

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

Item number: 8/3/28

2/28 Infantry Battalion

August 1941

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Part II, and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

OCT 4 - 1941
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WAR DIARY

or

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

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Unit H. Q., 2/28 Aust Inf Bn

Army F.

Commanding Officer Lt-col J.E. Llo, M.C.

Month and Year Aug 1941.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
Tobruk	Aug 1		Daily Intelligence Summary (one Copy)	1
			O/O No. 10 together with O/Orders of supporting arms and maps relative to attack by "D" Coy on posts S6 and S7, night 2/3 Aug 41	2
	2		Daily Intelligence Summary	3
			Casualty and Field Returns - Offrs and O.R's	4
			Daily Intelligence Summary	5
	3		The Bn carried out its first Coy in attack during night 2/3 Aug 41 on enemy strongholds S6 and S7. "D" Coy (Capt Conway, R.A.E.) carried out the attack. The operation was very carefully prepared and Capt Conway with Lieut S.C. McHenry and 19 ORs (including 9 badly wounded) were able to hold S7 during daylight hours of 3 Aug 41. Attempts to reinforce the garrison were unsuccessful owing to the particularly accurate enemy Mortar and M.G. fire on our fwd posts. The enemy successfully counter-attacked on S7 at approx 2200 hrs 3 Aug 41, and a counter attack launched by 2/32 Aust Inf Bn (Coy strength u/comd Capt Cahill) at 0400 hrs, 4 Aug 41 was unsuccessful. Complete details will be found in attached appendices.	
	3		Recce patrol order (patrol was not carried out owing to enemy mortar fire)	6
	3		Recce patrol order (patrol was not carried out owing to enemy mortar fire)	7

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Army Form C 2118.

Unit 2/28 AUST INF BN

Commanding Officer _____

Month and Year AUG 1941.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
Tobruk	Aug 3		R.O. 235	8
			Warning Order for "A" Coy 2/32 Bn (under comd)	9
	4		Report on Operations night 2/3 and 3/4 Aug 41 on enemy posns.	10
			Nominal roll of personnel who took part in Operations nights 2/3 and 3/4 Aug 41.	11
			List of Casualties incurred nights 2/3 and 3/4 Aug 41.	12
			Daily Intelligence Summary	13
	5		Patrol Order and Report (Lieut Hickey)	14
			Daily Intelligence Summary	15
	6		O/O No. 11	16
			Daily Intelligence Summary	17
	8		Daily Intelligence Summary	18
			The Bn was relieved on night 7/8 Aug 41 by 2/12 Bn. The relief was carried out without incident under a full moon. - Bn now located junction BARDIA-el ADEM Rds with a role of Div Mobile Reserve. - Bn while in this position is providing large working parties for essential tasks within the Fortress, and every opportunity is being taken to give the men a well deserved swim.	

Continued

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Unit 2/28 AUST INF BN.

Commanding Officer _____

Month and Year Aug 1941

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
	<u>Aug.</u>			
Tobruk	8		All ranks are receiving a further T.A.B. injection while in this area. - The men are able to wash their clothes (long overdue) and generally clean themselves up, and most important they are able to move about without fear of being fired on. The remnants of "D" Coy (43) are being ably administered by C.Q.M.S. Lyall.	
	9		Casualty and ^F ield Returns - Offrs and O.R's	19
	10		R.O. No. 236	20
	13		R.O. No. 237	21
			Intelligence Summary covering period 21/22 Jul - 7/8 Aug, 41	22
	16		Casualty and Field Return - Offrs and O.R's	23
	17		O/Order No 12	24
			R.O. No. 238	25
			Re-establishment of "D" Coy	26
			"D" Coy was reformed today bringing total strength (95) up to that of the other Rifle Coys. Capt Tunstill, A.V. was appointed O.C. Coy and Lieuts Waring and Norris from "A" and "B" coys respectively were transferred to form a nucleus of Offrs.	
	18		Intelligence Summary	27

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Unit 2/28 AUST INF BN

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Month and Year AUG 1941

Commanding Officer _____

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
Tobruk	Aug 18		<p>Bn relieved 2/1 Aust Pioneer Bn on night 17/18 Aug, area Eastern Perimeter astride BARDIA RD.</p> <p>During period at BARDIA - el ADEM Junction, the Bn was called upon to provide large working parties, approx strength 300. The C.O. also prepared a further defence system known as the YELLOW LINE - this providing defensive protection - one Bn strength for the POW cage strong point (BARDIA-el ADEM Rd Junction). The men were able to enjoy several much appreciated swims, and the spell in reserve, although short, was of great benefit to all concerned.</p>	
	19		<p>Dispositions new area - right "C" Coy (Lieut Allen) R70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75 - Centre "B" Coy (Capt Johnstone) R76, 77, 78, 79, 81, 83, 85 - Left "A" Coy A.A.S.C. (under comd) Z87 to coast - "A" Coy (Capt Northwood) and "D" Coy (Capt Tunstill) in reserve. This front generally quiet although enemy shelling periodically. Patrolling active on our part..</p>	
			Recce patrol order and report (Lieut Norris)	28
			Intelligence Summary	29
			Recce patrol and report (A.A.S.C.)	30

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Forwards

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Army Form C. 2118.

Unit 2/28 AUSTRALIAN INF BN

Commanding Officer _____

Month and Year AUG 1941

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
Tobruk	<u>Aug</u> 19		Recce patrol and report (Lieut Hall)	31
	20		Recce patrol and report (Lieut Hickey)	32
			Intelligence Summary	33
			Recce patrol to extend operations beyond NORMIE feature	34
	21		Carrier patrol and report (Lieut Masel)	35
			Intelligence Summary	36
			Photographs of types of British and American Tanks	37
			R.O. No. 239	38
	22		Intelligence Summary	39
			Fighting patrol order and report (Capt Day A.A.S.C.)	40
			Fighting patrol order and report (Lieut Hall)	41
			Recce patrol order and report (Lieut Norris)	42
	23		Intelligence Summary	43
			Carrier patrol order and report (Lieut Masel)	44
			Fighting patrol order and report (Lieut Hannah)	45
			R.O. No. 240	46

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General

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Unit 2/28 AUST INF BN

Commanding Officer.....

Month and Year AUG 1941

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.	
Tobruk	<u>Aug</u> 23		Congratulatory message from General Sir Claude J.E. Auchlinleck G.C.I.E., C.B., C.S.I., D.S.O., O.B.E., Also from Lieut-General Sir T.A. Blamey, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.	47	
			Casualty and Field Returns - Offrs and O.R.'s	48	
	24		Intelligence Summary	49	
			Occupation of area known as Z1	50	
			Recce patrol order and report (Lieut Taylor)	51	
			Improvement of JACK O.P. (42514198)	52	
		25		Intelligence Summary	53
				Carrier patrol order and report (Lieut Masel)	54
		26		Carrier patrol order and report (Lieut Masel)	55
				Carrier patrol order and report (Lieut Masel)	56
				List of personnel transferred in and transferred out of unit since 27 Apr 41.	57
				Intelligence Summary	58
			Order for Vickers Gun harassing shoot.	59	
			Signal for DF for Z1.	60	
			Recce patrol order and report (Sgt Potter)	61	

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Unit 2/28 AUST INF BN

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Commanding Officer.....

Month and Year AUG 1941

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
Tobruk	<u>Aug</u>			
	26		Intelligence Summary	62
	27		Patrol report (A.A.S.C.)	63
			Regimental Trust Fund - Financial Statement (one copy)	64
	28		Marched in as reinforcements - 3 Officers, 37 OR's. Lieuts T.P. Robertson, Parry W., Harrod E.)	
			Carrier patrol order and report	65
			Patrol order (A.A.S.C.)	66
			Intelligence Summary	67
			Patrol order and report (Lieut Hall)	68
	29		R.O. No. 241	69
			Intelligence Summary	70
			Casualty and Field Returns - Offrs and ORs	71
			Patrol order and report (Lieut Allen)	72
			Patrol order and report (Lieut Hickey)	73
	30		O/O No. 13	74
		Intelligence Summary	75	

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Followed up!

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Army Form C. 2118.

Unit 2/28 AUST INF BN.

Commanding Officer _____

Month and Year AUG 1941

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
Tobruk	<u>Aug</u> 31		Intelligence Summary	76
			Particulars of strength and casualties, Aug 41	77
			The area now occupied by the Bn (Eastern Sector) is clean and free of dust. The country on left flank is scarred with deep waddis and post Z101 (extreme left flank) is in an isolated position. At the mouth of waddi and its height gives it a commanding view in all directions, particularly seaward. The weather is getting noticeably cooler, and a second blanket has been re-issued.	
			Bn H.Q. is located in an Italian Villa, named Villa Delia, which before the fall of Tobruk was an Italian Front line brothel - the best accomodation we have yet had in the Fortress.	
			<i>Bn Intelligence Log for month of August. (1 Copy only)</i>	78.
			<i>[Signature]</i> Lt-col. Comd 2/28 Aust Inf Bn.	

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2/28 AUGUST 1941

(From information received up to 0600 hrs, 1 Aug 41)

1. GENERAL SITUATION. There has been a further decrease in volume of enemy shelling. Between 1900 hrs and 1930 hrs heavy Mort r fire was directed at the left hand section of the RNF. A direct hit resulted in four casualties, two killed, two wounded. Between 1150 hrs and 1445 hrs movement of M T from and to DERNA Rd Pt 84 (39734378). "A" Coy reported M T movement to WEST and S W of S 10 at 1930 hrs. Fwd Posts were subject to less M G fire than on previous days.
2. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY.
 - (a) Observed Movement. Between 1150 hrs and 1445 hrs dust observed indicated movement of vehicles to and from DERNA Rd and Pt 84 39734378. At 1930 hrs S10 reported movement of M T in WEST - SOUTH WEST but could not determine direction of movement. At 2045 hrs S 8 reported observing 3 MT at feature Pt 155 and in sq. 296432. One veh was believed to be an Amb van. There was considerable movement of men around these vchs and in vicinity. At 0420 hrs S 10 again heard sounds of MT movement to NW thought to be travelling NORTH.
 - (b) Enemy dispositions At 0632 hrs a heavy Breda in vicinity 39774362 fired on post S 19 obtaining direct hits on sandbags, using explosive bullets.
 - (c) Enemy shellings This was on a reduced scale. Details are as follows :-

Area	Mortars	Shells
COVE Bn HQ	-	36
"A" Coy	23	17
"B" Coy	-	-
"C" Coy	8	17
"D" Coy	28	98
O.S.	-	-
	59	168

As indicated above - intense mortar fire directed against section position of RNF resulted in direct hit and four casualties, two killed and two wounded.

3. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY Artillery
Our arty was active during the period under review and carried out several successful shoots in this SECTOR. Details are appended.

Time	Calibre	Target	No. of Rds	Observed Results
0700	75 mm	S 6	24	Harassing fire considered effective
0745	Do.	Sangars at 396434	44	Ditto
0920	Do.	S 7	66	Ditto
1405	Do	Bty predicted shoot sangars feature 155 in sq. 396432	71	Ditto
1910	Do	S 6	71	Ditto
1945	Do.	S 7	60	Ditto
1410	25 Pdrs	Mortar at 39844304	20	Ditto
2000	Do.	Sangars at 39864306	10	Ditto
2005	Do.	Large sangar 39834309	10	2 direct hits scored
2030	Do.	S 7	17	Harassing
0700	18 Pdrs.	Inf at Pt 69 39824366	10	Inf dispersed
0900	Do.	Inf (10) near sangars 396436	8	Ditto
1114	Do.	5/10 Inf moving around sangars 39734378	12	Ditto
1925	Do.	Pt 84- 39874388	10	Harassing
2000	18 Prds	Mortar at 397437	8	Ditto
	Do.	Sangars at 397435	12	Ditto
<u>Total rounds expended</u>			<u>435</u>	

5. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY (Ctd)

(b) Patrols Listening patrols along Coy fronts report a quiet night and NMS. Some mortar and MG fire was heard. Sounds of working activity were heard in direction Pts 84 and 69. A compressor was heard in direction of Pt 84.

Two small patrols to areas feature 168- 39774313 and WATER TOWER area did not come under fire or encounter enemy.

(c) Works proceeding Minefield between S 9 and S 11 has now been completed and runs from S 11 at 39873322 to 39764320, thence to 39774317 to S 9

4. ENEMY FIREWORKS At 0435 hrs 6 vercy lights were sent up from enemy lines, one SOUTH of DERNA Rd and another 5 NORTH of Rd.

5. ENEMY AIRCRAFT The usual recce plane was over the Bn area between 1715 hrs to 1855 hrs and appeared to make close examine of "A" and "C" Coy lines. Enemy arty shoot was in progress for part of this time.

A. Keall

Lieut
for Lt-col

2/28 Aust Inf Bn.

Time	Observer	Target	Remarks
0700	Do	8 5	
0745	Do	8 5	
0800	Do	8 5	
0815	Do	8 5	
0830	Do	8 5	
0845	Do	8 5	
0900	Do	8 5	
0915	Do	8 5	
0930	Do	8 5	
0945	Do	8 5	
1000	Do	8 5	
1015	Do	8 5	
1030	Do	8 5	
1045	Do	8 5	
1100	Do	8 5	
1115	Do	8 5	
1130	Do	8 5	
1145	Do	8 5	
1200	Do	8 5	
1215	Do	8 5	
1230	Do	8 5	
1245	Do	8 5	
1300	Do	8 5	
1315	Do	8 5	
1330	Do	8 5	
1345	Do	8 5	
1400	Do	8 5	
1415	Do	8 5	
1430	Do	8 5	
1445	Do	8 5	
1500	Do	8 5	
1515	Do	8 5	
1530	Do	8 5	
1545	Do	8 5	
1600	Do	8 5	
1615	Do	8 5	
1630	Do	8 5	
1645	Do	8 5	
1700	Do	8 5	
1715	Do	8 5	
1730	Do	8 5	
1745	Do	8 5	
1800	Do	8 5	
1815	Do	8 5	
1830	Do	8 5	
1845	Do	8 5	
1900	Do	8 5	
1915	Do	8 5	
1930	Do	8 5	
1945	Do	8 5	
2000	Do	8 5	
2015	Do	8 5	
2030	Do	8 5	
2045	Do	8 5	
2100	Do	8 5	
2115	Do	8 5	
2130	Do	8 5	
2145	Do	8 5	
2200	Do	8 5	
2215	Do	8 5	
2230	Do	8 5	
2245	Do	8 5	
2300	Do	8 5	
2315	Do	8 5	
2330	Do	8 5	
2345	Do	8 5	
2400	Do	8 5	
2415	Do	8 5	
2430	Do	8 5	
2445	Do	8 5	
2500	Do	8 5	
2515	Do	8 5	
2530	Do	8 5	
2545	Do	8 5	
2600	Do	8 5	
2615	Do	8 5	
2630	Do	8 5	
2645	Do	8 5	
2700	Do	8 5	
2715	Do	8 5	
2730	Do	8 5	
2745	Do	8 5	
2800	Do	8 5	
2815	Do	8 5	
2830	Do	8 5	
2845	Do	8 5	
2900	Do	8 5	
2915	Do	8 5	
2930	Do	8 5	
2945	Do	8 5	
3000	Do	8 5	

Total rounds expended

2/28 AUST INF BN OPERATION ORDER NO. 10.

Ref TOBRUK SHEET 1/50,000 and enlargement 1/10,000.

INFORMATION.

1. ENEMY.

Two Bns of 115 Mot Inf Regt (GERMAN), elements of 2 M.G. Bn (GERMAN) and ITALIAN Troops are holding positins in strength from Post S7 to R7 (Incl) - In addition to these posts are intermediate and alternative positions as well as a number of Mortar and M.G. posts.

Enemy posts (S6 and S7) are wired and possibly protected by booby traps.

Immediate vicinity of WATER TOWER is not held though Working Parties were observed close to it on the nights 29/30 and 30/31 July 41.

It is not anticipated that a strong counter attack could be launch but local counter attacks are certain to be made.

No enemy tanks have been observed on SALIENT Sectors for ever three weeks.

2. OWN TROOPS.

24 Aust Inf Bde and attached troops are holding the perimeter from the SEA to S8 thence on a general line S.E. to posts R8 - R9 and R10 (Incl).

Enlargement 1/25,000 showing enemy and our dispositions is attd. (i.e. for attacking Inf ONLY).

3. SUPPORTING ARMS. - For attack on S6 - S7 and intermediate posts.

(a) Artillery One section "A" Tp 370 Bty
"B" Tp 370 Bty (will revert to normal role at Z+10.

Will revert for C.B. duties at Z + 10 { 203 Bty
426 Bty
1 Tp 75 mm
1 Tp 105 mm
1 Tp 149 mm } 2/12 Fd Regt.

(b) 3 Pls 1 R.N.F.

(NOTE: 1 Sqn of cruiser tanks and 2 Tps of "I" Tanks will be under comd 24 Aust Inf Bde for period of operation)

(c) A fighting patrol of one Pl from right forward Coy 2/48 Bn will move in rear of 17 Pl (D Coy 2/28 Bn) to WATER TOWER - This Pl will sieze the ground EAST of WATER TOWER WADI

INFORMATION.

24 Aust Inf Bde will capture and hold Posts S6 and S7 with 2/28 Bn and R7 with 2/43 Bn on the night 2/3 Aug 41.

METHOD.

"D" Coy and attd will attack, capture and hold Posts S6 and S7 and other enemy intermediate positions - 2 Pls will attack S7 - 1 Pl to move outside perimeter wire to give flank protection to the

right from position, not forward of 180 contour line immediately to WEST of S7 and 1 Pl will move direct on S7.

1 Pl will attack S6.

Flank protection Pl will move as directed by Coy Comd after completion of consolidation.

6. Limit of Exploitation. Line of 180 contour immediately to WEST of S6 and S7.

7. Success Signals.

Capture of S7	GREEN - RED - GREEN
	15 Secs
	GREEN - RED - GREEN
Capture of S6	RED - GREEN - RED
	15 Secs
	RED - GREEN - RED

Two runners will be sent to nearest post in communication with Bn H.Q. to confirm signal.

