

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

Item number: 8/3/65

27 Infantry Battalion

August 1945



S E C R E T

W A R     D I A R Y

ORIGINAL

27   AUST   INF   BN   (AIF)

VOLUME     VIII     from     1   AUGUST     to     31   AUGUST     45

INCLUDING     OPERATIONS

B O N I S     P E N I N S U L A

B O U G A I N V I L L E

*Prinsep Maj Lt Col*  
Comd 27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)



# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C.2118.  
(Adapted.)

(Erase heading not required.)

Unit 27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF) Date and Time.—From 1 August 45 To 31 August 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
BONIS PENINSULA	1 Aug 45	0400	While doing picquet on the perimeter at 'C' Coy, Cpl Graham was wounded by a grenade thrown by a Jap. The wound was a serious one, and he died while being carried to the ADS.	In view of the renewed enemy activity in the Ruri Bay Sector, a fighting patrol comprising:— 1 Pl B Coy 1 Pl A Coy See tks 16 Tp 2/4 Armd Regt
		1000	Brig A.W. Potts DSO MC (Bde Comd) visited the unit.	CPO & Sigs 12 Fd Bty will move 020930L along the Ruri Bay Rd and will eliminate possible Jap def posns reported by the PIB.
		1430	Sgt Underwood's patrol to the Base 2 area returned. Other than the contact made on 30 July, no other contact was made nor were signs of enemy movement observed.	In addition to the above patrol, 2 pls less 1 sec of the PIB will be used as ambush parties along the possible withdrawal route of the enemy.
		1630	Patrol 14 (Lt I.E. Ferguson) returned from the Base 3 area. This patrol gathered a great deal of infm of the area and proved that no enemy posns exist as was previously thought. The area where 26 Bn reported 40/50 tps to be is an area completely devastated by arty fire,	Duration of patrol is two days.



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Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
BONIS PENINSULA	1 Aug 45	1630	measuring 300 yds by 200 yds. This infm was erroneous as no signs of enemy def, old or new were seen. During the patrol Comd's recce from the patrol firm base at 299716, 5 Japs unknowingly walked into the perimeter. The five were killed. During the return trip home, Pte Corrie E. stepped on a self-detonating mine and was killed.	Relief of fwd pers 6/7 <del>21st</del> Aug C Coy goes to SORAKEN D Coy " to TASUI B Coy " to GYMPIE A Coy " to RURI  27 Bn relieved 8 Bn garrison SAPOSA 1st and 2nd Aug 45.
	2 Aug 45	0825	Patrol 19 under Comd Lt L.C. Mills moved out to recce the general area SE of Kunai 'D'. Object of patrol is to ascertain whether there are any enemy posns in this area, and if there are, to gather all relevant infm concerning str, fire power etc.  At 1430 hrs the patrol returned. Patrol Comd stated that after leaving COMMO RIDGE and having proceeded for approx	



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Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
BONIS	2 Aug 45	0825	500 yds on a bearing of 33° M, a strong enemy force employing	
PENINSULA			1 HMG, 2 LMGs and approx 10 rifles was contacted. The	
			enemy held the initiative and so the patrol had to withdraw	
			under hy automatic fire. The only cas sustained by the	
			patrol was a slight wound received by Pte Campbell. This	
			same man had his beret shot off and slight graze on the	
			shoulder, and another member had his rifle destroyed by a	
			bullet.	
		0845	C.O. visited C.O. 8 Aust Inf Bn (AIF).	
		1000	Patrol 18 str two fighting pls sp by tanks, under	
			Comd Lt C.F. Myers moved out with the object of eliminating	Bonis PATROL INSTN
			reported Jap posns on the Ruri Bay Rd. Patrol proceeded along	No 18
			the Ruri Bay Rd and est a firm base in the vicinity of D Coy	
			area 322703 preparatory to attacking its first objective at	



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Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
BONIS	2 Aug 45	1000	320705. A recce patrol was despatched to the reported	PIB pls stated they were held up by 1 Jap when moving to ambush
PENINSULA			enemy posn and found it vacated. Patrol then continued north	posns in sp of this
			along the Ruri Bay Rd making no contact. Comd decided to	operation and could not
			est a firm base for night at 325711, which is approx 1100	reach their posns in
			yds south of Ruri Bay. While the tps were moving into their	time when in fact, they
			perimeter, the leading tank detonated a 500 lb aerial bomb.	had 3 hrs to spare.
			The crew of 3 were killed instantaneously and eight tps in	They reported area from
			close proximity of the explosion were wounded; of these	326701 S to be clear,
			three men were walking wounded. The patrol, owing to the	although the patrol
			number of casualties, returned to B Coy, arriving at approx	located 3 mines at 324707.
			2200 hrs. The casualties were then evacuated by carriers to	No assistance was rendered
			the A.D.S.	by PIB, and their infm
				was really a menace to
				the security of the patrol.
		1400	Our 2 pdr Tk/A guns, by indirect firing, engaged	
			enemy targets in the PORTON PTN area with HE.	



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Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
BONIS	3 Aug 45	0945	Bde Comd (Brig A.W. Potts DSO MC) visited the	The day has been
PENINSULA			unit for purpose of interviewing NCO candidates for	unusually quite. Nil enemy
			commissions.	activity was reported from
				coys and our standing
				patrols on Middle Track
				and Ruri Bay Rd reported
		1200	B.M. (Maj A.R. Dixon MC) accompanied by several	nil sightings.
			war correspondents visited the C.O.	The rest camp at SORAKEN
				is making good progress.
				Kitchens, messes and
				recreational huts have
				been erected and many
				amenities exist for the tps.
				A new addition to the camp
				will be the installing of a
				P.A. system by the Salvation
				army.
	4 Aug 45	0825	Patrol 21 Comd by Sgt Underwood, moved out to the	
			Base 2 area. Intention is to harass any enemy patrols or	
			parties contacted and to reccé the general area of Base 2.	



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Unit 27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF) Date and Time.—From 1 August 45 To 31 August 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
BONIS	5 Aug 45	0830	24 RNZAF planes bombed and strafed enemy posns	
PENINSULA			fwd of 8 Aust Inf Bn (AIF). At conclusion of strike by	
			concentration of arty and mtr was brought down and one	
			company of 8 Bn followed in. The attack was highly	
			successful.	
		0835	C.O. accompanied by Capt D. Young (12 Fd Bty) and	
			I.O. recd 8 Bn def posns on COMMO RIDGE. As from 7 Aug,	
			COMMO RIDGE will cease to be the responsibility of 8 Bn.	
			This unit is to relieve.	
		1000	Maj R.C. Savell marched in from LOB. Maj Savell is	
			to take Comd of D Coy (temporarily). He has been relieved	
			of LOB duties by Capt T.S. Milne.	
		1200	Patrol 22 Comd by Lt D.J. Harte moved out to the	
			general area NE of COMMO RIDGE for purpose of confirming the	



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Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
BONIS	5 Aug 45	1200	enemy posns at 299712. As yet it is not known whether the	
PENINSULA			enemy force located on 3 Aug by Lt L.C. Mills was a	
			stationery force or only a prepared ambush posn. Patrol	
			on return, stated that no enemy posns were located in the	
			area - this is doubtful because the route traversed by the	
			patrol was not identical to that of patrol 19.	
	6 Aug 45	0830	Patrol 24 Comd by Sgt Nash K. moved out to the	During the morning two
			Base 2 area. Object of patrol is to ascertain the extent of	enemy arty shells landed
			enemy activity in that area. Patrol returned at 1700 hrs	in close prximity to
			and stated that nil signs of the enemy were observed with	C Coy perimeter. This is
			the exception that a well worn foot pad was located 200 yds	the first time that a
			NE of the Base 2 posn. This pad previously reported by	posn has been shelled in
			Tac/R, is well worn and is evidently used by enemy tps	the COMMO RIDGE area.
				Nil casualties were
				caused.



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Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
BONIS	6 Aug 45	0830	moving down from the north to patrol our area.	Mr B.J. Brennan,
PENINSULA				War Correspondent for
				the 'Bulletin' accompanied
		1200	'D' Coy relieved 'C' Coy. C Coy moved to	by Capt T.W. McGee,
			SORAKEN for purpose of a weeks rest and trg.	visited A and B Coys
			'D' Coy is now disposed as follows:-	At about 1700 hrs, the
			Coy HQ, 17 and 18 Pls 298698	officers mess cook, Cpl
			16 Pl 296702	Scanlon J., while filling
				the burner, ignited a
				4 gal petrol drum. The
				mess was destroyed and
				Cpl Scanlon received burns
				about the legs and arms.
	7 Aug 45	0900	16 Pl relieved 12 Pl 8 Aust Inf Bn (AIF) of	
			COMMO RIDGE responsibilities.	
			D Coy's 17, 18 pls and RAP moved fwd and occupied	
			an area 600 yds in rear of COMMO RIDGE. Location is now	
			297700.	



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Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
BONIS	7 Aug 45	0900	Brig S.F. Legge (DA & QMG 2 Corps) visited the	
PENINSULA			unit.	
		0945	Lt Cols Woodall (retiring C.O. 4 Fd Regt) and	
			Hans Anderson (New C.O.) called with Maj H.J. Berry (O.C.	
			11 Bty) called on Bn HQ.	
		1030	Brig D.L. Salter (DDMS 2 Corps) and Lt Col Irwin	
			(C.O. 17 Fd Amb) called on C.O.	
		1200	A Coy relieved B Coy. To synchronize with the	
			extension of our L of C to COMMO RIDGE, A Coy less 7 Pl	
			is now disposed on the junc of TASUI and GYMPIE tracks.	
			7 Pl relieved 10 pl on Ruri Bay Rd.	
			New disposns are:-	
			A Coy less 7 Pl 304694	
			7 Pl 302691 B Coy 305682	



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Unit 27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF) Date and Time.—From 1 August 45 To 31 August 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
BONIS	8 Aug 45	0830	Patrol 25, Comd by Sgt Kelly N.F. moved out to recce	Our 2 pdr Tk/A guns
PENINSULA			Base 2 and the general area west to 304717. Patrol	engaged targets in the
			reported on its return that no signs of the enemy had been	PORTON area during the
			observed, nor were there any indications that the enemy was	day. Results were
			patrolling the area.	unobserved.
		0845	2 Japs were observed outside D Coy's perimeter. Prior	The firing of these
			to this, one 75 MM mine was found 100 yds east of the Coy	guns is now a daily
			posn, but as it was not primed ready for use, it can be	feature - although only
			presumed that the Japs threw it away in their hurried	48 rds are fired, it is
			withdrawal.	employing the Tk/A pers,
				who hither - to had never
				fired at an enemy
				target.
		1300	Patrol 27, operating fwd of COMMO RIDGE to 290709 returned.	
			Patrol Comd stated that no enemy posns were located but one	
			Jap was seen to run into a partly shelled area where the	
			8 Bn reported an enemy posn existed. The enemy posn which	



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Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
BONIS	8 Aug 45	1300	the 8 Bn reported, exists approx 500 yds NNW from COMMO	
PENINSULA			RIDGE. The firepower of the posn was est at 1 HMG 3 LMGs and many	
			rifles. 5 men of the 8 Bn were lost in this area as a	
			result of a heavy fire fight.	
	9 Aug 45	0830	Patrol 26, Comd by Lt D.B. Dunstan, moved out.	
			Intention of patrol is to est an ambush posn on the Jap	
			Track located by Patrol 14 at 300709. Duration is for	
			two days.	
		0830 -	Patrolling by D Coy fwd of COMMO RIDGE continued	
		1600	throughout the day. Patrol 27, Comd by Lt F.G. Edwards	
			receded the area fwd of the Ridge to a distance of 500 yds.	
			At 290712, several Japs bunkers were observed and one Nip	
			was seen. The posn was not wired in as previously reported,	



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Date and Time.—From 1 August 45 To 31 August 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
BONIS	10 Aug 45	0830	Patrol 29, Comd by Lt F.G. Edwards, moved out to	
PENINSULA			reg enemy posns fwd of COMMO RIDGE. Arty and Mtr F.O.O.	
			accompanied.	
			Patrol returned at 1600 hrs stating that the enemy	
			posn had been accurately registered, both by arty and mtrs.	
			Hy mtrs are yet to reg. Location of the posn as recorded	
			by the arty is at 290709. This feature is now known as	
			EDWARDS RIDGE.	
		1500	Patrol 26, Comd by Lt D.B. Dunstan returned after	
			est an ambush on the Jap track 500 yds NW of Kunai 'C'.	
			Patrol Comd reported that the track had not been	
			used for a considerable time, and that no contacts were	
			made with the enemy.	



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Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
BONIS	11 Aug 45	0800	C.O. moved out to 23 Bde where he will administer	
PENINSULA			Comd of the HQ until the return of the Bde Comd (Brig A.W. Potts DSO MC) from TOROKINA.	
			Maj C.R. Savell will administer Comd of the Bn in	
			the absence of the C.O.	
		0830	Patrol 31, Comd by Lt W. Robinson moved out to	
			recce the general area SE of Kunai 'D'. Duration of	
			patrol is one day, or until the task is completed.	
		1020	A jeep convoy proceeding to D Coy was ambushed by	
			an est four Japs using rifles. In the initial action,	
			Cpl Gowers was wounded but later died at the ADS.	
			Two patrols were then dispatched from D Coy to	
			intercept the Jap party. One Jap was killed but during the	
			investigation of the area, one of the patrols accidentally	



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Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
BONIS	11 Aug 45	1020	fired on the other wounding one man in the leg. Patrol	
PENINSULA			then returned.	
			Another party was then dispatched to bury the dead	
			Jap who had been shot approx 30 yds in from the road. While	
			in the act of burying the Nip, was again accidentally fired	
			upon by the escort of the jeep convoy. As a result of this,	
			Pte Lewis W. was wounded but later died.	
	12 Aug 45	0825	Patrol 31 returned. Comd stated that the area SE	Activity during the
			of Kunai 'D' had been fully reced but no signs of the	day has been confined to
			enemy were seen with the exception of two sets of footprints	security patrolling only,
			on an old disused footpad 200/300 yds east of the kunai.	and all coys reported
				'No change'.



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Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
BONIS PENINSULA	14 Aug 45	0600	Enemy guns again shelled the RATSUA jetty area. Fire was erratic and no casualties resulted.  At 1900 hrs enemy fire was again brought down but this time forward of COMMO RIDGE. Estimation of distance given by the Coy Comd indicated that the shells fell among the Jap posns.	In view of the possible cessation of hostilities, only security patrols were maintained during the day and ambushes were est on our L of C and fwd.  All reported nil sightings.
	15 Aug 45	1000	An escort party to a jeep convoy proceeding from D Coy to Tac HQ located 2 75 MM mines under the corduroy. Wires connecting the mines led back into the bush where it was found that three Nips had lain in waiting for the expected convoy.  It is apparent that the mines were laid after the convoy had passed on its way to D Coy and on the return trip	



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BONIS	15 Aug 45	1000	the escort, which was moving well off the road, frightened the Japs who fled before they could detonate the mines.	Outside of the hostile shelling, the day has been a comparatively quiet one, even the Jap has not bothered to venture out to any marked degree.
PENINSULA				
		1850	An est 2 75 MM guns shelled the RATSUA Jetty area. 32 rounds fell but no damage was done and no casualties resulted.	
	16 Aug 45		Routine Day	
			With the cessation of hostilities, arrangements are now being made by 23 Aust Inf Bde for the surrender of Jap troops in the BONIS PENINSULA.	
			Leaflets have been dropped notifying the enemy of the capitulation and instructing them to send an emissary to contact the 8 Aust Inf Bn (AIF) on Grove Track	



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BONIS	16 Aug 45		East of BUOI PTN. Exact locations and time of contact	Coys again had a
PENINSULA			is yet unknown.	very quiet day. All
				reported nil enemy
				activity.
	17 Aug 45		Routine Day for all Coys. Only security patrols	During the day, a
			were maintained between coys and outlying pls.	fishing party compris-
				ing two of our pers
				and two of 12 Fd Bty
				while rowing at the
				mouth of the RATSUA
				Inlet struck a mine.
				One arty pers was
				killed and one wounded.
	18 Aug 45	1000	Capt T.S. Milne marched in from L.O.B. Capt	Routine day for Coys.
			Milne was relieved by Capt T. McGee and will now assume	'C' Coy reported the
			Comd of 'D' Coy. Maj C. Savell will assume Comd of HQ	sighting of two unarmed
			Coy.	Japs on Middle Track
				but made no contact. A
				mine which had possibly
				been laid some days ago,



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Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
BONIS	19 Aug 45		Routine Day. Security and standing patrols	was found under the
PENINSULA			were maintained on our L of C and forward. The only	corduroy on Tasui Track
			sighting was that of two unarmed Japs foraging in one of	between 'C' Coy HQ and
			our vacated areas. No offensive action was taken.	14 Pl.
		1400	Coy Comds Conference. Subject of the discussion	
			was 'Honours and Awards' for Offrs and NCOs of the Bn.	
	20 Aug 45	0900	'D' Coy vacated the COMMO RIDGE area and moved to	
			RATSUA for movement by barge to SORAKEN.	
		1030	Bn HQ moved out to RATSUA JETTY for movement to	
			SORAKEN.	
		1200	C.O. visited 23 Aust Inf Bde.	
		1600	All pers and stores of both Bn HQ and 'D' Coy now	
			located at SORAKEN. B, C and 'E' Ech are yet to move.	



