

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

Item number: 8/2/17

17 Infantry Brigade
September 1942

WAR DIARY

HQ 17 AUST INF BDE

- NAGAMBIE, VIC and SINGLETON, NSW.
1 Sept 42 Lt-col GUINN C.O. 2/7 Bn and Lt-col STARR C.O. 2/5 Bn left to attend the Combined Operations School at PORT STEPHENS, NSW.
From SINGLETON, NSW, where 17 Bde advance party were camped, Capt J.M. MENZIES reported to HQ 6 Aust Div. Unit advance parties prepared blocks for the reception of the main body while Capt MENZIES as S/Capt opened a temporary orderly room in "E" block
- "
2 Sept 42 Bde Comd called at Vic L of C and ascertained that our move would not take place before 12 Sept owing to congestion of railways moving troops North during the week commencing 7 Sep.
At SINGLETON, Sec 6 Div Postal Unit joined the Bde and a small party of personnel returning from leave arrived to join units in the Bde Gp.
- "
3 Sept 42 Capt CHAPMAN S.C. returned to NAGAMBIE from leave and assumed the duties of B.M. during the temporary absence of Major MUIR.
A further small party returning from leave were sent to the Bde at SINGLETON from WALLGROVE Staging Camp and 46 LAD arrived in the area.
- "
4 Sept 42 17 Bde were informed by telegram that 6 Aust Div HQ closed WALLGROVE at 0830 hrs and reopened ANAMBAH nr WEST MAITLAND at the same time.
Preparations for the reception of the main body continued at SINGLETON.
- "
5 Sept 42 Bde Comd called and saw Maj Gen PLANT G.O.C. Vic L of C who indicated that it was likely that our move would be delayed pending the completion of re-equipping the Bde.
- "
6 Sept 42 Pending the movement from NAGAMBIE to the North, Bns were ordered to concentrate on weapon training and physical fitness.
Major HUXLEY DAQMG, Vic L of C called at NAGAMBIE Camp in the morning bringing with him the Movement Order for the Bde move to NSW.
- "
7 Sept 42
" 5 Pl 1 Aust HQ Gd Bn, who had been with 17 Bde since the commencement of the Syrian campaign in June 1941, left Bde Comd for the Old Seymour Staging Camp where they would be regrouped for a move to NSW, L of C area pending the forming of 2/2 Aust HQ Gd Bn. Lieut G.C. BOSWELL from 2/7 Bn who had been Gd Pl Comd during our stay in CEYLON was now transferred to the Gd Bn.
- "
9 Sept 42
" Lieut J.R. TOONE 2/5 Bn who had been 17 Bde Gp R.T.C. in GALLE, Ceylon arrived at Bde HQ to assist in the forthcoming move. Lieut TOONE would take the place of Lieut D.A. GURNEY who was leaving soon to take up an appointment as Adjt of an Engr unit.
Notification was received to-day that 17 Bde would not move before 14 Sep and that the destination would probably be changed.
- "
11 Sept 42 News was received at Bde HQ that Maj Gen S.G. SAVIGE our former Comd would arrive in MELBOURNE to-morrow from the North, and it was proposed to have a Bde Offr meet him with a view to having him pay a visit to the Bde.

Handwritten signature

NAGAMBIE, VIC Bde Comd attended a conference in MELBOURNE at Land Ops HQ and where it was decided that the forward move of the Bde to SINGLETON, NSW. SINGLETON would commence on Thu 17 Sep. Arrangements were made for the immediate issue of 2" mortars up to W.E. and 42 more Tommy guns per Bn, making 82 in all. It was also arranged not to take forward the English pattern carriers at present at Fishermens Bend. An issue of Australian pattern carriers would be made on arrival in the BRISBANE area. Indications were that an early move of 17 Bde would be made to PORT MORESBY. 16 Bde had already been ordered to move that day. Brig C.E.M. LLOYD, Director of Staff Duties at LHQ presided at the conference which was attended by representatives of all services.

Brig MOTEN met Maj Gen S.G. SAVIGE on his arrival at MELBOURNE by Sydney express, and invited him to call at Bde HQ on Mon 14th to renew old acquaintances. Gen SAVIGE who was on 14 days leave from an operational station in QUEENSLAND expressed his pleasure at having this opportunity of meeting again some of the officers and men who had served under him.

At SINGLETON, Major McDonald 6 Aust Div brought a movement order, ordering the Bde advance parties to move from SINGLETON to GRETA CAMP and prepare for the reception of the main body. Bde HQ and units sent off advance parties to GRETA soon after.

"
13 Sep 42 Lieut D.A. GURNEY, Amen O, left Bde HQ to-day to take up his duties as Adjt of an Engr unit.

Advance Bde HQ closed at SINGLETON at 1200 hrs and re-opened at GRETA Camp at the same time.

NAGAMBIE, VIC Maj Gen SAVIGE visited Bde HQ and went around all units and met most of the officers and men who had served overseas with GRETA, NSW. him. At Bde HQ a small informal parade of old members of HQ was held when the General took the opportunity of addressing the men.

A signal was received from 1 Aust Mot Div stating that 17 Bde in GRETA camp would come under their comd at 1400 hrs to-day. Comd 1 Aust Mot Div called a conference of Comds 17 Bde and 3 Aust Tk Bde at Grand Junc Hotel, West Maitland at 1400 hrs 15 Sep. Capt MENZIES acknowledged receipt of the signal and notified 17 Bde Comd.

16 Aust Inf Bde rear party left GRETA Camp at 1000 hrs and the vacant blocks were allotted to 17 Bde Gp.

"
15 Sep 42 At NAGAMBIE Bns continued to concentrate on physical fitness. Long route marches etc were carried out.

At the conference in WEST MAITLAND with Maj Gen STEELE, G.O.C. 1 Aust Mot Div and Brig CLAREBOROUGH 3 Aust Army Tank Bde, Capt J.M. MENZIES represented Comd 17 Bde. Gen STEELE informed both Bde representatives that he had been ordered to take over Comd and suggested that owing to his widely spread Comd, both Bdes do their own administration. Promotions, appointments, etc should go direct to 2nd Aust Army. Legal matters could be referred to 1 Aust Mot Div for convening Courts Martial etc. Gen STEELE was not of the opinion that any useful purpose could be served by his interfering with internal matters of both Bdes. He advised that 3 Aust Army Tk Bde would move to SINGLETON. Gen STEELE would visit 2 Aust Army HQ and try to arrange these matters.

Capt PARSONS O.C. "K" Sec 6 Div Sigs was relieved by Capt SCOTT Sgt BERRISFORD being commissioned as 2 i/c in place of Lieut GODFREY who was transferred as Asst Adjt 6 Div Sigs. "K" Sec Sigs who had served with 17 Bde throughout three campaigns, now faced the future with almost an entirely new complement of officers and NCO s.

Man's

NAGAMBIE, VIC. As from 2330 hrs to-day 17 Aust Inf Bde reverted to comd 6 Aust Div.
AND
GRETA, NSW. Bde HQ transport left NAGAMBIE Rd camp for MANGALORE station at
16 Sep 42 1300 hrs where loading of trucks on rail took place during the
afternoon.

"
17 Sep 42 Reveille for Bde HQ and "A" Coy 2/5 Bn was at 0300 hrs and
personnel left NAGAMBIE Rd camp by transport for MANGALORE
station where they entrained. The mixed train, carrying
troops, Bde HQ tpt, and a string of JEEPS, pulled out from
MANGALORE at 0720 hrs and travelled North on the SHEPPARTON-
TOCUMWAL line to avoid the congestion of rail traffic on
the main MELBOURNE-SYDNEY line. Major ROWAN, "A" Coy Comd
2/5 Bn acted as O.C. train. A stop was made at the border town of
town of TOCUMWAL where the change of rail gauge necessitated the
unloading and reloading of transport on to NSW rolling stock.
The change over was made quickly during the lunch period and
the journey continued uneventfully to JERILDERIE in the
RIVERINA where a very pleasant surprise awaited the troops.
Here the local citizens combined to entertain the troops to
a beautiful afternoon tea. The afternoon tea party finished
with Major ROWAN calling for three hearty cheers from the boys
for these hospitable country people who had gone to so much trouble
and expense to help us on our way. So many American troops
had passed through these country towns on their way North in
the past few months that the people seemed delighted to see their
own men at last. The evening meal was had at NARRANDERA at
2020 hrs, where once more the female element came to the fore
with a nice meal. The arrangements at railway stations for
feeding troops in transit were carried out most efficiently and
little time was lost. The train left NARRANDERA at 2100 hrs
and the journey continued into the night.

N.S. WALES
18 Sep 42 An incredibly slow rate of travel was made during the night,
something like 93 miles in 9 hrs. The stops for the day
included, COOTAMUNDRA for breakfast, the mid-day meal at HARDEN,
and tea at GOULBURN served by VAD personnel. After leaving
GOULBURN on the main line the speed of travel was considerably
increased.

Bde Comd called and saw Brig C.E.M. LLOYD, Director of Staff Duties
at LHQ, MELBOURNE, and discussed with him various matters
concerning our move and re-equipment. It was arranged that certain de-
ficiencies in our G1098 scale of equipment being held at
BRISBANE, pending our embarkation, be sent forthwith to GRETA
for sorting and distributing to units. An opportunity was
given Brig MOTEN to read a very confidential report by CHESTER
WILMOT on conditions in NEW GUINEA. As a result of this
report, action has been taken to correct certain weaknesses in
our equipment. Bde Comd then left for SYDNEY on the Spirit of
Progress and travelled North with Maj Gen CHAPMAN, now of LHQ,
BRISBANE. Discussion centred upon certain deficiencies in our
equipment and Maj Gen CHAPMAN produced a letter showing the
problems experienced by 16 Bde in their move and gave a list of
certain particular items of equipment necessary in NEW GUINEA,
mostly in the way of camouflage, such as dyes for uniforms,
nets, camouflaged tents, etc. Mud covers for rifles were badly
wanted also.

GRETA, NSW.
19 Sep 42 Bde HQ train passed through NEWCASTLE at 0700 hrs and arrived
at GRETA Camp at approx 0830 hrs where they joined up once more
with the advance party, "K" Sec Sigs, and 46 LAD. The remainder
of 2/5 Bn arrived in GRETA Camp during the day.

Bde Comd motored out to HQ 2 Aust Army at PARAMATTA and called
on General MACKAY G.O.C. Other calls were made, generally
in connection with the re-equipping of the Bde and the quick
forward movement of our deficiencies to GRETA.

"
20 Sep 42 Further troops of Bde Gp arrived in GRETA Camp during the day,
including 2/7 Bn HQ.

Bde Comd caught the train to NEWCASTLE and motored across to GRETA.

Murchad

GRETA, NSW. Bde Comd called on Maj Gen BOASE, G.O.C. 6 Aust Div who is no longer commanding the Division but is Adm Comd 6 Div Rear HQ. The Division now comes under Comd of Maj Gen VASEY who had already left for NEW GUINEA. It was understood that Maj Gen BOASE would go to HQ 1 Aust Army as MGGS to succeed Maj Gen BERRYMAN who goes to LHQ as Deputy Chief of Staff.

" 2/6 Bn troops and one Bty A Tk Regt commenced to arrive in the area. Bde Comd received a constant stream of callers all day long.

Major MUIR B.M. returned from the School of Combined Operations and resumed duties at ~~XXX~~ Bde HQ.

The following grouping of units were notified by Rear 6 Aust Div -- Under Comd 17 Aust Inf Bde- 2/5, 2/6, 2/7 Aust Inf Bns, 2/8 Aust Fd Coy, 2/2 Aust Fd Amb, 2 Coy AASC. 2/2 Aust Fd Regt and 3 Bty 1 Aust A/Tk Regt to come under comd for operations and Bde Gp exercises only.

" 23 Sep 42 A preliminary discussion was held by all officers regarding a demonstration to be put on for the benefit of Senior Officers in 2 Aust Army.

Notification was received that 1 Aust Mot Div would assume temporary comd of 17 Bde Gp at a time to be fixed later.

" 24 Sep 42 Lt-col WOLFENDEN from HQ 2 Aust Army lectured to Bde and Regt Offrs on infantry tactics in jungle country.

" 25 Sep 42 Lieut D. Mac BRIDE took up the duties of B.I.O. vice Lieut D.O. HAY who returned to 2/6 Bn as Adjt. Lieuts EDGAR and GORDON arrived to take up duties as I.O.s

Units moved out to bivouac areas for a rehearsal of the forthcoming demonstration.

" 26 Sep 42 The rehearsal exercise for the demonstration went off very well. Troops had been so well trained in the use of cover that when they were asked to do a stunt as a demonstration, spectators had the greatest difficulty in following their movements.

" 27 Sep 42 B.M. and I.O. and party reced Pokolbin State Forest area for a forthcoming Bde exercise designed to test the ability of troops in crossing wild mountain country. In trying out a possible M.T. route their battle buggy became a casualty and the journey was continued on foot far into the night. The party arrived back at Bde HQ the following afternoon after having gained a great deal of necessary information regarding the terrain of this wild bush area.

" 28 Sep 42 2/5, 2/6, 2/7 Bns, 52 Bty 2/2 Fd Regt, tp 3 Bty 1 Aust A/Tk Regt, sec 2/8 Fd Coy, det 2/2 Fd Amb, det "K" Sec Sigs (tentacle Sub sec) with a section of MMGs in theory, carried out the demonstration exercise for the benefit of Senior Officers from HQ 2 Aust Army, 1 Aust Mot Div, 1 Aust Div, and ~~the~~ 3 Aust Army Tk Bde. The exercise was particularly well carried out, but near the finish was marred by an unfortunate accident to Cpl Blackburne, 2/8 Fd Coy, who had both hands blown off, and was taken to hospital in a serious condition. During the exercise Maj Gen STEELE and Brig PASCOE interviewed Brig MOTEN regarding the nomination of nine suitable sergeants for commissions, preferably men who had experience in active engagements and particularly in the desert.

At 1800 hrs 17 Bde once more came under Comd 1 Aust Mot Div.

New Leads

GRETA, NSW. It was ascertained that 17 Bde would move from BRISBANE on 6 Oct 29 Sep 42 and Lieut PAWSON was sent off to act as L.O. with Movement Control.

Bde Comd inspected the D.I.D. at Greta Camp with Major de GROOTE and found that the depot was laid out on model lines under the Comd of Major COHEN. Bde Comd also interviewed candidates for commissions in 2 Aust Mot Bde. Nine men were selected for transfer from twelve nominations. There appeared to be some excellent material for selection.

Brig SECOMBE, A.Q., 2 Aust Army called and discussed deficiencies in equipment and arrangements were made direct with Colonel BICE for the immediate dispatch of all articles short. It appeared that the Bde would leave here particularly well equipped.

In the evening a lecture was given by Colonel HALL on Direct Air Support and liaison with the A.I.F. Lt-col SMIBERT also talked to all Offrs on the question of personal hygiene. It was decided that all section leaders be equipped with a satchel containing dressings, etc, to deal with all minor cuts and bruises. This would do much to prevent the continual drain of casualties going through the R.A.P.s

I.O. and L.O. continued to recce Pokolbin State Forest in preparation for a Bde exercise but found on their return to Bde HQ the following day that their labours had been in vain as there was news in the air of a quick move.

" Orders were received that the Bde would commence moving to BRISBANE.
30 Sep 42 The first trains to leave on Frid 2 Oct.

Capt G.A. DEAN A.A.S.C. Bde Sup O., was transferred to 3 Aust Corps, and his place taken by Capt TUTT of No.2 Coy A.A.S.C.

Handwritten:
New Lead. Unit
I.O.

Handwritten: M. W. ...
Brigadier,
Commander 17th Aust. Inf. Bde.

Official War Diary
No 1

Sept 1942

Appendices

war diary 1

Not to be published

ROUTINE ORDERS

by

Brig M.J. MOTEN, DSO, ED

COMMANDING 1.7 AUST INF BDE

No 2.

22 Sep 42.

A & Q

1. DUTIES

(i) Units will mount for duty in the following order :-

22 Sep 42	2/7 Aust Inf Bn
23 "	2/2 Aust Fd Regt
24 "	2/5 Aust Inf Bn
25 "	2/6 Aust Inf Bn

and thereafter in that order until further notice.

(ii) Duties will consist of the following :-

(iii) Field Officer.

Duty unit will detail a Field Officer to mount daily at 1600 hrs.

The Field Officer will :-

- (a) Be present at guard mounting at 1600 hrs.
- (b) Inspect unit lines in conjunction with unit Orderly Officers and will report on the state of huts, kitchens, grease traps, garbage disposal and general condition of lines.
- (c) Report on general security, incl tpt lines, by day and by night.
- (d) Receive Tattoo Roll Call reports from all units at 2200 hrs. Units will telephone reports to Fd Offr in his own room, in duplicate
- (e) Render a report to Bde H.Q. by 0900 hrs on day following conclusion of his tour of duty.
- (f) A vehicle will be made available to the Fd Offr at Bde H.Q.

(iv) Quarter Guard

To mount a Camp Quarter Guard consisting of 1 NCO and 9 ORs. The Guard will be inspected at Bde HQ and will then march to Camp Guard Room on CESSNOCK road near F Block.

Duties of the guard will be as follows :-

(a) One post (double sentry) at Camp Tpt Office to supervise entry and leaving of tpt in camp area.

(i) Civilian Cars or Civilians NOT in possession of a properly authorised pass will NOT be permitted to enter the camp. If satisfied as to the bona fides of the civilian the guard comd will notify the unit required by the civilian.

(ii) All army vehicles will be stopped at the gate and work tickets examined. A proper record will be kept and sent by guard comd to Bde T.O. on completion of tour of duty. In case of irregularities vehicles and occupants to be detained and unit communicated with through guard.comd. Sentries on gate to have proper instructions prior to mounting in what constitutes a valid work ticket i.e. what to look for in checking them.

2.

(iii) Any suspicious incident concerning egress and ingress to the camp will be reported immediately by the sentry to the guard comd.

(b) One post outside guard room and such other posts as may be required from time to time.

(c) One post outside Commonwealth Bank.

(v) Traffic Control Post

In addition to the above guard 2/5 Aust Inf Bn will man a T.C.P. on CESSNOCK Road at entrance to M Block. Duties will be as detailed in para 2(a) above.

(vi) VRD GUARD

Guard consisting of 1 Sgt and 18 ORs to mount at VRD at 1600 hrs. The guard will be inspected at Bde HQ and will then march to VRD.

Duties : To prevent unauthorised persons entering or leaving VRD and tampering with vehicles.

(vii) Fatigues

2 Cpls 8 ORs	1800 hrs	Combination Pictures and Wet Canteen Picquet.
1 Sgt 6 ORs	Before morning parade	Canteen Fatigue 409.
1 Cpl 12 ORs	0800 hrs (approx 1 Hr)	YMCA Hut fatigue
	After completion of C of E Hut.	
	YMCA fatigue (approx 2 hrs.)	Salvation Army Hut.
2 ORs	0900 hrs till time of closing.	Postal Orderlies to report to Camp P.O. to deliver telegrams.
10 ORs	0845 hrs - 1615 hrs	Supply Depot fatigue.
13 ORs	0830 hrs - 1630 hrs	To report to Camp Staff Office for duty as follows :-
		5 ORs on Camp Incinerator
		2 ORs on Treatment Plant
		6 ORs to assist M & R Sections.

Fatigues will report Camp Staff Office 0830 hrs.

2. G.R.O. A327 Para 3.

Promotion to the rank of Lt-Col shall be by selection from the Majors in each arm. Commanders will submit to this HQ on 28th of each month particulars of officers recommended as suitable to fill such appointments.

3. G.R.O. A399- Army Sports

(a) As training and fighting must go on continuously, there is no objection to Army personnel playing games on Sundays, but it is forbidden, as being contrary to Army policy, that admission charges should be made to such sports matches.

(b) There is no objection to voluntary collection at such matches, but all moneys so collected must be given to general army benefit funds, such as Red Cross, Comforts, and Lord Mayor's Fund.

4. Attention is drawn to N.S.W. LHQ Routine Orders 153, 155, 156, 158. Also "LOST" notices in same R.O.

3.

Evening Leave

Evening Leave may be granted by units to 10% of strength to proceed to WEST MAITLAND and CESSNOCK. Buses leave for these towns from 409 Canteen.

5. Daily Routine

Reveille	0630	hrs
Retreat	1800	"
Tattoo	2130	"
Last Post	2200	"
Lights Out	2230	"

6. Fire Precautions

Units will ensure that adequate fire orders are published and the contents made known to all ranks.

7. Amenities Huts

Amenities Huts will remain closed until 1700 hrs excepting Saturdays and Sundays when they may be opened after Parade hours.

W. J. Chapman Capt.

S.C., 17 AUST INF BDE GP.

2/2 Aust Fd Regt	7
1 Aust A/Tk Regt	4
2/8 Aust Fd Coy	4
2/5 Aust Inf Bn	7
2/6 Aust Inf Bn	7
2/7 Aust Inf Bn	7
2 Coy A.A.S.C.	4
2/2 Aust Fd Amb	4
Comd	1
B.M.	1
S.C.	1
I.O.	1
T.O.	1
LO 1	1
LO 2	1
LO 3	1
Amen O.	1
Second Aust Army Ord Fd Wkshops	4
6 Aust Div Ord Fd Wkshops	2
6 Aust Div Ord Fd Pk	2
3 Aust Army Tk Bde Ord Fd Wkshops	2
22 Aust Fd Pk Coy	2
6 Aust Div	1
Camp S.O.	2
D.I.D.	1
YMCA Hut	1
Church Army Hut	1
CUSA Hut	1
Salvation Army Hut	1
409 Canteen	1
War Diary	3
File	1

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Duty unit will detail a Field Officer to mount daily at 1600 hrs.

The Field Officer will :-

- (a) Be present at guard mounting at 1600 hrs.
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4. Attention is drawn to N.S.W. LHQ Routine Orders 153, 155, 156, 158.

Also "LOST" notices in same R.O.

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5. Daily Routine

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2/5 Aust Inf Bn	7
2/6 Aust Inf Bn	7
2/7 Aust Inf Bn	7
2 Coy A.A.S.C.	4
2/2 Aust Fd Amb	4
Comd	1
B.M.	1
S.C.	1
I.O.	1
T.O.	1
LO 1	1
LO 2	1
LO 3	1
Amen O.	1
Second Aust Army Ord Fd Wkshops	4
6 Aust Div Ord Fd Wkshops	2
6 Aust Div Ord Fd Pk	2
3 Aust Army Tk Bde Ord Fd Wkshops	2
22 Aust Fd Pk Coy	2
6 Aust Div	1
Camp S.O.	2
D.I.D.	1
YMCA Hut	1
Church Army Hut	1
CUSA Hut	1
Salvation Army Hut	1
409 Canteen	1
War Diary	3
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File

17 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

In October 1939, with the formation of the 2nd A.I.F., Major-General S.G. SAVIGE C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., E.D. now commanding 3rd Australian Division was placed in command of the first Victorian Brigade to be recruited for active service abroad.

In its infancy in Australia, and later abroad, the official history of the Brigade reads as a proud pioneering record of work completed and foundations laid for the units later to be formed from Victoria for service at home and abroad.

Officers on the staff of Major-General SAVIGE in Nov 39 included as Brigade Major, Brigadier Pulver, now commanding A.I.F. Base Area abroad, and as staff captain, Major BROCK, now 2 i/c of 2/7 Aust Inf Bn.

The Brigade is now commanded by Brigadier MOTEN D.S.O., E.D. who won his D.S.O. when commanding 2/27 Bn during the SYRIAN campaign; the staff Officers including Major R.A.C. MUIR as Brigade Major, and Capt A.P. CHAPMAN as staff captain.

In April 1940 the Brigade sailed for active service abroad. In PALESTINE and EGYPT intensive training prepared the Brigade for its first task as a component unit of the 6th Division; the task being the annihilation of Marshall GRAZIANI'S Italian Libyan Army of 250,000 bayonets then menacing the Western approaches to EGYPT.

In Jan 41 the Brigade was given the job of cracking that portion of the Italian defences of BARDIA expected to provide the strongest resistance, and had a full share in the ensuing capture of TOBRUCH, DERNA, BARCE and BENGHASI, and completed its part in the first Libyan campaign, at MERSA BREGA, as the forward Brigade of the BRITISH forces.

In late Mar 41 the Brigade sailed for GREECE. The 17 Brigade HQs commanding a force known as "SAVIGE" force played an early part in operations in the Greek campaign at the junction of the GRAVINA and CORFU Roads and fought ensuing delaying actions before finally being withdrawn at KALAMATA towards the end of April of the same year.

In the CRETE campaign units of the Brigade played prominent parts.

In Jun 41 the Brigade was again in action on the coastal sector in the Syrian campaign, and later assisted in the fortification and defence of Syria and Ceylon.

Such, very briefly, is the history of the Brigade.

Each member takes pride in the full share it has taken in this present war.

Of incidents there are countless many, but perhaps none more famous than Major-General SAVIGE'S capture and arrest of General DENTZ, then commanding the Vichy French Forces in Syria, which seems to have been overlooked in the official and unofficial records of the activities of the Brigade.

In battle experience the Brigade is rich, having taken part in a greater number of campaigns than any other Brigade in the Australian Army.

There are remaining on the strength of Brigade HQs of the original members who sailed from Australia in April 1940 - Cpl Ben ACKROYD, Pte "Dasher" LAWSON, Cpls Charlie GAY and Harry DREW, and S/Sgt "Nuts" ALMOND.

Included amongst those who have served on Brigade HQs to gain decorations abroad are:

Major-General	S.G.SAVIGE	C.B.E. and D.S.O.
Major	G.H.BROCK	D.S.O.
Major	J.A.BISHOP	M.B.E.
Pte	PEARLMAN	M.M.

WPI

I7 Aust Inf Bde Gp
LOCATION STATEMENT as at 1200hrs 5 Sept 42

Unit	Location	Tel NO	Ext NO
HQ I7 Aust Inf Bde	Camp No 2 Rd SEYMOUR- NAGAMBIE	SEYMOUR 13	14
2/2 Aust Fd Regt	" " I7 (old SEYMOUR)	" " 306	14
2/8 Aust Fd Coy	" " 25a rd SEYMOUR TRAWOOL	" " 62	
2/5 Aust Inf Bn	" " 2 rd NAGAMBIE SEYMOUR	13	7
2/6 Aust Inf Bn	" " 2 do	do	10
2/7 Aust Inf Bn	" " 2 do	do	10
2 Coy AASC	" " 25 rd SEYMOUR TRAWOOL	SEYMOUR 62	
2/2 Aust Fd Amb	" " 2 rd SEYMOUR NAGAMBIE	" " 13	16

MISCELLANEOUS

AIF Base Area	Camp No 20B	SEYMOUR 292	
AIF Base Cash Office	" " I7	" 306	109
AIF Staging Camp	" "	306	III
Camp Comd (Maj JOYNT)	" " 22	" 62	36
Mob Siding		" 109	
Hospital	" " I5 (Near old) SEYMOUR)	" 224	
RTO SEYMOUR		" 260	
DID	3&4 MANGALORE	" 301	7

War diary

HQ 17 Aust Inf Bde Gp
Ref No : A22/151
24 Sep 42

SUBJECT: VENEREAL DISEASES.

All ranks will be notified that P.A.Cs have been established as follows:-

- (a) 30 yds west of Guard House on Greta Road.
- (b) Eastern end of Block R

A. P. Chapman
Capt.
SC 17 AUST INF BDE GP

DISTRIBUTION:

2/2 Aust Fd Regt	7
1 Aust A/Tk Regt	4
2/8 Aust Fd Coy	4
2/5 Aust Inf Bn	7
2/6 Aust Inf Bn	7
2/7 Aust Inf Bn	7
2 Coy A.A.S.C.	4
2/2 Aust Fd Amb	4
Second Aust Army Ord Fd Wkshops	4
6 Aust Div Ord Fd Wkshops	2
6 Aust Div Ord Fd Pk	2
3 Aust Army Tk Bde Ord Fd Wkshops	2
22 Aust Fd Pk Coy	2
Camp S.O.	1
D.I.D.	1
YMCA Hut	1
Church Army Hut	1
CUSA Hut	1
Salvation Army Hut	1
409 Canteen	1
War Diary	3
File	1

WAR DIARY 1

Not to be published ROUTINE ORDERS

by

Brig M.J. MOTEN, DSO, ED

COMMANDING 17 AUST INF BDE

No 3.

25 Sep 42.

A & Q

1. TWO - UP

The playing of "two - up" is expressly forbidden and it is the duty of all officers and N.C.O's to suppress any playing of "two - up" which may come to their notice.

2. CANTEEN PICQUET

On 25 and 26 Sep 42 the duty Unit will mount an extra picquet on the canteen consisting of 1 Sgt and 4 ORs. The picquet will only be on duty during the hours which the canteen is open and the Sgt in charge will pay special attention to the suppression of "two - up". The Field Officer will visit the canteen at frequent intervals during its hours of business.

3. UNIT LINES

The present state of unit lines is in many instances far from satisfactory. Garbage tins are generally in a dirty condition or even overflowing thus inviting the breeding of flies and consequently of disease.

Units will take immediate steps to abate this nuisance and will concentrate on cleanliness of lines.

A.P. Chapman Capt.
S.C., 17 AUST INF BDE.

WAR DIARY 2

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by

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S.C., 17 AUST INF BDE.

GRETA MILITARY CAMP

TELEPHONE DIRECTORY Sep 26/42

UNIT	XTN	BLK	UNIT	XTN	BLK
Area Signals Officer	33	F	<u>HQ 17 Aust Inf Bde Gp</u>		
Camp Engineer	24	B	Bde Commander	41	K
Camp Pay Office	49	F	Bde Major	7	K
Camp Post Office	11	COMM	Staff Captain	6	K
Camp Staff Officer (after 2130 hrs)	8	F	Orderly Room	20	K
Camp Transport Office	23	-	Transport & Bde Supply Office	34	L
Camp Q.M.	22	F	'K' Section Signals	5	L
Canteen 409	27	G	2/2 Aust Fd Regt	48	H
C.U.S.A.	38	-	40 L.A.D.	35	J
Dental Centre	15	-	2/8 Aust Fd Coy R.A.E.	21	M
Guard House	25	-	1 Aust A/Tk Regt	28	O
Red Cross Hut	39	W	2/5 Aust Inf Bn Ord. Room	21	M
Rutherford Camp	29	-	C.O.	3	M
Salvation Army Hut	37	G	2/6 Aust Inf Bn Ord Room	50	G
Switchboard Inquiries	32	F	C.O.	2	G
Y.M.C.A. Hut	36	F	2/7 Aust Inf Bn Ord Room	19	R
D.I.D. Supply	9	A	C.O.	45	P
	10	A	Pay Sgt & Q.M.	47	P
16 Camp Hospital & Nurses	12	W	2 Coy A.A.S.C.	44	S
Quarters	13	W	2/2 Aust Fd Amb	46	U
Camp Hospital Q.M.	30	W	22 Aust Fd Pk Coy	28	E
A.H.T.	43	B	6 Aust Div Reception Camp	1	C
10 Workshops & Park Coy	24	B	6 Aust Div Ord Fd Wkshops	1	C
& E.S.B.					
			HQ 6 Aust Div	MAITLAND	936
			R.T.O. W. MAITLAND	"	907
			W.MAITLAND R/way	"	11
			GRETA R/way	Branxton	69
			LARGS CAMP	Maitland	481
			RUTHERFORD CAMP	"	951
			W. MAITLAND FIRE STATION	"	22

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HQ 17 Aust Inf Bde
26 Sep 42

Extracts from HEADQUARTERS SECOND AUST ARMY Weekly Intelligence Review

Based on Information received from 1200 hrs 5 to 1200 hrs 12 SEP42

Recipients of this Document
will take special care to
ensure the security thereof

SW PACIFIC AREA

1. DARWIN ZONE

TIMOR. Operations. Reports from TIMOR during the past week, mostly of an unconfirmed nature, indicate that enemy activity has ~~xxx~~ increased considerably. Associated with an earlier report that the enemy was stirring up trouble between the Dutch and Portuguese natives, is an unconfirmed report that several thousand natives from DUTCH TIMOR crossed the border into the Portuguese province of FRONTIERA. There is reported enemy activity at LIQUICA (17 miles West of DILLI) and MAUBARA (25 miles west of DILLI). Enemy troops were disembarked at DILLI, apparently for Eastern TIMOR. On this date it was reliably reported that one enemy cruiser was at DILLI. A Portuguese report dated 10 Sep 42 stated that the enemy had cut all telephone lines from DILLI and that all troops there had been relieved.

