AWM52

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

Item number: 8/2/17

17 Infantry Brigade

December 1942, Track Reports

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

TRACK-REPORTS (Duplicates

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

REPORT ON TRACKS

Ref Map: MILNE BAY (PROV) No.2. 28 Dec 42.

Bn Ser No	Going From	Going To	Time if Route Dry	Time if Route Wet	Obstacles	Width of Track	Remarks.
Y3	036022 CREEK CROSS-ING	041031 (JOHNS)	35 mins	45 mins	AWADUMA CK at 036026 10ft wide 1ft deep.	Tps move in single file.	From ck crossing (036022) tk moves NORTH through coconuts to edge of AWADUMA CK 036026, crosses ck and proceeds through jungle up a very steep gradient for 300x then drops steep down other slope of feature for a further 250x into a native garden. After meeting WEHURIA CK continues along CK for 300x still in garden past 7 small huts on ck bank. From here moves in from ck to one single hut thence down to ck again at 049031 - entrance marked ARTHURS TRACK.
Y4	047019 (WEHURIA CREEK)	051029 (MOTOR TRACK)	40 mins	50 mins		Tps move in single file.	From WEHURIA CK, tk runs across dry ck bed thence into jungle and up gradient to tk junc 049021. Passes through sago swamp to village of GIHUA on hill. After fording ck (4 ft wide) tk passes through jungle for 600x and meets Motor tk at 051029.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

REPORT ON TRACKS

Ref Map: MILNE BAY (PROV) No.2.

28 Dec 42.

Bn Ser No	Going From	Going To	Time if Route Dry	Time if Route Wet	Obstacles	Width of Track	Remarks.
Y3	036022 CREEK CROSS-ING	041031 (JOHNS)	35 mins	45 mins	AWADUMA CK at 036026 10ft wide 1ft deep.	Tps move in single file.	From ck crossing (036022) tk moves NORTH through coconuts to edge of AWADUMA CK 036026, crosses ck and proceeds through jungle up a very steep gradient for 300x then drops steep down other slope of feature for a further 250x into a native garden. After meeting WEHURIA CK continues along CK for 300x still in garden past 7 small huts on ck bank. From here moves in from ck to one single hut thence down to ck again at 049031 - entrance marked ARTHURS TRACK.
Y4	047019 (WEHURIA CREEK)	051029 (MOTOR TRACK)	40 mins	50 mins		Tps move in single file.	From WEHURIA CK, tk runs across dry ck bed thence into jungle and up gradient to tk junc 049021. Passes through sago swamp to village of GIHUA on hill. After fording ck (4 ft wide) tk passes through jungle for 600x and meets Motor tk at 051029.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

REPORT ON TRACKS

Ref Map: MILNE BAY (PROV) No.2.

28 Dec 42.

Bn Ser No	Going From	Going To	Time if Route Dry	Time if Route Wet	Obstacles	Width of Track	Remarks.
Y3	036022 CREEK CROSS-ING	041031 (JOHNS)	35 mins	45 mins	AWADUMA CK at 036026 10ft wide 1ft deep.	Tps move in single file.	From ck crossing (036022) tk moves NORTH through coconuts to edge of AWADUMA CK 036026, crosses ck and proceeds through jungle up a very steep gradient for 300x then drops steep down other slope of feature for a further 250x into a native garden. After meeting WEHURIA CK continues along CK for 300x still in garden past 7 small huts on ck bank. From here moves in from ck to one single hut thence down to ck again at 049031 - entrance marked ARTHURS TRACK.
Y4	047019 (WEHURIA CREEK)	051029 (MOTOR TRACK)	40 mins	50 mins		Tps move in single file.	From WEHURIA CK, tk runs across dry ck bed thence into jungle and up gradient to tk junc 049021. Passes through sago swamp to village of GIHUA on hill. After fording ck (4 ft wide) tk passes through jungle for 600x and meets Motor tk at 051029.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

REPORT ON TRACKS.

REF MAPS:

DATE: 28 Dec 42

BN SERIAL NO	GOING TIME (x) FROM	TO	TIME IF ROUTE DRY	TIME IF ROUTE ~~DRY~~ WET	OBSTACLES DETAILS OF, MAP REF TO.	WIDTH OF TR (=)	REMARKS. e.g. COULD IT BE MADE INTO JEEP tk — PB. FOR AMBUSH, - GRADES - O.P.S. - COUNTRY ON EITHER SIDE - CLEARINGS - ETC.
X11	Route 3 991985	Route 9 007967	1 hr.		In wet weather tk is impassable along MIWARA RIVER.	File to 989998 then Single file	JEEP track to 989998. track along MIWARA River is at present partly covered with fallen trees but these are being removed, and track is easy to follow
X12.	Route 3 998981.	Tk June 002965	30 min		Ck. Crossings at 996978 & 999967 would be an obstacle in wet weather.	Single file.	a bad track even in dry weather,
X13	DONADONA 986972.	Route 9. 011973	45 min		———	Single file	First part of track through fire lane. a bad track from 992974 — 001972. From then on track native garden and is in fair condition.
X14	Route 3. 005979	Tk June 997969	20 min		———	Single file	track from Route 3. 005979 to 001972 a good track cut by 9 Bn
X15 X16 X17	991981 993974 991967	996974 993966 001966				Single file	These tracks are ~~very~~ in very bad condition even in dry weather, track pass through swampy ground, and would be almost impassable in wet weather
X18	Route 4. 938985	GWENA GWENA-RENA 936043	2 hrs.		Creek Crossings at 941007, 938015, 938029. Could be bridged at 941007 & 938015. a lawyer vine is at present accross creek at 938015 at 938029 banks are low and creek floods over ~~[illegible]~~ tracks on either side	Single file from 941007.	From Route 4 to 941007 a made Road past Ammo Dump & Ord Depot. Then jungle track to G.G.R small steep hills in area 939019 and 939035. Area too thickly timbered to be of any use for O.P.s. From 938029 to 941022 track is impassable in wet weather.
X19	Route 13 913002	Tk June 938030.	2 hrs.		915003 to 926013. Impassable in wet weather	Single file.	a very bad track throughout. From 917005 to 925012 track runs along bed of creek, then through swamp from 932023. to 935028. impassable in wet weather
X20	G.G.R 936043	Tk June. 972042	2½ hrs		Ck. Crossing at 934045 to 935050 tk follows ck. bank and is under water in wet weather	Single file	a bad track through foot hills. many steep hills, but to thickly timbered to be used as O.P.s. Large native garden in area 963054

(X) ESTIMATE GOING TIME AS FOR THE TIME IT WOULD TAKE ONE PL. TO MOVE OVER ROUTE INCL. OBSTACLES.
(=) WIDTH - JUST GIVE: TPS. MOVE IN SINGLE FILE, FILE, ETC.

5

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

REPORT ON TRACKS

Ref Maps:

Date: 28 Dec 42

Bn Ser No.	Going Time(x) From	To	Time if Route Dry	Time if Route Wet	Obstacles, Details of, Map Ref to.	Width of Track(=)	REMARKS e.g. Could it be made into jeep tk - Pts for ambush - Grades - O.Ps. - Country on either side clearings etc.
X11	Route 3 991985	Route 9 007967	1 hr		In wet weather tk is impassable along MIWARA RIVER.	File to 989998 then single file.	JEEP track to 989998.Tk along MIWARA R is at present coveredpartly with fallen trees but these afe being removed and tk is easy to follow.
X12	Route 3 998981	Tk Junc 002965	30 m.		Ck crossings at 996978 & 999967. Would be an obstacle in wet weather	Single file.	A bad track even in dry weather.
X13	DONA DONA 986972	Route 9 011973	45 m.		- -	Single file.	First part of tk through fire lanes. A bad tk from 992974-001972. From then on tk native gardens and is in fair condition.
X14	Route 3 005979	Tk junc 997969	20 m.		- -	Single file.	Tk from Route 3. 005979 to 001972 a good tk cut by 9 Bn.
X15	991981	996974				Single file.	These tks are in very bad condition even in dry weather, tks pass through swampy gd, and would be almost impassable in wet weather.
X16	993974	993966					
X17	991967	001966					
X18	Route 4 938985	GWENA GWENA RENA 936043	2 hrs		Ck crossing at 941007, 938015,938029. Could be bridged at 941007 and 938015 - a lawyer vine is at present across ck at 938015. At 938029 banks are low and ck floods over. Tks on either side.	Single file from 941007	From Route 4 to 941007 a made rd past amn dump and Ord Depot - then jungle tk to G.G.R. small steep hills in area 939019 and 939035. Area too thickly timbered to be of any use for O.Ps. From 938029 to 941022 tk is impassable in wet weather.
X19	Route13 913002	Tk junc 938030	2 hrs		915003 to 926013 Impassable in wet weather	Single file.	A very bad track throughout. From 917005 to 925012 tk runs along bed of ck then through swamp from 932023 to 935028 impassable in wet weather.
X20	G.G.R. 936043	E Tk junc 972042	2½ hrs		Ck crossing at 934045 to 935050.tk follows ck bank and is under water in wet weather.	Single file.	A bad tk through foothills amny steep hills but too thickly timbered to be used as O.Ps. Large native garden in area 963054

(x) Estimate going time as for the time it would take one Pl to move over route incl obstacles.
(=) Width - Just give: Tpe move in Single File, File, etc.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

REPORT ON TRACKS

Ref Maps:

Date: 28 Dec 42

Bn Ser No.	Going Time(x) From	To	Time if Route Dry	Time if Route Wet	Obstacles, Details of, Map Ref to.	Width of Track(=)	REMARKS e.g. Could it be made into jeep tk - Pts for ambush - Grades - O.Ps. - Country on either side clearings etc.
X11	Route 3 991985	Route 9 007967	1 hr		In wet weather tk is impassable along MIWARA RIVER.	File to 989998 then single file.	JEEP track to 989998. Tk along MIWARA R is at present coveredpartly with fallen trees but these afe being removed and tk is easy to follow.
X12	Route 3 998981	Tk Junc 002965	30 m.		Ck crossings at 996978 & 999967. Would be an obstacle in wet weather	Single file.	A bad track even in dry weather.
X13	DONA DONA 986972	Route 9 011973	45 m.		- -	Single file.	First part of tk through fire lanes. A bad tk from 992974-001972. From then on tk native gardens and is in fair condition.
X14	Route 3 005979	Tk junc 997969	20 m.		- -	Single file.	Tk from Route 3. 005979 to 001972 a good tk cut by 9 Bn.
X15	991981	996974				Single file.	These tks are in very bad condition even in dry weather, tks pass through swampy gd, and would be almost impassable in wet weather.
X16	993974	993966					
X17	991967	001966					
X18	Route 4 938985	GWENA GWENA RENA 936043	2 hrs		Ck crossing at 941007, 938015, 938029. Could be bridged at 941007 and 938015 - a lawyer vine is at present across ck at 938015. At 938029 banks are low and ck floods over. Tks on either side.	Single file from 941007	From Route 4 to 941007 a made rd past amn dump and Ord Depot - then jungle tk to G.G.R. small steep hills in area 939019 and 939035. Area too thickly timbered to be of any use for O.Ps. From 938029 to 941022 tk is impassable in wet weather.
X19	Route 13 913002	Tk junc 938030	2 hrs		915003 to 926013 Impassable in wet weather	Single file.	A very bad track throughout. From 917005 to 925012 tk runs along bed of ck then through swamp from 932023 to 935028 impassable in wet weather.
X20	G.G.R. 936043	E Tk junc 972042	2½ hrs		Ck crossing at 934045 to 935050. tk follows ck bank and is under water in wet weather.	Single file.	A bad tk through foothills amny steep hills but too thickly timbered to be used as O.Ps. Large native garden in area 963054

(x) Estimate going time as for the time it would take one Pl to move over route incl obstacles.
(=) Width - Just give: Tpe move in Single File, File, etc.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

REPORT ON TRACKS

Ref Maps:

Date: 28 Dec 42

Bn Ser No.	Going Time(x) From	To	Time if Route Dry	Time if Route Wet	Obstacles, Details of, Map Ref to.	Width of Track(=)	REMARKS e.g. Could it be made into jeep tk - Pts for ambush - Grades - O.Ps. - Country on either side clearings etc.
X11	Route 3 991985	Route 9 007967	1 hr		In wet weather tk is impassable along MIWARA RIVER.	File to 989998 then single file.	JEEP track to 989998.Tk along MIWARA R is at present coveredpartly with fallen trees but these afe being removed and tk is easy to follow.
X12	Route 3 998981	Tk Junc 002965	30 m.		Ck crossings at 996978 & 999967. Would be an obstacle in wet weather	Single file.	A bad track even in dry weather.
X13	DONA DONA 986972	Route 9 011973	45 m.		- -	Single file.	First part of tk through fire lanes. A bad tk from 992974-001972. From then on tk native gardens and is in fair condition.
X14	Route 3 005979	Tk junc 997969	20 m.		- -	Single file.	Tk from Route 3. 005979 to 001972 a good tk cut by 9 Bn.
X15	991981	996974				Single file.	These tks are in very bad condition even in dry weather, tks pass through swampy gd, and would be almost impassable in wet weather.
X16	993974	993966					
X17	991967	001966					
X18	Route 4 938985	GWENA GWENA RENA 936043	2 hrs		Ck crossing at 941007, 938015,938029. Could be bridged at 941007 and 938015 - a lawyer vine is at present across ck at 938015. At 938029 banks are low and ck floods over. Tks on either side.	Single file from 941007	From Route 4 to 941007 a made rd past amn dump and Ord Depot - then jungle tk to G.G.R. small steep hills in area 939019 and 939035. Area too thickly timbered to be of any use for O.Ps. From 938029 to 941022 tk is impassable in wet weather.
X19	Route13 913002	Tk junc 938030	2 hrs		915003 to 926013 Impassable in wet weather	Single file.	A very bad track throughout. From 917005 to 925012 tk runs along bed of ck then through swamp from 932023 to 935028 impassable in wet weather.
X20	G.G.R. 936043	E Tk junc 972042	2½ hrs		Ck crossing at 934045 to 935050.tk follows ck bank and is under water in wet weather.	Single file.	A bad tk through foothills amny steep hills but too thickly timbered to be used as O.Ps. Large native garden in area 963054

(x) Estimate going time as for the time it would take one Pl to move over route incl obstacles.
(=) Width - Just give: Tpe move in Single File, File, etc.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

REPORT ON TRACKS

Ref Maps:

Date: 28 Dec 42

Bn Ser No.	Going Time(x) From	To	Time if Route Dry	Time if Route Wet	Obstacles, Details of, Map Ref to.	Width of Track(=)	REMARKS e.g. Could it be made into jeep tk - Pts for ambush - Grades - O.Ps. - Country on either side clearings etc.
X11	Route 3 991985	Route 9 007967	1 hr		In wet weather tk is impassable along MIWARA RIVER.	File to 989998 then single file.	JEEP track to 989998.Tk along MIWARA R is at present coveredpartly with fallen trees but these are being removed and tk is easy to follow.
X12	Route 3 998981	Tk June 002965	30 m.		Ck crossings at 996978 & 999967. Would be an obstacle in wet weather	Single file.	A bad track even in dry weather.
X13	DONA DONA 986972	Route 9 011973	45 m.	- -		Single file.	First part of tk through fire lanes. A bad tk from 992974-001972. From then on tk native gardens and is in fair condition.
X14	Route 3 005979	Tk junc 997969	20 m.	- -		Single file.	Tk from Route 3. 005979 to 001972 a good tk cut by 9 Bn.
X15	991981	996974				Single file.	These tks are in very bad condition even in dry weather, tks pass through swampy gd, and would be almost impassable in wet weather.
X16	993974	993966					
X17	991967	001966					
X18	Route 4 938985	GWENA GWENA RENA 936043	2 hrs		Ck crossing at 941007, 938015,938029. Could be bridged at 941007 and 938015 - a lawyer vine is at present across ck at 938015. At 938029 banks are low and ck floods over. Tks on either side.	Single file from 941007	From Route 4 to 941007 a made rd past amn dump and Ord Depot - then jungle tk to G.G.R. small steep hills in area 939019 and 939035. Area too thickly timbered to be of any use for O.Ps. From 938029 to 941022 tk is impassable in wet weather.
X19	Route13 913002	Tk junc 938030	2 hrs		915003 to 926013 Impassable in wet weather	Single file.	A very bad track throughout. From 917005 to 925012 tk runs along bed of ck then through swamp from 932023 to 935028 impassable in wet weather.
X20	G.G.R. 936043	E Tk junc 972042	2½ hrs		Ck crossing at 934045 to 935050.tk follows ck bank and is under water in wet weather.	Single file.	A bad tk through foothills amny steep hills but too thickly timbered to be used as O.Ps. Large native garden in area 963054

(x) Estimate going time as for the time it would take one Pl to move over route incl obstacles.
(=) Width - Just give: Tpe move in single file, File, etc.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

TABLE OF DISTANCES - TAUPOTA AREA

Ser No.	Name of Village	Distance from Taupota.	Distance from last village	Marching Time "Fight. Order" Steady	Emergency	Nature of Tracks	Watercourses to Cross	REMARKS
1	MODAWA	¾ mile	-	12 m	9 m	good surface-mainly gravel	Nil	Good Rest House. In middle of suitable bay for landing ops. Gravelly beach. Good(coastal) cover from air observation.
2	PUNI PUNI	3¼ miles	2½	1 hr	40 m	do Good track	1 stream 1' deep Easy to cross.	Tk follows coast all way
3	AWAIAMA	10 miles	6¾	3 hr	2.40	do do	Several small streams	Tk cuts through coconut plantation. Good surface and easy to follow. Rest House.
4	ANNIE INLET AREA	16 miles	6	5 hrs	4¼	do Swampy in last stage, and goes through mangroves.	do. Negligible	Anchorage. Villages IAPUOA. GRAYS PLANTATION. turn off to KEIA MISS. 600x WEST of IAPUOA.
5	IAPUOA	15 miles	5 m	4½ hr	4 hr	do	do do	Turn off left to GRAYS PLANTATION.
6	HUHUNA	19 miles	4 m	6 hr	5¼ hr	Good track	1 large ck 1' deep. Several small cks. Log brs. very slippery.	Becomes fairly hilly with grass and scrub. Tk cuts inland from coast.
7	KEIA MISSION	16 miles	From AWIAMA 6 m	5 hr	4½ hr	Fair. Turn off 600x before IAPUOA.	Small negligible streams.	Country becomes hilly. KEIAMISSION is on coast, NS of IAPUOA and NE of AWAIAMA.
8	WAMAWAMANA	5 miles	-	2 hr	1.40	Good-shingle. Follows beach	Small negligible creeks.	Govt tk to HAGITA leads off.
9	HIOGE	12 miles	7	4 hr	3½ hr	do do	do. WAIRAINI ck floods after hy rain. Very difficult to cross then.	Mission stn.
10	TOPURA	14 miles	2	4½ hr	4 hr	do do	TAMEO R. is NOT fordable after hy rain. Many small cks.	ANGAU HQ. Rest House. Tk leads inland to WEDAU and joins tk to WAIGANI. Tk also proceeds along coast via CAPE FRERE to WEDAU.
11	LEVORA	20 miles	6	7 hr	6¼ hr	do One bad shingle patch and bad rocky corner.	Number of small streams.	Rest house. Normal halting place for night when proceeding from TAUPOTA to WEDAU.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

Ser No.	Name of Village	Distance from Taupota	Distance from last village	Marching Time "Fight. Order" Steady	Emergency	Nature of Tracks	Watercourses to cross	REMARKS
I2	LARONAI	30 miles	10	13 hrs	11 hr			Mission stn.
I3	WEDAU(Via FRERE)	35 "	5	14 "	12 "	Good except around CAPE FRERE where it is dangerous and slippery	Several small streams.	Mission stn. jetty. good anchorage. DOBURA mission stn.
I4	WEDAU(Via Inland)	29 "	From TOPURA 25	2 full days	2 full days	To PIRIPIRIRINA flat. bicycle tk to LAPUA. Thence very difficult.	3 medium streams. LAPUA R.	No good for good ambushes. Could not be improved. In hy rains tk would be closed.
I5	BAD CORNER (Ambush)	1½ "	-	40 m	30 m	Good. Follows URIA Ck in bed.	Tk follows bed of URIA Ck.	Ambush area to bad rocky steep hill corner.
I7	REAR AREA (Defence)	6 "	4½	4 hr	3½ hr	" " " "	Tk leaves ck at this area.	Scrub commences. Razorback hills. Long grass.
I8	RABI	12 "	7½	9 hr	8½ hr	Steep, slippery, dangerous very tiring.	Continual crossing of same ck as tk winds along bed. No other streams.	Is best track from NORTH COAST to MILNE BAY. Even so, it is very difficult and tiring to cover.

R.MacFarlane, Capt.

12 Dec 42.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

– TABLE OF DISTANCES – TAUPOTA AREA.

	NAME OF VILLAGE	DISTANCE FROM TAUPOTA	DISTANCE FROM LAST VILLAGE	MARCHING TIME "FIGHTING ORDER" STEADY	MARCHING TIME "FIGHTING ORDER" EMERGENCY	NATURE OF TRACKS	WATERCOURSES TO CROSS	REMARKS.
1	MODAWA	3/4 MILE	–	12 m.	9 m.	good surface - mainly gravel	Nil	Govt Rest House. In middle of suitable bay for landing operations. Gravelly beach. Good coastal cover from air observation.
2	PUNI PUNI	3¼ "	2½	1 hr	40 m.	do. Cart track.	1 stream 1' deep. Easy to cross.	Track follows coast all way.
3.	AWAIAMA	10 .	6¾	3 hr	2·40.	do do	several small streams.	Track cuts through coconut plantation. Good surface and easy to follow. Rest House.
4	ANNIE INLET AREA	EAST 16 "	6	5 hrs	4¼ .	do. Swampy in last stage, and goes through mangroves.	do. Negligable.	Anchorage. Villages IAPUOA. GRAYS PLANTATION. Turn off to KEIA MISSION 600" WEST of IAPUOA.
5	IAPUOA	15 .	5 m.	4½ hrs	4 hrs	do.	do. do	Turn off left to GRAYS PLANTATION.
6	HUHUNA	19 ..	4 m.	6 hrs	5½ hrs	Good track.	1 large creek 1' deep. Several small creeks. Log bridges very slippery.	Becomes fairly hilly with grass and scrub. Track cuts inland from coast.
7	KEIA MISSION	16 .	FROM AWAIAMA 6 m.	5 hrs	4½ hrs	Fair. Turn off 600" before IAPUOA	Small negligable streams.	Country becomes hilly. KEIA MISSION is on coast, N.W of IAPUOA and N.E of AWAIAMA.
8	~~HIOGE~~ WAMAWAMANA	5 ..	–	2 hrs	1·40 ..	Good. – shingle. Follows beach	Small negligable creeks.	Govt track to HAGITA leads off.
9.	HIOGE	12 .	7	4 hrs	3½ hrs	do " "	do. WAIRAINI creek floods after heavy rain. Very different to cross then.	Mission stn.
10	TOPURA	WEST 14 .	2	4½ hrs	4 hrs	do "	TAMEO RIVER is NOT fordable after heavy rain. Many small creeks.	ANGAU HQ. Rest House. Track leads inland to WEDAU and joins track to WAIGANI. Track also proceeds along coast via CAPE FRERE to WEDAU.
11	LEVORA	20 ..	6	7 hrs	6¼ hrs	do One bad shingle patch. and bad rocky corner.	Number of small streams.	Rest house. Normal halting place for night when proceeding from TAUPOTA to WEDAU Mission stn.
12	LARONAI	30	10	13 hrs	11 hrs.			
13	WEDAU (VIA FRERE)	35 .	FROM TOPURA 25	14 hrs	12 hrs	Good except around CAPE FRERE where it is dangerous & slippery	Several small streams.	Mission stn. jetty. good anchorage. DOBURA mission stn.
14	WEDAU (VIA INLAND)	31 .	FROM TOPURA 25	2 full days.	2 full days	To PIRIPIRINA flat. – bicycle tracks to LAPUA. Thence very difficult.	3 medium streams. LAPUA RIVER	No good for good ambushes. Could not be improved. In heavy rains track would be closed.
16	BAD CORNER (AMBUSH)	SOUTH 1½ ..	–	40 mins	30 mins	Good. Follows URIA CK bed.	It follows bed of URIA CK.	Ambush area at bad rocky steep hill corner.
17	REAR AREA (DEFENCE)	6 ms.	4½	4 hrs	3½ hrs	" " "	It leaves creek at this area.	Scrub commences. Razorback hills. Long grass.
18	RABI	12	7½	9 hrs	8½ hrs	Steep. slippery. Dangerous. very tiring.	Continual crossing of same creek as track winds along bed. No other streams.	To best track from NORTH COAST to MILNE BAY. Even so, it is very difficult and tiring to cover.

1500 hrs 12 Dec 42. R. MacFarlane Capt
R. Mac Coy 1

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

Received 26/12/42

Time 0800 hrs

No. 98/25/2

Track reports

Tapota area.

	NAME OF VILLAGE	DISTANCE FROM TAUPOTA	DISTANCE FROM LAST VILLAGE	MARCHING TIME "FIGHTING ORDER" STEADY	MARCHING TIME "FIGHTING ORDER" EMERGENCY	NATURE OF TRACKS	WATER COURSES	REMARKS
1	MOOAWA	3¼ mls	-	12 hrs	9 hrs	Good surface - mainly ground	Nil	
2	PUNI PUNI	3½	2½	1 hr	45 mins	do. Fair Track.		
3	AWAIAMA	10	6¾	3 hrs	2 hrs 45 mins	do do		
4	ANNIE INLET AREA	16	6	5 hrs	4½ hrs	do. Generally in bad shape, some poor through swamp areas.		
5	IAPUOA	15	8	4½ hrs	4 hrs	do		
6	HUHUNA	19	4	6 hrs	5 hrs	Good track.		
7	KEIA MISSION	16	Point Marama 8 mls	5 hrs	4½ hrs	Main track off 600' high IAPUOA		
8	HIOCE WAMAWAMANA	5	-	2 hrs	1 hr 40 mins	Good - change. Bottom good		
9	HIOCE	12	7	4 hrs	3½ hrs	do		
10	TOPURA	14	2	4½ hrs	4 hrs	do		
11	LEVORA	20	6	7 hrs	6 hrs 45 mins	do Dry dust creek bed. Some clear rocky country.		
12	LARONAI	30	10	13½ hrs	11 hrs			
13	WEDAU (via PAEKE)	35	5	14 hrs	12 hrs 45 mins	Good track across CAPE PAEKE (across it in dangerous & slippery places)		
14	WEDAU (via AWAIAMA)	37½	Point Marama 2½	2 hrs 45 mins	2 hrs 30 mins	To PAI PAIRINA Track - slippery from LAPUA. Steep very difficult		
15	BAD CORNER (AWAIAMA)	15	-	4 hrs 30 mins	3 hrs	Good. Between URIA ck & sea.		
16	PEKA AREA (DEVANCE)	6 mls	4½	4 hrs	3½ hrs	" " "		
17	RABI	12	7½	9 hrs	8½ hrs	Track slippery Dangerous in many places.		

AMEN.O	— —
D.M.E.	— —
C.D.Pl. COND.	— —
UPP.O	— —
T.O.	— — —
SIG.O.	— — —
WAIARIA L.O.3	— — —
L.O.2	— —
L.O.1	— — —
I.O.	— — —
S.C.(L)	— — —
S.C.	— — —
B.M.(L)	— —
B.M.	— —
C.O.D.	

RECCE REPORT TRACK TOPURA - WEDAU

By W.O.II SPIERS MACCOY 15 DEC 42.

SERIAL No.	VILLAGE	DISTANCE FROM LAST VILLAGE	TIMES ARRIVAL	TIMES DEPARTURE	NATURE OF TRACK	TYPE OF COUNTRY	REMARKS.
1	TAUPOTA	-		0530 /15	Good shingle surface.	Coastal slopes - grassy treeless hills.	Mission Stn.
2	TOPURA	14 MILES	0930	1600	do. Follows beach.	Slopes - shingly beaches. Rocky points.	ANGAU HQ. Anchorage.
3	LAPOA	5½ ..	1800	1845	Good easy track.	Spurs covered with short bush. Not a good areas for ambush.	Mission stn (Fr Lemon 1/c) 6 or 7 huts. Native gardens. Scrub thickens here. Suitable for bivouac area.
4	KAENARE	?			Good.	Scrub and trees becoming thicker. Still following ck bed covered with scrub.	Gardens disappear here. This village was not found. Thought to consist of 1 maybe 2 houses only.
5	PIRIPIRIRINA	4	2030	0630/16	Good. Leaves ck bed in number of places but follows general direction of creek.	Medium bush and scrub. Tall timbers. Spurry. No grass worth mentioning.	Stayed night 15/16 Dec. Good Rest house. 8 (approx) houses constitute village. No gardens at village proper.
6	TRACK JUNCTION.	1	0700	0700	do.	do.	Junction of tracks TOPURA - PIRIPIRIRINA - WEDAU. approx 1 mile EAST from PIRIPIRIRINA. Easily distinguished - in clearing 20° EAST from bore hut. Track to WEDAU continues in W direction.
7	CUABANAKI	9	1630	1800	1½ miles flat going crossing river twice, then track rises over razorback spur - stepped.	Flat, later spurry. Spur is obvious as it has been stepped for track.	Good track. Very solid going, mostly hard climbing. Waterless until reaching summit 3 miles from CUABANAKI. From summit track descends steeply. Mission stn here. Many native villages.
8	BOEKA	3	1930	1935	Very good easy going all way.	Hills slope easily down to the coast. Heavily grassed (Open otherwise.	Small village 4 or 5 huts right on the beach. Could be easily made into defensive area for track entrance.
9	WAMIRA	1	2000	2005	Coastal. Shingle. Good	Flat, grassy.	Native mission college (Fr Brady).
10	WEDAU	2	2030	-	" " Formed road	" .	Jetty. Anchorage. Mission stn etc. ship.
		39½	2 full days.				

R. Mac Farlane Capt.
OC MacCoy. 1700 hrs 18 Dec 42.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

4.

Received 26/12/42
Time 0800 hrs
№ G8/25/2

- Track Report. -

Topura - Wedau
via Piripiririna

Maclay.

COMD	
B.M.	
B.M.(L)	
S.C.	
S.C.(L)	
I.O.	
L.O.1.	
L.O.2.	
L.O.3.	
S.G.O.	
T.O.	
SUPP.O	
GD PL COMD.	
[illegible]	
[illegible]	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

RECCE REPORT TRACK TOPURA-WEDAU.

By WO(11) SPIERS, MAC COY, 15 Dec 42.

Ser. No.	VILLAGE	Distance from last village.	TIMES Arrival	TIMES Departure	NATURE OF TRACK	TYPE OF COUNTRY	REMARKS
1	TAUPOTA	-		0530/15	Good shingle surface.	Coastal slopes-grassy treeless hills.	Mission stn
2	TOPURA	14 miles	0930	1600	do. Follows beach	Slopes-shingly beaches Rocky points	ANGAU HQ. Anchorage.
3	LAPOA	5½ "	1800	1845	Good easy track	Spurs covered with short bush. Not a good area for ambush	Mission stn(Fr Simon i/c) 6 or 7 huts.Native gardens.Scrub thickens here.Suitable for bivouac area.
4	KAENARE	?			Good	Scrub and trees becoming thicker.Still following ck bed covered with scrub.	Gardens disappear here.This villag was not found.Thought to consist of 1 maybe 2 houses only.
5	PIRIPIRI RINA	4	2030	0630/16	Good.Leaves ck bed in number of places but follows general direction of ck.	Medium bush and scrub. Tree timbers.Spurry. No grass worth mention.	Stayed night 15/16 Dec.Good rest house.8(approx) houses constitute village. The gardens at village proper.
6	TRACK JUNCTION	1	0700	0700	do.	do.	Junction of tks.TOPURA-PIRIPIRI RINA-WEDAU. approx 1 mile EAST fm PIRIPIRIRINA. Easily distinguished in clearing 20x EAST from lone hut Tk to WEDAU continues in W direct.
7	GUABANAKI	9	1630	1800	1½ miles flat going crossing rivertwice then tk rises over razorback spur - stepped	Flat,later spurry. Spur is obvious as it has been stepped for track.	Good track.Very solid going,mostly hard climbing.Waterless until reaching summit 3 miles from GAUBANAKI.From summit tk descends steeply.Mission stn here.Many native gardens.
8	BOEKA	3	1930	1935	Very good easy going all way.	Hills slope easily down to the coast. Heavily grassed.Open otherwise.	Small village 4 or 5 huts right on the beach.Could be easily made in to def area for tk entrance.
9	WAMIRA	1	2000	2000½	Coastal,shingle,good.	Flat, grassy.	Native mission college(Fr Brady)
10	WEDAU	2	2030	-	" " Formed rd	"	Jetty.anchorage.Miss stn etc.strip
		39½	2 full days.				

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

REPORT ON TRACKS

Ref Map: MILNE BAY (PROV) No.2.

28 Dec 42.

Bn Ser No	Going From	Going To	Time if Route Dry	Time if Route Wet	Obstacles	Width of Track	Remarks.
Y3	036022 CREEK CROSS-ING	041031 (JOHNS)	35 mins	45 mins	AWADUMA CK at 036026 10ft wide 1ft deep.	Tps move in single file.	From ck crossing (036022) tk moves NORTH through coconuts to edge of AWADUMA CK 036026, crosses ck and proceeds through jungle up a very steep gradient for 300x then drops steep down other slope of feature for a further 250x into a native garden. After meeting WEHURIA CK continues along CK for 300x still in garden past 7 small huts on ck bank. From here moves in from ck to one single hut thence down to ck again at 049031 - entrance marked ARTHURS TRACK.
Y4	047019 (WEHURIA CREEK)	051029 (MOTOR TRACK)	40 mins	50 mins		Tps move in single file.	From WEHURIA CK, tk runs across dry ck bed thence into jungle and up gradient to tk junc 049021. Passes through sago swamp to village of GIHUA on hill. After fording ck (4 ft wide) tk passes through jungle for 600x and meets Motor tk at 051029.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

Ref Map: MILNE BAY (PROV) No.2. REPORT ON TRACKS 28 DEC 42.

Bn Ser No	Going From	Going To	Time if Route Dry	Time if Route Wet	Obstacles	Width of Track	Remarks
Y1	036021	042033 (BADILLA)	45 mins	60 mins	WEHURIA ck crossing at 041027. Ck 25ft wide 1 ft deep. Rise of ck in hy rain would make this crossing unsafe for tps.	Tps move in single file(except for 150x along MOTOR Tk)	From entrance to pt 039022 tk passes through jungle and rises gradually.From this pt to 039025 the grade increases and a number of steps are encountered.At this pt,tk passes through fallen timber and a good view of TURNBULL Aerodrome can be obtained from here. After crossing the clearing,tk proceeds down into WEHURIA CK.After crossing ck follows on through jungle for a further 300-400x - along this stretch a a single strand vine is placed on the rt hand side. The grade increases as the tk rises and passes through 150x of grasslands to meet MOTOR Tk. Following MOTOR Tk for 150x through grassland it leaves MOTOR Tk at 042032 swinging to the left, for another 200x to BADILLA(onehut).At entrance into jungle, tk has signpost-TILLEYS TRACK
Y2	039019 (From JONES TRACK) Tk named with signpost BATMAN AVE.	045026 (junc of VEHICLE Tk)	35 mins	45 mins	WEHURIA CK crossing at 043023. Ck 20ft wide 1ft deep. Rise of ck in hy rain would make this crossing unsafe for tps.	Tps moving in single file(except for 150x where JONES TK is built at 042023)	This tk leaves JONES Tk on top of small rise in a Native garden,proceeds through garden for 200x and then into jungle.From this pt the gradient is steep until top of feature is reached at 041022.On top of feature jungle has been cleared and TURNBULL Aerodrome can be seen.The tk passes down other side of feature to WEHURIA CK. 100x from ck it meets JONES Tk. After crossing river from JONES Tk, tk passes through native garden for 400x to VEHICLE tk.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

I.O. 17 B.S.E. INT. SEC. MAC COY. 9-11-42.

TRACKS.

The tracks from Lili Lili to Tapota Mission and Damawanana cross the firing range which is covered with jungle, is tolerably flat, and appears to receive heavy rainfall.

Unconsolidated, the tracks are crossed by creeks and rivers, are extremely steep, and muddy and slippery, and are crossed by roots of trees etc. Rocks are often present. A number of boat leads were lost.

It is essential that the track be dry and the load cut to the minimum.

Along the coast the track crosses long stretches of loose shingle, which makes marching tiring. The track around Cape Frere follows the steep hillside which is cut by wadis and creeks, giving the track a switchback effect, which, with the lack of shade and wind, makes Cape Frere a hard track.

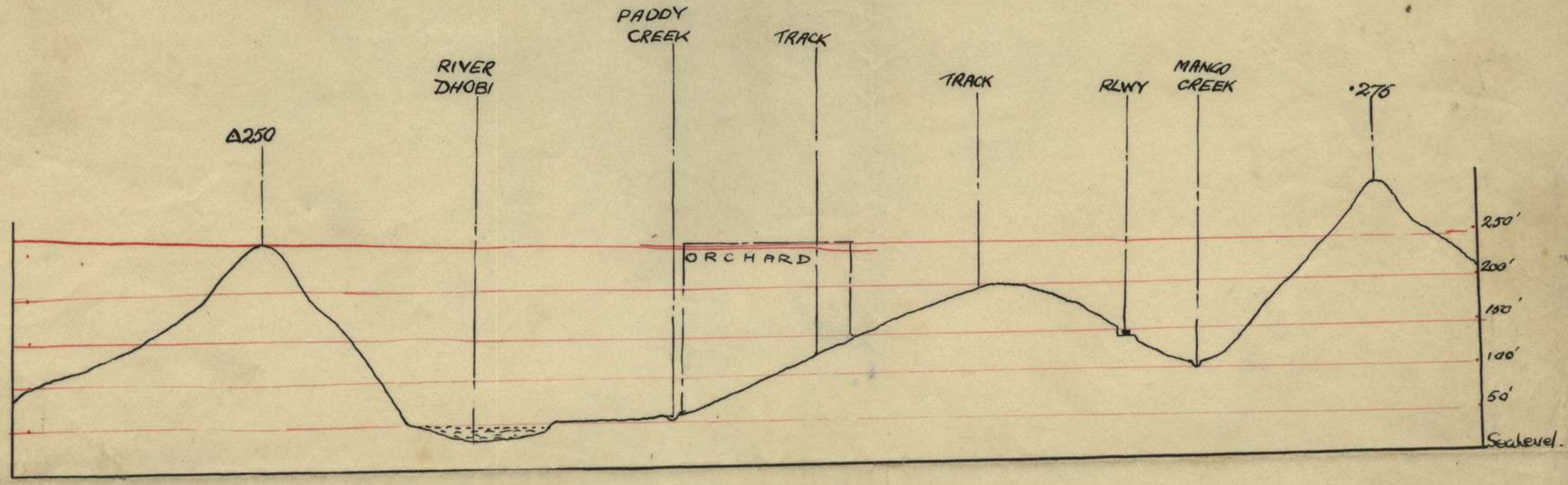
There is ample accomodation in empty huts and resthouses for Natives along the coast. The natives are most friendly and keen to help with food, directions. Their estimates of mileage should be treated with reserve.

MAPS.

All the issued maps are inaccurate for this area, including the 4 mile strat. Samarai, although marked "reliable from Govt. plans."

The new Tapotapa Tumitumi to Magavara 1/2 in 1 mile is accurate. Extensions would be welcome.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440



SECTION OF COUNTRY BETWEEN

Δ250 (167310) AND ·275 (183255)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

LECTURES IN MAP READING: SYLLABUS IN DETAIL

LECTURES I - 6

LECTURE I - Conventional Signs.

I.Broad gauge rly.	2.Narrow gauge rly.	3.Rly. station Ist Class
4.Rly.stn.2nd Cl.	5.Rly. crossing	6.Embankment
7.Cutting	8.Tunnel	9.Telegraph lines
I0.Ist Class road	II.2nd Class road	I2.Track
I3.Bridges	I4.Contours	I5.Form Lines
I6.Spot heights	I7.Trig. points	I8.Wireless masts
I9.Wind pumps	20.Wind mills	2I.Trees
22.Conifers	23.Church	24.School
25.Police station	26.Hotel	27.Houses
28.Swamps	29.Aerodromes	30.Barbed wire fences
3I.Wells		

Class(b)

I.Concrete	2.A/Tk guns (stages I,2&3)	3.A/A guns
4.A/Tk rifle	5. M G (" ")	6.Trenches
7.A/Tk ditch	8.Bren guns (" ")	9.Obstacles
I0.Dumps	II.Mortars (" ")	I2.Boundaries
I3.Flags	I4.Sigs & tele. offices	

LECTURE 2

Use blackboard to explain the object of having some system of reference to maps for messages etc.
Show earth divided by lines of latitude and longitude. Straighten the lines and call them grids.Parallels of latitude then become Eastings, and meridians of longitude become Northings.
To give a map reference, read from left to right, then from bottom to top.
To give a reference to a square a two-figure ref. to the lower left hand corner is sufficient.
References to a square are usually prefixed by the word SQUARE
To give a three-figure reference,imagine each square divided into I00 smaller squares; and for a four-figurereference each of these smaller squares must be divided again into I00 parts.
Exercise squad in giving and locating references.
Ask member of squad what he sees at I54284. If he says WINDMILL, he is wrong: it is a windpump; I58283 is a windmill.
Give ref. to square, and ask member of s uad to describe what he sees in it.
E. g. What is in Square I726?
Answer: A spur running E & W across the foreground slopes into a valley on its north, the other side of the valley being formed by rising ground in the background. A creek flows about Et& Wthrough the valley. About 300yds N of the creek and parallel to it, is a broad gauge rly, following the contour of the country. At its point of entry on the E side it passes a cutting on its N and an embankment to the S.After a level crossing over a 2nd Class road, it leaves the square on the W side. The road passes over the creek about 200yds S of the level crossing. One tree is shown in the square at I75270 .

