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2/14 Infantry Battalion

September 1942

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ORIGINAL

WAR DIARY

2/14 AUST INF BN

FOR MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 1942

VOL XXIX

H. Deane LT-COL.
COMD 2/14 AUST INF BN.

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WAR DIARY

(S E C R E T)

2/14 AUST INF BNSEPTEMBER 1942

PLACE	DATE	
EOURA CREEK	1	No contact was made early this morning. 2/16 Bn moved into position immediately above the village taking over both ours and the 39 Bn positions. Our unit moved back to a position half way between EOURA CREEK and TEMPLETONS CROSSING, where we remained until approx 1600 hrs, when the Bn less C Coy who remained in their position, moved forward some $\frac{3}{4}$ hr, where they occupied a position around Bde HQ, with D Coy forward by a Kunai patch above 2/16 Bn. A Coy still on patrol. BHQ, B and HQ Coy in rear of Bde HQ. During the day the enemy made contact with the Bde positions. At 1700 hrs Bde Comd issued orders to COs for withdrawal from EOURA CREEK. Recce party under 2 i/c was to leave at 0600 hrs while the unit was to commence their withdrawal at 0830 hrs. At 0630 hrs that morning Lieut McILROY with 20 ORs from C Coy were sent out on patrol forward of KAGI to watch the track which led along the ridge West of EOURA CREEK to KAGI and/or TEMPLETONS CROSSING, with orders to remain there for 3 days or until relieved, whichever was the sooner. If EOURA CREEK had to be evacuated then he was to make his way back to KAGI. That night dreadful conditions were experienced. Very heavy rain continued all that night, and troops spent a cold and miserable night. However as usual the rain could only dampen the troops but not their spirit..
EOURA CREEK - TEMPLETONS - CROSSING.	2	At 0600 hrs, 2 i/c and guides joined Bde recce party under comd B.M. 2/16 Bn were to occupy positions midway between EOURA CREEK and TEMPLETONS CROSSING, while our recce party proceeded to TEMPLETONS CROSSING. By 0700 hrs last elements of 2/16 Bn had passed through our positions. At 0830 hrs Bn's withdrawal commenced, the unit reaching TEMPLETONS CROSSING at approx 1300 hrs where they had for the first time for 7 days, a hot meal. Here Capt C.L.THOMPSON rejoined the unit as Adjutant. Bn less HQ Coy, who had been despatched as a Standing patrol to creek crossing midway between TEMPLETONS CROSSING and MYOLA, were in position around TEMPLETONS CROSSING at 1600 hrs. A quiet night was spent.
TEMPLETONS CROSSING - MYOLA.	3	At 0830 hrs the unit withdrew from TEMPLETONS CROSSING in order B Coy, BHQ, D Coy with C Coy covering. At 0730 hrs a recce party of 2/16 Bn with Major HEARMAN in charge passed through our column. By 1000 hrs the unit was in position at and above creek between TEMPLETONS CROSSING and MYOLA. At 1400 hrs a recce party of 2 i/c and guides moved back from this position to MYOLA. Casualty lists and Parade States were taken back to Bde at MYOLA. CO and main body of 2/16 Bn reached our lines, having followed the higher ridge of main track, at about 1500 hrs. Lieut S.Y.BISSET and RSM TIPTON L. and party of 11 reported back to Bn lines, having come in on the trail of the 2/16 Bn. By 1600 hrs our unit's position was taken over by 2/16 Bn and our unit withdrew for MYOLA, BHQ leaving at 1600 hrs

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PLACE	DATE	
TEMPLETONS CROSSING - MYOLA.	3 (Contd)	arriving at MYOLA 1900 hrs. Here a hot meal was provided, one blanket and ground sheet issued to each man. HQ and A Coys arrived at 2100 hrs, B Coy at 0200 hrs the following morning. C Coy and D Coy bivouaced along the track.
MYOLA	4	By 0700 hrs D and C Coys had arrived at MYOLA and had a hot meal as did the remainder of the unit. A clothing and equipment, where needed, reissue was made to all troops. The camp resembled more a market than anything else, with troops enjoying to the full the advantage of a stream in which they had their first wash since Aug 25th., clean dry clothes, and feet wet and pulpy from constant damp conditions over a period of very many days were treated by the unit chiropodist. CO, Adjt and IO made recce to large dry lake area, and other offrs and NCOs made recce in the immediate vicinity of MYOLA, all with a view to the close defence of MYOLA. Meanwhile the 2/16 Bn had become seriously committed at the track and creek crossing halfway between TEMPLETONS CROSSING and MYOLA, and the CO was summoned to Bde where it was decided that the unit should cover the extrication of the 2/16 Bn. Immediately A Coy supplied local protection to Comd of 2/16 Bn who was returning to his unit. At 1330 hrs B & C Coys were sent to junction of MYOLA - TEMPLETONS CROSSING track and a creek some $\frac{3}{4}$ hr march forward of MYOLA, HQ Coy to junction of KAGI - MYOLA and MYOLA - TEMPLETONS CROSSING tracks, while D Coy gave close support to MYOLA area. Heavy rain made the lot of the unit a difficult one that night, but nevertheless troops retained their cheerfulness and sense of proportion throughout.
MYOLA - EFOGI	5	At 0530 hrs BHQ and D Coy left MYOLA Camp area, as Bde HQ had left some time before, and all stores had been destroyed that could not be moved. D Coy moved to junction of EFOGI - MYOLA and MYOLA - TEMPLETONS CROSSING tracks, while BHQ moved forward of HQ Coy's position along the TEMPLETONS CROSSING track. Meanwhile the CO and Adjt visited B and C Coy comds and tied up the W/D plan which included coys alternatively acting as rear guard by taking up tactical positions along our Bn route. 2/16 Bn had cleared MYOLA area by about 0800 hrs. At 0930 hrs the unit commenced its W/D to EFOGI and the general area. MYOLA had been evacuated by 1030 hrs without contact. On its journey back to EFOGI, heavy rain commenced about 1300 hrs and the last 3 hrs of the journey were covered in remarkably bad conditions, and the troops reached EFOGI at about 1630 hrs, tired and wet, where we bivouaced in the village of EFOGI with the 2/16 Bn, with protective patrols being supplied by this unit.
EFOGI	6	0600 hrs 2/16 Bn withdrew from village to posn on the high feature South West of EFOGI. 2/14 Bn withdrew at 0700 hrs to posn at rear of 2/27 Bn and forward of 2/16 Bn. Several adjustments were made during the day to our positions. At 1200 hrs, our first mail in NEW GUINEA was received and distributed to Coys, while letters were accepted for outward mail. 2/27 Bn patrol encountered enemy forces at MYOLA - KAGI junction and suffered several casualties. Lieut G.E. PEARCE together with Lieut V.G. GARDNER (wounded) had rejoined unit after having been missing in action since Saturday

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PLACE	DATE	
EFOGI	6 (Contd)	29 August; Lieut GARDNER being evacuated with his wounds. No enemy action was encountered by our unit on night of 6/7 Sept.
"	7	The unit reorganised its defensive posn, and liason was made with 2/27 and 2/16 Bns. Our C Coy being right forward Coy, HQ and A Coys on right of track and D Coy on left of track, both forward, and B Coy linking between D, A & HQ Coys. Enemy movement in village during night of 6/7 continued from dusk until 0200 hrs. During the day it was estimated by OP that some 600 enemy tps had entered village. Enemy subjected to heavy raid by air-force bombers throughout the morning. There was intermittent mortar fire and enemy SA fire during the day.
"	8	During the early morning BHQ was altered in position, while the OP at C Coy was continued so as close observation could be kept on enemy movement through the village of EFOGI. It was estimated that during the last 48 hrs 1500 enemy troops had entered the village which was again bombed and strafed during the morning. The enemy was keeping up a continuous pressure on the front of the 2/27 Bn and mortar fire was falling on forward area from which casualties were received. The enemy was adopting his usual tactics, pressure on the front coupled with an outflanking movement which was soon evidenced in the shape of fire from the high ground, directed against enemy infiltration between 2/16 Bn and Bde HQ. Soon the line to Bde was cut leaving us in communication with 2/16 and 2/27 Bns only. However a 108 set was soon put into use and we established communication with Bde HQ and thus this unit became the main sig centre for the Bde. Meanwhile 2 coys of the 2/16 Bn could make no impression against the Jap infiltration which was being steadily reinforced from the Bde's left flank. In the early afternoon the position was becoming critical and Bde ordered us to assist the 2/16 Bn in clearing the track which had been previously reced that morning by L/Cpl WATSON R.R. and Pte RALSTON G. of the "I" Sec. It was fortunate that this had been done as the main track was cut by fire and the start of the MANARI track had been discovered. The IO also went with B Coy to liaise with Comd of 2/16 Bn pending arrival of remainder of unit. However, before more coys could be sent to the aid of the 2/16 Bn, adjustments had to be made with 2/27 Bn and accordingly the CO got into contact with Comd 2/27 Bn informing him of the position, and the position was satisfactorily adjusted by D Coy being immediately sent to 2/16 Bn followed by the balance of the unit, and later, the 2/27 Bn. Two plans offered themselves to 2/16 and 2/14 Bns. One was to create a diversion in the vicinity of the 2/16 Bn while the balance of the forces proceeded to MANARI by the detour route to the East of the main track; or two, to fight the way through to Bde thereby clearing the main track. It was decided to adopt the second plan with B Coy 2/14 Bn right of main track, B Coy 2/16 Bn on the main track, and C Coy 2/16 Bn left of main track. Bde HQ were kept informed of developments until W/T ceased at approx 1530 hrs. D Coy 2/14 Bn took up a flanking position astride the main track, facing EFOGI, while the balance of the Bde were held in reserve. C Coy

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PLACE	DATE	
EFOGI	8 (Contd)	2/16 Bn succeeded but the other coys were pinned down, only 8 of B Coy 2/14 Bn, under WOII NOBLE got through to Bde HQ. Our casualties, including Capt C.C.P. NYE OC B Coy, were heavy because this Coy had the task of attacking the main strength of the enemy in this area. An attempt was made to reinforce the left Coys but without success, and it was then decided that the 2/16, 2/14 and 2/27 Bns, as reorganised, should move up in that order, around the left flank to MANARI; with 2/16 and 2/14 Bns providing stretcher bearers for the wounded. The movement was completed under fire, and contact was eventually broken. The unit was collected at a RV some 1/2 hour away from the main track, and circumstances were explained to Coy Comds. The unit proceeded along its way until nightfall when it was decided that the advance would be continued in the morning at first light
EFOGI - MANARI - NAURO.	9	The column continued to move at first light, portion of 2/16 Bn moved ahead, while remainder plus two Coys of 2/14 Bn under Lieuts GREENWOOD J.R. and McGAVIN A.S.D.J. remained to assist with stretchers. Our unit then pushed on behind forward 2/16 Bn Coys, in the hope of reaching MANARI before the enemy, so that the passage could be kept clear for stretcher and rear parties. Bde were contacted at MANARI at approx 1100 hours, and units moved through (2/16 and 2/14 Bns), receiving an issue of tobacco and chocolate as they did so. A Composite Coy under Capt RUSSELL W.B., held the Japs North of MANARI while the units cleared the village. Capt RHODEN P.E. and IO checked the unit through apart from portions of HQ Coy and C Coy who had lost contact some distance behind; then unit pushed on for NAURO, arriving there by 1800 hours. The unit camped at NAURO all night and appreciated the hot meal and good nights sleep. Trouble was encountered by Capt RUSSELL's Coy, and although portion arrived back at the various units, some were forced to go bush, including Capt RUSSELL W.B. and Lieut RAINEY D.W.
NAURO	10	At 0730 hrs, Major CHALLEN H.B. who was temporarily appointed CO, Capt P.E. RHODEN, IO and party, moved back to top of ridge between NAURO and EURO-BIRA. A recce was made and positions chosen for the small number of our remaining troops who were to hold the enemy while the remainder of troops withdrew. One patrol of 12 ORs under Cpl JEFFREY J.N. set out to make a recce of new track through to ITIKI. 2/14 and 2/16 Bns arrived in position recced by Major H.B. CHALLEN and party at approx 1200 hrs, and there were contacted by Brigs PORTER and POTTS. It was then revealed that Brig PORTER had taken over comd from Brig POTTS of the MAROUBRA Force of which our Bde was part; 2/14 and 2/16 Bns were grouped under once comd with Lt-col CARO as CO and Major CHALLEN as 2 i/c. Dispositions at this stage were as follows - D Coy 2/14 Bn formed FDLs, HQ Coy 2/14 Bn under Lieut L.C.J. SCHWIND (a composite coy), right forward Coy, A Coy 2/16 Bn left forward Coy, C Coy 2/16 Bn in position as a counter offensive force, B and D Coys 2/16 Bn completing the perimeter at the rear, one Coy of 3 Bn AMF guarding the water point. Except for occasional shots from NAURO Village, enemy were not contacted this day. No word still of our C Coy and a portion of HQ Coy who were with 2/27 Bn.

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PLACE	DATE	
NAURO	11	At 0630 hrs, recce party - Capt P.E.RHODEN, IO and representatives of 2/16 Bn, including one 2/16 Bn Coy, set off to make recce of area between river crossing of EURO-BIRA for purpose of taking up defensive position. The one Coy of 2/16 Bn took up a position North of the river as an extricating force. Enemy contacted our forward troops at approx 0800 hrs and caused several casualties including WOII NOBLE W.A..killed, and Lieut G.E.PEARCE and Lieut L.W.HOWARD wounded. Casualties were inflicted on the enemy, but withdrawal commenced at approx 0830 hrs, and Composite unit was finally in new position by 1500 hrs, with A Coy 2/16 Bn forward, followed by D Coy 2/14 Bn, B Coy 2/16 Bn, D Coy 2/16 Bn, HQ Composite Coy 2/14 Bn, BHQ, and C Coy 2/16 Bn stretched up to EURO-BIRA. 3 Bn CMF in position on high ground on right of village. Still no word of C Coy and portion of HQ Coy with 2/27 Bn had been received.
EURO-BIRA	12	Jap patrol ran into ambush and estimate of 30 casualties on enemy was reported. At 0630 hrs information was received that we were to withdraw A Coy of the 2/16 Bn and D Coy of 2/14 Bn to a position along the ridge on the left of EURO-BIRA village. As a result of this Capt P.E.RHODEN, IO and party made a recce of this area and contacted A Coy OC of 3 Bn CMF, whose position we were to take over. By 0800 hrs our Coys were in their new positions and a BHQ had been established just South of the village. Except for a slight interchange of shots, no contact was made with the enemy. The combined "Q" people of 2/14 and 2/16 Bns co-operated in providing tea, water and rations to all troops. IO and patrol from D Coy contacted 6 Indep Coy some 45 yards along the ridge West of EURO-BIRA. Forward B Coy 2/16 Bn erected booby traps astride track leading up from creek, and towards dusk several loud explosions indicated that some of these had been sprung. Enemy was contacted then, and two rifle posts and one LMG post (enemy) were knocked out. Apart from this, a quiet night was spent. Hot meal and tea provided for combined unit.
"	13	Patrol from our forward Coy investigated booby trap area and discovered all except two booby traps had been sprung; large pools of blood showing that the enemy had suffered several casualties. Two patrols, both 3 Bn CMF, set out in morning, one to left and one to right; the left with object of harrassing enemy near creek crossing, the right mainly for recce purposes. Our patrols connecting with 6 Indep Coy on left, continued all day. At 1215 hrs approx, enemy shelled village and beyond with light field piece, inflicting casualties on Bde staff. Word was received that 2/33 and 2/31 Bns were almost up to our position. Appointments were defined in composite 2/14-2/16 Bns unit. It was decided to cut down some of BHQ staffs. Coys remained same as follows - Composite Coy under Lieut L.C.J.SCHWIND (2/14 Bn) and D Coy 2/14 Bn, A,B,C and D Coys of 2/16 Bn; Lt-col CARO as CO, Major HEARMAN as 2 i/c, Capt C.L.THOMPSON as Adjt, Lieut S.Y.BISSET as IO, WOI TIPTON L.E. as RSM. Capts RHODEN, O'NEILL and DUFFY were sent back a short distance for a rest. Still no word of 2/27 Bn and C Coy and portion of HQ Coy 2/14 Bn. A patrol of forward Coy 2/16 Bn encountered 7 Japs at creek crossing; 5 were

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| EURO-BIRA | 13 | killed the others escaping. Patrol then withdrew to forward positions. At 1730 hrs, forward Coy was reinforced by the men from C Coy. 2/33 and 2/31 Bns arrived and were in position some distance behind our position. During the night an interchange of shots and Grenade explosions took place. In the morning it was discovered that the nights disturbance was caused by 2/33 Bn. |
| " | 14 | Information received that 2/33 Bn were pushing forward on the right flank, but by nightfall had progressed only a short distance and halted astride the track forward of PONOON Village. Our Sigs appeared to be the only ones able to maintain RT communication with them, and as a result we were able to keep them in the picture. A patrol from D Coy 2/14 Bn under Cpl MORRIS, on returning from SPOTTERS HUT area, at approx 1100 hrs after having contacted 6 Indep Coy, were fired on by a Jap patrol which had managed to get up on the ridge, seperating our main position and SPOTTERS HUT OP. Our patrol being in small strength made their way round on the right and reported back to Bde about 1½ hrs later. In the meantime 2/31 Bn had pushed through the left flank along the ridge and had gained contact with the Jap forces which had managed to make their way up to the ridge on our left. The 2/31 Bn attempted to push the enemy off the ridge, using as many as 3 Coys in the attack, but up till nightfall had not met with success, and had then disposed their Coys along the ridge on our left for the night. At approx 1100 hrs, accurate fire by enemy mountain field piece killed 2 of our AA Pl and wounded 3 2/16 Bn lads. At 1300 hrs Capt SMITH and one OR of 21 Bde reported in through our lines, after having been missing same time as 2/27 Bn and stretcher parties from 2/14 and 2/16 Bns (Wed 9 Sept). About midday Cpl SMITH and pte ROBERTS, 2 members of a patrol sent out from YEORA CREEK, under Lieut McILROY, on 2 Sept, reported in and gave an account of their experiences during their 13 days in the bush. They gave a verbal report to Brig PORTER and passed on valuable information regarding tracks and Jap activities along the enemy L of C. 2/16 Bn IO was able to keep Bde in the picture in regard to activities, own, 2/31 Bn and 2/33 Bn. During the night enemy activities were confined to a few scattered shots and an attempt to creep up on our FDLs. Grenades accurately thrown by our troops discouraged the enemy and their attack was abandoned. The position of 2/25 Bn at nightfall was 200 yds to our rear. Word was received that Capt RUSSELL, Lieut RAINEY and small party had reported in at a rear camp. |
| " | 15 | The 5th day of occupation of TORIBAIWA Ridge by our unit, began very badly. The enemy appeared to have been very busy increasing his strength and circling around to the flanks. He had brought in MGs and Mortars which in addition to his field piece, he used all day, and our casualties were heavy; 7 killed, 19 wounded, and some 17 evacuated sick. Our HQ was shelled and mortared at times and in the afternoon the enemy managed to work high up on our right flank and opened fire on HQ. Lieut MADIGAN OC B Coy was wounded. A patrol from the 2/25 Bn went down on our left flank to investigate chopping but success of the patrol was hampered by our Mortar fire. Activity continued on our right flank most of the day, where the 2/33, 2/25 and 3 Bns were endeavouring to deal with the Jap. By nightfall our flanks were still insecure but COs of 2/25, 2/31 and 2/33 Bns were confident of clearing up the situation. At 1700 hrs, |

PLACE	DATE	
EURO-BIRA	15 (Contd)	<p>one coy of the 2/25 Bn came under comd. Our composite unit and one pl was used to relieve personnel of our C,D and HQ Coys in the forward positions, relieving all told an offr and 32 ORs. These, together with the other 2 pls provided addition strength in our D and A Coy areas, and immediately above BHQ. Pte RANSOM of D Coy 2/14 Bn reported in to BHQ at 1730 hrs and recounted how, when C Coy 2/14 Bn had been forced to withdraw earlier in the day, he and pte EDWARDS were in a forward position on the right flank, and had not known of the movement. Pte EDWARDS became curious after about half an hour on account of the silence and moved up to a higher position some 10 yds away to investigate, but immediately received an apparently fatal burst. Pte RANSOM remained in his position all day during which time he observed the enemy come forward to within 50 yds of his position and commenced digging in a Mortar and an MG position on either side of the track. He sniped 4 of the enemy during the time and then made his withdrawal to HQ. The information he gained was immediately reported to Capt GOLDSMITH forward who arranged with an offr of the 2/25 Bn pl to take a patrol forward to have a crack at the enemy positions. The patrol proved successful, and both Mortar and MG crews were knocked out without any casualties to our troops. The remainder of the night was quiet except for occasional Grenade and Rifle explosions.</p>
"	16	<p>The strain was beginning to tell on all members of the unit, and some of the lads in forward positions who had stood up to it well and had done a wonderful job right through, began to crack up. Lieut L.F. MASON, CSM BARTLETT J.H.L. and Sjt WARHURST D. were evacuated for a rest. Enemy Mortar, MG and Field Piece continued to do deadly work on our forward positions all morning, and our casualties mounted. These forward Coys were forced to withdraw further. The position on our flanks was still unsatisfactory and 2/31 and 2/33 Bns and 3 Bn CMF were meeting with little success. At 1100 hrs the position became critical, and the relief of our unit by 2/25 Bn commenced. By 1215 hrs the changeover was completed and BHQ handed over to Lt-col DUNBAR and followed out after the rest of the unit. All were urged to push on as quickly as possible with the object of making UBERI by nightfall. The task proved very difficult on account of poor condition of troops and the bad track, and eventually the forward elements struck camp about half an hour off the objective at 1930 hrs. The 2/33 Bn acted as rear guard while 2/31 and 2/25 Bns withdrew also to a position on the ridge between EURO-BIRA and UBERI where 2/1 Pnr Bn had already taken up a position. Capt DUFFY, Capt O'NEILL, Capt RUSSEL and Lieut RAINEY rejoined the unit on their way back, while Capt RHODEN assisted Brig PORTER in the disposition of 2/33 Bn and so did not rejoin unit this day.</p>
UBERI	17	<p>Reveille 0600 hrs, and at 0630 hrs unit pushed on to objective where hot meal and tea were enjoyed by all. The morning was spent in washing and cleaning. Capt RHODEN reported in at 1100 hrs and Major HEARMAN with 4 ORs were evacuated at 1400 hrs. Information received that 2/33 Bn had accounted for 50 Japs without casualties to own troops in the rear guard action; and that other Bns were in position. CO was informed that the Bn would remain in present position for the night 17/18 September</p>

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PLACE DATE

UBERI 17 and ordered that all equipment, weapons, clothes and personnel be checked and returns handed in. In the
 (Contd) afternoon, opportunity was taken to thoroughly clean up and rest. Instns at 1600 hrs, that the following
 day, our unit was to occupy high feature North of UBERI. IO contacted Major MILLER to find out full
 particulars ref facilities for camp and for details ref track, supplies etc. On receipt of this information
 it was decided to commence moving unit following morning at approx 0900 hrs. At 1800 hrs Lieut GREENWOOD
 with 15 ORs reported in to area after having been "bush" since 9 September. They had been portion of the
 stretcher party, but when relieved by the natives, had split up to make their way back. Padre CUNNINGHAM
 joined the unit as our new Padre, and conducted RC Services this day.

" 18 Rations for 2 days plus 2 Emergency Rations per man were issued, and at 0815 hrs IO and Section plus some
 Sigs moved off as advance party and arrived at native hut on top of feature at 1015 hrs. BHQ was sited,
 and recce made of Coy positions. A and B Coys of 2/16 Bn and D Coy 2/14 Bn were placed in position and
 later, after Brig PORTER and CO had moved through to make a recce from an OP $\frac{3}{4}$ hr forward, remaining Coys
 were placed in position. It was decided by CO that picquets only were necessary and that Coys take the
 opportunity to rest up. In the meantime information was received that forward units were adopting an
 extensive patrolling programme, but so far little contact had been made with the enemy. At this stage
 the strength of 2/14 Bn is as follows:-

BHQ - Int Sec - Lieut S.Y.BISSET and 5 ORs.
 Pro " - 3 ORs.
 RAP - Capt D.G.DUFFY and 6 ORs.
 Sigs - 11 ORs.
 HQ Gp - Capt P.E.RHODEN, Capt C.L.THOMPSON, Capt W.B.RUSSELL, Chap C.W.CUNNINGHAM -
 and 4 ORs.

TOTAL:- 6 Offrs 29 ORs

A Coy		8
B "		3
C "		2
D "	Capt R.W.C.CAMERON,	17
	Lieut J.G.THURGOOD	
HQ "	Lieut L.C.J.SCHWIND	18
	Lieut D.W.RAINEY	

10 Offrs 77 ORs

PLACE	DATE	
UBERI	18 (Contd)	Comment could also be made at this stage on the excellent work done by our "Q" people, chiefly CQMS LANE, pte ROSS, GRAHAM and McCORMACK. Lt-col CARO slept the night at UBERI.
"	19	Reveille 0600 hrs, breakfast 0730 hrs. A picnic atmosphere pervaded the camp where the sunny weather and proximity of excellent water supply afforded the chance for bathing and resting. A ring from Lt-col CARO advised Bn to send out 2 patrols to check up on the topography of the feature on which we were stationed. Both patrols carried out thorough reces of the feature; one moving in S.W. direction, the other more to N.W. No.1 patrol reported in at 1200 hrs, No.2 patrol at 1400 hrs. Both reports were sent on to Bde IO. A ring from Lt-col CARO who was in touch with Brig PORTER advised us that the following day our unit would once more be split into the two identities and move down to respective positions; 2/14 Bn Southwest of UBERI and 2/16 Bn Northeast of the village, leaving on the feature one Pl of the 2/16 Bn as a standing patrol. A conference of Coy OCs was called by Capt RHODEN and all the comds informed of the programme for the following morning. Except for one small patrol engagement with enemy in which there were a few casualties on both sides, no contact was made at the front with the enemy. Mail was received.
"	20	At 0715 hrs Capt RHODEN, IO and Section moved off and contacted Bde some 100 yds forward of UBERI. Lieut CAIRNS then guided party to new area, some 300 yds Southwest of the village, balance of unit arrived during next hour and were placed in position. Lieut EVANS and Lieut CRAMERI and some 38 ORs sent forward from our rear Echelon, had arrived previous day, also reported new area. IO and portion of Section made recce of area and of tracks. At 1200 hrs, patrol was ordered to go out for two days, at 1400 hrs, however it was held pending the result of a conference at Bde. Capt RHODEN reported to Bde at 1700 hrs, and received the information that our Bde was to be relieved by the 14 Bde (3, 36, 55 Bns), at the same time it was pointed out that the relief would not take place for a few days until the 35 and 55 Bns were in the area and had been given the benefit of our knowledge of Jap and country. Bde were to move back at 0800 hrs the next day. Brig PORTER spoke very highly of our unit and asked Capt RHODEN to pass on to the ofrs and NCOs his congratulations and commendation of effort throughout the campaign.
"	21	0630 hrs reveille. Patrol consisting of Lieut EVANS and 13 ORs including pte WILD of the Int Sec left at 0815 hrs to patrol track Northwest of UBERI. At 1230 hrs the Bn received a hot midday meal. An issue of comforts by Adjut MOORE of the Salvation Army was welcomed. The issue included socks, tobacco, cigarettes and chewing gum. During the afternoon our artillery was heard for the first time during the campaign, carrying out a registration shoot. Sjt IRWIN reported in to UBERI with nine members of D Coy and three A Coy, whom he had led from ISURAVA, they had been in the bush 21 days, together with seven members of C Coy from Lieut McILROY's party who were picked up West of EURO-BIRA. All members of the party were in poor physical condition owing to the trying conditions experienced. Unit spent most of the day preparing defensive positions in the area.

