

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

Item number: 8/3/15

2/15 Infantry Battalion

August - October 1941

2/15 BN

TOBRUCH

93/15

AUG 41

OPERATIONS

2/17 BN
RELIEVED

by 2/15 Bn 7/8 Aug.

NUMEROUS
PATROLS

carried out during the month and much valuable
information obtained.

HONOURS
& AWARDS

Capt Bode recommended for M.C.; Sgt R.A. Patrick and Cpl
R.A.N. Isaacs for M.M.

MAPS

Maps and traces of Bn dispositions during the month att.

PERSONNEL

HONOURS
& AWARDS

Capt Bode recommended for M.C.; Sgt R.A. Patrick
and Cpl R.A.N. Isaacs for M.M.

2/15 BN
AUG 41.

MAPS

MAPS &
TRACES

of Bn dispositions during month att.

2/15 BN
AUG 41

SEP 20 1941

ack

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Month and Year... AUG 41

Unit 2/15 AUST INF BN.

TOBRUCH AREA.

Commanding Officer

L. W. G. H. G. L.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
	Aug			
TOBRUCH AREA	1	0900	Bn in position in reserve. Minefields traversed. Quiet day.	
	3	2320	5 Shells in D Coy area, otherwise quiet day. N T R	
	4	0900	Lieuts E.F. Luther and C.W. Heatley went to 20 AUST INF TNG BN	See Cas Return App B
	5		Warning Order to relieve 2/17 Bn on night 7/8 Aug received.	See App B for O Order
	6	0900	Lt. Col. R.W. Ogle evacuated to AGH.	See cas Return App B
	7	2110	Relief of 2/17 Bn commenced	
	8	0030	Relief of 2/17 Bn completed without incident. Bn in position- D Coy in reserve	See Sit Map App A.
		0900	8 shells in 10 pl area B Coy. No damage.	
		2000	12 shells near 11 pl B Coy area. No damage. Recce plane over area	
	9	0500	Patrols under Lieuts Jenkinson, Lieut Yates returned from recce	See Reports App A
		1015	14 shells from 75 mm gun in D Coy area- no damage	
	10	0300	Patrol under Lieut Stuart, Lieut Scoggins returned from recce, also I Sec recce Op.	See Reports App A
			Patrol under no Patrick returned.	
		1800	Spasmodic arty fire on A & B coy fronts- No damage	
	11	0350	B & C Coy special patrols returned	See patrol reports app A.
		2100	Enemy Inf observed on el ADEM rd on front C Coy- arty fire on to them. 8 shells in Area - no damage	
	12	0425	Special Recce patrol from B Coy & Lieut Yates patrol returned. All other patrols in	See patrol Reports App A
		0700	Two Hurricanes flew over area.	

L. W. G. H. G. L.

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WAR DIARY
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Army Form 2118.

Unit 2/15 AUST INF BN.

Commanding Officer *L. W. G. S. Col.*

Month and Year AUG 41

(Erase heading not required).

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
	12	1443	10 Shells in D Coy area near old posn of Bush Arty- No damage	
		2100	26 Shells on C Coy area throughout day- no damage.	
	13	0435	B Coy patrol under Lieut Beatty returned after investigating minefields. All patrols in Special patrol under Lieut Logan returned- Enemy fire encountered.	See patrol Report App A
	14	0330	All patrols in safely	" " "
		1900	47 shells in C Coy area, near Road Block- No damage.	
	15	0300	patrols under Lieut Jenkinson and Capt Cobb in. Standing Op established at BIR EL AZAZI	See patrol report App A.
		0900	QX 6285 Capt Tppham joined unit from 20 Inf Tng Bn	See Casualty Return
		2000	150 shells mainly 75mm on B Coy area during day. No damage	
	16	0900	18 shells- 75 mm on A Coy area - no damage	
		2000	27 shells - 75 mm on B Coy area. no damage	
	17	2030	Heavy shelling B Coy area.	
	18	0300	Special patrol under Lieut Beatty returned. N T R	see patrol report App A
	19	0900	All patrols in. Spasmodic shelling B & W Coy areas. No damage.	
	20	0330	Patrol under Lieut Logan in after meeting heavy enemy fire .	See patrol report App A
		2340	28 shells- 75 mm and 1 Mortar C Coy area near road block. No damage. D Coy completed change over with B Coy without hitch.	See O O App B

Coll

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WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form 7. 2118.

Unit 2/15 AUST INF BN

Commanding Officer

L. W. G. Ogle

Month and Year AUG 41

(Erase heading not required).

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
	20	0900	Lieut T P Davies evacuated to 4 AGH	
	21	0115	B Coy in position previously held by D Coy	
		0900	Lieut J T Keys evacuated to 4 AGH	
		2225	Patrol of Lieut Gemmel Smith and 4 ORs left OP position	
		0130	Patrol of Lieut Gemmel Smith returned. ^{missing bullets} QX 748 pte E Batten Singh killed at 41584132	See Report App B
	22	0500	All patrols returned N M S	do.
		0900	Lieut G A Williams detached to 9 Aust Div Sigs	
		2010	40 shells D Coy area, 30 shells on Road Block	
	23	0500	All patrols returned	See Report App B
		0900	Lt Col R W Ogle returned to unit from 4 AGH. Lieut G A Williams attached from 9 Div Sigs	See bas Return app A
		1800	23 shells on C Coy area, 15 on D Coy area, 8 on H area. No damage	
	24	0230	All patrols returned	See report App B
	25	0530	do	do
		0934	30 shells on D Coy area	
		1900	30 shells B Coy area near dummy guns, 17 shells D Coy Area	
	26	0300	All patrols returned- one man slightly wounded, returned through 2/17 Bn Lines	See Report App B

W. G. Ogle

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WAR DIARY

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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form 2118.

Unit 2/15 AUST INF BN.

Commanding Officer

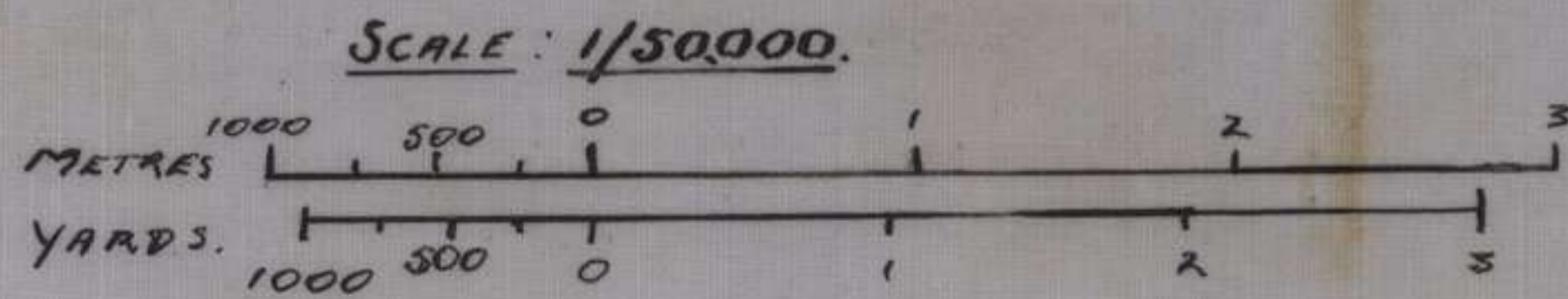
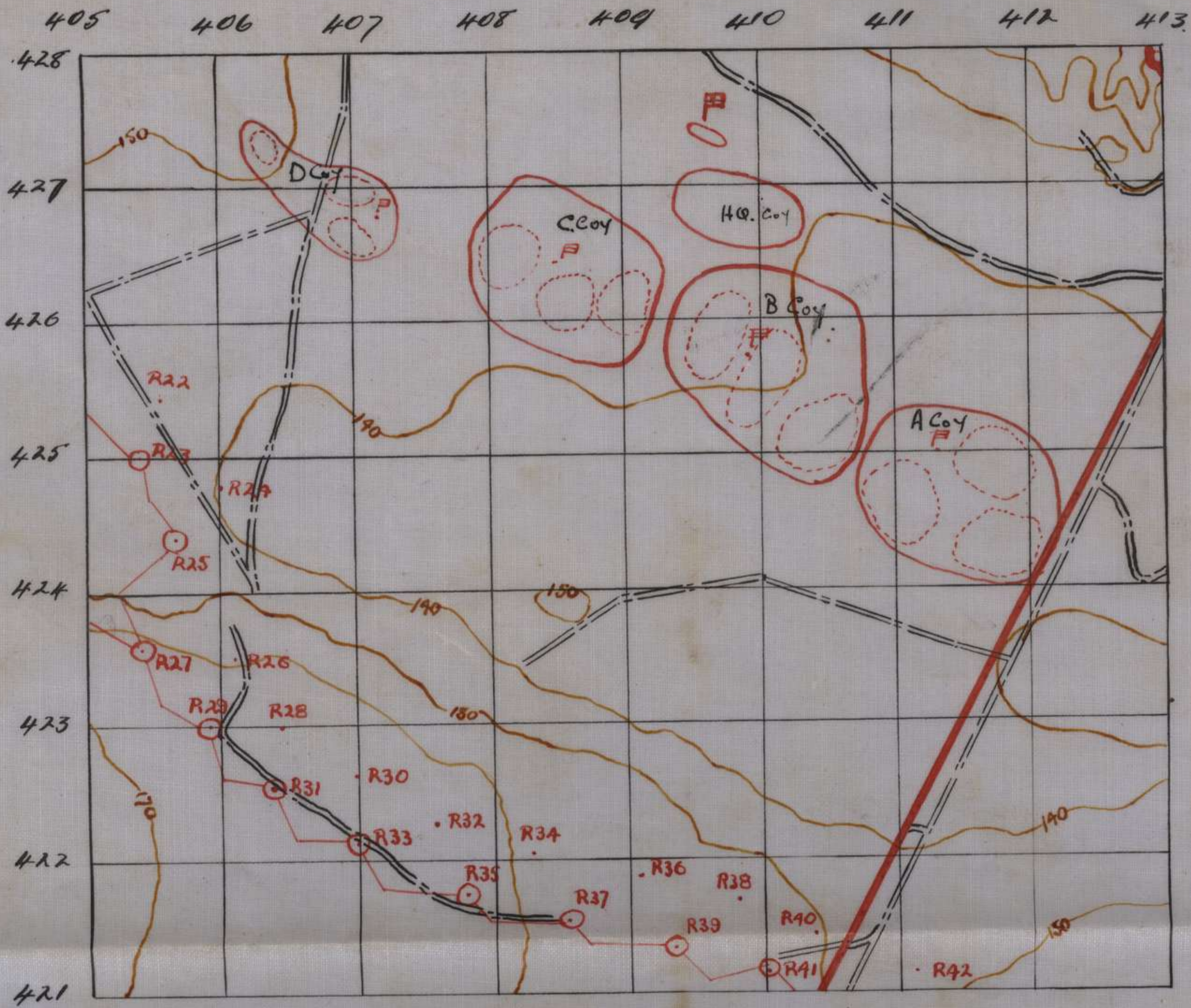
L. W. G. L. Col.

