

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

Item number: 8/3/15

2/15 Infantry Battalion

July 1945, Appendices,
part 1 of 2

24 Jul 45

Appx 31(a)

INTERROGATION OF PW

Number : Temporar. No 25
 Name : NISHIE, Mitsuo
 Rank : Superior pte
 Unit : ARASHI Force (Heav. weapons coy ?) *3rd 2 Coy 367 IIB*
 Where captured: LIMPAKU Island
 By whom captured: By natives at LIMPAKU and handed over to C Coy 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

Assessment

The PW was cooperative but not very intelligent. On capture was ill suffering from malaria. He had a chest wound inflicted by 2/2 MMG patrol on 16 Jul.

Tactical information

OKAYAMA - left 1 Aug 44
 TAWAO - arrived Oct 44. Left 13 Jan 45 and moved by foot to BRUNEL
 BRUNEL - Arrived Apr 45

PW stated 54 men of SUGAYA unit reached? (this could not be determined by this interrogation) destination of party not known so PW (who apparently became detached) just roamed about the hills. He was wounded about one week ago by Aust patrol in area 5-5415 (ref map BRUNEL-NE). After this incident PW escaped from the mainland by swimming across to BERAMBANG Island and from there crossing to LIMPAKU Island. PW had planned to make his way to LIMANG as he thought he might go into hospital there.

Order of battle

NOZAKI SBEJI (Maj Gen returned to Japan while ops were in TARAGI Unit)

Interrogated by CO Coy 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

Notes When wounded by 2/2 MMG patrol PW was accompanied by another Jap who was killed.

Amr.
 I.O. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn Lt

26 Jul 45RELEASED PW ARMED FORCES

Name: SAPAR BIN

No: 818

Unit: BULAT 42 Coy
RASC SINGAPORE

Religion: Christian

Place of capture: SINGAPORE

Date of capture: Not sure but 1942.

Mov after captured: PW was sent to NICOBAR and ADAMAN ISLANDS. Spent a year there and was returned to SINGAPORE. He remained there for a period of 4 to 5 months. He was then sent to BORNEO and landed at MIRI in Mar of last year (1944). From MIRI he was later sent to BRUNEI. He worked there until a few weeks prior to Allied landing and went to hospital. He was left there when Japs evacuated area. He has now been released from hospital and has reported to the Allies for work.

Information of enemy: The PW had NO idea as to strengths or disposns of Jap tps. He had NO contact with any high-ranking personalities and knew none of their names.

Information of other PWs: The PW claims that 9 of his friends are at LABUAN in the hands of the AUSTRALIANS. There were NO other PWs known to him.

Papers; means of identification: The PW had NO paybook or other means of identification as these were all taken from him prior to arrival in BORNEO.

Interrogation by C Coy 2/15 Aust Inf Bn
Interpreter ATIS

LABAUN

LABAUN There are still odd Japs about. 3 Jul patrol killed one but any organised resistance has long ceased.

Air

6 spitfires bombed and strafed JESSELTON . 6 near misses on a Jap HQ.

8 Jul 6 Beaufighters, 4 Mitchells, 18 Spitfires attacked enemy def
posns, dumps, bivouac areas RIAM Rd. All bombs in target areas.

H. Marshall
Lt.
Int Offr

11 Jul 45

INT REP

During the course of patrol up the PANDARUAN (7/9 Jul serial 10) a well beaten route through KUBONG from ABOT through KUBONG MASING, ANGGUN (SIBUT) was ~~thru~~ thoroughly investigated. There is now no doubt that this was the route followed by a large body of Japs which crossed the river in the ANGGUN area on 24/25 Jun. It is impossible to estimate from local evidence the exact number of this force but a number ranging from 200 to 500 would be consistent with reports from PW sources that this was 367 IMB who have as anticipated moved into the hills to remain in hiding. Latest reports indicate that this force which was last reported in the SEBULU has now moved in to the upper TEMBOURONG.

Findings of the patrol briefly were as follows.

PANDARUAN village - 5917 - No enemy seen for two weeks.

KUBONG - NMS Natives report that the last Jap seen in this area were seen approx 23 Jun when they passed through to SIBUT. This confirms the report of the DO at BANGAR who said that they passed through the SIBUT area on 24/25 Jun. From KUBONG patrolled west to TAGARI, TADUMIN and to within 1000 yds of ABOT. Natives reported Australians were there on 5 Jul (Serial 9).

From the mouth of MENUA Riv patrolled east to SIBUT. This tr showed evidence of having been used by a large party two weeks previously - 10 to 20 feet wide for the first $\frac{3}{4}$ miles, widens considerably where swamp encountered.

Natives estimates vary but patrols comd says 1500 Japs in party which contained 5 stretchers cases (confirmatory reports of this have been many) and probably a high ranking officer, 13 women and 3 children) this number was confirmed also by serial 9.

Going time MENUA to SIBUT 3 hrs marching time - distance $7\frac{1}{2}$ to 8 miles.

On 8 Jul 11 Japs reported heading for KUBONG believed to have heard Aust tps there and returned to BERAWAN. These are almost certainly those who escaped from A coy on 7 Jul, who moved south along rd to SEMBILING and were reported on 8 Jul moving towards KUBONG which was in accord with an earlier report that they were enquiring their way to the TEMBOURONG. Patrol which was sent out to investigate this report NTR.

Navigation limit on PANDARUAN Riv as shown on strat map 5917 does not exist. River is nav to mouth of MENUA Riv at least and possibly further except for overhanging trees.

On return journey examined

- (a) From 5917 along tr to BANGAR
- (b) From 5917 along SEMBILING tr to the 8 mile ~~post~~ post (approx $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from SEMBILING).

It was at the 8 mile post that 11 Japs a/m were reported to have left the southern tr and moved off into jungle at 080530I with a native and Chinese guide which they had impressed into their service as they passed through SEMBILING.

Following reported by native at SIBUT. The informant was not an eye witness and no degree of reliability can be placed on the report even if it were in a more accessible area than that which is outlined below.

20 Aust tps arrived in village in area 0586 alleged to have come from WESTON. Tps striped of for a swim and left rifles and equipment and clothes in a hut. Japs arrived stole everything Austs fled.

(over)

Because of the nature of the country in the area through which evacuation tracks move it is not possible without air photos to determine with any degree of reliability map references to small unnamed villages which are on the ground quite important in that they are constantly mentioned by patrols.

Attached is trace compiled from ~~the~~ information from patrols which shows the relative positions of these places on the tracks as shown.

From ABOI to KUBONG *on both side of the* ~~all along the~~ track there is evidence of where the Jap has halted in groups or varying sizes for the night.

[Handwritten signature]
Lt
10 2/15 Bn

From the mouth of KUBONG a patrol was sent to ABOI. This patrol showed evidence of having been used by a large party two weeks previously - 10 to 20 feet wide for the first 1/2 mile, widening considerably where swamp encountered.

Native estimates very but patrols could save 1500 Japs in party which contained a stretcher case (containing reports of this have Germany) and probably a highlander, 12 women and 3 children (this number was confirmed also by serial 2).

On 8 Jul 45 Japs reported heading towards KUBONG believed to have heard that the Japs had returned to KUBONG. These are almost certainly those who escaped from ABOI on 7 Jul 45 who moved south along the KUBONG and were reported on 8 Jul moving towards KUBONG which was in accord with an earlier report that they were heading that way to the KUBONG. Patrol which was sent out to investigate this report.

Navigation limit on PANDANAN is as shown on attached map. River does not extend. River is dry to mouth of KUBONG at least and possibly further except for overhanging trees.

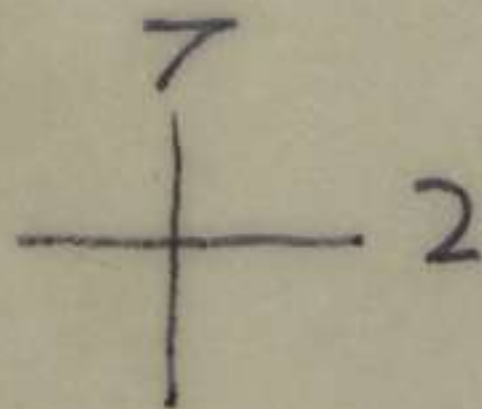
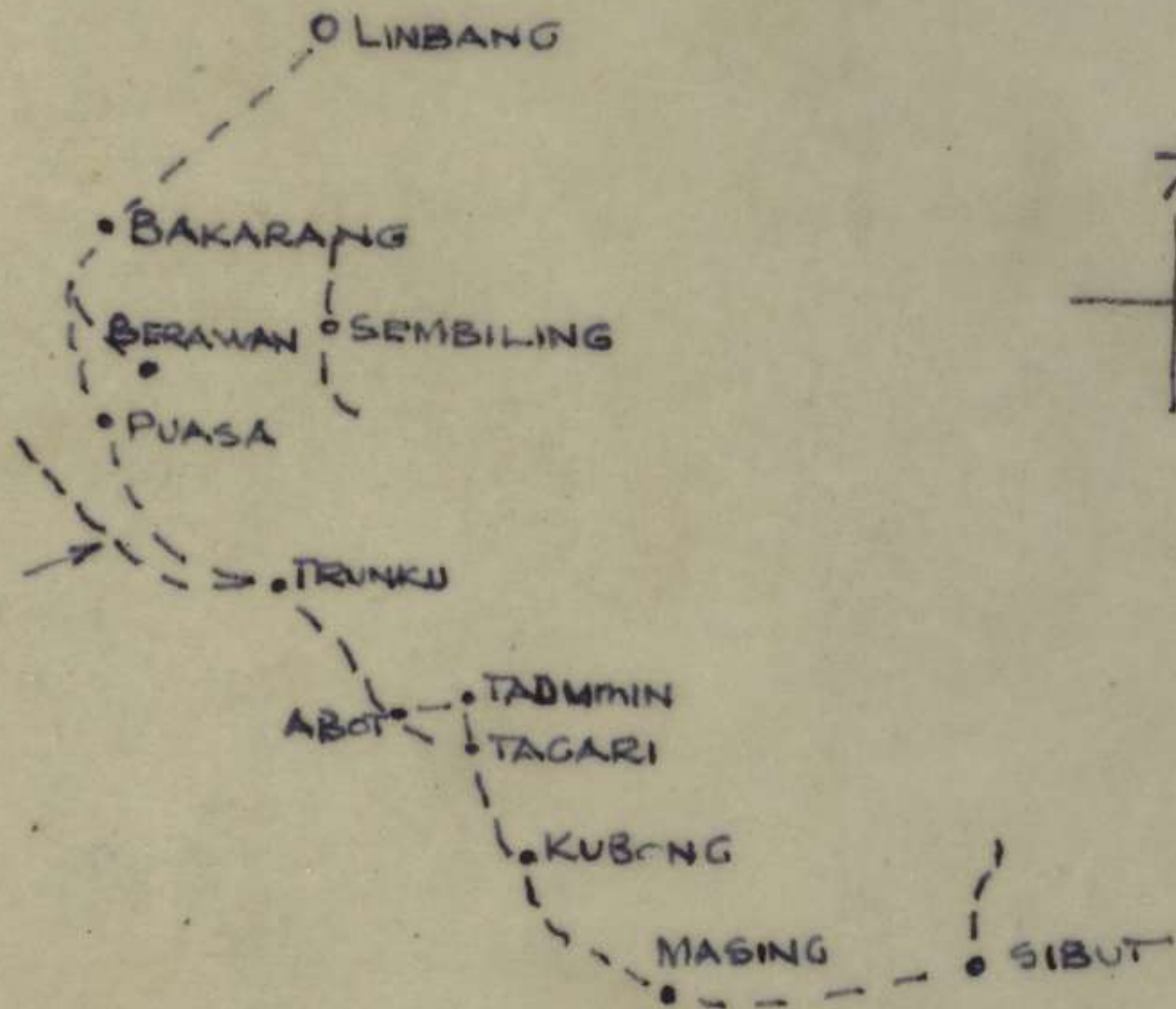
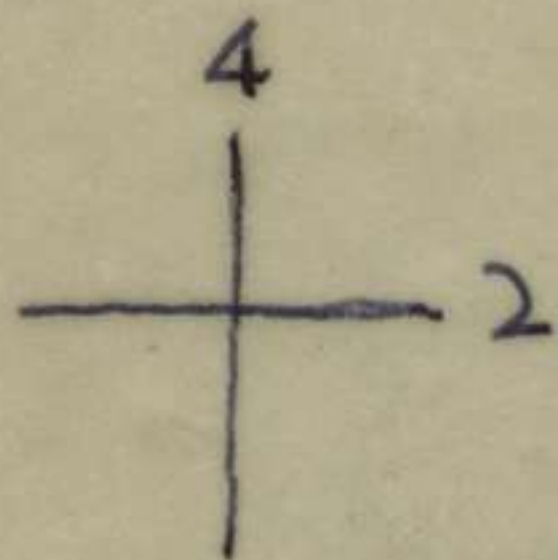
On return journey examined:
(a) From 8015 along to KUBONG
(b) From 8015 along KUBONG to the 8 mile pass post
(c) Approx 1/2 mile from KUBONG

It was at the 8 mile post that 11 Japs were reported to have left the post and moved off into jungle at 0830Z with a native and Chinese guide which they had taken into their service as they passed through KUBONG.

Following reported native at ABOI. The incident was not an eye witness and no degree of reliability can be placed on the report even if it were in a more accessible area than that which is outlined below.
20 Japs arrived in village in area 0830Z alleged to have come from KUBONG. The subject of top a unit and left rifle and equipment and clothes in a hut. Japs arrived at 0830Z.

(over)

Ref Strat 1: 250000



11 Jul 45

SECRET

13 Jul 45

INT REF 5

Enemy have now evacuated LABI and RANFAYOH mentioned in int rep of 10 Jul 45. Their route was South to KENDAHAM (9278) RIDAN (8667) thence to MARUDI. 2/17 Bn patrol to RIDAN on 11 Jul found no evidence of their presence. In the MIRI area information from an escaped Indian PW who was carrying for the Japs strengthens the previous reports that this a regroup- area. The Japs last reported at MARUDI are probably bound for this area. Native reports say they left RIDAN on 8 Jul for LINNI (94).

Native interrogated on 9 Jul from BIAN Rd gave information which indicated Japs are about 15 miles along the road. With them are AIRIO and staff, who was Sector Unti Comd in MIRI. En route to BELUN Japs are staying through MIRI sq 56

The Jap destruction of the oil wells in the SERIA area was very thorough and many are still burning. A Dutch technician is reported to have stated one of the wells if unchecked ^{has} potential ^{to} burn for fifteen years.

*Know if
to*

12 Jul 45.

Natives who escaped the Japs in KUCHING in May 45 and arrived in this area stated during their period of 3 years working for the Japs there they saw approx 800 PW (about 25 of whom were wearing Australian Hats) in KUCHING and that this body had been there during the two years they had been in KUCHING. They had seen no fresh groups of PWs come into the area. The PW were employed in reclaiming low lying land & their compound was about 7 miles outside the town. They appeared thin and weak.

2/15 Bn 10 Jul patrol with FOO South from SOUTH KNOLL along RIAN Rd -NMS

2/15 Bn Total enemy casualties to date for bn - 96 confirmed dead, 17 unconfirmed, 10 wounded, 27 PW. C Coy patrol out 120800 I up BRUBBI to INANG. Task area recon. B Coy patrol out 120800I for 3 days by prahu up TONG RIV to RABAI. It was headman of RABAI who gave information of Celebes soldiers in that area deserted from Japs. These were brought in by SGT Sjt SANDERSON 2 days ago.

2/17 Bn Patrol to RIDAN 2757 reached village 10 Jul and arrived back at MANDARUAN 2878 111500. NMS.

Total enemy casualties in Bde to date 302 counted dead, 49 estimated dead, 63 PW.

24 Bde Adv of 2/22 bn has reached DANIT Riv which flows into KIMANIS Bay North of BEAUFORT. NMS.

BALIK PAPAN 7 Jul - 21 bde continuing softening up process in BANGGAR Area. 26 bde. Japs reported using burning oil from 44 gal drums as road blocks against tanks.

8 Jul 45- Jap patrol 12-16 personnel armed with grenades one LMG infiltrated vicinity 2/33 Bn HQ killed 1 offr wounded 5 ORs. Jap casualties 3 Offrs 9 ORs. Adv NS have been made by both 2/25 Bn and 2/33 Bn B Coy 2/9 bn landed unopposed DJINA BORA on the west side of BALIK PAPAN bay North of the bn landing at PENADJAN on 5 Jul. Resistance is stiffening against 2/9 bn. Enemy casualties to 6 Jul killed 655, estimated dead 152. PW 17.

AIR 2 Kitty hawks located kitty hawk pilot shot down over KUDAT by enemy action, 6 Jul. Cataline effected rescue.

Kraus Lt.
Int Offr.

SECRET
14 Jul 45.

INT REP 7

Main enemy activity in the 8/15 Bn and 8/17 Bn area is centered ~~along~~ ⁱⁿ the RIAM track and MARUDI-LINKEI area. Both bodies are as previously reported evacuating SOUTH if possible to concentrate in the BELURU area.

MIRI area

8/15 Bn patrols along RIAM RM continue to make contact with the enemy fighting rear guard action.

Following is a report of Jap positions vacated under pressure on 5 Jul.

"10 Jul a patrol to area 450786 inspected the defense posns where patrol encountered enemy opposition of 5 Jul. A probable coy posn containing seven LMG posns and many fox holes. Each posn was supported by at least two fox holes along side and all had what appeared to be air raid shelters situated immediately in rear. It would appear that these posns were occupied with a view to fighting a delaying action or to making an ambush as all posns had lane ways and crawl trenches straight to the rear, presumably made with a view to a speedy get away. Four LMG's were sited close to the road and overlooking the bridge on which the patrol was ambushed and the remaining three were sited in depth with a field of fire well beyond the br. These last were sited on a hill side so that the guns could not be depressed sufficiently to bring fire to bear on an area of dead ground 150 yds wide at the foot of the hill. Several posns had been filled in by the Japs before evacuating and by the smell it is probable that four or five dead had been buried in these holes. The evacuation appears to have been carried out in no hurry as all documents and equipment had been removed. Bighouses in the rear of this area seemed to have been used as quarters by the troops holding the posn and are capable of accommodating about 80 tps. Several air raid shelters were situated near the houses. They were not sited defensively."

Japs have now withdrawn to the 12 mile peg which is not exactly located but is believed to be in area sqs 4875, 4876 (strat).

MARUDI area

SRD officer who arrived at Bde HQ 11 Jul has elucidated rather confused reports of enemy mov in this area. The SRD party which was forced out of MARUDI have established a HQ further south. The report that early on 10 Jul a party of 100 Japs moved up the BARAM Riv in praus from BAKONG. The party had been warned of their approach and set an ambush on the river killing 18 Japs, the total occupants of the two leading praus. The remainder ~~was~~ ^{here} opened with rifles and LMG's and the ambush party withdrew to MARUDI. As the remaining Japs continued to advance up the river the party finally vacated MARUDI. SRD officer who arrived at Bde HQ 11 Jul from the area states that the Japs were well armed well fed well clothed and well led. He also stated that as far as he knew no Japs had come to MARUDI from the RIDAN area. His appreciation of the situation is that the most likely course open to the Japs at LINKEI is a move either by river or overland to the TINJAR Riv and to go up stream possibly linking up with reported concentration at BELURU. Failing this they may make up the BARAM Riv towards the hills and either remain there or attempt to move west towards the river systems leading to SIBU and KUCHING. In any eventative assistance by way of praus and guides as well as boats, will be required and it is considered most unlikely that this will be forthcoming but rather that their course will lead them through hostile country well organized against them. SRD leader considers that reason for determined move to occupy MARUDI was that Japs had received false information that place was thinly held (notwithstanding deliberate rumours circulated by SRD of strength there) and decided to gain full control of the BARAM Riv atleast to the TINJAR junc.

LIMBING area

At 151700I approx native reported in with head and Jap ~~major's~~ major's badge of rank. Interrogated he stated he tracked a party of 30 Japs whose tracks he picked up at SIBILING, for three days (his guess almost certainly party fought to 11 which escaped a Coy led it is believed by Major SATO). In area 3 miles west of village of UNROP described as itself 1 mile west of ABOT, estimated area 5312

he shot one of the party. When this man was shot one of his own party rushed to the body and removed what is described as a round object from the dead man's waist, then escaped. The native then moved to the body which was clad in very dirty Jap clothing, consistent with the fact that the wearer had been through swamp. He was wearing cloth puttees and foot wear which was badly worn and tied to keep it together. From the body native claimed he took major's badge of ~~the~~ rank from the collar, also a epia badge which he also brought in which was ~~attached~~ ^{appended} to the breast pocket and a wallet from one of the breast pockets. The major's badge was in perfect condition as though carried in a wallet, his was also borne out by the wear showing on the silver metal star. It bore no signs of having been in contact with anything so soiled and dirty as the native claimed the tunic to be. The papers which were taken from the body included visiting cards belonging to one TAKADA who was employed once, at the time the cards were printed in an aircraft ~~factory~~ factory in Japan. (There were elements of an Airfield in the BUNENI area at the time of the landing.)

From this evidence it is impossible to say beyond doubt SAITO is actually dead. It confirms the fact that he was in the area and that he may be dead.

Patrol to UKONG 13 JI reported that on that date SER rep HERRY killed one Jap officer, who at the time was on his own, in the BILANG area. Latest reports state he was a 2nd Lt belonging to the KENPURI TAI. This organization is something the ~~equivalent~~ equivalent of the HARI Gestapo. Only reports of them was that some of them were operating in the BELAIT area prior to the evacuation.

24 BDE

Adv of 2/33 Bde now pushed beyond DANIT Riv. 10 Jul B Coy advanced to KIMANIS without contact. B Coy moved by LCH up coast 541266 (approx 5 miles North of) IMANIS) where patrol from B Coy contacted them on 11 Jul. No enemy seen. Adv elements now moving up coast and railway line to PAFAR river route to JESSKILTON.

BALIKPAPAN

18 Bde - no further information of 2/9 Bn.

21 Bde - Having captured and secured MANGAAR area now (11 Jul) pushing further East along coast to ADJIREBEN Riv. So far no opposition.

22 Bde - Astride SAMARINDA rd running North from landing beach 11 JI came up against strong opposition.

K. H. H. H.
Lt.
I.O. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

File

SECRET

15 Jul 45

INF REP - 8

The large body of Japs, amongst whom are the bulk of 367 11B are now reported to have moved from the BRUNJI area up the TRUSAN Riv to the TONGGA Riv where they are reorganizing in the area of the village PA TONGGA (sq 90- strat). They are digging in in this area and have already been attacked from the air.

Minimum estimate of their numbers is 800. Others range to 2500. There is further evidence that their numbers include women and children. Reports state the force has plenty of officers (the Governor of BRUNJI was with them till killed) and are clearly working to a plan. A medical unit is moving in rear. Odd Japs have been found on the track dead but the force as a whole has a good deal of food pilloaged on the way. Their intention appears clearly to push through to TENOM to rejoin main force. Before them is a long stretch of mountain country which is inhabited by Muruts whom they have now good cause to fear. They are therefore thought to be organising for a big push. There are signs that the force from the TENOM area are trying to ~~contact~~ ^{contact} them and an SRD report states that a ^{Dinah} has been seen over the PADAS for 5 days running apparently seeking a track. Three ways are open to them to escape.

1. Via LAWAS and MELAPOK to MALAHAN and the mid PADAS. (Over 100 Japs have been killed attempting to escape this way. Not more than 5 it is estimated got through).
2. Via PA TONGGA straight up the TRUSAN.
3. Via PA TONGGA and up the TONGGA Riv to PA MATANG on the PADAS.

Reports state that this latter route is their present intention. From PA MATANG they are expected to move to BOLE.

2/15 Bn PW brought in this morning by native from PARIAMBUN. Worker in saw mill in BRUNJI during Jap occupation. Further info on officer killed by SRD in BIDANG. Officer 1st Lt. Said to be by one of natives to belong to KEMPRI TAI.

17 Bn 1410001 7 day river patrol left BELAIT for MANUDI BAKONG area - inf coy with MG and mortars & LCMs (incl gun boat) HMAS TIGERSHAKE and armed launch.

18 Jul - Spent night TUDAN 6897. RTA MANUDI 1514151.

24 Bde - 12 Jul - B coy patrol 2/35Bn by railway occupied village of PAPAR after some opposition. Coastal patrol reached point west of PAPAR without opposition. B coy now moving to PAPAR.

2/28 Bn - no change.

2/43 Bn - As result of active patrolling in BEAUFORT area killed 12 Japs.

2/12 Cde patrol killed 5 Japs on LABUAN.

Air - LABUAN strip is closed normal missions. 2 Spitfires located missing sirren South KOTA BELUD. Cataline landed in river and rescued him.

BALIKPAPAN - Road cratered and mined NORTH MANGGAR strip. Patrols probing enemy positions. Enemy maintaining pressure SAMARINA rd. PATROLLING to determine enemy flanks. Sitnor other areas.

[Signature]
Lt
IO 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

File

SECRET

INT REP 9

16 Jul '45

Units identified by the documents taken from Japs killed by A Coy on 7 Jul at 573243 are SASAKI Tai and 4 Air Trg Bn.

SASAKI was 1st Lt i/c of the heavy weapons coy of 366 IIB. He moved with his party who escaped from BRUNEI by piro across to BBRAMBANG Island. He was one of those said to be susceptible to surrender and had dropped his MGs into the BRUNEI Riv on the way over, suggesting "they were too heavy to carry anyway".

Cpl KAWAZA, who was captured by locals at TUNA and brought in by our tps, stated that SASAKI was one of the officers killed in the group by A Coy. He also stated that he thought SAITO either wounded or killed.

The identification of 4 Air Trg Bn adds weight to the fact that the body from which major's badge and documents were alleged to be taken was that of TAKADA (see Int Rep 14 Jul).

Report from PW who was captured by BRD at SERULU confirms info already supplied by our patrols and other sources that MajGen AKASHI (codn 56 IIB) moved with the party who evacuated BRUNEI. PW was in same party as the General. Stated party which was 130 strong when left BRUNEI was about 100 when reached TRUSAN after 10 days' journey. Weapons were being discarded for rations of which at time of PW's capture they were carrying 13 days.

Info to 151300L

15 Bn local patrols NWS.

15 Bn 1100 hrs natives brought in PW captured PATIAMBUN area 545238. PW stated that he was a sawmill hand while in BRUNEI.

17 Bn 1200 hrs pl patrol left SIMPANG for TANAJON(9493). No report yet. 1445 hrs B Coy river force landed unopposed at KUALA RIDAN 7065. Patrolling fwd to MANDI. ~~W~~ SPITFIRES bombed and strafed reported enemy posns KUALA RIDAN support our landing. They aircraft used some Jap bombs. Strike very accurate. No details available. Disposns 17 Bn B Coy 763086 1 pl TUTONG PEREX with 95uster strip 167306. 4 pl returning SERIA from TUTONG PEREX. ✓

~~Casualties reported today:- Enemy 1 PW. Own NIL~~
Total enemy cas to date:- 210 counted dead, 51 estimated dead, 66 PW.

Info to 161100L

17 Bn MANDI occupied by B Coy before last light 15 Jul. NWS. Reliable Chinese reports enemy force approx ~~strong~~ moved into jungle NE village on our approach. Thought enemy make for LINI or RIDAN (8767). Pl patrol movg from MENDARAN (9976) to RIDAN reached TERAJA Riv (approx 9372) by last light. NWS. No further detail. 1 sec AA guns in action BIRI area.

AIR uster strip BRUNEI 478437 complete waiting RAAF approval.

[Signature]
Lt
I.O. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

USMC patrol (7 Pl) left 1030 hrs. NO reports yet.
 17 Jul 45

USMC Bde Infa to 1403001

Patrol to SUNDILING 16 Jul contacted native who stated that SRD agent in the area WEST of the village of ABOT had told him that on 15 Jul a party of 33 Japs had come into the village, and had all been killed by DAYAKS led by the SRD informant. At the time he spoke to the native he was returning to his base for medical attention. No confirmation of this report has yet been received from other sources but it is known that this agent is working in that area.

If the report is correct this Jap party is probably the remnants of 3 Coy who were last reported moving EAST from the KIUDANG area, and to whom HQ OZAKI captured by natives in the LOGAN AWANG area (357903) belonged. Further info from native sources in the MIRI area states that there are enemy forces approx 1 bn strong between the 10 mile and 21 mile on the RIAM Rd. The bulk of the force is said to be in camouflaged bivouac area at the 15 mile. The HQ is reported to be at the 18 mile. A supply and amn dump is said to be located at the 10 mile and a stores dump at the 18 mile.

The patrols at present operating in the MARUDI and RIDAN areas have to latest reports made NO contact with the enemy reported by various sources to be there. However they have had some evidence that the Jap was there and is now on the move further SOUTH.

7/12
2/13 Bn 20 Bde Infa to 1619001
 1609001 Pl patrol with HQ from FUSUT up MIRI River. At 485866 area river junc signs of Jap estimated strength 1 sec occupying posns approx 3 days ago. Patrol reached LONG PALAI and returned. NMS.

2/17 Bn Patrol from MARUDI reached RIDAN Riv - remaining over night. Local patrols MARUDI NMS. Patrol to TANAJON (see Int Rpt 9) not leaving till 17 Jul. NTR of patrol to RIDAN from MENDARAM.

2/18 Bn Disposals: 2 pl less sec 9237. HQ B Coy HG Bn 814737. HG Bn patrol saw 3 Japs 815415. Killed 1 wounded 1. Japs armed with bayonets, spear and grenades. Last 18 disposals: 10 pl en route LAWAS, 17 pl 543237. 4 pl moving to PERANGONG sq 1934 where bn rest camp being prepared. USMC patrol (7 Pl) left 1030 hrs. NO reports yet.

2/28 Bn 24 Bde Infa to 1403001
 Patrol 13 Jul MONTENISON Riv to area 4489 NMS. Patrol 13 Jul to creek 4488 killed 3 Japs.

2/32 Bn Adv NORTH towards JENKELTON continues. NO opposition encountered. B & D Coys occupied PAPAR village. Active patrolling at present this area. Patrol to KILATUAN village, surrounded village and killed 6 Japs. Own cashil local patrolling. NO contact. BDCAU patrol to KOTA KLIAN 2500 NMS.

2/45 Bn

BALIKPAPAN
 Active patrolling NORTH & NE SEPINGGANG - BESAR. Contact maintained. Enemy pressure SAMARINDA Rd maintained. Patrols NORTH MANGGAR airstrip found tunnels, abandoned eqpt mortars.. NO change WEST BALIKPAPAN BAY area where 2/9 Bn operating.

AIR
MIRI area 13 Jul 3 enemy posns RIAM Rd attacked. 30 LIGHTNINGs dropped NAPALM enemy bivouac area 480755 and 2 pl posns 453730. 16 WITTYHAWKS bombed and strafed posns 453730 and trenches and tunnels 467767. Strafing successful but only 30% bombs exploded.

BRAUPELT AUSTER strip now serviceable all weather.
BALIKPAPAN Strong bomber support to ground tps.

I.C. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

SECRET
20 Jul 45

INT REP 12

Reports received 19 Jul confirmed previous reports of Jap activity in the upper LUBAI area and the BEREWAN area, brought in by our patrols. One report from SRD representative in the BEREWAN stated that for the week 11 Jul to 18 Jul 38 Japs have been killed. NO information as to the identity of these personnel has yet been obtained. 19 Jul natives reported to our patrol in the BATU APOI area that two Japs had been killed by them in that general area. Only badge reported was that of leading Seaman.

20 Bde Infm to 200900I
2/13 Bn Local patrols NMS.

2/15 Bn A coy less pl moved to BANGAR area to establish patrolling base from which they will operate for a week.
B coy patrolled 19 Jul to PUNANG 933392 and WEST to 957 344 NMS
C coy patrolled by barge to UMPUL UMPUL and LIMPAKU 19/20 Jul NMS.

2/17 Bn MARUDI and BAKONG areas local patrols only NMS. Patrol from MENDARAM made contact with pl at RIDAN.

24 Bde and BALIKPAPAN Nothing further to report.

W. L. G. G. G.
Lt

IO 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

File
SECRET
21 Jul 45

INT REP 13

B Coy reports from SRD sources that enemy force last reported in INTREP 8 in the PA TENGA area 950025 has moved into the PADAS valley area. This mov was expected but by what route they have moved has NOT yet been advised.

Tac R report 2014151 of TOMANI area reveals the following:

"The village area is scattered and consists of 12 small and 5 large huts, the majority of them undergoing repairs. There are many small well-used tracks in TOMANI area but NO major tracks leading up or down PADAS River.

There are 6/8 small huts and a few small gardens scattered along NORTH bank of the river at 548342. There is a good condition hut at 570360 with a heavily used track running 80 yds NORTH to another similar hut. Both of these huts are in a green cultivated area. The ground has been cleared under trees approx 50 yds in from river bank at 567348. There is a newly cleared area at 562327; several tracks and huts were seen in the area. Three huts have been built on an area of scooped-out earth (resembles shallow quarry on side of hill) at 582351. NO natives were seen in the area during the recce, contrasting with the many seen further NORTH down PADAS River."

There were approx 40 Japs in MARUDI when our tps landed at KUALA RIDAN. Natives say they fled after the landing and were moving down RIDAN-LINEI track. However 2/17 Bn patrols have met MMG, LMG and mortar fire when contact was made so that at least some determined enemy have NOT evacuated the area.

An SRD report received on 17 Jul that Japs already in LINEI are evacuating EAST up the TUTOH River to MULD (-44).

There are now two evacuations destined for KUCHING. One from the NORTH, the enemy withdrawing from 2/13 Bn and one from the EAST, some evacuation from the BALIKPAPAN area as enemy are withdrawing slowly before 7 Aust Div advance.

Extract from 20 Bde INTREP 13:

"ENEMY STRENGTH AND ORDER OF BATTLE"

All native information from MIRI area indicates that 553 IIB, or at least the portion stationed in MIRI area, was made up largely of civilian recruits from the area. Some reports have stated that majority of Japs had "just received their star" and also that regular soldiers were not all used together but split up to bolster and strengthen the new ones. This may account for the report that some Japs contacted by 2/13 Aust Inf Bn patrol along RIAM road were wearing civilian clothes. Morale of these tps is thought to be fairly high and they have always shown an aggressive inclination to fight when contacted by our tps."

2/13 Bn

20 Jul suspected enemy posns RIAM rd engaged ^{by} naval bombardment but fire reported inaccurate. Patrols since last INTREP have reported NMS.

2/15 Bn

Native report 2021001 confirmed by further interrogation 21 Jul stated that Maj SATO with party of 21 Japs was yesterday in area of TERUNI. Patrol with native as guide left 2112001 to investigate report.

A Coy now in BANGAR area. Patrolling to begin 21 Jul.

B Coy reports that 20 enemy moved down track from upper LAWAS NORTH to SURABAYA in last 4 days. This area is being investigated.

C Coy patrol confirmed 6 Japs killed by MALAYS on LIMPAKU. Natives report 6 were in party of 10 the remainder escaping to a swamp at 551358.

2/17 Bn

On 17 Jul pl patrol with Dayak guide was ambushed in RIDAN area by a party estimated approx 40 Japs with LMGs. Patrol engaged enemy then withdrew. Cas enemy probably 10 killed own 1 killed 2 wounded. 19 Jul party of Dayaks from MARUDI along track found total of 5 Japs in area of this clash.

17 Jul one PW was captured in the MARUDI area.

18 Jul river patrol investigating Dayak report of Japs up BAKONG River made contact 7167. Enemy engaged patrol with LMG and rifle fire from river banks. Gunboat engaged enemy posn, then patrol withdrew. Cas - enemy NOT known own 1 killed. Reliable native report on 19 Jul after patrol returned stated Japs still occupy area where engaged.

Patrol from MIDAN drove Japs from an outpost (location NOT stated) and were then pinned down by heavy MG and mortar fire from a further enemy posn. Patrol later withdrew to MIDAN.

201000 patrol left MARUDI moving towards RIDAN via PASIT River. ETA MARUDI 24 Jul.

Total enemy casualties to date:

220 counted dead
51 estimated dead
63 PW

24 Bde Info to 1721001

Having reached PADAS River 24 Bde units have been patrolling vigorously for enemy in area.

2/28 Bn

Patrol 401004 to 397903 killed 1 Jap. Ambush set vicinity 425881 resulted 2 enemy killed. Patrolling to LUMAT NO contact. Patrolling PADAS River EAST BEAUFORT continues - 2 Japs killed 437902.

2/32 Bn

Natives report 10 Japs killed in clash 14 Jul. Routine patrolling NO contact. Patrol to hut 630317 found signs enemy occupation.

2/43 Bn

Patrol NORTH to 374933 killed 1 Jap in good condition.

LABUAN

Patrol 2/12 cdo sqn found 2 dead Japs in burnt hut 804923. Probably died hari kiri.

HQ and 2 sqns 2/9 Armd Regt moved to BERPAKUL.

AIR

Natives report air strike 9 Jul by 12 B25s accurate. Heavy enemy cas.

TERGGA AREA SEARCHED for missing pilot - unsuccessful.

BALIKPAPAN Info to 1721001

18 Bde

2/9 Bn

Ambush set for D Coy Patrol was engaged by arty. Elsewhere contact being maintained with enemy.

21 Bde

2/14 Bn

Gaining control of MANGGAR BESAR with patrols moving NW. D Coy patrol in contact with enemy approx 5,000 yds NORTH of MANGGAR strip.

2/16 Bn

Patrol contacted 4 Japs 1 wounded all escaped.

25 Bde

2/25 Bn

Moved up SAMARINDA road from reserve and made contact with 2/6 Cdo Sqn to NORTH. Now control SOEMBER-KIRI. Patrolling in this area continues.

2/31 Bn

In reserve

2/33 Bn

Astride road approx 4,000 yds SE of SOEMBER-KIRI. Patrols probing in a SE direction contacted patrols of 2/16 Bn 1,500 yds SE of road.

2/6 Cdo Sqn

Ambush posns established on SAMARINDA road. One posn killed 10 Japs and destroyed 1 vehicle. Another posn killed 8 Japs.

H. W. ...
IO 2/15 Aust Inf Bn Lt

Full

SECRET
23 Jul 45

INT REP 14

An enemy adv party reported by SRD has penetrated to the upper PADAS Valley from the TENOM area and appears to be directed Southwards. The enemy is reported to be co-operating with a DISAN which is unlikely to be used for any but a force of some consequence. This is significant when coupled with reports of enemy mov from LINEY Eastwards up the TUTOH River to Bt KULU (44) as mentioned in INTREP 13.

The force moving up the PADAS from PA TENGA which is known to be trying to join the main body of Japs at BAHAU will probably join up with this Southern mov if it is an organised evacuation.

Patrol which investigated report of an enemy force led by Maj SATO in TERUNI area 21 Jul was unable to find any evidence of it.

2/13 Bn

NO further info received.

2/17 Bn

NO further info received.

24 Bde

The occupation on 12 Jul almost unopposed of PAPAR and the line of the PAPAR River gained the Div objective on the NORTH flank.

18 Jul - 2/28 Bn patrol area 4389 engaged 6 enemy killed 1 wounded 1. Party of 12 enemy who attempted infiltration from SOUTH on posn 4388 were repulsed. Enemy cas NOT known.

Patrols by 2/32 Bn and 2/43 Bn - NTR.

19 Jul - 2/28 Bn patrol along MONTENIOR River to 438907 was fired on by Jap who escaped, while patrol further SOUTH along PADAS River encountered ambush of 2 LMGs and approx 10 rifles. Considerable mov was heard on both sides of track but patrol suffered NO cas.

A serviceable all-weather AUSTER strip is now in operation at PAPAR.

KITTEHAWKE and PT boats in co-operation attacked JESSLETON causing fires and explosions and drawing some enemy fire.

BALIKPAPAN

Night 17/18 Jul - Enemy parties of unknown strength attacked two coy HQ posns and Bn HQ 2/25 Bn and HQ 2/33Bn. They successfully destroyed 1 4.2 in mortar with demolition charges before their attacks were repulsed. Enemy cas are unknown.

18 Jul - 2/25 Bn advancing NORTH along rd to SAMARINDA has occupied a further feature and in an ambush killed 6 Japs.

19 Jul - Two coys of 2/27 Bn continued their advance NE along coast from MANGGAR strip without making contact.

2/16 Bn is advancing NORTH from the strip up the MANGGAR River.

18 Bde

Continuing advance on left flank.

Total enemy cas to 19 Jul:

Counted dead	1528
Estimated killed	215
PV	40

[Signature]
Lt
IO 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

SECRET
23 Jul 46.

INT REP 15

Reports from native sources and from A Coy patrol to UKONG that a party of Japs are hiding in the upper LUBAI area have been confirmed by 3 pl patrol to UKONG which returned 22 Jul 46. SBD reported that of 18 enemy in that area 6 have been killed. The remainder are hiding in the high ground 1/2 miles EAST of UKONG pillaging their food by night from native gardens along the river.

A further party of approx 7 Japs were reported in area 4194. This party is resorting to the same method as the LUBAI party for their food. SBD began investigation of this report 22 Jul.

The LIMBANG River was found by this patrol to be navigable for LCM for a distance of approx 6 miles beyond UKONG to a village RUMAH GANI (4495).

Truck from LAVAS to BOLE was followed by B Coy to BSB border. It has been very little used. Further B Coy patrol to PANTAI and reports that these tracks as marked are jeepable except for bridges.

