs and fuses in B Coy area. Bde advised. Sitrep No 50 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 62
- 1215 Infm from Bde - 2/14 Bn one Pl AGOG B Coy BALE, track junc clear. Cav - 648656 two ENEMY seen at 647656, three armed JAPS attacked patrol delousing booby traps. Sitrep No 21 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 63
- 1300 A Coy sending out patrol of six men one mile back along rd, thence WEST to timber edge - Coy HQ
- 1305 Native boy found dead in Bn area. NICA to examine before burial.
- 1310 Capt Crafter to make recce of fwd area in AUSTER AC.
- 1440 Arty Offr infm Bn that D Coy have reached AMBORAWANG (W). NO word from D Coy.
- 1445 D Coy advised =IO LT Raftery that Coy reached AMBORAWANG(W). 1420I Bde infm.
- 1450 CO went fwd
- 1530 D Coy disposns HQ 756802 16 Pl 757803 17 Pl 755801 18 Pl 759803 NEI Pl 758802. See Appx S 26
- 1700 Sitrep No 3 from B Coy. See Appx M 64
- 1800 Sitrep No 26 to 21 Bde. See Appx M 66
- 1805 CO and IO to Bde HQ
- 1900 Sitrep No 62 from Bde: See Appx M 65
- 2110 Sitrep No 53 from Bde. See Appx M 67
A Coy patrol report. See Appx P 54
C Coy patrol report See Appx P 55

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

DAILY SUMMARY - 16 JULY 45

REF MAPS MANGGAR, BANGSAL and SAMBODJA 1 : 25000

C Coy moved fwd to AMBORAWANG preparatory to patrolling WEST to MILFORD H'WAY.

D Coy established a standing patrol at br 776840. 16 pl commenced cutting a track ~~XXXX~~ for use of C Coy in patrol to MILFORD H'WAY.

A Coy sent out local patrols only.

Maj Nicholls made recce in AUSTER for track from VASEY H'WAY 743773 to MILFORD H'WAY 662794 - NO track was located.

WAR DIARY
OBOE TWO
CHRONOLOGICAL
16 JULY 45

REF MAPS : MANGGAR, BANGSAL & SAMBODJA 1 : 25000

160400I Sitnor

0600 Sitrep No 27 to 21 Bde.

0900 C Coy moving. Sitrep No 54 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 68

0910 16 Pl patrol left, route 255 degrees from Coy HQ.

1000 A Coy local patrols. One patrol one and a half hours SOUTH VASEY HIGHWAY. One sec 400 yds SE to investigate huts. One sec NE.

1015 D Coy sec Standing Patrol at br 776840.

1020 IO to Bde requesting AUSTER for CO to recce possible track 743766 WEST along spur 700775 to MILFORD HIGHWAY.

1145 Sitrep No 55 from 21 Bde. See Appx M69

1150 Bde inquired re cas to natives from 4.2 mortars yesterday.

1200 D Coy reported on mortar shoot-5 natives killed one wounded. Bde infm.

1245 Sitrep No 56 from 21 Bde. SEE Appx M70

1310 From Bde-CO to be at SEPINGGANG airstrip at 1430I to make recce in AUSTER.

1315 Message from 21 Bde. SEE Appx M71

1330 IO to Bn HQ-CO requires Maj Nicholls to make recce in AUSTER.

1420 Time of mortar shoot that killed natives 151810I. Bde infm.

1620 C Coy reach D Coy. Bde infm. Infm air sp-see sig GO 1077

1710 Sitrep No 57 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 72.
Two-pro- Japanese natives brought from A Coy. Bde infm and are sending tpt to collect them.

1725 16 Pl patrol returned. Standing Patrol returned.

1750 CO and IO returned from D Coy/

1800 Sitrep No 27 to 21 Bde. See Appx M 74

1945 Sitrep from 2/16 Bn. " " M 73

2130 Infm AUSTER recce by Maj Nicholls- Object to recce track from VASEY HIGHWAY 743773 to MILFORD HIGHWAY 662794. NO track located - track observed 664812. Plane fired on at 650787. Bde IO infm.

2200 Sitrep No 58 from 21 Bde. See Appx M75/
2/27 Bn Consolidated Fire Plan. See Appx S 29
Consolidated Patrol Reports. See Appx P 56

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

DAILY SUMMARY - 17 JULY 45

REF MAPS BALIKPAPAN SHEETS A, B, C 1 : 50000

C Coy proceeded en route to MILFORD H'WAY and by nightfall had reached 682791 without making contact.

A Coy moved from BANGSAL to AMBORAWANG for patrol to SAMBODJA. B Coy occupied BANGSAL. Comd post was established at AMBORAWANG.

5 pl completed improvement of ADJIRADEN br. One bty of 2/5 Fd Regt immediately moved to AMBORAWANG.

GOC 7 Aust Div visited CO. He asked that observation for 4 hrs be maintained on MILFORD H'WAY by C Coy.

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

CHRONOLOGICAL

17 JULY 45

REF MAPS : BALIKPAPAN SHEETS A,B,&C 1 : 50000

170500I All Coys Sitnor

0530 Sitrep to 21 Bde.

0900 C Coy patrol to MILFORD HIGHWAY left AMBORAWANG (W). Comm by pigeon

0930 D Coy sending one sec fwd of C Coy as far as track cut by 16 Pl. Standing patrol one sec fwd VASEY HIGHWAY ~~12~~ ¹⁴ miles.

