

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

Item number: 8/2/16

16 Infantry Brigade

April - May 1942

1784
RANA

WAR DIARY

Apr 42

24 AUG 1942

1 Apr 42

166de

80

A conference of COs was held at this HQ today. Notes on the matters discussed are included in the appendices .

Brigadier Lloyd and Major Dawson visited HQ AIF (Ceylon) and saw the G1 . With him they discussed leave, rations, engineer stores, the question of the disposal of winter dress, the shortage of summer clothing and the question of the evacuation of the civilian population from the Katukurunda area .

HQ AIF advised that the Anti Tank Unit which was to arrive today has not yet left Bombay, and will be some days before it is available .

WAR DIARY

HORANA

2 Apr 42

Consequent upon a warning that the Japanese may attempt to land parachutists on the island, an OP was established on the high ground north of the Horana Police Station . The post has line communication with this HQ .

The OP is located at 901423 (ref map HORANA 1" to 1 mile)

WAR DIARY

HORANA

3 Apr 42

Good Friday . The Commander and Lieut Long attended Church Service at Brigade HQ .

Brigadier Lloyd, Major Dawson and I.O. reced the road to Ratnapura to study the value of that area as a defensive position . They returned via Avissawella .

WAR DIARY

HORANA

4 Apr 42

The GOC in C (Lieut-Gen Pownall) and the GOC AIF (Ceylon) visited Horana area and called on 2/2 and 2/3 Bns, 2/1 Fd Regt, 2/1 Fd Amb . They expressed the opinion that the units were settling in well .

The party then proceeded to 2/1 Bn, accompanied by Brigadier Lloyd and Major Dawson . They inspected the aerodrome defences at Katukurunda .

In the afternoon Brigadier Lloyd and Major Dawson called at Sorana Estate and discussed the surrounding locality with Mr. Fisher, who gave the names of all British subjects who could be contacted with a view to giving assistance and information .

At 1835 hrs the RAF reported an enemy force approaching Ceylon . All units in the Brigade Group were notified . At 2000 hrs the position of the enemy was given as 360 miles east of Dondra Head .

WAR DIARY

HORANA

5 Apr 42

Lieut C.T. Colquhoun was ordered to report to HQ AIF Ceylon as G3(1) .

This HQ stood to from 0530 hrs . The Stand to was general throughout the Brigade Group .

At 0800 hrs, sounds of explosions were heard from the north east, and there were many aeroplanes in the sky . At 0810 hrs, the OP reported that an unidentified plane had been shot down in flames .

Later in the morning, the news came through that Colombo had been raided .

The Brigade Commander left for HQ AIF to take up matters for urgent attention, i.e., transport, ammunition and the clearing of the civilian population from the Katukurunda area .

Lt. Col. Fisher, CO 2/1 Fd Amb, called on his way to Colombo, where he will endeavour to obtain further medical officers, ambulances and drugs .

The plane reported from the OP was located at ATULUGAMA . Indications are that the pilot had baled out and escaped . A patrol from 2/2 Bn was sent out to guard the plane and endeavour to trace the pilot .

Local natives have sent in pieces of plane and also documents which fell from it, and have been most helpful .

The patrol located the plane, which the local police were guarding .

In the afternoon, Brigadier Lloyd and Lieut Gordon (2/3 Bn, I.O. vice Lieut Colquhoun) went to the Ratnapura - Pelmadulla area .

A further OP for parachute watching was established at feature 43504125

In the evening, the C in C spoke to the people of Colombo on their first air raid, which they had come

5 Apr 42 (cont)

through so well . The Japanese raiders had suffered heavy losses, 25 planes being shot down .

The following ~~recent~~ changes in Staff appointments at this HQ have recently been made :-

I.O. Lieut Gordon (2/3 Bn)

L.O.(1) Lieut Long (2/1 Bn)

B.M.(L) Capt. A.S. Mackinnon (2/3 Bn)

L.O. Lieut Platt (2/1 Fd Regt) is acting as Arty

Capt. Godbold (2/2 Bn) has been called to HQ AIF as L.O., while Capt Rishworth (2/2 Bn) is in charge of the Transit Camp .

A P.W. cage has been recced and sited at 903415 .

Personnel of 2/1 Bn to be left out of battle reported to this HQ under command of Major Miller, 2 i/c 2/1 Bn .

WAR DIARY

HORANA

6 Apr 42

Brigadier Lloyd and Major Dawson visited the site of the unidentified plane . Lieut Bosgard is attempting, with native assistance, to raise the plane from the mud in which it is buried .

Later in the morning the Comd and B.M. visited the site of OP 2, on One Tree Hill . The I.O. also visited OPs in the area during the day .

Brigadier Lloyd visited 2/1 Bn in the afternoon, and was impressed with the amount of work that was being done on the defences of the aerodrome .

The Staff Captain called on HQ AIF in Colombo.

Personnel left the Brigade Area to attend an Anti Tank School at Richmond Castle, Katukurunda.

Stand to at dawn and dusk continues .

WAR DIARY

HORANA

7 Apr 42

Brigadier Lloyd and Major Dawson visited all units in the area during the morning, lifting stand to . Stand to will be continued at this HQ at sunset for one hour .

Major McDonald, OC 2/1 Fd Coy, was called for during the morning, and instructed to inspect explosives in the AASC area and to proceed with the preparation of road blocks .

Lieut Gordon visited Horana Police on the matter of roads . Later he accompanied the Comd to Matugama and Alutgama .

Lieut Bosgard has applied for engineering assistance to raise the engine of the enemy plane, now sunk three feet in mud . The Air Force are anxious to obtain the engine and armament of the plane, which they have identified as a Navy "O" fighter .

WAR DIARY

HORANA

8 Apr 42

Major McDonald and engineers visited the site of the crashed plane to make a reconnaissance for raising the engine and guns .

Brigadier Moten, Comd 17 Aust Inf Bde, visited this HQ .

Lieut Gordon, accompanied by Lieut Hunter of 2/3 Bn., made a further recon of the Ratnapura - Balangoda road .

A report was received that an enemy force, consisting of three battleships and one aircraft carrier, were within 400 miles of Ceylon .

WAR DIARY

HORANA

9 Apr 42

Brigadier Lloyd and Captain Darcey visited HQ AIF (Ceylon) this morning .

Enemy aircraft, probably recce planes, were reported over Colombo . AA fire was reported from our OPs .

Brigadier Lloyd, Major Dawson, accompanied by Lt. Col. Edgar and Lieut Ferguson (2/2 Bn) visited Katukurunda area in the afternoon, and reced the defensive localities at Kalutara and the ferries at the river crossings at Anguruwatota, Ingiriya and Deporellakanda . This area is to be known as Zone B. Lt. Col. Edgar is to recce Bentota tomorrow .

During the day news was received that Trincomalee had received it's first air raid . No civilian casualties were reported .

Mr. Fisher of Sorana Estate visited Bde HQ.

Capt Macintosh, Bde T.O., arrived at HQ . He will return to Colombo tomorrow and supervise the landing of the Brigade transport, which is still on ships in the harbour .

WAR DIARY

HORANA

10 Apr 42

Lt.Col. Stevenson, 2/3 Bn, visited this HQ and discussed the defence of the RATNAPURA area, to be known as Zone A and which includes Pelmadulla, Balangoda, Madampe and Rakwana .

Lt. Col. White, 2/1 Bn, visited Brigade and discussed the defensive layout at KTR aerodrome .

Major General Boase, accompanied by the G1, paid a visit to this HQ . He went over the defensive layout at Kātukurunda with Brigadier Lloyd and Lt. Col White, and Brigadier Lloyd explained the instructions given to COs of 2/2 and 2/3 Bns for recce of Zones A and B .

Brigadier Lloyd, accompanied by Lt. Col. O' Connell and Lieut Gordon, made a recce of the area to select defensive pl positions which 2/1 Fd Regt are to partly dig . An officer from 2/2 and 2/3 Bns will be supplied to assist the Regt on the siting of these positions , which run west from GURUGODA along the PANADURA -INGIRIYA rd through HORANA to BANDARAGAMA, thence south west to MAHAGONADUWA (792360) .

8 252 Pdrs less limbers have been loaned to Brigade pending the arrival of 2/1 Fd Regt's guns . These have been placed in the Katukurunda area, and 52 Bty less one Tp is to be returned to 17 Aust Inf Bde .

Capt McIntosh and Capt Cogswell visited the Div S.O. in response to a request for this Bde to supply a further 25 3-ton trucks, and were successful in having 16 trucks on loan to Div returned for the use of the Brigade instead . The difficulty of carrying out the role of the Brigade with such shortage of transport had been acute, and these extra vehicles will be of assistance .

Today a rumour was circulating around Horana that all natives living in an area 6 miles on either side of the main road were to evacuate . This rumour was checked by the local police and found to have no foundation

WAR DIARY

HORANA

11 Apr 42

Brigadier Lloyd and Lieut. Col. O'Connell of 2/1 Fd Regt carried out a further recce of the defensive position in HORANA area .

Infantry officers (Capt. Williams of 2/3 Bn, Lieut. Tanner of 2/2 Bn) accompanied officers of 2/1 Fd Regt to advise layout of section posts in defensive areas as previously reced by the Commander .

Civilian unrest, due to a letter supposedly circulated by military authority and containing details of instructions issued to troops in relationship to the treatment of civilians, was satisfactorily dealt with by Brigadier Lloyd in conjunction with Inspector W. Perera of Horana Police . The rumours were spread by a youth who misinterpreted the contents of the letter.

WAR DIARY

HORANA

12 Apr 42

Brigadier Lloyd and Major Dawson attended Church Parade at 2/2 Aust Inf Bn in the morning.

Capt. Macintosh went to Colombo to supervise transport unloading . Brigadier Lloyd and Major Dawson also visited transport personnel still aboard the "Uffington Court ". They then proceeded to HQ AIF, where the Comd discussed the position with the GOC .

WAR DIARY

HORANA

13 Apr 42

Brigadier Lloyd and Major Dawson flew over Horana and Katukurunda areas, and were satisfactorily impressed with the camp camouflage. The defences at Katukurunda are well concealed and at 500 feet only one or two temporary tents could be seen. At Horana the thick trees completely concealed all trace of tents and troops at 600 feet.

In the afternoon Comd and B.M. visited Katukurunda area and inspected the progress of defences around the aerodrome, the new battle HQ and road blocks. Progress has been very good and the programme of work will be finished by Wednesday, when training in forest warfare will be commenced by 2/1 Bn.

Capt. Mackinnon, I.O. and I. Sgt visited Ratnapura area in the afternoon. A and C Coys of 2/3 Bn have moved into that area.

Fifth Column activity is suspected - the bowser at Horana was found to contain water and sand. A guard was placed over the petrol point.

In the evening, officers of Bde HQ mess entertained the Comd at Horana Rest House on the occasion of his birthday.

WAR DIARY

HORANA

14 Apr 42

Brigadier Lloyd and Major Dawson visited 2/2 Bn defensive zone, inspecting the river crossings and bridges on the coast south to Bentota.

Capt Darcey went to Katukurunda with Capt Tudehope (OC 45 LAD) to inspect carriers. He discussed administrative matters with Bn HQ.

WAR DIARY

HORANA

15 Apr 42

Capt Darcey and Lieut Gordon proceeded to Ratmalana for a recce flight over the Brigade area . The flight was postponed owing to operations against supposed enemy shipping reported 45 miles east of Little Basses .

During the afternoon the Assistant Government Agent visited this HQ .

Brigadier Lloyd and Capt Mackinnon visited 2/1 Fd Amb and AASC .

Owing to information received by Security Officer 16 Aust Inf Bde (Lieut Bosgard), a Fifth Columnist was arrested at Panadura today .

WAR DIARY

HORANA

16 Apr 42

5 Brigadier Lloyd, I.O., L.O., and B.M.(L) of Brigade accompanied by Lt. Col. Stevenson, Adjt and I.O. of 2/3 Aust Inf Bn visited the Ratnapura area and inspected the layout of defensive positions prepared by C Coy at Palmgarden area and A Coy at Pelmadulla .

Capt Darcey visited AIF HQ at Bolombo on administrative matters .

WAR DIARY

HORANA

17 Apr 42

A Comds Conference was held at this HQ at 0900 hrs. A copy of the notes is included in the appendices .

Lt. Col. Brown and Major Harrison (AQMG and DAQMG, Ceylon Command) visited this HQ with the object of making contact with the Brigade and discussing A and Q problems .

Brigadier Lloyd; Major Dawson and Lieut Gordon visited Labugama - the Colombo Water Supply reservoir - and it was ascertained that there was no military guard at this point .

WAR DIARY

HORANA

18 Apr 42

Brigadier Lloyd and Lieut Gordon visited all road blocks in the Horana area, and were impressed by the amount of work done . The Commander expressed his intention to try out closing of roads at an early date, in order to gain information as to the time taken to carry out this operation .

Col. Spiers, the ADMS, and the DADMS, Major Selby, visited this HQ to discuss medical problems of the Bde group .

Brigadier Lloyd and Major Dawson visited Kalutara area in the afternoon to inspect the work done by a Coy of 2/2 Bn in a defensive area . Most of the section positions had been dug and portion of the trees on the island had been felled .

WAR DIARY

HORANA

19 Apr 42

Brigadier Lloyd and Major Dawson visited 2/1 Fd Coy to inspect a pillbox which will become standard throughout the Brigade . The pillbox has been made entirely from local material .

Brigadier Lloyd, Lt. Col O'Connell and Lieut Gordon inspected defensive zones in Horana area . Certain modifications were suggested in the defensive layout, to be put in to effect forthwith .

Capt. Darcey and Lieut Bosgard flew over the area and reported camouflage to be extremely effective in the rubber trees, but tents and uncamouflaged vehicles stood out plainly at 500 feet in coconut groves . Instructions were issued to units in these areas to improve their camouflaging .

Brigadier Lloyd and Major Dawson visited 12 AGH at Colombo .

WAR DIARY

HORANA

20 Apr 42

A Bomb Recce Course was commenced in this area under Captain Martin, R.E.

Present at a Comds Conference were Brigadier Lloyd, Major Dawson, Lt Col White, Lt Col Edgar and Lt Cols Stevenson and O'Connell . This conference was called so that the Comd could discuss with COs the Notes on Warfare in Malaya, with a view to incorporating ideas arising from the discussions in future training .

Brigadier Lloyd and Major Dawson visited HQ AIF where Comd discussed a number of points with the GOC, the main ones being guards for Vulnerable Points, extra TSMG for carriers, and ammunition dumps .

The CRE, Col Lucas, called on the Comd to say farewell, as he has been given an appointment in Australia. Major McDonald, OC 2/1 Fd Coy has been appointed as the new CRE .

We were advised verbally by Major McDonald that 2/1 Fd Coy has passed from under command of this Brigade and is now attached as support .

WAR DIARY

HORANA

21 Apr 42

Brigadier Lloyd, Lt Col Edgar, Capt Dunlop, and I.O.'s from Bde and 2/2 Bn visited defensive areas of 2/2 Bn. Satisfaction was expressed by the Comd at the work being done.

Today a trial was made by 2" and 3" mortar (HE and smoke) and 68 Grenade on water at Anguruwatota. The effect in most cases was extremely good; the detonating and fragmentation of HE bombs was very effective, while 3" smoke was most satisfactory; the 2" smoke bomb sank and was completely ineffective.

The 68 Grenade was not fully tested and further trials will be carried out later.

The Comd called on the CRE and discussed general engineering questions with him.

WAR DIARY

HORANA

22 Apr 42

Brigadier Lloyd, Major Dawson and OC 2/1 Fd Coy visited to Katukurunda to discuss huttage and general engineering problems with Lt Col White .

Rain commenced to fall heavily today, and local people believed it to be the "little" rain which heralds the SW Monsoon . Most of the tentage has now arrived, so that units are fairly well covered .

WAR DIARY

HORANA

23 Apr 42

Lieuts Minor and Johnson and Sjt McManus of the CPRC reported at Bde as interpreters . Lieut Minor is attached to this HQ, Lieut Johnson to 2/2 Bn and Sgt McManus to the 2/1 Fd Regt . Civilian interpreters who had been temporarily engaged were dismissed .

Lieut Gordon, Lieut Minor and I. Sgt visited Navagala to inspect a site for an aerodrome .

The Kalu Ganga was reported to be rising in flood at Ratnapura, and the flood is likely to spread to Kalutara. Warning was sent to all units .

Major Hovendene of the ACF called at this HQ .

WAR DIARY

HORANA

24 Apr 42

Flood reports of the Kalu Ganga rising in the Ratnapura area continue to come in . Precautionary measures have been taken to safeguard troops working in areas liable to flood; transport is standing by to withdraw troops working in danger areas, and reserve rations are held by coys engaged in such tasks in case they should be cut off from Bde supplies .

Brigadier Lloyd and Major Dawson visited Matugama to inspect the bomb proof screen which is being built for attachment to all carriers . This appears to be a very effective method of keeping any non percussion type of grenade from being thrown into a carrier. It proved very strong when being driven through tree foliage .

WAR DIARY

HORANA

25 Apr 42

Brigadier Lloyd, Major Dawson and Capt Tribolet set off to Kurunegala for a recce of this area in the event of the Brigade having to move north out of the wet SW Province . Here 99 Ind Inf Bde was contacted, and Brigadier Palin supplied the recce party with official information about the area .

A 101 set was taken in the Sig Truck and R9 W/T signals were obtained at a distance of 60 miles, using sky aerial set at same bearing as home station .

Anzac Day was celebrated throughout the Brigade Group by a short but impressive ceremony .

Mail received today throughout the Brigade Group was the first for 2 1/2 months

WAR DIARY

HORANA

26 Apr 42

Brigadier Lloyd, accompanied by Capt Mackinnon, recced a site for a miniature rifle range in this area .

The weather remains inclement .

WAR DIARY

HORANA

27 Apr 42

Lt.Cols Stevenson and Edgar visited Bde and went through the latest progress made with their outlying defences with the Comd . Lt. Col. Fisher also called and discussed with the Comd precautions to be taken against mosquitoes in this area .

The Comd and Lieut Murray visited Colombo to attend the opening of the new ACF building .

WAR DIARY

HORANA

28 Apr 42

Lieut Gordon visited Matugama *on Security Matters.*

Brigadier Lloyd and Major Dawson inspected site for road block EAST of AASC lines, and also the ammunition dump in the AASC lines .

WAR DIARY

HORANA

29 Apr 42

Brigadier Lloyd, Major Dawson and Lieut Gordon inspected 2/3 Bn defensive positions at Rakwana and Godakewela . The friendly attitude of the people in this area was most marked .

WAR DIARY

HORANA

30 Apr 42

Brigadier Lloyd and Major Dawson visited the miniature rifle range at Katuhena Estate .

In the afternoon the Comd and Capt Mackinnon visited the Katukurunda area and inspected 2/1 Bn, A Coy 2/1 Fd Amb, 51 Bty 2/1 Aust Fd Regt, and the troops of the A/Tk Regt in that area . They then proceeded to Beruwala, where a coy of the 2/1 Bn had completed practice landings using catamarans .

The DAQMG (Major MacKenzie) called at this HQ to discuss Q matters throughout the Bde Gp .

WAR DIARY

HORANA

Appendices, Apr 42

- | | | |
|----------|---|-----------------------------------|
| Appendix | A | Notes on COs Conference 1 Apr 42 |
| | B | Routine Orders 4 Apr 42 |
| | C | Notes on COs Conference 17 Apr 42 |
| | D | do 20 " |
| | E | 16 Aust Inf Bde Op. Instn. No 1 . |

War diary APPX 'A'

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

Ref File 0/2/121

S E C R E T.

Headquarters,
16 Aust Inf Bde Gp.

1 Apr 42.

NOTES ON COMD'S CONFERENCE.

PRESENT: Lt-Cols White, Edgar, Stevenson, O'Connell, Haymen, Fisher, Majors MacDonald, Weston, English, Reeve, Capt Cogswell, Comd, B.M., B.M.(L), S.C., L.Os, O.Cs J Sec Sigs, 45 Aust LAD, 7 Pl Aust HQ Gd Bn.

1. TRAINING

- (a) Training must be pushed on as fast as possible based on principles laid down at previous conference. Two nights' training must be carried out each week. On the days on which night training will be carried out, all ranks will rest from lunch until 1600 hrs. Syllabus of training up to 1 Apr 42 will be submitted by 3 Apr 42.
- (b) Pls or equivalent units when moving along roads must move staggered in single file.

2. DEFENCES

- (a) Push on with perimeter defences as fast as possible.
- (b) Units to practise "stand to" so that all ranks may be familiar with their positions in case of emergency.

3. DRESS. & DISCIPLINE

- (a) Dress and turnout of personnel in the area is still most unsatisfactory and is creating a very bad impression on the local inhabitants. The practice of wearing the shirt outside the shorts will cease immediately. Coloured handkerchiefs will NOT be worn around the neck.
- (b) Dress for parades will be Drill Order and this will be rigidly enforced.
- (c) It is again repeated that all towns and villages are out of bounds. Personnel have been seen wandering two and three miles from the camp.
- (d) Tattoo roll calls will be held in all units.
- (e) Duty Officers will be on duty at unit HQ at all times.

4. LEAVE.

- (a) Subject to approval by GOC, units may send 10% of personnel on controlled leave to COLOMBO. All ranks will be inspected for turnout. The Bde Amenities officer will co-ordinate train arrangements. Units will be advised when the leave will commence.
- (b) A piquet will be provided from the leave personnel.

5. TRAFFIC.

- (a) Impress on drivers the necessity for care in driving on the

narrow roads and remind all ranks that vehicles drive on the left of the road in CEYLON.

- (b) A sketch of the area showing **Traffic Circuit** will be issued from Bde HQ later.

6. SURPLUS BAGGAGE.

The policy is to be defined by Div HQ. Units will be advised later.

7. REINFORCEMENTS.

To be absorbed into sections in inf and equivalent formations in other units.

8. INTERPRETERS.

Matter in hand at Bde HQ. Units will be advised when interpreters are available. 2/1 Aust Inf Bn may make their own arrangements under advice to Bde HQ.

9. MEDICAL, HEALTH & HYGIENE

- (a) Convalescent Depots will be established in conjunction with hospitals.
- (b) Latrines will be clearly defined and indiscriminate use of other areas will be treated as an offence.
- (c) Exercise care in selection of ablution areas.

10. MILITARY AREA*

- (a) HORANA will be declared a Military Area and natives working on the rubber estate will be issued with a pass. Co-operation between units and the conductors and overseers on the estates will be necessary to facilitate smooth working of the pass system.

11. GENERAL

- (a) Units will co-operate with Engineers for building passing places on existing roads and provide working parties as required.
- (b) GOC in C will visit area possibly on 4 Apr 42. No special arrangements are to be made.
- (c) The normal routine of signing of correspondence to Bde HQ will be adhered to.
- (d) Conservancy arrangements still under discussion. Units will be advised further in due course.

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

DISTRIBUTION:

List : B.

War Diary

APPX 'B'

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER J.E. LLOYD - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED

No. 2

Part 1

4 April 1942

1. HQ AIF (CEYLON) ROUTINE ORDERS

HQ AIF (CEYLON) Routine Orders No. 1 of 2 Apr 42 by Major-General A.J. Boase have been issued to units.

2. CONTROLLED STORES

(a) The following items are controlled stores :-

- (i) Barbed Wire.
- (ii) A/Tk Mines.
- (iii) Anti-Personnel Mines.
- (iv) Explosives.

(b) Demands for the above will be submitted to HQ AIF (CEYLON) through this HQ.

(c) Demands will be accompanied by particulars of quantities required and, in appropriate cases, purpose for which required.

3. DUTY OFFICER

All units with telephone communication will have an officer on duty at all times.

4. BATHING

Bathing or washing in Paddy Fields will cease forthwith.

5. CENSORSHIP - ESCAPE STORIES

1. A telegram from G.H.Q. India states that publication of escape stories has been found to prejudice chances of future escapers. All escapers will be warned not to give stories to Press or to radio representatives.

2. Above will be published in unit orders immediately and severe disciplinary action should be taken in any case of disclosure of means of escape subsequent to such publication.

6. PRICES OF FRUITS, VEGETABLES, ETC

The following is a guide to the current prices of fruits, vegetables, etc in HORANA :-

Cocoanuts,	each	5	-	8	Cents
King Cocoanuts Kurumba	"	8	-	12	"
Ordinary Cocoanuts Kurumba	"	5	-	10	"
Pineapples - Mauritius	"	10	-	25	"
- Rock (Gal Annasi)	"	8	-	15	"
- Kew Pine (large)	"	25	-	50	"
Oranges	"	10	-	25	"
Slime Apple (Beli)	"	3	-	8	"
Wood Apple (Divul)	"	3	-	5	"
Plantains (Sour)	"	1	-	2	"
" (Kolikuttu)	"	4	-	5	"
Mangoes - Jaffna	"	3	-	4	"
" - Kohu Amba	"	1	-	2	"
" - Dampana (small fruit)	"		-	1	"
Pomegranate	"	15	-	30	"

P.T.O.

Papaw	Each	12	-	20	Cents
Guava	"	1	-	2	"
Bullock's Heart -(Weli Auoda)	"	3	-	6	"
Jambola	"	10	-	20	"
Lovi	100	10	-	20	"
Uguressa	100	20	-	25	"
Durian	Each	50	-	75	"
Limes	"	1	-	2	"
Kaju nuts (cleaned)	100	20	-	25	"
Cucumber	Each	5	-	10	"
Lady's Fingers (Bandakka)	100	50	-	75	"
Tomatoes (large)	1 lb	16	-	20	"
Cabbage	Each	25	-	75	"
Eggs	"	7	-	10	"
Cocoanut oil	1 bottle	28	-	30	"
Ghee (buffaloe)	"	1/50-	1/75	Rs	
Kitul jaggery	1 bundle	8	-	10	Cents

7. LOSSES

(a) All unit equipment and personal equipment unclaimed at units will be forwarded to this HQ where arrangements for disposal will be made.

(b) Units will check rifle numbers and advise this HQ by 1200 hrs, 6 Mar 42 if the following rifles are held :-

Rifle No. 83677
 " " 46475

Nil returns are required.

H. Ducey Capt
 Major.
 B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde.
 A.O.J.

DISTRIBUTION:

List A.

NOTICES

LOST: Black kit bag, Universal, belonging to Major C.D. Donald,
 2/1 Aust Fd Amb. Marked as follows :-
 VX 15914 Serial No. 55405
 Colour bars - brown grey brown.
 Last seen when loaded on to HT 14.

LOST: 1 suitcase belonging to Lt-Col C.R.V. EDGAR, 2/2 Aust Inf Bn
 1 suitcase belonging to Capt Cogswell, No 1 Coy, AASC.

The following unclaimed items are held at this HQ :-

- 1 Upper and 1 Lower dentures - found on A Deck after Sports Meeting.
- 1 Upper denture wrapped in khaki handkerchief.
- 1 brown leather money belt with collection of coins. Has a luggage label bearing the name "S. Barnes" in one pocket.
- 1 brown leather money belt with amounts of money in 3 coinages.

17 Apr 42.

NOTES ON COMDS CONFERENCE 17 APR 42

Comd

Present : ^{Comd} B.M. B.M. (L), S.C. O.C. "J" Sec Sigs, T.O., 4 L.Os,
Lt-Cols Stevenson, Edgar, White, Hayman, Fisher, O'Connell,
Major Macdonald, Westland, Capt Cogswell.

1. TRAINING:

- (a) Notes on Training in Malaya. Units to pay particular attention to paras enumerated by Comd and to conduct experiments with sections split into 2 or 3 groups as mentioned in the notes.
- (b) Estimated date of completion of digging of present defensive works required to reach this HQ by 0900 hrs on 20 Apr 42.
- (c) A bicycle pl is to be organised in each Bn using bicycles on issue.
- (d) May is the wet month for this area to the coast and also to RNF.

2. TRANSPORT:

- (a) Speed of vehicles excessive. Unit T.O.'s will lecture M/T and M/C personnel on road discipline, speeds etc.
- (b) P.O.L. All vehicles will be filled each night.
- (c) Personnel in charge of vehicles will check petrol when it is being issued for presence of water.
- (d) Fd Regt to report on the traffic position on the causeway when a Bty movement takes place.
- (e) 3-ton Lorries will NOT use ferries except under extreme emergency.

3. DEFENCES: Return required by 0900 hrs each Saturday of progress of defence works showing details for :-

- (1) Camp perimeter defences.
- (2) Outside localities.
- (3) Defence of road blocks.

4. VULNERABLE POINTS: Units will be prepared to provide guards for V.Ps. Further details will be forwarded.5. DRESS: Dress is better but there is still room for improvement. Men have been seen in villages not wearing shirts. Steps will be taken by all units to prevent this practice.6. "STAND-TO": The regular "stand-to" has been lifted but "stand-to" will be carried out on each Monday, Wednesday and Friday from ½ hour prior to sunset to ½ hour after dark. This will be strictly adhered to.7. SECURITY: Personnel are not security minded and instances have occurred of troops giving their addresses and unit designations to natives and firms for posting.8. INTERPRETERS: It has been advised that members of the C.P.F.C. will be made available as interpreters when it is hoped to dispense with civilian interpreters.

GENERAL:

Detention Barracks. Awaiting finalization of building site.

Coir Fibre. To be stowed for time being under unit arrangements.

Carriers. Units concerned will be advised when sample protective frame against grenades is completed and unit representatives will make an inspection.

Sweaters. Units will make their own arrangements to ^{recover} ~~obtain~~ sweaters from A.I.F. Kit Store.

Hutments. According to the latest information from the CRE huts will be built for all troops based on unit strengths.

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

was Dearly

APPX "D"

SECRET.

Headquarters
16 Aust Inf Bde.

NOTES ON COMDS CONFERENCE 20 APR 42.

PRESENT : Comd, Lt-Col White, Lt-Col Edgar, Lt-Col Stevenson,
Lt-Col O'Connell and B.M.

1. The following principles have been adopted for trial during tng throughout the Bde Gp.
Suggested amendments and improvements will be forwarded to Bde H.Q. as the points are brought out in tng.

2. TPT.

- (a) Recognition of vehs - experiments will be carried out with :-
(i) A coloured flag or standard to be supported on comd from hood to headlamp.
(ii) Some form of sticker on windscreen.
- (b) Recce suitable passing points on rds for vehs during tactical moves.
- (c) Embussing and debussing practice with 3 tonners experiment being carried out with small ladder for each veh for embussing.
- (d) All or any combination of the following for rd clearing parties.
(i) Bicycles.
(ii) M.C's.
(iii) Carriers.
- (e) Experiment with using only 2 vehs per coy for conveyance of amm and heavy stores, remainder of tpt with Bn suitably protected in rear.
- (f) Consider use of cow carts for tracks on which vehs cannot travel, also bullocks for pack loads.
- (g) Test loads on poles carried by men, short poles best to eliminate swing.
- (h) Extra bicycles will be supplied for mounting two pls of 27 men. Practices will be carried out as opposing pls and clearing rds.

3. A.A.

- (a) Practice use of A.A. LMG without motley mounting by using rope sling on trees, etc.
- (b) Practice personnel in rear of carriers spotting men previously placed in trees overhead. Small flour bags could be used as bombs.

4.

- (a) Coys will work up to exercises of 3 days out but Units must be able to locate coys if required.
- (b) When enemy is used in exercises full strength opposition to be employed with umpires down to secs. This may be achieved by using 2 I/C of coys, pls and secs to comd and comds as umpires, preferably umpiring other than their own comd.
- (c) Practice will be carried out in village fighting, an empty village may be found in the reservoir area.

- 4.
- (d) Divided secs in the attack will be extensively practiced.
 - (e) Greater speed should be obtained in bringing 2" and 3" Mortars into action in this type of country - this needs special attention.
 - (f) Sigs should exercise more extensively with visual methods as this means seems a likely one owing to the distances exhausting normal wire carried.
 - (g) A stick and length of rope should be carried by all ~~personnel~~ ^{all} moving at night. The stick to test ground is of assistance in preventing falls.
 - (h) Every opportunity should be taken to teach personnel first aid as it may not be possible to get stretcher bearer aid so readily in this type of country.

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

Distribution :-

2/1 Aust Fd Regt.
2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
2/2 Aust Inf Bn.
2/3 Aust Inf Bn.
War Diary (2)
File.

SECRET

Copy No. 5

22 Apr 42.

16 AUST INF BDE OPERATION INSTRUCTION No. 1

To Lt-Col T.W. WHITE, Comd 2/1 AUST INF BN

Ref Map CEYLON 4 miles to 1 inch

1. INFORMATION

- (a) Recent information indicates that the Japanese could launch an attack on CEYLON with a force of up to four divs.
- (b) Landings are possible almost anywhere on the coast, but the first phase of an enemy operation is likely to be an attack on suitable landing grounds.
- (c) 16 Aust Inf Bde Gp less KTR troops are located in HORANA area with a role of mobile reserve.
- (d) Defensive positions are being prepared by personnel of 16 Aust Inf Bde at locations shown at Appx 'A'. These will NOT necessarily all be occupied.