Further native reports (reliability unknown) state that a body of 1,000 Japs, with many coolies and INDIAN PWs with them, are moving from LIMBI towards LIMBANG by way of TUTOH River as outlined in INTREP 14. There are a few tracks linking the TUTOH River with the LIMBANG area but they are reported as very difficult. SOUTHERN mov of the Jap in the MIRI area seems to have ceased.

There have been no further reports indicating mov in the BELURU area where the main force is said to be concentrated. There is still a considerable amount of activity by small parties of Japs throughout most of the area. It is believed, however, that the occupation of MARUDI by troops from the MIRI area was an attempt by Col AIKIO (CO of MIRI forces) to secure an L of C to allow the LABI Japs to move through. It is possible also that the object of holding the RIAM road has been to delay our mov long enough to allow not only the re-grouping of the MIRI force but the eventual linking of the two forces before any general SOUTHWARD mov takes place. It is possible that through lack of communications the LABI force was not aware of the situation in the MIRI area and that contact was not made with the force from MIRI area sent to occupy MARUDI.

If the above is correct then it seems reasonable to assume that Col AIKIO will soon commence implementing any proposed mov SOUTHWARD of his forces in the MIRI area and leave the LABI force to fend for itself.

Interrogation of two natives who left SIBU 10 Jul by prahu arriving MIRI 16 Jul gives the following information:

There are approx 1,000 Japs in SIBU and they are well armed. All the Japs are located in one area for fear of attack by 3,000 hostile DYAKS who are in the area. 50 Japs have so far been killed by DYAKS, who are awaiting the word to attack the Japs. Japs are living in the rubber plantation outside the town and informants state that Allied planes are NOT hitting close to the Japs but are killing Chinese residents instead. The Japs have very large supplies of food; an estimated 70,000 bags of paddy and 3,000 bags of rice amongst other supplies. DYAKS are operating in small groups but will operate as a force when the battleships and planes arrive. It is difficult to assess the reliability of informants but they volunteered the information and state that they have come with the desire to lead the Allied forces to the Japs, that the DYAKS respected them and will do what they tell them. Route followed by informants was SIBU - IGAN - OYA - RUMAH - BALINGIAN - TATAU - BINTULU - SUAI - NIAH - SIBUTI - MIRI. Saw NO Japs between SIBU and BINTULU. At BINTULU there are two Japs, one the district officer, the other posing as a MALAY using name of BARAHIM. Both are very old. There were 20 Japs at SIBUTI.

2/13 Bn Information to 221900I

A Coy patrol along RIAM road reached 430801 WMS. Natives reported the enemy at 430782 engaged by arty. Results NOT yet known.

2/15 Bn Information to 222300I

A Coy - NO further reports.

B Coy - Further native report states that there are 1,000 enemy in SAPONG ESTATE area on WEST side of PADAS River near KESABONG.

A native policeman reports having killed Lt. HARAHAI, resident BP at KEMABONG 5842 but that Capt ENGOCHI escaped. 7 other enemy killed within last 10 days. Further reliable information has been received that there are still enemy in the TENGA area.

C Coy - A local patrol found one Jap body at 484373.

D Coy - NTR

Total enemy cas Bn area to date

Confirmed killed 108

Unconfirmed killed 45

Wounded 12

PWS 30

2/17 Bn Information to 221900I

A Coy patrol followed enemy party moving from 870700 to junction PANDARUAN and MAYAK Rivers 850746. Some equipment was found but NO rifles. There were signs of much blood. Enemy party of unknown strength seen 500 yds SOUTH of TERAJA; ambush set but NO contact.

BYAKS at BENDARAM reported enemy party of unknown strength approx one hour's march from BENDARAM moving WEST along track to BENDARAM.

Total enemy cas to date:

Counted dead 226

Estimated dead 51

PWS 68

24 Bde and BALIAPAPAN

Nothing further to report.

Ref map BORNEO 37 miles to 1 inch:-

The following places are to be marked on map, *additional*

IGAH 117223 (EAST bank IGAH River)

OYA 119229 (EAST bank OYA River)

MUKAH 121229 (WEST bank MUKAH River)

TATAU 129229 (track and river junc)

SUMI 136238

RIAH 137239 (WEST bank RIAH River)

SIBUTI 13803405

W. ... Lt
IO 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

File

SECRET
24 Jul 45

INT REP 16

The following is an extract from 1 Aust Corps Summary 78 of 17 Jul 45:-

"The following reassessment of enemy units and strengths in the areas immediately affected by our operations has been prepared from PW statements and documentary evidence. In each of the areas, however, there is continued movement, and strengths given represent the force actually available to the enemy although only elements of these forces are in contact with our troops.

BEAUFORT - TISON area-

Effective strength in area 500

PAPAN - KINARUT area-

Effective strength 400.

Disposition of forces in the general area suggest that the enemy does NOT intend to offer substantial opposition SOUTH of JESSLETON, but is holding a sizeable force in the PERAMPANG sector and NORTH of JESSLETON to TUANAN. (BORNEO 37 miles to 1 inch 163262).

BRUNEI BAY - SERIA

Effective strength in area 750.

Of these it is considered that approx 450 tps are moving to MARUDI from LABI. These include evacuees from SERIA and some elements who have moved SOUTH from BRUNEI. The remaining 300 are thought to be combat elements of 56 IIB making their way EAST to the PADAS River headwaters."

(Comment - all evidence from patrols and SRD suggest consistently a force larger than this).

"MIRI - LUTONG

Effective strength in the area 1,000.

Part at least of 553 IIB is considered to have moved SOUTH along the coast via BIBUTE, and many of these tps may have already reached the SINGU area with a group NOT exceeding 200 left to delay the Allied advance along the coast. Meanwhile the remainder of the forces from MIRI (about 500 all told) are strung out along the inland evacuation routes via NYABOR and BAKONG and down the RIAN rd to BELIHU."

2/13 Bn

Patrols down RIAN rd to 431869 and LONGLIPAK report EES.

2/15 Bn

A Coy comms still out. EIR from other areas.

2/17 Bn

Patrol from MARUDI investigated area of patrol clash then moved to 9068 remaining overnight. Ambush set by A Coy MENDARAN - RIDAN track by-passed. Native reported enemy party 20/30 strung led by Chinese guide.

Total enemy cas to date:-
Counted dead 239
Estimated dead 51
PWs 68

24 Bde

During period since last report active patrolling has continued in all areas.

20 Jul SOUTH of BEAUFORT patrol set ambush along track at 444799 and killed 2 enemy.

Patrol to track junc 437378 contacted 7 enemy killed 3 wounded 2.

In NORTH 2/32 Bn patrol encountered enemy estimated strength 10 at 684285. Killed 1 took 1 PW.

Outpost at 628360 ambushed 5 Japs 3 armed with spears 2 unarmed. All killed.

To 2221001 rainfall on LABUAN 284 points. As a result the strip is unserviceable.

BALIKPAPAN

20 Jul - 2/25 Bn is still in contact with the enemy along SAMARINDA rd.

Patrols NORTH along MANGGAR River which runs NW from the airstrip have reached some 5 miles inland making contact. NO details of strength.

A force of 22 Japs were engaged by flame-throwers along SAMARINDA rd. Enemy cas 4 killed 3 estimated killed 6 severely burnt. Remainder dispersed.

18 Bde patrol engaged 4 Japs killed 2 and wounded 2.

On 22 Jul 2/31 Bn B Coy less one pl plus dets 2 and 3 pls 2/1 Pnr Bn landed TEMPADEONG area.

2/25 Bn ambushed 20 Japs 636684 moving SOUTH. Enemy cas unknown. Enemy ignited oil drums along rd. Enemy posns contacted by 2/25 Bn astride SAMARINDA rd now completely encircled, and being mopped up.

Enemy cas:-

Counted dead	1573
Estimated killed	217
PWs	47

Thompson Lt
IO 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

File

SECRET
25 Jul 45

INT REP 17

An SRD report states that the Jap force EAST of LIMBI is split up into groups of approx 50/100 and tps are in a bad condition because of lack of food. Natives (POOHANS and IBANS) have united and are now taking a heavy toll of this force.

2/13 Bn

A patrol from MIRI down MIAH rd to approx 383743 reported NMS.

2/15 Bn

A Coy - LABU patrol returning to BANGAR 251500I with rubber. Full party returning 261400I.

B Coy - NTR

C Coy - Patrol returned 241600I NMS. Route followed as previously laid down. PW brought in today by natives from LIMPAKU. PW was one of a party of two engaged by a patrol from 2 pl 2/2 BG at 515415 on 16 Jul. In this engagement the PW escaped with a wound, the other Jap being killed.

LIMBANG - Natives reported 2 armed Japs at 548315.

2/17 Bn

24 Jul patrol left RIDAN for MARUDI. ETA MARUDI 251200I. Local patrols MARUDI area NMS.

24 Bde and MALIKPAPAN

Nothing further to report.

Howard Lt
IO 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

Z

SECRET
26 Jul 45

INT REP 18

2/13 Bn

Local patrols only - NMS.

2/15 Bn

A Coy - Returning ^{ed} LIMBANG 1200I.

B Coy - NTR ~~777~~

C Coy - 0930I day patrol left by MT for rd and track junc 383407.

Patrol then split into two parties - one by foot NORTH to PENINJAU sq 3644 then to coast - two by foot to coast via ~~///~~ MENUNGGUL sq 3545 return same route.

INDIAN PW came into MP post at BRUNEI - NO details.

D Coy - Routine patrol left by barge for UKONG at 0830I.

2/17 Bn

Local patrols to MARUDI area NMS.

NO further report patrol from RIDAN to MARUDI.

24 Bde

23 Jul - 2/28 Bn patro. engaged 3 unarmed enemy 425897. Patrol exchanged shots at 427880 and 423883 NO cas.

2/48 Bn patrolling BEAUFORT NO enemy seen.

2/32 Bn patrol from 648275 to MAGAPAN and OBAL report one enemy seen OBAL. Four day patrol SOUTH from PAPAR reached 573215.

Two day patrol to area SOUTH BUKAU River reached 309793 NO enemy seen.

BALIKPAPAN

23 Jul - Evidence general enemy withdrawal NORTH along SAMARINDA rd. Our troops maintaining contact.


2/6 Cdo Sqn encountered an enemy party to WEST of SAMARINDA rd resulting in some cas to own tps.

Enemy cas:-

Counted dead 1573

Estimated dead 217

PWs 48


Lt
IO 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

Over

Further information to 260000I

2/17 Bn

23 Jul party of 29 IBANS from BAKONG up river to ARANG area found unoccupied enemy posns vicinity 699692. Natives proceeded 100 yds further SOUTH where 3 Japs ran from hut and escaped upstream in canoe. NO further sign enemy. Pl patrols from MENDARUM to Bt TERAJA thence NE to approx 9681 found and destroyed JUKI and ammunition captured there by DAYAKS 23 Jul NMS.

[Signature]
TO 2/17 Bn
14

Over

Estimated dead 217
Counted dead 1873
Enemy seen - 48

File

1st REP 19

SECRET
27 Jul 45

Tac R report 23 Jul 45 stated NO signs of enemy mov or activity in LIMBI area. The village is reported to be scattered with several garden areas and good tracks. NO further details of tracks are available.

Further information of this area was obtained from a released INDIAN PW contacted at MARUDI 24 Jul. He had escaped from the Japs at LIMBI 14 days ago. He stated they were splitting up into small groups (the same principle as they adopted in this area) and to time of his release none of them had moved SOUTH of TUTOH River. At that time he states that the composition of the Jap force at LIMBI was:-

KAMIMURA Tai 75
KEMPAL Tai 6
HIJIMA Tai 180 approx

of these he claims that KAMIMURA Tai have rifles only and that grenades and amm were discarded at LABI. Only 40/50 of HIJIMA Tai are armed and the Tai consists mainly of 14/16 year old boys with 2 offrs. When they left LABI each man carried one month's supply of rice. At the moment they are in poor condition and their morale is low. It is thought likely that Lt JO was killed after leaving LABI. Informant was told at LABI that the Allies had landed and that his party would move along the TUTOH River eventually to ULU TUTONG (3678 - 1/250,000) where huts and gardens would be built. Whilst at LIMBI personnel from KAMIMURA Tai were talking of moving via MARUDI to MIRI area (presumably BELURU).

A report from 20 Ede received 271100I stated from SRD sources 26 Jul 100 well-armed Japs at BOLE (22). The report added that these were NOT stragglers from BRUNEI. Their possible intention is thought to be to reach the coast. This they could do by BOLE-SIPITANG track, a two-day journey.

Whether "stragglers from BRUNEI" is intended to cover 367 IIB is NOT clear. But in view of previous reports of their mov and intended mov into the PADAS valley that this 100 have come from the SEBULU area must be considered a possibility. The other possibility is that they are part at least of Jap force stated to be moving SOUTH along the PADAS valley.

They are at present investigating this report.

Tac R reported many native gardens and wild bananas along SUNGAI and BELAIT rivers in upper LIMBANG area. Some of these areas apparently have NOT been tended as secondary growth is evident. Approx 16 huts were sighted along the SUNGAI River. Report also confirmed earlier report that area NORTH of Mt MULU is rugged and completely covered with dense jungle.

A released PW (INDIAN) who escaped from the Japs at LIMBI and joined our ops at MARUDI states that during Apr this year 30 Australians and 7 Indians (incl 5 offrs) were imprisoned at K BELAIT. When he was moved from K BELAIT to LABI during May these PW were still at K BELAIT.

PW brought into C Coy on 25 Jul from LIMPAKU was identified as belonging to 3 pl 2 coy 367 IIB. He was one of 2 Japs engaged by 2/2 MG patrol in WHISTLE track area on 16 Jul. One was killed and this man who was wounded escaped from the mainland to BERAMBANG thence to LIMPAKU. His intention was to reach LIMBANG where he expected to be admitted to hospital. He was suffering from malaria when brought in.

2/13 BN

Sec patrol from PUJUT along pipeline to LIKU pumping station returned same route RMS.

2/15 BN

21500I A Coy returned from week's patrolling from Base at BANGAR. Four patrols were carried out:

- (1) BANGAR to LABU and return
- (2) BANGAR to BIANG thence by Jap track to BATU APOI SW to BIANG River along river valley to BIANG and return.
- (3) BANGAR up TEMBURONG River to approx 6904 then SW to MANDA, along PANDANUAN to BANGAR.
- (4) BANGAR, BIANG to SELEPAN River and return.

NO enemy were seen by any of the patrols. Patrol which followed Jap evacuation route from BIANG to SELEPAN Riversas remains of at

least 8 Japs along route and smelt evidence of others in jungle off-track. These without doubt were members of 367 IIB as the bodies were decomposed and rice which was abandoned along track was growing.

The area of 352 Trig (8971) was found to be rough impassable country. Patrol cut way through to BIANH River .

B Coy - SHD report 65 enemy killed 3 captured between BOLS and SURU (21) within last 3 days. 30 enemy are at S. SELAPAN. At PASDANGAN 2 enemy killed by natives. 6 bodies found on the BIANH-SELAPAN track.

C Coy - NTR

D Coy - UKONG patrol returned 1600 hrs. At BERANG natives report 2 Japs came into village on night 24/25 Jul. They are new in the hills area 3617.

Upper LUBAI - of 18 Japs previously reported scattered by SHD, approx 10 killed. The rest are expected to be accounted for within the next few days.

SHD report 20 Japs in area between MADALUM and SUNGAI rivers (4583). They are in good condition and are well-armed. Natives in the area have been armed by the SHD to deal with them. NO evidence yet of any mov from LUBAI area.

2/17 Bn

NO further reports MARIDI - BAKONG - RIDAN area.

Total enemy cas to date:-

Counted dead	229
Estimated dead	51
PR	69

24 Bde

24 Jul - 2/28 Bn patrol killed 4 enemy at 437880 and found 1 enemy dead at 438879.

Patrols from other units NTR

MEMBAKUT railway bridge now trafficable to light trans.

BALIKPAPAN

2/6 Cdo Sqn patrol to barracks area NORTH along SAMARINDA rd found bodies of 6 decapitated natives.

During night 24 Jul 8 enemy A/C raided BALIKPAPAN. One was shot down by night fighters. NO cas or damage to own tps.

T. ...
Lt
IO 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

SECRET
28 Jul 45

INT REP 20

Original enemy strengths in BALIKPAPAN area estimated 7,000.

Cas to 20 Jul:
Counted dead 1528
Estimated additional killed 215
PW 40
Estimated additional ineffectives 1717

Remaining total strength 3,500

(probably incl at least 2,000 INDONESIANS, civilians etc leaving an estimated strength of 1,500 tps capable of resistance).

PW statements all suggest that the enemy intention is to withdraw his forces from the BALIKPAPAN area towards BANJERMASIN and his recent activities tend to confirm this.

Route of evacuation is thought to be from BALIKPAPAN to SEMOL thence WEST by an 8 to 10 day march to the BARITO River (BALITU River - BORNEO 37 miles to 1 inch) probably in the vicinity of MOEARATEWE (148190), thence down the river to BANJERMASIN.

Another small force is evacuating along the coast.

At 19 Jul there were an estimated total of 6 enemy A/C in BORNEO.

A PW stated that in Apr 45 civilian employees of 102 Naval Fuel Depot and Jap residents of BALIKPAPAN totalling about 5,000 were organised into a civilian Volunteer Force and posted to the best advantage according to their abilities.

2/13 Bn

270830I a pl patrol with FOO went from 422831 by track NOT shown on map to 426818 then to 432809 to 443798 to 447792 and by track to 451789. From this point patrol searched area between 442794 and 453787 NMS.

2/15 Bn

A Coy - Message received from B Coy 271655I states:-

"SRD report 65 enemy killed and 3 captured between BOLE and BURU within the last 3 days. 30 enemy are at S SELAPAN. At PANDARUAN 2 enemy killed by natives. 6 bodies have been found on track BIANG-SELAPAN. SRD report AIF tps informed of enemy at S SELAPAN."

On night 25/26 Jul SRD at A Coy HQ at BANGAR received a native report of approx 100 Japs estimated in the BATU APOI-SELAPAN river area. SRD doubted the numbers given (they said probably 30) and could place NO reliance on the report until they had made investigations. At this stage SRD were in the picture as to the findings of A Coy's patrols.

A Coy patrol coverage and findings were as follows:-

21/22 Jul - A party went by barge up PANDARUAN River to vicinity BIANG then along the track EAST to BATU APOI River 7616 and returned down river by barge. Their findings were - 8 Jap bodies on the BIANG-SELAPAN track. These were skeletons only. NMS and NO evidence of recent enemy mov in area.

22/24 Jul - A patrol went up BATU APOI River to 7616 then SOUTH to BIANG River then along river and track to BIANG and returned to BANGAR by barge. On 24 Jul whilst patrol was returning to BANGAR a native reported 2 enemy in the area near PANDARUAN. Later the patrol comd heard 2 shots some miles away. It is possible that these were the shots which killed the 2 Japs referred to in B Coy's message. Otherwise patrol had nothing to report.

Having received the native report, SRD set out immediately to investigate. They stated they would advise A Coy by runner of their findings but NO reports were received before A Coy's departure on 26 Jul.

The 2 reports are so closely co-incident that there seems NO doubt they were carried from A Coy at BANGAR through native or SRD sources to B Coy at LAWAS. A report from B Coy this morning (28 Jul) stated SRD moved inland from LAWAS area so they have been unable to confirm source of this report.

B Coy

NTR

C Coy - 2 patrols went out on 27 Jul to investigate reports:

(a) of a Jap near ABANG rd junc

(b) 6 unarmed Japs at 8 mile peg on rd between BRUNEI and BROOKETON.

Both patrols NMS.

A report from Adv Bde through BBKAU 3 Japs in weakened condition had crossed RIONG River.

2/9 Armd Regt less Wksps moved out of BRUNEI area by LCT.

C Coy taking over picquet at CLIFFORD BRIDGE from 1900 hrs to 0700 hrs daily.

D Coy - Further to report on D Coy patrol to UKONG INTREP 19:

BIDANG - Native report (reliability doubtful) 2 Japs came down into village night 24/25 Jul. Stole some clothes and went back into hills EAST of river approx 3817.

UPPER LUBAI - SRD (HENRY) reported approx 18 Japs scattered in this area. So far 10 killed. Expects to account for remainder in next few days.

NO reports of any other Japs having come into the LUBAI area.

HENRY reports 20 Japs at present in area between MADALUM and SUNGAI rivers 4583. Where they came from it is NOT certain but he is of the opinion that they came across from TUPONG River. They are in fairly good condition and armed with carbines. HENRY has armed natives in the area along both rivers and says Japs are moving in circle at present as they strike opposition at every turn. HENRY went up to area to-day.

Ref alleged Jap move from LINEI EAST. HENRY states that from LINEI to headwaters of BELAIT River is a journey of at least 3 days over difficult tracks which they would require guides to find. There are NO kampongs on the route from which they could get food. From headwaters of BIONDONG to headwaters of the LIMBANG - similar journey. Approx 3 days with NO food en route except what could be carried.

HENRY's intention is to move up to the headwaters of the LIMBANG to investigate this and other areas for news of this move and warn natives of it.

2/17 Bn

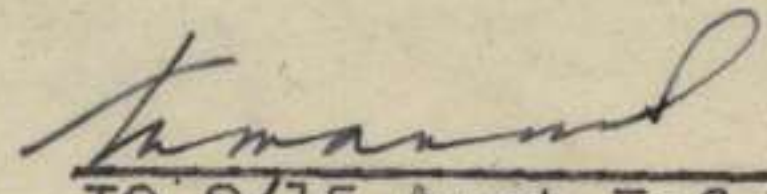
Nothing further to report.

24 Bde

During night 24/25 Jul booby traps laid down by 2/28 Bn at 432888 were set off. Investigation at first light showed 2 pools of blood and discarded enemy equipment. OP at 425880 fired on 2 enemy killing 1 and wounding the other who escaped.

BALIKPAPAN

2/3 Cdo Sqn standing patrol at 650622 engaged 4 Japs killing 1.


Lt
IO 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

MESSAGE FORM

Out Register No. 89/29

Call Ser. No. Priority Transmission Instructions

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) 2/15 AUST INF BN		Originator	Date—Time of Origin 291900Z	Office Date Stamp
For Action				
A COY B COY C COY D COY HQ COY Bn HQ				
TO				Message Instructions
(w) For Information (INFO.)				GR

ORIGINATOR'S No.

I 255 SECRET (.) sitrep to 1800I (.) 2/13 Bn (.) NTR (.) 2/15 Bn (.) B Coy patrols 26/28 Jul (a) by track to TRUSAN (b) SE to MEMPUTI ref 113310 (c) SW along track to RUAN SEPAKOL 980150 all NMS (.) C Coy patrol by barge out 290830I in 291700I to UMPUL UMPUL and LIMPAKU to investigate report of 3 Japs in vicinity village Kg RIONG (NOT shown on map) NO reports to hand (.) 2/17 Bn (.) see patrol ambushed vicinity Kg ARANG patrol withdrew through swamp (.) enemy cas 4 killed own 1 missing 1 wounded 1 IBAN killed (.) 272330I when posn at BAKEONG threatened by 2 enemy parties strength unknown our force withdrew to MARUDI posn reoccupied 281200I by pl (.) Engrs extinguished 1 large oil fire SERIA (.) total enemy cas to date 233 counted dead 51 estimated dead 69 PW (.) 24 Bde (.) 2/28 Bn listening post at 433888 fired on believed killed 1 enemy at 431886 (.) patrol to village sq 4696 NO enemy seen (.) 2/43 Bn patrol NORTH along rly line to KIMANIS NO contact (.) 2/32 Bn local patrols PAPAR OBAL - KIMANIS areas NO enemy seen (.) 2/12 Fd Regt killed 1 Jap armed with sword at 371916 (.) BALIKPAPAN (.) 2/6 Cdo Sqn patrol NORTH along rd contacted 15 Japs killing 4 otherwise NO contact

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means { except } Wireless Signed <i>[Signature]</i>	If liable to be intercepted or fall into enemy hands, this message must be sent IN CIPHER Signed	Originator's Instructions Degree of Priority	Time	System	Op
			THI or TOR		
			Time Cleared		

File

SECRET
31 Jul 45

INT REF 21

Information to 27 Jul indicates that enemy have given up their previously reported intention of moving to BT MULU area and may now possibly attempt to move west to join the WIRI force. More may be known of this after the return of the UKONG patrol from B Coy which moved out 310830I.

2/13 Bn NTR

2/15 Bn
A Coy NTR

B Coy Patrol to MALAMAN returned at 301830I, NMS. 2 Native at MALAMAN STATED THAT HE HAD KILLED 3X enemy last night 28 Jul at ULU MALAMAN ~~xxxx~~ (2 days from MALAMAN). He handed over badges of rank (ptes) and enemy map and two pages of writing. Stated unknown number of enemy at ULU MALAMAN with MG and rifles. Patrol contacted 2/3 Tk A at SINDURIN at 301400I. and arranged to contact again on 6 Jul at track junc 115496.

B Coy patrols as under:

1. Recce patrol, Out 31 Jul In 3 Aug. Route from LAWAS to RUAN SEPAKOL 980150 - SEBULU - TRUSAN and return direct route to LAWAS.
2. Recce Patrol from LAWAS to MAFUTI 1131.

C Coy Patrol left 30 Jul, returning 31 Jul to ABANG then one sec by prahu up river to RAMBAI, remainder establish base near ABANG and patrol track and village to LUAGOH DUDOK sq 2431. NMS to 311200I.

D Coy Routine patrol to UKONG left 310830I.

2/17 Bn
A native report received on 26 Jul indicated that the JAPS had not used the ARANG River since 18 Jul. ~~The~~ JAP positions at ARANG have been re-occupied and a section reconnaissance patrol by our troops from BAKONG to that area was ambushed on 27 Jul. Our casualties were one missing and one wounded; JAP casualties two killed. After dark 27 Jul two separate JAP parties commenced infiltration of our positions at BAKONG and at 2230 hrs our troops were forced to withdraw.

AIR
111 sorties were flown by our aircraft during the week ended 24 Jul. Only serviceable airstrip in Borneo at present believed to be SIBU.

CASUALTIES
Total enemy casualties in the Div in West Borneo area to 24 Jul:- 1315 compiled as follows:

Counted dead	1082
Estimated dead	118
PW	115

GENERAL
THE JAPANESE COMMANDER WHO SURRENDERED IN EASTERN NEW GUINEA

The correct identity of the Japanese Lt Col, who surrendered himself and his force of 41 men to Australians in the inland section of Eastern NEW GUINEA two months ago, has now been established. He is Lt Col TAKENAGA, Masaharu, former Commander 3 Bn 41 Mtn Arty Regt. Prior to surrender, the party was apparently briefed by the Lt Col and each of the five officers was allotted an assumed name. All the prisoners stuck remarkably well to their story, and it was not until a document giving personal family particulars of members of 41 Mtn Arty Regt came to hand, that their story was definitely proved false.

The Lt Col was a regular army officer and graduated from Military Academy at TOKYO in 1925, but, as he had been out of contact with 18 Army HQ since Mar 45, not a great deal of information was obtained from him.

Asked why he surrendered, Lt Col TAKENAGA gave the perfectly logical answer (yet so strange to hear from a Japanese) that they had no hope of winning, had no food, and if they did not surrender they would soon all be dead. In spite of this, TAKENAGA and most of his men were in a remarkably fit condition, even at the time of surrender - certainly not starving.

TAKENAGA said that, under present policy regarding PW, he would not be able to return to JAPAN after the war, but as most of his men would not have surrendered had he not ordered them to do so they may be pardoned.

From the news concerning the progress of the war against JAPAN which PW had heard since his surrender, he appeared resigned to the fact that the war against JAPAN would end in three to five months.

Asked why it was that Lt Gen ADACHI continued his fight in Eastern New Guinea when he must see that his army must soon be completely wiped out, PW replied that ADACHI must see that quite well but he probably hoped to hold out until the Japanese home government surrenders in which case 18 Army could give up the fight with honour.

*Transcribed by
10-2-15 Aust War Mem*

609/04

APPX 33

SECRET

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
3 Jul 45

Jan
File

INTERP to 21001 2 JUL 45

1. Enemy Ground Activity

Six JAPS are reported by 2/17 Aust Inf Bn to be at TERIAN 1 Jul, with one sentry guarding the approaches from LABI and SEMBURU and also covering the junc of TANAJOR and DAN T rivers.

BT PUAN was evacuated by the JAPS before our tps could make contact. Stores left behind by the JAP in the BT PUAN area incl 23 x 100 lb bags of rice, 3 cases JUKI amm one 30 cal BROWNING automatic and some svy eqpt. Natives had previously reported stores of food at BT PUAN.

In the MIRI area patrol by river to LONG LIPAK found a dump of 270 x 81 mm mortar bombs, six new JUKI barrels and boxes of JUKI amm in strips. Bullets have wooden projectiles. No sign of recent enemy movement.

Patrol to 438788 saw six JAPS, wounding two of them.

Native reports (F-3) indicate that TANAJOI and SIMPANG are clear of the JAPS and there are small parties in the LABI area, possibly those previously reported to have been in the BTU PUAN area.

2. Japanese Propaganda

The following is copy of a propaganda leaflet issued by the JAP Forces on TARAKAN. It presumably refers to the death of Lt DERRICK, VC)

(TN The following in English)

BRING THIS LEAFLET TO C-IN-C
OF ALLIED FORCE

WE LAMENT OVER THE DEATH OF LIEUTENANT
GENERAL TERICK C-IN-C OF ALLIED FORCE
IN TARAKAN

(TN Following in Japanese)

TO THE AUSTRALIAN FORCES

1. What do you think of the death in action of Lt Gen TERICK? Further intense fighting will only bring you the same fate.
2. How many Australian officers and men have been made to dance to the tune of the YANKES (TN sic) and have been forced to shed their blood? Consider well the fact that even on TARAKAN you have had more than 2000 casualties.

→→→-----

Don't be misled by the YANKES!!!
Pay attention to world changes!!!

1. Think of the irresponsible and indiscriminate bombing by the YANKES. While you sacrifice yourselves are they not complacently taking a holiday?
2. Don't be misled by the false YANKEE reports in regard to the fighting on OKINAWA. In the waters round this island they have lost over 500 war and merchant ships by the end of April.

And now, with the advent of the new weapon, the OYAKO (TN lit. parent and child) bomber (Rocket bomber) and the Special Attack Units, all vessels in the vicinity of OKINAWA are on the verge of annihilation. In proof of this, is it not true that in spite of the pleas of your officers and men, not a single supply ship has been sent to TARAKAN?

THE JAPANESE FORCES ON TARAKAN

3. Treatment of Allied PW

The following are extracts from JAPANESE Ministry of War Instructions for Hygiene and Medical Treatment of PW. *Documents found by 2/17 on KUPKA BELAIT & translated ATIS det. 20 Bde.*

"In the southern occupied areas the principal aim with white PW is to send them back to JAPAN to relieve the ~~white~~ labour shortage. Accordingly a succession of cases of sickness, especially any outbreak of infectious disease, hinders the supply of labour. Moreover, there is a great danger of the hygiene situation and treatment of PW being misinterpreted thus causing international complications. Accordingly every effort must be made to follow these directions for the control of hygiene among PW and for their medical treatment.

3(d) Food for PW to conform as far as possible to the scale of rations used locally, if necessary modifications may be made to suit national habits.

5. PW will be controlled as far as possible by the internal regulations for army hospitals. Additional rules may be made as necessary to prevent suicide, escape, etc. In cases of misdemeanor, espionage, etc, the CO of the appropriate PW Internment Camp will be contacted immediately and action taken.

8. Use will be made of enemy medical personnel but it must be under strict supervision.

10. When prisoners die in hospital the corpses will be burnt if there is any suspicion of infectious diseases, but the general rule will be burial in accordance with their own customs....

Head of Medical Department,
Ministry of War. "

[Signature]
Maj
BM 20 Aust Inf Bde

2/15 Lumbong
SECRET

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
4 Jul 45

114 685/06

INTERREP 2 TO 23001 3 JUL 45

1. HEAVY GROUND ACTIVITY

MIRI Area

The force of JAPS which has been active by night ~~by night~~ against 2/15 Aust Inf Bn approx 4 miles along the RIAN rd have now pulled back. Patrolling of the area where they have been operating resulted in NMS today.

The JAP force was possibly 100 strong and was generally unwilling to engage our troops in the daytime. At night, however, they would creep up to our FDL, blow themselves up on our booby traps and generally carry out a general nuisance policy.

It would appear that they have been carrying out a rearguard duty, possibly to allow time for the main body to get clear through the evacuation routes being used. The evacuation has been mainly via the RIAN rd, other route being the TANIKU RIVER.

Some light on activity SIBUTI-BELURU was revealed today by a letter brought in by a native to 2/15 Aust Inf Bn. Native had evidently carried a letter to SIBUTI to a Cpl SUZUKI from Sgt Maj CHIKAZAWA (thought to be a MP at RIAN). Letter brought in was a reply - native did NOT return to RIAN for fear of our strafing. Translation of the letter is as follows: (Dated 28 Jun)

"Received your letter despatched at 1800 hrs 28 Jun. I and the Japanese army civilians employed under me advanced once to MANOTTO (unlocated on map - behind SIBUTI area) but returned to SIBUTI and are occupied in re-grouping (TN doubtful) and in transport towards BELURU.

The natives here are almost all avoiding the kampongs and their attitude is unfavourable (TN, the following words crossed out "because of powerful propaganda at the time of our arrival). Some of our weapons which we had placed in a branch field depot were burnt. The other weapons we carried with us are now being prepared for use as quickly as possible.

Today (28 Jun) six Curtiss fighters strafed SIBUTI at 1600 hrs and set fire to half the streets of the town. On the 21 Jun an uncertain number of the IBAN tribe attacked forces passing through KUALA SIBUTI killing two and wounding five. The IBAN tribe is mustering in all areas. Communication by natives with MIRI is impossible" (end of text).

Questioned on strengths the native letter carrier states SIBUTI 20, BULAK SETAP nil, NYADOR 100 and states he heard there was a big force at BELURU and also on RIAN rd between 10/21 miles. These strengths as at 28 Jun.

Our patrols to TANIKU area indicate that no more than 100 JAPS/JAPS even staged through the dump area 539038 (PUJUT 1/50,000) at any one time and no JAPS have been there for at least 10 days. Again natives had greatly overestimated enemy strengths.

Today's Tac R (3 Jul) of MARUDI found only natives waving in friendly fashion. Whilst the bulk of information from native sources has indicated southward movement to MARUDI from LABI area fresh information from two sources (one native from REMPAYOH 3 Jul and considered fairly reliable) indicates a reluctance by the JAP to face the southward route owing to intense hostility and increasing activity of DYAKS and IBANS in the general MARUDI area.

There may be some truth to these statements owing to the fact that there are indications of the tribes being more organized in the KAMPAH area than in most other places (presumably organized by JAP parties).

Native from KAMPAYH (5 Jul) states there are 7,000 JAPS in the LAH-KAMPAYH area incl KAMHARA tot 2,000, 500 civilians and many JAP youths (soldiers). Native volunteered this information and remained firm when questioned closely. While it is necessary to treat this information with extreme caution, it is nevertheless interesting because earlier estimates of strength and types of troops evacuated from SERIA-BELAIT were approx the same.

2. TRAIL

Ref Map HQ BARAH (1/50,000)

Road from HIRI is jeepable to 355095. Impassable south of this point.

Ref Map LAH-LYHONG (1/50,000)

From track junction 548999 track runs SE to features in 5530.

~~Ref Map BARAH-LAIT - SERIA-BELAIT 2/50,000 (1/50,000)~~

~~Track from 935382 to 935383.~~

~~Track from 935386 to 935384 does NOT exist.~~

~~MUNDAMH village now considered at 915304 and TAMAJOR at 915307 (Further checks will be made).~~

3. JAPANESE SECURITY POSTERS

The following translations signify the importance of security now practiced in the JAP Army.

These posters were located in a brocher used by JAPS in KUALA BELAIT and also in the KAMPAYH Tai HQ.

The translations are as follows:

"Let slip one word and a hundred planes will come."

"The enemy is waiting for the single word of panic and to boast."

"Inform secretly to detectives of suspicious persons known to be spies."

"For the sake of victory recognize the spy."

"Do not reveal secrets to escape in the hands of a spy."

"Do not reveal the use of military equipment. There is always an unseen spy on your side to overhear you."

"Be alert with your eyes and ears and seize the spy who seizes information."

"Without hesitating kill the enemy spy."

4. INTERROGATIONS OF NATIVES RECENTLY ARRIVED FROM KUMING

The natives who left KUMING on 5 May 45 recently arrived in this area. Their information is not of immediate tactical value but may be of some interest. They had been sent by the JAPS to KUMING

from HUBI two years ago to work as carpenters in the JAP boat building yards on the river near HUBI. 500 Malays and Chinese were employed in this work, producing wooden boats the largest of which were approx 50 tons. Most of them were powered but a few had sails. They were used for transportation of foodstuffs from HUBI and the larger ones sometimes went to JESSALTON. The effect of the ALLIED bombing has been such that, according to these informants, boat building operations were completely suspended and the labour force moved out of the area. The material loss to the JAPANESE may not be great as it is stated that in the 2 years they were employed 90 ships only were constructed but it gives some indication of the effectiveness of our bombing.

The information regarding enemy strengths and weapons in the area was not satisfactory but they did state that from their observation there had been no troop movement by sea either to or from HUBI in the six months prior to their leaving.

They state that they saw approx 500 European PW (about 25 of whom were Australian born) in HUBI and that this body had been there during the two years that they had been in HUBI. They had seen no fresh groups of PW come in to the area. The PW were employed in reclaiming low-lying land and their camp was about 7 miles out of the town (exact area unlocated). They appeared thin and weak.

[Handwritten Signature]
 Maj
 2d Lt 2d Inf Bde

DISPATCHES

- 2/15 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/16 Aust Inf Bn (2)
- 2/17 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/5 Aust PA Coy

File 7/15 LIMBANG IN 713/08

~~SECRET~~

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
6 Jul 45

org

INTEREP 3 TO 1500 HRS 5 JUL 45

1. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

Rempayuh (saq8)

In the LABI - RAMPAYOH area native reports continue to come in of JAP strs and disposns.

Whilst all infm to date of the area is from native sources it is significant that most reports agree on the general area occupied by the JAP. Also reports on str in the area are consistently in the nature of 800. There are two reports of a party of JAPS numbering several hundred which moved a few days ago from RAMPAYOH towards MARUDI but who turned back because DYAKS prevented them crossing the RIDAN RIVER. It is possible that this party was mostly civilians as it seems unlikely that any army force of several hundred would be turned back so easily. It is believed, from earlier information, that 2/300 civilians from SERIA and KUALA BELAIT moved out to LABI area before the evacuation by the army troops of the coastal area.

Attached is an interrogation report from 2/17 Aust Inf Bn, which is one of the reports quoted above. The battalion considers that the natives opinion re defensive positions should be treated with reserve as few natives understand defence and that it is more likely that defensive positions constructed would be used for shelters as a matter of convenience.

In the MIRI area contact has again been made along the RIAN road at 545785. Approximately one platoon of enemy are well dug in at that point and are believed to have one 81 mm mortar, one HMG and LMG. It is difficult to appreciate the enemy intention in the MIRI area because of conflicting information of movement further SOUTH. On present information the most likely intention appears to be to delay our advance along the RIAN road for as long as is necessary to enable the re-grouping to the SOUTH of all units and detachments evacuated from MIRI - LUTONG area.

This re-grouping, from native reports, appears to be taking place in the BELURU area. Captured documents have also indicated this.

50 m in / Darau Pt

In the LIMBANG area small parties of JAPS are still being located and dealt with. A total of 19 were killed on LIMPAKU by a 2/15 Aust Inf Bn patrol which cleared the island.

Interrogations of PW captured 30 Jun by natives in LIMBANG area revealed that a party of approximately 20 JAPS who were sick and non-swimmers were left on LIMPAKU by the remainder of SATO butai who were making for LIMBANG.

2. OOB

An operation order dated 21 May 45 and found on CANADA Hill MIRI is translated as follows:-

"MIRI Sector Unit Operation Order No 1 MIRI Sector Unit Order 21 May 45, MIRI.

1. The CO of the Borneo Fuel Depot will take over the defence of the MIRI sector from the CO 553 IIB at noon 21 May and will command the whole MIRI sector. In regard to defence he will give orders to 553 IIB and assume direction of the various army forces in the area.

2. HQ of the sector is at MIRI. The combined efforts of soldiers and civilians will be directed to strengthening the defences and every effort will be made to complete preparations.

3. The CO of 553 IIB will assume direction of the various forces in the sector at their present strength. He will continue his present duties and complete general construction of positions and installations by the end of June.

4. The various forces in the MIRI Sector will continue their present duties and come under the direction of CO 553 IIB (except KOMITANI unit).

5. SERIA - BELAIT Sector will rush preparations in accordance with plans laid down previously by the Fuel Depot and will try to complete their duties.

6. The KOMITANI unit will come under my direct command and continue its present duties.

7. I am at the Fuel Depot.

CO MIRI SECTOR
AIKYO, Masao

Distribution: Units under command and under direction.

For Information: NADA, TSURANUKI, Southern Fuel HQ."