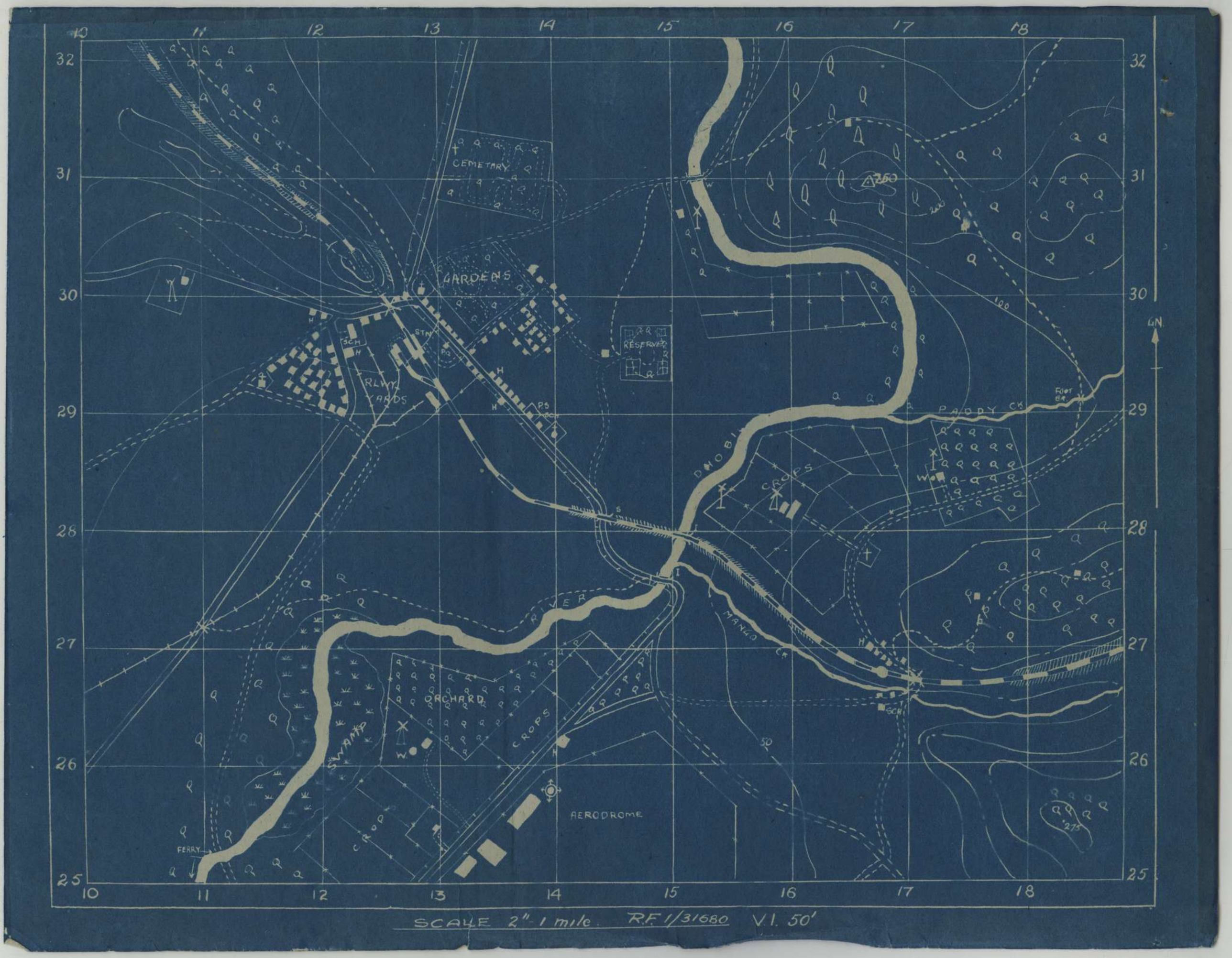
LECTURE 3 Use black board

A contour is an imaginary line drawn on the surface of the earth through the places having the same height above above sea level.
A form line is a rough contour: it gives the general appearance of the ground without being necessarily accurate.
Draw on blackboard: uniform slope, concave slope, convex slope. Draw contours and show how they vary in plan:

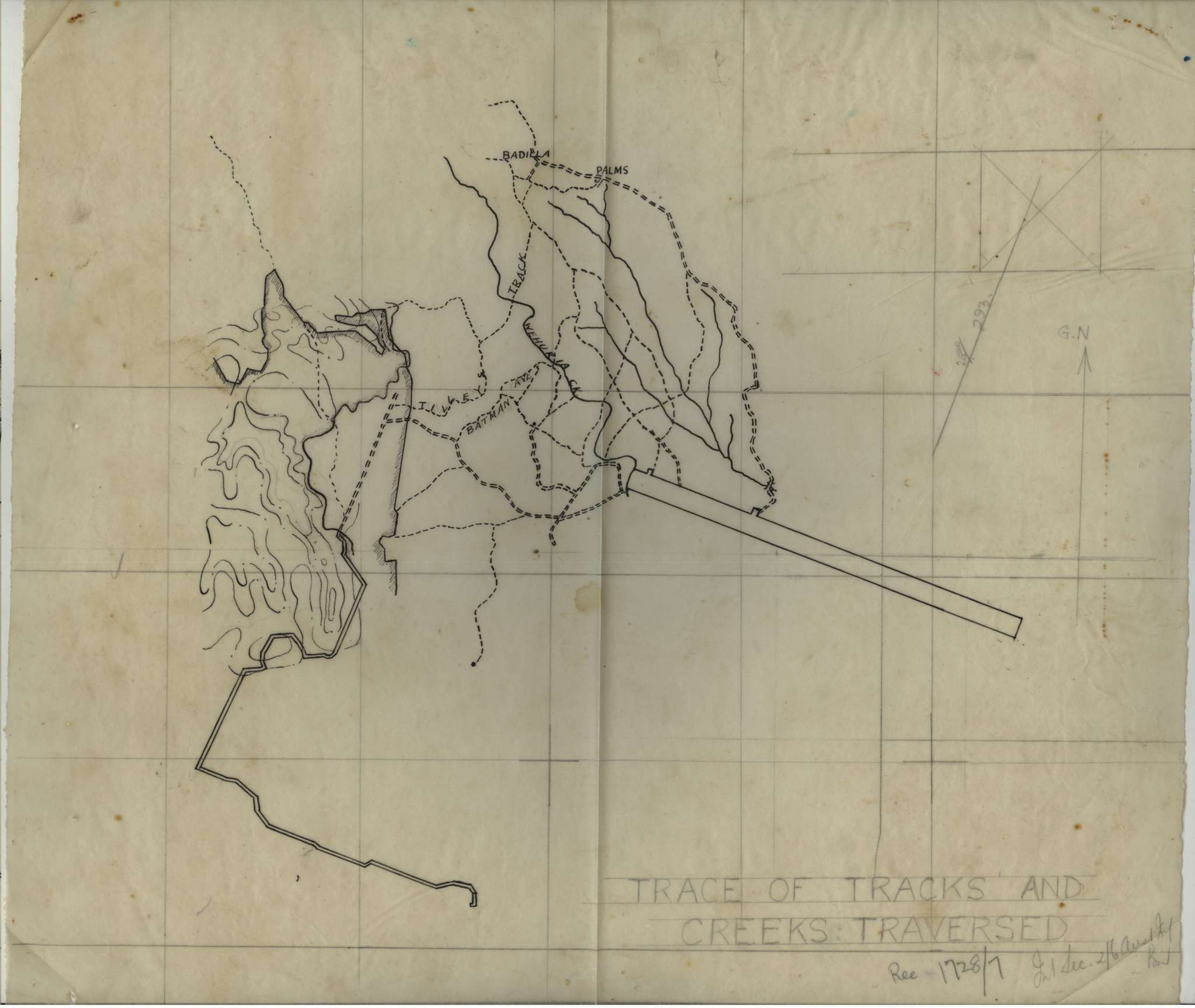
Uniform slope is uniform in spacing,
Concave,close at top, wide at bottom,
Convex, wide at top, close at bottom.

Get squad to show these slopes on blue print. Slope from •275 in square I825 to the end of spur at I72263 is convex, whereas that from I84277 to I83287 concave.
Exercise squad in moving about maps. E.g.,ask them if they can move by car from road junction at I42264 to church at I67278 ~~by~~ , and if so, how far without crossing over the rly. line.
Can •275 be seen from Trig. Pt. 250? And so on. Use section sketch to prove.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440



TRACE OF TRACKS AND CREEKS TRAVERSED

Ree 1728/7 Lt Lee. 2/6 Aust Fd

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

TAUPOTA WEDAU AREA
SHOWING CORRECTIONS

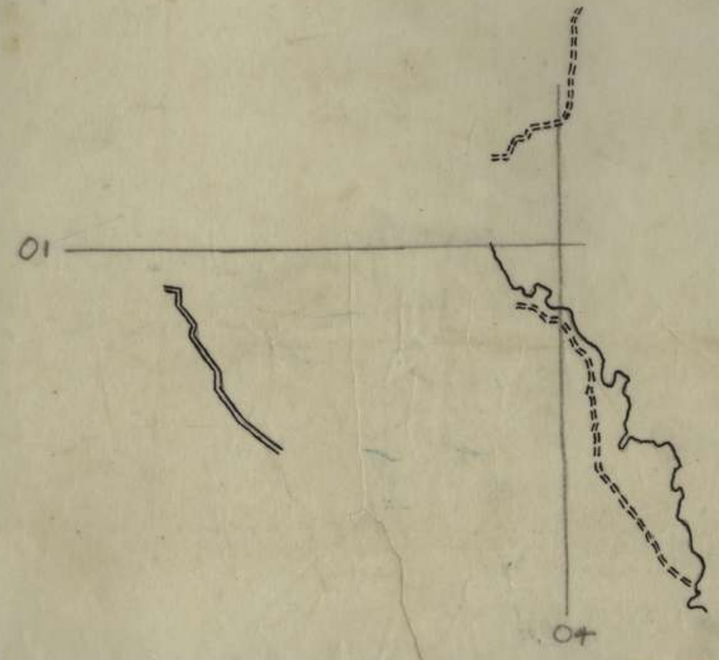
WEDAU
WAMIRA
BARTLE BAY
VONAPOROWIGI
GUNADOUDOU
BOOUMI
NUMAUDA
VAI
LARONAI
TOTUVA
GUABANAKI
TO PIRI PIRI RIVS.
RUMARUMA
DUEUDUKO MISSION
TO WAIGANI - THROUGH PEKI PEKI RIVS.
TWO MARINE HUTS
ESTIMD. PEKI PEKI REMNT TOPUKA.
TO GIRI GIRI
RIVERS
TA MEO
TOPUKA
TAUPOTA
TOWLLA CK.
TO GIRI GIRI

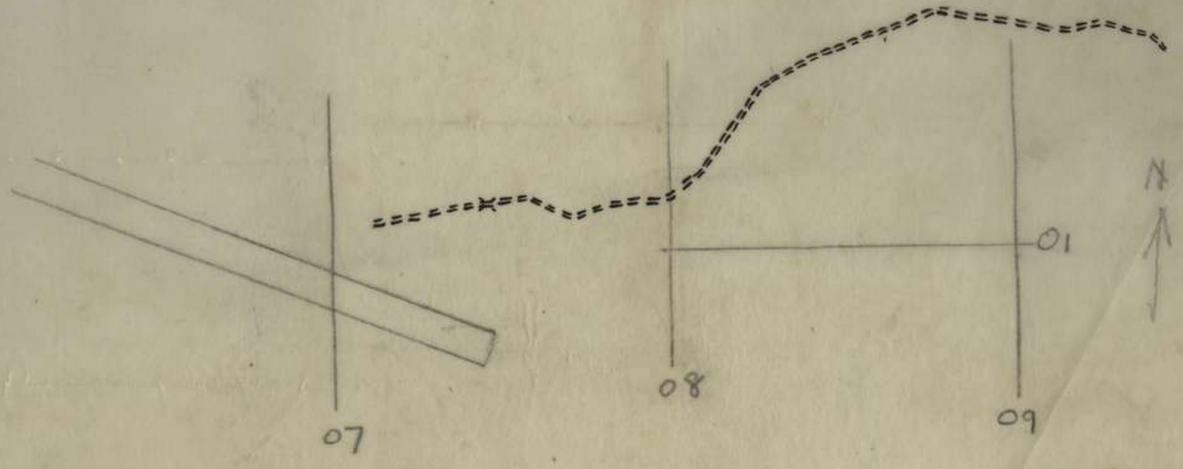
SCALE 1 INCH = 1 MILE

ENLARGED FROM SAMARAI 1/4 SHEET FOUNDED ON INFORMATION COLLECTED by D'Coy 2/9 AUST INFDN.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

E/75





TRACE OF TRACKS & CREEKS TRAVERSED

2/6 Bn Gd Sec
27 Dec 42

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

F/35 (f)

6 BN AREA WITH PLN POSITIONS DRAINAGE, ROADS

SCALE 1" — 100'

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

F/62

N

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

HQ NEW GUINEA FORCE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 94

of 17 Nov 42.

APPX 'A'

5

ENEMY O of B.

SOUTH SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE IN NG AREA.

UNIT	LOCATION	REMARKS
38TH ARMY	RABAUL	
HORII DIV	BUNA-KOKODA	Certain identification - from 11 Div area.
144 Inf Regt	BUNA-KOKODA	Was known as KUSUNOSE unit - KOKODA
22 Inf Regt	RABAUL	NOT identified, deduction only.
41 Inf Regt	BUNA-KOKODA	Certain identification. Now known as "YAZAWA UNIT".
KAWASHIMA Cav Unit	BUNA-KOKODA	Identification reasonably certain. Strength unknown. KAWASHIMA was last known as Comd 11 Div Cav.
Mountain Arty Bn	BUNA-KOKODA	Believed to be part of 55 Mountain Arty Regt.
AKAO Med Unit	BUNA-KOKODA	Definite identification. Operating with KUSUNOSE Force.
47 Bn Fd AA	BUNA-KOKODA	Consider likely.
15 Ind Engr Unit	BUNA-KOKODA	Identification doubtful. YOKOYAMA Engr Regt, TAKAMORI Engr Unit in the area and may be identical with one of these.
? " " " " "		
TOMITA ASC Unit	" "	Consider likely.
SASEBO NO 3 SNLP	BUNA	Identification doubtful, probably only part at BUNA.
SASEBO NO 5 SNLP	RABAUL (?)	Portion evacuated GOODENOUGH IS to FERGUSSON IS thence to RABAUL. Portion (believed small) remained at BUNA.
14 Pnr Unit	LAE & SALAMAUA	Doubtful.
Guard Unit	" " "	Tps of relatively low combat efficiency. Identification doubtful.
65 DIV	RABAUL	Presence SPA considered very doubtful.
16 DIV	"	" " " "
YOKOSUKA NO 1 SNLP	"	Doubtful
YOKOSUKA NO 5 SNLP	"	NOT a definite identification.
KURE NO 6	"	" " " " "
12 Pnr Unit	KAVIENG	" " " " "

(From ADV LHQ Weekly Intelligence Summary No 14 - supplemented by infm received later by GSI NGF.)

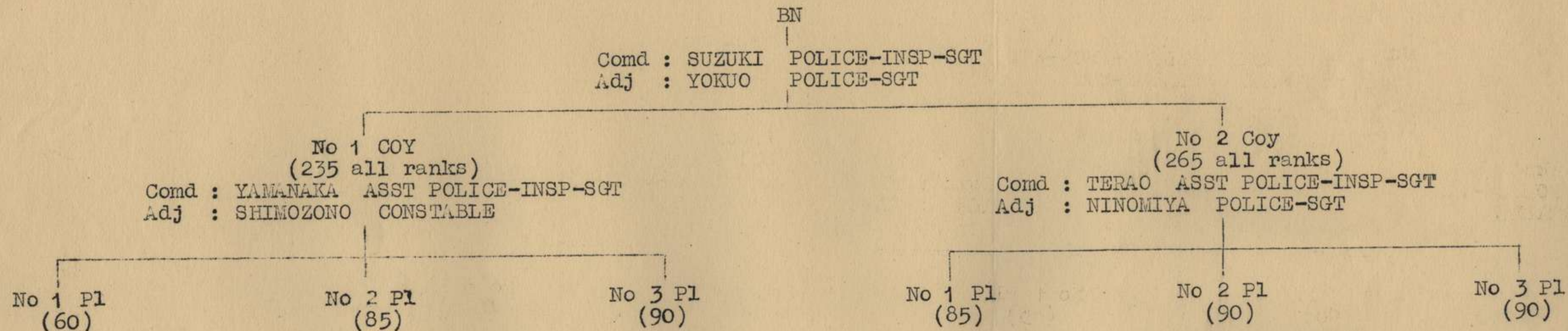
AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

HQ NEW GUINEA FORCE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 94

of 17 Nov 42

ORG OF TAKASAGO VOLUNTEER BN

(Other ranks of this unit largely composed of FORMOSAN Hillmen)



Each pl comd by POLICE-SGT and divided into sections of 10 men.

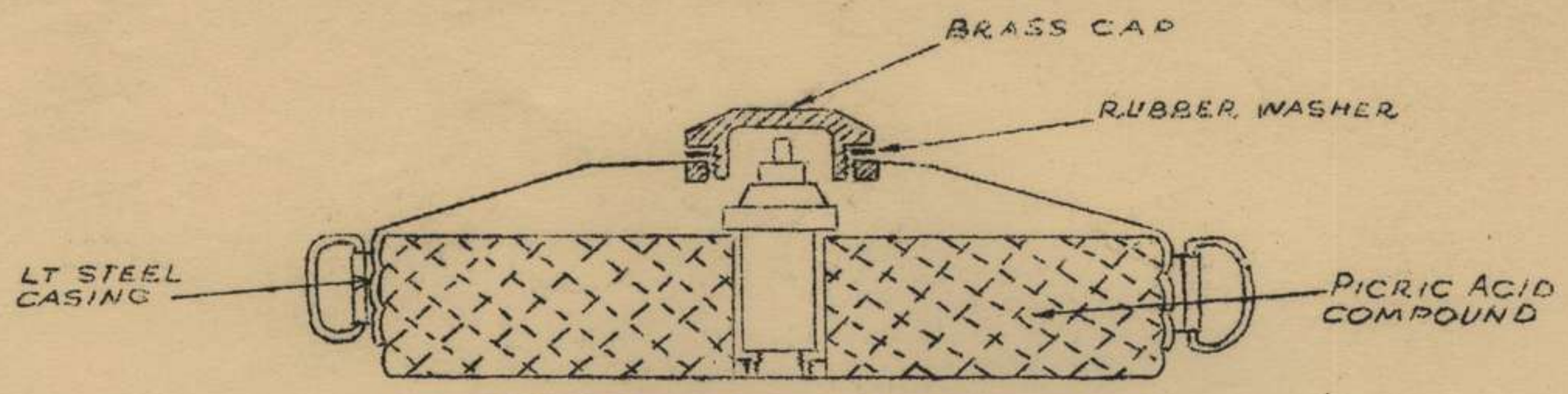
NOTE : (i) This unit is probably a replica of that which operated with 65 DIV in the PHILIPPINES and was used for supply and labour duties.
Owing to the difficulty of handling these people, police officials, accustomed to their ways, are in control.

(ii) This infm is from PsW.

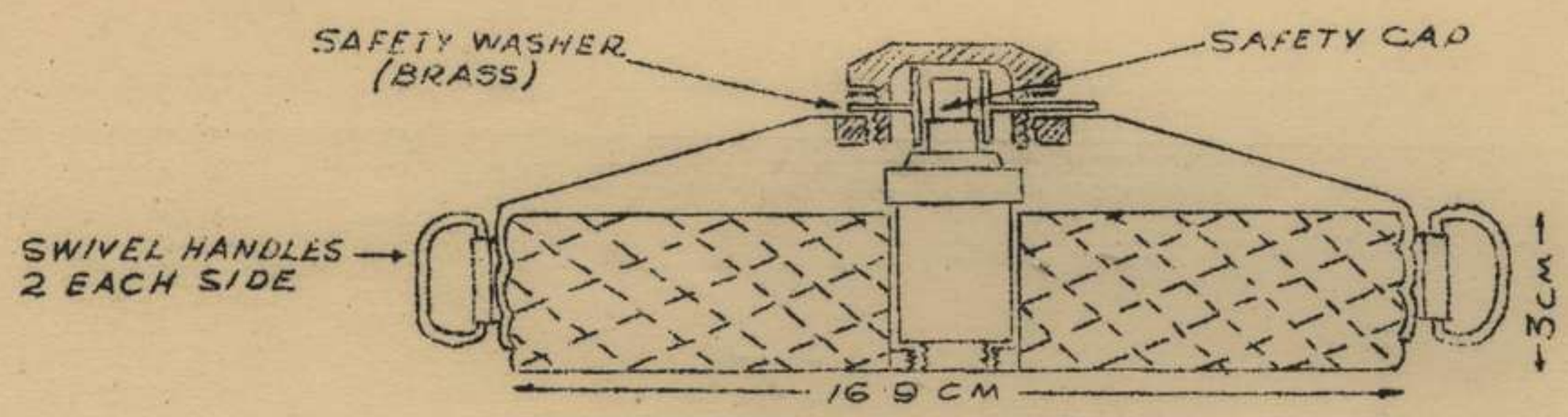
AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

HQ NEW GUINEA FORCE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No.93
of 12 NOV 42

CAPTURED EQPT : JAPANESE MINE



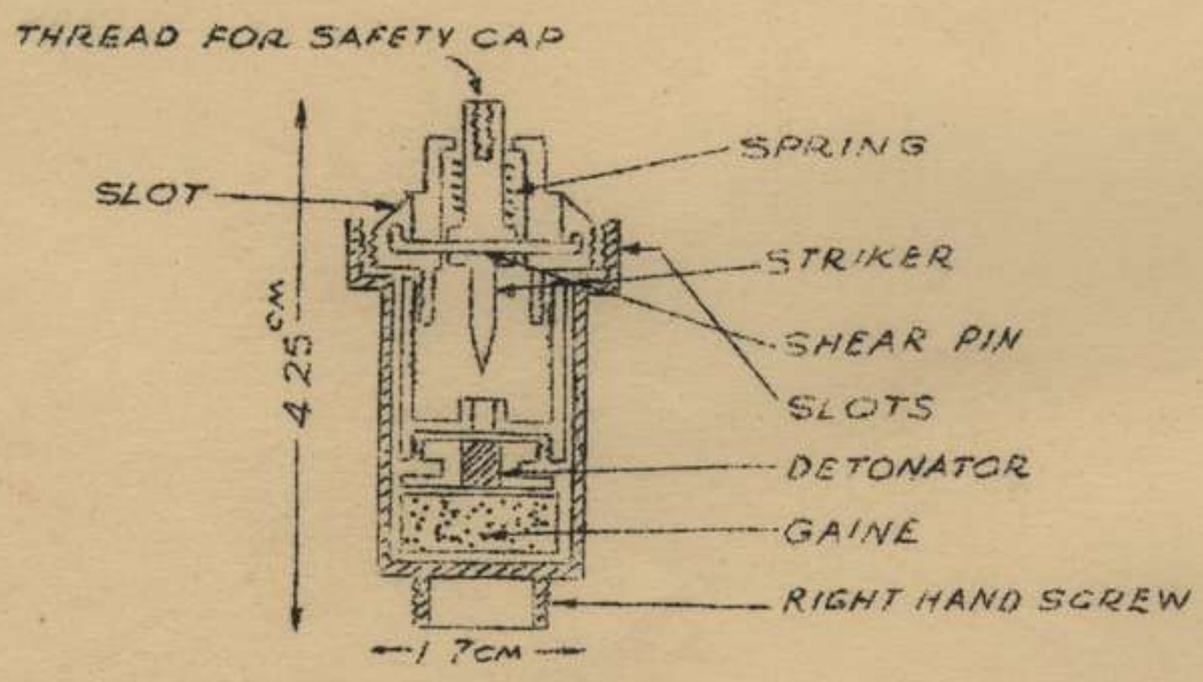
(a) READY FOR ACTION



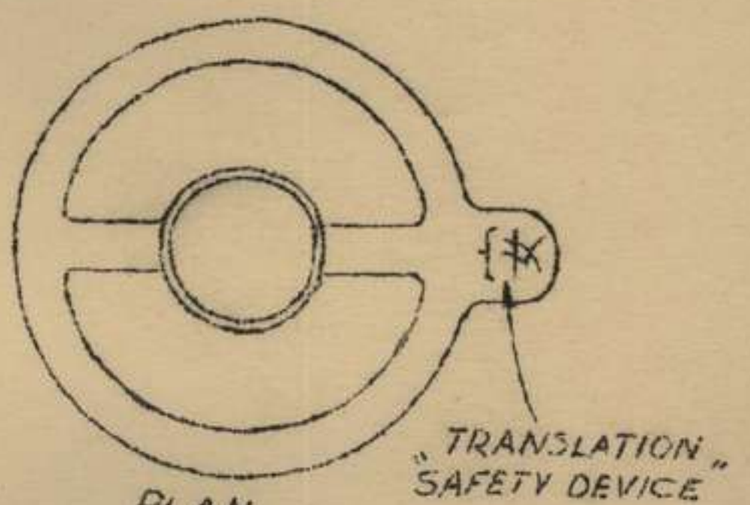
(b) WITH SAFETY DEVICE

CROSS SECTIONS (HALF SIZE)

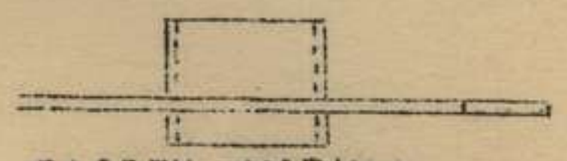
WEIGHT COMPLETE — 2 lbs APPROX
EXPLOSIVE — 1½ lbs "



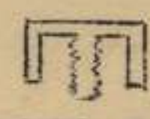
DETONATOR
(ACTUAL SIZE)



PLAN



SAFETY WASHER.
SHOWN ON (b)



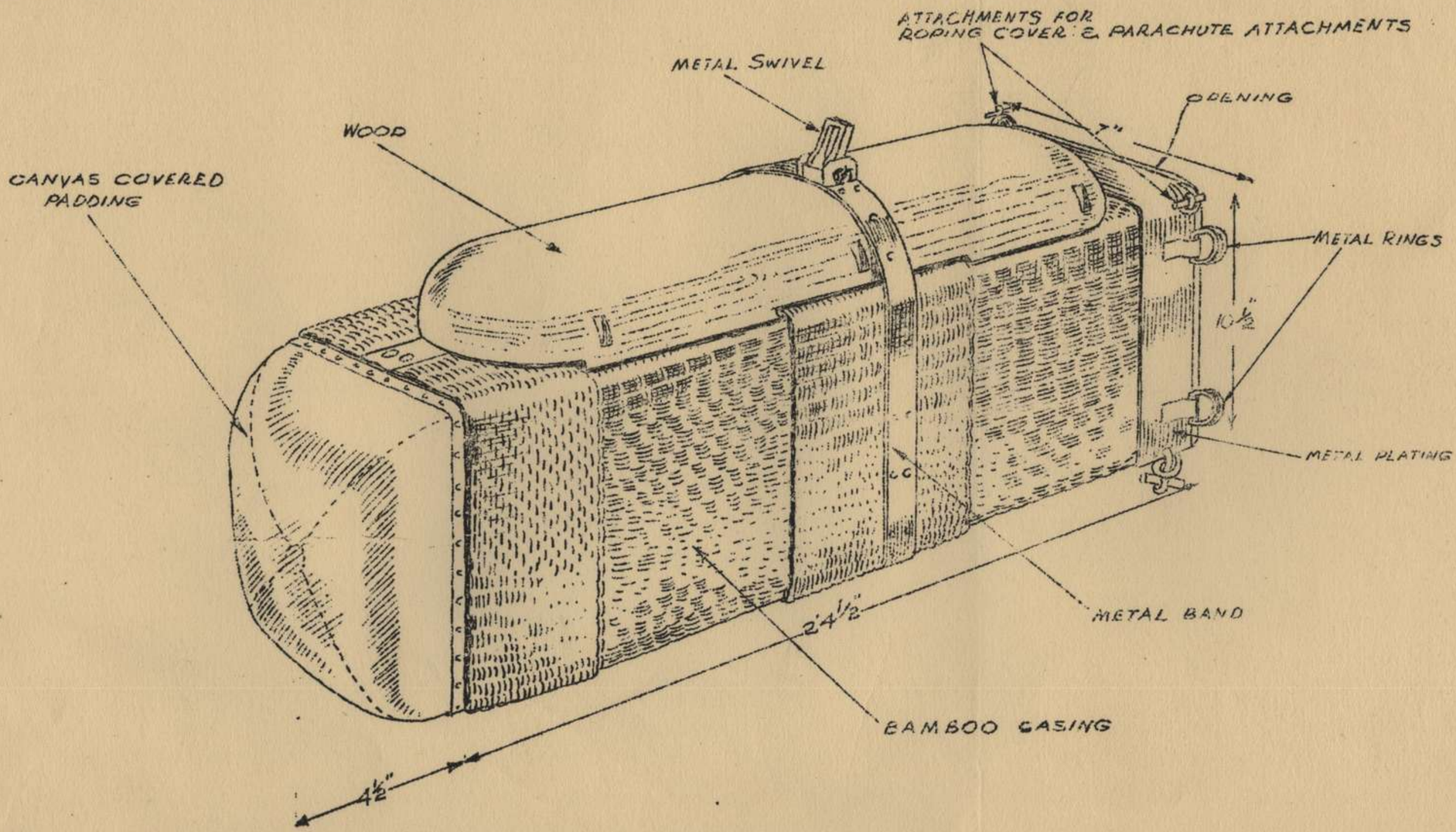
CROSS SECTION

PLAN
SAFETY CAP

GSI NGF

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

CAPTURED EQPT :- JAP AERIAL DROPPING CONTAINER.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1025440

HQ NEW GUINEA FORCE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 94

of 17 Nov 42.

APPX 'A'

Received 3/12/42
Time 1110 hrs
JG 8/99/22

4

ENEMY O of B.

SOUTH SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE IN NG AREA.

UNIT	LOCATION	REMARKS
38TH ARMY	RABAUL	
HORII DIV	BUNA-KOKODA	Certain identification - from 11 Div area.
144 Inf Regt	BUNA-KOKODA	Was known as KUSUNOSE unit - KOKODA
22 Inf Regt	RABAUL	NOT identified, deduction only.
41 Inf Regt	BUNA-KOKODA	Certain identification. Now known as "YAZAWA UNIT".
KAWASHIMA Cav Unit	BUNA-KOKODA	Identification reasonably certain. Strength unknown. KAWASHIMA was last known as Comd 11 Div Cav.
Mountain Arty Bn	BUNA-KOKODA	Believed to be part of 55 Mountain Arty Regt.
AKAO Med Unit	BUNA-KOKODA	Definite identification. Operating with KUSUNOSE Force.
47 Bn Fd AA	BUNA-KOKODA	Consider likely.
15 Ind Engr Unit	BUNA-KOKODA	Identification doubtful. YOKOYAMA Engr Regt, TAKAMORI Engr Unit in the area and may be identical with one of these.
? " "	" "	
TOMITA ASC Unit	" "	Consider likely.
SASEBO NO 3 SNLP	BUNA	Identification doubtful, probably only part at BUNA.
SASEBO NO 5 SNLP	RABAUL (?)	Portion evacuated GOODENOUGH IS to FERGUSSON IS thence to RABAUL. Portion (believed small) remained at BUNA.
14 Pnr Unit	LAE & SALAMAUA	Doubtful.
Guard Unit	" " "	Tps of relatively low combat efficiency. Identification doubtful.
65 DIV	RABAUL	Presence SPA considered very doubtful.
16 DIV	"	" " " "
YOKOSUKA NO 1 SNLP	"	Doubtful
YOKOSUKA NO 5 SNLP	"	NOT a definite identification.
KURE NO 6	"	" " " " "
12 Pnr Unit	KAVIENG	" " " " "

(From ADV LHQ Weekly Intelligence Summary No 14 - supplemented by infm received later by GSI NGF.)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

HQ NEW GUINEA FORCE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO.94.
of 17 NOV 42.

APPX "B"

ORG OF TAKASAGO VOLUNTEER BN
(Other ranks of this unit largely composed of FORMOSAN Hillmen)

BN

Comd: SUZUKI POLICE-INSP-SGT
Adj : YOKUO POLICE SGT

No 1 Coy
(235 all ranks)
COMD: YAMANAKA ASST POLICE-INSP-SGT
ADJ : SHIMOZONO.CONSTABLE

No.1 Pl (60) | No.2 Pl (85) | No.3 Pl (90)

No.2 Coy
(265 all ranks)
COMD: TERAO ASST POLICE-INSP-SGT
ADJ : NINOMIYA POLICE SGT

No.1 Pl (85) | No.2 Pl (90) | No.3 Pl (90)

Each pl comd by POLICE SGT and divided into sections of 10 men.

NOTE: (i) This unit is probably a replica of that which operated with 65 Div in the PHILLIPPINES and was used for supply and labour duties.
Owing to the difficulty of handling these people, police offcials, accustomed to their ways, are in control.

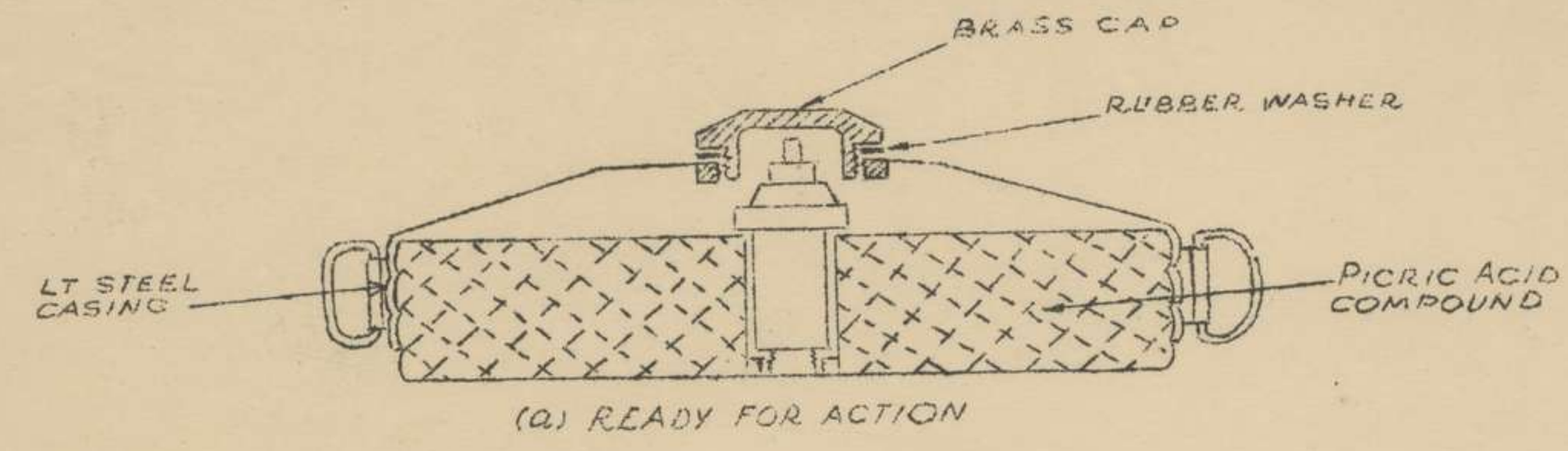
(ii) This infm is from PsW.

RCDIG1025440

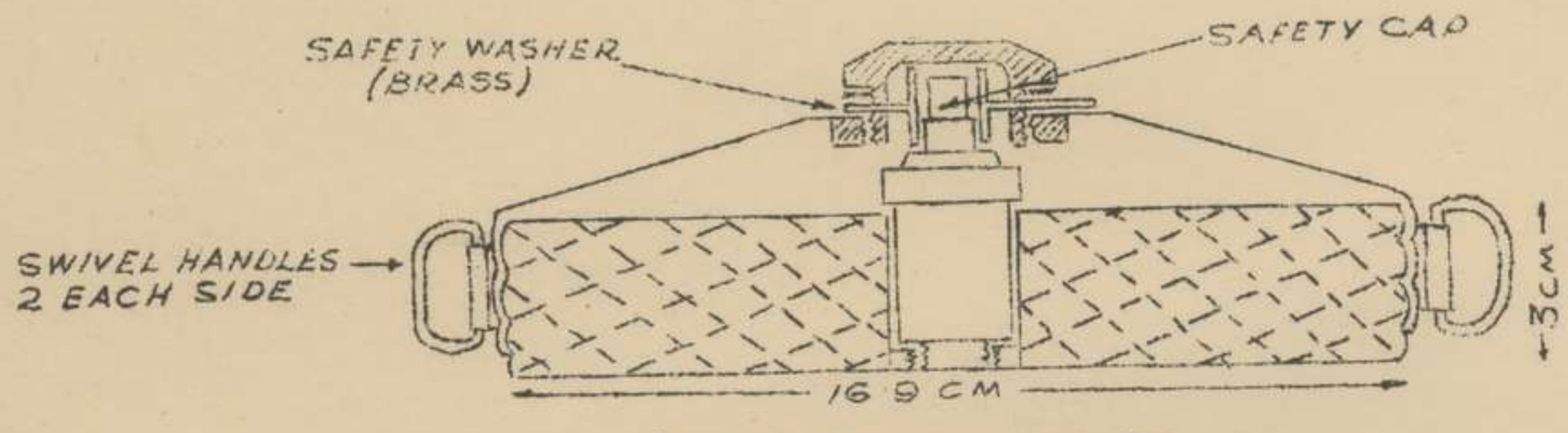
APPX "A"

HQ NEW GUINEA FORCE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No.93
of 12 NOV 42

CAPTURED EQPT : JAPANESE MINE

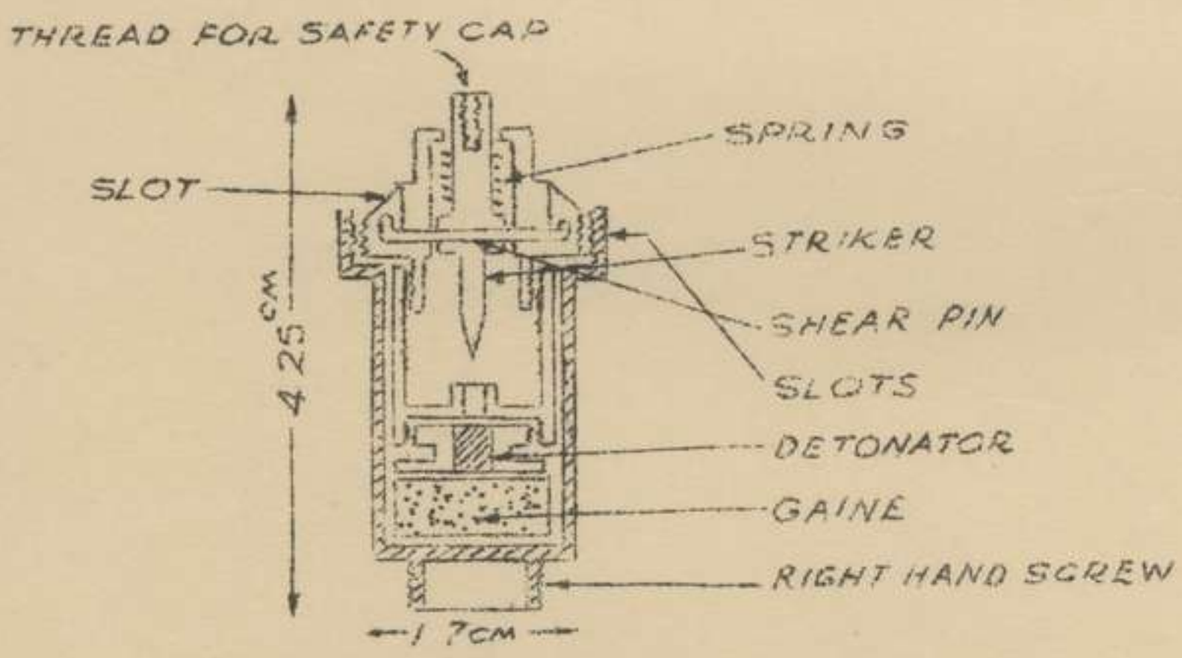


(a) READY FOR ACTION

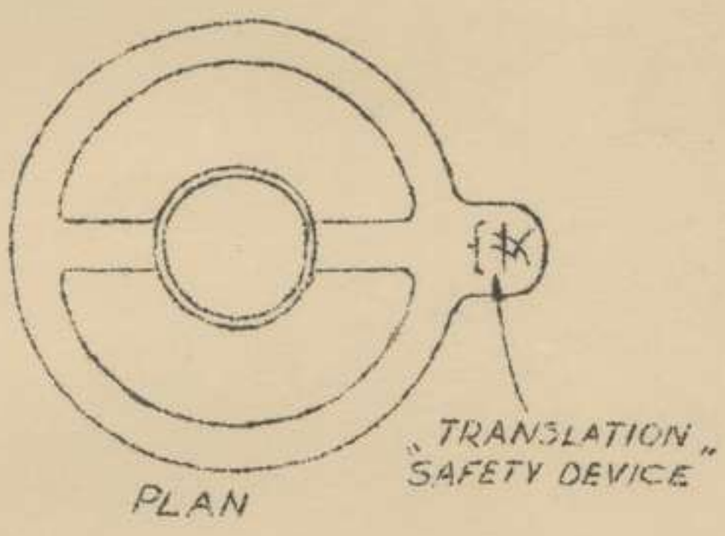


(b) WITH SAFETY DEVICE

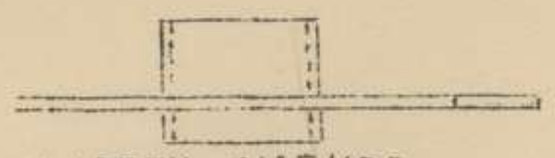
CROSS SECTIONS (HALF SIZE.)
WEIGHT COMPLETE — 2 lbs APPROX
EXPLOSIVE — 1½ lbs "



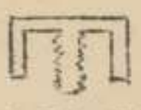
DETONATOR
(ACTUAL SIZE)



PLAN



SAFETY WASHER.
SHOWN ON (b)

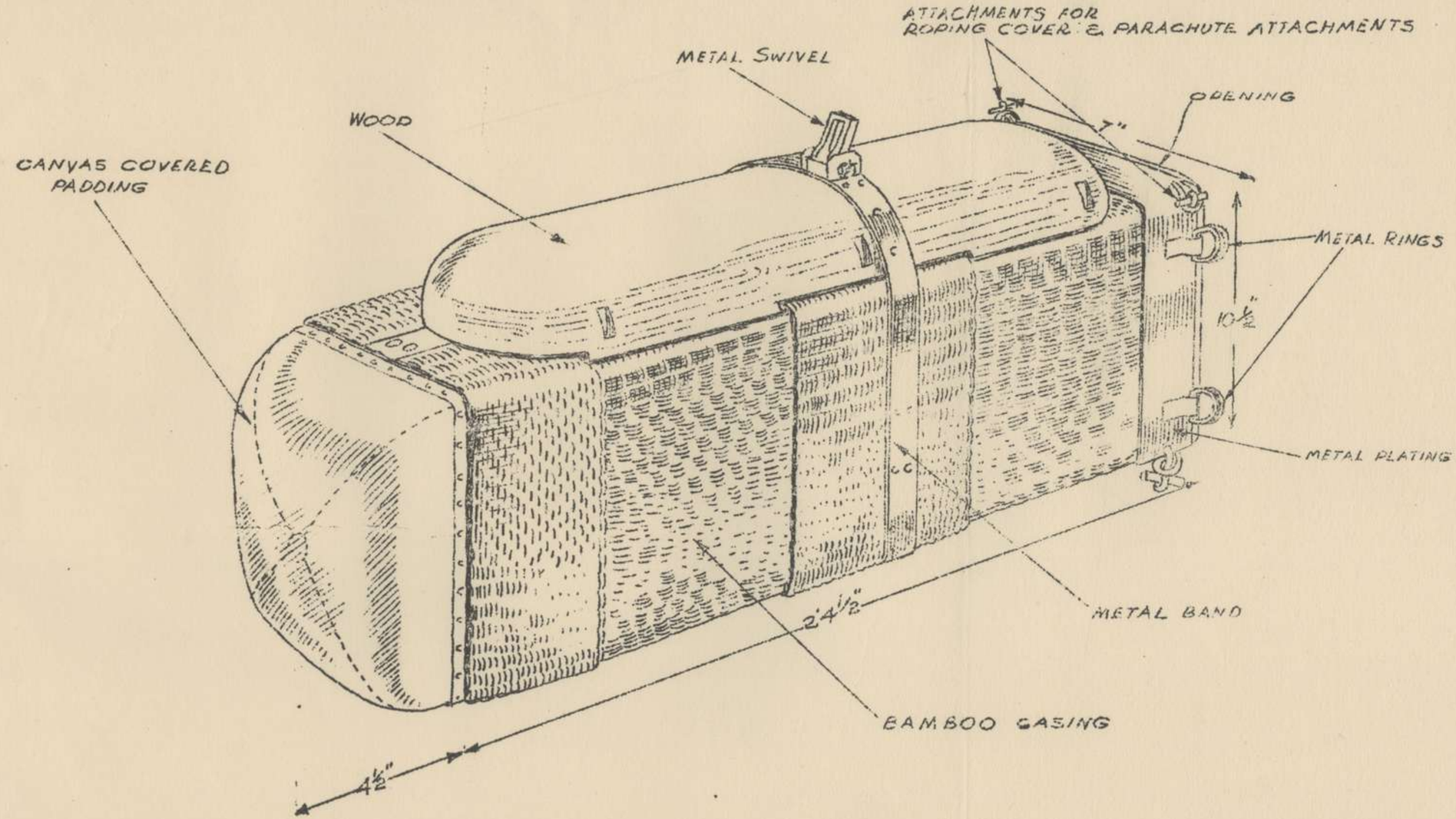


CROSS SECTION

PLAN
SAFETY CAP

GSI NGF

CAPTURED EQPT :- JAP AERIAL DROPPING CONTAINER.



GSI NGF

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

HQ NEW GUINEA FORCE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 94

of 17 Nov 42.

APPX 'A'

ENEMY O of B.

SOUTH SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE IN NG AREA.

UNIT	LOCATION	REMARKS
38TH ARMY	RABAUL	
HORII DIV	BUNA-KOKODA	Certain identification - from 11 Div area.
144 Inf Regt	BUNA-KOKODA	Was known as KUSUNOSE unit - KOKODA
22 Inf Regt	RABAUL	NOT identified, deduction only.
41 Inf Regt	BUNA-KOKODA	Certain identification. Now known as "YAZAWA UNIT".
KAWASHIMA Cav Unit	BUNA-KOKODA	Identification reasonably certain. Strength unknown. KAWASHIMA was last known as Comd 11 Div Cav.
Mountain Arty Bn	BUNA-KOKODA	Believed to be part of 55 Mountain Arty Regt.
AKAO Med Unit	BUNA-KOKODA	Definite identification. Operating with KUSUNOSE Force.
47 Bn Fd AA	BUNA-KOKODA	Consider likely.
15 Ind Engr Unit	BUNA-KOKODA	Identification doubtful. YOKOYAMA Engr Regt, TAKAMORI Engr Unit in the area and may be identical with one of these.
? " " "	" "	
TOMITA ASC Unit	" "	Consider likely.
SASEBO NO 3 SNLP	BUNA	Identification doubtful, probably only part at BUNA.
SASEBO NO 5 SNLP	RABAUL (?)	Portion evacuated GOODENOUGH IS to FERGUSSON IS thence to RABAUL. Portion (believed small) remained at BUNA.
14 Pnr Unit	LAE & SALAMAUA	Doubtful.
Guard Unit	" " "	Tps of relatively low combat efficiency. Identification doubtful.
65 DIV	RABAUL	Presence SPA considered very doubtful.
16 DIV	"	" " " "
YOKOSUKA NO 1 SNLP	"	Doubtful
YOKOSUKA NO 5 SNLP	"	NOT a definite identification.
KURE NO 6	"	" " " " "
12 Pnr Unit	KAVIENG	" " " " "

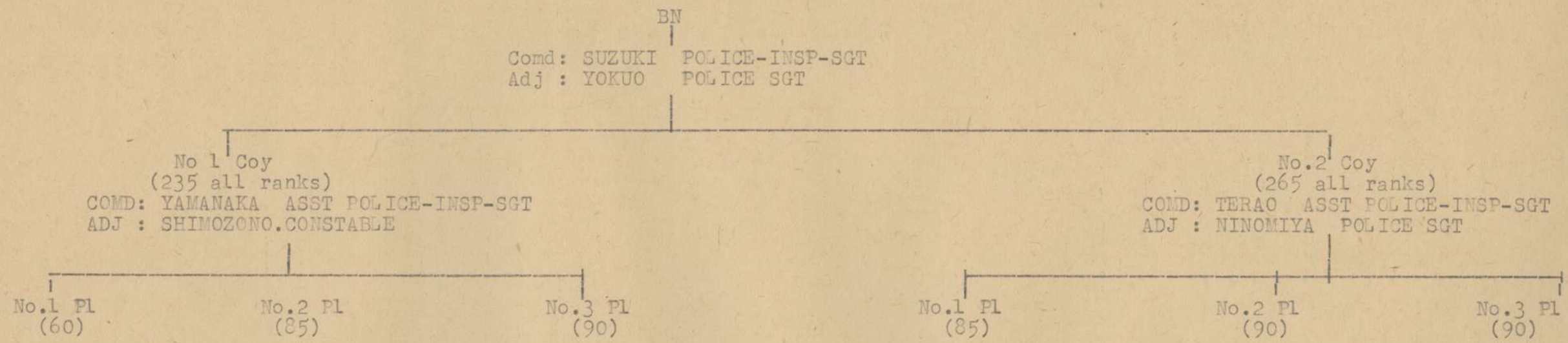
(From ADV LHQ Weekly Intelligence Summary No 14 - supplemented by infm received later by GSI NGF.)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

HQ NEW GUINEA FORCE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO.94.
of 17 NOV 42.

