

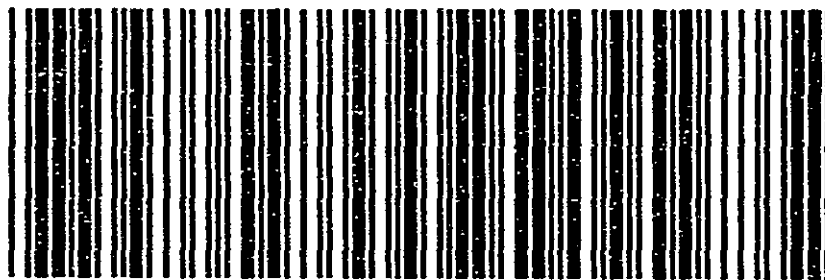
AWM52

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

1/4/1 CORPS

1 Australian Corps
General Branch (1 Aust
Corps 'G' Branch)

1939-1940, part6, appendices



1/4/1-024%

SECRET

SECOND AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

SECRET

COPY No. 12

6th DIVISION HEADQUARTERS,
441 St. Kilda Road,
MELBOURNE, SC 2.

- 4 DEC 1939

6 Aus. Div. Recce. Regt.
R.A.A. 6 Aus. Div.
R.A.E. 6 Aus. Div.
Sigs. 6 Aus. Div.
16 Inf. Bde.
A.S.C. 6 Aus. Div.
2/1 A. Fd. Wkshop.
A.D.M.S.
D.A.P.M. (for 6 Aus. Div. Pro. Coy.)
D.A.D.O.S.
D.A.A.G. (for 6 Fd. Cash Office)

Copies to:-

G I
G II
G File
A.A. & Q.M.G.
D.A.Q.M.G.
Camp
War Diary (2)

g. 30

2nd A.I.F. - ORDER OF PRIORITY OF DESPATCH 1ST CONVOY

1. Units and details of 2nd A.I.F. comprising 16 Inf. Bde. with attached troops, will be prepared to embark at a date to be notified later in accordance with the order of priority shown in Appendix I.

2. In cases where details only of an headquarters or unit are shown in the order of priority, no increase in personnel is to be made. A Summary of details is given in Appendix II and any recommendation considered essential to vary the actual personnel within the total number is to be made a matter of urgency.

3. Instructions regarding unit equipment and administrative arrangements will be issued later.

4. The number of personnel shown in the order of priority do not include personnel of the advance party from H.Q. 6 Div. or those detailed to attend Courses in accordance with 6 Aus. Div. Circular G/25.

5. Please acknowledge receipt on the attached form and forward by return of post.

g. 1


Col.
G.S. 6 Aus. Div.

SECRET.

APPENDIX I

2nd A. I. F.

ORDER OF PRIORITY OF DESPATCH.

FIRST CONTINGENT

Serial	Unit	Officers	Other Ranks.	Total
101	H.Q. Aust. Overseas Base	16	149	165
102	Aust. Ord. Store Coy.	2	44	46
103	Details H.Q. 6 Div.	2	21	23
104	6 Div. ^{H.Q.} St. Sec.	2	10	12
105	Details/6 Div Arty.	2	5	7
106	Details H.Q. 6 Div. Engrs.	1	3	4
107	H.Q. 6 Div. A.A.S.C. 1st Reinforcements	7	29 1	36 1
108	2/1 Fd. Amb. 1st Reinforcements	12	245 5	257 5
109	2/1 Fd. Hyg. Sec. 1st Reinforcements	1	28 1	29 1
110	6 Fd. Cash Office	1	7	8
111	H. Q. 16 Inf. Bde. Int. Corps (Attached)	12	63 2	75 2
112	2/1 Bn. 1st Reinforcements (10%)	34 3	749 75	783 78
113	2/2 Bn. 1st Reinforcements (10%)	34 3	749 75	783 78
114	2/3 Bn. 1st Reinforcements (10%)	34 3	749 75	783 78
115	2/4 Bn. 1st Reinforcements (10%)	34 3	749 75	783 78
116	2/1 Fd. Coy. 1st Reinforcements	5 1	237 15	242 16
117	Details 6 Div. Sigs.	7	147	154
118	39 L.A.D. (Div. Recce. Regt)	1	12	13
119	42 L.A.D. (6 Div. Engrs.)	1	12	13
120	43 L.A.D. (2/1 Fd. Regt).	1	12	13

Appendix 1 (contd).

Serial	U n i t.	Officers	Other Ranks.	Total.
121	45 L.A.D. (16 Inf. Bde.)	1	12	13
122	One Rec. Sec. L. Fd. W'shop.	2	68	70
123	2/1 Fd. Regt. 1st Reinforcements	34 4	557 38	591 42
124	Details 6 Div. Sup. Coln.	11	288	299
125	Details 6 Div. Amn. Coy.	3	159	162
126	Details 6 Div. Pet. Coy.	5	82	85
127	6 Prov. Coy. less four secs.	2	47	49
128	6 Div. Postal Unit.	1	21	22
129	1 Gen. Hospital (600 Beds) Nurses 1st Reinforcements	24 50 1	150 - 5	174 50 6
130	6 Div. Recce. Regt. 1st Reinforcements	31 3	409 42	440 45
131	Div. Recce. Regt. Sig. Sec. 1st Reinforcements	1 1	11 1	12 1
132	6 Mob. Vet. Sec.	1	32	33
TOTAL PERSONNEL FIRST CONVOY		394	6266	6660

SECRET.

APPENDIX II.

2ND A. I. F.

PROPOSED DETACHMENTS OF HEADQUARTER &C. UNITS
TO ACCOMPANY FIRST CONVOY.

Unit and Detail	Officers	O.Rs.	Total.
<u>H.Q. Aust Overseas Base</u>			
H.Q. Section	6	72	78
No. 1 Sec. (Records)	3	20	23
No. 2 Sec. (Engr Serv.)	3	2	5
No. 3 Sec. (Medical)	2	3	5
No. 4 Sec. (Ordnance)	4	6	10
No. 5 Sec. (Finance)	5	35	40
No. 6 Sec. (Postal)	1	10	11
Attached:-			
Provost Coy. - H.Q.A/D.A.P.H.)	1	-	1
One Prov.	-	16	16
Total	25	164	189
Less Recce Party	9	15	24
TOTAL accompanying 1st Convoy	16	149	165

H.Q. 6 Div.

Recce. Party (to join Staff of H.Q. 16 Aus Inf Bde later) (G.S.O.2 and G. and O.Rs.).	2	4	6
<i>Assign 6 - G. and O.Rs.</i>	2	4	6
<u>G.S.O. 3 - Batman</u>	1	1	2
<u>Medical</u>			
D.A.D.H.S.	1	-	1
Clerk	-	1	1
Batman	-	1	1
<u>Ordnance</u>			
D.A.D.O.S.	1	-	1
Clerks	-	2	2
Storemen	-	2	2
Batman	-	1	1
<u>Miscellaneous</u>			
Clerks - G.S. & A.Q.	-	2	2
Draughtsman	-	1	1
Cook	-	1	1
Drivers M.T. (A.A.S.C.)	-	6	6
Drivers M.T. 1st Class (A.A.S.C.)	-	1	1
Orderlies	-	2	2
Attached - Sgt. A.A.P.C.	-	1	1
TOTAL less Recce Party	23	22	25

Unit & Detail	Officers	O.R.s	Total.
<u>Transport</u>			
Cars for G.	1.		
A.Q.	1.		
D.A.D.M.S.	1.		
D.A.D.O.S.	1.		
	4.		
Lorry, 30 cwt. for personnel	2.		
Van, heavy office	1.		
<u>6 Div. Intelligence Sec.</u>	2	10	12.
<u>H.Q. R.A.A. 6 Aus Div.</u>			
Staff Captain	1	-	1.
Clerk		1	1.
Dr. M.T.		1	1.
Orderly		1	1.
Katman		2	2.
Att Chaplain	1	-	-
Total	2	5	7.
<u>Transport</u>			
Van, Light (for Recce) 1.			
<u>H.Q. R.A.E. 6 Aus Div.</u>			
Captain	1	-	1.
Clerk		1	1.
Mrs. M.T. for duty as batman		1	1.
for vehicle		1	1.
Total	1	3	4.
<u>Transport</u>			
Van, light for Captain 1.			
<u>6 Prov. Coy.</u>			
H.Q. Prov. Coy.	2	15	17.
Two Sections	-	32	32.
Total	2	47	49.

SUMMARY OF A.A.S.C. DETAILS.

(Dissection shown separately).

Detail	Officers	O.R.s	Total.
<u>6 Aus Div Sup Coln.</u>			
Coln H.Q.	1	31	32
Two Ech. H.Q.	4	92	96
'A' and 'E' Secs	2	62	64
'B' and 'F' Secs	2	64	66
'J' (Wkshop) Sec -			
H.Q.	2	11	13
Two Sub-Secs.	-	28	28
Total Supply Column	11.	288	299.
<u>6 Aus Div Amn Coy.</u>			
Coy H.Q.	1	20	21.
One Sec.	2	125	127.
Wkshop Sub-Sec.	-	14	14.
Total Ammunition Company	3	159	162.
<u>6 Aus Div Pet Coy.</u>			
Coy. H.Q.	2	18	20
'A' Sec. -			
Sec H.Q.	1	12	13
One Sub-Sec.	-	13	13
'B' Sec -			
Sec. H.Q.	-	7	7
Two Sub-Secs.		18	18
Wkshop Sub-Sec.		14	14
Total Petrol Company	3	82	85

2.

6 Div Sup. Coln - Contd.

'A' and 'E' Secs (Each)
less Drivers, M.T.

7.

Transport (excl. motor
cycles)

less Vans, light

Lorries, 30 cwt

2. (Fd. Pk. Coy.
Mob. Vet. Sec)
4. (Div Recce Regt)
1. (Div Sup. Coln)

'B' and 'F' Secs

Complete.

6 Div Amn Coy.Coy H.Q.

Lieut.

1.

1

C.S.M.

1

1

C.Q.S.M.

1

1

Sgt.

1

1

Cpls.

2

2

Drivers, M.T.

15

15

Cooks

1.

Asst. at A.R.P.

1.

Vehicle

1.

Motor Cyclists

10.

Batman

1.

Clerk

1.

Sanitary duty

2.

Total

1

20

21.

Transport (excl Motor cycles)

only Car, light ... 1 (Lieut)

One Sec. and one Sub-Sec. of
Wkshop Sec. (Complete)

6 Div. Pet Coy.Coy. H.Q.

Capts.

2

2.

C.Q.M.S.

1

1

S/Sgt Clerk

1

1.

Sgt.

1

1.

Ptes and Drivers M.T.

15

15.

Supply clerks.

2.

Cooks

2.

Adm duty

1.

Batman drivers

2.

Clerk

1.

Sanitary duty

2.

Storeman

1.

Water

1.

Vehicles

3.

Total

2

18

20.

3.

6 Div Pet Coy. - Contd.

Officers

O.R. s.

Total.

Goy H.Q. (Cont)

Transport (excl motor cycles)

Only cars, light .. 2 (Capts)
Lorry, 30 cwt 1 (anti-gas & greatcoats)
1 (Kitchen)
1 (Water)

'A' Sec.

Sec H.Q.

Lieut.	1	-	1
Drivers, M.T. (incl. Cpl)		12	12
Vehicles	3		
Motor cycles	1		
Postman	1		
A.A.L.M.G.	3		
Loaders	4		

1	12	13
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Transport (excl. motor cycles)

Car, light .. 1 (Lieut)
Van, heavy 1 (A.A.L.M.G.)
Lorry, 30 cwt 1 (Greatcoats etc)
" " 1 (Kitchen)

One sub-sec. complete.

'B' Sec.

Sec H.Q.

Sgt.		1	1
Drivers M.T.		6	6
Vehicles	2		
Motor Cyclists	1		
A.A.L.M.G.	3		

Total	-	7	7
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Transport (excl motor cycles)

Van, heavy . 1 (A.A.L.M.G.)
Lorry, 30 cwt. 1 (Spare)

Two sub-secs. complete.

One sub-sec of wkshop sec. complete.

Detail	H.Q.	Details 1 Coy.					H.Q. Sec.	Jt. Sec.	Total
		Details (W/T) Sec.	One Det. (cable) Sec.	Details Sec.		Details (Technical Maintenance) Sec.			
				1 Op. Sub-Sec.	D.Rs.				
Major	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Adj. (Capt.)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Captain	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Lieutenant	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Total Officers	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Coy. Sgt. Major	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
G.J.M.S.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
G.J.M.S. (Foreman of Signals)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Sergeants	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Total Sgts. and S/Sgts.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Corporals	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Signallers	4	17	7	9	7	7	21	20	1
Drivers, M.T.	6	1	5	3	1	1	5	5	1
Total Rank and File	10	20	15	15	8	9	26	35	139
Total Other Ranks	12	20	14	14	6	10	29	40	149
Total All Ranks	14	21	14	15	8	10	30	42	154
Tradesmen:-									
Carpenters	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Glaziers	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Cooks	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Despatch Riders	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Electricians Signals	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Writers Signals	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Instrument Mechanics	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Linemen	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Operators (Signals)	1	10	1	1	1	1	12	20	55
Tech. Storemen	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
Total Tradesmen	4	17	8	9	7	8	23	32	108
Non-Tradesmen									
Drivers, M.T. for vehicles	5	1	4	2	1	1	4	4	21
Drivers, M.T. for Batteries	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	5
Total Non-Tradesmen	6	1	5	2	1	1	5	6	26
TOTAL	10	18	13	11	7	9	26	38	134
Motor-Cycles	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	24
Cars, D.S.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Vans, light	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	6
B" heavy, G.S. for:-									
Cable laying and line maintenance	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	4
Vans, heavy, wireless	1	4	1	1	1	1	3	6	13
Lorries 30 cwt, G.S. for Kitchen	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Water tank	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Cable laying and reserve cable	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
Signal office etc.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
Charging set	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Workshop	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Lorry 30 cwt. office	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Total, vehicles	5	5	6	3	7	1	14	19	60

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SECRET

SECOND AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

SECRET.

Copy No. 12

- Copy No: 1. 6 Aus Div Recce Regt.
2. R.M. 6 Aus Div.
3. R.M.E. 6 Aus Div.
4. Sigs. 6 Aus Div.
5. 16 Aus Inf Bde.
6. A.S.C. 6 Aus Div.
7. 2/1 A. Fd Wkshop.
8. A.D.M.S.
23. D.A.D.V.S.
9. D.A.P.M. (for 6 Aus Div Pro. Coy.)
10. D.A.D.C.S.
11. D.A.A.G. (for 6 Fd. Cash Office)

Copies to:-

12. G. I.
13. G. II.
14. G. File.
15. A.M. & Q.M.G.
16. D.A.Q.M.G.
17. Camp.
18 & 19. War Diary (2)
20. G.O.C.s File.
21. C.A.S.C.
22. D.A.A.G.

6 AUS. DIV. CIRCULAR G. 30 - AMENDMENT.

2ND A.I.F. - ORDER OF PRIORITY OF DESPATCH 1ST CONVOY.

1. The following amendment is made to the above circular:-

APPENDIX I.

			<u>Offrs.</u>	<u>O.k.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
After Serial 132	6 Mob Vet	Sec.			
add	add	1st Reinforcements	-	1	1.
TOTAL			394-	6267	- 6661.

Sp. 1

Col.
G.S. 6 Aus. Div.

SECRET

SECOND AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY FORCE.

SECRET.

Copy No.

20

- Copy No. 1. 6 Aus Div Recce Regt.
2. R.M. 6 Aus Div.
3. R.M.E. 6 Aus Div.
4. Sigs. 6 Aus Div.
5. 16 Aus Inf Bde.
6. A.S.C. 6 Aus Div.
7. 2/1 A. Fd Wkshop.
8. A.D.M.S.
23. D.A.D.V.S.
9. D.A.P.M. (for 6 Aus Div Pro. Coy.)
10. D.A.D.C.S.
11. D.A.A.G. (for 6 Fd. Cash Office)

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1. The following amendment is made to the
above circular:-

APPENDIX I.

	<u>Offrs.</u>	<u>O.k.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
After Serial 132 6 Mob Vet Sec.			
add Add 1st Reinforcements -	1	1	
TOTAL	394	6267	6661.

G.H. Manning
for
Col.
G.S. 6 Aus. Div.

G.O.C.

D/3p.22/1.

SECRET.

2ND A.I.F. - ORDER OF PRIORITY OF DESPATCH.

"A" Branch.
"Q" Branch.
"O" Branch.

SECRET

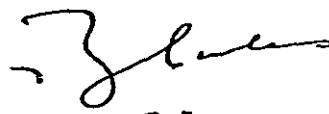
Attached is a draft proposal for order of priority of despatch of 2nd A.I.F.

All units in the order of battle are included, grouped in Brigade Groups to admit of despatch in several convoys.

The figures are taken from War Establishments and are included as an indication of the units which can be accommodated when the capacity of available shipping is known.

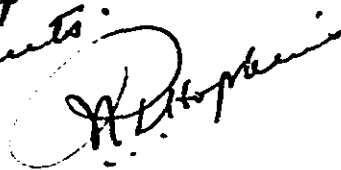
It is asked that the priority be reviewed and any suggested amendments communicated as early as possible.

22 Nov.39.


Col.,
D.M.O. & I.

Col. Passer,

Copy for your information
& comments.



DRAFT.

SECRET.

2ND A.I.F. - ORDER OF PRIORITY OF DESPATCH.

(By air notification)

	Offrs. (Excl. 1st Rpts.)	O/Rs.	Total	Horse- ses.	H/C	H.T. Veh.	Arty. Veh. or Tracked Veh.
H.Q. Overseas Base	18	163	181	3	4	6	
Ord.							
Aust./Store Coy.	1	44	45				
H.Q. 6 Div.	20	128	148	10	1	33	
6 Div. Int. Sec.	3	15	18		13		
H.Q. 6 Div. Arty.	6	23	29		3	9	
H.Q. 6 Div. Engrs.	7	32	39		4	10	
H.Q. 6 Div. A.A.S.C.	7	29	36		3	5	
2/1 Fd. Amb.	11	174	185		5	45	
2/1 Fd. Hyg. Sec.	1	28	29			4	
6 Fd. Cash Office	1	7	8			1	
H.Q. 16 Inf. Bds.	12	64	76	6	7	22	
2/1 Bn.	33	726	759		19	70	10
2/2 Bn.	33	726	759		19	70	10
2/3 Bn.	33	726	759		19	70	10
2/4 Bn.	33	726	759		19	70	10
2/1 Fd. Coy.	5	237	242		13	35	
Det. 6 Div. Sigs.							
H.Q. & E. Sec. No. 2 Coy.	2	32	34		8	8	
J. Sec. No. 3 Coy.	2	40	42		8	11	
2/1 Fd. Regt.	34	557	591		29	74	86
43 L.A.D.	1	12	13			5	
47 L.A.D. (untrained - for 16 1/4 Bde)	1	12	13			5	
6 Pro. Coy.	2	111	113		92	10	
6 Div. Postal Unit.	1	21	22		1		
6 Div. Sup. Coin. leas C. & D. Sec. of I & II ech.	12	495	507		28	139	
Check Total			5403 5390			702 697	126

	Offrs.	O/Rs.	Total	Horses.	M/C.	M.T. Veh.	Arty. Veh. or Tracked Veh.
H.Q. 17 Inf. Bde.	12	64	76	6	7	22	
2/5 Bn.	33	726	759		19	70	10
2/6 Bn.	33	726	759		19	70	10
2/7 Bn.	33	726	759		19	70	10
2/8 Bn.	33	726	759		19	70	10
6 Secs., I & II ech. 6 Div. Sup. Coln.	2	64	66		6	36	
6 Div. Sigs. less	15	325	340		49	68	
H.Q. E & G Secs. No. 2 Coy							
J & L Secs. No. 3 Coy.							
40 L.A.D.	1	12	13			5	
42 L.A.D.	1	12	13			5	
48 L.A.D. (not raised - for 17 Inf Bde)	1	12	13			5	
2/2 Fd. Coy.	5	237	242		13	35	
2/2 Fd. Regt.	34	557	591		29	74	86
2/2 Fd. Amb.	11	174	185		5	45	
6 Div. Pet. Coy.	11	362	373		32	165	
1 Adv. Depot. Med. Stores	1	8	9			1	
1 Gen. Hos. (600 beds)	24	150	174				
Check Total.			5131 5118			741 736	126
2/1 Army Fd. Workshop. less 40, 42, 43 L.A.D.	12 45	443 480	455 495			79 94	
6 Div. Sec. 1 Ord. Fd. Pk	3	70	73			27	
H.Q. 18 Inf. Bde.	12	64	76	6	7	22	
2/9 Bn.	33	726	759		19	70	10
2/10 Bn.	33	726	759		19	70	10
2/11 Bn.	33	726	759		19	70	10
2/12 Bn.	33	726	759		19	70	10
2/3 Fd. Coy.	5	237	242		13	35	
2/3 Fd. Amb.	11	174	185		5	45	
2/3 Fd. Regt.	34	557	591		29	74	86
6 Div. Recce. Regt.	31	409	440		41	97	
39, 41, 46, 49 L.A.Ds. (46, 49 not raised - for 2d Pk Coy and 18 Inf Bde respectively)	4	48	52			20	

	Offrs.	O/Rs.	Total	Horse-	H/C	M.T. Veh.	Arty. Veh. or Tracked Veh.
G and L Secs. 6 Div. Sigs.	3	69	72		15	18	
6 Div. Recce. Regt. Sig. Sec.	1	11	12			2	
D Secs. I & II each. 6 Div. Sup. Coln.	2	64	66		6	36	
6 Div. Amn. Coy.	11	478	489		57	144	
6 Mob. Vet. Sec.	1	32	33			6	
2/1 Fd. Pk. Coy.	3	144	147		8	39	
Check Total			5924 5941			924 949	126
H.Q. Corps Sigs.	4	25	29			16	
H.Q. No. 1 Coy. Corps Sigs.	2	9	11		1	3	
H.Q. No. 2 Coy Corps Sigs.	2	8	10		1	2	
1st Const. Sec.							
1 D.R. Sec.	1	26	27		23	2	
1 W.T. Sec.	1	28	29		2	6	
1 Line Mtce. Sec.	1	27	28		2	5	
1 Operating Sec.	1	40	41		1	5	
1 Mech. Cable Sec.							
1 Tech. Mtce. Sec.	1	24	25			2	
2/5 Fd. Regt. Sig. Sec.	1	31	32		6	7	
2/5 Fd. Regt.	34	557	591		29	74	86
2/13 H.Q. Regt.	31	610	641		40	122	
44 L.A.D.	1	12	13			5	
45 L.A.D. (not raised) (in M.G. Regt)	1	12	13			5	
2/1 C.O.S.	12	84	96			4	
2 Gen. Hos.	36	237	273				
1 Con. Depot							
Det. Corps Tps. Sup. Coln.		12	12				
Det. Corps. Tps. Amn. Coy.		23	23				
6 Div. Amn. Sub-Park	7	374	381		34	109	
Det. Corps Tps. Amn. Sub-Park.		18	18				
Check Total			2143 2150		287	200 195	

Priority of Embarkation

6 Copies

1st Brigade Group.

	OTB	OTR
HQ. 6 Div	21	129
HQ. Overseas Base	17	163
HQ. 6 Div Art	6	23
HQ. 6 Div Eng	7	32
HQ. 6 Div ASC	7	29
6 Div Recce Regt	32	408
16 Inf Bde	140	3296
2/1 Fd. Regt	34	557
2/1 Fd. Coy	5	237
? - 2/1 Fd. Park Coy	3	144
6 Div Sigs. ?	22	465
6 Div Sigs. ?	1	11
? I & II Ech less Secs.	10	373
Div Sup. Coln less II Ech	9	262
? - Div Pet Coy less D & E Secs.	7	247
? - Div Amn Coy less B & C Secs.	12	245
2/1 Fd. Amb.	1	28
2/1 Fd. Hyg. Sec	1	7
6 Fd. Cash Office	2	111
6 Provost Coy ?	1	21
6 Div Postal Unit?	3	36
Three L.A.D's.	24	150
1 Gen Hosp (600 beds)	59	44
Ordinance Store Coy	382	6565
	415	6972

A.A.N.S.

2nd Brigade Group.

HQ: 18 Inf Bde
 2/9, 2/10, 2/11, 2/12 Bns.
 2/3 Fd. Regt
 2/3 Fd. Coy
 6 Div Bde Regt Sig Sec
 6 Div Bde Regt Sig Sec
 1 Ech Div Sup. Coln.
 D Sec Div Pet Coy
 B Sec Div Armm Coy.
 2/3 Fd Amb.
 2/1 C.C.S
 2/1 Army Fd Workshop.
 Two L.A.D's.
 Inf + General Base Depot
 6 Mob Vet Sec.

TH	CR.
12	53
128	3243
34	557
5	237
32	498
6	249
1	50
2	116
12	245
12	84
12	444
2	24
7	64
1	28
227	5330
260	5749

3rd Brigade Group.

HQ: 17 Inf Bde
 2/5, 2/6, 2/7, 2/8 Bns.
 2/2 Fd. Regt
 2/5 Fd. Regt.
 2/2 Fd. Coy.
 Corps Signals
 2/5 Fd. Regt Sig Sec.
 E Sec Div Pet Coy.
 C Sec Div Armm Coy.
 2/2 Fd. Amb.
 2 Gen Hosp (1200 beds).
 Convalescent Depot.
 One L.A.D.
 6 Div Sec 1 Gen Fd. PK.
 6 Div Armm Sub Park

ANS.