PLACE TIME

- UBERI 22 The weather was particularly good this day, assisting in keeping up the spirits of the men. News summaries giving world news were received by wireless and promulgated to all ranks. At 1000 hrs a patrol of 1 NCO and 7 ORs from HQ Coy moved along the West track following the GOLDIE River, on a five hour patrol. Lt-col CARO later visited our HQ and passed on information regarding the front and that Lt-col COOPER and 160 ORs of the 2/27 Bn had been located. Brig SMITH accompanied by Comd 55 Bn visited Lt-col CARO's quarters but did not give any information as to when his Bde would be relieving us. Capt RHODEN and Lieut BISSET then made a recce of the river and track crossing area South of UBERI, with a view to the unit having to occupy an extricating position in that area, to enable the 2/16 Bn and other forces to withdraw. At 1600 hrs, HQ Coy patrol returned with nothing to report. At 1630 hrs, a distribution of canteen supplies was made. The cost of these was defrayed by the Ladies Welfare Fund. The comforts were appreciated by all ranks.
- " 23 Lieut RAINEY and 17 ORs took over from the 2/16 Bn Standing Patrol who were on the high feature Northwest of UBERI. Capt RHODEN, Capt THOMPSON and Lieut BISSET contacted Lt-col CARO in UBERI at 0930 hrs and received SITREPS and other information including news of the arrival of a further 119 of the 2/27 Bn at ITIKI. The party was then joined by Lt-col ISAACHSEN former 2/27 Bn 2 i/c, now Comd 36 Bn CMF, who informed Lt-col CARO that he was to relieve 2/14 and 2/16 Bns within the next few days. Most of the rough shelters that had been built proved unsatisfactory after a heavy shower of rain during the afternoon. At 1000 hrs, a patrol composed of 12 ORs and Lieut CRAMERI in Comd, started out on the same route as Lieut EVANS' patrol had taken contacting him at approx 1500 hrs. A surprise visit to the Bn was paid by Adjut MOORE of the Salvation Army. The scones he brought were thoroughly enjoyed by all. Active patrolling was still being carried out but little or no contact made. Our artillery continued to shell EURO-BIRA, while air-craft resumed strafing and bombing of track.
- " 24 It was rather damp during the night, and quiet except for a bombing raid on PORT MORESBY Area, and some shelling by our artillery. 0715 hrs, news received that Lieut M.A. TREACY had reported in to our B Echelon, also that news had been received of Capt BUCKLER and party. Capt RHODEN, Capt THOMPSON and Lieut BISSET contacted Lt-col CARO in UBERI and received information ref the relief of our unit. Later Brig POTTS accompanied by Capt MURDOCH arrived, informing Capt RHODEN that Lieuts MCGAVIN and CLEMENTS had both reported in safely, and that the last news received of Capt BUCKLER indicated that he was making for the East coast. The 36 Bn Comd detailed to take over from us was later shown over area by Lieut THURGOOD. Advice was then received that the relief would be completed by the 26 September. News received from the front line, that a slight push forward by the 2/25 Bn had resulted in a short clash with the enemy, while our artillery continued to harass enemy positions.

WAR DIARY - 2/14 AUST INF BN - SEPTEMBER 1942 (Contd)

PLACE DATE

- UBERI 25 During the morning a recce was made for an area suitable for a bivouac for the relieving Coy of the 36 Bn, guides were provided and Coy arrived at 1200 hrs. The Pls of the relieving Coy were addressed by Capt RHODEN, Capt THOMPSON and Lieut BISSET, regarding Jap tactics. At 1550 hrs Lieut EVANS set out on patrol with 12 ORs to OMARITANA. Lieut CRAMERI's patrol reported in at 1630 hrs after having been out for two days.
- UBERI - 26 At 0700 hrs a pl of D Coy 36 Bn left to contact Lieut EVANS' patrol. On contact they were to instruct him to report to NEWTONS DUMP where he would contact the remainder of the Bn later in the day. At 1000 hrs KOITAKI Lieut RAINEY's standing patrol on feature North of UBERI was relieved by a Pl of D Coy 36 Bn. 1210 hrs, unit moved out in the following order BHQ, D, HQ Coys to NEWTONS DUMP whence they were transported to MANURINUMU, then by unit transport to KOITAKI where rear details were established, arriving at 1630 hrs. A hot meal was provided. A beer issue, unit canteen and pictures were available to troops during the evening. The offr's mess was opened for the evening meal.
- KOITAKI 27 Weather fine and warm. Major H.B. CHALLEN, BM 21 Aust Inf Bde, Admin Comd from today. Church Parades were held in the morning, RC at 0700 hrs, C of E at 1030 hrs in YMCA Hut near unit area. All shortages of clothing were made up, and green clothing washed and returned. The opportunity to clean up and rest was appreciated by all members of the unit who had so well deserved the relief.
- " 28 The Sjt's mess was opened for breakfast. At 0830 hrs Lieut MCGAVIN with 6 ORs left for the 126 US Inf Regt, and at 0900 hrs Lieut BISSET and Lieut THURGOOD with 4 NCOs were detached to the 2/2 Bn, another 2 NCOs were also detached to the 2/1 Bn; all these groups were to instruct on lessons learnt during the campaign against the Japanese. Duration of detachment was to be for 3 to 4 days. Lieut CAIRNS Seconded 21 Bde, was appointed as Adjutant, and began his duties this day. At 1200 hrs the 2/14, 2/16, 2/27 Bn Carrier Pls came under comd of 16 Bde; and at 1300 hrs a Cadre was commenced for all new reinforcements.
- " 29 Weather fine. A Bde order had been received that all troops were to do 10 minutes loosening up exercise before breakfast; this was introduced. Coy route marches were organised according to Syllabus. At 1600 hrs personnel attached to 2/1 Bn for instructional purposes returned, the 2/1 Bn having to move forward. Light rain continued during the afternoon. 1400 hrs a report was received from Bde that Capt BUCKLER had reached DOROBASOLO, plus 37 ORs, and that he had to leave 8 ORs with rations and medical supplies at SENGI No.2. Capt BUCKLER's party included 3 wounded; supplies were being dropped by plane.
- " 30 Weather cloudy and overcast. During the morning, Coys were engaged in route marching as per Syllabus. At 1500 hrs personnel detached to 2/2 Bn returned to unit. Afternoon training was spoilt by a heavy downpour of rain.

Report of VX 3972, Lieut R. M. Wesley
on movements of patrol sent out from
EOKA CK. 1 Sep 42.

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1. Sep 42.

Acting on instructions

received at EOKA CK. a patrol of 20
men from C Coy was taken out by
me at 0530 hrs to a position on
a track leading to SERAGINA. ~~the~~
The position was ~~approx~~ reached by
following the main track forward for
approx $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour & thence 3 hrs
west up a ridge.

3 days rations were carried.

We were led to our position
by a native guide, who on arrival
there told us that the track
continued back approx. 2 miles at
which point it forked; the left
fork leading into TEMPLETON'S CROSSING
& the right to a point on the MYOLA-
TEMPLETON'S CROSSING track.

On this information I decided
to send the C.H.D. runner back to
TEMPLETON'S CROSSING to report there
from there to C.H.D. by 'phone, as
the track to EOKA CK from the our
position was very obscure.

The native guide had received
instructions to proceed quietly to
TEMPLETON'S CROSSING & for this reason
would not take the runner with
him, however he promised to mark
the track for.

The runner was sent off
at approx. 1230 hrs & reported back

to us that the TEMPLETON'S CROSSING track as marked by the natives faded out about 50 yds beyond the fork.

He was then sent to EURA CK.

At approx 1400 hrs the main enemy attack developed on EURA CK.

After a recess. Towards EURA CK. the patrol was withdrawn at 1630 hrs along the track towards TEMPLETONS CROSSING.

Approx. 1/2 an hour later the runner, caught up with the patrol, having been cut off by the enemy's advance.

Investigation of the track to TEMP. CROSSING confirmed the runner's report & I decided to follow the right fork onto the MYOLA - TEMP. CROSSING track.

Just before dark a fast flowing creek was crossed & we slept on the opposite bank, ~~on the slopes of a~~

2nd Sept. We gradually worked up the ridge all day, no sign of any tracks, the ground rising steeply & very difficult with thick undergrowth & rocks.

Just before nightfall we climbed a rock face approx. 30 feet high expecting to reach the top of the ridge however the slope continued upwards so we were forced to sleep on what ledges we could find.

3rd Sept. Continued our climb up the slope & during the morning crossed the ridge & started on

the way down a reentrant on the other side. It later proved that this ridge was the top of the main range.

After following the general direction of this reentrant all day we slept along side the creek which had started flowing in it.

4 Sep. During the day it became impossible to travel along the creek as it had developed into a series of small waterfalls; We therefore cut our way up onto the ridges alongside & followed the general fall of the country.

5 Sep. Late in the afternoon we came out of the heavy growth onto a spur covered with kunai grass. Across the part of the spur the mist had just fallen in a large reentrant. ~~Another large ridge could be seen above the mist extending right across our path.~~

6 Sep. Breakfast finished our rations. As soon as the mist rose a small native village could be seen on the far side of the reentrant. ~~Therefore~~ ~~left the~~ Taking 2 men with me I ~~left~~ leaving the main body of the patrol to dry out their clothes & blankets which had been wet since the first night out. I proceeded across to the village with 2 men.

We contacted one old native at this village who undertook to guide us to KAGK. Unfortunately he gave up the idea & left us on the way back to pick up the

4.
main body.

In the meantime the patrol had discovered a track leading generally in the general direction we required & we followed that all day arriving at a native garden as the afternoon rain started, took some yams from this & moved on to a partly cleared patch.

About this time my heard rifle fire to our left, but I was unable to get observation from a nearby ridge.

During the evening meal we were joined by two men from 2/27 BN who had been cut off from a patrol that day between KAGE + EFOGI.

They had some tobacco with them & were very popular as our supplies had cut out the previous night.

7 Sep. With 2/27 chaps as guides headed for EFOGI. but the track we followed along a ridge took us too far to the west.

8 Sep. When the mist rose we got a view of a native village (HAILO) on the other side of a deep gully & practically due south of us. At the same time some of ^{our} transport planes were seen dropping supplies beyond and on a bearing 170°. I therefore decided that as the planes were probably dropping at MENARI, we would head for

the village & then to MENARI.

The day was spent trying to get across to the village

9 Sep. During the morning came on a native store hut & obtained sufficient yams & sweet potatoes from it for a meal, while we were cooking these some natives arrived & ~~showed~~ were very upset to find their store hut open & it turned out that we had been eating their seed yams. We therefore returned what we hadn't eaten & the natives became very friendly & led us to their village about (HAKO) about $\frac{1}{2}$ an hr. away.

For the rest of the day they kept us feeding continuously on yams, taro, bananas, paw paw & sugar cane & finally gave us a hut to sleep in.

10 Sep. With 2 guides from the village we set off early for MENARI. However after about 3 hours the guides refused to continue & we went on without them.

With the assistance of another native whom we met shortly after we reached a deserted mission village where we had lunch.

6
After lunch he took us along
a well defined track towards
MENARI.

At approx 1400 hrs we halted
for 10 mins. permission was given
to 4 men who at this stage had
neither blankets or ground sheets,
to go on ahead so that they
would have a chance of reaching
MENARI before the afternoon rain.

When the patrol moved on
the native guide disappeared &
about $\frac{1}{2}$ an hr. later we passed
through an unoccupied Jap. bivouac
area.

At this stage I took a section
forward of the patrol & shortly
afterwards reached the main
EFOGI - MENARI track & was greeted
by several rifle shots from the
opposite side of the track, followed
by movement down the hill in the
scrub ~~on the opposite side of the~~
towards MENARI.

I then moved the advance
section down the main track
to investigate, leaving the main
body on the side track, a few
minutes later was fired on again
this time with LMGs & rifles
one of my men being wounded.

I then decided to return
withdraw to the mission village
to patch up the wounded man.

7

On the way back it was discovered that the main body had disappeared.

11-12 Sep. The party now consisting of 7 men & myself remained in the mission village.

13 Sep As the wounded man had now recovered sufficiently to walk we started off again paralleling the main track. After $\frac{1}{2}$ a day we reached a small garden & as the wounded man was not fit to travel further halted there for the night.

In the evening one of the men injured his knee & became a lying case.

14-16 Sep On 16 Sep. as the injured man's knee had not responded to treatment I decided that one man & myself would remain with the 2 unfit men & the other 4 men went on with the compass to try & get through to our lines if possible sending bearers back.

At this stage due to the weakening effect of the native food & the rough nature of the country the party was not strong enough to carry a stretcher.

16-22 Sep During this period I made contact with 2 natives from the mission village, who although

unable to obtain bearers were prepared to wait until the injured man's leg recovered.

Also some other natives came into the garden & on 22 Sep. they carried the injured man for $\frac{1}{2}$ a day to another garden (ESADLO) & then stated that they would have to get additional bearers & would pick us up again in two days time, however they didn't appear again.

23-30 Sep Remained in the garden, the two mission natives assisting us to dig yams & taro & drawing water each day.

On 25 Sep. 2 men from A Coy. who had been lost since ISORAVA joined us.

During this period the wounded man had improved considerably, but unfortunately the injured man got wetter & on 30 Sep. he died.

With the assistance of the mission natives a proper burial was carried out & the remainder of the party guided by the natives moved on later in the afternoon.

1-2 Oct. During this period we moved with all the people from the mission who had been waiting for us ~~from~~ since 17 Sep.

The mission party consisted of 1 old man, 1 young man, 3

small boys (one of whom spoke English & acted as interpreter throughout)
7 women & 5 small girls.

3 Oct The whole party rested for the Sabbath (the natives being 7th day Adventists)

They decided that to facilitate movement the old man & 3 young lads would take us on next day.

As the name of were sure of the exact location of the Jap force they decided to lead us to SAIL GARDENS (near LAHOKI) & because of the youngsters would keep away from gun tracks, in case of clashes with the enemy.

4 Oct Moved off leaving remainder of the mission natives & striking across towards Brown River.

5 Oct Spent the day following a creek bed, rations this day consisting of 1 taro between 5 of us, one small fish (about 4" long) each & some boiled fern leaves (Papuan cabbage)

6 Oct. Continued following the creek bed for an hour then struck across country reaching the BROWN RIVER approx 1000 hrs, & after following the river down for about 2 hrs came across an old garden.

We were picking some green paw paw to cook for lunch when a patrol from an independent Coy

10

Came up the track, they guided us back to their camp area where we severely treated their supplies of tobacco & cigarettes - also ate far more than was good for us.

That night we were taken on to 14 Id Amb.

Note 2 of the 4 men that went ahead on 10 Sep have arrived in but they have no knowledge of the other two.

Of the main body (separated 10 Sep) several have arrived back but others have not yet been traced.

Of the 4 men who went on ahead (16 Sep) 2 got through on 3 Oct. & as far as can be ascertained the other 2 were killed by hostile natives.

Fortunately I was able upon my return to make satisfactory repayment to the mission natives for their assistance.

P. W. Sherry

2/14 BN. A.I.F.

5/178/42
30 Sep 42

2/14 Bn. A.I.F.
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War Diary

SECRET

Rear HQ
B Echelon
2/14 Aust Inf Bn
21 Sep 42

ADMIN ORDER

INTENTION

To establish a DEFENSIVE POSN in conjunction with other units of Bde and form a further REAR AREA at KOITAKI for Admin and Com purposes.

SEC

Secs for patrolling purposes and Pls for DEFENSIVE POSN purposes will be organised.

Lieut McGLINCHEY will move to REAR AREA as 2 i/c (Capt BEST, 2/27 Bn. OC) and will take with him the following 2/14 Bn personnel:-

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Pte MORNE H R | Pte HYDE E J (C Coy Store) |
| Cpl BURNES D J (Armourer) | Pte SWARBRICK F |
| L/Cpl CHAMBERS R (Hygiene) | Sgt JOHNSON E A (OR Sgt) |
| Cpl WAILISS H G (Tpt) | Pte MILLS J |
| Pte LUND F S (Bootmaker) | Pte BUTCHER J M (Ration Store) |
| Pte DEEA CHIN E E (Cook) | Pte WOLFE C W |
| Pte DODD S C (BHQ Store) | Cpl KLINE A |
| S/Bat STEWART J (HQ Store & Cloth Stman) | Pte MURRAY W |
| S/Bat BOOTH C E A (A Coy Store) | Cpl COULDERY E R (Postal) |
| L/Cpl GA MPBELL P (B Coy Store) | Pte BENNETT T K |

All Stores and Packs NOT required in DEFENSIVE POSN will be moved back at a time and under tpt arrangements to be notified by Bde.

All stores to go back to REAR AREA will be ready for movement by 0800 hrs, 12 Sep 42. Working party to assist in preparation of stores and unloading at REAR AREA will be supplied by No 6 Bde and will return to this area IMMEDIATELY on completion of tasks.

All tents containing stores on the FLAT will be left standing until times have been notified by Bde. Any empty tents on FLAT will be struck and stacked ready for movement to REAR AREA by 0800 hrs, 12 Sep 42.

Cooks and kitchens will move up to DEFENSIVE POSN to a site pointed out on the morning of 12 Sep 42. Cold midday meal will be provided on that day. Cooking gear to be ready for movement by 0930 hrs that day.

Following Pl and Sec organisation will operate as from 0800 hrs today 11 Sep 42:-

- No 1 Pl
 HQ - Lieut LEVETT
 Sgt YOUNG N M
 Pte HILL H V

- No 1 Sec
 Sgt DOGARIS A C G
 Pte LINGH J A
 Pte LOGAN W C
 Pte ANDERSON S P
 Pte PATERSON A W
 Pte WILSON B G
 Pte BARNES A E
 Pte CUMMINGS F
 Pte IRVINE J E
 Pte IRMAN L W

- No 2 Sec
 Sgt PARR R E
 Pte WPPDS R L
 Pte FOLEY C W B
 Pte CURTAIN W M
 Pte HANDCOCK M C
 Pte HAY J J
 Pte NODRUM G
 Pte BURFURF L H
 Pte TAYLOR J J
 Pte TENNANT H

- No 3 Sec
 Cpl BLAIR W
 L/Cpl STRINGER N L
 Pte COOK K G
 Pte NAYLOR J M
 Pte WATKINS D M
 Pte THOMPSON E A
 Pte TURNOR K J
 Pte WOODING N
 Pte WATSON K G
 Pte HARDS W H

Lieut M. G. Buckley

No 2 Pl

Pl. HQ - Lieut CRAMERI J C
Sgt DYE S M
Pte SPENCER A W

No 4 Sec

Sgt TA YLOR F C
L/Cpl BINGHAM E J
Pte RITCHIE R O
Pte RA FFERTY J
Pte HENRY L M
Pte SCHNELLE K F
Pte JA CKSON N
Pte VALLI M
Pte BROWN J W
Pte COLLIS E W

No 5 Sec

L/Sgt WOODLEY G N
Cpl MARTIN K P
Pte DICKENSON G W
Pte SMYTH J A
Pte MORTON D M
Pte McKENNA G A
Pte THOMPSON
Pte MA HER
Pte PRITCHARD H R
Pte GARTH V F

No 6 Sec

Sgt LACEY W H
Pte ANDERSON J T
Pte DENT S
Pte BROWN F W A
Pte QUINLAN
Pte ROSE C R
Pte PARKINSON W
Pte STEPHENS R E
Pte COOPER-WALDIE J
Pte GREEN C S

9. Secs will be tented together as far as possible and pls will be q uarted in s epa rate pl areas.

10. FLAT AREA is out of bounds to all ranks a part from Patrol, stores personnel detailed for REAR AREA and working pa rties detailed to assis t them, between the hrs of 1900 and 0600 hrs daily.

K. Keenan

Lieut
OCT 2/14 Bn Rear Element.

COY HQ

Lieut K A EVANS K A
WO11 WHITBOURNE (RQMS)
S/Sgt NORRIS R S (CSM)
Pte SPOKES D Mca
Pte MORSE R E W
Pte KHUCKEY J
Pte PA TTON C C
Pte SELLWOOD F
Pte STEVENS G A
Pte FERREST E

M G SEC

WO11 TAAPE E J M
Pte EDWARDS A A
Pte COLLINS F S
Pte COLLINS R D
Pte VINES R
Pte SMITH C G P
Pte McELHINNEY R R
Pte ANDERSON W A
Pte DYER G
L/Sgt BYRNES W C

By OSMAR WHITE

Only two courses were open to the defenders of the island - to abandon all pretence of controlling the hinterland of Australian New Guinea and literally make Moresby a "Tobruk of the Pacific", or to accept the Jap challenge and fight in the most difficult country for campaigning in the world.

They chose the second course.

I closed and pinned the pages of a diary I had kept wanking from post to post, trying to report the leisurely stalking war in the hills behind Lae and Salamoa, and began a new, blue-backed pad, marked: KOKODA NOTEBOOK.

Here are some of its entries from the morning I saw a transport bring in fresh Australian troops, to the night our men withdrew from the first series of foothill positions overlooking the Kokoda rubber plantations and that strip of shorn grass they call the aerodrome.

Went down to Ela to have a look at the ----- coming in. South-east trade was blowing strongly for so early in the day, I'll bet they're glad to make the shelter of the reef.

The disembarkation was good. Men ran down the gangways like melted butter, but I'd have liked to see them cleared from the wharf quicker, knowing Moresby.

Same old chestnut from rail to wharf and back:-

Q. "How's the Moresby beer, Dig?"

A. "What's beer, Dig?"

Went up to talk it over with ----- In principle it is approved I go over, but not yet. Not while troops are moving in.

Nice little touch of austerity about that man.

He was eager for every odd detail about that Salamoa trip, critical but less reserved than I expected.

He said, when I asked him: "I don't think I have ever given troops a tougher job than this."

Thank God, that is at least realised.

To roadhead to watch the ---th get away. It's a familiar trip now, but I never fail to get a kick out of it.

The savannah behind Moresby, the great gorge of the river cut through black agglomerate, misty, blue-brown folds, hollows, and hillocks, with ragged crests.

A white river and its drab swirling pools. Blood-red clay cuttings. Trucks crawling like beetles up the coils of the road....

There are a few encouraging stories about, orale.

Suggestions were invited from one unit about how to lighten the pack, Rations and a certain amount of ammunition have to be carried.

One corporal pleaded for two more Mills grenades and one tin less bully beef. "All the chaps feel the way I do sir," he said earnestly.

But the pack still weighs 60 lbs all in. The old-timers kept telling me before that Salamoa trip: A white man cannot carry weights in this country. He can't travel fast.

Three of us have permission to go in - Wilmot (ABC) Parer (movie man for Department of Information), and myself.

Last minute scramble to cut down rations and equipment to under 40 lbs.

We will have to travel faster than the troops, but at least have shelter at night....Got off at dawn.

Fast the rubber the slopes were gentle and the Forrest sparse. Track broad, dry and plentifully stepped. It was so like a bush track at an Australian mountain resort, both in scenery and difficulty, that I think we all had some sense of anti-climax.

A comparison intelligible to thousands of holiday walkers back home may be that the day's journey was like walking twice round the Federal Pass at Katoomba, with a 40 lb pack.

But at the end of the day, New Guinea again. A grass thatched village in typical, low-level rain forest. Banana trees, fireflies, soft mutter of native voices, flicker of cooking fires. All the now familiar trimmings, even to a bed on palm-wood slats.

Warned tomorrow is tough stage.

ORDEAL AN INFANTRYMAN'S CALVARY

Ridges began to tilt sharply, and the forest to close in and become more and more dense.

Where hundreds of steps have been leading to the crest of a ridge, there are now thousands. With a pack, one travels perpetually drenched in sweat. Leg muscles burn with climbing.

This afternoon the first mountain rain-storm swept down, drenching what dry patches of clothing the sweat had not already found. Rain was so torrential it soaked even through heavy army pack canvas.

Tonight's camp is a Koiari village, set high up on a great spur. The Koiaris were once a powerful tribe of hunters and warriors, greatly feared by the coastal natives.

Their women are placidly plaiting bamboo leaves for thatches of shelters. They take war very calmly.

There have been wars since the beginning of time....the white man is fighting the yellow man in the country of the Gorkaiwas? Well, what of it? A woman still has betel nut, a baby to feed, nimble fingers for plaiting....Food comes easy, these days....

From here the track gradually got worse. Now it is no more than a root and mud filled gutter. The flanks are tree-entangled precipices.

Every man who has marched this will remember it is an ordeal which strained his heart, muscles, and lungs to the last fibre - as an ordeal which increased steadily in intensity even after it seemed that the limit had been reached; as an infantryman's Calvary, where the pain of effort, the biting sweat, the hunger, the cheerless, shivering nights, were made dim by exhaustion's merciful drug.

I shall never forget the last stage - endless, endless ridges split by the fine scar of the trail; peaks, tawny villages, bald hill-sides, gardens, clouds, valleys; lines of panting carriers. All half-perceived through a mist of breathlessness.

And as night drew on, it was just a blind plugging through mist, rain-squall, darkening moss-choked trees.

An hour after sunset we came to the first outposts of the camp - a leaky mia-mia, in which four soldiers crouched over a little fire that washed the deep-lined faces with thin, metallic bronze.

This for the day was to be the journey's end. A plaster of bully beef stew in a muddy dixie, a bed on a pile of sodden leaves. Luxury.

This is written at a secret base of the force, just before moving up to the front line. It is a hidden, swampy valley, encircled by hills clothed in dense rain forest which is everlastingly wet and carpeted in deep, stinking leaf-mould.

The men live, work, rest, sleep in a place where the chill dampness seems to soak in to the very marrow.

Yet this is a rest camp! It was the goal to which hundreds of laden men clambered, struggled gasped, slid over trails which had been declared impassable for any but small parties of seasoned bushmen.

Now that the time had come to meet the enemy, hardly a man among them does not welcome with savage satisfaction a chance to get at him and exact payment in blood for the heartbreaking miles behind him.

"I've walked over---but, by God, I won't walk back." one said.

Tomorrow the front. Track worse. I didn't believe it possible, but it is - a sludgy mudfall into a giddy valley. Six hours clawing and scrambling.

Distant mortar bombs burst. One or two walking wounded. They're resolute, cheerful, almost vain of their hardihood.

End is just another kurukuru camp.

On to go forward this morning. Away early. Still no troops in sight.

Just after eight o'clock there was a sudden chatter of machine-gun fire that echoed from rolling miles of tree-tops. Boom of mortars again. Four bombs.

Down there behind the white cloud bank is Kokoda. One can see the blue smear of the coastal plain.

More walking wounded. Then the remnants of a post cleaned out by a heavy Jap attack - faces pallid under a four days' stubble, grinning tightly.

Half of them admit they haven't even seen a Jap - just copped it out of the green.

Man with a bullet through his neck says to be careful at the creek crossing. The Japs have a gun on the other side and are doing it up every now and then.