Month and Year AUG 41

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
	26	0130	C Coy patrol under Capt Bode returned N M B	See Report App B
		0330	D Coy fighting patrol returned N T R	do
		1900	15 shells on Busharty - No damage, 21 Shells B Coy area, 8 Shells D Coy	
	28	0300	ALL patrols in	See Report App B
		0900	Lieuts Christie, Ferguson, Weir, QUIGLEY and 64 ORs, joined the Bn from 20 A I T B Lieut G A Williams attached from 9 Div Sigs	See Cas Return App A
	29	0225	A Coy fighting patrol under Lieut Yates returned	See Report App B
		0420	D Coy patrol returned after contacting enemy	do
		1900	19 shells D Coy area, 18 shells C Coy area - 7 shells on A Coy. 1 man wounded	
	30	0500	All patrols in	See Report APP B
		1000	15 shells D Coy area - No damage	
		1800	14 shells C Coy area, 10 shells H Coy area. No damage	
	31	0530	Fighting patrol under Capt Bode returned. Casualties: Missing QX 8135 Pte Roselt E H, QX8131 Pte Newton, L D. (believed killed), QX13418 L/CPL Brockel D F., wounded QX 6225 Capt Bode, QX6928 Cpl Isaacs R A N, QX3272 Emerick J F.	Capt Bode recommended for MC Sgt R A Palmer & Cpl R W Isaacs for MM. See APP A
		1950	20 shells D Coy area, 2 men wounded. 30 shells B Coy, 28 shells on C Coy area.	See Cas Return APP A

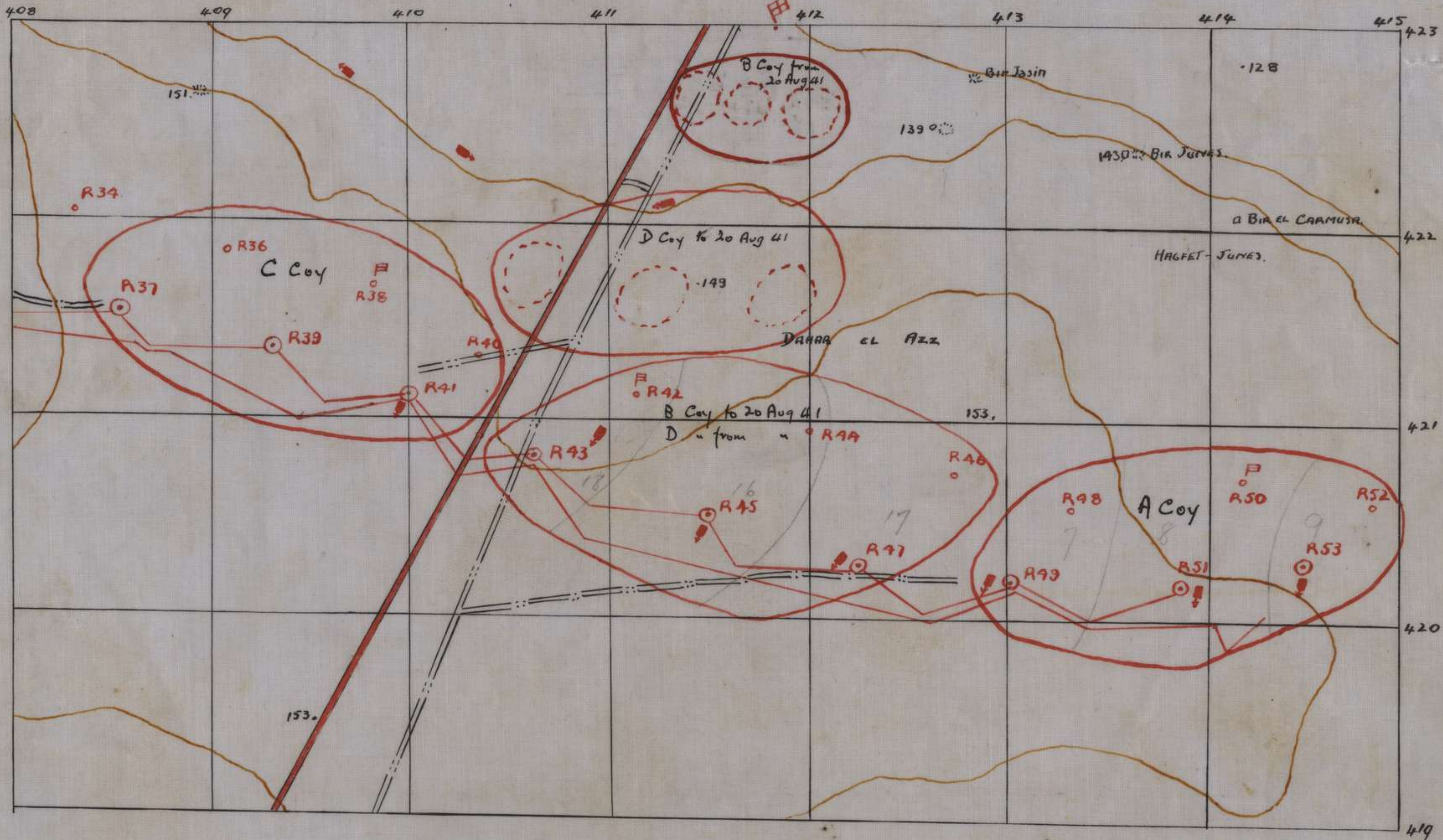
L. W. G.

2/15 Aust. Inf. Bn. Dispositions 27 Jul. 41.

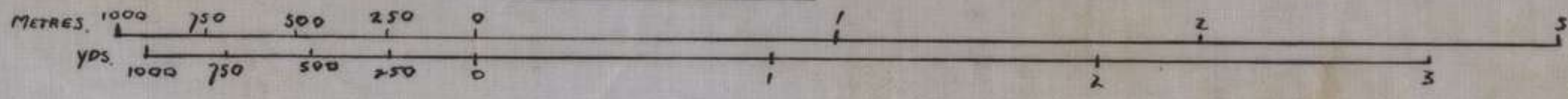


TRACED FROM TOBRUCK 1:50,000.
 By Pte. E. Pitman.
 2/15 Bn. 1 SEC. 9 AUG. 41.

2/15 DISPOSITIONS 7 AUG 41



SCALE 1:25000



ENLARGED FROM TOBRUCK 1:50000.
 BY PTE E. PITMAN. I SEC 2/15 Bn.
 10 AUG 41.

2/15 AUST INF BN.

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0800 hrs 29 AUG 41

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
	A Coy	2100	0100	1 OFFR 10 ORS	From R49 180° for 2750 yds Returned 30° to R53	180° from R49 to bir el AZAZI (1500 yds). 3 wells, 2 only with water ar depth of 20 ft approx. Road at 1750 yds from R49 (315°)- 135°. SOUTH a further 1000 yds. N M S. MONUMENT 25 struck on same road 670 yds on way home. Road here (320°-140°).
	A Coy	0100	0500	1 Offr 10 ORS	R53 at 210°	Inspected Monument area AZAZI area, confirmed above NLS
	C Coy	0135	0505	1 WO 1 NCO 9 ORs	40844204 to 40764190 to 40844188 to 40834186 to 40944190 to 40984199 to R39	N M S
	C Coy	2200	0130	1 Offr 1 Cpl 10 ORs	40844204 to 40814191 back same route	N M S digging heard

2/15AUST INF BN.

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ending 0800 hrs

10 Aug 41

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	A Coy	2100	0150	1 offr 1 NCO 9 ORs	180° from R49 4150 yds then back Pt reached 41304165	N M S
2	A Coy	0030	0330	1 offr 2 ORs	To 41424173 from R49 thence along rd to derelict truck NORTH of WALLED VILLAGE	Digging heard from this point. Possibly 2/23 Bn.
3	B Coy	2115	0230	1 NCO 3 ORs	From R45 TO 41114170 thence to 41034169 to 41014176 back to R45	Mines struck at first point. Minefield followed WEST 1000 yds. Many mines found lifted or dis-armed.
4	C Coy	2130	0300	1 offr 3 ORs	R41 to TWIN TRUCKS to 41744182 to 40794183 back to R41	I see men left at 40744182. At 40784184, eight men observed from front and four from flank approaching in form of "U", apparently from number of sangars about 100 yds ahead. Withdrew 200 yds, two men seen to EAST. Diggings seen in this vicinity. patrol withdrew without incident. No shots fired.

2/15 AUST INF BN:

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0800 hrs 11 Aug 41.

Serial No	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1 A Coy	2200	0400	2 patrols each 2 NCO 8 ORS.	From R49 180° to minefield 3700 yds	Patrols divided at minefield, one group going EAST and one going WEST. Both patrols re-established minefield as located by 18 Bde. N M S
2 B Coy	2200	0300	1 NCO 3 ORS	From junction of minefield pipeline, WEST 1380 yds returned same route	Surveyed minefield commencing 300 yds WEST pipeline. From 400 yds mark all mines were armed. 0 to 400 yds bearing 310°, 500 yds to 1300 yds 300°. 1370 yds from pipeline ITALIAN minefield "BOX" type crosses original minefield, bearing 10° for 50 yds then turns in direction 330°. This consists of 2 rows of "BOX" mines staggered, 5ft between rows, then one row of "TELLER" mines 10 ft behind. Patrol 6 men sighted here approaching 300 yds away. withdrew 100 yds. (CONTINUED BELOW.)
3 C Coy	2240	0315	1 WO 3 ORS	FROM R39 to Derelict truck 41934188	From Derelict truck patrol moved to road through minefield (ITALIAN Box mines, 600 yds from truck). Enemy seen in sangars astride road 40884178 started to move out in "U" formation. Patrol withdrew to truck. Investigated area SW of truck. Fired only 5 Bredas EAST of road and 1 Berstag WEST of road. Sig wire located 41804186 running at 215) followed down 300yds. <u>No 2 B. Coy Patrol continued.</u> 2 flares went up approx 350" about 400 yds. Mortar and MG opened up firing NORTH (see patrol 3) After 500 yds along pipeline on way home subjected to LMG fire, 1 Gun and Mortars 3 bombs. patrol returned safely

2/15 AUST INF BN

PATROL REPORT ~~for~~ for 24 hrs ended 0800 hrs 12 Aug 41

SERIAL No	UNIT	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	Carriers	1332	1424	2 Carriers	SE to minefield by WALLED VILLAGE, NORTH to R53 WEST to TWIN TANKS. In at R43	One carrier covered at 41074198. The recce carrier was fired on whilst in vicinity 41304198 on way home. Covering carrier fired MMG to where the fire was thought to have come, viz. DERELICT TRUCK. Fire ceased. Dead ITALIAN found in slit trench approx 40974200. Face showed beard growth about one day. Killed by bullet, possibly own fire of previous night - no identification.
2	B Coy	2230	0400	1 NCO 3 ORs	From R45 to 41034170 to 41214170 and back.	Minefield traversed. Freshly laid mines were disarmed in vicinity of "V for Victory" made on ground by TELLER MINE
3	G Coy	2130	0230	1 Offr 3 ORs	From R39 DERELICT TRUCK to Kilo 9 peg. 130 yds to minefield, 130 yds at 310° 1000 yds at 290° then 400 yds at 34° then back R37	Minefield found to run on bearing of 310° for 130 yds then finish completely. Search failed to reveal continuation from end of field 1000 yds on 290°, then 400 yds on 34° in hope of locating THOMPSON'S POST. N M S. Returned 20° to R37. From end of minefield at 0300 hrs Mortars observed firing on bearing 305° approx 1000 yds.
4	A Coy	2115	0130	1 Offr 7 ORs	From R49 to minefield 41314166 along field to 41184172 to 41194162 to 41164192 returned to R49	At 41194162 5 Old gun pits seen with piles of empty shell cases (no estimate of size as yet). At 41164192 wrecked two-engined bomber found. OP established at gun pits. (Accurate placing of gun pits and wrecked BOMBER would be appreciated). N M S.

2/15 AUST INF BN.

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0800 hrs 13 Aug 41.

Serial No	UNIT Reporting Out	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	A Coy	2100 11 Aug	2220 12 Aug	2 ORs	out R49 in R51 (see patrol report No 4 12 Aug)	<p>Arrived 2350 hrs in 25 pdr pits at many old amm cases around. 0130hrs 293° LMG, 0600 hrs One MT heard start start up at 270° and move SOUTH. OP tower on escarpment 191°, 235°. Man on bicycle moving along escarpment stopped at dug-out 220°. Observed sangars all along face of escarpment, main concentration immediately WEST of PIPELINE at foot of escarpment. Main enemy concentrations on bearings of 298° (appears to be HQ) and 305°. Most men seen at one time 24, but many more estimated. AT 1520 hrs 9 men went NORTH out of sight from strongpost, not seen to return. Only little movement seen on escarpment during day, only 2 covered trucks going EAST. Other bearings taken, OPs on escarpment 191°, 235°, WRECKED BOMBER 278° approx 150 yds, PIPELINE over escarpment 208°, MONUMENT 322°.</p>
						<p>(Note Enemy seen to have breakfast at 0730 hrs in small groups and tea at 2020 hrs. Six gazelles were grazing within 200 yds of Op during afternoon)</p>
2	B Coy	2100	0340	1 offr 3 ORs	From R47 to pipeline down minefield to old 29 pdr posns (as in Nol) to 41044170 N M S along pipeline back to R45	This patrol investigated the area EAST of PIPELINE which was covered by HQ 1 above. The tank was WEST of PIPELINE
3	C Coy	2130	0230	1 offr 3 ORs	From R41 to TWIN TANKS to 40634194	<p>AT 40704198 arty opened up (possibly Mortar) at 212°. Continued to 40634194. At this point moon rose and patrol was skylined. LMG opened on patrol from within 40 yds, muzzle blast very pronounced. Patrol went to ground to wait until moon was well up. Enemy were seen to move from post and crawl towards our patrol. No further firing and scouts closed in. Two within 15 yds of patrol leader who considers they could not see him. Lay about one hour and decided to withdraw as several enemy very close. Own patrol withdrew by crawling in bounds of about 100 yds and were followed by 3 men on front and unknown number on flank. The 3 ORs of own patrol withdrew singly then patrol</p>

Patrol No 3 Continued.

leader threw grenade into centre of the enemy about 30 yds distant. It landed almost on top of one. When it exploded our patrol scattered. Rifle and D F fire by LMGs followed from WEST of ~~the~~ ^{the} contacted. Estimated strength of post 10 Men.