8. Communication will be established by line as soon as possible on consolidation to both S6 and S7.

9. Attached Troops (2/28 Bn)

- (a) Two anti-tank guns - 10 Bty 3 Anti-Tank Regt
Sub-sec 2/13 Fd Coy
Det 2/3 Fd Amb
- (b) "A" Coy, 2/32 Bn to come under comd of Bn having relieved "D" Coy 2/28 Bn - 2/32 Bn Coy will form Bn reserve to 2/28 Bn and in communication with this Bn H.Q.
- (c) The A/Tk guns mentioned above will move forward to S6 and S7 areas after those positions have been consolidated.
- (d) The following personnel of 2/13 Fd Coy will be allocated by that Coy as follows :-
 - 16 Pl (2/28 Bn) 2 Sappers
 - 17 Pl " 2 Sappers
 - 18 Pl " 2 Sappers
 - Coy H.Q. " 1 N.C.O. and 3 Sappers.

Tasks :

- (a) Taping start lines and approaches.
- (b) Blowing wire.
- (c) Assisting and advising during consolidation.
- (d) Devitalising minefields and clearing paths back on capture of positions.
- (e) Prepare ditches for crossing A/Tk Ditches.
- (f) Any other engineering tasks as required by respective sub-unit Inf Comdrs.

10. Dispositions of attacking Inf. 18 Pl - right - flank protection S7. 16 Pl - attacking S7 and intermediate posts. 17 Pl - attacking S6 and intermediate posts. Coy H.Q. will move in rear of 16 Pl and in initial stage establish H.Q. at BALD KNOLL, 39764312.

11. Assembly Areas.

18 Pl moves out from S9
16 Pl moves out from S9
17 Pl moves out from S8

Tapes will be laid to start lines and there will not be any perceptible halt at assembly area.

12. Start Lines.

- (a) For 18 Pl - from 39684313 (Pt 173) to 39714313.
- (b) For 16 Pl -) From MOUTH OF WADI immediately WEST of BALD
And Coy H.Q.) KNOLL - From 39744313 - 39744312.
- (c) For 17 Pl - From 39814309 - 39814308.

13. Direction of Attack.

<u>18 Pl</u>	S.E.
<u>16 Pl</u>	S.W.
<u>17 Pl</u>	S.S.E.

14. Rate of Advance.

100 yds per minute. Movement will be made forward of **START LINES** as follows :-

18 Pl Z+1 - 17 Pl Z+1 - 16 Pl followed by Coy H.Q. Z+2.

15. Captured Weapons. will be used against enemy and comds will endeavour find suitable personnel for using them - German "Potato Masher" grenades may prove useful.

16. ZERO. Zero will be 0330 hrs, 3 Aug 41

17. Timetable.

- Z-60. 18 Pl arrives assembly area and moves on to **START LINE**.
 - Z-45. 16 Pl and Coy HQ arrive assembly area and move onto **START LINE**.
 - Z-45. 17 Pl arrives assembly area and moves onto **START LINE**.
 - Z-5 . Arty opens fire.
 - Z-5 . **START LINE** tapes completed.
 - Z-3 . Platoons on respective **START LINES**.
 - ZERO. All attacking Pls advance to objectives.
 - Z+2 . Engineers with Bangalore Torpedoes and Inf party with Bridging material (for S7 only) to be 150 yds of enemy wire.
 - Arty on objectives lifts.
 - Z+4 . Pls reach objectives - Coy H.Q. ready to move forward to S7
- NOTE: Timetables of Arty and R.N.F's attached as appendices A and B.

18. Attached Troops. The following Sections and Detachments of 3 and 4 Pls will take part in support of attack. Time Table of their respective fire plans attached as appendices C and D.

- 3 Pl. (a) 2 detachments from S15.
(b) 1 detachment from S8 to move forward in rear of 17 Pl.
(c) 1 detachment from S9 to move forward in rear of 16 Pl.

(b) and (c) will not move forward of respective Start Lines until consolidation effected.

- 4 Pl. (a) 1 section from S10 target S7 vicinity.
(b) 1 section from S8 target S7 and position between S6 & S7.
(c) 1 sub-sec target Pt 155 area.
(d) 1 Section from area vicinity sq 399432 target S6.
(e) I Section (Fiat Mountings) from vicinity present "C" Coy H.Q. Targets Carrier on escarpment and to area S.E.

- (a) and (b) - on success signal move forward for consolidation of S6 and S7 respectively.
- (c) forms defensive weapon for S10 and remains that post.
- (d) On completion task move to S10 for reserve of fire power.
- (e) on completion task remains in reserve.

NOTE: O.C. 4 Pl will establish his H.Q. at S13.

19. Carriers. Three (3) Carriers at present located vicinity **FIGTREE** will stand by ready to move on immediate notice - R.S.M. will ensure that these Carriers are loaded with quantities of Amn. Water, Rations etc and be prepared to move forward to either or 1 of Posts S6 and S7.

The N.C.O. in Comd Carriers together with a guide to be provided by "A" Coy will remain at Command Post present Bn H.Q. to await orders.

• 4 •

20. Protective Parties. "A" Coy will provide three (3) protective parties to cover engineers laying of start line tapes.

Strength. 1 N.C.O. and 4 men in each party.

1 party for right start line move out from S9.

1 party for centre startline move out from S9.

1 party for left start line move out from S8.

The above parties will report to Sapper at those places.

21. Bridging Material. Planks will be available at S10 - 18 and 16 Pls will each carry forward, 4 Planks - IMPORTANT that these be available immediately attacking troops reach respective objectives.

22. Ammunition, etc. to be Carried on Man.

150 rds S.A.A. (in Bandoliers), 3 Mills Grenades, all available filled magazines for L.M.G. (Bren), 50 Rds .55 for each A/Tk rifle, 200 rds per each T.S.M.G. - As much 2" Mortar amm as possible.

23. Weapons.

To establishment plus 8 T.M.G's to include full number of 2" Mortar. Rifle magazines fully charged.

24. Dress Order, Etc.

Shorts and shirts (with pullover under) - fighting order - Two Water Bottles filled (1 on side and 1 in Haversack) - Sandshoes will be worn.

NOTE: Each man will carry Field Dressing and Pay Book. No other papers will be carried.

In addition each man will carry 4 Sand bags - 1 bound around each leg and one in each shoulder strap - and at least 3 picks and shovels will be carried forward.

25. Rations and Water.

2 Water Bottles filled on man - 2 days Rations in Haversack.

26. Ammunition Reserve.

Carrying parties. In addition to reserve STANDING BY on Carrier Ammunition, Water, Rations, Picks and Shovels, Etc, will be taken forward by Carrier parties as per appendix D attd.

Coys responsible for supplying parties will ensure that they are familiar with their task.

O.C. "A" Coy to provide guide as required.

27. M.T. No movement further forward than FIGTREE area unless authorised.

28. P.O.W. 1 N.C.O. and 4 (four) men per platoon to be detailed before operations for escorting P.O.W. to S12 when Bde escort will take over at that point. Coy escort will then move back to rejoin Pl.

ADMINISTRATION.

29. Engineers Stores. Picks, Shovels, Wire Pickets, Mallets and Sand bags will be held ready to move forward on consolidation.

30. Medical.

(a) One (1) extra Ambulance will be sent to R.A.P. and re-lay of Ambulances forwarded to maintain Ambulances at R.A.P.

(b) Advanced R.A.P. will be established at S12 under the char of Sgt Humble.

(c) Bearer posts will be established at vicinity (1) BARE KNOT (2) START LINE position for 17 Pl in discussed with engineer.

- (d) Two (2) unit vehicles to be at S13 - to move forward after moonset 0250 hrs 3 Aug 41.

31. Inter-communication.

1 Pl personnel will move out with attacking Pl and lay Pl lines (new) via START LINES and also establish communication between advancing Coy H.Q. and Bn H.Q. at S13. Alternative lines will also be established where possible.

The following lines are required to be kept open with 2/28 Bn Switch :-

- (a) existing Coy positions, including "A" Coy 2/32 Bn.
- (b) lines forward from advanced Bn H.Q., to
 - i. "D" Coy advanced H.Q.
 - ii. 18 Pl
 - iii. 17 Pl
 - iv. 16 Pl
- (c) Wireless (Bde) to be moved from present position and installed at S13.
- (d) Existing line to 24 Aust Inf Bde.

32. Verrey Pistols and Compasses. Each Pl Comd and O.C. "D" Coy will carry a Verrey Pistol and sufficient cartridges as required for signals. Compasses. O.C. "D" Coy will ensure that he and all Pl Comds are in possession of Compass.

33. Signals. See para 7.

34. Coy H.Q. S9 - moving forward to BARE KNOLL and to S7 on consolidation.

35. Advanced Bn H.Q. S 13.

36. Bde H.Q. Remain present position.

37. Synchronisation. Watches will be synchronised at 2130 hrs 2 AUG @ 0100 hrs 3 Aug 41.

38. Conference. Co-ordinating Conference to include - Bn 2 i/c, Adj. I.O., O's.C. Rifle Coys and H.Q. Coy - 1 and 5 Pl Comds - Lieut Overall 2/13 Fd Coy and Lieut Sanderson 1 R.N.F., will be held in Signal Cave at 1900 hrs 2 Aug 41.

ACK

Time of Signature 1900 hrs, 1 Aug 41.

Edward [Signature] Lieut
Adj 2/28 Aust Inf Bn.

D I S T R I B U T I O N .

<u>Coy No.</u>	<u>Coy No.</u>
"D" Coy (4)..... 1-4	10 Bty 3 A/Tk Regt. 21-22 (1 copy for Maj Neil)
"A" Coy 5	2/3 Fd Amb..... 23
"B" Coy 6	C.O..... 24
"C" Coy 7	Bn 2 i/c..... 25
H.Q. Coy 8	Adj. 26
51 Fd Regt R.A. (2) 9-10. (1 for M.A./N.M. Ingledeu R.A.)	I.O..... 27
1 R.N.F..... 11	Q.M..... 28
X Coy R.N.F..... 12	T.O..... 29
24 Aust Inf Bde... 13	R.M.O..... 30
2/13 Fd Coy R.A.E. 14-15	R.S.M..... 31
2/48 Aust Inf Bn.. 16	Sig O..... 32
2/32 Aust Inf Bn.. 17-18. (1 copy for "A" Coy attd.)	L.O..... 33
2/43 Aust Inf Bn.. 19	War Diary (2)..... 34-35
18 Cav Regt..... 20 (for information)	File..... 36
	Spares (3)..... 37-38-39

APPENDIX "A"ARTILLERY FIRE PLAN.Attack on S6 and S7.Phase 1

Ser No.	Task	From	To	Guns	Rate Remarks
1	Area 39824304	Z - 5	Z + 2	Tp 18 pdrs	4
2	Area 39864309	Z - 5	Z + 2	Tp 25 Pdrs	4
3	Road Triangle NORTH of S4. 200 yds in N & S depth	Z - 5	Z + 2	Tp 25 pdrs	4
4	Southern 1/3 of area between S7 & S6	Z - 5	Z + 2	Sec 18 pdrs	Z-5 to Z = 4 Z to Z+2 = 8
5	S7 area	Z - 5	Z + 2	Tp 25 pdrs	Z-5 to Z = 4 Z to Z+2 = 5
6	S6 area	Z - 5	Z + 2	Tp 25 pdrs	Z-5 to Z = 4 Z to Z+2 = 5
7	Northern 2/3 area between S7 and S6	Z - 5	Z + 2	Tp 25 pdrs	Z-5 to Z = 4 Z to Z+2 = 5
8	Pt 155 area (396432)	Z - 5	Z + 2	Tp 75 mm	6
9	Area 39824304	Z - 5	Z + 2	Tp 105 mm	4
10	Area S1 pt 209 R1 R2	Z - 5	Z + 2	Tp 149 mm	1

NOTE (1) At Z One gun Ser 3. One sec each Ser 5 & 6 and Ser 7 will switch to line 400 yds South of line S6 - S7

ARTILLERY FIRE PLAN (Contd)

PHASE 11

Ser	Task	From	To	Guns	Rate	Notes
1	Area 39824304	Z + 2	Z + 10	Tp 18 pdrs	2	
2	Area 39864309	Z + 2	Z + 8	Tp 25 pdrs	2	
3	Area Ser 5 Phase 1	Z + 2	Z + 10	Tp 25 pdrs	2	
4	Area Note 1 Phase 1	Z + 2	Z + 10	Sec 18 pdrs		Z+2 to Z+4 =8 Z+4 to Z+10=3
5	do	Z + 2	Z + 10	Tp 25 pdrs		Z+2 to Z+4 =5 Z+4 to Z+10=3
6	do	Z + 2	Z + 10	Tp 25 pdrs		Z+2 to Z+4 =5 Z+4 to Z+10=3
7	do	Z + 2	Z + 10	Tp 25 pdrs		Z+2 to Z+4 =5 Z+4 to Z+10=3
8	S5 area	Z + 4	Z + 10	Tp 75 mm	6	
9	Area 39824304	Z + 2	Z + 10	Tp 105 mm	2	
10	Area S1 pt 209 R1 R2	Z + 2	Z + 10	Tp 149 mm	1	
<u>PHASE 111</u>						
1	200 yds SOUTH from task Ser 5 Phase 11	Z + 12	Z + 30	Tp 25 pdrs	2	
2	Phase 11 Task Ser 4	Z + 12	Z + 30	Sec 18 pdrs	2	
3	Phase 11 Task Ser 6	Z + 12	Z + 30	Tp 25 pdrs	2	
4	Astride road 300 yds EAST of S4	Z + 10	Z + 30	Tp 25 pdrs	2	
5	Area S1 Pt 209 R1 R2	Z + 10	Z + 60	Tp 149 mm	$\frac{1}{2}$	

D.F. Tasks for S6 and S7 are tasks shown in Phase 111 of above fire plan.

APPENDIX "B"

MACHINE GUN FIRE PLAN 1 R.N.F.'s.

Attack on S6 and S7.

One Pl. M.M.G's. 1 R.N.F. will support

Task - Area 84

(a) Time - Z- 15. (b) Z + 15 - Z + 21

No of belts 6 4

12 belts per gun will be retained for D.F. on last task given, in event of enemy counter attack.

FIRE PLAN - M.M.Gs & MORTARS
2/28 Bn.

APPENDIX "C"

	<u>M. M. G.</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Z-5 to Z+1	1 Sec S10 Target 3 enemy Sangars vicinity S7	On success signal move forward for consolidation S6 - Then until first light harassing fire S4 area.
Z-5 to Z	1 sec S7 Target S7 and E positions between S7 and S6.	On success signal move for consolidation S7- Then until first light harassing fire S5 area
Z-5 to Z+10	1 Sub-sec Target 155 Area	Forms defensive weapon of S10 and remains.
Z-5 to Z	1 Sec from area vicinity 399432 engage S6	On completion this task move to S10 for reserve of fire power.
Z-5 onwards	1 Sec (Fiats mounts) harassing fire CARRIER HILL - SANGAR and SOUTH EAST.	On completion remain in reserve.

NOTE : O.C. 4 Pl will establish his H.Q. at S13

FIRE PLAN

3 Pl, 2/28 Aust Inf Bn

		<u>Remarks.</u>
Z-5 to Z+1	2 Detachments from S15 area target S6 and S7 - Stop	Italian Mortars
Z+4 onward	Lift to S5 (1 Det) Lift to S4 area (1 Det) Switching intermittently onto feature 155 and South From there to escarpment Sq 396431	do Reserve fire power.
Z-5 to Z	¹ Targets to S6 (Det) Targets to S7 (1 Det) Stop	Move forward night 1/2 Aug to S8 and S9.
Z onward.	Move forward to 1 Det vicinity START LINE 17 Pl 1 Det " " " 16 Pl	Move for consol- idation on respect- ive success signals.

O.C. 3 Pl establish H.Q. at S10 - Amn reserve at S8 and S9

16 PLATOON

CARRYING PARTY TABLE.

APPENDIX "E"

NOTE : Each man carrying stores and Amn must carry rifle and 50 rds S. A. A.

