

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

Item number: 8/2/16

16 Infantry Brigade

April - July 1940

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required)

Army Form C. 2118

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.

784
2nd. ECHELON
10. AUG. 1940
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GPP. 8881-10000-5.9.39

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Julis	1 April 40 Monday		<p>An additional guard is being established, in this case to protect the camp site at BEIT JIRJA from the depredations of thieves. This is the final camp under construction to accomodate members of 6 Aus. Div. when the other two brigades arrive from Australia. The Brigade now supplies guards for Gaza, Deir Suneid, Barbara and Beit Jirja, while a platoon is on duty at Jerusalem; this means that an appreciable number of men will be absent from the extensive defense schemes which are to be carried out during April. Efforts are being to see that the training of men engaged on guard duties is continued, though it is felt that their training must suffer to a certain extent.</p>	

WAR DIARY

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GPP. 8881-10000-5.9.39

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Julis	2 Apr. 40 Tuesday.	Privilege	<p>Officers are permitted to frank their own correspondence, a privilege which they will retain unless it is found through selective censorship that they do not realise their responsibilities in this matter.</p> <p>The issue of ice for the preservation of food makes us realise how close at hand summer is. Brigade are looking forward to the "clear, cloudless days" which they were told so much about before disembarkation; to date, days of sunshine and of rain have been about equally divided, and the Palestine climate is earning a reputation for unreliability. "The Ides of March" too, has failed us; we've had plenty of rain since that date of demarcation.</p>	

Summer(?)

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GPP. 8881-10000-5.9.39

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Julis	3 Apr. 40 Wednesday.		<p>Today Lt. Col. G.F. Wootten made a trip to Jerusalem to make, under the auspices of the Palestine Broadcasting Commission, a speech with reference to Anzac Day. This year's Anzac Day celebrations have a particular significance, as it is just twenty-five years since the landing, and once again Australian troops have come to the Near East. It is anticipated that Lt. Col. Wootten's speech will be used by the B.B.C., and broadcast to the Empire on Anzac day.</p> <p>Battalions are hard at work preparing their defensive positions on the area north of Julis village, which is expected to become the best known (if not the most beloved) tract of ground in Palestine. The position is to be included in the itinerary of the visit of His Excellency the High Commissioner for Palestine to Julis camp on 5 Apr. 40; senior Brigade officers inspected it this afternoon, with the result that units were ordered to speed up their work.</p> <p>A minor disturbance occurred tonight, attributable to the carelessness of the local cinema contractor, who sold 350 tickets for a house which can only cram in 250 persons. Troops showed their disapproval of his business methods in no uncertain fashion; it is rumoured that certain Brigade officers were also very indignant at this cavalier treatment, having booked seats only to be turned away.</p>	
		Anzac Day		
		Defence Scheme.		
		Local "Business"		

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GPP. 8881-10000-5.9.39

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Julis	4 Apr. 40 Thursday.	Progress of Defence.	The battalion defensive scheme is now taking definite shape, and today very comprehensive instructions were issued to unit officers regarding the conduct of the defence. The weather is wet, and delay will be temporarily caused to the trench-digging operations; all must be ready, however, for 8 Apr., when battalions will occupy the trenches under war conditions.	

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GPP. 8881-10000-5.9.39

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Julis	5 Apr. 40 Friday		<p>Today Julis had it's first big parade, when His Excellency the High Commissioner for Palestine, Sir Michael McMichael, visited the camp. Brigadier A.S. Allen accompanied the official party to Brigade Headquarters, where a welcome was extended by Lt. Col. Wootten and Major Campbell; on arrival His Excellency was greeted by a guard of honour, while the band played the first six bars of the National Anthem.</p> <p>After inspecting the guard, His Excellency was taken to the battalion defensive area; he then inspected squads engaged in target practice with rifles and Bren guns. After making his tour His Excellency moved to the Saluting Base, where he took the salute as the Brigade marched past.</p> <p>His Excellency was very impressed by the Australian troops; he remarked that the men had marched well, and that the spectacle had been an inspiring one. Proceedings went very smoothly, and there was no hitch from the time the cars entered Julis Camp until they departed along the road towards Gaza.</p>	

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GPP. 8881-10000-5.9.39

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Julis	6 Apr. 40 Saturday	Hygiene.	<p>Orders today once again emphasised the need for care in matters of personal hygiene with the rapid advent of summer. The nights and early mornings are still quite cold, though during the day the heat becomes at times trying; the wearing of sweaters at night and in the early morning is advocated, as chills might possibly result if this precaution is not taken. Vigilance should also be shown in the control of fly and mosquito breeding.</p>	

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GPP. 8881-10000-5.9.39

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Julis	7 Apr. 40 Sunday		<p>Lieut. Kenny, of Brigade Headquarters, and Sports Officer Eva have not allowed the grass to grow under their feet, and the Brigade is sending representatives to compete in athletic contests at Tel-Aviv early in May, in boxing contests, while the A.I.F. is raising a Soccer team and two teams to give an exhibition of Rugby football. A match has also been arranged between the French Army and the A.I.F. at Beirut for Sunday Apr. 28, 1940. And it is rumoured that before long the beaches of Palestine will be the scene of life-saving activities such as are normally seen at Bondi and Manly.</p>	
	April 8 th		NIL	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Julis	9 Apr. 40 Tuesday.		<p>Those officers and other ranks who thought to beguile the long hot Palestine days and nights by bringing their dearly beloveds from Australia will be sadly disappointed by todays orders, which state that permission would not be given for personnel serving in this part of the world to bring their wives and families over. Exception was made in the case of wives and families resident in these parts prior to September 1939; arrival of wives now on their way will be notified to Div. H.Q.</p>	

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16 Aus. Inf. Bde.

GPP. 8881-10000-5.9.39

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Julis	10 April		<p>Troops were warned today that badges and shoulder titles ("Australia") can only be replaced on payment. Such an announcement was necessary because of the great number of badges etc. missing from uniforms. The major reason for these losses is a current craze for collecting the badges of British regiments and units at present stationed in Palestine. Collections are made by the process of "swapping". There appears to be no means by which this disposal of Government property can be prevented.</p>	
	11 11	12	NIL.	
	12			

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required)

Unit 16 Aus. Inf. Bde.

Date and Time.—From _____

To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Julis	14 April		<p>The 2nd. N.C.O. Cadre Course, attended by about 80 N.C.O's and Officers from Julis and held at the P.R.T.D., Sarafand ended today and the third course begins tomorrow.</p> <p>This course, which is conducted by the British Army, includes concentrated instruction in the following subjects: Barrack Square drill, D.A.G., the Bren Gun and the Boys anti-tank rifle. rifle and musketry, field works, map-reading patrols and section leading. The Square Drill introduces new timing into all drill movements, and the orders shh of "attention" and "stand-at-ease" must be accompanied by an agan exaggerated stamping of the left foot. The C.O. of the P.R.T.D. (Col. Platt) has assured trainees that the new system has been approved by Brigadier Allen who will see that it is introduced at Julis.</p>	

WAR DIARY

ARMY FORM C.2118

16th Australian Infantry Brigade

DATE & TIME - From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks & References to Appendices, Diaries &c.
Julis	18 Apr.		NIL.	

WAR DIARY

ARMY FORM C.2118

16th Australian Infantry Brigade

DATE & TIME - From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks & References to Appendices, Diaries &c.
Julis	19 Apr.		NIL	

WAR DIARY

ARMY FORM C.2118

16th Australian Infantry Brigade

DATE & TIME - From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks & References to Appendices, Diaries &c.
Julis	20 Apr.		<p>At Tel Aviv today two Rugby Union teams from Brigade and attached units representing the A.I.F. and The Rest played a trial match. The A.I.F. won. Form displayed in this match a team to represent The A.I.F. now in Palestine will play a French team in Syria next Saturday.</p> <p>One flight of No.6 A.C. Sqn, R.A.F. is now stationed at Gaza and will provide air co-operation for 6 Aus. Div.</p>	

WAR DIARY

ARMY FORM C, 2118

16th Australian Infantry Brigade

DATE & TIME - From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks & References to Appendices, Diaries &c.
Julis	21 Apr.		<p>The issue of summer uniform to the Brigade was completed today . This consists of two khaki cellular shirts, two pairs of drill shorts and one pair of heavy knitted knee-length sox.</p> <p>Troops take this issue to indicate that the Brigade will be stationed in Palestine throughout the summer at least.</p> <p>A B.R.O. directs that the long sleeves of the shirts will be rolled up during the day and worn, fastened at the wrists after sundown .</p>	

WAR DIARY

ARMY FORM C.2118

16th Australian Infantry Brigade

DATE & TIME - From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks & References to Appendices, Diaries &c.
Julis	22 Apr.		<p>The following letter has been received from by Brigadier A.S.Allen ,D.S.O.,V.D. from General Sir Archibald Wavell, who visited Julis last week;- "I very much enjoyed my morning with you yesterday, and was very pleased with what I saw. The men looked well and business-like; and training and administration seemed to be going on good sound lines.</p> <p>"There will be some setbacks and difficulties, no doubt, but you have all obviously made a very good start and are putting your backs in to it, and tackling your problems with keenness and common sense. Goodluck. "</p>	

16th Australian Infantry Brigade

DATE & TIME - From

To

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks & References to Appendices, Diaries &c.
Julis	23 Apr.		<p>Arrangements were completed today for the commemoration of Anzac Day by those of the 2nd. A.I.F. now in Palestine .</p> <p>There will be a Dawn Service at the Military Cemetery, Gaza, a morning service at Julis Camp and marches and services in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem . At the Julis Camp Service there will be an address by the T/Commander of 16 Aus. Inf. Bde. (Lieut.-Col. G.F.Wootton, D.S.O.)</p> <p>Brigadier A.S.Allen, D.S.O., V.D. will deliver a radio address from Jerusalem .</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Julis	24 Ap.		<p>Summer kit (shirts and shorts) recently issued will become uniform dress from today. A D.R?O today, however, directs that shorts will be changed for long trousers between sunset and sundown, and that sleeves, rolled up during the day, will be fastened at the wrists .</p> <p>The object of this order is to combat the malaria malarial menace . This is the malaria season and the malarial mosquito is most active between sunset and sundown .</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Julis	25 Ap.		<p>For the first time in 22 years members of an Australian military force commemorated Anzac Day overseas when services were held here in Palestine throughout the morning.</p> <p>Attended by 500 all ranks from Julis, a Dawn Service was held at 4.30 a.m. in the Gaza War Cemetery .</p> <p>Marches and Services, attended by a limited number of troops from Julis, were held in Jerusalem, and at 11 a.m. camp services were held at Julis, Qastina and Barbara .At Julis Lt. Col. G.E.Wootten ,T/Comdr of 16 Aus. Inf. Bde. made an address on Anzac.</p> <p>In the evening at Jerusalem Brig. A.S.Allen broadcast an address. He also dedicated messages to the people of Australia and Palestine through the Press and, on behalf of all members of the 2nd. A.I.F. overseas, sent a cable message to the Prime Minister (Mr. Menzies).</p> <p>All town services were notably attended and supported by both the Arab and Jewish communities. The sincere enthusiasm of townsfolk as our men marched through the streets was significant of their sympathy in the present struggle.</p> <p>In Tel Aviv, where a march and service was also held, an Australian Soldiers' Club was opened . These premises, near the British Soldiers' Club in Rehov Hayarkon, were formerly those of the Hotel Svorai.</p> <p>Today's services are regarded as important in cementing the friendly relations between our troops and the local inhabitants.</p> <p>The following personnel have been selected to play in the Rugby match against a French team at Beirut in Syria next Sunday :- Capts. Dunlop, Jackson, Loughran, Lts Hassett, B. & W. Travers, Sgt. Campbell, Dvr. McErlane, Sigm. Dunbar and Ptes Maxwell, McVicar, Featherstonhaugh, Matchett, Wand , Lang, Evans, Kennedy, Stewart and Bennett.</p> <p>Anzac Message from G.O.C. New Zealand Expeditionary Force:- On the 25th anniversary of Anzac all ranks of the 2nd. N.Z.E.F. remember with pride the heroic exploits of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps in the Gallipoli campaign and pay tribute to the 1st. A.I.F. who fought and won imperishable fame on every front in the last war."</p>	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Julis	26 Ap.		<p>The appointment of an official war correspondent for Australia has been announced. He is Mr. Ken Slessor, well known in Victorian and N.S.W. newspaper circles and at the time of his appointment, an executive on the literary staff of Smith's Weekly. Mr. Slessor, who is 38, will receive £750 a year. He is a versatile writer, best known to Australian newspaper readers as a poet, film critic and humorous writer.</p> <p>The acting official correspondent at present is Sgt. Ian Fitchett of the 2/4 Bn., formerly of The Daily Telegraph, Sydney. Sgt. Fitchett was appointed by the Ministry for Information after he had sailed with his Bn. from Australia.</p>	
	27 April		NIL	