12	53
128	3243
34	557
28	427
5	237
15	277
1	31
1	50
2	116
12	245
36	237
80	?
?	?
1	12
3	70
7	400
365	5955

6 A 2 0 0 0
RAC 61 2 1

SECRET

Gpy No 1

DESPATCH OF 2nd A.I.F. OVERSEAS

A

HD.A.I.M.

SECRET

ORDER OF PRIORITY OF DESPATCH

Serial	Unit	Officers	Other Ranks	Total
1	H.Q., Aust. Overseas Base	30	239	269
2	Aust. Ord. Store Coy.	1	44	45
3	H.Q., 6 Div.	20 2	120 10	140 12
4	6 Div. Int. Sec.	2 2	15 15	17 17
5	H.Q., 6 Div. Arty.	6 2	23 5	29 7
6	H.Q., 6 Div. Engrs.	7 1	32 3	39 4
7	H.Q., 6 Div. A.A.S.C. 1st Reinforcements	7	29 1	36 1
8	2/1 Fd. Amb. 1st Reinforcements	12	245 5	257 5
9	2/1 Fd. Hyg. Sec. 1st Reinforcements	1	28 1	29 1
10	6 Fd. Cash Office	1	7	8
11	H.Q., 16 Inf. Bde.	12	64	76
12	2/1 Bn. 1st Reinforcements (10%)	34 3	749 75	783 78
13	2/2 Bn. 1st Reinforcements (10%)	34 3	749 75	783 78
14	2/3 Bn. 1st Reinforcements (10%)	34 3	749 75	783 78
15	2/4 Bn. 1st Reinforcements (10%)	34 3	749 75	783 78
16	2/1 Fd. Coy. 1st Reinforcements	5 1	237 15	242 16
17	6 Div. Sigs. Secs F, G, K and L Secs. 1st Reinforcements	16 1	322 23	344 24
18	42 L.A.D. (6 Div. Engrs.)	1	12	13
19	43 L.A.D. (2/1 Fd. Regt)	1	12	13
20	45 L.A.D. (16 Inf. Bde.)	1	12	13
21	48 L.A.D. (6 Div. Sigs.)	1	12	13
22	One Recovery Sec. A. Fd. Wkahop.	2	68	70
23	2/1 Fd. Regt. 1st Reinforcements	34 4	557 38	591 42
24	6 Div. Sep. Co. (Details) and H Secs. 1st Reinforcements	11 12 2	288 435 23	299 507 25

SECRET

Serial	Unit	Officers	Other ranks	Total
25	6 Div. Recon. Coy. Detach. Corps. Sup. Co. 6 Div.	3	159	162
26	6 Div. Recon. Coy. Detach. Corps. Sup. Co. 6 Div.	3	82	85
27	6 Div. Recon. Coy. Detach. Corps. Sup. Co. 6 Div.	2	47	49
278	6 Div. Postal Unit	1	21	22
289	1 Gen. Hosp. (600 beds) 1st Reinforcements	* 24 1	150 8	174 8
TOTAL		256	6,234	6,490
Shipping available for				6,400
Balance - Eliminated by early departure of Advanced Party or detachments remaining from H.Q., 6 Div.				50
Additional units for inclusion in order of priority in event of 1st Reinforcements not accompanying units.				
Total, 1st Reinforcements		20	417	437
29	Alternative A. 2/1 Rd. Park Coy.	3	144	147
30	Alternative A. Corps Sigs.	15	269	284
Total		18	413	431
30	Alternative B. 6 Div. Recon. Regt.	31	409	440
29	Alternative B. 6 Div. Petrol Coy.	11	342	373
30	Alternative B. Adv. Depot Med. Stores	1	8	9
Total		12	370	382
29	Alternative D. Army Hd. Workshop less one Res. Sec.	10	376	386
30	Alternative D. Adv. Depot Med. Stores	1	8	9
Total		11	384	395

M.T. BEING SHIPPED AND PROVIDED OVERSEAS.

4

	<u>BEING SHIPPED</u>	<u>PROVIDED OVERSEAS.</u>
M/Cs	10	200
Cars D.S.	4	10
Vans Light 12 Cwt	80	50
Vans, wireless	15	25
Vans, 15 cwt.	-	40
Trucks, 15 cwt Compressor	-	2
Trucks, 15 cwt Office	-	3.
Trucks, 15 cwt water	-	9.
Lorries, 30 cwt 4-wheeled	-	30.
Lorries, 30 cwt 6-wheeled	-	36.
Lorries, 30 cwt winch	-	2.
Lorries 3-ton, Stores	-	4.
Lorries 3-ton, Breakdown	-	4.

The War Establishment of Transport for Overseas Base is :-

M.Cs	-	4.
Cars, D.S.	-	8.
Vans Light	-	4.

secret

2nd A. I. F.

ORDER OF PRIORITY OF DESPATCH.

Serial	Unit	Officers	Other Ranks	Total.
1.	H.Q. Aust. Overseas Base	30	239	269
2	Aust. Ord. Store Coy	1	44	45
3	H. Q. 6 Aus Div	2	21	23
4	6 Div Int Sec	2	10	12
5	H.Q. R.A.A. 6 Aus Div	2	5	7
6	H.Q. R.A.E. 6 Aus Div	1	3	4
7	H.Q. 6 Aus Div A.A.S.C. 1st Reinforcements	7	29 1	36 1
8	2/1 Fd Amb 1st Reinforcements	12	245 5	257 5
9	2/1 Fd Hyg Sec 1st Reinforcements	1	28 1	29 1
10	6 Fd Cash Office	1	7	8
11	H.Q. 16 Aus Inf Bde	12	64	76
12	2/1 Bn 1st Reinforcements(10%)	34 3	749 75	783 78
13	2/2 Bn 1st Reinforcements (10%)	34 3	749 75	783 78
14	2/3 Bn 1st Reinforcements (10%)	34 3	749 75	783 78
15	2/4 Bn 1st Reinforcements (10%)	34 3	749 75	783 78
16	2/1 Fd Coy 1st Reinforcements (	5 1	237 15	242 16
17	Details 6 Div Sigs	7	147	154
18	42 L.A.D. (6 Div Engrs)	1	12	13
19	43 L.A.D. (2/1 Fd Regt)	1	12	13
20	45 L.A.D. (16 Aus Inf Bde)	1	12	13
21	48 L.A.D. (6 Div Sigs) x L.A.D. (Recce Regt)	1	12	13
22	One Recovery Sec A. Fd Wkshop	2	68	70
23	2/1 Fd Regt 1st Reinforcements	34 4	557 32	591 42
24	6 Aus Div Sup Coln. (Details)	11	288	299

Serial.	Unit	Officers.	O.R.s	Total.
25	6 Aus Div Amn Coy	3	159	162
26	6 Aus Div Pet Coy	3	82	85
27	6 Aus Pro Coy. (less 4 Secs)	2	47	49
28	6 Aus Div Postal Unit	1	21	22
29	1 Aus Gen Hosp. (600 beds) 1st Reinforcements	24 1	150 5	174 6
30	6 Aus Div Recce Regt 1st Reinforcement Sig Sec	31	409	440 44 13

3 A.

S.M.1158.

4th April, 1945.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE

MILITARY BOARD.

Army Head-quarters,
Victoria Barracks.

MELBOURNE, S.C.1.

N. Comd. (6)	7 M.D. (3)	S. of A.
E. Comd. (10)	13 Hy. Bty.	S.A.S.
S. Comd. (14)	N.G. Vol. Rifles	S. of Eng.
W. Comd. (8)	R.M.C.	S. of Sigs.
1st Corps (10)	C. & S.S.	A.S.C. School.
C/Secs Base (3)	C.T.D.	

Copies for information to :-

Sec. Comd. (4); Sec. Army (2); C.G.S. (5); A.G. (3); Q.M.G. (3);
M.G.O. (3); F.M.; S.M.B.; M.L.O. (London); Chairman Man Power Committee
Sec. Air Board.

EMBARKATION PROCEDURE

NOMINAL ROLLS AND DOCUMENTS.

I am commanded by the Military Board to say that a careful study of the actual embarkations of the 1st Convoy, A.I.F., and of the reports submitted in connection therewith indicates that in spite of many adverse circumstances which could not be foreseen the main requirements in respect of Nominal Rolls and Documents were successfully coped with.

2. Nevertheless certain discrepancies did arise which caused a great deal of unnecessary work after the departure of the convoy and which could reasonably have been obviated.

3. Where there was failure to carry out the instructions laid down in their entirety the chief causes appear to have been :-

- (a) The considerable clerical work entailed in compiling ~~Nominal~~ Nominal Rolls and keeping them up to date during the week prior to embarkation.
- (b) The dispersion of documents (Medical History Sheets particularly) due to X-Ray examinations.
- (c) Last minute enlistments to replace wastage within a few days of sailing.
- (d) Failure by Command Embarkation, Records and Pay Staffs to observe the procedure laid down either by omission of certain portions or by adding to procedure.
- (e) Non receipt of instructions by units of A.I.F. combined with failure on part of C.Cs. and others to realise the

importance (to their own units) of co-operation with Camp Headquarters, Pay, Records and Medical Staffs in respect of the various processes and documents for which these Staffs are responsible.

- (f) Failure of Embarkation Staffs to insist on C.O.'s. and officers actually accompanying their units on board with at least one officer observing the check of Pay Embarkation Cards (W.F. 47) of his company, etc., and assisting to clear up any doubtful point if required. In the case of Battalions and other major units a responsible officer should also remain at the bottom of the gang-way until the last man has embarked.

Not only was lack of interest in the Embarkation of their men evidenced in some cases, but in at least one case there was an apparent deliberate disregard of orders received by a Commanding Officer which resulted in a number of officers embarking in the wrong transport.

- (g) Lack of organization and initiative at the wharf (particularly in respect of the checking of the Pay Embarkation Cards with Nominal Rolls) and rehearsal of procedure in this respect being of a perfunctory nature.
- (h) Insufficient provision of accommodation on the wharf for Records and Pay personnel (contributing to (g)).
- (i) In case of men concentrated from other Military Districts, each Officer-in-Charge Records considering it to be the other's responsibility to ensure that necessary documents were made available in time for Embarkation, whereas it should have been of vital concern to both.

4. AS REGARDS (3a) CLERICAL WORK

With a view to reducing the clerical work referred to, the number of Nominal rolls to be compiled has been considerably reduced, and the procedure more definitely indicated. It must be realised, however, that these are vital documents and no effort is to be spared to ensure that at least Nos. 1 and 5 copies of A.A.F. 206 against which the Pay Embarkation Cards collected at the gang-way have been checked on the wharf are placed on Board in case of No. 1 and retained by District Records office in case of No. 5. There is no question but that this can be done with organization, adequate staff provided and with checking proceeding during the entire time of the Embarkation and completed during the time the ship is being inspected after all troops are on Board.

To assist in this checking the instructions now provide for unit serial numbers being placed on the Nominal Rolls and Pay Embarkation Cards and, in addition, a serial number for each individual identification card. These latter numbers will be inserted, at the time Nominal Rolls are cyclostyled, in the margin at the left hand side opposite each name.

AS REGARDS (3b) DISPERSION OF DOCUMENTS.

There can be no justification for dispersion of medical or other documents under existing conditions, nor in future, and Officers-in-Charge Records are to be held personally responsible for ensuring that every document required is placed on Board.

AS REGARDS (3c) "LAST MINUTE" ENLISTMENTS.

These have now been eliminated by the instruction issued (S.M. 450 of 8/2/40) that no person is to embark unless he has been enlisted for 10 days.

Similarly, except in special cases, members who are discharged from hospital, or who are absent without leave, after the seventh (7th) day prior to embarkation will not rejoin their units. Their places will be filled by re-inforcement personnel and they will in turn be allotted to re-inforcements.

AS REGARDS (3d) NON-VARIATION OF PROCEDURE.

The system laid down for issue of Embarkation Cards (W.F. 47) in Camp and their collection at the gang-way and subsequent check against Nominal Roll A.A.F., A.206 is, if carried out correctly, the most accurate check possible to ensure that persons other than those authorized to embark are prevented from so doing and that the names of all members who have embarked are definitely known at once by C.O. Troops and the Embarkation and Records Staffs.

In future this procedure is not to be added to either by the calling of names from the Nominal Roll (A.A. F. A.206) on the wharf or otherwise. This instruction is not, however, to be read as preventing an internal roll call from ordinary company or platoon, etc., roll books by units for their own purposes if so desired should time be available without delaying their embarkation).

AS REGARDS (3e) TO (1).

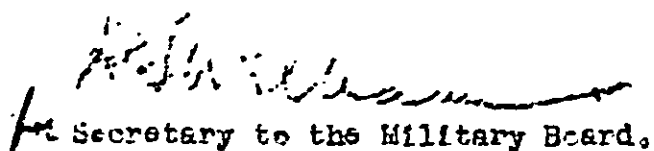
These are matters within the entire control of Commands and equally, where indicated, of C.Os. of Units of the A.I.F., and it is to be ensured that all necessary action is taken in connection therewith.

In this connection particular care is to be taken that the figures shown on A.A.Fs. T.51, Strength Return on embarkation are absolutely accurate, and that the form is rendered strictly in accordance with the instructions laid down.

5. The "Instructions for Compilation and Distribution, etc." of Nominal Rolls as printed on the front cover are cancelled and the amended "Instructions" as attached hereto at appendix II are to be adopted forthwith.

6. Further Instructions for Compilation and use of Pay Embarkation Cards are attached hereto at Appendix I.

S.Os. A.I.F. , Chapter XV para. 16 will be amended in due course.


Secretary to the Military Board.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETION AND USE OF PAYEMBARKATION CARD (M.F.47).

1. Embarkation cards will be prepared under arrangements to be made by District Finance Officers for each Unit, etc., as indicated hereunder.

The number of cards for each Unit, etc., will be in accordance with the number shown to embark in the schedule "Allotment of Units to Transports" plus 5% spare. The spare cards will be numbered in the same sequence and clearly marked "Supplementary."

An additional supply of Supplementary Cards without serial numbers will be held by Cash Paymaster and O.C. Pay Staff at the Depot to meet emergencies.

2. The Unit Serial No. in accordance with "Allotment of Units to Transports" will be inserted at the top centre of the card.

3. An individual (Card) Serial No. will be inserted at the top right hand corner immediately above "M.D." This should be machine numbered and commence with "1" for each Unit, Sub-Unit or Detail which has been allotted a "Unit" Serial number.

This serial number will correspond with the individual serial number on Nominal Roll.

4. Embarkation Cards will be made out immediately Nominal Rolls A.A. 2206 are compiled. They will be held until the day Prior to embarkation, when they will be issued by Pay Staff to individuals and signed in the presence of O. I/c Sub-Units.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PREPARATION OF COPIES OF THE EMBARKATION
UNITA ROLL (Form 107-2, A.A.F. Form 107-2)

1. Copies of the Embarkation Nominal Roll will be prepared under direction of Camp Commandant for each unit for sub-unit, including details, 7 days prior to embarkation as follows:-

Officers will be shown, in order of personal numbers, on the first copy of each unit.

Other ranks will be shown, in order of company numbers, by companies or equivalent sub-units.

ON A.A.F. FORM	MINIMUM NUMBER OF COPIES	COPY NUMBERS	REMARKS
A. 206	2	1 - 2	General purposes
A. 206(a)	3	3 - 5	Includes pay Particulars
A. 206(b)	3	10 - 12	Includes Medical Particulars

2. In addition, spare rolls on each type of form may be cyclostyled as desired, but such spare copies are to be numbered from "13" onwards and will be kept to the absolute minimum.

3. The above forms have been designed so that in the first instance the information to be shown in columns 1. and 2. only will be cyclostyled on all forms.

4. Copies of the Embarkation Nominal Roll will be distributed as under:-

Copy No. (1)	To (2)	For distribution to and retention by (3)
On A.A.F. 206		
1	Embarkation Staff Officer	Each copy to be attached to a set of A.A.F. Form 107-2 (Strength Return on Embarkation and Disembarkation)
2	"	
3	"	
4	C.O. Unit (or detached sub-unit)	
5	District Records Officer	
6	A.A.F. (2nd Echelon)	
On A.A.F. 206(a)		
7	Camp Paymaster	D.P.O.
8	"	D.P.O. (for transmission by air mail to Chief Paymaster Overseas)
9	"	D.P.O. (for subsequent transmission to Chief Paymaster)
On A.A.F. 206(b)		
10	Camp Medical Officer	A.A.M.S. Overseas Base
11	"	Unit Medical Officer
12	"	D.D.M.S.

5. Copies Nos. 7-9 on A.206(a) will be forwarded to the Camp Paymaster, who will arrange for entry thereon of all pay particulars in columns numbered 3 to 10. He will be responsible for their disposal in accordance with paragraph 4, column three.

Copies Nos. 10-12 on A.206(b) will be handed to the Senior Camp Medical Officer, who will arrange for entry thereon of all medical and dental particulars in columns 3 to 10. He will be responsible for the disposal of the forms as laid down in paragraph 4, column three.

6. ENTRIES ON ROLLS

Nominal Rolls were rendered unnecessarily bulky in respect of First Convoy on account of 2 and 3 spaces being allowed for each name.

This is unnecessary and in future 1 space only per name will be utilized.

At the time of cyclostyling a serial number for each individual will be inserted in left margin. This number will commence with 1 for each Unit, Sub-unit or Detail which has been allotted a "Unit Serial Number" on the "Allotment of Units to Transport".

Interlineations are not to be made in any circumstances. Non-compliance with this instruction in the past has led to errors and replacement of rolls.

When for any reason a member whose name is on the original roll is not to embark his name is to be ruled through (and initialed).

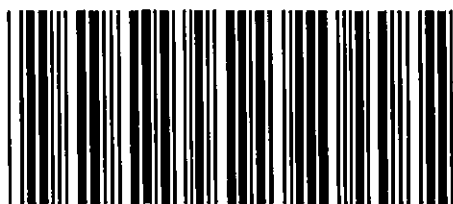
The name of the person who replaces him is to be entered in a "Supplementary" roll. Supplementary Rolls will not be prepared for Sub-units unless they are to embark on a separate ship to their Unit. On the Unit Supplementary Roll, however, the Sub-unit to which each member belongs will be indicated.

7. CASUALTY RETURNS

Subsequent to the completion of the Embarkation Nominal Roll and unit embarkation, 3 additional copies of Casualty Returns, A.A.F. Form 107-3, will be prepared by units for Camp Commandant (1 for Paymaster and 1 for Medical Officer).

On A.A.F. A.206 (see para 5) used as a check list of personnel and group movements between Commands or Military Districts.

0010135



SECOND AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

SECRET

H.Q. 6 Aus Div.
441 St Kilda Rd.
MELBOURNE. S.C.2.

9th January 7, 1940.

Major A. S. Wilson,
D.A.D.C.S. 6 Aus Div.

Copies to:

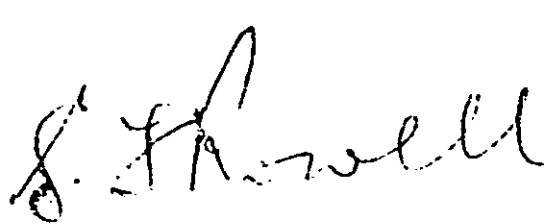
O.C. Tps - H.M.F. VI.
R.A.A. 6 Aus Div.
R.A.E. 6 Aus Div.
A.D.C.S.
D.A.P.T.
G.
A.
Q.
Camp.

6 AUS DIV CIRCULAR - G95.
CONTAINED 6 AUS DIV H.Q. PERSONNEL - 1st CONVOY.

In order to facilitate organization during the voyage, the following details will be placed under the orders of MAJOR A.S. WILSON as from the time of embarkation -

<u>SERIAL NO.</u>	<u>UNIT.</u>
103	Details H.Q. 6 Aus Div.
104	6 Aus Div Int. Sec.
105	Details H.Q. R.A.A. 6 Aus Div
106	Details H.Q. R.A.E. 6 Aus Div.
127	6 Aus Div Pro Coy.

2. Nominal roll of personnel of Serials 103 and 104 is attached hereto. Senior officers of Serials 105, 106 and 127 will provide nominal rolls to MAJOR WILSON immediately after embarkation.


Col.
G.S. 6 Aus Div.

S E C R E T.

NOMINAL ROLL OF PERSONNEL OF H.Q. 6 AUS DIV.

AND DIV. INTELLIGENCE SECTION EMBARKING ON

U.I. 11th JANUARY, 1940.

VX 286	MAJOR A. S. WILSON	D.A.D.O.S. 6 Aus Div
NX 186	MAJOR N.H.L. SAXBY	D.A.D.M.S. 6 Aus Div
VX 8	CAPT. A.G. OLDFAM	G.S.O.III 6 Aus Div
VX 12	CAPT. W.W.M. IRVINE	L.S.O. 6 Aus Div.
VX 217	CAPT. C.J. POPE	Attached 6 Aus Div
VX 183	LINUT G. McWALKER	6 Aus Div Int Sec
VX 3557	" R.R. VIAL	6 Aus Div Int Sec.
VX 7408	Sgt. I.R.C. BROWN)	
VX 7445	" H. p. BRADDOCK)	
VX 7618	" B.C.J. MEREDITH)	
NX 8205	" A.G. TONGE)	
NX 8309	" S. REES)	
NX 392	" L. E. CHRISTIE)	6 Aus Div Int Sec.
VX 393	" K. H. STEVENS)	
NX 9800	" H. HARRIS)	
VX 9819	Pte H. FRENCH)	
VX 6817	" R.H. MCCOMMILL)	
NX 9251	W.O.I. C. McL. McKENZIE -	Ordnance Conductor
VX 3958	Cpl D.H. McGRAE -	Int Corporal Recorder
VX9545	Pte E.J. WILSON	Batman (Capt Oldham)
VX 8975	Cpl D. MARCEL	Medical Clerk
VX 9510	Pte R.R. ROBERTS	Batman (Maj. Saxby)
NX 9206	Pte A.E. ARNOLD	Ordnance
VX 7444	Pte R.E. TALBOT	Clerk (G)
NX 9108	Pte L.A. HERRER	Ordnance
VX 4656	Pte F.W. TURNER	Clerk (AQ)
VX1452	Pte B.M. COOPER	Draughtsman
VX 2974	Pte F.A. Thomas	Cook (Men's mess)
VX 7473	Pte W.J. YOUNG	Cook (Officer's Mess)
VX 5211	" C.E. DAWSON	Driver H.T. (car)
VX 436	" E. CODLING	" " "
VX 9487	" W. H. GOLDSWORTHY	" " (Car-Truck)
VX2205	" A. G. MacDONALD	" " Truck
VX 1441	" P. L.T. CULVER	" " (car-Van)
VX 1416	" J.P. BEARDALL	" " (Van-truck)
VX 1425	" A.V. SMITH	Orderley (M-Cyclist)
VX 6811	" R. MORRISON	" " "
VX 3392	" E.H. THOMPSON	Batman (Capt Irvine)
NX 6670	" J. R. JENNINGS	Ordnance
NX8303	" P. KAYE	Storeman
NX6702	" J.R. BROWN	Storeman
NX-6663	" W.A. GROSE	Batman - Driver (Major Wilson)
VX 2421	" T.W. GIBSON	Batman

PROVISION OF WEAPONS FOR 1ST CONTINGENT - 2ND A.I.F.

M.G.O.

The attached table gives the allotment of weapons for the first contingent of the 2nd A.I.F. The figures shown for Lewis guns, 18-prs. and 4.5 hows. are however provisional, as a decision has yet to be given regarding the despatch of these weapons with the force.

L. C. P. [Signature]

8 Dec.39.

Lieutenant-General,
Chief of the General Staff.

Copies to -

6 Div.
Q.M.G.
A.G.

PROVISION OF WEAPONS FOR 1ST ECHELON - 6TH DIVISION 2ND A.I.F.