Comment. (a) The relief of Jap troops in TIMOR may be interpreted to mean.

- (i) That tps are being withdrawn (for rest and refit) probably to some northern base, or
- (ii) That tps are part of a well trained div and are being moved for operations elsewhere. Our air reces are searching likely spots such as AMBON, ARU, KAI (KE) for any signs of such movement.

(b) The cutting of telephone communications indicates that the Japs do not trust the Portuguese and that the maintenance of secrecy is required in regard to movement of their tps. Further precautions to conceal movement from our air recce are no doubt also in operation.

NEW GUINEA ZONE

2. PAPUA

KOKODA AREA, Operations. The enemy succeeded on 6 Sep 42 in forcing the gap through the OWEN STANLEY RANGE and reaching EFOGI (about 10 miles on the PORT MORESBY side on the main range). The withdrawal of our forces was made necessary by strong outflanking movements. Fighting in the EFOGI area on 7 Sep 42 was reported to be heavy, and the enemy suffered severe casualties. Examination of enemy dead revealed that each man was carrying 10 days rations indicating hopes of a complete break through, or that difficulties are being experienced with supplies to the fwd tps. The enemy is reported to be engaged in building and consolidation work at EFOGI and MYOLA (near the gap). These positions were successfully attacked by our A/C on 9 Sep 42.

Comment. In his advance from KOKODA to EFOGI the enemy has passed through the roughest part of the mountain track. There are still some 20 miles of jungle clad mountain country to cover before reaching the easier country in the vicinity of PORT MORESBY. The Japs progress will be governed by his supply and tpt problem, whereas our own tps will be closer to bases and can be supplied by M.T. for 25 miles from PORT MORESBY.

Enemy

Enemy attacks were on a very limited scale. Allied shipping in TULAGI HBR was the objective for two raids on 8 Sep and 9 Sep, but nil damage was caused, the enemy suffering 9 bombers and 4 fighters destroyed.

MORESBY was raided by 26 H/Bs on 7 Sep hits being made on the runway and dispersal area. AA fire accounted for one enemy bomber. In their raid on MILNE BAY drome on 6 Sep A/C caused some slight damage to some M.T.

J. M. Meyer
Major.
BM 17 AUST INF BDE/GP

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2/8 Aust Fd Coy	3
2/5 Aust Inf Bn	4
2/6 Aust Inf Bn	5
2/7 Aust Inf Bn	6
2 Coy A.A.S.C.	7
2/2 Aust Fd Amb	8
War Diary	9, 10, 11
File	12
Officers to Note File	13
Spare	14, 15

3. MILNE BAY

Operations : During the period under review ops have been extended to the South shore of MILNE BAY where the enemy was located at WAGA WAGA (DISCOVERY BAY). The enemy used some naval units between 5 Sep and 9 Sep in an attempt to support his land forces. GILIGILI wharf was shelled by the enemy from the sea on 6 Sep and Allied posns were shelled from the sea at midnight 7/8 Sep. Enemy naval units were sighted mainly in the area of TROBRIAND IS and NORMANBY IS during daylight but in MILNE BAY practically all their ops were carried out at night.

Allied patrols reached LILIHOA (about 18 miles East of GILIGILI) on 7 Sep 42 and next day enemy dead in this area were given as 700

Enemy A/C which had not been active during ops at MILNE BAY, attacked the aerodrome at MILNE BAY with 9 twin-engined bombers, and 5 Zero SS fighters.

Some damage resulted to our MT and one bomb landed on the runway. The crews (6 men) from 3 enemy dive bombers which were found on the beach at MULLINGS HARBOUR were reported to have proceeded inland armed with pistols and LMGs and stalked by one of our patrols. A subsequent report stated that our patrols encountered an enemy patrol and killed 6 at PUNI PUNI, (probably PUNI PUNI) 11 miles inland from MULLINGS HARBOUR. This action may have accounted for the bomber crews.

4. LAE - SALAMAUA

15 Allied patrols are reported to be operating in the MUBO - MARKHAM VALLEY area. Since the occupation of MUBO by the enemy on 31 Aug reports indicate that he is still in considerable in that area. Other Reports. Considerable numbers of natives carriers are being used by the Japs.

Comment. The recent enemy land activity in this area is probably designed as a prelude to complete occupation of the WAU - BULOLO goldfields area where several good aerodromes exist. The recent heavy attacks by our A/C on LAE - SALAMAUA aerodromes, when very little air opposition was encountered, may have compelled the Japs to seek the goldfields landing grounds for purpose of greater dispersal of his A/C. The object of the Jap appears to be the elimination of allied patrols who have been particularly active in this area.

5. SOLOMONS. The Jap counter offensive in the SOLOMONS was heralded by intensified air action against TULAGI and allied shipping in the TULAGI - GUADALCANAL area. The enemy in his counter attack against US forces occupying southern SOLOMONS attempted landings on SE coast of YSABEL IS using 13 vessels, and on SW coast ST GEORGE IS using 30 landing craft. These attempts were broken up by allied A/C which left most of the vessels either sunk or burning. P/reece later revealed a total of 36 craft destroyed.

Allied tps (commando raiding party) including paratroops were landed at TAIVU PT (GUADALCANAL IS) on 8 Sep and withdrew ~~xxxxxxx~~ before dark after having compelled enemy forces estimated at 1000 to withdraw SW. Stores, amn. W/T, 4-75 mm guns, 1-37 mm MG were captured, and 27 enemy were killed. TASIMBOKO village (2 1/2 miles west of TAIVU PT) was left burning. Jap forces retaliated with a landing near LUNGA (N coast) of a strong force.

Comment. The enemy still retains his mobility in the SOLOMONS area and the movements of large numbers of naval units, tps, and landing craft indicate that he is endeavouring to regain possession of GUADALCANAL.

6. MIDDLE EAST

Activity on the Egyptian front has been reduced to patrol activity with occasional bursts of arty action and no change is reported in the general posns of either side. The allies are maintaining air attacks on enemy installations. TOBRUK was attacked on night 8/9 Sep and many fires were started. Fighters patrolling the battle area met no opposition. Vessels off MATRUH and DERNA were also attacked.

10 enemy merchant ships have been sunk or seriously damaged by allied A/C and submarines in the MEDITERRANEAN between 28 Aug and 3 Sep.

7. AIR OPERATIONS

Allied. Bombing and ground strafing enemy forces in the KOKODA area formed the main activity of allied A/C during this period. Much attention was paid to shipping in the MILNE BAY and GUADALCANAL areas but without any effective results being obtained, although at CAPE ESPERANCE 36 landing barges were destroyed and considerable casualties inflicted on enemy tps.

"EXTRACT"

APPENDIX "A" TO

HQ FIRST ARMY INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO.13.

NOTES ON AREA BETWEEN BUNA-GONA AND PORT MORESBY.

In general terms the area between BUNA-GONA and PORT MORESBY may be divided into two parts, a natural barrier - the OWEN STANLEY RANGE - forming the line of demarkation. The section NORTH of the range is included in the NORTHERN DIVISION of PAPUA, and the section to the SOUTH in the CENTRAL DIVISION.

(a) Northern Division.

1. GENERAL:-

In the NORTH the three main centres - BUNA, KOKODA and IOMA - form roughly and equilateral triangle with IOMA as apex. This area may be subdivided into two regions - coastal and mountain. The coastal sec is level and swampy and extends inland in places for approx 40 miles. The rest of the district is a series of hills and mountain chains with fertile valleys and some plateaux.

2. COASTAL:- ^{steep +} and the coast sandy and level except at AMBASI, where

The coast line comprises chiefly open beaches except for three small anchorages affording shelter for small vessels in all weather at BUNA, SANANANDA (4 m. NW of BUNA), and MAMBARI. Beaches are short and steep slopes rise from the beach. There are landing places at ERORA, BASABUA, GONA and AMBASI. There is much swamp in the coastal sector through which, in the dry season, many native tracks run. Swamps are subject to flooding when rivers overflow their banks.

3. INLAND:-

The country, which includes large areas of thick scrub affording excellent cover from air observation, rises at an average rate of 2 ft per mile from BUNA towards KOKODA.

From the NORTHERN portion of the area the rivers are the MAMBARI, OPI, KUMUSI, AMBOGA, GERUWA, SAMBOGA and ERORA. All are liable to flooding. They flow swiftly through the mountain areas over rocky beds and become sluggish approaching the sea, flowing over muddy bottoms. The MAMBARI and KUMUSI are navigable for small craft; average width in normal seasons is 60 yds.

HYDROGRAPHER'S RANGE is in the SOUTHERN part of the area. Mt. LAMINGTON (5000') is approx 30 miles from BUNA towards KOKODA. Mt. GREEN (1000') is on the edge of the MAMBARI swamps, on the rd between IOMA and KOKODA.

4. COMMS:-

A surveyed rd from BUNA to KOKODA is suitable for foot traffic; distance 62 m or 2½ days walking time. This track is in excellent condition. The only steep part is about 8 miles on the BUNA side of OIVI. Tracked vehs could go from the coast to KOKODA if a few rd repairs were made, and two river crossings built. There are numerous streams to cross but they are small and only 12 to 18 inches deep.

Road suitable in dry weather for light motor traffic, runs from SANANANDA to SANGARA.

Track from IOMA to AWALA (55-60 miles) is in good condition and fairly flat. It crosses three fairly large streams which cannot be forded in the wet season. Travelling time is 2½ days on foot.

A track leads along beach from AMBASI to GONA MISSION, thence SW to AMBOGA where it meets the main rd BUNA - KOKODA.

5. AERODROMES:-

There are landing grounds suitable for extension at KOKODA, YODDA and IOMA.

6. CLIMATE:-

The climate is humid and heavy tropical rain may be expected from Nov to May. For the rest of the year rainfall is somewhat lighter. Average annual rainfall - KOKODA 128"; BUNA 113".

6. CLIMATE.

(b) Central Division

1. SOUTH of KOKODA is almost impenetrable OWEN STANLEY RANGE with foothills and rivers which make the Central Division, in which PORT MORSEBY is situated, a difficult terrain for an invading force moving from BUNA via KOKODA.

1. GENERAL:-

The terrain between PORT MORSEBY and KOKODA is generally rugged. The area includes the OWEN STANLEY RANGE with heights up to 13000'. The centre of the rugged area is about THE GAP, through which the main track to the NORTH passes at an elevation of 7000'. The GAP is 20 miles SOUTH OF KOKODA.

2. COASTAL:-

PORT MORSEBY is guarded by a reef with an entrance through BASILISK PASSAGE deep enough for vessels up to 20,000 tons. Apart from landing facilities afforded by the harbour, its wharves and foreshores, landings could be made at ELA BEACH, a strip three-quarters of a mile long on the EASTERN side of the town.

BOOTLESS INLET, approx 12 miles to the WEST of PORT MORSEBY is skirted mostly by mangrove swamps with the exception of a small beach at DOKUNA where a landing could be effected. An overland passage could be made by SEVEN MILE VALLEY to PORT MORSEBY.

3. INLAND:-

In the MORESBY area hills rise close to the coast. These are peculiar in that one side may be timbered while the other side will carry only grass. Immediately behind PORT MORESBY is the AUSTROLABE RANGE and rising behind this again is the OWEN STANLEY RANGE. The ranges rise almost sheer in parts and are covered by dense jungle.

The only stream of any importance is the LALOKI RIVER which flows into REDSCAR BAY. A low level br crosses it 26 miles from PORT MORESBY.

The OWEN STANLEY RANGE reaches great heights at such points as Mt. VICTORIA (13,000'), Mt. ALBERT EDWARD (13,000') and Mt. SCRATCHLEY (over 12,000').

4. A good metalled rd connects PORT MORESBY with SOGERI (25 miles). The second section, from SOGERI to KOKODA (55 miles) comprises a native track over extremely rugged country. The OWEN STANLEY RANGE is crossed through THE GAP (7000'), 20 miles SOUTH of KOKODA. Numerous streams impede passage, some crossed by cane suspension brs, but most by fallen log brs. Walking time PORT MORESBY - SOGERI is 1½ days, and SOGERI - KOKODA 5½ days.

5. CLIMATE:-

Wet season extends from Nov to May, annual fall at PORT MORESBY being 33". Rain falls principally during night.

L. H. M. [Signature]
Major.
BM 17 AUST INF BDE GP

HQ 17 Aust Inf Bde
26 Sep 42

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3. MILNE BAY

Operations : During the period under review ops have been extended to the South shore of MILNE BAY where the enemy was located at WAGA WAGA (DISCOVERY BAY). The enemy used some naval units between 5 Sep and 9 Sep in an attempt to support his land forces. GILIGILI wharf was shelled by the enemy from the sea on 6 Sep and Allied posns were shelled from the sea at midnight 7/8 Sep. Enemy naval units were sighted mainly in the area of TROBRIAND IS and NORMANBY IS during daylight but in MILNE BAY practically all their ops were carried out at night.

Allied patrols reached LILIHUA (about 18 miles East of GILIGILI) on 7 Sep 42 and next day enemy dead in this area were given as 700

Enemy A/C which had not been active during ops at MILNE BAY, attacked the aerodrome at MILNE BAY with 9 twin-engined bombers, and 5 Zero SS fighters.

Some damage resulted to our MT and one bomb landed on the runway. The crews (6 men) from 3 enemy dive bombers which were found on the beach at MULLINGS HARBOUR were reported to have proceeded inland armed with pistols and LMGs and stalked by one of our patrols. A subsequent report stated that our patrols encountered an enemy patrol and killed 6 at PUNI PUNI, (probably PURI PURI) 11 miles inland from MULLINS HARBOUR. This action may have accounted for the bomber crews.

4. LAE - SALAMAUA

15 Allied patrols are reported to be operating in the MUBO - MARKHAM VALLEY area. Since the occupation of MUBO by the enemy on 31 Aug reports indicate that he is still in considerable in that area. Other Reports. Considerable numbers of natives carriers are being used by the Japs.

Comment. The recent enemy land activity in this area is probably designed as a prelude to complete occupation of the WAU - BULOLO goldfields area where several good aerodromes exist. The recent heavy attacks by our A/C on LAE - SALAMAUA aerodromes, when very little air opposition was encountered, may have compelled the Japs to seek the goldfields landing grounds for purpose of greater dispersal of his A/C. The object of the Jap appears to be the elimination of allied patrols who have been particularly active in this area.

5. SOLOMONS. The Jap counter offensive in the SOLOMONS was heralded by intensified air action against TULAGI and allied shipping in the TULAGI - GUADALCANAL area. The enemy in his counter attack against US forces occupying southern SOLOMONS attempted landings on SE coast of YSABEL IS using 13 vessels, and on SW coast ST GEORGE IS using 30 landing craft. These attempts were broken up by allied A/C which left most of the vessels either sunk or burning. P/reece later revealed a total of 36 craft destroyed.

Allied tps (commando raiding party) including paratroops were landed at TAIVU PT (GUADALCANAL IS) on 8 Sep and withdrew ~~xxxxxxx~~ before dark after having compelled enemy forces estimated at 1000 to withdraw SW. Stores, amm. W/T, 4-75 mm guns, 1-37 mm MG were captured, and 27 enemy were killed. TASIMBOKO village (2½ miles west of TAIVU PT) was left burning. Jap forces retaliated with a landing near LUNGA (N coast) of a strong force.

Comment. The enemy still retains his mobility in the SOLOMONS area and the movements of large numbers of naval units, tps, and landing craft indicate that he is endeavouring to regain possession of GUADALCANAL.

6. MIDDLE EAST

Activity on the Egyptian front has been reduced to patrol activity with occasional bursts of arty action and no change is reported in the general posns of either side. The allies are maintaining air attacks on enemy installations. TOBRUK was attacked on night 8/9 Sep and many fires were started. Fighters patrolling the battle area met no opposition. Vessels off MATRUH and DERNA were also attacked.

10 enemy merchant ships have been sunk or seriously damaged by allied A/C and submarines in the MEDITERRANEAN between 28 Aug and 3 Sep.

7. AIR OPERATIONS

Allied. Bombing and ground strafing enemy forces in the KOKODA area formed the main activity of allied A/C during this period. Much attention was paid to shipping in the MILNE BAY and GUADALCANAL areas but without any effective results being obtained, although at CAPE ESPERANCE 36 landing barges were destroyed and considerable casualties inflicted on enemy tps.

"EXTRACT"

APPENDIX "A" TO

HQ FIRST ARMY INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO.13.

NOTES ON AREA BETWEEN BUNA-GONA AND PORT MORESBY.

In general terms the area between BUNA-GONA and PORT MORESBY may be divided into two parts, a natural barrier - the OWEN STANLEY RANGE - forming the line of demarkation. The section NORTH of the range is included in the NORTHERN DIVISION of PAPUA, and the section to the SOUTH in the CENTRAL DIVISION.

(a) Northern Division.

1. GENERAL:-

In the NORTH the three main centres - BUNA, KOKODA and IOMA - form roughly and equilateral triangle with IOMA as apex. This area may be subdivided into two regions - coastal and mountain. The coastal sec is level and swampy and extends inland in places for approx 40 miles. The rest of the district is a series of hills and mountain chains with fertile valleys and some plateaux.

2. COASTAL:- X, and the coast sandy and level except at AMBASI, where steep +

The coast line comprises chiefly open beaches except for three small anchorages affording shelter for small vessels in all weather at BUNA, SANANANDA (4 m. NW of BUNA), and MAMBARI. Beaches are short and steep slopes rise from the beach. There are landing places at ERORA, BASABUA, GONA and AMBASI. There is much swamp in the coastal sector through which, in the dry season, many native tracks run. Swamps are subject to flooding when rivers overflow their banks.

3. INLAND:-

The country, which includes large areas of thick scrub affording excellent cover from air observation, rises at an average rate of 2 ft per mile from BUNA towards KOKODA.

From the NORTHERN portion of the area the rivers are the MAMBARI, OPI, KUMUSI, AMBOGA, GERUWA, SAMBOGA and ERORA. All are liable to flooding. They flow swiftly through the mountain areas over rocky beds and become sluggish approaching the sea, flowing over muddy bottoms. The MAMBARI and KUMUSI are navigable for small craft; average width in normal seasons is 60 yds.

HYDROGRAPHER'S RANGE is in the SOUTHERN part of the area. Mt. LAMINGTON (5000') is approx 30 miles from BUNA towards KOKODA. Mt. GREEN (1000') is on the edge of the MAMBARI swamps, on the rd between IOMA and KOKODA.

4. COMNS:-

A surveyed rd from BUNA to KOKODA is suitable for foot traffic; distance 62 m or 2½ days walking time. This track is in excellent condition. The only steep part is about 8 miles on the BUNA side of OIVI. Tracked vehs could go from the coast to KOKODA if a few rd repairs were made, and two river crossings built. There are numerous streams to cross but they are small and only 12 to 18 inches deep.

Road suitable in dry weather for light motor traffic runs from SANANANDA to SANGARA.

Track from IOMA to AWALA (55-60 miles) is in good condition and fairly flat. It crosses three fairly large streams which cannot be forded in the wet season. Travelling time is 2½ days on foot.

A track leads along beach from AMBASI to GONA MISSION, thence SW to AMBOGA where it meets the main rd BUNA - KOKODA.

5. AERODROMES:-

There are landing grounds suitable for extension at KOKODA, YODDA and IOMA.

6. CLIMATE:-

The climate is humid and heavy tropical rain may be expected from Nov to May. For the rest of the year rainfall is somewhat lighter. Average annual rainfall - KOKODA 128"; BUNA 113".

6. CLIMATE.

(b) Central Division

1. SOUTH of KOKODA is almost impenetrable OWEN STANLEY RANGE with foot-hills and rivers which make the Central Division, in which PORT MORSEBY is situated, a difficult terrain for an invading force moving from BUNA via KOKODA.

1. GENERAL:-

The terrain between PORT MORSEBY and KOKODA is generally rugged. The area includes the OWEN STANLEY RANGE with heights up to 13000'. The centre of the rugged area is about THE GAP, through which the main track to the NORTH passes at an elevation of 7000'. The GAP is 20 miles SOUTH OF KOKODA.

2. COASTAL:-

PORT MORSEBY is guarded by a reef with an entrance through BASILISK PASSAGE deep enough for vessels up to 20,000 tons. Apart from landing facilities afforded by the harbour, its wharves and foreshores, landings could be made at ELA BEACH, a strip three-quarters of a mile long on the EASTERN side of the town.

BOOTLESS INLET, approx 12 miles to the WEST of PORT MORSEBY is skirted mostly by mangrove swamps with the exception of a small beach at DOKUNA where a landing could be effected. An overland passage could be made by SEVEN MILE VALLEY to PORT MORSEBY.

3. INLAND:-

In the MORESBY area hills rise close to the coast. These are peculiar in that one side may be timbered while the other side will carry only grass. Immediately behind PORT MORESBY is the AUSTROLABE RANGE and rising behind this again is the OWEN STANLEY RANGE. The ranges rises almost sheer in parts and are covered by dense jungle.

The only stream of any importance is the LALOKI RIVER which flows into REDSCAR BAY. A low level br crosses it 26 miles from PORT MORESBY.

The OWEN STANLEY RANGE reaches great heights at such points as Mt. VICTORIA (13,000'), Mt. ALBERT EDWARD (13,000') and Mt. SCRATCHLEY (over 12,000').

4. A good metalled rd connects PORT MORESBY with SOGERI (25 miles). The road section, from SOGERI to KOKODA (55 miles) comprises a native track over extremely rugged country. The OWEN STANLEY RANGE is crossed through THE GAP (7000'), 20 miles SOUTH of KOKODA. Numerous streams impede passage, some crossed by cane suspension brs, but most by fallen log brs. Walking time PORT MORESBY - SOGERI is 2½ days, and SOGERI - KOKODA 5½ days.

5. CLIMATE:-

Wet season extends from Nov to May, annual fall at PORT MORESBY being 33". Rain falls principally during night.

W. H. Murray Capt
Major.

BM 17 AUST INF BDE GP

SECURITY

Copy No. //.....

26 Sep 42

17 AUST INF BDE SECURITY INSTRUCTION NO 3

Units will submit to this HQ by 1400 hrs 28 Sep 42, names of present Unit Security Officers together with advice of any changes which have recently occurred, together with specimen signatures of Unit Censoring Officers.

Conference

Unit Security Officers will attend a conference at this HQ at 1430 hrs on Wednesday 30 Sep 42, bringing with them copies of respective Unit Security Standing Orders.

A tendency towards laxity in the enforcement of Security Regulations has been noticed since the return of this Brigade Group from overseas. Attention of all Unit Security Officers is directed to a pamphlet issued to units entitled "Keeping Information from the Enemy".

UNIT SECURITY OFFICERS MAIN DUTY

1. Police security down to every man in Unit.
2. Train personnel in security.

B. M. Mayberry
Major
B.M. 17 Aust Inf Bde

99

29

2 Aust
Army

1040

0665

Ref Verbal warning 28 Sep (1) later
information indicates 17 Aust Bde gp, probably
less 2/2 Fd Regt may embark BRISBANE 6 Oct
42 (1) further instr. follow when received
(1) Ack.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

99

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN
OUT

Legt Squad Gp the Recd.

No. of Groups. OFFICE DATE STAMP
GR.

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 1 Aust. motor div Rear HQ 6 Aust Div for 17 unit
BDE rptd @ Movement NSW hofc Area

FROM Second Aust Army Originator's Number 0664 Date 29/1942 In Reply to Number

<i>ref</i>	<i>verbal</i>	<i>warning</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>Sep.</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>later</i>	<i>information</i>	<i>indicates</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>Aust.</i>	<i>Bde</i>
<i>gp</i>	<i>probably</i>	<i>less</i>	<i>2/2</i>	<i>Aust.</i>	<i>Ad</i>
<i>regt.</i>	<i>may</i>	<i>embark</i>	<i>BRISBANE</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>OC</i>
<i>42</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>further</i>	<i>instructions</i>	<i>follow</i>	<i>when</i>
<i>received</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>ack</i>			

Copied from message

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER.

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNED

SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

received by 6 Aust Div APC

1040

T.H.I. *1052*

T.O.R.

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER
										<i>1440</i>	

MESSAGE FORM.

Serial No. 7

No. of Groups.
GR.

Office Date Stamp.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN

OUT

2 (U11P) G B W E

HIGH GRADE CIPHER SECRET

202

TO LANDOPS BRISBANE LHQ MELBOURNE RPTD 1AUST ARMY
1AUST MOTOR DIV REAR HQ 6AUST DIV FOR 17
AUST INF BDE Q MOVEMENTS NSW & OFC area

FROM SECOND AUST ARMY Originator's Number 4665 Date 29 In reply to Number

ref	LANDOPS	SD	476	of	26
SEP	to	LANDFORCE	0	under	present
programme	equipping	(including dyeing	tropical	clothing)	
and	ing	in	available	timbered	
mountain	area	vicinity	GRETA	0	17
AUST	INF	BDE	gr	less	2/2
AUST	FD	REGT	could	move	from
GRETA	on	S	OCT	0	ref
verbal	warning	by	DCGS	if	required
for	embarkation	BRISBANE	6	OCT	could
more	much	earlier	date	but	arrangements
would	be	required	to	complete	equipment
at	port	of	embarkation		

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THE MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY.

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNED

SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

IMMEDIATE

T. H. I.

1220

T. O. R.

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER.	SENDER.	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER.	SENDER.	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER.	SENDER.

WD1

LOCATION STATEMENT OF 17 AUST INF BDE GP

AS AT 1400 HRS 22 SEP 42

CRETA MILITARY CAMP - REF MAP - SINGSETON - 1" = 1m 398568

UNITS UNDER COMD	BLOCK
HQ 17 Aust Inf Bde	K & L
2/2 Aust Fd Regt	H & J
1 Aust A/Tk Regt less 1 Bty	O
2/8 Aust Fd Coy	E
2 COY AASCZ	S & T
2/5 Aust Inf Bn	M
2/6 Aust Inf Bn	G
2/7 Aust Inf Bn	P, Q & R
2/2 Aust Fd Amb	U

ATTACHED FOR ADM

HQ 6 Div Ord Fd W/Shops & 2 Bde Sections	C
6 Div Ord Fd Pk	D
22 Fd Pk Coy	E
1 Aust A/Tk Regt less 1 Bty	O

Major.
BM 17 Aust Inf Bde Op

GRETA MILITARY CAMP

TELEPHONE DIRECTORY Sep 26/42

Handwritten: NDI

UNIT	XTN	BLK	UNIT	XTN	BLK
Area Signals Officer	33	F	<u>HQ 17 Aust Inf Bde Gp</u>		
Camp Engineer	24	B	Bde Commander	41	K
Camp Pay Office	49	F	Bde Major	7	K
Camp Post Office	11	COMM	Staff Captain	6	K
Camp Staff Officer (after 2130 hrs)	8	F	Orderly Room	20	K
Camp Transport Office	23	-	Transport & Bde Supply Office	34	L
Camp Q.M.	22	F	'K' Section Signals	5	L
Canteen 409	27	G	2/2 Aust Fd Regt	48	H
C.U.S.A.	38	-	40 L.A.D.	35	J
Dental Centre	15	-	2/8 Aust Fd Coy R.A.E.	21	M
Guard House	25	-	1 Aust A/Tk Regt	28	O
Red Cross Hut	39	W	2/5 Aust Inf Bn Ord Room	21	M
Rutherford Camp	29	-	C.O.	3	M
Salvation Army Hut	37	G	2/6 Aust Inf Bn Ord Room	50	G
Switchboard Inquiries	32	F	C.O.	2	G
Y.M.C.A. Hut	36	F	2/7 Aust Inf Bn Ord Room	19	R
D.I.D. Supply	9	A	C.O.	45	P
	10	A	Pay Sgt & Q.M.	47	P
16 Camp Hospital & Nurses	12	W	2 Coy A.A.S.C.	44	S
Quarters	13	W	2/2 Aust Fd Amb	46	U
Camp Hospital Q.M.	30	W	22 Aust Fd Pk Coy	26	E
A.H.T.	43	B	6 Aust Div Reception Camp	1	C
10 Workshops & Park Coy	24	B	6 Aust Div Ord Fd Wkshops	1	C
& E.S.B.					
			HQ 6 Aust Div	M. ITLAND	936
			R.T.O. W. M. ITLAND	"	907
			W. MAITLAND R/way	"	11
			GRETA R/way	Branxton	69
			LARGS CAMP	Maitland	481
			RUTHERFORD CAMP	"	951
			W. MAITLAND FIRE STATION	"	22

Handwritten: 8/103
Handwritten: 13

SECRET

HQ 17 Aust Inf Bde
19 Sep 42

D.R.L.S. TIME TABLE

Depts	17 Bde HQ	0800	1100	1400	1700
Arrives	1 Mot Div Sigs	0805	1105	1405	1705
Depts	1 Mot Div Sigs	0810	1110	1410	1710
Arrives	3 Aust A Tk Bde	0815	1115	1415	1715
Depts	3 Aust A Tk Bde	0820	1120	1420	1720
Arrives	6 Aust Div HQ	0850	1150	1450	1750
Depts	6 Aust Div Hq	0905	1205	1505	1805
Arrives	3 Aust A Tk Bde	0935	1235	1535	1835
Depts	3 Aust A Tk Bde	0940	1240	1540	1840
Arrives	1 Mot Div Sigs	0945	1245	1545	1845
Dept	1 Mot Div Sigs	0950	1250	1550	1850
Arrive	17 Bde HQ	0955	1255	1555	1855

LOCAL CAMP SERVICE

Departs Signal Office	1010
	1310
	1610
	1910

L. C. Hoy, Lieut
for Major
 B.M. 17 AUST INF BDE

O.T.M. FILE

WD1

TELEPHONE—

Received 26/9/42
Time 1800 hrs

Australian Military Forces

Eastern Command HQ NSW L OF C AREA

Please quote this Number when replying

491	1	2751
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G/DPD/GB

W

188831

Address Victoria Barracks,
PADDINGTON.
Date 25 Sep 42.

1 Aust Armd Div
1 Aust Mot Div

VISIT OF LT-COL. CHIH WANG TO FORMATIONS AND UNITS.

1. With reference to abovementioned Officer, subtended hereto is LHQ memo 110462 dated 22 Sep 42:-

" Lt.-Col. Chih Wang, Chinese Military Liaison Officer, will leave Melbourne per passenger train on 22 Sep 42 to complete his tour of formations.

It is suggested he visit Greta area and then to Narrabri to Armd Div.

Please advise units ahead of Lt-Col Chih Wang's visit and ask them to co-operate.

He also desires to visit local units in the vicinity of Sydney. In this connection, it is requested that every facility be given to this officer in regard to transport and acquiring accommodation during his stay in NSW L of C Area."

2. The following itinerary has been arranged for Lt-Col Chih Wang in order that he may visit 1 Aust Armd Div and 17 Inf Bde.

Thursday, 1 Oct 42.

0815 hrs depart Central
1234 hrs arrive GRETA

Friday, 2 Oct 42.

1752 hrs depart GRETA
1830 hrs arrive SINGLETON
2030 hrs depart SINGLETON

Saturday, 3 Oct 42.

0414 hrs arrive NARRABRI

Sunday, 4 Oct 42.

at NARRABRI.

Monday, 5 Oct 42.

1726 hrs depart NARRABRI

TUESDAY, 6 Oct 42.