1000 Comd established 756802

1005 A Coy reported native bayonetted by JAPS in SAMBODJA reported in to their HQ. Reported three natives killed and that JAPS took nine native women. Also reported JAP women in SAMBODJA area. 21Bde infm

1012 B Coy took over A Coy posn at BANGSAL

1030 NEI patrol 10ff and 40 OR to hut area 778850 to round up natives reported there. Sitrep No 60 from Bde. See Appx M 76

1100 A Coy established at AMBORAWANG (W)

1150 21 Bde infm that bridge over ADJIRADEN RIVER repaired and capable of taking three ton traffic

1420 21 Bde sigs reported unable to comm with C Coy. NO word since patrol left. Sitrep No 61 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 77

1530 CO issues OP order. See Appx 03

1600 B Coy reported sitnor

1745 Sitrep No 34 from 2/16 Bn. See Appx M 78

1755 C Coy reports their posn 682791. CO requested Coy Comd to make four hour observation of rd before setting ambush. Suggested demolitions to be made following night and blowing down following morning

1805 Sitrep No 26 to 21 Bde. See Appx M 74

1700 Recce report Army Co-operation 16 July

1925 IO to ALO - advised change of plan for =C Coy. Requested SPITFIRES be taken off ground alert. ALO to be advised when C Coy task is completed

2045 Two native reported - infm 7 JAPS at SAMBODJA and 30 on hill NORTH of TRIG

2100 Sitrep No 63 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 80

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

DAILY SUMMARY - 18 JULY 45

REF MAPS BALIKPAPAN SHEETS A, B, C 1 : 50000

A two Coy fighting patrol with sp arms moved into SAMBODJA - str of patrol approx 438. At 1230I 5 JAPS were contacted at 794876 - 2 were KIA and 1 WIA. The town was occupied without any opposition. A patrol NORTH along the pipeline contacted 5 JAPS at ~~794876~~ and killed one and wounded two. Other patrols to EAST, NORTH and WEST made NO contact.

B Coy less one pl moved from BANGSAL to AMBORAWANG ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ as a firm base for SAMBODJA patrol.

C Coy cut MILFORD H'WAY at KILO 25 post at 1700I and found JAPS in occupation.

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

CHRONOLOGICAL

18 JULY 45

REF MAPS : *BALIKPAPAN SHEETS A, B & C. 1:50,000*

- 180600I Sitrep to Bde
- 0845 D Coy moving on advance to SAMBODJA
- 0850 Fwd elements B Coy arrived ~~XXXXXXXX~~ AMBORAWANG WEST
- 0900 Main body moved
- 0915 Patrol of str 1 NCO and 7 ORs to recce track from VASEY HIGHWAY NW to track at 749688, along track to VASEY HIGHWAY. TO 1000I
- 0920 Change of password as from 181300I ... *SEE APPX M81*
- 0942 Comd at 770830. BOUND I cleared. Bde infm
- 0950 Advance continued - NO opposition
- 1030 D Coy halted at 782852. BOUND 2 cleared. Bde infm. 16 pl clearing high ground and extreme right track on DERRICK area. 17 pl clearing right track from 786860 - to connect with 16 pl.
- 1100 C Coy patrol reported that Coy was standing in ambush posn overnight - returning in morning when trap sprung
- 1120 CO sent engrs off rd at 787867 to check oil tanks. 18 pl patrol right track leading off from 791858
- 1140 Natives questioned by NEI offr reported JAPS left BAROE by barges and by foot for SAMARINDA at least 25 days ago. Some travelled along coast track
- 1145 A Coy moved through to clear HOSPITAL area and to send out patrols
- 1155 16 and 17 pl patrols linked up. Fwd elements entered SAMBODJA. NO opposition
- 1200 CO and IO fwd on recce
- 1212 Two JAPS observed at 794876
- 1235 CO directed Bren on 5 JAPS at 794876. Patrol returned unable to locate track from 754693 until just before return. Located huts 752694 - 2 mines along track - ENEMY mortar and amn at 753693 - Patrol to complete recce in morning, delouse mines and collect ENEMY mortar. Bde infm. *PATROL REPORT. SEE APPX P. 59.*
- 1245 CO ordered 18 pl patrol fwd to posn where JAPS fired. 16 and 17 pls to give covering fire
- 1250 A Coy reached TANK feature. NEI moving around right to TOWER feature. 8 pl moving left to EMBANKMENT feature. Bde infm
- 1300 A Coy reported track jeepable. *FOR PATROL REPORT. SEE APPX P. 58*
- 1325 18 pl patrol moving
- 1330 CO fwd to A Coy. A Coy comd indicated his disposns
- 1335 A Coy at 801878. NO contact. Bde infm
- 1425 D Coy infm Bn that all patrols out as from 1345I

CONSOLIDATED

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

CHRONOLOGICAL (cont)

18 JULY 45

- 181445I B Coy LOCSTAT. Trencode keys GT/2 to be used until further notice.
Sitrep No 65 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 82
Sitrep No 66 from 21 Bde. " " M 83
- 1550 17 Pl patrol reported posn 795898. NO contact. Moving on. A Coy
Standing Patrol at 795881. D Coy infm.
- 1605 Sitrep No 29 to Bde. See Appx M 84
- 1615 PASSWORD from rear HQ. Coys and att tps infm.
- 1635 CO returned from D Coy.
- 1730 LOCSTAT to 21 Bde. See Appx M 86
- 1830 Bde infm of B Coy disposns. See Appx M 87.
- 1840 Sitrep No 67 from Bde. See Appx M 85.
- 1843 BM requested infm from IO re C Coy patrol.
- 1845 D Coy patrol reported contacted 3 JAPS - killed one wounded two.
- 1850 Lt Duncan's patrol returned. Reported reced route 802875- VASEY
HIGHWAY to 834876. Rd block 812884, 815883, 827878. Concrete pill-
box 812884 sited towards coast. Tracks at 812884 followed 200 yds
- NO ENEMY seen. 2 ft railway runs right hand side of VASEY ~~HIGHWAY~~
HIGHWAY- good condition.
- 1855 Pl 2/1 MG Bn in posn 798875.
- 1950 BM infm INT Sec that C Coy reported per pigeon that Coy had NOT
reached rd 1500I. 13 & 14 Pl fwd. Able to receive messages by W/T
NO other infm to hand.
- 2010 A and D Coy Comd and NEI Pl Comd to RV Bn HQ 0800I for patrol
orders-also mortar Offr, arty Offr and TO. Tasks- A Coy fighting
patrol of one Pl to BAROE. A Coy one Pl Standing Patrol Vicinity
rd junc. NEI Pl Fighting patrol NORTH and WEST of rd junc.
D Coy Fighting patrol one Pl vicinity TRIG point. Recce patrols
SE of present posn.
- 2030 BM to CO- infm from 25 Bde- YAMADA withdrawing forces to vicinity
25 KILO.
- 2050 B Coy requested to pass to C Coy infm received from BM.
Sitrep No 36 from 2/16 Bn. See Appx M 88
- 2055 CO to B Coy- Coy to send Fighting patrol One Offr and two secs
along track to contact C Coy.
- 2150 Sitrep No 68 from Bde. See Appx M 89.
Consolidated Patrol Reports. See Appx P 57.