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Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
BONIS	21 Aug 45		Routine Day	Owing to the strain
PENINSULA				imposed on Water
				Transportation by the
				two Bns for movement to
				SORAKEN, B and C Coys and
				'B' Ech will not move
				until 22 Aug.
	22 Aug 45		Throughout the day pers and stores of B and C	
			Coy and 'B' Ech continued to arrive at SORAKEN. By	
			1800 hrs movement of the Bn was completed with the	
			exception of 4 jeeps and trailers which remained at RATSUA	
			awaiting barge movement.	
BONIS PENINSULA	23 Aug 45	1100	Coy Comds Conference. C.O. discussed general	Routine Day for Coys
(SORAKEN PTN)			A and Q matters pertaining to the units stay at SORAKEN.	



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Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
BONIS PENINSULA	24 Aug 45		Routine Day.	To provide entertainment for the troops, films are to be shown in the area twice weekly and in addition concert parties will pay occasional visits.
(SORAKEN PTN)				
	25 Aug 45		Routine Day	
	26 Aug 45		Routine Day	
	27 Aug 45		Routine Day	
	28 Aug 45	0700	C.O. accompanied by Lt W. Ellis and 3 ORs embarked 'Freddie Beach' for TOROKINA.	DCM held in Bn area, under P.P.C.M. Lt Col Hales. 3 cases were dealt with.
			Purpose of C.O. visit is to select and organize	
			a suitable site and layout for the Bn when it moves to that	
			area.	
			Routine Day for all Coys.	



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(Adapted.)

(Erase heading not required.)

Unit 27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF) Date and Time.—From 1 August 45 To 31 August 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
BONIS	APPENDIX		The first rumours of the prospect of peace	
PENINSULA			reached us on 10 Aug, and final confirmation was received	
			at 1000 hrs on 15 Aug. During the interim, Japs carried	
			out ambushes, and shelled RATSUA area.	
			On 16 Aug, a signal was received stating that	
			arrangements were in hand by 2 Corps for an emissary to	
			report to RATSUA and discuss procedure for surrender. Bde	
			issued an instruction, giving details of responsibility for	
			collections of PW, clearing of enemy held areas, collection	
			of enemy arms and eqpt, upon the official "Cease Fire".	
			The "Cease Fire" was patiently awaited, and has still in	
			actual fact, not been received.	
			In the early hours of 19 Aug, a signal reached	
			Bn HQ, a warning order for the concentration of the Bde Gp	



# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C.2118.  
(Adapted.)

(Erase heading not required.)

Unit 27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF) Date and Time.—From 1 August 45 To 31 August 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
BONIS	APPENDIX		at SORAKEN by 21 Aug. This obviously let us out of the	
PENINSULA			cleaning up process - no cease fire had yet been given,	
			battle stations were still being held, although no action had	
			taken place on either side. The signal was sent as a result of Corps instructions,	
			and on the face of it, it appeared that we were wanted in a	
			hurry for another job, which pleased, for the prospect of	
			being concentrated for an indefinite period at TOROKINA,	
			held no appeal. To secure further infm, BM went to Corps,	
			and returned later in the day, without it. From what he	
			could gather, we were wanted off the peninsula, and back	
			at TOROKINA as soon as possible, and there to remain for	
			an indefinite period until the Govt are ready to de-mobilize	
			us.	
			On the face of it, the Gp have been given a raw deal.	



# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C.2118.  
(Adapted.)

(Erase heading not required.)

Unit 27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF) Date and Time.—From 1 August 45 To 31 August 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
BONIS	APPENDIX		For 8 weeks, we were compelled to take what the Jap gave us,	
PENINSULA			which was plenty. His continual laying of mines and ambushes	
			had cost the battalion 2 Offrs 7 ORs killed; 1 Offr 23 ORs	
			wounded, and we have been restrained from taking aggressive action against	
			him, other than by patrols. The unit was in an aggressive	
			and bitter mood, itching to get at close quarters with the	
			Jap - and the opportunity was taken from them by the advent	
			of peace. Added to this injury, is the fact that it has	
			been deprived of participation in the honours of war, in	
			clearing the battle field - participating in the	
			surrender proceedings, or gathering a few well earned	
			souvenirs.	
			It now appears that Staff Officers from	
			2 Corps are to accept the surrender from the Comd of Jap	



# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C.2118.  
(Adapted.)

(Erase heading not required.)

Unit 27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF) Date and Time.—From 1 August 45 To 31 August 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
BONIS	APPENDIX		Forces on BONIS PENINSULA, and a gratuitous insult given	
PENINSULA			the Bde, by not having one representative present.	
			There may be, and probably are, some very good	
			reasons for the action ordered, but it is apparently not	
			thought that senior Commanders could or should be taken into	
			the confidence of those ordering it. 8 Bn have missing	
			personnel, and we have graves in territory latterly held	
			by the Jap - and we are even deprived of the right to	
			locate the former and honour the latter.	
			At 1900 hrs on 19 Aug, Bde signal received,	
			starting our move at 1000 hrs on the following morning -	
			and a little order on the method of our going.	



S E C R E T

W A R     D I A R Y

ORIGINAL

27   AUST   INF   BN   (AIF)

APPENDICES

1   AUGUST   -   31   AUGUST   45

*James M. J. It. Col*  
Comd'g 2nd Aust Inf Bn (AIF)



RESTRICTED

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

Appx I

Serial No 15/45  
Nos (34-43)

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

ROUTINE ORDERS, PART I

by

Lt-col A. POPE ED

COMD 27 AUST INF BN (AIF)

27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)  
2 Aug 45

34. CENSORSHIP

2 Aust Corps may now disclose their locations in base and forward areas  
RO and mention topographical place names or features in the  
G170/ area provided that:-  
45

- (a) The unit of each member concerned has either been in the area for one month or has been in action.
- (b) Local restrictions may be imposed by Formation Commanders.

35. RATION COUPON BOOKS

2 Aust Corps NO restrictions exist on the despatch of clothing coupon books by members of the forces from this area.  
RO  
G171/  
45

36. WEARING OF IDENTITY DISCS

1. Instances are still occurring of pers being evacuated through medical channels NOT wearing identity discs.
2. Tps are agains reminded that identity discs WILL be worn at ALL times.
3. To ensure compliance with this order, Offrs will conduct regular periodical checks.

37. SHIRTS AND GAITERS

1. It has been noted that personnel are still NOT complying with previous orders issued.
2. Gaiters will be worn at ALL times. Shirts will NOT be removed except to carry out ablutions, and will be tucked inside slacks at ALL times.
3. Disciplinary action will be taken against pers infringing this order.

38. USE OF TELEPHONES

1. Much inconvenience and delay is being caused this HQ through unnecessary use of telephones.



2. The practice of carrying on lengthy conversations on minor matters will cease.

39. HYGIENE AND SANITATION

Immediate steps will be taken by Coys to improve Hygiene and Sanitation within perimeters.

40. MALARIA CONTROL

1. A recent inspection of FREDDIE BEACH, SORAKEN and RATSUA areas has disclosed a serious increase in the breeding grounds of anopheline mosquitoes in the RATSUA area.

2. To prevent any further development in other areas in the northern sector, the following action will be taken:-

- (a) All wells in occupied camps will be covered with mosquito proof covers.
- (b) Before vacating an area, sub-units concerned will ensure all wells are filled in.
- (c) Regularly treat the stagnant water lying in and around camp areas.

41. TPT TURNABLES

Coys will construct these in vicinity of perimeters.

42. MAINTENANCE OF OPTICAL INSTRUMENTS.

1. The prevention of fungus of binoculars etc., is practically impossible, but the early detection of this condition enables optical instruments of all types to be satisfactorily cleaned.

2. If fungi is permitted to grow, the polished surface of the lense or prism becomes etched, resulting in a permanent stain.

3. Coys will ensure that personnel with optical instruments on issue make a visual inspection weekly, and report any fungus growth.

43. HOOKWORMS

Hookworm is prevalent in this area. Troops in order to avoid infection must wear boots at all times when moving about areas.

*J. H. C. See* Capt  
Adjt 27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)



Appx 2

SECRET

Copy No \_\_\_\_\_

AMENDMENT No 1 TO 27 AUST INF BN (AIF) LOCATION STATEMENT No 7

AS AT 2359 HRS 6 AUG '45

Appendix "A" to  
27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)  
Int/29 of  
7 Aug 45

Ref Maps CHABAI 1/25000  
SORAKEN 1/25000  
TOROKINA 1/63360

The Amended Location Statement reads as follows

SERIAL	ARM or SERVICE	WAR OFFICE SERIAL No	UNIT	REF MAP	LOCATION	REMARKS
1.	Infantry	46170	Bn HQ (Fwd)	CHABAI	301679	Plus det 23 Bde Sig Sec " Comd & Sig det 12 Bty 4 Aust Fd Regt
2.			Bn L.O.B. Area	TOROKINA	579953	
3.			Bn HQ Rear Echelon	CHABAI	300679	Plus det 17 Fd Amb
4.			HQ Coy HQ	"	301679	
5.			2 Pl	SORAKEN	219618	Less 1 Sec CHABAI 296702
6.			3 Pl	CHABAI	301679	Less 1 det SORAKEN 219618
7.			4 Pl	"	301679	Less 1 Sec CHABAI 246678
8.			5 Pl	"	301679	
9.			6 Pl	"	300679	
10.			CA Coy	"	304694	Movement to this area to be complete 7 Aug 45
11.			9 Pl	"	312691	
12.			B Coy	"	305682	
13.			C Coy	SORAKEN	228653	Remaining "I" Beach for rest period approx 1 week from 6 Aug 45
14.			D Coy	CHABAI	297700 296702	Movement to this area to be complete 7 Aug 45
15.			16 Pl	"	294704	



# FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

Army Form W.3008  
(Adapted) (Page 1)  
(Revised Jan., 1943)

32 / 45 (Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 11 / 8 / 1945 27 Aust Inf Bn (Unit) (IP)

W.E. II / 120 / 3. OFFRS. 33 O.R's. 769 + OFFRS. 1 O.R's. 32 ATT. BY W.E.

Appx 3

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10					
W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.									
Rein'ts Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Rein'ts Required.					
				* *										
NR	2		1	Lieut.-Colonels										
NR	1		1	Majors										
NR	6		7	Captains										
			14	Lieutenants										
			1	Quarter-masters										
				A.A.N.S. and A.A.M.W.S. Offrs.										
				Civilians Counting as Offrs.										
NR	9		24											
Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in para. 10 of instructions for compilation of form will complete Part E(1) & E(2).				DETAIL	A.I.F.	C.M.F.	A.W.A.S.	A.A.N.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL.	R.A.N.	R.A.A.F.	**	TOTAL.
				A.	25									25
				E.(1)										
				E.(2)										

\* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

\*\* Personnel belonging to a category not provided for in the analysis will be shown in this Col. Particulars will be shown, e.g., 20 U.K. Forces; 10 N.Z. Forces.

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

### OFFICERS JOINED DURING WEEK

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit From.	Date.	CAUSE.
SX25286	Capt	MOSELEY H.M.	2/1 AGH	2 Aug 45	Discharged

### OFFICERS QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit To.	Date.	CAUSE.
SX25125	Lt	MITCHELL J.F.W.	Second Aust Army Jnr Ldrs School	9 Aug 45	To report after 12 days leave

## PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO 7 Aust Inf Bn (Unit) IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED. 11/8 / 1945.

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



## PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON POSTED STRENGTH

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 11/8/1945 (Total to agree with Columns 4 and 7 of Part A.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held.	Army Number.	Surname.	Initials.	Posting.	Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.	Date of Detachment.
Lt-col	8X2930	POPE	A.	CO	Yes		
Maj	8X101560	SAVELL	C.R.	A/2 I/c	Yes		
Capt	8X113714	McGEE	T.W.	CO HQ Coy			
"	8X26416	MILNE	T.S.	CO D	"		
"	8X2931	LUKYN	A.F.P.	CO C	"		
"	8X25135	BAULDERSTONE	A.J.	CO A	"		
"	8X25130	SUTHERLAND	M.D.	CO B	"		
Lt (T/Capt)	8X25133	MACKAY	H.	Adj't	"		
Lt	8X39604	PIPER	F.B.	2 I/c 3 Coy	"		
"	8X28808	MYERS	C.F.	2 I/c A	"		
"	8X25127	WHITROW	C.L.	IO	"		
"	8X25131	MILLS	L.C.	CO 13 P1	"		
"	8X25282	HARTE	D.J.	CO 15 P1	"		
"	8X25134	EDWARDS	F.G.	CO 18 P1	"		
"	8X161540	ELLIS	W.W.	CO 5 P1	"		
"	8X25123	ROBINSON	L.W.	CO 9 P1	"		
"	8X160013	DUNSTAN	D.B.	CO 8 P1	"		
Lt (T/Capt)	TX15023	HALES	E.K.	OM	"		
Lt	8X23048	KYAN	F.W.G.	Asst Adj't	"		
"	VX62689	CALLANDER	J.W.	CO 16 P1	"		
"	8X4371	McILCHRIST	B.J.	CO 1 P1	"		
"	8X26030	FERGUSON	L.E.	CO 14 P1	"		
"	VX17083	BOORER	L.F.	CO 3 P1	"		
M Capt	8X25286	MOSELEY	H.M.	2 I/c 0 Coy	"		
Capt	Attached						
Capt	VX134614	CHRISTIE	G.B.	RMO	Yes		

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

Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank, if Held.	Army Number.	Name and Initials.	Unit.	Date of Attachment.	Nature of Attachment.
Capt	8X32806	RAWLINS H. E. A.	AA Ch D	2/5/45	Chaplain
	B3/422	PILLEY A. G.		28/5/45	Salv Army representative

11 Aug 45  
Date of DespatchLt-col  
Comd 2 Signature of Commander







### FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 11/8/1945. 27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

W.E. II / 120 3 OFFRS. 33 O.R's. 769 + OFFRS. 1 O.R's. 32 ATT. BY W.E.

### Part A. Posted Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements Required.

1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8		9		10	
W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.				ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.											
Reinfts. Required.		Deficient W.E.						Surplus to W.E.		Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.				Posted Strength.		Surplus to W.E.	
1						1		W.Os. Class I.											
6						6		W.Os. Class II.				1 1							
5						5		Squadron or Company Quartermaster Sgts.											
								Staff Sergeants											
32 NR		3				29		Sergeants				2 1 4 7				1AACC			
67 NR		7				60		Corporals				1 2 1 4 8				1AACC			
654 123		113				545		Troopers, Privates, etc.				1 13 14							
								Civilians counting as O.R.											
769 123*		123				646*		Totals of cols. marked * should agree with details shown in Part E on Page 2.				AACC AACP AROC AAR Post AACC		30 *		2		NR *	

Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in para. 7 of instructions for compilation of this return will complete analysis of Part B(1) and B(2).

\* \* Personnel belonging to a category not provided for in the analysis will be shown in this Col Particulars will be shown, e.g., 20 U.K. Forces, 10 N.Z. Forces.

[illegible]

### Part B. Other Ranks Attached from Other Units.

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

[illegible]

Part D. Description of Other Ranks Whose Return To.....(Unit) is Particularly Requested. ....4/...../194.....

