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

Item number: 8/2/30

30 Infantry Brigade

December 1942

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

Original

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

JAN 26 1943

Army Form (adapte

Unit 30 Aust Inf Bde *Date and Time.—From* 1 Dec 42 *To* 31 Dec 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
BUNA - GONA AREA	Dec		INTENTION: (a) 30 Bde were initially intended to be employed in the relief of 25 Bde at GONA, then in the capture of GONA and subsequent phases. (b) Ultimately, 30 Bde less 39 Bn were to relieve 16 Bde and US tps on SOPUTA - SANANANDA track and reduce opposition in an advance to SANANANDA. (c) As time, sickness and ENEMY action reduced strength, the role developed into the reduction of enemy pockets SOUTH of what is known as HUGGINS ROAD BLOCK, from whence a new drive was launched by 7 Aust Cav Regt and 39 Bn under comd 21 Bde. We also undertook the maintenance of communications to HUGGINS. RESULT: (a) After Adv Bde HQ, 39 Bn and Bn HQ and one coy 49 Bn had arrived at GONA, our role was changed and 39 Bn were involved in operations under 21 Bde. 30 Bde then reassembled at SOPUTA. (b) Optimism was the keynote of our undertaking a shock attack on ENEMY posns, astride the SOPUTA - SANANANDA track, within a day of our arrival. Information passed on by other troops was neither accurate nor complete. The ENEMY had beaten off numerous other unsuccessful attacks; and, was securely entrenched in posns with overhead cover. By reason of the close cover from view, it was difficult to direct mortar or arty fire on to his actual posts. The arty barrage and mortar concentrations which were emplyed as an alternative seldom reached the ENEMY in his shelters - and indeed, many posts were NOT discovered until weeks of patrolling was effected. As the supporting fire lifted, ENEMY rifles and MGs commenced firing along pre-recced lanes to the cost of infantry who groped along in rear of the supporting fire - without knowledge of the origin of the ENEMY fire.	

D.343 /5.29.—C.4788.

Lt Col Adams Maj Gen.

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Army Form C.2118 (adapted.)

Unit 30 Aust Inf Bde *Date and Time.—From* 1 Dec 42 *To* 31 Dec 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
BUNA - GONA AREA	Dec		RESULT (Cont): Our arty fire burst in the treetops, in most cases, while it is claimed that only a few mortar bombs actually uprooted the ENEMY while he sheltered. Finally, our tps were NOT sufficiently trained in minor tactics for operations against a strongly entrenched ENEMY in any other circumstances than behind an effective barrage, from the point of view of its destructive effect on the ENEMY. (c) Several subsequent attacks were made, after our intelligence of ENEMY posns was enlarged; but, each attack saw a more and more weakened striking force. Eventually, in synchronization with a drive by 7 AUST CAV REGT from HUGGINS AREA, we undertook to clear a L of C to the latter on the EAST of the main track, by attacking from the RIGHT and, at the same time, to attack from the left at our nearest ENEMY point of resistance. The former succeeded but the latter failed. For the remainder of the month, we launched attacks on limited objectives with a view to destroying ENEMY posts piecemeal. To enable this to be carried out, the number of holding troops was reduced to a minimum on all fronts - we increased the amount of digging and preparation generally, in the holding positions, for this purpose. The greatest number of troops possible were moved from place to place to strike at the ENEMY, with varied success. Troops were also given special instruction in minor tactics in the form of field firing representing the section in attack against an ENEMY post. It became patent, however, that more intense supporting fire was needed for an attack on a number of posts.	

D.343 /5.29.—C.4788.

D Wilkinson Maj BM.

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Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

Unit 30 Aust Inf Bde *Date and Time.—From* 1 Dec 42 *To* 31 Dec 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SOPUTA	Dec 1	0830	Brig Porter and Bde IO, Lieut Guthrie, accompanied by Col R.G. Pollard, GSO I 7 AUST DIV left for HQ 25 Aust Inf Bde, arriving at 1230 hrs.	
		1300	Brig Porter and Col Pollard conferred with Brig Eather, Comd 25 Bde, regarding relief of 25 Bde. It was decided that relief commence with 39 Bn on 2 Dec and be completed by first light 4 Dec.	
		1430	Brig Porter and Col Pollard conferred with Brig Dougherty, Comd 21 Bde, when it was decided that 30 Bde would accept responsibility for containing and reducing GONA, while 21 Bde would move EAST towards SANANANDA.	
		1800	~~236 all ranks 39 Bn landed at POPONDETTA during day.~~	
	2		102 all ranks 49 Bn landed at POPONDETTA, further landings being ~~frustrated by ENEMY action and badweather~~. 13 planes allotted for 3 Dec. Estimated 822 all ranks could be moved that day. Decided to move Bde HQ less R gp, remainder 49 Bn and 55/53 Bn.	
GONA		1000	Conference at 25 Bde HQ to discuss details of relief. Decided to relieve 2/33 Bn with two coys 39 Bn who had reached SOPUTA. They arrived in excellent condition and excited very favourable comment by 25 Bde personnel.	
		1130	~~GOC 7 AUST DIV - Maj-Gen G.A. Vasey - visited HQ 25 Bde.~~ Orders issued for tps at present containing GONA to remain in posn and 39 Bn to come under comd 21 Bde and move **EAST** behind 2/14 Bn, who were pushing through to CAPE KILLERTON - whole posn to be reviewed when 30 Bde concentrate GONA area.	
GONA	3		~~25 plane loads of tps arrived POPONDETTA.~~	
		1400	Brig Porter and Lt-Col Kessels, CO 49 Bn, recce beach area EAST of GONA, where 49 Bn would take up posn and ~~come under comd 25~~ Bde. One coy 49 Bn already in GONA area.	
		2000	Orders received for 49 Bn to revert to comd 30 Bde and return to SOPUTA. This was as result of the discovery that track GONA-SANANANDA was NOT practical axis for flank move and consequent decision to relieve 25 Bde with 21 Bde and 39 Bn .	

D.313 /5.29.—C.4788.

Lt Col Dillon Maj Bde

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Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Unit 30 Aust Inf Bde *Date and Time.—From* Dec 1 42 *To* Dec 31 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GONA	Dec 3	2000	30 Bde OO No. 11 prepared but NOT issued, due to changed role of Bde.	See Appx "A"
SOPUTA	4	1100	Orders received for 30 Bde to concentrate at SOPUTA, preparatory to undertaking operations in SOPUTA - SANANDA area.	
	5	1800	HQ 30 Bde and 49 Bn concentrated at SOPUTA.	
		0815	Brig Porter visited 16 Bde and conferred with Comd, Brig Lloyd.	
		1400	Orders received for 30 Bde to relieve 16 Bde and assume comd US tps that area, preparatory to launching attack against ENEMY astride track SOPUTA - SANANANDA on 7 Dec.	
		1500	Brig Porter gave orders to Lt-Col Kessels, CO 49 Bn, re attack on JAP posns on 7 Dec.	
		1600	GOC holds conference at 16 Bde HQ to discuss details of relief. Plans formulated for attack on 7 Dec.	
			30 Bde Adm Instn No. 1 issued.	See Appx "B"
	6	1130	Adv Bde HQ moved to 16 Bde area and took over from that Bde. Location 30 Bde HQ 200225. 16 Bde less dets in posn on both flanks commenced move back to SOPUTA.	
		1700	Relief of 16 Bde less 2/2 Bn complete. 2/2 Bn comes under comd 30 Bde and remains present posn in static role until further orders.	
			Dispositions 30 Bde HQ 201223, 49 Bn area 205227, 55/53 Bn from 195220 to 197230, US tps 201225. ENEMY locations from 202228 to 205235 and at 208238. Also ENEMY probably from 201229 to 201234.	
SOPUTA AREA	7		General plan of attack: 49 Bn right of road, 55/53 Bn left of road. Object: to clear ENEMY opposition SOUTH of ROAD BLOCK posn at 184963.	
		0745	First phase of attack commenced by 49 Bn at 0745 hrs. Second phase commenced by 55/53 Bn at 1500 hrs. Attack achieved limited success. Fwd coys 49 Bn advanced 800 yds on right of rd, but following coys held up by heavy fire from concealed JAP posns. At end of day, 49 Bn and 55/53 Bn fwd elements withdrawn and reorganised slightly fwd of starting line. However, considerable casualties inflicted on JAPS.	Owing to absence of a third Bn, only one Bn could be used at a time while other demonstrated US tps and elements 16 Bde were NOT to be used for offensive role, under conditions of comd

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Lt Col
BM

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Unit 30 Aust Inf Bde *Date and Time.—From* 1 Dec 42 *To* 31 Dec 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SOPUTA AREA	Dec 7	0745	Lack of success due to lack of infm in regard to ENEMY posns and strong, well concealed posts which were passed over during initial advance but which, later, by intense fire held up rear elements of attacking Bns.	
	8	0845	Intention during day to reorganize and harass the ENEMY with mortar and arty fire. In addition, patrol activity to pinpoint ENEMY posns.	
		1827	Supply party from 126 US Regt returned after successfully getting supplies through to HUGGINS RD BLOCK posn at 184263.	
		1900	Orders issued for 50% security to be maintained in fwd areas at all times. All tps in 30 Bde area will stand to at times 0600 to 0645 and 1900 to 1945 hrs daily.	
	9	1130	One Sub-Sec 2/1 Aust A Tk Regt arrived in 7 Aust Div area and will be available for use by 30 Bde. This may be a great help in reducing JAP covered posns.	
		1430	Infm from 7 AUST DIV states ENEMY ordered to conserve amn on this front. Plans to make JAP use amn.	
		1600	Orders issued defining unit areas of responsibility in 30 Bde area, and details of patrol activity.	See Appx "C"
			During day patrol activity continued, together with arty and mortar fire on ENEMY posns. Air bombing carried out in front of our fwd posns. Results unobserved, but several bombs fell amongst our own tps. One OR was killed.	
	10	0845	Quiet night over whole front. Test firing drew a reply from the ENEMY in the form of LMG and rifle fire.	
		1440	2/3 Bn relieved 2/2 Bn. 2/2 Bn moved back to protect arty posn.	
		1900	Reported our tps advanced slightly on right of main rd.	
	11	1200	30 Bde OO No. 12 issued. Intention:- (a) To position minimum tps on present front for purposes of security and holding frontally. (b) To maintain maximum tps in hand for mobile offence and for conservation of health and energy.	See Appx "D"

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Lt Col Bde Maj

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SOPUTA AREA	Dec 12	0800	2 pdr A Tk gun fired 22 rds along enemy fire lane, with unobserved results	
		2045	ENEMY patrol raided 2/3 Bn area at 186253. LMG and grenade fire exchanged and JAPS withdrew.	
		2100	Attack by 55/53 Bn this day on ENEMY posns on left of rd SOPUTA-SANANANDA, after initial success, proved unsuccessful. Main difficulty was lack of infm re ENEMY posts. It has been definitely established that the JAP makes good use of alternative posns and consequently the basing of an attack on infm gained from patrols is a risky business.	
	13	0900	Raiding party from 55/53 Bn attacked ENEMY post on left of main rd unsuccessfully. Withdrew, after suffering four casualties.	
	14	0540	Patrol activity and harassing mortar fire throughout day	
		-	PW captured 55/53 Bn area.	
		0650	Report on situation by Brig Porter, Comd 30 Bde. JAP mtn gun active - fired five rds. NO damage NO casualties.	See Appx "E"
		1230	Patrol from 55/53 Bn returned. Had run into JAP posn and 5 ORs missing.	
		1400	Patrol moving around left flank 30 Bde contacted HUGGINS RD BLOCK posn at 184253. Arty FOO and ration party will move out later in the afternoon.	
		1800	7 Aust Cav Regt now concentrated SOPUTA area and 36 Bn commenced arriving. Intention is that 36 Bn comes under comd 30 Bde. This will enable offensive tactics to be resumed by 30 Bde	
	16	-	Patrol activity throughout day and several ENEMY posns located. 30 Bde OO No. 13 issued. Attack by 49 and 55/53 Bns. This attack will coincide with attack by 2/7 Aust Cav Regt from HUGGINS area towards SANANANDA PT.	See Appx "F"
		1900	36 Bn arrived 30 Bde area and came under comd.	
	17	1750	36 Bn will relieve sub-units of 55/53 and 49 Bns in fwd posns at 0900 hrs 18 Oct.	
			Patrol activity throughout day.	

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Maj Bns

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Unit 30 Aust Inf Bde *Date and Time.—From* 1 Dec 42 *To* 31 Dec 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SOPUTA AREA	Dec 18	0900	36 Bn now relieving fwd sub-units of 55/53 and 49 Bns. Arty and mortar registration for attack 19 Dec continuing.	Air photos, at last, received. For first time, positions definitely located.
	19	0730	30 Bde commenced attack: 49 Bn from EAST - objective to clear a route to HUGGINS. 55/53 Bn WEST of rd - objective to reduce ENEMY posts WEST of rd, SOUTH of KILLERTON track. 49 Bn knocked out two ENEMY MG posts. Before reaching main rd, fwd elements changed direction and pushed NORTH towards HUGGINS. 55/53 Bn attacked towards main rd from WEST. Whole Bn committed and failed to reach objective.	
		1940	49 Bn contacted HUGGINS posn and halted for night. 55/53 Bn NO progress and now ordered to relieve 36 Bn, thus releasing this unit for employment on right flank.	
	20	-	Intention 20 Dec: - Maintain offensive and destroy all JAPs EAST of track between 36 Bn and 7 CAV REGT.	
		0700	"B" Coy 36 Bn now moving SOUTH astride main rd and present posn 60 yds SOUTH of JAP track. "A" Coy 36 Bn will attack JAP posn HUTCHINSON AREA 0830 hrs.	
		0955	"B" Coy 36 Bn struck opposition and dug in. Attack by "A" Coy 36 Bn partially successful.	
		1615	Intention:- to attack ENEMY pocket WEST of HUTCHINSON at 186253 in strength. 36 Bn less "A" Coy to be employed.	
		1645	US tps relieved C and D Coys 36 Bn on immediate right of MAIN RD B, C and D Coys move to HUTCHINSON area preparatory to attack.	
		1750	Relief of 2/3 Bn by 49 Bn plus "A" Coy 36 Bn completed. 2/3 Bn moves back to SOPUTA en route to MORESBY.	
	21	0630	30 Bde HQ shelled by ENEMY mtn gun. NO damage NO casualties. Fire lit 300 yds to flank to draw away enemy attention from HQ.	
		1510	36 Bn attacked ENEMY posn near HUTCHINSON area from the NORTH without success. Held up by ENEMY MMG and LMG fire.	

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D Eldridge Maj Bns

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SOPUTA AREA	Dec 21	2040	Orders issued by 7 AUST DIV as follows:- HQ 21 Bde will assume comd HUGGINS AREA with under comd 7 CAV REGT and 39 Bn. 39 Bn will relieve US tps in HUGGINS area by 1600 hrs 22 Dec. 30 Aust Inf Bde will continue to contain and close in on ENEMY in immediate front. 49 Bn will be responsible for supply line to HUGGINS.	
	22	~~00~~ 2000	Confidential report on "Fitness for War" of 55/53 and 36 Bns	See Appx "G"
			Sitrep to 1800 hrs: ~~Slight progress made SOUTH astride rd.~~ ENEMY active and moderate fire still being met from known strong posts. Active patrolling continuing. Dispositions 30 Bde.	See appx "H" - ref GONA from 4" to 1 mile.
			Bde HQ 177242 - 55/53 Bn HQ 177243 - B Coy 55/53 Bn 177248 - C Coy 55/53 Bn 177253 - D Coy 55/53 Bn 177254 - 49 Bn HQ 186256 - ~~Comp Coy 185261 - 36 Bn HQ 187256~~, A Coy 188254, C Coy 188255, B Coy 186255, D Coy running in northerly direction with frontage to rd at 186256.	
	23		Patrol activity throughout day.	
	24		Patrol activity. Xmas message received from GOC, reads as follows:- "GOC extends Xmas greetings to all ranks and sincerely "trusts that next Xmas will be spent in happier circumatances "~~and the peace which must ultimately result from the difficu lties~~ "and hardships you are all now undergoing. Unfortunately for the "present we must forget peace and goodwill among men and continue "with even greater vigour to fight against the common enemy".	
	25		Confidential report to 7 Aust Div by Brig Porter.	See Appx "I"
			Xmas celebrations on a restricted scale, but GOC NGF has promised Xmas cheer when we sit on the beach at SANANANDA. Transport difficulties are the trouble at present. ~~Bde HQ produced a white A/c~~ strip and with an extra effort on the part of the cooks, had a reasonable meal - "Xmas is Xmas wherever you are".	
	—		Instns issued for special tng in attacking enemy strong posts to be carried out.	See Appx "J"
	26	1230	~~Attack by three coys 36 Bn from right flank towards rd commenced.~~ Objective: MAIN TRACK at 181251.	

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H. H. Dawson Maj Bde

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SOPUTA AREA	Dec 26	1410	C and D Coys on objective. B Coy moved NORTH to protect flank. Little opposition encountered. At same time, US tps moved fwd	
	27	-	from SOUTH to within about 100 yds of 36 Bn posn on rd. Report received from Maj BOEREM (comd US tps) re fighting state of his tps. Fwded to 7 Aust Div.	See Appx "K"
			School of Instn on teaching personnel how to attack ENEMY strong posts bearing results. Disclosed that few personnel have ever thrown a grenade or fired an OSMG before.	
	28	0800	Two coys 36 Bn concentrated SOUTH of HUTCHINSON area preparatory to attack on ENEMY posns this area from the SOUTH.	
		1820	Sitrep to 1800 hrs:- 36 Bn attack halted by ENEMY MG fire after ~~advancing 200 yds. Attempts to outflank ENEMY posn unsuccessful.~~ 36 Bn now disposed one coy 186253 under comd 49 Bn, one coy remains present posn where attack halted - 184252 - one coy EAST of rd 181251, one coy to relieve left flank coy 55/53 Bn at 178254 and come under comd 55/53 Bn. Pressure continuing on isolated enemy posts 18152505. 35 JAP dead counted to date in area occupied right of rd.	
	29		~~Exchanges of LMG and rifle fire and patrol activity.~~	
	30		JAPS active on our left flank and comms cut in 55/53 Bn area. Special instns issued to all tps to be on the ~~alert~~.	
	31		All quiet for one unlucky enemy mortar hit in 36 Bn area, which killed 2, incl Maj RILEY 2i/c of 36 Bn and injured 8 ORs.	
		1400	Maj-Gen BERRYMAN, DCGS visited Bde HQ. Intentions 1943:- ~~Blast JAPS into small pieces and assist same to visit illustrious forefathers.~~	

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Maj
Bde.

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Appx "A"

WD

NOT ISSUED. Not allotted this HQ BDE advised at 2030 hrs 3/12/42

SECRET

30 AUST INF BDE OO No. 11

3 Dec 42
Copy No.

Ref map BUNA 1 in to 1 mile

INFM

1 OWN TPS

(a) 25 Bde with under comd :- 25 Bn, 31 Bn, 33 Bn, 3 Bn, composite 14/27 Bn is containing the enemy in GONA area.

(b) 21 Bde with under comd :- 16 Bn, 39 Bn, has bypassed GONA and is pushing EAST along coast to SANANANDA POINT.

(c) 30 Bde is concentrating with a view to relieving 25 Bde as quickly as possible . Dispositions 1700 hrs 3 Dec as follow-

Adv HQ 30 Bde - 161268
Rear HQ 30 Bde - 160168
39 Bn - under comd 21 Bde
R Gp and one coy 49 Bn - near adv Bde HQ

INTENTION

2 30 Bde will move by march route to GONA area.

METHOD

3 Policy : Move in sub-unit gps in two stages D1 POPENDETTA to biv vicinity HQ Rear Bde - D2 to destn.

4 Route : POPENDETTA - SOPUTA - JIMBURU & destn.

5 Timings :

(a) D1 sub-units, preferably coys, NOT less than pls concentrate at POPENDETTA on day arrival - D1 - then move forthwith to biv site, D2 0700 hrs.

(b) Marching time first stage 6½ hrs
Marching time second stage 4½ hrs

(c) In the event of SOPUTA landing strip being used before completion of air move sub-units arriving before 1130 hrs will complete stage 2 on day of arrival.

6 Rear Details : Units will establish dumps of surplus eqpt at Biv sites under charge of minimum number of selected personnel. Surplus eq pt will incl mosquito nets, packs or haversacks where both are carried, Mortars 3 inch three.

7 Weapons : Three only 3 inch Mortars otherwise all weapons will be carried.

ADM

8 Rations :

(a) On D2 to be carried on man 5 days reserve to incl 3 days dehydrated plus unexpired portion of days rations.

(b) Track rations for consumption D1 and D2 to be drawn SOPUTA DID.

(c) The 3 days special ration drawn at MORESBY will be taken over by ASC at POPENDETTA.

(d) 8 days will be maintained on the man and frequent inspections carried out by units.

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9 Ammn

(a) SAA - 50 rds on man BREN mags filled
Grens - 2 per man
.55 - 200 per A/Tk rifle
3" Mor - 90 rds per unit.

(b) FAP is established GONA area.

10 Tpt

(a) First Stage - Jeeps under control Bde LO Lieut MORAY at POPENDETTA are available for movement of eqpt to biv area.

(b) Second Stage - Native carriers are allotted on scale of 40 each Bn and 90 to HQ Bde - a total of 1210. These carriers remain with the bde during future ops.

For movement of eqpt in one lift units will demand on rear bde for additional native carriers. Unit carriers are NOT available to ferry eqpt on stage 2 as they are required fwd for normal maintenance.

11 Supply policy in fwd area

(a) Carriers allotted to units are available for movement of normal mntce ammn and rations from DID to unit MPs. Bde allotment is available to supplement units as required.

(b) Unit QMs are responsible for selection of MPs, camp sites for unit carriers under the general supervision of the staff Capt.

(c) Bde reserve of carriers will be under direct control of an ANGAU rep. Staff Capt will allot carriers as required for movement of unit eqpt on stage 2 and will arrange for their concentration in fwd area.

(d) BAASCO will remain at fwd DID.

(e) SCL Lieut CLINTON will be responsible for liaison with BAASCO and ANGAU rep and the general control of the bde sup policy. He will move to the fwd area on 4 Dec with part of the bde reserve.

(f) SC will remain at the Biv site until 55/53 Bn passes through. He will allot the balance of Bde carriers for movement of units eqpt. Any deficiency will be fulfilled by 7 Aust Div on demand.

Maj
EM 30 AUST INF BDE

Ack
Time of signature 2000 hrs

Distn :-
49 Bn
55/53 Bn
GCd
EM
File
WD (2)

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Appx "B"

30 BDE ADM INSTN NO. 1

SECRET
5 Dec 42
Copy No. 1 P.

Ref Maps BUNA 1;63360

1. INTN 30 Aust Inf Bde less 39 Bn is concentrating in area 1618 with likely role of operating north astride main track.
39 Bn is under comd 21 Bde.

2. SCOPE This instn covers the adm arrangements in the concentration area and the supply policy in the event of a fwd move.

3. RATIONS

(a) Sup Pt - SOPUTA DID.
(b) Res - On the man 5 days, incl 3 days dehydrated.
The res must be carefully maintained and frequently checked. Strict discipline, for example one tin of beef to be opened only for consumption of three men, will be observed.
Until the consumption of res rations is authorised by Bde Hq or dictated by operational circumstances, units will be regarded as holding 5 days.

4. AMN (a) AP - SOPUTA DID.
(b) On the man (normal) SAA 20 rds per rifle
200 " " BREN
OSMG 200 " " gun
Grenades 34 X 4 sec 2 per man

(c) With unit (normal) Bombs Mortar 3" - 30 per morter
.55 Amn - 20 rds per rifle
Grenades 34 X 7 sec - 50 per unit
SAA Res - 10,000 rds

5. WATER WP - As selected by units in GIRUA River. Individual water sterilization sets will be used.

6. MEDICAL ADS - SOPUTA

7. TRANSPORT

a) Native carriers will be allotted on the scale 40 per unit, 30 Hq Bde, a total of 210.
b) The function of carriers is
(i) Movt of supplies from DIDs, forward to unit MPs.
(ii) Evacuation of casualties.
(iii) Carriage of unit eqpt.
c) One ANGAU representative will be allotted with bde carriers, but units must be prepared for their "Q" personnel to select camp sites for and generally administer their unit allotment of carriers.
d) BAASCO will normally remain at DID and be responsible for issue of supplies as required.
e) SC (L) - Lieut CLINTON - will normally be responsible for liaisonk between BAASCO, ANGAU rep, unit QMs and Bde Staff, and the allotment of carriers/in accordance with bde priorities for tasks in

8. REAR DETAILS

a) Units will establish dumps of surplus eqpt in present bde area under charge of minimum number selected personnel.
b) In the event of a move, such dumps will remain until called fwd.
c) There will usually be three stages in any move:
(i) Unit moves with 40 carriers.
(ii) Eqpt with rear details called up as operational situation demands and available carriers permit.
(iii) Rear details moves fwd complete.

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9. REAR DETAIL DUMPS

a) The contents of the unit dump initially depends upon the amount of eqpt and stores which can be handled by 40, plus an allotment from the Bde Res of 90 natives.

b) Normally, dumps will incl

(i) Tent flys and tentage/
(ii) Cooking gear less max 12 containers.
(iii) Medical eqpt less that carried by SBs.
(iv) A Tk Rifles and amm.
(v) Mortars 3" - three.
(vi) Mosquito nets.
(vi) Sig eqpt less quantity detailed in Bde order.

10. UNIT EQPT

In the event of a move, unit eqpt and supplies to be taken initially will normally incl:-

(a) Unit weapons less A Tk rifles and mortars 3" three.
(b) Amn - para 4 b) and 4 c).
(c) Rations - 5 days res plus unexpired portion of days ration.
(d) Pack or haversack on the man, containing as already laid down, less sweater and mosquito net. Sweater may be taken as an alternative to spare shirt.
(e) Tools and G 1098 eqpt as are required and can be carried.

11. GENERAL

The importance of "Q" arranging "ahead" in this type of warfare can NOT be over emphasised. Units will therefore plan for a move on the principles of this instn. Plans to this HQ by 1200 hrs 6 Dec, to show unit eqpt to be carried and allotment of carrier loads.

ACK

TIME OF SIGNATURE

Publape Lieut
SC 30 Aust Inf Bde

Distribution:

49 Bn
55/53 Bn
30 Bde Sig Sec
39 Bn (for infm)
7 Aust Div (for infm)
Cond
HM
BAA30C
File
War Diary (2) ✓

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

SPARE

Appx "A" "C"

SECRET

ARMY FORM C 2130
(ADAPTED. LARGE)
(P[illegible] of 10-03)
(RE-PRINTED FE[illegible]. 1943—M.P.C.

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.	IN	No. of Groups GR.	Serial No. / Office Date Stamp
	OUT		

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY)

TO VOYA ZUGO PASO BOEKEM Apta HAMPSON NANI.

FROM JASO.

Originator's Number | Date 9 | In Reply to Number

(WRITE HORIZONTALLY)

Confirmation Verbal Orders by Cmd 10
Re Hostns 9 Dec o first o Amt areas responsibility marked Rd 15
Sketch Est listening posts and fixed lines require special attention 20
o Recce o ZUGO o will relieve HAAN by 0900 4/10 o third o patrol 25
activity 9 Dec o two patrol each ZUGO VOYA will depart 1430H 2nd 1500H 30
respectively o fighting patrol strength gp tank recce o VOYA will patrol 35
ford area H of Rd ZUGO left of rd o Tanks recce depth and extent enemy 40
posns. VOYA patrol also recce area for location C Coy VOYA in rt flank position 45
VOYA posns. o Further o present policy o patrol activity to locate enemy disposition and pos- 50
sible routes for atty thru wadi confirmed with Adm Instructions ford area 55
offered troops ZUGO pushing North astride Rd and VOYA Continually thrusting 60
during left flank o Mortars laid to Concentrate by ZUGO 2 Pl. Co-op with ZUGO FA 65
Batty Co-op with VOYA o Ration for 48 ordered o packed under Cooking fire 5 70
Mins before 1910 4/9 and 0700 4/10 9th o Salvage of material first priority 75
Arms. Ammn. Magazines Rations Medical priority Other Equipment o Salvage Dump 80
located 100 yds near JASO o All informed. 85
90
95
100
105
110
115
120
125
130

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS (*EXCEPT) (..... WIRELESS)

SIGNATURE
* *Originator may delete "except" and insert "including"*

THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CYPHER IF LIABLE TO INTERCEPTION OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS

SIGNATURE [illegible] Lieut
For B.M. A.D.

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN 1600

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY)

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

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY
OVER LAY FOR LOCAL GRIDM.

WAR DIARY.

10

21

FAIRBROTHER

19

21

Creek

55/53

ROAD

49

Creek.

2/2 Bn

30 Bde HQ

US

12

19

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

WD

Appx "C" "D"

SECRET
COPY NO. 7..
11 DEC 42

30 AUST INF BDE OO NO. 12

Ref Local Grid MAP

INFM

1. ENEMY locations are reasonably satisfactory in squares 1316, 1317.
No change appears to have taken place in the vicinity of dets STEVENSON and BOEREM.
More infm is needed in squares 1616, 1617, 1516, 1517.

OWN TPS.

2. As result of our fwd movt, we have exploited to the edge of ENEMY defensive fire plan
3. KESSELS is sending one coy to square 1516, then advancing WEST in order to constrict ENEMY EAST flank.
4. LOVELL is pushing fwds in square 1316 and on ENEMY WEST with object of exploiting mortar bombardment.
5. MORTARS at present under comd LOVELL are operating on known ENEMY posns astride road from 0700 hrs to 1000 hrs

INTENTION

6. To position minimum tps on present front for purposes of security and holding frontally.
7. To maintain maximum tps in hand for mobile offence and/or conservation of health and energy.

METHOD

8. Policy :- Based on a continuation of "stalk and consolidate", plus holding present front with strong posts mutually supporting.
9. Areas of Responsibility :- For present, NO change.
10. Roles :- 49 Bn will prepare at least three strong posts to cover present front and R flank to bridge in 1413 sqd.
55/53 Bn will prepare at least four strong posts to cover present front incl MAIN TRACK, high timber in square 1316 and L flank.
US will prepare at least five posts to cover footbridge at 140138 thence present rear and L of MAIN TRACK.

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10. Notes (contd)
It is left to Coad 2/3 Bn to construct such strong posts as are considered necessary to maintain their present posn.

11. Supporting Fire
ALL mortars will be brigaded under fire BELL of 55/53 Bn, who will act directly under this H.Q.
3" Mortars will be allotted in support 49 Bn and 55/53 Bn in equal proportions.
81 m.m US mortars will be Bde reserve; but will be sited to give fire on ALL fronts if possible
Units will reconnaitre DF tasks and CP tasks direct to fire BELL.

12. Works Policy
Each post will be sufficient in dimensions to contain one pl with Hy MGs. in certain cases, added.
Lines of fire and vision will be prepared with due regard to overhead camflg.
Splinter proof cover for LMGs and HMGs will be constructed
Two main posts will protect MGs and will be linked with cover slits
Camflg from ground observation will be specially attended to.

13. Priority of Work
(a) Weapon pit with overhead cover and camflg.
(b) Lines of fire
(c) Cover slits

14. Special Note:- Present activity and occupation of ground now must NOT be relaxed or prejudiced. It is eventually intended that one unit will occupy ALL along posts, thus freeing other units to move elsewhere

ACK

Distribution:-
49 Bn
55/53 Bn
2/3 Bn
BOEREMI FORCE
1 Aust Div (for info)

I.O.
War Diary (2)
File

Major
BM 30 Aust Inf Bde

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

Appx "E"

REPORT ON SITUATION
15 Dec 42.

OBJECT

1. (a) to push on to SANANANDA;

(b) to relieve remnants of US tps and 16 Bde sub-units which are holding posns flanking the enemy posns along SOPUTA-SANANANDA rd, including US tps which are holding an isolated posn astride the SOPUTA-SANANANDA rd.

FACTORS

2. ENEMY - in actual numbers, it is difficult to estimate enemy strength but his state is such that he has undertaken locality defence with every available man and, as such, does not require personnel for the maintenance of a mob force. All his strength appears to be devoted to occupying fixed posns, in which there are numerous alternative defences, for the purpose of staying indefinitely to impede our adv. His posns are in depth from our present posn to a distance of 2,500 yds along the rd;- this infm from our patrols;- and probably all the distance to SANANANDA.
His strength in fighting personnel is probably 1500 to 2000 in the fwd areas.

DEDUCTION: a policy of encirclement will enable us to capture and occupy localities further to the North and even on the rd itself, at the expense of strength in hand and protection of our axis and vulnerable L of C installations. I am prepared to sieze more ground, as such, but, this will NOT reduce enemy localities other than by a slow policy of stalking and starving him. He must be attacked jointly and severally, and this requires man power.

3. OWN TPS

	ACTUAL		FIGHTING PERSONNEL			Remarks
	Offrs	ORs	Offrs	ORs	Total	
(a) 49 Bn	10	313	6	200	* 206	* Services, mortars and sigs NOT included
(b) 55/53 Bn	20	468	16	305	321	Based on analysis of 49 Bn ∴ approximate
			22	505	527	
(c) 2/3 Bn	10	130	9	110	119	Can only be used for positional role, due to health and fatigue
(d) US	30	675	22	523	545	For various reasons, including the above, NONE of these tps can be regarded as fighting tps, but, they could be given a positional role

Due to past failures to achieve result by encirclement, (c) and (d) above have been dispersed and dissipated. HUGGINS Force is still in posn astride the rd, isolated and severely dissipated. This force has accounted for numerous enemy who attacked it: but is incapable of acting offensively. The whole of the remainder of US tps have been engaged in carrying rations to it - either as carriers, escort or picquets on the route in. At other times, they merely occupy our rear perimeter.

PF 46

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

Any effort to induce them to occupy a fwd posn or take the offensive raises objections on the part of their Comd.

DEDUCTIONS: (a) if HUGGINS Force is relieved by AUST tps or if we establish more of such small pockets it would be unwise to count on US tps to continue their present role of servicing the latter. This would force us to use US tps in a fwd role. Any further attempt at encircling must be in strength, to reduce the enemy as well as merely seize ground;
(b) it should not be deeper than our strength based on maintaining a L of C to the newly won area permits.

Our tps, generally, are likely to be reduced by sickness. US tps consist of remnants of numerous units and sub-units with a minimum of orgzn.

4. RELATIVE TACTICS

Since our first assault, we have used a "stalk and consolidate" type of tactics, combined with fire concentrations on enemy posns, as discovered. We have patrolled deeply and over wide areas. Several raids have had the effect of killing some enemy, but, his well constructed MG posns defy our fire power and present a barrier of fire through which our tps must pass. We have attempted to sieze these in failing light, but they are too numerous to deal with by other than an attack in great strength. One of these attempts silenced one MG but, others supported it from flank posns. On the latter occasion own tps avoided fixed lines by crawling back to cover in the bad light.

DEDUCTION: this suggests a dawn attack on a wide front. The enemy is content to sit and wait for us to hazard an assault. He does not enjoy our close proximity or our fire concentrations. There are gaps in his area which we have occupied without much use

DEDUCTION: we are eventually faced with a mopping-up which may be likened to a series of sieges such as GONA presented. It will be SLOW, unless we rush each posn with superior numbers and accept high casualties.

With our present strength we have extended to a degree which is dangerous indeed as viewed from the point of view of defence. We have taken every risk on the assumption that the enemy is not aggressive. We have no worthy reserves; and, in order to patrol, raid and send rations to HUGGINS, it is necessary to create gaps in our perimeter and dissolve depth. In this, we have been influenced by anticipation of receiving more tps to take posns in depth and/or provide striking forces.

DEDUCTIONS: if our role is to change to one of defence, it will be necessary to narrow our front by withdrawing tps situated on flanks.

TOPOGRAPHY

5. Flat, swampy forests and kuni patches flank the rd East and West. The rd and its very near environs is the only "near dry" area suitable for bivouac. Tps sit or lie near their weapon pits and plunge into the water, which constantly drains into the weapon pits. It is impossible to dry clothes or boots. Flanking picquets exist with great discomfort.

COURSES OPEN

6. ENEMY - the enemy has one course: to wait for reinfts, to reduce our strength and to make periodic raids to disconcert us.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

7. OWN. (a) to leave the axis and L of C to the mercies of luck and to attack by usual methods, involving assault on the nearest enemy posns.

(If carried out at dusk, this course would, no doubt be successful, at a minimum cost of about 15% casualties. If US tps were used to take the posns at present occupied by our tps, we should be able to gather sufficient strength to accomplish the seizure of 300 yds square which is our immediate impediment. This would not relieve HUGGINS Force and would probably cause the abandonment of the block at present held by the latter.)

(b) to delay any further attacks until reinfts arrive.

(This is surer but is a negative attitude and, may still result in the loss of the "rd block" from HUGGINS Force)

(c) to seize an area adjoining or near to HUGGINS Force and relieve the latter.

(This course will result in dispersion and L of C difficulties which may only be relieved by another attack as in (a) above when, and if, reinfts arrive. If it fails, our posn will NOT be enhanced, but, a moral obligation to our allies will have been honoured. Further, we have not the detailed infm of the enemy disposns in HUGGINS' "rd block" area, due to the latter's inability to patrol; but, with what infm is available as a result of our patrols - in spite of inefficient mapping and air photography - it is felt that expectation of success is justified)

8. Plans are reserved pending more definite infm as to our likely future strength. The latter course is favoured, particularly if it can be followed by action as in course (a). It would include relieving our tps and, if further reinfts arrived, using the latter to attack the present fwd posns subsequently to our attacking towards Huggins' area. Our L of C would temporarily be by way of our right flank where 2/3 Bn have an outpost.

(Sgd) S Porter Brig.
Comd 30 Inf Bde.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

War Diary / APPX "D" "F"

SECRET
COPY NO 10
16 DEC 42

30 AUST INF BDE OO NO. 13

Reference : GONA (revised 4" to 1 mile map
Air photos showing variation in vegetation
etc (NB: Comds to study latter carefully)

INFORMATION

1. ENEMY

Reports on and translations of captured documents indicate that the ENEMY strength in SOPUTA-SANANANDA Rd is between 1200 and 1700. His health is waning and his food supplies are very low.

His tactics consist of positioning troops in front of our lines of advance as the latter we discovered and pinning our troops with rifle and MG fire. Extensive use is made of alternative positions, and it is considered that troops move to alternative areas in accordance with our threats.

Deduction: the ENEMY must be threatened in as many places as possible at the one time to disguise the main thrust.

2. OWN TPS

36 BN is arriving this area today and will come under comd this Bde.

7 Aust Div Cav Regt is moving to area HUGGINS and will commence operations from there — objective SANANANDA POINT. Timings will synchronize with our operations. This unit is remaining under comd 7 Aust Div until a later stage. Present garrison HUGGINS is remaining in position until relieved by 30 Bde.

16 Bde and U.S sub-units are being concentrated in rear of our present position as received by 30 Bde when ordered by this HQ.

INTENTION

3. We MUST and WILL destroy all ENEMY in the area SOUTH of HUGGINS then push NORTH to SANANANDA

METHOD /

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

METHOD

4. Policy: To drive the enemy to ground on his present positions with MORTAR and Arty fire. To attack his positions from both flanks simultaneously behind a lifting barrage of SA fire and flame throwers. Mortar and arty fire will also be used for quick and close support

5. Fwd Tps: 49 Bn 55/53 Bn

6 Objectives

49 Bn - MAIN TRACK at astride point 183258 approx
55/53 Bn - LINE running approx NORTH and SOUTH 25 yds EAST of that portion of MAIN TRACK from BIG TREE at 179248 to TRACK JUNC at 182253

7. Starting Lines:

49 Bn - Line running NORTH and SOUTH through HUTCHINSON
55/53 Bn - Line running from present L flank of 55/53 Bn through HERWICK

8 Direction of Attacks: 49 Bn - 305° Mag
55/53 Bn - 85° Mag

9. Timings: D1 - ~~18~~ 19 SEP ZERO - 0800 hrs

10 Supporting Fire: See Appx "B"

11 Reserve Fire: See Appx "B"

Note: Flame throwers were NOT a success. Personnel were unwilling to use them and, many cases could NOT get near enough to ENEMY posts.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

12. A TK GUN
Our 2 pdr guns will take up a position for purpose of firing up MAIN TRACK Fire will be brought from Z to Z+10 by — observation or sound on targets within a limited arc. R of arc 30° mag, L of arc 10° mag measured from bend in road at 178247

13. Reserves
36 Bn will relieve 49 Bn and 55/53 Bn in their present positions on arrival of former
They will act as Bde reserve in this area during the attack and will endeavour to maintain two coys in depth ready for instant movement to relieve flanking detachments)
Likely roles:- Protection of L flank 55/53 Bn with one coy after latter have reached MAIN TRACK. Later, advance astride MAIN TRACK to contact 49 Bn and/or HUGGINS roadblock

14. Upon relief 49 & 55/53 Bns will move to areas to be indicated on the ground in rear this Hq.

15. Until US Hqs are finally concentrated their present roles will NOT cease until ordered by this Hq.

ADM

16. Same arrangements for medical amn and supplies will prevail as at present. according to results present points will be advanced along MAIN TRACK or to either flank
Units will pay particular attention to provision of WWCPs medical requirements incl stretchers and the chain of amn supply.

INTERCOMN

17. Adv Bde Hq will follow MAIN TRACK as closely as possible
Reports to present site until further orders
LT will follow the advance
HUTCHINSON and HERWICK garrisons will act as fwd report centres and will report progress constantly.

