

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

Item number: 8/3/12

2/12 Infantry Battalion

June 1945

2/12 AUST. INF. BN.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY



Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 2/12 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 June '45 To 2 June '45

23494 5.42 St. 162.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
AT SEA	1 June		Weather Fine sea calm	
			Movement Of Unit Overseas to MOROTAI on Liberty ship PONTUS	
			H ROSS still in progress	
		0900	A/C Carrier A 453 sighted moving SOUTH	
		1100	One of the crew taken aboard Carrier by line for an operation	
			(Appendicitis) C.O. Lt Col CCF BOURNE DSO & I.O. Lt. DG BUTLER	
			on 18 Bde Planning HQ MOROTAI preparing Operation Order for	
			Operation OBOE TWO (Amphibious landing at BALIKPAPAN on 1 July)	
			Unit Intelligence personnel engaged in preparation of large	
			Terrain Model of BALIKPAPAN Area for use in briefing of Bde Tps.	
			Cas Nil	
	2 June		Weather Squally sea calm	
		1500	O.C. Tps Maj RL JOHNSON held Ord ^o ly Romm in No 3 Hold	
			Cas Nil	

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WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY



Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 2/12 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 3 June '45 To 4 June '45

23494 5.42 St. 1621

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
AT SEA	3 June		Weather Squally sea calm.	
	0930	0930	Voluntary Church Services held in No 3 Hold	
		1300	Small fire broke out on Starboard kitchen caused by petrol being spilt when refilling burner. Fire extinguished by crew with the aid of Foamite under the direction of Capt FK HAUPT and Mr MOORE 1st Offr of the PONTUS H ROSS	
			Cas Nil	
	4 June		Weather Fine during day and wet at night	
		a.m.	O.C. Tps Maj RL Johnson held Orderly Room in No 3 Hold	
			O.C. Tps lectured HQ Coy on BURMA. Bn Outline Plan for invasion of BALIKPAPAN submitted to 18 Bde by C.O Lt Col CCF BOURNE DSO	
			No Trg owing to limited space on ship. Tps doing ½ hr P.T. daily.	
			Cas Nil	

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WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY




Army Form C. 2118
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H. 100M 2/42

Unit 2/12 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 5 July '45 To 7 June '45

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
AT SEA	5 July		Weather Fine very hot	
			O.C. Tps lectured D Coy on BURMA	
			Cas Nil	
	6 June		Weather Showery	
		0730	Entered BIAK HARBOUR	
		0830	Mail taken off by LCVP's	
		1000	XXX Sailed from BIAK. O.C. Tps Orderly Room	
			Cas Evac to Hosp 1 (To US Naval Hosp BIAK)	
	7 June		Weather Fine	
		1000	Emergency Stations (Practice)	
			Warning Order for disembarkation MOROTAI	
			Cas Nil	

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WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

H. 100M 2/42

Unit 2/12 Aust Inf BnDate and Time.—From 8 June '45 To 10 June '45

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
AT SEA	8 June		Weather Fine	
		1000	Anchored MOROTAI HARBOUR	
		1330	Unit commenced to disembark by L C A's	
		1530	Arrived at Transit Camp	
			Cas Nil	
MOROTAI	9 June		Weather Overcast Wet and Showery	
		0830	Working Party 1 Offr & 30 ORs to prepare Camp for the Bn	
		1130	Bn embussed for Biv Area	
			Cas Nil	
	10 June		Weather Showery,	
0730		Unit marched to Bn Area to clear camp site preparatory to Bn moving in		
		Cas Nil		

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WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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H. 100M 2/42

Unit 2/12 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 11 June '45 To 13 June '45



Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MOROTAI			Weather Hot with rain during the night	
	11 June	0900	Bn moved to Camp Site & commenced erecting tents	
			Gas Nil	
	12 June		Weather Overcast	
			General cleaning up & construction of Camp Area	
			Int. Summary No OBOE 21 issued	Appx 1
			Cas Evac to Hosp 1	
	13 June		Weather Showery	
			Camp Adm & Camp Construction	
		1500	Bn Planning Party Capt NJC Sherwin Capt WB MacFarlane	
			& 3 ORs arrived from AUSTRALIA & joined 18 Bde Planning Party	
			Routine Orders issued	Appx 2
			Cas Evac to Hosp 1	

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WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Army Form C. 2118.
(adapted)Unit 2/12 Aust Inf BnDate and Time.—From 14 June '45 To 16 June '45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MOROTAI	14 June		Weather Wet	
			Camp Adm, Camp Construction	
			C.O. Lt Col CCF BOURNE rejoined Unit from 18 Bde Planning Party	
			Operation Order OBOE TWO written and compiled by I.O Lt DG BUTLER	Appx 3
			Cas Evac to Hosp 2	
	15 June		Weather Wet	
		1330	C Coy briefed by C.O on forthcoming Operation using XXXXXXXX	
			Terrain Model of BALIKPAPAN Area	
		1500	D Coy briefed by C.O.	
				Coys Trg on LVT's , Route March in afternoon
			Cas Evac to Hosp 3	
16 June		Weather Fine		
		A & B Coys briefed by C.O. 6 ORs from each Rifle Coy to attend		
		Flame Thrower Operators Course. Adjnt & I.O rejoined Unit from		

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Army Form C. 2118.
(adapted.)Unit 2/12 Aust Inf Bn Date and Time.—From 16 June ' 45 To 18 June ' 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MOROTAI	16 June		18 Bde Planning HQ	
			Fd Returns Offrs & ORs submitted	Appx 4
			Cas Evac to Hosp 1 Capt W ARROWSMITH att from 2/5 Fd Amb.	
			(RMO) QX 33608 Capt CT JAMES det to 2/5 Fd Amb. (RMO)	OO
	17 June		Weather Fine	
		a.m.	Voluntary Church Services. BnHQ & HQ Coy briefed by C.O.	
			Coys engaged in LVT Trg. Unit engaged in packing stores preparatory to Operation.	
		p.m.	Brig. Comd Brig. FO CHILTON DSO visited Bn Area	
			Cas Nil	OO
	18 June		Weather Fine	
		0830	Adm Pde. Packing of Unit stores continues.	
			Cas Evac to Hosp 1 Transferred In 1	OO

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WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Unit 2/12 Aust Inf bn

Date and Time.—From 19 June '45 To 20 June '45

23494 5.42 St. 1621

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MOROTAI	19 June		Weather Fine	
		0830	Adm Pde.	
		1330	BnHQ on 2 Hrs Route March	
		1600	Bde Comd Brig Comd. F O CHILTON DSO visited Bn area to lecture Tps on forthcoming invasion	
			Cas General Reinfts 25 (24 Transferred out to 2/9 Bn same day)	
			(1 " " 2/10 " ")	
	20 June		Weather Fine	
		0900	Personnel preparing for move to Marrying Up Area (MUA)	
		1100	BnHQ A& B Coys plus part of Adm Pl HQ Coy moved out by MF to MUA	
		1200	Arrived MUA	
			Cas General Reinfts 4	


WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 2/12 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 21 June '45 To 21 June '45

23494 5.42 St. 1621

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MOROTAI	21 June		Weather Wet	
		0830	Adm Pde. Weapon Inspection	
		1200	C & D Coys and remainder of HQ Coy moved out by MT to MUA	
		1300	Arrived Marrying Up Area (MUA)	
		1345	A & B Coys plus part of Adm Pl HQ Coy Bn HQ embarked in LCVPs and conveyed to USS NEWMAN USS LIDDLE and USS DIACHENKO	
		1400	Embarkation complete	
		1900	Pictures shown aboard all APDs	
			Cas General Reinfnts 7 incl NX178000 LT J E RYAN NX179680 Lt A CHAPMAN	

12/12 AUST. INF. BN.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C. 2118

(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 2/12 Aust Inf Bn mDate and Time.—From 22 June '45 To 23 June '45

23494 5.42 St. 1021

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MOROTAI	22 June		Weather Fine	
		a.m.	Adm Pde. Weapon & Amn Inspection on all APDs	
		1000	1 Hrs P.T. on all APDs	
		1330	C & D Coys and the remainder of HQ Coys embarked on LST 397 & LST 694	
		1930	Pictures shown on all APDs . Rear Party Strength 5 and 90	
			U/C TX 704 Lt PL GREEN remained at MOROTAI	
			Cas Nil	
	23 June		Weather Showery	
		0830	Adm Pde. Weapon Inspection on all APDs	
		1300	Convoy moved out to sea for rehearsal of Amphibious Operations	
		1420	Boat Drill on APDs	
		1430	P.T. Boat Stations (Drill) All stores ready to be placed in LCVPs	
			Cas Reinfts 1 for Landing Rehearsal	

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WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 2/12 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 24 June '45 To 25 June '45

23494 5.42 St. 162.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MOROTAI	24 June		Weather Fine with light showers	
		0445	Revielle	
		0500	Breakfast	
		0715	Personnel from APDs & LSTs went aboard LCVPs LVTs respectively	
			for Landing Rehearsal	
		0900	Assualt Waves landed and LCVPs went within 1 Mile of beach	
			then returned to APDs	
		1030	Landing Craft arrived back to APDs & LSTs. Convoy then returned	
			to anchorage	
		1330	Adm Pde. Weapon Inspection	
		1900	Pictures shown on all APDs	
			Cas Evac to Hosp 2	105
	25 June		Weather Fine	
			Personnel in LCVPs 73 & 74 practice Beach Landing (Cont)	

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WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 2/12 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 25 June '45 To 27 June '45

23494 5.42 St. 162.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MOROTAI	25 June	1430	Adm Pde. Weapon Inspection.	
		1900	Pictures shown on all APDs	
			Cas Evac to Hosp 1	
	26 June		Weather Fine Sea Calm	
		0830	Adm Pde. Weapon Inspection.	
		1400	Convoy put out to sea. USS NEWMAN being delayed by 1 LCVP	
			being stranded on the beach, rejoined the Convoy 2 hrs Later	
			This is the largest Convoy to take ^{part} on any Amphibious operation yet carried out in the SWPA	
			Cas Nil	
AT SEA	27 June		Weather Fine Sea Calm	
		0830	Adm Pde. Weapon Inspection	
		1000	P.T	
			Cas Nil	

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WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.
(adapted)

Unit 2/12 Aust Inf BN

Date and Time.—From 28 June '45 To 29 June '45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
AT SEA	28 June		Weather Overcast with light showers	
		0830	Adm Pde. Weapon Inspection	
		1000	P.T. on all APDs	
		1750	Alarm sounded all personnel to Boat Stations	
		1820	All Clear	
			Cas Nil	
	29 June		Weather Fine	
		0530	Standing to at Boat Stations	
		0830	Adm Pde. Weapon Inspection.	
		1000	P.T.	
		1920	Standing to at Boat Stations	
		2000	Stand Down	
			Cas Nil	

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WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Army Form C. 2118.
(adapted.)

Unit 2/12 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 30 June '45 To

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
AT SEA	30 June		Weather Fine	
		0530	Stand To at Boat Stations	
		0830	Adm Pde. Weapon Inspection	
		p.m.	Lectures on all ABds by Coy Comds ref Landing at BALIKPAPAN	
			personnel engaged in checking weapons & equipment	
			Cas Evac to ships Hosp USS LIDDLE 2	
			Landing Craft loaded with stores and final preparation for the	
			invasion of BALIKPAPAN on 1 July '45 now completed. The	
			voyage was made without incident or enemy opposition. Morale	
			of all Tps very high.	
			<i>L. F. Johnston</i> Lt Col.	
			Comd. 2/12 Aust Inf Bn.	
			<i>T. H. ...</i> Capt.	
			Adj ^t 2/12 Aust Inf Bn.	

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PART 1 - SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

1. GENERAL

BALIKPAPAN is situated on an excellent bay, suitable for military purposes, and, after PALAMBANG, is the most important oil port in the Far East. Nearly half of Japanese requirements of lubricating oil came from BALIKPAPAN refineries. The main oil fields are situated at LOUISE and ANGGANA 60/70 miles NORTH EAST from BALIKPAPAN.

Dutch defences of BALIKPAPAN were planned to hold an assault launched from South, West or East. No demolition of artillery or ammunition was carried out by the Dutch and wharves and jetties destroyed have been rebuilt by the Japanese.

Airfields developed by the Japanese at MANGGAR and SEPINGGANG (12 & 6 miles N.E. of BALIKPAPAN respectively) have been made unserviceable during recent weeks by Allied air attacks.

The main centres of recent activity have been BALIKPAPAN and SAMARINDA both NORTH and considerable shipping has been sighted there in recent weeks possibly bringing in stores and taking out oil in anticipation of an Allied landing.

Japanese defences at BALIKPAPAN are designed to protect the airfields, oil installations and shipping in the bay.

A/A defences are ranged around the bay with the main concentration in the hills behind the town. One light A/A gun (up to 13 mm) has been located south of the bridge on the right flank of 2/12 Aust Inf Bn area, ref 596592.

2. STRATEGICAL INFORMATION

The general trend of activity in the N.E.I. appears to be towards withdrawal. Major combat units are apparently being evacuated from the Eastern N.E.I.

Allied control of shipping lanes in the SOUTH CHINA SEA restricts enemy movement, and Japanese forces on BORNEO are cut off from any substantial outside assistance other than from the Southern N.E.I. Japanese commander may therefore have to reinforce his combat troops from service troops.

PART II - ENEMY

3. ENEMY INFORMATION

(a) LAND

Japanese strength on BORNEO at 22 May 45 was estimated at 29,900 and in the BALIKPAPAN - SAMARINDA area estimated strength is 6000, made up as follows:-

Combat troops	1,500
A/A "	1,500
Air/Ground Units	400
L of C & Service Units	
	<u>2,600</u>
	<u>6,000</u>

In addition 4,500 civilian and labouring personnel are believed to be attached to units in the area.

Reinforcements from outside BORNEO, due to commitments elsewhere and shipping difficulties are considered unlikely but must be considered as a possibility.

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The maximum number of troops the Japanese would be prepared to make available if it was decided to reinforce BALIKPAPAN from outside BORNEO is estimated at:-

MAKASSAR	1000
SOURABAYA	2000

From within BORNEO possible sources of reinforcement to BALIKPAPAN from outside of the immediate objective area are BANDJERMASIN and SAMARINDA. This reinforcement would not be large due to the threat of invasion of the former place and the weakening of the defence of oilfields in the latter. The state of the roads may hamper overland movement.

Earliest time of arrival in the BALIKPAPAN area providing troops set out on D Day are:-

From SAMARINDA	500 tps	D+1	by MT
" BANDJERMASIN	500 "	D+8	by Schooner
" MAKASSAR	1000 "	D-8	"
" SOURABAYA	1000 "	D-9	"
" "	1000 "	D+13	"

Reinforcement on this scale is not thought to be likely.

(b) SEA

Of the naval vessels comprising the Southern fleet, not more than 1 heavy and 1 light cruiser, 5 destroyers and 3 submarines are believed operational at the present time.

The presence of the British Eastern Fleet will cause the enemy to retain the bulk of his remaining unit within SINGAPORE and adjacent waters.

It is therefore unlikely that any major naval units will attempt interference with landing operations at BALIKPAPAN.

Submarines in the JAVA SEA constitute a threat to shipping engaged in the operation. One midget submarine has been reported in the immediate vicinity of BALIKPAPAN.

Motor Torpedo Boats and Suicide Craft may be expected in the objective area. According to reports, these suicide craft carrying up to 500 lbs of explosive, crash against the target at up to 20 knots per hour and explode simultaneously. They are also fitted with 4 - 5 inch rockets of an incendiary type hitherto unknown, with an estimated range of 2000/3000 yards.

The average siting of barges and small craft in the bay over recent weeks has been 30.

The inlets of BALIKPAPAN BAY present many hideouts for such craft.

MINE FIELDS were laid across the mouth of BALIKPAPAN BAY by the Dutch but were cleared by the Japanese.

Allied Mine Fields were laid across our operation front in Oct 44 to a depth of 5 miles from the coast. Many of them may still be in the area and be effective.

Japanese Mine Fields are reported at the entrance to BALIKPAPAN BAY with a line of mines SE of our objective and 9 miles distant. Our front is apparently free of minefields.

(c) AIR

Enemy Air strength in the area BORNEO - CELEBES - JAVA - SUMATRA - MALAYA - FRENCH INDO CHINA at 22 May 45 was estimated at 378, and it is apparent that the enemy has withdrawn aircraft from Southern areas for defence of JAPAN.

The total air strength in BORNEO has fallen to a total of 12 aircraft almost all of which are float planes. Estimated strength at BALIKPAPAN is 4 float planes.

All airfields except those in JAVA - BALI - LOMBOR within striking distance of the objective area can be expected to be put out of commission by Allied Air bombardment before the operation. JAVA represents the only potential source of AIR opposition on a serious scale but it is unlikely that JAVA will be bled for the defence of BALIKPAPAN. Slight harassing raids and isolated suicide attacks against shipping represent the most likely form that enemy air reaction will take.

4. ENEMY DEFENCES

(a) GENERAL

Because of the close association between the two garrisons it may be anticipated that the defensive methods employed will resemble closely those encountered on TARAKAN where the outstanding features were the extensive use of mines and tunnels and the employment of oil as a defensive weapon.

The movement of tanks, vehicles and troops will almost certainly be hampered very considerably by mines, booby traps and demolitions. On TARAKAN, anti tank mines were laid mainly on the road verges and on the airfield.

Booby traps encountered on TARAKAN were of every type and found almost everywhere.

Bridges were blown or burnt with oil and roads badly cratered.

On TARAKAN it was found impracticable to declare any area free of mines because of the repeated sowing of mines at night by infiltrating parties of the enemy. Anti vehicle and anti personnel mines were laid on the shoulders of roads and the edges of tracks.

Oil was diverted down existing streams and into anti-tank ditches and ignited.

Tunnels were used on TARAKAN and photos of BALIKPAPAN indicate that the employment of tunnels will be on a much larger scale than at TARAKAN where tunnels ranged in length from 65 feet to 625 feet and were solidly timbered. These tunnels were $6\frac{1}{2}$ feet in height, $6\frac{1}{2}$ feet in width at floor level and $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet at ceiling level. They may even run completely through a feature.