WAR DIARY

ARMY FORM C.2118

16th Australian Infantry Brigade

DATE & TIME - From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks & References to Appendices, Diaries &c.
Julis	28 Apr.		<p>The 2nd. A.I.F. Rugby Union team defeated the French Army team in Beirut (Syria) today. Scores 11.5. Before the game which commenced at 1645 hrs. the A.I.F. team was introduced to, and welcomed by, General Humblot, Cmdg. Fr. Army in Syria .</p>	

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16 Aus. Inf. Bde .

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Julis	29 Apr.		<p>The 2nd. A.I. F. Rugby Union team which defeated the French Army team in Syria yesterday, arrived back at Julis at 2300 hrs.</p> <p>Orange juice is to be added to rations and will take the place of the issue of fresh oranges. The scale of issue will be 12 ozs. (one bottle per week) . It will be issued twice a week ,in 6 oz. lots.</p> <p>A check is being made on speeding in military vehicles . A D.R.O. today lays down a limit of 25 miles within town and municipal boundaries and 40 miles outside.</p> <p>These messages have been received by Brig. A.S.Allen D.S.O.,V.D. (1) From Army, Melbourne: "On the anniversary of Anzac Day, Department of Army extends greetings to all members of A.I.F. overseas to whom Australia looks to maintain traditions set by their predecessors." (2) From General Sir Archibald Wavell: "On 25th. anniversary of Australia 's great exploit at Gallipoli, I salute the memory of those brave men .I am proud to have their successors in my command." (3) From General Sir Edmund Ironsides: "Please convey the following message to all Australians and New Zealanders serving in your command on this anniversary of the gallant landing at Gallipoli which has made imperishable the name of Anzacs. I am proud to think that once more men of Australia and New Zealand are standing side by side with ourselves and our allies in defence of civilisation."</p>	
Julis	30 Apr.		<p>A notice from H.Q. Advn 6 Aus. Div. today states that leave may be granted to attend a race meeting which is being held at Beersheba on 4 May.</p>	

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

A. Q. 16 Aus. Inf. Bde (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
<i>Brigadier</i> *	1		
...			
Lieut.-Colonels ...	1	1	
Majors ...	1		
Captains ...	3		
Lieutenants ...	3	2	
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...			
TOTALS ...	9.	3	



* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, known)

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank, and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Brigadier	NX 2	A S Allen DSO V9		No.	Acting G.O.C. 6 Aus. Div.
Major	VX 21	J K Campbell		yes	
Captain	NX 21	L L Brighton		no	Acting D.A.Q.M.G. 6 Aus. Div.
Captain	NX 38	M F Wimpfheimer		yes	
Captain	NX 53	J H Lovell		yes	
Lieut.	NX 257	B V Kenny		yes	
Lieut.	NX 339	E Jany		yes	
Lt Col.	NX 7	G F Wotten DSO	2/2 Bn		Acting Brigadier
Lieut.	NX 190	J S M Kenzie	2/2 Bn		Acting Staff Capt.

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive rank, and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Lt Col	NX 7	G F Wotten DSO	2/2 Bn	13 Feb 40	Acting Brigadier
Lieut	NX 190	J S M Kenzie	2/2 Bn	28 Feb	Acting Staff Capt.

H. H. Baus Inf Bde
(Unit.)

J. S. M. Kenzie Lieut
(Signature of Commander.)

13 April '40
(Date of Despatch.)

S. C. 16 Inf. Bde.
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

H. H. Haus (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
<i>Brigadier</i> *	1		
Lieut.-Colonels ...	1	1	
Majors ...	1		
Captains ...	3		
Lieutenants ...	3	2	
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...			
TOTALS ...	9	3	—

2ND. EGHELO
 10 APR 1940
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* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
	<i>Capt H. L. Brighton</i>			<i>shown on previous returns as marched out now shown detached and attached to adv. base Div (Gaza)</i>

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known).

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.
(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank, and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Major	NX 2	A.S. Allen D.S.O.		no	Acting S.D.C. 6 Aug 40
Major	NX 21	J.H. Campbell		yes	
Captain	NX 21	L.L. Brighton		no	Acting S.A. 2 M.G. 6 Aug 40
Captain	NX 38	T.H.F. Winchester		yes	
Captain	NX 53	R.H. Howell		yes	
Lieut	NX 257	B.V. Kennedy		yes	
Lieut	NX 334	G. J. J. J.		yes	
Lt Col	NX 7	G.F. Wooten D.S.O.	2/2 Bn		Acting Brigadier
Lieut	NX 190	I.S. McKenzie	2/2 Bn		Acting Staff Captain

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive rank, and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Lt Col.	NX 7	G.F. Wooten D.S.O.	2/2 Bn	13 Dec 40	Acting Brigadier
Lieut	NX 190	I.S. McKenzie	2/2 Bn	28 Dec.	Acting Staff Capt.

H.Q. 16 Aus Inf Bde
(Unit.)

6 April '40

(Date of Despatch.)

I.S. McKenzie

(Signature of Commander.)
Captain

S.C. 16 Inf. Bde.

(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

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H.Q. 16 Aus. Inf. Bde.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Julis	21 May		B.R.O.s today directs attention to the increasing prevalence of snakes in this country. Units are to take the necessary steps to instruct personnel in the use of snake-bite outfits. There is, B.R.O. states, only one venomous snake in this area - the VIPERA LIBETINA of the viper class. A description of this snake has been promulgated.	
Exercise Area	May 22		6 Div. exercise for Brigade personnel commenced today when this Bde. left Julis camp 1000 for its position according to plan.	
	May 23		H.Q. Bde/still away from Julis on 6 Div. exercise for Bde. Personnel.	
Julis	May 24		Bde. H.Q. returned to Julis Camp at 1100 hrs.	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C.2118 11

PLACE	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REMARKS AND REFERENCES TO APPENDICES
Julis	25 May		<p>The first printed edition of The A.I.F. News was printed published today. This newspaper which for the past 10 weeks has been produced on a ditto machine and on paper provided by the A.C.F., is the official organ of the A.I.F. abroad. It is not intended to be a magazine but its object is primarily to provide a news service from Australia. The A.I.F. News was founded by Brigadier A.S. Allen D.S.O. V.D. when he was temporarily commanding the Division with H.Q. at Qastina. He set it on his way and this first printed issue was in the hands of H.Q. 6 Aus. Div. (Brig. Allen has now returned to command this Bde.)</p> <p>This first issue has been brought out in circumstances almost which were both extraordinary and ridiculous. Division said they wanted the paper brought out and there apparently it considered its responsibility ended. The editor was taken to Tel Aviv, where the paper was to be printed, and told to bring out a 32 column newspaper. This was on Monday afternoon. He was provided with not a single line of copy with which to fill the paper. No arrangements had been made for a printer! It was a situation probably without parallel in journalism. Next day the only printer in Tel Aviv capable of producing the paper was found. No one in the printery could speak English. No one there understood newspaper production. On Wed. a start was made to fill the paper. The editor sent an s.o.s. to the four war correspondents with the Australian troops in Palestine (all of them former colleagues of his) and they responded generously with "copy". The rest of the paper had to be written by the editor himself. Assistance promised by Division did not arrive. However, the paper (3,000 copies) were printed and ready for distribution at 1600 hrs. yesterday. All now required was transport from Division to bring the editor back to Julis and distribute the papers among the units. This, also promised by Division, did not of course, arrive. Finally transport was sent from this Bde. The production of the first issue of The A.I.F. News was a classic of mal-organisation. However, the paper WAS produced.</p>	

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required)

Army Form C. 2118

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H.Q. 16 Aus. Inf. Bde.

GPP. 8881-10000-5.9.39

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Julis	26 May			
	27 May			
	28 May			
	29 May			
	30 May			

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

16 Aus. Inf. Bde.

PLACE	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REMARKS AND REFERENCES TO APPENDICES
Julis	31 May	1900	<p style="text-align: right;">of mail/</p> <p>It has been reported that re-examination in Australia despatched from A.I.F. camps in Palestine has shown that unit censorship generally errs on the side of leniency. It is pointed out that the obliteration of text is not sufficient and that all text requiring censoring must be cut out.</p> <p>"Put BIRD PLAN into force."</p> <p>This instruction was the first move towards putting into effect a plan by which the approach of enemy aircraft, possibly carrying parachute troops, could be detected and all units in Australian camps on this country readily notified. Four posts have been established along the coast south from a point on the beach opposite Qastina.</p> <p>Each post consisting of eight men is equipped with wireless and all air traffic is instantly recorded and transmitted. For details of BIRD Plan see appendix "A"</p>	App. "A"

Appendix
A.

OPERATIONS

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc, conversations to be entered on this Form

DIARY

COAST WATCHING.

H.Q. 16 sub. Inf. Bde.

(Place) JULIS CAMP.

(Date) 31 May 40

Ref SAGE SH AD 86

REF. MAPS: JAFFA - TEL AVIV 1:100,000
GAZA do.
RAFAH do.