[illegible]



**PART E. Detail of Present Strength and Reinforcements required as shown in  
Part A of Army Form W.3009 at 0600 Hours Saturday 11 / 8 / 1945.**

Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I.	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP II. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP III. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.
Ammunition Examiners				Surveyors, Engineering				Operating Room Assts.				G.P.O. Assistants			
Armament Artificer Fitter				Surveyors, E.A.A.				Operator, Keyboard				Hammermen			
Armament Artificer Fitter (Electrical)				Surveyors, Topographical				Operator, Line				Leather Stitchers			
Armament Artificer Fitter (M.V.)				Surveyors, Trigonometrical				Operator, Signal				Orderlies, Nursing			
Armament Artificer Fitter (A.F.V.)				Toolmakers				Operator, Switchboard				Orderlies, Nursing Mental			
Armament Artificer Instrument				Turners				Operator, Wireless				Plate Layers			
Armament Artificer Radio				Watchmakers				Opticians				Rangefinders	4	4	
Armament Artificer Signals				Welders				Painters				Riveters			
Armament Artificer Wireless								Panel Beaters				Roughriders			
Artificer, Artillery								Photographer, Dry Plate				Saddlers			
Artificer, Engine								Predictor Numbers				Saddletree makers			
Blacksmiths	1	1						Printers				Shoemaker and Boot Repairer			
Bricklayers		1						Radiographers				Stevedores			
Computers								Biggers				Stokers, Staty. Engine			
Cooks, Hospital				GROUP II.				Sawyers				Storemen, Technical	4	4	
Coppersmiths				Armourers				Signallers	26	28		Tailors	2	2	
Dispensers				Axemen				Signwriters				Textile Refitters			
Draughtsmen				Bakers				Telescope Identfn. Numbers				Tinsmiths			
Draughtsmen (Architectural)				Bty. Comd's Asst.				Well Borers				Vulcanizers			
Draughtsmen (Engineering)				Ballermakers				Wheelers				Wagon Erectors			
Draughtsmen (Mechanical)				Carpenters	6	6		Winchman				Whitesmiths			
Draughtsmen (Topographical)				Carpenters and Joiners				Wireman							
Electricians				Cooks				Woodturners							
Electricians (M.V.)				Dental Mechanics											
Electricians (Signals)				Driver-Mech. (Eng. and Med.)											
Fitters				Driver-Operator											
Fitters (Cycle)				Drainers											
Fitters (Electrical)				Electricians											
Fitters (Gun)				Electricians (Engineers)											
Fitters (Instrument)				Fire Control Operators				GROUP III.							
Fitters (M.V.)				Gun Operator				Battery Surveyors							
Fitters, Railway Signal				Hatchman		1		Butchers	1	1					
Fitters, Signals				Height Taker				Clerks	12	11	NR				
Grinder, Precision				Helio Operator				Clerks, Supply							
Mechanics, Instrument				Instrument Operator				Clerks, Technical							
Mechanics, Instrument (Signals)				Intelligence Duties	10	7	NR	Coach Trimmers							
Mechanics, Instrument (Surgical)				Joiners				Concretors							
Mechanics, Radio				Lineman				Cooks							
Mechanics, Typewriter				Lineman, Signals				Dental Clerk Orderlies							
Mechanics, Wireless				Lithographers				Despatch Riders							
Millwrights				Mechanists, Metal				Draughtsmen, Signals							
Operators, Excavator				Mechanists, Wood				Drivers, H.T.		1					
Pattern Maker				Masons				Driver Mechanics		3					
Pharmacist				Masseurs				Driver Tptn. Plant							
Photographer, Wet Plate				Mechanics, M.T.				Engine Hands, I.C.							
Photewriter				Miners				Equipment Repairers	1	1					
Plumber				Moulders				Farriers							
Saw Doctors				Nurses, Trained				Fitters' Mates							
Surveyors				Observation Post Assts.				Gun Layers	8	-	NR				
CARRIED FORWARD	1	2		CARRIED FORWARD	17	16		CARRIED FORWARD	65	61		Totals of columns marked * to agree with columns 4 and 7, and 1 and 10 of Part A. respectively.	801	676	123

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

11 Aug 45  
Date of DespatchLt-col  
Signature of Commander



ATTACHED BY WE

WE

Posted Strength Reinfts Required

WE	Posted Strength	Reinfts Required
AMO Chiropodist	1	1
Hyg Inspector	1	1
Med Orderlies	2	2
AOC Shoemaker	1	1
AA Postal Service Postal Clerk	1	1
APC Pay Clerks	2	2
AAC Caterer	1	1
Cooks	23	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>30</b>

NOOs BY TRADES

WE POSTED STRENGTH REINFTS REQUIRED  
WOI WO2 S/Sgt Sgt Cpl WOI WO2 S/Sgt Sgt Cpl WOI WO2 S/Sgt Sgt Cpl

WE	Posted Strength	Reinfts Required
Q 2		
Int duties	1	1
Signallers	2	4
Q 3		
Clerks	2	5
Sailors	1	1
Storemen Tech	1	1
ION SPECIALISTS		
MG & R'men	36	31
MG Nos	2	2
Mortar Nos	5	5
Pioneers	4	4
Provosts	1	1
SBS	1	1
Pk A Gun Nos	4	4
BSM	1	1
QMS	1	1
QMS	5	5
QMSs	5	5
Pl Sgts	25	21
Drs MT	1	1
Supernumeraries		
Offrs Mess	1	1

ATT BY WE

WE	Posted Strength	Reinfts Required
AAMC Chiropodist	1	1
Hyg Inspector	1	1
Med Orderly	1	1
AOC Shoemaker	1	1
AAPC Pay Clerks	1	2
AA Postal Service	1	1
AAC Caterer	1	1
Cooks	5	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>16</b>

CARRIED FORWARD

CARRIED FORWARD

CARRIED FORWARD

NOTE: (a) If any other than private is involved give details on back.  
(b) Authorized trades or specialties not included in list will be added as required in space provided.  
(c) When A.W.A.R. and/or A.A.M.W.S. concerned give details on back.  
(d) Where requirement not detailed note accordingly on return by insertion of "R" in col. "Reinfts Required".  
(e) Where any request or notation is made on back of form, the words "See Back" should be written in space at top of this page.

Date of Dispatch



27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

Copy No 19

Date 2 Aug 45

27 AUST INF BN (AIF) OP INSTN No 3

To be read in conjunction with OO No 10 and  
Op Inst No 2 and Adm Instn No 3

Appx 4

## Ref Map

CHABAI	1-25000
SORAKEN	1-25000

INFM

1. Enemy As per Sit Reps
2. Own Tps As per Sit Reps

INTENTION

3. 27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF) will relieve forward Coys 6-7 Aug 45.

METHODSummary of Ops

4. (a) C Coy move TASUI to SORAKEN  
 (b) D Coy move SORAKEN to TASUI  
 (c) B Coy move RURI to GYMPIE  
 (d) A Coy move GYMPIE to RURI  
 (e) HQ Coy and sp weapons  
 Sigs, I pers, and SBs move with Coys.  
 It is intended to change MMGs, Mortars, Tk A  
 and Bn HQ Sigs, personnel fortnightly.  
 Pers doing one weeks duty SAPOSA - TOROKIRI  
 One weeks rest SORAKEN.
5. 5 Aug 45  
 (a) C Coy Adv Party (2 I/c, CQMS, 1 Cook plus one  
 NCO per Pl) move to SORAKEN. To be at JETTY by  
 1100 hrs.  
 (b) D Coy Adv party (Coy Comd, Q rep, Pl Sgts, 1 Cook  
 and 1 OR per Sec, depart SORAKEN morning barge and  
 move to TASUI

6 Aug 45

- (a) D Coy plus Bn HQ and HQ Coy pers, (less SAPOSA and  
 TOROKORI) less pers depart SORAKEN 0915 hrs. Two  
 barges report H Beach 0900 hrs, thence to TASUI.  
 3 Jeeps and trailers for packs etc., will report  
 jetty 1000 hrs.
- (b) Upon relief of C Coy - C Coy will move to SORAKEN  
 - Jeeps and trailers will back load packs. Coy  
 to be at Jetty 1515 hrs.

7 Aug 45

- (a) A Coy move to RURI. Four jeeps and trailers  
 report A Coy 0800 hrs.
- (b) Upon relief B Coy move to GYMPIE.

6. Relief of HQ Coy pers(a) Mortars

Two Det mortars with C Coy move with C Coy to SORAKEN.  
 Two Dets Bn HQ move to D Coy with D Coy.  
 One Det SAPOSA remain SAPOSA until 13 Aug 45.  
 Two Dets B Coy remain B Coy.  
 One Det SORAKEN move Bn HQ.



(b) MMGs

Two dets MMGs SAPOSA remain SAPOSA until 13 Aug 45.  
Two Dets C Coy remain present position.

(c) Sigs

Two Sigs remain TOROKORI until 13 Aug 45.  
Four Sigs SORAKEN return to Bn HQ  
Sig O to arrange relief.

(d) Tk A

Tk A pers SAPOSA remains SAPOSA until 13 Aug 45.  
Tk A pers Bn HQ remain

(e) Pnrs

Pnrs SORAKEN remain. Pnr Offr to relieve pers independently.

(f) Q Pers and Tpt

QM to arrange relief of pers as circumstances allow.

(g) Bn HQ

Pers will be relieved as circumstances allow.

7. Lt CALLENDAR remain SAPOSA until relieving Offr from  
C Coy arrives 6 Aug 45.  
C Coy to arrange relief.

ADM

8. Accomodation Stores

- (a) C and D Coys refer Adm Instn No 3 of 26 Jul 45.  
(b) A and B Coys refer para 8 (b) Op Instn No 2  
27 Jul 45.

MEDICAL

9. RAP remains RURI

INTERCOMN

10. Bn HQ and B Ech remain present location.  
SAPOSA - Bn HQ WT 108 Set  
TOROKORI - Bn HQ Via WT via Water Tpt.

ACK

Time of Signature 021900  
Method of Issue Safe Hand

*J. H. Gice* Capt  
Adj 27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

<u>Distribution</u>	<u>Copy No</u>		<u>Copy No</u>
HQ Coy	1	CO	10
2 Pl	2	2 I/c	11
3 Pl	3	Adj	12
4 Pl	4	IO	13
5 Pl	5	Sig O	14
A Coy	6	RMO	15
B "	7	QM	16
C "	8	File (2)	17-18
D "	9	WD (2)	19-20



Copy No. 20  
6 Aug 45

REF MAPS	CHABAI	1/25000
	SORAKEN	1/25000

1. Enemy No change from daily sitreps and Int summaries.
2. Own tps No change from daily sitreps and Int summaries.
3. Inter Bn Bdy TASUI track to 294705 NW to 276724 incl  
27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF).

4. 27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF) in addition to present commitments will occupy COMMO RIDGE as a base for harassing patrols to the north.

(a) RURI Coy To prevent enemy infiltration on to our L of C from vicinity of Base 1, 2 and 3. This will be carried out by

- (i) Maintenance of ambushes 24 hrs daily RURI Rd and surroundings up to 320702.
- (ii) Maintenance of ambushes 24 hrs daily on and astride the MIDDLE TRACK up to 312709.
- (iii) A fighting patrol daily to general area Base 2 and Base 3, to harass and/or eliminate any located enemy.
- (iv) Normal security patrols.

Coy is responsible for security of track from 312692 to 297701.

Fighting patrols, in the event of locating a strong enemy posn will inform Bn HQ immediately with a view to securing air and tk sp for its ultimate elimination.

- (1) Locating, harassing and eliminating enemy pockets of resistance in area enclosed by map refs 291705, 287713, 300713, 295705.
- (11) Normal security patrols plus security patrols to flanking Coy of 8 Aust Inf Bn (AIF).

Fighting patrols will be accompanied by Arty and Mortar FOO's on all occasions. In the event of the location of a strong enemy posn, beyond capability of a fighting patrol without sp, Bn HQ will be informed with a view to securing air and tk sp for ultimate elimination of the posn.

RURI and TASUI Coys will notify Bn HQ of proposed Ops and patrols for the following day by 1400 hrs.

(1) Reserve Coy.  
(11) To provide fighting patrols and escorts as required by Bn HQ.



- (iii) Security of the GYMPIE Track and RURI Coy.
- (iv) Maintenance of security patrols South of GYMPIE track with special significance to the security of the ANGAU area.
- (d) SORAKEN Coy
  - (1) Resting and Trg.
  - (ii) Will supply Officer for SAPOSA Garrison.
- (e) HQ' Coy
  - (1) HQ Coy pers resting at SORAKEN will be responsible for the garrison of SAPOSA and TOROKIRI islands.
- 6. ARTY

One FOO stationed permanently with the TASUI Coy.  
One FOO on call for other tasks.
- 7. MTRS

4 det mtrs come under Comd D Coy 061800L and will move to COMMO RIDGE 070930L.
- 8. MMGs

One Sec MMG come under Comd D Coy 061800L and will move to COMMO RIDGE 070930L.
- 9. FLAMETHROWERS

One Sec flamethrowers under Comd D Coy 061800L and will move to COMMO RIDGE 070930L.
- ADM
- 10. Medical      RAP at HQ TASUI Coy.
- 11. Amn      D Coy take over amn at present on COMMO RIDGE from 8 Bn.  
RSM to arrange transfer.
- 12. Tpt      3 jeeps report Tac HQ 060745L for tpt of Mortars and Flamethrowers.  
5 jeeps report Dora 070930L for tpt of Pl to COMMO RIDGE.
- 13. Tools      Suitable dry storage for tools and Amn to be provided.  
QM to arrange for sisalkraft to be forwarded as soon as possible.
- 14. Hygiene and Sanitation

Areas vacated to be left in perfect condition regarding Hygiene and Sanitation.  
Hygiene Sgt to inspect.  
Refuse pits and latrines will be filled, sealed and labelled when vacating area.  
Latrines and refuse pits will be sited outside Pl and Coy perimeters in new posns.
- 15. GENERAL
  - Wire      If practicable all defensive wire will be removed for future use. If not practicable will be rendered useless.



Turn arounds for Tpt will be constructed in areas.

Accommodation Stores will be taken.

Water D Coy will arrange water drums to go forward to COMMO RIDGE from D Coy.

INTERCOMN

16. Bn HQ and B Ech remain present location.  
 SAPOSA - Bn HQ WT 108 Set  
 TOROKORI - Bn HQ Via WT via Water Tpt.

ACK

*McGeach*  
 Capt  
 Adj 27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

Time of Signature

Method of Issue Safe Hand.

DISTRIBUTION

	<u>Copy No</u>
HQ Coy	1
2 Pl	2
3 Pl	3
4 Pl	4
5 Pl	5
A Coy	6
B "	7
C "	8
D "	9
CO	10
2 I/c	11
Adj 2	12
IO	13
Sig O	14
RMO	15
QM	16
File (2)	17 - 18
WD (2)	19 - 20



S E C R E T

27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

Copy No 19  
Date 11 Aug 45

27 AUST INF BN (AIF) OP INSTN No 5

To be read in conjunction with OO No 10 and  
Op Inst No 2 & 3 and Adm Instn No 3

Ref Map      CHABAI      1-25000  
              SORAKEN      1-25000

INFM

1. Enemy                      No Change
2. Own Tps                    No Change

INTENTION

3. 27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF) will relieve fwd Coys commencing 12 Aug 45.

METHOD

Summary of Ops

4. (a) A Coy moves from RURI to SORAKEN  
(b) C Coy moves SORAKEN to RURI  
(c) B Coy moves from GYMPIE to TASUI  
(d) D Coy moves from TASUI to GYMPIE

5. Movement

- 13 Aug 45 (a) A Coy Adv Party (2 I/c COMS, 1 Cook plus one NCO per Pl) move to SORAKEN. To be at JETTY by 1100 hrs.  
(b) C Coy Adv party (Coy Comd, 4 rep, Pl Sgts, 1 Cook and 1 OR per Sec, depart SORAKEN morning barge and move to TASUI.
- 14 Aug 45 (a) C Coy plus Bn HQ and HQ Coy pers, (less SAPOSA and TOROKORI) less pnsr depart SORAKEN 0915 hrs. Two barges report H Beach 0900 hrs, thence to TASUI. 3 Jeeps and trailers for packs etc., will report jetty 1000 hrs.  
(b) Upon relief of A Coy - A Coy will move to SORAKEN - Jeeps and trailers will back load packs. Coy to be at Jetty 1515 hrs.  
(c) Movement dates and times of B & D Coys will be advised later - No move at present.

6. Relief of SAPOSA

Relief personnel move with A Coy. Remain on barge until arrival at SAPOSA - Relieved garrison return to RATSUA on morning barge.

7. Relief of TOROKIRI

- (a) Relief perscnnel move with A Coy.
- (b) Embark I Beach 141800L
- (c) Relief Personnel return same barge.
- (d) Embark I Beach 150900L for RATSUA.



8. A Coy to arrange relief Lt I.L. FERGUSON at SAPOSA.
9. HQ Coy to arrange relief HQ Coy personnel.

ADM

10. As per Op Instn No 3 para 8,9.

INTERCOMM

11. As per Op Inst No 3 para 10.

ACK

*McGee*  
Capt  
Adjt 27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

Time of Signature

110700L

Method of Issue

Safe Hand

DISTRIBUTION

Copy No

HQ	1
2 Pl	2
3 Pl	3
4 Pl	4
5 Pl	5
A Coy	6
B Coy	7
C Coy	8
D Coy	9
CO	10
2 I/c	11
Adjt	12
IO	13
Sig O	14
RMO	15
QM	16
File (2)	17 & 18
WD (2)	19 & 20



27 AUST INF BN (AIF)

1 Aug 45

BONIS PATROL INSTN No 18

Ref Map CHABAI 1/25000

To Lt C.F. MYERS A Coy

1. Enemy activity in the Ruri Bay Sector has shown a marked increase over the last three days.

PIB patrols operating in this area have contacted three Jap def posns. These are at 320705, 324709 and 330717 but the str of each is not known. Besides patrol clashes in these areas, small Jap parties have been contacted on the Ruri Bay Rd and west of the road.

It is highly probable that these def posns have been est in an attempt to eliminate any threat to that flank by our armd vehicles. It is considered that they are not held in any great str.

2. You will take Comd of a fighting patrol sp by one Sec tanks and one Sec PIB.

The following troops will comprise the patrol and will come under your Comd 020930L.

One Pl (8Pl)	A Coy
One Pl (11 Pl)	B Coy
One sec tanks	16 Tp 2/4 Armd Regt
One Sec PIB	PIB
OPO and sigs	12 Fd Bty

In addition 2 pls less one Sec PIB will be used as ambush parties in the event of the Jap withdrawing from his posns. They will be disposed as follows:-

2 Secs	327713
1 Pl	319709

They are to be in posn by 1100 hrs. The tps under Comd will RV at B Coy at 0930 hrs 2 Aug 45.

3. Your tasks are:-

- (a) Eliminate with the sp the enemy posn at 320705
- (b) " " " " " " " " 324709
- (c) In the event of these two posns being vacated prior to your arrival, then proceed to and eliminate the Jap posn at 330717.

Duration of patrol is two days.

4. Your route will be via the Ruri Bay Rd.

5. Rations for the OPO party will be drawn from Bn HQ. Others tps under Comd will be individually responsible for their own rations with the exception of the tank party who will draw rations from A Coy.