Use will probably be made of concrete pillboxes.

Struts of bridges are reported to have been cut halfway through to facilitate demolition. This practice is general.

(b) ON 2/12 AUST INF BN OBJECTIVE AREA

Artillery

One light A/A gun position up to (13 mm) has been located at creek entrance on right boundary, though it is not known whether this position is occupied. Troops assaulting the beach can be engaged by a number of heavy and light A/A guns situated outside the area.

Trenches

Trenches have been identified within the unit area:-

- (i) On small feature ref 589594
- (ii) On low spur ref 592595
- (iii) On bare knoll ref 589596
- (iv) On East end of lightly wooded feature ref 591598
- (v) On wooded feature ref 591601 & 590603

Deep trenches are reported to have been dug across VASEY HIGHWAY at several points, no doubt in an attempt to check any Allied lateral exploitation from beachhead areas.

Bunkers

Bunkers have been identified within the unit area:-

- (i) On the beach hinterland on left flank at ref 591592
- (ii) North of bridge ref 595594
- (iii) 3 bunkers in coconut plantation ref 592594
- (iv) On open spur ref 589595
- (v) In cultivation ref 588596

Anti Tk Obstacles

An anti tank obstacle has been located west of bridge at ref 595593 but no detail of construction is available.

Tunnels

Four tunnels have been located within the unit area along the left flank.

Two tunnels are situated in northern face of feature at ref 587600 and one tunnel in southern slope.

One tunnel is located on eastern side of feature ref 588602

Three further tunnels outside unit left boundary cover flat ground in unit area. They are situated at ref 586596 and 585604 (2).

Land Mines

A captured map shows a mine field east of unit area but no minefields have been discerned in unit objective area.

Wire

Wire is visible on photographs but natives have reported wire inland and it is thought that wire encloses a defensive area in cultivation and lightly wooded area from ref 586596 to 592596.

Machine Guns

Former Dutch defences included two IMG pill boxes and two HMG pill boxes in our unit area situated as follows:-

	HMG	position	at	ref	58955915	in	concrete
	"	"	"	"	59155915	"	"
	IMG	"	"	"	59335920	"	"
with one	"	"	"	"	59635930	revetted	with logs just

outside our right boundary but firing across our front.

These will doubtless be used by the enemy. The pillboxes were circular and 2/3 feet thick with sod covered concrete roof. Steel sliding windows were used.

One enemy MG position has been located at ref 593591.

Burning Oil Defences

Oil could be directed on to KLANDASAN beach but this point is west of unit front. Oil could, however be directed elsewhere by the digging of ditches.

Pipe line however runs through unit area roughly parallel with coast and approx 500 yds inland from beach. This could be breached at any point and the oil ignited. Oil on water if not fed will burn for one hour. It is impossible to approach within 500 yds of a large area of burning oil due to the intense heat.

Off Shore Obstacles

Across entire unit front underwater obstacles run 25/45 yds off shore.

This obstacle comprises 3 rows of stout wooden posts driven into the sea bed with the posts of parallel rows staggered. The rows are 6 feet apart with 6 feet between posts which are horizontally cross braced with stout timber across the top of those of each other row. The braces run diagonally to the line of the obstacle.

Barbed wire is probably included in this obstacle.

Coast Defence Guns

2 C D gun positions are dug into the hills near 577598. There are 2 probable C D gun positions on the KLANDASAN beach near 585588.

Other C D guns cover southern and western approaches to BALIKPAPAN BAY.

5. ENEMY ACTIVITY

The enemy's recent activity has been devoted to the completion of his defensive preparations.

The off shore obstacle has been improved along the KLANDASAN beaches, and runs across our front.

Rapid progress is being made with the construction of anti tank ditches along the coast.

Considerable elaboration of the enemy's defensive system on the ridges overlooking the town and KLANDASAN has been noted recently.

Many dumps of supplies have been noted along the coast from BALIKPAPAN east to STALLOEDO which includes unit area. Some of these dumps in the hills may be underground.

Two of these dumps have so far been identified in unit area at refs 588606 and 591592.

Barracks are situated at refs 592591, 593593, 587595 and 588596.

6. PROBABLE ENEMY REACTION TO ALLIED LANDING

Recent defensive works in the BALIKPAPAN area suggest that the enemy anticipates that we will seize the port area as swiftly as possible. Accordingly his main defensive line appears to be prepared on the high ground overlooking KLANDASAN and is just outside units left boundary.

The strongest enemy beach defences are in the KLANDASAN area and they are in process of being strengthened still further by the construction of anti-tank ditches and other defences.

In the KLANDASAN sector it will probably be the enemy's aim to contain the landing within the beachhead area and inflict the heaviest possible casualties on our forces from his positions overlooking the beaches.

Every restriction on movement off the beaches can be expected, e.g. wire, tank obstacles and mines.

It is believed that the enemy will resist by every means at his disposal any attempt on our part to seize the port area and bitter fighting will probably precede our capture of the ground which dominates the waterfront and KLANDASAN.

It can be confidently expected that extensive demolitions have been prepared throughout the BALIKPAPAN area.

All oil installations not destroyed by Allied bombing will probably have been prepared for demolition already. The water pump station and wireless installations will also probably be demolished.

Enemy may fall back on SAMARINDA with the intention of using it as a base from which to harass our installations in the BALIKPAPAN area.

PART III - LOCAL INHABITANTS & P.W.

7. (a) Population

It is considered that the population of BALIKPAPAN under Japanese occupation has been at least 30,000.

The Chinese as a general rule were reliable and are believed to be anti-Japanese.

Amongst other Asiatics were a number of British Indians and there is no evidence that they co-operate with the Japanese.

The Indonesians have in many cases co-operated or been friendly with the Japanese.

It is reported that most native village chiefs may be relied on to help any Allied soldier. Many are violently anti-Japanese and have rendered valuable service to the Allies.

No guerilla bands are active, but many inhabitants have been anxious to organise resistance.

Pagan tribes live in the hinterland. These tribes have various superstitions and considerable care should be exercised in any dealing with them. Transactions should, when possible be made through the Agency of NICA, or in their absence through the village head, or head of the household.

Mohammedan peoples consider the pig unclean and will not touch them.

Womenfolk of all tribes, Mohammedan or Pagan should be treated with respect. Familiarity may arouse violent resentment.

(b) Language

Malay is generally spoken and although natives use local dialects, all understand Malay.

(c) Employment of Native Labour

At BALIKPAPAN there are 5000 native labourers, mostly imported. Local natives are not inclined to work for wages, although a number of them were employed on oilfields and in saw mills.

The average daily wage for coolies is 50 cents plus food and accommodation if taken from their usual residence.

The Japanese have imported a considerable amount of Javanese labour. Wages for voluntary labour may be a little higher than before the war.

Natives in the BALIKPAPAN area are resentful of Japanese administration and the recruitment of native labour following our landing may accordingly be simplified.

(d) Reaction to Allied Propaganda

The morale of the population is reported to be high in expectation of the return of the Allies.

Inhabitants acted on the warnings in propaganda leaflets to keep away from Japanese installations because of impending air raids.

The Chinese on every possible occasion read or even keep leaflets despite punishment.

(e) Japanese Administration

Civil administration is controlled by the Navy. Under HAMADA the BALIKPAPAN Civil Administration Village chiefs have been retained but Japanese or Indonesian police are stationed in most villages, as are spies and agents. Several Indonesian police are known to be anti-Japanese.

Beating and maltreatment of local inhabitants has caused bitter resentment against Japanese administration and on our landing, natives may well prove troublesome to the Japanese.

Clothing, food and medicine is in very short supply and prices have risen.

A curfew is imposed between 2200 hrs and daylight. No letters are allowed to be posted.

All males between 17 and 40 years are forced to join the Labour Corps or Defence Force.

It therefore appears most likely that the local population will welcome an Allied landing.

(f) P.W.

An ATIS report of Aug 44 refers to the possibility of 4000 PW in the BALIKPAPAN area and this report was considered reliable in Feb 45. It is not known whether they are still in the area.

PW were at one time held in the Dutch Military Barracks in the town.

PART IV - TOPOGRAPHY

8. GENERAL

The area covered in this summary is contained within the following grid lines ref BALIKPAPAN sheet 1; 25000.

Easting line 55 to Easting 61
Northing line 59 to Northing 63

All map references are taken from this sheet.

BALIKPAPAN BAY affords good anchorage for an almost unlimited number of such ships as can cross the bar at the entrance which has at least a depth of 23 feet at LW and a maximum depth of 32 feet. There are 7 wharves and a slipway (vessels up to 530 tons) in the port. It is problematical however as to how many will be left in a serviceable condition. There is at least 12 square miles of anchorage suitable for Liberty ships.

9. TERRAIN

Topographically the region consists, except for a narrow coastal plain less than one mile in width and small flat areas in BALIKPAPAN BAY, of hills of soft sandstone and clay, which rise to a higher mountain range to the NW.

The general trend of the watershed is from NE to SW.

The town of BALIKPAPAN is built along the northern and southern slopes of a fairly steep sided ridge which rises to over 300 ft and which contains many of the oil refinery installations. North of the town the ground falls away to low swampy areas.

There are no large rivers in this area and none are navigable.

10. VEGETATION

On the coastal plain is principally swamp type with mangrove on river estuaries.

The hilly interior is covered by rain forest which has been cleared considerably in the vicinity of the oil refineries immediately behind the town. The remaining vegetation is secondary growth with small areas of grassland and cultivation. The latter is very limited and most food supplies are imported.

11. GEOLOGY

On the low lying flat ground: the soils are clay and sand and sandy soil usually has a sub strata of clay.

On the foothills soft sandstones and clay predominate. None of the rock in the area is suitable for building.

12. LANDING BEACHES

From KLANDASAN to STALKOEDO there is a good reef free beach and this area includes the unit front. The reef commences from a point 1000 yards west of STALKOEDO and continues east along the coastline.

The beach on unit front averages 70 yards in width at LW, very narrow at HW. From the LW mark, the bottom of mud and sand slopes fairly rapidly to $2\frac{1}{2}$ - 4 fathoms (5 - 7 metres) but near the entrance of BALIKPAPAN BAY there is shallower water farther out.

Flat coral formations sometimes exposed at LW are reported west of KLANDASAN KETJIL RIVER a few hundred yards off shore, this is outside units' left flank.

Beach is exposed to SE winds and a fair surf can be expected July - Oct.

The $2\frac{3}{4}$ fathom line varies 300/600 yards off shore.

The beach is suitable for small LC at all but lowest tides, and suitable for large LC at HW only. It is probably soft at LW mark but otherwise suitable for MT.

It is a good beach for a large operation and the best beach in the area.

13. HINTERLAND

VASEY HIGHWAY runs through hinterland. In the unit area the strip of land between the sea and the road is built up. There are a few native houses, Catholic Mission buildings and Japanese Barracks in the area. A number of native gardens extend from the road to the foothills and the latter are covered by light timber with open patches.

14. ROADS

(a) BALIKPAPAN - SAMBODJA (VASEY HIGHWAY)

Total distance 30 miles. This road commences near PANDANSARI and follows the eastern shore of BALIKPAPAN BAY and continues along the coast in an easterly direction, moving across the unit area approx 130 yards from the shore. It is a 2 lane asphalt surfaced road.

(b) BALIKPAPAN - SAMARINDA (MILFORD HIGHWAY)

Total distance 60 miles. Running through the northern part of the town this road varies in width from 15 to 40 ft but is mostly 20 feet wide and runs almost entirely through thick rain forest.

(c) VALLEY ROAD

Leaving VASEY HIGHWAY at ref 585591 this road runs due north to link with MILFORD HIGHWAY at ref 583629. For the most part, this road follows the unit left boundary.

Numerous small roads and tracks are to be found in the town and its environs.

15. RIVERS

The only river of interest in this area is the KLANDASAN KETJIL. This river forms the units left boundary. A small stream, 20 yards wide at its mouth and quickly narrowing upstream.

750 yards upstream there is a small patch of swamp and it would probably require bridging for MT.

The mouth is subject to change by tide and flood. It is fordable at LW and does not appear to be navigable.

16. WATER SUPPLY

3 bore wells and a water catcher supply the town with water, the annual rainfall of 78.7 inches ensures a good supply. The provision of good drinking water for a large force however may be difficult if the existing supplies are not captured intact.

The KLANDASAN KETJIL RIVER water could be used if necessary after chemical treatment.

17. METEOROLOGICAL

BALIKPAPAN has no very pronounced wet or dry seasons. The monsoons are light.

Temperatures vary from 72 deg to 91 deg. Relative humidity averages 95 deg in early morning, 70 deg in early afternoon.

Tropical cyclones will not occur in the area because of its proximity to the equator.

Average rainfall over last 30 years, June 7.4 ins, July 6.8 ins. The wind force in all months is slight and seldom exceeds

5/6 MPH.

18. MEDICAL

The climate is hot and humid. Diseases common in other tropical countries are prevalent here. In BALIKPAPAN health conditions were good prior to the war but have probably deteriorated since the Japanese occupation.

The principal diseases of military importance are Malaria, Dengue, Dysentery, Venereal disease and scrub typhus. Cholera and plague may occur and cause serious epidemics.

The native population constitutes the reservoir of the great majority of local diseases and whenever possible, troops should not camp within a mile of native villages.

APPX
2
W.D

The information contained in this document is not to be communicated either directly or indirectly to the Press or to any person not authorised to receive it.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

ROUTINE ORDERS

by

Lt Col C.C.W. BOURNE
COMD 2/12 AUST INF BN

No 14 Serial 43 - 46

13 Jun 45

43. DUTIES Duty Coy mounting 1800 hrs 13 Jun 45 C Coy
Next for Duty D Coy

Duty Officer Lt J.P. DUNCAN
Next for Duty Lt M.A. ARBON

Duty Coy will provide the following duties:-

Bn Quarter Guard	1 Sgt	1 Cpl	9 Ptes
Bn Orderly Sgt	1 Sgt		
Canteen Picquet		1 Cpl	3 Ptes
Runners			2 Ptes

44. MALARIA CONTROL

- (a) The provisions of GRO 321/44 will apply.
- (b) Shirts may be removed during heavy manual labour in daylight, in open areas on the authority of an Officer. When proceeding to or returning from such work shirts will be worn.
- (c) Times for sunrise and sunset in MOROWAI will be
SUNRISE 0630 I
SUNSET 1830 I
- (d) Unless necessary through operational requirements reveille will NOT be before 0630 hrs.
- (e) Between hours 1830 and 0630 the coy orderly officer will visit all sleeping tents periodically to ensure that personnel are sleeping under mosquito nets and that NO portion of the soldier's body is in contact with the net.
- (f) Mosquito repellent lotion will be carried by all ranks from 1830 hrs, to 0630 hrs. All personnel will apply lotion to the body before 1830 hrs under the supervision of an Officer.

45. HYGIENE

- (a) Bathing in the sea is permitted ONLY if personnel are wearing some kind of footwear.
- (b) Walking bare-footed is NOT permitted. Foot-wear will be worn to and from showers and on beaches.

46. FIRE

- (a) Fire will be used to destroy decaying vegetation and undergrowth. This material will be collected in heaps, removed 10 yds from tents, camp buildings and dumps and burnt under close supervision.

- (b) All fires will be extinguished by sunset.
- (c) Lighted lamps will NOT be left in unoccupied tents or buildings.
- (d) Smoking is NOT permitted within a radius of 10 yds from petrol and amm dumps.
- (e) All coys will appoint Fire Picquet whose responsibility it will be to attack any outbreak of fire immediately it is discovered. Coy Orderly Officer will supervise the work of these picquets. Improvised fire beaters and fire extinguishers will be made available for the use of fire picquets.
- (f) Upon the outbreak of fire, the warning will be passed to the fire picquet. The discoverer and any other personnel nearby will attempt to keep the outbreak under control until the arrival of the fire picquet.

47. PROHIBITED AREAS

- (a) WATA and PITCE airstrips, dispersal areas, taxi-ways, airfield installations and US Army camps and dumps are prohibited areas to all personnel except when on duty.
- (b) Native villages and gardens are OUT OF BOUNDS to all troops. Trading with natives is prohibited.

J. J. Green
Lt
A/Adjt 2/12 Aust Inf Bn

DISTRIBUTION

- A Coy
B Coy
C Coy
D Coy
HQ Coy
BnHQ Details
C.O.
2 i/c
Adjt
Q.M.
R.L.O.
R.S.
War Diary (2)
File

W.D.

J. Lee

2/12 AUST. INF. BN

APPX 3

SECRET
COPY NO 40

2/12 AUST INF BN

OPERATION ORDER

'OBOE TWO'

88

13 JUN 45

2/12 AUST. INF. BN.

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2/12 Aust Inf Bn Operation Order "CBCE TWO"

Appx 'A'	-	Signal Diagram
Appx 'B'	-	Wireless Diagram
Appx 'C'	-	Wave Diagram
Appx 'D'	-	Manning Chart
Appx 'E'	-	Ammunition Summary
Appx 'F'	-	Landing Craft Tables

SECRETCopy No 40.....2/12 AUST INF BN OPERATION ORDER "OBOE TWO"Ref Map: BALIKPAPAN 1/25000 (1st edition - over printed)INFORMATION1. Topography

See 2/12 Aust Inf Bn Int Summary "OBOE TWO ONE"

The following features have been named by 7 Aust Div:-

(a) Hill Features

Ref 593596	-	RUPTURE
591601	-	RATION
588603	-	PLUG
589605	-	PARKES
581608	-	PORTEE
575605	-	PARRAMATTA
591609	-	RESORT
582604	-	POTTS

(b) Roads

Running East/West along coast	VASEY HIGHWAY
From ref 585591 running North	VALLEY ROAD
From ref 588607 running East and South to ref 596593	HOBSONS ROAD
Road Junction ref 588608	BLYTHS JUNCTION.

(c) Creeks

From ref 589591 running North	- LAHEYS CREEK
From ref 596592 running North	- WILMOTHS CREEK

The following Hill Features have been named by 2/12 Aust Inf Bn and must NOT be referred to by these names in comms above Bn HQ.