0628 hrs arrive Central

COMD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
B.M.	<input type="checkbox"/>
B.M.(L)	<input type="checkbox"/>
S.C.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
S.C.(L)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
L.O.	<input type="checkbox"/>
L.O.L.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
L.O.S.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
L.O.S.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
S.G.C.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
T.O.	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUPA	<input type="checkbox"/>
ADPL. COMD.	<input type="checkbox"/>
C.M.	<input type="checkbox"/>
...	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. Arrangements for accommodation and transport will be made by No.3 L of C Sub-Area. It is requested that all facilities be extended to this Officer during his visit.

S. Jackson Lt Col
Major-General,
G.O.C., NSW L OF C AREA.

Copies to:

No.3 L of C Sub-Area.
17 Aust Inf Bde.

GRETA MILITARY CAMP

TELEPHONE DIRECTORY Sep 26/42

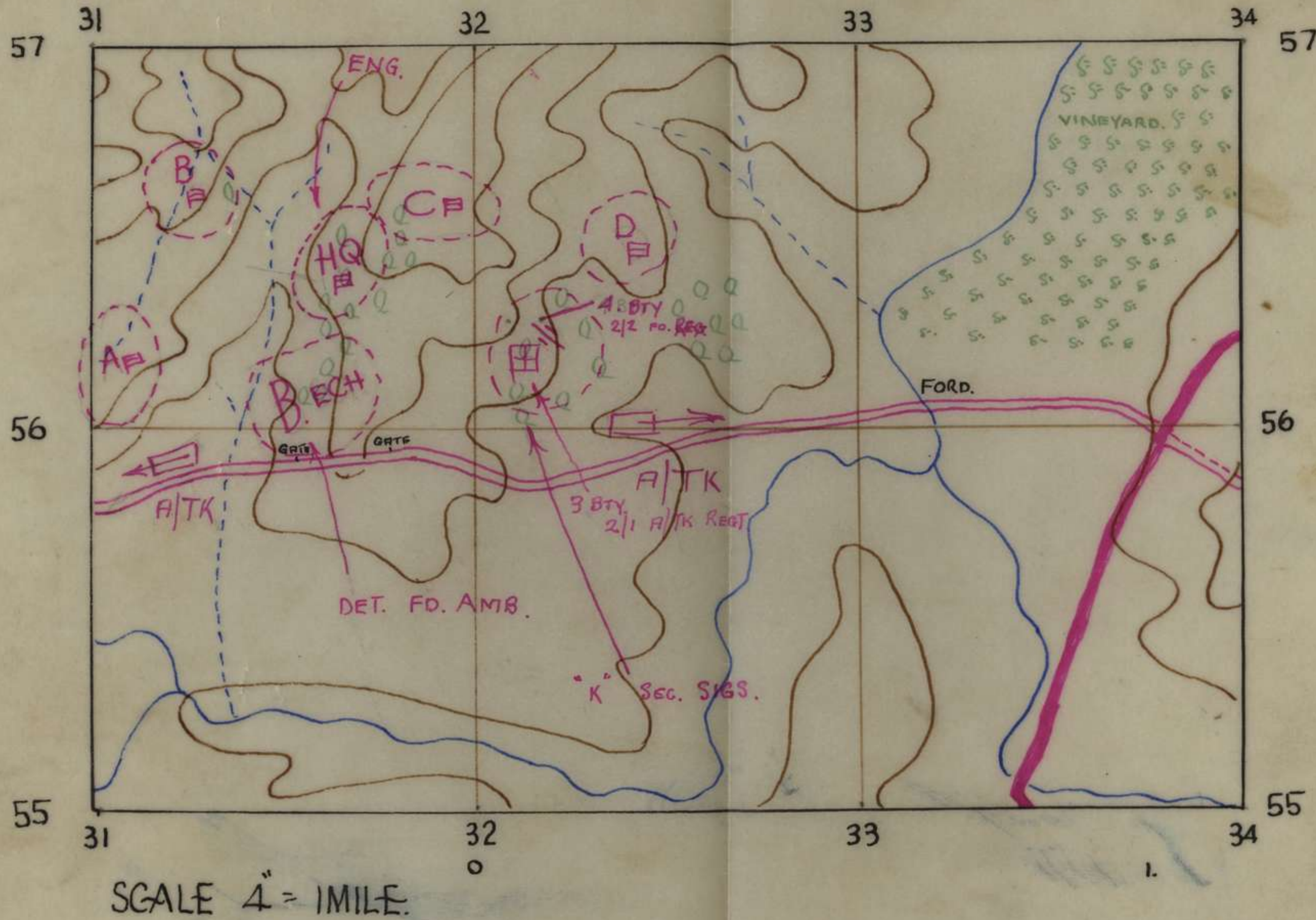
UNIT	XTN	BLK	UNIT	XTN	BLK
Area Signals Officer	33	F	HQ 17 Aust Inf Bde Gp		
Camp Engineer	24	B	Bde Commander	41	K
Camp Pay Office	49	F	Bde Major	7	K
Camp Post Office	11	COMM	Staff Captain	6	K
Camp Staff Officer (after 2130 hrs)	8	F	Orderly Room	20	K
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Camp Q.M.	22	F	'K' Section Signals	5	L
Canteen 409	27	G	2/2 Aust Fd Regt	48	H
C.U.S.A.	38	-	40 L.A.D.	35	J
Dental Centre	15	-	2/8 Aust Fd Coy R.A.E.	21	M
Guard House	25	-	1 Aust A/Tk Regt	28	O
Red Cross Hut	39	W	2/5 Aust Inf Bn Ord. Room	21	M
Rutherford Camp	29	-	C.O.	3	M
Salvation Army Hut	37	G	2/6 Aust Inf Bn Ord Room	50	G
Switchboard Inquiries	32	F	C.O.	2	G
Y.M.C.A. Hut	36	F	2/7 Aust Inf Bn Ord Room	19	R
D.I.D. Supply	9	A	C.O.	45	P
	10	A	Pay Sgt & Q.M.	47	P
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Quarters	13	W	2/2 Aust Fd Amb	46	U
Camp Hospital Q.M.	30	W	22 Aust Fd Pk Coy	28	E
A.H.T.	43	B	6 Aust Div Reception Camp	1	C
10 Workshops & Park Coy & E.S.B.	24	B	6 Aust Div Ord Fd Wkshops	1	C
			1/2		
			HQ 6 Aust Div	M. ITLAND	936
			R.T.O. W. M. ITLAND	"	907
			W. MAITLAND R/way	"	11
			GRETA R/way	Branxton	69
			LARGS CAMP	Maitland	481
			RUTHERFORD CAMP	"	951
			W. MAITLAND FIRE STATION	"	22

2/7. BN. DISPOSITION

25 SEP. 42

1300 HRS. ^{WDI}

ENLARGMENT FROM "SINGLETON" SHEET 1" = 1 MILE.



1946

HQ 17 AUST INF BDE

DUTY OFFICERS ROSTER

Mounting at 1800 hrs :

25 Sep 42	Capt G.A. DEAN
26 Sep 42	Lieut TOONE J.R.
27 Sep 42	Lieut D.A. McBRIDE
28 Sep 42	Lieut J.H. PAWSON
29 Sep 42	Capt J.M. MENZIES
30 Sep 42	Capt E.W. SCOTT
1 Oct 42	Capt H.G. SWEET
2 Oct 42	Lieut G. EDGAR
3 Oct 42	Lieut GORDON
4 Oct 42	Capt G.A. DEAN
5 Oct 42	Lieut J.R. TOONE
6 Oct 42	Lieut D.A. McBRIDE
7 Oct 42	Lieut J.H. PAWSON
8 Oct 42	Capt J.M. MENZIES
9 Oct 42	Capt E.W. SCOTT
10 Oct 42	Capt H.G. SWEET
11 Oct 42	Lieut G. EDGAR
12 Oct 42	Lieut GORDON
13 Oct 42	Capt G.A. DEAN
14 Oct 42	Lieut J.R. TOONE

[Handwritten signature]

17 AUST INF BDE GP DEMONSTRATION-28 SEP 42

MOBILE DEFENCE

Ref Map - SINGLETON 1" to 1 mile.

OBJECT - To demonstrate a method of aggressively countering Japanese enveloping movements.

NOTE - The ground over which the demonstration takes place has been specially chosen to enable spectators to view each phase. Sub-units will in some cases cross open ground in order that their movements may be witnessed.

The ground represents semi-timbered or semi-jungle country which will permit rapid movement and will provide limited observation and fields of fire.

DIRECTING STAFF -

Director - Brigadier M.J. MOTEN, DSO ED Comd 17 Aust Inf Bde
Assistants - Lt-Col F. ST. JOHN C.O. 2/1 Aust A Tk Regt
Lt-Col J.R. WOLFENDEN att'd G.S. Adv LHQ
Major R.F. JABOOR Adm Comd 2/2 Aust Fd Regt
Major J.G.S. MOFFATT GSO II 6 Aust Div
Major R.A.C. MUIR BM 17 Aust Inf Bde.

TPS TAKING PART

Attackers - 2/5 Aust Inf Bn Gp
Defenders - 2/6 Aust Inf Bn Gp
AC Squadron RAAF Co-operating.

LESSONS

1. Erection of strong road block on enemy's axis of advance.
2. Fwd units located to the flanks and in advance of the rd block with the role of counter attacking any enemy in the vicinity - to the front, flanks or rear.
3. Counter attack unit located on or near enemy's axis of advance behind the rd block with the role of moving out to a flank, ambushing if possible, otherwise counter attacking any enemy who succeeded in passing round the flanks of the fwd units. Alternative ambush localities to be recced before-hand.
4. Reserve located in central posn further to the rear with role of dealing with additional enemy encircling movements, to assist other units counter attacking the enemy from a flank, to replace fwd units which have moved fwd to the attack, to lead a counter offensive once the tide of battle has turned in favour of the defenders, or to deal with any unforeseen threat to the posn. Alternative ambush localities to be recced before-hand.
5. Need for active patrolling.
6. Only wiring and digging, necessary to guard against surprise and minimise casualties will be undertaken.
7. Mobility maintained by all units.
8. Mortars and MMGs allotted to sub-units.
9. Arty ready to engage targets without delay.

10. Need for sound comms.
11. Control of battle mainly by wireless.
12. A Tk guns to search for suitable targets.
13. Necessity for quick decisions, quick verbal orders, speed of action and movement.

OPENING SITUATION

1. A Japanese Force succeeded in landing North and South of NEWCASTLE and in penetrating towards SINGLETON as far as BELFORD where their advance was held up by 1 and 17 Aust Inf Bde Gps.
2. 2/6 Aust Inf Bn Gp was ordered to occupy a mobile defensive position in the vicinity of THISTLE HILL to destroy any enemy attempt to envelope round the right flank.
3. 2/6 Aust Inf Bn Gp completed the occupation of the position by 1300 hrs on 28 Sep 42.
4. The C.O. 2/6 Aust Inf Bn decided to ambush any enemy troops approaching the position and gave orders that fire was to be withheld until contact was gained.

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

1. At 1400 hrs enemy light AFVs (represented by carriers) are stopped by road block and one is disabled by an A Tk mine. The others are destroyed by A Tk guns.
2. The leading enemy inf coy deploys, one pl advancing astride the road, the others moving to right and left. Fire is held until the enemy inf are in the open and close to the defenders. They are then engaged by mortars, MMGs and pl weapons. Heavy casualties are inflicted and the attack is held up. Small parties of the enemy attempt to move round the flanks of the fwd coys but are counter attacked by pls of these coys who mop up with the bayonet from the flanks.
3. C.O. orders arty to engage road and creek junctions 302556 and 314559 and calls for air support.
4. At 1410 hrs a message is received by C.O. from a fwd observer that an enemy coy has left the main road and has commenced to move up the creek on the right of the position. C.O. orders right fwd coy to send one pl and the C.A. Coy two pls to a previously recced ambush area near bend in road 266575.
5. The enemy Coy crosses Knoll 350 (2756) and as it reaches road is engaged by all weapons causing heavy casualties. Riflemen of the flanking pls attack with the bayonet from flanks and rear. After dealing with the enemy caught in the ambush a patrol is sent out through the timber to mop up the remainder. Pls then return to their original positions.
6. At 1415 hrs a message is received from another fwd observer that an enemy coy is moving up creek line North of road junction 3055 round the left flank. The C.O. immediately orders one pl of left fwd coy and remaining pl of C.A. coy to move to a previously recced ambush area in vicinity of Knoll 350 (2859).

7. The enemy Coy moves through the timber and towards the high ground. The ambushing pls hold their fire till the enemy is near the top of the rise and then cause heavy casualties with all weapons. The pl on the Northern flank attacks with the bayonet. Some enemy succeed in running back into the timber in the creek. A patrol is sent out to mop up and pls return to original positions.

8. At 1420 hrs another message from a fwd observer reports that another enemy coy is moving round the left flank wider out. A later message gives the position of this coy one mile NE of THISTLE HILL. The C.O. appreciates that the objective of this coy is the road creek crossing in rear of the position (2660) and orders the Reserve Coy to move to an ambush area on spur 300 (278605). The enemy coy is observed crossing clearing 288598 and is engaged by arty fire. The C.O. orders aircraft to dive bomb and machine gun the coy as it continues its move. The Reserve Coy is informed of the movements of the enemy by wireless.

9. The enemy coy is ambushed successfully, a high proportion of casualties resulting from the fire of all weapons. Pls attack with the bayonet, tommy gun and grenade from flanks and rear. Enemy survivors scatter into the timber and one pl of reserve coy is ordered to follow up and patrol the area. The remainder withdraw to their original areas.

SIGNALS TO BE USED BY DEFENDERS

Success signal - one RED - To be put up by each coy when its counter
 one GREEN attack or ambush has been successful.
 - one WHITE Signal to RAAF giving location of
 defenders tps.

Ground strips will be used.

REPRESENTATION OF FIRE

Explosives as arranged by Engrs:-

1. Vicinity of rd block - to be fired when leading carrier approaches - representing A Tk mine. Smaller charges following - representing A Tk gun fire against remaining carriers.
2. Vicinity fwd coy posts - representing enemy mortar fire.
3. With enveloping pls of No 1 enemy coy - representing defenders with mortar fire.
4. With Nos 2, 3 and 4 enemy coys - representing defenders mortar and arty fire and aerial bombs as appropriate.

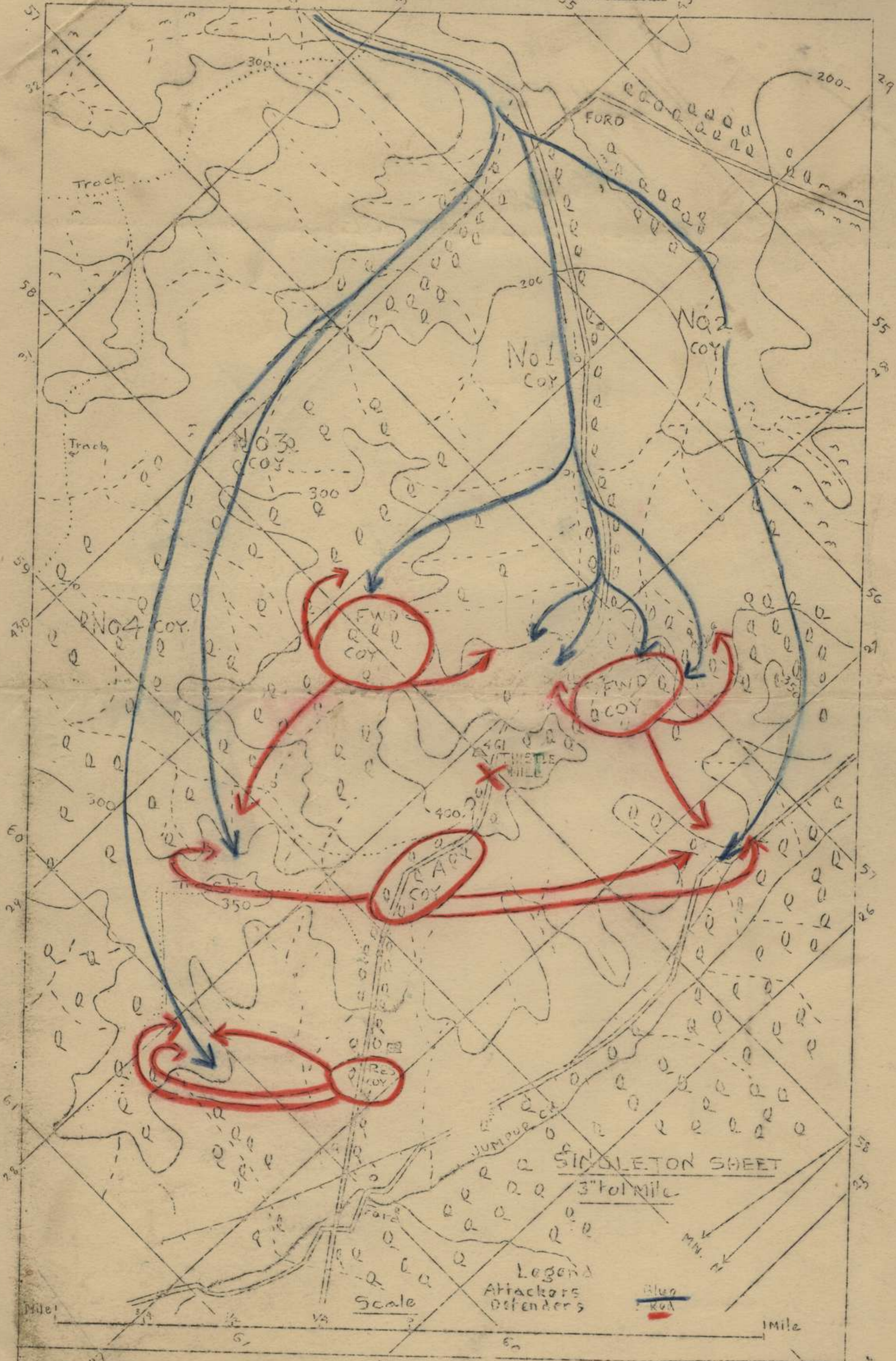
BLANKS.- to be issued as available for rifles and MGs.

17/12/14
Pahmukham

(1/5th) → MR Evans (CESSNOCK) Kinnery Street Appin

2/6 Singleton =

D. ONSHAWIC - 17 APR 1942 - COMBAT DISTANCE



Drawn by F. Scott AUGUST 1942

MOBILE DEFENCE

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

The main principle is that no fixed defensive position shall be occupied but that units will occupy allotted areas from which they send out patrols to discover enemy movement.

The next principle is that the defending force will attack the enemy wherever found.

In these attacks adequate forces shall be detailed to ensure success, mortars, artillery, aircraft - in short, all weapons available being used to break up enemy formations and to assist in the attack.

Mobility is essential.

Sound communications throughout are imperative.

DISTRIBUTION

1. A strong road block will be established on the enemy's axis of advance. The post selected should be such as to make it difficult for enemy to "sly clear" of the block thus evading it or going round it. Cuttings on a bend in the road, or just over the top of a hill, bridges and fords etc are most suitable.

Road blocks must be covered by fire, especially A Tk fire. The unit detailed to cover a road block should not sit behind the block but should be at least 100 yds from it as it must be expected that the road block will become the centre of activity of enemy arty, mortars and aircraft.

2. To the flanks and in advance of the road block, ie outside the enemy axis of advance Coy or Bn areas will be allotted. The role of the units in these areas is to counter attack every enemy formation approaching the area, special attention being devoted to the flanks so that any enemy force attempting a wide encircling movement will be attacked and destroyed. Active patrols will be constantly combing every covered approach by which the enemy may be moving.

The attacks should be aided by mortar and arty fire and if possible, bombing and machine gunning from our aircraft.

3. A counter attack force (coy or bn) will be located on or near the axis of the enemy's advance in the rear of the road block - some distance behind.

This force will patrol to both flanks and to the rear to discover any enemy formation that has succeeded in infiltrating through the forward areas held or in by-passing the defence. The patrols to the rear will watch specially for any enemy parties which may be attempting to establish a road block behind the defence. Immediately any enemy movement is reported, Coys or platoons or even the whole Bn should be detached to attack and destroy the enemy which has found his way round the defended area. This force should always keep a small party in hand to cover the rear of forward areas. To enable this to be done this force must maintain constant contact by patrols with all forward formations.

4. A Reserve should be in the hands of the Comd to deliver the coup-de-grace to the enemy when he has committed himself to his plan and has to deploy his force. The temptation to use this reserve prematurely to adjust some minor loss should be avoided if possible. Of course, there will be occasions when the enemy has gained some success which if not dealt with immediately may develop into a major success. In such cases the reserve or part of it, should be committed. At the earliest possible moment another reserve should be established, either by recalling the original reserve after it has completed its task or, if that is not practicable, by withdrawing troops from portions of the front not engaged.

FUNCTIONS OF VARIOUS ARMS

A TK ARTY must be disposed to meet a tank attack from any direction. Where there is insufficient A Tk Arty for this purpose, Fd guns should be placed so that they can serve the dual role of A Tk and Fd guns. A Tk gunners should be prepared to go forward searching for tanks and should not be content to sit back and wait for tanks to run into their guns. The nature of these sorties will depend on the type of country in which operations are taking place. In timber and scrub country tank hunting squads equipped with A Tk grenades would suffice. In open country it may be necessary to take 2 pdrs forward under inf protection. If possible, guns will be set aside for this roving commission.

FD ARTY must be prepared to give instant support to the inf in every c/attack. In this war of fast movement, practically all targets are fleeting. Any delay in bringing fire to bear on reported enemy movement makes the task of the inf more difficult. This demands good communications between the FOO, the inf comd and the guns. Owing to the fluidity of the force the most suitable means of communication is by W/T.

There will frequently be insufficient time available to make a thorough recce for gun positions. The alternative to well concealed gun positions is a frequent change of gun positions. The moment the enemy has "spotted" our gun positions the guns should be moved to alternative positions.

MORTARS provide immediate support for the inf and should be able to concentrate fire within a few minutes on enemy movement or on areas in which the enemy is reported. To facilitate this, the distance between the mortars and the fire controller should be reduced to a minimum. The mortars should be located to enable voice control, frequent changes of position being made to compensate for inadequate cover.

FRONTAGES. With "mobile" defence, the defenders can be moved out to meet the enemy and can concentrate their strength where it is most needed. With a mobile defence system a Bn can "cover" a frontage of a mile and can move its "frontage" to oppose a wide flanking movement or to deal with a frontal attack wherever it is needed.

SPEED. The most important factor to ensure success is speed - speed in detecting the enemy intentions, speed in passing information back, speed in moving out counter attacking parties, speed in bringing into play all available weapons, arty, mortars, aircraft etc, speed in reorganising the units which have become disorganised by battle.

SPEED demands that -

- (1) Men should be lightly clad and accoutred.
- (2) Men should be physically fit.
- (3) Communications should be perfect.
- (4) Officers should make quick decisions.
- (5) Perfect team work exists.
- (6) All men should be "on their toes" in readiness for instant action.

RESOLVE. All ranks must firmly resolve that not one man of the enemy shall pass through or round their position and that the enemy shall not only be stopped but be destroyed.

I N T E L L I G E N C E S U M M A R Y No 2
(Based on information received up to 0600 hrs 2 Sep 42.)

PART IOPERATIONS

(1) LAND During 29 Aug 2/10 Bn, who had been dispersed by enemy tanks the previous night, commenced its movement to our defended areas forward of No 3 Strip. This area was then being occupied by 25 Bn and 61 Bn. During evening of 29 Aug report of 1 enemy cruiser supported by 9 destroyers entering MILNE BAY. All units stood to in their defended localities.

This force subsequently withdrew without directing fire on our positions.

30 Aug our forces consolidating their positions forward of No 3 Strip. 2/10 Bn successfully reassembled within our main defences.

During night 30 Aug, enemy who had brought up light field pieces and M.M.Gs in front of No 3 Strip, commenced attack on 61 Bn front. The attack was unsuccessful and on morning 31 Aug, enemy dead, estimated at approx 50, were found.

On morning 31 Aug 2/12 Bn commenced push forward to K.B. MISSION. Slight opposition from sniping parties was met, but by night 31 Aug, forward troops had reached K.B. MISSION with rear elements at GAMA RIVER. Night 31 Aug enemy attack by approx 300 troops was made on our position at GAMA RIVER. Heavy casualties were inflicted on enemy, dead counted morning 1 Sep- 90.

1 Sep 2/12 Bn moved up rear coys to K.B. MISSION, occupying that position in force.

(2) SEA Night 29 Aug enemy force of 1 cruiser & 9 destroyers reported heading towards MILNE BAY. Sighting of possibly one destroyer during night 29/30, and R.A.A.F crash launch was sunk at approx 2145 hrs.

(3) AIR Continued strafing of enemy positions has been maintained by the Airforce. No action against enemy air forces to report.

PART II

(1) SUMMARY OF AIR RECONNAISSANCE.

One enemy recce plane sighted over this area 31 Aug. Engaged by AA fire. Our planes have engaged in air recce over a wide area.

(2) O of B
No positive information. Thought to be at least one Bn. of Marines operating against MILNE BAY.

(3) IDENTIFICATIONS
The second Battalion of A Marine Regiment. Possible that this unit may have originally been formed in FORMOSA.

(4) ORGANISATION
No reports.

(5) PERSONALITIES
NIL

(6) EQUIPMENT (Enemy)
Numbers of LMGs, 2 Light 37 mm field pieces, a heavy MG and many rifles have been captured. A flame thrower, mortar, mortar bombs, pistol, hand grenade, telescopic sight from tank, respirator, medical equipment and many other items including a bicycle are in our possession. Maps marked with enemy dispositions and several personal diaries have been taken from the enemy.

(7) TACTICS The enemy are adept at shamming dead for considerable periods of time, and on our troops approaching close, will then attack. It is essential, therefore, that any enemy seen lying on the ground, whether thought to be dead or wounded, are dealt with immediately. Quantities of enemy have been encountered in the tops of coconut trees from which position they snipe at our troops. Bushes from long grass and scrub are frequent.

ayuw Lieut.
O. 18 Aust Inf Bde.

Not to be published

ROUTINE ORDERS

by

Brig M.J. MOTEN, DSO, ED

COMMANDING 17 AUST INF BDE

No 1.

4 Sep 42

'G'

1. CENSORSHIP

1. Investigations and reports from District Censors show that Franking Officers are NOT carrying out their duties as laid down in Army Fd Censorship Instn No. 22.
2. The large amount of uncensored mail posted in civil post boxes indicates that Security Officers in units and formations have NOT succeeded in impressing upon ALL ranks the need for security in correspondence.
3. Unit and Formation Security Officers will ensure that all Franking officers read and initial again Army Fd Censorship Instn No.22 and that every Franking Officer prepares, submits to the Security Officer for approval and then delivers a series of short talks to his tps explaining the censorship instns. These talks must also emphasise the need for security in correspondence and the grave consequences that may follow leakage of infm through faulty censorship.
4. Franking Officer will warn their tps that uncensored mail is liable to censorship interception at Base, that many instances of evasion of censorship are being detected every week, and the offenders punished, and that all future breaches of Censorship instns that are detected will be followed by disciplinary action.

(To be repeated in unit orders.)

2. LEAKAGE OF INFORMATION

1. A report has been received indicating leakages of information **through advance parties of tps on the move, who inform hotelkeepers and tobacconists of the number of tps about to arrive, in order to ensure adequate supplies of beer and tobacco. The danger of such disclosures is obvious. COs will warn advance parties accordingly.**
2. Adequate arrangements can be made, if unit commanders maintain close liaison with A.D.C.S. representatives for the supply by canteens of beer, tobacco etc, to the tps immediately on arrival in a new area.
3. Steps must be taken to prevent disclosures of movements by advance parties except through official channels.

3. POSTAL ADDRESSES

1. The use of the indicators "AIF AUSTRALIA" and "HOME FORCES" in postal addresses will discontinue forthwith. In future the address for correspondence (including telegrams) for members of units of the FIELD ARMY serving in AUSTRALIA or its territories (i.e. New Guinea and Papua) will comprise :-

- (i) Army Number
- (ii) Rank
- (iii) Name
- (iv) Squadron, battery, company or other sub-unit
- (v) Unit (i.e. regiment, battalion etc.)

(vi) The indicator "AUSTRALIA".

Mail matter and telegrams for personnel of units comprising FIXED DEFENCE TRAINING UNITS, HOSPITALS, and other STATIONERY ESTABLISHMENTS, will continue to be addressed to place names as hitherto.

2. The attention of all Franking Officers will be specially drawn to para 2. of Appendix "C" to Army Field Censorship Instruction No 22. It is of the utmost importance that the correct military address of the writer be shown at the head of all correspondence from members of the forces. The unit title should be shown in full but, where abbreviations are used only those authorised will be permitted.

4.

Cap
Op. Lapina Major
 B.M. 17 AUST INF BDE

"A" & "Q"4. CIVIL EMPLOYMENT

1. All personnel enlisted in the Forces are debarred, while serving, from engaging in civil occupation in any capacity.
2. Attention in this regard is drawn to MBI A167 of 15 Dec 41, the contents of which will be promulgated to all unit personnel.
3. Disciplinary action will be taken against offenders by COs where this instruction is being disobeyed.

5. CONSERVATION OF PAPER

1. All concerned, will in view of the excessive demands on stationery, ensure that both sides of the paper are used, not only for ordinary correspondence, but for cyclostyled matter as well.
2. A margin of not less than 3/4-in will be left at top, bottom and sides of all written matter.

6. RESTRICTIONS IN RELATION TO THE POSSESSION AND CONSUMPTION OF LIQUOR, VIC L of C AREA

1. Except as provided in para 2 hereof, no member of the Australian Military Forces when in uniform shall :-
 - (a) In any public place; or
 - (b) In any doorway or vestibule opening on to any public place or to which access may be gained from any public place; or
 - (c) In any highway or public road; or
 - (d) In any vacant land adjacent to a park or public reserve; or
 - (e) On any part of a park or recreation reserve; or
 - (f) In any public conveyance,
 consume any intoxicating liquor or have in his possession any intoxicating liquor contained in a bottle or a container of any description.
2. Nothing in this Order shall prevent :-
 - (a) The consumption of liquor upon licensed premises in accordance with the State Liquor Laws or upon the premises of any Naval, Military or Air Force Institute, Mess or Canteen in accordance with the regulations and Orders applying to such Institute, Mess or Canteen; or
 - (b) the supply or possession of liquor contained in a bottle or any other container to or by any such Institute, Mess or Canteen in the ordinary course of its lawful business.

...../7

7. MISSING RIFLE No. 96859

1. A check will be made by each unit of rifles on charge or in possession with a view to recovery of this rifle.
2. Discovery to be reported to HQ, Lof C (VIC) AREA, and the rifle to be returned to COO, 4 AOD.

8. 4-GALLON DRUM WASHERS

Heavy demands are being received for washers for Army 4-gallon drums. Unfortunately, an acute shortage of suitable material to manufacture washers makes it impossible to deliver full demands. Every possible source is being investigated for substitute material suitable for washer production. In the meantime however, all units must make every effort to conserve the life of all types of drum washers and to see that no wastage occurs.

9. MOTOR CAR SPEED RESTRICTIONS ORDER - ARMY COMPLIANCE

1. Attention is directed to the Order of the Premier of Victoria made under Sec. 35 (A) of the National Security (General) Regulations restricting Motor Car Speed to twenty miles per hour between sunset and sunrise upon any public highway in Victoria. :
 - (a) within 100 miles of the coast line.
 - (b) within the cities and town of BENDIGO, BENALLA, EAGLEHAWK HORSHAM, INGLEWOOD, ROCHESTER, SHEPPARTON, WANGARATTA and WODONGA;
 - (c) within 5 miles of the railway between BENALLA and River Murray.
2. Contravention of the Order is an offence under the National Security Act.

10. RETURN OF PERSONNEL FROM AWL - REPORTING OF

1. Attention is drawn to the fact that units are failing to report the return of personnel who have been shown on absentee returns; or for whom warrants for arrest have been issued.
2. The weekly absentee return required to be submitted to APM and to DRO will include such information which will also be submitted to DRO on Casualty Returns.