If I dared, I'd go off the track and slip through the bush. But a man couldn't not with the wounded coming up the track so slowly and calmly.

I was first grateful for the blanket of the dark. Walking wounded. Wounded walking. There's a difference.

A line of men, whole and wounded, form up behind me. Snails pace. Pale faces stare up from beds in the brush.

"Going to-----?"

"Yes"

"Tell them to send a lantern down and a blanket, will you?"

Never call for a stretcher. Never. Not once.

I am ashamed of my aching legs, the weakness in my stomach, because the wounded are walking - more bravely by far, more cheerfully than I.

Surely no war was ever fought under worse conditions than these. Surely no war has ever demanded more of a man in fortitude. Even Gallipoli, or Crete, or the desert.

There can be no more fortitude than I saw on that track.

Fortitude is not a thing to pity or be sad for. I wish, by some magic words, I could make all the mothers, the sweethearts, the wives - even the shirkers and place seekers and cowards at home - feel what I feel so passionately now.

That what men suffer in their minds and bodies for a good cause is not suffering to be pitied or wept for. It is suffering for which to be grateful and proud, with a calm heart.



2/14-2/16 Comp Force.
17 Sep 1942.

HQ 21 Aust Inf Bde.

1. With respect the following points are submitted for your consideration in relation to the fitness both physical and mental of the troops under my Comd for active ops. In submitting this case it is realised that tactical considerations are largely paramount but yet it is respectfully submitted that the points listed hereunder may outweigh the tactical considerations involved.
2. The 2/14 and 2/16 Bns having been actively engaged against the enemy since 27 Aug to 16 Sep have been whittled down until the combined strength amounts to 272 all ranks.
3. This prolonged period of action has also greatly dissipated the general health of the remaining men, and has deprived most of them of that very necessary reserve of nervous energy.
4. Any reinfts received have been men who were evacuated early in the campaign and owing to a long and difficult L of C have had little or no rest and have returned to their Units in an unfit condition to fight. In this regard it is anticipated that should this Force be committed in the near future many NCOs and men will be left out. Also many of these reinfts are men who have been missing in the bush for a period of days and of a consequence are of little operational use.
5. On the 11 Sep 2/14 and 2/16 Bns were combined to form a Composite Force under my Comd. The combined strength was 307 all ranks. Although it is understood this is purely a temporary arrangement due to the exigencies of the Service yet it is feared that if our losses from battle, sickness and allied causes continue at the same rate (8 Evac this day) not only may this temporary arrangement cease but our entire identity may be swamped by other existing Units.
6. In conclusion the combined effect of all these causes makes it my plain duty to the troops under my Comd to submit for your consideration a plea for the early relief of the Combined Unit from active ops to an area where the separate Units may recuperate, refit and reorganise.
7. In support of this appn is the report submitted to me by the RMOs of the 2/14 and 2/16 Bns.

Signed Albert CARO Lt-col
OC, 2/14-2/16 Comp Force

REPORT FROM RMOs 2/14-2/16 Bns

17 Sep 1942.

CO 2/14-2/16 Aust Inf Bns.

In our opinion the mental and physical condition of the a/n Bns is such that at present they are unfit for active operations. This is occasioned by the fact that for the past three weeks there has been a constant mental strain associated with the most severe conditions of exposure and appalling living conditions which have considerably undermined the health of the remaining tps. We consider that they are in urgent need of rest and relief from active field ops.

Signed H D Stewart
Signed D G Duffy

Capt 2/16 Bn (RMO)
Capt 2/14 Bn (RMO)

2/14 Bn. A.I.F.
WAR DIARY

Vol. XX/X Appx. #5

2/14-2/16 Comp Force
19 Sep 1942.

GENERAL HEALTH

Fitness of the troops at the outset of this campaign was at a higher standard than at any time during the preceding two and a half years. It is considered that this factor enabled them to withstand the privations, fatigue and constant wetness in the manner in which they did.

Following weeks of contact with the enemy during a rather nerve-racking withdrawal the effects of fatigue and strain became noticeable in the remaining members of the Unit but even then it was noticeable that mental rest was even more important than actual physical rest.

The worst cases of exhaustion and general debility occurred amongst the troops who had been cut off and been "Bush" for some days. These men had been travelling constantly without food through most difficult country and were covered in sores and cuts from jungle vines. No cases of skin infection in any way compared with those encountered in the ME were noted at any time. It is considered that the washing and bathing facilities of which the troops availed themselves was responsible for the almost complete absence of this scourge.

WOUNDS

Points of note concerning wounds received in action are as follows : -

They can be classified into two classes, ^{according to} causal missile.

1. Gunshot wounds due to .25 bullets.
2. Mortar bomb wounds.

Of these, the latter, as usual, were by far the more severe and extensive.

Of the former, a notably large number were confined to the arms and shoulders and in general, wounds of the limbs predominated. There was some initial shock associated with wounds but despite this, wounded men walked back unless they were absolutely incapable of walking. This was necessary in view of the almost impossible conditions of stretcher-bearing over precipitous mountain tracks which were only surmounted by the amazing ability of Native porters to whom the stretcher cases entirely owe their continued existence. The fact that most cases, even severely wounded ones did walk back, also reflects credit on the stamina and courage of the wounded men themselves.

EVACUATIONS DUE TO SICKNESS

In the main, personnel evac sick suffered from Diarrhoea which, in a large number of cases, amounted to an actual Dysentery. This disease was the main cause of personnel being evac sick during the campaign. It is considered that the source of infection was contained in the soil which, throughout the whole length of the track, was heavily contaminated by the excreta by both troops and Native porters.

Some cases of fever were encountered, but these were mainly due to the upper respiratory infections. In this respect it is noteworthy that there was a remarkably low incidence of upper respiratory infections in view of the fatigue, exposure, sudden changes in altitude and temperature to which the men were exposed for weeks at a time.

M Os RPT ON PAPUAN CAMPAIGN (Cont)

EVACS DUE TO SICKNESS (Cont)

No definite primary malarial infections were encountered. The fact that this disease had no influence on the evacuation rate was due to the Unit's swift passage through the Coastal region and the lack of time for the infection of personnel to take place. Suppressive Quinine therapy was discontinued on arrival at ISURAVA and was not recommenced.

JAPANESE TACTICS

COMPILED FROM REPORTS RECEIVED FROM BN NCOs

2/14 Bn. A.I.F.
WAR DIARY

Vol. XXIX Appx. 66

HQ 2/14 Aust Inf Bn.
19 Sep 1942.

TACTICS

(1) Sjt KOLB

Did not attempt to mop up. Encirclement. Noise to disturb morale of troops. Use of small patrols to locate our fwd posns. Very silent in defense and reluctant to show himself. Mtrs and MGs placed in posn under cover of darkness. Jap attack usually preceded by accurate mtr and sometimes mountain gun fire.

(2) L/Sjt CIEMENS

Alternate frontal and flanking attacks.

(3) "A" Coy

Enemy will use large amount of ammn to locate our posns. Make noise on opposite flank from which they intend to attack.

(5) Sjt THORNE

Using our eqpt and clothing.

(7) Capt CAMERON

Uses his support weapons boldly clearing cover from in front of our posns. Uses LMG extensively - often only to make noise to give impression of large number of tps.

(11) Cpl JOHNSON

Tps who yell and make noise are not the fwd tps. Their role appears to be to give impression of large numbers and to draw attention to cover their tps who are advancing fwd of them. Use of explosive bullets to give impression that he is firing close.

(13) L/Cpl WATSON

Efficient Int Service.

CAMOUFLAGE

1. Use of green clothes, leaves and shrub in eqpt. Dress not uniform. Corduroy trousers and shirt, puttees and sand shoes used by some of their tps. Khaki overall also used.

CHARACTERISTICS

1. Very cocksure, determined and courageous soldier. Pays little attention to security especially in his staging camps behind the lines.

WEAPONS

1. Rifle approx .25 calibre, longer than our rifle, powerful charge similar to ITALIAN round. Bayonet approx 12" long, sharpened both sides, hook handle design to foul opponent's bayonet. Grenade. Loud explosion apparently not as effective as ours. LMG. Very similar to Bren approx .25 calibre cooling fins. HMG. Approx .5 calibre, tripod possibly fires explosive bullet from this weapon. SMG. Not as loud as TSMG but higher rate of fire. Mountain Gun. Shell about 7lbs approx 3" calibre 12" long, accurate, good fragmentation, loud detonation. Mortar. Approx 2" and 4", outranged our mtrs, accurate, loud detonation.

EQUIPMENT

Haversack slightly larger than our own worn on back. Contained approx 7 to 10 lb of rice in canvas bag. Small piece of smoked fish - probably emergency ration. Several small tins and bottles of ointment, pills etc. Some sweet smelling pills.

JAPANESE TACTICS (Cont)

EQUIPMENT Cont

Small white blanket half size of ours and much lighter. Spare socks white similar to tennis socks. In bottom of haversack two Japanese flags with Japanese characters inscribed in ink on white part of flag. On top of haversack is carried small entrenching tool, handle about 18" long encased in canvas cover and pickaxe about 12" long in another canvas cover. On one side of ~~haversack~~ haversack is carried a one man tent and on the other side a lengthy coat or cape.

21 AUST INF BDE ADM ORDER No. 1

HQ 21 Aust Inf Bde
21 Sep 42

2/14 Bn. A.I.F.
WAR DIARY

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ACCOMMODATION

1. 21 Aust Inf Bde, less tpt, will occupy old Con Depot site - Ref MORESBY Sheet 4-in to 1 mile (Q) H 2443, on 21 Sep 42. Units will be responsible for own adm.
2. Transport will be brigaded under Bde TO and will remain in its present area.
3. Immediate attention will be paid to camouflage of tents.
4. Slit trenches will be dug.

MEDICAL

5. An RAP will be established near entrance to camp and will function until such time as the return of unit RMOs - Units to arrange direct with Camp MO the time of sick parade. (Please arrange)
6. Attention is drawn to lack of anti malarial precautions at present prevailing. All units will ensure that previous instns regarding trousers, KD, long sleeves and taking of quinine tablets, are carried out.
7. All water drawn direct from streams will be chlorinated before use. Rubbish and waste will be burned then buried.

ORDNANCE

8. Unit A/G eqpt will be returned to ADOS Dump. Personal eqpt will be retained.
9. All indents for stores will be passed to CQMS HQ 21 Bde who will act temporarily as BOWO.
10. Census of Warlike Stores will be carried out as soon as main parties arrive. Special care will be taken in the compilation, as the speed of the re-equipping of the Bde depends largely upon this return.

SALVAGE

11. All old clothing and surplus eqpt will be returned to dump.

AMENITIES

12. Hut in centre of area will be Bde Recreational Hut. Reading matter and games, writing material etc will be made available.

WEAPONS

13. Special attention will be given to the examination and care of arms.

GENERAL

14. The Bde Comd has intimated that in his absence he desires the cooperation of all ranks to bring the units to fighting efficiency as speedily as possible.

*owing to shortage of tentage tops must combine g street office
All bathing must be done below foot of hill*

Leave - 25% per Coy

J. J. M. [Signature]
Capt
SC 21 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION:- G.R.O.-

2/14 Aust Inf Bn	1	Comd	6
2/16 Aust Inf Bn	2	BM	7
2/27 Aust Inf Bn	3	SC	8
"K" Sec 7 Div Sigs	4	TO	9
9 Pl Aust HQ Gd Bn	5	War Diary	10 - 11
		File	12
		Spare	13 - 14

SICK - 0800
Route
0630
0730
1215
1700
2215

back in area
Con Runners - 0800

Pan
Mcquet
from 1800 hrs
1-12
from Mcquet
(4 post) 12 men

2/14 Bn. A.I.F.
WAR DIARY
Vol XXIX Appx 8

PATROL REPORT TRACK UBERI-OMARARA

IMPORTANT—Any reference to shipping or troop movements will result in the delay or mutilation of your

REPORT ON TRACK RECCE. PATROL
27-28 SEP 42
UBERI - OMARAMARA - NEWTON'S DUMP AREA

Stages	COURSE	Time	Remarks
1	Camp south of UBERI to GOLDIE R ford	110'	5' to river flat - track follows downstream, within 50" river. ☉ At 30' rises to 200 ft above stream follows line of ridges Fords river NATIVE GARDEN Area - ford 2 ft deep, 80 ft wide. Direction of stage North to N.W.
2.	RIVER FORD to OMARITANA VILLAGE	75'	West. direction, climbs up turn of high feature on S.W. side of stream Track Turnoff at 45' from ford - south direction. Track joins at bamboo patch 65' from ford - N.W track over main ridge to river. S.W track to OMARITANA 10' from junc. * Possible O.P. of Northally ridge from village. * Suggested meeting place for daily patrols.
3	OMARITANA to Y.M.C.A. hut South west of NEWTON'S DUMP	75'	Direction south to S.S.E. 20' to West. Turnoff to ERENUINU Line of track along narrow ridge crest.

IMPORTANT—Any reference to shipping or troop movements will result in the delay or mutilation of your

2.

Stage

COURSE

Time

REMARKS

3 (cont)

Track continues from Y.M.C.A hut to KOITAKI (60' march)

4.

Track Junc SW of OMARITANA (20') to Track Junc. above ERENUMU

55'

N.N.W track 25' up side spur then follows W to N.W along main ridge overlooking river. At 35' bare area affords excellent observ. of country to both sides of ridge. At Junc. main track continues along ridge, possibly to IARBEAU; right turn off to grassy spur overlooking ERENUMU.

5

ERENUMU to OMARAMARA

60'

5' to River - Ford 70' wide 2'6" deep. From river, steep climb to village - Junc of tracks at 40'.

6

OMARAMARA to ONE-HUT VILLAGE

70'

25' Back to Track Junc, 5' Climb around native garden from which ERENUMU is visible 15' to ROCK CROSSING on GOLDIE R. Track then follows river flat, with one un-investigated Junc 5' from ONE-HUT village.

7

ONE HUT VILLAGE to Junc. below OMARITANA

100'

Continues along river flat - through deserted village area, passes Junc. of track which probably keeps to low ground; Main track climbs steeply up ridge to connect at Junc



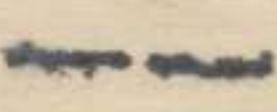


Revised Me
INT. SEC
2/14 Bn
24 SEP 42

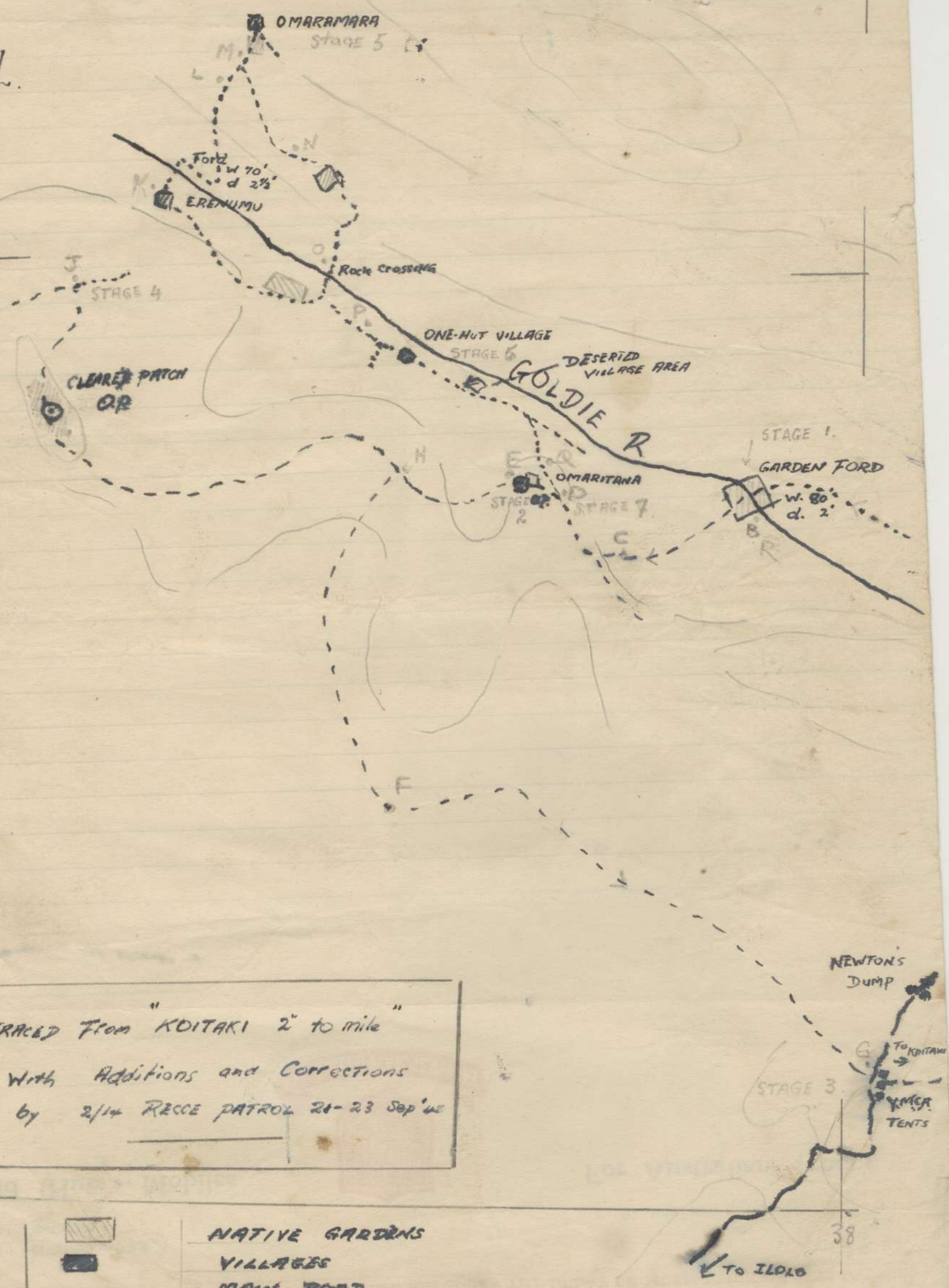
L.

20

14

TRACED From "KOITAKI 2" to mile"
 With Additions and Corrections
 by 2/14 RECCE PATROL 21-23 Sep '42

-  NATIVE GARDENS
-  VILLAGES
-  MAIN ROAD
-  QUAIRED TRACKS
-  FORM LINES



TRACK - MAP

UBERI - OMARITANA - NEWTON'S S. D.

R.

2" = 1 MILE

20



NOTE.

LETTERS A. B. etc REFER PATROL REPORT
 NUMERALS 1. 2. etc REFER TRACK REPORT

R.G. Wild Pte
 INT. SEC 2/14
 124 Sep 43

44

ERNEST J. HAREWOOD, O.B.E.,
Lt.-Commissioner

RED SHIELD HUTS-HOSTELS



FOR AUSTRALIAN TROOPS

FROM:—

No. _____

NAME _____

UNIT _____

_____ CAMP

_____ 194

PATRON—RT. HON. Wm. M. HUGHES, P.C.

PATROL REPORT

PAGE 1

PATROL TASK

To patrol track UBERI - OMARITINA and tracks in area OMARITINA - ERENUMU - OMARAMARA for any sign of enemy activity and to fix with greater certainty the tracks concerned.

PERSONNEL

Lieut EVANS K.A.	Patrol leader	2/14 Bn
SGT GANLEY F.W.	2/27 Bn	Pte WILD R.G. 1 st Sec 2/14 Bn
Pte SPARRE L.T.	do	" SPARKS D.M.A. 2/14 Bn
" SALMON M.E.	do	" GARTH V.F. do
" KELLY C.H.	do	" LOGAN W. do
" M'FORBANE R.P.	do	" NAYLOR J.M. do
" ADAMS R.D.	do	" HANDCOCK A.C. do
		" COLLIS E.W. do

TRACK REPORT

CLOCK HOUR MARCHING

TIME

APR 2 / SEP 45

0855 -

0955

STAGE A

Track follows course of ^{GOLDIE} RIVER in general NW direction. Well defined track reasonably easy gradient. Traversed several small tributary creeks and halted at first wide deep wadi. This wadi runs almost due E and W. River good broad stream flowing N.W. Number of good pools. Possibly navigable by narrow canoe. Several of small creeks have to be crossed by single logs. Continues - S of River, two or three detached hills then a ridge of varying height. No more detached hills all the way with higher ridge beyond them to the N.

ERNEST J. HAREWOOD, O.B.E.,
Lt.-Commissioner.

Patron:
RT. HON. Wm. M. HUGHES, P.C.

Red Shield Huts -- Mobiles

For Australian Troops



FROM:—

No.

NAME

UNIT

194

PATROL REPORT

PAGE 2

STAGE	MARCHING TIME	SIGNS
STAGE A cont	60 mins	Track apparently not traversed in either direction for some time. Maybe a little slower than normal marching.
STAGE B 1015-1110		For 45 mins track follows general direction of river N.W. then passes through native garden on river to a good ford. This portion of track is W.N.W. Track more uneven gradient 15 mins from start passed through fairly wide wadi and further 15 mins pass through another with waterfall. River 30' to 40' wide. SIGNS - At waterfall found zincplac field dressing wrapping and no. of cig. paper - chain further discovered cartridge case 303. Across ford on S bank of river found two lumps. Hard to determine how long they had been there or if they were native but otherwise. Large number of bulley beef and other things in area, about a week old and a scrap of paper with capital 'A. B.' written on it seem to indicate that some of our troops had been here. No footprint observed.
STAGE C 1135-1240	55 mins	Probably slower than normal marching time. Track smooth underfoot; not clearly defined but fresh blaze marks on trees. Fairly heavy climbing up ridge which seems to be separated from ridge previously.
	C.F.W.D 115 mins	

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Red Shield Huts -- Mobiles

For Australian Troops



FROM:—

No.

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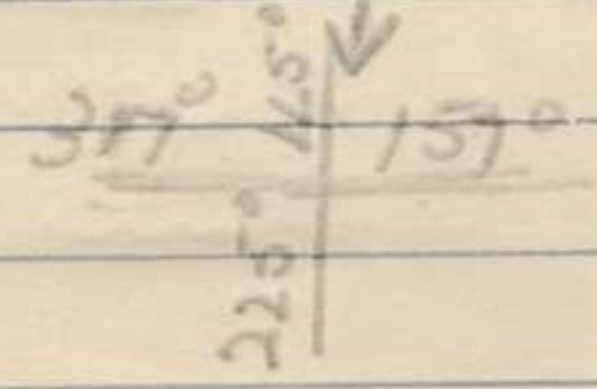
MARCHING TIME PATROL REPORT PAGE 3

STAGE C
Cont
B. FWD
115 min
50 min

observed on S bank of river General direction
of travel WNW 40 mins marching to
top of ridge, 15 mins spell, 10 mins
marching brought us to a fairly wide ck
Track here easily followed. Stopped for
climbing time

STAGE D
1415-1445

W.N.W for 25 mins - up steep ridge. Then
down into headwaters of small ck, then
up again to a native clearing. S.W
for 5 mins to a track crossing. Bearings
taken at crossing are as follows



Sent party of 2 off to investigate
tracks. Party on 317° reported
went down to ck. could hear
river further on. No village. Party on 225° reported
village 10 mins ahead up steep climb. Party on 157°
reported track petered out went around
side of ridge and found two tracks leading
away from village in S.E. direction

Signs & Sounds Party on 225° track
reported footprints of one first travelling
in opposite direction. Print made since
last rain (Sat 19 Sep). Heard motor
car engine to S.E. Heard 25 pdr ranging
could hear explosion at gun ^{to SE} and burst to
N.W.

c/fwd 30 min
195 min

Normal marching time

ERNEST J. HAREWOOD, O.B.E.,
Lt.-Commissioner.

Patron:
RT. HON. Wm. M. HUGHES, P.C.

Red Shield Huts -- Mobiles

For Australian Troops



FROM:—

No.

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PATROL REPORT

PAGE 4

MARCHING
TIME

STAGE E

1530-1538

B/FWD
195 min

Steep climb to village. Passed native garden on left of track. Village - 3 buildings - deserted. Note on door: Tokiri na swa Jam Gudoi My house Sending boy in Kartaki My house name Comera I am Gudoi.

STAGE F.

8 min

1550 -

1635

Village good D.P. Good view of all country to N. Bearing to scar on Ridge near Meri 92° clear track out of village in 15 min came to track junct. Track in follow leads SW - well defined track leads to W.N.W. 30 min from village track falls away down steep razor back ridge arrive at creek 10 min later

STAGE G.

1650-1720

40 min

30 min

Signs - from village track of 1 Australian going in opposite direction seen for 10 min 15 min SE, 5 min WSW, 10 SE downgrade most of time on a clearly defined track brought us to 300° S of NEWTON'S DUMP Very good marching time Message re track sent by Lt to 10^{2/4} Bn

Tues 22 Sep 42

STAGE H.

0937 -

0920

Left NEWTON'S DUMP and climbed gradual slope up ridge almost due N, then ENE along razor back watershed ridge then down steep downgrade NNW and reached creek we stopped at Stage F yesterday after 27 min very fast marching. Climb out of track E for

C/FWD

273

ERNEST J. HAREWOOD, O.B.E.,
Lt.-Commissioner.

Patron:
RT. HON. Wm. M. HUGHES, P.C.

Red Shield Huts -- Mobiles

For Australian Troops



FROM:—

No.

NAME

UNIT

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PATROL REPORT

PAGE 5

STAGE	MARCHING TIME	REPORT
STAGE H (cont)	B/FWD 273 mins 413 mins	short distance then NE to track junction arriving after 16 mins marching. Fast Fast marching time
STAGE J 0955 - 1050		Followed track going off at 298° and after 35 mins reach cleared space at top of ridge. This is an excellent OP. Good view of country to N and to S also as far as the eye. Saw village nesting in hills on ^{NORTH} side of river and took bearing - 16° - village about 1 1/2 - 2 miles away.
	55 mins	Continued along track on top of ridge for further 20 mins and came to track junction. One track leads slightly S of W and other slightly N of E.
STAGE K 1130 - 1440		Took track leading slightly N of E. Track petered out after 8 mins. We had missed down off to ERENUMU probably in clear patch which was a good OP mentioned in STAGE J. Spent considerable period of time looking for continuation of track and decided to break through scrub down to the GOLDIE RIVER below. Took 90 mins hard marching time to reach the bottom and picked up track. Came to junction - one track leading NW and other SE both along the river. Followed NW track and came to deserted village of 4 huts, probably ERENUMU.
	c/w 361 mins	

ERNEST J. HAREWOOD, O.B.E.,
Lt.-Commissioner.

Patron:
RT. HON. Wm. M. HUGHES, P.C.

Red Shield Huts -- Mobiles

For Australian Troops



FROM:—

No.

NAME

UNIT

194

MARCHING
TIME

PATROL REPORT

PAGE 6

STAGE K (Cont)	B/FWD 3 61 mins	5 mins from village came to river and crossed by a good ford. Stopped for lunch SIGNS On track after we came down hillside saw camp ^{site} several bulleye beef tins c. week old. In village - no recent footprints but 2 large insect tins and emergency ration tin. Perhaps Lee Honors force had been through here
STAGE L 1630 - 1705	103 mins	5 mins fairly good walking along N bank of river in E direction and turned N up very steep climb for 30 mins. During spell took readings on ERENUMU $\approx 240^\circ$ - and on clear patch mentioned in Stage J - 205° . SIGNS - Packet of Bells wax matches found on track shortly after started to climb. No footprints seen. No new ^{recent} blaze marks on track as on all others we have so far travelled but here are <u>old</u> blaze marks
STAGE M 1715 - 1757	35 mins	5 mins easy climbing brought us to track junction where track coming from S.E. joined. Another 5 mins brought us to native garden. 5 mins later ^{where track} became very much steeper. Men very fatigued so sent two fittest up track in search of village. Came back reported 15 men's climb to deserted village. No signs noticed another track leading off to R shortly before reaching village. Main track continues through village
	25 mins C/FWD 524	

ERNEST J. HAREWOOD, O.B.E.,
Lt.-Commissioner.