Ref 593594	-	DAVE
591595	-	HENRY
589595	-	PETER
589597	-	ARTHUR

2. Meteorological

See 2/12 Aust Inf Bn Int Summary "OBOE TWO ONE".

Times given below are in ITEM time (9 hrs ahead of GMT) and is the time for BALIKPAPAN area.

(a) Sunrise and Sunset

		<u>Sunrise</u>	<u>Sunset</u>
Jun	28	0714	1918
Jul	1	0715	1919
Jul	4	0715	1919
Jul	7	0715	1919

(b) Moonrise and Moonset

		<u>Moonrise</u>	<u>Moonset</u>
Jun	29	2240	1019
Jun	30	2332	1111
Jul	1	-	1202
Jul	2	0023	1251
Jul	3	0115	1340
Jul	4	0207	1430
Jul	5	0258	1520
Jul	6	0353	1614
Jul	7	0450	1710

(c) Tides

<u>Date</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Feet</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Feet</u>	<u>Low</u>	<u>Feet</u>	<u>Low</u>	<u>Feet</u>
Jun 29.	0832	8.5	2052	5.8	0157	0.8	1515	1.0
Jun 30	0911	8.1	2137	5.6	0236	1.0	1552	1.1
Jul 1	0952	7.6	2229	5.5	0318	1.4	1633	1.3
Jul 2	1038	6.9	2334	5.4	0406	2.0	1724	1.6
Jul 3	1131	6.2			0511	2.6	1825	1.8

Datum 1 foot below mean low water springs.

3. Beach Reports

See 2/12 Aust Inf Bn Int Summary "OBOE TWO ONE"

4. Enemy

See 2/12 Aust Inf Bn Int Summary "OBOE TWO ONE"

5. Subdivision of Beach Sector ABLE

Ref 581590 to 589591 - RED
589591 to 596592 - YELLOW
596592 to 601593 - GREEN

6. Role of 7 Aust Div

7 Aust Div is to land on ABLE BEACH and capture the area MANGGAR - BALIKPAPAN to enable the establishment of Naval and Air facilities and to conserve the petroleum installations therein.

7. Role of 18 Aust Inf Bde

(a) 18 Aust Inf Bde is to land on ABLE YELLOW and ABLE RED Beaches, secure the high ground dominating the town and then secure the town and free the harbour for use at an early stage.

(b) Inter Bde Boundry

All inclusive 21 Aust Inf Bde Rd June 596593 - Rd June 595597 - 591606 - Rd June 588607 thence rd to Rd June 583629.

8. Task of 2/12 Aust Inf Bn

(a) (i) Land on ABLE YELLOW beach and secure line LAHEYS CREEK 589591 - 587597 - ck June 595595 - WILMOTH CREEK 596592.

(ii) Secure line 587597 - 588606 (excluding Rd June) - 592603 - 595595 (excluding Road.)

(B) Inter Bn Boundary

All inclusive 2/12 Aust Inf Bn line of LAHEYS CREEK ref 589591 to 588606.

(o) Flanking Bns.

Right - 2/27 Aust Inf Bn and 2/10 Aust Inf Bn
Left - 2/10 Aust Inf Bn.

9. Bde Reserve

2/9 Aust Inf Bn to land on ABLE YELLOW Beach at approx H plus 45 and come into Bde reserve general area 593595.

10. Naval SP.

Allied Naval Forces are:-

(a) Transporting land forces to BALIKPAPAN area and protecting these and subsequent convoys.

(b) Bombarding beaches in sp of landing and during subsequent operations.

(c) Initiating Motor Torpedo Boat operations in BALIKPAPAN area at earliest possible date.

(d) Naval sp available is:-

- (i) H-120 to 3 CL 300 x 6" On two Bde front and flanks,
H- 75 2 DD 1800 x 5" from shore to continuation of east/
West line of 2/12 Aust Inf Bn
H-60 to 3 CL 900 x 6" first task (see para 8 (a) (i)).
H- 30 2 DD 2100 x 5"
(ii) H- 10 to 1 CL 120 x 6" In area 2/12 Aust Inf Bn second
H- 250 x 5" task (see para 8 (a) (ii)), and
2/16 Aust Inf Bn area on right
flank.
(iii) H- 10 to sp On area as for para 10 (d) (i).
H- 3 craft 4400 x 4.5"
rockets.
(iv) Clearing of under-water obstacles is to be carried out
by special Naval dets prior to H Hr.

11. Air Sp.(a) Composition

B 24 LIBERATORS, B 25 MITCHELLS, BEAUFIGHTERS,
MOSQUITOS, P38 LIGHTNING, P 40 KITTYHAWKS, P BY
CATALINA, and AUSTER aircraft.

No. of sqns to be notified later.

(b) Sp

H- 70 to Air strike On area (as for para 10 (d) (i))
H- 60

(c) AUSTER aircraft

Three AUSTER a/c are to be available as soon as
landing strip has been constructed on F day and a
further three AUSTERS are to be landed on F plus 1.

(d) General

Allied Air Forces are:-

- (i) Providing air cover, support, reconnaissances and photography for operations
- (ii) Neutralising hostile forces and installations within supporting distance of objective area and isolating objective area
- (iii) Prior to F Day destroying hostile ground defences in BALIKPAPAN - MANGGAR area especially AA and CD gun posns and destroying all oil installations capable of being used as a burning oil defence against the landing and subsequent ground operations.

(e) Targets in unit objective area to be neutralised by Air Force.

Trench Systems,	589594,	590596
Bunker Shelters,	589595(2)	591591
Barracks areas,	588595,	593593, 590592
Stores area,	585616	
Lt/AA posn,	595592	
Tunnel entrances,	587601(2)	589601, 587599
Barracks and store area,	586618.	

(f) Targets to be neutralised outside unit objective area but of importance to it.

Barracks area,	588607, 587611, 590611 - North of area.
Stores area,	586596, 587592 - on left flank. 595598 - on right flank.

12. Additional Troops

- (a) Under Comd - Det 18 Aust Inf Bde Sig Sec,
Det C Aust FS sec
Det 35 Aust FS sec (EE)
Det NICA
- (b) Under Comd - Dets 2 Aust Beach Gp.
(Landing Only)
- (c) In Support - One tp B sqn 1 Aust Armd Regt (3 Matildas)
Two FROG Tanks
One MATILDA Dozer Tank
1 Pl less det and 2 Pl Coy A, 672
Amphibian Tractor Bn.
One BC Party 2/4 Aust Fd Regt
Two "O" parties 2/4 Aust Fd Regt
6 SFCP (USS DENVER (CL) with
12 x 6"/47
12 x 5"/38 guns)
One 6 pr Tk/A Det
One "O" party 5 Tk/A Bty (42" mortars)
One tp 4 x 4.2" mortars
Det 2/9 Aust Fd Coy (in sp of tks)
Three dets 2/4 Aust Fd Coy
7 Air Liaison Party.
Det 2/5 Aust Fd Amb.

INTENTION

13. 2/12 Aust Inf Bn will land on ABIE YELLOW Beach and,
- (i) Secure beach to incl VASEY HIGHWAY
 - (ii) Secure general line of oil pipe line
 - (iii) Capture incl RATION PARKES PLUG
 - (iv) Be prepared to sp ops of 2/10 Bn.

METHOD14. Summary of Ops

The Op will be in Four Phases:

- I Secure Beach to incl VASEY HIGHWAY
- II Secure general line of oil pipe line and exploit to RUPTURE and ARTHUR.
- III Secure RATION
- IV Secure PARKES, and PLUG.

PHASE I

15.

- (a) Right - D Coy with under Comd:
 One det M3"
 One det Pnrs
 Three Flame Throwers
 and in support (for beach only) Six LVT4s.

- (b) Left - C Coy with under Comd:
 One det M3"
 One Det Pnrs
 Three Flame Throwers
 and in support (for beach only) Six LVT4s.

16. Objectives

- (a) Right - from Bn right Boundary to excl Z Barracks, to incl VASEY HIGHWAY.
- (b) Left - from incl Z Barracks to Bn left boundary, to incl VASEY HIGHWAY.

17. Action on Objective

Carry on with Phase II.

18. Method of Landing

Ex LVTs at edge of beach.

19. Time of Landing

H Hr.

20. Close sp

- (a) will be given from LVT4 armament.
- (b) Coys will man the weapons (2 x .30 MMG, 2 x .50 MMG) from their own resources and arrange for gunners to rejoin their sub-units when own tps mask their fire.
- (c) Boat Comds will designate targets.

21. Ros

Nil.

22. No pause between Phases I and II.

PHASE II23. Tps. As for Phase I.24. Objectives

(a) Right - DAVE

(b) Left - HENRY and PETER.

25. Inter Coy boundary.

Line running North from right edge of Z Barracks through
RIGHT re-entrant to 100 yds West of track junc at 597594.

26. Action on objective(a) D Coy (i) exploit to RUPTURE (one Pl) and ARTHUR
(one Pl)

(ii) Consolidation

(iii) Be prepared to sp further phases.

(b) C Coy (i) Consolidation

(ii) sp D Coy exploitation

(iii) be prepared to sp further phases

27. Close sp. Nil.28. Res.

(a) Right - A Coy

(b) Left - B Coy

(c) Method of Landing - ex LCVPs

(d) RVs

(i) A Coy - South of Y Barracks

B Coy - Between Z Barracks and Stores

(ii) A Coy - Southern slopes of DAVE

B Coy - South and West slopes of HENRY.

29. Role of Res.(a) A Coy to mop up area from incl Bn right boundary to
excl Right re-entrant.(b) B Coy to mop up area from incl Right re-entrant to
incl Bn left boundary.

(c) Thence preparation for Phase III.

(d) Bn HQ will be advised when roles completed.

PHASE III - To be put into operation on comd from Bn HQ.

30. Tps

A Coy with in sp:

One Tp Tanks
One Bty Fd Arty
One Pl MMG
Two Secs M3"
One det Pnrs
Three Flame Throwers
Two dets M4.2"

31. Objective

RATION

32. Start Time

On completion of Phase II

33. Start Line

General line of pipe-line.

34. Action on objective

- (a) Consolidation
- (b) Exploitation to PLUG
- (c) Establish contact with 2/16 Aust Inf Bn

35. Res

B Coy
Two Frog Tanks - One Dozer Tank
One sec M3"
Two dets M4.2"
One 6 pdr gun.

36. Role of Res

Preparation for Phase IV

PHASE IV (Probable)

37. Tps

B Coy with in sp:

One Tp Tks
One Bty Fd Arty
One Pl MMG
Two secs M3"
One det Pnrs
Three Flame Throwers
Two dets M4.2"

38. Objective

PLUG

39. Start Time

As ordered by Bn HQ

40. Start Line

Pointed out on ground.

41. Action on Objective

(a) Consolidation

(b) Be prepared to exploit towards POTTS feature.

42. Res

C Coy, A Coy
Two Frog Tanks One Dozer Tank
One sec M3"
Two dets M4.2"
One 6 pdr gun.

43. Role of Res

(a) C Coy be prepared to accupy PLUG on exploitation being carried out by B Coy

(b) A Coy exploitation to PARKES

44. Sp Arm(a) LVT4s

(i) Comds Coy A Capt RAYMOND, LO - Lt FLORER
2 Pl (wave I) Lt LUZZI
1 Pl (wave II) Lt FLORER

(ii) Are to transport D Coy, C Coy, Hy Weapons, res amn and dets of HQ Coy and Bn HQ ashore in two waves (I & II)

(iii) Are to sp Waves I and II ashore with own armament

(iv) On arrival at far shore will move to RVs as under:

Wave I

6 LVTs to vicinity South of VASEY HIGHWAY and West of WILMOTHS CREEK, thence move fwd as ordered.

6 LVTs to vicinity between Stores and LAHEYS CREEK, thence move fwd as ordered.

Wave II

Will be guided by RAE personnel via two taped lanes (one on right and one on left of centre of beach) to RV vicinity NW of Y Barracks.

(v) Coordinator of assembly of LVTs - Maj CAMERON (advised by Lt LUZZI). Coordinator will be responsible for:

Assembly, layout and local protection of LVTs at RV.

Forwarding of LVTs to fresh locations as required.

Provision of lanes and guides for any movt of LVTs fwd.

(vi) Marking

All LVTs will be clearly marked with a serial number to assist in identification of Hy Weapons Res Amn and Stores.

(b) Armour

- (i) Recce party and det 2/9 Fd Coy are to land in Wave I.
(ii) Time of landing H plus 13, H plus 23.
(iii) Tanks will move via LVT Lanes to RV Area in RIGHT re-entrant.

(iv) Roles

Phase I	Nil
Phase II	Nil
Phase III	One Tp Tks in sp A Coy Two FROGS Bn Res One Dozer tk Bn res.
Phase IV	One Tp tks in sp B Coy Two FROGS Bn res. One Dozer tk Bn res.

(c) Fd Arty

- (i) FOO Party will land with A Coy and sp Phase III
(ii) BC Party will land with Bn HQ
(iii) FOO Party will land with B Coy and sp Phase IV
(iv) Approx availability of Arty

H plus 60	One tp
H plus 90	One Bty
H plus 120	Two Btys
H plus 200	One Regt

(d) Tk/A

- (i) One 6 pdr gun is to land in Wave II and remain in Tk/A RV until called fwd. Probable role - sniping enemy def posns.
(ii) Four 4.2" Ms are to land in Wave II and RV as arranged by Tk/A Comd.

Roles will be as under:-

Phase I	Nil
Phase II	Nil
Phase III	Two dets in sp A Coy Two dets Bn res.
Phase IV	Two dets in sp B Coy Two dets Bn res.

FC Party is to land in Wave I and establish an OP on PETER, to move with C Coy RV area.

(c) R&E

(1) Comd Lt MOUTON

(ii) Are to land with Wave I

(iii) Are to be grouped as under:-

Recce and Marking Party
 Delousing Party
 Demolition Party.

(iv) Tasks:-

Clearance of lanes to RV for passage of
 tracked vehs
 Demolitions and improvement of routes as reqd.

(f) SFCP

To land as per Bn L.C. Table.

(g) Air Sp.

(1) No 7 AL Party is to be attached for close Air sp.

(ii) Fluorescent panels on the basis of one per Pl for intercomm will be carried.

(h) AA Protection

(1) Offensive action will be taken against enemy Air Craft at all times.

(ii) No land activity will cease merely because of the presence of enemy Aircraft Shelter will be taken if directly attacked only.

45. Sp Weapons(a) No 2 Pl

(1) Will land in LVTs at H plus 3 and move to LVT RV area

(ii) Roles:-

Phase I - Nil

Phase II - On arrival at RV area will move fwd to vicinity PETER and be prepared to sp exploitation of D Coy and further Phases

Phase III - On completion of Phase II be prepared to move to ARTHUR to sp A Coy

Phase IV - Sp of B Coy

Be prepared to engage targets on POTTS feature in sp of 2/10 Aust Inf Bn.

(b) No 3 Pl

(1) Will land as under:-

Wave I - Two dets.

Wave II - Pl less two dets and move to LVT RV area.

(ii) Roles

- Phase I - One det under comd D Coy, one det under comd C Coy
 Phase II - On arrival at RV area Pl less two dets will come into action and be prepared to sp phase II or exploitation
 Phase III - Pl less two secs in sp A Coy, One sec Bn res, One det in sp D Coy, One det in sp C Coy.
 Phase IV - Pl less two secs in sp B Coy, one sec Bn res, one det in sp C Coy, One det in sp C Coy

(iii) O.Ps will be established as under:-

On PETER to be prepared to move to ARTHUR
 On RUPTURE to move to RATION

(c) No 4 Pl

(i) Pl HQ less det to land in Wave III

(ii) Det to remain with and land with guns

(iii) Role:-

Pl less det local protection Bn HQ

(d) No 5 Pl

(i) Two dets to land with each of D and C Coys

(ii) Pl less dets to land in Wave III

(iii) Roles:-

Phases I and II

D Coy Dets

One det under comd D Coy

One det taping party for LVT lanes to assist RAE

C Coy Dets

As for D Coy

Phase III

One det under comd A Coy

One det under comd B Coy

Pl less dets Bn res.

Phase IV

As for Phase III

All dets to be prepared to undertake demolitions as required.