Serial No.	Units	Pistols .455		Sig. Pistols		(Lewis) L.M.Gs.		(Bren) L.M.Gs.		(Vickers) M.M.Gs.		Mortars 3"		Rifles		A. Tk. Rifles		18-prs.		4.5" How.	
		Estab.	Allotment	Estab.	Allotment	Estab.	Allotment	Estab.	Allotment	Estab.	Allotment	Estab.	Allotment	Estab.	Allotment	Estab.	Allotment	Estab.	Allotment	Estab.	Allotment
1	H.Q. Overseas Base	80	80											193	193						
2	Aust. Ord. Store Coy.	4	4											42	42						
3	Det. H.Q. 6 Div.	5	5											24	24						
4	6 Div. Int. Sec.	10	10											2	2						
5	Det. H.Q. 6 Div. Arty.	1	1											6	6						
6	Det. H.Q. 6 Div. Engrs.	1	1											3	3						
7	H.Q. 6 Div. A.A.S.C.	10	10											26	26						
8	2/1 Fd. Amb.	16	16											67	67						
9	2/1 Fd. Hyg. Sec.	1	1											5	5						
10	6 Fd. Cash Office	6	6											2	2						
11	H.Q. 16 Inf. Bde.	13	13			2	2							58	58	2	-				
12	2/1 Bn.	55	55	24	24	40	40			8	8	4	2	728	728	21	-				
13	2/2 Bn.	55	55	24	24	40	40			8	8	4	2	728	728	21	-				
14	2/3 Bn.	55	55	24	24	40	40			8	8	4	2	728	728	21	-				
15	2/4 Bn.	55	55	24	24	40	40			8	6	4	2	728	728	21	-				
16	2/1 Fd. Coy.	20	20			4	4							254	254	4	-				
17	Det. 6 Div. Sigs.	45	45											109	109						
18	39 L.A.D. (Div. Recce. Regt.)	1	1											48	48						
19	42 L.A.D. (6 Div. Engrs.)	1	1											48	48						
20	43 L.A.D. (2/1 Fd. Regt.)	1	1											48	48						
21	45 L.A.D. (16 Inf. Bde.)	1	1											48	48						
22	One Recce. Sec. A Fd. Workshop.	2	2			1	1							68	68	1	-				
23	2/1 Fd. Regt.	66	66	8	8	12	12							149	149	11	-	16	17	8	9
24	Det. 6 Div. Sup. Coln.	35	35			6	6							265	265						
25	" " " Ann. Coln.	14	14			1	1							148	148						
26	" " " Petrol Coy.	9	9			2	2							76	76						
27	6 Pro. Coy. less four Secs.	26	26											13	13						
28	6 Div. Postal Unit	-	-																		
29	1 Gen. Hosp. (600 beds)	-	-																		
30	6 Div. Recce. Regt.	303	303	59	59	69	69							137	137	10	-				
31	Div. Recce. Regt. Sig. Sec.	228	228	251	251	257	257			32	32	16	18	4751	4751	112	-	16	17	8	9
	TOTAL	899	899	163	163	257	257			32	32	16	18	4751	4751	112	-	16	17	8	9



2ND AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

In reply please quote

HEADQUARTERS.

6 Aus. Div.
22 Apr. 40.

Lt-Gen Sir Thomas Blamey, *C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.*
G.O.C. Australian Corps.
441 St. Kilda Road.
MELBOURNE S.C. 2.

Dear Sir Thomas,

As we are on the point of leaving Australia I send you this short note to report progress thus far. The voyage has been calm and uneventful with very little sea-sickness. The men have quite settled down and are going through the usual routine of training. We had a case of appendicitis which was successfully operated upon and the patient should be fully recovered by the time we reach Palestine.

We arrived at Fremantle some 2 hours earlier than expected,, nevertheless very satisfactory arrangements had been made to receive us by Maj. Gen. Durrant and local residents.

By arrangement with the Commandant I have left ashore one undesirable character from the Petrol Coy. who has three convictions against him in 1939, in Queensland; one man has been discharged as medically unfit; one enlisted under age; ~~one man of the 11th Sn.~~ whose wife was injured in a motor accident yesterday, ~~has been put ashore to come on later.~~ *(Arrangement since cancelled by H. Cond., owing to satisfactory progress of wife.)*

The citizens of Perth gave us a wonderful lesson in hospitality yesterday, and the entertainment here has made a deep and lasting impression on the men. Parties of 15 Officers and 300 men from each ship were met by the Committee and driven in motor cars to see the sights or be entertained in the homes of their hosts. The Committees were unremitting in their attention, particularly in ensuring that the men were brought back to the ships before their leave expired at midnight, and we leave the wharves with almost our full complement, and I hope that the very few stragglers may still rejoin us while we lie out in the stream during the next 2 or 3 hours.

I received the Air Mail communication from Lt-Col. Lloyd dealing with Organization Command and Control, A.I.F., ~~aboard~~, and including a copy of the Gov. General's Delegation to you as Commander of the Corps. These I shall act on as instructed.

I was very glad to learn that Lt-Col Baillon is to succeed Major Booker as G.S.O. II. and to know that the latter has received a congenial and suitable appointment.

While speaking to ~~you~~ on the ship a week ago, I omitted to refer to the possibility of the appointment of Capt. Crosby Brown in some capacity, so that he would be available as Bandmaster to the Corps or Division. If Brown should be appointed it would be appreciated if he could accompany the next convoy.

One of the first things I hope to do on arrival is to establish, as you suggest, a Divisional school for the training of N.C.Os and junior Officers.

I should like to draw to your attention the excellence of the work which Major Woodward has done during the voyage. He has proved himself most capable, conscientious and hard working and nothing has been too much trouble for him.

With this I am sending you 3 letters which will bring to your notice the question of censoring of letters received by troops. The impression aboard is that the censors are officious and ~~undiscriminating~~. You will notice that the letters sent to *Lt-Col. Walker*

2.

and Brig. Savige from John Lloyd are almost identical. The 2 letters to Lt-Col. Walker were in the same envelope, one from his wife and one from John Lloyd, forwarded by her in the same envelope. The envelope to Col. Walker was the only one censored in a mail of 6 bags which arrived on this ship.

These are the chief items of interest and I only hope that things in Colombo will go as well as they did in Perth.
Kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

Ivan H. Mackay

6 13. DIV. 101 57

974

16 Aus. Inf. Bde.

441 St. Kilda Road,
MELBOURNE S.E.

For information.

3rd January 1940.

203

TRAINING EQUIPMENT FOR VOYAGE

1st CONVOY.

1. With reference to 6 Aus. Div. S.M. 497/11 dated 22nd Dec. '39, and 16 Aus. Inf. Bde. S.M. 32/39 dated 27th Dec. '39, relative to the above subject, it is advised as follows:-

- (a) Arrangements have been made for unit stores marked "Wanted" to be accessible during the voyage. It is the unit responsibility that all articles of unit equipment required for training during the voyage are marked in this manner.
- (b) Instructions have been issued by A.H.Q. for the provision on each transport of the following stores for allocation as directed by C.C. Troops:-

Aiming rests & tripods -	50	per transport
Black Boards -	12	" "
Chalks, coloured, boxes	6	" "
" white, "	6	" "
Landscape targets (sets of 5)	5	" " (if available)

Hessian (making of sand-tables & backing for landscape targets)	50 yds. per transport
---	-----------------------

Oregon 2" x 1" (construction of frames for landscape targets)	300 ft. per transport
---	-----------------------

P.T. Equipment.

2. No L.M.G.s. (Brens) or A/T Rifles are available for the voyage.

G. 5/1/40

W. H. G. G. G.
Col.
G.S. 6 Aus. Div.

6 AUS. DIV. 101/57

973

MELBOURNE. S.C.2.
3rd January 1940.

Sigs. 6 Aus Div.

For Information: -

"Q"

TRAINING EQUIPMENT FOR VOYAGE

1st CONVOY.

1. With ref to 6 Aus Div S.M. 497/11 dated 22 DEC 39 and Sigs. 6 Aus Div S.M. 195/39 dated 27 DEC 39 relative to the above subject, it is advised as follows :-

(a) Arrangements have been made for unit stores marked "wanted" to be accessible during the voyage. It is the unit responsibility that all articles of unit equipment required for training during the voyage are marked in this manner.

2. There will be no possibility under any circumstances for training in W/T or R/T during the voyage.

W. H. G. G. G.
Col.
G.S. 6 Aus Div.

6 AUS. DIV. 101/57

972

MELBOURNE. S.C.2.

3rd January 1940.

6 Aus Div Recce Regt.

For Information:-

"Q"

TRAINING EQUIPMENT FOR VOYAGE

1st CONVOY.

1. With ref to 6 Aus Div S.M. 497/11 dated 22 DEC 39 and 6 Aus Div Recce Regt S.M. 7/39 dated 27 DEC 39, relative to the above subject, it is advised as follows :-

- (a) Arrangements have been made for unit stores marked "wanted" to be accessible during the voyage. It is the unit responsibility that all articles of unit equipment required for training during the voyage are marked in this manner.
- (b) Instructions have been issued by A.H.Q. for the provision on each transport of the following stores for allocation as directed by O.C. Tps -

P.T. Equipment.

Aiming rests and tripods	-	50.
Blackboards		12.
Chalks, coloured, boxes		6.
Chalks, White, boxes		6.
Landscape targets (sets of 5)		5. (if available)
Kessian		50 yds.
Cregon 2" x 1"		300 ft.

2. No L.M.Gs (Brenz) or A/T rifles are available for the voyage.

W. B. P. G. G. G.
Col.
G.S. 6 Aus Div.



6 AUS. DIV 74 | 87.

2ND AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

6TH DIVISION.

HEADQUARTERS.

441, St. Kilda Road,
MELBOURNE S.C.2.

In reply
please quote,

899
.....

2nd January 1939.

Secretary,
Military Board.

TRAINING EQUIPMENT - 1ST CONVOY.

1. With reference S.M. 3650 paragraph 13 (b), it is urgently requested that arrangements be made for the provision on each transport of the following training equipment -

Aiming rests & tripods -	80 per transport
Blackboards -	12 " "
Chalks, coloured, boxes -	6 boxes per transport
Chalk, white, boxes -	6 ditto
Landscape targets, (sets of 5)	5 per transport
Hessian (making of sandtables & backing for landscape targets)	50 yds. per transport.
Oregon 2" x 1" (construction of sandtables and frames for landscape targets)	300 ft. per transport.

2. The above training equipment would be allotted for use on the voyage under instructions of the C.O. Troops.

(Sgd.) T. A. Blamey

Lt. - Gen.,
Commanding 6 Aus. Div.

6 AUS. DIV. 74 57

In reply
please quote,

.....899

441, St. Kilda Road,
MELBOURNE S.C.B.

2nd January 1959.

Secretary,
Military Board.

TRAINING EQUIPMENT - 1ST CONVOY.

1. With reference S.C. 3030 paragraph 12 (b), it is urgently requested that arrangements be made for the provision on each transport of the following training equipment -

Aiming rests & tripods -	50 per transport
Blackboards -	12 "
Chalks, coloured, boxes -	6 boxes per transport
Chalk, white, boxes -	6 ditto
Landscape targets, (sets of 5)	5 per transport
Hessian (making of sandtables & backing for landscape targets)	50 yds. per transport.
Oregon 2" x 1" (construction of sandtables and frames for landscape targets)	300 ft. per transport.

2. The above training equipment would be allotted for use on the voyage under instructions of the C.C. Troops.

CSF
Lt. - Gen.,
Commanding 6 Aus. Div.

6 Ans. Div. Recce. Regt.

Training Equipment for Voyage.

80 Old Motor-type tubes. Repair material.

Fishing lines.

30 for A Sqr.

duplicate

Light-amber (orange) for

making kites.

duplicate.

Instructional engine. ^{n.a.f.} hot for A Sqr.

uses

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.—3RD MILITARY DISTRICT.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
No. 57/39.

(Address) 6 Aus Div Recce Regt.

(Date) 27 Dec 39.

6 Aus. Div.

TRAINING EQUIPMENT FOR VOYAGE - 1ST CONVOY.

Reference 6 Aus Div Secret memo of 22 Dec 39, listed hereunder are the stores required to be readily available for training on the voyage.

(a) Portion of Unit Equipment.

ASpm

	Respirators, A/Gas D MkII (complete)	30	
	Cloths, disinfecting facepiece	30	
	Outfits anti-dimming	30	
1	Rifle, Boys Mk I	2	
1	" " " Rods cleaning w/wire and loop attached	2	
25	Rifles No 1 Mk III	100	
25	Bottles oil	100	
25	Pullthroughs, single	100	
30	Pistols revolver No 2 MkI	100	
30	Rods cleaning pistol	100	
30	Cases pistol w/leather loops	100	
5	Guns Machine Lewis .303"	15	
5	Barrels do spare	15	
5	Cylinders gas do Mk I	15	
5	Bags S.P. & T filled Lewis	15	
5	Brushes rod cleaning cylinder, Lewis .303" M.G.	15	
5	Carriers magazine, Lewis do	15	
5	Cleaners gas regulator Lewis	15	
5	Rods piston No 2	15	
5	Handles loading magazine	15	
20	Magazines Lewis .303" M.G.	60	
5	Mops rod cleaning cylinder	15	
5	Rods cleaning cylinder, Lewis	15	
5	Mountings field Lewis	15	
5	Guns Machine Bren	15	
	Boxes magazine, Bren	15	
	Brushes rod cleaning cylinder	15	
	Chests Bren	15	
	Fillers magazine	2	
	Barrels spare	15	
	Springs return, Bren	15	
	Magazines Bren	90	
	Mops rod cleaning cylinder	15	
	Mountings tripod	15	
	Rods cleaning cylinder	15	
	Wallets Bren	15	

In lieu of Lewis if available.

(2)

(a) Portion of Unit Equipment (cont)

A. Sqm.

Chests tool filled;		
Carpenters	1	
Equipment repairers	1	
Fitters	1	
Machines drilling hand		
for wall or post	1	
Pliers flat nose	1	
" round nose	1	
" side cutting 6"	2	
" " " 7"	2	
Binoculars prismatic	30	10
Cases map	30	10
Compasses prismatic	30	10
Instruments drawing R.E.		
Students Sets	3	1
Set squares 45 deg,	6	2
" " 60 "	6	2
Flags signalling blue small	20	6
" " white	20	6
Poles flags signalling 3'6"	40	10
Charging sets 12 v. 300 Watt	1	
Funnel battery cell	1	
Jars electrolyte 2 Gall	1	
Wireless Sets No 109 complete		
stations (N.I.V.)	6	
Capes A/gas	6	2
Gloves "	6	2
Hoods A/gas	2	1
Jackets " heavy	1	
" " Light	1	
Overboots " heavy pra	1	
" " light "	1	
Trousers " " No 1 pra	1	
Izal	1	
pints		

Handwritten notes:
 A diagonal line is drawn through the first section of items.
 A bracket groups the last four items (Jackets, Overboots, Trousers, Izal) with an arrow pointing to the word "duplicate".
 Next to "Wireless Sets No 109 complete stations (N.I.V.)", there is a handwritten "2".
 Next to "Charging sets 12 v. 300 Watt", there is a handwritten "1".

(b) Additional stores not portion of Unit equipment.

Chinagraph pencils 2 ea of Red, green, blue, yellow, brown and black		1 of each
Service protractors	6	2
Landscape targets	5	2
Copies of foreign maps (if possible)		
Stereoscope		
Diagrams I.C.E.		
Ammunition S.A. .303"	50,000 rds	15,000
" " .455	10,000 "	3,000
Rifle rest	1	1
Black boards	2	
Sawdust (or sand) bags	5	
P.T. equipment	✓	
Balloons gross	4	
Oregon 4"x1" feet	200	
Mountings A.A. H'kiss or Lewis	2	

Handwritten notes:
 A bracket groups the last four items (Rifle rest, Black boards, Sawdust, P.T. equipment) with an arrow pointing to the word "duplicate".
 Next to "Ammunition S.A. .303\"", there is a handwritten "50,000 rds".
 Next to "Ammunition S.A. .455", there is a handwritten "10,000 \".

In view of the possibility of this unit taking over British equipment, it is desired to recommend the inclusion of one Vickers Machine Gun to train personnel in mechanism and stoppages in case Light Tank equipment may be used.

Lieut. Col.

Commanding 6 Aus Div. Recce Regt.

57/39

6 Aus Div Recce Regt.
27 Dec 39.

6 Aus. Div.

TRAINING EQUIPMENT FOR VOYAGE - 1ST CONVOY.

Reference 6 Aus Div Secret memo of 22 Dec 39, listed hereunder are the stores required to be readily available for training on the voyage.

(a) Portion of Unit Equipment.

Respirators, A/Gas D MkII (complete)	30	
Cloths, disinfecting facepiece	30	
Outfits anti-dimming	30	
Rifle, Boys Mk I	2	
" " " Rods cleaning w/wire and loop attached	2	
Rifles No 1 Mk III	100	
Bottles oil	100	
Pullthroughs, single	100	
Pistols revolver No 2 MkI	100	
Rods cleaning pistol	100	
Game pistol w/leather loops	100	
Guns Machine Lewis .303"	15	
Barrels do spare	15	
Cylinders gas do Mk I	15	
Bags S.P. & T filled Lewis	15	
Brushes rod cleaning cylinder, Lewis .303" H.G.	15	
Carriers magazine, Lewis do	15	
Cleaners gas regulator Lewis	15	
Rods piston No 2	15	
Handles loading magazine	15	
Magazines Lewis .303" H.G.	60	
Mops rod cleaning cylinder	15	
Rods cleaning cylinder, Lewis	15	
Mountings field Lewis	15	
Guns Machine Bren	15	
Boxes magazine, Bren	15	
Brushes rod cleaning cylinder	15	
Chests Bren	15	
Fillers magazine	2	
Barrels spare	15	
Springs return, Bren	15	
Magazines Bren	90	
Mops rod cleaning cylinder	15	
Mountings tripod	15	
Rods cleaning cylinder	15	
Wallots Bren	15	

In lieu of Lewis if available.

(2)

(a) Portion of Unit Equipment (cont)

Chests tool filled;	
Carpenters	1
Equipment repairers	1
Fitters	1
Machines drilling hand	
for wall or post	1
Pliers flat nose	1
" round nose	1
" side cutting 6"	2
" " 7"	2
 Binoculars prismatic	30
Cases map	30
Compasses prismatic	30
 Instruments drawing R.E.	
Students Sets	3
Set squares 45 deg.	6
" " 60 "	6
Flags signalling blue small	20
" " white	20
Poles flags signalling 3'6"	40
Charging sets 12 v. 300 Watt	1
Funnels battery cell	1
Jars electrolyte 2 Gall	1
Wireless Sets No 109 complete	
stations (H.I.V.)	6
Capes A/gas	6
Gloves "	6
Hoods A/gas	2
Jackets " heavy	1
" " Light	1
Overboots " heavy pres	1
" " light "	1
Trousers " " No 1 pres	1
 Isal	
pints	1
Mask	

(b) Additional stores not portion of Unit equipment.

Chinagraph pencils 2 ea of Red, green, blue, yellow, brown and black	
Service protractors	6
Landscape targets	5
Copies of foreign maps (if possible)	
Stereoscope	
Diagrams I.O.E.	
Ammunition S.A. "303"	50,000 rds
" " "455"	10,000 "
Rifle rest	1
Black boards	2
Sawdust (or sand) bags	5
P.T. equipment	
Balloons gross	4
Oregon 4"x1" feet	200
Mountings A.A. H'kins or Lewis	2

In view of the possibility of this unit taking over British equipment, it is desired to recommend the inclusion of one Vickers Machine Gun to train personnel in mechanism and stoppages in case Light Tank equipment may be used.

Lieut. Col.
Commanding 6 Aus Div Recce Regt.

TELEPHONE

Australian Military Forces—2nd Military District.

Please quote this Number when replying.

CO/KP	Sec 195	39
-------	---------	----

Address SIGS 6 AUS DIV
Date A.I.F. CAMP INGLEBURN

27 Dec 39

SECRET

6 AUS DIV:

TRAINING EQUIPMENT FOR VOYAGE - 1st CONVOY

The information asked for in your communication of 22 Dec 39 is as follows: -

ITEM	Qty.
(a) Lamps Daylight Signalling	6
Buzzer Units 7 & 3	3
Boxed Signal Offices - Div type (H.I.V.)	1
" " " Bde type (")	1
Boxes Terminal, Signal Offices (")	2
" Signal Clerks (")	3
Fullerphones	8
Telephones D III	20
Cable D III	2 miles
Flags Signalling	20
Pliers, sidecutting 8"	6 pairs
Knives clasp	6
Wireless sets, No 101, complete stations	1 } <i>Technical instruction only</i>
" " No 109, " "	1 }
Tape adhesive	3 rolls
" rubber pure	3 tins
Solution rubber, 3 oz tubes	3 tubes
Wire electric T 13	20 yds
(b) NIL	

If it is permitted to use W/T and R/T during the voyage the following additional equipment is desired: -

Wireless Sets, No 101, complete stations	3
" " No 109, " "	3
Charging sets, 6-volt, 100 watt	4

3. On receipt of approval for the equipment which can be kept available for the voyage, the necessary arrangements for packing and labelling will be made.

G. 29/12

..... Lt-Col
Cdg Sigs 6 Aus Div

TELEPHONE—

Australian Military Forces—2nd Military District.

Please quote this Number when replying.

CO/KP	SEC 195	59
-------	---------	----

Address SIGS 6 AUS DIV
Date A.I.F. CAMP INGLEBURN

27 Dec 39

SECRET

6 AUS DIV:

TRAINING EQUIPMENT FOR VOYAGE - 1st CONVOY

The information asked for in your communication of 22 Dec 39 is as follows: -

ITEM	Qty.
(a) Lamps Daylight Signalling	6
Buzzer Units 7 & 3	3
Boxed Signal Offices - Div type (N.I.V.)	1
" " " Eda type	1
Boxes Terminal, Signal Offices	2
" Signal Clerks	3
Fullerphones	8
Telephones D III	20
Cable D III	2 miles
Flags Signalling	20
Files, sidecutting 8"	6 pairs
Knives class	6
Wireless sets, No 101, complete stations	1) Technical
" " No 109, " "	1) instructors only
Tape adhesive	3 rolls
" rubber pure	3 tins
Solution rubber, 3 oz tubes	3 tubes
Wire electric T 12	20 yds
(b) NIL	

If it is permitted to use W/T and R/T during the voyage the following additional equipment is desired: -

Wireless Sets; No 101, complete stations	3
" " No 109, " "	3
Charging sets, 6-volt, 100 watt	4

3. On receipt of approval for the equipment which can be kept available for the voyage, the necessary arrangements for packing and labelling will be made.

Revens
..... Lt-Col

Cdg Sigs 6 Aus Div

2ND AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCES.

S.M. 22/39.

SECRET

H.Q. 16 Aus. Inf. Bde.,
Ingleburn,
27 Dec., '39.

6 Aus. Div.

TRAINING EQUIPMENT FOR VOYAGE - 1st. CONVOY.

With reference to 6 Aus. Div. S.M. of 22 Dec., '39 the following particulars regarding 16 Aus. Inf. Bde. are forwarded :-

- (a) Articles of Unit equipment which should be stored so as to be readily available during the voyage :-

ARTICLE	QUANTITY.
Cartridges D.P.	5 rounds per man.
Bayonet Training Sticks.	9 per rifle Coy.
Landscape targets.	1 set of 3 per pl.
Lewis & vickers machine guns.	Two thirds normal issue.
Pistols.	" " " "
Mortars (3").	One half normal issue.
Grenades & grenade discharges.	" " " "
A.A. Mountings for L.M. Gns.	" " " "
Respirators.	One per man.

- (b) ADDITIONAL STORES TO BE PLACED ON TRANSPORTS :-

ARTICLES.	QUANTITY.
Blackboard, easel & chalks.	One set per Coy. ✓
T.T. Cloth (5square yards) & suitable equipment for model.	One set per Coy. ✓
Suitable films for instruction in minor tactical lessons & apparatus to operate.	One set per ship. —
Map of World, Map of Middle East.	One pair per Coy. —
Aiming Rests & Tripods.	Nine pair per Coy. ✓
A.T. Rifle. (a)	4 per Battalion. ✓
Bren Gun & equipment (a)	4 per Battalion. ✓
P. T. equipment.	As shown in para 7 of 6 Aus. Div. Secret Circular G. 66 of 22 Dec., '39.

- (a) Could be returned to Australia on completion of voyage.

L.R. Campbell May
Brigadier.

Comdg. 16 Aus. Inf. Bde.

2ND AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCES.

S.M. 22/39.

SECRET

H.Q. 16 Aus. Inf. Bde.,
Ingleburn,
27 Dec., '39.

3 Aus. Div.

TRAINING EQUIPMENT FOR VOYAGE - 1st. CONVOY.

With reference to 6 Aus. Div. S.M. of 22 Dec., '39 the following particulars regarding 16 Aus. Inf. Bde. are forwarded :-

(a) Articles of Unit equipment which should be stored so as to be readily available during the voyage :-

ARTICLE	QUANTITY.
Cartridges D.P.	5 rounds per man.
Bayonet Training Sticks.	9 per rifle Coy.
Landscape targets.	1 set of 3 per pl.
Lewis & vickers machine guns.	Two thirds normal issue.
Pistols.	" " " "
Mortars (3").	One half normal issue.
Grenades & grenade discharges.	" " " "
A.A. Mountings for L.M. Gns.	" " " "
Respirators.	One per man.

(b) ADDITIONAL STORES TO BE PLACED ON TRANSPORTS :-

ARTICLES.	QUANTITY.
Blackboard, easel & chalks.	One set per Coy.
T.T. Cloth (5square yards) & suitable equipment for model.	One set per Coy.
Suitable films for instruction in minor tactical lessons & apparatus to operate.	One set per ship.
Map of World, Map of Middle East.	One pair per Coy.
Aiming Rests & Tripods.	Nine pairs per Coy.
A.T. Rifle. (a)	4 per Battalion.
Bren Gun & equipment (a)	4 per Battalion.
P. T. equipment.	As shown in para 7 of 6 Aus. Div. Secret Circular G. 66 of 22 Dec., '39.

(a) Could be returned to Australia on completion of voyage.

J.R. Campbell
for Brigadier.
Comdg. 16 Aus. Inf. Bde.

30

SECRET.

6 AUS. DIV. CIRCULAR A.77.

1st CONVOY 2nd A.I.F.

TROCPSEIP

U 1

U. 2

U 3

U 4

U 5

Colonel.
A.A. & C.M.G. 6 Aus. Div.

6 Aus. Div. Rocce Regt.

R.A.A. 6 Aus. Div.

2/1 Fd. Regt.

R.A.E. 6 Aus. Div.