Patron:
RT. HON. Wm. M. HUGHES, P.C.

Red Shield Huts -- Mobiles

For Australian Troops



FROM:—

No.

NAME

UNIT

194

MARCHING
TIME

PATROL REPORT

PAGE 7

STAGE	B/FWD	DESCRIPTION
N	524 hrs	Retraced steps to track junction mentioned firstly in STAGE M which we reached in 5 mins. Took track leading to SE. Fairly well defined track but no new blazes. 15 min travel general SE direction came to ck. Decided to camp here as it was getting dark.
1757-1617	20 min	Wed 23 Sep 42
STAGE O	0745-0905	5 mins from ck uphill climb to native garden. Reading to FRENUMU-270. Track lead S downhill for 4 mins crossed small ck then SE for another 5 mins reach another ck back in W direction for short distance then S onto river by 0805. Rock barrier across river definitely impassable to canoes. River flowing warty East W here. Signs - Fresh blaze marks on track.
20 min		from native garden to river
STAGE P	0815-0833	crossed to S bank of river 5 mins in S direction brought us to native garden. Took track leading SE and stopped after 13 mins when track followed ck bed to find rest of party. They had gone astray at native garden and had followed for a short distance a track leading W along river probably connecting with track observed near FRENUMU mentioned in STAGE K. Both tracks well defined.
C/FWD	18 min 582 min	

ERNEST J. HAREWOOD, O.B.E.,
Lt.-Commissioner.

Patron:
RT. HON. Wm. M. HUGHES, P.C.

Red Shield Huts -- Mobiles

For Australian Troops



FROM:—

No.....

NAME.....

UNIT.....

194

MARCHING
TIME

PATROL REPORT

PAGE 8

STAGE Q	R/FWD	15 mins march along track parallel
0915 - 1200	582 mins	with River saw another track leading off to S uphill. came to single hut village in one min. march. Further 15 mins brought us to another track junction. Track leading N arrives in 1 min at deserted ^{old} village site Followed track along River for another 10 mins and came to another track junction. Followed track leading S uphill. Track leading E probably continues along river to ford mentioned in STAGE B. Shortly after leaving junction found tree with a big recent blaze cut in it and drawing of native hut on blaze. Solid climb up to top of hill 60 mins marching time. Stopped at 101 min. ck just NW of OMARITANA for lunch SIGNS - Several aids to climbing recently made by our troops apparently were noticed on hill sketch.
STAGE R		From ck up hill 5 mins to track junction mentioned in STAGE D. Retraced first day march to ford. 15 mins from track junction saw branch track not well defined leading off to SE along ridges on S of river possibly to OWERS CORNER
1330 - 1450	80 mins	
Act Lt Col CORNER'S Patrol at FORD		
STAGE S		Retraced STAGES A and B with 15 min spells
1500 - 1635	80 mins	at ck
Total MT.	843 mins	No SIGNS OF ENEMY THROUGHOUT PATROL R. McEvans, Lt Col A.I.F.

contacted
small
patrol
55 B. AMF.
which
they had
met from
SWTON'S
JMP via
OMARITANA

2/14 Bn. A.I.F.
WAR DIARY
Vol. XXIX Appx. 89

H.Q. 2/14 BN. A.I.F. H.Q. 2/14 Bn. A.I.F.

File No.

Date.

5/217/42
13 Nov 42

SECRET

6 Aust Div

Administrative Instruction No. N.1

Copy No.

23 Sep 42

Ref Map: MORESBY SPECIAL 1"

DIV HQ

1. Adv HQ 6 Aust Div has been established at MURRAY BARRACKS.

WATER

2. Water will be drawn by units from existing supplies in their area after testing by RMOs. Water points have been established at:-

010432
978450
959429
942383
918375
905351
937375

The incidence of Malaria and Dysentery is high in NEW GUINEA and the precautionary measures shown in N.G. Force Adm Instn No. 18 of 29 Aug 42 will be rigidly observed. Disciplinary action will be taken against offenders.

3. SUPPLIES AND POL

Supplies and POL will be drawn by 1st line tpt from nearest DID. DIDs have been established at 912369, 979437, 010455 and SOGERI.

P.P.s are located adjacent to DIDs at 912364, 980439 and 013437.

A very limited number of dehydrated emergency rations are available for issue to tps employed in advance of the normal supply service. Units requiring the dehydrated emergency ration will make application to this HQ in first instance.

4. AMMUNITION

Amn will be drawn by 1st line tpt from A.A.Ds located at 032438 and 060414.

5. ORDNANCE

10 AOD is located at 032444. Pending arrival DADOS 6 Aust Div units will submit indents to DADOS N.G. Force as soon as deficiencies occur.

6. POSTAL

Pending arrival 6 Aust Div Postal Unit units will collect incoming mail and deliver outgoing mail to nearest P.O. F.P.Os have been established at 889355, 900365, 92168, 974436, 000447, 035433, 045437, 090417, 143411.

7. CANTEENS

Canteen points have been established near 4 mile post, 913368, SAPPHIRE opp QUARRY near 17 mile post and LOW LEVEL near 26 mile post. The Bulk Canteen Store is located at 904363.

8. R.E. STORES

An Engr Stores dump has been established at 940444. Pending arrival CRE 6 Aust Div demands will be submitted to CRE Corps Troops HQ N.G. Force.

9. MEDICAL

Medical installations are established as follows:-

CCS	035434	Isol Hosp	118714
Camp Hosp	100418	9 AGH	033437
Con Depot	901360	Det Fd Amb	009432
Conv Hosp	106414	" " "	982449
Det Fd Amb	952425	ADS	910361

10. RECOVERY

LADs will effect 1st line repairs. 2nd line repairs will be carried out by 109 Aust Ind Bde Gp Wkshop at 913368 and 113 Aust Ind Bde Gp Wkshop at 013433.

3rd and 4th line repairs will be effected by N.G. L of C Area Ord Whskop located at 19 mile post.

11. PAY

Pending arrival 6 Aust Div Fd Cash Office units will requisition for cash and conduct all pay matters with 1 Aust Corps Fd Cash Office located HQ N.G. Force 4 mile post.

12. SALVAGE

A Salvage Depot has been established at 025445.

13. PRINTING AND STATIONERY

Indents for printing and stationery will be submitted to DADP+SS ~~DADOS~~ located approx 24 mile post.

14. STATES AND RETURNS

States and returns will be submitted in accordance with New Guinea Force Order 427 of 22 Aug 42.

15. KIT STORE

A kit store is established at the A.P.C. Bldg near Shell Depot, PORT MORESBY.

A. A. Bower

Col

A.A. & Q.M.G. 6 Aust Div

Distribution

All units under comd.

2/14 Bn. A.I.F..
WAR DIARY

Vol. XXIX Appx. 2/10

HQ 2/14 Aust Inf Bn
26 Sep 1942.

To ALL Coy Comds.

1. Please arrange to convey the following message to the tps under your Comd.

2. "Today we are moving back to the Unit area where we will come under the Comd of Major CHALLEN H B (MBE). I, therefore, want to take this opportunity of thanking you for your cooperation and the spirit in which you have done your task. It has been a pleasure to Comd you during the past few weeks and the high reputation the Bn has gained is due in no other way than to your courage and determination."

3. Please accept my sincere appreciation and best wishes for the future.

"GOOD LUCK"

P E RHODEN Capt
Admin Comd 2/14 Bn.

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED

The infm contained in this document is NOT to be communicated, either directly or indirectly, to the Press or to any person NOT holding an official posn in His Majesty's Service.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY

By

BRIGADIER A W POTTS, DSO, MC

COMD 21 AUST INF BDE

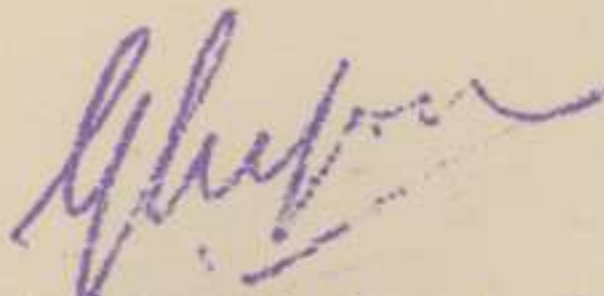
HQ 21 Aust Inf Bde
In the Field
28 Sep 42

The Bde Comd desires to congratulate members of the 21 Aust Inf Bde and att tps for the skill and gallantry they displayed in the fighting at ISURA and ABUARI and the subsequent stubborn withdrawal to IORIBAIWA.

Although heavily outnumbered by the Japs it is confidently asserted that enemy casualties were far in excess of those suffered by our forces and this was entirely due to the courage and team work of the units and incidentally to the sound training adopted by the unit commanders and the standard of fitness attained.

On behalf of the Bde, regret is expressed for our comrades who were killed, wounded or missing and it is urged that all ranks endeavour in the future use the experience so hardly gained, and so enable us to extract a full payment for those we lost. This opportunity is taken to congratulate our comrades of the 39 Bn on their gallant stand at KOKODA, DENIKI and ISURAVA.

The Bde Comd also wishes to thank all ranks for their loyalty, cheerfulness and courageous cooperation and to express the pride he feels in commanding such a team of fighters.


Capt
A/BM 21 Aust Inf Bde

2/14 Bn. A.I.F.
WAR DIARY
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2/14 Aust Inf Bn
28 Sep 42

CO, 2/14 Aust Inf Bn.

A. DEFICIENCIES.

(1) Deficiencies in training (11) battle procedure
 (111) organisation.

(1) A system of signals could be introduced for use between forward scouts, patrols and main bodies. Bird whistles or calls could be used. Lack of training in using trees etc to gain observation. Too much indiscriminate firing at night which not only wasted amm'n but also allowed posns to be taped. More patrolling should be practiced. Some troops were too frightened to venture into the jungle at night even for the relief of discomfort caused by nature.

(2) We were unable to give battle procedure for attack a fair trial but it is obviously essential to allow more time for patrols to pin point exact enemy posns before attack. B p for withdrawals worked well and were well practiced. It is essential for Coys to supply at least an NCO with recce party for withdrawal as limit area was sometimes used as collecting posts and Coy runners were unable to handle the situation efficiently.

(3) Organisation- good. Coys must necessarily take at least storeman or CQMS forward with them.

B. BATTLE EQUIPMENT.

(1) Weapons (11) rations (111) dress (1V) Eqpt .

(1) Weapons:

Grenades - excellent (36 X 4 Sec).

Rifle & bayonet - effective when used with vocal effort.

TSMG - Very effective but a little overrated. It was noticed that enemy would still advance against TSMG fire in jungle but showed hesitancy and discomfort against Bren fire. It is possible that large slug of TSMG was pulled up by scrub whereas the Bren fire definitely went right through. The Japs had Bren guns and TSMGs which they had evidently captured and always brought the Brens into action quickly.

Bren Gun - excellent.

2" Mortar - this weapon was hard to handle.

Suitable areas from which to fire it were hard to find.

Rifle Grenade - good.

3" Mortar - good but range a little short.

No mention that troops had nothing with which to dig in! Awful!
CONCLUSIONS.

A greater proportion of Bren guns be issued. The 2" Mortar be left behind in preference to rifle grenades. Vickers guns could often be well employed if a means of carrying them could be devised. Sniper's rifles would be a big asset.

(11) Rations:

Emergency rations were excellent.

Bully beef preferred to M & V also size of tin to be taken into a/c.

Biscuits - good, absolute wafers.

CONCLUSIONS.

It is of no use sending rations requiring cooking to forward troops.

Could be brewed in rear area and carried to fwd tps in suitable containers.

REPORTS ON OPERATIONS IN NEW GUINEA Cont

(11) RATIONS Cont.

Sugar ration sent to fwd tps would be welcome. this could be consumed in various ways such as with biscuit and water. Some tps were fortunate enough to have with them a few OXO cubes (Beef extract) and these proved a great asset. If an issue of these could be made with Emergency Ration they would be welcomed.

(111) Dress.

Tin hat (Tps are used to it now) is essential for morale.

Green shirt and slacks. Slacks to be bound over boot top by short puttee. Leggings and gaiters not satisfactory.

Boots to have leather strips on soles for grip.

(1V) Equipment.

As worn - good. Could be improved by substituting pack in place of haversack. Pack sits much more comfortable on the back and will contain all necessities.

Ground-sheet and capeA/G both proved failures. A/G capes tore fairly easily and were not water-proof. Ground-sheets also became unservicable and are not big enough. It is suggested that an oiled silk sheet about two and a half yards square be issued. This could also be erected quickly like a small tent fly.

Could tree-climbing spikes be issued. In a great number of areas trees are very straight with branches high up and it is impossible to climb the trees for observation purposes. Maps of area must be produced (See C below).

C. INTERCOMMUNICATION

Intercommunication is to a large extent a worry which is closely related to the shortage and inaccuracy of maps. In this type of country, unless the present policy of remaining in close proximity to existing main tracks is adhered to, wireless must be used.

Our present set (108) is definitely too unreliable. A 101 set is required to each Bn, Coy and medium or long range patrol. The production of a portable and efficient set is a problem which should be taken up if we are to have any degree of real success in this type of fighting.

Long range patrols must have a suitable set with which to communicate with main body and air-craft dropping supplies. They must also have a decent map that they might know when they arrive at their destination and the route to it.

If they strike trouble on the way it is essential they be able to notify the main body the place (Map reference) and result of encounter.

There is a huge number of arguments pointing out the futility of our present wireless sets and the necessity for maps.

D. DISPOSAL OF CASUALTIES

It is essential for morale that casualties are removed from fwd areas and evacuated quickly.

Many tps with whom I have spoken express as their only fear that of being wounded and being unable to get out. This fear was made greater by the agonising cries and shrieks of our wounded who had to be left behind on ridge South of EFOGI after withdrawal of Bde and enemy had advanced into area in which they were lying.

It was stressed in pamphlets on Japanese and their tactics that TOGO took a particular dislike to our wounded and prisoners.

It would be difficult now to disguise him as a FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE.

D. DISPOSAL OF CASUALTIES Cont

The removal of casualties from RAPs to ADS was necessarily slow but was carried out magnificently under all conditions. This removal at times impeded withdrawals and would not allow a clean break but main thing was that the enemy was delayed and casualties inflicted and the wounded were got out.

E. TRAINING TO BE UNDERTAKEN.

Jungle tng as previously carried out by this Bde be proceeded with. More attention being given to patrol (Long range) and ambush. Methods to combat enemy. Audacity and curiosity and learn fully the uses of HIGH GROUND.

F. TACTICAL METHODS TO BE ADOPTED IN FUTURE OPS IN THIS COUNTRY.

If more suitable maps and wireless commn are not forthcoming future ops are going to be hazardous . It is considered that Coys or less sent out on long range activities are of nuisance value only. They could not hold a feature or village alone for any length of time if located by the enemy.

The Japamese do not make a deliberate attack on any position unless he is sure he is far superior in numbers. It would be only a matter of time before the small force was wiped out. He manhandles the weapons necessary to do this and the weapons of a rifle Coy are unable to combat him. The dropping of supplies and weapons by plane is at the best a doubtful proposition. The idea of moving even a Bn far afield alone is not good. It would appear essential that to successfully outflank and surround and annihilate the enemy it is essential to keep large bodies of troops in contact with each other. Small parties can be used as long range patrols to harrass the supply lines and in some cases the rear of the enemy position. These patrols also pin point the enemy position and gain necessary information. The lessons learnt already do not teach us to split our large force into a small one. We must outflank the enemy on a large scale with a large force and keep that large force intact.

H.E.DICKENSON Capt
"C" Coy 2/14 Bn.

A. TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT

(1) Deficiencies in tng, battle procedure and organisation.

Deficiencies noted in above were:

- a. Lack of experience in moving through thick jungle and appreciation of time over a distance.
- b. Lack of long range weapons such as MMGs.

B. WEAPONS

(1) Bren proved an excellent weapon and the present scale of issue sufficient.

(11) TSMG - an excellent weapon for jungle warfare on account of it's lightness and ease of coming into action quickly while on the move. It is suggested that the scale of issue be increased in place of the rifle.

(111) 2" Mortar - it was found that the thick nature of the country made it impossible to use this weapon except on very few occasions but it was felt that with more tng greater use could have been made with good effect.

C. RATIONS

Emergency rations and reserve rations carried on the man appeared to be sufficient. When in contact with the enemy making fires and cooking impossible the issue of uncooked rice and dehydrated vegetables is unsuitable. If rice and vegetables could be cooked in rear areas and issued to Coys cooked it would provide a valuable variety to the hard ration even if cold.

D. DRESS

The green shirt and slacks proved very effective camflge but if eqpt could be dyed green it would add greatly to the value of the other. The use of nets on steel helmets proved effective to break the outline of the hat and hide the whiteness of the face. Shorts proved to be more comfortable when walking on tracks and dried quicker after rain but slacks are more suitable when moving off tracks.

E. EQUIPMENT

Owing to the weight of picks and shovels very few are carried long distances and the lack of digging tools was very much felt. It is suggested that a light digging tool be issued on a liberal scale. Machetes or a large sheath knife are necessary when moving through jungle, constructing shelters and camflging posns. Ground-sheets should be carried. Gas-capes are not suitable as they soon perish.

F. INTERCOMMUNICATION

From Coys this was done mainly by runner but in defensive posns when a telephone was allotted much infm was obtained by listening in and the Coy was kept more in the picture. It is felt that for effective intercommn Coys should have an efficient pack wireless set particularly when working independently in the jungle

G. DISPOSAL OF CASUALTIES

H. TRAINING TO BE UNDERTAKEN

It is suggested that tng is required in:

- (1) Moving through jungle country with speed and silence
- (11) Patrols in jungle country.
- (111) Control of parties moving through jungle.
- (IV) Camouflage.
- (V) Patience and observation.

I. TACTICAL METHODS TO BE ADOPTED IN FUTURE OPS

(1) Use of Japanese tactics in moving around flank and rear.

REPORTS ON OPS IN NEW GUINEA Cont

I. TACTICAL METHODS TO BE ADOPTED IN FUTURE OPS Cont

(II) Use of easily controlled groups, such as Coys, as Units provided they can be kept in commn

R W C CAMERON Capt
"D" Coy 2/14 Bn.

REPORT FOR TRAINING CONFERENCE

1. TRAINING - BATTLE PROCEDURE AND ORGANISATION.

(a) It is suggested that Native carriers or if necessary extra military personnel as carriers be included to carry stores for Sig platoon, Mtr Pl, Vickers guns and Pnr stores. Scale to include at least two 3" Mtrs and two Vickers guns.

(b) That the effect of taking cooks and specialists in as rifleman in the initial stages is harmful because

1. it is wasteful of specialists who are hard to replace.

2. it is bad for morale as it suggests that the force is inadequate for the task in front of it.

2. BATTLE EQUIPMENT

(I) Weapons. (II) Rations. (III) Dress.

(1) Scale to include Mtrs and Vickers as per para 1. Mtr bombs dropped from planes are NOT satisfactory as they lose range and accuracy. Bearers are necessary.

(II) Present rations satisfactory. Suggest carrying also tin of Beef Extract and Medical Salt tablets.

(III) Light water-proof jacket to buttock length would be useful.

3. INTERCOMMUNICATION

(a) Separate report from Sig Offr att.

(b) Control of Mtrs requires a separate phone system between OP and Mtr.

4. TRAINING TO BE UNDERTAKEN

(a) Pl tactics and below.
(b) Stalking.
(c) Camouflage.
(d) W T with auto weapons; stressing single shot firing.

(e) Control and intercommn.

5. CHANGES IN TACTICS

(a) Increased use of long range close support weapons - 3" Mtr and Vickers.

(b) Increased use of BOOBY Traps including more advanced type constructed by Pnrs.

(c) Harrassing of enemy behind the lines.

(d) Ambushing on large scale.

(e) Closer relation between supply line and tactics.

W B RUSSELL Capt
"HQ" Coy 2/14 Bn.

REPORT ON COMMUNICATIONS THROUGHOUT CAMPAIGN

No 1 Platoon
29 Sep 1942.

LINE.

Owing to the difficulties encountered in carrying cable it was only on rare occasions that supplies could be drawn.

It was necessary at all times to rely on the L of C line which fortunately had been laid to the fwd area. The resulting heavy traffic often caused delays in intercommn.

A light switchboard such as the 4" x 3" would often have eliminated these delays.

The ten line switchboard proved far too heavy to be carried. Alternate lines proved essential as many times the line was cut by Mtr fire.

WIRELESS.

R/T with the 108 sets did not prove satisfactory except at short ranges.

In static posns with a 50 foot and a key att WT proved very successful.

208 set is light, has a proved greater range than the 108 and is said to be more reliable.

I consider that this set if issued to Units would give greater satisfaction in service and reliability.

INSTRUMENTS.

Constant overhauling was necessary throughout the campaign owing to the wet conditions. D V telephones were badly affected by these conditions and at times needed to be withdrawn for repairs. This meant that commn was often broken.

R W THOMPSON Sjt
A/Sig Offr 2/14 Bn.

TNG INSTN

TO ALL COYS

1. Tng for period 1 Oct 42 - 8 Oct 42 will be based on the following points:-

- (i) CAMOUFLAGE - Both individual and collective
- (ii) USE OF COMPASS - Particularly by NCOs and men.
- (iii) INTERCOMM - The passing of messages - Sig tng among Offrs and men.
- (iv) WEAPON TNG - For all HQ personnel.
- (v) BOoby TRAPS & ALIBUSHES - The preparation of.
- (vi) CROSS COUNTRY MOVEMENT and SILENCE in movement.
- (vii) TRUCK DISCIPLINE
- (viii) IMPROVEMENT OF PHYSICAL CONDITION
- (ix) HOW TO LIVE ON COUNTRY - Native foods etc.
- (x) WATER DISCIPLINE & HYGIENE - both in the camp and field.

2. Particular emphasis will be laid on tng in the following -

- (i) CAMOUFLAGE - The recent campaign has proved that the standard of camflge required has NOT been attained. To attain this standard tps must be exercised in the following -
 - (a) Individual Camflge - The use of green dyed clothing greatly assists in this tng but as these have been recalled, shrubbery and grass can be used to a great extent. It is suggested that in operations eqpt be dirtied with mud and oil as green dye has proved non-effective.
 - (b) Collective Camflge - Bodies of tps acting as standing patrols, or in section posts can practise this with a view to obtaining complete cover from view, whilst in weapon pits, posts etc., without affecting the fire plan.
- (ii) WATER DISCIPLINE & HYGIENE
 - (a) The number of non-battle casualties evacuated in this campaign has proved the standard of water discipline and hygiene is bad.
 - (b) It was noticed that water purifying tablets were rarely or incorrectly used and that tps washed upstream from drinking points. That empty food tins were NOT being buried, latrine trenches rarely dug and were seldom covered.
- (iii) INTER-COMM

Inter-comm can be improved.

The passing of verbal messages by runner has been unsatisfactory and as this is the only means available on numerous occasions, all tps must be practiced in this.
- (iv) LIVING ON THE COUNTRY

As recent experiences have shown it is comparatively easy for personnel to be lost or cut off from our supplies for long periods.

Therefore it is essential for all ranks to be able to identify and know how to use the various types of native foods and berries which are fairly plentiful in this country

TNG INSTN (Cont)

(v) BOOBY TRAPS & AMBUSHES

The use of booby traps has NOT been extensive, but, where used, have shown their value. Tps should be given the opportunity of discussing methods of preparing traps and ambushes, and evolving new ideas. Although explosives will be few, if any at all, grenades can be used to great effect.

(vi) PHYSICAL CONDITIONS

Although the tng for the past few days has NOT been strenuous, all ranks must, and probably do, realise the urgent necessity for regaining the standard of physical fitness formally held by this unit.

A. Cairns
Adj. Lt., 2/14 Aust Inf Bn Liout,

2/14 Bn. A.I.F.

WAR DIARY

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S E C R E T

To: 2/14, 2/16, 2/27 Bns, K Sec Sigs
From: 21 Aust Inf Bde

SITREP No 67 to 1530 hrs 30 Sep. 25BdevGp. ONE. Our fwd patrols continue to push fwd towards NAORO. 2/25 bn patrol reported within mile and half of NAORO at 1030 L /30. TWO. W/T comn with 108 sets NOT proving satisfactory in all cases. THREE. Bundles of diaries letters and documents and a number of identification discs captured IORABAIWA sent back. List of captured Jap stores and eqpt follows. AIR. Our a/c bombed and strafed MENARI - KAGI and WEST MENARI AM 30 Sep. 126 20 lb fragmentation bombs dropped starting two large fires NW of MENARI. Figures in native gardens this area strafed. No movement observed. Track MENARI - KAGI appears very wet. Further mission over WAIROPE dropped belly tank 20 yds NE WAIROPE br unable to keep fire going br appears weak. 6 huts MYOLA LAKE No 2 **strafed**. 5 huts new and 4 well camouflaged. Jap rest house SOUTH MENARI strafed.

J. Sullivan afcd

T O O 1400 hrs /1

Secret

To: 2/14, 2/16, 2/27 Bns. K Sec Sigs. Bde T.O.

From: 21 Aust Inf Bde

X SITREP No 66 to 0700 hrs. 30 Sep(.) 25 B de Gp(.) one (.)
disposns(.) 1830L/29 Sep Bde H.Q. main track 300 yds SW
IOROBAIWA village(.) 2/25 2/31 2/33 bns astride IOROBAIWA
RIDGE 2/33 bn right 2/25 bn IOROBAIWA VILLAGE area 2/31
bn left(.) 3 bn in reserve posn astride main track south of
IOROBAIWA 2/1 Pnr Bn IMITA RIDGE(.) two(.) our three main
patrols moving northwards have reached points approx. half-
way IOROBAIWA-NAORO report no contact with enemy(.) three(.)
small patrol from 2/25 bn reached point approx. 2½ miles NE
IOROBAIWA report no enemy encountered but small amount of
Jap eqpt left lying on track(.) four(.) one sec 2/6 fd coy
are improving track IMITA RIDGE IOROBAIWA(.) five(.) BASE AREA
(.) HQ 2/1 bn now established JAWARERE QH3839 with one coy
at QH3443 ref map MORESBY 4 inch(.) AIR(.) 0805L/29 tw o A
208's dropped bombs MENARI NAORO area but weather conditions
made observation impossible.

X L - daylight saving time.