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

DAILY SUMMARY - 19 JULY 45

REF MAPS BALIKPAPAN SHEETS A, B, C 1 : 50000

SAMBODJA Force patrolled EAST to BAROE EAST, NORTH long pipeline to **798905** and WEST to **760909** on track reported to lead to G PAGAT. NO contact was made by any of our patrols.

C Coy were unable to create diversion on MILFORD H'WAY and returned to AMBORAWANG.

Bn received orders to return to ADJIRADEN and relieve 2/14 Bn of patrol responsibility in area NW of MANGGAR airfield.

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

CHRONOLOGICAL

19 JULY 45

REF MAPS

BALIKPAPAN SHEETS A B & C 1:50000

190815 I

C Coy reported 14 Pl. at 665797. Coy Comd moved approx 1000yds on 290 degs and contacted rd at 1700 I. Moved along rd NORTH 200yds, ENEMY holding area along rd. ENEMY saw comd and sent p patrol to investigate. Ambush NOT practicable. Sending 2 patrols to recce along ridges at 0700 I. Return probably 191100 I.

0830

Sitrep No. 69 from Bde. See appx M 90.

0833

CO to C Coy. ENEMY posn approx 200 str reported 3000 to 4000yds SE Coy posn. Coy Comd advised to watch track home. CO conference Day's patrols advised.

0930

Patrol 1 NCO & 10 OR to recce track from VASEY H'WAY NW to 754693 then SW to track 749688 then along track to VASEY H'WAY. TO 1000 I TI 1230 I. 6 OR to collect ENEMY Mortar at 753693. 2 Engrs to accomany patrol to Mortar and check for booby traps. Bde infm and asked to infm 2/14 Bn.

1020

C Coy to CO- Engrs unable to carry demolitions. CO advise Coy Comd to endeavour diversions and return immediately. For patrol report see appx P 66.

1025

D Coy patrol reorted posn 788883.

1045

D Coy crossing swamp 785891. NO sign of ENEMY.

1130

D Coy moving up track to feature in sq 7889.

1140

TAC/R reported TRAM LINE TIMBER MILL area runs to 688734. And s shows recent use but NO mvt. Track junc 694711 - 2 cam pill boxes. One sited WEST Along track towards river and other sited SOUTH.

1226

D Coy patrol consolidated area TRIG 783895.

1230

8 Pl. at rd junc - PIPELINE. NEI Patrol fwd.

1235

Patrol sent for martar return^{ed} and report NO signs of recent use of track. Mortar returned to Bn HQ and identified as 81 mm. Patrol report-see appx P 65.

1245

C Coy patrol concentrated at 682791 and leaving at 1315 I. Tps tired - probably late in arriving.

1247

CO inquired if Coy engaged ENEMY or created diversion.

1300

C Coy Comd reply to CO's query - NO contact made and NO opportunity to create diversion. Laying booby traps on way back. See appx G 6;

1315

NEI patrol at native huts 777903.

1340

Sitrep No. 71 from Bde. See appx M 91.

1400

NEI preparing to move fwd at 1400 I. D Coy patrol continued on and CO advised them to look out for NEI patrol operating in area near village NW. D Coy reported NMS.

1415

D Coy patrol reported that it was in same village that NEI had vacated. A Coy advised.

1455

DCoy patrol did NOT sight NEI patrol but reported has seen foot prints on track ~~and~~ and native reported that JAPS had ^{for} ~~for~~ SAMARINDA.

WAR DIARY

CEOE TWO

CHRONOLOGICAL (cont)

19 JULY 45

- 191527I D Coy patrol reported they had turned back at 1525I-limit of patrol being 751908. NEI patrol reached village and proceeding WEST. D Coy patrol report. See Appx P 64
- 1545 Patrol from BAROE returned. NO ENEMY seen. Approx 100 sick natives in area. Arrangements made to tpt them back to NICA hospital. For patrol report- See Appx P 61
- 1640 NEI linked up with 8 Pl. NO further infm.
- 1645 15 Pl arrived in. CO infm.
- 1650 NEI patrol returning. For patrol report- See Appx P 63
- 1655 8 Pl patrol returning-comm closed down. Patrol report- See appxP62
- 1710 A Coy Sitrep to 191645I-0900I 9Pl patrol to track oil pipe junc 798900 to establish base for NEI Pl patrol to NORTH and WEST. 0930 patrol to BAROE. 1600I 7 Pl reported NO ENEMY in BAROE. 1630I 8 Pl R/T reported returning. NO contact with ENEMY. OC C Coy reported to CO-patrol cut what they thought to be old DUTCH track. Normal traffic on MILFORD HIGHWAY heard during night slight during day-both ways. Patrol reached rd at 665805. Located 4 ENEMY posts but unable to determine str. Air strike on rd yesterday and at 1030I this morning vicinity of rd where patrol reached.
- 1730 Sitrep No 72 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 92
- 1815 Sitrep No 30 to 21 Bde. " " M 94
- 1910 Sitrep No 38 from 1/16 Bn. " " M 93
- 1930 21 Bde sig diagram. See Appx M 95(A)
- 2130 Sitrep No 73 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 95
- 2200 B Coy Fire Plan. See Appx S 30
- 2230 NEI Pl to remain SAMBODJA. 2/14 Bn NOT taking over BANGSAL AREA in the morning.
- D Coy Fire Plan. See Appx S 31
- Consolidated Patrol Reports. See Appx P 60