2/1 Fd. Coy.

Signals 6 Aus. Div.

16 Inf. Ede.

A.S.C. 6 Aug. Div.

Div. Sup. Col.

A. D. M. S.

2/1 Fd. Amb.

2/1 Fd. Hyg. Sec.

1 Gen. Hosp.

D. A. D. V. S.

6 Ed. Cash Office

D. A. P. 7.

6 Provost Coy.

Camp

2/1 Army Fd. Workshop

D.A.D.O.S.

6 Aus. Div. Postal Unit

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A.D.C.
File

01/VS.
TELEPHONE CENTRAL 7113.

8.1939/328

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.—3RD MILITARY DISTRICT.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
No. _____

IMPORTANT

H. Q. 6TH DIVISION 497/14
HEAD-QUARTERS,
Melbourne.

SOUTHERN COMMAND.

3rd January, 1940.

MOST SECRET.

17 Aus. Inf. Bde. (2).
Aus. Corps Sigs. (Showgrounds).
Area Comdt. — SEYMOUR.
Camp Comdt. — POCKAPUNYAL.
Col. G.S.
E.S.O.
D.A.A.G.
D.A.Q.M.G.
A.D.S.T.
A.D.O.S.
D.A.D.O.S.
File.

H. Q. SOUTHERN COMMAND
SECRET
No. 1939/328

TRANSPORT EXPRESS OF JAPAN — U.I — 1st CONVOY.

1. It is advised that H.M.T. — U.I is expected to arrive in MELBOURNE on the afternoon of the 3 or 4 JAN., 40.

2. It departs PORT MELBOURNE 1500 hrs. on 11 JAN., 40.

3. The MELBOURNE Agent of H.M.T. — U.I is —
H.F. ROYER, Esq.,
59 William St.,
MELBOURNE. C.I.

4. ACKNOWLEDGE (A.A.F. A.57).

A.H. R.A.
3.1.40

Copy to :-

1. A.A.F. for information.

Major,
D.A.Q.M.G., Southern Command.

Q 3/1

MOST SECRET.

END A.I.F. - ORDER OF PRIORITY OF DESPATCH - 1ST CONVOY.

A.G.
Q.M.G.
H.G.O.
G.O.C., 6 Div.

With reference to Amendment No.3 of above-mentioned document, you are informed that Serial 132 2/1 Convalescent Depot, strength 4 Offrs., 13 O.Rs. will embark in U.1 at FREMANTLE.

X  This information will be restricted to essential staff only and will not be recorded in M.B. files until 31 Jan. 40.


Lieutenant-General,
Chief of the General Staff.


21 Dec. 39.

Seen { G.S.O. 1. 23 Dec.
DAAG. 26 Dec.
G.O.C. 27 Dec.
A.D.M.S. informed 27 Dec.

Copy to A.C.H.S.

SECRET

SECRET.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
MILITARY BOARD

H.Q. 6TH DIVISION 497/12

Army Headquarters,
Victoria Barracks,
MELBOURNE, S.C.1.

S.N. 3673

22nd December, 1939.

6 Div.
H.Q., Aust. Overseas Base.
Copies for information to -
E. Comd., S. Comd., M.L.O. (London).
A.G.; Q.M.G.; M.G.O., F.M.

2ND A.I.F. - ORDER OF PRIORITY OF DESPATCH
1ST CONVOY - AMENDMENT NO.3.

With reference to my S.M.3418 dated 4 Dec. 39 and
6 Div. memoranda 724 and 774, I am commanded by the Military Board
to forward Amendment No.3 which reads as follows :-

Appendix 1 (issued with Amendment No.2) -

Amend certain serials to read as follows :-

Serial.	Unit	Officers	Other ranks	Total
103	Details H.Q. 6 Div.	4	25	29
125	Details 6 Div. Amn. Coy.	3	166	169
126	Details 6 Div. Pet. Coy.	3	90	93
132	Details 2/1 Conv. Depot	4	15	19
	(Sub-total)	39.7	6,230	6,667
	<u>TOTAL PERSONNEL FIRST CONVOY</u>	383	6,243	6,631

DADUS & Mob. Vet. Sec
informed.

Delete all reference to 6 Mob. Vet. Sec.

2. The composition of the additional personnel will be as
decided by H.Q., 6 Div.

3. I am to say that no further amendment is contemplated.

4. Please acknowledge receipt of this communication on the
attached form and forward by return post.

Distributed to

DAAG.
APOs
CASC
Camp
Q
G

[Signature]
Secretary to the Military Board.

497/11

SECRET.

MELBOURNE, A.C.S.
22nd December 1932.

IMMEDIATE.

G Aus Div Recce Regt. ✓
R.A.A. G Aus Div.
R.A.N. G Aus Div.
Signs G Aus Div. ✓
IG Aus Inf Bde.
A.S.C. G Aus Div.
A.D.M.S.
D.A.P.N.

TRAINING EQUIPMENT FOR VOYAGE - 1st CONVOY.

Advice is requested urgently :-

- (a) What part of this equipment is required to be stored so as to be readily available for training during the voyage?
- (b) What additional stores, such as landscape targets, etc. will be required to be placed on transports?

cf
I. In attachment to

cf
Your file

cf
Cole
O.S. G Aus Div.

GAG2/28

MOST SECRET



6TH DIVISION

497/11 (8)

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE

MILITARY BOARD

S.P.3630

20th December, 1939.

ARMY HEAD-QUARTERS.

VICTORIA BARRACKS

Eastern Command,
Southern Command,
6 Div. ✓
H.Q., Aus. Overseas Base.

Melbourne, S.C.I.

Copies, for information to:

C.G.S., A.G., Q.M.G., M.G.O., P.M.

2ND A.I.F. : 1ST CONVOY.

With reference to S.M.3418 dated 4th December, 1939 (as amended by Serials 1 and 2), I am commanded by the Military Board to inform you of tentative proposals for embarkation of the 1st Convoy.

2. Allotment of Units to Transports:

- | | | | |
|-----|--------|-----|------------------|
| (a) | H.M.T. | U 1 | } See Appendix I |
| | H.M.T. | U 2 | |
| | H.M.T. | U 3 | |
| | H.M.T. | U 4 | |
| | H.M.T. | U 5 | |

- (b) Units and details allotted to H.M.T. U 1 will embark at Melbourne with the exception of 38 Nurses of 1 Aus. Gen. Hospital and details of 6 Div. Recce. Regt. Sig. Sec. (Serial 131) who will embark Sydney unless otherwise ordered.

3. Allotment of Vehicles to Transports:

- (a) M.T. vehicles, Artillery Equipments, Travelling Kitchens and Water Carts have been allotted to Transports as detailed in Appendix II.
- (b) All these vehicles, etc. will be held available for shipment in Sydney with the exception of 4 Cars, D.S., 13 Vans, Light (12-cwt.) and Reserve Artillery Equipments which will be held available for shipment at Melbourne.
- (c) The time and date vehicles, etc. will be called forward for shipment will be notified later.

4. Stores to be placed on Board each Transport (excluding Appendix II):

- (a) Unit War Equipments (to be placed on board the Transport to which Unit Headquarters has been allotted).
- (b) Unit Baggage - including personal baggage of officers and universal and sea kit bags of other ranks.
- (c) 99 Boxes of S.A.A. - to be at disposal of O.C. Troop ship and embarked for voyage use. (Vide S.M.3569 dated 14th December, 1939).

822/12

- (d) Expense Stores for Voyage Use - (will be issued to Units before embarkation).

5. General or Bulk Stores to be placed on certain Transports (excluding Appendix II):

- (a) General or Bulk stores will be allotted to H.M.Ts. U.1, U 4, U 5 only and will comprise those shown on Appendix III.
- (b) Details of allotments to ship and the time and date of calling forward for shipment will be notified later.
- (c) General or bulk stores will include:
 - (i) All natures of reserve stores and supplies - for consignment to Overseas Base including Canteen and Red Cross Stores for which space will be made available.
 - (ii) Certain War Equipments, or portions thereof, which it is not intended to issue to Units during the pre-embarkation period viz. War Equipments of 1 Aus. Gen. Hospital; 2/1 Fd. Amb., etc..

6. Berthing of Transports:

Will be notified when information is available. H.M.T. U 1 will be available in Sydney, at time and date to be notified, for shipment of vehicles (less those for shipment Melbourne) vide Appendix II and certain stores shown on Appendix III. H.M.Ts. U 2, U 3, U 4, U 5 will not berth - MELBOURNE.

7. Stores Shipment Programme:

- (a) The date by which Transports will be made available for shipment of stores, etc. after "fitting out" is not finalised.
- (b) Eastern Command will consider the general requirements of Transport for movement to the Port of Embarkation of general stores shown in Appendix III.
- (c) Arrangements are however under consideration for Transports to be available for shipment of:
 - (i) general and bulk stores (Appendix III),
 - (ii) vehicles and artillery equipments, etc. (Appendix II),
 - (iii) Units' war equipments and heavy baggage,
 at least 24 hours before embarkation of troops.
- (d) Arrangements in para. (c) will not apply to H.M.T. U 1 whilst berthing in Melbourne, as it can be anticipated that arrival and departure will be Z + 1 day.

8. Embarkations:

- (a) Supervision of all Embarkations will be the responsibility of G.Os.C. of Eastern and Southern Commands.
- (b) Date and time of commencement will be notified separately.

9. Canteens aboard Transports:

- (a) Dry Canteen on board H.M.Ts. will be provided, in accordance with Regulations of H.M. Sea Transport Service, by the ship's owners. Separate canteens operated by Units will not be authorised. A.H.Q. will complete the necessary negotiations.
- (b) Beer, one imperial pint, will be issued daily on repayment at the cost of not more than fourpence, under A.H.Q. instructions by the ship's owners.

10. Philanthropic Organizations:

Representatives of Philanthropic organizations, i.e., Red Cross, Y.M.C.A., Salvation Army, together with such stores as may be permitted to proceed with them, will be embarked only under the authority of A.H.Q.

Instructions and authority for Embarkation will be issued direct to individuals concerned by A.H.Q. Commands will be informed of particulars in all cases.

11. Packing of Stores, etc. for Shipment:

- (a) The necessary instructions for packing of general or bulk stores will be issued by the Directorates responsible for shipment.
- (b) Reserve 30 days supplies and emergency rations, etc., are being obtained from the Navy Victualling Yard. Requisitions for supply have been tendered and delivery for shipment will be effected as required by the Victualling Yard.
- (c) War Equipments issued to Units during the pre-embarkation period will be packed for loading into Transports under Unit responsibility. The objective should be to limit as far as practicable the number of packages comprising the Unit's War Outfit. Special care should be devoted to instruments - valuable stores and other small items of equipment, i.e., Boxes, Magazine, of Lewis and Belt Boxes of Machine Gun Equipments, which can be readily damaged by rough handling.

All units for embarkation - 1st Convey - should ascertain as early as possible their requirements for packing cases, etc., and requisition for same on D.A.Ds.O.S. of Commands. Early action to acquire anticipated requirements will be necessary on the part of Commands concerned.

12. Stores for Training en voyage:

- (a) Special arrangements will be made on board Transports for accommodation of stores required for training purposes en voyage.
- (b) 6 Div. will, however, take the necessary action to ascertain requirements and notify A.H.Q. accordingly.

13. Organisation of Movement and Embarkation Staffs:

Will be dealt with in separate correspondence.

14. A.H.Q. Instructions for War No. 11Q (Plan 401) are being revised and modified. Amendments will be published at an early date.

15. Fitting out of Transports:

Brigadier in Charge Administration, Eastern Command, will liaison with Commodore in charge Sydney in respect to details of "fitting out" and will communicate with A.H.Q. on any questions in which principle or policy is involved.

Attention is directed to the necessity for provision on each ship of:

- (a) Office accommodation for O.C. Troops.
- (b) Guard Room - three to five cells - one of which will be padded.
- (c) Accommodation for ammunition at disposal of O.C. Troops and Training Stores required on voyage - Band Instruments.
- (d) Hospital accommodation.
- (e) Accommodation for bulk stowage of rifles and personal kits will not be required; these will be kept by the troops in their cabins.
- (f) Separate office accommodation as under will be required on U 1 for Headquarters, Overseas Base:

Headquarters Section,	..	4 men,
Records Section,		2 men,
Pay Section,		4 men.
- (g) Accommodation for special ammunition stowage will not be required. Ammunition to be shipped will be restricted to S.A.A..

16. Movement of Personnel to Ports of Embarkation:

Movement of personnel to the Port of Embarkation should be carried out by rail.

The preparation of Rail Time Tables will however necessitate consideration in regard to proposed berthings.

It may be desirable in view of limited rail facilities both at Concentration Camp and at available berthings to recommend that troop embarkations be carried out on two consecutive days, viz., Z day and Z + 1 day.

Eastern Command is requested to confer with Commodore in Charge Sydney and Colonel W.H. Newman, Director of Railways, Army Headquarters, in respect to this problem and advise A.H.Q. at the earliest of decisions reached.


 for Secretary to the Military Board.

QTC2/RF

2ND A.I.F. 1ST CONVOY

Serial	Units	Off.	N.C.	Sgts.	O.R.	Total	Remarks
<u>U.3</u>							
108	(2/1 Fd. Amb.	12	2	16	227	257	
	(" " " 1 Reinf.	-	-	-	5	5	
115	(2/4 Bn.	34	7	38	704	783	
	(" " " 1 Reinf.	3	1	3	71	78	
131	6 Div. Recce. Regt.	24	6	21	286	337	
	less 1 Sqn.						
110	6 Fd. Cash Office	1	1	4	2	8	
129	Nurses	3	-	-	-	3	
		77	17	79	1,295	1,471	
<u>U.2</u>							
114	(2/3 Bn.	34	7	38	704	783	
	(" " " 1 Reinf.	3	1	3	71	73	
116	(2/1 Fd. Coy.	5	1	6	230	242	
	(" " " " 1 Reinf.	1	-	-	15	16	
124	Details 6 Div. Supp.	11	2	18	258	299	
	Col.						
131	One Sqn. Div. Recce.	7	1	6	89	103	
(a)	Regt.						
112	Serial C 2/1 Bn.	4	1	5	89	97	
129	Nurses	3	-	-	-	3	
		68	13	74	1,466	1,621	
<u>U.4</u>							
113	(2/2 Bn.	34	7	38	704	783	
	(" " " 1 Reinf.	3	1	3	71	78	
112	2/1 Bn. 1 Reinf.	3	1	3	71	78	
(a)							
111	(H.Q. 10 Inf. Bde.	12	1	7	55	75	
	(" " " " " "	-	-	-	2	2	
	(" " " " " 1 Reinf.						
117	Details 5 Div. Sigs.	7	1	7	139	154	
128	6 Div. Postal Unit	1	-	2	19	22	
129	(1 Gen. Hosp.	24	3	21	126	174	
	(1 Gen. Hosp. 1 Reinf.	1	-	1	4	6	
109	(2/1 Hy. Sec.	1	-	4	24	29	
	(2/1 Hy. Sec. 1 Reinf.	-	-	-	1	1	
132	(6 Div. Mob. Vet. Sec.	1	-	2	30	33	
	(6 Div. Mob. Vet. Sec.	-	-	1	1	2	
	(" " " " " 1 Reinf.						
131	6 Div. Recce. Regt.	3	1	3	38	45	
(b)	1 st Reinforcement						
129	Nurses	3	-	-	-	3	
131	Div. Recce. Regt. Sigs. Sec. 4/10 Rpts	1	-	1	11	13	
		93	15	92	1,285	1,485	

Serial	Units	Off.	W.O.	Sgts.	O.R.	Total	Remarks
	<u>U.5</u>						
125	(2/1 Fd. Regt.	34	10	32	515	591	
	(" " " 1 Reinf.	4	1	2	35	42	
112	2/1 Bn. less Serial	30	6	35	615	686	
	"C"	5	-	-	-	3	
129	Kurses						
		71	17	69	1,165	1,322	

2ND A.I.F. - 1ST CONVOY

Serial	Units	Off.	W.C.	Sgts.	O.R.	Total	Remarks
	<u>U.1</u>						
101	H.Q., Overseas Base	15	2	6	140	163	Allotments may be subjected to minor alteration
102	Aust. Ord. Store Coy.	2	2	3	39	46	
103	Details 6 Div. H.Q.	3	1	1	20	25	
104	6 Div. Int. Sec.	2	8	-	2	12	
105	Details H.Q. 6 Div. Arty.	2	-	-	5	7	
106	Details H.Q. 6 Div. Engrs.	1	-	-	3	4	
107	(H.Q. 6 Div. A.A.S.C.	7	1	2	28	38	
	(" " " "	-	-	-	1	1	
	(1 Reinf.	-	-	-	-	-	
118	39 L.A.D. (Div. Recce. Regt.	1	-	1	11	13	
119	42 L.A.D. (6 Div. Engr.)	1	-	1	11	13	Embark Sydney unless otherwise ordered.
120	43 L.A.D. (2/1 Fd. Regt.)	1	-	1	11	13	
121	45 L.A.D. (16 Inf. Bde.)	1	-	1	11	13	
122	1 Rec. Sec. A.F.W.	2	2	6	60	70	
125	Details 6 Div. Amm. Coy.	3	1	6	152	162	
126	" " " Pet. Coy.	3	1	4	77	85	
127	6 Provost Coy. less 4 Sec.	1	1	3	42	47	
131	(Div. Recce. Sig. Secs.	1	-	1	10	12	
	(" " " "	-	-	-	1	1	
	(1 Reinf.	-	-	-	-	-	
129	1 Gen. Hosp. (NURSES) less Details to each ship	46 38	18 -	36 -	623 -	723 38	- do. -
133	Details 2/1 Conv. Depot	84 4	19 -	36 1	624 12	763 17	
		88	19	37	636	780	

* Subject to approval for inclusion by General Staff.

2ND A.I.F. - 1ST CONVOY

PROPOSED DISTRIBUTION OF VEHICLES, STORES, ETC.

U.1			Hold	
	Cars, D.S.	4	2	) load Melbourne
	Vans, light, 12-cwt.	13	2	
	Motor cycles	10	1	) Orlop
	Watercarts	6	1	
	Guns, 18-pr.	(4	1	) "
		(5	1	
		(2	2	) Orlop
	Howitzers, 4.5"	2	2	
	Trailers, No.9	(8	1	) "
		(10	1	
		(4	2	) Orlop
	Trailers, No.12	4	2	

Reserve Artillery Equipment

18-pr. Gun and Carriage	1	) load <i>Melbourne</i>
4.5 How.	1	
Trailer, No.9	1	
Trailer, No.12	1	

U.4	Vans, light	(6	1	) load Sydney
	12-cwt.	(7	1 (T)	
		(20	4	
	Kitchens	21	6	
	Watercarts	10	6	)

U.5	Vans, light,	(30	4	)
	12-cwt.	(5	5	
	Vans, W/T.,	15	5	)
	15-cwt.			
	Kitchens	14	4	)
	Watercarts	2	1 (T)	
	Guns, 18-pr.	5	6	) load Sydney
	How., 4.5"	6	1 (T)	
	Trailers, No.9	10	6	)
	Trailers, No.12	12	1 (T)	

APPENDIX III

STORES TO BE TREATED AS GENERAL OR BULK STORES

(To be covered by Bills of Lading, A.F. G.964)

For shipment ex Melbourne -

General Stores (D.C.S.)	...	200 shipping tons	for A.D.O.S. Overseas Base
Clothing (D.C.S.)	...	104	" " " "
M.T. Spare Parts, etc. (D. of M.)	...	16	" " " "
Maintenance Stores (D. of A.)	...	20	" " " "
Red Cross Supplies	...	200	" " for Red Cross Deputy Commissioner overseas.

For shipment ex Sydney -

Clothing (D.C.S.)	...	7	" " for A.D.O.S. Overseas Base
-------------------	-----	---	-----------------------------------

* Medical and Surgical Stores of -

2/1 Fd. Amb.	...	6	" " for C.C. 2/1 Fd. Amb.
2/1 Fd. Hy. Sec.	...	1	" " for C.C. 2/1 Fd. Hy. Sec.
1 Aus. Gen. Hosp.	...	64	" " for C.C. 1 Aus. Gen. Hosp.

* Ordnance Equipment of -

2/1 Fd. Amb.	...	250	" " for C.C. 2/1 Fd. Amb.
2/1 Fd. Hy. Sec.	...	8	" " for C.C. 2/1 Fd. Hy. Sec.
1 Aus. Gen. Hosp.	...	537	" " for C.C. 1 Aus. Gen. Hosp.
Small Arms Ammunition (.303) 3,979 boxes	...	100	" " " "
Canteen Stores	...	40	" " for Canteen Service Overseas.
Reserve Supplies (S. & T)	...	800	" " for Overseas Base.
Red Cross Supplies	...	200	" " for Deputy Commissioner Red Cross

* These comprise War Equipments of Units named, but will not be issued during pre-embarkation period and will be called for shipment from District Depot, F. & V Stores, Eastern Command.

H. Q. 6TH DIVISION 497/7

SECRET

SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

MILITARY BOARD

Army Headquarters,
Victoria Barracks,
Melbourne, S.C.1.

S.M. 3495

11th December, 1939.

6 Div.

H.Q. Aust. Overseas Base.

Copies for information to:-

C.G.S., A.G., Q.M.G., M.G.O., F.M.,
E. Comd., S. Comd., M.L.O. (London).

2ND A.I.F. - ORDER OF PRIORITY OF DESPATCH
1ST CONVOY - AMENDMENT NO.2

With reference to my S.M. 3418 dated 4 Dec. 39, I am
commanded by the Military Board to forward herewith Amendment No.2
which reads as follows:-

Memorandum, paragraph 4. Cancel figures of Advanced Party
and insert the following:-

	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Other ranks</u>	<u>Total</u>
(a) Advanced Party -			
H.Q. Aust. Overseas Base	10	16	26
H.Q. 6 Div.	2	4	6
(b) Personnel attending courses abroad - Proportion from 1st Convoy estimated at	14	16	30
Total	26	36	62

Appendices:

Appendix 1.) Cancel and substitute new pages
Appendix 2, page 1.) attached.

Appendix 2, page 2:-

Amend 6 Prov. Coy. to read:-

<u>6 Prov. Coy.</u>			
H.Q. Prov. Coy.	1	14	15
Two sections	-	32	32
	1	46	47

Secretary to the Military Board.

SECRET

SECRET

APPENDIX 1

2ND A.I.F.

ORDER OF PRIORITY OF DESPATCH

FIRST CONTINGENT

Serial	Unit	Officers	Other ranks	Total
101	H.Q. Aust. Overseas Base	15	148	163
102	Aust. Ord. Store Coy.	2	44	46
103	Details H.Q. 6 Div.	24	25 22	27 25
104	6 Div. Int. Sec.	2	10	12
105	Details H.Q. 6 Div. Arty.	2	5	7
106	Details H.Q. 6 Div. Engrs.	1	3	4
107	H.Q. 6 Div. A.A.S.C. 1st Reinforcements	7	29 1	36 1
108	2/1 Fd. Amb. 1st Reinforcements	12	245 5	257 5
109	2/1 Fd. Hyg. Sec. 1st Reinforcements	1	28 1	29 1
110	6 Fd. Cash Office	1	7	8
111	H.Q. 16 Inf. Bde. Int. Corps (attd.)	12	63 2	75 2
112	2/1 Bn. 1st Reinforcements (10%)	34 3	749 75	783 78
113	2/2 Bn. 1st Reinforcements (10%)	34 3	749 75	783 78
114	2/3 Bn. 1st Reinforcements (10%)	34 3	749 75	783 78
115	2/4 Bn. 1st Reinforcements (10%)	34 3	749 75	783 78
116	2/1 Fd. Coy. 1st Reinforcements	5 1	237 15	242 16
117	Details 6 Div. Sigs.	7	147	154
118	39 L.A.D. (Div. Recce. Regt.)	1	12	13
119	42 L.A.D. (6 Div. Engrs.)	1	12	13
120	43 L.A.D. (2/1 Fd. Regt.)	1	12	13

Serial	Unit	Officers	Other ranks	Total
121	45 L.A.D. (16 Inf. Bde.)	1	12	13
122	One Rec. Sec. A. Fd. Wkshop.	2	68	70
123	2/1 Fd. Regt. 1st Reinforcements	34 4	557 38	591 42
124	Details 6 Div. Sup. Coln.	11	288	299
<i>Amtd 3.</i> 125	Details 6 Div. Amn. Coy.	3	<i>166</i> 159	<i>169</i> 162
<i>Amtd 3.</i> 126	Details 6 Div. Pet. Coy.	3	<i>90</i> 82	<i>93</i> 85
127	6 Prov. Coy. less four secs.	1	46	47
128	6 Div. Postal Unit.	1	21	22
129	1 Gen. Hosp. (600 beds) Nurses 1st Reinforcements	24 50 1	150 - 5	174 50 6
130	6 Div. Recce. Regt. 1st Reinforcements	31 3	409 42	440 45
131	Div. Recce. Regt. Sig. Sec. 1st Reinforcements.	1	11 1	12 1
<i>Amtd 3.</i> 132	6 Mob. Vet. Sec. Detail 2/1 Conv. Depot 1st Reinforcements	14	1322 <i>±</i>	2319 <i>±</i>
<i>Amtd 3.</i>		<i>393</i> 397	<i>6264</i> 6,266	<i>6661</i> 6,650
	Less 1st Convoy proportion of personnel for training abroad.	14	16	30
<i>Amtd 3.</i>	<u>TOTAL. PERSONNEL FIRST CONVOY</u>	379 383	6,250 6,248	6,629 6,631

SECRET

APPENDIX 2

2ND A.I.F.