Bde serial No.	Senders No.	Time Rec'd or sent	OUTWARDS	INWARDS		MESSAGE	REMARKS
			To	From	T.O.O.		
1.		1920		SAGE		Warning order received by telephone to stand by in connection with H6 plan	Per telephone.
2.	0138	1945		SAGE	1900	"Put BIRD PLAN into force."	
3.		1947	C.O. KRPI Acting Bde. Comd.			Request to report to Bde. H.Q.	Per telephone.
4.		1955				Col. Wootten(Acting Bde. Comd.) reports to Bde. H.Q.	
5.		2000				Captain Reeve leaves to contact Major Lamb (acting C.O. 2/3 Bn.) with request to report to Bde. H.Q. immediately, and prepare for plan.	
6.	R 1	2045		Capt. Reeve	2025	"HISU located. Major Lamb leaving now."	
7.		2100				Major Lamb with Adj. and Q.M. arrives Bde. H.Q. Conference with Acting Brigadier and staff.	
8.	0233	2105	HISU			"Confirming verbal instruction given C.O. 18th inst. HISU will establish posts 2,3 and 4 referred to in SAGE SH AD 84 annexed hereto on receipt following message 'Put BIRD PLAN' into force'".	Handed to Major Lamb by Bde. I.C.
9.	0234	2105	HISU			"Put BIRD PLAN into force."	do.
10.		2125				B/R to 2/2 Bn. to collect special W/T operators.	
11.		2130				G2 SAGE informed arrangements in hand	Per telephone.
12.		2140				Major Lamb leaves Bde. H.Q. to complete arrangements at Bn.	

OPERATIONS

NOTE: All communications both in and out telephone etc, conversations to be entered on this Form

DIARY

COAST WATCHING.

H.Q. 16 Aus. Inf. Bde.

(Place) JULIS CAMP

(Date) 31 May 40., and 1 Jun 40

REF. MAPS: JAFFA - TEL AVIV 1:100,000.
GAZA do.
RAFAH do.

Ref BAGH SN AD 86

Bde Serial No.	Senders No.	Time Rec'd or sent	OUTWARDS	INWARDS		MESSAGE	REMARKS
			To	From	T.O.O.		
13.		2315				Major Lamb reports No. 4 post leaving En. H.Q.	Per telephone.
14.		2350				Major Lamb reports No. 3 post leaving En. H.Q.	Per telephone.
15.		0100				Clocks advance one hour - summer time.	
16.		0115				D/R returns - unable to locate 2/2 En. at intended place for night's bivouac.	See Serial No. 10
17.		0130				Col. Wooten informed and message sent to Jaffa Range, where 2/2 En. bivouacing.	
18.		0300				Captain Reeve returns from 2/1 En. with 2 W/T operators, who are immediately dispatched to 2/3 En.	
19.		0315				No. 2 post reported leaving En. H.Q.	Per telephone.
20.		0600				N/Adj. 2/2 En. reports back from Jaffa Range with one operator.	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

16 Aus. Inf. Bde.

(Erase heading not required)

GPP. 8881-10000-5.9.99

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Julis	9 June		<p>By arrangement with 6 Aus. Div. permission was through the G.I. was received by the Brigadier to allow Units at Julis to disperse their tentage up to between two and three hundred yards beyond the boundaries for hiring originally allotted.</p> <p>Camouflaging of tents in Julis by plastering the roofs and walls with mud was continued and almost concluded today. The result has been to change, almost in a day, the complete aspect of Julis Camp area / Until yesterday the ordered rows of milk white tents presented an easy and distinct target from the air. By tonight the mud washed canvas had been successfully merged into the country surrounding it.</p> <p>The bright, white brick building of the picture theatre remains the only outstanding landmark of the Camp. This will be attended to within a day or so.</p> <p>Camouflaging and dispersal of tents follows the receipt of General Staff Instruction No. 17 from H.Q. 6 Aus. Div.</p>	
	10 June		<p>Julis Camp has now settled down to , and all work is going on smoothly under, General Staff Instruction No. 16 which decreed permanent black-outs. By this instruction every light at this Brigade is black-out from the hours of darkness to the hours of dawn. Where lights are necessary, such as in Bde. H.Q. and Hq. Orderly rooms and the offices of commanding and duty officers, the windows are heavily blanketed and doors kept closed.</p> <p>The following message was received by Brigadier Allen at 2143 from H.Q. 6 Aus. Div: " B.B.C. ANNOUNCE ITALY DECLARED WAR ON ALLIES AT 2000 Hrs. LOCAL TIME."</p> <p>General reaction among troops to this announcement was that it was good rather than bad news. The troops, who have an intelligent appreciation of the politics of world situation, take the view that now Italy has declared herself she will be less hampering in our campaign against Germany than when she was taking the benefits and privileges of neutrality while, at the same time flagrantly assisting the Nazis. The troops, too, are hopeful that this new development will bring ourselves actively into the conflict sooner than may have been otherwise.</p>	

Tentage

Camouflaging

Black out

Italy

Reaction

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 118

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required)

16 Aus. Inf. Bde.

GPP. 8881-10000-5.9.39

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Julis	11 June	<i>Italy</i>	<p>According to a statement made yesterday by Mussolini the state of war between Italy and the Allies began to exist as from last midnight.</p> <p>Wirelessed news received at Julis indicates that the Allies have been the first to strike a blow in this new phase of the war. Units of the South African Air Force are said to have carried out successful bombing raids on Italian possessions in N.E. Africa (Eritrea, Ethiopia and Italian Somaliland) and Units of the R.A.F. stationed in Europe have bombed Libya. This news was received with cheers by the troops who now realise that the unexciting, though necessary period of training is drawing to a close and the "real thing" lies not far ahead.</p> <p>This general condition of mind exhibited by the troops, this keenness to get at the heart of things, irrespective of personal sacrifice augers well for the active service history of the Brigade.</p> <p>News from Australia that recruiting there has been given a great fillip has also been enthusiastically noted by the troops. One Australian War correspondent commenting to his paper in Australia on the reception of this news described it as being "grimly received". By this he meant to imply that the troops now in Palestine garnered some personal satisfaction out of the news, remembering that when THEY enlisted nearly nine months ago when the war was going along in a non-belligerent sort of way, they were widely considered as being too precipitate in offering their services. Recent and current events have completely justified them; and at the same time thoroughly condemned the apparent contempt and lethargy with which so many people in Australia commenced the war. Those here realise that it will be their important job to hold on until those now enlisting catch up in their training and arrive to make Australia's effort completely effective.</p> <p>Instructions for the organisation of defence against parachute troops have been put into effect.</p>	

Tanfield

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

16 Aus. Inf. Bde.

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GPP. 8881-10000-5.9.39

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Julis Julis	12 June		<p>Tactical Exercise With Troops No.4 commenced today .</p> <p>Originally the exercise this week was scheduled to have been made in collaboration with a British Div. Sudden and unforeseen circumstances made this condition of the exercise impossible .</p> <p>A hasty re-arrang organisation of the programme has been made and now the 2/1 Bn., 2/2 Bn. ,2/3 Bn. and the 2/4 Bn. (19th. Bde) will make the exercise individually and successively .</p>	
	and			
	13 June		<p>The 2/1 Bn. marched out of Julis for a position South at 0900 hrs.</p> <p>The Brigadier, who has also gone out, will supervise the exercise .</p> <p>The general idea of the exercise briefly is that the NORTHLAND (our forces) and the SOUTHLAND, neighboring countries are at war . The armed forces of TRANS-JORDANIA whos sympathies are with SOUTHLAND are equal in strength to each of the other two countries forces . It is believed that TRANS-JORDANIA will sit on the fence until the issue of the struggle between NORTHLAND and SOUTHLAND is apparent when she will come in on the winning side.</p> <p>NORTHLAND marches south and after about 10 miles contacts enemy which is withdrawn under fire .</p> <p>About two miles further on (1000 yds. beyond Bureir village) NORTHLAND occupies an outpost for the night .</p> <p>At 0600 (13 June) message received that TRANS-JORDANIA, with considerable forces, is on the march . The routine of the exercise, in view of this new development, directs that NORTHLAND fall back into a defensive position . The withdrawal is effected.</p>	

WAR DIARY

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GPP. 8881-10000-5.9.39

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Julis	14 June		<p>0230 Troops return to Julis and exercise ends.</p> <p>Um pires were instructed to pay special attention of the following lessons which the exercise was calculated to emphasise :- Mutual support ; Use of ground; Searching a village (this was not to be done in practice but a Coy. Cmdr. was to state what means he would employ to do it) ; Disposal of troops and transports during search and the value of hand grenades in such a search ; Reconnaissance in all circumstances ; steps for adequate support of an attack ; Use and timing of tanks in an attack ; Disposal of transport in view of possible attack from the air ; treatment and disposal of a deserter ; Method of continuing an advance after a position is captured ; Formations adopted during an advance over varied terrain ; disposal of prisoners and wounded ; Method of occupation of outpost positions and their conduct during day and night ; Concealment, dispersion and disposal of transport ; Provisional withdrawal plan ; Preparation and conduct of withdrawal and action taken to deceive enemy during it .</p> <p>On the whole the exercise as successful and should prove an invaluable experience to the 2/1 Bn . Umpires detected certain faults and failings here and there but these were all to the good because they provided a practical basis for constructive and educative criticism . Such errors pointed out and corrected now are unlikely to occur again .</p> <p>Because of his presence at this Exercise the Brigadier had to decline an invitation to attend the office of the Commissioner at Gaza today on the occasion of His Majesty the King's birthday .</p>	

WAR DIARY

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GPP. 8881-10000-5.9.39

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Elis	14 June (Con.)		<p>Returning from the Exercise, A Echelon transport convoy returned without lights via a road through Beit Tima, joining the main Gaza road between Barbara and the main road bend at Al Majdal . The road had previously been reconnoitred. The road was crossed by wadis, pitted with holes and treacherous . In two places Arab farmers had ploughed deeply across the highway . In spite of these difficulties the Convoy proceeded in good order to the main Gaza road . There, however, the leading vehicle disregarded night convoy regulations and developed speeds ranging to 40 miles an hour .</p> <p>This afternoon the Brigadier conducted two addresses to the 2/1 Bn. in the picture theatre. The first was to the officers to whom he pointed out the faults in leadership he had observed during the exercise . The second address, which followed, immediately was to all O.R's . At this he explained the purpose of the exercise and traced its routine .</p> <p>At 1600 hrs. a Don R reported that he had been told at Gadera and Qastina that enemy aircraft had been seen somewhere near Tel Aviv . This unconfirmed news caused little interest among the men . Later a message was received from H.Q. 6 Aus. Div. that aircraft had been sighted but that they were believed not to have been enemy .</p> <p>The picture theatre has now been plastered with red mud, thus blending it with the Camp's general scheme of camouflage .</p>	

Night
Convoy

Lectures

Rumor

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

or

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H.Q. 16 Aus. Inf. Bde.

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GPP. 8881-10000-5.9.39

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Julis	16 June		<p>Cinema returns for the theatre in this camp made available today show that in April the profit plus rent was £51.182 and in May, £51.975 . The total for these two months (£103.157 £103.157) has been paid to the Chief Paymaster of the A.I.F. for distribution among units .</p> <p>Leave arrangements have had to be modified because of the "black-out" restrictions. In future individual leave will not be granted and all A.I.F. personnel must be clear of Jerusalem by 1730 hrs and of Tel-Aviv by 1800 hrs.</p> <p>All reference to the Unit on the cover and first page of the pay books will be erased or deleted so as to be quite illegible.</p> <p>An Officer Cadet Training Unit will be formed shortly in the Middle East and personnel from 2 AI.F. will be eligible to attend. This unit will train only candidates for Arty, Recce Rgt's, and Inf .</p>	

WAR DIARY

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or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. H.Q. 16 Aus. Inf. Bde.

