

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

Item number: 8/2/16

16 Infantry Brigade
September - October 1941

WAR DIARY

16 Inf Bde Sep 41

KHASSA

OCT 12 1941

1 Sep 41.

Strength of 16 Aust Inf Bde is as follows :-

Headquarters	11	offrs	72	ORs
2/1 Aust Inf Bn.	32	"	480	"
2/2	35	"	582	"
2/6	33	"	472	"
2/7	34	"	378	"
Total	145	"	2049	"

TRAINING AMMUNITION was delivered to this HQ for reissue to Bns. this afternoon . It comprised

140,000 rounds	.303 Mk. V11
25,000 "	.450 TSMG
250 bombs	2" Mortar HE
30 "	3" "
6 "	3" " Smoke
200 cartridges	.55 SAP Practice.

78H

WAR DIARY

KHASSA

2 Sep 41.

HEADQUARTER PERSONNEL from all branches of the Brigade Staff were paraded before, and introduced to, our New Commander, Brigadier A.J. Boase, at 1030 hrs this morning.

RETURNS ON FITNESS FOR WAR OF individual units have been requested by 6 Aust Div .

2/2 Aust Inf Bn. is the only unit that can be considered fit for almost any kind of operation . The remaining battalions of the Brigade are backward ; due to an almost complete absence of weapons for a period of almost four months, they are suited only for guard duties or operations against a second class enemy .

WAR DIARY

KHASBA

3 Sep 41.

BRIGADE PARTY, consisting of Brigadier A.J. Boase, Major H.H. Hammer, and Captain I.C. Fulton, together with Lt Col K.W. Eather, 2/1 Aust inf bn, and Captain Beckingsale of the Engineers, left this morning as part of 6 Aust Div syndicate to carry out a recce of the area East of LAKE TIBERIAS to extend the present SAMAKH system to include the FIQ RIDGE.

2/2 Aust inf bn report hostile aerial activity over EL ARISH at 2215 hrs today.
Three bombs were dropped but fortunately no damage or casualties were incurred.

WAR DIARY.

KHASSA.

4 Sep 41.

2/2 Aust Inf Bn report that enemy aircraft were again over El Arish during the night of 4/5, on this occasion however no bombs were dropped.

WAR DIARY

KHASSA

5 Sep 41

BRIGADE PARTY returned to camp today from a recce of the SAMAKH area of N. Palestine. A copy of the report on this recce will be found in the appendices.

No 108 MK 11. Six wireless sets, No 108 Mk 11, being the full scale of issue, were received by all bns in this Bde today.

WAR DIARY

KHASSA

6 Sep 41.

CAPT. I.S. McKenzie left the Brigade this morning to attend the Middle East Staff School, Middle East Force . During Capt. McKenzie's absence, Lieut. W.L. Darcey will carry out the duties of Staff Captain .

M.T. DRIVERS AND MAINTENANCE SCHOOL NO 1. This, the first school of it's kind originated by this HQ, has proved most successful . Capt. J. Raftery's report shows that all students were remarkably enthusiastic, all proving satisfactory as MT drivers . Certain students reached a sufficiently high standard to be trained as mechanics .

A full report on the school by Capt. Raftery, the chief instructor, will be found in the appendices .

WAR DIARY.

KHASSA.

7 Sep 41.

Captain C.E. Jones left Brigade H.Q. today to attend the A.S.C. Middle East Refresher Course and will be away for six weeks.

Captain Morgan O.C. 2nd Echelon 6 Aust Div Supply Coln A.A.S.C. has temporarily taken over the duties of Supply officer in place of Captain Jones.

WAR DIARY

KHASSA

8 Sep 41.

AN ENEMY PLANE, thought to be a twin engined bomber, flew over the 2/2 Aust Inf Bn. area at El Arish at 0500 hrs this morning.

The plane flew in from a westerly direction, circled over the area, and finally dropped two bombs which landed 50 yds. north of the Egyptian barracks, breaking several windows and wounding one Egyptian.

Having dropped it's bombs it flew out to sea in a northerly direction.

A COMMANDING OFFICERS' CONFERENCE took place at this HQ at 1030 hrs this morning.

COs of 2/1, 2/6, 2/7 Aust Inf Bns were present, the subjects under discussion being general training and discipline.

FURTHER REINFORCEMENTS were marched into 2/6 and 2/7 Aust Inf Bns today, 2/6 receiving 139 ORs and 2/7 142.

WAR DIARY

KHASSA

9 Sep 41.

Brigadier A.J. Boase, and Major H.H. Hammer, left for EL ARISH this morning to visit the 2/2 Aust inf bn, and to discuss with Col Chilton a general security plan.

The second Brigade "Drivers and Maintenance M.T. course" to be originated within this Brigade was started today. It is to be located in B.H.Q. Lines at HILL 69. A copy of the instructions for this course is attached, see appendix "B".

2/1 Aust inf bn received further reinforcements today, 177 ors were marched in this morning.

WAR DIARY

KHASSA

10 Sep 41

LIVE OUT AND TRAIN . Units report that the troops are glad to get away from the camp area, and considerable benefit is derived from the use of new ground . Unit and sub-unit commanders prepare notes for minor tactical exercises during the Live Out and Train periods; this enables commanders to keep in touch with the type of training carried out and how it is being prepared .

WAR DIARY.

KHASSA.

11 Sep 41.

Recent arrivals from Crete were paraded before Major General E.F. Herring C.B.E. D.S.O. M.C. E.D. G.O.C. 6 Aust Div.

Training ammunition. Application has been made on behalf of 2/6 and 2/7 Aust inf bn for further supplies of training ammunition, the amount mentioned being 40,000 rounds .303. An adequate allotment for use on Jaffa Range will be made available during the months of September and October.

Brigade Intelligence exercise was carried out this morning in which "I" secs from Bde H.Q., 2/6, and 2/7 Aust Inf Bns participated; a full report on same will be found in the appendices.

WAR DIARY

KHASSA

12 Sep 41.

TEWTS are being prepared by units of the Brigade for a Divisional pool . The idea is to save COs time in preparation, and to have tactical exercises of a widely differing nature on hand for use with the minimum expenditure of time. .

A REPORT emanating from this HQ, inviting attention to the extremely unsatisfactory situation in this, and other, Inf Bdes, arising out of the delay in the provision of war equipment to complete units to the authorised scale, and the unfortunate results of placing certain units in a Bde on a higher order of priority for issues than the remaining units of the same Bde, has been made to the GOC 6 Aust Div . A copy of the report will be found in the appendices .

WAR DIARY

KHASSA

13 Sep 41.

A CONFERENCE of formation and Div unit gas officers was held at the YMCA Recreational Hut, Div HQ, at 1000 hrs today, to discuss anti gas training within the division .

178 REINFORCEMENTS (all ORs) marched into 2/2 Aust Inf Bn this morning.

WAR DIARY

KHASSA

14 Sep 41.

Training Arms. It is reported that there is still a shortage of training arms, but a quantity of anti tank rifles, up to 20% of war establishment, is promised for the very near future.

It is learned that one officer, and one N.C.O. from this Brigade, will be returning shortly to Australia, to undertake the training of an armored unit.

WAR DIARY.

KHASSA

15 Sep 41.

DECONTAMINATION SQUADS . After consulting with unit gas officers re decontamination squads, it appears that one weeks training would be sufficient for training these squads, provided that the necessary training equipment is available.

WAR DIARY

KHASSA

16 Sep 41.

AN ARTILLERY SHOOT at Asluj was attended by a Bde syndicate, together with syndicates from 2/1, 2/2, 2/6, and 2/7 Bns , on 15 Sep.

The shoot, which extended over two days, was arranged in the form of a TEWT, and the actual shooting took place when called for . Valuable lessons were learnt by this method of demonstration, mainly the necessity for close cooperation between infantry and artillery commanders, and also the intense fire that could be produced by a battery of eight guns firing on the same task .

CHANGE OVER TO WINTER TIME. Following message received from Milpal. Summer time EGYPT ends 2100 hrs GMT 15 Sep midnight 15/16 local time . Thereafter local time EGYPT WESTERN DESERT TOBRUCH two hours ahead GMT . Also applies MEDITERRANEAN FLEET.

WAR DIARY

KHASSA

19 Sep 41

Reinforcements recently attached to all units of this Bde are of quite a reasonable standard, both physically, and from the view of military training. Units report that they are fully satisfied with their standard in general.

WAR DIARY

KHASSA

20 Sep 41.

Signal Demonstration. Brigade syndicate, together with syndicates from 2/1, 2/2, 2/6, and 2/7 Aust inf bns attended a Signal demonstration given by 6 Aust Div Signals. All methods of signals were demonstrated, from divisions down to coys; it was a most interesting demonstration and gave a clear picture of signal procedure within the division.

WAR DIARY

KHASSA

21 Sep 41.

6,000 ROUNDS OF .303 SAA BLANK AMMUNITION Has been allotted to this Bde. The scale of issue is to be 1000 rounds per battalion. Blank ammunition is not easy to obtain, consequently units will use it to best advantage during future training exercises. This issue will introduce some realism into training.

WAR DIARY

KHASSA

22 Sep 41.

Small Arms Range. 2/1 Aust inf bn have selected a site for a 30x Small Arms Range in the area South East of HILL 69 Camp in the sand dunes. The site has been inspected by H.Q. 6 Aust Div who consider it safe, subject to safety precautions being observed. The range can comfortably accommodate 15 firers in one detail. The range has NOT yet been approved by A.D.E.S, A.I.F. BASE AREA. Rifles and L.M.Gs only would be used.

WAR DIARY

KHASSA

23 Sep 41.

OPERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR EL ARISH will pass to BTE as from today's date .

BTE will also be responsible for protection of RAF installations at RAFA.

2/2 Aust Inf Bn. will be withdrawn to join the Division as soon as the change over has been completed .

A BRIGADE "I" EXERCISE, in which 2/6, 2/7 Aust Inf Bns and Bde "I" sections participated, took place this morning .

B Coy, 2/7 Aust Inf Bn acted as attacking force .

Capt. Knox, GSO 3 (I), 6 Aust Div, expressed his satisfaction with the exercise and commented on the marked improvement shown.

A full report on the exercise by I.O. 16 Aust Inf Bde will be found in the appendices .

WAR DIARY

KHASSA

24 Sep 41

M.T. Drivers & Maintenance School No 3. The report on this school, which terminated on the 22 Sep 41, proved most satisfactory; Captain Raftery, chief instructor, was very pleased, both with the keen enthusiasm shown, and the standard of efficiency reached by all students. A copy of Captain Raftery's report on the school will be found in the appendices.

WAR DIARY

KHASSA

25 Sep 41

RIVER RECCE-YARKON RIVER. Brigade "I" sec left camp this morning for the purpose of carrying out a recce of the YARKON RIVER, the area to be recced being from the bridge north of NAHALAT GANNIM to the mouth of the river. Previously a report on the river crossing had been made based on the study of air photographs. Both the report on the actual river recce, and the report based on the study of air photographs will be found in the appendices.

WAR DIARY

KHASSA

28 Sep 41.

A BATTALION TEWT, held by officers of 2/7 Aust Inf Bn, was attended by Brigadier A.J. Boase and Major H.H. Hammer. Lt. Col. H.G. Guinn acted as the director of the exercise, which was designed to bring out the teaching of procedure for consolidation on capture of an objective .

WAR DIARY

KHASSA

29 Sep 41.

RIFLE PRACTICE. Some time has been spent on JAFFA RANGE during the month by units of the Brigade, firing the various battalion weapons . A reasonable allotment of ammunition has been made available to units ; in fact, the allotment is greater than it was last year prior to the Brigade's participation in the Libyan campaign .

TOETS have been carried out in all weapons, together with range practice with ball ammunition, and the standard of training has been improved, although it cannot be said at this stage to be entirely satisfactory . This is mainly due to the lack of weapons available to units .

WAR DIARY

KHASSA

30 Sep 41.

THE MONTH has been a busy one, due to the advance from platoon to company training. Units have prepared company exercises on every phase of tactical training and some valuable lessons have been learnt. Companies have usually spent from 5 to 6 days in the field whilst carrying out their training programme and are now hard and fit. Battalion TEWTS have been carried out under the supervision of Brigade.

Units have prepared their company exercises prior to the weeks' training to ensure their being carried out on a proper basis. The insistence on the prior preparation has produced good results, having given battalion and company commanders much training in the preparation of training exercises with troops.

SCHOOLS have continued to be plentiful this month, although the majority of them have originated outside this Brigade. The "16 Aust Inf Bde Drivers and Maintenance MT School", of which there have been two, were a marked success, Capt. Raftery, the Chief Instructor, being extremely satisfied with the enthusiasm shown and the standard of efficiency reached by the students, some of whom were really outstanding.

THIRD MT DRIVERS' AND MAINTENANCE SCHOOL of a successful series started today. This time the school will be located at 2/1 Aust Inf Bn. lines, Khassa.

Care is to be exercised in the selection of students for this school, so as to ensure that all students sent are capable, on return to their units, of imparting their knowledge to other drivers. NO driver will be sent to this school who has NOT had previous MT experience.

Instructions for this course will be found in the appendices.

APPENDICES TO WAR DIARY
FOR
SEPTEMBER 41

- Appendix A - Routine Orders of 16 Aust Inf Bde H.Q.
- " B - 16 Aust Inf Bde "Drivers & Maintenance M.T. Course No 2".
- " C - Report on 16 Aust Inf Bde "Drivers & Maintenance Course No 1". Held from 20 Aug to 4 Sep 41.
- " D - Report on 16 Aust Inf Bde "Drivers & Maintenance Course No 2"
- " E - Report on 16 Aust Inf Bde Intelligence Exercise dated 11 Sep 41.
- " F - Copy of letter addressed to G.O.C. 6 Aust Div, from Brigadier A.J. Boase, drawing attention to the delay in completion of issues of War Equipment to units.
- " G - Report on 16 Aust Inf Bde Intelligence Exercise dated 23 Sep 41.
- " H - 16 Aust Inf Bde "Drivers & Maintenance M.T. Course No 3".
- " I - Report on river crossing - YARKON RIVER - based on the study of air photographs, also a subsequent recce report of ground.
- " J - Report on recce of area EAST of LAKE TIBERIAS.
- " K - List of schools held during the month of September.

APPENDIX A

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.I. BOASE - COMMANDING.

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 195

Part 1

1 September 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 1 Sep 41.

Field Officer of the Day
Next for Duty

Capt W.G.A. Baines, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
Lieut F.B. Thornborough, 2/1 Aust Fd
Regt.

Duty Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut W.L. Darcey, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Lieut A.C. Pepper, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

Field Medical Officer
Next for Duty

Capt F.N. Street, 2/1 Aust Fd Amb.
Major S.W. Bryan, 2/7 Aust Fd Amb.

Duty Unit
Next for Duty

2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
2/1 Aust Fd Regt.

H. H. Hammer
.....Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION:

HQ 6 Aust Div.
2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
2/2 Aust Inf Bn.
2/6 Aust Inf Bn.
2/7 Aust Inf Bn.
2/1 Aust Fd Regt.
2/2 Aust Fd Regt.
2/3 Aust Fd Regt.
2/1 Aust Army Fd Wkshops.
2/2 Aust Army Fd Wkshops.
2/1 Aust Fd Amb.
2/7 Aust Fd Amb.
2/1 Aust Fd Hyg Sec.
C.R.S.
45 L.A.D.
Camp Staff Officer
War Diary (2).
File.

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 196

Part 1

2 September 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 2 Sep 41.

Field Officer of the Day	Lieut F.B. Thornborough, 2/1 Aust Fd Regt.
Next for Duty	Lieut J.D. Dent, 2/2 Aust Fd Regt.
Duty Officer	Lieut A.C. Pepper, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Next for Duty	Capt I.C. Fulton, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Field Medical Officer	Major S.J. Bryan, 2/7 Aust Fd Amb.
Next for Duty	Capt F.J. Connell, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
Duty Unit	2/1 Aust Fd Regt.
Next for Duty	2/2 Aust Fd Regt.

2. CINEMA PICQUET - JULIS:

Ref B.R.O. No. 179 para 3, 16 Aug 41 and B.R.O. No. 194, para 3, 31 Aug 41.

The abovementioned Picquet will be discontinued as from Retreat, 2 Sep 41.

3. ORGANISED SPORT:

Units will submit to this HQ on 6 Sep 41 and thereafter weekly, a report on the sports fixtures held during the preceding week, together with proposed syllabus for ensuing week. Special mention will be made of the unit's activities concerning the following items :- Surf, Cricket, Hockey, Basket ball and athletic competitions. This information is referred to the Amenities Officer, HQ AIF (ME) Base Area.

4. NATIVE PERSONNEL - MEDICAL INSPECTIONS:

Attention is directed to the instructions laid down in Standing Orders, PALESTINE (Provisional), Pam 4, Sec VI, para 39, regarding the medical inspection of native employees of units and institutes.

It has come to notice that these instructions are NOT being carried out and units will therefore emphasize the necessity for such procedure and take action accordingly.

5. RETURN OF SECURITY AMMUNITION:

Units will submit to this HQ as at the end of each month a return of ammunition held for security purposes.

6. DONKEYS:

In many lines very little attempt has been made to clear donkeys off the area. There is in many cases an area where the natives tether their animals. These areas are sources for fly breeding and should be cleaned up daily by the natives

A.H. Hammer
Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde

PTO

NOTICES

CRICKET DRAW

Matches of THIRD Round to be completed by 7 Sep 41.

- H.C. 16 Aust Inf Bde - 2/2 Aust Fd Regt
- 2/3 Aust Fd Regt - 2/2 Aust Army Fd Wkshops
- 2/1 Aust Inf Bn - 2/1 Aust Army Fd Wkshops
- 2/1 Aust Fd Amb - 2/7 Aust Fd Amb
- 2/1 Aust Fd Regt - BYE

Matches to be played on grounds of first mentioned team. Results of matches will be forwarded to Amenities Officer by the "Home" Team by 1200 hrs 8 Sep 41.

Any team unable to play will notify Amenities Officer by 1200 hrs 5 Sep 41.

FREE CONCERT

All Units are advised that the 2/6 Aust Inf Bn Band and Concert Party from HILL 69 will be in attendance at the YICA Marquee, Bde HQ Lines at 2000 hrs on Wed 3 Sep 41.

DISTRIBUTION:

- HQ 6 Aust Div.
- 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
- 2/2 Aust Inf Bn.
- 2/6 Aust Inf Bn.
- 2/7 Aust Inf Bn.
- 2/1 Aust Fd Regt.
- 2/2 Aust Fd Regt.
- 2/3 Aust Fd Regt.
- 2/1 Aust Army Fd Wkshops.
- 2/2 Aust Army Fd Wkshops.
- 2/1 Aust Fd Amb.
- 2/7 Aust Fd Amb.
- 2/1 Aust Fd Hyg Sec.
- C.R.S.
- 45 L.A.D.
- Camp Staff Officer
- War Diary. (2)
- File

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE -: COMMANDING

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 197

Part 1

3 September 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 3 Sep 41.

Field Officer of the Day
Next for Duty

Lieut W.D. Dent, 2/2 Aust Fd Regt.
Lieut E.J. Crute, 2/3 Aust Fd Regt

Duty Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut S.M. Percival, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde
Lieut W.L. Darcey, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

Field Medical Officer
Next for Duty

Capt F.J. Connell, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
Capt R.F.A. Becke, 2/1 Aust Fd Regt.

Duty Unit
Next for Duty

2/2 Aust Fd Regt.
2/3 Aust Fd Regt.

2. SECURITY - CAMP LINES:

It has been reported that an Arab was caught in the act of attempting to steal Rifles on night 28/29 Aug 41.

Security measures within this Unit provided for one man being awake in each tent during the hours of darkness in addition to the normal practice of chaining and locking rifles to the tent pole.

The Arab was seen to approach the tent, was permitted to enter and the sentry was able to overpower and hand him over to the Civil Police.

It is felt that Unit Commanders should investigate the precautionary measures taken to safeguard arms and amm in their lines in view of the recent losses of Rifles within the area and ensure that everything possible is being done to prevent natives gaining access to arms etc. particularly during the hours of darkness.

3. CORRIGENDUM:

Ref B.R.O. No. 196 of 2 Sep 41, para 3, "Organised Sport", delete last sentence and insert in lieu "This information is referred to the Amenities Officer, H.Q. 6 Aust Div."

NOTICES

FOUND: 1 Worsted Belt containing sum of money in Egyptian and Palestine currency, Laundry Ticket and 2 tickets marked 2/2 Aust Casualty Clearing Station.

Owner may have same on application to H.Q. 2/1 Aust Fd Regt.

DISTRIBUTION: As for B.R.O. No. 196 dated 2 Sep 41.

W.L. Darcey
Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde
A.O.I.

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 198

Part 1

4 September 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 4 Sep 41.

Field Officer of the Day
Next for Duty

Lieut E.N. Crute, 2/3 Aust Fd Regt.
Lieut P. Barclay, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

Duty Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut W.L. Darcey, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Lieut A.C. Pepper, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

Field Medical Officer
Next for Duty

Capt R.F.A. Becke, 2/1 Aust Fd Regt.
Capt R.F. Matthews, 2/1 Aust Fd Amb.

Duty Unit
Next for Duty

2/3 Aust Fd Regt.
2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

2. CHURCH SERVICES: Sunday 7 Sep 41.

His Majesty the King has requested that Sunday 7 Sep 41 be observed as a Day of National Prayer.

Mass (Roman Catholic) will be celebrated at 0645 and 0830 hrs in the Y.M.C.A. Tent, 2/1 Aust Fd Regt Lines.

Confessions will be heard at Chaplain's Tent, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn Lines, on Saturday afternoon and night.

Units will note that the above services are being held for all Roman Catholic personnel of all Units in KHASSA CAMP Area.

Holy Communion will be celebrated at 0700 hrs in Y.M.C.A. Tent, 2/3 Aust Fd Regt Lines for personnel of all units, KHASSA Camp.

COMBINED CHURCH PARADES:

0930 hrs 2/1 Aust Inf Bn Parade Ground for personnel of 2/1 Aust Inf Bn and 2/1 and 2/7 Aust Fd Amb.

0930 hrs in Y.M.C.A. Tent, 2/1 Aust Fd Regt Lines for personnel of 2/1 Aust Fd Regt and HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

1000 hrs on Regtl Parade Ground, 2/2 Aust Fd Regt Lines.

0845 hrs in Y.M.C.A. Tent, 2/3 Aust Fd Regt Lines.

M. King
.....Major
B.N. 16 Aust Inf Bde

NOTICES.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

Acknowledgment is made of the receipt from the A.C.F. of the following goods for distribution - 3060 pkts Tobacco, 3060 pkts Cigarette papers and 2 Cricket Bats.

DISTRIBUTION: As for B.R.O. No. 197 dated 3 Sep 41.

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING.

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 199

Part 1

5 September 41.

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 5 Sep 41.

Field Officer of the Day	Lieut P. Barclay, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
Next for Duty	Lieut J.S. Arnold, 2/1 Aust Fd Regt.
Duty Officer	Capt I.C. Fulton, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Next for Duty	Lieut A.C. Pepper, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Field Medical Officer	Capt R.F. Matthews, 2/1 Aust Fd Amb.
Next for Duty	Capt E.P. Cherry, 2/3 Aust Fd Regt.
Duty Unit	2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
Next for Duty	2/1 Aust Fd Regt.

2. DUTIES - BRIGADE GUARD AND PICQUET:

Units will ensure that duties mounting and dismounting at this HQ, move on to Bde Parade ground NOT before 1750 hrs and NOT later than 1753 hrs daily.

Guard and Picquet will NOT "STAND EASY" while on the Bde Parade ground but may "STAND AT EASE".

A. H. Hammer
.....Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde

NOTICES.

LOSS OF PASS.

It is notified that the following pass has been lost :-

Pass No. 21745 issued to ALI BAKHIT MAHAHOD.

It is requested that sentries on duty be informed of the above and a strict watch made to ascertain if this pass is being used by others to enter the camp.

In the event of this pass being found this HQ will be notified as soon as possible and the holder detained for interrogation.

FREE CONCERT

The TEL AVIV Juvenile Orchestra will give a Concert in the Y.M.C.A. Tent, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn Lines, KHASSA, on Saturday 6 Sep at 1800 hrs. Personnel of all Units are invited to attend.

DISTRIBUTION: As for B.R.O. No. 198 dated 4 Sep 41.

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. DOASE - COMMANDING.

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 200

Part 1

6 September 41.

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 6 Sep 41.

Field Officer of the Day
Next for Duty

Lieut J.S. Arnold, 2/1 Aust Fd Regt.
Lieut P.S. Whitelaw, 2/2 Aust Fd Regt.

Duty Officer
Next for Duty

Capt I.C. Fulton, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde
Lieut S.M. Percival, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde

Field Medical Officer
Next for Duty

Major S.W. Bryan, 2/7 Aust Fd Amb.
To be notified later.

Duty Unit
Next for Duty

2/1 Aust Fd Regt.
2/2 Aust Fd Regt.

2. ORDERS OF DRESS - A.I.F.

A.I.F. Order (HE) No. 296 of 11th April 1941 is amended as follows :-

Delete detail after Note (m), and substitute :- Jerseys, Pullover, Khaki, may be worn as an outside garment, but Jerseys, Pullover, Blue, will only be worn as an underneath garment, except when necessary for training or operations. (Div R.O. para 300).

3. COURTS OF INQUIRY - LOSS OF STORES OR EQUIPMENT.

1. Attention is directed to the extensive losses, particularly by theft, of stores or equipment, especially tentage accommodation.

Courts of Inquiry held on such losses are frequently unsatisfactory by reason that :-

- (a) They are convened by the C.O. of the unit responsible.
- (b) They consist of the unit's officers only.
- (c) Insufficient evidence is called to disclose what preventive steps have been taken to avoid losses occurring.

2. In future, the following procedure will be followed :-

- (a) All losses will be reported within 24 hours of discovery to next superior authority.
- (b) Courts of Inquiry will be convened by such superior authority, the constitution of such courts to include at least two officers not members of the unit concerned.
- (c) The terms of reference will require every court to investigate and report on the measures taken to safeguard stores or equipment.
- (d) All losses by theft will be published in Unit Orders, thus directing attention to the prevalence of such losses.

3. The appropriate authorities will not approve the writing off at public expense the value of losses sustained unless satisfactory evidence has been produced to confirm the fact that all possible measures have been taken to prevent theft, loss or damage. (Div R.O. para 301.)

PTO

4. ISSUES OF BOOTS.

As an economy measure, future issues of Boots, Ankle, to units will comprise 90% of new boots and 10% of part worn, repaired. This will continue until stocks of repaired boots have been reduced to a figure sufficient for desertation reserves. (Div R.O. para 302)

5. WEARING OF BOOTS "PUTTEES".

Whenever boots of any description, including desert boots, are worn, short puttees or gaiters will also be worn. Officers will pay particular attention to this. (Div R.O. para 303)

6. COURTS-MARTIAL - WITNESSES FOR.

Many cases have recently occurred of persons subject to Military Law being kept in arrest for an unreasonable length of time and their trial by Court Martial delayed, owing to witnesses having been posted away from, or left the Station.

In future all Officers; Warrant Officers, N.C.Os, and men whose evidence has been recorded in a Summary of Evidence will not on any account be posted away from or leave the station without reference to the authority whose duty it is to convene the Court Martial in the particular instance.

Casualties amongst such witnesses through wounds or sickness will be reported to the convening authority and the fact of their being waiting witnesses at a Court Martial reported on the Casualty Report. (Div R.O. para 304)

7. UNAUTHORISED USE OF A.V. VEHICLES.

Drivers of A.V. vehicles will not stop when requested to do so by civilians, for any purpose, unless it is clear to the driver that exceptional circumstances necessitate this. They will not give lifts to civilians. (Div R.O. para 305)

8. NATIVE PERSONNEL - MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Attention is directed to the instructions laid down in S.O. Palestine (Provisional) Pam 4 Sec VI para 39, regarding the medical inspection of native employees of units and institutes.

It has come to notice that these instructions are not being carried out and units will therefore emphasize the necessity for such procedure and take action accordingly. (Div R.O. para 306)

9. NOTIFICATION OF FIRES.

When a fire occurs causing damage to any property under control of units, immediate notice thereof will be given to this HQ. (Div R.O. para 307)

10. HAWKERS IN CAMP AREAS:

Due to the recent considerable increase in dysentery arising from consumption of grapes and other fruits purchased from Hawkers, AIF (ME) Order No. 514 will again be emphasized to troops. (Div R.O. para 308)

11. ANTI-TANK MINES E.P. MK 11.

1. Mines Anti-Tank E.P. Mk 11 are filled with commercial gelignite and until required for laying in Mine Fields should be kept in the coolest possible conditions.

2. In any case they must be protected from the full rays of the sun, and protected as far as possible from the effects of enemy

small arms fire, which has been known to cause the destruction of stocks of gelignite. (Div R.O. para 309)

12. COURTS-MARTIAL - PUBLICATION.

When publishing the result of courts-martial in Routine Orders, it is only necessary to include the statement of each offence (e.g. Conduct to the prej. of good order etc. - (AA Sec 40)). The particulars of the offence need not be published. (Div R.O. para 310)

13. DRESS: HATS AND CAPS.

The various types of headgear on issue within the Division are not being worn correctly. Greater attention will be paid to this, especially by junior commanders. Inspections will be made before parades and before troops are allowed to proceed on leave.

The correct methods are as follows :-

Hats khaki fur. The hat is to be placed squarely on the head, not on the back of the head, and not all on one side, but with the brim approximately one quarter of an inch above the top of the right ear.

Hats will be worn with the brim turned down.

The dent in the hat is to be one complete dent from front to rear.

Caps S.D. Caps will be worn squarely on the head and not tilted in any direction.

Caps F.S. (Forage Caps). Will be worn so that the front peak is directly over the right eye and the cap is firmly on the right side of the head. (Div R.O. para 311)

14. VEGETABLES.

Extreme difficulty is being experienced in obtaining a variety of suitable vegetables. Units will ensure that all cased and sacked vegetables are emptied and spread on racks as soon as received from AASC.

U.S. Bedsteads, folding, palm, should be utilized as racks for vegetables. (Div R.O. para 312)

15. NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER.

Sunday 7 Sep 41 has been set aside by His Majesty The King as a National Day of Prayer.