APPX "B"

ORG OF TAKASAGO VOLUNTEER BN
(Other ranks of this unit largely composed of FORMOSAN Hillmen)



Each pl comd by POLICE SGT and divided into sections of 10 men.

NOTE: (i) This unit is probably a replica of that which operated with 65 Div in the PHILLIPPINES and was used for supply and labour duties.
Owing to the difficulty of handling these people, police officials, accustomed to their ways, are in control.

(ii) This infm is from PsW.

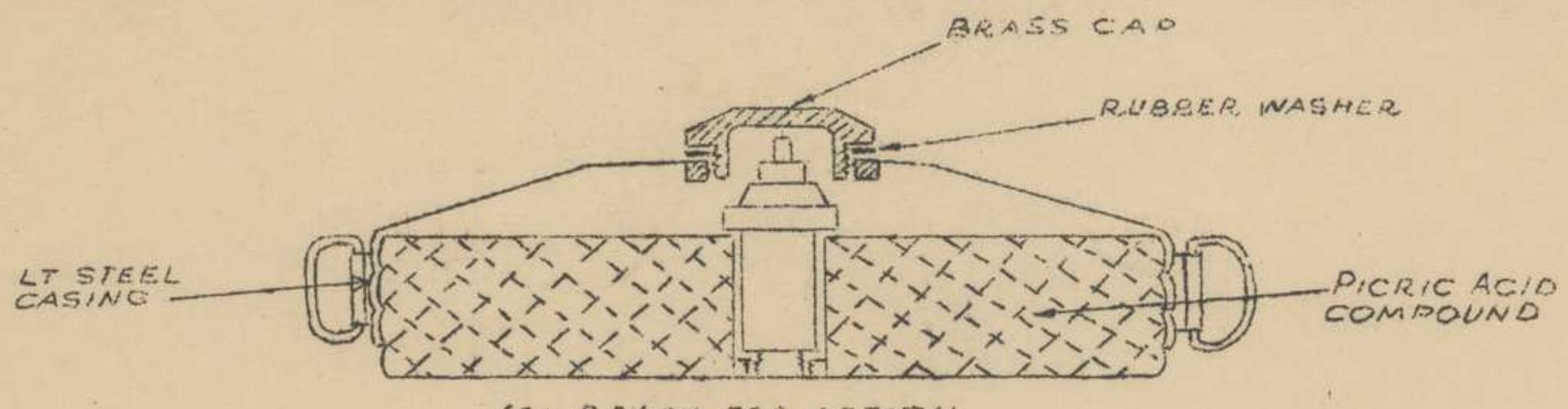
AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

APPX "A"

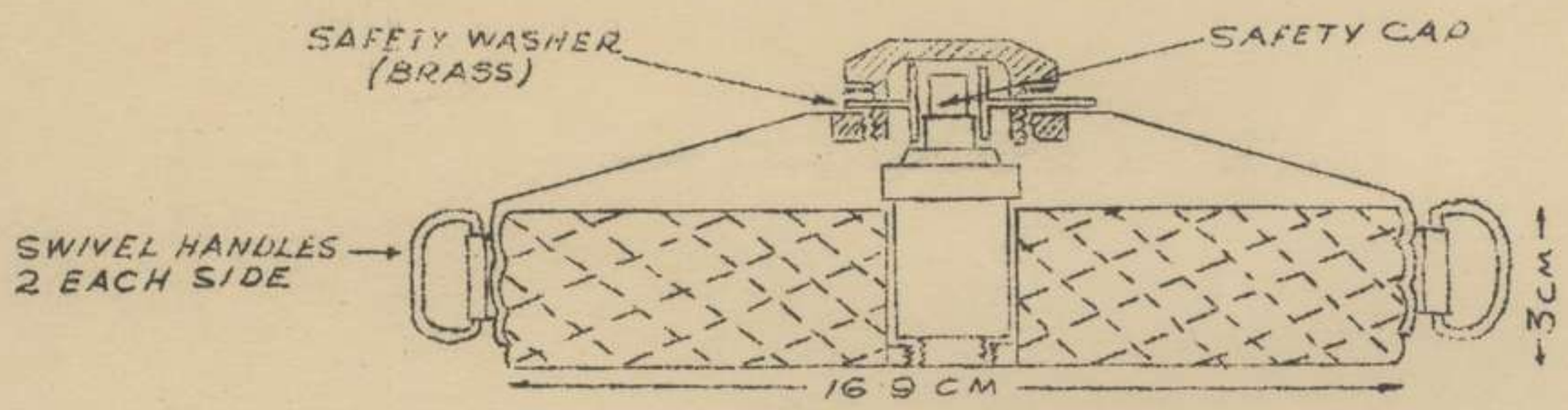
C 4

HQ NEW GUINEA FORCE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No.93
of 12 NOV 42

CAPTURED EQPT : JAPANESE MINE

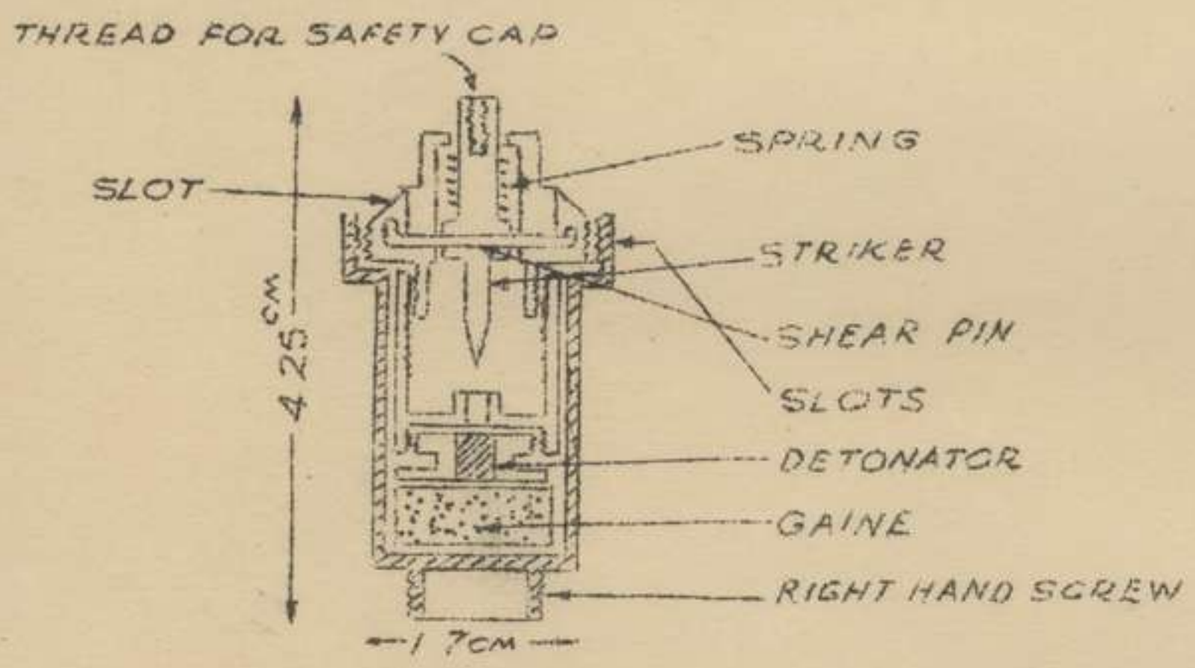


(a) READY FOR ACTION

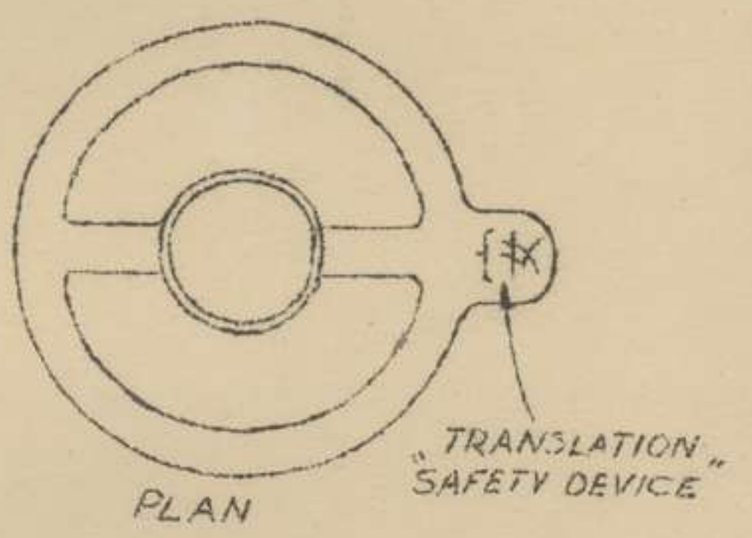


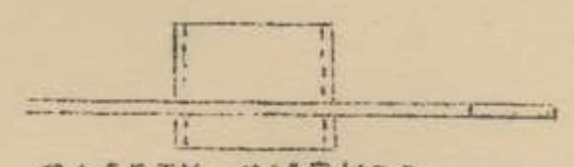
(b) WITH SAFETY DEVICE

CROSS SECTIONS (HALF SIZE.)
WEIGHT COMPLETE — 2 lbs APPROX
EXPLOSIVE — 1½ lbs "

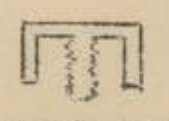


DETONATOR
(ACTUAL SIZE)





SAFETY WASHER.
SHOWN ON (b)



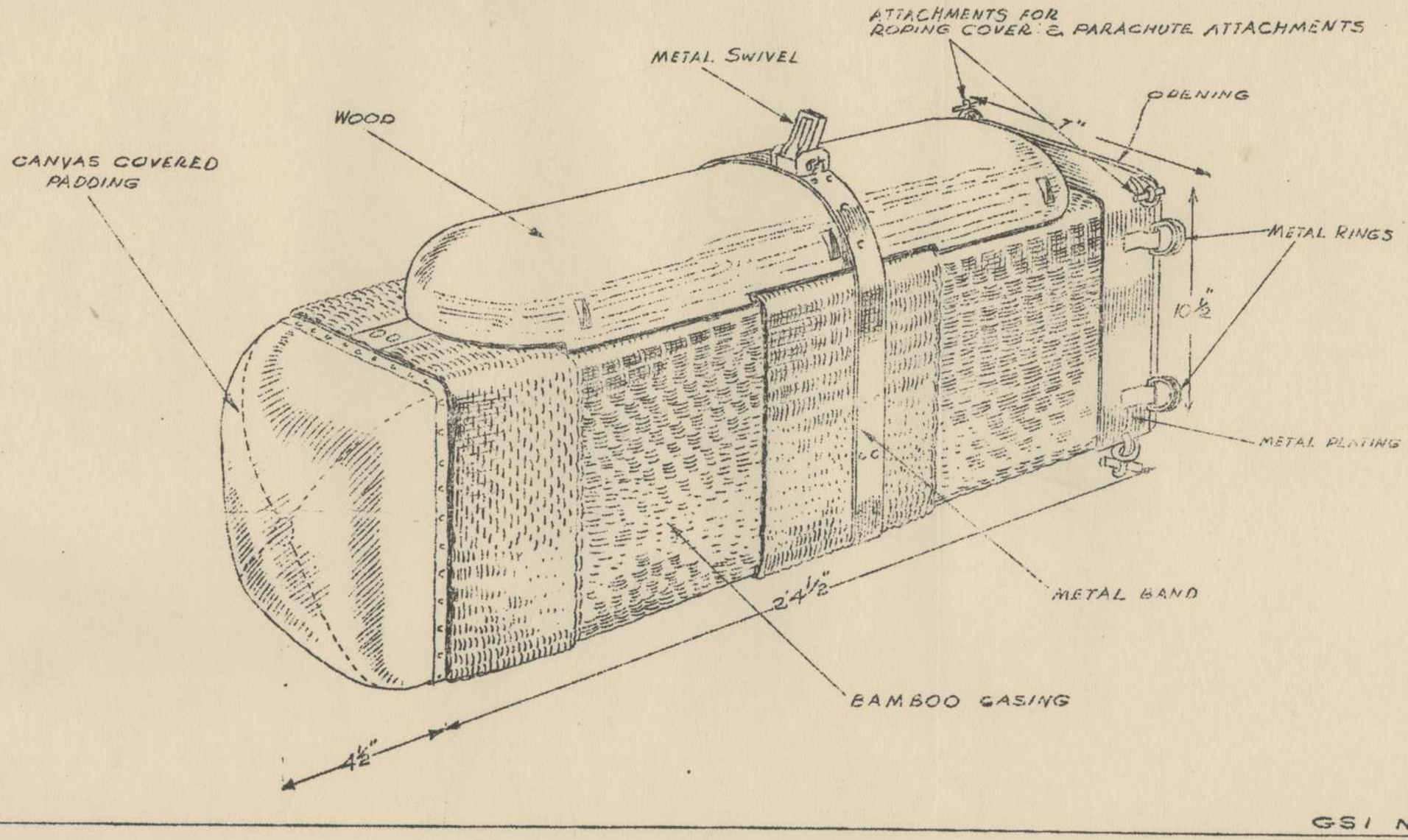
CROSS SECTION

PLAN
SAFETY CAP

GS! NGF

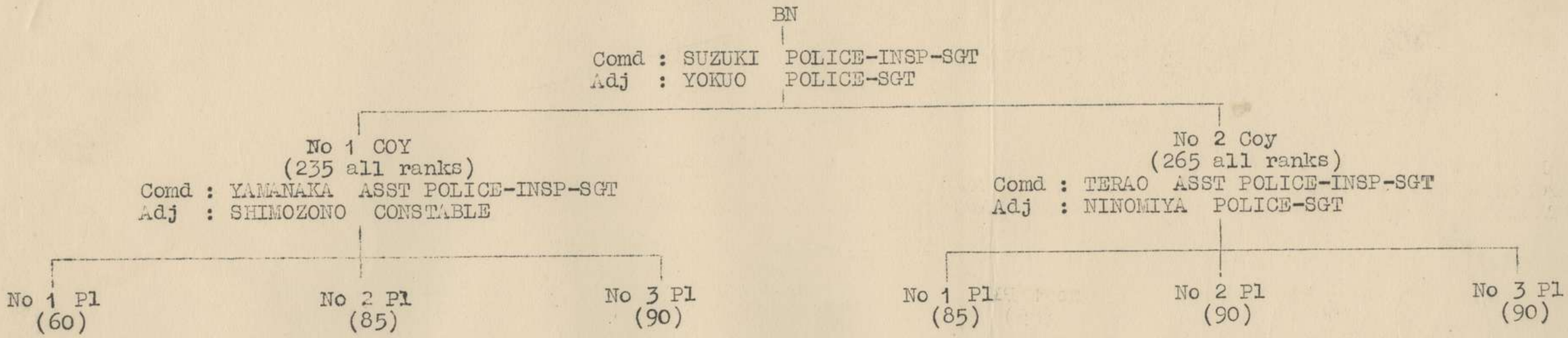
AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

CAPTURED EQPT :- JAP AERIAL DROPPING CONTAINER.



ORG OF TAKASAGO VOLUNTEER BN

(Other ranks of this unit largely composed of FORMOSAN Hillmen)



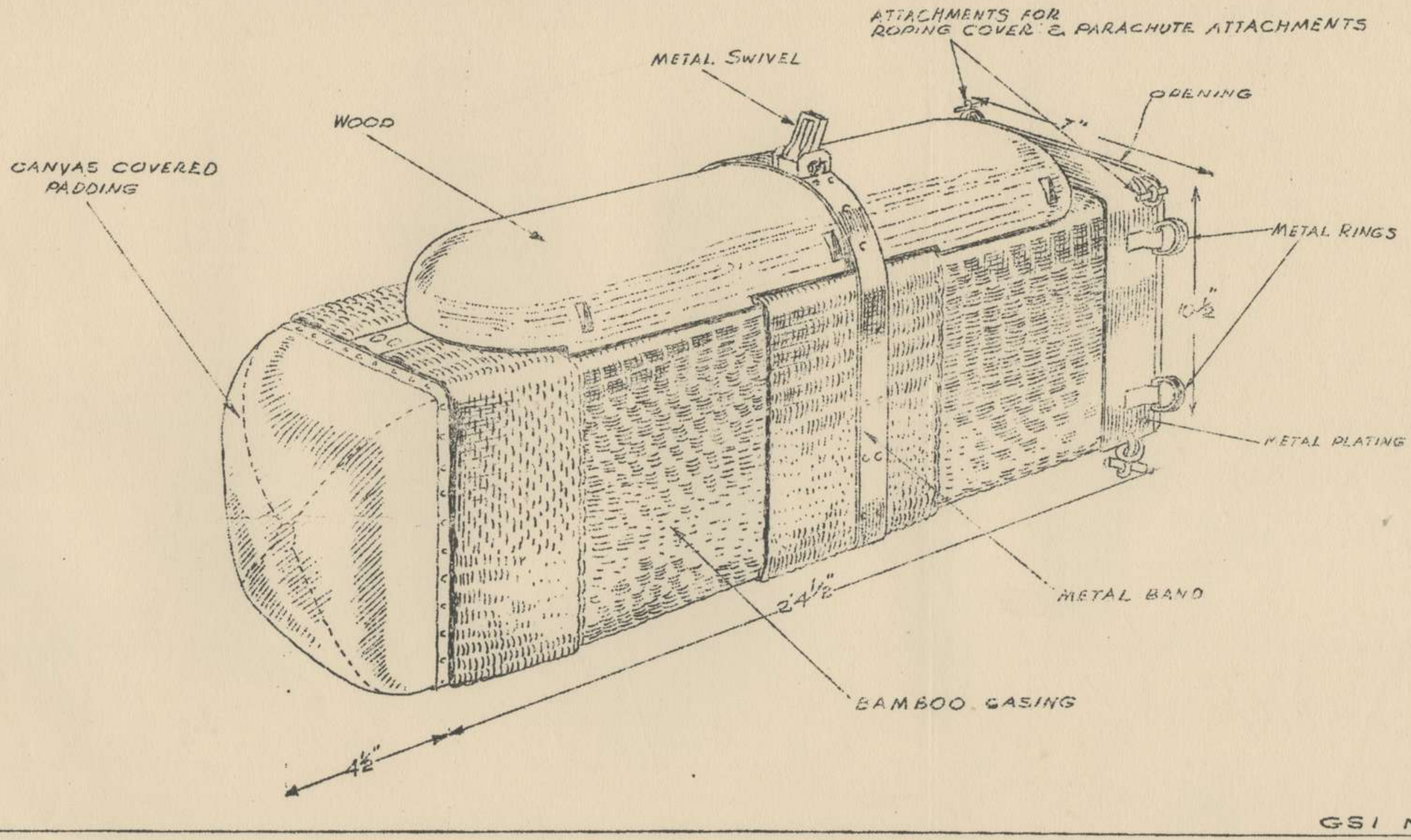
Each pl comd by POLICE-SGT and divided into sections of 10 men.

NOTE : (i) This unit is probably a replica of that which operated with 65 DIV in the PHILIPPINES and was used for supply and labour duties.
Owing to the difficulty of handling these people, police officials, accustomed to their ways, are in control.

(ii) This infm is from PsW.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

CAPTURED EQPT :- JAP AERIAL DROPPING CONTAINER.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1025440

NOT accurate etc.

WEDAU
WAMIRA
VONAPAPAWAGI
GUMAIDIWOGU
BODUMI
To KARAGAGAUBIN
LABONAI
JAIWAURI
ORI KUMAURU
To GUABANARI
To GAIDOGO TUVA
LAVORA BARRACKS
LAVUNA HIREBE
DAIWARA
LAVORA PT
To PIRIPIRIRINA
To MUAIWA
IMIMIRA
LOGALOGA
TAVARAMORTANA
AIGURA PT
PARIMETA
RARATEPANA
VERITIMUNA
IVAATA
TOPURA
GONAPORA
HIOGE
WAKAURUA
RUMURUMU
GUABANARI
DURUDURU MISSION
To WAIGANI HAGITA GILI GILI
GOMERI
MAIMAINGGA
To JUNC PIRIPIRIRINA TOPURA
To GILI GILI
TWO NATIVE HUTS
WYRIGABU
GINAYUNA
WAMAWAMANA
To GILI GILI
WAGIMATA
LIWABU
PUNI PUNI
TAUPOTA
DINUNA
VC TURN MANUBADA
VC OASIRIDGE
WEDAU
WAMANA BOGA P/C
STONE WORKS
IMAIAGA
DAH
NEBAIWARA
DAH
To BUNA & GONAGO ON ORANGE BAY
ADMTY. TPROL GOVT PHD
MANIWA
MARIGORA P/C
MURABENAWA
WAMIRA
To Hospital Hagita

ENLARGED FROM SAMARAI 4 MILES = 1 INCH AND CORRECTED LOCALLY BY INT SEC 2/9 BN

SCALE 1 INCH = 1 MILE

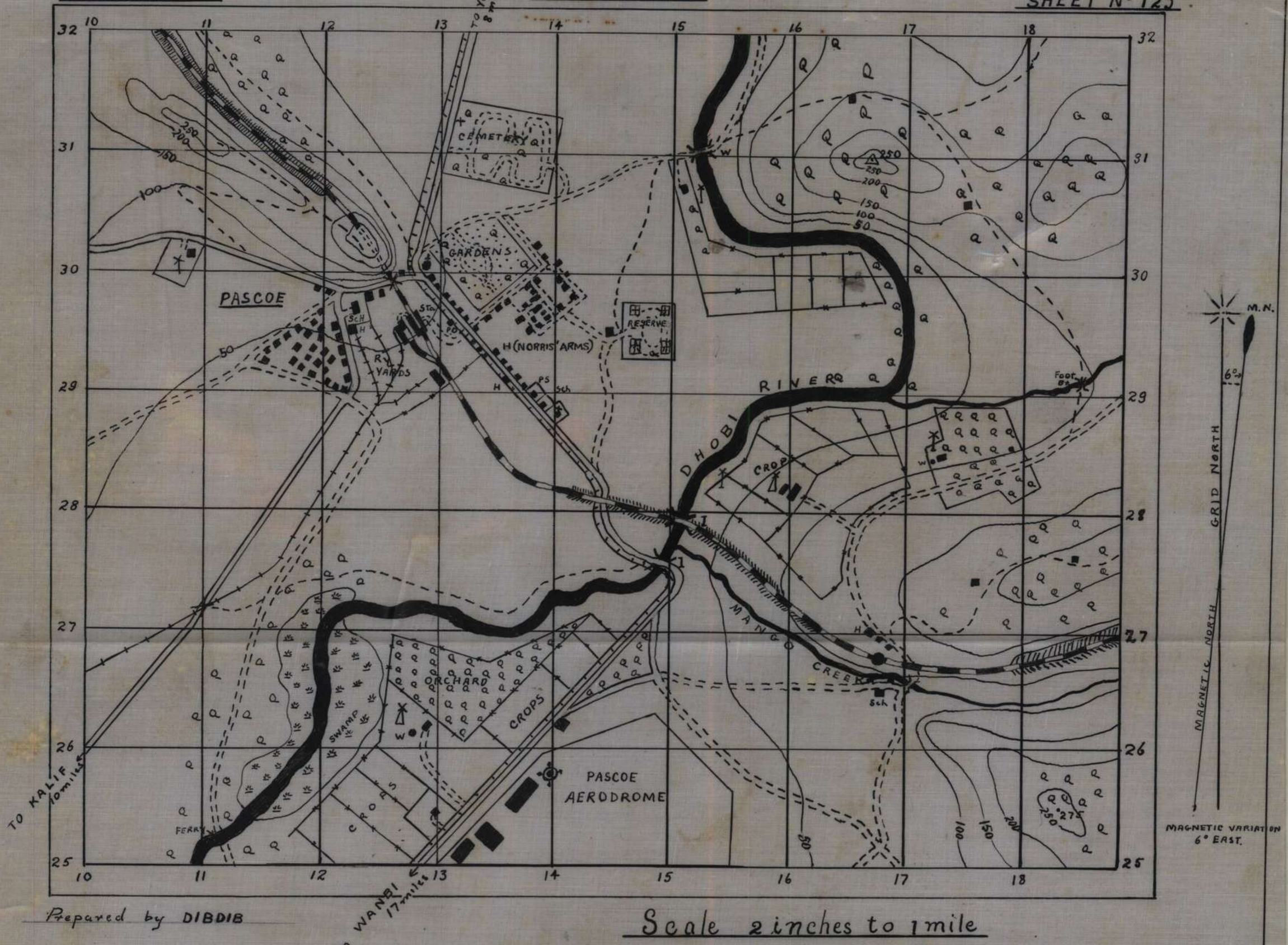
Reproduced by H.Q. 17 Aust Inf Bde
A Nov 42 Int Sec

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

PASCOE

1: 31680

SHEET Nº 125



Prepared by DIBDIB

Scale 2 inches to 1 mile

yards 1760 1320 880 440 0 ½ 1 1½ 2 MILES
1540 1100 660 220 yards

CONTOUR INTERVAL 50 FEET

LEGEND

1st Class Road (fenced)	(unfenced)
2nd " "	
Track	
Wind Pump	
Wind Mill	
Telegraph line	
Well	
Scrub	
Swamp	
Church	
Trig Point	
Spot height	• 275
Ry Line	
Cutting	
Embankment	
Bridge	

INDEX TO ADJOINING SHEETS

BAYAH	MERCAH	STONI
MANTUNG	PASCOE	HALAM
BOOLGUN	CANIH	TUSCAN

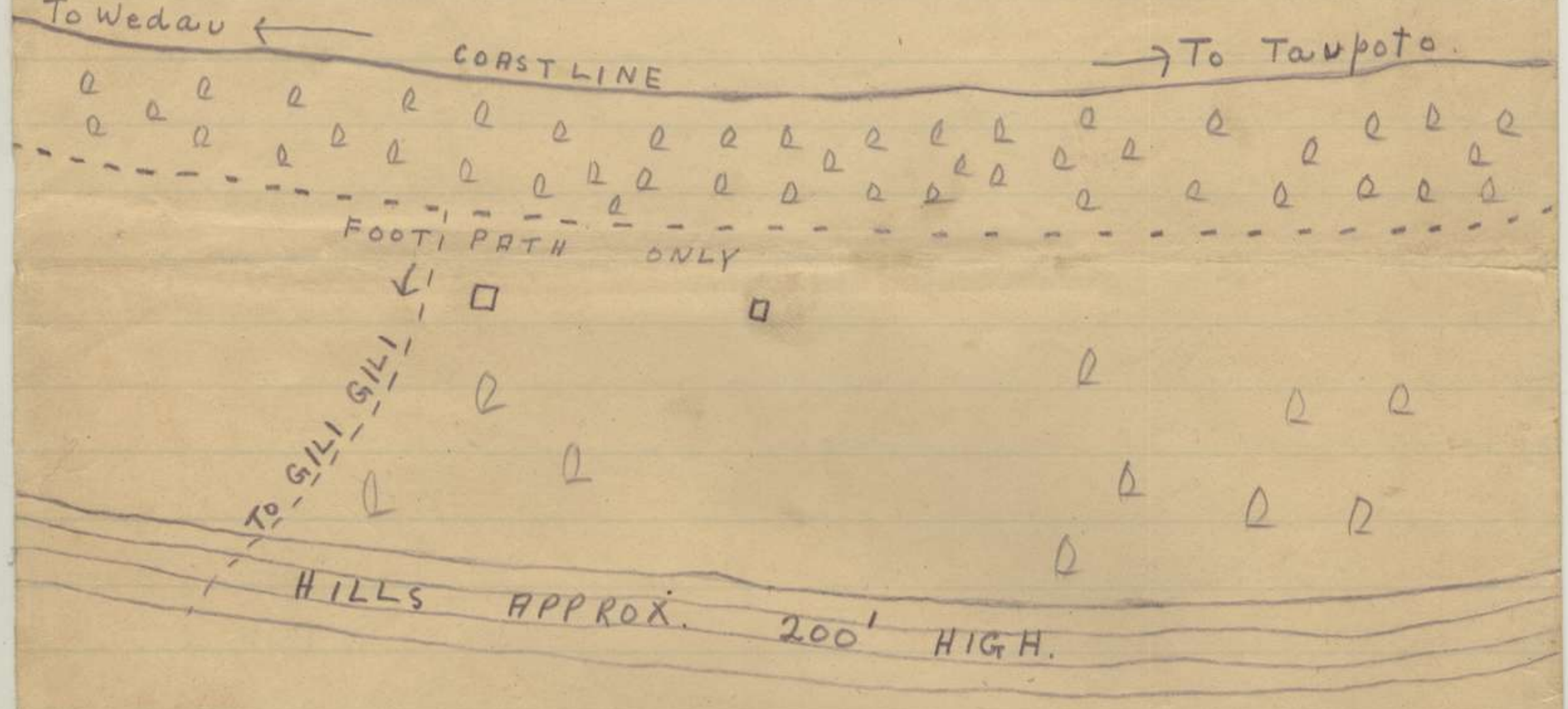
Printed by CARROSMITHS BLUE PRINT COMPANY
GILI GILI 1942

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

Ref SAMARAI

ROUGH SKETCH TOPURA AREA (2 Secs No 17 Pl "D" Coy 2/9 Bn) 1/253,440.

Map Ref. 2764.



SCALE APPROX 2" = 100^x

14 Oct 42.

LIEUT. H. A. McColm.

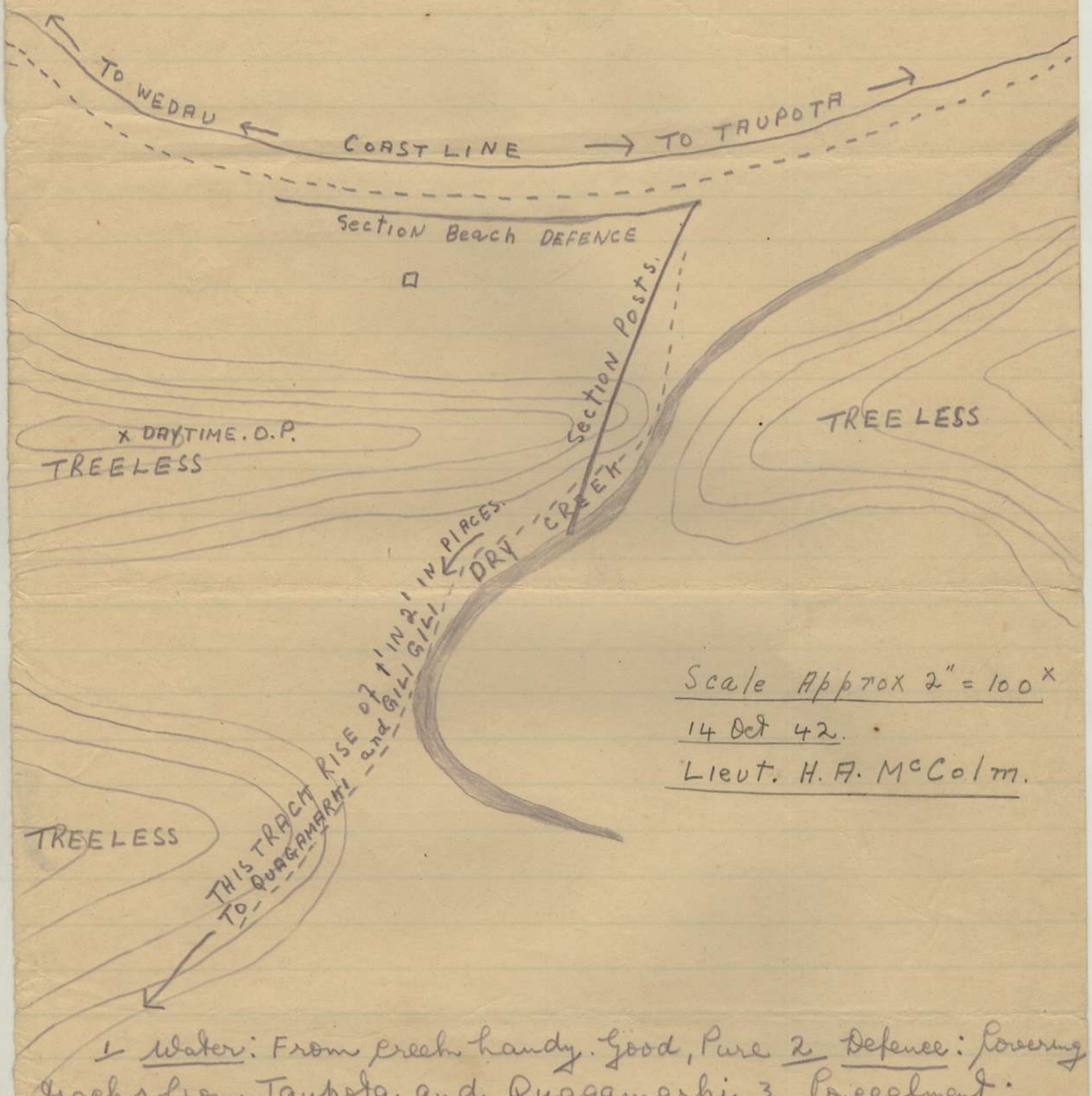
1/ Water: From nearby creek. Pure. 2/ Defence: This area was used as a report centre from which fighting patrols went out to contact enemy on native information. Area its self of no value, of a defensive position. 3/ Concealment: Plenty of tree & vegetation cover 4/ Tracks: Footpath only 5/ Hygiene: Good 6/ Ample fruit & vegs. available. 7/ These two sections are being withdrawn from this area by Capt Barnes in a few days time.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

L1370

SAMARAI

Rough Sketch BOIEKER AREA (1 Sec 18 Pl "D" Coy 2/9 Bn) Ref 1/253,440.



Scale Approx 2" = 100 x

14 Oct 42.

Lieut. H. A. McColm.

1 Water: From creek handy. Good, Pure 2 Defence: Covering tracks from Taupota and Quagamarhi. 3 Concealment: Very poor. Few trees. Troops living in native huts. 4 Foottracks only. 5 Hygiene: Good 6 Line of withdrawal via Quagamarhi to Gili Gili. Delaying posns in hills under construction. 7 Ample fruit & vegetables from natives.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

A2 G 14

HQ NEW GUINEA FORCE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 88 APPX "F"
of 19 Oct 42. 7

SUGGESTED HEADINGS FOR PERSONS SUBMITTING RECCE REPORTS ON TRACKS
(as distinct from Svy infm)

1. Time and date of starting.

2. Time and date of finishing.

3. Estimated mileage.

4. Width of track (Suitable for MT, HT, tps or carriers)

5. Surface of track - Will it break down in wet conditions?

6. Grades.

7. Landmarks which can be observed at measured bearings and estimated distances from points on track. Subsequent bearings to same landmark. (e.g. To attempt to tie track by bearings and est distances from known points).

8. Country adjacent to track - for cover, dispersal &/or for overland movements.

9. Local supplies and accommodation.

10. Crossings of rivers, creeks , swamps, saddles, passes etc at "x" hrs or "y" miles (approx). Details of approaches to watercourses, depth and width of stream, direction of flow, name of stream if possible. Nature of saddle or pass. - Is it a definite defile etc?

11. Native contacts. Villages at (--). Attitude of natives to own and enemy tps.

12. Pests encountered.

13. Weather

14. Remarks on reliability of map used. Suggestions for correction.

15. Daily stages and times of start and finish of daily march (giving hours marched each day.)

16. Exact details of load carried, how carried, arms & eqpt taken, number and type of personnel in party, whether pushing on or moving under "march" conditions. This infm is to guage the speed of the party so that hours walked may be tied with estimated distance covered.

NOTE: (a) The report should be furnished in standard military fashion (Part I, II, III being as accurate a sketch as possible under the circumstances.)

(b) Report will be signed by person submitting. Shows name, rank, unit and date of signature.

(c) Part I should contain infm as to the reason for the recce.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

COMD			
B.M.	—	—	—
B.M.(L)		—	—
S.C.	—	—	—
S.C.(L)	—	—	—
I.O.	—	—	—
L.O.1.	—	—	—
L.O.2.	—	—	—
L.O.3.	—	—	—
SIG.O.	—	—	—
T.O.	—	—	—
SUPP.O		—	—
GD.PI. COMD.			—
O.M.E.	—	—	—
AMEN.O		—	—

Received 3/11/42.
Time 1630. hrs
DR 1/4/917

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

SECRET

COPY NO....2....

HQ 17 AUST INF BDE.

19 Oct 42.

SUBJECT : SURVEY AND RECONNAISSANCE

REF : HQ MILNE FORCE G.S. INSTRUCTION NO. 10.

1. The present lack of accurate maps in MILNE BAY area emphasises the need for all Units to make every effort to secure and record topographical information of the areas in which they are located or patrol. This information should be promptly forwarded, through the usual channels, to Force HQ, where it will be collated and distributed as necessary.

2. The object of this instruction is to indicate the type of information required, and to suggest a uniform method of recording it. This instruction embodies and supersedes previous instructions issued.

3. Surveys for mapping, and Topo Recce in the MILNE FORCE Area are necessarily limited to Compass and Pacing, and a high standard of accuracy is not expected. However the standard must be as high as possible with the facilities available. Careless work and failure to make note of the obvious may have serious consequences.

4. The following information should be included wherever the time available permits :-

(a) VEGETATION: Where possible the boundaries of plantations, clearings, native gardens, swamps, sub-jungle and jungle.

(b) ROADS & TRACKS: Widths, surfaces, state of repair and carrying capacity under varying weather conditions, On jungle tracks the travelling times between points should be given. On jungle tracks periodical bearings to prominent features should be taken, and estimated distances shown.

(c) WATERCOURSES & CROSSINGS: Direction of flow, whether navigable, currents, depths and widths of water, height of banks and width between banks, nature of bottom and whether bridged. Alternative crossings should be shown where these exist.

(d) BRIDGES: ALL bridges MUST be shown, with a brief description giving span, width and estimated carrying capacity of each. State whether a bridge to carry marching personnel could be readily constructed. NOTE: A simple method of crossing streams up to 100 ft wide can be made by stretching two wires across the stream, one about 6ft6ins above the other. Personnel cross by walking along the lower wire and using the upper wire for balance.

(e) TERRAIN: Indications of topography should be given where possible by bearings along spurs, ridges and re-entrants running off roads and tracks. Steep, hilly and easy grades should be indicated with arrows pointing up hill. Where time permits form lines should be shown. Suitable O.Ps should be noted.

(f) COASTLINE: Depths of water, i.e. shallow, deep or fairly deep to be given where possible. Particular attention to be given to estuari of watercourses, with regard to the possibility of hiding boats, M.L.Cs etc.

(g) WHARVES & JETTIES -

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

4.(Contd)

(g) WHARVES & JETTIES: Types and capacities and minimum depths at ALL wharves and jetties must be given. Possible loading places other than wharves and jetties are of interest.

(h) VILLAGES: Names and alternate names if any, principal huts marked P.H. exact number of huts, correctly plotted where scale permits. Latter information is often of value for purposes of recognition from the air.

(i) BLAZING OF TRACKS: The present method is to continue viz :

△ Main Tracks

✕ Connection Tracks

◇ Tracks lead nowhere.

(j) The importance of indicating landmarks easily recognisable from the air is stressed.

5. In submitting reports on tracks etc., the reliability of maps used should be commented on and suggestions submitted for correction.

6. When submitting maps and sketches, any feature shown which has not been fixed by traverse or some such means should be appropriately noted viz "approximate only" - not traversed etc.

Capt.
D. M. Treacy Cuney for MAJOR.
B/M. 17 AUST INF BDE.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

SUBJECT: INFANTRY PATROLS. PERSONAL

H.Q. 17 AUST INF BDE.

Ref No. : G3/8.

3 Nov 42.

Lieut-Col. H.G.GUINN, E.D., 2/7 Aust Inf Bn.
Lieut-Col. F.G.WOOD, 2/6 Aust Inf Bn.
Lieut-Col. P.D.STARR, 2/5 Aust Inf Bn.

Some of the training being carried out by Patrols is well thought out, closely supervised and is being entered into with enthusiasm by the troops. Other Patrols I have met are just a complete waste of time - a mob of men wandering aimlessly about the country side. When questioned about the work, the answers of the men are somewhat enlightening and generally indicate a lack of reasoned planning on the part of their Coy and Pl Commanders.

Commanding Officers will see that full value is obtained in all exercise and operational patrols.

(1) The patrol leader must be properly "briefed" before setting out.

(2) The patrol must provide answers to definite questions.

(3) Before setting out the patrol leader should be given an opportunity of examining a map or sketch of the area or route to be patrolled and the men of the section likewise should be shown the map and have the whole scheme explained.

(4) The plan, method or formation of movement should be thoroughly understood by all ranks.

(5) Scouts and get-away men must be carefully coached in their job.

(6) Patrols must work in and become familiar with the country they are to fight in - tell them this. Make the patrol of real value in relation to the operational tasks of the Bn. Let the patrol search for lines of approach for the Bn counter-attack roles, river crossings and fords for vehicles, suitable observation posts, tracks made or required to be made in the jungle, forming up and assembly places, likely lines of enemy approach or encirclement etc etc.

(7) Patrols will be trained to move in a formation suitable to the ground which will give them confidence in dealing with a sudden ambush by the enemy or quickly setting up an ambush of their own to deal with small bodies of approaching enemy.

(8) Commanding Officers should devote some time to studying and appreciating the patrol reports received on the previous day and after discussing these with his Intelligence Officer, prepare further patrol proposals for allocating to companies.

Please give this your close personal attention.

Brig.

Comd, 17 Aust Inf Bde.

COMD
B.M.
B.M.(L)
S.C.
S.C.(L)
I.O.
L.O.1.
L.O.2.
L.O.3.
S.M.G.O.
T.O.
SUPP.O
GD.PI. COMD
O.M.E.
AMEN.O

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

G8/12

17/43

SUBJECT: PATROLS & DETACHMENTS FROM UNITS 17 AUST INF BDE.

H.Q. 17 AUST INF BDE.
Ref No. : G8/12/.
6 Nov 42.

H.Q. MILNE FORCE.

Submitted herewith is schedule of patrols and detachments of Units of this Bde together with trace of their locations.

Brig.
B.M. 17 Aust Inf Bde.