Ser No	Article	Amount	Man Load	No. of men Read	
1	S. A. A.	6 boxes	1 man per box	6	Starting Place. S10
2	Grenades	15 " (12)	1 " 2 "	7	Starting Time -- Signal of capture of objective. GREEN - RED - GREEN
3	Sticky Bombs	1 " (5)	1 " 5 bombs	1	15 Secs
4	Amn Boyes A/Tk	150 rds	1 " 75 Rds	2	GREEN - RED - GREEN
5	Amn Tommy guns	400 rds	1 " 400 Rds	1	
6	Picks	5	1 " 5 Picks	1	Place where dumped -- S7
7	Shovels	5	1 " 5 Shovels	1	Distance of carry -- 1500 yds
8	Wire	Quantity		2	Estimated time taken -- 30 Mins.
9	Water	8 gals	1 " 4 gals	2	Rate of Estimated time -- 50 yds per min
10	E. V. Rifle	+ cup			Action when carry complete -- Return to respective Coy unless directed otherwise by Pl Comd
		+ 8 Bombs	1 " Carry C/plt	1 Total 24	
<u>17 PLATOON.</u>					Starting place -- S10
11	S. A. A.	6 boxes	1 man per box	6	Starting time or Signal -- Signal on completion of capture of objective.
12	Grenades	15 "	1 " 2 "	7	RED - GREEN - RED
13	ST Bombs	1 " (5)	1 " 5 Bombs	1	15 Secs.
14	Amn Boyes A/Tk	150 rds	1 " per 75 rds	2	RED - GREEN - RED
15	Amn Tommy gun	400 rds	1 " " 400 "	1	
16	Picks	5 Picks	1 " " 5 picks	1	Place where dumped -- S6
17	Shovels	5 Shovels	1 " " 5 shovels	1	Distance of Carry -- 1400 yds
18	Wire	Quantity		2	Estimated time taken -- 28 Mins
19	Water	8 Gals	1 man per 4 gals	2	Rate of estimated time -- 50 yds per min.
20	EY Rifle	+ Cup			Action when carry complete. -- Return to respective Coy unless directed otherwise by Pl Cpmd
		+ 8 bombs	1 Carry complete	1 Total 24	

18 PLATOON.

CARRYING PARTY TABLE (Contd)

APPENDIX "E"

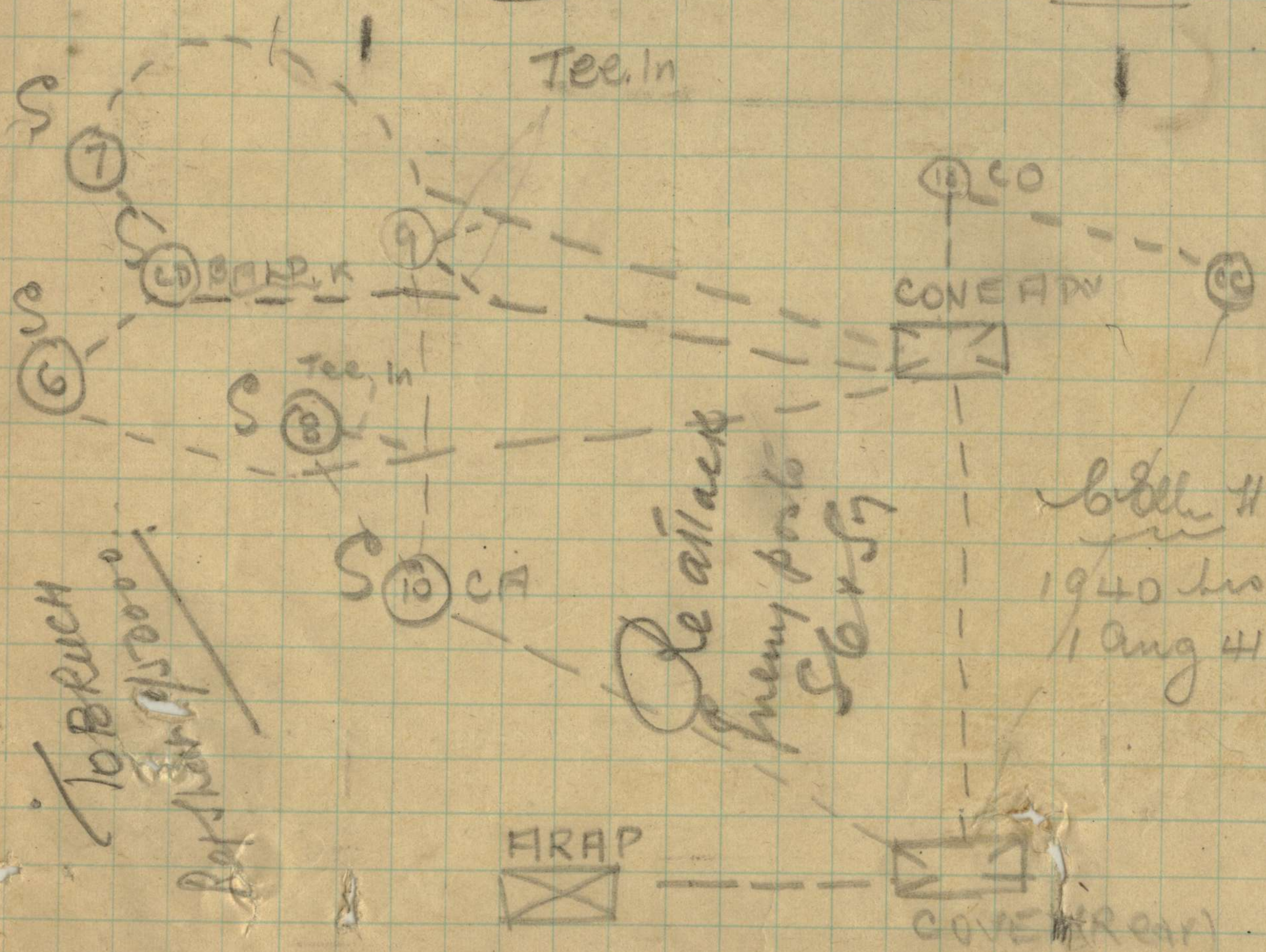
NOTE. Each man carrying stores and amm must carry rifle and 50 rds S. A. A.

Ser No	Article	Amount	Man load	No. of men Required	
21	S. A. A.	6 Boxes	1 man per Box	6	Starting place. S10
22	Grenades	15 " (12)	1 " 2 "	7	Starting time or Signal - Signal on capture
23	Sticky Bombs	1 " (5)	1 " 5 Bombs	1	of objective GREEN RED GREEN
24	Ann Boyes A/Tk	150 rds	1 " 75 rds	2	Place where dumped - S7 15 Secs GREEN RED GREEN
25	Ann Tommy guns	400 rds	1 " 400 rds	1	Distance of carry - 1500 yds
26	Picks	5 Picks	1 " 5 Picks	1	Estimated time taken - 30 mins
27	Shovels	5 Shovels	1 " 5 Shovels	1	Rate of estimated time - 50 yds per man
28	Wire	Quantity		2	Action when carry complete - Return to
29	Water	8 Gals-	1 " 4 gals	2	respective Coys unless directed otherwise
30	E. Y. Rifle	1 Cup plus 8 bombs	1 man carry complete	1 Total 24	by Pl Comd.

Ser No.	Article	Total Amount	Man Load	No. men Reqd.	Start. Point	Start time or Signal	Who to Report	Place where dumped	Distance of Carry	Estimated time taken	Rate of Carry	Action when Carry Completed
31	Vickers S. A. A.	20 Boxes	4 boxes	5	S10	2400 hrs	Sgt Reilly	S6	1400 yds	27 mins	50Yds per min	As per instructions respective NCO i/c
32	do	do	do	5	S8	do	Sgt Tassell	S7	900 yds	18 "	do	
33	do	16 Boxes	do	4	S99432 thence to S10	2000 hrs	Sgt Rule	S10	900 yds	12 "	do	
34	3" Mortar Bombs	24 Bombs	6 Bombs	4	S8	As ordered Mortar Det Comds	Mortar Det	WATER TOWER	400 yds	8 mins	do	Repeat
35	ditto	24 "	6 Bombs	4	S9		Comds	Comds	BARE KNOLL	500 yds	10 mins	do	Repeat

SIGNAL DIAGRAM

COVE



Undercommunication

whenever: → No 11 set situated at Adv Bn HQ working to Bole alternatively to COVE, CA, and CB.

LT Lines will be laid from Adv Bn HQ to Posts 58 + 59 on night 1/2 Aug. Also to D + GI

Method

Cable laying parties attached to 17 + B. Pls will follow behind their respective Pl HQ to objective!

Party attached to Coy HQ. 4 T5 pl will move behind Coy HQ. When posts have been occupied line will be laid to 56 + 57

Party laying to 56 will return
to Coy HQ on completion.

Other parties will remain
at posts.

SECRET.
Copy No. 74

2/28 AUST INF BN OPERATION ORDER NO. 10.

Ref TOBRUK SHEET 1/50,000 and enlargement 1/10,000.

INFORMATION.

1. ENEMY.

Two Bns of 115 Mot Inf Regt (GERMAN), elements of 2 M.G. Bn (GERMAN) and ITALIAN Troops are holding positins in strength from Post S7 to R7 (Incl) - In addition to these posts are intermediate and alternative positions as well as a number of Mortar and M.G. posts.

Enemy posts (S6 and S7) are wired and possibly protected by booby traps.

Immediate vicinity of WATER TOWER is not held though Working Parties were observed close to it on the nights 29/30 and 30/31 July 41.

It is not anticipated that a strong counter attack could be launched but local counter attacks are certain to be made.

No enemy tanks have been observed on SALIENT Sectors for over three weeks.

2. OWN TROOPS.

24 Aust Inf Bde and attached troops are holding the perimeter from the SEA to S8 thence on a general line S.E. to posts R8 - R9 and R10 (Incl).

Enlargement 1/25,000 showing enemy and our dispositions is attd. (i.e. for attacking Inf ONLY).

3. SUPPORTING ARMS. - For attack on S6 - S7 and intermediate posts.

(a) Artillery One section "A" Tp 370 Bty
 "B" Tp 370 Bty (will revert to normal role at Z+10.

Will revert for C.B. duties at Z + 10 { 203 Bty
 426 Bty
 1 Tp 75 mm
 1 Tp 105 mm
 1 Tp 149 mm } 2/12 Fd Regt.

(b) 3 Fls 1 R.N.F.

(NOTE: 1 Sqn of cruiser tanks and 2 Tps of "I" Tanks will be under comd 24 Aust Inf Bde for period of operation)

(c) A fighting patrol of one Pl from right forward Coy 2/48 Bn will move in rear of 17 Pl (D Coy 2/28 Bn) to WATER TOWER - This Pl will sieze the ground EAST of WATER TOWER WADI

INTENTION.

4. 24 Aust Inf Bde will capture and hold Posts S6 and S7 with 2/28 Bn and R7 with 2/43 Bn on the night 2/3 Aug 41.

METHOD.

5. "D" Coy and attd will attack, capture and hold Posts S6 and S7 and other enemy intermediate positions - 2 Fls will attack S7 - 1 Pl to move outside perimeter wire to give flank protection to the

Appendix
2 Aug 41

right from position, not forward of 180 contour line immediately to WEST of S7 and 1 Pl will move direct on S7.

1 Pl will attack S6.

Flank protection Pl will move as directed by Coy Comd after completion of consolidation.

6. Limit of Exploitation. Line of 180 contour immediately to WEST of S6 and S7.

7. Success Signals.

Capture of S7	GREEN - RED - GREEN
	15 Secs
	GREEN - RED - GREEN
Capture of S6	RED - GREEN - RED
	15 Secs
	RED - GREEN - RED

Two runners will be sent to nearest post in communication with Bn H.Q. to confirm signal.

8. Communication will be established by line as soon as possible on consolidation to both S6 and S7.

9. Attached Troops (2/28 Bn)

- (a) Two anti-tank guns - 10 Bty 3 Anti-Tank Regt
Sub-sec 2/13 Fd Coy
Det 2/3 Fd Amb
- (b) "A" Coy, 2/32 Bn to come under comd of Bn having relieved "D" Coy 2/28 Bn - 2/32 Bn Coy will form Bn reserve to 2/28 Bn and in communication with this Bn H.Q.
- (c) The A/Tk guns mentioned above will move forward to S6 and S7 areas after those positions have been consolidated.
- (d) The following personnel of 2/13 Fd Coy will be allocated by that Coy as follows :-
16 Pl (2/28 Bn) 2 Sappers
17 Pl " 2 Sappers
18 Pl " 2 Sappers
Coy H.Q. " 1 N.C.O. and 3 Sappers.

Tasks :

- (a) Taping start lines and approaches.
- (b) Blowing wire.
- (c) Assisting and advising during consolidation.
- (d) Devitalising minefields and clearing paths back on capture of positions.
- (e) Prepare ditches for crossing A/Tk Ditches.
- (f) Any other engineering tasks as required by respective sub-unit Inf Comdrs.

10. Dispositions of attacking Inf. 18 Pl - right - flank protection S7. 16 Pl - attacking S7 and intermediate posts. 17 Pl - attacking S6 and intermediate posts. Coy H.Q. will move in rear of 16 Pl and in initial stage establish H.Q. at BALD KNOLL, 39764312.

11. Assembly Areas.

- 18 Pl moves out from S9
- 16 Pl moves out from S9
- 17 Pl moves out from S8

Tapes will be laid to start lines and there will not be any perceptible halt at assembly area.

12. Start Lines.

- (a) For 18 Pl - from 39684313 (Pt 173) to 39714313.
- (b) For 16 Pl -) From MOUTH OF WADI immediately WEST of BALD
And Coy H.Q.) KNOLL - From 39744313 - 39744312.
- (c) For 17 Pl - From 39814309 - 39814308.

13. Direction of Attack.

18 Pl S.E.
16 Pl S.W.
17 Pl S.S.E.

102°
739°
289°

14. Rate of Advance.

100 yds per minute. Movement will be made forward of **START LINES** as follows :-

18 Pl Z+1 - 17 Pl Z+1 - 16 Pl followed by Coy H.Q. Z+2.

15. Captured Weapons. will be used against enemy and comds will endeavour find suitable personnel for using them - German "Potato Masher" grenades may prove useful.

16. ZERO. Zero will be 0330 hrs, 3 Aug 41

17. Timetable.

Z-60. 18 Pl arrives assembly area and moves on to **START LINE**.
Z-45. 16 Pl and Coy HQ arrive assembly area and move onto **START LINE**.

Z-45. 17 Pl arrives assembly area and moves onto **START LINE**.

Z-5 . Arty opens fire.

Z-5 . **START LINE** tapes completed.

Z-3 . Platoons on respective **START LINES**. ✓

ZERO. All attacking Pls advance to objectives. (Separate)

Z+2 . Engineers with Bangalore Torpedoes and Inf party with Bridging material (for S7 only) to be 150 yds of enemy wire.

Arty on objectives lifts.

Z+4 . Pls reach objectives - Coy H.Q. ready to move forward to S7

NOTE: Timetables of Arty and R.N.F's attached as appendices A and B.

18. Attached Troops. The following Sections and Detachments of 3 and 4 Pls will take part in support of attack. Time Table of their respective fire plans attached as appendices C and D.

3 Pl. (a) 2 detachments from S15.

(b) 1 detachment from S8 to move forward in rear of 17 Pl.

(c) 1 detachment from S9 to move forward in rear of 16 Pl.

(b) and (c) will not move forward of respective Start Lines until consolidation effected.

4 Pl.

(a) 1 section from S10 target S7 vicinity.

(b) 1 section from S8 target S7 and position between S6 & S7.

(c) 1 sub-sec target Pt 155 area.

(d) 1 Section from area vicinity sq 399432 target S6.

(e) I Section (Fiat Mountings) from vicinity present "C" Coy H.Q. Targets Carrier on escarpment and to area S.E.

(a) and (b) - on success signal move forward for consolidation of S6 and S7 respectively.

(c) forms defensive weapon for S10 and remains that post.

(d) On completion task move to S10 for reserve of fire power.

(e) on completion task remains in reserve.

NOTE: O.C. 4 Pl will establish his H.Q. at S13.

19. Carriers. Three (3) Carriers at present located vicinity **FIGTREE** will stand by ready to move on immediate notice - R.S.M. will ensure that these Carriers are loaded with quantities of Ann. Water, Rations etc and be prepared to move forward to either or 1 of Posts **S6 and S7**.

The N.C.O. in Comd Carriers together with a guide to be provided by "A" Coy will remain at Command Post present Bn H.Q. to await orders.

20. Protective Parties: "A" Coy will provide three (3) protective parties to cover engineers laying of start line tapes.

Strength. 1 N.C.O. and 4 men in each party.

- 1 party for right start line move out from S9.
- 1 party for centre start line move out from S9.
- 1 party for left start line move out from S8.

*1 Sec
picks
west at these
places
S8 S9 S10*

The above parties will report to Sapper at those places.

21. Bridging Material. Planks will be available at S10 - 18 and 16 Pls will each carry forward, 4 Planks - IMPORTANT that these be available immediately attacking troops reach respective objectives.

22. Ammunition, etc. to be Carried on Man.

150 rds S.A.A. (in Bandoliers), 3 Mills Grenades, all available filled magazines for L.M.G. (Bren), 50 Rds .55 for each A/Tk rifle, 200 rds per each T.S.M.G. - As much 2" Mortar amm as possible.

*18 Rds
Mortars*

23. Weapons.

To establishment plus 8 T.M.G.'s to include full number of 2" Mortar.. Rifle magazines fully charged.

24. Dress Order, Etc.

Shorts and shirts (with pullover under) - fighting order - Two Water Bottles filled (1 on side and 1 in Haversack) - Sandshoes will be worn.

*Boots done
at S10
by [unclear]*

NOTE: Each man will carry Field Dressing and Pay Book. No other papers will be carried.

In addition each man will carry 4 Sand bags - 1 bound around each leg and one in each shoulder strap - and at least 3 picks and shovels will be carried forward.

*x by
pl.*

25. Rations and Water.

2 Water Bottles filled on man - 2 days Rations in Haversack.

26. Ammunition Reserve.

Carrying parties. In addition to reserve STANDING BY on Carriers Ammunition, Water, Rations, Picks and Shovels, Etc, will be taken forward by Carrier parties as per appendix D attd.

Coys responsible for supplying parties will ensure that they are familiar with their task.

O.C. "A" Coy to provide guides as required.

27. M.T. No movement further forward than FIGTREE area unless authorised.

28. P.O.W. 1 N.C.O. and 4 (four) men per platoon to be detailed before operations for escorting P.O.W. to S12 when Bde escort will take over at that point. Coy escort will then move back to rejoin Pl.

ADMINISTRATION.

29. Engineers Stores. Picks, Shovels, Wire Pickets, Mallets and Sand bags will be held ready to move forward on consolidation.

30. Medical.

- (a) One (1) extra Ambulance will be sent to R.A.P. and re-lay of Ambulances forwarded to maintain Ambulances at R.A.P.
- (b) Advanced R.A.P. will be established at S12 under the charge of Sgt Humble.
- (c) Bearer posts will be established at vicinity (1) BARE KNOLL (2) START LINE position for 17 Pl in disused veh emplacement.

*Trails
at Figtree
one shovels
and pump
at S10 S9*

WIRE

*one with
Rumour*

(d) Two (2) unit vehicles to be at S12 - to move forward after moonset 0250 hrs 3 Aug 41.

31. Inter-communication.

1 Pl personnel will move out with attacking Pl and lay Pl lines (new) via START LINES and also establish communication between advancing Coy H.Q. and Bn H.Q. at S13. Alternative lines will also be established where possible.

The following lines are required to be kept open with 2/28 Bn Switch :-

- (a) existing Coy positions, including "A" Coy 2/32 Bn.
- (b) lines forward from advanced Bn H.Q., to
 - i. "D" Coy advanced H.Q.
 - ii. 18 Pl
 - iii. 17 Pl
 - iv. 16 Pl
- (c) Wireless (Bde) to be moved from present position and installed at S13.
- (d) Existing line to 24 Aust Inf Bde.