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

DAILY SUMMARY - 20 JULY 45

REF MAPSM BALIKPAPAN SHEETS A, B, C 1 : 50000

Bn moved back to ADJIRADEN, A Coy reestablished at BANGSAL while
NEI pl remained in SAMBODJA as protection for the natives and as
a fwd ~~xxxxx~~ standing patrol. Most of the tps were ferried back in
jeeps, captured tpt and trucks lent by 2/5 Fd Regt.

WAR DIARY
OBOE TWO
CHRONOLOGICAL
20 JULY 45

REF MAPS : BALIKPAPAN SHEETS A,B,C 1 : 50000

200900I Bn commenced move from SAMBODJA.

0930 Bde and 2/14 Bn informed of 4Pl patrol - route and times as for yesterday.

1100 Sitrep No 74 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 96

1305 A Coy arrived BANGSAL area 765734

1430 Bn less A Coy completed move from SAMBODJA to ADJIRADEN area. A Coy location BANGSAL, B Coy 753682, C Coy 756694, D Coy 759689 NEI Pt SAMBODJA.

1440 Sitrep No 75 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 97

1610 D Coy now in comm with Bn HQ by line

1625 Sitrep No 76 from 21 Bde. See Appx M98

1630 Sitrep from B Coy -201430I B Coy ADJIRADEN area

1710 Sitrep from A Coy - 0900I commenced move from SAMBODJA to BANGSAL.1310I Coy in posn at BANGSAL, HQ & 8 Pl 765744, 7 & 9 Pls 764734

1800 Sitrep No 32 to 21Bde. See Appx M 100

1810 D Coy ranging 4.2 mortars NNW of present posn

1830 Sitrep No 38 from 2/16 Bn. See Appx M 99

1915 CO and IO to 21 Bde HQ re projected role of B Coy patrolling

20000 Message from Bde. See Appx M 101

2030 Sitrep No 77 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 102

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

DAILY SUMMARY - 21 JULY 45

REF MAPS BALIKPAPAN SHEETS A, B, C 1 : 50000

Bn in ADJIRADEN on make and mend preparatory to relieving 2/14 Bn.

JAPS in area 648742 withdrew and 2/16 Bn occupied feature. 200 JAPS were reported to be on this feature.

WAR DIARY
OBOE TWO
CHRONOLOGICAL
21 JULY 45

REF MAPS : BALIKPAPAN SHEETS A,B,C 1 : 50000

210800I Sitrep No 78 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 103

1100 From Bde.WP at 766729 junc VASEY HIGHWAY and TARATIP RIVER opening at 211130I. A Coy infm. Engr representatives visited IO - they propose building timber mill in ADJIRADEN +fwd on recce.

1125 Sitrep No 79 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 104

1130 Password received from Bde - Coys infm.

1250 Sitrep No, 80 from 21 Bde. SEE Appx M 105

1345 GOC Maj Gen MILFORD visits CO and then goes fwd to Coys

1510 B Coy 2/16 Bn occupied feature where 100 JAPS where reported , to be in occupation ref 648742.

1400 21 Bde OO received (sig GO 1083) See Appx O 2 (a)

1800 Sitnor to Bde. Sitrep No 81 from Bde. See Appx M 106

1900 IO sought latest infm from 2/14 , 2/16 Bns and 21 Bde.

1905 Sitrep No 30 from 2/16 Bn. See Appx M107

2020 CO conference with Coy comd re move to take over patrolling from 2/14 Bn 22 July.

2040 2/14 BN advised that B Coy 2/27 Bn relieving D Coy of 2/14 Bn at 221300I.

2115 CO to CO 2/14 Bn-intentions and details of change -over discussed.

2215 From 21 Bde-ref inter Bde bdy. 21 Bde now as follows:
KLANDASAN BESAR to track junc 669701 NO change. Thence all gro ground incl track junc 669701 ACTOR-ACRE to point 650710; then NORTH along 65 GRID. For message - See Appx M 108

2300 Sitrep No 82 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 109

Bn FIELD RETURNS%

See Appx G 7

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

DAILY SUMMARY - 22 JULY 45

REF MAPS BALIKPAPAN SHEETS A, B, C 1 : 50000

B Coy moved to BALE and relieved 2/14 ~~B~~_hn. Bn 6 Gp moved with
B Coy.

ENEMY withdrawal in 25 Bde Sector caused change of plans.

B Coy to establish a patrol base at 721700. The remainder of the Bn
to establish in ADJIRADEN area.