Report on Mortar Shoot.

No 3 Pl using two GERMAN 8 cm Mortars with Italian 8 pound bombs.

No 1 Det

Firing from R 36 with maximum range 3800 yards at 1830 hrs

Target Enemy strongposts astride TOBRUCH - EL ALEM RD sq 408417.

Result Most of bombs appeared to fall approx on enemy's DF tank on road

No 2 Det

Firing from PIPE LINE 41124202 range 3500 yds at 1910 hrs.

Target As above

Result 50 rounds fired. Arty OP reported many rounds fell in area of target but NO estimate of any casualties could be made.

2 / 15 AUST INF BN.

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 14 Aug 41

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	Carriers	1500	1555	3 carriers	Out R43 crossed PIPELINE to 41154180 then EAST along minefield to 41424166 then NORTH to 419 grid, then NW to crossing across the EL ADEM rd to 40904195 to 40884198 to 40734193 to 40824204 to 40904195 then EL ADEM rd and in R43	One CARRIER remained at about 41154190 to cover the other two. From 41154180 saw about 6 men approx 40954174. These immediately went to ground. Diggings seen about 1000 yds SW WALLED VILLAGE Suspected booby trap field approx 40894196. This latter will be investigated today.
2	Coy	2100	0330	1 Offr 3 ORS	From R45 down PIPELINE SW at minefield to WRECKED BOMBER area, then to minefield and) SOUTH down Pipeline to 41014160 then 270° to 40944160 to 40984164 then to PIPELINE, back to R45	From 40994160 telephone lines were seen to run N N W. Crossed under telephone line 40964160. At 40944160 bird calls heard and (and) patrol went to ground. Observed nothing, moved 400 yds NW in direction of bird call. It was estimated that the patrol was then near the birdcall. Patrol observed and listened. On moving out the patrol was fired on by automatics light and heavy mortar and A/Tk rifle. Enemy appeared to have two posns forward about 250 yds apart and one in depth 150-200 yds ba ck. Enemy estimated to have 30 automatics on 1000 yds frontage. Patrol moved to PIPELINE. Enemy's fire lasted 25 mins. A tracked vehicle was heard to be moving towards patrol whilst at minefield. The majority majority of automatics were on fixed lines, suggesting a small proportion of light BREDA. Other weapons were also on fixed lines. All patrol returned safely.
<u>OTHER PATROLS</u>						Nothing to report.

L.H.

2/15 AUST INF BN

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 15 Aug 41

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	Nol A Coy	2100	0100 0100	1 NCO 2 ORs	180° from R49 to 41354155 to R53	3413415 investigated for diggings seen by carriers patrol. No sanga rs found and N M S.
2	A Coy	2100	0115	1 Offr 1 NCO 5 ORs	From R49 to 41304166 EAST along minefield for 1920 yds Back to R49	Traverse of minefield made from 41304166 to 41324167 to 41394165 to 41414165 to 41444164 to 41484165. This point is on the road NORTH of WALLED VILLAGE. There is a TRUCK on minefield at 41464166.
3	C Coy	2110	0310	1 WO 11 3 ORs	From R39 to DERELICT TRUCK (4093418E) to 40894181 back 100 yds along rd to 40894186 40724183 to 40714185 to WHITE POST (40734200) thence TANK Ditch at R35 to R39	When at 40894183 patrol was fired on by one LMG. when at 40894182 8 to 8 automatics, 1 A/Tk gun and 2 mortars opened up with the searchlight and flares. On the WESTERLY leg of the traverse a barbed trip wire was struck between telegraph posts and a plain trip wire 625 yds from TRUCK. Nothing further to report.

2/15 AUST INF BN.

Patrol report for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 16 Aug 41.

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	CARRIERS	1805	1628	2	R43 to 40884198 to 40684184 to 40684190 to 40824196 to 43	When at 40684184 an enemy strongpost seen about 600 yds ahead approx 30 men. The enemy were standing in a trench system probably about 100 yds long in the vicinity of 40654175. They were chest high and too far away for identification. One man was seen to hop up and run and was seen to wear a dull grey uniform, with full length loose trousers. The carriers moved to approx 40684190 and came into a well down posn from where it fired about 100 rounds into the sangars at range of 1200 metres. No estimate of casualties could be made. When the carriers were about 1000 yds away on the return journey, the enemy arty opened on to the dead ground from where the carrier fired. The carriers investigated the suspected booby trap field at 40894196 but found it to be a posn from where a number of parachute flares had been fired.
2	A Coy	2100	2300	1 Offr 6 ORS	Standing patrol. Out R51 to Bir AZAZI in R51	One NCO 3 ORs left at Bir AZAZI. Well at Bir AZAZI investigated. The entrance is a bottleneck for 3' then opens to cavern 50' x 30' mostly covered with 18" to 2ft of water. Bearings from AZAZI, Searchlight 202°, three guns 210°, More guns 265°. Former ones are closer. This OP will be known as PLONK.

Gloss

2/15 AUST INF BN

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0300 hrs 17 Aug 41.

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report.
						PROTECTIVE PATROLS ONLY ALL COYS.

R. Kelly

2/15 AUST INF BN.

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 24 hrs 18 ^{Aug} ~~May~~ 41

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
						Protective patrols all Coys- N M S.
1	B Coy	2130	0230	2 offr 5 ORs	Out R45 down PIPELINE to 41044173. One offr 1 OR remained here. One OFFR 4 ORS to 40994169. Returned same route	The patrol leader returned on account of an injured ankle. N M S.
2	C Coy	2200	0500	1 offr 12 ORS	Out R37 to TWIN TANKS to 40774190 to 40854188 thence to R37	The patrol remained at 40854188 and sent single scouts around the area. The 9 Kilo peg area was investigated, also the minefield. N M S.

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2/15 AUST INF BN.

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 19 Aug 41.

Serial No	Unit	TIME out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	A Coy	2005	0125	1 NCO 2 ORs	From R51 To Bir el AZAZI, south to minefield, then to 41254146, then to R51	Protective patrols all coys. <i>N.M.S</i> AT 41254146 found O P constructed of galvanised iron on a wood framework, with tent sites and unoccupied dugouts to the SOUTH. N M S. Road parallel to minefield at 41284165 and unused road running 235° at 41284156 and another unused road running 140° at 41274152. Large wooden structure like a "V" sign found near side of first road. N M S/H.
2	C Coy	0130	0530	1 offr 3 ORs	Out R41 on normal protective duties 2000 yds fwd, back R41	"V" for VICTORY sign put up and fired at approx 0355 hrs. One flare fired. N M S.

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2/15 AUST INF BN.

PATROLREPORT for 24 hrs ended 20 Aug 41

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	B Coy	2130	0002	1 Offr 1 Sgt 5 ORS	Out R45 down PIPELINE to junction with minefield, the n bearing 235° to 4024170, back same route	Three sets of sig wire investigated. The first was a metallic circuit, found to be in circuit but nothing else heard in 1/4 of an hour. The same applies to the second circuit. The first was out and 30 ft taken out of the second. Third line was apparently earth return, again nothing was heard for 10 mins. This wire was cut. A join was found, the insulation consisting of a strip of old blanket. It would appear that he is short of stores. The wire brought in was 7 strand copper, light quality. The Sig Offr does NOT consider interception possible from our lines on the enemy's in this sector, due to the distances. N M S.
2	C Coy	2215	0330	1 Offr 14 ORS	Out R41 to 40894183. Returned same route	The main objective was missed in the dark due to loss of direction. Flares went up and firing opened and the position astride the road appeared strongly held and about 150 yds away. patrol withdrew some distance and observed. suddenly a period of heavy firing broke out for no apparent reason. patrol returned safely. protective patrols from all coys. N.M.S.

Lee.

2/15 AUST INF BN

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 21 Aug 41.

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time in	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
						Protective patrols from all coys- N M S. A standing patrol of 1 OFFR and 4 ORs went out to the WALLED VILLAGE and is remaining there all day and returning tonight.

2/15 AUST INF BN

Patrol report for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 22 Aug 44

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	CARRIERS	1930	1130	3 Carriers	Out R43 to 41154195 then to 41104179, where hull-down posn taken up as OP for Arty.	4 Ranging shots and 16 rds gunfire laid down in sangars running from 40834179 to 40904177. About 30 men seen there before fire and not seen after. Shells landed right in sangars. Unable to estimate no. of enemy casualties. Fired on by enemy with at least 3 MMGs, 1 A Tk Gun and Arty. 1 Offr slightly wounded by MMG fire.
2	ACOEY					Protective patrols only. N M S .
3	C COY	2100	0145	1 offr 1 NCO 4 ORs	Out R39 to 40824184 then to 40804182 then 150 yds WEST then back along same route	At 40824184 met single row of "S" type push in mines in a furrow then 2 rows 'Teller' A Tk mines, all at varied intervals and then trip wire. The minefield runs in general direction of 307°. At 40804182 voices heard to WEST. went 150 yds in this direction and saw numerous figures apparently in line of sangars from 40794182 TO 40814184. Decided to withdraw owing to being heavily outnumbered. Voices heard appeared to be ITALIAN.
4	D COY	2115	0100	1 Offr 3 ORs	Out R45 - 3400yds along PIPELINE to 41054174 then EAST 2000 yds along minefield and back to R45	Minefield investigated. N M S
5	B HQ	2050	0130	1 offr 4 ORs	From 41474161 to 41384151 to 40404153 then NORTH via Bir AZAZI.	At about 1800 hrs 12 men were seen to take up a position on NORTH edge of SGHIFET on bearing of 200°. The patrol moved on bearing of 203° and at 41404144 a road (used) was crossed and patrol proceeded to 41354131 which is in a re-entrant in the low grd of the SGHIFET, thus getting below and behind the enemy. At 41354131 a telephone cable was found and cut. The wire was followed to 41404153, when enemy opened up on patrol with a BR BRENDA. patrol ordered to advance 20 paces, throw a grenade and go in with the bayonet. At this point 3 BRENDAS opened and patrol fell on 2 trip wires. Grenades were thrown, but pte BUTTEN SINGH was badly hit in chest and patrol withdrew. Heavy MMG fire was going on and it was found impossible to bring back wounded man who was unconscious and bleeding profusely. Patrol came home

2.

No 5 Patrol continued.

without further incident. Pte Bitten Singh missing believed killed. The patrol came in well behind the post and moved very quietly but still could NOT surprise the enemy. Eleven grenades were thrown into the position, but no estimate of casualties can be made, and the LMGs were still firing as party left.

Coll

2/15 AUST INF BN

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 23 Aug 41.

SERIAL NO	UNIT	TIME OUT	TIME IN	STRENGTH	ROUTE AND AREA PATROLLED	REPORT
1	A COY					Protective patrols only to minefield. N M S.
2	C Coy	2100	0200	1 NCO 3 ORs	From R39 to TWIN TANKS then on bearing of 190° to 40794186, back to R39	AT 40794186 minefield encountered running indefinitely to WEST at bearing of 240°. Followed field to EAST for 150 yds, when voices heard. Enemy appeared to be working on field in this direction.
3	G Coy	0120	0440	1 NCO 6 ORs	From R39 to 40894205 then to 40894190 then EAST to 41104190 and back to R39	N M S/H.
4	D Coy	2115	0255	1 Offr 3 ORs	From R45 to 41164173 then WEST along minefield to 41104175, back to R45	"S5 Type mines (deloused) found at front first point and intact "Teller" mines. No mines found in field between 41004174 and 41104175 on a check every 100 yds. N M S/H. <i>Mines</i> were previously found in this area and it would appear he is removing them for his own use.