11. COURTS OF INQUIRY ON PRISONERS OF WAR

1. With reference to AMR&O 701 relative to the above matter, action is to be taken, as soon as practicable after his return, to assemble a Court of Inquiry on any officer or soldier whose place of enlistment is within VIC L of C AREA and who is repatriated as a prisoner of war.
2. In all cases the proceedings will be forwarded to LHQ.

12. PROTECTED ANIMALS, BIRDS AND PLANTS

1. From reports received it appears that in some cases protected animals birds and plants are being destroyed by troops.
2. Except in emergency, all ranks will observe the laws of the States and Territories of the Commonwealth relating to the protection of animals birds and plants.
3. This R.O. will be published in all Unit ROs.

13. MISSING RIFLE NO. 79651 - SEARCH AND REPORT

1. A check will be made by each unit of all rifles on charge or in possession with a view to recovery of this rifle.
2. Discovery to be reported to HQ VIC L of C area and rifle to be returned to COO, 4 AOD.

14. WASTE OF RATIONS

1. Attention of COs is drawn to the absolute necessity of conserving food ..

They will ensure that Orderly Officers inspect garbage tins daily just prior to their removal by the Salvage Squad. Any waste disclosed will be immediately rectified by underdrawals of the commodity concerned.

2. Salvage authorities will submit reports to this HQ immediately any waste is disclosed.
3. QMs will be notified as early as possible of any variations in strengths. Special care will be taken to notify the QM of the number of personnel proceeding on leave in time to allow for the necessary adjustment on the ration indent.
4. COs will inspect Ration Stores at least once a week and will check any hoarding of rations. Any excess stocks will be immediately ~~withdrawn~~ reduced by underdrawals of the commodities concerned.

15. UNIT LOCATION STRENGTH AND ACCOMMODATION

1. Reference VIC L of C AREA, RO 209/42, Appendix 11, sufficient attention is not being paid to Cols "l", "m" and "n" (Tentage)
2. Col. "n" should be the total of cols. "l" and "m" and when this is not so, the reason, such as "Tents U.S.", "Tents on loan to....." etc is to be shown in Col. "o" (Remarks).

16. OBSERVATION OF TRAFFIC LAWS BY DRIVERS OF MILITARY VEHS - LAXITY IN

1. Recent reports indicate considerable laxity in the observance of Traffic Laws by drivers of Military Vehicles.
2. The following irregularities have been observed.:
 - (a) Bad or questionable behaviour of some Military personnel towards Police Officers.
 - (b) Speeding in the "brown out"
 - (c) Excessive speeding on both suburban and country roads.
 - (d) Laxity in the screening of lights on Army Vehicles, particularly AIF vehicles. (Instructions contained in MBI 015/42 and Mechanization Circular No. 302 still operate and must be strictly adhered to)¹/₂
 - (e) Parking in streets at night for long periods. (This is contrary to the traffic law laid down by the State Civil Authorities).
3. The offence indicated in (b), (c), (d) and (e) above, are prevalent; and requisite steps will be taken forthwith to prevent them, as well as to prevent the unsatisfactory behaviour referred to in (a).
4. COs of all units must personally see that every driver is fully conversant with the instructions laid down in connection with both Military and State Civil Traffic Laws.

17. IDENTITY DISCS

Units will carry out an inspection and submit a report to this HQ by 1200 hrs 9 Sep 42 showing deficiencies.

The need for wearing identity discs at all times will be stressed to all ranks and snap inspections will be held to ensure that this is done.

18. PROCEDURE FOR COMMITMENT OF SOLDIERS SENTENCED TO DETENTION OR IMPRISONMENT

1. (a) Soldiers sentenced to less than 14 days detention will serve their sentences under unit arrangements.
(b) Soldiers sentenced to 14 days or more detention will serve their sentences either at GEELONG or BENDIGO Detention Barracks - which ever is nearer.
(c) Soldiers sentenced to Imprisonment with or without hard labour will be committed to a civil prison, unless orders to the contrary are given by the Confirming Authority.
2. (a) Commanding Officers outside the MELBOURNE Metropolitan Area before sending a soldier under sentence to a detention barracks, will signal the OC of that Detention Barrack to ascertain whether accommodation is available and the date such soldier may be received.

Except under special circumstances, the hours of admission shall be between 1000 hrs and 1600 hrs each day, except Sunday, Christmas Day and Good Friday, on which days admission will NOT be made.

- (b) Commanding Office s within the MELBOURNE Metropolitan Area will signal the OC Metropolitan Holding Centre, MELBOURNE, or phone F5010 or F5011 for information as above.

(NOTE - Metropolitan Holding Centre is NOT to be confused with ROYAL PARK Holding Yard.)

3. The forms and details given hereafter must be complied with :-

- (a) Form H (AMR&O Appx 111). Care must be taken to see that the name of the confirming authority is inserted. Without this the warrant is invalid. The warrant must be signed by the CO personally (signature for CO or by direction CO are not sufficient). The warrant if not signed by CO, must be personally signed by some other authority authorised to sign under AMR 353 (1) or by AMR&O 20.

- (b) A medical Officer's certificate of fitness or otherwise together with the authenticated description of the soldier is important and must be attached.

- (c) Conduct Sheet B122. Care should be taken that the award for which the soldier has been committed has been entered and that the date of the award corresponds with the date shown on the other committal forms.

- (d) Kit Inventory AFB 253. Every article of clothing or equipment which accompanies a soldier to Detention Barracks will be recorded. Soldiers must, on transfer by units to Detention Barracks, be fully equipped with "Marching Order", leather rifle, bayonet, scabbard, or other arms, knife fork spoon mess tin and blankets. Deficiency in any article should be made up before transfer. Units are reminded that kit inspections and cleanliness of articles or equipment form part of the disciplinary work carried out in Detention Barracks.

- (e) Every soldier committed by a unit shall bring :-

Brushes shaving	1	Razors and blades	1
" boot	2	Paste, tooth tube	1
" tooth	1	Soap toilet cakes	2
" Clothes	1	Soap common	1
" hair	1	Polish boot tin	

- (f) Soldiers undergoing detention are not permitted to smoke and all smoking materials are confiscated on arrival. A list of clothing and equipment accompanying the soldier will be attached to the warrant. AFB 253 may be used for this purpose.

- (g) Soldiers leaving detention barracks on expiration of their sentence will be properly clothed in uniform, an appropriate debit entry made in their paybooks for the replacements and deficiencies supplied.

- (h) PROVIDED ALWAYS that in cases of sentences of detention awarded by any Commanding Officer appointed within the meaning of AMR&O 389 the obligations to comply with the provisions of sub-para (c) of this paragraph (conduct sheet) shall be waived, and the obligation to the provisions of sub-paras (b), (d) and (e) respectively of this paragraph shall not rest upon such Commanding Officer, but shall rest as follows :-

as to sub-para (b) (Medical Inspection, etc) upon the OC Metropolitan Holding Centre;

as to sub-paras (d) and (e) (Kit Inventory, Clothing and Necessaries) upon the OC relative Detention Barracks.

4. FORMS TO ACCOMPANY SOLDIER SENTENCED TO DETENTION BY HIS CO

Save as mentioned in para 3, all undermentioned forms will be completed by the unit before the soldier is despatched to detention barracks :-

- (a) Form K (AMR&O APPX 111) The signature on this form will be that of the Commanding Officer personally. In the case of absence of CO, the form will be signed by another officer authorised by AMR&O 20. Form K will not be signed "for" the Commanding Officer.

- (b) Medical Certificate (see para 1 (b) above.)

(c) Conduct Sheet Bl22 (see para 1 (c) above)

(d) Kit Inventory AFB 253 (see para 1 (d)) above)

5. COMMITTAL FOR SAFE CUSTODY

- (a) Soldiers under arrest, pending trial by Court Martial or awaiting confirmation of sentence, are NOT to be committed to Detention Barracks for safe custody except as a special case, authority for which must be obtained from GOC VIC L of C AREA. Instead, they will be held under unit arrangements.
- (b) The following forms will be completed by the unit before the soldier is despatched to the Detention Barracks :-
- (a) Form S (AMR&O Appx 111)
- (b) Medical Certificate (see para 1 (b) above)
- (c) Kit Inventory AFB 253 (see para 1 (d) above).

Capt
S.C. 17 AUST INF BDE

DISTRIBUTION

2/2 Aust Fd Regt	6
2/8 Aust Fd Coy	4
2 Coy A.A.S.C.	4
2/5 Aust Inf Bn	6
2/6 Aust Inf Bn	6
2/7 Aust Inf Bn	6
K Sec Sigs	1
46 Aust LAD	1
2/2 Aust Fd Amb	4
Comd	1
B.M.	1
S.C.	1
I.O.	1
T.O.	1
LO 1	1
LO 2	1
LO 3	1
Amen O	1
6 Aust Div	1
HQ AIF Base Area	1
War Diary	3
File	1

Not to be published

ROUTINE ORDERS

by

Brig M.J. MOTEN, DSO, ED

COMMANDING 17 AUST INF BDE

No 1.

4 Sep 42

!G!

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(vi) The indicator "AUSTRALIA".

Mail matter and telegrams for personnel of units comprising FIXED DEFENCE TRAINING UNITS, HOSPITALS, and other STATIONERY ESTABLISHMENTS, will continue to be addressed to place names as hitherto.

2. The attention of all Franking Officers will be specially drawn to para 2. of Appendix "C" to Army Field Censorship Instruction No 22. It is of the utmost importance that the correct military address of the writer be shown at the head of all correspondence from members of the forces. The unit title should be shown in full but, where abbreviations are used only those authorised will be permitted.

Cap
Cap Major
 B.M. 17 AUST INF BDE

"A" & "Q"4. CIVIL EMPLOYMENT

1. All personnel enlisted in the Forces are debarred, while serving, from engaging in civil occupation in any capacity.
2. Attention in this regard is drawn to MBI A167 of 15 Dec 41, the contents of which will be promulgated to all unit personnel.
3. Disciplinary action will be taken against offenders by COs where this instruction is being disobeyed.

5. CONSERVATION OF PAPER

1. All concerned, will in view of the excessive demands on stationery, ensure that both sides of the paper are used, not only for ordinary correspondence, but for cyclostyled matter as well.
2. A margin of not less than 3/4-in will be left at top, bottom and sides of all written matter.

6. RESTRICTIONS IN RELATION TO THE POSSESSION AND CONSUMPTION OF LIQUOR, VIC I. OF C AREA

1. Except as provided in para 2 hereof, no member of the Australian Military Forces when in uniform shall :-
 - (a) In any public place; or
 - (b) In any doorway or vestibule opening on to any public place or to which access may be gained from any public place; or
 - (c) In any highway or public road; or
 - (d) In any vacant land adjacent to a park or public reserve; or
 - (e) On any part of a park or recreation reserve; or
 - (f) In any public conveyance,
 consume any intoxicating liquor or have in his possession any intoxicating liquor contained in a bottle or a container of any description.
2. Nothing in this Order shall prevent :-
 - (a) The consumption of liquor upon licensed premises in accordance with the State Liquor Laws or upon the premises of any Naval, Military or Air Force Institute, Mess or Canteen in accordance with the regulations and Orders applying to such Institute, Mess or Canteen; or
 - (b) the supply or possession of liquor contained in a bottle or any other container to or by any such Institute, Mess or Canteen in the ordinary course of its lawful business.

7. MISSING RIFLE No. 96859

1. A check will be made by each unit of rifles on charge or in possession with a view to recovery of this rifle.
2. Discovery to be reported to HQ, Lof C (VIC) AREA, and the rifle to be returned to COO, 4 AOD.

8. 4-GALLON DRUM WASHERS

Heavy demands are being received for washers for Army 4-gallon drums. Unfortunately, an acute shortage of suitable material to manufacture washers makes it impossible to deliver full demands. Every possible source is being investigated for substitute material suitable for washer production. In the meantime however, all units must make every effort to conserve the life of all types of drum washers and to see that no wastage occurs.

9. MOTOR CAR SPEED RESTRICTIONS ORDER - ARMY COMPLIANCE

1. Attention is directed to the Order of the Premier of Victoria made under Sec. 35 (A) of the National Security (General) Regulations restricting Motor Car Speed to twenty miles per hour between sunset and sunrise upon any public highway in Victoria. :

- (a) within 100 miles of the coast line.
- (b) within the cities and town of BENDIGO, BENALLA, EAGLEHAWK HORSHAM, INGLEWOOD, ROCHESTER, SHEPPARTON, WANGARATTA and WODONGA;
- (c) within 5 miles of the railway between BENALLA and River Murray.

2. Contravention of the Order is an offence under the National Security Act.

10. RETURN OF PERSONNEL FROM AWL - REPORTING OF

1. Attention is drawn to the fact that units are failing to report the return of personnel who have been shown on absentee returns; or for whom warrants for arrest have been issued.
2. The weekly absentee return required to be submitted to APM and to DRO will include such information which will also be submitted to DRO on Casualty Returns.

11. COURTS OF INQUIRY ON PRISONERS OF WAR

1. With reference to AMR&O 701 relative to the above matter, action is to be taken, as soon as practicable after his return, to assemble a Court of Inquiry on any officer or soldier whose place of enlistment is within VIC L of C AREA and who is repatriated as a prisoner of war.
2. In all cases the proceedings will be forwarded to LHQ.

12. PROTECTED ANIMALS, BIRDS AND PLANTS

1. From reports received it appears that in some cases protected animals birds and plants are being destroyed by troops.
2. Except in emergency, all ranks will observe the laws of the States and Territories of the Commonwealth relating to the protection of animals birds and plants.
3. This R.O. will be published in all Unit ROs.

13. MISSING RIFLE NO. 79651 - SEARCH AND REPORT

1. A check will be made by each unit of all rifles on charge or in possession with a view to recovery of this rifle.
2. Discovery to be reported to HQ VIC L of C area and rifle to be returned to COO, 4 AOD.

14. WASTE OF RATIONS

1. Attention of COs is drawn to the absolute necessity of conserving food ..

They will ensure that Orderly Officers inspect garbage tins daily just prior to their removal by the Salvage Squad. Any waste disclosed will be immediately rectified by underdrawals of the commodity concerned.

2. Salvage authorities will submit reports to this HQ immediately any waste is disclosed.
3. QMs will be notified as early as possible of any variations in strengths. Special care will be taken to notify the QM of the number of personnel proceeding on leave, in time to allow for the necessary adjustment on the ration indent.
4. COs will inspect Ration Stores at least once a week and will check any hoarding of rations. Any excess stocks will be immediately ~~wikxwraww~~ reduced by underdrawals of the commodities concerned.

15. UNIT LOCATION STRENGTH AND ACCOMMODATION

1. Reference VIC L of C AREA, RO 209/42, Appendix 11, sufficient attention is not being paid to Cols "l", "m" and "n" (Tentage)
2. Col. "n" should be the total of cols. "l" and "m" and when this is not so, the reason, such as "Tents U.S.", "Tents on loan to....." etc is to be shown in Col. "o" (Remarks).

16. OBSERVATION OF TRAFFIC LAWS BY DRIVERS OF MILITARY VEHS - LAXITY IN

1. Recent reports indicate considerable laxity in the observance of Traffic Laws by drivers of Military Vehicles.
2. The following irregularities have been observed:
 - (a) Bad or questionable behaviour of some Military personnel towards Police Officers.
 - (b) Speeding in the "brown out"
 - (c) Excessive speeding on both suburban and country roads.
 - (d) Laxity in the screening of lights on Army Vehicles, particularly AIF vehicles. (Instructions contained in MBI 015/42 and Mechanization Circular No. 302 still operate and must be strictly adhered to) $\frac{1}{2}$
 - (e) Parking in streets at night for long periods. (This is contrary to the traffic law laid down by the State Civil Authorities).
3. The offence indicated in (b), (c), (d) and (e) above, are prevalent; and requisite steps will be taken forthwith to prevent them, as well as to prevent the unsatisfactory behaviour referred to in (a).
4. COs of all units must personally see that every driver is fully conversant with the instructions laid down in connection with both Military and State Civil Traffic Laws.

17. IDENTITY DISCS

Units will carry out an inspection and submit a report to this HQ by 1200 hrs 9 Sep 42 showing deficiencies.

The need for wearing identity discs at all times will be stressed to all ranks and snap inspections will be held to ensure that this is done.

18. PROCEDURE FOR COMMITMENT OF SOLDIERS SENTENCED TO DETENTION OR IMPRISONMENT

1. (a) Soldiers sentenced to less than 14 days detention will serve their sentences under unit arrangements.
(b) Soldiers sentenced to 14 days or more detention will serve their sentences either at GEELONG or BENDIGO Detention Barracks - which ever is nearer.
(c) Soldiers sentenced to Imprisonment with or without hard labour will be committed to a civil prison, unless orders to the contrary are given by the Confirming Authority.
2. (a) Commanding Officers outside the MELBOURNE Metropolitan Area before sending a soldier under sentence to a detention barracks, will signal the OC of that Detention Barrack to ascertain whether accommodation is available and the date such soldier may be received.

Except under special circumstances, the hours of admission shall be between 1000 hrs and 1600 hrs each day, except Sunday, Christmas Day and Good Friday, on which days admission will NOT be made.

- (b) Commanding Officers within the MELBOURNE Metropolitan Area will signal the OC Metropolitan Holding Centre, MELBOURNE, or phone F5010 or F5011 for information as above.
(NOTE - Metropolitan Holding Centre is NOT to be confused with ROYAL PARK Holding Yard.)

3. The forms and details given hereafter must be complied with :-

- (a) Form H (AMR&O Appx 111). Care must be taken to see that the name of the confirming authority is inserted. Without this the warrant is invalid. The warrant must be signed by the CO personally (signature for CO or by direction CO are not sufficient); The warrant if not signed by CO, must be personally signed by some other authority authorised to sign under AMR 353 (1) or by AMR&O 20.
- (b) A Medical Officer's certificate of fitness or otherwise together with the authenticated description of the soldier is important and must be attached.
- (c) Conduct Sheet Bl22. Care should be taken that the award for which the soldier has been committed has been entered and that the date of the award corresponds with the date shown on the other committal forms.
- (d) Kit Inventory AFB 253. Every article of clothing or equipment which accompanies a soldier to Detention Barracks will be recorded. Soldiers must, on transfer by units to Detention Barracks, be fully equipped with "Marching Order", i.e. s rifle, bayonet, scabbard, or other arms, knife fork spoon mess tin and blankets. Deficiency in any article should be made up before transfer. Units are reminded that kit inspections and cleanliness of articles or equipment form part of the disciplinary work carried out in Detention Barracks.
- (e) Every soldier committed by a unit shall bring :-
- | | | | |
|-----------------|---|-------------------|---|
| Brushes shaving | 1 | Razors and blades | 1 |
| " boot | 2 | Paste, tooth tube | 1 |
| " tooth | 1 | Soap toilet cakes | 2 |
| " Clothes | 1 | Soap common | 1 |
| " hair | 1 | Polish boot tin | |
- (f) Soldiers undergoing detention are not permitted to smoke and all smoking materials are confiscated on arrival. A list of clothing and equipment accompanying the soldier will be attached to the warrant. AFB 253 may be used for this purpose.
- (g) Soldiers leaving detention barracks on expiration of their sentence will be properly clothed in uniform, an appropriate debit entry made in their paybooks for the replacements and deficiencies supplied.
- (h) PROVIDED ALWAYS that in cases of sentences of detention awarded by any Commanding Officer appointed within the meaning of AMR&O 389 the obligations to comply with the provisions of sub-para (c) of this paragraph (conduct sheet) shall be waived, and the obligation to the provisions of sub-paras (b), (d) and (e) respectively of this paragraph shall not rest upon such Commanding Officer, but shall rest as follows :-
- as to sub-para (b) (Medical Inspection, etc) upon the OC Metropolitan Holding Centre;
- as to sub-paras (d) and (e) (Kit Inventory, Clothing and Necessaries) upon the OC relative Detention Barracks.

4. FORMS TO ACCOMPANY SOLDIER SENTENCED TO DETENTION BY HIS CO

Save as mentioned in para 3, all undermentioned forms will be completed by the unit before the soldier is despatched to detention barracks :-

- (a) Form K (AMR&O APPX 111) The signature on this form will be that of the Commanding Officer personally. In the case of absence of CO, the form will be signed by another officer authorised by AMR&O 20. Form K will not be signed "for" the Commanding Officer.
- (b) Medical Certificate (see para 1 (b) above.

(c) Conduct Sheet Bl22 (see para 1 (c) above)

(d) Kit Inventory AFB 253 (see para 1 (d)) above)

5. COMMITTAL FOR SAFE CUSTODY

(a) Soldiers under arrest, pending trial by Court Martial or awaiting confirmation of sentence, are NOT to be committed to Detention Barracks for safe custody except as a special case, authority for which must be obtained from GOC VIC L of C AREA. Instead, they will be held under unit arrangements.

(b) The following forms will be completed by the unit before the soldier is despatched to the Detention Barracks :-

- (a) Form S (AMR&O Appx 111)
- (b) Medical Certificate (see para 1 (b) above)
- (c) Kit Inventory AFB 253 (see para 1 (d) above).

A. Chapman Capt
S.C. 17 AUST INF BDE

DISTRIBUTION

2/2 Aust Fd Regt	6
2/8 Aust Fd Coy	4
2 Coy A.A.S.C.	4
2/5 Aust Inf Bn	6
2/6 Aust Inf Bn	6
2/7 Aust Inf Bn	6
K Sec Sigs	1
46 Aust LAD	1
2/2 Aust Fd Amb	4
Comd	1
B.M.	1
S.C.	1
I.O.	1
T.O.	1
LO 1	1
LO 2	1
LO 3	1
Amen O	1
6 Aust Div	1
HQ AIF Base Area	1
War Diary	3
File	1

WPI

SECRET.

Copy No. 19.

Date.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

17 AUST INF BDE O. O. No. 4

Issued with Appxs. A to J

REF MAP CEYLON 1 in - 4 miles.

I N F O R M A T I O N.

1. ENEMY

(a) The enemy may land anywhere on the coast of CEYLON, but during the West Monsoon conditions will be difficult between TANGALLA (178057) and COLOMBO, except at BERUWALA (081114). Difficult conditions will NOT prevent the Japanese from attempting a landing at points of strategical and tactical importance.

(b) The most likely enemy objectives in CEYLON are COLOMBO and TRINCOMLEE. The Japanese are unlikely to make a direct attack on these fortified areas, but will probably attempt to establish one or more beachheads as a base for land operations. Other probable immediate objectives will be aerodromes in the vicinity of landing areas.

(c) Details of possible landing places in BDE GP SECTOR are contained in Appx B. It is considered that danger spots on coast (i.e. points most suitable for beachheads) are GALLE, WELIGAMA (134052) TANGALLA (178057) and pts on beach between GURUPOKUNA (195066) and WELIFETANWILA (204067).

(d) The only aerodrome in Bde Gp SECTOR is at KOGGALA LAKE. This is only suitable for flying boats and seaplanes. It would be possible to land aircraft at 197068, 198066, 198068, 202067, 210069. These areas will not be greatly affected by S.W. Monsoon but much labour would be necessary before above could be considered safe landing grounds

(e) A JAPANESE landing may be assisted by paratps dropped for the purpose of neutralising vital centres, such as aerodromes and amn dumps or of seizing vulnerable points with the object of cutting L of C.

2. OWN TROOPS.

(a) For defensive purposes CEYLON is divided into 4 areas of responsibility.

<u>AREA</u>	<u>FORMATION RESPONSIBLE</u>
i. CBO BASE AREA	BASE AREA TPS
ii. TRN FORTRESS	TRN FORTRESS TPS
iii. S.W. SECTOR	A.I.F. CEYLON
iv. REMAINDER OF ISLAND	34 IND DIV

(b) Role of A.I.F. (CEYLON)

To defend S.W. SECTOR of CEYLON and repel any enemy landing in that sector.

(c) S.W. SECTOR of CEYLON is divided as follows:-

<u>AREA</u>	<u>BDE GP RESP.</u>
i. NORTHERN	16 AUST INF BDE GP
ii. SOUTHERN	17 AUST INF BDE GP.

(d) BOUNDARIES (See also Appx A)

AIF.

- i. All incl from sea to MORATUWA (0614) lines of MAHA OYA - PALANNORUWA (084147) KOTIGALA (100151) - KURUWITA (127148) - THALAMURUTTA (145143) - UDAGAMA (165142) - AJUTHUWARA (173138) - KALTOTA (189135) - line WABAWE GANGA - AMBALANTOTA (205069) to the sea.

(See also Appx A) BOUNDARIES (b)

- ii. Inter- Bde Gp.

All incl to 16 AUST INF BDE GP, from sea to BENTOTA (083107) line of BENTOTA GANGA - UHLNOWITA (112098) - HABARAKADA (122098) - DENIYAYA (150097) - SYMBALAGODA (196083)

- (e) Operational dispositions of both BDE GPs and prepared res posns are set out diagrammatically in trace. Appx A. Limited distribution.

- (f) An armoured train under comd of AIF (CEYLON) may be sent SOUTH as far as R.H. MATARA (148049) to oppose an enemy landing.

- (g) Order of Battle, 17 AUST INF BDE Gp. incl additional tps under comd. See Appx C.

3. COMMUNICATIONS

(a) ROADS.

- i. BDE L of C for operations will be on the rd CBO - RATNAPURA (132138) MADAMPE (154119) - AKURESSA. The section HAYLS (162099) - LAUDERDALE (158106) is at present C 2, but is being improved to B 1. Completion is anticipated by the commencement of the S.S. Monsoon.

- ii. The coast route CBO - GALLE is A 1 but most vulnerable to seaward attack.

- iii. Within the BDE GP rd AKURESSA - IMMADAWA (129059) - GALLE forms the only link between Bde Gp H.Q. and units other than via the vulnerable coast rd. It is essential that this rd be kept open.

- iv. All of the above rds contain many defiles and strict traffic control will be necessary.

- v. Main laterals within the SOUTHERN AREA suitable for M.T. are set out in Appx A.

4. INTENTION.

17 AUST INF BDE will defend the SOUTHERN AREA of A.I.F. SECTOR.

5. PRINCIPLE.

The basis of BDE GP defensive plan is that after allotting the minimum force for static defence of KOGGALA AERODROME and GALLE HARBOUR, remainder will be held in mob res, in readiness to move with the utmost despatch to attack the enemy before he can establish a beachhead or consolidate and exploit an air-borne attack.

6. GROUPING AND TASKS.

(a) 2/5 AUST INF BN GP.

Comd. Lt col. P. D. STARR 2/5 AUST INF BN
Tps

- i. Mobile Res.
2/5 Aust Inf Bn less one Coy.
with under comd
3 Bty 2/2 Aust Fd Regt ~~1 Coy one sec~~
one Sec 2/8 Aust Fd Coy (when sub allotted
by this H.Q.)
det 2/2 Aust Fd Amb.
- ii. Static - FORT GALLE.
→ One Coy 2/5 Aust Inf Bn
with under comd for close def of FORT.
KENT BTY 1 Coast Regt R. N.
All military and R.A.F. personnel in FORT.

TASKS.

- i. Primary. To defend GALLE HARBOUR.
- ii. Secondary To be prepared to operate mob res for a more extensive task if ordered by this H.Q.

DIRECTIVE.

Probable role of mob res will be to strike at any enemy force attempting to land or landed in the area between GALLE and BELWOTA.

(b) 2/6 AUST INF BN GP.

Comd. Lt col F. G. WOOD 2/6 AUST INF BN
Tps
2/6 AUST INF BN
147/43 Lt AA Bty R.A.
4 Bty 2/2 Aust Fd Regt.
A Tp 1 Aust A/Tk Regt
One Sec 2/8 Aust Fd Coy (when allotted by this H.Q.)
det 2/2 Aust Fd Amb.

TASK

To defend KOGGALA AERODROME.

DIRECTIVE.

- i. Comd 2/6 Aust Inf Bn Gp in consultation with R.A.F. station Comd will originate the plan for both static and mob def KOGGALA AERODROME.
- ii. 147/43 Lt AA Bty R.A., not more than two Coys inf plus proportion of ancilliary tps will be allotted as "Static aerodrome def tps"
- iii. On notification of first state of readiness Static aerodrome Defence Tps will come under operational comd of the RAF station Comd.
- iv. Comd 2/6 Aust Inf Bn will appoint a senior offr to act as adviser to RAF station Comd and to comd static aerodrome def tps in his absence on a mob role.

(c) 2/7 AUST INF BN GP.

Comd. Lt col. H. G. GUINN 2/7 Aust Inf Bn
Tps
2/7 Aust Inf Bn
52 Bty 2/2 Aust Fd Regt
One Sec 2/8 Aust Fd Coy (when sub allotted by this H.Q.)

with under comd one sec 3 Bty 2/2 Aust Fd Regt

TASKS.

- i. Brigade Reserve.
- ii. To prepare defensive posns upon likely lines of enemy advance, and in particular on Rd : MADAMPE (155119) - AKURESSA (139067) to prevent enemy movement on to the rd MADAMPE - AKURESSA by approaches leading in from EAST and S.E. in the following areas:-

AKURESSA.
KOTAPOLA (148091)
BULUTOTA PASS (158112)

7. B N. B O U N D A R I E S. (a) i. Incl to 2/6 Aust Inf Bn, from coast to Rd junct. 117055, rd through juncs 116057-117057-116060-118066-114063 - UDUG.M. FERRY 122082 - line of GIN GANGA to Ferry 121092
- ii. Incl to 2/7 Aust Inf Bn. Coast at 133050 - bend in ry 133051, ry line to rd-ry junc 134052, rd to br 135054 - line POLWATTA - GANGA to river junc 126066 - line of river to 131067, line NORTH through trig pt 131070 to trig pt 131084 thence line to ferry 121092 and line of GINGANGA to inter-bde gp boundary.

- (b) Within limits of unit boundaries, Bn Gps will be responsible for:-
- i. Patrols
 - ii. Recce
 - iii. Security
 - iv. Constn Rd Blocks
 - v. Constn Def posns and other fd wks.
 - vi. Coast watching supervision.
- AS ordered
by this
H.Q.

(c) These boundaries will NOT be taken to limit the possible movement of mob res as ordered by this H.Q.

8. M O V E M E N T of M O B R E S.

- (a) 2/5 and 2/6 Aust Inf Bn Gps will NOT move their mob elements without prior authority from this H.Q. unless such step becomes immediately necessary to implement their primary tasks.
- (b) 2/7 Aust Inf Bn Gp will move only on orders from this H.Q.
- (c) Tpt for tp carrying will be provided by No. 2 Coy ASC under orders from this H.Q.

9. F D. A R T Y

<u>TPS</u>	<u>UNDER COMMAND</u>	<u>LOCATION.</u>
2/2 Aust Fd Regt (less three btys)	Lt. col. W. E. CREMOR	AKURESSA
3 Fd Bty	2/5 Aust Inf Bn Gp	GALLE
4 Fd Bty	2/6 Aust Inf Bn Gp	KOGGALA
52 Fd Bty	2/7 Aust Inf Bn Gp	AKURESSA

10. C. D. A R T Y

(a) <u>TPS</u>	<u>UNDER COMMAND</u>	<u>LOCATION.</u>
KENT BTY R.M.	2/5 Aust Inf Bn Gp	GALLE

- (b) TASKS.
- i. Primary:- Coast Def
 - ii. Secondary:- Landward targets which can be engaged by direct fire.

11. A. A. (a) Tps Under Command Location

147/43 Lt AA Bty R.A.	2/6 Aust Inf Bn Gp	KOGGALA
-----------------------	--------------------	---------

(b) TASKS

- i. Primary:- A.A. protection KOGGALA aerodrome
- ii. Secondary:- A/Tk and beach def where siting of guns permits.

12. DIRECTIVE ON ARTY DISPOSED FOR DEF GALLE FORT, KOGGALA AERODROME and BEACHES.

- (a) Lt. col CREMOR will act as Arty adviser to Bde comd, and will co-ordinate fire plans of all Arty under Bde Comd.
- (b) Btys will keep Fd gun pits and alternative posns on coast already prepared, in a suitable condition for occupation.
- (c) Trace showing arcs of fire for each gun is att. as Appx D
- (d) Fd guns sited on beach will NOT open fire before target approaches within 2,500 yds of beach. For C.D. guns this distance will be 5,000 yds.
- (e) Guns will NOT fire on any other sector than their own excepting on order of Bn comd through Bty comd concerned.
- (f) A.A. gun posns will NOT be moved except by authority of this HQ.