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

CHRONOLOGICAL

22 JULY 45

REF MAPS : BALIKPAPAN SHEETS A, B & C 1 : 50000

220600I Sitnor

0700 Sitrep No 83 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 110

0920 B Coy moved to relieve D Coy 2/14 Bn.

0930 O Gp left for feature 721700

1100, Comd and B Coy arrive BALE

1115 Sitrep No 84 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 111

1200 Comd Gp and B Coy arrive 721700 and relieved D Coy 2/14 Bn.
Bde infm.

1300 Infm from Bde - ENEMY on 25 Bde front have withdrawn. 2/25 Bn
on ABASH → AUNT → ABATE - ABIDE. 2/31 Bn on ABODE - ACE - ALONG
- ACID. Cav on ACID

1310 Comd and O Gp forward to recce from Coy posns

1330 Maj Nicholls and INT Sjt forward to 25 Bde area MILFORD HIGHWAY.
Infm that 2/25 Bn at 70 GRID patrolling NORTH - NO contact.
Consider that this new change of disposns with our projected move

1400 Sitrep No 85 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 112

1745 BM infm Maj Nicholls that there would be NO major move of unit
until further notice

1800 Sitnor all Coys. Sitrep No 86 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 113
Sitrep from 2/6 Cav (cdo) Sqn. See Appx M 114

1835 Sitrep No 42 from 2/16 Bn. See Appx M 115

1900 All Coys infm that Bn move cancelled. 4 Pl to move to B Coy
patrol base in the morning

2200 PASSWORD received. Daily OP report from 21 Bde. See Appx M 116

2235 Infm from 21 Bde - 2/25 Bn forward troops at 75 GRID. NO contact.
Auster reported 22 veh incl staff cars moving NORTH along
MILFORD HIGHWAY. ENEMY veh engaged by SPITFIRES → 20 knocked out.
A number of trucks were carrying pers.

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

DAILY SUMMARY - 23 JULY 45

REF MAPS BALIKPAPAN SHEETS A, B, C 1 : 50000

A pl fighting patrol from B Coy to MILFORD H'WAY reached 675791 by nightfall. 8 JAPS were seen at 678789 but NO action ensued.

A patrol from C Coy moved WEST from AMBORAWANG to delouse booby traps set on previous patrol. One dead JAP was found near a sprung booby trap.

4 pl moved to B Coy at patrol base 721700. Bn O Gp returned to ADJIRADEN area.

During the night ENEMY planes bombed BALIKPAPAN.

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

CHRONOLOGICAL

23 JULY 45

REF MAPS : BALIKPAPAN SHEETS A,B&C 1 :50000

230800I Sitnor

- 0830 B Coy Standing Patrol established at 702707. B Coy fighting patrol 1 Off & 36 OR left. Route - patrol base 721700 track ADULT to KILO 25 on MILFORD HIGHWAY. Patrol will establish base at TRIG 76.
- 0835 PASSWORD issued to all Coys.
- 0945 4 Pl left for B Coy patrol base.
- 1000 B Coy patrol at 714726. NO contact.
- 1015 Bde informed of piece of wood found in hut. 8 Div 2/2 ~~AGT~~-S Miller-16 ; 6 .43 written in pencil. Wood to be forwarded to 21 Bde.
- 1030 Lt Johns plus one sec left for AMBORAWANG (W) to move along track cut by C Coy to MILFORD HIGHWAY. Object - to delouse booby traps laid by previous Coy patrol
- 1100 B Coy patrol posn 702752.
- 1140 Sitrep No 88 to 21 Bde. See Appx M 118
- 1215 B Coy patrol posn 692776. Found footpad off main track. Showed signs of use, probably two days old. Followed pad short distance NMS
- 1220 4 Pl reported to B Coy
- 1330 Sitrep No 89 to 21 Bde. See Appx M 119
- 1350 Comd Gp return from B Coy patrol base via MANGGAR BESAR RIVER.
- 1500 B Coy patrol at ⁶⁷768789 - fresh footprints found.
- 1505 B Coy patrol reported 8 JAPS sighted at 678789 moving along track - armed with rifles only NO eqpt.
- 1640 Line comn out with B Coy
- 1645 B Coy Standing Patrol returned. Sitrep No 90 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 120
- 1710 B Coy patrol at 675691. Digging in for night and will patrol to MILFORD HIGHWAY EARLY 24 July. NO contact
- 1815 Sitrep No 39 to 21 Bde. See Appx M 122
- 1900 Sitrep No 42 from 2/16 Bn. See Appx M 121
- 2220 C Coy patrol reported into A Coy. Booby traps set 670797 had been sprung. Cas ENEMY 1 KIA. For patrol report See Appx P 68

Consolidated Patrol Report.

See Appx P 67

Daily OP Report from 21 Bde.

" " M 123

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

DAILY SUMMARY - 24 JULY 45

REF MAPS BALIKPAPAN SHEETS A, B, C 1 : 50000

B Coy patrol contacted strong JAP posn at 761794 - Own cas 1 KIA
1 WIA, ENEMY cas 1 KIA. Wounded man carried on stretcher - RMO moved
fwd to care for cas. Local patrols from patrol base made NO contact.

There was a picture show in Bde area.

WAR DIARY.

OBOE TWO.

CHRONOLOGICAL (Cont'd)

24 JULY 45

REF MAPS: BALIKPAPAN SHEETS A, B & C 1:50000.

240600I SITREP No. 40 to 21 Bde. See appx M124.

0730 11 Pl. patrol moving fwd as soon as light improves..
Sitrep No. 91 from 21 Bde. See appx M 125.

0745 Infm ~~from~~^{to} B Coy for 11 Pl. patrol - S Coy reported Booby Trap by MILFORD H'WAY sprung. Cas ENEMY 1 KIA. C Coy patrol yesterday heard SPITFIRES strafing rd and believe JAP .5 MMG fired on planes. Pl. to be advised NOT to move along rd in case SPITFIRES operating. Pl. to reach rd recce and return. NO report of 25 Bde moving beyond 25 GRID.

0850 11 Pl. patrol reported JAP posn at 671794 estimated strength 4. Feature cleared by fwd sec. Cas Own 1 WIA - stretcher case. Ambush posn possible on next feature.

0855 B Coy ordered patrol to determine if posn occupied - give ref and est strength.

0925 11 Pl. sending 2 secs. fwd to investigate feature.

0940 11 Pl. patrol ordered NOT to ~~commit~~ commit themselves.