32. Verrey Pistols and Compasses. Each Pl Comd and O.C. "D" Coy will carry a Verrey Pistol and sufficient cartridges as required for signals. Compasses. O.C. "D" Coy will ensure that he and all Pl Comds are in possession of Compass.

33. Signals. See para 7.

34. Coy H.Q. S9 - moving forward to BARE KNOLL and to S7 on consolidation.

35. Advanced Bn H.Q. S 13.

36. Bde H.Q. Remain present position.

37. Synchronisation. Watches will be synchronised at 2130 hrs 2 Aug & 0100 hrs 3 Aug 41.

38. Conference. Co-ordinating Conference to include - Bn 2 i/c, Adj. I.O., O's.C. Rifle Coys and H.Q. Coy - 1st and 5 Pl Comds - Lieut Overall 2/13 Fd Coy and Lieut Sanderson 1 R.N.F., will be held in Signal Cave at 1900 hrs 2 Aug 41.

ACK

Time of Signature 1900 hrs, 1 Aug 41.

Signature
Lieut
Adj. 2/28 Aust Inf Bn.

D I S T R I B U T I O N .

<u>Coy No.</u>	<u>Coy No.</u>
"D" Coy (4)..... 1-4	10 Bty 3 A/Tk Regt. 21-22
"A" Coy 5	(1 copy for Maj Neil)
"B" Coy 6	2/3 Fd Amb..... 23
"C" Coy 7	C.O..... 24
H.Q. Coy 8	Bn 2 i/c..... 25
51 Fd Regt R.A. (2) 9-10. (1 for M.A./N.M. Ingledeu R.A.)	Adj. 26
1 R.N.F..... 11	I.O..... 27
X Coy R.N.F..... 12	Q.M..... 28
24 Aust Inf Bde... 13	T.O..... 29
2/13 Fd Coy R.A.E. 14-15	R.M.O..... 30
2/48 Aust Inf Bn.. 16	R.S.M..... 31
2/32 Aust Inf Bn.. 17-18. (1 copy for "A" Coy attd.)	Sig O..... 32
2/43 Aust Inf Bn.. 19	L.O..... 33
18 Cav Regt..... 20 (for information)	War Diary (2)..... 34-35
	File..... 36
	Spare (3)..... 37-38-39

Co.
Co.
x
walk Co.
Co.

APPENDIX "A"

ARTILLERY FIRE PLAN.

Attack on S6 and S7.

Phase 1

Ser No.	Task	From	To	Guns	Rate Remarks
1	Area 39824304	Z - 5	Z + 2	Tp 18 pdrs	4
2	Area 39864309	Z - 5	Z + 2	Tp 25 Pdrs	4
3	Road Triangle NORTH of S4. 200 yds in N & S depth	Z - 5	Z + 2	Tp 25 pdrs	4
4	Southern 1/3 of area between S7 & S6	Z - 5	Z + 2	Sec 18 pdrs	Z-5 to Z = 4 Z to Z+2 = 8
5	S7 area	Z - 5	Z + 2	Tp 25 pdrs	Z-5 to Z = 4 Z to Z+2 = 5
6	S6 area	Z - 5	Z + 2	Tp 25 pdrs	Z-5 to Z = 4 Z to Z+2 = 5
7	Northern 2/3 area between S7 and S6	Z - 5	Z + 2	Tp 25 pdrs	Z-5 to Z = 4 Z to Z+2 = 5
8	Pt 155 area (396432)	Z - 5	Z + 2	Tp 75 mm	6
9	Area 39824304	Z - 5	Z + 2	Tp 105 mm	4
10	Area S1 pt 209 R1 R2	Z - 5	Z + 2	Tp 149 mm	1

NOTE (1) At Z One gun Ser 3. One sec each Ser 5 & 6 and Ser 7 will switch to line 400 yds South of line S6 - S7

ARTILLERY FIRE PLAN (Contd)

PHASE 11

Ser	Task	From	To	Guns	Rate	Remarks
1	Area 39824304	Z + 2	Z + 10	Tp 18 pdrs	2	
2	Area 39864309	Z + 2	Z + 6	Tp 25 pdrs	2	
3	Area Ser 3 Phase 1	Z + 2	Z + 10	Tp 25 pdrs	2	
4	Area Note 1 Phase 1	Z + 2	Z + 10	Sec 18 pdrs		Z+2 to Z+4 = 3 Z+4 to Z+10 = 3
5	do	Z + 2	Z + 10	Tp 25 pdrs		Z+2 to Z+4 = 5 Z+4 to Z+10 = 3
6	do	Z + 2	Z + 10	Tp 25 pdrs		Z+2 to Z+4 = 5 Z+4 to Z+10 = 3
7	do	Z + 2	Z + 10	Tp 25 pdrs		Z+2 to Z+4 = 5 Z+4 to Z+10 = 3
8	S5 area	Z + 4	Z + 10	Tp 75 mm	6	
9	Area 39824304	Z + 2	Z + 10	Tp 105 mm	2	
10	Area S1 pt 209 R1 R2	Z + 2	Z + 10	Tp 149 mm	1	
<u>PHASE 111</u>						
1	200 yds SOUTH from task Ser 5 Phase 11	Z + 12	Z + 30	Tp 85 pdrs	2	
2	Phase 11 Task Ser 4	Z + 12	Z + 30	Sec 18 pdrs	2	
3	Phase 11 Task Ser 6	Z + 12	Z + 30	Tp 25 pdrs	2	
4	Astride road 300 yds EAST of S4	Z + 10	Z + 30	Tp 25 pdrs	2	
5	Area S1 Pt 209 R1 R2	Z + 10	Z + 60	Tp 149 mm	1/2	

D.F. Tasks for S6 and S7 are tasks shown in Phase 111.
of above fire plan.

APPENDIX "B"

MACHINE GUN FIRE PLAN 1 R.N.F.'s.

Attack on S6 and S7.

One Pl M.M.G's. 1 R.N.F. will support

Task - Area 84

(a) Time - Z- 2+15. (b) Z + 15 - Z + 21

No of belts 6 4

12 belts per gun will be retained for D.F. on last task given, in event of enemy counter attack.

*also 2+21
more backup
present position
on C/Operations
work*

FIRE PLAN - M.M.Gs & MORTARS
2/28 Bn.

APPENDIX "C"

<u>M. M. G.</u>		<u>Remarks</u>
Z-5 to Z+1	1 Sec S10 Target 3 enemy Sangars vicinity S7	① On success signal move forward for consolidation S6 - Then until first light harassing fire S4 area.
Z-5 to Z	1 sec S7 Target S7 and E positions between S7 and S6.	② On success signal move for consolidation S7 - Then until first light harassing fire S5 area
Z-5 to Z+10	1 Sub-sec Target 155 Area	③ Forms defensive weapon of S10 and remains.
Z-5 to Z	1 Sec from area vicinity 399432 engage S6	④ On completion this task move to S10 for reserve of fire power.
Z-5 onwards	1 Sec (Fiats mounts) harassing fire CARRIER HILL - SANGAR and SOUTH EAST.	⑤ On completion remain in reserve.

NOTE : O.C. 4 Pl will establish his H.Q. at S13

*7
Safety*

FIRE PLAN

3 Pl, 2/28 Aust Inf Bn

		Remarks.
Z-5 to Z+1	2 Detachments from S15 area target S6 and S7 - Stop	Italian Mortars
Z+4 onward	Lift to S5 (1 Det) Lift to S4 area (1 Det) Switching intermittently onto feature 155 and South From there to escarpment Sq 396431	do Reserve fire power.
Z-5 to Z	Targets to S6 (1 Det) Targets to S7 (1 Det) Stop	Move forward night 1/2 Aug to S8 and S9.
Z onward.	Move forward to 1 Det vicinity START LINE 17 Pl 1 Det " " " 16 Pl	Move for consol- idation on respect- ive success signals.

(Between S4 + Southward)
①
Advised

O.C. 3 Pl establish H.Q. at S10 - Amn reserve at S8 and S9

16 PLATOON

CARRYING PARTY TABLE.

APPENDIX "E"

NOTE : Each man carrying stores and Amm must carry rifle and 50 rds S. A. A.

<u>Ser No</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Man Load</u>	<u>No. of men Reqd</u>	
1	S. A. A.	6 boxes	1 man per box	6	<u>Starting Place. S10</u>
2	Grenades	15 " (12)	1 " 2 "	7	<u>Starting Time - Signal of capture of objective. GREEN - RED - GREEN</u>
3	Sticky Bombs	1 " (5)	1 " 5 bombs	1	<u>15 Secs</u>
4	Amm Boyes $\frac{1}{2}$ Tk	150 rds	1 " 75 Rds	2	<u>GREEN - RED - GREEN</u>
5	Amm Tommy guns	400 rds	1 " 400 Rds	1	<u>Place where dumped - S7</u>
6	Picks	5	1 " 5 Picks	1	<u>Distance of carry - 1500 yds</u>
7	Shovels	5	1 " 5 Shovels	1	<u>Estimated time taken - 30 Mins.</u>
8	Wire	Quantity		2	<u>Rate of Estimated time - 50 yds per min</u>
9	Water	8 gals	1 " 4 gals	2	<u>Action when carry complete - Return to respective Coy unless directed otherwise by Pl Comd</u>
10	E. Y. Rifle	+ cup + 8 Bombs	1 " Carry C/plt	1 Total 24	

17 PLATOON.

11	S. A. A.	6 boxes	1 man per box	6	<u>Starting place - S10</u>
12	Grenades	15 "	1 " 2 "	7	<u>Starting time or Signal - Signal on completion of capture of objective.</u>
13	ST Bombs	1 " (5)	1 " 5 Bombs	1	<u>RED - GREEN - RED</u>
14	Amm Boyes $\frac{1}{2}$ Tk	150 rds	1 " per 75 rds	2	<u>15 Secs.</u>
15	Amm Tommy gun	400 rds	1 " " 400 "	1	<u>RED - GREEN - RED</u>
16	Picks	5 Picks	1 " " 5 picks	1	<u>Place where dumped - S6</u>
17	Shovels	5 Shovels	1 " " 5 shovels	1	<u>Distance of Carry - 1400 yds</u>
18	Wire	Quantity		2	<u>Estimated time taken - 28 Mins</u>
19	Water	8 Gals	1 man per 4 gals	2	<u>Rate of estimated time - 50 yds per min.</u>
20	EY Rifle	+ Cup + 8 bombs	1 Carry complete	1 Total 24	<u>Action when carry complete. - Return to respective Coy unless directed otherwise by Pl Cpmd</u>

18 PLATOON.

CARRYING PARTY TABLE (Contd)

APPENDIX "E"

NOTE. Each man carrying stores and amm must carry rifle and 50 rds S.A.A.

Ser No	Article	Amount	Man load	No. of men Required	
21	S.A.A.	6 Boxes	1 man per Box	6	Starting place. S10
22	Grenades	15 " (12)	1 " 2 "	7	Starting time or Signal - Signal on capture
23	Sticky Bombs	1 " (5)	1 " 5 Bombs	1	of objective GREEN RED GREEN
24	Ann Boyes A/Tk	150 rds	1 " 75 rds	2	Place where dumped - S7 GREEN RED GREEN
25	Ann Tommy guns	400 rds	1 " 400 rds	1	Distance of carry - 1500 yds
26	Picks	5 Picks	1 " 5 Picks	1	Estimated time taken - 30 mins
27	Shovels	5 Shovels	1 " 5 Shovels	1	Rate of estimated time - 50 yds per min
28	Wire	Quantity		2	Action when carry complete - Return to
29	Water	8 Gals-	1 " 4 gals	2	respective Coys unless directed otherwise
30	E.Y. Rifle	1 Cup plus 8 bombs	1 man carry complete	1 Total 24	by Pl Comd.

Ser No.	Article	Total Amount	Man Load	No. men Reqd.	Start. Point	Start time or Signal	Who to Report	Place where dumped	Distance of Carry	Estimated time taken	Rate of Carry	Action when Carry Completed
31	Vickers S.A.A.	20 Boxes	4 boxes	5	S10	2400 hrs	Sgt Reilly	S6	1400 yds	27 mins	50Yds per min	As per instructions respective NCO i/c
32	do	do	do	5	S8	do	Sgt Tassell	S7	900 yds	18 "	do	
33	do	16 Boxes	do	4	S9	2000 hrs	Sgt Rule	S10	900 yds	12 "	do	
34	3" Mortar Bombs	24 Bombs	6 Bombs	4	S8	As ordered Mortar Det Comds	Mortar Det	WATER TOWER	400 yds	8 mins	do	Repeat
35	ditto	24 "	6 Bombs	4	S9		Comds	Comds	BARE KNOLL	500 yds	10 mins	do	Repeat

Ref Map : TOBRUK 1:50,000

INFORMATION

- 1 Enemy: Dispositions, minefields etc as shown in Int Summaries and enlargements fwded to Coy Comds and verbally explained to Coy Comds
- 2 Own Tps: (a) Disposns as known
(b) (i) On night 2/3 Aug 41 one Coy 2/28 Bn is attacking to capture and hold Posts S6 & S7
(ii) At the same time one Coy 2/43 Bn is attacking to capture and hold Post R7
(iii) If possible after capture of Post R7 2/43 Bn is exploiting to gain Posts R5 & R6 also
(iv) Both attacks are being supported by arty fire MMGs and other arms. Tks are co-operating if required for exploitation or counter attack

INTENTION

- 3 2/48 Bn will
 - (a) Support the attacks of 2/28 Bn and 2/43 Bn by fire on known enemy targets in the SIAIENT
 - (b) On success of attack move fwd to occupy outpost posns in conformity with new line

METHOD

- 4 (a) 8 Pl of A Coy will advance from present FDLs at Z plus 2 to WATER TOWER WADI. The Pl will move in rear of 2/28 Bn Pl attacking Post S6
(b) From WATER TOWER WADI 8 Pl will be prepared to seize and hold WATER TOWER area including Sangars immediately EAST of it
(c) 8 Pl will seize and hold WATER TOWER area and sangars on success signal from S6 - R G R rptd after 15 secs
Note: The success signal for capture of S7 is G R G rptd after 15 secs
- 5 A Coy less 8 Pl will remain in present FDLs but will be prepared to move fwd immediately if ordered to capture and hold enemy posns on general line WATER TOWER-Pt 171 (39844306)-FORBES MOUND (39854305)
- 6 Fwd Coys less 8 Pl A Coy will from Z minus 5 give supporting fire on known enemy targets to their immediate fronts within the following limits:-
Right Limit Post S4 (39804303)
Left Limit Line through left fwd sec of C Coy (40034302) to Post R2 (39844289)
- 7 One Pl D Coy will be prepared to capture and hold enemy Strong Pt (39934304)
- 8 (a) One pl of C Coy will be prepared to advance to an outpost posn in front of present FDLs
(b) On the signal that post R7 has been captured and 2/43 Bn is proceeding to exploit to R5 & R6 this pl will push fwd to an outpost posn as close as possible to the line of the rd S4 (39804303) Pt 182 (39944293)
The signal, which is R R R rptd after 10 secs will be fired from vicinity Post R7
(c) C Coy less one pl will retain its present FDLs until further orders
- 9 Fire Plan
 - (a) Arty fire plan concentrations and timings as per Appx "A" att
 - (b) MMG fire plan as per Appx "B" att
 - (c) Mortars: one det (British) under comd C Coy as from 1800hrs 1 Aug 41
remaining dets Mortars (one British and one Italian) will support initial stages of attack on known enemy targets in the area EAST of FIG TREE RD (398430) from Z minus 5 to Z plus 10
one det (British) will move fwd to WATER TOWER AREA when S6 and S7 are captured for consolidation and exploitation

From Z plus 10 one dot (Italian) will fire on enemy targets between Post S4 and Trig 209 and other targets as ordered

- (d) Two MMGs under comd C Coy as from 1800hrs 1 Aug 41
- 10 B Coy will stand-to throughout the op and be ready to move as ordered
- 11 4 Pl: one sec at 40064326
one sec at 40084315
Role of both secs: Mobile reserve
- 12 Zero: 0330hrs night 2/3 Aug 41
- 13 PW: PW will be delivered to FDLs
B Coy will arrange necessary escorts for PW from FDLs to collecting pt established at P st S12 or 40524285
- 14 A small det of 2/13 Fd Coy personnel will be allotted to each fwd coy for devitalising mines and blowing wire etc

ADM

- 15 Rations and Water:
 - (a) 2 days rations and filled water bottles will be carried by all ranks
 - (b) On consolidation 1 days ration and 3 days water will be sent fwd by coys
- 16 Sandbags: All tps moving fwd will take four sandbags per man (carried round legs and through shoulder straps)
- 17 Tools: Extra sandbags and wire will be in coy dumps ready to be sent fwd by coys for consolidation
- 18 Amn: Coys will have 6000 rounds SAA .303 per LMG
100 rounds per rifle (to be carried on the man)
Coy will be prepared to carry fwd pl res of:-
 - ST Gren)
 - 36 M Gren)
 - 68 Gren) To captured posns
 - .550)
 - .450)
- 19 Bn amn res will be with B Coy (40084315)
- 20 Medical:
 - (a) RAP remains present location (40124320)
 - (b) Fwd Aid Post at A Coy Rear HQ (39924327)
 - (c) Fwd Aid Post at C Coy HQ (40054306)
 - (d) All fwd coys will detail 2 men as additional SAs
 - (e) Pls moving fwd of FDLs will take 12 extra shell dressings (RMO will supply before op)

INTERCOM

- 21 Bn HQ:
 - (a) Bn Battle HQ during op will be at B Coy HQ (40084314)
 - (b) Present Bn HQ remains open
- 22 Sig Offr will supplement existing L/T com by lateral line from
 - A Coy HQ to D Coy HQ
 - D Coy HQ to Bn Battle HQ
 - Bn Battle HQ to present Bn HQ
- 23 L/T com will also be arranged with new locations of pls which move fwd
- 24 Line will be laid by pl moving to WATER TOWER AREA as it moves fwd
- 25 W/T silence until Z
W/T controlled by 24 Aust Inf Bde on frequency 5.520 Megacycles
- 26 Success signals:
 - 2/28 Bn success at S6 - R G R rptd
 - 2/28 Bn success at S7 - G R G rptd
 - 2/43 Bn success at R7 & R R R rptd
- 27 Signal for DE - G W G rptd after 10 secs
- 28 Watches will be synchronised 6 hrs and 2 hrs prior to Z

ACK

Time of Signature.....hrs
Method of despatch.....