The G.O.C. desires that all personnel will attend some Church Service on that day. (Div R.O. para 313)

16. PANNIERS - MEDICAL COMFORTS.

Units will forward Indents for Panniers, medical comforts, direct to Aust Base Depot Medical Stores. (Div R.O. para 314)

17. SANDSHOES - SPORTS ISSUE.

The practice of issuing Sandshoes to personnel for sporting fixtures and then returning them to Q.Ms store is likely to spread Tinea. Where possible each soldier should use his own shoes. Regimental funds might be used for this purpose. (Div R.O. para 315)

H. H. ...
.....Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde

PTO

NOTICE

VACANCY - AIF PRINTING & STATIONERY DEPOT (TYPEWRITER SECTION).

Vacancies for skilled typewriter mechanics (Trade Group 1.) exist.

Units are requested to call for applications for transfer from men with the necessary qualifications.

Such applications should be forwarded direct to this HQ.

DISTRIBUTION:

- HQ 6 Aust Div
- 2/1 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/2 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/6 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/7 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/1 Aust Fd Regt
- 2/2 Aust Fd Regt
- 2/3 Aust Fd Regt
- 2/1 Aust Army Fd Wkshops
- 2/2 Aust Army Fd Wkshops
- 2/1 Aust Fd Amb.
- 2/7 Aust Fd Amb
- 2/1 Aust Fd Hyg Sec
- C.R.S.
- 45 L.A.D.
- Camp Staff Officer
- War Diary (2)
- File.

Major
 Lt Aust Inf Bde
 PTO

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 201

Part 1

7 September 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 7 Sep 41.

Field Officer of the Day
Next for Duty

Lieut P.S. Whitelaw, 2/2 Aust Fd Regt.
Lieut A.B. Pierce, 2/3 Aust Fd Regt.

Duty Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut S.M. Percival, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Capt I.C. Fulton, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

Field Medical Officer
Next for Duty

Capt F.J. Connell, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
Capt R.F.A. Becke, 2/1 Aust Fd Regt.

Duty Unit
Next for Duty

2/2 Aust Fd Regt.
2/3 Aust Fd Regt.

S.M. Percival
.....Major
S.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde
H.20

DISTRIBUTION:

HQ 6 Aust Div.
2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
2/2 Aust Inf Bn.
2/6 Aust Inf Bn.
2/7 Aust Inf Bn.
2/1 Aust Fd Regt.
2/2 Aust Fd Regt.
2/3 Aust Fd Regt.
2/1 Aust Army Fd Workshops.
2/2 Aust Army Fd Workshops.
2/1 Aust Fd Amb.
2/7 Aust Fd Amb.
2/1 Aust Fd Hyg Sec.
C.R.S.
45 L.A.D.
Camp Staff Officer.
War Diary (2)
File.

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASGA
CAMP

No. 202

Part 1

8 September 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 8 Sept 41.

Field Officer of the Day
Next for Duty

Lieut A.B. Pierce, 2/3 Aust Fd Regt.
Capt W.A. Pike, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

Duty Officer
Next for Duty

Capt I.C. Fulton, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Lieut A.C. Pepper, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

Field Medical Officer
Next for Duty

Capt R.F.A. Becke, 2/1 Aust Fd Regt.
Capt W.D. Refshauge, 2/2 Aust Fd Regt.

Duty Unit
Next for Duty

2/3 Aust Fd Regt.
2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

2. SECURITY OF ARMS:

A register of arms is to be maintained at all H.Q. showing both issue and private-owned pistols as well as other arms etc.

This will ensure that although a member is absent from his Unit full particulars of privately-owned weapons are at hand.

A. H. ...
.....Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde

NOTICES

FOUND:

A Gold Ring, with Initials, has been found in 2/1 Aust Fd Regt Shower Rooms.
Owner may have same on application to H.Q. 2/1 Aust Fd Regt.

LOST:

One Leather Tobacco Pouch, Initials "L.P.B." in vicinity of Cahteen, 2/1 Aust Fd Amb Lines. Would finder kindly return to HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION: As for B.R.O. No. 201 dated 7 Sep 41.

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING.

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED
No. 203

KHASSA
CAMP

Part 1

9 September 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 9 Sep 41.

Field Officer of the Day	Capt J.A. Pike, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
Next for Duty	Capt J.A. Pike, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
Duty Officer	Lieut A.C. Pepper, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Next for Duty	Lieut J.L. Darcey, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Field Medical Officer	Major I.H. Sander, 2/1 Aust Fd Amb.
Next for Duty	Major H.W. Russell, 2/7 Aust Fd Amb.
Duty Unit	2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
Next for Duty	2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

[Signature]
..... Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION:

HQ 6 Aust Div.
2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
2/2 Aust Inf Bn.
2/6 Aust Inf Bn.
2/7 Aust Inf Bn.
2/1 Aust Fd Regt.
2/2 Aust Fd Regt.
2/3 Aust Fd Regt.
2/1 Aust Army Fd Mkshops.
2/2 Aust Army Fd Mkshops.
2/1 Aust Fd Amb.
2/7 Aust Fd Amb.
2/1 Aust Fd Hyg Sec.
C.R.S.
45 L.A.D.
Camp Staff Officer.
War Diary (2)
File.

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING.

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHAGGA
CAMP

No. 204

Part 1

10 September 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 10 Sep 41.

Field Officer of the Day
Next for Duty

Capt D. H. Lovell, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
Capt C. B. Cox, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

Duty Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut W. L. Darcey, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Lieut S. M. Percival, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

Field Medical Officer
Next for Duty

Major H. I. Russell, 2/7 Aust Fd Amb.
Capt F. J. Connell, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

Duty Unit
Next for Duty

2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

2. TELEPHONE EXTENSIONS:

The undermentioned extension Nos. of this HQ are promulgated for information :-

Bde Comd.	-	Ext	7
B.M.)	-	"	9
S.C.)			
I.O.	)	"	6
L.O.s)		
Orderly Room)		
Camp S.O.	"		14

W. L. Darcey
Major
for B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde.
H.O.D.

NOTICES

CRICKET DRAW - CAMP COMPETITION:

Matches to be completed by 21 Sep 41.
Conditions as same as last draw.

HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.	v	2/3 Aust Fd Regt.
2/1 Aust Fd Regt.	v	2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
2/1 Aust A.F.I.	v	2/1 Aust Fd Amb.
2/7 Aust Fd Amb.	v	2/2 Aust A.F.I.
2/2 Aust Fd Regt.		BYE

DISTRIBUTION: As for B.R.O. No. 203 dated 9 Sep 41.

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 205

Part 1

11 September 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 11 Sep 41.

Field Officer of the Day	Capt G.S. Cox, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
Next for Duty	Capt B.L. Catterns, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
Duty Officer	Lieut S.M. Percival, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Next for Duty	Lieut R.J.F. McIntosh, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Field Medical Officer	Capt F.J. Connell, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
Next for Duty	Major I.H. Sender, 2/1 Aust Fd Amb.
Duty Unit	2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
Next for Duty	2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

2. CHURCH SERVICES - Sunday 14 Sep 41.

Mass (Roman Catholic) will be celebrated at 0645 and 0830 hrs in the Y.M.C.A. Tent, 2/1 Aust Fd Regt Lines.

Confessions will be heard at Chaplain's Tent, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn Lines, on Saturday afternoon and night.

Units will note that the above services are being held for all Roman Catholic personnel of all Units in KHASSA CAMP Area.

Holy Communion will be celebrated at 0700 hrs in Y.M.C.A. Tent, 2/3 Aust Fd Regt Lines for personnel of all units, KHASSA CAMP.

COMBINED CHURCH PARADES.

0930 hrs 2/1 Aust Inf Bn Parade Ground for personnel of 2/1 Aust Inf Bn and 2/1 and 2/7 Aust Fd Ambs.

0930 hrs in Y.M.C.A. Tent, 2/1 Aust Fd Regt Lines for personnel of 2/1 Aust Fd Regt and HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

1000 hrs on Regtl Parade Ground, 2/2 Aust Fd Regt Lines.

0845 hrs in Y.M.C.A. Tent, 2/3 Aust Fd Regt Lines.

3. DISCIPLINE:

Personnel apparently returning from Canteens in the area and moving past Bde HQ at night are very often swearing in a foul mouthed manner and making use of obscene and objectionable language.

This practise is becoming too frequent and units are requested to bring the matter before the notice of all personnel.

Any continuation will mean that Canteens will be placed out of bounds to all personnel from other units and will mean that no visitors will be permitted to enter Canteens other than in the lines laid down for their use.

P20

4. BDE H.C. FATIGUE PARTY:

As from 10 Sep 41 the above Fatigue Party will be increased from 1 N.C.O. & 6 O.Rs to 1 N.C.O. & 8 O.Rs.

H.H. Hammer
.....Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde

NOTICES

A.I.F. SURF CARNIVAL - 21 Sep 41

EVENTS -

1. MARCH PAST (20 in Team)
2. R & R COMPETITION (6 in Team)
3. ALARM REEL RACE (5 in Team)
4. OPEN SURF RACE
5. SURF RELAY RACE
6. BEACH SPRINTS
7. BEACH RELAY
8. MUSICAL FLAGS
9. PILLOW FIGHT
10. SACK RACE

Events 1,2,3. One Team from each Camp and in events 4,5,6,7,8,9, four competitors from each camp.

The finals will take place at GAZA BEACH. Camps will carry out any preliminary contests to select teams and other competitors.

Swimming Trunks to be worn in all events except No. 9, when a pair of shorts will be worn as well.

Entries to be forwarded to the Camp Staff Officer, KHASSA, by 1800 hrs on Sunday 14 Sep 41.

2nd ROUND - T.T.

- | | | |
|------------------|---|---------------------|
| 2/1 A.F.M. | v | HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde. |
| 2/1 Aust Fd Amb. | v | 2/6 Aust Inf Bn. |
| 2/1 Aust Fd Regt | v | 2/7 Aust Fd Amb. |

DISTRIBUTION - As for B.R.O. No. 204 dated 10 Sep 41.

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING.

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 206

Part 1

12 September 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 12 Sep 41.

Field Officer of the Day
Next for Duty

Capt B.J. Catterns, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
Lieut J.C. Burrell, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

Duty Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut R.J.F. McIntosh, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Capt I.C. Fulton, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

Field Medical Officer
Next for Duty

Capt R.L. Johnson, 2/1 Aust Fd Amb.
Major S.W. Bryan, 2/7 Aust Fd Amb.

Duty Unit
Next for Duty

2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

A.J. Boase
.....Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde

NOTICE

FOUND -

Identity Discs & Keys - QX 2082 L. HERSHELL.

Identity Discs - NX 3427 W. DITCHAM.

Owners may have the above articles on application to
Camp Staff Office.

DISTRIBUTION

HQ 6 Aust Div
2/1 Aust Inf Bn
2/2 Aust Inf Bn
2/6 Aust Inf Bn
2/7 Aust Inf Bn
2/1 Aust Fd Regt
2/2 Aust Fd Regt
2/3 Aust Fd Regt
2/1 Aust Army Fd Workshops
2/2 Aust Army Fd Workshops
2/1 Aust Fd Amb
2/7 Aust Fd Amb
2/1 Aust Fd Hyg Sec
45 L.A.D.
C.R.S.
Camp Staff Officer
War Diary (2)
File

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING.

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED
No. 207

KHASSA
CAMP

Part 1

13 September 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 13 Sep 41.

Field Officer of the Day	Lieut J.C. Burrell, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
Next for Duty	Capt W.A. Pike, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
Duty Officer	Capt I.C. Fulton, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Next for Duty	Lieut A.C. Pepper, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Field Medical Officer	Major S.W. Bryan, 2/7 Aust Fd Amb.
Next for Duty	Capt F.J. Connell, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
Duty Unit	2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
Next for Duty	2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

2. HYGIENE:

(a) Repeated requests are being received for replacements and repairs to grease traps in all lines of this Camp. As all grease traps have been repaired it is impossible that these further damages are due to fair wear and tear.

(b) There is an acute shortage of all building materials in PALESTINE and it is imperative that immediate action be taken to improve the present position.

(c) It is an obvious fact that grease traps are one of the most important necessities to every camp. If rendered inefficient by damages due to apparent carelessness and the removal of cases and strainers, the standard of health throughout the camp must deteriorate.

(d) All hygiene personnel will be instructed to exercise more care when cleaning traps and partitions will NOT be removed for this purpose.

3. FIELD MEDICAL OFFICERS:

As from Monday 15 Sep 41, Field Medical Officer's will be supplied by Units in the following order :-

Monday 15 Sep 41	-	2/7 Aust Fd Amb.
Wednesday 17 Sep 41	-	2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
Friday 19 Sep 41	-	2/1 Aust Fd Amb.
Sunday 21 Sep 41	-	2/1 Aust Fd Regt.
Tuesday 23 Sep 41	-	2/2 Aust Fd Regt.
Thursday 25 Sep 41	-	2/3 Aust Fd Regt.

and thereafter in the same order.

[Signature]
.....Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION: As for B.R.O. No. 206 dated 12 Sep 41

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING.

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 208

Part 1

14 September 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 14 Sep 41.

Field Officer of the Day Next for Duty	Capt W.A. Pike, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn. Capt B.W. Catterns, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
Duty Officer Next for Duty	Lieut A.C. Pepper, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde. Lieut S.M. Percival, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Field Medical Officer Next for Duty	Capt F.J. Connell, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn. Capt R.F. Matthews, 2/1 Aust Fd Amb.
Duty Unit Next for Duty	2/1 Aust Inf Bn. 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

2. RECORDS PROCEDURE - A.F.s W. 3006 AND W. 3007:

When submitting A.F.s W. 3006 and W. 3007, the name of the Unit will be shown on the form despatched to 2nd Echelon, AIF (ME), in clear. Code names will not be used.

A.F.W. 3006 will be submitted daily per Express Letter Service by all units to 2nd Echelon, AIF (ME), copy to next higher formation.

In addition to A.F.W. 3006, all battle casualties of Officers, Nurses and Other Ranks will be reported, immediately after they occur, to 2nd Echelon, AIF (ME), by the unit concerned, copy to next higher formation, area or sub-area. Information will indicate whether killed wounded or missing, date of casualty, and will give full regimental particulars.

All units at present submitting AIF Form 1 in lieu of A.F.W. 3006, that is, Base and Line of Communication Units and those with whom special arrangements have been made by 2nd Echelon, AIF (ME), will continue to do so. (Div R.O. para 316).

3. OFFICERS DRIVING VEHICLES - TRAINING PURPOSES:

Further to DRO Para 265, Officers may drive vehicles on MT practice and to obtain experience in driving during day or night, provided that they are accompanied by a licensed driver and that they are in possession of a written authority from their C.O. stating that permission has been given to them to drive the vehicle for practice and experience. (Div R.O. para 317).

4. APPOINTMENT AND PROMOTION OF OFFICERS:

As promotions of personnel who are Prisoners of War cannot be effected, recommendations for promotion of such personnel will not be made whilst they remain Prisoners of War, and no question of their supersession will arise.

Missing Officers are placed upon Regimental Supernumerary Lists, whilst Prisoners of War are placed on Permanent Supernumerary Lists. (Div R.O. para 318).

PTO.

5. LEAVE TO SYRIA:

Officers may now go to SYRIA and the LEBANON on leave under the following conditions :-

- (a) Officers will apply for leave to Formation HQ in writing ten days before their proposed visit to SYRIA. Such applications will be forwarded to this HQ in order that approval may be obtained from Force HQ.
- (b) Their application will state :-
 - (i) Name and address,
 - (ii) Duration of stay in SYRIA.
 - (iii) Proposed itinerary.
- (c) It may be necessary to prohibit certain areas to leave from time to time.

It is necessary that all Officers should be acquainted with the present political and internal security conditions in SYRIA, prior to their visit, in order to avoid the effects of uninformed talk and actions.

All Officers will, therefore, be provided with a short note on the situation in SYRIA, prior to their departure, under arrangements to be made by this HQ.

Officers will be warned that :-

- (a) SYRIA is a highly malarious country and sandfly nets should be taken.
- (b) The prices in hotels, etc., in SYRIA and the LEBANON are at present extremely high.
- (c) They will be responsible for obtaining the necessary visas, etc., for any civilians accompanying them.
- (d) Normal camp kit is required as it is not possible to provide blankets and bedding in all cases.

TRIPOLI will be out of bounds to all ranks except for meals in transit until further orders are issued from this HQ. (Div R.O. para 319).

6. PASSES FOR PERSONNEL PROCEEDING TO CONSULTATION:

All personnel proceeding to any Hospital or Medical Centre for consultation will be provided with a Pass. (Div R.O. para 320).

7. ISSUES OF FRUIT AND FRUIT JUICE:

Authority has now been received from DST, GHQ (ME) for an increased issue of Fruit Juice to turnover stocks.

Commencing forthwith, the scale of issue will be :-

Fruit Juice	4 ozs.	5 times weekly.
Tinned Fruits	1 oz.	Twice weekly. (Div R.O. para 321)

8. NO. 1 ADVANCED DEPOT AIF KIT STORE:

No. 1 Advanced Depot AIF Kit Store has been established at NES SIYONA near REHOVOTH for the receipt of kits of Units moving forward and also the distribution of Kits of units arriving in the Area and requiring same from the main store.

The instructions contained in AIF Kit Store "Rules of Procedure" for acceptance and issue of deposits and for treatment of

effects of deceased and wounded soldiers and prisoners of war, will apply for all deposits and withdrawals.

It will be a unit responsibility to requisition Kits to be withdrawn from the store, supply the necessary transport, and take delivery of the Kits at the Advanced Depot. Similarly, it will be the unit responsibility to effect delivery to the Advanced Depot when deposits are made.

It lies with the units themselves to ensure satisfactory and efficient handling of Kits by carefully labelling them before despatch, and by requisitioning for issue sufficiently far in advance of the required date to enable the Kit Store to extract the desired Kits. (Div R.O. para 322)

9. COMFORTS FUND ISSUE:

An A.C.F. distribution of 1 oz Tobacco and 1 Pkt Cigarette Papers was made to all ranks on Friday 5 Sep 41. (Div R.O. para 323)

10. LEAVE FOR JEWISH PERSONNEL ON IMPORTANT HOLY DAYS:

Further to A.I.F. (ME) Base Area Routine Order 467 of 18 Aug 41, it is to be noted that the Holy Days commence at sunset. To enable personnel to take part in the ceremonies and to observe the religious laws, leave, where granted, should commence sufficiently early to allow of travelling to the Synagogues etc. being completed before sunset. (Div R.O. para 324).

11. LEAVE - JERUSALEM & TEL AVIV:

(a) Owing to the observance of certain Jewish religious fasts and festivals, all Jewish places of business and amusement in Tel-Aviv and Jerusalem will be closed from sunset 21 Sep to sunset 23 Sep and again from sunset 30 Sep to sunset 1 Oct.

(b) For the above mentioned reasons leave will NOT be granted to allow personnel to visit either Jerusalem or Tel-Aviv during the above hours, except for personnel of Jewish faith. (Div R.O. para 325).

12. DRESS - Wearing of :

The practice of wandering along roads and through camps with the upper part of the body bare or covered only with a singlet will cease forthwith.

A. H. Hamilton
.....Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde.

NOTICES.

BRIDGE DRAW:

Mon 15 Sep - 2/2 Aust Fd Regt v 2/1 Aust A.F.W.
Tue 16 Sep - 2/3 Aust Fd Regt v HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Wed 17 Sep - 2/1 Aust Fd Amb v 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

TABLE TENNIS

Mon 15 Sep - HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde v 2/7 Aust Fd Amb.
Tue 16 Sep - 2/1 Aust A.F.W. v 2/1 Aust Fd Regt.
Wed 17 Sep - 2/6 Aust Inf Bn v 2/1 Aust Fd Amb.

PTO

LOST

Identity Discs - NX 4587 D.I. WILSON.

Finder please return to this HQ.

DISTRIBUTION:

- HC 6 Aust Div
- 2/1 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/2 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/6 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/7 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/1 Aust Fd Regt
- 2/2 Aust Fd Regt
- 2/3 Aust Fd Regt
- 2/1 Aust Army Fd Wkshops
- 2/2 Aust Army Fd Wkshops
- 2/1 Aust Fd Amb
- 2/7 Aust Fd Amb
- 2/1 Aust Fd Hyg Sec
- C.R.S.
- 45 L.A.D.
- Camp Staff Officer
- War Diary (2)
- File

(a) Owing to the observance of certain Jewish religious fasts and Festivals, all Jewish places of business and amusement in Tel-Aviv and Haifa will be closed from sunset 21 Sep to sunset 23 Sep and again from sunset 30 Sep to sunset 1 Oct.

(b) For the above mentioned reasons leave will NOT be granted to allow personnel to visit either Jerusalem or Tel-Aviv during the above hours, except for personnel of Jewish faith. (Div R. 2 para 122)

15. Dress - wearing of the practice of wearing along roads and through camps with the upper part of the body bare or covered only with a singlet will cease tomorrow.

NOTICE

BRIDGE DRAIN

on 15 Sep	-	S/L Aust Fd Regt	v	S/L Aust A.F. Co.
The 16 Sep	-	S/L Aust Fd Regt	v	S/L Aust Inf Bn
Wed 17 Sep	-	S/L Aust Fd Amb	v	S/L Aust Inf Bn
on 15 Sep	-	S/L Aust Inf Bn	v	S/L Aust Fd Amb
The 16 Sep	-	S/L Aust A.F. Co.	v	S/L Aust Fd Regt
Wed 17 Sep	-	S/L Aust Inf Bn	v	S/L Aust Fd Amb

PTO

Diary

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING.

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 209

Part 1

15 September 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 15 Sep 41.

Field Officer of the Day
Next for Duty

Capt B.V. Catterns, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
Lieut J.C. Burrell, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

Duty Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut A.C. Pepper, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Lieut J.L. Darcey, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

Field Medical Officer

Major H... Russell, 2/7 Aust Fd Amb.

Duty Unit
Next for Duty

2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

.....Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION:

- HQ 6 Aust Div
- 2/1 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/2 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/6 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/7 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/1 Aust Fd Regt
- 2/2 Aust Fd Regt
- 2/3 Aust Fd Regt
- 2/1 Aust Army Fd Wkshops
- 2/2 Aust Army Fd Wkshops
- 2/1 Aust Fd Amb
- 2/7 Aust Fd Amb
- 2/1 Aust Fd Hyg Sec
- 45 L.A.D.
- C.R.S.
- Camp Staff Officer
- War Diary (2)
- File

Diary

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE

ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 210

Part 1

16 September 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 16 Sep 41.

Field Officer of the Day
Next for Duty

Lieut J.C. Burrell, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
To be notified later.

Duty Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut W.L. Darcey, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Lieut S.M. Percival, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

Duty Unit
Next for Duty

2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
To be notified later.

2. LEAVE - TEL AVIV:

Attention is drawn to the increase in tariff at the King Solomon Hotel, TEL AVIV. As from, and including Monday 1 Sep 41, rates will be 125 mils per day. This covers bed, hot bath and morning tea.

.....Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde

NOTICES

FOUND: It is notified that the following articles have been found :-

Identity Discs	-	NX 30867	H.G. CHAPMAN.
"	"	- NX 7022	G.I. DIDSBURY.
"	"	- NX 8134	A. STARRETT.

Owners may have same on application to Camp Staff Office.

-----oo00oo-----

DISTRIBUTION:

- HQ 6 Aust Div
- 2/1 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/2 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/6 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/7 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/1 Aust Fd Regt
- 2/2 Aust Fd Regt
- 2/3 Aust Fd Regt
- 2/1 Aust Army Fd Wkshops
- 2/2 Aust Army Fd Wkshops
- 2/1 Aust Fd Amb
- 2/7 Aust Fd Amb
- 2/1 Aust Fd Hyg Sec
- 45 L.A.D.
- C.R.S.
- Camp Staff Officer
- War Diary (2)
- File

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 211

Part 1

17 September 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 17 Sep 41.

Field Officer of the Day
Next for Duty

Lieut C.V.I. Barnden, 2/2 Aust Fd Regt.
Lieut H.W. Jones, 2/3 Aust Fd Regt.

Duty Officer
Next for Duty

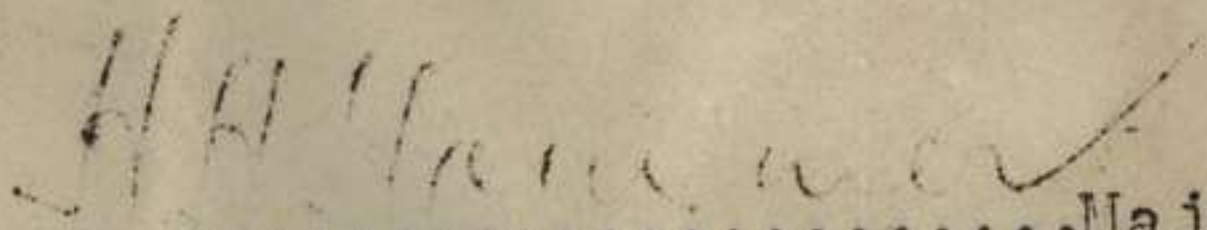
Lieut S.M. Percival, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Lieut R.J.F. McIntosh, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

Field Medical Officer

Capt R.W. Johnson, 2/1 Aust Fd Amb.

Duty Unit
Next for Duty

2/2 Aust Fd Regt.
2/3 Aust Fd Regt.


.....Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION:

HQ 6 Aust Div
2/1 Aust Inf Bn
2/2 Aust Inf Bn
2/6 Aust Inf Bn
2/7 Aust Inf Bn
2/1 Aust Fd Regt
2/2 Aust Fd Regt
2/3 Aust Fd Regt
2/1 Aust Army Fd Wkshops
2/2 Aust Army Fd Wkshops
2/1 Aust Fd Amb
2/7 Aust Fd Amb
2/1 Aust Fd Hyg Sec
45 L.A.D.
C.R.S.
Camp Staff Officer
War Diary (2)
File

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

Diary

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 212

Part 1

18 September 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 18 Sep 41.

Field Officer of the Day
Next for Duty

Lieut T.J. Richards, 2/3 Aust Fd Regt.
Lieut J.C. Dyson, 2/1 Aust Fd Regt.

Duty Officer

Lieut R.J.F. McIntosh, HQ 16 Aust Inf
Bde.

Next for Duty

Capt I.C. Fulton, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

Duty Unit
Next for Duty

2/3 Aust Fd Regt.
2/1 Aust Fd Regt.

J.H. Hammer
.....Major
D.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde

NOTICES

FOUND :- Identity Discs - NX 3353 H.O.A. DAVIS.

Owner apply to Camp Staff Office.

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DISTRIBUTION

- HQ 6 Aust Div
- 2/1 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/2 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/6 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/7 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/1 Aust Fd Regt
- 2/2 Aust Fd Regt
- 2/3 Aust Fd Regt
- 2/1 Aust Army Fd Wkshöps
- 2/2 Aust Army Fd Wkshops
- 2/1 Aust Fd Amb
- 2/7 Aust Fd Amb
- 2/1 Aust Fd Hyg Sec
- 45 L.A.D.
- C.R.S.
- Camp Staff Officer
- War Diary (2)
- File

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 213

Part 1

19 September 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 19 Sep 41

Field Officer of the Day
Next for Duty

Lieut J.C. Dyson, 2/1 Aust Fd Regt.
Lieut W.R. Easdown, 2/2 Aust Fd Regt.

Duty Officer
Next for Duty

Capt I.C. Fulton, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Lieut A.K. Bosgard, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

Field Medical Officer

To be advised

Duty Unit
Next for Duty

2/1 Aust Fd Regt.
2/2 Aust Fd Regt.

2. BUILDINGS IN A.I.F. CAMPS - Alterations or Removals:

(a) Cases are occurring of Units altering Camp structures, opening up walls, taking down shelving, racks, benches and removing cupboards, forms and electric light fittings from buildings without authority.

(b) No alterations or removals are to be carried out in buildings in A.I.F. Camps without authority from A.I.F. (ME) Base Area.

3. CHURCH SERVICES - Sunday 21 Sep 41:

(a) Mass (Roman Catholic) will be celebrated at 0645 and 0830 hrs. in the Y.M.C.A. Tent, 2/1 Aust Fd Regt Lines.

Confessions will be heard at Chaplain's Tent, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn Lines, on Saturday afternoon and night.

Units will note that the above Services are being held for all Roman Catholic personnel of all Units in KHASSA CAMP Area.

(b) Holy Communion will be celebrated at 0700 hrs in Y.M.C.A. Tent, 2/3 Aust Fd Regt Lines, for personnel of all units, KHASSA CAMP.

COMBINED CHURCH PARADES:

(c) 0830 hrs 2/1 Aust Inf Bn Parade Ground for personnel of 2/1 Aust Inf Bn and 2/1 and 2/7 Aust Fd Amb.

0930 hrs in Y.M.C.A. Tent, 2/1 Aust Fd Regt Lines, for personnel of 2/1 Aust Fd Regt and HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

0845 hrs in Y.M.C.A. Tent, 2/3 Aust Fd Regt Lines, for personnel of 2/2 Aust Fd Regt, 2/3 Aust Fd Regt and 2/1 & 2/2 A.F.W.S

W. J. Dancy
Major
B.N. 16 Aust Inf Bde
A.C.D.

PTO

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 214

Part 1

20 September 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 20 Sep 41.

Field Officer of the Day
Next for Duty

Lieut W.R. Easdown, 2/2 Aust Fd Regt.
Lieut R.B. Peacock, 2/3 Aust Fd Regt.

Duty Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut A.K. Bosgard, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Lieut A.C. Pepper, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

Duty Unit
Next for Duty

2/2 Aust Fd Regt.
2/3 Aust Fd Regt.

A.J. Boase
.....Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde

NOTICE

FOUND: Identity Discs - NX 3430 K.J. DONLAN.

Owner apply to Camp Staff Office

---oo0oo---

DISTRIBUTION

HQ 6 Aust Div
2/1 Aust Inf Bn
2/2 Aust Inf Bn
2/6 Aust Inf Bn
2/7 Aust Inf Bn
2/1 Aust Fd Regt
2/2 Aust Fd Regt
2/3 Aust Fd Regt
2/1 Aust Army Fd Workshops
2/2 Aust Army Fd Workshops
2/1 Aust Fd Amb
2/7 Aust Fd Amb
2/1 Aust Fd Hyg Sec
45 L.A.D.
C.R.S.
Camp Staff Officer
War Diary (2)
File

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 215

Part 1

21 September 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 21 Sep 41

Field Officer of the Day
Next for Duty

Lieut R.B. Peacock, 2/3 Aust Fd Regt.
Capt W.A. Pike, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

Duty Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut A.K. Bosgard, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Lieut W.L. Darcey, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

Duty Unit
Next for Duty

2/3 Aust Fd Regt.
2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

2. CAMP BATHHOUSE:

Attention is drawn to the fact that Camp Bathhouse is NOT available for use between 0900 and 1100 hrs daily.