46. ULO Party

(a) OC Capt S.G. GRIFFITHS

(b) Constitution	Batman	1
	A Coy	2
	B Coy	2
	MMG Pl	1
	M3" Pl	1
	RP Sgt	1
	RPs	3

(c) Method of landing - Centre LVTs of Wave I

(d) Location - Centre of ABLE YELLOW Beach

(e) Duties:-

- (i) Land with assault Wave and mark centre of Beach with Unit signs
 - (ii) Be prepared to direct remainder of Bn Landing teams forward by means of orderlies
 - (iii) Remain personally within hailing distance of Unit signs
 - (iv) Report to BMR when duties are concluded and then rejoin Unit
 - (v) Report to Bn HQ when relieved from duty
- (f) RP Sgt and one RP will remain on duty until ordered to rejoin Unit

47. Far Shore Landing Schedule

<u>Time</u>	<u>Wave</u>	<u>Craft</u>	<u>Load</u>
H	1	12 x LVTs	D and C Coys
H plus 3	2	11 x LVTs	Hy Weapons and Amn
H plus 8	3	12 x LCVPs	Bn HQ A and B Coys plus Dets HQ Coy
	On Call	ex TITANIA	12 Dvrs 8 Jeeps, 4 Trlrs 2 x 2pdrs
	On Call	ex LST 454	4 Dvrs 2 Jeeps, 2 Trlrs
	On Call	ex LSM 21	4 Dvrs 2 Jeeps, 2 Trlrs

48. Flame Throwers

- (a) Will be allotted on the basis of three per Coy
- (b) Operators will be drawn equally from Coys and formed into a Flame Thrower Pl under HQ Coy Control

(c) Type of fuel:-

D Coy	3 Thick
C Coy	3 Thick
B Coy	3 Thick
A Coy	3 Thick

(d) Ignition Cylinders

To be carried on a basis of Six per Flame Thrower

49. Rehearsal

Rehearsal of Assault elements is to be carried out on S minus 2 under separate instructions

50. F Day 1 Jul 45.

51. H Hour. 0800 I

ADMINISTRATIONMedical

- (a) SB Allotment - See Appx 'D'
- (b) RAP will be established initially at approx rd bend 592593
- (c) Evacuations in rear of RAP to be as under:-

<u>To where</u>	<u>Tpt</u>	<u>Time</u>
BDS	2/5 Aust Fd Amb Bearers	H plus 50 - 1800 hrs F Day
MDS	2/5 Aust Fd Amb Bearers	1800 hrs F Day onwards
BDS (Tentative)	2/5 Aust Fd Amb Bearers	H - H plus 50

- (d) BDS tentatively at ref 593593 from H plus 50
- (e) MDS at ref 593593 from 1800 hrs F Day
- (f) SB Teams to land at H plus 48

53. Amn

See Appx 'E'

- (a) Assault Scale plus :-
- (i) 50 rounds ~~SA~~ per man
 - (ii) 100 No 77 (WP) Bombs per Rifle Coy
 - (iii) 100 No 75 Grenades per Rifle Coy
- (b) M3" Amn
- (i) 800 rds M3" Amn will be carried
 - (ii) Scale of issue - 96 rds per M3". Remainder res.
 - (iii) Assault Coys will arrange extra personnel to assist in carrying Amn reqd by M3" dets. This amn to be dumped at approx gun locations.
- (c) Explosives - Pnr Pl will carry demolition charges and/or Bangalore torpedoes.
- (d) Res Amn
- (i) Will land at H plus 3 in LVTs.
 - (ii) Will be loaded in 5 x LVTs as Mobile Amn Points to be controlled by RSM.
 - (iii) Initial location of AP will be in LVT Ry area but vehs may be moved on instructions of co-ordinator.

(e) Flamethrower Fuel

- (i) Two refills per flame thrower (i.e. 4 galls thick fuel, 4 galls thin fuel) will be carried with Res Amn.
- (ii) Two Pressure tanks per flame thrower will be carried with Res amn.
- (iii) Ignition cylinders 504 to be carried with Res amn.
- (f) Every endeavour will be made to keep Amn stored and covered away from the weather at all times.
- (g) Bde Res Amn will be located at Bde 'B' Ech.
- (h) Amn STATES will be rendered to RSM 1600 hrs daily.

54. Tools

(a) Assault Stores to be carried by personnel:-

- (i) WE of Wirecutters.
- (ii) WE of Wiring gloves - 5 prs per Rifle Coy, 5 prs Pnrs.
- (iii) WE of entrenching tools.
- (iv) WE of Toggle ropes.

(b) Consolidation Stores

(i) Allotment of Picks:-

Rifle Coy	20
HQ Coy	30
Bn HQ	10
Bn Res	51

- (ii) Wiring etc will be acquired from local resources.
- (iii) Res Picks will be carried with Res Amn.

55. Tpt

- (a) Vehs will be embarked with fuel tanks, filled to 95% or within one gall of capacity whichever is the greater
- (b) Res will be carried of one 4 gall drum of petrol per Jeep.
- (c) Issues of petrol will be made by Bch Gp during F and F plus 1.
- (d) PP is to be established near Bde 'B' Ech from F plus 2.
- (e) Petrol drums will be exchanged at the PP - all damaged drums to be returned to Bde TC.
- (f) Do waterproofing

TO will refer to Bde Adm Order for details of de water-proofing.

- (g) Two x 2½ ton 6 x 6 vehs from 2/10 Aust Tpt Pl will carry res water, 245 x 2 gall water containers per vehicle. These vehs will be marked "Stores 2-12"
56
in 18" lettering on both sides of the veh.
- (h) Filled sand bags will be placed on floors of drivers cabin to reduce casualties from land mines.
- (i) Routes - Vehs will move well off main roads, tracks etc unless they have been declared free from mines.
- (k) Jeep water trailers will be embarked full.
- (l) One camflg net will be carried on each veh and gun.

56. Sups

- (a) To be carried on the man:-
- 1 x A3 Emergency Ration
 - 1 x O2 Ration
 - 1 x 6 oz tin solid fuel
 - 1 x Water Purifying outfit
 - 1 x 4 oz Bottle Repellant Lotion
- (b) To be carried in bulk in unit tpt:-
- 1 x O2 Ration per man
 - 4 days expense and Anti Malarial stores
 - 80 Freon bombs
- (c) Sup point to be established vicinity Bde 'B' Ech on F plus 1 to issue for consumption on F plus 2.
- (d) 'B' Ech will be brigaded initially at ref 593592.

57. Water

- (a) All personnel will land with full water bottles.
- (b) Water from any source whatsoever other than Bn control will NOT under any circumstances be drunk or utilised for washing.
- (c) All Jeep water trailers will be filled before embarkation.

58. Hygiene

- (a) Full malarial precautions will ensure - darkness 1900 to 0700.
- (b) All refuse tins etc will be burnt and buried, tins to be flattened.
- (c) Deep trench latrines will be constructed as soon as practicable. Until then Coys will ensure that slit latrines are filled in as used and full precautions taken to prevent access by flies.
- (d) Bathing and/or washing of clothes will be permitted ONLY in areas designated by Bn HQ.

- (e) Natives and dwelling places and their near vicinity are out of bounds to all ranks.
- (f) Rat poison is to become available. All rats destroyed are to be burnt without handling.
- (g) Disinfestation of Enemy dead
 Pure creosote will be sprayed on bodies and surrounding ground. Hygiene Sgt will be responsible.
- (h) Anti mite lotion will be applied to clothing immediately prior to embarkation and fortnightly thereafter.

59. Dress

- (a) Personnel will be dressed in fresh clean clothes on F Day.
- (b) Battle Order plus:-
 Mosquito net
 Groundsheet and/or Shelter half
 Boots AB Tropical studded
 Steel helmets (to be worn)
 Felt hats (to be carried in blanket roll)
 Capes anti gas
 3 pr socks
 Shovel entrenching
- (c) Spare set of clothing (dirty)
 - (i) Personnel travelling in LVTs to leave in vehs, to be collected later when situation permits.
 - (ii) Personnel travelling in LCVPs to dump in Rv area and leave guarded. To be collected later when situation permits.
 - (iii) All sets of clothing to be placed in waterproof bag issued.
- (d) Boots will be freshly treated with dubbin before embarkation at near shore.
- (e) Waterproof covers will be placed round Pay Books and AAB 83s.
- (f) Blankets and stretchers are to be landed on F plus 2 and fwded to tps under arrangements by QM.

60. Security

- (a) Envelopes, correspondence or other written matter bearing unit designation will NOT be carried by personnel.
- (b) Under NO circumstances will rings bearing unit colour patch or colour patches themselves be worn or carried on the person.
- (c) All captured documents and any equipment NOT previously encountered will be forwarded immediately to Bn HQ.

- (d) Personnel will be warned of the probable existence of booby traps, and the likely attachment of same to attractive souvenirs.

61. Controlled Stores

- (a) These items will NOT be evacuated with casualties, and every effort will be made to safeguard them. A 'Q' Representative will be stationed at the R&P to assist in collection of same.
- (b) All losses of controlled stores will be notified to QM as soon as operationally possible.

62. Bde Provost

- (a) One sec 7 Aust Div Pro Coy is under comd.
- (b) Allotment to units:-

HQ 18 Aust Inf Bde	11 Provosts
2/12 Aust Inf Bn	4 "
2/10 Aust Inf Bn	4

Dets with 2/10 and 2/12 Aust Inf Bns will revert to comd HQ 18 Aust Inf Bde when latter lands.

(c) Tasks

- (i) Det with Bde HQ will establish a PW collecting post vicinity Bde HQ.
- (ii) Escort PW from Collecting Post to compound in BMA.
- (iii) Control refugees.
- (iv) Traffic control in bde area and signposting rds, minefields under direction of SC.

63. PW Collecting Post

Will be established initially at rd bend 590593 thence as ordered.

64. Looting, theft, pillaging and unnecessary destruction of civilian property.

This is strictly forbidden. All personnel will be warned that any contravention of the order will be treated as a serious offence and dealt with accordingly.

65. Postal

- (a) Det 7 Aust Div Field Post Office will be located in Bde 'B' Ech.
- (b) Initially all inwards and outward mail will be removed by sea. When air facilities become available first class mail matter will be moved by air and second class by sea.
- (c) Until stamps are available personnel may post mail matter without stamps using the notation NSA (no stamps available).

66. Bartering

On no consideration will Military personnel give, trade or barter army clothing, rations or supplies to native personnel. All personnel will be instructed that they will not give food to natives.

67. Salvage

All Salvage material will be collected into dumps along the route of advance.

68. Discipline

- (a) The Commanding Officer of any major unit of the AMF, i.e. Battalion, Regiment, etc, having small units under comd or att will be the Commanding Officer for the purpose of discipline of such small unit, dets or tps.
- (b) (i) Natives for the most part are Mohammedans. Their customs and their women folk will be respected. Dealings with natives will be friendly but not familiar. All soldiers will be acquainted with the "BORNEO BOOK FOR SERVICE MEN".
- (ii) Except in ops, native villages are out of bounds to all tps except members of NICA and others expressly authorised by HQ 7 Aust Div to enter them.

69. Refugees

- (a) Strict Control of Refugees will be exercised by all ranks.
- (b) Refugees will NOT be allowed to use main highways or in any way interfere with Military Operations.
- (c) Units will direct all refugees to Refugee Compound in BMA.

70. Enemy Equipment

- (a) Captured enemy equipment will be handled in accordance with GROs G473/43 and G238/44 in conjunction with Det FS Sec (EE) located at En HQ.
- (b) All enemy Supply of POL dumps captured will be safeguarded and then location reported immediately to this HQ. Their contents will not be used without authority from this HQ.
- (c) All enemy medical equipment captured will be safeguarded and passed to the custody of the RMO.

71. Relationship of troops with Civilian Population

The population of the Netherlands Indies will be of great assistance to the Command once their confidence has been gained. Every effort will be made to maintain friendly relations with the population.

The following policies will be observed:-

- (a) Troops will not molest the Civilian Population.
- (b) Troops will not enter Civilian dwellings or gardens without the permission of the inhabitants except in the performance of duties.
- (c) Troops will not obtain articles, incl foodstuffs without the consent of the owner. Items will be paid for at rates established by NICA.

72. A Bde Stragglers Post is to be established in Bde 'B' Ech area on F day.
 Personnel unable to locate unit will report to this Post.

INTERCOMM

73 Wireless

- (a) Allotment of 108 Mk III-
 1 set to each of:-
 A, B, C, D & HQ Coys, CO, 2 i/c and Mortar Pl
 (Wireless diagram see Appx 'B')
- (b) Frequency 108 sets
 (P) 2605 KC/S
 (S) 3160 KC/S
- (c) Allotment of SCR 536 Bs
 5 sets to each of A, B, C & D Coys
 1 Set to each Mortar Sec
- (d) Netting
 Netting of 108 sets to be completed prior to embarkation and sets locked.
 This is to be co-ordinated by Bde Sig Sec.
- (e) Wireless Silence
 Until H minus 1 hr on F day
- (f) Listening watch
 Will be kept by all sets from H minus 2 hrs.
- (g) Emergency comms
 Afloat will be passed over Navy channels prior to H minus 1 hr.
- (h) Codewords for imposing and breaking wireless silence:-

Imposing wireless silence	-	MARBLE
Reserve	-	ACCRUE
Breaking wireless silence	-	BRIGHT
Reserve	-	FEEBLE

74. Line

- (a) Phones - normal
- (b) Cable - line diagram see Appx 'A'

76. Headquarters

- (a) Bn HQ lands at H plus 8 mins
- (b) Phase I LCVP
- (c) Phase II Approx SW spur of DAVE 594593
- (d) Phases III and IV approx SW spur of DAVE 594593

75. Code Words

- (a) Code word for operations "OBOE TWO"
- (b) Bn Code Name from F day to 2400I F plus 2 - VONA
- (c) Appointments Code - Normal
- (d) The following code words will be used to notify Comd of the completion of the various Coy phases:-
 - (i) Phase I - MARY
 - (ii) Phase II - ELLEN
 - (iii) Phase III - DORIS
 - (iv) Phase IV - NANCY

77. Air warnings - enemy

Air warning will be passed to sub units through sig channels.

78. Codes

- (a) Combined Assault Code will be used until 2400I hrs F plus 2.
- (b) As from 2400I hrs on F plus 2, Trancode G 68 will be used.
- (c) Slidex code will be used for all R/T conversations.

79. Time

- (a) Time Zone suffix will be 'I'
- (b) Synchronization of time:-
 - (i) Afloat - Ships time zone ITEM
 - (ii) Ashore - Bn Sigs will synchronize time at 0815I and 1715I daily and as required.

80. Ground to Air Comms(a) Fluorescent Panels

The following drill will be used by forward units on patrols who require confirmation of their location:-

- (i) When an AUSTER aircraft is observed to be in the vicinity lay out one fluorescent ground panel with 3 feet at one end turned over so that the aircraft will see six feet of colour and three feet of white.
 - (ii) If the foliage is such that the panel will be difficult to see from the air, fire one verrey light to attract pilots attention.
 - (iii) When the AUSTER observer sees either (a) or combination of (a) and (b) above he will drop a message giving map reference of the panel.
 - (iv) If the message is received on the ground and understood the panel will be changed to normal 12 feet coloured side uppermost.
 - (v) If message is not received the panel will be completely turned over showing all white.
- (b) Signs therefore have the following meaning:-
- (i) Verrey flare - I am laying a ground panel, look for it.
 - (ii)

6 Ft	3 Ft	
RED	WHITE	- Drop message giving map ref.
 - (iii)

12 Ft		
RED		- Message received and understood
 - (iv)

12 Ft		
WHITE		- Message NOT received, repeat.
- (c) Fluorescent Screens will be used when required to mark fwd line of tps.
- (d) Pyrotechnics

The following pyrotechnic signals for use between ground troops and aircraft will be used:-

<u>Signal</u>	<u>Meaning</u>
(i) <u>Used by ground troops</u>	
Must 2 inch Multi star GREEN Must be repeated at least once	"Artillery gunfire or bombs falling within our lines"
(ii) <u>Used by aircraft</u>	
Two Star Red	"Display front line panel air attack about to commence"

Signal

Meaning

Used by aircraft

Two stars GREEN

"My mission has been completed"

or

"First wave 500 yds from beach"

(iii) Illuminating flares are being used for illumination purposes as required but will NOT represent any prearranged message.

(e) NO light signal which may be confused with these will be employed.

01 H Hr

010900I

SYNCHRONIZE

Ack

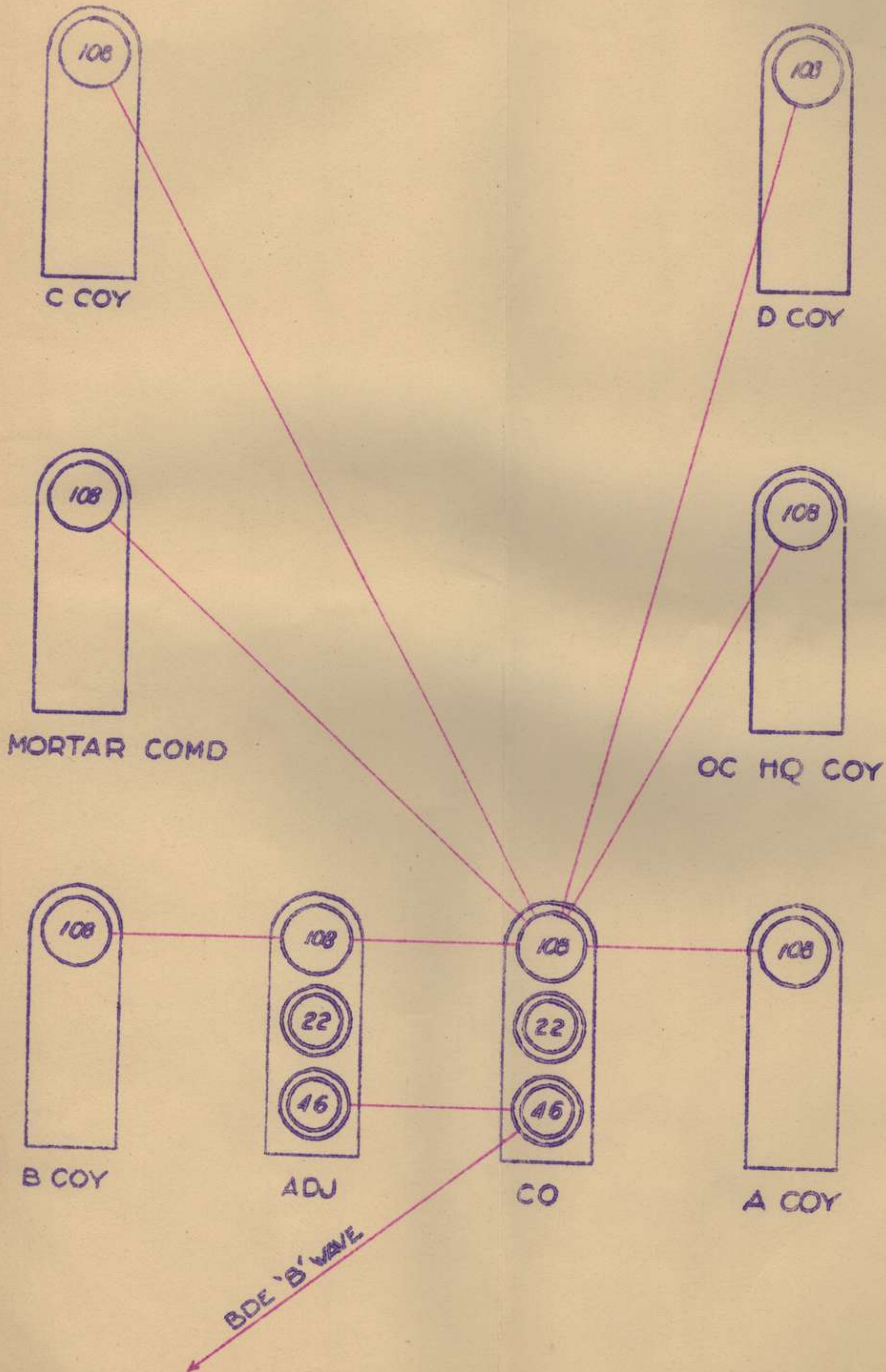
[Handwritten signature]
Capt
Adjt 2/12 Aust Inf Bn