Captured documents dated Mar and Apr 45 placed at least part of 553 IIB in the JESSELTON area at that time. It seems that if substantially the whole of this battalion was then in JESSELTON it moved to the MIRI-LUTONG area between then and 21 May 45. If this is so this order was presumably made to indicate the roles of the various units in the MIRI sector arising out of the arrival of the new unit in the area.

It is significant that the order was passed for information to NADA, TSURANUKI and Southern Fuel HQ. The defence of the WEST coast of BORNEO seems to have been divided between 37 Army (NADA) based in the JESSELTON area and a force with HQ at KUCHING. TSURANUKI force (56 IIB) with HQ believed to be at BRUNEI, under 37 Army were responsible for the defence of the BRUNEI BAY area from BEAUFORT to approximately TUTONG area and were controlled from JESSELTON. The SERIA - MIRI area was the responsibility of AIKYO butai (including 375 IIB and 553 IIB) controlled from KUCHING.

3 EVACUATION ROUTES

A JAP sketch map captured at MIRI gives track information from BARAM to BINTULU via coast and inland track 10/20 miles from the coast. ~~An overlay to MIRI - BINTULU 1:25,000 maps with information extracted from captured map is attached to this report.~~ In view of latest SRD information from LONG LANA that no JAPS are using the BARAM RIVER escape route and that there has been little movement at MARUDI, it seems that reports of JAP strengths and movements in the LABI - RAMPAYOH area may have more substance than previously thought.

SRD reports of considerable strength at BELURU are also consistent with reports by natives to 2/13 Aust Inf Bn.

The captured letter written by Cpl SUZUKI from SIBUTI (Intrep 3 Jul) mentioned movement at KUALA SIBUTI. This movement was almost certain to be southwards and in view of present information it would appear that any movement SOUTH is taking place via ~~the routes shown on attached map~~, at least SOUTH from SIBUTI. *coastal route*

4. BRIEF RESUME OF 7 AUST DIV OPERATIONS TO 031600I

Ref map BALIKPAPAN ENEMY DEFENCES 1/10,000 (attached 1 Aust Corps Intelligence Summary 52).

After extremely heavy naval and air bombardment, landings were made at 0855I on 1 Jul by two brigades simultaneously.

21 Aust Inf Bde landed on GREEN BEACH 600594 - 596593; 18 Aust Inf Bde landed on YELLOW BEACH 596593 - 589590 and on RED

BEACH 589590 - 582590. 25 Aust Inf Bde in Divisional Reserve, did not land until D + 1 day.

By 1600I D + 3 Day dispositions of 21 Aust Inf Bde were:

2/14 Aust Inf Bn at SEPPINGAN Airfield
2/16 Aust Inf Bn area 610608 - 601611

25 Aust Inf Bde had 2/31 and 2/33 Aust Inf Bns respectively between 2/16 Aust Inf Bn and the main road running NORTH from RED BEACH. 18 Aust Inf Bde was WEST of this road, with 2/12 Aust Inf Bn then 2/10 Aust Inf Bn holding a feature 676602 which dominates the area. This feature was considered of great tactical importance and was captured on D Day by three coys of 2/10 Aust Inf Bn. 2/10 Aust Inf Bn had pushed forward to 576609, 569610 and 560605.

2/9 Aust Inf Bn had cleared the coast to the WEST of the landing beaches and were established in the area 555595. Casualties up to 1600I 3 Jul were extremely light.

5. TOPO

~~Overlay trace for BINTULU and MIRI strat maps giving additional topographical information is being prepared and will be forwarded at an early date.~~

James Giff
Maj
BN 20 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION

2/13 Aust Inf Bn
2/15 Aust Inf Bn (LINEANG)
2/15 Aust Inf Bn (BRUNEL)
2/17 Aust Inf Bn
2/3 Aust Pd Coy

COPY

2/17 Aust Inf Bn
4 Jul 45

INTERROGATION REPORT OF BAKRI BIN SALEH

Occupation - Served as Police Boy under BRITISH adm and for three months with JAPANESE.

Nationality - Malay.

After serving with the JAPS for three months ran away to RAMPAYOH.

At RAMPAYOH he lived in the native kampong and worked with them in the paddy fields.

He left RAMPAYOH by canoe on 3 Jul as he believes that the JAPS wished to get hold of him.

There are approx 800 JAPS at RAMPAYOH. This number includes the KEMPI TAI, KAMIMIRA TAI, ASANO TAI and JAP civilians. He saw Lt. KAMIMURA only a few days ago. Between 2/300 of the 800 are members of the KAMIMURA TAI. 400 are living along the tr from within half a mile of KG KAMPAR to just short of RAMPAYOH. The remainder which include the KAMIMURA TAI are living along a tr which runs direct from RAMPAYOH to MENDARAM. They have dug a large number of holes in the area but it is considered that they are intended to give protection from our aircraft rather than as defensive posns. The JAPS who were moving from RAMPAYOH to MARUDI a few days ago have been forced to return to the RAMPAYOH area by the DYAKS who would not permit them to pass the RIDAN RIVER. When told by the DYAKS that they could not pass they make no attempt to force their way although many of them were armed. In the JAP party there were about seven women and about eight children. Some of the JAPS were sick. The party reached RAMPAYOH on the return journey at approx 1830 hrs on 2 Jul.

The JAPS have machine guns ~~at~~ but SALEH does not know how many.

One JAP stated about four days ago that they would be winning in fifteen days time. They anticipate that we will go to RAMPAYOH and consider that they will be able to deal with us when we get there.

Each day a few JAPS visit MENDARAM to purchase food from the natives. They do not attempt to take the food by force but pay for it in JAP ISLAND currency.

SALEH would be willing to go in an Auster and point out the JAP hiding places to the pilot. He is also keen to go with our tps when ops are being carried out in the area.

The JAPS have NOT dug tunnels into the hills at RAMPAYOH but use the natural caves which exist in the hillsides. Near RAMPAYOH they have dug many holes in the ground.

2/15 (LIMBANG)

SECRET

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
7 Jul 45

INTREP 4 TO 12001 7 JUL 45

1. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

From native reports in the LIMBANG area it appears that the object of the enemy force which has been moving EAST in small parties is to get clear from the LIMBANG - LAWAS area and move in a northerly direction, possibly to link up with remainder of 56 IIB. An interpreter working with 2/15 Aust Inf Bn patrols EAST of LIMBANG says he has heard of a track running from G TUKON (ref 81 1:250,000) which leads up to the NORTH. This is interesting in view of SRD reports of similar intentions. The 400 reported by SRD as having moved EAST from LIMBANG is possibly the total strength of JAPS now remaining from the whole of the BRUNEI area. By reason of sickness and other casualties even that may possibly be excessive. However, it does appear certain that the main body have now mostly crossed the TRUSAN RIVER and are moving further EAST in small parties. Their route to the TRUSAN RIVER was possibly BT MALAU - BT SAGAN - BT BIANG - APOI - BT SUANG - P SEBULU (TRUSAN RIVER).

In the MIRI area approximately one company of JAPS (believed to be a company of 553 IIB - SAGO Batai) held up our platoon patrol along the RIAN rd at 454786. Weapons identified were one 81 mm mortar, 1 JUKI and 6 LMG and one grenade discharger. Patrol commander's estimate of enemy strength was given conservatively at 90/100. It appears that approximately one platoon of JAPS were in position given above and fired on our patrol and very quickly brought up reinforcements from behind. Enemy were very aggressive, attacking several times and endeavouring to outflank our patrol. Our patrols withdrew and estimate at least 26 enemy were killed. It is evident that the JAP attaches considerable importance to denying the RIAN rd to us at the moment.

An INDIAN PW forced by JAPS in the MIRI area to carry supplies from RIAN area to BELURU states that main JAP activity is at BELURU, where JAPS have been previously reported to be regrouping. It is reported also that there are extensive gardens in the area. Detailed interrogation should reveal considerable information on routes of movement and activity SOUTH of MIRI.

In the LABI - RAMPAYOH area a patrol to MENDARUM (returned night 5 Jul) reports enemy in occupation of village first light 5 Jul. Strength reported to be several hundred and natives reported many had come from direction of MARUDI. Air activity around MARUDI is reported (by natives) to have frightened the JAPS back from that area. However, interrogation of a Malayan who worked as a porter for the JAPS between RAMPAYOH and RIDAN indicates that a possible reason for their return to RAMPAYOH was a rumour of Europeans being in MARUDI. Natives say JAPS are very frightened of air attacks and at first light cook their food and then disperse into the jungle fringe on the high ground SOUTH and EAST of MENDARUM. Patrol commander, from a good observation point on the jungle edge WEST of MENDARUM observed signs of hurried movement through the long grass up the slopes towards the jungle fringe when some of our planes flew over the area. Majority of JAPS in the area are said by natives to be thin and weak.

On 5 Jul a Chinese brought in two INDIAN PW (escaped) to our troops at SIMPANG. Both were members of 7 Pd Coy. Interrogation reveals the following:

They escaped from their JAP guards under cover of darkness 5 days ago. They had been brought from MIRI three months ago and kept in SERIA near the river. They were NOT at any time in the

compound at K BELAIT. They were employed by the JAPS as coolies. Two days before our troops arrived at SERIA they were sent to LABI as a carrying party with food. Had NOT heard of our landing until we reached SERIA. JAPS were under the impression till our arrival at SERIA that we were Americans (have apparently learnt difference since). At LABI they were kept in a small hut beside the RAMPAYOH RIVER where it passes between BT TELINGAN and BT MENDARUM.

The JAPS are living further along the RAMPAYOH upstream. Indians estimate 400 JAPS living there and they have rifles on the scale of one to five men and only two LMG. JAPS have food enough for three weeks. Since the arrival of our troops at SIMPANG they do not venture down to the LABI gardens as they are afraid of the Australians. On the approach of our planes, including Austers, they race for cover.

Lt KANIMURA is in the area. Indians described him and they identified a photograph of him our troops found on the BT PUAN - LABI track. Indians consider him to be responsible personally for the cruelty to the INDIAN PW. They are positive in their identification and also of the number of JAPS in the LABI area. JAPS guarding the PW were members of the KANIMURA tai. JAPS have six of their women with them. Chinese have been assisting Indians whenever possible.

2. TOPO

(a) Patrol Information

LIMBANG - TRUSAN - LAWAS Area

A river patrol ^{could} did not reach TRUSAN, ^{owing to no river pilot being available} as natives have consistently reported that an LCM could not get into the mouth of the TRUSAN RIVER.

The track from LAWAS to TRUSAN was followed to approximately 940354. It is in fair condition to 946349. For the next 1000 yards it is swampy and natives report that it continues to be swampy to TRUSAN.

The track from LAWAS to GAYA Estate runs generally SOUTH, is about 5' - 10' wide and soft and muddy underfoot.

MIRI Area

The rd from 438792 ~~to pumping station~~ to DALAM pumping station 446800 shown on the map is a foot track only, as is also road shown from 442795 to 443798. Neither track is jeepable. These tracks pass through light rain forest and high grass with numerous cultivated areas. A patrol along the road from 433803 to 429803 reports that the track is jeepable to 430795. The track traverses an area of secondary growth and ends at the edge of jungle.

(b) Native Reports

LABU - TRUSAN track as shown on the map is in a very bad state and is not now used. The main track runs from 759278 in a general NE direction to BT SAGAN, thence through a large swamp generally SE to TRUSAN. The river is navigable to LCM to 759272. Total walking time is given as 5/6 hours. For the first hour from LABU the track is very soft and runs through semi-swamp. For the next hour the track is firm and dry but indistinct. From BT SAGAN to TRUSAN through the swampy country walking time is given as 2 hours.

(c) Tac R Information

MARUDI Area

The town area runs for at least one mile along EAST bank of river from 7861 to 8161. There are also approximately 30 houses running along opposite bank. Severable jeepable tracks run through town area but not beyond.

No tracks were seen WEST up BARAH RIVER from S FOYUT (8257) but a few scattered houses were seen in this area. Tracks EAST from the town are well worn but die out as they pass through cultivated areas. Main track runs from 8161 to village 8462

J. H. ...
BN 20 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION

- 2/13 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/15 Aust Inf Bn (LIMBANG)
- 2/15 Aust Inf Bn (BRUNEI)
- 2/17 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/3 Aust Inf Coy

2/15 LIMBANG

Comd
W. S.
Adj
10 K

SECRET

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
8 Jul 45

INTREP 5 TO 1200I 8 JUL 45

1. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

Enemy have evacuated LABI and RAMPAYOH and it is believed from native reports that MENDARUM has also been evacuated. Native reports, considered reliable (C 2) indicate that the JAPS have moved SOUTH from MENDARUM and are now spread along the MARUDI tr as far as RIDAN RIVER. *sub. 19218*

17 natives
rescued
RIDAN
NMS

Natives have consistently reported that JAPS are very reluctant to face the threat of DYAKS in MARUDI area and it appears possible that reports reaching the JAPS of Europeans in the area (presumably SRD) have been greatly exaggerated as to actual str.

It is possible that BT MENDARUM may be used by the JAP for def of the tr to RIDAN. Much of the ground overlooks the tr near MENDARUM. There are no known trs existing to the EAST of LABI - RAMPAYOH except for a few indistinct and difficult trs known only to natives. It is considered, therefore, that the enemy has evacuated SOUTH from MENDARUM from the LABI - RAMPAYOH area owing to the threat of being cut off by the possible occupation of MENDARUM by our tps.

In spite of the above infm, two natives (one considered reliable) independently reported to our tps 7 Jul that some JAPS are still in occupation of MBYKAJANG, where the existence of caves has consistently been reported.

A delayed SRD report of 5 Jul states that on that date MARUDI was clear of JAPS and that a party of 23 JAPS were moving down a tr from RIDAN to LINELI to recce an escape route.

A tr is known to exist from RIDAN to LINELI, one days walk.

Chinese who left MARUDI 4 Jul state that a party of 38 JAPS entered MARUDI from RIDAN about 12 days ago and were shot up by a European party with Dyaks. 5 JAPS were killed and remainder fled and got away by sampan down the BARAM RIVER.

Several days later the Chinese state that a further party - this time 28 strong - came from RIDAN. JAPS made enquiries on the outskirts of the village and natives told them there were many Europeans in the area. JAPS promptly returned in the direction of RIDAN.

In the MIRI area infm from escaped Indian PW who was carrying for the JAP to BELURU strengthens previous reports of BELURU being the re-grouping point. Indian claims he heard a conversation between two JAP offrs, the gist of which was that the intention of the enemy in that area is to withdraw to KUCHING. Indian said that JAPS intimated "inland route" would be too hard. Also claims he saw Col AIKIO and Lt Col KANAZAWA at the 13 mile along the RIAN rd.

2. ENEMY AIR ACTIVITY

A delayed report on enemy air activity from MIRI on 5 Jul is that at 0610I one SE bomber came from SW to EAST of LUTONG and then made a strafing run across the MIRI rd and peninsula and dropped one bomb in the Golf Course area. Swung around again EAST of CANADA hill and at 0625I strafed on both sides of the MIRI rd across to the peninsula and dropped two bombs in the hospital area. Plane reported to have come in at approx 5000 ft.

In the LIMBANG area patrol to LABU found 200 bales of rubber in a store shed.

BBCAU want us to collect.

3. COB

Translation of documents captured at MIRI gives the organisation of Col AIKIO's HQ. AIKIO Butai is one of the most common identifications throughout the SERIA - MIRI area. There was also a det in the BRUNEI area. The Butai is a det of BORNEO FUEL DEPOT HQ believed at KUCHING and is referred to in most documents as BORNEO FUEL ARSENAL. It comprised a mixture of mil and civilian personnel - key staff jobs held by officers with mil appointment. HQ organisation is as follows:-

Sector Unit CO	Col AIKIO, Masao
Gen Control Duty	Lt Col KANAZAWA, Jiro
Intelligence	1st Lt TANAKA, Tokiyi
Trg (Additional duty)	2nd Lt FUKUI, Masaharu
Comms (Additional duty)	2nd Lt TANABE, Shozo 1 sjt 1 civilian employee
Operations (Additional Duty)	1st Lt KOBAYASHI, Shinshichi 2nd Lt YOSHIKAWA, Gentaro 2nd Lt YAMADA, Yohibata 1 civilian employee
<u>Rear</u>	
Transport	2nd Lt FUNAGOE, Kozuo
Traffic	2nd Lt HIGUCHI, Mineo 1 Cpl 1 Sup Pte
General Affairs	2nd Lt OKAMURA, Tomikotu
Liaison	2nd Lt YAMADA, Yoshibata 1 sjt 1 Leading Pte 1 Sup Pte 2 civilian employees.

Shewan Capt. Maj
BM 20 Aust Inf Bde

2/15 LIMBANG

9/11/11

SECRET

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
9 Jul 45

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INTREP 6 TO 12001 9 JUL 45

1. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

LIMBANG Area

The 25/30 JAPS engaged by 2/15 Aust Inf Bn patrol (7 Jul) at 572248 are the first group of any size encountered in the area for some time. They are most likely portion of 366 IIB from LIMPAKU area. It is known that the bulk of JAPS who were on LIMPAKU (possibly 100) evacuated the island approximately 26 Jun leaving only about 20 sick and non-swimmers behind. PSW stated 20 were left behind - 2/15 Aust Inf Bn patrols on LIMPAKU killed 19. The presence of approximately 50 JAPS at RANGAU (Intrep 29 Jun) has been confirmed from interrogations by patrols to the village. These JAPS were moving SOUTH towards LIMBANG - which was their original intention. There can be very few of 366 IIB left and it appears fairly certain that few, if any, have managed to move EAST of RANDARUAN RIVER.

It appears certain that 367 IIB, except for odd stragglers, sick or killed by natives, has managed to get clear of the area and are now in or EAST of SEBULU area (TRUSAN RIVER).

TUTONG Area

It is interesting that the small party which escaped from BROCKETON (possibly originally 40) and moved down to the coastal area at end of BERAKAS road have since been followed, by native reports and our patrol contacts, in their move WEST thence SOUTH until latest information shows them in sq 32 (strat). Their movements at the moment appear to be eastward towards LIMBANG RIVER. Strength of the party is thought to be now in the vicinity of 20. Intention was probably to reach LABI area, and now, being blocked, are endeavouring to escape EAST.

LABI - MARUDI Area

Patrols 8 Jul found MENDARUM clear of JAPS and natives report JAPS have moved SOUTH to RIDAN on RIDAN RIVER. With regard to the information given in Intrep 5 on enemy activity in the RIDAN - MARUDI area, advice has now been received that there are no SRD parties NORTH of a line running from LINE 13 (9544) to junction BARAN - TINJAR RIVERS (7848) thence WEST to the coast. It is therefore considered possible that JAPS are now in MARUDI area.

MIRI Area

Interrogations of natives who came in from the RIAM road gives information which indicates JAPS are mainly from 13 mile on along RIAM road. AIKIO and staff are said to be between 14 and 15 mile. Numerous houses along each side of road area of 13 mile are used by JAPS (as a guide 10 mile is thought to be square 4876 1/50,000). BURI is reported to be a staging area and much activity is still reported to be going on at BELURU.

Airstrike 8 Jul is reported to have hit a possible amn dump along the RIAM road. Exact location not known.

2. DESTRUCTION OF OILFIELDS

The following are translations of Operation Orders 47 and 49 issued at MIRI by Borneo Fuel Depot (AIKIO Butai) and dated 9 and 10 Jun respectively:-

"Borneo Fuel Depot Orders - Operation Order No 47.

1. Regarding the sudden change in the situations of the Depots, according to the Borneo Fuel Depot Operations Order No 44, enforce the hastening of work in the destruction of depot equipments in such a condition that it will become useless to the enemy using it.
2. The Refinery Officer will hastily enforce the completion for the preparations of demolishing oil refining machinery and other equipments necessary for refining oil.
3. The CO of the mining industry will quickly select important points and make preparations for the third demolition. After completing the preparations, place obstacles. Then enforce the continuance of work in the 1st Demolition ~~in parallel~~ ^{together} with the second demolition work.
4. The supply officer will take charge of materials designating what materials are to be destroyed and preparations made for the destruction.
5. The officer in charge of refined oil and mixed materials will carry out demolition duties by ~~operating with one another~~ ^{others}.
6. The CO of the 307 Indep MT Coy will work jointly with the officer in charge of the area and will cooperate in transportation in the areas.
7. Concerning the details of destruction, instructions are to be carried out otherwise if necessary.

Borneo Fuel Depot CO AIKYO, Nagao

Methods of issue - Printed outline sentences (from oral discussions)

Distribution - Various Depots, Mining Plants, Refineries, MIRI Mines, VEMURA Unit, IIDA Unit.

Reports (Despatches - SOUTHERN Fuel Depots HQ, NADA, TSURANUKI, MIRI Area Guard Unit. "

"Borneo Fuel Depot Orders - Operation Order No 49

1. About 3000 enemy soldiers have landed in MUARA and seem to be advancing southward.
2. At the depots in SERIA area, gather all equipments together and carry out the thorough destruction of the equipments.
3. The mining plant CO will carry out the complete destruction of equipments mentioned in the following notes.

Emergency demolition will be the third demolition first and the first and second demolition completed thereafter in order.

Notes:

1. Machineries for refining oil.
2. Accessory machines for refining oil.
3. The destruction of crude oil.
4. Manufactured goods.

4. The CO of the 307 Indep MT Coy will cooperate closely in transporting necessary things in the areas where the demolitions are to be made.

5. After the completion of demolitions, according to necessary orders when the situation changes, the CO of the mining plant will enforce it.

Borneo Fuel Depot CO AIKIO, Masao"

3. ENEMY METHODS

There has been to date no evidence of Indonesians or others armed by or fighting with the JAPS. Reports have, however, been received of JAPS dressed as civilians or Chinese and the party of JAPS recently contacted by the 2/13 Aust Inf Bn on the RIAM road are reported to have included some dressed as civilians.

4. TOPOGRAPHY

(a) Patrol Information

A patrol returning to BT PUAN from SIMPANG proceeded by track down the MELAYAN RIVER. The track is reported to be firm, with very few swampy patches and is in good condition.

Another patrol from SIMPANG moved along the road to LABI and then by track running SE to BT TELINGAN 800 yards beyond LABI. This track develops into a road about 15' wide. Although the road is overgrown in parts it is generally in good repair except for one part which needs attention. This road was apparently built by an oil company prior to JAP occupation and leads to oil derricks at TELINGAN. It is considered that it could easily be made jeepable with a minimum of work.

In the TRUSAN area an LCM at high tide was able to cross the bar at the mouth of the TRUSAN RIVER and reached AWAT AWAT (8147 - 1/250,000 series). Natives contacted there were of the opinion that, having crossed the bar, there would be no difficulty in navigating the LCM through SUNDAR to TRUSAN. On this occasion time did not permit the patrol to do this.

An overland patrol from LABU reached TRUSAN and reports the track to be very difficult. From 7827 to TRUSAN the track is swampy and walking time for this section was 5 to 6 hours.

A river patrol up the TEMBOURONG RIVER reports that BIANC (6614 - 1/250,000) is the limit of navigability as the river is there obstructed by rocks. The patrol continued overland and reached ANGOUN (6709). It reported the existence of a large staging area capable of accommodating 1000 men at 6712.

(b) Native Reports

The following tracks are reported to exist in the MARUDI area.

(1) MARUDI - BAKONG

This track is reported to be disused and difficult. Natives claim that it would be impossible for the JAPS to use it and that in any event it had not been used by them up to 4 Jul.

(11) RIDAN - LINEI (9544)

This track runs over the hills, is firm on the high ground but inclined to be swampy on the low areas. Walking time estimated 1 day and it is considered that a guide would be necessary.

(111) MARUDI - NEBONG (7857)

The track itself is reported to be good and walking time is only 1/2 hour. However, it crosses the BARAM RIVER twice and at this point the river is reported to be 400 yards wide.

(1v) NEBONG - LINEI

Track runs straight over the hills and is firm only on high ground. It is not well defined and walking time is stated to be 6/7 hours.

W. H. Main Capt
for Maj
BN 20 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION

- 2/13 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/15 Aust Inf Bn (BRUNEI)
- 2/15 Aust Inf Bn (LIMBANG)
- 2/17 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/3 Aust Pd Coy

copy LAB 1 - MENDARAM area 1/63360 map enclosed for info

910/11

2/15 *Handwritten*

SECRET

H 20 Aust Inf Bde
10 Jul 45

adv.

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INTREP 7 TO 1200 I 10 JUL 45

1. ARMY ACTIVITY

MENDARUM - MARUDI Area

A patrol which yesterday went through MENDARUM en route to RIDAN contacted natives who report that the JAPS left RIDAN on the morning of 8 Jul for LINBI. Many conflicting reports have been received of enemy movement in this area but the weight of evidence suggests that, probably by different routes, the majority of the enemy who were in the LABI - RAMPAYOH area are moving towards LINBI. It seems very likely that many of them are using the RIDAN - LINBI track previously reported; however, consistent reports have suggested that some JAPS have been staging in various villages SOUTH of LABI one of which is KO OODANG (unlocated but believed to be vicinity 9063 - 1/250,000). These JAPS may be elements of those who were previously reported at BT KAJANG. An SRD reports suggests the possibility of the escape route of this party being down the KALINIAU RIVER presumably to LINBI. Latest reports from SRD seem to indicate that an SRD party moved into MARUDI some time yesterday. They report that MARUDI is clear of JAPS.

Interrogation of 4 released Indian PW reveals that the JAP party in this area totals 400 with 2 IAG. Some of the JAPS have American rifles and amm is reported to be scarce. These men believe that the JAPS still intend to try and reach KUCHING via inland jungle tracks. An SRD appreciation of the situation:

Summing up courses open to these JAPS is that the most likely evacuation route will be via the TINJAR RIVER to the REJANG RIVER thence down to SIBU. The JAPS may consider it impossible to reach the TINJAR RIVER and they may possible use the BARAN RIVER from which they can reach the REJONG RIVER by crossing the watershed EAST of MT KALULONG (3° 15' N 114° 30' E). This involves very difficult walking."

USONG Area

Natives reported to a patrol in this area that a party of 42 JAPS had passed through BT CHOWAT (0599 - 1/250,000) en route from the TUTONG RIVER to LABI.

LIRANG Area

Translation of comments found in a haversack vicinity LIRANG identify 1 Coy 366 IIB in that area. This seems to substantiate the claim that the party of JAPS contacted by 2/15 Aust Inf Bn a few days ago (of whom 29 were killed) are the remnants of this battalion which crossed the BRUNEI RIVER to P BERANBANG thence to P LIMPAKU and thence SOUTH towards LIRANG through very swampy country.

2. TOPOGRAPHY

MIRI Area

A patrol along the water pipe line from 457872 to S LIKU pumping station 490825 reports that the line runs through dense swampy jungle with water at times waist deep. Vicinity 459777

488827 a small track runs SOUTH for about 500 yards but ends in waist deep swamp. Another patrol reports that the bridge at 403807 is jeepable but that some engineering work would be desirable. Tac R reports that the PADANG LIKU RIVER is navigable by canoe and widens from 492769. In the BAKAM area it is reported that a light railway line runs from 384703 to 403706 but that the track shown on the map does not exist.

USONG Area

A patrol from KG BISUT (0201) moved up the BELAIT RIVER to BT CHOWAT (0599) and thence by foot track along the SW bank of the river to PANG SIONG. Going along this track is reported to be good but the track is disused and difficult to follow without a guide. Walking time is given as 1 hour 40 minutes.

Track PANG SIONG - LABI - this track is reported by natives to exist but to be very swampy. An alternative route commences 3 miles up stream from PANG SIONG and joins the direct PANG SIONG - LABI track at a spot not located. This alternative route avoids much of the swamp. Walking time either way is 6 hours.

The only track from PANG SIONG to the TUTONG RIVER runs through BT CHOWAT from where a good track meets the TUTONG RIVER at LANIA (unlocated). Walking time is given as 10 hours.

PUAN Area

The track from PUAN to TANAJOR is described as undulating with alternative patches of swamp and firm ground. Of the total track 2/3 is reported to be firm.

A. H. Main
Maj
BM 20 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION

2/13 Aust Inf Bn
2/15 Aust Inf Bn (BRUNEI)
2/15 Aust Inf Bn (LIMBANG)
2/17 Aust Inf Bn
2/3 Aust Ed Coy

2/15

Interp 8 to 1200 I 11 Jul 45

SECRET

3. 30 Aust Inf Bde
11 Jul 45.

[Handwritten signature]
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1. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY.

IBAH - MAHDI AREA. No report has yet been received from the patrol to IBAH but it is believed to have reached that village. After a series of apparently conflicting reports, the activities of SID party in this area now appears to be fairly clear. Apparently the party moved into MAHDI on 9 Jul and reported that there were no Japs there. On the evening of 9 Jul a native arrived at the mouth of the BARAN River with a note which read as follows:-

"To Capt HMS Tiger Snake from Maj G S Carter. The bearer, Peter by name, will guide you to MAHDI where I have established HQ 9 Jul. There should be no danger in navigating the BARAN River. The Japs have 4 outpost personnel at K BAKONG but are armed only with pistols. We are anxiously waiting your arrival. G S Carter Maj."

Inquiries have now revealed that Maj CARTER is an SID Officer and that the "Tiger Snake" is a supply craft which was to take supplies up the BARAN River to the party. In the early hours this morning a signal was received from Div to stop this craft (which was Doc 1107001) from proceeding up the River as SID now report that Japs have moved into MAHDI and that the SID are withdrawing up the river pursued by the Japs. No further info on the matter is yet to hand. The reference in the letter to the 4 Japs at K BAKONG checks up with a statement by Chinese from MAHDI who claimed that 4 Japs are stationed there but that they move back to K BAKONG during the day.

IBAH Area: A patrol to 453735 where the enemy were contacted on 5 Jul returned and reported seeing 5 Japs at 453736. These made off quickly into the jungle on the approach of the patrol, leaving clothing, equipment and a partly consumed meal. The patrol reached the enemy def posn but the enemy had withdrawn further back. The posn appeared to be a coy posn containing 7 LMG posns, fox holes and what appeared to be air raid shelters. No enemy dead were found but filled in fox holes and trenches were probably used to bury the dead. Arty fire and bombing were very accurate but there was no evidence of any direct hits. Natives report that the Japs have withdrawn from these posns back to the 12 mile, which is not exactly located but is believed to be in area squares 4375 and 4376. It is considered that small parties may have been left behind possibly to delay and adv and to procure info of our mov.

IBAH Area: A river patrol is now in the LAMAS River in the LAMAS area and reports HQ. No further info is yet to hand. A routine patrol to IBANG on 10 Jul engaged an enemy party estimated strength 10 approx 5000 yards NW of IBANG. Enemy casualties 3 killed 3 wounded - own HIL.

2. IBAH

IBAH Area: The following corrections should be made to the special 1/53350 dye line map recently supplied - The tr from BELAIT R vicinity IBUT south along the MELAYAN River crosses a tributary of the MELAYAN at 934953, then runs to Inoll vicinity 934945 and then swings SW and follows the course shown on the map. Apart from this the tr is generally as *sho* on map. The TERAP River which is shown flowing into the BELAIT R at 010002 in fact joins the MELAYAN River at 934933.

1 Sec amend

MINI AREA Tac R info discloses an RT tr from 457773 running SW into heavy timber probably to houses vicinity 453773. The MINI Rd is considered to be jeepable for its entire length. In swampy patches the rd has been corduroyed and well maintained. Culverts appear to be likely weaknesses in the rd. The br at 481733 consists of two tracks one of two logs and the other of three logs. The general area is described as undulating with many cultivated areas.

LINDANG AREA A river patrol up the PANDANIAN River reports that the river is navigable to at least the junc with the BIRUA River 6109 and possibly further although overhanging trees may prove an obstacle. The 4' navigation limit at 5817 shown on the map is reported to be incorrect. The patrol moved overland from BIRUA to SIKOT (6708) and reports that the tr appears to have been used by a large party about 3 weeks ago. Walking time is 3 hours.

ABANG AREA Patrol reports that Kg LEMUNIN is wrongly placed on map. Correct location is 281131.

3. MINI AREA

Details of def posns vicinity 450735 MINI area are ^{set out in the} following:-

10 Jul a patrol to area 450735 inspected the def posn where patrol No 45 encountered enemy opposition on 5 Jul. A probable company posn containing 7 LMG posns and many foxholes. Each posn was supported by at least two foxholes alongside and all had what appeared to be an air raid shelter situated immediately in rear. It would appear that these posns were occupied with a view to fighting a delaying action or to making an ambush as all posns had laneways and crawl trenches straight to the rear, presumably made with a view to a speedy getaway. Four LMG were sited close to the rd and overlooking the bridge on which the patrol was ambushed and the remaining three were sited in depth with a rd of fire well beyond the br. These last were sited on a hillside so that the guns could not be depressed sufficiently to bring fire to bear on an area of dead ground 150 yds wide at the foot of the hill. Several posns had been filled in by the JAPS before evacuating and from the smell it is probable that four or five dead have been buried in these holes. The evacuation appears to have been carried out in no hurry as all documents and eqpt have been removed. Eight houses in the rear of this area seem to have been used as quarters by the tps holding the posn and are capable of accommodating about 80 tps. Several air raid shelters were situated near the houses. They were not sited defensively."

Tac R also reports extensive enemy posns in sqs 4473, 4573, and 4676.

4. ABANG AREA

An SMO report, the reliability of which there is no means of assessing, is that the PANDANIAN tps guarding the ALLIED PW at KUCHING are prepared to surrender if guaranteed protection from hostile natives. This info is passed on as a matter of interest only and caution is necessary in assessing its significance.

*Debra Hiley Capt
for Maj
M SO Aust Inf Bde*

DISTRIBUTION

2/15 Aust Inf Bn
2/15 Aust Inf Bn (LINDANG)
2/15 Aust Inf Bn (MINI)
2/17 Aust Inf Bn
2/3 Aust Inf Coy

2/15 LIMBANG

SECRET

963/13 Jul

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
12 Jul 45

INTREP 9 TO 1200I 12 JUL 45

1. ENEMY ACTIVITY

RIDAN - MARUDI - LINEI Area

A report has been received from the patrol which went to RIDAN. No enemy were seen during the patrol but the track showed many signs of recent movement and patrol commander considers that at some points the patrol was only one day behind the enemy. Natives contacted report that the Japs have moved approximately 1000 yards beyond RIDAN presumably towards LINEI. However indications are that at least advance elements are much closer to LINEI. An SRD party operating vicinity LINEI received information of the Jap movement to LINEI and moved further SOUTH from the village. No further information is available from this party.

The SRD party which was forced out of MARUDI have established a HQ further SOUTH. They report that early on 10 Jul a party of 100 Japs moved up the BARAM RIVER in prahus from BAKEONG. The party had been warned of their approach and set an ambush on the river killing 18 Japs, the total occupants of the two leading prahus. The remainder opened up with rifles and LMG and the ambush party withdrew to MARUDI. As the remaining Japs continued to advance up the river the party finally vacated MARUDI. SRD officer who arrived this HQ yesterday from the area states that the Japs were well armed, well fed and clothed and were well led. He also stated that as far as he knew no Japs had come to MARUDI from the RIDAN area. His appreciation of the situation is that the most likely course open to the Japs at LINEI is to move either by river or overland to the TINJAR RIVER and to go upstream, possibly linking up with the reported concentration at BELURU. Failing this they may make up the BARAM RIVER towards the hills and either remain there or attempt to move WEST towards the river systems leading to SIBU and KUEHING. In any event native assistance by way of prahus and guides, as well as boats, will be required and it is considered most unlikely that this will be forthcoming but rather that their course will lead them through hostile country well organised against them. SRD leader considers that reason for determined move to occupy MARUDI was that Japs had received information that the place was thinly held (notwithstanding deliberate rumours circulated by SRD of strength there) and decided to gain full control of the BARAM RIVER at least to the TINJAR junction.

MIRI Area

A patrol along the RIAM is ^{reported} ~~expected~~ to have made contact today ~~with~~ vicinity 444787. No details are yet available.

BRUNEI Area

A river patrol up the IMANG RIVER towards KG IMANG 334296, by 1140 hrs had reached 372306 and reports BMS to that point.

2. TOPOGRAPHICAL


MENDARAM - RIDAN Area

Track RAMPAYOH - MENDARAM is reported to be suitable for foot traffic only and to be difficult going. Walking time was

2 1/2 hours. Approximately 3 miles past MENDARAM the RIDAN track strikes the NARAJAR RIVER. This river is not marked on maps and is reported to be same size as RAMPAYON RIVER. No further information is yet available. Track is very rough and blocked by many large logs. In patches of jungle through which the track passes the track is swampy (and 3 ^{inches} ~~feet~~ deep).

Track and River Communications in Interior

The following general information is from SRD sources. The information is not sufficient to plot tracks on maps but indicates track and river links in the possible Jap evacuation route if any attempt is made to reach KUCHING from the MARUDI - LINEI area. Ref maps 1/4 miles to 1 inch. Several tracks run WEST from the BARAM RIVER in the BATU GADING - LONG LAMA area. Three such link up with the PEKING, LELAK and TRU RIVERS, all tributaries of the TINJAR. From the TINJAR RIVER near the LEPOH LEJU junction a track runs to the headwaters of the JELA LONG RIVER (which runs into the KEMENA RIVER at TUBAU). This track continues on to the SUAI RIVER. The headwaters of the SUAI RIVER is linked to TUBAU by a track. Numerous tracks lead across country from the BARAM and TINJAR RIVERS to the RAJANG RIVER. All tracks in the area are described as ill defined, rough and difficult. Native guides and porters are generally required.


Maj
BE 20 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION

2/15 Aust Inf Bn
2/15 Aust Inf Bn (BRUNEI)
2/15 Aust Inf Bn (LIMBANG)
2/17 Aust Inf Bn
2/3 Aust Pd Coy

2/15 Limbang

1018/15

SECRET

H 20 Aust Inf Bde
13 Jul 45

INTREP 10 TO 1200I 13 JUL 45

1. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

A fuller report has now been received from the patrol which moved to RIDAN. Natives reported that 600 JAPS left RIDAN via GODANG (9062) for LINEI on 8 Jul. Although they are reported to have 5 LMG with them the natives say that approximately 100 had no rifles. They are reported to be carrying much food (20 days supply, the natives say) and possibly the 100 without rifles are acting as porters because no native portage is available. The JAPS are travelling by day and night and, although at the moment it is not known on what facts it is based, the natives claim is that they are moving to BT NULU (4746 - 1/250,000). This suggestion was also previously made by SRD.

During the patrol natives were contacted who had found 3 JAP rifles 8 grenades and 220 rounds of rifle ammunition at AHDOI RIVER (unlocated). They claimed that 15 JAPS who had been there had just moved off leaving this equipment. One bag of rice was also recovered. The body of a dead Indian was found vicinity 873734 (ref map 1/63,360).

MIRI Area

A patrol along the RIAN rdad again made contact vicinity 452782, beyond the point where opposition was encountered on 5 Jul. Enemy strength in the area was estimated at two sections with one LMG and rifles. The position was subsequently engaged by artillery with unobserved results. During the encounter the JAPS threw many grenades but no mortar fire was met. It is not certain whether the JAPS were in a prepared defensive position or were on patrol. It seems likely that they constituted a rear guard detachment with the role of delaying our advance and in particular to obtain all possible information of our movements and possible intention. No definite estimate of enemy casualties is available but two were seen to fall as a result of our fire.

Natives who left NAKAT (574634 - ref map BURI 1/50,000) on 9 Jul report concentrations of JAPS in two areas, one vicinity 569641 and the other vicinity 578623.

LIMBANG Area

Collated results of many patrol reports indicate that main JAP evacuation route was from LIMBANG to BAKARANG (5221) BERAWAH (5319) FUASA (5218) TRUNKU (5515) TADUNIH (5813) TAGARI (5812) KUBONG (5911) MASING (6209) ANGGUN (6709) and thence, it seems, to the upper TEMBOURONG. Reports of numbers vary but it seems that the main body was fairly large and included a high ranking officer.

PW captured at SEBULU by SRD states that his party, 130 strong, including Maj-Gen AKASHI, Comd 56 IIB, left BRUNEI on 17 Jun and commenced to move EAST presumably by the route above described. They crossed the TRUSAN RIVER after 10 days march and by 7 Jul party was reduced to 100 due mainly to sickness. He claims that 13 days rations were carried and that arms were being discarded.

In the general LIMBANG - UKONG area small parties of HAPS are still being encountered but these seem to be stragglers from the main body who moved East and the remnants of the force which was formerly at LIMPAKU.

2. TOPOGRAPHY

IMANG River

The river is reported to be navigable by LCM to 371306 and by canoes to 350294.

MENDARAM Area

Track MENDARAM - RIDAN is reported to be generally good but there are some swampy parts where the track passes through patches of jungle. The track keeps to the foothills and it is thought that it runs further EAST than shown on the 1/63,360 map. Four streams are crossed between MENDARAM and RIDAN, their names, in order from MENDARAM being S LANSAT, S WAJARA, S PAJG and S AHDUI. At the moment it is not possible to locate them accurately and there seems to be some confusion between the names NARAJA and TERAJA.

Patrol commander considers that correct position of RIDAN is 890685 (1/250,000) on the SOUTH bank of the RIDAN RIVER and that the track from MENDARAM meets the RIDAN RIVER at 900685. It is thought that the track from RIDAN to LINEI passes through KG GODANG and not EAST of it as previously thought. This track was patrolled only as far as 8967 (1/250,000).