I Sec

HQ 21 Aust Inf Bde
30 Sep 42

2/14 Aust Inf Bn ✓
2/16 Aust Inf Bn
2/27 Aust Inf Bn
"K" Sec Sigs

Sitrep No 65 to 1600 hrs (.) 25 Bde Gp (.) ONE (.) Having consolidated their posns astride IORIBAIWA RIDGE strong patrols from our fwd tps are pushing ahead with all speed to gain contact with the JAP (.) Speed of advance may of necessity be retarded to obviate ambush by enemy (.) TWO (.) Patrols routes as follows (.) 2/33 Bn along police track EAST of main track 2/25 Bn up main track 2/31 Bn along track WEST of main track IORIBAIWA - NAURO (.) THREE (.) To speed up despatch of infm to rear all patrols are equipped with 103 W/T sets (.) FOUR (.) Sup system is in progress of reorganisation to cater for increased L of C mule train now extended from UBERI to point 66 approx half-way to IMITA RIDGE. (.) FIVE (.) BASE AREA HQ 16 Bde now located 528071 ref map KOTAKI 2 inch (.) MILNE FORCE (.) Nothing further to report (.) KANGA (.) 23 Sep comd left HQ with further patrol to conduct projected raid MUBO (.) LAE op reports men working on drome (.)

[Handwritten signature]

DRLS

T00 1040/30

[Handwritten signature]

S E C R E T.

To: 2/14, 2/16, 2/27 Bns
From: 21 Aust Inf Bde.

SITREP No 64 to 0700 hrs 29 Sep. MAROUBRA. ONE. On 28 Sep 25 Aust Inf Bde moved fwd and after an arduous march secured posns astride IOROBAIWA ridge which have been consolidated. TWO. Dispositions. 2/33 bn right, 2/25 bn centre, 2/31 bn left. THREE. Patrols are pushing fwd and to flanks along all tracks to gain contact. FOUR. Bde HQ closes present location 0730 hrs reopens IOROBAIWA 1500 hrs 29 Sep. FIVE. Fwd units report quantities of Jap stores and eqpt abandoned in posns captured. BASE AREA. 3 sec 14 Aust Fd Coy now under comd 7 Aust Div arrived at SUBITANA ref map KOTTAKI 2 inch 480088 pm 28 Sep. AIR. 3 A19s strafed and destroyed one barge containing stores BUNA beach. NIL activity observed coast GONA-BUNA. Huts BUNA SANANANDRA SANGARA POPONDETTA strafed. NIL activity rd BUNA-WAIROPE. WAIROPE br serviceable at 0900 hrs. P 400s dropped incendiaries and liquid incendiaries WAIROPE br. no hits. br decking 10 ft wide constructed 5 - 6 inch timber. KAGI strafed cannon and MG fire. MILNE BAY. WEDAU patrol reports two Japs killed LAROLA. Women missionaries and half caste girls left WEDAU 28 Sep to be joined by women from TAUPOTA and expected GILI GILI 29 Sep. Patrol reports of five enemy having used hut one mile NORTH LILIH night 27/28. KANGA. Air recce LAE reports four bombers in bays EAST side runway two fighters NW end runway also one taking off. Dummy planes EAST side runway. Four AA guns SE side runway. Two bombs dropped EAST end runway. FINSCHAVEN runway appeared unused nil activity observed.

T O O.

1500 hrs/29

gms
[Signature]

To 14 Bde, 16 Bde, 21 Bde, Rear Details 25 Bde, JAWFORCE, 14 Aust PD
Regt, RAE, Sigs, HQ Comd AASC, A, Ord, 7 Aust Div Sec Corps Reception
Camp, Comdt Base Area.
Copies to Comd, G, AQ, Medical, Det 2 AA Control

From 7 Aust Div

0141

28

Sitrep No 63 to 1530 hrs (.) MARCUBRA (.) 1 (.) From first light our fwd
tps have been closing in on IORIBAIWA (.) 2 (.) dispositions 1530 hrs (.)
2/31 Bn SPOTTERS HUF RIDGE with patrols moving North and East (.)
2/33 Bn holding high ground on right and overlooking IORIBAIWA
with small patrol in posn astride main track and creek crossing
just north IORIBAIWA (.) 2/25 Bn moving up main track to IORIBAIWA (.)
37 mm gun now IMITA RIDGE otherwise no change (.) 3 (.) Indications
point to enemy withdrawal north from IORIBAIWA water in creek north
IORIBAIWA reported to have been polluted (.) All informed

Capt Waterman

DRLS

T00

1630

C.O.

[Signature]

Lt Col

[Signature]

Adjt Lt

Comd A Coy *[Signature]*

- B -

[Signature]

- C -

[Signature]

- D -

[Signature]

- HQ -

[Signature]

Return to 7 Sec

Coy Comdr. *[Signature]*

To: 2/14, 2/16, 2/27 Bns
 From: 21 Aust Inf Bde.

SITREP No 61 to 1530 hrs 27 Sep. MAROUBRA. ONE. Dispositions. 2/33Bn less one coy PONOON. One coy pushing towards IOROBAIWA. No contact with enemy. 2 /31 Bn completing concentration on left flank. Otherwise no change. TWO. Our arty maintained harassing fire throughout night and AM 27 Sep. 37 mm gun now at UBERI and moving fwd. THREE. Engr now searching for track suitable for mules from IMITA RANGE towards IOROBAIWA. FOUR. Native bearer escaped from Japs reported in UBERI and being interrogated. Report following. FIVE. Comp 14/16 Bn now concentrated HQ 21 Bde.

SITREP No 62 to 0700 hrs 28 Sep. MAROUBRA. ONE. Fwd patrols from 2/25 Bn penetrated enemy barricade 27 Sep vicinity main track SOUTH IOROBAIWA and are in close contact with the enemy. TWO. 25 Aust Inf Bde expects to launch attack on IOROBAIWA 28 Sep. THREE. Our arty harassing fire reported having damaged barricade . 37 mm gun now at HQ 25 Bde. FOUR. No enemy activity reported. FIVE. BASE AREA. Units 16 Bde now established as follows. Ref map KOITAKI 2 inch. 2/1 bn 428068 2/2 bn 368077 2/3bn 313076. One coy 2/1 bn moving to track junc QH3443 ref map MORESBY 4 in. strat 28 Sep. Balance 2/1 bn moving JAWARERE 29 Sep. Relief of JAW force will be effected by 2/1 bn by 2400 hrs 30 Sep. ref map BUNA strat. 8/9 Sep native patrol reports enemy moving cargo nightly BUNA to SANANANDRA PT also tps camped SANANANDRA area and M/T rd POPONDETTA to GONA. Reports enemy radio stations at DORODURA D1112 POPONDETTA AMBOGA AWALA. tps camped BIAMU J3398 also Jap launch visited PONGANI SOUTH BIAMU 22 Sep. MILNE BAY. ref sitrep 58 dump reported contained 14400 rds .256 and 2 cases .5. KANGA. Unidentified plane over KUDJERU otherwise no change. AIR. Our a/c bombed and strafed KAGI- EFOGI area am 27 Sep. Bombs dropped SOUTH side KAGI both sides track. Ridge towards MYOLA and MANARI strafed. Report many more huts than previously observed also tents EFOGI and SOUTH KAGI. Road very clear evidence much activity. RABAU. One direct hit one near miss large tpt 12/15000 tons SIMPSONS HARBOUR. BUNA- GONA. NIL activity observed coast am 27 Sep. Bldgs strafed BUNA pt fires observed also 4 AA guns NW end strip active.

T O 0.1500/28

grr

Coy Comds to read & initial

circulate to all Coy comds,

AB

- A *Robert*
- B *John*
- C *Ray*
- D *Bob*
- HQ

SECRET

To 2/14, 2/16, 2/27 Bns.

From 21 Aust Inf Bde.

Sitrep No.59 to 1530 hrs. 26 Sep. MAROUBRA (.) One (.) Throughout night our arty continued harassing fire on to IOROBAIWA RIDGE (.) 2/25 Bn report enemy casualties two killed (.) Two (.) commencing 0800/K 2 6 Japs directed small arms fire for two hrs on area occupied by our ^{fwd} troops (.) No casualties own tps and fire NOT returned in order NOT to disclose their posns (.) 0900 hrs remainder 2/33 Bn moved out round right flank (.) KANGA (.) Native reports guard of Papuan constables and one native on sup dump WARU River seven miles downstream from BIARK junc killed Jap patrol of 13 0630X/21 (.) Dump burned (.) report being investigated (.) Air (.) IOROBAIWA - NAURO strike (.) three A-20's bombed and strafed ~~areas~~ ~~XXXXXX~~ NORTH, EAST and WEST of IOROBAIWA a m 26 Sep also strafed track EFOGI - MENARI (.) observed two small side tracks possible resting places (.) probable fenced storage area located SW IOROBAIWA (.) BUNA recce (.) nil sightings (?) seven 300-lb bombs dropped in dispersal area (.) 500 ton ship SE TROBRIAND Is bombed and strafed left burning fiercely.

SECRET

To: 2/14, 2/16, 2/27 Aus Inf Bns.

From: 21 Aus Inf Bde

SITREP No.60 to ~~007~~ 0700 hrs 27 Sep. MAROUBRA (.) one (.) dispositions ref map MORESBY IOROBAIWA 2 miles one inch (.) 2/25 bn posns jus t SOUTH IOROBAIWA (.) 2/33 bn moving to right flank from track and creek crossing 3055 (.) 2/31 bn ~~left flank~~ less one coy track and creek crossing 3055 preparatory to moving out to left flank (.) one coy 2/31 bn point SW SPOTTING HUT (.) 3 bn 36 bn 2/1 pnr bn unchanged (.) two (.) 2/25 bn reports logs used in barricades round Jap posns were sawn NOT chopped also sig wire erected with tins attached as night alarm (.) three (.) enemy fire which swept our fwd posns am 26 reported to be from MMG approx. .303 calibre (.) one bullet recovered ~~and~~ being sent back. MILNE FORCE (.) 26 Sep patrols left GILIGILI to relieve patrols at TAUPOTA and WEDAU (.) BUNA natives report enemy sup dump vicinity BUNTINGS STORE MUSIDA creek BUNA river (.) ref possibility MAMBARE river as supply line to YODDA-KOKODA report received states no enemy activity north MAMBARE to 17 Sep (.) Air (.) WAIROPE bridge dive-bombed by P-40 completely demolishing NE end (.) large huts plantation area set afire (.) no enemy activity seen on road (.) BUNA drome bombed no sightings (.) KANGA FORCE no report.

To: 2/14, 2/16, 2/27 Bns
From: 21 Aust Inf Bde.

S E C R E T

SITREP No 58 to 0700 hrs 26 Sep. MAROUBRA. ONE. 2/25 Bn continues to make steady progress against Jap posns IOROBAIWA ridge whilst our patrols seek enemy flanks. TWO. One Jap LMG one Bren one TSMG captured by our tps A M 25 Sep. THREE. Enemy has constructed eight foot sapling barricade fwd of his posns astride main track. Extent of barricade NOT known but 2/33 Bn patrol reports barricade extends approx 400 yds to EAST main track. FOUR. Two coys 2/33 Bn moved fwd PM 25 Sep to track and creek crossing midway IMITA RANGE IOROBAIWA. FIVE. Our Arty maintained harassing fire on SPOTTERS HUT RIDGE throughout the day and night 25/26 Sep. SIX. Adv HQ 16 Bde opened Base Area 1000 K 25 Sep ref map KOTAKI 2 inch 307073. 36 Bn now established UBERI to relieve 14/16 Comp Bn. SEVEN. Recce party moving VANAPA reports river navigable by portable craft only to DOURA. Recce continuing by canoe. MILNE FORCE. 61 Bn patrol discovered further Jap dump 50 cases SAA bags rice bundle boots and mosquito nets. KANGA. Enemy standing patrol GUADAGASEL counter attacked by our tps and driven out. Posn now occupied by our tps. MORESBY AREA. 2355/K 24 Sep AA STNS engaged unidentified a/c visibility poor observation nil. AIR. Our A/C attacked BUNA 25 Sep. Forty-four 500-lb bombs dropped runway and dispersal area. One direct hit AA posn SE end runway. AMBASI strafed. NIL sighting BUNA- WAIROPE rd KAMUSI river WAIROPE to coast. NIL activity coast AMBASI to BUNA and seawards.

S E C R E T

To: 2/14, 2/16, 2/27/Bns
From 21 Aust Inf Bde

SITREP No 56 to 0700 hrs 25 Sep. MAROUBRA. Fwd coy 2/25 BN still in contact SW IOROBAIWA. Arty support to this coy throughout day effective. 3 Bn patrol upon return reports following. Jap defences fwd slopes IOROBAIWA ridge. Weapon pits similar our slit trench 3 feet long 2 feet wide 2ft 6 ins deep. Others semicircular same width and depth. well dug effective camouflage. Jap apparently keeps reduced numbers in fwd posns during daylight. Japs sighted were of average height 5ft 2 ins but stockily built dressed in khaki. Ref SITREP 55. WOs PREECE and JARRETT have reported JAWFORCE HQ now stationed HQ 21 Bde. MILNE FORCE. Tps 18 Bde at NORMANBY IS reported 1250K/23 3 navy bombers type 96 at 100 feet also six Zeros at 200 to 300 ft recced plantation CAPE PIERSON. no attack made although some of our boats seen by enemy. some observers report bomb bays open suggesting possibility sups dropped GOODENOUGH IS. A/C disappeared EAST. Also reported vessel used SL on Cape PIERSON 0100/K 2/23 2130 K F patrol 6 Ind Coy reports three men from canoe landed bank BROWN RIVER escaped when challenged. patrol ordered follow and capture. AIR. 1200 K/24 a/g reports 2 large 1 small MV HERCULES BAY approx 70 miles NW BUNA also one small vessel stationary half mile off shore. During day P 40s heavily strafed rd BUNA KOKODA especially suspected stores dump area NE WAIROPE. Huts and track seen burning. Bridge at WAIROPE reported repaired.

SITREP No 57 to 1530 hrs. MAROUBRA. At 0630 hrs fwd elements 2/25 Bn attacked and drove the enemy from his posn on small knoll 300 yds SOUTH IOROBAIWA. Offensive action still continues as our tps press fwd on to enemy posns astride IOROBAIWA ridge. On 22 Sep 1 offr 2 ORs ~~report~~ 2/14 Bn reported in to D patrol 6 Ind Coy vicinity DOROBISOLO. MILN E BAY NOTHING to report. KANGA. NOTHING further to report.

T O O 1030 hrs / 26

S E C R E T

To : 2/14, 2/16, 2/27 Bns
From : 21 Aust Inf Bde.

SITREP NO 53 to 1530 hrs. MAROUBRA. 2/25 Bn patrols have been active from their fwd posn. 2/1 Pnr Bn now occupy posn astride track previously occupied by 2/25 Bn. Now known enemy holding posns on fwd slopes IOROBAIWA RIDGE. HQ 14 Aust Inf Bde closed old location reopened 331104ref map KOTTAKI 2 inch 103⁰ K 23. MILNE FORCE. 2200 K 22 WEDAUI reports clash with 6 Japs LAROTIA vicinity CAPE FRERE previously reported as LAVORA. Some enemy wounded but escaped. KANGA. 22 Sep Japs concentrating natives MUBO. MADANG one enemy twin engined recce A/C over town and harbour 1505 to 1525 K/22. AIR. RABAUL strike night 22/23. 20- 500 lb delayed demolition bombs dropped 2 probable hits large vessel anchored NE end of harbour. Thick AA barrage encountered. Bombs also dropped LAKUNAI drome. BUNA- KOKODA strike. 8 P400s strafed mules at ANDEMBA. Large burnt areas all along rd observed from previous strafing. Track at OIVI ~~strafed~~. Pilots opinion rd suitable for ~~ME~~ KOKODA to BUNA.

T O O 1000 hrs /24

To: 2/14, 2/16, 2/27 Bns.
From: 21 Aust Inf Bde.

SITREP No 52 to 0900 hrs. MAROUBRA. 2/25 Bn having moved fwd from IMITA RIDGE has established base covering posn near creek and track crossing midway between IMITA RIDGE and IOROBATWA. Offensive patrols being pushed fwd to contact enemy. Another bn now standing by to move fwd in support of 2/25 Bn. 3 Bn patrol reported in through 2/25 Bn reports contact with enemy on fwd slope IOROBATWA ridge some casualties to both sides. C Patrol 6 Ind Coy reports moving nearer IOROBATWA from EAST. No contact as yet. Arty ranged on SPOTTERS HUT with HE today observation NIL. JAW FORCE HQ now established track junc QH 3543 ref map 4 inch strat. Report 0807/22 six planes dropped bombs and large columns smoke observed NORTH of first observation. 2/31 Bn patrol reported in yesterday after 3 days. Report no contact or enemy activity. Between 1930 and 2015 hrs 22 Sep a number of flares were reported in area from North of UBERI to HOMBROMS BLUFF to SOUTH vicinity HIGH PEAK and NE to UBERI. A/C over area approx 1930. Some flares fired from ground others apparently dropped from air. Patrols investigated but nothing unusual found. Air. Three air missions bombed and strafed track KOKODA - BUNA AM.22. Fires started MENARI EFOGI KAGI KOKODA also 3 barges and building BUNA. Explosions MENARI and large fire ANDENBA possibly petrol. Further hits new bridge WAITROPE. KOKODA TO YODDA. A/C observed small cleared burnt patches each with one or more new galvanized iron sheds. Two fires started YODDA. BUNA AA accurate but all planes returned. One Offr two ORs 2/14 Bn seen by one of our patrols near DOROBISOL. Being sent back.

J. Sullivan A/Cpl

T O O 1530 hrs/23

LOCAL: Forward elements are probing the area north and east of EFOGI, but so far without making contact with the enemy; General MacArthur's communique reported a light Allied air raid on Buka (Bougainville Island) in which one enemy plane on the ground was destroyed.

AUSTRALIAN NEWS: Lieut-Gen. Arnold, chief of U.S. Army Air Corps, recently visited New Guinea on a tour of Pacific bases; General Arnold is now back in America.

The Army Minister (Mr. F. M. Forde) and the Minister for Air (Mr. J. S. Drakeford) yesterday told the War Cabinet of the position of the war in New Guinea. The work of engineering units in putting down roads which appeared impossible was commended by Mr. Forde.

A native plant growing in north-west Australia is claimed as a possible cure for dysentery. The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research will make experiments. In New Zealand a native plant is used by the Maoris as a cure for dysentery.

The Director-General of Manpower in Australia said yesterday that no more men would be called up from rural industries. No men will be released from the Army for such work. Australia has yet to find 140,000 men and 80,000 women to work in war industries and for the fighting services before the end of this year.

Lieut. T. M. Foggitt, R.A.N.V.R., of Brisbane, has been mentioned in despatches for his part in the recent combined operations raid on Dieppe.

The Commonwealth Government is to build shipyards in Western Australia and Tasmania to manufacture small wooden ships.

A review of Australia's railway system is being made by the Commonwealth Transport Department, and the possibility of having to make use of road transport in the event of an emergency is being discussed.

RUSSIA: The Russian defenders of Stalingrad have suffered a setback in the factory area of the south-western suburbs. A series of attacks by German tanks and infantry forced Russian troops to withdraw from part of the workers' settlement which they captured two days ago. In all other areas enemy attacks have been repulsed, despite constant bombardments from the air. The A.B.C. London correspondent says that the Germans are suffering colossal losses in the Stalingrad battle but are still throwing a fresh force against the city. They are using 100 tanks supported by a similar number of planes in an effort to clear the roads for German infantry. Marshal Timoshenko's relief army striking towards Stalingrad from the north is advancing at the rate of 10 yards every hour. Soviet newspapers state that the German plan was to capture Moscow and Baku on the Caspian Sea, but Stalingrad's defence upset these calculations. In the eastern Caucasus, the Germans have not succeeded in making any further advance since they captured a strongpoint three days ago. The enemy drive from Novorossiisk on Tuapse, on the Black Sea coast, is being held.

Two more Axis commanders have been killed in action on the eastern front. They are General Ehrhan Kamp, chief of a tank corps, and General Nagy, commander of an Hungarian division.

The chief of Britain's Information Service (Mr. Brendon Bracken) said yesterday that everything possible was being pressed and urged by the British Government in order that the most speedy relief be given to the hard-pressed Russian Army. "I give you that assurance," he said, "and I tell you I know what I am saying."

The newspaper "Evening News", for Britain, and the Under-Secretary for Trade (Mr. Sumner Welles), for America, both signified that their countries were going all-out to relieve Russia as quickly as possible.

The Russian newspaper "Pravda," quoting a Turkish daily, says that Sebastopol alone carried on the fight longer than the French Army, and Stalingrad has stood up longer than the whole of Europe. In future, Axis victories are not going to be so easy as they were at the beginning of the war. In fact, says Lord Halifax, British Ambassador in Washington, Germany and Japan can no longer look forward to such victories.

MADAGASCAR: The whole railway system is now in British hands.

LOCAL: All quiet is reported from the Owen Stanley Range area. At Milne Bay, remnants of the Japanese force have been mopped up. Twenty-five enemy bombers, with fighter escort, dropped bombs in the vicinity of an aerodrome some distance from Port Moresby. The bombs fell harmlessly in the scrub.

Allied fighters shot up five barges and a tug-boat at Lae. All the vessels burned at the wharf. Fires and explosions were caused in a raid on Buna, while the track from Buna to Kokoda was heavily peppered by our planes.

SPORTING: Essendon completely outplayed Richmond to win the Victorian Football League 1942 premiership. It was Essendon's first premiership win in 18 years. Final scores were: Essendon, 19-18 132 points; Richmond, 12-39 79 points. In the Rugby Union final played at North Sydney Oval, Manly had a runaway win over University, 22-6. Manly has now won the premiership three times since the last war at intervals of 10 years - 1922, 1932, 1942. In the N.S.W. Rugby League final, Newtown beat St. George 23-12.

AUSTRALIA: The supply of liquor to officers and sergeants' messes in Australia will come under Commonwealth Government supervision. Measures are being taken to extend similar jurisdiction to American cantoons. The £100,000,000 Austerity and War Loan will be officially opened on November 3.

Flight-Lieutenant Paul Makin, a South Australian pilot who has made 35 offensive sweeps over France, has returned to Australia.

The Minister for the Army (Mr. F. M. Forde) last night said that the Army Education Service was doing good work in arranging talks for troops serving north of Australia. More than 1,000 talks a month was being averaged. Approximately one-half of all the troops in northern areas were attending the talks, some of which had been given from slit trenches during a raid. On many occasions the men gathered around the speaker's truck with Tommy guns and rifles across their knees.

RUSSIA: The Germans are gradually tightening their grip round Stalingrad, but Soviet forces are still offering most stubborn resistance. Regardless of the incredible losses being inflicted on them, the Germans are throwing in inexhaustible supplies of men, tanks and aircraft. Correspondents describe Stalingrad as a mass of flames and a scene of terrible destruction. Exceptionally heavy fighting is taking place on all other sectors of the eastern front and at Voronej, where the Germans realise they must be successful before they have any hope of threatening general Russian resistance. The Torak River area in the eastern Caucasus has become a valley of Death for the Germans. The Red Army is continuing its offensive at Leningrad where the Germans have suffered severe setbacks. Heavy fighting is progressing along the Black Sea coast as the Germans endeavour to advance on Tuapse from Novorossisk.

EGYPT: Land fighting in Egypt is restricted to artillery and patrol activity. Cairo says British patrols are active over the whole of the battlefield and are harassing enemy working parties.

MADAGASCAR: British forces are now within 50 miles of the capital and are making steady progress. No opposition is being encountered.

SOLOMONS: In the Solomons, where the Japanese have made repeated counter-attacks, the Americans are reported to be so strongly in control of the conquered section that only a major Japanese expedition could have any chance of recovering it. The United Press correspondent tells how tanks have proved of decisive value to the Americans. In the first serious attack by the Japanese at Tenaru when endeavouring to regain Guadalcanal, U.S. tanks turned the battle into a massacre. A total of 750 Japanese were wiped out, American casualties being 28 killed, 72 wounded.

CHINA: American airmen in China shot down 28 enemy planes in July and August, and destroyed another 30 on the ground. American losses were five fighter machines. Only local land fighting is reported from Chungking.

CANADA: The Canadian destroyer ODTAWA (1375 tons) has been sunk by an enemy submarine. Five officers and 107 members of the crew are missing, out of a total complement of 145 officers and men.

LOCAL: IUROBAIWA. Australian forces yesterday began an advance along the Kokoda track. Yesterday's advance was small -- about two miles -- but it was significant. It was preceded for several days by most intensive patrolling by our troops, who have clashed with the Japanese. They have pushed on, inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy. It is believed that the Japanese are feeling the effects of their long supply line. Intensive strafing of the Kokoda track by our aircraft has been going on for several days now. At all events the enemy, who for nearly a month has been on the offensive, is now definitely on the defensive in this area.

SOLOMONS. The Japanese battlefleet, which was reported earlier to be heading for the Solomons, is believed in Washington to have withdrawn beyond the range of our bombers.

RUSSIA: Stalingrad still holds out despite the arrival of large-scale reinforcements. Soviet forces have gained ground in the bitter street by street battle. The latest official statement from Moscow says that not only have the Germans not made any progress at Stalingrad, but on several sectors Soviet forces have pushed forward and destroyed enemy tanks. More streets have been recaptured by the Russians after bitter battles from cellars to attics where German sub-machine gunners are being systematically mopped up. Big air battles have flared up around the city, indicating that the Russians have thrown in more aircraft. There were 55 dog-fights in one sector during the week-end, when Red fighter pilots shot down 50 enemy aircraft and destroyed 19 others on the ground. The Germans are reported to have withdrawn a number of regiments from the front for regrouping, but in their place they have thrown in more fresh reserves. A late message from the A.B.C. correspondent in London says that Soviet forces, as the result of a break through on the Rjev front, have restored the link with Leningrad. On the north-west front at Leningrad the Red Army has penetrated enemy defence lines in one locality, repulsed a counter-attack and captured much booty. Soviet guerillas have been active in this area and have destroyed two miles of an important railway track. Berlin describes the fighting around Stalingrad as "more murderous than anything yet seen in this war." They attribute their slow progress north-west of Stalingrad to stubborn Russian resistance and bad weather.

EGYPT: Britain has not yet commented on the Rome report of action by a British motorised column against the Italian garrison at Gialo Oasis, 130 miles south-east of Benghazi and 500 miles west of the Allied line at El Alamein. The B.B.C., quoting the Rome Radio, says that during the past week strong British motorised forces suddenly appeared out of the desert and attacked. Italian artillery opened fire and the first attack was repulsed. Rome claims that the garrison held off several more attacks until the arrival of Axis aircraft and mobile units. Considerable losses, says the Italian report, were inflicted on British forces, which broke off the action.

CHINA: A Chungking message on the fighting in China mentions nothing about the situation around Kinwa, capital of Chekiang Province. It reports small local attacks by the Japanese around Canton and along the Mongolian border, all of which were repulsed.

MADAGASCAR: Vichy Radio says that British forces are now only 17 miles from Antananarivo, capital of the island. Following the British advance from the direction of Majunga, on the west coast, Allied aircraft have made repeated attacks on the important railway line 75 miles south-west of the capital.

RAF RAIDS: British bombers attacked German targets in occupied France and Holland in daylight yesterday. Power-stations, iron and steel works were included in the targets. Two British bombers and one fighter plane failed to return.

The legless Fleet Air Arm pilot, Flight-Lieutenant Colin Hodgkinson has applied for a transfer to the fighter squadron to which another famous legless pilot, Wing-Commander Bader, now in a German prison camp, was attached. Hodgkinson and Bader are regular correspondents.