Signed at

Issued by

WIRELESS DIAGRAM
THE APPROACH

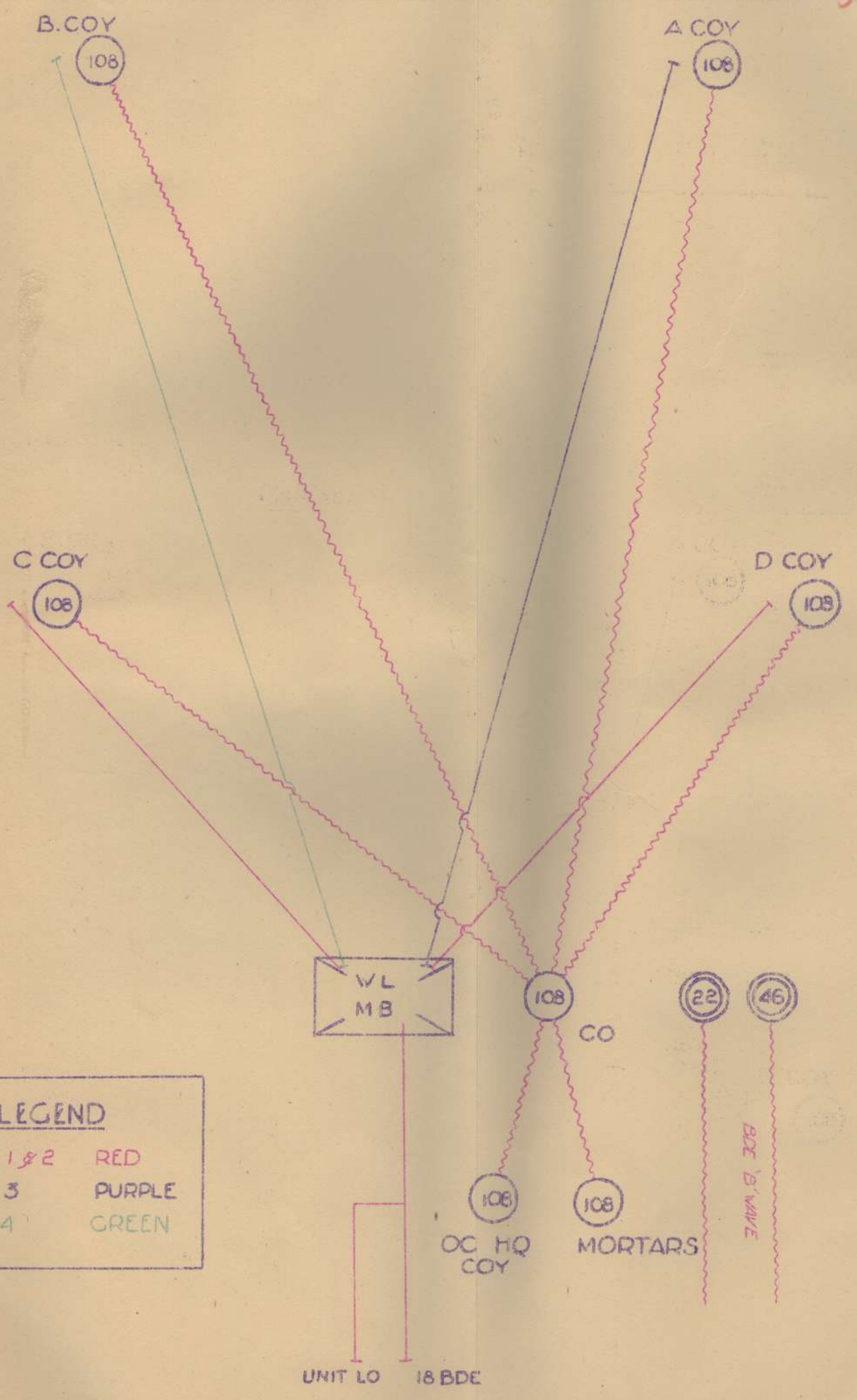
SECRET
OPERATION 'OBOETWO'
APPX 'B' COPY 35



APPX
B

SIGNAL DIAGRAM
ASHORE
 PHASES II, III & IV

SECRET
 OPERATION 'OBOE TWO'
 APPX 'A' *COPY 35*



LEGEND
 PHASE 1 & 2 RED
 PHASE 3 PURPLE
 PHASE 4 GREEN

DISTRIBUTION

Copy Nos

	00	Appx 'A'	Appx 'B'	Appx 'C'	Appx 'D'	Appx 'E'	Appx 'F'
HQ Coy	1-5	1-5	1-5	1-5	1-5	1-5	1-5
A Coy	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
B Coy	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
C Coy	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
D Coy	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
NICA	10						10
6 SFCP	11	10	10	10			11
B Sqn 1 Aust Armd Regt	12	11	11	11			12
Coy A 672 Amphibian							
Tractor Bn	13	12	12	12			13
2/4 Aust Fd Regt	14	13	13	13			14
2/2 Aust Tk/A Regt	15	14	14	14			15
2/4 Aust Fd Coy	16						16
2/9 Aust Fd Coy	17						17
2/5 Aust Fd Amb	18						18
7 AL Party	19	15	15				19
CO	20	16	16	15	10	10	20
2 i/c	21	17	17	16	11	11	21
Adjnt	22	18	18	17	12	12	22
QM	23	19	19	18		13-14	23-25
RMO	24				13		26
IO	25	20	20	19	14	15	27
TO	26	21	21	20	15	16	28
Sig Offr	27	22	22	21	16	17	29
RSM	28	23	23	22	17	18	30
18 Aust Inf Bde (for infm)	29-33	24-28	24-28	23-27	18-22	19-23	31-35
2 Aust Beach Group (for infm)	34	29	29	28	23	24	36
2/9 Aust Inf Bn (for infm)	35	30	30	29	24	25	37
2/10 Aust Inf Bn (for infm)	36	31	31	30	25	26	38
2/16 Aust Inf Bn (for infm)	37	32	32	31	26	27	39
2/27 Aust Inf Bn (for infm)	38	33	33	32	27	28	40
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War Diary	40-41	35-36	35-36	34-35	29-30	30-31	42-43

SECRET

APPX 'C' COPY 34

TO 2/12 AUST INF BN OPERATION ORDER
 'OBOE TWO'
 2/12 AUST INF BN
 LANDING DIAGRAM - ABLE YELLOW BEACH

WAVE TIME	CRAFT	REMARKS
1 H+hr	<p>LST 397</p>	Forward Coys 2/12 Bn & RAE
2 H+3	<p>LST 456</p>	Sp Weapons TRA Bty Reserve Amra
3 H+8	<p>APD 3 APD 4 APD 5</p>	Bn HQ Reserve Coys Dets HQ Coy
4 H+13	<p>CARTER HALL</p>	3 Matilda Tanks
5 H+23		2 Frogs 1 Tank Dozer
6 AS ORDERED	<p>TITANIA</p>	8 Jeeps 4 Jeep Trailers 2 x 2 pr Guns 13 Drivers
ON CALL	<p>LST 454</p>	2 Jeeps 2 Trailers 4 Drivers
ON CALL	<p>LSM 21</p>	2 Jeeps 2 Trailers 4 Drivers
<p>LEGEND</p>		

APPX
G

SECRET

SUMMARY OF AMMUNITION

Appx '1' to 2/12 Aust Inf Bn
Operation Order "OBOE TWO"

COPY 30

112 AUSTRALIAN INF. BN.

Type	Craft Serial Numbers and No Rounds																			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33
.303 Bdr	All on man																			
.303 Ctn																	4 c/s			4 c/s
.303 Stripless																	2 c/s	8 c/s	8 c/s	2 c/s
9 mm																	5 c/s			4 c/s
M2"	2 c/s	2 c/s			2 c/s		-	2 c/s		2 c/s	2 c/s						3 c/s			3 c/s
M3"			16 c/s	16 c/s					16 c/s	16 c/s							7 c/s			7 c/s
Gren HE 36 4Sec																	6 c/s			6 c/s
Gren H 36 7Sec																	4 c/s			7 c/s
Gren 63																				1 c/s
Gren 77																	4 c/s			4 c/s
PITA																	4 c/s			4 c/s

Type	Craft Serial Numbers and No Rounds																					
	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	175	189	194
.303 Ctn	4 c/s				4 c/s		4 c/s															
.303 Stripless	2 c/s				1 c/s		1 c/s															
9 mm	4 c/s				5 c/s		5 c/s															
M2"	3 c/s				4 c/s		3 c/s	2 c/s	2 c/s		2 c/s							2 c/s	2 c/s			
M3"	7 c/s		16 c/s	16 c/s	7 c/s	16 c/s	7 c/s															
Gren HE 36 4Sec	6 c/s				6 c/s		6 c/s															
Gren HE 36 7Sec	5 c/s				5 c/s		5 c/s															
Gren 63	1 c/s						1 c/s															
Gren 77	4 c/s				4 c/s		4 c/s															
PITA	4 c/s						2 c/s															
2 pdr Tk/A																				10 c/s	4 c/s	4 c/s

2 x LST 397, 456
 3 x APD 3, 4, 5
 Craft Available:-
 12 x LCVP 27 x LVT

2/12 AUST INF BN LANDING CRAFT TABLE

(Issued in conjunction with 2/12 Aust Inf Bn OO No 02 dated 13 Jun 45)

SECRET
 Appx 'F' to 2/12 Aust
 Inf Bn Operation Order
 "OBOE T/O"

Copy No 4-2

Sheet No 1

Ldg Craft Serial No	LANDING CRAFT		PERSONNEL			LOAD			MANNING		LANDING		REMARKS
	No	Type	Sub-Unit	March- ing	On Vehs	Guns	Vehs	Stores	Place	Time	Beach	Time	
1		LVT4	16 Pl D Coy Flame Throwers Stretcher Bearer No 5 Pl	1 20 2 1 1				1 Flame Thrower 36 Rds M2" 1 Axe			ABLE YELLOW	H	Wave 1 Right Flank (a) Crew
2		LVT4	17 Pl D Coy Flame Throwers Stretcher Bearer No 5 Pl	1 20 2 1 1				36 Rds M2" 1 Axe			ABLE YELLOW	H	(a) Crew
3		LVT4	OC D Coy Batman } Coy Clerk } HQ Runners } 16 Pl 17 Pl 18 Pl No 1 Pl No 3 Pl No 5 Pl I Sec Stretcher Bearer B Sqn 1 Aust Armd Regt 2/9 Aust Fd Coy	1 1 1 2 3 2 2 3 1 2 1 1 1 2 1				48 Rds M3" Amn 1 Axe 108 Mk III Set 3 x 1/3 Mile Cable 1 x phone 2 Stret- chers			ABLE YELLOW	H	(a) Crew
				1 22	3 (a)								

2/12 AUST. INF. BN.

Appx

2/12 AUST INF BN LANDING CRAFT TABLE (continued)

Sheet No 2

2/12 AUST. INF. BN.

Ldg Craft Serial No	LANDING CRAFT		PERSONNEL			LOAD			MANNING		LANDING		REMARKS
	No	Type	Sub-Unit	March- ing	On Vehs	Guns	Vehs	Stores	Place	Time	Beach	Time	
4		LVT4	D Coy HQ 2 i/c	1		1 x M3"		48 Rds M3" Amn <i>RAC</i> <i>100k</i>			ABLE YELLOW	H	(a) Crew
			CSM	1									
			Batman	1									
			Runners	3									
			No 3 Pl	6									
			No 5 Pl	3									
			No 16 Pl	3									
			2/4 Aust Fd Coy	4									
				1	21	3 (a)							
5		LVT4	No 18 Pl	1	20		1 Flame Thrower	36 Rds M2" Amn 1 Axe			ABLE YELLOW	H	(a) Crew
			Flame Throwers	2									
			No 5 Pl	1									
			Stretcher Bearer	1									
				1	24	3 (a)							
6		LVT4	ULO	1				<i>RAC</i> <i>300k</i>			ABLE YELLOW	H	(a) Crew
			Batman } ULO	1									
			A Coy } ULO	2									
			B Coy } Party	2									
			No 16 Pl	2									
			No 17 Pl	1									
			No 18 Pl	1									
			2/9 Aust Fd Coy	2									
			2/4 Aust Fd Coy	1	12								
				2	23	4 (a)							

2/12 AUST INF BN LANDING CRAFT TABLE (continued)

Sheet No 4

Ldg Craft Serial No	LANDING CRAFT		PERSONNEL		LOAD			MANNING		LANDING		REMARKS	
	No	Type	Sub-Unit	March- ing	On Vehs	Guns	Vehs	Stores	Place	Time	Beach		Time
10		LVT4	C Coy HQ OC	1				48 Rds M3" Amm			ABLE YELLOW	H	(a) Crew
			Batman	1				3 x 1/3 mile cable					
			Clerk	1				1 phone					
			Runners	3				1 Axe					
			No 13 Pl	2				1 x 108					
			No 15 Pl	3				Mk III Set					
			No 1 Pl	3				2 Stret- chers					
			No 3 Pl	1									
			No 5 Pl	2									
			I Sec	1									
			Stretcher Bearer	1									
			2/4 Aust Fd Coy	4									
				1 22	4 (a)								
11		LVT4	No 14 Pl C Coy	1 20		1 Flame Thrower		36 Rds M2" Amm			ABLE YELLOW	H	(a) Crew
			Flame Throwers	2				1 Axe					
			No 5 Pl	1									
			Stretcher Bearer	1									
				1 24	3 (a)								
12		LVT4	No 15 Pl C Coy	1 20		1 Flame Thrower		36 Rds M2" Amm			ABLE YELLOW	H	Wave 1 Left Flank
			Flame Throwers	2				1 Axe					
			No 5 Pl	1									
			Stretcher Bearer	1									
				1 24	3 (a)								(a) Crew

2/12 AUST. INF. BN.

2/12 AUST INF BN LANDING CRAFT TABLE (continued)

Sheet No 5

Ldg Craft Serial No	LANDING CRAFT		PERSONNEL		LOAD			MANNING		LANDING		REMARKS		
	No	Type	Sub-Unit	March- ing	On Vehs	Guns	Veh	Stores	Place	Time	Beach		Time	
26		LVT4	D Coy	4	3 (a)			7 cases M3" (Stores)	4 c/s .303 ctn 2 c/s .303 Stripless 5 c/s 9 mm 3 c/s M2" HE 36 (4) 6 c/s HE 36 (7) 4 c/s 77 Gren 4 c/s PITA 4 c/s 2 Drums Thin Fuel 2 Drums Thick Fuel Press Tanks 10 Tent Flys 2			ABLE YELLOW	H plus 3	(a) Crew
27		LVT4	No 2 Pl	15	3 (a)	2 x MMG		8 c/s Stripless 1 Range Finder				ABLE YELLOW	H plus 3	(a) Crew
28		LVT4	No 2 Pl 7 Aust Div Pro Coy	1 13 2 1 15	3 (a)	2 x MMG		8 c/s Stripless 1 Range Finder				ABLE YELLOW	H plus 3	(a) Crew

2/12 AUST. INF. BN.

2/12 AUST INF BN LANDING CRAFT TABLE (continued)

Sheet No 2

Edg Craft Serial No	LANDING CRAFT		PERSONNEL		LOAD			MANNING		LANDING		REMARKS	
	No	Type	Sub-Unit	March- ing	On Vehs	Guns	Veh	Stores	Place	Time	Beach		Time
31		LVT4	HQ Coy HQ OC Ord Room Clerk Batman CSM No 1 Pl LASC (2/12 Bn) 7 Aust Div Pro Coy 672 Amph Tractor Bn LO	1 1 1 3 3 1 1 2			3 (a)	7 Boxes Dry Cells (Stores) Med Pan 1 Blankets 20 Pallaise 50 1 x 1 108 Mk III Set 6 x 536 B Sets 14 reels Assault cable 6 Cable layers 1 Switchboard 6 Phones 8 miles D III Cable 1 Sig Pannier			ABLE YELLOW	H plus 3	(a) Crew
32		LVT4	No 3 Pl	1 14	4 (a)	2 x M3"		96 Rds M3" Amn			ABLE YELLOW	H plus 3	(a) Crew
33		LVT4	No 3 Pl	15	3 (a)	2 x M3"		96 Rds M3" Amn			ABLE YELLOW	H plus 3	(a) Crew
34		LVT4	C Coy 7 Aust Div Pro Coy	4 1 5	3 (a)			9 Press Tanks 1 Tent Fly 7 c/s M3" (Stores) 4 c/s 9 mm 4 c/s M2" 6 c/s Gren 4 5 c/s Gren 7 4 c/s Gren 77 3 drums thin fuel 2 drums thick fuel			ABLE YELLOW	H plus 3	(a) Crew

2/12 AUST INF BN

2/12 AUST INF BN LANDING CRAFT TABLE (continued)

Sheet No

Ldg Craft Serial No	LANDING CRAFT		PERSONNEL		LOAD			MANNING		LANDING		REMARKS
	No	Type	Sub-Unit	March- ing On Vehs	Guns	Vehs	Stores	Place	Time	Beach	Time	
35		LVT4	No 3 PI	15 3 (a)	2 x M3"		96 Rds M3"			ABLE YELLOW	H plus 3	Wave II Left Flank (a) Crew
36		LVT4	C Coy	5 3 (a)			4 c/s .303 ctn 7 c/s M3" 1 c/s belt 5 c/s 9 mm 3 c/s M2" 6 c/s Gren 4 5 c/s Gren 7 1 c/s Gren 63 4 c/s Gren 77 2 c/s PITA 3 drums Thin fuel 2 drums thick fuel 9 Press Tanks 1 Tent Fly			ABLE YELLOW	H plus 3	(a) Crew

1 2/12
 AUST. INF. BN.