LIMBANG Area

Track MENUA RIVER to SIBUT is reported to be 10 - 20 feet wide at the beginning, widening considerably in the swampy areas further on. Distance is approx 8 miles and walking time 3 hours.

D. Worthley Capt

for Maj
BN 20 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION

2/13 Aust Inf Bn
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2/15 Aust Inf Bn (BRUNET)
2/17 Aust Inf Bn
2/3 Aust Pd Coy

10 - 1/2
 HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
 14 Jul 45

INTREP 11 TO 1200I 14 JUL 45

File

1. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

MARUDI Area

Three separate reports have come to hand indicating that the JAPS are continuing to move into MARUDI from BAKEONG. Estimates of strength vary but it is reported that quite a few prahus are available to the JAPS. These have been obtained in the BAKEONG area. On two nights lately (not clear which) 10 prahus each night moved up to MARUDI. Each party was about 40 strong. Two reports refer to the fact that the JAPS have been taking action against the natives in MARUDI. One reports that two DYAKS, who previously had been in contact with our troops are prisoners and another states that about 20 natives have been killed in the village. A party of 40 are said to have come down the river to K BARAM today but they have not yet been contacted.

A chinese who left K BAKEONG last night is certain that there are no JAPS permanently stationed there and that the 4 sentries previously reported are no longer in position. The reliability of this statement is difficult to assess. It is considered by one native contacted that the JAPS at MARUDI intend to move upstream to LINEI.

MIRI Area

Further information from native sources is that there are enemy forces approximately one battalion strong between the 10 mile and 21 mile on the RIAM road. The bulk of the force is said to be at the 15 mile in a camouflaged bivouac area. The HQ is reported to be at the 12 mile with LT to the 10 mile. Supply and ammunition dump is said to be located at the 10 mile and a stores dump at the 18 mile.

NIAH Area

Native reports state that there were 40 JAPS in the town area on 3 Jul. They have shelters dug but move into the jungle during the day.

SIBUTI Area

he also states that 17 Japs were killed during a recent air strike

A DYAK who left SIBUTI on 3 Jul reports that there were 70 JAPS then on the outskirts of the town and that the approaches from SIBUTI RIVER were covered by MG, manned during the night. Another report is that on 7 Jul only 8 JAPS were in SIBUTI. Between 4 and 7 Jul a JAP force 60 strong all armed and with 1 MG staged at KALULIT (approximately 3 miles SE of SIBUTI) and then moved SOUTH. The small force in SIBUTI, according to this source of information, is a Movement Control Unit.

LAWAS Area

A SRD report from LAWAS area states at least 800 JAPS (soldiers and civilians) are in the PA TENGOA area square 90 SINDUMIN 1/250,000. Other reports from SRD have placed the number in the above area as high as 2,500. All PW and documentary information which has been collected from the BRUNEI - LIMBANG - BROOKENDON area to date indicates that not more than 800 JAPS, including civilians, were in the general BRUNEI area on 10 Jun 45. Owing to wastage by all causes it is difficult to believe that more than 450 JAPS have moved EAST of PANDARUAN RIVER after evacuation of BRUNEI area.

If numbers quoted by SRD are correct it seems possible that the strength has been built up by an influx from another area. There has been no report of any large scale movement SOUTH from WESTON but it is possible that some soldiers and civilians employed on garrison duties or on road work between WESTON and LAWAS at the time of the landing may have moved SOUTH into the TRUSAN area.

2. ORDER OF BATTLE

*late stated
KEMPEI
TAI*

A SRD report from LIMBANG area states that 1st Lt SUGAYA has been identified as killed in the BT BIDANG area square 3K MIRI 1/250,000 within the last few days.

SUGAYA was OC 3 Coy 366 IIB which was stationed at BROCKETON from Apr 45 to 10 Jun 45. The Company (40/50 strong) withdrew to the coastal area at the NORTH end of the BERAKAS road and its movements have subsequently been closely followed by patrol contacts and native reports through the JERUDONG Hills, SOUTH through SENKURONG thence further SOUTH to the BIDANG area. Numerous casualties have been inflicted on the group throughout its journey and it seems there are now only approx 20 left. Intention of the group is possibly to move onto the LIMBANG RIVER then endeavour to join the remainder of 366 IIB who were destined for MENGATAI - BT MALAU area. It is unlikely that 3 Coy has news of the fate of the remainder of the battalion.

Extracts from a notebook belonging to HAYASHIDA, a private soldier of 366 IIB stationed in the BRUNEI area, are of interest. The general tone of his notes is typical of the attitude of a very high percentage of the soldiers of 56 IIB stationed in BRUNEI area. Extract is as follows:

"Here we have no such thing as sleeping draughts and anyway there are a lot of fools who start work to moment they are awake. When I was in Japan and had time to sleep I used to go out ~~and~~ instead and have a good time. But since being in the army, especially since coming to BRUNEI where I have fever and get bombed every day, I am always tired but can't go to sleep - not even with sleeping tablets. All this work is too much for me. If I were as tired as this at home I would have a good rest but in the army there is no excuse for resting, even when you're tired, and I am getting fed up. "

J. Stewart Capt Maj
BM 20 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION

- 2/13 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/15 Aust Inf Bn (BRUNEI)
- 2/15 Aust Inf Bn (LIMBANG)
- 2/17 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/3 Aust Rd Coy

5/12 45 (LIMBANG)

SECRET

1106/17

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
16 Jul 45

INTREP 12 TO 1200I 16 JUL 45

*Good CAC
to him*

1. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

MARUDI Area

Information received from natives and SRD tends to confirm previous reports that the JAP force from the LABI area has now moved to the LINEI area on TUTOH RIVER. Several reports give the strength at approximately 600 and this estimate appears reasonable.

The small force which occupied MARUDI 10 Jul (possibly 100) came from BAKOENG by river craft. 40 JAPS are reported to have evacuated MARUDI when our troops arrived 15 Jul.

It appears that approximately one company has been stationed in BAKEONG area with 4 sentries at KUALA BAKEONG.

In LIMBANG area a few stragglers are still being mopped up or taken PW. Identifications are mostly 366 IIB.

2. TAC R REPORTS

Tac R of RIAM road area 15 Jul gives following information (all refs 1/50,000) -

Track on WEST side of creek 472732 to 472722, also branch track to house 466723. Bridge under construction 4727 and all tracks well used. Signs of activity and possible fox holes 478733 but NMS. No dumps seen but one JAP was seen running towards jungle at 479736.

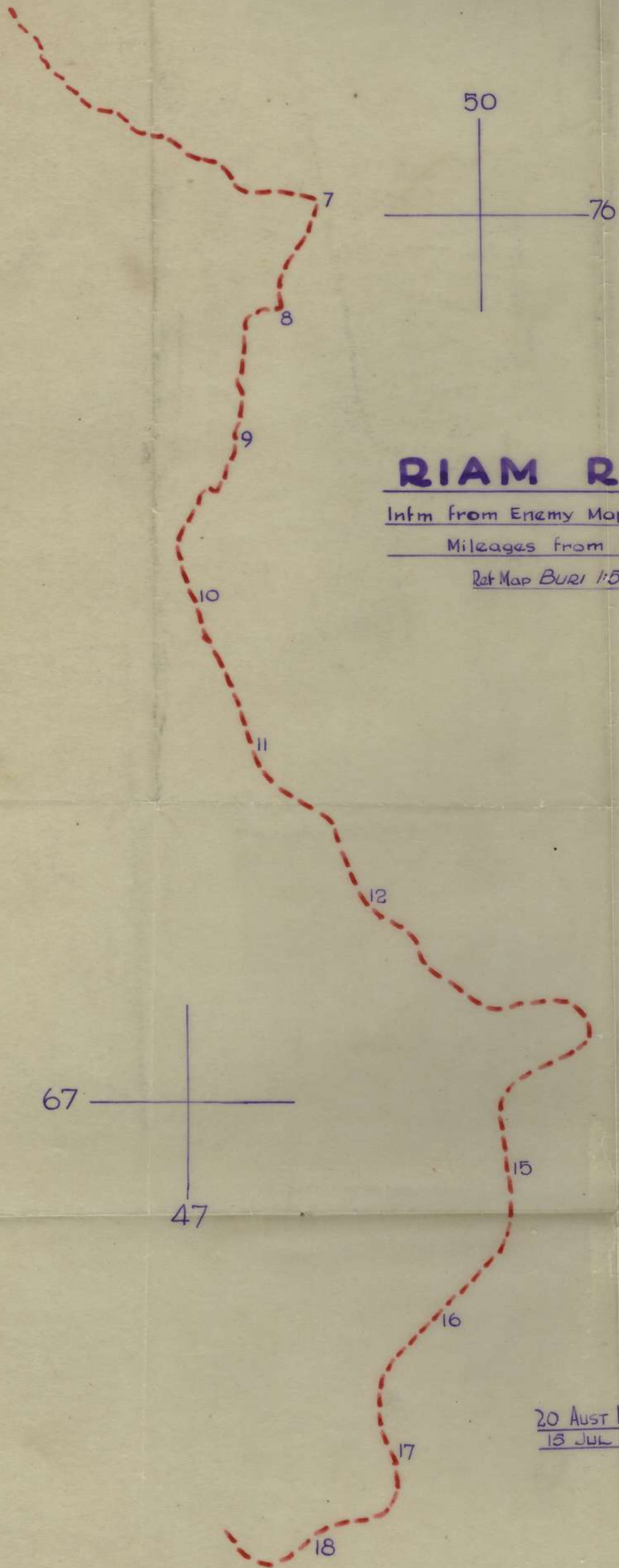
3. TOPOGRAPHY

Attached is overlay to L.50,000 series showing course of RIAM road taken from air photographs and captured map. Mileages are from native interrogations.

Int Sec:

*approximate course
on 250000*

J. L. ... Capt. Maj
BM 20 Aust Inf Bde



RIAM ROAD

Intm from Enemy Map & Air Photos

Mileages from Native intm

Ref Map Buri 1:50000

20 AUST INF BDE INT SEC
13 JUL

[Signature]

230/11/11

Comd
Wic
Adit
to
M.P.

SECRET

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
17 Jul 45

INTREP 13 TO 1200I 17 JUL 45

1. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

MARUDI Area

There were approximately 40 JAPS in MARUDI when our troops landed at KUALA RIDAN. These JAPS are said by natives to have fled to B DABEI (866 1/250,000). They have possibly now moved to LINEI via the RIDAN - LINEI track. Our troops in MARUDI found Chinese guerilla of Maj CARTER's party, who was left wounded in MARUDI hospital, had been killed by JAPS. One native was also found bayoneted in neck and side by JAPS. There has been no report of damage to MARUDI by the JAPS.

Patrol from ~~MARUDI~~ ^{MENDAKUM} to KG RIDAN by track reports NMS.

An SRD report received today indicates that the JAPS are evacuating LINEI up the TUTOH RIVER towards BT NULU. There have been several previous reports to this effect.

BRUNEI Area

Two JAPS were seen by a patrol 515415 (1/50,000). One was killed and other wounded but escaped. Each had bayonet and one killed had spear and grenades.

MIRI Area

A patrol up MIRI RIVER to area 483867 to investigate native report of JAPS in the area found definite signs two JAPS had been in area night 14/15 Jul. Natives in area said JAPS came down river in canoe to above reference, dug up some food, burnt down a native hut and then returned up river by canoe.

2. ENEMY STRENGTH AND ORDER OF BATTLE

All native information from MIRI area indicates that 553 IIB, or at least the portion stationed in MIRI area, was made up largely of civilian recruits from the area. Some reports have stated that majority of JAPS had "just received their star" and also that regular soldiers were not all used together but split up to bolster and strengthen the new ones. This may account for the report that some JAPS contacted by 2/13 Aust Inf Bn patrol along RIAM road were wearing civilian clothes. Morale of these troops is thought to be fairly high and they have always shown an aggressive inclination to fight when contacted by our troops.

3. MORALE

Extracts from AMF Weekly Intelligence Review No 142:

"The diary of a naval commander taken prisoner on LUZON has some interesting reflections on JAPAN's present and future status. The writer, on evidence in the diary, is a Christian. Whilst in the Navy he probably saw enough of the world to absorb western thought, to have more balanced judgment, and to lose the intensely chauvinistic tendencies evident among so many regular Army officers. The Japanese defeat on LUZON probably colours his thought when he says, "the recklessness of the Army has led the nation astray". This savours of "the pot calling the kettle black".

The thoughts he expresses on his contemplated surrender (later effected) suggest that his religion and western ideas too considerably influenced him.

"2 Apr Should JAPAN be reconstructed under the guidance of AMERICA after the war? Or should we tie up with RUSSIA against AMERICA?

Will AMERICA annihilate the Japanese, especially the soldiers remaining in the southern areas or will they be saved?

The outcome of the war is already clear. What is the object of continuing to fight?

The Army is responsible for leading the nation astray. What will they do about it?

8 Apr What will happen to us in the future? Isn't it time for JAPAN to formulate a far sighted national policy? Shall JAPAN rely on AMERICA or RUSSIA after the war? Personally I think JAPAN should rely on AMERICA. If we depend on AMERICA, our national policy will be perfected. Flowers will bloom and spring will come.

9 Apr The future road to be taken by JAPAN :

Ask AMERICA for peace immediately. It will be unconditional surrender. The recklessness of the Army has led the nation astray.

We need the guidance of AMERICA after the war. There is no other country than AMERICA upon which we can rely. If we rely upon RUSSIA the nation will perish.

Extension of education. Growth of production.

GERMANY has risen after twenty years. However, if a country does not maintain peace it will perish again.

8 Jun Will the American and Philippine Armies save us? When you think that they shoot us every day and kill almost anything they encounter, it seems they have no desire to save us. I certainly want to live. I cannot die without knowing the situation in the world. I want to be a good Christian. Amen.

I asked IIO his opinion about surrendering but he stated that he will not become a prisoner, even if he has to die. However, there is no other ingenious plan. The situation is hopeless. No food and no rice. Won't our country permit us free action in the light of this hopeless situation? What can human beings do? Die? Death can be achieved anytime. I shall wait.

12 Jun Rain, sickness and no food. How many months can we live on tapioca? Will the enemy forgive us? I must go back alive. I want to meditate on why JAPAN acted so foolishly. Nowhere in history was anything so foolish done. I've no fear of dying but it's no use dying unnecessarily.

14 Jun All out of tapioca. When will the war end? If there were some people in JAPAN with common sense I think this war would end soon. However, if all the people are lunatics, it's another matter. Relying on AMERICA and ENGLAND to rebuild JAPAN is the far sighted

national policy. It is impossible to think that a nation will perish simply by losing one war. However, to rely on RUSSIA will lead the nation into danger. We must depend on AMERICA. I do not think AMERICA will annihilate all the Japanese. "

James G. ... Maj
BM 20 Aust *Inf* Bde

DISTRIBUTION

2/13 Aust Inf Bn
2/15 Aust Inf Bn (BIMBANG)
2/15 Aust Inf Bn (BRUNEI)
2/17 Aust Inf Bn
2/3 Aust Pd Coy

Mrb.
Cmdt. Adj. 10
SA
SECRET

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
19 Jul 45

INTREP 14 TO 1500I 18 JUL 45

1. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

MARUDI Area

Our patrol from MARUDI to RIDAN sighted a JAP party (strength unknown) at approximately 8365 (1/250,000). These JAPS withdrew without contact along a branch track to KUALA RIDAN and were not seen again by patrol. A short distance further on 40 JAPS were contacted. JAPS were in good position covering portion of the track which ran through very swampy ground. JAPS appear to have made good use of ground and weapons in this ambush position. Patrol (water borne) to BAKONG 17 Jul found village empty. Natives gave information of approximately 30 JAPS approximately 2 miles upstream. When patrol arrived at KUALA ARANG (reference 7070 1/250,000) natives reported 18 JAPS coming down stream (presumably ARANG) in canoes. Patrol set ambush, remaining in craft as surrounding ground was too swampy. JAPS did not arrive so patrol proceeded up stream to investigate 30 JAPS previously reported. Approaching KG ARANG (reference 7176 1/250,000) patrol was fired on from 300 yards by MG and rifles when rounding a bend in the river. Ground on each side of river very swampy and Dyaks with patrol state no tracks in area and all movement by water. Patrol withdrew after silencing enemy with gunboat. Enemy position is said by natives to be approximately 5/700 yards NORTH of KG ARANG, and to contain approximately 30 JAPS with at least one LMG and remainder rifles. BAKONG is reported to have been used as staging point only and has NOT been occupied within the last few days.

There have been previous native reports that a HQ is at KG ARANG, and that there has been considerable activity in the area. Patrol from RIDAN SOUTH along MARUDI track contacted party of JAPS 0845I 18 Jul. Position of contact NOT stated. JAP strength estimated at 40. Patrol attacked and killed 4 JAPS. JAPS used mortars (type ~~unk~~ NOT stated) and 4 LMG against patrol. It is considered this JAP party is the same as contacted by patrol from MARUDI 17 Jul.

MIRI Area

Several native reports considered reliable have been received stating that at 2200I 16 Jul a party of JAPS with one officer arrived at KG BLUBOH (398751). They asked many questions about AUST patrol activity along the NIAH road and appeared to know about the patrol to the BAKAM saw mill. Informants stated that they had attempted to kill some of the Chinese in the village but the Chinese got away. JAPS had come from 8 mile on the RIAM road. Before returning they stated they would come back in a day or so with one hundred men.

Patrol to KG BLUBOH 17 Jul found evidence that one house had been occupied by the JAPS.

2. ENEMY STRENGTHS

It appears certain that JAPS contacted in MARUDI area are from BAKOENG area. On present information it appears there are approximately 50 JAPS at present in the area MARUDI - RIDAN - KUALA RIDAN. Native reports suggested approximately 150 JAPS had moved to MARUDI from BAKOENG.

On present information it appears that all LABI JAPS are intent on moving up the TUTOH RIVER, possibly to API or MULU areas. SRD reports of strength as 1000 appear excessive unless more JAPS have moved EAST from BAKOENG area than present information indicates.

Native reported that original party of JAPS (100) which captured MARUDI from SRD had since moved to LINEI and that at least another 50 had moved into MARUDI from BAKOENG. It is considered that maximum number of JAPS in LINEI area or further EAST would be 700.

3. ORDER OF BATTLE

Interrogation of civilians in MIRI area reveals that during 1944 a number of JAP civilians were sent to KUCHING where they were given a medical and "military" examination and then returned to MIRI to join the army. About Apr of May 45 many civilians were called up, given some military training and then returned to their usual occupations. On 10 Jun all civilians were called up for army duty.

4. TOPOGRAPHY

BARAM RIVER - MARUDI (Ref map 1/250,000)

The following information was obtained during the move by barge from KUALA BARAM to MARUDI. There are 30 huts at 6300, on both sides of the river. Small settlements also exist at 6697, 7094 and 7677. The entrance to PAGALAYAN canal (7492) was not observed from the barge.

The BAKOENG RIVER at its junction with the BARAM is 25 yards wide. Further small settlements (2 or 3 huts) also exist at KUALA BAKEONG, 7570 and 7568. The northern arm of the river around the island shown on map at 7767 does not exist nor does the island as shown. The southern arm forms a small delta with two entrances.

The BARAM RIVER generally conforms to the map and its width varies between 250 and 300 yards. It is easily navigable by LCM, the only obstacle noted being a sand bar at 7767 which makes it necessary for craft to keep to the western bank. Many clearings were noticed on both banks of the river between KUALA BAKEONG and MARUDI.

BT DABEI is placed, according to a captured map at 8862 and natives state that a track runs direct from MARUDI to DABEI. Other tracks in the area are from NEBONG (7857) SOUTH to TABAN (7554) and from 8352 to 8244.

5. JAPANESE OPERATIONAL AND INTELLIGENCE REPORTING

Documents have often shown that subordinate commanders have frequently distorted the battle reports they forward to their superiors. The consequences of such inaccurate reporting in the planning of future operations and in making appreciations of enemy capabilities need no stressing. The two extracts given below from documents captured in BURMA show that some commanders are endeavouring to rectify this evil.

"Exaggerated reports of the enemy situation lead Senior Commanders astray, whilst reports of battle successes are exaggerated for personal glorification. This is a great moral problem. Reports must be truthful. Names of formations must be established conclusively and all situation reports should state source clearly. Prisoners taken and weapons captured (or destroyed) are proof of success in battle. As regards desertions and casualties confine yourself to numbers which you know to be true."

"Situation reports must be precise. Particularly avoid making exaggerated estimates of enemy strength which will mislead your superior commanders. On certain occasions, commanders have submitted exaggerated claims of battle results and overestimated their own achievements: it is hoped that reports made by this Heidan are accurate enough for our superiors to rely upon them. In reporting numbers of enemy dead, classify them as counted or estimated."

(SEATIC Bulletin 162)


Maj
BM 20 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION

2/13 Aust Inf Bn
2/15 Aust Inf Bn (LIMBANG)
2/15 Aust Inf Bn (BRUNEI)
2/17 Aust Inf Bn
2/3 Aust Fd Coy

Comd
Capt
W. L. M.
M.B.

IN 167/22

SECRET

HQ 29 Aust Inf Bde
20 Jul 45

INTREP 15 TO 0900I 20 JUL 45

1. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

MIRI Area

Interrogation of two natives who left SIBU 10 Jul by prahu arriving MIRI 16 Jul gives the following information.

There are approximately 1000 JAPS in SIBU and they are well armed. All the JAPS are located in one area for fear of attack by 3000 hostile DYAKS who are in the area. 50 JAPS have so far been killed by DYAKS, who are awaiting the word to attack the JAPS. JAPS are living in the rubber plantation outside the town and informants state that Allied planes are NOT hitting close to the JAPS but are killing Chinese residents instead. The JAPS have very large supplies of food; an estimated 70,000 bags of paddy and 3000 bags of rice amongst other supplies. DYAKS are operating in small groups but will operate as a force when the battle ships and planes arrive. It is difficult to assess the reliability of informants but they volunteered the information and state that they have come with the desire to lead the Allied forces to the JAPS, that the DYAKS respected them and will do what they tell them. Route followed by informants was SIBU - IGAN - OYA - MUKAH - BLINGIAN - TATAU - BINTULU - SUAI - NIAH - SIBUTI - MIRI. Saw no JAPS between SIBU and BINTULU. At BINTULU there are two JAPS, one the district officer, the other posing as a Malay using name of BARAHIM. Both are very old. There were 20 JAPS at SIBUTI.

A native report (considered reliable) states that at 0800 hrs 18 Jul 12 JAPS armed with rifles came to KG LUSUT square #179. They were camouflaged with leave on their uniforms. They looted the village gardens before leaving.

MARUDI Area

There has been no further contact with enemy. Summary of interrogation report attached (PW Number 68). Information given by PW confirms some previous native and SRD reports. JAP party which drove SRD out of MARUDI (possibly 60 strong) appears to have been the only force in MARUDI. Strength of the force is further confirmed by patrol contact in MARUDI area.

There is no confirmation other than native reports of the JAP force still being in ARANG village area. Reported to be 3-40 strong 500/700 yards NORTH of village but NOT certain whether only on WEST bank of river. Natives report JAPS are still using ARANG RIVER and that JAPS from MIRI area come up the TANIKU RIVER as far as possible thence 3 hour walk to ARANG RIVER thence by prahu to ARANG village.

Native reports (reliability unknown) state JAPS are moving from LINEI towards LIMBANG and that the main body 1000 strong have many coolies and Indian PW with them.

At 780613 (1/250,000) three natives ~~xxx~~ were found killed by JAPS and included one woman with breasts cutoff.

LIMBANG Area

A patrol at SEMBILING 16 Jul was told by reliable native that GIBBS (SRD) had killed 33 JAPS near BERAWAN village 5219 (1/250,000). If this report is confirmed the JAPS killed were possibly to be the party last contacted at BIDANG area moving EAST. Considered to be remainder of 3 Coy 366 IIB.

There is also a report (reliability unknown) that HENRY (SRD) killed 7 JAPS recently in LUBAI RIVER area.

2. ENEMY INTENTIONS

On present information it appears that all SERIA - KUALA BELAIT JAPS who moved out to LABI area have moved EAST of LINEI. It seems that original intention was to move to MARUDI thence either WEST to link with MIRI JAPS or evacuate SOUTH down BARAM or ~~TINJAR~~ RIVERS.

TINJAR

The move to MARUDI appears to have been stopped by reports of Europeans being in the area in great strength. It appears that the decision was then made to move from RIDAN to LINEI.

Natives now state that JAP intention is to move from LINEI through to LIMBANG area. There are a few tracks, reported as very difficult, linking the TUTOH RIVER area with LIMBANG area, and it is possible that the hostility of the native tribes in the inland areas, plus the difficulty of obtaining food, may influence this move.

In the MIRI area there is little or no evidence that the JAP is moving SOUTH. There have been no further reports indicating movement in the BELURU area where the main force is said to be concentrated. There is still a considerable amount of activity by small parties of JAPS throughout most of the area. It is believed, however, that the occupation of MARUDI by troops from the MIRI area was an attempt by Col AIKIO to secure a L of C to allow the LABI JAPS to move through. It is possible also that the object of holding the RIAM road has been to delay our movement long enough to allow not only the re-grouping of the MIRI force but the eventual linking of the two forces before any general southward movement takes place. It is possible that through lack of communications the LABI force was not aware of the situation in the MIRI area and that contact was not made with the force from MIRI area sent to occupy MARUDI.

CO of MIRI forces

If the above be correct then it seems reasonable to assume that Col AIKIO will soon commence implementing any proposed move southward of his forces in the MIRI area and leave the LABI force to fend for itself.

3. SUPPLY SITUATION

JAPS killed MARUDI area are reported to be well fed and equipped and to ~~be with~~ ^{have} plenty of ammunition.

4. TOPOGRAPHY

Track RIDAN - GADONG

From RIDAN the track leads through sago swamp and fallen timber for the first hour. Going is very slow. Track runs over small rises, the highest being approximately 200 feet. Track then drops down to RIVER DABEI and follows river for 1 hour to ~~KG~~ GADONG (9063 1/250,000).

RIVER BAKOENG

Following rivers flow into RIVER BAKOENG :-

S ARANG at 7070
S NABO at 6163
S BEERA at 5762.

All references 1/250,000.

5. TAG R INFORMATION

BAKOENG RIVER

The small village on WEST bank of river at 542575 is reported to have been burnt out as a result of air attacks. Short fresh tracks were observed in the area. A well used track leads EAST towards the river. Several clearings were observed and gardens generally appear to be well kept.

On the WEST bank of the river vicinity 575621 a new landing stage 24 ft x 12 ft has been erected. A clearly defined track runs along the WEST bank of the creek which enters the river at this point, disappearing into heavy timber 100 yards from the creek junction.

BELURU

Between BAKOENG and BELURU the river runs through thick jungle and no tracks were observed (Approximately one mile NORTH of BELURU). The main village of BELURU consists of a line of 16 huts in good condition, extending for three quarter mile along the WEST bank of the river. At the northern end of the village is a landing stage 20' x 10'. On the WEST bank of the river near the creek junction NORTH of BELURU is an old trench. A well used track runs WEST for 400 yards where it strikes a thinly timbered razor-backed ridge. After a further 400 yards it runs on to a thickly timbered feature. At this point there are numerous fox holes and a trench 12' x 2' x 5'. A well used track continues WEST. No tracks were observed running NORTH or SOUTH out of BELURU along the river.

BT MULU Area

It is considered that there are no potential food areas vicinity BT MUKU. Along the SUNGAI RIVER from its junction with the MENDARAM RIVER (4384 1/250,000) to 5281 the vegetation is mostly secondary growth with patches of old bananas. Numerous huts were observed in the area. A well used track runs roughly northwest from 4784 for about 600 yards where it disappears in the jungle. The track is about 5 feet wide. No movement was seen.

LINER

There are numerous huts and the gardens in this area appear to be well kept. There was no sign of enemy activity.

J. Hummer Capt
BM 20 Aust Inf Bde Maj

DISTRIBUTION

- 2/13 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/15 Aust Inf Bn (LIMBANG)
- ~~2/15 Aust Inf Bn (BRUNEE)~~
- 2/17 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/13 Aust Rd Coy
- 2/8 Aust Ld Regt

PRELIMINARY INFO FROM INTERROGATION OF PW CAPTURED
MARUDI 17 JUL 45

PW was a civilian emp by the JAP Army as a lumber man. He arrived at MIRI from JESSELTON 20 Nov 44. At end of Apr 45 he went by motorboat from K BARAN to MARUDI with five other civilians. On 8 Jun 45 JAP soldiers arrived by boat and the civilians were used by them to collect food. As a result of hostile action by DYAKS (incl the killing of a JAP offr) the whole party left MARUDI on 20 Jun by boat. PW was left at BAKONG and others continued up the BAKONG RIVER (destination not known).

On 8 Jul PW left for MARUDI with a force of approx 50 JAPS who arrived at BAKONG, from further up the river, in 4 prahus (one large and three small). The force was under comd 1/Lt UCHIDA and incl 3 2/Lts and one WO. PW was given an English rifle, 35 rds of amn, and one grenade.

Each man had more than 35 rds of amn and 3 or 4 grenades. The force has 3 or 4 LMG, one JUKI and 3 or 4 grenade dischargers, but no mortars. It also carried at least 3 boxes (each containing about 600 rds) of MG amn.

Force was ambushed near K RIDAN and survivors from first two boats together with 3rd and 4th boat, pulled into the RIDAN RIVER and proceeded overland to MARUDI which they found unoccupied.

This party was not reinforced prior to the Aust occupation of MARUDI and was still intact. On the day before our landing PW was sleeping in the jungle, where they spent their days, and when he woke up the others were all gone. PW claims he has no knowledge of the route followed by the party nor of its destination or intention.

PW's military knowledge was very limited and, apart from MARUDI UCHIDA, no identifications were obtained. He states that he has never seen any Allied PW.

209/29

SECRET

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
22 Jul 45

INTREP 16 TO 0700I 22 JUL 45

1. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

MIRI Area

Native reports that JAPS are not using tpt beyond 10 mile on RIAM road is confirmed by tac R. Roads beyond that point are not capable of taking any wheeled traffic. Telephone line was observed between 10 and 12 mile but was not observed to terminate anywhere. SRD report says telephone line extends from 7 mile to 21 mile.

The following letter has been received from BALINGIAN signed by LIM YU MIN the Chinese representative in BALINGIAN.

"To the C-in-C Allied Troops, MIRI.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that on 11 Jul all the things left by the JAP Govt here were finished by the Dyaks. After looting the JAP things the Dyaks tried to loot things from the people in the town, so all the people ran away until 14 Jun we (people in the town) gathered together to form a unit to protect the town there. At present all the JAPS have run away from here. Hoping the Allied troops will come over here to save us from trouble as quick as possible

Signed LIM YU MIN
13 Jul 45"

A similar request has been received from the headman of BALINGIAN, addressed to "The American Soldiers in MIRI".

SRD report states JAPS are holding BELURU - NYABOR - ARANG - RIAM road. SIBUTI said to be vacated. Reported to be holding the RIAM road from 7 mile to 21 mile in force with well prepared positions. A telephone line is said to be means of communication between these two points. SRD states strength in area SOUTH of MIRI to BELURU and WEST of BARAM RIVER to be 1000/1500, and that intention is to stay and fight.

Native reports again place "many" JAPS in the 10 mile area of the RIAM road.

Patrol to LUSUT area 19 Jul found no indications of recent JAP activity. Natives told patrol that 4 JAPS had been seen 18 Jul walking along RIAM road from 8 mile to 3 mile. There are further native reports of activity in the $3\frac{1}{2}$ mile area where 20 JAPS were said to have been patrolling. JAPS had one LMG and made many enquiries about Australian patrols. Natives say no information was given to the JAPS.

MARUDI Area

Enemy party of approximately 40 strong contacted near RIDAN were reported by natives to be moving towards MENDARAM. A patrol moving SOUTH from MENDARAM towards RIDAN 21 Jul made contact with a party of JAPS strength unknown on the track approximately 2000 yards SOUTH of MENDARAM. Believed to be the same force which moved NORTH from MARUDI. SRD report (Maj CARTER) states that JAP force EAST of LINEI is ~~split~~ split up into groups of approximately 50/100 and are in a bad condition because of lack of food. Natives (Poonans and Ibans) have united and are now taking a heavy toll of this force. Ibans and Poonans appear to be working in complete harmony and divide the JAP heads amongst the two tribes - even the odd ones.

LIMBANG Area

LIMBANG Area

On 19 Jul natives reported there were some enemy in the BERAWAN - LUBAI area.

Further native reports suggested 29 JAPS were in the area of whom 22 were killed by DYAKS and remainder fled SOUTH. Following report sent in by Pte GIBBS (SRD) 18 Jul 45:

"11 JAPS went through KURUMI to LIMBANG 9/7/45. Have 5 rifles. During period 12/16 Jul approx 30 JAPS moved towards LIMBANG - 20 from LUBAI district on 16 Jul and 10 from BERAWAN 13 Jul. LUBAI party had food, arms and grenades. BERAWAN party only rifles. During week 11/18 Jul 37 JAPS killed."

2. ENEMY AIR ACTIVITY

Informants from SIBU (considered reliable) state that up to the time they left SIBU (9 Jul 45) there were three SEP on the airstrip which is a grass strip located at SUNGAI MERA in SIBU. There are burnt fuel supplies at the strip. Every morning the planes took off and returned about 1700 hours the same day. One informant states he has heard that JAPS have another strip at BELAWAN, near KAJENG RIVER on the coast. ~~Sketch drawn by informant forwarded under separate cover.~~

3. ACTION OF IBANS UNDER FIRE

A party of IBANS carrying supplies for our patrol from MARUDI to RIDAN 17 Jul, dropped their load on fire being opened by enemy LMG and went to ground. During the first lull in the firing, thinking it was all over, they picked up their spears and moved forward. On fire being opened again by enemy they rushed back, picked up their gear, and were not seen again until the patrol had withdrawn a mile.

However, they are reported as being excellent scouts and in some cases very good under fire. It is suggested by patrol commander ~~him~~ to keep them well back while a selected few act as scouts.

John A. ... Maj
BN 20 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION

- 2/13 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/15 Aust Inf Bn (LIMBANG)
- ~~2/15 Aust Inf Bn (BRUNEI)~~
- 2/17 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/3 Aust Pd Coy
- 2/8 Aust Fa Regt.

2/15
Gund Coy
Mc -
Adji-fish
10-kmm

298/26
SECRET

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
23 Jul 45

INTREP 17 TO 1500I 23 JUL 45

1. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

MARUDI Area

Party of JAPS believed to be same party which moved NORTH from MARUDI 15 Jul, were last reported by natives 22 Jul at 923780 (MENDARAM 1/63,360). They were engaged by artillery and later a patrol investigated the area and found a paybook, 6 mortar bombs (believed grenade discharger) and a few rounds of JUKI ammunition. JAP party was reported by natives to be approximately 30 strong.

These JAPS are said to be making NORTH to MENDARAM RIVER - one native report stated that intention was to get canoes and proceed towards the coast.

They evacuated MARUDI 15 Jul and were contacted at approximately 8767 (1/250,000) on 17 Jul at which point they ambushed our patrol from MARUDI. Next contact was morning 18 Jul on outskirts of RIDAN village when they were attacked by our patrol.

In this engagement 4 JAPS were killed and a few estimated wounded. JAP strength was reported as 40. JAPS were then reported to have moved NORTH to 8969 (1/250,000) thence towards MENDARAM. Next contact was on 20 Jul on the track approximately one mile SOUTH of MENDARAM. They were again engaged by our troops and subsequently 4 haversacks were found and some blood on the track. JAPS then moved SE to approximately 8976 (1/250,000) thence EAST across the MENDARAM - RIDAN track 21 Jul towards BT TERAJA, crossing the track 500 yards NORTH of an ambush set by our troops. JAPS then reported by natives to have moved NORTH along the line of the hills to 923780 (1/63,360) where they were engaged by artillery 22 Jul.

MIRI Area

A letter has been received through SRD channels written by EDWARD BRANDAH, former Inspector of SARAWAK Constabulary who apparently is now at the village of MAMOOD, between SIBUTI and BELURU. Copy of letter is attached.

~~A map drawn by NORSNELL of SRD and received through SRD channels at MARUDI shows details of JAP dispositions and topographical information BELURU area. Map drawn 8 Jul - attached to this report.~~

~~The track and river systems running SOUTH from BELURU giving access to TINJAR RIVER.~~

BAKOENG Area

Patrol via BAKOENG RIVER 21 Jul to reconnoitre enemy position at 7069 (1/250,000) NMS but hut and track leading to water's edge was observed at above reference. Possible well screened LMG position seen at 7069. Natives reported that one JAP officer and 4 wounded moved along WEST bank of river to NAKAU 21 Jul. Canoes used by enemy were destroyed by our bombing. ARANG RIVER has NOT been used since 18 Jul by the JAPS.

LIMBANG Area

Patrol by river to UKONG received information from SRD that NMS BIDANG area. One JAP killed 18 Jul at UKONG and further seven killed between UKONG and upper LUBAI who were with party of 25. Remainder hiding in the hills.

Natives report 1000 JAPS at SAPONG 4148 (1/250,000).

2. TOPOGRAPHY

LABI Area

The main track running SE from LABI passing over BT TELINGAN is reported to be a formed road 12 to 15 feet wide for its complete length. Although in parts undergrowth now covers the track it is well drained and it is considered it could be made jeepable with a little work. The track finished where shown on 1/63,360 ending at a creek. This creek was followed by patrol to 952814 (1/63,360) and from there a spur was followed up to BT KAJANG. An indistinct track marked by cut sticks leads up this spur. It is considered that the track was a probable JAP escape route. A track runs approximately NORTH from BT KAJANG and eventually joins main LABI - RAMPAYOH track at 939832.

500 yards along the track from the trig at TELINGAN a track leads off EAST. Native guides reported that this track which appears to be narrow but passable leads to S BARAN and on to KG BARAN (015855). A further track leads SOUTH from KG BARAN to KG SAWUT which is placed SOUTH of KG BARAN about 200 yards off the ~~map~~ (1/63,360) map.

BAKOENG Area

The BAKOENG RIVER as far as K ARANG is of an average width of 50 yards. For most of its length there is dense foliage on each side of river. Land approaches to the ARANG area are considered to be difficult but possible.

MENDARAM - RIDAN Track

Under present conditions walking time is 6 hours. As far as TERAJA track follows the foothills most of the way but sago swamp occurs at many points. Mud is up to one foot deep but swamps can be negotiated. Log obstacles occur throughout the track. From TERAJA RIVER to RIDAN the proportion of swamp increases and going is generally more difficult than in the early stages.

SIMPANG Area

Track running EAST from 937884 (1/63,360) is a foot pad with firm surface. In this area it is reported that the lower slopes of the hills are covered with thick rain forest. Higher up heavy timber is encountered but undergrowth ceases.

MARUDI Area

In the peninsula area formed by the river WEST of MARUDI many good tracks exist. Well worn tracks are reported as follows:-

- (a) 786609 - 781620
- (b) 783615 - 752625 then along river bank to MARUDI.
- (c) 770612 - 783615

All references on 1/50,000 series.

3. TAG R INFORMATION

BELURU Area

Tracks previously reported in area still show signs of recent heavy use. On the EAST side of feature approximately 800 yards ENE of village a tunnel appears to be in course of construction. Entrance to suspected tunnel is 8' x 2'. The foxholes previously reported about 600 yards WEST of village were again inspected. They appear to have been recently dug and fire lanes have been cleared. 21 holes are visible. Many additional small tracks were observed in the area but none could be followed very far.

LIMBANG Valley

Many native gardens and wild bananas exist along SUNGEI RIVER and MEDAMIT RIVER. Some of these areas have apparently not been tended as secondary growth is evident. Approximately 16 huts were sighted along the SUNGEI RIVER.

MT MULU Area

An area approximately 10 miles NORTH of the line MT MULU - MT API was investigated and is reported to be very rough and rugged and completely covered with dense jungle.

LINEI

Again there was no sign of enemy movement or activity. The village is reported to be scattered with several garden areas and good tracks. No further details of tracks are available.

4. ENEMY METHODS

The following information has been sent in by SRD from BELURU area of enemy booby traps in NYABOR.

"1. All houses vacated by IBANS in the area have been booby-trapped in preparation for Aust troops entering.

2. Information NOT certain as yet to exactly where these are placed but possibly in doorways, etc. Further investigations being made."

J. L. ... Maj
BH 20 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION

- 2/13 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/15 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/17 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/8 Aust Fd Regt
- 2/3 Aust Fd Coy

COPY

To CO SRD Guerilla.
From Edward BRANDAH Inspector S.C.
Date 10 - 7 - 45.

I have read a letter from MALANG man addressed to one of your men. I sp all the statements written therein. The letter contains a very important piece of intelligence. This supports my investigations about four days ago, while one of our men visited SELEPIN and there he overheard gossipers say that JAPS made their camps from Mile 7 to Mile 21 with conn connected by phone from end to end.

I have held a meeting with my supporters this morning and we suggest the following plans for your military strategy.