COMD			
B.M.	—	—	
B.M.(L)	—	—	
S.C.	—	—	
S.C.(L)	—	—	
I.O.	—	—	
L.O.1.	—	—	
L.O.2.	—	—	
L.O.3.	—	—	
SIG.O.	—	—	
T.O.	—	—	
SUPP.O	—	—	
GD.PI. COMD.	—		
O.M.E.	—	—	
AMEN.O	—	—	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

PATROL RESPONSIBILITY 17 AUST INF BDE

Ref Map S.E. NEW GUINEA 3"-1 mile

Unit Supplying	Strength	Location of Standing Patrol	REGULAR MOBILE PATROLS				
			Start Point	Start Time	Route	Duration	Remarks
1. 2/6 Aust Inf Bn	1 Sec	MAPO 027041	-	-	-	-	Patrol relieved every two days.
2. 2/5 Aust Inf Bn C Coy	1 Sec	NOWLA 873000	-	-	-	-	
3. 2/5 Aust Inf Bn C Coy	1 Sec	GWENA GWENA RENA 935045	-	-	-	-	
4. 2/5 Aust Inf Bn C Coy	1 Sec	GOMINI FORD 931920	-	-	-	-	
5. 2/5 Aust Inf Bn D Coy	2 Pls & Coy HQ	TAUPOTA	-	-	-	-	
6. 2/5 Aust Inf Bn D Coy	1 Pl	WEDAU	-	-	-	-	
6a. 2/7 Aust Inf Bn	1 Sec	Junc of tracks vicinity 975050	-	-	-	-	Responsibility to cover tracks South to EANEANENE, South along KALOHI CK, S.E. towards Route 7.
7. 2/5 Aust Inf Bn	1-offr 10-ORs.	-	977979	0845 hrs	Along track to 986972 and back.	2¾ hrs.	Daily patrol
8. 2/7 Aust Inf Bn	1 Sec	-	001998	0800 hrs	see trace	7 hrs.	Every second day.
9. 2/7 Aust Inf Bn	1 Pl	-	001998	0830 hrs	004027 then on to MAPO.	8½ hrs.	Every second day.
10. 2/7 Aust Inf Bn	1 Sec	-	981047	0830 hrs	975050 then SOUTH along WEST bank KALOHI CK.	8½ hrs.	Every third day.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

PATROL RESPONSIBILITY 17 AUST INF BDE

Ref Map S.E. NEW GUINEA 3"-1 mile

Unit Supplying	Strength	Location of Standing Patrol	REGULAR MOBILE PATROLS				
			Start Point	Start Time	Route	Duration	Remarks
1. 2/6 Aust Inf Bn	1 Sec	MAPO 027041	-	-	-	-	Patrol relieved every two days.
2. 2/5 Aust Inf Bn C Coy	1 Sec	NOWLA 873000	-	-	-	-	
3. 2/5 Aust Inf Bn C Coy	1 Sec	GWENA GWENA RENA 935045	-	-	-	-	
4. 2/5 Aust Inf Bn C Coy	1 Sec	GOMINI FORD 931920	-	-	-	-	
5. 2/5 Aust Inf Bn D Coy	2 Pls & Coy HQ	TAUPOTA	-	-	-	-	
6. 2/5 Aust Inf Bn D Coy	1 Pl	WEDAU	-	-	-	-	
6a. 2/7 Aust Inf Bn	1 Sec	June of tracks vicinity 975050	-	-	-	-	Responsibility to cover tracks South to KANKANENE, South along KALOHI CK, S.E. towards Route 7.
7. 2/5 Aust Inf Bn	1-offr 10-ORs.	-	977979	0845 hrs	Along track to 986972 and back.	2½ hrs.	Daily patrol
8. 2/7 Aust Inf Bn	1 Sec	-	001998	0800 hrs	see trace	7 hrs.	Every second day.
9. 2/7 Aust Inf Bn	1 Pl	-	001998	0830 hrs	004027 then on to MAPO.	8½ hrs.	Every second day.
10. 2/7 Aust Inf Bn	1 Sec	-	981047	0830 hrs	975050 then SOUTH along WEST bank KALOHI CK.	8½ hrs.	Every third day.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

PATROL RESPONSIBILITY 17 AUST INF BDE

Ref Map S.E. NEW GUINEA 3"-1 mile

Unit Supplying	Strength	Location of Standing Patrol	REGULAR MOBILE PATROLS				
			Start Point	Start Time	Route	Duration	Remarks
1. 2/6 Aust Inf Bn	1 Sec	MAPO 027041	-	-	-	-	Patrol relieved every two days.
2. 2/5 Aust Inf Bn C Coy	1 Sec	NOWLA 873000	-	-	-	-	
3. 2/5 Aust Inf Bn C Coy	1 Sec	GWENA GWENA RENA 935055	-	-	-	-	
4. 2/5 Aust Inf Bn G Coy	1 Sec	GOMINI FORD 931920	-	-	-	-	
5. 2/5 Aust Inf Bn D Coy	2 Pls & Coy HQ	TAUPOTA	-	-	-	-	
6. 2/5 Aust Inf Bn D Coy	1 Pl	WEDAU	-	-	-	-	
6a. 2/7 Aust Inf Bn	1 Sec	June of tracks vicinity 975050	-	-	-	-	Responsibility to cover tracks South to EANEANENE, South along KALOHI CK, S.E. towards Route 7.
7. 2/5 Aust Inf Bn	1-offr 10-ORs.	-	977979	0845 hrs	Along track to 986972 and back.	2½ hrs.	Daily patrol
8. 2/7 Aust Inf Bn	1 Sec	-	001998	0800 hrs	see trace	7 hrs.	Every second day.
9. 2/7 Aust Inf Bn	1 Pl	-	001998	0830 hrs	004027 then on to MAPO.	8½ hrs.	Every second day.
10. 2/7 Aust Inf Bn	1 Sec	-	981047	0830 hrs	975050 then SOUTH along WEST bank KALOHI CK.	8½ hrs.	Every third day.

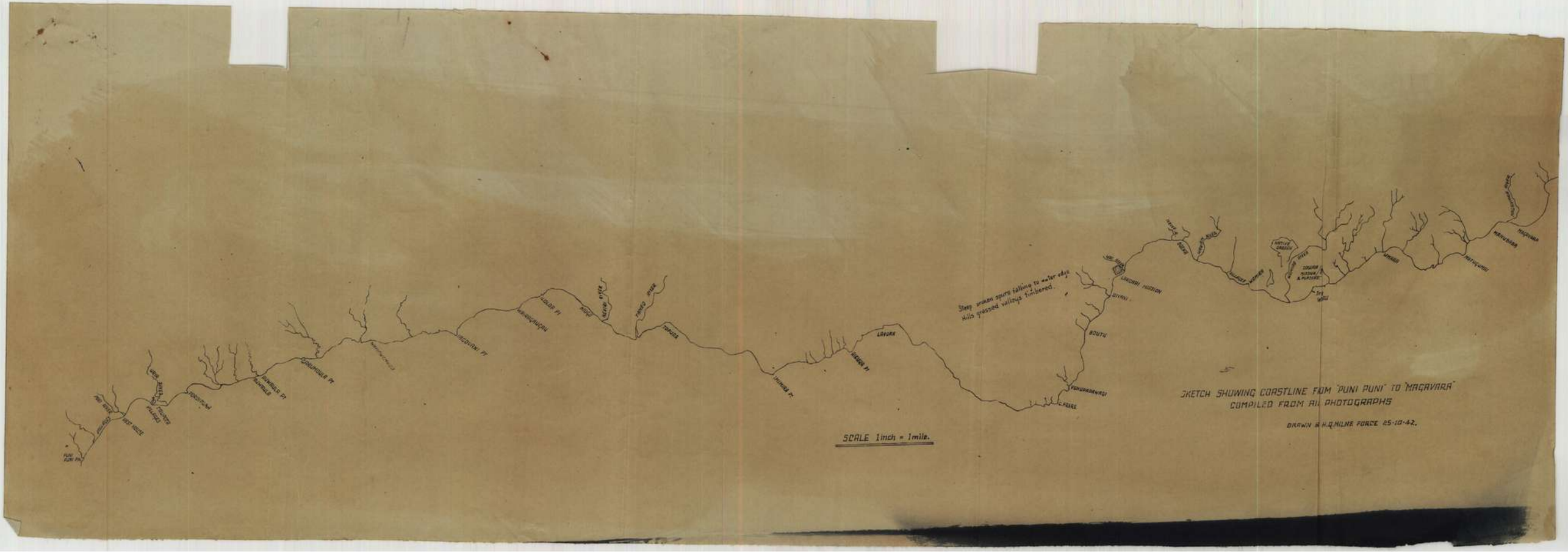
AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

PATROL RESPONSIBILITY 17 AUST INF BDE

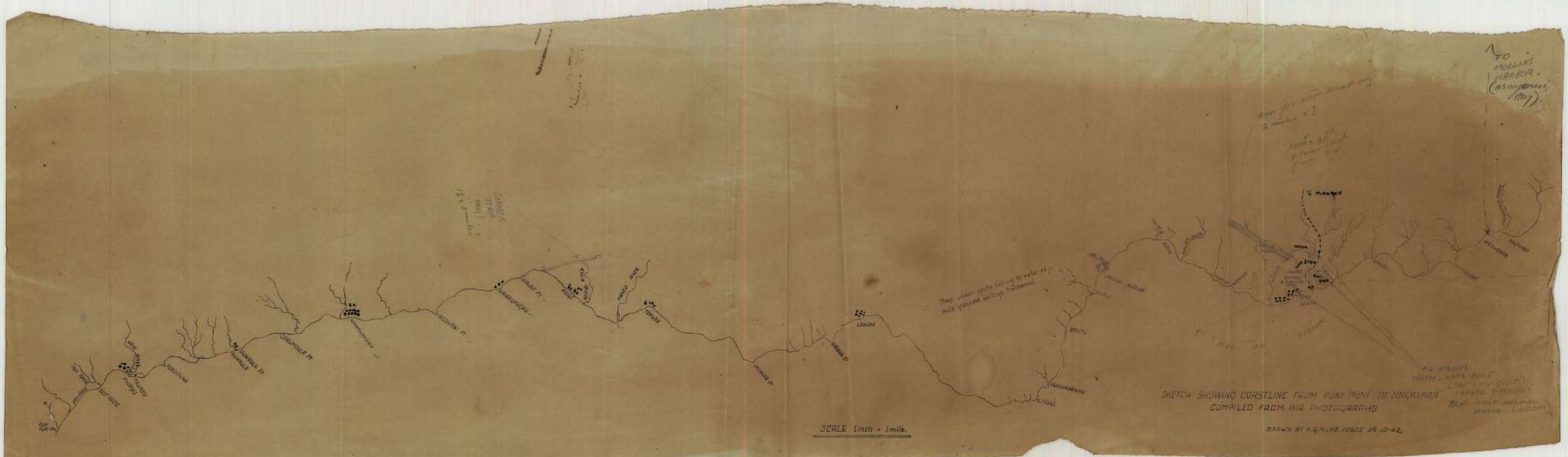
Ref Map S.E. NEW GUINEA 3"-1 mile

nit Supplying	Strength	Location of Standing Patrol	REGULAR MOBILE PATROLS				
			Start Point	Start Time	Route	Duration	Remarks
1. 2/6 Aust Inf Bn	1 Sec	MAPO 027041	-	-	-	-	Patrol relieved every two days.
2. 2/5 Aust Inf Bn C Coy	1 Sec	NOWLA 873000	-	-	-	-	
3. 2/5 Aust Inf Bn C Coy	1 Sec	GWENA GWENA RENA 935045	-	-	-	-	
4. 2/5 Aust Inf Bn C Coy	1 Sec	GOMINI FORD 931920	-	-	-	-	
5. 2/5 Aust Inf Bn D Coy	2 Pls & Coy HQ	TAUPOTA	-	-	-	-	
6. 2/5 Aust Inf Bn D Coy	1 Pl	WEDAU	-	-	-	-	
6a. 2/7 Aust Inf Bn	1 Sec	Junc of tracks vicinity 975050	-	-	-	-	Responsibility to cover tracks South to EANEANENE, South along KALOHI CK, S.E. towards Route 7.
7. 2/5 Aust Inf Bn	1-offr 10-ORs.	-	977979	0845 hrs	Along track to 986972 and back.	2¾ hrs.	Daily patrol
8. 2/7 Aust Inf Bn	1 Sec	-	001998	0800 hrs	see trace	7 hrs.	Every second day.
9. 2/7 Aust Inf Bn	1 Pl	-	001998	0830 hrs	004027 then on to MAPO.	8½ hrs.	Every second day.
10. 2/7 Aust Inf Bn	1 Sec	-	981047	0830 hrs	975050 then SOUTH along WEST bank KALOHI CK.	8½ hrs.	Every third day.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

I.O. 17BDE. INT. SEC. MAC COY 9-11-42

ITEMS FROM PATROL REPORTS.

Marching time Taupota - Topura approx 14 miles, 5 hrs. solid going.

Taupota - Kumi Kumi - approx 3 miles 1 hour comfortable going.

Taupota - Awarama - approx 10 miles 3 3/4 hrs. easy going.

Awaiama - Topoa - approx 4 miles 1 1/2 hrs solid.

Awaiama - Greys Plant.n - approx 6 miles - 2 hrs 5 mins solid.

With a little work it would be possible to use a Jeep ~~between~~ from Taupota ~~and~~ to Topoa

It is impossible to find Japs without aid from the natives.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

D/30

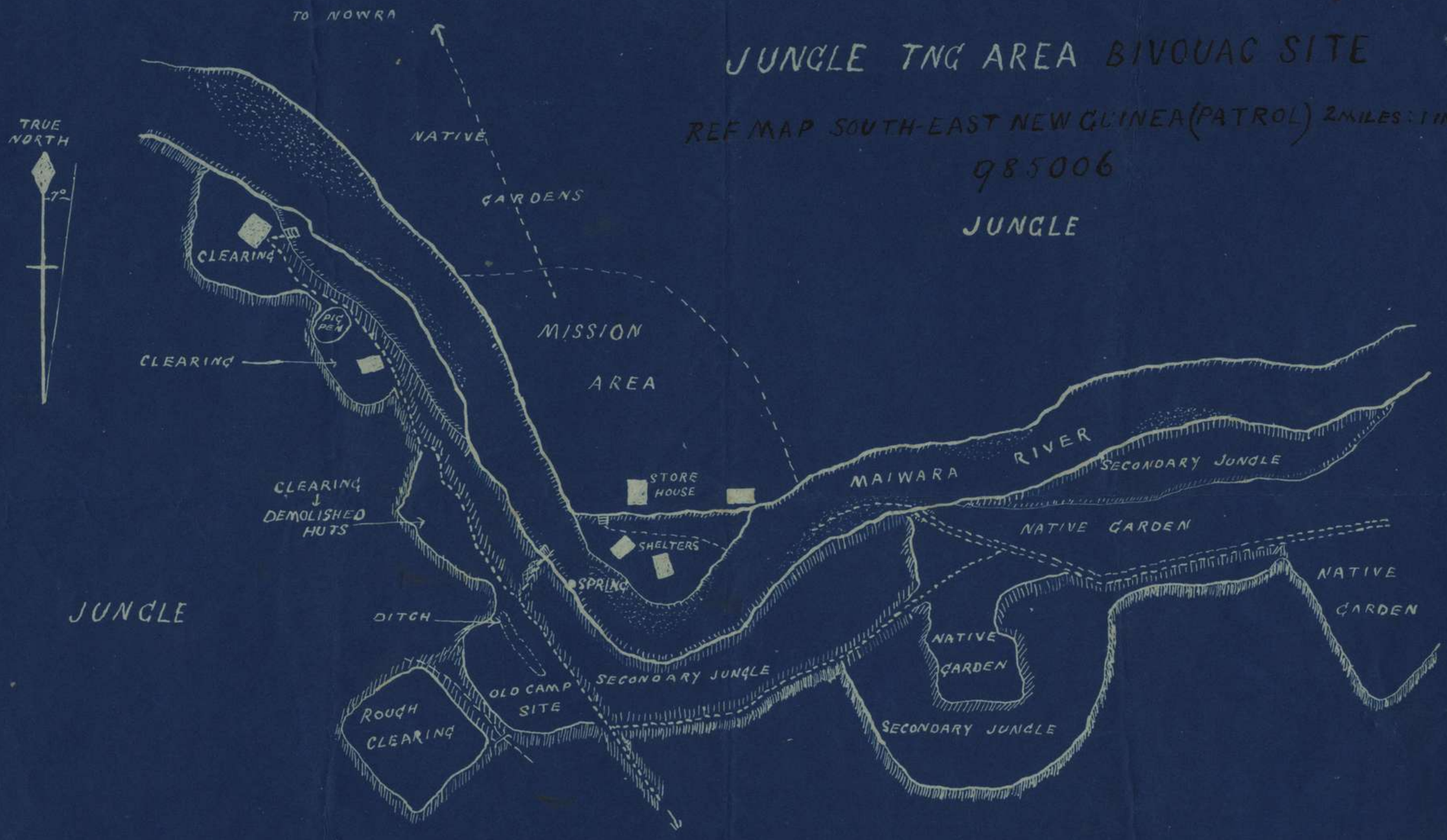
FIELD SKETCH

JUNGLE TNG AREA BIVOUAC SITE

REF MAP SOUTH-EAST NEW GUINEA (PATROL) 2 MILES : 1 INCH

985006

JUNGLE



COMPILED BY

COMPASS TRAVERSE & MEASURE

SCALE : 32 INS = 1 MILE

100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 100 200 YARDS

INT. SEC. 2/5 BN.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

I.SECTION. 2/5 AUST INF BN.
4 Nov 42.

"I" SECTION.
17 AUST INF BDE.

Attached hereto Map No.4. giving further information mapped and checked. This supersedes Map No.3.

Lieut.

I.O. 2/5 AUST INF BN.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

SWAMP
JUNGLE
SWAMP
SCRUB
COCONUT PLANTATION
YOUNG RUBBER
COCONUT PLANTATION
ROUTE 4
ROUTE 4
COCONUT PLANTATION
COCONUT PLANTATION
HORSE PADDOCK
COCONUT PLANTATION
JUNGLE
ROUTE 3
BLADE GRASS
COCONUT PLANTATION
JUNGLE
JUNGLE
SWAMP
PLAYING LANE
NATIVE GARDENS
COCONUT PLANTATION
NATIVE GARDENS
ROUTE 3
WARNING UNIT GRID
MAGNETIC
Scale 4" = 1"
1 Sec 2/5 bn

SWAMP
JUNGLE
SWAMP
SCRUB
COCONUT PLANTATION
YOUNG RUBBER
COCONUT PLANTATION
ROUTE 4
ROUTE 4
COCONUT PLANTATION
COCONUT PLANTATION
HORSE PADDOCK
COCONUT PLANTATION
JUNGLE
JUNGLE
ROUTE 1
ROUTE 3
JUNGLE
COCONUT PLANTATION
SWAMP
BANANAS
CULTIVATION
MAIVARA RIVER
ROUTE 2
WARNING UNIT GRID
MAGNETIC
Scale 4" : 1m
1" Sec 2/5 bn

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

I, Sec.

Attached hereto map NO 3, giving further imformation mapped and checked.

This supersedes map N O 2.

Lieut ,

I.O.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

SWAMP
JUNGLE
SWAMP
SCRUB
RIVER BANK
COCONUT PLANTATION
YOUNG RUBBER
COCONUT PLANTATION
ROUTE 4
ROUTE 4
WP FORD
ROUTE 1
ROUTE 3
COCONUT PLANTATION
COCONUT PLANTATION
HORSE PADDOCK
CLEARED
JUNGLE
JUNGLE
SWAMP
DONA DONA
ROUTE 9
SAVANNAS
11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22
WARNING UNIT GRID MAGNETIC
1000 500 0 1000 yds
Scale 4" : 1"
1" Sec 2/5 bn

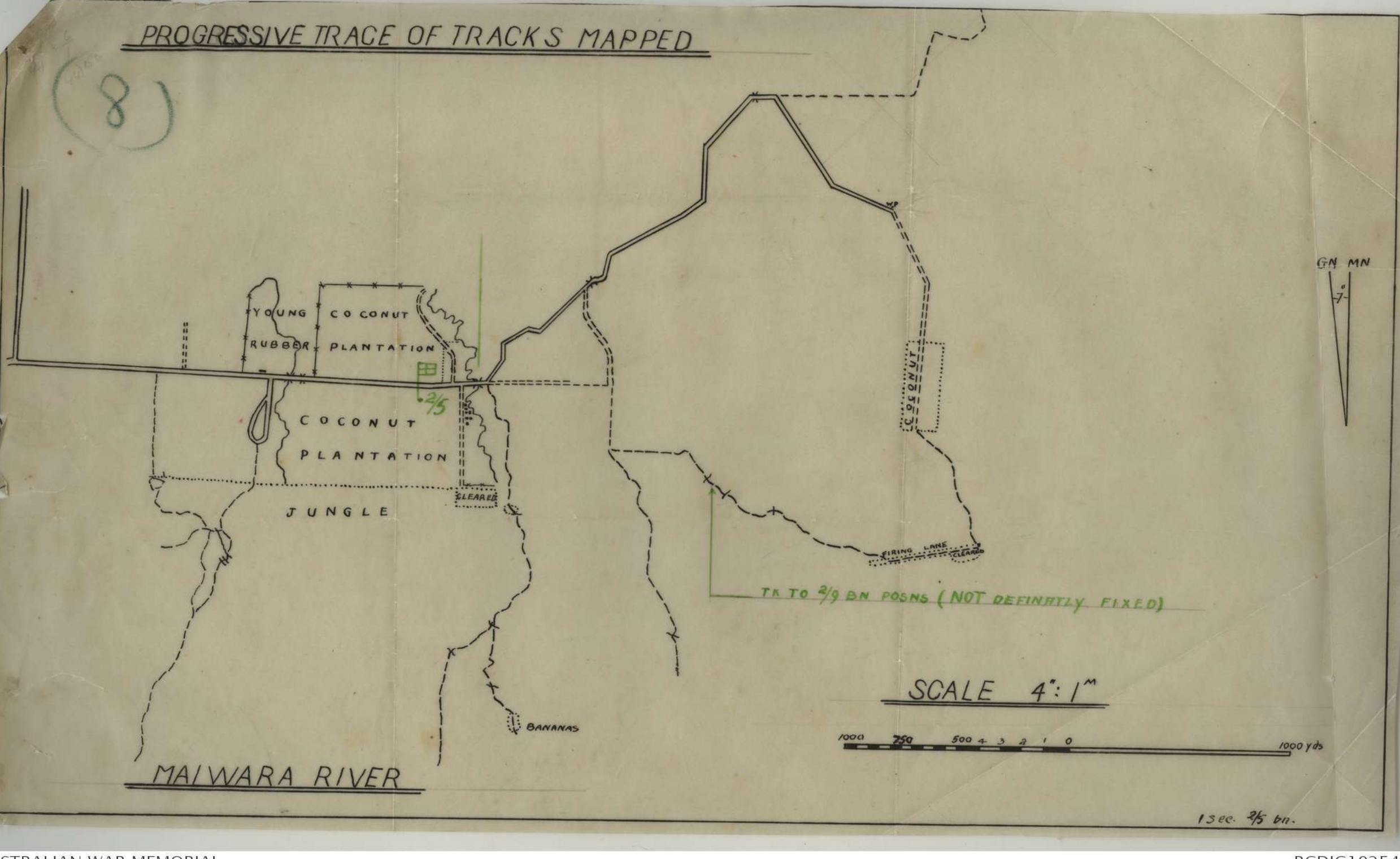
AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

SWAMP
JUNGLE
SWAMP
SCRUB
RIVER BANK
COCONUT PLANTATION
YOUNG RUBBER
COCONUT PLANTATION
ROUTE 4
COCONUT
ROUTE 4
WP FORD
ROUTE 1
ROUTE 3
COCONUT PLANTATION
COCONUT PLANTATION
HORSE PADDOCK
PLANTATION
CLEARED
JUNGLE
JUNGLE
SWAMP
DONA DONA
NATIVE GARDENS
CLEARED
BANANAS
CULTIVATION
DUIPI
MAIWARA RIVER
ROUTE 9
11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22
WARNING UNIT GRID
MAGNETIC
1000 500 0 1000 yds
Scale 4" 1"
1" Sec 2/5 bn

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

PROGRESSIVE TRACE OF TRACKS MAPPED

(8)



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

COMPASS TRAVERSE 2/5 BN AREA ÷ SCALE 8 INCHES TO 1 MILE

D/52

RIFLE RANGE

CLEARING

CARRIERS

COCONUT PLANTATION

YOUNG RUBBER

MORTARS

ADMIN

CLEARING

ROUTE 4

P C

S/S

P H.Q

P D

P A

田 B.H.Q

A.A.S.C

P B

AMN DUMP

15 PL

16 PL

14 PL

18 PL

17 PL

19 PL

10 PL

8 PL

9 PL

11 PL

13 PL

12 PL

COCONUT PLANTATION

VILLAGE

JUNGLE

CLEARING

M.N

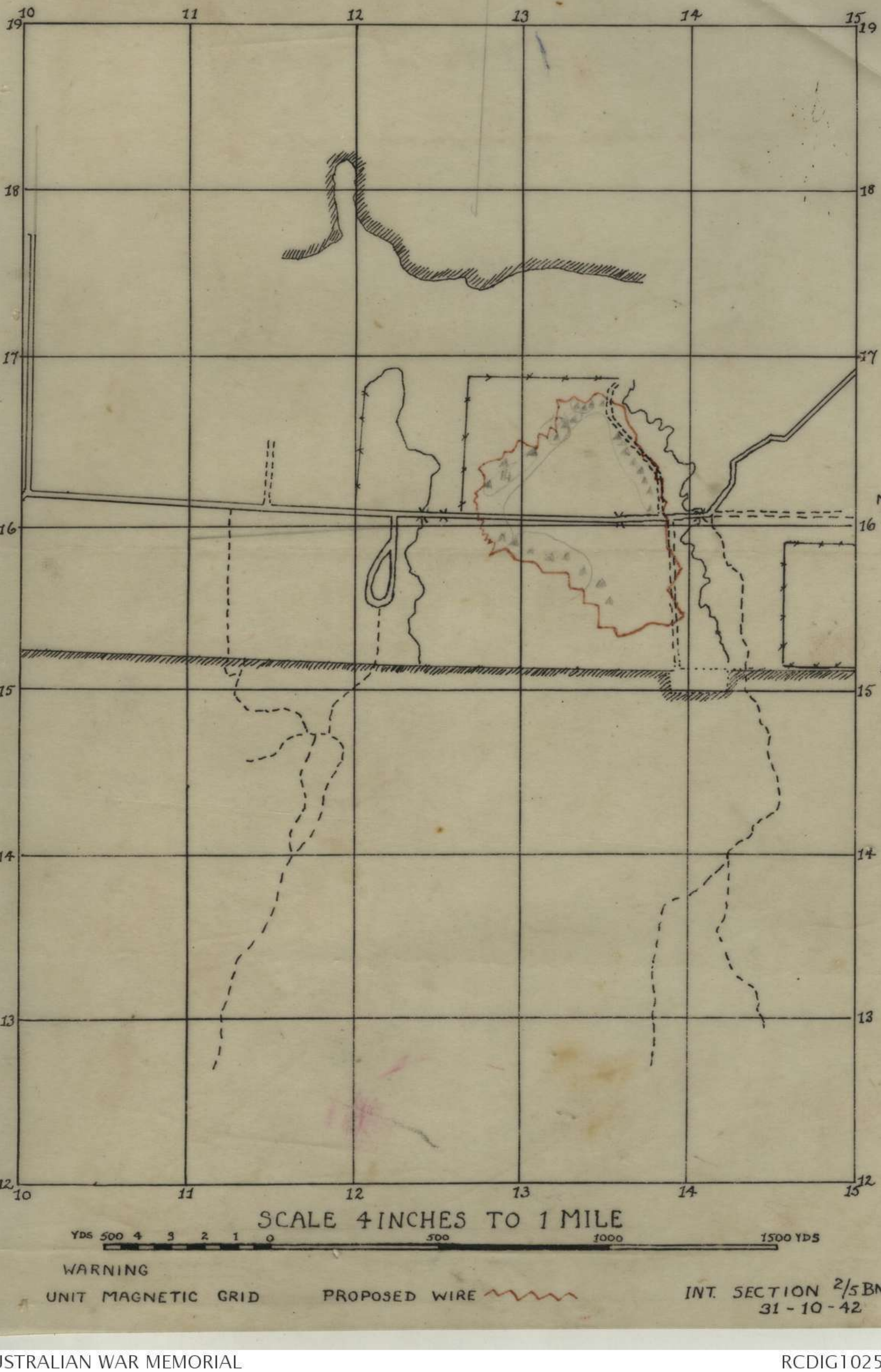
MAGNETIC VARIATION 7° EAST

INT. SECTION
2/5 BN.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

D/31

PROPOSED WIRE



SCALE 4 INCHES TO 1 MILE

YDS 500 4 3 2 1 0 500 1000 1500 YDS

WARNING

UNIT MAGNETIC GRID

PROPOSED WIRE

INT. SECTION 2/5 BN
31 - 10 - 42

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

.PROPOSED. WIRE.

EXISTING FENCE

C COY

HQ COY

PROPOSED. BATTLE. H.Q.

2/5

B COY

B COY

A.N.G.A.U. (Labor)

MN.

SCALE 1": 100 yds.

100 0 100 200 300 400 500 yds

LEGEND

PROPOSED. WIRE

COY AREAS

INT. SEC. 2/5 BN.
31. 10. 42.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

PATROLS - 17 AUST INF BDE.

Ref Maps: MILNE BAY 2" = 1 Mile (No.2)
SAMARI 4 miles # 1"

Unit Supplying.	Strength	Location of Standing Patrol	REGULAR MOBILE PATROLS				Remarks
			Start Point	Start Time	Route	Duration	
1. 2/6 Aust Inf Bn	1 Sec	MAPO 027041	-	-	-	-	Patrol relieved every two days.
2. 2/5 Aust Inf Bn D Coy	2 Pls & Coy HQ	TAUPOTA	-	-	-	-	
3. 2/5 Aust Inf Bn D Coy	1 Pl	WEDAU	-	-	-	-	
4. 2/7 Aust Inf Bn	1 Sec	Junc of tracks vicinity 985044	-	-	-	-	Responsibility to cover tracks South to EANEANENE, South along KALOHI CK, S.E. towards Route 7.

Lt-Col.

Adm Comd, 17 Aust Inf Bde.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

MILNE BAY 2" = 1M. (N02)
SAMARI. 4" = 1M

PATROLS ~~RESPONSIBILITY~~ 17 AUST INF BDE

~~Ref Map S.E. NEW GUINEA 3"-1 mile~~

Unit Supplying	Strength	Location of Standing Patrol	REGULAR MOBILE PATROLS				
			Start Point	Start Time	Route	Duration	Remarks
1. 2/6 Aust Inf Bn	1 Sec	MAPO 027041	-	-	-	-	Patrol relieved every two days.
2. ~~2/5 Aust Inf Bn C Coy~~	~~1 Sec~~	~~NOWLA 873000~~	-	-	-	-	
3. ~~2/5 Aust Inf Bn C Coy~~	~~1 Sec~~	~~GWENA GWENA RENA 935045~~	-	-	-	-	
4. ~~2/5 Aust Inf Bn C Coy~~	~~1 Sec~~	~~GOMINI FORD 931920~~	-	-	-	-	
25. 2/5 Aust Inf Bn D Coy	2 Pls & Coy HQ	TAUPOTA	-	-	-	-	
36. 2/5 Aust Inf Bn D Coy	1 Pl	WEDAU	-	-	-	-	
~~6a~~ 4. 2/7 Aust Inf Bn	1 Sec	Junc of tracks vicinity 985044 ~~975050~~	-	-	-	-	Responsibility to cover tracks South to EANEANENE, South along KALOHI CK, S.E. towards Route 7.
7. 2/5 Aust Inf Bn	1-offr 10-ORs.	-	977979	0845 hrs	Along track to 986972 and back.	2¾ hrs.	Daily patrol
8. 2/7 Aust Inf Bn	1 Sec	-	001998	0800 hrs	see trace	7 hrs.	Every second day.
9. 2/7 Aust Inf Bn	1 Pl	-	001998	0830 hrs	004027 then on to MAPO.	8½ hrs.	Every second day.
10. 2/7 Aust Inf Bn	1 Sec	-	981047	0830 hrs	975050 then SOUTH along WEST bank KALOHI CK.	8½ hrs.	Every third day.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

SECRET

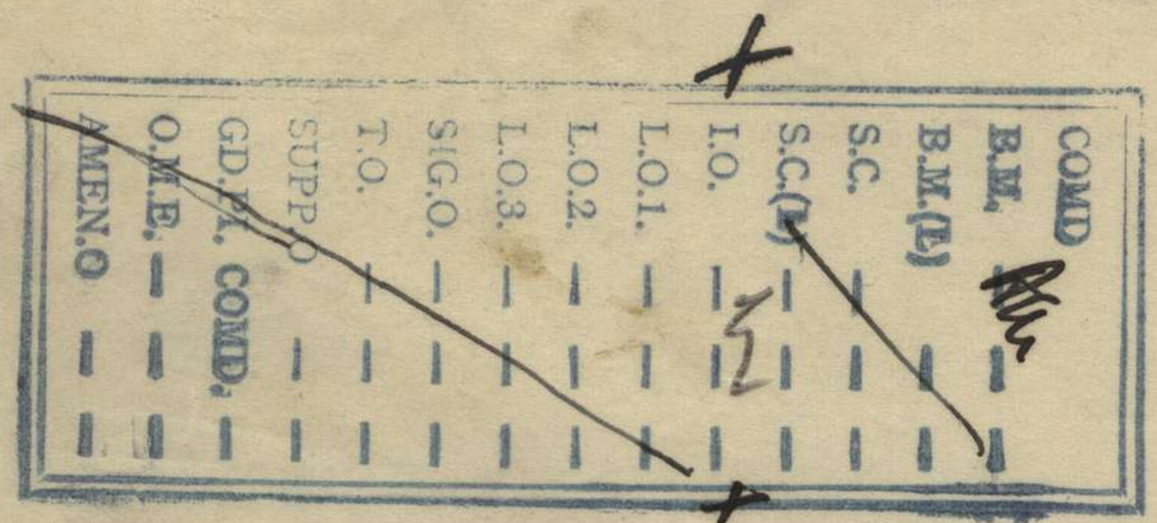
Subject: RECCE REPORT

Headquarters
2/6 Aust Inf Bn
31 Oct 42

HQ 17 Aust Inf Bde

Forwarded herewith, in duplicate, is report of recce by Int Sec 2/6 Aust Inf Bn of TRACK 16 from 005977 to 018005. (Ref Map MILNE BAY PROVISIONAL 2 in to 1 mile).

Received 31/10/42.
Time 1615 hrs
98/5



Lt col

Commanding 2/6 Aust Inf Bn

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

2/6 AUST INF BN

30 OCT 42

Ref Map MILNE BAY PROVISIONAL 2 in to 1 mile

BY INT SEC 2/6 AUST INF BN

RECCE REPORT ON ROUTE 16 FROM 005977 TO 018005

PART I

This route can only be used by vehs of 4-wheel drive up to 15 cwt.

A patch of swamp 300 yds long from 007984 to 008986 would prove difficult for all traffic.

At present personnel from 9 Aust Inf Bn are improving route and have reached 007984.

From 020003 to 018005 route is NOT formed but a track could be made.

R.J. Freestone Pte

Int Sec 2/6 Aust Inf Bn

Rec 1200 hrs 31/10

L.A.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

2/6 AUST INF BN

30 OCT 42

Ref Map MILNE BAY PROVISIONAL 2 in to 1 mile

BY INT SEC 2/6 AUST INF BN

RECCE REPORT ON ROUTE 16 FROM 005977 TO 018005

PART II

1. **Distance** — 3080 yds

2. **Classification** — (a) **Width**

From 005977 to 009994 B
From 009994 to 020003 C
From 020003 to 018005 Track NOT formed

(b) **Weight Carrying capacity**

From 005977 to 019002 2
(Vehs with 4-wheel drive up to 15-cwt
(only. This incl also a difficult
(patch of swamp 300 yds long from
(007984 to 008986 - unsuitable for
(any type of traffic

3. **Bridges** — 6 brs Class 5 (log construction) between 005977 and009994.

Ford over ck at 019004

4. **Material Available for Repair**

Timber on both sides of track up to 009994

5. **Remarks** — The swamp area as indicated in para 2 is difficult to negotiate but route is being improved by personnel from 9 Aust Inf Bn . (Appx "A" - See sketch att)

Rec. 12 Coys 31/10
L.O.

R J Freestone Pte

Int Sec 2/6 Aust Inf Bn

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

2/6 AUST. INF. BN

MAP. REF. TRACE

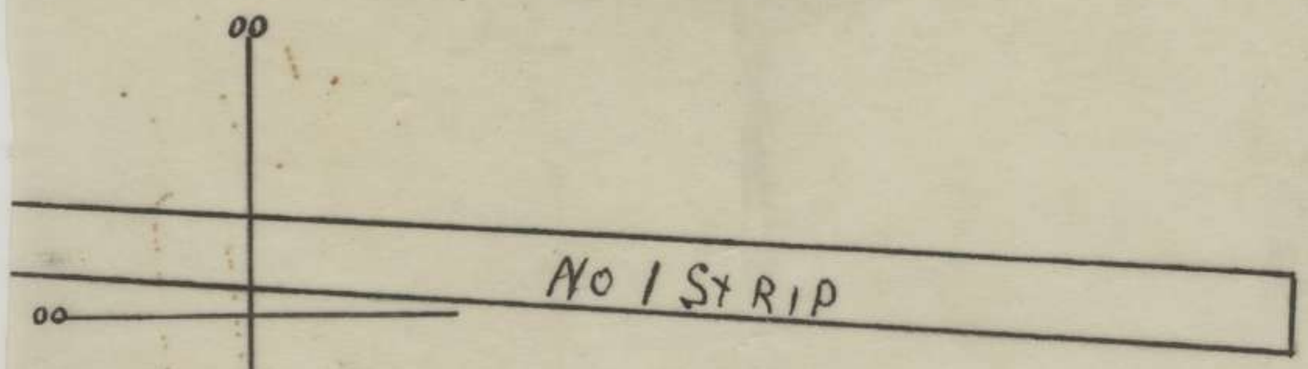
18 AUST. INF. BDE

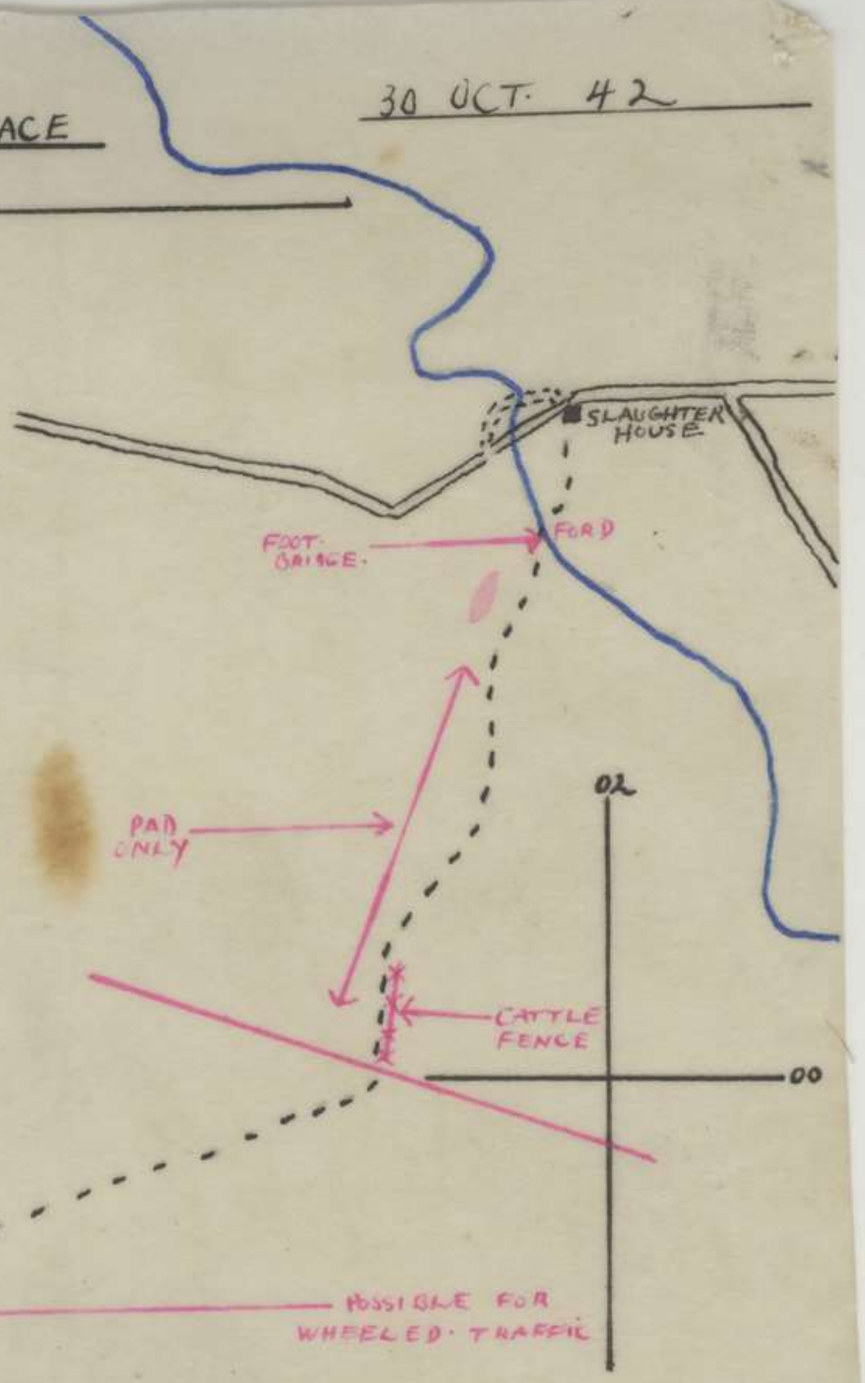
30 OCT. 42

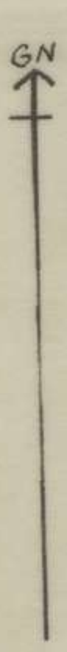
TRACE OF ROUTE 16

FROM

002981 TO 019007







SCALE 6" = 1 mile

Received 31/10 L.A.
Rooke

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

2/6 Aust Inf Bn

Ref Map MILNE BAY PROVISIONAL 2 ins to 1 mi.

4 Nov 42

By Int Sec 2/6 Aust I nf Bn

REPORT ON TRACK FROM 043034 (BADILLA) TO 047037(NORTH END OF NO 3 STRIP)

TIME TAKEN 45 mins

DISTANCE 2000 yds

REMARKS 100 yds down the track there is a long low blade grass knoll approximately 600 yds in length and from 150 to 200 yds wide.

The track goes through the grass for 300 yds and then in the scrub near the Western edge of the grass for another 300 yds.

At 1400 yds the track turns right at 2 old native huts then reverts to its original course after another 50 yds .

At 1700 yds(052019) there are 5 large native huts, up to this point the track is level but from here on two very steep hills have to be crossed .On the top of the second of these an AMERICAN camppis situated.

N 03 STRIP can be seen from this point.

The track is only suitable for troops moving in single file but can easily be improved.

A J Byrnes Pte (10)

I nt Sec 2/6 Aust Inf Bn

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

04

04

REF MAP MILNE BAY 4" = 1 MILE.

04 06

GN

BADILLA

GRASS.

MAINT TRACK

NATIVE HUTS

THIS TRACK NOT RECCED.

WEHAMA CK

NATIVE HUTS.

No 3 STRIP

10

04

01

06

01

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

2/6 Aust I nf Bn

Ref Map MILNE BAY PROVISIONAL 2 ins to 1 mi.

4 Nov 42

By Int Sec 2/6 Aust Inf Bn

RECCE REPORT ON TRACK FROM BAMBOOS(047035) TO ITALIDUM (056038)

The track travels in a North Easterly direction the total distance being 1200 yds. Track is fairlybwell defined and could be used by small parties of lightly laden trpops. A track branches off to the left 200 yds from the BAMBOOS. Approximately 400 yds from the BAMBOOS track runs into a creek and goes East along creek bed for 30 yds. Except for one short rise just after leaving the creek the track is quite easy to negotiate to ITALIDUM.

J. Mottram

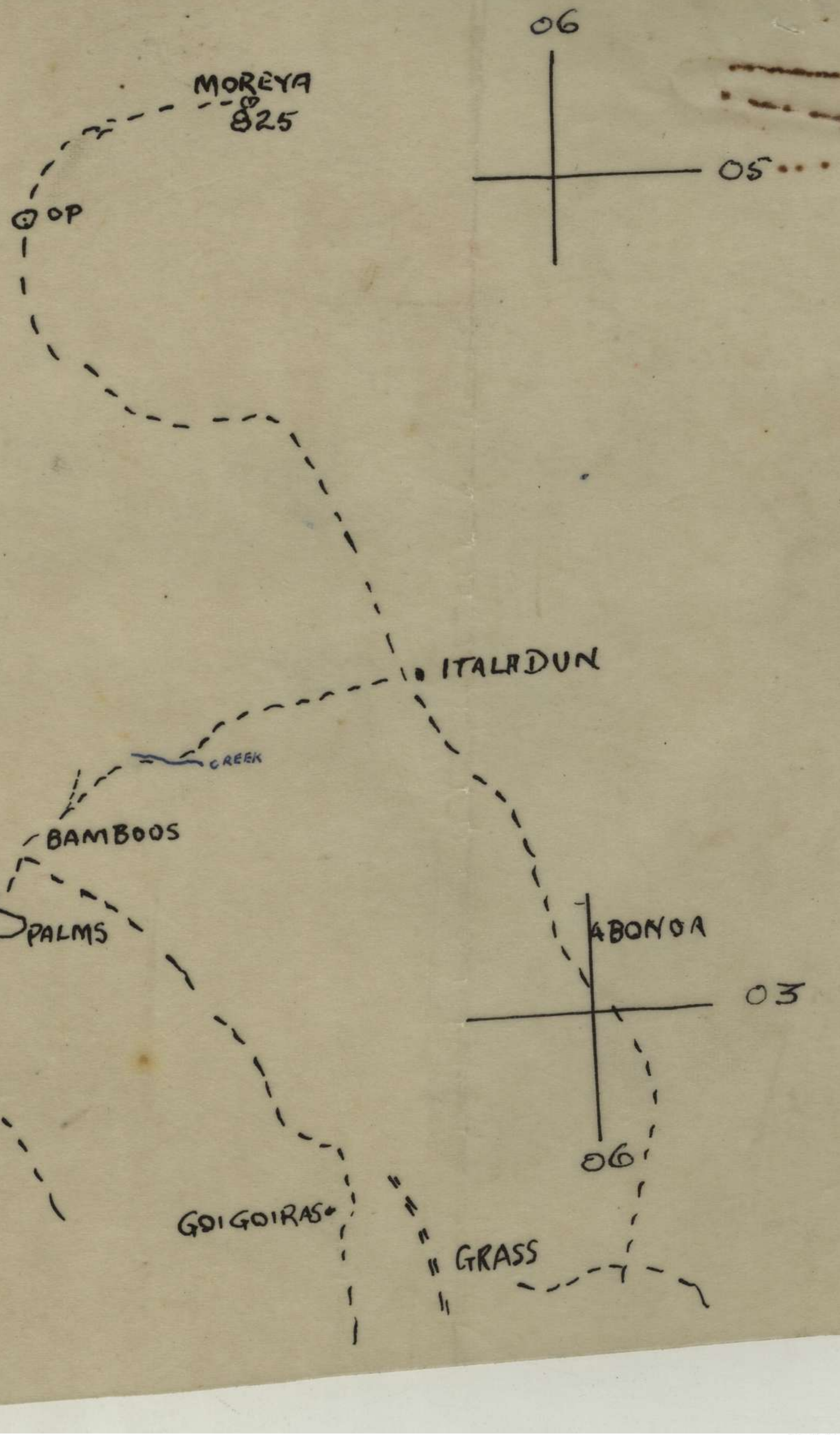
Pte

Int Sec 2/6 Aust Inf Bn

7

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

REF MILNE BAY 4" TO 1 MI.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

2/6 Aust Inf Bn

4 Nov 42

Ref Map MILNE BAY PROVISIONAL 2 ins to 1 mi

By Int Sec 2/6 Aust Inf Bn

PART (2)

From LADAVA MISSION track leads off in a North Easterly direction passing through defences prepared by 9 Aust Inf Bn.