PROPOSED DETACHMENTS OF HEADQUARTER & C. UNITS
TO ACCOMPANY FIRST CONVOY

Unit and Detail	Officers	Other ranks	Total
<u>H.Q. Aust. Overseas Base</u>			
H.Q. Section	6	72	78
No. 1 Sec. (Records)	3	20	23
No. 2 Sec. (Engr. Serv.)	3	2	5
No. 3 Sec. (Medical)	2	3	5
No. 4 Sec. (Ordnance)	4	6	10
No. 5 Sec. (Finance)	5	35	40
No. 6 Sec. (Postal)	1	10	11
Attached:-			
Prov. Coy. - H.Q. A/D.A.P.H.	1	-	1
One Prov. Sec.	-	16	16
Total	25	164	189
Less Recce. Party	10	16	26
TOTAL accompanying First Convoy	15	148	163
<u>H.Q. 6 Div.</u>			
Recce. Party (to join Staff of H.Q. 16 Inf. Bde. later) (G.S.O.2 A.A.Q.M.G.)	2	4	6
^{Legal Staff Officer} G.S.O. III and Batman	2	1	2 3
<u>Medical</u>			
D.A.D.M.S.	1	-	1
Clerk	-	1	1
Batman	-	1	1
<u>Ordnance</u>			
D.A.D.O.S.	1	-	1
Clerks	-	2 4	2 4
Storemen	-	2	2
Batman	-	1	1
<u>Miscellaneous</u>			
^{Captain Recorder} Clerks - G.S. and A.Q.	-	1	1
Draughtsman	-	1	1
Cook	-	1	1
Drivers M.T. (A.A.S.C.)	-	6	6
Drivers M.T. 1st Class (A.A.S.C.)	-	1	1
Orderlies	-	2	2
Attached:- Sgt. A.A.P.C.	-	1	1
Total (less Recce. Party)	8 4	22 25	25 29

SECRET

SECOND AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

SECRET.

Copy No. 14

- Copy No. 1. 6 Aus Div Recce Regt.
2. R.M. 6 Aus Div.
3. R.M.E. 6 Aus Div.
4. Sigs. 6 Aus Div.
5. 16 Aus Inf Bde.
6. A.S.C. 6 Aus Div.
7. 2/1 A. Fd Wkshop.
8. A.D.M.S.
23. D.A.D.F.S.
9. D.A.F.M. (for 6 Aus Div Pro. Coy.)
10. D.A.D.C.S.
11. D.A.M.G. (for 6 Fd. Cash Office)

Copies to:-

12. G. I.
13. G. II.
14. G. File.
15. A.M. & Q.M.G.
16. D.A.Q.M.G.
17. Camp.
18 & 19. War Diary (2)
20. G.O.C.s File.
21. C.A.S.C.
22. D.A.M.G.

6 AUS. DIV. CIRCULAR G. 30 - AMENDMENT.

2ND A.I.F. - ORDER OF PRIORITY OF DESPATCH 1ST CONVOY.

1. The following amendment is made to the above circular:-

APPENDIX I.

	<u>Offrs.</u>	<u>O.R.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
After Serial 132 6 Mob Vet Sec.			
add Add 1st Reinforcements -	1	1	
TOTAL	394-	6267 -	6661.

G. Tie.

Col.
G.S. 6 Aus. Div.

6010 6TH DIVISION

499/4

SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY.

MILITARY BOARD.

SECRET

Army Headquarters,
Victoria Barracks,
MELBOURNE, S.C.1.
5th December, 1939.

S.H. 3434

6 Div.
Comdt. designate H.Q., Aust. Overseas Base.

Copies for information to -
A.G., Q.M.G., M.G.O., F.H., ~~S.H.~~
E. Comd., S. Comd., H.L.O. (London).

2ND. A.I.F. - ORDER OF PRIORITY OF DESPATCH
1ST CONVOY. - AMENDMENT NO. 1.

With reference to my S.H. 3413 dated 4 Dec. 39, I am
commanded by the Military Board to forward herewith Amendment
No. 1 which reads as follows :-

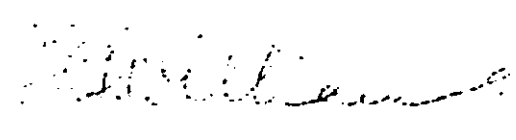
Appendix No. 1 - Add

	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Other Ranks</u>	<u>Total</u>
"Serial No. 132	6 Mob. Vet. Sec. 1st Reinforcements	1	32 1	33 1"

Amend Total Personnel First Convoy

394 6267 6661

----- Please acknowledge receipt of this communication on
the attached form and forward by return of post.


Secretary to the Military Board.

H. Q. 6TH DIVISION

497/1

SECOND AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY FORCE

SECRET

SECRET

COPY No. 14

6th DIVISION HEADQUARTERS,
441 St. Kilda Road,
MELBOURNE, SC 2.

- 4 DEC 1939

Copy No

- 1 6 Aus. Div. Recce. Regt.
- 2 R.A.A. 6 Aus. Div.
- 3 R.A.E. 6 Aus. Div.
- 4 Sigs. 6 Aus. Div.
- 5 16 Inf. Bde.
- 6 A.S.C. 6 Aus. Div.
- 7 2/1 A. Fd. Wkshop.
- 8 A.D.M.S. ✓ S.A.D.V.S. ✓
- 9 D.A.P.M. (for 6 Aus. Div. Pro. Coy.)
- 10 D.A.D.O.S.
- 11 D.A.A.G. (for 6 Fd. Cash Office)

Copies to:-

- 12 G I
- 13 G II
- 14 G File
- 15 A.A. & O.M.G.
- 16 D.A.C.M.G.
- 17 Camp
- 18+19 War Diary (2)

20 2nd A.I.F. - ORDER OF PRIORITY OF DESPATCH 1ST CONVOY

1. Units and details of 2nd A.I.F. comprising 16 Inf. Bde. with attached troops, will be prepared to embark at a date to be notified later in accordance with the order of priority shown in Appendix I.

2. In cases where details only of an Headquarters or unit are shown in the order of priority, no increase in personnel is to be made. A Summary of details is given in Appendix II and any recommendation considered essential to vary the actual personnel within the total number is to be made a matter of urgency.

3. Instructions regarding unit equipment and administrative arrangements will be issued later.

4. The number of personnel shown in the order of priority do not include personnel of the advance party from H.Q. 6 Div. or those detailed to attend Courses in accordance with 6 Aus. Div. Circular G/25.

5. Please acknowledge receipt on the attached form and forward by return of post.

E. H. Russell

Col.
G.S. 6 Aus. Div.

G. F. Hill

SECRET.

APPENDIX I

2nd A. I. F.

ORDER OF PRIORITY OF DESPATCH.

FIRST CONTINGENT

Serial	U n i t	Officers	Other Ranks.	Total
101	H.Q. Aust. Overseas Base	16	149	165
102	Aust. Crd. Store Coy.	2	44	46
103	Details H.Q. 6 Div.	2	21	23
104	6 Div. ^{Int} Sec.	2	10	12
105	H.Q. Details/6 Div Arty.	2	5	7
106	Details H.Q. 6 Div. Engrs.	1	3	4
107	H.Q. 6 Div. A.A.S.C. 1st Reinforcements	7	29 1	36 1
108	2/1 Fd. Amb. 1st Reinforcements	12	245 5	257 5
109	2/1 Fd. Hyg. Sec. 1st Reinforcements	1	28 1	29 1
110	6 Fd. Cash Office	1	7	8
111	H. Q. 16 Inf. Bde. Int. Corps (Attached)	12	63 2	75 2
112	2/1 Bn. 1st Reinforcements (10%)	34 3	749 75	783 78
113	2/2 Bn. 1st Reinforcements (10%)	34 3	749 75	783 78
114	2/3 Bn. 1st Reinforcements (10%)	34 3	749 75	783 78
115	2/4 Bn. 1st Reinforcements (10%)	34 3	749 75	783 78
116	2/1 Fd. Coy. 1st Reinforcements	5 1	237 15	242 16
117	Details 6 Div. Sigs.	7	147	154
118	39 L.A.D. (Div. Recce. Regt)	1	12	13
119	42 L.A.D. (6 Div. Engrs.)	1	12	13
120	43 L.A.D. (2/1 Fd. Regt).	1	12	13

Appendix 1 (contd).

Serial	U n i t.	Officers	Other Ranks.	Total.
121	45 L.A.D. (16 Inf. Bde.)	1	12	13
122	One Rec. Sec. A. Pd. W'shop.	2	68	70
123	2/1 Pd. Regt. 1st Reinforcements	54 4	557 38	591 42
124	Details 6 Div. Sup. Coln.	11	288	299
125	Details 6 Div. Amn. Coy.	3	159	162
126	Details 6 Div. Pet. Coy.	5	82	85
127	6 Prov. Coy. less four secs.	2	47	49
128	6 Div. Postal Unit.	1	21	22
129	1 Gen. Hospital (600 Beds) Nurses 1st Reinforcements	24 50 1	150 - 5	174 50 6
130	6 Div. Recce. Regt. 1st Reinforcements	51 3	409 42	440 45
131	Div. Recce. Regt. Sig. Sec. 1st Reinforcements	1 1	11 1	12 1
132	6 Mob. Vet. Sec. <i>1st Reinforcements.</i>	1	32 1	33 1
TOTAL PERSONNEL FIRST CONVOY		394	626 ⁷	666 ¹

*This page has been replaced by 12.19 Annex.
issues with Andt. 2.*

SECRET.

APPENDIX II.

2ND A. I. F.

PROPOSED DETACHMENTS OF HEADQUARTER &S. UNITS
TO ACCOMPANY FIRST CONVOY.

Unit and Detail	Officers	O.Rs.	Total.
<u>H.Q. Aust Overseas Base</u>			
H.Q. Section	6	72	78
No. 1 Sec. (Records)	3	20	23
No. 2 Sec. (Engr Serv.)	3	2	5
No. 3 Sec. (Medical)	2	3	5
No. 4 Sec. (Ordnance)	4	6	10
No. 5 Sec. (Finance)	5	35	40
No. 6 Sec. (Postal)	1	10	11
Attached:-			
Provost Coy. - H.Q.A/D.A.P.M.)	1	-	1
One Prov. 6	-	16	16
Total	25	164	189
Less Recce Party	9	15	24
TOTAL accompanying 1st Convoy	16	149	165
<u>H.Q. 6 Div.</u>			
Recce. Party (to join Staff of H.Q. 16 Aus Inf Bde later) (G.S.O.3, D.A.A.G. and O.M.E.).	3	3	6
<u>Medical</u>			
D.A.D.M.S.	1	-	1
Clerk	-	1	1
Batman	-	1	1
<u>Ordnance</u>			
D.A.D.O.S.	1	-	1
Clerks	-	2	2
Storemen	-	2	2
Batman	-	1	1
<u>Miscellaneous</u>			
Clerks - G.S. & A.Q.	-	2	2
Draughtsman	-	1	1
Cook	-	1	1
Drivers M.T. (A.A.S.C.)	-	6	6
Drivers M.T. 1st Class (A.A.S.C.)	-	1	1
Orderlies	-	2	2
Attached - Sgt. A.A.P.C.	-	1	1
TOTAL less Recce Party	2	21	23

Unit & Detail	Officers	O.R.s	Total.
<u>Transport</u>			
Cars for G.	1.		
A.Q.	1.		
D.A.D.M.S.	1.		
D.A.D.O.S.	1.		
	4.		
Lorry, 30 cwt. for personnel	2.		
Van, heavy office	1.		
<u>6 Div. Intelligence Sec.</u>	2	10	12.
<u>H.Q. R.A.A. 6 Aus Div.</u>			
Staff Captain	1	-	1.
Clerk		1	1.
Dr. M.T.		1	1.
Orderly		1	1.
batman		2	2.
Att Chaplain	1	-	-
Total	2	5	7.
<u>Transport</u>			
Van, Light (for Recce) <u>1.</u>			
<u>H.Q. R.A.E. 6 Aus Div.</u>			
Captain	1	-	1.
Clerk		1	1.
Drs. M.T. for duty as batman		1	1.
for vehicle		1	1.
Total	1	3	4.
<u>Transport</u>			
Van, light for Captain <u>1.</u>			
<u>6 Prov. Coy.</u>			
H.Q. Prov. Coy.	21	45/4	27/5
Two Sections	-	32	32.
Total	21	4746	4747

SUMMARY OF A.A.S.C. DETAILS.

(Dissection shown separately).

Detail	Officers	O.R.s	Total.
<u>6 Aus Div Sup Coln.</u>			
Coln H.Q.	1	31	32
Two Ech. H.Q.	4	92	96
'A' and 'E' Secs	2	62	64
'B' and 'F' Secs	2	64	66
'J' (Wkshop) Sec - H.Q.	2	11	13
Two Sub-Secs.	-	28	28
Total Supply Column	11.	288	299.
<u>6 Aus Div Amn Coy.</u>			
Coy. H.Q.	1	20	21.
One Sec.	2	125	127.
Wkshop Sub-Sec.	-	14	14.
Total Ammunition Company	3	159	162.
<u>6 Aus Div Pet Coy.</u>			
Coy. H.Q.	2	18	20
'A' Sec. - Sec H.Q.	1	12	13
One Sub-Sec.	-	13	13
'B' Sec - Sec. H.Q.	-	7	7
Two Sub-Secs.	-	18	18
Wkshop Sub-Sec.	-	14	14
Total Petrol Company	3	82	85

DISSECTION OF A.A.S.C. DETAILS.

	Officers	O.R.s	Total.
6 Aus Div Sup Coln			
Coln H.R.			
Maj.	1		1
R.S.M.		1	1
C. J. M.S.		1	1
Sgts.		2	2
Ptes.		27	27
Butchers	2		
Cooks	1		
Adm duties	1		
Drs. H.T.			
Vehicles	9		
Motor cyclists	2		
Ratman	1		
Clerks	2		
L.M.G.	6		
Sanitary duty	2		
Storeman	1		
TOTAL	1	31	32

Transport (excl rotor cycles)

less

Car, light .. 1 (Capt)

Lorries, 30 cwt .. 1 (unit

blankets)

" " .. 2 (Postal)

11 " .. 1 (Water)

Offrs.	..	2	-	2
S/Sgt. Clerk			1	1
Sgt. Clerk			2	2
Sgt.			1	1
Ptes.			42	42
Sup. clerks.	..	2		
Cooks		2		
Drs. H.T.,				
Vehicles		3		
Motor cycles		2		
Ratman		1		
Ratman dr		1		
Loaders		24		
Water duty		1		
Issuers		6		
Total		2	46	46

Transport (excl motor cycles)

Cars 2 (Cifrs)

Leaves, 30 cent. 2.

(Water, kitchen)

6 Div Sup. Coln - Contd.

Offrs.

O.R.s

Total.

'A' and 'E' Secs (Each)
less Drivers, M.T.

7.

Transport (excl. motor
cycles)
less Vans, light

2. (Fd. Pk. Coy.
Mob. Vet. Sec)

Lorries, 30 cwt

4. (Div Recce Regt)

1. (Div Sup. Coln)

'B' and 'F' Secs

Complete.

6 Div Amn Coy.Coy H.Q.

Lieut.

1

1

C.S.M.

1

1

C.Q.S.M.

1

1

Sgt.

1

1

Cpls.

2

2

Drivers, M.T.

15

15

Cooks

1.

Asst. at A.R.P.

1.

Vehicle

1.

Motor Cyclists

10.

Batman

1.

Clerk

1.

Sanitary duty

2.

Total

1

20

21.

Transport (excl Motor cycles)

only Car, light .. 1 (Lieut)

One Sec. and one Sub-Sec. of
Wkshop Sec. (Complete)

6 Div. Pet Coy.Coy. H.Q.

Cpts.

2

2.

C.Q.M.S.

1

1

S/Sgt Clerk

1

1.

Sgt.

1

1.

Ptes and Drivers M.T.

15

15.

Supply clerks.

2.

Cooks

2.

Adm duty

1.

Batman drivers

2.

Clerk

1.

Sanitary duty

2.

Storeman

1.

Water

1.

Vehicles

3.

Total

2

18

20.

6 Div Pet Coy. - Contd.

Officers

O.R. s.

Total.

Goy H.Q. (Cont)

Transport (excl motor cycles)

Only cars, light .. 2 (Cpts)
 Lorry, 30 cwt 1 (anti-gas &
 greatcoats)
 1 (Kitchen)
 1 (water)

'A' Sec.Sec H.Q.

Lieut.	1	-	1
Drivers, M.T. (incl. Cpl)		12	12
Vehicles	3		
Motor cycles	1		
Batman	1		
A.A.L.M.G.	3		
Loaders	4		

1

12

13

Transport (excl. motor cycles)

Car, light .. 1 (Lieut)
 Van, heavy 1 (A.A.L.M.G.)
 Lorry, 30 cwt 1 (Greatcoats etc)
 " " 1 (Kitchen)

One sub-sec. complete.

'B' Sec.Sec H.Q.

Sgt.		1	1
Drivers M.T.		6	6
Vehicles	2		
Motor Cyclists	1		
A.A.L.M.G.	3		

Total

-

7

7

Transport (excl motor cycles)

Van, heavy . 1 (A.A.L.M.G.)
 Lorry, 30 cwt. 1 (Spare)

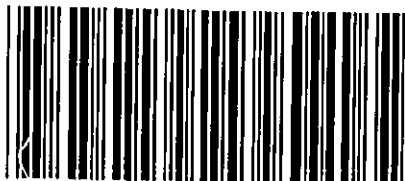
Two sub-secs. complete.

One sub-sec of wkshop sec. complete.

Detail	H.S.	Detail 1 Coy.					Cpl. Sec.	Pl. Sec.	Total
		Detail 1 Pl. (W/P) Sec.	One Det. Pl. (sub-sec) Sec.	Detail 1 Pl. Sec.		Detail 1 Pl. (Technical Maintenance) Sec.			
				1 On, Sub-Sec.	Pl. Sec.				
Major	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Adj. (Capt.)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Captain	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Lieutenant	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Total Officers	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Coy. Sgt. Major	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
G.S. (Foreman of Signals)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Sergeants	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Total Sgts. and S/Sgts.	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Corporals	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Signallers	4	17	7	9	7	7	21	29	2
Drivers, M.T.	6	1	5	3	1	1	5	6	6
Total Rank and File	10	20	13	13	1	9	28	36	139
Total Other Ranks	12	20	14	14	6	10	29	40	149

Total All Ranks	14	21	14	15	8	10	30	42	154
Tradesmen:-									
Carpenters	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Clarks	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Cooks	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Despatch Riders	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Electricians Signals	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Fitters Signals	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Instrument Mechanic	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
linemen	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Operators (Signals)	1	16	1	1	1	1	12	20	55
Tech. Storemen	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
Total Tradesmen	4	17	8	9	7	8	23	32	108
Non-Tradesmen									
Drivers, M.T. for vehicles	5	1	4	2	1	1	4	4	21
Drivers, M.T. for Bnmen	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	5
Total Non-Tradesmen	6	1	5	3	2	1	5	6	26
TOTAL	10	18	13	11	7	9	28	38	134
Motor-Cycles	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	24
Cars, DS.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Vans, light	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	6
5" heavy, G.S. for:-									
Cable laying and	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4
line maintenance	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4
Vans, heavy, wireless	1	4	1	1	1	1	3	6	13
Trucks 30 cwt, G.S. for	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Kitchen	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Water tank	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Cable laying and	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
reserve cable	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Signal office etc.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Charging set	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Workshop	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Lorry 30 cwt. office	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Total, vehicles	5	5	6	3	7	1	14	19	60

0010146



H.Q. 6th DIVISION 497/1-
SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
MILITARY BOARD

SECRET.

Copy No. 1

Army Headquarters,
Victoria Barracks,
MELBOURNE, S.C.I.
4th December, 1939.

SM.3418

6. Div.

Comdt. designate H.Q. Aust. Overseas Base.
A.G., Q.M.G., M.G.O., F.M.

Copies, for information, to -
E. Cmd., S. Cmd., M.L.O. (London).

2ND A.I.F. - ORDER OF PRIORITY OF
DESPATCH - 1ST CONVOY.

I am commanded by the Military Board to inform you that units and details of 2nd A.I.F., comprising an Infantry Brigade with attached troops, will be prepared to embark at a date to be ... notified later in accordance with the attached order of priority (Appendix 1).

2. In cases where details only of an headquarters or unit are shown in the order of priority, I am to request that no increase in personnel be made without reference to Army Headquarters. A summary of the composition of details is attached for information (Appendix 2). The actual personnel detailed may be varied within the total number of each detail.

3. Instructions regarding unit equipment and administrative instructions will be issued later.

4. The numbers of personnel shown in the order of priority do not include personnel of:-

	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Other Ranks</u>	<u>Total</u>
(a) Advance Party			
H.Q. Aust. Overseas Base	9/0	15/6	84 26
H.Q. 6 Div.	82	84	6
(b) Personnel attending courses abroad - Proportion from 1st Convoy estimated at	14	16	30
	26	36	60 62

These personnel (together with additional personnel from units for training abroad not included in 1st Convoy) will proceed independently. Separate instructions are being issued.

- 2 -

5. Advance party personnel from Headquarters, 6th Division, will be attached to the staff of Commandant, Headquarters Overseas Base, until disembarkation abroad of 1st Convoy, when they will join details of Headquarters, 6th Division, proceeding with that convoy for attachment to the staff of the Commander, 16th Infantry Brigade.

6. Please acknowledge receipt of this memorandum on the attached form and forward by return of post.

H. S. Williams
for Secretary to the Military Board.

S.M.3418

Distribution

		<u>Copy Nos.</u>
6 Div.	...	1 - 10
H.Q. Aust. Overseas Base.		11 - 12
A.G.	...	13 - 15
Q.M.G.	...	16 - 19
M.G.O.	...	20 - 23
F.M.	...	24 - 25
E. Comd.	...	26 - 27
S. Comd.	...	28 - 29
M.L.O.	...	30
Navy	...	31
D.M.O. & I.	...	32
D.S.D.	...	33
D.M.T.	...	34
Sec. for Army (for Minister)	...	35
War Office	...	36 - 38
Spare	...	39 - 50

5047

SECRET

APPENDIX 1

Replaced by amdt 2

2ND A.I.F.

ORDER OF PRIORITY OF DESPATCH

FIRST CONTINGENT

Serial	Unit	Officers	Other Ranks	Total
101	H.Q. Aust. Overseas Base	16	149	165
102	Aust. Ord. Store Coy.	2	44	46
103	Details H.Q. 6 Div.	2	21	23
104	6 Div. Mt. Sec.	2	10	12
105	Details H.Q. 6 Div. Arty.	2	5	7
106	Details H.Q. 6 Div. Engrs.	1	3	4
107	H.Q., 6 Div. A.A.S.C. 1st Reinforcements	7	29 1	36 1
108	2/1 Fd. Amb. 1st Reinforcements	12	245 5	257 5
109	2/1 Fd. Hyg. Sec. 1st Reinforcements	1	28 1	29 1
110	6 Fd. Cash Office	1	7	8
111	H.Q., 16 Inf. Bde. Int. Corps (attached)	12	63 2	75 2
112	2/1 Bn. 1st Reinforcements (10%)	34 3	749 75	783 78
113	2/2 Bn. 1st Reinforcements (10%)	34 3	749 75	783 78
114	2/3 Bn. 1st Reinforcements (10%)	34 3	749 75	783 78
115	2/4 Bn. 1st Reinforcements (10%)	34 3	749 75	783 78
116	2/1 Fd. Coy. 1st Reinforcements	5 1	237 15	242 16
117	Details 6 Div. Sigs.	7	147	154
118	39 L.A.D. (Div. Recce. Regt.)	1	12	13
119	42 L.A.D. (6 Div. Engrs.)	1	12	13
120	43 L.A.D. (2/1 Fd. Regt.)	1	12	13

Replaced by andlt 2

APPENDIX 1 (CONTC.)

Serial	Unit	Officers	Other Ranks	Total
121	45 L.A.D. (13 Inf. Bde.)	1	12	13
122	One Rec. Sec. A. Pd. kshop.	2	68	70
123	2/1 Pd. Regt.	34	557	591
	1st Reinforcements	4	38	42
124	Details 6 Div. Sup. Coln.	11	288	299
125	Details 6 Div. Amn. Coy.	3	159	162
126	Details 6 Div. Pet. Coy.	3	82	85
127	6 Prov. Coy. less four secs.	2	47	49
128	6 Div. Postal Unit.	1	21	22
129	1 Gen. Hosp. (600 beds)	24	150	174
	Nurses	50	-	50
	1st Reinforcement	1	5	6
130	6 Div. Recce. Regt.	31	409	440
	1st Reinforcements	3	42	45
131	Div. Recce. Regt. Sig. Sec.	1	11	12
	1st Reinforcements		1	1
	TOTAL PERSONNEL FIRST CONVOY	393	6234	6627

SECRET.

APPENDIX

II

2ND A.I.F.

PROPOSED DETACHMENTS OF HEADQUARTER & C. UNITS
TO ACCOMPANY FIRST CONVOY.