1. SIBUTI should be completely and thoroughly bombed again and landed simultaneously. My informers informed me yesterday that the str of JAP forces there were decreasing as the result of the RAF bombings. As soon as SIBUTI is retaken, BELURU also should also be attacked and bombed from the air. This would make the circle complete. There is a trunk rd from SIBUTI to BELURU, passing through the following villages:-- From SIBUTI passing MULAU PEDEK MAMOOD SELIPAN NIPA reaching BELURU

When SIBUTI and BELURU are retaken, AIF should be stationed at these two places, and also at a village called GADONG. There is a rd from GADONG to the sea at a placed called BRAYAK. We suggest to evacuate all women and children at GADONG, ENTULANG, and MALANG to MAMOOD and to PEDEK, and the women and children of BURIK, NAKAT, LIAM and NYABOR to SELEPIN and NIPA. When women and children of these places are placed on the outer ring, then RIAM rd, MALANG, NAKAT, BURIK and NYABOR could be turned into a big battlefield.

RIAM rd from Mile 7 to Mile 21 is where the main force of the JAPS army. There are several JAP high offrs at this place. On the left ^{see} _{below} the jungle is the place where the JAPS entrenched themselves. One mile left and right of the RIAM rd from Mile 7 to Mile 21 should be bombed and machine gunned. AIF stationed at SIBUTI, BELURU and GADONG should Not be used for attack but to ast as stopper for possible escapes.

To fight the JAPS on land is suicidal as they have surveyed every inch of the land.

The above plan, of course, is the product of our unmilitary brains. They may not be a great help to you but I think on the whole they are a very important piece of intelligence.

The JAPS seemed to altër their tactics as they removed all important war materials, good, etc to BELURU from SIBUTI. Yesterday, men from three cillages numbering 51 men helped them to carry the following war materials from SIBUTI to BELURU

14 Light MGs
7 Hy type MGs
6 cases amn.
2 cases hand grenades
15 rifles and countless numbers of
foodstuffs.

The villagers kept their grudge silently and I am afraid their patience will get exhausted in not a distant future. The men in the villages did nothing else, except carrying the JAPS war supplies almost every day. We IBANS surely could not stand this forced labour but who could help it?

We will never allow our village turn to be a JAPS arsenal.

Unless RIAM rd is plastered with bombs and machine guns, the war at this part of the country will not end as the JAPS know that they are doomed to die. They know perfectly well that to surrender means death and therefore it is better for them to die in fighting. I have every day events entered in my diary, informed messengers carrying

① and right of the RIAM rd covering the distance of one mile into

letters to me not to hand the letters to any unauthorised person. All letters should be handed to me personally by the messenger himself.

At the time of writing only two JAP messengers Sitsui's men who sent food to their tps at BELURU on the way to BELURU. JAPS tps at BELURU are short of food and it is likely that they will die of starvation before meeting the AIF.

Concerning reports from several quarters that there are a number of JAPS tps stationed at MAMOOD. I denied this, these are all lies. People informed you thus, because they did not like PENGHULU because of his abnormal behaviour.

Believe me and take in all my words. I am a Christian and a sworn member of the SARAWAK constabulary Force. My life is dedicated and destined to serve under one flag only. My first letter refers.

NO JAPS soldiers ever stayed longer than one day at MAMOOD either on their way to SIBUTI or from BELURU or vice versa.

Do NOT sacrifice the lives of innocent women and children just for the fault of mistake of so many false reporters. We are fighting for humanity's sake.

Lastly do not talk or ask anyone concerning PENGHULU's character. You and I will deal with him when the war is over and won if there is anything against him.

Wishing you good luck in all your undertakings.

I remain to be of service to you again.

E. BRANDAH.

P.S. It is requested that this letter should be sent to the RAJAH (Maj CARTER) for safe keeping and future references.

6 p.m. At the time of writing there are 16 JAP tps passing MAMOOD from BELURU to SIBUTI on patrol. It appears that the JAPS got wind of your presence in the interior.

2/15
INTEP 13 TO 21001 25 JUL 45

~~SECRET~~

276/27

Comd Coy

HQ 30 Aust Inf Bde
25 Jul 45

27
adv. for
10 - Ann

1. Enemy Activity

MAEDI - LINEI area

A released Indian PW contacted at MAEDI 24 Jul had escaped from the Japs at LINEI 14 days ago. At that time he states that the composition of the Jap force at LINEI was :-

KAMHURA Tai	75
KHAPAI Tai	6
HILJINA Tai	100 approx

of these he claims that KAMHURA Tai have rifles only and that grenades and am were discarded at LAHI. Only 40/50 of HILJINA Tai are armed and the Tai consists mainly of 14/16 year old boys with 3 offrs. When they left LAHI each man carried one month's supply of rice. At the moment they are in poor condition and their morale is low. It is thought likely that Lt JO was killed after leaving LAHI. Informant was told at LAHI that the Allies had landed and that his party would move along the TUMBI River eventually to ULU TUMBU (3378 - 1/250000) where huts and gardens would be built. Whilst at LINEI personnel from KAMHURA Tai were talking of moving via MAEDI to HIRI area (presumably BELURU).

RIAH Rd area

Two Indians who left Mile 26 on 20 Jul report a cone of approx 900 Japs at this point. They are stated to be armed with rifles only and have no MGs. Another native report is that there is a Jap HQ at Mile 12, a food storage point at Mile 15 1/2 and a tele line from Mile 12 to Mile 18. A Dyak, a member of the 3rd who left BUKULANG area (unlocated) on 23 Jul, was employed watching the tr between RIAH Rd and BELURU. He states that there are 60 Japs with 1 MG in BUKULANG. He considers that there are more Japs at Kg RIAH (also unlocated) than in any other village in the area incl BELURU. He also reports Japs at BAKAM and a SLIPK (a tributary of the BAKING River joining that river approx 10 miles upstream from the NYABOR - BAKING junction) as well as at BELURU. Second hand info through this Dyak is that there is still a strong force on the RIAH Rd. This Dyak and his party of 18 armed with 12 rifles and 1 MG killed 16 Japs during the 17 days they were employed on rd watching. He came into HIRI from BAKAM via a DYAK tr over the LAWER HILLS. No Japs were seen en route.

BAKAM area

A native report (based on observations 15 Jul) is that there were 800/1000 Japs in this area at that time. There are no means of assessing the reliability of the informant and it appears that this estimate may be excessive. It is stated that all the Japs in the area are located at the base of a hill on the outskirts of the village. They are living in 6 thatched houses and a number of tents which are struck during the day. All the Japs in the area are reported to be armed and 3 MGs were observed.

BUKULANG area

Natives report the following strengths in this area.

- (a) Kg LUMUT - 12 Japs armed with rifles - no food.
- (b) K SETAP - 16 Japs with 3 MGs incl one possible JUKI
- (c) SETAP - 15 Japs with rifles and 1 or 2 MG (They have been in this area for 10 days).
- (d) SETAI - 15 Japs with 1 MG (this may be the same party as (c))

2/18
INTEP 18 TO 21001 25 JUL 45

~~SECRET~~

276/27

Hq 90 Aust Inf Bde
25 Jul 45

Comd Coy
27 -
adjt. for
10 - Ann

1. Enemy Activity

MAHDI - LIMEI AREA

A released Indian PW contacted at MAHDI 24 Jul had escaped from the Japs at LIMEI 14 days ago. At that time he states that the composition of the Jap force at LIMEI was :-

KAMHURA Tai	75
KHAPAI Tai	6
HILJINA Tai	100 approx

of these he claims that KAMHURA Tai have rifles only and that grenades and am were discarded at LAHI. Only 40/50 of HILJINA Tai are armed and the Tai consists mainly of 14/16 year old boys with 3 offrs. When they left LAHI each man carried one month's supply of rice. At the moment they are in poor condition and their morale is low. It is thought likely that Lt JO was killed after leaving LAHI. Informant was told at LAHI that the Allies had landed and that his party would move along the TUMI River eventually to ULU SURONG (3373 - 1/250000) where huts and gardens would be built. Whilst at LIMEI personnel from KAMHURA Tai were talking of moving via MAHDI to HIRI area (presumably DELURU).

RIAH Rd AREA

Two Indians who left Mile 26 on 20 Jul report a cone of approx 900 Japs at this point. They are stated to be armed with rifles only and have no MGs. Another native report is that there is a Jap HQ at Mile 12, a food storage point at Mile 15 1/2 and a tele line from Mile 12 to Mile 18. A Dyak, a member of the 32D who left BUKULANG area (unlocated) on 23 Jul, was employed watching the tr between RIAH Rd and DELURU. He states that there are 60 Japs with 1 LMG in BUKULANG. He considers that there are more Japs at Kg RIAH (also unlocated) than in any other village in the area incl DELURU. He also reports Japs at BAKAT and a SLIPIN (a tributary of the BAKING River joining that river approx 10 miles upstream from the NYAOR - BAKING junction) as well as at DELURU. Second hand info through this Dyak is that there is still a strong force on the RIAH Rd. This Dyak and his party of 18 armed with 12 rifles and 1 LMG killed 16 Japs during the 17 days they were employed on rd watching. He came into HIRI from BAKAT via a DYAK tr over the LAHAR HILLS. No Japs were seen on route.

MAKAR AREA

A native report (based on observations 15 Jul) is that there were 800/1000 Japs in this area at that time. There are no means of assessing the reliability of the informant and it appears that this estimate may be excessive. It is stated that all the Japs in the area are located at the base of a hill on the outskirts of the village. They are living in 6 thatched houses and a number of tents which are struck during the day. All the Japs in the area are reported to be armed and 3 MGs were observed.

SEHAI AREA

Natives report the following strengths in this area.

- (a) Kg LIMEI - 12 Japs armed with rifles - no food.
- (b) K SEHAI - 16 Japs with 3 MGs incl one possible JUKI
- (c) SEHAI - 15 Japs with rifles and 1 or 2 MG (They have been in this area for 10 days).
- (d) SEHAI - 15 Japs with 1 LMG (this may be the same party as (c))

(a) ODDOOH DENIGER - (2 1/2 hours walk up SETAP River from Kg SETAP) - A varying number between 30 and 10 Japs with 1 MG.

RAJONG area

Patrols from BAKONG 23 Jul confirmed previously reported enemy posts 699692 (1:50000). A Dyak patrol reced the area and chased 3 Japs from a hut near posts. Japs escaped. Dyaks returned with one Jap helmet and an English bayonet. Also 10 bags of rice.

Another Iban patrol 5 1/2 hours up SUNGAI ARANG River saw no enemy but brought back a Jap diary from a village.

The IBAH chief from BURI reported to BAKONG patrol stated there are 20 Japs at KUALA KARAP who were previously at ARANG.

HEIDARUH area

A patrol 25 Jul to 950317 (1:63360) found a JUKI (previously reported to have been found by DYAKS) and some amm. Both were destroyed. A tr running from this post is reported to go to headwaters of SAUD River where Dyaks reported they had made contact with enemy 24 Jul.

MARUDI area

Further info of Japs in LIMBI area was obtained from recovered Indian PW brought in by IBANS. Enemy parties are splitting up into small gps, are demoralised and have little food. No enemy have moved south of TUTUH River.

2. Tops

MARUDI area (1:50000)

Well worn tr 4 ft wide from 794608 to 794615 to 790319 then peters out. There is a tr from hut 789616 to main tr at 783617. Also a tr from 794615 to 808611. Tac R info is att.

3. Allied PW

A released Indian PW who escaped from the Japs at LIMBI and joined our ops at MARUDI states that during Apr this year 30 Australians and 7 Indians (incl 5 offrs) were imprisoned at K BELAIT. When he was moved from K BELAIT to LABI during May these PW were still at K BELAIT.

A released Dutch PW reports that prior to 14 Jun he saw 14 British and 4 Indian PW on the RIAH Rd but, as the report does not indicate the date of this info, at the moment the value of this info is doubtful. Efforts will be made to ascertain if the informant can fix the date. He describes them as very emaciated, and suffering from Malaria and beri beri. They were dressed in shirts, shorts, boots and hats and informant could not say whether they were Australians. Informant believes that the PW were moved back to Mile 7.

A Chinese informant from SIBUTI area states that at about 1400H 24 Jun he watched a prahu carrying 6 men move down the SIBUTI River past the SETAP junc towards K SIBUTI. The persons in the craft were 4 Japs, 1 Dyak and a white man, who was sitting in the middle of the prahu with his hands crossed on his lap. He had fair hair, a growth of beard and appeared to be partly bald. He was wearing only a pair of shorts.

4. HEING Organisation

A released Dutch PW gives some info on this organisation which he was forced to join at KUGHING in Nov 45. He was trained with others and they were issued with proper rifles. He was used as a guard on store dumps and on 14 Jun was on duty at Mile 3 RIAH Rd where he escaped.

Distribution

- 2/13 Am
- 2/15 Am
- 2/17 Am
- 2/18 7d Regt
- 2/3 7d Com

[Signature]
20 Aust Inf Det

TAC R INFORMATION

RIAM RD AREA

From 455782 - 480763 cam earthworks and trenches (30' long by 3' deep) were observed on the high ground on either side of the road. Previous tac R in the area had failed to locate these def works and it seems that cam of previously reported foxholes has been carried out.

An unmapped footpad, apparently well used, follows the WEST bank of the river from 474729 to 479693. Small log bridges with bamboo handrails have been constructed over creeks crossed by this track.

A track, which could only be followed for a short distance, runs SOUTH on crest of ridge in square 4869. It is considered that the track ~~is~~ probably follows the ridge down and joins the RIAM road.

A probable dump was located at 472721. A good track follows the WEST bank of the creek from 477737 to 476727.

BELURU

The tunnel previously reported near the village appears to have had more work done on it since last inspection. No tracks were observed running SOUTH or SE from the creek junction immediately SOUTH of BELURU. The area is covered with heavy jungle and swamp.

A well used track was followed for 100 yards from creek junction immediately SOUTH of BT ENKABANG. The track runs SOUTH and disappears into heavy timber.

RIAM RD (Contd)

Results of a further Tac R are now to hand. The rd narrows and deteriorates into a foot tr at approx 474733 and follows along WEST bank of creek to 472718. At 474720 there are two huts in a clearing on a feature with a well used tr leading SE to another hut. A tr runs from 471728-475722.

2/15

Cmd - CAC
~~info~~
advt - f.w.k.
H.K.

360/30

SECRET

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
28 Jul 45

INTREP 19 TO 1500 HRS 29 JUL 45

1. ENEMY ACTIVITY

MIRI Area

Natives contacted by one of our patrols state that nightly JAP patrols are foraging for food area 3 mile RIAM road.

Further information is also to hand of JAP activities on the RIAM road. From native sources on 24 Jul 8 JAPS are reported to have been seeking food on a track which leads towards the sea from the 3 mile. As he was returning to MIRI from this area a native states that he was stopped at mile 3 by a JAP dressed as a Chinese and asked if he knew a "short cut" into MIRI.

Between 12 Jul and 22 Jul a native observed from vicinity mile 8 reports that he saw numerous small parties of JAP soldiers (totalling in all approx 300) moving southwards along a track parallel to the RIAM road. They are reported to be carrying very little food and equipment.

Another informant was employed by the JAPS from 25 Jul to 20 Jul carrying supplies from 4 1/2 mile to 18 mile. His particular party during this period moved 63 cases of small arms am, 10 boxes of small bombs or grenades, and approximately 15 rifles. He states that practically all movement on the road is SOUTH but that there are a few "guard posts" at mile 5 and between mile 7 and mile 8. He claims that he recognised the JAP soldiers at mile 7 as garrison troops previously stationed at the oilfields at MIRI. At mile 12 he reports a HQ in a building on the western side of the road. More troops are concentrated in this area than at any other position on the road. Between mile 12 and the 16 1/2 mile post there are numerous fox holes along the road but few soldiers were observed. At the 16 1/2 mile post there is a hospital which is not marked in any way. Informant states that during the 3 days prior to 20 Jul a large number (no actual estimate) of JAPS passed mile 18 heading further out along the road. Another native from mile 25 reports a large concentration of JAPS on 20 Jul in a village along a track leading off from mile 26.

BAKONG Area

A native report received on 26 Jul indicated that the JAPS had not used the WARANG RIVER since 18 Jul. The JAP positions at ARANG have been re-occupied and a section reconnaissance patrol by our troops from BAKONG to that area was ambushed on 27 Jul. Our casualties were one missing and one wounded; JAP casualties two killed. After dark on 27 Jul two separate JAP parties commenced infiltration of our positions at BAKONG and at 2330 hrs our troops were forced to withdraw.

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LAWAS Area

SRD report that within the last three days 65 JAPS have been killed and three captured between BOLE (2227 - 1/250,000) and S BURU (square 21). Six JAP bodies were found on track BIANG - S SELAPAN (8017 - 1/250,000) and it is reported that there are 30 JAPS on the SELAPAN RIVER. 2 JAPS were killed by natives at PANDARUAN.

LIMBANG Area

SOUTH of LIMBANG on the upper LUBAI SRD report that 10 out of 18 JAPS previously reported have been killed. Further SOUTH they also report that there are 20 JAPS, armed and in good condition, between the MADALAM RIVER (square 47 - 1/250,000) and the SUNGAI RIVER (square 48).

LINEI Area

No evidence is yet available of any move by the JAP out of this area. It has been confirmed from SRD sources that the track EAST from LINEI is very difficult and that no food is available.

2. IDENTIFICATIONS

A postal savings book found at RIDAN again identifies ANZUI Unit NADA 10320. All defensive maps found in the MARUDI area reveal that NIIJIMA Unit which was part of BORNEO Fuel Depot (NADA 15853) was located at SERIA in Apr 45 and that 64 Indep AA Coy was at LUTONG on 16 May 45.

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3. TOPOGRAPHY

A further tac R report on the RIAM road is now available. From 472732 to 472721 a track runs SOUTH along the WEST bank of creek. The creek is shallow and it is considered that the track is easily followed along the line of the creek or even in the creek bed.

AMF

The bridge at 483759 is unserviceable.

Another track well used exists from 4563 (1/250,000) to 4769. A possible bivouac area exists at 4662. No track running SOUTH could be observed.

4. GENERAL

Following is an extract from AMF Weekly Intelligence Review No 144.

"THE JAPANESE COMMANDER WHO SURRENDERED IN EASTERN NEW GUINEA"

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req

The correct identity of the Japanese Lt Col, who surrendered himself and his force of 41 men to Australians in the inland section of Eastern NEW GUINEA two months ago, has now been established. He is Lt Col TAKENAGA, Masaharu, former Commander 3 Bn 41 Mtn Arty Regt. Prior to surrender, the party was apparently briefed by the Lt Col and each of the five officers was allotted an assumed name. All the prisoners stuck remarkably well to their story, and it was not until a document giving personal family particulars of members of 41 Mtn Arty Regt came to hand, that their story was definitely proved false.

The Lt Col was a regular army officer and graduated from Military Academy at TOKYO in 1925, but, as he had been out of contact with 18 Army HQ since Mar 45, not a great deal of information was obtained from him.

Asked why he surrendered, Lt Col TAKENAGA gave the perfectly logical answer (yet so strange to hear from a Japanese) that they had no hope of winning, had no food, and if they did not surrender they would soon all be dead. In spite of this, TAKENAGA and most of his men were in a remarkably fit condition, even at the time of surrender - certainly not starving.

TAKENAGA said that, under present policy regarding PW, he would not be able to return to JAPAN after the war, but as most of his men would not have surrendered had he not ordered them to do so, they may be pardoned.

From the news concerning the progress of the war against JAPAN, which PW had heard since his surrender, he appeared resigned to the fact that the war against JAPAN would end in three to five months.

Asked why it was that Lt Gen ADACHI continued his fight in Eastern NEW GUINEA when he must see that his army must soon be completely wiped out, PW replied that ADACHI must see that quite well, but he probably hoped to hold out until the Japanese home government surrendered in which case 18 Army could give up the fight with honour.

PW was quite definite that if the Japanese Government made peace, and outlying Armies received orders from the Emperor (or Military Headquarters in JAPAN) to cease fighting, there is no doubt that they would do so. The Allies, he continued, need have no fear about independent armies continuing the fight after the surrender of the home government.

Finally Lt Col TAKENAGA compared the various theatres in which he had fought. When fighting the Russians, he said, supplies had come flowing up. Fighting the Chinese was a pleasure, like manoeuvres; so much so that Japanese Commanders had grown careless in their tactics. NEW GUINEA had been nothing but agony.

Stewart G. G. G. Maj
BIM 20 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION

- 2/13 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/15 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/17 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/8 Aust Pd Regt
- 2/3 Aust Pd Coy

2/15

SECRET

375/31

Hq 20 Aust Inf Bde
29 Jul 45

INTREP 20 TO 1200 HRS 29 JUL 45

*Cond. - only
Asst - fort
to - Ann
S90 =
2/c*

1. ENEMY ACTIVITY

BAKOENG Area

on 27 Jul
A section patrol ~~yesterday~~ moved out to investigate previously reported enemy positions area 699692. Natives had reported that the JAPS had not used S ARANG since 18 Jul and it seemed that following the initial contact with the enemy in this area on 16 Jul, the JAPS had abandoned their positions. Vicinity K ARANG the patrol was ambushed by a party of JAPS (strength unknown) who were armed with rifles only. During the ensuing engagement 4 JAPS were killed. Our casualties were one missing and one wounded. The patrol made a difficult withdrawal to BAKOENG through swampy country. After dark the position at BAKOENG was threatened by two separate parties of JAPS who endeavoured to infiltrate. At 272330I the force at BAKOENG withdrew to MARUDI.

In addition to this contact in the area natives reported two JAPS near MARUDI at 796614 (1/50,000). A patrol is investigating but no reports are yet available.

LIBBANG Area

With reference to the party of 20 JAPS reported in Sitrep 19 in MADALAM - SUNGAI RIVER area, it seems that this may be a reconnaissance party from the LINEI force, which has moved up the TUTOH RIVER into this area. In view of the control exercised by SRD on the LIBBANG area, particularly at UKONG, it seems most unlikely that this party came from the NORTH. The difficulty of terrain and the time factor seem to make it improbable that this is the party recently reported to have moved from the MENDARAM area to the headwaters of the SAUD RIVER.

2. ENEMY INTENTION

at BAKOENG

It seems likely that this party of JAPS may be those who were previously contacted in the area and that after the original engagement they withdrew up the BAKOENG RIVER. It is somewhat difficult to assess enemy intentions in the area as this incident comprises the first offensive action for some time. It may be that he intends to endeavour to exploit further EAST to regain control of the BARAM RIVER. Previously when the JAP force from the BAKOENG RIVER occupied MARUDI after clashing with SRD it seemed that he desired to control MARUDI in order to extricate those troops under command AIKYO who had withdrawn from K BELAIT - SERIA area via LABI with a view to a subsequent linking up with troops who withdrew from MIRI - LUTONG area. The subsequent activities of this force at MARUDI and the movement of the LABI force through RIDAN to LINEI (without any apparent attempt to make use of the re-occupation of MARUDI at that time) made it appear somewhat unlikely that AIKYO still hoped to link up with his forces. Reports have, however, been received recently that the troops at LINEI were still contemplating moving WEST, and, in support of this, is the fact that no evidence has come to hand that any large scale movement up the TUTOH RIVER to the suggested destination of MULU area has been carried out. Consequently this latest offensive action may possibly be directed towards again controlling the BARAM RIVER in a further attempt to link the two forces. Another possible explanation of the incident is that AIKYO may be apprehensive that we intend moving up the BAKOENG RIVER with a view to approaching BELURU. If this is the case, in the light of this activity, and the fact that the BAKOENG RIVER constitutes the main approach to BELURU, and its occupation by us even as far as K ARANG would constitute a threat to his forces on the RIAM road, it seems possible that he intends to make every effort to control the BAKOENG RIVER.

3. TOPOGRAPHY

A patrol returning from TRUSAN to LAWAS took 5 hours 40 minutes for the journey along the track.

4. IDENTIFICATIONS

A PW captured at LIMPAKU ISLAND on 24 Jul belonged to HARADA P1 2 Coy (SASAGAWA Tai) 367 IIB. He was presumably left behind at BRUNEI when his unit moved out towards LIMBANG on 11 Jun.

*make
OOB
file*

A postal savings book found at ARANG was owned by a member of ANZUI Unit NADA 10320 Force. ANZUI Unit and NADA 10320 Force are both crossed out and NADA 11016 Force substituted. No information is yet available on this latter identification.

5. GENERAL

A diary recently found at LABI covers the period from 6 Jun to 16 Jul. The unit of the soldier who kept the diary is not stated. The following are extracts:

- 6 Jun 0630 hrs - incident at LONG LAMA. Rifle fire for about 1½ hrs Left LONG LAMA 7 oclock (TN presumably 1900 hrs).... went on towards MARUDI
- 7 Jun 6 oclock Sup Pte ITO killed in boat, 1600 hrs, Arrived MARUDIwe cremated our dead
2300 Set out for liaison with Ldg Pte AOKI and Bn HQ at MIRI.
- 8 Jun Arrived BARAM on foot. Reported first to ANZUI Unit by telephone.
1300 hrs reported on situation to 2/Lt ONO and Bn HQ
- 12 Jun Left NYABOR for MARUDI by boat. 1½ hrs after starting there was an accident. We were fired on and 20 were drowned.
- 13 Jun 0200 hrs. Reached a point 1¼ miles further on by swimming.
- 10 Jun (TN presumably meant for a date between 16 Jun and 20 Jun)
Attended cremation of 10 comrades.
- 20 Jun Planning and organisation of unit by 1/Lt DOMOTO
- 25 Jun Situation deteriorates. 1/Lt DOMOTO and 4 men make valiant efforts and are killed. We heard rifle fire at 4.30 (not stated am or pm). Cpl MUGIMOTO and 6 men crept out at 5.30 to fight. Meanwhile government building falls into enemy hands temporarily.
- 26 Jun ONO Unit is at boat salvage point meanwhile situation deteriorates. Gulping back our tears we are forced to surrender this place temporarily.
- 27 Jun Return to K BAKONG and attend cremation of 1/Lt DOMOTO and 2 of his subordinates
- 28 Jun 0400 set out for NYABOR. Reach destination at 1100 hrs result of report to SAGO Unit Comd.
- 29 Jun Came down BAKONG RIVER
2300 hrs arrive IBAN village ARAN
- 30 Jun Arrive BAKONG morning. Take up garrison duties on BAKONG RIVER
- 4 Jul Straffed repeatedly by 3 enemy aeroplanes - NO damage.
- 5 Jul Early morning hurry BAKONG sentries
1730 hrs aeroplanes attack BAKONG after bombing NYABOR.
One sup pte killed 2 wounded.

- 8 Jul Leave BAKONG
- 9 Jul Stop for night on the way
- 10 Jul Attempt to land at SUNGAI ARANG (sic) fired on by enemy losing 7 killed. IDEMURA Pl in the big boat make an attack Stopped by enemy cross fire. 2/Lt IDEMURA killed entering MALAY village.
- 11 Jul Mop up village
- 16 Jul 1500 hrs 6 enemy aeroplanes attack. After one hour 5 motor landing craft come from up and down stream landing at MARUDI. Forced to retreat enter IBAN village. Strong enemy fire.

1/Lt ANZUI and 2/Lt ONO were OC and Pl Comd respectively in 3 Coy 553 IIB. The reference to SAGO Unit on 28 Jun, taken with the above identifications suggests that the force which was originally at MARUDI and was driven out by SRD was 553 IIB and was, in part at least, identical with the force which later re-captured MARUDI and subsequently evacuated the place when the landing force arrived.

James A. Giff Maj
BM 20 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION

2/13 Aust Inf Bn
2/15 Aust Inf Bn
2/17 Aust Inf Bn
2/8 Aust Fd Regt
2/3 Aust Fd Coy

SECRET

HQ 20 Abst Inf Bde
30 Jul 45

376/31
Comd. Col
adpt for
to form

INTREP 21 TO 1200 HRS 30 JUL 45

1. ENEMY ACTIVITY

BAKOENG Area

After investigation our forces re-occupied MARUDI without encountering opposition. No further movement has been observed in the area.

RIAM Road Area

A DUTCH PW who escaped from vicinity 2 1/4 mile RIAM road on 24 Jul 45 has arrived in our lines. After being in BRUNEI in May he left SERIA for MIRI on 8 Jun. His first move from MIRI was to mile 7 RIAM road where he found the JAPS who had evacuated MIRI. They were then building huts and MT was continually moving stores from mile 3 to mile 7. At that time AIKYO had his HQ at mile 7. KANAZAWA was with AIKYO. On the RIAM road at the time informant claims that there were about 1000 JAPS including civilians who had been recently inducted into the army and that in this figure was SAGO Butai less one company which was at NAKAT. Informant who had been coerced into becoming a member of the "Hei ho" was in UCHIDA Tai, which at that time consisted of 65 JAPS and 5 HEIHO. It was mainly a labour Tai and the JAPS were all ex-civilians who had been taught to use MG by UCHIDA.

On approximately 10 Jul AIKYO moved his HQ to mile 12 and UCHIDA and 40 of his men were sent up to NAKAT to join the elements of SAGO Butai in that area. UCHIDA had originally been in charge of training and organising HEIHO.

Informant was then engaged in carrying from mile 12 to mile 18 and subsequently through to mile 21. On about 24 Jul AIKYO moved his HQ to vicinity 18 1/2 mile where there is a wireless station with a single wire aerial. From here also there is a telephone line running forward to mile 10. In this vicinity there are 10 huts scattered over a wide area and included in the JAP concentration there are 19 women and 3 children. KEMPAI Tai are stationed with other troops at mile 24.

2. TOPOGRAPHY

RIAM Road Area

The road proper finished at mile 7 and becomes a track only a few feet wide. The tracks are only logs and could not take MT. RIAM village consisting of 7 DYAK houses is at the edge of the foothills quite close to S RIAM. At the moment it is not possible to locate the village more accurately.

BAKOENG Area

Tac R information discloses that a well defined track runs WEST from 6973 (1/250,000). Vicinity 7168 there are 3 clearings on the WEST bank of the river, whilst there are clearings on both banks at 5863. The top of feature 6971 is reported to be well used.

LINEI - LIMBANG Area

More detailed information is now available from SRD sources of the country beyond the headquarters of the BELAIT and LIMBANG RIVERS. From LINEI to the headquarters of the BELAIT RIVER is a 3-day journey, over difficult tracks and requiring native guides. No villages exist along the track and no food is available. From the headquarters of the BIONDONG RIVER (square 27 1/250,000) to the headwaters of the LIMBANG RIVER is a similar journey taking the same time.

3. HEIHO ORGANISATION

More detailed information is now available from the MIRI area regarding this organisation. One unit at MIRI was established in 1943 comprising originally mainly Javanese civilians from SINGAPORE. Another group at MIRI was originally formed at KUCHING in Nov 1943 from 120 DUTCH native PW and, was moved to MIRI for garrison duties. When on certain guard duties soldiers were issued with proper rifles minus bolts and ammunition but when they were on duty as guards at their own camps wooden rifles only were issued. Outside duty hours the unit was used for garden duties and apparently in addition to its nominal role as a guard unit it was also something of a labour force, being used for gardening, digging foxholes and completing beach defences.

About a year ago rifles of all types, which had always been rigidly controlled were taken off the unit.

Officers known to have been actively associated with the training and organisation of HEIHO in the MIRI area were 1/Lt UCHIDA, 2/Lt OKAMURA and Lt KIOGANI (an Indian). It is of interest to note that 1/Lt UCHIDA after being transferred from MIRI to NAKAT (see para 1) subsequently is reported to have been in charge of the force which drove the SRD from MARUDI and later evacuated the village when the landing force arrived.

Shumard Maj
BM 20 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION

- 2/13 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/15 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/17 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/8 Aust Fd Regt
- 2/3 Aust Fd Coy

ADDENDUM

4. GENERAL

The following is a translation of operation order No 26 issued at Mile 12 (presumably RIAM road) on 27 Jun 45 by CO NOMITE Unit MIRI Sector Garrison Unit to 2/Lt ISHIKAWA.

"1. The group of about eight white men who attacked the signal station at LONG LAMA seemed to be trying to join the sea-borne enemy. Inciting and uniting the natives together they gradually made for the lower reaches of the BARAM RIVER. On 24 June they attacked four men under 1st Lt DOMOTO, MARUDI Garrison (KEIBI) Commander, near TANJON PURON to the south of MARUDI.

23 men under 2nd Lt ONO of the MARUDI Garrison Unit are consolidating this position.

2. The garrison unit will immediately map up and eliminate the enemy in this area.

3. SUZU HOKENTAI (TN presumably SUZU Sanitation Unit) Commander, conserving his unit to the utmost, will transport it to NAPORU (TN presumably NYABOR) and march the main strength immediately to MARUDI, ^{where} whilst he will take command of the garrison

unit and exterminate the enemy in the area.

.....He will appoint an officer as platoon leader. Each man will carry 3 days rations and on arrival at MARUDI the commander will get in touch with the personnel in charge of (TN illegible) stationed there and receive supplies from them.

4. The CO of the IKEGAMI Force will supply one officer from the SUZATO Unit to act as a platoon leader in the SUZU Sanitation Unit, where he will come under command of the SUZU Sanitation Unit Commander."

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MESSAGE

(SUBMIT TO MESSAGE CENTER IN DUPLICATE)

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1415 MAJORITY OF HUTS BEING
 REPAIRED
 NEW CLEARINGS 5636-5730
 2 HUTS 5735 MUCH TRACK
 ACT. TRACKS IN TAMAMI
 AREA WELL WORN. NO
 TRACK NORTH N.M.S
 UNDER TREE CLEARING.

OFFICIAL DESIGNATION OF SENDER

TIME SIGNED

AUTHORIZED TO BE SENT IN CLEAR

SIGNATURE OF OFFICER

SIGNATURE AND GRADE OF WRITER



U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1942 16-27986-1

6 Jul45

Dear John,

First our present setup. George Helm and I changed over on 4 Jul he doing my job at BRUNEI and I has at LIMBANG. A preliminary step which will culminate in the ultimate changover of the two forces in due course to give each a change of air.

Since my arrival two patrols have been completed the findings of which added to information already to hand, appears to make fairly clear the evacuation ~~of~~ the route of the Japs to the West through this area. Below I shall discuss the more important points of the patrols as given me by the patrol comds and give you my impressions in conclusion.

A Coy patrol - This embarked at 020850I.

1130 RANGAU - confirmed story of Chinese who claimed he had rowed 50 Japs across the river in sq 5531 I think it was on 1 Jul. (I heard 90 from BRAHIM who interrogated the Chinese in BRUNEI and passed the information to me when I was there.) (Incidentally I notice in a file tonight from the DO a BRAHIM from BRUNEI is claimed with some evidence to have been a Jap collaborator during their rule here. I shall be interested to know whether it is the same party.) The RANGAU is nav by LCM to within 300 yds of the LIMBANG but a prau job for the remaining 300 yds. At 550313 the track was seen which the Jap used to leave the river. Filthy swamp and a hands knees job as evidenced by the Jap marks.

1300 - left for LABU

1600 - arrived - NMS p from interrogation no sightings for 8 to 10 days.

From here two patrols were pushed out

- (1) To TRUSAN - crosscountry
- (2) Up TEMBURONG by barge

For (1) see trace 1 - TRUSAN area clear of enemy and natives Chinese report no Japs mov through TRUSAN for 19 days. 7 of those who came through then were killed by the natives. Same source reported enemy reported in SEBULU area left there 4 days ago approx 28 Jun. (strength of enemy force 300 incl 20 women and 10 children.) Jap Gov of BRUNEI also reported to be in the party which would appear to be under the control of a general ICHO. 20 military police are also in the party (these military police crop up in reports from time to time and are usually associated with the organisation of it to make for its more efficient mov. I shall refer to this again at a later stage.) Each time the force moves from place to place the stragglers increase in number. TRUSAN town is in good order, the Gove offices being intact.

For (2) see trace 2

Findings - Large staging area as shown on trace capable of holding anything up to 1000 tps if not more (This estimate by Lt WILSON Frank should be reasonably reliable). The route followed is shown on trace.

While these patrols were in progress the coy comds craft moved out into the Bay to try to find access into the TRUSAN River. At all spots from TG TRUSAN to TG GALAP they were confronted with sandbanks till high tide when the situation was relieved sufficiently to allow them to get through to AWAT AWAT much to the surprise of the locals who did not think it possible. It was their opinion if the LCM could reach there it could then continue up the river to SUNDAR thence on to TRUSAN. Time did not allow this experiment to be made.

The DO at BANGAR was most helpful. He has kept a diary since the Jap advent and in that noted the fact that on 24/25 Jun it took two days going constantly to ferry a Jap body across the river at ANGGAN. Working on the time it took to ferry the pl from the LCM limit on the LABU to

where the track to TRUSAN meets the river (see Trace 1)
this force would be from 500 to 1000 strong.

Patrol regrouped and spent the night at BANGAR which is described
as a most attractive village. There was no suitable biv area
in the ANGGUN region it being in appearance mite country.

From here returned. Examined RANGAU on the way home .
Confirmed death of two Japs in swamp 566328 but could not
find the third which had been reported the day before.
At his stage the 108 set was swept off the barge into about 14
feet of water. Native divers could not recover it that after
noon because of the high tide but recovered it and a
Jap LMG and ~~JK~~ JUKI the following day.
Other reports also of odd Japs dead and alive in that area w
which have already been reported to you.

General

RANGAU-LIMBANG area.

There seems no doubt a body of probably about 50 Japs
crossed the river on 1 Jul in sq 5531. For two reasons
one our presence, two, the nature of the country which is ve ry
wet swamp they have broken up into small parties and in that
way some of them are trying to sneek through our lines at
night, particularly at dusk when they appear to start
scrourging for food. We have bagged one each evening for the
past two days in addition to the odd two or three found hiding
during the day, and quite expect more in the future. It is
not likely that many of them will beat both factors - us
and the country and those that do will not be worth much.

Evacuation route

On 5 Jul a patrol reached area of ABOT 2½ hrs marching time
through rough and some of it wet contry from PUASA (in 5116)
towards TUDUMIN and the natives say 2 hrs marching time
from PUASA to KUBONG. (5911)

At TANKU about 1½ hrs marching time from PUASA and on the
route to ABOT is a bivouac area where estimated 100
Japs had been camped. ~~The native estimate is 2500 which
is in keeping with their reputation in these reports.~~

Native headman at ABOT reported that on about 20 Jun
a large group of Japs (he said 2500) probably about 50 to
100 passed through the ABOT area. They came through in ~~small~~
single file (patrol comd described track as DYAK or
bullock track) in groups of 5 to 30, taking 3 days to move
through. 13 women in the party.

From ABOT they went to KUBONG (probably through TUDUMIN
my own observation) thence obviously to ANGGUN).
The party according to the native moved down from MENGATAI.

There seems little doubt that a fairly large body of Japs
probably 100 or more moved from MENGATAI through the various
villages en route to TANKU, KUBONG then as shown on
Trace 3, and that they move at night. This is confirmed
by SRD reports of contact with them in this area and the
recent sightings in the MURUD and SEBULU area. The force
which the patrol to TRUSAN reported was by native information
moving inland though by what route or in what ~~prec~~ precise
direction could not be ascertained.

.....

CO, 15th Bn.

If any of your patriots go to Tabra
in an L.P.M. would they be
good enough to bring back
some rubber which is on the
estate there ready for
shipment? James Wray
(Heaver) would make arrangements
at Tabra for this.

I quite understand there may
be no room but if there is it
would be a great help to us.

W H Kay wtds

BREAN

10/7/45

THESE SPACES FOR MESSAGE CENTER ONLY

TIME FILED

MSG CEN NO.

HOW SENT

MESSAGE (SUBMIT TO MESSAGE CENTER IN DUPLICATE)

(CLASSIFICATION)

No.

DATE

20-7-45

To

420 COPY TO 420 B.

7/11/45

NEW HUT CONCEALED 5533
WELL USED TRACKS AREA
5534

OFFICIAL DESIGNATION OF SENDER

1515
TIME SIGNED

AUTHORIZED TO BE SENT IN CLEAR

[Handwritten Signature]

SIGNATURE OF OFFICER

SIGNATURE AND GRADE OF WRITER



U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1942 16-27886-1

17 Jul 45

Capt J Murray

John,

A patrol to SEMBILING on 16 Jul contacted a native in that area who has been of value to them previously. He stated that he had spoken to one GIBBS (SRD) who we know to be working in this area. GIBBS told him that on 15 Jul a party of 33 Japs moved into the village of BERAWAN (this BERAWAN the one west of ABOT) and that a party of DYAKS led by him killed the entire party. This is feasible as his party was armed with an LMG and several sub machine guns. This advice from one of our patrols who contacted him in this area several days ago.

When seen by the native in question GIBBS was on his way to BANGAR having been slightly wounded in the affray.

As I have not been able to confirm this information , (it is a very long journey for a patrol to this area) no mention has been made of it in sitreps. This is the first and semi-official advice.

If, as I think, this is that party of 3 coy who were last reported in the BIDANG area moving east I should very much appreciate any confirmation of this report through channels which are probably available to you from that end.

Many thanks for the information arising out of the documents A Coy handed in. Coys were very interested in that survey of the activities of 366 and 367 which I knocked out from the information you were able to give me. We are just about tracking Japs round here by name at the moment!

I find that there are in the area South of here about six BERAWANs, all along the BERAWAN River, so in future we will give you some indication of which one we are referring to.

Shall let you have that topo information as soon as possible, though do not anticipate being able to give you much in the way of information on beaches and rivers.

Handwritten signature

191150 I



AUSTRALIAN COMFORTS FUND



(Use Official Address Only)

Report

From No. from Dyak of Rh BANDAN Name

Unit or Group (Upn LIMBANG) Date

10th July Saw Gibbs at ABOT.