High grass to point 024988 where track leads up along swampy creek which is the boundary of the grass land and jungle

Track is particularly boggy at point 024988 relieved only by a garden about 50 yds square 200 yds further on.

Close jungle is thereon encountered until point 012990 is reached where there is a small native garden.

A further 200 yds to a clearing running North East which was identifiedcas preparation for Route 16.

From then on grass land and jungle until defences or Aerodrome was encountered manned by "A" Coy of 2/9 Aust Inf Bn

Distance 4000 yds approx.
Time Taken 1½ hrs.

8

L.P. Grant Sgt
Int Sec 2/6 Aust Inf Bn

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

2/6 Aust Inf Bn

Ref Map MILNE BAY PROVISIONAL 2 ins to 1 mi.

4 Nov 42

By I nt Sec 2/6 Aust I nf Bn

RECCE REPORT ON TRACK FROM LADAVA MISSION 027980 TO 004996 (APPROX)

PART (1)

This track is just a pad and difficult to negotiate owing to the swampy nature of the ground existing throughout the greater part of its length.

Is mosquito infected particularly between 022982 and 024988. It passes through defensive positions at LADAVA MISSION and at 004996 at which point the track could be followed no further;

L Sgt

I nt Sec 2/6 Aust Inf Bn

8

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

SUBJECT: FIGHTING PATROLS

E/40

SECRET

H.Q. 17 AUST INF BDE.

Ref No. : G 8/2

30 Oct 42.

2/5 AUST INF BN.
2/6 AUST INF BN.
2/7 AUST INF BN.
Copy to : MILNE FORCE.

1. Att herewith report by Lieut A.R.ROSS, 2/6 Aust Inf Bn, on patrol AHIOMA - WAHAHUBA 27/28 Oct 42.

2. This report will be read by all unit officers.

W.M.M. for MAJ.
B.M. 17 AUST INF BDE.

COMD	✓
B.M.	1
B.M.(L)	1
S.C.	W.M.M.
S.C.(L)	Inpm
I.O.	
L.O.1.	
L.O.2.	
L.O.3.	
SIG.O.	
T.O.	
SUPP.O	
GD.PI. COMD.	
O.M.E.	
AMEN.O	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

G8/2

SECRET

Subject : REPORT - AHIOMA - WAHAHUBA PATROL

Head Quarters,
2/6 Aust Inf Bn
29 Oct 42.
Rep/3

17 Aust Inf Bde (2)

1. Forwarded herewith are 2 copies of report on above patrol.

COMD	
B.M.	
B.M.(L)	
S.C.	
S.C.(R)	
I.O.	
L.O.1.	
L.O.2.	
L.O.3.	
SIG.O.	
T.O.	
SUPP.O	
GD.PI. COMD.	
O.M.E.	
AMEN.O	

Received 29 10 42.
Time 2000 hrs
No G 8/2.

F. G. Wood Ltcol

Commanding 2/6 Aust Inf Bn

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

REPORT ON AHIOMA - WAHAHUBA PATROL 29.10.42.

by Lieut A.R.Ross.

1.Strength:1 Offr 37 ors 2/6 Bn- 1Pte Bde Int attached

2.Duration: 0230 hrs 27 Oct 42 - 2130 hrs 28 Oct 42

3.Object: Tracing and destroying or taking prisoner all Japanese in Area

4.Patrol embarked Lugger PINNO, GILI GILI JETTY for AHIOMA

5.O.C. PATROL Lieut A.R.ROSS 2/6 Inf Bn

6.NARRATIVE

We arrived off AHIOMA at 0415 hrs on 27 Oct 42 and I decided to stand by and move into AHIOMA at 0530 approx half hour before first light.Rain started at about 0430 spreading well over range near coast making observation most difficult.Guide could not find bearings so we moved close inshore until guide was able eventually to guide lugger to AHIOMA Jetty.Arrived here 0615 hrs.
I disembarked patrol and had lugger move off immediately on return journey to GILI GILI.
ANGAU had supplied me with name of BANABA native boy of AHIOMA for infm and guidance.
I contacted BANABA at 0630 hrs,and as a result decided to Patrol area bounded byAHIOMA - WAHAHUBA,penetrating to foothills of STIRLING RANGE to North.Native boys RU and GAITEMO both of AHIOMA placed at my disposal as guides.
Decided to move to LILOHOA on coast and then push North to foothills.
Arrived LILOHOA 0820 hrs where guides turned East off coast track.Secs were moved into posn and halt made for breakfast.
At 0905 hrs patrol moved North following tracks alond wadi bed until near native gardens and Sago swamps approx 1 mile in depth from the coast.Then patrol was deployed while Gardens,Houses and tracks were searched en route.
Bodies of two (2) Japs were seen in 2nd and 3rd gardens respectively,one dead for at least one week while other two days only.Both Japs had been shot by Natives.(This infm from close questioning of guides.)
From these gardens patrol pushed North through thick jungle to large Sago swamp arriving here at 1000 hrs.
As this swamp was particularly suspected Area I outlinedplan of encirlement to guides who quickly graspedit,and led two Secs to right and left of swamp and placed them in posn.Third sec with HQ held at mouth of swamp to push through in thorough search at 1035 hrs.
This plan based on native infm which had up to this period been good.
Shot and considerable noise was heard to right of swamp approx 100-200 yds.
Search of Sago field delayed while secs combed suspected Area.Nil result.
Sec was again moved into ambush posn and search of Sago swamp begun.Fresh Jap footprints were observed on tracks all pointing North.Swamp search was completed xxxx encircling secs were contacted at end of swamp.During this operation it became obvious that troops,no matter how hard they tried to avoid it,made considerable noise with their boots.
Country,now sub-jungle,was searched in wide sweep of tracks until we cut Coast at WAHAHUBA 1200 hrs. 1200 hrs- 1400 hrs Lunch and Rest period.
At 1400 hrs we moved North to search all country between outward and return routes of morning patrol.
I decided to split main party into smaller groups,each swinging wide to series of gardens and searching them at same time.
At 1500 hrs several shots were heard in close area near patrol.Guides insistent they were Jap,not native boy.
I immediately arranged plan with natives to have two secs patrol all tracks lefts and right of area while two secs were to swing in and follow sound.
Nil result.
All secs at RV .Rest taken 1550 hrs.
Four secs made sweeps back to coast over all tracts and areas left untouched
No signs of occupation.
Arrived LILOHOA 1700 hrs. Patrol in perimeter.
During evening Natives returning from gardens north of patrolled area reported they had seen Japs that day,and that one of our encircling xxxxxxx movements just missed cutting them off.(This referred to operation in Sago swamp 1000-1100 hrs)
Questions showed they had watched Jap movement and direction and were prepared to lead patrol to area.
I arranged with R
x xxxxxxxxx xxxxx

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

I arranged with Ru,the native boy,to have these boys attached to patrol, reporting at perimeter at first light 28 Oct 42.
All further infm gained,pointed to assumption that Japs had Hide-out in foothills of range.
Day ends:No further events.

2nd day 28 Oct 42.
At 0700 hrs on 28 Oct,thirteen native boys including Stephen Angau guide from GILI GILI,all armed,reported to patrol perimeter.
The boy Ru,who had been excellent the previous day,I placed in charge and arranged to have one native boy attached to each of four secs to act as guide in all pperations and movements.
The remainder I kept with me as a HQ group .With this group I had two runners and Pte McDonald from 17 Bde Int Sec.
I stripped the patrol of all gear other than rifle or T.S.M.G and bandolier of 50 rounds plus water bottle.Spare gear was stacked in perimeter with three guards on duty.
We moved to WAHAHUBA arriving at 0730 hrs.
Left track here and moved North moving fast to Sago Swamp where Japs had been reported moving out.Noise of boots particularly noticeable as patrol moved fast.
Arrived Sago Swamp 0805.Patrol rested while recce made of swamp by natives held in HQ.No enemy occupation.
Patrol moved through Sago Swamp with natives being used to track Jap tracks leading out of swamp.
Japs tracked to Wadi,thence to suspected gardens.I halted patrol and arranged with native boys to continue as Recce group with the addition of three boys forward as spotters.
Native boys were carefully coached in their role particularly spotters who were to take up posns of observation and to stay there while recce group were operating.Recce group to notify me of presence of Japs or of any movement out of gardens.
Japs sighted 10 mins after Patrol started advancing.Native recce group immediately covered jungle while guides of secs led secs into appointed parts of area.
This operation led to capture of one Japanese who was placed under guard and held in garden.
Recce group reported that Japanese were in jungle area approx ½ mile to North along creek bank.
Further information was obtained showing left abnk was impassable and Northern jungle thick and difficult to negotiate.Natives were recalled with exception of one observer and through diagramme it was decided to encircle area on right flank with eleven native boys.One sec was to straddle creek bed and garden mouth.Three other secs to move in and secure creek bank, running on leftflank of area.Fwd sec to move forward until contact made with Native arc.
Native boy reported at 1040 hrs all natives in posn and had all received instns tom remain and block any movement of Jap whem firing began.
Secs moned into posn and turned into area.
Four Japs in area observed us and made a determined effort to get clear.
Full fire from patrol and all four Japanese killed.
All documents and articles of value recovered from bodies and given to care of Pte McDonald.
Further sweep made of area in vicinity.No signs oc occupation.Nil report of tracks.At 1100 hrs patrol,with prisoner,moved tp coast.
Rest taken at 1130 hrs.Arrived at perimeter at LILOHOA 1315 hrs.
With native boys I arranged to have prisoner and escort taken to GILI GILI by canoe.
At 1550 hrs,native canoe with four natives to paddle reported and prisoner one Cpl and Pte McDonald of 17 Bde were taken on board and canoe departed for GILI GILI.
En route natives from WAGGA WAGGA were contacted and reported that they had been in vicinity of operations during day and had only seem one Japanese other than the ones reported to Patrol.
61 st Bn were contacted.This Bn provided us with guides through area and provided patrol with hot tea and biscuits at "B" Coy.
Patrol picked up by tpt at No 3 Strip and taken to 2/6 Bn Unit lines.
Reported Patrol to 2/6 Bn HQ 2130 hrs.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

7. TOPOGRAPHY.

Coastal plain varying in width from 1 mile to 1½ miles covered with tropical vegetation, Cocoanut trees, blade grass and native gardens. Sterling Range side of plain broken by succession of Shoulders or high hills, sloping to the sea these shoulders, covered with sub-jungle. Further North these shoulders are bisected by Sago Swamps and native gardens until spur country is reached rising into main range. Creeks are frequent while Jungle tracks are numerous, but have no determinate objective or terminus. Tracks wander from garden to garden or lead off to Sago Swamp, to lead into hill and eventually peter out in Jungle.

Difficulty in sketching or mapping this area would be experienced, any sort of observation of panorama could only be retained from isolated features.

8. GENERAL.

(a) Troops will not approach any objective with complete stealth or silence while wearing boots.

(b) Minimum of equipment is absolutely essential if patrol is to follow up contact with speed and stamina. Base for patrol gear not required with pl, but within call or runner when needed.

(c) GUIDES.

I would like to comment upon the way native guides went about their tasks. Throughout the patrol they covered many likely swamps and gardens, and traversed hundreds of tracks, without relaxing on the job. They did their work with speedd and without hesitation. When used as a recce patrol and as scouts, there value cannot be over emphasized.

Tps in the patrol were hourly taught lessons by these natives in the art of patrolling in this country and it would be safe to say that an offensive patrol like this one, of short duration, would be absolutely useless without them.

Lieut.
2/6 Aust Inf Bn
29 Oct 42.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

G8/3

2/6 Aust Inf Bn H/S

Subject - Patrol Report

Alla / Zilla

28 Oct 42.

Lieut ROSS Pl. Comd, 8 Pl, A Coy, 2/6 Aust Inf Bn. reports verbally as follows:

Area patrolled - Ref map Buna Bay Provisional 2" : 1 mile

Between Grid lines 18 & 22 from coast to depth approx 3 miles.

Topography

Flat coastal strip varying from 1 to 2 miles in depth running into foothills, or series of shoulders rising to main range approached. Area broken up into mixture of jungle, swamp & native gardens. Many creeks running to sea all easily fordable.

General

27 Oct 0615 arrived Ahioma

0625 contacted Guide Barneba who placed guides RU & GAITIMO at patrol's disposal.

On information given by guides patrol moved to LILOHOA & north from coast to depth 1½ mile, searching country en route. Bodies of 2 Japs found, one in each of two gardens - Both had been recently shot.

Returned to coast moving west of outward route reaching coast east of WAHAHUBA.

Afternoon Patrol moved north again splitting into two groups covering all country between outward & inward routes of morning patrol. Heard shooting during movement north investigated without result. Returned to coast & took up perimeter defence for night.

At approx 1830 hrs natives reported having seen party of 4 Japs hurriedly moving north, away from area patrolled during afternoon. Guides were requested to enlist services of natives who gave this information for previous. following day.

28 Oct

0715. Patrol moved out with guides of previous day plus 10 other natives, & moved north to furthest point of previous days penetration. Natives acted as forward recce patrol with Pl split into four groups each with guide. Three natives moved forward of native patrols as scouts or spotters.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

Japs were sighted by natives ½ mile from S.P. & patrol surrounded native garden. One Jap was here Taken prisoner & held under guard while patrol moved on in pursuit of other Japs. 15 minutes later, native patrol reported hearing Japs talking in jungle near bank of creek. Patrol moved to pos'n surrounded area indicated & closed in.

Four Japs were sighted & killed. Further recce was made of surrounding area, but without further success. Natives were of opinion patrol had accounted for all Japs who had been seen in area during previous 2 or 3 days.

Patrol returned to beach with prisoner arriving approx 1320 hrs. Prisoner despatched by native canoe under escort who were instructed to proceed to 17 AUST INF BDE H.Q.
Patrol proceeded round coast to Wacho eventually reaching 2/6 AUST INF BN HQ at 2130 hrs.

A more detailed report as to tactics employed, conditions & dress of Japs etc will be made by Lieut ROSS & forwarded to BDE HQ. in the morning.

[signature]
Lieut. I.O.
2/6 Aust Inf Bn
2315 hrs.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

B.M.
17 AUST. INF. BDE
PER.
SGT. GRAY

SECRET

Subject: RECCE REPORTS

Headquarters
2/6 Aust Inf Bn
1 Nov 42

HQ 17 Aust Inf Bde

Received 1 / 11 / 42
Time 1015 hrs
No 98/6

E/44

1. Forwarded herewith, in duplicate, is report of recce conducted by Int Sec 2/6 Aust Inf Bn of track from HQ 2/6 Aust Inf Bn to NO 3 STRIP (via JOHNS, YOGA YOGA and BADILLA).

COMD ✓
B.M. Alw
B.M. (-)
S.C.
S.C. (-)
I.O.
L.O.1.
L.O.2.
L.O.3.
SIG.O.
T.O.
SUPP.O
GD PL. COMD
O.M.E.
ANE.O

J. S. Wood Lt col
Commanding 2/6 Aust Inf Bn

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

2/6 AUST INF BN

31 OCT 42

REF MAP MULNE BAY PROVISIONAL
2 INS TO 1 MILE
BY INT SEC 2/6 AUSTVINF BN

RECCE REPORT - TRACK FROM 2/6 AUST INF BN TO NO 3 STRIP
VIA JOHNS, YOGA YOGA & BADILLA

PART I

From 2/6 Aust Inf Bn HQ to BAMBOOS (047035) the track is narrow and rises steeply in places, being suitable only for lightly clad tps .

From BAMBOOS to where track meets STRIP (058014) it is suitable for 4-wheel drive lt MT.

1/11
1015
L.A

(2)

R. Mottram Pte

Int Sec 2/6 Aust Inf Bn

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

2/6 AUST INF BN

31 OCT 42

REF MAP MILNE BAY PROVISION
2 INS TO 1 MILE
BY INT SEC 2/6 AUST INF BN

RECCE REPORT - TRACK FROM 2/6 AUST INF BN TO NO 3 STRIP VIA JOHNS, YOGA YOGA & BADILLA

PART II

1. **Distance:** 7,000 yds (approx)

2. **Classification:**

3. **Brgs** NIL

4. **Fords:** 034012, 037019, 034024, 042032, 045034, 058015

5. **Remarks:** Between 034024 and 047035 (excepting between JOHNS and YOGA YOGA, where track follows creek bed) the route is bounded on both sides by jungle.

From 047035 (BAMBOOS) to where track meets STRIP, the track passes through tall grass on both sides.

Two tracks branch off between BAMBOOS and STRIP - one at 047034 which leads to ITALIDUN; the other atb054027 which leads to GOIGOIRAS. (See sketch Appx "A" att)

1/11 105- (2) La.

R. Mottram Pte

Int Sec 2/6 Aust Inf Bn

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

REF MAP 7AUST INF BDE
SCALE 4" = 1 MILE.

(2)

0 4
04

0 6
04

YAGAYOGA
BAPILLA
BAMBOOS
10. ITALIDUM.
GRASS LAND
JOHNSON
GOICOIRAS
NATIVE GARDEN
No 3 STRIP
← ROUTE. 5.

0 4
01

0 6
01

N

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

E/US — SECRET

Subject: REPORT - TRACK RECCE PATROL

Headquarters
2/6 Aust Inf Bn
22 Nov 42

HQ 17 Aust Inf Bde

Received 23/11/42
Time 1100 hrs
No 38/19

Forwarded herewith, in duplicate, is report of recce conducted by Int Sec 2/6 Aust Inf Bn in endeavour to ascertain if connecting track existed from MAPO range to BILO-BULOLO Ranges.

What we really want is a South - North recce for ~~a~~ ways across to the North coast. ~~also~~ via track marked as extension to Wekuria Ck - & via Duala Gorge. A Hy

F. G. Wood Lt col
Commanding 2/6 Aust Inf Bn

Send copy to Force.

COMD	
B.M.	
B.M.(L)	
S.C.	
S.C.(L)	
I.O.	
L.O.1.	
L.O.2.	
L.O.3.	
SIG.O.	
T.O.	
SUPP.O	
GD.PI. COMD.	
O.M.E.	
AMEN.O	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

2/6 AUST INF BN

Ref Map GILI GILI NO 2

20 NOV 42

BY INT SEC 2/6 AUST INF BN

REPORT ON TRACK RECCE PATROL

PART I

From MAPO Range to BILO-BULOLO Ranges there is no connecting track.

Between the two ranges there is a very deep gorge, approx 4,000 yds across (as the crow flies) and approx 2,000 ft deep.

To get across from one range to another would entail climbing down into gorge from one range and then up very steep slopes to the other.

It would also be necessary to cut a way through very dense jungle.

Three native guides encountered (one of whom acted as guide to patrol) stated that no track existed and, to their knowledge, no person had crossed from one range to the other.

W Canacher Pte

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

2/6 AUST INF BN

Ref Map GILI GILI NO 2

20 NOV 42

BY INT SEC 2/6 AUST INF BN

REPORT ON TRACK RECCE PATROL

PART II

Route traversed from MAPO OP. Tracks shown on trace covered by pacing.

0850 hrs Left A Coy 2/6 Aust Inf Bn.

0950 hrs Arrived MAPO. (Track previoualy traversed.)

1000 hrs Left MAPO.

1005 hrs Arrived MAPO OP.

1015 hrs Left OP. Commenced traverse.

1035 hrs Arrived at DALAWA. Here native guides CLEMENT and JUMBO were located. CLEMENT accompanied party from this pt.

1126 hrs Left DALAWA.

1140 hrs Arrived at feature described on trace as suitable for OP. From this feature a very good view of area HILOWA ISLAND - NO 2 STRIP is obtained.

1156 0hrs Left feature.

1158 hrs Arrived atnhighest feature of MAPO RANGE. From this feature it is possible to see very clearly area from STRINGER BAY to LAULAU ISLAND, also EAST across gorge and NE up gorge until ranges obscure view. The gorge is bounded on both sides by very high ranges.

1200 hrs Left feature.

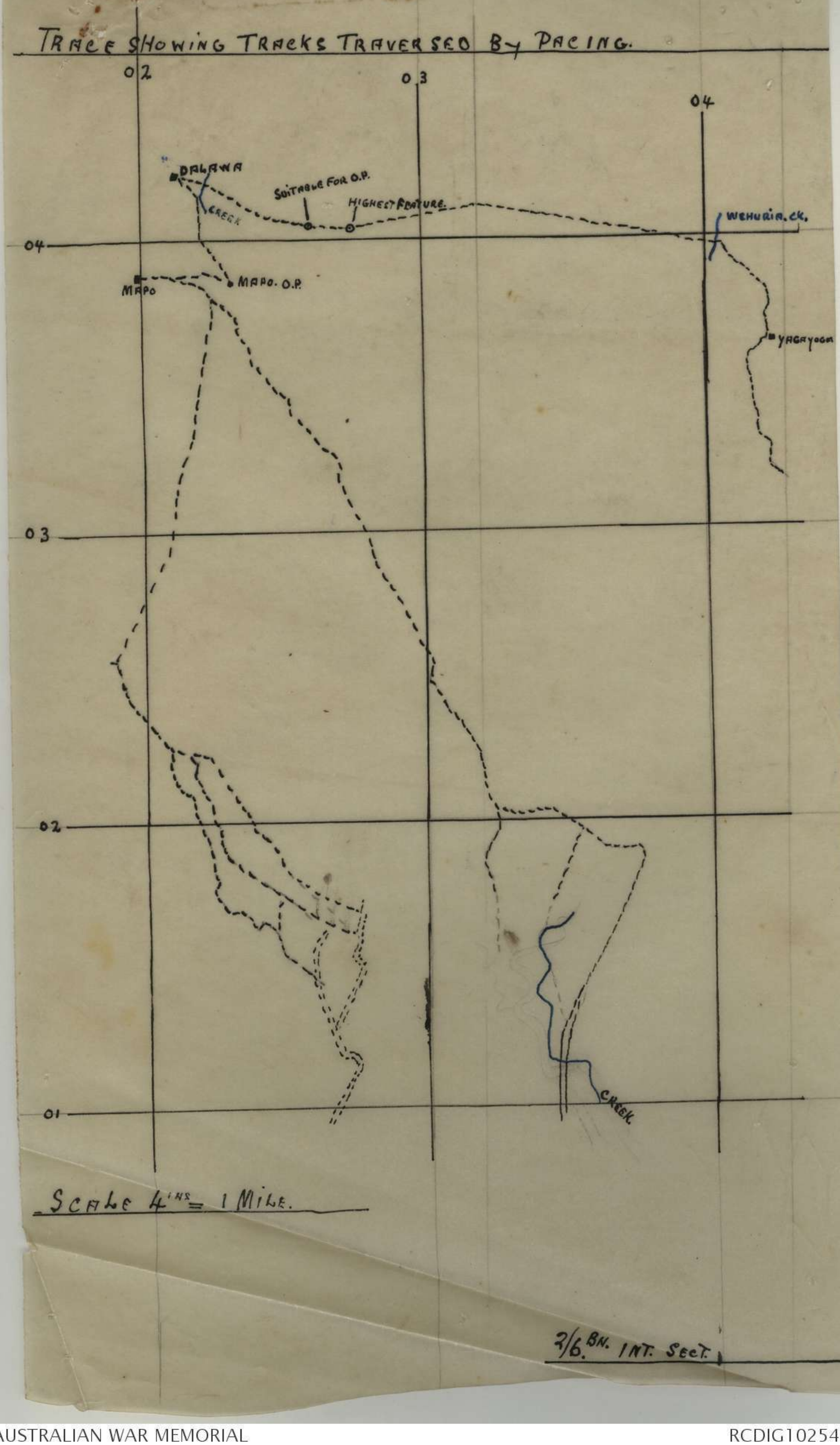
1255 hrs Arrived WEHURIA CREEK approx 400 yds NORTH of YOGA YOGA.

WCanacher Pte

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

REF MAP.-Gili-Gili. No. 2. NOV 20. 42.

TRACE SHOWING TRACKS TRAVERSED BY PACING.



SCALE 4 INS = 1 MILE.

2/6 BN. INT. SECT.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

E/21/

Subject: PATROL REPORT - MAPO PATROL

SECRET

HQ
2/6 Aust Inf Bn
31 Oct 42

HQ 17 Aust Inf Bde

1. Forwarded herewith is copy of MAPO patrol report 27 to 29 Oct 42.

Received 31 10 42.
Time 1705 hrs
№ G8/4

COMD	Rec
B.M.	Atm
B.M.(L)	
S.C.	
S.C.(L)	
I.O.	
L.O.1.	
L.O.2.	
L.O.3.	
SIG.O.	
T.O.	
SUPP.O	
GD.PI. COMD.	
O.M.E.	
AMEN.O	

F. G. Wood Lt col
Commanding 2/6 Aust Inf Bn

1. Sec. plot and permanent infor
Atm

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

MAPO PATROL REPORT - 27 TO 29 OCT 42

BY L/SGT L G CAMERON - 2/6 AUST INF BN

General Notes

Left BHQ with guide 0910 hrs. Guide led us back through D Coy lines, through 25 Bn lines and continued to travel in half-circle until we came to 100 yds range near A Coy area. I estimate that we travelled approx 1 mile further than necessary to this point.
Here we were held up for 45 mins by Mortars firing on country through which we had to cross.
Left range at 1030 hrs; contacted a track where it ran through an opening in a fence. Moved along track for approx 300 yds on approx bearing of 95 degrees. Passed bomb crater approx 3 yds in diameter. 5o yds past crater turned left on a bearing of 45 degrees; forded creek. Here we started to walk up fairly steep country which continued except for short intervals for the rest of the journey.
150 yds beyond creek ford we passed a second bomb crater approx 4½ yds in diameter and 5ft deep. Both these craters I estimate to have been caused in the past forty-eight hours.
Continued on the same bearing for approx 250 yds until we came to a well defined track known as ROUTE 7.
Once we entered jungle sec had to move in single file with groups dispersed. Travelling became very difficult and frequent halts had to be made. At 1145 hrs we contacted a patrol frpm sec we were to relieve approx 800 yds from MAPO.
Here the sigs tried the 108 set and found that they had no trouble in communicating with BHQ.
We arrived at MAPO and relieved the old patrol at 1220 hrs.
By moving out through A Coy lines I estimate that the distance can easily be covered in 2½ hrs.

Daily Report - 27 Oct 42

Reported our arrival at MAPO to BHQ at 1230 hrs.
Sent sitrep to BHQ at 1630 hrs.
Maintained one sentry on junc of ROUTE 7 and GOVT TRACK during day and two sentries on camp area at night time.
Stood to from 1900 hrs to 2000 hrs.

Daily Report - 28 Oct 42

Previous night passed without incident.
Stood to from 0500 hrs to 0600 hrs.
At 1000 hrs sent patrol on recce to the SOUTH along GOVT TRACK for 800 yds. Track reported to be well-defined, rather steep in places and only suitable for single file.
At 1400 hrs sent patrol NORTH along GOVT TRACK. Patrol covered at least 2 miles until they came to a large garden, area roughly ½ mile square. At least 6 tracks branched off main track - 4 to right and 2 left.
TAUPOTA village should be near garden but patrol from previous sec failed to find it.
Pad well defined and travelling reported to be fairly good.
Sent sitrep to BHQ 1640 hrs.
Stood to from 1900 hrs to 2000 hrs.

Daily Report - 29 Oct 42

Night passed without incident.
Stood to from 0500 to 0600 hrs.
Reception on 108 set bad this morning and could NOT communicate with BHQ until 0910 hrs.
Relieving patrol arrived at 1120 hrs and took over posn at 1200 hrs

(Sgd) L G CAMERON L/Sgt

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

REPORT ON NATIVES CONTACTED

The only natives contacted were those who owned the two huts occupied by the patrol at MAPO.
Two males, who spoke very good English, named Clements and John had no hesitation in bringing their womenfolk and children to the camp area.
For a small consideration they are quite prepared to supply the patrol with fresh vegetables daily.
They were very friendly towards us, but resent any interference with their gardens or belongings.
On their part I found them to be very honest and they made no attempt to interfere with our things in any way.
John has been employed by Lever Bros for some 30 years or more.
By questioning them I found them to be definitely anti-Japanese and they are quite prepared to help us in any way they can.
I gathered from casual remarks that if they contact any stray Japanese that they will do all in their power to dispatch them forthwith.

(Sgd) L G CAMERON L/Sgt

MAPO PATROL REPORT - 27 TO 29 OCT 42
BY L/SGT L G CAMERON - 2/6 AUST INF BN

General Notes

Left BHQ with guide 0910 hrs. Guide led us back through D Coy lines, through 25 Bn lines and continued to travel in half-circle until we came to 100 yds range near A Coy area. I estimate that we travelled approx 1 mile further than necessary to this point.
Here we were held up for 45 mins by Mortars firing on country through which we had to cross.
Left range at 1030 hrs; contacted a track where it ran through an opening in a fence. Moved along track for approx 300 yds on approx bearing of 95 degrees. Passed bomb crater approx 3 yds in diameter. 5o yds past crater turned left on a bearing of 45 degrees; forded creek. Here we started to walk up fairly steep country which continued except for short intervals for the rest of the journey.
150 yds beyond creek ford we passed a second bomb crater approx 4½ yds in diameter and 5ft deep. Both these craters I estimate to have been caused in the past forty-eight hours.
Continued on the same bearing for approx 250 yds until we came to a well defined track known as ROUTE 7.
Once we entered jungle sec had to move in single file with groups dispersed. Travelling became very difficult and frequent halts had to be made. At 1145 hrs we contacted a patrol frpm sec we were to relieve approx 800 yds from MAPO.
Here the sigs tried the 108 set and found that they had no trouble in communicating with BHQ.
We arrived at MAPO and relieved the old patrol at 1220 hrs.
By moving out through A Coy lines I estimate that the distance can easily be covered in 2½ hrs.

Daily Report - 27 Oct 42

Reported our arrival at MAPO to BHQ at 1230 hrs.
Sent sitrep to BHQ at 1630 hrs.
Maintained one sentry on junc of ROUTE 7 and GOVT TRACK during day and two sentries on camp area at night time.
Stood to from 1900 hrs to 2000 hrs.

Daily Report - 28 Oct 42

Previous night passed without incident.
Stood to from 0500 hrs to 0600 hrs.
At 1000 hrs sent patrol on recce to the SOUTH along GOVT TRACK for 800 yds. Track reported to be well-defined, rather steep in places and only suitable for single file.
At 1400 hrs sent patrol NORTH along GOVT TRACK. Patrol covered at least 2 miles until they came to a large garden, area roughly ½ mile square. At least 6 tracks branched off main track - 4 to right and 2 left.
TAUPOTA village should be near garden but patrol from previous sec failed to find it.
Pad well defined and travelling reported to be fairly good.
Sent sitrep to BHQ 1640 hrs.
Stood to from 1900 hrs to 2000 hrs.

Daily Report - 29 Oct 42

Night passed without incident.
Stood to from 0500 to 0600 hrs.
Reception on 108 set bad this morning and could NOT communicate with BHQ until 0910 hrs.
Relieving patrol arrived at 1120 hrs and took over posn at 1200 hrs

(Sgd) L G CAMERON L/Sgt

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

REPORT ON NATIVES CONTACTED

The only natives contacted were those who owned the two huts occupied by the patrol at MAPO.
Two males, who spoke very good English, named Clements and John had no hesitation in bringing their womenfolk and children to the camp area.
For a small consideration they are quite prepared to supply the patrol with fresh vegetables daily.
They were very friendly towards us, but resent any interference with their gardens or belongings.
On their part I found them to be very honest and they made no attempt to interfere with our things in any way.
John has been employed by Lever Bros for some 30 years or more.
By questioning them I found them to be definitely anti-Japanese and they are quite prepared to help us in any way they can.
I gathered from casual remarks that if they contact any stray Japanese that they will do all in their power to dispatch them forthwith.

(Sgd) L G CAMERON L/Sgt

COPY OF SKETCH MADE BY SGT CAMERON

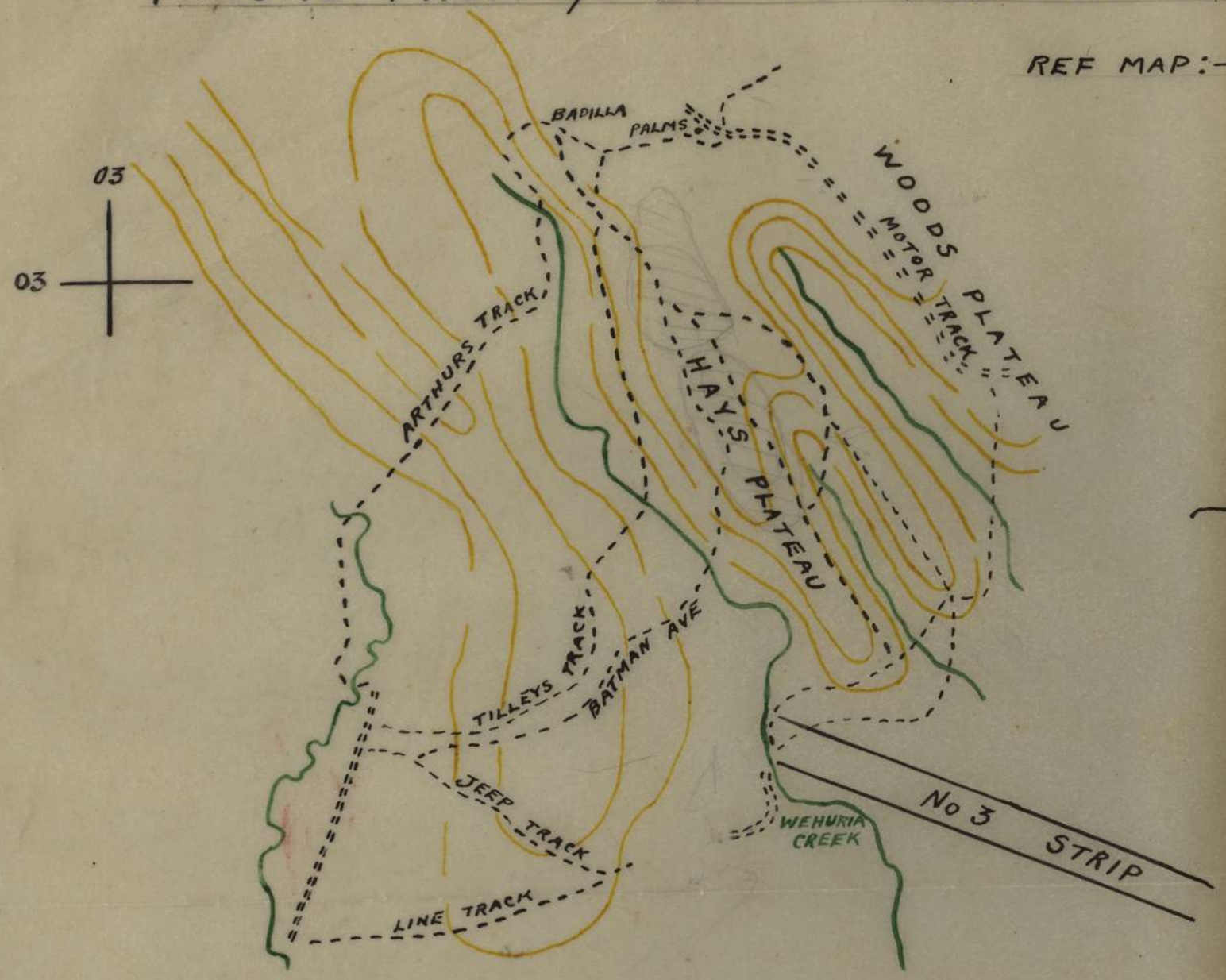
PATROL COMDR MAPO PATROL SCALE 1" = 100^x

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

E/47

TRACE OF
— TRACKS FROM 2/6 BN TO PLATEAU AREA —

REF MAP:- GILI GILI No. 2 4" = 1 MILE



Approx Time Schedule for Marching Men from Bn HQ To :-

Place	Via	Time
PALMS	TILLEYS TRACK	75 mins
"	ARTHURS "	100 "
"	JEEP " & NORTH	100 "
"	LINE " "	115 "
HAYS PLATEAU.	BATMAN AVE	60 "

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

REPORT ON AHIOMA PATROL - 6 DEC 42

Ref Map: MILNE BAY (PROVISIONAL) 2" = 1 mile 2nd Edition.

PART I

STRENGTH OF PATROL: 1 Offr, 34 ORs.

OBJECT OF PATROL: To clear AHIOMA area of isolated parties of Japanese left from recent ops in MILNE BAY.

RESULT OF PATROL: The patrol did NOT contact any Japanese tps but much evidence of their presence was found.

VX 15061 A. Harrison ....Pte.

Int. Sec., HQ.17 Aust Inf Bde.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

REPORT ON AHIOMA PATROL - 6 DEC 42.

PART II

Ref Map: MILNE BAY (PROVISIONAL) 2" = 1 mile 2nd Edition.

DURATION: The patrol left HAGITA HOUSE at 1000 hrs 3 Dec 42 and returned HAGITA HOUSE 1100 hrs 6 Dec 42.

3 DEC 42.

DETAILED REPORT: The patrol, comd by Lieut WALTERS 2/5 Aust Inf Bn, left HQ 17 Aust Inf Bde at 1000 hrs 3 Dec 42 and travelled by 2 3-ton trucks to TURNBULL AERODROME where it was met by a sec of pack horses (2 horse, 2 men) at 1050 hrs.

In addition to the usual arms the patrol was equipped with 2 "Walkie-Talkie" sets, and at 1100 hrs, the tps were given a demonstration of these sets in case they had to use them during the patrol.

At 1120 hrs, the patrol marched out from TURNBULL AERODROME and 5 minutes later one of the pack horses frightened by the roar of the planes, bolted, but was soon captured and quietened without any damage being done, and the patrol moved on without further incident to a point 950x from K.B.MISSION. The patrol halted here while Lieut WALTERS recced mission to see if accommodation was available for patrol to bivouac for the night. The patrol lunched at 1345 hrs and moved to K.B.MISSION at 1430 hrs. Most of the tps bathed in the sea in the afternoon, and had the evening meal at 1800 hrs. While at K.B.MISSION, the "Walkie-Talkie" set picked up an American pilot calling his ground station and later, another pilot singing to pass the time. At 1815 hrs, a native boy EZIKELA and four companions reported to Lieut WALTERS for duty with the patrol. IZEKELA claimed he killed 2 Japs at LILIHI at 1500 hrs 2 Dec. The patrol will investigate this statement on the way to AHIOMA. At 1830 hrs, Lieut WALTERS issued his instns to sec. leaders for the move the following morning.

The tps were entertained in the evening by songs rendered by IZEKELA and his party until 2100 hrs when, after checking his sentries, Lieut WALTERS ordered quietness and the men retired.

4 DEC 42

Reveille at 0400 hrs and the patrol marched out for AHIOMA at 0430 hrs. On reaching LILIHI at 0615 hrs, the patrol rested while Lieut WALTERS and myself, guided by 2 natives visited the hut where EZIKELA had killed the 2 Japs. We found that, while EZIKELA had been absent reporting the incident, other natives in the area, had burned the hut, and the Japs. So destroying any documents or other information that may have been available.

Natives burn the dead bodies as a precaution against Typhus, but investigation proved that the Japs had not been dead longer than 48 hrs. We then returned to the remainder of the patrol and moved off, arriving at AHIOMA at 0705 hrs.

On arrival, we were greeted by a native named BARNABO and his wife.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

BARNABO is a well-educated and most obliging native who is in charge of the AHIOMA area. Although he was not warned of our arrival, he soon had arranged for six of the native boys to work with the patrol.

Tps had breakfast at 0900 hrs, and at 0945 hrs, the patrol, led by BARNABO equipped with Jap rifle and bayonet, moved out to patrol the hills NORTH of AHIOMA. The only incident of interest in the morning patrol was, when at 1055 hrs, the natives found a Jap footprint which they claimed was not more than 24 hrs old. With this infm in mind, the patrol surrounded and investigated a deserted hut in the area, but no sign of recent occupation was found.

The patrol arrived at the village ofKARLOI at 1200 hrs where ahalt was called for lunch and rest.

At 1300 hrs, Lieut WALTERS called his sec.leaders and announced his intention to split the patrol into two parties, in an effort to reduce the noise caused by so many tps walking in close formation through the jungle. One party would be comd by Sgt LIND, and the other by himself, and contact between the two patrols would be maintained by the "Walkie-Talkie" sets at 15 minute intervals.

Both parties moved off at 1430 hrs and I accompanied Sgt LIND's party. We investigated a deserted native hut at 1450 hrs but did not discover any evidence of occupation.

The native guides appeared to tire about 1500 hrs and at 1545 hrs, they brought us out at their village on the coast - TOOGURA. Realizing the futility of pressing the natives, Sgt LIND decided to call it a day and returned to our bivouac area at AHIOMA. C

Contact between patrols was maintained until 1530 hrs but from that time, we were unable to pick up Lieut WALTERS' signals.

We arrived at AHIOMA at 1705 hrs and waited until Lieut WALTERS returned at 1745 hrs.

The evening meal at 1830 hrs which included hot Yams and Marrow, prepared by BARNABO's wife, was most acceptable, and was followed by a very interesting discussion on the day's patrol by Lieut WALTERS, Sgt LIND, BARNABO and myself.

In our absence, the 8 men, left at the bivouac area, had, with the permission of BARNABO's wife, cleared a large tin hut and the men slept the night there. BARNABO brought three mats for Lieut WALTERS, Sgt LIND and myself to sleep on and we retired at 2005 hrs, very weary after having covered approx. 26 miles in the day.

5 DEC 42

Reveille at 0700 hrs and breakfast at 0800 hrs.

The patrol moved off in column of route, with all our gear, at 0900 hrs and arrived at LILIHI at 1015 hrs, where we established a Base HQ in charge of eight men who stated that they were not fit to carry on.

At this spot we met a party of 12 sailors from the corvette KANOORA - who were souveniring.

Lieut WALTERS decided to break the party into three secs. One under Sgt LIND to patrol area WEST of LILIHI.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

One under Cpl DOHNT to patrol area NORTH of LILIHI and the remainder under himself to patrol area EAST of LILIHI.

The patrols moved off at 1100 hrs. One "Walkie-Talkie" set was carried by Cpl DOHNT and the other by Sgt LIND and myself.

About 1125 hrs, our patrol investigated a deserted hut and native garden but found nothing of interest. A native named ILOW joined our patrol at 1120 hrs bringing the total of att tps to 4, namely, ILOW, ELIKANA, SIDA and SILA.

The patrol lunched beside a creek at 1230 hrs and after contacting Cpl DOHNT moved off at 1300 hrs. At 1315 hrs, we met Cpl DOHNT's patrol, and our respective guides made their plans, so as the patrols would not cross again.

The patrol investigated another deserted hut at 1335 hrs without result and at 1400 hrs, arrived at a spot where a Jap had been living under the cover of some small trees he had cut down and placed against a tree. Near his cover, we found the remains of his body. He had been burned and had been dead for some weeks. At this spot we also found the remains of an Australian greatcoat and a pair of Australian K.D. trousers that had been cut down.

Contact was made with Cpl DOHNT and he informed us that his guides had tired and had led him back to LILIHI.

~~Without further incident,~~

Our patrol arrived at LILIHI at 1617 hrs, after having followed some Jap signal cable for about 4 miles, only to find that it had been cut, and although we made an extensive search, the remainder of the cable could not be located.

Lieut WALTERS patrol marched into LILIHI at 1625 hrs and he handed me an identity disc and some papers he had taken from the body of a dead Jap, supposed to have been speared by a native approx. a week earlier.

The party moved off at 1700 hrs and arrived at K.B.MISSION at 1820 hrs.

The tps, after having covered approx. 22 miles were very weary and footsore and retired shortly after the evening meal at 1900 hrs.

At 1920 hrs, Lieut WALTERS rang the Bde T.O., Lieut ROSS and arranged for the tpt to meet the patrol at 1000 hrs 6 Dec 42 at TURNBULL AERODROME.

6 DEC 42.

Reveille at 0700 hrs and after breakfast, the party moved to the R.V. with tpt and returned to HAGITA HOUSE at 1100 hrs.

---------- L.W. Morrison.....

VX 15061 Pte MORRISON L.W.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

REPORT ON AHIOMA PATROL - 6 DEC 42.

PART III

SUNDRY REPORTS

AREA PATROLLED: The area patrolled extended from WAGA WAGA to 1000x EAST of AHIOMA to a depth of two miles into the Hills.

STRENGTH OF JUNGLE PATROLS: If a patrol moving through jungle is of more than 4 men strong, the noise created by the breaking of dry twigs underfoot plus the scraping of steel helmets on overhanging vines, causes the patrol to lose all the advantage gained by the silent movement of the native scouts.

NATIVE GUIDES: A jungle patrol is useless without native guides, and tps can learn a lot about bushcraft and scouting by watching the way these men move. The scouts should work at least 100x forward of the patrol and a connecting file should be maintained.