AMERICA: The chairman of the U.S. House of Representatives Naval Committee said in Washington yesterday that the United Nations were beginning to turn the corner so far as sea warfare was concerned. Whenever and wherever a second front was opened, it would be the

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2/14 Aust Inf Bn
22 Sep 42

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES
ROUTINE ORDERS PART 1

No 1

By

MAJOR H B CHALLEN M.B.E. ----- ADMIN COMD 2/14 AUST INF BN

1. BN DUTIES - To mount at 1800 hrs 22 Sep 42 for 24 hr tour of duty -
 Duty Coy - C Coy
 N F D - D Coy
 Duty Coy will supply an inlying picquet of 1 NCO and 12 OR's.
 Duty Coy will also supply Prowling Picquet of 12OR's.
 Each Coy will detail 1 Runner to report to BHQ at 0800 hrs daily.
2. ROUTINE - Camp Routine will be as follows:
 Reveille 0630
 Breakfast 0730
 Sick parade 0800
 (RAP situated near entrance to camp)
 Lunch 1215
 Evening meal 1700
 Tattoo 2200
 Lights out 2215
3. TENTAGE - Immediate attention will be paid to camouflage of tents.
 Slit trenches will be dug.
 Owing to the shortage of tentage, Coys must combine Q Store & Coy Office.
4. HEALTH - HYGIENE. Attention is drawn to the lack of anti-malarial precautions at present existing. All Coys will ensure that previous instns regarding trousers KD, long sleeves and taking of quinine tablets, are carried out.
 Rubbish and waste will be burned then buried.
 All water drawn direct from streams will be chlorinated before use.
 Bathing will NOT be carried out above water point at footbridge.
5. SALVAGE - All old clothing and surplus equipt will be returned to Bn dump.
6. AMENITIES - Hut in centre of area will be Bde Recreational Hut.
 Reading matter and games, writing materials etc will be made available.
7. TRACKS - Existing tracks in Bn area will be used at all times.
 On no account will fresh tracks be made.
8. WEAPONS - Personnel MAROUBRA Force marching in will return all arms to QM Store for overhaul and return.
9. PAY - Tps returning from MAROUBRA Force may draw pay on reporting to Pay Sjt.
 Paybooks which have been damaged, obliterated or lost in action will be replaced within 48 hrs on appn to Pay Sjt.
10. LEAVE - Coys will ensure that NOT more than 25% OF Coy strength are absent from area on leave at any time. Names and destination of tps proceeding on local leave will be taken at Coy HQ.
11. ADMIN - Coys will ensure that all personnel marching in or out, evacuated to or discharged from Hospital etc report at BHQ.
12. GENERAL - The Bde Comd has intimated that in his absence he desires the cooperation of all ranks to bring the Units to fighting efficiency as speedily as possible.

H E DICKENSON Capt
 Adjt, for
 2/14 Aust Inf Bn

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HQ 2/14 Aust Inf Bn
26 Sep 42.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES
ROUTINE ORDERS PART 1

No 2

By

MAJOR H B CHALLEN M.B.E. ----- ADMIN COMD 2/14 AUST INF BN

13. DUTIES - To mount at 1800 hrs 26 Sep 42 for 24 hr tour of duty -
Duty Coy - C Coy
N F D - D Coy

14. AIRCRAFT IDENTIFICATION MARKINGS

BHQ advises that all RAAF aircraft, irrespective of service function will be marked as indicated below -

- (a) Main plane upper and lower surfaces - white roundel surrounded by blue ring.
- (b) Fuselage each side - white roundel surrounded by blue ring.
- (c) Tail fin - white and blue vertical stripes white leading.

15. PAY

Money may now be remitted through paybooks.
Amount allowable for remittance is restricted to four-fifths of credit in paybook.
Personnel wishing to remit money per paybook should contact the pay Sjt.

16. BATHING

Swimming is prohibited between the following hours -

0800 - 1130
1400 - 1600
1800 - 0600

H E DICKENSON Capt
Adjt 2/14 Aust Inf Bn

NOTICES

CHURCH PARADES - 27 Sep 42

Prot - Holy Communion 0700 hrs 2/16 Orderly Room
Voluntary parade 0930 hrs 2/16 " "
R.C. - Mass 0700 hrs YMCA

PART B

Following NCO's were reverted to Ptes on joining Unit on 21 9 42

QX 30008 A/Cpl READ	R E	QX 28092 A/Cpl COCHRANE	G S
QX 32095 A/Cpl ALLENDER	E E	QX 27419 A/Cpl KEYS	A V
QX 26472 A/Sjt ALLEN	W R	QX 28442 A/Cpl KITSON	A H
QX 27396 A/Sjt LOCKYER	J K	VX 67317 A/Cpl MANN	E V
QX 26235 A/Sjt BRISTOW	C E	QX 25610 A/Cpl LANGTON	F G
QX 24681 A/Cpl JOHNSON	L W	QX29471 A/Cpl LLOYD	C V
QX 23396 A/Cpl GOULD	W	QX 28661 A/Cpl LONGDON	A J
QX 30257 A/Cpl AH CHEE	H C	QX 24952 A/Cpl PLUMB	C
QX 20153 A/Sjt CONAGHAN	K A	QX 25376 A/Cpl HARRIS	D F
QX 28445 A/Cpl LARNEY	C R	QX 29767 A/Sjt McQUEEN	A S

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED

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2/14 Aust Inf Bn.
28 Sept 42.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES
ROUTINE ORDERS PART I

No. 3.
by

MAJOR H.B. CHALLEN, M.B.E.

ADMIN COMD 2/14 AUST INF BN

17. DUTIES - To mount at 1800 hrs 28 Sept 42 for 24 hr tour of duty:-

Duty Coy - A Coy
N F D - B Coy

Duty Coy will detail an NCO as Orderly NCO. - Dress, Belt and Side Arms.

18. RETURNS - Daily Parade State to be rendered to BHQ 1700 hrs daily.

19. SECURITY - To prevent any possibility of the enemy gaining identification from mail, all personnel will immediately destroy envelopes and wrappers on receipt of personal mail. Stamps and contents may be retained provided that the letter contains no indication of addressee's unit. N.G.F. ORDER 437.

20. CENSORSHIP LOCAL PUBLICATIONS - N.G.F. Routine Order No. 69G of 10 June, is amended to allow the transmission of "MORESBY ARMY NEWS SHEET" through the post as from 31 July. Copies of M.A.N. published prior to 31 July will not be transmitted outside MORESBY AREA. N.G.F. ORDER 438.

21. GREEN ENVELOPES - Troops are reminded that the Green envelope is not a medium of discussing military matters, methods or organisation which would otherwise be deleted by Unit censors. Green envelopes are supplied for a definite purpose and are to be used accordingly. N.G.F. ORDER 439.

22. CONTROL OF PHOTOGRAPHY - No soldier shall have a camera (either cine or still) in his possession. All cameras will be handed into "I" Office, and a receipt given. N.G.F. ORDER 440.

23. ORDERS REB BOMB LOCATION AND DISPOSAL - It is again emphasised that NO UNAUTHORISED PERSON will interfere with unexploded bombs exploded bomb fragments, craters, damaged buildings or installations. Coys will inform ALL PERSONNEL of this fact and ensure compliance with this order. N.G.F. ORDER 442.

24. NOTIFICATION OF CASUALTIES - No members of the forces will communicate any information concerning casualties to the Next of Kin thereof or any other person, within one month after D.R.O. has been notified of such casualty, or the publication of particulars thereof in an official casualty list in AUSTRALIA whichever shall first happen. N.G.F. ORDER 455.

25. ADDRESSES OF PRISONERS OF WAR IN JAPANESE HANDS - For identification purposes, it is necessary that persons writing to service personnel in Japan or Japanese occupied territories should include the addressee's Unit. All such letters are addressed to the Australian Red Cross Society where, identification being established, the letters are removed from their respective envelopes and placed in envelopes specially printed for the purpose, on which the addressee's number rank and name only are written, the remainder of the address being printed and reading "c/o P.O.W.I.B. TOKIO".

N.G.F. ORDER 456.

/ Page 2.

26. TELEGRAMS FROM SOLDIERS - The conditions governing the acceptance of concession rate telegrams have been modified.
In future the sender's Unit must not appear in the endorsement on telegrams lodged by military personnel.
27. AMENITIES - Individual members of the forces are forbidden to ask philanthropic bodies (such as the Australian Comforts Fund or Red Cross) or the press, to supply comforts and amenities to Units.
Application for comforts and amenities will be made only through Commanding Offrs, amenities offrs, or representatives of philanthropic bodies attached formations. N.G.F. ORDER 489.
28. RESTRICTIONS ON TRANSMISSION OF CASH TO AUSTRALIA -
In view of the difficulty in obtaining currency from AUSTRALIA restrictions on the transmission of cash to AUSTRALIA by personnel of NEW GUINEA FORCE are imposed.
The following arrangements have been made for transmitting funds to any address in AUSTRALIA:-
- (a) Postal Notes may be purchased from all Field Post Offices.
 - (b) Cash may be paid to any Field Cash Office and instructions given for payment of the amount to any firm or person in AUSTRALIA. Full name and address of firm or person must be supplied.
- Franking officers will see that actual cash is not forwarded from Australian New Guinea in letters.
- Personnel may allow their pay to accumulate in their paybooks and may also pay in cash to be credited in their paybooks. Any amount exceeding £5 will be accompanied by a statement showing the source from which obtained and the circumstances thereof.
29. ANTI-MALARIAL PRECAUTIONS - The necessity for the carrying out of anti-malarial precautions cannot be over emphasised.
All ranks will daily take 2 Quinine tablets, and will wear Trousers K.D. and long sleeved shirt after sundown.
Mosquito nets are on issue and must be used.
30. TENTS - Tents are to be in inspection order from 0900 hrs to 1700 hrs daily.
31. CHIN STRAPS will not be worn with Felt Hats.

A. Cairns Lieut.
Adjt 2/14 Aust Inf Bn.

PART B.

APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS AND CONFIRMATIONS OF RANK

VX38353	Cpl	LIVINGSTON	G.F.	Promoted	A/Sjt	18-7-42
VX31608	pto	DAVY	K.H.	"	A/Cpl	18-7-42
VX54007	"	HODGSON	S.H.	"	A/Cpl	16-7-42
TX 4665	"	ANDERSON	B.H.	Appointed	L/Cpl	6-7-42
VX17389	"	POWER	R.	"	"	6-7-42
VX51678	"	HAYES	J.H.	"	"	6-7-42
VX22875	"	ROGERS	S.J.	"	"	6-7-42
VX15869	"	THOMPSON	J.J.	Promoted	A/Cpl	24-7-42
VX38087	"	PARKER	L.G.L.	Appointed	L/Cpl	2-8-42
VX12979	"	BROWNING	C.H.	"	"	2-8-42
VX15538	"	THOMAS	V.R.G.	"	"	2-8-42
VX14386	WOII	TIPTON	L.E.	Promoted	WO I.	7-8-42
VX15533	Sjt	BARTLETT	J.H.L.	"	A/WO II	7-8-42
VX15655	Sjt	OSBORNE	W.J.	"	A/WO II	7-8-42
VX62485	A/Cpl	NEAL	J.E.	"	WO II	7-8-42
VX42431	pto	VAFICPULOUS	C.C.A.	"	A/Cpl	15-8-42
VX35437	A/s/sjt	STEWART	J.	Rank of S/Sjt	Confirmed	14-8-42
VX16853	A/Sjt	CONNOR	J.	"	" Sjt	14-8-42

APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS AND CONFIRMATIONS OF RANK (Contd)

VX15203	A/Sjt	LACEY	W.H.	Rank of Sjt Confirmed	14-8-42
VX15297	A/Sjt	ROWAN	T.A.	" " " "	14-8-42
VX15613	A/Cpl	HENDERSON	G.F.	" " Cpl	14-8-42
VX44807	A/Cpl	McLEAN	H.V.	" " " "	14-8-42
VX46590	A/Cpl	RANKIN	H.C.	" " " "	14-8-42
VX15496	A/Cpl	MARTIN	K.P.	" " " "	14-8-42
VX15462	A/Cpl	VANDENBERG	J.L.	" " " "	14-8-42
VX15473	A/Cpl	PAYNE	C.A.	" " " "	14-8-42
VX15317	L/Sjt	WARHURST	D.A.	Promoted Sjt	14-8-42
VX16951	A/Cpl	ALLEN	H.F.	Rank of Cpl Confirmed	9-8-42
VX54007	A/Cpl	HODGSON	S.H.	" " " "	9-8-42
VX33238	Cpl	DEBUS	G.McL.	Promoted A/Sjt	8-8-42
VX51392	L/Cpl	MURPHY	R.J.J.	" A/Cpl	8-8-42
VX15796	A/Cpl	LETSON	J.A.	Rank of Cpl Confirmed	8-8-42
VX19453	A/Cpl	IRVINE	C.C.	" " " "	8-8-42
VX 8266	A/Cpl	CLARKSON	C.W.	" " " "	8-8-42
VX13693	A/Cpl	BOYNE	H.V.	" " " "	15-8-42
VX15172	A/Cpl	MORRIS	A.H.	" " " "	15-8-42
VX12955	A/Cpl	BURNS	P.	" " " "	15-8-42
VX17786	L/Sjt	IRWIN	W.H.	Promoted Sjt	15-8-42
VX13128	A/Cpl	COCK	A.W.	Rank of Cpl Confirmed	15-8-42
VX15298	A/Cpl	McINTOSH	R.A.	" " " "	15-8-42
VX16007	A/Cpl	CROTON	L.W.	" " " "	15-8-42
VX13126	A/Cpl	CRAIG	J.	" " " "	15-8-42

The above Appointments, Promotions and Confirmations of Rank have been promulgated in Part II Orders.

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED

Information contained in this document is NOT to be communicated either directly or indirectly to the Press or to any person NOT holding any official position in His Majesty's Service.

2/14 Aust Inf Bn
29 Sep 42

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES
ROUTINE ORDERS PART I

No 4

by

MAJOR H B CHALLEN, M.B.E.

ADMIN COMD 2 / 14 AUST INF BN

32. BN DUTIES - To mount at 1300 hrs 29 Sep 42 for 24 hr tour of duty -

En Ord Offr - Lieut K A EVANS

BN Ord NCO - Cpl ADAMS J H
H F D - Cpl ALLEN A A

Duty Coy - B Coy
H F D - C Coy

As from 1300 hrs 29 Sep, Runners (2) will be supplied by Duty Coy.

33. PAY.

Personnel wishing to pay money into their paybooks are reminded that for any amount of £5 or over in any one pay period (i.e. a fortnight) they must make a declaration that the said money was lawfully obtained and also obtain the C.O.'s approval for the payment into the paybook. Declaration and approval form as laid down by Financial Regulations will be issued on application to the Pay Sgt.

34. R.A.P.

Treatment hrs for all ranks -
1000 - 1200
1400 - 1600

Treatment will NOT be given unless ordered by RMO or in case of emergency outside these hrs.

35. AUDIT - UNIT TRUST FUNDS

The following have been appointed to the Regtl Audit Board -

Maj P E RHODEN (President)
Lieut K A EVANS
Lieut L C J SCHWIND

The Board will assemble at such times and places as the President directs and will audit and report on Regtl Funds A/c, Offrs and Sgt's Mess A/Cs and any other Regtl A/cs that may be in operation.
(Ref HGF Order No 458)

36. ANTI-MALARIAL PRECAUTIONS

It is noticed that tps are still disregarding anti-malarial precautions. Disciplinary action will be taken against offenders.

37. SWIMMING Tps are again warned that swimming will only take place within the hrs as published in BRO No 2, Para 16.

H. Cairns Lieut
Adj. 2/14 Aust Inf Bn.

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED

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2/14 Aust
WAR DIARY

Vol XXIX Appx. 17

2/14 Aust Inf Bn.
30 Sept 42.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES
ROUTINE ORDERS PART I

No. 5.
by

MAJOR H.B. CHALLEN, M.B.E.

ADMIN COMD 2/14 AUST INF BN

38. BN DUTIES - To mount at 1800 hrs 30 Sept 42 for 24 hr tour of duty:-

Bn Ord Offr - Sjt CLARKE E.R.
N F D - Lieut L.C.J SCHWIND.
Bn Ord NCO - Cpl ALIEN A.A.
N F D - A/Cpl FIFE H.H.

Duty Coy C Coy.
N F D D Coy.

39. GUARDS - Bn Guard will consist of 1 Sjt, 1 Cpl and 12 ORs. Guard will parade on area outside BHQ at 1745 hrs.

DRESS - Trousers K.D., Long sleeved Shirt, Hats turned up, Web Gaiters, Webbing with Haversack. (Haversack to contain Ground Sheet, Shorts, Puttees, Eating Utensils).

40. FIRE PRECAUTIONS - Attention of all Coys is drawn to STANDING ORDERS Appendix 'D' "FIRE PRECAUTIONS". Coys will bring these into effect forthwith.

H Cairns Lieut.
Adjt 2/14 Aust Inf Bn.

PART B

TRADE GROUPINGS.

VX14764	Pte	SMALL	E	Graded Gp II (Carpenter)	18-7-42
VX48016	"	BURFURD	L.H.	Relinquished Gp III	25-7-42
VX31608	"	DAVY	K.H.	" Gp III	17-7-42
VX34494	"	NODRUM	G.	Graded Gp III (Clerk)	26-7-42
VX19442	"	RAINSBURY		Relinquished Gp II	1-8-42
VX15496	"	MARTIN	K.P.	" Gp II	27-7-42
VX36608	"	STEVENS	G.A.	Graded Gp II (Cook)	28-7-42
VX22265	"	SHAW	L.	" Gp III (Clerk)	8-8-42

The above Trade Groupings have been promulgated in Part II Orders.

APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS & CONFIRMATIONS OF RANK

VX18619	A/Cpl	CAMERON	G.	Rank of Cpl confirmed	21-8-42
VX18531	Pte	GRAHAM	J.K.W.	Promoted A/Cpl	20-8-42
VX48168	"	HAYES	R.	" "	1-9-42
VX17982	L/Cpl	COY	J.W.	" A/Sjt	30-8-42
VX14945	Pte	CALLAGHAN	J.P.	" A/Cpl	30-8-42
VX24922	"	BRAY	W.	Appointed L/Cpl	30-8-42
VX15252	L/Cpl	DUNLOP	C.D.	Promoted A/Cpl	30-8-42
VX28592	Pte	BOLITHO	M.W.	" "	30-8-42
VX17273	"	ADAMS	J.H.	Appointed L/Cpl	2-9-42
VX17389	L/Cpl	POWER	R.	Promoted A/Cpl	30-8-42
VX22813	Pte	GRUIP	E.C.	" "	1-9-42

/ Page 2.

APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS AND CONFIRMATION OF RANK (Contd)

VX16202	Pte	KELTON	R.L.	Promoted	A/Cpl	29-8-42
VX15241	"	McCALLUM	C.R.	"	"	1-9-42
VX42732	"	McDONALD	H.S.	"	"	30-8-42
VX 4665	L/Cpl	ANDERSON	B.H.	"	"	30-8-42
VX26258	Pte	SILVER	E.P.	"	"	30-8-42
VX15175	L/Cpl	JORGENSEN	S.G.	"	"	31-8-42
VX15150	Pte	RESTALLACK	J.	"	"	31-8-42
VX15291	Cpl	FITZPATRICK	C.H.	"	A/Sjt	31-8-42
VX15302	Pte	COATES	C.M.	"	A/Cpl	30-8-42
VX30922	"	WAKEFIELD	H.C.	"	"	30-8-42
VX67561	"	SATORI	J.D.	"	"	30-8-42
VX38087	L/Cpl	PARKER	L.G.L.	"	"	30-8-42
VX18174	Pte	GELDART	R.	"	"	30-8-42
VX24486	"	FYFE	H.H.	"	"	30-8-42
VX8266	Cpl	CLARKSON	C.W.	"	A/Sjt	30-8-42
VX19453	Cpl	IRVINE	C.C.	"	"	31-8-42
VX42435	L/Cpl	TRUSCOTT	J.H.	"	A/Cpl	30-8-42
VX15186	"	WILLS	C.H.	"	"	31-8-42
VX16378	"	RUMPF	A.G.	"	"	6-9-42
VX14462	Cpl	McLENNAN	D.A.	"	A/Sjt	1-9-42
VX15189	L/Cpl	WATSON	C.H.	"	A/Cpl	1-9-42
VX20689	Pte	JOYCE	W.G.	Appointed	L/Cpl	1-9-42
VX45445	"	FERGUSON	R.L.	"	"	1-9-42
VX16006	L/Sjt	CLEMENS	R.O.	Promoted	A/Sjt	19-9-42
VX17772	A/Cpl	AVERY	A.R.	"	"	19-9-42
VX15598	Pte	NOONAN	M.J.	"	A/Cpl	19-9-42

The above listed appointments and promotions have not yet been promulgated in Part II Orders.

MORESBY ARMY NEWS SHEET

Published by the Army Education Service for free distribution to
Defence Services' Personnel in Australian New Guinea

Vol. I.

Monday, 21st September, 1942

No. 34

Which Side Are You On?

The average "digger" is a reasonable, clear-minded fellow. He thinks for himself, and can take a hint. Some of us old soldiers of that other war of 1914-18 recall the Gyppo news-boys who used to visit our desert camps in early '16. "Egyptian Mail a' Tim-es," they used to shout down the tent lines. And then, to make sure of sales of their news-rags, a variety of tit-bits was added: "Turks across the Canal; Kitchener Dead; Very Good News; Egyptian Mail a' Tim-es." They didn't keep it up for long. For after one or two characteristically violent counter-attacks by groups of angry diggers against these "very good news" purveyors, the Gyppo news-lads changed their tactics—and sold more copies in consequence. That's the only way to attack this type of thing—chase it down, make it ridiculous, call its bluff. Most of the crop of rumours passed round here lately—and there has been a big and varied collection—are so stupid as to insult the Australian intelligence. Those who start them are either plain morons or irresponsible nit-wits. Those who pass them on are gullible fools who, unwittingly in most cases, are playing the enemy's game. So when you hear a bloke retailing any such guff in future, call his bluff: ask him the straight question—Which side are you on?

RUMOURS

A Message from Our Commander

The following is a personal message to you all from the General Officer Commanding, New Guinea Force:

"I have been seriously disturbed by the number of wild rumours which have been current in the last few days about the situation to the north of Port Moresby. Rumour, by tradition, is a 'lying jade' and she is now living up to her part.

"The fact is that these rumours are all false. Some of them are so fantastic as to rank equal with the Tokio Radio stories of devastating air raids on Port Moresby. You do yourselves, your service, and your country a wrong by listening to them, and worse still by passing them on.

"In the past month we have had our ups and downs, but wars are only won by hard fighting and determined effort, and he is indeed a lucky Commander who only has successes.

"The enemy now has all the difficulties we experienced when fighting north of the Owen Stanley Range. We have received powerful reinforcements; more are on the way, and the future can be viewed with confidence.

"The greatest help you can all give me to-day is to take no notice of this wild talk and go about your normal duties in a normal frame of mind. You will play right into the enemy's hands if you allow your resolution to be weakened by false stories. The next time you hear a rumour, call the bluff of the fellow who told it to you. You will be amazed to find how little he knows about the subject."

S. F. ROWELL,
Lieutenant-General.

Another Aust. V. C.

In this war, as in the last, acts of gallantry and sacrifice by individuals are being carried out every day. When the need is greatest, always some individual comes forward to meet it. Such acts do not always receive due recognition, for they are not always known or observed. In the case of Pte. A. S. Gurney, of a West Australian unit, the King has awarded the Victoria Cross, posthumously, for "gallantry and unselfish bravery in silencing enemy machine-gun posts by bayonet assault at Tel El Eisa on July 22, thus clearing the way for his company to continue their advance."

With all the officers of his company killed or wounded, and when things looked pretty black, Gurney without hesitation charged straight at the nearest enemy machine-gun post, bayoneting three men and silencing the post. Continuing to a second post, he bayoneted two men and sent a third back as a prisoner. A stick of grenades thrown at Gurney knocked him to the ground. Getting up, he charged a third post, using his bayonet vigorously. His body was later found in the post. Gurney is the fifth member of the Australian forces to be awarded the V.C. in this war.

NEWS FROM THE FIGHTING FRONTS

New Guinea—Recent communiques from local Headquarters indicate that enemy pressure continues in the Owen Stanley area. Patrol clashes have been the main feature, casualties being fairly heavy on both sides.

Chester Wilmot, through the A.B.C., gives a stirring account of a gallant rearguard action fought by a group of H.Q. personnel totalling 70 men, including cooks, batmen and signallers. For a whole day they kept the Japanese at bay, repulsing his heavy attack, while forward troops made a successful withdrawal. Under cover of night, the little group fell back to join the main body, bringing their wounded with them.

In the Milne Bay area, mopping up of small enemy parties continues. From that front comes one of those dramatic tales that reads stranger than fiction. One of our patrols surrounded six Japanese airmen at Donveta on the main range near Mt. Mura at 1600 hrs. on September 8. A volley of shots was fired into the air and the Japanese were called upon to surrender. This they refused to do, and three of them were killed. The remaining three escaped along the road to Baniara. Two machine guns, four magazines of ammunition, four automatic pistols and some maps were captured. When next encountered, two days later, six miles north of Komania on the Baniara side of the main range, they had no food, two were bare-footed and they had only one weapon amongst them—a revolver. Again they refused to surrender. They were killed by our rifle fire after a brief exchange of shots. The six Japanese are believed to have been members of the crews of the force of five dive-bombers which attacked Milne Bay positions on August 25. Two of them were shot down and the others found abandoned on a beach near Mullens Harbour, on the south coast of Papua. Enemy dead have been found in this area wearing Australian shorts, boots and tin hats.

Meanwhile, the Allied Air Force has been giving continued support to our ground troops. They have also bombed and strafed enemy bases at Buna and Rabaul, starting large fires, destroying grounded aircraft and barges, as well as fuel and stores dumps.

Solomon Islands—According to a Washington Navy Department statement, the fighting which resumed in the Solomons a week ago has now died down. Enemy troops who succeeded in landing at Guadalcanal were heavily engaged by U.S. marines, and repulsed. All attempts to recapture their positions so far have failed. In their latest attack the Japanese made successive air raids with flights of 28 bombers, generally escorted by fighters. In these attacks, 22 enemy machines were destroyed in five days. The raids, which were supported by bombardment from naval units, caused only minor damage to U.S. positions. Last Sunday night (September 13), the Japanese launched their strongest attack on the Guadalcanal aerodrome, but the attack failed. Washington announces that the U.S. forces are fully alive to their position and have been warned to expect further enemy attacks in force. Two Japanese cruisers were damaged by U.S. Navy aircraft during the Guadalcanal attacks.

American planes, including Flying Fortresses, are regularly plastering Japanese positions in other parts of the Solomons, seaplanes around the island of St. Isabel being shot up in a recent strafe. An air attack was also made on the harbour of Gizo Is. (Gizo is a small, compact harbour enclosed by islands and reefs. In normal times, it is a fairly busy centre of European trade and the head-quarters of the District Officer representing the British Resident Commissioner at Tulagi. It is some 200 odd miles north-west of Tulagi, about halfway between there and Bougainville Island, in the Territory of New Guinea, where the Japanese have a base at Kieta. Guadalcanal - Tulagi - Gizo-Faisi-Kieta-Buka: these points lie, in that order, on the route to Rabaul).