12 x 2 gall cans will be carried by the tanks. These will be picked up at 'B' Ech and filled at W.P.

6. Your comms will be through the arty 208 W/T set back to this HQ.

The tank No 19 W/T set will be in comms with 16 Tp HQ who will relay messages back to this HQ. Be on the air as often as is practicable and pass all infm as it is received. In any case communicate with this HQ three times daily, morning, noon and night.

*New Type*  
Lt Col  
Comd 27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

DISTRIBUTION

O.C. Patrol	Copy No 1
O.C. 16 Tp	" No 2
A Coy PIB	" No 3
File (2)	" No 4 - 5
com (1)	" "



27 AUST INF BN (AIF)


1 Aug 45

BONIS PATROL INSTN No 19

Ref Map CHABAI 1/25000

To Lt L.C. MILLS C Coy

1. The Base 3 area with the exception of the SE corner of Kunai 'D' has been reported clear of enemy by Patrol 14 (Lt I.E. Ferguson).
2. 8 Aust Inf Bn (AIF) is responsible for CONNO RIDGE and the area to the NW.  
You should not contact any of their patrols in your area of operation.
3. Your platoon will constitute a fighting patrol and will move 020830L.
4. Your tasks are:-
  - (a) Ascertain the extent of enemy activity along the route set out in para 5.
  - (b) Harass any enemy parties contacted.
  - (c) In the event of contacting enemy posns, you will gather all info as to str, disposns and fire-power.
5. Your route will be as follows:-  
From present location to 298714 then west to Kunai 'D', SSW along Kunai edge to approx 293712 then SE and South to your start point.
6. Adm arrangements normal but carry extra rations and water in the event of the patrol having to remain out overnight.

  
Lt Col  
Comd 27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

DISTRIBUTION

O.C. Patrol	Copy No 1
File (2)	" No 2 - 3
WD (1)	" No 4
23 Aust Inf Bde (For Information)	



27 AUST INF BN (AIF)

2 Aug 45

BONIS PATROL REPORT No 19

Ref Map CHABAI 1/25000

PATROL COMD	Lt L.C. MILLS
PATROL BY	13 Pl C Coy
PATROL STRENGTH	1 Ofcr 20 ORs
ROUTE OUT	COMMO RIDGE 294705 on bearing 33° M to approx 295710.
ROUTE IN	Reverse of Route Out.
TIME OUT	020300L
OBJECT OF PATROL	TIME IN 021500L (a) Ascertain the extent of enemy activity in the general area SE of Kunai 'D'. (b) Harass enemy parties encountered. (c) In the event of contacting an enemy force, to gather all info as to str, disposn and fire power.
CASUALTIES	Own 1 slightly wounded. Enemy NOT known.

PART I

- (a) Enemy strength assessed at 15/20 tps are in occupation of 295710.
- (b) Enemy were engaged with fire with unknown results.
- (c) Weapons employed by the enemy were 1 HMG, 2 LMGs and rifles. Only sign of enemy fixed defences was a freshly dug weapon pit facing SE.

PART II1. TOPOGRAPHICAL(a) TRACKS

No defined tracks were observed in area. Numerous, but poorly defined foot pads predominate in the area.

(b) VEGETATION

Rain forest, undergrowth not heavy but an abundance of "wait-a-while" and banana palms. Visibility limited to ten to fifteen yards.

(c) WATER

No perennial watercourses were observed.

(d) TERRAIN

From COMMO RIDGE NNE to 295708 ground is relatively flat. From here to 295710 series of small ridges varying from 10 to 15 feet high.

(e) SUITABILITY FOR TANKS

Ground generally was very soggy through recent rains. Consider that tanks would have difficulty in moving through this area, both from the soft ground and by timber point of view.

(f) AMBUSH POSNS

I consider that the enemy does not use tracks in this area but moves on bearings through the forest and ambush posns could be set anywhere in the area in the hope of contacting a Jap patrol.

2. ACTION OWN

Moved out on a bearing of 33° M from COMMO RIDGE. Proceeded to 295710; low talking was heard at this spot, but eventually died away. Approx 50 yds further ahead,



2. ACTION OWN (Cont)

fwd scouts were fired on by two enemy riflemen. Enemy were engaged with unobserved results. Established firm base at 295710 and sent out recon patrols to right and left for 50 yds to comb area. NIL sightings. Patrol then moved on a bearing of 330° M and after going approx 50 yds were engaged by enemy fire from immediate front and both flanks. Patrol engaged enemy and after observing increased activity on rear of flanks withdrew 100 yds and established firm base. Sent small patrol on bearing of 270° M for 200 yds with NIL sightings. Patrol returned via route out.

3. ENEMY ACTION

Enemy held fire in both cases until patrol was within 20 yds to 25 yds of posns. First contact with enemy was probably forward listening post, as it withdrew when flanking patrols came in. Enemy were in well concealed posns. It appeared also that enemy had roving patrols on flanks to prevent any flanking movement of our tps.

4. ENEMY POSNS, FIRE POWER ETC

Posns were in semi-circle formation with one LMG on each flank and one HMG in centre. Enemy fire power estimated at 2 LMGs 1 HMG and approx 10 rifles. Enemy appeared to be dug in as some red earth was observed on enemy perimeter.

5. GENERAL REMARKS AND OBSERVATIONS

I consider enemy have just occupied this posn as fresh diggings were observed and noises of digging and soft chopping were heard.

L.C. MILLS Lt  
Patrol Comd



27 AUST INF BN (AIF)

3 Aug 45

BONIS PATROL REPORT No 18

Ref Map CHANAI 1/25000

PATROL COMD	Lt C.F. MYERS	A Coy
PATROL BY	8 Pl A Coy	
	11 Pl B Coy	
	One Sec Tanks	16 Tp 2/4 Armd Regt
	One Sec PIB	PIB
	OPO & Sigs	12 Pd Bty
ROUTE OUT	313691 - 320705 - 326711	
ROUTE IN	326711 - 322704 - 313691	
TIME OUT	021015L	TIME IN 022300L
OBJECT OF PATROL	(a) Eliminate with Tk sp enemy at 320705	
	(b) " " " " " 324709	
	(c) In the event of these two posns being vacated prior to arrival, proceed to and eliminate enemy at 330717.	
CASUALTIES	Own 3 killed 9 wounded	
	Enemy NIL	

PART I

- (a) Patrol proceeded to 320705 located vacated enemy posn. Posn had been occupied by est 12/15 tps. Defences comprised 6 weapon pits and foxholes and had been used within the last 4/5 hrs.
- (b) Proceeded to 324709 investigated area, NIL enemy posns located.
- (c) Proceeded to 325711 where leading tank detonated probable 500 lb aerial bomb. Tank crew of 3 killed, 9 inf casualties. Tank total loss.
- Patrol returned owing to casualties sustained.

PART II1. TOPOGRAPHICAL(a) TRACKS AND ROADS

- (I) RURI BAY RD is in fair condition, corduroyed in parts and is suitable for jeep armd traffic.
- (II) Foot pad approx 10/20 minutes old, used by enemy party est 10/20 located running from approx 321704 to Jap posn 320705.
- (III) Security tracks astride old C & A rd has been well used by foot traffic in past week.
- (IV) Foot pad from 322704 to 320705 is suitable for tanks.
- (V) Ground in area covered by patrol is firm and would hold tanks but because of very heavy undergrowth, it is NOT possible to move across country.

2. ACTION OWN

Patrol left B Coy HQ at 021015L and moved to 322704 where a firm base was established.

Recco patrol moved out to locate enemy posn at 320705. Posn located and patrol returned to firm base. 11 Pl B Coy with 2 tanks moved out. After the posn had been engaged with fire, patrol moved forward and found posn vacated by enemy.

Patrol then moved to area 326711.

Three 75 MM contact mines were located at 324707 and destroyed. At 326711 patrol comd decided to form perimeter for night. Leading tank while moving into posn detonated 500 lb aerial bomb. Tank crew of 3 was



2. ACTION OWN (Cont)

killed and 9 Inf pers were wounded. Tank was total loss.

Owing to number of cas, patrol comd decided to return to B Coy. Arrived at B Coy 022300L.

3. ENEMY ACTION Nil enemy seen

4. ENEMY EQPT NIL

5. GENERAL

Enemy posn at 320705 is an outpost NOT permanently occupied and is probably used as a staging area for raiding and mining parties.

No posns exist at 324702.

6. ADDITIONAL INFM

PIB ambush parties in sp of this operation did not carry tasks out as allotted. After patrol's first task had been completed at approx 1440 hrs, a party of PIB moved to the patrol firm base from the south and stated they had not occupied ambush posn 328708 as they had been held up by one Jap when moving to their posns by the eastern side of Ruri Bay Rd.

This party apparently sat on the Ruri Bay Rd south of 328703 for approx 2 hrs. Had they proceeded to the ambush posn even though late, it is possible that the enemy party of 10/12 tps may have been intercepted.

The party to ambush posn 328715 reported area clear.

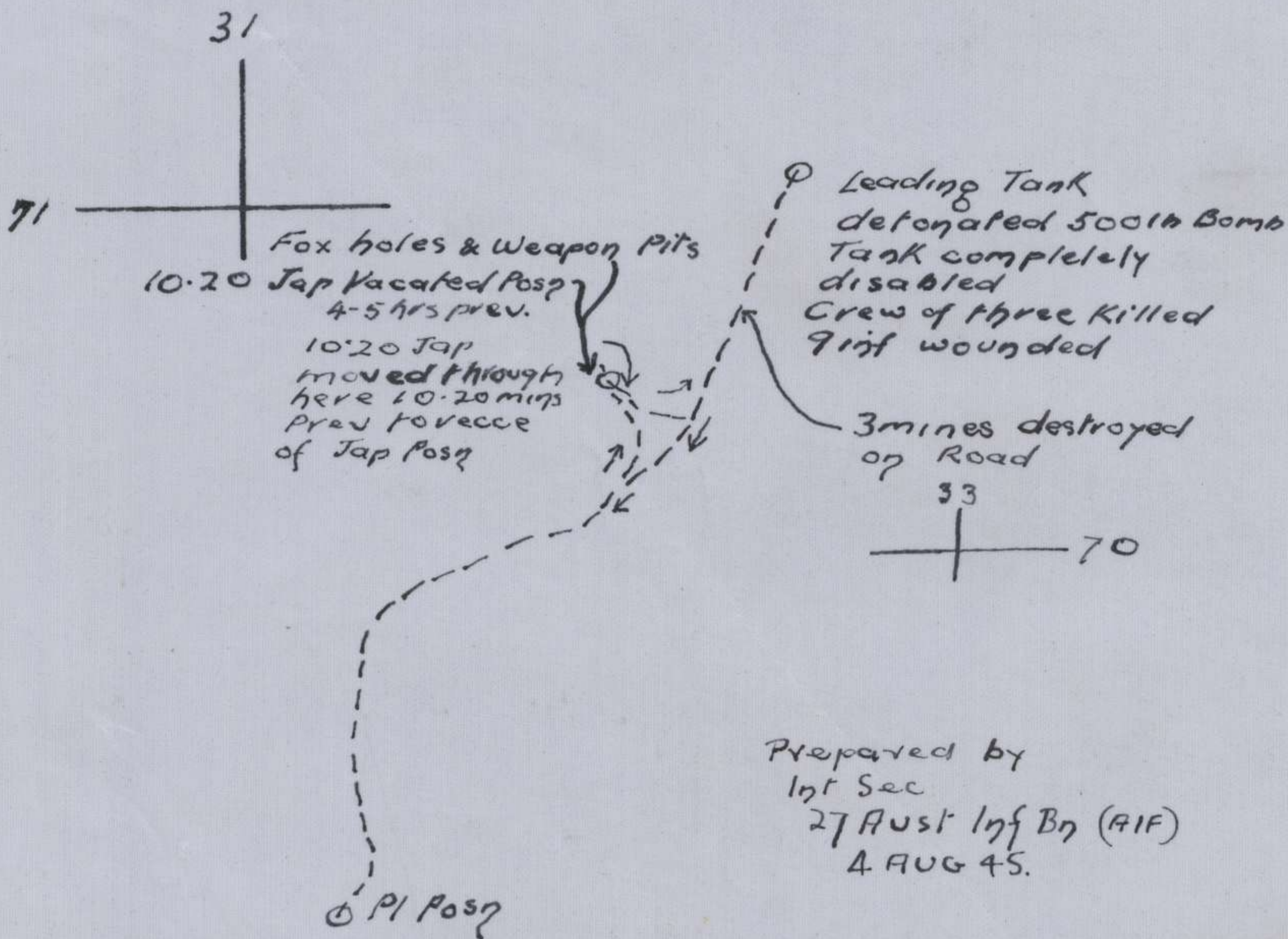
C.F. MYERS Lt  
Patrol Comd



# OVERLAY

Showing Route Taken by  
Patrol 18

Ref Map Chabai  
1:25000





# Overlay

Showing Route Taken By

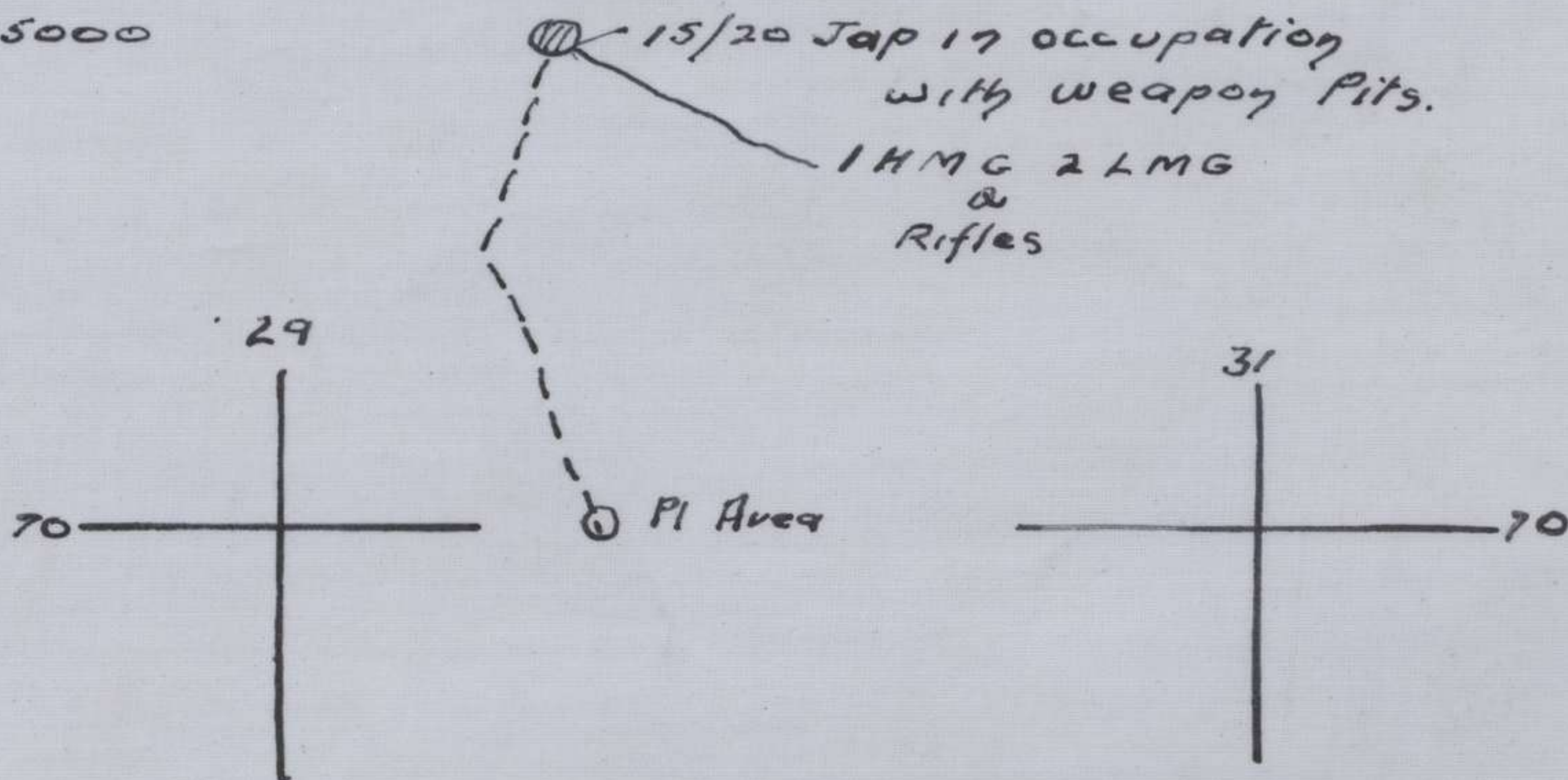
Patrol 19

020800-021500 L

Ref Map

Chabai

1:25000



Prepared By  
Int Sec  
27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)  
5 Aug 45



27 AUST INF BN (AIF)

3 Aug 45

BONIS PATROL INSTN No 20

Ref Map CHABAI 1/25000

To Lt L.C. WILLS C Coy

1. The Base 3 area has been reported clear of enemy posns.  
A fighting patrol which operated in the general area NNE from COMMO RIDGE on 2 Aug 45, contacted an enemy force str of which is not known, at 295710. The enemy weapons used incl 1 HMG 2 LMGs and rifles.  
It is thought that this posn has been formed during the last week.
2. 8 Aust Inf Bn (AIF) is responsible for COMMO RIDGE and the area to the NW. You should not make contact with any of their patrols.  
We have no patrols operating in your area.
3. You will Comd a fighting patrol and will move out 040930L and remain out for one day.  
FOO and 4 sigs (12 Fd Pty) will accompany you. They will have 200 W/T comms.
4. Your tasks are:-
  - (a) Move to the area 295710 and reg the enemy posns with arty fire.
  - (b) At conclusion of reg and without undue risk to the patrol, investigate the results of the firing.
  - (c) Harass and inflict casualties on any enemy encountered.
5. Your route will be to COMMO RIDGE then on an approx bearing of 33° M for 500 yds.  
The route in is at your own discretion.
6. Adm arrangements normal. It is unlikely that you will be remaining the night in the area.