13. ENGINEERS.

- (a) GENERAL. All units will be prepared to undertake Fd Engineering tasks within the scope of their capabilities. e.g. Rd blocks, A/Tk mine laying Bn etc shelters.
- (b) Units will continue direct liaison with fd sections in their area.
- (c) Demands for controlled Engineer stores will be made to this HQ.
- (d) Normal Engineer stores will be indented for through the nearest engineer unit.
- (e) On notification by HQ AIF that 2/8 Aust Fd Coy has been placed under comd 17 Aust Inf Bde, 2/8 Aust Fd Coy will immediately detach fd secs to join unit gps as per para 6. Fd sec areas will be reced in adv by comd 2/8 Aust Fd Coy and unit comds concerned.

14. DEMOLITIONS.

- (a) Authorised demolitions SOUTHERN AREA:- See appx E.
- (b) 2/8 Aust Fd Coy will hold in res completely prepared charges serially numbered for each demolition. As each sec comes under comd of a bn gp, it will take with it the charges for all demolitions in that Bn Gp area.
- (c) Orders by Code word (if allotted) to place and authorise firing of charges may be broadcast by BEETLE system or will be issued by this HQ to offrs delegated.
- (d) On receipt of code word (or order) charges will be placed and firing and covering parties will remain in posn. This code word (or order) will delegate authority to the offr responsible for ordering firing of demolitions as necessary.
- (e) First State of Readiness On announcement of 1st State Readiness, if orders have NOT already been issued, Offrs delegated will order all charges to be laid and make all preparation to fire. The code word or order when subsequently issued will delegate authority to order firing as in para d
- (f) Authorities delegated to order firing will be responsible for finding covering parties for engineer demolition parties where necessary.

15. MINE FIELDS.

- (a) i. Minefields around static defs will be planned immediately. Outline plans will be submitted to this HQ and when approved posn of each mine will be prepared or pegged. **These** minefields will be laid on notification of First state of readiness.
- ii: Other mine fields may be laid on order of Bn comds when immediately tactically necessary. This HQ and adjoining tps will be notified by "Immediate" Message.

(c) The above will be read in conjunction

with cc No 3035/4/8 of 8 June 42-

"Laying of mine-iii.
fields"

Subject to the foregoing, mines will be held in unit res until further orders from this H.Q.

- (b) Mines, whether laid as adjuncts to rd blocks or in minefields will be accurately plotted in relation to some local feature or benchmark, and plans will show full details, type, bearings and length of boundaries and distance, and bearings of corners of boundaries from selected datum, clearly enough for tps with no first hand knowledge of the area to be able to locate each individual mine.
- (c) Immediately a minefield is completed, plans as above in duplicate will be forwarded to this H.Q.
- (d) All minefields will be clearly marked and adequate safety precautions taken to protect both civilians and our own tps. A uniform system of marking of mine fields is to be laid down for all forces in CUYLON and will be advised to units later.

16. R O A D B L O C K S.

Schedule of Rd blocks and units responsible for constructing is set as Appx F.

17. F D WKS

- (a) All section and Pl def posns will be completed immediately for all round def, wired and camouflaged to enable tps to fight in any direction and live behind cover for at least fourteen days, if cut off.
- (b) Wire obstacles will be covered by fire, and be sited outside grenade throwing range of def posns.

18. V U L N E R A B L E P T S.

- (a) List of vulnerable pts and parties responsible for guarding is att as Appx G.
- (b) Responsibilities will commence upon notification of first state of readiness. Units will then also contact the senior police officer in their area and check operation of police responsibilities.

19. A N T I - P A R A T P S

- (a) Each Bn will maintain at least one anti-p.ratp lookout in its area. Strength:- One sec with L.M.G. or T.S.M.G.
- (b) 2/5 and 2/7 Aust Inf Bns, will each maintain a motorised patrol of one pl at 15 minutes notice to move on orders from this H.Q. This patrol will hold three days requirements in vehicles.

20. C O N S T W A T C H I N G

17 Aust Inf Bde O.O. No 3 stands subject to amendment para 16 delete "remains N.W. Corner FORT GALLE" substitute "AKURESSA"

21. S T A T E O F R E A D I N E S S

State of readiness which applies until further orders :-
See Appx H.

22. B I C Y C L E S.

- (a) Inf Bn Comds will obtain from civilian authorities list of bicycles registered in their area.
- (b) On notification of first state of readiness, Bns will commandeer all civilian bicycles within close proximity

of their positions. Coys will hold "Bicycle Receipt Forms" which will be given to the persons from whom the bicycles are taken and a register will be kept at Coy H.Q.

23. A N T I - G A S.

On notification of second state of readiness, respirators will be carried on the man, unless otherwise ordered by this H.Q.

A D M

24. A separate order will be issued.

I N T E R C O M M

25. Sig diagram see Appx I

26. BEETLE System of warning :- see appx J

27. BDE H. Q. AKURESSA (397683)

A C K N O W L E D G E.

Mansfield

Maj.
B. M. 17 AUST INF BDE GP.

Signed at 1500 hrs

Issued through Sigs
at hrs.

DISTRIBUTION:- See over.

APPX D will be issued later.

DISTRIBUTION

COPY NOS
APPENDIX

DISTRIBUTED TO

O O No :-

4. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J.

Kent Bty R.M.	1.		1.	1.				1.	1.	1.
147/43 Lt A.A. Bty R.A.	2.		2.					2.	2.	2.
2/2 Aust Fd Regt	3.	1.	1.	3.	2.	1.	1.	1.	3.	3.
2/8 Aust Fd Coy	4.	2.	2.	4.		2.	2.	2.	4.	4.
2/5 Aust Inf Bn	5.	3.	3.	5.	3.	3.	3.	3.	5.	5.
2/6 Aust Inf Bn	6.	4.	4.	6.	4.	4.	4.	4.	6.	6.
2/7 Aust Inf Bn	7.	5.	5.	7.	5.	5.	5.	5.	7.	7.
2 Coy A.A.S.C.	8.			8.				6.	8.	8.
2/2 Aust Fd Amb	9.			9.				9.	9.	9.
6 Rec Sec 2/2 Aust Army Fd Work-Shops	10.			10.				7.	10.	10.
E Div Sec 1 Aust Ord Fd Park	11.			11.				8.	11.	11.
Det 4 A.G.H.	12.			12.				12.	12.	12.
H.Q. AIF (CEYLON)	13.	6.	6.	13.	6.	6.	6.	9.	13.	13.
16 Aust Inf Bde	14.	7.	7.	14.		7.	7.	10.	14.	14.
99 Ind Inf Bde	15.	8.	8.	15.		8.	8.	11.	15.	15.
R.A.F. KOGGALA	16.		9.	16.				16.	16.	13.
Comd	17.	9.	10.	17.	7.	9.	9.	12.	17.	17.
B.M.	18.	10.	11.	18.	8.	10.	10.	13.	18.	18.
S.C.	19.	11.		19.				11.	14.	19.
Handing Overfile	20.	12.	12.	20.	9.	11.	12.	15.	20.	20.
File	21.			21.		12.	13.	16.	21.	21.
War Diary	22.	13.		22.	10.	13.	14.	17.	22.	22.
	23.			23.					23.	19.
	24.			24.					24.	
Spare	25.	14.	15.	25.	14.	15.	18.	23.	23.	20.
	26.			26.		15.	16.	19.	24.	24.

APPX C to 17 AUST INF BDE O No 4.

SECRET

ORDER OF BATTLE --- 17 AUST INF BDE GROUP

as at 1800 hrs 20 MAY 42.

Ref Map - CEYLON 4" - 1 Mile

<u>FORMATION OR UNIT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>MAP REF</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
H Q 17 Aust Inf Bde	AKURESSA	139068	
K Sec Sigs - 6 Aust Div.	"	"	
46 Aust L A D	"	"	
5 Pl Aust H Q Gd Bn.	"	"	
<u>ARTY</u>			
Kent Bty, R.M.	GALLE FORT	108059	
147/43 Lt AA Bty R.A.	Rd GALLE - WELIGAMA (73 Mile Post)	109060	
2/2 Aust Fd Regt (Less 3 Btys)	AKURESSA	139067	
F Sec Sigs - 6 Aust Div	"	"	
40 Aust L A D	"	139061	
3 Bty	Watering Pt	112058	Under Comd 2/5 Aust Inf Bn.
4 Bty	KOGGALA	125053 125057	" " 2/6 " " "
52 Bty	Rd WELIGAMA - MATARA (96 Mile Post).	139048	" " 2/7 " " "
A Tp 1 Bty 1 Aust A/Tk Regt	KOGGALA	121055	" " 2/6 " " "
<u>R.A.E.</u>			
2/8 Aust Fd Coy	AKURESSA	139067	To be placed under Comd 17 Aust Inf Bde Gp H.Q. by A.I.F. CEYLON.
<u>INFANTRY</u>			
2/5 Aust Inf Bn	WATERINGPT.	112058	
2/6 " " "	KOGGALA	125057	
2/7 " " "	AKURESSA	138065	
17 Aust Inf Bde Tng Bn	HULANDAWA	137075 140079	
<u>A.A.S.C.</u>			
2 Coy A A S C	Rd AKURESSA HULANDAWA	140072	
<u>MED.</u>			
2/2 Aust Fd Amb.	AKURESSA	139068	
2 Aust Dental Unit	FORT GALLE	108058	
<u>MISC.</u>			
Det Postal Unit - 6 Aust Div	AKURESSA	139068	
Det Finance Sec 6 Aust Div	"	"	
Det Pro Coy 6 Aust Div	FORT GALLE	108058	

FORMATION OR UNIT LOCATION MAP REF REMARKS

IN SUPPORT

Det 4 A.G.H.

DEEGALA
AREA

137075

6 Rec Sec 2/2 Aust
Fd Workshops

Rd AKURESSA
- HULANDAWA

139076

Ord Fd Park

Rd GALLE
MILE POST

R.M.

AKURESSA

MILE POST

139077

139078

139079

139080

139081

139082

139083

139084

139085

139086

139087

139088

139089

139090

139091

139092

SECRET

COPY No. 11.....

APPX F to 17 AUST INF BDE O.O. No. 4.

- ROAD BLOCKS -

<u>SERIAL</u> <u>No</u>	<u>MAP REF</u>	<u>UNIT RESPONSIBLE</u> <u>FOR CONSTRUCTION</u>	<u>SERIAL</u> <u>No.</u>	<u>MAP REF</u>	<u>UNIT RESPONSIBLE</u> <u>FOR CONSTRUCTION</u>
1.	483934	2/7 Bn.	44a.	293508	2/6 Bn.
2.	515907	"	45.	286556	"
2a.	"	"	46.	282571	"
2b.	559836	"	47.	297594	"
2c.	551810	"	47a.	267592	"
3.	537746	"	48.	254566	"
4.	514647	"	49.	246524	"
5.	508615	"	50.	230529	"
5a.	505614	"	50a.	232530	"
6.	448607	"	56.	195543	"
6a.	453612	"	57.	183543	"
6b.	452547	"	58.	173576	"
7.	446618	"	59.	176493	"
8.	444614	"	60.	139553	2/5 Bn.
9.	424638	"	61.	133557	"
12.	407668	"	62.	133564	"
13.	427667	"	63.	128572	"
14.	406690	"	64.	135575	"
15.	442708	"	66.	125577	"
16.	390651	"	67.	119583	"
17.	390630	"	67a.	119582	"
17a.	393630	"	68.	114589	"
18.	383613	"	69.	108593	"
18a.	383613	"	69a.	108592	"
19.	409647	"	71.	099611	"
20.	412637	"	72.	086621	"
20a.	414634	"	73.	103593	"
21.	412617	"	73a.	087587	"
22.	431599	"	74.	085621	"
23.	504592	"	75.	074616	"
24.	526573	"	76.	065600	"
25.	510567	"	76a.	085587	"
26.	487516	"	78.	033629	"
27.	488488	"	79.	025713	"
28.	476486	"	80.	995686	"
29.	475488	"	81.	976677	"
30.	425577	"	82.	945719	"
31.	424578	"	83.	944730	"
32.	416576	"	84.	921778	"
33.	409571	"	85.	901788	"
34.	384554	"			
35.	373495	"			
36.	381482	"			
37.	359554	"			
39.	348575	"			
40.	343572	"			
41.	323559	2/6 Bn.			
42.	328540	"			
43.	307541	"			
44.	277540	"			

For additions, see List of Amendments, alt.

PRIORITY	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	METHOD OF DEFENCE	RESPONSIBILITY OF	REMARKS.
1.	(316600) Rd GALLE-AKURESSA	Br	Standing Patrol	2/7 AUST INF BN	
2.	Rd AKURESSA-DENIYAYA (388771)	Br	Standing Patrol	17 BDE TNG UNIT	
3.	COAST RD-KOGGALA (230530)	Br & Spill	Standing Patrol	2/6 AUST INF BN	Necessary to guard both Br and outlet of spill
4.	Rd GALLE-AKURESSA		Regular Patrol	2/6 AUST INF BN GALLE to excl Br (316600) 2/7 AUST INF BN incl Br (316600) to AKURESSA.	Rd easily blocked by minor obstruction. Patrol to be equipped to deal with these.
5.	Rd AKURESSA-DENIYAYA		Regular Patrol	2/7 AUST INF BN	
6.	COAST RD at 034727	Br	Standing Patrol	2/5 AUST INF BN	These are only Brs over GIN GANG..
7.	BADDEGAMA (026755)	Br	Standing Patrol	2/5 AUST INF BN	
8.	F M C area on Rd AKURESSA-DENIYAYA	Dumps	Standing Patrol	2 COY ...SC	17 Bde Tng Unit to assist if instructed by H.Q. 17 AUST INF BDE.
9.	AKURESSA (403671)	Br	Patrol	2/7 AUST INF BN	Key pt in movement East from AKURESSA.
10.	GALLE FORT & WATERING R D F Stas PT PENINSULA			R. ... F.	
11.	COAST RD & Ry.	From BENTOTA to GALLE	Regular Patrol	2/5 AUST INF BN	Police stas on rd will assist in their respective districts.
12.	GALLE	Ry Sta	Patrol	Civil Police	
13.	COAST RD 372508	Br	Patrol	Civil Police	

PRIORITY	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	METHOD OF DEFENCE	RESPONSIBILITY OF	REMARKS.
14.	M.A.T.R. (487484)	By Br.	Patrol	Civil Police	
15.	Rd. M.A.T.R. - TIHOGODA (494531)	Do	Do	Do	
16.	T.NG.LL. (786584)	Do	Do	Do	
17.	M.B.A.N.TOT. (059698)	Do	Do	Do	
18.	G.LLE	Installations to Harbour.		Do	

Note:- ALL ref to CEYLON 1 inch to 1 mile.

APPX. H to 17 AUST INF BDE 0. 02 No. 4. STATES OF READINESS.

The defences of CEYLON will be brought to States of Readiness to meet varying liability to enemy attack by the issue of certain "Action Code Words". Details of these with action to be taken on each are set out below.

From date of receipt of this order it may be assumed that defences are at the "3rd State of Readiness" (WELLINGTON).

3rd State of Readiness.

1. CODE WORD. ... WELLINGTON

2. MEANING. ... No attack by enemy forces is expected within 12 hours.

3. ACTION. ... Leave may be granted up to a maximum of 5% of unit strengths provided they are within 12 hrs recall.

(a) A.A. 50% of all AA guns and of LMG's employed in an AA role will be permanently manned day. 50% of all AA guns will be permanently manned by night. The remainder of all AA guns and LMG's employed in an AA role will be at 30 minutes notice.

(b) Aerodrome Defence Tps. - All tps employed in aerodrome defence other than LMG's dealt with above will be at three hrs notice. Para 3 (a) applies also to these tps, of whom 5% may be on leave within 12 hrs recall.

(c) Coast Defence Guns. Examination Btys - instant readiness day and night.

(d) 6" Close Defence & A.M.T.B. Btys 3 hrs notice by day - instant readiness by night.

(e) 9.2" and 6" C.B. - 3 hrs day and night.

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

(g) Remaining Tps - 12 hrs notice

2nd State of Readiness.

1. CODE WORD. ... CLIVE

2. MEANING. ... An enemy air attack of CEYLON is considered imminent.

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

be

(b) AA - all AA guns will be manned throughout the 24 hrs. All LMG's employed in an AA role will be manned throughout the hrs 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 posns will be at instant readiness day and night. Tps employed as mobile reserves for aerodrome defence will be at 30 minutes notice.

(d) Coast Defence Guns.
Examination Btys- Instant readiness by day and night.
6" Close Defence Bty - 30 minutes notice by day. Instant readiness by night.
A.M.T.B. Bty - 15 minutes notice by day. Instant readiness by night.
9.2" and C.B. Btys - by day - stand to from 0400 hrs to 0730 hrs and then at 10 minutes notice - by night - one hrs notice.

(e) Beach Defence Tps - all beach defence tps will stand to on their deployment posns from 0400 hrs to 0630 hrs. At other times tps will be at 1/2 hrs notice but the beaches for which they are responsible will be kept under observation.

(f) Remaining Tps. - 3 hrs notice

(g) 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.

- 1. CODE WORD. ... PLASSEY
- 2. MEANING ... Enemy invasion may be expected shortly.
- 3. ACTION ...

(a) AA. All AA guns will be manned throughout the 24 hrs. All LMG's employed on an AA role will be manned throughout the 24 hrs.

(b) Aerodrome and Beach Defence Tps. All defences will be manned throughout the 24 hrs.

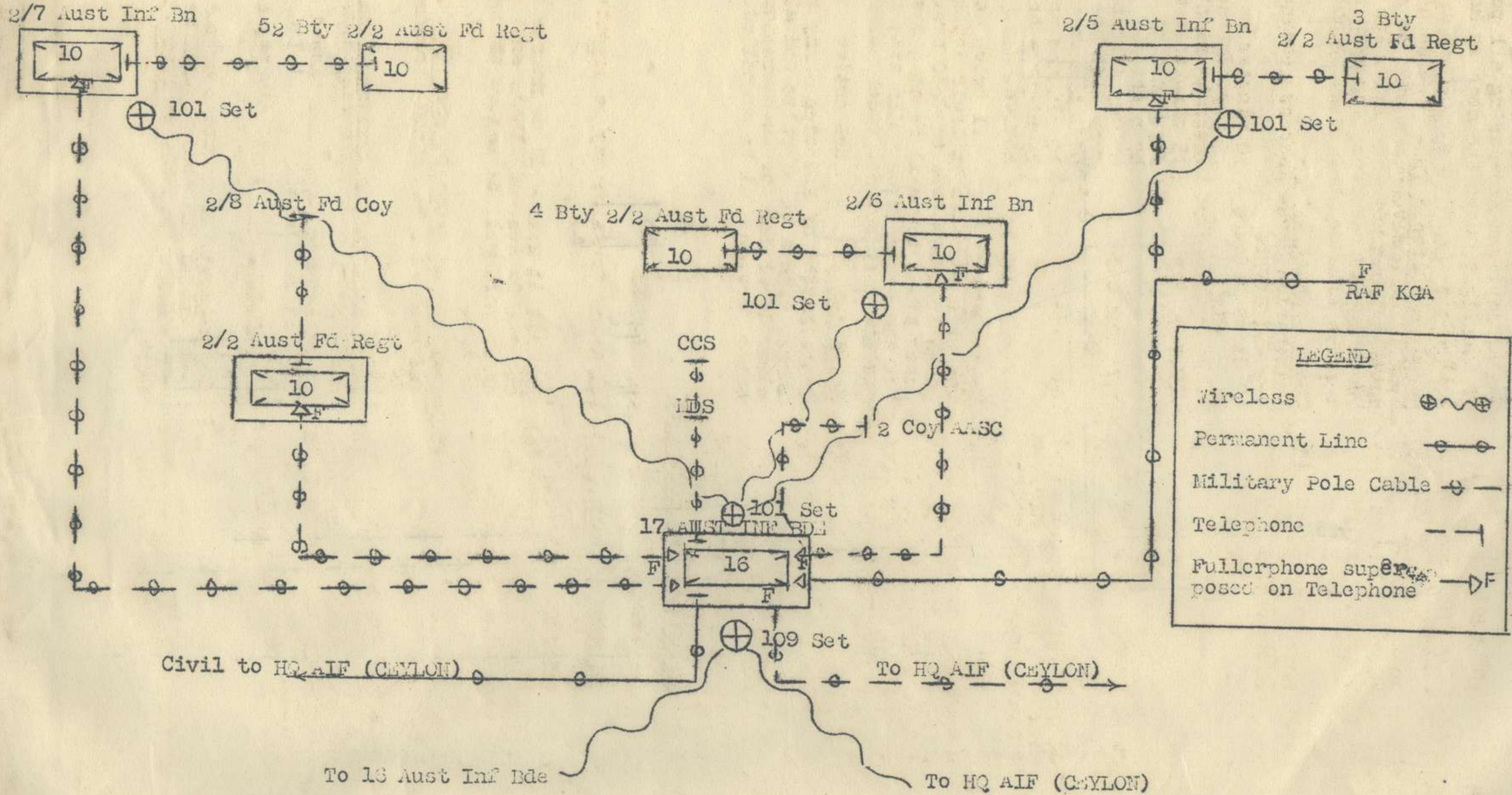
(c) Local reserve for Aerodrome and Beach defences. - At instant readiness

(d) Coast Defence Guns. All manned and at instant readiness.

(e) Remaining Tps. At 30 minutes notice to move.

(f) Demolitions. If orders have not already been issued all charges will be laid and all preparations to fire will be made.

DIAGRAM OF 17 AUST INF BDE SIG COLNS



BEEBLE ORGANISATION.

SECRET.

Copy No. 16...

OBJECT.

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

ORGANISATION - R/T

The R/T broadcast which will be used to keep lower formation H.Q. and outlying stas in touch will be made from the Broadcasting station, CBO on the existing Long Wave Transmitter and at the same time on a short wave transmitter.

WATCH TO BE KEPT.

- (a) At the order "Stand By BEEBLE" all R/T stas will keep watch forthwith for the first five minutes of every hour.
- (b) At the order "LAY ON BEEBLE" or on receipt of an air raid warning, all R/T stas will keep constant watch.
- (c) At the order "LAY OFF THE BEEBLE" or on receipt of the all clear, R/T watch will cease.

NOTE.

Should line comm fail before the issue of the above orders, constant R/T watch should be kept without further orders.

The following AIF Units of 17 AUST INF BDE GP have been equipped with wireless receiving sets.

SERIAL	UNIT	No.	REMARKS.
1	H. Q. 17 AUST INF BDE GP) "K" Sec Sigs)	1	
2	H.Q. 2/5 AUST INF BN	2	(One for det GALLE FORT)
3	H.Q. 2/6 AUST INF BN	2	(One for static Coys)
4.	H.Q. 2/7 AUST INF BN	1	
5	No. 2 COY AASC	1	

- Notes.
- 1 Code word for firing demolition may be given over this system
 - 2 Authenticity check issued to units will apply in all cases.

*Copy No 19
Amendments
MA*

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

S E C R E T

Copy No. 19.

HQ 17 AUST INF BDE
Ref No : S/G15/1428
21 JUN 42.

AMENDMENTS - 17 AUST INF BDE O.O. No. 4.

Please amend 17 Aust Inf Bde O.O. No 4 as follows :-

1. Delete KENT BTY 1 COAST REGT R.M. throughout order and Appxs where it appears.
2. Para 6.
(a) (i) Delete 3 Bty 2/2 Aust Fd Regt
Substitute 3 Bty 2/2 Aust Fd Regt less one Sec.
(ii) after "one coy 2/5 Aust Inf Bn" insert with under comd one Sec 3 Bty 2/2 Aust Fd Regt.
3. Para 10. Delete whole para
4. Para 12.
(b) Delete "For C.D. guns this distance will be 5000 yds."
5. Para 15. Add new sub para
(e) The above will be read in conjunction with C.C. No 3035/G/8 of 8 JUN 42 "Laying of Minefields."
6. Appx F. Delete Serial No 58 : 173576
Substitute " " 58 : 171567

Add the following additional blocks :-

<u>SERIAL No</u>		<u>Unit responsible for construction</u>
41a	322559	2/6 Aust Inf Bn.
41b	323558	" " " "
43a	309541	" " " "
44b	292509 (Ry)	" " " "
45a	285558	" " " "
45b	285555	" " " "
46a	283569	" " " "
46b	281568	" " " "
49a	246523	" " " "
50b	229529	" " " "
51	239526	" " " "
52	240527 (Ry)	" " " "
54	196546	" " " "
56a	194542	" " " "
57a	183542	" " " "
58a	170566	" " " "
59a	174593	" " " "

Mansfield
Major.

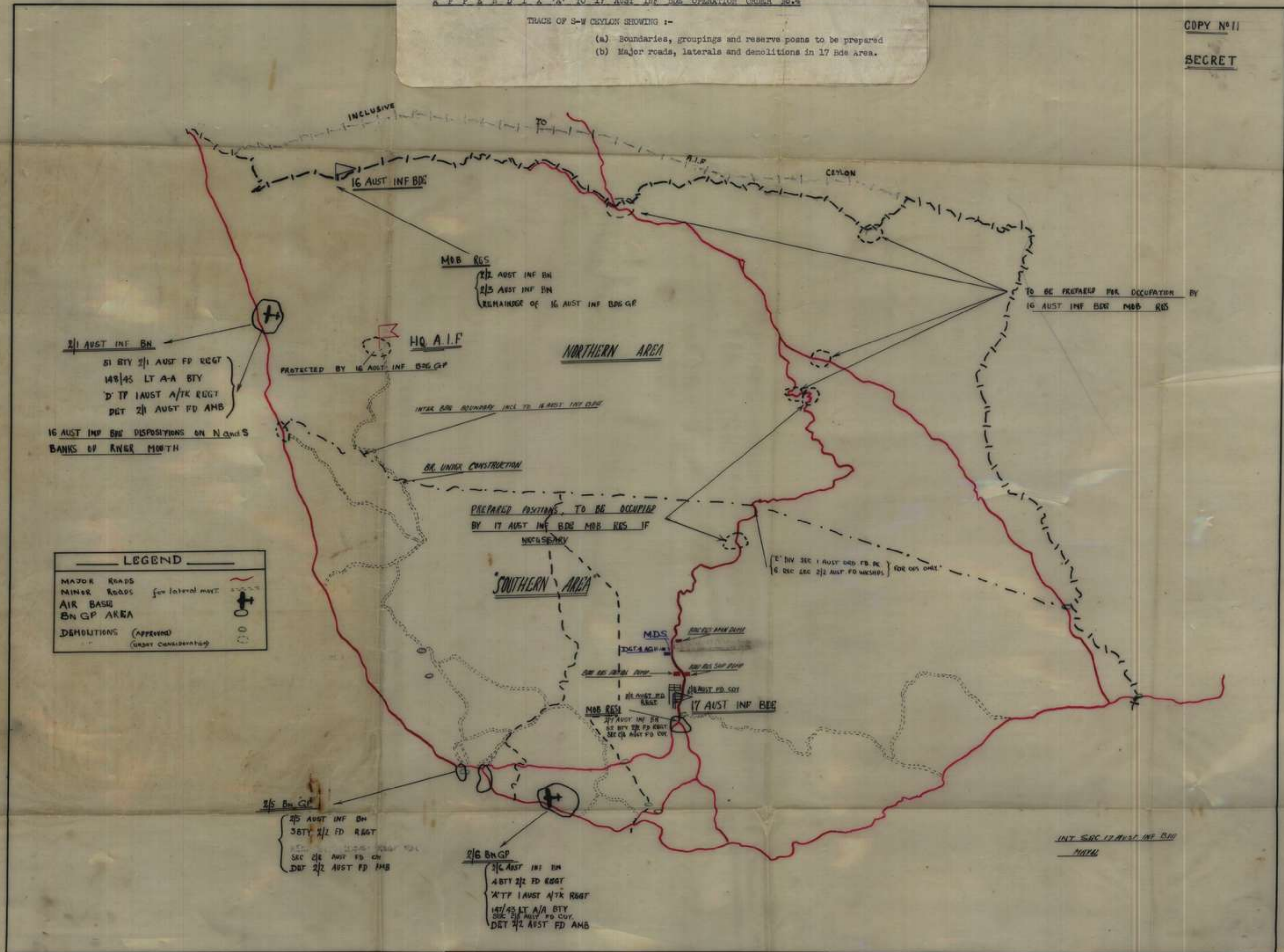
B.M., 17 AUST INF BDE GP.

DISTRIBUTION :-

As per O.O. No 4
less KENT BTY.

TRACE OF S-W CEYLON SHOWING :-

- (a) Boundaries, groupings and reserve plans to be prepared
- (b) Major roads, laterals and demolitions in 17 Bde Area.



Ref Map

1.68360

Sept 42

Sheet No 7



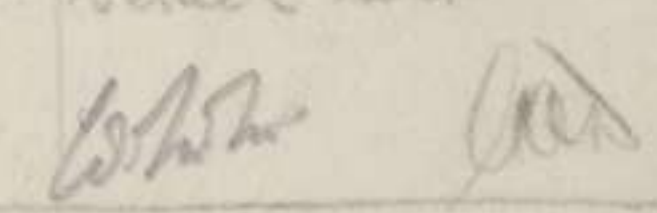
17 Aust Div

No ORIG NO OUT TO IN FROM T.O.D. T.O.R. DATE

1	0, 524	2nd Aust Army	1545	1530	19.	Capt Punch liaison officer 2nd Aust Army visiting Aust Div about 1300 hrs 21 Sep 42, with maps and training pamphlets for 17 Aust Inf Bde. Sp (c) suggest 6 Aust Div informants have any requirements that group (c) Bde.
		15 Bde.	2000		20	Majr Cobbe, actg comd, requesting interview with Bde Comd during morning 21 Sep 42, and reply regarding time of interest. holla Hanna
	9883	6 Aust Div	1500	1515		Informing conversation with Gordon CHAPMAN re finally 1AUST motor div will deliver 22 Sept to VRD GRETA fifty eight vans 15 out FDS in CVTS 4x4 and will receive in exchange fifty eight vans 4x2 @ 17 Aust Inf Bde will receive fifty 4x4 and will deliver to VRD 22 Sept for exchange. twenty nine repeat twenty nine 4x2 @ balance of exchange vehicles to be supplied by 6 Aust Div @ 17 Aust Inf Bde will arrange quarters and rations for 4 officers and 64 ors night 23/24 Sept and 2 out. lunches per man to be issued morning 23 Sept @ also arrange for be available @ all exchange.

of map Singleton 1: 63360. Sheet to 2. 17 Aust Inf Bde.