2. TPS

The following tps are under your comd and/or in support :

- (a) Under comd 2/1 Aust Inf Bn
 51 Bty, RAA
 D Tp 1 Aust A Tk Bty
 Tp Lt AA
 Det Pro, 6 Aust Div
- (b) In support One Sec, 2/1 Aust Fd Coy, RAE
 Light Sec, 2/1 Aust Fd Amb (comes under comd in the event of hostilities)

3. ROLE

- (a) You will defend KTR aerodrome and deny to the enemy the use of same.
- (b) In the event of an enemy attack being launched against the aerodrome either from sea, land or air, or any combination of the three, you will be responsible to resist such attack/s.
- (c) Your responsibility for Beach defence will extend from (all incl) KALUTARA to BENTOTA and you will make necessary recce and prepare suitable positions, having special regard for the coast line vicinity BERUWALA, which is recorded as a place especially suitable for landing craft at all times of the year. The approaches from this and other beach areas should be taken into your considerations.
- (d) In the event of threat of a sea borne landing it will be necessary to occupy prepared positions and establish suitable mobile patrols along the coast.
- (e) For the above purpose you will keep two Coys Inf together with what other tps or attachment you consider necessary mobile. This force will comprise two self contained bodies and if the necessity arises it may prove to you expedient to commit the whole for Beach defence.

- (f) The remainder of your force will be used from prepared positions in vicinity aerodrome for the immediate defence of the aerodrome and will have available within each locality a suitable reserve for immediate counter-attack - which will necessarily be limited as to the distance of pursuit of the enemy - however such distances can only be determined by you and your subordinate comds on the spot, having regard to the possibility of being defeated in detail should they be committed too far out from your existing F D L's.
- (g) You will arrange for the registration of SOS tasks by arty as early as possible after consultation with Comd RAF and civil authorities and notify this HQ date and time that this will be carried out.

4. DEMOLITIONS

You may prepare places for demolition but no charges are to be inserted without reference to this HQ. Necessary explosives will be made up and held ready for this purpose. Such places for demolition will be recorded and advised to this HQ.

5. P O L

You will make suitable dumps of these reserve materials so as to facilitate distribution if it is considered necessary.

6. RESERVES OF AMN RATIONS & WATER

These reserves will be suitably placed and stored to enable sub-units to be self contained.

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

ACK.

Issued through

Signed at¹⁴⁰⁰hrs.

Copy, less appendix, for information to:

Lt-Col O'Connell *2/1 Aust Inf Regt*
HQ AIF (CEYLON) *with here attached*
17 Aust Inf Bde.

War Diary

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

S E C R E T

Copy No. 6

22 Apr 42.

16 AUST INF BDE OPERATION INSTRUCTION No. 1

To Lt-Col T.W. WHITE, Comd 2/1 AUST INF BN

Ref Map CEYLON 4 miles to 1 inch

1. INFORMATION

- (a) Recent information indicates that the Japanese could launch an attack on CEYLON with a force of up to four divs.
- (b) Landings are possible almost anywhere on the coast, but the first phase of an enemy operation is likely to be an attack on suitable landing grounds.
- (c) 16 Aust Inf Bde Gp less KTR troops are located in HORANA area with a role of mobile reserve.
- (d) Defensive positions are being prepared by personnel of 16 Aust Inf Bde at locations shown at Appx 'A'. These will NOT necessarily all be occupied.

2. TPS

The following tps are under your comd and/or in support :

- (a) Under comd
2/1 Aust Inf Bn
51 Bty, RAA
D Tp 1 Aust A Tk Bty
Tp Lt AA
Det Pro, 6 Aust Div
- (b) In support
One Sec, 2/1 Aust Fd Coy, RAE
Light Sec, 2/1 Aust Fd Amb (comes under comd in the event of hostilities)

3. ROLE

- (a) You will defend KTR aerodrome and deny to the enemy the use of same.
- (b) In the event of an enemy attack being launched against the aerodrome either from sea, land or air, or any combination of the three, you will be responsible to resist such attack/s.
- (c) Your responsibility for Beach defence will extend from (all incl) KALUTARA to BENTOTA and you will make necessary recce and prepare suitable positions, having special regard for the coast line vicinity BERUWALA, which is recorded as a place especially suitable for landing craft at all times of the year. The approaches from this and other beach areas should be taken into your considerations.
- (d) In the event of threat of a sea borne landing it will be necessary to occupy prepared positions and establish suitable mobile patrols along the coast.
- (e) For the above purpose you will keep two Coys Inf together with what other tps or attachment you consider necessary mobile. This force will comprise two self contained bodies and if the necessity arises it may prove to you expedient to commit the whole for Beach Defence.

(f) The remainder of your force will be used from prepared positions in vicinity aerodrome for the immediate defence of the aerodrome and will have available within each locality a suitable reserve for immediate counter-attack - which will necessarily be limited as to the distance of pursuit of the enemy - however such distances can only be determined by you and your subordinate comds on the spot, having regard to the possibility of being defeated in detail should they be committed too far out from your existing F D L's.

(g) You will arrange for the registration of SOS tasks by arty as early as possible after consultation with Comd RAF and civil authorities and notify this HQ date and time that this will be carried out.

4. DEMOLITIONS

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5. P O L

You will make suitable dumps of these reserve materials so as to facilitate distribution if it is considered necessary.

6. RESERVES OF AMN RATIONS & WATER

These reserves will be suitably placed and stored to enable sub-units to be self contained.

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

ACK.

Issued through

Signed at1400.....hrs.

Copy, less appendix, for information to:

Lt-Col O'Connell 2/1 Aust - Fd Regt -
HQ AIF (CEYLON) with trace attached
17 Aust Inf Bde.

War Diary

16 Aust Inf Bde.
~~16 Aust Inf Bde.~~

2/2 Aust Inf Bn
~~30 Apr 42.~~

APR 42

INFORMATION FOR AUSTRALIA.

From training carried out in CEYLON up to the present, the following information is passed which may be of use to tps training in Australia for warfare in country comparable to South West Ceylon, very close, wet and humid. The matter contained under the various headings is not thought to be comprehensive, as many things are still in the experimental stage.

1. TRAINING.

(a) Physical fitness becomes more essential than ever in humid climate. Fighting in such climate is ~~likely to be~~ more strenuous than, *in dry climates* for example, running 880 yds or rowing a mile, and must be systematically trained for. ~~along similar lines.~~ Long marches, running, P.T. & boxing are suggested and adm personnel should not be exempt.

(b) Bayonet Tng, vigorous, preferably over an obstacle course, is recommended, both for physical fitness and for raising morale and conserving amm. *through jungle*

(c) Load Carrying. *Personnel should be trained to carry all required equipment in close country in many cases this is the only way it will be available.*

(d) Sec. Tng. Apart from the outstanding ~~lessons~~ *feature* (covered in documents already issued by higher formation) of mobility and offensive

action, ~~the nature of~~ *in* close country & semi-jungle fighting, appears to

it is apparent ~~be~~ that the fight will be even more a section or group fight. It is suggested therefore, that even more time should be devoted to Sec Tng, particularly formations, practice of drills to be adopted in specific circumstances, signals, map reading, movement by night, patrolling, ~~and~~ scouting *sec.* and *group tng, where groups of two or three men work together.* *under sec. command.*

2. PREPARATIONS OF DEFENSIVE POSNS.

Where resort has to be made to defensive posns, (i.e. where mobility and/or offensive action is impossible) the following are practical notes :-

(a) Revetment, if in wet belt should be done as each section of trench is dug. The more rain, the more careful the revetment must be. Plaited palm leaves good for backing but not strong enough on their own. Split cocoanut and areka nut timber excellent for revetting.

Bambo though easy to get and easy to split proves not strong enough, twisting and buckling under pressure. Even if left unsplit bamboo is not satisfactory, needing more backing than the timber mentioned.

Horizontal revetment slabs with perpendicular stays appear preferable.

^B(c) Digging. If not possible to revet immediately, in sandy country dig trenches narrower than usual to allow for inevitable erosion.

^C(d) Recces of river banks. Where defences are sited on bridges or ferries, ^{recces} will probably disclose many tracks suitable for foot or even carrier patrols and will disclose many boats of all kinds, which must be taken into account in planning the defence.

3. BICYCLE PL OR COY.

A machine with strong but light frame is recommended, lighter than the regulation army bicycle and fitted with brackets for the carriage of weapons and with baskets at front or rear for carrying grenades, etc. A three wheeled machine, similar to that used for delivering parcels by civilian firms would help in transporting amm, mines, & grenades. *on rds and tracks.*

The following tactical handling of cycle tps is suggested :-

(a) Never less than three scouts - one to look ahead, one to each side.

(b) Normal movement 50 yds between Secs, two lengths between machines; Pl HQ between second and third secs as first sec will often be fully deployed as Scouts and link-men.

(c) 2" Mortar and EY rifle with third sec.

(d) Signals by hand, as for MT with others improvised.

(e) Waterbags on cross bar of machine as reserve supply.

(f) A stretcher can be mounted on three bicycles.

4. EQUIPMENT.

The following are recommended to increase ^{the fire power & equipment} ~~the hitting power~~ of the section and the group :-

(a) More automatic weapons, up to even two or three T.S.M.Gs per section. ^{are} is recommended for very close country only. *Why?*

GOC not in favour of this.

- (a) A wider issue of an improved percussion grenade.
- (b) Anti-personnel mines (for perimeter defence at night).
- (c) *A coil of damnest wire with ea vch to place around ^{veh.} harbours at night.*

The following miscellaneous items are also suggested :-

- (a) Tow rope, pick ^{and} shovel, at all times on all trucks.
- (b) ~~Gordage~~ ^{ropes} per section. *A good length of rope with ea sec*
- (c) ~~Insulation tape to make magneto and spark plugs water tight to each M/C.~~

(d) Increased scale of axes felling, and machetes, say 9 axes and 18 machetes per Coy. *(See Comd to carry machetes insted of bayonet, very useful in jungle country, bayonet of little use with us)*

5. CAMP ADMINISTRATION

The presence of heat, constant rain, white ants and mould raise new problems. *Equipment must be carefully watched and handled often.*

~~Local materials such as bamboo, timber, thatch and native bricks help but unfortunately cannot completely substitute for the above deficiencies.~~

~~Onions which form an important varient in taste especially in stews are difficult to obtain in quantities. Lime juice might ^{omit} also be made a regular and frequent issue.~~

Lessons at a cooking school could also be given ⁱⁿ for the use of local native foods which, when properly prepared, are very palatable and are available in large quantities. This especially applies to yams, ~~jak fruit, bread fruit, big beans, paddy and plantains.~~

HYGIENE. Pits for excreta tend to get flooded unless sited with foresight and it is advisable to prepare several alternative methods of disposal.

Wet kitchen refuse should be collected in drums - if available - and carted away; otherwise it must be buried, but again all rubbish pits fill readily and a high dry site should be selected even if this involves carrying the rubbish some distance. Nearby pits make the whole camp area foul very quickly.

~~Urinals present no problems and the usual hole filled with stones and if possible with a tin funnel are very good as the constant flushing by rain keeps them clean.~~

Rubbish must be quickly covered on hot dry days and flies soon appear and breed quickly. Special attention must be paid to raw meat scraps as these decompose very quickly.

an empty 40 gal drum or

Incinerators near every kitchen are essential and ⁴ sheets of iron and some bars should be made available for this purpose on a scale of 5 per unit. Normally these are easy to obtain but not in this country where such materials are scarce.

Drums to contain wet refuse are essential ^{but} and are very difficult to obtain locally.

MOSQUITOES. The slit trenches and various pits which soon appear round a camp soon contain pools of water where mosquitoes readily breed. Extra and adequate supplies of kerosene or a substitute mixture are essential.

DRYING ROOMS. Where clothes have to be washed daily owing to constant sweating, it is essential to have a drying room per Coy in a standing camp, otherwise clothing, blankets etc., may well remain wet preventing the men from keeping their clothing and bedding clean.

MESSING HUTS. Are necessary ^{especially} in rainy season.

AMENITIES. Possibilities are very limited but the following can be arranged :-

- (1) ^{Palm} Cadjan hut as a recreation room.
- (2) Wireless set and amplifier *for news*.
- (3) Canteen with plenty of fruit for sale.
- (4) Laundry service.
- (5) Swimming parades.
- (6) Publication of series of notes on local people - customs etc.

GENERAL

All the above are of course only available in camps but they apply in principle to troops bivouaced in any area for more than a few days. The use of bamboo and/or cadjan thatch lavished round living areas to provide racks and stands for messing gear, bedding and equipment enables currents of air to pass through and round which assists in hygiene and provides necessary shelter.

Inventors near every kitchen are essential and 4 sheets of iron
some bars should be made available for this purpose on a scale of
per unit. Normally these are easy to obtain but not in this country
where such materials are scarce.

Plans to construct latrines are essential and are very difficult to
obtain locally.

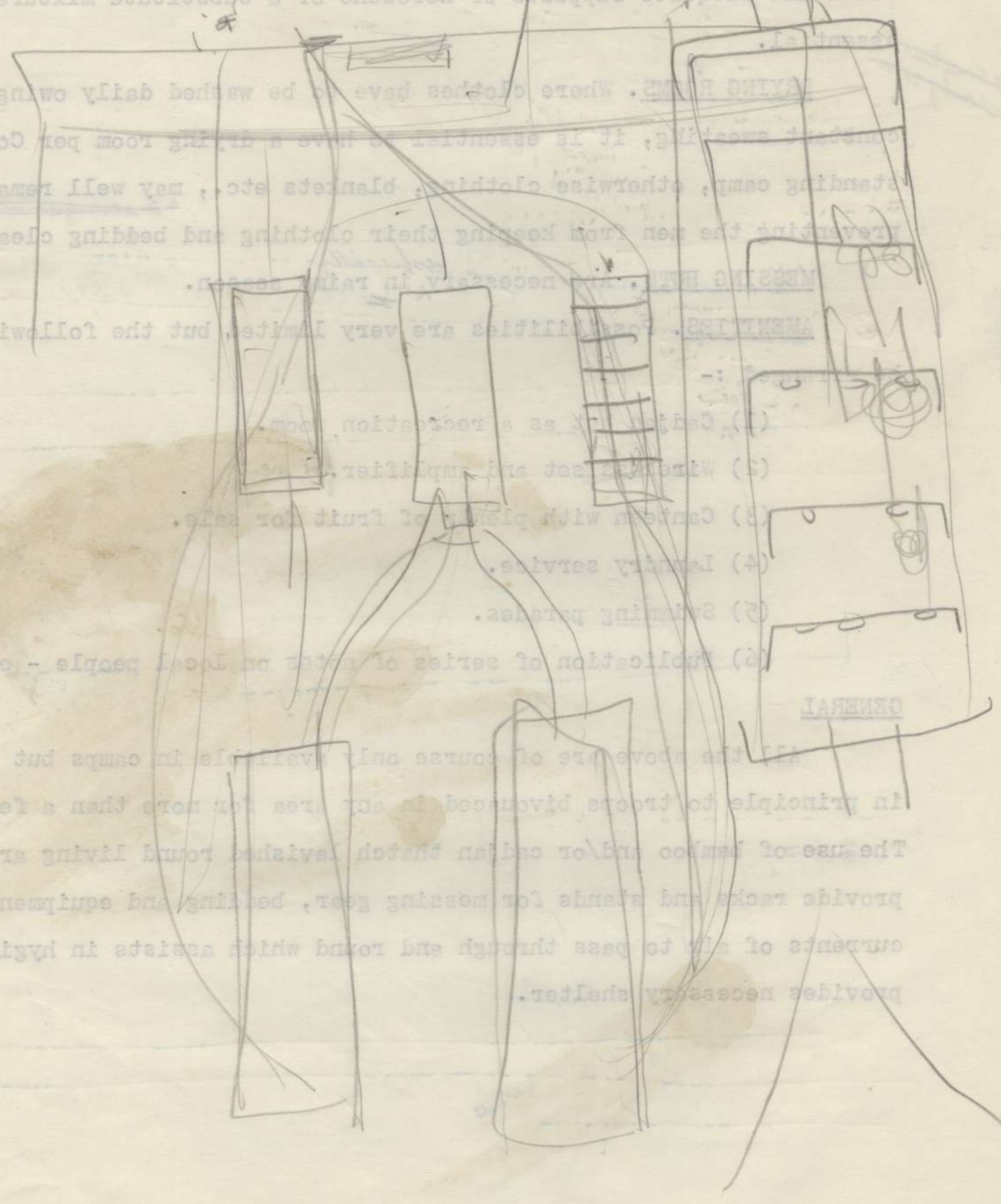
MOSQUITOES. The air trenches and various pits which soon appear
round a camp soon contain pools of water where mosquitoes readily breed.
Extra and separate supplies of kerosene or a substitute mixture are

essential.
WASHING ROOMS. Where clothes have to be washed daily owing to
constant wetting, it is essential to have a dining room per Coy in a
standing camp, otherwise clothing, blankets etc., may well remain wet
preventing the men from keeping their clothing and bedding clean.

MESSING HUTS. Messing huts are necessary in rainy season.
AMENITIES. Amenities are very limited but the following can

- (1) Captain's quarters as a recreation room.
- (2) Wireless set and amplifier.
- (3) Captain with glass of fruit for sale.
- (4) Laundry service.
- (5) Swimming paddles.
- (6) Application of series of water on local people - customs etc.

All the above are of course only available in camps but they apply
in principle to troops bivouaced in any area for more than a few days.
The use of bamboo and/or canvas frames lavished round living areas to
provide racks and stands for messing gear, bedding and equipment enables
currents of air to pass through and round which assists in hygiene and
provides necessary shelter.



Headquarters,
16 Aust Inf Bde.

15 May 42.

REPORT ON 2/3 BN EXERCISE

Handwritten notes:
Bn
Apr 2/3 Bn
made
with discuss
with Com below
16 May 42

1. The following remarks are based on observation of two three-day exercises between opposing coys conducted by the 2/3 Bn.

2. Contact with the enemy must be maintained, especially during the night. *Never lose sight of the enemy. Patrols are the answer.*

3. Where possible, small recce parties should be placed in rear and on the flanks of the enemy to inform of encircling movements. The parties should be made as mobile as the country permits. Every commander should constantly ask himself, by what force, by what route and in what time can he by-pass the enemy or be, himself, by-passed? I suggest he continually mark his map accordingly since this will do much to emphasise the advantages and disadvantages of any position in which he may be.

4. Enemy recce and night operations can be badly upset by changing one's dispositions after stand-down in the evening. Where this cannot be done with the force as a whole, it should certainly be done with such things as carrier and M.T. parks

Handwritten: This is the percentage drill

5. It follows from the above that continuous watch of the enemy's dispositions by standing patrols is much better than sending out patrols with a roving commission.

6. Carriers are very vulnerable to ambush and I doubt whether the screen devised will give any protection from other than time-delay missiles. Carriers should not drive past possible ambushes without a previous recce on foot. A mixed patrol of carriers and cyclists proved effective. The carriers and cyclists should be under a single commander who orders the carriers or cyclists to lead as the country warrants. The carriers can search the straight portion of the road and the cyclists can look after the curves and high banks, dismounting where necessary.

Handwritten: This is the way of the patrol

7. Cyclists proved very vulnerable to sniping and ambush, mainly because of bunching, keeping their eyes on the road and poor scouting. It is suggested that only one scout should be in view on any one section of road. On reaching a corner he should dismount and search the surroundings while the second cycles past to the next corner or danger spot and acts similarly. The remainder of the patrol should conform to the movements and signals of the rear scout.

Handwritten: Two

8. Local protection and necessary reconnaissance in this country places many demands on the commander. Extreme economy in manpower is essential. The minimum of men should be detailed to a task and NCOs should only be used where absolutely essential. Many tasks which in open country would be a normal section task can be adequately carried out by a group of two or three men.

9. Experiences with transport in Malaya are not generally applicable to plantation country in Ceylon. The large number of laterals confer a power of manoeuvre which makes transport very useful.

Handwritten: 1

10. Two or three men can impose much delay and casualty on a company advancing along a road in close country. This is especially the case if the fire positions are concealed, widely dispersed and have concealed lines of withdrawal. In many cases a man can fire from a number of positions without being seen moving from one to another and thus convey an appearance of strength.

Handwritten: Would do you this is too elementary to find to you?

Handwritten: 1

11. Many jungle paths exist which are not shown on maps. On one occasion an officer, who has learned a few Sinhalese phrases, was able to effect considerable surprise by engaging a local inhabitant to lead his platoon. These paths are very rough but are passable at about 2 m.p.h. on foot in the daylight. At night the paths are practically impassable except by torch light. Bundles of dry palm leaves make excellent torches. ✓

Foot

12. On several occasions parties with maps became 'bushed' in a very short time. Since there are few recognisable landmarks when once away from roads, practice in dead reckoning navigation as done in the desert is suggested.

Foot

13. G(R) personnel proved very useful for recce and harassing. They should be used as individuals or pairs. Where used as a section they were not very effective. Unless carefully controlled they prove a disruptive influence to both sides. They should not be used as R.E.'s since their equipment and training is not directed to large scale demolitions.

Foot

W. S. Attu
.....Capt.
L.O. 16 Aust Inf Bde.

W

? Where did this
detail come from?
Co's conference
ask Capt Fullon

Comm

Points noted in 2/3 Box exercises

1. Steel helmets need covering with hessian & camouflaging. instructions sent out to units.
2. Bicycles require dull spray painting. investigating
3. Some suitable method to carry rifles on cycle should be evolved. Taking this up with A A F W.
4. Serious bunching develops on tracks a lot of practice needed to ensure that sees work in groups.
5. Personnel should be trained when moving on tracks to look right & left. Suggest one method is the one taught in with age fighting - ie alternate man looks right the other left.

6 When halted personnel
look only ahead & not to
flanks

7 Information NOT passed back
suggest ~~to~~ that at least ~~2~~ 2
cycles be retained in Pl. HQ
& 2 in Coy HQ for communications
verbal

8 Greater use should be made of information
from villagers. This could be obtained
through a guide or ~~an~~ interpreter

Would you like an inst
out on these points?

16 AUST. INF. BDE

H. Q. 16 AUST. INF. BDE.

RECEIVED.

Date 20/4/42 Hrs 1330

No 8140

SEEN.

BRIGADIER

B. M.

S. C.

CAMP

INFORMATION FOR AUSTRALIA

From training carried out in CEYLON up to the present the following
 Endeavour is made in the following to provide information which will be of practical assistance to units training in Australia for warfare in country comparable to South West Ceylon, very close, wet, and humid. The matter contained under the various headings is not thought to be comprehensive, nor even this Unit's final recommendations, as obviously many things are still in the experimental stage.

1. TRAINING

(a) Physical fitness becomes more essential than ever in humid climate. Fighting in such climate is likely to be more strenuous than, for example, running ~~on~~ 880^x or rowing a mile, and must be systematically trained for along similar lines. Long Marches, running, P.T., boxing, are suggested; and Adm personnel should not be exempt.

(b) Bayonet Tng. vigorous, preferably over an obstacle course, is recommended; both for physical fitness and for raising morale and conserving amm.

(c) Sec. Tng. Apart from the outstanding lessons (covered in documents already issued by higher formation) of mobility and offensive action, the nature of close country, semi-jungle fighting appears to be that the fight will be even more a section or group fight. It is suggested therefore that even more time should be devoted to Sec Tng, particularly formations, practice of drills to be adopted in specific circumstances, signals, map reading, movement by night, patrolling, scouting.

Assault Course

2. PREPARATION OF DEFENSIVE POSNS

Where resort has to be made to defensive posns, (i.e. where mobility and/or offensive action is impossible), the following are practical notes :-

(a) Field of fire Thin out before final decision as to diggings; Recce very difficult until whole ground can be seen.

(b) Revetment, if in wet belt should be done. as each section of trench is dug. The more rain, the more careful the revetment must be. Plaited palm leaves good for backing, but not strong enough on their own. Split coconut and areka nut excellent for revetting. Bamboo though easy to get and easy to split proves not strong enough, twisting and buckling under pressure. Even if left unsplit bamboo is not satisfactory, needing more backing than the timber mentioned.

timber

Even

Horizontal revetment slabs, with perpendicular stays appear preferable (to the reverse method).

(c) Digging, If not possible to revet immediately; in sandy country dig trenches narrower than usual to allow for inevitable erosion.

(d) Recesses of river banks, where defences are sited on bridges or ferries, will probably disclose many tracks suitable for foot or even carrier patrols; and will disclose many boats of all kinds, which must be taken into account in planning the defence.

(It is not thought necessary under this heading to mention the necessity for adequate reserves, in every position, which is fully covered elsewhere.)

3. BICYCLE PL OR COY.

A machine with strong but light frame is recommended, lighter than the regulation army bicycle, and fitted with brackets for the carriage of weapons, and wire baskets at front or rear for carrying grenades etc.

A three wheeled machine, similar to that used for delivering parcels by civilian firms would help in transporting amm, mines, grenades, etc.

The following tactical handling of cycle this is suggested

This Unit's tag on bicycles is still very much experimental, but the following tentative suggestions are made :-

- (a) Never less than 3 scouts - one to look ahead, one to each side.
- (b) Normal movement 50yds between Secs, two lengths between machines; Pl. H.C. between second and third SECS as first Sec. will often be fully deployed as Scouts and link-men.
- (c) 2" Mortar and M.V. rifle with third Sec.
- (d) Signals by hand, as for M.T. with others improvised.
- (e) Water bags on cross bar of machine as reserve supply.
- (f) ~~Small box fwd of handlebars, over front wheel, for grenades for use in emergency.~~
- (g) A stretcher can be mounted on 3 bicycles.

4. EQUIPMENT

The following are recommended to increase the hitting power of the section and the group. :-

- (a) More automatic weapons, up to even 2 or 3 T.S.M.Gs per section, is recommended for very close country only.
- (b) A wider issue of an improved percussion grenade
- (c) ~~More~~ Anti personnel mines (for perimeter defence at night.)

The following miscellaneous items are also suggested

- (a) Tow rope, pick and shovel at all times on all trucks.
- (b) Cordage per section.
- (c) Insulation tape, to make magneto and spark plugs water tight, to each M/C.
- (d) Increased scale of axes felling, and machetes, say 9 axes and 18 machetes per Coy.

5. 108 R/T SETS

- (a) Rubber trees form a blanket so that reception is better from ground level to ground level than, e.g. ground to O.P. on hill or O.P. on tower.
- (b) Lack of W/T attachment a very serious drawback as experiments show W/T will get through even in close country where R/T is hopeless. On one test in rubber plantation, groupworking R/T was impossible over distances greater than 200/300yds.
- (c) The weight of the set is a disadvantage in humid climate.
- (d) Aerial bases particularly weak; the clamping screw is easily broken, rendering the aerial loose and thus preventing the set being carried on the back.
- (e) Continual heat and dampness have adverse effect on all types of cells, which tend to expand, causing acid to run.

6. CAMP ADMINISTRATION

The presence of heat, constant rain, white ants, and mould, and the absence of green vegetables, onions, adequate supplies of sheet iron and metal containers, raise new problems.

Local materials such as bamboo, timber, thatch and native bricks help but unfortunately cannot completely substitute for the above deficiencies.

The following notes deal with these items :-

Kitchens It is essential to have a building with a ceiling fireproof in part of asbestos and iron or tiles so that trench fires can be made inside. Sufficient room is required to stack wood and keep it dry.

Food Chief lack is in fresh green vegetables which it is suggested might be overcome by the use of dehydrated greens as used by the Italians.

Am
Check up with Bde Lia Officer

Set

Onions which form an important variant in taste especially in stews are difficult to obtain in quantities. Lime juice might also be made a regular and frequent issue.

Lessons at a cooking school could also be given for the use of local native foods which when properly prepared are very palatable and are available in large quantities. This especially applies to yams, jak fruit, bread fruit, big beans, paddy and plantains. ~~(and possibly manioc)~~

Hygiene. Pits for excreta tend to get flooded unless sited with foresight and it is advisable to prepare several alternative methods of disposal.

Wet kitchen refuse should be collected in drums - if available - and carted away; otherwise it must be buried, but again all rubbish pits fill readily and a high dry site should be selected even if this involves carrying the rubbish some distance. Nearby pits make the whole camp area foul very quickly.

Urinals present no problem and the usual hole filled with stones and if possible with a tin funnel are very good as the constant flushing keeps them clean.

Rubbish must be quickly covered on hot dry days as flies soon appear and breed quickly. Special attention must be paid to raw meat scraps as these decompose very quickly.

Incinerators near every kitchen are essential and 4 sheets of iron and some bars should be made available for this purpose on a scale of 5 per unit. Normally these are easy to obtain but not in this country where such materials are scarce.

Drums to contain wet refuse are essential and are very difficult to obtain locally.

Mosquitoes The slit trenches and various pits which soon appear round a camp soon contain pools of water where mosquitoes readily breed. Extra and adequate supplies of kerosene or a substitute mixture are essential.

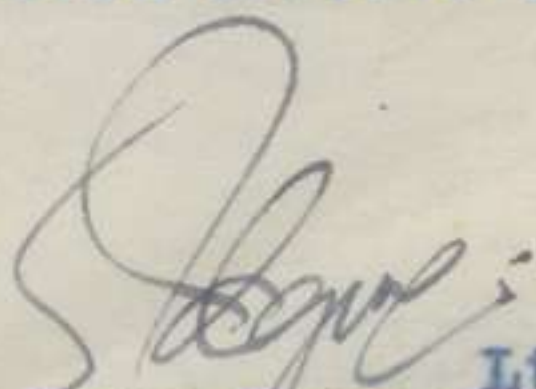
Drying Rooms Where clothes have to be washed daily owing to constant sweating, it is essential to have a drying room per Coy in a standing camp, otherwise clothing, blankets, etc., may well remain wet preventing the men from keeping their clothing and bedding clean.

Messing huts are necessary in rainy season.

Amenities Possibilities are very limited but the following can be arranged :-

- (1) Cadjan hut as a recreation room.
- (2) Wireless set and amplifier.
- (3) Canteen with plenty of fruit for sale.
- (4) Laundry service.
- (5) Swimming parades.
- (6) Publication of series of notes on local people - customs &c.

General All the above are of course only available in camps but they apply in principle to troops bivouacked in any area for more than a few days. The use of bamboo &/or cadjan thatch lavished round living areas to provide racks & stands for messing gear, bedding, and equipment, enables currents of air to pass through and round which assists in hygiene and provides necessary shelter.


Lt. Col.
Comd 2/2 Aust. Inf. Bn.

Information for Australia

① longer periods of training required in

- (a) Physical fitness
- (b) Section Lsg.

RM (L)
See me
please
A

② Bicycle Present army pattern too heavy
(b) Value of 3-wheel type?

③ M/bs Insulation tape for M/c spark plugs

④ Food (a) Use of dehydrated greens in lieu of fresh vegetables
(b) Issue of lime juice frequently & regularly.
(c) Instructions to cooks on preparation of natural type foods.

⑤ Incinerators. More reqd in units. Asbestos sheets
could be used instead of sheets G.I.

Information received from:-

2/12/42

2/3/42

2/11 La Regt - Verbally gave as
"nil" doroko 30 April

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

16 AUST. INF. BDE

2/2 Aust. Inf. Bn.
30 Apr. 42.

INFORMATION FOR AUSTRALIA

Endeavour is made in the following to provide information which will be of practical assistance to units training in Australia for warfare in country comparable to South West Ceylon, very close, wet, and humid. The matter contained under the various headings is not thought to be comprehensive, nor even this Unit's final recommendations, as obviously many things are still in the experimental stage.

1. TRAINING

(a) Physical fitness becomes more essential than ever in humid climate. Fighting in such climate is likely to be more strenuous than, for example, running an 880 or rowing a mile, and must be systematically trained for along similar lines. Long Marches, running, P.T., boxing, are suggested; and Adm personnel should not be exempt.

(b) Bayonet Tng, vigorous, preferably over an obstacle course, is recommended; both for physical fitness and for raising morale and conserving amm.

(c) Sec. Tng, Apart from the outstanding lessons (covered in documents already issued by higher formation) of mobility and offensive action, the nature of close country, semi-jungle fighting appears to be that the fight will be even more a section or group fight. It is suggested therefore that even more time should be devoted to Sec Tng, particularly formations, practice of drills to be adopted in specific circumstances, signals, map reading, movement by night, patrolling, scouting.

2. PREPARATION OF DEFENSIVE POSNS

Where resort has to be made to defensive posns, (i.e. where mobility and/or offensive action is impossible), the following are practical notes :-

(a) Field of fire Thin out before final decision as to diggings; Recce very difficult until whole ground can be seen.