*Walter Toppe*  
Lt Col  
Comd 27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

DISTRIBUTION

O.C. Patrol	Copy No 1
File (2)	" No 2 - 3
WD (1)	" No 4
23 Aust Inf Bde (For Information)	



27 AUST INF BN (AIF)

5 Aug 45

BONIS PATROL REPORT No 20

Ref Map CHABAI 1/25000

PATROL COMD	Lt L.C. MILLS
PATROL BY	13 Pl C Coy
PATROL STRENGTH	1 Offr 19 ORs plus attached 1 Offr 2 ORs arty.
ROUTE OUT	COMMO RIDGE bearing 33° M 400 yds to 297707.
ROUTE IN	Reverse of Route Out.
TIME OUT	040800L
TIME IN	041300L
OBJECT OF PATROL	(a) Reg and engage with arty suspected enemy position at 298709.
BRIEFED BY	O.C. C Coy
CASUALTIES	Own NIL Enemy NIL

PART I

Arty ranged on enemy target. Task not completed as comms broke down.

PART II

1. TOPOGRAPHICAL As for previous report No 19
2. ACTION OWN

(a) NARRATIVE

Moved from COMMO RIDGE to firm base 298716. Arty POC considered fall of rounds and safety angle unsafe. Patrol withdrew 100 yds and established firm base. Began ranging and got within approx 100 yds of enemy posns with arty fire.

Because of risk of tree bursts above present firm base, patrol withdrew further 100 yds to complete shoot. At this posn comms broke down and patrol had to return to COMMO RIDGE to complete shoot. Patrol then returned to camp.

3. ENEMY ACTION NIL

L.C. MILLS Lt  
Patrol Comd



27 AUST INF BN (AIF)

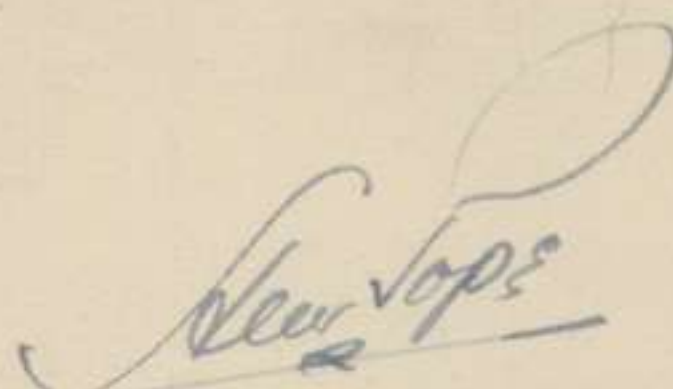
3 Aug 45

BONIS PATROL INSTN No 21

Ref Map CHABAI 1/25000

To Sgt UNDERWOOD S. B Coy

1. Enemy activity in the Base 2 area has shown a marked decrease over the last few days. Patrols operating in this area and as far west as the 30° grid line, report no signs of enemy movement.  
It is still doubtful as to whether the enemy still holds his Base 2 posn at 313718. The slackening of his activity tends to point towards this.  
No contacts have been made in the Ruri Bay area since 1 Aug 45.
2. We have no other patrols operating in the Base 2 area. PIB is responsible for the Base 1 area (SIAR PTN) but you should not contact any of their patrols.
3. You will take Comd of a fighting patrol and move to the general Base 2 area 040830L. You will remain out one day.
4. Your tasks are:-
  - (a) Est the extent of enemy activity in the Base 2 area.
  - (b) Verify whether Base 2 is occupied by the enemy.
  - (c) Inflict casualties on any enemy patrols or parties contacted.
5. Your route will be MIDDLE TRACK to 312709 then to 315714. From there you will select your own route to Base 2. Route in is at your discretion.
6. Adm arrangements normal.

  
Lt Col  
Comd 27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

DISTRIBUTION

O.C. Patrol	Copy No 1
File (2)	" No 2 - 3
WD (1)	" No 4
23 Aust Inf Bde (For Information)	



27 AUST INF BN (AIF)

3 Aug 45

BONIS PATROL REPORT No 21

Ref Map

CHABAI

1/25000

PATROL COND  
PATROL BY  
PATROL STRENGTH  
ROUTE OUT

Sgt UNDERWOOD S.M.  
11 Pl B Coy  
1 Sgt 16 ORs  
308692 to 316707 thence by bearing to  
313718.

ROUTE IN

313718 via MIDDLE TRACK.

TIME OUT

040830L

TIME IN

041630L

OBJECT OF PATROL

- (a) Est the extent of enemy activity in the Base 2 area.  
(b) Verify whether Base 2 is occupied by the enemy.  
(c) Inflict casualties on any enemy patrols or parties contacted.

CASUALTIES

Own NIL Enemy NIL

PART I

- (a) No signs of the enemy were observed in the Base 2 area or over the route traversed.

PART II1. TOPOGRAPHICAL(a) TRACKS

All tracks in Base 2 area are well defined but have not been used for at least 48 hrs.

(b) GARDENS

Paw paw trees have been hewn down in the old garden area at 316707, but not recently. Either PIB pers or Japs may have done this.

2. ACTION OWN(a) NARRATIVE

Moved out from Coy HQ on a bearing to 316707. Investigated the garden area but found nil signs of the enemy except that paw paw trees have been cut down.

From here, moved on another bearing to 315714. Recced the general area forward of this to Base 2 but found no signs of enemy activity. During the recce, an ambush was set on the jeep track at 313712, but met with no success.

Patrol then returned to Coy HQ on the western side of MIDDLE TRACK.

3. ENEMY ACTION & ACTIVITY

NIL

4. GENERAL REMARKS

Consider that the enemy is not patrolling this area to any great extent and that his operations are confined to Base 3 and the RURI BAY area.

S. UNDERWOOD Sgt  
Patrol Comd

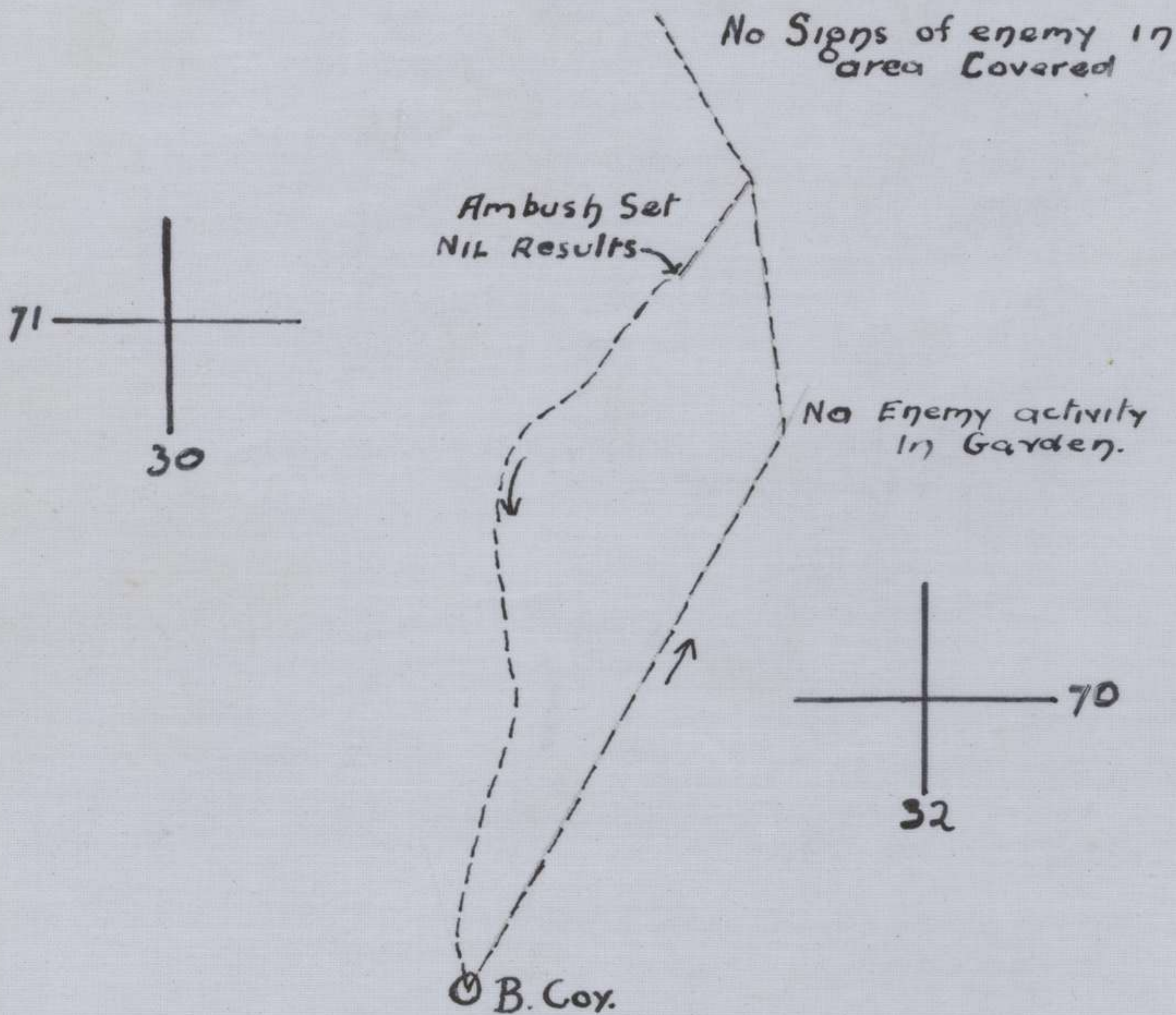


# Overlay

Showing Route Taken By  
Patrol No 21

040830 L - 041630 L

Ref Map Chabai 1:25000.



Prepared by  
Int. Sec.  
27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)  
8 AUG'45.



Confidential

Copy No \_\_\_\_\_

27 AUST INF BN (AIF)

4 Aug 45

BONIS PATROL INSTN No 22

Ref Map CHABAI 1/25000

To Lt D.J. HARTE C Coy

1. An enemy force, str not known, was located by one of our patrols 2 Aug 45, approx 500 yds NE of COMMO RIDGE. This force employed 1 HMG 2 LMGs and several rifles. This posn was reg by arty on 3 Aug 45, but results were not investigated. The map spot recorded by the arty is 299712.
2. Your pl will constitute a fighting patrol and att to it will be a FOC 12 Fd Bty. You will move 050830L and remain out one day or until such time as your task is completed.
3. Your tasks are:-
  - (a) Locate the enemy posn at 299712, recce re-register it with arty fire.
  - (b) At conclusion of arty shoot, investigate the accuracy of the fire.
  - (c) Report on the enemy dispoans, str, and fire power at 299712.
4. Your route will be from COMMO RIDGE (294704) NE to the area 299712. Your route in is at your discretion.
5. Your comms will be through the arty 208 W/T set.
6. Adm arrangements normal but take extra rations in case you have to remain out overnight.

*Stuart Pope*

Lt Col  
Comd 27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

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27 AUST INF BN (AIF)

4 Aug 45

BONIS PATROL REPORT No 22

Ref Map

CHABAI

1/25000

PATROL COMD	Lt D.J. HARTE
PATROL BY	15 Pl C Coy
PATROL STRENGTH	1 Offr 20 ORs FOC and 3 Sig pers
ROUTE OUT	Bearing 33° M from COMMO RIDGE
ROUTE IN	Back bearing of Route Out
TIME OUT	041215L
TIME IN	041715L
OBJECT OF PATROL	To move to 297709 and determine:-
	(a) Exact position of enemy
	(b) Whether position is permanent or daily ambush.
	(c) If located, reg with arty the enemy posn.
BRIEFED BY	O.C. C Coy
CASUALTIES	Own NIL Enemy NIL

PART I

There were no signs of enemy or enemy movement in the area covered.

PART II1. TOPOGRAPHICAL(a) TRACKS

No tracks, but numerous foot pads throughout the area.

(b) VEGETATION

Thick undergrowth mainly banana palms.

2. ACTION OWN(a) NARRATIVE

Left COMMO RIDGE at 041215L on a bearing of 40° grid for a distance of 400 yds to 296707 and formed the first firm base. Then one section of 1 NCO and 7 ORs moved out on a bearing of 90° grid for a distance of 300 yds to 299707. Patrol moved up and formed second firm base. Another section of same strength then moved out on a bearing of 360° grid for a distance of 100 yds to 299708. Patrol moved up and made third firm base. A patrol of 1 offr and 7 ORs then moved out on a bearing of 275° grid for a distance of 150 yds to 298708 and contacted no enemy. Patrol then searched surrounding area but could not see any signs of enemy.

Patrol returned on back bearings to COMMO RIDGE arriving at 041715L.

3. ENEMY ACTION

NIL

4. GENERAL REMARKS

Consider that if enemy posns do exist to the NE of COMMO RIDGE, they are farther north than was originally thought.

D.J. HARTE Lt  
Patrol Comd



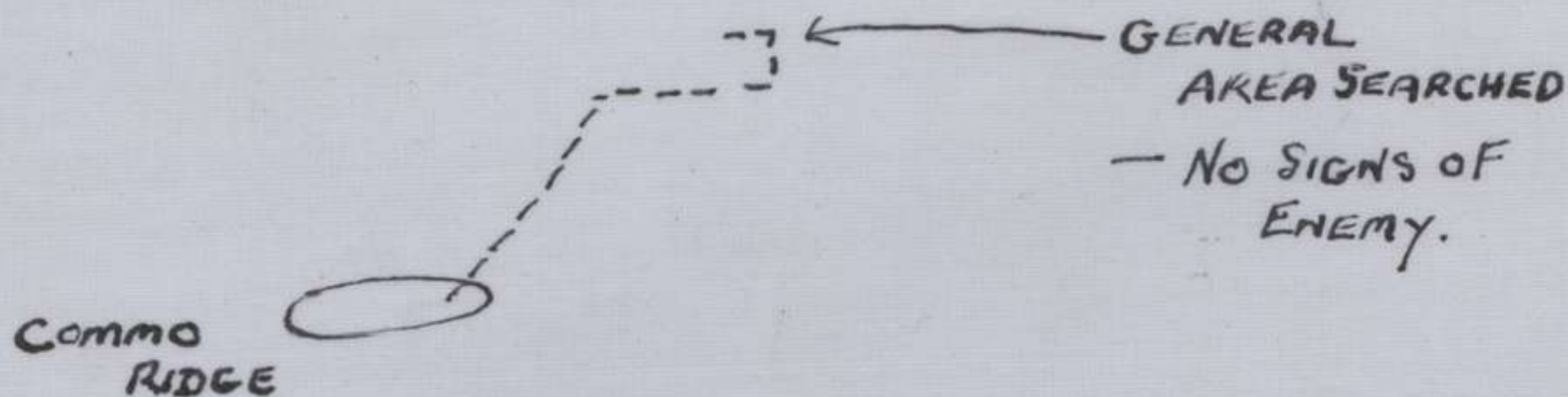
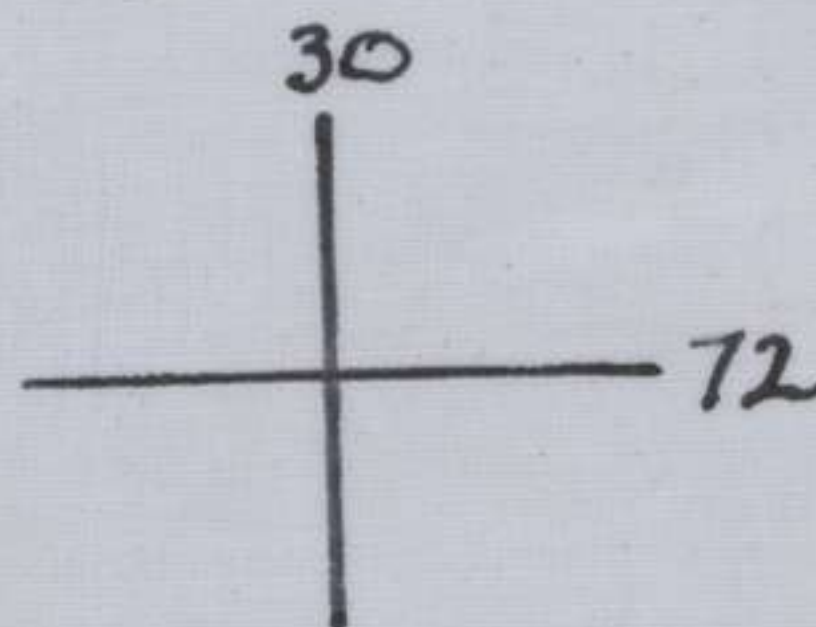
# Overlay

Showing Route Taken By

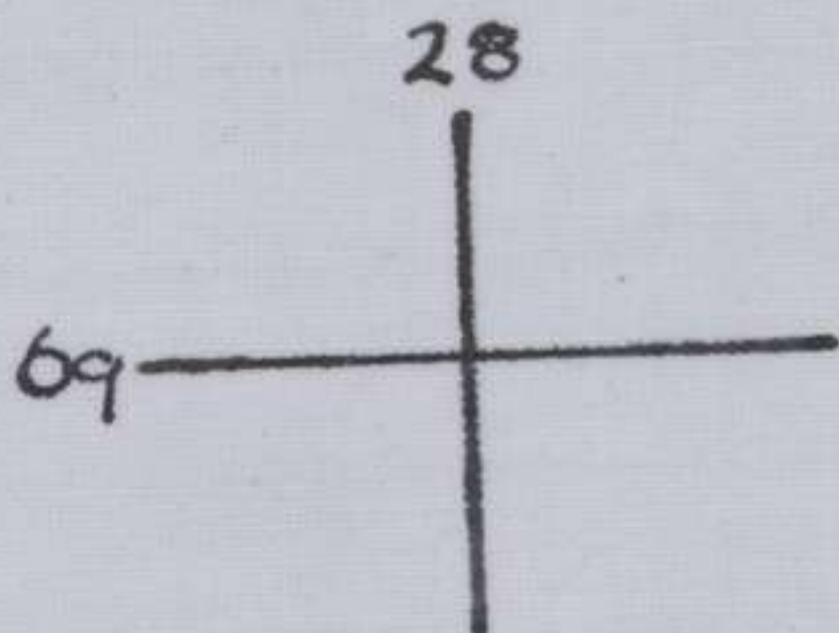
Patrol 22

041215L - 041715L

Ref Map  
Chabai  
1/25000



PREPARED BY  
INT SEC  
27 AUST INF BN (AIF)  
7 AUG '45.