[Handwritten signature]

DISTRIBUTION (see over)

[Handwritten notes]

DISTRIBUTION	Copy No	Appx Copy No
A Coy	1	1
B Coy	2	2
C Coy	3	3
D Coy	4	4
HQ Coy	5 - 12	5 - 12
QM	13	13
TO	14	14
RSM	15	15
RMO	16	16
2/28 Aust Inf Bn	17	17
2/43 Aust Inf Bn	18	18
51 Fd Regt	19	19
1 RNF	20	20
13 Fd Coy	21	21
CO	22	22
2 I/C	23	23
Adjt	24	24
IO	25	25
24 Aust Inf Bde	26	26
War Diary	27 - 28	27 - 28
File	29	29
Spores	30 - 31	30 - 31

19 In am res will be with B Coy (40084315)
 20 Medical:
 (a) RAP remains present location (40124320)
 (b) Fwd Aid Post at A Coy Rear HQ (39824327)
 (c) Fwd Aid Post at O Coy HQ (40024309)
 (d) All fwd coys will detail 2 men as additional SPA
 (e) The moving fwd of BDLs will take 12 extra shell dressings
 (RMO will supply before op)

21 In am res will be at B Coy HQ (40084315)
 (a) Bn Battle HQ during op will be at B Coy HQ (40084315)
 (b) Present Bn HQ remains open
 22 Sig Offr will supplement existing I/T com by lateral line from
 A Coy HQ to D Coy HQ
 D Coy HQ to Bn Battle HQ
 Bn Battle HQ to present Bn HQ
 23 I/T com will also be arranged with new locations of sig which move fwd
 24 line will be laid by pl moving to WATER TOWER AREA as it moves fwd
 25 W/T silence until 2
 W/T controlled by 24 Aust Inf Bde on frequency 5.320 Mc/sec
 26 Success signals:
 2/28 Bn success at 26 - R G R rptd
 2/28 Bn success at 27 - G R G rptd
 2/43 Bn success at 27 & R R R rptd
 27 Signal for DE - G W G rptd after 10 sec
 28 Watches will be synchronized 6 hrs and 2 hrs prior to 2

ACK
 Time of signature...
 Method of despatch...
 DISTRIBUTION

APPENDIX "A" Op Instn No 25

SECRET
Copy No. 17

Arty Tasks for night 2/3 Aug 41

Phase I

Troop	Task	Timings		
		From	To	Rate
1 Troop 107 RHA	Area 39824304	Z - 5	Z + 2	4
1 Troop 107 RHA	Area 39864309	Z - 5	Z + 2	4
B Troop 370 Bty	Road triangle North of S4 200 yds in N & S depth	Z - 5	Z + 2	4
Sec A Tp 370 Bty	Southern 1/3 of Area between S7 and S6	Z - 5	Z + 2	Z - 5 to Z. - 4 Z to Z + 2 - 8
D Troop 203 Bty	S7 Area	Z - 5	Z + 2	Z - 5 to Z. - 4 Z to Z + 2. - 5
F Troop 203 Bty	S6 Area	Z - 5	Z + 2	Z - 5 to Z. - 4 Z to Z + 2. - 5
Sec D Tp) 203 Bty Sec F Tp)	Northern 2/3 of Area between S7 and S6	Z - 5	Z + 2	Z - 5 to Z. - 4 Z to Z + 2. - 5
1 Troop 75 mm	Pt 155 area (396432)	Z - 5	Z + 2	6
1 Troop 105 mm	Area 39824304	Z - 5	Z + 2	4
1 Troop 149 mm	Area S1, Pt 209, R1;R2.	Z - 5	Z + 2	1

Phase II

1 Troop RHA 107	Area 39824304	Z + 2	Z + 10	2
1 Troop 107 RHA	Area 39864309	Z + 2	Z + 8	2
B Troop 370 Bty	Road triangle North of S4 200 yds in N & S depth	Z + 2	Z + 10	2
Sec A Tp) 370 Bty	400 yds on bearing of 203° from Phase I Task	Z + 2	Z + 10	Z + 2 to Z + 4. - 8 Z + 4 to Z + 10. - 3
D Troop 203 Bty	ditto	Z + 2	Z + 10	Z + 2 to Z + 4. - 5 Z + 4 to Z + 10. - 3
F Troop 203 Bty	ditto	Z + 2	Z + 10	Z + 2 to Z + 4. - 5 Z + 4 to Z + 10. - 3
Sec D Tp) 203 Bty Sec F Tp)	ditto	Z + 2	Z + 10	Z + 2 to Z + 4. - 5 Z + 4 to Z + 10. - 3
1 Troop 75 mm	S5 Area	Z + 4	Z + 10	6
1 Troop 105 mm	Area 39824304	Z + 2	Z + 10	2
1 Troop 149 mm	Area S1, Pt 209, R1, R2	Z + 2	Z + 10	1

Phase III

Sec A Tp 370 Bty	Phase II Task	Z + 12	Z + 30	2
D Troop 203 Bty	Lift 200 yds on a bearing of 180° from Phase II Task	Z + 12	Z + 30	2
F Troop 203 Bty Sec D Tp)	Phase II Task	Z + 12	Z + 30	2
Sec F Tp) 203 Bty	Astride Rd 300 yds E of S4	Z + 12	Z + 30	2
1 Troop 149 mm	Area S1, Pt 209, R1, R2	Z + 10	Z + 60	1/2

D.F. Tasks as for Phase III

APPENDIX "B"

Attack on S6 and S7

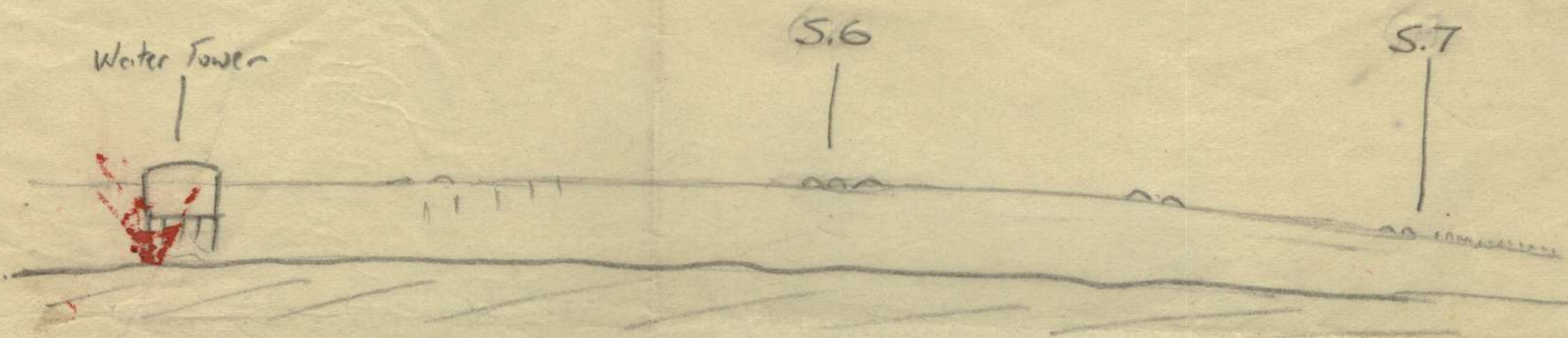
One Pl MMGs 1 RNF will support

Task - Area S4

(a) Time - Z - Z + 15. (b) Z + 15 - Z + 21

No of belts 6 4

12 belts per gun will be retained for D.F. on last task given, in event of enemy counter attack.



SKETCH Showing S.6 from E.o.p.

Drawn at 3986 4324

Visibility Report
From 4 PL.

Aug 1 41.

Visibility from 0201 hrs to 0100 hrs was good, moonlight. 200 yds.
" " 0100 ~ 0130 " 15 yds.
" " 0130 ~ 0200 " 15 yds.
" " 0200 ~ 0230 " 15 yds.
" " 0230 ~ 0300 " 25 yds.
" " 0300 ~ 0330 " 25 yds.
" " 0330 ~ 0400 " 30 yds.
" " 0400 ~ 0430 " 25 yds.
" " 0430 ~ 0500 " 20 yds.

J. Tracy-Patté cpl

Visibility

Ref Map DRUGH 1/50,000

Information.

1. Enemy. As in Intelligence Summaries.
2. Own Troops. One Coy 2/28 Bn will attack and hold Posts S7 and S6 from North. The supporting artillery consists of the 51st Field Regiment Group and includes :-
 - One Section A Tp. 370 Bty.
 - B Tp. 370 Bty - will revert to normal role at Z + 10.
 - 203 Bty.
 - 426 Bty
 - One Tp. 75m/m (2/12 Fd Regt.)
 - One Tp. 105 m/m (2/12 Fd Regt.)
 - One Tp. 149 m/m (2/12 Fd Regt.)

} Will revert to Lt.Col.
Goodwin's group for
C.B. Duties at Z + 10.

Intention.

3. 51st Field Regt. Group will support attack by Coy 2/28 Bn.

Method.

4. Subject to orders of Group Commander the fire of the group will be controlled by Major H.M. Ingledew R.A. from forward H.Q. 2/28 Bn at S 13.
5. O.P.'s. Normal O.P.'s will be manned.
6. Time to be ready. Communications forward to H.Q. 2/28 Bn will be laid by Sig. Section 51 Field Regt. during night 1/2 August and will be manned from 2200 hrs 2 August. 426 Bty will be ready to fire by last light 2 August. All troops will fire from battle positions.
7. Fire Plan. Task Table is attached as Appendix 'A'.
8. Defensive Fire.
 - B Troop 370 Bty - Normal tasks.
 - 75 m/m Troops - " "
 - 426 Bty - One Troop on Task C 1 100 yards further out.
 - " " - One Troop on Task B 1 100 yards further out.
 - Sec. A Tp. 370 Bty)
 - 203 Bty.) - Tasks as for Phase III of fire plan.
- O.C., 370 Bty will give necessary data to O.C., 426 Bty.
- 75 m/m Troops and 426 Bty will fire on these tasks as relieved from C.B. Tasks.
- Rates for D.F. Task - 2 minutes rapid.
- D.F. Tasks will be fired on every repetition of D.F. Signal.
9. Signals.
 - (a) Success signal to denote capture of S7 - Green, Red, Green repeated after 15 seconds.
 - (b) Success signal to denote capture of S6 - Red, Green, Red repeated after 15 seconds.
 - (c) Defensive Fire - Green, White, Green repeated after 10 seconds.
10. Zero Hour. 0330 hrs 3rd August 1941.
11. Registration. Any necessary registration of S6, S7 and area in between will be carried out by F Troop, 203 Bty on 1 and 2 August. This troop will also pass co-ordinates of areas 39864309 and 39824304 to 426 Bty. No further registration.
12. Survey. 426 Bty will come on 51st Field Regt. group grid, by arrangement with 370 Bty.
- Administration.
13. Ammunition. All Tps 51 Field Regt will have with Troops normal supply of ammunition over and above amount required for fire plan. Annexed in Appendix 'B' is ammunition expenditure for tasks.
14. Rations. All O.P.'s and party at 28 Bn H.Q. will have three days water and rations.
- Intercommunication.
15.
 - (a) R.H.Q.s of 51 Field Regt and 2/12 Field Regt in present locations.
 - (b) 426 Bty H.Q. at 40584325, Troops at 40614325 and 40564323. 426 Bty will be connected by line to 2/12 Field Regt switch board.
 - (c) W/T at 2/28 Bn H.Q. and at A Tp. 370 Bty on 203 Bty H.Q. frequency. Sets will be tuned in under arrangements to be made by Sig. Officer 51 Field Regt. Set at 2/28 Bn will be called "Nine B". 203 Bty H.Q. Control station.
 - (d) Signal Section will lay line communication from 2/28 Bn H.Q. to 51 Field Regt exchange and to Nine 8 O.P., and will provide personnel to man telephone at 2/28 Bn H.Q. Telephone and personnel at Nine 8 will be provided by 203 Bty.
 - (e) All normal W/T sets will open up at Zero. *if not previously opened through line failure*
 - (f) Code name of 426 Bty is "HALO".

Acknowledge.

Time of Signature. 1225 hrs

IN THE FIELD.

W. H. H. H.
Adjt., 51st Field Regiment. R.A.

Captain. R.A.
R.A.

DISTRIBUTION : Copy No. 1. 426 Bty. R.H.A.
2. 370 Bty. R.A.
3. 203 Bty. R.A.
4. 24 Bty. R.A.A.
5. Lt.Col. Goodwin. R.A.A.
6. Major H.M. Ingledew R.A.
7. 24 Inf Bde.
8. C.R.A.
9. 28 Bn.
10. 48 Bn.
11. Comdr.
12. File.
13. War Diary.
14. Spare.

APPENDIX 'A'
Tasks for night 2/3 August.
Phase I.

Troop.	Task	Findings.		Rate.
		From	To	
1 Troop 107 RHA	Area 39824,304.	Z - 5	Z + 2	4
1 Troop 107 RHA	Area 39864,309	Z - 5	Z + 2	4
B Troop 370 Bty	Road triangle North of S4 200 yds in N & S depth.	Z - 5	Z + 2	4
Sec. A Tp. 370 Bty.	Southern 1/3 of Area between S7 and S6.	Z - 5	Z + 2	Z - 5 to Z. - 4 Z to Z + 2 = 8
D Troop 203 Bty	S 7 Area	Z - 5	Z + 2	Z - 5 to Z. - 4 Z to Z + 2 = 5
F Troop 203 Bty	S 6 Area	Z - 5	Z + 2	Z - 5 to Z. - 4 Z to Z + 2 = 5
Sec. D Tp.) 203 Bty Sec. F Tp.)	Northern 2/3 of Area between S7 and S6.	Z - 5	Z + 2	Z - 5 to Z. - 4 Z to Z + 2 = 5
1 Troop 75 mm.	Pt 155 area (3964,32).	Z - 5	Z + 2	6
1 Troop 105 mm.	Area 39824,304.	Z + 5	Z + 2	4
1 Troop 149 mm.	Area S1, Pt 209, R1, R2.	Z - 5	Z + 2	1.

Note : At Z one gun of A Tp 370 Bty and one sec D Tp, F Tp, and the composite Tp of 203 Bty will move 400 yds on a bearing of 205°.

Phase II.

1 Troop 107 RHA	Area 39824,304.	Z + 2	Z + 10	2
1 Troop 107 RHA	Area 39864,309	Z + 2	Z + 8	2
B Troop 370 Bty	Road triangle North of S4 200 yds in N & S depth.	Z + 2	Z + 10	2
Sec. A Tp. 370 Bty.	400 yds on bearing of 205° from Phase I Task.	Z + 2	Z + 10	Z + 2 to Z + 4 = 8 Z + 4 to Z + 10 = 3
D Troop 203 Bty	ditto	Z + 2	Z + 10	Z + 2 to Z + 4 = 5 Z + 4 to Z + 10 = 3
F Troop 203 Bty	ditto	Z + 2	Z + 10	Z + 2 to Z + 4 = 5 Z + 4 to Z + 10 = 3
Sec. D Tp.) 203 Bty Sec. F Tp.)	ditto	Z + 2	Z + 10	Z + 2 to Z + 4 = 5 Z + 4 to Z + 10 = 3
1 Troop 75 mm.	S 5 Area.	Z + 4	Z + 10	6
1 Troop 105 mm.	Area 39824,304.	Z + 2	Z + 10	2
1 Troop 149 mm.	Area S1, Pt 209, R1, R2.	Z + 2	Z + 10	1

Phase III.

Section A Tp. 370 Bty.	Phase II Task.	Z + 12	Z + 30	2
D Troop 203 Bty.	Left 200 yds on a bearing of 180° from Phase II Task.	Z + 12	Z + 30	2
F Troop 203 Bty.	Phase II Task.	Z + 12	Z + 30	2
Sec. D Tp.) Sec. F Tp.) 203 Bty.	Astride Rd 300 yds E of S4.	Z + 12	Z + 30	2
1 Troop 149 mm.	Area S1, pt 209, R1, R2.	Z + 10	Z + 60	1/2

D.F. Tasks as for Phase III.

APPENDIX 'B'
Ammunition Expenditure.

One Troop 107 R.H.A.	44 r.p.g.	Total.	176 rounds.
One Troop 107 R.H.A.	40 r.p.g.		160 rounds.
Section A Troop 370 Bty.	106 r.p.g.		212 rounds.
B Troop 370 Bty.	44 r.p.g.		176 rounds.
Recon Troop 203 Bty.	94 r.p.g.		376 rounds.
75 n/ms.	90 r.p.g.		360 rounds.
105 n/ms.	44 r.p.g.		176 rounds.
149 n/ms.	40 r.p.g.		160 rounds.

Total 25 Pdr. = 1088 rounds.
 Total 18 Pdr. = 333 rounds.

2/43 AUST INF BN OPERATION ORDER No.8

Ref Map TOBRUCH 1/50,000

INFORMATION:

1. Enemy is holding area R6, R5 and R7 with estimated strength one Coy. Further enemy Coy is believed to be holding the area to the NORTH. Disclosed strength in this area is 10 - 12 MGs and 4 - 6 mortars.
2. Our dispositions as already known.

INTENTION:

3. On night 2/3 Aug 41., "B" Coy, with one Pl "A" Coy, and one Det 3" mortar and two A/Tk guns, 20 A/Tk Coy, under Comd will attack and hold R7, exploiting if possible to R6 and R5 (both incl)
PHASE 1

METHOD:

4. Fwd Pls: 11 Pl on right: objective R7 from EAST and/or NORTH.
10 Pl on left: objective R7 from SOUTH.
Reserve: 12 Pl to remain on Start Line until signal for exploitation and to protect Coy from possible counter attack from SOUTH or SW.