(b) Revetment, if in wet belt should be done. as each section of trench is dug. The more rain, the more careful the revetment must be. Plaited palm leaves good for backing, but not strong enough on their own. Split coconut and areka nut excellent for revetting. Bamboo though easy to get and easy to split proves not strong enough, twisting and buckling under pressure. Even if left unsplit bamboo is not satisfactory, needing more backing than the timber mentioned.

Horizontal revetment slabs, with perpendicular stays appear preferable to the reverse method.

(c) Digging, If not possible to revet immediately; in sandy country dig trenches narrower than usual to allow for inevitable erosion.

(d) Recces of river banks, where defences are sited on bridges or ferries, will probably disclose many tracks suitable for feet or even carrier patrols; and will disclose many boats of all kinds, which must be taken into account in planning the defence.

It is not thought necessary under this heading to mention the necessity for adequate reserves, in every position, which is fully covered elsewhere.

3. BICYCLE PL OR COY.

A machine with strong but light frame is recommended, lighter than the regulation army bicycle, and fitted with brackets for the carriage of weapons.

A three wheeled machine, similar to that used for delivering parcels by civilian firms would help in transporting amm, mines, grenades, etc.

This Unit's tng on bicycles is still very much experimental, but the following tentative suggestions are made :-

- (a) Never less than 3 scouts - one to look ahead, one to each side.
- (b) Normal movement 50yds between Secs, two lengths between machines; Pl. H.Q. between second and third SECS as first Sec. will often be fully deployed as Scouts and link-men.
- (c) Mortar and EY rifle with third Sec.
- (d) Signals by hand, as for M.T. with others improvised.
- (e) Water bags on cross bar of machine as reserve supply.
- (f) Small box fwd of handlebars, over front wheel, for grenades for use in emergency.
- (g) A stretcher can be mounted on 3 bicycles.

4. EQUIPMENT

The following are recommended to increase the hitting power of the section and the group. :-

- (a) More automatic weapons, up to even 2 or 3 T.S.M.Gs per section, is recommended for very close country only.
- (b) A wider issue of an improved percussion grenade
- (c) More anti personnel mines (for perimeter defence at night.)

The following miscellaneous items are also suggested

- (a) Tow rope pick and shovel at all times on all trucks.
- (b) Cordage per section.
- (c) Insulation tape, to make magnets and spark plugs water tight, to each M/C.
- (d) Increased scale of axes felling, and machetes, say 9 axes and 18 machetes per Coy.

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Lt. Col.

Comd 2/2 Aust. Inf. Bn.

Asbestos sheets?

GM/0/43

H. Q. 16 AUST. INF. BDE.
RECEIVED.
Date 29.4.42
Hrs 1500
No 2049

1 COY A.A.S.C.
6 AUST DIV.
29 April 42.

H.Q.
16 Aust Inf Bde.

INFORMATION FOR AUSTRALIA.

Reference 6 AUST DIV memo 1/2966/G of 29 Dec. 41.

A Nil Return is rendered by this Company.

Robinson

.....Capt.
O.C 1 COY A.A.S.C. 6 AUST DIV.

BRICKNER	.....
B. M.	.....
S. C.	.....
CAMP	.....
.....
.....
.....

In reply quote
42/72/31 M.

2/1 Aust Fd Amb,
29 April '42.

HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde.

INFORMATION for AUSTRALIA

Nil Return.

H. Q. 16 AUST. INF. BDE.
 RECEIVED.
 Date 29.4.42 Hrs 1000
 No 2650
[Signature]

Donald A. Cameron Maj.

tw

Lt-Col,
Cmdg 2/1 Aust Fd Amb.

SEEN.

BRIGADIER _____

B. M. . . . _____

S. C. . . . _____

CAMP . . . _____

(784)
HORANA

WAR DIARY

May '42

24 AUG. 1942

May 42

(80)

1 May 42.

Brigadier Lloyd visited 2/1 Fd Amb where a number of medical problems were discussed. It was decided to open a P.A.C. at the entrance to Dikhena Estate.

ADOS visited Brigade HQ.

2 May 42

Lieutenant Gordon to Ratnapura to enquire into alleged shooting at DR whilst on Ratnapura - Horana run.

Major Dawson paid a visit to Major McKenzie, the DAQMG, to arrange about the area to be acquired at KTR.

Lecture on Counter Battery preparation was attended by all officers in the area.

3 May 42

Brigadier Lloyd and Major Dawson attended Church Parade at 2/2 Bn. Later the Commander visited 12 AGH and 2/1 Fd Amb.

Lieutenant Gordon visited HQ AIF at Matugama on Security matters.

Two armoured cars posted to the Brigade arrived today. One additional armoured car has still to arrive in the area.

Major Dawson and Capt. Fulton sited defences in the AASC and Army Field Workshops areas.

4 May 42

All officers of the Brigade Staff attended a Comd's conference at 0900 hrs. Copy of notes is included in Appendices.

Brigadier Lloyd and Lieutenant Gordon visited 2/2 Bn's position at Udugama, at the Avitewe Ferry.

WAR DIARY

HORANA

May 42

5 May 42

A recce party to Kurunegala, consisting of Brigadier Lloyd, Major Dawson, Lieut Gordon, Capt Tribolet from this HQ and Lt.Cols White, Edgar, Stevenson, Fisher, O'Connell, Major Cogswell and Lieut Davies, inspected possible positions in the event of 16 Aust Inf Bde Group taking over from 99 Ind Inf Bde Group.

6 May 42

Today there is nothing to report. A file of documents and traces for handing over in the event of the Brigade being relieved of its task in this area was commenced.

7 May 42

Major Dawson went to HQ AIF (CEYLON) at Matugama to site road blocks and defences for the protection of that HQ.

Major Muir, BM 17 Aust Inf Bde, called on Major Dawson.

8 May 42

This morning a Comds conference was held re the proposed visit of the Commander in Chief to this area.

Brigadier Lloyd and Lieuts Gordon and Turner went to Dumbara Estate to watch exercise carried out by 2/3 Aust Inf Bn.

Brigadier Lloyd went to Moratuwa to select a defensive position in that area.

Major Dawson went again to Matugama to complete siting of road blocks and defensive positions in that area.

WAR DIARY

HORANA

May 42

May 9 42

Brigadier Lloyd and Lieut Ward visited Moratuwa.

Major Dawson and Capt MacKinnon to 2/2 Bn to inspect smoke projector which had been attached to carrier and fired electrically as an experiment, so that carriers could produce a smoke screen either to withdraw from a difficult position or cover an attack by infantry.

Although electrical equipment was at first faulty, the screen produced was excellent and after experiment the electrical device was considerably improved. Experiments are now being conducted in the tactical use of smoke screens produced by carriers.

10 May 42

The Commander in Chief, Ceylon, Admiral Sir Geoffrey Layton, visited this HQ today, accompanied by Major General Boase, CBE and his ADC. They were welcomed by Brigadier J.E. Lloyd, ^{DSO} MC, Major Dawson and Capt Darcey, and Lt.Cols Pollard, O'Connell, Fisher, Stevenson and Edgar. In the afternoon C-in-C and party visited 2/1 Bn where they witnessed an exhibition of unarmed combat by G(R) personnel.

A copy of the itinerary is included in the appendices.

In the afternoon Brigadier Lloyd, Major Dawson and Capt Darcey went to Ratnapura to attend a Sports Meeting arranged by the local authorities. A large crowd of people attended the Sports Ground, evidence of the good will which has been shown to us during our short stay on the island.

The day was particularly fine and various demonstrations arranged by units were particularly interesting. The Soccer Match played between Ceylon Police and 2/3 Bn resulted in a draw.

11 May 42

Nothing to report.

WAR DIARY

HORANA.

May 42

12 May 42

Brigadier Lloyd, Capt West of 2/1 Fd Coy RAE and Lieut Gordon visited the sites of the Bolgoda Lake defences.

Major Dawson to Matugama with Lt Col Edgar and I.O. 2/2 Bn to inspect the road blocks and defences of Div HQ.

Brigadier Lloyd went to Kalutara to visit the AGA (Mr Hudson) to discuss river patrols and the matter of obtaining motor boats.

Lt. Col O'Connell visited this HQ re positions of 18 pdr guns sited on the beach at Beruwala and Maggona.

13 May 42

Brigadier Lloyd, Major Dawson and Lieut Gordon visited the area EGALOYA - DELMELLA ! - DUMBARA Estate, to watch manoeuvres carried out by 2/3 Bn in those areas, and accompanied one coy on its adv through jungle tracks.

14 May 42

Brigadier Lloyd and Lieut Long visited the KTR - Tebuwana area to watch a river crossing exercise carried out by 2/1 Bn.

1 Bty 2/1 Fd Regt left Horana for Diyatalawa for a battery shoot.

15 May 42

Brigadier Lloyd and Lieut Gordon visited 2/1 Bn to watch an exercise in village fighting.

Brigadier Lloyd and Capt Mackinnon went to Mutwagalla Estate, Ratnapura, to call on Mr. Riley, a local planter, with reference to the use of his estate area for an exercise.

The DAQMG, Major I.S. McKenzie, visited this HQ.

The CRE, Lt. Col McDonald, called to see Brigadier Lloyd.

WAR DIARY

HORANA

May 42

16 May 42

Brigadier Lloyd and Major Dawson visited HQ AIF to discuss the possible move to KUR and the formation of a Brigade training unit .

17 May 42

Brigadier Lloyd, Lieut Gordon and 2/Lieut Minor, CPRC, visited Diyatalawa to watch 1 Bty 2/1 Fd Regt (u/c Major Holmes) carry out manoeuvres .

ADMS (Col Speirs) called at Bde HQ .

Major Dawson, Capt Fulton and Lieut Ward visited the Armoured Train, manned by CPRC personnel, at Kalutara .

18 May 42

Brigadier Lloyd, with Lieuts Turner and Gordon of this HQ, the AAQMG (Col Bowser) and the CRE (Lt.Col McDonald) and Lt.Col Fisher proceeded with recce party to Kurunegala to find possible new areas should the Bde Gp have to move north and not take over areas as previously expected from 99 Ind Inf Bde .

A trial closing of Road Blocks in the Horana area was carried out in the morning and afternoon . The average time taken to close blocks, lay mines and wire was 20 minutes . This should be greatly reduced with practice .

19 May 42

Lt. Col Fisher called on Brigadier Lloyd re the question of malaria in the Kurunegala district .

The S.C.(L), Lieut Turner, visited HQ AIF at Matugama to discuss administrative matters .

20 May 42

Today at Bentota the Engineers gave a demonstration of Fougasse , Coconut Bombs, Bamboo Bangalore torpedoes and various other engineering experiments .

WAR DIARY

HORANA

May 42

21 May 42

Bde T.O., Capt. McIntosh, was evacuated to hospital today .

22 May 42

Brigadier Lloyd, Major Dawson and Lieut Gordon went to Bentota to select the ground for an inter bn exercise shortly to be held in that area .

Lieut Prescott of 2/1 Fd Coy and Lieut Ward of this HQ went to Kurunegala on recce to select detailed camp sites for units of the Bde Gp . They contacted the DCRE 34 Indian Div (Major Little) at Kandy, and also Mr. Ernst, the Govt. Agent . Messrs Warburton Gray, of Dynevor Estate, and Perkins of Pitiakande Estate, were also interviewed and their approval obtained for the use of their land by the AIF .

Details of a Comds Conference held today are included in the appendices .

From local information, monsoonal rains usually fall between 9 - 22 May, but up to this date no abnormal rains have fallen . There has, however, been constant daily rain, and the average yearly rainfall has already been exceeded .

23 May 42

Brigadier Lloyd, Lt. Col Edgar and Lt Col Stevenson, and Lieut Gordon proceeded to Bentota in preparation for the forthcoming Bde exercise . The party called on 2/1 Bn at KTR.

Lt. Col White called at Bde HQ to discuss the demolition of houses at Katukurunda .

24 May 42

Brigadier Lloyd visited AIF HQ at Matugama to discuss the demolition of houses at Katukurunda and the Brigade exercise there to test the aerodrome defences . The Brigade Major and B.M.(L) went to Colombo to arrange aircraft cooperation for the exercise .

WAR DIARY

HORANA

May 42

24 May 42

Lt. Col. Harvey, IAOC, visited Bde HQ and advised us that he would be taking over Horana AOD in three or four days time. This dump was originally established by AOC, and AIF personnel sorted and guarded the ammunition in this dump.

Capt. Williams, Lieut Gordon and 2/Lieut Minor went to Bentota to recon route for Bde exercise across country to Dodangoda.

25 May 42

Major Dawson went to Bandarawatta and Bentota to go over ground and details of Bde exercise with the umpires.

Brigadier Moore (IA) Commander of TRN, and the G2 AIF, Major Moffatt, visited Bde HQ. Brigadier Moore addressed all officers of the Bde Gp in the Cinema on Jungle Warfare.

26 May 42

Brigadier Lloyd went to HQ AIF with Lieut Prescott RAE, with trace showing details of lands to be acquired in Kurunegala area.

Today the Bde exercise commenced and 2/2 and 2/3 Bns moved out of Horana to take up positions at Bandarawatta and Bentota and to relieve 2/1 Bn at Beruwala and Maggona. The Comd and B.M. visited troops in position at Beruwala and Maggona.

27 May 42

Today the exercise, which involved three bns and which commenced yesterday when troops moved into position, was carried out. This exercise consisted of an attack by 2/2 Aust Inf Bn on Katukurunda aerodrome with the object of testing the defences. The GOC in C and the GOC AIF, accompanied by the Comd and B.M., observed the exercise from both defenders and attackers point of view, and some valuable lessons were learned by troops taking part.

The RAF (Fleet AIR ARM) gave excellent air cooperation during the exercise.

*When did
Williams come
to Bentota - Jo.*

WAR DIARY

HORANA

May 42

28 May 42

Major Dawson visited 2/1 Fd Amb to have lunch with Lt. Col. Fisher .

In the afternoon the Comd and B.M. visited members of the Brigade Staff in hospital in Colombo .

29 May 42

A Comds conference was held today to discuss the formation of a Bde Training Unit .

Brigadier Lloyd, Major Dawson and Major Abbott went to Matwagalla Estate to visit Mr. Reilly and to discuss the possible use of that area for an exercise .

30 May 42

This morning an Umpire's conference was held on the Inter Bn exercise to discuss all points which arose from their reports, in preparation for a Comds conference which took place in the afternoon .

Present at the latter conference were Comd. B.M., Lt Cols. White , Edgar and Fisher, Major Abbott and Capt. Rivers. The B.M. discussed the copy of the notes on the Umpires' Conference .

31 May 42

The Bde HQ Cricket Team ~~played~~ played 2/3 Bn at Kalutara, winning the match by 62 runs .

Mr. Busby, Civil Liaison Officer, and Mr. Healey of Perth Estate, dined as Brigadier's guests at the Mess .

Floodings reported in the Ratnapura Area necessitated diverting traffic via the Ratnapura - Colombo North Road .

Throughout this month, units have been able to concentrate on training, having finished the bulk of urgent defensive works . Training in close country, movement and fighting have been the main objectives and troops have entered

WAR DIARY

HORANA

May 42

into this training with great interest, it being the first time in the history of this Brigade that this type of country has been encountered .

WAR DIARY

HORANA

APPENDICES .

May 42

- APPENDIX A Notes on Comds Conference 4 May
- B Visit of C-in-C CEYLON , with photographs
- C 16 Aust Inf Bde Operation Instn No 2
- D Recce Parties Kandy Area
- E do.
- F Notes on Comds Conference 22 May 42
- G Inter Bn Exercise 25 - 27 May 42
- H Amendments to 16 Aust Inf Bde Op Instn No 2
- I New Appendix A to 16 Aust Inf Bde Op Instn
No 2.
- J Routine Orders for May 42 .

File 0/2/252

Headquarters
16 Aust Inf Bde

4 May 42

NOTES ON COMMANDERS CONFERENCE - 4 MAY 42

Present :- Comd., Lt-Cols O'CONNEL, WHITE, EDGAR, STEVENSON, FISHER;
Majors BAIRD, COGSWELL, B.M., B.M.(L), S.C., I.O., L.Os (4)

1. CHANGE OF LOCATION. Is dependent on severity of monsoon and date cannot be ascertained as yet. 16 Bde Gp will take over from 99 Indian Inf Bde in form of relief. Unit Comds will recce area 5 May 42 under Bde arrangements. Units will ensure completion of all "I" information and handing over details of present areas.
2. TRAINING.
 - (a) Units will submit reports by Coys on average results of shoot on 30^x range.
 - (b) Units will expedite recce of grenade ranges so that full advantage can be taken of grenades available for trg.
 - (c) Trial packing on available tpt will be carried out, counting on 30 3-tonners per Bn.
3. STORING OF SURPLUS KIT. A.I.P. Kit Store, CBO, will shortly be moving to new site. Kit Bags and Sea Kit Bags will be drawn from present store, cleaned and repacked and returned to kit store at new location. Bde HQ will advise dates on which units will pick up and return kit bags.
4. DRESS. Units will enforce order of dress as several instances have occurred where men are improperly dressed in local villages.
5. CENSORSHIP. CEYLON must not be mentioned in any correspondence or parcels sent by personnel.
6. ERECTION OF HUTS. On arrival of timber in unit lines, huts as required may be erected by unit arrangements - 2/1 Aust Pd Coy will supply personnel for supervision if required but owing to shortage of engr personnel this will be very limited. Timber will be collected at dumps in jungle and taken by military transport to unit lines commencing on Thurs 7 May 42.
7. A/TK and A/BOAT SCAFFOLDING. A section of this has been erected in 2/1 Pd Coy R.A.E. lines and is available for inspection. Comments and suggestions on the use of this scaffolding would be appreciated.
8. PETROL GUARD - HORANA CIVILIAN PUMP. This guard will be withdrawn until further notice.
9. REFUND OF COST OF KADJAN HUTS. Units may submit claims for monies paid for kadjan huts by personnel and which C.Os consider were necessary in the circumstances. These claims may NOT be paid.
10. VENEREAL DISEASE. Incidence of V.D. in A.I.P. on island is high. P.A.C. tent will be erected at entrance to DIKHENA Estate and be in operation 4 May 42. Comd will take up with HQ AIP (CEYLON) procedure for punishing personnel who fail to use this protection and contract V.D.

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

Ref File 0/2/252

Headquarters
16 Aust Inf Bde

4 May 42

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3. STORING OF SURPLUS KIT. A.I.F. Kit Store, CBO, will shortly be moving to new site. Kit Bags and Sea Kit Bags will be drawn from present store, cleaned and repacked and returned to kit store at new location. Bde HQ will advise dates on which units will pick up and return kit bags.
4. DRESS. Units will enforce order of dress as several instances have occurred where men are improperly dressed in local villages.
5. CENSORSHIP. CEYLON must not be mentioned in any correspondence or parcels sent by personnel.
6. ERECTION OF HUTS. On arrival of timber in unit lines, huts as required may be erected by unit arrangements - 2/1 Aust Fd Coy will supply personnel for supervision if required but owing to shortage of engr personnel this will be very limited. Timber will be collected at dumps in jungle and taken by military transport to unit lines commencing on Thurs 7 May 42.
7. A/TK and A/BOAT SCAFFOLDING. A section of this has been erected in 2/1 Fd Coy R.A.E. lines and is available for inspection. Comments and suggestions on the use of this scaffolding would be appreciated.
8. PETROL GUARD - HORANA CIVILIAN PUMP. This guard will be withdrawn until further notice.
9. REFUND OF COST OF KADJAN HUTS. Units may submit claims for monies paid for kadjan huts by personnel and which C.Os consider were necessary in the circumstances. These claims may NOT be paid.
10. VENEREAL DISEASE. Incidence of V.D. in A.I.F. on island is high. P.A.C. tent will be erected at entrance to DIKHENA Estate and be in operation 4 May 42. Comd will take up with HQ AIF (CEYLON) procedure for punishing personnel who fail to use this protection and contract V.D.

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

Ref File G/2/203Headquarters,
16 Aust Inf Bde.

8 May 42.

VISIT of C-in-C CEYLON.

1. Att is programme of inspection by C-in-C to 16 Aust Inf Bde Gp in HORANA and KTR area on Sunday, 10 May 42. It will be noted that certain alterations have been made in tentative programme to save time.
2. C-in-C will inspect Gd and band at Bde HQ but owing to shortage of time may NOT inspect unit gds. Units, however, will mount subalterns' Gds of 20 ORs which will turn out for inspection on arrival of C-in-C.
3. Unit and sub unit comds will ensure that :-
 - (a) personnel are turned out as tidily as possible.
 - (b) (i) Compliments are paid to C-in-C's car which will fly white flag with red cross
 - (ii) Compliments are paid to all cars flying pennants.
4. 2/2 Aust Inf Bn will arrange with Police at ANGURUWATOTA to clear banks of river before mortar shoot. 2/2 Bn will supply personnel to piquet banks during shoot.
5. Bde T.O. will arrange for Armd Cars with drivers and gunners to report to 2/3 Bn at 0910 hrs. 2/3 Bn will arrange for cars to lead cycles down camp rd - Armd Cars to return to Bde lines, cycles to harbour off OUT rd from camp lines and await C-in-C to leave area.

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

DISTRIBUTION:

2/1 Aust Fd Regt
2/1 Aust Inf Bn
2/2 Aust Inf Bn
2/3 Aust Inf Bn
7 Pl Aust HQ Gd Bn
No 1 Coy, AASC
D Sec Ord Fd Pk
2/1 Aust Fd Amb
2/1 Aust Fd Coy, RAE
HQ AIF (CEYLON)
Comd
B.M.
S.C.
✓ War Diary
File (2).

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

PROGRAMME FOR

VISIT BY COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF - CEYLON

HORANA AREA - SUNDAY 10 MAY 42

- 0915 hrs C-in-C arrives 16 Aust Inf Bde HQ. Inspects Guard provided by 7 Pl Aust HQ Gd Bn, also Band of 2/2 Aust Inf Bn.
- 0920 " Meets Bde Comd and Staff.
- 0925 " Moves to 2/2 Aust Inf Bn lines - may inspect Guard.
- 0930 " Meets C.O. 2/2 Aust Inf Bn and introduced to his 2 i/c and Adjt.
- 0935 " Views demonstration of one Sec Carriers moving through Rubber trees and inspects grenade protective cover on Carrier.
- 0945 " Moves to 2/3 Aust Inf Bn lines - may inspect Guard. Meets C.O. 2/3 Aust Inf Bn and 2 i/c and Adjt.
- 0955 " Cycle Pl 2/3 Bn rides down rd led by two Armd Cars supplied by Bde. Demonstration of wire crushing Dannert and DAF.
- 1010 " Morning Tea at Bde HQ. C.O.'s 2/1 Aust Fd Regt, 2/2 and 2/3 Bns and 2/1 Aust Fd Amb, O.C. 2/1 Aust Fd Coy, RAE to be present.
- 1025 " Move to 2/1 Aust Fd Regt, RAA - may inspect Guard. Meets C.O., 2 i/c and Adjt.
- 1028 " March past of one Bty - ~~Saluting~~ base vicinity entrance 2/1 Aust Fd Regt HQ.
- 1040 " Move to 2/1 Aust Fd Amb - AAMC lines - meets C.O. and senior Maj. Also O.C. and 2 i/c 1 Coy, AASC and O.C. Fd Pk Sec (to be present at Fd Amb HQ).
- 1045 " Demonstration erection Mob D.S.
- 1100 " Move to ANGURUWATOTA Ferry.
- 1115 " Demonstration at ANGURUWATOTA Ferry H.E. and Smoke 3" - 2" Mortars and 68 grenades by 2/2 Aust Inf Bn personnel.
- 1125 " C-in-C leaves ^{for} 2/2 Aust A Fd Wkshops.

KTR AREA

- 1400 " Arrives entrance PEMBROKE Estate, met by C.O. 2/1 Aust Inf Bn and O.C. 51 Fd Bty - inspects 51 Fd Bty.
- 1415 " Leave for 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
- 1430 " Arrives 2/1 Aust Inf Bn - may inspect Guard.
- 1435 " Demonstration of unarmed combat by G(R) personnel 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.
- 1445 " Leaves for CBO.

War

Diary

5th Regiment

ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE

Bn.

**NOTE.—Open
by cutting
the label.
Re-use by
affixing
fresh label.**

HERE



Unarmed Combat

by GFR Personnel



Inspecting the Guard
at Katukurunda



Unarmed Combat



C-in-C with

Lt Col White

Comd 2/1 Bn

Ref File G/2/203

Headquarters,
16 Aust Inf Bde.

8 May 42.

VISIT OF C-in-C CEYLON

1. Att is programme of inspection by C-in-C to 16 Aust Inf Bde Gp in HORANA and KTR area on Sunday, 10 May 42. It will be noted that certain alterations have been made in tentative programme to save time.
2. C-in-C will inspect Gd and band at Bde HQ but owing to shortage of time may NOT inspect unit gds. Units, however, will mount subaltern's gds of 20 ORs which will turn out for inspection on arrival of C-in-C.
3. Unit and sub unit comds will ensure that :-
 - (a) personnel are turned out as tidily as possible.
 - (b) (i) Compliments are paid to C-in-C's car which will fly white flag with red cross
 - ii) Compliments are paid to all cars flying pennants.
4. 2/2 Aust Inf Bn will arrange with Police at ANGURUWATOTA to clear banks of river before mortar shoot. 2/2 Bn will supply personnel to piquet banks during shoot.
5. Bde T.O. will arrange for Armd Cars with drivers and gunners to report to 2/3 Bn at 0910 hrs. 2/3 Bn will arrange for cars to lead cycles down camp rd - Armd Cars to return to Bde Lines, cycles to harbour off OUT rd from camp lines and await C-in-C to leave area.

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

DISTRIBUTION:

-
- 2/1 Aust Fd Regt
 - 2/1 Aust Inf Bn
 - 2/2 Aust Inf Bn
 - 2/3 Aust Inf Bn
 - 7 Pl Aust HQ Gd Bn
 - No 1 Coy, AASC
 - D Sec Ord Fd Pk
 - 2/1 Aust Fd Amb
 - 2/1 Aust Fd Coy, RAE
 - HQ AIF (CEYLON)
 - Comd
 - B.M.
 - S.C.
 - War Diary
 - ✓ File (2).

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

PROGRAMME FOR VISIT OF COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF CEYLON TO 16 AUST INF BDE

GP AREA - SUN 10 MAY 42

0830 Leaves COLOMBO

0915 Arrives HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde and inspects guard - 7 Pl Aust HQ Gd Bn, 2/2 Aust Inf Bn Band.

0920 Meets Bde Comd and Staff.

0925 Moves to 2/2 Aust Inf Bn.

0935 Reviews demonstration of one Sec Carriers moving through rubber trees and inspects grenades protective cover on carrier

0945 Moves to 2/3 Aust Inf Bn

0955 Cycle Pl rides down rd
Demonstration of wire crushing Dannert and DAF.

1010 Morning Tea at Bde HQ

1025 Moves to 2/1 Aust Fd Regt

1028 March past of one Bty

1040 Moves to 2/1 Aust Fd Amb. Also meets OC and 2 i/c 1 Coy, AASC, OC 5 Rec Sec, 2/2 Aust A Fd Wkshop and Fd Pk Sec.

1045 Demonstration-erection of (mobile) Dressing Station

1100 Moves to ANGURUWATOTA Ferry.

1115 Demonstration at ANGURUWATOTA Ferry (3" HE & Smoke - 2" HE Mortars and 68 Grenades by 2/2 Bn personnel

1125 Leaves for HENEGAMA

1210 Arrives HENEGAMA
Inspects 2/2 Aust A Fd Wkshop

1240 Leaves for HQ AIF

1250 Arrives HQ AIF - meets senior SOs

1300 -1345 Leave for PEMBROKE ESTATE

1400 Arrives PEMBROKE ESTATE. Met by CO 2/1 Aust Inf Bn and OC 51 Bty
Inspects 51 Bty

1415 Leaves for 2/1 Aust Inf Bn

1430 Arrives 2/1 Aust Inf Bn - inspects Guard

1435 Demonstration unarmed combat by G(R) personnel (2/1 Aust Inf Bn).

1445 Leaves for COLOMBO

1530 Arrives COLOMBO

Ref File No. 0/2/335.Headquarters
16 Aust Inf Bde.

21 May 42.

HQ. A.I.F. (CEYLON)INFORMATION FOR AUSTRALIA.

From training carried out in CEYLON up to the present, the following information is passed which may be of use to tps training in Australia for warfare in country comparable to South West Ceylon, very close, wet and humid. The matter contained under the various headings is not thought to be comprehensive, as many things are still in the experimental stage.

1. TRAINING.

(a) Physical fitness becomes more essential than ever in humid climate. Fighting is more strenuous than in dry climates and must be systematically trained for. Long marches, running, P.T. and boxing are suggested and adm personnel should not be exempt.

(b) Bayonet Tng. vigorous, preferably over an obstacle course, is recommended, both for physical fitness and for raising morale and conserving amm.

(c) Load carrying. Personnel should be trained to carry all required equipment through jungle as in many cases this is the only way it will be available.

(d) Sec Tng. Apart from the outstanding feature of mobility and offensive action, in close country and semi-jungle fighting, it is apparent that the fight will be even more a section or a group fight. It is suggested therefore, that even more time should be devoted to Sec tng, particularly formations, practice of drills to be ^{ad} adapted in specific circumstances, signals, map reading, movement by night, patrolling, scouting and sec group tng, where groups of two or three men work together under sec cmd.

2. PREPARATIONS OF DEFENSIVE POSNS.

Where resort has to be made to defensive posns, (i.e. where mobility and/or offensive action is impossible) the following are practical notes :-

(a) Revetment, if in wet belt should be done as each section of trench is dug. The more rain, the more careful the revetment must be. Plaited palm leaves good for backing but not strong enough on their own. Split coconut and areka nut timber excellent for revetting. Bamboo though easy to get and easy to split proves not strong enough, twisting and buckling under pressure. Even if left unsplit, bamboo is not satisfactory, needing more backing than the timber mentioned.

Horizontal revetment slabs with perpendicular stays appear preferable.

(b) Digging. If not possible to revet immediately, in sandy country dig trenches narrower than usual to allow for inevitable erosion.

(c) Recesses of River banks. Where defences are sited on bridges or ferries, recess will probably disclose many tracks suitable for foot or even carrier patrols and will disclose many boats of all kinds, which must be taken into account in planning the defence.

3. BICYCLE PL OR COY.

A machine with strong but light frame is recommended, lighter than the regulation army bicycle and fitted with brackets for the carriage of weapons and with baskets at front or rear for carrying grenades, etc. A three wheeled machine, similar to that used for delivering parcels by civilian firms would help in transporting amm, mines and grenades on rds and tracks.

The following tactical handling of cycle tps is suggested :-

(a) Never less than three scouts - one to look ahead, one to each side.

(b) Normal movement 50 yds between Secs, two lengths between machines; Pl HQ between second and third secs as first sec will often be fully deployed as Scouts and link men.

(c) 2" Mortar and EY rifle with third sec.

(d) Signals by hand, as for MT with others improvised.

(e) Waterbags on cross bar of machine as reserve supply.

(f) A stretcher can be mounted on three bicycles.

4. EQUIPMENT.

The following are recommended to increase the fire power and

Equipment of the section and the group :-

- (a) A wider issue of an improved percussion grenade.
- (b) Anti personnel mines (for perimeter defence at night)
- (c) A coil of dannert wire with each veh to place around veh harbour at night.

The following miscellaneous items are also suggested :-

- (a) Tow rope, pick, shovel and axe at all times on all trucks.
- (b) A good length of rope with each sec, say 100 ft.
- (c) Increased scale of axes felling, and machetes, say 9 axes and 18 machetes per Coy. (Sec comd to carry machetes instead of bayonet, very useful in jungle country, bayonet of no use with T.S.M.G.)

5. CAMP ADMINISTRATION.

The presence of heat, constant rain, white ants and mould raise new problems. Equipment must be carefully watched and handled often.

Lessons at a cooking school could also be given in the use of local native foods, which, when properly prepared, are very palatable and are available in large quantities.

HYGIENE. Pits for excreta tend to get flooded unless sited with foresight and it is advisable to prepare several alternative methods of disposal.

Wet kitchen refuse should be collected in drums - if available - and carted away; otherwise it must be buried, but again all rubbish pits fill readily and a high dry site should be selected even if this involves carrying the rubbish some distance.

Nearby pits make the whole camp area foul very quickly. Rubbish must be quickly covered on hot dry days as flies soon appear and breed quickly. Special attention must be paid to raw meat scraps as these decompose very quickly.

Incinerators near every kitchen are essential and an empty 40 gall drum or 4 sheets of iron and sme bars should be made available for this purpose on a scale of 5 per unit. Normally these are easy to obtain but not in this country where such materials are scarce.

Drums to contain wet refuse are essential but are very difficult to obtain locally.