11th July heard that party of 30 Japs traced from 3 mile along had passed through 6 mile, 8 mile, BERAWAN and that I had been shot near ~~that~~ ABOT that day. Gibbs Maruts were with locals who were following Japs

12 July Maruts left Native party who were following Japs

13 Jul This man ~~followed the~~ joined the natives who were following the Japs. That day 9 Japs were killed at MINNUWANG (between LAYANG

Mail Your Letters A.P.O.

Do Not Mention Military Activities.



(Use Official Address Only)

From No. Name

Unit or Group Date

and MULI)

14 Jul 7 gaps were pulled at
MULI

15 Jul 2 gaps were pulled at
BARAK ~~---~~

16 Jul 3 gaps were pulled at
UKASING

7 gaps were now left.
These pulled 2 D gaps
at UKASING.

Native went to UKONG to
report to HENRY who
(this native has since been
killed) came back to the LUBAI
area

This Native had no more
ammo so came to LIMBANG.

Has had no news of GIBBS
since 10 Jul or of his parents
since 12 Jul

Mail Your Letters A.P.O.

Do Not Mention Military Activities.



(Use Official Address Only)

From No. Name

Unit or Group Date

4 rifles were taken by
natives who had pulled
gaps.

Gap clothes have been
taken by natives but
this man knows nothing
of badges-of-rank or
documents.

report from native confirming
reports of activities of parties
of gaps in Berawan and
upper Lubai areas

Mail Your Letters A.P.O.

Do Not Mention Military Activities.

REPORT from PATROL to UKONG 26/27 Jul.

271630 Hrs UKONG patrol returned.

Prelim Report

BIDANG - Native report (reliability doubtful) 2 Japs came down into village night 24/25 Jul. Stole some clothes and went back into hills EAST of river approx 3817.

UPPER LUBAI - S R D (HENRY) reported scattered approx 18 Japs in this area. So far 10 killed. Expects to account for remainder in next few days.
NO reports of any other Japs having come into the LUBAI area.

HENRY reports at present 20 Japs in area between MADALUM and SUNGAI rivers 4583. Where they came from it is not certain but is of opinion came across from TUTONG river. They are in fairly good condition and armed with carbines. HENRY has armed natives in the area along both rivers and says Japs are moving in circle at present as they strike opposition at every turn. HENRY went up to area today.

Ref alleged Jap move from LINEI EAST. HENRY states that from LINEI to head waters of BELAIT river a journey of at least 3 days over difficult tracks which they would require guides to find. There are NO kampongs on the route from which they could get food. From headwaters of BIONDONG to headwaters of the LIMBANG. Similar journey. Approx 3 days with NO foods en route except what could be carried. HENRY'S intention is to move up to the headwaters of LIMBANG to investigate this and other areas for news of this move and warn natives of it.

Bar

2/15 Aust Inf Bn
28 Jul 45.

MESSAGE received from B Coy 271653I as under -
"S R D report 65 enemy killed 3 captured between BOLE and BURU within last 3 days. 30 enemy are at S SELAPAN 2 killed by natives at PANDARUAN 6 bodies on track BIANG-SELAPAN."

On night of 25/26 Jul S R D at A Coy HQ at BANGAR received a native report of approx 100 Japs estimated in the BATU APOI-SELAPAN river ares. S R D doubted numbers stated probably 30 also could place no reliance in report until investigated. At this stage S R D were in the picture as to the findings of A Coy's patrols.

A Coy PATROL COVERAGE and findings were as follows:-

21/22 Jul - a patrol went by barge up PANDARUAN River to near BIANG then along track EAST to BATU APOI river 7616 and returned down river by barge.

Their findings were that there were 8 Jap bodies on the BIANG-SELAPAN track. These were skeletons only. NMS and NO ~~SEVERE~~ evidence of recent enemy movement in area.

22/24 Jul - a patrol went up BATU APOI river to 7616 then SOUTH to BIANG river then along river and track to BIANG and returned to BANGAR by barge. On 24 Jul whilst patrol was returning to BANGAR a native reported 2 enemy in the area near PANDARUAN. Later the Patrol Comd heard 2 shots some miles away. It is possible that these were the shots that killed the 2 Japs referred to in B Coy's message. Otherwise patrol had nothing to report.

Having received the native report S R D set out immediately to investigate. They stated they would advise A Coy by runner of their findings but NO reports were received before A Coy's departure on 26 Jul.

The two reports are so closely co-incident that there seems NO doubt that they were carried from A Coy at BANGAR through natives or S R D sources to B Coy at LAWAS. Report from B Coy this morning 28 Jul stated S R D moved inland from LAWAS area so they have been unable to confirm source of this report.

Report from 3 natives from
MENNUNANG (LUBAI area):

28/2001 Two other native pairs
11 Japs took padi and
clothing from their storehouse
at Kg PALAS 19/4/21. Japs were
armed with rifles, 3 swords and
1 DAG.

29/2001 ~~1~~ Themselves, saw tracks of
5 Japs going towards hills
about 2 miles from MENNUNANG
19/4/22.

Natives think there are many
Japs hanging around in
the hills and jungle near
MENNUNANG.

31 July 45

Report from James WONG

Chinaman named HOI JI T SEN
of Kg SETHONG of 450270 (KIMBANG RIVER
150,000) worth investigating for Jap
collaboration activities

1.0

C - Lim Tian Chai, aged 38, male, Chinese, reports:-

6/7/1945 Lim Jit Seng, Chinese, Manager of a Japanese firm named "Nanri" at Limbang, is pro to Japs. He told the bazaar people and the gardeners that they were not allowed to sell or buying things such as vegetables, bananas and all eatable goods to and from the public, except to the Japanese firm Nanri. If you people were caught by me, selling or buying things to or from the public I'll have no mercy but to report to the Japanese, and all of you will be slapped by the Japanese. This Lim Jit Seng was entirely in favour of the Japanese, even the Japs themselves were not present, he did more than he was commanded to do so, and caused much hardship to people. At one occasion, he used to buy pigs from the public in the name of Nanri Company for public consumption he said, In fact the public had no share at all. He took everything for himself and his relatives only, without considering to other people.

Signed Lim Tian Chai.

THE SARAWAK GOVERNMENT.

CCL.

Station 5th Division, Limbang Treasury Voucher No. 8/8

Departmental Voucher No. 40/39

Head* (of Estimates & No.) Rubber Fund

Sub-Head (No.) 3/3 - Transport & Travelling

Dr. to Teo Chik Sia

*When this voucher is used for "below the line" payments such as Advances and Repayment of Deposits, the words in brackets should be erased.

I certify that the charges marked thus * amounting to \$....., have been actually incurred and PAID by me.

When payments are made by Public Officers for Petty Expenses for which it is not practicable to obtain Sub-Receipts the following Certificates must be signed by such Officers.

Date 1939	Detailed Description of Service or Article	Rate where applicable	Amount
2nd August:	To hire of Outboard Motor as from 20th to 24th June, 1939 = 5 days @ \$1.50 cents per day, transporting Inspector-in-Charge & Inspectors for New Planting Propaganda etc. in Ulu Limbang as per bill attached.		7.50
Financial Authority		Total \$	7.50

PAID

I certify that the above amount is correct, and was incurred under the authority quoted and that the rates charged are:—

~~according to regulation~~ } rule through
~~according to Contract~~ } Certificates
 fair and reasonable } not applicable

and that the amount of Dollars..... Seven and cents..... Fifty only, can be paid under the sub-Head quoted

Chik Sia Signature } of Head
 Inspector-in-Charge Title } of Dept.
LIMBANG.

Date.. 2nd August, 1939

RECEIPT

Received this..... 3rd day of..... August, 1939.

the sum of Dollars..... Seven cents Fifty only

DUPLICATE

for the above service which I certify has been duly performed.

Witness to marks and payments made in my presence. }

Blind
 Signature of Receiver.

K - Abu Bakar bin Abdullah, Indian Malay, male, aged 30, Marasam,
reports:-

7/7/1945 Chepu Pengiran Ali, acting as inspector of schools and
propaganda officer, Limbang, Brunei Malay, was pro to Japs.
About 3 years ago, Pengiran Ali forced my brother named Bungsu
to go to Miri to work with the Japanese there. At that time my
brother was schooling in Limbang Malay School. Pengiran Ali
threatened my father with these words, "If you do not allow your
son to go to Miri, I will report to M.P. (Jap Officer) in Brunei".

Notes. The above statement is read and explained in Malay to Abu Bakar
bin Abdullah.

Signature of reporter:- Abu Bakar
Witness:- Pengiran/Bunyok, P.M.

The Sarawak Government.

Linbang/Treasury

Station.....Treasury Voucher No. 120

Departmental Voucher No. 6/35

Head* (of Estimates & No.) 27 Marine (Other Charges)

Sub-Head (No.) 14 Fuel

Dr. to Messrs Harrison & Grosfield Ltd., Labuan.

*When this voucher is used for "below the line" payments such as Advances and Repayment of Deposits, the words in brackets should be erased.

I certify that the charges marked thus * amounting to \$ have been actually incurred and PAID by me.

1935.	Detailed Description of Service or Article	Rate where applicable	Amount
Jan: 15	Freight on 6 X 64 gal. Drums Bonzino per m. v. "Jitra" from K. Bolait to Linbang, as per Bill No. SN933/18 attached.		\$ 12 42
Financial Authority <u>General Warrant 1935.</u>		Total \$	12 42

PAID

I certify that the above amount is correct, and was incurred under the authority quoted and that the rates charged are:—

according to regulation
 according to Contract
 fair and reasonable

}

 rule through
 Certificates
 not applicable

and that the amount of Dollars Twelve and
forty two only.
 cents..... can be paid under the sub-Head quoted

..... Signature } of Head
 Acting District Officer. } of
 Title } Dept.

Date 8th February, 1935.

RECEIPT

Received this 12th day of February, 1935.
 the sum of Dollars Twelve and cents forty two only.

DUPLICATE

for the above service which I certify has been duly performed.

Per R. 3636. (H)

For W. T. C.

Signature of Receiver.

Witness to marks and payments made in my presence.

Jamaludin bin Akop, Malay, male, aged 45, Kerambut, reports:-

8/7/1945. Police Amit No. 53, Alibang, was pro to Japs. About 5 months ago, Police Amit and Sgt. Ali Ahmad went to my place in Kerambut in search of white men. Police Amit tried to get information from me, threatening saying these words, "There are footpaths tracks, that the white men have passed this way, therefore you must have seen and helped the whitemen away to go away. Beware, you and your family will get into great trouble in the future. I know why you people are helping the white men, because you people think that the white men will rule this place again. Not a hope, the Japs will rule this place for ever". Besides this, he also cut and destroyed most of my sugar cane which I planted in my garden. Police Amit's words became true, I suffered terribly for about 2 1/2 months in jail.

Note. The above statement is read and explained in Malay to Jamaludin bin Akop in the presence of Tuan Ku Mahdzar.

10/7/1945. Jamaludin bin Lucin, Brunei Malay, aged 30, Kerambut reported the same as the above with the exception that he only served 17 days in jail.

The above statement is read and explained in Malay to Jamaludin bin Lucin in the presence of Pangiran Bonyok H.O.

The Sarawak Government.

Station Limbang/Treasury Treasury Voucher No. 110

Departmental Voucher No. 2

22 R & D O 4D P. E.

Head* (of Estimates & No.).....

5 Duty Allowance.

Sub-Head (No.).....

J. R. Combo Esq.,

Dr. to.....

*When this voucher is used for "below the line" payments such as Advances and Repayment of Deposits, the words in brackets should be erased.

I certify that the charges marked thus * amounting to \$..... have been actually incurred and PAID by me.

Date 1935.	Detailed Description of Service or Article	Rate where applicable	Amount
Febr 8	Duty Allowance for the month of January, 1935.		\$ 25 -
<div style="font-size: 2em; opacity: 0.5; transform: rotate(-15deg);">PAID</div>			
Financial Authority <u>General Warrant 1935.</u> <u>Ref: letter No.16 in CSO 135/1.</u> <u>from Actg. Secretary. (Sent)</u>			Total \$ ^ 25 -

I certify that the above amount is correct, and was incurred under the authority quoted and that the rates charged are:—

according to regulation } rule through
 according to Contract } Certificates
 fair and reasonable } not applicable

Twenty five only.

and that the amount of Dollars.....

Nil.

cents..... can be paid under the sub-Head quoted

JRC
 Signature } of Head
 Acting District Officer. } of
 Title } Dept.

Date 8th February, 1935.

RECEIPT

Received this 8th. day of February, 1935.
 the sum of Dollars Twenty five only.

DUPLICATE

for the above service which I certify has been duly performed.

Witness to marks and payments made in my presence.

JRC

 Signature of Receiver.

only
file
✓

It is requested that the following number be quoted in reply to this letter.

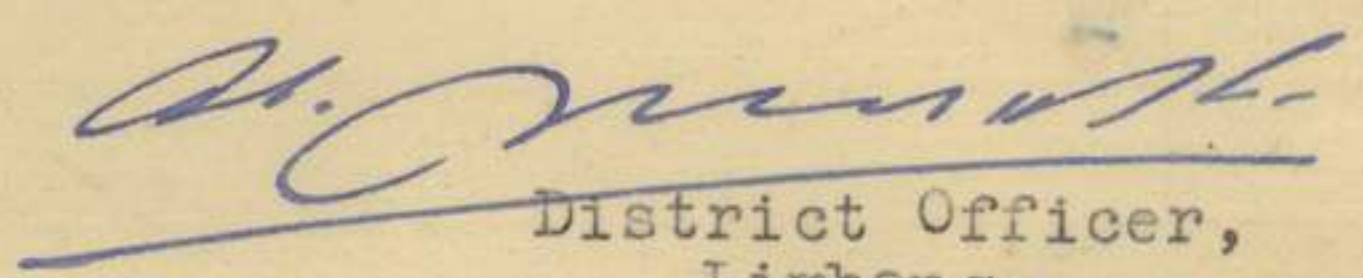
Government Offices.

Limbang, 6th July, 1945.

To Intelligence Officer,
Limbang.

As requested, I submit herewith reports from Awang Piut bin Awang Mohamad Salleh, Upriver Agent Ranggau.

2. I also attach herewith various reports of persons pro to Japs. Original copies of these reports will be sent to Major Ditmas, B.B.C.A.U. Brunei by first available boat.


District Officer,
Limbang.

Rangau 5/7/45. Reports from Awang Piut bin Awang Mohamad Salleh, Upriver Agent and T.K. Othman, kampong Rangau and together with 23 kampong people. On 28.6.45, at 3 p.m., we started for Sungai Rangau Damit by boat when on hearing the news from people that there are many Japanese at Upriver Rangau. When we reached Upriver Rangau on 28.6.45 at 5 p.m., we saw one Jap standing on in an island "Kayu Bakau". The Jap wanted to run-away, but I (Awang Piut) called form him and cajoled him. We overheard the noise of his friends in the close by jungle, but could not see them. I said to this Jap, should you run away, I must shoot you to death. If you will follow my advice you are quite safe. I will bring you to anywhere you please. So this Jap however, came close by to our boat, and I at once asked Tuah bin Bakar to catch hold of the Jap's hand and T.K. Othman handcuffed the Jap. This Jap informed us that there are still 40 of his friends in the jungle, and where they intend to go, I am unable to tell. At 6 p.m. we reached Rangau Station. 29.6.45, I went to Limbang in order to hand over the captured Jap to the Military Forces at Limbang.

Sd. Awang Piut.

Rangau 5/7/45. This is the report from me (Awang Piut bin Awang Mohd. Salleh) Upriver Agent and T.K. Othman and together with 16 kampong people. On 30/6/45, at 7.30 p.m., we started for Sungai Rangau Damit by boat. When we reached Sungai Rangau, we overheard human being's voice, so we paddled slowly. When we reached an other small stream, we saw 2 Japs sitting near the jungle of "Kayu Bakau". As soon as they saw us, one of them standing up holding a rifle in his right hand, and with a hand grenade in his left hand. When he looked at me, T.K. Othman and I were in readiness aiming our rifles towards him. The Jap at once threw away the hand grenade. I told him it would be better for you to throw away the rifle first, if you don't do it, I must shoot you down with my rifle. This Jap straight-way threw off his rifle. I then asked Duraman bin Samat, and Sulaiman bin Piut to catch hold of the 2 other Japs, and put the Jap's rifle in the boat. These Japs informed us, we have an other 50 friends, and 40 of them armed with rifles, walking about in the jungle. Where they go, we do not know. Our party returned back to Rangau at once and brought the 2 Japs and a rifle to the Military Forces at Limbang Station.

Sd. Awang Piut.

Rangau 5/7/45. Reports from me (Awang Piut bin Awang Mohamad Salleh) Upriver Agent and T.K. Othman, Rangau, together with 4 kampong people. On 4.7.45, at 9 a.m. we went to Ulu Kampong Rangau by boat because we received reports from the people that the Japs used to open fire to anyone paddling and passing by there. When we reached Ulu Kampong Rangau at 10 a.m. on 4.7.45, about 15 chains from that Kampong, there is a small stream, we entered that stream by boat. I asked Basi bin Patch to walk to the other side of a hill close by to look for the Japs. As soon as Basi reached there, he saw a Jap who at once pulling off a sword from the scabbard. I however, at once fired on the Jap with my rifle and the bullet hit him on the right side of his ear, so he dropped down. T.K. Othman also opened fire on this Jap. This Jap died immediately from the shots he received. He was armed with a sword. A two star decoration and a pocket book were found on his body. On 4.7.45 at 4 p.m., we reported the affairs to the District Officer Limbang.

Sd. Awang Piut

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
PROVISIONS OF THE
MILITARY RECORDS ACT 1964

John D. ...
George ...

N.B.
Original is written in Romanized Malay.

A. Teo Chiok Sia Pro to Japs.

25/6/1945(Monday) at 10 a.m. Chegu Drap bin Isa, aged 25, Malay, Govt. School teacher Limbang reports:-

Teo Chiok Sia, Capitan China, Limbang, was pro to Japs. About 3½ years ago, shortly after the landing of the Japanese Troops in Limbang, Teo Chiok Sia said in my presence and uttered these words, "Pier orang puteh dapat angkat lagi". I heard these words myself and keep them in my heart.

Signature of reporter Drap bin Isa

The above statement is taken in the presence of ~~Sgt~~ Sgt

The Sarawak Government.

Station..... Limbang Treasury Voucher No. 559.....

Departmental Voucher No. 114.....

Head* (of Estimates & No.)..... 22 R & D O 4D (Other Charges A.R.).....

Sub-Head (No.)..... 22D Tua Kandoiga.....

Dr. to T. K. Kuyok.....

*When this voucher is used for "below the line" payments such as Advances and Repayment of Deposits, the words in brackets should be erased.

I certify that the charges marked thus * amounting to \$..... have been actually incurred and PAID by me.

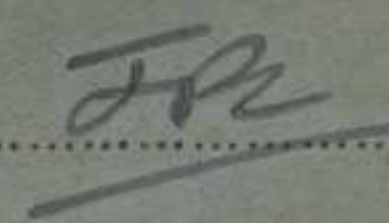
Date 1935.	Detailed Description of Service or Article	Rate where applicable	Amount
June 29	Pay for May & June, 1935 @ \$5/7 p.m.		\$ 10 -
Financial Authority General Warrant 1935.			Total \$ 10 -

PAID

I certify that the above amount is correct, and was incurred under the authority quoted and that the rates charged are:—

according to regulation } rule through
~~according to regulation~~ } Certificates
 fair and reasonable } not applicable

and that the amount of Dollars Ten only.
 cents Nil. can be paid under the sub-Head quoted


 Signature } of Head
 Acting District Officer } of Dept.
 Title

Date..... 29th June, 1935......

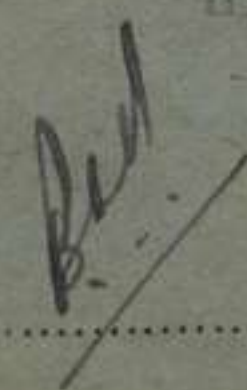
RECEIPT

Received this 29th day of June, 19 35.
 the sum of Dollars Ten only.

DUPLICATE

for the above service which I certify has been duly performed.

Witness to marks and payments made in my presence





 Signature of Receiver.

Rangau 6/7/45

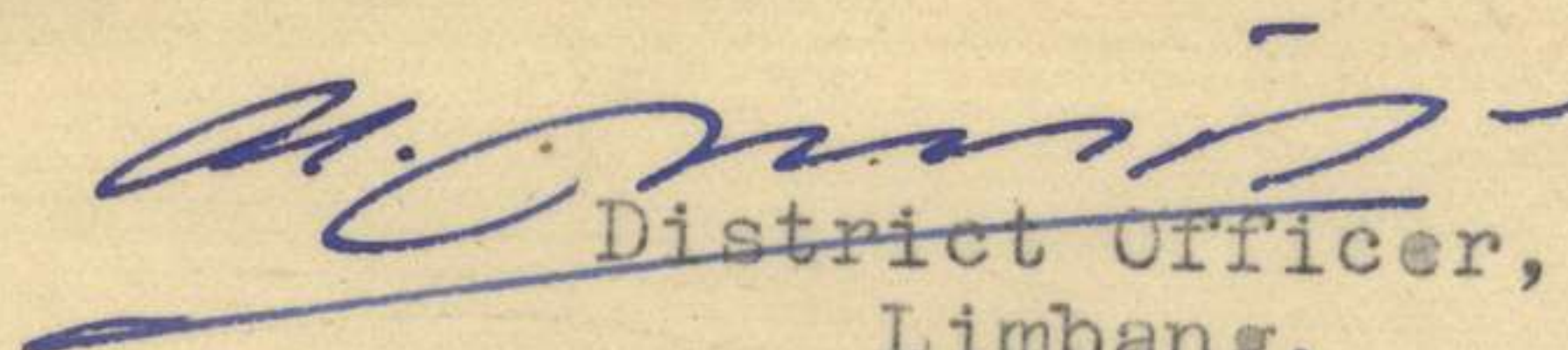
To D.O.Limbang.

Report from me Awang F iut bin Awang Mohamad U.R.A. and T.K. Othman, Rangau. On. 6/7/45 at 4.30 p.m. one Awang Ismail bin A. Hashim reported that he saw a Jap in Kuala Piasau² while he was netting. After consulting the matter with T.K.Othman, a party of us, 16 men, went there and saw a Jap standing by the side of the jungle. I asked Juhan bin Sulaiman to shout for the Jap. The Jap was calling, "Come her, come here". I replied, "If you want to fight say so, if not, come down to our boat(perahu)". The Jap came to our boat and immediately we returned to Rangau Station. This Jap has nothing on his body. We gave this Jap a pair of trousers to put on which we took from a dead body of another Jap. This Jap has five others with him who have run away. This Jap was handed over to the Australian soldiers.

Note. Originally written in Romanized Malay.

I.O. Limbang

For your information, please.


District Officer,
Limbang.

Ranggau, 6/7/45

To D.O. Limbang.

Report from me, Awang Piut U.R.A. Various reports from Ranggau people that they have found guns thrown away by the Japs in Sungai Ranggau Damit and Ulu Kampong Ranggau:-

1.	30.6.45	at 11 a.m.	Tuah bin Bakar	1	gun
2.	"		Sulaiman bin Sipin	1	"
3.	"	6 p.m.	Salleh bin Liman	1	"
4.	1.7.45	7 a.m.	Sulaiman bin Sipin	1	"
5.	3.7.45	10 a.m.	Basi bin Pateh	1	"
6.	"		Mastan bin Matusin	1	"
7.	5.7.45	2 p.m.	Asit bin Tarip	1	"
8.	"		Kalung bin Sahar	1	"
9.	"		Timbang bin Tagap	1	"
10.	"		Juhan b.H.Sulaiman	1	"
11.	6.7.45	3 p.m.	Sahat bin Dulah	1	"
12.	"		Diris bin Tagap	1	"
13.	"		Ludin bin Tunngal	1	"

Note. Originally written in Malay Romanized.

When payments are made
Expenses for which it is
Sub-Receipts the follow
signed by such Officers.

.....Signature }
District Officer. Title } of Head
of
Dept.

Date...30th October, 1936.....

RECEIPT

Received this.....2nd.....day of.....November,....., 1936.

the sum of Dollars.....Four and cents eighty only.....

DUPLICATE

for the above service which I certify has been duly performed.

Witness to marks
and payments }
made in my }
presence.

Nawawzebi Hiza
Signature of Receiver.

Rangau, 9/7/45

Report from me Awang Piut U.R.A. and T.K.Sulaiman of Pulau Tibadak staying in Rangau. On 8.7.45 at 5 p.m. one Serudin bin Bakar of Sangkarai reported that there was a Jap in Kuala Sungai Piasau². A party of us 20 men went to the spot and saw a Japanese with a sword in his hand. We questioned the Jap whether he wanted to fight or not. The Jap surrendered himself and we got him in our boat and returned to Rangau. We questioned him but he could not understand being ignorant of the Malay language. The Jap has 1 sword, 1 book and 3 pieces of decoration cloth in his pocket. On 9/7/45 we have handed over this Jap to the Australian Soldiers in Office Limbang.

(Originally written in Malay Romanized).

Report from 3 natives from
MENUNWANG (KUBAI area):

31 July 45
Cond. Lur
~~2 1/2~~
apt. Lur
10 km

2812001 Two other natives saw

11 Japs take padi and
clothing from their storerooms
at Kg PAHAS Ag 4721. Japs were
armed with rifles, 3 swords and
knives.

2909001 Themselves saw tracks of
5 Japs going towards hills
about 2 miles from MENUNWANG.
Ag 4722.

natives think there are many
Japs hanging around in
the hills and jungle near
MENUNWANG.


234/17

11th July, 1945

Ref:
From District Officer, Limbang

To Major J.P.L. Pitmas,
B.M.C.A.F., Brunei.

I forward herewith various reports of persons
pro to sups.



District Officer.

Copy to:-

Intelligence Officer, Limbang.

The Sarawak Government.

Station..... Limbang/Treasury Treasury Voucher No. 185.....

Departmental Voucher No. 35.....

Head* (of Estimates & No.)..... 22 R & D O 4D (Other Charges)

Sub-Head (No.)..... 28B Commission on Taxes.

Dr. to..... Potty Cash.....

*When this voucher is used for below the line" payments such as Advances and Repayment of Deposits, the words in brackets should be erased.

I certify that the charges marked thus * amounting to \$..... have been actually incurred and PAID by me.

Date 1935.	Detailed Description of Service or Article	Rate where applicable	Amount
Feb: 28	Commission on Exemption Tax paid during the month of February, 1935. Ref: Potty Cash Book Folio 35 & 36.		\$ 13 90
Financial Authority <u>General Warrant 1935.</u>		Total \$	13 90

PAID

I certify that the above amount is correct, and was incurred under the authority

B. Ahmit bin Hj Mat, Police No.128, Limbang, reported to be pro to Japs.

25/6/1945. (Monday) Ahmit bin Hj Mat, when interrogated, says:-

I admitted that I did torture three political prisoners, named 1. Laway (Murut), 2. Lasong Iloh and 3. Palong, because we were forced by the Japanese Officer to do this. I was not the only person who tortured these political prisoners, but there were others together with me. Their names are - 1. Sgt. Dulamit, 2. Corpl. Mohamat and 3. Majid. One week after the torturing, one of the political prisoners died, due to starvation.

Signature of Ahmit bin Hj Mat.

25/6/1945 Ahap bin Dris, aged 18, reports:-

Ahmit bin Hj Mat, was pro to Japs. When at the time I was in charge of a boat belonged to a Japanese named Tsugi Mura, Ahmit accused me of drifting along the said boat, in order to put me in trouble. After all the said boat was found in the possession of a Japanese named Naga Oke.

Signature of reporter Ahap bin Dris.
" " Sgt Suut.

The Sarawak Government.

Station.....Linbang.....Treasury Voucher No. 560

Departmental Voucher No. 115

Head* (of Estimates & No.)...22 R. & D. O. 4D (other Charges A.R.)

Sub-Head (No.)...28D Commission of Reg. of B. & D.

Dr. to Petty Cash

*When this voucher is used for "below the line" payments such as Advances and Repayment of Deposits, the words in brackets should be erased.

I certify that the charges marked thus * amounting to \$..... have been actually incurred and PAID by me.


Date 1935.	Detailed Description of Service or Article	Rate where applicable	Amount
June 28	Commission on Registration of 1 Birth & 3 Deaths paid during the month of June, 1935. Ref: Petty Cash Book Folio 41.		\$ - 40
Financial Authority <u>General Warrant 1935.</u>		Total \$	- 40

PAID

I certify that the above amount is correct, and was incurred under the authority quoted and that the rates charged are:—

according to regulation } rule through
~~according to regulation~~ } Certificates
 fair and reasonable } not applicable

and that the amount of Dollars Nil and
cents Forty only. can be paid under the sub-Head quoted


Signature } of Head
 Acting District OfficerTitle } of Dept.

Date 28th June, 1935.

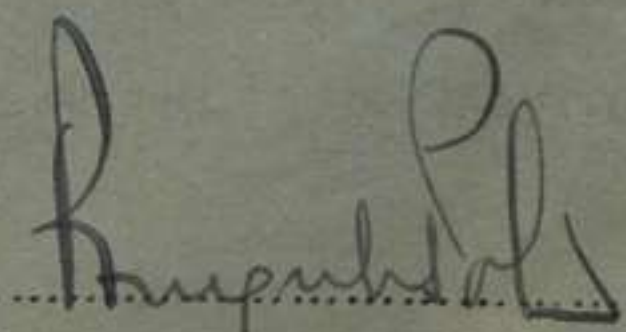
RECEIPT

Received this 29th day of June, 19 35.
the sum of Dollars Nil. and Forty only.

DUPLICATE

for the above service which I certify has been duly performed.

Witness to marks and payments made in my presence


Signature of Receiver.

C. Lim Jit Seng - pro to Japs.

26/6/1945 Abu Bakar bin Johari, aged 46, Malay, Govt. Rubber Inspector reports:-

Lim Jit Seng, Chinese, Manager to a Japanese firm named "Nanri" Limbang was pro to Japs. I can prove this, that every time when I went to get or buy something from him, such as oil, matches, salt any other things, he always said there was nothing left any more, in fact there was plenty of things in his shop. He did these because he wanted to sell all these goods to the public in order to get more money for his own benefit. Besides he was very showy and proud to the public and said he has the full power to do anything, if he wishes.

Signature of reporter Abu Bakar

26/6/1945 Awang Ahmad bin Matserudin, Land Inspector, Limbang, corroborates Abu Bakar's statement.

Signature of Awang Ahmad.

26/6/1945 Kong Yew Patt, aged 30, Chinese, Govt. R. Regulation Clerk Limbang, reports:-

Lim Jit Seng, Chinese, Manager to a Japanese firm named "Nanri", Limbang, was pro to Japs. I can prove this is that everytime when I went to buy vegetables from his firm, he used to say that everything belonged to the Japs soldiers and Japs civilians. All these vegetables the Japs want to eat, in spite of Govt. notice that Govt. servants are allowed to buy vegetables for own consumption from his firm. At one time I saw with my own eyes he tried to rob from one of the Chinese vegetable sellers all her vegetables for the sake of the Japs soldiers. He also said that now he has all the full powers.

Signature of reporter Kong Yew Patt

27/6/1945. Hong Su Sai, of Chop Juan Foo, Limbang, aged 40, Nylam Chinese, reports:-

Lim Jit Seng, Chinese, manager to a Japanese firm named "Nanri" Limbang was 100 per cent pro to Japs. I can prove to this. In 1944, Lim Jit Seng and his brother Lim Jit Kuan, a manager to a Japanese firm named Nanri, runci together with a Japanese come in to my shophouse at Limbang Bazaar, Lim Jit Seng himself pointed out to a Japanese and asked the Japanese to make use of my shophouse. The said shop house belonged to a man named Chew Sui Kiong. Lim Jit Seng also brought the said Japanese to see Chew Sui Kiong regarding the said shophouse. Chew Sui Kiong said, I was ordered by Lim Jit Seng and the Japanese to inform you (Hong Su Sai) that you must quit out from the shophouse within three days time, because the shophouse referred to will be used as a Japanese firm named Nanri. Lim Jit Seng has no further consideration and have no pity on me and my family at all. I have five little children and my wife is entirely blind. I have had to suffer much on account of this affair. Lim Jit Seng was the originator of the whole affairs.

On 20th of April, 1944, I asked for 10 katties of potatoes for my family and myself, as we were by that time very short of food, but my request was entirely rejected, just because he wanted to help and feed the Japanese at "runci". By that time when I asked for 10 katties of potatoes, there were about 30 bags of them lying in the boat, under Lim Jit Seng's charge. On 10th of May, 1944, I approached him again to ask for some potatoes for my families ration, and this time also my request rejected. There were about 20 picule of potatoes in the shop by the time. On 16th of May, 1944, I asked for fish. He said there is nothing for you. This fish is for exchange with other goods from the natives for Japanese consumption.

Signature of reporter - Hong Su Sai.

Note. The above statement was read in Malay to the reporter on 27/6/1945 at 8.45 p.m. (Wednesday).

The Sarawak Government.

Station Limbang Treasury Voucher No. 563

Departmental Voucher No.

Head* (of ~~Estimates & No.~~) Court Deposits

Sub-Head (No.)

Dr. to Contra

*When this voucher is used for "below the line" payments such as Advances and Repayment of Deposits, the words in brackets should be erased.


I certify that the charges marked thus * amounting to \$ have been actually incurred and PAID by me.

Date	Detailed Description of Service or Article	Rate where applicable	Amount
	Commission on Court Deposit remittance from Kuching vide C. Deposit Vr. 60 & Treasury 510		- 10
Financial Authority		Total \$	- 10

I certify that the above amount is correct, and was incurred under the authority quoted and that the rates charged are:—

according to regulation } rule through
 according to Contract } Certificates
 fair and reasonable } not applicable

and that the amount of Dollars nil
cents ten only..., can be paid under the sub-Head quoted


 Signature } of Head
 Ag District Officer } of Dept.
 Title

Date 29/6/35

RECEIPT

Received this 29th day of June, 19 35

the sum of Dollars nil and cents ten only..

DUPLICATE

for the above service which I certify has been duly performed.

Credit Commission on Court Deposits

Witness to marks and payments made in my presence

Signature of Receiver.

D. 28/6/1945 Awang Damit bin Bajang, aged 54, Malay, reports:-

Burut bin Tuah, male, Kedayan, Kg. Pangapoyan, was pro to Japs. I can prove this. About 2 months ago, I approached the District Officer, Limbang, ("bang Mustapha), in order to obtain permission from the Government, that I may be allowed to make use of the Government land in the Forest Reserve (blockar) for the purpose of forthcoming padi planting. My request was however, granted. The forest guard named Awangku Ahmad was ordered by the District Officer to inspect the land required for, and I went together with him to the spot. When on my return from the jungle I went to see Burut in order to inform him that I have already obtained permission from the District Officer to farm on the land. In spite of which Burut answered me in a very rude manner, he said, "I don't care for the District Officer (Gunchu) ("bang Mustapha), as he has no power over us. I have now all the full powers in the forest reserve here, and I only care for the Japanese and no others." I went to see the District Officer ("bang Mustapha) about this. He advised me to keep patience, and I did so.

Signature of reporter:- Awang Damit

Note. The above statement was read and explained in Malay to Awang bin Bajang.

The Sarawak Government.

Station.. Limbang/Treasury Treasury Voucher No. 539

Departmental Voucher No.

Head* (of Estimates & No.) Allotments

Sub-Head (No.) A/C. Sundar

Dr. to Ibrahim bin Mohamed

*When this voucher is used for "below the line" payments such as Advances and Repayment of Deposits, the words in brackets should be erased.

Date	Detailed Description of Service or Article	Rate where applicable	Amount
1935			
June 26	June Standing Allotment from Amit bin Goh Eng Tian, Sundar.		\$ 5 -
Financial Authority		Total \$	5 -

I certify that the charges marked thus * amounting to \$ have been actually incurred and PAID by me.

I certify that the above amount is correct, and was incurred under the authority quoted and that the rates charged are:—

~~according to regulation~~ } rule through
~~according to Contract~~ } Certificates
~~fair and reasonable~~ } not applicable

and that the amount of Dollars Five only cents nil can be paid under the sub-Head quoted

..... Signature } of Head
 Acting District Officer Title } of Dept.

Date 26th June, 1935

RECEIPT

Received this 27th day of June, 19 35

the sum of Dollars Five only

DUPLICATE

for the above service which I certify has been duly performed.

Witness to marks and payments made in my presence

A. Ibrahim
 Signature of Receiver.

E. Awang bin Konyan, Police 626, Limbang, aged 40, male, Mohamedan Dyak, reports:-

28/6/1945 Corpl. Ahmat, No.75, male, Brunei Malay, was 100 per cent pro to Japs. I can give details of his past action towards the native. About 4 months ago, my uncle named Nyalang (Dyak) was brought in to the Police station at Limbang, because he was accused of saying these words, "Japanese notes are not legal tender". Due to this affair, my uncle was severely tortured by the Copl. Ahmad, No.75. I quite believe that Corpl. Ahmad was ordered by the Japanese Officer to torture my uncle, but he did more than what he was commanded. My uncle Nyalang informed me that Corpl. Ahmad has not the slightest pity on him. My uncle was kept under remand for about 2 months in the Brunei Jail. After 2 months time, he was sent back to Limbang and released. One week after the release, my uncle died, due to ill treatment and the torturing which he received from the Corpl. Ahmad, while he was detained in the Limbang jail. My uncle was an ignorant person, an old man of about 70 years of age.

Note. The above statement was read and explained to Awang bin Konyan in Malay, in the presence of Sgt Suut.

Awangs' signature:- Awang.

2/7/1945. Ukap Marajangi, Murut, male, aged 25, Kampong Fundut reports:-

Coporal Ahmat No.75, Brunei Malay, was pro to Japs. About 4½ months ago, I was asked to come to Police Station, Limbang, to see the C.P.O. When I arrived Limbang, I was arrested by Chegu Salleh on a charge of rendering assistance to the American Pilots. I was under custody and kept in the Limbang Jail by Copl. Ahmat. The next day, Copl. Ahmat tried to get information from me regarding the white people. He severely tortured me. The torturing I received was beyond words to describe. Copl. Ahmad also said, "Now there is no other government in Borneo except the Japs Govt. All the white people in Borneo have their heads cut off. The white people are blood suckers; they make you to pay head tax, garden tax, etc. because they are very poor people. The Japs are very good people; they do not want you to pay any tax; they do not interfere with your affairs and they only ask you to plant padi and other foodstuffs for your own consumption. Now you must tell the truth and inform me where the white people are, if you do not tell, your head will be cut off too." All these were done without the presence of a Jap.

N.B.

The above statement was read and explained to Ukap Marajangi in Malay in the presence of Tuanku Mahdzar, D.C.Sundar

The Sarawak Government.

Station.....Limbang/Treasury.....Treasury Voucher No. 538

Departmental Voucher No.

Head* (of Estimates & No.).....Allotments.....

Sub-Head (No.).....A/c Sarikoi.....

Dr. to.....Patah bin Haji Matsalleh.....

*When this voucher is used for "below the line" payments such as Advances and Repayment of Deposits, the words in brackets should be erased.

I certify that the charges marked thus * amounting to \$..... have been actually incurred and PAID by me.

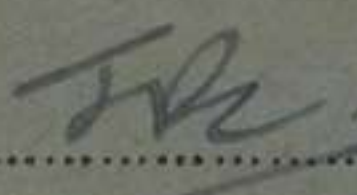
When payments are made by Public Officers for Petty Expenses for which it is not practicable to obtain Sub-Receipts the following Certificates must be signed by such Officers.

Date	Detailed Description of Service or Article	Rate where applicable	Amount
1935.			
June 26	June Standing Allotment from Mohamad bin Patah, Sarikoi.		\$ 10 -
Financial Authority		Total \$	10 -

I certify that the above amount is correct, and was incurred under the authority quoted and that the rates charged are:—

according to regulation } rule through
 according to Contract } Certificates
~~fair and reasonable~~ } not applicable

and that the amount of Dollars Ten only.....
 cents.....Nil....., can be paid under the sub-Head quoted


 Signature } of Head
 Acting District Officer Title } of Dept.

Date..... 26th June, 1935.....

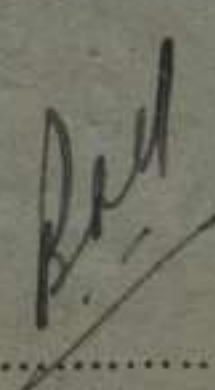
RECEIPT

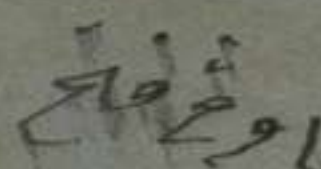
Received this 27th day of June, 19 35.
 the sum of Dollars Ten only.

DUPLICATE

for the above service which I certify has been duly performed.

Witness to marks and payments made in my presence




 Signature of Receiver.