It has been found necessary for Officers of this HQ to remove personnel in order that cleaning staff may proceed with their duties.

Unit Commanders will therefore ensure that personnel are so informed and do NOT attend during the above hours.

3. CAMP BATHHOUSE - Jewish New Year Holiday:

Units of Khassa Camp are advised that in order to permit Jewish R.E. employees to attend their New Year celebrations the hot water service will cease at 1700 hrs 22 Sep 41 and recommence 1600 hrs 23 Sep 41.

There will be no hot water on the morning of 23 Sep 41.

4. REPAIRS & REPLACEMENTS - Camp Buildings etc:

It has been reported that units are making direct representation to DCRE, BEIT JIRJA, when repairs and/or replacements are required in their lines.

This practise is irregular and any complaints must be **forwarded** through Camp S.O. who will make necessary arrangements for repairs etc. to be affected.

The attention of all units is drawn to BRO No. 213 of 19 Sep 41 para 2.

In many cases it has been found necessary to debit unit funds with the cost of repairs or replacements.

5. REPLACEMENT - LAUNDRY LOSSES:

The following procedure is approved re replacement of laundry lost by Laundry Contractors for A.I.F. personnel.

1. All losses to be replaced or paid for within four (4) days after date laundry was due back at Camp Depot.

2. If stocks held by Laundry Contractor for replacement are not of satisfactory quality and pattern, the following action will be taken :-

Camp S.O. will authorise replacement from Unit "Q" Store.

PTO

When issues are made by Units a Nominal Roll showing No., Rank Name with articles issued, will be forwarded to Camp S.O. by the 17th and 31st of each month.

- 3. In the case of officers who may have to claim for losses such as tailored shorts, shirts etc., by the Laundry Contractor, replacement will be based on prices as per AAOC Officers' Clothing Shops.

L.H. Hammer
Major
 B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION

- HQ 6 Aust Div
- 2/1 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/2 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/6 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/7 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/1 Aust Fd Regt
- 2/2 Aust Fd Regt
- 2/3 Aust Fd Regt
- 2/1 Aust Army Fd Wkshöps
- 2/2 Aust Army Fd Wkshops
- 2/1 Aust Fd Amb
- 2/7 Aust Fd Amb
- 2/1 Aust Fd Hyg Sec
- 45 L.A.D.
- C.R.S.
- Camp Staff Officer
- War Diary (2)
- File

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 216

Part 1

22 September 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 22 Sep 41.

Field Officer of the Day
Next for Duty

Lieut A.G. Sanderson, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
Lieut L.R. Lester, 2/1 Aust Fd Regt.

Duty Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut W.L. Darcey, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Lieut S.H. Percival, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

Duty Unit
Next for Duty

2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
2/1 Aust Fd Regt.

2. FIELD OFFICERS'.

Field Officers' will report to Unit Headquarters prior to carrying out their inspection of Unit lines.

A. J. Boase
.....Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION

HQ 6 Aust Div
2/1 Aust Inf Bn
2/2 Aust Inf Bn
2/6 Aust Inf Bn
2/7 Aust Inf Bn
2/1 Aust Fd Regt
2/2 Aust Fd Regt
2/3 Aust Fd Regt
2/1 Aust Army Fd Wkshops
2/2 Aust Army Fd Wkshops
2/1 Aust Fd Amb
2/7 Aust Fd Amb
2/1 Aust Fd Hyg Sec
45 L.A.D.
C.R.S.
Camp Staff Officer
War Diary (2)
File

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 217

Part 1

23 September 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 23 Sep 41.

Field Officer of the Day Next for Duty	Lieut L.R. Lester, 2/1 Aust Fd Regt. To be notified later
Duty Officer Next for Duty	Lieut S.M. Percival, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde. Lieut R.J.F. McIntosh, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde
Duty Unit Next for Duty	2/1 Aust Fd Regt. 2/2 Aust Fd Regt.

2. LEAVE:

From Saturday 27 Sep 41, the following procedure regarding leave will be adopted :-

i. The Camp Staff Office will be responsible for the allocation of leave to units and the ordering of leave buses.

ii. ONE DAY LEAVE:

- (a) One copy of nominal roll to reach Camp S.O. by 0900 hrs on day prior to leave.
- (b) Fares to be held at Unit Orderly Room's and to be collected by Mr SALEM, representative of RAMLEH-LYDDA Bus Coy Ltd., who will be advised where to call.
- (c) Embussing of leave parties will be made under supervision of one of the Officers or W.Os proceeding on leave that day. This Officer or W.O. will be selected by Camp S.O. and informed of his selection by 1700 hrs on day prior to leave.

iii. TWO DAY LEAVE

- (a) JERUSALEM:- One copy of nominal roll to Camp S.O. by 0900 hrs on day prior to leave. Unit parties will report to Officer or W.O. in charge of leave party and hand to him one copy of nominal roll and the money for accomodation and bus fare. The Officer or W.O. i/c will pay this into the FAST HOTEL, JERUSALEM.
- (b) Two Day Leave - TEL AVIV:- Nominal roll to Camp S.O. by 0900 hrs on day prior to leave. Unit parties to report to Officer or W.O. in charge of leave party and will hand him copy of nominal roll and money for accomodation. Money for fares will be collected at Unit Orderly Room's by Mr SALEM.

iv. EMBUSSING POINT:-

Embussing point in the vicinity of Camp Bathhouse.

H. Hammer
.....Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde

PTO

NOTICES.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

Acknowledgment is made of the receipt from the A.C.F. of the following goods for distribution :-

- 6 Cricket Balls.
- 2 Hockey Balls.
- 3 Tins Bat Oil.
- 1 Soccer Ball.
- 1 T.T. Table.
- 1 T.T. Set.
- 4 T.T. Bats.
- 2 sets Draughts.
- 6 Tables.
- 18 Chairs.
- 1 Dart Board & 6 Darts.
- 1 Checkers.
- 6 pkts Air Mail paper.
- 50 pkts A.C.F. Envelopes.
- 596 pkts Cigarettes.

---oo00oo---

DISTRIBUTION:

- HQ 6 Aust Div
- 2/1 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/2 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/6 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/7 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/1 Aust Fd Regt
- 2/2 Aust Fd Regt
- 2/3 Aust Fd Regt
- 2/1 Aust Army Fd Wkshöps
- 2/2 Aust Army Fd Wkshöps
- 2/1 Aust Fd Amb
- 2/7 Aust Fd Amb
- 2/1 Aust Fd Hyg Sec
- 45 L.A.D.
- C.R.S.
- Camp Staff Officer
- War Diary (2)
- File

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 218

Part 1

24 September 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 24 Sep 41.

Field Officer of the Day
Next for Duty

Lieut D.F. Eddy, 2/2 Aust Fd Regt.
Lieut J.M. Frew, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

Duty Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut R.J.F. McIntosh, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Capt I.C. Fulton, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

Duty Unit
Next for Duty

2/2 Aust Fd Regt.
2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

2. SECURITY OF DOCUMENTS:

(a) The attention of all units is drawn to AIF Standing Orders 512, and A.M.R. & Os 1584 - 1595, wherein the procedure for handling and safeguarding Secret and Confidential documents is laid down.

(b) In amplification of these orders, the following procedure will be adopted by all units and sub-units :-

(i) A separate register of all Secret and Confidential documents will be kept.

(ii) The Officer or N.C.O. in charge of this register will also be responsible for the safe custody of the documents enumerated therein.

(iii) In the event of a document being removed from the Secret File, the Officer or N.C.O. in charge of the File will obtain a receipt for the document concerned.

(iv) Whenever possible, the Secret Register and Files will be kept in a locked steel box, chained to an immovable object, and at no time will they be accessible to unauthorised persons.
(Div R.O. para 326)

3. GUIDES IN JERUSALEM:

Personnel on leave in JERUSALEM are warned of the danger of employing unauthorised guides. Troops will employ only authorised guides who can be recognised by a coat lapel badge bearing the words "Public Guide". (Div R.O. para 327)

4. COMFORTS FUND ISSUE:

An A.C.F. Distribution of 2 packets of Cigarettes was made on Thursday 18 Sep 41 to all ranks. Issues to Camps in the MUGHAZI/JULIS Area were delivered to Camp Comds concerned on production of Certificates showing Unit Strengths as at 0900 hrs 18 Sep 41.

Units stationed beyond the above-mentioned Area collected their issues at GAZA under their own arrangements. (Div R.O. para 328)

5. TINNED SALMON AND MILK:

Considerable quantities of tinned foods are received ex ship, loose, unlabelled and rusted on the exterior. As far as possible such goods are issued only after examination by the Analyst, who has reported that, whilst the stock is not in first class condition, it is generally fit for consumption and does not warrant the opening

PTO

of all cases prior to issue.

Units must ensure that each tin is carefully examined before use, any tins condemned will be replaced in accordance with Standing Orders for Palestine (Prov) Pam 2, Sec 1, para 14. (Div R.O. para 329)

6. COMPARISON OF DAILY RATION STRENGTH WITH RATIONS DRAWN:

All units in the GAZA Area will submit to the appropriate authority A.F. 3810 on or before Tuesday of each week. (Div R.O. para 330)

7. KIT STORE - DELIVERY OF KITS:

Units are advised that, for a short period, there will be some delay in the withdrawal of kits from Kit Store.

Requisitions for withdrawal will be fulfilled as soon as possible, but delays of approximately two weeks will be inevitable for a short period. (Div R.O. para 331)

8. BUILDINGS IN AIF CAMPS - ALTERATIONS OR REMOVALS:

(a) Cases are occurring of units altering Camp structures, opening up walls, taking down shelving, racks, benches and removing cupboards, forms and electric light fittings from buildings without authority.

(b) No alterations or removals are to be carried out in buildings in AIF Camps without authority from AIF (ME) Base Area. (Div R.O. para 332)

9. ORDNANCE ISSUE VOUCHERS:

Receipt Vouchers for Ordnance Stores delivered to units will be checked, receipted and forwarded to DADOS, 6 Aust Div within 24 hours of Receipt of Stores. Items shown on the vouchers will be entered in Extracts without delay. (Div R.O. para 334)

10. UTILISATION OF ARMY VEHICLES:

Owing to AIF (ME) Order 237 not being adhered to, it is repeated.

The utilisation of Army vehicles for private purposes is prohibited.

Private persons, members of the A.A.N.S. below the rank of Matron, and masseuses will not be conveyed in any Army vehicle except with the written authority of an Officer of the rank of Colonel or higher, or the Commanding Officer of a medical unit.

Any Officer detected contravening these instructions will be tried by Court Martial, unless, in the opinion of the Divisional Commander or Commander, AIF (ME) Base Area, the contravention is justified by special circumstances or emergency. (Div R.O. para 335)

11. SLIT TRENCHES:

It is noted that slit trenches are being used by units for purposes other than that intended.

The practice of depositing papers, rubbish, tins, bottles, etc., in slit trenches must cease. Units will ensure that inspection is carried out forthwith and any rubbish of this description removed and disposed of in the authorised manner.

Where slit trenches have fallen in, arrangements will be made for them to be cleaned out.

12. PARADE STATES:

All Units in KHASSA CAMP will forward Parade State each Saturday morning, as at 0900 hrs, to reach Camp S.O. by 0930 hrs.

This is in addition to Parade State forwarded to this HQ each morning.

.....Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde

NOTICE

LOST: A Valise marked CAPT D.J.H. LOVELL, between BIR ASLUJ and KHASSA, 15 Sep 41.

Contents : Blankets, Mattress, Shoes, etc.

----ooOoo----

DISTRIBUTION

HQ 6 Aust Div
2/1 Aust Inf Bn
2/2 Aust Inf Bn
2/6 Aust Inf Bn
2/7 Aust Inf Bn
2/1 Aust Fd Regt
2/2 Aust Fd Regt
2/3 Aust Fd Regt
2/1 Aust Army Fd Wkshops
2/2 Aust Army Fd Wkshops
2/1 Aust Fd Amb
2/7 Aust Fd Amb
2/1 Aust Fd Hyg Sec
45 L.A.D.
C.R.S.
Camp Staff Officer
War Diary (2)
File

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 219

Part 1

25 September 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 25 Sep 41.

Field Officer of the Day
Next for Duty

Lieut J.M. Frew, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
To be notified later.

Duty Officer
Next for Duty

Capt I.C. Fulton, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Lieut A.K. Bosgard, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

Duty Unit
Next for Duty

2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
2/1 Aust Fd Regt.

2. CONSERVANCY SERVICES - GAZA ROAD AREA CAMPS - AIF:

Ref above Contract, Clause 4 of Special Conditions.

(i) EMPTYING OF LATRINE BUCKETS: The times for the performance of this service, i.e., emptying of Latrine Buckets in camps, are as follows :-

Twice daily. (a) To be completed by 0630 hrs.
(b) To be completed by 1000 hrs.

(ii) SULLAGE WATER: All pits are to be emptied and cleaned NOT less than once every fourteen days.

3. CHURCH SERVICES - Sunday 28 Sep 41:

(a) Mass (Roman Catholic) will be celebrated at 0645 and 0830 hrs in the Y.M.C.A. Tent, 2/1 Aust Fd Regt Lines.

Confessions will be heard at Chaplain's Tent, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn Lines, on Saturday afternoon and night.

Units will note that the above Services are being held for all Roman Catholic personnel of all Units in KHASSA CAMP Area.

(b) Holy Communion will be celebrated at 0700 hrs in Y.M.C.A. Tent, 2/3 Aust Fd Regt Lines, for personnel of all units, KHASSA CAMP.

(c) COMBINED CHURCH PARADES:

0830 hrs 2/1 Aust Inf Bn Parade Ground for personnel of 2/1 Aust Inf Bn and 2/1 and 2/7 Aust Fd Ambs.

0930 hrs in Y.M.C.A. Tent, 2/1 Aust Fd Regt Lines, for personnel of 2/1 Aust Fd Regt and HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

0845 hrs in Y.M.C.A. Tent, 2/3 Aust Fd Regt Lines, for personnel of 2/2 Aust Fd Regt, 2/3 Aust Fd Regt and 2/1 & 2/2 A.F.W.s

I.C. Fulton
Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION: As for B.R.O. No. 218 dated 24 Sep 41.

Diary

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 220

Part 1

26 September 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 26 Sep 41.

Field Officer of the Day
Next for Duty

Lieut H.A. Lovegrove, 2/3 Aust Fd Regt.
Lieut G.M. Whitehouse, 2/1 Aust Fd Regt.

Duty Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut A.K. Bosgard, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Lieut A.C. Pepper, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

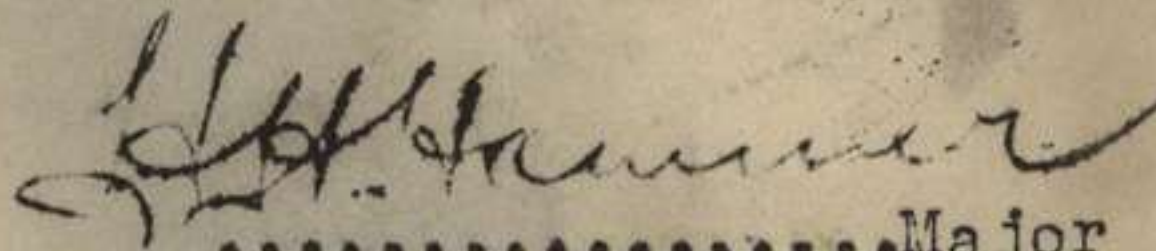
Duty Unit
Next for Duty

2/3 Aust Fd Regt.
2/1 Aust Fd Regt.

2. CHURCH SERVICES - Sunday 28 Sep 41:

CHURCH OF ENGLAND:

Holy Communion will be celebrated at 0645 hrs in Y.M.C.A. Tent,
2/1 Aust Inf Bn Lines, for personnel of 2/1 Aust Inf Bn and 2/1 & 2/7
Aust Fd Amb.


.....Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION:

- HQ 6 Aust Div
- 2/1 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/2 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/6 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/7 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/1 Aust Fd Regt
- 2/2 Aust Fd Regt
- 2/3 Aust Fd Regt
- 2/1 Aust Army Fd Wkshps
- 2/2 Aust Army Fd Wkshops
- 2/1 Aust Fd Amb
- 2/7 Aust Fd Amb
- 2/1 Aust Fd Hyg Sec
- 45 L.A.D.
- C.R.S.
- Camp Staff Officer
- War Diary (2)
- File

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 221

Part I

27 September 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 27 Sep 41:

Field Officer of the Day
Next for Duty

Lieut G.M. Whitehouse, 2/1 Aust Fd Regt.
Lieut R. Powell, 2/2 Aust Fd Regt.

Duty Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut A.C. Pepper, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Lieut W.L. Darcey, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

Duty Unit
Next for Duty

2/1 Aust Fd Regt.
2/2 Aust Fd Regt.

2. FIELD OFFICERS:

As from 28 Sep Field Officers will be known as Camp Orderly Officers.

Duties will in no way be affected by change.

A. J. Boase
.....Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde

NOTICE

LOST:

Between KHASSA and QUASTINA on Sunday 21 Sep 41 one brown covered Field Service Pocket Book with name on cover, "G.S. COX." Will finder please return to this HQ.

---oo0oo---

DISTRIBUTION:

HQ 6 Aust Div
2/1 Aust Inf Bn
2/2 Aust Inf Bn
2/6 Aust Inf Bn
2/7 Aust Inf Bn
2/1 Aust Fd Regt
2/2 Aust Fd Regt
2/3 Aust Fd Regt
2 Bty 1 Aust A/Tk Regt
2/1 Aust Army Fd Wkshops
2/2 Aust Army Fd Wkshops
2/1 Aust Fd Amb
2/7 Aust Fd Amb
2/1 Aust Fd Hyg Sec
45 L.A.D.
C.R.S.
Camp Staff Officer
War Diary (2)
File

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 222

Part 1

28 September 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 28 Sep 41.

Camp Orderly Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut R. Powell, 2/2 Aust Fd Regt.
Lieut G.M. Nathan, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

Duty Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut W.L. Darcey, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Lieut S.M. Percival, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

Duty Unit
Next for Duty

2/2 Aust Fd Regt.
2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

W.L. Darcey
..... Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde
HOD.

DISTRIBUTION:

HQ 6 Aust Div
2/1 Aust Inf Bn
2/2 Aust Inf Bn
2/6 Aust Inf Bn
2/7 Aust Inf Bn
2/1 Aust Fd Regt
2/2 Aust Fd Regt
2/3 Aust Fd Regt
2 Bty 1 Aust A/Tk Regt
2/1 Aust Army Fd Wkshops
2/2 Aust Army Fd Wkshops
2/1 Aust Fd Amb
2/7 Aust Fd Amb
2/1 Aust Fd Hyg Sec
45 L.A.D.
C.R.S.
Camp Staff Officer
War Diary (2)
File

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 223

Part 1

29 September 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 29 Sep 41.

Camp Orderly Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut G.M. Nathan, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
To be notified later.

Duty Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut S.M. Percival, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Lieut R.J.F. McIntosh, HQ 16 Aust Inf
Bde.

Duty Unit
Next for Duty

2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

A. H. Hammer
.....Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde

NOTICES

FOUND: Found on road between KHASSA Camp and main GAZA-JULIS Road -
one (1) Respirator.
Owner may have same on application to this HQ.

DISTRIBUTION:

HQ 6 Aust Div
2/1 Aust Inf Bn
2/2 Aust Inf Bn
2/6 Aust Inf Bn
2/7 Aust Inf Bn
2/1 Aust Fd Regt
2/2 Aust Fd Regt
2/3 Aust Fd Regt
2 Bty 1 Aust A/Tk Regt
2/1 Aust Army Fd Wkshops
2/2 Aust Army Fd Wkshops
2/1 Aust Fd Amb
2/7 Aust Fd Amb
2/1 Aust Fd Hyg Sec
45 L.A.D.
C.R.S.
Camp Staff Officer
War Diary (2)
File

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 224

Part 1

30 September 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 30 Sep 41.

Camp Orderly Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut J.M. Frew, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
Lieut J.C. Burrell, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

Duty Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut R.J.F. McIntosh, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde
Lieut A.K. Bosgard, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

Duty Unit
Next for Duty

2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

2. CENSORSHIP:

With regard to the despatch of spoken messages by gramophone record, such records will be made only at approved firms. So far the only firm in this category is :-

B. BAILIN,
Music Stores,
67 Allenby Road,
TEL-AVIV.

The names of other firms which may be approved will be issued from time to time. (Div R.O. para 336).

3. PALESTINE-SYRIA FRONTIER:

All military vehicles crossing the Palestine-Syria Frontier will halt at the French Customs Posts, so that French Frontier Officials can ensure that they contain only military personnel. Identity cards and ABS/or WFs 5, will be produced if required.

This action is not only necessary to provide a check of the occupants of the cars, but is also a gesture of courtesy to the French Frontier Officials. (Div R.O. para 337)

4. IDENTIFICATION CREDENTIALS:

All Officers without exception, Military personnel and War Correspondents whether visiting or on duty, staying or passing through BEIRUT, will immediately upon arrival present their credentials at SURETE GENERALE, Italian Consulate Building, BEIRUT Tel No. BEIRUT 6164.

CREDENTIALS are the means by which a persons identity will be incontrovertibly established, and must, therefore, be issued, signed and stamped by a recognised authority, and should moreover be carried at all times by the above-mentioned personnel through-out the M.E.

Failure to observe this SECURITY precaution may result in the offender's detention, until such time as his identification, through official channels, has been established. (Div R.O. para 338)

5. SIGNAL PROCEDURE:

G.O. 49 of 1938 (FSO) is cancelled.

1. All messages will be despatched through Army Signals.

PTO

2. Priority messages will only be franked by those Officers authorised to do so in CR/PAL/7844/G of 10 Feb 41 copies of which will be forwarded to units when they become available.

3. Signal Traffic and Records will be retained by Signal Office serving the following Headquarters for the periods as shown :-

Army	}	21 days from the time of receipt in the Signal Office.
Force		
Corps		
Area		
Div		10 days from the time of receipt in the Signal Office.

All other formation and unit Signal Office will destroy records after a period of 72 hours in accordance with Signal Training Vol V. (Div R.O. para 339)

6. IDENTITY CARDS:

With reference to AIF General Order No. 575, British Forces Identity Cards, when being renewed, will be stamped with the Orderly Room Stamp from which the unit name will be deleted. (Div R.O. para 340)

7. SECURITY:

In order to prevent a continuance of frequent losses of arms etc., Comds etc., will ensure that at least one man will remain awake during the hours of darkness in each tent in which arms or equipment are kept. Rosters of personnel detailed for this duty will be prepared and kept by sub-unit Comds. (Div R.O. para 354)

8. STRENGTH RETURNS:

Considerable laxity is evident in preparation of Strength Returns forwarded to this HQ. Large alterations in numbers are shown without explanations, and without any attempt at reconciliation.

Greater accuracy in Returns is desired, as Strength Returns are sometimes vital. (Div R.O. para 341)

9. P.A.C. - JAFFA - TEL AVIV AREA:

P.A.C.s are now established at HAYARKON STREET, TEL AVIV, and TAMMOUS BUILDINGS, New Commercial Centre, JAFFA. (Div R.O. para 342)

10. DISPOSAL OF SALVAGED MATERIAL:

The practice of units obtaining miscellaneous stores from Salvage Dumps direct is incorrect.

When stores required are obtainable from Salvage Dumps, units will submit indents to D.A.D.O.S., 6 Aust Div. for approval. (Div R.O. para 343)

11. REGIMENTAL AND PERMANENT SUPERNUMERARY LISTS:

AIF (ME) Order No. 448 of 5 Jul 41, para 1 (b), is cancelled and the following substituted :-

(b) Officers absent from their units for more than 30 days, owing to being evacuated on account of wounds or sickness, will be placed upon the Regimental Supernumerary List on recommendations being received from their units. (Div R.O. para 344)

12. ACTING WARRANT OR N.C. RANK - RELINQUISHMENT OF:

Further to AIF (ME) Order No. 17 of 20 Jul 40, in connection with the appointment to, confirmation and relinquishment of acting Warrant or Non-Commissioned rank, vice casualties, personnel appointed to acting Warrant or Non-Commissioned rank for reasons other than the replacement of casualties will automatically relinquish such rank when personnel concerned are transferred to "X" List.

Commanding Officers will ensure the lodgment of the necessary Casualty Returns with Officer i/s, 2nd Echelon, AIF (ME), and that the necessary adjustments are made in the soldier's Paybook.

This Order will be repeated in Unit Orders. (Div R.O. para 345)

13. AUDIT OF REGIMENTAL TRUST FUNDS AND MESS ACCOUNTS:

Attention is drawn to AIF (ME) Order No. 56 of 12 Oct 40, No. 157 of 3 Jan 41, and No. 300 of 11 Apr 41, concerning the audit of Trust Accounts. Many units are still not complying with the instructions laid down in the Orders quoted above and C.O.s will take immediate steps to ensure that the instructions are carried out.

In order to simplify the procedure connected with these accounts the following certificate will be submitted in lieu of the certificate at present in use :-

I certify that all Regimental Trust Funds and Mess Accounts in connection with the unit have been audited for the month of and that the amounts have been reconciled with the respective Account Books.

.....C.O.
(Unit)

AIF (ME) Order No. 157 of 3 Jan 41 is amended accordingly.
(Div R.O. para 346)

14. AIF (ME) KIT STORE - RESPONSIBILITY FOR DEPOSITS AND WITHDRAWALS:

It is unit responsibility to -

(a) Deposit kits with AIF (ME) Kit Store. Kits should be adequately labelled and firmly secured. Units may seal kits before deposit if desired. Such seals should be sufficiently strong to withstand the constant handling to which kits are subjected. Schedules of kits being deposited should accompany the kits, the receipt of which will be acknowledged by the Store on its official receipt forms.

(b) Collect kits from the Store. Requisitions for the kits actually required should be submitted to the store, which will extract such kits and hand them to duly authorised unit representatives, who will furnish the Store with a receipt for kits received.

(c) Furnish necessary baggage parties to ensure safe delivery to the Store when depositing, or to unit when withdrawing kits.

All possible care will be taken with kits deposited with the Store, but claims for compensation against public funds in respect of kits or contents alleged to have been lost or stolen will not be admitted. (Div R.O. para 347)

15. RETURNABLE PETROL CONTAINERS:

A large number of 4-gall returnable square cans and 4-gall returnable round drums have been put into circulation in the M.E.

PTO

These containers are being refilled with leaded petrol, a petrol with a tetra-ethyl-lead content. Tetra-ethyl-lead is a highly dangerous poison and may tend to remain in the inside seams of the can.

Os.C units will, therefore, warn all ranks against the use of these returnable petrol containers for water for either drinking or washing purposes.

Arrangements have been made for all future issues of such containers to be stencilled :-

PETROL
LEADED
POISON

This order will be repeated in Unit Orders. (Div R.O. para 348)

16. RATIONS AND ACCOMMODATION SUPPLIED TO CIVILIANS:

Where rations and/or accommodation are supplied under Australian contracts to civilians upon repayment, the following charges shall be made :-

- (a) Rations -- 100 (Pal) mills (or the equivalent in local currency) per diem.
- (b) Accommodation -- 50 (Pal) mills (or the equivalent in local currency) per diem.

Where rations and/or accommodation are supplied under British contracts, then the British scale and charges shall operate.

Only where civilians are attached for rations in a constituted AIF Mess and are on the Return of Daily Strength will they be included in the Calculation for Supplementary Ration Allowance Entitlement. (Div R.O. para 349)

17. APPLICATIONS FOR RETURN TO AUSTRALIA ON COMPASSIONATE GROUNDS.
AIF (ME) ORDERS 212, 408, and 630.

Applications must be submitted in the following order :-

- (a) Application by soldier, setting out in detail reasons for application, name and address of any person or persons or institution in Australia through which statements made in application may be verified.
- (b) Any correspondence received by soldier from Australia which will support his application. A typewritten copy of such correspondence will be attached to the original letters.
- (c) Recommendation or otherwise of application by soldier's Commanding Officer.
- (d) Record of Service, which may be obtained upon application from 2nd Echelon, Records.
- (e) Statement by soldier's Commanding Officer setting out the following evidence :-
 - (i) Military qualifications.
 - (ii) Civilian qualifications.
 - (iii) General suitability.

All of the above documents except the soldier's Record of Service, A.F. B103, will be submitted in duplicate. (Div R.O. para 350)

18. RECEPTION OF PERSONNEL FROM NIGHT TRAINS:

In view of the altered train schedules at GAZA Ry Sta,

difficulty is experienced in admitting men to camps during the night.

Guards and sentries will be warned that transport from AIF (HE) Base Area bearing personnel from night trains will be admitted to unit lines at all times. (Div R.O. para 351)

19. AIF OFFICERS CLUB:

The system of using chits for the purchase of liquor and meals at the AIF Officers' Club, GAZA, has been out of practice for the past six months and all transactions must be on a strictly cash basis.

Officers in possession of chits and who have not been in PALESTINE during the past three months may cash any chits in their possession by presenting them personally to the Secretary, at the Club.

All chits must be presented within six months from the publication of this notice.

This Order will be repeated in Unit Orders. (Div R.O. para 352)

20. IMMEDIATE HONOURS AND AWARDS:

The Commander-in-Chief, Middle East Forces, has approved of the following Immediate Awards for gallantry in action :-

GREECE AND CRETE

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE ORDER

NX 168 Lt-Col Robert Heathcote Russell, 2/1 Aust Fd Amb.

MILITARY MEDAL

- NX 1294 Cpl Francis Peter Evans, 2/2 Aust Inf Bn.
- NX 1830 Cpl Arthur James Hiddins, 2/2 Aust Inf Bn.
- NX 2389 Cpl Allan Richard Lacey, 2/2 Aust Inf Bn.
- NX 2383 Pte Angus Abram MacQueen, 2/2 Aust Inf Bn.