MOSQUITOS. The slit trenches and various pits which appear round a camp soon contain pools of water where mosquitos readily breed. Extra and adequate supplies of kerosene or a substitute mixture are essential.

DRYING ROOMS. Where clothes have to be washed daily, owing to constant sweating, it is essential to have a drying room per coy in a standing camp, otherwise clothing, blankets, etc., may well remain wet preventing the men from keeping their clothing and bedding clean.

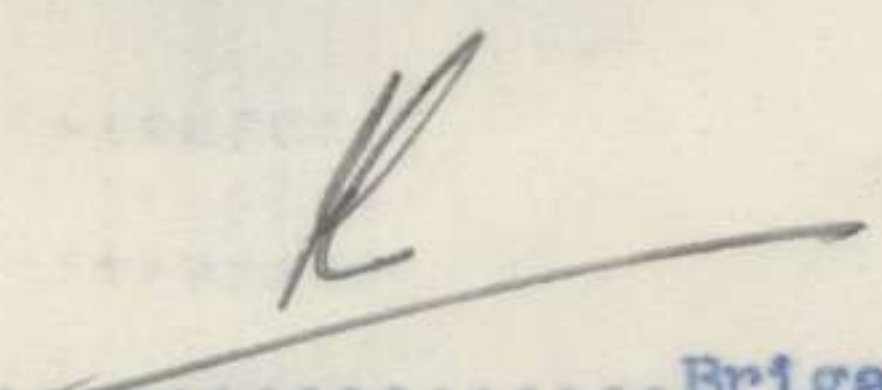
MESSING HUTS. Are necessary especially in rainy season.

AMENITIES. Possibilities are very limited but the following can be arranged :-

- (1) Palm Cadjan hut as a recreation room.
- (2) Wireless and amplifier for news.
- (3) Canteen with plenty of fruit for sale.
- (4) Laundry service.
- (5) Swimming parades.
- (6) Publication of series of notes on local people - customs, etc.

GENERAL.

All the above are of course only available in camps but they apply in principle to tps bivouaced in any area for more than a few days. The use of bamboo or other local material around the walls or other places in living quarters to provide racks and stands for messing gear, bedding and equipment, enables currents of air to pass through and round which assists in hygiene and provides necessary shelter for such gear.


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

Informal plan
EXPERIMENTS IN EMPLOYMENT OF 3" MORTARS IN JUNGLE AREAS.

The following notes are based on experiments carried out by the Mortar Pl. The aim of all these experiments was to ascertain the best methods of employing and moving the 3" Mortar in low country jungle and plantation areas, its limitations and capabilities.

A. TRANSPORT.

1. Carrier
- (a) This has been proved the fastest and least vulnerable means of transport wherever a carrier can go.
 - (b) *It is suggested that* The attachments on the back of the Carrier LP2 ~~have been~~ removed and the ordinary chest ~~has been~~ mounted there. *be*
 - (c) The lid of the chest has been hinged to speed up action.
 - (d) The time for getting into action dismounted from the time the carrier stops, until the first bomb has been fired has been reduced to 32 seconds. This may be further reduced by practice.
 - (e) The carrier is unable to cross marshy or paddy field, or thick jungle. It can go through rubber plantations provided the ground is not too deeply trenched. Movement by carrier sacrifices the element of surprise, due to noise, if the carrier is brought too far forward. ✓

2. Carrying Harness.

(a) This has proved the most effective method of dismounted transport. Carries have been made of over 2000 yards. It is possible to carry for about 15 minutes without resting, but then it is necessary to rest for about 5 minutes, thereafter, due to fatigue, it is necessary to carry for only 5 to 10 minutes (depending on ground) at a time, and rest for 5 minutes. The rate of progress is about 100 yds in 2 minutes, and 2000 yards in the hour, viz,

<u>TIME.</u>	<u>DISTANCE COVERED.</u>	<u>TOTAL DISTANCE.</u>
0 to 15 minutes.	750 yds.	750 yds.
15 to 20 "	rest.	--
20 to 30 "	500 yds.	1250 yds.
30 to 35 "	rest	--
35 to 40 "	250 yds.	1500 yds.
40 to 45 "	rest	--
45 to 50 "	250 yds.	1750 yds.
50 to 55 "	rest	--
55 to 60 "	250 yds	2000 yds.

These times and distances are only approximate, and are based on crossing plantation, light jungle, paddy field and stream, in the proportions usually met with in this area

(b). The carrying harness only provides for 6 bombs being carried (by No.4). At least 30 bombs must be carried for the Mortar to be of any use. This would require a further 4 sets of harness for bomb carrying and 4 porters to be provided.

(c). The rate of movement would be accelerated by providing 12 to 20 porters, making with the 4 mortar no's a total party of 16 or 24 divided into 2 or 3 porter sections of 8 each, these sections changing over every 10 minutes. ~~These porters could be provided from a platoon of the Coy to which the detachment is attached.~~

(d). While carrying, the detachment is very vulnerable, and must be given ground protection. ~~By always moving the detachment with a platoon, the pl. could give the protection and also supply porter carrying parties.~~

(3). Bullock Carts.

(a) Have not proved satisfactory. Can carry loads on roads, at 5 mph for a very short distance but generally at 2 mph and not more than 10 miles in a day.

After 10 miles a bullock needs resting up for 24 hours or replacing. It is useless

OVER/

in paddy or marsh, or thick timber. It is very slow on hills, and usually requires man-handling to assist up any sort of grade and as a brake down hill.

(b). A Carrier will go practically anywhere a cart will go and often where a cart will not go, and is much faster, besides carrying the crew, and being less vulnerable

(c). A bullock cart is very vulnerable.

(d). Forage is easily obtained.

4. Pack Bullock.

(a). There are no pack bullocks in the low country, and the low country bullocks are not suitable for pack work, as they are not trained to it. Also the water buffalo will wallow whenever it comes to water or paddy field.

(b). Pack animals from the Hill country would probably be useful if they were available at the time and place required, but could not travel with a Unit on the move, as they would reduce the mobility of the column considerably.

5. Carried on Stretchers or Slung on Poles.

(a). Experiments have been carried out carrying the parts on :-

- i. Bamboo stretchers carried by two men.
- ii. Bamboo stretchers carried by two men on their shoulders.
- iii. Slung from a pole carried on the shoulders of two men.

(b). None of these methods has been found as satisfactory as the issue carrying harness.

(c). The disadvantages are as follows :-

- i. On rough ground and particularly paddy fields, a stumble by one man frequently causes both to fall.
- ii. The strain on the individual is greater.
- iii. Two men this way cannot carry a greater load than one man with carrying harness, thereby doubling the portage party.
- iv. Either time is wasted cutting and preparing poles when required, or the carrier is cluttered up with 8 long poles or stretchers. Also it is not always possible to find suitable timber for poles, even in daylight, and it would be impossible at night.

6. River Crossing.

(a). A light raft of 3 lengths of bamboo 5 ins. in diameter, and 5 ft long, has proved very effective in rafting across rivers the mortar and bombs. A raft this size can be carried on the carriers ready for instant use. (A special report is attached. Appendix "A".) *See insert note marked "A"*

B. EMPLOYMENT.

(a). Owing to necessity of avoiding hitting tree tops at the mortar position, they will frequently have to be sited on the forward edges of paddy fields, which are about the only clearings in this area. If the paddy field is narrow and exposed to the enemy fire, then it is recommended that they be sited either:-

(i.) Well to a flank and if possible in a defiladed position, or (ii.) In the next clearing in rear, if within range, so as to avoid the risk of the crew being sniped.

(b). It will be necessary for the mortar position to be close to the O.P., as signals cannot be seen at any distance in close country, in bad light, or during smoke. If a light field telephone were available it would be possible for the mortar position to be sited in the next clearing block back from the O.P., which frequently will have to be only a few hundred yards from the target area.

(c). As the mortar crew when carrying or in action are very vulnerable, it will be necessary for a rifle pl. to be made responsible for the protection of the detachment except when actually moving in the carrier. This pl. could also provide necessary porters. (incl. para A 2 (c)). *protective party.*

(d). ~~It is recommended that a mortar detachment be permanently allotted to each rifle Coy. for the following reasons :-~~

OVER

- i. To be always available for instant use.
- ii. To avoid long moves and probable carries, from the reserve area to Coy positions.
- iii. To improve co-operation -- The Coy will know the personnel and not be so likely to overlook them, and the detachment commander will get to know the mind of the Coy Comd.

C. Recommendations.

1. That the following additional equipment be provided :-

- (a). 4 additional sets of bomb carrying harness per detachment (24 in all).
- (b). One bamboo raft per carrier (7).
- (c). Two field telephones and 500 yds of double cable per detachment.

2. That a detachment be allotted at all times to each Coy and as far as possible remain attached to same Coy. The two reserve detachments to be attached to each Coy in turn during training.

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.....

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

Headquarters,
2/1 Aust Inf Bn.,
25 May 42.

NOTES ON RAFTS FOR MORTAR PLATOON.

A

- (1). *b* It is essential that the raft be :-
- (a). Not too large to carry on the carrier.
 - (b). Able to carry a load of 80 lbs (to allow for margin in case some sections are punctured).
 - (c). Stable in the water.
- (2). *c* Sufficient rope should be carried to permit of the raft being towed to and fro across the river.
- (3). *d* Good rope should be used in making the lashings - cheap fibre rope is not satisfactory as it stretches very easily, particularly when wet and does not give sufficient rigidity to the raft, thereby rendering it very liable to capsize.
- (4). *e* It is advisable for the raft to be carried on the rear of the carrier assembled. If carried in sections or component parts, these parts could not very well be carried outside, but would need to be carried inside the carrier, where there is already very little space and the heat from the engine would very soon warp and crack the bamboo.
- (5). *f* The raft must be launched before it is loaded, otherwise in carrying down the river bank to the water the load is almost sure to slip through the raft being tilted, with the result that the raft will not be properly trimmed when launched, and will capsize.
- (6). *g* Suggested drill is as follows :-
- (a). While Detachment Comd. makes recon to select exact launching site, the remainder of crew dismount raft and mortar and required number of bombs from carrier.
 - (b). Rafts, mortar and bombs carried to nearest cover to launching site.
 - (c). Detachment strip and pack personal gear in ground sheets and dump.
 - (d). Section Comd. swims ^{to} far bank taking over one end of tow rope which he makes fast while Nos. 1 and 2 launch raft and make rear tow rope fast to near bank. Nos. 3 and 4 bring loads to raft.
 - (e). Loads in sequence to be :-
 - i. Barrel.
 - ii. Base plate and instruments.
 - iii. Mounting.
 - iv. etc. Bombs.then personal gear of crew.
 - (f). When first load is on, Detachment Comd. pulls raft across, which is accompanied by Nos 1 and 2.
 - (g). When last load is ready, Nos 3 and 4 release rear tow rope and accompany raft.
 - (h). First task on arrival at far bank is to prepare Mortar :
 - i. To fire as soon as bombs available if a fire task has been given.
 - ii. To prepare to carry mortar etc. in carrying harness if further move expected.

Crew should not dress until these tasks completed.

OVER/

X B

Headquarters,
2/1 Aust Inf Bn.,
25 May 42.

CARRYING 3-IN MORTAR ON BICYCLE.

RESULT OF TEST - 22 MAY 42.

Carried on bicycles

The Mortar det. can move with all its stores over nearly any type of country by push-bike.

The type of country over which the test was carried out was varied; tarred road, paddy field track, narrow bush track, steep undulating country, rubber plantation and, in fact, anywhere where a man can push a bike.

THE BIKE

keyness
The local purchase type at present on issue *to Bns* to the Bn. is too light for the heavy work demanded; a stronger make of bicycle, such as the standard issue pattern, is needed. With the addition of a commercial carrier placed on the bike to suit the particular piece of weapon carried, the task is easy. The weight is such that the rider needs all his attention on the guiding of the bicycle, and his personal arms and equipment will have to be either dispensed with, or cut to the barest minimum. As much amm. as required can be carried as there are bikes to carry it; the load seems to be 30-lbs (3 bombs in carrier), though on a good road 6 bombs could easily be carried on a rear carrier.

THE MORTAR

After many trials it was found to be unsatisfactory on the man, and quite suitable on the bicycle. No. 1 carries the sight case and base plate - case over shoulder, base plate on the back carrier below the seat; No. 2 the barrel, carried with the breech piece under the saddle, the muzzle leading, pointed over the handle bars; No. 3 the bipod, the most awkward piece, with the spikes under the saddle, the collar extended between the handle bars; No. 4 the amm., carried on a "commercial" type of carrier frame securely tied at the back. *In addition two further bicycles would be required to carry ammunition from supply point*
In all cases the bike bears the weight of each article, the man is thus free to use his hands and has only to concentrate his energy on guiding and pushing. The work is hard but NOT exhausting, and the men arrive at the position quite able to fight.

Trouble was felt with the present civilian saddle - it is too narrow and uncomfortable. A wider saddle is needed, especially as the parts are best carried under the saddle in most cases.

Incl. [unclear]

[Signature]

[Handwritten mark]

7. It will depend on the tactical situation, and topography whether the raft is left in the river, tow ropes left in position, or whether the raft is perhaps carried forward by a separate carrying party to the next river, or returned to the carrier. If possible the raft should not be abandoned, it may be needed again within the next mile or two.

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EXPERIMENTS IN EMPLOYMENT OF 3" MORTARS IN JUNGLE AREAS.

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- (b) The attachments on the back of the Carrier LP2 have been removed and the ordinary chest has been mounted there.
- (c). The lid of the chest has been hinged to speed up action.
- (d) The time for getting into action dismounted from the time the carrier stops, until the first bomb has been fired has been reduced to 32 seconds. This may be further reduced by practice.
- (e) The carrier is unable to cross marshy or paddy field, or thick jungle. It can go through rubber plantations provided the ground is not too deeply trenched. Movement by carrier sacrifices the element of surprise, due to noise, if the carrier is brought too far forward.

2. Carrying Harness.

(a) This has proved the most effective method of dismounted transport. Carries have been made of over 2000 yards. It is possible to carry for about 15 minutes without resting, but then it is necessary to rest for about 5 minutes, thereafter, due to fatigue, it is necessary to carry for only 5 to 10 minutes (depending on ground) at a time, and rest for 5 minutes. The rate of progress is about 100 yds in 2 minutes, and 2000 yards in the hour, viz,

<u>TIME.</u>	<u>DISTANCE COVERED.</u>	<u>TOTAL DISTANCE.</u>
0 to 15 minutes.	750 yds.	750 yds.
15 to 20 "	rest.	--
20 to 30 "	500 yds.	1250 yds.
30 to 35 "	rest	--
35 to 40 "	250 yds.	1500 yds.
40 to 45 "	rest	--
45 to 50 "	250 yds.	1750 yds.
50 to 55 "	rest	--
55 to 60	250 yds	2000 yds.

These times and distances are only approximate, and are based on crossing plantation, light jungle, paddy field and stream, in the proportions usually met with in this area

(b). The carrying harness only provides for 6 bombs being carried (by No.4). At least 30 bombs must be carried for the Mortar to be of any use. This would require a further 4 sets of harness for bomb carrying and 4 porters to be provided.

(c). The rate of movement would be accelerated by providing 12 to 20 porters, making with the 4 mortar no's a total party of 16 or 24 divided into 2 or 3 porter sections of 8 each, these sections changing over every 10 minutes. These porters could be provided from a platoon of the Coy to which the detachment is attached.

(d). While carrying, the detachment is very vulnerable, and must be given ground protection. By always moving the detachment with a platoon, the pl. could give the protection and also supply porter carrying parties.

(3). Bullock Carts.

(a) Have not proved satisfactory. Can carry loads on roads, at 5 mph for a very short distance but generally at 2 mph and not more than 10 miles in a day.

After 10 miles a bullock needs resting up for 24 hours or replacing. It is useless

OVER/

in paddy or marsh, or thick timber. It is very slow on hills, and usually requires man-handling to assist up any sort of grade and as a brake down hill.

(b). A Carrier will go practically anywhere a cart will go and often where a cart will not go, and is much faster, besides carrying the crew, and being less vulnerable

(c). A bullock cart is very vulnerable.

(d). Forage is easily obtained.

4. Pack Bullock.

(a). There are no pack bullocks in the low country, and the low country bullocks are not suitable for pack work, as they are not trained to it. Also the water buffalo will wallow whenever it comes to water or paddy field.

(b). Pack animals from the Hill country would probably be useful if they were available at the time and place required, but could not travel with a Unit on the move, as they would reduce the mobility of the column considerably.

5. Carried on Stretchers or Slung on Poles.

(a). Experiments have been carried out carrying the parts on :-

- i. Bamboo stretchers carried by two men.
- ii. Bamboo stretchers carried by two men on their shoulders.
- iii. Slung from a pole carried on the shoulders of two men.

(b). None of these methods has been found as satisfactory as the issue carrying harness.

(c). The disadvantages are as follows :-

- i. On rough ground and particularly paddy fields, a stumble by one man frequently causes both to fall.
- ii. The strain on the individual is greater.
- iii. Two men this way cannot carry a greater load than one man with carrying harness, thereby doubling the portorage party.
- iv. Either time is wasted cutting and preparing poles when required, or the carrier is cluttered up with 8 long poles or stretchers. Also it is not always possible to find suitable timber for poles, even in daylight, and it would be impossible at night.

(6). River Crossing.

(a). A light raft of 3 lengths of bamboo 5 ins. in diameter, and 5 ft long, has proved very effective in rafting across rivers the mortar and bombs. A raft this size can be carried on the carriers ready for instant use. A special report is attached. Appendix "A".

B. EMPLOYMENT.

(a). Owing to necessity of avoiding hitting tree tops at the mortar position, they will frequently have to be sited on the forward edges of paddy fields, which are about the only clearings in this area. If the paddy field is narrow and exposed to the enemy fire, then it is recommended that they be sited either:-

(i.) Well to a flank and if possible in a defiladed position, or (ii.) In the next clearing in rear, if within range, so as to avoid the risk of the crew being sniped.

(b). It will be necessary for the mortar position to be close to the O.P., as signal -s cannot be seen at any distance in close country, in bad light, or during smoke. If a light field telephone were available it would be possible for the mortar position to be sited in the next clearing block back from the O.P., which frequently will have to be only a few hundred yards from the target area.

(c). As the mortar crew when carrying or in action are very vulnerable, it will be necessary for a rifle pl. to be made responsible for the protection of the detachment except when actually moving in the carrier. This pl. could also provide necessary porters. (incl. para A 2 (c)).


(d). It is recommended that a mortar detachment be permanently allotted to each rifle Coy. for the following reasons :-

OVER

- i. To be always available for instant use.
- ii. To avoid long moves and probable carries, from the reserve area to Coy positions.
- iii. To improve co-operation -- The Coy will know the personnel and not be so likely to overlook them, and the detachment commander will get to know the mind of the Coy Comd.

C. Recommendations.

1. That the following additional equipment be provided :-
 - (a). 4 additional sets of bomb carrying harness per detachment (24 in all).
 - (b). One bamboo raft per carrier (7).
 - (c). Two field telephones and 500 yds of double cable per detachment.
2. That a detachment be allotted at all times to each Coy and as far as possible remain attached to same Coy. The two reserve detachments to be attached to each Coy in turn during training.


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APPENDIX

War Diary

SECRETCopy No 18

10 May 42.

16 AUST INF BDEOPERATION INSTRUCTION NO 2Ref Map

HORANA	1 inch to 1 mile
ALUTGAMA	1 " " " "
RATNAPURA	1 " " " "
RAKWANA	1 " " " "

GENERAL

1. Almost the whole of the Coast line of CEYLON forms one long beach suitable for landings. The suitability of particular sectors varies with monsoon conditions but it may be taken that the JAPANESE could land anywhere if they so wish.
2. The two obvious enemy objectives are COLOMBO and TRINCOMALEE. The enemy are not likely to attempt a landing within range of fixed defences but are more likely to follow their usual custom of landing some little distance away. An immediate objective will be an air landing ground close to the scene of landing.
3. To approach COLOMBO the enemy can land North or South of the harbours. It seems unlikely that they will go North when the South offers just as good facilities with smaller risks in passage.
4. The most likely areas are those near existing landing grounds.
5. Conditions for landing on West Coast are at their worst during SW monsoon from Mid MAY to SEPTEMBER at BERUWALA, COLOMBO and possibly NEGOMBO, conditions are never bad.
6. BERUWALA - 802129, KATUKURUNDA 783225, KOGGALA 225535, GALLE 085585, also KALUTARA 775258 and BENTOTA 817067 are considered likely areas South of COLOMBO.
7. To approach, TRINCOMALEE beaches are suitable both North and South but the country to the South is bad going, much cut up by lagoons and the Coastal road is broken by a number of ferries. The most likely landing is North of TRINCOMALEE with a view to encircling it from the North and West.
8. Landing conditions in the JAFFNA peninsula are good and as natural air landing grounds exist there or can be prepared with very little labour, this is a likely objective for a subsidiary landing to secure air landing grounds.
9. The only two way rd in the SW fit for military traffic is the main Coast rd COLOMBO - GALLE - AMBALANTOTA (065699). Some of this rd is in full view of the sea. There are no other lateral rds fit for regular military traffic as all others are either liable to flooding or intercepted by rivers with or without ferry crossings.
The alternative line of supply to Southern part of SW sector rd COLOMBO - RATNAPURA 315375 - PELMADULLA 481305 MADAMPE 542193 - AKURESSA 398675 to the Coast is only a one way route and would require very considerable work, material, and time before it would be suitable for all military traffic - parts of this route are effected by flood waters during monsoon period.
10. The enemy will probably endeavour to secure air landing grounds from which to operate in support of and to cover the landing of troops comprising his land forces. It is therefore imperative

that all existing aerodromes and possible landing grounds be denied to the enemy.

- 11. As it is impossible to man the whole Coast line our plans must be to garrison only vital pts with minimum tps necessary and to maintain the balance as a mob res for offensive action against the enemy where ever he may attempt landing.

ROLE OF AIF

- 12. The role of AIF (CEYLON) is to defend the SW sector of CEYLON and to repel any enemy landing in that sector.

BOUNDARIES

13. AIF

(a) All incl from sea to MORATUWA 671486 - line of MAHAOYA - PALANNORUWA 842475 - KOTIGALA 995509 - KURIWITA 127148 - THALAMURUWATTA 514382 - UDAGAMA 650413 - AJUTHUWRA 730320 - KALTOTA 885340 - line of WALAWE GANGA - AMBALANTOTA 065699 to the sea.

(b) Inter-Bde Bdy (Northern Area)

All incl 16 Aust Inf Bde Gp from sea to BENTOTA 817067 - line BENTOTA GANGA - UHANOWITO 115000 - HABARAKADA 220982 - DENIYAYA 495959 - SIYAMBALGODA 960823 - WALAWE GANGA.

BDE GP AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

- 14. NORTHERN Area - 16 Aust Inf Bde
SOUTHERN " - 17 Aust Inf Bde.

METHOD OF DEFENCE

- 15. The principle on which role is based, is that after allotting the minimum force for static defence of aerodromes and beaches, the remainder will be held in readiness to move with the utmost despatch to attack the enemy before he can establish a beach head.

ROLE OF 16 BDE GP

- 16. (a) Defence of KATUKURUNDA Aerodrome
- (b) Coastal defence all incl MORATUWA to BENTOTA
- (c) Defence of HQ AIF (CEYLON) at MATUGAMA 962183.
- (d) Mob Res.

DISPOSITIONS

- 17. (a) KATUKURUNDA - defence of aerodrome.

<u>Local Comd</u>	Lt-Col T.W. White.
<u>Tps</u>	2/1 Aust Inf Bn
<u>With under command</u>	51 Bty, 2/1 Aust Fd Regt D Tp, 1 Aust A Tk Regt Tp 148/43 Lt AA Regt, RA Det AASC 2/1 Aust Fd Amb (4 DS)
<u>In Support</u>	Det 2/1 Aust Fd Coy, RAE Cme Coy, 2/1 Aust Fd Amb.

This force will also be responsible for Beach defence from KALUTARA to BENTOTA both incl - and suitable positions will be sited and dug in preparation. Provision will be made to site positions for one Tp 51 Bty, 2/1 Aust Fd Regt for beach defence.

- (b) This para (17) to be read in conjunction with Operation Instruction No 1 dated 22 Apr 42 already issued.

COMPOSITION AND PROBABLE ROLE OF RES

18. Mob Res situated at HORANA area 0914

(a) Composition

2/1 Aust Fd Regt less one Bty.
2/2 Aus t Inf Bn
2/3 Aus t Inf Bn
Rec Sec, 2/2 Aust A Fd Wkshops
D Div Sec Aust Ord Fd Pk
1 Coy, AASC (less det)
Det Pro 6 Aust Div
2/1 Aust Fd Amb less one Coy

In Support

2/1 Aust Fd Coy, RAE (less det) comes under comd on operations commencing.

- (b) Probable Roles. The Bde may be called upon to carry out any or a combination of the following tasks :
- (i) To hold any enemy adv from the EAST or SE by occupying defensive positions RATNAPURA area - See Appendix A
 - (ii) To hold on the line R. KALU GANGA against any enemy adv from either NORTH or SOUTH - See Appendix A.
 - (iii) To hold a series of defensive areas as per Appendix A
 - (iv) Local defence of HORANA camp area and of ROAD BLOCKS covering road approaches to same. See Appendix A
 - (v) To oppose and attack any enemy landing on WEST Coast of Bde sector.
 - (vi) To attack SW from HORANA in relief of KATUKURUNDA aerodrome.
 - (vii) To move SOUTH or SE to reinforce 17 Aus t Inf Bde Gp.
 - (viii) Vulnerable points (special instructions will be issued)

Appendix A shows the provisional allotment of operational tasks to certain units of the Bde Gp to cover the above probable roles. It will be noted that a Fd Bty has been provisionally allotted to each of the 2/2 and 2/3 Aust Inf Bns.

Limit. Moves to any area outside AIF sector will not be carried out without orders from this HQ.

CIVILIAN BICYCLES AND ARMS & AMN.

19. On hostilities commencing all units will confiscate civilian bicycles seen and give the owner or rider a receipt showing :

Name of owner
Make, and number of cycle (if possible)
Date)
Place)

Signature or mark of owner
Army number and signature of person
confiscating bicycle.

Suitable receipt forms will be prepared by units forthwith
and held for issue down to Sec's or equivalent.

Arms & Amn. An endeavour is being made to provide for the
confiscation of shot guns, rifles, etc through civil authorities -
but should any person be seen bearing arms after hostilities
commence, arms will be confiscated and a similar receipt given.

ROAD BLOCKS

19A. Rd blocks will be closed and manned on receipt of code word
from this HQ. Code word 'TOBRUK'.

RAE

20. Owing to limited Engineer personnel and a large number of engineer
tasks to be carried out, units will be prepared to undertake Fd
Engineering work within the scope of their capabilities, i.e.
Rd blocks, mine laying and constructional work.
Engineer stores will be indented for through Bde HQ.

DEMOLITIONS

21. (a) HQ AIF (CEYLON) is responsible for demolition plan within
AIF sector.

(b) Delegating authorities (for demolitions) will be responsible
for finding covering parties for the engineer demolition parties
to strength of 1 NCO and 6 ORs.

(c) Arrangements must be made by delegating authorities for the
rapid and certain transmission of orders to demolition parties
and firing parties.

(d) On receipt of code word as shown charges will be placed and
firing and covering parties will remain in position. This code
word delegates authority to the offr responsible for ordering
firing of demolitions as necessary.

The responsibility for the following demolitions are allotted to
this Bde :

<u>Serial</u>	<u>Nature of Demolition</u>	<u>Map Ref</u>	<u>Map Sheet</u> BORAMA ALUTGAMA RATNAPURA RAKWANA	<u>Place Name</u>	<u>Unit responsible for firing charge</u>	<u>Auth- ority for demolition</u>	<u>Code Word for Blowing</u>
1	Rd Br	837321	1 mile	EAST of) DIYAGAMA)			
2	Rd Br	836318	"	EAST of) DIYAGAMA)	2/1 Fd Coy	Comd 16 Aust Inf Bde or offr delegated by him	WIND
3	Rd Br	775263	"	KALUTARA)			
4	Ry Br	775263	"	KALUTARA)			
5	Rd Br	801380	"	North of) RAMUNUMULLA)			
6	Rd Br	788402	"	West of) WEWITA)			
7	Rd Br	738378	"	East of) TALPITIYA)	2/1 Fd Coy	Comd 16 Aust Inf Bde or offr delegated by him	GALE
8	Rd Br	728378	"	TALPITIYA)			
9	Ry Br	726377	"	TALPITIYA)			

Charges will be made up, fuses cut to length, and all the necessary explosive materials and stores for each Br will be held in reserve by 2/1 Aust Fd Coy who are charged with the duty of firing charge.

Charges will NOT be placed in position without orders from HQ AIF. Charges will be fired only on the orders of the offr detailed by name by the Authority for Demolition.

ADDITIONAL
DEMOLITIONS.

22. Further demolition points are in process of recce with a view to recommendation for inclusion in Demolition plan.

A TK MINES

23. Where these are laid as adjuncts to rd blocks or in minefields, they will be accurately plotted in relation to some local feature and record with full details of number, type, bearings and length of boundaries and distances and bearings of corners of boundaries from selected datum. The full information will be passed to this HQ.

Any information or details of enemy mines will be reported without delay to this HQ.

Safety precautions. All minefields will be clearly marked and adequate safety precautions taken for the protection of both civilian and own tps.

COMNS

24. (a) River Crossings

(i) Flying Br has been erected over KALU GANGA at ANGURUWATOTA 093133, and a further one is in process of erection at 924326.

(ii) Br is in process of erection over the BENTOTA GANGA vicinity UDAGAMA 104099.

ARMD TRAIN.

25. An armd train located at RATMALANA and operated by CPRC has been placed under comd HQ AIF.

A TK AND ANTI BOAT
SCAFFOLDING.

26. A quantity of this is available.

This equipment is suitable for use :-

- (i) In inland waterways.
- (ii) As an anti tank obstacle.
- (iii) For general defence of a fixed defence or a tactically important area.
- (iv) For beach defence.

Units will forward their recommendations of requirements stating for what purpose and where it is intended to use same.

KTR will indent on 2/1 Aust Fd Coy, HORANA, for sufficient to establish A Tk protection of defensive positions HOSPITAL HILL and C and D Coy areas.

CAMOUFLAGE

27. (a) Vehicles.

Colours to be used in CEYLON are light green ground with a very dark disruptive pattern. As soon as paint is made available arrangements will be made by this HQ to have vehicles camouflaged.

- (b) Defensive Positions - Weapon Pits, etc
Care will be taken at all times to have these camouflaged either with natural material available or by nets. Parapets should not show but should be made to conform with natural surroundings.

STATE OF READINESS

28. As per Appendix B.

ADMINISTRATION

MEDICAL

29. (a) In the event of hostilities commencing, 2/1 Aust Fd Amb will be prepared to divide unit into series of mobile sections for attaching to columns as may be required.
- (b) In cases of emergency patients may be admitted to civil hospitals. The senior medical administrative officer of the area in which the hospital is located, will be notified.

ORDNANCE

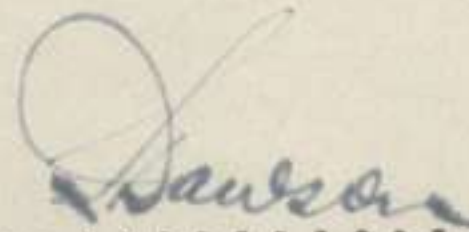
30. (a) V.R.D. is established at CBO.
- (b) Reserve vehicles. As the number of reserve vehicles is definitely limited, it is essential that every effort should be made to repair any damaged vehicles. No vehicle will be written off as U.S. without the express permission of ADOS (E).

PERSONNEL

31. (a) On receipt of Code Word 'CLIVE', see Appx 'B', all personnel surplus to WE together with LOB personnel as laid down in 16 Aust Inf Bde S.O's will be withdrawn from units and conveyed to HORANA area, where arrangements will be made for the establishment of a 16 Aust Inf Bde Gp Tng Unit.
- (b) Details of LOB personnel for units other than Inf Bns will be issued separately.
32. POW. See CRCAC/161/A of 4 Apr 42 regarding Disposal of P's of W.
33. ANTI-GAS. On receipt of Code Word 'CLIVE' and unless otherwise ordered, respirators will be carried on man. This is based on proposed restricted tpt scale.
34. AMN (a) 2nd line amn will not be loaded on AASC vehs without instructions from this HQ or on receipt of Code Word 'PLASSEY',
- (b) AP is located in HORANA 904415.
35. BLANKETS. In case of operational move one blanket will be carried on unit vehs and one blanket dumped in bundles of 10 in unit lines under unit LOB personnel.
36. POL. Sufficient POL for at least 200 miles will be carried on veh incl in tank and res.
37. RATIONS. Ten days' reserve rations will be maintained by all units for operations, two days of these will be carried on the man.
38. WATER. All drinking water will be chlorinated or boiled.
39. ANTI-MOSQUITO. Necessary anti mosquito precautions will be taken.