Coll

2/15 AUST INF BN

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 24 Aug 41.

serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	strength	Route and Route patrolled	Report
1	A Coy					Protective patrols only- N T R.
2	C "					Protective patrols only- N T R.
3	D "	2115	0230	1 Offr 1 NCO 3 ORs	Along PIPELINE for 3500 yds to minefield, then on bearing of 155° for 1000 yds to WRECKED BOMBER. Then NORTH to minefield, back along it to PIPELINE and along pipeline to P45	Minefield investigated for 200 yds WEST of PIPELINE and found clean of mines. Cable found 500 yds NORTH of BOMBER, running from EAST to WEST. N M S.

17
H.
L.H.

2/15 AUST INF BN

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 25 Aug 41.

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	A Coy					Protective patrols only to 3500 yds N M S
2	"					Protective patrols only to 3500 yds. N M S
3	"	2100	0205	1 offr 4 ORs	Out R41 on bearing 220° to minefield	On reaching the minefield a large party of enemy seen to move from posts in rear of field in three groups ^{and} close in on patrol. Patrol withdrew with otherwise nothing to report.
4	"	2115	0200	1 offr 1 NCO 2 ORs	From R45 on bearing 175° to minefield, on bearing 215° through field to 41134165, to investigate diggings, back to Pipeline and in to R45	From 41174172 EAST testing every 100 yds for 400 yds, only one "S" Type mine found deloused. From the same point going WEST only one Teller mine found. At 41144168 double row of salt cable found running at 280°. N M S/H.
5	"	2115	0130	1 NCO 2 ORs	Out R45 along pipeline to 41084186 then on to vicinity of monument. Back on bearing of 90° to Pipeline -in R45	N M S/H

2/15 AUST INF BN.

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0800 hrs 26 Aug 41.

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	A COY					protective only- N H S/H.
2	D COY	2100	0240	1 Offr 8 ORs	Out to minefield and sangars to SOUTH	N H S.
3	C COY	2200	0030	1 NCO 6 ORs	From R37 to TWIN TAMES then due SOUTH to 40824190 then EAST to 40984190. back to R37	At 40984190 an enemy patrol encountered which opened up with MG and SA and then grenades. As patrol outnumbered it withdrew with one man missing. This man subsequently turned up in 2/17 Bn Area.
4	C COY	2100	0300	5 NCOs 8 ORs	From R39 to 40794191 area and back to R39	At 40794191 patrol divided into three parties and spread then out, while Sgt and 2 ORs went forward. Met enemy patrol and threw 2 grenades amongst them, wounding at least one and splitting up the patrol. Withdrew to remainder of the patrol but unable to contact them, so returned to R39. The other two parties observed enemy movement, opened fire but unable to estimate casualties. Withdrew when Tommygun jammed and waited for other party for 1 1/2 hrs then returned to R39.

Lee

2/15 AUSTRALIAN INF BN

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 27 Aug 41.

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	C Coy	2030	0200	2 Offrs 20 ORs	From R39 to 40714185 then to 40684189, back to R39	patrol moved out from both points in general sweeps of 300 yds, but failed to contact enemy.
2	D Coy	2030	0330	1 Offr 10 ORs	From R45 to minefield at 41144174 then on bearing of 250° to 40894167, back to PIPELINE and in to R45	Sounds of MT heard to SOUTH of final point and of hammering like driving pickets to NORTH. Double telephone cable- apparently GERMAN- crossed at 41034171. N M S.

27 28

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time in	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	B Coy	2030	0345	1 OBER 10 Ors	FROM R45 to junction minefield and pipeline, then on 240° to 40914168 - back to pipeline and R45.	<p>Lieut BEATTY. Leader.</p> <p>Ground between pipeline and 40914168 modulating and giving plenty of dead ground. At this point came to enemy trip wire- barbed from 9" to 12" above ground, supported by iron stakes. Trip wire is about 50/60 yds from main wire which is D A. No booby traps found. Area about this point investigated and minefield - consisting of apparently our own anti-personnel mines found. The mines had no detonator on the side and four nipples on the top. Minefield appeared to be 6 rows in depth. A mine exploded on far side of post seriously injuring one of the enemy, who was taken into the post and woke up all the others. Only ITALIAN voices heard. A shell landed 1500 yds away and trucks were heard. Waited 3 hrs for enemy patrol but none came out. As post appeared very strongly held decided not to attack and withdrew along route. Desert boots and clothes found to be of great assistance</p>
2	A Coy					<p>Protective only- N M S/H.</p>
3	C Coy	2030	20245	1 Sgt 14 ORs	From R37 to 40854183 to 40814186 to 40804185 thence NORTH to R37	<p>Sgt Starmer leader.</p> <p>At 40854183 trip wire encountered and patrol leader went fwd with 3 men to minefield N MS. Whole patrol moved WEST along minefield. Fence was seen with main posts visible through the minefield. Patrol moved to 40804185. Corner of fence approx 40794184, running on bearings of 127° and 220°. Minefield found to contain 2 rows of STEEL "TELLER" and Push Type 'S' mines, the field running on a bearing of 230°. Match was seen lighted and voices heard but in the patrol's area N M S/H. Returned to R37.</p>

2/15 AUST INF BN

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 29 Aug 41.

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	1 Sec	1045	1315	2 ORs	R43 TO SANGASSat 40974192 back to R43	<p><u>Pte Ostberg leader:</u> Patrol moved out with each man about 10 yds to the EAST of the first and second telegraph lines on the EAST of the road. They moved forward together, parallel to each other. At 41024198 one ITALIAN was seen running crouched, about 200 yds in front of the patrol, and two men were seen at approx 40934187. patrol moved on to 41004191 and saw enemy stading to in the positions each side of the old road in their posns area 40904177. patrol moved on to 40934189, from where 40 men were seen to EAST of road in sangars at approx 40934177, 30 men in sangars running WEST from here across road and only 4 men to the WEST of the el ADEM Rd, where the ground slopes away preventing observation. patrol then mobed back and found sangars at 40954190 in 'V' form. Many samples of shrapnel from A P mines were seen over the last 100 yds of the patrol's most SOUTHERN points.</p> <p><u>Lieut Scoggins Leader.</u> At 41114144 patrol crossed a well used dirt road running EAST and WEST. patrol proceeded to 41084134 where 3 enemy were seen to the WEST apparently moving towards patrol, which spread out facing them, and started to crawl to cut them off. Noise was evidently heard by the enemy who challenged in ITALIAN and upon not being answered, ran off to the SOUTH. patrol was unable to intercept them. patrol then with drew back along their route.</p> <p><u>Pte Ostberg leader</u> At 41054178 patrol thought it was being followed by 2 men. It moved on another 150 yds to 41034177, when several men were seen in front, and more were seen to the left of the patrol, which seemed to be surrounded at this stage. Patrol moved back 450 yds on a bearing of 80° and went to ground for 1 hour, until enemy's movement ceased. patrol believed that enemy consisted of 2 GERMANS and about 10 others.</p>
2	A Coy	2030	0145	LDFFR 1 N CO 10 ORs	From R45 by truck to Rd at 41314169, along road to 41184171 where patrol debussed and proceeded on foot to 41084134, then due EAST to 41184134, thence NORTH to truck, returning through R49	<p><u>Pte Ostberg leader</u> At 41054178 patrol thought it was being followed by 2 men. It moved on another 150 yds to 41034177, when several men were seen in front, and more were seen to the left of the patrol, which seemed to be surrounded at this stage. Patrol moved back 450 yds on a bearing of 80° and went to ground for 1 hour, until enemy's movement ceased. patrol believed that enemy consisted of 2 GERMANS and about 10 others.</p>
3	1 Sec	0030	0625	2 ORs	R45 down PIPELINE to 41084179 then on bearing of 265° to 41034177, back NORTH TO ROADBlk.	<p><u>Pte Ostberg leader</u> At 41054178 patrol thought it was being followed by 2 men. It moved on another 150 yds to 41034177, when several men were seen in front, and more were seen to the left of the patrol, which seemed to be surrounded at this stage. Patrol moved back 450 yds on a bearing of 80° and went to ground for 1 hour, until enemy's movement ceased. patrol believed that enemy consisted of 2 GERMANS and about 10 others.</p>

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	A Coy	2100 28 Aug	0200 30 Aug	1 Offr 1 Cpl 8 ORs	From R57 to WALLED VILLAGE (remained there during day 29 Aug), thence bearing 234° to OP at 41184140 thence to 41184135 to 41274135 NORTH to BIR AZAZI in at R51	<p><u>Lieut Yates leader</u> Observations from WALLED VILLAGE (BOB), showed at daylight an OP at 234°, manned by 3 men, one on the tower and two on the ground. These were relieved at 0830 hrs, and at 1100hrs the old relief disappearing into dead ground at 240° from BOB. At 1400 hrs one man seen digging to left rear of OP. OP re-occupied at 1900hrs. From 1800 hrs two men seen in diggings at 201°; probably the same post a previous patrol had attacked. Concentrations of men seen at foot and on the side of escarpment. The largest concentration, about 200, were seen to the EAST of rd which runs down escarpment at 210°. patrol moved to the OP where men had been seen but the OP and diggings were found un-occupied. The patrol moved SOUTH for 500 yds the NEAST 1000 yds. Due to the exhaustion of the men caused by duties the previous night and lack of sleep in the daytime, it was considered advisable to return, which the patrol did through PLOMK. N M S/H</p> <p><u>Sgt. Patrick Leader</u> At 40794188 patrol decided to wait until the moon set, then moved on to 40764184 where main body left, while the leader and 3 men moved to the minefield 70 yds away due EAST, which ran on a bearing of 243°. The EASTERN leg was followed for 210yds when it turned and seemed to run straight on a bearing of 116°. At 40774184 on this leg a very light was fired from 40784183. A line of stakes was found running parallel to the field about 25 yds in side. The stakes were 2'6" high with barbed wire. The other leg of the field was followed on 243° for 165 yds and appeared to run on. Crossed 4 tracks- not recently used. The minefield examined contained only 'S' type anti-personnel mines, which appeared to be freshly laid, but no booby traps. Voices were heard from the strong post inside but were indistinguishable. N M S</p>
2	C Coy	2045	0430	1 NCO 10 ORs 1 Off (from relieving Bn)	From R39 to 40944210 then on bearing of 215° and back to R39	<p><u>Sgt. Patrick Leader</u> At 40794188 patrol decided to wait until the moon set, then moved on to 40764184 where main body left, while the leader and 3 men moved to the minefield 70 yds away due EAST, which ran on a bearing of 243°. The EASTERN leg was followed for 210yds when it turned and seemed to run straight on a bearing of 116°. At 40774184 on this leg a very light was fired from 40784183. A line of stakes was found running parallel to the field about 25 yds in side. The stakes were 2'6" high with barbed wire. The other leg of the field was followed on 243° for 165 yds and appeared to run on. Crossed 4 tracks- not recently used. The minefield examined contained only 'S' type anti-personnel mines, which appeared to be freshly laid, but no booby traps. Voices were heard from the strong post inside but were indistinguishable. N M S</p>
3	D Coy	2100	0315	1 Offr 1 Relief 10 ORs	From LP of R45 on bearing 212° for 3500 yds thence on bearing of 104° for 1900 yds thence NORTH to R45	Report next page

2/15 Aust Inf Bn

patrol report page 2

D Coy

Lieut Guest Leader.