2/12 AUST INF BN CRAFT LANDING TABLE (continued)

Sheet No 9

Edg Craft Serial No	LANDING CRAFT		PERSONNEL		LOAD			MANNING		LANDING		REMARKS	
	No	Type	Sub-Unit	March- ing	On Vehs	Guns	Vehs	Stores	Place	Time	Beach		Time
37		LVT 4	5 Bty 2/2 Aust Tk/A Regt	3	21		3(a)	4 x M 4.2"			ABLE YELLOW	H plus 3	Wave II Left Flank (a) Crew
38		LVT 4	5 Bty 2/2 Aust Tk/A Regt		24		3(a)	4 x M 4.2"			ABLE YELLOW	H plus 3	(a) Crew
39		LVT 4	5 Bty 2/2 Aust Tk/A Regt		2		4(a)				ABLE YELLOW	H plus 3	(a) Crew
40		LVT 4	5 Bty 2/2 Aust Tk/A Regt 2/54 LAD Fitters Gun	1	9	1 x 6 pdr gun	1 3(a)	1 hand cart Arty			ABLE YELLOW	H plus 3	(a) Crew
				1	10								

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2/12 AUST INF BN CRAFT LANDING TABLE (continued)

Sheet No 10

Ldg Craft Serial No	LANDING CRAFT		PERSONNEL			LOAD			MANNING		LANDING		REMARKS
	No	Type	Sub-Unit	March- ing	On Vehs	Guns	Vehs	Stores	Place	Time	Beach	Time	
69		LCVP	C Coy 7 Pl A Coy Flame Throwers Stretcher Bearers	2 1 29 2 1		1 Flame Thrower		36 Rds M2" 1 Axe			ABLE YELLOW	H plus 8	Wave III Right Flank
70		LCVP	8 Pl A Coy Flame Throwers I Sec Stretcher Bearers No 1 Pl	28 2 2 1 1		1 Flame Thrower		36 Rds M2" 1 Axe			ABLE YELLOW	H plus 8	
71		LCVP	A Coy HQ OC Batman Clerk Runners No 1 Pl No 5 Pl FOO 2/4 Aust Fd Regt Stretcher Bearer I Sec	6 3 16 6 1 1							ABLE YELLOW	H plus 8	
				33									

2/12 AUST. INF. BN.

2/12 AUST INF BN CRAFT LANDING TABLE (continued)

Sheet No 11

Ldg Craft Serial No	LANDING CRAFT		PERSONNEL			LOAD			MANNING		LANDING		REMARKS
	No	Type	Sub-Unit	March- ing	On Vehs	Guns	Vehs	Stores	Place	Time	Beach	Time	
72		LCVP	A Coy HQ 2 i/c CSM Batman CQMS Storeman 9 Pl A Coy Flame Thrower No 1 Pl Stretcher Bearer	1 4 1 24 2 2 1				36 Rds M2" 1 Axe			ABLE YELLOW	H plus 8	
				2 33									

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2/12 AUST INF BN CRAFT LANDING TABLE (continued)

Sheet No 13

2/12 AUST. INF. BN.

Ldg Craft Serial No	LANDING CRAFT		PERSONNEL		LOAD		MANNING			LANDING		REMARKS		
	No	Type	Sub-Unit	March- ing	On Vehs	Guns	Vehs	Stores	Place	Time	Beach		Time	
74		LCVP	Bn HQ CO A/Adjt IO Clerks 2 Batmen 3 RP Stretcher Bearer Sigs 3 (incl 1 Sgt) No 4 Pl A.MC 2/4 Aust Fd Regt (incl BC) Beach Sigs 6 SFCP Bde Sigs	3 10 1 1 3 3 4 2 5 30				1 x 108 Mk III Set 2 Black Out Tents " 1 x 22 Set 1 x 46 Set				ABLE YELLOW	H plus 8	

2/12 AUST INF BN LANDING CRAFT TABLE (continued)

Sheet No 14

Ldg Craft Serial No	LANDING CRAFT		PERSONNEL			LOAD			MANNING		LANDING		REMARKS
	No	Type	Sub-Unit	March- ing	No Vehs	Guns	Vehs	Stores	Place	Time	Beach	Time	
75		LCVP	Bn HQ 2 i/c Adjt Clerk Batmen 3 I Sec 2 RP Stretcher Bearer RMO 4 Coy No 1 pl 2/4 Aust Inf Regt Bde Sigs Beach Sigs 6 SFCP 7 ALO Party	3 8				1 x 108 Set 1 x 22 Set 1 x 46 Set			ABLE YELLOW	H plus 8	
				5 30									

2/12 AUST INF BN CRAFT LANDING TABLE (continued)

Sheet No 15

Edg Craft Serial No	LANDING CRAFT		PERSONNEL		LOAD			MANNING		LANDING		REMARKS
	No	Type	Sub-Unit	March- ing	On Vehs	Guns	Vehs	Stores	Place	Time	Beach	
76		LCVP	No 4 Pl No 6 Pl QM Batman Clerk Storeman 2 Hyg 2 Water Duties 2 Orderlies Tech Sgt RPs AA Ch D AACC (3 Sgt 2 Cpls 3 ORs) AIPC Beach Gp AAMC 'C' FS Sec 35 FS (EE)	7 1 10							ABLE YELLOW	H plus 8
				1 1 8 1 3 1 1								
				2 33								

2/12 AUST. INF. BN.

2/12 AUST INF BN CRAFT LANDING TABLE (continued)

Sheet No 16

Tdg Craft Serial No	LANDING CRAFT		PERSONNEL		LOAD			MANNING		LANDING		REMARKS	
	No	Type	Sub-Unit	March- ing	On Vehs	Guns	Vehs	Stores	Place	Time	Beach		Time
77		LCVP	B Coy HQ 2 i/c CSM Batman CQMS Storeman 10 Pl Coy B Coy Flame Thrower Stretcher Bearer	1 4 1 26 2 1							ABLE YELLOW	H plus 8	2/12 AUST. INF. BN.
				2 33									
78		LCVP	B Coy OC Batman Clerk Ptes 5 C Coy D Coy HQ Coy HQ No 1 Pl I Sec Stretcher Bearers 2/4 Aust Fd Regt FOO & Party	1 8 4 3 3 1 2 2 4 1 6 3 32							ABLE YELLOW	H plus 8	

2/12 AUST INF BN CRAFT LANDING TABLE (continued)

Sheet No 17

Ldg Craft Serial No	LANDING CRAFT		PERSONNEL			LOAD			MANNING		LANDING		REMARKS
	No	Type	Sub-Unit	March- ing	No Vehs	Guns	Vehs	Stores	Place	Time	Beach	Time	
79		LCVP	11 Pl B Coy Flame Thrower D Coy No 1 Pl Stretcher Bearer	1 28 2 1 2 1				36 Rds M2" 1 Axe			ABLE YELLOW	H plus 3	
				1 34									
80		LCVP	12 Pl B Coy Flame Thrower D Coy No 1 Pl Stretcher Bearer	1 28 2 1 2 1				36 Rds M2" 1 Axe			ABLE YELLOW	H plus 8	
				1 34									

2/12 AUST INF BN CRAFT LANDING TABLE (continued)

Sheet No 18

Ldg Craft Serial No	LANDING CRAFT		PERSONNEL		LOAD			MANNING		LANDING		REMARKS	
	No	Type	Sub-Unit	March- ing	On Vehs	Guns	Vehs	Stores	Place	Time	Beach		Time
175		TITANIA	2/12 Aust Inf Bn Drivers TC		12 1 1 12	2 x 2 pdr	8 Jeeps 4 trlrs (a)	10 c/s Tk/A 2 pdr			AS DIRECTED	AS ORDER ED	(a) Pre Loaded with 'Q' Stores
191		EST 454			4		2 Jeeps 2 Trlrs (a)	4 c/s Tk/A 2 pdr			AS DIRECTED	ON CALL	(a) Pre Loaded with 'Q' Stores
196		LSM 21			4		2 Jeeps 2 Trlrs (a)	4 c/s Tk/A 2 pdr			AS DIRECTED	ON CALL	(a) Pre Loaded with 'Q' Stores

2/12 AUST. INF. BN.

4/12 AUST. INF. BR.

APPX 11

Army Form W.3008
(Adapted) (Page 1)
(Revised Jan., 1943)
25 35 (Serial No.)

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 16 6 / 194 5. 2/12 Aust Inf Br (Unit)

W.E. 11 12e 3 OFFRS. 33 O.R.'s 789 + OFFRS. 1 O.R.'s 32 ATT. BY W.E.

PART A.—POSTED STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.							
Rein'ts Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Rein'ts Required.			
	2	6	1 3 7 26	Lieut.-Colonels Majors Captains Lieutenants Quarter-masters A.A.N.S. and A.A.M.W.S. Offrs. Civilians Counting as Offrs.	AAIC	1						
	2	6	37			1			1			
Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in para. 10 of instructions for compilation of form will complete Part E(1) & E(2).		DETAIL	A.I.F.	C.M.F.	A.W.A.S.	A.A.N.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL.	R.A.N.	R.A.A.F.	**	TOTAL.
		A.	38									38
		E.(1)										
		E.(2)										

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.
** Personnel belonging to a category not provided for in the analysis will be shown in this Col. Particulars will be shown, e.g., 20 U.K. Forces; 10 N.Z. Forces.

PART B.—PARTICULARS OF OFFICERS JOINED OR QUITTED DURING WEEK.

OFFICERS JOINED DURING WEEK

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit From.	Date.	CAUSE.

OFFICERS QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit To.	Date.	CAUSE.
012561	1st	Scott D.H.	HQ 3 Aust Div	25.5.45	Seconded as Capt Int Auth HQ HQ 307CB of 23/5/45.
1376470	capt.	McDonald J.H. (AAIC)	2/3 Pd Amb.	15.6.45	Reposted for duty.

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO (Unit) IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED. /194.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	REMARKS (e.g., present whereabouts if known).

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON POSTED STRENGTH

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 10 / 194. (Total to agree with Columns 4 and 7 of Part A.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held.	Army Number.	Surname.	Initials.	Posting.	Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.	Date of Detachment.
Lt-col	GX6008	BOURNE	CCP	Comd	No	Bde Planning HQ	
Lt Maj	SK2925	JOHNSON	RL	2 1/c	Yes		
Lt Maj	SK106996	CAMERON	IB	Coy Comd	"		
Capt (T/Maj)	SK935	THOMAS	IB	"	"		
Capt	TX705	CURTIS	GA	"	"		
Capt	TX882	HAUPT	PK	"	"		
Capt	GX3635	CHAIK	JJ	"	"		
Capt	GX34581	HANN	IS	Coy 2 1/c	"		
Capt	GX34584	BARR	GW	"	"		
Lt/T/Capt	GX2101	SHERWIN	BJC	Adjt	No	Bde Planning HQ	
Lt (T/Capt)	GX17703	MACFARLANE	WB	QJ	No	Bde Planning HQ	
Lt	TX704	CHINE	PL	A/Adjt	Yes		
Lt	SK131510	WOODHAW	CH	P1 Comd	Yes		
Lt	GX5579	BEST	WE	"	"		
Lt	GX863	CHENYOP	CB	"	"		
Lt	TX668	CUNNINGHAM	A	"	"		
Lt	GX2902	McHAUGH	AC	"	"		
Lt	SK100900	BUTLER	DG	IO	No	Bde Planning HQ	
Lt	SK111739	DEHOVAH	OS	P1 Comd	Yes		
Lt	SK123333	MURPHY	CI	"	"		
Lt	SK137809	EVANS	LA	"	"		
Lt	SK135471	EVANS	SA	"	"		
Lt	SK129060	BRIDGEMAN	CF	IO	"		
Lt	SK103308	SWAINSON	KG	P1 Comd	"		
Lt	SK68480	MURPHY	JP	"	"		
Lt	GX40262	BEST	JP	"	"		
Lt	GX4935	D'ORVILLE	CS	"	"		
Lt	SK2733	MURPHY	HP	"	"		
Lt	GX56653	WORTH	RA	"	"		
Lt	SK120388	CAPREY	HW	"	"		
Lt	SK87325	CRAWFORD	AE	"	"		
Lt	SK87305	PATTINSON	SO	"	"		
Lt	SK87339	WRIGHT	WH	"	"		
Lt	SK3918	BIR	AV	"	No	Det 13 Aust Inf Bde 20.5.45.	
Lt	SK20179	ARBON	RJ	"	Yes		
Lt	SK15757	DUNBAR	DC	"	Yes.		
Lt	TX603	GRIMSEY	AG	"	"		

PART E.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER UNITS.

Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank, if Held.	Army Number.	Name and Initials.	Unit.	Date of Attachment.	Nature of Attachment.
Capt	SK35608	JAMES C.T.	AANC	22.5.45	RMO
Lt	SK139919	WATSON RAW	AACHD	9.11.42	Chaplain
Lt	SK170	BERRY CC	Amon	22.9.44	YMCA Rep
Lt/T/Capt	GX12375	CRITCHFIELD SG	13 Aust Inf Bde	16.5.45	Awaiting cessation of secondment.

15 Jun 45 Date of Despatch

R. J. ...
Signature of Commander

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 16/2/1943 (Unit)

W.E. 120/3 OFFRS O.R's 739 + OFFRS 1 O.R's 32 ATT. BY W.E.

Part A. Posted Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements Required.

Table for Part A with columns 1-10: W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED, DETAIL, ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E. Rows include ranks like W.Os. Class I, Sergeants, Corporals, Troopers, and a summary row for 739 O.R.s.

Summary table for Part A with columns: Detail, A.I.F., C.M.F. (Under 19, 19+), A.W.A.S., A.A.M.W.S., CIVIL, R.A.N., R.A.A.F., **, TOTAL. Total O.R.s. shown as 739.

Part B. Other Ranks Attached from Other Units.

Part C. Other Ranks Included in Part A Detached to Other Units.

Two tables for Part B and Part C. Part B lists units like 2/47 IAD, FSS (RE), 13 Bde, 2/2/TR/A. Part C lists detachments like Leave, HQ 18 Aust Inf Bde, 2 Aust Adv 2 Ech, 32 Aust Works Coy, Bde Planning Party, HQ 7 Aust Div.

Part D. Description of Other Ranks Whose Return To (Unit) is Particularly Requested. / / 194

Table for Part D with columns: Army No, Rank, Name and Initials, REMARKS (e.g., present whereabouts if known).

PART E. Detail of Present Strength and Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009 at 0600 Hours Saturday 16 / 6 / 1945 .

Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I.	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP II. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP III. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.
Ammunition Examiners				Surveyors, Engineering				Operating Room Assts.				G.P.O. Assistants			
Armament Artificer Fitter				Surveyors, B.A.A.				Operator, Keyboard				Hammermen			
Armament Artificer Fitter (Electrical)				Surveyors, Topographical				Operator, Line				Leather Stitches			
Armament Artificer Fitter (M.V.)				Surveyors, Trigonometrical				Operator, Signal				Orderlies, Nursing			
Armament Artificer Fitter (A.F.V.)				Toolmakers				Operator, Switchboard				Orderlies, Nursing Mental			
Armament Artificer Instrument				Turners				Operator, Wireless				Plate Layers			
Armament Artificer Radio				Watchmakers				Opticians				Rangetakers	4	4	
Armament Artificer Signals				Welders				Painters				Riveters			
Armament Artificer Wireless								Panel Beaters				Roughriders			
Artificer, Artillery								Photographer, Dry Plate				Saddlers			
Artificer, Engine								Predictor Numbers				Saddletree makers			
Blacksmiths	1	1						Printers				Shoemaker and Boot Repairer			
Bricklayers								Radiographers				Stevedores			
Computers								Riggers				Stokers, Staty. Engine			
Cooks, Hospital				GROUP II.				Sawyers				Storemen, Technical	4	4	
Coppersmiths				Armourers				Signallers	26	26		Tailors	2	2	
Dispensers				Axemen				Signwriters				Textile Refitters	35	35	
Draughtsmen				Bakers				Telescope Identfn. Numbers				Tinsmiths	1	1	
Draughtsmen (Architectural)				Bty. Comd's. Asst.				Well Borers				Wagon Erectors	2	2	
Draughtsmen (Engineering)				Boilermakers				Wheelers				Wagon Erectors	4	4	
Draughtsmen (Mechanical)				Carpenters	6	5	1	Winchman				Whitesmiths	396	358	3
Draughtsmen (Topographical)				Carpenters and Joiners				Wireman				LMG and Rfn	23	23	
Electricians				Cooks				Woodturners				MMG Nos	73	73	
Electricians (M.V.)				Dental Mechanics								Mortar	32	32	
Electricians (Signals)				Driver-Mech. (Eng. and Med.)								Orderlies	1	1	
Fitters				Driver-Operator		8	8x					Provost	6	6	
Fitters (Cycle)				Drainers								Reg Police	12	12	
Fitters (Electrical)				Electricians								Drs MT	32	32	
Fitters (Gun)				Electricians (Engineers)								Pnrs	6	6	
Fitters (Instrument)				Fire Control Operators				GROUP III.				Stonemen	21	21	
Fitters (M.V.)				Gun Operator		1	1x	Battery Surveyors				DETAILS OF NON-TRADESMEN.	11	17	6
Fitters, Railway Signal				Hatchman				Butchers	1	2	1x	Tk/A Guns	2	2	
Fitters, Signals				Height Taker				Clerks	12	11	1	Water Duty	1	1	
Grinder, Precision				Helio Operator				Clerks, Supply				RSM	1	1	
Mechanics, Instrument				Instrument Operator				Clerks, Technical				RQMS	1	1	
Mechanics, Instrument (Signals)				Intelligence Duties	10	9	1	Coach Trimmers				CSMs	5	5	
Mechanics, Instrument (Surgical)				Joiners				Concretors				CQMS	5	6	1
Mechanics, Radio				Lineman				Cooks				Pl Sgts	25	24	1
Mechanics, Typewriter				Lineman, Signals				Dental Clerk Orderlies				ATTACHED BY W.E.			
Mechanics, Wireless				Lithographers				Despatch Riders				AAMC	4	4	
Millwrights				Machinists, Metal				Draughtsmen, Signals				AAGC	24	22	2
Operators, Excavator				Machinists, Wood				Drivers, H.T.		1	1x	AAPC	2	2	
Pattern Maker				Masons				Driver Mechanics		11	11x	AAPS	1	1	
Pharmacist				Masseurs				Driver Tptn. Plant				AAGC	1	1	
Photographer, Wet Plate				Mechanics, M.T.				Engine Hands, I.C.		2	2x				
Photewriter				Miners				Equipment Repairers	1	2	1x				
Plumber				Moulders				Farriers							
Saw Doctors				Nurses, Trained				Fitters' Mates							
Surveyors				Observation Post Assts.				Gun Layers	8	8					
CARRIED FORWARD	1	1		CARRIED FORWARD	17	24	7x	CARRIED FORWARD	65	87	22x	Totals of columns marked * to agree with columns 4 and 7, and 1 and 10 of Part A, respectively.	80	178	12

NOTES.—(a) If rank other than private is involved give details on back.
(b) Authorised trades or specialists not included in list will be added as required in spaces provided.
(c) Where A.W.A.S. and/or A.A.M.W.S. personnel are desired show details on back.
(d) Where replacement not desired note accordingly on return by insertion of N.R. in col. "Reints. Required."
(e) Where any request or notation is made on back of form, the words "See Back" should be written in one of the blank spaces on this page.