Unit and Detail	Officers	Other Ranks	Total
<u>H.Q. Aust. Overseas Base</u>			
H.Q. Section	6	72	78
No. 1 Sec. (Records)	3	20	23
No. 2 Sec. (Engr. Serv.)	3	2	5
No. 3 Sec. (Medical)	2	3	5
No. 4 Sec. (Ordnance)	4	6	10
No. 5 Sec. (Finance)	5	35	40
No. 6 Sec. (Postal)	1	10	11
Attached:-			
Provost Coy. - H.Q.A/D.A.P.M.)	1	-	1
One Prov. S	-	16	16
Total	25	164	189
Less Recce. Party	9	15	24
TOTAL accompanying first convoy	16	149	165
<u>H.Q. 6 Div.</u>			
Recce. Party (to join Staff of H.Q. 16 Inf. Bde. later) (G.S.O.3, D.A.A.G., and O.L.E.).	3	3	6
<u>Medical</u>			
D.A.D.M.S.	1	-	1
Clerk	-	1	1
Batman	-	1	1
<u>Ordnance</u>			
D.A.D.O.S.	1	-	1
Clerks	-	2	2
Storemen	-	2	2
Batman	-	1	1
<u>Miscellaneous</u>			
Clerks - G.S. and A.Q.	-	2	2
Draughtsman	-	1	1
Cook	-	1	1
Drivers M.T. (A.A.S.C.)	-	6	6
Drivers M.T. 1st Class (A.A.S.C.)	-	1	1
Orderlies	-	2	2
Attached - Sgt. A.A.P.C.	-	1	1
Total (less Recce. Party)	2	21	23

Unit and Detail	Officers	Other Ranks	Total
<u>Transport</u>			
Cars for G. 1			
A.Q. 1			
D.A.D.M.S. 1			
D.A.D.O.S. 1			
4			
Lorry, 30-cwt. for personnel 2			
Van, heavy office 1			
<u>6 Div. Intelligence Sec.</u>	2	10	12
<u>H.Q. 6 Div. Arty.</u>			
Staff Capt. 1		-	1
Clerk -		1	1
Driver, H.T. -		1	1
Orderly -		1	1
Batman -		2	2
Attached Chaplain 1		-	-
Total	2	5	7
<u>Transport</u>			
Van, light (for recce.) 1.			
<u>H.Q. 6 Div. Engrs.</u>			
Captain 1		-	1
Clerk -		1	1
Drivers, H.T., for duty as batman -		1	1
for vehicle -		1	1
Total	1	3	4
<u>Transport</u>			
Van, light for Captain 1.			
<u>6 Prov. Coy.</u>			
H.Q. Prov. Coy. 2		15	17
Two Sections -		32	32
	2	47	49

SUMMARY OF A.A.S.C. DETAILS
(Dissection shown separately).

Detail	Officers	Other ranks	Total
<u>6 Div. Supply Col.</u>			
Coln. H.Q.	1	31	32
Two Ech. H.Q.	4	92	96
'A' and 'E' Secs.	2	62	64
'B' and 'F' Secs.	2	64	66
'J' (Wkshop) Sec. -			
H.Q.	2	11	13
Two Sub-Secs.	-	28	28
Total Supply Column	11	288	299
<u>6 Div. Amn. Coy.</u>			
Coy. H.Q.	1	20	21
One Sec.	2	125	127
Wkshop. Sub-Sec.	-	14	14
Total Ammunition Company	3	159	162
<u>6 Div. Petrol Coy.</u>			
Coy. H.Q.	2	18	20
'A' Sec. -			
Sec. H.Q.	1	12	13
One Sub-Sec.	-	13	13
'B' Sec. -			
Sec. H.Q.	-	7	7
Two Sub-Secs.	-	18	18
Wkshop Sub-Sec.	-	14	14
Total Petrol Company	3	82	85

DISSECTION OF A.A.S.C. DETAILS

	Officers	Other ranks	Total
<u>6 Div. Sup. Coln.</u>			
<u>Coln. H.Q.</u>			
Maj. ..	1		1
R.S.M. ..		1	1
C.Q.M.S. ..		1	1
Sgts. ..		2	2
Ptes. ..		27	27
Butchers .. 2			
Cooks .. 1			
Admin. duty .. 1			
Drivers, M.T.			
Vehicles .. 9			
Motor cyclists 2			
Batman .. 1			
Clerks .. 2			
L.M.G. .. 6			
Sanitary duty 2			
Storeman .. 1			
Total ..	1	31	32
Transport (excl. motor cycles)			
less			
Car, light .. 1 (captain)			
Lorries, 30-cwt. 1 (unit			
blankets)			
" " 2 (postal)			
" " 1 (water)			
<u>An Ech. H.Q.</u>			
Offrs. ..	2		2
S.Sgt. clerk ..		1	1
Sgt. clerks ..		2	2
Sgt. ..		1	1
Ptes. ..		42	42
Sup. clerks .. 2			
Cooks .. 2			
Drivers, M.T. .			
Vehicles .. 3			
Motor cycles 2			
Batman .. 1			
Batman driver 1			
Loaders .. 24			
Water duty .. 1			
Issuers .. 6			
Total ..	2	46	48
Transport (excl. motor cycles)			
Cars 2 (officers)			
Lorries, 30-cwt. 2 (water,			
kitchen).			

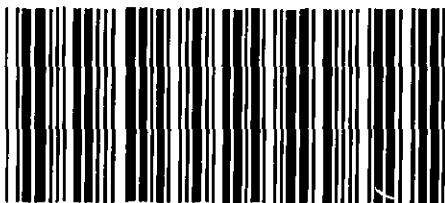
6 Div. Sup. Coln. - Contd.		Officers	Other ranks	Total
'A' and 'E' Secs. (each) less Drivers, H.T. 7				
Transport (excl. motor cycles) less Vans, light 2 (Pd. Plk. Coy. Mob. Vet. Sec.)				
Lorries, 30-cwt. 4 (Div. Recce. Regt.)				
1 (Div. Sup. Coln.)				
'B' and 'F' Secs. complete				
6 Div. Amn. Coy.				
Coy. H.Q.				
Lieut.	..	1		1
C.S.M.	..		1	1
C.Q.M.S.	..		1	1
Sgt.	..		1	1
Cpls.	..		2	2
Drivers, H.T.	..		15	15
Cooks	.. 1			
Asst. at A.R.P.	.. 1			
Vehicle	.. 1			
Motor cyclists	.. 10			
Batman	.. 1			
Clerk	.. 1			
Sanitary duty	.. 2			
Total	..	1	20	21
Transport (excl. motor cycles) only Car, light .. 1 (Lieut.)				
One sec. and one sub-sec. of Workshop sec. (complete)				
6 Div. Pet. Coy.				
Coy. H.Q.				
Cpts.	..	2	-	2
C.Q.M.S.	..		1	1
S.Sgt. clerk	..		1	1
Sgt.	..		1	1
Ptes. and Drivers, H.T.	..		15	15
Supply clerks	.. 2			
Cooks	.. 2			
Admin. duty	.. 1			
Vehicles	.. 3			
Batmen drivers	.. 2			
Clerk	.. 1			
Sanitary duty	.. 2			
Storeman	.. 1			
Water	.. 1			
Total	..	2	18	20

6 Div. Pet. Coy. - Contd.		Officers	Other Ranks	Total
<u>Coy. H.Q. - Contd.</u>				
Transport (excl. motor cycles)				
Only cars, light ..	2 (capts.)			
Lorry, 30-cwt.	1 (anti-gas and greatcoats)			
	1 (kitchen)			
	1 (water)			
<u>'A' Sec.</u>				
<u>Sec. H.Q.</u>				
Lieut. ..		1		1
Drivers, M.T. (incl. cpl.)			12	12
Vehicles ..	3			
Motor cycle ..	1			
Batman driver ..	1			
A.A.L.H.G. ..	3			
Loaders ..	4			
Total		1	12	13
Transport (excl. motor cycles)				
Car, light ..	1 (Lieut.)			
Van, heavy ..	1 (A.A.L.H.G.)			
Lorry, 30-cwt.	1 (Greatcoats etc.)			
" " ..	1 (Kitchen)			
One sub-sec. complete.				
<u>'B' Sec.</u>				
<u>Sec. H.Q.</u>				
Sgt. ..			1	1
Drivers, M.T. ..			6	6
Vehicles ..	2			
Motor cyclist ..	1			
A.A.L.H.G. ...	3			
Total ..			7	7
Transport (excl. motor cycles)				
Van, heavy ..	1 (A.A.L.H.G.)			
Lorry, 30-cwt.	1 (Spare)			
Two sub-secs. complete.				
One sub-sec. of wkshop. sec. complete.				

ESTABLISHMENT OF SIGNALS COMPONENT OF ADVANCED FORCE.

Detail	H.Q.	Details 1 Coy.					'E' Sec.	'F' Sec.	Total
		Details 'A' (G/L) Sec.	One Det. 'B' (cable) Sec.	Details 'D' Sec.		Details 'H' (Technical Maintenance) Sec.			
				1 Op. Sub-Sec.	P.Rs.				
Major	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Adj. (Capt.)	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Captain	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Lieutenant	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	1	-
Total Officers	2	1	-	1	-	-	1	2	7
Coy. Sgt. Major	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
C.O.N.S.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
C.O.N.S. (Foreman of Signals)	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Sergeants	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	2	1
Total Sgts. and S/Sgts.	1	-	1	1	-	1	1	2	7
Corporals	-	2	1	1	1	1	2	3	-
Signalmen	4	17	7	9	7	7	21	29	-
Drivers, M.T.	6	1	5	3	-	1	5	6	-
Total Rank and File	10	20	13	13	8	9	28	38	139
Total Other Ranks	12	20	14	14	8	10	29	40	149
Total All Ranks	14	21	14	15	8	10	30	42	154
Tradesmen:-									
Carpenters	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Clocks	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Cooks	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3
Despatch Riders	1	-	-	1	7	-	4	4	17
Electricians Signals	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	2	5
Fitters Signals	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3
Instrument Mechanics	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3
Linemen	-	-	8	1	-	-	4	5	13
Operators (Signals)	-	13	-	7	-	-	12	20	55
Tech. Storemen	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2
Total Tradesmen	4	17	8	9	7	6	23	32	100
Non-Tradesmen									
Drivers, M.T. for vehicles	5	1	4	2	-	1	4	4	21
Drivers, M.T. for:-									
Batmen	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	2	5
Total Non-Tradesmen	6	1	5	2	-	1	5	6	26
Total	10	13	13	11	7	9	23	38	134
Motor Cycles	-	-	1	1	7	-	7	8	24
Car, D.S.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Vans, light	1	1	1	1	-	-	1	2	6
Vans, heavy, G.S. for:-									
Cable laying and line maintenance	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	1	4
Vans, heavy, wireless	-	4	-	-	-	-	3	6	13
Lorries 30-cwt., G.S. for:-									
Kitchen	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Water tank	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Cable laying and reserve cable	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Signal office etc.	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	1	4
Charging set	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Workshop	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Lorry 30-cwt. office	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Total, vehicles	5	5	6	3	7	1	14	19	60

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SECRET.

CR/Pel/15811 /Q.

Force H.Q.

7 Dec. 39.

ACCOMMODATION PLAN - SOUTHERN ZONE -

Reference map 1/100000. PALESTINE, Sheets 5 & 7.

1. GENERAL.

G.O.C. directs that accommodation plans proceed on the following basis - working from South to North.

2. SH. HASANA AREA - (097104).

Site for a Summer Holiday Camp to be reconnoitred on the shore immediately South of the road from Gaza - to be reserved for military use by fencing as early as necessary.

3. GAZA TOWN AREA.

- (a) Div. H.Q. to be located in billets at present under military control, extended to include additional suitable neighbouring houses if possible. The possibility of acquiring officers mess accommodation, if necessary, down the Sh.Hasana Road to be explored.
- (b) As soon as "Q", after agreement with "G", can give him the required data A.B.O., Lydda Area, to submit proposals. Such proposals to include better cookhouse arrangements than at present exist for other ranks.
- (c) Directly proposals approved the necessary alteration to be effected with the co-operation of the local infantry detachment in the matter of at least minor interior renovations. To be ready 1 Feb.

3. No.I. (GAZA RIDGE) AREA.

Centred on cross tracks (102102).

- (a) By 1 Feb. to be ready to receive :-

A. General Hospital 600 beds.

By 15 March
C.G.S.

200 beds.

B. General Hospital - (not set up)
Possibly other small units of Div & Corps. Tps.

4. No.II AREA.

Present "Gaza Rd.Camp" and Road Track Triangle just S.W. (103103).

By 1 Feb. to be ready to receive at a maximum:-

H.Q.

H.Q. "A" Inf. Bds.
 "A" " " " Sig. Sec.
 Four Inf. Bns.
 L.A.D.
 Up to "A" Fd. Coy., R.E.
 Up to "A" Fd. Amb. (opened up to 20 beds)
 Med. Vet. Sec.

5. No. III AREA ("DEIR SUHEID").

Immediately N.E. of level crossing (106106).
 (subject to quick confirmation by recon including medical)

(a) By 1 Feb. to be ready to receive:-

A. Fd. Regt. R.A.

By 15 March to be ready to receive in addition:-

H.Q., Div. R.A. (less those at Div H.Q.) R. Signals.

B. Fd. Regt. R.A.

Med Regt. R.A.

Army Fd. Regt. R.A. (for conversion to A.T. Regt. R.A.)

L.A.D's.

Det. R.A.M.C. (20 beds).

6. No. IV AREA ("JIRJA").

Astride the Road just West of Pt. 71 (108112) and if necessary to the South of Pt. 71.

(a) By 15 March to be ready to receive :-

B. Inf. Bde. Group - composed at a maximum as for
 A. Inf. Bde. Group in para 4.

7. No. V AREA ("BARBARA")

East of main Gasa Road between Kilo 51 and 55 (1111).

(a) By 1 Feb. to be ready to receive :-

Div. Supply Coln.

Army Fd. Workshop (incl. temporarily 6 L.A.Ds).

(b) By 15 March to be ready to receive in addition :-

Div. Petrol Coy.

Div. Amm. Coy.

Det. R.A.M.C. - (10 beds)

8. No. VI AREA ("JULIE")

Astride the Gasa Road at Kilo 43-5 (119122).

By 15 March to be ready to receive :-

C. Inf. Bde. Group composition as for
 A. Inf. Bde. Group (para 4) and
 Dets. R.E., and R.A.M.C. in lieu of full
 Fd. Coy and Fd. Amb.

9. No. VII AREA ("QUASTINA")

Astride the Gasa Road at Kilo 35 (126126).

To be ready to receive :-

/ By 1 Feb.

By 1 Feb. Div. Recce Regt.
 By 15 Mar. - C. Fd. Regt. R.A.
 H.Q. Bn.
 Up to C. Fd. Coy and Pk. Coy.
 Up to C. Fd. Amb.

10. "CEDERA CAMP".

Just South of Kilo 25 Gaza Road (127134).

By 9 Feb. to be ready to receive :-

H.Q., Mtd. Div. R.A. (less personnel at
 Div. H.Q.)

Three R.H.A. Regts.
 One Cav. Regt.
 Det. R.A.M.C.

11. COMMUNAL MEETING.

"Q" to work out and inform C.E., C.R.E., S.P.
 and Major Allen extent to which special meeting is
 required for small units with particular regard to
 officers' messes.

12. RESPONSIBILITY FOR RECC.

- (1) Major Allen's party
 with H.Q. to be de-
 tailed by D.D.H.S.

To report as early as possible
 with sketch plan of site
 selected for

- (a) DEIR SUNEID para. 5.
 (b) BARBARA para. 7.

- (c) JIRJA increase if required para. 6,
 as early as possible as
 detailed in para 3(b).

- (11) Major Knocker in
 liaison with
 GAFCOL & R.E.

Further instructions in
 this connection are being
 issued direct to Major
 KNOCKER.

- (111) D.D.H.S.
 and Major ALLEN.

"Holiday Camp".

Signed) Lt.-Col.
 for Brigadier,
 1/c Administration.

(COPY)

APPENDIX 'A'
to 10/19/24
of 27/11/29

SCALE OF HUTTING FOR AN INF. BN.
IN THE SOUTH.

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
<u>Officers Mess</u> 23 Officers	Mess Room 18 ft x 56 ft. Ante room 18 ft x 46 ft. Hall 18 ft x 8 ft. Kitchen and ancillary rooms in one hut. 18 ft x 50 ft.	in one hut joined by a converted way to the kitchen etc. which has concrete floors.
<u>Servs. Mess.</u> 50 members.	Mess Room 18 ft x 40 ft. Ante Room 18 ft x 40 ft. Liquor Store 18 ft x 10 ft. Kitchen with ancillary rooms in one hut 18 ft x 40 ft.	in one hut with Mess room joined by covered way to the kitchen which has a concrete floor.
<u>Institute.</u>	6 huts joined by covered ways giving a total area of 18 ft x 253 ft. for restaurants, Reading and games rooms and an area of 18 ft x 143 ft. for N.A.A.P.I. management inclusive kitchens and bars.	These huts to be so arranged as to permit any being used for such purposes as desired by the unit.
<u>Cook-house.</u>	A hut 18 ft x 20 ft with concrete floor containing preparation room and stores with a three sided enclosure attached 18 ft x 20 ft with concrete floor for cooking apparatus, and an earth floor for Alderhot oven in an attached covered wing.	This cookhouse would have a covered way to the dining tents which will even- tually be replaced by Dining huts.
<u>Bn. Officers only.</u>	A hut 18 ft x 30 ft. with partitions for C.O., Adj., Clerks, Quartermaster and Stores.	Some Quartermaster stores will be in a Store tent pitched nearby his end to this tent.
<u>Garage</u>	Vehicles in the open except for 6 Bays for repair facilities.	

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	REMARKS
<u>Abolition.</u>	Abolition benches in the open without screens giving 12 taps for every 100 men.	This is the same scale as in barracks. Officers wash in their tents.
<u>Showers</u>	<u>Officers</u> 8 cold showers with screens and no roof. <u>Other ranks.</u> 8 cold showers per 100 men.	Double the scale in barracks where slipper baths are provided.
<u>Latrines</u>	<u>Officers & Other ranks.</u> Box latrines on the bucket system with screens and no roof on scale of 5 seats per 100 men and 1 seat per 6 officers. Trough urinals as required.	An Otway pit is provided where contractors are unable to work.
<u>Drainwater.</u>	1 per Bn.	

IMPERIAL GENERAL STAFF
(AUSTRALIAN SECTION).

ARMY HEADQUARTERS,
VICTORIA BARRACKS.

MELBOURNE.

No. *Secret*

18^K January, 1940.

Dear General Blamey,

I have just received a personal cable from the D.M.O. at the War Office, to inform me that the British regular units in Palestine will not be withdrawn when the A.I.F. arrives. From the text of the message, it is apparent that the situation has somewhat changed since my discussion with the War Office regarding location of the A.I.F. overseas.

The D.M.O. pointed out that the arrival of the A.I.F. in the Middle East would enable the Commander in Chief to utilise the regular units as a mobile reserve to meet with any situation which may arise.

This is for your own information, as I mentioned yesterday, I thought you would be interested in its implications.

Yours

*Sincerely,
Robertson.*

Lieut.

~~Major~~ General Sir T.A. Blamey,
C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.,
G.O.C., 6th Division,
441 St. Kilda Road,
MELBOURNE.

TELEPHONE:
CENTRAL 7185



SECRET
SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE

H.Q. 6TH DIVISION

937/2.

MILITARY BOARD

(CHIEF OF THE GENERAL STAFF)

Quote in

ARMY HEADQUARTERS.

VICTORIA BARRACKS.

Reply SM/249

Melbourne, S.C.1.

19 JAN 1940

6th Division.

In confirmation of my telephone message to G.O.C. on 17th January, a message has been sent to G.O.C., Palestine, informing him of the general training programme for the A.I.F., in the following terms.

"Brigadier Allen has been given general instructions regarding the training programmes for each Arm.

Infantry will commence section and platoon training as soon as possible after arrival. It will be necessary to include some individual training with new weapons which have not been available in Australia.

The training programme is based upon progression to brigade training, during April, ready for divisional exercises and manoeuvres late in May, in conjunction with units which will arrive in the second convoy. The same basis is being adopted in the training of A.I.F. troops remaining in Australia.

The divisional reconnaissance regiment will require driving and maintenance courses with tracked vehicles, weapon training with new weapons, and collective training exercises embodying tactical handling of all sub-units. It is important that tactical doctrine for divisional reconnaissance units should be inculcated."


Major-General,
Deputy Chief of the General Staff.

G. 25/1
G I
G III

TELEPHONE:

CENTRAL 7185



SECRET
~~SECRET~~

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE

MILITARY BOARD

(CHIEF OF THE GENERAL STAFF)

Quote in

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Major-General,
Deputy Chief of the General Staff.

Most **SECRET.**

"G" Branch.
(M.I.)

Please send, in cipher, the following message :-

To: Western Command.
From: Army, Melbourne.

G. Convoy expected to reach Fremantle Thursday 18th January and remain three days stop Transports berth for from 5 to 10 hours to take in fuel and provisions stop Reference your G.53 of 11th January leave while at wharf may be granted at discretion G.O.C. Western Command in consultation with Commander convoy and naval authorities stop Inform Commander convoy.

M.R. dlm

15 Jan. 40.

Colonel,
Director of Staff Duties.

W/ty to A.G.

6 Div. Seen by G.O.C. 15/1.

*Spoke Khouke (S.D.) who said what was
that Commander Conroy was O.C. Troop.
He promised to make this clear to Western Command.*

15/1

CA

*A
P
G
1*

SECRET

H. Q. 6TH DIVISION

117/1

MOST IMMEDIATE.

15/1/40

Sm 184

16th Infantry Brigade (via H.Q. W. Comd.)

6th Division (for information) ✓
Western Command (for information).

ISSUE OF DOCUMENTS ON PALESTINE.

With reference to my letter, No. 805, dated 5th January, 1940, I have to inform you that the packages containing 50 copies of a pamphlet "PALESTINE - NOTES ON THE COUNTRY AND THE PRESENT SITUATION" were returned to Army Headquarters by the Post Office to-day. These packages were despatched to you in adequate time for delivery, before your departure from Inglesham.

2. As these pamphlets have not reached you, and as it is particularly important that they should be in your possession during the voyage, I am sending them separately to Headquarters, Western Command, with instructions to transmit them to you and to ensure that they are distributed to ships, before the first convoy sails from Fremantle.

3. For your convenience, I also attach a copy of the previous letter under reference.

4. I would also ask you to acknowledge, or if more convenient, to arrange with H.Q., Western Command, to acknowledge, receipt of the documents under reference.

J. D. Durrant

Lieutenant-Colonel,
for Deputy Chief of the General Staff.

(COPY)

15th January, 1940.

8 0 5.

16th Infantry Brigade.

6th Division (for information.

.

ISSUE OF DOCUMENTS ON PALESTINE.

I am despatching separately, for your information and retention, 50 copies of a pamphlet "PALESTINE - NOTES ON THE COUNTRY AND THE PRESENT SITUATION". Will you please acknowledge receipt thereof on the enclosed form.

2. I would also ask you to acknowledge, for purposes of record, the following documents, issued to you during my visit on 5th January, 1940 :-

10 copies of the Ordnance Map of Palestine.

24 copies of notes on "The History of Disturbances in Palestine".

Major-General,
Deputy Chief of the General Staff.

TELEPHONE:
CENTRAL 7195



SECRET
~~SECRET~~

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE H. Q. 6TH DIVISION 117/1

MILITARY BOARD

(CHIEF OF THE GENERAL STAFF)

MOST IMMEDIATE

Quote in

ARMY HEADQUARTERS.

VICTORIA BARRACKS.

Reply

S.M. 184-A.

Melbourne, S.C.1,

W. Comd.

6th Division (for information) ✓

ISSUE OF DOCUMENTS ON PALESTINE.

In confirmation of my secret message, No. GX193, dated 15th January, 1940, two secret packages are being despatched to you, by registered airmail, on 16th January, 1940. These packages contain 50 sets of copies of pamphlets containing information on Palestine. They were despatched to the 16th Infantry Brigade, before departure from Ingleburn (Eastern Command); but owing to an oversight not under the control of Army Headquarters, they were not delivered in time.

2. I would ask you to transmit all copies of the pamphlets to 16th Infantry Brigade, and to ensure that a suitable number of copies is distributed to each ship, before departure from Fremantle.

J. D. Dwyer

Lieutenant-Colonel,
for Deputy Chief of the General Staff.



AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.

Receipt for SECRET Documents.

I hereby acknowledge receipt of Copy No. _____ of Secret Document
No. 71. Sec. Message 494 - NO 2619.

(Signed) _____

(Appointment)

Date _____

NOTES.

1. THE TITLE OF THE DOCUMENT MUST NOT BE WRITTEN ON THIS FORM.
2. The officer responsible for the safe custody of the document will sign the receipt.
~~3. THE RECIPIENT OF THE SECRET DOCUMENT MENTIONED ABOVE WILL ACCOUNT FOR IT ANNUALLY ON THE RETURN OF SECRET DOCUMENTS. (STRIKE OUT THIS NOTE IF NOT APPLICABLE.)~~
4. ~~This document represents~~ _____ copies of which will be destroyed by Sec and a certificate of destruction rendered to the address shown below.

(To be completed and original returned immediately in a single unregistered envelope.)

To A. E. Q. - O. S. D.
(Headquarters Turning Document.)