ACK

TIME OF SIGNATURE 1740 hrs

[signature]
MAJ
BM 3a AUST INF BDE

DISTRIBUTION:
1. 2/3 Aust Inf Bns.
2. 36 " " "
3. 49 " " "
4. 55/53 " " "
5. Det 126 US Regt
6 Det 2/7 Aust Fd Regt
7 1 Aust Div
8 Det 2/1 Fd Regt
9 file
10 Bde Diary

6 copies appx A to 55/53, 49, 36
Det 2/1 Fd Regt, 1 Aust Div,
Motor Offr.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

17 18 19 27

MAG. N

HUGGINS

F

E

26

C

D

HUTCH

BROWN

HERWIG

A

MT ROAD

B

25

A+D 55

B 55

C 55

C 49

CREEK

E 49

E 55

D 30

24

17 18 19

Scale 8 ins to 1 mile

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

APPENDIX "B"

16. Supporting Fire (See Appx "A")

Type	Task No	Area	Guns	Rate r.p.s.p.m	Target Zone	Time From To	Remarks	Amn Required
Arty	1	Present	4	3	B	Z-8 ' Z-1	Neutralizing	84
	2	"	4	3	C	Z-1 ' Z+8	"	108
	3	"	4	1	E	Z+8 ' Z+24	"	64
	4	"	4	as ordered	E	as ordered	Concentration	256
	5	"	4	"	F	on demand	may switch from task 3 whether or not latter completed concentrations	200 (RDS)
Mortar	10	Present	6	4	A	Z-4 ' Z		456
	11	HUTCHINSON	3	4	D	Z-4 ' Z	Neutralizing	96
	12	Present	6	3	B	Z ' Z+8	"	48
	13	"	3	3	G	Z ' Z+8	"	144
	14	"	6	1	C	Z+8 ' Z+30		72
	15	HUTCHINSON	3	as ordered	-	Z on	Quick Support U/cond 49 Bn	132
	16	Present	3	as ordered	Z+8 on		Quick Support U/cond 55/53 Bn	492
								300 (RES)
								792

11. Reserve Fire

Apart from above estimates 49 Bn will have priority in calls for supporting arty fire

A general reserve of mortar bombs equal to the availability of such will be maintained in additions to requirements for tasks 15 and 16

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

COPY

Appx K

Hq 126 US Inf Regt
27 Dec 42

Subject: FIGHTING STATE OF TROOPS

To 30 Aust Inf Bde

1. Attached to this letter is a synopsis of the history of each unit under my command at the present time. It may be considered with this report.

2. The majority of the troops now in this area marched from PONGANI to SOPUTA over difficult tracks. A forced march on 21 Nov brought the troops in time to attack on 22 Nov. The remainder marched from WAIROPE and were committed on the day of arrival. This force had previously crossed the OWEN STANLEY Range on foot.

3. As the attached synopsis shows, this force has had little and, in some cases, NO relief since 21 Nov. Practically 34 days of continuous service on the front, together with the unfavourable climatic conditions, sickness etc, place this force in an unfavourable fighting state.

4. This Unit arrived on 21 Nov with 56 Offrs and 1268 Enlisted Men.

5. The total strength to date is 20 Offrs and 460 Enlisted Men (as at 27 Dec 42).

(Sgd) Richard D. Boerem
Maj 126 Inf Regt Comdg

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

HPPX "B" "G"

CONFID...

Subject: FITNESS FOR WAR - 55/53 AUST INF BN and 36 AUST INF BN

30 Aust Inf Bde
22 Dec 42
Ref: G 1/22/12

7 Aust Div (2)

1. I regret to report that, in my opinion, the above units are NOT fit for war under the present conditions.

2. What success these units achieve or may achieve is due to a percentage of personnel who are brave in the extreme; and, is the result of unskilful aggression. Unfortunately, the latter personnel have been almost exterminated in 55/53 Bn and are likely to be exterminated in 36 Bn. The remainder lack confidence in themselves and their weapons and they lack discipline, due entirely to lack of training and, in some cases, cowardice. Junior leadership is also lacking. Pl Comds and Sec Comds, with few exceptions, do NOT understand minor tactics; but, devote their energy to individual effort or to urging their personnel to leave cover.

3. The COs of both units have NOT commanded their units sufficiently long to be held responsible; and, I wish to cast NO reflection upon them, whatever.

4. It is realised that this report is an outspoken one; but, I am prepared to substantiate it with citation of facts. It is considered that the present state of training has been the cause of a costly series of encounters with the enemy, in both life and material; and, the gain has been negligible.

5. An assurance is given that this report in NO way represents an indication that efforts to profit by the experience will be relaxed, either in the sphere of tactical gain or of training; but, any major tactical gain is likely to be ~~forthcoming~~ fortuitous.

6. Although 39 Bn and 49 Bn - the original components of this Bde - are NOT under my comd, at the present time, I consider that it is at least fair to add that these units also lack training of a sufficient nature, due to lack of opportunity. Junior leadership is on a very much higher plane, Mowever; and, there is some knowledge of minor tactics on the part of personnel.

Brig
Comd 30 Aust Inf Bde

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

File

Appx "J"

HQ 30 Aust Inf Bde
25 Dec 42

Instruction for special training to be carried out for attacking ENEMY STRONGHOLDS

1. INTRODUCTION

NOTHING is impossible, especially against an ENEMY who has become static as result of failing supplies.

The GERMANS attacked and captured an "unconquerable" concrete fort in the MAGINOT LINE by:-

(a) Careful recce
(b) Careful preparation.
(c) Careful planning.
(d) Determined execution.

Every embrasure was neutralized by fire. Then the fort was rushed.

2. INTENTION

We will take JAP posts, one after another, by similar methods

3/ PLAN FOR SECTION ATTACK

(a) Organize into groups:

i. Gun group - LMG and gun numbers.
ii. Scout group and) - two OSMGs and remainder with
support group combined) rifles and grenades.

(b) Allot Roles:

i. Gun group stalks into fire position from which to cover the ENEMY post..
ii. One OSMG and half of grenadiers responsible for ENEMY post and left to approx 30 yds.
iii. One OSMG and remainder responsible for ENEMY post and RIGHT to approx 30 yds.

(c) Execution

i. LMG waits until COMBINED groups have approached as close as possible OR until ENEMY LMG opens fire. Then LMG group engages ENEMY posn with rapid fire.
ii. COMBINED GPSthrow grenades to cover their respective pits
iii. COMBINED GPS rush their objective with bayonet and OSMG covering front. If other ENEMY automatics open fire, OSMGs engage them. During the rush, some grenades should be thrown beyond the ENEMY post, to deal with rifle pits to its rear.
iv. COMBINED GPS leap into ENEMY slits and use rifles to cover consolidation while GUN GP moves in. If ENEMY MG post holds out, LMG Gp will continue to cover it until COMBINED GPS bomb it out of existence.

4. NOTE If prior recce indicates that ENEMY post is too extensive for normal section, the section will be enlarged by adding to Groups OR a Pl attack will be staged.

5/ PLAN FOR PL ATTACK

i. One or more sections will stalk into positions to cover front with fire on every known embrasure and fire posn. Mortars or MMGs may be attached to pl for this purpose.
ii. One or more sections will be allotted a portion of the ENEMY front as in para 3 b (ii) above. LMGs will be used from the hip.
iii. Assaulting sections will commence their assault as in para 3 c (ii) and (iii) upon the cessation of mortar fire (if any) or when it is NO longer possible to approach by use of cover (if NO mortars).
They will rush the objective, covered by fire from LMGs and OSMGs fired on the move.

P.T.O.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

6. NOTE: Preparatory or covering fire by mortars and MMGs should be laid in the form of a box barrage where necessary.
Diversions and demonstrations must be made.
Implicit trust in the accuracy of our own fire must be instilled into attacking troops.
Once the ENEMY position has been gained, it must be occupied and held, whether or NOT the ENEMY surround it.

7. SUGGESTED ARMS AND AMN

Nos 1,2 and 3 - carry BREN, two rifles, 6 grenades and ALL the BREN mags, in haversacks.
Nos 4 and 5 - carry OSMG, two grenades each and ALL OSMG mags.
Nos 6 and 7 etc- carry rifles and 5 or more grenades each.

8. CONCLUSION

It must always be borne in mind that the above is NOT intended to be a hard and fast set of rules. So long as the principles of recce, planning covering fire and systematic dealing with the AREA surrounding an ENEMY MG post are carried out, individual ideas on the part of the comd may be applied.

It is fatal to suppose that the ENEMY will NOT have his LMGs protected by riflemen, as we do. These are NOT snipers NOR are their lives charmed.

Maj
BM 30 Aust Inf Bde

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

Appx "A" No "1"

Subject: LESSONS FOR WAR

CONFIDENTIAL

No 30 Aust Inf Bde
24 Dec 42
Ref: G 1/24/12

7 Aust Div (2F)

Further to our G 1/22/12 dated 22 Dec, I have to submit the following citations of the conduct of troops in action, due to lack of training etc.

25/25 Bn attack on 10 Dec

General:- Pl Comds and Coy Comds in general complained that, once the enemy opened fire, the majority of their troops went to ground and buried their faces. During efforts on the part of better types to organise a forward move, the latter were made casualties; thus, since 7 Dec this unit has gradually lost most of its best personnel. To quote Capt Gilleland "....and, when I say they buried their faces, I mean just that".

Frequently, during an approach through thick timber, our troop's presence has been given away by the premature f'ring of rifles, or throwing of grenades, by reason of fright. At other times, men have thrown down their weapons and run in the opposite direction to the enemy- drawing fire on the whole party. When representatives of 2/3 Bn accosted the latter, they were excitedly told that the JAPS had chased them out.

Losses in weapons of this unit since 7 Dec are:-

Brens	20	Magazines	200
Rifles	32	Magazines	192

On 10 Dec, N40076 Lieut H.A. ARNE led a party in an assault on their objective. He was last seen leaping from weapon pit to weapon pit, killing ENEMY. The remainder of the party survived by NOT following him.

On 10 Dec, Capt Henderson lost his life as he bombed an ENEMY LMG post. The remainder of his party left him to the task, without aiding him.

On 10 Dec N 20403 Pte F. Daniels took comd of his pl, when his pl comd was killed. He was the pl comd's runner; and, NO other person appeared to take comd. The pl reached the ENEMY posn. Daniels threw grenades and gained the post which was being attacked. He then turned to lead the pl on to the next post; but, found that they had vanished. He later offered to lead more men into the ENEMY posn; but, there was NO response.

On 23 Dec, in order to test the above statements, I approached two perfectly healthy types of soldiers, whom I considered worthy types, judged by appearances. They were sheltering in a fwd post with little field of view. After preliminary remarks, I asked if they would accompany me fwd to investigate the ENEMY position. They replied that it was "too dangerous". In order to make sure that it was NOT a person that they thought should be preserved, I suggested they should go as a pair. They declined. I finally suggested that a LMG crew take a covering posn ahead, while we three stalked fwd. They regretfully refused.

Lieut Brown of this unit carried out some valuable patrols, before he was wounded. He was known to remark that he could NOT be sure of his men.

36 Bn

General: This unit is totally untrained in minor tactics. There is NO grouping within the section, NO numbering of personnel and the arms of the section are merely weapons to be carried, or NOT, as the case may be.

On 30 Dec the Bn was ordered to carry out an attack before dusk, if possible. Owing to various reasons, this was postponed until next day.

After two false starts, it attacked at 1510; but, ended in a perimeter defence on its start line. NO enemy had been seen, but 5 O/R and 6 O/R casualties had been suffered. The attack was preceded by patrols who invariably reported "This - all our type returned safely".

PTO

During 22 and 23 Dec this unit advanced [illegible] yds by stalking, without actual contact with the ENEMY. It appears unable to move under control, in this type of country; and, it is definitely incapable of patrolling.

On night 23/24 Dec, this Bn was ordered to attack located ENEMY posts. NO result whatever was obtained. Three wounded casualties resulted.

One patrol, at least, raised their bodies from cover and were fired upon by an ENEMY rifleman. They thereupon remained in their posns and sent in the usual patrol report. Another patrol explored the terrain 10 yds to their front.

Samples of patrol reports are appended.

Lt Col
Cond 30 Aust Inf Bde

* Actual figures are in doubt

ESUME OF STATUS OF ORGANIZATIONS UNDER MAJ BOEREM'S COMMAND

CO[illegible] "C"

On Nov 22, went into attack astride track. Continued effort to advance by any and all means until Nov 26, when another concerted attack was made. Effort put forth daily in effort to advance. Started another drive Nove 30 to little avail. On Dec 5 an attack took place. Relieved from the line on Dec 6 to go into rest area, but 4 hrs later were placed in defensive posn fwd. Remained in fwd def posn until Dec 10, when were relieved and retired to rest area. Every other day men were on ration trains until 25 Dec, when coy was placed back into fwd lines. On Dec 24 men were relieved and retired to rest area.

Entered campaign with 3 offrs and 101 men. Present strength is offrs Nil men 22.

COMPANY "D"

A portion of Coy D was attached to Coy C and committed on Nov 22 and the balance of the coy entered the lines on 26 Nov. Effort put forth continually to advance. On Nov 30, a concentrated attack was made. On Dec 1, 33 men were assigned to Maj ZEEF Force. On Dec 5 a concentrated attack took place. On Dec 6, the men (less personnel assigned to Maj BAETCKE) were relieved and retired to rest area, and 4 hrs later were ordered back into the lines in def posns. Remained in the line until Dec 10 and were drawn to the rear to dig posns for def perimeter. Work on perimeter continued and mortar personnel went on ration trains, daily, until Dec 20, when men were ordered into the line. Moved fwd 20 yds by Dec 21. On Dec 22, the personnel which were with the "Road Block" returned, rested until Dec 24, and put into the line again. The fwd line dug and advanced over 50 yds. Personnel still in the line at present.

Mortar personnel have been at the disposal of Aust Comd throughout and, when NOT engaged on a mission, were used daily as carriers for ration trains. Mortar personnel firing again today. Still at gun posns

Entered campaign with 4 offrs and 113 men. Strength at present offrs Nil men 43.

HQ COY 3 BN

Entered action on Nov 22. CP set up, message center and communication personnel began to function. From this date on, HQ Coy has functioned as HQ for the entire force now under Maj BOEREM'S Comd. From Nov 23 until Dec 22 the personnel of HQ Coy were daily on ration and communication trains to Coys I, K, L, AT and other units. On Dec 3, those of HQ Coy not on communication, rations or ammunition duty were sent fwd into the line; withdrawn on Dec 24, to return to normal function within the HQ Coy. This coy is functioning as ammunition carriers, cooks for line personnel and supplying needs of the command in any and all emergencies.

Entered campaign with 8 offrs and 98 men. Strength now 3 offrs and 44 men.

COMPANY "I"

Entered action on Nov 22. On Nov 30, following a bayonet assault, established the ROAD BLOCK, where they remained, constantly under fire, until relieved Dec 22. Remained in the rest area for 2 days and on Dec 24 one pl was ordered back into the fwd line. On Dec 26, having been part of the drive which advanced our lines 50 yds, were relieved, to go into rest area

Entered campaign with 6 offrs and 173 men. Present strength 2 offrs and 74 men.

COMPANY "K"

Entered action on Nov 22 and participated in "I" Coy's attack, remaining at the "K" Coy posn until Dec 14, when they returned to RECORD area. On 17 Dec, personnel from "K" Coy were put to work on digging gun posns for def perimeter and [illegible] trains for rations. On Dec 20, K Coy took over the rear def perimeter, until Dec 23, when they were ordered into the front line. They are there at the present time.

Entered this campaign with 5 offrs and 164 men. Strength now 2 offrs and 59 men.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

IN	OUT	DATE	ORIG NO		To or From			TIME
	✓	2/12	I 1		W.O. BELL.		Attach five comds which belong 30 Bde	1645
	✓	2/12	I 2		6 Aust Div		Brig LOVELL bring right col down for Bde opns	1205
	✓	2/12	I 3.		NANI		Prem Adv HQ 30 Bde	1600
	✓	4/12	I 4		NANI.		Adv HQ closing present location 0800 moving to SOPUTA	

IN	OUT	DATE	serial No.	Orig No.	Time of orig	To or From			
						To	From		
✓		2/12	5	01735	2345	NANI.	NANI.	For patrol Info re HONINER & VITESSELS	0010.
✓		3/12	6	01740	1145	Adv 7 Div	Adv 7 Div	49 Bn marched under comd 2 Bde. Bde Area of responsibility.	
✓		1/12	7	I 765	1000	"	"	Copy of D's proposed scheme.	
✓		1/12	8	01726	2300		" "	Move 49 Bn commencing 2 Dec.	
	✓	5/12	9	Adv 17 Div	1200	49 Bn		Location of Adv Dump	Sig
✓		5/12	10	S 6	1500	VIVA		Addn enemy MGs	BM
✓		5/12	11	01760	2100		NANI	Situation to 1800 hrs 16 Bde. Attacked, there are no progress made. 21 Bde. No change in dispns. Patrols NOT yet to hand from patrols. 25 Bde. Concentration SOPUTA area completed 30 Bde. Total arrivals to date HQ 30 Bde 16 offrs 61 ORs 39 Bn 29 offrs and 553 ORs 49 Bn 24 offrs 441 ORs 55/53 Bn 26 offrs 493 ORs Attention 6 Dec. 30 Bde will relieve 16 Bde and Appendices comd 6 Dec. Landing Ships POPONDETTA No 2 & 3 eft. SOPUTA unserviceable for landing. POPONDETTA No 1 still unserviceable. Weather fine.	BM
✓		5/12	12	A 2	1500	2000		Report of [illegible] to DID. Air Photo arrangements	Sig
✓		4/12	13	A 6	0945.	2000		Capture of long [illegible] Operations	Sig
✓		6/12	14	03	1720.	VIVA.		Lloyd closes present location 1800 hrs open area approx 900 yds WEST SOPUTA in SOPUTA JUMBORA track the same time.	
✓		6/12	15	I 9	1938	VIVA 2000 FAIRBROTHER HUGGINS MOORE		P.W's. PW's to be despatched promptly 1400 hrs 16. Info to accompany date time map of capture. Documents equipment captured on PW to be sent back clearly identified with particular PW. Specimen pair new Jap trousers urgently required for examination. all informed	Sigs.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

IN	OUT			To or From (1)		T.O.D.
	✓	2/12	I1.	W.O. BELL	Retain five carriers which belong 30 Bde	1645
	✓	3/12	I12	6 Aust Div	Arrange LOVELL hang rifle and dubbin for Bde immediately.	1205
	✓	3/12	I3	7 Aust Div.	Opening. Adv HQ this Bde at 162268/1500 hrs ref map GONA 4 inch to 1 mile	1540
	✓	4/12	I4	7 Aust Div	Adv HQ closing present location moving SOPUTA 0800 hrs.	0740
✓		2/12	01735	7 Aust Div.	For PORTER. Following from NGF. Quote Your No five planeloads HONNER Coy personnel will proceed remainder KESSELS 32 Bde. 6 otherwise priorities unchanged.	2345
✓		3/12	01740	7 Aust Div.	49 Bn on arrival come under comd 25 Bde. Bde area of responsibility.	1145
✓		1/12	01726	7 Aust Div	Move 49 Bn commencing 2 Dec.	2300
✓		3/12	02	16 Bde	Situ as to 1800 hrs	1815
✓		4/12	01746	HQ 7 Div.	Situ as to 0800 hrs. 16 Bde. No change. 21 Bde. HQ now situated at 180293 ref map BUNA locality 4" otherwise no change. 25 Bde. Active patrolling GONA area and westwards during night. 30 Bde. Total arrivals to date HQ 3 Bde 11 offrs 610 OR's 49 Aust Inf Bn 17 offrs 336 OR's. 126 US Regt. No change. Landing stups. Firm. Weather fine and clear visibility excellent no rain during night	0800
✓		4/12	D363	25 Bde	Situ as to 1900 L	2015
✓		4/12	02	16 Bde.	Situ as at 1800 L	1840
✓		4/12	01	16 Bde	" " 0800 L	0830
✓		4/12	0316	16 Bde	" " 1300 L	1315
✓		4/12	01751	7 Aust Div	Situ as to 1400 hrs. Reorganisation on water front being carried out. Grouping of 7 Aust Div will be. 1. 16 Bde. 2/1, 2/2, 2/3 Bns with under comd from 0800 hrs 3 Dec 3 Bn and det 1 bn 126 US Regt. 2. 21 Bde. 2/14 2/16 2/27 bns CHAFORCE with under comd 39 Bn. 3. 25 Bde. 2/25, 2/31, 2/33 bns with under comd 1/3 bn. 4. 30 Bde. 49 Bn and 55/53 Bn concentrating SOPUTA area. 5. 126 US Regt. HQ 126 US Regt moved am 4 Dec en route 32 US Div. 21 Bde now in progress relieving 25 Bde in GONA area. 25 Bde will move am 5 Dec to concentrate SOPUTA area. 25 Bde patrol sent out 1600 hrs 3 Dec to investigate party Japs vicinity mouth AMBOGO river contacted enemy encountering mortar and LMG fire. Inflicted by casualties on Jap. Further details awaited. Landing stups. No 1 stip wrecked plane moved sufficiently for planes to land during am 4 Dec. No 2 stip temporarily unserviceable. No 3 stip ready for landing. SOPUTA ready for fighter landing. Weather fine and clear	1425

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

IN	OUT			TO or From	(2)	
✓		4/12	0130	16 Bde	Sitrep to 1530 L	
✓		4/12	I 781	HQ 7 Aust Div.	TAC/R 1000 - 1100/L 4. SANANANDA 22 barges observed 6 under water remainder appear damaged. N end. SANANANDA road appeared under water. HQ area sq 2023 observed. GONA area. Nil to report. T ship and inverted V ~~seen~~ point reported 165285	1530
✓		4/12	01732	HQ 7 Aust Div.	Sitrep to 1800 hrs. 1. 16 Bde. No change. 2. 21 Bde. Assumed cond GONA area 1600 L/4. Relief of 25 Bde should be completed by 1900 hrs. Patrols 2/14 bn continuing move eastwards from creek at 187282. 3. 25 Bde. HQ 25 Bde now located 156242 ref map BUNA prov. 1". Patrols at AMBOGA River remain in contact with JAP until relief by 21 Bde night 4/5 Dec. 4. 30 Bde. Total arrivals to date. HQ 30 Bde 11 offrs 61 OR's. 39 Bn 29 offrs 521 OR's. 49 Bn 23 offrs 430 OR's. 55/53 Bn 1 offr. 5. Intention 5 Dec. 16 Bde will attack Jap posns astride track SOPUTA - SANANANDA. 6. Landing ships. Leaving 0 1/25 1. Weather overcast.	1810
✓		5/12	01756	HQ 7 Aust Div.	Sitrep to 0800 hrs. 1. 16 Bde. No change. 2. 21 Bde. relief of 25 Bde now complete. Patrol 2/14 bn crossed mouth at 196295 ref map BUNA locality 4" and were fired on. Strong patrol will investigate am today. 3. 25 bde. Patrol at mouth AMBOGA river attacked Jap 7 MM 4 Dec inflicting 20 enemy casualties. Japs reported wearing new clothes and boots. Further patrols being sent to this area am today by 21 bde. Bde moving en route SOPUTA 0730 hrs. 4. 30 Bde. No change. 5. Harassing fire continued throughout night by arty on GONA wrecks along SOPUTA - SANANANDA track. 6. Landing ships. As for am 0 1/75 1. 7. Weather fine and clear, light rain during early hours this morning. No rain POPONDETTA.	0800
✓		5/12	0 1	16 Bde	Sitrep to 0800/L	0800
	✓	5/12	I 5	49 & 55/53 Bns	Sitrep to 0800 hrs. Reorganization of whole front being carried out. Grouping of Div will be. 1. 16 Bde. 2/1, 2/2, 2/3 bns with 3 Bn and det 1 Bn 126 US Reg under cond. 2. 21 Bde. 2/14, 2/14, 2/27 bns CHAFORCE with under cond 39 Bn completed relief 25 Bde am 5 Dec. 3. 25 Bde. 2/25. 2/31, 2/33 Bns with under cond 1/3 bn concentrating SOPUTA 0730 hrs. H. 126 US Reg. HQ 126 US Reg moved am 4 Dec en route 32 US Div. Patrol 2/14 bn fired on at 196295 ref map BUNA locality 4". 25 Bde patrols sent to south AMBOGA River 3 and 4 Dec encountered Japs using mortars and LMG's and inflicted heavy casualties. Patrols relieved by patrols from 21 bde night 4/5 Dec. Harassing fire continued throughout night by arty on GONA wrecks along SOPUTA - SANANANDA track. Intention 5 Dec. 16 Bde will attack Jap posns astride track SOPUTA - SANANANDA.	1210

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

IN	OUT			To or From		
✓		5/12		7 Aust Div.	Surrender leaflets being dropped on Japs GONA area 5 Dec	0905
✓		5/12		21 Bde	Sitrep No 1200 L	1203
	✓	5/12		49 Bn	Extra precautions. Tps NOT repeat NOT to cut legs off long trousers	1222
✓		5/12		7 Aust Div	TAC/R 1000 - 1100 5 Dec. SANANANDA 20 barges observed all appeared damaged. AMBOGO river area NMS 25 huts observed edge beach between AMBOGO and KUMUSI river. GONA area Beach area pointing west 3 men observed no boats under allow. Huts in square 1828 and 1929 appeared damaged.	1228.
	✓	5/12		55/53 Bn	All personnel except BHQ RAP rear details personnel will return mosquito nets ○ They will be collected in unit dumps near rds for return to DID	1500
✓		5/12	01758	7 Aust Div	Sitrep to 1400 hrs. 16 Bde. No reports received 21 Bde. no change. 25 Bde concentrating SOPUTA area. 30 Bde. Concentration SOPUTA area continues. Landing ships No 1 ship temporarily unserviceable. No 2 ship expected to be serviceable pm today. No 3 ship planes now landing. SOPUTA ship ready for landing weather fine and clear	1510
✓		5/12	05	16 Bde	Sitrep to 1800 L	1815
✓		5/12	0317	7 Aust Div	Sitrep 1900 L. all units in bivouac area 165167 ref map BUNA division. Intentions tomorrow to move CAMERON MARSON and EATHER HQ's to POPONDETTA. MILLER BUTTROSE and EATHER to remain in this area	1930
✓		5/12	I 49	21 Bde	Sitrep to 1800 L	1855
✓		5/12	01760	7 Aust Div.	Sitrep to 1800 hrs. 16 Bde. ○ Attacked this am no progress made ○ 21 Bde. No changes to dispos: Reports NOT yet to hand from patrols. 25 Bde. Concentration SOPUTA area completed 30 Bde. Detail arrivals to date HQ 30 Bde 11 offrs 61 OR 39 Bn 29 offrs and 553 OR 49 Bn 24 offrs 441 OR's 55/53 Bn 26 offrs 493 OR's Intentions 6 Dec. 30 Bde will relieve 16 Bde and troops under command PM 6 Dec Landing ships. POPONDETTA Nos 2 and 3 and SOPUTA are serviceable for landing ○ POPONDETTA No 1 still unserviceable ○ Weather fine	2000
✓		6/12	01763	7 Aust Div.	Ref map GONA locality 4" ○ NGF advises: Bombing and shelling missions 6 Dec. Bomb GONA track. Bomb and shell supply dumps in mangrove island 188 300. Track crossing 226286, Sanananda point	0010

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

					230287. Coconut ptn 230286 to 234234. No action mainland targets west of track crossing 226286. Mission fly west to area.	
✓	~~6/12~~	6/12		7 Aust Div	Sitrep to 0800. Pos unchanged, landing ships: POPONDETTA. No 2 ship soft but fit for landing. No 3 ship had and form. SOPUTA soft but landings taking place. Weather fine then overcast	0805
✓		6/12		16 Bde	Sitrep to 0800 L/6	0820
✓		6/12		21 Bde	Sitrep to 0800 L/6	0920
	✓	6/12		55/53 Bn	Extra precautions. Yes NOT repeat NOT to cut legs off long trousers	0955
	✓	6/12	I 6	49 & 55/53 Bns	Sitrep to 1000. BUNA. No report. 16 Bde No change in location units. attack by US 4 pos right of track unsuccessful three tps now in pos 100 yds behind original posn. Attack by US 4 pos left of main track made 300 yds before being held up by LMG and mortar fire. Cas Aust 1 OR killed. US 2 killed 5 5 wounded, 21 Bde. CHALLEN on supplying area around Bde HQ CHAFORCE in area 167287 CHAFORCE patrols to 180293 and 186277 Patrol in AMBOGO crossing unsuccessful and encircling enemy further reps later. Intention 6 Dec restricted objective attacks early morning 25 Bde. All tps in bivouac area 165167. Intention 6 Dec to move CAMERON MARSON FEATHER HQ to POPONDETTA 30 Bde 49 Bn and 55/53 Bn less HQ Coy personnel to area 182184. Intention 49 Bn to move to area 200225 6 Dec Adv Bde HQ to move same area. Tac/R 1000 – 1100 5 Dec SANANANDA. 20 barges observed all appeared damaged. AMBOGO River area NMS 25 huts observed edge beach between AMBOGO and KUMUSI Rivers. Beach arrow pointing west no bars under arrows. Three new observed. Huts in sqrs 1828 and 1929 appeared damaged. Landing ships No 1 ship temporarily unserviceable No 2 ship expected to be serviceable for today No 3 ship plans now landing 6 SOPUTA ship ready for landing weather fine and clear.	1035
✓	✓	6/12	I 795	7 Aust Div.	Sitrep 32 Div attacks from both flanks to 5 Dec. Ow left flank 2 bn 126 Regt and 2 bn 128 Regt partially successful and have secured BUNA VILLAGE with exception of one strongpt on SAND SPIT. Little progress made right sector.	1205
✓		6/12	I 51	21 Bde	Sitrep No 1200/L	1235

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

IN	OUT	DATE	ORIG NO.	To or From		
✓		6/12	I796	7 Aust Div.	TAC/R 1000-1100 hrs. SANANDA 25 barges sighted 10 partly submerged remainder appear damaged by shellfire or strafing. GONA Two ships boat to 167285. Barge at 169302 one 146247 similar type SANANANDA appear in good condition half drawn up beach. AMBOGA River. NMS no defence works or huts seen. 20 small type parachutes similar those used for supply dropping observed in square 1828. Some appeared old and dirty others quite new. CAPE KILLERTON 4 small dugouts possible MG posts sighted 210290 all to BUNA 1"	1400
✓		6/12	01768	7 Aust Div	Lshep to 1800/L. 16 Bde less outlying dets relieved by 30 Bde. 21 Bde. patrol activity continues. 25 Bde awaiting lift to MORESBY. Intentions 7 Div. 21 Bde attack on strong enemy posts to SW corner GONA Area. 30 Bde. (39) Bn will attack enemy posts to immediate front on right and track SOPUTA to SANANANDA. Landing ship No 1 ship unserviceable. No 2 and 3 ships serviceable. SOPUTA STRIP now completely dry and serviceable. Weather fine and slightly overcast	1810
		Query ?	Should NOT this be 49 Bn	←		
✓		6/12	03	≠ 16 Bde	Lloyd clear present location 1700 hrs to area approx 800 yds WEST SOPUTA on SOPUTA JUMBORA track same time	1705
✓		6/12	33	Cullen	Lshep 16. 1730 hrs. Situation. Casualties Nil	1730
✓		6/12	I52	21 Bde	Lshep to 1800/L	1805
✓		6/12	04	16 Bde	Lshep to 1900/L	1910
	✓	6/12	I8	VOYA ZUGO FAIRBROTHER HUGGINS MOORE BOREM BAETCHE EDGAR	PORTER dispersed and 1700 hrs. FAIRBROTHER HUGGINS MOORE BAETCHE unchanged. LOVELL 124114 A Coy 122114 B Coy 134160 to 130189 C Coy 123120 D Coy 120130. KESSELS 136154 A Coy 140159 B Coy 132151 C Coy 149159 D Coy 147150. BOREM withdrawn to rear KESSELS from PORTER HQ at 127122. Ref map local grid which to way do.	1910
✓		6/12	01766	7 Aust Div.	Lshep to 1400 hrs. 16 Bde. Relief by 30 Bde in progress. On relief 16 Bde will concentrate SOPUTA area. Relief to be completed not later than 9 Dec 21 Bde. Elements 39 Bn attacked enemy posns SW GONA village area today. Slight progress reported. 21 Bde. Bde to be supported by aircraft MORESBY 40 planes available. 30 Bde. expect to relieve 16 Bde except outlying posts by 1700 L 6 Dec remainder weather permits At 1325 hrs 15 enemy bombers escorted by fighters flying SW dropped bombs W of POPONDETTA landing ground	1440

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

unserviceable. No 2 ship soft but serviceable no 3 ship serviceable SOPUTA ship aground at NORTH end but serviceable. Weather slightly overcast and fine.

✓ 6/12 I 9 VOYA ZUGO FAIRBROTHER HUGGINS, MOORE BOREM, BAETCKE, EDGAR — P. W's. PW's to be dispatched promptly this HQ. Engns to 1938 accompany dak send map ref capture. Documents equipment captured on PW to be sent back clearly identified with particulars PW. Specimen of new Jap trousers urgently required for examination.

WAR DIARY

✓ 7/12 I 10. 7 Aust Div. Ref 03 disposition BUNA 1:63760. PORTER 201223 KESSELS area 0810
206227 LOVELL from 195224 to 197230 BOREM 201225 o Enemy dispn established from 202228 to 205235 and at 208238. Enemy probably from 201249 to 201234.

✓ 7/12 I 53 21 Bde Sitrep to 0700/L. 0740
✓ 7/12 0178o. 7 Aust Div. Sitrep to 0800 hrs. 16 Bde. No change. 21 Bde. Patrol at mouth AMBOGA River attacked by Japs. Party of ten sent out to bring in casualties ambushed by Japs. Ambush believed to be unsuccessful stronger patrol being sent. 25 Bde. No change. 30 Bde. Enemy nothing to report. Landing ships POPONDETTA no 1 unserviceable no 2 serviceable to be inspected again at 1000 hrs no 3 serviceable SOPUTA unserviceable. Weather. No rain last 24 hrs. 0800

✓ 7/12 I 11 VOYA ZUGO EDGAR BOEREM HUGGINS BAETCKE. Sitrep to 1000/L. 16 Bde. No change. 21 Bde. Patrol at mouth AMBOGA River attacked by Japs. Party of ten sent out to bring in casualties ambushed by Japs. Ambush believed to be unsuccessful patrol of 50 Japs sent out to ascertain posn and Karahs Jap. 25 Bde. No change. 30 Bde. 49 Bn attacked Jap posns Eight Road 0945 action in progress. Landing ships: POPONDETTA no 1 unserviceable no 2 unserviceable to be inspected again at 1000 hrs no 3 unserviceable SOPUTA unserviceable. 1035

✓ 7/12 31 CULLEN Sitrep to 0730 hrs. Patrol. 0730
✓ 7/12 32 21 Bde Sitrep to 0700/L. 0740
✓ 7/12 I 12 NANI-gata VINA NILA ABOG Sitrep to 2000 6/7. Attack by JASO 7 Dec achieved limited success. Ref local grid present posns as follows. A & B Coy LOVELL right of track approx bend to track 165165. A & B Coys HESSEL one coy each side of track from 170160 to 136160 C Coy LOVELL closing gap between right A Coy LOVELL and left D Coy HESSEL. C Coy HESSEL on left of right front coy EDGAR. D Coy LOVELL left of track 125150 ?. Jap casualties considerable. Own casualties to date 120. 2105

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

IN	OUT	DATE	ORIG NO.	To or From		
		8/12	I58.	21 Bde	Lthrsp to 200 1/2	0
		9/12	I56	21 Bde	Lthrsp to 1100 1/2.	0247
		10/12	I800	7 Aust Div.	Enemy 110 wrote in his diary on 18 Oct. And from December MORESBY OPS will finally begin. We will stay here in BUNA until MORESBY falls. If we take all of December MORESBY will fall. We must stay for two and one half months more in BUNA.	1000 1700
		7/12	I57	21 Bde.	Lthrsp to 1700 1/2.	1720
		6 Dec	I797	7 Aust Div.	Herewith translation of captured document which is of interest and gives an indication of change in command. The OHQ gp was the units composing any force of the NANKAI Area. Location of BASABA is as yet unknown.	1600
		4/12	—	7 Aust Div.	Dispns unchanged in GONA area	1115
		5/12	I703	7 Aust Div.	32 Div. AM 7 Dec. Left flank patrol killed 25 Japs and raped BUNA village will be cleared today. Further MG posts located right flank 2 Bde carriers overdue presumed lost.	1130
		7 Dec	01786	7 Aust Div.	Lthrsp to 1800 hrs. 21 Bde. Attack plan for today NOT carried out owing ineffective air support. Japs AMBOGO River area reported attempting envelop our patrol. CHALLEN and party 40 men forming stop to frustrate Jap envelopping movement. Unknown Jap casualties AMBOGO Area 11 and 13. 30 Bde. By 1700 hrs elements 49 Bn advanced 1500 yds to pos right of SOPUTA – SANANANDA track. Remainder 49 Bn held up by strong opposition south of fwd elements 55/53 bn held up 3 bn after advancing 100 yds astride track. Part 55/53 bn now moving round left flank to clear opposition. Casualties. Killed unknown wounded 122 known to 1800/L. Owing operational demands reorganization 3 bn and det 1 bn 126 US Regt deferred. Elements US Hqs under comd forming block on track between coys 55/53 bn Both 49 and 55/53 bns made very fine performances. Intentions. 30 Bde reorganize and local activities with in capabilities patrol around enemy fwd strong post to ensure no reinfts or supp arm. 21 Bde. Attack GONA 8 am 8 Dec view securing both Japs can join defences Landing Strips. No 1 strip unserviceable No 2 & 3 strips serviceable	2100.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

					for landing 8 Dec if no rain night 8/8 Dec. Weather fine and slightly overcast. All informed.	
✓		8 Dec	I 58	21 Bde	Sitrep to 0700 hrs.	0747
	✓	8 Dec	I 13	7 Aust Div plus 16, 25, 21 Bdes	Sitrep to 0800 hrs. Nil enemy activity night 7/8 Dec. Intention 8 Dec reorganize and harass enemy with mortar and arty fire. BOEREM attempting to get comfort and supplies to HOGGINS third block open	0845
✓		8 Dec	08	49, 53 Mtd 2/2 at BOEREM	50 percent security will be maintained at all times in forward localities all tpts in the area will stand to at times 0600 hrs to 0645 hrs and 1900 hrs to 1945 hrs daily until further orders.	1643
✓		8 Dec	I 58	21 Bde	Sitrep to 1100 hrs.	1145
✓		8 Dec	401	EDGAR (H/L	Sitrep to 1830 hrs. 1 off and 39 OR's. KESSELS ~~says~~ now under comd MOORE. Enemy shelling with three mountain gun shells landed area 300 yds N.E. DIEK's force. Battle casualties nil.	1840
✓		8 Dec	01788	7 Aust Div	Sitrep to 0800 hrs. One Bright no change. Weather no rain past 28 hrs landing ships. SOPUTA serviceable POPONDETTA no ~~change~~ 2+3 serviceable POPONDETTA no 1 remain unserviceable due obstruction disabled A/C plane on runway.	
✓		8 Dec	01789	7 Aust Div	Sitrep to 1400 hrs. 21 bde. Attack by 21 bde on enemy posn SW GONA now in progress. Details awaited. During arty shoot this am some Japs in GONA village observed to be wearing respirators with face pieces adjusted. 30 Bde. Patrol activity to ascertain enemy posn and harassing fire with 3" mortars continues. Arty OP GONA area reports LOCKHEED LIGHTNING dropped bombs GONA area 1105 hrs. Several near misses observed. Landing ships. All ships serviceable except No 1. Expect NOTHEDDY for landing late PM today. Further shipping being checked 500 yds east POPONDETTA no 3. Weather fine and clear	1425
✓		8 Dec	I 58	21 Bde	Sitrep to 1700 hrs.	1827
~~✓~~	✓	8 Dec	I 13	7 Aust Div plus 16, 21, 25 Bdes.	Sitrep to 1800 hrs. Three coys LOVELL withdrawn for re-organization and replaced by one coy same unit. PORTER force night 8/9 SOPUTA SANANANDA now one coy LOVELL and three coys KESSELS in posn re BUNA 1" map area 200 228 in line running EAST and	

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IN	OUT				
				WEST otherwise no change PORTER reports. Supply party of BAREN reached HUGGINS and returned. Approx 8 rds JAP 75 mm m/gun this Pl otherwise little enemy activity. Reports of Jap snipers being suspended in cages & baskets in trees being investigated. Nil casualties attack 7 Dec NOT yet known.	
✓		8 Dec 01791	7 Aust Div.	Alteration of code name. Read HQ 30 Bde allotted LVL Upd LVLV cancelling MAMI. Adv HQ 30 Bde remains JASO upd JASO	0000
✓		8 Dec I 814	7 Aust Div	Aus Ops 7 Div 7 DB's 2 F's attacked DO 60 DURA 1100/L. Own F's engaged and drove off enemy. 1120/L same enemy force attacked 2 Fd HOSP. 1330/L 18 medium bombers escorted 12 fighters intercepted 3 our a/c GONA area. Small encounters our fighters shot down 7 fighters 6 medium B's 5 DB's. Own losses nil. Ammo 32 U 52 Div. Enemy column attacked 0500/L on right flank repulsed	2000
✓		8 Dec 01792	7 Aust Div.	Light to 1800/L. Light advance from GONA area. Patrols contacted Japs from RAMU R killed 16 captured 3 PW's 2 LMG's one 2 inch mortar. Otherwise no change. Intentions 9 Dec. aggressive patrolling and reorganization landing ships. No 1 ship now clear and serviceable, No 2 ship NOT available for landing 9 Dec to allow maintenance all other ships serviceable. Weather fine and clear.	2245
✓		8 Dec I 813	7 Aust Div.	Ref BUNA and GONA locality maps 4 Fd Svy. Dated 5 Dec 42 posted 8 Dec. Photo control established by party shooting. The scale of 1 over 14100 and not as stated on map. The squares as drawn are 1012 yds. The metre scale should be amended to read yds and references to yds now printed deleted. The grid orientation is approx 5 degrees 40 east & true north. Therefore approx mag north. North point will be amended accordingly.	1520
✓		Dec 01799	7 Aust Div.	Further info from MOST SECRET source indicates Japs in BUNA GONA area conserving ammo. Suggest using every device to make them use it.	1084
	✓	9 Dec I 14	7 Aust Div upd 16, 25 & 21 Bdes.	Light to 0900/L hrs. Reported no guns from battalion fronts.	1203
✓		7/12 I 808	7 Aust Div.	Following information from RABAUL boy captured at Gorari OP 180293. When questioned as to native had NOT travelled far	1613

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					from Jap camp. camp consisted of approx 250 men and 3 mountain guns. Men in camp were poorly dressed many without boots. Plenty of ammn in camp NO much food. Natives had been employed carrying ammn fwds for two Japs no. One on beach one in bush Guns had fired but always towards BUNA. There was a hospital on beach NOT from camp. Two suffering from dysentery and malaria. Natives reported three A/A guns vicinity of hospital. Info from 21 Bde natives NOT yet interrogated by us.	
~~AAA~~	✓	9/12	I15	VOYA ZUGO BOEREM	Further report from MOST SECRET source indicates Japs in BUNA GONA area considering ammn. Suggest using every device to shake them use of	1430
✓		9/12	01796	Aust Div	Sitrep to 0800 hrs. During night 8/9 Dec party Japs attempted perchute down GONA area. 25 Japs killed and 4 badly wounded PW's accounted for during skirmishes. Weather fine and clear. Three planes landed SOPUTA Ato 0745 hrs	
✓		8/12		May BOEREM	Sitrep US Div. 1100 hrs 1 rifle Pl & 1 MG re escorted 50 carriers with food to I Coy (Road block). Returned 1800 hrs. Capt HUGGINS (wounded) reports as follows:- Japs make frequent attacks on pos from different angles. Some get close enough to slit throats to permit their new bayonets. Men by the ankles and pull them in. Two Jap officers have been killed in this manner. Jap casualties are very heavy, their numbers appear numerous. Japs are well clothed and in good physical condition. Our force consists of 125 men able to fight and an approximate 100 doubtful. Physical condition bad. Need medical supplies and need packs and rifle ammn. Movement of Jap forces continuous, never attacking in the same place. HANK FORCE - 2 men that through rest probably by superstition. Holding line left of main track. Patrols sent out by I Coy to road near route to road block were unsuccessful Sitrep Ato 1200 hrs.	
✓		9/12	I63	21 Bde		1206
✓		9/12	—	49 Bn	RAU sending out reconnaissance patrol on their right flank. Going and 1430 coming back 1530 (MOORE informed	1400
✓		9/12	01800	Aust Div	One submission 2/1 and A/T Regt now under command Aust Div Location Aust Inf Bde Area.	1130.