INTERCOMN

- 40. (a) HQ AIF CEYLON - MATUGAMA 960182
- (b) Bde HQ - DICKHENA Estate HORANA 919423.
- (c) BEETLE organisation as per Appx 'C'.
- (d) Simplified operational Code List is being compiled by HQ AIF and will be issued separately when available.


Major.
 B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde.

ACKNOWLEDGE

Issued through *Sigs by DRHS.*
 and signed at *1700 hrs*

DISTRIBUTION:

	<u>Copy No</u>
2/1 Aust Fd Regt	1 - 2
2/1 Aust Inf Bn	3
2/2 Aust Inf Bn	4
2/3 Aust Inf Bn	5
No 5 Rec Sec, 2/2 AAFW	6
No 1 Coy, AASC	7
D Div Sec Ord Fd Pk	8
2/1 Aust Fd Amb	9
2/1 Aust t Fd Coy	10
HQ AIF (CEYLON)	11
17 Aust Inf Bde	12
Comd	13
B.M.	14
File	15 - 16
War Diary	17 - 18.

S E C R E T

APPENDIX 'A'

PROVISIONAL
ALLOTMENT :

2/2 AUST INF BN

Comd Tps [With under command]	Lt-Col C.R.V. EDGAR 2/2 Aust Inf Bn One Bty 2/1 Aust Fd Regt One Det Engrs 2/1 Aust Fd Coy One Mob Sec 2/1 Aust Fd Amb
--	--

LOCAL DEFENSIVE ZONES		
		Ref HORANA ALUTGAMA PANADURA 1" = 1 mile
PLACE	NO. ON TRACE APPX 'D'	STRENGTH
Island Feature 794367	2	One Coy
KOTAWALA 842424	3	One Pl
KUMBUKE 855453	4	One Pl
BELLANTADUWA 843400	7	One Pl
MATUGAMA 963184 Div HQ defences		One Pl Trace to be issued
ROAD BLOCKS		
PLACE	NO. ON TRACE APPX 'D'	STRENGTH
888423	1	) One Section
892427	2	) One A Tk Rifle
901410	3	) One EY Rifle
904410	4	) TSMG
FERRIES & BRIDGES OUTER-DEF AREAS		
PLACE	MAP. REF.	STRENGTH
ANGURUWATOTA FERRY	922326	One Pl
ditto Northern	posn 924325	One Pl
NARAGALA	947383	One Pl
HALWATURA	046425	One Pl
UDUGAMA	001995	One Pl
BENTOTA GANGA	822068	One Coy
KALU GANGA	775264	One Coy
MORATUWA	690470 (700472)	One Coy ²⁰⁰ Pl) 1 Sec Carriers One Pl) Mortar Det

PROVISIONAL ALLOTMENT :

2/3 AUST INF BN

Comd

Lt-Col J.R. STEVENSON

Tps

2/3 Aust Inf Bn

[With under command]

One Bty, 2/1 Aust Fd Regt
One Det 2/1 Aust Fd Coy
One Mob Sec 2/1 Aust Fd Amb

LOCAL DEFENSIVE ZONES

HORANA
RAKWANA 1" = 1 mile

PLACE	NO. ON TRACE "APPX 'D'	STRENGTH
ELLAKANDE 892427	1	One Pl
HEGALLA 900410	5	" "
GUROGODA 945433	6	" "
KULUPANA 885425	8	One Pl (less one Sec situated KANEWALA 868418) acting as Mob Res.

ROAD BLOCKS

PLACE	NO. ON TRACE APPX 'D'	STRENGTH
912422	5	) One Section) One A Tk Rifle) One EY Rifle One TSMG
926424	6	
932426	7	

OUTER-DEFENSIVE AREAS

RATNAPURA 1" = 1 mile

PLACE	MAP. REF.	STRENGTH
RATNAPURA TOWN	315375	One Pl One Sec each at Bridges shown on trace held in unit.
KURAWITA	268489	One Pl
MAHAWELA	335385	" "
KETANDOLA	347356	One Coy
PELMADULLA	481305	One Coy
BALANGODA	673334	One Pl
RAKWANA	554114	" "
GODAKEWELA	609159	" "

S E C R E T

APPX 'A' (Cont'd)

TPS - AASC & FD W/SHOPS

ROAD BLOCKS

HORANA 1" = 1 mile		
PLACE	NO. ON TRACE APPX 'D'	STRENGTH
921448	10	One Sec and one LMG AASC One Sec and one A Tk Rifle No 5 Sec, AAFW.
920450)) 927466)	8 9	Allotted to AASC and Fd W/shops responsible for closing only.

STATE OF READINESS

1. There will be three states of readiness to meet varying liability to enemy attack. These will be brought into effect by certain "Action Code Words". Details of action to be taken on each is set out below. At present AIF is on 3rd state of readiness (WELLINGTON).

2. 3rd State of Readiness

CODE WORD - WELLINGTON

3. MEANING - No attack by enemy forces is expected within 12 hrs.

4. ACTION
- (a) Leave may be granted up to a maximum of 5% of unit strength provided they are within 12 hrs recall.
 - (b) AA. 50% of all AA guns and of LMGs employed in an AA role will be permanently manned by day. 50% of all AA guns will be permanently manned by night. The remainder of all AA guns and LMGs employed in an AA role will be at 30 minutes notice.
 - (c) Aerodrome Defence Tps - All tps employed in aerodrome defence other than LMGs dealt with above will be at three hrs notice. Para 4 (a) applies also to these tps, of whom 5% may be on leave within 12 hrs recall.
 - (d) Beach Defence Tps - Tps in beach defences will stand to on their deployment positions from 0400 hrs to 0630 hrs daily and thereafter will be at 3 hrs notice.
 - (e) Remaining Tps - 12 hrs notice.

2nd State of Readiness

5. CODE WORD - CLIVE

6. MEANING - An enemy air attack on CEYLON is considered imminent.

7. ACTION
- (a) All leave will be cancelled and personnel on leave recalled.
 - (b) AA. - All AA guns will be manned throughout the 24 hrs. All LMGs employed in an AA role will be manned throughout the hours of daylight and during all periods of moonlight, when the moon is more than half full.
 - (c) Aerodrome Defence Tps - Tps actually deployed in defensive position will be at instant readiness day and night. Tps employed as mobile reserves for aerodrome defence will be at 30 minutes notice.
 - (d) Beach Defence Tps - All beach defence tps will stand to on their deployment positions from 0400 hrs to 0630 hrs. At other times tps will be at $\frac{1}{2}$ hrs notice, but the beaches for which they are responsible will be kept under observation.
 - (e) Remaining Tps - 3 hours notice.
 - (f) Cancellation of Exercises - Any exercise larger than a bn exercise and all exercises involving the co-operation of any other service will be cancelled.

1st State of Readiness

- 8. CODE WORD - PLASSEY
- 9. MEANING - Enemy invasion may be expected shortly.
- 10. ACTION
 - (a) AA. All AA guns will be manned throughout the 24 hrs. All LMGs employed in an AA role will be manned through the 24 hrs.
 - (b) Aerodrome and Beach Defence Tps - All defences will be manned through the 24 hrs.
 - (c) Local reserves for Aerodrome and Beach Defences - At instant readiness.
 - (d) Remaining Tps - At 30 minutes notice to move.
 - (e) Demolitions - If orders have not already been issued all charges will be laid and all preparations to fire will be made.

S E C R E T

APPENDIX 'C'

BEETLE ORGANISATION

(a) OBJECT

The object of this organisation is to ensure that all service authorities are able to continue to render and receive reports and that the lowest formation and remote outlying stas are kept in touch with the situation in the event of failure of normal line comms.

(b) ORGANISATION

The organisation will comprise :-

- (i) A W/T network linking up the senior offrs and HQs of the three services and the main Base Areas at CBO and TRN. Control Station will be at Area Combined HQ.
- (ii) A R/T Broadcast organisation whereby the lower formation HQ and remote outlying stas are supplied with comm-Broadcast receivers which will enable them to receive messages broadcast by R/T transmitter.

(c) The following will comprise the R/T organisation :-

The broadcast will be made from the Broadcasting Station, CBO on the existing Long Wave Transmitter and at the same time on a Short Wave Transmitter to give complete coverage over the whole island.

(d) WATCH TO BE KEPT

- (i) On the order "STAND BY BEETLE" constant watch will be maintained at all stas comprising the W/T organisation as at para (b) (i) above. All R/T stas will keep watch forthwith for the first five minutes of every hr.
- (ii) On the order "LAY ON BEETLE" all R/T stas will keep constant watch.
- (iii) On the order "LAY OFF BEETLE" all W/T and R/T will cease.

(e) Following units are equipped with "BEETLE" sets :-

(i)	HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde	2	(one spare)
(ii)	2/1 Aust Inf Bn	1	
(iii)	2/2 Aust Inf Bn	1	
(iv)	2/3 Aust Inf Bn	1	
		<u>5</u>	

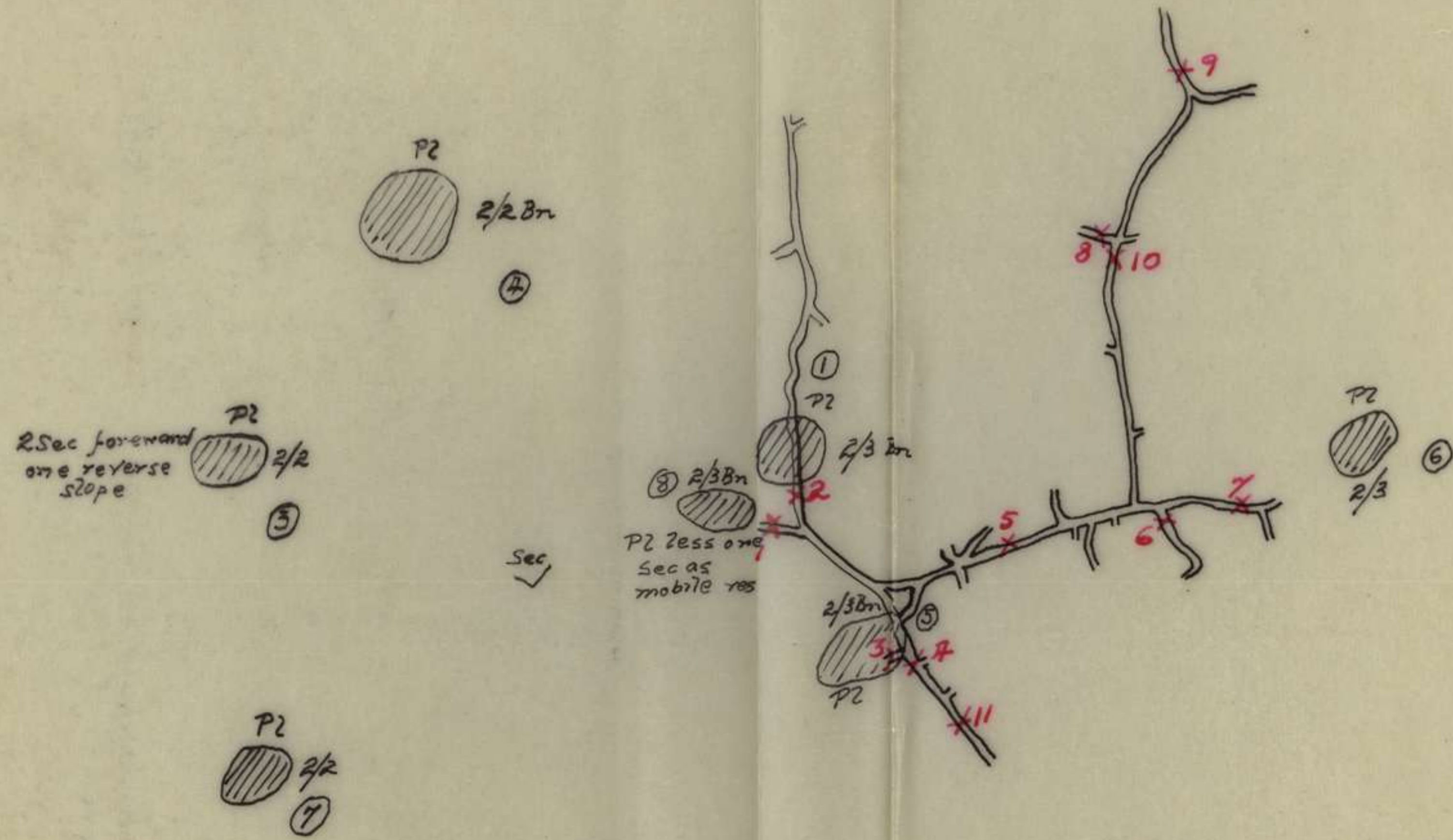
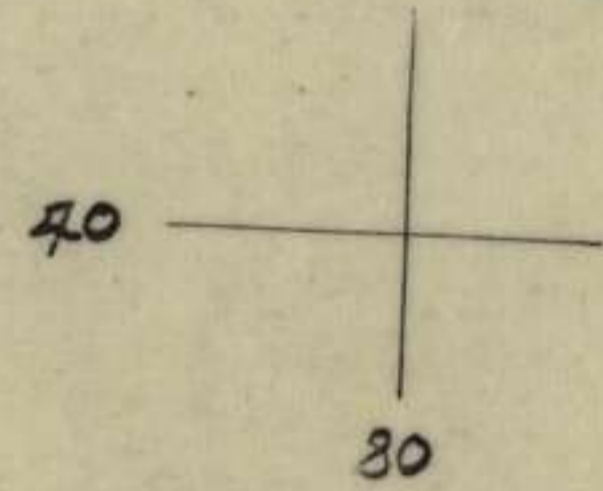
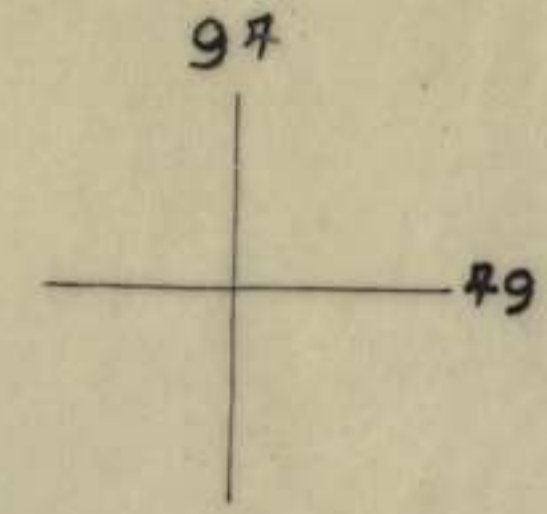
NOTE: Should line comms fail before the issue of any of the above orders W/T and/or R/T watch as for "LAY ON BEETLE" should be set without further orders.

Appendix 'D'

LEGEND (Road Blocks X)

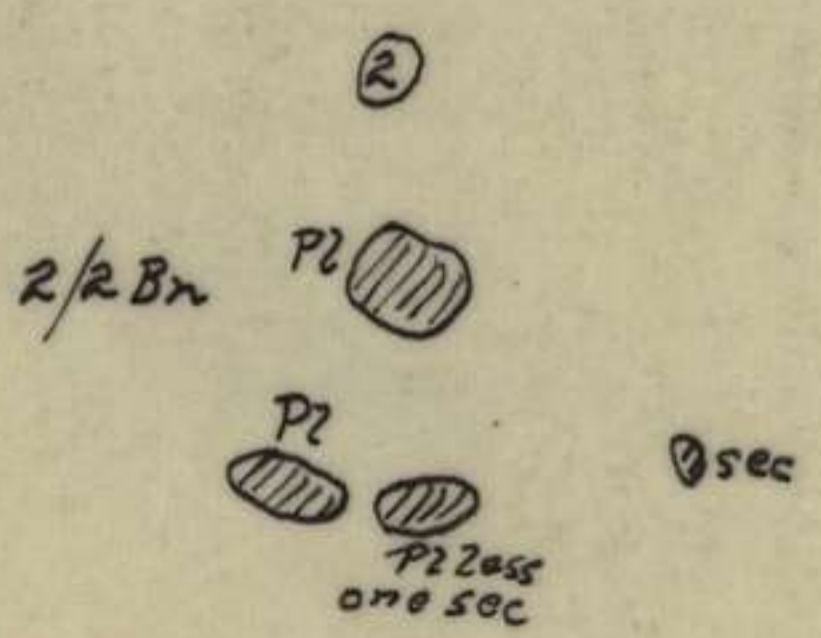
Nos 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 10 Have defensive weapon pits dug
 Nos 8 & 9 No posns dug but will be closed by AFSC & Fd w/shops
 No 11 Wired

Secret



Trace showing Road Block sites
 & Defensive Posns
 HORANA Area

To be superimposed on map HORANA 1" = 1 mile



11/5/42

SECRETCopy No 17

10 May 42.

16 AUST INF BDEOPERATION INSTRUCTION NO 2Ref Map

HORANA	1	inch	to	1	mile
ALUTGAMA	1	"	"	"	"
RATNAPURA	1	"	"	"	"
RAKWANA	1	"	"	"	"

GENERAL

1. Almost the whole of the Coast line of CEYLON forms one long beach suitable for landings. The suitability of particular sectors varies with monsoon conditions but it may be taken that the JAPANESE could land anywhere if they so wish.
2. The two obvious enemy objectives are COLOMBO and TRINCOMALEE. The enemy are not likely to attempt a landing within range of fixed defences but are more likely to follow their usual custom of landing some little distance away. An immediate objective will be an air landing ground close to the scene of landing.
3. To approach COLOMBO the enemy can land North or South of the harbours. It seems unlikely that they will go North when the South offers just as good facilities with smaller risks in passage.
4. The most likely areas are those near existing landing grounds.
5. Conditions for landing on West Coast are at their worst during SW monsoon from Mid MAY to SEPTEMBER at BERUWALA, COLOMBO and possibly NEGOMBO, conditions are never bad.
6. BERUWALA - 802129, KATUKURUNDA 783225, KOGGALA 225535, GALLE 085585, also KALUTARA 775258 and BENTOTA 817067 are considered likely areas South of COLOMBO.
7. To approach, TRINCOMALEE beaches are suitable both North and South but the country to the South is bad going, much cut up by lagoons and the Coastal road is broken by a number of ferries. The most likely landing is North of TRINCOMALEE with a view to encircling it from the North and West.
8. Landing conditions in the JAFFNA peninsula are good and as natural air landing grounds exist there or can be prepared with very little labour, this is a likely objective for a subsidiary landing to secure air landing grounds.
9. The only two way rd in the SW fit for military traffic is the main Coast rd COLOMBO - GALLE - AMBALANTOTA (065699). Some of this rd is in full view of the sea. There are no other lateral rds fit for regular military traffic as all others are either liable to flooding or intercepted by rivers with or without ferry crossings.
The alternative line of supply to Southern part of SW sector rd COLOMBO - RATNAPURA 315375 - PELMADULLA 481305 MADAMPE 542193 - AKURESSA 398675 to the Coast is only a one way route and would require very considerable work, material, and time before it would be suitable for all military traffic - parts of this route are effected by flood waters during monsoon period.
10. The enemy will probably endeavour to secure air landing grounds from which to operate in support of and to cover the landing of troops comprising his land forces. It is therefore imperative

that all existing aerodromes and possible landing grounds be denied to the enemy.

- 11. As it is impossible to man the whole Coast line our plans must be to garrison only vital pts with minimum tps necessary and to maintain the balance as a mob res for offensive action against the enemy where ever he may attempt landing.

ROLE OF AIF

- 12. The role of AIF (CEYLON) is to defend the SW sector of CEYLON and to repel any enemy landing in that sector.

BOUNDARIES

13. AIF

(a) All incl from sea to MORATUWA 671486 - line of MAHAOYA - PALANNORUWA 842475 - KOTIGALA 995509 - KURIWITA 127148 - THALAMURUWATTA 514382 - UDAGAMA 650413 - AJUTHUWRA 730320 - KALTOTA 885340 - line of WALAWE GANGA - AMBALANTOTA 065699 to the sea.

(b) Inter-Bde Bdy (Northern Area)

All incl 16 Aust Inf Bde Gp from sea to BENTOTA 817067 - line BENTOTA GANGA - UHANOWITO 115000 - HABARAKADA 220982 - DENIYAYA 495959 - SIYAMBALGODA 960823 - WALAWE GANGA.

BDE GP AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

- 14. NORTHERN Area - 16 Aust Inf Bde
SOUTHERN " - 17 Aust Inf Bde.

METHOD OF DEFENCE

- 15. The principle on which role is based, is that after allotting the minimum force for static defence of aerodromes and beaches, the remainder will be held in readiness to move with the utmost despatch to attack the enemy before he can establish a beach head.

ROLE OF 16 BDE GP

- 16. (a) Defence of KATUKURUNDA Aerodrome
- (b) Coastal defence all incl MORATUWA to BENTOTA
- (c) Defence of HQ AIF (CEYLON) at MATUGAMA 962183.
- (d) Mob Res.

DISPOSITIONS

- 17. (a) KATUKURUNDA - defence of aerodrome.

Local Comd Lt-Col W.W. White.

Tps 2/1 Aust Inf Bn

With under command 51 Bty, 2/1 Aust Fd Regt
D Tp, 1 Aust A Tk Regt
Tp 148/43 Lt AA Regt, RA
Det AASC
~~Det 2/1 Aust Fd Coy, RAE~~

In Support: Det 2/1 Aust Fd Coy, RAE
One Coy, 2/1 Aust Fd Amb.

This force will also be responsible for Beach defence from KALUTARA to BENTOTA both incl - and suitable positions will be sited and dug in preparation. Provision will be made to site positions for one Tp 51 Bty, 2/1 Aust Fd Regt for beach defence.

- (b) This para (17) to be read in conjunction with Operation Instruction No 1 dated 22 Apr 42 already issued.

COMPOSITION AND PROBABLE ROLE OF RES

18. Mob Res situated at HORANA area 0914

(a) Composition

2/1 Aust Fd Regt less one Bty.
2/2 Aus t Inf Bn
2/3 Aus t Inf Bn
Rec Sec, 2/2 Aust A Fd Wkshops
D Div Sec Aust Ord Fd Pk
1 Coy, AASC (less det)
Det Pro 6 Aust Div
2/1 Aust Fd Amb less one Coy

In Support

2/1 Aust Fd Coy, RAE (less det) comes under comd on operations commencing.

- (b) Probable Roles. The Bde may be called upon to carry out any or a combination of the following tasks :
- (i) To hold any enemy adv from the EAST or SE by occupying defensive positions KATNAPURA area - See Appendix A
 - (ii) To hold on the line R. KALU GANGA against any enemy adv from either NORTH or SOUTH - See Appendix A.
 - (iii) To hold a series of defensive areas as per Appendix A
 - (iv) Local defence of HORANA camp area and of ROAD BLOCKS covering road approaches to same. See Appendix A
 - (v) To oppose and attack any enemy landing on WEST Coast of Bde sector.
 - (vi) To attack SW from HORANA in relief of KATUKURUNDA aerodrome.
 - (vii) To move SOUTH or SE to reinforce 17 Aus t Inf Bde Gp.
 - (viii) Vulnerable points (special instructions will be issued)

Appendix A shows the provisional allotment of operational tasks to certain units of the Bde Gp to cover the above probable roles. It will be noted that a Fd Bty has been provisionally allotted to each of the 2/2 and 2/3 Aust Inf Bns.

Limit. Moves to any area outside AIF sector will not be carried out without orders from this HQ.

CIVILIAN BICYCLES AND ARMS & AMN.

19. On hostilities commencing all units will confiscate civilian bicycles seen and give the owner or rider a receipt showing :

Name of owner
Make and number of cycle (if possible)
Date)
Place)

Signature or mark of owner
Army number and signature of person
confiscating bicycle.

Suitable receipt forms will be prepared by units forthwith
and held for issue down to Sec's or equivalent.

Arms & Amn. An endeavour is being made to provide for the
confiscation of shot guns, rifles, etc through civil authorities -
but should any person be seen bearing arms after hostilities
commence, arms will be confiscated and a similar receipt given.

ROAD BLOCKS

19A. Rd blocks will be closed and manned on receipt of code word
from this HQ. Code word 'TOBRUK'.

RAE

20. Owing to limited Engineer personnel and a large number of engineer
tasks to be carried out, units will be prepared to undertake Fd
Engineering work within the scope of their capabilities, i.e.
Rd blocks, mine laying and constructional work.
Engineer stores will be indented for through Bde HQ.

DEMOLITIONS

21. (a) HQ AIF (CEYLON) is responsible for demolition plan within
AIF sector.

(b) Delegating authorities (for demolitions) will be responsible
for finding covering parties for the engineer demolition parties
to strength of 1 NCO and 6 ORs.

(c) Arrangements must be made by delegating authorities for the
rapid and certain transmission of orders to demolition parties
and firing parties.

(d) On receipt of code word as shown charges will be placed and
firing and covering parties will remain in position. This code
word delegates authority to the offr responsible for ordering
firing of demolitions as necessary.

The responsibility for the following demolitions are allotted to
this Bde :

<u>Serial</u>	<u>Nature of Demolition</u>	<u>Map Ref</u>	<u>Map Sheet</u> HORANA ALUTGAMA RATNAPURA RAKWANA	<u>Place Name</u>	<u>Unit responsible for firing charge</u>	<u>Auth- ority for demolition</u>	<u>Code Word for Blowing</u>
1	Rd Br	837321	1 mile a to 1"	EAST of DIYAGAMA)			
2	Rd Br	836318	"	EAST of DIYAGAMA)	2/1 Fd Coy	Comd16 Aust Inf Bde or offr delegated by him	WIND
3	Rd Br	775263	"	KALUTARA)			
4	Ry Br	775263	"	KALUTARA)			
5	Rd Br	801380	"	North of RAMUNUMULLA)			
6	Rd Br	788402	"	West of WEWITA)			
7	Rd Br	738378	"	East of TALPITIYA)	2/1 Fd Coy	Comd 16 Aust Inf Bde or offr delegated by him	GALE
8	Rd Br	728378	"	TALPITIYA)			
9	Ry Br	726377	"	TALPITIYA)			

Charges will be made up, fuses cut to length, and all the necessary explosive materials and stores for each Br will be held in reserve by 2/1 Aust Fd Coy who are charged with the duty of firing charge.

Charges will NOT be placed in position without orders from HQ AIF. Charges will be fired only on the orders of the offr detailed by name by the Authority for Demolition.

ADDITIONAL
DEMOLITIONS.

22. Further demolition points are in process of recce with a view to recommendation for inclusion in Demolition plan.

A TK MINES

23. Where these are laid as adjuncts to rd blocks or in minefields, they will be accurately plotted in relation to some local feature and record with full details of number, type, bearings and length of boundaries and distances and bearings of corners of boundaries from selected datum. The full information will be passed to this HQ.

Any information or details of enemy mines will be reported without delay to this HQ.

Safety precautions. All minefields will be clearly marked and adequate safety precautions taken for the protection of both civilian and own tps.

COMNS

24. (a) River Crossings

(i) Flying Br has been erected over KALU GANGA at ANGURUWATOTA 093133, and a further one is in process of erection at 924326.

(ii) Br is in process of erection over the BENTOTA GANGA vicinity UDAGAMA 104099.

ARMED TRAIN.

25. An armed train located at RATMALANA and operated by CPRC has been placed under comd HQ AIF.

A TK AND ANTI BOAT
SCAFFOLDING.

26. A quantity of this is available.

This equipment is suitable for use :-

- (i) In inland waterways.
- (ii) As an anti tank obstacle.
- (iii) For general defence of a fixed defence or a tactically important area.
- (iv) For beach defence.

Units will forward their recommendations of requirements stating for what purpose and where it is intended to use same.

KTR will indent on 2/1 Aust Fd Coy, HORANA, for sufficient to establish A Tk protection of defensive positions HOSPITAL HILL and C and D Coy areas.

CAMOUFLAGE

27. (a) Vehicles.

Colours to be used in CEYLON are light green ground with a very dark disruptive pattern. As soon as paint is made available arrangements will be made by this HQ to have vehicles camouflaged.

- (b) Defensive Positions - Weapon Pits, etc
Care will be taken at all times to have these camouflaged either with natural material available or by nets. Parapets should not show but should be made to conform with natural surroundings.

STATE OF READINESS

28. As per Appendix B.

ADMINISTRATION

MEDICAL

29. (a) In the event of hostilities commencing, 2/1 Aust Fd Amb will be prepared to divide unit into series of mobile sections for attaching to columns as may be required.
- (b) In cases of emergency patients may be admitted to civil hospitals. The senior medical administrative officer of the area in which the hospital is located, will be notified.

ORDNANCE

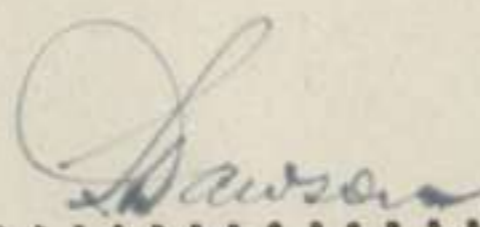
30. (a) V.R.D. is established at CBO.
(b) Reserve vehicles. As the number of reserve vehicles is definitely limited, it is essential that every effort should be made to repair any damaged vehicles. No vehicle will be written off as U.S. without the express permission of ADOS (E).

PERSONNEL

31. (a) On receipt of Code Word 'CLIVE', see Appx 'B', all personnel surplus to WE together with LOB personnel as laid down in 16 Aust Inf Bde S.O's will be withdrawn from units and conveyed to HORANA area, where arrangements will be made for the establishment of a 16 Aust Inf Bde Gp Tag Unit.
- (b) Details of LOB personnel for units other than Inf Bns will be issued separately.
32. POW. See CRCAC/161/A of 4 Apr 42 regarding Disposal of P's of W.
33. ANTI-GAS. On receipt of Code Word 'CLIVE' and unless otherwise ordered, respirators will be carried on man. This is based on proposed restricted tpt scale.
34. AMN (a) 2nd line amn will not be loaded on AASC vehs without instructions from this HQ or on receipt of Code Word 'PLASSEY'.
(b) AP is located in HORANA 904415.
35. BLANKETS. In case of operational move one blanket will be carried on unit vehs and one blanket dumped in bundles of 10 in unit lines under unit LOB personnel.
36. POL. Sufficient POL for at least 200 miles will be carried on veh incl in tank and res.
37. RATIONS. Ten days' reserve rations will be maintained by all units for operations, two days of these will be carried on the man.
38. WATER. All drinking water will be chlorinated or boiled.
39. ANTI-MOSQUITO. Necessary anti mosquito precautions will be taken.

INTERCOMN

- 40. (a) HQ AIF CEYLON - MATUGAMA 960182
- (b) Bde HQ - DICKHENA Estate HORANA 919423.
- (c) BEETLE organisation as per Appx 'C'.
- (d) Simplified operational Code List is being compiled by HQ AIF and will be issued separately when available.


Major.
 B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde.

ACKNOWLEDGE

Issued through.....*by D.R.S.*
 and signed at ..*17.00 hrs*.....

DISTRIBUTION:

	<u>Copy No</u>
2/1 Aust Fd Regt	1 - 2
2/1 Aust Inf Bn	3
2/2 Aust Inf Bn	4
2/3 Aust Inf Bn	5
No 5 Rec Sec, 2/2 AAFW	6
No 1 Coy, AASC	7
D Div Sec Ord Fd Pk	8
2/1 Aust Fd Amb	9
2/1 Aust t Fd Coy	10
HQ AIF (CEYLON)	11
17 Aust Inf Bde	12
Comd	13
B.M.	14
File	15 - 16
War Diary	17 - 18.