N^o ORG NO OUT TO IN FROM T.O. TOR DATE

N ^o	ORG NO	OUT TO	IN FROM	T.O.	TOR	DATE		
9953		1 Aust Div	1500	1515	21		<p>vehicles to be mechanically found @ 17 Aust Inf Bde will arrange three guides to lead 1 Aust Div from X roads at Woodville NW of WEST MAITLAND at a time to be notified @ secondly 1 AOTA PK will deliver 23 Sept to VRD GRETA fourteen vans 4x4 and thirty trucks 3 Ton 4x4 @ vans to be held for allotment by 6 Aust Div but the thirty trucks 3 tons 4x4 available to 17 Aust Inf Bde @ 17 Aust Inf Bde to arrange for equal number 3 Ton trucks 4x2 to be delivered VRD morning 23 Sept for exchange and to arrange POL for returning vehicles.</p>	<p>2/5 km to arrange accommodation & rationing. T.O. to arrange POL & necessary transfer of vehicles</p> 
		6 Aust Div (Phone)		2135	22		<p>1. SAs MOY + SCARLETT to be prepared to move BRISBANE tomorrow - further details follow. 2. In Capt Corbett from 2 Aust Army - portees etc will NOT be transferred as originally intended. Confirms verbal advice to 1 Aust Div Ft Park.</p>	 <p>message given to Capt Corbett on arrival. Mt.</p>
		Left day team		0150	23		<p>Phoned from 4th Div that he and his team were awaiting transport to camp.</p>	<p>Vehicle sent.</p> 

Ref Mess Singleton 1/63360

HQ. 17 Aust Inf Bde

Sheet No 3

NO	ORIG	NO OUT TO	IN FROM	T.O.O	TOR	DATE		
			6 Aust Div (phone)		0920	23	Apts MOY + SCARLETT required for interviews at LANDOPS. report to Lieut PEPPER at HQ 6 Aust Div at 2200 tonight. take all equipment.	216 + 27 Aust Inf Bde. Scarlett 56 at Bde at 2130. Bde Co (with) HQ
2	1	2/5 + 2/7 Bns		0930		23	Each bn required supply working party strength one pl report Capt WATTS 2/3 Fd Coy BLK M in MT 0800 hrs 24 and 25 Sep preparation for exercise (1) being march (2) back.	
3	401		2/7 Bn	0900	0930	23	Training location 23 Sep (1) Bn HQ 407569 (2) BCD Coy exercise attack defence area square 3765 (3) HQ Coy counter-march specialist training area 407569	
4	5	Rear 6 Aust Div				22	Following is grouping of units 6 Aust Div (1) Under land CRE 22 Aust Fd PR Coy under Comd CRA 2/1 Aust B/TK Reg less two Btys (2) Under land 17 Aust Inf Bde 2/5, 2/6, 2/7 Aust Inf Bn 2/8 Aust Ad Coy 2/2 Aust Fd Bn 2 Coy AA SC (3) 2/2 Aust Fd Reg under Comd 17 Aust Inf Bde for operations bde exercises and local duties but under Comd CRA for technical matters promotions and appointments (4) 3 Bty 2/1 Aust B/TK Reg is under Comd 17 Aust Inf Bde for operations and bde ex exercises.	W. J. Jones

Ref Maps Singleton 1/63360

HQ 17 Aust Inf Bde

SHEET NO 4

NO	ORIG NO	OUT TO	IN FROM	T.O.	T.O.	DATE	
5	4	6 Aust Div		1440		23	Training of could lectures on air cooperation be given this bde 29 30 Sep evenings of subject desired of air support of signalling ground to air
6	101	Aust Div		1440		23	ref to Aust Div letter 6844 of 6 Sep 42 of Com PERRETT leaving sentence detention of GEELONG of report will be forwarded as soon as possible after his release on 7 Oct 42
7	0539		2 Aust Army	1200	2000	23	1 Aust MOT DIV will assume Comd temporary of 17 Aust Inf Bde (at a time and date to be fixed by 1 Aust Mot Div) for operations, sig, discipline, local and traffic control and movement local leave, local quartering and accommodation within camp areas, sanitation and hygiene (c) 17 Aust Inf Bde and 3 Army Tk Bde remain under direct comd control of 2 Aust Army for all other matters including personnel, medical supply and apt and ord (c) 1 Aust Mot Div will report to 2 Aust Army time and date convenient for assumption of Comd and control (c) 1 Aust Mot Div will instruct 6 Aust Div (less 16 Aust Inf Bde Gp) and 3 Army Tk Bde of time of assumption of Comd (c) 1 Aust Mot Div will also report proposed location of H.Q. 1 Aust Mot Div (c) All act (c) All inf.
8	401		2/7 Bn	0845	1330	24	Training location 24 Sep (BN H.Q. 407564 (c) A Coy square 4256 (c) B Coy square 4156 (c) C Coy 4157 (c) D Coy 4157 (c) HQ Coy 4056.

Ref Map Singleton 1/63360.

AQ. 17 Aust. Inf. Force.

Sheet No 5

NO	ORIGIN	OUT TO	IN FROM	T.O.O.	T.O.R. DATE	
9.			L.O.		25	Biv area for 2/5 bn tonight in ref Map Singleton 1/63360 298548.
10	55 =		2/5 Bns	—	1930 25	as in ref to 1/24
11	100	2/5, 2/6, 2/7 Bns		1200	25	Fde. M.M.G. course will commence 24 Sep 1967 All carriers P2 personnel including drivers of all ranks will attend (1) Nominal roll of all students to attend will be submitted to this H.Q. by 1800 hrs 23 Sep (2) Units borrowing following pamphlets will forward name to this H.Q. by 1800 hrs 23 Sep on loan to course S.A.T. VOL. 1 Part 7 Parts 1 & 3 (3) Each unit will provide eight complete M.M.G.s (4) joining instructions and details later.
12	3/2		2/7	1535	1910 25	unit and tps under comd in bivouac area
13	3/1		2/7	1427	1910 25	no member of this unit taking part in forth coming exercise (1) in possession of ball drum
14	1 M1		2/6	1716	1915 25	ref map SINGLETON 1/63,360 0 on location 255612
PHONE			2/6	1950	25	2/6 bn reported in bivouac area M1T Aly

REF MAP SINGLETON

SHEET NO 6

HQ 17 JST INF Bde

NO ORIGINAL OUT TO IN FROM TO DATE

NO	ORIGINAL	OUT TO	IN FROM	TO	DATE	DESCRIPTION	
15	1	ALL UNITS MIL A/TK		1950	22	Tactical demonstration exercise will be held off of above units except A/TK assemble CUSA but 2000 hrs wed 23 Sep for outline of exercise and discussion. Requested off 3 by A/TK attend	
16	4/01		2/7	0720	0850	26	Patrol 0700 hrs 0 patrols report no activity Bitner
17	3		2/6 Bn	1800	1900	25	ref your 6.10.58. off 11.0.0.0.
			6 and 6	1140			For lent Mayberry. Lectures on Air Support not yet arranged for. Application gone on. Will be advised details later.
18	TES		2/5	1800/25	1445/26	25	Location statement ref SINGLETON 1/65.340 298347 A Coy 299347 B Coy 296546 C Coy 296542 D Coy 292547 HQ Coy 299544
19	13/1		2/7	1127	1445	26	Contact gained ENEMY on THISTLE HILL engaging enemy main body by passing enemy NORTH flank.
20	2		REAR G/AS DIV	105	100	26	ref your A/1/65 of 11 Sep 0 181114 Sgt Moy D.G. HQ 17 Aug 1958 and W 5032 Sgt SCARLETT N.L. 26 Aug 1958 to be attached ADV LHO on probation
21	5		2/6/58	1940		26	ack in reply to 1/24

Operations Log

Sheet No 8.

Serial No	Inward From	Outward To	T.O.O.	T.O.R	Date	Information	Action Taken
25 403		6 Aust Div	1730		26	Location statement of ref map Singleton 1/63,360 @ 2/5 Bn 310559 2/7 Bn, 4/3 Bty, 1 Aust A/Tk Regt, 52 Bty 2/2 Fd regt, sec 2/8 fd coy, det "K" sec Sigs 6 Aust Div Det 2/2 fd amb. at 312567. 2/6 Bn 255612	Informed 6 Aust Div
26 1		1 Aust Div	1800		26	ack in reply to 01576	
27 4	2/5 Bn		1840	1815	26	D. coy, heavy engaged at 27860 at 1535 hrs @ B coy at 285593, C coy at 267574, both pinned down.	
28 404	2/5 Bn	2/6 Bn	1823		26	Sgt Carlett NL. VX5063 has been attached to act as L.H.Q on probation	
29 405	2/7 Bn		1720	1900		Password for 2/7 Bn night 26/27 Sept @ challenge OWEN. counter sign STANLEY.	
30 7	Rear 6 Aust Div		1650	1900	26	Ref tropical medicine course NO8 at Sydney university 28 Sept to 10 Oct @ Second Aust Army Director Maj Irwin 2/2 Aust fd amb to attend @ Report to school 27 Sep @ 17 Bde will arrange movement @ endorse warrant NO8 course school of tropical medicine & fd. military hygiene.	
	2/5 Bn per L.O.		1730		26	Password ROSELLA @ Locations same night 25/26 Sep 4r.	
31 02		1 Aust Div	2010		26	Location statement of ref map Singleton 1/63360 @ HQ 11 Aust Inf Bde 398569 @ K det Sigs 398569 @ 46 LAD 398569 @ 25 coy AAFC 398569 @ 2/8 Aust fd coy 398569 @ HQ Aust LAD 398569 @ F det Sigs 398569 @ 1 Aust A/Tk Regt 312567 @ 2/5 Bn 310559 @ 4/7 Bn, 4/3 Bty, 52 Bty 2/2 Fd regt sec 2/8 fd coy det K 2nd Sigs, 2/2 fd amb 312567 @ 2/6 Bn 255612 @ 2/2 fd regt (Aust Div)	

Operations Log

Sheet No 9

Serial No	Inward From	Outward To	T.O.O.	T.O.R.	Date	Information	Action Taken
cont 31	DN	1 Aust Mot Div	2010		26	4/20 1st Lt ... Strength state @ HQ 17 Aust Inf Bde 14 + 70 @ K Sect Sigs 1428 @ 46 LAD 14 11, 2/5 Bn 34 + 801 @ 4/6 Bn 23 + 672 @ 2/7 Bn 33 + 871 @ 1/2 Aust Inf Regt 31 + 555 @ 4/2 Aust Inf Bde 8 + 176 @ 2 Coy ARASC 8 + 226 @ 2/8 Aust Inf Coy 4 + 181 @ 40 Aust LAD 1 + 11 @ F. Sect sigs 1 + 27 @ 1 Aust A/TK Regt 5 + 70 @ Total 164 + 3697 Chk.	
32	5	4/6 Bn		1930	26	Exercise ended 17 Bde from 4/5 Bn 22 5 date 26 Panward tonight in Roselle.	(Exercise)
33	L2	2/6 Bn		1930	26	Situation normal 17 Bde from 4/6 Bn L2 date 26 Panward RUNSMITH	(Exercise)
34	404	2/7 Bn	1830	2015	26	Sitrep 1800 hrs @ All coys in live areas @ Sitnor.	
35	1391	1 Aust Mot Div			26	Please supply location that all units under comd. urgent.	Sent 2010K
36	03	1/2 Bn 2/5 Bn 2/6 Bn 4/5 Fd Coy 2 Coy ARASC 4/6 Bn 3 Coy 1400 A/TK Regt	2210		26	Summer line @ Advance clocks one hour from 0200 27 Sept. Ack.	
37	3	4/6 Bn 35	1420	0915 (27)	26	A Coy pinned down with heavy - point pl in area 278570 283569 282574. remainder of Coy deployed defence -00 -00 15E C Coy moving from rd line 303555 at 1410 hrs to attempt encircling movement of left flank @ B Coy moved from junction rd made 303555 to attempt encircling movement on R flank. D in pos at start line.	(Exercise Combat)
38	1112	4/6 Bn	0808	0915	27	Sitrep Sitnor.	
39	401	2/7 Bn	0720	0950	27	Sitrep 0600 hrs slight patrol activity on perimeter during period 400 to 2200 hrs @ Sitnor.	(Exercise)
40	4	REAR 6 Aust Div	1415/20	1000/20	27	HQ AIF BASE AREA closed SEYMOUR 1200 hrs 25 Sep. Rear at ROYAL PARK 1000 hrs 26 Sep @ all informal	
41	403	2/7 Bn	1030	1100	27	Vanguard crossed SL 1020 hrs	
42	42	2/7 Bn	1105	1120	27	contact gained & maintained one Coy 113000 hrs vanguard inflicting @ main body of force to right flank	

Operations Log

Sheet No 10

Serial No	Inward From	Outward To	S.O.O.	T.O.R.	Date	Information	Action Taken
43	REAR 6th Div		1120/26	1120/27	27	etc 2/4: 10th INFAN was doing and off for JUL and AUG transmission to 02E.	
44	REAR 6th Div		1120/26	1120/27	27		
44	1/2 11th Div APIS		1125/25	1125/27	27	G 1058 copy No 8. ACK	
45	2/5 Bw		1400	1735	27	Location Statement of SINGLETON 1/13,360. In HQ adv HQ 293500 HQ HQ 310559 B A Coy moving along rd towards THISTLE HILL C B Coy C, D coys at start line 310559 - 310548	(Exercise)
46	2/5		1420/27	1435	27	A Coy almost immobilised out in area 278500 283509 232 2nd Coy moving along rd towards THISTLE HILL LEFT HAND D D	(Exercise)
Serial 47	401 2/5 Bw		1445	1700	27	B, C Coy heavy engagement. D at 285592 and 267574 perfect only. D Coy being strafed 2/5 moving out.	(Exercise)
48	401 2/5 Bw		1400	1805	27	Ref G 1058 copy No 9 (C) Ack.	
49	402 2/7 Bw		1635	1800	27	Password for 2/4 Bw tonight 27/28 2/7 (1) challenge DARLING counting RANGE	(Exercise)
50	2 2/5 Bw		1410	1900	27	A Coy heavily engaged and deployed at Thistle Hill (C) one of our tanks destroyed!	(EXERCISE)
51	404 2/7 Bw		1802	1900	27	Setup as at 1800 hrs (C) all coys in bivouac around situation.	(EXERCISE)
52	5 2/5 Bw		1455	1908	27	A and C coys moved out (C) D Coy ambushed 278601 (C) exercise over (C) Password tonight Toronto	(EXERCISE)
53	L 4 2/6 Bw		1645	1915	27	Setup (C) Situation password Douglas.	(EXERCISE)

17 AUST INF BDE
OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET NO. 12.....

Ref Map SINGLETON 1:63,360

HQ 17 AUST INF BDE

Ser No	Date	Outwards to	Inwards from	TOO or Time of Event	T O R	Orig No	Summary of Message or Event	Remarks. Action Taken
59	28		2/7 BN	1100	1200	3/1	main body crossed SL 1100 hrs	
60	28		2/7 BN	1104	1200	B/1	vanguard in action THISTLE HILL @ enemy at one coy @ main body by passing on right	
61	28		2/7 BN	1110	1200	3/5	vanguard contacted enemy estimated strength one coy THISTLE HILL by passing with main body via right flank @ opening rd 26/1003	
62	28		2/7 BN	1149	1228	B2	Vanguard action successful was mopping up continuing advance	(Exercise)
PHONE							1.0 pang from CESSAHOEK. expected trucks had not picked him up. advised another truck be sent to CESSAHOEK	transport advised. trucks left 1230 JMB
Phone			NSW L/C.		1100		HA NSW L/C asking for report for 12 more prisoners to be moved from Lydney (12 men required).	hold JMB
63	28		2/5 bn	1408	1453	-	Ref map SINGLETON 1/63360D Contacted area THISTLE HILL 279580 M One of our tanks destroyed against rd block at 278581 (-) a coy moving N.W. along rd ALLENDALE - MINIMBAR at 282509. (-) remaining coy area of 310558 (-) Adv. B HQ 295559 Recd HQ 310559.	(EXERCISE)

Ref Map

SINGLETON 1/63360

Ser No	Date	Outwards to	Inwards from	TOO or Time of Event	T O R	Orig No	Summary of Message or Event	Remarks. Action Taken
64	28		2/5 Bn.	1428	1453	2	A Coy deployed in area 276569-288567 - 289578 under heavy mortar fire (C) rd under fire (C) C Coy commenced encircling movement from 300556 to attempt to cut rd at 361574 (C) B and D Coys encircling from right flank from 300556	(EXERCISE)
65	28		6/5 Bn	1445	1515	3	Enemy A.C. Dive bombing & strafing B & D coys in area 290590, 298590, 300576 C Coy contacted enemy 600 yds S.E. THISTLE HILL @ Heavy casualties all coys	Exercise
66	28		2/5 Bn	1508	1617	4	A Coy wiped out @ C Coy ambushed area 268577 273577 268568 @ B Coy ambushed area 282595 290595 291590 C? Coy ambushed area 278604 276600 281600 @ heavy casualties all coys @ exercise over	Exercise
67	28		2/2 Pz AmB	1025	1615	2	Security copy NO 8 @ act	
68	28		2/6 bn	1045	1615	1	17 Aust inf bde security instr No 3 copy No 3 received	
69	28		2/2 Aust fd regt	1045	1615	563	(Paraphyte 17 bde security instr 3) act	
70	28	2/5, 2/6, 27 Bns.		1700		101	Units will submit to this H.Q. by 1500 hrs 29 Sep. names of personnel all ranks of Carrier Pz at present with units who are not attending Bde MMB course (C) Carrier Pz drivers will be included	

Ref Map Singleton 1/63360

Ser No	Date	Outwards to	Inwards from	TOO or Time of Event	T O R	Orig No	Summary of Message or Event	Remarks. Action Taken
71	28		2/6 BN	1655	1910	1M34	Sitrep @ Pitmor	
72	28		2/7 BN	1900	2000	4021	all coys and BN HQ now in lines GRETA CAMP	
73	28		2/8 Fla Coy	1940			WX 1212: Cpl. Blackburne (B. Spencer King) 28 Fla Coy - v. o. k. mother - Mrs Constance Sybil Blackburne, 30 Grey St, Albany, W.A. — Boths hands blown off. Seriously ill.	message phoned DAAG Office 1945 hrs 28/9/45 by Capt Deans. J.P.
74	28		2/7 BN	1825	2145	3/9	(IN REPLY TO G V/50) LFFA BARR VC BAIRD and EC SEARES @ minor tactics LT. E. ARNOLD	
75	28		2/7 BN	1830	2145	3/10	ref Sgts for promotion to commission & transfer 2 M bde @ WOI VX 5460 BOLGER WP @ WOI VX 4611 MARTIN HH @ Sgt MURRAY HJ VX 4250 @ Sgt TREWIN JEK VX 5640	D.L.H.
76	29		2/6	0950	1035	2	nominal roll of carrier personnel in camp - NOT at school @ VX 4051 Capt SHELDRIK AG	
77	29	4/2 Aust Fd Regt 4/2 Fd Coy 38th 1Aust A/Tic Regt. HQ 3/6 3/2 BN 2 Coy AASC 2/2 Fd AMB.		0915		101	A lecture on Direct air Support will be held in the CUSA that tonight at 2000 hrs @ 300 Comd directs that all operated, ack, all informed.	
78	29		2/6			2	moving to camp 0830 hrs from liaison areas.	
79	29		4/2 Aust Fd AMB.	1045		2	ack.	reply to 101/29.

17 AUST INF BDE
OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET NO. 15

Ref Map SINGLETON 1:63,360

Ser No	Date	Outwards to	Inwards from	TOO or Time of Event	T O R omg No	Summary of Message or Event	Remarks. Action Taken
79	23	2/5, 2/6, 2/7, B, 1/2 AUST Fd REGT, 1 AUST AFK REGT, 1/2 AUST Fd Coy 2 Coy AASC, 1/2 AUST Fd AMB.		1400	1	Forecast of training @ 19 Sep pl. ca., 30 Sep Coy ca. 1/2 Oct one day B ca., 3/4 Oct 2 day B ca prepared by Coy B + B ca 1/4 Oct respectively. @ may include det. supporting arms @ time issued later.	
80	29	3 B Co AASC 1345	3 B Co AASC	1055	1130 129	Ref your 101 of 29 Sep @ Acknowledged. @	reply to 101/29.
81	29		2/6 BW	1030	1140 5	ack.	" " "
82	28		1 AUST. Mot. Div	1640	1140/29 0.154	ack.	reply to 0.2/26 Sep.
83	29		2/6 B	1155	1225 1.11.39	all ffs have now returned to unit lines	Shame to duty off
		PHONE	6 Aust Div			hang inquiring about location 6 Svy Bty	advised that off from that unit is reporting at this HQ this afternoon We will hang & notify them.
84	29		1/2 AUST Fd. REGT	1045	1345 562		reply to 101/29.
85	29	2/2 Fd REGT 2/3 2/6 2/7 AUST INF Bns		1240	102	following personnel have been selected to attend second part Army D.M MT wing N-8 course 5 Oct - 31 Oct @ VX 492 Bdr SPARSHOTT J VX 759 Bdr MAJOR GA VX 30252 Lieut PENNY AR VX 55629 LIEUT ASHTON T.W VX 37223 A/CPL HARRIS K.E VX 1884 A/CPL PADFIELD J.W VX 9884 CPL TESTROW H VX 54001 L/CPL DAVIES W.D VX 558585 L/CPL HUFER C.W @ Personnel will report this HQ ready to move at 1030 hrs 3 Oct 42 @ Lieut Penny will be o.c. party @ Balmer will not be taken ack.	
86	29	REAR 6 Aust Div		1515	402	location statement @ 2/6 Svy Bty now GRETA CAMP D BLOCK no telephone number	

Ref Map **SINGLETON**

Ser No	Date	Outwards to	Inwards from	TOO or Time of Event	T O R	Orig No	Summary of Message or Event	Remarks. Action Taken
87	29		2/8 Fed Coy.	1110	1500	H/A 186.	ack in reply to 10/29.	
88	29		2 Coy AAASC			401	ref lecture direct air support	in reply to 15/1?
89	29	4/6 7/1. AAASC 9/8 Fed Coy 1/20 Fed AMB		1750			units will submit to this HQ daily by 1800 hrs training location for the following day duration of exercise, sub units & attached units taking part, route, time in, time out.	
90	29		2/6	1755	1806	5	ack.	
91	29		4/6	1635	1806	36	ack.	reply to 102/29
92	29		2 Coy AAASC.		1850	L-1.	req for 30 Sep. unit lines during day. flight march! Route Singleton sheet Ref 1:63360 From 410567 thence 404544 416557, 410567 cross country by shortest route time out 1900 hrs time in 2200 hrs.	" " 554/29.
93	29		2/5 B.	1940	2000.	1	req for 30 Sep. Ref Singleton 1.63360. By camping out, coy exercises in area 320550 320580, 360580 360550. route out - 1 coy moves east from B.H.Q across country to area 3557, 1 coy moves from BHQ on main rd via ALLANDALE. GRETA BRANTON, NORTH ROTHBURY to area 3557 2 coys move from BHQ through ILLALONG 3958 thence east along rd to point 352585 thence across country to area 3257. time out 1300 hrs time in 1700 hrs 1 oct.	
94	29	1 AUST Mot Div.		2005		403	Have received 2 665 & 0664 of 29 Sep.	reply to 0106.
95	29		6 AUST Div (REAR)	2115			Inquiry 403/26 Sep.	
95	29		2/2 AUST Fd AMB	2000	2115	3	Ref Singleton 1:63360 req for Sep 30. bounded by ALLANDALE 4358 rd. point 0053 & hill 4252. duration exercise 24 hrs, route cross country.	

17 AUST INF BDE
OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET NO...17...

Ref Map SINGLETON 1/63360

Ser No	Date	Outwards to	Inwards from	TOO or Time of Event	T O R	Orig No	Summary of Message or Event	Remarks. Action Taken
96	29		2/7 Bn.		1845	2115	Training location for 30 Sep (C) B.H.Q. 407569 (C) A. Coy. HARPERS HILL 4255 (C) Coy training time out 0830 hrs time in 1600 hrs (C) B Coy square 4158, 4258 Coy training time out 0830 hrs time in 1600 hrs (C) A + B Coys move direct to areas indicated (C) B. Coy. + C Coy move to Bn training area No 3 route compass march from pt 407569 to pt 432498 (C) Coys in attack, ambush and mobile defence line out 0830 hrs time in 1600 hrs 1 Oct C + D Coy bivouac in training area night 30/1	
97	29	Randahs		2235		1	For Maj Gen CHAPMAN AD Aint PAWLOD arriving SOUTH BRISBANE WEDNESDAY 30 Sep by second division SYDNEY TRAIN for Prison Cuhalf this date.	
98	29		1 Aust Inf Div.	1645	1925	0156	Have you received 2 Aust Army 066 H1 and 0665 sep 29 (C) reply immediately	(Answered by B.M.)
99	29		2 Aust Army	1040	—	0665	Ref verbal warning 28 Sep (C) later information indicates 17 Aust Bde up, probably less 2/2 Fd but may embark BRISBANE 6 Oct 42 (C) further instr follow when received (C) Ack.	

Ref Map

Serial No	Date	Outwards to	Inwards from	TOO or Time of Event	T O R Orig No	Summary of Message or Event	Remarks. Action Taken
None	29/30	2/7 Bns.	.	330.	.	1001 Balguy to report B.M. Base 0815 30/9/41.	G.P.G.
None	29/30	2/5 Bns 2/6 Bn 2/7 Bn.	.	1030/1100	.	17CO's in Rear Party + subsequent transfer to 2 Motor Bde advised accordingly.	G.P.G.
None	30.	2/2 Ha Amb 2/8 Ha Coy.	.	1000	.	How tents will probably be camouflaged today.	Message from Capt Aberdeen
79			REAR 6 AUST DIV		1340 3	Temporary location change of map CESSAROK one inch to one mile of HQ RAA 6 Aust Div closed ANAMBAM 0930 hrs phone BROKE 110490 1230 hrs	
70			DDOS Second Aust Army	2350/29	05130	Reut for 1001. @ arrange for holdings of beds per ord to be adjusted to suit vehicles @ check condition water cart polynite filters @ ensure filter pack spare parts accompany units @ advise deficiencies @	
01	30		MOT DIV.	0920	1600 10 3423	Ref 2 Army O. 668 of 20 Sep @ 2nd Army SD 624 of 29 Sep advises all carriers of 17 Aust Inf Bde of less 2/2nd Fd Regt will be returned and MUSSWELL BROOK (C) Act.	
02	30	2/5 bn		1940	2000 29	2nd location 30 Sep @ of Singleton 1" road @ in carrying out any exercises in area 320550 320550 360550 @ route out one coy moves EAST from B.H.Q. across country to area 3557 one coy moves from B.H.Q. on obtain Rd	

17 AUST INF BDE
OPERATIONS DIARY

19
SHEET NO.....

Ref Map Singhston 1" - 1 mile.

Serial No	Date	Outwards to	Inwards from	TOO or Time of Event	T O R	Orig No	Summary of Message or Event	Remarks. Action Taken
103	30		2/6 km	1030	1600	701	<p>report TNG/2/1 exercise 1 location 1800 hrs 30 Sept all the area 356682 exercise 2 location same time area 434686 @ all return to camp 2359 hrs 30 Sept @ passwords A Coy KOKO B Coy HONEST TOM C HENRY D SAMBO.</p>	
104	30	1 Aust Mot Div		1845		404	<p>TNG Location @ of mat Singhston that 1 inch to 1 mile @ 3/5 km Coy exercises in square 320580 360580 320550 360580 return to line 1700 hrs 1 Oct @ 2/6 km return from exercise 2359 hrs 30 Sept @ 2/7 km less C and D Coy in line @ D Coy in square 4349 return line 1600 hrs 1 Oct all other units in line</p>	
105			GRETA POLICE	1030			<p>Reporting Street brawling in GRETA.</p>	<p>Instructed 2/7 Co. duty Co to send in picquets, report to 30 0900 hrs 1 Oct. 42. <i>[Signature]</i></p>

17 AUST INF BDE
OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET NO. 20

Ref Map

Singleton 1" = 1 mile

Ser No	Date	Outwards to	Inwards from	TOO or Time of Event	T O R Orig No	Summary of Message or Event	Remarks. Action Taken	
104	1		Rear 6 Div	1245	1615	2	Location change @ ref this HQ 3/30 @ HQ RAA 6 Aust Div closes BROKE 1200 hrs reopens ANAMBAH 1500 hrs 1 Oct	
107	1	1 Aust Mot Div		1755		406	All units in unit lines	
108	1	1 Aust Mot Div		1110		1	ack	In reply to 0158
109	1	All units		0830		401	Units will return to this HQ by 1800 hrs all LOCAL maps bundles will be titled and numbered of maps in each noted on outside	
110	1	LAND OPS.		1245		444	For Aajo 101R care MAJOR-GENERAL CHAPMAN @ party will not travel by Sydney express but will arrive BRISBANE 0900 hrs 3 Oct	AMC
111	2	1 Aust Mot Div, 2nd Aust Div Rear HQ		1930		408	This HQ less rear elements under command CHAPMAN closes 0500 hrs 3 Oct.	

17 AUST INF BDE
OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET NO. 20

Ref Map *Simpleton 1" = 1 mile*

Ser No	Date	Outwards to	Inwards from	TOO or Time of Event	T O R	Orig No	Summary of Message or Event	Remarks. Action Taken
106	1		Rear 6 Div	1245		2	Location change @ ref this HQ 3/30 @ HQ RAA 6 Aust Div closes BROKE 1200 hrs reopens ANAMBAH 1500 hrs 1 Oct	
107	1	1 Aust Mot Div		1755		406	All units in unit lines	
108	1	1 Aust Mot Div		1110		1	ack	In reply to 0158
109	1	All units		0830		401	Units will return to this HQ by 1800 hrs all LOCAL maps bundles will be titled and numbered of maps in each noted on outside	
110	1	LAND OPS		1245		404	For Major MUIR care MAJOR GENERAL CHAPMAN & party will not travel by Sydney express but will arrive BRISBANE 0900 hrs 3 Oct	<i>AMC</i>
111	2	1 Aust Mot Div, with 6 Aust Div Rear HQ		1930		408	this HQ less rear elements under comd eat CHAPMAN closes 0500 hrs 3 Oct.	

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OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET NO. 19.....

Ref Map

Singhton 1" - 1 mile

Ser No	Date	Outwards to	Inwards from	TOO or Time of Event	T O R	Orig. No.	Summary of Message or Event	Remarks. Action Taken
103	30		2/6 hr	1030	1600	701	<p>of our TNG/2/1 exercise 1 location 1800 hr 30 Sept all the area 356682 exercise 2 location same time area 434686 @ alt return to camp 2359 hr 30 Sep @ passwords A Coy KOKO B Coy HONEST TOM C HENRY D SAMBO,</p>	
104	30	1 Aust MOT DIV		1845		404	<p>TNG Location @ of map Singhton the 1 inch to 1 mile @ 3/5 hr coy exercises in square 320580 360580 320550 360580 return to line 1700 hr 1 Oct @ 2/6 hr return from exercise 2359 hr 30 Sep @ 2/7 hr less C and D Coy in line @ D Coy in square 4349 return line 1600 hr 1 Oct all other unit in line.</p>	
105			GRETA POLICE	1030			Reporting street brawling in GRETA.	<p>Instructed 2/7 Br, duty Br to send in picquet, report to 50 0900 hr 1 Oct. 42. <i>[Signature]</i></p>

[Handwritten initials]

17 AUST INF BDE
OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET NO. 18

Ref Map

Ser No	Date	Outwards to	Inwards from	TOO or Time of Event	T O R	Orig No	Summary of Message or Event	Remarks. Action Taken
Phone	29 30	2/7 Bn.		1330.			WO1 Bolger to report Bm. Bae 0815 30/9/41.	IR.G.
Phone	29 30	2/5 Bn 2/6 Bn 2/7 Bn.		1030/1100			NCO's for Rear Party + subsequent transfer to 2 Motor Bde advised accordingly.	IR.G.
Phone	30.	2/2 Fla Amb 2/8 Fla Coy.		1000			Your tents will probably be camouflaged today.	Message from Capt Menzies IR.G.
99			REAR 6 AUST DIV		1340	3	Temporary location change @ ref map CESSNOCK one inch to one mile @ HQ RAA 6 AUST DIV closed ANAMBAN 0930 hrs refence BROKE 110490 1230 hrs	
100			DDGS Second Aust army	2350/29		05630	Secret for ADOS @ arrange for foldings 17 beds per ord fd pts be adjusted to suit vehicles @ check condition. water cart Mollinate filters @ ensure filter pack spare parts accompany units @ advise deficiencies @	IR.G.
101	30		1 MOT DIV	0920	1600	510 843	Ref 2 Army O. 668 of 20 Sep @ 2nd Army SD 624 of 29 Sep advises all carriers of 17 Aust Inf Bde sp less 2/2 Fd Regt will be returned ord MUSSWELL BROOK @ Ack	IR.G.
102	30		2/5 bn	1940	2000 21	1	2nd location 30 Sep @ ref Sunglton 1" - 1 mil @ bn carrying out any exercises in area 320550 320580 360530 @ route out one coy moves EAST from BHK across country to area 3557 one coy moves from BHK on Abatan Rd	IR.G.