To be cancelled

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IN	OUT	DATE	NO		
✓		9/12	01802	7 Aust Div.	Sitrep to 1400 hrs. Satisfactory progress GONA area. Enemy pockets SW of 1410 village still active. Otherwise no change. Landing ships. Nos 1 & 3 serviceable. Nos 2 ship maintenance continuing. No 4 ship now cleared 800yds by 20yds. SOPUTA ship. LOCKHEED not yet cleared but ship OK for landing. Weather fine and calm.
	✓	7/12	07	7 Div rptd 21 Bde.	Light small arms and mortar fire KESSEL and MOORE fronts otherwise quiet 0705 night. USA fwd sd block called HUGGINS now called ZEEK. Evacuation party NOT able contact ZEEK 6 Dec light enemy astride track. ZEEK holds 4 days rats.
(6 Dec)	✓	6/12	03	7 Div rptd 16, 25, 21 Bdes.	Sitrep to 1800 6 Dec. Relief 16 Bde less FERGUSON 9 OSNELL and MOORE 1843 dets completed 1700 hrs. Div dispns local grid maps 1:3600. 30 Bde Hq 127122. KESSELS 136154 A Coy 140159 B Coy 132151 C Coy 149154 142156 D Coy 147150 LOVELL 124114 A Coy 122114 B Coy 134160 to 130189 C Coy 123120 D Coy 120130. KESSELS patrol report follows. Enemy pl from track 142166 to east 200yds with pns to depth 600yds all posts NOT continuously manned. Intend attacks NOT before 0800 hrs 7 Dec. USA pls less fwd dets being concentrated rear KESSEL's front. KESSEL's casualties one killed two wounded
✓		9/12	I65	21 Bde.	Sitrep to 1800/L 1820
✓		9/12	01803	7 Aust Div	GONA gone 1630
✓		9/12	01804	" "	Sitrep to 1800/L. As result intermittent fighting and mopping up throughout day 21 Bde 1820 occupied GONA VILLAGE and area. Otherwise no change. Intentions 10 Dec: Aggressive patrolling both sectors and preparations for offensive action against Jap force AMBOGA River area. Landing ships. Expect LOCKHEED to be cleared SOPUTA ship by am 10 Dec. Otherwise condition all ships as in our 01802.
✓		9/12	401	EDGAR	Sitrep to 1800 hrs. DYER relieved by SIMPSON 1600 hrs. Strengths now FAIRBROTHER 7 1809 offrs and 750 OR's which includes SIMPSON 1 offr and 21 OR's. MOORE 3 offrs and 41 OR's exclu JOHNSON and det VOYA. Battle casualties NIL
✓		9/12	✓	LOVELL	Sitrep to 1800 hrs 9 Dec HL. COOTE. RA pl advanced 15 yds during morning 1800 During demonstration shoot heavy MG fire observed bearing 66° 30' from COOTES HQ. Mortar fire observed bearing 21° 30' + 48° 30' from same posn. Reported OWEN gun firing from 100 x left fwd. Reported at 1425

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✓	[illegible]	I 17	7 Div rptd 16, 25, 21 Bdes.		had 2 Japs in green and one in uniform resembling KESSELS, about 6' high. About 30 to 50 yds in front of our position NOT wearing any equipment or carrying arms. One believed shot. 16 Pl report snipers killed at 1545 with burst from BREN Gun. Second burst fired to ensure destruction. COOTE reports mortar fire in target area. GILLELAND. Patrol under BROWN left 1530 and thought HANN FORCE seeking information of enemy posns to return at 1900 hrs Subsep to 1800/L. Ref Map BUNA/Sheet 6 Direct Air Support commenced on fwd posns at 1030/L. 8 runs made and estimated 24 bombs dropped. 4 runs only thought to be successful and 12 bombs fell on fwd enemy posns. No observation made and result cannot be gauged. All bombs considered effective fell right flank in advance of KESSELS. Two shicks fell in KESSELS area. Serious wound received by member KESSELS as result of strafing. Another shick fell in 38 W 126 US Regt area wounding 2 men and causing severe shock to 2 others. Red rockets fired 1120/L calling for cessation of support as result of bombing in own area. Forward posns advanced 120 yds on right flank during last 24 hrs. 2 Japs in trees thought to have been expunged. Light return fire from rifle and LMG followed test firing from 1400 to 1410/L. Mortars active and returned fire in general direction of KESSELS. Patrols despatched from LOVELL'S and KESSELS 1430 and 1500/L. Fighting patrol strength general task recce depth and extend enemy posns. Left flank reported quiet 1720/L 9 men sent back with fever.	1845
✓		10/12	01807	7 Aust Div.	Subsep to 0800/L. Nothing to report. Landing ships POPONDETTA and SOPUTA from and prevuceable with exception POPONDETTA two which closed for maintenance. Weather fair visibility good	0800
	✓	10/12	I 18.	7 Aust Div 21st 25, 21, 16 Bdes	Subsep to 0800/L. One Quiet night over entire front. Two. Test firing at 1910 4/9 0700/L 10 drew light & rifle LMG and mortar fire two mortar bombs landed in VOY Area both occasions. Considered to have enemy posn of mortar located. From left flank drew heavier return fire. Three	0845
✓		7/12	01783	7 Aust Div.	Relief of HANN by 2/6 Bn progressing new posn will be notified when known Subsep to 1400 hrs. 16 Bde. No change. 21 Bde. Patrol 50 strong sent to investigate Gap opposite north HINBOGA River 030 Bde details of result of attack NOT yet available. Indications that objective 49 Bn gained but enemy MG strong post still active in rear thereof. Pos 55/53 Bn will attack astride SANANANDA - SOPUTA track during	

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IN	OUT	DATE	NO	TO or from	
✓					Objective clear enemy on track and to west up to line reached by fwd Pls 4 Bn. GONA early OP reports. 1135 hrs 2 Zeros shot down in flames south CAPE KILLERTON one u/c a/c shot down near MANGROVE 15. At 1320 hrs 18 enemy b's escorted by Fs flew east over GONA. Our fighters engaged 2 Jap bs 2 u/c a/c shot down west SANANANDA. landing strips. No 1 and SOPOTA strips unserviceable. Nos 2 and 3 strips serviceable Weather fine slightly overcast.
✓		9 Dec	—	NGF	Situp 91 to 0400/L. Ops. WARREN FORCE. An approx gain of from 25 to 60 yds made on portions of front of 1 and 3 bns to straighten line. Our light and hy mortars fired during morning on located and suspected emplacements. URBANA FORCE. Our mortars and arty fired on BUNA mission beginning 2130/L. This was during enemy attack launched on rt flank 2/ bn 126 regt. attack repulsed by arty fire mortar fire and infantry action. Flame thrower crew of three accompanied by 20 men patrol moved to within 75 yds of BUNKER posn 60 yds east of BUNA creek edge BUNA village. Flame thrower crew walked to within 20 yds of BUNKER. Flame thrower fizzled out. Patrol and crew withdrew with two dead one wounded. Enemy ops. No activity reported by WARREN FORCE. URBANA FORCE. The enemy launched an attack on rt flank of 2 bn 126 Regt at approx 2130/L. The attack was from direction of BUNA mission and BUNA village and was preceded by hy mortar fire from vicinity BUNA mission. Attack started by enemy yelling. TOWER reported SITREP 90 now known to be called off. Weather ceiling and visibility unlimited slightly overcast
✓		10 Dec	01810.	? Div.	Following personnel trained to use flamethrower. TILO. Lgs 0955 BUTCHER Cpl CURR. BAGO. Lieut DUNLAN Cpl KELMAN. SUGA. Lieut KING CROCKER Cpls FITZGERALD TABE. DUDA. Lieut TUCHEY Cpl ELLIS. ZUGO. Lieut BROWN
✓		10 Dec	01808	? Div	Following congratulatory messages have been received. From C in C 1000 very hearty congrats. GONA. From GOC and staff NGF. Congratulate all ranks on splendid achievement capture GONA. Gen EICHELBERGER 4th US troops delighted join in this message
✓		10 Dec	I-6p	21 Bde.	Situp 1a 0820/L
✓		10 Dec		55/53 Bn	0948 Situp as at 1245 hrs. A Coy moved into new posn MR 2232 local grid. Pls digging in 2 listening posts sited.

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local grid. Pls digging in 2 listening posts. sited.
B Coy moved in and effected relief of HAHN by 0902 hrs. Enf sniper fired on our Pls. M Mtr fire in front of posns. C Coy moved into new posn MR 2251. Pls dug in 2 listening posts as at. D Coy. Right Pl moving fwd otherwise quiet morning.

✓ 10 Dec 0 1812 7 Aust Div — Sitrep to 1400 hrs. 21 Bde. 39 Bn moving to outflank Japs ANBOGA River. 30 Bde. 14440 Offensive patrols and harassing fire on located enemy posts. 2/3 bn relieving 2/2 bn at 200237 ref map BUNA provisional noted. Landing strips. As in our 0 1807 Weather fine and slightly overcast ~~all uniform~~

✓ 10 Dec I 69 21 Bde — Sitrep to 1800 hrs. 1812

✓ 10 Dec 0 1817 7 Aust Div — Sitrep to 1800 hrs. 30 Bde. Slight progress made some enemy casualties inflicted. Otherwise no change. Landing strips. As in our 0 1807. Weather fine and slightly overcast.

✓ 10 Dec I 19 7 Div. plus 16, 25, 21 bdes — Sitrep to 1800 hrs. Ref map BUNA 1 inch. Little to report since last sitrep. 1900 Own Pls advanced 400 yds on right flank took up new posns. Two Japs thought killed. Rabaul and ammo party contacted HUGGINS captured documents. Kattava and VOYA area brought in also RABAUL boy who came through Jap lines. Very light enemy fire slight bursts sporadic fire. Some enemy posns thought to have been registered by our mortar fire.

✓ 11 Dec I 70 21 Bde — Sitrep to 0700 / L 0730

✓ 11 Dec 0 1821 7 Aust Div. — Sitrep to 0730 hrs. No change to gen situation. Landing strips. All OK for landing except POPONDETTA 2 wheel maintenance continued. Weather fine and overcast.

✓ 10 Dec I 66 21 Bde. — Sitrep to 0800 / L. 0948.

✓ 9 Dec I 816 7 Div. — Tac R 0930–1036. KUMUSI–AMBOGA rivers NMS. GONA area. Grym Pts 168285 4 Japs (every) bodies in sea. SANANDA–SOPUTA rd. Small gun ~~ship~~ observed in emplacement 219264, 100 yds to sea. Two empty emplacements. Ambulance and mot vehs at 30 Bde HQ SANANDA. 24 barges 6 appeared serviceable. Two square emplacements with top cover 10 a height of 4 ft observed. Two men ran from emplacement seen running into scrub. West SANANDA 2228 seven small emplacements SW line along beach edge of scrub. 6 emplacements covered with yellow fronds. Rusted no mot veh seen. All refs BUNA 1" 1532

See over.

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IN	OUT	DATE	NO	To or From	Context	
	✓	11 Dec	I 20	VOYA ZUGO STEVENSON BOEREM	21 Bde sitrep to 1800/L. GONA area enemy burials to date 440 still large numbers unburied. From 7 Div. Ref BUNA and GONA locality maps 4" dated 5 Dec 42 pubd 8 Dec. From control established by arty shooting the scale is one over 14100 and NO TAC as stated on map. The squares as drawn are 1012 yds. The metal scale should be amended to read yds and references to yds now punched deleted. The grid orientation is approx 5 degrees 40 east of true north therefore approx mag north. North pt will be amended accordingly.	0900
✓		11 Dec	I 71	21 Bde.	Sitrep to 1200/L	1235
✓		11 Dec	01825	NANI	TAC/R 1000-1100 L/11. SANANANDA POINT. 21 barges 5 filled with water 4 on beach 12 boats on beach 2 dems filled with water. Large store with utility truck outside observed 300 yds SW SANANANDA POINT. KUMUSI-AMBOGA mouth area. Between BAKOMBARI and EGASUSO. Outrigger canoes in backwaters of ck. Newly constructed huts on bank of ck. SOPUTA - SANANANDA Rd. NNS 2 dumps observed and suspected dump area of 30 hds. Very dense timber in area	1540.
✓		11 Dec	I 5	VOYA.	Sitrep to 1800 hrs. Little sign of enemy. Snipers only inflicting two (2) casualties. POW to Koitaki on 10 approx 1691/20 local and other unchanged	1805.
✓		11 Dec	1403	2/3 Bn	Patrol leaving HUTCHINSON HR tomorrow 12 Dec at 0800 hrs return Boobs. Task Reconsact HUGGINS	1845
✓		11 Dec	I 11	21 Bde →	Sitrep to 1800/L	1900
✓		11 Dec	01826	Adv 7 Aust Div	Sitrep to 1800/L. GONA Area. 6 38 enemy dead 4 have been buried GONA MISSION area since captured. One LLC 44 ft long slightly damaged by AAA fire but engine good order and expect to have functioning shortly. Two lifeboats 24 ft and 30 ft long also slightly damaged by SA many rifles MG's some MMG's MORTARS GRENADES much ammo all types considerable QUANTITY of foods all kinds medical stores and equip captured. Many arms weapons recovered. 39 Bn in contact with enemy AMBOGA River area. Surprised party 30 offrs inclusive Lt Col and some ORs apparently on reece all killed. Captured five Jap mortars and 3 LMG's no defensive bns abroads lately very recently	2125

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					repaired. 39th supported by 2/4 Bn continuing attack tomorrow. 30 Bde slight adv right fwd flank. Nil new enemy posts noted located and noted for future engagement. Landing ships as in 0 2823. Weather light and clear.	
✓		12 Dec	0 1831	Adv 7 Aust Div	Sitrep to 0800 hrs Situation unchanged. Landing ships - POPONDETTA No 1 and 3 ships serviceable no 2 ship and SOPUTA ship NOT serviceable. Weather heavy rain during night 11/12 Dec. Rain still falling.	0800.
✓		12 Dec	0 1827	Adv 7 Aust Div	A/C will patrol BONA area coast line continuously during night 11/12 Dec dropping flares at intervals.	2115
✓		12 Dec	I 72	21 Bde	Sitrep to 0800 L.	0803
✓		12 Dec	I 1	LOVELL.	Sitrep to 0830. Quiet night all coys. 6 sniper fire on COOTES front. McLEOD fired at 0645 hrs with unobserved results. Stand down reported all clear	
✓	✓	12 Dec	I 23	NANIGELA VIVA NILA ABOG.	Sitrep to 0800 L. No change. 2 pdr fired 22 rds along at 0645 L with unobserved results. Mortars shoot delayed owing flooding of pits. Nil enemy activity.	
	✓	11 Dec	I 22	" "	Sitrep to 1800 L. TESSEL reinforced coy adv 1 Sqn 2/6 Aust Armd Regt from 2/6 Aust Armd Regt with enemy. Patrol from TESSEL moved up left flank and contacted and killed coy STEVENSON no enemy met but three fire flares seen running from SE to NW. LOVELL patrol left flank located enemy LMG forward and two possibly mtg weapon pits. Enemy activity slight no artillery or mortar fire.	
✓		11 Dec	—	2 UGO.	Sitrep to 1800 L. War correspondent with B Coy area; visited front line pls. Presented with Tobacco and cigarettes. Several items of Jap kit found & looted. To Bde. Patrols from B & C Coy as per patrol reports. Lieut in command B Coy patrol wounded in foot. Enemy activity nil. All quiet in rear areas.	
✓		11 Dec	I 22	NANI.	Translation of signal captured GONA 8 Dec. Enemy. Place of origin BASA (GONA) from MAJ YAMAMOTO to Col YOKOYAMA. BASA in danger request reinforcements by M L C immediately urgent	0920

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IN	OUT	DATE	NO.	T.O or From		
✓		11 Dec	I 4	VOYA	Sitrep for night 10/11 Dec to 0700/L. en NMS on demonstration 1910 hrs 10 Dec enemy replied with desultory S Arms and one mortar which bursts our lines no casualties. Our line unchanged.	0700.
✓		12 Dec	I 839	7 Aust Div	P.I.B patrol at present between KUMUS 1 and OP 1 moving southerly to contact enemy. 7 Dec P.I.B patrol on KUMUS 1 encountered enemy south bank near delta. 10 rifles and ammn captured with some bombs unidentified types number enemy casualties inflicted NOT reported. Estimated force of at least 200 Japs in KUMUS 1 delta and patrolling coast as far as OP 1. Our canoes hidden south MITRE ROCK but crews uneasy	1320.
✓		12 Dec	I 73	21 Bde.	Sitrep to 1200/L.	1245
✓		12 Dec	403	NUGO.	Sitrep from HUTCHINSON hill 0030 hrs. At 2045 hrs enemy patrol crawled to within few yds of HUTCHINSON fwd posn and threw grenades after ½ hr grenade throwing ceased. Only few shots and odd grenade till 2330 hrs when large number grenades thrown enemy then withdrew. Enemy patrol crawled at 2045 hrs to within 30 yds HUTCHINSON's rear pl. They stumbled over trip wires and were fired with grenades. Patrol appeared to stay in vicinity until 2400 hrs firing few shots and odd grenade. 2 man patrol first light saw 11 Japs withdrawing in northerly direction. It is assumed this patrol remained in old Jap posn in rear HUTCHINSON from 2400 hrs till first light. Our casualties 1 OR killed.	1130.
✓		12 Dec	0834	7 Aust Div.	Sitrep to 1400 hrs. Nothing to report. Landing ships. POPONDETTA 00 ½ 30 T for landing. No 2 a SOPOTA unserviceable weather flies and vercors.	0930.
✓		12 Dec	I 74	21 Bde.	Sitrep to 1800/L.	1825.
✓		12 Dec	I 6	49 Bn	Sitrep to 1830/L. Little enemy activity confined to sniping & 6 mortars which LD Caymores fired. Left Rt LD Cayin posn 3.5 yds fwd of original to others moving the straighten line PUG 6 on part 16 0169 local light as from 1800 hrs no casualties	
✓		12 Dec	0837	7 Aust Div.	Sitrep to 1800 hrs. 21 Bde. During past 24 hrs Japs to WEST of GONA have taken limited offensive action on two occasions. Slight progress made by 3 Bn on left flank.	

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Conference with CO's 11 June 42

1. Reinforcements from Trg Bns. Units are entitled to draw on 20 Bn for reinf wks to Unit Strength but Brig Farrell wanted this to be dispensed for another seven days yet. Reinf from South.

2. Trg & Work reports - 49 Bn NOT satisfactory.

3. Personnel evac to Aust and Units not yet notified.

4. Trg. (A) Series just completed. Comments of CO's
14 days wearing w/s 49 Bn and not dump
Bn Exercise. H.Q. Rifle, Pl tactics. for A Coy to climb.
Sig & Little Exercise. KILA-JOYCE BAY SECTOR
Use Formations.

(B) Beach lights.

5 Individual Trg generally - No. on hand; No. req'd for Trg. Write.

(C) Key personnel.

(D) Circulars emanating from Bde - See Lists. Passing stores of information.
Dug-outs. 33 Bn want 80 of each. by Sunday.

(E) T.E.W.T. Coy Comds

5 Canteens - Concerts - Bands - Bde concert party. Wants all to be rendered for. Stan & Benjamin to go round.

6. Dress leggings - dress clerks etc.

7. Postings of Officers NOT regularly, sent in Hdqrs Posting sheet to be used in.

8. C.O.'s certificates re wearing out of clothes every 3 months. Write SNID for reduction to 6 mos. Gear in Kit Store. (Trg Bns to take over)

9 Sick horses - 29 Bn on wrong track. Feed to close w/s. Eating.

10 Equipment shortages - Keep following up. Barrels for Bns. 2% Duds returned.

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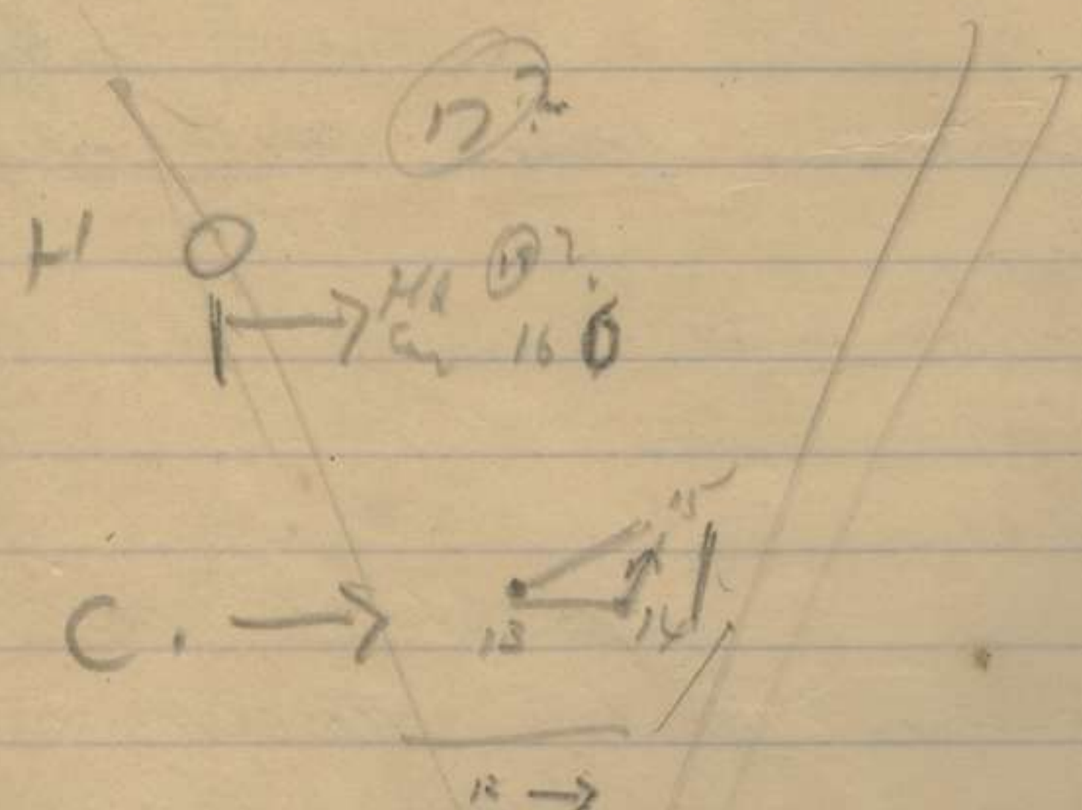
Co HQ can fire to 12 Pl

12 Pl - Laying ← Fire
A Pl - Wait
11 Pl - ? 5

13 Pl wired - struck after fire - can't see to Co HQ - Map Shot
14 Pl - going can fire to 15 Pl
15 Pl advancing

Day.
17 Pl happened - lost contact
18 - fired seeing R last bearings Co HQ transfer
Co HQ - transfer tps D.C. + 3 i/c (K of W) and Co HQ
back to 1/c. - Sutton fired again
16 Pl - dug. opp. OK - holding ground awaiting Sp. orders
doing fat.



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McGarry
Shera
Bruce } R&O 20 yrs

PADRES

Conference with C.O's Jan 42

Place names. All ranks to have knowledge of route marked to car NR etc usual tpt Nos

Bde Hq Sec. 4 Volunteers (not necessarily drivers)
from each Bn.
2 Volunteers Elect. engineers from each Bn. Present strength 2 Offrs 33 ORs
WE 2.36.

26 Jan 42

Militia ines. Numbers prepared to revise entries AVLT.

Liaison Officers. Proformas - works medical reports etc

Medical Officers - Malaria, Dengue, Cerebral Jaundice.

Drums. Grenades Bayonet

Sec Posts. Knuckle duster, 53 Rd

Training - Leg exercise - routine Study -

Grenades 1000 per Bn.

Transport
Leggings. Not to go to hospital

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Officers 49. Warlinich
Kentish
Legmenon
etc.
} Boarded.

Henderson Home
King "

53
ANGAU - Offrs to 53 Bn

Hunters to be Reconnoitred

Natives from Ronua

Monday 2000 hrs

To. Vehicles (49) Base Depot. - Survey.

Daily Returns of vehicles available

Conference of 60's

1 Base Camps for Training.
2. One Bn stopped in Sanfox Harbour Area for training.
2 Camps found from South.
4. Brig Leeson 25 Jul 43 at Log Centre.

6.0's composed of mixed pop
replacements of specialist appts
& specialists to 100% in case of
M.T. A.F.V's & Sigs 50% & others

Work to policy & defence plan
assumed in relation to a possible
change of plan. Duty fmn plan
pointed out on map.

Conference of COs 3rd August - 42

Training. Discussed generally.

Special Training. 2 Coys 53 Bn stationed at ITIKI & 30 ITB. This was discussed and the Bde Comdr spoke very highly of the climatical conditions at ITIKI.

Recce Area. Lt. Col Pitt visited Bde HQrs & Plan of was discussed. Bde Staff Recce of the area was conducted by Bde Staff. 49 & 53 Bn Comdrs.

Signal Bn Comdrs were informed that certain quantities of signal cable could be obtained at Hola.

Locality defence of the Bde area was discussed but no definite decision has been arrived at.

Area Lalokau Kila Track Comd 2 Coys Locality Defences

Bde to march to final Coys & attack. Distance approx 1500 yds & 9 mile march.

Similar lines to last STWT.

Recce tomorrow

Contact NGF Force re Hygiene Capt. Malarial areas.

Notes for Conference.

Training. Embussing Debussing in preparation for Mobile Para Troop force.

Sentries Guards Patrols both recce & fighting. Guarding of Left Flank of an area.

Bn HQrs, Coy HQrs. Wire'd line. of Patrols. & defence of an area

Bio area of Bns cleanliness of lines, smartness of personnel moving about area.

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COLLATION FILE - MESSAGES IN AND

(1)

DATE	TIME	TO	FROM	CONTEXT	ACTION TAKEN
11 Dec	1015	L 6	Porter 6	Enquiry as to results of mortar shoot this am. LOVELL 6 stated bombs fell in target area beyond big white tree on R of rd and on left of rd. No indication of effects on enemy personnel or gun pos as yet.	
	0220	Porter 4.	DIV	Offr from LOVELL to report POPONDETTA No 1 ship by 0730 hrs to be flown off Wirraway to DOBODURA - arrange priority of loading 27000 lbs stores and men on other side of river.	LOVELL 6 contacted offr at rear details to go off - Hqt reports 0615 hrs.
	0730	"	LOVELL 4	COOTE during fire demonstration 1910 L/10 drew by MG fire from right flank otherwise quiet night. GILLELAND - occasional shots at night on right flank with unknown results. Otherwise quiet night. All other reports quiet.	
	1020	LOVELL	P7	Lt BELL mortar offr to report Hqs to P7.	
	1030	Lt BELL	P 7	Lt BELL instructed in his duties as Bde mortar offr. All mortars in Bde will be under his comd. 6 from KESS. 6 from LOV 5 from BOEREM; total (17). 6 Aust mortars will be sited on either side of track for use in DF & CP tasks on each bn front. US mortars to be sited for fire on any front. Unit comds will call on Lt BELL for fire, but before firing award DF from Bde that no patrols are out. DF tasks will be registered on unit fronts as arranged by unit comds. Mortar FOO will live with Inf egys. Comms will be linked and location of Lt BELL himself will always be known to Bde HQ. Instns given no firing on any front before 1600 L/11 and only after that when notified of OK by Bde HQ.	
	1130.	~~KESSELS~~ P4	KESSELS	bdr ROBINSON (Int Sec of K) reported in at Bde HQ after one hrs traverse of ck on right flank.	
	1400	P 4.	Capt WATERMAN	any reports of 2 WIRRAWAYS flying near area being in trouble.	Enquired from H 4 & 4 and BOEREM. NIL RESULT.
	1430.	-	-	Brig LOYD (16 Bde) visited Bde Hq.	
	1630.	P H	LOVELL	One patrol from SPRING (C Coy) in at 1725 other patrol still out.	
		P H	STEVENSON	No patrols out.	Bde comd advised.
	1710.	P H.	LOV H.	1 man C Coy patrol reported in wounded.	
	1800	H 6	P 6	Q. What is posn of C Coy A. C Coy left at 1700 hrs to go out and take up posn on R flank, no further report yet received Q Have you gone fwd on any other patrols of your front A. No. The last has been preparing posns.	
	1815	H, L, S	P 6	Units informed "Hold firing" now permanently cancelled.	
	1820.	P 6	H 7	C Coy now in posn off LOCAL GRID 169170. Encountered odd snipers starting off.	
	1830	P 6	Arty FOO	Re harassing shoot ord. Understands C Coy KESSELS has moved fwd. P 7 informed. FOO had C. Coy is 200 x rd fwd and will be flank of any task. F.O.O. said he would contact C coy and tell them when arty is going to fire.	

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DATE	TIME	TO	FROM	CONTEXT	ACTION TAKEN
11 Dec	2135	P 4	L 4.	Message for BELL — LOVELL has informed mortar sgt of tasks on his own front to be engaged by mortars so allotted to ZUGO and for employment between 0700 – 1000 hrs /12 – BELL informed will contact LOVELL early 12 Dec.	
	2320	VOYA ZUGO STEV. BOEREM	P 4	A/c will drop flares on BUNA coastline continuously throughout night 11/12. at regular intervals.	
12 Dec.	0935	P 4.	L. 4.	2 Vickers returned from STEVENSON and being placed in rear of D Coy 55/53 Bn; intentions: to spray treetops with fire & GILLELAND advance.	Referred to B.M.
"	1015	P 4	L 4	LOVELL considers VICKER'S shoot safe – all safety precautions taken & flanking units notified. 2 I/C personally conducting shoot	B.M informed and acting accordingly.
"	1020.	P 4.	LOVELL	A Coy patrol just left from GILLELAND'S area.	Notified B.M.
"	1235	P 4	S/C MOYES	US ration party struck trouble and returning to CANNON – Maj BOEREM will advise further	S C MOYES notified Bde Lond
"	1300	P 4	VOYA 4	GILLESPIES second patrol just returned – unsuccessful – veered too much left and ended up on other coy. Another patrol left at 1315 hrs	B Madvised.
"	1315	P 4	NANI (EA MOYES)	Photo recce 1400 hrs – steps to be placed on by units.	Referred ZUGO NUGO VOYA – BOEREM (CANNON Coy for BOEREM) notified Referred / the Brig & BM's
"	1350	P 4	LOVELL 4	Steps placed out – patrol not returned as yet	Brig & BM's advised
"	1355	P 4	BOEREM	Send dead to H bay – CANNON are playing – not much hope	" " " "
"	1400	P 6	BOEREM	Supply party moving to I Coy struck trouble between CANNON Coy & I Coy. after attempting to drive enemy opposition were forced to go back to CANNON Coy. Party instructed to leave rations at CANNON Coy & return	" " " "
"	1410	HANSON	PORTER 4	Relief to HUTCHINSON.	Though PORTER rigs and used by STEVENSON in lake 5 mins
"	1415	Sigs	" "	Re contact with HUTCHINSON. To be put through as soon as possible	
"	1425	PORTER 4	LO/LOVELL	Re ration party unable to get through – trying to put them through under mortar bombardment.	
"	1445	" "	LOVELL 4	Send BROWN'S patrol reported in	
"	1500	" 4	KESSEL 4	GILLESPIES patrol reported in (PUGO). Steps in place.	
"		" 4	LO/LOVELL	Gir reported back after duff with ration party area.	
"	1520	NUGO	PORTER 4	Rang STEVENSON 7 – HUTCHINSON patrol returned 1300 – Lefm passed by STEVENSON 4	
"	1530	PORTER 7 " 4	VOYA 4	RALU (KESSEL) reported in 1535	
"	1625	P. 4	LOVELL 4	Pl attack by TRAVIS pl (C Coy LOVELL) to go on at 1645.	
"	1640	P 4	H 4.	All patrols in	
"	1725	P 4	ADOS	Porter 14 to ring ADOS 7 Div.	
"	1745	P 4	NANI 14	advance news for Bde sitrep for 1800 hrs	

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DATE	TIME	TO	FROM	CONTEXT	ACTION TAKEN
12 Dec	1705	POR 4	LOV 4	No news from LOVELL and queried firing by arty.	LOVELL advised Arty firing to flank of HUTCHISON
"	1805	" 4	LOVELL (for MCLEOD)	TRAVIS Pl is 40 yds from S L - has sighted up to rear and moving fwd with Pl - very little return fire heard from GILLELAND - MORAY (4 Pl) will return with full news.	
"	1815	P. 7	K 7	GILLESPIE now in move from old position on a bearing of 292°.	
"	1815	.	VOYA 4	GILLESPIE (C Coy H 9) is 100 yds on bearing of 292° - relief will be delayed. Fairly heavy automatic fire on that front.	BM notified
"	2015	P 6	L 6	RAPL COOTE advance 3 Pls 5 yds Centre Pl 25 yds Rt Pl 3 Pl 20 yds. TRAVERS advance nearly to rd - correct distance unknown	Ref BM msg am 13th Dec.
"	2025	P 14	NANI 14	Sandbags NOT available today but probably 13 Dec. To find out how many required and contact Capt. DIDHAMS probably in tomorrow. Bren mags available ASOS any time - 6 wen mag unavailable (to order now) Bread and sugar - complaints; cartridges can.	
"	2215	~~NANI~~ PH	~~PH~~ NANI		
"	2220	~~NANI~~ PH	NANI ASC	Jap conversation on frequency 53·50 ~~Kcs~~ kilocycles - From BOERUM	BM notified & advised NOT to notify Allies.
"	2225	~~NANI~~ P H	P H NANI	Photo recce for mosquito. Strike required. Call by 0900 4/13. Stand to 0930. Flares from BUNA - GONA tonight.	
13 ~~14~~ Dec	1003	P4	VOYA 4	PUGO patrol going out to WEST moved few yds and was fired on. Still being fired on. PUGO sending out men to endeavour contact them	VOYA 4 to advise further if any later information
13 ~~14~~ Dec	1010	P4	LOVELL 4	Left Pl TRAVIS only 2 yds fwd big white tree.	BM advised.
	1210	P4	K 4	PUGO (C Coy) - 1 Pl & Hqrs reported in one still out.	BM advised.
"	1105	P4	GTT TDN	Allotted 72 rds 25 pdr for today & 60 for tonight.	
	1110		KESSELS	Patrol pinned down cannot be released. RAAF sending out rifle bombers to help them	
	1115	P 4	Air S. Control	Advised aerial photo run would commence at 1130. Plane already out but unable to locate ships.	advised unit & requested them to ensure that ships were laid out correctly.
	1220		KESSELS	One patrol "B Coy" reported in	
	1355	P 4	VOYA 4	5 men returned from patrol W of PUGO - 1 killed, 2 missing thought killed - coming in for interrogation	BM informed.
	1530	P 6	HOTCHISON	Q any news re patrols A No, RUNDLE is still out looking for route to HUGGINS and an american patrol also left at 1500 with same object	
	1600	P 4	VOYA 4	One man missing patrol (patrol leader) brought in	BM informed
	1650	P 4	" "	RAAF patrol returned - nil sightings - worked up creek towards PUGO	BM informed
	1730	P 4	NUGO 4	RUNDLE patrol in. Reports sent over by CO to Bde Comd. 2nd patrol of Americans has NOT reported as yet.	
	1730	~~P 6~~	~~K 6~~	Reports all but one man of patrol which went WEST from GILLESPIE's back. Went in 50 to 60 x on bearing 290° was fired on. Sgt LMG 50 x to right Pte i/c patrol was hit but got back. KESSELS thinks poss Pte except corresponds to weapon pits mentioned in Sgt McLEAN's report of 12 Dec.	
	1800	P4	VOYA 4	RAAF recce going round to right of NOYES has occupied objective	BM advised

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DATE	TIME 007	TO	FROM	Contents	Action Taken
13th	1810	R Arty	P 6	Informed H7. 6 rds arty harassing fire registered on rds from Ref LOCAH GRID. rd corner 1416 plus 350ˣ rd corner 1416 plus 750° and 100ˣ rt of rd. 1 rd sq rectangle 400 x 100.	
	2013	P 4	MORAY	Patrol from B Coy 55/53 returned - much info gained otherwise patrol unsuccessful - fired on and pinned down by .50 MMG - next pos seen. Grenades thrown & used on a weapon pit and LMG. Out and of action - patrol returned safely but with difficulty - no casualties.	BM advised
	2025	P 6	NANI 6	G I rang re success of LOVELL move	
	2040	P 4	Arty	Arty opening at 2100 all patrols in	
	2107	P 4	ZUGO 4	COOTE 15 moving fwd. found 1 grenade being used in trenches in central platoon central sector	
	2210	P H	MORAY	D Coy 55/53 Bn moving fwd found Japs in trenches 20ˣ in front their pos engaged, taking party of 6 exchanged grenades and retired with 4 casualties (wounded) and returned to old pos for night.	7 & 6 advised.
~~0430~~	~~P 4~~	~~VOYA 4~~	~~Patrol of = Offrs & 5 Ors~~		
~~0430~~	~~P 4~~	~~ZUGO 4~~	~~Patrol~~		
~~1004~~	~~P 4~~	~~ZUGO 4~~	~~Patrol~~		
14th Dec	1155	P H	VOYA 4	Patrol reported in	
14 Dec	1510	P 4	ZUGO 4	From GILLELAND O Operation fire being stopped whilst GOC inspects lines	
"	1500	P 6	7 DIV	TAC/R A/C sent. Obsn area at 190268 on BUNA Hwy to 1 mile map plot trenches, 2 tents flys and 2 white strips approx 9 ft long on either side of rd. Identified as HUGGINS	
"	1530	P 6	BOEREM	Rabaul party good through and has returned to CANNON Coy	
	1540	P 6	.	At 2000 and 2030 hrs today one red flare will be fired from rd block pos Bearings will be taken on these flares by all units	all units advised
	1625	P H	VOYA 4	GILLESPIE reported moving back into Bn Area - move completed by 1625.	BM notified
"	1810	P H	BOEREM	Capt WALKER US reports 19 RABAUL boys brought in from CANNON COY now at Rabaul Dump	G2 NANI advised
	1825	P H	MAY BOEREM	Concerning Plight of Japs where RABAUL boys came in from - report coming in from Lieut Davis who brought Rabaul boys in	
	1845	P H	BOEREM	Rockets from HUGGINS to go up between 1945 - 2030.	
	1910	F00 S 6 L 6 K 6	P 6	Target for party during night 14/15 Dec 2030 - 2100. Concentration (16 rds) left of rd front of COOTE 2200 - 2300 Harassing fire (14 rds) up rd. Last in area HUGGINS 2330 - 2359 Concentration (16 rds) left of rd front of GILLELAND. 0500 - 0600 Harassing fire up rd (14 rds)	

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1005	15 Dec	P4	Sigs	Re location of ops Findlay (FOO) (5)	
1045	15 Dec	P4	LOVELL 4	Message from HERWIG post - from ZUGO patrol - being held by fire 200 x north of HERWIG - attempting to outflank block - if NOT will return	BM advised
1230	" "	P4	LOVELL 4	ZUGO patrol returned - 5 men KIA and - lost contact.	
1430	" "	P4	VOYA 4	PLUTO (D Coy 49) gone out towards PUGO's former post	
1610	" "	P4	" "	RALU patrol returned	
1715	" "	P4	STEV 4	HUTCHISON patrol returned	BM advised
1830	" "	P4	ZUGO 4	Relief of D Coy & A/A Pl completed by A & C Coys - ~~no further~~ D Coy & A/A Pl back and post occupied by A & C Coys. - no further news of Men missing from patrol	
2125					
1830	" "	P4	HANSEN 7	M.T. engine firing bearing 30° from HUTCHINSON on track and 75° from HUTCHINSON and 1/4 - 1/2 mile away. Discharge - explosion 3 secs	
2145	" "	P6	GIII 0	Staff Offr will call this HQ 0900 hrs - 16 Dec re examine suitability of area for machine flame throwers. No staff work with machine (re flame throwers)	
2155	"	P6	NANI 6	Suggested if possible use .30 cal machine guns for immediate harassing fire	
2225	"	P6,7,14	NANI CARROLL	Query whether using Primers Primary or Augmenting? And going to bring the latter up to us - Draw Parker 7 & 6's attention to examining the latter before use - condition of augmenting when deteriorated is greasy or white particles - resulting in lack of range - good primers will show pink or brown particles or bag and will give range required.	Parker 7, 6, 14 notified
0845	16 Dec.	P6	FINDLAY R/T	Request for metro for today ⊙ Replied "Hold light Metro following"	
0930	"	P6	BELL	Shooting until 0945 to ascertain time of flight from three base plate posns to HERWICKS front.	
0930	"	P4	ZUGO	Patrol of 5 ORs from GILLELAND to leave 0945 hrs.	
0930	"	P4	VOYA	Patrol of 1 offr and 5 OR gun shy left.	
1005	"	P4	ZUGO	Patrol of 1 offr 5 ORs left 1004 for GILLELAND	
1045	"	P4	HERWIG 7	Patrol from BROWN just left on bearing of 90°	
1145	"	P4	ZUGO 4	another missing man returned from ZUGO patrol of 15/12 - advises that man STREET, is dead, killed morning of 15/12 - post was too dangerous to recover any thing from him	
1145	"	P6	HUGGINS	Ration party arrived 1130.	
1425	"	P4	VOYA 4	a carrying party plus 1 sec Protective Pl + 1 offr going out to HUTCHINSON	
1508	"	P6		6 men to report HQ RAE for flame throwing Trng: 1 Bren & NCO to be sent	advised LOVELL
1570	"	P6	BOEREM	Advised Brig that VS Pls have no ration other than 5 days on men	
1705	"	P4	VOYA 4	VOYA 4 & his party has returned from "HUTCHISON	
1900	"	P4	ZUGO 4	Both BROWN & WOOD's patrols are now out.	
1910	"	P4	VOYA 4	Situ to 1800 hrs - SITUATION NORMAL.	