SYRIA,

MILITARY CROSS

- NX 106 Capt Edmund James Cairns Molesworth, A.A.M.C.
- NX 69 Capt Philip Kingsmill Parbury, 2/3 Aust Inf Bn.
- NX 12174 Lieut John Munro Gall, 2/3 Aust Inf Bn.

MILITARY MEDAL

- NX 5013 C.Q.M.S. Carlyle Russell France Smith, 2/3 Aust Inf Bn.
- NX 5458 Cpl Walter Morgan, 2/3 Aust Inf Bn.
- NX 4545 A/Cpl James Copeman, 2/3 Aust Inf Bn.
- NX 4957 Pte Timothy James Donohue, 2/3 Aust Inf Bn.

.....Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION: As for BRO No. 223 dated 29 Sep 41.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

Ref File No. S/1/269

Headquarters
16 Aust Inf Bde

APPENDIX B

1 Sep 41.

- 2/1 Aust Inf Bn
 - 2/2 Aust Inf Bn
 - 2/6 Aust Inf Bn
 - 2/7 Aust Inf Bn
-

16 AUST INF BDE

DRIVERS AND MAINTENANCE M.T. COURSE - No. 2

1. OBJECT: The School will be continued for the purpose of improving the standard of Drivers M.T. of the Units of this Bde.

It is desired that the school will handle Drivers with limited experience in Army M.T. with the intention of increasing their driving ability, general maintenance and mechanical knowledge.

2. DURATION OF COURSE: The Course will be of two weeks duration, commencing 9 Sep 41 and terminating 22 Sep 41.

3. STUDENTS: Attendance of students will be as under :-

	<u>M.T. Drivers</u>	<u>Carrier Drivers</u>
H.Q. 16 Aust Inf Bde	6	-
2/1 Aust Inf Bn	9	6
2/2 Aust Inf Bn	9	6
2/6 Aust Inf Bn	6	-
2/7 Aust Inf Bn	6	-
	<u>36</u>	<u>12</u>

2/1 and 2/2 Aust Inf Bns will ensure that all available Carrier N.C.O.s are included in their allotment of Carrier Drivers.

4. JOINING INSTRUCTIONS: These are as per attached instructions.
5. VEHICLES FOR TRAINING: 2/1 Aust Inf Bn will supply 4 one ton Chev. Vehicles and 2/2 Aust Inf Bn 12 - 15 cwt C.A.S. Vehicles for the duration of the Course. Vehicles will be at the School by 1600 hrs 8 Sep 41.
6. SCHOOL STAFF: (a) Additional to the Instructional Staff, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn will provide the following :-

- 1 School Sgt Major.
- 1 Cook.
- 1 " Assistant.
- 1 N.C.O. as Quartermaster.
- 2 Mess Orderlies.

(b) Commencing with 2/6 Aust Inf Bn, 2/6 and 2/7 Aust Inf Bns will supply at 0830 hrs on each alternate day a fatigue party of 1 N.C.O. & 4 Light Duty men whose duties will be detailed by the School Sgt Major.

.....Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde

For Inf :- 6 Aust Div
2/3 Aust Inf Bn

16 AUST INF BDE

DRIVERS AND MAINTENANCE M.T. COURSE NO. 2

JOINING INSTRUCTIONS

LOCATION:

The Course will be known as 16 Aust Inf Bde Drivers and Maintenance M.T. Course.
It will be located in D.H.Q. Lines, HILL 69.

DURATION: 14 Days.

ASSEMBLY:

Students will assemble by 1600 hrs on the day before the Course is due to commence, Units supplying own tpt. Full equipment, respirators and rifles will be brought and clothing, sufficient for 14 days.

Blankets and bedding will NOT be provided by the School.

The Senior member of each party will ensure that the party arrives punctually and will supply to the Chief Instructor a Nominal Roll of Students attending. He will report to D.H.Q. Lines, HILL 69.

ADMINISTRATION:

Whilst attending the School, Students will be attached to the School for rations and discipline. Normal Camp Routine will be observed and Students will ensure that tents, kits, etc., are in inspection order by 0830 hrs daily.

Students will bring with them all available Mechanical Manuals and Textbooks and Units will ensure that each student has 1 large Exercise Book, 1 Red pencil, 1 Blue pencil, Pen and Ink and Ruler.

LEAVE:

Leave will be granted at the discretion of the C.I. A written application for leave will be submitted at least 24 hours prior to the time desired.

PAY:

Pay will be available on normal pay periods but paybooks must be fully entered to date.

DISPERSAL:

Units will arrange to collect students at termination of each Course at 1600 hrs on last day of Course.

- - - - -

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

APPENDIX C

Headquarters,
16 Aust Inf Bde.

6 Sep 41.

H.Q.
16 Aust Inf Bde

M.T. DRIVERS & MAINTENANCE SCHOOL

Attached hereto please find report of
the above School held from 20 Aug 41 to 4 Sep 41
at HILL 69.

J. H.Capt.
Chief Instructor.

War diary

H.H.H.

16 AUST INF BDE M.T. DRIVERS & MAINTENANCE SCHOOL

1. OBJECT

The main object of the School was to develop the mechanical appreciation of M.T. in the M.T. Driver so that the necessity and value of a high maintenance and driving standard would be self-evident to the Driver.

a high maintenance and driving standard would then be maintained by the natural desire of the driver instead of by constant supervision and discipline.

2. METHOD

The syllabus was designed so that the students would gain a clear idea of all the fundamental components of an M.T. vehicle and their operations. Vehicles were dismantled and students handled all the components.

Considerable attention was paid to the various maintenance schedules and individual maintenance was carried out many times by each student.

Driving instruction and convoy work was dealt with at some length.

The original syllabus was varied from time to time in accordance with the receptive ability of the students.

Lectures were made to the School as a whole, practical work was carried out in syndicates of eight or three under a N.C.O. Instructor. The Duty Instructors were constantly on duty in the Lecture Room during stand down or free study periods.

Training films were also made available during the Course.

3. PROGRESS

The majority of the students were new to M.T. and had a negligible mechanical and electrical knowledge.

All students attacked the Course with a remarkable enthusiasm and spirit of inquiry. As a result the majority of students reached a most satisfactory standard of M.T. mechanical knowledge from a driver's view point.

Driving and convoy work was very weak at the commencement of the Course but had reached an excellent standard during the last convoy.

4. RESULTS

The examinations were held orally in syndicates of six, the students having free access to all the M.T. parts necessary.

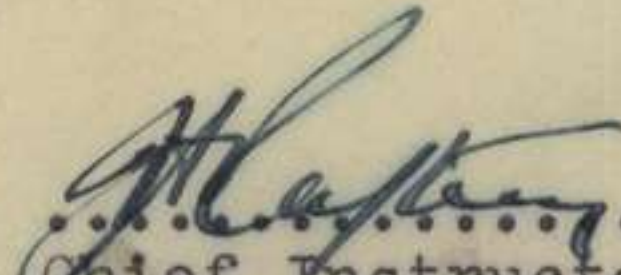
All students are considered satisfactory as M.T. Drivers.

Certain students reached a sufficiently high standard as to be trained as mechanics. It is suggested that they be attached or transferred to L.A.D. 45 for further training.

5. INSPECTION

Visits were made to the School by Maj Gen D.F. Herring, D.S.O., M.C., E.D., Col R.B. Sutherland, Major E.W. Bryceson of H.Q. 6 Aust Div and Brigadier A.J. Boase and Major H.H. Hammer of 16 Aust Inf Bde.

The visits gave an immense fillip to the students.


.....Capt.
Chief Instructor
16 Aust Inf Bde M & M.T. School.

8th DAY - Wednesday 27 Aug 41 (contd)

1330 - 1400 Map Reading.
1400 - 1630 Convoy - Map Reading.
1800 - 1900 Rear Axle and Differential.

9th DAY - Thursday 28 Aug 41.

0630 - 0700 Maintenance.
0830 - 0900 Convoy Signals.
0900 - 1000) M.T. Lubrication, Braking system.
1330 - 1630) Lubrication.
1800 - 1900) Running Repairs.
2000 - 2130 Convoy.

10th DAY - Friday 29 Aug 41.

0630 - 0700 Maintenance.
0830 - 0900 Map reading.
0900 - 1200) Lubrication, Running repairs.
1330 - 1630) Braking system.
1800 - 1900 Electrical system (lecture)
1900 - 2200 Convoy.

11th DAY - Saturday 30 Aug 41.

0630 - 0700 Maintenance.
0830 - 0930 Electrical system (Practical)
0930 - 1100 Mechanical Recapitulation.
1100 - 1230 Maintenance.
1300 - 1430 Maintenance.

12th DAY - Sunday 31 Aug 41.

0630 - 0700 Maintenance.
0830 - 0900 Convoy Lecture.
0900 - 2350 Convoy.

13th DAY - Monday 1 Sep 41.

0630 - 0700 Maintenance.
0830 - 1230 Exam Maintenance.
1330 - 1700 Driving Instruction.
2000 - 2230 Examination, Recapitulation.

14th DAY - Tuesday 2 Sep 41.

0630 - 0700 Maintenance.
0830 - 1230) Exam Driving Instruction
1300 - 1430) Maintenance.
1500 - 2359 Convoy.

15th DAY - Wednesday 3 Sep 41.

001 - 1330 Convoy.
1330 - 1400 Maintenance.
1600 - 1610 Closing address.
1630 Departure of students.

16 BDE DRIVERS & MAINTENANCE SCHOOL

SYLLABUS

1st DAY - Wednesday 20 Aug 41

0830 - 0845 Objects of School.
0845 - 1200 General principles, components, operations of
I.C. Engine.
1330 - 1430 I.C. Engine continued.
1430 - 1630 Fuel system.
1800 - 1900 Fuel system continued.

2nd DAY - Thursday 21 Aug 41

0830 - 0930 Ignition.
0930 - 0945 P.T.
0945 - 1200 Ignition.
1330 - 1630 Film.
1800 - 1900 Ignition.

3rd DAY - Friday 22 Aug 41

0830 - 0930 Lubrication.
0930 - 0945 P.T.
0945 - 1200 Lubrication.
1330 - 1630 Films.
1800 - 1900 Cooling system.

4th DAY - Saturday 23 Aug 41

0830 - 0930 Clutch.
0930 - 0945 P.T.
0945 - 1200 Clutch and Gear Box.
1330 - 1630 Swimming Parade.
1800 - 1900 Free.

5th DAY - SUNDAY 24 Aug 41.

0830 - 0930 Gear Box
0930 - 0945 P.T.
0945 - 1200 Gear Box and Suspension.
1330 - 1430 Suspension.
1430 - 1630 Universals.
1800 - 2130 Oral Exam.

6th DAY - Monday 25 Aug 41.

0830 - 0900 Map Reading.
0900 - 1000 Maintenance (Organisation.)
1000 - 12 00 Driver Maintenance (Practical).
1330 - 1400 Map Reading.
1400 - 1630 Driver Maintenance (Practical).
1800 - 1900 Recapitulation.

7th DAY - Tuesday 26 Aug 41.

0630 - 0700 Maintenance.
0830 - 0900 Map Reading.
0900 - 1200 Transport establishments, Mounted drill, Convoy
Maintenance.
1330 - 1400 Map Reading.
1400 - 1630 Convoy and Map Reading.
1630 - 1700 Inspect Maintenance.
1800 - 1900 Steering.

8th DAY - Wednesday 27 Aug 41

0630 - 0700 Maintenance.
0830 - 0900 Map Reading.
0900 - 1000 Steering.
1000 - 1200 Rear Axle and Differentials.

W23 Diary

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

APPENDIX D

45 L.A.D.

23 Sep 41

16 Aust Inf Bde M.T. Driver & Maintenance School

1. SCOPE

The curriculum of the School was extended to include instruction for Carrier personnel, training for Mechanics and fitters, as well as the Driver-Maintenance Course for M.T. Drivers.

Carrier Wing comprised 12 personnel
Mechanics and Fitters 13 "
M.T. Drivers 37 "
Nominal Rolls are attached.

2. METHOD

(a) M.T. Driver & Maintenance Section

Instruction method was entirely similar to the previous School.

(b) Carrier Section

General mechanical and electrical instruction was given in conjunction with the M.T. Driver Classes.

Detailed maintenance and mechanical repair and adjustment was then carried out on two (2) "non-runner" Australian Bren Carrier (L.P.) made available by No. 2 A.O.M. at BARBARA. Later, one (1) "runner" English Scout Carrier was made available.

This Carrier which is similar, in steering and suspension, to the Universal Mark 1 was used for general instruction and driving experience.

(c) Mechanics Section

Students in syndicates of three dismantled, reassembled and adjusted the component parts of a CAS, Chev; and C.V.T. vehicle under supervision.

Instruction was also given in engine tuning and "trouble shooting"

Particular attention was given to method and cleanliness in handling.

3. EXAMINATIONS

Examination of M.T. and Carrier personnel was held orally in syndicates of six.

Mechanics were judged on the practical work generally in addition to the set mechanical tasks.

4. RESULTS AND PROGRESS

(a) M.T. Driver & Maintenance Section.

Good progress was made in both the driving and convoy, and the mechanical and electrical sections.

Mechanical standard was satisfactory but generally not as high as the previous School.

Driving and convoy work was an improvement in the standard of the last School.

(b) Carrier Section.

The standard of mechanical knowledge was excellent with some of the students really outstanding.

The attitude of the students was an example to the rest of the School.

In addition there is strong evidence that the esprit-de-corps that existed among Carrier personnel in the past is still in prominence.

REPORT ON 16 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE EXERCISE - 11 SEP 41

1. OBJECT OF EXERCISE:

- (i) To check office procedure both at Bn HQ and OPs.
- (ii) Preparation of situation and shelling maps.
- (iii) To test accurate reporting of information received whether from report or observation.
- (iv) Correction of time lag in passing messages.

2. DIRECTING STAFF:

- (1) Capt M. KNOX - GSO III (I) 6 Aust Div.
Capt I.C. FULTON - SLO 16 Aust Inf Bde
Lieut R. HOLMES - IO 19 Aust Inf Bde
- together with "I" Secs of 2/6 Bn, 2/7 Bn and 16 Bde arrived at RV HULEIQUAT at 0730 hrs.

(ii) After the D.S. had conferred with Major Smith and Capt Kerr of A & C Coys, 2/6 Bn - (co-operating troops) the "I" Secs and runners moved off to a feature about 4 kilos East of HULEIQUAT where "C" Coy took up a defensive posn.

(iii) When "C" Coy was established on the above mentioned feature "A" Coy, commanded by Major Smith attacked the position.

(iv) The two Bn "I" Secs functioned individually, with "C" Coy as own troops, both reporting on the whole of the front, and sending back their information to Bde which in turn passed the information to a "token" 6 Div.

3. The exercise generally was highly successful although a lot of mistakes were made for the exercise was designed to bring out weaknesses in the system of each "I" Sec.

4. On Sat 13 Sep Capt M. KNOX and Capt I.C. FULTON addressed all three "I" Officers and stressed the need for concentration on the following points during the next week's training :-

- (i) The need to report own troops dispositions as well as enemy.
- (ii) Inaccurate or indecisive reports - (a) such as reporting a coy or a pl instead of stating actual number of men seen (b) reporting a plane without giving all details such as type, height, direction, time.
- (iii) Judging distance and locating position accurately on map.
- (iv) (a) O.P. procedure - at times men were so careful to conceal themselves in their O.Ps that they could not observe.
(b) The need for O.Ps to establish on the map features they can see on the ground as soon as they occupy a position.
- (v) Shelling reports were very vague and indefinite.
- (vi) Bad writing and wording of messages, which caused messages to be delivered to higher formations with a different phrasing and at times an entirely different meaning.
- (vii) Messages were frequently held up, through lack of a routine method of handling everything that came in to office.

5. "A" Coy and "C" Coys, 2/6 Bn commanded by Major Smith and Capt Kerr co-operated in every way to make the exercise a success.

War Diary

Ref File S/4/13

S E C R E T

APPENDIX F

Headquarters,
16 Aust Inf Bde.

12 Sep 41.

G.O.C.
6 Aust Div.

DELAY IN COMPLETION OF ISSUES OF WAR EQUIPMENT TO UNITS

1. It is desired to invite attention to the extremely unsatisfactory situation in this and other Inf Bdes arising out of the delay in the provision of War equipment to complete units to the authorised scale and the unfortunate results of placing certain units in a Bde on a higher order of priority for issues than the remaining units of the same Bde.
2. It is realised that, following on the losses in the Libyan and Greek Campaigns, priority had to be given to units and formations earmarked for early employment subsequently in operational roles. It is obvious also that higher authorities must be aware of the general equipment situation, but it is not certain that they are fully cognisant of the effect in individual Inf Bdes from which units were withdrawn for operational roles before the Bdes as a whole were completely re-equipped.
3. In the 16 and 17 Aust Inf Bdes 2/3 and 2/5 Bns respectively were placed on the priority list and equipped for service in Syria. Subsequently 2/2 Bn was given a certain degree of priority in the issue of weapons and tpt in view of its operational role at EL ARISH. The following table shows the general position on 21 Aug 41 in Bns under my command at the moment :-

Unit.	Vehicles.	Bren Gun	Rifles	A/Tk Rifles	Mortar 3"	Mortar 2"	TSMG	Remarks.
<u>W.E.</u>	55	50	746	22	4	12	50	
<u>16 Inf Bde</u>								
2/1 Bn	∅ 16	N11	500	N11	N11	N11	N11	KHASSA
2/2 Bn	∅ 53	30	585	N11	4	12	36	EL ARISH
<u>17 Inf Bde</u>								
2/6 Bn	∅ 9	50	445	N11	4	5	36	HILL 69
2/7 Bn	∅ 8	1	393	N11	2	N11	N11	HILL 69

∅ No Carriers are held.

There has been no change in the situation since 21 Aug except possibly in the number of rifles, due to the receipt of certain reinforcement drafts this week.

4. From the above it will be seen that due to deficiencies in weapons, tpt and equipment, training - particularly weapon training, is being definitely retarded, and that due to the lack of uniformity in the number of weapons of various types and of tpt, the rate of progress in individual units in the different phases of training will vary very considerably. Uniformity of training throughout the brigade, in the circumstances, is unattainable; consequently individual units will not be ready to commence the more advanced phases of collective training simultaneously and valuable time will continue to be lost in preparing the Bde for War.

5. Every effort is being made to ease the situation by arranging, where practicable, for units to obtain temporary loans of weapons and equipment in which they are deficient, from other units (including the Training Bn) which are more happily situated but this at best is merely an unsatisfactory palliative.

6. Weapon training results are definitely poor in several units, particularly Bren Gun, and this is attributed largely to the shortage of weapons to permit of adequate training being carried out quickly.

7. The training of personnel of HQ Coys is hampered also through lack of Bren Carriers and Signal equipment, although during the last few days some No. 108 W/T Sets and other equipment have been received.

8. It is now 4 months since the 16 Aust Inf Bde returned to Palestine, and units are now approaching War Establishment in personnel. The immediate future cannot be predicted with any degree of certainty, consequently it is vital that the best use be made of any training time available in order that units may be ready to answer any sudden operational demands.

9. There is, it is considered, a definite risk that higher authorities may NOT appreciate fully the fact that although plenty of time has been available for training, it has been impossible owing to lack of equipment to train units up to anything approaching the standard which fully equipped units at a reasonable strength should attain in the same period.

10. It is not enough suddenly to complete units with their war equipment and to expect them to undertake operations in the Field almost immediately afterwards. Other ranks must have time to familiarise themselves with their weapons and equipment and to reach a satisfactory standard in their use; subordinate leaders must have practice in handling their commands and of coordinating the use and directing the fire of the various weapons under their control; Comds and staffs must have practice in the tactical and administrative employment of the various units and sub-units. Such experience can be gained adequately only with units completely organised and equipped.

11. It is earnestly requested that the situation be strongly represented to higher authority with a view to obtaining in full the deficient items of War equipment or at least sufficient to equip fully one rifle Coy, one Section of the Carrier Pl., one Sec 3" Mortar Pl.

If this is not practicable it is suggested that available infantry weapons and technical equipment in the division be withdrawn from all units and re-issued to them on a uniform scale.


.....Brigadier,
Commanding 16 Aust Inf Bde.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

16 AUST INF BDE

APPENDIX G

REPORT ON "I" EXERCISE - TUESDAY 23 Sep 41

1. The exercise was conducted with the "I" Sections and "token" troops occupying a defensive position, which was attacked by "B" Coy, 2/7 Bn.

2/6 Bn 2/7 Bn and 16 Bde "I" Secs participated.

2. The exercise revealed a distinct improvement on the previous one, viz :-

(a) The office routine was so planned, that although at times a great bulk of information would hit the office, there was no confusion. This was due to the correction of faults at the O.Ps such as :-

- (i) Correct continuous reporting, brought about by having one man watching the front the whole time and the other man recording.
- (ii) Use of carbon paper to duplicate messages and sketches - which reduced time lag at Bn and generally assisted the smooth running of the office.

3. Capt KNOX expressed his satisfaction with the Exercise and commented on the marked improvement shown.

W. J. Jernial

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

Ref File No. S/1/333

Headquarters
16 Aust Inf Bde

25 Sep 41.

APPENDIX H

2/1 Aust Inf Bn
2/2 Aust Inf Bn
2/6 Aust Inf Bn
2/7 Aust Inf Bn

16 AUST INF BDE

DRIVERS AND MAINTENANCE M.T. COURSE - No. 3

1. OBJECT: The School will be continued for the purpose of improving the standard of Drivers M.T. of the Units of this Bde.

It is desired that the School will handle Drivers with limited experience in Army M.T. with the intention of increasing their driving ability, general maintenance and mechanical knowledge.

2. DURATION OF COURSE: The Course will be of two weeks duration, commencing 29 Sep 41 and terminating 12 Oct 41.

3. STUDENTS: Attendance of Students will be as under :-

	<u>M.T. Drivers</u>	<u>Carrier Drivers</u>	<u>Driver Mechanics</u>
H.Q. 16 Aust Inf Bde	6	-	-
2/1 Aust Inf Bn	9	6	4
2/2 Aust Inf Bn	9	6	6
2/6 Aust Inf Bn	6	-	-
2/7 Aust Inf Bn	6	-	-
	<u>36</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>10</u>

It is requested that 2/1 & 2/2 Aust Inf Bns supply as Driver-Mechanics, personnel mentioned as being suitable by C.I. in Reports on Students, copies of which are held by both Units.

Units will submit nominal rolls of students to reach this HQ by 27 Sep 41.

4. JOINING INSTRUCTIONS: These are held by Units.

5. VEHICLES FOR TRAINING: 2/1 Aust Inf Bn will supply 4 one ton Chev. Vehicles and 2/2 Aust Inf Bn 12 - 15 cwt C.A.S. Vehicles for the duration of the Course.
Vehicles will be at the School by 1600 hrs 28 Sep 41.

6. SCHOOL STAFF: (a) Additional to the Instructional Staff, 2/6 Aust Inf Bn will provide the following :-

1 School Sgt Major
1 Cook Assistant
1 Mess Orderly

while 2/7 Aust Inf Bn will provide the following :-

1 Cook
1 N.C.O. as Quartermaster
1 Mess Orderly.

The above personnel will report to the School by 1000 hrs 28 Sep 41.

(b) It is requested that NX 7737 Cpl DAVIES J.F., 2/1 Aust Inf Bn, and NX 23995 Cpl HANNON F.J., 2/2 Aust Inf Bn,

be made available to the School as Assistant Instructors for the duration of the Course.

(c) Commencing with 2/6 Aust Inf Bn, 2/6 and 2/7 Aust Inf Bns will supply at 0830 hrs on each alternate day a fatigue party of 1 N.C.O. & 4 Light Duty men whose duties will be detailed by the School Sgt Major.

.....Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde

For Inf :- 6 Aust Div
2/3 Aust Inf Bn

28 Sep 41

2/1 Aust Inf Bn
2/2 Aust Inf Bn
2/6 Aust Inf Bn
2/7 Aust Inf Bn

16 AUST INF BDEDRIVERS AND MAINTENANCE MT COURSE - No. 3

Reference our S/1/333 of 25 Sep 41, paras 2,3,5,6 (a) and (c) are cancelled and replaced by the following instructions :-

LOCATION: The Course will be located at 2/1 Aust Inf Bn, McNICHOL LINES, KHASA, commencing 30 Sep and terminating 13 Oct 41. Students and vehicles will report to the School by 1600 hrs 29 Sep 41.

STUDENTS: Attendance of Students will be as under :-

	<u>MT Drivers</u>	<u>Carrier Drivers</u>	<u>Driver Mechanics</u>
HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde	6	-	-
2/1 Aust Inf Bn	6	3) EACH	4
2/2 Aust Inf Bn	6	3) 4 DAYS	6
2/6 Aust Inf Bn	6	3) 12 per	
2/7 Aust Inf Bn	6	3) Unit in all	
	<u>30</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>10</u>

Care will be exercised in the selection of students to ensure that all students sent are capable, on return to their Units, of imparting their knowledge to other Drivers. No driver will be sent to the School who has NOT had some previous MT experience.

Units will send three (3) Carrier Drivers to the School for a short 4-day course, commencing 30 Sep 41. At the end of each 4-day course the drivers will be changed until 12 Carrier Drivers, from each Unit, have received Driving and Maintenance Instruction.

ACCOMMODATION: Owing to a shortage of tents, each Unit will provide one E.P.I.P. Tent, which will be returned at the end of the Course. Beds, Cane, will NOT be provided by the School.

VEHICLES:- Vehicles will be required as per previous scale at 1600 hrs, 29 Sep 41.

SCHOOL STAFF:- In addition in Instructors and Assistant Instructors already detailed, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn will daily provide two Mess Orderlies. Administrative Staff from 2/6 and 2/7 Aust Inf Bns will NOT now be required.

NOMINAL ROLLS:- Units will furnish a revised Nominal Roll to reach this HQ by 1200 hrs 29 Sep 41.

For Inf:- 6 Aust Div

W. Dancy
Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde AOD

Daily fatigue only NOT read.

APPENDIX I

26 Sep 41

REPORT ON RIVER CROSSING - YARKON RIVER
BASED ON A STUDY OF AIR PHOTOGRAPHS

Ref Map JAFFA - TEL AVIV 1:100,000.

GENERAL

1. The river generally appears to be an effective A/tk Block, from the coast to 13451680 decreasing in width from approx 40 yds at mouth to 20 yds at 13451680.

2. APPROACHES FOR M.T.

(a) There are three approaches to the river in this area:-

- (1) A good road following the coast to bridge at 12901677.
- (2) A second class road (on map) which appears to be a good wide road on photo leading out from TEL AVIV to bridge at 13071672.
- (3) A second class road from NAHALAT GANNIM to bridge at 13991680. This bridge may be approached from PETAH TIQVA or TEL AVIV in both cases. The road is A 1 as far as NAHALAT GANNIM.

(b) The bridges appears to be quite capable of carrying Army Transport.

(c) The route to crossing at 13391680 offers the most protection from air observation but dispersion on this route practically NIL.

(d) Apart from the roads mentioned cultivation would prevent approaches ~~at~~ any other points except at JARISHA 13201670, where there appears to be a block or a weir across the river. This does not appear to be a complete block because no apparent change in the width of the river immediately behind is evident. Trees appear to grow across this block.

(e) River banks throughout the area appear to be steep.

3.

In view of the above the most suitable crossing could be made at the points where the bridges now exist, even if the bridges were blown these approaches appear the only ones practicable for bringing up bridging equipment.

Jm Terwall
..... Lieut.
I.O. 16 Aust Inf Bde.

RIVER RECCE - YARKON RIVER

Ref Map JAFFA TEL AVIV 1:100,000.

GENERAL

1. Recce on the ground revealed that conclusions drawn from study of air photographs were correct in so far as the approaches to the river at the four points mentioned, viz :-

12901677
13071672
13391680
13201670

YARKON RIVER

- 2.
- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| (a) Approaches for M.T. | As mentioned above. |
| (b) Depth | 6 Ft or more throughout except on sand spit near bridge at 12901677 where it was no more than 4 ft deep. |
| (c) Width | Ranging from 42 yds to 15 yds |
| (d) Current | 5 - 7 mph. |
| (e) Nature of banks | Mostly steep varying from 4 ft to 15 ft. |
| (f) Nature of bottom | Sand and mud. |
| (g) Bridges | Concrete see attached sketch. |
| (h) Boats | A few rowing and sailing skiffs. |
| (i) Material for rafts | Gum trees growing along banks average 6 ins diameter. |
| (j) Liability to floods | Nil except in rainy season Nov-Feb. |
| (k) Condition of water | Not fit for consumption without treatment. |

3. JARISHA.

Wier across river at this point approx 12 ft wide made of stones and cement wall, could easily be converted to bridge by Engineers. Approx 6 ins water flowing over.

4. (a) Best covered approach at JARISHA and along road to bridge at 13391680.
- (b) More dispersion offered on road to bridge at 13071672 although this road is not first class(B1)

J. M. Vercaut
..... Lieut.
I.O. 16 Aust Inf Bde

16 AUST INF BDE SYNDICATE

RECCE OF AREA EAST OF LAKE TIBERIAS

Ref Maps : 1/100,000 IRBID WEST & IRBID EAST sheets.
 1/200,000 FIQ-HAIFA sheet.

GENERAL

1. The object of the recce was to determine generally the method of extending the present SAMAKH defensive position by the inclusion of FIQ ridge, but before considering this it appears desirable to consider certain other aspects, which, it is submitted, vitally affect the problem.
2. The nature of the country, lack of good communications etc. render the area East of the line all incl. LAKE TIBERIAS - line of R. JORDAN between all incl. DEGANYA - Police Post ED DIYABE (East of BEISAN) unsuitable for major offensive operations from PALESTINE. Consequently, it must be assumed that the defensive system in this area, as at present existing or planned, is primarily intended for the static defence of the approaches leading into PALESTINE through SAMAKH, JISR EL MAJAMI and ED DIYABE respectively.
3. It follows therefore that adequate defences must be provided on each of these routes, as a successful advance by any one of them across the river JORDAN will immediately place the Forces defending the others, in a most precarious position.
4. If the above assumption is correct it is not clear what purpose the garrisons at IRBID and MAFRAQ are intended to serve, since in neither case do they effectively cover the lines of approach from the East through JISR EL MAJAMI and ED DIYABE respectively. Moreover, their isolation and comparative weakness appear to make them an easy prey for a determined enemy who will have no difficulty in cutting their lines of supply and dealing with them at his leisure.