TOPOGRAPHY: The ground in the area from K.B.MISSION to AHIOMA is flat for approx. 1000x NORTH and from then on, it is a series of very steep and sharp-crested razor back ranges.

"WALKIE-TALKIE" SETS: These sets were given a very thorough test and gave every satisfaction. They were known to be used at a range of 2,500x in very heavy jungle and the reception at both ends was excellent.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

REPORT ON AHIOMA PATROL - 6 DEC 42

Ref Map: MILNE BAY (PROVISIONAL) 2" = 1 mile 2nd Edition.

PART I

STRENGTH OF PATROL: 1 Offr, 34 ORs.

OBJECT OF PATROL: To clear AHIOMA area of isolated parties of Japanese left from recent ops in MILNE BAY.

RESULT OF PATROL: The patrol did NOT contact any Japanese tps but much evidence of their presence was found.

VX 15061 L. Harridan ....Pte.

Int. Sec., HQ.17 Aust Inf Bde.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

REPORT ON AHIOMA PATROL - 6 DEC 42.

PART II

Ref Map: MILNE BAY (PROVISIONAL) 2" = 1 mile 2nd Edition.

DURATION: The patrol left HAGITA HOUSE at 1000 hrs 3 Dec 42 and returned HAGITA HOUSE 1100 hrs 6 Dec 42.

3 DEC 42.

DETAILED REPORT: The patrol, comd by Lieut WALTERS 2/5 Aust Inf Bn, left HQ 17 Aust Inf Bde at 1000 hrs 3 Dec 42 and travelled by 2 3-ton trucks to TURNBULL AERODROME where it was met by a sec of pack horses (2 horse, 2 men) at 1050 hrs.

In addition to the usual arms the patrol was equipped with 2 "Walkie-Talkie" sets, and at 1100 hrs, the tps were given a demonstration of these sets in case they had to use them during the patrol.

At 1120 hrs, the patrol marched out from TURNBULL AERODROME and 5 minutes later one of the pack horses frightened by the roar of the planes, bolted, but was soon captured and quietened without any damage being done, and the patrol moved on without further incident to a point 950x from K.B.MISSION. The patrol halted here while Lieut WALTERS recced mission to see if accommodation was available for patrol to bivouac for the night. The patrol lunched at 1345 hrs and moved to K.B.MISSION at 1430 hrs. Most of the tps bathed in the sea in the afternoon, and had the evening meal at 1800 hrs. While at K.B.MISSION, the "Walkie-Talkie" set picked up an American pilot calling his ground station and later, another pilot singing to pass the time. At 1815 hrs, a native boy EZIKELA and four companions reported to Lieut WALTERS for duty with the patrol. IZEKELA claimed he killed 2 Japs at LILIHI at 1500 hrs 2 Dec. The patrol will investigate this statement on the way to AHIOMA. At 1830 hrs, Lieut WALTERS issued his instns to sec. leaders for the move the following morning.

The tps were entertained in the evening by songs rende ed by IZEKELA and his party until 2100 hrs when, after checking his sentries, Lieut WALTERS ordered quietness and the men retired.

4 DEC 42

Reveille at 0400 hrs and the patrol marched out for AHIOMA at 0430 hrs. On reaching LILIHI at 0615 hrs, the patrol rested while Lieut WALTERS and myself, guided by 2 natives visited the hut where EZIKELA had killed the 2 Japs. We found that, while EZIKELA had been absent reporting the incident, other natives in the area, had burned the hut, and the Japs. So destroying any documents or other information that may have been available.

Natives burn the dead bodies as a precaution against Typhus, but investigation proved that the Japs had not been dead longer than 48 hrs. We then returned to the remainder of the patrol and moved off, arriving at AHIOMA at 0705 hrs.

On arrival, we were greeted by a native named BARNABO and his wife.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

BARNABO is a well-educated and most obliging native who is in charge of the AHIOMA area. Although he was not warned of our arrival, he soon had arranged for six of the native boys to work with the patrol.

Tps had breakfast at 0900 hrs, and at 0945 hrs, the patrol, led by BARNABO equipped with Jap rifle and bayonet, moved out to patrol the hills NORTH of AHIOMA. The only incident of interest in the morning patrol was, when at 1055 hrs, the natives found a Jap footprint which they claimed was not more than 24 hrs old. With this infm in mind, the patrol surrounded and investigated a deserted hut in the area, but no sign of recent occupation was found.

The patrol arrived at the village ofKARLOI at 1200 hrs where ahalt was called for lunch and rest.

At 1300 hrs, Lieut WALTERS called his sec.leaders and announced his intention to split the patrol into two parties, in an effort to reduce the noise caused by so many tps walking in close formation through the jungle. One party would be comd by Sgt LIND, and the other by himself, and contact between the two patrols would be maintained by the "Walkie-Talkie" sets at 15 minute intervals.

Both parties moved off at 1430 hrs and I accompanied Sgt LIND's party. We investigated a deserted native hut at 1450 hrs but did not discover any evidence of occupation.

The native guides appeared to tire about 1500 hrs and at 1545 hrs, they brought us out at their village on the coast - TOOGURA. Realizing the futility of pressing the natives, Sgt LIND decided to call it a day and returned to our bivouac area at AHIOMA. C

Contact between patrols was maintained until 1530 hrs but from that time, we were unable to pick up Lieut WALTERS' signals.

We arrived at AHIOMA at 1705 hrs and waited until Lieut WALTERS returned at 1745 hrs.

The evening meal at 1830 hrs which included hot Yams and Marrow, prepared by BARNABO's wife, was most acceptable, and was followed by a very interesting discussion on the day's patrol by Lieut WALTERS, Sgt LIND, BARNABO and myself.

In our absence, the 8 men, left at the bivouac area, had, with the permission of BARNABO's wife, cleared a large tin hut and the men slept the night there. BARNABO brought three mats for Lieut WALTERS, Sgt LIND and myself to sleep on and we retired at 2005 hrs, very weary after having covered approx. 26 miles in the day.

5 DEC 42

Reveille at 0700 hrs and breakfast at 0800 hrs.

The patrol moved off in column of route, with all our gear, at 0900 hrs and arrived at LILIHI at 1015 hrs, where we established a Base HQ in charge of eight men who stated that they were not fit to carry on.

At this spot we met a party of 12 sailors from the corvette KANOORA - who were souveniring.

Lieut WALTERS decided to break the party into three secs. One under Sgt LIND to patrol area WEST of LILIHI.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

One under Cpl DOHNT to patrol area NORTH of LILIHI and the remainder under himself to patrol area EAST of LILIHI.

The patrols moved off at 1100 hrs. One "Walkie-Talkie" set was carried by Cpl DOHNT and the other by Sgt LIND and myself.

About 1125 hrs, our patrol investigated a deserted hut and native garden but found nothing of interest. A native named ILOW joined our patrol at 1120 hrs bringing the total of att tps to 4, namely, ILOW, ELIKANA, SIDA and SILA.

The patrol lunched beside a creek at 1230 hrs and after contacting Cpl DOHNT moved off at 1300 hrs. At 1315 hrs, we met Cpl DOHNT's patrol, and our respective guides made their plans, so as the patrols would not cross again.

The patrol investigated another deserted hut at 1335 hrs without result and at 1400 hrs, arrived at a spot where a Jap had been living under the cover of some small trees he had cut down and placed against a tree. Near his cover, we found the remains of his body. He had been burned and had been dead for some weeks. At this spot we also found the remains of an Australian greatcoat and a pair of Australian K.D. trousers that had been cut down.

Contact was made with Cpl DOHNT and he informed us that his guides had tired and had led him back to LILIHI.

~~Without further interest~~

Our patrol arrived at LILIHI at 1617 hrs, after having followed some Jap signal cable for about 4 miles, only to find that it had been cut, and although we made an extensive search, the remainder of the cable could not be located.

Lieut WALTERS patrol marched into LILIHI at 1625 hrs and he handed me an identity disc and some papers he had taken from the body of a dead Jap, supposed to have been speared by a native approx. a week earlier.

The party moved off at 1700 hrs and arrived at K.B.MISSION at 1820 hrs.

The tps, after having covered approx. 22 miles were very weary and footsore and retired shortly after the evening meal at 1900 hrs.

At 1920 hrs, Lieut WALTERS rang the Bde T.O., Lieut ROSS and arranged for the tpt to meet the patrol at 1000 hrs 6 Dec 42 at TURNBULL AERODROME.

6 DEC 42.

Reveille at 0700 hrs and after breakfast, the party moved to the R.V. with tpt and returned to HAGITA HOUSE at 1100 hrs.

L.W. Morrison

VX 15061 Pte MORRISON L.W.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

REPORT ON AHIOMA PATROL - 6 DEC 42.

PART III

SUNDRY REPORTS

AREA PATROLLED: The area patrolled extended from WAGA WAGA to 1000x EAST of AHIOMA to a depth of two miles into the Hills.

STRENGTH OF JUNGLE PATROLS: If a patrol moving through jungle is of more than 4 men strong, the noise created by the breaking of dry twigs underfoot plus the scraping of steel helmets on overhanging vines, causes the patrol to lose all the advantage gained by the silent movement of the native scouts.

NATIVE GUIDES: A jungle patrol is useless without native guides, and tps can learn a lot about bushcraft and scouting by watching the way these men move. The scouts should work at least 100x forward of the patrol and a connecting file should be maintained.

TOPOGRAPHY: The ground in the area from K.B.MISSION to AHIOMA is flat for approx. 1000x NORTH and from then on, it is a series of very steep and sharp-crested razor back ranges.

"WALKIE-TALKIE" SETS: These sets were given a very thorough test and gave every satisfaction. They were known to be used at a range of 2,500x in very heavy jungle and the reception at both ends was excellent.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

9/58.

SUBJECT: FIGHTING PATROL - AHIOMA AREA.

H.Q. 17 AUST INF BDE.

Ref No. : G8/21.

7 Dec 42.

H.Q. MILNE FORCE. (For infm)

1. The fighting patrol, led by Lieut V.M.WALTERS 2/5 Aust Inf Bn, left for AHIOMA at 0430 hrs 4 Dec 42; and searched the AHIOMA area for Japanese.

2. The patrol, assisted by native guides, identified two dead Japanese soldiers at LILIHI. They appeared to have been in good condition. There were NO papers, badges of identification, or arms in the vicinity. (Recently killed by rifle fire.)

3. Further activity; the patrol discovered the body of a dead Japanese soldier in a small hut near BUHOLI Village; appeared to have been dead for about seven days. Near the body was a heavy native spear, with a blood-stained point; the natives reported no knowledge of this body. Effects of dead Japanese have been forwarded to Milne Force.

4. The patrol then returned via 61 Bn Listening Post, by 1800 hrs, 5 Dec 42.

Brig.
Comd., 17 Aust Inf Bde.

COMD			
B.M.	—	—	—
B.M.(L)		—	—
S.C.	—	—	—
S.C.(L)	—	—	—
I.O.	—	—	—
L.O.1.	—	—	—
L.O.2.	—	—	—
L.O.3.	—	—	—
SIG.O.	—	—	—
T.O.	—	—	—
SUPP.O		—	—
GD.PI. COMD.			—
O.M.E.	—	—	—
AMEN.O		—	—

Noted Bn. Brig

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

7/536

REPORT ON AHIOMA PATROL - 6 DEC 42

Ref Map: MILNE BAY (PROVISIONAL) 2" = 1 mile 2nd Edition.

PART I

STRENGTH OF PATROL: 1 Offr, 34 ORs.

OBJECT OF PATROL: To clear AHIOMA area of isolated parties of Japanese left from recent ops in MILNE BAY.

RESULT OF PATROL: The patrol did NOT contact any Japanese tps but much evidence of their presence was found.

VX 15061.....Pte.

Int. Sec., HQ.17 Aust Inf Bde.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

REPORT ON AHIOMA PATROL - 6 DEC 42.

PART II

Ref Map: MILNE BAY (PROVISIONAL) 2" = 1 mile 2nd Edition.

DURATION: The patrol left HAGITA HOUSE at 1000 hrs 3 Dec 42 and returned HAGITA HOUSE 1100 hrs 6 Dec 42.

3 DEC 42.

DETAILED REPORT: The patrol, comd by Lieut WALTERS 2/5 Aust Inf Bn, left HQ 17 Aust Inf Bde at 1000 hrs 3 Dec 42 and travelled by 2 3-ton trucks to TURNBULL AERODROME where it was met by a sec of pack horses (2 horse, 2 men) at 1050 hrs.

In addition to the usual arms the patrol was equipped with 2 "Walkie-Talkie" sets, and at 1100 hrs, the tps were given a demonstration of these sets in case they had to use them during the patrol.

At 1120 hrs, the patrol marched out from TURNBULL AERODROME and 5 minutes later one of the pack horses frightened by the roar of the planes, bolted, but was soon captured and quietened without any damage being done, and the patrol moved on without further incident to a point 950x from K.B.MISSION. The patrol halted here while Lieut WALTERS recced mission to see if accommodation was available for patrol to bivouac for the night. The patrol lunched at 1345 hrs and moved to K.B.MISSION at 1430 hrs. Most of the tps bathed in the sea in the afternoon, and had the evening meal at 1800 hrs. While at K.B.MISSION, the "Walkie-Talkie" set picked up an American pilot calling his ground station and later, another pilot singing to pass the time. At 1815 hrs, a native boy EZIKELA and four companions reported to Lieut WALTERS for duty with the patrol. IZEKELA claimed he killed 2 Japs at LILIHI at 1500 hrs 2 Dec. The patrol will investigate this statement on the way to AHIOMA. At 1830 hrs, Lieut WALTERS issued his instns to sec. leaders for the move the following morning.

The tps were entertained in the evening by songs rendered by IZEKELA and his party until 2100 hrs when, after checking his sentries, Lieut WALTERS ordered quietness and the men retired.

4 DEC 42

Reveille at 0400 hrs and the patrol marched out for AHIOMA at 0430 hrs. On reaching LILIHI at 0615 hrs, the patrol rested while Lieut WALTERS and myself, guided by 2 natives visited the hut where EZIKELA had killed the 2 Japs. We found that, while EZIKELA had been absent reporting the incident, other natives in the area, had burned the hut, and the Japs. So destroying any documents or other information that may have been available.

Natives burn the dead bodies as a precaution against Typhus, but investigation proved that the Japs had not been dead longer than 48 hrs. We then returned to the remainder of the patrol and moved off, arriving at AHIOMA at 0705 hrs.

On arrival, we were greeted by a native named BARNABO and his wife.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

BARNABO is a well-educated and most obliging native who is in charge of the AHIOMA area. Although he was not warned of our arrival, he soon had arranged for six of the native boys to work with the patrol.

Tps had breakfast at 0900 hrs, and at 0945 hrs, the patrol, led by BARNABO equipped with Jap rifle and bayonet, moved out to patrol the hills NORTH of AHIOMA. The only incident of interest in the morning patrol was, when at 1055 hrs, the natives found a Jap footprint which they claimed was not more than 24 hrs old. With this infm in mind, the patrol surrounded and investigated a deserted hut in the area, but no sign of recent occupation was found.

The patrol arrived at the village ofKARLOI at 1200 hrs where ahalt was called for lunch and rest.

At 1300 hrs, Lieut WALTERS called his sec.leaders and announced his intention to split the patrol into two parties, in an effort to reduce the noise caused by so many tps walking in close formation through the jungle. One party would be comd by Sgt LIND, and the other by himself, and contact between the two patrols would be maintained by the "Walkie-Talkie" sets at 15 minute intervals.

Both parties moved off at 1430 hrs and I accompanied Sgt LIND's party. We investigated a deserted native hut at 1450 hrs but did not discover any evidence of occupation.

The native guides appeared to tire about 1500 hrs and at 1545 hrs, they brought us out at their village on the coast - TOOGURA. Realizing the futility of pressing the natives, Sgt LIND decided to call it a day and returned to our bivouac area at AHIOMA. C

Contact between patrols was maintained until 1530 hrs but from that time, we were unable to pick up Lieut WALTERS' signals.

We arrived at AHIOMA at 1705 hrs and waited until Lieut WALTERS returned at 1745 hrs.

The evening meal at 1830 hrs which included hot Yams and Marrow, prepared by BARNABO's wife, was most acceptable, and was followed by a very interesting discussion on the day's patrol by Lieut WALTERS, Sgt LIND, BARNABO and myself.

In our absence, the 8 men, left at the bivouac area, had, with the permission of BARNABO's wife, cleared a large tin hut and the men slept the night there. BARNABO brought three mats for Lieut WALTERS, Sgt LIND and myself to sleep on and we retired at 2005 hrs, very weary after having covered approx. 26 miles in the day.

5 DEC 42

Reveille at 0700 hrs and breakfast at 0800 hrs.

The patrol moved off in column of route, with all our gear, at 0900 hrs and arrived at LILIHI at 1015 hrs, where we established a Base HQ in charge of eight men who stated that they were not fit to carry on.

At this spot we met a party of 12 sailors from the corvette KANOORA - who were souveniring.

Lieut WALTERS decided to break the party into three secs. One under Sgt LIND to patrol area WEST of LILIHI.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

One under Cpl DOHNT to patrol area NORTH of LILIHI and the remainder under himself to patrol area EAST of LILIHI.

The patrols moved off at 1100 hrs. One "Walkie-Talkie" set was carried by Cpl DOHNT and the other by Sgt LIND and myself.

About 1125 hrs, our patrol investigated a deserted hut and native garden but found nothing of interest. A native named ILOW joined our patrol at 1120 hrs bringing the total of att tps to 4, namely, ILOW, ELIKANA, SIDA and SILA.

The patrol lunched beside a creek at 1230 hrs and after contacting Cpl DOHNT moved off at 1300 hrs. At 1315 hrs, we met Cpl DOHNT's patrol, and our respective guides made their plans, so as the patrols would not cross again.

The patrol investigated another deserted hut at 1335 hrs without result and at 1400 hrs, arrived at a spot where a Jap had been living under the cover of some small trees he had cut down and placed against a tree. Near his cover, we found the remains of his body. He had been burned and had been dead for some weeks. At this spot we also found the remains of an Australian greatcoat and a pair of Australian K.D. trousers that had been cut down.

Contact was made with Cpl DOHNT and he informed us that his guides had tired and had led him back to LILIHI.

~~With~~

Our patrol arrived at LILIHI at 1617 hrs, after having followed some Jap signal cable for about 4 miles, only to find that it had been cut, and although we made an extensive search, the remainder of the cable could not be located.

Lieut WALTERS patrol marched into LILIHI at 1625 hrs and he handed me an identity disc and some papers he had taken from the body of a dead Jap, supposed to have been speared by a native approx. a week earlier.

The party moved off at 1700 hrs and arrived at K.B.MISSION at 1820 hrs.

The tps, after having covered approx. 22 miles were very weary and footsore and retired shortly after the evening meal at 1900 hrs.

At 1920 hrs, Lieut WALTERS rang the Bde T.O., Lieut ROSS and arranged for the tpt to meet the patrol at 1000 hrs 6 Dec 42 at TURNBULL AERODROME.

6 DEC 42.

Reveille at 0700 hrs and after breakfast, the party moved to the R.V. with tpt and returned to HAGITA HOUSE at 1100 hrs.

---------- .....

VX 15061 Pte MORRISON L.W.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

REPORT ON AHIOMA PATROL - 6 DEC 42.

PART III

SUNDRY REPORTS

AREA PATROLLED: The area patrolled extended from WAGA WAGA to 1000x EAST of AHIOMA to a depth of two miles into the Hills.

STRENGTH OF JUNGLE PATROLS: If a patrol moving through jungle is of more than 4 men strong, the noise created by the breaking of dry twigs underfoot plus the scraping of steel helmets on overhanging vines, causes the patrol to lose all the advantage gained by the silent movement of the native scouts.

NATIVE GUIDES: A jungle patrol is useless without native guides, and tps can learn a lot about bushcraft and scouting by watching the way these men move. The scouts should work at least 100x forward of the patrol and a connecting file should be maintained.

TOPOGRAPHY: The ground in the area from K.B.MISSION to AHIOMA is flat for approx. 1000x NORTH and from then on, it is a series of very steep and sharp-crested razor back ranges.

"WALKIE-TALKIE" SETS: These sets were given a very thorough test and gave every satisfaction. They were known to be used at a range of 2,500x in very heavy jungle and the reception at both ends was excellent.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

AUSTRALIAN COMFORTS FUND

In Conjunction with

Y.M.C.A.

(Use Military Address only) No. Ally C/54

18 Nov 1942

Report on 2/5 Patrol Party

Strength, 2 officers 30 OR's 1 native guide

Route:- Rabi East to Taupota Mission

Party left HQ 2/5 Bn by transport at 0610 hrs 17 Nov 42, and after collecting written permission from Rabi, moved through to Bomboa Strip. Transport became bogged a few hundred yds east of strip, and the party moved by foot through the coy of 61 Bn to the beginning of the track at Rabi East. We left the coast at 0840 hrs.

This trail leads up the Helena (pronounced Hairlana) Creek in a northerly direction. This creek had been surveyed for approx 2 mls, and as we progressed further north, it veered north westerly. The trail led over the creek innumerable times and after approx 2½ mls north of Rabi, it became very steep and difficult for travelling. A landslide had obliterated the track when we had progressed approx 3 mls, and the guide opened up a track to the left of the Helena Creek. ½ ml on we were temporarily halted by a waterfall. The creek bed trail was by indistinct here and guide cut through a few bushes and we clambered up around the right side and into the gorge above the waterfall. The trail was very steep at this stage and halts were made

MAIL YOUR LETTERS A.P.O. DO NOT MENTION MILITARY ACTIVITIES.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

AUSTRALIAN COMFORTS FUND

In Conjunction with

Y.M.C.A.

(Use Military Address only). No.

194

every few minutes.

We struggled on in a north westerly direction passing over a very difficult trail, passing two smaller waterfalls, the latter had been bridged by natives, but unfortunately the ladder was in a bad state and needed repairs. Movement up the creek bed was slow and arduous, and at approx 5 mls we swung slightly right up an apparently dry creek bed which stretched to the north. About 400 yds up this valley we came upon a smaller stream, which went underground. We lunched here at 1205 hrs.

At 1300 hrs we moved on a trail which lead out on the rt side of the creek valley, and this trail lead east for 200 yds then swung northerly. The gradient here caused us to go very slowly, and the track was very slippery as heavy rain had set in. We reached the highest pt in our trail at 1325 hrs, and proceeded north westerly down across several small valleys, until at 1410 hrs we reached the high grassy northern slopes of the range. The trail then lead down to the sea by a very steep path, which was very narrow and we had great difficulty at getting along, as the rain was still falling, and the surface quite slippery. The steepness of this path caused severe strains to be placed upon our knees and only by clutching the long grass were we able to go down safely.

MAIL YOUR LETTERS A.P.O. DO NOT MENTION MILITARY ACTIVITIES.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

AUSTRALIAN COMFORTS FUND

In Conjunction with

Y.M.C.A.

(Use Military Address only). No _____

_____

_____ 194__

The trail led down a series of razor backed grassy ridges to the Poliwarra creek which runs into the sea at Aidawa area. approx 800 yds east of Taupota. Taupota was reached by the party at 1735 hrs.

In my opinion this route taken would be unsuitable for movement of troops owing to gradients, and the very dangerous nature of the track when passing near either side of the steep watershed. It would also cause severe physical strain to be placed upon the troops, who would take several days to recover to a normal physical condition.

Note. Names of creeks I have written down are as pronounced by the native guide.

Sgt

Lt Cameron
2nd Lieut

MAIL YOUR LETTERS A.P.O. DO NOT MENTION MILITARY ACTIVITIES.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

Report On Patrol. 3 hours.

Private W 2 Barnes. Annie Inlet ① 9/59.

Attached to 8 Platoon, A Company 2/7th Bn, at 1800hrs
1-11-42

Captain Walker being O.C. Operations.
Platoon left company lines by transport at O. 5.20 hrs
2-11-42

Arrived at Jetty at O.6.15 hrs, Owing to hold up
(very Bad Road)
Left by Barge at O.6.40 hrs.
Sailed down Coast by barge, and arrived at
A HIAMO at O. 7.34 hrs.
Mr Ross Picking his best native scouts and
Carrying Parties.
Left A HIAMO, AT O. 9.20 hrs.
Continuing down coast the Party landed at
WATHUNA, AT O. 10.12 hrs.
At O.11.5 hrs, Capt Walker Planned to advance
Dispersing his platoon in Single file formation.
The Party, followed a track, in a Northern direction
for 2 miles.
This track wound its way into a Re. Entrant
Highest Point being 800ft
Travelling condition's through out the Re Entrant,
were very bad owing to heavy rain falls.
Arrived at HAHUNA at 1600 hrs.
Capt Walker informed that one Platoon of
2/5th had taken up Positions at 1700 hrs

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

Patrols sent out at 1900 hrs.
Party left HAHUNA at 0.6.40 hrs 3/11/42.
No Japanese reported in this village for 7 days.
The Platoon moved due ~~West~~ West,
Natives report 2 Japanese in a re-Entrant with only one outlet at 0. 8.15 hrs
The 8 Platoon, A Company, 2/7th Btn. was contacted by One Platoon of 2/6th Btn, coming from Eastern direction at 0. 9.10 hrs.
This 2/5th Platoon, reported having killed one Japanese, in bush 3/4 mile off track.
It had been said that Japanese was living in hut well ~~from~~ hidden by Palm Branches.
A native found Japanese and instructed Platoon Commander, this Japanese was then surrounded by Platoon, and shot at 0. 900 hrs.
At 0. 9. 15 hrs. Captain Walker taking one section, from 2/5th and another from 2/7 Btns made for Re-Entrant, in which Japanese were reported hiding.
Planning his attack, on Japanese, Capt Walker used one section as covering Party while other section attacked.
After one Japanese being shot, the sections made a thorough search for any other of the enemy that may have been around, but no other Japanese could be found.
Both Japanese killed in Japio area at 0.1000 hrs
Parties then moved to Japio village.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

The 2/5th Platoon, moved from Japio at 1200 hrs

The 2/7 Platoon, moved out of village at 12.15 hrs.

Both Parties ojective was the surrounding of areas to ans Inlet.

The 2/7 Platoon reached ans Inlet or Sir John Grey's Plantation at 1300 hrs.

Here Capt Walker gave orders to attack One Section was sent to Right flank, one section to left flank, the other in centre began the ~~same~~ searching of huts,.:

Sections of men attacked huts with grenade in hand, in case of Japanese enemy appearing. Other's advanced with tommy guns, Bren machine guns, and rifle's.

H. Quarters was in rear, through out search, After a very good search around this area, The Platoon was ordered to rest as no enemy had been seen.

Mr Ross then sent 5 Parties of natives 25 mens to search the inlet from the coast road. back towards the East cape and back to Sir John Grey's Plantation.

At 13.40 hrs the 2/5th Platoon contacted 8 Platoon HQ 2/7 Btn.

Waiting on information from natives Parties, on Inlet area's.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

(4)

3/11/42 Native Police report no Japanese on Inlet areas,
Left Grey's Plantation, at 0.7.5 4/11/42.
And arrived at Wathuna, at 1330 hrs,
Left Wathuna 1430 hrs, and arrived at
AHIAHO, where the natives giving the Platoon
Fruit and vegetables, left on a homeward
Journey.
∇

Natives

Natives will help and do as much as they can for Australian.

~~Casualties~~

Having one casualty, the natives had the Position well in hand as they made a stretcher out of bamboo sticks, and carried sick man back through very bad conditions.

Capt Walker gave strict instructions for his men not to drink so much water as it effected the condition while on the move.

Capt. Walker has in his Possesion a map of an Area taken from one of Dead Japanese

Mr Ross Proved himself a very good ~~man~~ native with natives, as they seemed to be a lot of son's around a father.
Doing their utmost at all times.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

C/52

Patrol Report by Lieut D.M. Walters
2/5 Bn.

Date - 3rd - 6th December '42 Time - 1445 hrs 6 Dec 42 Location - Milne Bay

Weather - Fine and clear Subject - Fighting Patrol Map - Milne Bay Prov.
2nd Edition
2" to 1 mile

Part I

The Patrol left Hagita House at 1000 hrs 3 Dec 42 and moved, per M T and foot to R.B. Mission. On 4 Dec 42 patrol moved to Ahioma area, and searched jungle and foothills for Japanese troops, returning to Ahioma at 1830 hrs. ~~On 5th~~ Nil result. On 5 Dec 42 patrol moved to Lilihi area, and searched jungle and foothills. Nil result. At 1900 hrs patrol left Lilihi for R B mission, and returned to Hagita House at 1100 hrs 6 Dec 42

Part II

The patrol left 17 Bde H.Q. at 1000 hrs 3 Dec 42 in two 3-ton vehicles for Ivonbull Aerodrome. Contacted two mule drivers, loaded rations, and at 1120 hrs proceeded to R.B. Mission on foot. At 1240 the patrol arrived at the 61 Bn listening post, and arranged sleeping accommodation in R.B. Mission Hospital. The 61 Bn listening post was NOT informed that we were to pass through their area.

At 1815 hrs a party of five natives, led by one EZIKIEL, approached the mission and handed me a note from Major Austin of Argan, requesting me to verify natives' claim that they had killed two Japanese soldiers.

Reveille 0400 hrs 4 Dec 42. The patrol left R.B. Mission at 0430 hrs, and arrived at Lilihi at 0615 hrs. Natives guided me to small native hut in jungle, and pointed out two dead Japanese soldiers. They were not badly burnt, and appeared to be in good condition. There were no papers, badges of identification, or arms in the vicinity. At 0750 hrs patrol arrived at Ahioma, contacted Barnabo, and inquired about native guides. Barnabo had NOT been informed of the patrol, and 4 hrs elapsed before any satisfactory arrangements were made. Barnabo informed me that Lu and Gaikemo would not be available for the patrol

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

At 0945hrs patrol moved to Gopie, and ben struck into he jungle - at 1055 hrs he native scouts reported single Japanese footprint, one day old, and were of he opinion he Jap. was occupying a deserted hut nearby. Investigation proved fruitless. Patrol continued to search foothills, and at 1250hrs guides conducted patrol to Katloi, where personnel were rested and had lunch.

Patrol was split into two separate parties in he afternoon, and contact was kept by R T (Walkie Talkie) sets. At 1420 both parties, with native guides, moved from he bivouac area — Sgt Laird moved into jungle near Katloi, and proceeded north and ~~East~~ West toward Likikoa - whilst he other party moved into jungle at Likikoa and proceeded toward Ahioma.

Sgt Laird's party investigated areas & huts suspected of housing Japanese, but saw no fresh signs of occupation. Native guides became very weary, and at 1545 hrs led he party back to he coast - and hence to Ahioma.

My party, with Barnabo as guide, moved north to pinnacle of mountain range, and from here to Mokuie plantation. Encountered some recent signs of Japanese, but did not contact any. ~~Returned~~ Returned to Ahioma at 1800 hrs, where all troops were billetted in factory.

On 5 Dec 44 patrol moved to Liliki, and from that base, three patrols, each of a section in strength, moved out. One patrol moved to Waga Waga and from here in to he foothills and back to Liliki. A second patrol moved upstream from Liliki Gord, and proceeded towards Waga Waga - whilst he third patrol, with myself, searched he area between Likikoa and Liliki. This patrol discovered he body of a dead Japanese soldier in a small hut near Buboli village. Badges, scraps of paper, and clothing tag were removed from he body, and handed over, in due course, to he I. Section Bde H Q. The native guides had no knowledge of this body, which appeared to have been dead for about seven days. It was wrapped in Japanese blanket, with anchor stencilled on it. Near he body was a heavy native spear, with bloodstained point.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

patrol has returned to Lilliki, at 1715 hrs and all personnel returned to K-B. Mission, and again were billetted in the Mission Hospital.

at 0900 hrs on 6 Dec 42 patrol left Mission, and moved to Ivanbell Aerodrome, picked up M T and returned to Hagita House.

James
Lieut
1 X 708

R.T. (Walkie-talkie) sets

These proved invaluable for keeping contact in jungle, and operated very efficiently for distances to two miles. The set was not tested over a greater distance than two miles, and at that distance, reception was extremely clear

Boots

Boots are definitely too cumbersome and noisy for patrolling of this type.

Natives

Native guides were extremely helpful, but cannot stand the strain of long periods of marching - and, for the most part, tire easily As trackers and scouts they are without peer, and had there been Japanese troops in any number in the vicinity, these guides would surely have seen signs of them. Reports from native villages re Japanese raids for food would lead one to believe that there are very few Japanese in the area

Rations.

Ration-scale, supplemented with native fruits, was more than ample. However, I would suggest that milk be included, even at the expense of other portions of the ration.

James
Lieut

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

Received 8/11/42
Time 1605 hrs
No 98/11

9/26

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES
COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

HQ Milne Force,
8 Nov 42.
G 112

SUBJECT: PATROLS - EAST CAPE.

D.O. SAMARAI
ANGAU
Copy to 17 Aust Inf Bde. ✓

1. We wish to express our thanks to you for the assistance rendered our recent patrol in the EAST CAPE AREA by Lieut Ross of your staff.

2. Capt K.R. Walker, Patrol Commander, has reported that without native guides and information, JAPS could not have been located and Lieut Ross's cooperation in organising guides, carriers and native patrols was much appreciated.

3. Capt Walker has also reported that the natives worked with keen interest, intelligence and speed at all times and information gained from them proved to be most accurate.

Col.
GS MILNE FORCE.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

58/11

A D D E N D U M to Patrol Report of Capt K.R. WALKER dated 5 Nov 42.
To follow word "JAPS" and precede word "Formed" Line 4I Page 2

"Also when asked about EAST CAPE Area, native police and councillors reported this Area to be CLEAR of JAP tps."

K.R. Walker Capt

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

48/11

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

Secret

Subject : PATROL REPORT
LOCATION OF AND DESTRUCTION
OF JAPS IN ANNIE INLET AREA

2/7 AUST INF BN
Quote PR/I06M
6 Nov 42

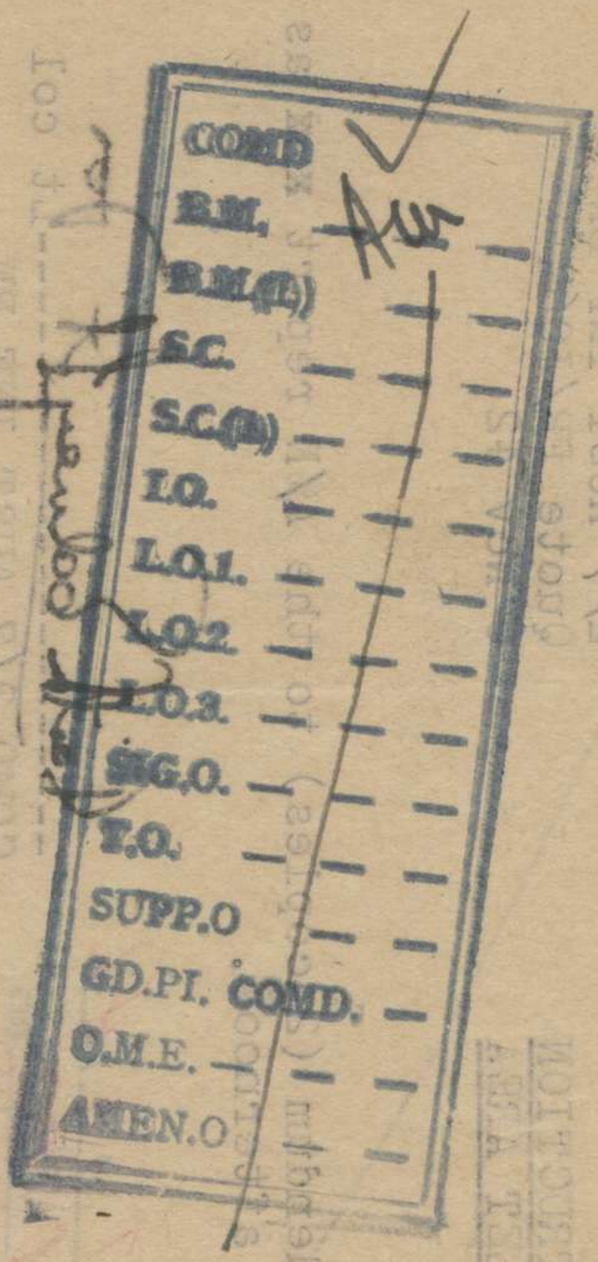
HQ I7 AUST INF BDE

Attached please find addendum (2 copies) to the A/N report xxx as requested by phone this afternoon.

Received 7/11/42
Time 0900 hrs
No 48/11.

Lt col
COMD 2/7 AUST INF BN

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440


COMD
B.M.
B.M.(I.)
S.C.
S.C.(I.)
I.O.
L.O.1.
L.O.2.
L.O.3.
SIG.O.
T.O.
SUPP.O
GD.PI. COMD.
O.M.E.
AMEN.O

48/11

A D D E N D U M to Patrol Report of Capt K.R. WALKER dated 5 Nov 42.
To follow word "JAPS" and precede word "Formed" Line 41 Page 2

"Also when asked about EAST CAPE Area, native police and councillors reported this Area to be CLEAR of JAP tps."

K.R. Walker Capt

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

G8/11

SUBJECT : REPORT ON PATROL TO "ANNIE INLET".

G8/11

H.Q. 17 AUST INF BDE.

Ref No. : G8/11.

6 Nov 42.

H.Q. MILNE FORCE.

Submitted herewith report by Capt K.R.WALKER 2/7 AUST INF BN on patrol to ANNIE INLET Area.

COMD	
B.M.	— — —
B.M.(L)	— — —
S.C.	— — —
S.C.(L)	— — —
I.O.	— — —
L.O.1.	— — —
L.O.2.	— — —
L.O.3.	— — —
SIG.O.	— — —
T.O.	— — —
SUPP.O	— — —
GD.PL. COMD.	— — —
O.M.E.	— — —
AMEN.O	— — —

[signature] Brig.

Comd, 17 Aust Inf Bde.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

G 8/11

SECRET

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

Subject: PATROL REPORT
LOCATION OF AND DESTRUCTION
OF JAPS IN ANNIE INLET AREA

2/7 AUST INF BN
~~EXRX~~ Quote PR/I02M
6 Nov 42

HQ I7 AUST INF BDE

Herewith please find copies (2) of report submitted in connection with the above by Capt K.R. WALKER of this unit.

COMD	
B.M.	
B.M.(Ld)	
S.C.	
S.C.(D)	
I.O.	
L.O.1.	
L.O.2.	
L.O.3.	
S.M.G.O.	
T.O.	
SUPP.O	
GD.PI. COMD.	
O.M.E.	
AMEN.O	

Henry G. Guinn ---------- Lt col
COMD 2/7 AUST INF BN

Received 6/11/42
Time 1130 hrs
MG G8/11

Comd: Am checking with Capt Walker whether a native patrol was sent down to EAST cape, as he reported verbally: the point is omitted here.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

Copy sent to Militia Force 6/11. A.H.

PATROL REPORT

VX 4740
Capt K.R. WALKER
2/7 AUST INF BN

Ref : Map SAMARAI I: 253440

DATE 2/4 Nov 42

STRENGTH I Offr 45 ORs.

TYPE of PATROL Fighting Patrol

ROUTE out - GILI GILI RL 4346 by boat AHIOMA RL 6642 thence by boat to WATWNA RL 6942 then N along TRACK to HUHUNA VILLAGE RL 6748 GOVT REST HOUSE BEACH RL 6848 thence along MAIN GOVT TRACK HUHUNA RL 6748 - IAPOA RL 6251- ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ thence I½ W to posn JAPS located RL 6152 - thence back IAPOA RL 6251, N I½ miles to "GRAYS" PLANTATION RL 6553.

ROUTE back- "GRAYS" PLANTATION RL 6553 - IAPOA RL 6251- HUHUNA- WATWNA- AHIOMA - GILI GILI.

OBJECT ~~Z~~ PATROL - From reports received approx 45 JAP tps were in ANNIE INLET Area, patrol to search area, locate and destroy enemy - if possible to bring back one prisoner.

Patrol with equipment as per B.S.O. battle scale left Coy area 0510 hrs 2 Nov 42 per MT for GILI GILI PIER - embarked coastal boat " "SAN CHRISTI FOLO" 0555 - moved out 0603 for AHIOMA RL 6642 arriving at 0720. Accompanied Lieut Ross of ANGAU into the village to arrange guides and carriers also to collect any information regarding Japs from native police boys, councillors etc. Boys reported that they had accounted for one Jap a few days previously. (Lieut Ross was given flags and papers collected. At 0920 left AHIOMA for WATWNA RL 6942 together with Lieut Rosssand 20 natives, 4 guides - 16 carriers. Arrived WATWNA 1015 hrs - distributed stores to carriers, explained to guides their role in patrol - left WATWNA for HUHUNA via MADIOGA RD running general direction N.W. - first 20 mins march along MAIN EAST CAPE RD - a well defined Govt Rd approx 10' in width - could be traversed by light motor vehs - i.e. Jeeps, thence branch off in NW direction along narrow native track (called MADIOGA RD) through dense undergrowth, heavy going - 6" slush underfoot - thence to re-entrant which took us to saddle at top range - highest point of vazor range back saddle 500-600'- TRACK following contour of re-entrant very hard going as it rained very heavily from 1200 hrs swelling CRK running down re-entrant—run a banker in remarkably short time - crossed CK approx 27 times before reaching saddle - from top saddle down N side again followed CK down re-entrant. This CK also swollen making it very difficult to negotiate - crossed creek 20 ~~xx~~ times Approx 1545 had gained foothills on N side passing through native garden - reached HULUNA VILLAGE RL 6748 JUNC MAIN EAST CAPE-IAPOA tracks at 1540. Native police and councillors ordered to accompany patrol to GOVT REST HOUSE BKS ½ EAST HUHUNA VILLAGE - before leaving posted Sec to watch JUNC. Arrived Bks 1550 - received code message from ~~XXXXXXX~~ 2/5 BN Patrol from AWAIAMA VILLAGE RL 5853 reporting in village - Despatched code message to 2/5 Patrol 1600 hrs per native messenger - Posted remaining Sec to watch JUNC TRACK EAST CAPE-BKS-HUHUNA 300[x] E BKS - one Sec foreshoe - forming perimeter camp - Patrols arranged from each Sec every hour. Native police and councillors from nearby village questioned by Lieut Ross

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

ANGAU at I730 - nothing of importance gained.

TUES 2 Nov - Reveille 0500- breakfast 0530 - RV JUNC TRACKS HUHUNA VILLAGE 0545- moved at 0630 along MAIN TRACK to IAPOA RL 625I with native screen searching all tracks - this TRACK well defined - approx IO' in width (could be traversed with light MT Jeeps) passed through innumerable village gardens - at each village natives questioned - 500[X] E IAPOA natives reported ~~two~~ JAPS in re-entrant W of IAPOA on S side TRACK - Told that 2/5 Patrol which was advancing E along AWAIAMI-IAPOA TRACK had been advised at 0900 hrs- Contacted this Patrol ½ mile W village - Then came under my Comd. Informed that they had been guided to Area containing JAPS, contacted and had killed one JAP - approx time 0840 hrs. Then decided that if the other JAP existed he would visit spot to see what had happened to comrade, also to collect gear so took a Sec from each Pl accompanied by Lieut Taylor to spot - Sent Sec in either flanks - contacted second JAP who had seen us and decided to fight - was well concealed in small hole in CK bank -I5[X] from his dead comrade - had rifle - seen when he waved rifle to aim at Sec Comd 2/5 Sec who was much too quick - fired burst from TSMG severing right arm.This Jap - found note book, few oddments, identification taken from right breast - Marine Badge,right arm - armed rifle, 60 rds 2 grenades - physical condition good - uniform torn but held together (with safety pins) consisting of tunic,breeches, puttees, boots, peaked cap. Investigated first JAP - dressed and physically as above, armed pistol, 30 rds. Both had been living well, feeding on native pig, fowls and fruit. Patrol then moved back to IAPOA - lunched- formulated plan for afternoon operations -organised through Lieut Ross ANGAU- 5 native patrols each of 20 natives to comb area N from AWAIAMI -IAPOA-HUHUNA to ANNIE INLET, Patrol splitting into two parties - one going E along MAIN TRACK for I½ miles then N to RV "GRAYS" PLANTATION RL 6553 - other W along TRACK AWAIAMI for approx I½ miles thence N to RV "GRAYS" PLANTATION. 2/7 Patrol reached RV I330 searched all huts and storehouses - no signs JAP occupation, 2/5 Patrol reaching RV at I405 hrs - reporting all clear - found perimeter a rea to await reports from native patrols. One reported clear I730 hrs. Then ordered 2/5 Patrol to return to AWAIAMI for night thence on to TAUPOTA.Nov.4 - Again I800 hrs Lieut Ross questioned all native police boys from all villages in area - ~~XXXXXX~~-again reporting Area cleared of Japs-[X]Formed perimeter camp for night 3/4 Nov at PLANTATION - Left 0700 hrs 4 Nov to return via IAPOA-HUHUNA-~~A~~WAIAMI - arriving at latter village at I330 hrs. Left I520 ~~per~~ "SAN CHRISTI FOLO" for AHIOMA - thence GILI GILI arriving I820 hrs.

See Addendum [X]

OBSERVATIONS TRACK across from ~~XXXXXXX~~ WATWNA to HUHUNA could not be followed without native guides and carriers if patrol carrying battle scale and rations for anytime.
Without native guides and information JAPS could not be located.
Would like to thank Lieut Ross of ANGAU for grand job of work and co-operation throughout patrol period- for organising guides, carriers and native patrols who worked with keen interest and intelligence and speed at all times - information given by them proved to be very correct and accurate.
Native guides and carriers for way in which they improvised stretcher and carried sick member of patrol many miles along track on route back.
Slacks secured at bottom legs by gaiters or puttees made movement difficult when wading through creeks - legs fill with water taking long time to drain out. Boots with iron sprigs became US in short time - nails rust - heels fall off.