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Date	Time	To	From	Context	Action Taken
16 Dec	1945	P4	VOYA 4	BROWN and GILLELANDS patrols reported in	
"	1945	P6	DIV	DI postponed 24 hrs - ST - 0730 hrs 19 Dec - copies of appx A do Mortar Offr 55/53, 49, 36, del 2/1 Fd Regt & 7 Aust Div. Nothing else to alty - Leaman informed	
"	2020	P4	2/3 Bn	Lieut FISHER LO will NOT be back tonight but will report early am 17 Dec.	
"	2045 2050	P4	ZUGO	Woods patrol reported in.	
17 Dec.	0700	P4	ZUGO 4	Stand down report all clear	
17 Dec	0815	P7	P6	Comp Coy 36 Bn will relieve 49 Bn today HESSEL will leave for tering parties in the line and be prepared to instruct 36 Bn personnel in siting etc. This Comp Coy 36 Bn may be withdrawn for reorganization later in day if more plane loads 36 Bn arrive	
"	0930	P6	Sigs Porter	Report received that mortars firing on HUGGINS farm	Mortars instructed to cease fire & Lt BELL to report to BM
"	0940	P6	P7	P7 asked why mortars had stopped firing. Told reason: mortars firing on HUGGINS. GUNS told to cease fire while enquiry made P7 said he required mortars on HESSELS front.	
"	0950	~~P6~~ Lt BELL	~~LT BELL~~ P6	Lt BELL reported JASO and was told mortars falling short to recommence fire on HESSELS front but no long range stuff towards HUGGINS	
"	1030	P4	NANI to Sigs	Suggest dropping NILA from sitrep to and out.	BM informed & concurs
"	1030	P4	LO. MORAY	Lt PAINE & 40 RD leaves Logan track 1/2 way B Coy to HERWIG bearing 900 object recce	" "
"	1115	P4	VOYA 4	Party left to visit new area. Includes HESSEL 7 & 4	IO, BM informed.
"	1130			Protective patrol with Arty Sigs departed for I Coy.	
"	1140	P4	VOYA.	Carrying party just left Flamer area.	IO BM informed.
"	1140	P6	RAE	Reports that 2 sign party who were to report for instruction flame throwing	
"	1145	L4	P7	Q. Where is Flame party A. Left at 0900. Had instns to report to Lt. HOLLIS at NANI.	
"	1146	RAE	P7	Informed party left 0900 to report to Lt HOLLIS at NANI. RAE say Should have reported to Fd Coy but will check up to find where they are	
"	1145	P4	VOYA 4	A & CRs have been relieved and all the Protective Rls	BM informed

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"	1245	NANIK	VOYAK	ISAACSON HR now estab 200 behind ~~PORTER~~ in same order of track	" "
"	1420	P4	VOYA 4(a)	VOYA 7 & 4 returned from patrol -	
"	1505	P6	LOVELL	Patrol reported in and mortar fire requested left of rd	O.K.
"	1532	—	—	GOC 7 Div arrived Bde HQ }	
"	1605	—	—	GOC 7 Div left }	
"	1725	P6	HUGGINS	No damage from mortar fire this area (VE message)	
"	1735	P6	"	Sportans landing in area (VE message)	Bell advised drop range 400 yds
"	1740	McLEOD	P6	A/TK will take up posn tonight and come and open fire between 0700 & 0800 186 Cds.	LOVELL & KESSEL informed.
"	1750	36 Bn	P6	Relief of 49 & 55/53 will be effected 186 Cds commencing 0900 hrs. One coy will relieve 49 & two coys 55/53 Coy Comds & Pl Comds report respective HQ's by 0800 hrs 36 units at present in 49 area to be withdrawn by 0800 hrs. Two rifle coys 36 Bn suggested. Bivouac used north 55/53 mortars.	
"	1800.	P4	VOYA4.	Remainder of rear party patrol replaced in	
"	1915	P4	NOG 04	Jap mtn gun firing at bearing of 35° from HUTCHISON. SHELLS passing over Bde HQ apparently counter battery work.	
18 Dec.	0910	P4	LOVELL	Request permission to fire in left of rd till 0930.	Granted
"	~~0915~~	P4	AUSTRAE		
"	1315	P4	YOKI	HQ closing rear at present posn - opening 200 x N of 55 HQ 30 x in	BM notified
"	1315	McLEOD	P6	Move guns into position rt of road near big tree.	
"	1540.	P6	YOKI	All Coys in posn Res coy left flank near BHQ. Requested to supply PORTER 7 with list of principal offrs.	
19 Dec	0650	P6	KESSEL	49 Bn now moves into posn from HUTCHISON area.	
	0658	P6	LOVELL	55/53 Bn commencing move into posn from bivouac area.	
	0707	"	STEVENSON	Heheny sig wire cut	
	0734	"	STEVENSON	LOVELL in posn left flank and commenced attack 0734	
	0740	"	KESSEL	2 Pls crossed ck pushing on no enemy met yet.	
	0745	"	STEVENSON	Contact left flank reported very little enemy MG fire. LOVELL HQ 4 to 500 yds below HERWIG.	
	0800	"	KESSELS	Enemy pl wiped out 2 MG posns on W bank of river.	
	0800	P4	HERWIG	advance on left flank - advanced 150 yds still continuing - 4 walking wounded	Brig & BM notified.
	0804	BELL	P7	- five dying down	
	0815	P4	HERWIG	Mortar fire ordered to be put down on left of rd.	
				16 Pl of left flank 55 penned down.	Brig & BM informed

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DATE	TIME	TO	FROM	CONTEXT	ACTION TAKEN.
19Dec42	0817	P7	LOVELL	0740. OC Res Coy moved SL at zero 0803 Report wounded men from COOTE went in 100 yds before encountering fire 0803 Held up. Advancing slowly. Mortar on SPRIGG's area. 0815 OC 16 Pl reports 80/90 yds adv by fire across track mainly snipers. 18 Pl COOTE moving ahead on left. Nothing on R flank. Pl BROWN moved in artillery formation BROWN has 2 pl outflanking Jap posn. 20/30 yds from post when BROWN hit	
	0817	P2	MORAY	36 Bn firing MG's with north checking area.	
	0830	P4	YOKI 4	D Coy YOKI received light bursts MMG fire then rifle.	
	0831	P6	NANI	NANI advised attack has edged on and progressing favourably. Two MG posts on right flank captured.	
	0840	P4	YOKI 4	YOKI reports 2 LMG silenced. at least 1 LMG and possibly another on YOKI left flank.	Cmd advised
	0845	P7	LOVELL	D Coy runner reports COOTE & Coy 2 i/c both hit. Held up at present at third creek near big white tree.	LOVELL 7 ordered to push on fwd pl with all speed.
	0905		KESSELS	Held up by small party Japs in front of creek. - No 1 pl forced back to creek. No 3 pl dug in just north vicinity CAPE HORN. No 2 pl protecting right flank. No 4 pl moving in to cross ck between 1 & 3. Confirm previous report.	
	0915.		MORAY.	16 Pl pinned down by LMG and rifle fire - 18 Pl attempting to get in behind enemy strong post from left - 17 Pl still going fwd. Contact lost between 18 & 17 Pl	
	0925		VOYA 4	3 Pl fwd to near CAPE HORN. another pl containing enemy on ck. Posn rather obscure at present. Men being sent fwd to ascertain	
	0925		cf SYMONS 18 PL LOVELL.	When 18 Pl moved fwd came to Jap underground dugouts. Moved through firing into the holes. Japs startled to come out. Grenades thrown by Japs and split up pl. Comd 18 pl & self were cut off by Japs. Fought way back to Coy HQ. When we crossed front ck coming back from Jap side, called over by 2 i/c. Both lay down behind a tree and gave report & 2 i/c was shot. Then moved to Capt COOTE and then gathered all coy HQ to try and make another advance. Capt COOTE got into ck and was shot on bank. CSM then moved fwd to ck & could NOT contact 17 or 18 pls so I came back to report what I knew. NO MG fire noticed except a few small bursts - Lt POWER.	
			HURWIG.	Have lost contact with coy. 12 men remaining with pl. Holding line of 50x off dug in posn on what appears to be ck. Have given orders for pl to remain present pos pending further order. 12 Pl now 100x from ck.	
	0935	P4	VOYA 6.	3 Pl at Cape HORN. 2 pl now moving up W Coast towards Canal - Sending two men out now to find out how far 3 pl are from rd - think about 90x 1 & 4 pls amalgamated to contain enemy on ck.	
		P4	YOKI 6	VIKO - 1 Sqn 40/K 3 pl moving on R flank contact US post on R flank - tpts and 0925 tpts in 1000. 3 pl reported post occupied by US on D Coys R flank has been vacated From 16 Pl - enemy mortar fwd has been seen - shell turned down	

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19 Dec	0938.		LOVELL	SPRING moved up & is going in on right & D Coy. Okay	Okay told to get through to Lovell
"	0940.	YOKI	PORTER	A Coy YOKI to go out & to KESSELS & come under comd.	
"	0942	~~KESSELS~~ P7	~~KESS~~ KESSELS	IRL A Coy YOKI to take over from 1 & 4 Compls. KESSELS 1 Pl to link up between 3 Pl KESSELS & HUTCHISON 1 Pl to concentrate HUTCHINSON area	
"	0942	P7	KESSELS		
"	0950	NANI	JTAC	attack vicinity HURWIG appears held. ZUKO exploiting to south of latter towards main track. Ordered YOKI Coy to move VOYA to enable exploitation to HUGGINS.	
"	0955	P7	YOKI	Coy now moving out	
"	1010.	P7	LOVELL	Request to 1/4 hr mortar fire (with as much as possible on Gap track area left of rd)	KESSELS advised
"	1010.	P4	VOYA 4	Red collar patch seen on tap with either wings or anchor by 3-4 pls to rd Y7 P7 3 pl Y4 P6 - 2 men from 3 Pl move fwd to contact rd. - 2 pl moving along ARGENTINA observed PANAMA - IRL reported to have captured 2 Japs LMG but later owing to enemy pressure had to abandon LMG in bush - Capel to salvage later	Comd Advised
"	1020	P4	VOYA 4	Pl 2 halted awaiting more signal cable - approx 50 m Y4 P8 - more signal cable being fwded immediately.	
"	1025	P4	YOKI 4	NIKO (D Coy 36) reps patrol out at 0925 reported reached 40x beyond bridge and contacted patrol VOYA - on return ambushed T150 (A/36) moving out to VOYA. Line in 1020.	
"	1040	P7	~~PORT~~ 7	NO 2 Pl pushed on to Nth new patrolling. YOKI A Coy arrived VOYA.	KESSELS ordered to move up coast to PANAMA.
"	1100	NANI	P 7	4 Bn pushing north - forward elements at approx 185256 - 55/53 low obscure light reorganising in conjunction with fwd unit thinning movement	
"	1110.	P4	YOKI 4	Gap grenade used by KA50 14 Pl 15 mins ago - 1055.	advised that SPRING must
"	1115	HERWIG	PORTER	HURWIG reps all quiet & C Coy 55/53 have gone to SPRING has 2 pls fwd	
"	1112	PORTER	LOVELL	& has contacted some personnel from 9 Pl & GILLELAND who were forced out. Taken back to GILLELAND. Has met slight opposition but still pushing fwd. LOVELL advised that SPRING must push on & get astride track. 17 Pl D Coy went fwd to left & clearing 16 Pl followed & held up. 18 Pl reorganized to support 16 Pl L flank of HERWIG. Cleared the opposition mined the cut & SPRING must get to road.	
"	1123	P4	VOYA 4	DOUGLAS Coy 92 strong arrived - getting in position - recce nowhere progressed	
"	1131	VOYA 6	PORTER	YOKI Coy have taken over 1/4 pl from Lovell now taking over others. No opposition moving on so far	

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DATE	TIME	TO	FROM	CONTEXT.	ACTION TAKEN
19 Dec	1138		NANI	XIP1 trench works 500 yds in area. Y4I 3rd curve enemy Mfs taking cover. No movt SAN PT. Y2E5 2 enemy seen on rd.	
"	1145	PORTER	LOVELL	2 enemy on left side of track front of HERWIG.	
"	1145	STEV 4	HERWIG	Party of Japs seen working down WOFF Ck.	Brig & BM notified.
"	1145	P4	MORAY	B Coy - 11 Pl unknown - 5 men attached 12 Pl and move fwd with covering fire from HQ Coy. - A Pl (Portion of A Coy put in to where shown 11 Pl would move fwd) - 13 Pl fwd in bounds and struck rifle fire and withdrew to Coy HQ with Maj SPRING - 14 Pl advancing under covering fire from 15 Pl. D Coy 16 Pl dug in off Ck awaiting SPRING to move fwd from right - 17 Pl in contact and no further news. - 18 Pl with fwd viewing R[illegible] lost bearings and Coy HQ went through them & became fwd Pls. OC and 2 i/c Coy walkies and Coy HQ back to start line - pushed fwd again.	
"	1148	STEV	KESSELS7	2 Pl has moved 1/4 and then 3 do follow them upon relief.	
"	1150	"	P 7	To send out patrol to search for 2 Japs reported on track 3 Pl relieved and whole coy moving up PANAMA. NOYES moved them 100 x undo correct posn	
"	1209	NANI 5	PORTER	Advised NANI that US (BOEREM) in contact with HUGGINS	
"	1220	P4	P6	3 Pl 49 relieved by part DOUGLAS Coy - 3 Pl moving fwd	
"	1220	PORTER	NANI	G - Es 55/53 organized on 3 Coy basis. A - ~~Has~~ Yes. Q Was that Coy been committed A - Yes.	
"	1222	"	STEVENSON	Patrol detached from HERWIG to move south W and west of track to try contact Jap patrol previously reported.	
"	1225	LOVELL	PORTER	Advising LOVELL of our patrol moving west of track.	
"	1235	PORTER	VOYA.	Leading elements of ~~brade~~ 49 Bn about BRAZIL & still moving.	
"	1236	HANO	PORTER	Message requesting posn	
"	1250	PORTER	LOVELL	CHATTERTON SPL now rejoined GILLELAND and pushing fwd. SPRING reported held up near clearing. HENDERSON ordered up to relieve ~~of~~ SPRING and push fwd to rd	
"	1328	PORTER	KESSEL	No further report from NOYES. Does NOT know if Jap is out & NOT. Ignore report unless 15 mins intends to send out strong party.	
"	1330	PORTER	KESSEL	Leading pl reports now 200 x from PANAMA appx. No opposition encountered.	
"	1340	4	VOYA 4	120 x S of N 7 Pl A Coy 36 Bn - talk of mortar fire.	
"	1335	PORTER	LOVELL	Request mortar fire at X 969 for 15 mins. This ref is 181252	
"	1345	LOVELL	PORTER	Mortars too close to HERWIG. - up 100 yds - 100 yds again	
"	1346	PORTER	HERWIG	C/w D coy. up another 100 yds.	
"	1350			1 Platoon 55/53 Bn engaged. Mortars ceased fire.	
"	1350	LOVELL	PORTER	Advised had to fire mortars. 300 yds too close to HERWIG	
"	1352	PORTER6	KESS 7	NOYES thinks at PANAMA - about 450 yds off rd - Moving on in 30 mins advised to reach rd and ~~then~~ work up right of it to HUGGINS	
"	1400	P4	YOKI	Mortar fire back 40 x - R 150 x on posns on R clearing bearing 150°	
"	1405	PORTER	STEV	STEVENSON patrol reported back. No enemy but in one place three naked footprints	
"	1425	BELL	PORTER	Mortars ordered 2 salvoes by suspected enemy posn 182248.	36 BN advised
"	1430	P4	STEV	16 Pl on left HERWIGS L flank - 13 men - dug in - 1 Pl 1 Cpl 40 p's 1 wounded	

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				reported in HERWIG - remainder of Pl - Pl comd remainder Recc 100 x in front track no enemy contact - damaged by own mortar fire - 2 remaining secs no news - (C+D 55)
"	1433	PORTER	LOVELL	HENDERSON went fwd with 10 men about 70 - 80 yds from HQ, saw info by N.Z. fire - 9 men and HENDERSON now missing. TRAVIS instructed to move fwd. Sect returned from 17 Pl - Tell Brig delete reference to McINTYRE
"	1450	SWITCH	PORTER	Time for flare to be fired by KANO altered to 1530 hrs. Unable to gain W/T contact with HUGGINS.
"	1455	PORTER	KESSELS	NOYES reports movement on N. Investigating before moving on
"	1500	LOVELL) STEV	PORTER "	Proceed with arrangements for relief - BROWN HERWIG YOKI Coy to LOVELL to take over from HERWIG & BROWN who will return to NANI reserve.
"	1500	P4	VIKO	Mortars 150 x ahead approved corrected for line - wants 1 down 50 x right 25 x in L.
"	1505	STEVENSON	PORTER	PORTER hopes can relieve HERWIG & Coy YOKI with two coys. HENDERSON to push on
"	1510	PORTER	KESSELS	No report from NOYES. KESSELS sending patrol out to check up on pos'n. Nil to Ra
"	1525	P4	YOKI 4	N was nothing. NOYES now moving off. 3 men made recce of B area in NW of it. Tree searched for about 100 x in front. - No sign of enemy seen
"	1540	PORTER	KESSEL	What is pos'n. A no news NOYES. DOUGLAS is going to start + fight to clearout enemy pos'n in front of HUTCHISON.
"	1545	P4	VOYA 4	Pls 1 & 4 all in PANAMA area - going fwd.
		PORTER	LOVELL	Composite B & D coy returning HERWIG C Coy returning left coy 36
"	1550	P4	VIKO	Enemy re time of mortar shoots in his area
"	1555	PORTER	KESSELS	NOYES fwd Sp contacted HUGGINS. No opposition
"	1600	YOKI	PORTER	Calls and see PORTER 7
"	1606	PORTER	KESSELS	NOYES complete coy now with HUGGINS
"	1610	P4	YOKI 6	Patrol in from VIKO D/56 - out till 1620 - no mortar fire before that time
"	1640	KESSELS	PORTER	NOYES Coy to remain this area but NOT within present perimeter. To extend eastern flank but linking up with HUGGINS. another coy YOKI to report KESSELS. Role - to move across road from CAPE HORN & proceed South until contact made with enemy - probably near Jap track.
"	1720	PORTER)	61	Request that NOYES be brought back a little from HUGGINS, be placed about BRA 214 for the night, whence he can operate
"	1725	VOYA 7	PORTER)	Ordered to move NOYES into position on coast in area Y 208.
"	1740			B Coy 36 Bn left for HUTCHINSON area.
"	1745	P4	McNAMARA	B Coy 36 Bn moved off with return party 1740.
"	2025	P4	MORAY	Patrols from C Coy trying to locate HENDERSON and from D Coy to locate
"	2025		4 McNAMARA	COOTE YOKI 4 NIGHTS at pos'n bearing 42° M from Pl 50 x approx along track from main rd into Coy 36 - head and shoulders to be at ground level - 36 estimate 80 x out.

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DATE	TIME	TO	FROM	TEXT.	ACTION TAKEN
19	2045	P4	YOKI 4.	SA fire intermittent. Heard on immediate front of VIKO (D/36)	BM & BRIG notified.
19	2040	P4	LOVELL 6	CSM SMITH reported in. Located COOTE and leading party in to bring him out.	
19	2200	P4	LOVELL 7	Reports one sec of 17 Pl advanced straight up Track and 300x north along road has been making way back through lines and coming back through D/65 - is being interrogated by LOVELL 7 and suggests the Sec Lgr may have information of value re ISAACSON in view of role on 20/12.	BM notified and suggests the Lgr being sent at TAS early morning 20/12.
19	2200	P4	VOYAH	POWER (B/36) advanced 50x - halted by Jungle - forming perimeter camp - moving fwd at first light 20/12.	B Coy already in possession these facts.
19	2300	P4	LOVELL 7	Main locked in front of HERWIG - went through northern edge of clearing Hard - returned through clearing and on Track - sat on Rd for smoke - moved up Rd to within 100x of Top Track but 20 to a 30x in front (W) gaps ~~at~~ digging furiously. Returned with sec down Rd through clearing to Top Track due to smoke P4 - thought to contact PL came through clearing - on way through clearing struck couple of 17 Pl and then reported back onto MCINTYRE present posn at dusk	Douglas 7 notified and passing on to Coy Hd B/36
20 Dec.	0700.	PORTER	KESSELS	B Coy 36 Bde recommenced move South astride Rd now about 60x south Jap Track. Attack by A Coy 36 Bn on HUTCHINSON front returned from 0830 hrs.	
"	0730	LOVELL	PORTER	55/53 instructed to maintain offensive patrolling and infiltrate fwd on left of Rd. P7 suggested they use 4 men patrols	
"	0820	ALLUNIS	PORTER	Orders for the day re message 023.	
"	0845.	P4	YOKI 4	Mortars on right flank VIKO.	
"	0905	P4	YOKI 4	Reports plenty Jap movement. two snipers knocked down from trees (uniform of IC Coy 14th Bn)	BM notified
"	0930	P4	YOKI 4	VIKO moved LMG 100x fwd on R flank of 18 pl - not committing pow unless certain target presents itself.	Brig, BM, YOKI 7 informed
"	0955	P6	7	NO 8 Pl A Coy 36 attack satisfactory - linked up with HUTCHINSON NO 9 Pl held up by MG. Returned to BHQ KESSELS send them in again now working in agart to Rd. NO 8. Patrol in from NOYES. Returning with left and rear party. B Coy dug in and sending out patrols. Believe they have located enemy mortar on Rd Side of Rd - investigating further. No pursuit ordered.	
"	1005	KESSELS	PORTER	KESSELS to relieve HUTCHINSON as soon as KESSEL considers pow safe. KESSEL can use his own mortar and MGs for the job but relief NOT considered practicable yet. NO 8 Pl cleared out one post. No 9 cleared out 2 and after 3 posts held up. B Coy consolidated - 1 killed 1 wounded.	
"	1040	PORTER	KESSELS	Can KESSELS recall 7 pl from CAPE HORN & use them on HUTCHINSON front. Yes	

P4 | STE[illegible] ... 17 Pl 1 CPL 40/R's 1 wounded

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1050	PH	YOKI H	2 enemy LMG's firing on 15 pl C/36 front - location unknown - bullets have been perforating parapet!	
1105	YOKI H	PH	Considered our own fire - don't reply - keep heads down and powder dry.	
1125	PH	YOKI H	LMG on bearing 45° spraying HA FO with bullets.	
1130	PH	MCNAMARA	6 A/36 returned to RAP. 4 wounded - 8 + 2 pls took patrol attacking extended line towards South - Coy HQ following up.	Brig informed.
1130	PORTER	KESSELS	Attack unsuccessful. Two pls only went forward (Co ordered NOT going in) Gap round behind 8 pl came on HQ. Lost contact with 7 pl. attacking again at 1300 STEVENSON advised!	
1135	NANI6	PORTER	2 wded. Info received from KESSELS at 1130.	
1140		PH	Ration party left around right flank to HUGGINS. Guides will be supplied from 49 Bn	Brig advised
1155	PH	P6	AA HERWIG seen - fair bit of fire 300 - 400 x E of HERWIG thought to be coming from YOKI B Coy	Brig advised
1235	P7	KESSELS	7 pl complete - 8 pl 8 men - 9 pl 10 men. Very hy fire. Estimated 200 Japs at least estimate rest of pls cut off by MG fire.	
1240	NANI6	P7	Advised of above	
1250	KESS	P7	Hold everything pending decision from Div.	
1320	KESS	P7	P7 stated LO on way to KESSELS now. You still stand fast. YOKI B has patrolled south and about 100 x east of the rd. HUTCHINSON estimate 500. MG nests now reported but nothing definite.	
1445	PH	YOKI HA.	14 pl & Lt C/36 pinned down by snipers. Suggest burning heavy undergrowth with inflammable arrows - dry grass and shrubs in line of fire.	ISAACSON advised Skeptical.
1400	P7	G1	G1 is coming up.	
1510	LOVELL6	PH	Patrol from HILLEN who took over from TRAVIS moved out. Route: skirt southern portion of clearing to search for our men.	
1515	K7	P7	Can YOKI B be moved back to where 7 pl was? Yes. YOKI B will move from present pos to Y3P8 where 7 Pl was and remain there. A boy shot with about HQ KESSELS will release whole HUTCHINSON force from 6.	
1545	P6	NANI	Enemy trench works seen at Y506 + asked to ~~investigate~~ take & occupy with one ~~pl NOYES~~ & 7 - running N & S. (TAC/R)	
1558	LOVELL	PORTER	Lovell to report this H6	
1605	KESSEL	PORTER	KESSELS advised of enemy works at Y506 and 7 and asked to investigate and occupy with one pl NOYES	
1645	UNITS	PORTER	36 Bn on right and will be relieved by US Mtrs. C & D Coys 36 Bn will move to HUTCHINSON area and attack enemy ~~from~~ from in conjunction with B Coy 36 Bn.	

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TEXT (12) (14) ACTION TAKEN

DATE	TIME	TO	FROM	TEXT	ACTION TAKEN
20 Dec.	1740	P4	YOKI H	Comm with VIKO (D/36) terminated at 1737 hrs - will be re-established when move is com	
"	1750	P4	STEV 7	HUTCHINSONS relief completed by 1740 by KESSELS - KESSEL taking over whole area.	
"	1800	PORTER	STEVENSON	Relief of HUTCHINSON and Bn Hqs in HUTCHINSON area completed	
"	1825	PORTER	YOKI	Rept to D Coy relieved by US Appo.	
"	1835		PORTER	Decision made for C&D Coys YOKI remain this area tonight and move to HUTCHINSON area early am tomorrow	
"	1845	PORTER	NANI 6	Are people astride track moving to Cape HORN. Yes, they have moved NOYES sitting pat. YOKI Back Cape HORN.	
"	1845	P4	VOYA H	NOYES in Coy Y4/08 - 200x forward ground ships out today - YOKI moving from present Coy to Coy 100 kN of rear perimeter VOYA - VOYA estab HQ at E bank of ck - 20x due west of old Coy. YOKI A & VOYA Pnr pl back HUTCHINSON Coy 1730.	YOKI A Coy pack with VOYA Mortar & protective pl.
"	1845	P4	STEV 7.	2/3 closing down moving to Div Res 2 offrs + 31 OR's.	
"	2015	P4	VOYA 4	YOKI B Coy in same area of ck as BHQ - North being mortared in Coy from W - no harm as yet - NOYES reported flare 300x-500x to N	Brig & B Mot fired
21 Dec	0630-0640			Bde Hq shelled by mountain gun all units report quiet night. Light mortar and grenade fire HUTCH area.	
"	0700				
"	0740	PORTER	ISAACSON	C&D Coys 36 left present area for HUTCHINSON area	
"	0740	P H	YOKI 6	~~Yoki~~ as above —	
"	0800	BELL	PORTER	Instns issued mortar OP to go to 36 Bn - arrangements made for mortar fire immediate front	
"	0900	PORTER	BOEREM	25 men seen from US post on perimeter at Y4 S 6 moving S at 0900. 50 men seen from same post at 0830. Some with packs, some rifles - unable to distinguish. None of our Coys in this area at present. BOEREM Coy instructed to send out recce patrol to locate above reported enemy. Details of orders. Patrol to recce to US Coy from which suspected enemy patrol was seen	
"	0915	DIV	PORTER	advised of above suspected enemy	
"	0940	"	"	Reported to DIV that above patrol possible YOKI Coy	

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				who have strayed from track.	
4	0945	PORTER	SALOM	Reports that YOKI 2 stringing out gradually.	
4		P 4	YOKI 2	YOKI C+D arrived safely at VOYA.	
4	0950	P 4	YOKI 1	" " " " HUTCHINSON area.	
4	0955	NAN 16	PORTER	Early reports that suspected enemy are Aust tps (confirmed 1010 hrs)	
4	0956	NOV 7	PORTER	OK for mortar fire? Yes state LOVELL.	
4	1125	P 6	KESSELS	Bombs landing in area. Order given by P6 - cease fire immediately.	
4	1200	P 6	P 7	Informed mortars being put down astride rd area 300 yds S Junc Jap track + main rd	
4	1201	P 6	SALOM	ZERO NOT before 1300 hrs.	
4	1300	P 6	SALOM	ZERO 1415.	
4	1305	BELL LOVELL BOEREM	P 6	ZUGO and BOEREM to fire demo fire from 1415 to 1420. Mortars (a) Inform BOEREM 1410-1420 rate 1 by Yank mortars (b) Gun left of a 200x south Jap track from 1410-1420 rate 4 and 1420-1421 rate 1 same target.	Lt SALOM informed of mortar programme.
				Lt BELL ordered to be particularly careful to register these two targets and fire one salvo at 1330 in front BOEREM and one at 1340 on targets south Jap track and get OK from YOKI.	
4	1325	YOKI	P 6	Is last salvo OK 10 mean BOEREM front. DOUGLAS states gun OK. Checked with SALOM & told them DOUGLAS views.	
4	1330	P 4	YOKI 2	Target 1" due E from R hand shell hole - bracket 3/4" E 1/4" S	BM informed but no fire at present.
4	1412	P 6	YOKI	ZERO postponed until 1430.	
4	1413	BOEREM LOVELL	P 6	Stop - hold everything 15 mins. BOEREM commenced firing on right - ordered to stop it.	
	1425	SALOM	P 6		
	1423	BOEREM LOVELL	P 6	Zero 1430. attack commences.	
	1443	BELL	P 6	Cease fire all mortars.	
	1444	LOVELL	P 6	all mortars ceased. HILLEN can move back to pass	
		P 6	P 7	Wait for fresh ZERO until order given	
	1454	LOVELL	P 6	Program to be repeated when order given	

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DATE	TIME	TO	FROM	TEXT (16)	ACTION TAKEN
~~21 Dec~~ 21 Dec	1458	P6	P7	ZERO 1510 - Cut out 1512 - Mortars from 2 - 5 to 2 + 2	
	1501	LOVELL	P6	advised as above - Mortars and Arty commenced - all fire commenced.	
	1512			Fire ceased	
	1514	L 7	P6	Mortars ceased. HILLEN can move back.	
	1520	P7	P6	BOEREM has pushed out in front.	
	1530	P6	LOVELL	GILLELAND pushing fwd.	
	1535	P7	P6	GILLELAND attempting to push fwd on L of rd	
	1540	L 7	P6	Info regarding movements on right and US Pls attempting push fwd	
	1615	L 7	P6	Noyes LOVELL 7 over to see PORTER 6.	
	1850			Mdm gun operated - 5 rds fell SE JASO 100 X away. S.B from 1730 2415 33 - 34° 2 time 4 secs.	advised in orders at 1800 hrs.
	1845	P4	LOVELL 6	10 X advance made by left pl of B/55 - nothing further	
	1850	P4	BOEREM	50 X advance made by right coy. - left coy held up by LMG and could not dig in - intention of advancing whole flank.	
	19000	P4	VOYA 4	Mdm gun has VOYA pos pretty well taped. One wounded. Situation now normal. NO 2 Pl NOYES 300 X down coast NOYES 125 X in	Bde & Bns informed
"	2000	"	"	1 Jap seen running in a NE direction between NOYES pos and NOYES 2 pl - Sniper ~~seen in area~~ seen in area - not now being used on VOYA but rifle grenades - very effective burst.	
"	2210	"	YOKI ADV	YOKI 7 A has taken over.	
	2230	"	DAAGMG NANI	2 guides at J A 80 2 at KESSELS - natives to HUGGINS - medical supplies at same time	arranged with KESSELS notify 14.
22 Dec	0905	P6	ABOG 6	Recce party leaving 0930. Will we provide a guide? Yes Tentative Zero 1030.	
	0920	P4	YOKI 4	Patrols sent out early am returned - nothing to report - 3 Japs seen on what appears to be track 400 yds from YOKO front - Grenades thrown - thought that Arty may have been knocked.	

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				It is considered this party was not for either theirs or our own salvage. Enemy mortar caused couple casualties.
0940	LOV 7 BOER 7 LABELL	P6		Instns given for shoot at 1030 hrs. Z – 1030 hrs. Mortar fm GILLELAND shoots from Z to Z+15 rate 2 6 guns. " fm NORTH McINTYRE " from Z+5 to Z+20 rate 1 6 guns SAA fm " from McINTYRE " from Z+15 to Z+25 Following fire, report right and left of it will attempt to push thro NORTH.
0950	YOKI 6	P6		Informed of above at 1030 hrs.
0955	YOKI 7	P7		Instructed to push on with original plan and also investigate towards main JAP TRACK and inland.
1030	L7	P6		Zero postponed until 1045
1045	BOEREM	P6		" " 1100.
1130	P4	YOYA		Party YANKEES passing YOYA H6.
1135				39 Bn reported in Hd Quarters 21 Bde.
1350	P6	YOKI		YOKI just starting to move – some delay in getting tps to do so.
1650	YOKI	P6		Located MG right flank B Coy. Sposing round to eliminate it. Last that LO reported with latest information also working into front of Coy.
1655	P6	LOVELL		Nothing to report. Advised BOEREM would be pushing fwd slowly LOVELL to watch to flank very carefully and co-operate with BOEREM.
23 Dec	(from yesterday)			SEE OVER
24 Dec	0820	P6	YOKI	Located 2 guns during night on B Coy R. flank. Having agoat them this morning attacking from the flank.
	1314	P	BOEREM	55/53 ambush patrol sent out
	1600	P7	YOKI 7	No further progress
	1610	P7	BOEREM	Nothing to report. Instns given that BOEREMS Coy would be ordered to take post to front.
	1615	P4	2UGO	ambush patrol reported in
	1617	P4	2UGO 4	McINTYRE patrol reptd out at 1615 hrs back at 1800 hrs
	1645	P4	2UGO 4	Patrol reported out CHATTERTON's area
	1700	P4	YOYA 7	What is going on in fwd area (Information supplied)

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DATE	TIME	TO	FROM	TEXT. (18)	ACTION TAKEN
25 Dec	0650	P4	ZUGO	HILLEN's patrol reported clr	
	0710	P4	VOYA4	Nothing to report. Merry X mas to all	
	0800	YOKI7	P6	Instns given to 36 Bn to leave one coy present Foan and remaining two coys will return vicinity TASO for training.	
	0850	VOYA7	P6	Suggested recce patrol to investigate reports of enemy dropping supplies last night.	
	0910	P7	G1	P7 explained results of last nights patrols and also that two coys 36 Bn were coming thro for training.	
	0930	P4	YOKI 17	YOKI patrols leaving (1) 0930 ret 1600 (2) 1215 and ret 1445 (3) and 1500 in 17/30 – route from rockets to along ck between 300-320 N.E.	
	0950	P4	VOYA7	Has GOC's party left Bde yet. A Yes.	
	0950	G1	P7	P7 explained what results were of last nights patrols and also that that two coys 36 Bn were coming thro for training.	
	0950	P6	YOKI 6	Reported that second coy 36 Bn on its way to vicinity TASO	
	1005	P4	ZUGO4	HILLEN sending out patrols E of C Coy towards ... informed no ... on morale unless asked for by LOVELL.	BM advised
	1030	P4	ZUGO4	HILLEN's patrols left 1035	
	1055	P4	LOVELL4	McINTYRE patrols left.	
	1240	P4	LOVELL6	HILLEN patrols returned 1230 hrs.	
	1500	P4	YOKI	ZETA has endeavoured to push fwd and NO 7RS fwd directing operations.	I.O informed
	1545	YOKI	P6	One coy YOKI told to be prepared for counter attack role right flank	
	1555	P6	YOKI7	One coy ready for above	
		P6	VOYA7	No activity 16 YA front.	
	1605	LOVELL	P6	Ordered to stand to until present fracas dies down and position is clarified.	
	1625	YOKI7	P6	Move with one pl to R of BOEREM's flank.	

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23DEC	0900	P4	NANI 5	GOFORCE NOT to be included in JASO subsq distributions	
	0925	P 4	YOKI 7	Patrol made recce of rd 100x N and 100x W enbo tumlen - NIL enemy activity.	
	1840	P 4	ZUGO 4	Salvage patrol left	
	1925	P 4	VOYA 7	Ltheben party coming in guard left VOYA	
	2040	P4	ZUGO 4	HILLIAN unit returned party of Japs yabbering in clearing - number could NOT be estimated - should clearing and observed 6 Japs 2 with tommy guns, 4 with grenades patrolling edge of clearing - NOT armed for combat and unshaven (This was advance patrol of 1840)	
	2100	P4	ZUGO 4	GILLELAND and HILLIAN sending out two men on recce to look around and locate MG posn	Brigs task to proceed on return salvage patrol
	2330		MORTARS	Reported by 36 Bn mortars that a large bulky package was dropped by planes on their first run over this area - thought to be 500 x NE their posn towards VOYA - may be supplies for Japs	BOEREM and KESSELS warned.
24DEC	0700	P4	YOKI 7	Patrols did NOT go out last night - no info for coming - C Coy moved out but was stopped by heavy fire and moved back.	
	0700		ZUGO	MG location patrols out 2200 - fired on returned and went out 2300 - caught in grenade attack returned 0115 nothing to report. went out again 0500 - no info yet.	
	0747	P4	ZUGO 7A	Lost patrol reported in, some Jap posns located - full report coming later	Brig & BM addressed.
	0930	P4	YOKI 6	YOKI adv closed 0915 moving back to YOKI rear	
	1035	P4	LOVELL 6	GILLELANDS patrol out 1033 hrs on completion of task - the job should have been done night 23/24. C Coy patrol working east D coy patrol forward and cum recce trying locate COBTE and making recce of enemy posns north all out 1030 hrs	
	1155		ZUGO	CHATTERTON's patrol reported in	Brig & BM advised.
	1225			HILLENS " " "	
	1250			GILLELANDS " " "	

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(20)

DATE	TIME	TO	FROM	TEXT.	ACTION TAKEN
25 Dec	1640	P4	ZUGO.	McINTYRE patrol out 1015 reported in 1610.	
	1650	P6	BOEREM	Yanks reported capturing MG nest on right flank and Japs yelling out on left flank. "help we want to go free". Capt WILDEY instructed them if they want to surrender to come out one at a time with their hands up. If they come out unless to strip each one before sending them in.	
	1659	MORTARS	LOVELL 7	At 1654 instns given to Mortar Sgt. to bring harassing fire from his six mortars available on known enemy between HILLEN GILLELANDS on left flank of rd. Targets pointed out on air photo.	
	1702	P6	L7	Lieut ANDERSON and patrol returned 1645. Reporting ambushing party Japs (5) 2 killed detailed report following.	
		YOKI 7	P7	2100 hs patrol around R flank Japs. Pin point guns and enemy seen Keep out of observation with the enemy but not clash with enemy destroy the enemy.	
				2045 Demonstration by YOKI B all units warned.	
	2015	YOKI 7	P7	all patrol activity in area YOKI B and R will be co-ordinated by K7	
	1745	P4	YOKI	YETA reported in / O NOT through VOYA yet.	
	2040	YOKI 2	YOKI 6	Coy comdr reported in from recce patrol which continued - conference at present and will report.	
	2115	P4	" 6	Constant white light seen N.E. YOKI 1's pos bearing being taken	
	2200	P4	K7	B/36 all in except 4 men and stores - going back for them - probably another 2 hour job - forming perimeter with def. pt and ck and staying night - having breakfast first light and coming in - expect arrive 0800 4 pos of men and stores known	Porter 7 Yoki 7 informed. KESSELS 7 rang back & advised all arranged
	2215	P4	ZUGO	HILLEN's patrol out 2155. GILLELANDS 2 patrols out 2210.	
	2355	P4	YOKI 4	Patrol returned - went right out to end of afternoon patrol found it impossible to return until moonrise - everything complete	
26 Dec	0225	P4	ZUGO	HILLEN's patrol returned NOT very successful, wanted to know any further arty registrations at 0500.	
	0525	"	"	HILLEN patrol in at 0515 hrs.	
	0615	"	"	HILLEN scheme 1 0615 hrs	
	0640	"	"	GILLELANDS 2 patrols reported out at 0115 hrs — 2 patrols in	

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0734	P4	VOYA 4	YOKI B have started off.
0845	P4	YOKI 4	ZETA pass south VINH-LAO.
0945	P7	91	KESSELS reverts to comd 30 Bde as from 0800 hrs this morning O HUGGINS has been informed. 30 Bde responsible for escorting supply parties through to HUGGINS
0950	K7	P6	Your revert to comd 30 Bde as from 0800 hrs O Your dispns will remain unchanged and you will be responsible for ensuring safety of supply route and escorting of supply parties as you are doing at present.
0955	P6	Y6	ZERO now 1130- Zps will be in pass on SL at 2-15. Patrol out in front of SL until 2-5. BHG closes present 1045 and opens in centre rear of SL at 2-15. BHG & HG Coy will eventually pass C & D Coys in capture of objective.
1033	P4	YOKI 6	Closing down present posn
1050	P7	YOKI 6	Zero now 1200 hrs
1105	P7	YOKI 6	Zero now 1230 hrs. Duty, BOEREM & ZUGO informed
1230			attack commences
1350.		YOKI	F and C Coys reached objective (message intercepted)
1350	P4	DIV (7)	G3 ring for information
1355	P4	VOYA 7	any information regarding above Coys. No.
1410	P6	F7	C & D Coys on objective. No opposition except fire on to D Coys left & HG BW HG on edge of clearing rear C & D Coys. C & D Coys digging in Fighting patrol ordered to move south on East side of rd and contact BOEREM.
1412	L7	P7	Ordered to send MG post GILLELAND from Ch Mortars Co-operate as ordered by LOVELL O/C Zero 14/30
1430	BOEREM	P7	Orders to BOEREM to pivot on left flank & push fwd to join YOKI
1445	P4	HUGGINS 6	Enquiry as to progress made the attack
1450	BOEREM	P6	Patrol moving south from YOKI to contact BOEREM has been cancelled.
1500	P	YOKI	Silence
1505	P	VOYA	Smoke rising 2 areas of mine explosion at approx Y5 P4 Arranged with BELL for mortar fire
1507	P	YOKI	Silence
1530	ZUGO	P6	We had no posn GILLELAND's coy stalking our posn. No opposition encountered
1535	P6	BOEREM	We may move straight up rd, make sure YOKI knows A - he knows.