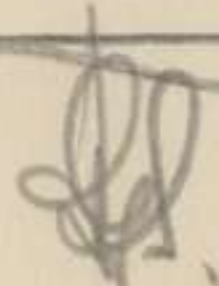

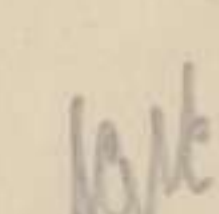
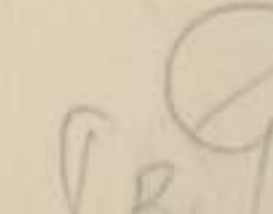
17 AUST INF BDE
OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET NO. 17.....

Ref Map SINGLETON 1/63360

Ser No	Date	Outwards to	Inwards from	TOO or Time of Event	T O R	Orig No	Summary of Message or Event	Remarks. Action Taken
96	29		2/7 BN.			1845 2115	Training location for 30 Sep (C) B.H.Q. 407569 (C) A. Coy. HARPERS HILL 4255 (C) Coy training time out 0830 hrs time in 1600 hrs (C) B Coy square 4158, 4258 Coy training time out 0830 hrs time in 1600 hrs (C) A + B Coys move direct to areas indicated (C) B. Coy. + C Coy move to Bn training area No 3 route compass march from pt 407569 to pt 432498 (C) Coy. ex in attack, ambush and mobile defence line out 0830 hrs time in 1600 hrs 1 Oct C + D Coy bivouac in training area night 30/1	
97	29 30	Rendahs		2235		1	for Maj Gen CHAPMAN (C) Lieut PAWSON arriving SOUTH BRISBANE WEDNESDAY 30 sep by second division SYDNEY TRAIN for liaison behalf this file.	
98	29 30		1 Aust Mkt Div.	1645		1925 0156	Have you received 2 Aust Army. 066 H1 and 0665 sep 29 (C) reply immediately	(Answered B.M.) SR

Ref Map SINGLETON

Ser No	Date	Outwards to	Inwards from	TOO or Time of Event	T O R	orig No	Summary of Message or Event	Remarks. Action Taken
87	29		2/8 Fd Coy.	1110	1500	449 186.	ack in reply to 10/29.	
88	29		2 Coy AAASC			401	ref lecture direct air support ack	in reply to 151/?
89	29	2/5 7/6 7/4. AAASC 7/8 Fd Coy. 1/2 Fd AMB		1750			units will submit to this HQ daily by 1800 hrs training location for the following day. duration of exercise, sub units & attached units taking part, route, time in, time out.	
90	29		2/6	1755	1806	5	ack.	reply to 102/29
91	29		2/6	1635	1806	36	ack.	" " 554/29.
92	29		2 Coy AAASC.		1850	L-1.	ing loc. 30 Sep. test lines during day. light march Route, Singleton sheet. Ref 1:63360 From 410567 thence 404544, 416557, 410567 cross country by shortest route, time out 1900 hrs, time in 2200 hrs.	
93	29		2/5 B.	1940.	2000.	1	ing loc 30 Sep. Ref Singleton 1:63360. By carrying out coy exercises in area 320550 320580, 360580, 360550. route out - 1 coy moves out from B.H.Q across country to area 3557. 1 coy moves from BHQ on main rd via ALLENDALE, GRETA, BRANXTON, NORTH ROTHBURY to area 3557 2 coys move from BHQ through ILLALONG 3958 thence east along rd to junct 352585 thence across country to area 3257. time out 1300 hrs time in 1700 hrs 1 Oct.	
94	29	1 AUST Mt Div.		2005		403	Have received 2665 & 0664 of 29 Sep.	reply to 0166.
95	29		6 AUST DIV (REAR)	2115			Inquiry 403/26 Sep.	
	29		2/2 AUST Fd AMB	2000	2115	3	Ref Singleton 1:63360 ing loc Sep 30. bounded by ALLENDALE 4358 rd. junct 3853 & hill 4252. duration exercise 24 hrs, route cross country.	  

17 AUST INF BDE
OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET NO. 15....

Ref Map SINGLETON 1:63,360

Ser No	Date	Outwards to	Inwards from	TOO or Time of Event	T O R	Orig No	Summary of Message or Event	Remarks. Action Taken
79	23	2/5, 2/6, 7, B, 1/2 AUST Fd REGT, 1 AUST A/K REGT, 4/8 AUST Fd Coy & Coy AFSC, 1/2 AUST Fd AMB.		1400		1	Forecast of training @ 29 Sep pl. cc., 30 Sep Coy cc. 1/2 Oct one day Bw cc. 3/4 Oct 2 day Bw cc prepared by Coy Bw & Bw 1/4 Oct respectively. @ may include det. supporting arms @ trig points issued later.	
80	29	3 Bw AUST A/K REGT	3 Bw, 1 AUST A/K REGT	1055	1130	129	Ref your 101 of 29 Sep @ Acknowledged. @	reply to 101/29.
81	29		2/6 Bw	1030	1140	5	ack.	" " "
82	28		1 AUST. Mot. Div.	1640	1140/19	O.154	ack.	reply to O.2, 26 Sep.
83	29		2/6 Bw	1155	1225	I. M. 39	all ops have now returned to unit lines	Shame to duty off.
		PHONE	6 Aust Div				req inquiring about location to Svy Bty.	advised that off from that unit is reporting at this HQ this afternoon. We will ring & notify them.
84	29		2/2 AUST Fd REGT	1045	1345	562	ack.	reply to 101/29.
85	29	2/2 Fd REGT 2/5 2/6 2/7 AUST INF BNS		1240		102	following personnel have been selected to attend second joint Army D+M MT wing N-8 course 5 Oct - 31 Oct @ VX 492 Bdr SPARSMOTT J VX 759 Bdr MAJOR GA VX 30252 Lieut PENNY AR VX 35629 Lieut ASHTON T. W VX 37223 A/cpl HARRIS. K. E VX 1884 A/cpl PADFIELD J. W VX 9884 cpl TESTROW H VX 54001 L/cpl DAVIES W. D VX 558585 L/cpl HUFER CW @ Personnel will report this HQ ready to move at 1030 hrs 3 Oct 42 @ Lieut Penny will be o.c. party @ Balmer will not be taken ack.	
86	29	REAR 6 Aust Div		1515		462	location statement @ 2/6 Svy Bty now GRETA CAMP D Block no telephone number	none [P.R.]

17 AUST INF BDE
OPERATIONS DIARY



SHEET NO. 14.....

Ref Map Singleton 1/63360

Ser No	Date	Outwards to	Inwards from	TOO or Time of Event	T O R	Orig No	Summary of Message or Event	Remarks. Action Taken
71	28		2/6 BN	1655	1910	1M34	Sitrep @ Sitna	
72	28		2/7 BN	1900	2000	4021	all coys and BN HQ now in lines GRETA CAMP	
Planned	28		2/8 Fla Coy	1940.			WX 12121 Cpl. Blackburne (E. Spencer King) 28 Fla Coy - m. o. k. mother - Mrs Constance Sybil Blackburne, 30 Grey St, Albany, W.A. — Both hands blown off, seriously ill.	Message phoned DAAG Office 1945 hrs 28/9/67 by Capt Deans. [Signature]
73	28		2/7 BN	1825	2145	3/9	(IN REPLY TO G 6/50) Operations OTS BONEGILLA @ weaponing VC BAIRD and EC SEARES @ minor tactics LT E. ARNOLD	
74	28		2/7 BN	1830	2145	3/10	ref Sgts for promotion to commission & transfer 2 M lde @ WO1 VX 5460 BOLGER WP @ WO II VX 4611 MARTIN HH @ Sgt MURRAY HJ VX 4250 @ Sgt TREWIN JEK VX 5640	[Signature] [Signature] Ed. L. L.
75	29		2/4	0950	1035	2	nominal roll of carrier personnel in camps NOT at school @ VX 4051 Capt SHELDRIK AG	
76	29	1/2 Aust Fd Regt 2/8 Fd Coy 3 Bty 1 Aust AFIC Rest. 2/3 2/6 2/7 Bn 2 Coy AFSC 2/2 Fd AMB.		0915		101	A lecture on Direct air Support will be held in the CUSA that tonight at 2000 hrs @ 3rd Comd direct that all officers attend, ack, all informed.	
77	29		2/6			2	Bn moving to camp 0830 hrs from disease area.	
78	29		2/2 Aust Fd AMB.	1045		2	ack.	reply to 101/29 [Signature]

Ref Map SINGLETON 1/63360

Ser No	Date	Outwards to	Inwards from	TOO or Time of Event	T O R	Orig No	Summary of Message or Event	Remarks. Action Taken
64	28		2/5 Bn	1428	1453	2	A Coy deployed in area 276569-288565 - 289578 under heavy mortar fire (C) rd under fire (C) C Coy commenced encircling movement from 300556 to attempt to cut rd at 366574 (C) B and D Coys encircling from right flank from 300556	(EXERCISE)
65	28		2/5 Bn	1445	1515	3	Enemy A.C. disc bombing & strafing B & D coys in area 290590, 298590, 300576 (C) Coy contacted enemy 600 yds S.E. THISTLE HILL (C) heavy casualties all coys.	Exercise
66	28		2/5 Bn	1508	1617	4	A Coy wiped out (C) C Coy ambushed area 268577 273577 268568 (C) B Coy ambushed area 282595 286595 281590 (C) Coy ambushed area 278604 276600 281600 (C) heavy casualties all coys (C) exercise over	Exercise
67	28		2/2 Fd Amb	1025	1615	2	Security copy NO 8 (C) ack	
68	28		2/6 bn	1045	1615	1	17 Aust inf bde security instr No 3 copy No 5 received	
69	28		2/2 Aust fd regt	1045	1615	563	(In reply to 17 bde security instr 3) ack	
70	28	2/5, 2/6, 27 Bns.		1700		101	Units will submit to this H.Q. by 1800 hrs 29 Sep, names of personnel all ranks of Carrier PLS at present with units who are not attending Bele M M G course (C) Carrier PL drivers will be included	

17 AUST INF BDE
OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET NO. 12.....

Ref Map

SINGLETON 1:63,360

HQ 17 AUST INF BDE

Ser No	Date	Outwards to	Inwards from	TOO or Time of Event	T O R	Orig No	Summary of Message or Event	Remarks. Action Taken
59	28		2/7 BN	1100	1200	3/1	main body crossed SL 1100 hrs	
60	28		2/7 BN	1104	1200	B/1	vanguard in action THISTLE HILL @ enemy at one coy @ main body by passing on night	
61	28		2/7 BN	1110	1200	3/3	vanguard contacted enemy estimated strength one coy THISTLE HILL by passing with main body via right flank @ repairing rd 267603	
62	28		2/7 BN	1149	1228	B2	Vanguard action successful was mopping up continuing advance	(Exercise)
PHONE							I.O Rang from CESSNOCK. expected truck had not picked him up. Advised another truck be sent to CESSNOCK	transport advised. truck left 1230 P.M.S etc
Phone			NSW L/C.		1100		P.R. NSW L/C asking for escort for 12 more prisoners to be moved from Sydney (12 men required).	hold 2/2 for Regt July to send escort
63	28		2/5 bn	1408	1453	-	Ref map SINGLETON 1/63360 Contacted area THISTLE HILL 279580 (A) One of our tanks destroyed against rd block at 278581 (C) a coy moving NW along rd ALLENDALE-MINIMBAR at 282569 (D) remaining coys area of 310558 (E) Adv B.M.O. 295559 Recv HQ. 310559.	(EXERCISE)

SP.1.

17 AUST INF BDE
OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET NO. //.....

Ref Map Singleton 1/63360.

Serial No	Date	Outwards to	Inwards from	TOO or Time of Event	T O R	Summary of Message or Event	Remarks. Action Taken
54	27	2/5, 2/6, 2/7 bn		1940		Originators No. 101. (C) for information (C) ref demonstration (C) Spectators as follows will attend (C) H.Q. Second Aust Army twenty five 1 Aust MOT DIV fifty three (C) 1 Aust Div two hundred and fifty (C) 3 Aust Army TK Bde ten (C) Others ten.	Message by S.D.R.
55	27		Col. Walter		2000	Capt Gordon stated he had not received deficiencies S.A.A on W.E. specially A/TK. could these be forwarded to reach this H.Q. before 0900 28 Sep 42.	Passed on to S.C. 2000 hrs 27 Sep [Signatures]
55	28		2/7 Bn	0655	0915	Sitrep as at 0600 hrs (C) Patrol activity during night (C) Sitnorm.	(EXERCISE)
56	28		2/6 Bn	0830	0930	Sitrep (C) Sitnorm password FRANK	(EXERCISE)
57	28	2/7 bn		1035		(In reply to number 4/1) no smoke candles available this HQ	
	28		4/7 bn	0937	1020	no smoke candles yet to hand ACK	
58	28		2/7 bn	0937	1020	no smoke candles yet to hand ack	
58	28		8M per phone	1145		advise to send vehicle budge Swinton Grek pick up Lieut McBride where patrol was left yesterday	TO advised 1150 hrs. 28 Sep 42. [Signature]
58	28		2 Coy ASC	1200		Lieut Loane to return Capt papers sent for signature (C) Capt Espinoza enquiring	Lieut Loane advised 1555 hrs. [Signature]

Operations Log

Serial No orig No.	Inward From	Outward To	T.O.O.	T.O.R.	Date	Information	Action Taken
cont 31	04	1 Aust Mot Div	2010		26	1/2 Aust 7th Regt 31 + 553 @ 1/2 Aust 7th Regt 8 + 176 @ Strength State @ HQ 17 Aust Inf Bde 14 + 70 @ K Sect 2 reg 1 + 28 @ 46 LAD 1 + 11, 2/5 BN 34 + 801 @ 2/6 BN 23 + 672 @ 2/4 BN 33 + 871 @ 2/2 Aust 7th Regt 31 + 553 @ 1/2 Aust 7th Regt 8 + 176 @ 2 Coy AFSC 8 + 226 @ 2/8 Aust 7th Coy 4 + 181 @ 40 Aust LAD 1 + 11 @ F. Sect reg 1 + 27 @ 1 Aust A/TK Regt 5 + 70 @ Total 164 + 3697 Ak.	
32	5	2/5 BN		1930	26	Exercise ended. 17 Bde from 2/5 BN to 5 date 26 Password tonight is Roulet.	(Exercise)
33	L2	2/6 BN		1930	26	Situation normal 17 Bde from 2/6 BN L2 date 26 Password RUNSMITH.	(Exercise)
34	404	2/7 BN	1830	2015	26.	Sitrep 1800 hrs @ All coys in biv areas @ Sitnor.	
35	1391	1 Aust Mot Div			26	Please supply location sheet all units under cond, urgent.	Sent 2010 L.A.
36	03	1/6 BN 2/5 BN 1/4 FA Reg, 1/5 FA Coy 2 Coy AFSC. 1/2 FA Bde 384 1 Aust A/TK Regt	2210		26	Summer line @ Advance clocks one hour from 0200 27 Sept. Ack.	
37	3	2/6 BN	1420	0915 (27)	26.	A Coy pinned down with heavy - point pl in area 278570 283569 282574, remainder of Coy deployed defence - 00 yds to E C Coy moving from rd line 303555 at 1410 hrs to attempt encircling movement of left flank @ B Coy moved from junction rd made 303555 to attempt encircling movement on rt flank, D in pos at start line.	(Exercise abort)
38	1 1M12	2/6 BN	0808	0915	27	Sitrep Sitnor.	Ad
39	401	2/7 BN	0720	0950	27	Sitrep 0600 hrs @ Slight patrol activity on perimeter during period 2100 to 2200 hrs @ Sitnor.	(Exercise)
40	4	REAR 6 Aust Div	1415/26	1000/27	27	HQ AIF BASE AREA closed SEYMOUR 1200 hrs 25 Sep. Reopened ROYAL PARK 1000 hrs 26 Sep @ all informed	
41	403	2/7 BN	1030	1100	27	Vanguard crossed SL 1020 hrs	
42	2/2	2/7 BN	1105	1120	27	contact gained enemy estimated one Coy THISTLE HILL Vanguard engaging @ main body by passage right flank	

PRG
D.L.M.

Operations Log

Serial No	Inward From	Outward To	T.O.O.	T.O.R.	Date	Information	Action Taken
43	REAR 6 Aust Div		1620/26	1120/27	27	ack 2/6 Aust INF BN war diary and appx for JUL and AUG for transmission to OZE	
44	REAR Aust Div		1620/26	1120/27	27		
44	2/2 Aust Pz AMB		1645/25	1225/27	27	G 1058 copy No 8. ACK	
45	2/5 Bn		1400	1535	27	Location Statement ref SINGLETON 1/63, 360 bn HQ adv HQ 293560 rear HQ 310559 B A Coy moving along rd towards THISTLE HILL C B Coy C, D coys at start line 310559 - 310568	(Exercise)
46	2/5		1420/27	1635	27	A Coy almost withheld out in area 278500 L83569 232574 O ENEMY has strong air support C Coy encircling LEFT flank B D coys encircling at flanks	C. M. H.
Serial orig 47	4	2/5 Bn	1445	1750	27	B, C Coy heavy engagement Dat L85592 and 267574 respect ively. D Coy being strafed 290590 moving out.	(Exercise)
48	401	2 Coy AAFC	1400	1855	27	Ref G1058 copy No 9 (C) Ack.	
49	402	2/7 Bn	1635	1800	27	Password for 2/7 Bn tonight 27/28 Sep (C) challenge DARLING counterattack RANGE	(Exercise)
50	2	2/5 Bn	1410	1900	27	A Coy heavily engaged and deployed at Thistle hill (C) One of our tanks destroyed!	(EXERCISE)
51	404	2/7 Bn	1802	1900	27	Sitrep. as at 1800 hrs (C) All coys in bivouac areas (C) Sitnorm.	(EXERCISE)
52	5	2/5 Bn	1455	1908	27	A and C coys wiped out (C) D Coy ambushed 278601 (C) exercise over (C) Password tonight Tomato.	(EXERCISE)
53	L 4.	2/6 Bn	1645	1915	27	Sitrep (C) Sitnorm password Douglas.	(EXERCISE)

All
S.G.

Operations Log

Serial No	Order No	Award From	Outward To	T.O.O.	T.O.R.	Date	Information	Action Taken
25	403.		6 Aust Div	1730		26	Location Statement @ ref map Singleton 1/63,360 @ 2/5 BN 310559 2/7 BN, tp 3 Bty, 1 Aust A/TK Regt, 52 Bty 2/2 Fd regt, sec 2/8 fd. coy, det. "K" sec Sigs 6 Aust Div Det 2/2 fd amb. at 312567. 2/6 BN 255612	Informed 6 Aust Div
26	1		1 Aust Mot Div	1700		26	ack in reply to 0153/26.	
27	4	2/5 BN		1540	1815	26	D. coy heavy engaged at 27860 at 1535 hrs @ B coy at 285593, C coy at 267574, both pinned down.	
28	404	2/6 BN	2/6 BN	1823		26	Sgt Scarlett NL. VX5083 has been attached to adv L.H.Q on probation	
29	402	2/7 BN		1720	1900		Password for 2/7 BN night 26/27 Sept @ challenge OWEN. counter sign STANLEY.	
30	7	Recd 6 Aust Div		1650	1900	26.	Ref tropical medicine course NO 8 at Sydney university 28 Sept to 10 Oct @ Second Aust Army directs Maj Irwin 2/2 Aust fd amb to attend @ Report to school 27 Sep @ 17 Bde will arrange movement @ endorse warrant NO 8 course school of tropical medicine & fd. military hygiene.	
		2/5 BN per L.O.		1730.		26.	Password ROSELLET @ Location same night 25/26 Sep 42.	
31	02		1 Aust Mot Div	2010		26	location statement @ ref map Singleton 1/63360 @ HQ 17 Aust Inf Bde 398569 @ K sect Sigs 398569 @ 46 LAD. 398569 @ 2 coy AA SC 398569 @ 2/8 Aust fd. coy. 398569 @ 40 Aust LAD 398569 @ F sect sigs 398569 @ 1 Aust A/TK Regt 312567 @ 2/5 BN 310559 @ 2/7 BN, tp 3 Bty, 52 Bty 2/2, fd regt sect 2/8 fd coy, det K's sect Sigs, 2/2 fd amb 312567 @ 2/6 BN 255612 @ 2/2 fd regt (6 Aust Div) 398569 398569	

Maid DRG

Operations Log

HQ 17AUST INF Bde

SHEET 4/09

Ref Map
SINGLETON 1" 1 mile

Serial No.	Inward From	Outward To	T.O.O.	T.O.R.	Date	Information	Action Taken
22	17025 Capt WRAY (PASSED BY MILLBASE Sydney)		0610 on 25 th	1500	26	Capt WRAY departed Brisbane 1830 A to-day with following personnel @ 4 DRS HQ 17 Aust Inf Bde @ 1 OR 2/6 bn 2 ORS 2/7 bn 11 ORS 2/8 Jd Coy 11 ORS 2/2 Jd Amb 4 ORS 2/8 Jd Coy 3 ORS 46 LAD 1 offr 80 ORS NO 2 Coy AASC 1 offr 9 ORS 2/2 Jd Regt @ also draft conducting offr @ halt time table will be advised to HQ 6 Div later @	2 found (BML) W.P.M.
23	2/5		1404/26	1700	26	location statement @ ref SINGLETON 1/63, 360 bn HQ adv HQ 293560 near HQ 310559 @ A Coy moving along rd towards THISTLE HILL @ B, C, D Coys at start line 310559 310568	
24	053 1 Aust MOT DIV		1252	1700	26	17 Aust inf bde of 23 Sep @ 1 Aust mot div will assume comd 17 Aust inf bde of 23 Aust Army Tank bde at 1400 28 Sep 42 @ comd 17 Aust inf bde of 23 Army Tank bde will report to SOC 1 Aust mot div during exercise 17 Aust inf bde of Thistle Hill 28 Sep and will bring statement showing location & strength of units @ this HQ remains present location @ all act	acked 1705 message from to BML (C) APAS DRY

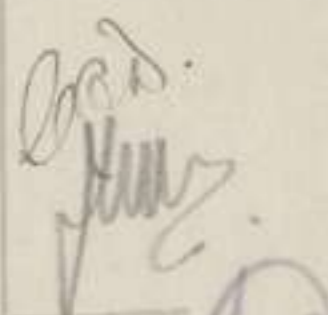
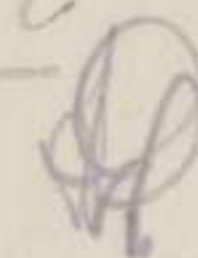
REF MAP SINGLETON

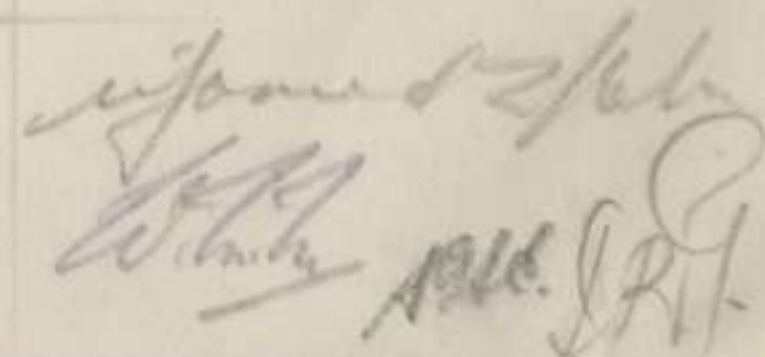
1/63.360

SHEET NO 6

HQ 17 AUST. INF BDE

NO	ORIG. NO	OUT TO	IN FROM	T.O.	DATE	TEXT	
15	1	ALL UNITS MIA A/TK		1950	22	tactical demonstration exercise will be held offer of above units except A/TK assemble CUSA but 2000 hrs need 23 Sep for outline of exercise and discussion @ requested offer 3 bty A/TK attend	
16	401		2/7	0720	0850	26	Subref 0700 hrs @ patrols report no activity @ Sitron
17	3		2/6 Bn	1800	1900	25	ref your G.1058 copy 11 (C) Bck.
			Capt Sarubun 6 Aust Div	1140			For Capt Mayberry. Lectures on Air Support not yet arranged for. Application gone on. Will be advised details later.
18	7ES		2/5	1800/25	1445/26	25	location statement @ ref SINGLETON 1/63.360 @ bn HQ 298347 A Coy 299347 B Coy 296546 C Coy 290542 D Coy 292547 Ho Coy 299544
19	3/1		2/7	1127	1445	26	contact gained ENEMY on THISTLE HILL @ vanguard engaging enemy @ main body by passing enemy NORTH flank.
20	2	REAR 6 AUST DIV		1015	1300	26	ref your A11/65 of 11 Sep @ X1414 Sgt Moy D.G. HQ 17 Aust INF BDE and X5023 Sgt SCARLETT N.L. 2/6 Aust INF Bn to be attached ADV LHG on probation
21	5		2/6/62	1940 on 24	24 26		ack in reply to 1/24

Ref. 1/63.360



referred 2/6/62

 1962

Ref Map Singleton 1/63369

H.Q. 17 Aust Inf Bde

Sheet No. 5

NO ORIGIN OUT TO IN FROM T.O.O. TOR. DATE


NO	ORIGIN	OUT TO	IN FROM	T.O.O.	TOR. DATE	
9			L.O.		25	Biv area for 2/8 bn tonight is w/ map Singleton 14 units 298548.
10	552		2/2 Fd Regt.	—	1530 25	ack in reply to 1/24.
11	100	2/5, 2/6, 2/7 Bns		1200	25	Bde M.M.G. course will commence 24 Sep 1950 All carriers P2 personnel including drivers of all ranks will attend (c) Nominal rolls of all students to attend will be submitted to this H.Q. by 1800 hrs 23 Sep (c) Units borrowing following pamphlets will forward name to this H.Q. by 1800 hrs 23 Sep on loan to course S.A.T. VOL. I. Part 7 Parts 1 2 3 (c) Each unit will provide eight complete M.M.G.'s (c) joining instructions and details later.
12	3/2		2/7	1535	1910 25	unit and tps under cond in bivouac area
13	3/1		2/7	1427	1910 25	no member of this unit taking part in forth coming exercise (c) in possession of ball drum
14	1 M 1		2/6	1716	1915 25	w/ map SINGLETON 1/63,360 (c) bn location 255612
	PHONE		2/6	1950	25	2/6 bn reported in bivouac area ADJT

Handwritten signatures and initials at the bottom right of the page.

Ref Map Singleton 1/63360.

HQ 17 Aust Inf Bde

SHEET NO 4

NO	ORIG NO	OUT TO	IN FROM	T.O.O	TOR	DATE		
5	4	6 Aust Div		1440		23	training @ could lectures on air cooperation be given this bde 29 30 Sep evenings @ subject desired @ air support @ signalling ground to air	
6	101	6 Aust Div		1440		23	ref to Aust Div letter G 814 of 6 Sep 42 @ Gen PERRETT serving sentence detention GEELONG @ report will be forwarded as soon as possible after his release on 7 Oct 42	and
7	0 539		2 Aust Army	1200	2000	23	1 Aust MOT DIV will assume Comd temporary of 17 Aust Inf Bde (at a time and date to be fixed by 1 Aust Mot Div) for operations, tng, discipline, local rd traffic control and movement local leave, local quarters and accommodation within camp areas, sanitation and hygiene (c) 17 Aust Inf Bde and 3 Army Tk Bde remain under direct comd control of 2 Aust Army for all other matters including personnel, medical, supply and tpt and ord (c) 1 Aust Mot Div will report to 2 Aust Army time and date convenient for assumption of Comd and control (c) 1 Aust Mot Div will instruct 6 Aust Div (less 16 Aust Inf Bde Gp) and 3 Army Tk Bde of time of assumption of Comd (c) 1 Aust Mot Div will also report proposed location of H.Q. 1 Aust Mot Div (c) All ack (c) All inf.	 and file
8	401		2/7 Bw	0845	1330	24	Training location 24 Sep @ BN H.Q. 407569 (c) A Coy square 4256 (c) B Coy square 4156 (c) C Coy 4157 (c) D Coy 4157 (c) H.Q. Coy 4056.	file file

Ref Meap Singleton 1/63360

H.Q. 17 Aust Inf Bde

Sheet No. 3

N ^o	ORIG N ^o	OUT TO	IN FROM	T.O.D.	TOR	DATE		
✓			6 Aust Div (phone)		0920	23	<p>Apts MOY + SCARLETT required for interview at LANDOPS. report to Lieut PEPPER at HQ 6 Aust Div at 2200 tonight. Take all equipment.</p>	<p>216 + 491 map Whitfield. Scarlett to be at BIC at 2130. BIC to supply apt</p>
2	1	2/5 + 2/7 Bns		0930		23	<p>Cach bn required supply working party strength one pl report Capt WATTS 2/8 Fd Coy BLOCK M in M.T. 0800 hrs 24 and 25 Sep preparation for exercise (C) bring lunch (C) Auk.</p>	<p>2/2 Reg 352/24 Mac ked</p>
3	401		2/7 Bnr	0900	0930	23	<p>Training location 23 Sep. (C) Bn H.Q. 407569 (C) A B C D Coy exercise attack defence area square 37 65 (C) H.Q. Coy route march specialist training area 407569</p>	
4	5	Rear 6 Aust Div				22	<p>Following is grouping of Units 6 Aust Div (C) Under Comd 22 Aust Fd PR Coy. under Comd CRA. 2/1 Aust A/TK Regt less two Btys (C) Under Comd 17 Aust Inf Bde 2/5, 2/6, 2/7 Aust Inf Bns 2/8 Aust Fd Coy 2/2 Aust Fd Amble. 2 Coy AA SC. (C) 2/2 Aust Fd Regt under Comd 17 Aust Inf Bde for operations side exercises and local adm but under Comd CRA for technical matters promotions and appointments (C) 3 Bty 2/1 Aust A/TK Regt is under Comd 17 Aust Inf Bde for operation and bde gp exercises.</p>	<p>CRE</p>

W. H. H.

Edg

Ref map Singleton 1: 63360.

Sheet to 2

17 Aust Inf Bde.

N^o ORIGIN OUT TO IN FROM T.O. TOR DATE

N ^o	ORIGIN	OUT TO	IN FROM	T.O.	TOR	DATE	
✓ 9853			6 Aust Div	1500	1515	21	<p>vehicles to be mechanically sound @ 17 Aust Inf Bde will arrange three guides to lead 1 Aust Inf Div from x roads at Woodville NMW of WEST MAITLAND at a time to be notified @ secondly 1. AODA Bk will deliver 23 Sept to VRD GRETA fourteen vans 4x4 and thirty trucks 3 Ton 4x4 @ vans to be held for allotment by 6 Aust Div but the thirty trucks 3 tons 4x4 available to 17 Aust Inf Bde @ 17 Aust Inf Bde to arrange for equal number 3 Ton trucks 4x2 to be delivered VRD morning 23 Sept for exchange and to arrange POL for returning vehicles.</p>
✓			6 Aust Div (phone)		2135	22	<p>1. Spts MOY + SCARLETT to be prepared to move BRISBANE tomorrow. further details follow.</p> <p>2. In Capt Gordon from 2 Aust Army " portees etc will NOT be transferred as originally intended & confirms verbal advice to 1 Aust at Pt Park.</p>
✓			Capt Dayberry		0150	23	<p>Phoned from Greta Str that he and Lieut Toome were awaiting transport to camp.</p>

2/5 Bn to arrange accommodation & rations.
T.O. to arrange P.O. & necessary transfers of vehicles.

[Handwritten signature]

message given to Capt Gordon on arrival. M.

Vehicle sent.
[Handwritten signature]

Ref Map. Singleton 1:63360

Sheet No. 1.