Russia—Pattern bombing, mass tank attacks, concentrated artillery barrages and the use of paratroops by the Germans, have not yet succeeded in reducing Stalingrad. The defenders still hold grimly on in a "fight to the death," the Germans paying a terrific price for every inch of ground. During last week, the Russians fell back, but later, by counter-attacks, they recaptured their original

positions. Greater even than that of Sebastopol is the Russian effort to hold this key city which bears the inspiring name of their Soviet chief. Moscow admitted on Saturday, however, that fighting was taking place in the streets of the city with the Russians fighting from house to house. Every available aircraft the Germans have in Russia is being thrown into the battle, the Nazis using 300 'planes at a time to reduce the Soviet defence points one by one. British commentators say that the despatch of British Middle East pilots to the Russian front is the only hope of saving Stalingrad. German casualties are reliably reported to be enormous, one Nazi radio commentator reporting, over Berlin radio, that the Russians fight more like animals than human beings. On most other sectors Soviet troops hold the initiative. At Voronej, Leningrad and Rjev, the position at the present time favours our Allies. For over a fortnight now, German troops have been held at Mozdok in the eastern Caucasus, 50 miles from the Grozny oil-fields. Enemy units which have succeeded in crossing the Terak R. are being hunted down and annihilated.

China—Chinese troops are attacking the Japanese-held base of Kinwa, capital of Chekiang Province. Chungking announces that enemy forces have been strongly reinforced, and points out that Kinwa must be taken as it offers a serious threat to airfields recently captured by Chinese forces.

In Burma, British Blenheim bombers have attacked railway installations at Mandalay and shipping at Rangoon and Akyab.

Aleutian Islands—American planes twice attacked Japanese positions at Kiska during last week. In the first attack, fighters machine-gunned troops and shipping, with unknown results. On Wednesday, bombers and fighters combined in a raid which resulted in the sinking of two enemy minesweepers, and the damaging of three large cargo vessels, three submarines and other small craft. In addition, four Zeros were shot down in flames, one large patrol aircraft blown up and 500 Japanese troops killed or wounded.

The "Babbling Brook"

A story I tell of a hero unsung—
A harrying long tale of woe,
Of floods of abuse in language un-
checked
That none but Australians would know.
They curse at his stews that they never
refuse,
They abuse him—but come back for
more;
And if ever our unit should suffer defeat,
They'll blame him for losing the war.
He toils all alone while the rest are
asleep,
With mixtures so wierd and so strange;
One day he makes stews without onions
or salt,
The next without spuds for a change.
They glare at him over their cups and
their plates
With a world of abuse in each look;
They whisper—No wonder they call
him "The Babbler,"
For no one would call him a cook.
Calmly he takes all the abuse that they
give,
This cook who feeds our company;
With tea without sugar and stew with-
out meat,
He's a hero without a V.C.
And when this war comes at last to an
end,
And the Japs are no more than a myth;
We'll forget all the pests that we cursed
night and day,
But we'll never forget "Babbler Smith."
Adapted from the original verses by
R.A. (BLUEY) JOHNSTONE.

Madagascar—British troops are making steady progress in their drive from the north, east and west of the island. French troops are half-heartedly opposing them, but in most cases strongpoints have been captured after only minor skirmishes. On Tuesday, the Governor of Madagascar approached the Commander of British forces asking for an Armistice. Vichy Radio reports that the terms of the Armistice laid down by the British had been rejected. London does not confirm this. The State Department in Washington announced that Britain's action in continuing operations in Madagascar had been approved by the U.S. following the failure of peaceful negotiations.

Australian News

Returned soldier settlers will be given a new perpetual lease-hold of their land at an annual rental of 2½ per cent. of its capital value under a Bill to be introduced at the next session of the New South Wales Parliament. The Lands Minister (Mr. Tully) told a soldier settlers' conference that the best land available in the State would be set aside for returned men.

Approval has been given by the King to the Australian Government's proposal to re-name H.M.S. *Shropshire*, H.M.A.S. *Canberra*.

The A.M.P. Society has informed the Government that it will subscribe £500, 000 monthly to the Federal Government's Austerity Loan.

The Director-General of Manpower (Mr. Wurth) said that conscientious objectors in Australia would be ordered to register conditionally for work of a civil character or be enrolled as persons liable to be called up for non-combatant duties in the Citizen Forces.

A Canadian-born American, Major-General G. C. Kenny, has been appointed to succeed Lieut.-General G. Brett as commander of Allied Air Forces in the south-west Pacific and deputy to General MacArthur. Major-General Kenny, D.F.C., with silver bar, served as a long-range reconnaissance pilot attached to the French Air Force in the last war. He joined the regular U.S. Army Corps last year and was appointed a Brigadier-General. Promotion to Major-General came this year. Major-General Ralph Royce, who was posted to a Northern Australian operational command this year, has also been relieved.

The Prime Minister (Mr. J. Curtin) told members of the House of Representatives last Wednesday that, on the advice of military leaders, he had decided not to release men from the Army for work on farms. If faced with the problem of a food shortage through lack of labour, he would prefer that to a shortage of fighting men.

The Assistant Minister for Commerce said last week that about 1,000 dairy farms in New South Wales had closed down or had switched to other forms of production.

Over 180,000 men and women are still needed for the fighting forces and war industries, out of the total of 318, 000 decided on by the Federal Government last May. Manpower problems will be discussed by War Cabinet to-day and recommendations will be considered by Full Cabinet to-morrow.

As their contribution to the Prime Minister's Austerity campaign, the R.A.A.F. personnel may soon have single-breasted overcoats without lining. Working jackets will be cut out.

On Wednesday, Mr. F. A. Cooper was sworn in as Queensland's Premier following the resignation of Mr. W. Forgan Smith, who will retain his membership of the Executive Council. Mr. Smith is now Minister without Portfolio.

Regulations gazetted on Thursday restrict the number of horse racing and coursing fixtures in the following way: (1) There must be no racing or coursing fixtures on the first Saturday of each month; (2) horse racing fixtures must be restricted to seven events and coursing to 10; (3) meetings must not start before 1.45 p.m. and must end by 5.15 p.m.; (4) there must be no increase in the number of race meetings in country areas; (5) only one race meeting in any metropolitan area on one day, but trotting meetings may be held; (6) newspapers are prohibited from publishing acceptances, other newspaper tips and results from other States; (7) nominations, before weights are released, must not be published. The Epsom, A.J.C. Derby and the Melbourne and Caulfield Cups fall on prohibited days, but consideration will be given by the Government to any request for a change of dates.

The Government announced that there are 7,667 Australian prisoners of war captured in Greece and Crete. The names of soldiers missing, believed to be prisoners of war in Malaya and the islands north of Australia total 20,584, 16,286 of whom are believed to be prisoners in Malaya.

New Guinea and its Neighbours

(What do we Australians know about this great Island of New Guinea which is now the forward defence line of our Australian homeland? Not a great deal, some of us at least; yet there is a great deal to know. The article below is the first of a short series giving an outline of New Guinea's story since the Island first became known to Europe).

The existence of New Guinea was first made known to the World by those sailor adventures of the 16th century who traversed the wide oceans in their small craft seeking to learn something of the New World known to lie beyond the European horizon.

Remember your history? It was in 1520-21 that the great Magellan made the first crossing of the Pacific Ocean, until then an uncharted sea. They were Spanish and Portuguese for the most part, these intrepid early world wanderers in the days of the greatness of Spain. Spain ruled the Main, and held what was known of Central and South America in her hands. Spain, too, was the Power in the Spice Islands of the East Indies-Borneo, Celebes, and the Philippines. It was in this heroic period—yes, as far back as that; centuries since—that New Guinea became known, before the Continent of Australia itself.

Two Portuguese, d'Abreu and Serrano, are believed to have seen New Guinea's distant outline in 1512. Another Portuguese, de Meneses, is, however, credited with the actual discovery—during a voyage from the Malay peninsula to the Spice Islands in 1526-27. Getting off the usual more northerly course, he came upon the western coastline, and named the land Papua. Papua (pronounced Pah-poo-wah—the spelling is phonetic) is a Malay word used to describe frizzy hair. It may be surmised that the Spanish and Portuguese of the Spice Islands trade carried Malays amongst their crews, and knew something of the Malay language. So this land, because of its mop-haired people no doubt, got its first name, not from Europe, but from the dusky peoples of the islands to the near-west.

The next voyager in the New Guinea picture was Alvaro de Saavedra. Coasting along the northern shores of the island in 1528 on his voyage from Mexico to the Moluccas, he gave it the name of Isla del Oro (Island of Gold); but he assuredly could have had no presentiment of what was actually to happen four centuries later when, with the opening up of the Morobe goldfields (and the establishment of the thriving

townships of Salamaua, Lae and Wau), New Guinea was to become in truth the Eldorado of the Pacific, served by the most modern and extensive air-transport service of the world.

Papua! Isle of Gold! Next New Guinea: this last name was given by the Spaniard, de Retes, in 1545, when he sailed along the northwest coast in search of a more or less mythical New Spain. He used the name because of the resemblance he believed he saw between the natives and those of the Guinea coast of West Africa, well-known to Spanish and Portuguese navigators of the day. De Retes "took possession" of the western portion of the island (now Dutch New Guinea) for the King of Spain.

Torres (of Torres St.) was also early in these waters. Crossing the Pacific from Callao (South America) in 1605, he discovered and named the Louisiade Archipelago, charted Milne Bay pretty accurately, and surveyed a good part of the north-east coast (including the Buna and Gona region). Torres "took possession" of the Islands for Spain in 1606. His voyage opened a century of discovery in New Guinea waters—a century rich in names like Dampier, Quiros, Tasman, Schouten, and le Maire, some of which may be found on the present day New Guinea map; a century which brought the Dutch into the Western Pacific picture.

The 18th century saw numerous other well-known voyagers in these waters, the British East India Coy. formally taking possession for Britain. But no European occupation took place, and the Island remained a virtual no-man's land for 100 years.

Yule Island, west of Port Moresby, was named after Lt. Yule, R.N., who voyaged along part of the South coast in the small naval survey ship "Bramble" in 1846.

The great river of Western Papua, the Fly, took its name from the naval vessel in which Capt. Blackwood sailed along the Gulf of Papua in 1842.

Port Moresby was named after Capt. (afterwards Admiral) John Moresby, who examined the eastern half on the coastline in 1873 in H.M.S. Basilisk, after which Basilisk Passage, outside Port Moresby harbour, is named.

On this voyage, Moresby "took possession" of the eastern part of the island "pending the decision of His Majesty's Government." Moresby's action was not confirmed, and Britain showed no more interest in the Island until Germany came into the picture, a decade later, when the modern story of New Guinea commenced, with the white man well in the picture.

From Thursday last, the price of spirits in Australia was increased; imported to 2/6 a bottle and Australian to 2/3. A 1 oz. nip will now cost 1d. extra.

The Australian Red Cross recently sent £4,000 worth of clothing to Britain, and £3,000 worth to Malta for the relief of air raid victims.

Members of the V.D.C. recently saved the lives of the crew of a Catalina flying boat which came down off Palm Island (Queensland).

Plans are now being considered by the Australian Government for the use of military aerodromes for civil purposes after the war. The Minister for Air (Mr. J. S. Drakeford) said that with experienced pilots, modern planes and aerodromes, Australia could become one of the leading civil aviation countries in the world.

L/Bdr. F. R. Wombey and Gnr. W. T. Hudson, anti-aircraft gunners at Darwin, are the first Australian militiamen to gain the M.M. award. During the first enemy raid on Darwin, these gunners manned machine-guns and fired on enemy planes. While L/Bdr. Wombey was having a shower the enemy aircraft came over. He mounted a machine-gun on an oil dump and blazed away at a Japanese bomber which flew low to return his fire. The plane later crashed in flames.

The Road to Victory—Allied production increases day by day; Russia hangs grimly

on, fighting to the death; new ships are coming off the Allied slips in ever-increasing numbers to offset our losses; the spirit of China remains unconquered and her strength, with the support of Allied materials, increases daily. We have had our local success at Milne Bay—the satisfaction of driving off a Jap. force and "mopping up" its remnants; our Allied airmen hammer perpetually at enemy bases, keeping him on the ground—at Buna, Rabaul, Buka and as far afield as the little hill-rimmed, palm-girt island harbour of Gizo in the Solomons, 200 miles towards New Guinea from Guadalcanal where the gallant U.S. marines have foiled four successive Jap. attempts to re-establish themselves. We are beginning to move on—slowly and painfully perhaps, but moving nevertheless, along the road that leads to Tokio. A long road no doubt it will be, and beset with many obstacles in the earlier stages. But these obstacles will be surmounted until we find ourselves, with our own Peter Dawson, "Swinging Along the Road to Victory."

News-Service—The distribution of daily news-bulletins is being extended as far as possible to enable all troops to see a copy and thus keep in touch with war developments in this area and elsewhere. These bulletins are prepared only for local distribution, and are not to be sent, by post or any other means, outside this area.

General News

American Lend-Lease deliveries to Allied countries between March, 1941 and August, 1942 totalled £1,281,000. Thirty-five per cent of the total U. S. output was sent to Britain and Russia, while forty per cent was despatched to the Middle East, Australia, China and other war fronts. America retained the remaining twenty-five per cent. Mr. Donald Nelson, U.S. War Production Chief, said that since Japan's treacherous attack on Pearl Harbour, American production had increased 3½ times. U.S. was receiving guns and special types of engines from Britain, while all American forces in the European theatre of war were being partly equipped by Britain.

Canadian casualties in the recent combined operations raid on Dieppe were 4,350 killed, wounded or missing.

Japan has 20 divisions of front-line troops concentrated in Manchukuo, with 20 divisions of mixed troops in reserve, according to reports reaching Chungking. Since their occupation of Manchukuo, the Japanese have built 27,000 miles of new roads, have constructed airfields and have established several new harbours. In a speech celebrating the anniversary of the occupation of this puppet State, the Japanese Premier (General Tojo) referred to the important part it was playing in safeguarding Japan's northern frontier.

For every large transport carrying 5,000 men across the ocean, six freighters are required to take their equipment. This was revealed by Colonel Ross, U.S. Services' leader, who advocated the use of giant transport planes.

A Japanese ship will soon leave the Portuguese East African port of Lorenzo Marquez with £1,000,000 st. of foodstuffs on board for prisoners-of-war in Japanese hands. The foodstuffs came from Britain, America and Australia. The Australian Red Cross was responsible for 1,400 tons of foodstuffs valued at £104,000.

Last Tuesday (15 September) was the anniversary of the height of the Battle for Britain. It was on this day two years ago that 185 German planes were shot down for the loss of only 11 British fighter pilots and 25 aircraft. General Arnold, Commander of the U.S. Air Forces in Europe, said that this victory marked the turning point of the whole war. Once the Battle for Britain, it had now become the Battle for Germany.

Australian patrols in the El Alamein area in Egypt recently brought back with them from one of their raids, German prisoners between the ages of 19 and 21 years. These Nazi youths told their captors that they had been wounded in fighting in Russia, and after recuperating, were sent to join the Afrika Korps direct from Athens.

It is estimated that by the end of 1943, America's army will total between 10,000,000 and 13,000,000 men, including married men with children.

Enemy prisoners captured by U.S. marines at Guadalcanal and Tulagi expressed a desire not to return to Japan after the war was over. The 460 Japanese soldiers taken prisoner were much surprised when the Americans gave them clothing and medical attention. They thought they all would be killed.

Early in the week the Canadian Navy Minister (Mr. M. MacDonald) reported that four Allied merchantmen and one Canadian patrol vessel had been sunk in an enemy attack on an Allied convoy recently.

So rapid has been recruiting in South Africa that the Premier (General Smuts) was able to announce on Tuesday that South African losses when Tobruk fell had now been made good.

The former British Ambassador in Tokio recently arrived in England under the exchange of prisoners scheme. While expressing his confidence in Allied victory in the Far East, he warned that Japan would offer a very stubborn resistance to offensive United Nations' action.

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NEW GUINEA AND ITS NEIGHBOURS

(Last week we told you the story of how New Guinea gradually became known to Europe—up to the second half of last century. A brief outline of the later history is given below, together with an additional note taken from the recently written article, "Our Umbrella: New Guinea" by R. W. Robson, published in the Army Education magazine *Salt*, vol. 3, No. 10, of which a few copies are available for issue at the A.E.S. centre at Fleet Street).

Recent History—It was in the last quarter of last century that Germany showed increasing interest in the unclaimed areas of the south-west Pacific. Becoming alarmed at the prospect of German annexation of a territory so close to Australia's northern shores, Britain, following urgent representations from certain of the Australian States, declared a protectorate over the south-eastern section of New Guinea and the adjacent islands to the east. This was in November, 1884. (Actually the Union Jack had been hoisted at Port Moresby in April of the previous year, at the instigation of the Premier of Queensland, but Britain failed to follow up this act). In December of the same year, Germany formally took possession of the north-eastern portion of the main island of New Guinea together with the adjacent islands of New Britain, New Ireland, and others, giving them all German names. Thus there were at that time, apart from Dutch New Guinea, two quite distinct territories—German New Guinea and British New Guinea. British New Guinea was handed over to Australia in 1906, taking the name of the Territory of Papua, with Port Moresby as the seat of administration. German New Guinea was occupied by an Australian garrison in 1914, and in 1921 was placed under the administration of Australia as a League of Nations' Mandate, which provided that the material and moral well-being and the social progress of the inhabitants should be promoted to the utmost.

Thus, until their combination under a military administration on the cessation of civil government early this year, Australian New Guinea comprised (1) The Territory of Papua; (2) The Territory of New Guinea, each with a separate administrative organisation—the former a Commonwealth Protectorate, and the latter a League of Nations' Mandate.

R. W. Robson in "SALT."—Those who go to New Guinea seeking "the painted isles of Polynesian romance" are due for some sickly disillusionment. Behind the blue lagoons there are palm-girt beaches glistening in golden sunshine; but beyond the palms there is probably a mangrove swamp with crocodiles in it. Amidst the masses of tropical vegetation there are gorgeously coloured flowers and birds and insects; but you will be stung half to death by countless mosquitoes, of which every hundredth one is an anopheles with a lively dose of malaria in its beak. Port Moresby, key to the New Guinea mainland, is a drought-ridden township. The usual jungle stops several miles away, on either side; and Port Moresby lies at the foot of depressingly bare hills. The harbour is wonderful, but the surroundings are foul. Beyond the port and the coastal strip rises the most striking and dominating impression of New Guinea, characteristic of the mainland or New Britain, New Ireland or Bougainville. Hill is piled on foothill, mountain on hill, rocky crag rises behind jungle-clad summit, until the whole tremendous blue mass disappears into the heavy clouds which hang everlastingly over this strange, gloomy, equatorial land. That is New Guinea—endless, tortuous, jungle-clad, rain-soaked mountains, rising from near the sea, and often out of the sea itself, up into awesome masses which sneer at settlers and defy road-builders. It is like that everywhere; a strip of settlement and plantations along the coasts, but elsewhere nothing but impenetrable mountains and jungle.

NEWS FROM AUSTRALIA

Eight Australian airmen serving in the Middle East recently were decorated for gallantry in air operations against the enemy. They were:—D.F.C.: Fl.-Lt. J. G. Manford (Perth), Acting Fl.-Lt. G. T. Chinchin (Geelong), Acting Fl.-Lt. L. T. Spence (Longreach), Acting Fl.-Lt. G. C. Coward (North Ipswich), Acting Fl.-Lt. A. C. Hardy (Victoria), Pilot-Officer Frank Tremlow (New South Wales). D.F.M.: Fl.-Sgt. R. F. C. Dangar (Rockhampton), Sgt. R. E. Ford (Toowoomba).

The Allied Works Council, after six months operation, now has 1295 major projects under construction at an approximate cost of £1,000,000, and 7,000 minor jobs costing £5,000. The Minister for the Interior (Senator Collings) revealed that on August 31 there were 51,000 men employed directly under the Works Council. Expenditure during the past three months averaged £4,000,000 a month.

Contending that the appointment of squads of inspectors and the formulation of more orders would not overcome wastage in army camps, the Chief Inspector of the Army (Brigadier Eugene Gorman) said: "We must teach personal responsibility to every man from the lowest to the highest. Fortunately, soldiers have one motive in common—public service and national duty."

Australian guerillas are harassing Japanese occupation forces in Timor. They are operating from hills in the centre of the 300 mile long island, defying all Japanese attempts to capture them. In the last few weeks they have held back enemy moves inland from the south-east coast. The Australians have plenty of supplies and ammunition. They hunt game by day and haunt Japs. by night. And they say: "It's a shame to take the money."

As a contribution to the austerity campaign, State school pupils will be encouraged to wear uniform dress. Boys of all ages in State schools will be asked to wear shirts and shorts of a serviceable material in schools and dispense with coats, blazers and long trousers. Girls will be permitted to wear tennis slacks and need not wear blazers or carry them to school. Felt hats will be dispensed with.

Expenditure by municipal authorities in Victoria is to be limited to essential services and maintenance work in order to avoid competition with Commonwealth war work.

The Silver Star, an American decoration, has been awarded to Air Commodore F. M. Bladin for his gallantry over the Kendari aerodrome in the Celebes. Bladin led his five bombers in to attack, beating off repeated enemy fighter attacks.

The Federal Government's £100,000,000 Austerity and War Loan will be formally opened on October 3. Meanwhile, subscriptions are being accepted. The Prime Minister (Mr. J. Curtin) said last night that the loan would provide for the conversion of approximately £23,000,000 of Commonwealth securities and would raise £60,000,000 for war purposes.

Lieutenant D. J. Richardson, an Australian naval officer, has returned to Australia after taking part in the combined operations raid on Dieppe. He was in the gun-boat which led a flotilla of landing barges containing Commandos, and acted as signal officer to the Officer-in-Charge of this Commando detachment.

Group-Captain Richard Kellett, D.F.C., A.F.C., who led the flight of Vickers Wellesley bombers in a record Egypt to Darwin hop four years ago, has been reported missing. His wife was formerly Miss Dorothy Abbott, daughter of Mr. C. L. A. Abbott, administrator of Northern Territory, whom he met in Darwin at the completion of his trip.

When the appointment of a minister to devote the whole of his time to post-war reconstruction was urged during the Budget debate in the House of Representatives, the Prime Minister (Mr. J. Curtin) replied that no definite plan for post-war development could be decided upon until more factual information had been gathered, but preliminary work was now proceeding.

Commendation cards signed by General Sir Thomas Blamey, C-in-C Allied land forces in the South-West Pacific, and sent to 45 members of the A.M.F., include one each for two staff nurses and another for Major Charles Moses, general manager of the A.B.C.

New Commonwealth legislation provides for the relief of civilians who directly through the war or Government action become unemployed, or who are injured while doing war duties or through enemy action. Members of the Civil Construction Corps are covered by the scheme, which also provides for the care of evacuees from threatened areas. In all cases, wives and dependent children are included in the relief scale.

To meet local requirements in 1942-43, Australia must produce 200,000,000 gallons of milk, 1,000,000 tons of meat, 78,000,000 dozen eggs, 60,000 tons of sugar, 3,000,000 cases of tinned fruit and 500,000 tons of potatoes.

Plans are now under way to provide troops in New Guinea with up-to-date films being shown in Australia. Already distributors have sent 10,000,000 feet of film to the fighting forces, but these have not been first-release shows. The new arrangement will include recent Australian news-reels.

After a lapse of poor kicking in the earlier stages of the game, Essendon staged a remarkable recovery and completely out-played Richmond in the Victorian Football League final on Saturday (September 19). It was Essendon's first premiership in 18 years. The attendance of 49,000 paid the season's record takings of £4,640. Final scores were: Essendon, 19-18, 132 points; Richmond, 12-39, 79 points.

Newtown beat St. George 23-12 in the final of the Sydney Rugby League premiership. In the Rugby Union final played at the North Sydney oval, Manly, down 3-6 at one stage in the second half, had a runaway 22-6 win over University. Manly has now won the premiership three times since the last war at 10 year intervals—1922, 1932, 1942. With a win on Saturday, South Sydney qualified to meet Newtown in the final of the Australian Rules competition.

Plt.-Off. Leigh H. Vial, who has been awarded the American Distinguished Service Cross "for extraordinary heroism in action in New Guinea" is the second member of his family to be decorated in this war. His younger brother, Lt.-Col. R. R. Vial, 27, who recently returned to Australia after 2½ years' service in the Middle East and is now in an advanced operational area, was awarded the D.S.O. for bravery in the Greek campaign, and has been twice mentioned in despatches.

Plt.-Off. Vial, who is the eldest son of Mrs. M. Vial, of Riversdale Rd. Camberwell, is 33, and was educated at Wesley College and Melbourne University, where he was a commerce student. He was selected as a cadet for the New Guinea Administration service, and before the outbreak of war with Japan was assistant district officer at Rabaul. At the beginning of this year, after coming to the mainland, he joined the R.A.A.F. His wife, formerly Miss Marjorie Strangward, and children have been living in Melbourne this year since leaving Rabaul.

Milne Bay

(Notes from S.M.H.)

DOCTORS' HEROISM

Doctors from a hospital ship worked 36 hours in mud and slush and often under fire, operating on limbs torn by Japanese bullets.

"A hospital ship came in one night and the doctors went ashore to look after the men," said one soldier. "They were God's own heroes, every one of those doctors. In that mud and slush they rigged up big marquees and got to work operating. Every time they saved a life it seemed just a miracle.

"They worked under conditions as foul as could be found anywhere. The marquee was air-tight and the fumes of ether mixed with the smell of blood and flesh would have knocked an ordinary tough soldier. They had six or eight men in each marquee and when the orderlies walked from bed to bed there was mud up to their ankles—slushy mud that squelched when you walked.

"Hour after hour they operated, without even thinking that they might be tired and their hands might be trembling.

"I'll always take off my hat, any time I meet him, to a doctor from South Australia. For 36 hours he never took a breather and at the end of it all he collapsed at the side of his operating table. And that was the night a Japanese warship came in and shelled the shore.

BRAVE NURSES

"Shells whistled over the tent where that man was working, but the way he worked was how wars are won. And they are won by women like those A.I.F. nurses on the ship, some of them just kids, scared as hell, but too brave to show it. In the end it was they who were trying to calm us—in the beginning we had been trying to calm them."

TIED IN TREES

The senior staff officer who was in New Guinea with General Blamey and visited Milne Bay a few days ago, described the action at the bay as a decisive victory for the Allied troops.

He said that the Japanese landed 2,000 men, and 700 were killed. A few stragglers probably remained towards the end of the peninsula, but most had been mopped up.

The enemy's tactics there had been to advance during the night and to leave men in palm trees with mortars, machine-guns, and grenades, with which to snipe next day. Often they were tied to the trees and, when shot by our men, they stayed there.

There was evidence that, rather than let their own badly-wounded men fall into Allied hands, the Japanese had shot them through the heart.

"TERRIFIC DIN"

Whenever a Japanese patrol launches an attack it sets up a terrific din and attempts to create the idea in the minds of the troops it is opposing that they are up against a large force. This scheme has not worked very successfully lately. But the Japanese let off crackers, yell and chatter with great gusto as part of this stunt.