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2 Dec	1540	YOKI	P 7	BOEREM moving up to join you. LOVELL moving up on left. YOKI be prepared to move up rd and astride it when ordered. Three coys to be used in this operation	
"	1547	P	YOKI	Sitrep.	
"	1610	P 4	YOKI 4	Sporadic fire falling on right flank of KATO	Fire withheld & lifted 25x
"	1612	P	ZUGO	GILLELAND reports Japs seen other side of clearing LOVELL 7 has ordered them to push in if Japs not in defensive posns. His defensive posns will put over grenade fire and they will advance under cover of that.	
	1620	P	BOEREM	States he has progressed 150 yds. Only opposition slight MG on right flank OG outflanking this position and pushing on	
	1625	P	YOKI	Sit normal. Patrol going out shortly.	
	1640	P LOVELL & P 7		Going to attack straightaway.	
	1640			BSM met some NCO's etc from 36 Bn. These personnel were ones who were put through bde lesson this morning and were full of praise for methods taught. They said that practice tactics proved most successful, so much so that they were able to push right through and went so far ahead that they were injured by our own arty fire.	
	1650	P 7	YOKI	Things going OK patrol leaving at 1700	
	1710	P 7	LOVELL	Shaw has gone on. Three secs on the job	
	1725	P	BOEREM	Position very obscure K Coy disappeared into blue. Patrols out to locate them BM to organize straightening out. Very little opposition	
	1737	LOV 7	P 7	What is position. One sec held by MG post – left section out of contact right one held by another MG post. GILLELAND to try straighten out position	
	1740	YOKI 2	YOKI 4	4 grenades landed in KATO area 2 grenades exploded no damage. Grenades projected from area 200x north of KATO	
	1745	P 4	YOKI 4	Patrol moving from present posn to contact BOEREM	
	1900	P 4	LOVELL 4	Two patrols leaving HILLEN coy for west of track. Passing between HILLEN & GILLELAND	
	1900	P 4	YOKI 4	LAFI patrol reported in at 1850 – so far ZETA patrol has NOT reported back	
	2000	P 7	YOKI	Patrol sent to contact BOEREM not yet returned. P 7 ordered YOKI to send out patrol early am to discover possibility of shifting two coys from left side to right side of bde. Front to be thinned out by use of flanks of fire etc and held by one coy.	
	2140	P 4	VOYA	Patrol from VOYA left – expected to return approx 0400.	

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27 Dec

~~0800~~	~~YOKI 7~~	~~P6~~	~~Instns given to 36 Bn to have one coy patrol pass & remaining two coys will return to vicinity JASO for training.~~
~~0800~~	~~VOYA 7~~	~~P6~~	~~Suggested one coy patrol to investigate~~
0806	YOKI	P7	Have heard a patrol YOKI 1 ran into opposition just south of D, This area must be patrolled and definitely pinpointed
0845	BOEREM	P7	Division of cond as explained below told to day BOEREM. Orders are for H Coy BOEREM to move round and encircle enemy (if any) between Aust Tps & D Coy 36 Bn
0850	YOKI	P7	Division of cond. EAST WEST line through south end D Coy. North of line RILEY will cond (ie D Coy 36 & one coy US) South of line MAJ BOEREM will cond whole force -
0920	VOYA 7	P6	Report patrol to CAPE HORN left at 0810 — Time in & soon to be notified to this HQ & BM.
0940	YOKI 2	PH	arrived at ZETA at 0700 & ZETA will leave at 0730
1000	P6	VOYA	Progress report on patrol 0 West 400 X North West across the rd now moving South on West side of rd. Well defined pad appears on west edge of rd. They are keeping clear of this
1005	P4	YOKI 2	arrived at YOKI at 0950, 1000 hrs C coy will pull out.
1030	PH	YOKI 4	Patrol left at 0910
	P4	VOYA 7	When patrol came under fire was map ref approx YP 7
1030	P7	G2	P7 gave resume of situation. Maj WALKER will be reporting to Bde HQ this PM for posting as coy cond to a militia unit.
1030	P4	YOKI	closing HQ present location. Riley remaining there.
1135	YOKI 2	YOKI 7A	YOKI C moving out in batches of 4 - snipers active - YOKI 7A established at present HQ.
1150	P	VOYA	Patrol says enemy pos on west rd definitely a defensive pos and can pinpoint some pits. This patrol MACLEAN has now withdrawn 50 X and dug in. 3 men missing another patrol going out at 1200 hrs to investigate area on east side of rd near these pits.
1310	PH	VOYA 7	Enquiry movements of DUDA by rad — moved by rad with Lieut SCARLETT to HUGGINS at 1430
1345	P4	NANI 3	" " situation & intentions.
1425	P4	YOKI 7A	RILEY HQ will be out of comm for 20 mins while pos is moved back during mortar shoot
1455	P4	JASO switch	Report from US CP states line to DAVIS is now in commission for 1400 hrs
1700	P7	P6	YOKI about to move out
1722	P4	YOKI 4	B Coy moving out from 40X north of Bde to SL

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Date	Time	To	From	TEXT.	Action Taken
27 Dec	1720	P 6	YOKI	C Coy with exception 5 men refuse to move fwd. advised P 7 at NANI 6 of above stop cancelled tonight.	
	1730			Capt WALKER reported in on way to duty with 49 Bn.	
	1736	HANSEN	P 6	Nothing doing tonight	
	1740	P 6	VOYA 6	Situation Seems in bad poor. Appears better when it comes up again Perhaps NOT then	
	1830	~~P 4~~ VOYA 4	P 4	To hold YOKI B in perimeter until further notice.	
	1920	P 4	ZUGO 4	Report that mortar OP poss attacked by enemy patrol. Mortar observer killed — 2 OR's withdrew to HILLEN poss — assy not full report	
	2030	P 4	ZUGO 4	Report from HILLEN that 1 man remained in mortar OP when attacked by Japs and shot & Japs with BREN and a possible third — phone was retrieved	
		~~all units~~ P 4			
"	—	P	YOKI 1	YOKI C moved out to KESSELS to take over posn held by YOKI A at 0830 and arrived KESSELS 0930. Intentions YOKI A+B to attack from south KESSELS Bn N.W across KESSEL's front. Objective S.E Rido S AMERICA	
	2030	all units	P 4	Warning that flare would be sent up from HUGGINS at 2230 hrs	2 flares seen, 1 at 2230 and one at 2245
28 Dec	0715	P 4	VOYA 4	PIXLEY Pos taken over from DOUGLAS (YOKI) DOUGLAS B+A now moving thru rear of KESSELS	
	1018	P 4	RILEY	YIKO posn with R flank in a/cl at 300X EAST RILEY HQ holding gap to L flank. BOEREM is moving up to join RILEY line	
	1035	P	YOKI	ZERO. now at 1130. (Zero eventually postponed to 1200)	all informed
	1150			Mortars opened up.	
	1157			Arty opened	
	1215	P	YOKI	Sigs report YOKI 7 proceeding according to plan — no appreciation as yet	
	1235	P 4	RILEY	16 OR's + 3 OR's wounded as result of arty fire	
	1230	P	YOKI 7	Adv 150 - 200 yds. YOKI B held up by MG's on flanks endeavouring to outflank. C Co news A Coy shoot fire cease now	
	1250	P 6	VOYA 7	P 7 has left VOYA for PHQ. Latest info re YOKI is that B Coy adv 200 X held up by MG fire and endeavouring to outflank. A Coy expected to contact left flank VOYA shortly	
	1410	VOYA	PORTER.	Cease fire 2 hrs — shells reported falling in YOKI D area. Lt McLEOD coming in to ~~release~~ liaising with LOVELL	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

MESSAGE LOG

SERIAL	DATE	TIME	IN	OUT	FROM OR TO	TEXT	ACTION TAKEN
1	4	1400	✓		7 AUST DIV ← NO.	Re Air S.C. - calls for ✓	See Serial 2
2		1500		✓	49 BN 55/53 BN	Procedure for Air Support (Posts in office)	—
3	5	1430	✓		7 Div	Arrivals at landing strip this morning	—
4	6	1900		✓	Rear HQ	Report to Adv HQ	—
5		1840		✓	7 Div	Stand by to 1800 hrs	—
6	7	0705		✓	7 Div (2)	" " " 0700	
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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

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DATE	TIME	FROM	TO	
29	0730	~~VOYA~~	~~VP4~~	~~patrol 15 + 10 ors. left old 0730 area security Capetown.~~ ~~Time in 1100 hrs.~~ YOKI, C. under comd KESSELS as from 1900 hrs. 28 Dec 42.
29	0830	ZUGO	P4	Enquiry re/. YOKI A reporting into ZUGO area Coy reported approx 0700 hrs.
29	0950	ZUGO	P4	Patrol has just left, in direction Army Bn
29	~~1010~~	~~ZUGO~~	~~P4~~	~~Patrol moving out [illegible] three feet area (1450 patrol)~~
"	1030	YOKI 4.	YOKI 2.	" front area of Bn HQ. " at 1030 time in 1100 ~~along west edge of timber about 200x and standing patrol at edge of tongue of timber running NE 10 offrs +60 Rs.~~
"	1100	YOKI 2.	VOYA 4.	VOYA informed of YOKI's 1030 patrol — Instructed VOYA 4 to contact YOKI 4 re all patrols.
	1130	~~VOYA 4~~	~~P4~~	~~Patrol that patrol from RAU was moving SOUTH through to BRAZIL (usual area patrol)~~
	1135	~~Simpson~~	~~P4~~	~~Requesting area to be sent back to M.D.S.~~
	1230	~~VOYA~~	~~P4~~	~~Patrol out 10 ors Just reported back.~~
	1320	VOYA	P4	Patrol from ~~RAU~~ (SOUTH) 1300 and 1400 in. " " " (SE) 1315 and 1415 in " " " (NE) 1330 and 1500 in Patrol out 1030 move towards in East 100 yds to do heavy timber 50 yds advanced west 200 yds here tree appear smashed by mortar + Artry fire 300 yds from Pk came on small pad where Kiaff stood near big tree this seemed to be an old block house
	1340			
	1510	VOYA	P4	~~1505~~ - 1506 - S. - 1640
	1630	YOKI 4.	P4	B Coy patrol out 1630 in 1730 - Object to pinpoint MMG on left flank. Probable route from Kiaffs tree & 100x on 300° 30x 280° & 20x - 180x return same route. Object obtained the route from snipers tree 300° 1050 yds to point A from A 180° 40 yds to B From B 200° 15 yds to C which end of patrol at point A fired on by LMG 360° from tree from A heard talking 326 35 yds from B heard chopping + digging 307° 50 yds from C same sound as B. now seems closer

(日本標準規格 B—4)

(昭和十三・十・東京・共同印刷株式会社製)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

PHONE & VERBAL (25).

DATE	TIME	TO	FROM	TEXT	ACTION TAKEN
28 Dec				Report on YOKI ~~first~~ attack. attack advanced 200 yds but was forced to halt owing to MG fire on both flanks On account of failure to push fwd to objective following reorganization took place YOKI A to relieve YOKI D on R of Rd YOKI D to return to LOVELL (did NOT move on account of late hour) YOKI B to remain with perimeter defence with I Coy	
				10 reinf offrs arrived 5 posted to KESSELS 5 posted to LOVELL Bde Comd to remain at ADS under observation for fever. Lt Col KESSELS to administer comd during his absence.	
28 Dec	1900			Padre COX wounded - died of wounds 2230 hrs YOKI C under comd KESSELS	
29 Dec	0230			Stand to by Bde HQ and all units due to presence Jap raiding party — 1 gun damaged ~~at~~ Jap casualties 1 killed 1 wounded	
	0240	P4	92	Patrol of 1 Offr 20 ORs moved SOUTH to contact HANSON but arrived too late - will stay for protection of HANSONS from	
	0700			YOKI D moved into LOVELL'S area at 0700 hrs	
	0950	P4		Patrol of 1 Offr (Lieut MORAY) and 8 ORs moved out in endeavour to intercept Jap raiding party.	
	1320	P6	RILEY	Show off Ops will NOT go fwd O RILEY ordered to contact BOEREM and address him personally of situation	
	1329	P7	BOEREM	BOEREM states he will go on with his part of the show	
	1740			Ambush party returned Jap track SW/ HILLEN and moved to ambush area as probable	
	2230		ZV90	Sounds of truck heard EAST of this pos on rd - also sounds of hammering dropped.	Not reported till next day. Bn requested
				WIRES between HILLEN & HILLEAND cut during night.	
30 Dec	0830	JASO	DOUGLAS	Own arty & mortar fire during afternoon fell close to our Ops on rd @ Lone fell within 50 yds our Ops	Reported matter to FOO and mortar offr

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Phone & Verbal (26)

DATE	TIME	TO	FROM	TEXT	ACTION TAKEN
30 Dec	0900	JASO	NANI 6	Escort for NANI 7 (at least 20 men) required at 1030 hrs	Reported for action to JASO 6
"	0930	P4	ZUGO	Report from McINTYRE that at 2230 a truck was heard direction EAST from McINTYRE and noises of boxes being dropped faintly heard. dpo lights seen & Heard ⊙ Also heard previous night ⊙ Maj HILLEN.	
"	~~0950~~ 1100	P7	NANI 6	Suggested arty be put down on Jap mortars at present shooting	
"	1330	H7	P6	C Coy 36 Bn will be relieved and come into JASO area ⊙ 6 reple SHAW to replace C Coy.	
"	1330	I 7	P6	Informed ISAACSON re C Coy and suggested 36 Bn HQ come in and comd C and D Coys revert to 36 Bn	
"	1350	P7	BOEREM	Mortars bringing out Japs and his boys picking them off	
"	1350	P4	ZUGO 4	Reports hearing Jap mortar on bearing 290 deg mag from present pos	
"	1435	P4	YOKI 4	Closing now at 1430 ⊙ Expect to reopen at area 40[x] N of 30 Bde HQ at about 1530 Bn runner remaining at B Coy until BN HQ reopens.	
"	1517	YOKI 2	YOKI 7	Bn HQ opened 1515 at area 40[x] N of 30 Bde HQ	
"	1820	P4	YOYA 4	YOKI C Coy passed from comd YOYA at 1500 hrs.	
"	1828	P4	YOKI 4	Liaison to 1800 hrs ⊙ Active patrolling maintained by ZETA(B) ⊙ YOKI HQ HQ Coy & C Coy returned to fwd vicinity 30 Bde at 1530 hrs ⊙	
31 Dec	0030	JASO	ZUGO	HILLEN standing patrol nil from 0005 hrs/31	
"	0100	"	YOKI 6	ENEMY grenade attack on DAVIS of BOERAM ⊙ Re query for reinforcements to this area No damage or casualties	Reported JASO 6 - advised not reinforcements possible.

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Phone & Verbal (27)

Date	Time	To	From	Text	Action Taken
31 Dec	1206	JASO	YOKI	C Coy 36 Bn completed relief HILLEN	
	1300	"	"	YOKI HQ opened at 177246 at 1030 hrs	
	1545	YOYA	P6	Q Is your front clear of patrols A Yes ⊙ any target / unsuspected mortar pos located by us and B Coy YOKI	
	1600	YOKIB	P6	OK for shoot ? Yes	
	1605	ARTY	P6	OK to go ahead with shoot on target located by YOKI B	
	1810	P6	Sigs	Report Japs wounded RILEYS pos. 6 casualties 5 wounded Stretcher parties needed immediately ⊙	
	1815	YOKI	P6	Informed re RILEY and instructed to send stretcher parties	
	1817	BOEREM	P6	Informed re RILEY ⊙ Going fwd to investigate	
	1830	P6	YOKI	RILEY has been killed ⊙ Further details later	
	1850	P6	YOKI 6	YOKI 6 suggests that fire which caused casualties in RILEY's area may have been mortar ; reason for assumption : concussion of mortar rounds taken with advice of casualties. Also at time of happening a small ~~plot~~ group who gathered in one spot attending to the O R who had just fainted. Cause of effect : burst in trees above them	
	1920	JASO	YOKI	SITREP ⊙ Patrolling carried by B Coy ⊙ C Coy relieved C Coy 5 5 Bn 030 Bn adv now at 177246 ⊙ Pl patrolling leaving vicinity for Bty.	
	1915		McCANNA 36 BN RILEY	Slight plop heard from N direction before incident ⊙ Followed by explosion and flash of blue smoke ⊖ 18 ft in air probably from projectile striking tree resulting 2 killed and approx 8 wounded ⊙ The Pl who gathered in the O R were [illegible]	

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Pioneer Corps (28)

Date	Time	To	From	Text	Action Taken

MESSAGE REGISTER. 18

IN	OUT	DATE	NO		TIME
			01837 Cont	Jap casualties 10 killed mch 10 offr. 1 Jap LMG captured. 30 Bde. Slight progress made on left flank PM today. Indications for 13 Dec 39Bn continues offensive action in present area. Landing craft. Coastwise 01834. Weather fine and overcast.	
✓	—	12 Dec	N04	From NUGO. Situp as at 1830. HERWIG. 2 Jap sniped during ~~night~~ day. Some activity since mortar shoot about 60 yds fwd our fwd posns. Mortars very close to our fwd posns asked for. Two rises 25 yds each and heard Jap moans on second raise. HUTCHISON. Movements observed one occ near. Now standing to	1856
✓	—	~~12 Dec~~	I841	From NANI. Marked Jap map dated 20th Dec captured by 21 Bde GONA area indicates Jap forces holding SOPUTA-SANANANDA then numbered 1700. Copies of sketch will be posted when received.	1905
✓	✓	12 Dec	I24	To NANI x/ptd VIVA NILA ABOG. Situp to 1900/12. Attempt to contact HIGGINS and block saw with supplies frustrated by enemy action. Patrol will endeavour make contact with HIGGINS rd. Night fwd coy STEVENSON morn 13 Dec if successful supply train will follow in pm. Slight progress made on right flank KESSEL and left flank HOVELL with extremes of flanks on right and left of rd pinching up towards the rd. Patrol activity during day located new enemy posn mortar shoot followed and probably successful in one locality as moaning heard. Five small enemy mortar bombs fell in near fwd sqns. KESSEL otherwise little enemy activity.	1930.
✓	—	12 Dec	01838	From TAUSTDIV Code name allotted 2/4 Dust Ind Coy BURA x/ptd BURA	2125
✓	—	13 Dec	01841	From TAUST D N. NG. Fadvise the following air support arranged for 13 Dec 0 Target one enemy concentration and defence posn at village 188304 0 TOT 0 1000 hrs 0 Target two 0 Enemy concentrations and three m/m guns along coastal track from 178312 to 184312 0 TOT 0 1000 hrs 0 Ref map GONA locality revised 4 inches to 1 mile.	

See back.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

(19). MESSAGE REGISTER.

IN	OUT	DATE	NO.	CONTEXT	T.O.O.
✓	—	13Dec	I65	From NUGD. HERWIG reports chopping and digging on front during night. O having to dispose LOVELL's Sps unbeknown mortar. NO report HUTCHISON	0800
✓	—	13Dec	I7	~~Ltr~~ From VOYA. Ltrep to 0700. enemy NMS RALU in posn in the approx 35 yds fwd of original posn	0730
✓	-	13Dec	I2	From ZUGD. Ltrep 0800 hrs. COOTE O Right flank advanced 35 yds to centre 25 yds O encountered snipers our casualties one killed two wounded O/SPRING O TRAVIS WHITE continuing advance on enemy post O GILLEHAND No change O Stand down rpt all clear	0800
✓	—	13Dec	1843	FROM 9 AUST DIV - Ltrep to 0800 hrs. SOPUTA - SANANANDA Area. Attempt to contact road block posn with sup from west side track frustrated by enemy action. Attempt being made today from eastern side. Otherwise no change O Landing Ships O POPONDETTA. 143 suitable for landing two planes landed to 0800 hrs. SOPUTA and POPONDETTA 2 NOT serviceable. Weather fine and clear.	0815.
—	✓	13Dec	I25	Ltrep to 0800 L. Envelopping movement ~~to~~ by two pls LOVELL from left flank continuing no enemy opposition met. Digging Stand from left fwd coy STEVENSON during night. Nil enemy activity.	0825
✓	—	13Dec	1407	From NUGO. Ltrep from HUTCHISON for night 12/13. 6 dd shots during night. 1715 hrs 2 Japs observed leaving old Jap camp EAST of posn carrying load which was dropped when on patrol & fired at. Box contained detonators which are being funded thro HQ. Patrol left 0900 hrs	
✓	—	13Dec	I76	From ABOG. Ltrep to 1200/L.	1330

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IN	OUT	DATE	NO	CONTEXT	T.O.O.
✓	—	13Dec	I75	Situp Hq 0800/L - 21 Bde	0845
✓	—	"	0846	Situp Hq 1400/L No change - DIV.	1425
✓	—	13Dec	I84	FROM 7AUSTDIV - 32US DIV 12Dec. NEW STRIP AREA. Line of fwd Pls from pnr on coast 850 yds South CAPE ENDAIADERE west to new strip thence along north edge strip to pnt south of br. BUNA VILLAGE area along west bank ENTRANCE CK and SOPUTA track from 264265 to 260253 ref map BUNA locality H in	
✓	—	13Dec	I3	From ZUGO - Situp 1800 hrs. COOTE left flank advanced 20 yds in process of digging in meeting fire from snipers were able to throw grenades results unobserved ⊙ SPRING ⊙ showing out of from to mortar fire will take up same position after BROWN attacks ⊙ GILLELAND ⊙ No change ⊙ Odd snipers during day.	1425
	—	13Dec	1846	FROM NANI - Situp Hq 1400 hrs no change.	
	—	13Dec	408.	FROM NUGO - Situp as at 1800. HERWIG little enemy activity during day one Jap sniped. HUTCHINSON little activity one Jap killed ⊙ RUNDLES Patrol returned 1715 hrs ⊙ American not yet returned ⊙ Ops to-day landing approx 30 yds north HUTCHISON pnr	1806
✓	—	13Dec	1850	FROM 7AUSTDIV - Situp Hq 1800 hrs. ⊙ 21 Bde ⊙ Slight progress made by 39Bn AMBOGA Area. ⊙ Have now met Jap in pnr and increased strength HMG and LMG fire. Jap in caves thick jungle and swamp ⊙ 30 Bde ⊙ Active patrolling throughout day ⊙ Intention 14 Dec ⊙ 30 Bde ⊙ Adjustment fwd defences to consolidate. Pls Ops under cont. except Pls occupying road block pnr. ⊙ 21 Bde ⊙ Active offensive action against Jap pnrs.	1830
✓	—	13Dec	I9	FROM VOYA - Ref map LOCAL GRID Situp Hq 1830 hrs. Enemy sniping and mortar activity during day our line unchanged both patrol activity to determine enemy strongpoints ref RAU going into pnr approx 300 yds NE our L flank 155160 ⊙ few casualties	
✓	—	13Dec	I851	FROM NANI - TAC/R 13 Dec ⊙ SANANDA PT 18 barges 3 considered serviceable ⊙ Could NOT locate dump near beach WEST SANANANDA RD but saw track leading to suspected pnr NAMS SOPUTA - SANANANDA rd.	1837
		13Dec	I78	FROM ABOG - Situp Hq 18[illegible]0/L	1853

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

			~~FILE~~ ORIG DATE NO		
—		13 Dec	I26	TO NANI / ~~APKA~~ VINA NILA ABOG – Lthp No 1800/L. Patrol endeavoured to contact HUGGINS via R flank ○ unsuccessful but reached pt on SOPUTA SANANDA 300 x south of HUGGINS at 184259 no signs of use of rd by MT four separate Jap Signal lines running along rd did NOT cut ○ Light enemy operations from posts close to rd Some Japs in huts on rd & trenches vicinity 184259. US patrol left 1500 hrs task contacting HUGGINS via R flank NOT yet returned ○ Patrol from HESSEL moving west down rd from KESSEL R flank located enemy reinforced LMG posts at 183254 ○ 6 dd sniping during day and slight progress made R flank ○ Pl attack on located enemy post on left of rd commenced ~~1600~~ 1900/L ○ Rpt GONA (Revised) 1 inch to 1 mile.	1910
✓	—	13 Dec	7852	FROM NANI – Lthp. WIRRAWAYS dive bombed stone houses near SANANDA PT 13 Dec direct hits demolished most of them ○ 37 DW ○ Part 127 Regt relieved part 126 Regt. BUNA village and patrol activity offshore no change	1915
✓	—	13 Dec	I87	FROM NANI – Latest sighting Jap 80 mls E.N.E. MADANG ○ ETA BUNA if coming 0430 – 0530 L/14	
✓	—	13 Dec	01859	FROM NANI – Five Jap destroyers last sighted 0200/L 7 at 07 degrees 10 minutes south 148 degrees 00 minutes Last course 180 degrees ○ strike force engaging ○ NGF Ds states unsafe for 21 Bde to any out Jap barges GONA area as 5 AF operating Thatcher	
✓	—	14	409	FROM NUGO – Lthp as at 0700/L · HERWIG all quiet during night ○ Fwd for report acrid flare SW psn 0220 hrs ○ HOTCHISON quiet night ○ 1 Jap stmpd yesterday afternoon ○ activity last night considered at enemy psn ○ by HOTCHISON	07
✓	—	14	01260	FROM NANI – Lthp to 0800 – 21 Bde ○ Quiet night ○ Bombing and strafing kind to NW from 0605 hrs and AA observed 0620 hrs ○ 30 Bde ○ One PW captured on left flank ○ 16 Bde ○ Patrols moving am 14 Dec with local natives to investigate reported movements of odd Japs AMBOGA CROSSING area ○ Landing ships ○ SOPUTA OS ○ POPONDETTA main OK for landing ○ POPONDETTA 3 suitable for landing at rate 2 planes per hr. ○ Weather ○ flights ~~yes~~ ○ Overcast	D
✓	—	14	I81	FROM ABOG – Lthp No 0800/L	0840
✓	—	14	I4	FROM ZUGO – Lthp 0800 hrs ○ COOTE ○ During advance east night small patrol Lt 60 Rs grenaded enemy pit enemy threw grenades back causing 4 wounded ○ PM captured this morning 0540 ○ GILLELAND ○ Reports o/i plane circled overhead 0130 hrs flying in from NE and continuing in same direction ○ SPRING ○ Quiet night ○ Stand down rpts all clear	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

(22) MESSAGE REGISTER

IN	OUT	DATE	NO	Contents	Action Taken
✓	—	13 Dec	I 10	Sitrep to 1800 hrs from ~~NANI~~ VOYA - Slight enemy activity GILLESPIE force withdrawn to rest in area 10 yds rear of JASO line thinned out to two pl area.	
✓	—	13 Dec	I 842	From NANI - ref I 841 attached are copies of map for information	
✓	—	13 Dec	0 1852	FROM 7 AUST DIV - 2/3 bn under comd may be used for ops as necessary and as seen fit by comd 30 Bde.	
✓	—	14 Dec	01859	FROM NANI - five Jap destroyers last sighted 0200 Lat 0 7 degrees 10 minutes south 148 degrees 00 minutes East course 180 degrees 0 Strike force engaging ONGF states unsafe for 21 Bde - See previous ref.	
✓	—	14 Dec	I 857	FROM NANI - US Hqs captured BUNA village 1000 hrs 14 Dec.	
✓	—	14 Dec	I 82	FROM 21 Bde - Sitrep to 1200/L	
✓	—	14 Dec	01862	FROM NANI - A/C in flight reports landing forces 5 destroyers at MAMBARE mouth 0615/14. 12 barges 4 ship boats on and near shore 0 / 2 barges vicinity KUMUSI mouth possibly from destroyer 0 Strike force operating.	
✓	—	14 Dec	01864	Sitrep to 1400 hrs - No change. FROM DIV	
✓	—	14 Dec	409	FROM NUGO - Sitrep as at 1800. HERWIG quiet day 0 HUTCHISON quiet day 0 HOBDINOTTS patrol returned 1220 hrs	
✓	✓	14 Dec	I 28	TO NANI fm 2/4 VIVA NILA ABOG - Sitrep to 1800/L 0 Fwd Block form 0 Tac/R reports today form of HUGGINS 190268 previous references given considered faulty 0 Patrol moving via A flank this area failed to contact but enemy foxholes seen near JAP gardens 193264 (detailed patrol report being fwd to NANI) 0 Supply train delivered goods to HUTCHINS and returned bringing in RABAUL boys in different condition from CANNON Coy Area. CANNON Coy & K Coy 26 US Regt withdrawn this PNG area form NOT replaced by other Sps 0 Third Coy KESSEL returned from form ah 185251 & now in rear form 0 Fourth 0 Desultory fire from enemy during day 0 Nothing further to report 0 Ref GONA 4 inches to 1 mile	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

(23) MESSAGE REGISTER

IN	OUT	DATE	NO.	Contents	Action Taken
✓	—	14 Dec	I83	FROM ABOG - Situ Sitrep to 1800/L	
✓	—	14 Dec	01867	" NANI - Situ to 1800/L O 21 Bde O 2/14 Bn advanced WEST today to contact 39 Bn O No contact with Japs O Slight progress made by 39 Bn O 30 Bde O with Japs Ration party sent out 0800/L got through to block and returned 1530 hrs. Loc track and block identified by TAC/R 190268 ref map GONA LOCALITY REVISED Hon O Ops now activity only.	
✓	—	14 Dec.	—	FROM RAMROD - Ack by Capt ALONE ALO.	
✓	—	14 Dec	I860	FROM NANI - 32 Div O Indications enemy operated on radio frequency used by our fighter cover attempting give false direction to clear to ATK a/c Patrol to Inland DOBODURA O HQ 32 DIV now located WARISOTA. TAC/R 093OL/14 2 barges seen near village EGASUSU north AMBOGO River both appeared serviceable. SANANDA O 20 barges of which 5 appeared serviceable.	
✓	—	15 Dec	I-11	FROM VOYA - Situ to 0700. Situn. All pls in posn as from 2000 hrs 14 Dec	
✓	—	15 Dec	410	FROM NUGO - Situ as at 0700 O HERWIG nothing to report O HUTCHINSON reports mtr gun fired 5 rds 0650 hrs shells appeared to land 400 yds SOUTH of posn O Nothing during night to report.	
✓	—	15 Dec	I5	FROM ZOGO - Situ 0800 hrs O During ART shelling at 2140 hrs right flank reported squealing and moaning otherwise quiet night O SPRING O Quiet night O Stand down report all clear	
✓	—	15 Dec	01869	FROM NANI - Situ to 0800 hrs O 21 Bde O no change O Sounds of barge and launch activity west and mangrove IS from 2240L/14 to 0045 L/15 O arty fired towards MANGROVE IS 0030L/15 after which sounds activity ceased O 30 Bde O Quiet night no change O Rd block ration party captured 19 RABAUL natives afternoon 14 Dec	
✗	OUT ✓	15 Dec	I29	Situ to 0800 L O Rd GONA reversed — TONANI / pld VIVA NILA ABOG O Harassing fire and SOPUTA. SANANDA from 182253 to 184260 by own arty O Arty concentrations during night of area 182251 and 180252. Japs reported squealing after shoot on 182251 O Enemy mtr gun fired 5 rds 0650 hrs shells appeared to land approx 183253 O Nothing further to report.	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

(24) MESSAGE REGISTER

IN	OUT	DATE	NO	Condensed.	Action Taken
~~✓~~	✓	15 Dec	013	TO NUGO, BOEREM, Sigs Lt FINDLAY – NUGO will provide protective patrol to conduct FOO to sigs to HUGGINS O patrol will return with FOO on completion arty shoot. O JASO sigs will provide one 208 set and two operators who will remain HUGGINS pos sig offrs will arrange for comm at specified times throughout each day O BOEREM will provide 4 personnel to act as guides and carry 208 set. O all personnel other than patrol will RV JASO at 1045 L/15 and move under comd of Lieut FINDLAY to HURWIG from where protective patrol will be contacted.	
✓	—	15 Dec	I84	FROM 21 Bde – Situ rep to 0800/L.	
✓	—	15 Dec	I85	" 21 Bde – Situ rep do 1200/L.	
✓	—	15 Dec	–	FROM BOEREM – About 1100 hrs 14 Dec 42 19 Natives came into Company T/area on the ~~same track~~ SW trail (ration trail). They passed our machine gun and started down the main trail to the North. We stopped them took them to the aid station and put them under guard. Some of them ask for food. We kept them overnight. When the native team came in they were sent back. (signed) Lt Herman Davis. C.O. I 126th Inf. I questioned two of the above natives and results follow:- Japs have no rice – cooking up grass and leaves to eat. If the natives come in with native rowboats or fuel it is taken from them. When the natives came from RABAUL there were two (2) ship loads of natives and five (5) ship loads of Japs. The Japs had or have (unable to determine which) six (6) field guns. They have an interpreter. Could not very much. Rations and ammunition dump empty. No ships have landed with reinforcements or supplies (signed) Richard D Boerem Coy 126th Inf	
—	✓	15 Dec.	013	TO NUGO, BOEREM, Sigs Lt FINDLAY – NUGO will provide protective patrol to conduct FOO Sigs to HUGGINS O FOO will return with patrol on completion arty shoot. JASO sigs will provide one 208 set and two operators who will remain HUGGINS pos sig offrs will arrange for comm at specified times throughout each day. BOEREM will provide 4 personnel to act as guides and carry 208 set. O all personnel other than patrol will RV JASO at 1045 L/15 and move under comd of Lieut FINDLAY to HURWIG from where protective patrol will be contacted.	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

(25) MESSAGE REGISTER

IN	OUT	DATE	CONTEXT NO.	Context	A	Action Taken
✓	—	15 Dec	I 84	FROM ABOG - Sitrep 150800/L		
✓	—	15 Dec	I 86	FROM NANI - TAC/R 15 Dec O SANANANDA O 22 barges 5 appeared serviceable O MANGROVES ONMS O Refmap BUNA mosaic AA 181292 two ships O boats O two barges anchored 200 yds off shore midway between KUMUSI and AMBOGA rivers O AA 084377 one barge drawn up on sand appeared serviceable O AA 205246 two small tents O ground ships placed on ground for pilot flew over.		
✓	—	15 Dec	I 85	FROM ABOG - Sitrep to 0700/L.		
✓	—	15 Dec	01873	FROM NANI - Sitrep to 1400 hrs O 21 Bde O Kochange O 30 Bde O Gun only harassing fire apparently effective judging by Jap squeals O Jap mountain gun fired five rounds without effect O Otherwise no change.		
✓	—	15 Dec	—	FROM ZUGO - Sitrep 1800 hrs O COOTE occasional isolated bursts fired from automatic weapons during afternoon O GILLELAND no activity in fwd area O SPRING O Nil report O Brown patrol out 0830 returned 1800 five men missing O Two women now returned		
✓	—	15 Dec	I 864	FROM NANI - Summary results attack on enemy landing MAMBARE 14 Dec O confirmation air attacks 0600 to 1530 hrs O Total 64 sorties 53 500 lb 54 x 100 lb and 1173 x 20 lb bombs dropped O 100000 rounds cannon and MG fired O approx bag 19 barges 25 small boats 15 rafts one launch one hut rendered US O all visible stores on beach stacked or burnt O Enemy reported on narrow strip coast with widely flooded country inland O attacks being continued O approx results strikes destroyers four ZEKES seven near misses including two possible hits destroyers		
✓	—	15 Dec	411	FROM NUGO - Sitrep as at 1800 O HERWIG nothing to report O protective patrol NOT yet returned O HUTCHISON Jap seen carrying timber on ground American bi mm motor used unable observe results by Jap replied with LMG O EDMANSON patrol returned 1645 O arty smoke shells burst NNW of post approx 100 yds O Two Jap corpses in past 24 hrs.		

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

26 MESSAGE REGISTER

IN	OUT	DATE	NO.	Condensed.	Action Taken
✓	—	15 Dec	I85	FROM ABOG – Sitrep No 1800/L.	
✓	—	"	01876	FROM NANI – Sitrep No 1800/L ○ 21 Bde ○ 2/14 Bn has gained 3 9 Bn AMBOGA River area after overcoming slight opposition & its hoped this junction has succeeded in cutting portion Jap force ○ 30 Bde OF OO has been attacked & road block for withdrawal on target at noon ○ Its progress ○ Main body 2/7 Aust Cav Regt now under comd 7 Aust Div have captured SOPUTA area ○ Portion 36 Bn deplaned POPONDETTA today ○ Intention 16 Dec ○ Offensive action to be continued AMBOGA River area ○ Offensive patrols recce and harassing fire SANANANDA SOPUTA area ○ Landing strip passed our ○ 1869 ○ Weather fine and clear.	
✓	OUT ✓	15 Dec	I29	TO NANI/Add VIVA NILA ABOG – Sitrep No 1900 L ○ F OO arrived 4 VOGIN & span and registered targets ○ Patrol activity on Rt and left flank ○ Patrol on Rt flank ext deavoured contact HUGGINS struck Jap posns SE HUGGINS but saw arty smoke shells bursting close by registration HUGGINS ○ Slight enemy activity ○ Several Jap snipers accounted for ○	
✓	—	16 Dec	412	FROM NUGO – Sitrep as at 0730 ○ HERWIG quiet night but some movement observed during arty shoot ○ HUTCHISON quiet night – arty shoot very accurate ○ Jap sniped during stand to	
✓	—	16 Dec	I –	FROM ZUGO – Sitrep 0800 hrs ○ Relief of COOTE by SPRING BROWN completed by 2115 hrs ○ Quiet night all corps ○ Stand down report all clear	
—	✓	16 Dec	I30	TO NANI/Add VIVA NILA ABOG – Sitrep to 0800/L ○ One off one OR KESSELS missing since attack – Dec returned last night ○ Weak condition on interrogation Incidental NOTYS possible but reported hundreds of Japs vicinity and SOPUTA SANANANDA area fundamposns ○ Reports accepted with reserve as often suspected suffering stock ○ More details later ○ Harassing fire by own arty during night nil enemy activity.	
✓	—	16 Dec	01879	FROM NANI – Sitrep to 0800 hrs ○ 21 Bde ○ Patrol 2/6 Aust Cav reports strongly occupied Jap posn NW mouth AMBOGA River ○ 30 Bde slight enemy activity reported PM 15 Dec ○ Several Jap snipers accounted for ○ general ○ All heavy equip and stores GONA area have been cleared & dest layed ○ Landing strip ○ POPONDETTA strip OK for landing ○ SOPUTA unserviceable ○ Weather ○ Light rain	

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(27) MESSAGE REGISTER.

IN	OUT	DATE	NO.	Context	Action Taken
✓	–	16 Dec.	01881	FROM NANI - following air mission arranged O TOT 1100 L/16 O Target one O store house and enemy staging area MANGROVE IS from 166322 to 167323 O Target two O enemy landing area store houses and O along sandspit from 168312 to 177314.	
–	✓	16 Dec	014.	TO HUGGINS - for FINDLAY O Bond allotted use today further registrations and concentration suitable targets O Report full details pts registered O What is liner range to HUGGINS O Send sketch with ltr returning today of fall of shot re liaison HUGGINS.	
✓	–	16 Dec	I 86	FROM ABOG - Situ rep 1200/L.	
✓	–	16 Dec	01886	FROM NANI - Situ rep to 1400 hrs O Nothing to report O landing ships O POPONDETTA NO. 3 remainder on basis 2 planes per hr O All other ships unserviceable O Weather fine and overcast.	
✓	–	16 Dec	I 7	FROM ZUGO - Situ rep 1800 hrs O COOTE reports from patrol one Jap killed at mine que O GILLELAND O Enemy movement on left flank believed to be carrying logs O Our pts fired killing one O Five possible casualties strong post under construction O SPRING O Enemy activity on right flank O Lot of activity on VOYA front.	
✓	–	16 Dec	I 12	FROM VOYA - Situ rep to 1800 hrs O Nothing	
✓	–	16 Dec	413	FROM NUGO - Situ rep as at 1830 HERWIG nothing to report O HUTCHISON Japs carting timber on road stopped when 61 mm mortar brought to bear O 2 Japs sniped during day.	
~~✓~~	Sent	16 Dec	I 32	~~FROM~~ TO HUGGINS - Air photo your front reveals number of tents and T shaped roofed establish your front are tents and T shaped roofs query	
–	✓	16 Dec	I 31	TO NANI ABOG VIYA NILA - Situ rep to 1900/L O Ref map GOOD LOCALITY in trenches O Adv party KANO successfully reached HUGGINS and now in comm by W/T O One US casualty only sustained O Zugo O patrol activity on right and left flanks achieved objective saw movement but drew little fire and returned safely O Three O snakes 3 Jap engines accounted for by HUTCHISON O Japs seen carting timber WEST of Allied front O further activity tasks regarded as this front	
✓	–	17 Dec	I 13	FROM VOYA - Situ rep to 0700 O Situation.	
✓	–	17 Dec	414	FROM NUGO - Situ rep as at 0730 O HERWIG quiet night fire at 0700 answered by 1 LMG and odd rifle very little fire returned O HUTCHISON quiet night O 200 fire answered by 5 LMG ranging from WEST to NORTH some rifle fire from SOUTH O No casualties	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

(28) MESSAGE REGISTER.