Spirit of men throughout patrol excellent - very keen, disappointed when discovered but two JAPS in area. Experience gained from tng point of view invaluable.

5 Nov 42

Keith R. Ross CAPT
O.C. PATROL

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

WEEKLY REPORT FOR

PL COMDS - 17 AUST INF BDE

A.

(1) STRENGTH ON W.E.

(2) ACTUAL STRENGTH

(3) PERCENTAGE OF MEN ON NORMAL TRAINING DURING WEEK

(4) CHANGES IN STRENGTH DURING WEEK

(5) No. OF ORDERLY ROOMS DURING WEEK

(6) SICKNESS

(7) CERTIFICATES that WEEKLY KIT INSPECTION, DAILY ANTI-MALARIAL INSPECTION, and ARMS and AMN CHECK have been carried out

C

(1) SHORTAGES ON G1098 SCALE.

(2) SHORTAGES OF CLOTHING.

(3) STATE OF WEAPONS

(4) STATE OF CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

(5) SUPPLY AND QUALITY OF RATIONS

(6) STATE OF KITCHENS, LATRINES, REFUSE PITS

G

(1) TYPE OF TNG FOR WEEK

(2) RESULTS OF RANGE PRACTICES, ETC.

(3) FITNESS OF OPERATIONS

(4) SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE TNG

GENERAL
Remarks on DISCIPLINE

MORALE

AMENITIES

.....

.....

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

WEEKLY REPORT FOR

PL COMDS - 17 AUST INF BDE

A.

(1) STRENGTH ON W.E.

(2) ACTUAL STRENGTH

(3) PERCENTAGE OF MEN ON NORMAL TRAINING DURING WEEK

(4) CHANGES IN STRENGTH DURING WEEK

(5) No. OF ORDERLY ROOMS DURING WEEK

(6) SICKNESS

(7) CERTIFICATES that WEEKLY KIT INSPECTION, DAILY ANTI-MALARIAL INSPECTION, and ARMS and AMN CHECK have been carried out

C

(1) SHORTAGES ON G1098 SCALE.

(2) SHORTAGES OF CLOTHING.

(3) STATE OF WEAPONS

(4) STATE OF CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

(5) SUPPLY AND QUALITY OF RATIONS

(6) STATE OF KITCHENS, LATRINES, REFUSE PITS

G

(1) TYPE OF TNG FOR WEEK

(2) RESULTS OF RANGE PRACTICES, ETC.

(3) FITNESS OF OPERATIONS

(4) SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE TNG

GENERAL
Remarks on DISCIPLINE

MORALE

AMENITIES

.....

.....

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

WEEKLY REPORT FOR

PL COMDS - 17 AUST INF BDE

A.

(1) STRENGTH ON N.E.

(2) ACTUAL STRENGTH

(3) PERCENTAGE OF MEN ON NORMAL TRAINING DURING WEEK

(4) CHANGES IN STRENGTH DURING WEEK

(5) No. OF ORDERLY ROOMS DURING WEEK

(6) SICKNESS

(7) CERTIFICATES that WEEKLY KIT INSPECTION, DAILY ANTI-MALARIAL INSPECTION, and ARMS and AMN CHECK have been carried out

C

(1) SHORTAGES ON CL098 SCALE.

(2) SHORTAGES OF CLOTHING.

(3) STATE OF WEAPONS

(4) STATE OF CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

(5) SUPPLY AND QUALITY OF RATIONS

(6) STATE OF KITCHENS, LATRINES, REFUSE PITS

G

(1) TYPE OF TNG FOR WEEK

(2) RESULTS OF RANGE PRACTICES, ETC.

(3) FITNESS OF OPERATIONS

(4) SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE TNG

GENERAL
Remarks on DISCIPLINE

MORALE

AMENITIES

.....

.....

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

WEEKLY REPORT FOR

PL COMDS - 17 AUST INF BDE

A.

(1) STRENGTH ON N.E.

(2) ACTUAL STRENGTH

(3) PERCENTAGE OF MEN ON NORMAL TRAINING DURING WEEK

(4) CHANGES IN STRENGTH DURING WEEK

(5) No. OF ORDERLY ROOMS DURING WEEK

(6) SICKNESS

(7) CERTIFICATES that WEEKLY KIT INSPECTION, DAILY ANTI-MALARIAL INSPECTION, and ARMS and AMN CHECK have been carried out

C

(1) SHORTAGES ON CLOTHING SCALE.

(2) SHORTAGES OF CLOTHING.

(3) STATE OF WEAPONS

(4) STATE OF CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

(5) SUPPLY AND QUALITY OF RATIONS

(6) STATE OF KITCHENS, LATRINES, REFUSE PITS

G

(1) TYPE OF TNG FOR WEEK

(2) RESULTS OF RANGE PRACTICES, ETC.

(3) FITNESS OF OPERATIONS

(4) SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE TNG

GENERAL

Remarks on DISCIPLINE

MORALE

AMENITIES

.....

.....

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

WEEKLY REPORT FOR

PL COMDS - 17 AUST INF BDE

A.

(1) STRENGTH ON W.E.

(2) ACTUAL STRENGTH

(3) PERCENTAGE OF MEN ON NORMAL TRAINING DURING WEEK

(4) CHANGES IN STRENGTH DURING WEEK

(5) No. OF ORDERLY ROOMS DURING WEEK

(6) SICKNESS

(7) CERTIFICATES that WEEKLY KIT INSPECTION, DAILY ANTI-MALARIAL INSPECTION, and ARMS and AMN CHECK have been carried out

C

(1) SHORTAGES ON G1098 SCALE.

(2) SHORTAGES OF CLOTHING.

(3) STATE OF WEAPONS

(4) STATE OF CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

(5) SUPPLY AND QUALITY OF RATIONS

(6) STATE OF KITCHENS, LATRINES, REFUSE PITS

G

(1) TYPE OF TNG FOR WEEK

(2) RESULTS OF RANGE PRACTICES, ETC.

(3) FITNESS OF OPERATIONS

(4) SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE TNG

GENERAL
Remarks on DISCIPLINE

MORALE

AMENITIES

.....

.....

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

WEEKLY REPORT FOR

PL COMDS- - 17 AUST INF BDE

A.

(1) STRENGTH ON N.E. 1 offr. 15 pl: 1 cpl. 1 ¼ pl.

(2) ACTUAL STRENGTH. 1 offr. 15 pl: 1 cpl. 1 ¼ pl. 3 ors.

(3) PERCENTAGE OF MEN ON NORMAL TNG DURING WEEK 90% attended gas trng

(4) CHANGES IN STRENGTH DURING WEEK. 1 man evacuated: 1 man rejoined unit from Australia

(5) NO OF ORDERLY ROOMS DURING WEEK.

(6) SICKNESS. Pte Brimlow evacuated ces sanpet - malaria.

(7) CERTIFICATES that WEEKLY KIT INSPECTIONS, DAILY ANTI-MALARIAL INSPECTION, and ARMS & AMN CHECK have been carried out. I have checked daily to ensure that anti-malarial precautions were being taken - arms & amn check also carried out.

B.

(1) SHORTAGES ON G1098 SCALE. ——

(2) SHORTAGES OF CLOTHING. ——

(3) STATE OF WEAPONS. all in good condition

(4) STATE OF CLOTHING & EQUIPMENT. good

(5) SUPPLY AND QUALITY OF RATIONS. good

(6) STATE OF KITCHENS, LATRINES, REFUSE PITS.

any suggestions as to improvement? —

C.

(1) TYPE OF TNG FOR WEEK. Normal Duties.

(2) RESULTS OF RANGE PRACTICES ETC.

(3) FITNESS FOR OPERATIONS. Still NOT fit for mobile ops gear is being made mobile with all speed. but - bn pioneers are engaged on other jobs. + there is a fair amount - of carpentry to be done on map boards etc.

(4) SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE TNG.

GENERAL. REMARKS on DISCIPLINE, MORALE, AMENITIES, etc.

This is NOT a mere pro forma
It is an attempt to watch
the interests of the men + do
everything possible to improve
conditions. Your assistance in
this way would be appreciated AA

.....

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

WEEKLY REPORT FOR

PL COMDS - 17 AUST INF BDE.

A.

(1) STRENGTH ON W.E. 1 offrs, 18 pl - 1 cpl. - 1 L/cpl.

(2) ACTUAL STRENGTH. 1 offrs, 18 pl, 1 cpl, 1 L/cpl, 3 O/Rs.

(3) PERCENTAGE OF MEN ON NORMAL TNG DURING WEEK. 0% lt.

(4) CHANGE IN STRENGTH DURING WEEK. —

(5) NO. OF ORDERLY ROOMS DURING WEEK. —

(6) SICKNESS. One O/R evacuated 2/1 C.C.S. 13/00. (malaria)

(7) CERTIFICATES that WEEKLY KIT INSPECTION, DAILY ANTI-MALARIAL INSPECTION, and ARMS and AMN CHECK have been carried out. I certify that I have checked daily to see that anti-malarial precautions are being taken, an arms & amn check was carried out also -

B.

(1) SHORTAGE OF G1098 SCALE. —

(2) SHORTAGES OF CLOTHING. 1 Shirt - (small) - 1 towel.

(3) STATE OF WEAPONS. all in good condition

(4) STATE OF CLOTHING & EQUIPMENT. good

(5) SUPPLY AND QUALITY OF RATIONS. good

(6) STATE OF KITCHENS, LATRINES, REFUSE PITS. —

C.

(1) TYPE OF TNG FOR WEEK. Normal Duties.

(2) RESULTS OF RANGE PRACTICES, ETC. —

(3) FITNESS FOR OPERATIONS. NOT fit for mobile ops owing to present unpreparedness of gear this will be remedied by end of coming week

(4) SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE TNG. —

Suggest that Bde I Sec should NOT be asked to supply draughtsman to Bde I Sec. But that the need be foreseen, & a man drawn from a coy - brought here, & trained as a draughtsman. This would require 2 - 3 months, but would solve the present problem which tends to eat our own threat.

Yes. Lt Smith 29/11 Pls see me

29/11/42

.....Lieut.

I.O., 17 AUST INF BDE.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

WEEKLY REPORT FOR

PL COMDS - 17 AUST INF BDE.

A.

(1) STRENGTH ON W.E. 1 offrs, 18 o/r - 1 cpl. - 1 L/cpl.

(2) ACTUAL STRENGTH. 1 offr, 18 o/r, 1 cpl, 1 L/cpl, 3 o/Rs.

(3) PERCENTAGE OF MEN ON NORMAL TNG DURING WEEK. 0% lt.

(4) CHANGE IN STRENGTH DURING WEEK. —

(5) NO. OF ORDERLY ROOMS DURING WEEK. —

(6) SICKNESS. One o/R evacuated 2/1 C.C.S. 13/10/42. (malaria)

(7) CERTIFICATES that WEEKLY KIT INSPECTION, DAILY ANTI-MALARIAL INSPECTION, and ARMS and AMN CHECK have been carried out. I certify that I have checked daily to see that anti-malarial precautions are being taken, an arms & amn check was carried out also -

Q.

(1) SHORTAGE OF G1098 SCALE. —

(2) SHORTAGES OF CLOTHING. 1 Shirt - (small) - 1 towel.

(3) STATE OF WEAPONS. all in good condition

(4) STATE OF CLOTHING & EQUIPMENT. good

(5) SUPPLY AND QUALITY OF RATIONS. good

(6) STATE OF KITCHENS, LATRINES, REFUSE PITS. —

G.

(1) TYPE OF TNG FOR WEEK. Normal Duties.

(2) RESULTS OF RANGE PRACTICES, ETC. —

(3) FITNESS FOR OPERATIONS. NOT fit for mobile ops owing to present unpreparedness of gear this will be remedied by end of coming week

(4) SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE TNG. —

Suggest that Bn I Secs should NOT be asked to supply draughtsman to Bde I Sec. But that the need be foreseen, & a man drawn from

GENERAL: Remarks on Discipline, Morale, Amenities, etc.

29/10/42

.....Lieut.

I.O., 17 AUST INF BDE.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

HQ 17 Aust Inf Bde
24 Nov 42

Brigade Major

Approval is requested for the confirmation of rank of Sgt in respect of VX3952 A/Sgt CARROLL L R, HQ 17 AUST INF BDE

Lieut.
I O 17 AUST INF BDE

Chief clerk for action

Yes

Recommended

from

Dunkley

Noted

Maj. 24/11/42

PROPOSED SYLLABUS FOR A/GAS TRAINING.

1. Men to be arranged in details of eight.

2. Four periods per morning. Each period of 40 minutes duration.

3. Training commences 30 Nov 42.

4. Excluding every fourth day and Sundays, 13 days will be devoted to training.

5. Syllabus:

1st Phase - Inspection of respirators.
Short lecture on how they function.
Care and handling.
What NOT to do and how to fit.
The slung and alert positions.

2nd Phase - Adjusting the respirator from the alert and alterantive alerts.
How to test for gas.

3rd Phase - 10 minutes on Phase 2. Personal & Arms Decontamination.

4th Phase - Recapitulation of 2 & 3.

5th Phase - 10 minutes on Phase 2. Duties of Gas sentry.
Cape rolling.

6th Phase - Ts.O.E.T.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

STATIONARY. INDENT.

1. Roll Tracing Paper. (Plain)
1. Roll Paper, Tracing, (Waxed).
1. Roll Blue Print paper (ARGUS. MEDIUM)
20½yds x 31". (FERRO PRUSSIATE SIMPLEX)
6. Bottles of BLACK waterproof indian ink.
6 " " RED " " "
3 " " BLUE " " "
2 " " BURNT SIERRA " " "
1 " " CHROME " " "
1 " " GREEN " " "
1 " " PURPLE " " "
3 doz RED chinag rafeh pencils
3. " BLUE " "
1 " BROWN " "
1 " YELLOW " "
1 " GREEN " "
6 — BLACK " "
2 Doz. "H.B." drawing pencils
2. " "2.H." " "
6 soft pencil erasers.
6 mapping pen holders
6 cards of mapping pens
12 boxes of drawing pins
3 doz. "TARA" 6022 M. mapping pens.
6. Army books 153 and covers for same.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

6 crates "Abbats" lager
2 - nine gallons "Victoria Bitter"
6 Gross assorted sandwiches
2 - Doz packs playing cards
6 Mack buckets

REPORT ON TRACKS

Ref Map: Enl. 4" to 1 mile. 2/5 AUST INF BN Date: 14 Dec 42.

Bn Ser. No.	Going From	Going To	Time (x) Time if Route Dry.	Time if Route Wet.	Obstacles, Details of, Map Ref. to.	Width of Track (=)	REMARKS e.g. Could it be made into jeep tk - Pts for ambush - Grades - O.Ps. - Country on either side - Clearings - Etc.
A1	942986	940972	25 mins	1 hr		Single File	Country on either side flat, tends to swamp. Good dry weather track.
A2	954981	949968	30 mins	1 hr		Single File	Track through swamp country; seldom dry. Jungle on either side.
A3	965984	961966 LATAGONA	40 mins	1 hr 15 mins	Creek crossing at 964974 is bridged by a fallen tree, width 15ft Height of banks,6 ft. Very little water in ck during dry weather. A good log Br.could be put across ck in a very short time.	Single File	No jungle on either side through flat swamp country. Seldom dry. Small clearance at 965977. Very muddy track during wet weather.
A4	964974	965967 DIDILAU	15 min	30 min		Single File	Fair track. Jungle on either side. Clearing and native garden at 964968
A5	970978	970965 DUIUPI	30 min	45 min	At present ck at 971971 is an obstacle in wet weather but could easily be bridged with logs.	Single File	A fair track, very little swamps and dries up quickly. Clearing at 972974. This track can be reached by track running along edge of jungle from 966979.
A6	969987	970978	15 min	25 min		File	Good Jeep tk through Coconut plantation.
A7	976978	986973 DONA DONA	30 min	40 min		Single File	A bad tk through sago swamps. Going is very hard during wet weather.This tk can be reached by tk running along edge of jungle from 970978.
A8	984989	986973 DONA DONA	30 min	40 min		File	From 984989-984979, rd is surfaced to take Hy MT.During dry weather, Hy MT can reach DONA DONA at all times but in wet weather would not be able to pass 984979. Jeeps would be able to reach DONA DONA at all times. Rd passes through coconut plantation from 985-986 - 984977
A9	984978	972968	30 min	min		Single File	Through coconut plantation from 984978-982977 then through flat jungle country.

(x) Estimate going time as for the time it would take one Pl to move over Route incl obstacles.
(=) Width - Just give: Tps move in Single File, File, etc.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

REPORT ON TRACKS

Ref Map: Enl. 4" to 1 Mile. | 2/5 Aust Inf Bn | Date: 14 Dec 42.

Bn Ser. No.	Going Time(x) From	To	Time if Route Dry	Time if Route Wet	Obstacles, Details of, Map Ref to.	Width of Tk (=)	REMARKS e.g.Could it be made into Jeep tk - Pts for Ambush - Grades - O.Ps. - Country on either side - Clearances - Etc.
A10	986973 DONA DONA	940972	2 hrs	3 hrs		Single File	This track runs along the WEST side of KALOHI CK and along the NORTH side of MAIWARA R. From DONA DONA 986973 to HIWA HIWA 976975 the jungle has been cleared along the Ck and River banks and fallen trees at present make it very hard to follow track but a track runs along the creek and river banks. It is not difficult to get around. At present trees are an obstacle to movement of any kind but these are being removed. From HIWA HIWA 976965 track runs through a number of Native Villages and Gardens where natives are to be found who speak English and are very helpful.

(x) Estimate going time as for the time it would take one Pl to move over route incl obstacles.
(=) Width - Just give: Tps move in Single File, File, etc.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

REPORT ON TRACKS

Ref Map: Enl. 4" to 1 Mile. 2/7 AUST INF BN Date: 11 Dec 42.

Bn Ser. No.	Going Time (x) From	To	Time if Route Dry	Time if Route Wet	Obstacles, Details of, Map ref to.	Width of Track. (=)	REMARKS e.g.Could it be made into jeep tk - Pts for Ambush- Grades - O.Ps. - Country on either side - Clearings Etc.
Z/1	979995	978046	1 hr 45 mins	-	Map Refs:- 976041 Fast Creek, steep rocky banks, log crossing when unfordable.	M.T.	MT track to Map Ref 972022. Possible MT reach 976041 (fast creek), once bridged MT possible to reach 978046 with Pioneer's assistance. Good ambush posn 976041. Steep re-entrants Nth and Sth of Native garden on East of track.
Z/1	978046	979051	35 mins	-	Very steep.	Single File.	Native garden 978051. No.3 O.P. 979051. Good observation of area. High jungle along track, extra steep gradient, estimated between 1 in 1 and 1 in2.
Z/2	979051	002007	1 hr 30 mins	-		Single File.	992044. Good ambush area at razor back stretch approx 997038 (Approx 100x) Jungle to 001023, there on plantation to road.
Z/5 Via 005 024	002007	024038	2 hrs	-		Single File.	MT impossible. Jungle clearing 022035 approx 150x. O.P. 024038. Good observation. Gradients steep to very steep. Some parts approaching 2 in 1.
Z/6 Via 023 025	024038	002007	1 hr 45 mins	-	Steep razor backs.	Single File.	MT impossible. Jungle razor back 024026, approx 250x. Track not definable DONA WARRA end.
KALOHI RIVER	989004	978046	-	-		River Bed	Four wheel vehicles capable of moving up river bed in dry weather. NOTE: Unusable in wet weather or when river in flood.

(x) Estimate going time as for the time it would take one Pl. to move over route incl obstacles.
(=) Just give: Tps move in Single File, File, etc.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

WHAT THIS MAP SHOWS

The tense and dramatic changes taking place in the Mediterranean are now beginning to take a definite global pattern, and the enemy is confronted with the prospect of complete encirclement. The hitherto loose and long-ranged blockade of Nazi Europe will now be vastly shortened and tightened by an air offensive in which Italy, no doubt, is going to receive considerable punishment. With his dwindling resources—thanks to Russia—Hitler will have considerable difficulty in holding an immense frontier. This map shows the boot of Italy, wherein lies the Achilles heel of Germany, and Hitler will pack every ounce to capture and hold the vital key—the Sicily-Tunis-Tripoli triangle. If Rommel can win the race to the Tripoli point and Von Runstedt establishes a strong brideghead between the Sicily-Tunis points, we may find a problem upon which Eisenhower and Cunningham may have to use considerable strategical and tactical power.

SARDINIA
TYRRHENIAN SEA
IONIAN SEA
SICILY
CONVOY ROUTE
NAVAL PATROL
R.A.F. COVER
THE KEY TRIANGLE
MALTA
PANTELLERIA
CRETE
MEDITERRANEAN SEA
ALGERIA
TUNISIA
TRIPOLITANIA
DESERT COUNTRY
DESERT OF SIRTE
CYRENAICA
EGYPT
LIBYA
GULF OF SIRTE
GULF OF TARANTO
BRITISH NAVAL PATROL
FIRST CLASS MOTOR ROADS
RAILWAYS
CARAVAN TRACKS
MILLETT
MILES

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

Australia is Playing a Part in Our Defences

By EDWARD SAMUEL

THURSDAY ISLAND today, of course, is of strategic importance, although few people know very much about a clearing spot. It is in the news, but is seldom mentioned.

Who actually discovered and named Thursday Island, at the apex of Australia, is a question that has never been definitely settled. Capt James Cook named an adjoining island, Wednesday, in 1774, but his log does not mention Thursday Island. However, the fact that the great voyager had a fondness for naming his discoveries after the days on which he first saw them, points to him as its nominator. He christened, for instance, Trinity Bay and Whitsunday Passage; there is also a Friday Island adjacent to Thursday, which has been used as a leper station.

Bligh, on his amazing voyage in an open boat with some of the crew of the Bounty on his way to Timor, passed through the Torres Strait, and named Warrior Island from "the reception he got from the natives."

Matthew Flinders was also a visitor, and the early Dutch, Portuguese, and Spanish navigators certainly passed through in the 17th century, and the name of the

Panoramic view of the settlement, Thursday Island, with King Island across the strait.

and the credit can be assigned to Cook.

Australia had been settled, more or less, for over 70 years before any move was made to occupy the Far North, and then Somerset, lower down on the York Peninsula, was selected by Governor Bowen, after a personal visit in 1862.

Here came Frank Jardine as Government Resident. His name is written large in the annals of North Queensland. He married a Samoan princess, and lived up yonder for over 50 years. He had such a reputation for hospitality, as well as being responsible for many sea rescues, that ships "dipped their flag" when passing his settlement, even after his retirement.

However, in 1876, the Government decided that Somerset was unsuitable, and the residency and its officials were transferred to Thursday Island, which is included in the Prince of Wales group. The island is not large, only 900 acres in extent, but it possesses a sheltered harbour and is an important strategic point on the main northern trade route to the East. For many years in peacetime a garrison was maintained, but it was later transferred by the Federal Government to Darwin.

Quite two-thirds of its normal population of 1,200 odd are coloured, Chinese, Japanese, Filipinos, and South Sea Islanders predominating, and, like Darwin, it is really a bit of the East transported to Australian shores.

Main street of the settlement.

ITS prosperity depended on pearling and trochus shell and trepang fishing, while latterly attempts were made to put to commercial use the enormous shoals of sardines found in the contiguous waters. The giant clams, capable of holding a diver by the foot and drowning him, are here, too. The township is picturesque, and there is nothing quite like it anywhere else in Australia.

Although one can walk round the island quite easily in an hour, there are 6 hotels, and these served the many tourists who found the place in happier days haven of peace from the wild rush of civilisation.

It was created a municipality in 1885, and is the administrative headquarters of the Anglican Diocese of Carpentaria, which incidentally extends right down to Alice Springs in the Northern Territory.

There is a resident bishop and there is the Quetta Cathedral, which was originally built as a memorial to those drowned in the wreck of the SS Quetta off Albany Island in February, 1890. The ship sank in a few minutes, and over 130 persons lost their lives. Relics of this disaster are still on view in this little cathedral.

The advent of settlement resulted in the construction of a reservoir, a jetty, a miniature daily paper, 2 banks, and a number of shops and private dwellings.

In other days an official "resident" was stationed at Thursday Island, and progressive holders of this position included H. M. Chester, John Douglas Hugh Milman, and W. Lee Bruce. Douglas was a Premier of Queensland, and 2 of his sons became Supreme Court judges.

A police magistrate carried out the duties of Resident. The mainland is 22 miles distant, and the island is connected by cable with the land line. In peacetime 3 or 4 shipping companies called regularly, and the mainland could be reached by the many launches available. Thus it was possible to indulge in crocodile and wild pig shooting, and always of course, fishing, which is one of the principal pastimes up that way.

There seems a total absence of flies and mosquitoes are not numerous on this sea-encircled settlement. In the past some pearlers were reputed to have become millionaires in the boom days, when shell reached £300 or £400 a ton.

Then there was a good market in Germany and Turkey for ornamental inlay and mosaic work. The 1914-18 war of course, largely destroyed these markets, but the shell industry is still carrying on, as no substitute has been found for the beautiful "living" sheen of mother-of-pearl.

The surrounding archipelago has infinite variety and charm, and somehow Thursday Island always leaves a longing in one to return.

NICKNAMES HAVE BEEN BESTOWED THROUGHOUT THE AGES

Victoria Once Had a "Monkey Ministry;" Now We Have "Victory Suits," "Austerity Meals"

By H. W. MALLOCH

THE bestowing of nicknames is not confined to any particular

upon the occupants of the throne were not quite as respectable; to wit, "Bloody Mary," the crimson cognomen of Mary I of England.

In Cromwell's day, there was "Barebone's (or Barbone) Parliament," from the name of one of the members for the City of London. Mr Barebone was not only responsible for the name by which this Parliament was dubbed, but he earned one for himself by becoming known in history as "Praise God Barebone."

"The Cabal" is very well known, and

that was so covered with hair that you could not tell which was the head and which was the tail.

One of the best known of these nicknamed Ministries was the one christened the Ministry of "All the Talents," in the reign of George III. It was so named because an attempt was made to form a Coalition Government of the ablest men of all the parties in the House, and Lord Derby is credited with being the autho

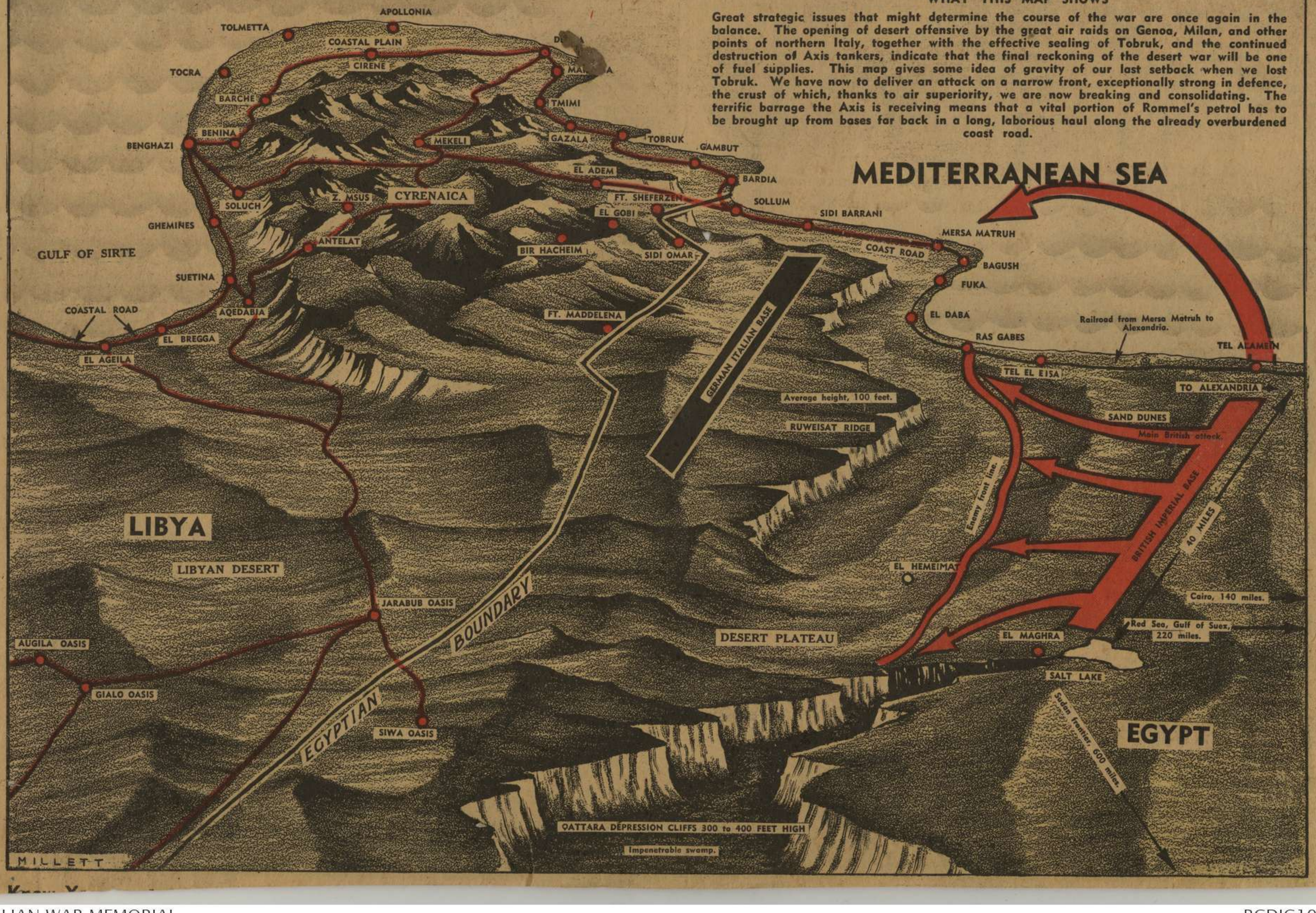
AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

THE ARGUS
WAR MAP, No 159

AIR BLOCKADE MAY BE SERIOUS BLOW FOR ROMMEL

WHAT THIS MAP SHOWS

Great strategic issues that might determine the course of the war are once again in the balance. The opening of desert offensive by the great air raids on Genoa, Milan, and other points of northern Italy, together with the effective sealing of Tobruk, and the continued destruction of Axis tankers, indicate that the final reckoning of the desert war will be one of fuel supplies. This map gives some idea of gravity of our last setback when we lost Tobruk. We have now to deliver an attack on a narrow front, exceptionally strong in defence, the crust of which, thanks to air superiority, we are now breaking and consolidating. The terrific barrage the Axis is receiving means that a vital portion of Rommel's petrol has to be brought up from bases far back in a long, laborious haul along the already overburdened coast road.



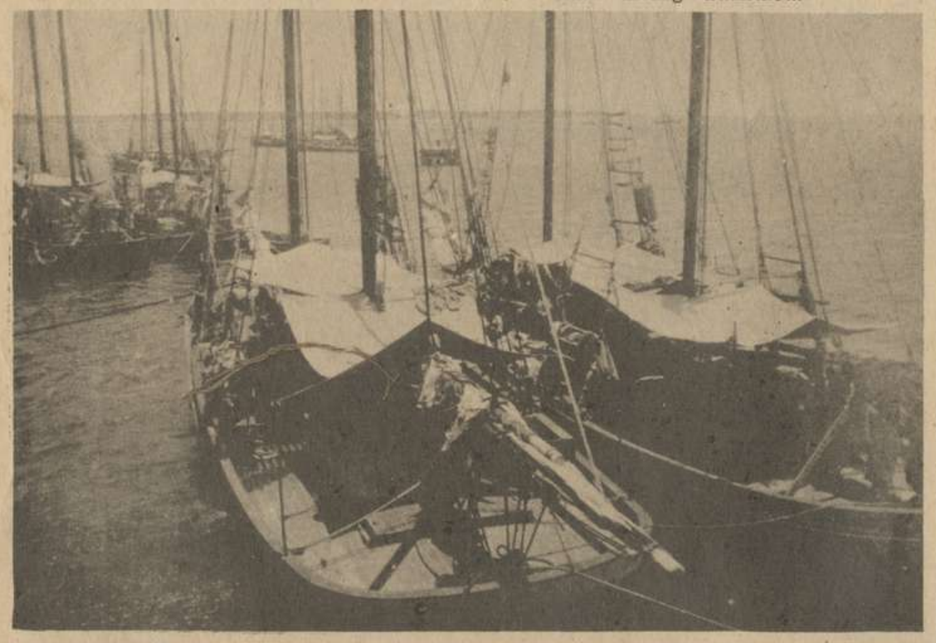
AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

BROOME JAPS SET A PATTERN FOR TODAY

Aliens, They Controlled an Industry, and Their Methods Should Have Taught Us Lesson

By H. DRAKE-BROCKMAN

FOR many years the Japanese held a peculiar position in Broome, on the north-west coast of Australia. Pearl divers and divers' tenders were subject to the usual laws of this country: that is to say, they came to Australia under agreement to work at a stated job. They could not own a pearling lugger or pearl buying licence; they had no vote, and could not even do the smallest job for their white bosses away from the boats or the foreshore.



Pearling luggers at anchor at Broome before the war.

But, in fact, they piped the tune to which the whole town danced. Conclaves held at the big Japanese Club were as powerful a factor in the prosperity of the pearling industry as were motions passed by the master pearlers.

The reason? Very simple — one of monopoly.

The Australian pearling industry began sporadically enough about the middle of last century. Our own natives were impressed. Dinghies, loaded with naked divers, gins included, were operated from small schooners. But the very best native divers — staggering as their capacity seems — could not manage more than 7 fathoms. Enterprising pearlers began to import Japanese deep-sea divers, who used helmet and air pump, and eventually worked safely at twice the original depths, opening new banks year by year. By the end of the century pearling had become a recognised industry with headquarters at Broome, on Roebuck Bay.

Japanese and Chinese merchants crowded into Broome, too, before the Immigration Restriction Act was passed. Trade with Singapore was far greater than trade with Perth. A number of these storekeepers lingered, some still remain, together with keepers of eating-houses and laundry men. Later, a few Japanese became taxi drivers. But gradually the numbers engaged in any other work than diving dwindled.

Not so the power of the divers. They signed on each season for so much cash advance or "lay," so much more to be paid at the end of the season, plus a bonus on their boat's take of pearl shell for the year. Each year, it seemed to harassed pearlers, divers demanded higher advances. Began also, the evil of dummying — or of white men signing licences (for a consideration) for boats in reality owned by Japs. During the past few years further encroachments on Australian banks were made by numbers of Japanese boats operating from islands to the north. Many of these boats frequenty poached in our territorial waters; and little could be done, in those lonely seas, to stop them.

IN spite of the many fluctuations in the pearling industry, due to the growth of synthetic pearls and pearl button substitutes, the Japanese community in Broome remained numerous as well as powerful. Every boat in the pearling fleet (at its tops some 300 luggers) employed at least one diver, and a tender to each.

Certainly, the divers were not much in Broome, except during the lay-up season, from January to March, when the luggers were careened and victualled. Instead, Japanese spread up and down the whole length of the nor'-west coast, sailing wherever they liked.

They came undisputed boss. Even when the ship's owner sailed along, too, to open the pearl shells, the diver still had the say as to when and where they should sail. This was a reasonable enough arrangement, considering he knew the best shelling grounds and his bonus was estimated on the take from shell brought up.

When times grew hard pearlers were obliged to make the best of it, and present divers with pearl boxes (somewhat after the fashion of Commonwealth money boxes), hoping all pearls would find their way therein. Generally acknowledged, a vain hope; though there was little love lost between Japs and Malays, and to some extent each kept an eye on the other.

Today, considering the freedom of the seas possessed by pearl divers, one begins to wonder how much time off has latterly been devoted to charting the coast from Darwin to Port Hedland. And even how much baccy and flour has found its ingratiating way into the hands of Myall natives, way up on our unhabited coast.

A lugger "shelling" in Roebuck Bay. The tender is on the platform overhanging the stern, and the diver is down below. The shell-opener is in the dinghy on his way to visit another lugger.

The Japs always made friends (or troubles) with our natives, because of their women. There were very few Japanese women left in Broome, although, down in Chinatown, there remained a sinister "house," hidden among clustering coconut palms behind a palisade fence of galvanised iron. Such a "house" is established in every Japanese community as a matter of course.

On one occasion, I remember, we waited half an hour for some divers. We were going out on a lugger. In the glorious morning light the waters of Roebuck Bay gleamed like liquid torquoise. Several boats tacked up and down, shelling in the bay itself. Our lugger's dinghy strained at its moorings as the tide rushed in, rustling against the jetty piles. We shrugged his shoulders. It was a great concession, anyway, he said, to be taking women out at all!

At last the Japs arrived. Three of them, 2 divers and a tender. Down the long jetty they walked, with the springiest step in the world, all 3 smoking. Cigars at that. Before 10 in the morning! Extremely well turned out and dapper they were, one in cream flannels and sweater. The divers in Broome were invariably smart and very well groomed personally. A little insolent, often, in their manner — too polite. But no one could live for long in Broome without realising what is probably the most outstanding racial trait of the Japanese: a fatalistic and stoical attitude to life. And death.

Pearl diving is no trade for any but the brave. Out in the pindan (bush) behind Broome stands a Japanese cemetery crammed with graves of Japs who have died, many of them, from divers' paralysis—generally caused by rising too quickly to the surface. The death rate from paralysis was very high until the comparatively recent installation at the hospital of a decompressor — a machine like a torpedo, into which a man can be put, the pressure regulated, and the patient, as it were, deparalysed. Before that, victims had to be "staged"—left for many hours below the waves and slowly brought to the surface by stages. Many died of chill or heart failure in the course of the cure. In any case, divers rarely lived to a ripe old age.

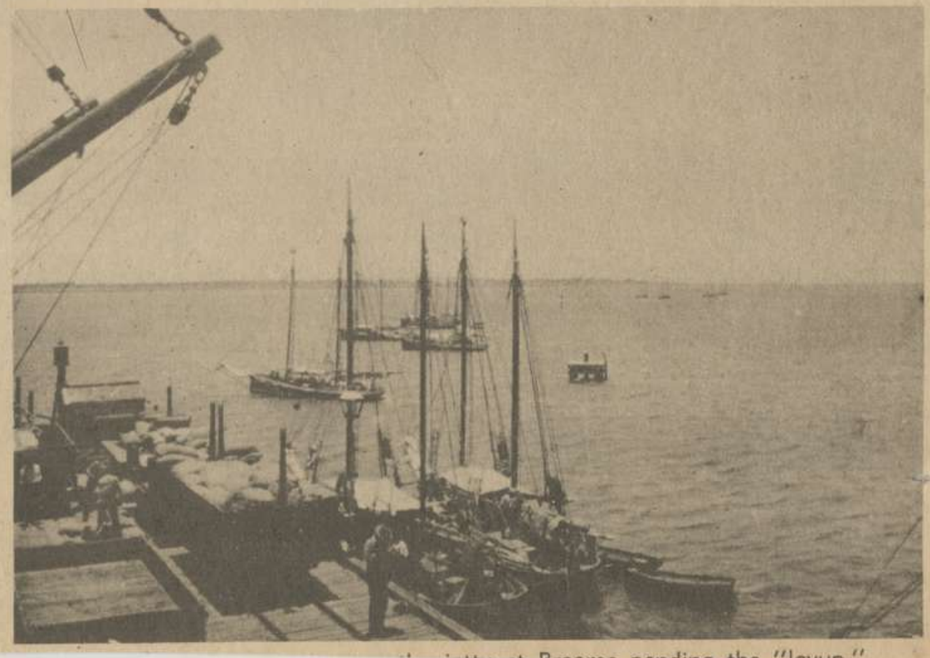
A training scheme was once initiated to train Chinese or Malays, in hope of breaking the Japanese monopoly; but it soon fizzled out. The Japs alone seemed willing to endure working from sunup to sundown, each man alone, swinging in a shadowy world, fathoms down, in the company of sea monsters — or worse menace, line-entangling rocks.

Once every year the Broome Cemetery was lit with gay-coloured lights for the Festival of the Lanterns. This festival is a remnant of the ancient Shino faith: a dismal religion older than Buddhism, and professing no Nirvana of forgetfulness, merely a hereafter wherein disembodied spirits inhabit a world of utter darkness, yet remain possessed of the power to bring joy or sorrow to those they leave behind on earth. A terrifying thought. Obviously they had to be propitiated.

So, yearly, they were given a feast. Cakes and saki (until the wine was prohibited by Australian police in the interest of Australian aborigines, who drank the offerings after the festival and usually wound up proceedings with fisticuffs or spears). Every grave was decorated with a paper lantern, some with many. It was quite a spectacle. Broomites went out to admire.

There is no greater materialist on earth than the Japanese; yet his entire life is regulated by traditional standards of "correct behaviour." The cruel device of hara-kiri is part of this "correct" behaviour.

A people that remain, in honour bound, so entirely ruthless to themselves, cannot be expected to feel respect or consideration or even interest in our own intensely humanistic attitude to life and our fellow men.



at Broome pending the "layup."

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

Know Your Enemy—No 7

DETAILS OF JAP ARMOURED FIGHTING VEHICLES

They Comprise Tankettes, Light, Heavy, And Medium Tanks, and Armoured Cars

By a Special Correspondent

JAPAN'S attempt to use the tanks landed at Milne Bay ended in a fiasco for reasons other than the mechanical effectiveness of our enemy's armoured fighting vehicles. Ambushed, the Jap crews panicked, and bogged and ditched the vehicles, so that they became sitting shots for our light armament.

These were medium 14-ton tanks of similar design to the 10 knocked out by our gunners who ambushed them on the Muar road in Malaya. All the enemy's light and medium tanks are vulnerable to our 2-pounder anti-tank gun. The anti-tank rifle, with .55 armour-piercing bullet, should be equally effective at close range. This, however, presupposes that we shoot first, and shoot straight. The enemy's armoured fighting vehicles are not to be despised, as the following details of his equipment will show:

TANKETTES: 4 models varying from 3 to 4 tons. Best known is the Ishikawajima, 2-man crew; 3 tons; 10ft 2in long; 5ft 9in wide; 5ft 4in high; maximum speed, 30 mph; turret rounded but flat behind machinegun, which is only armament; turret lid opens forward; 2 bogies (4 rubber-tyred wheels) on each side. This tankette frequently used with armoured trailer for supply and intercommunication. Later model carries extra man and extra gun; appearance similar.

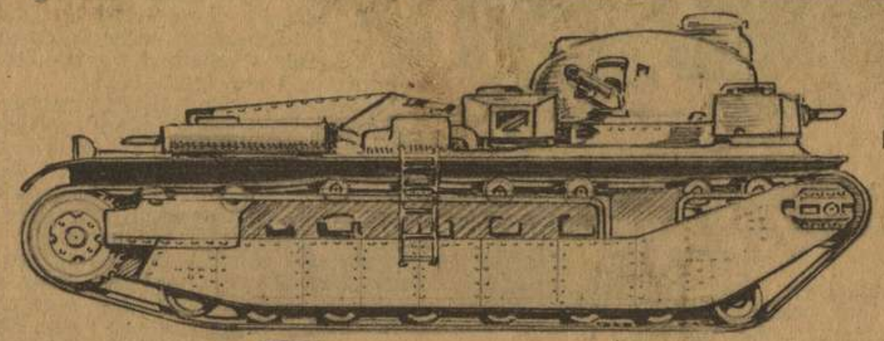
LIGHT TANKS: 5 models varying from 5 to 11 tons. Best known, 9 to 11 tons; 4-man crew; one 37mm high-velocity gun fires armour-piercing shell; 2 machineguns forward in hull, one in turret; revolving turret displaces to left, lid opens in 2 halves, one falling forward, one to rear; 2 bogies (4 rubber-tyred wheels) on each side.

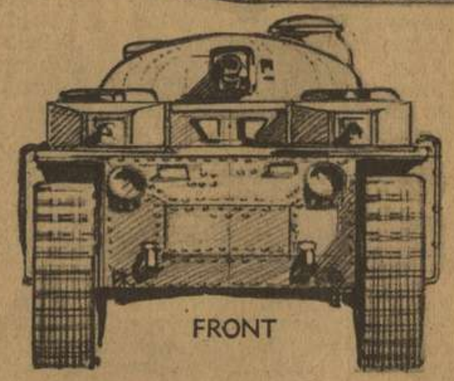
MEDIUM TANKS: 6 models, varying from 11 to 25 tons. Best known, 14 to 18 tons; 5-man crew; one 37mm gun; 2 machineguns, one being mounted coaxially with the main gun, other in forward hull; carries mortar and bombs inside; length,, 20ft 10in (9 rubber-tyred wheels on each side), protected by skirting; can negotiate ditches 10½ft wide and ford streams 3ft deep; armour, 11mm to 17mm thick; has been used in landing parties; intercommunication poor; model obsolescent, but still in use.