1000 Arty L.G. attached Bn HQ. F O O to A Coy.

1030 Sitrep No. 93 from 21 Bde. See appx M 127.
B Coy informed 11 Pl. patrol R M O on way to meet stretcher case. Inquired of JAP cas. Sitrep No. 92 from 21 Bde. See appx M 126.

1032 11 Pl. infm B Coy JAP cas NOT known - another cas believed sustained by patrol.

1035 Infm from Bde - re air attack last night. Eight to ten planes operated. Radar picked up AC 20 miles out to sea. Planes dropped anti-radar windows. Bombs dropped in area MANGGAR to WHARF area. Little damage. Two SPITFIRES intercepted. Cas ENEMY 1 Bomber. Two bombs fell in sea EAST of Bde Area.

1050 11 Pl. infm B Coy Cpl Thomas KIA. Infm later. Pl ordered to move back immediately - and NOT to sustain further cas recovering body.

1240 11 Pl. patrol at 685785. ENEMY infm - ENEMY holding KNOLL 670794 est strength one Pl. Cas ENEMY 1 KIA 1 Wounded.

1250 11 Pl. ordered to make all possible speed back - relief on way to meet the patrol and cut track for stretcher case.

1400 Relief contacted patrol 1340 I.

1407 11 Pl. infm Coy NOT to expect patrol back before dark.

1415 Sitrep and air ops from Bde. See appx M 128.

1420 Sitrep to all coys.

1522 11 Pl. patrol at 691708 - expect to arrive B Coy HQ 1930 I.

1700 11 Pl. patrol at 709743. B Coy patrol reports see appx. P 71 P 72 and P 73.

1735 Sitrep No. 94 from 21 Bde. See appx M 129.

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

CHRONOLOGICAL (CONT'D)

24 JULY 45

1800 11 Pl. patrol reported in to B Coy. Patrol report see appx P 70.
B Coy Fire Plan. See appx S 32.

1805 Sitrep No. 40 to 21 Bde. See appx M 130.

2145 Sitrep from 21 Bde.

Consolidated Patrol Reports. See appx P 69.

Daily Op Reports from 21 Bde. See appx M 131.

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

DAILY SUMMARY - 25 JULY 45

REF MAPS BALIKPAPAN SHEETS A, B, C 1 : 50000

New patrol bdys were laid down by Div HQ.

a B Coy patrol along trolley line NW of saw-mill found recent JAP footprints.

An A Coy patrol from BANGSAL was unable to cut way to ~~REPORTED~~ TRACK.

WAR DIARY
OBOE TWO
CHRONOLOGICAL
25 JULY 45

REF MAPS : BALIKPAPAN SHEETS A,B,C 1 : 50000

250600I To Bde sitnor

0800 Sitrep No 95 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 132

1130 O.O No 3 from 21 Bde. See Appx O 4

1140 Sitrep No 96 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 133

1255 B Coy reported C Coy patrol reached their HQ at 1225I

1340 Sitrep No 97 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 134

1625 Sitrep No 98 from Bde. See Appx M 135

1645 B Coy reported patrol to end of Tramline found 4 or 5 fresh footprints. For patrol report - See Appx P 76

1810 Sitrep No 43 to Bde. " " M 136

1812 A Coy reported patrols reached 764734 at 0900I, 747744 at 1020I, 740748 at 1130I, 733744 at 1230I, 723743 at 1415I. For patrol report - See Appx P 75

1815 Gunboat patrol BALIKPAPAN BAY to NORTH. NO patrols WEST of 70 GRID and NORTH of 79 GRID.

2000 CO discussed with BM further patrols and inter Bde Bdy

2125 A Coy reported explosions heard - NEI reported explosions 10 to 15 miles NORTH of SAMBODJA.
Daily OP report from 21 Bde. See Appx M 137
" " " " " " " " M 138

2145 Bn to supply escort of 1 Offr and 7 OR for Dutch General visiting SAMBODJA tomorrow.

Consolidated Patrol Reports. See Appx P 74

B Coy " " " " P 77, 78, 79.

BN ROUTINE ORDERS. " " G 8.

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

DAILY SUMMARY - 26 JULY 45

REF MAPS BALIKPAPAN SHEETS A, B, C 1 : 50000

A Gun Boat patrol to the upper reaches of BALIKPAPAN BAY restricted patrol activity.

Local patrols only were sent out from patrol base. C Coy sent a patrol to contact B Coy.

Bn supplied and escort for a Dutch General to SAMBODJA.

One ENEMY plane was over the area during the night.

WAR DIARY
OBOE TWO
CHRONOLOGICAL
26 JULY 45

REF MAPS : BALIKPAPAN SHEETS A,B,C 1 : 50000

260600I To Bde sitnor

0800 Sitrep No 99 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 139

1215 C Coy patrol reported in to B Coy HQ

1220 Bde IO Capt Moore inquired DUKW transport could be used from junc LAY CREEK and MANGGAR to TIMBER MILL. B Coy contacted

1230 B Coy patrol in DUKW reached junc LAY CREEK -unable to proceed as 2/14 Bn in DUKW working at CREEK junction clearing obstructions. For B Coy patrol report - See Appx P 84

1415 Adjut Capt Langsford IO and arty IO to SAMBODJA

1555 C Coy patrol reported back-nil report.

1630 Four cases of small aerial bombs located TARATIP area at 770715. Bde infm.

1800 Sitrep No 46 to Bde. See Appx M 140

2200 Sitrep No 101 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 141

Consolidated Patrol Reports See Appx P 80

A Coy " " " " P 81

B Coy " " " " P 82

B Coy " " " " P 83

B Coy " " " " P 85

B Coy " " " " P 86

Bn ROUTINE ORDERS " " G 9

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

DAILY SUMMARY - 27 JULY 45

REF MAPS BALIKPAPAN SHEETS A, B, C 1 : 50000

B Coy patrolled NORTH from ADULT and then SW to Saw Mill without seeing any signs of JAPS. A patrol NORTH along Trolley Line saw JAP footprints at Line Head.