On bearing of 212° from LP: at 2500 yds heard 1 single rifle shot approx 300°, approx 1000 yds. At 3220 yds bearing 270° enemy LMG (PIAT) fired three bursts in direction of patrol. Bullets passed high over head. patrol was not observed. Flash of LMG clearly seen. Unable to judge distance. Area of MONUMENT searched at 3640 yds. patrol laid up in this area for nearly two hours. Digging heard at bearing 270° approx, distance about 600 yds, time MIDNIGHT. Digging heard only the last 10 minutes, search made NOT located. On bearing 104° from MONUMENT Area: patrol completed
Rm S/H

Guest

2/15 AUST INFBN

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 31 Aug 41

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	D Coy	2230	0345	2 Offrs 10 ORs	From R47 on 187° to Minefield, then due SOUTH 500 yds, due WEST 200 yds beyond PIPELINE minefield sangars Thence on 13° across minefield to enemy sangars, 350 yds NORTH of minefield. This area searched then back to R45	<u>Lieut Osborne Leader</u> The area of the suspected enemy positions was thoroughly searched and NO sangars could be found N M S.
2	C Coy Nol					Protective only N MS
3	I Sec	1200	1405	2 ORs	From R45 and back to R43	<u>Pte Ostberg Leader</u> Patrol proceeded along pipeline 2250 yds to a sangar which appears to have been recently used by us as L P. Further 825 yds to point 41074178, where bearing were taken on MONUMENT- 450 yds 280°- which was being used as an OP by 2 men. patrol was fired on from two sangars ^{sangars} (approx 41054175) by 3 MMGs which fired at least 3 bursts each. Considerable movement was noticed in the area and sangars ^{sangars} are estimated to be used by 10 men. Returned along Pipeline without further incident and arrived at R43.

Cell

C Coy C APT BODE Leader

Strength: 1 Officer and 10 ORs

Time Out: 2230 hrs

Time In: 0500 hrs

Route: From S P 40944210 on bearing of 206° and then WEST to approx to 40764184, at this stage the patrol moved through the enemy minefield in single file to a point behind the enemy position, then received a left turn. Then through the enemy position back to Coy area.

Report: At 40774184 patrol spread out for the attack, moved through the minefield in single file for about 150 to 200 yds, then turned left and advanced on the post from the rear in extended line. They were apparently seen at this stage, for a very light went up from the post and 4 Bredas opened up on them. At the same time the enemy threw a volley of grenades the flash of which, temporarily blinded the patrol. Patrol maneuvered for the attack and went in with grenades and bayonets. The enemy were estimated at between 40 and 50 strong, and the post was a proper trench system in the form of a horse shoe; all pits being connected by crawl trenches about 4 to 5 ft deep, with further crawl trenches to sleeping quarters. At least one Breda was at each extremity of the post, and two in the centre. The right hand Breda was definitely silenced and its crew killed. Enemy fire ~~was also~~ was also met from positions from SOUTH and EAST. Grenades were thrown in all the posts and sleeping quarters and the bayonet used freely. Estimated enemy killed at least 15, but unable to estimate number wounded. Patrol withdrew through minefield to NORTH, but were unable to obtain a prisoner. The patrol leader with a bullet wound in the hip, at one stage had two prisoners by the neck, attempting to pull them out of the trenches, which were about 5 ft deep at this spot. His Tommy Gun was empty and he could not use his pistol as both hands were fully occupied. He released the prisoners when he was hit in the face by a grenade. The line of defence of the post at 40834185 consists of a row of 's' type mines, then three rows of trip wire, then a single row of dunnert. After passing through the field on the way out the patrol was pinned down by fixed line of fire, from MMGs and A Tk guns and while there observed an enemy patrol come out after them. One of the patrol, Pte Randall, tripped in to a post and was temporarily stunned. He remained in the post after the patrol had passed through. He ~~said~~ states the ENEMY-ALL ITALIANS-were very excited and rushed about the post shouting wildly. He managed to make his way out along the route he came in and at daylight was still in sight of the post. He saw 3 empty enemy MT pull off the el ADEM Rd and move into the post. After daylight 20 enemy were observed, approx 750 yds NORTH of the position apparently searching the ground. They were dispersed by our arty fire. Our total casualties, one missing believed killed, two missing, three wounded (two slightly, none seriously). One L/Cpl and two ORs are the personnel missing.

G. S.

COPY.

20 AUST INF BRIGADE

9 AUST Division

Western Desert Force

Schedule No	Unit	Regtl No	Rank and Name	Action for which commended	Recommended by	Honour or award
	2/15 Aust Inf Bn	QX3000	Sgt PATRICK Ronald Arthyr	<p>On the night 30/31 Aug, Sgt Patrick who was a member of a raiding party of 1 OFFR and 10 men who carried out a raid on an enemy strongpost situated 3000 yds SOUTH of the EL ADEM sector of the defences of TOBRUCH.</p> <p>Sgt PATRICK had carried out two previous night patrols in the area of the post and had secured valuable information which enables the formulation of the plan of the raid.</p> <p>The raiding party crawled through the minefield and tripwires at the rear of the position and rushed the enemy post using grenades, bayonet and Thompson sub machine guns and to a volley of hand grenades from the post being attacked and to the heavy machine gun and anti-tank gun fire from adjacent posts. The garrison of the post was estimated at fifty men. Sgt PATRICK killed the crew of one machine gun with a bayonet and broke his bayonet when using it on a third man. He then utilised his pistol and was responsible for killing two enemy who were firing from a weapon pit. Before leaving the post he threw two grenades into enemy sangars but was unable to determine the extent of the enemy casualties incurred.</p> <p>The personal courage and aggressiveness of Sgt PATRICK was responsible for the killing of five of the enemy and his eagerness to participate in the raid and confidence in its ultimate success did much to raise the enthusiasm and morale of the troops taking part.</p>	Comd	M.M.

COPY
20 Aust Inf Bde

9 Aust Division

Western Desert Force

Schedule No	Unit	Regtl No	Rank and File	Action for which commended	Recommended By	Honour or Award.
	2/15 Aust Inf Bn	QX 6226	Capt BODE Fredrick Lance	<p>On the night of 30/31 Aug, Capt BODE led a party of 3 NCOs and 7 men in a raid on an enemy strongpost situated about 3000 yds south of EL ADEM Sector of the defences of TOBRUCH</p> <p>Previous reconce by night patrols had indicated that the post was protected by a minefield and by tripwires and single Dannert wire. The raiding party crawled through the minefield and tripwires at the rear of the post and formed up for the raid in extended line within 50 yds of the enemy without being detected.</p> <p>On rushing the post they were subjected to the fire of four Bredas and to a volley of hand grenades, the flash of which temporarily blinded them. In addition machine guns and anti-tank guns harassed them from adjacent enemy posts. In the resulting attack with bayonet, Thompson Machine Guns and grenades, one enemy machine gun was silenced, at least fifteen enemy killed and many wounded. The garrison of the post was estimated at fifty men. Capt BODE received a bullet wound in the thigh in the early stages but despite this wound he shot three of the enemy and was endeavouring to forcibly extract two men from their weapon pit with the object of capture as prisoners when he was temporarily blinded with a hand grenade.</p> <p>The success of the operation was largely due to the careful planning and cool but dashing leadership of Capt BODE whose exhibition of personal courage and aggressiveness was an inspiration to his troops.</p>	Comd	M. C.

COPY

20 AUST INF BDE

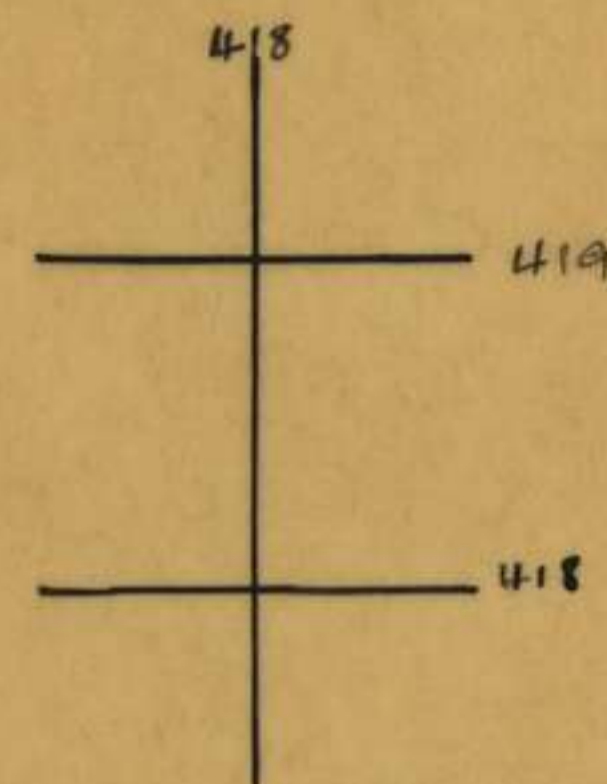
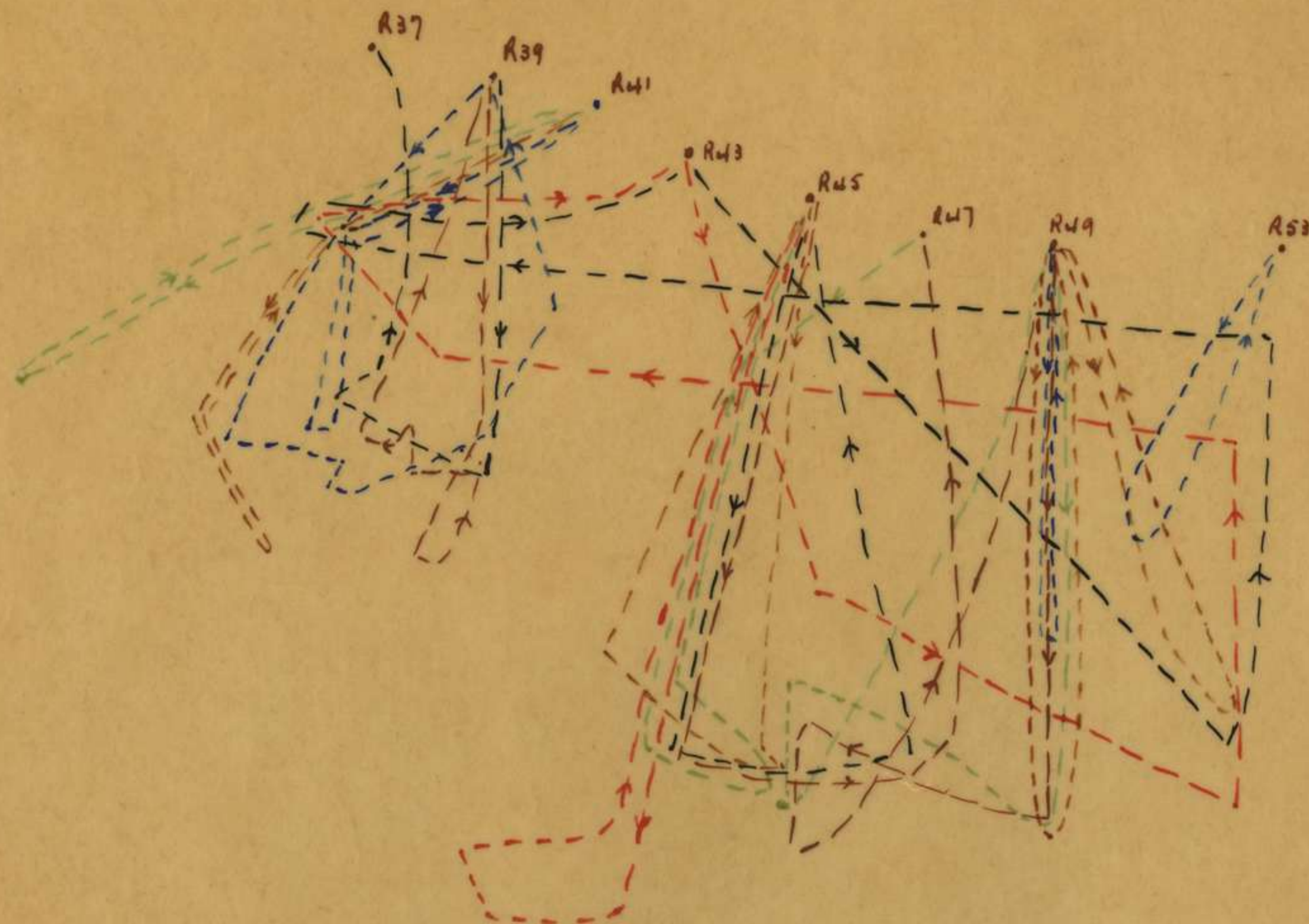
9 Aust Division

Western Desert Force

Schedule No	Unit	Regtl No	Rank and Name	Action for which commended	Recommended By	Honour or Award.
	2/15 AUST Inf Bn	QX 6298	Cpl ISAACS Raymond Arthur Nalder	<p>On the night 30/31 Aug, Cpl ISAACS was a member of a raiding party of one Officer and ten men who carried out a raid on an enemy strongpost situated about 3000 yds SOUTH of the EL ADEM sector of the defences of TOBRUCH. The raiding party crawled through the minefields and trip wires at the rear of the positions and rushed the enemy post using grenades, bayonet and Thompson sub machine gun. They were subjected to the fire of four enemy machine guns and to a volley of hand grenades from the post being attacked and to heavy machine gun and anti-tank gun fire from adjacent posts. The garrison of the post was estimated at fifty men. In the early stages Cpl ISAACS saw his Patrol Commander (Capt BODE) struggling to extract two enemy from their weapon pit. An Italian hand grenade exploded near the pit temporarily blinding Capt BODE and wounding him in the face and chest. Cpl ISAACS moved to the assistance of his comd and shot the two enemy dead. He thereafter protected his wounded comd, but in post, by the use continuing his passage through the post, by the use of rifle and hand grenades was responsible for killing at least one additional enemy and wounding several others. Cpl ISAACS' action in moving to the assistance of his comd at the time when he had been wounded through the leg and temporarily blinded undoubtedly enabled the comd to get safely clear of the post. ISAACS' action in continuing to attack the enemy whilst shepherding his comd is also commendable</p>	Comd	M. M.