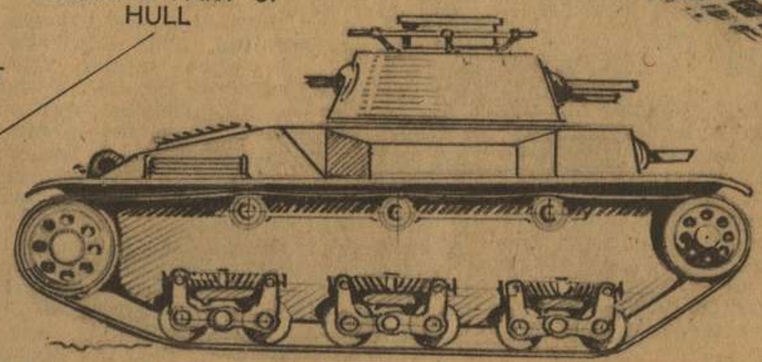
HEAVY TANKS: 3 models, 36 to 38 tons. Best known, Ishi 108, 38 tons; 2 37mm guns in turret; 3 machineguns and flamethrower in hull fore; length, 32ft; maximum speed, 30 mph; crosses ditches 14ft wide.

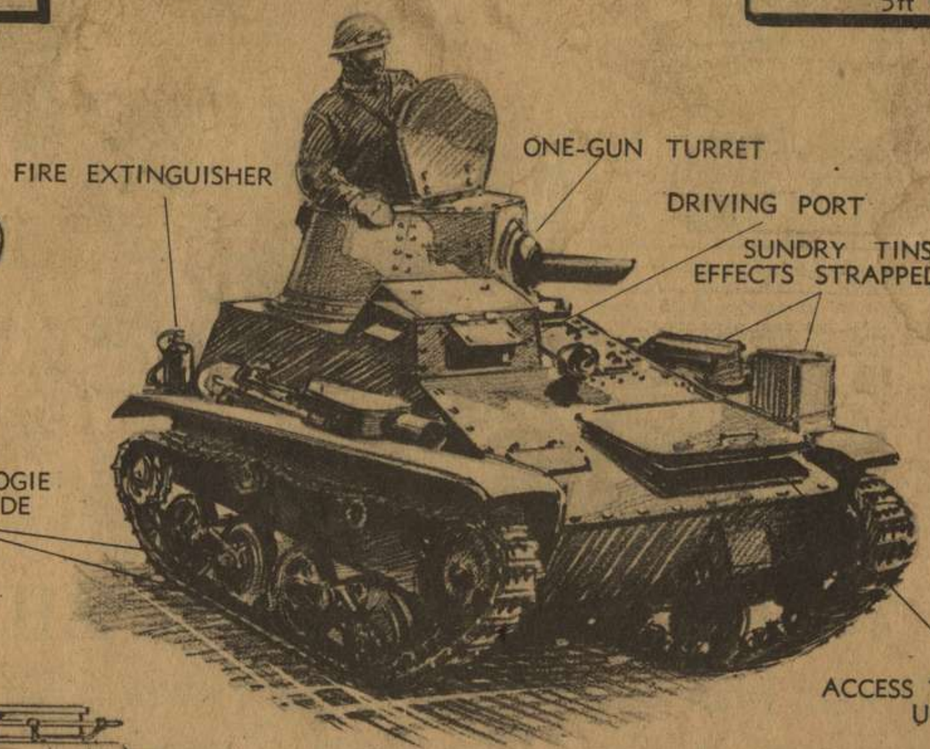
ARMOURED CARS: 3 models, one adaptable to rails. Osaka model M2592: 2 machineguns in rounded, dome-shaped turret; about 6 tons; crew, 4 or 5 men; twin tyres, rear wheel. Another model: Naval 6-wheeled landing party armoured car: 5 machineguns, one of which for anti-aircraft; length, 15ft 9in, maximum speed, 50 mph; armour varies from 8mm to 11mm thick.

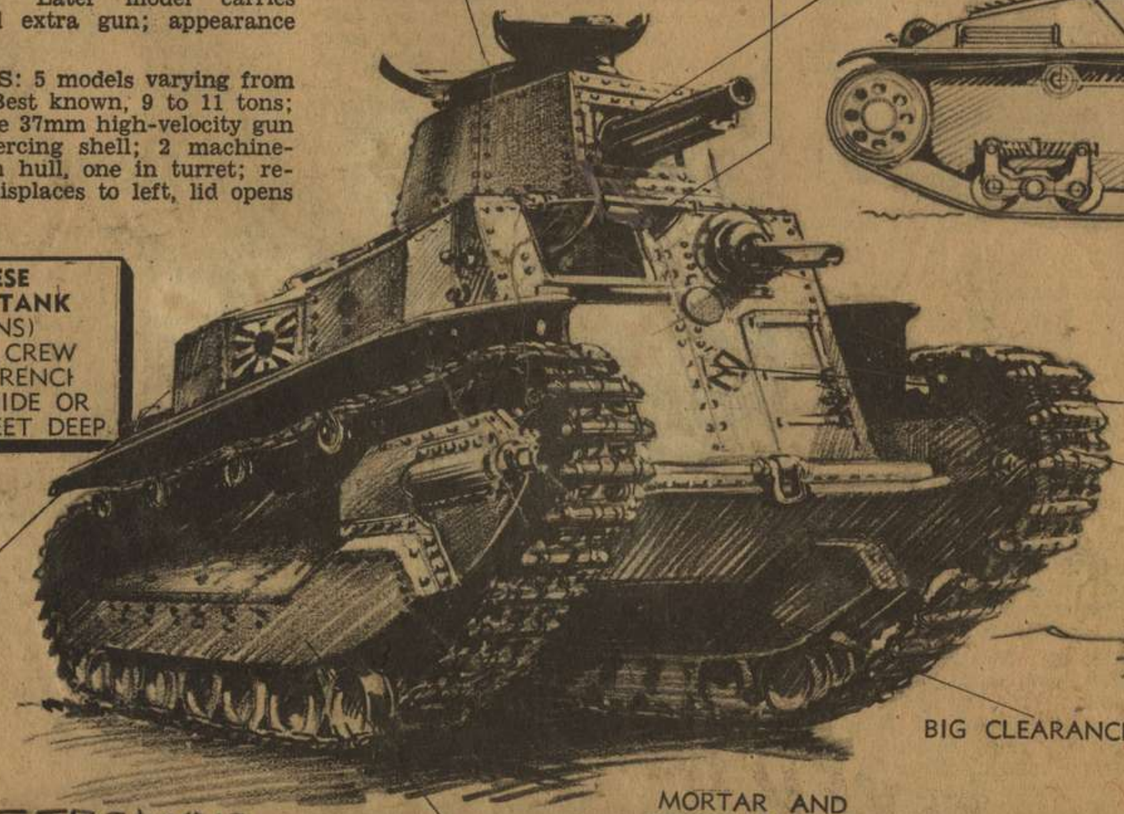
AMPHIBIAN: Tankette, 4 tons; one 37mm gun forward in hull; length, 14ft 10in; maximum land speed, 25 mph; 3 bogies (6 wheels); armour, 15mm to 20mm thick.

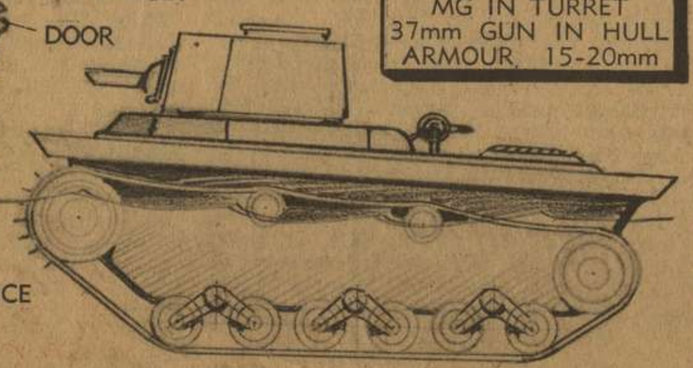












TANKETTE
(3 TONS)
CARRIES 2 MEN
30 mph—10ft 2in LONG
5ft 9in WIDE
5ft 4in HIGH

"ISHI" 108
(38 TONS)
TWO 37mm GUNS IN TURRET
THREE MACHINEGUNS AND FLAMETHROWER

FIRE EXTINGUISHER
ONE-GUN TURRET
DRIVING PORT
SUNDRY TINS AND EFFECTS STRAPPED TO SIDE
TWO SETS OF BOGIE WHEELS EACH SIDE
ACCESS TO POWER UNIT
FRONT
37mm CANNON AND ONE MG IN TURRET. ALSO IN FORWARD PART OF HULL
HATCH OPEN
DRIVER'S PORT

JAPANESE MEDIUM TANK
(14 TONS)
FIVE-MAN CREW
NEGOTIATE TRENCH
10½ FEET WIDE OR
STREAM 3 FEET DEEP

M 104
(29 TONS)
ONE 37mm AND ONE 75mm IN TURRET
ONE 37mm AND ONE MG IN HULL
ARMOUR, 25-30mm

AMPHIBIAN
(4 TONS)
MG IN TURRET
37mm GUN IN HULL
ARMOUR, 15-20mm

BROAD FRONTAL TARGET
DOOR
POWER UNIT IN REAR
BIG CLEARANCE
C.F. BEAUVAIS
ENCLOSED SUSPENSION
MORTAR AND BOMBS CARRIED INSIDE

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

class or country, it is a characteristic. Right from the earliest times man has found delight in conferring upon individuals and public bodies fanciful titles, many of which more aptly describe those rechristened than do their official designations.

Nicknames arise spontaneously, either from some personal peculiarity or from some special action perpetrated by the person or the party concerned; sometimes they are merely obvious adjectival adjuncts, but more often than not they are conferred derisively. If a nickname strike the public fancy it generally sticks to a man or a party for all time.

In early Biblical days nearly all the old prophets had second names tacked on to them, but they were usually of a reverential character. However, as people became more critical and less deferential to their superiors or rulers, they became less decorous in the way in which they spoke of them, and so the cult of nicknames grew apace.

Practically every English king and queen has had an additional title affixed to him or her. From before the time of Edgar the Peaceable, way back in the ninth century, the characteristic of the monarch was part of his title. From Ethelred the Unready we come down to modern times, with Edward the Peacemaker. Some of the titles conferred were concerned more particularly with derisive titles than with the sedate or merely adjectival.

The Iron Duke was responsible for the conferring of the title of "The Who? Who?" Ministry upon Lord Derby's Administration, which consisted mainly of neophytes to office. Wellington was very deaf, and as each name was announced by Lord Derby, he kept on repeating, "Who?" "Who?" The interjection caught on, and so the name of the Government has come down to posterity as the "Who? Who?" Ministry.

THE Victorian Berry Ministry of 1878 was known as "The Monkey Ministry," because of the alleged mischievous qualities of its members. Included in this simian Cabinet were many men who have left their impress on the history of Victoria, such as Peter Lalor John Woods, known as "Tar Brush," Francis Longmore, Professor Pearson, "Jimmy" Munro, the "wild Scot," and Bryan O'Loghlen, the "wilder Irishman." John Woods got his nickname because he was reputed to have sold the Government a lot of pipes and tarred them over to freshen them up.

Going back to the Stuart period we have "The Rump Parliament," and, earlier still, in the reign of Henry III, there was what was known as "The Mad Parliament" of Oxford, under the lead of Simon de Montfort and Richard Earl of Gloucester. The same Henry, in 1251, had an assembly called "The Great Parliament," "but at which nothing was done save the tumultuous accusation of Henry de Bath, the Chief Justice of England."

Edward I, in 1295, called together a Parliament which came to be known as "The Model Parliament," but, later on, in the reign of Richard II, we come across "The Merciless Parliament."

The Victorian Berry Ministry was nicknamed the "Monkey Ministry" because of the alleged mischievous qualities of some of its members. A contemporary cartoon.

It has always been regarded as a remarkable coincidence that the initial letters of the 5 politicians, whose actions in the reign of Charles II were so aptly in accord with all that this sinister word implies, should have formed the word "Cabal." They were Clifford, Ashley, Buckingham, Arlington, and Lauderdale. The Stuart era also had "The Addled Parliament," which was dissolved without having passed a single act. Nearly all the Parliaments about this time got a nickname. There was "The Unlearned Parliament," so called, it has been alleged, because there were no lawyers in it, and, later on, after the Restoration, "The Cavalier Parliament" made its appearance on the political stage.

"The Broad-bottom" Administration was the name satirically given to Henry Pelham's Ministry, which lasted from 1744 to 1754, the year of Pelham's death. It was so called because it admitted every man of Parliamentary talent or influence, irrespective of party.

On account of their support of Fox, no fewer than 160 members lost their seats at the ensuing election, and ever afterwards they were known as "Fox's Martyrs." Every student of English history is conversant with the "Fourth Party," consisting of Lord Randolph Churchill (father of Winston Churchill), Sir H. Wolff, and Mr Gorst, while Mr John Bright called Mr Horsman and Mr Lowe "The Scotch Terrier Party of Two," as they reminded him of a Scotch terrier of a pretty witticism when, in doubting a statement by Lord Salisbury, he said a familiar proverb should henceforth be "Cum grano Salis-BURY."

MEMBERS of Parliament themselves are frequently responsible for the nicknames by which they become known. Some saying or act often results in the acquisition of the nicknames by which they will always be referred to. "Wait and See" Asquith, as we all know, was the name acquired by that statesman for his oft-repeated answer to questions during the Great War of 1914-1918, and every Australian is familiar with "Yes-No" Reid.

Acts of Parliament suffer, too, as, for instance, "The Cat and Mouse" Act, a humorous title given by the populace to the act which made it legal to set free women suffragists who were starving themselves to death in the gaols, and later on, when they became normal from proper feeding, to rearrest them and send them back to prison to serve the balance of their sentences.

Then there was the Defence of the Realm Act, disrespectfully referred to by the public as "Dora," from its initial letters, and now in the present war, if we have not a well-stocked wardrobe, we will eventually be clad in Mr Dedman's "Victory Suits," and will have to satisfy ourselves with Mr Curtin's "Austere Meals."

TWO SHIPS ON AN ICEBERG PROVIDED A SEA MYSTERY

If a Captain Had Not Been Ill in the 'Fifties An Explorer Might Have Been Traced

By a Special Correspondent

BEFORE the adoption of more southerly routes icebergs were a common enough sight in the North Atlantic. Travellers who made the crossing in the late spring or early summer saw the great bergs with mixed feelings. Towering seemingly immobile above the sea, these wave-washed masses of floating ice excited the admiration as well as the apprehension of all who beheld them.

There was, therefore, nothing unusual in the fact that the brig Renovation, 325 tons, found herself surrounded by icebergs when 2 weeks out from Limerick, which port she had left on April 6, 1851. Two days later, however, her people saw a sight which provided one of the sensations of the time, and added another to the unsolved mysteries of the sea.

The Renovation was in ballast, bound for Quebec. She carried one passenger, a former civil servant, by name John Supple Lynch. The only incident during the early part of the voyage was the illness of the master, who had been forced to take to his cabin, leaving the mate, Robert Simpson, in charge of the ship. On the second morning after sighting the bergs the mate had the morning watch.

The brig was running under double-reefed topsails and courses, with the wind on the port quarter. At dawn she was making 6 to 7 knots on a course E by S of St John's, Newfoundland. At 6 am the mate saw a berg of unusual size, and on it two 3-masted ships embedded in the ice. He went below to rouse Lynch, who, in the mate's words, "came up immediately in his shirt and drawers, but afterwards went down and dressed." The blanket of cold air which always surrounds an iceberg will no doubt have accounted for the passenger's dash below for more adequate clothing.

SIMPSON and Lynch carefully examined the strange ships through a telescope. Members of the crew were also invited aft for the same purpose. The ships were on a berg, or fice, estimated to be 5 miles long and 30 to 40 feet high. One vessel was perched high above the other. She was on an even keel, and firmly embedded in the ice. As seen through the glass she appeared to be in good condition. Her lower and topsail yards were across, but there were no topgallants up and no sails bent. Below, and only a few yards from the water's edge, was the second and larger vessel. Unlike her consorts, she was on her beam ends, with her masts almost over the water and her deck towards the brig. Only her lower masts and bowsprit stood, and she had the appearance of being a wreck. No boats were suspended from either vessel, neither was any running rigging to be seen.

Five years previously, in May, 1845, Sir John Franklin's expedition had set out from the Thames in HM ships Erebus and Terror, in an endeavour to discover the North-west Passage. Apart from spearing a whaler during the voyage north, nothing has since been heard of Franklin, of his ships, or of the 129 men who accompanied him. The Admiralty, and, indeed, the whole nation, were seriously concerned as to the fate of the explorers. It was the principal topic of the day, and several ships had already been sent to the frozen wastes in search of the missing expedition. These had either been lost in the ice pack or had returned empty-handed.

It was John Lynch, the brig's passenger who first suggested that the ships on the iceberg might be the missing Erebus and Terror. He begged the mate to bring the Renovation closer into the berg, which was at no time nearer than 5 miles. But there is no doubt that Simpson's mind was obsessed with his new-found responsibilities in acting command of the brig. Perhaps he had never previously navigated through an icefield. There were also signs of approaching fog. In such conditions even the most hardbitten mariner would want to make open water before nightfall.

Twice the mate reported the circumstances to Captain Coward, lying very ill below, but could get no instructions from him. Without them he would not haul the brig off her course. Strangely, none of those on board was aware that the Admiralty had offered a reward of £10,000 to anyone who should bring news of the Franklin expedition.

So the brig sailed on. For three-quarters of an hour the deserted ships were visible on their icy perch. As they disappeared astern a handsome reward of £10,000 slipped all unknowingly through the hands of Robert Simpson, mate of the brig Renovation. There also passed for ever the opportunity of solving one of the most tantalising mysteries of the sea.

Another curious aspect of this affair was the lapse of time before it came to the knowledge of the Admiralty. Simpson duly entered the circumstances in the ship's log, and also reported it to the Customs at Quebec. But such are the inscrutable ways of officialdom that no further notice was taken of the matter. It was John Lynch's letter, written on landing, and published one month later in the Limerick "Chronicle," which eventually came to the notice of Whitehall. Nearly a year after the event an Admiralty commission was sent to Limerick, under Captain Erasmus Ommaney—himself newly returned from an abortive search for Franklin. Robert Simpson was interviewed, and the story as here narrated fully confirmed. It was further discovered that another vessel—the German brig Doctor Kneip—had also sighted the ships on the ice.

WHAT happened to the Erebus and Terror? It was not until 1854 that John Rae reached England, bringing instruments and plate which had belonged to the missing expedition, and which he had purchased from Eskimos near the mouth of the Great Fish River. The indomitable Lady Franklin fitted out the tiny yacht Fox, and this vessel left England on July 1, 1857, on a final search for survivors of the lost expedition. None was found alive. But in a cairn on King William Island was discovered that pathetic piece of paper (now in the National Maritime Museum) which records that Sir John Franklin died in 1847, and that the Erebus and Terror had been deserted in the following year.

The sledge parties from the Fox found no trace of wreckage at the point at which the ships, closely set in the ice, had been abandoned. Did the floe in which they were embedded make the tortuous journey of a thousand miles and more through Lancaster Sound and Davis Strait, and in 3 years reach the open Atlantic? There is little doubt that this is what did happen.

As a parallel we have the recently retold story of HMS Resolute, one of the ships sent by the Admiralty to search for Franklin. This vessel was similarly abandoned, hard-set in the ice. Later she floated free and was found hundreds of miles farther south by an American whaler, the crew of which were amazed to find a warship "taut, staunch, and strong," with ne'er a soul on board her.

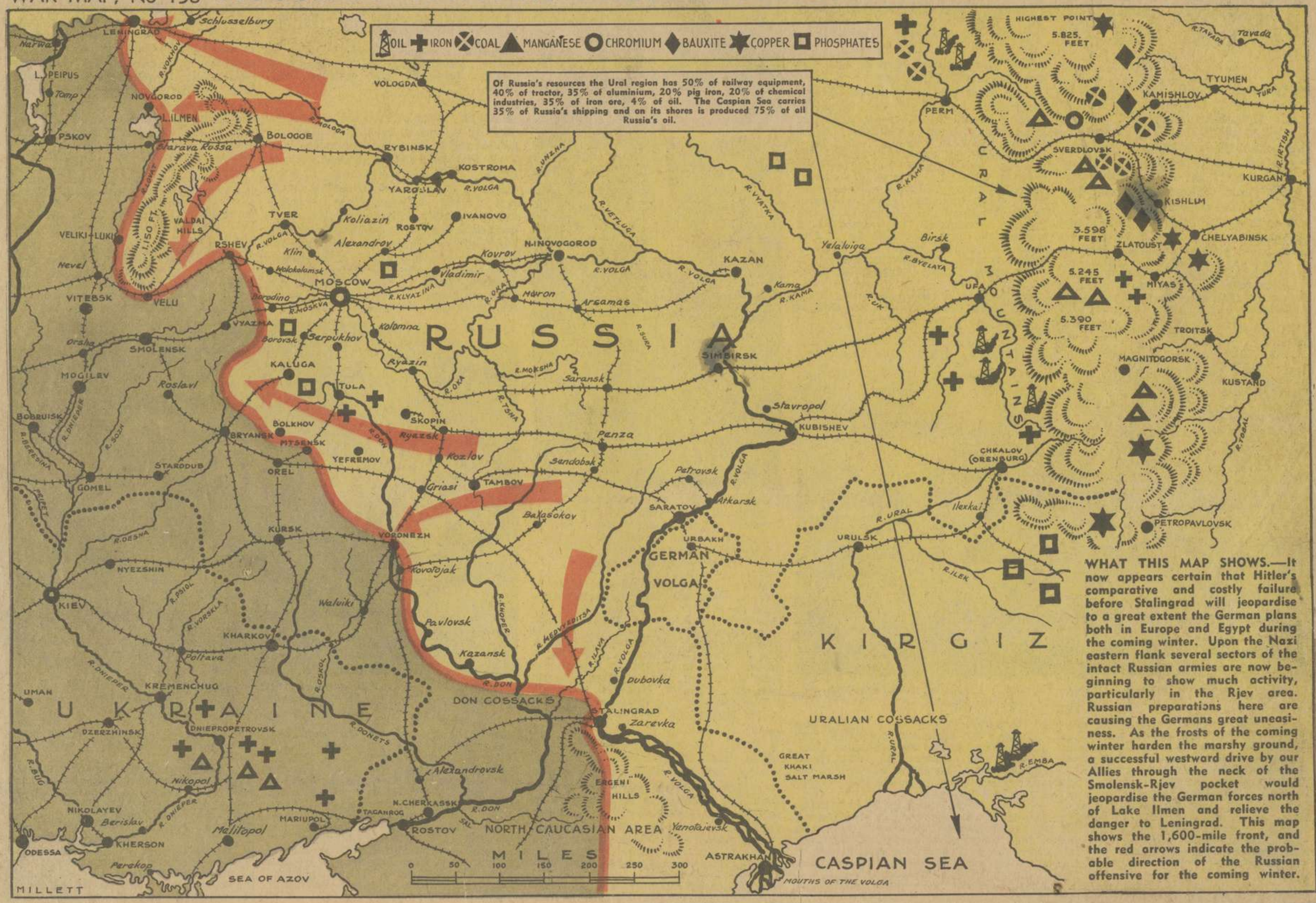
The curious position on the ice of the 2 ships seen by the Renovation can be explained with reasonable certainty. We know that Erebus and Terror had previously been strengthened for Antarctic exploration. For their attempt on the North-west Passage they were further braced to withstand great external pressure. Additional frames were inserted, and the planking doubled. It is said that they were practically solid wood fore and aft. The ice round the upper vessel was undoubtedly "nipped" during the second or third winter, and forced upwards, ship and all. In the case of the lower vessel, we must assume that she, too, was "nipped," but by direct ice pressure, which forced her hull upwards clean out of the ice. She would then tend to fall on her beam ends, as she was seen. In similar circumstances an ordinary ship would have been crushed like an eggshell, and would have sunk.

What was the ultimate fate of the 2 ships? Did either of them float free like Resolute? Or did the great berg turn over in melting, as is known to happen? These are questions which must remain matters of conjecture for all

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

THE ARGUS WAR MAP, No 158

RUSSIAN WINTER PREPARATIONS MAKE NAZIS UNEASY



WHAT THIS MAP SHOWS.—It now appears certain that Hitler's comparative and costly failure before Stalingrad will jeopardise to a great extent the German plans both in Europe and Egypt during the coming winter. Upon the Nazi eastern flank several sectors of the intact Russian armies are now beginning to show much activity, particularly in the Rjev area. Russian preparations here are causing the Germans great uneasiness. As the frosts of the coming winter harden the marshy ground, a successful westward drive by our Allies through the neck of the Smolensk-Rjev pocket would jeopardise the German forces north of Lake Ilmen and relieve the danger to Leningrad. This map shows the 1,600-mile front, and the red arrows indicate the probable direction of the Russian offensive for the coming winter.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

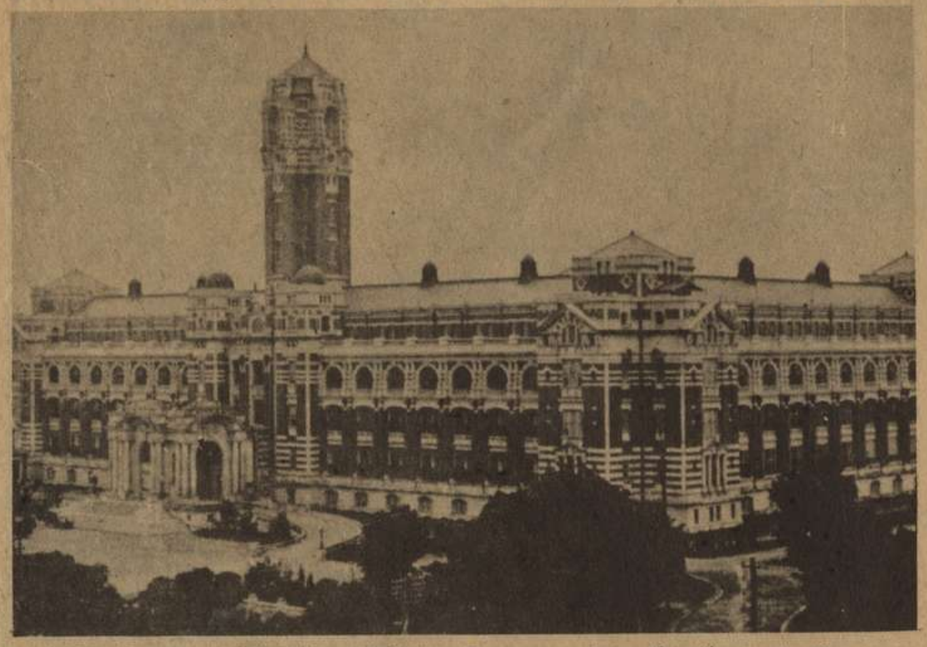
JAPAN'S PICTURESQUE FORMOSA IS VULNERABLE

A Southerly Island, Forming the Springboard For Attacks, May Also Be a Base for Invaders

By J. P. POWELL

THE island of Formosa, situated at a distance of a bare 100 miles from the south-eastern coast of China, was Japan's first colonial acquisition. Forty-seven years ago, at the conclusion of the first Sino-Japanese war, China was obliged to cede the island to the victors.

Since then the Japanese Government has regarded Formosa as a sort of experiment in colonial administration, the first stage in building an overseas empire. Whether they have profited much from the experience is doubtful, but it is certain that Taiwan — the Japanese name for Formosa — has proved extremely useful for the purposes of the Tokio militarists. During the last 5 years Formosa served them as a springboard for the invasion of China, the Philippines, Malaya, and the Dutch East Indies.



The Government Building, Taihoku, Formosa. It typifies the pretentious nature of the Japanese administration.

The Japanese themselves have called Formosa a "stationary aircraft carrier," and admitted that the small island of Mako, situated in the channel between Formosa and China, had been converted into a major naval base. But at the same time it is possible to visualise Taiwan as the most vulnerable spot in the suddenly inflated Japanese Empire. At least a few Japanese must have stopped to ask themselves what would happen [illegible] more outlying conquests if an invading force occupied Formosa and converted it into a raiding base.

There is another point about Formosa which may well cause the conquerors some uneasiness: it is the only part of metropolitan Japan where the sons of Nippon are in a minority. Out of a population of almost 6,000,000, the Japanese number just over 200,000—less than 4%. Formosa, with its pleasant climate, fertile soil, and natural resources, would appear the ideal country for large-scale colonisation to accommodate millions of immigrants, but after half a century the Japanese residents of Formosa still consist mainly of civil servants, traders, and technicians — in other words, mostly "white-collar workers."

The balance of the population, apart from the 150,000 aborigines, are Chinese by descent. Even prior to the "China incident" the Formosan population was secretly hostile to the Japanese conquerors, and, of course, in recent years hostile feeling has increased, so that today there exists a potential fifth column throughout the island.

Formosa is governed in an autocratic fashion by the local authorities, headed by the Governor-General, who is usually a high officer of the army or the navy. His seat is at Taihoku, the largest town of the island, situated in the north and connected with the chief port, Takao, by a railway skirting the western coast. Taihoku, a busy centre of the size of Adelaide, is really not one town but [illegible]

Japan found a new market for her cotton goods by decreeing that Formosan women and children should wear the cotton kimono. Originally they wore little or nothing. These are typical Formosans.

"old town," a residential quarter occupied by Formosan and immigrant Chinese; the modern town, called Jonai, with the Government offices, Japanese banks, and business houses; and the Chinese business quarter, housing the tea market. The Japanese have done a good deal to develop Taihoku, mainly to impress the local population and the outside world with the scale of Japanese enterprise and colonisation; but the result is a half-baked, pretentious metropolis.

TAKAO, the main port of the island, lies in the south, and owes its existence to a good natural harbour which possesses an extremely narrow entrance—probably one of the reasons why its facilities were developed so rapidly by the Japanese. Takao faces Amoy and the China coast, at a distance of only 100 miles toward the west, and Aparri, northernmost tip of the Philippines, is only a little over 200 miles to the south.

In appearance it is very similar to Taihoku, the grey-gabled Japanese houses brick buildings in what the inhabitants proudly call "Western style."

The second port of the island, Keelung, is situated at the opposite end, only a few miles from the capital, but it does not possess such a good natural harbour as Takao. Nevertheless, the Japanese have greatly developed and fortified both ports.

THE aborigines of Formosa are descendants of a race which has probably inhabited the island for at least 2,000 years. Their origin is doubtful, but their Malayan features and a few words in their dialect suggest that they came from the south-east of Asia. However, there are many distinct tribes amongst them, and it is likely that they came to Formosa at different times. Not so very long ago the aborigines were in the fame of being dangerous headhunters, and to this day no Japanese official or trader ventures into the high mountains in the interior, which remain largely unexplored. The more civilised natives live on the plain and have submitted to Japanese rule.

District police chiefs frequently hold meeting of villagers like this, at which they extol the glories of Japan, and endeavour to bring the natives further under their control.

The most interesting industry of Formosa, and the most valuable to Japan's war economy, is the manufacture of camphor. The Formosan laurel, from the chips of which the camphor is obtained, grows in the eastern mountain chain, mostly within the area inhabited by the aborigines, who have always opposed the exploitation of their territory by the intruder. They killed hundreds of workers before the Japanese decided to build fortified camps and to patrol the forest areas.

The chips obtained from the tree while it is still standing or immediately after it had been felled, are placed in stoves, and the camphor vapour given off passes through a cooling box into a condenser, forming small white crystals. It is as simple as that, although the crude camphor has to be refined before it can be used for the manufacture of gunpowder —for that is, of course, the reason why the Japanese have invested so many human lives and such a good deal of money in the camphor industry.

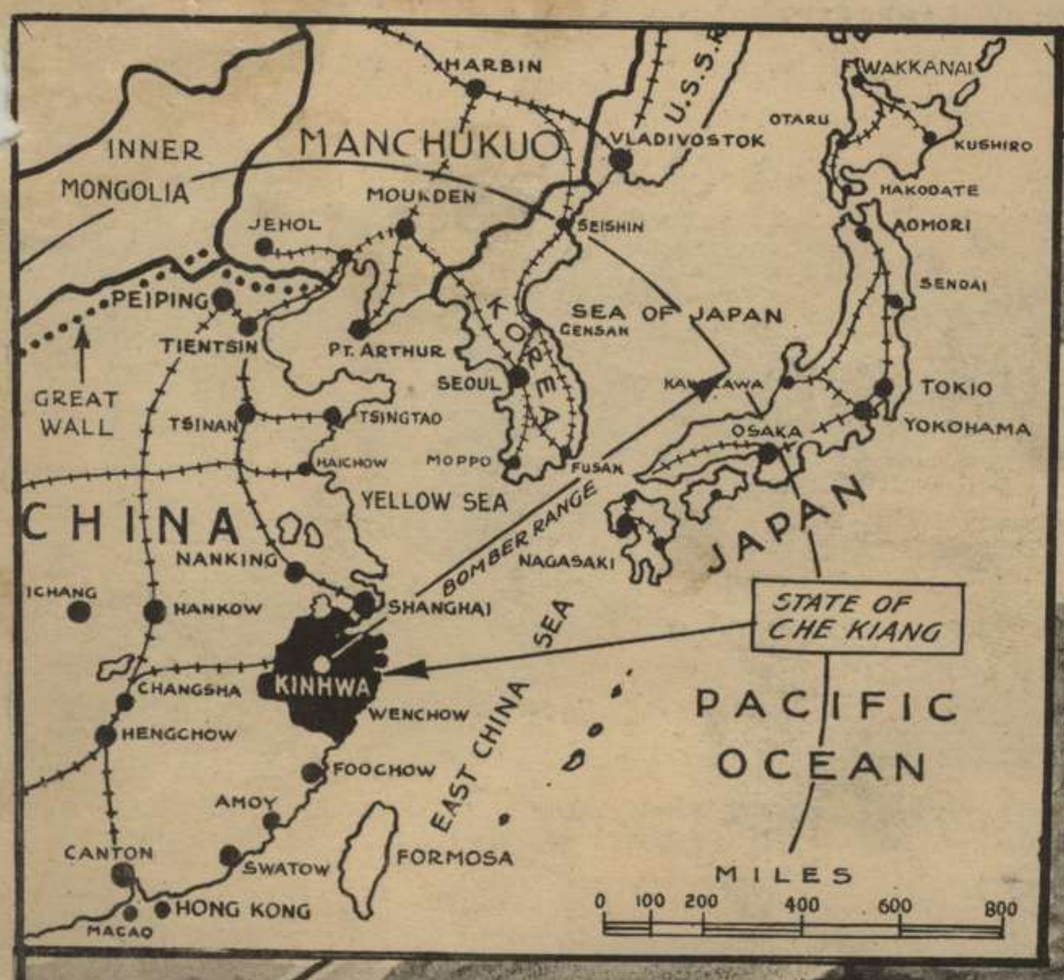
Before the war there was a brisk demand for Formosa camphor from all parts of the world, as this precious substance is also used in pharmaceutical products and in celluloid. The Government monopoly earned more than £1,000,000 a year over the last 2 decades from export alone.

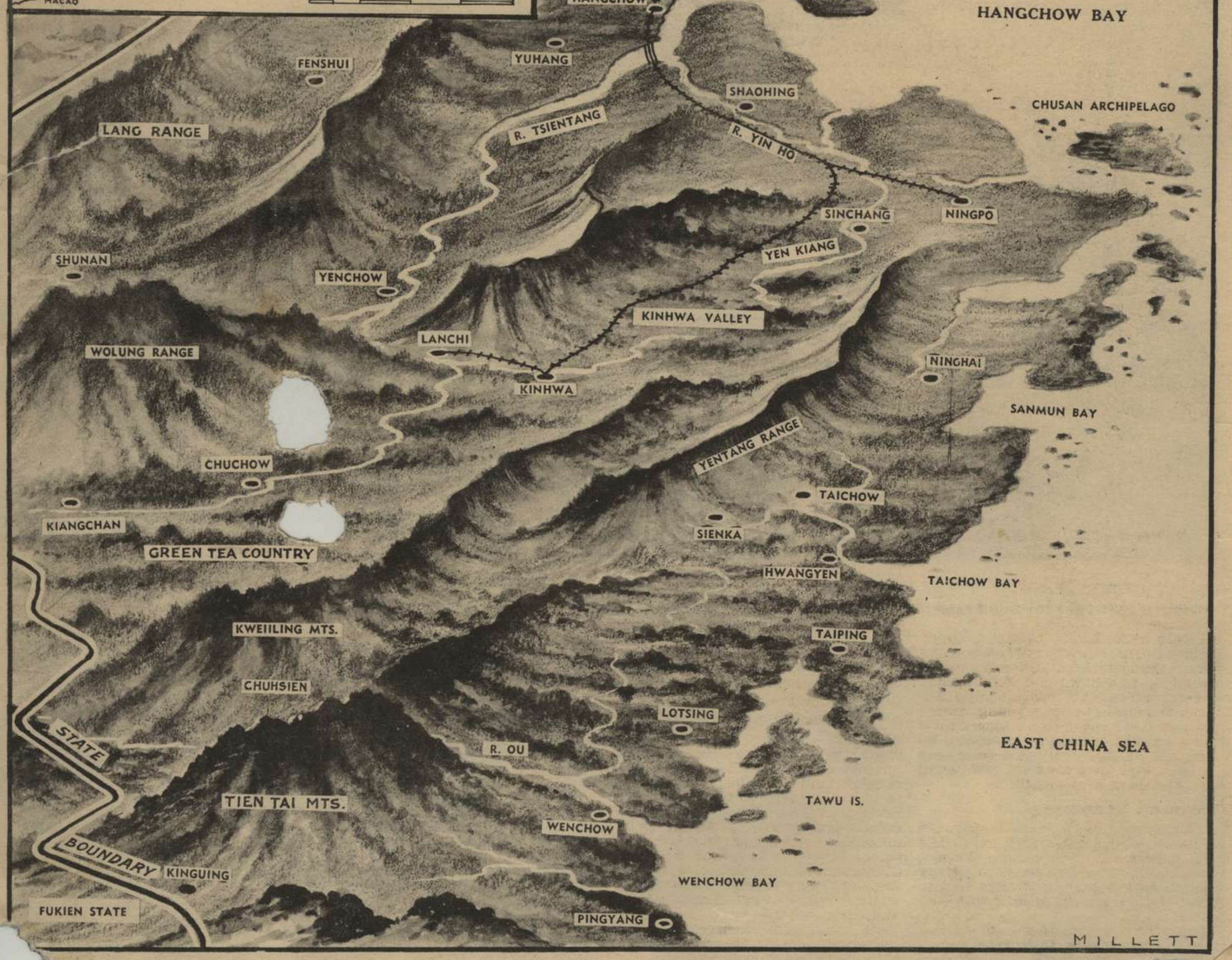
Another important industry from which the Tokio Government derives a substantial income is the production of opium. Although very few Japanese are addicts to the opium habit, there is a large demand in China. The importation of this drug into China is prohibited, but it is an easy matter to smuggle it across the narrow strait.

A third monopoly from which Japan reaps the benefit is teagrowing. The sugar plantations, too, are mostly in the hands of Japanese proprietors, and it is noteworthy that Japan proper relies entirely on Taiwan for her sugar supply. Of the rice crop, more than half goes to Japan to feed the millions of the densely populated industrial areas. For all these reasons, one can well visualise the devastating consequences on Japan of a possible loss of Formosa — truly the Achilles heel of the sons of Nippon.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

WHERE THE CHINESE ARE PUS





OVERSHADOWED by the gigantic struggle for Stalingrad and ...s in the South-West Pacific, a series of significant moves is ...ak... place in th... Chekiang Province of China. For several weeks ...ast Japanese columns have been falling back, "scorching" the earth as they have gone and sacrificing hard-won gains. Immediately after them have come Chinese troops, which have pressed on until they are threatening the capital, Kinhwa. The Japs show ... wanting to cling to Kinhwa, for its airfield is within ... Japan proper, and would constitute a real menace in... United Nations. This map shows the configuration ... which fighting is now taking place, while the inset sho... of Chekiang and its relation to the Japanese arc... ago

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

CC :EN CADETS IN AIR TRAINING CORPS

INSPECTION OF DAYLESFORD FLIGHT by Wing-Cdr C. O. Fairbairn at Ballarat Oval when a ceremonial parade of No 9 Squadron, Air Training Corps, was held recently.

BALLARAT FLIGHT, led by Flt-Lt W. H. G. Segrave, heading the march past of flights from Ararat, Maryborough, and Daylesford.

ARARAT CADETS encourage a team mate in the tunnel-ball competition held during the afternoon.

WING-CDR R. RADFORD, Deputy Director of ATC for Australia, unveiling the squadron's honour roll. This was the first time in Australia that this ATC ceremony had taken place.

SUCCESSFUL CADETS who were presented with proficiency certificates by Wing-Cdr Fairbairn. From left: Cpl A. Wilson, Cadet W. Rowe, and Cadet R. Sellwood.

THE WAAAF AND RAAF showed a keen interest in parade, which was the first to be held by a country ATC unit.

AWAITING INSPECTION: Boys of Ballarat flight, in charge of Flying Officer T. Whiter (left), stand at ease on the parade ground.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

Army Form C.2128
(Pads of 100)
Reprinted October, 1942.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	IN	No. of Groups GR.	OFFICE DATE STAMP
	OUT		

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 10 Sup O Amen O

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
SC	117	30	

MACCOY	⊙	stores	well	be	delivered
to	and	personnel	well	report	to
cant	section	0800	hrs	31	dec
⊙	ack				

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS: (* (EXCEPT)) WIRELESS

SIGNATURE.....

* ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND INSERT "INCLUDING."

THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CYPHER IF LIABLE TO INTERCEPTION OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS.

SIGNATURE [signature]

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN 15 30 4/30

(BELOW THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

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

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440

MESSAGE FORM

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR TIME ENTRIES ONLY)

Originator's Number

Date 25th October

To

Originator

Subject

Cipher

Code

No. of Groups

Precedence

Time Filed

Time Received

FROM

TO

INFO

ORIGINATOR WILL INDICATE BY NUMBER TO BE USED IN REPLY

SECRET

TOP SECRET

CONFIDENTIAL

RESTRICTED

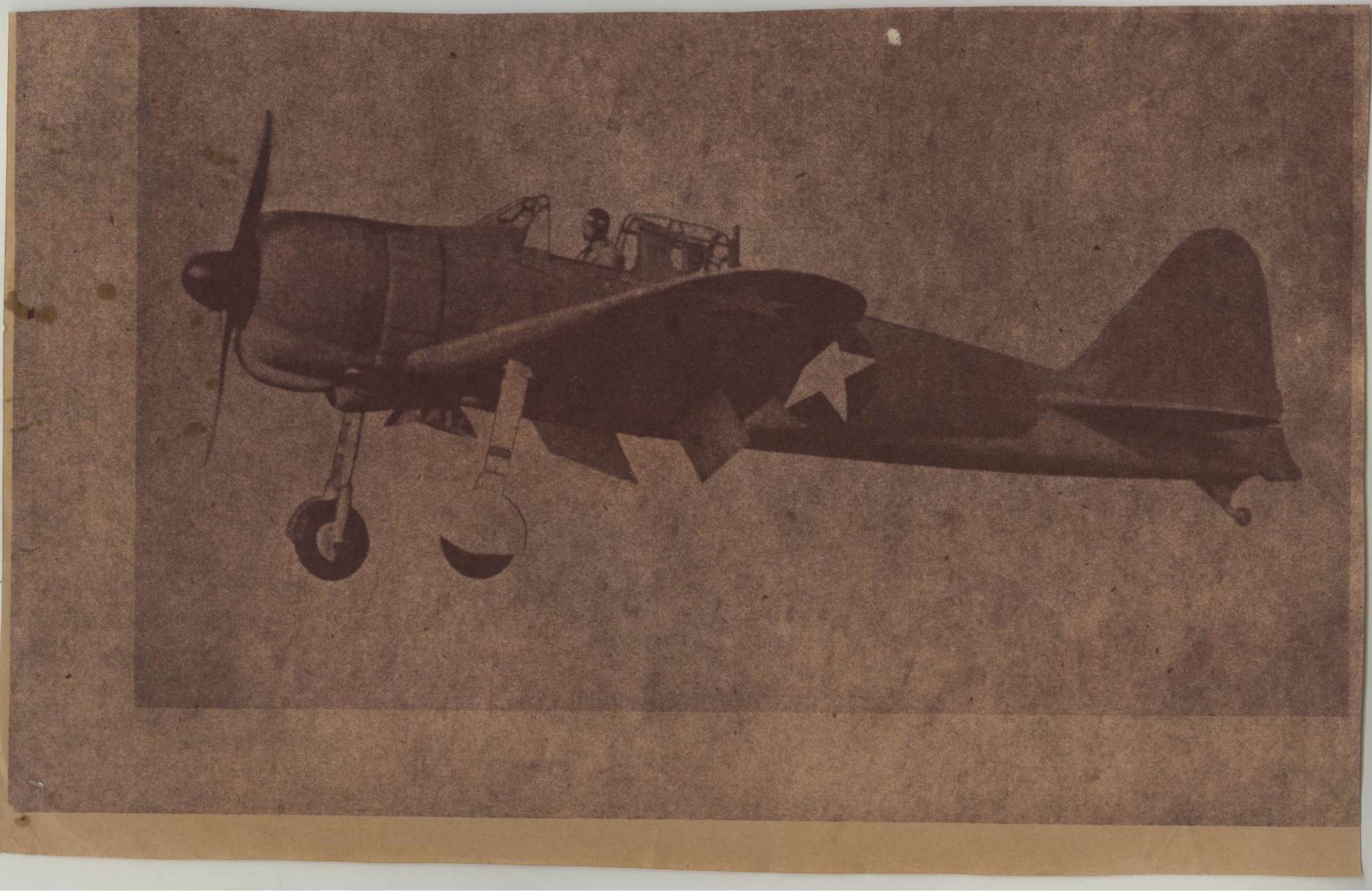
UNCLASSIFIED

PRIORITY

IMMEDIATE

ROUTINE

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1025440