SECRET

APPENDIX 'A'

PROVISIONAL ALLOTMENT :

2/2 AUST INF BN

Comd	Lt-Col C.R.V. EDGAR
Tps	2/2 Aust Inf Bn
[With under command]	One Bty 2/1 Aust Fd Regt One Det Engrs 2/1 Aust Fd Coy One Mob Sec 2/1 Aust Fd Amb

LOCAL DEFENSIVE ZONES

Ref HORANA
ALUTGAMA
PANADURA
1" = 1 mile

PLACE	NO. ON TRACE APPX 'D'	STRENGTH
Island Feature 794367	2	One Coy
KOTAWALA 842424	3	One Pl
KUMBUKE 855453	4	One Pl
BELLANTADUWA 843400	7	One Pl

MATUGAMA 963184 Div HQ defences One Pl Trace to be issued
ROAD BLOCKS

PLACE	NO. ON TRACE APPX 'D'	STRENGTH
888423	1	) One Section
892427	2	) One A Tk Rifle
901410	3	) One EY Rifle
904410	4	) TSMG

FERRIES & BRIDGES

OUTER-DEF AREAS

PLACE	MAP. REF.	STRENGTH
ANGURUWATOTA FERRY	922326	One Pl
ditto Northern	posn 924325	One Pl
NARAGALA	947383	One Pl
HALWATURA	046425	One Pl
UDUGAMA	001995	One Pl
BENTOTA GANGA	822068	One Coy
KALU GANGA	775264	One Coy
MORATUWA	690470 (700472)	One Coy ^{less} Pl) 1 Sec Carriers One Pl) Mortar Det

PROVISIONAL ALLOTMENT :

2/3 AUST INF BN

Comd Lt-Col J.R. STEVENSON
 Tps 2/3 Aust Inf Bn
 [With under command] One Bty, 2/1 Aust Fd Regt
 One Det 2/1 Aust Fd Coy
 One Mob Sec 2/1 Aust Fd Amb

LOCAL DEFENSIVE ZONES

HORANA
 RAKWANA 1" = 1 mile

PLACE	NO. ON TRACE "APPX 'D'	STRENGTH
ELLAKANDE 892427	1	One Pl
HEGALLA 900410	5	" "
GUROGODA 943433	6	" "
KULUPANA 885425	8	One Pl (less one Sec situated KANEWALA 868418) acting as Mob Res.

ROAD BLOCKS

PLACE	NO. ON TRACE APPX 'D'	STRENGTH
912422	5	) One Section) One A Tk Rifle) One EY Rifle One TSMG
926424	6	
932426	7	

OUTER-DEFENSIVE AREAS

RATNAPURA 1" = 1 mile

PLACE	MAP. REF.	STRENGTH
RATNAPURA TOWN	315375	One Pl One Sec each at Bridges shown on trace held in unit.
KURAWITA	268489	One Pl
MAHAWELA	335385	" "
KETANDOLA	347356	One Coy
PELMADULLA	481305	One Coy
BALANGODA	673334	One Pl
RAKWANA	554114	" "
GODAKEWELA	609159	" "

S E C R E T

APPX 'A' (Cont'd)

TPS - AASC & FD W/SHOPS

ROAD BLOCKS

HORANA 1" = 1 mile		
PLACE	NO. ON TRACE APPX 'D'	STRENGTH
921448	10	One Sec and one LMG AASC One Sec and one A Tk Rifle No 5 Sec, AAFW.
920450)) 927466)	8 9	Allotted to AASC and Fd W/shops responsible for closing only.

STATE OF READINESS

1. There will be three states of readiness to meet varying liability to enemy attack. These will be brought into effect by certain "Action Code Words". Details of action to be taken on each is set out below. At present AIF is on 3rd state of readiness (WELLINGTON).

2. 3rd State of Readiness

CODE WORD - WELLINGTON

3. MEANING - No attack by enemy forces is expected within 12 hrs.

4. ACTION - (a) Leave may be granted up to a maximum of 5% of unit strength provided they are within 12 hrs recall.

(b) AA. 50% of all AA guns and of LMGs employed in an AA role will be permanently manned by day. 50% of all AA guns will be permanently manned by night. The remainder of all AA guns and LMGs employed in an AA role will be at 30 minutes notice.

(c) Aerodrome Defence Tps - All tps employed in aerodrome defence other than LMGs dealt with above will be at three hrs notice. Para 4 (a) applies also to these tps, of whom 5% may be on leave within 12 hrs recall.

(d) Beach Defence Tps - Tps in beach defences will stand to on their deployment positions from 0400 hrs to 0630 hrs daily and thereafter will be at 3 hrs notice.

(e) Remaining Tps - 12 hrs notice.

2nd State of Readiness

5. CODE WORD - CLIVE

6. MEANING - An enemy air attack on CEYLON is considered imminent.

7. ACTION (a) All leave will be cancelled and personnel on leave recalled.

(b) AA. - All AA guns will be manned throughout the 24 hrs. All LMGs employed in an AA role will be manned throughout the hours of daylight and during all periods of moonlight, when the moon is more than half full.

(c) Aerodrome Defence Tps - Tps actually deployed in defensive position will be at instant readiness day and night. Tps employed as mobile reserves for aerodrome defence will be at 30 minutes notice.

(d) Beach Defence Tps - All beach defence tps will stand to on their deployment positions from 0400 hrs to 0630 hrs. At other times tps will be at $\frac{1}{2}$ hrs notice, but the beaches for which they are responsible will be kept under observation.

(e) Remaining Tps - 3 hours notice.

(f) Cancellation of Exercises - Any exercise larger than a bn exercise and all exercises involving the co-operation of any other service will be cancelled.

1st State of Readiness

- 8. CODE WORD - PLASSEY
- 9. MEANING - Enemy invasion may be expected shortly.
- 10. ACTION
 - (a) AA. All AA guns will be manned throughout the 24 hrs. All LMGs employed in an AA role will be manned through the 24 hrs.
 - (b) Aerodrome and Beach Defence Tps - All defences will be manned through the 24 hrs.
 - (c) Local reserves for Aerodrome and Beach Defences - At instant readiness.
 - (d) Remaining Tps - At 30 minutes notice to move.
 - (e) Demolitions - If orders have not already been issued all charges will be laid and all preparations to fire will be made.

S E C R E T

APPENDIX 'C'

BEE TLE ORGANISATION

(a) OBJECT

The object of this organisation is to ensure that all service authorities are able to continue to render and receive reports and that the lowest formation and remote outlying stas are kept in touch with the situation in the event of failure of normal line comms.

(b) ORGANISATION

The organisation will comprise :-

- (i) A W/T network linking up the senior offrs and HQs of the three services and the main Base Areas at CBO and TRN. Control Station will be at Area Combined HQ.
- (ii) A R/T Broadcast organisation whereby the lower formation HQ and remote outlying stas are supplied with comm-Broadcast receivers which will enable them to receive messages broadcast by R/T transmitter.

(c) The following will comprise the R/T organisation :-

The broadcast will be made from the Broadcasting Station, CBO on the existing Long Wave Transmitter and at the same time on a Short Wave Transmitter to give complete coverage over the whole island.

(d) WATCH TO BE KEPT

- (i) On the order "STAND BY BEE TLE" constant watch will be maintained at all stas comprising the W/T organisation as at para (b) (i) above. All R/T stas will keep watch forthwith for the first five minutes of every hr.
- (ii) On the order "LAY ON BEE TLE" all R/T stas will keep constant watch.
- (iii) On the order "LAY OFF BEE TLE" all W/T and R/T will cease.

(e) Following units are equipped with "BEE TLE" sets :-

(i)	HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde	2	(one spare)
(ii)	2/1 Aus t Inf Bn	1	
(iii)	2/2 Aust Inf Bn	1	
(iv)	2/3 Aust Inf Bn	1	
		<u>5</u>	

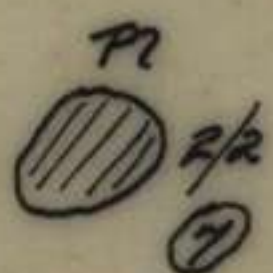
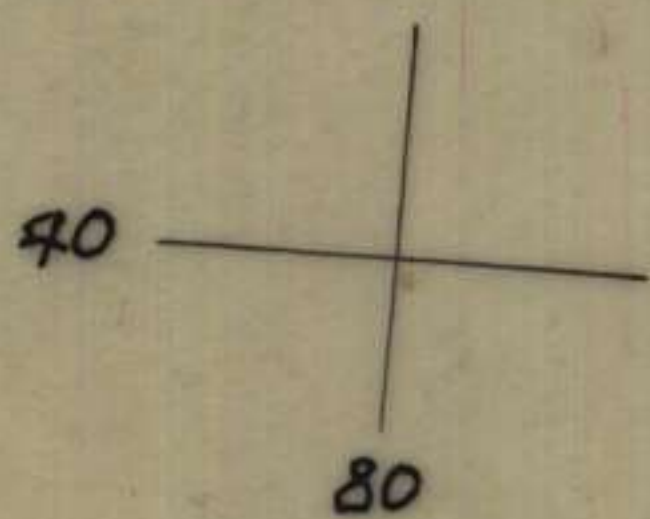
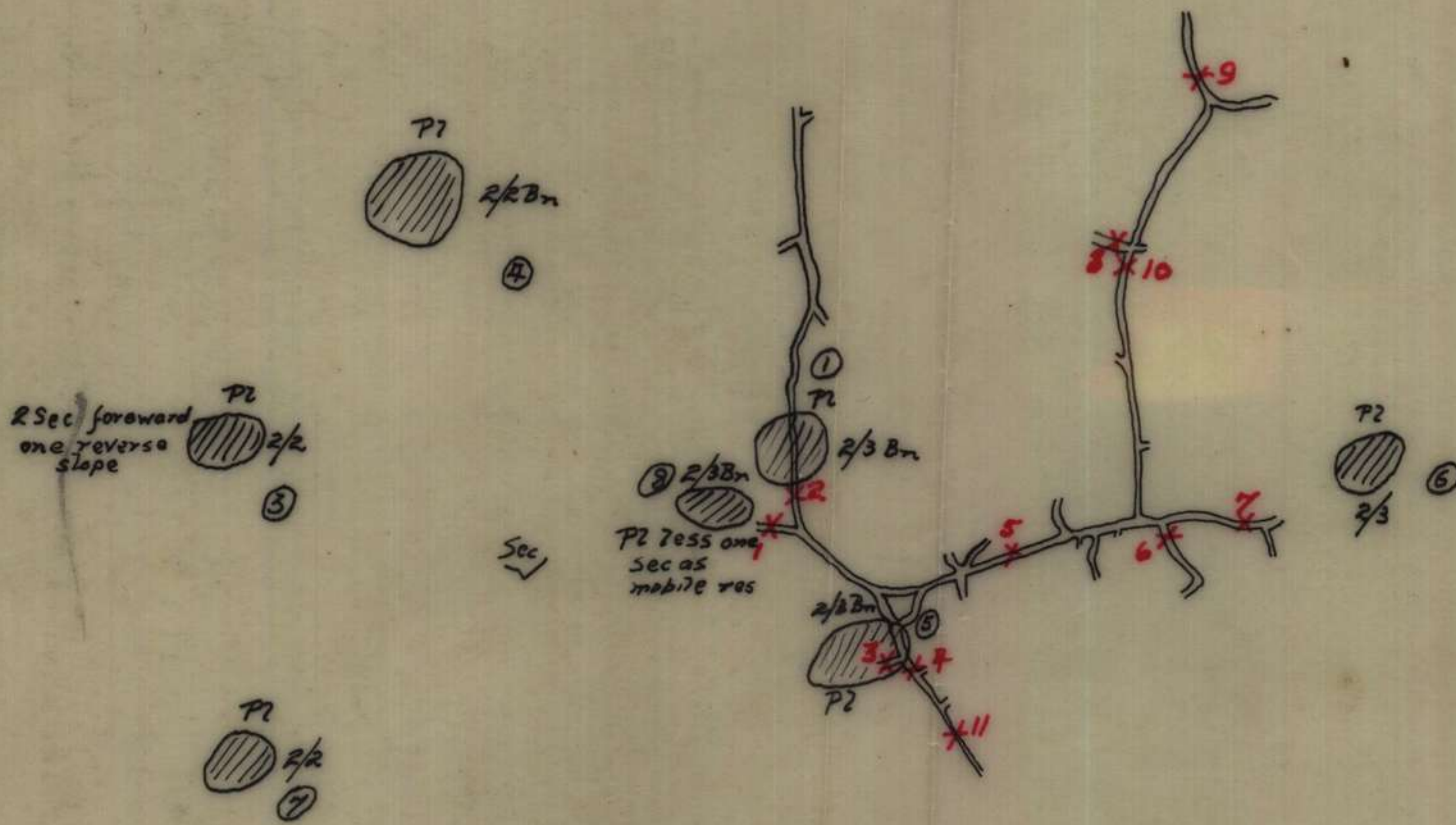
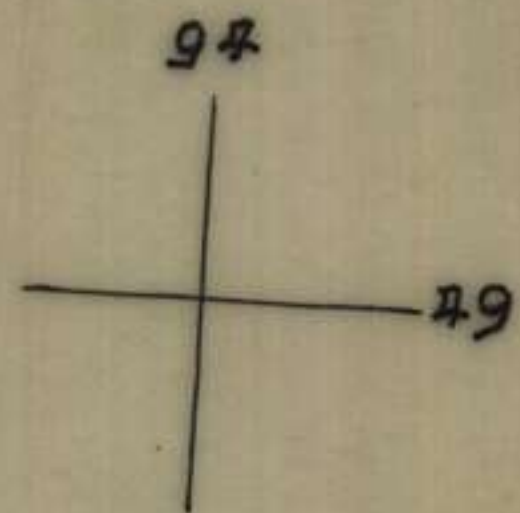
NOTE: Should line comms fail before the issue of any of the above orders W/T and/or R/T watch as for "LAY ON BEE TLE" should be set without further orders.

Appendix 'D'

LEGEND (Road Blocks X)

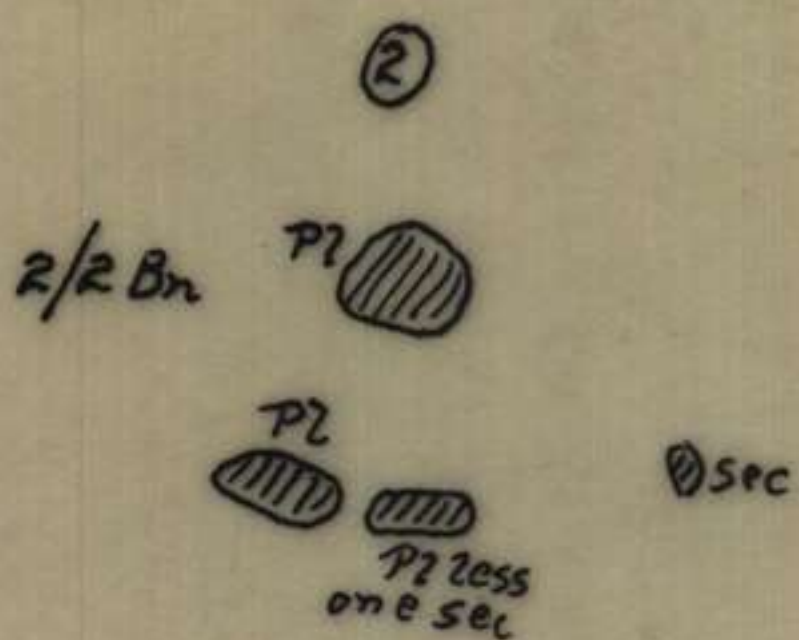
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 Nos 8 & 9 No posns. dug but will be closed by ARSC & Fd w/shops
 No 11 Wired

Secret



Trace showing Road Block sites
 & Defensive Posns
 HORANA Area

To be superimposed on map HORANA 1" = 1 mile



11/5/41

APPENDIX D
Handwritten

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

Ref File O/2/284

Headquarters,
16 Aust Inf Bde.

13 May 42.

RECCE PARTIES KANDY AREA

Approval has been given for the despatch of recce parties to the KANDY area.

2. The recce will be of not more than 3 days duration. Parties will return to unit lines by 2000 hrs on the third day. Return of unit parties will be advised immediately to Bde HQ by signal.
3. Each party will consist of 2 Offrs, 3 NCOs and 15 ORs. Only reliable personnel will be selected for these recce parties.
4. Allocation of dates to units for despatch of parties and route is as follows :-

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Commencing Date</u>	<u>Returning Date</u>	<u>Route</u> (See Appendix)
2/2 Aust Inf Bn	13 May 42	15 May 42	Route "A"
2/3 Aust Inf Bn	16 May 42	18 May 42	Route "B"
2/1 Aust Inf Bn (A)	19 May 42	21 May 42	Route "C"
Bde HQ) 2/1 Aust Fd Regt) (B) 1 Coy, AASC)	22 May 42	24 May 42	Route "D"
2/1 Aust Fd Coy) 2/1 Aust Fd Amb) 5 Rec Sec) (C) D Div Aust Ord) Fd Pk)	25 May 42	27 May 42	Route "E"

NOTE: (A) Personnel from all units under command or attached will be included in 2/1 Aust Inf Bn parties.

(B) 2/1 Aust Fd Regt	will detail	1 Offr	2 NCOs	6 ORs
1 Coy, AASC	" "	1 "	1 "	6 "
Bde HQ	" "	-	-	3 "
(C) 2/1 Aust Fd Coy	" "	1 "	1 "	6 "
2/1 Aust Fd Amb	" "	1 "	1 "	5 "
5 Rec Sec	" "	-	1 "	2 "
D Div Ord Fd Pk	" "	-	1 "	2 "

Further allotment will be made at conclusion of this series of recce parties.

5. Senior officer of each party will be O.C. Recce party and will be responsible for the discipline and dress. This subject will be dealt with in his report (see para 13).
6. Necessary tentage, mosquito nets, Dovers cream, cooking gear, rations for three days plus two days reserve will be carried by each party. All water should be boiled or chlorinated before use.
7. Transport on the scale of 1 - 15 cwt G.S. and 1 - 3 ton lorry will be made available by units from transport pool. 1 Coy, AASC will provide transport on 22 May 42 and 2/1 Aust Fd Amb on 25 May 42. POL for the round trip will be taken on the vehicles.
8. Arms and equipment will be taken by all ranks. Personnel armed with a rifle will carry 50 rds SA.

9. Particular attention will be paid to dress and all ranks will be smartly turned out at all times. Slacks, K.D. and long sleeved shirts will be worn after sunset in KANDY area. Pull-overs may be taken if desired.

10. Permission has been obtained for recce parties to bivouac in the area at present occupied by 51 Fd Regt, RA at PERADENIYA near KANDY. Recce parties when bivouaced at KANDY will conform to camp routine of 51 Fd Regt, RA or nearest unit.

11. Parties will NOT sojourn in COLOMBO.

12. Officers with parties will call at Indian Division HQ - Hotel Swiss, KANDY, and pay their respects to the GOC's representative.

13. O.C's of recce parties will submit on return, through units, to this HQ a report on roads traversed and other matters observed by them which may be of tactical importance. Extracts from this report considered useful will be forwarded to HQ AIF (CEYLON).

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

DISTRIBUTION:

2/1 Aust Inf Bn
2/2 Aust Inf Bn
2/3 Aust Inf Bn
2/1 Aust Fd Regt, RAA.
2/1 Aust t Fd Coy, RAE.
1 Coy, AASC.
2/1 Aust Fd Amb, AAMC
5 Rec Sec, 2/2 AAFW
D Div Sec 1 Aust Ord Fd Pk
War Diary (2)
File (2)

For Information:

HQ AIF (CEYLON).

APPENDIX

Ref MOTOR MAP OF CEYLON 4 INCHES TO 1 MILE

ROUTE "A"

HORANA - PADUKKA - PUGODA - ~~ELISODA~~ - PASSAYALA - KEGALLA -
KANDY - PERADENIYA - COLOMBO - HORANA

ROUTE "B"

HORANA - PADUKKA - HANWELLA - DEHIOWITA - RUWANWELLA -
PINDENIYA - KEGALLA - PERADENIYA.

Return by same route

ROUTE "C"

KALUTARA - PANADURA - COLOMBO - KOCHCHIKADE - PANNALA -
DAMBADENIYA - NARAMMALE - KURUNEGALA - GALAGEDARA - KANDY -
PERADENIYA-

Return by same route

ROUTE "D"

HORANA - PADUKKA - HANWELLA - DEHOWITA - YATIIYANTOTA -
GINIGATITENA - NAWALAPITIYA - GAMPOLA - PERADINYA

Return by same route

ROUTE "E"

HORANA - PADUKKA - HANWELLA - PUGODA - URAPOLA - PASYALA -
WARAKAPOLA - KEGALLA - RAMBUKKANA - KADIGOMUWA - MAWANELLA -
PERADENIYA

Return by same route

ROUTE "F"

HORANA - KESBEWA - COLOMBO - WARAKAPOLA - KEGALLA -
PERADENIYA

Return by same route

Wadey
APPENDIX D

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

Ref File O/2/284

Headquarters,
16 Aust Inf Bde.

13 May 42.

RECCE PARTIES KANDY AREA

Approval has been given for the despatch of recce parties to the KANDY area.

2. The recce will be of not more than 3 days duration. Parties will return to unit lines by 2000 hrs on the third day. Return of unit parties will be advised immediately to Bde HQ by signal.

3. Each party will consist of 2 Offrs, 3 NCOs and 15 ORs. Only reliable personnel will be selected for these recce parties.

4. Allocation of dates to units for despatch of parties and route is as follows :-

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Commencing Date</u>	<u>Returning Date</u>	<u>Route</u> (See Appendix
2/2 Aust Inf Bn	13 May 42	15 May 42	Route "A"
2/3 Aust Inf Bn	16 May 42	18 May 42	Route "B"
2/1 Aust Inf Bn (A)	19 May 42	21 May 42	Route "C"
Bde HQ) 2/1 Aust Fd Regt) (B) 1 Coy, AASC)	22 May 42	24 May 42	Route "D"
2/1 Aust Fd Coy) 2/1 Aust Fd Amb) 5 Rec Sec) (C) D Div Aust Ord) Fd Pk)	25 May 42	27 May 42	Route "E"

NOTE: (A) Personnel from all units under command or attached will be included in 2/1 Aust Inf Bn parties.

(B) 2/1 Aust Fd Regt	will detail	1 Offr	2 NCOs	6 ORs
1 Coy, AASC	" "	1 "	1 "	6 "
Bde HQ	" "	-	-	3 "
(C) 2/1 Aust Fd Coy	" "	1 "	1 "	6 "
2/1 Aust Fd Amb	" "	1 "	1 "	5 "
5 Rec Sec	" "	-	1 "	2 "
D Div Ord Fd Pk	" "	-	1 "	2 "

Further allotment will be made at conclusion of this series of recce parties.

5. Senior officer of each party will be O.C. Recce party and will be responsible for the discipline and dress. This subject will be dealt with in his report (see para 13).

6. Necessary tentage, mosquito nets, Dovers cream, cooking gear, rations for three days plus two days reserve will be carried by each party. All water should be boiled or chlorinated before use.

7. Transport on the scale of 1 - 15 cwt G.S. and 1 - 3 ton lorry will be made available by units from transport pool. 1 Coy, AASC will provide transport on 22 May 42 and 2/1 Aust Fd Amb on 25 May 42. POL for the round trip will be taken on the vehicles.

8. Arms and equipment will be taken by all ranks. Personnel armed with a rifle will carry 50 rds SAA.

9. Particular attention will be paid to dress and all ranks will be smartly turned out at all times. Slacks, K.D. and long sleeved shirts will be worn after sunset in KANDY area. Pull-overs may be taken if desired.

10. Permission has been obtained for recce parties to bivouac in the area at present occupied by 51 Fd Regt, RA at PERADENIYA near KANDY. Recce parties when bivouaced at KANDY will conform to camp routine of 51 Fd Regt, RA or nearest unit.

11. Parties will NOT sojourn in COLOMBO.

12. Officers with parties will call at Indian Division HQ - Hotel Swiss, KANDY, and pay their respects to the GOC's representative.

13. O.C.'s of recce parties will submit on return, through units, to this HQ a report on roads traversed and other matters observed by them which may be of tactical importance. Extracts from this report considered useful will be forwarded to HQ AIF (CEYLON).

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

DISTRIBUTION:

2/1 Aust Inf Bn
2/2 Aust Inf Bn
2/3 Aust Inf Bn
2/1 Aust Fd Regt, RAA.
2/1 Aust Fd Coy, RAE.
1 Coy, AASC.
2/1 Aust Fd Amb, AAMC
5 Rec Sec, 2/2 AAFW
D Div Sec 1 Aust Ord Fd Pk
War Diary (2)
File (2)

For Information:

HQ AIF (CEYLON).

APPENDIX

Ref MOTOR MAP OF CEYLON 4 INCHES TO 1 MILE

ROUTE "A"

HORANA - PADUKKA - PUGODA - ~~PASSAYALA~~ - PASSAYALA - KEGALLA -
KANDY - PERADENIYA - COLOMBO - HORANA

ROUTE "B"

HORANA - PADUKKA - HANWELLA - DEHIOWITA - RUWANWELLA -
PINDENIYA - KEGALLA - PERADENIYA.

Return by same route

ROUTE "C"

KALUTARA - PANADURA - COLOMBO - KOCHCHIKADE - PANNALA -
DAMBADENIYA - NARAMMALE - KURUNEGALA - GALAGEDARA - KANDY -
PERADENIYA-

Return by same route

ROUTE "D"

HORANA - PADUKKA - HANWELLA - DEHOWITA - YATIYANTOTA -
GINIGATITENA - NAWALAPITIYA - GAMPOLA - PERADINIYA

Return by same route

ROUTE "E"

HORANA - PADUKKA - HANWELLA - PUGODA - URAPOLA - PASYALA -
WARAKAPOLA - KEGALLA - RAMBUKKANA - KADIGOMUWA - MAWANELLA -
PERADENIYA

Return by same route

ROUTE "F"

HORANA - KESBEWA - COLOMBO - WARAKAPOLA - KEGALLA -
PERADENIYA

Return by same route

APPENDIX E

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

Ref. File 0/2/324

Headquarters,
16 Aust Inf Bde.

19 May 42

RECCE PARTIES KANDY AREA

The following alterations will be made to Bde memo 0/2/284 of 13 May 42.

- (a) Delete first sentence of para 3 and substitute "Each party will consist of 25 in all, of whom at least 2 will officers and 3 will be NCOs."
- (b) Delete para 4 and substitute new para :-
- (4) "Units will despatch parties on the date shown."

UNIT	Date on which units will send parties						Remarks.
	22 May	25 May	28 May	3 Jun	6 Jun	9 Jun	
Troops in KTR Area							Recce party under control 2/1 Bn who will arrange parties proportionate to unit strengths
2/2 Bn	23 May	29 May	4 Jun	10 Jun			
2/3 Bn	24 May	30 May	5 Jun	11 Jun			
(i) 2/1 Fd Regt) 1 Coy AASC)	20 May	26 May	1 Jun	7 Jun			tpt to be provided by 2/1 Fd Regt and ASC on alternate days.
(ii) Bde HQ) 2/1 Fd Coy) 5 Rec Sec,) 2/2 AAFW) D Div Sec,) 1 Aust Ord Fd) Pk) 2/1 Fd Amb)	21 May	27 May	2 Jun	8 Jun			2/1 Fd Amb to provide tpt.

Note:

(I) 2/1 Fd Regt	allotment	17	including	1	Offr	2	NCOs
1 Coy, AASC	"	8	"	1	"	1	"
(II) Bde HQ	"	7					
2/1 Fd Coy	"	8	"	1	"	1	"
5 Rec Sec, 2/2 AAFW	"	2					
D Div Sec Ord Fd Pk	"	1					
2/1 Fd Amb	"	7	"	1	"	2	"

- (c) Delete first and second sentence of para 7 and substitute :
"Transport on the scale of 2 15-cwt GS and 1 3-ton lorry will be made available by units".
- 2. Any route as laid down in appendix "A" to our memo of 13 May 42 may be followed but units should endeavour to learn as many of the routes as possible.
- 3. Units in HORANA area when following Route "C" will omit KALUTARA from the itinerary.
KTR parties will omit HORANA and KESBEWA from route "F" and proceed direct to CBO.

4. Recce reports will continue to be submitted to this HQ.

5. It is imperative that not more than ^{10%} ~~5%~~ of the effective strength of any unit is absent from the unit at the one time, whether on leave, visiting CBO or elsewhere or in recce parties permitted by this letter.

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

DISTRIBUTION:

2/1 Aust t Inf Bn
2/2 Aust Inf Bn
2/3 Aust Inf Bn
2/1 Aust Fd Regt, RAA.
2/1 Aust Fd Coy, RAE
1 Coy, AASC.
2/1 Aust Fd Amb, AAMC
5 Rec Sec, 2/2 AAFW
D Div Sec 1 Aust Ord Fd Pk
War Diary (2) ✓
File (2)

For information:

HQ AIF (CEYLON).

APPENDIX E

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

Ref File 0/2/324

Headquarters,
16 Aust Inf Bde.

19 May 42

RECCE PARTIES WANDY AREA

The following alterations will be made to Bde memo 0/2/284 of 13 May 42.

- (a) Delete first sentence of para 3 and substitute "Each party will consist of 25 in all, of whom at least 2 will officers and 3 will be NCOs."
- (b) Delete para 4 and substitute new para :-
- (4) "Units will despatch parties on the date shown."

UNIT	Date on which units will send parties						Remarks.
	22 May	25 May	28 May	3 Jun	6 Jun	9 Jun	
Troops in KTR Area							Recce party under control 2/1 Bn who will arrange parties proportionate to unit strengths
2/2 Bn	23 May	29 May	4 Jun	10 Jun			
2/3 Bn	24 May	30 May	5 Jun	11 Jun			
(i) 2/1 Fd Regt) 1 Coy AASC)	20 May	26 May	1 Jun	7 Jun			tpt to be provided by 2/1 Fd Regt and ASC on alternate days.
(ii) Bde HQ) 2/1 Fd Coy) 5 Rec Sec,) 2/2 AAFW) D Div Sec,) 1 Aust Ord Fd) Pk) 2/1 Fd Amb)	21 May	27 May	2 Jun	8 Jun			2/1 Fd Amb to provide tpt.

Note: (I) 2/1 Fd Regt allotment 17 including 1 Offr 2 NCOs
1 Coy, AASC " 8 " 1 " 1 "

(II) Bde HQ " 7
2/1 Fd Coy " 8 " 1 " 1 "
5 Rec Sec, 2/2 AAFW " 2
D Div Sec Ord Fd Pk " 1
2/1 Fd Amb " 7 " 1 " 2 "

(c) Delete first and second sentence of para 7 and substitute :
"Transport on the scale of 2 15-cwt GS and 1 3-ton lorry will be made available by units".

2. Any route as laid down in appendix "A" to our memo of 13 May 42 may be followed but units should endeavour to learn as many of the routes as possible.

3. Units in HORANA area when following Route "C" will omit KALUTARA from the itinerary.

KTR parties will omit HORANA and KESBEWA from route "F" and proceed direct to CBO.

/page 2.

4. Recce reports will continue to be submitted to this HQ.
5. It is imperative that not more than ^{10%} of the effective strength of any unit is absent from the unit at the one time, whether on leave, visiting CBO or elsewhere or in recce parties permitted by this letter.

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

DISTRIBUTION:

2/1 Aus t Inf Bn
2/2 Aust Inf Bn
2/3 Aust Inf Bn
2/1 Aust Fd Regt, RAA.
2/1 Aust Fd Coy, RAE
1 Coy, AASC.
2/1 Aust Fd Amb, AAMC
5 Rec Sec, 2/2 AAFW
D Div Sec 1 Aust Ord Fd Pk
War Diary (2) ✓
File (2)

For information:

HQ AIF (CEYLON).

War Diary

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

APPENDIX F

Ref File 0/2/340

Headquarters,
16 Aust Inf Bde.

22 May 42.

NOTES ON COMDS CONFERENCE 22 MAY 42

Present: Comd, Lt-Cols White, Edgar, Stevenson, Majors Hanson, Baird, Cogswell, Capt Barke, Lt-Col Fisher, B.M., B.M. (L), S.C. L.Os (3), Amenities Officer.

1. TRAINING

(a) A Bde exercise will be held in KTR area commencing 26 May 42 and finishing 28 May 42. The following will take part in exercise :

- One Bty, 2/1 Aust Fd Regt
- 2/1 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/2 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/3 Aust Inf Bn - 3 Coys
- 2/1 Aust Fd Amb - 2 Mob Secs
- 1 Coy, AASC

Full details will be issued later.

Note. On 27 May 42 G.O.C. in C will be present.

(b) Broad outline of exercise is a landing by enemy troops South of BENTOTA and an attack on the KTR aerodrome.

2. AMENITIES (Affecting TEBUWANA Club only). It was agreed by all CO's that contributions as shown below will be paid by units to Bde Amenities Officer (Lieut Murray) to reach him by 1800 hrs each Monday. This money will be used to supplement extras provided by members to AIF personnel using the club ground and property. A statement of receipts and expenditure of this money will be produced by Bde Amenities Officer monthly :

HQ AIF Group	40	Rs	per	week
HQ 16 Bde Group	6	"	"	"
2/1 Bn Group	35	"	"	"
2/2 Bn	35	"	"	"
2/3 Bn	35	"	"	"
2/1 Fd Regt	30	"	"	"
2/1 Fd Coy	10	"	"	"
2/1 Fd Amb	14	"	"	"
1 Coy, AASC	15	"	"	"
5 Rec Sec)				
and)				
Fd Pk Sec) Group	3	"	"	"
	<hr/>			
	223	"	"	"
	<hr/>			

HansonMajor.
B.M. 16 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION:

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| 2/1 Aust Fd Regt, RAA | D Div Sec 1 Aust Ord Fd Pk |
| 2/1 Aust Inf Bn | 2/1 Aust Fd Amb, AAMC |
| 2/2 Aust Inf Bn | B.M. |
| 2/3 Aust Inf Bn | S.C. |
| 1 Coy, AASC | Amenities Offr |
| 2/1 Aust Fd Coy, RAE | War Diary (2) |
| 5 Rec Sec 2/2 AAFW | File. |

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

Ref File 0/2/340

Headquarters,
16 Aust Inf Bde.