COVERING PARTY:

5. 9 Pl to cover advance of Coy and Engrs, and carry Engrs stores until wire is cut, and then to reserve area 200 yds fwd of Start Line. This Pl will mask MG 400 yds WEST of R7 as necessary.

SUPPORTING ARMS:

6. Arty. Fire plan as shown in Appendix A attached.
7. RNF Two Pls will carry out tasks as shown in Appendix B attached.
8. Mortars All foreign mortars will support by fire as in Appx C.
9. Engrs. 2/13 Pl Coy will be responsible for:-
 - (a) Opening gap in wire 120 yds EAST of R11, and marking same.
 - (b) Marking route to Start Line.
 - (c) Marking Start Line - length 80 yds.
 - (d) Blowing enemy wire at R7, in three places.
 - (e) Providing crossings for A/Tk ditches.
 - (f) Assisting in consolidation of posts captured.
 - (g) Clearing and taping paths back to FDL's on completion of operationThey will be immediately protected by 9 Pl up to time of blowing wire. Thereafter by assaulting tps.
10. A/Tk. Two guns, 20 A/Tk Coy under Comd. These guns will be drawn by Carrier and will be taken to Control Point by Z - 60. On capture of R7 one gun will move to R7 area.
PHASE 2
11. At the discretion of Comd "B" Coy Phase 2 will be commenced.
12. 11 Pl will move along track R7 - R6, capture and hold R6.
12 Pl will move via R7, capture and consolidate R5.
10 Pl will continue consolidation at R7.
Pls will ensure mopping up of intermediate posts en route.
9 Pl will move into reserve, vicinity of R7.
13. Arty, RNF and mortars support as in Appendices A, B and C.
14. Engr assistance as decided by Comd "B" Coy
15. A/Tk: On consolidation of R5 and R6, one gun will move to each of these areas, drawn as para 10.

CO-OPERATION OF OTHER SUB-UNITS:

16. "A" Coy (less 9 Pl) plus SS Tps (less one troop) under Comd will be under immediate notice to move from Coy HQ area 40214293 either WEST to area 40034292 or SW to area R6 or R7, or to take up

2/43 Asst Inf Bn Operation Order No. 8

defensive position as may be required. Eight 30 cwt vehs will report to Comd by Z - 60.

- 17. "C" and "D" Coys throughout the operation will assist by fire on known or observed enemy positions. On Phase 2 being ordered, "D" Coy will push fwd as far as possible towards pt 182 (39914291), a fighting patrol of reserve Pl to act as outposts. One tp SS Tps will push fwd similarly towards pt 179 (39974284).
- 18. Assembly area: Attacking tps 300 yds NE of R11.
- 19. Route: Gap in wire - 180 degs for 240 yds - 270 degs for 1680 yds and 360 degs for 450 yds.
- 20. Start Line: Line EW through last pt in paragraph 19 (3998542710)
- 21. Direction of attack: Phase 1, duw NORTH; Phase 2, 337 degs to R6, 272 degs to R5.
- 22. Rate of advance: Phase 1 - 100 yds in 1 min; Phase 2 - 100 yds in 2 mins.
- 23. Start Time: Zero 0330 hrs.
- 24. Captured Weapons will be used against the enemy and Comd will detail suitable personnel to man them.
- 25. Time Table:

PHASE 1	
Z - 60	Engrs and 9 Pl leave gap.
Z - 40	Coy leaves gap.
Z - 5	Arty opens fire. Vehs move to intermediate position on line of advance SOUTH of R9.
Z - 3	Engrs to complete marking Start Line.
Z - 2	Coy to be on Start Line.
ZERO	Coy advances. RNF open fire.
Z plus 2	Engrs to be 150 yds from enemy wire. Arty fire on R7 lifts.
Z plus 4 1/2	Wire blown.
Z plus 5	Coy reaches position.
Z plus 15	Carriers move fwd to vicinity R7.
PHASE 2	
S given by Comd Coy.	12 Pl moves to R7.
S plus 5	Arty and RNF lift. Attacking tps advance.
- 26. Five Carriers No.4 Pl will be loaded as follows at present positions

Wire	1 (in trailer)
Sandbags & Tools	1
Amn	1
3" Mortar Det	1
A/Tk Gun & Crew	1
- 27. Amn: 3 Grenades per man, 100 rds SAA per man, 16 mags per Bren, full sciae mags per Tommy Gun, 500 bombs per foreign mortar.
- 28. SAA reserve at BHQ. One truck will be loaded under arrangements of RSM, and will be ready to move by Z.
- 29. Medical: RAP remains present location. Seven Sqads SB's will move with "B" Coy. Four vehs to be suitably marked under RMO arrangements and will move to assembly area at Z, and to pt due SOUTH of R9 at Z plus 5. Line of evacuation R7 - SOUTH of perimeter wire through gap to RAP.
- 30. Rations and Water: All ranks will carry 2 days rations and water bottles will be filled. One day's rations and Three day's water will be taken fwd on Carriers from assembly area on dumping their primary loads.
- 31. Four sandbags will be carried by each man, one around each leg and one through each shoulder strap.
- 32. No movement of MT fwd of control point before Z - 5.
- 33. POW: Two 30 cwt vehs with escort provided by HQ Coy and Provost Sec will move with Carriers to area SOUTH of R9. Comd "B" Coy will detail escort from 9 Pl for POW to this pt. A POW collecting pt will established at Control Post 40304280.

INTER-COMM:

- 34. From Z - 5 1 Pl will commence lay line from R9 outside perimeter to R7.

2/43 Aust Inf Bn Operation Order No. 8

35. The following lines will be kept connected and open by the 2/43 switch:-

- (a) Line via R9 and R10.
- (b) Line from Comd Post.
- (c) Line from "A" Coy.
- (d) Line to 2/43 Bn mortars.
- (e) Line to Control Post.

36. W/T sets No. 11 will be established and manned by the 24 Aust Inf Bde Sig Sec at:-

R10	1
Comd Post	2

Direct comm will be maintained with HQ 24 Aust Inf Bde.

37. 3 Verrey pistols will be carried by "B" Coy.

38. Signals:-

- (a) For Phase 2; 3 REDS - 10 secs - 3 GREENS
- (b) Success: R5; 3 REDS - 10 secs - 3 REDS.
R6; 3 GREEN - 10 secs - 3 GREEN.
- (c) For defensive fire; GREEN - WHITE - GREEN, 10 secs,
GREEN - WHITE - GREEN

39. BHQ at Comd Post 40274278.

40. Watches will be synchronised 6 hrs and 2 hrs before ZERO.

41. Co-ordinating Conference will be held at Comd Post during late afternoon 2 Aug 41. Times to be notified later.

ACK.

Time of Signature 1100 hrs
Issued by

R. J. Hamer
Adj. 2/43 Aust Inf Bn. Lieut.,
Copy No.

DISTRIBUTION

"A" Coy	1
"B" "	2
"C" "	3
"D" "	4
HQ "	5
SS Tps	6
20 A/Pk (2/32 Bn HQ)	7
Mortar Pl	8
Provost Sgt (for Control Post)	9
Arty Gp	10
1 Bn RNF	11
2/13 Pd Coy RAE	12
24 Aust Inf Bde	13
2/48 Aust Inf Bn (for infm)	14
2/13 Aust Inf Bn (for infm)	15
2/28 Aust Inf Bn	16
2/32 Aust Inf Bn	17
C.O.	18
2 i/c	19
Adj. Lt	20
I. O.	21
R.S.M.	22
Q.M.	23
T.O.	24
R.M.O.	25
War Diary (2)	26, 27
File	28
Spares (2)	29, 30

SECRET. & URGENT.

1. Information regarding operations 2/3 Aug has been received issued to all concerned.

2. Attack by 2/28 Bn.

(a) One Pl "X" Coy to area 40114305 night 2/3 Aug and support attack.

Z - Z + 15	6 Belts)	
Z + 15 - Z + 21	4 Belts)	area S. 4

On completion return to normal penetration role.

(b) One Pl "X" Coy from area escarpment 401433 to move to area Pt. 143 (401432) night 2/3 Aug and remain with role to engage enemy by observed fire on front 2/28 Bn and 2/48 Bn.

Return penetration role night 3/4 Aug.

3. Attack by 2/43 Bn.

(a) Two Pls "X" Coy to areas 40164292 and 40234288 night 2/3 Aug and support attack.

<u>Phase I:</u>	Z - Z + 6	4 Belts)	<u>Area</u>	R.6
	Z + 6 - Z + 40	6 Belts)		R.4
				Pt. 179

<u>Phase II:</u>	Signal + 5) <u>Area.</u>	R. 3
	to	4 belts		
	Signal + 11			
	to	6 belts		
	Signal + 40			

(b) Platoons remain in new localities with Role Local Counter Attack Defensive Fire on area R. 3.

12 belts per gun will be dumped and kept for this task only and used on S.D.F. GREEN, WHITE, GREEN.

(c) Return to penetration role in present localities night 3/4 Aug unless ordered to infiltrate back during day by Comdr 2/43 Bn.

(d) Signal for Phase II : THREE RED repeated after TEN SECONDS.

4. Communication.

(a) Pl at Pt 143 to connect to 2/48 Bn HQ.

Pls at 40164292)
 X Coy 40234288) to be connected by L/T to 2/43 Bn HQ.

(b) HQ. moves to HQ., 2/43 Bn.

(b) ZERO HOUR 0330 hrs.

5. Ammunition.

(a) Amm for supporting tasks to be drawn from Q.M. and dumped at new positions.

(b) Total Amm allotted for supporting fire : 50,000 rds.

6. Administrative.

(a) Minimum number to man new positions all to be provided with two days rations and water.

(b) Medical under arrangements to be made with nearest Bn. R.A.Ps.

7. ACK.

In the field,
 1st August 1941.

J. E. Williams
 Captain and Adjutant,
 1st Bn The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers.

DISTRIBUTION.

O.C. "W" Company	...	Copy No.	1
O.C. "X" Company	...	"	2
Quartermaster	...	"	3
Signal Officer	...	"	4
HQ., 24 Aust Inf Bde	...	"	5
2/28 Bn	.....	"	6 ✓
2/43 Bn	.....	"	7
2/48 Bn	.....	"	8
C.R.A.	.....	"	9
File	.....	"	10.

C.O.

SECRET

COPY

H. Q. 24 Aust Inf Bde
In the Field
31 Jul 41

MAP REFERENCE CODE LIST

From 0001 hrs 2400 hrs
on dates shown below

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0
1 Aug	7	R	I	F	L	E	M	A	N	2
2 Aug	B	L	A	N	K	E	T	S	3	7
3 Aug	W	A	T	E	R	9	C	U	P	1
4 Aug	6	5	F	I	N	G	E	R	S	8
5 Aug	C	6	D	E	4	9	L	I	S	T

))))-----((((

PASSWORDS

From 1800 hrs 2 Aug to 1800 hrs 3 Aug 41
3
4
5
6
7
8

BRISBANE
Darwin
PERTH
CHURCHILL
MENZIES
COMMONWEALTH
STEADY

CODE NAMES LIST NO. 2 (1941)

Adv H.Q. 9 Aust Div	IFOB	203 Bty	DOER
Rear H.Q. 9 Aust Div	STEP	370 Bty	JIGO
18 Cav	PUMP	3 R.H.A.	HAST
A Sqn	TURK	J Bty	IBIC
B Sqn	SEVA	M Bty	UKOV
C Sqn	HUNS	60 Pdr tp 2/12 Fd	
B Ech	LEKA	Regt RAA	NOBE
1 R.T.R.	ATAB	R.A.E.	
B Sqn	JULO	HQ R.A.E.	IBBO
C Sqn	MAKE	2/3 Fd Coy	EYOT
B Ech	ARAB	2/7 Fd Coy	CAGO
7 R.T.R.	NAXO	^{2/13} 2/12 Fd Coy	IMAP
H.Q. R.A.A. 9 Aust		2/1 Pioneer Bn	IBOR
Div	DEPI	SIGS	
3 Aust A/Tk Regt	KUVO	Sigs 9 Aust Div	FAKO
9 Bty	HATS	INF	
10 Bty	GLUM	I N.F.	IFIT
11 Bty	UPUS	HQ Coy	CHOP
24 Bty 2/12 Fd Regt	CACO	W Coy	HALO
2/12 Fd Regt	MARY	X Coy	DIET
23 Bty 2/12 Fd Regt	FISE	Y Coy	FELL
51 Fd Regt	SHAM	Z Coy	GLOW
2/13 Bn	TUNE	Adv HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde	RAFO
2/15 Bn	HOPA	2/17 Bn	TOBO
20 Aust Bde A/Tk Coy	GOPE	2/25 Bn	MAJO
2/32 Bn	PIFE	2/28 Bn	PIRA
2/43 Bn	NOVO	24 Aust Bde A/Tk Coy	HEAD
Adv HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde	FORD	2/23 Bn	GALE
2/24 Bn	TRIP	2/48 Bn	BUYS
26 Aust IXX Bde			
A/Tk Coy	EIOB	Adv HQ 18 Aust Inf Bde	BARK
2/9 Bn	JEPO	2/10 Bn	RASE
2/12 Bn	REBA	2/32 Bn	PIFE
2/3 Fd Amb	HIGH	2/5 Fd Amb	TETI
2/8 Fd Amb	HUVA	2/11 Fd Amb	SOIL
A.D.D.	PUBO		

A

2/43 Aust Inf Bn Operation Order No.8

Appendix "B"

Serial	From Pl Point	Task	Time		Rate	No. Belts
			From	To		
1)	40244287	Area R6 - Xrds	Z	Z # 6	Rapid	10
2)	40174263	39974234 - R4	Z # 6	S	Normal	
3)	do	Area R3	S # 5	S # 11	Rapid	10
4)			S # 11	Success	Normal	
5	do	Defensive Fire, R3	SDF	-	Rapid	To 12

2/43 Aust Inf Bn Operation Order No.8

Appendix "C"

Serial	Task	Time		Rate
		From	To	
1	Area 39954273	Z - 5	Z # 5	6
2	do	Z # 5	S	2
3	Area 39924232	S # 5	Success	4
4	Defensive Fire do	SDF	-	6

1 Aug 41.

24 AUST INF BDE OPERATION ORDER NO. 7.

INFORMATION

1. ENEMY. Two Bns of 115 Mot Inf Regt (German), elements of the 2 M.G. Bn (German) and some Italian tps are holding posns in strength from Post S7 thence SE to R7 (incl).

In addition to these posts, are intermediate and alternative posns as well as a number of mortar and M.G. posts.

The general line which contains the salient area extends from the WATER TOWER 39784308 SE to track junc 40034293, thence to Post R7.

There are a number of mortar and M.G. posns in the salient area. Fwd posns in many cases are wired and protected by booby traps.

The enemy occupies many alternative posns in known areas, but those occupied posns cannot be accurately determined.

The state of the minefield previously laid by us from 39894313 SW to 39864303, thence SE to 40104284 is not definitely known.

The immediate vicinity of the WATER TOWER is not held, though enemy working parties were observed close to it on the nights 29/30 and 30/31 Jul.

On information obtained from PzW and fwd tps, it is not expected that enemy tps in the salient could put in a strong counter attack though local counter attacks are certain to be made.

No enemy tanks have been observed on this sector for over three weeks and the presence of mines and booby traps renders it a difficult manoeuvre area for tanks.

2. OWN TROOPS. 24 Aust Inf Bde and attached tps are holding the perimeter from the sea to Post S8, thence on a general line SE to Posts S8, 9 and 10 (incl).

Enlargement 1/25000 of Salient area showing enemy and our dispositions is attached - Appx A.

Supporting Arms are as follows:-

- (a) 51 Pz Regt R.A.
2/12 Pz Regt R.A.A.
B/O Bty R.H.A.
425 Bty R.H.A.
- (b) Three Pz 1 R.H.P.
- (c) One Sqn Cruiser tks and 2 Tps I Tks will come under command 24 Aust Inf Bde for the period of the operation.

INTENTION

3. 24 Aust Inf Bde will capture and hold Posts S6 and S7 and Post R7 on night 2/3 Aug 41.

METHOD.

4. Attacks will be made simultaneously.

5. Capture of Posts S6 and S7.

(a) 2/28 Bn will employ one Coy in attack as follows:-

- (1) Two Pz 1s will attack S7 from S9 area. One Pz 1 to move outside perimeter wire to give flank protection to the right from posn on escarpment immediately to WEST of S7.

- One Pl will move direct on S7 from S9.
- (II) One Pl will attack S6 from S8 area.
- (III) Limit of exploitation - line of top of escarpment above S6 and S7.
- (IV) Flank protection Pl will move as directed by Coy Comd after completion of consolidation.
- (V) Artillery and M.M.G. fire plan - Appx B.
- (VI) Success Signal - Capture of S7 - GREEN-RED-GREEN
-15 secs-
GREEN-RED-GREEN
- Capture of S6 - RED-GREEN-RED
-15 secs-
RED-GREEN-RED

Two runners will be sent to nearest post in communication with 2/28 Bn H.Q. to confirm signals.

(VII) Communications will be established by line as soon as possible on consolidation to both S6 and S7.

(VIII) To come under comd 2/28 Aust Inf Bn at 1800 hrs 2 Aug 41 -
2 A.Tk guns - 10 Bty 3 A.Tk Regt
Sub-sec 2/13 Pd Coy.

Det 2/3 Pd Amb will be attached.

X (IX) A fighting patrol of one Pl from right fwd Coy 2/48 Bn will move in rear of left Pl of attacking Coy to WATER TOWER. This Pl will seize the ground to EAST of WATER TOWER WADI.

X (X) Right fwd Coy 2/48 Bn will be ready at 10 mins notice to move fwd to general line WATER TOWER - pt 171(39844306) - Right fwd Pl of left Coy.

(XI) A Coy 2/32 Bn will come under comd 2/28 Bn at 1800 hrs 1 Aug and will relieve D Coy 2/28 Bn in present posn on night 1/2 Aug 41.

R1 (XII) During the attack, 2/48 Bn will give supporting fire on known enemy posns in the Salient.

Right limit - line from right fwd Coy - S4
Left " " " left " " - R2

(XIII) A.Tk defence. On consolidation S6 and S7, A.Tk guns will be sent fwd to those areas.