IN	OUT	DATE	NO.	CONTEXT.	ACTION TAKEN.
✓	—	17Dec	I8	FROM ZUGO - Ltrep 0800hrs ⊙ COOTE ⊙ No change que & night ⊙ GILLELAND ⊙ No change que night & during 21" stat from left flank ⊙ SPRING ⊙ chopping & falling noted & TRAVIS about 400 x out at 0700 no fire drawn during demo ⊙ Stand down reported all clear	
—	✓	17Dec	I33	TO NANI ABOG VIVA/NILA - Ltrep to 0800hrs ⊙ Que night reported from all areas ⊙ Slight return fire from demonstration at 0700hrs ⊙ 1 LMG answered fire from HEX WIG and 5 LMG's on HUTCHINSON from WEST to NORTH WEST rifle fire from SOUTH ⊙ Further chopping on ZUGO front ⊙ advance party YOKI arrived 0815 hrs.	Ref NANI 0.1876 15 Dec.
✓	—	16Dec	I870	FROM NANI - TAC/R 1330/1430 4/16. KUMOS River ⊙ 2 barges 2 yds off shore 1 barge just inside river mouth 1½ huts around mouth of river ⊙ North AMBOGA River at 084365 ref map BUNA one inch rowing boat in backwater near beach 2 huts near by ⊙ SOPUTA SANANANDA ref map GONA 4 inch ⊙ Probable AA pos'n 185258 thought to be 75 m/m NMS approx 40 shells observed around gun ⊙ East of track approx 100 yds north AA pos'n weapon pits and two or more camouflaged tents ⊙ Ground ships observed at 184262, 182250, 179251	
✓	—	16Dec	I86	FROM ABOG - Ltrep to 1800/L	1825 hrs.
✓	—	16Dec	01892	FROM NANI - NGF advise following air support 17 Dec ⊙ targets ⊙ Storehouse and enemy staging area on MANGROVE I3/ from 166322 to 167323 ⊙ TOT 1100 hrs ⊙ targets two ⊙ landing areas storehouses and dispersal 168312 to 177314 ⊙ TOT 1100 hrs GONA locality reversed 4 inches to one mile.	
✓	—	16Dec	01890.	FROM NANI. Ltrep to 1800 L. 21 Bde. Slight progress made by 2/14 and 39 Bns in AMBOGA River area ⊙ pocket of Japanese surrounded ⊙ 6 enemy A/C now in area observe all villages showing signs of bombing ⊙ 39 Bn carrying out offensive ⊙ Unknown number enemy casualties inflicted today ⊙ 30 Bde ⊙ Patrol activity throughout day ⊙ Arty registration on targets continued ⊙ Adv party 2/7 Aust Bde Reg reached objective which now in W/T contact with 30 Bde ⊙ Attempt being made 17 Dec to establish line common main object being to ensure quick city support ⊙ Successful patrol carried out during day and valuable information obtained ⊙ Further recces to be carried out 17 Dec ⊙ Harassing fire and offensive patrols to continue - landing strip etc.	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

MESSAGE REGISTER

IN	OUT	DATE	TIME	NO	Contents
✓	—	17 Dec	0855	I 79	Siturep to 0800/L. — FROM 21 Bde.
✓	—	17 Dec	0815 0815	01894	FROM NANI. Siturep to 0800 L. 2/Bde. 0645 hrs 39 Bn at approx 133303 observed seaplane on bearing of 50 degrees O Seaplane seen to rise off water on horizon and fly east O at daylight party 20 Japs attempted infiltrate 39 Bn posn from west O 15 killed and one grenade discharger captured O 30 Bde no change.
✓	—	17 Dec	1025	I 872	FROM NANI - 32 Div to 1700L/16 O Slight advances against steady enemy opposition O Two MG posts now established on EAST BANK entrance CREEK AT 255273 and 258273 O Fierce counter attack DUROPA post repulsed with 20 Japs killed O 127 Regt assembly ANGO area HQ at ANGO ref map BUNA target map.
✓	—	17 Dec	1340	I 90	FROM ABOG - Siturep to 1200 hrs
✓	✓	17 Dec	1000	016	TO HUGGINS - Any damage mortar fire.
	—	16 Dec.	1840	I 7	FROM ZUGO. Siturep to 1800 hrs O COOTE reports from patrol one Jap killed otherwise quiet O GILLELAND O Enemy movement on left flank believed to be carrying logs Our dispositions fired killing the five possible casualties strong post under construction at SPRING O Enemy activity on RIGHT flank O Lot of activity on YOYA front.
✓	—	17 Dec.	0900	—	FROM FINLAY Our mortars bursting on HUGGINS and nine am must drop fire hundred yards for safety.
✓	—	"	0930	—	FROM OP - Spotters landing on HUGGINS.
✓	—	"	—	—	FROM HUGGINS - ship on road and shots ours.
✓	✓	"	1000	—	TO HUGGINS - Any damage mortar fire.
✓	—	"	1430	—	FROM NANI - Siturep to 1400 hrs O 21 Bde O Small pocket of enemy SOUTH of village at 133303 ref map BUNA one inch now cleared bush and 2/14 and 39 Bns closing in on Japs in village O Otherwise no change.
✓	—	16 Dec	1701	—	FROM NANI - explains fully message about air photos HUGGINS area
✓	—	17 Dec	1750	—	FROM YOKI - Siturep NO 1 to 1745 hrs O Composite Coy 36 Bn temporarily attached. 49 Bn dangerous commenced 0830 hrs O Composite coy claimed first Gap Sniper killed in afternoon O Forward elements of remaining coys reached Bn HQ from KOKONDETTA 1740 hrs.

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(30) Plane 4 — MESSAGE REGISTER

IN	OUT	DATE	TIME	NO.	CONTEXT.
✓	—	17 Dec	1805	H16	Sitrep as at 1800 HERWIG quiet day. 1 Jap amped O HUTCHISON NIL report. — FROM NUGO
✓	—	"	1815	I14	Sitrep to 1800 hrs. Situation. — FROM VOYA
✓	—	"	1820	I93	FROM ABOG - Sitrep to 1800 L.
✓	—	"	1900	—	FROM ZUGO - Sitrep to 1800 L. COOTE. Nil report. GILLELAND. Activity on left front. two enemy believed killed otherwise nil report. SPRING. Small amounts sniping 13 Pl front firing returned. Results unknown O otherwise all quiet.
—	✓	"	1915	I34	TO NANI rptd ABOG VIVA. Sitrep to 1800 hrs. Changeover between YOKI and VOYA commenced 0830 hrs O composite boy claimed first Japs this afternoon. Two elements remaining coys reached YOKI evening. front reported quiet and only minor recce patrols on both flanks. Mtr guns again in action - firing on east and west HUTCHISON. HUGGINS now in comm by line.
—	✓	"	1915	I35	TO YOKI. Congratulations on first Jap victim. Only another 99 for the century.
—	✓	"	1940	017	TO NUGO YOKI VOYA ZUGO A/TK LT BELL - YOKI will relieve VOYA ZUGO in two phases astride SOPUTA SANANDA commencing 0900 L/18 sub units concerned report to VOYA ZUGO at 0800 L/18 Units on relief will RV in area near JASO. 2 pdr guns will fire down rd from previous posn and concentrate from 0700 L/18 to 0800 L/18. Mortar shooting to 0800 L/18 on selected targets thereafter as arranged by JASO.
—	✓	18 Dec	0830	I36	TO NANI rptd ABOG VIVA - Sitrep to 0800 hrs. Quiet night reported on front O possible 3 enemy A/C circled area from 2200 to 2300 hrs O only report bomb dropped on bearing 262° well away from posn no damage O Bty Mtr gun operated for approx 1 hr firing E to W about 6 shells.
✓	—	18 Dec	0833	I93	FROM ABOG - Sitrep to 0800 L.
✓	—	17 Dec	1830	01898.	FROM NANI - Sitrep to 1800 hrs. 21 Bde. Enemy pressure in AMBOGO river area continues to close in on Japs pocket. One more strong post cleared during pm and further enemy casualties inflicted, incl 2 offrs O 1 LMG captured. Patrols will operate night 17/18 Dec. Otherwise no change O all enquired.
✓	—	18 Dec	0800	01902	FROM NANI - Sitrep to 0800. 21 Bde. 2300 L/17 2 barges canoes ashore vicinity AMBOGA RIVER. Approx 1 mile NW 39 Bn posn. 0155 L/18 one barge heard moving EAST. Remaining elements 2/14 Bn now under cond 39 Bn. HQ 2/14 Bn moving HQ 21 Bde. 30 Bde. Increased activity by Japs party approx 50 rds 75 mm fired during night. 36 Bn under cond 30 Bde moving into posn astride track fwd 30 Bde HQ have killed 1 fwd Jap. AIR OPS. Enemy bombers dropped bombs over wide area between 2130 2230 L/17 no damage reported.

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(31)

MESSAGE REGISTER

IN	OUT	DATE	TIME	NO	Contents
✓	—	18 Dec	0708	417	FROM NUGO – Situation at 0700. HERWIG nothing to report. HUTCHISON reports hearing movement on front at 2200 think it was small Jap patrol we threw grenade and Jap replied with 6 grenades few rifle shots were exchanged
✓	—	"	0800	—	FROM ZUGO – Situ 0800 hrs. COOTE GILLELAND. No change quiet night. SPRING. Enemy movement observed at 1900 hrs fire brought to bear with unobserved results. Two Jap planes circled around Hqrs HQ 2110 hrs explosion heard at 2135 hrs. Stand down all clear
✓	—	"	1210	I94	FROM ABOG – Situ to 1200/h
—	✓	"	1530	I37	TO ZUGO VOYA STEVENSON YOKI – HONNER FORCE has cleared enemy out of village. Now counting spoils and will count number of stiffs and amount of booty tonight. We will do same thing tomorrow night. NOTE. Removal of testicle prevents further production of same species.
✓	—	"	1035	I15.	FROM VOYA – relief completed as from 1030 hrs men bivouacking in area previously decided upon
—	✓	"	1730	—	# TOKANO – Have remainder KANO arrived yet?
✓	—	"	1900	01916	FROM NANI – Situ to 1800 hrs. 39 Bn has scraped out enemy opposition in village at 133304 ref map BUNA Mech .59 Jap buried WEST of BUNA since 11 Dec otherwise no change. Landing craft and weather observation 1911 All confirmed.
✓	—	"	1840	I95	FROM ABOG – Situ to 1800/h.
✓	—	"	1725	I881	FROM NANI – US patrol night 17/8 Dec reached point 500 yds WEST of SIWORI. Jap bivouac area supplies and tracks to waterholes found. Small Jap patrol of three observed possibly escapees from BUNA VILLAGE.
—	—	"	1345	01910.	FROM NANI – POPONDETTA & DOBODURA will mail future messages and correspondence be contacted to POPA DO respectively.
—	✓	"	2000	I38.	TONANI ABOG VIVA – Situ to 2000. Quiet on this front and only light fire reported. Jap patrol of 9 men operating ~~from~~ on right flank between YOKI and HUTCHINSON. YOKI now occupying area vacated by by VOYA and ZUGO move completed by 1030 hrs. Remainder KANO arrived 1900 hrs successfully but with difficulty. Fired on from area KUNAI and Jap thought to be using 1 one US rifle. Natives and party returned safely

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(32) MESSAGE REGISTER

D.313/2/29—C.4788.

IN	OUT	DATE	TIME	NO.	CONTEXT.
—	✓	19 Dec	0800	I 40.	TO NANI ABOG VHFa. Situ rep to 0800 hrs. Enemy night reported 0 attack commenced 0730 hrs 0 Light artn fired from right flank YORK II.
✓	—	18 Dec	~~0903~~ 0915	01903	FROM NANI - By 0300 hrs 18 Aust Inf Bde had captured ~~Kafe~~ Cape ENDAIADERE
✓	—	18 Dec	1440.	01911	FROM NANI - Situ to 1400 hrs. Pressure on surrounded Jap pocket continues. 39 Bn captured 2 LMG's on night 17/18 Dec and inflicted further Jap casualties. 2/6 Ind Coy patrol reports no sign Japs on L of C along beach to BARAMBORI 082373 ref map BUNA mission. Natives report Japs NW AMBOGA river. Otherwise no change. Landing ships. POP main DZ for landing No 3 on basis 2 planes per hr. SOPUTA suitable for WIRRAWAYS by day 19 Dec.
—	✓	18 Dec	2100	I 39	TO ZUGO - ACK @ down rd from Z-10 to Z 4/19 as per 002 para 11
✓	—	~~18~~ 19 Dec	0510	I 882	FROM NANI - Three A/C in flight 2000 L/18.2 cruisers 3 destroyers 2 left to 10000 tons 33 miles NNW MADANG. ETA LAE KUMUSI BUNA areas between 0540 0600 L/19. Strike forces operating
—	✓	18 Dec	2010	019	TO YOYA YOKI ZUGO NUGO - On no account will any automatic weapons and magazines be abandoned as salt evens. In event of personnel carrying such weapons becoming casualties other members of section will salvage weapon and mags @ This will be stressed and repeat stressed to ALL ranks.
✓	—	18 Dec	1358.	I 878.	FROM NANI - TAC/R 0930/10/6/L 18. GONA wrecked two guns thought to be AA also 6 guns and 5 thought to be MG's. 16 barges North side SANANANDA PT all unserviceable. KUMUSI AMBOGA. Rafts 5 Japs approx 1000 yds from SANANANDA PT on SOPUTA-SANANANDA rd.
✓	—	19 Dec	0800	01923	From NANI - Situ to 0800 hrs. 21 Bde. Figures to date Japs burned. WEST of GONA MISSION since 11 Dec 196. Still more to be burned. Our casualties killed 19. 39 Bn instructed to rest temporarily. Still watching left flank. 30 Bde. Armd night nothing to report. 2/7 Aust Bn. Only support for attack began on June 16 Bde. Bde HQ and 2/2 Bn moving MORESBY today.
✓	—	"	1207	I 98	FROM ABOG - Situ to 1200/L.
✓	—	"	~~1333~~ 1330	~~I 886~~ I 886	FROM NANI - TAC/R TOO 1305 L/19 ref Y4J 9 South of Eluru trace of enemy seen @ TOO 1330 L/19 NO FURTHER trace enemy. Enemy pos H453 can we engage arty.

Army Form C.2118 (adapted.)

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Unit ..... Date and Time.—From ..... To .....

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

MESSAGE REGISTER (33)

IN	OUT	DATE	TIME	NO	TO OR FROM	CONTEXT	REMARKS
	✓	20 Dec	0730	I41	VOYA ZUGO YOKI RECORD HUTCHINSON	To enable our a/c to ~~~~ more easily identify our fwd. tps the following ground to air signals will be used when possible on 120 Dek. Ground strips will be shown where ever possible and red Very lights will be fired at 0800 to 1000 and 1300h on approach of A/c. 2 fwd tps will flash rations three other bright objects in direction of A/c each time A/c approaches.	
✓	—	19 Dec	0800	0193	NANI	Situation 1000 hrs. 21 Bde. From Kodaka Japs buried WEST of GONA MISSION since 11 Dec - 196. Still more to be buried. 6 own casualties killed 19 39 Bn instructed to reorganise temporarily. Still watching left flank. 30 Bde. Sent night nothing to report. 2/7 guest b'ns. only outposts for attack began at time. 168 Bde. Bde HQ & 2/2 Bn moving MORESBY by air.	
✓	—	19 Dec	1500	0198	NANI	Situation to 1400 hrs. GONA locality 4 inch. 30 Bde attack commenced 0730 L. 49 Bn right of track attacked Jap post 185255 from rear. 2 enemy MG posts knocked out. Before reaching track fwd elements changed direction and are pushing north towards track block. At 1400 hrs had reached 185260. 55/53 Bn. Left of track attacked towards track from West. Held up at approx 179252. Withdrawal commenced. Has failed reach track. 2/7 guest b'ns. Nothing to report owing breakdown wireless comms. W/T comm now re-established. 21 Bde casualties AMBOGA R area to date. Killed 2 offrs 36 ORs wounded 2 offrs 89 ors. Change over between 39 Bn and comp 2/16 and 2/27 tonight in progress.	
—	✓	18 Dec	2000	—	JASO GILLESPIE ZU SPRING HENDERSON COURIER	Ref 002 para 11. Gun will fire only along road from present position from 2-10 to 2 - ack.	
—	✓	19 Dec	—	022	KANO NANI VOYA.	VOYA moving up EAST to old position now 185260. Fire opened on one green at 1500 hrs from area of VOYA.	
✓	—	19 Dec	1230	020	HUGGINS	Ref Y4J9 Slight trace of enemy.	
✓	—	"	1050	I 884	NANI	FOR KANO Ladson desired present posn. Ref 1882 - A/C in flight reports 5 destroyers 2 A/C approach appx 10000 Hrs anchored MADANG 2317 L/18.	
✓	—	"	1900	—	VOYA.	Situation to 1900 hrs. MOVES in posn Y407. BHQ estab 50 near HUTCHINSON HQ. No 8 pl Y8/I5 No 9 posn Y7/I7 No 7 Pl in posn Y4/I6. 1830 L YOKI B Coy under command. 1820 L B Coy moved out to take up posn near No 7 Pl. Enemy posn at Y8I5 line crosses due East into timber strong posted at Y5/I5 few scattered posns in clearing across to Y3/I0 Strong post at Platts reference Situation to 0800 L.	
✓	—	"	0945	I97	21 Bde	Situation to 1900 hrs. HER WIG relieved 1745 hrs by LOVELL. HUTCHISON ref A. Three Japs sniped during afternoon	
✓	—	"	1700	88	NUGO		

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

IN	OUT	DATE	TIME	NO	TO OR FROM	CONTEXT	REMARKS
✓	—	19 Dec	1815	01982	7 Aust Div	HANO to maintain present posn. No fwd move until hdqrs refer to a direction from this HQ. In meantime destroy all Japs between self and HUGGINS view simplifying your maintenance.	
	✓	19 Dec	1825	I 41	NANKING ABOG	Subsep to 1800 h attack commenced 0730 h VOYA eliminated enemy forces incl two MG posns at 185254 then continued advance via number three to HUGGINS & block posns no opposition encountered later stages. ZUGO attack from left flank towards rear after initial penetration proved unnecessary. ZUGO has now relieved coy NUGO at 178253 and coy YOKI at 178248. Present disposns JASO and units follow. JASO 178243. YOKI HQ 177247 two coys posns 182247 to 179248 two coys under cond VOYA at 186254 and 184255. VOYA Hqs 187254 remainder sub units one composite coy at 186261 in contact with HUGGINS. ZUGO three coys formed into two coys at 178253 and one coy 178248. NUGO HQ 178244 one coy area 187253 remainder SOPUTA area	
✓	—	19 Dec	0460	61457	NANI	Present strengths rifle and other fighting pers 21 Aust Inf Bde 116 offrs 2630 ORs. Fwd and rear admin details 18 offrs and 165 ORs. In view this situation considerable unable absorb X list and reinfts whilst in present role. Consequently request deletion these pers from air priorities and substitution X list and reinfts for four two 30 Aust Inf Bde. Present strength 39 Bn approx 350 and 49 Bn approx 300 all ranks additional pers these units most urgent.	
✓	—	4	1815	I 5	YOKI	Subsep NO3 to 1745 hrs 4/19. TISO moved in support of VOYA and now under their cond. ZETA moved 1740 hrs commencing forward move. Casualties two ORs wounded.	
	—	4	1615	—	NANI-	TAC/R 1400L/19. Y5KO 3 aircraft Aps 1410 h/19; X9M2 - T ships facing E; Y262 3 enemy proceeding SOPUTA wards - full pack up; area any further points BER 38 BER 10 points 59-91 required.	
~	✓	13 Dec	0820	01810	YOKI VOYA ZUGO NUGO	A & B coys YOKI under cond VOYA are attacking enemy posn at 185254 and moving south astride track respectively. B Coy on gaining contact with the enemy will form a defensive flank towards HUTCHINSON. YOKI when ordered will swing one coy from right flank towards rear and coy immediately overlooking will infiltrate fwd. ZUGO will maintain throughout day offensive patrolling to locate and destroy enemy posts WEST of rd. ZUGO coy on firm medial left of rd will and all three fwd coys operating with coy YOKI on W of rd.	
	—	10 Dec	0800	01810	NANI		
✓	—	"	2235	—	7 AUST DIV	also for message I 41 on page 33	
✓	—	"	1940	01933	" " "	Subsep to 1800 hrs GONA locality 4 inch. 30 Bde advly 49 Bn east of track continued slightly contact made under gd block posn at 185265. Coy 49 Bn posn slightly SE of gd block strength 53/33 Bn. No progress made extending front owing relief by 36 Bn for employment on right flank with 49 Bn 2/7 Aust Bn by 1330 hrs fwd tps had reached approx 188268. Pt 209 astride and on left of track held by MMG fire. Sqn at right of track no infm. Gaps have now been filled by 49 Bn between them and gd block. Unit expected maintain present posn and destroy gaps in rear pending further instructions. 21 Bde. Change over between 36 Bn and elements 2/16 2/27 Bns now complete (See 35)	
	—	10 Dec	0930	I 41	YOKI		
	—	10 Dec	0930	I 41	YOKI		
	—	10 Dec	0930	I 41	YOKI

IN	OUT	DATE	TIME	INO	TO OR FROM	CONTEXT
				01933 (cmd)		Intentions 20 Dec. Maintain offensive. Destroy all Gaps east of track between 36 Bn and 7 Aust Bn.
✓	—	19 Dec	2255	01936	NANI	as for our I 41 on page 33
✓	—	"	1830	I 94	21 Bde	Situ as to 1800 hrs.
✓	✓	20 Dec	0900	I 42	NANI YOKI B Coy YOKI A Coy	Situ as to 0900 hrs. B Coy YOKI moved south down SANANDA - SOPUTA track and decided to form perimeter defence at 182 254 for night. Continued move south at first light 20 Dec and struck enemy position 100 yds south of Gap track at 181 252 524. Held up and digging in. Strong enemy pocket located at 181525 24. A Coy YOKI commenced attack 0830 L/20 to eliminate enemy pocket at 185253. Nothing further to report.
✓	—	"	1218	I 102	ABOG	Situ as to 1200 L. No change.
✓	—	"	0800	01940	NANI	Situ as to 0800 hrs. Quiet night. Nothing to report.
✓	—	"	1130	I 16	VOYA	Situ & Ref map AERIAL 1:100 000 YOKI A understood RV Y6 I 8 intention to attack in enemy area Y5 I 5, YOKI B attended Y2 I 3 NOYES in area Y307
✓	—	"	1140	I 84	NANI	32 US DIV. 19 Dec 2/9 Bn destroyed 3 enemy pillboxes in area 300251. US patrol operating 18 Dec west of SIWORI CREEK forced to withdraw by outflanking and superior number Gaps now established in west bank SIWORI Ck.
✓	—	"	1218	I 102	ABOG	Situ as to 1200 L.
✓	—	"	1430	0946	NANI	Situ as to 1400 hrs. 21 Bde. During morning enemy observed carrying stores from east to west along beach from area NW AMBOGA R. 30 Bde Ref GONA locality 4 inch. Night 19/20 Dec part 36 Bn moved in from east and cut track thence moved south. Now in contact with Gap pocket at 181252. Meantime further elements 30 Bn endeavouring to clear enemy pocket at 185253. 2/7 Aust Bn. No change.
✓	—	"	~~1810~~ 1810	1104	ABOG	Situ as to 1800 L.
✓	—	"	1830	01933	NANI	Situ as to 1800 hrs. GONA locality 4 inch. Adv by 49 Bn east of track continues until contact made with 2d block post at 185265. Outflanking party right fly SE of 2d block tonight. 55/53 Bn. No progress made. ⊜ See previous entry.
✓	—	"	1800	I 10	ZOGO.	Situ 1800 hrs. 12 pl right flank advanced 10 yds. Forced to withdraw because of snipers and 2" mortars 11 Pl advanced 10 yds and are digging in. HILLEN & McINTYRE no change.
✓	—	"	1945	01950	NANI	Situ as to 1800 hrs - 21 Bde. 186 RABAUL boys captured by patrol AMBOGA RIVER area today. Otherwise no change. 30 Bde GONA locality 4. Enemy strong posts still exist at 185254. 36 Bn less det consolidating at 185254 night 20/21 Dec preparatory to attack on above enemy strong post. Intentions 21 Dec. 2/7 Aust bivouac night at 2nd block. 55/53 Bn offensive patrols. Relieved 05 Bn at present hold block. Capture Gap strong post 185254.
✓	✓	"	1430	I 43	NANI ABOG VOYA	continues active patrols AMBOGA R area. Landing ships. all ships OK for landing Situ as to 1900 hrs. Ref GONA locality 4 inch. New pos VOYA. B Hq 186256 NOYES 186262. YOKI B Coy 186259. HUTCHINSON relief completed by YOKI A Coy plus mortars and protective pl VOYA Remaining pl on BOEKEM completed relief of YOKI on JASON right flank by 1930 hrs. Relief taking over YOKI pos. Left flank reported all quiet and no change. Mtrs ceased fire from 1900 - 1912 - will fire on Nodens

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IN	OUT	DATE	TIME	No	TO OR FROM	TEXT.
✓	—	20 Dec	2117	I88	~~FROM~~ NANI	arty R 1800. Inspected HR area 202275. appeared well prepared area with corduroyed tracks leading from three huts. all shells fell at ranges area hut knocked out other believed damaged
✓	—	21 Dec	0700	I11	ZUGO	GILLEHAND McINTYRE. No change quiet night. HILLEN. Patrol returned 2200 hrs. Quiet night
✓	✓	"	0755	I44	NANI	Sitrep to 0800 L. VOYA reports Enemy Mortared at 2015 L/20. Bombs came over from west and fell in area. No casualties or damage resulted. Remainder of night reported quiet. Enemy mtn gun operated from 0630 - 0650 L. Shots fell in immediate area no casualty no damage.
✓	—	"	1200	I106	ABOG.	Sitrep as 1000 L.
✓	—	"	0800	01955	NANI	Sitrep to 0800 hrs. Fwd elements patrols throughout night 21 Aust Cav area fwd of 3rd block RABAUL radio report indicates presence 200 Japs in AMBOGA K area.
✓	—	"	0750	I105	ABOG	Sitrep to 0800 hrs.
	/	"	—	—	—	Ref map GONA LOCALITY 4"
✓	✓	"	1020	024	~~JASO~~ VOKI VOYA ZUGO.	In CAPE ENDAIADERE area large proportion enemy defensive posts have central raised shelter which is strongly protected NOT loopholed and has only small entrance hole in rear. Japs use shelter for protection against arty and mortar fire and concealment attacking Allies are attracted by these raised shelters and the object of attacks and are shelled by enemy fire from ground level posts on flanks and rear. all Allies are to be warned to pay particular attention to area within 50 yds of these shelters.
			1430			
✓	—	"	1325	I89	NANI	as per previous message.
✓	—	"	1430	01960	NANI	Sitrep to 1400 hrs. 2/7 aust cav report area NE of 3rd block enemy dump area 0 two MT captured and Jap arty stores and food dumps destroyed. Reported dump area successfully engaged by arty am today. 30 Bde 036 Bn will attack enemy strong posts at 185254 today. Otherwise no change 21 Bde HQ 21 Bde and 39 Bn arriving SOPUTA area 6 pm today. Remnants of three bns 21 Bde remain GONA area and will henceforth be known as GOFORCE.
✓	—	"	1130	I1[illegible]	[illegible]	
	—	"	0800	[illegible]	NANI	
✓	—	"	20/40	01962	NANI	Sitrep to 1800 hrs. 2/7 aust bav. No change in disposns. Fwd elements detached reports strength approx 150 and can hold and fight least another three days without further supplies rations & ammun. Morale excellent. 21 Bde. HQ 21 Bde and 39 Bn now concentrated SOPUTA area. 30 Bde. Slight progress made on whole front. Intentions 22 Dec at 1500 hrs HQ 21 Bde will assume cond of block and cav area. with under cond 2/7 aust bav 39 Bn on road block and 49 Bn protection of L of C S.E. of 3rd block. 30 Bde will consist of HQ 30 Bde 36 Bn 55/53 Bn 3 Bn and det 1 Bn 126 US Regt. Tasks. 21 Bde. Maintain 2/7 Aust bav in present posn secure and between 3rd block and cav posn and carry out active patrolling on L of C. to west of Rd block. 30 Bde. To continue to contain and close with enemy as immediate front from all sides. US troops present occupying 3rd block to be relieved by 39 Bn by 1600 hrs 22 Dec.
			1830			
			[illegible]			

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

IN	OUT	DATE	TIME	NO	TO OR FROM	TEXT THI
	✓	22DEC	0820	IH6	NANI GOFORCE MANO ABOG	Sitrep to 0800 hrs. Quiet night reported. Mtr gun operated this morning. Three bells on JASO area no casualty no damage. 8 shells fm Target area VOYA no casualty or damage reported. Sound bearing 330 to 340 degrees and time 4 seconds at map ref 173024/5 21 Dec HQ
	–					
	✓	21Dec	1815	I45	NANI ABOG VIYA.	Sitrep to 1800 hrs. YOKI made slight progress on the left flank but the position has NOT been clarified due to delay on communication. US Bde on right and advanced 50 yds. Only slight progress made fwd on left flank
	–		0312	I108	ABOG	
✓	–	22Dec	0800	01965	NANI	Sitrep to 0800 hrs. 30 Bde. Japanese gun firing intermittently since 032545/22. Slight activity on immediate front nothing further to report
✓	–	21Dec				Ref YD B9 small body of enemy approximately 12
✓	–	4				Ref YD B1 well camouflaged track and two of the enemy seen
✓	–	4	1400	07	YOKI	Position ZERO. All quiet 48 hrs
✓	–	4				Ref # F3 B second salvo in that area.
✓	=	22Dec	0815	I1	GOFORCE	Ref YZ P3 first salvo in that area.
✓	–	3	0744	I12	ZUGO	Sitrep no 2 to 0800 hrs.
✓						GYLLELAND. Nil night. HILLEN. Quiet night. Two Jap mortar bombs in front of position at 1930 hrs.
	–	4	1030	R107	NANI	Further to R186. TAC/R and ARTY/R 22 dec at 1030 to 1130 hrs & 1330 to 1430 hrs & 1700 to 1830 hrs. O/O warranted further sorties may be allotted after 1200 hrs. Times will be advised.
✓		5	1330	025	YOKI ZUGO	Japs are using singlemen in small gps for recce. These gps must be watched and accounted for.
					VOYA ZUGO 126 US	
	–	4	1035	I904	NANI	TAC/R 0700–0810 hrs YZ 0 AMBOGA area 0 V with H bars pointing NW sighted at creek EAST of AMBOGA R. 0 No mas seen GONA wreck 4 guns thought A to be Lt A/A with camouflage 0 SANANANDA SOPUTA rd 0 trench works located on edge belt of timber from 189265 to 190264 0 Unable locate enemy guns 0 At 172275 party 6 Japs and 3 huts cooking smoke right of track
		4	1300	I12	GOFORCE	Sitrep to 1300 hrs.
✓	✓	4	1425	I970	NANI	Sitrep to 1400 hrs. 2/7 Aust Bav. Patrols active. Further targets located and engaged by arty and mortar fire include MMG posts ASC dump and party 200 Japs head digging weighed 21/22 dec NE our fwd Bns. 21 Bde. HQ 21 Bde moved through 30 Bde HQ area road block 1240 hrs. 6th Fortress Engrs
	=	5	1132	I004	NANI	Ref X9 J3 well concealed enemy tracks leading to enemy pos two small huts observed
						Ref Y6 & Y7 previously located estimated 30 Japs in that area.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1024643

OUT.	DATE	TIME.	NO	TO OR FROM	TEXT
✓	—	22	1735	I906	NANI	Arty effectively engaged 30 Japs near defence Works 189268 O MMG at 182266 also engaged results NOT known
✓	—	22	1730	I107	ABOG	Sitrep No 1730 hrs. —
✓	—	22	1905	01972	NANI	Sitrep No 1800 hrs. 21 Bde. Hq 2/1 Bde now located rd block area 184265. US Hqs in rd block relieved by 39 Bn 1750 hrs. 30 Bde. Slight advance by all bns. 55/53 Bn Casualties evacuated to date. BOEREN 18 offrs 248 ors. sick 2 offrs 94 OR's Present strength 12 offrs 292 OR's. GOFORCE. Patrol activity continues. Arty fire on located targets throughout the day with considered success. Intention 23 Dec. to establish L of C between rd block and fwd elements 2/7 Aust. Bav. 30 Bde maintain offensive action GOFORCE offensive patrolling. Landing ships OK.
✓	—	22	1834	I13	ZUQO	HILLEN. Ref demonstration fire how rifle shots returned — Firing heard well up on left flank 1400 hrs. O GILLELAND O Six Japs seen approx 1200 yds approx 40 yds on right flank. Fire was brought to bear with unobserved results. O Fire was returned by Japs with rifle. Left flank advanced 20 yds O Progress of right flank stopped by clearing and snipers.
✓	✓	23	0755	I48	NANI rpt ABOG.	SITREP for 0800/L. Quiet night nothing to report on either flank. Enemy mortar operated from 0624 - 0635 on roving bearing 27 to 30 degrees from 17712425 time 5 to 6 seconds.
✓	—	23	0915	0976	NANI	Sitrep to 0800 hrs. Quiet night. Mtrs ineffective Japs arty activity 30 Bde area.
—	✓	23	2000	I47	NANI rpt ABOG	Sitrep to 1800 hrs. Slight progress made South East by 2/1 and Enemy active and moderate fire still being met at known strong points O Aust patrolling being continued O dispersal O I 450 remains 1771/2426 O ZUQO HG 17702432 O ZUQO B 17782489 ZUQO C 17752530 ZUQO D 17772540 O VOYA HG 18602565 NOYES (Composite B, C, D coys) 18562615 with rr 2 link pl at 1838 2592 O YOKI HG 18792561 YOKI A 1885 2540 YOKI C 18872558 YOKI B 1862 2559 YOKI D running northerly direction with frontage to rd at 1862 2561
✓	—	23 Dec	0715	I108	ABOG	Sitrep No 0730 hrs.
✓	—	23 Dec	0900	I14	ABOG.	Sitrep No 0800 hrs.
✓	—	4	1050	01978.	NANI.	Adm HQ has asked for desirability or otherwise of shooting small arms fire in the air. Please forward your recommendations.
✓	—	11	1100	I910	NANI	Indep patrol operating SOUTH SANANDA track will use code name CLAT repeat CLAT.

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IN	OUT	DATE	TIME	NO	TO OR FROM	TEXT.
✓	—	23 Dec	1140	I109	HUGGINS	Situ as to 1200 h. KANO patrol moving slowly north no contact. HUGGINS area ⊙ no enemy activity. Organisation HUGGINS area proceeding ⊙ patrols to locate enemy will commence shortly.
✓	—	"	1610	I1911	NANI	32 Div ⊙ General line east flank along SINEMI CK to be north new strip ⊙ Western flank SIWORI CK – BUNA VILLAGE – ENTRANCE CK thence SOUTH ⊙ Standing patrol 2452 7 ref map BUNA 4 inch ⊙ Contact both bns ENTRANCE CK established night 22/23 ⊙ Patrol 2/9 bn knocked out two MG posns.
✓	—	"	1240	01979	NANI	The following air targets have been requested as daily missions with no limit to number of sorties unless otherwise ordered. Advised ⊙ Targets one Ref map BUNA one inch to one mile coastal area from immediately west of AMBOGA R mouth NW ⊙ Target two ⊙ GONA wreck ⊙ Target three ⊙ southern (instead) of MANGROVE ISKANDCP ⊙ Target four ⊙ Ref map GONA revised 4 inches to one mile SUR IRAI POINT 168311 and track (thereafter) to point 177314 ⊙ Track and plantation from area from track junc 213295 to GIRUWA 224297 ⊙ It is to be expected therefore that Buddy Force Japs warning may be received of times of attacks ⊙ Formations with advance thus HQ immediately of any proposed major change in their dispositions which would make any of the above targets dangerous to our ftrs.
—	✓	"	1800	I149	NANI ABOG	Situ as to 1800 h. US ftrs continue to feel forward on right flank ⊙ ZUGO and YOKI carried out patrols and achieved negative results. Wounded man from YOKI brought in by patrol reports seeing 50 Japs proceed EAST in direction of YOKI A and river armed with 1 HMG 1 possibly 2 LMGs 2 tommy guns and remainder rifles. Man was relieved of boots equipment and bandaged head with shelter before party left ⊙ Units under command have been warned and despatching patrols to investigate ⊙ amendments to SITREP I 47 22 Dec disposns ⊙ JASO remains same save for 1772 2426 ⊙ US Coys at 1805 2485 18202480 HQ at 1771 2427 ⊙ ZUGO HQ 17752431 ZUGO B 1790 2490 ZUGO C 17752530 ZUGO D 17752540 ⊙ VOYA HQ and A Coy 18602530 NOYES Company (2 + 4 pls) 18552593 NOYES 3 Pl 18452670 2 Pl 18652572 2 pls Imperial 18702570 ⊙ YOKI HQ 18602060 B Coy 18302502 C Coy 18462550 D Coy & HQ Coy 18402554.
✓	—	"	1836	I110	HUGGINS	Situ as to 1800 h ⊙ Enemy located extending 75 yds west from track at 185266 ⊙ Pass protected by tangled wire and rattles EAST of track about 185265 ⊙ Track shown on map NOT located ⊙ Snipers active over HUGGINS area some casualties patrol 600 yds WEST from HUGGINS reports NO enemy many tracks KANO strength 69 got to ford point no contact but saw many enemy ⊙ Two Pls of 20 Bde on L of C ⊙ Fighting patrols from KANO and DUDA operating tonight.

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IN	OUT	DATE	TIME	NO	TO OR FROM	TEXT
✓	–	23 Dec	1610	I6	ABQG	Sitrep cls 1800 L.
✓	–	"	1445	I910	NANI	TAC/R 1030–1130 L/23 ⊙ SANANANDA RD ⊙ 4 Japs dying 202247 ref map GONA 4 inch ⊙ unable locate mtn gun ⊙ GONA wreck ⊙ Hy A/A gun on upper deck of stern probably three inch ⊙ AMBOGA RIVER ⊙ Just south of mouth two new barges (with inboard motors) appeared in good condition ⊙ BEAUFIGHTERS did NO visible damage to huts in southern MANGROVE ISLAND ⊙ all informed.
✓	–	"	1315	I5	ABQG	Sitrep 6 cls 1200 L.
✓	–	"	–	"		Ref YH B8 to 4 barges near here are small trench works
–	✓	"	1615	026	ZUGO & BOEREM	ZUGO & BOEREM both clear recce. Area enemy posts thoroughly for purpose of night raids in same ⊙ Ack!
✓	–	"	1850	0198	NANI	Sitrep cls 1800 hrs ⊙ Contact made between 4 block and 2nd element 2/7 Aust Bde ⊙ Latter now reinforced by 1 Sqn ⊙ 2 standing patrols est between these posns ⊙ Light enemy activity on western ~~front~~ flank ⊙ Active offensive patrolling continued by all units throughout day ⊙ Landing ships
–	✓	"	1930	027	HUGGINS rptd ZUGO	ZUGO ambush party land AM/24 ⊙ ee a/c approx 177258 ref GONA revised 4 inch 1 mile ⊙ Route out from SOUTH but alternatively via WEST of track and thence SOUTH from approx 177263
✓	–	"	2110	I93	NANI	TAC/R 1730–1830 L/23 ⊙ SANANANDA PT. two serviceable barges in different posns to this am ⊙ Ref map GONA 4 inch 219294 ⊙ West of river smoke rising from presumed enemy posn ⊙ 6 more barges between river and creek just south of river
–	✓	24 Dec	1225	024	~~JAGO~~ YOKII VOYA ZUGO BOEREM	Ref diagram SOPUTA PILL BOX issued 23 Dec ⊙ This diagram is being amended and will be issued shortly ⊙ When new pillboxes are constructed based on amended diagram any assistance will be available further instns will be issued ⊙ In meantime pillboxes already sited and carefully constructed on ZUGO and BOEREM areas will be completed on original plans.
✓	–	24 Dec	0830	0188	NANI	Further amdt 9 79 of 23 Dec ⊙ The following daily tasks have been arranged ⊙ Ref map BUNA provisional one inch ⊙ NOT Co-ordinated ⊙ Armed recce from mouth AMBOGA River 121314 along coast through BAKUMBARI 084376 to mouth KUMUSI R. Particular attention to west bank AMBOGA river mouth suspected HA area and to BAKUMBARI area ⊙ Light centre and suspected HA area ⊙ 6 inf patrols attack and ack crossing 130301 ⊙ Patrol will NOT move to the WEST ⊙ Armed recce wherever possible during hrs of daylight each day ⊙ Additional tasks above boxed and strafe GONA wreck on all possible occasions
✓	–	"	0830	I07	ABQG	Sitrep cls 0800 hrs.