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27 AUST INF BN (AIF)

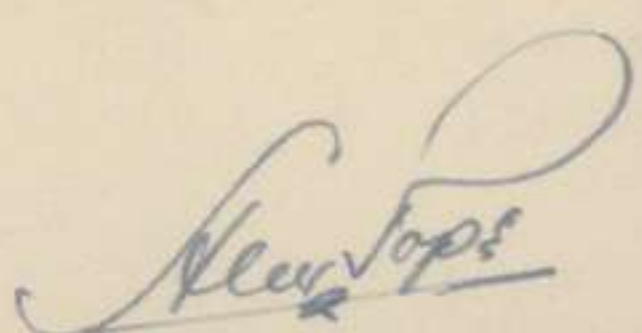
4 Aug 45

BONIS PATROL INSTN No 23

Ref Map CHABAI 1/25000

To Sgt TOSI E. B Coy

1. Enemy information as per sitreps and Int summaries issued.
2. We have no other patrols operating in the Base 2 area. A Coy PIB is responsible for Base 1 (SIAR PTN) area but you should not make contact with any of their patrols.
3. You will Comd a recce - fighting patrol and will move out 050830L. Duration is for one day.
4. Your tasks are:-
  - (a) Move to 304717 and ascertain whether the enemy is in this area or along the route you cover.
  - (b) On your route out recce the old Tac HQ site 312709 and the old B Coy site 306712 for signs of enemy movement and activity.
  - (c) Take offensive action against any enemy parties or patrols contacted.
5. Your route will be via Middle Track to 312709 then NW to 306712 thence to general area 304717. For your route in I suggest compass bearing direct to your HQ.
6. Adm arrangements normal.

  
Lt Col  
Comd 27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

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27 AUST INF BN (AIF)

5 Aug 45

RONIS PATROL REPORT No 23

Ref Map CHABAI 1/25000

PATROL COMD  
PATROL BY  
PATROL STRENGTH  
ROUTE OUT

Sgt TOSI E.M.

10 Pl B Coy

3 NCOs 16 ORs

From 308692 to 312708 to 305713 then on  
bearing of 336° M to 305715 to 304717.

Bearing of 166° M from 305715 to B Coy.

ROUTE IN

050830L

TIME OUT

051640L

TIME IN

OBJECT OF PATROL

(a) Harass enemy in general area.

(b) Locate signs of enemy movement and  
occupation.(c) Locate evidence of mines or laying  
of mines.BRIEFED BY  
CASUALTIES

O.C. B Coy

Own NIL

Enemy

NIL

PART I

No enemy in area covered. Signs of enemy movement at 308708 proceeding EAST. Also on MIDDLE TRACK at 307698 going across track in SE direction. Evidence of mine being exploded at 309701. Crater approx 2 ft in diameter approx 12" deep. No signs of any casualties.

PART II1. TOPOGRAPHICAL(a) TRACKS

No well defined tracks located. Small pads show no signs of recent enemy activity.

(b) VEGETATION

Very thick with wait-a-while everywhere. Thins out occasionally to small banana palm clearings.

(c) Ground undulating with rises up to 25 - 40 ft.

(d) No enemy posns located.

2. ACTION OWN(a) NARRATIVE

Patrol left 307693 at 050830L and moved on WEST of MIDDLE TRACK to a posn 311709 where a good view of area 312709 was obtained. There was no sign of movement in this area. Patrol then moved on NW of track to 305713 where recce of area was carried out. This showed no signs of any enemy activity in this general area. Patrol then moved on compass bearing of 336° M to 305715 where firm base was established, and a recce patrol moved up around kunai to 304714. No sign of enemy were seen in this area. Then moved on compass bearing of 166° M from 305715 to B Coy area.

E.M. TOSI Sgt  
Patrol Comd

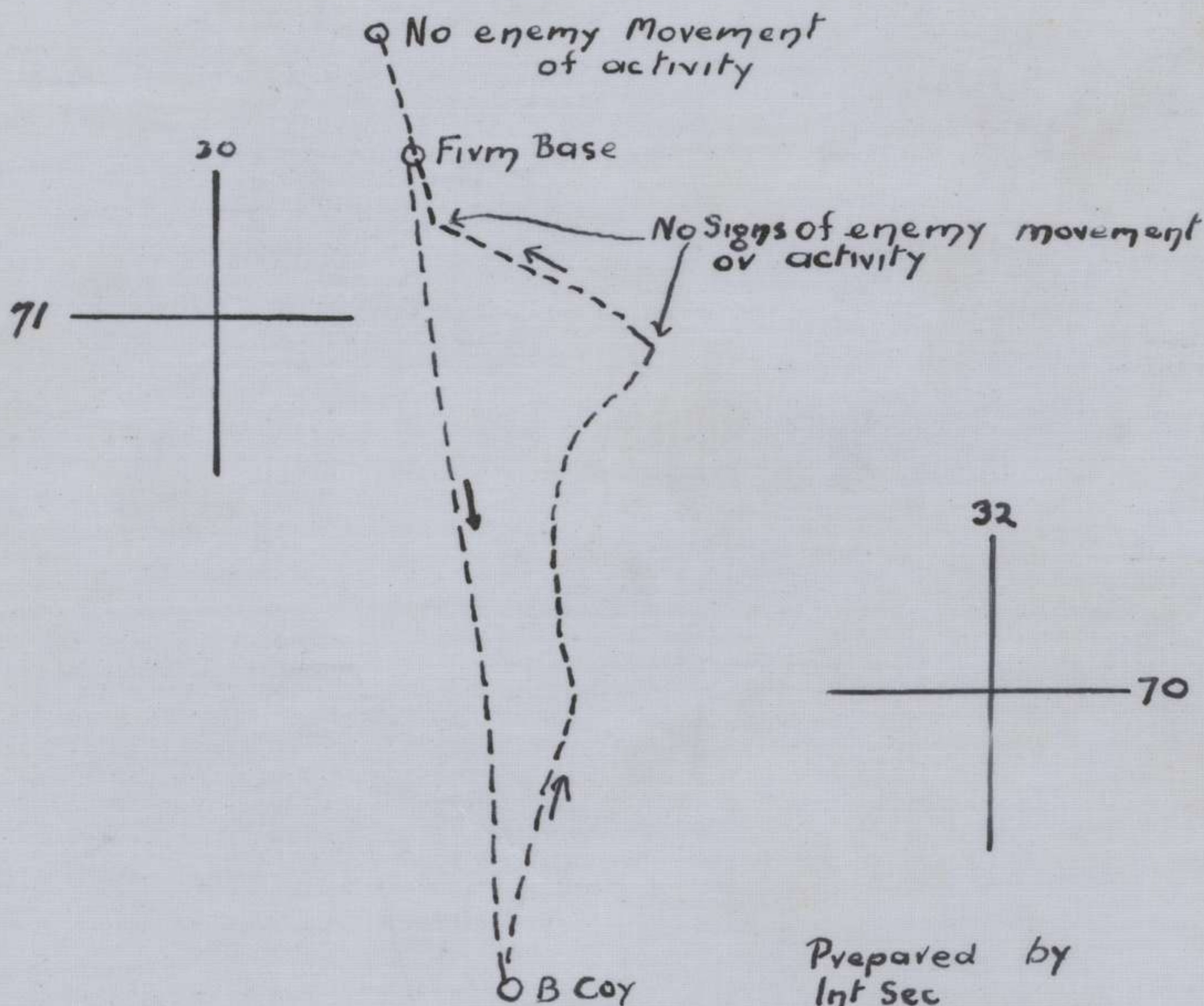


# Overlay

Showing Route Taken by  
Patrol 23

050830L - 051640L

Ref Map  
Chabai 1/25000



Prepared by  
Int Sec  
27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)  
7 AUG '45.



Confidential

Copy No \_\_\_\_\_

27 AUST INF BN (AIF)


5 Aug 45

BONIS PATROL INSTN No 24

Ref Map CHABAI 1/25000

To Sgt NASH K. B Coy

1. Enemy activity in the Base 2 area has shown a marked decrease over the last few days. Patrols operating in this area and as far west as the 300 grid line, report no signs of enemy movement.  
It is still doubtful as to whether the enemy still holds his Base 2 posn at 313718. The slackening of his activity tends to point towards this.  
No contacts have been made in the Ruri Bay area since 1 Aug 45.
2. We have no other patrols operating in the Base 2 area. PIB is responsible for the Base 1 area (SIAR PTN) but you should not contact any of their patrols.
3. You will take Comd of a fighting patrol and move to the Base 2 area 050830L. Duration of patrol is one day.
4. Your tasks are:-
  - (a) Traverse the Base 2 area with a view to harassing any enemy patrols or parties contacted.
  - (b) Est the extent of enemy activity in the area.
  - (c) Inflict casualties on enemy parties encountered.
5. Your route will from your present HQ to 316707 thence to 314714. From there, select your own route to Base 2. Route in is at your discretion.
6. Adm arrangements normal.

  
Lt Col  
Comd 27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

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27 AUST INF BN (AIF)

7 Aug 45

BONIS PATROL REPORT No 24

Ref Map CHABAI 1/25000

PATROL COMD	L/Sgt NASH K.A.
PATROL BY	11 Pl B Coy
PATROL STRENGTH	1 Sgt 16 ORs
ROUTE OUT	Ruri 18° M to 315707, 353° M to Kunai west 700 yds
ROUTE IN	134° M to 316715, 198° M to 314708, 173° M to 307692.
TIME OUT	060830L
TIME IN	061620L
OBJECT OF PATROL	(a) Traverse Base 2 area with view to harassing any enemy patrols contacted. (b) Est the extent of enemy activity in the area. (c) Inflict casualties on enemy parties encountered.
BRIEFED BY	O.C. B Coy
CASUALTIES	Own NIL ENEMY NIL

PART I

- (a) Area traversed but no enemy patrols contacted.
- (b) Pad 315718 showed signs of being recently used by  
2 or 3 Japs.
- (c) No enemy patrols encountered.

PART II

1. TOPOGRAPHICAL

(a) TRACKS

Numerous old tracks and foot pads noticed  
leading in all directions.

(b) VEGETATION

Undergrowth becoming thinned by continual  
patrolling.

2. ACTION OWN

(a) NARRATIVE

Left Ruri 060830L on bearing of 18° M to  
old PIB track. Thence 353° M to 316715; made recce of  
old A Coy posn. No enemy activity in area. Then  
350° M to Kunai; moved in W direction for 700 yds.  
Track showed recent signs of use. This track enters  
Kunai at 315712. Firm Base formed at 316715. Recce's  
made from that posn.

3. ENEMY ACTION

NIL

4. GENERAL REMARKS

Only signs of enemy activity were foot pads  
on track entering Kunai. Footprints were made by 2 or 3  
Japs moving from SE to NW. Considered to have been  
made since rain on night 5-6 Aug.

K.A. NASH L/Sgt  
Patrol Comd

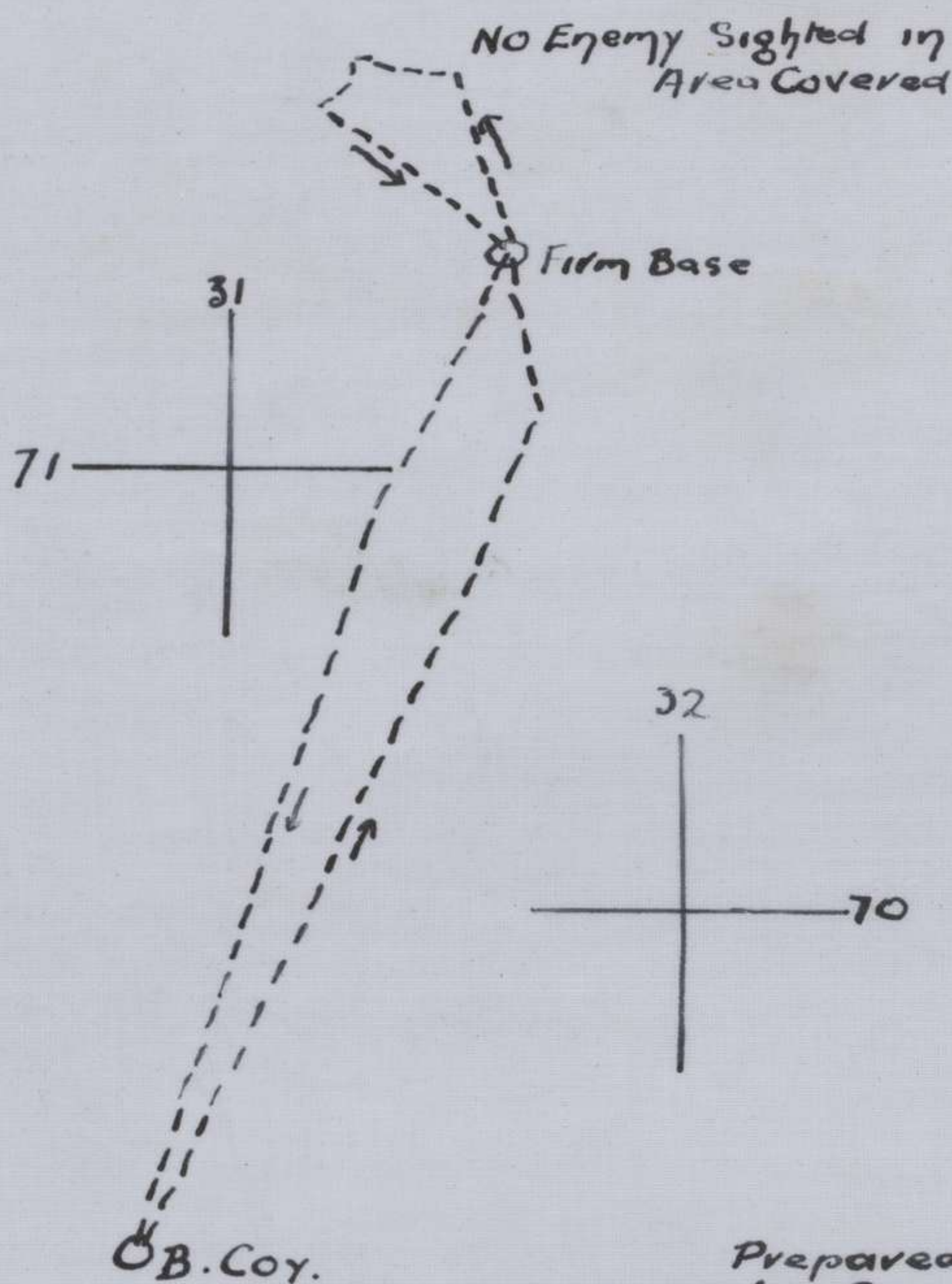


# Overlay

Showing Route Taken by  
Patrol 24.

060830L - 061620L

Ref Map  
Chabai  
1:25000



Prepared by  
Int Sec.  
27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)  
8 AUG '45.



27 AUST INF BN (AIF)

7 Aug 45

BONIS PATROL INSTN No 25

Ref Map CHABAI 1/25000

To Sgt KELLY N. A Coy

1. Enemy information of Base 2 area as per sitreps and Int summaries issued.
2. PIB is responsible for Base 1 (SEAR) area. Their patrols operate north along the KURI BAY RD. These should not effect you.
3. You will take Comd of a fighting patrol and move out 080830L. Duration is one day.
4. Your tasks are:-
  - (a) Ascertain the extent of enemy activity in the Base 2 area and over the route you cover.
  - (b) Take offensive action to inflict casualties on any enemy patrol or def posns contacted.
5. Your route will be via MIDDLE TRACK to 312709 and then move on bearing to Base 2 (313718). From there, follow the edge of the kunai west to 305715.  
Move from this posn to 306712 thence compass bearing to A Coy HQ.
6. Adm arrangements normal.