PRESENT DISPOSITIONS - SAMAKH - JISR EL MAJAMI.

5. The existing system appears to be designed primarily to deny enemy the use of the YARMUK Valley where it debouches into the JORDAN Valley and to provide a reserve position defending the crossing at JISR EL MAJAMI from the West of the R. JORDAN. No provision has been made to prevent an enemy Force debouching from the hills into the JORDAN Valley from the East and moving on JISR EL MAJAMI or ED DIYABE after by-passing the IRBID defences via HUSN and SAMMU.
6. The FIQ ridge and the high ground as far East as the ridge 215222 (IRBID WEST sheet) on the Rd JISR MAJAMI - IRBID give excellent observation over the JORDAN Valley between SAMAKH and JISR EL MAJAMI. Moreover, the line of the Rd TIBERIAS - SAMAKH is under direct observation and in parts within long range Field Arty from the FIQ ridge as far North as the line SKOUFIA - LYCHAOUUM. To be effective, therefore, a defensive

position on the FIQ ridge must include the area South of and all incl. SKOUFIA - LYCHAOU. The high ground about SKOUFIA gives observation over the whole of the FIQ ridge plateau except a small portion of the "toe" from a line E.S.E. of SAMRA.

FIQ RIDGE POSITION

7. The only existing motorable roads leading on to the FIQ ridge are :-
- (a) Rd from YARMOUK Valley (near HAMAMAT) leading North along the crest of the ridge to FIQ where it branches N.E. to EL AAL and N.W. through SKOUFIA to the shore of Lake TIBERIAS North of LYCHAOU. This road is in bad condition particularly where it ascends and descends the ridge and would need about 14 days' work by one Bn and one Fd Coy to make it suitable for one-way traffic at night. With similar labour an alternative one-way route in the same locality could be constructed in approx 3 weeks.
 - (b) Rd SAMAKH North along East shore of Lake TIBERIAS to its junction with route described in (a) above North of LYCHAOU. A comparatively good two-way earth track which should require little work to develop and maintain in good condition.
8. Ground. Except where indicated on FIQ-HAIFA sheet the FIQ ridge is generally open and such woods as indicated are, in the main, stunted scrub with a few olive and fig trees in the neighborhood of villages. The ridge is an irregular-shaped flat-topped plateau, deeply indented in places by a number of wadis with steep and generally rough sides unsuited to movement of AFV's. On the plateau there are in places rocky outcrops and numerous boulders which would impede and limit the area of manoeuvre of AFV's. The steepness of the slopes and rough going in the re-entrants leading (a) towards EL AAL from the S.E. and N.W. and (b) towards FIQ from the South and West and also in the YARMOUK Valley will particularly restrict movement of AFV's. The low ground along the Eastern shores of Lake TIBERIAS offers facilities for the movement of all arms, but is a narrow strip dominated by the adjacent high ridges to the East. Good fields of fire for all weapons are available on the top of the plateau, but the re-entrants in its sides are definitely unfavourable for flat-trajectory weapons. The provision of additional 3 inch mortars for covering these re-entrants effectively will be an important consideration. Observation from the high ground EL AAL - SKOUFIA to the North and South is good, and although the ground tends to rise gradually N.E. of this line, observation from that direction S.W. is less favourable than might be anticipated - due to convex slopes and false crests.
9. There appear to be two possible alternative positions for the defence, viz:-
- (a) The EL AAL Position with FDL's on the general line all incl. JIBIR - EL AAL - ANIAHIE - ridge West of ANIAHIE to point on shore of Lake TIBERIAS near junction of coastal route and Rd FIQ - SKOUFIA - Lake TIBERIAS.
 - (b) The SKOUFIA Position with FDL's on the general line of the high ground all incl. DE BOSoya - YAKOUSA - SKOUFIA - LYCHAOU.

Any defensive position South of the latter line is dominated by the high ground about SKOUFIA, would be difficult to

SCHOOLS FROM 1 SEP 41 - 30 SEP 41

COURSES	No of Schools held	Attendance			DURATION		Bde HQ			2/1 Bn			2/2 Bn			2/6 Bn			n		
		Offrs	NCOs	ORs	Weeks	Days	Offrs	NCOs	ORs	Offrs	NCOs	ORs	Offrs	NCOs	ORs	Offrs	NCOs	ORs	Of	CO OR	
MEWTS 17 Rifle	1	-	2	-	4	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
MEWTS 3" Grenade	1	-	1	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MEWTS 28 Mortar	1	1	1	-	2	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
REGT INT COURSE	1	1	-	-	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
13																					
AIF SAS Pl Weapon No 3	1	5	10	-	4	3	-	-	-	1	2	-	1	2	-	1	3	-	2	3	-
4 Mortar Course	1	-	2	-	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
5 Mortar Course	1	2	2	1	2	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-
AIF ME SIGS 7 Sec	1	1	1	-	2	6	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
AIF ME SIGS 9 Sec	1	-	-	8	2	6	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	2
No 42 ME School of Cookery	1	-	-	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
AIF ME Reinf't Offrs School No 2	1	7	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	4	-	-
W/T School 108 sets	1	2	2	16	-	6	-	-	-	-	5	1	1	3	-	-	5	1	1	3	-
AIF ME Junior Staff School	1	1	-	-	7	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R.P. Training No 2 Drivers Maintenance (16 Bde)	1	-	11	8	2	-	-	2	1	-	3	1	-	4	-	-	1	3	-	1	3
As Above (NO 3)																					
No 26 ME DM&MM School	1	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
AIF ME Sch of Eng. No 1 Fd Wks Course	1	4	-	-	2	5	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
Mortar Range-Takers Course	1	-	-	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1
Court Martial Course	1	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
AIF SAS CSM Cse	1	-	7	-	4	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	2	-
No 2 Hygiene Cse	1	-	4	6	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	4	1
18 HG Cipher Cse	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

supply and support effectively by Field Arty, while at the same time would leave the route TIBERIAS - SAMAKH and the coastal route on East of Lake TIBERIAS under direct observation and for the most part within Field Arty range of a possible enemy.

10. Although the SKOUFIA position is somewhat less in extent than the EL AAL position, it has less depth and room for manoeuvre, affords greater facilities for manoeuvre by enemy AFV's and better cover for enemy approach and forming up positions (e.g. the wadis S.E. and N.W. of EL AAL) than the latter position.
 11. In the EL AAL position the wadis on the flanks and the rough going on the top of the plateau although not complete obstacles to AFV movement in themselves will greatly restrict and impede such movement.
This position moreover offers good facilities for Field Arty support. It is therefore recommended.
 12. None of the possible defensive positions can be directly linked up with the present SAMAKH system. However, this does not appear to be essential providing arrangements are made to prevent any hostile infiltration in force down the YARMOUK Valley. Mobile reserves from the FIQ ridge position should be able to deal with any such attempt so long as sufficient warning was obtained. With this in view a detached post possibly in the neighborhood of KHALED STA (S.E. DE BOSoya) and a change in the dispositions of the garrison of the UM QEIS locality so that it actually blocks the route IRBID - HAMAMAT may be necessary.
 13. (a) If the EL AAL position is to be held indefinitely it is considered that one division with possibly an additional Army Field Regt will be required to hold it (approx 15,000 yds of front). Although the front may be held ^{by a smaller force} adequate mobile reserves will be necessary to permit of counter-attack and to counter enemy infiltration by the numerous wadis. Furthermore the force provided should be strong in mortars to deal with the broken ground which otherwise cannot be effectively covered by fire.
(b) If the position is to be held for a limited period only, the force may be correspondingly reduced.
 14. Water. Time did not permit of a detailed water recce, but it would appear that village supplies are obtained from rock cisterns. It would appear uneconomical to endeavour to attempt to develop bore supplies on the plateau itself, consequently provision may be required to transport the bulk of the water supplies for the garrison.
- OTHER APPROACHES
15. In conclusion, it is recommended that the arrangements for the defence of the routes to the JORDAN Valley via JISR EL MAJAMI and ED DIYABE be reviewed for the reasons given in para 4 of this paper.

[Handwritten signature]

.....Brigadier,
Commanding 16 Aust Inf Bde.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

bound
Ref File S/4/13

S E C R E T

Headquarters,
16 Aust Inf Bde.

12 Sep 41.

G.O.C.
6 Aust Div.

DELAY IN COMPLETION OF ISSUES OF WAR EQUIPMENT TO UNITS

1. It is desired to invite attention to the extremely unsatisfactory situation in this and other Inf Bdes arising out of the delay in the provision of War equipment to complete units to the authorised scale and the unfortunate results of placing certain units in a Bde on a higher order of priority for issues than the remaining units of the same Bde.

2. It is realised that, following on the losses in the Libyan and Greek Campaigns, priority had to be given to units and formations earmarked for early employment subsequently in operational roles. It is obvious also that higher authorities must be aware of the general equipment situation, but it is not certain that they are fully cognisant of the effect in individual Inf Bdes from which units were withdrawn for operational roles before the Bdes as a whole were completely re-equipped.

3. In the 16 and 17 Aust Inf Bdes 2/3 and 2/5 Bns respectively were placed on the priority list and equipped for service in Syria. Subsequently 2/2 Bn was given a certain degree of priority in the issue of weapons and tpt in view of its operational role at EL ARISH. The following table shows the general position on 21 Aug 41 in Bns under my command at the moment :-


Unit.	Vehicles.	Bren Gun	Rifles	A/Tk Rifles	Mortar 3"	Mortar 2"	TSMG	Remarks.
W.E.	55	50	746	22	4	12	50	
<u>16 Inf Bde</u>								
2/1 Bn	∅ 16	N11	500	N11	N11	N11	N11	KHASSA
2/2 Bn	∅ 53	30	585	N11	4	12	36	EL ARISH
<u>17 Inf Bde</u>								
2/6 Bn	∅ 9	50	445	N11	4	5	36	HILL 69
2/7 Bn	∅ 8	1	393	N11	2	N11	N11	HILL 69

∅ No Carriers are held.

There has been no change in the situation since 21 Aug except possibly in the number of rifles, due to the receipt of certain reinforcement drafts this week .

4. From the above it will be seen that due to deficiencies in weapons, tpt and equipment, training - particularly weapon training, is being definitely retarded, and that due to the lack of uniformity in the number of weapons of various types and of tpt, the rate of progress in individual units in the different phases of training will vary very considerably. Uniformity of training throughout the brigade, in the circumstances, is unattainable; consequently individual units will not be ready to commence the more advanced phases of collective training simultaneously and valuable time will continue to be lost in preparing the Bde for War.
5. Every effort is being made to ease the situation by arranging, where practicable, for units to obtain temporary loans of weapons and equipment in which they are deficient, from other units (including the Training Bn) which are more happily situated but this at best is merely an unsatisfactory palliative.
6. Weapon training results are definitely poor in several units, particularly Bren Gun, and this is attributed largely to the shortage of weapons to permit of adequate training being carried out quickly.
7. The training of personnel of HQ Coys is hampered also through lack of Bren Carriers and Signal equipment, although during the last few days some No. 108 W/T Sets and other equipment have been received.
8. It is now 4 months since the 16 Aust Inf Bde returned to Palestine, and units are now approaching War Establishment in personnel. The immediate future cannot be predicted with any degree of certainty, consequently it is vital that the best use be made of any training time available in order that units may be ready to answer any sudden operational demands.
9. There is, it is considered, a definite risk that higher authorities may NOT appreciate fully the fact that although plenty of time has been available for training, it has been impossible owing to lack of equipment to train units up to anything approaching the standard which fully equipped units at a reasonable strength should attain in the same period.
10. It is not enough suddenly to complete units with their war equipment and to expect them to undertake operations in the Field almost immediately afterwards. Other ranks must have time to familiarise themselves with their weapons and equipment and to reach a satisfactory standard in their use; subordinate leaders must have practice in handling their commands and of coordinating the use and directing the fire of the various weapons under their control; Comds and staffs must have practice in the tactical and administrative employment of the various units and sub-units. Such experience can be gained adequately only with units completely organised and equipped.
11. It is earnestly requested that the situation be strongly represented to higher authority with a view to obtaining in full the deficient items of War equipment or at least sufficient to equip fully one rifle Coy, one Section of the Carrier Pl., one Sec 3" Mortar Pl.

If this is not practicable it is suggested that available infantry weapons and technical equipment in the division be withdrawn from all units and re-issued to them on a uniform scale.


.....Brigadier,
Commanding 16 Aust Inf Bde.

APPRECIATION OF SITUATION BY COMD, 16 AUST INF BDE
AS AT 1200 HRS, 25 AUG 41.

OBJECT

1. To determine (a) what re-adjustments in the existing defences of NORTHERN PALESTINE are necessary to take full advantage of the country north of the EZ ZIB sector while retaining the link with the ROSH PINNA System, and (b) the forces required to hold the position as re-adjusted.

CONSIDERATIONS2. Enemy

Although lack of data makes it impossible to forecast accurately the possible scale of attack, it may be assumed that

(a) Invading forces (German or "allies" under German direction) will include a large proportion of armed formations with mech. and air support designed to apply the usual "blitzkrieg" tactics.

(b) Strength will be the maximum which can be provided and maintained in this theatre of war. Limiting factors will be (i) capacity of land communications through TURKEY and/or RUSSIA, SYRIA and TRANS-JORDAN; (ii) extent to which RN and RAF can limit enemy use of sea and air routes for maintenance and reinforcement and (iii) extent to which an enemy can organise and utilise local resources.

COMMUNICATIONS

3. (a) Where facilities for movement cross-country are limited modern forces are tied largely to existing roads and railways. In SYRIA south of the line DAMAS-BEIRUT the only existing railway is the narrow gauge from DAMAS through DERA'A which enters PALESTINE at SAMAKH.

(b) In Southern SYRIA the country is for the most part so rough and rugged as to preclude the movement of armed and MT formations any considerable distance from the existing roads which are limited in number. The main approaches to the Northern border of PALESTINE are

Route	(i)	Rd DAMAS-QOUNEITRA-FIQ-SAMAKH
"	(ii)	Rd DAMAS-QOUNEITRA-ROSHPINNA
"	(iii)	Rd MERDJ AYOUN-METULLA-ROSHPINNA
"	(iv)	Rd SAIDA-TYR-NAQUORA-EZ ZIB (Coastal Road)

In addition, by using laterals between (iii) and (iv) above, two more alternative routes along 2nd class (?) roads are available, viz:-

Route (v)	Rd ADEISSE-ALTAROUNE-EL MALIKIYA where it connects with the PALESTINE Frontier lateral.
" (vi)	Rd TYR-TIBNINE-BENNT JBAIL-REMEICHE-SA'SA.

(c) Apart from the laterals to which routes (v) and (vi) connect, the only ones reasonably close to the frontier are

(a)	Rd ALTAROUNE-BENNT JBAIL-NAQOURA (approx. parallel to and <u>north</u> of frontier)
(b)	Rd JAHULA-SA'SA-EL BASSA (approx. parallel to and <u>south</u> of frontier)
and (c)	Rd SA'SA-TARSHIHA-NAHARIYA with an extension eastward through RAS EL AHMAT-DEISUM to QUADAS (on lateral (b) above).

(d) By denying the enemy the full use of these laterals, his capacity for manoeuvre and re-grouping of forces will be greatly restricted and the advance of his major forces from the north will tend to canalize into (a) the approaches to ROSH PINNA and (b) the coastal road. Consequently the bulk of the defensive strength may safely be concentrated to cover primarily the group of approaches between (a) excl. River JORDAN and REMEICHE and (b) that along the coastal road providing arrangements are made to keep the intervening country under observation so that mobile reserves may counter any attempted infiltration in areas remote from the made roads. The task of watching a wide front in extremely rugged country with few troops is likely to need careful consideration. Horsed cavalry cannot move rapidly off the roads in most of the area to be watched, but on the other hand, recce by and the passing back of reports will be very arduous for dismounted personnel. For that reason horsed Cav with W/T on a generous scale, coupled with an improvised intelligence organisation among the local inhabitants seems to be the answer.

(e) To enable us to economise personnel, to permit reserves to function satisfactorily, and to maintain our troops in the forward areas, additional roads and tracks will require to be constructed in suitable areas. On such a wide front alternative routes connecting up the laterals behind our F.D.Ls are particularly necessary for the rapid movement of reserves to any threatened point. Tracks will also be required to permit of supplies being sent forward to F.D.Ls. Pack transport will be essential for use in the fwd areas.

French Frontier Rd is one way only and would require improvement to cope with regular traffic.

4. EZ ZIB LINE

Has grave defects in that the western portion (5 to 7 kilos from the coast at least)

- (a) is dominated by the high ground to the north
 - (b) is practically the only area in the vicinity favourable to the operation of AFVs.
 - (c) does not provide any natural A Tk obstacle
 - (d) does not facilitate defence in depth
- and (e) allows the enemy full use of an existing lateral north of the frontier as well as the partial use of onesouth of it.

5. ALTERNATIVE LINE

On the other hand, if that portion of the previously selected defensive line west of incl. JISH is advanced across the frontier, a position which is definitely unfavourable to the operation of AFVs except in very restricted localities can be obtained and the enemy denied the use of the two laterals west of the line all incl REMEICHE-SA'SA. Incidentally, the defensive position can be shortened by some 4 kilos, and the enemy's facilities for observations very greatly restricted.

6. GROUND

The area on both sides of the frontier west of KAHR BIRIN comprises steep, rugged hills generally covered with low scrub, boulders or rocky outcrops forming natural A Tk obstacles. Hills are interspersed with deep wadis which in themselves form obstacles, but provide cover in which attacking troops might be able to assemble undetected.

North of KAHR BIRIN the country opens out towards YAROUN, AIN EBEL, HAININE and EL KOZAH from all of which good observation southward is available. This particular locality may offer facilities for AFV operations on a limited scale, but it should be possible for the defence to ensure that such operations are not extended to the surrounding areas.

Good facilities for general observation northward are available over the whole front, particularly from SA'SA Police Post, AITA ECH CHAAB, KH EL BOUSTANE, CHAMAS, Point 370 and MRAHBAYADA. Detailed observation of wadis etc., may be difficult.

With the improvement of roads it should be possible to obtain suitable artillery areas from which to cover all sectors of the front.

7. WEAPONS AND EQPT

(a) The type of country favours the use of high angle weapons such as howitzers and mortars.

(b) Mortars

An increase in the scale of issue of mortars for Bns employed on defence in this area is recommended.

(c) MMGs

Until a more detailed recce can be carried out any increase in the scale of provision of MMGs does not appear to be warranted as although excellent observation can be obtained, it is doubtful owing to steep slopes etc. whether really effective E.B.Zs will be obtained.

(d) A/Tk Guns

Normal allotment should suffice to cover lines of approach and areas where tank operation is possible.

(e) A/Tk Mines

In conjunction with A/Tk guns and natural obstacles these will be desirable for defence of area north of KAHR BIRIN and Coastal Rd.

(e) Signal Eqpt.

Owing to the wide front to be covered something above the normal scale of sig. equipment - particularly W/T may be necessary.

8. WATER

Water in ponds was noticed at several villages, e.g. REMEICHE and there appears to be a spring at ISKANDERUN which gives an excellent supply of apparently good water. A detailed recce by Engrs will be necessary to determine how far water supplies can be obtained and developed in the fwd area. Development of water supplies in the fwd area is important to avoid carting and carrying over bad rds and tracks.

COURSES OPEN9. OWN SIDE

(a) To accept existing line EZ ZIB

(b) To adjust line west of incl KAFR BIRIM by advancing it northward to general line KAFR BIRIM-REMEICHE-NAQOURA.

(c) To adjust line west of KAFR BIRIM by advancing it to link up with high ground just north RAS EL AHMAT thence all incl ring contour P191275-Wadi at last E in REMEICHE-Ring contour 183278-high ground north of RAMIET-high ground NE CHIMINE-thence along Wadi NW to north side of CHAMAS-thence wadi entering sea just north of RAS EL BAYADA (Tracing attached).

Course (a):- NOT recommended for reasons given in para 4 (EZ ZIB Line)

Course (b):- NOT recommended as it leaves enemy with good observation and favourable forming up positions, and does not provide good fields of fire on coastal sector.

Course (c):- Recommended as it gives excellent observation, makes available two laterals in rear of FDLs, provides fields of fire as good as can be obtained in this type of country, is in country which affords the maximum natural assistance for defence against tank attack. It is for consideration after further detailed recce as to whether or not high ground about YAROUN and possibly AIN EBEL-HAININE and EL KOZAH should be included to the defence to deny the enemy the most effective observation area in the locality.

10. ENEMY

Generally to advance and attack via approaches leading into PALESTINE (a) between excl. R. JORDAN and incl. REMEICHE and/or (b) Coastal Route.

It is probable that a combination of both combined with attack from east would be adopted.

PLAN (OUTLINE)

1. Front to be divided into two main sectors.

2. Boundary between sectors (all incl Right Sector) HAININE-REMEICHE-DEIR EL QASI.

3. General line of FDLs for adjusted line as shown on attached outline trace.

4. Troops to hold

(a) Right Sector - One Div plus one Bde Gp

(b) Left Sector - One Div
or
One Div (less one Bde))
One Cav Bde (horsed)

(c) At least one Bde Group to be kept mobile in each sector. Suggested localities:-
Rt. Sector - MERUN Left Sector ALMA CHAAB.

N.B.: It is assumed that there will be a Force General Reserve in addition to the reserves held locally by the Frontier garrison formations.

- (d) In the left sector one Bde Gp to be used to hold position incl. CHAMAS-Coastal Rd at RAS EL BAYADA while Cav (or other Bde) watches remainder of sector.

5. Roads

Following to be constructed or improved:-

- (a) French Frontier Rd from incl REMEICHE to NAQOURA
- (b) Track RAS EL AHMAT-SAFAF
- (c) (i) " REMEICHE-KAFR BIRIM (if practicable)
(ii) " REMEICHE-to PALESTINE Frontier Rd in vicinity SA'SA Police Post.
- (d) " along valley from point on French Frontier Rd about 2 kilos SE RAMIET to point on PALESTINE Frontier Rd about 2 kilos ESE TARBIKA.
(if practicable)
- (e) " KH EL JEREINE-JOUBBEINE-TEIR HARFA-CHAMAS-ISKANDERUN
- (f) " HANITA-to French Frontier Rd about 1 kilo SE ALMA CHAAB

6. Water Supply

RE recce to be carried out as soon as allotment of troops to localities has been decided, to work out scheme for development of water points to serve garrisons.

7. Pack Tpt

Requirements of units in fwd areas to be determined as early as practicable and arrangements made to allot or raise pack tpt units necessary.

8. Intelligence

Early consideration to be given to organising an intelligence service amongst the villagers in localities away from rds so that they can convey early warning of any enemy attempts at infiltration.

AB
Brig.
Comd. 16 Aust Inf Bde.

NOTES ON ROAD AND TRACK REQUIREMENTS.

(Ref. BEYROUTH Sheet 1/200,000. All rds listed below except No. 1 and possibly Nos 5 and 6 can be 10' wide macadam tracks with passing places).

1. French Frontier Road, NAQURA to RUMEISH area.

About 40 Km. Foundation good. Gradients generally satisfactory. Too narrow. Surface very bad. Requires widening from 11 to 15 ft, provision of shoulder and passing points, and complete resurfacing.

2. ISKANDAROUN - CHAMAS - TEIR HARFA - JOUBBEINE - KHIRBET JEREINE.

Route 10 Km by map; road would probably be 15 Km. Mostly difficult country, stony and steep. Existing tracks are of no use and new location necessary throughout.

3. HANITA - ALMA CHAAB.

About 3 Km of new location in difficult country. The access to HANITA from the PALESTINE frontier rd also needs improvement. A link between EL BASSA and LABOUNA is hardly feasible because of gradients.

4. ALMA CHAAB - CHAMAS.

This would be most difficult and should not be attempted unless absolutely necessary.

5. TARBIKHA - RAMIET.

About 7 Km of new location, over difficult country in the middle of the route, easier each end.

6. SASA POST - RUMEISH.

About 5 Km, of which 2 Km are new location (South end) and the rest following existing footpaths in easy country.

7. SAFSAF - RAS EL AHMAT.

Not investigated. Probably needs improvement.

8. SAFSAF - DALLATA.

Not investigated. This would be an easy route if access to DALLATA is needed.

(Sgd) Major.
O.C. 2/1 Aust Fd Coy.

24 Aug 41.

NOTES ON WATER SUPPLY.

1. On the left flank the following sources exist :-

ISKANDEROUN
NAQURA
HANITA
EILON
KHIRBET JEREINE

The difficulty is transport. Since the fwd rds will not be good, it would be advisable to run a pipeline from ISKANDAROUN or KH. JEREINE to the CHAMAS area.

2. In the centre there is understood to be a supply at IQRIT. Not confirmed.

3. On the right the position is bad. The villages rely solely on rainwater cisterns, and the nearest with a good spring is HURFEISH. A possibility exists of finding water by boring in the wadis.

(Sgd) Major.
O.C. 2/1 Aust Fd Coy.

24 Aug. 41.

N.Q. 16 Bde Aust Inf Bde
WAR DIARY

KHASSA

DEC 30 1941

3 Oct 41.

MOVEMENT ORDER covering the move of this HQ and 2/1, 2/2, 2/7 and 2/11 Aust Inf Bns to Syria was received at HQ today .

NEW CALL SIGN PROCEDURE for Signals, details of which were received today, has been organised but has not yet been put into operation .

WAR DIARY

KHASSA

4 Oct 41

2/11 AUST INF BN came under command today, a temporary arrangement until the move north is completed .

WAR DIARY

KHASSA

6 Oct 41.

NEWLY CREATED TEMPORARY CAPTAINS Are Capt. W.L. Darcey, the Staff Captain, and Capt. R.J.F. McIntosh, the T.O.

UNIT SIGNAL EXERCISE by 2/1 Aust Inf Bn was visited by Brigadier A.J. Boase and Major H.H. Hammer . All sig. equipment, including helio, light and line, as well as 108 W/T sets, were in use .

BRIGADE HQ WILL BE ON THE RANGE throughout this week; training ammunition has become available, and the staff will be able to have some much needed practice .

WAR DIARY.

KHASSA

7 Oct 41.

2/2 AUST INF BN moved into Khassa camp today from EL ARISH.

GAS TOETS undergone by the staff of this HQ today revealed that a satisfactory standard of gas training had been reached. Inspection of troops' respirators showed that personal gas equipment was in good condition.

6 AUST DIV ADM MOVEMENT ORDER NO 5 gave further details of the move of the Brigade to Syria. HQ and 2/1 and 2/2 Aust Inf Bns will be in the QATANA area, about 15 miles south west of DAMASCUS.

No information as to the task of the Brigade is yet to hand.

WAR DIARY

KHASSA

8 Oct 41.

BRIGADE ADVANCE PARTY, consisting of Capt McIntosh, Capt. Morgan, Lieut Percival and Lieut Pepper, left Khassa for QATANA today .

ANOTHER DEMONSTRATION OF ARTY and Mortar (3" and 2") and anti tank guns (2 pdr) was given at Asluj, and 20 representatives including NCOs, from all units, attended . Demonstrations of HE and smoke were given by the arty and 2" and 3" mortar . Excellent results were achieved by the 3" mortar, both in the speed with which it was brought into action and in engaging the target . 2" smoke was most effective, and 3" good, but inclined to pillar quickly and disappear unless fed rapidly by more mortar smoke bombs .

WAR DIARY

KHASSA

9 Oct 41.

2/2 AUST INF BN were on parade this morning for Major-General E.F. Herring, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., E.D., who, with Brigadier A.J. Boase and their respective staffs, inspected the battalion. The men were well turned out and very steady, despite the fact that nothing in the way of ceremonial drill has been carried out for some months. After the inspection, the battalion marched past.

The GOC expressed his pleasure at the battalions turnout and smartness.

WAR DIARY

KHASSA

12 Oct 41.

BRIGADIER A. J. BOASE and Major H. H. Hammer left today for
QATANA .

WAR DIARY

KHASSA

13 Oct 41

BRIGADE VEHICLES left for the north, carrying office equipment and stores. The trucks will return on 15 Oct, and the drivers will move with the remainder of HQ personnel. All tents and camp stores are to be left behind, as well as vehicles, and these deficiencies will be made up by the unit from which the Brigade is taking over.

Brigadier and Brigade Major arrived at QATANA - met Brigadier Chappell Comd 14 Inf Bde (British) and Brigade Major, Major Graham.

An inspection of the QATANA defences was made as laid out by 14 Inf Bde which was to be on a Divisional basis holding the QATANA Gap.

Arrangements were made for the Taking over from 14 Inf Bde by 16 Aust Inf Bde. The British were helpful and the arrangements and the actual change over conducted most cordially.

14 Inf Bde left all equipment, weapons, stores, MT and Carriers which were taken over by 16 Aust Inf Bde.

WAR DIARY

QATANA

16 Oct 41.

DETAILS OF THE MOVE of the main party, under Lieut A.K. Bosgard,
are set out hereunder :-

2000	hrs	15	Oct	dep.	Khassa camp
2359	"	"	"	ent.	MAJDAL
0430	"	16	Oct	arr.	HAIFA
0640	"	"	"	dep.	HAIFA
1330	"	"	"	arr.	QATANA (via NAZARETH, TIBERIAS, and QUNEITRA)

WAR DIARY

QATANA

17 Oct 41.

CHANGEOVER was made with 14 British Brigade, under command of Brigadier Chappell . This Brigade comprised 2 Black Watch Regt, 1 Beds and Herts and 2 Yorks and Lancs. Brigade HQ personnel are billeted in the QATANA village area .

For the first week the Brigade will be living on English rations, after which they will revert to Australian rations .

WAR DIARY

QATANA

18 Oct 41.

LIEUT C.T. COLQUHOUN, 2/2 Aust Inf Bn., has been appointed Bde. I.O. He takes over from Lieut S.M. Percival, who is to return to 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

FROM THE ADMINISTRATIVE VIEWPOINT, the changeover with 14 Bde was satisfactory, although it was somewhat surprising to see the neglectful and untidy state of equipment, store rooms, etc, and of vehicles. Hygienically, too, our predecessors could not be described as good, and many days have been spent in cleaning up HQ and billets, and putting them in a clean and healthy state.