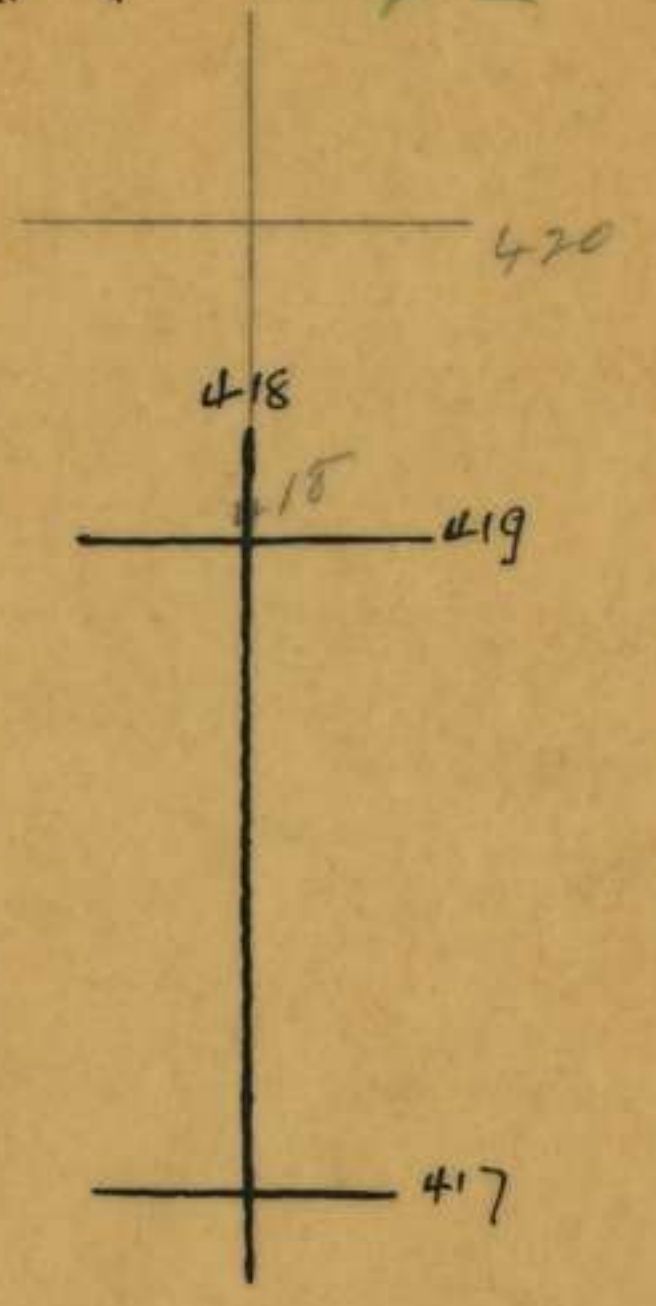
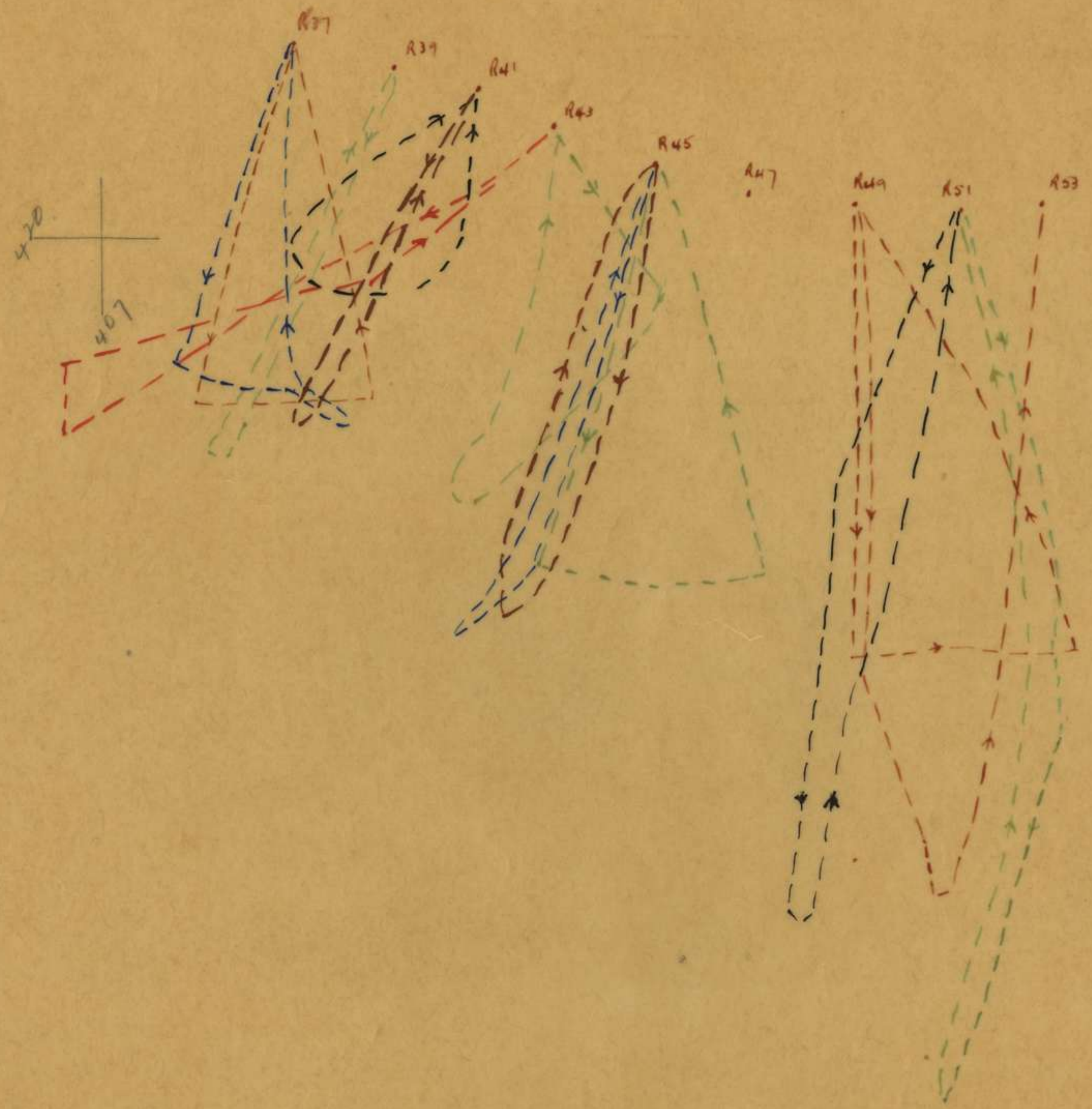
PATROL ROUTES

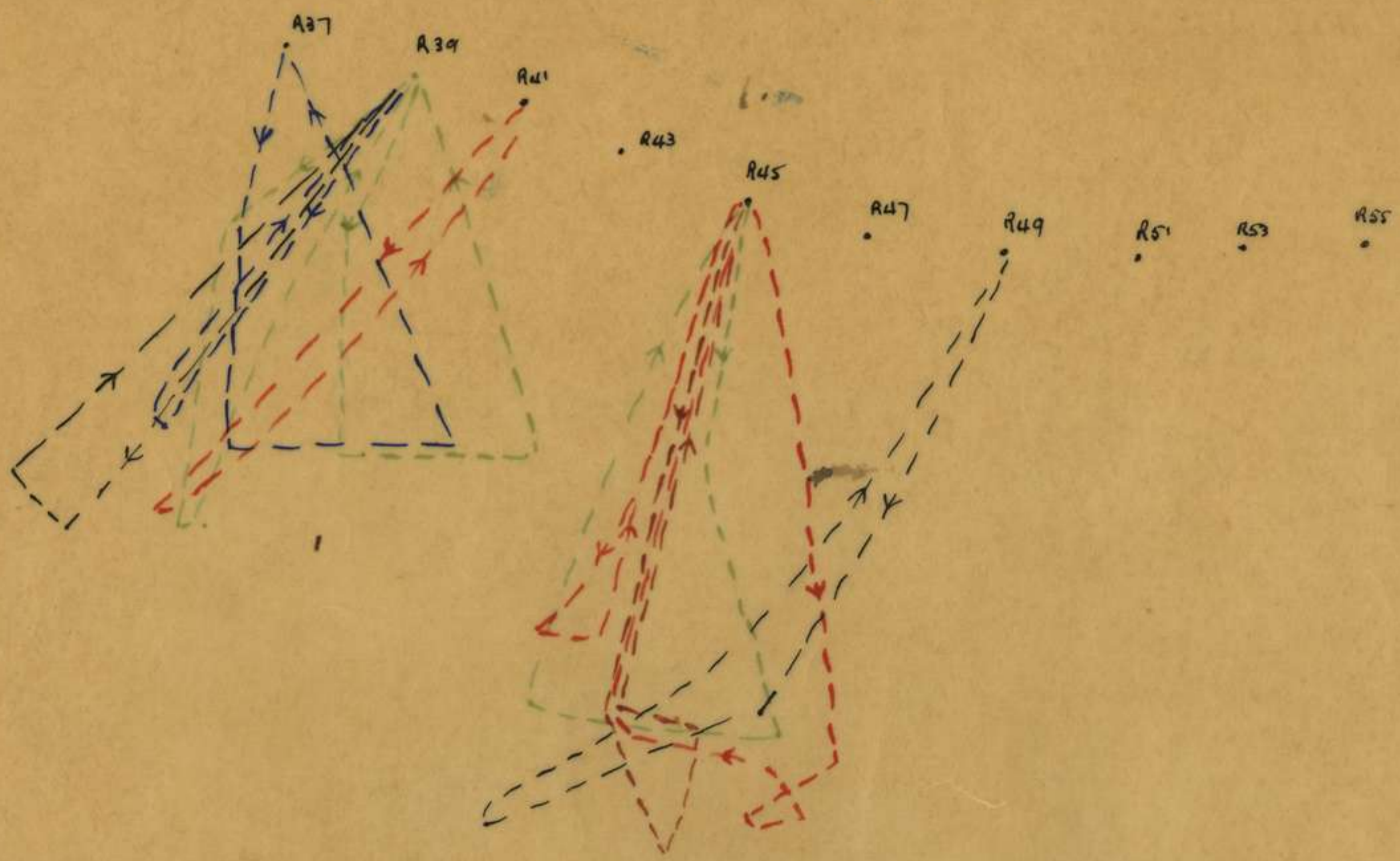
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PATROL ROUTES