A patrol was sent from B Coy to 669702 to contact 25 Bde. Patrol moved to VASEY H'WAY and then by jeep to Bn area.

An A Coy patrol was NOT able to cut REPORTED TRACK.

2/27th Battalion Unit History.

OUTLINE PLAN.

<u>Phase</u>	<u>Messrs.</u>	<u>Words.</u>
Formation and Training at Woodside	J.G.Dobbs	14,000
Move to Middle East		
Mauretania		
Declali		
Takliwa		
Training in Palestine		
Julis		
Coy.Battalion and Brigade Exercises		
Leave		
Mersa Matruh		
<hr/>		
Syrian Campaign	M.J.Moten	15,000
and aftermath to December 1941		
<hr/>		
1942 - Move from Middle East	H.J.Katiker	19,000
Probable roles and changes of Plan		
Training at Colonnara		
Move to New Guinea		
Owen Stanleys' Campaign		
Char force		
Gona		
<hr/>		
1942 Reformation	J.A.Bishop	16,000
1943 Ramu Valley Campaign		
<hr/>		
1944 Reformation	Jack Lee	20,000
Strathpine		
Kairi		
Trinity Beach		
1945 Balikpapan		
Makassa		
Winding up		
<hr/>		

Appendices:

Decorations and Awards

Messrs.
Raferty and
McPherson

5,000

K.I.A.

Itinerary of Battalion Moves

Etc.....

NOTES:

1. The words allotted for each phase are a rough guide to help keep the book within the limits suggested by M.H. Section.
2. Choice of maps and photos and number for each campaign - approx. two maps - four photographs.
3. Where names can be included - e.g. Section Commanders who led important patrols or outstanding individuals this should be done.

Rank will be as at date of event but a foot-note should be added showing Army No., Rank (highest attained during the War), Full Name, Command Appointments, Home Address, Date of Birth, and, if applicable, date of death.

4. Individual accounts of events, if forthcoming and illustrative of a particular event may be included in the main text if they do not spoil its historical continuity - if they do they can be included as an appendix and a small cross reference will be included in the text.
 5. Drafts - Type three copies - double line space on one side of paper, quarto size paper - Name of Unit, Number of Chapter typed on each sheet.
 6. Maps - carefully drawn, not overloaded with detail. Salient military facts shown boldly. If conventional signs used conform to M.R. & F.S.
-

Suggested Assistants for Each Phase.

J.G.Dobbs

C.C.Isaachsen
G. Garrett
A.Moylan
J.Crafter

Padre Whereat
D.R.McPhee
T.G.Worre
A.Pope

H.J.Katkar

A.J.Lee
T.R.S.Kimber
R.W.Cowan

J.D.Lee
G.Cooper
H.A.Lyndon

C.W.Sims
R.L.Johnson

J.Bishop

A.J.Lee
Ron Johnson
J.Reddin
G.Macdonald

J.D.Lee
H.A.Lyndon
J.McKenna

R.W.Clampett
G.Mills
R.Johns

J.D.Lee

C.A.W.Sims
P.Langsford
S.Toms

F.S.Nicholls
K.S.Picken
J.Crafter

J.Reddin
J.Mills

WAR DIARY
OBOE TWO
CHRONOLOGICAL
27 JULY 45

REF MAPS : BALIKPAPAN SHEETS A,B,C 1 : 50000

270600I Sitnor to Bde

0900 Sitrep No 102 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 142

1010 Col Picken ordered C Coy comd Capt Crafter to send patrol along track previously cut WEST from AMBORAWANG(W) tomorrow

1055 C Coy patrol contacted B Coy NO report

1220 Password from Bde-Coys informed

1410 CO and INT Sjt to A Coy. CO, Coy comd Maj SIMMS and INT Sjt recce track from 763748 WEST to approx 748744 where track became indistinct.
 Sitrep No 103 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 143

1415 D Coy patrol reported NO sign of ENEMY% Bde informed.
 For patro= report-see appx P 92.

1625 B Coy comd Capt Lee infm IO Lt Raftery that party of natives at their HQ. One native woman bayoneted by JAPS and one native boy has infm re JAPS holding ground between KILOS 25 & 40 - str between 5 & 600. Bde notified and infm that natives gave being forwarded to Bde.

1800 Sitrep to Bde-see appx M 144.

2030 Sitrep No 104 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 145

Sketch of Mill Area. See Appx S 33

Consolidated Patrol Reports	See Appx P 87
A Coy " "	" " P 88
B Coy " "	" " P 89
B Coy " "	" " P 90
B Coy " "	" " P 91
B Coy " "	" " P 91(A)

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

DAILY SUMMARY - 28 JULY 45

REF MAPS BALIKPAPAN SHEETS A, B, C 1 : 50000

B Coy sent out routine patrols but made NO contacts.

All tracks in area are being traversed with view to correcting existing maps.

First man for discharge under 5 year plan received orders to move.

WRR DIARY
OBOR TWO
CHRONOLOGICAL
28 JULY 45

REF MAPS : BALIKPAPAN SHEETS A,B,C 1 : 50000

2806001 Sitnor to Bde

0735 C Coy patrol from AMBORAWANG (W) cancelled

1155 D Coy patrol contacted B Coy HQ. Nil report

1245 Sitrep No 106 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 146

1440 B Coy No 2 patrol reported in. For report SEE Appx P 94

1600 D Coy patrol reported back from B Coy. Patrol reported
that two graves of A Coy pers on BALE require attention

1900 Sitrep No, 47 to 21 Bde. See Appx M 147.

2000 First man-W01-Leckie-moved out under 5 year release scheme.

2010 Sitrep No 107 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 148

Consolidated Patrol Reports See Appx P 93

B Coy	"	"	"	"	P95
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B Coy	"	"	"	"	P 96
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B Coy	"	"	"	"	P 97
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Bn F field Returns. See Appx G 10

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

DAILY SUMMARY 7 29 JULY 45

REF MAP S BALIKPAPAN SHEETS A, B, C 1 : 50000

A patrol from B Coy along Trolley Line contacted ENEMY at 694748.