6. Capture of Post R7.

(a) 2/43 Aust Inf Bn will employ one Coy in the attack. One Pl from Reserve Coy will be attached and used for carrying purposes.

(1) Attack will be made from start line SOUTH of R7 outside perimeter.

(II) Two Pls will be used in the assault, and one Pl will be used for flank protection in area BIR EL MEDAUAR.

(III) Fire Plan attached - Appx B.

(IV) To come under comd 2/43 Bn at 1800 hrs 2 Aug 41 -

A.Tk guns - two guns 20 A.Tk Coy
M.M.Gs. - two Pls M.M.Gs. 1 R.N.F.
Engineers - one subsection 2/13 Pd Coy
Amb - Det 2/3 Pd Amb.

(b) During the attack, fwd Coys 2/43 Bn not engaged will assist by fire on observed targets in the Salient.

7. (1) Consequent on enemy resistance and casualties incurred, Comd of attacking Coy 2/43 Bn will decide whether exploitation to R5 and R6 is possible. Occupation of these posns is most desirable, but it must be assured that there is every possibility of success before this phase is attempted. Decision to proceed with Phase 2 will be given by very light signal

as follows:-

RED-RED-RED -tea mess- RED-RED-RED
and the following operation will take place:-
Attack on R6 by one Pl. attack on R5 by reserve
Pl.

(II) In conjunction with phase 2, the left fwd Coy
2/43 Bn and the two fwd Coys of 2/45 Bn will each push fwd
a fighting patrol of one Pl to occupy fwd posns, in the form
of outposts, as close as possible to the line of the road S4,
at 182 (39914291) - pt 179 (39974224).

R. S. Watkinson

(III) Supporting fire for Phase 2 - Appx 3 attached.

'8' = time of signal. Arty concentrations will
commence at 8 + 5.

(IV) Present F.D.La. will be retained.

(V) Reserve Coy 2/43 Bn (less one Pl) and incl 88 Tps
to be available for defensive role or exploitation as required.

(VI) A.Tk Defence. Guns will be moved fwd immediately
on consolidation R5 and R6. If attack on R5 and R6 does not
develop, one gun only will be taken to R7.

(VII) Communications: will be established by line to all
captured posts as soon as possible after capture.

8. Reserve Bn. 2/52 Bn (less one Coy) will be prepared to move
at 10 mins notice to any part of WESTERN SECTOR for
exploitation of success or counter attack. Troop carrying
transport will stand by with Coys.
Bn will 'stand-to' during the operation.

9. Tanks:
(a) Will form part of Bde Reserve.
Roles
(1) Exploitation of success.
(II) Counter attack.
(b) L.Tks will R.V. vicinity ~~2/3~~ night 2/3 Aug. *720*
(c) Cruiser Tks will R.V. vicinity mouth of WADI
EAST OF FIGTREE.

Tanks will NOT move forward to R.Vs. until commencement
of operations. They may move to assembly areas PILASTRINO
and WADI GHESINA (ref 405433) not before last light 2 Aug.
Tk. Comds will report to H.Q. 24 Aust Inf Bde at 2100 hrs
2 Aug.

10. ZERO: For both attacks - 0330 hrs, 3 Aug.

11. Watches will be synchronised at 2130 hrs 2 Aug and 0100 hrs
3 Aug.

12. PW Collecting Points. PW collecting points will be
established by 2/28 Bn at S12, and by 2/43 Bn area 40324285.
Dets of Gd Pl of 24 Aust Inf Bde will be responsible for
movement of prisoners from these points. Tpt to be made
available by 24 Bde.

Within Bde, necessary escort will be provided to
deliver prisoners back to these points.

13. Engineers.
Engineers will assist attacking troops as follows:-

- (a) Taping start lines and approaches.
- (b) Blowing wire.
- (c) Assisting and advising during consolidation.
- (d) Devitalizing minefields and cleaning paths back on capture of posts.
- (e) Prepare bridges for crossing A.Tk ditches.
- (f) Will arrange with 3 Arm'd Bde as to cooperation with tanks.

ADMINISTRATION.

14. Engineers Stores. Picks, shovels, wire, pickets, mallets and sandbags will be held ready to move forward for consolidation. Four sandbags will be carried on the man.

15. Ammunition. Priority to be given to fwd units - Mills Grenades, A.Tk grenades, S.T. grenades and .55 amn. These will be taken up by carrying parties or cpt. L.M.Gs. of fwd Bns will have at least 6000 rds per gun.

16. Rations and Water. One days rations and three days water will be sent forward on consolidation - 2 days rations and full water bottles on the man, a total of three days rations and waters

17. Medical. One extra ambulance will be sent to R.A.P. of 2/28 Bn and 2/3 Bn, and a relay of ambulances forwarded to maintain the number of ambulances at R.A.Ps. The medical details of all Bns will be increased by 2/3 P4 Amb personnel.

INTERCOMMUNICATION.

18. H.Q. 24 Aust Inf Bde will remain at present location.

19. Existing systems with the following additions will operate night 2/3 Aug.

UNIT	LINE		REMARKS
	From	To	
2/28 Bn	Post R13 and nearest point of existing system	H.Q. of attacking Coy	2 telephones D Mk V and cable to be supplied by Bde Sigs.
2/43 Bn	Posts R8 & R9	Post R7	4 telephones D Mk V and cable to be supplied by Bde Sigs
	Post R9	Post R6	
	To be decided by 2/43 Bn	Mortar Pl	
	Post R7	Posts R5 & R6	Dependant on development of operation
	Post R5	Post R6	
51 P4 Regt	51 P4 Regt Exchange	H.Q. 24 Aust Inf Bde	Line and telephones at H.Q. 24 Aust Inf Bde to be supplied by 51 P4 Regt

WIRELESS

- (a) Sets at 18 Cav, 2/28, 2/43 and 2/48 Bns controlled by one set at H.Q. 24 Aust Inf Bde on frequency 5.520 megacycles.
- (b) Set from 2/32 Bn to be installed at H.Q. 2/43 Bn and spare set from H.Q. 24 Aust Inf Bde to be installed at Post R10. These two sets to work one-to-one on frequency 5.140 megacycles and under comd to 2/43 Bn. This is to be completed by 0200 hrs 2 Aug.
- (c) In the event of comd by wireless between 24 Aust Inf Bde and 2/32 Bn being required, the mobile set at 2/43 Bn on Bde group will be despatched direct to H.Q. 2/32 Bn. The two sets working between 2/43 Bn H.Q. and Post R10 will then change to frequency 5.520 megacycles and comd under control of 24 Aust Inf Bde.
- (d) Wireless comd required for operational and liaison purposes between 3 Arm'd Bde and 24 Aust Inf Bde (incl units concerned) will be provided by 3 Arm'd Bde as arranged.

20. Wireless silence until zero.

ACK.

Time of Signature 1235 hrs.
Issued by. D.R.


Maj.
B.H. 24 Aust Inf Bde.

<u>Distribution</u>	<u>Copy No.</u>
2/28 Aust Inf Bn	1
2/32 Aust Inf Bn	2
2/43 Aust Inf Bn	3
2/48 Aust Inf Bn	4
18 Cav	5
20 A.Tr Coy	6
26 A.Tr Coy	7
J sty 3 R.M.A.	8
51 Pd Regt	9, 10, 11, 12
1 R.M.F.	13
W Coy	14
X Coy	15
Z Coy	16
3 Arm'd Bde	17-18
2/13 Pd Coy	20-21-22
2/3 Pd Amb	23
No. 2 Tp Carrying Coy	24
9 Aust Div.	25, 26, 27, 28, 29
18 Aust Inf Bde	30
20 Aust Inf Bde	31, 32
26 Aust Inf Bde	33
War Diary	34, 35
Comd	36
File	37

APPENDIX B

ARTILLERY FIRE PLAN

Attack on R7
Phase 1(a)

Ser No.	Task	From	to	Guns	Rate	Remarks
1	R7 and NORTH	Z - 5	Z + 2	Tp 25 pdrs	4	One sec lifts to area NE R5 at Z + 2. One sec lifts to area R7 at Z + 2.
2	R7 and SE	Z - 5	Z + 2	Tp 25 pdrs	4	Lifts to R6 at Z + 2.
3	M.G. Post 300 yds WEST of R7	Z - 5	Z + 2	Tp 25 pdrs	4	Lifts 200 yds beyond for Phase 1 (b)
4	M.G. Posts 39974281 = 39984277	Z - 5	Z + 2	Tp 25 pdrs	4	
5	R5 area	Z - 5	Z + 2	Tp 4.5 hows.	3	Remains on R5 to Z + 60 or signal to comm- ence Phase 11.
6	M.G. posts area X rds pt 179 (39974284)	Z + 5	Z + 2	Sec 4.5 hows	1	
7	M.G. and Mortar posts (39954288)	Z - 5	Z + 2	Sec 4.5 hows (3)	1	
8	R6 area	Z - 5	Z + 7	Tp 75 ms	Rapid	To C.E. on conclusion
<u>Phase 1(b)</u> <u>Consolidation of R7.</u>						
1	NE of R5	Z + 4	Z + 7	Sec 25 pdrs	3	
		Z + 7	Z + 30		2	
	Area R5	Z + 4	Z + 30	Sec 25 pdrs	2	
2	Area R6	Z + 4	Z + 30	Tp 25 pdrs	2	
3	Area 500 yds WEST from R7	Z + 2	Z + 30	Tp 25 pdrs	2	
4	M.G. posts 39974281 = 39984277	Z + 2	Z + 7	Tp 25 pdrs	3	
		Z + 7	Z + 30		2	
5	R5 area	Z + 4	Z + 7	Tp 4.5 hows	2	
		Z + 7	Z + 60 (or signal)		1	
6	M.G. posts area pt 179 (39974284)	Z + 2	Z + 30	Sec 4.5 hows	1	
7	M.G. posts & mortars (39954288)	Z + 2	Z + 30	Sec 4.5 hows (3)	1	

Signal

PHASE 11.

2 = 8 + 5

RED-RED-RED
-15 secs-
RED-RED-RED

Attack on R5 and R6

Order no.	Target	From	To	Class	Rate	Remarks
1	NE of R5	8 + 5 8 + 13	8 + 13 8 + 15	Sec 25 para	2 4	Lifts area R3 (Serial 2)
2	Area R3	8 + 17 8 + 21	8 + 21 8 + 40	Sec 25 para	3 1	
3	Area R3	8 + 5 8 + 15 8 + 21	8 + 15 8 + 21 8 + 40	Sec 25 para	2 3 1	
4	Area R6	8 + 5 8 + 13	8 + 13 8 + 15	Tp 25 para	2 4	Lifts to area between R3-R4
	Area R3-R4 (39904283)	8 + 17 8 + 21	8 + 21 8 + 40		3 1	
5	Area S & W of R 5 (39894275)	8 + 5	8 + 13	Tp 25 para	2	
		8 + 13	8 + 15		4	Lifts to WADI 39874278
	WADI 39874278	8 + 17	8 + 40		2	
6	(a) Area N. Ga. 39974280	8 + 5	8 + 11	Tp 25 para	3	Lifts to Area R4
	Area R4	8 + 13	8 + 21		2	
	(b) Area R4	8 + 21	8 + 40		1	
	Area R5	8 + 5 8 + 21	8 + 21 8 + 40		2 1	
7	Area R5	8 + 5 8 + 13	8 + 13 8 + 15	Tp 4.5 hours	2 3	Lift to WADI 39884280
	Wadi 39884280	8 + 17 8 + 21	8 + 21 8 + 40		2 1	
8	Area X rd pt 179 (39974284)	8 + 5 8 + 17 8 + 21	8 + 25 8 + 21 8 + 40	Sec 4.5 hours	2 2 1	Lift area R2 R4-R2 & SW of Rd
9	39954288 - 39904285	8 + 5 8 + 21	8 + 21 8 + 40	Sec 4.5 hours	2 1	

ARTILLERY FIRE PLAN

D.F. TASKS

Signal GREEN-WHITE-GREEN - repeated after 10 secs.

A. On capture R5, R6 and R7.

Areas, 398742⁷⁵, 39924282, 39894274, 39944284,
39884277, 39904280.

B. On Capture R5 and R7 only.

Areas 39944279, 39974278, 39894274, 40004280,
39884277, 39904280.

C. On capture R6 and R7 only.

Areas 39944279, 39954276, 39954274, 39974273,
39944284, 39924282.

D. On capture of R7 only.

Areas 40004280, 39974278, 39954274, 39974273,
39954277, 39944275.

E. D.F. Tasks for R6 and R7 are taskshown in Phase III of fire plan.

NOTE

- (a) Until signal to start Phase II is ordered for attack on R5 and R6, on call for defensive fire, Arty will fire on D.F. Tasks 'D'.
- (b) (1) After signal to start Phase II is made on call for D.F. Arty will fire on D.F. Tasks 'A'.
- (11) In the event of R5 and R7 or R6 and R7 only being captured, on call for defensive fire, Arty will fire on Task 'A' until notified that Tasks B or C have come into operation.
-

18 Aug 41 to 30 Jul 41.

24 ANST INF BDE OPERATION INSTRUCTION NO. 4

INFORMATION

1. Enemy. Enemy dispositions shown in enlargements to be forwarded with operation order.
2. Own Troops. Dispositions as known.

INTENTION.

3. 24 Anst Inf Bde will capture and hold Posts S6 and S7 and Post R7 on night 2/3 Aug 41.

METHOD

4. Capture of Posts S6 and S7.

(a) 2/28 Anst Inf Bn will employ one Coy in attack as follows:-

- (1) Two pls to attack S7 from S9 area. Right Pl to move outside perimeter wire and give flank protection to the right from peak on escarpment. Left Pl direct to S7 from S9 area.
- (II) One Pl direct to S6 from S8.
- (III) Limit of exploitation - line of top of escarpment above S6 and S7.
- (IV) Flank protection Pl to move as directed by Coy Comd after completion of consolidation.
- (V) Supporting Arms.

Artillery. To take place in initial bombardment.

- 20 25 pdrs
- 6 18 pdrs
- 4 75 mm

On lift of initial concentrations:

- 8 25 pdrs
- 4 18 pdrs } will switch to
- 4 75 mm } C.B. tanks

Arty remaining to be employed on concentrations on enemy posts in rear

- 12 25 pdrs
- 2 18 pdrs

(VI) Tanks. One Sqd Cruiser tanks will move to vicinity EAST of WADI mouth behind FIGURES on commencement of attack. No move fwd until after last light. Tanks will form Bde reserve for exploitation or counter attack. Det Eagle will move as guides with tanks to clear gaps through minefields. Representative 2/13 PA Coy will report to 3 Arm Bde to received preliminary instructions.

(VII) Right fwd Coy 2/48 Bn will be ready at 10 minutes notice to move fwd to general line Water Tower - pt 1 (39844306) - Right fwd Pl of left Coy.

(VIII) Coy 2/32 Bn from posn near H.Q. 18 Cav to come under comd 2/28 Bn as from 1800 hrs 2 Aug. Their posn as Bn reserve for Western sector to be decided by 2/28 Bn.

(IX) During the attack 2/48 Bn will give supporting fire on known targets in the salient. Right limit - Right of right fwd Coy to S4. Left limit - left of left fwd Coy to R2.

(V) Supporting Arms (contd)

- M.M.Gs. One Coy 1 R.N.Pa. - (Par only for S6 & S7)
- A-Tk Guns. 2 A-Tk guns J Bty 3 R.N.A. under comd
- Eagles. One Sub-sec 2/13 PA Coy. (2/28 Bn)
- Inf - Det 2/3 PA Anst.

1/800 hrs 2 Aug

Captn 1800 hrs 2 Aug

S6 & S7 areas. WATER TOWER. Aerial photographs of available.

1st area also

1 Pl remaining

Fill position occupied vacated by 2 Coy.

5. Capture of Post R7.

(a) 2/43 Aust Inf Bn will employ one Coy in the attack. One Pl from Reserve Coy will be attached and used for carrying purposes.

(1) Attack will be made from start line South of R7 outside perimeter.

(11) Two Pls will be used in the assault, and one Pl will be used for flank protection in area BIR EL MEDAUUAR.

(111) Supporting Arms.

Artillery

- (a) 16 - 25 para
- 9 - 45 hows
- 4 - 75 mm

(b) After completion of initial concentrations, the 4 - 75 mm will lift on to CB tasks. 16 - 25 para and 9 - 45 hows will continue concentrations on enemy posts to rear.

1870 how
A.Tk guns.

Two guns 20 A.Tk Coy under comd 2/43 Bn.

M.M.Gs.

One Coy 1 R.N.F. (acm) > Pls

Engineers

One subsection 2/13 Pd Coy

Amb

Det 2/3 Pd Amb.

(b) During the attack, fwd Coys 2/43 Bn not engaged, will assist by fire on observed targets in the Salient.

6. (1) Consequent on enemy resistance and casualties incurred, Comd of attacking Coy 2/43 Bn will decide whether exploitations to R5 and R6 is possible. Occupation of these posts is most desirable, but it must be assured that there is every possibility of success before this phase is attempted. Decision to proceed with Phase 2 will be given by very light signal as follows:-

RED-RED-RED -ten seconds- RED-RED-RED

and the following operation will take place:-

Attack on R6 by one Pl from R7, attack on R5 by reserve Pl from vicinity BIR EL MEDAUUAR.

(11) In conjunction with Phase 2, the left fwd Coy 2/43 Bn and the two fwd Coys of 2/43 Bn will each push fwd, as far as possible, a fighting patrol of one Pl to occupy fwd posts, in the form of outposts, as close as possible to the line of the road S4, pt 187 (3994293) - pt 179 (39974284).

(111) Supporting fire for Phase 2.

(a) On signal for commencement, arty concentrations will be brought down on R6, R5 and known enemy posts, after which they will lift to enemy posts in rear and CB tasks.

(b) Present F.D.Ls. will be retained.

(c) Reserve Coy 2/43 Bn (less one Pl) and incl 88 Tps to be available for defensive role or exploitation, as required.