22 May 42.

NOTES ON COMDS CONFERENCE 22 MAY 42

Present: Comd, Lt-Cols White, Edgar, Stevenson, Majors Hanson, Baird, Cogswell, Capt Barke, Lt-Col Fisher, B.M., B.M. (L), S.C. L.Os (3), Amenities Officer.

1. TRAINING

(a) A Bde exercise will be held in KTR area commencing 26 May 42 and finishing 28 May 42. The following will take part in exercise :

- One Bty, 2/1 Aust Fd Regt
- 2/1 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/2 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/3 Aust Inf Bn - 3 Coys
- 2/1 Aust Fd Amb - 2 Mob Secs
- 1 Coy, AASC

Full details will be issued later.

Note. On 27 May 42 G.O.C. in C will be present.

(b) Broad outline of exercise is a landing by enemy troops South of BENTOTA and an attack on the KTR aerodrome.

2. AMENITIES (Affecting TEBUWANA Club only). It was agreed by all CO's that contributions as shown below will be paid by units to Bde Amenities Officer (Lieut Murray) to reach him by 1800 hrs each Monday. This money will be used to supplement extras provided by members to AIF personnel using the club ground and property. A statement of receipts and expenditure of this money will be produced by Bde Amenities Officer monthly :

HQ AIF Group	40	Rs	per	week
HQ 16 Bde Group	6	"	"	"
2/1 Bn Group	35	"	"	"
2/2 Bn	35	"	"	"
2/3 Bn	35	"	"	"
2/1 Fd Regt	30	"	"	"
2/1 Fd Coy	10	"	"	"
2/1 Fd Amb	14	"	"	"
1 Coy, AASC	15	"	"	"
5 Rec Sec)				
and) Group	3	"	"	"
Fd Pk Sec)				
	<u>223</u>	"	"	"

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

DISTRIBUTION:

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| 2/1 Aust Fd Regt, RAA | D Div Sec 1 Aust Ord Fd Pk |
| 2/1 Aust Inf Bn | 2/1 Aust Fd Amb, AAMC |
| 2/2 Aust Inf Bn | B.M. |
| 2/3 Aust Inf Bn | S.C. |
| 1 Coy, AASC | Amenities Offr |
| 2/1 Aust Fd Coy, RAE | War Diary (2) |
| 5 Rec Sec 2/2 AAFW | File. |

War Diary

APPENDIX G

25 May 42

16 AUST INF BDE GP

INTER BN EXERCISE

26 - 27 MAY 42

BENTOTA to KTR

Contents :-

Sheet 1	Object lessons and references
" 2	Opening situation and messages
" 3-4-5	Forecast of Events
" 6 - 7	Instructions to Umpires "Own Tps"
" 8 - 9	Instructions to Umpires "Enemy"
" 10	Groupings for Exercises
" 11	Adm Instructions.

Note :- General principles to umpires given verbally.

16 AUST INF BDE GP
INTER BN EXERCISE

1. OBJECT :
- (a) To test the defences of KTR aerodrome.
 - (b) To test endurance of attacking tps in pressing an attack.
 - (c) To practice tps in moving quickly to objective and encircling opposition.
2. LESSONS :
- (a) DEFENCE
 - i. Defence of an aerodrome.
 - ii. Immediate counter attack.
 - iii. Ambushes and patrols.
 - iv. The necessity for all weapons to be ready at all times to engage enemy from any direction.
 - v. Use of reserve
 - (b) ATTACK
 - i. Encircling opposition.
 - ii. To move fast and accurately across country.
 - iii. Employment of carriers .
 - iv. Use of M/C D Rs and bicycles for communications.
 - (c) GENERAL
 - i. Method of embussing and debussing.
 - ii. To practice AASC in transportation of tps.
 - iii. Co-operation of arty with inf.
3. REFERENCES
- Teachings from the following pamphlets and references will be used in connection with above lessons to be learned :-
- i. Tactical Methods - Characteristics of Japanese Operations 1942.
 - ii. Lessons from Operations in MALAYA.
 - iii. Precis - Forest Warfare MTP No.9 (INDIA).

TACTICAL EXERCISE - 16 AUST INF BDE GP - 24 - 27 MAY 42

OPENING SITUATION

Ref Map ALUTGAMA
HORANA
AMBALANGODA 1 inch to 1 mile.

- 24 May 42 : Information received at 1⁰⁰ hrs that an enemy convoy had been sighted moving WEST approx 200 miles WEST of ANDAMAN Is. At 1500 hrs three enemy Recce planes flew over CBO,
- 25 May 42 : A further report received 1600 hrs advises that this enemy convoy consisting of approx 40 ships including two aircraft carriers was attacked by our Naval and Air Forces at 1100 hrs 470 miles WEST of ANDAMANS.
Result : 3 enemy Naval craft, 10 Transports sunk, 15 planes destroyed and convoy dispersed. Full details of action not to hand. Monsoonal conditions at sea made visibility very bad and our recce aircraft temporarily lost touch with enemy convoy.
- 26 May 42 : At 0700 hrs CBO and TNR were simultaneously heavily attacked by air and seven fighters machine-gunned KTR aerodrome. The enemy's losses exceeded ours by 15 planes.

M E S S A G E S

- Message No.1 To : 2/1 Aust Fd Regt 2/1 Aust Inf Bn 2/3 Aust Inf Bn
2/1 Aust Fd Amb 1 Coy AASC
exercise only (.) sitrep (.) information received 1200 hrs enemy
convoy sighted moving WEST approximately 200 miles WEST
ANDAMAN Is (.) 1500 hrs three enemy recce planes over
CBO exercise T00 1530 hrs
- Message No.2 To : 2/1 Aust Fd Regt 2/1 Aust Inf Bn 2/3 Aust Inf Bn
2/1 Aust Fd Amb 1 Coy AASC rptd 2/2 Aust Inf Bn
exercise only (.) sitrep (.) strat/R report 1600 hrs enemy convoy
forty ships incl two aircraft carriers was attacked by our naval
and air forces 1100 hrs today 470 miles WEST ANDAMANS (.)
enemy losses three naval craft ten transports sunk fifteen
planes destroyed convoy dispersed (.) full details NOT to hand (.)
visibility bad our recce planes lost touch with enemy exercise
T00 1700 hrs
- Message No.3 To ; 2/1 Aust Fd Regt 2/1 Aust Inf Bn 2/3 Aust Inf Bn
2/1 Aust Fd Amb 1 Coy AASC rptd 2/2 Aust Inf Bn
exercise only (.) PERTH (.) ack (.) all informed exercise T00 1800 hrs
- Message No. 4 To : 2/1 Aust Fd Regt 2/1 Aust Inf Bn 2/3 Aust Inf Bn
2/1 Aust Fd Amb 1 Coy AASC
exercise only (.) sitrep (.) CBO TRN heavily bombed KTR aerodrome
machine-gunned 0700 hrs (.) enemy losses at least fifteen planes
(.) damage unknown EXERCISE T00 0900 hrs
- Message No. 5 To : 2/1 Aust Fd Regt 2/1 Aust Inf Bn 2/3 Aust Inf Bn
2/1 Aust Fd Amb 1 Coy AASC
exercise only (.) SYDNEY (.) no demolition preparations (.) ack (.)
all informed EXERCISE T00 1000 hrs

16 AUST INF BDE TACTICAL EXERCISE 26-27 MAY 42

FORECAST OF EVENTS

Ref Maps: HORANA, ALUTGAMA, AMBALANGODA. 1 inch to 1 mile.

24 MAY 42 1530 hrs. Opening situation for this day issued as Sitrep to units concerned. MESSAGE 1

25 MAY 42 1700 hrs (a) Opening situation for this day issued as Sitrep to units concerned. MESSAGE 2

1800 hrs (b) Code word. EXERCISE ONLY "PERTH" issued MESSAGE 3

26 MAY 42 0900 hrs (a) Opening situation for 26 May 42 issued as Sitrep to units concerned. MESSAGE 4.

1000 hrs (b) Code word EXERCISE ONLY "SYDNEY." issued MESSAGE 5

1100 hrs (c) 2/1 Aust Inf Bn orders one Coy to occupy defences at MAGGONA and BERUWALA. (Coy HQ at BERUWALA). Two 18 pr fd guns to be manned for beach defence.

Note: Move to be carried out by UNIT tpt

1400 hrs (d) 2/2 Aust Inf Bn with under comd
~~One Bty less~~ one Tp 2/1 Aust Fd Regt
One Coy 2/3 Aust Inf Bn
One Mob Sec 2/1 Aust Fd Amb
leave HORANA for BANDARAWATTA -
(This force to represent enemy (Jap) force to land 27 May 42).

Note: AASC will supply necessary tp carrying tpt to move above infantry to BANDARAWATTA (40 mile stone) COAST Rd. Comd 2/2 Bn may retain up to (12) twelve of these vehicles for movement of Coy 2/3 Bn moving via MEBGAMA and for other purposes. Remainder of vehicles will return immediately to HORANA after debussing tps at BANDARAWATTA.

1500 hrs (e) One Coy 2/3 Aust Inf Bn - with under Comd
One Sec Carriers
One Det Mortars
leave HORANA to occupy prepared defences on both sides of BENTOTA GANGA - astride COAST Rd vicinity Rd and Ry Bns.

1500 hrs (f) One Coy 2/3 Aust Inf Bn - with under Comd
One Tp 2/1 Aust Fd Regt
One Sec Carriers
Two Dets Mortars
leave HORANA to be disposed as follows

MAGGONA defences

One Tp Fd Regt
One Pl Inf
One Det Mortars

BERUWALA prepared defences

Coy less one Pl
One Sec Carriers
One Det Mortars.

Note. This force as above (f) will relieve tps of the 2/1 Aust Inf Bn who will return to KTR on the tpt of relieving tps.

- 27 MAY 42 0545 hrs (a) Coast watcher reports enemy force approaching beach vicinity BANDARAWATTA and to SOUTH. Visibility at sea very bad - unable to communicate information by telephone as line was cut. He reports verbally to BENTOTA and KTR is informed by M.C. D.R. from Coy at that locality.
- 0645 hrs (b) Our recce planes from KTR report considerable enemy force - estimated at equivalent to two Inf Bdes and some AFV's and M.T. effecting unopposed landing, except for air attacks, SOUTH of BANDARAWATTA and that half appear to be preparing to move NORTH and half SOUTH. "Our" planes engaging enemy aircraft which have now appeared to support their tps.
- 0700 hrs (c) 2/2 Aust Inf Bn with att tps (representing part of Jap first flight) made successful landing just SOUTH of BANDARAWATTA. Carrier patrol from BENTOTA defences report enemy fwd elements moving NORTH with head of column at 40 mile stone on COAST Rd. Patrol fired on them and caused some deployment - then withdrew under cover smoke screen to Southern side of BENTOTA GANGA. Comd of defensive tps on SOUTH side of river being informed of position - "stepped back" to NORTH of River and occupies defences.
- 0715 hrs (d) After losing some casualties "enemy" force passage over br under cover of arty and mortar support incl smoke. On Northern bank "our tps" on WEST side of brs, side slip to EAST of rd, to prevent being isolated, and reform to harass enemy's Northern adv. Brs were not demolished as Comd considered from air reports that enemy force which had landed did not warrant their destruction.
- 0730 hrs (e) Tac/R report no fresh ships sighted NORTH of BENTOTA indicating no further landing today. Coy and Tp at MAGGONA and BERUWALA moves NORTH by "stepping back" tactics to harass and resist enemy adv.
- 0930 hrs (f) Tac/R report indicated that enemy motorised force (represented by one coy 2/3 Bn) which moved EAST on NORTH side of BENTOTA GANGA had been seen at MEEGAMA 8808 moving NORTH. C.O. 2/1 Bn orders one coy and one sec carriers to rd junc 848219 to resist attack from that direction.
- 1000 hrs (g) C.O. 2/1 Aust Inf Bn asks Bde for extra coy from HORANA as Bn reserve and arranges to supply tpt to pick up tps on SOUTH side of ANGURUWATOTA Ferry.
- 1030 hrs (h) 16 Aust Inf Bde orders one Coy 2/3 Aust Inf Bn to move at once by MT to ANGURUWATOTA Ferry (tpt returning). 2/1 Aust Inf Bn to arrange tpt on their side of river on to Bn HQ.
- 1130 hrs (i) Enemy force on Coast has reached PAIYAGALA South and met resistance from Coy astride rd and forced to by-pass coy there in order to continue adv NORTH to KTR aerodrome and finds opening between point 848219 on EAST and 812191 on WEST.
- 1230 hrs (j) Enemy bn approaching from MEEGAMA in SOUTH reaches 848219 and meets strong resistance from coy in defensive position there who held their fire until enemy presented good target. After suffering heavy casualties

enemy bn encircled "our" position and continued its adv SE towards KTR aerodrome.

1530 hrs (k) Enemy (Coy 2/3 Bn) attacks aerodrome from the EAST. Attack is repulsed by well defended positions.

1600 hrs (l) Enemy (2/2 Bn and att tps) launches attack on KTR aerodrome from SOUTH and SOUTH EAST and is partially successful.

1630 hrs (m) C.O. 2/1 Aust Inf Bn launches counter attack and drives enemy out of SE pl position which they occupied, and regains position after casualties on both sides.

Approx
1800 hrs

Exercise ends on firing smoke candle near runway. HORANA tps then assemble on aerodrome clear of runway, preparatory to embussing on rd at NORTH end of aerodrome where tpt will be drawn up facing WEST.

L E D

24 FEB 44

(2)

Serial No.	Location	Date May	Time	Situation	Remarks
8		27	1000 hrs	C.O. 2/1 Bn asks Bde for one coy as Bn reserve. This coy to move to ANGURUWATOTA Ferry and be picked up by 2/1 Bn tpt there.	
9	HORANA	27	1030 hrs	Bde orders one coy 2/3 Aust Inf Bn to move by MT to ANGURUWATOTA Ferry to be picked up by tpt on other side sent from 2/1 Bn.	Tpt from HORANA If River in flood may have to move via PANADURA.
10	PAIYAGALA	27	1130 hrs	Coy astride rd at PAIYAGALA opposes "enemy force" moving North and forces them to by pass to the East and thence to the North to KTR.	"Enemy should NOT be held too long as they have to press on to KTR.
11	Pt848219	27	1230 hrs	Coy patrols in defensive posn there sees enemy approaching up rd & waits in ambush then inflicts heavy casualties. However enemy encircle coy posn & move South East and continue attack towards KTR aerodrome.	Coy should harass enemy as they continue advance to KTR
12	KTR	27	1530 hrs	Coy in Eastern defences attacked by enemy coy but are successful in holding the attack and drive off enemy with heavy losses.	Enemy coy may get involved with 2/1 Bn HQ but shouldn't influence fight on KTR aerodrome
13	KTR	27	1600 hrs	Enemy attack on KTR from South and South East partially successful and capture pl position on South East of drome	Enemy success due to smoke & over- whelming numbers of attack.
14	KTR	27	1630 hrs	C.O. 2/1 Bn launches counter attack and drives enemy out of positions which they occupied & regains positions after casualties to both sides.	
15	KTR	27	1800 hrs	Exercise ends by firing of smoke candle on KTR aerodrome.	

INSTRUCTIONS TO UMPIRES - ENEMY

TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH FORECAST OF EVENTS

Serial No.	Unit or Sub Unit	Time	Date May	Place	Situation	Remarks
1	Complete	1400 hrs	26	HORANA	"Enemy" leaves HORANA, carriers on transporters	Gets into position at BANDARAWATTA
2	Complete	0645 - 0700 hrs	27	BANDARAWATTA	Enemy completes "landing" & turns NORTH - 2/3 carrier patrol from BENTOTA see fwd elements of 2/2 Bn at 40 mile stone inflicts a few casualties on fwd tps and gets away under cover of a smoke screen. No casualties to carriers	Should move off so that fwd elements are seen at 40 mile stone at 0700.
3	"Enemy" less one Coy 2/3	approx 0715	27	BENTOTA	"Enemy" less one coy 2/3 Bn cross BENTOTA br have a number of casualties in doing so but "own tps" side slip EAST into bush and allow Bn through after some delay (about 20 mins). Then harass 2/2 Bn adv NORTH	Complete Bn cannot get over br until "own tps" side slip, they do so under mortar & perhaps arty fire.
4	One Coy 2/3 Bn	0710 hrs to 1530 hrs	27	BENTOTA	One coy 2/3 Bn "enemy" representing one enemy bn turns EAST along NORTH side of BENTOTA GANGA. Its role is to move by rd to MEEGAMA 8808 and when in its vicinity at 0930 hrs was seen by our aircraft. Then move NORTH by rd arriving at rd junc 848219 at 1230 hrs. Only minor resistance by "our" carrier patrols until enemy gets to 848219 where it comes under fire from Coy in defensive posn & has heavy casualties. However balance of enemy Bn was successful in encircling "our" coy posn and harassed by "our" tps continued its adv towards KTR aerodrome and attacked aerodrome from Easterly direction at 1530 hrs.	Delay comd to conform to time tables as aircraft will probably be looking for them at 0930 hrs.

(2)

Serial No.	Unit or Sub Unit	Time	Date May	Place	Situation	Remarks
5	"Enemy" gp less 2/3 Coy	0710 hrs 1130 hrs	27	BENTOTA to PAIYAGALA	"Enemy" is resisted by one coy which was on beach defence at MAGGONA & BERUWALA and which has adopted a delaying action up main rd forcing "enemy" to do two encircling attacks only to find the coy had pulled back. Enemy was further "attacked" on its flank by coy which side slipped East at BENTOTA and harassed its flanks delaying its advance.	Delay enemy so that they dont reach PAIYAGALA rd junc until 1130 hrs. Use mortar fire & arty explosions.
6	"Enemy" gp less 2/3 Coy	1135 hrs	27	PAIYAGALA rd junc	"Enemy" finds itself up against resistance astride rd at PAIYAGALA South so by passes resistance and is for purpose of exercise, permitted to proceed North between points 848219 on the East and 812191 on West	"Enemy" should go overland here & head for KTR aerodrome but progress will be slow as it has to cross Paddy fields & has lost a number of casualties so carrying will be difficult - should be prepared to launch attack on KTR aerodrome at 1600 hrs.
7	"Enemy" One Coy 2/3 Bn	1530 hrs	27	East of KTR Aerodrome	"Enemy" Bn from MEEGAMA launch attack on KTR aerodrome from North East. This will come 1/2 hour before main attack by 2/2 Bn from South and South East. Attack is repulsed by well defended positions.	
3	"Enemy" gp less 2/3 Bn Coy	1600 hrs	27	SOUTH of KTR Aerodrome	"Enemy" attack develops on KTR aerodrome at 1600 hrs attacking from South and South East and is partially successful securing South East Pl position. C.O. 2/1 Aust Inf Bn counter attacks immediately with reserve and recaptures positions.	
		Approx 1800 hrs			Exercise ends on firing of smoke candle near aerodrome. HORANA tps assemble on aerodrome clear of runway preparatory to embussing on rd at Northern end of aerodrome where lorries will be drawn up.	

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

Headquarters,
16 Aust Inf Bde.

25 May 42.

GROUPINGS FOR SDE EXERCISE
26-27 MAY.

(a) 2/1 Aust Inf Bn

2/1 Aust Inf Bn with under Comd

(i) Det Engrs

(ii) One Mob Sec 2/1 Aust Fd Amb

(i) & (ii) to report to 2/1 Aust Inf Bn
0900 hrs 27 May.

(b) 2/2 Aust Inf Bn

(i) 2/2 Bn-with under Comd

(ii) One Coy 2/3 Aust Inf Bn

(iii) Bty less one Tp 2/1 Aust Fd Regt

(iv) Det Engrs

(v) 6 transporters ;

(vi) AASC vehs as requisitioned for

(vii) One Mob Sec 2/1 Aust Fd Amb

(ii) to (vii) to report to 2/2 Bn lines at
1300 hrs on Tue 26 May.

(c) 2/3 Aust Inf Bn

(i) One Coy and one Sec Carriers
- with under Comd

One Tp Arty 2/1 Aust Fd Regt

MAGGONA - BERUWALA positions

Tp to report to 2/3 Bn at 1400 hrs 26 May.

Carriers to move on tracks

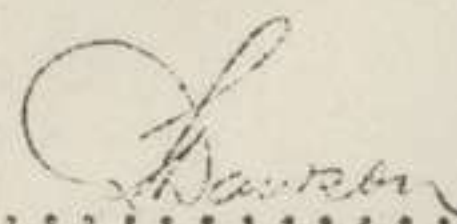
(ii) One Coy and one Sec Carriers BENTOTA position.

Note (a) three transporters will report 2/3 Bn
lines at 1400 hrs Tue 26 May 42

(i) & (ii) above leave HORANA at 1500 hrs
for BENTOTA, BERUWALA and MAGGONA.

(iii) One Coy to report to 2/2 Bn at 1300 hrs 26 May
as enemy, dress Hats.

(iv) One Coy to leave HORANA at 1630 hrs, in response
to order from this HQ, for ANGURUWATOTA FERRY
by tpt .
2/3 Bn to req. for necessary AASC tpt through
this HQ.


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

DISTRIBUTION:

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

2/1 Aust Fd Coy
No 1 Coy, AASC
2/1 Aust t Fd Amb.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS TO UNITS ON BDE EXERCISE 26-27 MAY 42

ADMINISTRATION

1. Tpt : Units requiring tpt for movement of tps or other purposes will requisition through this HQ as early as possible before time required giving following information :-
 - (a) Place to report. (If any doubt about location a guide will be sent by unit to AASC in time to lead tpt to location)
 - (b) Number of tps or tons to be lifted.
 - (c) Destination.
 - (d) Route to be taken.
 - (e) Duration for which tpt will be required.
2. Scale of unit tpt for 2/2 & 2/3 Aust Inf Bns will be :-
 - (a) 15 cwts 3 per Coy
 - (b) 3 ton 1 per Coy
 - (c) Carriers
 - (i) 2/2 Bn All Carriers
 - (ii) 2/3 Bn Two secs (one ea for Coys at BENTOTA & MAGGONA - BENTUALA)
 - (d) M Cs as required
3. Respirators will be considered to be on unit tpt but for purpose of exercise will be left in camp to prevent damage.
4. Dress
 - (a) "Own Tps" Steel Helmets
 - (b) "Enemy" Felt Hats
 - (c) Umpires White arm band or white hat band.
5. Casualties Casualty tickets to be carried by umpires & placed on "casualties".
6. POW Units will make own arrangements for POW.
7. Q Units will make own Q arrangements according to their role in exercise.
8. Hydra Burners Units are reminded that these may be used for exercise.
9. Representation of Fire
 - (a) Blank to be issued from this HQ
 - (b) Fire Works
 - (c) Rattles
 - (d) Small explosions arranged between Umpire & sapper att ea Coy.

23 May 42

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

~~Wanbrany~~

~~Cond~~
APPENDIX G

25 May 42

16 AUST INF BDE GP

INTER BN EXERCISE

26 - 27 MAY 42

BENTOTA to KTR

Contents :-

Sheet 1	Object lessons and references
" 2	Opening situation and messages
" 3-4-5	Forecast of Events
" 6 - 7	Instructions to Umpires "Own Tps"
" 8 - 9	Instructions to Umpires "Enemy"
" 10	Groupings for Exercises
" 11	Adm Instructions.

Note :- General principles to umpires given verbally.

16 AUST INF BDE GP
INTER BN EXERCISE

1. OBJECT :

- (a) To test the defences of KTR aerodrome.
- (b) To test endurance of attacking tps in pressing an attack.
- (c) To practice tps in moving quickly to objective and encircling opposition.

2. LESSONS :

(a) DEFENCE

- i. Defence of an aerodrome.
- ii. Immediate counter attack.
- iii. Ambushes and patrols.
- iv. The necessity for all weapons to be ready at all times to engage enemy from any direction.
- v. Use of reserve

(b) ATTACK

- i. Encircling opposition.
- ii. To move fast and accurately across country.
- iii. Employment of carriers .
- iv. Use of M/C D Rs and bicycles for communications.

(c) GENERAL

- i. Method of embussing and debussing.
- ii. To practice AASC in transportation of tps.
- iii. Co-operation of arty with inf.

3. REFERENCES

Teachings from the following pamphlets and references will be used in connection with above lessons to be learned :-

- i. Tactical Methods - Characteristics of Japanese Operations 1942.
- ii. Lessons from Operations in MALAYA.
- iii. Precis - Forest Warfare MTP No.9 (INDIA).

TACTICAL EXERCISE - 16 AUST INF BDE GP - 24 - 27 MAY 42

OPENING SITUATION

Ref Map ALUTGAMA
HORANA
AMBALANGODA 1 inch to 1 mile.

24 May 42 : Information received at 1400 hrs that an enemy convoy had been sighted moving WEST approx 200 miles WEST of ANDAMAN Is. At 1500 hrs three enemy Recce planes flew over CBO.

25 May 42 : A further report received 1600 hrs advises that this enemy convoy consisting of approx 40 ships including two aircraft carriers was attacked by our Naval and Air Forces at 1100 hrs 470 miles WEST of ANDAMANS.
Result : 3 enemy Naval craft, 10 Transports sunk, 15 planes destroyed and convoy dispersed. Full details of action not to hand. Monsoonal conditions at sea made visibility very bad and our recce aircraft temporarily lost touch with enemy convoy.

26 May 42 : At 0700 hrs CBO and TNR were simultaneously heavily attacked by air and seven fighters machine-gunned KTR aerodrome. The enemy's losses exceeded ours by 15 planes.

MESSAGES

Message No.1 To : 2/1 Aust Fd Regt 2/1 Aust Inf Bn 2/3 Aust Inf Bn
2/1 Aust Fd Amb 1 Coy AASC

exercise only (.) sitrep (.) information received 1200 hrs enemy
convoy sighted moving WEST approximately 200 miles WEST
ANDAMAN Is (.) 1500 hrs three enemy recce planes over
CBO exercise T00 1530 hrs

Message No.2 To : 2/1 Aust Fd Regt 2/1 Aust Inf Bn 2/3 Aust Inf Bn
2/1 Aust Fd Amb 1 Coy AASC rptd 2/2 Aust Inf Bn

exercise only (.) sitrep (.) strat/R report 1600 hrs enemy convoy
forty ships incl two aircraft carriers was attacked by our naval
and air forces 1100 hrs today 470 miles WEST ANDAMANS (.)
enemy losses three naval craft ten transports sunk fifteen
planes destroyed convoy dispersed (.) full details NOT to hand (.)
visibility bad our recce planes lost touch with enemy exercise
T00 1700 hrs

Message No.3 To : 2/1 Aust Fd Regt 2/1 Aust Inf Bn 2/3 Aust Inf Bn
2/1 Aust Fd Amb 1 Coy AASC rptd 2/2 Aust Inf Bn

exercise only (.) PERTH (.) ack (.) all informed exercise T00 1800 hrs

Message No. 4 To : 2/1 Aust Fd Regt 2/1 Aust Inf Bn 2/3 Aust Inf Bn
2/1 Aust Fd Amb 1 Coy AASC

exercise only (.) sitrep (.) CBO TRN heavily bombed KTR aerodrome
machine-gunned 0700 hrs (.) enemy losses at least fifteen planes
(.) damage unknown EXERCISE T00 0900 hrs

Message No. 5 To : 2/1 Aust Fd Regt 2/1 Aust Inf Bn 2/3 Aust Inf Bn
2/1 Aust Fd Amb 1 Coy AASC

exercise only (.) SYDNEY (.) no demolition preparations (.) ack (.)
all informed EXERCISE T00 1000 hrs

16 AUST INF BDE TACTICAL EXERCISE 26-27 MAY 42

FORECAST OF EVENTS

Ref Maps: HORANA, ALUTGAMA, AMBALANGODA. 1 inch to 1 mile.

24 MAY 42 1530 hrs. Opening situation for this day issued as Sitrep to units concerned. MESSAGE 1

25 MAY 42 1700 hrs (a) Opening situation for this day issued as Sitrep to units concerned. MESSAGE 2

1800 hrs (b) Code word. EXERCISE ONLY "PERTH" issued MESSAGE 3

26 MAY 42 0900 hrs (a) Opening situation for 26 May 42 issued as Sitrep to units concerned. MESSAGE 4.

1000 hrs (b) Code word EXERCISE ONLY "SYDNEY." issued MESSAGE 5

1100 hrs (c) 2/1 Aust Inf Bn orders one Coy to occupy defences at MAGGONA and BERUWALA. (Coy HQ at BERUWALA). Two 18 pr fd guns to be manned for beach defence.

Note: Move to be carried out by UNIT tpt

1400 hrs (d) 2/2 Aust Inf Bn with under comd
One Bty less one Tp 2/1 Aust Fd Regt
One Coy 2/3 Aust Inf Bn
One Mob Sec 2/1 Aust Fd Amb
leave HORANA for BANDARAWATTA -
(This force to represent enemy (Jap) force to land 27 May 42).

Note: AASC will supply necessary tp carrying tpt to move above infantry to BANDARAWATTA (40 mile stone) COAST Rd. Comd 2/2 Bn may retain up to (12) twelve of these vehicles for movement of Coy 2/3 Bn moving via MEBGAMA and for other purposes. Remainder of vehicles will return immediately to HORANA after debussing tps at BANDARAWATTA.

1500 hrs (e) One Coy 2/3 Aust Inf Bn - with under Comd
One Sec Carriers
One Det Mortars
leave HORANA to occupy prepared defences on both sides of BENTOTA GANGA - astride COAST Rd vicinity Rd and Ry Bns.

1500 hrs (f) One Coy 2/3 Aust Inf Bn - with under Comd
One Tp 2/1 Aust Fd Regt
One Sec Carriers
Two Dets Mortars
leave HORANA to be disposed as follows

MAGGONA defences One Tp Fd Regt
One Pl Inf
One Det Mortars

BERUWALA prepared defences Coy less one Pl
One Sec Carriers
One Det Mortars.

Note. This force as above (f) will relieve tps of the 2/1 Aust Inf Bn who will return to KTR on the tpt of relieving tps.

- 27 MAY 42 0545 hrs (a) Coast watcher reports enemy force approaching beach vicinity BANDARAWATTA and to SOUTH. Visibility at sea very bad - unable to communicate information by telephone as line was cut. He reports verbally to BENTOTA and KTR is informed by M.C. D.R. from Coy at that locality.
- 0645 hrs (b) Our recce planes from KTR report considerable enemy force - estimated at equivalent to two Inf Bdes and some AFV's and M.T. effecting unopposed landing, except for air attacks, SOUTH of BANDARAWATTA and that half appear to be preparing to move NORTH and half SOUTH. "Our" planes engaging enemy aircraft which have now appeared to support their tps.
- 0700 hrs (c) 2/2 Aust Inf Bn with att tps (representing part of Jap first flight) made successful landing just SOUTH of BANDARAWATTA. Carrier patrol from BENTOTA defences report enemy fwd elements moving NORTH with head of column at 40 mile stone on COAST Rd. Patrol fired on them and caused some deployment - then withdrew under cover smoke screen to Southern side of BENTOTA GANGA. Comd of defensive tps on SOUTH side of river being informed of position - "stepped back" to NORTH of River and occupies defences.
- 0715 hrs (d) After losing some casualties "enemy" force passage over br under cover of arty and mortar support incl smoke. On Northern bank "our tps" on WEST side of brs, side slip to EAST of rd, to prevent being isolated, and reform to harass enemy's Northern adv. Brs were not demolished as Comd considered from air reports that enemy force which had landed did not warrant their destruction.
- 0730 hrs (e) Tac/R report no fresh ships sighted NORTH of BENTOTA indicating no further landing today. Coy and Tp at MAGGONA and BERUWALA moves NORTH by "stepping back" tactics to harass and resist enemy adv.
- 0930 hrs (f) Tac/R report indicated that enemy motorised force (represented by one coy 2/3 Bn) which moved EAST on NORTH side of BENTOTA GANGA had been seen at MEEGAMA 8808 moving NORTH. C.O. 2/1 Bn orders one coy and one sec carriers to rd junc 848219 to resist attack from that direction.
- 1000 hrs (g) C.O. 2/1 Aust Inf Bn asks Bde for extra coy from HORANA as Bn reserve and arranges to supply tpt to pick up tps on SOUTH side of ANGURUWATOTA Ferry.
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- 1130 hrs (i) Enemy force on Coast has reached PAIYAGALA South and met resistance from Coy astride rd and forced to by-pass coy there in order to continue adv NORTH to KTR aerodrome and finds opening between point 848219 on EAST and 812191 on WEST.
- 1230 hrs (j) Enemy bn approaching from MEEGAMA in SOUTH reaches 848219 and meets strong resistance from coy in defensive position there who held their fire until enemy presented good target. After suffering heavy casualties

--- 3 ---

enemy bn encircled "our" position and continued its adv SE towards KTR aerodrome.