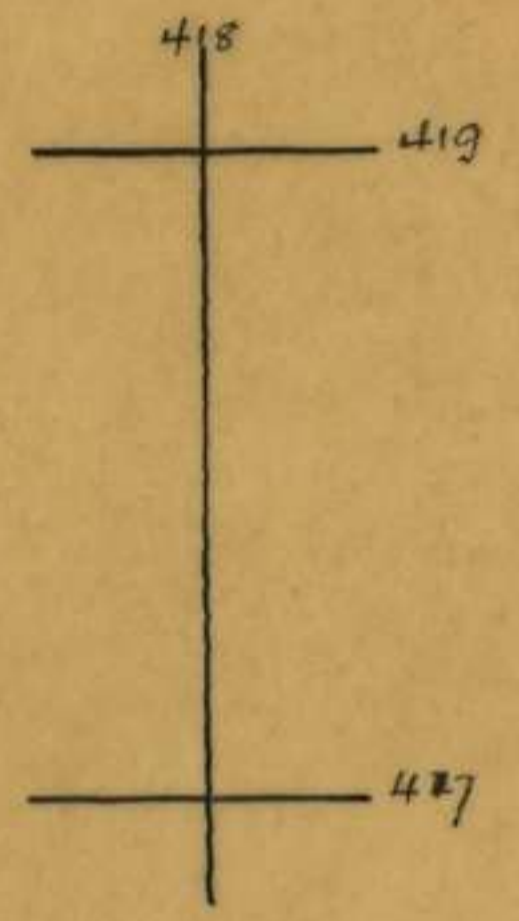
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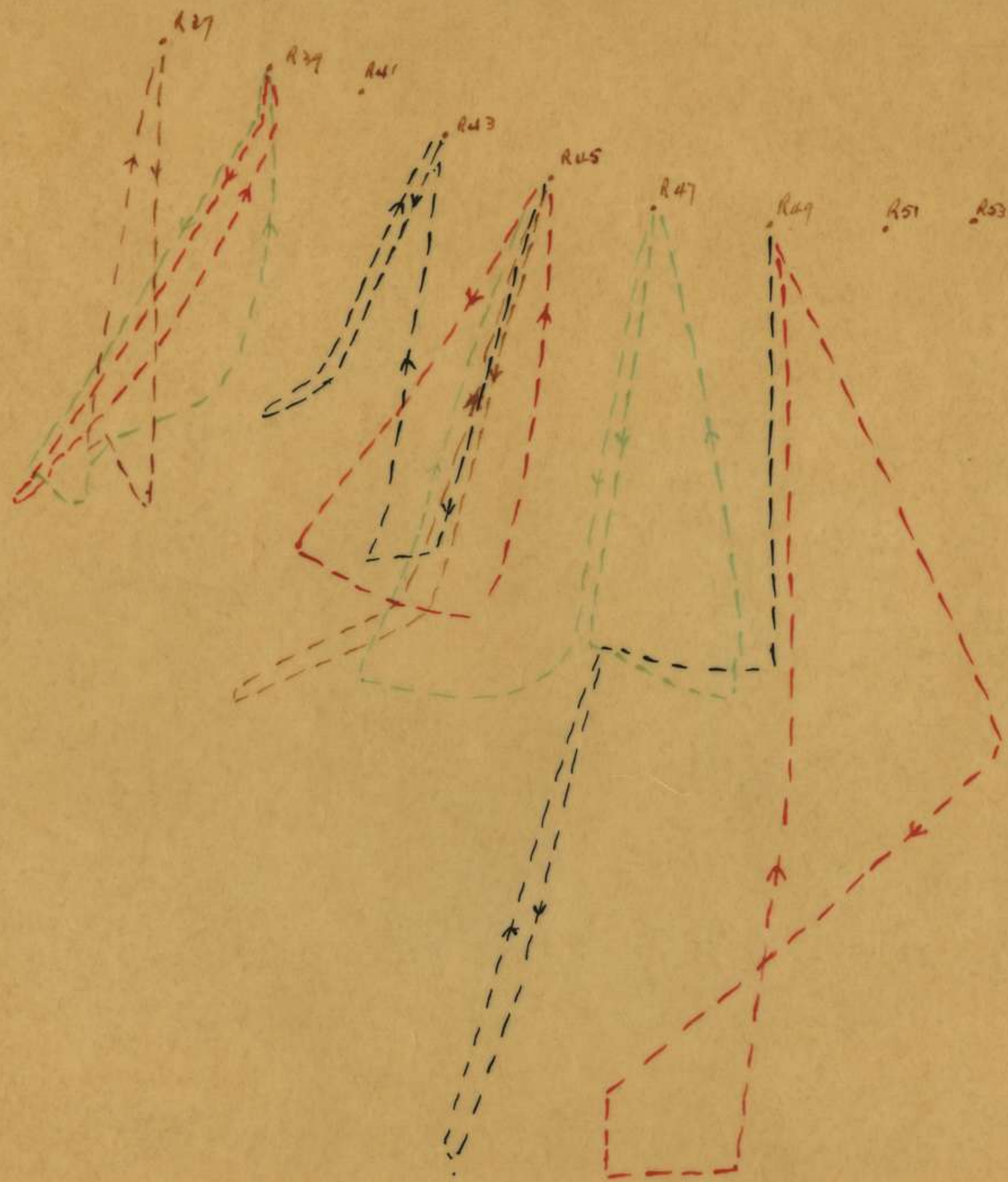




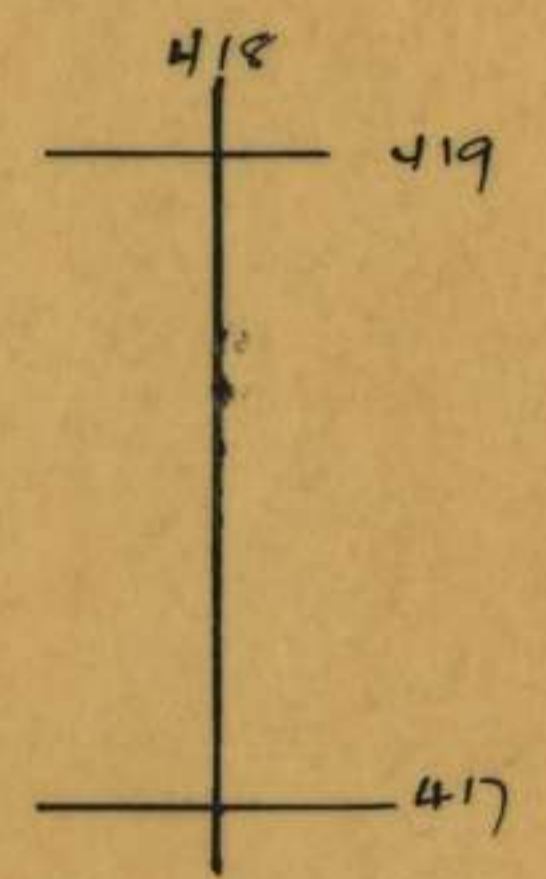
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PATROL		ROUTES
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SECRET.

Copy No. 17

5 Aug 41.

2/15 Aust Inf Bn O O No 6.

Ref Map : TOBRUCH 1/50000 with overprint.

INFORMATION.

1. As shown in Intelligence Summaries.

INTENTION.

2. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn will relieve 2/17 Aust Inf Bn in the EL ADEM sector on night 7/8 Aug.

METHOD.

3. Nucleus parties
The following nucleus parties will move into the new area during the morning of 6 Aug.

One officer per Coy
One N.C.O. per platoon
One O.R. per section
Three signallers.

4. Rear Party
Maj Ralston will remain at present HQ until arrival of C.O. 2/17 BN at completion of relief.

5. Coys of 2/15 BN will relieve corresponding Coys 2/17 BN i.e. C, B, A fwd (right to left) and D Coy reserve.

6. Timings

HQ Coy, BN HQ and RAP	-	leave present area	2110 hrs
D Coy	-	" " "	2115 hrs
C Coy	-	" " "	2130 hrs
B Coy	-	" " "	2150 hrs
A Coy	-	" " "	2210 hrs.

7. Routes.

All Coys - (a) track through walled defences at 40924262 - BIR ES SEGERAT - OLD GUN POSITION 41154250 - EL ADEM RD.
(b) HQ Coy - 4 Kilo peg
D Coy - 4 Kilo peg
C Coy - track leading west from EL ADEM RD. forward of rd block about 41084219.
B Coy - Forward post road leading EAST from EL ADEM rd about 41064212.
A Coy - Leave EL ADEM rd at Kilo 4 peg, move EAST to gap in minefield near old BN HQ cave, thence to rear posts road.

8. Guides

Each Coy 2/15 BN will utilise one man to travel on front seat of first Coy lorry for duty as guide to direct 2/17 BN back to Coy locality in BLUE LINE. 2/17 BN is arranging to transport guides back to 2/15 BN Coys on the day following the relief. OC HQ Coy to arrange 2/15 BN Provost to direct at junctions of tracks with EL ADEM RD mentioned under 7 (b).

9. Bush Arty.

HQ Coy will detail four personnel to report to Capt Norman O.C. 24 A Tk Coy for duty as gunners on Bush Arty. These men will be carried on ration strength of 24 A Tk Coy. Time and place of reporting 0930 hrs 7 Aug, at 2/17 BN HQ. These men will take two haversack meals and all baggage.

/ A Tk guns.

10. A Tk guns
Coys will supply a total of four men in the BN for duty with A Tk guns within the Coy areas. These will remain on Coy strength and be rationed accordingly.

11. Patrolling .DISTRIBUTION
2/17 BN are providing the following patrols :-
(a) Ditch and wire patrols moving across platoon front with responsibilities to protect wire and A Tk ditch. 2/15 BN personnel will relieve these patrols as soon as they enter the new position.
(b) Listening posts forward of A Tk ditch. These will also be relieved by 2/15 BN as soon as they enter the new position.
(c) Deep patrols will be maintained by 2/17 BN until first light 8 Aug.

ADM

12. Foreign Weapons
The following foreign weapons will be taken over from 2/17 BN by the Coys shown

Coy	Breda m.g.	Flat m.g.	Schwartzloew	Spandau
D	-	-	-	-
B	2	3	1	1
C	4	1	1	-
A	2	3	-	-

13. Amn
2/17 BN is leaving behind all amn in posts in excess of G 1098 scale and a corresponding scale for foreign weapons.

14. Sanitary Boxes
To remain in present position on BLUE LINE and taken over as trench stores in new area.

15. Water and reserve rations
Will be taken over in posts. Details will be arranged between respective Coy Comds.

16. Tp carrying tpt
Will report to Coys as follows :-

- HQ Coy - 3 trucks
- A Coy - 6 "
- B Coy - 6 "
- C Coy - 6 "
- D Coy - 6 "
- BN HQ - 2 "

INTERCOMM.

17. HQ 2/15 BN will close present position and open at present HQ of 2/17 BN at 2200 hrs.

18. Sig.
Hand over of Sig equipment will be by mutual arrangement between Sig Offrs.

19. Codes
The under mentioned Code Words will be phoned to indicate Relief completed.

- A Coy - COACH
- B Coy - FRIEND
- C Coy - BUTCH
- D Coy - THACK
- HQ Coy - MOUNT.

ACK.

Time of signature 0140
Issued by *Onderly*

R.A. Suthers
(R.A. SUTHERS) Capt
Adj. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

19 Aug 41.

2/15 AUST INF BN CO No. 7.

Ref Map :TOBRUCH 1/50000 with overprint.

INFORMATION.

1. Enemy - As shown in daily Intelligence summaries.
2. Own Tps - 2/15 Aust Inf Bn is in EL-ADEM sector astride EL-ADEM RD with fwd C Coy right, B Coy centre, A Coy left and in res D Coy.

INTENTION

3. D Coy will relieve B Coy on night 20/21 Aug. B Coy on relief will take up res position now occupied by D Coy.

METHOD

4.