(Erase heading not required)

GPP. 8881-10000-5.9.39

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Jālis	17 Jun.		<p>2/2 Bn. marched out of Camp today to perform tactical exercise similar to that carried out last week by the 2/1 Bn . Although Bde. H.Q. is not concerned in this exercise, the Brigadier has gone out with the Bn. to observe and supervise.</p> <p>Throughout today radio communiques have been announcing the impending surrender of France .It is said that contact has been established between Marshal Petain , the 84-year-old French Premier and Hitler. Communication between these two was made through General Franco . Petain has expressed the French nation's desire to sue for an honorable peace.</p> <p>This, of course, is a blow to us that cannot be minimised or denied. At the same time great sympathy is felt for a France that has been bludgeoned by an enay enemy superior in numbers and equipment .</p> <p>Now, perhaps, is the dullest patch in the brilliant tapestry of Britain's history; the gloomiest moment in her long years of great achievement .But great heart is given by the London announcement, close upon the news of France's defeat, that Britain will not waver in her determination to exterminate the Nazix and Fascist cankers .</p> <p>The troops here have not the slightest doubt that our road is the road to victory, though the feeling is that the loss of France will immeasurably lengthen the struggle. There is what may be called a fine Victory Spirit in the Camp.</p> <p>Successes are reported in the Italian campaign in Libya .</p>	

WAR DIARY

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H.Q.16 Aus. Inf. Bde.

GPP. 8881-10000-5.9.39

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Julis	18	June	<p>2/2 Bn. still away from Camp area on manoeuvres . Brigadier with them . He returned to Julis this evening . The Bn. is due back in Camp early a.m. tomorrow.</p> <p>An armistice between France and Germany still being discussed . France meanwhile still fighting, though continually withdrawing . Tonight Churchill made a moving speech on the changed situation . Everyone in Camp who could get near a radio listened. Churchill re-affirmed Britain's unswerving determination to continue the fight to victory . He predicted an unsuccessful invasion of Britain . And he made scathing references to Italy's navy . "There is genuine curiosity in the British Navy" he said " as to whether the fighting force or the Italian navy has improved since the last war, or fallen off. We would be very pleased to give the Italian Navy safe passage through the straits of Gibraltar so it can test itself against our Arm ."</p>	
	19	June	<p>2/2 Bn. back in Camp area . Brigadier pleased and satisfied with the manner in which the manoeuvre was conducted.</p>	
	20	June	<p>2/3 Bn. left Camp area for manoeuvre similar to the one already conducted by the 2/1 and 2/2 Bns. As on the other two occasions the Brigadier has accompanied the Bn . News radioed tonight that the 18 Aus. Inf. Bde. and some New Zealand troops have arrived in England . The reaction to this news is joy at the safe arrival, but envy of the 18th. good luck. No one here would deny that it would be a great relief to be in an English speaking country.</p> <p>News continues to be radioed of splendid British successes against the Italians in Libya, and it was revealed for the first time tonight that a few hours after Italy declared war several big industrial centres IN Italy were heavily bombed.</p>	
	21	June	<p>Lieut.-General Sir Thomas Blamey paid an informal visit to Julis Camp this morning . This was the General's first visit . He arrived in Palestine yesterday .</p>	

WAR DIARY

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GPP. 8881-10000-5.9.39

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Julis	21	Jun.	<p>In terms of Administrative Instruction No. 18 for maintenance of Internal Security units of 6 Aus. Div. were responsible for the visiting of villages within camp training areas, and an additional area allotted. The additional area allotted to this Brigade lies some ten to fifteen miles south east of HUI, with boundaries as follows:-</p> <p>Northern - from point 1210 east along easting line to boundary of GAZA Military District;</p> <p>Eastern - GAZA Military District Boundary south to point 13300910</p> <p>Western - line joining point 1210 with Trig. 185 - 11610941.</p> <p>Southern - line from 11610941 to Spot Height 235 - 12610911, and thence to GAZA Military District boundary 13300910.</p> <p>Brigade I.O., Capt. D.J.H. Lovell, paid a visit to this district, which was found to be barren and thinly populated by Bedouin, with whom friendly relations were established.</p>	

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GPP. 8881-10000-5.9.39

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Julis	22	Jun	<p>Egyptian State Broadcasting are supplying a special programme for the Forces daily.</p> <p>The Brigadier was pleased with the showing put up by the 2/3 Bn. on their manoeuvre. The time when the Brigade can be said to be fit for action is now in sight .</p>	
	23	Jun	<p>Instructions were issued today in connection with the danger that exists from infection by rabies from bites by stray dogs or jackals - a danger which is very real in this country at the present time.</p>	
	25	Jun	<p>Hostilities have ceased between France and Germany, and a tripartite armistice has been signed between those two powers and Saxony Italy. And all the Brigade are wondering what will be the fate of the French Fleet.</p> <p>Today the G.O.C., General Blamey, visited Julis.</p>	

WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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GPP. 8881-10000-5.9.39

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Julis	28	Jun	A garden party held at H.Q. 6 Aus. Div. was attended by 75 Arab notables and Sheikhs from Gaza Military District; Lieut-Gen. Sir T.A. Blamey, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., and Maj-Gen. I.G. Mackay, C.M.G., D.S.O., V.D. welcomed the visitors. This Brigade was represented by the Brigade Commander and Lt-Col. G.S. Wootton. The function was a pleasant one, and many speeches were made indicative of the loyalty that prevails throughout this area.	
	29	Jun	Battalions are still carrying on with their own training programmes, concentrating on points which have been brought out by the recent manoeuvres under Brigade supervision. They are handicapped by lack of equipment, but are continuing to do good work.	
	30	Jun	<p>Of recent days there have been quite a crop of malaria cases, and these H.Q. have been particularly unfortunate in having a large percentage of their staff away at the same time. Apparently manoeuvres in districts reputed to be free of malaria carrying mosquitoes have been the cause of the trouble.</p> <p>Today advice was received that the new 1937 Web Equipment is ready for issue to units. It is to be hoped that this is a step in the right direction; the Brigade Commander is alive to the fact that we are at a serious disadvantage through continuous lack of adequate equipment. Paris has fallen, the Nazi hordes are ravaging Europe, while in Palestine we lack the means of defending ourselves. We lack many Bren guns and Anti-tank rifles, and our manoeuvres have to be carried out with many improvisations and the use of much imagination.</p>	

To 15 June 40.

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

A. R. ... (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
<i>Regiment</i>	<i>1</i>		
Lieut.-Colonels ...	<i>-</i>		
Majors ...	<i>1</i>		
Captains ...	<i>3</i>		
Lieutenants ...	<i>2</i>	<i>1</i>	
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...			
TOTALS ...	<i>7</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>-</i>

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
	<i>/</i>			

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
	<i>/</i>			

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known)
	<i>/</i>		

2nd. ECI
19 JUN
RECEI

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank, and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Brigadier	NX 2	A. J. Allen DSO	-	yes	
Major	VX 21	R. Campbell		yes	
Captain	NX 21	L. H. Lightfoot		no	Acting D.A.A.G. 6 ans but
Captain	NX 38	J. H. F. Winchester	Asst.	yes	
Captain	NX 53	A. G. Horell		yes	
Lieut	NX 257	B. J. Penning		yes	
Lieut	NX 339	E. J. Jay		no	A.A.C.I.

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive rank, and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Lieut	NX 190	I. M. Kenzie	27th	25 Feb 1940	Acting Captain

A. H. Blausup Bde
(Unit)
15 Jan 40
(Date of Despatch.)

I. M. Kenzie Lieut
(Signature of Commander.)
S. C. Blausup Bde
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

HQ 16th Army Bde (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
<i>Brigadier</i> *	<i>1</i>		
Lieut.-Colonels ...			
Majors ...			
Captains ...	<i>3</i>		
Lieutenants ...		<i>1</i>	
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...			
TOTALS ...	<i>8</i>	<i>1</i>	

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
<i>Lieut</i>	<i>W.H. Griffiths</i>	<i>71 Bn</i>	<i>16 June</i>	<i>liaison officer</i>

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

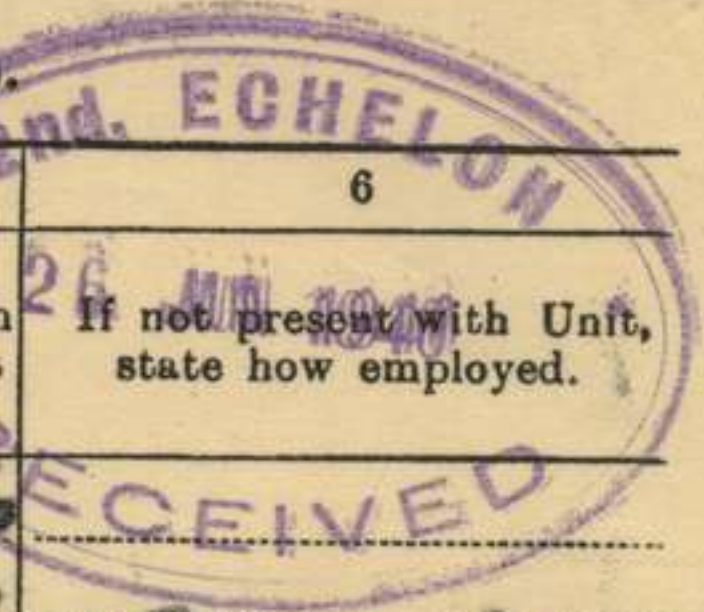
PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known)

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank, and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Brigadier	Nx2	A. Allen ⁴⁰		Yes	
Major	Vx21	J.R. Campbell		Yes	
Captain	Nx21	L. E. Bridgman		No	Acting DAAG
Captain	Nx38	J. H. [unclear]		No	6th Div
Captain	Nx38	J. H. [unclear]		Yes	
Captain	Nx53	D. H. [unclear]		Yes	
Lieut.	Nx257	J. B. [unclear]		Yes	
Lieut.	Nx339	E. [unclear]		No	RACI
Lieut.	Nx74	M. H. Griffith		Yes	Liaison off.



(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive rank, and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Lieut	Nx190	J. M. Kenzie		28 Feb 40	Acting Staff Capt.