D.344.17.33.~C.7280.

H. Q. 6th DIVISION

9/10
~~SECRET~~

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE
~~DEFENCE~~ THE ARMY.
MINUTE PAPER.

D3153/7.14.-C214

(This side only to be written on.)

SUBJECT:

m. i. Serial Message 494.

~~SECRET~~
A.G.
Q.M.G.
H.G.O.
F.H.

The following message to Army Melbourne from G.O.C.
British Forces Palestine and Trans Jordan is circulated for
information -

"Following from Brigadier MORRIS begins (.)
A.I.F. overseas base temporarily established Jerusalem
under Palestine command (.). Officers and other ranks
6th Division distributed courses for training (.)
Cable address care of MILPAL ends."

10 Jan. 40.

St. Roman
Lieutenant-General,
Chief of the General Staff.

Copy to -

6 Div.

Senky F.C. 11/1

SECRET

Ensignar.

From Squires for War Office (.) Advice received through Naval Board that accommodation in first convey for only one hundred cars and trucks (.) M.T. accompanying first brigade group will probably comprise 4 cars (.) 31 12-cwt. vans (.) 15 16-cwt. wireless vans (.) 10 motor cycles (.) All remaining M.T. vehicles must be provided in EGYPT (.) Unless you advise to contrary propose to send as previously notified 35 travelling kitchens and 18 water carts which can be dismantled for stowing on voyage (.) Horses to be provided in EGYPT (.) Government still considering question of despatching 24 field artillery equipments and proportion or full scale of Lewis guns (.) Presume there would be no difficulty about shipment of artillery equipments in addition to 100 M.T. vehicles if despatch of former approved (.) Shipment of artillery tractors not possible in view of Naval advice (.) Presume request for shipment 30 days supplies still holds good (.) Am repeating this telegram to Middle East Command.

9/12/1939.

Copy to -

C.N.S.
6 Div. ✓

Senky to C
11/12

H. Q. 6TH DIVISION

MOST SECRET 497/6.

MOST SECRET.

Encipher.

**MOST
SECRET**

To: War Office
H.Q. Middle East } Concealed addresses.

From: A.H.Q. Melbourne.

GX Advanced parties strength Australian 47 officers
57 other ranks New Zealand 20 officers 91 other ranks
depart Melbourne by STRATHALLAN about 15th December expected
arrive Egypt about 6th January STOP Australian transport
three cars one van STOP Personal arms equipment and baggage
and office equipment only being taken STOP Grateful if
Middle East Command arrange accommodation and transit STOP
Brigadier MORRIS commanding Australian party STOP Addressed
War Office repeated H.Q. Middle East.

Copies for information to -

A.G., Q.M.G., M.G.O., F.M.
G.O.C., 6th Division. ✓
Comdt., H.Q. Aust. Overseas Base.

Sec.

Q. 11/12

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

SECRET

Notes of Meeting held 1100 hrs. 4 Dec. 39.

Present - C.G.S.
A.G.
Q.M.G.
M.G.O.
G.O.C., 6 Div.
D.M.O. & I.
D.S.D.

Mob. Vet. Sec.

1. The question was raised as to whether in view of the elimination of horse transport the Mob. Vet. Sec. should be eliminated from the Order of Battle.
It was decided that it should be retained and further that this unit should be despatched with the 1st Convey.

Advance Party.

2. The composition of the Advance Party was discussed. It was decided to add :-

(a) To the Base party 2 motor cars and one utility truck.

(b) To the Div. H.Q. party one motor car.

Artillery.

3. It was considered that 17 12-prs. and 9 Hows. should be provided for the Pd. Regt. in the 1st Convey and this will be recommended for acceptance.

The M.G.O. was to ascertain whether conversion of the 9 Hows. would be complete in time.

S.A.A.

4. It was agreed that 5,000,000 rounds should be sent with the 1st Convey.

Light Guns.

5. It was agreed to recommend that 252 should be sent. These are to be returned to Australia as Bren guns become available to the 2nd A.I.F. units.

M/T Equipment.

6. It was determined that complete equipment on the W.E. scale should be sent.

Cable Lays and Cable.

7. There are no mechanical cable vehicles available. It was decided to send suitable M.T. vehicles.
Cable will be sent on the mobilization scale.

Cookers and Water carts.

8. It was decided to send -

Cookers	-	36	}	with harness.
Water carts	-	18		

and to request the provision abroad of 106 draught horses.

/ ~~SECRET~~

Canteen representative.

9. Provision is made in the Advance Party with the Base detachment for an officer for canteen purposes.

Conferts Funda - Y.M.C.A. etc.

10. It was agreed that the G.O.C., 6 Div., should get in touch with the Victorian Conferts Funda officials with a view to their calling a meeting of representatives from the various States to determine a co-ordinated policy so that A.M.Q. will have only one body to deal with.

Bodies like the Y.M.C.A. and Salvation Army should work in with their British counterparts who will already be established abroad.

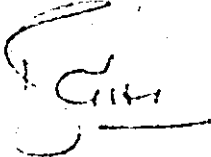
Air Liaison Section.

11. It was determined that an Intelligence Air Liaison Section should be added to the Order of Battle.

Machine Gun Bn.

12. It was decided that this unit should be designated -

2nd/1st Machine Gun Battalion.

Recd by GOC 7 Dec 39 

SECRET

SECOND AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

SECRET

COPY No. 20

6th DIVISION HEADQUARTERS,
441 St. Kilda Road,
MELBOURNE, SC 2.

-4 DEC 1939

6 Aus. Div. Recce. Regt.
R.A.A. 6 Aus. Div.
R.A.E. 6 Aus. Div.
Sigs. 6 Aus. Div.
16 Inf. Bde.
A.S.C. 6 Aus. Div.
2/1 A. Fd. Wkshop.
A.D.H.S.
D.A.P.M. (for 6 Aus. Div. Pro. Coy.)
D.A.D.O.S.
D.A.A.G. (for 6 Fd. Cash Office)

Copies to:-

G I
G II -
G File
A.A. & Q.M.G.
D.A.Q.M.G.
Camp
War Diary (2)

4.30

2nd A.I.F. - ORDER OF PRIORITY OF DESPATCH 1ST CONVOY

1. Units and details of 2nd A.I.F. comprising 16 Inf. Bde. with attached troops, will be prepared to embark at a date to be notified later in accordance with the order of priority shown in Appendix I.
2. In cases where details only of an Headquarters or unit are shown in the order of priority, no increase in personnel is to be made. A Summary of details is given in Appendix II and any recommendation considered essential to vary the actual personnel within the total number is to be made a matter of urgency.
3. Instructions regarding unit equipment and administrative arrangements will be issued later.
4. The number of personnel shown in the order of priority do not include personnel of the advance party from H.Q. 6 Div. or those detailed to attend Courses in accordance with 6 Aus. Div. Circular G/25.
5. Please acknowledge receipt on the attached form and forward by return of post.

E. J. Russell

Col.
G.S. 6 Aus. Div.

SECRET.

APPENDIX I

2nd A. I. F.

ORDER OF PRIORITY OF DESPATCH.

FIRST CONTINGENT.

Serial	U n i t	Officers	Other Ranks.	Total
101	H.Q. Aust. Overseas Base	16	149	165
102	Aust. Grd. Store Coy.	2	44	46
103	Details H.Q. 6 Div.	3	31	33
104	6 Div. Mt. Sec.	2	10	12
105	H.Q. Details/6 Div Arty.	2	5	7
106	Details H.Q. 6 Div. Engrs.	1	3	4
107	H.Q. 6 Div. A.A.S.C. 1st Reinforcements	7	29 1	36 1
108	2/1 Fd. Amb. 1st Reinforcements	12	245 5	257 5
109	2/1 Fd. Hqs. Sec. 1st Reinforcements	1	28 1	29 1
110	6 Fd. Cash Office	1	7	8
111	H. Q. 16 Inf. Bde. Int. Corps (Attached)	12	63 2	75 2
112	2/1 Bn. 1st Reinforcements (10%)	34 3	749 75	783 78
113	2/2 Bn. 1st Reinforcements (10%)	34 3	749 75	783 78
114	2/3 Bn. 1st Reinforcements (10%)	34 3	749 75	783 78
115	2/4 Bn. 1st Reinforcements (10%)	34 3	749 75	783 78
116	2/1 Fd. Coy. 1st Reinforcements	5 1	237 15	242 16
117	Details 6 Div. Sigs.	7	147	154
118	39 L.A.D. (Div. Recce. Regt)	1	12	13
119	42 L.A.D. (6 Div. Engrs.)	1	12	13
120	43 L.A.D. (2/1 Fd. Regt).	1	12	13

Appendix 1 (contd).

Serial	U n i t.	Officers	Other Ranks.	Total.
121	45 L.A.D. (16 Inf. Bde.)	1	12	13
122	One Rec. Sec. L. Fd. Workshop.	2	68	70
123	2/1 Fd. Regt.	34	557	591
	1st Reinforcements	4	38	42
124	Details 6 Div. Sup. Coln.	11	288	299
125	Details 6 Div. Amn. Coy.	3	159	162
126	Details 6 Div. Pet. Coy.	3	82	85
127	6 Prov. Coy. less four secs.	2	47	49
128	6 Div. Postal Unit.	1	21	22
129	1 Gen. Hospital (600 Beds)	24	150	174
	Nurses	50	-	50
	1st Reinforcements	1	5	6
130	6 Div. Recce. Regt.	31	409	440
	1st Reinforcements	3	42	45
131	Div. Recce. Regt. Sig. Sec.	1	11	12
	1st Reinforcements	1	1	1
132	6 Mob. Vet. Sec.	1	32	33
TOTAL PERSONNEL FIRST CONVOY		394	6266	6660

SECRET.

APPENDIX II.

2ND A. I. F.

PROPOSED DETACHMENTS OF HEADQUARTER &C. UNITS
TO ACCOMPANY FIRST CONVOY.

Unit and Detail	Officers	O.Rs.	Total.
<u>H.Q. Aust Overseas Base</u>			
H.Q. Section	6	72	78
No. 1 Sec. (Records)	3	20	23
No. 2 Sec. (Engr Serv.)	3	2	5
No. 3 Sec. (Medical)	2	3	5
No. 4 Sec. (Ordnance)	4	6	10
No. 5 Sec. (Finance)	5	35	40
No. 6 Sec. (Postal)	1	10	11
Attached:-			
Provost Coy. - H.Q.A/D.A.P.M.)	1	-	1
One Prov. :	-	16	16
Total	25	164	189
Less Recce Party	9	15	24
TOTAL accompanying 1st Convoy	16	149	165
<u>H.Q. 6 Div.</u>			
Recce. Party (to join Staff of H.Q. 16 Aus Inf Bde later) (G.S.O.3, D.A.A.G. and O.M.E.).	3	3	6
<u>Medical</u>			
D.A.D.M.S.	1	-	1
Clerk	-	1	1
Batman	-	1	1
<u>Ordnance</u>			
D.A.D.O.S.	1	-	1
Clerks		2	2
Storemen		2	2
Batman		1	1
<u>Miscellaneous</u>			
Clerks - G.S. & A.Q.	-	2	2
Draughtsman		1	1
Cook		1	1
Drivers M.T. (A.A.S.C.)		6	6
Drivers M.T. 1st Class (A.A.S.C.)		1	1
Orderlies		2	2
Attached - Sgt. A.A.P.C.		1	1
TOTAL less Recce Party	2	21	23

Unit & Detail	Officers	O.R.s	Total.
<u>Transport</u>			
Cars for G.	1.		
A.Q.	1.		
D.A.D.M.S.	1.		
D.A.D.O.S.	1.		
	4.		
Lorry, 30 cwt. for personnel	2.		
Van, heavy office	1.		
<u>6 Div. Intelligence Sec.</u>	2	10	12.
<u>H.Q. R.A.A. 6 Aus Div.</u>			
Staff Captain	1	-	1.
Clerk		1	1.
Dr. M.T.		1	1.
Orderly		1	1.
batman		2	2.
Att Chaplain	1	-	-
Total	2	5	7.
<u>Transport</u>			
Van, Light (for Recce) 1.			
<u>H.Q. R.A.E. 6 Aus Div.</u>			
Captain	1	-	1.
Clerk		1	1.
Drs. M.T. for duty as			
batman		1	1.
for vehicle		1	1.
Total	1	3	4.
<u>Transport</u>			
Van, light for Captain 1.			
<u>6 Prov. Coy.</u>			
H.Q. Prov. Coy.	2	15	17.
Two Sections	-	32	32.
Total	2	47	49.

SUMMARY OF A.A.S.C. DETAILS.

(Dissection shown separately).

Detail	Officers	O.R.s	Total.
<u>6 Aus Div Sup Coln.</u>			
Coln H.Q.	1	31	32
Two Ech. H.Q.	4	92	96
'A' and 'E' Secs	2	62	64
'B' and 'F' Secs	2	64	66
'J' (Wkshop) Sec -			
H.Q.	2	11	13
Two Sub-Secs.	-	28	28
Total Supply Column	11.	288	299.
<u>6 Aus Div Amn Coy.</u>			
Coy H.Q.	1	20	21.
One Sec.	2	125	127.
Wkshop Sub-Sec.	-	14	14.
Total Ammunition Company	3	159	162.
<u>6 Aus Div Pet Coy.</u>			
Coy. H.Q.	2	18	20
'A' Sec. -			
Sec H.Q.	1	12	13
Ora Sub-Sec.	-	13	13
'B' Sec -			
Sec. H.Q.	-	7	7
Two Sub-Secs.		18	18
Wkshop Sub-Sec.		14	14
Total Petrol Company	3	82	85

DISSECTION OF A.A.S.C. DETAILS.

	Officers	O.A.s	Total.
6 Aus Div Sup Coln			
Coln H.Q.			
Maj.	1		1
R.S.M.		1	1
C.S.M.S.		1	1
Sgts.		2	2
Ptes.		27	27
Butchers			
Cooks			
Adm duties			
Drs. M.T.			
Vehicles			
Motor cyclists			
Patman			
Clerks			
L.M.G.			
Sanitary duty			
Storeman			
TOTAL	1	31	32

Transport (excl rotor cycles)			
less			
Car, light	..	1	(Capt)
Lorries, 30 cwt	..	1	(unit
			blankets)
"	"	..	2 (Postal)
"	"	..	1 (Water)

An Ech. H.Q.			
Offrs.	..	2	2
S/Sgt. Clerk		1	1
Sgt. Clerk		2	2
Sgt.		1	1
Ptes.		42	42
Sup. clerks.	..	2	
Cooks		2	
Drs. H.T.,			
Vehicles		3	
Motor cycles		2	
Fatman		1	
Fatman dr		1	
Loaders		24	
Water duty		1	
Issuers		6	
Total		2	48

Transport (excl motor cycles)
Cars 2 (Offrs)
Lorries, 30 cwt. 2.
(Water, kitchen)

2.

6 Div Sup. Coln - Contd.

'A' and 'E' Secs (Each)
less Drivers, M.T.

7.

Transport (excl. motor
cycles)

less Vans, light

Lorries, 30 cwt

2. (Fd. Pk.Coy.
Mob.Vet.Sec)
4. (Div Recce Regt)
1. (Div Sup. Coln)

'B' and 'F' Secs

Complete.

6 Div Amn Coy.

Coy H.Q.

Lieut.

1

1

C.S.M.

1

1

C.Q.S.M.

1

1

Sgt.

1

1

Cpls.

2

2

Drivers, M.T.

15

15

Cooks

1.

Asst. at A.R.P.

1.

Vehicle

1.

Motor Cyclists

10.

Batman

1.

Clerk

1.

Sanitary duty

2.

Total

1

20

21.

Transport (excl Motor cycles)

only Car, light .. 1 (Lieut)

One Sec. and one Sub-Sec. of
Wkshop Sec. (Complete)

6 Div. Pet Coy.

Coy. H.Q.

Cpts.

2

2.

C.Q.M.S.

1

1

S/Sgt Clerk

1

1.

Sgt.

1

1.

Ptes and Drivers M.T.

15

15.

Supply clerks.

2.

Cooks

2.

Adm duty

1.

Batmen drivers

2.

Clerk

1.

Sanitary duty

2.

Storeman

1.

Water

1.

Vehicles

3.

Total

2

18

20.

6 Div Pet Coy. - Contd.

Officers

O.R. s.

Total.

Coy. H.Q. (Cont)

Transport (excl motor cycles)

Only cars, light .. 2 (Capts)
 Lorry, 30 cwt 1 (anti-gas &
 greatcoats)
 1 (Kitchen)
 1 (Water)

'A' Sec.Sec H.Q.

Lieut.	1	-	1
Drivers, M.T. (incl. Cpl)		12	12
Vehicles	3		
Motor cycles	1		
Batman	1		
A.A.L.M.G.	3		
Loaders	4		

1

12

13

Transport (excl. motor cycles)

Car, light .. 1 (Lieut)
 Van, heavy 1 (A.A.L.M.G.)
 Lorry, 30 cwt 1 (Greatcoats etc)
 " " 1 (Kitchen)

One sub-sec. complete.

'B' Sec.Sec H.Q.

Sgt.		1	1
Drivers M.T.		6	6
Vehicles	2		
Motor Cyclists	1		
A.A.L.M.G.	3		

Total

7

7

Transport (excl motor cycles)

Van, heavy 1 (A.A.L.M.G.)
 Lorry, 30 cwt. 1 (Spare)

Two sub-secs. complete.

One sub-sec of wkshop sec. complete.

	D.Rs.								
	Sgt.								
Major	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Adj. (Capt.)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Captain	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Lieutenant	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Total Officers	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	7
Cor. Sgt. Major	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
C.O.M.S. (Foreman of Signals)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Sergeants	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Total Sgts. and S/Sgts.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	7
Corporals	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	3	1
Signalmen	4	17	7	9	7	7	21	29	1
Drivers, M.T.	6	1	5	3	1	1	5	6	1
Total Rank and File	10	20	15	13	6	9	28	36	139
Total Other Ranks	12	20	14	14	6	10	29	40	149

Total All Ranks	14	21	24	25	8	10	30	42	154
Tradesmen:-									
Carpenters	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Clerks	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Cooks	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Despatch Riders	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Electricians Signals	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Writers Signals	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Instrument Mechanics	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Linemen	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Operators (Signals)	1	16	1	1	1	1	12	20	55
Tech. Storemen	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
Total Tradesmen	4	17	8	9	7	8	23	32	108
Non-Tradesmen									
Drivers, M.T. for vehicles	5	1	4	2	1	1	4	4	21
Drivers, M.T. for Battalion	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	5
Total Non-Tradesmen	6	2	5	3	2	2	5	6	26
TOTAL	10	18	13	11	7	9	28	38	134
Motor-Cycles	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	24
Cars, D.S.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Vans, light	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	6
B" heavy, G.S. for:-									
Cable laying and									
Line maintenance									
Vans, heavy, wireless		4					3	1	4
Lorries 30 cwt, G.S. for									13
Kitchen	1								1
Water tank	1								1
Cable laying and reserve cable									2
Signal office etc.									4
Charging set									2
Workshop									1
Lorry 30 cwt, office	1								1
Total, vehicles	5	5	6	3	7	1	14	19	60

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H.Q. 6TH DIVISION 497/1

SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
MILITARY BOARD

SECRET.

Copy No. 2

Army Headquarters,
Victoria Barracks,
MELBOURNE, S.C.1.
4th December, 1939.

SM.3418

6 Div.
Comdt. designate H.Q. Aust. Overseas Base.
A.G., Q.M.G., M.G.O., F.M.

Copies, for information, to -
E. Ccmd., S. Comd., M.L.O. (London).

2ND A.I.F. - ORDER OF PRIORITY OF
DESPATCH - 1ST CONVOY.

I am commanded by the Military Board to inform you that units and details of 2nd A.I.F., comprising an Infantry Brigade with attached troops, will be prepared to embark at a date to be ... notified later in accordance with the attached order of priority (Appendix 1).

2. In cases where details only of an headquarters or unit are shown in the order of priority, I am to request that no increase in personnel be made without reference to Army Headquarters. A summary of the composition of details is attached for information (Appendix 2). The actual personnel detailed may be varied within the total number of each detail.

3. Instructions regarding unit equipment and administrative instructions will be issued later.

4. The numbers of personnel shown in the order of priority do not include personnel of:-

	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Other Ranks</u>	<u>Total</u>
(a) Advance Party			
H.Q. Aust. Overseas Base	9	15	24
H.Q. 6 Div.	3	3	6
(b) Personnel attending courses abroad - Proportion from 1st Convoy estimated at	14	16	30
	26	34	60

These personnel (together with additional personnel from units for training abroad not included in 1st Convoy) will proceed independently. Separate instructions are being issued.

- 2 -

5. Advance party personnel from Headquarters, 6th Division, will be attached to the staff of Commandant, Headquarters Overseas Base, until disembarkation abroad of 1st Convoy, when they will join details of Headquarters, 6th Division, proceeding with that convoy for attachment to the staff of the Commander, 16th Infantry Brigade.

6. Please acknowledge receipt of this memorandum on the attached form and forward by return of post.

for H. G. Williams
Secretary to the Military Board.

SECRET

APPENDIX 1

2ND A.I.F.

ORDER OF PRIORITY OF DESPATCH

FIRST CONTINGENT

Serial	Unit	Officers	Other Ranks	Total
101	H.Q. Aust. Overseas Base	16	149	165
102	Aust. Ord. Store Coy.	2	44	46
103	Details H.Q. 6 Div.	2	21	23
104	6 Div. Mt. Sec.	2	10	12
105	Details H.Q. 6 Div. Arty.	2	5	7
106	Details H.Q. 6 Div. Engrs.	1	3	4
107	H.Q., 6 Div. A.A.S.C. 1st Reinforcements	7	29 1	36 1
108	2/1 Fd. Amb. 1st Reinforcements	12	245 5	257 5
109	2/1 Fd. Hyg. Sec. 1st Reinforcements	1	28 1	29 1
110	6 Fd. Cash Office	1	7	8
111	H.Q., 16 Inf. Bde. Int. Corps (attached)	12	63 2	75 2
112	2/1 Bn. 1st Reinforcements (10%)	34 3	749 75	783 78
113	2/2 Bn. 1st Reinforcements (10%)	34 3	749 75	783 78
114	2/3 Bn. 1st Reinforcements (10%)	34 3	749 75	783 73
115	2/4 Bn. 1st Reinforcements (10%)	34 3	749 75	783 78
116	2/1 Fd. Coy. 1st Reinforcements	5 1	237 15	242 16
117	Details 6 Div. Sigs.	7	147	154
118	39 L.A.D. (Div. Recce. Regt.)	1	12	13
119	42 L.A.D. (6 Div. Engrs.)	1	12	13
120	43 L.A.D. (2/1 Fd. Regt.)	1	12	13

Serial	Unit	Officers	Other Ranks	Total
121	45 L.A.D. (13 Inf. Bde.)	1	12	13
122	One Rec. Sec. A. Fd. Workshop.	2	68	70
123	2/1 Fd. Regt. 1st Reinforcements	34 4	557 38	591 42
124	Details 6 Div. Sup. Coln.	11	288	299
125	Details 6 Div. Amn. Coy.	3	159	162
126	Details 6 Div. Pet. Coy.	3	82	85
127	6 Prov. Coy. less four secs.	2	47	49
128	6 Div. Postal Unit.	1	21	22
129	1 Gen. Hosp. (600 beds) Nurses 1st Reinforcement	24 50 1	150 - 5	174 50 6
130	6 Div. Recce. Regt. 1st Reinforcements	31 3	409 42	440 45
131	Div. Recce. Regt. Sig. Sec. 1st Reinforcements	1 1	11 1	12 1
132	6 M V Sec.	1	32	33
	TOTAL PERSONNEL FIRST CONVOY	396 ⁴	66 ⁶⁶ 6274	666 ⁰ 6627

SECRET.

APPENDIX 2

2ND A.I.F.

PROPOSED DETACHMENTS OF HEADQUARTER &C. UNITS
TO ACCOMPANY FIRST CONVOY.

Unit and Detail	Officers	Other Ranks	Total
<u>H.Q. Aust. Overseas Base</u>			
H.Q. Section	6	72	78
No. 1 Sec. (Records)	3	20	23
No. 2 Sec. (Engr. Serv.)	3	2	5
No. 3 Sec. (Medical)	2	3	5
No. 4 Sec. (Ordnance)	4	6	10
No. 5 Sec. (Finance)	5	35	40
No. 6 Sec. (Postal)	1	10	11
Attached:-			
Provost Coy. - H.Q.A/D.A.P.M.)	1	-	1
One Prov. S	-	16	16
Total	25	164	189
Less Recce. Party	9	15	24 ✓
TOTAL accompanying first convoy	16	149	165
<u>H.Q. 6 Div.</u>			
Recce. Party (to join Staff of H.Q. 16 Inf. Bde. later) (G.S.O.3, D.A.A.G., and O.L.E.).	2 3	0 3	6 ✓
<u>Medical</u>			
D.A.D.M.S.	1	-	1
Clerk	-	1	1
Batman	-	1	1
<u>Ordnance</u>			
D.A.D.O.S.	1	-	1
Clerks	-	2	2
Storemen	-	2	2
Batman	-	1	1
<u>Miscellaneous</u>			
Clerks - G.S. and A.Q.	-	2	2
Draughtsman	-	1	1
Cook	-	1	1
Drivers M.T. (A.A.S.C.)	-	6	6
Drivers M.T. 1st Class (A.A.S.C.)	-	1	1
Orderlies	-	2	2
Attached - Sgt. A.A.P.C.	-	1	1
Total (less Recce. Party)	2	21	23

Unit and Detail	Officers	Other Ranks	Total
<u>Transport</u>			
Cars for G. 1			
A.Q. 1			
D.A.D.M.S. 1			
D.A.D.O.S. 1			
4			
Lorry, 30-cwt.			
for personnel 2			
Van, heavy office 1			
<u>6 Div. Intelligence Sec.</u>	2	10	12
<u>H.Q. 6 Div. Arty.</u>			
Staff Capt. 1			1
Clerk -		1	1
Driver, M.T. -		1	1
Orderly -		1	1
Batman -		2	2
Attached Chaplain 1		-	-
Total	2	5	7
<u>Transport</u>			
Van, light (for recce.) 1.			
<u>H.Q. 6 Div. Engrs.</u>			
Captain 1		-	1
Clerk -		1	1
Drivers, M.T., for duty			
as batman -		1	1
for vehicle -		1	1
Total	1	3	4
<u>Transport</u>			
Van, light for Captain 1.			
<u>6 Prov. Coy.</u>			
H.Q. Prov. Coy. 2		15	17
Two Sections -		32	32
	2	47	49

SUMMARY OF A.A.S.C. DETAILS

(Dissection shown separately).