VEHICLES taken over from 14 Bde comprised the following:-

- 1 Car DS Packard
- 1 " " Ford
- 2 " Ford Utility
- 1 Humber PU
- 1 Dodge "
- 4 Vans 15 cwt Chev
- 1 " " Ford
- 1 Lorry GS 3 ton Ford
- 2 MCs Norton
- 1 " BSA
- 2 Cars 2 seater Austin .

None of these vehicles could be described as being in good condition .

WAR DIARY

QATANA

19 Oct 41.

WEATHER, in Syria, is a great deal colder than in Palestine, and issues of winter clothing have been made to troops .

RECCE of the area round Jebel AANTAR, north east of Qatana, was carried out by the Commander and Brigade Major .

ALL UNITS under command of this HQ, 2/1, 2/2 and 2/7 Aust Inf Bns, are now in the QATANA area . Other troops which are in the area or are about to move in are 2/11 Aust Fd. Regt., 2/2 Aust Pioneer Bn., 2/2 Aust Fd. Coy, AASC 6 Div, A Coy 2/1 Fd. Amb.; 6 Aust Div have not yet defined what the responsibility of this HQ will be regarding these units .

WAR DIARY

QATANA

20 Oct 41

TASK of 14 Bde was that of preparing a line of defences extending between pt. 17461703, thence SE through HARDEBI, EAST to RODOUANE, thence to JEBEL AANTAR pt 18681685. (Ref map QATANA 1:50,000). 2/2 Aust Fd Coy were assisting them in the preparation. After this Brigade had taken over, G2 of 10 Corps under whom this Brigade is placed for defensive works, called at QATANA HQ and indicated that the defence plans prepared by 14 Bde were now off. He stated that the whole scheme was in a state of change, and indicated that probable positions would now be :-

- a. High ground NE of QATANA VILLAGE (JEBEL AANTAR)
- b. the area BAB EL QALAA to the BOURKOCH ruins
- c. a position on the Damascus - Deraa rd EAST of KISSOUE (Ref map DAMAS 1:200,000 - sq. 2015)

These positions were to be held as fortresses and sally ports for tanks and troops to attack enemy L of C should he penetrate so far south.

On 17 Oct the Brigade Commander and the B.M. made a recce of the area on the Deraa road, and on a further study of the map the Commander considered that the task given to tps to hold that area was not feasible. On the following day he proceeded to 10 Corps to discuss the matter with BGS.

On 19 Oct the Commander was visited by BGS, Chief Engineer and GSO 2 of 10 Corps, who informed him that the KISSOUE position was now under further consideration, and that further recce of this position was not to be proceeded with. They also stated that the only defensive area that could be considered firm was the JEBEL AANTAR position NE of QATANA.

On 20 Oct Brigadier Boase, Major Hammer and Lieuts Percival and Colquhoun made a recce of the BOURKOCH ruins and of BAB EL QALAA, a rather strenuous recce; air photos of this and the JEBEL AABTAR area are now being requested.

SPECIAL MENTION must be made of the Dodge PU during the recces recently carried out, and of its value for climbing hills and driving over very rough ground.

FROM TODAY ON, this HQ is to deal with 10 Corps re ^{defensive} matters affecting defensive works.

WAR DIARY

QATANA

21 Oct 41.

GUARDS are supplied by units of this Brigade at a POL dump at CHEBRAKA 18211927; RAE Dump near DIMAS 181184; and a large guard of 86 all ranks to 85 L of C Sub Area .

WAR DIARY

QATANA

22 Oct 41.

BRIGADIER A. J. BOASE, Major H.H. Hammer and Lieuts Colquhoun and Percival made a recce of the Jebel AANTAR position with a view to turning it into an all round defensive fort, held by a Brigade Gp.

WAR DIARY

QATANA

23 Oct 41

TWO EX - P.O.W.'s from Greece and Crete, who had returned via TURKEY, were despatched from 2/1 Aust Inf Bn. today to 6 Aust Div to tell their story and be questioned. These later escapees are showing great resource; the story of CAPTAIN F.J. EMBREY of 2/1 Aust Inf Bn. gives a good idea of the conditions existing of the island of CRETE. Copy is included in the appendices.

CONFERENCE of Bn. Commander took place at 2/2 Aust Inf Bn. this evening, to discuss the defensive position at JEBEL AANTAR; it was attended by Brigadier A.J. Boase, Major H.H. Hammer and C.O.s 2/1, 2/2, and 2/7 Aust Inf Bns.

Brigadier Boase issued written instruction for the Preparation of Qatana - Bourkoch Defences (Copy attached).

WAR DIARY

QATANA

24 Oct 41

DEFENSIVE SCHEME. Brigadier A.J. Boase and Major H.H. Hammer left this morning for BAALBEK for consultation with the G.O.C. Major General E.F. Herring on the defensive scheme at JDEDEIDE .

An inspection was made of the Divisional layout of defences and particular attention was given to the 16 Aust Inf Bde area which is to be in the centre - one Bde on the right and one on the left with one Bde in Divisional reserve (Four Bdes)

The 16 Aust Inf Bde area is being prepared by 2/4 Aust Inf Bn. Lt-Col J.R. Stevenson sited the left forward Bn. of the 16 Aust Inf Bde area . At this stage the Bde reserve Bn. had not been sited .

Major C.R.V. Edgar, who accompanied the party remained as Bde L.O. for the defences and to assist in the preparation of the 16 Aust Inf Bde position .

Brigadier Boase and Major Hammer stayed at 6 Aust Div HQ on night 24/25 Oct and returned to QATANA on 25 Oct 41 .

WAR DIARY

QATANA

27 Oct 41

FURTHER RECCE was carried out by the Commander, B.M. and I.O. to the defensive position near BAB EL QALAA and the RUINS OF BOURKOCH . Later in the day, plans of the Fortress Areas of QATANA and BOURKOCH were received from 10 Corps .

The following instructions were received :-

10 Corps Operation Instruction No 4

Notes on the Preparation and Organisation of the Qatana Defensive Position

The 10 Corps policy is to select the areas for defences which are to be recce'd in detail by the 16 Aust Inf Bde and finalised at further conferences .

WAR DIARY

QATANA

28 Oct 41

COMMEMORATION SERVICE at the Greek Orthodox Church, Damascus, was attended by the Commander and Brigade Major. The service marked the first anniversary of the Greek nation's entry into the war.

CONFERENCE OF COMMANDING OFFICERS took place in the afternoon, when the BOURKOCH - QATANA fortress area was discussed, and traces of the area to be prepared were issued. 10 Corps Operation instruction No 4 was handed over to COs, with all other relevant data. Brigadier Boase also gave written instructions for the organisation and Preparation of QATANA position (Copy attached) which had been prepared prior to the receipt of 10 Corps Operation Instruction No 4. COs were instructed that where Bde Comd's instructions were inconsistent with those in 10 Corps Operation Instruction No 4, the latter would apply.

BRIGADE MAJOR LEARNER, Capt. D.L.B. Goslett, of 2/2 Aust Inf Bn. reported to this HQ.

WAR DIARY

QATANA

29 Oct 41

STAFF CAPTAIN LEARNER, Capt. A. S. Wilson, returned to HQ after an absence of nine weeks at AIF (ME) Staff School .

2/7 AUST INF BN are to move from the Qatana area . First details were received from HQ 6 Aust Div today . The battalion is to move to the JDEIDE area to revert to 17 Aust Inf Bde .

WAR DIARY

SOATANA

30 Oct 41

Brigadier Boase, Commander, Major Hammer, B.M., Capt Goslett B.M. Learner and Lieut Colquhoun I.O., with Lt.Col. Guinn, C.O. 2/7 Aust Inf Bn. and Lt.Col. Chilton, C.O. 2/2 Aust Inf Bn., made a recce of the Jebel Aantar position, studying coy. and pl. localities. 2/2 Aust Inf Bn. and 2/7 Aust Inf Bn. areas were covered.

WAR DIARY

QATANA

31 Oct 41.

MORNING RECCE of platoon areas of 2/1 and 2/7 Aust Inf Bn . positions on Qatana Fortress was carried out by the Commander, Brigade Major and I.O. ; in the afternoon they reced platoon localities of 2/2 Aust Inf Bn.'s position .

AIR PHOTOGRAPHS and maps scale 1:25,000 of the Qatana area were received in the afternoon .

APPENDICES

- Appendix "A" Routine Orders, H.Q. 16 Aust Inf Bde., issued during October.
- Appendix "B" 2/7 Aust Inf Bn. Operation Order No 1
- Appendix "C" H.Q. 16 Aust Inf Bde Administrative Notes on new location.
- Appendix "D" Report by Capt F.J. Embrey, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn., on the events on Crete.
- Appendix "E" List of courses available to this Bde during the month of October.
- Appendix "F" Preparation of QATANA - BOURKOCH Defences.
- Appendix "G" Organisation & Preparation of QATANA Defensive Position.

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

APPENDIX
"A"

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 225

Part 1

1 October 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 1 Oct 41.

Camp Orderly Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut J.C. Burrell, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
Lieut C.J. Prior, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

Duty Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut A.K. Bosgard, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Lieut A.C. Pepper, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

Duty Unit
Next for Duty

2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

2. PALESTINE LEAVE - NOMINAL ROLLS:

Attention is drawn to the need for greater care in the compiling of nominal rolls of leave parties to TEL AVIV and JERUSALEM.

In future, it will be ensured that a legible, complete and signed nominal roll (in duplicate) is forwarded with each leave party.

These nominal rolls will be held by the Officer or Warrant Officer in charge of the party and distributed in the following manner :-

(a) In the case of TEL AVIV, one copy to the KING SOLOMON HOTEL, one copy to the D.A.P.M., TEL AVIV.

(b) In the case of JERUSALEM, one copy to the FAST HOTEL, one copy to the D.A.P.M., JERUSALEM.

3. CINEMA PICQUET:

The following is the order of mounting for Cinema Picquet at KHASSA Picture Theatre :-

2	Oct	41	2/1	Aust	Army	Fd	Wkshops
3	"	"	2/2	"	"	"	"
4	"	"	2/7	Aust	Fd	Amb	
5	"	"	2/1	Aust	Army	Fd	Wkshops
6	"	"	2/2	"	"	"	"
7	"	"	2/7	Aust	Fd	Amb	
8	"	"	2/1	Aust	Army	Fd	Wkshops.

Strength - 1 Offr., 1 Sgt., 3 Cpls., 9 O.R.s

Dress - Slacks, Belt Web, Steel Helmets.

Time of Mounting - 1720 hrs (unless otherwise informed)

Officer i/c Picquet will report to Manager of Cinema immediately after mounting.

Duties - As laid down in Special Orders for Cinema Picquet.

H. J. ...
.....Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION: As for BRO No 224 dated 30 Sep 41.

Diary

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 226

Part 1

2 October 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 2 Oct 41.

Camp Orderly Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut P. Barclay, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
Lieut P. Barclay, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

Duty Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut A.C. Pepper, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Lieut W.L. Darcey, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

Duty Unit
Next for Duty

2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

2. CHURCH SERVICES - Sunday 5 Oct 41:

ROMAN CATHOLIC:

Mass will be celebrated at 0645 & 0830 hrs in the KHASSA Cinema.

Confessions will be heard at the Chaplain's Tent, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn Lines, on Saturday afternoon and night.

Units will note that the above Services are being held for all Roman Catholic personnel of all Units in KHASSA Camp Area.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND:

Holy Communion will be celebrated at 0700 hrs in Y.M.C.A. Tent, 2/3 Aust Fd Regt Lines, for personnel of all Units, KHASSA Camp.

COMBINED CHURCH PARADES:

0830 hrs 2/1 Aust Inf Bn Parade Ground for personnel of 2/1 Aust Inf Bn and 2/1 & 2/7 Aust Fd Ambs.

0930 hrs in Y.M.C.A. Tent, 2/1 Aust Fd Regt Lines, for personnel of 2/1 Aust Fd Regt and HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

0845 hrs in Y.M.C.A. Tent, 2/3 Aust Fd Regt Lines, for personnel of 2/2 Aust Fd Regt, 2/3 Aust Fd Regt and 2/1 & 2/2 A.F.W.s

J.H. Hammer

.....Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde

NOTICE

A meeting of Sports Officers will be held in Camp Staff Office, on Friday, 3 Oct 41, at 1100 hrs.

All Unit Sports Officers' to attend.

DISTRIBUTION: As for BRO No. 225 dated 1 Oct 41.

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 237

Part 1

3 October 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 3 Oct 41.

Camp Orderly Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut P. Barclay, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn
Lieut P. Barclay, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn

Duty Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut W.L. Darcey, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde
Lieut S. . . Percival, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde

Duty Unit
Next for Duty

2/1 Aust Inf Bn
2/1 Aust Inf Bn

H.H. Hammer
.....Major,
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde

NOTICE

16 Aust Inf Bde Hockey Team to play Palestine Police at 1630 hrs,
Wednesday 9 Oct 41, at KHASSA CAMP :-

Capt KAY, 2/7 Aust Fd Amb., Lieut KITTO, Lieut DWART, L/Bdr EDGAR,
2/1 A.A. Regt., Sgt WALLACE, Sgt STOREY, Gnr CRUICKSHANK, 2/1 Aust
Fd Regt., . . .O. 11 KNEEDHAM, Gnr BARRATT, 2/2 Aust Fd Regt., Sgt
COUNT, L/Cpl AINSWORTH, Pte BANBROOK, 2/1 A.F.W., Sgt HYLAND, 2/1
Aust Inf Bn.

R PEREL - Sgt de SATGE - 2/1 Aust Fd Regt.

DISTRIBUTION:

HQ 6 Aust Div
2/1 Aust Inf Bn
2/2 Aust Inf Bn
2/6 Aust Inf Bn
2/7 Aust Inf Bn
2/1 Aust Fd Regt
2/2 Aust Fd Regt
2/2 Aust Fd Regt
2/1 Aust Army Fd Workshops
2/2 Aust Army Fd Workshops
2/1 Aust Fd Amb
2/7 Aust Fd Amb
2/1 Aust Fd Hyg Sec
45 Aust L.A.D.
C.A.S.
Camp Staff Officer
War Diary (2)
File

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 228

Part 1

4 October 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 4 Oct 41.

Camp Orderly Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut P. Barclay, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
Lieut P. Barclay, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

Duty Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut S.M. Percival, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Lieut R.J.F. McIntosh, HQ 16 Aust Inf
Bde.

Duty Unit
Next for Duty

2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

A. J. Boase
..... Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde
A. J.

DISTRIBUTION:

HQ 6 Aust Div
2/1 Aust Inf Bn
2/2 Aust Inf Bn
2/6 Aust Inf Bn
2/7 Aust Inf Bn
2/1 Aust Fd Regt
2/2 Aust Fd Regt
2/3 Aust Fd Regt
2/1 Aust Army Fd Wkshops
2/2 Aust Army Fd Wkshops
2/1 Aust Fd Amb
2/7 Aust Fd Amb
2/1 Aust Fd Hyg Sec
45 L.A.D.
C.R.S.
Camp Staff Officer
War Diary (2)
File

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED
No. 229

KHASSA
CAMP

Part 1

5 October 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 5 Oct 41.

Camp Orderly Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut P. Barclay, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
Lieut G.M. Nathan, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

Duty Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut R.J.F. McIntosh, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Lieut A.K. Bosgard, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

Duty Unit
Next for Duty

2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

W. Darcy Smith
Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde
A.O.D.

DISTRIBUTION:

HQ 6 Aust Div
2/1 Aust Inf Bn
2/2 Aust Inf Bn
2/6 Aust Inf Bn
2/7 Aust Inf Bn
2/1 Aust Fd Regt
2/2 Aust Fd Regt
2/3 Aust Fd Regt
2/1 Aust Army Fd Wkshops
2/2 Aust Army Fd Wkshops
2/1 Aust Fd Amb
2/7 Aust Fd Amb
2/1 Aust Fd Hyg Sec
45 L.A.D.
C.R.S.
Camp Staff Officer
War Diary (2)
File

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 230

Part 1

6 October 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 6 Oct 41.

Camp Orderly Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut G.M. Nathan, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
Lieut G.M. Nathan, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

Duty Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut A.K. Bosgard, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Lieut A.C. Pepper, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

Duty Unit
Next for Duty

2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

A.H. Hammer

.....Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde

NOTICES

RESERVATION OF SEATS - KHASSA CINEMA:

As from Tuesday, 7 Oct 41, reservation of seats at KHASSA
Cinema may be made during the following hours daily :-

1530 - 1630 hrs.

FOUND.

The following Identity Discs have been found and owners may
have same on application to Camp Staff Office :-

NX 3114 C.T. BRANIGHAM.
NX 2381 G.H. ELLEM.
NX 8639 A.J. SIMPSON.

DISTRIBUTION:

HQ 6 Aust Div
2/1 Aust Inf Bn
2/2 Aust Inf Bn
2/6 Aust Inf Bn
2/7 Aust Inf Bn
2/11 Aust Inf Bn
2/1 Aust Fd Regt
2/2 Aust Fd Regt
2/3 Aust Fd Regt
2/1 Aust Army Fd Wkshops
2/2 Aust Army Fd Wkshops
2/1 Aust Fd Amb
2/7 Aust Fd Amb
2/1 Aust Fd Hyg Sec
45 L.A.D.
C.R.S.
Camp Staff Officer
War Diary (2)
File

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

MASSA
CAMP

No. 231

Part 1

7 October 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 7 Oct 41.

Camp Orderly Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut J.C. Burrell, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn
Lieut O.B. Irvin, 2/2 Aust Inf Bn

Duty Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut A.C. Pepper, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde
Capt W.L. Darcey, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde

Duty Unit
Next for Duty

2/1 Aust Inf Bn
2/2 Aust Inf Bn

A.H. Hunter
.....Major,

B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION:

HQ 6 Aust Div
2/1 Aust Inf Bn
2/2 Aust Inf Bn
2/6 Aust Inf Bn
2/7 Aust Inf Bn
2/11 Aust Inf Bn
2/1 Aust Fd Regt
2/2 Aust Fd Regt
2/3 Aust Fd Regt
2/1 Aust Army Fd Workshops
2/2 Aust Army Fd Workshops
2/1 Aust Fd Amb
2/7 Aust Fd Amb
2/1 Aust Fd Hyg Sec
45 L.A.D.
C.R.S.
Camp Staff Officer
War Diary (2)
File

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 232

Part 1

8 October 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 8 Oct 41.

Camp Orderly Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut O.B. Irvin, 2/2 Aust Inf Bn.
Lieut C.S. Blakiston, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

Duty Officer
Next for Duty

Capt W.L. Darcey, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.
Lieut A.K. Bosgard, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

Duty Unit
Next for Duty

2/2 Aust Inf Bn.
2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

2. CINEMA PICQUET:

The following is the order of mounting for Cinema Picquet
at KHASSA CINEMA :

9	Oct	41	-	2/1	Aust	Inf	Bn.
10	"	"	-	2/2	Aust	Inf	Bn.
11	"	"	-	2/1	Aust	Fd	Regt.
12	"	"	-	2/2	Aust	Fd	Regt.
13	"	"	-	2/3	Aust	Fd	Regt.
14	"	"	-	2/1	Aust	Inf	Bn.
15	"	"	-	2/2	Aust	Inf	Bn.
16	"	"	-	2/1	Aust	Fd	Regt.

For instructions see B.R.O. No 225 of 1 Oct 41.

W.L. Darcey Capt
 Major
 B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde
 NOT

NOTICES.

PHOTOGRAPHS:

All Negatives left at Y.M.C.A., 2/1 Aust Fd Regt Lines
for Developing and Printing MUST be collected by 2000 hrs on
Sunday 12 Oct 41.

If the above Negatives are NOT collected by that date
they will be returned to the Photographer.

DISTRIBUTION: - As for B.R.O. No 231 dated 7 Oct 41.

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 233

Part 1

9 October 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat, 9 Oct 41.

Camp Orderly Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut C.S. Blekiston, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn
To be notified later

Duty Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut A.K. Bosgard, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde
Capt A.L. Darcey, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde

Duty Unit
Next for Duty

2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
2/1 Aust Fd Regt.

2. CHURCH SERVICES - Sunday 12 Oct 41:

ROMAN CATHOLIC:

(a) Mass will be celebrated at 0645 & 0830 hrs in the KHASSA Cinema.

Confessions will be heard at the Chaplain's Tent, 2/1 Aust Inf Bn Lines, on Saturday afternoon and night.

(b) Units will note that the above Services are being held for all Roman Catholic personnel of all Units in KHASSA Camp Area.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND:

Holy Communion will be celebrated at 0700 hrs in Y.M.C.A. Tent, 2/3 Aust Fd Regt Lines, for personnel of all Units, KHASSA Camp.

COMBINED CHURCH PARADES:

0830 hrs 2/1 Aust Inf Bn Parade Ground for personnel of 2/1 Aust Inf Bn and 2/1 & 2/7 Aust Fd Ambs.

0900 hrs 2/2 Aust Inf Bn Parade Ground for personnel of 2/2 Aust Inf Bn.

0930 hrs in Y.M.C.A. Tent, 2/1 Aust Fd Regt Lines, for personnel of 2/1 Aust Fd Regt and HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

0845 hrs in Y.M.C.A. Tent, 2/3 Aust Fd Regt Lines, for personnel of 2/2 Aust Fd Regt, 2/3 Aust Fd Regt and 2/1 & 2/2 A.F.A.s

A.H. Hawman
Major

B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde

NOTICE

SURF CARNIVAL, TEL AVIV, 10 OCT 41: All competitors for the Surf Carnival at Tel Aviv must report to the Broadcast Tent at 1430 hrs 10 Oct 41.

DISTRIBUTION: - As for B.R. 232 dated 8 Oct 41.

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

KHASSA
CAMP

No. 235

Part 1

11 October 41

1. DUTIES:

To Mount at Retreat 11 Oct 41.

Camp Orderly Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut C.H. Dollman, 2/2 Aust Fd Regt
Lieut G.H. Heald, 2/3 Aust Fd Regt

Orderly Officer
Next for Duty

Lieut A.K. Bosgard, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde
Capt W.L. Darcey, HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde

Duty Unit
Next for Duty

2/2 Aust Fd Regt
2/3 Aust Fd Regt

A. H. Hammer
.....Major

B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde

NOTICES

FOUND:

Identity discs marked as under have been found, and may be obtained on application to the Camp Staff Office :-

NX 3397	W. TYNDALE
NX 3451	G.H. BAKER
NX 3839	T.J. COE

DISTRIBUTION:

HQ 6 Aust Div
2/1 Aust Inf Bn
2/2 Aust Inf Bn
2/6 Aust Inf Bn
2/7 Aust Inf Bn
2/11 Aust Inf Bn
2/1 Aust Fd Regt
2/2 Aust Fd Regt
2/3 Aust Fd Regt
2/1 Aust Army Fd Wkshops
2/2 Aust Army Fd Wkshops
2/1 Aust Fd Amb
2/7 Aust Fd Amb
2/1 Aust Fd Hyg Sec
45 Aust L.A.D.
C.R.S.
Camp Staff Officer
War Diary (2)
File.

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

No. 237

Part 1

25 October 41

1. BOUNDS:

Units are notified that the village of QATANA is OUT OF BOUNDS to all ranks except when on duty.

Troops billeted in QATANA are NOT excepted and will confine their movements to between billets and their place of work.

2. ANTI-WASTE:

The attention of all ranks has been drawn to the necessity for co-operation in the Anti-Waste campaign.

The salvage depot situated at MIDAM is desirous of obtaining quantities of the undermentioned items.

Units are invited to inspect the above dump and any items required may be obtained on signature.

- (a) Silver foil.
- (b) Cigarette packets.
- (c) Cigarette tins.
- (d) Bottles.
- (e) All types of cardboard.
- (f) Scrap metal.
- (g) Rags, old shirts etc.

3. PETROL:

- (a) As from Sunday 26 Oct 41, 16 Bde Gp Units will discontinue drawing petrol from Petrol Depot, QADEM.
- (b) Petrol will be drawn from Petrol Pt, 6 Aust Div Sup Col Lines on 26 Oct.
- (c) Indents will be made out in duplicate on A,B, 55.
- (d) All Indents will be signed by an Officer. (NOT W.O.s or Sgts.)
- (e) Petrol will be drawn between the hours of 1330 and 1600.
- (f) Returnable 4 gallon drums will be issued by 6 Aust Div Sup Col.
- (g) Containers lost will be debited to units at 7/6 each.
- (h) Owing to the shortage of Returnable Containers units are urged to co-operate with 6 Aust Div Sup Col and return containers daily.

4. BOOT REPAIRING:

Any unit without boot repairer and/or outfits, boot repairing, will arrange that any boots requiring repair will be despatched in bags to the Bde Conductor. Boots to be tied in pairs, labelled and arrangements for repair will be made through F.O.D., BEIRUT.

5. LEAVE:

The following para, an extract from 6 Aust Div Administrative Instruction No 11A, is repeated and will be brought to the notice

P.T.O.

of all ranks :-

"DISCIPLINE GENERALLY:-"

It has been laid down by higher formation, as a policy to which there will be no exceptions, that where members of a unit misbehave or cause any disturbance in a town, that town will be declared Out of Bounds to all personnel of that unit. This is to be brought under notice of all ranks on frequent occasions."

Any unseemly behaviour by troops is to be the subject of a Court of Inquiry.

J.H. Hammer

.....Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION:

- HQ 6 Aust Div
- 2/1 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/2 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/7 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/11 Aust Army Fd Regt
- 2/2 Aust Fd Coy
- "A" Coy 2/1 Aust Fd Amb
- 2/1 Aust Fd Amb
- 2/2 Aust Pnr Bn
- 6 Aust Div Sup Col
- 19 Mob Bath Unit
- 1 Cypriot Pack Tpt Coy
- "K" Sec, 6 Aust Div Sigs
- 45 L.A.D.
- 7 Pl, Aust HQ Gd Bn
- 23 F.P.O.
- War Diary (2)
- File

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE
PUBLISHED

No. 238

Part 1

27 October 41

1. DUTY OFFICERS:

Units are reminded, in accordance with D.R.O. No. 19, Para 225 of 9 Aug 41, that arrangements must be made to have an Officer available at or near the telephone at all times.

2. DAMAGE TO CIVILIAN PROPERTY:

Considerable damage has been done to civilian properties since arrival of Australian troops in QATANA Area.

Timber has been removed from the roofs of civilian dwellings, stock shelters etc., and trees have been cut down on civilian properties.

As timber is very scarce in this country the damage has been proportionately high.

Units will ensure that the above practices cease forthwith.

A. J. Boase
.....Major
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION:

HQ 6 Aust Div
2/1 Aust Inf Bn
2/2 Aust Inf Bn
2/7 Aust Inf Bn
2/11 Aust Army Fd Regt
2/2 Aust Fd Coy
"A" Coy 2/1 Aust Fd Amb
2/1 Aust Fd Amb
2/2 Aust Pnr Bn
6 Aust Div Sup Col
19 Mob Bath Unit
1 Cypriot Pack Tpt Coy
"K" Sec, 6 Aust Div Sigs
45 L.A.D.
7 Pl, Aust HQ Gd Bn
23 F.P.O.
War Diary (2)
File

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER A.J. BOASE - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED

NO. 239

Part 1

30 October 41

1. 6 AUST DIV ROUTINE ORDERS:

6 Aust Div Routine Orders No 29 by Major-General E.F. HERRING, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., E.D., already issued to units, will be read and have the same effect and force as if repeated in these Orders

2. CAMOUFLAGE EQUIPMENT:

Units will submit lists of deficiencies in camouflage nets and stripes to this HQ by 2 Nov 41. (Div R.O. para 431)

3. LEAVE:

Units will ensure that leave parties report punctually in accordance with instructions.

As all units move together late arrivals hold up the whole party and an explanation will, in future, be required from units whose parties are late.

Pay Office - DAMASCUS - BEIRUT

All personnel are to be informed that Army Pay Office, DAMASCUS (Transit Camp Building) is OUT OF BOUNDS to all ranks.

A Picquet will be posted with instructions to apprehend anyone attempting to enter the Pay Office. Any such attempt will be regarded as a breach of good behaviour and will lead to stoppage of leave in units concerned.

Pay is NOT available in BEIRUT.

The foregoing instructions are to be repeated to all personnel going on leave.

4. FORAGE:

Units receiving horses will indent on 35 FSD for forage on AB 55.

Issues will be made on a weekly basis on Wednesdays.

The forage scale is as follows :-

<u>Barley</u>	<u>Dries</u>	<u>Tibben</u>	<u>Straw</u>	<u>Salt</u>
8 lbs	12 lbs	10 lbs	6 lbs	2 ozs
per horse per day				

5. CHURCH SERVICES - Sunday 2 Nov 41

ROMAN CATHOLIC

Mass will be celebrated at 0930 hrs in Syrian Catholic Church, CATANA.

Units are requested to provide tpt to enable Roman Catholic personnel to attend the above Service.

P.T.O.

COMBINED CHURCH SERVICE:

A Combined Church Service will be held at 0930 hrs in the Syrian Orthodox Church, CATANA (alongside Bde HC). This service will be one of Remembrance of the Fallen.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND:

Holy Communion will be celebrated at 0700 hrs in the Canteen Tent, 6 Aust Div Sup Col Lines.

[Handwritten signature]
B.X. 16 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION

- HC 6 Aust Div
- 2/1 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/2 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/7 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/11 Aust Army Fd Regt
- 2/2 Aust Fd Coy
- "A" Coy 2/1 Aust Fd Amb
- 2/1 Aust Fd Amb
- 2/2 Aust Pnr Bn
- 6 Aust Div Sup Col
- 19 Mob Bath Unit
- 1 Cypriot Pack Tpt Coy
- "K" Sec, 6 Aust Div Sigs
- 45 L.A.D.
- 7 Pl, Aust HC Gd Bn
- 23 F.P.O.
- or Diary
- File

2/7 AUST INF BN

OPERATION ORDER No. 1.

1. INTENTION - 2/7 AUST INF BN will move North.
2. METHOD - STAGES -
 - (a) M.T. to AL MAJDAL
 - (b) Rail to HAIFA
 - (c) M.T. to DESTINATION.
3. COYS will MOVE to Bn A.I. ARBA at 1630 hrs astride KITCHEN RD.