One of our men was KIA.

A recce patrol from B Coy moved EAST from 716719 along reported track as shown on map and reached VASEY H'WAY.

An A Coy patrol from BANGSAL cut reported track at 711735.

v
WAR DIARY
OBOE TWO
CHRONOLOGICAL
29 JULY 45

REF MAPS : BALIKPAPAN SHEETS A,B,C 1 : 50000

290600I To Bde sitnor

0810 Sitrep No 108 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 149

1145 C Coy patrol returned from B Coy. Nil report

1240 Sitrep No 109 from 21 Bde. See Appx M ~~105~~ 150

1330 OCB Coy reported to IO that patrol contacted ENEMY approx strength 5-6 at 694748. GAS OWN 1 KIA. Further infm to follow Bde informed. For patrol report See Appx P 101.

1630 D Coy contact patrol reported in. Nil report

1645 B Coy patrol from REPORTED TRACK track junc 715720 EAST to VASEY H'WAY reported into Bn HQ. For report See Appx P 100

2000 Sitrep No 110 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 151

Consolidated Patrol Reports. See Appx P 98

A Coy " " " " P99

B Coy " " " " P 102

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

DAILY SUMMARY - 30 JULY 45

REF MAP BALIKPAPAN SHEETS A, B, C 1 : 50000

A patrol from C Coy moved to AMBORAWANG by tpt. The patrol then moved along blazed track to JAP track, previously cut by patrol at ~~730806~~ . The track was traversed NORTH and SOUTH but, owing to insufficient time patrol returned still having portion of track to traverse.

At B Coy patrol base daily patrols continued but NO contact with ENEMY was made during the day.

A Coy sent in two natives reported to be able to give infm concerning PW. These reports were checked with NICA and proved to be quite incorrect.

WAR DIARY
OBOE TWO
CHRONOLOGICAL
30 JULY 45

REF MAPS : BALIKPAPAN SHEETS A,B,C 1 : 50000

300600I To Bde sitnor

0730 C Coy patrol left for AMBORAWANG WEST by tpt

1010 B Coy reported No 3 patrol reported ENEMY footprints on WEST of track 716718. Footprints on main track leading NORTH & SOUTH at 716719 all appear fresh. Patrol at 711740

1100 B Coy reported D Coy patrol in. Nil report.

1130 B Coy advised of 25 Bde disposns. Patrol to check rice dump at ADULT returned. Reported JAPS have NOT been at dump --list of stores to follow.

1430 Sitrep No 112 from Bde. See Appx M 152

1505 B Coy advised that 11 Pl reported that one burst of LMG and five rifle shots heard vicinity TRIG 55 at 1400I.

1710 CO to B Coy inquiring of 4 Pl patrol.

1805 Sitrep No 49 to Bde. See Appx M 153.

1835 " " 48 " " " " M 154.

1930 Two natives brought ⁱⁿ by A Coy - taken by IO to 21 Bde for interrogation. Thought that natives have infm of PW at SAMARINDA%

2000 BM advised that CO is required at 21 Bde HQ next morning for conference.

2030 25 Bde sitrep No 11

2113 Sitrep No 113 from Bde. See Appx M 155.

2120 Revsit No 1 from 21 Bde " " M 156.

Consolidated Patrol Reports See Appx P 103

B Coy " " " " P 104

B Coy " " " " P 105

B Coy " " " " P 106

C Coy " " " " P107

C Coy " " " " P108

Overlay of tracks traversed to 30 July. See Appx P 109

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

DAILY SUMMARY - 31 JULY 45

REF MAPS BALIKPAPAN SHEETS A, B C 1 : 50000

The CO attended conference at Bde during the morning.

A patrol from D Coy blazed track from BALD to REPORTED TRACK at 739720, thus making a shorter L of C to B Coy.

Patrolling continued in B Coy area, NO contact being made during the day.

In LAMAROE area working parties continued general improvements to area.

WAR DIARY

OBOE TWO

CHRONOLOGICAL

31 JULY 45

REF MAP : BALIKPAPAN I: 50000 SHEETS A,B,C.

310600 I Sitnor to Bde.

0750 I 25 Bde sitrep to B Coy. Sitrep No 114 from 21 Bde. See Appx

0900 25 Bde disposns to ALL Coys

0910 C0 to Bde for conference

1100 B Coy reported C Coy contact patrol arrived B Coy HQ I055I
Nil report.

1200 Password from Bde-issued to all Coys

1400 Sitrep No 115 from Bde. See Appx M158.

1450 C Coy reported that their patrol in from B Coy. Nil report.

1600 Revsit No 2 from Bde. See Appx M159.

1715 Revsit from 25 Bde to B Coy.

1800 Sitrep No 50 to Bde. See Appx M 160.

2015 Sitrep No 116 from Bde. See Appx M161.

2130 Message G0 1109 from 21 Bde. See Appx M 162.

Consolidated patrol reports. See Appx P110.

B Coy	"	"	"	"	P 111
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B Coy	"	"	"	"	P112
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B Coy	"	"	"	"	P 113
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D Coy	"	"	"	"	P 114
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Interpretation of documents taken from JAP dead
in CD gun posn by 2/14 Bn. See Appx G11

Sketch map Appx "B" to ~~ONE~~ 1 AUST CORPS INT SUMMARY
N o 88. See Appx G 12

Captured ENEMY Eqpt. See Appx G 13

ENEMY CASUALTIES. " " G 14

ENEMY GUN POSN (aerial photos) captured by 2/27 Bn
on F-Day.... See Appx G 15.