1530 hrs (k) Enemy (Coy 2/3 Bn) attacks aerodrome from the EAST. Attack is repulsed by well defended positions.

1600 hrs (l) Enemy (2/2 Bn and att tps) launches attack on KTR aerodrome from SOUTH and SOUTH EAST and is partially successful.

1630 hrs (m) C.O. 2/1 Aust Inf Bn launches counter attack and drives enemy out of SE pl position which they occupied, and regains position after casualties on both sides.

Approx
1800 hrs

Exercise ends on firing smoke candle near runway. HORANA tps then assemble on aerodrome clear of runway, preparatory to embussing on rd at NORTH end of aerodrome where tpt will be drawn up facing WEST.

L. E. D.

24 FEB 45

INSTRUCTIONS TO UNPIRES -- "OWN TPS"

Serial No.	Location	Date	Time	Situation	Remarks
1	MAGGONA BERUWALA	26	1100 hrs	C.O. 2/1 Bn orders one coy to MAGGONA - BERUWALA (coy hq) man two 18 pdr fd guns for beach defence	Move to be carried out by unit tpt
2	HORANA	26	1500 hrs	Leave to occupy defences on both sides BENTOTA GANGA astride coast rd vicinity rd & ry hrs.	One Coy) One sec carriers) 2/3 One det mortars) Bn
3	HORANA	26	1500 hrs	Leave to be disposed as follows :- MAGGONA defences -- one tp Fd Regt one pl Inf one det mortars BERUWALA defences - Coy less one pl One sec carriers One det mortars	Note : This force relieves tps of 2/1 Bn who return to KTR on tpt of relieving tps One tp Fd Regt One Coy) One sec carriers) 2/3 Two dets mortars) Bn
4	BENTOTA	27	0700 hrs	Carreir patrol BENTOTA defences sees enemy fwd elements at 40 mile post at BANDARAWATTA, fires on them-inflicts a few casualties and withdraws under cover of smoke to Southern side of BENTOTA GANGA to cover withdrawal of Southern defences, who step back to Northern defences.	
5	BENTOTA defences	27	0715 hrs	When enemy force passage over BENTOTA br Western defences side slip to East thence withdraw back to harass "enemy" move North.	
6	MAGGONA BERUWALA defences	27	0730 hrs	Defences are withdrawn from Beach defence as Tac/R report no further landing likely. This coy is to adopt step back tactics delaying "enemy" adv North so that they reach PAIYAGALA by 1130 hrs	
7	MEEGAMA Coy 2/3 Bn	27	0930 hrs	Tac/R reports enemy force which moved East was seen at MEEGAMA 8808. C.O. 2/1 Bn orders one Coy to rd junc 848219 to resist attack from that direction.	

(2)

Serial No.	Location	Date May	Time	Situation	Remarks
8		27	1000 hrs	C.O. 2/1 Bn asks Bde for one coy as Bn reserve. This coy to move to ANGURUWATOTA Ferry and be picked up by 2/1 Bn tpt there.	
9	HORANA	27	1030 hrs	Bde orders one coy 2/3 Aust Inf Bn to move by MT to ANGURUWATOTA Ferry to be picked up by tpt on other side sent from 2/1 Bn.	Tpt from HORANA returns If River in flood may have to move via PANADURA.
10	PAIYAGALA	27	1130 hrs	Coy astride rd at PAIYAGALA opposes "enemy force" moving North and forces them to by pass to the East and thence to the North to KTR.	"Enemy" should NOT be held too long as they have to press on to KTR.
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2	Complete	0645 - 0700 hrs	27	BANDARAWATTA	Enemy completes "landing" & turns NORTH - 2/3 carrier patrol from BENTOTA see fwd elements of 2/2 Bn at 40 mile stone inflicts a few casualties on fwd tps and gets away under cover of a smoke screen. No casualties to carriers.	Should move off so that fwd elements are seen at 40 mile stone at 0700.
3	"Enemy" less one Coy 2/3	approx 0715	27	BENTOTA	"Enemy" less one coy 2/3 Bn cross BENTOTA br have a number of casualties in doing so but "own tps" side slip EAST into bush and allow Bn through after some delay (about 20 mins). Then harass 2/2 Bn adv NORTH	Complete Bn cannot get over br until "own tps" side slip, they do so under mortar & perhaps arty fire.
4	One Coy 2/3 Bn	0710 hrs to 1530 hrs	27	BENTOTA	One coy 2/3 Bn "enemy" representing one enemy bn turns EAST along NORTH side of BENTOTA GANGA. Its role is to move by rd to MEEGAMA 8808 and when in its vicinity at 0930 hrs was seen by our aircraft. Then move NORTH by rd arriving at rd junc 848219 at 1230 hrs. Only minor resistance by "our" carrier patrols until enemy gets to 848219 where it comes under fire from Coy in defensive posn & has heavy casualties. However balance of enemy Bn was successful in encircling "our" coy posn and harassed by "our" tps continued its adv towards KTR aerodrome and attacked aerodrome from Easterly direction at 1530 hrs.	Delay comd to conform to time tables as aircraft will probably be looking for them at 0930 hrs.

(2)

Serial No.	Unit or Sub Unit	Time	Date May	Place	Situation	Remarks
5	"Enemy" gp less 2/3 Coy	0710 hrs 1130 hrs	27	BENTOTA to PAIYAGALA	"Enemy" is resisted by one coy which was on beach defence at MAGGONA & BERUWALA and which has adopted a delaying action up main rd forcing "enemy" to do two encircling attacks only to find the coy had pulled back. Enemy was further "attacked" on its flank by coy which side slipped East at BENTOTA and harassed its flanks delaying its advance.	Delay enemy so that they dont reach PAIYAGALA rd junc until 1130 hrs. Use mortar fire & arty explosions.
6	"Enemy" gp less 2/3 Coy	1135 hrs	27	PAIYAGALA rd junc	"Enemy" finds itself up against resistance astride rd at PAIYAGALA South so by passes resistance and is for purpose of exercise, permitted to proceed North between points 848219 on the East and 812191 on West	"Enemy" should go overland here & head for KTR aerodrome but progress will be slow as it has to cross Paddy fields & has lost a number of casualties so carrying will be difficult - should be prepared to launch attack on KTR aerodrome at 1600 hrs.
7	"Enemy" One Coy 2/3 Bn	1530 hrs	27	East of KTR Aerodrome	"Enemy" Bn from MEEGAMA launch attack on KTR aerodrome from North East. This will come 1/2 hour before main attack by 2/2 Bn from South and South East. Attack is repulsed by well defended positions.	
3	"Enemy" gp less 2/3 Bn Coy	1600 hrs	27	SOUTH of KTR Aerodrome	"Enemy" attack developes on KTR aerodrome at 1600 hrs attacking from South and South East and is partially successful securing South East Pl positions. C.O. 2/1 Aust Inf Bn counter attacks immediately with reserve and recaptures positions.	
		Approx 1800 hrs			Exercise ends on firing of smoke candle near aerodrome. HORANA tps assemble on aerodrome clear of runway preparatory to embussing on rd at Northern end of aerodrome where lorries will be drawn up.	

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

Comd

Headquarters,
16 Aust Inf Bde.

23 May 42.

GROUPINGS FOR BDE EXERCISE
26-27 MAY.

(a) 2/1 Aust Inf Bn

2/1 Aust Inf Bn with under Comd

(i) Det Engrs

(ii) One Mob Sec 2/1 Aust Fd Amb

(i) & (ii) to report to 2/1 Aust Inf Bn
0900 hrs 27 May.

(b) 2/2 Aust Inf Bn

(i) 2/2 Bn-with under Comd

(ii) One Coy 2/3 Aust Inf Bn

(iii) ~~By loss~~ one Tp 2/1 Aust Fd Regt

(iv) Det Engrs

(v) 6 transporters (status of req. is unknown)

(vi) AASC vehs as requisitioned for

(vii) One Mob Sec 2/1 Aust Fd Amb

(ii) to (vii) to report to 2/2 Bn lines at
1300 hrs on Tue 26 May.

(c) 2/3 Aust Inf Bn

(i) One Coy and one Sec Carriers
- with under Comd

One Tp Arty 2/1 Aust Fd Regt

MAGGONA - BERUWALA positions

Tp to report to 2/3 Bn at 1400 hrs 26 May.

Carriers to move on tracks

(ii) One Coy and one Sec Carriers BENTOTA position.

Note (a) three transporters will report 2/3 Bn
lines at 1400 hrs Tue 26 May 42.

(i) & (ii) above leave HORANA at 1500 hrs
for BENTOTA, BERUWALA and MAGGONA.

(iii) One Coy report to 2/2 Bn at 1300 hrs 26 May
as enemy, dress Hats.

(iv) One Coy to leave HORANA at ¹⁰³⁰ ~~1630~~ ^{27 May} hrs, in response
to order from this HQ, for ANGURUWATOTA FERRY
by tpt.
2/3 Bn to req. for necessary AASC tpt through
this HQ.

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

DISTRIBUTION:

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

2/1 Aust Fd Coy
No 1 Coy, AASC
2/1 Aust t Fd Amb.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS TO UNITS ON BDE EXERCISE 26-27 MAY 42
=====

ADMINISTRATION

1. Tpt : Units requiring tpt for movement of tps or other purposes will requisition through this HQ as early as possible before time required giving following information :-
 - (a) Place to report. (If any doubt about location a guide will be sent by unit to AASC in time to lead tpt to location)
 - (b) Number of tps or tons to be lifted.
 - (c) Destination.
 - (d) Route to be taken.
 - (e) Duration for which tpt will be required.
2. Scale of unit tpt for 2/2 & 2/3 Aust Inf Bns will be :-
 - (a) 15 cwts 3 per Coy
 - (b) 3 ton 1 per Coy
 - (c) Carriers
 - (i) 2/2 Bn All Carriers
 - (ii) 2/3 Bn Two secs (one ea for Coys at BENTOTA & MAGGONA - BERUWALA)
 - (d) M Cs as required
3. Respirators will be considered to be on unit tpt but for purpose of exercise will be left in camp to prevent damage.
4. Dress
 - (a) "Own Tps" Steel Helmets
 - (b) "Enemy" Felt Hats
 - (c) Umpires White arm band or white hat band.
5. Casualties Casualty tickets to be carried by umpires & placed on "casualties".
6. POW Units will make own arrangements for PsOW.
7. Q Units will make own Q arrangements according to their role in exercise.
8. Hydra Burners Units are reminded that these may be used for exercise.
9. Representation of Fire
 - (a) Blank to be issued from this HQ
 - (b) Fire Works
 - (c) Rattles
 - (d) Small explosions arranged between Umpire & sapper att ea Coy.

23 May 42

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

APPENDIX H
War Diary

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

Ref File 0/2/351

SECRET

Copy No
12

Headquarters,
16 Aust Inf Bde.

27 May 42.

AMENDMENTS - OPERATION INSTRUCTION NO 2

Please make the following amendments to 16 Aust Inf Bde
Operation Instruction No 2 of 11 May 42 :

Para 13 BOUNDARIES:

Amend map ref "KURIWITA 127148" to "KURIWITA 268489".

Para 17 DISPOSITIONS:

Delete "responsible for beach defence" and
insert "prepared to resist enemy landing".

Para 19A ROAD BLOCKS:

After "TOBRUK" add "followed by road block number".

Para 21 DEMOLITIONS:

Delete heading of column 8 of Schedule which reads
"Code word for blowing" and
insert "Code word - see sub-para 21 (d)."

APPENDIX 'A' 2/2 & 2/3 AUST INF BNS

Road Blocks

After "strength" in heading of column (3) add
"each rd block".

Amend particulars in column (3) to read :-

"One section (with one A/Tk rifle, one EY rifle
and one TSMG) ".

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

DISTRIBUTION:

(As per Op Instn 2).

APPENDIX H
Warburg

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

Ref File 0/2/351

SECRET

Copy No
18

Headquarters,
16 Aust Inf Bde.

27 May 42.

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"One section (with one A/Tk rifle, one EY rifle
and one TSMG) ".

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

DISTRIBUTION:

(As per Op Instn 2).

APPENDIX 1

SECRET

PROVISIONAL
ALLOTMENT:

APPENDIX 'A'

2/2 AUST INF BN

Comd Lt-Col C.R.V. EDGAR
 Tps 2/2 Aust Inf Bn
 With under One Bty 2/1 Aust Fd Regt
 Command One Det Engrs 2/1 Aust Fd Coy
 One Mob Sec 2/1 Aust Fd Amb

LOCAL DEFENSIVE ZONES		Ref HORANA ALUTGAMA PANADURA 1" = 1 mile
PLACE	NO. ON TRACE APPX 'D'	STRENGTH
Island Feature 794367	2	One Coy
KOTAWALA 842424	3	One Pl
KUMBUKE 855453	4	One Pl
BELLANTADUWA 843400	7	One Pl
MATUGAMA 963184	Div HQ Defences	One Coy Trace to be issued.
ROAD BLOCKS		
PLACE	NO. ON TRACE APPX 'D'	STRENGTH
888423	1	) One Section
892427	2	) One A Tk Rifle
901410	3	) One EY Rifle
904410	4	) One TSMG
FERRIES & BRIDGES		OUTER-DEF AREAS
PLACE	MAP REF	STRENGTH
ANGURUWATOTA FERRY	922326	(One Coy North bank if manned (One Pl South bank if manned
ANGURUWATOTA FERRY Northern Posn	924325	One Pl
NARAGALA	947383	One Pl
HALWATURA	046425	(Two Pls North bank if manned (One Pl South bank if manned
UDUGAMA	001995	One Pl
BENTOTA GANGA	822068	Two Pls
KALU GANGA	775264	One Coy plus one sec carriers and 2 Mortar Dets
MORATUWA	690470	One Coy less 1 Pl plus 1 Sec Carriers and 2 Mortar Dets
	(700472)	One Pl

APPENDIX 1

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SECRET

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 ALUTGAMA
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PLACE	MAP REF	STRENGTH
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	(700472)	One Pl

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER J.E. LLOYD - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED

No. 3

Part 1

1 May 1942

1. AIF (CEYLON) ROUTINE ORDERS

AIF (CEYLON) Routine Orders Nos 2, 3, and 4 have been issued to units.

2. DISCIPLINE - ROAD - CONVOY DRIVING

(a) Before vehicles moving in convoy commence their journey OC Convoy is responsible for ensuring that all officers, NCOs and drivers moving with the convoy are aware of the route, destination, speed and density of the convoy.

(b) The speed will not exceed that laid down for the slowest vehicle travelling in the convoy.

(c) The density will not be less than 12 VTM.

(d) The interval between vehicles will be maintained while the convoy is moving and at halts.

(e) This order applies to civilian vehicles used for military purposes as well as Army vehicles.

3. MILITARY TRANSPORT - USE OF

Under present conditions it is essential that the strictest economy is exercised with regard to expenditure of petrol. It is the duty of all concerned to ensure that MT is not used except for the strict and necessary performance of military duty.

4. POSTAL - PARCELS

Arrangements have now been made for the despatch of parcels through the Army Post Office, and unit postal orderlies and Field Post Offices will accept such articles for despatch.

5. OIL COOKERS.

Oil cookers will not be used except on active operations, or during Training Exercises.

6. WATER IN WATER BOTTLES - PURIFICATION OF

Para 5 sub-para 111(a) in annexure to AIF (CEYLON) Routine Orders Serial No. 2 dated 11 Apr 42 re - WATER is cancelled and the following inserted in lieu thereof :-

(i) add four (4) scoopfuls of Water Sterilising Powder to a water bottle, mix with a little water, shake well, and complete the filling to the top.

(ii) Add to every man's water bottle one scoopful of the chlorine solution, allow at least 30 minutes contact before drinking.

(iii) If taste remover tablets are available crush to a powder 4 tablets, add to a second water bottle and shake thoroughly for a minute or so.

(iv) After 30 minutes contact as above add one scoopful of taste remover to each man's water bottle.

(To be repeated in Unit Orders)

7. HOSPITALS - OUTPATIENTS - UNITS TO PROVIDE MEAL.

Units sending personnel to an Aust Gen Hosp for out-patients' treatment will please arrange for such personnel to carry their mid-day meal. Similar arrangements will be made for drivers of vehicles conveying these out-patients.

8. SOUVENIRS.

1. Cases have occurred where personnel have retained instruments, papers, and various parts of crashed aircraft which are of extreme value for Intelligence purposes. Any future cases will be treated as an offence.

2. If names and particulars are forwarded together with articles to this HQ, endeavour will be made where possible to return to the finder objects NOT essential to future investigations.

9. ARMS - RETENTION OF NON-SERVICE TYPES

1. All members of AIF are forbidden to have any arms, weapons or amm other than W.D. Service Types unless they are in possession of a certificate signed by the C.O. of the unit, authorising the retention of such weapons.

2. CO's are authorised to sign such certificates only when :-

(i) exigencies of the service require that the member should be armed with a weapon not of service type.

(ii) the weapon is personal property obtained from a legitimate source or,

(iii) is unserviceable and its only value is as a souvenir.

3. In the case of sub-para (ii) these arms are to be held only in addition to, and not in lieu of, W.D. Issue.

4. All ranks will hand in arms and weapons for which a certificate is not granted. Units will be responsible for returning these to nearest Ordnance Depot.

5. THIS ORDER WILL BE REPEATED IN ALL UNIT ORDERS AND READ ON PARADE TWICE MONTHLY.

6. The certificate will be in the following form :-

<u>No.</u>	<u>Rank.</u>	<u>Name.</u>	<u>Unit.</u>
			is authorised to be in possession of
		(full description of weapon)	as (Private property (A souvenir (A weapon.

10. MILITARY LAW - AMENDMENT TO AMR & O.

AMR & O para 409 has been amended by deleting from para (a) of sub-regulation (ii) :-

- (a) the words "and except on active service"; and,
- (b) the words "except on active service" (second occurring).

2. By virtue of this amendment, A C.O. may now deal summarily with offences of "using threatening or insubordinate language to his superior officer" under A.A. Sec 8(2) and with all offences under A.A. Sec 9 (2).

11. BOUNDS.

All shops and taverns in towns and villages throughout Ceylon selling Arrack or Taddy are placed out of bounds to troops.

This order will be repeated in Unit Orders twice monthly until further notice.

12. HQ 16 AUST INF BDE AUDIT BOARD

The Bde HQ Audit Board has been reconstituted as follows :

Capt A.S. MacKINNON
Lieut A.G. BOWEN
Lieut M.B. LONG.

DISTRIBUTION:
As per List "A".

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

NOTICES

FOUND: One Titus Wrist watch, engraved as follows :
"W.J. GOODSSELL
from
WY. WL."

One Weaver fountain pen.

One Conklin fountain pen, enscribed "A.W. CONWAY. W.W."

Owners of the above articles may have same on application to this HQ.

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER J.E. LLOYD - COMMANDING

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED

No. 3

Part 1

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2. CO's are authorised to sign such certificates only when :-

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This order will be repeated in Unit Orders twice monthly until further notice.

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Capt A.S. MacKINNON
Lieut A.G. BOWEN
Lieut M.B. LONG.

DISTRIBUTION:
As per List "A".

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

NOTICES

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"W.J. GOODSSELL
from
WY. WL."

One Weaver fountain pen.

One Conklin fountain pen, enscribed "A.W. CONWAY. W.W."

Owners of the above articles may have same on application to this HQ.

War Diary

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE

ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER J.E. LLOYD

COMMANDING

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED

No *4-5*

PART 1

30 MAY 42

1. MATCHES - PROHIBITION OF TRANSMISSION BY POST:

In view of the serious risk of damage to mails, matches of all kinds, including safety matches, will on no account be sent by post to any address, whether inland or abroad, however carefully packed. Matches come within the category of dangerous or explosive substances, and any person who sends or attempts to send matches through the post is liable to prosecution. (AIF (CEYLON) R.O. para 151).

2. EQUIPMENT OF PERSONNEL ON "X" LIST:

When personnel are evacuated from units on medical grounds, the arms, amn, and web equipment of such personnel will be retained by the parent unit until the soldier proceeds beyond CRS. When units are advised that a member has been evacuated beyond CRS, his arms, amn, and web equipment will be securely labelled showing Army No., Rank, Name and Unit will be sent to the appropriate Tng Unit there to await the members arrival, or will be retained by the parent unit when such unit is not within a Bde Gp Tng Unit. (AIF (CEYLON) R.O. para 154)

3. DISCIPLINE - PUNISHMENTS BY COURTS-MARTIAL:

The undermentioned sentences imposed on members of the AIF in CEYLON by Courts-Martial are published for information:-

- (a) A private soldier convicted of two offences of offering violence to his superior officer (AA Sec 8(2)) and one offence of using insubordinate language to his superior officer (AA Sec 8(2)) was sentenced to 6 months detention.
- (b) Three private soldiers were convicted of committing a civil offence namely stealing from the person (AA Sec 41). Two of these soldiers were sentenced to 9 months imprisonment with hard labour and one to 9 months detention. Each was also put under stoppages of pay until he has made good the sum of Rs 100 in respect to moneys stolen.
- (c) A private soldier convicted of an offence of being improperly in possession of liquor (AA Sec 40) and of giving an incorrect name to the Provost (AA Sec 40) was sentenced to 90 days detention.
- (d) A private soldier convicted of using an Army vehicle for private purposes (AA Sec 40) and of A.W.L. (AA Sec 15(1)) was sentenced to 90 days detention.
- (e) A private soldier convicted of wilfully injuring himself with intent thereby to render himself unfit for service (AA Sec 18(2)) was sentenced to 8 months imprisonment without hard labour.

(TO BE PUBLISHED IN UNIT ORDERS)
(AIF (CEYLON) R.O. para 156)

4. DISCIPLINE - CHINESE CURRENCY NOTES - POSSESSION OF:

- (a) A considerable quantity of Chinese currency notes of the value of Five Yuen each were unlawfully removed from the ship S.S. "BENLEDI" during the month of April last.
- (b) These notes are of no monetary value.
- (c) As Australian troops were on board this ship it is considered that AIF personnel may be in possession of some of these notes.
- (d) Instances have occurred of attempts to pass these notes as legal tender.
- (e) All troops will be informed of the serious political ramifications that are likely to be involved by any attempt to pass these notes. Should these notes be put into circulation in any number the local currency may be seriously effected and in addition there is the possibility of serious repercussions from the Chinese Government as this consignment of notes was carried on a British ship.
- (f) Any member of the AIF who has in his possession a Chinese note or notes of the value of five Yuen will immediately deliver same up to his unit HQ for forwarding to this HQ.
- (g) If a member of the AIF is found to be in possession of a note or notes referred to above after the expiration of seven days from the date of publication of this order, he will be severely dealt with and before any disciplinary action is taken the matter will be referred to this HQ..
(AIF (CEYLON) R.O. para 157)

5. PETROL DRUMS - 44 GALLONS:

A considerable number of petrol drums, 44 gallon, have been rendered u/s by rough handling. The stock of such drums is small and cannot be replaced. In order that petrol drums are handled with the utmost care, units will ensure that :-

- (a) Drums are not unloaded from or loaded into rail trucks or lorries without the use of a proper or improvised ramp.
- (b) All bungs will be securely replaced into bung holes immediately after use.
(TO BE REPEATED IN UNIT ORDERS)
(AIF (CEYLON) R.O. para 169)

6. TRANSPORTATION PERSONNEL:

Certain Railway Operations, Construction and Workshop companies are now being formed from Civilian Railway personnel. These men will be in uniform and subject to Military Law, but will remain in their own homes and will continue to work the Railway.

not
Orders will/therefore be given to these troops by any other Military personnel except Officers of the Transportation Directorate.

officer
In no circumstances will any/or man interfere with the running of trains on the permanent way. (AIF (CEYLON) R.O. para 172)

7. P.A.D. LIGHTING RESTRICTIONS:

- (a) No vehicle will move at night inside a range of 10 miles from COLOMBO or TRINCOMALEE unless the headlights are effectively "blacked out" by the use of masks that have been issued in CEYLON or blue bag covers mentioned below.
- (b) Places of entry into the two restricted areas are being marked by the civil authorities.
- (c) All vehicles moving at night outside the restricted areas will use headlights with masks or blue bag covers removed.
- (d) Efforts are being made to obtain blue bag covers and on receipt will be carried in those vehicles to which such covers can be fitted. They will only be put on headlights when actually required as wet weather washes out the blue dye.
- (e) The lighting restrictions contained in this para also apply to motor ambulance vehicles.

(AIF (CEYLON) R.O. para 178)

8. MOTOR CYCLES - STARTING OF:

- (a) Motor cycles have been damaged by fire as a result of riders over-flooding the carburettor and then immediately starting the engine.
- (b) Riders will ensure that there is no excess petrol around the outside of the carburettor before attempting to start the engine of a motor cycle.

(AIF (CEYLON) R.O. para 179)

9. MOTOR CYCLISTS - CRASH HELMETS - WEARING OF:

Personnel to whom crash helmets have been issued will wear them at all times when riding a motor cycle. (AIF (CEYLON) R.O. para 180)

10. MEDICAL - LEECH BITES:

- (a) Burning with a match or cigarette will cause a leech to release its hold on a person and this method is less likely to cause infection than removing a leech from the skin by pulling it off.
- (b) To prevent infected sores originating from leech bites, treatment with an antiseptic will be instituted as early as possible after being bitten. (AIF (CEYLON) R.O. para 181)

11. COURTS MARTIAL DURING MOVEMENT FROM M.E.

- (a) Units will forward to this HQ by 1200 hrs Thursday 4 June 42 a return giving particulars of all Courts Martial held on any member of a unit on board a transport en route to COLOMBO from the M.E.
- (b) Returns will also show how the completed proceedings have been disposed of and if in possession such proceedings will be forwarded to this HQ. (AIF (CEYLON) R.O. para 182)

12. AIF (CEYLON) ROUTINE ORDERS:

AIF (CEYLON) Routine Orders Nos 8 & 9 have been issued to units.

13. HORANA TOWN PICQUET:

- (a) Instructions have been issued to HORANA Town Picquet to return men incorrectly dressed to unit lines.
- (b) A notification will be forwarded to the unit from this HQ of Army Nos and Names of offenders.
- (c) Units will then take disciplinary action against all such persons.
- (d) Men without paybooks and identity discs will be taken to unit orderly rooms for identification.

THIS ORDER WILL BE REPEATED IN ALL UNIT ROUTINE ORDERS.

14. AMENDMENTS TO POSTAGE RATES:

(a) INLAND LETTERS.

6 cents for the first ounce, and 3 cents for each additional ounce or part thereof.

RATES FOR INDIA.

Surface Mail. Letters. 10 cents for the first ounce, 5 cents for every additional ounce or part thereof.

Postcards. 5 cents for each card.

Printed matter, open packets. 4 cents for every 2 ounces or part thereof.

Air Mail. Letters. 20 cents per 1/2 ounce.

Postcards. 12 cents each.

REGISTRATION. 20 cents per article in addition to postage.

15. JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

Units are advised that the undermentioned personnel are Justices of the Peace for the States shown opposite their names :-

2/3 AUST INF BN

NX 46 Lt-Col J.R. STEVENSON - New South Wales

2/1 AUST INF BN

NX 41562 Cpl MACKENZIE A.L. - New South Wales

2/2 AUST INF BN

NX 193 Major P.A. CULLEN - New South Wales
NX 2389 Sgt A.R. LACEY - " " "

2/1 AUST FD AMB

SX 2817 Lt-Col H.M. FISHER - South Australia
VX 39419 Capt Colin CLARKE - Tasmania

16. DISCIPLINE - "CIVIL" OFFENCES COMMITTED BY SERVICE PERSONNEL - DISPOSAL OF BY CIVIL TRIBUNALS:

Os.C will apprise all troops under their command that if a charge is preferred against a member by the civil authorities it is probable that he will be tried by a civil tribunal and on conviction any sentence of imprisonment inflicted may be served in a civil prison and not in a military detention barracks.

Distribution:- List "A"

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

See Serial

16 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

ROUTINE

ORDERS

BY

BRIGADIER J.E. LLOYD

-

COMMANDING

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED

No *42*

PART 1

30 MAY 42

1. MATCHES - PROHIBITION OF TRANSMISSION BY POST:

In view of the serious risk of damage to mails, matches of all kinds, including safety matches, will on no account be sent by post to any address, whether inland or abroad, however carefully packed. Matches come within the category of dangerous or explosive substances, and any person who sends or attempts to send matches through the post is liable to prosecution. (AIF (CEYLON) R.O. para 151).

2. EQUIPMENT OF PERSONNEL ON "X" LIST:

When personnel are evacuated from units on medical grounds, the arms, amm, and web equipment of such personnel will be retained by the parent unit until the soldier proceeds beyond CRS. When units are advised that a member has been evacuated beyond CRS, his arms, amm, and web equipment will be securely labelled showing Army No., Rank, Name and Unit will be sent to the appropriate Tng Unit there to await the members arrival, or will be retained by the parent unit when such unit is not within a Bde Gp Tng Unit. (AIF (CEYLON) R.O. para 154)

3. DISCIPLINE - PUNISHMENTS BY COURTS-MARTIAL:

The undermentioned sentences imposed on members of the AIF in CEYLON by Courts-Martial are published for information:-

- (a) A private soldier convicted of two offences of offering violence to his superior officer (AA Sec 8(2)) and one offence of using insubordinate language to his superior officer (AA Sec 8(2)) was sentenced to 6 months detention.
- (b) Three private soldiers were convicted of committing a civil offence namely stealing from the person (AA Sec 41). Two of these soldiers were sentenced to 9 months imprisonment with hard labour and one to 9 months detention. Each was also put under stoppages of pay until he has made good the sum of Rs 100 in respect to moneys stolen.
- (c) A private soldier convicted of an offence of being improperly in possession of liquor (AA Sec 40) and of giving an incorrect name to the Provost (AA Sec 40) was sentenced to 90 days detention.
- (d) A private soldier convicted of using an Army vehicle for private purposes (AA Sec 40) and of A.W.L. (AA Sec 15(1)) was sentenced to 90 days detention.
- (e) A private soldier convicted of wilfully injuring himself with intent thereby to render himself unfit for service (AA Sec 18(2)) was sentenced to 8 months imprisonment without hard labour.

(TO BE PUBLISHED IN UNIT ORDERS)
(AIF (CEYLON) R.O. para 156)

4. DISCIPLINE - CHINESE CURRENCY NOTES - POSSESSION OF:

- (a) A considerable quantity of Chinese currency notes of the value of Five Yuen each were unlawfully removed from the ship S.S. "BENLEDI" during the month of April last.
- (b) These notes are of no monetary value.
- (c) As Australian troops were on board this ship it is considered that AIF personnel may be in possession of some of these notes.
- (d) Instances have occurred of attempts to pass these notes as legal tender.
- (e) All troops will be informed of the serious political ramifications that are likely to be involved by any attempt to pass these notes. Should these notes be put into circulation in any number the local currency may be seriously effected and in addition there is the possibility of serious repercussions from the Chinese Government as this consignment of notes was carried on a British ship.
- (f) Any member of the AIF who has in his possession a Chinese note or notes of the value of five Yuen will immediately deliver same up to his unit HQ for forwarding to this HQ.
- (g) If a member of the AIF is found to be in possession of a note or notes referred to above after the expiration of seven days from the date of publication of this order, he will be severely dealt with and before any disciplinary action is taken the matter will be referred to this HQ..
(AIF (CEYLON) R.O. para 157)

5. PETROL DRUMS - 44 GALLONS:

A considerable number of petrol drums, 44 gallon, have been rendered u/s by rough handling. The stock of such drums is small and cannot be replaced. In order that petrol drums are handled with the utmost care, units will ensure that :-

- (a) Drums are not unloaded from or loaded into rail trucks or lorries without the use of a proper or improvised ramp.
- (b) All bungs will be securely replaced into bung holes immediately after use.
(TO BE REPEATED IN UNIT ORDERS)
(AIF (CEYLON) R.O. para 169)

6. TRANSPORTATION PERSONNEL:

Certain Railway Operations, Construction and Workshop companies are now being formed from Civilian Railway personnel. These men will be in uniform and subject to Military Law, but will remain in their own homes and will continue to work the Railway.

not
Orders will/therefore be given to these troops by any other Military personnel except Officers of the Transportation Directorate.

officer
In no circumstances will any/or man interfere with the running of trains on the permanent way. (AIF (CEYLON) R.O. para 172)

7. P.A.D. LIGHTING RESTRICTIONS:

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