P - Sahdan bin Bojeng, Court Clerk-of-Works, Limbang, aged 30, male, Malay, reports:-

30/6/1945. Brain, A.S.P. Brunei is pro to Japs. I can prove this. About 3 1/2 years ago, Brain, A.S.P. Brunei, together with a Japanese M.P. named Watakabe, went to Limbang, to enquire about the property of the Sarawak Government in Limbang. About mid-day, when at the time I took my meal, I was called for by the A.S.P. Brain to see him in the Limbang Bazaar at Tamby Mohamad's shop. As I was forced to see A.S.P. Brain, I have not been given the chance even to finish my mid-day meal, so I had to go and left my food behind. I was interrogated by A.S.P. Brain and he questioned me as follows:-
"Sahdan, I hear that you have hidden certain things which belong to the Sarawak Government at Limbang, such as benzine, ammunition, cylinder oil and Govt. Launches, is this true?"
I answered yee. I did this because I was given orders to do so. I have witnesses to this. The D.O. of Limbang is my witness. The D.O. Abang Mustapha was called for. The D.O. confirmed my statement. By the time I was interrogated, A.S.P. threatened me and said, "You must not help the white men, if should you do this, here is a man who stands besides me a Japanese M.P. named Watakabe ready to cut your head." I shivered and very much frightened to hear this. The A.S.P. Brain No.3 told me that he has witnesses who saw me hiding the Government property. Their names are 1. Pengiran Sabtu and 2. Ampal (Adeyan).

Signature of reporter:- Mohd Sahdan

Note. All the abovementioned property referred to was found and taken back by the Japanese.

Kong Tshun Sang Govt Treasury Clerk, Limbang, Chinese aged 41, male reports:-

30/6/1945 Brain A.S.P.No.3, Brunei, I knew this man was pro to Japs. Approximately 3 1/2 years ago, Brain No.3 of Brunei Police, accompanied by a party of Japanese Officers including a M.P. named Watakabe searched my house at Sg. Poyan 1st Mile berawan road, during my absence. One of my little children requested me to return to the house to meet some Japs Officers there. On my arrival, my belongings all lying outside the house. One iron safe of mine was also carried out from the house and ordered to be opened at once. Brain No.3 told me that I have hidden Govt money of \$50,000/- (fifty thousand dollars) which belong to Brunei Government. Messrs Ampal and Pengiran Sabtu wrote to him about this. I was threatened with a slap from the M.P. named Watakabe. Brain No.3 was full of pride and damaged part of most of my boxes and clothings, saying that he has the full authority to search any house for the sake of the Japs, without warrant or notice or whatever. Further, he can arrest anyone and put him in custody without any question. Brain No.3 told me to tell the truth, otherwise you will be in great trouble. After the search nothing offensive was found. In fact the \$50,000/- referred to were burnt by order of the Ex. Hon'ble Resident Mr. J.G. Anderson of Limbang in the presence of the D.O. (Abang Mustapha) of Limbang and a few of the constables and office staff.

Signature of reporter:- Kong Tshun Sang.

The Sarawak Government.

Station LIMBANG Treasury Voucher No. 558

Departmental Voucher No. 57

Head* (of Estimates & No.) 37: P. W. D. Other Charges A/R

Sub-Head (No.) 70D. Maintenance of Roads

Dr. to Marine Department.

Cr. Marine - FUEL.

*When this voucher is used for "below the line" payments such as Advances and Repayment of Deposits, the words in brackets should be erased.

Date	Detailed Description of Service or Article	Rate where applicable	Amount
1935. June,	Cost of 10 Gallons Benzene supplied from Marine Store during the month of June, 1935.		6.00
Financial Authority <u>General Warrant, 1935.</u>		Total \$	6.00

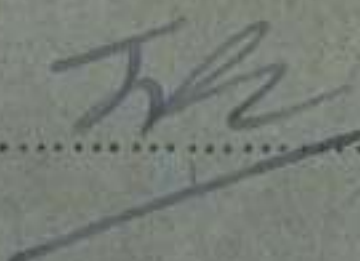
I certify that the charges marked thus * amounting to \$..... have been actually incurred and PAID by me.

When payments are made by Public Officers for Petty Expenses for which it is not practicable to obtain Sub-Receipts the following Certificates must be signed by such Officers.

I certify that the above amount is correct, and was incurred under the authority quoted and that the rates charged are:—

according to regulation } rule through
 according to Contract } Certificates
~~fair and reasonable~~ } not applicable
 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

and that the amount of Dollars Six only.
cents..... can be paid under the sub-Head quoted


 Signature } of Head
 Title } of Dept.
Acting District Officer.

Date 27th June, 1935.

RECEIPT

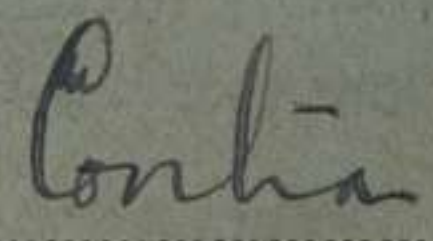
Received this 27th day of June, 1935.

the sum of Dollars Six only

DUPLICATE

for the above service which I certify has been duly performed.

Witness to marks and payments made in my presence.


 Signature of Receiver.

G- Nayan Murin, Murut, male, aged 30, Kampong Pundut reports:-

2/2/1945. Chegu Salleh, Brunei Malay, acting as a Jap propaganda Officer in Limbang was 100 per cent pro to Japs. I can prove this.

About 5 months ago, Chegu Salleh accompanied by a Jap, C.P.O. Limbang went to my place in Pundut. Chegu Salleh told me that the Jap C.P.O. was a Chinese Tokay from Brunei. This tokay brought some thread and Brunei tobacco, wanted to exchange fowls and pigs. Then Chegu Salleh questioned me. "Have you kept the white people?" I replied, "No, I have not kept the white men". Chegu Salleh again asked me, "You must tell the truth, otherwise you will be great trouble when I get information from other people. You must not think that the white men will govern Borneo again. Now there is no other Government in Borneo except the Japanese Government. All the white people in Borneo have their heads cut off".

H. B. The above statement was read and explained to Nayan Murin in Malay in the presence of Tuanlu Mahzar, D. P. Sundar.

THE SARAWAK GOVERNMENT.

Station, 5th Division, Limbang Treasury Voucher No. *126/12*

Departmental Voucher No. *59/39*

Rubber Fund

Head* (of Estimates & No.).....

3/3 - Transport & Travelling.

Sub-Head (No.).....

PUBLIC WORK DEPARTMENT

Dr. to.....

*When this voucher is used for "below the line" payments such as "Advances and Repayment of Deposits, the words in brackets should be erased."

I certify that the charges marked thus * amounting to \$....., have been actually incurred and PAID by me.

When payments are made by Public Officers for Petty Expenses for which it is not practicable to obtain Sub-Receipts the following Certificates must be signed by such Officers.

Date 1939	Detailed Description of Service or Article	Rate where applicable	Amount
30th Dec:	To Cost 2 gallons of Benzine @ -/60 cents per gallon supplied to Gov't. Lorry transporting Rubber Staff to Pandaruan and back for Fourth Quarter Coupon Issue, 1939.		\$ 1.20
Financial Authority		Total \$	1.20

NO CASH

I certify that the above amount is correct, and was incurred under the authority quoted and that the rates charged are:—

~~according to regulation~~ } rule through
~~according to Contract~~ } Certificates
~~fair and reasonable~~ } not applicable

and that the amount of Dollars.....
 cents..... **twenty only.**, can be paid under the sub-Head quoted

Le H. R. Kim Signature }
 Inspector-in-Charge, } of Head
 LIMBANG. Title } of Dept.

Date..... **30th December, 1939.**

RECEIPT

Received this *30th* day of *December*, 19*39*
 the sum of Dollars..... **One..... cents twenty only**

DUPLICATE

for the above service which I certify has been duly performed.

Cr. Marine Fuel &c.

Dr. Rubber Fund

C O N T R A .

Witness to marks and payments made in my presence.

.....
 Signature of Receiver.

H - Baru Brauk, Murut, male, aged 19, Kampong Pundub, reports:-

8/7/1945. Awang Amit No. 824, Police Limbang, was pro to Japs. I can prove this. About 5 months ago, Awang Amit together with a group of policemen and Jap Officers went to my place in search of the white men (American Pilots). Awang Amit said, "There are tracks that the white people have passed this way. You must have kept, fed and helped the white people ~~xxxxx~~ to go away. Now your people just know, if you do not tell the truth, your people will be in great trouble and all the people in the village will be boiled alive. These white people that you help are animals. They come here to disturb villages only."

N. B. The above statement was read and explained in Malay to Baru Brauk in the presence of Tunku Bahzan, D.O. Sundar.

THE SARAWAK GOVERNMENT.

Station 5th Division, Limbang. Treasury Voucher No. 124/2

Departmental Voucher No. 58/39

Head* (of Estimates & No.) Rubber Fund

Sub-Head (No.) 3/10 - Offices Expenses.

Dr. to Chop Hiap Guan

*When this voucher is used for "below the line" payments such as Advances and Repayment of Deposits, the words in brackets should be erased.

I certify that the charges marked thus * amounting to \$..... have been actually incurred and PAID by me.

When payments are made by Public Officers for Petty Expenses for which it is not practicable to obtain Sub-Receipts the following Certificates must be signed by such Officers.

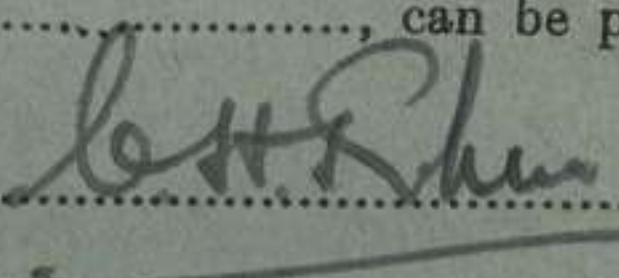
Date 1939	Detailed Description of Service or Article	Rate where applicable	Amount
30th Dec:	To Cost one Coconut Broom as per Bill attached.		\$ - 10
Financial Authority		Total \$	- 10

PAID

I certify that the above amount is correct, and was incurred under the authority quoted and that the rates charged are:—

according to regulation } rule through
 according to Contract } Certificates
 fair and reasonable } not applicable

and that the amount of Dollars Nil..... and
ten only. cents..... can be paid under the sub-Head quoted


 Signature of Head of Dept.
Inspector-in-Charge, Title
LIMBANG.

Date 30th December, 1939.

RECEIPT

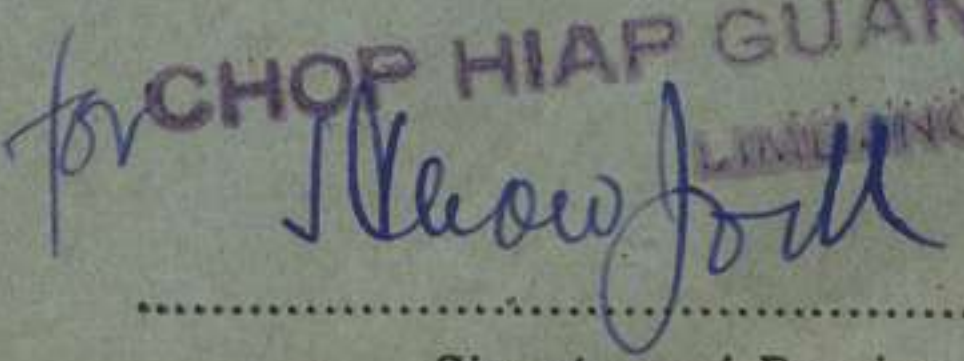
Received this 30th day of December, 1939

the sum of Dollars Nil and cents ten only.

DUPLICATE

for the above service which I certify has been duly performed.

Witness to marks and payments made in my presence.


 Signature of Receiver.

D. H. A. Ranggau,
22-6-1945

To Abang Mustapha,
N. Officer-in-Charge, Limbang.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit herewith 3 sheets of my report in connection with the troubles and cases that I have rendered to the white people and Mrs. Anderson (Resident, hiding in the Ulu Limbang during the year 1941 and 1942, and the torturings that I have received from the Japanese.

2. Please consult the matter with Major Dittus at your earliest convenience, in order that I may carry on my work easier when government transfer me to Ulu Limbang in the future.

Awang Riut

Note. Originally written in Malay Romanized.

When payments are made by P
Expenses for which it is no
Sub-Receipts the following
signed by such Officers.

B. H. Limban Signature }
Inspector-in-Charge, Title } of Head
LIMBANG. Dept.

Date.....30th December, 1939...

RECEIPT

Received this 30th day of December, 1939

the sum of Dollars Seven and cents eighty only.

DUPLICATE

for the above service which I certify has been duly performed.

Cr. Marine Duel Ac.

Dr. Rubber Fund

C O N T R A .

Witness to marks
and payments
made in my
presence.

.....

.....
Signature of Receiver.

Report 27-6-45

Further to my report submitted to D.O. Limbang on the affairs of my rendering assistance to the white men hiding in Ulu Limbang, these are the persons accompanied by Penghulu Beluluk to report me (Awang Piut) in Brunei and also to rob all the properties of those captured white men in the Ulu Limbang, in Perangah and in Limbasong.

Still alive:-

1. Engan Beluluk, Sungai Damit, Sarawak
2. Wak Luda, " " "
3. Tama Kolin Haut, " " "
4. Bing Salu, " " "
5. T.R. Masong Ala, Ulu Limbang, "
6. Ma Chang, Ledang, Sarawak, "

Signed Awang Piut
U.F.A.

c
a
h
a

When payments are made by Public Officers for Petty Expenses for which it is not practicable to obtain Sub-Receipts the following Certificates must be signed by such Officers.

I certify that the above amount is correct, and was incurred under the authority quoted and that the rates charged are:—

according to regulation } rule through
according to Contract } Certificates
fair and reasonable } not applicable

and that the amount of Dollars.....Two hundred and twenty five only.....
cents.....Nil....., can be paid under the sub-Head quoted

B. H. Iken.....Signature }
Inspector-in-Charge.....Title } of Head
5th Division. } Dept.

Date 29th August, 1939.....

RECEIPT

Received this 29th.....day of.....August....., 1939..

the sum of Dollars.....Two hundred and twenty five only.....

DUPLICATE

for the above service which I certify has been duly performed.

Witness to marks
and payments
made in my
presence.

.....

As per Pay Sheet attached.

.....
Signature of Receiver.

Copy.

Report From me, Awang Piut bin Awang Matsalleh, J. R. A.,
at Office Okong, Ulu Limbang.

On 31.12.1941 at 5.30 p.m. the Japanese troops entered Limbang from Brunei and the Hon'ble Resident was captured by them and brought over to Brunei. Prior to that, in the month of December, 1941 both white men and women including Mrs J. G. Anderson (Resident) were hiding in the Ulu Limbang under my charge, i.e. to protect them from falling into the Japs' hand. These were the persons that lived in Ulu Limbang, (Medit. River).

1. Mrs. Anderson
2. Mr. & Mrs. Southwell of Perangah.
3. Mr. & Mrs. Dewsher and 2 children of Limpasong
4. Mr. Montgomery and his Chinese Mysic of Limbang Estate
5. Mr. Clifford and 2 women of Mambang Pasang, Brunei.

During those worried days of about 7 year, the white people living in the Ulu Limbang, I used to travel and visit them regularly, bringing all the necessities that they required, also letters, news from Abang Mustapha N. Officer-in-Charge, Limbang and "an Mahdzar N. Officer, Limbang.

After handed over my collections to Government at Limbang, I returned and reached Okong on 23.7.1942 at 3.30 p.m. At 5.30 p.m. the same day, a troop of Jap soldiers, arrived Okong from the ulu, 2 Officers named 1. T. Nakashima known as captain and 2. E. Take Tomi, 18 soldiers and 2 Brunei Policemen accompanied by Ex Ponghulu Belulok and his followers Engan Belulok and Tayun Paluh, Murut/Tabun, Kuala Damit, bringing with them were the white people hiding in Ulu Limbang. The Jap Officers interrogated, "Who is the chief officer here?" replied Mustapha U.R.A., "Awang Piut". Then 2 Jap Officers questioned and threatened me saying, "Awang Piut, why do you hide these white people and who brings them food?" At the same time, they lifted up their swords trying to cut me, I replied, "How can I hide them, I only just meet you now, regards food they must have prepared before". Again the Jap Officers asked me, "How is that you only see me now," I replied, "I just returned from Limbang to-day at 3.30 p.m. after bringing Govt. accounts". They were silent. They asked me for a room to keep the white men for a night. The names of the white men captured were:-

1. Mr. & Mrs. Dewsher and 2 children
2. Mr. & Mrs. Clifford and a daughter
3. Mr. Montgomery and his Mysic.
4. 2 other white men from Ulu Limbang.

Mrs. Anderson and Mr. Southwell have gone to Ulu Trusan (bah) with my advice when I visited them in 24.2.1942.

23.7.42. at 8.30 a.m. the Jap troops and Ex P'nhulu Belulok and his followers brought all the captured white men to Limbang and then to Brunei.

From now onwards, Belulok and his son Engan and Tayun Paluh were very proud. They went to Ulu Limbang and robbed all the properties of those captured white men. They broke Mr. Southwell's house at Perangah and also every now and then they used to go, to Brunei to receive their rewards from the Jap Officer in Brunei.

26.8.42 at 8.30 p.m. 3 men came to office Okong and called me to proceed to Brunei because the Jap Officer wanted to see me there. Immediately I went to see N. Officer-in-Charge, Limbang and then to Brunei, reaching Brunei on 27.8.42 at 9 p.m. 30.8.42 at 11 a.m. I was interviewed by Jap Officer in the Police Station Brunei, T. Naka hima Captain, Take Tomi and a M.P. and some other Jap Officers. They said, "You have been reported by Belulok and his men that you sheltered and brought food to the white people hiding in the Ulu Limbang besides you have summoned Ulu people, Bisaya, is this true?"

THE SARAWAK GOVERNMENT.

Station **5th Division, Limbang** Treasury Voucher No. **81/9**

Departmental Voucher No. **50/39**

Head* (of Estimates & No.) **Rubber Fund**

Sub-Head (No.) **3/2 - Sundry Labour**

Dr. to **Sundry Persons.**

*When this voucher is used for "below the line" payments such as Advances and Repayment of Deposits, the words in brackets should be erased.

I certify that the charges marked thus * amounting to \$....., have been actually incurred and PAID by me.

When payments are made by Public Officers for Petty Expenses for which it is not practicable to obtain Sub-Receipts the following Certificates must be signed by such Officers.

Date 1939	Detailed Description of Service or Article	Rate where applicable	Amount
29th Sept:	To cost of 2 sundry labours for cleaning, re-draining etc. at Experimental Plot as from 18th to 23rd September, 1939 inclusive = 6 days @ -/50 cts. per day each.		\$ 6.-
Financial Authority		Total \$	6.-

PAID

I certify that the above amount is correct, and was incurred under the authority quoted and that the rates charged are:—

according to regulation } rule through
 according to Contract } Certificates
 fair and reasonable } not applicable

Six only.

and that the amount of Dollars.....
cents..... **Nil**, can be paid under the sub-Head quoted

..... *[Signature]* Signature } of Head
 Inspector-in-Charge, Title } of Dept.
 **LIMBANG.**

Date..... **29th September, 1939.**

RECEIPT

Received this **29th** day of **September,** 19**39**
the sum of Dollars..... **Six only.**

DUPLICATE

for the above service which I certify has been duly performed.

Dullah bin Serudin **\$3.00**

Bakar bin Daman **3.00**

Witness to marks
and payments
made in my
presence.

[Signature]

\$ 6.00

Signature of Receiver.

I replied, "Regarding summon, I admit, with the approval of Government, because they have breached government regulation, that is, they tube fish without government permission. Regarding hiding the white men, I have reported to you personally at Ujong on 28.7.42". The Jap Officers did not believe my words, but only accused me. One of the Jap officers striped me with a leather belt, two, three times. My right eye was bleeding with blood on account of the striping. I have to stay for about 10 days in Brunei hospital for treatment.

On 28 & 29.8.42, the day the Japanese officer striped me, the following persons from Ulu Limbang were present:- Belulok and his son Engun, Tayun, T. Pangrau (Bisaya Pkin Medang), T.K. Madat (Bisaya Panchurut) and T.K. Kassau (Bisaya Danau). These persons were here (Brunei Police Station) to report me of my rendering assistance to the white men hiding in Ulu Limbang.

Your consideration is required, particularly of the torturings that I received from the Jap Officers on account of my rendering assistance to the white people. Until to-day, my right eye is still not yet cure and I cannot see properly with that eye.

In 1944 Belulok and Tayun have since died, remaining his son and followers.

Note. Originally written in Romanized Malay.

THE SARAWAK GOVERNMENT.

OCL.

Station 5th Division, Limbang Treasury Voucher No. 43/8

Departmental Voucher No. 44/39

Head* (of Estimates & No.) Rubber Fund

Sub-Head (No.) 3/3 - Transport & Travelling.

Dr. to MARINE DEPARTMENT

*When this voucher is used for "below the line" payments such as Advances and Repayment of Deposits, the words in brackets should be erased.

I certify that the charges marked thus * amounting to \$..... have been actually incurred and PAID by me.

When payments are made by Public Officers for Petty Expenses for which it is not practicable to obtain Sub-Receipts the following Certificates must be signed by such Officers.

Date 1939	Detailed Description of Service or Article	Rate where applicable	Amount
15th Aug:	To Cost 60 gallons of Benzine @ -/60 cents per gallon supplied to M.L.Tiong and Mr. Chiock Sia's Outboard Motor transporting Rubber Staff to Lawas for Third Quarter Coupon Issue and to Ulu Limbang for re-inspections of rubber holdings.		\$ 36.00
<u>NO CASH</u>			
Financial Authority		Total \$	36.00

I certify that the above amount is correct, and was incurred under the authority quoted and that the rates charged are :—

according to regulation == } rule through
 according to Contract == } Certificates
 fair and reasonable } not applicable

and that the amount of Dollars..... Thirty six only.

cents..... Nil, can be paid under the sub-Head quoted

..... B.H.S. Ken Signature } of Head
 Inspector-in-Charge, Title } of
 LIMBANG.

Date..... 15th August, 1939.

RECEIPT

Received this..... 16th day of..... August, 19..... 39

the sum of Dollars..... Thirty six

DUPLICATE

for the above service which I certify has been duly performed.

Dr. to Rubber Fund.

Cr. to Marine Fuel & Lubricant.

Witness to marks and payments made in my presence.

C O N T R A .

.....
Signature of Receiver.

I - Kasa anak Salang (Iban) aged 29, male, reports:-

1/7/1945 Belulok (Murut) and Lasong Ala (Murut) were pro to Japs.

I can prove these two persons were pro to Japs. On 26/12/41, I worked for 9 white people as their servant at Medit Ulu Limbang where these white people hiding themselves during the Japs invasion in Limbang. The names of these white people were:-

1. Mr. F.A. Bewsher
2. Mr. Southwell
3. Mr. Montgomery
4. Mr. Clifford
5. Mrs. Clifford
6. Miss Clifford
7. Mrs. Southwell
8. Mrs. F.A. Bewsher
9. Mrs. J.G. Anderson.

Sometimes in February, 1942, I brought Mrs. J.G. Anderson, Mrs. Southwell and Mr. Southwell to Trusan rumah Ating Augang (Murut). After 13 days staying in Trusan with these 3 persons, I returned back to Medit in order to serve the remaining 6 persons and 2 other persons who came from Belungan and Barau during my absence respectively. Their names were:- 1. Mr. Wallace and 2. Rev. Fr. O'Brien.

On 15/5/1942, I left the service on my own accord, because I wanted to look after my padi farm. On the same date on my journey home I met Lasong Ala (Murut) and Blulok. Lasong Ala told me as follows:- "You must beware of yourself this time. Anybody who helped or rendered assistance to white people must be arrested and brought before the Japs Officers. I have already reported those persons who tried to help the white people to the M.P. Japs Officers in Brunei. He said that served the white people right. When all the white people have been captured, thus I shall take all their property.

On 16/5/1942, the Japs troops numbering about 30 men went to Medit to capture the white people due to Lasong Ala's treacherous act. After the eight white people have been captured by the Japs troops, then Lasong Ala and Blulok accompanied by their followers went to Medit, looting after the white people's properties which were left behind by them there. Belulok and Lasong Ala reported the D.O. Limbang (Abang Mustapha) and Awang Pint U.R.A. Ukong as well to the Japs M.P. in Brunei for trying to hide the white people and rendering every assistance to the white people during the Japs invasion in Limbang.

Lasong Ala, Belulok and his followers pointed out the exact place where the white people shelter at Medit to the Japs troops. They (Lasong Ala, Belulok and their followers) also assisted the Japs troops to capture the white people.

Note. The above statement was read and explained to Kasa anak Salang in Malay.

Signed Kasa

THE SARAWAK GOVERNMENT.

Station 5th Division, Limbang Treasury Voucher No. 92/7

Departmental Voucher No. 37/39

Head* (of Estimates & No.) Rubber Fund

Sub-Head (No.) 3/3 Transport & Travelling.

Dr. to Abu Bakar bin Johari

*When this voucher is used for "below the line" payments such as Advances and Repayment of Deposits, the words in brackets should be erased.

I certify that the charges marked thus * amounting to \$..... have been actually incurred and PAID by me.

When payments are made by Public Officers for Petty Expenses for which it is not practicable to obtain Sub-Receipts the following Certificates must be signed by such Officers.

Date	Detailed Description of Service or Article	Rate where applicable	Amount
1939			
28th July:	To Cost of one deck passage from Labuan to Brunei by M.L. "Muara" (Inspector - Abu Bakar b. Johari returned from leave).		\$ 1.50
Financial Authority		Total \$	1.50

PAID

I certify that the above amount is correct, and was incurred under the authority quoted and that the rates charged are :-

according to regulation } rule through
according to Contract } Certificates
fair and reasonable } not applicable

and that the amount of Dollars..... One..... and..... cents..... Fifty only....., can be paid under the sub-Head quoted

Signature of Head of Dept. Inspector-in-Charge, LIMBANG.

Date... 28th July, 1939.

RECEIPT

Received this 29th day of July, 1939.

the sum of Dollars..... One..... and..... cents..... fifty only.....

DUPLICATE

for the above service which I certify has been duly performed.

Witness to marks and payments made in my presence.

Signature of Receiver.

6 Jul45

Dear John,

First our present setup. George Helm and I changed over on 4 Jul he doing my job at BRUNEI and I has at LIMBANG. A preliminary step which will culminate in the ultimate changover of the two forces in due course to give each a change of air.

Since my arrival two patrols have been completed the findings of which added to information already to hand, appears to make fairly clear the evacuation ~~of~~ the route of the Japs to the West through this area. Below I shall discuss the more important points of the patrols as given me by the patrol comds and give you my impressions in conclusion.

A Coy patrol - This embarked at 020850I.

1130 RANGAU - confirmed story of Chinese who claimed he had rowed 50 Japs across the river in sq 5531 I think it was on 1 Jul. (I heard 90 from BRAHIM who interrogated the Chinese in BRUNEI and passed the information to me when I was there.) (Incidentally I notice in a file tonight from the DO a BRAHIM from BRUNEI is claimed with some evidence to have been a Jap collaborator during their rule here. I shall be interested to know whether it is the same party.) The RANGAU is nav by LCM to within 300 yds of the LIMBANG but a prau job for the remaining 300 yds. At 550313 the track was seen which the Jap used to leave the river. Filthy swamp and a hands knees job as evidenced by the Jap marks.

1300 - left for LABU

1600 - arrived - NMS p from interrogation no sightings for 8 to 10 days.

From here two patrols were pushed out

- (1) To TRUSAN - crosscountry
- (2) Up TEMBURONG by barge

For (1) see trace 1 - TRUSAN area clear of enemy and natives Chinese report no Japs mov through TRUSAN for 19 days. 7 of those who came through then were killed by the natives. Same source reported enemy reported in SEBULU area left there 4 days ago approx 28 Jun. (strength of enemy force 300 incl 20 women and 10 children.) Jap Gov of BRUNEI also reported to be in the party which would appear to be under the control of a General ICHO. 20 military police are also in the party (these military police crop up in reports from time to time and are usually associated with the organisation of it to make for its more efficient mov. I shall refer to this again at a later stage.) Each time the force moves from place to place the stragglers increase in number. TRUSAN town is in good order, the Gov offices being intact.

For (2) see trace 2

Findings - Large staging area as shown on trace capable of holding anything up to 1000 tps if not more (This estimate by Lt WILSON Frank should be reasonably reliable). The route followed is shown on trace.

While these patrols were in progress the coy comds craft moved out into the Bay to try to find access into the TRUSAN River. At all spots from TG TRUSAN to TG GALAP they were confronted with sandbanks till high tide when the situation was relieved sufficiently to allow them to get ~~the~~ through to AWAT AWAT much to the surprise of the locals who did not think it possible. It was their opinion if the LCM could reach there it could then continue up the river to SUNDAR thence on to TRUSAN. Time did not allow this experiment to be made.

The DO at BANGAR was most helpful. He has kept a diary since the Jap advent and in that noted the fact that on 24/25 Jun it took two days going constantly to ferry a Jap body across the river at ANGGAN. Working on the time it took to ferry the pl from the LCM limit on the LABU to

where the track to TRUSAN meets the river (see Trace 1)
this force would be from 500 to 1000 strong.

Patrol regrouped and spent the night at BANGAR which is described as a most attractive village. There was no suitable biv area in the ANGGUN region it being in appearance mite country.

From here returned. Examined RANGAU on the way home . Confirmed death of two Japs in swamp 566328 but could not find the third which had been reported the day before. At his stage the 108 set was swept off the barge into about 14 feet of water. Native divers could not recover it that after noon because of the high tide but recovered it and a Jap LMG and ~~JK~~ JUKI the following day. Other reports also of odd Japs dead and alive in that area w which have already been reported to you.

General

RANGAU-LIMBANG area.

There seems no doubt a body of probably about 50 Japs crossed the river on 1 Jul in sq 5531. For two reasons one our presence, two, the nature of the country which is very wet swamp they have broken up into small parties and in that way some of them are trying to sneak through our lines at night, particularly at dusk when they appear to start scrounging for food. We have bagged one each evening for the past two days in addition to the odd two or three found hiding during the day, and quite expect more in the future. It is not likely that many of them will beat both factors - us and the country and those that do will not be worth much.

Evacuation route

On 5 Jul a patrol reached area of ABOT 2½ hrs marching time through rough and some of it wet contry from PUASA (in 5116) towards TUDUMIN and the natives say 2 hrs marching time from PUASA to KUBONG. (5911)

At TANKU about 1½ hrs marching time from PUASA and on the route to ABOT is a bivouac area where estimated 100 Japs had been camped . ~~The native estimate is 2500 which is in keeping with their reputation in these reports.~~

Native headman at ABOT reported that on about 20 Jun a large group of Japs (he said 2500) probably about 50 to 100 passed through the ABOT area. They came through in small single file (patrol comd described track as DYAK or bullock track) in groups of 5 to 30, taking 3 days to move through. 13 women in the party.

From ABOT they went to KUBONG (probably through TUDUMIN my own observation) thence obviously to ANGGUN). The party according to the native moved down from MENGATAI.

There seems little doubt that a fairly large body of Japs probably 100 or more moved from MENGATAI through the various villages en route to TANKU, KUBONG then as shown on Trace 3, and that they move at night . This is confirmed by SRD reports of contact with them in this area and the recent sightings in the MURUD and SEBULU area. The force which the patrol to TRUSAN reported was by native information moving inland though by what route or in what ~~precise~~ precise direction could not be ascertained.

.....

20th, July 1945.

RE-opening of Lawas Rubber Estate

The following works should be done before commencing tapping:-

1. Repairing coolies' lines & Clerk's quarter,
2. Cleanning roads & repairs to wharfs & bridges,
3. Weeding, maintaining & preparing trees for tapping.

All the above works can be completed in 3 months time with a labour force of 100 men.

Timber can be obtained from the neighbouring forest at the cost of the following:-

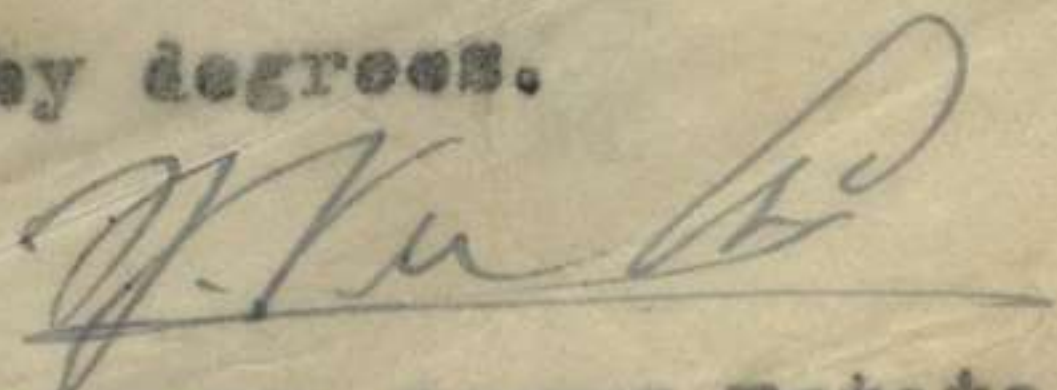
Hard wood at \$2.20 per c.ft.
Soft " " \$1.60 " " "

Maintenance of immature area also can be carried out within this period.

During British's time the rubber was milled by Engine power. As this machinery has been removed by Japanese, I suggest this work can be managed at present with Hand Mills until the necessary engines be utilised.

Since the invasion of Japanese the labour force that were employed in this Estate during British's time are scattered into various capacities of work, such as planting their food stuff, and some of them are now working under Lawas Government. I should ask your kind permission to get them back into this Estate.

I also beg to mention that the work can be started as early as you decide with a lesser amount of coolies (to start with) and the rest will be coming in by degrees.


Manager, Lawas Estate,

For Lt O'Dea B Coy
2/15 Inf Bn.

Bn less Adet July 45

PROJECTED PATROLS

①

Date

APR 35

Ser No	Unit	Sub Unit	Type	Str	Time Out	Time In	Route	Object	Info
5 Jul 8.	A Coy	7 Pl. A. Douglas	Fighting	1+20 with FOO.	0900		along Wilson to	Investigate native reports of 100 enemy in area SE of PATIAMBUN	NIMS Killed on way home. 2. fled.
9.	B Coy	Kameron	Fighting Recon	1+ a section	0815		SW along STUART Rd	Investigate native reports of 400. enemy in PUSA.	NIMS
6 July 10.	B Coy	10 Pl	F. Recon	1 Pl FOO Tp less 3 quats.	070930 0815	0815 091745	By river to TADUMIN area	1. Investigate report 3 Jul 501 Japs 2. Area recon 3. Kill & capture.	
11.	B Coy	10 Pl	Recon	1 Pl	060930	071845	By river to UKONG	Area recon Contact SRP.	NIMS
8 July 12	A Coy	7 Pl	Fighting Recon	1+24 FOO	080830	1630	Along ANGUS Rd to area 572248 572250 then back to rd & recon to 21 grid.	1. Investigate area on route 2. Confirm number dead 3. Area recon to 21 grid to locate enemy who escaped	

PROJECTED PATROLS

②

Date

Ser No	Unit	Sub Unit	Type	Str	Time Out	Time In	Route	Object	Info
9 July 13.	A Coy	Pl	Recon	1 Pl plus 091400 1 Engr 10 off - 2 Med Gumbout.		12 July 0330	Limbang by motor to LAWAS then LAWAS & return.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contact Lt PINKERTON at LAWAS 2. ✓ Check WHEELHOUSE at LABU & receive any info from them of enemy movement. 3. Area recon 4. Kill & capture 5. Try to visit sawmill at LAWAS. 	
14.	B Coy	11 Pl	Lighting recon	1 WCO + 10 with LMG	090800	No T. later than last Lt.	By jeep down STUART track as far as the pos then by foot to approx 578 185 ⁵³¹⁸ ⁵³¹⁷ to intercept Japs alleged to have branched off in SW direction from the track at approx 555 196	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Investigate area for Jap party. 2. Kill & capture 3. Locate route followed by enemy party 4. Ascertained by interrogation how far Japs have gone. 	

PROJECTED PATROLS

Date _____

July

Ser No	Unit	Sub Unit	Type	Str	Time Out	Time In	Route	Object	Info
15	2PL	→	1+29 recon	→	10 0930	12 Jul 117005	By water to UKONG & return	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Contact HENRY # Obtain CEKESB's status Call at village obtain info about enemy & investigate native reports. Kill or capture Engage any enemy parties found (MT also recommended) Info with info. 	
16	B Coy		fighting	1+12	0900	—	SWMS along trunk to Berawan 532153.	Investigate native reports of 25 armed Japs in BERAWAN area, & another of 48 with Japs 3 1/2 mile along SW trunk from Berawan.	
17	K Coy	9PL	recon	1+42	0930	pm 14 July	By river to UKONG & return	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Contact HENRY SKD. Further info enemy near BIJANG area. Confirmed and PW captured Kill or capture etc. 	

PROJECTED PATROLS

Date _____

July Ser No	Unit	Sub Unit	Type	Str	Time Out	Time In	Route	Object	Info
18	A Coy	7 PL	fighting + Recce	1 PL	161030	PM 17 Jul	By river to UKONG + Ret	as for Serial 17	
19	B Coy	=	holding	2 PL	19 Jul	19 Jul	LAWAS-SUKAI-PURIAN	1st of enemy seen	
20	A Coy	9 PL	✓	1+22	180900	181830	LAWAS WEST to 957344 By HCM to LABU + return	Contact SRD. 1st of enemy seen	
20	B Coy		fighting recce	1+14	201400	211630	Swampy area along a captured track leading to BOHE to the BNB border.	Killed captured etc. Recce of reported track	Recce
21	B Coy		fighting recce	INCO + 8	Out and	221600Z	by track to P BRIWAN 9219 by SHAWAS DAMIT KACH.	1. 1st of enemy 2. General recce.	Recce
22	B Coy		fighting	1 and 13	0900Z	221200Z	by barge to MERAPAK then investigate areas PACITAI-MALAMAD	1. 1st of enemy 2. general recce.	Recce

PROJECTED PATROLS

July

Date

Ser No.	Unit	Sub Unit	Type	Str	Time Out	Time In	Route	Object	Info
23	A1 x ACoy	7 R	Lighting Recce	S Douglas approx 28	Sat AM 21 July	Monday PM 23	Barge Bangan to Biang - foot from Biang to Anggun west to Manna North to Bangan		Bae
24	Av	8 RL	⚡	Rae approx 14	Sat AM	Sunday PM 22	Barge to Biang foot across reported escape track to SELAPAN to investigate	Investigate tracks ?	Bae
25	A3			Wilson approx 28	Sunday AM 22	Tuesday PM 24	Barge as far as can get to Selapan - Anggun Riv across to Anggun - Bangan		Bae.
27	A4			Woble 16	24 Tuesday AM	Wednesday PM 25	Selapan to Labu	To contact	

PROJECTED PATROLS

Date _____

July

Ser No	Unit	Sub Unit	Type	Str	Time Out	Time In	Route	Object	Info
26 26 27	2/15 hrs	Mortars	fighting force	RAILTON T 22 OR.	210900I	221830I	by LCM to OKONG	1. Contact SMO for info. 2. call at village enroute and obtain any info.	Pde.
28	2/15 hrs	Coast 14 pl humpback	fighting force	10th 19 OR.	230830I	241630I	rd BRUNEI Tulong rd & back junc 34537 (a) by track to junc 329369 then by track to BATONG 313V via RENDANAN (b) rd to junc 34537 to rd str junc 356375 then by track to Coast KIASONG 316428 where same route.	A. patrol track, village B. Question local habers investigate their report C. Ascertain posn of hawks village topography, HOS Show on map	Pde
29	/	Coast	fighting force	Sgt + 19 OR.	260930I	261700I	rd BRUNEI-TUTORG to back junc 383407 then - (a) by track to PERINTAN 3644 then to coast, (b) by rd to junc 373405 then to coast via MENUNGUL Ag 3545 where same route	(a) Patrol track, village (b) Question locals & investigate reports of enemy (c) topo info - tracks etc.	Pde

PROJECTED PATROLS

Date

July

Br	Ser No Coy	Unit	Sub Unit	Type	Str	Time Out	Time In	Route	Object	Info
30		2/15 I	D Coy 10 pl	Fighting	10 pl and 36 (WASH)	260830Z	Not later than 27/7/61	By LCM from KIMBANG to UKONG where same route.	Routine patrol contact Cpl HENRY SRD UKONG for: 1. Result of HENRY's patrol after 6 days SW of UKONG. 2. Any info of enemy SOUTH or SW of UKONG. 3. Info of enemy who were prevented from moving SOUTH from HINEI and may be moving in this towards UKONG. 4. Call at TELENAR-DANAU and several other points and question natives as to info of enemy. 5. Enquire at DANAU re supplies SAGO PALM for thatching.	Ride
31	10		B Coy 10 pl	Recc	1 HQ and 90 pl	261530	261800Z	By track to TRANAN where same route	1. Contact SRD report on enemy 2. Track recc.	Ride
32	11		B Coy 11 pl	Protective	1 HQ and 90 pl	261530Z	271800Z	Patrol to MEMPUTI (113310) where same route	protective only	Ride
33	12		B Coy 12 pl	Protective	1 HQ and 90 pl	261500Z	281800Z	To RUAY SEPANOL (SW along track) (980150) where same route	1. Contact SRD report on enemy 2. Track recc.	Ride
34	13		B Coy 10 pl	protective	10 pl and 9	281330Z	301600Z	NE to MRAHMANI	1. Contact Griffiths SRD	Ride

PROJECTED PATROLS

Date _____

July

Ser No	Unit	Sub Unit	Type	Str	Time Out	Time In	Route	Object	Inf
35	Clay	Clay	fighting	10ft 2000	290830I	291700I	BRUNEI wharf to UMPOL UMPOL to LIMPAKU village and up RIONG river. all met by barge along waterways trucks; land at UMPOL UMPOL and LIMPAKU village question where up RIONG river investigate any places landing of paratroops.	Investigate nature upon from base through BOCAO of 3 unarmad gaps works from left to right banks of RIONG river by raft at 270900IX in made via Kg RIONG. NOT marked on map.	Rec.
36	Clay	Clay 13pt	fighting Misc	10ft 1800 5 miles 2 hrs.	300915I	311300I	Ry mt about ABANG track to 237177 establish dig base then left track to ABANG. are sec by phalanx up river to RAMBAT remainder patrol with along track and village to to LWAGON DUDOK Sq/2431. all when to base 237177 same route.	(a) patrol track overage (b) Question local & investigate rept. (c) ascertain persons of track & village not marked on map.	Rec.