17 Aust Inf Bde

N^o ORIGIN OUT TO IN FROM T.O. T.O.R. DATE

1 ✓ 0. 524 2nd Aust Army 1545 1830 19.

Capt Punch liaison officer 2nd Aust Army visiting 6 Aust Div about 1300 hrs 21 Sep 42 with maps and training pamphlets for 17 Aust Inf Bde Sp (c) suggest 6 Aust Div inform him any requirements that group (c) Ack

✓ 2/5 Bw. 2000 20

Majr Goble, actg comd, requesting interview with Bde Comd during morning 21 Sep 42, and reply regarding time of interview.

[Red signature]
 noted.
 Kamb

✓ 9853 6 Aust Div 1500 1515

Confirming conversation with GORDON. CHAPMAN / O firstly 1A0ST motor div will deliver 22 Sept to VRD GRETA fifty eight vans 15 civl FDS in CVTS 4x4 and will receive in exchange fifty eight vans 4x2 @ 17 Aust Inf Bde will receive fifty 4x4 and will deliver to VRD 22 Sept for exchange twenty nine repeat twenty nine 4x2 @ balance of exchange vehicles to be supplied by 6 Aust Div @ 17 Aust Inf Bde will arrange quarters and rations for 4 officers and 64 ors night 20/23 sept and 2 civl lunches per man to be issued morning 23 Sept @ also arrange POL be available @ all exchange.

[Handwritten signatures and scribbles]

Operations Log

Serial No	Inward From	Outward To	T.O.O.	T.O.R.	Date	Information	Action Taken
9 ✓	1	2/2 2nd Reg 2 Coy AASC 2/8 2nd Coy	1515		30	No vehicle will leave camp areas without the driver being in possession of a current driving licence and a work ticket for the journey correctly made out	
10 ✓	2	2/5 2/6 2/7 2/2 2nd Amb	1515		30	No vehicle will leave camp areas with out the driver being in possession of a current driving licence and a work ticket for the journey correctly made out.	
11 ✓	3	2/5 2/6 2/7	1517		30	Ref duties (1) the guard at V.R.D. Seymour Old Camp has been withdrawn	
12 ✓	31	2/2 2nd Amb.		1600	30	Nomination AMC School 2/2 2nd Amb NX 76401 CAPT. REID. D.R.	
13 ✓	5	2/5 2/6 2/7 Btro	1600		30	Duty units will ensure that one 8 wvt truck reports to 6 Div Prov. Coy at staging camp Old Seymour daily at 1600 hrs.	
14 ✓	AR1	2/2 Regt 2/8 2nd Coy 2/5, 2/6, 2/7 Amb 2 Coy AASC	0920				
15 ✓	Phone H.Q. A.I.F. Base Line A.Q.M.G.		1025	1025	3	No move of 17 Bde Gt before 12 Sep 12.	All units inf: A.I.F.

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Operations Log

Serial No	Inward From	Outward To	L.O.O.	L.O.R.	Date	Information	Action Taken
1 ✓	Aust base			1115	29	(a) LHQ status that main body 17 Bks will now move on D+7. (b) Return from 2/5 2/6 2/7 1st Amb of personnel on interstate leave 2 days overdue.	
2 ✓	SC(2)			1130	"	TO to send truck report about trucks, OLD SEYMOUR, for use by 6 div Pro Coy all day.	
3 ✓	Base Area			2045	"	check all Hqs, report if any with damaged right mudguard. accident in SEYMOUR driver failed to stop.	units notified.
4 ✓	2/2 Amb			2125	"	Ref serial 3. 2/2 1st Amb OK.	} Aust base informed
5 ✓	2/6			2130	"	" " " 2/6 OK.	
6 ✓	2/5			2145	"	" " " 2/5 OK.	
7 ✓	2/7			2230	"	" " " 2/7 truck involved in accident at Seymour - truck with Pro, dr in hospital. This Hqs truck referred to in 3. Details later.	
8 ✓	2/7			0900	30.	Is guard on VRD Seymour still necessary?	No - units informed.

Map Ref:- *Galle Centralised*

OPERATIONS LOG.

UNIT. *1st Aust Inf Bde*

Serial No	Orig. No	Outward To	Inward From	T.O.O.	Time Rec	Date	INFORMATION.
✓ 1431	864		HQ AIF	1503	1740	4	MOST SECRET @ SCHOONER ref movement control embarkation order No 52 of 24 Jun 42 Appendix D Serial WD9 will report for embarkation @ 10 Jul 1400 hrs 3 offrs 200 ORS @ 11 Jul 1400 hrs 2 offrs 100 ORS @ 12 Jul 1500 hrs Balance personnel ACK
✓ 1432	404	HQ AIF		1850		6	Sitrep @ 2/5 Aust Inf Bn D Coy moved into billets GALLE FORT at 1200 hrs to-day @ Otherwise Sitrep
✓ 1433	401	HQ AIF		0735		7	917/825 Sitrep @ Sitrep
✓ 1434	851		Confidential HQ AIF DYT	2330 6	0830 7	7	MOST SECRET @ SCHOONER @ No personnel will be permitted to leave dock area while awaiting embarkation or to leave to star while awaiting to proceed dock @ After embarkation No personnel will be allowed off ship except OC to edit and Q. @ Offenders will be most severely dealt with @ Pdes will advise units under comd @ All informed @ Ack
✓ 1435	507		2/8 Aust Fd Coy RAF	0820	0950	7	Unit HQ closes AKURESSA 1300 hrs and reopens in LIGHTHOUSE ST GALLE FORT same time to-day
✓ 1436			HQ 147 Lt AA Bty RA		1205	7	Please note the following change of location of these HQ with effect from 1200 hrs Tues 7 Jul 42 "Southlands" Galle Fort, Galle MR 086586 Ref Map Galle Central 1" = 1 mile.

Out 402/7
MR

Passed to AIF. HQ

Sheet No 219

17 Aust Inf Bde

Map Ref:-

Galle Centralised

OPERATIONS LOG.

UNIT.

Serial No	Orig. No	Outward To	Inward From	T.O.O.	Time Rec	Date	INFORMATION.
✓ 1425	1		AIF (CEYLON)	1700	2230	5	<p>HQ (AIF (CEYLON) located as follows sig office, cybers reception office AG and DAQG. MINSAEUS college ROSMEAD PLACE. CBD TEL C13095830 DAAG. MATUGAMIAO 6 office 32 EDINBURGH PLACE CBD. TEL CEYLON COMD. CBD 9323 extension WHITEHOUSE direct all DRHS traffic and signals through signal office all wk</p> <p>Passed to units</p>
✓ None			2/5B	0700	0710	6	nothing to report
✓			2/6B	0700	0715	6	SITREP normal
✓			2/7B	0700	0725	6	situation normal
✓ 1426	401	HQ AIF		0730		6	SITREP nothing to report
✓ 1427	841		HQ AIF	1535	0908	6	<p>SCHOONER @ MOST SECRET @ 17 Aust Bde please pass @ Aust Wing VD camp BUSSA and staff and patients fit travel will move under arrangement of 17 Aust Inf Bde</p> <p>2/7 Aust Inf Bn less HQ Coy and baggage details moving 91 mile post rd WELIGAMA MATARA ref GAFCE cont'd sheet 344513 AIR 134051 0900 hrs 7 July</p>
✓ 1428	102	HQ AIF		1015		6	
✓ 1429	9	16 DE +		1600		6	ref your file number. 9/2/442 @ act.
✓ 1430	701		2/5B	1200	1623	6	SITREP D Coy moved into billets in FORT at 1200 hrs today.

Map Ref:- GALLE
(Centralised)

Sheet 16 218

OPERATIONS LOG.

UNIT. HQ 17 BDE.....

Serial No	Orig. No	Outward To	Inward From	T.O.O.	Time Rec	Date	INFORMATION.
12	✓ 1420	407	H.Q. HQF (CEYLON)	1900		4	742/298 Sibrep @ Sitnor
12	✓ 1421	401	H.Q. AIF CEYLON	0725		5	675/613 Sibrep @ Nothing to report.
13	✓ 1422	0/134	2/6 BN	2200 0940	0940	4	Sec'da takeover except for M/C patrol from 1000 hrs @ taking over of MT NOT yet complete.
13	✓ 1423	6/6	2/7 BN	1806	1900	5	advising VX 55205 Pte. HALLAY. JOHN ARCHIBALD of this unit died at 12 AGH. 1000 hrs today from pneumonia @ this unit arranged burial to take place. CBO through AIF details.
13	✓ 1424	AOS/6	HQ AIF	1440	1900	5	one (1) only long 31ms B/D from 2 eqy AIFC will report. 1200 hrs LIEUT MYREI - VICTORINE PARK CBO @ chie vehicle at units discretion.
13	✓ 2030		2 ECH AIF		2130	5	ref funeral Pte HALLAY - arrangements made for 1400/6.
13			DAFING AIF		2100	5	Lt. Col CREMOR (staff W/D) report @ movements, CBO, 0900/6; call MUSAENS COLLEGE on way. Baybay parties (W/D) report 0700/6.

passed to
2/7

to SC.

Map Ref:- CABLE (Centralised)

OPERATIONS LOG.

UNIT: No 7 Bde

Serial No	Orig. No	Outward To	Inward From	T.O.O.	Time Rec	Date	INFORMATION.
✓	verbal		2/6		0645	3	Sitrep @ Sitnom
✓	verbal		2/7		0615	3	Sitrep as at 0630 hrs @ SITNOR
✓	verbal		2/5		0701	3	Sitrep @ Sitnom
✓	1413	401 HQ AIF		0705		3	03/423 Sitrep as at 0630 hrs @ SITNORM
✓	Phone		2/5 hrs		1730	3	SITREP @ SITNOR. 1/2 patrol nothing to report.
✓	1414	A03	2/7 hrs	1710	1755	3	SITREP as at 1700 hrs @ SITNOR
✓	Phone		2/2 Feb Regt	1-	1755	3	1st your 1/2 O act
✓	Phone		2/6 hrs		1800	3	nothing to report.
✓	1415	1 HQ AIF		1010		3	by mutual arrangement 32 Ind Coy is to take over this bde's responsibilities for Southern area of AIF sector at 1000 hrs. 1 pl. rpt of 1 pl.
✓	1416	403 HQ AIF		1810		3	50/971 sitrep @ nothing to report.
✓	1417	401	2/7 hrs	0633	0720	4	7/12/34 sitrep as at 0630 hrs @ Sitnom
✓	verbal		2/5 hrs		0700	4	Sitrep @ Sitnom
✓	1418	401 HQ AIF		0900		4	9/15/47 Sitrep @ Situation normal
✓	1419	3/10	2/7	1000	1125	4	handover complete

Map Ref:- *Galle Centralised*

OPERATIONS LOG.

UNIT. *17 Aust Inf Bde*

Serial No	Orig. No	Outward To	Inward From	T.O.O.	Time Rec	Date	INFORMATION.
✓ 1408	3/4		2/7 Bn	1015	1103	2	All incoming tps now in cog areas
✓ Verbal			Sig Office		1315	2	2/5 Bn line out
✓ Verbal			Sig Office		1455	2	2/5 Bn line now open
✓ 1409	1	all units		1500		2	This bde's operational responsibility for Southern Areas of AIF sector passes to 32 Ind Inf Bde on SATURDAY 4 JUL at 1000 hrs @ Comd will ensure that all sub units landing over is complete by that time @ Ack.
✓ Phn			2/7 Bn		1715	2	SITREPO SITNOR.
✓ Verbal			2/6 Bn		1745	2	Sitrep @ SITNOR.
✓ 1410			20 Ind Div	1715	1800	2	32 Ind Inf Bde assumes responsibility for Southern area of AIF sector 1000 hrs 4 July @ All units will complete taking over by that time and date @ Ack
✓ VERBAL	2	32/100 Bde	2/5		1930	2	Sitrep @ SITNOR 1/1 patrol nothing to report
✓ 1411				1920			Properties 02 ack
✓ 1412	408	HA AIF			1905	2	702/278 Sitrep ref SCITTONBA Local 18 and 19 arrived appointed locations at 1530 and 1600 hrs respectively @ otherwise SITNOR

acked
2/5 Bn
2/6 Bn
2/7 Bn
2/8 Bn

2

Map Ref:- *Yallah Cont*

OPERATIONS LOG.

UNIT. *4th Div 17th Bn*

Sheet No 215

Serial No	Orig. No	Outward To	Inward From	T.O.O.	Time Rec	Date	INFORMATION., .
1402	406	2/25d Regt		740		1	Please expedite return of 3 motor maps CEYLON
Verbal			Police Sta Kussoo		1800	1	Practice Only @ AIR RAID WHITE
1403	407	HQ AIF		1805		1	840/621 Sitrep @ Sitnos
Phone			DAQMG			1	From DAQMG to 2/2 Fd Regt Veh No 4528 1 ton W/T is still at Puckas garage & must be taken to Victoria Park immediately.
1404	1		HQ AIF	1700	2027	1	Following publications will be returned to this HQ immediately @ PARALLELISM 1941 @ RA Training memo No 5 1 2 3 4 Fd and A/PK @ Arty code 1941 @ All informed
Phone			DAQMG		2115	1	Serials 18 19 20 running 3 hrs 8 mins late
1405	570	2/5 bn		2305		1	Capt H Brown and Lieut Wills will both report this HQ 1330 hrs to-morrow 2 July
Phone			2/5 bn 2/6 bn 2/7 bn		0700	2	Sitrep @ Sitnos " "
1406	401	HQ AIF			0740	2	Sitrep @ Sitnos
1407	402	HQ AIF		0955		2	Ref Schooner @ Serial 17 arrived off port of Beaton

2/5 2/6 2/7
Informed

2/2 Fd Regt

ACW

Map Ref:-

Galle Cent


OPERATIONS LOG.

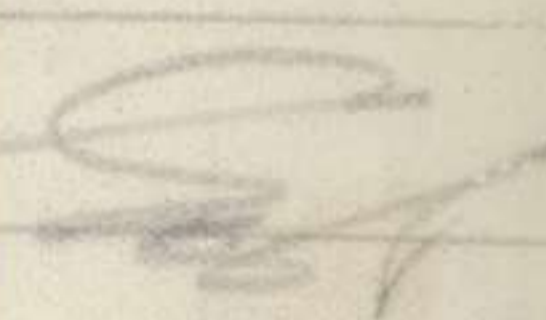
Sheet No 214

UNIT. H.Q. 17. Post

Inf Bde

Serial No	Orig. No	Outward To	Inward From	T.O.O.	Time Rec	Date	INFORMATION.
1395	401	H.Q. AIF (CEYLON)		0735		1	103/529 Sitrep (a) 52 Bty 2/2 Fd Regt closed location 0700 hrs. (b) otherwise Sitnot
1396	1	1 Coast Regt R.M.		0850		1	The following sig from FLAG OFFR CEYLON has passed to us for necessary action @ DS WILHEM VAN DER ZAAN is expected to arrive GALLE 0100 GREENWICH mean time third July @ So this message for you @ Ack
1397	1		2/2 Fd Regt	0759	0820	1	RHQ closed present location 0930 hrs to-day re-open BUSSA same time
1398		HQ AIF		1212		1	Ref Schooner @ HYDRABADS arrived appointed location @ 2/2 Aust Fd Regt concentrated ref sheet 92A 025638 AIR 102064 BUSSA CAMP
1399			2/5 bn	1145	1229	1	Sitrep @ Arty returned to own comd from 1100 hrs 1 July
1400		HQ AIF		1520		1	Serial 16 arrived appointed location
Verbal			2/6 bn		1720	1	Sitrep @ Sitnot
1401	403		2/7 bn	1703	1735	1	742/372 Sitrep as at 1700 hrs @ Sitnot
Verbal			Police Sta Akusapa		1737	1	Practice Only @ AIR RAID YELLOW
Verbal			2/5 bn		1800	1	Sitrep @ Sitnot

Alwyn




17 AUST INF BDE
OPERATIONS DIARY

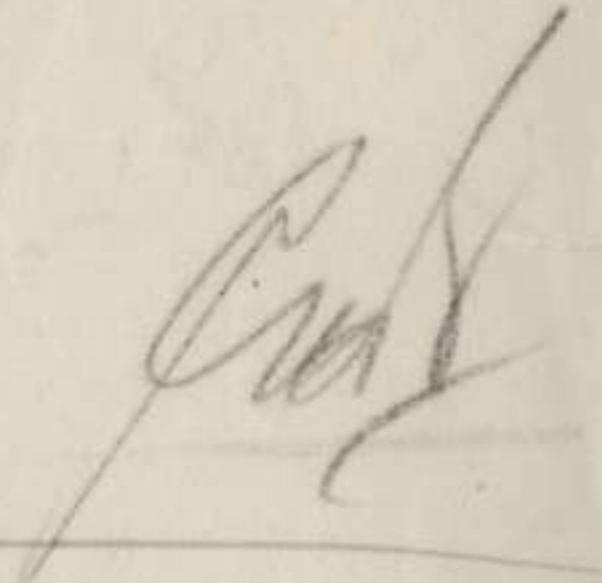
11
SHEET NO.....

Ref Map Singleton 1/63360.

Ser No	Date	Outwards to	Inwards from	TOO or Time of Event	T O R	Summary of Message or Event	Remarks. Action Taken
54	27	2/5, 2/6, 2/7 bn		1940		Originators No. 101. (C) for information (C) ref demonstration (C) Spectators as follows will attend (C) H.Q. Second Aust Army twenty five 1 Aust MOT Div fifty three (C) 1 Aust Div two hundred and fifty (C) 3 Aust Army TK Bde ten (C) Others ten.	Message by S.D.R.
Verbal	27		Col. Walters	2000		Capt Gordon stated he had not received deficiencies S.A.P. or M.E. specially A/TK. could these be forwarded to reach this H.Q. before 0900 28 Sep. 42.	Passed on to S.C. 2000 hrs 27 Sep. J.P. J.P.
55	28		2/7 Bn.	0655	0915	Sitrep as at 0600 hrs (C) Patrol activity during night (C) Sitnorm.	(EXERCISE)
56	28		2/6 Bn.	0830	0930	Sitrep (C) Sitnorm password FRANK	(EXERCISE)
57	28	2/7 bn		1035		(In reply to number 4/1) no smoke candles available this HQ	
58	28		2/7 bn	0937	1020	no smoke candles apt to hand Act.	
Phone	28		8M. cer phone	1145		advise to send vehicle bridge Swettenham Creek pick up Lt Col McBride where patrol was left yesterday	TO arriving 1150 hrs. 28 Sep. S.P.
Phone	28		2 Coy ASC.	1200		Lt Col Toomey to return C&E papers sent for signature (C) Capt Esprison enquiring	

Sheet No ~~222~~ 222
 17 Aust Inf Bde

N ^o	ORIG N ^o	OUT TO	IN FROM	TOD	TOR	DATE	
1443	405	HQ AIF Ceylon		1730		8	Sitrep @ This HQ 80 Lighthouse St Fort Galle Tel Galle 125 2/6 Bn 182 mile post rd Galle Weligama @ HQ 2/7 Bn 91 mile post rd Weligama Matara HQ 2/5 Bn 2/2 Fd Amb + 2 Coy A.S.C. unchanged
1444	401	HQ AIF Ceylon		0743		9	Sitrep @ Nothing to report.
1445	702	2	2/6 Bn	1140		9	location statement @ w/GALLE cont A Coy 19854 B 235528 C 243524 D school 198554 HQ Coy 218535 RAIP 232529 BN HQ 215 536



Galle Centralised

SHEET No ~~211~~ 221
17 Aust Coy/Bde

N ^o	ORIG N ^o	OUT TO	IN FROM	TOD	TOR	DATE	
1437	404	HQ AIF (CEYLON)		1845	1852	7	Strip of Sitnor ref our 402 of 6 Jul 2/7 in has HQ coy and baggage details moved to WELIGAMA at 0930 hrs today as arranged
1438	401	HQ AIF (CEYLON)		0730		8	12/730 Strip location changes 2/7d coy now at 41 LIGHTHOUSE. ST. GALLE FORT 2/6 bn have moved near 82 ml post rd GALLE MATARA @ otherwise SITNORM
1439	404	2/5, 2/6 2/7 bn 2 Coy ASC 2/2 1st Amb		1330		8	This HQ closes present location 14300 opens same time at 75 Lighthouse ST Galle Fort Telephone No Galle 125-
1440	403	HQ AIF CEYLON		1300		8	This HQ closes present location 14300 @ opens same time 75 Lighthouse ST Galle Fort Telephone No Galle 125-
1441			SIGO.			8	5 bn & R will call 5 times daily clearing No 32 2nd Coy Bde through 5 bn Dir DR Harris approx 0915 hrs 1815 hrs our phone No Galle 125- 32 2nd Coy Bde DR will arrive 1230
1442	853	HQ AFF	HQ AIF	1630	1940		GURNEY staying here overnight @ Returns afternoon 9 Jul

8/5/7

9/5/7

[Signature]

[Signature]

Map Ref:- *Galle Centralised*

OPERATIONS LOG.

UNIT. 17. *Quat Inf Bde*

Serial No	Orig. No	Outward To	Inward From	T.O.O.	Time Rec	Date	INFORMATION.
1431	866		HQ AIF	1503	1740	4	MOST SECRET @ SCHOONER ref movement control embarkation order No 52 of 24 Jun 42 Appendix D Serial WP9 will report for embarkation @ 10 Jul 1400 hrs 3. offrs 200 ORS @ 11 Jul 1600 hrs 2 offrs 100 ORS @ 12 Jul 1500 hrs Balance personnel ACK
1432	404	HQ AIF		1850		6	Sitrep @ 2/5 Quat Inf Bn D Coy moved into billets GALLE FORT at 1200 hrs to-day @ Otherwise Sitnet
1433	401	HQ AIF		0735		7	917/825 Sitrep @ Sitnet
1434	851		Confidential HQ AIF #77	2330 6	0830 7	7	MOST SECRET @ SCHOONER @ No personnel will be permitted to leave dock area while awaiting embarkation or to leave by star while awaiting to proceed dock @ After embarkation No personnel will be allowed off ship except OC for adjt and Qo @ Offenders will be most severely dealt with @ Pdes will advise units under comd @ All informed @ Ack
1435	JU7		2/8 Quat Fd Coy RAF	0820	0950	7	Unit HQ closes AKURESSA 1300 hrs and reopens HI LIGHTHOUSE ST GALLE FORT same time to-day
1436			HQ 147 Lt AA Bty RA		1205	7	Please note the following change of location of these HQ with effect from 1200 hrs Tues 7 Jul 42 "Southlands" Galle Fort, Galle MR 086586 Ref/Map Galle Central 1" = 1 mile.

[Handwritten scribble]

Ack 402/T

[Handwritten signature]

Passed to
AIF. HQ

[Handwritten initials]

Map Ref:- Galle Centralised

OPERATIONS LOG.

Sheet No 219

UNIT. 14 Aust Inf Bde

Serial No	Orig. No	Outward To	Inward From	T.O.O.	Time Rec	Date	INFORMATION.
1425	1		AIF (CEYLON)	1700	2230	5	<p>HQ (AIF (CEYLON). located as follows sig office, cipher reception, office AQ and DAQG. MUSAEUS College. ROSMEAD PLACE. CBO TEL CBO95830 DAAG. MATUGAMIA 5 office 32 EDINBURGH PLACE CBO. TEL CEYLON COMD. CBO 9323 extension WHITEHOUSE duet all TRLS traffic and signals through signal office all inf.</p>
Phone			2/5BW	0700	0710	6	nothing to report.
"			2/6BW	0700	0715	6	SITREP normal.
"			2/7BW	0700	0725	6	situation normal.
1426	401	HQ AIF		0730		6	SITREPO nothing to report.
1427	241		HQ AIF	1555 5	0908 6	6	SCHOONER @ MOST SECRET @ 17 Aust Bde please pass @ Aust Wing VD camp. BUSSA and staff and patients fit travel will move under arrangement @ 17 Aust Inf Bde
1428	402	HQ AIF		1015		6	2/4 Aust Inf Bn less HQ Coy and baggage details moving 91 mile post rd WELIGAMA MATARA ref GALLE cent sheet 344513 AIR 134051 0900 hrs 7 July
1429	9	16 BDE	*	1600		6	ref your file number. 0/2/442 @ act.
1430	701		2/5BW	1200	1623	6	SITREPO D Coy moved into billets in FORT. at 1200 hrs today.

Passed to units



Handwritten initials or signature at the bottom right.

Map Ref: - (Centralised) GALLE

OPERATIONS LOG.

Sheet No 218

UNIT: HQ 17 BDE.....

Serial No	Orig. No	Outward To	Inward From	T.O.O.	Time Rec	Date	INFORMATION.	
1420	407	H.Q. AIF (CEYLON)		1900		4	742/298 Sibip @ Sitnor	
1421	401	H.Q. AIF CEYLON		0725		5	675/613 Sibip @ Nothing to report.	
1422	0/134		2/6 BN	2200 0940	0940	4	Sec'da taken over except for M/C patrol from 1000 hrs @ Taking over of MT NOT yet complete.	
1423	6/6		2/7 Bw	1806.	1900	5	advising VX 55205 Pte. HALLAY. JOHN ARCHIBALD of this unit died at 12 AGH. 1000 hrs today from pneumonia @ This unit arranging burial to take place. CBO through AIF details	
1424	AOS/6		H.Q. AIF	1440	1900	5	one (1) only long 3 ton B/D from 2 Coy ARMC will report. 200 lbs LTRUT MYREI - VICTORIAN PARK CBO @ choice vehicle at unit's discretion	
2130			2 ECH AIF		2130	5	ref funeral Pte HALLAY - arrangements made for 1400/6.	passed to 2/7
			DAMPING AIF		2100	5	4. w/ CREMOR 'staff WD' report @ movement, CBO, 0900/6; call MWSACUS COLLEGE on way. Bayliss parties 'WD' report 0700/6.	to SC.

Map Ref: - CALLE (Centralised)

OPERATIONS LOG.

UNIT: No 17 Bde

Serial No	Orig. No	Outward To	Inward From	T.O.O.	Time Rec	Date	INFORMATION.	ACTION TAKEN
1410			2/6		0645	3	Sitrep @ Sitnor	
1411			2/7		0645	3	Sitrep as at 0630 hrs @ SITNOR	
1412			2/5		0701	3	Sitrep @ Sitnor	
1413	401	HR AIF		0705		3	103/423 Sitrep as at 0630 hrs @ SITNORM	
Phone			2/5bn		1730	3	SITREP @ SITNOR. m/c patrol. nothing to report.	
1414	403		2/7bn	1710	1755	3	SITREP as at 1700 hrs @ SITNOR	
Phone			2/2 Tel Reg	F	1755	3	let your 1/2 oach	
Phone			2/6bn		1800	3	nothing to report	
1415	1	HR AIF		1010		3	by mutual arrangement 32 Ind Coy is to take over this bde's responsibilities for Southern area of AIF sector at 1000 hrs. A gen rpt 4 Ind.	
1416	403	HR AIF		1810		3	50/971 sitrep @ nothing to report	
1417	401		2/7bn	0633	0720	4	7/12/134 sitrep as at 0630 hrs @ sitnor	
Verbal			2/5bn		0700	4	Sitrep @ sitnor	
1418	401	HR AIF		0900		4	964/547 Sitrep @ Situation normal	
1419	3/10		2/7	1000	1125	4	handover complete	

Map Ref:- *Gall Centralised*

OPERATIONS LOG.

UNIT: *14 Aust Inf Bde*

Serial No	Orig. No	Outward To	Inward From	T.O.O.	Time Rec	Date	INFORMATION.
1408	3/4		2/4 bn	1015	1103	2	All incoming tps now in edge areas
Verbal			Sig Office		1315	2	2/5 Bn line out
Verbal			Sig office		1455	2	2/5 BN line now open
1409	1	all units		1500		2	This takes operational responsibility for Southern Areas of AIF sector passes to 32nd Inf Bde on SATURDAY 4 JULY at 1000 hrs @ Comd will insure that all sub units landing over is complete by that time @ Ack.
Phone			2/7 Bn		1715	2	SITREPO SITNOR.
Verbal			2/6 bn		1745	2	Sitrep @ SITNOR
1410			32 Inf Div	1715	1800	2	32nd Inf Bde assumes responsibility for Southern area of AIF sector 1000 hrs 4 July @ All units will complete taking over by that time and date @ Ack
VERBAL			2/5		1830	2	Sitrep @ SITNOR 11/epatrol nothing to report
1411	2	32/140 Bde		1820			Sim reply to 02 ack
1412	408	HA AIF			1905	2	202/298 Sitrep ref SEITNOR locat 18 and 19 arrived appointed locations at 1530 and 1600 hrs respectively @ otherwise SITNOR

acked 30 Aug Bde.
 2/5 Bn 2/2
 2/6
 2/7 AASC
 2/8 2/4
 2/9
 2/10

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

Map Ref:- *Galle Cent*

OPERATIONS LOG.

Sheet No 215

UNIT. *H.Q. 17. Aust. Inf Bde*

Serial No	Orig. No	Outward To	Inward From	T.O.O.	Time Rec	Date	INFORMATION...
1402	406	2/2 Fd Regt		1740		1	Please expedite return of 3 motor maps CEYLON
Verbal			Police Sta Akussoor		1800	1	Practice Only @ AIR RAID WHITE
1403	407	HQ AIF		1805		1	840/621 Sitref @ Sitnot
Phone			DAQMG			1	From DAQMG to 2/2 Fd Regt Veh No 2528 1 ton W/T is still at Puckas garage & must be taken to Victoria Park immediately.
1404	1		HQ AIF	1700	2027	1	Following publications will be returned to this HQ immediately @ PARALLELISM 1941 @ RA Training memo No 5 1 2 3 4 Fd and A/2k @ Arty code 1941 @ All informed
Phone			DAQMG		2115	1	Serials 18 19 20 running 3 hrs 8 mins late
1405	570	2/5 bn		2305		1	Capt H Brown and Lieut Nills will both report this HQ 1330 hrs to-morrow 2 July
Phone			2/5 bn 2/4 bn 2/4 bn		0400	2	Sitref @ Sitnot " "
1406	401	HQ AIF			0440	2	Sitref @ Sitnot
1407	402	HQ AIF		0955		2	Ref Schooner @ Serial 17 arrived appointed location

*2/5 2/6 2/7
Informed*

*Refd to
2/2 Fd Regt*

Alan [Signature]

Map Ref:-

Galle Cent

OPERATIONS LOG.

Sheet No 214

UNIT. H.Q. 17 Aust Inf Bde

Serial No	Orig. No	Outward To	Inward From	T.O.O.	Time Rec	Date	INFORMATION.
1395	401	H.Q. AIF (CEYLON)		0735		1	103/529 Sitrep @ 52 Bty 2/2 Fd Regt closed location 0700 hrs. @ otherwise Sitnot
1396	1	1 Coast Regt R.M.		0850		1	The following sig from FLAG OFFR CEYLON has passed to us for necessary action @ DS WILLEM VAN DER ZAAN is expected to arrive GALLE 0100 GREENWICH near time third July @ So this message for you @ Act
1397	1		2/2 Fd Regt	0759	0820	1	RHQ closed present location 0930 hrs to-day re-open BUSSA same time
1398		HQ AIF		1212		1	Ref Schooner @ HYDRABADS arrived appointed location @ 2/2 Aust Fd Regt concentrated ref sheet 92A 025638 AIR 102044 BUSSA CAMP
1399			2/5 bn	1145	1229	1	Sitrep @ Arty returned to own camp from 1100 hrs 1 July
1400		HQ AIF		1525		1	Serial 16 arrived appointed location
Verbal			2/6 bn		1420	1	Sitrep @ Sitnot
1401	403		2/7 bn	1403	1435	1	742/372 Sitrep as at 1400 hrs @ Sitnot
Verbal			Police Sta Akurasa		1437	1	Practice Only @ AIR RAID YELLOW
Verbal			2/5 bn		1800	1	Sitrep @ Sitnot

Handwritten signature

W
YOU
IRIN
(Red and blue ink markings)

2/5 2/6 2/7
 Informed
(Handwritten notes)