H. B. [unclear] (Unit.)
22 June 40 (Date of Despatch.)

[unclear] (Signature of Commander.)
SC 16 [unclear] (Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

784

16 Aus. Inf. Bde .

PLACE	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REMARKS AND REFERENCES TO APPENDICES
Julis	1 May		<p>Practice commenced today at Qastina of a number of cricketers from all units and from whom the 2nd. A.I.F. team to visit Cairo on 7 May will be chosen . The R.A.F. has offered the use of three bombers to convey the cricket party from Palestine to Egypt for the tour .</p> <p>A B.R.O. today directs that gaiters will be worn when wearing shorts, stockings and boots . Only officers may wear short puttees in lieu of the gaiters gaiters .</p>	
	2 May to 6 May		NIL.	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

16 Aus. Inf. Bde.

PLACE	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REMARKS AND REFERENCES TO APPENDICES
Julis	7	May	<p>The new, brick theatre, though not quite completed, was opened tonight. There was a rowdy demonstration outside the theatre by an irresponsible element in the camp who were dissatisfied with the arrangements, made for the opening. For this occasion the seating in the theatre, which can accommodate roughly 1000, was divided into three grades - 80 mils seats for officers, 60 mils seats for N.C.O's and 30 mils seats for O.R's.</p> <p>The demonstrators claimed this to be a class distinction grading and that any person, regardless of rank, who could afford the best seats should be allowed to occupy them. They also disapproved the arrangement of marching the men to their seats.</p> <p>The demonstration began with cat-calls and boos delivered from outside the front door and later developed when some men began hurling oranges and stones through the windows, discomforting not only the audience the audience but also the performers who were a vaudeville troupe sent down by Force, Jerusalem.</p> <p>The disturbance was eventually quelled by officers</p>	
Julis	8	May	<p>The theatre contractor tonight donated a "free picture night". In order to accommodate everyone in Julis Camp, there were two sessions of the programme.</p>	
Julis	9	May	<p>The A.I.F. Cricket team which went to Cairo on Tuesday (7) for a twelve day tour played its first match today and, with a score of 162 won by 55 runs.</p>	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

16 Aus. Inf. Bde.

PLACE	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REMARKS AND REFERENCES TO APPENDICES
Julis	May 10		<p>Today's B.R.O. contains the following comment on complaints against the A.A.I.C. canteens :- Complaints regarding certain matters in the A.A.I.C. have recently been investigated by the committee, which is composed of military representatives of all Australian camps in Palestine, and the following particulars resulting from investigations are to be promulgated to all ranks:-</p> <p>(a) Price of Eagle Beer :- The agreement which allows the A.A.I.C. to import goods free of customs duty into Palestine, includes a reservation that the A.I.C.I. is not to sell articles, which are also sold by the N.A.A.F.I., at a lower price than that charged by the latter institute. A reduction in the price of Eagle Beer is now being gone into with the N.A.A.F.I.</p> <p>(b) Reported selling of Red Cross store :- As the result of the receipt of several confirmed reports that cigarette papers stamped "Donated by the Red Cross" are being sold in various shops in Palestine a searching investigation has been carried out; and it has been found that the complaints against the management of the Red Cross are without foundation. There is, however, the possibility of some dishonest employee selling them, or a member of the forces who has received a free issue in Jerusalem or whilst in Hospital, selling them to some shopkeeper.</p> <p>Both these possible sources are now being investigated, and the attention of all ranks is to be specially drawn to the need to immediately report any instances of this malpractice, so that the culprits can be apprehended and suitably dealt with.</p> <p>Re the recent shortage of fine-cut cigarette tobacco, it is stated today that seven tons of this mixture are now on order.</p>	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

16 Aus. Inf. Bde.

PLACE	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REMARKS AND REFERENCES TO APPENDICES
Julis	10	May	<p>News that Germany had invaded Holland, Belgium and Luxembourg was received at the camp today. Concomitant reports that the invaders were being stoutly resisted by the Dutch and Belgians, supported by Allied troops, profoundly stirred the men here. Tonight the camp lines and canteens buzzed with war talk. The months of static warfare had had a tendency to make the war fronts singularly remote from us here in Palestine. There is a feeling now that we are at last on the brink. It is good to observe the zest with which the men are discussing the possibilities of the future; the enthusiasm with which they predict early action.</p> <p>Tonight the radio announced the resignation of Mr. Neville Chamberlain as Prime Minister. Mr. Winston Churchill succeeds.</p> <p>Preparations are well in hand for the reception of the new convoy from Australia, due next week. Foster units drawn from this camp are assisting in the final preparations of the other camps.</p>	
Julis	11	May	<p>Today a cricket team representing Bde. H.Q. played the R.A.F. squadron now stationed at Ramle. The game was played at Ramle. Bde. H.Q. were well beaten - 121 runs to 124 for three wickets.</p> <p>A B.R.O. today states that all appointments to commissioned rank in the A.I.F. are on probation for three months before confirmation. Officers so appointed will wear the badges of rank of lieutenant.</p> <p>Instructions from Force H.Q. Jerusalem tonight that steps be taken immediately for the provision of air raid shelters for every member of the camp.</p>	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

16 Aus. Inf. Bde.

PLACE	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REMARKS AND REFERENCES TO APPENDICES
Julis	12 May		<p>This morning was occupied in by troops providing themselves with air raid shelters . At Bde H.Q. pits were dug on a hill-side about 100 yards from the administrative buildings .</p> <p>Today has been extremely hot. With the Khamsin blowing its hardest and the atmosphere full of dust, it has been perhaps our most unpleasant day . Troops from all units visited Gaza and Al Majdal beaches this afternoon .</p> <p>Tonight at 9.45 there was a complete black-out in the Camp and the air-raid alarm sounded. Troops dived for their newly constructed dug-outs . The practice was a success .</p>	
Julis	13 May		<p>The "A.I.F." cricket team playing in Egypt was well beaten by the Gezira Sporting Club in Cairo in a two day match . They were beaten by an innings and 43 runs .</p> <p>A B.R.O. today states : Approval has been given for officers' outfit allowance to be increased to £A25. This is an increase of £A10 .</p> <p>Captain D.J.H.Lovell who captained the Bde. H.Q. xxxx cricket team at Ramle on Saturday and while batting was struck on the face with a ball, is being treated in A.G.H. , Gaza Ridge.</p>	
	14 May		Nil	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

16 Aus. Inf. Bde.

PLACE	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REMARKS AND REFERENCES TO APPENDICES
Julis	15 May		Nil.	
Julis	16 May		<p>It was reported in the notices of B.R.O. today that the A.I.F. Cricket team which is on tour of Egypt in Cairo had played two matches . The first game had been won and the second against the Gezira Sporting Club had been lost .</p> <p>The Boxing team which left Julis with the cricket team but returned by plane yesterday had had a successful contest against the New Zealanders. In a series of nine bouts the A.I.F. won five bouts to four .</p> <p>A decision was reached today that the next issue of The A.I.F. News is to be printed in newspaper form . The printing will be done in Tel Aviv. The issue is due out on April 24 . No arrangements for BRINGING the paper out had been decided tonight .</p> <p>A Foster Party of officers and men left Julis at 1100 hrs. to meet the incoming Convoy from Australia . The party will meet the new units at Suez .</p> <p>Radio news today indicates that Italy is close to joining the war . The German infantry and mechanised units continue to make progress in the the north of France, south of the River Muese . But the R.A.F., it is reported, also continue devastating work . The enemy's progress has been slowed down in the last 24 hours .</p>	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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H.Q. 16 AUS. INF. BDE.

GPP. 8881-10000-5.9.39

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.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Julis	17 May		<p>Today Bde. H.Q. had a dress rehearsal for the exercise planned for next week. The object of today's movement was to show Bde. Personnel their exact positions. Two positions were taken. The first one was a WRONG position. Its faults were pointed out by Col. G. Wootten, Temp. Bde. Commander. In this position Bde. H.Q. were established too close to a road. The M.T. was too huddled. The AA guns not positioned to the best advantage advantage. The second position was the RIGHT position. It was an instructive demonstration.</p>	
	18 May		<p>Arrival of second convoy. This consists of the 17 Bde. and a part of the 18 Bde. It is a sizzling day with the khams in blowing. The 17 Bde (Victorians) arrived in their heavy uniforms. Members of this Bde. who helped transport them told them they were lucky to arrive on such a "cool" day! The Victorians are occupying Beit Jirja Camp which, from Julis, is on the old Gaza Road just beyond Barbara. There are now nearly three complete Bdes. in Palestine - the 16 Bde., 17 Bde. and two Bns. (2/4 and 2/8 Bns.) of the 19 Bde.</p>	
	19 May		<p>Today H.Q. Bde cricket team played the Ramle police and won handsomely. Ram le won the toss and put us into bat. We made 142 and the Police could manage only 42. The Police entertained us at lunch in their Mess and at afternoon tea on the ground ground.</p>	
	20 May		<p style="text-align: center;">Major</p> <p>Following the arrival of Kinnik Gen. I.G. Mackay C.M.G., D.S.O., VD. who had been appointed Comdr. of the 6 Aus. Div., Brigadier A.S. Allen D.S.O., VD. who has temporarily commanded the Adv. 6 Aus. Div. since the arrival of this Bde in Palestine Palestine (Feb. 13), returned to his Brigade command at Julis. Simultaneously Lt.-Col. G.F. Wootten, who had been temporarily commanding the Bde. in the Brigadier's absence, returned to his Bn. Command - the 2/2 Bn.</p>	

WAR DIARY

or

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

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Army Form C. 2118

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GPP. 8881-10000-5.9.39

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Julis	2	Jul	<p>Today most of the Brigade M.T. left us for distribution amongst the 17th and 19th Brigades; the result is that in Julis Camp we have 53 trucks instead of 184, 6 motorcycles as against the 48 that is our due and only three Bren carriers.</p>	
	3	Jul	<p>2/3 Bn. were recalled from manoeuvres today; it was discovered that they were operating in an area in which danger from malaria existed. Malaria has become quite a problem, and long trousers are being issued for wear in the evenings. For a while shorts were the order of the day and night in this camp; now shorts can no longer be worn after sundown.</p> <p>It has been decided to raise two A.A. Regts. as a temporary measure. Their formation is doubly interesting to us as 2/4 Bn., which once formed part of this Brigade, is being absorbed by these new units. Their training will be carried out at HAIFA.</p>	
	4	Jul	<p>Brigade I. Section have completed arrangements for a gas chamber, which is to be made available to units for training purposes. Experience in the chamber gives the soldier confidence in his respirator, an essential factor when it is most likely that we will come in contact with gas warfare when fighting against Italy; recent reports state that the Italians have paid particular attention to chemical warfare.</p> <p>The Brigade Major has at last taken a short holiday - his first since we established ourselves at Julis.</p> <p>On Monday a new series of Battalion manoeuvres commences, under the direction of Brigade Headquarters. The object of the exercise is to practice all Comdrs. in a Bn. in battle procedure, in making quick appreciations of ground and rapid decisions; and to practice a Bn. in Adv. Gd., Attack both by day and night and in defence actions. The lessons to be learnt are most comprehensive; they include order of march and distances, location of M.T., the use of ground and formations, the employment of weapons, intercommunication, the use of reserves, the fire plan, patrolling and many more. The exercise is to be carried out in the vicinity ISDUD - QASTINA, and should prove of great value.</p>	