PROJECTED PATROLS

Date

July 30

Ser No	Unit	Sub Unit	Type	Str	Time Out	Time In	Route	Object	Info
37	15	B Coy 10 pl	Recc	Lt Stammers and 8 oth.	30800I	311600I	NW to PUNANG	Patrols and general recc.	Boe
38	14	B Coy HQ	Recc	Major Mearns 5 oth.	311530I	031800I	2o RUAN SEPAKOH SEBUNH - TRUSAN - LAWAG	General info and contact SRD RUAN SEPAKOH. WED	Recc
39	16	B Coy 12 pl	Recc Indelible	Lt Cameron and 8 oth.	311300I	021800I	EAST and SE to MAPUTI (20 mi from BRB border) 1131	General info	Boe
40		D Coy 16 pl	Fighting recc	Capt Kay Lt Keatts 36 oth.	310830I	011700I	by LCM to UKONG.	Routine patrol	Boe
41		C Coy	Fighting	14 pl and IV	010830I	011700I	By jeep along BRUNEI TUNONG rd to 20 EASTING, then cover by foot both sides of rd from 20 EASTING to 27 EASTING	Investigate report of 2/8 to Amb dinner who was fired on by rifle in this area last night.	Boe
42		A Coy	Fighting	10 pl + pl + 1B + 1sg	030900I	duration 4 days	by LCM to navigation and BRB. After lunch by phat to mouth of SELERAN River thence by foot WEST along Jap wave route to ANGGUN thence to KUBONG and return by LCM to LIMBANG	1 capture if any of Jap moved from TRUSAN to TEMBURONG 2 Kill or capture any small parties 3 info report. 4 info on location of area	Boe

290

To I [unclear] from Stuart Rd. (by [unclear] Procession)

單位稱呼

APPX 56

年月日 摘要 拂受 殘 供用假拂在庫計

RD. TRAVERSE

STUART RD.

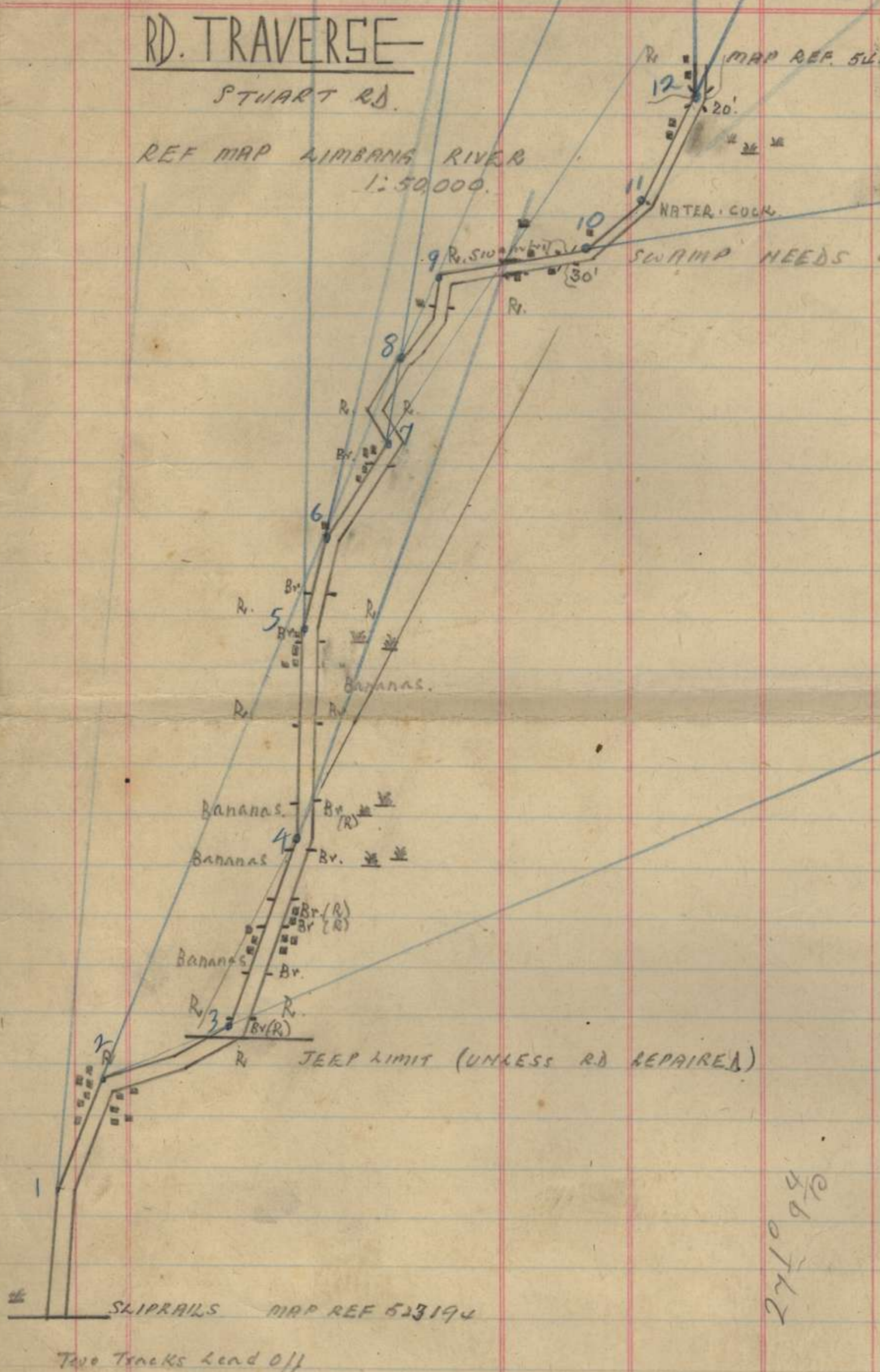
REF MAP LIMBANG RIVER 1:50,000

MAP REF. 545225

WATER COCK

SWAMP NEEDS COR. DUR. REPAIR.

↑ MN
20°
GN



Rd - 20 ft wide
 Top 2 ft grades
 in places
 than for
 repair - generally
 correct
 wherever
 all minor
 not shown. Some
 be made
 to appear
 little work. Some
 material available
 along rd.

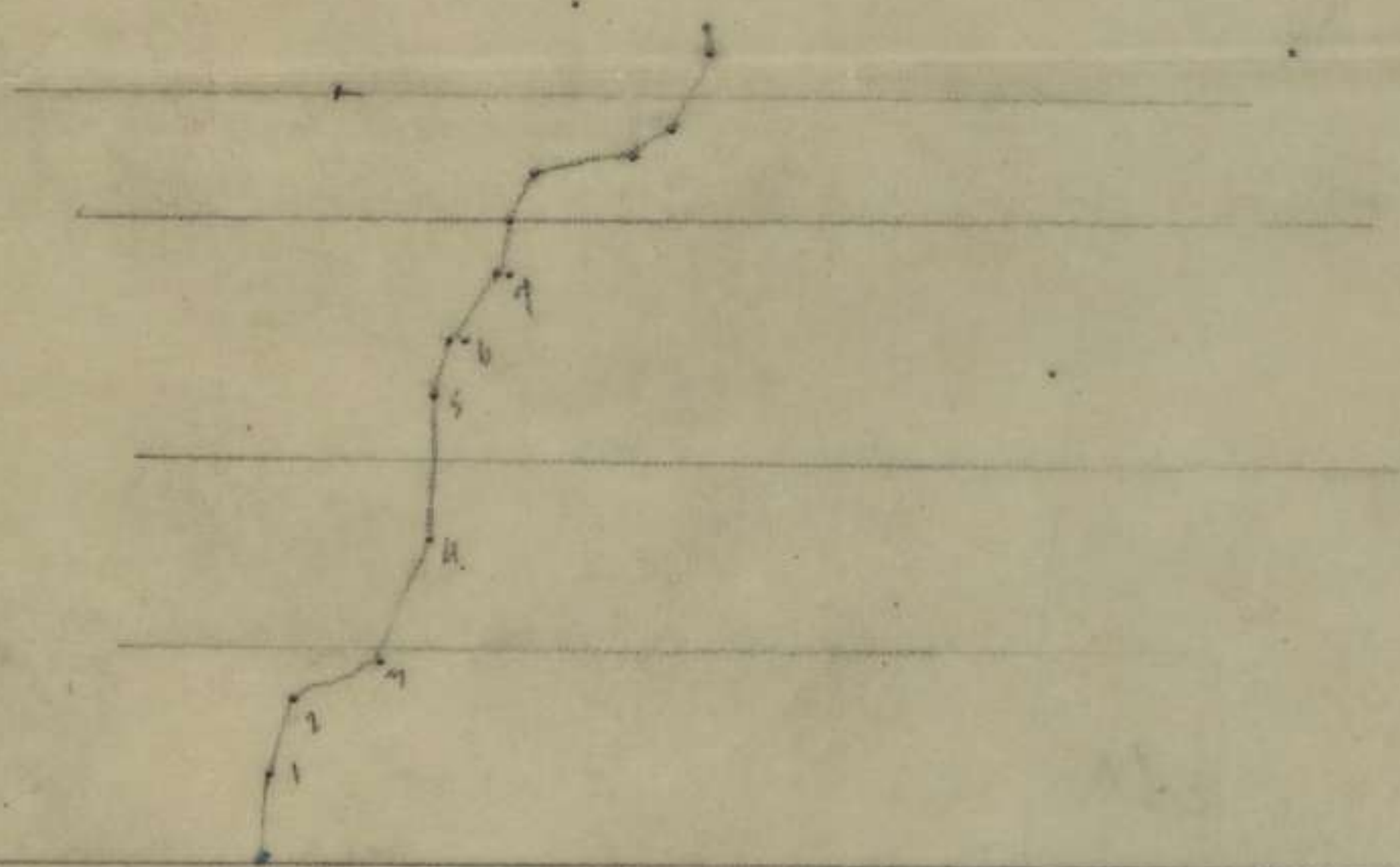
R - RUBBER
 (R) - BR. NEEDS REPAIR

27/10 9/10

SCALE 1/4 INCH TO 1 MILE

Made from [unclear] by Patrol 2PI. 2.9.51.

enclosed - [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]



Scale 1:50,000

單位稱呼

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I sec.

This traverse done by Lewis
BRADSHAW on routine patrol along
STUART T.R. NMS

Stuart Maj

File

Patrol Report.

July. 2nd - 5th.

Ref. Maps. LIMBANG 1:50000 LABU 1:50000 TRUSAN 1:50000 SINDUMIN 1:250000

Patrol Comd. Capt. Angus.

Strength of Patrol. 8 Pl 2/15 less 7 Pl 1 City Offs x Sigs. M.O.

Typg. Recd.

Task. 1 Investigate RANGAU x RIVER AREA. 2 Visit LABU & send boat patrol to TRUSAN 3 Proceed up TEMBURONG RIVER as far as possible and investigate 4 Report on local topography including track & village traverses.

Route Followed. From LIMBANG R to RANGAU village then through PANDARUAN R. estuary to LABU R thence to LABU ESTATE. From LABU ESTATE. back down LABU R thence up TEMBURONG R to BANGAR and to within one mile of Bland. Returning to LIMBANG via TEMBURONG R. LABU R estuary RANGAU & LIMBANG R to LIMBANG village.

1st Day 2/7/45.

Patrol left LIMBANG at 0850 & arrived at RANGAU at 1045. Natives stated approx 50 enemy with 40 rifles had crossed RANGAU RIVER on the morning of 1/7/45. 8 Pl. travelled by barge up RANGAU RIVER to approx 553315 and saw evidence of recent enemy movement along swampy track leading away in southerly direction. NMS. at 1250 Patrol left RANGAU and arrived LABU ESTATE at 1515. At 1650 9 Pl. left LABU ESTATE by barge up a small tributary of the LABU RIVER to approx 759277 thence to go overland to TRUSAN VILLAGE. Coy HQ x 8 Pl. made camp at LABU ESTATE.

2nd Day 3/7/45.

0800 Gun Boat x one empty Barge left LABU ESTATE with the object of proceeding into Brunei Bay and up the TRUSAN RIVER to pick up 9 Pl at TRUSAN VILLAGE. At 0945 a stranded camouflaged launch was seen at approx 579329 and upon investigation proved to be a launch from LABUAN ISLAND en route to LIMBANG with a British Major Harrison aboard. Natives from RANGAU VILLAGE stated there were then 10 enemy on the outskirts of RANGAU armed with two pistols and as the village contains three rifles the natives were told to go and kill them. Major Harrison joined our barges whilst his launch proceeded to LIMBANG. At 1015 hrs patrol got underway again and arrived off the mouth of the TRUSAN RIVER at approx 1200 hrs, but after three or four attempts could not get any closer than approx three quarters of a mile of the river owing to the sand bars. Upon native reports the empty barge then proceeded to AWAT AWAT village at 220470 Ref Map SINDUMIN and entered the river through a marked channel.

The AWAT AWAT RIVER joins the TRUSAN and natives estimated that our Barge could make the passage quite easily. Meanwhile the Gun Boat had picked up a native guide who had succeeded in guiding the Boat through a marked channel to within a few hundred yards of the TRUSAN RIVER mouth. Page 2.

The Gun Boat still did not make the actual entry into the river, but it is estimated that entry could be made at high tide only. At 1500 hrs both Gun Boat and Barge started to return to LABU. Major Harrison joined his own launch at a prearranged position off RANGAU IS. and Patrol then returned to LABU arriving at 1840 hrs.

Information given by Major Harrison was that the nearest body of organised enemy was in the lower TRUSAN. Bt. SEBUKU area whose numbers were estimated to be from 200 to 1200. At the Village LONG TOEAN ^{in MURUD AREA} his Dyak soldiers were at present engaging some of the enemy.

3rd Day. 4/7/45.

0945 Gunboat and one Barge with 8 Pl. left LABU for TEMBURONG RIVER. Remaining barge remained behind at LABU ESTATE to pick up 9 Pl. upon return from TRUSAN. at 1200 hrs the barges entered the BATU APOI River and arrived at position 654 233 and then returned into the TEMBURONG River without seeing any sign of LABUT VILLAGE. Natives at Village CUSTOM. LAMA. MAP REF. 639 226. say that the village shown on map as K.C. LABUT does not exist as the area is used as Rice Field and buildings should would be rice huts. at 1400 hrs Patrol reached TEMBURONG ESTATE. Map Ref. 627.199 where Chinese report that approx forty well armed enemy under command of an officer passed through the Estate en route to BATU APOI River after camping in the house for three days. A small party of 8 Pl. investigated and found evidence of recent enemy occupation - They also reported the house and furniture in good order, three locked safes in the house.

1430 Barges proceeded down to the Government Jetty at BANGAR. Map Ref. 626.194. and contacted the Magistrate of the area one. Pengiran Aliu Baker, who could not give us any more recent information as to Enemy movements than that which he had reported that on the 24 & 25 June up to an estimated number of 1500 enemy had crossed the TEMBURONG RIVER. between BIANG Village and BATANG DOORY Ref. Map. SINDUMIN 1:250,000. Map Ref. 645.080. on route from Brunei Limbang Area through BT SAGAN, MENUA R. ANGGUN VILLAGE, BIANG VILLAGE TAPAN R. across BATU APOI river, SELAPAN R. to BT SEBULU + MURUD area. At 1600 hrs. patrol arrived at Ford 660150 and it is impossible for Barge to navigate any further up the TEMBURONG R. Ms Wilson from 8 PL with a section of men then proceeded up river by native canoe and reached a position at Map Ref. 680120 where he investigated tracks and old camp sites which confirmed enemy movement in large numbers about ten to fourteen days ago. By 1930 hrs the whole patrol had returned to BANGAR VILLAGE for luncheon.

4th DAY 5/7/45.

0930 Whole Patrol left for Limbang.

1200 Patrol arrived RANGAU Village where 4 PL Barge entered small creek at 573329 to investigate previous native reports of enemy movement. Saw bodies of two dead Japanese who had died of illness. Natives had reported seeing three dead. 8 PL Barge sailed up RANGAU River with object of trying to get through to the Limbang River but found it impossible. They also investigated area where natives earlier in the morning had shot one Japanese; body was thrown into the river and his personnel belonging had previously been taken into Limbang by the natives concerned.

1400 hrs

On report of native investigated area on bank of Lembang River at 545315 and found spot where approx thirty enemy had assembled, tracks being quite a few days old, but no definite tracks led off inland.

1530

Patrol arrived at Jetty 538288 where natives reported they had seen one Jap previous day - investigated by 8 Pl. but no movement seen.

1600

Patrol left Jetty for Lembang and arrived 1630 hrs

July

Patrol Report
Labu - Trusan

File

Ref Map: TRUSAN 1:50,000

Strength: 2 off 38 etc. Pat Comd. Lt Anderson W.G.

Time out: 021915I Time In: 041045I

Route: From LABU to state map ref. 755273 by
L.S.M. & prau. Thence along as per
track shown on overlay to map
ref 846283, crossed river by prau to
TRUSAN township.

Returned by same route.

Object: (a) To determine enemy movement, strength
& dispositions TRUSAN.

(b) State of track - topo. report.

PART I N.M.S. - Track in very poor condition.

Part II

(a) No evidence of enemy movement along
track. TRUSAN township clear of enemy as reported by
natives. Reliable Chinese report last enemy movement
through TRUSAN 19 days ago, when seven (?) entered &
were killed by MERUTS. From the same source it
is reported that enemy, ^{previously reported} who left there
four days ago. Direction of movement inland?

Strength of enemy force 200 incl 20 women & 10
children. The Jap. Comd. of Bunnie is also reported
to be in the party which would appear to be under
control of GENERAL ICHO ^{or} the Comd. of LIMBANG FORCES.

Twenty Military Police are also travelling with the
force. Each time the force moves from one point
to another the stragglers increase in number.

(b) Track information - The track is in very poor
condition, with swampy ground predominating. Where
it runs through the hills it is well defined & good
to fair travelling. There ~~are~~ ^{are} very heavy swamps
at the foot of each hill feature. It is possible to
cross the swampy areas in single file ^{only}. Travelling
time from map ref 755273 to ~~64~~ 846283 approx six
hours.

Part III - See (b) of PART II. TRUSAN town in good state
- Govt. offices still in tact.

MED: R.M.O.'s report attached.

Medical Report

Patrol Labu - Teusan - Labu
2nd 3rd 4th & 5th Jul 45

2 Offs 38 ORs.

Going extremely difficult. The last 4 hours towards Teusan River causes intense physical exertion - and after 8½ hours marching through heavy swamps 1 foot to 6 feet deep 3rd July 2 cases of fatigue cramp occurred.

These swamps are heavily infested with mosquitos, mainly culicines, but numerous anophelinae.

Natives in area seen were in fairly good condition but most state they have malaria and a few have dysentery of a mild form.

Patrol Report.

File

Colly

— Capt Ingrams (A Coy) 5 Jul. 45

Time out 020850 I.

1130 RANGAU - followed RANGAU River up to 300 yds of LIMBANG. Confirmed story of Chinese who stated ferried 50 Japs to Sonni bank of river on 1 Jul.

At 550 313 impassable swamp track where Japs left the river. Marks on hands and knees as evidenced by tracks seen. These marks Chinese stated one day old. RANGAU river is navigable only to 300 yds of its junction with the LIMBANG for LCM - Main prau.

1300 left RANGAU for LABU

1600 arrived LABU - NMS - no fighting according to natives for 8 to 10 days.

P1 Patrol (ANDERSON) to TRUSAN overland.

~~Large left LABU river at navigation limit then by pass~~

left LCMs at navigation limit and ferried patrol by prau up river to approx 7627.

Left river here and struck out for TRUSAN overland. Going very bad - lot of it very wet swamp. Time from 7727 to TRUSAN approx 5 hrs.

Further patrol moved down TEMBURONG River to ANGGUN.

Meanwhile comms boat moved out into Bay and attempted to find a way into TRUSAN River. Confronted with sandbanks from Tg TRUSAN to Tg GALAP. When tide was high LCM was able to reach AWAT AWAT much to the surprise of the locals who considered if it could reach AWATAWAT it could continue to SUNDAR thence into TRUSAN River. Time did not allow of this experiment.

041130 I returned to LABU. Anderson meanwhile returned TRUSAN - NMS - retraced his steps back to LABU + spent one night en route.

TEMBURONG Patrol -

headed to within 500 yds of BIANG - river here obstructed by rocks and large accumulation of timber and debris.

Patrol reached ANGGON.

Track runs along west bank of river Norm from ANGGUN and crosses river at approx junction of AMOH APOH. On the east bank beyond this crossing is very large brown area occupied not less than 10 days ago.

Do at BANGAR who has kept diary during Jap occupation confirmed this by an entry 14/15 Jun ^{that} it took a party of Japs 2 days to going constantly to be ferried across the river at ANGGUN in native praus.

He stated there were 2000 - $\frac{1}{3}$ armed - some with LMGs. (Comms comment - exaggerated but probably at least 500/1000 as estimated by the time it took to ferry Andersons pl from navigation limit to track running east to TRUSAN, a distance of approx 200x)

Patrol with view to BANGAR as country in ANGGUN area was unsuitable - apparent mine country.

1000 ~~to~~ left BANGAR - en route LIMBANG again investigated B RANCAU

1200 Arrived RANCAU.

Native police said shot Jap at 562319 - three bodies in river.

Anderson investigated creek at 540329. Found two bodies (these two of three reported killed in that area A had).

103 set out at this stage

Native report that prau coming up from LIMBANG met at on A had by one Jap trying to attract attention. Wilson investigated area NMS.

Native 545315 said trailed by 3 Japs approx 0900 to lake train to UMPOL UMPOL. Area searched. Signs of occupation and now no definite direction - area wet swamp.

Report from native - Jap came into village in morning to look for food. WILSON investigated + NMS

General = Comms comment

Allowance points to the fact that a large body prob 500/1000 brought to be LIMBANG - BRUNEI garrison troops moved about 24-25 Jun EAST from ANGGUN on to the BANG track to BATU APOH river along the following SELEPAN RIV thence into the MURUD SEBULU area. Now is moving by night.

July

Ref Maps Labu & Lembang R 1:50000

Strength 1/10

Patrol Command Lt Cameron

Unit & Subunit 12 Pl B Coy

Type of Patrol Recon - Fighting

Time out 050830

Time in 051930

Object: (a) To verify native reports presence of enemy
(b) gain topo infm (c) Kill enemy of any small party

Route. Along Stuart Track through Batu Bakarang, Puasa 521179 to Tunku to Abot. back along same route



??

Part I (a) NMS (b) Report of meet of approx 2500

through area about 15 days ago from the head man of the village of Abot. Establishment of June the Mengapau - Abot at 533158 (d) from Batu Bakarang dayak or buffalo track only. from Garing movement.

Part II left pl area 0830 Bakarang 0915 picked up 2 guides left Bakarang 0935 arrived Puasa 1040 NMS. left Puasa 1055 arrived Tunku 1230 NMS. approx 400' this side of Tunku observed E. lowland area where estimate approx 100 Japs had camped. Natives with patrol said seeing to signs around area about 15 days since Enemy had been there. This site would be 150' nearer Tunku than

where the Mengatai - Abot tk joins the Stuart
A clip of 5 Jap rounds was found in his area.
Left Tanku 1335 arrived Abot 1430. Interrogation
of headman of Abot it was learnt that (a) approx
2500 Japs had passed through Abot area 15 days
previously taking three days to pass through area
(b) They came through in single file in groups
of 5 to 30 and there were 13 females with them.
This party had moved from Mengatai through
villages and are believed to be on their way to
Tusan area. From Abot they had gone
through Kubong. Natives say 2 hrs from
Abot to Kubong. Headman says that previously
Jap had been disorganised they had now
been organised into 3 groups. Over each group
was what the headman called an M.P. (interpreter)
stated this would be Military Police. Over these
three was a senior M.P. These three groups
shall form one compact body. Left Abot
1500 hrs arrived Puasa 1650 hrs arrived
Bakarang 1815 hrs back in 1930

Part II Topo
General

The Bakarang - Abot is a Dayak or buffalo
pad only. Stretches of good and bad up and
down small features, extremely muddy in places
exposed tree roots and obstacles in form of
single log bridges etc.

St Mengatai - Abot

Mengatai - Bt Malau (Feature shown on map as Bt Telahak is Bt Malau and feature below South Kg. Telahak Bt Telahak) - Belaba - Bakkol - Abot thence to Kubeng to along the Manua River to Temburong R to Tusan. Native reports th from Mengatai to Abot would take 3 days.

Patrol Land Remarks

(a) Both Tunku & Abot are ~~Dayak~~ Dayak villages consisting of 1 or 2 community houses.

(b) It would seem that villages beyond Puasa are Dayak villages.

(c) Native chief at Abot says natives very frightened of Japs.

(d) He says where only few Japs natives can deal with them but where larger forces were observed he would report in here immediately. (e) Name of feature N of Abot Bt Batu Bairit.

Route of Patrol to Abot

52
22 +

Stewart

Batu Barkaring

1 hr 5 mts

O. Puasa

Mengati Tk

1 hr 35 mts

533/58

TRUNKU

Bt. Batu Barat

55 mts

Abot

Approx. rate of adv 1 3/4 mph

+ 16
59

08/1

July

July: Latent Points from ^{1st} Starmer's KUBONG Patrol. C. G.
Patrol returned approx ~~091745~~ 091745 I
PANDARUAN 5917 No Japs for 2 weeks.

file # 090930

KUBONG N.M.S.

Patrol to TAGARI, TADUMIN and to ^{within} ~~1000~~ 1000 x of ABO T. Natives reported Aust. there 2 days ago (Lt Cameron, 5 July).

Barge reached mouth MENUA Riv. 6109.

Patrol across Menna Riv to SIBUT. 6708. This ^{2 weeks ago;} appeared to have been used by large party ^{10-20 per} wide for first 3-4 miles. Considerably wider where swamp encountered. Native estimates vary but patrol count says 1500 Japs in party which contained for sure 5 stretcher cases (incl probably a high ranking off) 13 women + 3 children.

because so many contradictory reports

Menna to Sibut 7 1/2 - 8 miles - 3 hrs on foot.

11 Japs reported 8 Jul to be heading for KUBONG believed to have heard of Aust. Hqs there + returned to BERAWAN (Blot patrol reached PUASA today - BERAWAN further on).

|| Pangajati Limit on PANDARUAN river at 5917 does NOT exist. 50' of water to BEHUIS 6016. River navigable to north Menna river 6109 + possibly further but for overhanging trees.

Patrol on way home went || from 5917 along to to BAINGAR } NMS
to " " " SEMBILING to to 8 mile post.

Unreliable native report from SIBUT - (informant ~~septa~~ NOT an eye witness :) 20 Aust Hqs arrived village in area 0586 alleged to have come from WESTON. Hqs stopped off for rivins + left rifles + eqpt with clothes in hut. Japs came in + stole everything. Australians fled.

Patrol Kubong Area.

File

Ref. Map Sandamien 1:250,000.

Date 9 Jul

Unit + Sub Unit 10 Pl B Coy.

Type of Patrol F Recon.

Patrol Command Lt. Stamer

Patrol Serial No.

St of Patrol 4/53. (RMO. 2 F.O.O. 8 Gunners)

Time out 070930 I.

Time in 091730

Task (a) To investigate infm. recd. in Kubong about
to Tagari Tadumen area. (b) Patrol and report on
to Sibut (3) Investigate nav. unit 597 and patrol the
Route followed to BANGAR.

Out mouth Lumbang River down Pandaruan
to Kubong by LCM. By foot (Kubong) - Abot - Tagari Tadumen
(2) Kubong - Sibut 670090 (3) Pandaruan - Bangar (4) Pandaruan
to Sembelung.

Part I (Brief Answers)

Natives report last gaps in Kubong area
about 2 weeks ago then passed through to Sibut.
River navigable to mouth of Manua CK 600095
where mangrove trees and logs blocked the
channel. Natives reports 2,500 are in 2 stretches cases
3 women and 3 children. From own observations
there were sufficient sleeping accommodation in
Manua area for at least a few. **his area at**

Tadumen:

Part II

Day 1. Departed Lumbang 0930 hrs proceeded to Pandaruan
Natives at Pandaruan reported no Japs in Kubong
Left for Kubong and arrived 1600 hrs. Took up defensive
posts got 25 pdr ashore. Patrols 1/10 (Lt Stamer)
Tagari 585118 within 1000 yds of Abot Tadumen - Kubong
Map Ref of Abot 565130. (approx) Tadumen 585140
Kubong 290110 on West bank of river.

N.M.S. Japs had moved from Abot Tadamin
Kubong crossed river to Masing then to Sibut
They bivouaced overnight in Tadamin and
stole all food in area. Natives reports they ate
poultry and pork raw. Quiet night.

Day 2. Patrol to Sibut. Lt Stamer R.M.O.
500 and up on. Crossed Pandaruan River at
mouth of Manuaik at same place as Japs
crossed. Followed newly cut track over hills to Sibut.
3 hrs past march approx 7 to 8 miles. The natives in
Sibut report Jap bivouaced that area and
once again stole all food, strength still the same.
It was observed where at least 2 Jap died on route
over and pigs had eaten the bodies. Returned
same route. Arrived back in Kubong 1700 hrs
natives reported 11^{Japs} moving from Sembiling
Bhot Beawan to Kubong. Exact posn.
unknown 2 Patrols of NCO and 4 immediately
despatched to both Jagara and Tadamin N.M.S.
Quiet night.

Day 3. Left Kubong 0930 proceeded to Pandaruan
sent one patrol NCO/1000s to Sembiling N.M.S.
one patrol NCO/10 to BANGAR N.M.S. checked river
depth at Pandaruan with natives all report 50
ft at low tide and is that depth up as far
as Belors. Patrol returned Limbang 1730 hrs

Part II
Pandaruan River from mouth to Pandaruan both
sides thick sago palm, country flat. From
Pandaruan to Manua River country
hilly rain forest with trees overhanging

water.

Trks

(a) Trk Kubong - Abot June
mainly through Paddy field
and along side of hill very
muddy swampy.

(b) From Abot June Idumun
to Kubong along side of
Tagaraan Ch Lane going
th. widened to 8-10 ft
by gaps.

(c) Trk Maseng - Subut
first 4 miles 8 to 10 ft
wide very good walking
3 chs. This sector passable
except of creeks from
4 miles to Subut over hills
narrows to foot track
difficult going.

(a) Pandaman - Sembiling

good ground to be made
except for creeks.

(e) Pandaruan - Bangar

Good wide to be made
at LOW TIDE except
for creeks.

i.e. at High tide in
places this track is
covered by water.

Remarks.

Natives report one
stretcher case was
high ranking Jap officer
only 2 party was armed
all very hungry having
no food (only men with
rations were 8 men
clearing the front of
main body.) There is
an English speaking

Chinese Church of England
parish at Kubong.
Medical condition of
natives ~~very~~ low.

PATROL REPORT

File

REF. MAP. LIMBAN RIVER - 1" = 50,000.

DATE. 10-4-45.

LABU 1" = 50,000.

TYPE OF PATROL. RECCE

PATROL COMDB. 6 pl. jeep.

SERIAL N^o.

PATROL STRENGTH. 1 capt. 6 i.o. ps.

TIME IN. 1630 HRS.

UNIT & SUBUNIT. 7 SEC - 12 PL.

TIME OUT. 0825 HRS.

TASK. (I) Recce. for enemy movement along SEMBILINE TRACK.
(II) Transverse of track running SW from SEMBILINE
(III) Protection

ROUTE FOLLOWED. OUT. Along STUART TRACK to MAP REF. 544233 along track running SE to village of SEMBILINE. down ANGEUS TR. to MAP REF. 554178 thence along to branching to right for approx. 1000'.
IN. Came back the same tracks.

PART I. (a) No enemy were sighted, no enemy movements were reported by local natives.

(b) Track transverse is attached. Track cuts out at approx. MAP REF. 559168.

PART II. We travelled via STUARTS TR. MAP REF. 544233 across SEMBILINE TR. to village of SEMBILINE, along ANGEUS TR. to MAP REF. 554178, then S. along reported track to approx. MAP REF. 559168.

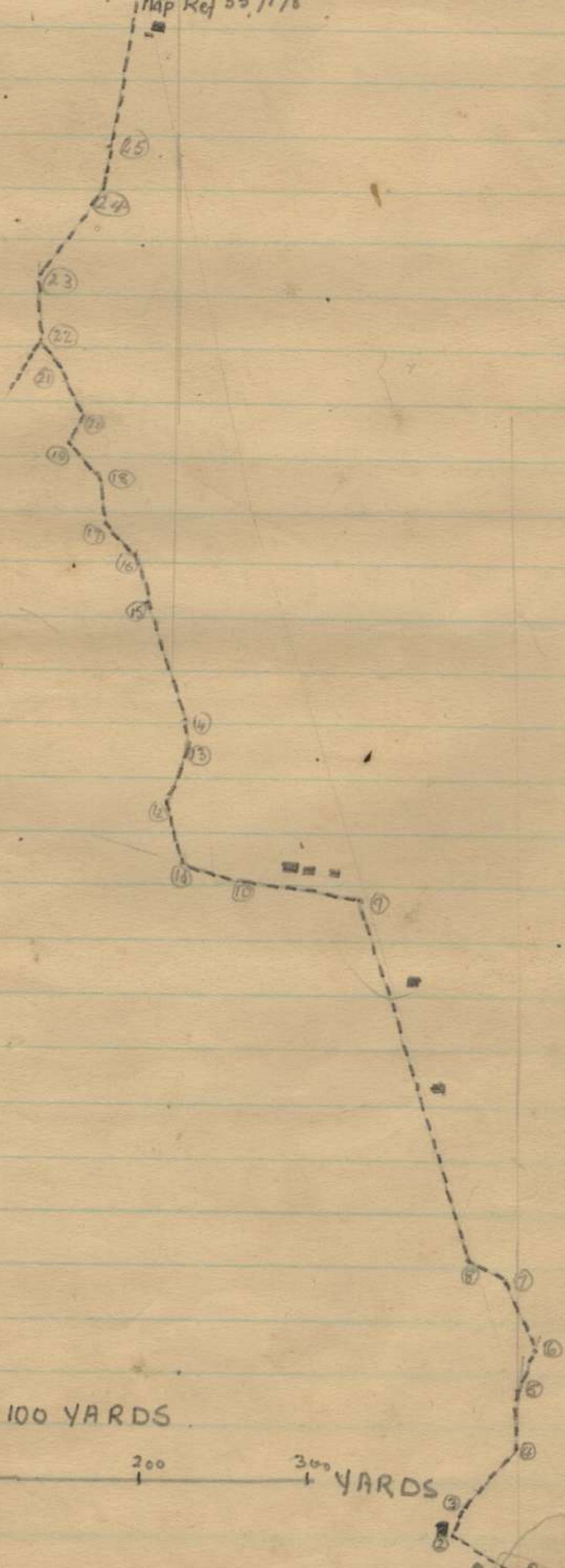
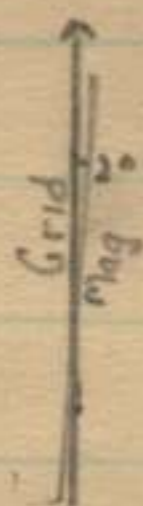
The track went through a small village & up a steep hill, eventually cutting out on the other side. It had been unused for some time, past the village.

Another little used track was seen, not far from jeep track, going in same direction (see transverse) I traversed the track & part of the jeep track.

I saw no sign of enemy, neither had the local natives seen any since last interviewed.

TRAVERSE OF TRACK FROM 554178 TO 559168

ANGUS ROAD
Map Ref 557178



SCALE 1" = 100 YARDS



T. J. Cooper. Spl.

TRACK TRAVERSE.

Page 1



From No. Name

Unit or Group

Date

(Use Official Address only)

BEARINGS.	LEFT	LEGS	RIGHT	REMARKS.
346°		34 ^x △ 11		Track winds along at foot of hill, with huts & gardens on left
285°		35 ^x △ 10		
278°	Jungle clad hill	82 ^x △ 9	Huts & gardens	
	DO	230 ^x △ 8	Thin jungle	Down onto flats. native huts & gardens
342°		25 ^x △ 7	DO	Track starts down hill - fairly steep
295°		40 ^x △ 6	DO	The track to huts has been unused for some time.
333°	Thin jungle	26 ^x △ 5	Thin jungle	
20°	Thin jungle	35 ^x △ 4	Thin jungle	
2°		50 ^x △ 3	Same as left.	
38°	Slight undergrowth.	20 ^x △ 2	Same as below	Track is on top of hill.
20°	Same as below			
	bleared, but overgrown with weeds	50 ^x △ 1	Same as left	Runs up steep hill Hut on top, unoccupied

IN YOUR LETTER DO NOT REFER TO:

The name of your transport or other transports in your convoy . . . dates of sailing . . . ports of call . . . destination, description of troops, or other information, which, if intercepted, will be of value to the enemy.



From No..... Name.....

Unit or Group.....

Date.....

(Use Official Address only)

BEARINGS	LEFT	LEGS	RIGHT	REMARKS
210°	creek		cleared till.	Bearing taken from intersection to log bridge across creek.
320°	Long grass	10x 21	creek bank	Intersection of another track
334°	Long grass	30x 20	creek bank	
25°		14x 19		This is a single log bridge across creek
314°		25x 18		
350x		36x 14		
319°		24x 16		
343°	a small creek about 15x away.	25x 15		
338°		25x 14		
355°		17x 13		
15°		40x 12		

Good native paths +
 grassy. Bits of rubbish

native grassy

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From No..... Name.....

Unit or Group.....

Date.....

(Use Official Address only)

BEARINGS	LEFT	LEGS	RIGHT	REMARKS	
337°	with odd bearings + rests There is a low ridge along the river + jungle covered.	33 45x	The ground all along here is low with scattered native reeds + gardens + pits. 7 thick bamboo growth.	1 culvert.	
314°		80x			
327°		32 400x			3 culverts - 1 large + 1 small in bad repair
310°		31 60x			1 culvert
282°		30 85x			1 culvert.
311°		29 40x			
314°		28 179x			2 culverts
285°		27 50x			1 culvert.
8°		26 105x		Intersect (ANGUS R) from 557178 to SEMBILING	Intersects with main jeep track.
11°		25 25x			
35°		24 61x			
354°		23 35x			
	22 35x				

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From No. Page 4 Name.....

Unit or Group..... Date.....

USE OFFICIAL ADDRESS ONLY

BEARINGS	LEFT	LEAS	RIGHT	REMARKS	
19°	Ground in title higher on this side, with odd huts.	220 ^x	Dearth road junction, garden + native huts.	1 culvert, in bad repair.	
		42			
		95			
343°		41			1 culvert, in bad repair
		145 ^x			
354°		40			
		345 346 ^x			2 culverts, in bad repair
326°		39			
		160 ^x			3 culverts
330°		38			
	200 ^x		1 large culvert, in bad repair		
342°	37				
	150 ^x				
300°	36				
	165 ^x		2 culverts - 1 small one in bad repair.		
346°	35				
	60 ^x				
333°	34				



From No. Page 5. Name.....

Unit or Group..... Date.....

USE OFFICIAL ADDRESS ONLY

BEARINGS LEFT LEGS RIGHT REMARKS.

BEARINGS	LEFT	LEGS	RIGHT	REMARKS.
				This is where Stuart's track branches off.
356°	The same as previously	340° 46	The same as previously	3 culverts - all need repairing.
5°		140° 45		2 culverts, both in bad repair
120°		200° 44		5 culverts - 3 of them in bad repair
359°		445° 43		

1760
5660

950
3700

turn file.

Patrol Report.

Ref Map
LIMBANG
1,50,000.

Date
11 July.

Type of Patrol
Fighting

Unit & Sub. unit
2/15 B. Coy. 4 SEC.
Lt. R. M. M. M. M. M.

Patrol Serial no.
nil

Strength of Patrol
1 and 6.

Time out - Time in
0930 hrs 15.30 hrs

"Task"
Routine patrol to Masau
contact enemy if possible
in reports Report received.

Route followed
"Stuart Track"
to Masau

Observations. Enemy in information from Police Coy.
A Japanese. spent 10th July at BERAWAN 531, 194.

Reported had come from BERAWAN RIVER area.
Landed this night for ABOUT 465-151.

Carrying 2 rifles - one man BARRI BERRI (Berri Berri)

Left BERAWAN. of his ^{Seriously ill} approx 6 hrs end of patrol.

Topography. Track muddy. not feasible follow's
under line.

Track to "BERAWAN" leaves "STUART TRACK"
526-196

Lt. R. M. M. M.