15 Jun 45
Date of Despatch

Signature of Commander

DETAILS OF NCO's.

PART E. Detail of Present Strength and Reinforcement required as shown here.

DEPT	SRUP	PS	WE	NAME
2	1	2	1	Sgt
3	1	2	1	Cpl
4	1	2	1	Cpl
5	1	2	1	Cpl
6	1	2	1	Sgt
7	1	2	1	Sgt
8	1	2	1	Sgt
9	1	2	1	Sgt
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119	1	2	1	Sgt
120	1	2	1	Sgt

Signature of Commandant

Date of Despatch

L.H.Q. Form 104-1/45-3022

NOTE—(a) If rank other than private is shown in the column headed "NAME", it is the rank of the person at the time of the despatch.
 (b) Authorised trades or specialities should be shown in the column headed "DEPT".
 (c) Where A.W.A.B. or A.A.W.B. personnel are detailed show details on back.
 (d) Where reinforcement not detailed note accordingly on bottom of form by insertion of "R." in col. "REIN. REQUIRED".
 (e) Where any request or notation is made on back of form, the words "See Back" should be written in one of the blank spaces on this page.

SECTION 1 PLANNING

1. Planning team consisting of C.O. and I.O. plus a small office det embarked at TOWNSVILLE on 22 May 45. During the voyage maps and a few oblique air photos were studied, making the formation of a rather vague outline plan possible.
2. The planning team disembarked at MOROTAI on 31 May 45 and, after staying one night at the Staging Camp, proceeded to the Planning HQ Area.
3. Preparations were made to commence planning, and as infm and accomodation became available planning progressed.
4. Three types of vertical photos and high and low oblique photos were made available for study and their value is assessed as under:-
 - (a) Type used with stereoscope and lit from below. Excellent for study of terrain but requires facilities not normally available for Coy etc Comds.
 - (b) Normal stereo pairs. Good for study for Coy Comd but needing eqpt rather awkward and hard to carry for ops requiring lightness of load and speed in movement.
 - (c) Three dimensional vertical photos with polaroid glasses. These became available too late to be used by Coy Comds. It is considered that this form of photo for study of terrain etc is the best form for issue to all grades of Comds within an Inf Bn. They are small, need no knowledge of the use of a stereoscope to study, and are light and easy to carry.
 - (d) Low obliques were particularly valuable in planning for this type of operation. Underwater obstacles, shoreline and the immediate hinterland could be studied in detail as seen from landing craft. RVs were selected by this means and enemy positions pinpointed.
 - (e) High obliques proved valuable in studying terrain in the further phases of the operation and all personnel were enabled to visualise the ground without requiring any knowledge of photo interpretation.
5. Owing to the fact that unit planning teams did not arrive at MOROTAI until 13 Jun 45, the bulk of the staff work fell on the I.O.
6. Two scale models were in use, scales being: 1:1250 and 1:5000 and these were found invaluable for briefing of all troops.
7. Various books of reference, including terrain studies, were made available in sufficient quantity, but it is considered that these contained too much detail irrelevant to a sub unit comd to be worthy of detailed study.
8. Planning teams moved from the Bde Planning area to Bn area on 14 Jun 45.
9. Preparations had been made prior to the move to construct a "briefing room" with a capacity of approx 150 for briefing of all tps.

10. Briefing was commenced on 15 Jun and it was found that to put a Coy group into the picture necessitated a session of approx 90 minutes. Coys were briefed in coy groups by the C.O. by the use of the two models and selected vertical and oblique aerial photos. The photos were selected with a view to demonstration of the type of terrain, foreshore obstacles etc.

It was found that all troops showed a keen interest in the operation. This was demonstrated by the very full discussion of their own particular portion of the operation which was carried out throughout the period the unit was waiting to embark. The value of this procedure was also shown by the appreciation of the troops at being taken fully into the higher comds confidence and it is felt that this procedure contributed greatly to the quick reorganisation and orientation necessitated by landing on the incorrect beach.

11. A roster was arranged for sub unit briefing and all time available was fully utilised in the briefing room.

12. During this period also and LVT4 was made available and training in embarking, debarking and loading of stores was practised by all sub units.

13. It is felt that the fullest time available was made use of for getting all personnel fully conversant with the probable course of the operation, and this briefing paid big dividends during the operation itself.

SECTION II OPERATIONS

14. The Unit landing allotment to ships was as under:-

(a) A Coy plus dets HQ Coy	A.P.D. "DIACHENKO"
(b) B Coy plus dets HQ Coy	A.P.D. "LIDDLE"
(c) Bn HQ plus dets HQ Coy and Sp Arms	A.P.D. "NEWMAN"
(d) C Coy plus dets HQ Coy	LST 397
(e) D Coy plus dets HQ Coy	LST 397
(f) HQ Coy less dets	LST 694

Landing craft used were LCVPs from APDs, and LVT4s from LSTs.

15. 21 Jun 45

Personnel for APDs moved to marrying up area preparatory to embarkation on 22 Jun. The bivouac area allotted was very wet and uncomfortable. Troops had to use their own tents shelter half. Rain fell during the stay at the bivouac area and all troops embarked with wet clothing, tents etc. Stretchers were used in the bivouac area and dumped for return to camp area before embarkation. It is suggested that semi permanent structures be erected at these bivouac areas to allow for comfort of troops should rain ensure.

16. 22 Jun 45

Personnel for APDs embarked on LCVPs, during rain, for transport to APDs. Personnel for LSTs moved to marrying up area.

17. 23 Jun 45

Personnel for LSTs embarked. The convoy moved out for the rehearsal at 1400 hrs.

18. 24 Jun 45

Rehearsal was carried out, H hr being 0900 hrs. Wave I and II landed plus Bn HQ LCVP of Wave III incl SFCP.

Forward Coys cleared their craft well and no points needing rectification were found.

The SFCP was unable to shoot owing to lack of suitable OP and the difficult terrain.

19. 26 Jun 45

At 1400 hrs the convoy sailed from MOROTAI en route for BALIKPAPAN.

20. During the voyage troops were exercised by P.T. as far as possible and time spent in checking of eqpt weapons etc, practice in Ships Battle Station procedure and loading of craft. The long duration of the occupation of cramped quarters had an appreciable effect on the physical condition of the troops and resulted in five cases of exhaustion during the actual operation at BALIKPAPAN.

21. Intelligence infm was received throughout the voyage both from Navy and Army sources. Comds of APDs were most co-operative and any infm with the slightest bearing on the operation was always passed on.

1 Jul 45

C Coy on the ~~left~~ D Coy on the right each with in sp det M3", sec MMGs, det RAE, were landed in LVT4s on the incorrect beach and disembarked on the right half of ABIE RED instead of ABIE YELLOW beach at 0855 hrs (5 mins before H Hour). This necessitated a move to the right flank. However, no opposition was encountered on landing and the Coys quickly formed up.

On the left flank, C Coy exploited to the Bn first phase on VASEY HIGHWAY and pushed on to their second objective on 592594 by 0910 hrs. One sec moved fwd to recce area 588591 and were fired on by 2/10 Bn and withdrew. This Coy was not opposed during the first day and consolidated at 587597 for the night.

On the right flank, D Coy encountered only 2 Japs on the beach and similarly crossed VASEY HIGHWAY reaching their objectives 594594 and 597594 without further opposition. They exploited to feature at 591597 where enemy fire was encountered and a pl comd (Lt SODEN) was killed by fire from RATION.

One pl was placed on the western slopes of RATION and one pl of 2/27 Bn occupied the top of the feature, although it was in our area. This was as a result of the incorrect landing of that unit on ABLE YELLOW BEACH.

At 0945 hrs, on withdrawal of this pl of 2/27 Bn, RATION was occupied by D Coy less one pl attached to A Coy. Exploitation was carried out and a strong enemy bunker position was encountered on the NE slopes of RATION and difficulty was experienced in overcoming this position. It was eventually taken with the aid of manpack flame throwers at 1700 hrs.

Own casualties were 4 ORs wounded. Enemy casualties were 25 killed.

At 0903 hrs, Hy weapons, reserve amn and one bty of 4.2" mortars landed in LVT4s also on ABLE RED BEACH. As 21 Bde had landed on this unit's beach, great congestion resulted, stores were lost and difficulty was experienced in moving LVT4s off the beach to the RV.

The RAE in the first wave had cleared lanes on the beach, enabling this wave of LVT4s to move off the beach.

Succeeding waves quickly over ran the beaches and the recovery of stores was difficult.

One LVT4 broke down 2000 yards from the shore and No 3 Pl plus one det were unable to land until H plus 120.

No 2 pl and No 3 pl were not used to any extent on F day to support this Bn but supported 2/10 Bn on the left flank.

The LVT4s provided excellent facilities for heavy weapons and ammunition and were able to negotiate muddy and difficult ground and reached troops in most places.

At 0908 hrs Bn HQ, with Arty BCC Party and 6 SFCP, A Coy and B Coy landed from LCVPs and moved to RV in rear of fwd coys. Bn HQ was established at 594595.

A Coy less 7 pl passed through D Coy, formed up on RUPTURE and moved over RATION, neutralising the position from which enemy fire had killed pl comd of D Coy.

No 7 pl became detached from the coy on landing and contact was lost until 1200 hrs when a runner reported to Coy HQ on PLUG.

7 pl had moved up VALLEY ROAD clearing features on the left and reached POTTS after encountering enemy fire. At 1020 hrs, pl moved on to PORTEE with a section patrol to NEWCASTLE.

Enemy were observed between NEWCASTLE and PARRAMATTA and the patrol was reinforced with pl HQ and a further sec. Enemy were engaged and 5 were killed.

At 1120 hrs, 60 enemy approached PORTEE from NEWCASTLE and our own mortar fire fell in pl area. Patrol withdrew from NEWCASTLE to PORTEE and were attacked. The attack was repulsed and 12 enemy killed. After a further engagement, 36 enemy dead were counted.

In the afternoon, further enemy were encountered and 3 were killed.

At 1610 hrs, 2/10 Bn were seen on PARRAMATTA.

Pl took up a defensive position for the night on PORTEE, were attacked 4 times during the night and 4 enemy killed.

8 pl on reaching RATION, pushed on immediately to PLUG and contacted a pl of D Coy.

Slight opposition on the way was overcome.

At 1400 hrs 8 pl moved out to contact 7 pl on PORTEE but were pinned down at 586606 by enemy MMG fire from BLYTHES JUNC. The pl comd and 6 ORs were wounded, one died of wounds later.

The Arty OPO moved fwd to 8 pl with a view to bringing down fire to relieve this pl. He took comd of 8 pl, but was killed by enemy MMG fire.

Three MATILDA tanks moved up VALLEY RD to support 8 pl. One became bogged en route and the remaining 2 tanks moved up to a position south of the barracks at BLYTHES JUNC with a det of 8 pl. Fire was directed at gun positions and the fire was returned. The tanks withdrew but remained on the road throughout the night.

At 1800 hrs under Arty and M3" smoke screen and support by USS "DENVER" directed by 6 SFCP, 8 pl withdrew to PLUG.

No 9 pl moved from RATION and occupied PARKES unopposed, but in subsequent patrolling 9 enemy were killed. After consolidation, enemy harassing fire was encountered from POTTS and PORTEE.

At 1100 hrs, 13 pl C Coy and 17 pl D Coy came under comd A Coy.

At 1100 hrs also, Arty OP was established with A Coy on PLUG and located enemy positions on fwd slopes of POTTS and PORTEE.

At 1130 hrs arty commenced ranging on these enemy positions and scored a direct hit on a tunnel occupied by the enemy.

At 1200 hrs MMGs moved into position on PLUG and also engaged these positions.

A large enemy ammunition dump was located at 587604 and was destroyed by engineers.

B Coy, after landing opposite the 2/10 Bn ULO moved across to 2/12 Bn ULO, thence to RV. The position was confused for some time and coy re-organised on RUPTURE.

During the afternoon, B Coy moved up to a position on Southern slopes of RATION and were in position by 1800 hrs.

During the afternoon, Allied Carrier Based planes flew over the area and bombed our Coy areas in error. Casualties however were light, one offr and wounded and one OR killed. The AL Party attached to this unit reported the strike and it was cancelled.

Final dispositions for day 1 were:-

Bn HQ	-	591601	
A Coy	-	HQ, 8 pl, 13 pl, 17 pl,	- PLUG
		7 pl	- PORTEE
		9 pl	- PARKES
B Coy	-	593599	
C Coy less 13 pl	-	Waterworks area	599599
D Coy less 17 pl	-	RATION	

Extensive patrolling was carried out throughout the night. Some contact was made with the enemy, D Coy suffering 2 casualties from fire of own tps.

No 3 pl had withdrawn dets from coys and the full pl moved to new gun position ref 589598 with night bty DF task VALLEY RD fwd of A Coy position.

SFCP fired star shells throughout the night at 15 min intervals.

A quantity of enemy eqpt and documents was captured and forwarded on and reported to Bde. See appx 'A' and 'B'.

Casualties for the day:-

Own	-	K.I.A.	Offrs	ORs
		Died of Wounds	1 (Lt SODEN)	2
		W.I.A.	2	11
			(Lt SHALDERS)	
			(Lt CRAWFORD)	

Enemy- 103 K.I.A.

2 Jul 45

B Coy were ordered to secure POTTS and PORTEE from which considerable fire had been encountered the previous day.

Heavy concentrations of Arty and M3" were laid on to PORTEE with M4.2" fire on BLYTHES JUNC. MMGs also sp the attack from A Coy position.

Prior to the attack, C Coy at 1400 hrs occupied POTTS which had been vacated by the enemy.

B Coy formed up on VALLEY RD at the quarry and Rd Junc 585602 and attacked along the eastern slopes of POTTS - PORTEE. Objective was secured after slight opposition and without casualties. Contact was now made with 7 pl which reverted to unit comd.

A Coy then moved through PORTEE and occupied NOUGHT for the night. Light enemy sniper fire ensued throughout the night.

At 1000 hrs 7 pl made contact with 2/10 Bn on PARRAMATTA and came under comd of that unit, until B Coy's capture of PORTEE at 1445 hrs when 7 pl reverted to comd 2/12 Bn.

D Coy moved through PORTEE and relieved one Coy of 2/10 Bn on NEWCASTLE at 1700I. This coy was subject to enemy MMG fire when on the move and AA fire throughout the night.

C Coy moved from POTTS and relieved B Coy on PORTEE.

B Coy took up a defensive position east of PORTEE.

Bn HQ with SFCP was established at 581607, No 2 pl on NEWCASTLE, No 3 pl OP on PORTEE, gun position 582605. Extensive patrolling was carried out throughout the night but only slight opposition was encountered and one Jap killed.

M3" had night DF task on Southern slopes of NURSE.

SFCP fired star shells every 15 minutes throughout the night.

A quantity of enemy eqpt and documents were again captured and

sent back or reported.

Casualties for the day:-

			Offrs	ORs
Own	-	K.I.A.	-	-
		W.I.A.		1
Enemy	-	11 K.I.A.		

3 Jul 45

At 0930 hrs 7 pl A Coy moved out and occupied RESERVOIR without opposition at 1100 hrs. 9 pl occupied small feature 579617. Coy Hq, 8 pl, and No 2 pl then moved to RESERVOIR also.

B Coy were relieved by pl C Coy. B Coy was ordered to clear the PANDANSARI area. They moved through NEWCASTLE, NOMEN and NATION, but encountered by fire on their position at 571619. The fire consisted of 25 mm, JUKI, a IMG, HMG and Mortar from NAIL. 12 pl moved around left of feature and cleared rd at 572621. Total casualties at this stage were 1 killed, 3 wounded.

Hy fire was still coming from NAIL and was engaged by mortars from NEWCASTLE OP and MMG was seen to withdraw from fwd slopes. Harassing fire by our MMG's from NEWCASTLE was also directed at NAIL. Enemy 25 mm was located in concrete pillbos, JUKI in vicinity of oil tanks 578621 and IMG below tanks.

The feature NAIL was within 25 Bde area but as 2/31 Bn had been held up at NURSE and NOBODY this feature constituted a serious menace to our position. CO requested permission to secure NAIL and eventually it was granted at 1600 hrs. This had caused a long delay and B Coy launched an attack at 1800 hrs sp by one tp and two sp tanks, Arty, M4.2" and MMG.

Tanks could only go to anti-tk ditch 8 ft deep, 13 ft wide and protected by revetments 7 ft high. Attack was launched by two secs of 11 pl, objectives, right sec pillbox area, left sec strong point on small knoll 150 yds left. Each sec was sp by tank up to ditch and covered by sp tanks vic. rd.