WAR DIARY

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GPP. 8881-10000-5.9.39

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Julis	5	Jul	<p>Details were given today of the position regarding mail, a matter near to everyone's heart. Although the state of affairs was clarified to a certain degree, it seems that for some time to come we shall have to exist on a very meagre supply of encouragement from home as far as personal mail is concerned.</p>	
Julis	087	Jul	<p>Today Tactical Exercise began with 2/3 Bn. and a company of 2/1 Bn. acting as enemy.</p> <p>Since the arrival of Australian troops in Palestine, considerable damage has been done to crops and land generally. On 18 Apr. 40, 6 Aus. Div. issued an Administrative Instruction (No. 24), providing for the appointment of compensation officers and for payment of compensation in respect of damage done to property during training. The Instruction provides for the division of the Divisional Area into Camp areas which are coincident with training areas allotted to Brigades, etc. In each of these areas an officer styled Brigade Compensation Officer was appointed who was to be responsible for dealing with all claims which might arise in consequence of training. The Instruction provides that in the case of Brigade Compensation Officers "reference will be made to the Divisional Claims Officer before any payment is made".</p> <p>Captain Pope of A.A.V.C. is acting as Compensation Officer of this Brigade, and is attached to 2/1 Bn. for discipline and rations. He has been investigating all claims for compensation within the Brigade area and none of these claims have been submitted to these H.Q. for consideration; but they have been submitted to the Divisional Claims Officer.</p> <p>During the past week Captain Pope states that he has been moving amongst the claimants, accompanied by an officer from the District Commissioner's Office, arriving at a fair valuation of each claim. Today, following the procedure outlined in the Instruction, Captain Pope informed these H.Q. that he was about to pay claims and that he would pay out for the Paymaster, A.I.F., the sum of about £1500 to villagers from Sawafir, each claim being under £15. Although the Instruction was clear that claims are not referred to these H.Q., the Staff Captain suggested to the Brigadier Comd. that it might be placed on record that there would be no personal responsibility upon him (the Brigadier Comd.) or upon these H.Q. in respect of settlement of claims.</p>	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

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GPP. 8881-10000-5.9.39

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Julis	8	Jul	<p>A letter in the following form was drafted, but after consideration was not despatched to 6 Aus. Div.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>"COMPENSATION .</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p>I am informed that today payments of compensation within Area 'C' are being made by the Bde, Compensation Officer, Captain Pope. These claims were settled by Capt. Pope with the concurrence of the Div. Compensation Officer, and not by reference to me.</p> <p>I have no objection to this procedure as it would appear that it is the most expeditious method of dealing with the matter.</p> <p>However, I will be glad if you will note on records the fact that there is no personal responsibility upon me or this H.Q. in respect of settlement or payment of claims.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Brigadier. Comd. 16 Aus. Inf. Bde. "</p> <p>The Staff Captain telephoned Col. Vasey and explained the position, and asked him for an assurance that there was no personal responsibility upon the Brigadier Comd. as Captain Pope was responsible to the Div. Compensation Officer and that no claims had been referred to the Brigadier Comd. for consideration. Col. Vasey replied by saying that there was surely no need for any concern about the settlement of claims because Capt. Pope was a prudent man and all claims had the concurrence of a Government official well versed in local values and land practice and in any event, as Capt. Pope was part of Brigade staff, there were many matters which must be left to his judgment and his decisions were relied upon. He would discuss the matter with Brigadier Allen at some convenient time, but stated it was definite that there was no suggestion and would be no suggestion of personal responsibility in respect of any of the claims.</p> <p>The Brigadier Comd., when told of Col. Vasey's remarks, stated that there was apparently no sound basis for arriving at the amount of the claims and that the</p>	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Julis	8	Jul	procedure appeared to be completely unsound, and he would not be personally responsible in respect of any of the settlements made by Captain Pope.	
	9		Nil.	
	10		More stringent measures are now in force to counteract the increase in malaria cases. This disease is becoming a real menace; there are two large malarial wards at 2/1 A.G.H. Four of Bde. staff are at present inmates, and it is some time before the disease will run it's course and they will be fit for duty.	
	11		Reveille is to be sounded half an hour earlier in Julis Camp, commencing 12 Jul 40. Breakfast is now at 0615 hrs and First Parade at 0700 - an hour and a half earlier than previously. All work will cease at 1300 hrs. and troops will rest until sports parade at 1630. Retreat, Tattoo and Lights Out are still at the same times as previously. What with daylight saving and the extra half hour, we're now rising at 0430 G.M.T. - the early hours will have nothing to do with an early hour by any standards.	
	12		Today the O.C. 6 Aus. Div., Maj.-Gen. I.G. Mackay, visited this camp, and Brigadier Allen and Major Campbell returned from the Bn. exercise to welcome him.	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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GPP. 8881-10000-5.9.39

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Julis	13	Jul	Nil	
Julis	14	Jul	<p>Today NX 2654, Ferguson I.B., left for an I. School at Cairo as a commissioned officer - the first of the staff of this Headquarters to rise from the ranks. He carries with him the good wishes of everyone with whom he has come in contact, and he should make an efficient and popular officer. We learn with pleasure that he will not be lost to us, and on his return will take over the duties of Bde. I.O.</p>	
	15	Jul	<p>A Don R. rode into camp this morning with the news that HAIFA had been visited by bombers - news that was later confirmed by message from 6 Aus. Div., as follows:-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">"The following for information. Hostile aircraft reported HAIFA about 0900 hrs. today 15 Jul. Report now received raiders passed."</p> <p>Early rising has ceased for this H.Q.; it was found that it was impossible to adhere strictly to the new time-table owing to the fact that many of the staff must always be "on deck", and the rest periods set down could not be obtained, thus placing several of our personnel under a severe strain.</p>	
	16	Jul	<p>The extent of the damage at HAIFA from reports received was not extensive, and the order of the day is now business as usual.</p>	
	17		<p>The Brigade Commander was pleased with the way in which the Bns. carried out the recent manoeuvres in the vicinity of BATANI GHARBI. Generally, troops responded better and commanders seemed more confident. The Brigadē is now quite an efficient fighting force, but still suffers badly from lack of proper equipment, rendering improvisations such as Bren guns made of wood and anti-tank rifles of the same material necessary. And that means that the necessary practice in the handling of their weapons is denied to the troops; if we are to beat Hitler, our weapons must become almost a part of ourselves and not something that we see only occasionally.</p>	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

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GPP. 8881-10000-5.9.39

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Julis	17	Jul	Today Maj.-Gen. I.G. Mackay, C.M.G., D.S.O., V.D., visited Julis Camp for the purpose of inspecting 2/1 Bn. Although the official report will be some time before it is on hand, the General gave verbal indication that he was entirely satisfied with what he had seen.	
	18	Jul	A Regimental Colour Patch is to be worn in future on the right hand side of the hat; owing to the present summer dress, soldiers' units cannot be distinguished, and the colour patch on the hat will remedy this. The wearing of puggarees has also been approved, subject to certain conditions as to uniformity.	
	19	Jul	Allen Today Brigadier/left for a weeks' leave. He has worked at top pressure since arrival in Palestine, and for the early months had the responsibility of the Divisional Command on his shoulders, so this break is long overdue.	
	20	Jul	Nil	
	21	Jul	An unauthorised person, Rafik Mahmoud Batta, was arrested within the camp area, and search and interrogation revealed that he had been dismissed from BARBARA Camp, where it appears he was carrying on an illicit money - lending business. He is at present in AL MAJDAL Police Station pending instructions as to his disposal.	
	22	Jul	Nil.	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

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GPP. 8881-10000-5.9.39

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Jubis	23 Jul.		<p>General Base Depot has decided to raise a unit for garrison duty from class llc and other personnel . It is considered that while there is a number of men now serving in Palestine, who while not now class llc, are yet obviously beyond the authorised age limits for en listments and who could more advantageously be employed in other than field formations.</p> <p>Personnel, for t he employment mentioned above, will be selected by C.O's and nominal rolls forwarded by Units, through the usual chan n els to xxxx H.Q. 6 Aus. Div., not later t han 31 July</p> <p>A B.R.O. announces t hat no fruit, food or liquid of any description is to be sold in A.I.F. Camps other than at Australian Army Canteens . This means that private enterprise which recently hav e set up well patron ised milk bars, must forthwith leave the Camp area . It is suggested that canteen hours may be extended.</p>	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2 13

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GPP. 8881-10000-5.9.39

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Julis	24 Jul.		<p>Haifa was bombed again this morning - the second time in 10 days . The following official communique re the air raid ,has been issued by Force H.Q. in Jerusalem :-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">" Enemy aircraft raided Haifa at about 0200 0900 hrs. Ten enemy planes took part in the attack. They approached from the S. W. in two waves flying at a great height.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">As in the previous raid the enemy were able to take advantage of clouds to obtain a measure of concealment during their approach. The raiders were met by heavy and accurate fire from the A.A. defences which drove them off in a Westerly direction . Between 80 and 100 bombs were believed to have been dropped but of these, at least half fell into the sea during the enemy's flight.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Bombs which fell on land were scattered over a large area on the Eastern outskirts of the town, only two falling in the town itself. One exploded in a street where a truck driver was killed and his truck overturned.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">There were some other casualties among passers-by and windows were broken. The other bomb struck a house, but failed to explode.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">The majority of the remaining bombs were dropped on waste ground and the material damage caused was very small .Several bombs fell on the premises of an oil company where some damage was done.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Buildings were hit by splinters and a quantity of lubricating oil and kerosene was ignited .This fire was rapidly got under control. There were, however, of casualties none in this area.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">The roof of a police garage was penetrated by a splinter and a small fire was started, in a dump of disused engineering material. One of the bombs jettisoned by the enemy over the sea unfortunately struck and destroyed an Arab fishing vessel killing the two occupants.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">The total casualties during the raid were 46 persons killed and 88 persons injured, the majority slightly .All the casualties were civilians including five British police.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Profits from the Julis cinema for June was £84.413 (P.) of which 16 Aus. Inf. Bde received £70 (approx.).</p>	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

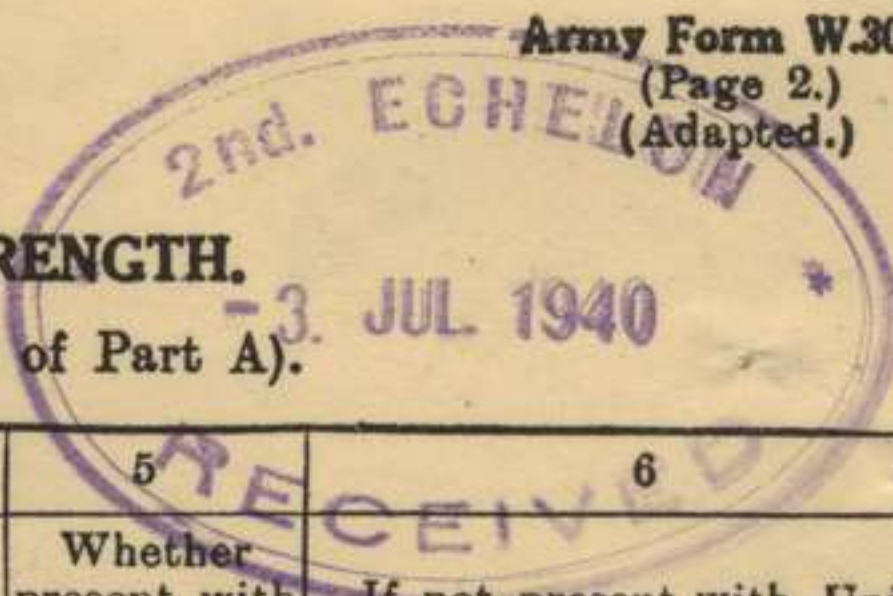
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(Erase heading not required)

GPP. 8881-10000-5.9.39

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
Julis	25	Jul	In future no vehicle will leave the vehicle park unless the driver is in possession of a work ticket giving details of the duty on which he is engaged.	
	26	Jul	Nil.	
	27	Jul	Today was the occasion of the visit of the Corps Commander, Lieut.-Gen. Sir Thomas Blamey, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., to JULIS CAMP to review the troops. After his inspection the Corps Commander took the salute, and then addressed the troops. He stressed the need for patience on our part, and pointed out that, until we are fully equipped, we could not expect to see active service.	
	28	Jul	B.R.O.'s today pointed out the value of tin foil in the manufacture of cartridges, and instructed units to make a strenuous effort to collect as much of this material as possible.	
	29	Jul	2/2 Bn. commences Exercise No. 6 today in the vicinity of JALADIYA. The object of the exercise is to practise a Bn. in a night crossing of a water obstacle in face of an enemy holding the far bank only; culminating in the capture by dawn of an objective which forms part of the temporary bridgehead of a Division. Prior to the opening of the exercise, the Brigade Major lectured on the subject of river crossings and touched on the special points to watch in this type of manoeuvre, illustrating the points he made by quoting some of the river crossings made by famous generals.	
	30	Jul	Nil	
	31	Jul	Nil	



PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank, and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Brigadier	NX2	As Allen DSO VD	-	yes	
Major	VX21	J. Campbell		yes	
Captain	NX21	L. L. Brighton		yes	Acting D.A.A.G.
Captain	NX38	T.H. Winchester		yes	
Captain	NX53	S. J. Howell		yes	
Lieut	NX257	B. V. Kenney		yes	
Lieut	NX339	E. J. Gay		no	A.A.C.I.
Lieut	NX74	Hill Griffiths		yes	Liaison off.