A & H.Q. COYS on SOUTH
D, C and B COYS and BN H.Q. on the NORTH.
(EASTERN BOUNDARY of ARBA is MAIN CAMP RD.)
4. COYS will be FORMED in PARTIES for DEBUSsing. (nos. to be notified later)
Personnel will DEBUSS by Coys at 2100 hrs.
5. S.L. will be junction of KITCHEN & MAIN RDS.
6. START TIME - 2110 hrs.
7. ENTRAINING OFFICER - Lieut R. DIXON to report to BN H.Q. at 0930 hrs for instructions).
O.C. TRAIN - Capt I.D. McCALLUM.
8. COYS will provide I N.C.O. and I. O.R. as GUIDES (Report Bn H.Q. at 1000 hrs).
9. ENTRAINING OFFICER will supervise DEBUSsing at AL MAJDAL.
Personnel will NOT debus until they receive orders from Entraining Officer.
10. ORDER OF MARCH - WILL BE ISSUED LATER
B COY 2/2 BN will report to E.O. at 2100 hrs EL MAJDAL.
11. A/A - If train attacked by enemy aircraft, train will be stopped and Officer in Command of carriage will supervise dispersion of troop
If train is in Rly Station it will be ordered to move out by O.C. train.
12. On arrival at HAIFA - Capt H.L.E. DUNKLEY will act as Detraining Officer. No movement of personnel until orders received from Detraining Officer.
13. COY COMDS will ENFORCE NIGHT DISCIPLINE during move.
14. INTERCOMMUNICATION - BN H.Q. will move with H.Q. COY
15. ADMINISTRATION - Unexpended portion of days rations will be carried on the man.
2 days rations will be carried under Unit arrangements.
16. WATER BOTTLES - will be FILLED.
17. MEDICAL arrangements under supervision of R.H.O. - R.A.P. will be in first carriage during move and will move with BN H.Q. throughout.
18. DRESS - F.S.

- 19. BAGGAGE - BAGGAGE OFFICER - Lieut I. W. WALKER
I. N.C.O. and 8 O.Rs. provided by C. Coy.
- This party will be responsible for baggage until completion of move.
- 20. BAGGAGE DUMP - Baggage will be dumped at the SOUTH END of BN H.Q.
building by 1100 hrs.

H.L.E. DUNKLEY CAPT.
ADJT 2/7 AUST INF BN

War Diary

Headquarters,
16 Aust Inf Bde.

20 Oct 41.

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES ON NEW LOCATIONS

1. SECURITY:

Instructions in operation in Palestine will not be different in Syria with the exception that when losses occur 1 Aust Corps will be notified in lieu of Force HQ. PSS is located at HQ 6 Aust Div. No assistance can be expected from Civil Police and will therefore NOT be advised.

2. CENSORSHIP:

See 6 Aust Div Security Instn No. 1.

3. RELATIONS WITH CIVILIANS

See 6 Aust Div Security Instn No. 1.

4. DISTURBANCES: Any civilian population arrested or apprehended by military personnel will be taken to civil police and the circumstances explained to them. No further action will be taken.

5. ORDNANCE: DADOS 6 Aust Div are arranging for delivery of further Winter Dress, snow clothing, Non-Skid chains, camouflage equipment and stoves, oil heating. Indents will be called for as required.

6. RATIONS: Rations are drawn as follows :-

Bread)	Groceries)	Old French
Meat) MADEN	Other commodities)	Barracks,
		DAMASCUS.

In approximately two days units will come on to Australian Rations. It is expected that a period of six days will elapse before Australian butter will be available.

7. P O L : Drawn at QADEN.

8. RESERVE RATIONS AND RESERVE POL.

Units will draw seven days reserve and hold as emergency.

9. SALVAGE: Salvage Depot for the return of empty petrol and kerosene tins is located at MADEN.

10. LEAVE - DAMASCUS:

- (i) An allotment of leave will be made to units from this HQ each week.
- (ii) Unit transport will be provided and will report to G.C. Leave Party at 0900 hrs, 200 yds on main road side of turn-off to sign "55 UNIT".
- (iii) All personnel on one day's leave must be clear of DAMASCUS by 1800 hrs.
- (iv) Three day Leave Party will report to Lieut Tonge, at debussing point at entrance to Racecourse at 1030 hrs and will then be allotted accommodation. Meals will be provided at "The Lido" Cost of three days leave including meals is approx. 6/- to 7/- (Aust) per day. Leave passes will expire at 1800 hrs on the third day.

- (v) One officer, to be appointed from the party, is on duty as O.C. Leave (on 3 day leave). He will stay at Hotel "OMAYDAH" His expenses will be refunded on a T.S.4.
- (vi) A picquet of 1 Offr, 1 Sgt, and 5 ORs with transport will report to DAPM at 0930 hrs on each one day leave.
- (vii) Nominal rolls in duplicate for both one day and three day leave periods are to be handed to O.C. Leave Party before departure for DAMASCUS.
- (viii) Leave Roster will indicate O.C. Party and unit providing picquet on each day.

DUTIES OF O.C. 3 DAY LEAVE PARTY

- (i) O.C. Leave to have a nominal roll of his own personnel. He will also receive a roll of 50 personnel from other units, from the DAPM on arrival.
- (ii) He is responsible for the discipline of all troops in DAMASCUS during his stay in the town.
- (iii) He has the right to return to his unit any man misbehaving himself.
- (iv) He is to report on arrival to the DAPM and also to Lieut. Dickinson, O.C. 6 Aust Div Prev Coy and thence at least once daily and must make at least one round of the town with Lieut Dickinson each day.
- (v) Immediately on his return he will render a report in triplicate to this HQ, on the conduct of all troops, by units, of the leave party.

11. MEDICAL: "A" Coy 2/1 Aust Fd Ambulance are located in QATANA area, O.C. Major Donald, remainder of Fd Ambulance is located at ZEBEDANI where a hospital is established - accommodation 300. Evacuations will be through "A" Coy 2/1 Fd Ambulance under direction of O.C. either to ZEBEDANI or DAMASCUS.

12. P A C. PAC facilities are to be made available in unit lines.

13. DENTAL. Dentist is located at ZEBEDANI. It is expected that arrangements for dental treatment will be made available in the near future in this area.

In cases of emergency personnel may be treated at 53 General Hospital, DAMASCUS.

14. FUMIGATION:

Curtains, Mosquito, are to be disinfected by 2/1 Aust Fd Hyg Sec, who will report to unit lines within the next few weeks.

Blankets to complete the scale of four per man are being made available and blankets requiring disinfection will be retained in En Lines until arrival of disinfection plant. After treatment blankets will be returned to RAYAK under arrangements of this HQ.

15. HYGIENE & SANITATION:

Particular care is to be paid to this matter and if advice or assistance is required this HQ will arrange for personnel of 2/1 Aust Fd Hyg Sec to co-operate.

16. DETENTION: Field Punishment Barracks are established at ALEY (Ref. BEIRUT sheet 1/200,000. 14552078). When personnel are to be forwarded, signal to be despatched to VIDA stating period and details. Field Punishment will be given.

17. POSTAL:

- (i) Field Post Office No. 23 has been opened at QATANA in Canteen Billet.
 Staff: L/Sgt Cleary, G.T.
 A/Cpl Terry, K.M.
 Pte. Hutchinson, F.W.
- (ii) A regular daily mail service between Aust Base P.O. and F.P.O. will be maintained by Aust Army Postal Vehicles.
- (iii) Inward mail will arrive at F.P.O. 23 at 1030 hrs and outgoing mail will leave at 1400 hrs.
- (iv) Postage Rates:

Air and Surface Mail - as for Palestine.
 Airgraphs must be prepaid with English 3d stamps.

Standard Texts EFM Cables :-
 111 Syrian Piastres

Selling price of Stamps

1d Aust	-	3	Syrian	Piastres
2d "	-	6	"	"
3d "	-	9	"	"
9d "	-	27	"	"
1/- "	-	36	"	"
2/- "	-	72	"	"
5/- "	-	177	"	"
3d English	-	11	"	"

Sub-unit Comds not in possession of Censor Stamps should submit their signature to the nearest unit and forward censored correspondence for stamping.

18. PAY:

An officer is to be drawn from a unit under command, whose duties will consist of being Camp Imprest Holder, co-ordination of pay demands, drawing of cash, checking of acquittances, returning of cash and payment of T.S.4's. Units will draw from this officer in the normal manner.

One Surian pound = 2/10d Aust. Therefore demands will be in multiples of 2/10d.

19. WATER:

Water for drinking will be drawn from Water Carts only. Troops billeted in QATANA will, under no circumstances, use well water within the town for drinking purposes. This water may be used for washing ONLY

20. DRLS

DRLS service operates until further notice at the following times :-

Time	Departs for	Remarks
0900	DAMASCUS (For all Palestine)	Once daily.
1000	Bn DR's	Collect despatch
1400	Division	Once daily.
1600	All units under this command.	

21. LAUNDRY:

Units may make temporary arrangements only pending instructions regarding Contracts. These instructions will be available within a few days.

22. CANTEN:

A bulk canteen is being established in QATANA. This service will be in operation by the end of this week.

23. CINEMA : Arrangements have been made for an open air Cinema to show in the area for three nights 22/24 Oct. Units will be advised of dates and times.

A permanent structure is to be erected in QATANA in the near future.

24. UNIT SERIAL NOS.

Units will ensure that unit serial numbers are prominently displayed at turn-offs etc and that vehicles are numbered also.

25. SPEED LIMITS:

	Cars DS & M.Cycles	Vans 15-cwt.	Vans 1-ton	Lorries 30-cwt	Lorries 3 - ton.
Through Towns	20	15	15	15	15
On Main Roads	25	30	30	25	25
Cross Country	20	20	20	15	15

Through Camps or Bivouac areas speed limit for all vehicles will be 10 M.P.H.

26. BOUNDS: In accordance with 6 Aust Div Security Instn No. 1, troops are NOT allowed in QATANA after dark unless on duty. Places in DAMASCUS are clearly marked as "IN" or "OUT" of "BOUNDS".
27. BROTHEL: A regimental brothel is established at DAMASCUS. This is "IN BOUNDS" to troops.

W. Darcey
..... Capt.
S.C. 16 Aust Inf Bde.

APPENDIX "D"

REPORT BY CAPT F.J. EMBREY, 2/1 AUST INF BN.

Experiences during the Campaign in CRETE,
the conditions in his PW Camp and his Escape.

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1. - EVENTS DURING CAMPAIGN IN CRETE.

1. B Coy 2/1 Bn had been detached from 2/1 Bn in Greece. Together with my Coy I was on the "Costa Rica" from Kalamata - on that vessel being sunk by enemy bombing, I was taken on the "Defender" (destroyer) to Suda Bay. There was considerable confusion when so many unarmed men, some without boots, were landed.

2. This was approx 28 Apr. I reported the following day to 19 Bde HQ with my Coy and that day marched to Kalibes where I rejoined my Battalion.

3. The 2/1 Bn was then bivouacing about 1 mile east of Kalibes and its task was anti-parachutist defence - however there were no ~~top~~ also no positions had been dug. During the last days of Apr and the first few days of May, quite a number of Aust evacuees from Greece were bivouaced in the same area. There were troops of approx one coy strength of each of the following units - 2/2 Bn under Capt Caldwell, 16 Inf Bde HQ under Capt. James, 2/3 Bn under Lieut K. Hill-Griffiths and 2/1 MG Bn. Of these only 2/1 MG Bn were armed. B Coy was the only unarmed Coy of the 2/1 Bn.

4. During the period we were at Kalibes Aust troops in Crete were said to be disorderly and troops were not permitted in Canea. However, as there were practically no means of reaching such a distant place, I think the troops at Kalibes could hardly be concerned. The main effect was that I was unable at that stage to see any of the defences of the Suda Bay area.

5. After approximately a week under these conditions 2/1 Bn less B Coy was sent to Retimo area, proceeding by MT.

6. The unarmed troops including B Coy were then placed in a position west of Kalibes with an anti-parachutist role, but, as all the weapons were sufficient, to arm only twelve men, this was carried out in theory by daily guards.

7. During this time the shortage of equipment was most evident - of those on the "Costa Rica" some were without boots for about a week, no weapons, equipment or clothing was replaced and there were no eating or cooking utensils.

8. German air raids were nearly daily occurrences. The island (at least the Canea - Suda Bay area) appeared to have a number of A.A. guns. I saw no German aeroplane brought down but the fire always appeared to be close and effective.

9. After approx a week in the new bivouac I received instructions from 19 Bde that unarmed troops were to be armed from the weapons held by some arty regts, etc., who were to be evacuated, and that my Coy was then to proceed to Georgiopolis to which 19 Bde was then moving.

10. During the next day I received rifles with mixed Aust and NZ numbers, and then marched to Georgiopolis. The remaining unarmed troops had received no arms up to that time and their numbers had been increased by 2/2 and 2/3 Fd Regts under Lt-Col Cremore; these troops had passed their rifles over to arm the infantry. The coy of 2/1 MG Bn received similar orders to my own and arrived at Georgiopolis at the same time.

11. At Georgiopolis I was instructed that my Coy was not required there but would rejoin my Bn at Retimo. We proceeded by MT the following day. In reference to MT there was a great shortage. The British units already

on the island handed over as much as possible. At this time 2/1 Bn had one 15 cwt and two 30 cwt trucks.

12. At Retimo 2/1 Bn were in position on slopes south of the aerodrome. Some tools had been received and by pooling all our resources and then distributing between coys we were able to dig in, do some sanitary work and to start at least a strong defensive scheme.

13. Between the time I rejoined my Bn and 20 May the following were the chief events (not in chronological order) :-

(a) Supply began to improve - some clothing, chiefly greatcoats and some blankets were issued. Thompson SMGs were issued and also some Bren magazines. Food was not dumped in sufficient quantity in my opinion, the QM obtaining it only in 10 or 14 day lots - it must be remembered we were a considerable distance from S.P. There was sufficient SAA ammunition for a short action.

(b) More troops arrived. The 2/11 Bn was placed under command of C.O. 2/1 Bn and were placed on the foothills west of the aerodrome with a task chiefly of beach defence. A Bty of the 2/3 Fd Regt, armed with four 100 mm Italian guns and four 75 mm French guns also came under command, a pl of 2/1 MG Bn, a troop of RAE, a coy of 2/7 Fd Amb and two I tanks with British crews arrived at various times. Of these the arty and MG had no sights and excepting the 2/11 Bn these troops had practically no rifles.

(c) Before my arrival Maj Ford, 1 Bn Welch Regt, was with one other British Officer organising two Greek Bns. These were in the hills south of the Aust troops. They possessed practically no MGs and only a few rifles. However one night a caique landed American rifles and ammunition, with which they were armed. They were conscripts of about three weeks training.

(d) These troops made food supply more difficult. C.O. 2/1 Bn was in command of all these troops. Q.M. 2/1 Bn acted as Q.M. for whole force and the 3 trucks were used for whole force.

(e) Just before 20 May carrier crews were sent to Suda Bay to bring carriers of which we were to have 10 - only five reached us before 20 May, none afterwards.

(f) When our plans for the defence of the aerodrome were complete C.O. 2/1 Bn recced an alternative defensive posn south of the one we were holding. The alternative posn was covered by all officers and as far as 2/1 Bn was concerned, posns down to pl localities sited.

(g) Q.M. 2/1 Bn had small food dumps for different units and also alternative posn.

(h) The posn was as shown on rough sketch opposite. Arty was divided as follows -- 2 100 mm guns 2/11 Bn and 2 100 mm guns, 4 75 mm guns A Coy 2/1 Bn area, 2/1 Bn MG were also in A Coy area.

(i) Wire became available and the whole front was wired, particular care being paid to drome, which was really strong.

(j) Aerodrome was used as a refuelling station, but except for 4 Gladiators based there until a few days before fighting commenced, was very little used.

(k) The only A.A. protection were our rifles, MGs without tripods and (I think) only one Browning gun manned by RAF personnel. The Browning had some A.B. ammunition. The RAF personnel were signallers with a wireless transmitter.

14. From 20 May my impressions of the action are very local and restricted. On the evening of 20 May we saw a large number of enemy aeroplanes towing gliders - we stood to - but the planes passed heading towards SUDA BAY. We stood to all day.

15. At approx 1600 hrs we were attacked. The method was - intensive bombing of foothills and machine-gunning by ME 110s - followed in about $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 hr's time by troop carriers dropping parachutists; during this stage ME 100s machine gunned only - no gliders were used.

16. It was difficult in the intense fighting which followed to keep the whole picture in view. At least two enemy Bns were dropped, one near PERIVOLIO and one practically on top of A Coy 2/1 Bn and STAVROMENOS, both organised and attacked immediately with ME 110 support.

17. It was almost impossible to estimate the number of aeroplanes used as they came in waves but I should imagine 100 would be conservative. Two planes were brought down during the first attack by, I believe, the Browning.

18. The enemy obtained no foothold on the aerodrome and by night he had been driven off C Coy front. A Coy received heavy casualties but inflicted heavier. The casualties were heaviest among the practically unarmed pl of 2/1 MG Bn and arty.

19. The posn of 2/11 front I am vague about, but I understand the enemy were unable to take 2/11 posns, but did take and occupy both RETIMO and PERIVOLIO cutting the road to GEORGIOPULIS and SUDA BAY. Very few enemy landed in front of the Greeks and these were killed or captured before dark. However the enemy had succeeded in driving back A Coy inflicting very heavy casualties and had occupied STAVROMENOS and surrounding area and a few groups had reached our rear - one of five being captured by B Echelon personnel.

20. During the night 20/21 May intense fighting proceeded on A Coy posn, all coys 2/1 Bn sending pls to assist A Coy. Early on the morning of 21 May A Coy hill was recaptured and I was ordered to take over its defence relieving A Coy, but, as my Coy had also received some casualties, eventually I had to take command of both B and A Coy which had lost its O.C. and 2 i/c and also a pl of 2/1 MG Bn (about 17 left of about 30), the total being about 150 with the arty in support.

21. On 21 May pls of HQ Coy, B Coy, D Coy under Capt Moriarty supported by two pls of C Coy attacked the enemy driving him away from our flank but this force was stopped by the enemy some distance from STAVROMENOS.

22. On the night of 21 May the enemy held RETIMO and PERIVOLIO and the hills surrounding as well as the village of STAVROMENOS. The enemy had suffered terrific casualties and I think he withdrew his small infiltrating groups by using signal flares - after 21 May we had no trouble from groups in our rear.

23. The next few days saw the 5 Gk Bn move up and take the hills south of STAVROMENOS with little loss because the enemy was now so weak that he was holding the villages only. The Greeks were most unreliable -

during 21, 22 and 23 May C.O. 2/1 Bn planned many attacks using this Bn and supporting it with pls or Coys of 2/1 Bn but all attacks were driven off with loss, often because the Greeks did not start.

24. RETIMO I think was evacuated by the enemy - whether as the result of an action by 2/11 or because he was too weak to hold it I cannot say. From the time of evacuation the enemy bombed RETIMO heavily and set some parts on fire. At all times during daylight there appeared to be about six ME 110 overhead - this applies to every day from 20 May to our capture. At times there were as many as 30 bombers, their target was chiefly RETIMO.

25. The enemy except in STAVROMENOS was kept well supplied. PERIVOLIO being a large straggling village Junkers planes daily dropped supplies, which we were powerless to prevent. STAVROMENOS was a smaller compact village with strong stone-built houses which the enemy soon had loopholed and converted into a strong defensive post. Here, however, most of the supplies were dropped just outside or in the vineyards of the village, and by sniping we stopped the enemy getting them by day and at night fighting patrols from my joint coy (A - B) invariably secured them. When we captured the village we found the enemy had had little to eat for 5 days - at no time did he appear short of ammunition.

26. The capture of STAVROMENOS practically ended offensive action by us, as the C.O. refused to be drawn away from his object - to deny the use of the aerodrome to the enemy. STAVROMENOS was captured by a strong fighting patrol led by myself. The patrol was not intended to capture the village but having got to the outskirts of the village without loss - I decided to go in. The C.O. from my Coy HQ seeing my temporary success sent two pls to help and then the enemy surrendered.

27. Several attacks were made on PERIVOLIO but being on the left flank I saw little of this. One attack by night I believe was nearly successful but one of the two Coys for some unknown reason retired leaving the other in the village.

28. Before leaving STAVROMENOS, I must mention the German R.A.P. On the night of 20 May the enemy established an R.A.P. on the road west of, the village after the attack on 21 May. This was left in neutral country which could not be covered by day. The casualties were then very heavy but stretcher bearers of both sides went bravely about, the German doctor remained at his post and was visited by our M.O., Capt Carter. With exception of one case (an Aust S.B. shot dead) the Red Cross was respected by both sides.

29. About 24 May the enemy asked for an armistice to get wounded away. Capt Carter (without C.O.'s permission) agreed and the C.O. being committed, agreed. One hundred and twenty enemy wounded were then taken from this R.A.P. - on capture of STAVROMENOS another 42 were found in village - both these figures are in addition to those evacuated through our own R.A.P./

30. The enemy dead were also very numerous. Each coy buried some, the Germans buried many - on my coy front alone 226 Germans and 28 Austs were buried.

For the Austs, I made a cemetery but the enemy were too numerous and had to be buried where they lay. Many of those on my front were shot in descending.

31. While evacuating wounded, a truck clearly marked with the Red Cross was machine-gunned and burnt by an enemy plane.

32. The part played by the tanks was very inglorious. Sent against the enemy on 20 May, within an hour one was bogged in a small water drain under fire, and the other disappeared. Both crews also disappeared but later we found one crew had been killed, the other captured and their tank jammed in a ditch. By night the bogged tank was freed and after the capture of STAVROMENOS was used to get the other out. The captured crew was released with other prisoners when STAVROMENOS was captured. Aust arty personnel and 2/1 Bn Carrier Officer manned the tanks and they were used against PERIVOLIO where the enemy put both out of action, killing one crew and wounding the Carrier Officer. These Austs did well as none were trained in use of tanks. The tank Officer was killed on 20 May.

33. The Carriers were also no match for the enemy who put them all out of action within a few days. The enemy was well supplied with A.T. guns and rifles.

34. The arty was excellent. The sighting (looking down barrels) restricted the range so that at all times the arty personnel were under German sniper fire, no indirect firing was possible and, as the guns were not mobile they could engage only targets within sight of their position. Nevertheless they did very well even with casualties. After STAVROMENOS they even managed to get one 75 mm moved to a place where it could engage PERIVOLIO.

35. The MG Pl never operated as MG. Like arty, forced to direct fire they had no advantage over the Brens. They suffered heavy casualties and then became the fourth pl of my coy fighting as infantry.

36. The ambulance personnel I did not see but I was told they did remarkably well - having practically no equipment, they yet established a hospital which could not have had less than 300 cases. (There were 300 wounded on my own front alone). 2/1 Bn had one stretcher and several improvised ones. The only road was under fire, so for the greater part wounded had to be carried over the hills on blankets. The M.O. established several collecting points. Three days passed before those wounded on 20 May could be evacuated and several German wounded died when possibly some stretchers might have saved them.

37. On the morning of Friday (I think 30 May) having captured a German telephone and put it in operation, I overheard a report by Bn 2 i/c (Maj Hooper) who was helping 5 Gk Bn while Maj Ford was with 4 Gk Bn - that the Bn had deserted during the night - only the Bn Comd being left. Evidently the same applied to the other Bn and the C.O. had instructed the 2/11 Bn to close in and take over the posn of 4 Gk Bn. Both of these Bns were now armed (as were our arty etc) with captured German weapons.

11 - THE SURRENDER

1. I went to Bn HQ to see the CO and found that a large German force was approaching from RETIMO. The CO told me that we had rations for that day only, that enemy tanks were on the road in our rear and, while we were there, tanks came in sight in front. He then instructed the QM (Capt Legessner) and myself to accompany him with a white flag as further fighting was useless.
2. The German tank officer spoke English and we were sent on to a senior officer - on CO's instruction troops were ordered to cease firing and to surrender.
3. At the time of our surrender we had destroyed the parachutists. Of those on the left I estimate not more than 200 were still holding out in PERIVOLIO - although so few, these troops, due to air supply were able to out-gun us at any time. Of those on the right flank, all had been killed or captured except some who scattered and fled in direction of KANDIA. At various time we had parachutists dropped in small numbers near RETIMO and several miles east of us. These I had been told by the CO were being hunted down by Greek police with the exception of a party which had managed to take a village about 10 miles away but even these were besieged by Greeks.
4. Greek civilians had helped a good deal - many getting German arms had joined the Greek bns until these fled.

111 - COMMUNICATIONS.

1. Whilst on the phase before capture, I must deal with communications. Before 20 May we were in telephone communication with 19 Bde HQ. The only internal phones were from bty comd post to gun posns. Later we captured German telephones and my coy HQ was put in touch.
2. We had two wireless transmitters - one (which I did not see) operated by naval personnel and one operated by R.A.F. The CO frequently stated he was unable to get in touch with Force. Occasionally we were in touch because a congratulatory signal from Gen. Freyburg was passed on by the CO (this may have been an effort by the CO to keep spirits up). The CO also said there was no code and he was afraid to broadcast in clear any detailed message. What he did do was to send many messages which would enable Force if listening to gather the general posn. On several occasions also, he asked for medical supplies, stressing the heavy German casualties - probably as a result of this German planes dropped medical supplies near PERIVOLIO and STAVRAMENOS (these were captured by one of my pls) - and on two occasions before dawn a British plane dropped some supplies. I did not see a British plane at any other time.

IV - EVENTS AFTER THE SURRENDER

1. When captured the whole of the Australians were put on the aerodrome (this had been wired by us) and searched. I was not searched but my pistol was taken - one officer only was interrogated. Before leaving my coy area (I was sent back to ensure troops surrendered) I managed to throw the working parts of a large number of German MGs and mortars we had captured into a deep well. These had always been kept out of the guns with this in mind.

2. After searching, the Aust prisoners were moved on foot to RETIMO where we were put in a Greek school. The officers were treated quite well and palliasses from the hospital were provided - no food was given to us. Our troops were made to clean the area but were not ill-treated.

3. The following morning two sacks of uncooked rice and some sacks of raisins were put out and we had to file past filling our pockets - this was the only food for the two days during which we marched to SUDA BAY. We were then marched off.

4. Our guards were Austrian alpine troops. All road signs showed a flower (I believe an eidelweiss). We were frequently passed by British trucks carrying Germans going towards RETIMO.

5. We were allowed long halts at midday but only a short one at night. We reached GEORGIPOULIS that night and SUDA BAY the following evening. Here we were put in a compound near the old British Naval HQ. The men were used for working parties, but we were unable to see the ship's contents. Many ships were sunk in the bay - there were about four very small ships undamaged and while we were there a convoy of about three ships of, say, 5000 tons each, came in headed by a destroyer.

6. After 48 hours at SUDA BAY we were to be moved to GALATOS. Our route took us through the Italian PW camp. They lined the road but on the whole were not unfriendly. Then we passed through CANEA which had been nearly destroyed very few buildings looking even habitable. RETIMO had also been badly damaged.

7. At GALATOS we found the British hospital was being converted to a German PW camp. Here we were given a meal (we had also been given some biscuits and a tin of bully beef to three men at SUDA BAY). We were told that we were being sent on to a camp to be established at MALEME, that GALATOS was to be an English and NZ camp and that an exclusively Aust camp was to be established at SKENES. There was also a small camp at SUDA BAY. The German comd stated he wanted British officers to administer their own men and the CO was to exercise his normal powers as regards discipline. He had already appointed a NZ Lieutenant as adjutant.

8. The following day we marched to MALEME. Along the way we saw some British trucks disabled, but one could see that the enemy was using British trucks and apparently very few had been destroyed. German dead were decently buried, British dead were not buried till much later by prisoner working parties. The Germans made no effort to mark British graves. Damaged aeroplanes and gliders were often seen as we approached MALEME.

9. The camp at MALEME was practically the village. It was not wired until some days later. We received no food but practically everyone had picked something up as we marched (once we passed an abandoned DID not entirely emptied).

10. The following day I had to take a working party of 400 men to the aerodrome where we discovered a great many German planes wrecked on the landing ground, in the vineyards and on the beach near it. A German told me there was 152 German planes wrecked there. There were very few British (say six at the most). This I believed to be a truthful estimate. The work was filling in bomb holes on the landing ground and taking parts out of the planes.

11. The camp grew; the CO administered it. Working parties of up to 1000 men were supplied daily, chiefly for the aerodrome but also to build a jetty, construct a road, and to repair the telephone wires.

12. At first the only food we received were some German biscuits, but working parties were allowed to take tomatoes, potatoes etc. from the fields. In addition parties under an officer with German guards were allowed to take food from surrounding villages and fields as well as blankets etc., from the trenches of the aerodrome defenders.

V. SOME POINTS OF INTEREST LEARNT AFTER THE SURRENDER.

To finish this account of the campaign I will conclude with points I noticed while in the prison camps. Here I came in contact with British and NZ officers (few of the latter). Later when I escaped I learnt some of the following from escapees. Where it is not second hand I shall state so.

1. Some British I tanks were abandoned and then used by the enemy, (heard from other officers). Our transport seems to have been taken over almost undamaged (personal observation). I saw about three German trucks the whole time I was a prisoner but many British. There was no evidence of cannibalisation.

2. Many of the German planes were crash-landed. I saw about 153 German planes which had been destroyed by crash-landing.

3. The British defenders of MALEME aerodrome were said to be one bn and some attached arty and MG. This was insufficient. They seem to have been too far from the aerodrome (I saw the slit trenches) to bring much effective fire to bear upon it. There were many abandoned weapons in the area (I and a party hid some MGs intending to make an escape). After the surrender the German garrison of this aerodrome was one Bn of parachutists (HQ and 3 coys).

4. From an officer, who said he had acted as a liaison officer to Gen Weston, I learnt the following :-

- (a) The retirement was a chaotic, disorderly rout, even generals had to pass slowly through mobs of undisciplined soldiers.
- (b) The rd to SPARKIA was blown by REs but little destruction seems to have been done in any other respect.
- (c) The force of about 7000 mixed troops, who were left behind at SPARKIA, surrendered to about one German pl. Some time elapsed before more troops arrived showing they were not close behind.
- (d) The march back to GALATOS was a dreadful two-day affair without food.
- (e) After our troops surrendered at SPARKIA, German aeroplanes bombed them causing casualties.
- (f) All the troops I had left at KALIBES had been armed and formed but not used.

5. LEY Force officers said that they had been in a rear party but had little contact with enemy. They were disappointed that more use had not been made of them.