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MESSAGE REGISTER (41)

IN	OUT	DATE	TIME	NO.	TO OR FROM	TEXT.
~~241~~ ✓	—	24 Dec	1205	I112	HUGGINS	Sitrep to 1200 L ⊙ Patrol of 42 from KANO fwd returned HUGGINS about 1100 L avoided contact with Japs but reported fairly extensive earth works being prepared north of KANO fwd ⊙ HUGGINS area quiet this am
✓	—	"	1025	I914	NANI	32 Div to 1700 L/23 02/10 Bn advanced 700 to 800 yds along old ship supported by US Afs ⊙ Bn over SINEMI CK being repaired for 6 tanks.
✓	—	"	1800	I14	ZUGO	HILLEN 0845 hrs MG fire over left fwd pits otherwise quiet ⊙ GILLELAND snipers active on centre and ~~right~~ right flanks in morning otherwise quiet ⊙ MCINTYRE NO activity during morning observers on track investigated afternoon NO results.
✓	—	"	0805	I111	HUGGINS	Sitrep to 0800 L ⊙ Patrol activity north along track caused enemy open def fires ⊙ Estimated weapons employed 2 MMG's 6 LMG's 1 bomb thrower and rifle ⊙ No casualties suffered ⊙ Reports from KANO not yet to hand ⊙ YOYA unchanged.
✓	—	"	0800	01987	"	Sitrep to 0800 hrs ⊙ Patrolling and arty harassing fire continued during night ⊙ 6 barges observed proceeding from west on westerly direction close to shore ⊙ Engaged with A/TK rifle machine gun and arty fire ⊙ Results unknown barges immediately put out to sea ⊙ U/i A/C flew over area 2200 to 2245 L and again from 0015 to 0045 L ⊙ Two bombs dropped in our area no pers unknown ⊙ No damage or casualties ⊙ Evacuation 16 Bde to MORESBY now completed.
—	✓	25 Dec	0900	032	YOKI info BOEREM	YOKI will dispatch small recce patrols to pinpoint and locate enemy left flank ⊙ Route out via BOEREM rt flank ⊙ Time out and in will be notified by YOKI to BOEREM and JASO.
✓	—	24 Dec	1830	01993	NANI	Sitrep to 1800 hrs ⊙ 21 Bde ⊙ Patrols escorting sup and ammo party got through to fwd elements 2/7 Aust Cav PM today ⊙ Patrols active throughout day Ld blocks and ⊙ Further patrols will operate night 24/25 Dec ⊙ 30 Bde ⊙ Slight progress today made by US Afs at approx 8224 L ⊙ Our Afs while digging saps towards Jap front met Japs digging in direction our lines ⊙ 4 Japs killed advantage taken of cover 40 yds gained and thereby pers captured ⊙ Active patrolling continued on all fronts.
✓	—	"	1800	R112	NANI	25 Dec A/C will co-operate with arty to engage target NORTH of KANO
✓	—	25 Dec	0703	I16	ZUGO	SITREP ⊙ MCINTYRE NIL activity ⊙ HILLEN patrol activity ⊙ GILLELAND NIL activity in fwd area patrol activity
~~X~~	✓	"	0845	I52	NANI info ABOG	Sitrep to 0800 L ⊙ Active patrolling by both flanks ⊙ 4 Japs accounted for on the right otherwise quiet night and nothing to report

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IN	OUT	DATE	TIME	NO	TO OR FROM	TEXT
✓	~~✓~~	25 Dec	0700	—	~~ZUGO~~ YOKI	YOKI 7 wishes to thank PORTER 7 for his message of good wishes to members of this unit and to offer to PORTER 7 and staff our best wishes
✓	—	24 Dec	1840	-	ZUGO.	SITREP O McCINTYRE and HILLEN patrols activity O GILLELAND NIL activity;
✓	✓	"	0800	I50	NANI ~~ZUGO~~	Sitrep to 0800 hrs O Efforts to attack last night by 3/ Bn failed O BOEREM attempted raid on enemy post ~~failed~~ O 55 Bn patrol activity.
—	✓	"	1800	I51	" "	SITREP to 1800 hrs O BOEREM made slight advance on right flank O Ambush party accounted for three Japs
—	✓	"	1835	029	YOKI VOYA ZUGO	NANI 7 extends X mas greetings to all ranks and sincerely trusts that next X mas will be spent in happier circumstances and in the peace which must ultimately result from the difficulties and hardships you are all now undergoing O Unfortunately for the present we must forget peace and goodwill among men and continue with even greater vigour to fight against the common enemy.
—	✓	"	1840	030	YOKI VOYA ZUGO DUDA BOEREM	PORTER 7 wishes each man happy reflections tomorrow O Next year we hope happy reunions.
✓	—	"		A584	~~DUDA~~ Dive	Message as per 029 above.
✓	—	"	1300	I924	21 Bde.	Sitrep to 1200 hrs
✓	—	"	1400	01990	NANI	Chap refs O Future refs to BUNA and GONA LOCALITY sheets 4 m to mile REVISED 5 Dec 1st edit map title O Refs to other sheets will read map title O
✓	—	"	1700	I917	NANI	TAC/R 1240 L/24 O 191267 possibly 4 huts O 195270 number of huts O 200272 foot bridge 20 feet long over ck O 197272 derelict track on side of ck O 201274/201273 kunai track O 1792.77 large puff blue smoke 100 feet high.
✓	—	"	1455	01991	NANI	Sitrep to 1400 hrs O 21 Bde O Patrol from fwd coys 2/ 4 Aust Bde returned to block 1100 L O Refd JAP earth works being prepared north of cave fwd posn O on 5 of last 6 nights U/I a/c arrived over Kokoda area at 2200 hrs and returned in vicinity 0115 to 0215 hrs O Odd bombs dropped in unoccupied areas O Tac/R reports 12 small parachutes in trees CAPE KILLERTON area today. Enemy a/c endeavouring locate our airstrip dropping sups on both
✓	—	"	1455	I915	NANI	Tac/R to 1200 L/24 O BAKUMBARI area O 12 huts west bank BAKUMBARI estuary O Huts well dispersed O From track parallel to coast well worn tracks lead to huts O Bunkers EAST bank AMBOGA R partly hidden by trees O Two serviceable barges SANANANDA O 3 Japs and 196269 unarmed drab khaki uniform.

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IN	OUT	DATE	TIME	NO	TOOR FROM	
✓	—	24 Dec	1855	I 10	21 Bde	Sitrep to 1800 hrs
✓		"	2115	01994	7 Div.	Xmas greeting from 90 C NGF.
✓	—	"	1945	A2	ZU90	Best wishes and thoughts conveyed to JASO 029 and 030 are heartily appreciated and reciprocated
✓	—	"	1820	I 113	HUGGINS	Sitrep to 1800/L.
✓	—	25 Dec.	1155	I 12	ABOG	Sitrep to 1200L.
✓	—	"	1203	I 115	HUGGINS	" " 1200L/.
✓	—	"	0830	I 11	ABOG	Sitrep to 0800/L.
✓	—	"	0830	027	HUGGINS	Best wishes for Xmas.
✓	—	"	0815	02901	NANI	Sitrep to 0800 hrs. 21 and 30 bdes Guns & tks no change ⊙ 90 FORCE ⊙ approx 2345 hrs barge approaching shore vicinity 12431 7 engaged by fire from patrol barge put to sea ⊙ On investigating vicinity about 6 hrs been coming from water upon being engaged by fire disappeared in bush ⊙ Some Japs believed to be wounded ⊙ 1 RABAUL native captured vicinity being returned for interrogation ⊙ Patrol sent along east flank 185262 to 189261 to 196264 to 204266 to 203272 report whole area traversed for two swampy and difficult for large bodies of Japs to move through ⊙ established dispns 04 hrs/1 a/c overhead 2400 hrs again last night an hr/i a/c sporadically overhead until approx 0400 hrs ⊙ Bombs dropped but again located.
✓	—	"	0230	01999	NANI	MOST SECRET ⊙ following inter service recognition procedure for period 1800 hrs 24 Dec to 2400 hrs 26 Dec ⊙ For use of recgnised ⊙ A/C may initiate procedure by flashing appropriate A/C LETTER ground craft or ground sta will answer by flashing appropriate ground letter followed by letter R send three times ⊙ Ground sta may initiate procedure by flashing ground letter A/C LETTER ground sta will ack by flashing ground letter again followed by letter R send three times ⊙ all letters to be flashed by single white light ⊙ times A/C LETTER ground sta following in each order ⊙ 24 Dec 1200 to 2400 hrs 25 dec 0000 to 0600 hrs HP 0600 to 1200 hrs ON 1200 to 1800 hrs 7 11. 1800 to 2400 hrs XD 26 dec 0000 to 0600 hrs MG 0600 to 1200 hrs LS 1200 to 1800 ZH 1800 to 2400 NV. all times GMT.

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IN	OUT	DATE	TIME	NO	TO OR FROM	TEXT.
—	✓	25 Dec	1845	I53	NANI/HQ ABOG	Sitrep to 1800L ⊙ Patrol activity on right flank BOEREM finds has failed to locate any enemy posns ⊙ ambush party on left flank accounted for four Japs ⊙ YOKI B presumed to have advanced SOUTH posn indefinite endeavouring to make contact ⊙ BOEREM continues pressure on enemy's LEFT flank.
✓	—	25 Dec	1720	I920	7 DIV	TAC/R 1400-1500 ⊙ SANANDA PT 2 barges floating off mouth of creek ⊙ Patrol in mouth of AMBOGA R has gone ⊙ 4 huts destroyed out of 5 in arty shoot on area 177267 ⊙
✓	—	"	1955	R120	"	TAC/R and ARTY R frequencies and call signs 26 Dec same as 25 Dec ⊙ Times of sorties 0700 to 0900 ⊙ 1030 to 1130 ⊙ 1330 to 1430 ⊙ 1830 to 1930 ⊙
✓	—	26 Dec	0800	I117	HUGGINS	Sitrep to 0800 h/26.
✓	—	25 Dec	1801	I116	"	Sitrep to 1800 h/25.
✓	—	"	0815	I114	"	" " 0800 h/25
✓	—	"	1915	F13	ABOG	Sitrep to 1800 h/25.
✓	—	"	1440.	02003	7 Div	Sitrep to 1400 hrs ⊙ Located enemy target successfully engaged by arty coop dumping am otherwise no change.
—	✓	26 Dec	07 20	F54	7 Div	Sitrep to 0800 hrs ⊙ Quiet night and nothing to report ⊙ Advn patrolling drew light fire and provided negligible results ⊙ YOKI B moving into Pos 5250 area this morning.
✓	~~—~~	" "	0703	I18	2 OVO	SITREP GILLELAND ⊙ Quiet night patrol activity by ⊙ HILLEN ⊙ few shots about 0100 patrol activity ⊙ McINTYRE 1845 little fire throughout NOT answered by Jap.
✓	—	25 Dec	1815	02005	NANI	Sitrep to 1500 hrs ⊙ No change ⊙ Ingenden 26 Dec ⊙ Active offensive patrolling fwd of rd block area.
✓	—	26 Dec	0820	I14	ABOG	Sitrep to 0800/L.
✓	—	"	0810	02007	NANI	Sitrep to 0800 hrs ⊙ 30 Bde ⊙ Presume being maintained on JAPS left flank ⊙ ambush party from our left flank killed 4 Japs ⊙ p m 25 Dec ⊙ Active patrolling on whole front and party harassing fire continued throughout night ⊙ at 2330L a/c dropped two bombs on GONA wreck scoring one direct hit one near miss damage unknown

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IN	OUT	DATE	TIME	NO	TO OR FROM	TEXT
✓	—	26 Dec	1210	I 15	ABOG	Sitrep No 1200L/26
✓	—	"	1210	I 118	HUGGINS	Sitrep No 1200L/26
✓	—	"	1235	02008	NANI	HQ Bn reverts cond 30 Bde as from 0800 hrs today ⊙ 30 Bde will be responsible for escorting Supp to rd block afk.
—	✓	"	1735	I 55	JASO	Sitrep for 17/30 hrs ⊙ Enemy pnrs yelled for attack from EAST ⊙ mopping up and frontal advance still in progress ⊙ EAST side of road 700 yds from KILLERTON - SANANANDA T/T junction was Lapad ⊙ Odd enemy MG's being dealt with in that area
✓	—	"	1800	—	VOYA	Sitrep NIL REPORT.
✓	—	"	2110	R120	NANI	TAC/R and any R times and frequency 27 Dec Rpts no 26 Dec.
✓	—	27 Dec	0650	I 19	ZUGO	Sitrep GILLELAND ⊙ No activity during night ⊙ HILLEN ⊙ No activity McINTYRE all quiet.
✓	✓	26 Dec	1630	I 922	NANI	TAC/R am 26 ⊙ Observed caiques 189268 ⊙ Probable enemy AA MG posns at 196270 198269 ⊙ 2 US barges 2 yds off shore at mouth HUMUS 1 no serviceable barge just inside mouth ⊙ SANANANDA NOT serviceable barges observed
✓	—	"	1345.	3	To 36 Bn from Cleary.	
✓	—	"	1450	02009	NANI	Sitrep No. 1400 hrs ⊙ 21 Bde ⊙ Patrol activity continues ⊙ Supp trains now operating daily to 2/7 Aust Gen Hosp ⊙ 30 Bde ⊙ Slight progress made by elements 36 Bn on left flank westwards towards rd ⊙ GOFORCE reports ZERO shot down in flames by WIRRAWAY at approx 144300 ref map BUNA one inch
✓	—	"	1415.	I 921	NANI	32 US DIV 1700/25 ⊙ Several fires ⊙ Coast - SINEMICH 279258 - 282254 - 282245 ⊙ Jap ship no strength pnrs NW end of old ship 2/10 bn dealing with ⊙ West flank ⊙ Patrol 249/271 ⊙ BUNA 254267 262272 263262 262258 thence det out 265263, 269265 attacks in progress this flank on 26 Dec.

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IN	OUT	DATE	TIME	NO	TO OR FROM	TEXT
✓	—	26 Dec	1845.	02012	NANI	Sitrep to 1800 hrs O 30 Bde O 36 Bn launched successful attack from EAST with object of driving wedge between Jap forces on Eastern side of SOPUTA-SANANANDA track O US Bde on this flank taking advantage of 36 Bn move have so far succeeded in advancing 1500 yds O 5 7/5 3 Bn also endeavouring more forward O No further details available O Patrolling activity continued on other fronts O Further located enemy targets registered by arty throughout day O Intentions 27 Dec O Continue action to clear eastern side of track of enemy O When accomplished to clear all enemy from area south of EAST WEST line through 2/7 dust bare pass
~~✓~~	✓	27 Dec	0800	I57	NANI	Sitrep to 0800 hrs O Quiet night nothing to report O Pocket of resistance HUTCHINSON's front being eliminated today.
—	✓	26 Dec	1930	I56	NANI rptd ABDA	Reference I 55 O For HILLERTON - SANANADA track junction read map ref 178247 not 178247.
✓	*	27 Dec	0805	02016	NANI	Sitrep to 0800 hrs O 30 Bde O Ref 02012 O US Bde continued advance and joined up with 36 Bn O East side of track distance 700 yds NE from 178247 now held on lands O 55/53 Bn failed to make progress on left of front O Many Japs killed weapons captured and recovered details later O During night Arty maintained continuous harassing fire on all fronts O Patrols sent out reports NOT yet received.
✓	—	"	0805	I121	HUGGINS	Sitrep to 0800 L O Patrol reports NOT yet to hand Quiet night.
✓	—	"		I827	ABDA	Sitrep to 0800 L/27
✓	—	26 Dec	1805	I119	HUGGINS	Sitrep to 1800 L O Jap fired five bombs into area O No casualties O HANO supply train arrived without incident O Patrols NIL reports
✓	—	"	1815	I17	ABDA	Sitrep to 1800 L.
✓	—	27 Dec	1200	I122	HUGGINS	Sitrep to 1200 L
~~✓~~	✓	28 Dec	0815	I60	NANI rptd ABDA	Sitrep to 0800 hrs O Quiet night nothing to report O Two coys YOKI now in HUTCHINSONS area preparatory to attack this and enemy pos north that area
✓	—	27 Dec	1805	I20	ABDA	NIL SITREP to 1700 L/27
	✓	"	1835	I59	NANI rptd ABDA	Sitrep to 1800 hrs O mopping up isolated posts on EAST ord continues O YOKI less two coys withdrawn from front pos preparatory to attack enemy pos in area 186253 otherwise no change
	✓	"	1610	I58	NANI	Ack your 02008 of 26 Dec

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IN	OUT	DATE	TIME	NO	TO OR FROM	TEXT
✓	—	27Dec	1145	02019	7Aust Div	Acknequired O2008 of 26 Dec
✓	—	"	1200	I122	HUGGINS	Sitrep to 1200/L O night patrol KANO to SOUTH killed 3 Japs in listening post previously located O H casualties to snipers in HUGGINS area today O One fight of 10 mins ensued O deep fighting patrols against located enemy areas.
✓	—	28Dec	0700	I21	ZUGO	Sitrep O GILLELAND nil activity O HILLEN enemy activity as previously reported otherwise nil activity report O McINTYRE supporting fire given on right flank to HILLEN 1800/L O all clear Stand down 0650.
✓	—	28Dec	1714	I20	ZUGO	Sitrep O GILLELAND reports nil activity some of coy relieved during day O HILLEN and McINTYRE reports nil activity
✓	—	"	1455	02020	NANI	Sitrep to 1400 hrs O 30 Bde O chopping up on EAST side of track continues O 21 Bde O Last night cave patrol mopped out Jap listening post previously located S of 3rd block area O 3 Japs killed O 4 Jap snipers killed in blackarea today O Deep fighting patrols operating against located enemy areas O GOFORCE O 20 RABAUL natives captured vicinity GARARA.
✓	—	"	1320	I19	ABOG	Sitrep to 1200/L 27
✓	—	"	2115	YI21	NANI	Zac/R and arty/R arrangements 28Dec same as 27 O Sorties 0730 to 0830 O 0930 to 1030 O 1200 to 1300 O 1530 to 1630
✓	—	"	1830	02023	NANI	Sitrep to 1800 hrs O 30 Bde O chopping up continues O Preparations in progress for clearing remaining Jap posts east of track and south of 3rd block O Otherwise nothing to report.
✓	—	28Dec	0800	02026	NANI	Sitrep to 0800 hrs O NIL report.
✓	—	"	0803	I124	HUGGINS	Sitrep to 0800 L O Patrol reports NOT to hand O Quiet night O HANO now in area 188266 189267, 187268 186267
✓	—	"	0810	I21	ABOG	Sitrep to 0800 L/28.
✓	—	"	1730	I23	ZUGO	GILLELAND & McINTYRE nil activity O HILLEN Brens fired on supposed sniper unknown results no other activity O GILLILAND patrols active O One man wounded on track between GILLILAND and HILLEN by Jap reflemagun wearing khaki dress & sun steel helmet
✓	—	"	1801	I126	HUGGINS	Sitrep to 1800 L. Three Japs killed two wounded by HONNER today O HANO reports NOT to hand.
✓	—	"	1825	02029	NANI	Sitrep to 1800 hrs O 21 Bde O Patrol killed 3 wounded 2 Japs today O No reps from patrols operating S of Cav area O 30 Bde O 36 Bn attack unsuccessful O GOFORCE O No change

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IN	OUT	DATE	TIME	NO	TO OR FROM	TEXT
✓	–	28 Dec	1500	0028	NANI	Situp up to 1400 hrs ⊙ 21 Bde ⊙ Patrol activity continues ⊙ Further 5 Japs killed ⊙ 30 Bde ⊙ 36 Bde attack against JAP pocket in vicinity 184254 encountering MG opposition ⊙ Only slight progress so far
✓	–	"	1800	I24	ABOG	Situp to 1800 hrs.
	✓	"	1820	I61	NANI rptd ABOG	Situp to 1800 hrs ⊙ YOKI attack after advancing 200 yds halted by enemy MG fire attempt flank outflank enemy post unsuccessful YOKI will now be disposed 1 Coy 186253 under comd YOYA 1 Coy remain present pos where attack halted at 184252 1 Coy EAST of rd 181251 1 Coy to relieve left flank Coy ZUGO at 178254 to come under comd 2/9 Bn ⊙ Pressure continuing isolated enemy pos to 181525 05 ⊙ Dead Japs counted to date in area occupied right flank rd 35.
✓	–	"	1300	I932	NANI	Own airforce claim eleven enemy planes shot down for certain three probables during aerial battle approx midday 26 Dec BUNA area.
✓	–	"	1020	I929	NANI	32 DIV to 1700 L/27 ⊙ No major changes slight progress ⊙ Enemy strongpoint old strip area still resisting ⊙ Enemy mortars causing casualties BUNA village ⊙ Enemy fired grass govt gds own tps fired grass triangle BUNA SOPUTA tks
✓	–	"	1200	I125	HUGGINS	Situp to 1200 L ⊙ KANO patrol yesterday killed 4 Japs ⊙ HONNER killed 1 Jap today ⊙ Quiet morning.
✓	–	"	1300	I931	NANI	TAC/R C930 1045 L/28 ⊙ AMBOGA river ⊙ One barge covered with branches and leaves on beach 200 yds EAST of river ⊙ SANANANDA area ⊙ Well used tracks from beach and SANANANDA SOPUTA track lead to suspected dump area 200 yds south of beach 200 yds WEST of main track.
✓	–	"	1250	I23	ABOG	Situp to 1200 hrs.
✓	✓	29 Dec	0845	036	YOKI YOYA ZUGO BOEREM	Units are reminded that all movements of tps inward and outof areas must be reported and giving time ⊙ Patrols in particular will be reported on party they go out & returning
✓	–	"	0830	I62	NANI rptd ABOG	Situp to 0800 hrs ⊙ Slight exchange of grenades and rifle fire right flank ⊙ Tps moved early area to reinforce garrison arty area ⊙ Patrols operating today west of the searching for enemy force reported last night arty area.
✓	–	"	0825	I25	ABOG	Situp number 23 to 0800 hrs.
✓	–	"	~~0852~~ 0852	I13	ZUGO	Situp ⊙ McINTYRE nil reps ⊙ HILLEN ⊙ Very quiet night nil reps ⊙ GILLELAND nil activity all quiet stand down
✓	–	28 Dec	2110	R121	NANI	TAC/R and ARTY/R arrangements 29 same as today ⊙ time 0700 to 0800 ⊙ 0915 to 1015 0133 to 1430 0150 to 1630

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TEXT.

IN	OUT	DATE	TIME	NO	TO OR FROM	
✓	–	29 Dec	0800	I127	HUGGINS	Sitrep to 0800/L ⊙ Quiet night some fighting by patols results NOT to hand.
–	✓	"	1840	I63	NANI (phone) ABOG HUGGINS	Sitrep to 1800 hrs ⊙ Pressure on enemy pocket immediate right of rd continuing attacks here by US Sp this PM made slight gains patol activity throughout day ⊙ Two patols searched area west of rd from 174255 and SOUTH to ally area ⊙ One of these patols reported three fresh Jap footprints leading SOUTH and one exit leading nor East 171250 (details report attached). Ambush patol set this area for night 29/30 Dec ⊙ Weapons salvaged from area 180249 to date include Brens 16 OS MG 16 TS MG 11 60mm mortar 1 aust rifles 59 US M1 rifles 20 ⊙ all informed
✓	–	"	1745	I24	ZUGO	Sitrep ⊙ MCINTYRE ⊙ No change over completed 1400 hrs otherwise nil activity ⊙ HILLEN Jap rifleman seen on right flank fired on with unknown results otherwise nil activity ⊙ GILLELAND ⊙ Nil activity.
✓	–	"	1250	I26	ABOG	Sitrep to 1200/L
✓	–	"	1630	I935	NANI	32 DIV ⊙ Progress made both flanks 27/28 Dec old stop cleared ⊙ East flank ⊙ Front line almost parallel to coast extend from 272258 then 274256 eastwards to SINEMI CK at 284255 ⊙ West flank ⊙ Salient east entrance ck consolidated extending to 266263 ⊙ Japs counter attacked unsuccessfully against 2/10 BN pan vicinity old stop
✓	–	"	0810	02032	NANI	Sitrep to 0800 hrs ⊙ 21 Bde ⊙ Quiet night ⊙ 30 Bde ⊙ Light exchange grenade and rifle fire on right flank otherwise quiet ⊙ Enemy patol raided dump guns last night ⊙ at approx 0115 hrs one gun destroyed ⊙ Investigation daylight revealed Japs killed 1 wounded PW ⊙ GOFORCE ⊙ No change.
✓	–	"	1950	I938	NANI	TAC/R 1530 1630 L/29 ⊙ BAKUMBARI 078371 ref map BUNA one inch campfire observed ⊙ GIRUWA ⊙ campfire observed about 20 yds from coast on east bank of inlet ⊙ 4 ft sq white box observed on rd extreme northern end SANANANDA – SOPUTA AK ⊙
✓	–	"	1430	02037	NANI	Sitrep to 1400 hrs ⊙ Nothing to report.
✓	–	"	1205	I128	HUGGINS	Sitrep to 1200 L ⊙ Quiet morning HUGGINS area KANO engaging MG post EAST of rd. ⊙ Patols WEST of main rd in pos to ambush Jap party from HANSEN area reporting moving north

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IN	OUT	DATE	TIME	NO	TO OR FROM	TEXT.
✓		29 Dec	1120	02033	NANI	ON 30 Dec B 25 a/c will bomb enemy occupied areas on the SANANANDA SOPUTA track NORTH of a line through 195768 and continue the attack to 206283 ⊙ Our Pts will indicate their posns by T ships in the head of T pointing to enemy ⊙ 21 Bde will arrange to show arrowhead pointing to the nearest enemy posn ⊙ Distance to enemy will be shown by indicator bar in rear of arrow ⊙ Each bar represents 500 yds ⊙ The southern boundary of target area will be indicated by smoke shell ⊙ GREEN rockets will be fired from our posns as a further indication to aircraft ⊙ A/C will make one dummy run over target area from SOUTH to NORTH ⊙ at commencement of second run when A/C are in rear of our posns GREEN rockets and smoke shell will be fired ⊙ A/C will call for smoke shell by R/T ⊙ Red rockets will be fired at bombing as soon as close to our posns ⊙ Pts will NOT expose themselves unnecessarily during the attack ⊙ A/C call sign SYDNEY ground call sign BRISBANE ⊙ Div sig will act as control all other sets will act as listening sets ⊙ This HQ will be advised immediately if any bombs fall near our own Pts ⊙ Time over targets and frequency will be advised later.
✓	—	30 Dec	0700	I130	HUGGINS	Situ rep to 0800 hrs ⊙ Quiet night ⊙ One RABAUL native captured being funded to NANI.
✓	—	"	0800	02044	NANI	Situ rep to 0800 hrs ⊙ RD BLOCK AREA Quiet night ⊙ 30 Bde ⊙ Slight progress made against enemy pocket east of track 181250 ⊙ Enemy mortars active during night ⊙ NO OFFICE ⊙ No report received.
✓	—	29 Dec	1312	I933	NANI	TAC/R L/29 ⊙ KUMUSI river ⊙ 2 barges moored off mouth 0300 yds South of river mouth 3 Japs seen erecting a pole 30-40 ft high on beach ⊙ a well worn track runs from main coastal track SW 100 yds east of KUMUSI R ⊙ AMBOGA River ⊙ Bridge 20 ⊙ yds east still in use ⊙ Japs on ⊙ CAPE KILLERTON 2 Japs on beach ⊙ SANANANDA SOPUTA TK ⊙ 4 Japs 212288 5 Japs 198254 6 Japs 181256 digging 186254 ⊙ Bonduras cleared main track at 202255 to track 203283 ⊙ Hut and camouflage truck at 180250.
✓	—	30 Dec	0845	I28	ABOG	Situ rep to 0800 hrs ⊙ Quiet night ⊙ Nil report.

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IN	OUT	DATE	TIME	No	TO OR FROM	TEXT
✓	—	30 Dec	0714.	I25	ZUGO.	SITREP O GILLILAND Several Jap grenades thrown close to centre pl 2030 hrs no other activity O HILLEN quiet night. nil activity O McINTYRE quiet night O all clear at 0 stand down
✓	—	29 Dec	2230	O1040	NANI	Refour 02033 of 29 Dec O Air force unable arrange strike for 30 Dec
✓	—	"	2120	Y122	NANI	TAC/R and ARTY/R arrangements 30 Dec same as 28th. Lates 0715 to 0815 1030 to 1130 O 1300 to 1400 O 1500 to 1600 O Timings of sorties will be changed if our bomber a/c are in area at same time.
✓	—	"	1800	I27	ABOG	Sitrep no 25 to 1800 h/29.
✓	—	"	1800	I19	HUGGINS	Sitrep to 1800 h/29.
✓	—	"	1825	0103	802 NANI	Sitrep to 800 hrs O attack by US Mps against JAP posns at 180250 EAST of Track now in progress O Yank 2/7 units have launched unsuccessful attack against Jap posn on right of track today O Patrol activity on whole front
✓	—	30 Dec	0650	0204	NANI	The following additional daily air mission is being arranged in NANI area O Bombing and strafing O area SANANDA point to GIRUWA from track junc 213295 to SANANDA POINT 218298 N edge of coconuts 276291 O Huts & Stores dumps troop movements O Our Mps mainly T. TRAKENA 240283 track at 189268 and GARARA 162308 O any time during daylight each day O No air actions EAST of casting guidlines 23
H	L	"	0840	I64	NANI Repeated ABOG HUGGINS	Sitrep to 0800 hrs O approx 2000 hrs slight ENEMY mortar fire our posns immediate right front otherwise quiet night O 6 our Mps dispersed pressure on enemy pocket 1815 2505 advanced approx 30 yds from N.E direction O One patrol YOKI one patrol VOYA departed late PM 29 Dec with task of pinpointing and siezing ENEMY post patrols given time limit two days to carry out task
✓	—	"	1730	I16	ZUGO	Sitrep O GILLILAND nil activity only a few rifle shots returned during demon fire O McINTYRE all quiet single shot returned during demonstration O HILLEN sniper active during afternoon slight rifle fire returned during demonstration

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IN	OUT	DATE	TIME	NO	TO OR FROM	TEXT.
✓	—	30 Dec	1200	I29	ABOG	Sitrep No 1200 L/30
✓	—	"	1205	I31	HUGGINS	Sitrep No 1200 L. ⊙ KANO and HONNER each assessing about 60 men and supported by 200 mortar 3 inch each at present attacking enemy pos no EAST OF ROAD ⊙ Progress results NOT yet available
✓	—	"	1815	I40	ABOG	Sitrep No 1800 L.
	✓	"	1850	I65	NANI-ABOG HUG	Sitrep No 1800 L. ⊙ Pressure on enemy pocket 1815 2505 continuing ⊙ mortar fire on enemy pos left of rd appeared effective but results unobserved ⊙ 8 Japs killed by other Aps this area today ⊙ YOKI reopened 1515 hrs 40 yds north JASO
✓	—	"	2120	O1050	NANI	Code names allocation
✓	—	"	2045	Y122	NANI	TAC/R and ARTY R arrangements same for 31 Dec. ⊙ ranges 0700 to 0800 ⊙ 0915 to 1015 ⊙ 1330 to 1430 ⊙ 1515 to 1615.
✓	—	"	2100	I939	NANI	TAC/R PM 30 Dec. ⊙ SANANANDA SOPUTA Sk Japs sitting on side of rd one at 212288 one 209285 found at 211287 ⊙ Object spotted in bay off GONA found to be Aust ⊙ KUMUSI river ⊙ fire observed at BATARI ref BUNA 1inch 9943 ⊙ Barges near mouth in same pos ⊙ AMBOGA RIVER ⊙ just A.S.E. river mouth ships boats with number 0502 ⊙ Boat approx 25 ft long painted khaki blue "
✓	—	"	2130	I940	NANI	32 Div Sitrep 0400 L/30 western force continuing to expand each pos vicinity 268254 northward towards BUNA mission ⊙ Corridor from ENTRANCE CK being strengthened ⊙ Eastern force ⊙ attack launched NE in conjunction with tanks 1600 L/29 ⊙ Some advance to coconut grove along coast NW of old runway.
✓	—	"	1915	O2049	NANI	Sitrep No 1800 hrs ORd block area ⊙ attacks by 2/7 Aust Cav and 39 Bn unsuccessful ⊙ Japs using fire bays connected by trench and automatic weapons are manned as required ⊙ 30 Bde area ⊙ Japs mortars active ⊙ Left flank comms cut in several places ⊙ Addn HG each of 163 US regt and 14 Aust Inf Bde both under cond 7 Aust Div arrived SOPUTA area.
✓	—	31 Dec	0715	I27	ZUGO	Sitrep ⊙ GILLILAND activity confined to enemy chopping and digging in front of fwd pits ⊙ HILTEN occasional shots at movement otherwise all quiet ⊙ MCINTYRE all quiet during night all quiet at stand down
✓	—	"	0815	I31	ABOG	Sitrep 29 to 0800 hrs ⊙ Nil rep A.

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(53)

Action Taken

IN	OUT	DATE	TIME	NO	TO OR FROM	TEXT
✓	—	31 Dec	0800	02054	NANI	Situp No 0 800 hrs ⊙ Harassing fire by our arty throughout night otherwise all quiet.
✓	—	"	1045.	I941	NANI	32 Div to 1700 L/30 ⊙ EASTERN FORCE ⊙ Reorganizing elements 2/12 bn in area ⊙ 10 tanks serviceable ⊙ WESTERN FORCE ⊙ Slow progress fwd BUNA MISSION BEACH zone progress undergood GOIT GARDENS ⊙ Jap. dispersed stragglers moving from inland localities to the coast.
—	✓	31 Dec	0815	I66	~~JASO~~ NANI	Situp No 0800 hrs ⊙ Enemy patrol activity BOERAM area ⊙ Exchange of grenades no damage or casualties ⊙ Otherwise no change.
	✓	"	1245	I67	BOEREM VOYA NANI	KAJO completed relief GILLILAND 1215 hrs
	✓	"	1312.	I68	"	Ref our I67 ⊙ KAJO relieved HILLEN NOT rpt NOT GILLILAND ⊙ YOKI reopened TNNRFD at 1030 hrs.
✓	—	"	1250	I82	NANI ~~DROG~~ HUGGINS JASO	Situp number 30 to 1200 hrs ⊙ Nil report.
✓	—	"	1200	I134	HUGGINS	Situp No 1200 L ⊙ Quiet morning 2 Jap killed by HONNER ⊙ recce patrols still out
✓	—	"	1500	02055	NANI	Situp No 1400 hrs ⊙ 30 Bde Area ⊙ 8 Jap killed PM 30 Dec ⊙ Rd block area 2 killed this morning ⊙ 6 Otherwise no change ⊙
✓	—	30 Dec	1530	I937	NANI	TAC/R AM 30 Dec ⊙ KUMUS river ⊙ two barges moored off river mouth ⊙ one barge on east bank ⊙ One serviceable barge on beach half mile north of river mouth ⊙ GIRUA ⊙ Telephone line on light poles still across mouth of inlet ⊙ Two well worn tracks leave main track east of inlet and disappear into jungle
✓	—	"	1430	02045	NANI	Situp No 1400 hrs ⊙ Rd block area ⊙ attack by dets each of car and 39 Bn on Jap. pos n east of track now in progress ⊙ 30 Bde ⊙ Pressure burg mag planted by US Pte on enemy posn at 1812 50 ⊙ 35 Jap dead counted to date this area ⊙ Weapons salvaged include 16 Brens 16 Brens 11 TSMG's 1 60 mm mortar 59 rifles 44 2 0 US rifles ⊙ GO FORCE ⊙ 23 RABAUL natives ex SANANDA area captured am today
✓	—	31 Dec	1710	I118	ZUGO	Situp HILLEN relieved by YOKI 1310 hrs ⊙ all quiet ⊙ GILLILAND left pl two Jap fired on in morning one seen to fall otherwise no activity.

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IN	OUT	DATE	TIME	NO	TO / FROM	TEXT	ACTION TAKEN
	✓	30 Dec	037 1455	037	YOMI VOYA ZUGO BOEREM	assembly withdrawn to the following ⊙1⊙ Personnel will carry arms at all times 02⊙ Stand to will be strictly observed this particularly slack now in rear areas every man will have an allotted place to be occupied during stand to or in the case of alarm ⊙ That on duty as office RAP ration dump etc will be under arms ⊙ Personnel who have been noticed at MCA during stand to this will cease 03⊙ Reporting of information must be speeded up and the necessity of reporting everything seen or heard impressed on fwd Ops 04⊙ Security Posts must be maintained in each sub unit area and all personnel moving in that area challenged ⊙ Unsatisfactory replies should receive no second chance ⊙ Every officer and man must have the password ⊙ SENTRIES MUST BE ALERT 05⊙ Chinamen movement will take place in unit areas and on roads after dark ⊙ Add after para 1 of this message ⊙ "except in office and similar areas where arms will be kept close at hand." 06⊙ A dead Jap is the only good Jap ⊙ Any and every opportunity will be taken to kill the enemy this applies particularly to patrols who will engage the enemy although they be outnumbered only in very exceptional circumstances are they specially ordered should patrols refrain from making contact.
	✓	31 Dec	1900	I69	NANI info MUSKET KOTY ABOG	Setup to 1800 hrs ⊙ 4 Japs killed in pocket right of 2d ⊙ Sporty shoot on suspected enemy mortar posn TIFREA thought successful ⊙ Yelling heard after shoot.
✓	—	"	2130	Y123	NANI	Arrangements and times of Tac R and Arty R sorties 1 Jan same as advised in Y122 of 30 Dec.
✓	—	"	2045	I943	NANI	TAC/R 1600 to 1700 L/31 ⊙ SANANANDA PT ⊙ All coconut palms chopped down ⊙ This has happened during last 4 days ⊙ Many of palms appear to have been removed ⊙ at 212294 large patch of grass being burnt off ⊙ SANANANDA - SOPUTA RD ⊙ Three quarters of rd under water ⊙ White puff of smoke from 191270 followed immediately by puff of black smoke 100 ft in air possible AA ⊙ at 202274 on corduroy track leading SE from track ⊙ 3 wooden shelters approx 10 ft square just short of light line of ops at ground level

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Date	Serial No.	To.	Orig No.	T.O.O.	Wrepty to No.	Context.	Time Out	Action taken
15/11	274	Rear Bde	I545	-	-	For Capt DIDDAMS. Please forward following by ration truck. cigarettes, matches, boot polish and sauces.	1000	Sigs
16/11	275	" "	I546.	-	-	Units under cond. 39 Bn. 49 Bn 16 Bde Carrier Gp, 30 Bde Carrier Gp, 306 LAD will come under cond today limit location not yet advised.	0807	Rations ~~Fuels~~
16/11	276	49 Bn	I547	-	-	Request for text books by 1200 hrs 18 Pln 42	1210	Sigs.
16/11	277	Rear Bde	0188.	-	-	For Lieut TOLMER. bond will arrive school about 1830 hrs for lectures at 1900 hrs.	1645	Sigs.
19/11	278.	all Bns & barrier Coys.	I549	-	-	Please advise this HQ by 1200 hrs 20th Nov. Classification all MT tracks in area under wet weather conditions. Please advise on occurrence of any flooding or serious blockage of tracks	1000	Sigs.
19/11	279	6 Aust Div	I550.	1700		all previous location statements and order of battle have been destroyed.	1705	Sigs.
~~19~~/11	280.	Rear Bde	0201	0920.	-	For Capt TOWN. Jap required here at 1130 hrs. ACK.	0925.	Sigs.
21/11	281 ~~282~~	49 BN.	0202	0735	-	PL Comdr will have text note books and typing records available in Coy HQ by 0830 hrs	0740	Sigs
21/11	282	6 Aust Div	I551	0825	-	39 BN Aboriginal PL now under cond 39 BN and situated at 952308	0830	Sigs
21/11	283	KUK	0203	0900	-	For T.O. Can arrange mobile pictures show this area more frequently provided motor available for power. Can L.A.O. provide requirements 12 AMPS 240 volts stepped up to 415, 3 phase. signal reply	0900	Sigs
21/11	284	N.Z.V.	A849	0940		R.C. MASS Will be held at 39 Bn H.Q. Coy Area 0900 Sunday	0945	Sigs
21/11	285	30 Bde Rear	A850	1025		For T.O.. kitchens have no water. is water truck calling here this morning.	0930	Sigs
21/11	286	306 L.A.D.	A51	1100		Advise this H.Q. immedately number of personnel who have NOT been Vaccinated. & blood grouped also Number not yet received initial innoculations T.T. and. TAB & refreshers T.T. & T.A.B.	1105	Sigs
21/11	287	O Inf	A852	1120		From observations Decoy apparently are having holiday. mending our everywhere. seems that by instructions at first being carried out. majority officers	1125	Sigs

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DATE	SERIAL No	TO	ORIG No	TIME OF ORIGIN	CONTEXT	TIME OUT	ACTION TAKEN
21/11	288	30 Bde. Rear	A853	1245	What immed. action is requested. Automatic held. thought 45 definitely NOT 38		
21/11	289	16BDE Carriers	I558	1230	Hamerill Cartridge paper mil and BUNA sheets 4 in 1 mil (REVISED). Regret shortage tracing paper. Remarks 6 sheets working paper 2 yds tracing linen	1300	Sigs
21/11	290	30 Bde Rear	A854	1400	One 30 cwt to report to H.Q. 6 Coy 2/9 Bn at 0800 hr 22nd Nov. Will transport kit bags to M.G Bn	1235	Sigs
21/11	291	NZV	A855	1500	VX 22598 L/Cpl P.C. BEENIE evacuated AGH 20 NOV not records accordingly	1405	Sigs
21/11	292	Rear Bde	A856	1715	For BARCO Ref 6 Aust Div circular R6/1/1932 supplementary Signal explanation as instructed para 2 of circular	1500	Sigs
21/11	293	Rear HQ 30 Bde MT 41	A857	1735	Y.D.T.O. please send tracks to ADOS 6 Aust Div tomorrow and pick up vehicle for 38 Bde mosquito then pick up mess for 16 BDE Carrier Coy who will pick up from you. Ack	1720	Sigs
21/11	294					1740	Sigs
21/11	294	NZV. BECH	A858	1750	F6 to made out for above transferred to 128 US Regt. Do not include amn.	1750	Sigs
21/11	295	NZV	A859	1815	Awaiting returns of specialists ref. 6 Aust Div circulars PZ/23/1921 also supplementary ration figures action overdue Expedite.	1815	Sigs
21/11	296	KUK	A860	1900	Supplementary rations. 17 pdrs odd works out rate of 2+6 per man at strength approx 137 personnel Did attch bring totals to that figure. Ack	1925	Sigs
21/11	297	KUK					
21/11	298	Bde Rear.	A862	2250	Ack reply As 812	2255	Sigs
22/11	299	" "	A861	0730	For T.O. arrange Tpt 4 Sigs with eq pt 4 i/Asst for 1300 hrs 22 Nov. Also to attend 6 Div sig school	0731	Sigs
22/11	300	— 4	A862	2230	Ack (Reply As 812)		Sigs
22/11	301	Rear Bde HQ	A863	0915	For T.O. ref our A854 of 21 Nov. Veh has not reported 49 Coy DADH. please arrange immediate Ack	0920	Sigs
22/11	302.	Rear Bde 30 Bde AD	A864	0935.	Ref our rems A/8/20/11 of 20 Oct 00. Returns have not been received. Expedite. Ack.	0935	Sigs.
22/11	303	6 Aust Div	I553	1000	Tracing & Lowing tracks from 16 BDE Carrier Coy over tracks country to MT ASTROLABE	1000	DDR

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22/11	304	306 LAD	A865	1005	Kiema Supplementary Rations. This return NOT yet received Delay for this return & tradesmen required by this HQ Ack	1007	Sigs
22/11	305	ODT NZV	A866	1200.	6 Aust Div require return of soldier named GOLDENT. Has he at any period been on strength and if so this whereabouts now	1205	Sigs.
22/11	306	50 Bde Rear	A867	1300	For T.O. 60 Tents available 4 Det. Ord. Depot. Moresby Wharf this afternoon. Will you arrange tpt. and ring ADOS 6 Aus Div to say tpt have left ack.		
22/11	307	Rear HQ 5 Div	A868	1400	for T.O. ref A200 A.C. KLOBE why send form to this HQ KLOBE not on strength this HQ as far as HQ knows	1305	Sigs
22/11	308	Rear HQ 30 BDE	A869	1410	for T.O. nominations for tradesmen return V64988 Dvr CURTIS CH: arrived Koitaki for submission	1405	Sigs
22/11	309	HQ 17 Bde ODT NZV	A870	1600.	Two trucks AD report to Kaile Bn for duration tonight. Truck can required for removal of spoil. Job will last a few days. Ack	1415	PER D/R
22/11	310	KVK	A871	1600	For T.O. Have you been able to arrange inoculation for KVK yet	1610	Sigs
22/11	311	306 LAD	A872	1610.	Please advise number of personnel not yet blood grouped vaccinated	1610	Sigs
22/11	312	6 Aust Div	0207	1600	unvaccinated. If any arrangements CCS to do so		
					For CRE. Two compressors only required 23 Pnr therefore one compressor available for collection tonight. Working tonight will cut out on 23 Pnr when remaining two compressors will be available your disposal.	1610	Sigs.
22/11	313	all units Corps	I554.	1717	Ref Maj Kennedy (Spring) 21 BDE will conduct mortar shoot from 0800 hrs to 1700 hrs 27 NOV en square 9633 Ack. All informed	1720	Sigs.
23/11	314	RAE 6 Aus Div	A873	2115	RE compressors. as result of C.O.S. conference discovered sufficient work to keep 3 compressors fully occupied until Wed. night. may we retain compressors will not act on J.W.I until further advise.	2120.	Sigs
23/11	315	ODT BEECH	A874	0820	For WO. PAGE. would Pte GORT drummer 6 Aust Div concert unit be of any use in band	0830	
23/11	316	KVK	A875	0850	all available Appt to report to DOM for allocation to units for removal of spoil. Ack	0905	Sigs
23/11	317	NZV	A876	0850	Submit new A 33 for Lieut TOLMER	0905	Sigs
23/11	318	39 & 49 Bns.	I555	1005	Units will submit boxtop bearings by 1800 hrs 25 Pnr 42. Tracing will show all tracks marked Bde Area which will be used to effect O(2) Distinguish between main and alternate routes (3) Distinguish between MT & other tracks (4) Check grades in more	1005	Sigs.