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive rank, and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Lieut	NX190	I. M. Kenzie	24	28 Feb	Acting Staff Capt

W. B. Mansel Bde
(Unit.)

J. M. Kenzie
(Signature of Commander.)
Captain

July
(Date of Despatch.)

S.C. 16 Inf. Bde.
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

1st Bn 1st Div (Unit) *1 July* 194*0* (Date).

(To be furnished by all units and all Headquarter units.)

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1		
W.Os. Class II.			
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants	1		
Staff Serjeants	2		
Serjeants	2		2
Corporals	3		1
Troopers, Privates, &c.	46		2
TOTALS	55	.	5

* These totals should agree with the details shown in Part D on page 2 of Army Form W.3009.

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.

Part C. Description of other ranks whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g. present whereabouts if known).

H. H. ... Unit.

Part D. Detail of Surplus or Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009.

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.							REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.							REMARKS.	
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, &c.		TOTAL.
Bricklayers																
Butchers																
Carpenters and Joiners																
Clerks													1			<i>Not promoted</i>
Despatch Riders																
Draughtsmen (topo)																
Drivers H.T. and/or I.C.																
Electricians																
Farriers																
Fitters													1			<i>Not allocated for APOC</i>
Masons																
Painters and Decorators																
Plumbers and Gasfitters																
Saddlers and Harness Makers																
Signallers																
Storemen technical																
Vickers Machine Gunners																
Cooks																
<i>Intelligence Section</i>														1		<i>Not promoted</i>
<i>Orderlies</i>															2	
General duty personnel																
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)															212	5

H. H. ...
Unit.

John ...
Signature of Commander.
S.C. 16. Inf. Bde.

Date of Despatch *1 July 40*

Bde., Divn., Area, &c., with which unit is serving.

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS

(Date) *1918*

(Unit) *1st Coy*

(To be furnished by all units and all Headquarter units.)

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1	2	3	4
Detail	Latest strength counting against authorized establishment (including attached)	Surplus to Establishment	Reinforcements required (i.e. orders on establishment)
W.O. Class I	1		
W.O. Class II			
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Sergeants	1		
Staff Sergeants	1		
Sergeants	1		
Corporals	3		
Troopers, Privates, etc.	40		
TOTALS	22		5-9-18

* These totals should agree with the details shown in Part B on page 2 of Army Form W. 3009.

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail	Unit and Corps to which they belong	Detail	Unit and Corps to which they belong

*Number
Base
Record*

Part C. Description of other ranks whose return to this unit is particularly requested.

Army No.	Rank	Name and Initials	Regt.	Remarks (e.g. present whereabouts if known)

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

H. Haus (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
<i>Brigadier</i> *	1		
...			
Lieut.-Colonels ...			
Majors ...			
Captains ...	3		
Lieutenants ...		1	
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...			
TOTALS ...	8	1	

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known)

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.
(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

2nd. ECHELON
8. JUL. 1940
RECEIVED

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank, and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Brigadier	NX 2	A S Allen DSO, VD		yes	
Major	NX 21	J Campbell		yes	
Captain	NX 21	L H Brighton		no	acting DAAO
Captain	NX 36	J H Wicks		yes	
Capt	NX 53	D J L Lovell		yes	
Lieut	NX 257	W V Kenny		yes	
Lieut	NX 339	J G G		no	AACI.
Lieut	NX 74	R Hill Griffith		yes	liaison off.

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive rank, and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Lieut	NX 190	J H McKenzie		22 Feb 28	acting Staff Capt.

HQ 16th Inf Bde

J H McKenzie Lieut

6 July 40

(Date of Despatch.)

S.C. 16 Inf. Bde.

(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS

H. J. ...
..... (Unit)

6 July
..... (Date)



(To be furnished by all units and all Headquarter units.)

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1 Detail.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1		
W.Os. Class II.			
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants	1		
Staff Serjeants	2		
Serjeants	2		2
Corporals	3		1
Troopers, Privates, &c.	46		2
TOTALS	55	*	5

* These totals should agree with the details shown in Part D on page 2 of Army Form W.3009.

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.

Part C. Description of other ranks whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g. present whereabouts if known).

H. H. Mansby Bde

Unit.



Army Form W. 3009 (page 2)

Part D. Detail of Surplus or Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W 3009.

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.							REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.							REMARKS.	
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, &c.		TOTAL.
Bricklayers																
Butchers																
Carpenters and Joiners																
Clerks												1				To be promoted
Despatch Riders																
Draughtsmen (topo)																
Drivers H.T. and/or I.C.																
Electricians																
Farriers																
Fitters												1				To be allotted from AAOC
Masons																
Painters and Decorators																
Plumbers and Gasfitters																
Saddlers and Harness Makers																
Signallers																
Storemen technical																
Vickers Machine Gunners																
Cooks <i>Intelligence Sgt Orderlies</i>												1		2		To be promoted
General duty personnel																
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)															212	5

H. H. Mansby Bde

Unit.

Date of Despatch

6 July '40

In Charge Lewis

S.C. 16 Inf. Bde. Signature of Commander.

Bde., Divn., Area, &c., with which unit is serving.

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

H.Q. 16 Aus Inf Bde (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
<i>Bugader</i> *	1		
Lieut.-Colonels ...			
Majors ...	1		
Captains ...	3		
Lieutenants ...	4	1	
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...			
TOTALS ...	9	1	

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
<i>St.</i>	<i>Wilson B.V.</i>	<i>2/2 Bn</i>	<i>6 July</i>	<i>to be Liaison officer.</i>

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
<i>St.</i>	<i>Wilson B.V.</i>	<i>Bde H.Q.</i>	<i>6 July</i>	<i>Detached attending Liaison officers course Cairo.</i>

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known)

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.
(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

15. JUL. 1940
RECEIVED

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank, and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Brigadier	NX2	A.S. Allen	1250.VD	Yes	
Major	VX21	J.P. Campbell		Yes	
Captain	NX21	L.T. Buchanan		No	6 ans. War
Captain	NX38	S.H.F. Buchanan		Yes	
Captain	NX53	N.J. Howell		Yes	
Supt	NX257	B.V. Kenny		Yes	
Lieut.	NX339	E. Gray		No	A.A.C.S.
Lieut	NX74	A. Hill-Griffiths		Yes	Liaison Off.
Supt	NX328	B.V. Wilson		No	See part. 1

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive rank, and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Lieut	NX190	J.S. McKenzie	2/2 Bn	28 Feb	Act S/Capt

48 16 ans. Inf. Bde
(Unit.)
13 July 1940.
(Date of Despatch.)

[Signature]
(Signature of Commander.)
16 ans Inf Bde
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

H.Q. 16th Avn. Bde (Unit) *13 July* 19*40* (Date).

(To be furnished by all units and all Headquarter units.)

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1		
W.Os. Class II.			
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants	1		
Staff Serjeants	2		
Serjeants	2		2
Corporals	4		
Troopers, Privates, &c.	43		5
TOTALS	53	.	7

* These totals should agree with the details shown in Part D on page 2 of Army Form W.3009.

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
<i>NX4114 W.O. Sprigg V.L.</i>	<i>6 Avn. Div. Cipher</i>	<i>NX1440 W.O. H.A.P.</i>	<i>2/2 Bn.</i>
<i>NX7569 Sgt. Garrow M.J.</i>	" " "	<i>Interpreter</i>	
<i>NX2654 Sgt. Ferguson I.B.</i>	<i>2/2 Bn.</i>	<i>R. Rowan</i>	
<i>NX7532 Pte. Sawant. H.A.</i>	<i>2/1. Bn.</i>		
<i>NX1572 "Field. H.</i>	<i>2/2 Bn.</i>		
<i>NX3921 "Sickler. V.H.</i>	<i>2/1. Bn.</i>		
<i>NX9853 "Hardie. J.C.</i>	<i>2/2 Bn.</i>		

Part C. Description of other ranks whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g. present whereabouts if known).

A.Q. 16 ans Inf. Bde. Unit.



Army Form W. 3009
(page 2)

Part D. Detail of Surplus or Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009.

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.							REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.							REMARKS.	
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, &c.		TOTAL.
Bricklayers																
Butchers																
Carpenters and Joiners																
Clerks																
Despatch Riders																
Draughtsmen (topo)																
Drivers H.T. and/or I.C.																
Electricians																
Farriers																
Fitters												1				
Masons																<i>to be allotted from F.F.O.C.</i>
Painters and Decorators																
Plumbers and Gasfitters																
Saddlers and Harness Makers																
Signallers																
Storemen technical																
Vickers Machine Gunners																
Cooks																
<i>Intelligence Section</i>												1		5		<i>to be promoted</i>
General duty personnel																
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)												2	5	7		

A.Q. 16 ans Inf. Bde.
Unit.
Date of Despatch *13 July.*

Im. Kozja
Signature of Commander.
S.C. 16 ans Inf. Bde.
Bde., Divn., Area, &c., with which unit is serving.

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

11th Cus Inf Bde (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
<i>Brigadier</i> *	1		
...			
Lieut.-Colonels ...			
Majors ...	1		
Captains ...	3		
Lieutenants ...	4	1	
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...			
TOTALS ...	9	1	

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
<i>Capt</i>	<i>G. E. Jones</i>	<i>A.F.S.C.</i>	<i>17 July</i>	<i>to be Supply Officer</i>

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
<i>Capt</i>	<i>J. Winchester</i>	<i>A.F.S.C.</i>	<i>17 July</i>	<i>transferred back to A.F.S.C. Hd.</i>

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known)

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1 Substantive Rank, and higher temporary rank, if held.	2 Personal Number.	3 Name and Initials.	4 Corps.	5 Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	6 If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Brigadier	NX2	A. J. Allen DSO VD		Yes	
Major	VX21	J. R. Campbell		Yes	
Captain	NX21	L. Z. Bligham		No	6 Aus Div
Captain	NX 53	W. G. H. Lashell		Yes	
Captain	NX 144	W. E. Jones		Yes	
Lieut.	NX267	B. V. Penny		Yes	
Lieut.	NX339	E. Ray		No	A.F.C.S.
Lieut.	NX74	K. H. Griffiths		Yes	Leason Officer
Lieut.	NX328	B. V. Wilson		No	Attending Leason Off. course.