Local—This week's action in the Owen Stanley area saw the beginning of a forward move, with the initiative in our hands, and the enemy driven back from his advanced positions. Our 25-pounder field guns are in action, their support assisting us to keep the enemy on the defensive. It is believed that the enemy is experiencing considerable difficulty in the maintenance of supplies, due to the constant attack by Allied air units upon his communications and bases. Intensive air activity during the week covered a wide field, including Rabaul, Salamaua, and Lae, as well as Buna, and points in the Northern Solomons.

NOTES ON THE WAR

These Crucial Days—The Minister for Production, Mr. Oliver Lyttelton, referring in a speech to his statement in July that in the next 80 days they would face one of the gravest crises in their history, said: "Nineteen or 20 of these days remain, after which the war will definitely begin to enter a new phase."

"We are approaching the breathless moment when, if Russia can hold on to her present positions for a few more weeks, the balance will begin to swing in our direction, and when the gathering forces of the greatest Alliance the world has ever seen are going to give us the first evidence of victory," he added.

Battle of the Solomons—A moonlight battle in which American forces trapped and wiped out an entire Japanese landing force, is described by the United Press correspondent, Robert Miller, in a despatch from the Marines' headquarters in the Solomons.

The battle occurred at Tenaru, and was the first serious enemy attempt to regain Guadalcanal.

"Tanks," says Miller, "turned the battle into a massacre. Every marine yelled when the tanks appeared and the whole American side on the battle-field sounded like Ebbets Field when the Dodgers win a close baseball game. The tanks rumbled down, single file, toward coconut palms, where the Japanese were hidden."

"There were only two things the Japanese could do—scramble and run, and be mowed down by our machine-guns, or lie low hoping that the tanks would miss them."

"It was pitiful to watch the Japanese try to fight the tanks. They fired rifles and machine-guns, but the bullets pinged off the armour-plate harmlessly."

"A total of 750 Japanese were wiped out. The American casualties were 28 killed and 72 wounded."

A steady stream of supplies is now reaching the marines on Guadalcanal, despite concentrated efforts of Japanese submarines, surface raiders, and aeroplanes. Air strength has been built up to a formidable level, while marine ground troops are well dug in against any possibility of counter-attack.

A late report (Sep. 25) states that during the first month's occupation, in Guadalcanal and Tulagi alone, 3,700 Japanese were killed or captured, and 20 Jap. ships sunk or damaged, including a light cruiser and three destroyers. In addition, 44 Jap. fighters, 27 bombers and 2 reconnaissance planes were destroyed.

Sydney Morning Herald, Sept. 17—It is impossible to exaggerate the strategic importance of the Tulagi-Guadalcanal area, both to the enemy and to the Allies. In our hands it undoubtedly blocks the enemy's drive towards the eastern Australian coast and the vital lines of supply serving Australia as an operational base, besides being an almost essential starting point for any Allied offensive against Rabaul. For the enemy success in this attack would undoubtedly be followed by the irruption of his fleet into the Coral Sea, and a renewed attempt, certainly in greater force, to reduce New Guinea and invade either eastern Australia or New Caledonia, or both. It may be that, before the local issue is decided, a second battle of the Coral Sea will develop. The Japanese moves in Papua confirm their design to seize vantage points which will bring them into position for a renewed southward drive. Fortunately, since the earlier attempt by sea was frustrated last May, the Japanese have suffered serious losses to their navy at Midway and in the Aleutians, and we now have the encouraging assurance of Admiral Blandy, just back in America from a tour of inspection in the Pacific, that now "most certainly the United States holds the balance of military and naval striking power over Japan."

A U.S. Navy Department resume states that U.S.A. has so far lost 32 ships in Pacific operations and Japan 59. The Navy also claims that 15 Japanese warships have probably been sunk and 60 damaged, while 9 small U.S. warships have been demolished to prevent their capture by the enemy, and 12 have been damaged in action.

India Next Jap. Target—Evidence is accumulating that Japan is on the verge of launching a new major campaign, says London *Daily Mail's* military correspondent. The belief has been deliberately fostered by the Japanese themselves, but it would be unwise on that account to treat it as bluff. General Shunroku Hata, C-in-C-Japanese Armies in China, broadcasting from Tokio on August 16, said Japan was about to take an important step having a direct bearing on the European war. There followed hints so carefully calculated as to invite suspicion that the objective would be Siberia, but the severest cold is beginning in that part of the world. Even assuming that the Soviet maritime provinces were taken, the Japanese gains would be negative. The Allies would be deprived of potential air bases, but the Russians would suffer no immediate vital injury.

India must be regarded as the danger-point, and there are many reasons why it should be chosen as the next target. With the dying down of the monsoon, invasion by sea becomes a practicable proposition. Political ferment still ruling can only be regarded as a clear invitation to an invading army.

Japanese attempts to retake the Solomons fit into this picture. No invasion of India could safely be undertaken with a powerful U.S. fleet based on the Japanese left flank at Tulagi. In the light of recent events it is not unlikely that the renewed Japanese thrusts in New Guinea are deliberately designed to draw away U.S. air and naval forces from the Solomons, so easing the task of their reconquest.

The Air War in Europe—An air battle of unprecedented dimensions is apparently looming up in Western Europe, with the course of the war possibly turning upon the issue," says the Washington correspondent of the *New York Times*.

"Germany is now on the defensive against the R.A.F.'s unparalleled night raids and the Flying Fortresses' precision daylight forays. Some of the best squadrons of German fighters have been shifted to the western front but have failed to combat these raids."

"Germany's next step must be a new blitz against Britain in an attempt to destroy the raiders and their nests."

"Increasing reports of new surprises from the Luftwaffe, such as a strato-bomber operating at 40,000 feet, cause little concern in aviation circles, which point out that Flying Fortresses and Liberators can be flown at virtually the same altitude by cutting down the bomb load, stepping up the engines, and dropping some armament."

Madagascar—Whatever steps the Vichy authorities in Madagascar may take to prolong hostilities, there can be no doubt that the British, already in occupation of the west coast ports and Antananarivo, will soon complete their occupation of the island.

The occupation should dispose of any threats by Japanese submarines, surface vessels, or aircraft against the Allied shipping routes round the Cape, especially those traversing the Mozambique Channel, between Madagascar and the coast of Portuguese East Africa. Any attempt by the Japanese to blockade the south-western approaches to the Indian Ocean will thus be frustrated. In addition, Madagascar will provide a base from which British reconnaissance patrols, by air and by sea, will be able to range far out over the Indian Ocean to an extent that is not possible from Durban or Mombasa.

Believe it or Not—Four men of an A.I.F. battalion in New Guinea—drivers and cooks—have been court-martialled on a charge of "having fired at the King's enemies without permission."

When the battalion went into action the men, who had been left at Port Moresby, went A.W.L. and joined the forward troops.

The court-martial's only pronouncement was a solemn admonition "not to do it again." (*Melbourne Argus*)

Headlines

Here is this week's selection of headlines from recent copies of Melbourne *Argus* and *Sydney Morning Herald*. The idea is to give you a survey of interesting news items in concentrated verbal tabloid form.

Turkey will not join Axis.
Vichy likely to break with U.S. soon.
M.H.R. before Court-Martial (Falstein of R.A.A.F.): 28 Days Sentence.
Germans using Italian Reserves in Stalingrad Battle.

Red Bombers over Budapest and Berlin.
Pope intercedes for French Jews.
Report of Rommel's Illness Doubtful.
William Murdoch, famous Australian Pianist, Dead.

Prisoner Amok with Sledge Hammer: Damage in Bathurst Gaol.
Re-action to Bare Legs Favourable—(Australia).

U.S. Shipbuilding exceeds Sinkings.
Women of Crete preferred Death to Hitler: Fought as Guerillas.
Earl Haig a Prisoner of War.

New U.S. Fighter in 400 m.p.h. Class.
Allied Aim is Offensive on Germany: Can be launched at many points (Roosevelt Speech).

M.L.A.'s want rise in Salary: No Increase since 1920—(Victoria).

Barmaids in Victoria must be over 30.
Life is Pretty Grim in Japan: Even Rice Limited.

Mrs. Mickey Rooney Seeking Divorce.
Salute to Malta: on National Day.

Four Million German Casualties: Up to August 1st.

Higher Beer Prices in Operation: Little Effect on Consumption: "Schooners" more popular in Sydney.

Heroism of A.I.F. Nurses in Middle East: Army Minister's Tribute.

Steady Improvement in India: Large Reinforcements for British Army.

British M.P.s. to visit Chungking.
Spanish Changes Seen as Swing to Allies.

Visit to Australia Planned by Willkie.
Bomb Japan to Win War: Sir John Latham's Views.

A.J.C. Derby: No Visiting Horses.
Commonwealth Forestry School may Close—(Canberra).

Army Tobacco Rationed: 20 Cigarettes a Day—(Australia).

Women Serving in Egypt: Hundreds from United Kingdom.

Public Opinion in U.S.A.: Middle West still Isolationist.

New Alaskan Highway in Operation Soon.

Production in U.S.A.: Not Good Enough Yet.

Wounded in Jungle: Milne Bay Men Return—(Brisbane).

Christianity in Japan: Being Stamped Out.

Duce's Daring Desperadoes: Comic Commandos.

Axis Prepares Defences in Egypt: Fears Large Scale Attack.

Best Land for Soldiers: N.S.W. Repatriation Plans.

Axis Demands on Vichy: Ships, Men and Dakar.

Attack on Budget Policy: Compulsory Loan Urged—(Australia).

Gale Damage in Sydney: Harbour Craft Battered.

Soldiers' Hospital Craft Work: Varied Exhibits—(Australia).

Public Services Combed: 3,160 men for War Duties.

A.I.F. Praises Militia: Blood Brothers in New Guinea.

Laval's Plans for France: A Nazi Republic.

Record in Air Victories: "Killer" Caldwell's Ambition.

Stricter Federal Control of States Urged—(Australia).

13 Days in Jap. Territory in New Guinea: 2 Victorians Reach Safety.

Length of the War: Roosevelt's Guess—another 3½ Years.

Period of India's Peril Begins: Monsoonal Rains Have Ceased.

Invasion of Siberia Imminent: Jap. Preparations.

28,251 Australian Soldiers are Prisoners of War.

Nazis Start Mass Deportations from Luxembourg.

20 Enemy Divisions in Assault on

BRITAINS COURAGE DURING BLITZ: New York Tribute

In a leader on the second anniversary of the Battle for Britain, *New York Times* pays high tribute to the courage of the people of Britain.

"The victory has grown greater in perspective. It was a victory for all British people—for those of Norman ancestry and for men on the docks; for the King as a man unafraid; for sergeant-pilots, tramway conductors, women serving beer in pubs, women in uniform running ambulances; for the common, ordinary people."

"If they had not stood up to the Nazi assault the world of civilised men would have been lost for untold years. The people of Britain held as Stalingrad has held in a miracle of human nature which asserts its dignity against the forces of hell. Because Britain held, Russia can now hold, and mankind can hope."

Owen Stanley—Who was this Owen Stanley after whom was named the great Papuan mountain range over whose precipitous jungle-clad surface war is being waged to-day? Like Port Moresby itself, hardly heard of outside this Territory a few months ago, to-day the name has become known to the world as one of the focal points of war interest.

Owen Stanley was a British naval officer, whose whole career was given to the making of reliable surveys of the little known seas of the world. A son of the Bishop of Norwich, he was born in 1811. Entering the Royal Naval College in 1824, at 13 years of age, he embarked upon his naval career as a cadet in January, 1826. He served in turn in the South American and Mediterranean regions, and in 1836 was a member of the Polar expedition organised to search for Sir John Ross.

It was in June, 1837, that he first visited Australian waters. In command of the *Britomart*, he assisted in founding the settlement of Port Essington, on the north-west coast of Australia. Becoming a post-captain at 33 years of age, in 1846 he took command of the frigate *Rattlesnake*, specially fitted for survey work in the Indian and Australasian seas. He examined many of the channels in Torres Strait, and subsequently surveyed the whole of the south-east coast of New Guinea and the islands of the Louisiade Archipelago, giving names to many of the geographical features. As was pointed out in the article, "New Guinea and its Neighbours," in last week's *M.A.N.S.*, New Guinea was then an unknown and unwanted land, neither Britain nor Germany having officially annexed any part of it.

Completing his survey of the New Guinea coast in 1849, Stanley returned to Port Jackson in January, 1850, where he died a few weeks later. He was buried in the grounds of the parish church of St Leonard's on the north shore of Sydney Harbour.

His personal knowledge of the great mountain range which now bears his name and which is the backbone of New Guinea itself, was limited to a coastal view of its cloud-capped and rugged grandeur against the distant horizon.

Owen Stanley must not be confused with another of the name, Evan Stanley, who did extensive explorative work in Papua as Government geologist under the Australian Administrator, Sir Hubert Murray, and whose name appears here and there on present-day official maps.

Stalingrad: Nazis Planned to Occupy City on August 25.

Aust. National Debt Increased by £333,805,708 since June 30, 1939.

General Mobilisation Ordered in Brazil.

Co-adjutor for Dr. Mannix: Archbishop Simonds of Tasmania.

Cost of Living up 17.9 per cent. since war—(Australia).

Beauty Salons may be "Rationalised"—(Australia).

Bing Crosby Tops Film Star Salaries: Income of 452,000 Dollars Last Year.

R.A.F. over Munich: 8,000 lb. Bombs Used.

New British Tanks are Best in the World.

T.N.T.—Today, Not To-morrow: Britain's New War Slogan.

Treacy
REPORT BY *Lieut TREACY*
FOR WAR DIARY

2/14 Bn. A.I.F.
WAR DIARY
Vol. XXIX Appx. 19.

ADDITIONAL APPENDIX TO
SEPT WAR DIARY



The Haven

At approx 1700 hrs on 30th August 1942. "B" Coy. carried out an attack on enemy positions, to cover the withdrawal of the Bn to ALOLA. "B" & "A" coys respectively, were to be the last to move.

During the attack, casualties in both "B" and "C" were heavy, with the result that all ^{fit} personnel of "B" coy and some of "A" were used for stretcher bearing.

As wounds were dressed, the stretcher parties were withdrawn along the track, until - at approx 1830 hrs - the last wounded man was on a stretcher, ready to move.

Capt. S.H. Buckler (O.C "A" coy) took charge. The party then included one "A" coy pl. comdr, 2 i.c "B" coy and approx 42 O.R's from A, B and C coys.

With one stretcher case, this party

set off along the track to ^{wards} ALOHA

Daylight was failing.

After moving for about twenty minutes;

a report was received from a stretcher party which had left earlier that the enemy had cut the track ahead. By this time darkness had fallen.

A party under Sgt Guillon "A" Coy, was sent forward to clear the track, but was driven back after suffering casualties including Sgt Guillon, bpl Smith ("A" Coy) bpl Metson ("C" Coy) wounded and approx two killed - one probably Pte Seeley "m.m" "A" Coy.

It was then decided to attempt to withdraw the forward stretcher to the main party; this being done without further casualties.

Capt. Buckler then decided to leave the main track and travel in a westerly direction toward EURO CREEK then along

the creek to ALOKA.

Reconnaissance was made and the party organised so that there were small protective parties in front and rear to cover the slow moving stretchers and walking wounded.

At 2000 hrs, the party left the track after setting "booby" traps - one of which was later heard to go off - and after a steep descent reached a creek halfway down the mountainside at 0530 hrs on Sunday 31st Aug.

At this spot another party with a stretcher was met. Sgt 39th Bn A.M.F. (wounded) Pte Rockliffe F.O. ("B" Coy 2/4th) Pte Boyd F. ("HQ" Coy.) Pte Adam R.R.? ("HQ" Coy) Pte Blair .P. (b. Coy).

These men had been forced off the ^{main} track the previous evening by enemy fire and had accomplished the difficult task of bearing the stretcher - usually a six-man load - all night.

Breakfast was eaten and the stretchers repaired and strengthened.

A recon party returned and reported it had discovered a wounded man (Pte Moyné "HQ" boy) on a nearby track. Another stretcher was made and this man added to the party, making a total strength of three officers + 7 O.P.S.; including four stretcher cases and four walking wounded.

The order to move was given at 1200 hrs and the party ~~started~~ ^{continued on} toward ALOLA till 1500 hrs when a large clearing was reached. A halt was called for rest and because of lack of cover.

Recon showed that the IAP was in occupation of ALOLA; Bde HQ had evidently moved the previous night.

Eventually darkness fell, movement was again possible. The party set off once more but it became too dark to move and it became necessary to wait

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for the moon which appeared at
2330 hrs.

Another small creek was reached
at 0600 hrs on 1st Sept.

All food was pooled; each man
then being issued with approximately
one days rations with instructions that
it was to last two days.

at 1730 hrs that day the party
continued the descent to the main creek
and after travelling for 90 minutes the
darkness in the jungle once again prevented
further progress.

EURO CREEK (immediately below ALOKA)
was reached at 0730 hrs.

Rain had fallen all night and
the stretchers were breaking up. It was
our most uncomfortable night to date.

That morning ALOKA was bombed
and strafed by friendly planes.

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Cpl. Scott. W. W. ("A" Coy) returned from a recon with news that the enemy was in control of the AHOLA-EBRO CREEK track. He also brought back some rations which he had found.

Captain Buckley decided to cross the creek that evening and during the day the men either slept or yawned.

Pte Fletcher J. J. ("B" Coy) spent most of the day tending the wounded and dressing minor sores and scratches. His energy and patience were an example to all.

That evening an attempt was made to cross the creek but darkness made the task too dangerous with stretchers.

At 0500 hrs on 3rd Sept., after covering parties had been placed in position; the task of getting the wounded men across the swiftly flowing stream commenced.

The point of crossing chosen was a log ford on the main track, it

↓
being impossible to cross elsewhere with stretchers. This crossing place was within sight of ALOKA and the possibility of enemy parties moving along the track was not remote.

Much to the relief of all the last stretcher was safely across at 0530 hrs and the climb up the track which leads to ABUNARI village commenced.

At 1430 hrs after a particularly stiff climb, the party reached the bivouac area chosen for the night.

This area was directly opposite ALOKA due EAST. From here the enemy at ALOKA was kept under observation and the following points observed.

- (1) The enemy was using animal tpt.
- (2) Native gardens were being ransacked for food, all growth being pulled up and the gardens evidently destroyed. Natives were working with the JAP.

(3) A party of 93 enemy inf. troops was seen to move SOUTH along the tracks from the ISURAVA area

(4) Some huts in ALOHA village had collapsed; this may have been done purposely for camouflage or could have been caused by the bombing the previous day.

On Friday Sept 4th the party continued in an EASTERLY direction. It was Capt Bucklers intention to find a suitable area in which ^{to conceal} the party for a time, while a search for food was made.

After passing through a bivouac area in which at least 500 enemy troops had camped; the party reached a suitable bivouac area at 1600 hrs.

Shelters were built to keep off the torrential rain which had started to fall.

During the preceding five days and nights the men in the party had been

? Despite the ~~absence~~ ^{lack} of food and sleep and the rain, they had carried the stretchers through the virgin jungle and along steep, narrow tracks without one word of complaint.

The wounded had shown great fortitude. Despite serious wounds and the continual jolting, they remained cheerful and demanded little.

Cpl. Metson ("B" Coy) (wounded in ankle) had actually crawled the whole distance for five days and was continually wet through. He was admired by all.

~~was~~ Pte Fletcher continued to do good work among the wounded; unfortunately the last of the medical supplies had been used that day.

Capt. Buckler, as O.C. party, was an outstanding leader and showed great devotion to duty and disregard to personal wants. Confidence in his ability to lead

the party back to the unit was felt by all.

At that stage Capt. Buckler issued the following orders to Lt. Heacy.
 "I want you to leave tomorrow with two men; travel to MYOLA to contact the unit, obtain medical supplies, food and native carriers and return here with them." If the unit is not at MYOLA push on until you find it."

This party will remain here for four days after your departure and search for native foods. If at the end of that time you do not return; I shall leave two men here for a further two days and the main body will make for the coast, after moving NORTH to the KOKAQA valley, then EAST through the less mountainous area where it will be easier going, and native gardens more plentiful."

"I want you to follow the enemy tracks for a time to make observations.

On Sat 5th Sept. at 0830 hrs. Lt. Treacy with Pte Rockliffe F.O. (B Coy) and Pte Avent W.A. (A Coy) left the main party.

Capt. Buckler had given the O.C party some enemy documents to deliver. The party carried some salmon and rice as rations.

LT. TREACY'S PARTY.

After setting off, this party travelled in a SOUTH to S.W. direction; the intention being to cut the tracks which runs from MYOLA to TEMPLETONS CROSSING. then move along this tracks to MYOLA.

Unfortunately, maps of the area were not available and accurate planning of the route could not be done.

On the afternoon of this day, heavy day rain began to fall and a fog

blanketed the mountains. This rain and fog continued for two days and nights.

After two days a river was forded. Situated on the WEST bank of this stream was a large enemy bivouac area. This place appeared to be unoccupied except for two JAPS - one of these was shot.

Later an improved track, which ran roughly NORTH and SOUTH, was encountered.

At this stage the party had no rations and Pte Rockliff was suffering from dysentery.

It was apparent that our troops had withdrawn SOUTH along this track; sounds of fighting could not be heard. The party set off to attempt to reach the battle area and our own lines.

During the morning of 7th Sept. the party moved through several bivouac areas which the enemy was in the habit of building as shelter from the

inevitable afternoon rains.

These biv. areas consist of a varying number of shelters constructed of palm branches and will accommodate 4 to 6 men. Some had a raised floor.

It was subsequently noted that enemy parties moving up to the front line, always used these places at night and during the day sick JAP troops occupied them.

At about midday another JAP was discovered - his uncooked rice provided a meal for the party.

Sounds of mortar fire could be faintly heard during the afternoon and the party continued along the track, hoping to gain contact with our own troops in the shortest possible time. Three of the four days given by Capt. Buckler had almost elapsed.

Darkness eventually prevented movement the party halted and consumed some dry rice.

On 8th Sept. at 0500 hrs the party set off along the track. During the day little distance was covered it being often necessary to encircle through the jungle enemy biv. areas to avoid parties occupying them. At night the party moved for an hour or so using a torch; eventually it was decided that this might attract too much attention. Movement at night without a light was unsuccessful it being necessary to crawl on hands and knees in some places to find the tracks.

On Sept. 9th after travelling some distance the party arrived at an old village. A search for food was being made in one of the huts when it was noticed that the village was occupied by Japs. The party retired to a vantage point to observe and a few minutes later a detachment of 33 enemy inf. joined those in the village.

The party encircled the village and on arriving back on the track almost ran into the same detachment which was moving on after a rest. Giving the enemy fifteen minutes start the party followed across a ford in the nearby creek.

On reaching the WEST bank of the stream the party was surprised by about fifteen native beavers returning empty handed. These men were not escorted by IAPs, they appeared to be quite friendly, saluting as they passed. They did not speak.

Continuing on, another enemy biv. area was reached. Enemy stragglers here and the party's rice supply increased to about 11 pounds. Previously the rice obtained was of poor quality and slightly mouldy, one of the men discovered here had new polished rice, he was evidently

a recent reinforcement.

It was apparent that the enemy force as a whole was suffering from ~~an~~ epidemic of dysentery.

That evening a halt was called near a JAP biv. area and the following morning (9th Sept.) this place was flanked and movements continued with various halts.

Sounds of mortar fire had not been heard since the previous day and it was a bitter disappointment to know that no assistance had been obtained for Capt. Bucklers party ~~and~~ which by now would have moved.

On Sept. 10 the party commenced movement again at an early hour and at about 0900 hrs encountered an enemy party of about 8 almost face to face on the track.

Unfortunately owing to the extremely wet conditions which had prevailed during

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the preceding week the weapons carried were seriously in need of oil, being in a rusty condition. The T.S.M.G. failed to fire, the rifle carried by one member of the party fired one round after which the trigger saw didn't function, and a grenade dropped failed to explode. However the pistol was effective and some of the enemy were accounted for.

During this encounter Pte Rockliffe was wounded and the party then withdrew and dressed Rockliffe's wound which was a bullet wound in the upper leg. He showed great fortitude and after a short rest was able to return to the track and continue.

After travelling a short distance an enemy soldier was seen lying on the track about ~~75~~⁵⁰ yards ahead. He was seen to move slightly and may have been wounded. This appeared to be a trap

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and it was then decided to quit the track and travel S.E. through the jungle for two days then S.W., in an attempt to cut the main track behind our own lines. On Friday 11th a dry lake was reached where that evening a wild pig was shot and the party built a fire and enjoyed some grilled pigs livers.

The following day the party rested.

On Sunday 13th the party headed S.W. along a native track carrying about 9 lbs of rice and twelve pounds of pork.

At the end of two days after travelling across a series of dry lakes, it was obvious that the party could not reach the main track by moving S.W., owing to the extremely rough ~~track~~ country and the absence of tracks leading in the desired direction. Weakness through lack of food was also a big factor which influenced the decision to remain on the

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tracks which was already being used and it was felt it would eventually lead to a native village.

By this time the hope of getting assistance to Capt. Buckles party had almost vanished. Once that party moved it would be impossible to trace it, the heavy rains obliterating tracks.

On Saturday, 19th October after moving for a week in a general S.S.E. direction. During this week the party had been without food other than that carried. No native gardens or villages had been seen nor had any game been encountered. During two stages of two and three days respectively, no water could be found and the party was suffering from lack of food. Several meals of corn were had that evening. About one half pound of rice was left. It was 16 days since leaving Capt. Buckles party.

The party came to a native garden

10
After resting the party set off on Sunday 20th and arrived at a native village. The native inhabitants gave the impression that the party was only two days from ITIKI where the B's "B" echelon had been established.

A guide was obtained and the party set off with the intention of travelling S.W. The guide deserted after a few hours travel disappearing into the jungle.

The following day a native garden was reached, some potatoes were reached being gathered, when a patrol of the 6th Ind Coy arrived. Badly needed food was eagerly accepted the members of the party by now were fairly weak being able to move for only 10 minutes and resting for 10 minutes.

After receiving kind treatment from the commando patrol the party set off the following morning and arrived at

OVER

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DORO BUSOLO at 1330 hrs on Tuesday 22nd
Sept.

A wireless message was sent to
7th Div H.Q. giving the story regarding
Capt. Bucklers party and asking for assistance.

After resting for three days, during
which time many good meals were taken
the party continued SOUTH eventually
reaching the KEMP-WELCH and natives
in a nearby village built rafts for the
party. Two days were spent rafting
down the river amid beautiful scenery.

Eventually the party reached PORT
MORESBY, travelling by truck via RIGO. Pte
Rockliffe was here evacuated to hospital.

The following day 2nd Oct., the
party reported back to the unit after
an absence of 32 days.

News that Capt Bucklers party was
safe was confirmed much to the relief
of the members of the party.

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1. Carrying load. Use groundsheet slung from waistbelt
 2. Importance of oil
 3. Tracks almost always on top of ridge tracks sometimes indicated only by cut sticks
 4. Damage which could have been done to JAP, L, O, F, C Value of ambush and surprise.
 5. Knowledge of native foods important
 6. Proceed on entering native village (Baracks)
 7. Wax matches
 8. Trade tobacco
 9. Don't scorn rice. Carry it cooked if possible.
 10. Always be curious as to direction ask about surrounding country.
 11. Bogus JAP sentry
 12. French letters carried by Jap
 13. JAP don't like to die
 14. Carry at least two pairs of good shoes always
 15. JAP Dependent
 - 16

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the previous week, the T.S.M.G failed
to fire, the