FIGURE

7. PW collecting points will be established by 2/28 Bn at Wadi 40124337, and by 2/43 Bn area 40324285. Dets of 64 Pl of 24 Aust Inf Bde will be responsible for movement of prisoners from these points. Tps to be made available by 24 Bde.

Within Bns, necessary escort will be provided to deliver prisoners back to these points.

*Cugger
further forward*

*with
air*

8. Two Tps I Tks will move to vicinity R14.
Role: Counter attack or exploitation. Tks will be prepared to move outside perimeter.
Det Engrs to move as guides with Tks to clear gaps through minefields.

9. Instructions Common to both Attacks.

How far? (1) A.Tk Defence. Guns will be moved fwd immediately on consolidation S6 and S7 and on consolidation R5 and R6. If attack on R5 and R6 does not develop, one gun only will be moved to R7 area.

(11) Artillery
(a) C.B. Tasks
8 - 25 pdrs
4 - 60 pdrs
8 - 75 mm
4 - 105 mm ? doubtful.

Of the above, 8 - 25 pdrs and 8 - 75 mm will be used on initial concentrations, as shown in paras 4 & 5 and will then lift to C.B. tasks.

(b) L.F. Tasks On completion of operations, will be last series of concentrations supporting attack. Tasks may be amended by Bn Comds according to observation on 3 Aug.

(c) 149 mm will be used as available on concentrations on MEDAUGAR - or other areas to be decided upon. (2 guns).

Company (111) Engineers. Will assist in consolidation. Picks and shovels, wire and sandbags will be moved fwd on success. Paths through minefields will be cleared and taped back to F.D.Ls. on completion of operation.

(1V) Rations and Water. One days rations and three days water will be sent fwd on consolidation - 2 days rations on the man, a total of three days water and rations.

(V) Ammunition. Priority to be given to fwd units - Mills Grenades, A.Tk grenades, S.T. grenades and .55 amn. These to be taken up by carrying parties or tpt.

*Also
potals
mashed* (VI) Captured Weapons. Bn will ensure that as many personnel as possible with a knowledge of German M.Gs. and mortars are detailed for working of these weapons.

10. Reserve Bn. 2/32 Bn, less one Coy, will be prepared to move at 10 minutes notice to any part of WESTERN SECTOR for exploitation or counter attack. No. 2 Tpt Carrying Coy will provide tpt, to report to dispersal areas selected by 2/32 Bn after last light *on* night 2/3 Aug.

The Bn will stand-to during the operation.

11. Tank Comds will report to H.Q. 24 Aust Inf Bde at 2100 hrs 2 Aug and will provide communication to both Tk gps.

12. Synchronisation of watches - 6 hrs and 2 hrs prior to Zero.

13. Start times - Zero to be decided.

14. Bn Comds will bring detailed orders for operations with them to the conference.

15. H.Q. 24 Aust Inf Bde will remain present location during operations.

16. A coordinating conference will be held at H.Q. 24 Aust Inf Bde at 1000 hrs 31 Jul 41.

Another Conference to be held later

ACK
Time of Signature 1830 hrs.
Issued by D.R.

Keane Maj.
B.M. 24 Aust Inf Bde.

For information

Times of Moonrise and Moonset, Sunrise & Sunset.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Sunrise</u>	<u>Sunset</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Moonrise</u>	<u>Moonset</u>
1 Aug	0638	2022	31 Jul/1 Aug	-	0111
2	0639	2021	1/2 Aug	1452	0158
3	0640	2020	2/3	1556	0250
4	0640	2019	3/4	1657	0345
5	0641	2018	4/5	1759	0444
6	0641	2018	5/6	1848	0545

Distribution Copy No.

2/28 Aust Inf Bn	1
2/32 Aust Inf Bn	2
2/43 Aust Inf Bn	3
2/48 Aust Inf Bn	4
18 Cav	5
20 A.Tk Coy	6
26 A.Tk Coy	7
J Bty 3 BHA	8
51 Pd Regt	9, 10, 11, 12
1 R.N.F.	13
W Coy	14
X Coy	15
3 Coy	16
3 Armd Bde	17-18
2/13 Pd Coy	20, 21, 22
2/3 Pd Amb	23
No. 2 Tp Carry- ing Coy	24
9 Aust Div.	25, 26, 27, 28, 29
18 Aust Inf Bde	30
20 Aust Inf Bde	31, 32
26 Aust Inf Bde	33
War Diary	34-25
Comd	36
File	37

ARTY TASK TABLE
Phase 1 (a)

Serial	Unit	Task	Time		Rate
			From	To	
1.	B Tp. B/O	MG and Mortar Area SW of R7	Z - 5	Z ± 1	4
2.	A Tp. 425	R7 and area to NORTH	Z - 5	Z ± 2	4
3.	O Tp. B/O	MG area 39964275	Z - 5	Z ± 2	4
4.	B Tp. 425	MG area 39974281 to 39984277	Z - 5	Z ± 2	4
5.	B Tp. 23 Bty	Area R5	Z - 5	Z ± 2	3
6.	One Sec	MG area cross rds pt 179	Z - 5	Z ± 2	1
	C Tp 23 Bty				
7.	C Tp	MG and Mortar area about	Z - 5	Z ± 2	1
	less oneSec	39954288			
8.	1 Tp 24 Bty	Area R6	Z - 5	Z ± 7	Rapid
	75 mm				

Phase 1 (b)

1.	B Tp. B/O	(a) One Sec	Z ± 4	Z ± 7	3
		Area NE of R5	Z ± 7	Z ± 30	2
		(b) One Sec			
		Area R3	Z ± 4	Z ± 30	2
2.	A Tp 425	Area R6	Z ± 4	Z ± 30	2
3.	O Tp B/O	MG area 39964275	Z ± 2	Z ± 30	2
					Lift 200 yds
4.	B Tp 425	MG area 39974281 to 39984277	Z ± 2	Z ± 7	3
			Z ± 7	Z ± 30	2
5.	B TP 23 Bty	R5 area	Z ± 2	Z ± 7	2
			Z ± 7	Z ± 60	1
					Z ± 60 or signal
6.	One Sec	Area Xrds pt 179	Z ± 2	Z ± 30	1
	C Tp 23 Bty				
7.	C Tp 23 Bty	MG and Mortar area about	Z ± 2	Z ± 30	1
	less OneSec	39954288			

PHASE II

1.	B Tp B/O	(a) Area NE of R5	S ± 5	S ± 13	2
		- ditto -	S ± 13	S ± 15	4
		Area R3	S ± 17	S ± 21	3
		- ditto -	S ± 21	S ± 40	1
		(b) Area R3	S ± 5	S ± 15	2
		- ditto -	S ± 15	S ± 21	3
		- ditto -	S ± 21	S ± 40	1
2.	A Tp 425	Area R 6	S ± 5	S ± 13	2
	Bty	- ditto -	S ± 13	S ± 15	4
		Mortar area 39904283	S ± 17	S ± 21	3
		- ditto -	S ± 21	S ± 40	1
3.	O Tp B/O	Area 39894275	S ± 5	S ± 13	2
		- ditto -	S ± 13	S ± 15	4
		Wadi 39874278	S ± 17	S ± 40	2
4.	B Tp 425	(a) MG area 39974280	S ± 5	S ± 11	3
		Area R4	S ± 13	S ± 21	2
		- ditto -	S ± 21	S ± 40	1
		(b) Area R4	S ± 5	S ± 21	2
		- ditto -	S ± 21	S ± 40	1
5.	B Tp 23 Bty	Area R5	S ± 5	S ± 13	2
		- ditto -	S ± 13	S ± 15	3
		Area Wadi 39884280	S ± 17	S ± 21	2
		- ditto -	S ± 21	S ± 40	1
6.	One Sec	Xrds area pt 179	S ± 5	S ± 15	2
	C Tp 23 Bty	Area 39904285	S ± 17	S ± 21	2
		- ditto -	S ± 21	S ± 40	1
7.	C Tp 23 Bty	Area 39954288	S ± 5	S ± 21	2
	Less OneSec	Area 39904285	S ± 21	S ± 40	1

Reference Map TOBRUCH 1:50,000

1. INFORMATION.

a) Enemy.

2 Bns 115 Inf. Regt, elements of 2 M.G. Bn and some Italians hold a position in the salient, from R.7 to S.7 incl. Known enemy dispositions are shown on the sketch attached at Appendix 2, but the exact locations of enemy weapons cannot be stated for they are frequently changed. Enemy positions are protected by wire, booby traps and in some cases by mines. The state of the minefield laid by us from 39894313 SOUTH WEST to 39864303 thence to 40104284 is not known but is possibly active. No enemy tanks have been seen in the salient area for 3 weeks.

b) Own Troops.

24 Aust Inf Bde supported by Artillery and 3 Pls 1 R.N.F is attacking Posts S.6, S.7 and R.7 as detailed below.

Attack on Posts S.6 and S.7.

This attack will be carried out by 1 Coy 2/28 Bn. 1 Pl will move outside the perimeter and give covering fire to the WEST. Remaining Pls will attack Posts S.6 and S.7. The limit of exploitation is the line of the escarpment SOUTH of S.6 and S.7.

In addition a fighting patrol will be sent to the EAST of the Wadi by the WATER TOWER and the right forward Coy 2/48 Bn will be at 10 minutes notice to move forward to the line WATER TOWER - Pt.171 (39844306) - Rt Fwd Pl left Coy.

Attack on Post R.7.

The attack will be carried out by one Coy 2/43 Bn. Attacking Troops will move out from the perimeter by a gap prepared 150 yards SOUTH EAST of Post R.11 and will assault Post R.7 from the SOUTH. One Pl. will be used for the flank protection of BIR EL MEDAUAR. Should the occasion be favourable, after the occupation of Post R.7 an attack will be made on Posts R.5 and R.6. This attack will be carried out by platoons of the company 2/43 Bn which have already attacked Post R.7.

Infantry Fighting patrols will move forward to the line of the road S.4 - Pt 182 (39944293) - Ft 179 (39974284).

Artillery Support.

The programme of the Artillery support and the areas of defensive fire tasks is shown at Appendix 1.

M.M.G and L.M.G. Support.

Pls 1 R.N.F will give supporting fire as follows:-

For attack on R.7.....on area 39964284)
R.4. }
R.6. }

For attack on R.5 and R.6.on area R.3.

For attack on S.6 and S.7.on area S.4.

In addition forward Battalions in the salient area will give covering fire on located enemy positions.

Reserve.

2/32 Bn is at 10 minutes notice to exploit in any direction in the Western sector. Present location 40324316.

2. INTENTION.

Elements 3 Armd. Bde will co-operate in the operations in the salient area.

3. METHOD.

- a) The elements to co-operate are "A" and "D" Sqns 1 R. Tanks as detailed in 3 Armd. Bde. Operation Instruction No. 104 para 3. These elements will come under Command 24 Aust Inf Bde at 2200 hours on 2/8/41.
- b) "A" Sqn 1 R. Tanks will move to a forming up position in area 40554262. They will leave their present location at 0300 hours on 3/8/41 and move via track junction 40674267 through gap in minefield at 40624266 thence by track running SOUTH WEST to 40554262. They will be prepared to counter attack in the case of enemy A.F.V action and to exploit success. They will be prepared to leave the perimeter by a gap to be prepared in the area Post R.19 and will arrange for the approach to this gap to be taped. They will be prepared to operate in an EASTERLY direction within the perimeter, in which case they will move via gap in minefield at 40374266 along the track to 40274272 thence forward as necessary. A guide detailed by R.A will meet them at ~~their~~ position in area 40554262 to guide them over the signal lines
- c) "D" Sqn 1 R. Tanks will move to an area in the WADIS at 400432 and 401432. They will leave their present area at a time to be decided by O.C. Sqn not before 2100 hours on 2/8/41. They will cross the NORTH and SOUTH grid line 406 at 0330 hours on 3/8/41 and move thence into the position detailed. They will be prepared to counter attack in the case of enemy A.F.V attack in the area DERNA Road and on the area of the escarpment WEST and SOUTH WEST of their forming up position. They will reconnoitre suitable gaps in the minefield running from S.13 to 40024325 thence to 40154310 in case they are required to pass through this minefield.
- d) A detachment 2/13 Fd Coy R.A.E will be attached to each Squadron to assist in marking gaps in own minefields and clearing enemy minefields if necessary.
- e) It is likely that each Squadron will remain in the positions indicated throughout 3/8/41. Every effort enemy/ will be made to conceal tanks from/observation.

4. ADMINISTRATION.

- a) Rations.
"A" and "D" Sqns will take with them rations for 3/8/41 all A.F.Vs will carry normal vehicle rations of food and water.
- b) P.O.L and AMMO.
A refill of A.G.O. P.O.L and 2pdr AMMO will accompany "A" Sqn 1 R. Tanks. These stores will be off loaded on the ground in the ~~vicinity of~~ "A" Sqn 1 R. Tanks and the vehicle will return, refill and proceed to H.Q. 1 R. Tanks where they will be available to be sent forward if required by W/T. No extra P.O.L or AMMO will accompany "D" Sqn 1 R. Tanks but a refill will be held in readiness in 'B' Echelon area to be sent forward if required.
- c) P.O.W.
P.O.W collecting points are located at S.12 and in area 40324285.
- d) Medical.
Casualties will be evacuated through R.A.Ps of 2/28 and 2/43 Bns.
- e) Recovery.
Every effort will be made by Squadrons concerned to recover casualties to a safe area from which they can be recovered by Scammell to the rear. Two Scammells will be located at H.Q. 3 Armd. Bde. with effect from the evening of 2/8/41 and will be sent forward on request by R/T. It is pointed out that Scammells cannot easily work in the forward area, and forward recovery must as far as possible be carried out by other tanks.

5. INTERCOMMUNICATION. is

- a) The signal layout/detailed in 3 Armd. Bde. Operation Instruction No. 105. The Command Group will come into operation at 2200 hours on 2/8/41. All sets concerned will flick to the necessary frequency at this hour.
- b) The two control sets in Armoured Cars will proceed under Command of S.C., 3 Armd. Bde to H.Q. 24 Aust Inf Bde to arrive at 2130 hours 2/8/41.
- c) Wireless silence will be observed by Squadrons until 0330 hours on 3/8/41. Thereafter wireless traffic with Sqns will be kept to a minimum unless it is required for operational purposes. Rear link sets will keep constant watch to the Control Set, from 220 hrs 2/8/41.

and R.6/

- d) Infantry Signals.
RED - RED - RED interval 10 Sec. RED - RED - RED
 The attack on R.5/ will take place.
GREEN - RED - GREEN interval 15 sec. GREEN - RED - GREEN.
 Post S.7 captured.
RED - GREEN - RED interval 15 Sec RED - GREEN - RED.
 Post S.6 captured.
- e) Watches will be synchronised by means of a time signal given by W/T from the Control set at 0330 hours 3/8/41.

ACK. *2041E*
 Time of Signature. *2005 hrs*
 Method of Despatch D.R.

H.A. Lascelles
 Major.
 B.M., 3 Armd. Bde.

DISTRIBUTION.

- Copy No. 1 1 R. Tanks.
- 2 1 R. Tanks for "A" Sqn.
- 3 1 R. Tanks for "D" Sqn.
- 4 K.D.G.
- 5 Bde. H.Q. Sqn.
- 6 Major L.G. HYNES, 1 R. T.R.
- 7 Colonel, 3 Armd. Bde.
- 8 B.M., 3 Armd. Bde.
- 9)
- 10) H.Q. 24 Aust Inf Bde.
- 11)
- 12 H.Q. 9 Aust Div.
- 13 C.R.E for O.G., 2/13 Fd Coy.
- 14 C.O.M.E. No. 503 A.O.W.
- 15 File.
- 16) War Diary.
- 17)

ARTILLERY FIRE PLAN FOR
ATTACK ON R.7, R.5 and R.6.

AREA	CAPTURE OF R.7.	CAPTURE OF R.5 AND R.6
Area R.7.	Z - 5 to Z + 2	
M.Gs 300 yds - 500 yds WEST of R.7	Z - 5 to Z + 30	
M.Gs at 39974281 and 39984277	Z - 5 to Z + 30	
Area R.5	Z - 5 to Z + 60	S + 5 to S + 40
M.Gs at 39974284	Z - 5 to Z + 30	S + 5 to S + 40
M.Gs and Mortars 39954288.	Z - 5 to Z + 30	S + 5 to S + 40
Area R.6.	Z - 5 to Z + 30	S + 5 to S + 15
Area R.3 and R.4	Z + 4 to Z + 30	S + 5 to S + 40
M.Gs at 39774280		S + 5 to S + 21
Area 39904285		S + 5 to S + 40
Wadi 39874278 - 39884280		S + 17 to S + 40

Note :- S = Time of Light Signal for the attack on R.5 and R.6 to commence.

D.F. TASKS.

- A. On Capture R.5, R.6 and R.7.
39874275, 39924282, 39894274, 39944284, 39884277, 39904280.
- B. On Capture R.5 and R.7 only.
39944279, 39974278, 39894274, 40004280, 39884277, 39904280.
- C. On Capture R.6 and R.7 only.
39944279, 39954276, 39954274, 39974273, 39944284, 39924282.
- D. On Capture of R.7 only.
40004280, 39974278, 39954274, 39974273, 39954277, 39944275.

ARTILLERY FIRE PLAN FOR
ATTACK ON S.6 AND S.7.

AREA	CAPTURE OF S.6 AND S.7	REMARKS.
Area 39824304 and 200 yards SOUTH	Z - 5 to Z + 30	
Area 39864309	Z + 5 to Z + 8	
Area S.6, S.7 and between these posts	Z - 5 to Z + 2	
Area 400 yards - 600 yards SOUTH of S.6 and S.7.	Z + 2 to Z + 30	D.F. Task.
Area S1 - Pt 209, R.1 and R.2.	Z - 5 to Z + 60	D.F. Task.
Area Pt 155 398432 Road Triangle	Z - 5 to Z + 2	
NORTH of S.4.	Z - 5 to Z + 10	
Area S.5.	Z + 4 to Z + 10	
Astride Road 300 yards EAST of S.4.	Z + 10 to Z + 30	D.F. Task.

D.F. Tasks as shown in Remarks Column.