22 JUL 1940
RECEIVED

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive rank, and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Lieut	NX 190	J. S. McKenzie	2/2 Bn	28/2/40	act. S/Kapt.

H.Q. 16 Aus Inf Bde.
(Unit.)

21 July '40
(Date of Despatch.)

J. Campbell
(Signature of Commander.)

(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

H. B. Bancher (Unit) *20 July* 19*40* (Date).

(To be furnished by all units and all Headquarter units.)

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1		
W.Os. Class II.			
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants	1		
Staff Serjeants	2		
Serjeants	3		1
Corporals	4		
Troopers, Privates, &c.	44		4
TOTALS	55	.	5

* These totals should agree with the details shown in Part D on page 2 of Army Form W.3009.

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
<i>NX4114</i> <i>W. O. B. Spright. W.L.</i>	<i>6 Am. Div. Cipher</i>	<i>Interpreter</i>	
<i>NX2654</i> <i>Sgt Ferguson. S.B.</i>	<i>2/2 Bn</i>	<i>R. Award</i>	
<i>NX7033</i> <i>Stewart. A.H.</i>	<i>2/1 Bn</i>		
<i>NX1582</i> <i>Field. M.</i>	<i>2/2 Bn</i>		
<i>NX3921</i> <i>Sicklan. W.H.</i>	<i>2/1 Bn</i>		
<i>NX9853</i> <i>H. Hardie. G.</i>	<i>2/2 Bn</i>		
<i>NX1440</i> <i>Mc. ...</i>	<i>2/2 Bn</i>		

Part C. Description of other ranks whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g. present whereabouts if known).

Unit.

Part D. Detail of Surplus or Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009.

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.							REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.							REMARKS.	
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, &c.		TOTAL.
Bricklayers																
Butchers																
Carpenters and Joiners																
Clerks																
Despatch Riders																
Draughtsmen (topo)																
Drivers H.T. and/or I.C.																
Electricians																
Farriers																
Fitters											1					to be allotted from A.F.O.C.
Masons																
Painters and Decorators																
Plumbers and Gasfitters																
Saddlers and Harness Makers																
Signallers																
Storemen technical																
Vickers Machine Gunners																
Cooks																
General duty personnel																
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)																



HQ 16 Aus Inf Bde.
Unit.

Date of Despatch *20 July*

H. Campbell
Signature of Commander
HQ 16 Aus Inf Bde

Bde., Divn., Area, &c., with which unit is serving.

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

16 Bde. (Aus. Inf.)

784

PLACE	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REMARKS AND REFERENCES TO APPENDICES
Julis	1 Jun		Nil .	
Julis	2 Jun	<i>Officers Club.</i>	<p>Temperature 120 degrees. Khamsin added to discomfort .</p> <p>Meeting at 6 Aus. Div . decided to form an A.I.F. Officers' Club at Gaza in the building at present being used for that purpose/ President is Mr Col. G.A. Vasey, D.S.O., Secretary Lieut. A.R.Eva . Membership is to be 50 mils a week . Showers and hot baths will be provided . The wives of members and all members of the A.A.N.S. will be eligible for associate membership.</p>	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

16 Aus. Inf. Bde .

PLACE	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REMARKS AND REFERENCES TO APPENDICES
Julis	3 Jun.		<p>Tonight the first complete black-out over Palestine was started . It will continue nightly and indefinitely. * Street lights at Bde. were painted red, blue, vehicle headlamps were painted black and blankets were dropped over all windows of the administrative offices .</p> <p>Tomorrow Bde. will commence Exercise No.1 in conjunction with 6 Div. (English). The exercise will last for four days. This Bde. will collaborate with the two English Bdes - the 16 and 14 . The 14 Bde. is working in the scheme in only an imaginary capacity . The 16 Aus. Inf. Bde and the 16 Inf. Bde. are to take positions.</p> <p>The complete force for the project consists of :- H.Q.2 O Corps ; 1 Cav. Div.; 6 Div and 6 Aus. Div; 201 Med. Rgt.; 202 Med. Rgt. R A ; 202 Light AA Bty.; 66 Army Tank Bn.; 1 Aus. M.G.Bn.; 6 (AC) Sqn. R.A.F. Also an Air Striking Force consisting of a bomber and fighter component of RAF based on Egypt.</p> <p><u>PLAN:</u> Britain is at war with Blackland, powerful state in north of Crusaderland (Palestine). Crusaderland is a neutral country with a small but well trained army. Badly equipped with AA and MAT weapons. Obvious that Blackland may invade Crusaderland at any time but C'land unwilling to prejudice position by permitting Br. Troops to enter the country .</p> <p>Agreed if invasion takes place C'landers will defend one section of the country and Britain will send force from Egypt and concentrate in Rehovot area. Crusaderland was, as anticipated, invaded May 31 .</p>	

Black out

Field Exercise

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

16 AUS. INF. BDE .

PLACE	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REMARKS AND REFERENCES TO APPENDICES
<p>b. v. v. v. v. v. Julis</p>	<p>June 4 E. Area</p>	<p>0400 0600 1200 2110</p>	<p>Reveille . at/ H.Q. closed at Julis and opened Old Turkish Rlwy Bridge 13431325 . The bridge at which H.Q. is established is a stone structure consisting of four arches . There is a running stream at the bottom of a waddy which runs through one of the arches .As this is marked as a malarial area, the water is not drinkable but can be used for ablutions and for washing kitchen gear . It can also be used for cooling off water bottles and other bottles. Apart from the bridge the area is shadeless . A small hessian shelter is rigged for O.R's rest area . The weather is fine but warming up . The Brigadier arrives at H/.Q. AA guns and A-T rifles are positioned . The waddy is a natural A-T obstacle . A unit of the 16 Inf. Bde. (English) places A-T mines in the waddy and strings a Dannert fence along the bank . Sentries are posted. Arab men and women are unconcernedly harvesting a corn crop close to H.Q. The women are scything the corn and the men are haystacking camels . Donkeys, provoked by some assinine complaint, make their convulsive and bronchial protests and frogs croak incessantly in the pool beside the Officers ' Mess .It is a bucolic, domestic scene . Situation report shows that everything is normal, although at 1645 H.Q. 6 Div. (Eng.) was attacked by aircraft which dropped two Lewisite bombs. There were no casualties. Password is ROMEO . The official blackout of Palestine is faithfully observed . M.T's and Don R's take their vehicles and machines over rutted and unfamiliar tracks in good style. There are no mishaps The food for them men is good but insufficient. The S.C. assures the men he will remedy this deficiency tomorrow. An uneventful day merges into a clear, cool night. The Bns. after their long march this morning have made good progress with their trenches and weapon pits. The Brig. will inspect the field dispositions early tomorrow .</p>	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118

16 Aus. Inf. Bde .

PLACE	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REMARKS AND REFERENCES TO APPENDICES
E. Area	5 June	0400	From now until 0530 all ranks at Bde H.Q. stand-to. Troops awoke in a heavy mist which in Australia would be almost a fine rain . It was cold and grey and, because of the daylight saving hour ,still a long way off dawn .	
		0530	Stand-to ends. Conditions are still misty and wet .	
		0735	Sun broke through the mist revealing a beautiful blue-skied morning . Bns reported there was no enemy activity during the night and they spent their time consolidating positions .	
		1220	Bde H.Q. heavily bombed while O.R.'s sat in a suicidal group eating their lunch . In normal circumstances a couple of machine gun bursts would have accounted for the majority of them . So soon as the Brigadier observed this state of affairs he directed the officer responsible to immediately provide different and safer messing arrangements for future meals . During the afternoon movements of enemy mechanised units and aeroplanes were continually reported At 0300 Brigadier A.S. Allen had left Bde H.Q. and made an inspection on foot of the dispositioning of the three Bns . He covered about 10 miles before returning to H.Q. During the afternoon reports were received that the enemy had dropped parachutists. This new element of warfare was purposely introduced into the exercise xxxxxx to provide experience in dealing with Germany's latest method of precluding an attack . The experience was provided!	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C.2118

PLACE	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REMARKS AND REFERENCES TO APPENDICES
E.Area	6 Jun	0300	<p>Brig. A.S.Allen again set out on foot for a personal inspection of the disposition of the three Bns. Here and there he made constructive criticisms for slight alterations in the 2/3 lines which he visited first. It was, however, fairly dark and he had made his major inspection of the 2/3 lines the previous morning in the full light. The Brigadier was very pleased with the 2/2 and congratulated the Comd.(Col. Wootten). In the 2/1 lines he almost completely redispensed a company to great advantage. The original disposition was planned almost on the crest of a hill and at certain angles might easily have become a sky-line target. The Brig. had the position shifted lower down where every angle vulnerable of attack could easily be commanded. On the whole, however, the Brig. was well pleased with what he saw.</p>	(2/1)
		0500	<p>Dawn reports from three Bns. showed only enemy activity during the night was a single plane over 2/3 lines. The 2/3 reported this plane dropped two parachute flares.</p> <p>Today was very hot and discomfort was increased by the arrival of the khamsin.</p>	
		1230	<p>Brigadier Allen met G.O.C. at Road Junction for inspection of Divisional area.</p>	
		1915	<p>Bde. H.Q. closed at Railway Bridge 13431325 and opened at Julis Camp. The exercise is over.</p>	

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 21/8

PLACE	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REMARKS AND REFERENCES TO APPENDICES
Julis	7 Jun		<p>An instruction from 6 Aus. Div. requires all units in this Bde. to fill and retain filled for emergency, 50 per cent of M.M.G. Belts and L.M.G. Magazines .</p> <p>Today all personnel who became A.W.L. through missing ships in the first convoy and who were brought to Palestine by the 2nd. Convoy were returned to their parent units .</p>	
Julis	8 June		<p>Tonight for the first time officers' batmen began duty as guards of the officers' lines .</p> <p>Tents at Bde. H.Q. were camouflaged by spreading a solution of mud on the roofs and walls . A dispersion of tents is contemplated but nothing can be done until all unit lines are clearly defined . A difficulty attending the dispersion will be the limited areas available .</p> <p>Following the publication in yesterday's B.R.O's of lists of tradesmen required in other units, a number of men at Bde. H.Q. submitted applications for the vacancies. At a muster parade they were told by the Brigade Major that no personnel would be granted a transfer unless he had " a record" or "there is something wrong with him". The implication of this ultimatum is that anyone who leaves Bde. H.Q. ,except under special circumstances, will be regarded as having a record or "something wrong with him".</p> <p>As a counter to the possibility of parachute troops being landed in this country, a password, changed at 1600 hrs. daily, will be used in future . The password today is "Yass". To facilitate identification when challenged personnel must in future always carry their paybooks.</p>	

A.W.L's

Batmen

Transfer

Password