ACTION GIVEN

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DATE	SERIAL NO	TO	ORIG NO	TIME OF ORIGIN	CONTEXT	TIME OUT	ACTION TAKEN
23/11	319	39+49 Bns	I556	1040	Ref I555. Pl send submit 2 more by 1200 hrs 24 Nov in lieu those stated in I555. Ack.	1045	Sigs
23/11	320	39+49 BNS	A877	1135	Following returns required by 1700 hrs today (1) Offrs and OR'S who have completed schools in AUSTRALIA and NOT returned to unit (2) personnel on leave in AUSTRALIA whose leave has expired and NOT returned to unit (3) Offrs and NCO's wounded and returned to AUSTRALIA and NOT returned to unit	1150	Sigs
23/11	321	39 Bn + 49 Bn	A878	1205	Weekly medical reports not yet received by this H.Q. expedite	1205	Sigs
23/11	322	RAE 6 Aust Div	A879	1225	Pl compressors 2 diamond pointers for the spades required by compressor in 39 BN area. May these be supplied	1300	Sigs
23/11	323	39 BN, 49 BN	0208	1415	Pl conds may attend NCO's school B.F.C.H area 24 Nov to watch firing methods. Unit signal number offers to attend offrs report BM 1306 hrs at school	1430	Sigs
23/11	324	NZV	A880	1425	Submit F20 for leggings to fully equip present personnel	1430	Sigs
23/11	325	MZH	A881	1620	Advise this HQ number of cabatoes you can arrange to be made available for us at 1000 hrs 29 NOV for the day. purpose to show sec. leaders their posts from sea and from enemy point of view. Ack.	1528	Sigs
23/11	326	6 Aust Div	0209	1510	Ack (Reply to No 4)	1525	Sigs
23/11	327	49 Bn 39 BN	0210	1735	Pref. LTH. BN area Mortar pl will RV A coy res pl area 0815 hrs 24 NOV and report Lieut H. HINCKSMAN pl will carry lunch and tools	1755	Sigs
23/11	328	6 Aust Div Concert party	A883	1800	Ref Pte BORT application for transfer has it your approval do 6 Aust Div approve of transfer Ack	1800	Sigs
23/11	329	ODT	A882	1920	Lieut SCANLON required to attend at HQ NGF at 1000 hrs 25 Nov to give evidence before court of inquiry into illegal absence of Pte NEWBY HQ N/GF. Ack	1930	Sigs
23/11	330	Rear HQ	A884	2015	BONO will report to BM 1230 hrs 24 NOV	2020	Sigs
23/11	331	.. ..	A885	0930	Trucks 30 cwt 9 now in area for removing spoil	2000	Sigs
23/11	332	NZV	A886	2140	Pte BORT transfer to be held over till further notice	2145	Sigs
23/11	333	NZV	A887	2150	Advise HQ how many prayer books held	2145	Sigs
24/11	334	ALL UNITS IN	A888	0900	Pictures tonight located at MORESBY SPECIAL one inch 962300	0911	Sigs

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Date	Log No	TO	ORIG No	TIME ORIGINT	CONTEXT	TIME OUT	ACTION TAKEN
24/11	335	Rear HQ	0212	1140	V/or BRIG releasing GOC 6 Aust Div.		
24/11	336	All under Comd	A889	1145	Lost on WEBLEY 455 pistol No 189335 between 17 mile ← TAURANA POINT on 23 NOV. Finder reports to this HQ. all informed	1145	Ltrs
24/11	337	ODT NZV	A890.	1410.	Advise this HQ by 1800 hrs 25 Oct Pow number of leggings required to equip units of W.E. strength plus 10 per cent reserve	1147	Ltrs
24/11	338	49 Aust Bn/Bn	A891	1640	Re Message from 6 Aust Div regarding leave of 14 days for Sgt. HORFORD	1415	Ltrs
24/11	339	All under comd	I557	1755	Canadian ships visiting GUINEA GOLD may be sent through the post. All informed	1645	Ltrs
24/11	360	39 Bn 49 Bn	P892	2035	Check returns submitted appox 4 weeks ago Leadership & Educational Qualifications results this H.Q. 1500 hrs 25 Nov.	1755	Ltrs
24/11	361	39 Bn & 49 Bn	A893	2130	VX46450 S/capt FLUCKER J L VX66054 A/capl DANIELS D.A. QX36802 A/Sgt. WILLIAMSON G1	2030	Ltrs
25/11	362	RAE 6 Aust Div	A894	0945	evacuated sick to hospital today from above Urgently required today 600 yds sun netting 20 bundles scrim green x brown 35 ft x 6 ft. Advise if approved And when stores can be collected	2135	Ltrs
25/11	363	6 Aust Div	I558	1350	Location Statement. Unchanged	0950	Ltrs.
25/11	364	49 BN B ECH	A895	1550	Vantage return NOT received. Please expedite Cancelled via Ltr	1300	Ltrs
26/11	365	30 6 LAD	A896	1605	W Daly return NOT received also Vantage return Refly by Signal immediate.	1605	Ltrs
25/11	366	39 & 49 BNS	A897	1740	Advise date A/gas capt is stored	1745	Ltrs
25/11	367	Rear HQ.	A900	2043	Ref Drivers shortage	2030	Ltrs
25/11	368	" "	A901.	2100	Dvr LEPOIDEVAN to report 55/53 BN by 0900 hrs 26 NOV for interview. Dvr will take report in other names submitted explaining why NOT available	2100	Ltrs.
25/11	369	6 Aust Div	A902	2115	Ref memo 42/06/2 of 23 NOV. 10 personnel requiring vacc. with report as requested	2115	Ltrs
25/11	370	49 BN.	A903	2215	30 cwt truck NOT available 26 NOV	2215	Ltrs
26/11	371	39, 49 Bns 16 & 30 Bdes 30 BLAD A Coy 2/1 Fd Amb	A904	0940.	Ref 30 Aust Inf Bde Admin Instr No 2 Para 3 (b). Signal this HQ by 1700 hrs 26 Oct deficiencies containers 2 gallon & 4 gallon.	0940	Ltrs.

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Date	Serial No.	To	Orig No.	Time of Orig	Contents	TIME OUT	ACTION TAKEN.
26/11	372	39 & 49 BN.	A905	1000	Bde to march parade 29 NOV 0900 hrs ADMS 6 Aust Div will advise immediately after	1000	Sigs
26/11	373	30 Bde Rear	A906	1045	GME inspection includes 1 this H.Q.	1048	Sigs
26/11	374	30 Bde Rear	A907	1140	advise number of tables mens mess	1142	Sigs.
26/11	375	39 & 49 Bns.	0214	1330	Signal by 1800 hrs number 44 and 2 gallon waters containers required to hold res 8 days water scale 1 gal per man.	1332	Sigs.
26/11	376	39 Bn 49 B	A908	1355	1 Stationary requisitioned by you awaiting collection 1 this H.Q.	1405	Sigs
26/11	377	30 Bde rear	A909	1400	One M.C. required. Capt Anderson will collect this afternoon	1405	Sigs
26/11	378	39 Bn	A910	1430	From Sgt VINE VX66054 A/cpl Daniels reported school 26 NOV	1435	Sigs
26/11	379	6 Aust Div	A911	1950	Containers 2 gals & 4 gal. 39 BN 51 & 27 49 BN 33 16 Bde 6 Aust Div nil & 30. 30 Bde Carrier Coy and nil A Coy 1 Fd Amb 27 & nil Bde HQ 4 & nil	2000	Sigs
26/11	380	30 Bde rear	A912	2000	All DUDA Reels at B Each for maintenance will come indented these Bns 27 Nov.	2005	Sigs
~~27/11~~	~~381~~						
27/11	381	" "	A913	0950.	For C & MS. Request for sandbags to by ration truck today	1000	Sigs
27/11	382	NZV	A914	1000	Advise if submitting A33(a) for Capt Noyes	1000	Sigs
27/11	383	Rear HQ	A915	1010	For BASCO. Arrange rationing for BDE sig school through NZV BECH Strength 42. NZV 18. ODT 19. DOM 4.	1010	Sigs
27/11	384	Rear HQ	A916	1220	Trucks to report to RAE 6 Aust Div ref MORESBY Special 595 K	1220	Sigs
~~27/11~~	~~385~~	~~6 Aust Div~~	~~I 558~~	~~1200~~			
27/11	385	6 Aust Div	I 559	1335	Your.	1335	Sigs.
27/11	386	Rear HQ	A917	1600.	Arrange C & MS indent for chains immediately. DADOS (o) advises available. Indents to include make of web type rope of tyres & advise B Lochs.	1605	Sigs.
27/11	386	DUDA, VOYA	0214	1630	I. schools are for offrs or Potential Offrs duration 6 weeks two photo interpretation for Offrs 2 weeks both at BRISBANE. signal nominations	1630	Sigs
27/11	387	39 & 49 Bns	A918	1700	Volunteers, attr warnig & coast watching will report this H.Q. 1100 hrs 29 Nov for interview	1705	Sigs

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27/11	388	Rear HQ	A919	2005	For BOWO have ands endeavd for fly sprays and fly sol in accordance with NGF pamphlet Prevention of Malaria	2010	Ligo
27/11	389	49 BN	215	2050	Lgt HORLOCK report for interview comd 0830 hrs 28 NOV	2050	Ligs
28/11	390	Rear H.Q.	0216	0850	Students report Wednesday 2 DEC	2053	Ligs
28/11	391	Rear Bde NCO Schl	A920	1053	Lgt VINE required report immediately DUDA. arrange movement on DOM ration truck. Truck leaves KVK 1130 hrs appx ack		
28/11	392	6 Aust Div	0217	1120	A nil. B. NIL C. NIL D. Lieut GG MORAY NG 189 Lieut EVENSEN		
28/11	393	Rear HQ	A921	1130	Schools for intelligence ORs required in NEW GUINEA	1135	Ligs
28/11	394	Rear HQ	A922	1230	Adv'd number leather leggings required to completely issue personnel plus ten per cent reserve	1150	Ligs
					Voyd will require two 30 cwts for move 30 Oct Div. 6 Aust Div supplying 4th 3 tonners to DOM under 1 Dec. Div supplying four 3 tonners to reach here 0800 hrs. Do you understand this time changed	1235	Ligs
28/11	395	16 Bde Canteen	A923	1645	Padre DOWDING NOT available	1708	Ligs
~~29/11~~	~~396~~	~~Rear Bde~~	~~52~~	~~0800~~	~~Daily stores state.~~	~~05~~	
29/11	396	30 BDE NCO SCHOOL	A924.	0815	(1) Yes (2) if convenient by by 200 hrs. if convenient arrange send two 30 cwt this HQ by 1230 hrs to Appt students sig school (3) yes (4) Yes.	0815	Ligs
29/11	397	49, 39 BNS REAR HQ	0218	1035	Move by 1 LOLO postponed indefinately. Ack.	1057	Ligs
29/11	398	39, 49 Rear HQ Aide Sig Liaison	0219	1115	Leg School postponed indefinately	1135	Ligs
29/11	399	Rear Bde HQ	0220	1115	For B.A.S.C.O. D Coy 49 Bn moving your unit A today inform T.O. Appt for move 11 lorries 3 tons arranged with D.A.Q.M.G. direct	1115	Ligs
29/11	400	6 Aust Div	0221	1120	NIL.		
29/11	401	39 BN 49 BN	I560	1442	Offrs will assemble BDE HQ at 1700 hrs. Offrs will travel MT.	1445	Ligs
29/11	402	39 Bn 49 Bn repeat 30 Bde HQ	0223	1505			
29/11	403	30 Bde Rear	0224	1510	C.O.S conference Maj of Bde T.O. to attend For Lieut TOLMER. NCOs school will be disbanded and staff returned to units by 1200 hrs 30 Nov Ack	1510	Lig
29/11	404	30 Bde Rear	0225	1515	BoWO to maintain fast liaison between QMs indents on priority one will be numerous during Appt to pick up working party strength 25 at Togo N.O.T Nine mile & take No 13 Echs	1520	Ligs
29/11	405	30 Bde Rear	1515				

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						ACTION
30/11	406	2/6 Dental HQ 2 Sec 81 Dent Un.	A924	0905	You will not move with units. you will pack & await orders to move from ADMS Dent	Sigs
30/11	407	All Brigades concd	0231	0815	Arrangements to DI. Boxes move today of 283 personnel 39 Surplus R Gp of Bde Situations change frequently and units must be prepared for orders at short notice Essential tables appx A 9 copies each to this HQ by 1500 hrs today.	Sigs
30/11	408	16 Bde barrier Gp	0232	0815	16 Bde barrier Gp under command 6 Aust Div from 0800 hrs today.	Sigs
30/11	409	DDM	~~0928~~	1005	For CMS. Required 3 mosquito nets replacement 2 helmets steel size 7¼ and 6 3/8 hats fur felt etc.	Sigs

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DATE	SERIAL NO	FROM	ORIG NO	T.O.O	T.O.R	CONTEXT	ACTION TAKEN
28/11	156	DUDA	L.7.	1130	1145	The following were omitted from EDUC. QUAL LIST. N205594 A/CPL ROBINSON N.G. age 20. intermediate clerk 12 Months army exper. NX78204 CPL GRAHAM JB age 25 intermediate enquiry office and Q staff duties 12 MONTHS ARMY EXP	B.M.
28/11	157	Rear HQ Bde Sch	T84	1116	1205	Ack (Reply to A920). Ack from BDE SCHOOL (Reply to A920)	S.C.
28/11	158	16 Fd Coy	2/28	1600	1630	Will Capt. Dowding be here tomorrow for Service at 1900 hrs.	S.C.
28/11	159	30 Bde Rear	—	1541	1630	For Lt Pearce. have purchased Supplementary rations as under Cordial pickles sauce tomato Custard pudder. mixed Spice Apple pulp pers fruit. Capt. Dickason	S.C.
29/11	160	Rear Bde	52	0600	0800	Daily strength State 1.	S.C.
29/11	161	.....	T85	0925	1005	Your A921 Aggings required complete Rear HQ. and reserve Fours 28 DADA Lane 2 x 30 cwt forward area Arrange for VOYD movement Longtop arrange from your HQ. And you order all 30 cwt trucks B E C M of 29 to carry no vehicles from DADA	S.C.
29/11	162	Bde Sch	25	0842	1005	Signal reply now possible re question (2) Adm T.O. advises arrangement has been made Hqrs. for students Lunch this area 1030 hrs. school will NOT be completed before 1500 hrs today Ack.	S.C.
29/11	163	Rear HQ	T86	1031	1045	Veh for sig school personnel will report BDE HQ 1400 hrs 29 NOV NOT 1330 hrs as arranged	SC
29/11	164	6 Aust Div	2	~~0945~~ 0945	1100	School M.I. course 6 PHOTOWING REDCLIFFE 5 DEC to 22 DEC 1 Officer vacancy for DIV. Nominations required by 0900 hrs 30 NOV. All informed	B.M.
29/11	165	6 Aust Div	3	1000	1100	Message not clear. Check and repeat all after D. (Reply to 0217)	BM
29/11	166	49 Bn	405	1114	1225	Ack reply to 0218	B.M.
29/11	167	30 Bde Rear	T87	1115	1226	Ack reply to 0218	B.M.
29/11	168	39 Bn	1572	1130	1225	Ack reply to 0218	B.M.
29/11	169	Rear HQ	T90	1210	1250	Vehicles available. from 49 B.N BDE CARRIER PL	S.C.
29/11	170	DUDA	L20	1200	1300	Ref G 2/27/11 schools and courses instr. Nil return	B.M.
2/11	171	30 Bde R	—		1305	2 Rental units at 39 49 Bn will not move with any part of this Bde.	B.C.
29/11	172	6 Aust Div	6	1140	1400	G 3964 of 25 Nov (Re Location Statement)	I O
29/11	173	Rear HQ	26	1600	1650	Ack. Reply to 0224	B.M.
29/11	174	49 Bn Bde Sch	WP18	1850	1910	Deficiencies in stores -	S.C.
29/11	175	49 Bn	AD1	2145	1058	Lt A Mawchline NOT available to attend hygine school	S.C.
29/11	176	Rear HQ	KS4	2145	2220	Indents for bush knives + hoods which are available from DADOS for 39 BN. Same for 30 BDE + 49 BN to Lodge to Lodge on the morning as 39 BN only collecting stores thought	S.C.
30/11	177	49 Bn	412	0830	0928	Movement no 5 . Pok	S.C.

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DATE	FROM	ORIG NO	T.O.O.	T.O.R.	CONTEXT	ACTION TAKEN
23/11	109	39/BEC	JJ45	1645	Req. for controlled stores on E5-1A	S.C
23/11	110	VOXA	367	1720	number of offrs attending 9.	BM
23/11	111	39BN	JJ47	1740	Re amn. 1st Line	S.C
23/11	112	39BN	A49	2000	8 offrs will attend.	S.C
24/11	113	Rear HQ	KS 3	0820	Ref reply to A884.	S.C
24/11	114	30 GLAD	47	0800	Returns for A. Office	S.C
24/11	115	DUDA	A52	0830	3850 pounds SAA expended on range last 7 days	S.C
24/11	116	6 Aust Div	60 S/147	1700	0940 From ADOS. no 632 s and return of Non skid chains urgent to hand this office. return was due 15 Nov 2 copies required	S.C.
24/11	117	6 Aust Div	669	0900	0940 lieut. SCANLON G.M. 39 Bn to attend at HQ N.G.F for court of inquiry, ~~absence~~ Illegal absence pte NEWBY H. N.G.F.	B.M.
24/11	118	49 Bn	373	0920	0940 No of prayer books held 250	S.C.
24/11	119	30 Rear	TIT	1210	1235 Reply to 0212 Brig making recce near MERRIGADA. time of return to Dom NOT known.	B.M.
24/11	120	49 BN.	375	1521	1600 Work policy. BN will require add. day to complete areas	BM
24/11	121	6 Aust Div	67	1545	1630 Leave for Q71407 Sgt R J HORFORD 49 B N. HORFORD to report 1 Aust Sply. Reception camp for onward movement.	S.C
24/11	122	39 BN	A58	1605	1637 547 leggings required. 343 of these have been recad for (Reply A890)	S C
25/11	123	B Ge Rear	48	0800	0930 daily Strength state	S.C
25/11	124	39 Bn	A60	1510	1630 Addition to Education qualifications N18111 Sgt MEANI WF age 21. intermediate, insurance, army experience 2 typo.	S.C.
25/11	125	30 GLAD	7	1753	1913 Tents on charge this LAD Weekly strength return being sub again Copy already sent records office	S C
25/11	126	Rear HQ	PT78	1221	1903 Veh 16800 grounded re turning 23866 with Lieut. MORAY and rations. Veh leaving 1300 hrs if not already left ask Capt DIDHAMS Howard and bring back him your instr re OME A C K.	S C
25/11	127	30 GLAD	Q9	2155	2320 Weekly strength return dispatched records office Duncan Officers 30 Bde	S C
25/11	128	Rear HQ	Q8	2155	2320 This unit has 4 tents on storage	S.C.
26/11	129	" "	49	0600	0800 Strength return.	S C
26/11	130.	C/O 4 Fd Regt	-	-	0940. There will be target practice next week. Do they want any specific targets or "D.F" task engaged. We might be able to arranged with other regiments if you do.	B M

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26/11	131	39 Bn	AG5	1115	1120	Anti Gas equip returned to Ord While Unit was a way Reply A897	S.C
26/11	132	16 Bde	1/16	1125	1150	Defences - Yal containers N/L 44 gal containers 38.	S.C
26/11	133	Bde Sch	S1	1300	1320	From Sgt Vine. VX66054 A/Cpl Dancels rejoined School Nov 26	S.C
26/11	134	16 Bde Coy	5/21	1415	1422	Ref Lagatois have arranged 10 for Sunday. Capacity approx 70 per Boat Detail by D/R Samarasan.	B.M.
26/11	135	A Coy 2/5 Fd Amb	T7	1427	1427	Defences 2 gall containers 27. 44 galls nil reply to A904	S.C
26/11	136	50 Bde rear	T79	1437	1443	Your reply to D907	S.C.
26/11	137	Voya 4.	RR1	1555	1609	Location statement G3815 destroyed by fire.	I.O.
26/11	138	DODAGE Fd	JJS61	1555	1604	Req for following controlled stores on table E 5.8 serial No 1201 5 required for replacement	S.C.
26/11	139	DUDA	A70	1745	1800	5 12 gall and 27 44 gall containers required.	S.C.
26/11	140	DUDA	A6	0740	0805	Exercise message passed to I.O.	I.O.
27/11	141	KUK	49	0600	0815	Daily strength state A. NIL B. NIL C 1 and 12 D NIL E NIL F NIL G NIL and 3.	ESC
27/11	142	VOYA	388	1020	1032	Yes. (Reply to A914)	S.C
27/11	143	Rear HQ	T80	-	1146	2. 30 cot sheets supplied to WONGA for jackets + barbers as ordered Re tent shortage. Could extra drivers slap on BWS	S.C
27/11	144	Dude	A8.	1150.	1216	A Coy. digging party left out of wire. No wire available in area awaiting supplies. Learn your contract supply offr	J.C.
27/11	145	6 Aust Div	6	1100	1310	Advise No copies required to supply all units HQ TM possessin Aust Fd Gunnership Instr 7 21	I.O
27/11	146	16 Bde Barracks	2/27	1310	1315.	Your D/R has not arrived this HR yet. O	Sig Offr
27/11	147	Rear	T8H	1545	1545	Gradesmen letters MT answers clerk Aucland 6 Aust Div quote P2/23/1921. 30 Bde ref no A 8/20/E11	S.C.
27/11	148	VOYA	394	1740	1800	Nom. for school 9X 35380 Sgt HORLOCK + 9X 7210 Capt SHAW	B.M.
27/11	149	DUDA	Z2	1802	1815	Nominations for No 1 school N 9X 184 Lieut M. G. Brenen No 2 school 9X 839 Lieut R L McNAMARA	B.M.
27/11	150	DUDA	24	2020	2030	Reporting lights astern one red one white lights signalling distance approx 15 mls first observed 2000 hrs direction 180 degrees from HQ	B.M.
28/11	151	KUK	69	0720	0835	Defences - 2 gallons containers etc	S.C
28/11	152	KUK	51	0600	0835	Daily strength state.	S.C.
28/11	153	"	T83	0830	0840	BAASC requires to know time date re-opening NCO school	B.M.
28/11	154	16 Bde carriers	1/28	0825	0840	Could Bde Armaries Officer ring this HQ today	S.C

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21/11	69	C Aust Div	5	1455	1615	Admenta Re Location G3815		B.M.
21/11	70	Rear HQ 30 Bde	JT2	1506	1615	49 have been granted permission to buy straights from canteen issuing point please advise if agreed dozen cups & saucers to be picked by Lieut Pearce.		S.C.
21/11	71	6 Aus Div	6	~~1620~~ 1630	1700	Defs 11, 25 defs carrying will revert & cond. 14 30 Bdes as from 0800 hrs 24th Nov. Hand carts to be returned for thwarth		B.M.
21/11	72	Rear Bde	S.11	1830	1845	From BASCO. Balance road 300 CT did not exceed 2/6 per member. Ack		S.C
21/11	73	Rear Bde	T69	1906	2012	(Ack Reply to A857)		SC
22/11	74	Rear Bde	T70.	0800	0815.	Ack (Reply to A861)		S.C.
22/11	75	~~Q M 39 Bn~~	~~JT 19~~	0757	0815	WETZLER is satisfied where he is O Do on at work Discharge		Bn
22/11	76.	Rear Bde	S12	2215 7/21	0840	From BASCO. Supplementary rations O Strength at 30 Oct was 133 & suitable supplies procurable at canteen at this date O Ack.		S C
22/11	77	Lt HUGHES	H10	1950 4/21	0840.	Wiring reports. 39 Bn area three hundred yards completed. 53 Bn three hundred yds completed		B M
22/11	78	49 Bn	363	2011 4/21	0840.	Ref Barrett Dvr arrested as TRADESMEN. Nil Returns		S C
22/11	79	~~C Aust~~ Div	3	0950	1045	Ref Map MORESBY (SPECIAL) 1 inch 21 BDE will conduct mortar shoot from 0800 to 1700 hrs 27 NOV Location sq. 9633 all informed		B.M.
22/11	80	Rear Bde HQ	T71	1030	1045	Bad roads vehicles bogged this morning have made enquiries and vehicle now reported HQ coy DUDA		S C
22/11	81	49 Bn G.	S60	1245	1300	Ref A866 GOLDENT. never on strength of this unit		S.C.
22/11	82	6 Aus Div	5	1200	1246	Bde Comds. of respective areas C.R.A. C.R.E. C.O 2/1 A/Tk regt will form committee to investigate and report this H.Q. on most suitable sites for mine fds. and booby traps MORESBY DEFENCE AREA. Report to show stores etc required & types of suggested mine fds & booby traps in order of priority & reach this H.Q. as soon as possible. CRE will coordinate dates & time for recces of each area. in event of comds KILA 7 MILE & BOOTLESS bde area not being available comd 30 Bde will act on committee in their places ack all informed		B.M.
22/11	83	39 BN	A35	1300	1400	GOLDEN T not known, have VX 106055 Pte GOLDING T.C. on strength in this area (Reply to A 866)		S.C
22/11	84	Rear HQ 30 Bde	T72	1405	1420	Ack Reply to (A867)		
22/11	85	" "	T74	1500	1535	KLOBE on strength 30 Aust Inf Bde Base Sqn		SC
22/11	86	" "	T73	1500	1535	LAD equipment under capacity. Have not had item for further		
						Investigation OSOSLEY and BIGGAR who [illegible] 0930		S C

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22/11	87	6 Aust Div	Q	1600	1700	investigation OGOSLEY and BIGGAR reporting 0930 as instructed	SC
						1 Aust Army Junior Ldrs Pl Lehool Commences AS HGROVE 28 Nov-4 Dec. Capt TYSON	SC
						14 Bde left ~~3rd~~ TOWN 30 Bde with reps & NMM Bn for move 24 Nov	
22/11	88	44 BN	S61	1711	1750	Ack Reply A(A870)	
22/11	89	16 Bde Barracks	3/22	1750	1755	Ack (Reply to I 554)	S.C.
22/11	90	KUK	I.75	1832	1900	Ack (A874) Infm. concerning elect. equip sent in weekly reports per radio Arrgts made by AGH to innoculations as per playbook show others NOT on list needing maintenance injection	I.O.
22/11	91	DODA	A37	1728	1930	Ack (reply to I 554.)	S.C.
22/11	92	3/1 FD AMB	T5	1926	1932	Ack (reply to I 554)	+
22/11	93.	MAU	52	2115	2135.	Ack. (Reply. to I 554)	I.O.
22/11	94	LT. HUGHES.	H11	2030	2035	Wiring reports ⊙ 53 Bn area 200 yds complete ⊙ 39 Bn area 150 yds completed.	I.O.
22/11	95	CRE 6 AUST. DIV	952	2200	2207	Re compressors ⊙ retain 3 compressors in your area until works completed.	BM.
22/11	96	NZV	WP8	0830	0935	Tanks reported fwd area PAR VIEW POR (reply to A874)	BM.
22/11	97	ODT BECH	T1542	0858	0935	Yes required immediately. (reply to A874)	SC
23/11	98	KUK	T76	0942	1005	Ack A8750 70 cwt will be available not before 1400 hrs today. Will report if DOM earlier possible. Part 1 ton short do not like them on that work ⊙ 15 cwt definitely required	SC
23/11	99.	DUDA.	A40	1009	1030.	Particulars complete Coy. OC Lieut JOHNSTON 11 Pl Lieut SEEKAMP 16 Pl Lieut PENTLAND	SC.
23/11	100	VOYA 4	I1	1145	1200	Ack I556	I.O.
23/11	101	VOYA 4	I2	1145	1200	Ack I556	I.O.
23/11	102	MRU.	O.1	1205	1305	Ref admin. instr No 10. Ack.	BM
23/11	103	DUDA	I.6	1314	1335	Ack (reply to I 556)	IO
23/11	104	Rear HQ	S.15	1200	1410	Ack ~~(reply to)~~ Ref Admin Instr No 10	BM.
23/11	105	6 Aust Div	4	1350	1435	Further to this HQ Sig 5/22-GO 16 Aust Armd regt will be incl in recce party. Ack. All informed	BM
23/11	106	MZH	4/23	1558	1604	Ack (reply to A881)	SC
23/11	107	13 Aust Fd Regt	0.201	1550	1720	Admin instrn No 10 copy No 6. Ack	BM
23/11	108	6 Aust Div	688	1625	1720	Ref your application 19/11 and confirming telephone advice of 22 NOV. approval given immediate movement Capt TWTOWN to SYDNEY proc attending LHQ staff school	SC

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Date	From	Orig No.	Serial No.	Time in	Contents	To
20/11	30 Bde Coy	03	03	0840	Ref MI/5/836. One off 330 R's at present. KANOSIA NOT repeated not relayed vide T.E.T. maintenance. All ranks KANOSIA have been blood grouped.	S.C.

See below.

IN

Date. Serial No. 6 Orig No. T.O.O. TOR

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~~Date. Serial No. 6 rig No T.O.O. T.O.R.~~

DATE	SERIAL NO.	FROM	ORIG NO.	T.O.O	T.O.R	CONTENT.	ACTION TAKEN
20/11	54	49 Bn	I 2	0856	0945.	Rds classification as per request our message I 549.	I. O.
20/11	55.	20 Bde Bn	0101.	0912	0955	Rds " " " " I 549.	I. O.
20/11	56.	49 Bn	RR2	0937	1010.	Destruction of location statement - Certificate.	I O
20/11	57	Rear Bn	AA2	1040.	1050.	Truck left for bd store 0730.	S C.
20/11	58.	"	AA1	1010	1050.	For Bn. Leaving here now.	Bn
20/11	59	39 Bn	I 2	1000	1110.	B 3 except 9 1 E 1 5 9 A P squares 9331 9431 MORES BY SPECIAL which is C 3	I. O.
20/11	60	KOK	T66	1445	1510	Authority is requested please to draw from 39 BN BECH 3 boxes grenades 36 H.E and 6 only grenades smoke. For BDE NCO's school. Stores required tomorrow. Ack	B M
20/11	61.	39 Bn	—	—	1640.	RC Pass. 39 Bn HQ Coy area. Cum 22	S C
20/11.	62	Rear Bde	T67	1600	1730	Lt Tolmer requires Owen gun served attached personnel	Bn
20/11	63	KOK	K52	1835	1910	For Staff Captain. Stores in short supply trousers KD short and short boots small sizes. Expect position alleviated in two or three days	S. C.
20/11	64	LT HUGHES	HQ	2050	1115	Wiring report 39 BN area 200 yds completed. 53 BN area 150 yds completed.	B M
21/11	65.	Rear Bde	T68.	1120	1250	Immediate action required concerning sprung heads 38 automatic pistol confiscated by Capt DIDDAMS and handed to Staff Capt some 3 weeks ago. Ack.	S. C.
21/11	60	BDE SCHOOL	22	1030	1330	VX 22598 Pte PC. BEENIE evacuated sick to AGH 20 NOV 42. Could Capt ARUNDELL owen gun served be sent to school.	S C.
21/11	67	6 Aust Div	3	1245	1435	6 Aust Div R.A.A. will conduct Shoot 277 28 Nov 42 Danger area baundries East Grid line 86 from point 800460 to 800560 West line from pt 740460 on bearing approx 340° 706573 South Grid line 46 from pt 800 4600 to 840 460 north line from pt 800560 to pt 706573.	B. M.
21/11	68	6 Aust Div	2	1420	1440	amendment location statement	B M.

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To.	Context	From	orig No	TIME rec'd	SERIAL NO	DATE
I.O	Ref this HQ G 3815 of 18 NOV re PORT MORESBY (SPECIAL) 1 inch 1 mile. Def 22 AUST FD RK COY located 889355. All informed	6 Aust Div	4	1145	37	19/11
S.C.	To Capt TOWN from LT TOLMER. Sgt cook attached school has been told by 39BN QM that he will return 39 BN today. Is this information correct and has it your authority I particularly want this cook to stay if possible Ack	30 BDE SCHOOL	20	1415	38	19/11
BM.	Admin inst. NO2 Ack.	VOYA	356	1415	39	19/11
S.C	Ack (Reply to A 828)	39 B. ECH.	JJ523	1415	40	19/11
S.C.	Innoculations and Vaccinations in this unit are complete	39 Bn.	A16	1515	41	19/11
S.C.	6 AUST DIV memo M1/5/836 NOT received by this unit all personnel in this unit have been innoculated and vaccinated as per DRO A452	~~VOY~~ A MZH (16 BDE CARR COY)	1/19	1550	42	19/11
S.C.	4 personnel in this unit have NOT been blood grouped one of these 4 at present in 9 AGH	MZH	3/19	1600	43	19/11
I.O.	Ref this HQ G2815 dated 18 Nov. Ref map MORESBY SPECIAL one inch one mile. Sportsmpl 2/2 Bn carrier ptl returned 2/2 Aust Inf Bn 2 Ind Aust wksh loaded 2/6 Aust Amn Regt located 910428.	6 Aust Div	7	1700	44	19/11
S.C	Ack (reply to A 837)	VOYA	357	1735	45	19/11
S.C.	Sgt VINE reported CO DUDA today with special pro-former for LHQ school of signals completed	BDE SCHOOL	20	1915	46	19/11
B.M.	Wiring report A. 39 BN area 100 yds completed. Half day only working A. Aust 53 BN area half day carrying stores	LT HUGHES	H.8.	1915	47	19/11
S.C	V129070 Pte JENKINS will report for interview 0900 hrs today	39 Bn	A 21	0800	48	20/11
S.C	Installation vehicle collect. driver BURGESS' belongings A Coy RAP and VOYA and bring bedding rolls and blotting paper from yard	R. Aust Bde	T 35	0835	49	20/11
S.C	This message NOT rptd NOT received this HQ until 1810 L hrs 0 bpl HARRIS will be paraded 1730 L hrs 20 Nov	30 Bde Garrison Coy.	01.	0935	50	20/11
S.C	QX38424 Pte BROWN A. 6119034 Pte BORTON D.W. at present attached 30 Bde Leaders have NOT rptd NOT been vaccinated or blood grouped	" "	02	0835	51	20/11
~~S.C~~ I.O.	Ref this HQ G 3815 dated 18 Nov ref map MORESBY SPECIAL one inch one mile O HQ Aust Div 898375. 2/1 Aust Fd Coy 984443 19 Nov.	6 Aust Div	11	"	52	20/11

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Date	Register No	Time received	Senders Number	From	Subject	Action
15	1	1420	16	Bde Sch	for S.C. Weapons & Systems did not arrive with Students owing to Illness ~~in Syd~~ to arrive School 4pm 2000 hrs 15 Nov. 42.	S.C.
15	2	1810.	A 306	39 Bn	Surplus Staff Sgt evacuated by S/Sgt acting as C SM	S C
14/11	3	0735	A 1	MRD	Ack.	S C
16/11	4	1115	348	49 Bn	Instruction for NGF. 6X 36081 Sgt G.W. HANSEN. At present attd at DONEDABU	B M
14/11	5	1115	19	Canteen	Ack.	S C
16/11	6	1415	T 54	KUK	Canteen has NOT applied for Sgt from B ECHELON	S C
16/11	7	1900	A 6	Lt Hughes	Wiring report 0 39 Bn area 200 yds completed 53 Bn Area 280 yds completed	B M
14/11	8.	243.	653.	6. DIV	Maj Gen. Allen assumed cmd 6 Aust. Div as from 2000 hrs. 14 Nov.	B M.
16/11	9	2222	JJ 310	DUDA. Bde	Ech. One hospital bed in area will deliver to 2/1 Fd Amb 17 2000. 42.	S C.
17/11	10	1035	A 5	DUDA	Re PORT MORESBY special ~~for~~ Ind ~~for~~ Training DUDA mentions use ranges for testing and firing weapons 9.0317 - 951313	B M.
17/11	11	1122	JJ 312	25 DUDA	Ack. Reply to A 880	S C.
17/11	12	1140	22	30 Bde CANTEEN	Ack Reply to A 799	S C.
17/11	13	1415	K 1	KUK	Re Capt. BENJAMINS watch Have contacted LIEUT TRAILL and can find no information re same He knows nothing about it	S C
17/11	14	1425	—	49 BN	Send carrier to recover bogged truck at BOOTLESS RD 0234 beyond VIVI ck crossing.	B M.
17	15	1910	655.	6 Div	Arrange chaplains JESSOP, GOSSMAN, OTTRAM, BEGBIE, attend conference CE chaplains 0930 hrs 19 Nov this HQ - Chaplains HARTLEY, DEALL, ANDERSON, DOWDNEY invited attend 0 All informed	S C
17	16	1910	H 7	Lieut Hughes	Wiring report 39 BN area parties carrying stores for days duration owing to ground being too soft for CARRIERS to operate. 53 BN 200 yds completed	B.M.
18/11	17	0845	—	Rear HQ	Just received notice of mess meeting 0 In any case weather conditions would have prevented attending 0 Advise date of next meeting.	
18/11	18	0845	I 18.	11 Bde Sqn	Have sent carrier to EGGIES CORNER 0 do may not get through yet	
18/11	19	1000	T 56	Rear Bde	Using Coons general working Party. Thunderbolt 3 holer collasped repair affected Transport shed collasped now re erected. Progress B Ech recreation hut slow should be completed 1800 hrs 19 Nov 42. One Coon	

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		FROM	O.NO	IN TIME	SERIAL 20	DATE
S.C.	Bitten by snake evacuated to 5CCS. Returned to lines this morning no duties					18/11
S.C.	For Capt TOWN. 39 BN personnel attending school have 10only pair of shorts could authority be given for another pair per man to be issued 39BN QM ample stocks. Ack	BDE SCHOOL	18	1100	21	18/11
S.C.	For Capt TOWN. Could authority be given for school to draw 24 7 second and 24 4 second HE grenades from 39 BN or 49 BN. Ack	" " "	11	1100	22	18/11
Sig O.	Watch for hourly lamp signal - Am endeavouring to contact you on signal post	HQ 9 Bn	2/18	1150	23	18/11
S C	No Apts. arrived therefore unable to be at BDE by 1400 hrs. Telephone NOT working - ACF to be restocked. Advise time to report BN	AO 30 BDE	23	1415	24	18/11
SC	Only one twin bed in RAP	49 Bn	352	1430	25	18/11
SC	Ack Adm Instr	6 Aust Div	890	1740	26	18/11
SC	Missing carrier C 26698 engine no 2 G 9318 F to Remained KANOSIA.	Rear Bde	T60	1840	27	18/11
Sig O.	Radio Officer. When will G13 be furnished for vehicle 16859 left here some days ago No reply verbal or written		T58.	1840	28.	18/11
SC	5 X 30 cwt already allotted Voya o These vehicles delivering kit bags to 39th back loo loading with mortar bombs. Voya advised by signal T56 16000	Rear Bde	T62	2015	29	18/11
SC	to your requisition in addition to above O Ord cannot supply	"	870	2015	30	18/11
SC	From Base O Ack Admin Instr No 1 of 14 Corps Hr	"	T64	"	31	18/11
SC	Ack	"	0139	"	32	18/11
SC	Reference your A 3/17/11 of 16 Corps G 449 20 Sy & LIVINGSTONE S.EM Nature & strength of this unit returning men	1/9 F M G Bn	953	2110 0830	33	19/11
B.M	Ref working hrs compressors O Sapper personnel sufficient to operate compressors 11 hrs per day have been provided for compressors in your areas. Please arrange provide working parties to work compressors two shifts per day from 0630 hrs to 1730 hrs 7 days per week.	Camp Commandant & Adjt & Qrs				
S.C	Pte. BALL. mothers address LOWEN TIVOLI IPSWITCH QUEENSLAND		354	0900	34	19/11
S.C	Ack	30 Bde N.C.O School	19	0935	35	A 19/11
S.C.	Post in re carriers sent. by signal T60 of Nov time of origin 1820. repeat here. missing carrier C26698 engine number 269318 F. remains KANACEA. Signal re natives T56 date 18 A 804 0930. these messages have definitely been sent from herre. investigation your end required. Ack	30 Bde Rear	T63	1045	36	14/11

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