*New Top*  
Lt Col  
Comd 27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

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27 AUST INF BN (AIF)

8 Aug 45

BONIS PATROL INSTN No 26

Ref Map CHABAI 1/25000

To Lt D.B. DUNSTAN A Coy

1. Base 3 (centre 298716) was an area in which Jap posns were thought to exist. This was proved in correct by one of our patrols when it made an extensive search of the area as far north as the 72 grid line on 1 Aug.  
A minor contact was made at 298716 when 5 Japs unknowingly approached our patrol base. They were killed. This force was possibly an enemy patrol operating in the area and it is considered now that the enemy did patrol the area extensively during the day and retires to rear posns for the night.  
A well defined foot-track with hy duty sig cable was located at 300719. The track ran on a bearing of 249° M and was well used. This is possibly his main track linking his def posns north of Kunai C and D.
2. Patrol from D Coy will be operating forward and to the NE of COMMO RIDGE during your period of ops, but it is unlikely that you will make contact with them.  
There are no other patrols operating in your area of task.
3. Your pl will constitute a fighting patrol and will move out 090830L. Duration of patrol is for two days. Extra water bottles must be borrowed through the coy to alleviate the water problem.
4. Your tasks are:-
  - (a) Move to and ambush the Jap track at 300719.
  - (b) Harass and inflict casualties on any enemy parties contacted.
5. Your route will be from your present location to 304717 via compass bearings. From there, using the Kunai as a reference point, move by bearing to the reported Jap track at 300719.  
Route in is at your discretion.
6. Your intercomn will be by 208 W/T set. Suggest you est a firm base south of the Jap track and set up your set there.

*W. J. Pope*  
Lt Col  
Comd 27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

DISTRIBUTION

O.C. Patrol	Copy No 1
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27 AUST INF BN (AIF)

9 Aug 45

BONIS PATROL REPORT NO 25

Ref Map CHABAI 1/25000

PATROL COMD	Sgt KELLY N.F.
PATROL BY	7 Pl A Coy
PATROL STRENGTH	1 Sgt 10 ORs
ROUTE OUT	From 307694 to 312709 to 310718 to 305715.
ROUTE IN	From 305715 to 307714 to 307694
TIME OUT	080830L
TIME IN	081645L
OBJECT OF PATROL	(a) Establish movement of enemy. (b) Harass the enemy.
CASUALTIES	Own NIL Enemy NIL

PART I

(a) No movement seen

PART II

1. TOPOGRAPHICAL

(a) VEGETATION Thick undergrowth throughout.

(b) TRACKS

Foot pad located at 311715, had not been used in past 24 hrs, leading in direction of old 'B' Coy area.

Foot pad located along edge of Kunai, had not been used during last 48 hrs.

Fresh foot prints seen at approx 305705 leading towards MIDDLE track.

2. ACTION OWN

(a) NARRATIVE

Patrol moved in vicinity of MIDDLE track to 312709; no movement or tracks seen in area. From 312709 on bearing of 340° M to kunai. Kunai is very high and observation was limited. Moved along kunai to approx 305715 then to 307714. No movement or tracks seen in that area. Patrol then moved on bearing of 171° M to A Coy perimeter.

N.F. KELLY Sgt  
Patrol Comd



27 AUST INF BN (AIF)

11 Aug 45

BONIS PATROL REPORT No 26

Ref Map CHABAI 1/25000

PATROL COMD	Lt D.B. DUNSTAN
PATROL BY	8 Pl A Coy
PATROL STRENGTH	1 Offr 15 ORs (incl 2 sigs)
ROUTE OUT	305693 - 307715 - 305715 - 302719
ROUTE IN	302719 - 305714 - 305693
TIME OUT	090830L
TIME IN	101400L
OBJECT OF PATROL	To ambush Jap track at 302719
CASUALTIES	Own NIL Enemy NIL

PART I

No movement along track sighted. Track not used for approx one week. Jap foot prints (approx 3 Japs) sighted at 305700.

PART II

1. TOPOGRAPHICAL

(a) TRACKS

Track ambushed had obviously been an L of C but has not been used for approx a week at least. No cable was located. A track was found approx 50 yds North of old D Coy posn at 305714. It was well worn but had not been used recently.

(b) WATER POINTS

A bomb crater full of water was found at 305714.

(c) VEGETATION Very thick, particularly <sup>on</sup> low ground.

(d) TERRAIN

Very distinct ridges running N - S were found in square 3070. These ridges were approx 50 ft high.

(e) DROPPING AREAS NIL

(f) BIVOUAC AREAS NIL

(g) OP's NIL

2. ACTION OWN

Moved from Coy posn on bearing of 349° N to contact Kunai at 304717. Got off bearing and came out at 307715. Proceeded to 305715 where an old Aust posn was found. Moved direct to track at 302719 and laid ambush for night. Returned at 1000 hrs, arriving in camp at 1400 hrs.

3. ENEMY

Nil movement sighted except for tracks of approx 3 Japs walking from west to east at 305700 approx 600 yds from A Coy posn. At 1000 hrs an engine was heard. Direction was through ambush posn and where Tk/A gun shells were landing. High pitched note suggested a barge. Between 0600 - 0700 hrs 10 Aug heavy MT was heard moving from East to West approx 2000 - 3000 yds away.

4. COMMS

The following messages were sent:-



4. COMNS (Cont)

TIME

TEXT

091045L

Reached 305705. Sighted  
3 Jap tracks running West to  
East at 305700.

091700L

In posn. Track NOT used  
recently.

101100L

Nil sightings. Returning  
to camp.

5. GENERAL

in area.

There appears to be very little enemy movement

D.B. DUNSTAN Lt  
Patrol Comd

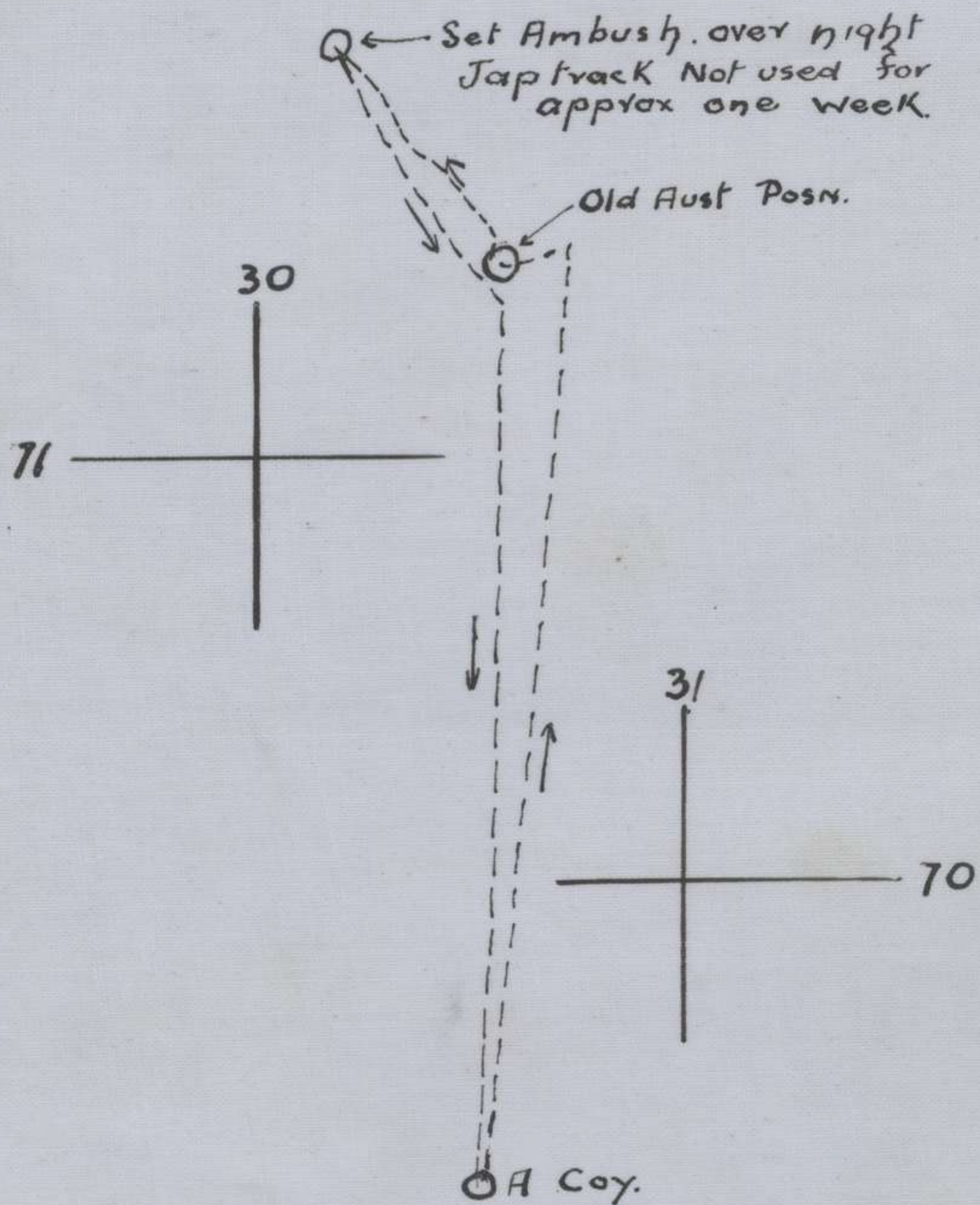


# Overlay

Showing Route Taken by  
Patrol No 26.

090830 L - 101400 L.

Ref Map Chabai. 1:25000.



Prepared by  
Int Sec.

27 Aust INF BN (AIF)  
13 AUG '45.



W/D  
APPX 5

APPRECIATION OF THE SITUATION BY

Lt-col A. POPE CMBD 27 AUG INF BN (AIF)

AT RATSUA AT 1800 hrs 6 AUG 45

REF MAP CHABAI 1/25000

OBJECT

To contain the enemy with harassing patrols, and in the event of an enemy withdrawal, to maintain contact with a view to obtaining control over BONIS Peninsula.

ENEMY

1. Strength of enemy force on BONIS PENINSULA on 1 Jun 45 was est at 1250 tps. The force comprised 4 Bns of 250 men, and was disposed two Bns forward and two rear to BUKA Passage. The forward Bns divided the peninsula from NW to SE following the line of TAGUI Track. Rear bdy of forward Bns appear to be the line TARBUT PORTON, with outposts approx on the line CHINDAWON - PORTON.

The foremost elements of these units on 20 Jun 45 was on the line SIAR, the southern edge of Kunai C and Kunai D to the North of BUIN Pin.

By active and continual patrolling, it has been est without doubt that the areas known as Base 2 and 3 do NOT contain Jap posns of a permanent nature. Posns have been occupied temporarily, mainly it is considered in daylight. Base 1 is still an unknown quantity, but it is not considered to be no more than an outpost posn. Base 4 (COMMO RIDGE), is now in our hands, and there are at least two enemy posns between there and Kunai D to the north, of unknown strength.

The enemy appears to be almost entirely lacking in Sp arms, and his Bns are apparently minus mortars.

The enemy holds the PORTON CHABAI area in some strength, and many base tps, and it appears to be the hub of his activities.

2. During the period 21 Jan - 17 Jul 45 whilst the unit was occupying the area through to RURI BAY, the enemy indulged in harassing tactics only, by use of ambushes and mines on L of C. He had initial success, but counter measures ultimately rendered his efforts almost abortive.

Since 17 Jul 45, the area vacated has been continually and aggressively covered by our patrols, and the initiative has been wrested from the enemy. At no time since has our L of C been molested.

3. Enemy tactics have never been aggressive. He has been content to harass our L of C only. No attempt has been made to attack at anytime, either our patrols or our perimeters.

In def however, he is tenacious, and will hang on until driven out. This characteristic precludes the possibility of frightening him into withdrawal by the use of fighting patrols.

4. From the above, it is obvious that:-

- (a) He does not desire to re-occupy lost territory, and is content to harass from his main def.
- (b) He is aware that he is waging a losing war, and that his role is a containing or delaying one.



- (c) He anticipates any adv by us will be made along the line of TASUJ Track onto PORTON.
- (d) He has conceded us the initiative, and we are successfully containing him, but have not got control of the peninsula.
- (e) His morale is not of the highest order.
- (f) He cannot be frightened into a general withdrawal.

#### 5. Deduction

To attain part two of the object (i.e. control of BONIS Peninsula) the destruction of the enemy is necessary. Only a determined aggressive advance will achieve this.

#### OWN TPO

1. 23 Aust Inf Bde Gp (less 7 Bn and deta) occupies a secure perimeter in the RATSUA Area.  
The Gp contains one Bty Fd Arty, one tp HAA, one tp tks, one Coy (less one Pl) RAE and one Coy PIB.  
Air sp up to 4/5 sqns can be obtained by request.  
There is a possibility of getting some naval sp.

2. As regards 27 Bn, the strength is 562 (as at 6 Aug 45) with 10% on leave. It has been in action, except for a short rest at TOROKINA, since 19 Apr 45.  
The period on the NUMA NUMA Trail was hard physically, but highly successful, and at the conclusion of that period, morale was particularly high, and there was keen anticipation of a real fight on BONIS Peninsula.

The period here has been rather trying. Large areas have had to be covered daily on security and escort duties, in addition to fighting patrols. The cas rate has been heavy, mainly due to ambushes and mines. Battle cas have been

(a)	Deliberate ops	2 killed	4 wounded	
(b)	Ambushes, mines	2 offrs 6 OR killed	1 offr 23 OR wounded	
(c)	Accidental	3 OR killed	14 OR wounded	
	TOTAL	2 offrs 11 ORs killed	1 offr 41 ORs wounded	

The incidence of disease is extremely low.

After almost 7 weeks in the area and considering the conditions, morale is still very high. The expressed desire of the men, is to get a move on against the enemy. However, it must be expected that there will be a gradual fall in morale and fighting efficiency, if present conditions continue.

3. Details of 8 Bn are not available, but much of the above is applicable.

4. There appears to be no prospect of relief for the Bde Gp.

#### 5. Deductions

- (a) We have superiority in all respects.
- (b) It is essential that the Gp attain the complete object, as continuation of the present role indefinitely will inevitably result in further casualties, and a lowering of morale and fighting efficiency.
- (c) We must mount an attack to drive him from the peninsula.

#### TOPOGRAPHY

1. No features of any real value exist on the peninsula. It is covered with thick undergrowth and dense banana plants, with patches of kunai.

2. The line RURI BAY - RATSUA is 2000 yds wide. Moving NW,



the peninsula narrows to 4000 yds on the line TARBUT - CHABAI.

3. The only stream and assured water supply of consequence is the RATBUA River.

4. The ground on the east coast, extending over halfway to the west coast is reasonably firm. That on the west, and south of PORTON Pln is inclined to be swampy.

5. The coastal area of PORTON CHABAI is capable of development for sup purposes.

#### 6. Routes

Two main and reasonable routes exist, the East coast Road and the TASUI Track. The East Coast Rd gives no scope for manoeuvre, and does not lead to any vital ground or area. Nor does it lead to any known water sup. The use of it would extend our L of C to impracticable lengths.

The TASUI Track leads directly to the vital enemy area around PORTON CHABAI. It appears to be a main L of C for the Jap, is reasonably solid, and does not encounter swamp lands.

A subsidiary road (Grove Track) is under construction, and could cut onto the TASUI Track in vicinity of COMMO Ridge. When completed, this track could be the L of C from RATBUA forward to and beyond COMMO RIDGE.

#### 7. Reduction

The best route for an advance is by TASUI Track. L of C will be shortened by completion of GROVE Track. No other practicable route exists.

#### SECURITY

1. The present dispositions and patrol policy provide adequate security for the Gp, and the L of C has been secure.

2. The occupation of COMMO RIDGE as a patrol base by 27 Bn extends the L of C of the Bn to what is considered a safe limit.

3. The occupation of patrol bases forward of COMMO RIDGE would render the L of C most insecure.

4. Patrol Bases to the NE are impracticable on a permanent basis, due to the additional L of C to be covered, and necessity for daily sup (particularly in relation to water).

#### 5. Reduction

If a policy requiring patrol bases forward is to be adopted, the L of C of 27 Bn must be reduced, and this could best be effected by the elimination of the outer line, and disposition of the Gp on the GROVE - TASUI Track.

#### COURSES OPEN

1. Since the enemy obviously does not desire to regain lost territory, and has not taken the opportunity of taking aggressive action, and in addition, lost the initiative, his only course is one of def.

The logical def line to adopt is the line TARBUT - CHABAI.



2. (a) The advantages in this line lies in its narrow front (about 4000 yds), on which he could concentrate his two fwd Bns, with a delaying force on the line of Adv.

(b) It denies us control of the peninsula.

(c) Denies us the possible sup base at PORTON CHABAI.

3. This is his last line of def for the retention of the Peninsula. If he lost it, we would be enabled to bring forward our sp apty, and the full weight of our resources on the North of the peninsula to BUKA Passage.