Detail	Officers	Other ranks	Total
<u>6 Div. Supply Col.</u>			
Coln. H.Q.	1	31	32
Two Ech. H.Q.	4	92	96
'A' and 'E' Secs.	2	62	64
'B' and 'F' Secs.	2	64	66
'J' (Wkshop) Sec. -			
H.Q.	2	11	13
Two Sub-Secs.	-	28	28
 Total Supply Column	 11	 288	 299
<u>6 Div. Amn. Coy.</u>			
Coy. H.Q.	1	20	21
One Sec.	2	125	127
Wkshop. Sub-Sec.	-	14	14
 Total Ammunition Company	 3	 159	 162
<u>6 Div. Petrol Coy.</u>			
Coy. H.Q.	2	18	20
'A' Sec. -			
Sec. H.Q.	1	12	13
One Sub-Sec.	-	13	13
'B' Sec. -			
Sec. H.Q.	-	7	7
Two Sub-Secs.	-	18	18
Wkshop Sub-Sec.	-	14	14
 Total Petrol Company	 3	 82	 85

DISSECTION OF A.A.S.C. DETAILS

	Officers	Other ranks	Total
<u>6 Div. Sup. Coln.</u>			
<u>Coln. H.Q.</u>			
Maj. ..	1		1
R.S.M. ..		1	1
C.Q.M.S. ..		1	1
Sgts. ..		2	2
Ptes. ..		27	27
Butchers .. 2			
Cooks .. 1			
Admin. duty .. 1			
Drivers, M.T.			
Vehicles .. 9			
Motor cyclists 2			
Batman .. 1			
Clerks .. 2			
L.M.G. .. 6			
Sanitary duty 2			
Storeman .. 1			
Total ..	1	31	32
Transport (excl. motor cycles)			
less			
Car, light .. 1 (captain)			
Lorries, 30-cwt. 1 (unit			
" " 2 (postal			
" " 1 (water)			
<u>An Ech. H.Q.</u>			
Offrs. ..	2		2
S.Sgt. clerk ..		1	1
Sgt. clerks ..		2	2
Sgt. ..		1	1
Ptes. ..		42	42
Sup. clerks .. 2			
Cooks .. 2			
Drivers, M.T. .			
Vehicles .. 3			
Motor cycles 2			
Batman .. 1			
Batman driver 1			
Loaders .. 24			
Water duty .. 1			
Issuers .. 6			
Total ..	2	46	48
Transport (excl. motor cycles)			
Cars 2 (officers)			
Lorries, 30-cwt. 2 (water,			
kitchen).			

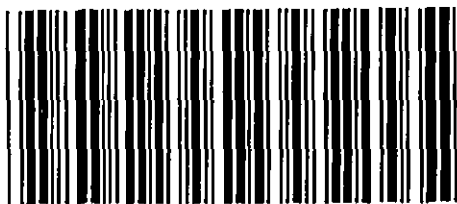
6 Div. Sup. Coln. - Contd.		Officers	Other ranks	Total
'A' and 'E' Secs. (each) less Drivers, H.T. 7				
Transport (excl. motor cycles) less Vans, light 2 (Fd. Plk. Coy. Mob. Vet. Sec.)				
Lorries, 30-cwt. 4 (Div. Recce. Regt.) 1 (Div. Sup. Coln.)				
'B' and 'F' Secs. complete				
6 Div. Amn. Coy.				
Coy. H.Q.				
Lieut. ..		1		1
C.S.M. ..			1	1
C.Q.M.S. ..			1	1
Sgt. ..			1	1
Cpls. ..			2	2
Drivers, H.T. ..			15	15
Cooks .. 1				
Asst. at A.R.P. .. 1				
Vehicle .. 1				
Motor cyclists .. 10				
Batman .. 1				
Clerk .. 1				
Sanitary duty .. 2				
Total ..		1	20	21
Transport (excl. motor cycles) only Car, light .. 1 (Lieut.)				
One sec. and one sub-sec. of Workshop sec. (complete)				
6 Div. Pet. Coy.				
Coy. H.Q.				
Cpts. ..		2	-	2
C.Q.M.S. ..			1	1
S.Sgt. clerk ..			1	1
Sgt. ..			1	1
Ptes. and Drivers, H.T. ..			15	15
Supply clerks .. 2				
Cooks .. 2				
Admin. duty .. 1				
Vehicles .. 3				
Batman drivers .. 2				
Clerk .. 1				
Sanitary duty .. 2				
Storeman .. 1				
Water .. 1				
Total ..		2	18	20

6 Div. Pet. Coy. - Contd.	Officers	Other Ranks	Total
<u>Coy. H.Q. - Contd.</u>			
Transport (excl. motor cycles)			
Only cars, light .. 2 (capts.)			
Lorry, 30-cwt. 1 (anti-gas and greatcoats)			
1 (kitchen)			
1 (water)			
<u>'A' Sec.</u>			
<u>Sec. H.Q.</u>			
Licut. .. 1	1		1
Drivers, M.T. (incl. cpl.) .. 12		12	12
Vehicles .. 3			
Motor cycle .. 1			
Batman driver .. 1			
A.A.L.H.G. .. 3			
Loaders .. 4			
Total	1	12	13
Transport (excl. motor cycles)			
Car, light .. 1 (Licut.)			
Van, heavy .. 1 (A.A.L.H.G.)			
Lorry, 30-cwt. 1 (Greatcoats etc.)			
" " .. 1 (Kitchen)			
One sub-sec. complete.			
<u>'B' Sec.</u>			
<u>Sec. H.Q.</u>			
Sgt. .. 1		1	1
Drivers, M.T. .. 6		6	6
Vehicles .. 2			
Motor cyclist .. 1			
A.A.L.H.G. ... 3			
Total ..		7	7
Transport (excl. motor cycles)			
Van, heavy .. 1 (A.A.L.H.G.)			
Lorry, 30-cwt. 1 (Spare)			
Two sub-secs. complete.			
One sub-sec. of wkshop. sec. complete.			

ESTABLISHMENT OF SIGNALS COMPONENT OF ADVANCED FORCE.

Detail	H.Q.	Details 1 Coy.					'N' Sec.	'W' Sec.	Total
		Details 'A' (1/2) Sec.	One Det. 'B' (cable) Sec.	Details 'C' Sec.		Details 'D' (Technical Maintenance) Sec.			
				1 Op. Sub-Sec.	D.Rs.				
Major	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Adj. (Capt.)	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Captain	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Lieutenant	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	1	-
Total Officers	2	1	-	1	-	-	1	2	7
Coy. Sgt. Major	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
C.O.M.S.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
C.O.M.S. (Foreman of Signals)	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Sergeants	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	2	7
Total Sgts. and S/Sgts.	1	-	1	1	-	1	1	2	7
Corporals	-	2	1	1	1	1	2	3	-
Signalmen	4	17	7	9	7	7	21	29	-
Drivers, M.F.	6	1	5	3	-	1	8	6	-
Total Rank and File	10	20	13	13	8	9	20	38	139
Total Other Ranks	12	20	14	14	8	10	29	40	149
Total All Ranks	14	21	14	15	8	10	30	42	154
Tradesmen:-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carpenters	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Clerks	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Cooks	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3
Despatch Riders	1	-	-	1	7	-	4	4	17
Electricians Signals	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	2	5
Fitters Signals	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3
Instrument Mechanics	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	6
Linemen	-	-	8	1	-	-	4	5	13
Operators (Signals)	-	13	-	7	-	-	12	20	35
Tech. Storemen	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2
Total Tradesmen	4	17	8	9	7	6	25	32	106
Non-Tradesmen	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Drivers, M.F. for vehicles	5	1	4	2	-	1	4	4	21
Drivers, M.F. for:-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Battmen	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	2	5
Total Non-Tradesmen	6	1	5	2	-	1	5	6	26
Total	10	13	13	11	7	9	28	30	134
Motor Cycles	-	-	1	1	7	-	7	8	24
Car, D.S.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Vans, light	1	1	1	1	-	-	1	2	6
Vans, heavy, G.S. for:-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cable laying and line maintenance	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	1	4
Vans, heavy, wireless	-	4	-	-	-	-	3	6	13
Lorries 30-cwt., G.S. for:-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kitchen	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Water tank	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Cable laying and reserve cable	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Signal office etc.	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	1	4
Charging set	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Workshop	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Lorry 30-cwt. office	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Total, vehicles	5	5	6	3	7	1	14	19	60

0010179



MOST SECRET

CYPHER TELEGRAM

AUSTRALIA HOUSE,

Following for NORTHCOTT from SQUIRES (.) Your telegrams sixth ninth and seventeenth November (.) Government now considering in light of latest information question of despatch of sixth division and attached troops and in meantime have authorised me without committing them directly or indirectly to convey preliminary information and enquiries (.) In event of decision to despatch force at early date position would be as follows assuming Government's agreement to release equipment etc. specified (.) If shipping available one brigade group and part divisional headquarters could embark any time after fifteenth December (.) Second brigade group could embark beginning January (.) Remainder including first reinforcements for whole force could embark by middle January (.) Would propose despatch overseas base reconnaissance party early December and with them party of officers all arms to study new weapons and technique before arrival first brigade group (.) Total strength of personnel in force about twenty thousand two hundred (.) Each of first two groups probably between six thousand and six thousand five hundred balance in third group but limited adjustment possible to suit shipping (.) Horses (.) Could if absolutely necessary send horsed first line transport for infantry involving about fifteen hundred horses but do not advise this and strongly recommend mechanized transport for infantry (.) Hope War Office will agree even though all vehicles not immediately available (.) Early advice required regarding this (.) If Infantry transport mechanised possible requirements in horses would only be pool of about 100 for supervision of training (.) Could these be provided in Egypt or must they be sent from here (.) Divisional Artillery being organised on British basis of three regiments with fortyeight 18 prs. and twentyfour 4.5 howitzers (.) Would hope to have former converted pneumatic tyres before despatch but doubtful whether Howitzer conversion possible here before end January (.) Could conversion be carried out/ *

out in Egypt (.) Field Artillery tractors could be sent (.)
Propose that non-divisional field regiment accompanying sixth
division should take no equipment but should be organized and
equipped as anti tank regiment on arrival overseas (.) Does War
Office agree (.) Propose send three hundred pounds per gun field
artillery H. E. with 117 fuze (.) Infantry battalions now being
re-organized on British basis of four companies of three platoons
of three sections and two platoons Vickers guns for subsequent
conversion to carrier platoon (.) One machine gun battalion of
fortyeight Vickers guns also being formed (.) Infantry Brigades
will contain four battalions each (.) If desired could be
re-constituted in four Brigades of three battalions on arrival
overseas (.) Full scale of rifles and two 3 inch mortars per
battalion would be sent but should prefer not to send full scale
of Lewis guns owing serious shortage in Australia and no possibility
of early replacement (.) Would War Office agree to reduced
scale Lewis guns in view proposed issue Bren guns (.) Armoured
carriers will not begin to be available here till January and full
requirements not available till April or May (.) No anti tank
rifles or 2 inch mortars (.) No new pattern web equipment or
pouches for Bren and anti tank ammunition (.) Would send normal
echelons in front of rail head of S. A. A. and mortar ammunition (.)
Mortar ammunition H. E. only no smoke available (.) Reconnaissance
regiment (.) No scout carriers likely to be available before April
or May (.) Unless War Office could supply these regiment must
use unarmoured vehicles in meantime (.) Engineer equipment (.)
Could provide air compressors and miscellaneous tools but no
bridging equipment or trailers explosives anti tank mines or power
pumps and very little camouflage equipment (.) Certain technical
stores also for Field Park Company unobtainable here (.) Assume
engineer stores barbed wire pickets sand bags etc. available in
Egypt (.) Signal equipment (.) Could supply 101 and 109
wireless sets conforming largely to corresponding British sets (.)
Only small proportion of mechanical cable layers available and
should prefer entire provision by War Office if possible (.)

Requirements of D.3 and D.5 cable also to be provided by War Office
(.) Personal equipment (.) Respirators would be provided from here but no other anti gas clothing or equipment (.) Blankets and service uniform including steel helmets would be provided but doubtful whether khaki drill shirts shorts and stockings which will presumably be needed could be procured in time (.) Could these be supplied in Egypt (.) Mechanical transport (.) Following numbers which are liable to minor variations could be despatched with Force (.) Motor cycles 20 (.) Cars 30 (.) Trucks 12 cwt. 240 (.) Trucks 15 cwt. W/T. 25 Battery staff 50 Office 16 Lorries 30 cwt. load carrying 503 Motor ambulances 24 Lorries 3 ton load carrying 30 breakdown 9 trailers various 20 Tractors F.W.D. Artillery 132 (.) Total vehicles to be shipped with Division assuming mechanised infantry transport would thus be approximately eleven hundred of which it is hoped that roughly two thirds could be created but this requires further investigation (.) All vehicles Fords or Chevrolets (.) Estimated additional vehicles required to complete war establishments excluding armoured and scout carriers (.) Motor cycles 906 trucks light 12 cwt. 59 trucks 15 cwt, G.S. 407 W.T. 26 Battery staff 26 office 10 lorries 30 cwt. load carrying 226 kitchen 119 water tank 73 W/T. 4 office 17 lorries 3 ton load carrying 210 office 2 stores 63 breakdown 10 Derrick 1 Recovery 6 disinfectant 3 buses 3 (.) Recommend that all motor cycles required be issued by War Office as suitable types unobtainable here (.) Most of remaining M.T. requirements could gradually be supplied from here commencing January or later but owing to uncertainty of design strongly recommend War Office should supply all kitchen water tank W/T office stores Derrick recovery and disinfectant lorries and that to avoid delay War Office supply as many of other natures as possible (.) This particularly applies to trucks 15 cwt. G.S. for infantry and machine gun battalions War Office type being more suitable than ours (.) Hope we could provide all hospital equipment except tentage (.) Serious shortage of serviceable tentage in Australia likely to continue for some time and very little could be sent from here (.) Please confirm that

requisite accommodation either in tentage or hutting could be provided in Egypt for whole force including hospitals (.). Could send thirty days rations with troops (.). Suggest if War Office agree that A. I. F. should use N.A.A. F.I. organisation for obtaining bulk canteen stores but should control own canteens within force (.). Medium artillery (.). Am recommending to Government that medium regiment should be sent comprising eight 6 inch howitzers and eight 60 prs. (.). Conversion of former to pneumatic tyres would take about three months here (.). Could conversion be undertaken in Egypt (.). 60 pr. wheels are fitted with rubber pads (.). Could probably provide from here requisite number of Oletrocs for these equipments but desire advice whether better type tractors could be supplied in Egypt (.). 300 rounds per gun would accompany H.E. for 6 inch Howitzers and H.E. and shrapnel for 60 prs. (.). If despatch medium regiment were approved unlikely it could leave before middle January at earliest and probably would be later (.). Air Force (.). R.A.A.F. could supply personnel of one A.C. Squadron to accompany sixth division but aircraft and equipment would have to be provided by Air Ministry (.). Question of maintenance of force overseas in supplies clothing equipment etc. and financial arrangements relevant thereto will be subject of separate communication if Government decides to despatch force.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE.
MINUTE PAPER.

SECRET

(This side only to be written on.)

D.115/7.2.-C.244

SUBJECT:

✓ G.O.C., 6 Div.

A.G. "

Q.M.G. "

M.G.O. "

Herewith is forwarded copy of notes on Conference,
Military Board (Military Members) and G.O.C. 2nd A.I.F. held
on 13-11-39.

L. E. Keane

14 Nov. 39.

for Lieutenant-General,
Chief of the General Staff.

Received 17 Nov. 14th November

Seen by G.O.C. 16th / 29

Lawson

DESPATCH OF 2ND A.I.F. ABROAD

Notes on Conference, Military Board (Military Members)
and G.O.C., A.I.F. - 13/11/39

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND COMMENTS1. POLICY RECOMMENDATION.

It was agreed that it is essential to comply with the wishes of the British Government - in broad outline, despatch Force in brigade groups commencing during the first half of December and completing by end of December or early in January, if shipping available. Div. H.Qs. to proceed with the first brigade group. It was also agreed that the 2nd A.I.F. should be increased at once to a Corps of two divisions and Corps troops. An early Government decision is sought on this question.

As much war material as possible should accompany the Force having regard to essential requirements in Australia.

As soon as decision given on broad policy, it will be necessary to obtain approval to deal direct with Egypt mainly on matters affecting war material and supply generally.

2. ORGANIZATION.Inf. organization.

6 Div. to remain on a 12 bn. organization, and divided as necessary on arrival abroad. It may be possible to provide 9 bns. for 6 Div. on new organization, 3 bns. for a new bde. and 2 M.G. bns. The method of forming the latter from the Support Coys. of the existing 12 bns. is under consideration by H.Q. 6 Div.

A. Tk.

It was agreed that the non-div. arty. regt. should be despatched without fd. arty. weapons and be reorganized and equipped with 2-pr. A. Tk. guns on arrival abroad.

/ Base

Base organization.

It will be necessary to send an advanced party for the Base organization, if possible early in December. The O.C. should have the rank of Brigadier and an officer experienced in "Q" work is required for his staff. ~~Recommendation that Brigadier~~
~~should have the rank of Brigadier and an officer experienced in "Q" work~~
~~is required for his staff. The A.G. to go into the question of the organization of~~
~~the Base.~~

Canteens.

Recommended that arrangements should be made to control our own canteens as far as possible, making full use of the N.A.A.F.I. organization, e.g., draw supplies from N.A.A.F.I. and run our own regimental canteens.

Comforts Fund.

All Comforts Fund activities should be co-ordinated by one representative on the Base organization.

Requirements of Horses Transport.

It will be necessary to ask the British Government whether horses are required at all. Horses could be provided and enough travelling cookers and limbered G.S. wagons for the infantry; but it would be preferred to equip and train 6 Div. on mechanized basis, and it is not proposed to send horsed first line transport unless specially requested by the British Govt. The question of adequacy of M.T. is dealt with below. Investigation will be made by the Q.M.G. and M.G.O. as to the adequacy of dixies and hot food containers required if transport is all M.T.

Fd. Arty. organization.

Tractors and Trailers.

Enough fd. arty. tractors and trailers will be available to accompany the troops.

Weapons.

18-pr. Mk. IVs are now being converted to pneumatic tyres. Estimated that the 48 required for 6 Div. will be available by Christmas.

~ - 3 - 3 (5-4) / 4.5"

4.5" hows. Under present arrangements, the 24 required for 6 Div. may not be available before the end of January as conversion to pneumatic tyres has just commenced. Action to be taken to expedite conversion.

Med. Arty.

Tractors.

6 Cletracs are available, and we could probably obtain the balance required for 16 medium equipments by purchase or impressment. The Marmon-Herrington used for fd. arty. is being tried out but is probably unsuitable.

Weapons.

As there are only 18 6" hows. and 18 60-prs. in country, it is considered that the maximum that can be sent at present is 8 of each of these weapons. One 6" how. has been converted to pneumatic tyres for trial, and it is estimated that 8 will not be converted for at least 3 months. It is possible that conversion of these could be carried out in Egypt. If required early, it will be necessary to take the 6" hows. unconverted. The 60-pr. Mk. IIIs are fitted with rubber pads.

Army Co-Operation Squadron.

The personnel of one A.C. Sqn. could be despatched with 6 Div. in December. Equipment to be provided overseas by British Govt. If given priority personnel for a second A.C. Sqn. could be partially trained in time to accompany Second Division if despatched.

Reinforcements.

1st reinforcements should accompany the Force.

3. EQUIPMENT.

Armoured or scout carriers.

It is estimated that machine gun carriers will come forward at the rate of 10 per week beginning in January and will not therefore be available to accompany the first brigade groups. Scout carriers will not be delivered until April or beginning of May.

/ Lewis

Lewis Guns.

It will be necessary to ask the British Govt. whether these are to be sent. Advice has been received to the effect that Bren guns on training scale will be made available to the Force on arrival.

Vickers Guns.

It is proposed to send these for the equipment of any M.G. bns. formed on arrival of the Force abroad.

Rifles.

Adequate stocks of rifles are available.

S.A.A.

It is proposed that the normal echelon in front of railhead should accompany the Force. It will be necessary to ascertain whether additional stocks should be despatched.

Mortars.

As 75 of the new type 3" mortar are available, all battalions of the Force can be equipped (2 per rifle bn.). The echelon of ammunition can be provided, but no smoke.

2" mortars to be provided by British Govt.

Anti-gas equipment.

Gas masks are available but no anti-gas clothing.

Mechanical Vehicles.

Ambulances.

Enough are available for Fd. Ambs.

R.A.E. Technical Vehicles.

Vehicles and fitments can be provided for Fd. Coys. Requirements for Fd. Pk. Coys. will need consideration as certain technical stores carried by Coy. are not available in Australia.

Ord. Workshop and Store Lorries.

Can supply Australian pattern workshop. and store lorries, but power plant differs from War Office designs.

/ Policy

Policy in regard to Shipment of Vehicles.

To save shipping space, as many vehicles as possible should be crated. Considered that the first line transport required for training should accompany the troops ready for use. M.G.O. to investigate the extent to which cars, utility trucks and lorries could be crated. General Motors and Ford should be consulted. M.G.O. to provide by the afternoon of 13 Nov. details of the vehicles that could be sent with each of the 3 brigade groups drawing as necessary on vehicles which either have been or were to be provided for the Militia.

Signal Equipment.

Most of this can be provided. 6 Div. can be supplied with requirements of No. 101 and No. 109 W/T sets. These are Australian patterns conforming largely to the British No. 1 and No. 9 Sets. Part requirements of mechanical cable layers can be provided. Only small stocks of D3 and D5 cable are held, and it will be necessary to obtain requirements abroad.

Engineer equipment.

Air compressors and miscellaneous tools are available.

The following cannot be provided:-

Bridging equipment,
Explosives,
Power pumping equipment, and
Anti-tank mines.

Only limited quantity of camouflage stores is available.

Uniforms.

Uncertain whether new pattern service uniform can be provided in time, but special steps are being taken to expedite supplies. For Egypt or Palestine summer dress will be required, i.e., shirts (2 each), shorts (2 each) and stockings (3 pairs each). Investigations regarding supply of these are being made. Expenditure cannot be found from funds available.

Blankets.

These can be supplied.

/ Tentage

Tentage.

It will be necessary to confirm with Egypt that tentage need not be taken, including the requirements of General Hospitals.

Hospital equipment.

The Gen. Hosp. (600 beds) raised in N.S.W. should accompany the first brigade group. Action is being taken to provide equipment, but tentage will not be available in time. However, see under "Tentage" that tents may be available in Egypt.

Artillery ammunition.

Fd.

Considered that echelon in front of railhead should be provided, i.e., 300 rounds per gun, H.E. with No. 117 fuse.

Med.

Echelon:
60-pr. 230
6" 210

Considered that 300 rounds per gun should be sent, H.E. for 6" hows. and proportion of shrapnel for 60-pr.

No smoke is available for fd. or med. equipments.

Reserves of Supplies.

Considered that in addition to supplies for the voyage 30 days' reserves should be forwarded. However, Reserves generally are part of a wide question at present being considered by the British and Australian Governments. In many things, bulk stocks may be provided to Egypt and supplies to the A.I.F. made available by the existing organization in Egypt. This may apply to R.E. Stores such as sandbags, barbed wire, pickets, etc. as well as to food supplies.

4. MISCELLANEOUS.

Field Allowance.

In view of extra cost of messing in Egypt on top of the situation created in Australia by cancellation of Field

/ Allowance

Allowance, it is desirable that the question should be reconsidered. The question of payment abroad in sterling also required decision.

Outfit Allowance.

Information required as to whether £15 Outfit Allowance had been approved.

Concentration of A.I.F.

Undesirable for the bn. and bty. in W.A. to be moved to N.S.W. unless a month clear for training in N.S.W. before despatch abroad. An early decision is required for this reason alone. Portions of complete units in W.A. to be concentrated.

Possible Expansion of the A.I.F.

An early decision desirable as to whether 7th Division likely to be formed. Essential to have a firm basis on which to plan organization, training and general arrangements regarding the A.I.F. and Militia.