25 pdr Arty barrage rate 5, 1100 rds and M4.2" giving left flank protection. M4.2" was stopped halfway through assault. Secs breached obstacle and successfully assaulted objectives.

12 pl sp assault by adv up South slope of NAIL. 11 pl took Western slope and remained in position on objectives.

12 pl was prevented by intense 25 mm and MMG fire from crossing pinnacle of NAIL. Both pls remained on East slopes with lookouts on the ridge until dusk.

12 pl advanced along the ridge and occupied the highest point of NAIL.

10 pl moved through 12 pl and advanced down the ridge and consolidated on contacting 11 pl area.

25 mm was silenced by Arty fire directed by FOO.

Effort made by small party, estimated at 6 enemy threw grenades in an endeavour to dislodge 12 pl, 3 Japs killed and remainder retired. 3 Japs shot by 11 pl.

DF fire by Arty, overhead fire by MMG assisted in defence throughout the night. No effort was made to dislodge Coy. 18 enemy dead counted at first light next day and further 16 later. Others believed in area. Own casualties 2 K.I.A.

A large quantity of enemy eqpt was captured.

C Coy on PORTEE relieved D Coy on NEWCASTLE with one pl on NOUGHT to relieve A Coy.

D Coy at approx 1830 hrs were ordered to move to ref 571618 and occupy the positions vacated by B Coy, prior to attack on NAIL.

Local patrolling was carried out between Coy positions.

Enemy fire from NURSE passed over Coy positions early in the night but later, hy explosions were heard in that vicinity indicating the blowing of amm dumps by enemy. Lights were also seen and indicated a general withdrawal. The following day this was confirmed when 2/31 Bn took the position unopposed.

Casualties for the day were:-

		Offrs	ORs
Own	-	K.I.A.	2
		Died of Wounds	1
		W.I.A.	10
Enemy	-	20 K.I.A.	

4 Jul 45

A Coy remained in position throughout the night on RESERVOIR and withdrew 9 pl from feature 579617 to Coy positions. B Coy were relieved at approx 1000 hrs by 2/31 Bn enabling 2/12 Bn to withdraw inside 18 Bde area. B Coy moved to position at 571618 and remained in position until the following day.

C Coy remained in position on NEWCASTLE and NOUGHT.

D Coy at 1200 hrs moved to 573618 and consolidated for the night. Patrols were sent out during the day, no enemy were seen. 6 natives were brought in by the morning patrol and were the only natives taken throughout the operation who were not suffering from starvation and wounds. They had been employed as clerks at PANDANSARI refinery. Five natives brought in by the afternoon patrol were suffering from malnutrition, sores and wounds. All natives were stretcher cases. Throughout the huts a number of dead natives appeared to have died of starvation.

In the swamps to the South of the barracks a number of bodies were found but it was not possible to identify them. One native was shot in the right knee, had his hands tied behind his back and the fingers and thumbs of both hands had been cut off at the third joint.

Bn HQ was established at TRIG 7 ref 572616.

Local patrols were carried out, with one standing patrol established at PANDANSARI native quarters area. No opposition or evidence of enemy was encountered throughout the night.

During the day several bursts of enemy 25 mm fell in Coy areas but it did not cause casualties.

Casualties for the day were:-

		Offrs	ORs
Own	-	W.I.A.	4
Enemy	-	8 K.I.A.	

5 Jul 45

Dispositions of all Coys less A and C remained unchanged. During the morning A Coy moved to PANDANSARI area and completed the occupation of the entire town area.

C Coy occupied NEWCASTLE with 15 pl, 14 pl on RESERVOIR, Coy HQ and 13 pl on NOMEN.

During the day patrols completed the mopping up of the town area and the unit remained in present area at conclusion of the operation.

Enemy 25 mm fire again fell in the area at short infrequent intervals throughout the day but did not cause any casualties.

Casualties for the day were:-

Own	-	NIL
Enemy	-	8 K.I.A.

7/12/62

The succeeding days were spent in clearing the area of debris and for 2 days enemy 25 mm fire continued to fall at infrequent intervals, coming in bursts of 6 rounds. Total casualties from this sporadic fire was 2 ORs wounded.

SP ARMS

Arty - Were landed early and were soon in action. Partly open country provided a good opportunity for use of 25 pdrs and they were well employed and provided good support.

Tanks - MATILDA TKS in sp of unit landed at H plus 13 and were utilised at 1400 hrs on F day to assist in the extrication of 8 pl south of BLYTHES JUNC.

The assistance of tanks was again sought when B Coy launched an attack on NAIL on F plus 2, when 1 tp plus two sp tks moved rapidly along TK PLATEAU Rd and through the town area and gave invaluable sp in the assault.

In both operations, tks co-ordinated admirably with the inf and the co-operation of the Tk Comd, Maj RYRIE contributed materially to the success of the operation.

SFCP - After the initial bombardment it was found that this sp was not required very much in unit area and targets beyond the area were engaged.

AL P - Similarly this sp was not required and no air strikes were called for. The only request was for an allied strike to be called off as the unit was subject to their bombing.

4.2" Mortars - When required were effectively used. Were employed on BLYTHES JUNC to sp attack on PORTEE and on NAIL to sp attack on that feature.

6 Pdr - Was not used during the operation.

RAE & Pnrs - Area was nearly free of booby traps. Numerous suspicious looking objects were destroyed and a very large number of tunnels and bunkers were blown in, unexploded shells destroyed and a number of amn dumps blown up.

Half a ton of explosives was used during the operation in demolitions.

Engrs cleared lanes from the beach very quickly on landing with the first wave and allowed amphibious tractors to move off the beach.

SUPPLIES

Ann - The use of LVT4s greatly facilitated the forwarding of amn and alleviated what would otherwise have been a difficult task.

Rations - Arrangements for rationing of troops were adequate and troops received a hot meal on the evening of F plus 1. Op 2 rations had to be obtained for mid-day meals on F plus 2 and F plus 3 as ABL rations were issued for these days but were not suitable due to the tactical situation at that time.

Water - Supplies of drinking water were exhausted before local water was made available.

Meteorological - Weather conditions in no way hampered operations. Little rain fell and conditions were not unduly hot.

TOTAL CASUALTIES

Own	-	K.I.A.	1 offr	7 ORs
		W.I.A.	2 "	26 "
Enemy	-	K.I.A.	150 all ranks.	

ENEMY EQUIPMENT CAPTURED - Seen by FSS (EE)

1 Jul 45 D Coy on RATION

- 1 Model 88 75 mm Dual Purpose Gun and 100 HE rounds
- 2 " 92 JUKI MGs and 1 Sight (Sight sent to Bde HQ)
- 1 " 99 IMG
- 1 Naval Respirator (Sent to Bde HQ)

2 and 3 Jul 45 - PORTEE

- 1 Model 92 JUKI MG and sight (Sight sent to Bde HQ)
- 2 " 99 IMGs
- 2 " 99 Rifles
- 1 " 100 Grenade Launcher
- 3 New type Improvised Hand Grenades (Sent to Bde HQ)

3 and 4 Jul 45 - NAIL

- 1 new type 20 mm automatic gun on 4 legged mount (appears to be an aircraft gun adopted for ground use)
15 rds in metal belt
(ABOVE SENT TO DIV AND REPORTED TO BDE)
- 2 Model 92 JUKI MGs and 1 Sight (Sight to Div HQ and reported to Bde)
- 300 rds JUKI amn in Brass strips
- 3 model 99 Rifles
- 2 " 99 IMGs
- 4 " 96 25 mm Dual Purpose Guns in twin mounts and approx 1000 rds amn
- 1 13 mm Model 93 Dual purpose Gun (damaged)
- 2 Yardstick Mines
- 1 81 mm Mortar (appears improvised and has no marking on base plate)
- 2 Model 89 Grenade Discharges
- 2 Sets Naval body armour
- 2 damaged Civilian cars
- 1 " " truck
- 1 Large Searchlight and 4 boxes equipment
- 1 Heavy Searchlight Engine (50 yds below Searchlight in tunnel)
- Approx 20 Naval type Respirators
- 2 AA Binoculars tripod mounted (1 sent to Div and reported to Bde)
- 1 Large amn dump - 20 yds below Searchlight in tunnel

NOTE:

Original items captured by Bn to date:-

- 3 new type Improvised Hand Grenades
- 1 20 mm automatic gun and amn.

Appendix 'B'

1 Jul 45

1. 1 tin box of docs - at house - BALIKPAPAN 1:10000
593593. 1140 hrs by FS Det
2. 1 bundle docs - RATION - 592602 - By L/Sgt WOODS D Coy
3. 2 diaries and docs from bodies - RATION near AA gun D Coy
4. 1 diary and papers - Pillbox on RATION D Coy
5. Map captured on patrol ?

2 Jul 45

6. 1 bundle docs and map from houses - 590601 - By rear HQ 2/12 Bn
7. 1 bag docs, 2 photos - PORTEE - A Coy
8. 1 satchel docs - PORTEE - Pte SHEEHAN HQ Coy
9. Map and diaries - NEWCASTLE - D Coy (Tuesday 3 Jul 45)
10. Bundle docs and diaries in Barracks below RESERVOIR IO 2/12 Bn

4 Jul 45

11. 1 case docs - TRIG 7 D Coy
12. Diaries and papers - NAIL D Coy
13. Diary Pte RAVENSCHOFF A Coy 2/12 Bn

5 Jul 45

14. Map showing disposition of enemy in area not yet penetrated -
NW of ORRS JUNCTION

6 Jul 45

15. 140 paybooks found in vicinity of TRIG 7
16. 2 A/c books - papers found in tunnel below RESERVOIR by FS Det
17. 2 Maps - L/Cpl GARRITY - Tunnel below RESERVOIR BHQ

NICA (Natives brought in)

Day 1

3 Indonesians - hadn't seen Jap since Friday - had retired 50 kms to BATOE CHAMPAR. Had taken native population with them.

Day 2

7 Indonesians - same infm. 6 stretcher cases, 1 caused by enemy.

Day 3

4 Indonesians - 1 stretcher case caused by enemy, wearing Jap clothing (stolen)
Infm same. Plus road to BATOE CHAMPAR Mined.

Day 4

12 Indonesians - 6 in first party well fed had been employed as clerks at refinery the latter full of booby traps. Reported that in recent weeks many natives beheaded because of allied leaflets in their possession.
5 very bad stretcher cases.

(see report on atrocities)

REPORT ON EVIDENCE OF JAPANESE BRUTALITY DISCOVERED BY 2/12 AUST INF BN

During the operation "OBOE TWO" several instances of Jap brutality were found.

- (a) In a hut on VALLEY ROAD the bodies of two natives were found with the hands bound behind the back with the fingers and thumbs of both hands severed at the third joint.
- (b) A similar case was discovered in a swamp south of PANDANSARI native quarters where a number of bodies were found, six of which were in the condition described above. They had been shot through the knees.
- (c) In the vicinity of 561593 also, a chinese was found in a very weak condition with portion of the back of his neck cut away. The hole was big enough to take a man's fist. He stated that the wound had been inflicted 10 days previously by the Japanese with a sword.
- (d) On VALLEY ROAD approx 586598 a pit containing the dismembered limbs and heads of natives was discovered. This may have been caused either by the Japanese or by bombing.

SECTION III

Lessons

1. No new lessons were forthcoming.
2. Old ones demonstrated were as under:-
 - (a) The value of quick aggressive action regardless of isolation. e.g. the action of No 7 pl (comd Lt KENT) when out of touch with the remainder of his unit.
 - (b) The value of good co-operation between sp arms and inf. e.g. the sp given by tanks and arty during the attack on NAIL by B Coy.
 - (c) The value of accurate infm from other bdes and units of the force. e.g. the lack of infm as to which unit was bring^{ing} fire on to NAIL prior to arrangements being made for the attack.
 - (d) The long time required in which to mount an attack on a feature nominally out of the unit area of operations. e.g. the time taken for permission to be granted to attack NAIL which was in 25 Bde sector.
 - (e) The value of briefing of all troops and the study of aerial photos prior to an operation where it is impossible to study the actual ground. e.g. the quick orientations of sub units when disembarked on the incorrect beach.

SECTION IV

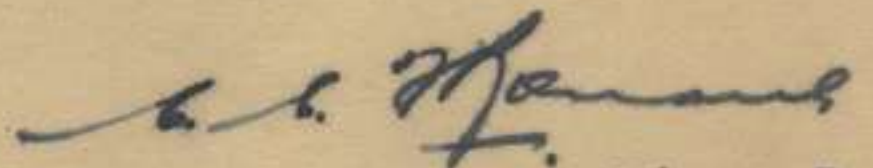
Functioning of Weapons and Eqpt

1. Generally speaking all weapons and eqpt functioned well.
2. Wireless sets 108 Mk III and 536, both functioned perfectly throughout the operation and later. An example was the clarity of the intercepts by both 22 and 108 sets during the op by 2/9 Bn. It was possible to follow the full operation with no trouble at all.
3. Bren magazine springs were found to be faulty. The spring is not strong enough to sustain its tension fully over a period with full load, thereby refusing to load the last few rounds into the chamber.

CONCLUSION

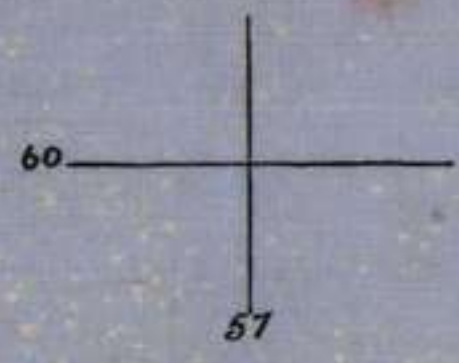
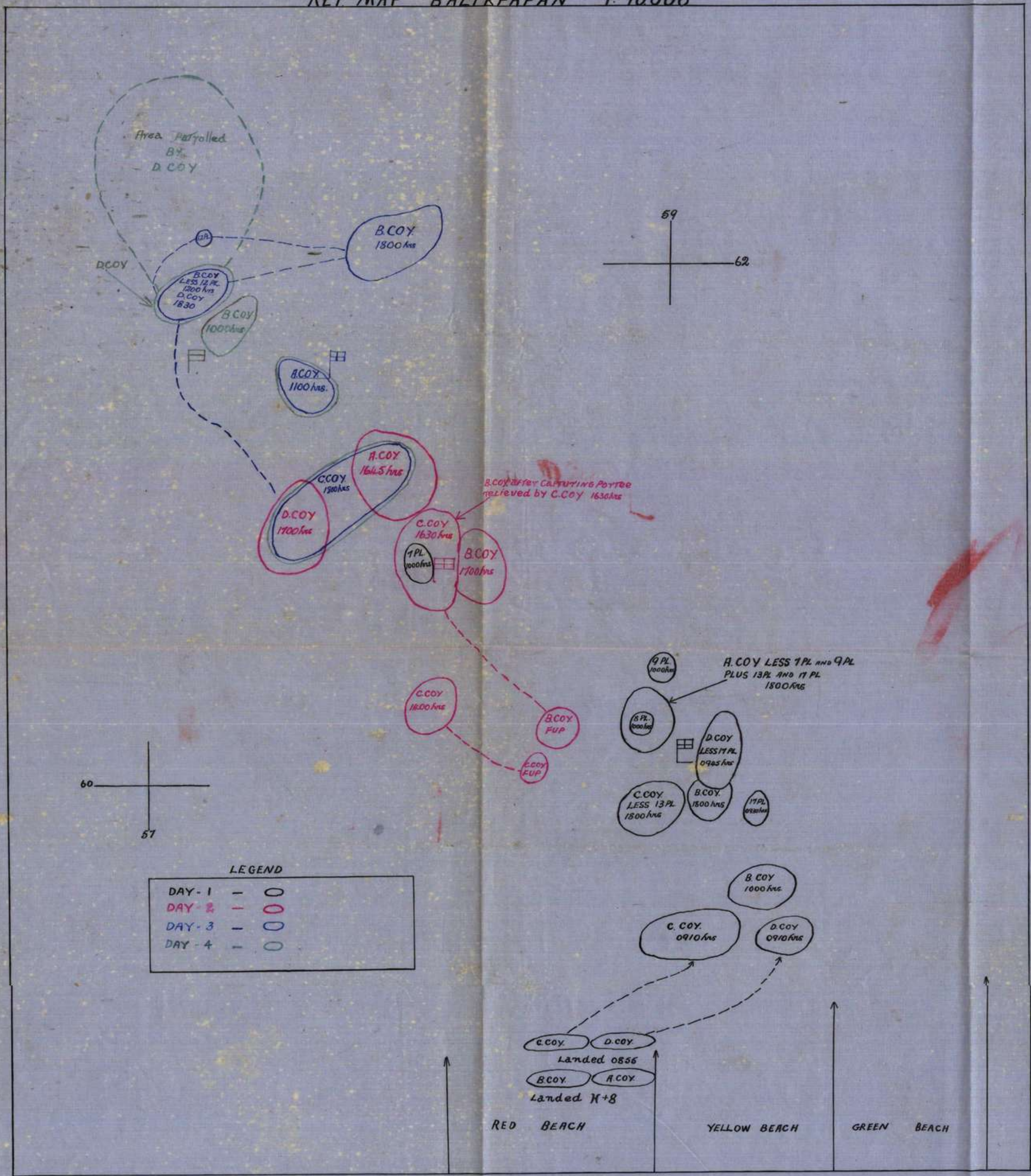
It is felt that the main factors contributing to the success of the operation were:-

- (a) The facilities for study of the ground prior to the operation.
- (b) The reaction of all personnel to being taken fully into the confidence of senior comds during the "briefing" period.


Lt Col
Comd 2/12 Aust Inf Bn

2/12AUST INF BN DISPOSITIONS
OPERATION "OBOE TWO"

REF MAP BALIKPAPAN 1:10000



LEGEND

DAY - 1	-	○
DAY - 2	-	○
DAY - 3	-	○
DAY - 4	-	○

RED BEACH YELLOW BEACH GREEN BEACH