I consider that in the event of the fall of this line, he will withdraw to BUKA without loss of time.

4. This course, in the event of an advance, is certain, and he will fight bitterly before giving up the line.

#### COURSES

1. The undersirability of maintaining the present role has already been discussed, and is discarded.

#### 2. Course 1

(a) To successively acquire patrol bases on the line of TASUI TRACK towards PORTON.

(b) The only advantage to be seen in this is a gradual penetration into enemy territory.

(c) The disadvantages are

(i) It will be a lengthy process.

(ii) The enemy will be enabled to gather himself for each successive move.

(iii) It will invite interference on the L of C.

(iv) The cas and wastage rate will be continuous over the period, and result in a loss of morale and fighting efficiency.

Course is not recommended.

#### 3. Course 2

(a) An advance along TASUI track with one Bn forward, with PORTON - CHABAI as objective. Second Bn to make sympathetic adv with one or two coys, along coastal route with objective SW corner of PORTON Pl.

(b) Advantages are

(i) A short, direct and secure L of C

(ii) The securing of PORTON CHABAI would make possible the est of a beach head.

(iii) The beach head could be developed for sup.

(iv) From the beach head, enemy on the line to East coast could be quickly dealt with by penetration and infiltration. The def of BONIS Peninsula would then collapse.

(v) The advance could be mounted swiftly and with surprise effect. Our past ops have been of a nature to lead him to anticipate a similar one (i.e. a crack at a poem, drive him off and be content). A similar action, immediately followed through, and the momentum maintained, might very possibly catch him unawares, and make difficult the concentration of his outer tps.

(vi) If he had time to concentrate his force, this would ensure complete security of the L of C and enable me to use the rear Bn. Further it



would place the enemy where he could be best dealt with by our full resources.

(c) There appear to be no disadvantages.

The matter of sup initially could be overcome by escort of jeep trains conveying additional Amm, water and sups, for the duration of the op. With the available native labour, track could be improved and maintained behind the adv.

The length of the L of C could be adequately protected, and sup maintained to PORTON until beach improvements were made.

This course is recommended.

PLAN

1. INTENTION

To advance and capture PORTON - CHABAI in two phases.

Phase 1	Capture PORTON PLN
" 2	Exploit to and capture CHABAI.

2. 27 Bn lead straight out of present posns along TABUI Track, and carry out phase 1.
3. 8 Bn secure L of C for Phase 1.  
Then carry out Phase 2 from base est by 27 Bn.
4. To initiate, 27 Bn to locate beforehand the next strong posn fwd of COMMO RIDGE, and open the advance by an attack sp by air, arty, 4.2" and 3" mortars, and tks. Upon capture, follow straight through and get momentum.
5. Upon approach to PORTON - RAN could co-operate.
6. PIB - Right flank protection.
7. Engrs To complete track through to COMMO RIDGE, beforehand.  
Supt fwd during adv for road improvement, repair etc.
8. Intercomm Tac HQ - RATSUA.



27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

16 Aug 45

CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES

Action to be taken by 27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)  
prior to and after official announcement

REF MAP	CHABAI	1/25000
	SORAKEN	1/25000

GENERAL

1. An official announcement of the unconditional surrender by Japan will be followed by official orders for the time and date of cease fire in BOUGAINVILLE.
2. Until that time is announced, present posns will be maintained and adequate security measures taken to ensure that any attempt by Jap tps to harass our L of C and perimeters is frustrated.
3. In anticipation of the official orders, certain preparations may be carried out, as set out hereunder.
4. The surrender of the Jap forces on BONIS Peninsula and BUKA will be taken by Comd 23 Aust Inf Bde on BONIS Airstrip. The Comd Jap Forces will be responsible for the concentration of all enemy tps into that area, where they will be guarded by 8 Aust Inf Bn (AIF).
5. It is possible that parties of enemy, or individuals, will march into our lines to surrender. If so, they will be disarmed and escorted to this HQ, after prior warning to this HQ as to numbers. All weapons etc., will be forwarded to HQ with the escort. Enemy PW will NOT be deprived of pers belongings, and will NOT be ill treated. Attention is drawn to Special Order issued to all ranks by HQ 2 Aust Corps.
6. During the negotiations and implementation of such by the Japs, all pers are warned to guard against any act of treachery. Panic among prisoners, attempts to create disturbances and subsequent cas incurred by us are a possibility.
7. No shots will be fired by our tps except by the order of an Officer or NCO, and then only if necessary to quell disturbances or save lives.  
Firing will not be indulged in as a means of celebrating the peace, and disciplinary action on severe lines will be administered on responsible pers.
8. Surrender of Jap swords will NOT be accepted by any sub units or pers of the Bn, except or until authority has been received from 23 Aust Inf Bde. Pers are reminded that any infringement of this order can be checked by interrogation of Jap Officers. Officers and NCO's will carefully police this instn. Every facility will be given for all ranks to secure souvenirs from dumps of enemy arms, weapons and eqpt. Therefore, souveniring will NOT be indulged in until the task of clearing the areas of responsibility is completed.
9. It will be conveyed to all ranks, that the behaviour and steadiness of our tps will be noted by the Japs at this juncture, and will leave a lasting impression on his mind as to our fighting qualities, discipline and ability to back our demands. Coys will take immediate steps to ensure that all pers are dressed uniformly and as neatly as possible. The wearing of berets will receive special attention. They will be canted over the right eye, and the crown pulled back towards the back of the head in rear of the right ear. Eqpt will be cleaned immediately.



Action to be taken immediately.

10. All surplus engr stores, coy stores etc., will be prepared dumped and returned to QM.
11. Bulk amm will be stored and covered in a central dump ready for despatch to B Ech immediately after the cease fire.
12. Plans laid for the recovery of defensive wire, and dumping for return.
13. QM will est dumps in his area, for the receipt of engr stores, amm etc., or make arrangements for their immediate return to Engrs or DID.

Responsibility of Bn

14. The Bn will be responsible for the supervision of P's W in removal of all mines, booby traps etc., and the collection of all enemy arms eqpt (other than that already dumped by enemy), in the area bounded by Grids 70, 30 to excl the TARBUT - CHABAI Track (286757 - 260730).  
A central dump will be established at PORTON.
15. The Bn may be required to send patrols to BUKA Is for similar duties.
16. Areas of responsibility of Coys are shown on overlay att. Orders for the implementation of these tasks will be issued later.

Concentration

17. As and when practicable, the Bn will concentrate at the REST CAMP - SORAKIN, as soon as possible, preparatory to moving to TOROKINA.

Action on Cease Fire

18. All amm, less that as set out hereunder will be carefully packed, and placed in a dump at jeep loading points, and will be back loaded to B Ech. Amm to be retained will be

Rfm	50 rds in bandolier (sling over left shoulder)
OSMG	6 mags loaded
LMG	6 mags loaded
Grenades	2 per man.

19. All weapons other than rifles, OSMG, LMGs will be cleaned, generously oiled, packed and labelled, and forwarded to B Ech. This includes 2, 3 and 4 Pls HQ Coy.
20. All tentage will be returned to B Ech.
21. All def wire will be recovered and dumped for transporting to B Ech. Booby traps will be removed.
22. Weaponx pits will be filled in after any possibility of offensive action by enemy is removed.
23. Upon completion of return of stores, all HQ Coy (Excl Sigs) pers will concentrate at Tac HQ. This includes flame thrower Sec.
24. Garrison on SAFOSA will be withdrawn under orders OC A Coy - to SORAKIN, and accomodated there.

Evacuation of Present Areas

25. Surplus rations will be cased and back loaded to B Ech.
26. The entire area will be cleaned and left in perfect condition.



Papers, tins etc., will be buried, and latrines etc., filled in.

27. Water drums will be stacked on side of track.

28. Coys will ensure that all showers etc., are carried out with Coy stores.

29. Coys may be required to move to and camp in areas of responsibility until the task of clearing is completed.

#### Rest Camp

30. OC A Coy will be responsible for the extension of the REST camp to accomodate the remainder of the Bn. Area will incl that at present occupied by 8 Bn, and additional areas will be cleared.

31. Additional tentage will NOT be brought from LOB, and pers will erect half shelters etc.

#### TOROKINA

32. The following adv party will proceed to TOROKINA when advised:

OC            Lt C.F. MYERS  
              2 I/c, One Sgt and 10 ORs per ABCD Coy  
              Pioneer Pl complete.

33. Upon arrival, will report to Maj S.W. PICKETT, and will be responsible for construction of camp in accordance with plan in possession of Lt ELLIS.

34. Lt ELLIS will be responsible for taking of all tools required, incl director to be loaned by 2 Pl.

#### Discipline

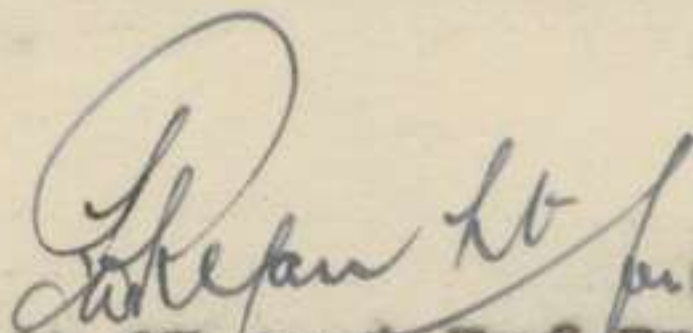
35. Before the Bn is an indefinite period, and what commitments it will be given are unknown. The war is over, and tps, unless well disciplined, employed, interested and amused will become restless. The primary essential to maintaining pride in the unit is discipline, and the highest standard will be aimed at.

#### Training

36. Training in the future will be confined to ceremonial drill and maintenance of weapons. All previous orders relative to care of arms will be adhered to.

#### Medical

37. Daily skin inspections, and carrying out of anti malarial precautions will be maintained in all circumstances.

  
Adjt 27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)



# OVERLAY

Showing Coy Areas  
of  
Responsibility

Ref Map  
Chabai  
1:25000



Prepared by  
Int Sec  
27 Aust Inf Bg (AIF)  
16 Aug. 45



W D  
ADV LHQ  
BORNEO

22 Aug 45

ORDER OF THE DAY

BY

GEN SIR THOMAS A. BLAMEY GBE KCB CMG DSO ED

The Japanese have surrendered.

Our long and arduous struggle has ended in complete victory.

The climax has come at the time when all six Australian Divisions are fighting strenuously each on its area in far flung battle line.

No divisions amongst the Allies have contributed more to the downfall of our enemies than ours.

Our general officers and commanders of all grades, our regimental officers, and our warrant and non-commissioned officers have led you unfalteringly to victory.

Under their guidance the troops have been formed into a magnificent army to the pride and glory of Australia.

We have fought through the burning days and freezing nights of the desert and have fought through the ooze and sweat of tropical jungles.

We have defeated the Italians and the Germans and would soon have completely destroyed the Japs before us.

We are now to go to our homes having done our part in ensuring freedom for all peoples.

We will NOT forget this freedom for which we have fought so long and successfully; And so, let us stand together in future years to ensure it remains the crowning heritage of Australian people; And, above all, we give thanks to the Almighty for His greatest and crowning mercy that marks for all people the total downfall of tyranny.



SUBJECT

REPORT ON OPERATIONS - WEEK ENDING 3 AUG 45

27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)

23 Aust Inf Bde

4 Aug 45

1. SECURITY

- (a) Security patrols have made no sightings during the week. These patrols have been maintained on L of C and outside of Coy perimeters.
- (b) Ambushes have been maintained along RURI BAY Rd, MIDDLE TRACK and on eastern side of TASUI TRACK. Ambushes have been of a roving nature, and have been forward up to 300 yds on RURI BAY and MIDDLE TRACKS. No sightings.
- (c) Only one instance of enemy harassing perimeters is reported. In the early morning of 1 Aug 45, one NCO died of wounds sustained by a grenade. There is an element of doubt as to whether this might not have been caused by the action of the NCO himself.

2. FIGHTING PATROLS

(a) Base 2

Three fighting patrols have been in this area. The first made no contact. On Monday 30 Jul 45, a patrol contacted Japs foraging in our old posn at 315714. Action ensued with cas to enemy.

For the following 2 days, this patrol op in the area Base 2 and made no contact. Old Jap posn 313718 was unoccupied.

Comment

Patrols have established the fact that no enemy posn exists in this area, and that any enemy activity in, and from the area, is purely for harassing and foraging purposes.

(b) Base 3

- (i) The area bounded by map ref 307712 NW to 304720 west to 295718 south to 297713 SW to 294707 ENE to 307712 has been thoroughly combed.

During a two day patrol, a Jap party of 5 wandered into the patrol base and were killed. Other movements were heard in the area shortly afterwards.

No posns were located, and from the report submitted, it can be assumed that none exist. A contact mine was detonated at 305712. This could have been laid anytime over the preceeding week. The track 304720 West to 295718 showed signs of regular and recent use.

- (ii) A fighting patrol whose task was to comb the area, 295707 NE to 297714 to Kunai D at 295716 and return, met strong enemy fire at 295710. Fire was 1 HMG, 2 LMG and rifles, from front and flanks. Patrol forced to withdraw. No cas either side.

Comment

It is considered that there are no enemy posns in the suspected Base 3 Area. Certain movement is made by the



through the area, possibly proceeding to MIDDLE TRACK and the area between COMMO RIDGE and Kunai D. The track 304720 to 295718 is probably an L of C from Kunai A area to Kunai D and/or Porton.

(c) RURI BAY

As a result of infm supplied by A Coy PIB, two fighting patrols, of a pl each, sp by one sec tanks was sent to eliminate reported Jap posns at 321704, 326711 and 330717 on 2 Aug 45. Two pls PIB were to co-operate by setting ambushes at 319709 and 328714. Ambushes were to be in posn by 1100 hrs.

The ambush for 319709 finally took up a posn somewhere in vicinity of 320700, after the fighting patrols had passed through, well after 1200 hrs.

The second party reported having got to its posn, and having set in ambush - gave it up, moved down the track and contacted the patrol at 321704 at 1445 hrs. They reported the track clear. This was in opposition of orders issued, as it was to remain in ambush until the patrol had cleared the area 326711.

It was reported to the patrol leader that one PIB had been held up by the firing of one round by the enemy.

This patrol elicited the infm that Japs had just previously been at 321704 and had withdrawn along track through gardens. Had the ambush been in posn, some results might have been achieved.

The detonation of a mine est at 500 lb at 326711 destroyed a tank, killed 3 and wounded 8 of the patrol strength. Patrol returned.

Comment

It is considered that the sighting of enemy over the last 5 days by PIB were of one party employed in foraging our old posn at 330717, and preparing booby traps in anticipation of use of tanks by us in the area.

Infm supplied by PIB as understood by this unit is considered to be misleading.

3. My appreciation of enemy leads me to the following deductions.

- (a) The enemy has a defended line, probably CHINDAWON - PORTON, with outposts forward. Possibly at SIAR, North of Kunai C and general Kunai D area.
- (b) From these areas, harassing patrols are sent forward.
- (c) He is aware of presence of our tanks, and is mining suitable tank approaches, and holding in some strength the probable line of approach into his territory - i.e. TASUE TRACK.
- (d) He has no desire to occupy ground forward of his present line.
- (e) That use of our patrols has discouraged him in attempts to harass our L of C.

4. LESSONS

One lesson only has been learnt - that the only infm of real value is that which is gained by one's own efforts.



5. PROJECTED OPS

- (a) Harassing fighting patrols to Base 2 and 3, via MIDDLE Track and other tracks (as approx axis of adv) - and by navigation. These patrols will usually be of 2 days duration, and occupy alternative posns as bases and ambushes at Comds discretion.
- (b) Occupation of COMMO RIDGE as patrol base for ops against KUNAI D Area. This will commence approx 7 Aug 45.
- (c) Maintenance of ambushes on RURI BAY Rd and MIDDLE TRACK.



Lt-col  
Comd 27 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)



SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY

BY

Lieutenant Colonel A. POPE E.D.

COMMANDING OFFICER

27 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION (AIF)

The day for which we have trained, laboured and fought has at last arrived, and hostilities have ceased. The day has arrived much sooner than was expected a few weeks ago, and we owe tribute to our Supreme Commanders in the results of their efforts in planning, organising and directing of the services to the defeat of our enemies.

The role of the Battalion towards victory during the period of its being, has not been spectacular, but was necessary. The difficult trying periods of training and waiting for action, ultimately proved of value. In action, the battalion demonstrated the quality of its training by the excellent results it has achieved.

Now, before us, is a further period of waiting. The Government have not yet finalised plans for de-mobilization, nor has it the transport facilities with which to speed it.

There may be tasks allotted the unit in the nature of disarming and concentrating the Japanese Forces, which have surrendered. Our standard of discipline and efficiency will enable us to carry out any such tasks with the same cheerfulness and success which have attended our efforts in the past. Our patience will be rewarded in the knowledge that the unit has, from start to finish, performed well, and that it enjoys a wide spread reputation for efficiency and morale.

Let us remember those of our comrades and friends who have made the supreme sacrifice, and those who are maimed. They, with you, have made tradition for the Battalion. Let us, by our future actions, acknowledge the price they have paid in the attainment of the reputation of the unit.

"We will remember them"

I am proud to have commanded you. To you all, I give my congratulations for a job well done, and my gratitude for the co-operation and loyalty you have given me.

22 Aug 45