6. All officers commented on lack of intercommunication.
7. Without details everyone seemed disappointed at the conduct of the battle in the MALEME - SUDA BAY area. Most said they were not defeated but had to beat frequent hasty retreats. Force HQ seems to have moved frequently - and many stated that a counter-attack by NZ forces at MALEME was not followed up.
8. I think parachute troops were specially selected personnel. About 25% of the officers and many of the men spoke English - many spoke Greek.
9. About 14 days after the capitulation the enemy began to remove his parachute troops replacing them with Austrians. The parachutists were, I believe, sent by Junkers. One day I counted 100 aircraft leaving the aerodrome, the following day this number dropped to 80 but this high figure was maintained for some days. Normally I estimate about 40 planes would leave daily.
10. Retimo aerodrome was quite undamaged (as the CO had received orders not to damage it) but until we were captured no German planes had landed. As we marched through RETIMO we saw that we had accounted for 6 enemy planes. MALEME aerodrome had only been damaged by aerial bombs; there was apparently no attempt to render it unusable before the Germans seized it.
11. British killed may well have been higher than German killed at MALEME. At RETIMO the German casualties may have been 700 odd, this is out of 2 Bns of parachute tps.

VI. FOOD SUPPLIES DURING THE FIGHTING AT RETIMO.

1. One matter I omitted from my notes on fighting at RETIMO was that after the enemy had cut the road, the QM and a small party went around the enemy and then to SUDA BAY where he made arrangements about food and ammunition. This was to be sent by motor-caique that night; however so much time was spent in getting things moving that he returned.
2. A naval vessel under an officer named Haig reached us several days later carrying some rations (about 4 or 5 days I believe) and ammunition. The officer's instructions were to deliver the stores, destroy his boat and to go on foot to SPARKIA where Naval HQ were. This was our first alarming news, though even that did not tell us the island was being evacuated. Messages could have been sent by this boat.
3. A member of 2/11 Bn I Section told me he was one of a party sent by the CO to SUDA BAY during the fighting to make contact. Contact was made with Force. The CO did not at any time mention this, so it may be mere romancing.

VII CONDITIONS IN PW CAMP.

1. The first few days in camp we received no food other than a few German biscuits. Then a little bully beef was issued. We obtained practically all our food from parties under an officer (with German guards) who were sent out to take food from deserted villages. Food was not very scarce at this stage but the surrounding country soon became denuded.

2. After approx ten days this was forbidden, the reason being that the German Command was trying to get the Greeks to return to their villages and that the civilians were short of food. Instead we were now permitted to send one party per day to the neighbouring village of PLATANOS to buy food.

3. Money now became a problem. Aust troops had a considerable amount. N.Z. and most British troops had some; the commandos had no Greek currency. By pooling to some extent we managed to keep most troops supplied - but this was a lean period.

4. About 20 Jun purchasing was forbidden, the reason given being that food was now so scarce that it would from now on be rationed.

5. I had during all this time complained about food shortage and at this stage I became more emphatic. Lt-Col BULL assisted and the ultimate result was that we were given the following list and told that we would get so much and no more :-

meat	50	gms	about 1 2/3	ozs)	
bread	300	"	10	")	
sugar	20	"	.7	"	)	per man
tea	1	"	.035	"	)	per day
vegetables	100	gms	3 1/3	")	

Vegetables included rice, oatmeal, lentils. This was not always adhered to. For instance on at least 3 occasions bread was not issued.

6. About 26 Jun I told the camp comdt that I would take no part in the administration and refused to make men work, if the issue was not increased. I was told that I would be arrested and if necessary working parties would be obtained with guns. However, some good was done because the camp comdt decided to issue an additional tin of either beef or M.V. to each man who was on the specialist working party. This was presumed to be 180 daily but actually about 800-1000 men were used daily. The specialists were tradesmen who were employed on the aerodrome - these men were retained after the rest of the camp were sent to SUDA BAY for shipment and may still be there. (all prison camps were emptied by about 5 Aug)/.

7. Work was not hard, the guards were easy-going and prisoners tried to get into working parties in order to pick up potatoes, etc. in fields. The hours were generally quite reasonable.

8. Health was bad - practically every man had gastro-enteritis despite every effort to keep sanitation at a high level (Capt A.J. KING did marvellous work) - septic sores and a few cases of malaria occurred. The only available water was bad.

9. The guards were in our case parachutists. They were of a good type, young and friendly. The camp comdt appreciated our efforts to keep the camp clean and except in food helped as much as possible. Few British were punished and then the punishment was 3 days in guardroom without food.

Their attitude to the Greeks of whom there would have been about 1,500 was callous in the extreme. One Greek was killed and two badly wounded to my knowledge.

10. There were absolutely no comforts such as cigarettes, no blankets and no issue of clothing. We were allowed to send parties to the slit trenches of the aerodrome defenders and take such articles as had been left behind.
11. To requests for pay or to notify our relatives we were told that was impossible until we reached Germany. About 16 Jun each man was required to fill in two white cards of which, we were told, one would be filed and the other sent to GENEVA. At the time I left the camp, on 3 Jul, these cards were still in the office.
12. The guards were well-disciplined and were forbidden to take anything from prisoners. A few cases of theft occurred but in every case which came to my knowledge I was able to get the article back.
13. During the whole time I was in the prison camp (say 4 Jun to 3 Jul) the only German food I saw was some biscuits. The Germans lived entirely on British rations. Working parties at aerodrome reported to me that planes were sometimes loaded with British rations apparently for Greece, other employed at SUDA BAY said ships were loading British rations.
14. These conditions did not apply at all camps. At GALATOS health conditions were worse and it was quarantined for 3 weeks because of suspected infantile paralysis. Here the guards were always harsher.
15. SKENES camp was emptied first, then MALEME (I escaped on the last day). While in the hills later escapees from GALATOS told me that the German parachutists had been replaced by Austrians and "Hitler Youth Movement" and were now very callous. Beatings with iron rods and rifle butts were common. One man was punished by being placed against a wire fence - over this he was forced to jump - each time he landed he was kicked back - and before long his legs were torn by the wire. Another man went to hospital after a beating. Both these were witnessed by Cpl MURFIT 42 Coy RE who escaped from CRETE with me.
16. The enemy was very short of medical supplies. When the camp was first formed, sick were sent to a German doctor who appeared to have very little. Later an Australian (Capt A.J. KING) and an English M.O. were sent to us. The only medical supplies we could obtain were from a deserted N.Z. R.A.P. near MALEME (that of the Bn which defended the aerodrome). When Lt-Col BULL was appointed Senior M.O. he began to get a few supplies but very little - the N.Z. RAP still giving us about 75%.
17. About 26 Jun the German medical post near MALEME closed down and Capt A.J. KING had also to attend to Germans garrisoning the area.

VIII. AUSTRALIAN ESCAPEES.

1. Officers were removed and flown to ATHENS (?) about 12/13 Jun. This meant officers had comparatively little time to manage an escape. The following are the only officers I know to have escaped:-

Lieut PAYNE NZ ASC
Lieuts PARISH and HILDYARD of Notts Yeomanry (with me)
Lt-Comdr VERNASOS R.N.R. Leader of our party

PAYNE accompanied by Pte McLAREN and Cpl PARKS escaped from CRETE to GREECE hoping to go overland to TURKEY. I saw them in GREECE

2. The following 9 soldiers also escaped from CRETE to GREECE, their intention being to take a boat if necessary - to get away from CRETE. They put up a good showing (the private addresses are shown):-

R.S. BARROW	185 Khyber Pass	- AUKLAND
R.R. WILTING	188 George St	DUNEDIN
G.E. VOYCE	32 Cublinbulla St	MORTON
A.H. EMPSON	Union Bank	TE AMUTU
J.A. REDPATH	Glendover Rd	CHRISTCHURCH
R.J. HEPWELL	Victoria Pk	ECHUCA Vict.
TED MITMAN		DENILIQWIN

J. COLE Pte 2/3 Fd Regt) who accompanied me from
 C. HOSKING Pte 2/11 Bn) MALEME P.W. Camp.

3. Practically every village I went to in CRETE had some British hidden. Generally villages on a motor rd were liable to a visit at any time and therefore refused to hide British escapees but few refused food. Villages off motor rds gave food and hid British in gullies. I could give the names of many villages but the following is an indication :-

LAKKOS	-25	} All of whom I spoke to.
APANALORIO	-15	
AG IRENE	-20	
TEMENIA	-15	
SERBRONAS	- 5	

All villages did not have so many but a village with none was rare - the usual number being 3 to 5.

4. In using the word British I include all our troops - I saw not more than 20 Englishmen but I consider about 600 Australians and about 400 New Zealanders are living in the villages in Western CRETE. These men are being fed well but increasing food shortage and the severe winter may force them to give themselves up. The Greeks are very loyal but harbouring prisoners is a capital offence - and the Germans are not particular how many they sentence for the one crime.
5. These men could be taken off if a person (self for instance) was put ashore on CRETE - given a week or so to have a fixed number at a certain place at a certain time, and on that night a fast ship to take them off.
6. There appear to be no fighters on CRETE now - I saw one ME 110 about 4 Aug. Stukas have been seen occasionally, but, when I was at MALEME, only three were on the aerodrome. The only other aeroplanes seen were Junkers troop carriers.
7. An alternative plan would be to dump food and arms and organise the Austs into guerilla bands. The Greeks are well armed with stolen British and German small arms (in some villages even mortars) and are ready to fight. No fighting had occurred until the time I left CRETE, 16 Aug.
8. In GREECE we met in the village of ELAPHONESOS, near Cape MALEAS, one English soldier of 4 Hussars who escaped when KALAMATA was captured. In GREECE there appear to be a large number of refugees and we were told in several villages that refugees and Greeks had unsuccessfully revolted in early August. There had been some bloodshed.
9. In the towns of CANEA (and from Greek stories) PIRAEUS and ATHENS, British are living with Greek families and are passing as Greeks. In CRETE village mayors will even make out an identification pass for a dark Briton

1X ESCAPE FROM CRETE

1. Shortly after capture I made arrangements to escape. Knowing that many boats had been destroyed, I considered it desirable to stay in the camp until we were to be sent to GERMANY so that time would be given for German vigilance to relax and for the Greeks to repair boats and to accumulate food.
2. On 12 Jun the C.O. was notified that all officers must be ready to leave at 0400, 13 Jun. I saw the members of my party and then escaped during the night; the others were to follow joining me at a certain point. On the night of 13 Jun, the others not joining me, I returned to the camp. I did not know how friendly the Greeks were and thought that alone I could do nothing.
3. I now found myself the only officer left - I pleaded that I had been ill with dysentery and had been overlooked - and was believed. I became a British camp comdt. Aust and British MOs were sent to the camp and shortly there were 5 officers.
4. During the next week I managed to accumulate some abandoned N.Z. weapons (one Bren, one Thompson, 5 Rifles, S.A.A. and magazines) and buried them in a vineyard. The general opinion then was that a British counter-attack was imminent and we were going to aid.
5. On 3 Jul I was instructed to get the men ready to march to SUDA BAY for shipment to SALONIKA. Nominal rolls were required and I was able to leave the comd's office no earlier than 1300 hrs and had to return at 1500 hrs. At 1315 hrs I managed to escape once more. The men were to have left at 1500 hrs but an escapee from GALATOS told me that they marched past GALATOS towards SUDA BAY in the early hours of the morning. My escape may have caused some of the delay.
6. Again the same members failed to come out at the last moment and I was accompanied only by Ptes J. COLE 2/3 Fd Regt, and C. HOSKING, 2/11 Bn.
7. I will not cover the whole of the next phase. We went to the hilly country, which has few rds. Invariably the Greeks were at first suspicious and then, when assured we were British, were extremely friendly. Living conditions were rough but we had sufficient food to keep intact the tinned food we had brought from the camp.
8. We made many efforts to escape but found the south coast very mountainous, with few villages and practically no boats. The owners of the few boats that remained slept in them and had been so frightened by the Germans that guards were kept over them day and night.
9. During the whole of this period we were constantly moving.
10. About 21 Jul. I met Lt-Comd VERNACOS, a Greek subject with a R.N.R. commission, who commanded the "IRENE" VERNACOS" in SUDA BAY and had been responsible for the defence boom. He had gone to the hills when SUDA was captured, and was doing a brilliant job in arranging homes for escapees. He had a boat in PALAEOCHORIA. The plan was that I and three 2/2 Bn men were to get away and bring help, but the Germans captured the boat just before we reached it.

11. I then met Lieut PARISH, Lieut HILDYARD (both of Notts Yeomanry and escapees from GALATOS camp). As all of us had some money (Lt-Comd VERNACOS had a considerable amount) we decided to join forces and to escape; Lt-Comd VERNACOS wished to get British help to start a CRETE revolution.
12. Again many plans failed and we were forced again to the hills by a most appalling outbreak of German terrorism.
13. There was some trade in Greek refugees and olive oil between GREECE and CRETE, the little caiques coming by night and unloading at the northernmost tip of the eastern of the two peninsulas. This was forbidden and if found, the caiques were liable to be sunk. Two caiques were captured the night we arrived there; this forced us to get aboard the first caique that arrived.
14. On 16 Aug, a small sailing caique arrived and took us with 35 Greeks. We spent three terrible days in reaching ELAPHANESOS in GREECE. Here we were treated quite well and were able to buy a small boat.
15. To avoid an Italian guard the Greek members of our party sailed to AG FOCUS while the British walked. We then embarked and briefly the rest of our trip was as follows :-
 - MILOS - about two days journey - unfavourable weather - Lieut PARISH had a severe accident.
 - POLYNOS - driven here by unfavourable winds - trying to get to SIFNOS where we knew we would find a doctor.
 - KIMOLIS - again bad weather but found a doctor and some food. Stayed some days for PARISH's sake.
 - PAROS - forced in by heavy seas - stayed two days. Then after another two days we reached KUSADASI in TURKEY where we were treated well and placed under consular care.
16. I have not detailed the voyage, but we were frequently short of food and on arrival every member of the party was in poor condition suffering from desert sores, boils, etc.
17. The escape ended in TURKEY on the 4 Sep.
18. Members of the party were :-
 - Lt-Comd VERNACOS R.N.R. (Leader)
 - Lieut M. PARISH) Notts Yeomanry (Sherwood Rangers)
 - " M. HILDYARD)
 - Capt. F.J. EMBREY 2/1 Bn A.I.F.
 - Cpl. Murfit 42 Coy, RE
 - CARALAMBUS MENINDRATIS. A Greek engaged as a guide who came the whole distance with us.

X GERMAN TREATMENT OF GREEK CIVILIANS IN CRETE.

1. About 1-4 Aug, while we were at LAKKOS, the Germans suddenly carried out a raid on that valley. The town of SKENES (which had previously been used as a prison camp) was dynamited and some Greeks killed. In FOURNES nearly all the male population were shot. The Germans then visited several other villages killing a few in each. At least 100 people must have been killed, although Greeks say 500. I spoke to two wounded men and to one widow. A small garrison was left in some of the villages. The killing ceased as suddenly as it started.
2. This was the worst outrage I knew of, but killings in the fortnight following the British capitulation were quite frequent. I have seen the important

village of KANDANOS which has now one building with a roof. It was destroyed because the people of KANDANOS were believed to have helped in the fighting.

F.J. EMBREY
Capt.
2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

APPENDIX A.

List of Officers and ORs known to have been killed, Wounded and Captured, and Captured.

Officers and ORs.

Killed at RETIMO	Capt O.B. MORIARTY)	
	Lieut. C. STANTON	)	2/1 Bn
	Capt FITZHARDING	)	2/3 Bn
	Lieut SIMPSON (?)	)	of the Tank Corps.
Wounded severely and captured.	Capt CHANNEL)	
	Lieut MANN)	
	Lieut HERRON	)	2/1 Bn
	Lieut KYLIE)	
	Lieut LAWRIE)	
Wounded slightly and captured.	Lieut SAVAGE)	
	Lieut FAIRBAIRN	)	2/1 Bn
	Lieut DELVES)	
Captured.	Lt-Col. CAMPBELL, I.)	
	Capt. HODGE, J.H.)	
	Lieut. SEALY, H.)	
	Capt. LEGESSNER, T.)	
	Lieut. COOKE, B.	)	2/1 Bn
	Lieut. GILMOUR-WALSH, A)	
	Lieut WHITTLE, J.)	
	Lieut. DIEFFE, C.)	
	Capt. TRAVERS, W.)	
	Lieut. KENNEDY, M.G.)	
	Lieut. CRAIG, N.)	
	Lieut. DIGBY, R.)	
	Lieut. ROGERS)	
	Lieut. WILLMOTT, R.)	
	Lieut. DENNIS	)	Aust Engineers.
	Major BESSEL-BROWN)	
	Capt. MOTT)	
	Capt. KELLY	)	2/3 Fd Regt.
	Lieut. LEARMONT)	
	Lieut. LAWRENCE)	
	Lieut. MASON, R.A.O.C.	)	(Tank repair Offr)
	Flying Officer REEVES (?)	)	(R.A.F. stationed at RETIMO)
VX 40178	Lieut. OAKLEY, R.H.	)	A.A.S.C. attached 2/7 Fd Amb.
WX 3356	Capt. KING, A.J.	)	A.A.M.C. 2/7 Fd Amb.
131349	Capt. ANNAN, J.H.	)	R.A.M.C. attached to A.A. Bn.
VX 333	Chaplain DAKERS, R.)	

Major HOOPER 2/1 Bn and Lieut CLEAVER 2/1 MG Bn were not present at capitulation - while in prison camp I heard from members of a party from GALATOS Camp that they had made an attempt to get off the island but failing had surrendered.

The following officers I did not see but know they were captured :-

Lt-Col WALKER, 2/7 Bn
 Lieut. K. HILL-GRIFFITHS, L.O. 16 Bde HQ.
 Lieut. K. LOFTUS, 2/2 Bn.

Lt-Col BULL, A.D.M.S. N.Z. Div was also captured and was appointed Senior M.O. He visited prison camps accompanied by at least one German M.O. He tried to obtain better food and was busily engaged with medical matters.

APPENDIX B.

STRENGTH OF MALEME P.W. CAMP.

The strength of MALEME P.W. Camp when I took charge was :-

2/11 Bn A.I.F.	143	O.R's
2/1 " "	288	"
? Fd Coy Engineers (Aust)	38	(Lieut DENNIS O.C. Tps)
2/3 Fd Regt. v	53	
2/1 M.G. Bn	13	
2/7 Fd Amb	12	
Ley Force Commandos		
A Bn & Ley Force HQ	151	
D Bn	316	
Mixed units	221	

The latter were chiefly New Zealanders or British technical units - they included no Australians.

Those members of units at RETIMO who were unable to march to SUDA were picked up in trucks and carried to SKENES.

APPENDIX C.

AXIS TROOPS IN CRETE AND THE AEGEAN ISLANDS :-

1. German garrisons are in the following villages :-

KASTELLI	(North Coast)	about 120	All Ranks.
Vicinity of	MALEME	240	" "
Vicinity of	PLATANOS	120	" "
KASTELLI	(PALAEOCHORIA South Coast)	120	" "
URAMALIA		12	" "
SPARKIA		30	" "
LAKKOS		15	" "
NEUROUMMATA		30	" "

They also have a detachment on MILOS Island, where they have a landing ground. While in this vicinity we saw several troop carriers and a large flying boat. They have also constructed a landing ground at KASTELLI (North Coast) in CRETE.

2. Italians were occupying the following islands :-

PAROS	MILOS	IKARIA
SIFNOS	MICHELOS	KEYOS

3. The food position is every where serious. At KIMOLIS we could find no bread at all - the population were said to be eating fish and fruits only. The other islands are slightly better. Bread is very scarce in GREECE and CRETE and the winter is going to be very severe. Meat is always scarce.
4. During the whole time we were on the sea we saw no ships at all. Enemy shipping seems to be almost non-existent.

To Retimo Town
1/2 mile

RETIMO TOWN

SEA OF CRETE

STAVROMENOS



Main Road to KANDIA
PERIVLJO

AERODROME

FOOT HILLS
2/11 BN

HQ Coy
2/1 BN
'B' Coy 'D' Coy
'C' Coy 'A' Coy

4 GREEK BN

B Ech
Tank Etc.

MILES 0 1/2 1 2 3 4 MILES

Approximate Scale

PIGI Miner Road

5 GREEK BN

SCHOOLS FROM 1 OCT 41 - 31 OCT 41

APPENDIX "E"

COURSES	Attendance			Duration		Bde HQ			2/1 Bn			2/2 Bn.			2/6 Bn			2/7 Bn		
	Offrs	NCOs	ORs	Weeks	Days	Offrs	NCOs	ORs	Offrs	NCOs	ORs	Offrs	NCOs	ORs	Offrs	NCOs	ORs	Offrs	NCOs	ORs
AIF (ME) Sch of Sigs No 10 Cse	1	1	5	2	6	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	2	-	-	-	1	-	1
Regt Int Cse No 14	1	-	-	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
METS No 11 Coy Comds	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
AIF (ME) SME No 2 Fd Wks Wing	3	-	-	2	6	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
ME OCTU 16 Inf Intake	-	3	-	16	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
ME Combined Tng Centre No 9	1	-	-	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
No 5 Chiropody Course	-	-	2	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
ME P & RT School No 2 Offrs Cse	1	-	-	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
AIF (ME) Inf Sch Weapon Tng Wing No 6 Mortar Cse	1	1	2	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
AIF (ME) Regtl Offrs Sch. No 3	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Junr Offrs Cse																				
AIF (ME) AASC Cses MT Wing D & MM Cse	-	4	4	3	2	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	1	1
AIF (ME) AASC Cses Clerical Wing	-	-	4	3	2	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
AIF (ME) AASC Cses Cookery Wng	-	-	3	3	2	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
AASC Sch. Mob Sec 1 MT Instrs Cse	1	2	-	1	5	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
METS No 1 Jnr Leader	-	1	-	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
METS Fd Wks No 11	1	-	-	1	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-

Unit and sub-unit positions will be sited and selected to resist attack by AFV's.

- (b) As far as possible all adm installations will be sited under cover within the fortified areas. Where this is not practicable they will be sited where the defensive layout provides the maximum protection possible.
 - (c) The position in each Bde locality will be chosen so that they can be held by the maximum number of A/Tk weapons and personnel, in order to enable the maximum reserves to be maintained. Where practicable, natural A/Tk obstacles or partial obstacles which can with the minimum work be converted into complete obstacles, will be incorporated in the position.
 - (d) The need for providing an adequate area for the dispersion and protection of the garrison and installations and for preventing the interior of the "fortress" from being directly overlooked by enemy OP's, has to be reconciled with requirement (c) above. To reconcile these conflicting requirements it will almost certainly be necessary.
 - (1) to require units to hold more extensive positions.
- and (ii) to site infantry and MG posts on higher ground, than would normally be considered desirable.

The facilities for observation and long range fire by day, and the difficulties the enemy will encounter, if he attempts to launch a night attack from a distance against positions on steep slopes which ~~which~~ entail a considerable physical effort to climb, even by day, should off-set the disadvantages mentioned.

4. RECCE OF POSITIONS

(a) (i) QATANA

Tracing showing provisional allotment of Bn areas and responsibilities has already been issued.

(ii) BAB EL QALA - BOURKOCH

Instructions will be issued separately when intentions regarding this posn are "firm".

- (b) CO's will arrange for detailed recce of the sectors allotted for
 - (a) (1) commencing on 30 Oct.

(N.B. Arty practice is being carried out in the area in question from 25 to 29 Oct. 26 Oct may be available for recce. They will submit by 2 Nov their recommendations in the form of a sketch (Scale 1/8333) showing :-

- (1) Proposed line of wire and A/Tk obstacles indicating for the latter the sections to be mined, scarped, or ditched where natural obstacle does not already exist.
- (ii) Platoon Defensive localities showing proposed section posts.
- (iii) Proposed MMG positions, and DF tasks, assuming that one MMG Pl is allotted to the Sector.
- (iv) Suggested DF tasks assuming that
 - (a) One Bty only is available for support.
 - (b) Whole Fd Regt is available
- (v) Mortar DF tasks, if any, required to supplement MMG and Fd Bty tasks.
- (vi) Location and composition of Bn Reserves.
- (vii) Location of Bn and Coy HQ.

5. CONSTRUCTION OF DEFENCES

In the construction of defences, the general priority will be :-

- (a) A/Tk Obstacles.
- (b) OP's and MG posns.
- (c) Inf localities in which in the forst instance, priority will be given to the front of each locality before going on with preparations for all round defence.

(Sgd)A.J. Boase.....Brigadier,
Commanding 16 Aust Inf Bde.

/I

L6 AUST INF BDEORGANISATION & PREPARATION OF QATANAPOSITIONAPPENDIX
"G"1. ARRANGEMENTS FOR RECCE

- (a) Guiding principles and tasks for recce of QATANA pson were issued to Bn Comds at a conference of CO's at HQ 2/2 Bn on 23 Oct 41.
- (b) Positions selected provisionally by CO's for the siting of MMG's and A.Tk guns allotted to sectors will be checked and co-ordinated by re representatives from 1 Aust MG Bn and 1 Aust A.Tk Regt respectively.
- (c) CO 2/11 Aust A Fd Regt is responsible for selecting gun positions and OP's for one Fd Regt and one Med Bty so that
- (i) At least one Fd Bty will be able to cover the front of each Bn sector;
- (ii) If practicable, the fire of all Fd Bty's may, in emergency, be directed to cover the front of any one Bn sector;
- &(iii) Med Tp zone of observation includes
AIN BORJ 172164 ZAKIYE 188155 DARAIYA 197168
MEZZE (Ref DAMAS 1/200,000).

Alternative positions and OP's are to be selected so that in the event of an enemy penetration on the north or west of the QATANA position the maximum number of guns can be brought to bear in the area all incl.

JEBEL AANTAR - YAAFOUR - BAB EL QALA - AISSEM FOUQA.

2. MARKING OF POSN

As soon as dispositions within sectors have been approved Bns responsible for recce in QATANA position will mark out tasks as under :-

- (a) General line of obstacles - line of single whitewashed stones at sufficiently close interval to enable line to be recognised.
- (b) A.Tk gun posns- large cairn of white stones to represent gun and with smaller cairns forming angle with gun cairn to indicate arc of fire.
- (c) MMG posns - similar to A.Tk gun markings but with red painted stone on top of large cairn.
- (d) Sec Posts - spitlocked or where ground unsuited - small sangar.
- (e) Bn & Coy HQ's - cairn with white stake on top.

3. RESPONSIBILITY FOR WORK

- (a) RAE will be responsible for construction of A.Tk ditches and scarps, roads, tracks, and special types of protective works such as concrete pillboxes, OP's, and for the provision of technical assistance as required. Application by units for RAE assistance will be submitted through this H.Q.

...../(b) Bns

- 2 --
- (b) Bns will be responsible for constructing and wiring all fwd pl localities and for tactical wiring as necessary fwd of the A.Tk obstacles in sectors as under :-

- 2/1 Bn - Eastern and Southern Bn Sectors - QATANA posn
- 2/2 Bn - Northern(res) Bn Sector - QATANA posn and posns and wire protecting A.Tk obstacle between QATANA and BOURKOCH Positions (to be defined later).
- 2/7 Bn - BOURKOCH - BAB EL QALA Posn when defined.
Work will be commenced initially by 2/7 Bn on the Southern and SE Bn Sectors of the BOURKOCH Posn, the remainder of the work being undertaken with the assistance of Bns from QATANA Posn when work on this is sufficiently advanced.

4. TOOLS

Bns will apply to this HQ for any extra tools required for digging and wiring.

5. CONSTRUCTION & DESIGN

- (a) Double apron will be used for wiring fwd of the A.Tk obstacles and for protective wiring round Pl localities
- (b) Fire trenches initially will not be dug more than 3 ft deep unless the siting of the post makes it desirable to omit the parapet in which case the depth may be 4 ft 6 ins. Where the ground is too rocky to permit of digging sangars may be built, care being taken to ensure that the weathered sides of the rock only are visible.
- (c) It is not practicable to prescribe a standard type post suitable to all types of ground. The trace of the work must be governed by the shape of the ground and the function the post has to perform.
Attention is directed to MFE Vol 1 (All arms)
Secs 34 - 41, 43 - 45, 51 and ^x56a and the connected Appendices and Plates.
- x This deals with construction of sangars and Bns concerned who have not got copies of this section should notify this HQ.
- (d) Bn Comds, Arty, MMG and A.Tk advisers will submit a list, giving the exact locations, of Bren, MMG, A.Tk and OP's which they consider should be concreted, as early as possible so that the necessary contract may be let.

6. CAMOUFLAGE & CONCEALMENT

- (a) Engineer Adviser will formulate a camouflage plan to be put into operation as soon as construction commences and continued through all stages of the work. This will include lines of approach and the positioning of work sites.
- (b) No new tracks will be opened up in the QATANA and BOURKOCH BAB EL QALA positions without prior approval of this HQ. There is no restriction regarding tracks between the limits of the two positions mentioned, where there are already numerous tracks. Any additional tracks in this area will merely serve to mystify the enemy.
- (c) Every effort is to be made by careful siting and construction of posts to make them merge into their surroundings. On steep slopes high parapets which stand out when viewed from lower levels are to be avoided like the plague. It will probably be necessary in many positions to do away with a built up parapet and to build up the parados to ensure that the heads of the occupants of the post are not silhouetted when viewed from below.

Where sangars are built care is to be taken not to expose the under portion of the rocks used, and to make them appear similar to other rocky outcrops which occur in the same locality.
(vide MFE (All Arms) Chap VI)

7. Organisation of Work.

- (a) Attention is directed to MFE Vol 1 (All Arms) Chap 1V).
- (b) Units will organise their work so that each sub-unit is given a definite task or tasks on which it will be employed until its allotted work is completed e.g. a Pl may be given the responsibility for carrying out all inf tasks in a specific Coy locality. The Pl Comd in turn sub-allots the work so that each Sec is responsible for the work in a specific Pl locality. In this way there will be a definite chain of responsibility in all departments of the work and the progress of the various units and sub-units engaged on al similar tasks can be compared.

8. Progress Reports

Comds, 2/1, 2/2, and 2/7 Bns and 2/2 Fd Coy, RAE will submit to this HQ each Saturday a schedule of work completed during the previous seven days together with work projected for the following week.

(Sgd)...A.J..Boase.....Brigadier
Commanding 16 Aust Inf Bde.