18 Pl	will take over posts manned by	10 Pl.
17 Pl	" " " " " "	11 Pl.
16 Pl	" " " " " "	12 Pl.
5. Nucleus Parties.
D Coy 2nd Lt/c with pl sjt from each pl and 1 man per sec will move to B Coy area at 1400 hrs 20 Aug by M.T. as nucleus party. This M.T. will return with similar B Coy nucleus party to D Coy area.
6. Movement.
Change-over will take place on foot except as otherwise mentioned. D Coy order of march will be Coy HQ, 16 Pl, 17 Pl, 18 Pl, with at least 10 minutes interval between each subunit.
Route will be from present area along pipeline.
7. M.T.
T.O. will provide 2 30 cwt trucks and 1 1 ton van to report to D Coy at 2000 hrs 20 Aug, to convey coy stores etc to B Coy area. These vehicles will be used to convey B Coy stores etc back on completion of relief.
8. Guides.
 - (a) B Coy will provide 4 guides to be at 6 kilo peg on EL ADEM RD at 2100 hrs to guide vehicles as required.
 - (b) B Coy will also provide guides at junction of post road and pipeline at 2115 hrs to guide personnel to their areas.
 - (c) B Coy will provide its own guides to new area.
9. Patrolling.
B Coy will provide necessary patrols on Coy front until first light 21 Aug.
10. Timings.
There will be no movement from D Coy's present position before 2100 hrs 20 Aug.

ADM

11. The usual administrative arrangements will apply concerning hand-over of the undermentioned items:-
 - (a) Foreign weapons and amm therefor.
 - (b) Amm.
 - (c) Reserve water and rations.
 - (d) Sanitary boxes.

INTERCOMM

12. Sig comm to present BN HQ will be maintained from both Coy HQs throughout relief.
13. Sig equipment will be left as at present.
14. Codes.
The undermentioned code words will be phoned to BN HQ to indicate relief complete:-

/D COY.

14. Codes Contd.

D Coy THACK.

B Coy FRIEND.

ACK

R.A. Suthers
(R.A. SUTHERS) Capt.
Adj. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn.

Time of signature.....*1.8.29 hoo*.....

Issued by.....*B. Derby*.....

DISTRIBUTION

B COY	Copy No.	1
D COY		2
T.O.		3
Comd		4
20 Aust Inf Bde		5
File		6
War Diary		7-8

REPORT BY QX8231 Pte. POTTER. A. J.
ON ESCAPE FROM PW CAMP DERNA.

After leaving BARCE, at 2100 hrs on Apr 6, we arrived at a point on the desert road at about 07 AM. A halt was called to enable the convoy to be completed again, in which time individual fires were made to prepare a cup of tea.

The enemy were first sighted about six miles away on our right flank, as we faced the road on which we had been travelling. Two AFVs were first sighted, followed later by six tanks. Orders were given to prepare for action, which were carried out promptly, our defensive position being the edge of the small rise, about 250 yds to the right of the road. As the transport had been dispersed to the left hand side, our first position was about 300 yds from the nearest MT. Our first indication of hostilities was a ranging shell which landed on the road. The second was shorter and much closer to the MT. My next view of the enemy was an armoured car, with a gun behind, which came at a very fast rate into a fold in the ground about 400 yds to our front. This AFV was then made the target of four heavy Breda Guns manned by AA crews. They were mounted on Dieselene trucks, and as one truck had broken down, it was being towed by No. 1 Gun.

The enemy brought their gun into action, and after ranging with three shells scored a direct hit on No. 1 Gun with the fourth, and the gun being towed, was hit by the fifth shell. These MT were started on fire by the shells and destroyed. In the meantime, the two other guns were firing, but were unable to get sufficient depression on their guns to hit the enemy. Orders were then given to retire into a fold about 150 yds to our right. While moving back, I could see that the second armoured car had swung round and was almost on our left flank. A number of tanks has formed in line on our front. Six were in line on our right flank, and more vehicles were moving down the road on which the enemy were first sighted. Having moved into the new position, our front was then as facing our original left flank.

Between odd shells which were landing, the C.O. took stock of the situation and explained that although we were hopelessly outnumbered, if the remainder of the convoy should be following, they would hear the action and, possibly, turn about and go the coast road through DERNA. One of the Breda then opened fire on the tanks which went back out of range, and began shelling us. Then some vehicles appeared on the left flank, upon which the other gun opened fire, as well as quite a number of rifles. This produced about forty white flags or cloth of some variety, and at the C.O.'s orders we held our fire, as a man was running up waving something. The C.O. replied with a handkerchief and went out to meet him. Meanwhile quite a number of men were walking towards us with their hands up. We, however, soon realised that they were Englishmen, and were escorted by several of the enemy. They informed us that, hearing the action, they had come to see what was happening, and, as they topped the small rise, they found themselves in front of an armoured car. Then as they were also being fired on by our Breda, had no option but to surrender.

Our enemy while walking down with the prisoners, had fired a white light from a pistol, and all guns ceased fire. Our C.O. was then approached by one of the enemy and asked to surrender, as we were, he informed us, completely surrounded. The C.O. was reluctant to do so, but after asking and being assured of the care of the wounded etc, ordered us to lay down our arms. The enemy, who we then knew were Germans, fired two white signals from a pistol, and all the tanks went out to the road and continued their journey, leaving the two armoured cars to guard us. I counted eighteen tanks in all as they moved along the road.

Our R.S.M. had been injured by a piece of shrapnel, but after having the wound dressed, was able to walk. One AFV remained behind to bring on the wounded and we were marched about two miles onto a road under escort of the other AFV. The enemy gave us good treatment, supplied us with water, and returned later to see if any wounded had been left behind. All wounded were moved to hospital as soon as possible and about 1500 hrs we were loaded onto MT and conveyed to a camp in the desert. We were warned by the interpreter about secreting of arms, and also attempting to escape, and then moved into an enclosure which was marked by lines of stones. After being given blankets, cooks were procured from the prisoners and a meal was prepared. We then bedded down for the night and at 10 AM of the 8th had another meal. That morning our captors arrived with the officers' gear in a truck and later in the day were allowed to select their batmen. They were moved by MT at about 1700 hrs to DERNA. At 1900 hrs we got orders to move at once, and with what gear we had managed to obtain, started off in a long column. Arrived at the DERNA AERODROME about midnight and had our first rest. Fifteen minutes rest and down the escarpment to the hospital in which grounds we spent the rest of the night. About 0700 hrs on Wednesday 9, we were moved to a group of buildings just on DERNA Wall, which had recently been occupied by the RASC and were drafted

into various buildings, which were in the charge of the Italians. We were then informed that this was the POW Camp. We were not searched and all we were required to give were our jack knives, and an hour later drew our ration of one tin of Italian bully beef, and one packet of English biscuits. Everything went OK for a few days, the officers being allowed to visit the men for an hour each evening. Church services were held for Easter, and there was always a liberal supply of water, but rations were definitely off. Still as there was quite a number of tins of beef and biscuits etc left by the RASC in various buildings, quite a small store was accumulated by the various parties. M&V which had been blown up and burnt by our engineers was being issued by the Italians at the rate of 1 tin per man per day.

On Sunday 13 Apr I was taken with three other men from HQ Coy to do some cleaning up in DERNA. We returned at 1600 hrs to find that everyone had been taken by MI to BENGHASI. The total numbers, I was told, were 600 Englishmen and 240 Australians, which I knew to be correct, as our names and numbers had been entered in a roll, which had been called several times. The same night the prisoners who had been captured at MECHILI were brought in. They were allowed to sleep the night but next morning had to assemble in a big yard and were searched, quite a lot of personal belongings being taken from them.

Due to the lack of organisation by the Italians, no latrines were dug, and as flies were in millions, and only burnt M & V as ration, dysentery was soon very prevalent. Conditions gradually became worse, and after three prisoners who had been captured at TOBRUK had told me the position of things, I decided to attempt an escape. I had made friends with an Englishman from the Long Range Desert Patrol, and when I suggested an escape, he was very anxious to accompany me. I tried to formulate some plan, and as there were only machine gunners (seven in number) to stop us, decided it worth a go.

Everything planned O.K., and having procured three tins of Italian bully beef and two biscuits, a water bottle each, we laid the zero hour at 2300 hrs on Apr 20. Unfortunately, at sundown, a large German convoy came from BENGHASI and camped right in the area through which we had proposed to go. I could see from our position in the camp an entrance into the foothills, which I assumed was a small wadi. At about 2100 hrs I went outside, and could not see the usual guard with rifle, so decided to go at once. Got our gear and the new course necessitated our walking to 150 yds of the German Camp and then swing left to get behind our Machine Gun guards. This we accomplished without incident and proceeded into the wadi, which turned out to be a quarry. Got about looking for a place to climb out, but it was straight face all the way. After a couple of hours, we managed to reach the top of the quarry, and then had about 1000 ft of escarpment to contend with. At dawn on the 21 we were just on top of the escarpment and were overlooking the prisoner camp, but we found the aerodrome had been extended and we would have quite a long walk to get around it. After walking for some hours we encountered two Arabs but as I had seen Arab spies in the camp, I was very wary. However, they directed us on a road which I knew was in the general direction so, we followed it. Later, the road turned SOUTH, so keeping the aerodrome in sight, and in and out of wadis, we continued.

At sundown that evening, we arrived in sight of the road, and at 2100 hrs, crossed the road about seven kilos from DERNA. We were very tired and disheartened, after having walked so far for so little gain, but pushed on, and about a mile from the road, decided to rest for the night. Sleep was impossible as it was bitterly cold. At daybreak we continued again and after about five hours walk, arrived at a bi wadi (Wadi Celigh). Had our first meal after going down to the bottom, and decided to have a couple of hours sleep. Moved on about dawn, and having climbed the wadi, walked about two miles, and found an Arab well or tank. We could see the water about 18 ft down, so filling one bottle from the other, we managed to make a rope from a piece of twine, strips from the leg of my trousers, and portion of the tail of Bill's shirt, sufficiently long enough to reach the water. We had quite a good drink, and with water bottles full once again, continued all day without incident, laying a course of South East by the sun so as to eventually come out on the coast. We camped that night in a wadi (Wadi Hamesa) and at daybreak continued, arriving at the coast and mouth of the wadi, at about 0900 hrs. The coast was of high rocky cliffs, so decided to keep on top, as we could see sand dunes in the distance. We got down on the wadi and crossed on a sand bar. There were a few Germans floating in the sea, and also on the shore, due to our Navy no doubt. We climbed out of the wadi and found good walking after crossing another. At about 1500 hrs we met an Arab shepherd who told us there was water and food in the wadi ahead, and pointed in the general direction.

After looking up and down the wadi for about an hour without success, decided to try to find him again, but met an Arab boy who was taking some horses down to water, so we followed him. We found the place to be a sort of Oasis, with Dates and Figs growing, and several wells, which, unfortunately, were very brackish but drinkable. The boy said there were four other soldiers camped in a cave up

the wadi. We went up to see who they were and found four Englishmen. Two RASC and two signallers attached to the 3rd Hussars. They had been cut off on the top of DERNA PASS and after running their waggon with several others down to the first big wadi, ran them over the side, and walked on. At GAZALA the Germans were ahead of them, and the two RASC coves knowing there was an FSD at BOMBA returned with the idea of getting sufficient food on which to live for sometime and see what happened. However, on arriving at BOMBA, all that they found was three tins of oatmeal which had been missed by the Germans. With these tins they had made back to the wadi, as it was the nearest water. We decided to stay the night with them as there were quite a number of Germans and Italians camped at BOMBA (our first of three bottle necks on the road). We then learned that an MP Captain and Sergeant and three other men (one of whom had been shot in the wrist and chest) were camped in an old water tank about a mile away. As soon as possible I went to see them and found them trying to obtain an Arab guide to take a note to TOBRUK, and bring back assistance by ship. After some few days everything was arranged, and the Captain and the sergeant set off with the Arab, who assured them he could get through the enemy lines at BOMBA, and take them on a sand bar, past TIMINI and GAZALA, of which only the arabs knew. About six days after their departure, the arab with the story that, failing to find the sand bar, they had got past TIMINI and gone inland to GAZALA, but in the night had stumbled on an enemy camp in which were quite a number of dogs.

leew+ Just as they were caught, however, an air raid alarm was sounded and in the confusion he escaped and returned, but as to the welfare of his charges he knew nothing. In the meantime, two English RE officers who had escaped from DERNA the night after us had arrived at the tank and were staying there in lieu of the Redcaps. We assumed that there would be a search for the arab and decided to be very wary for a few days. As nothing in the way of large search parties arrived, (small ones being shot by arabs), I decided to have a go at it myself. The two RE captains then told me of a plan which they had formed. An arab trader had come through with a flock of sheep and goats, and claiming to have brought them from near TOBRUK via ACROMA, without seeing any Germans at all, as they planned to return by the same route, the two officers dressed as arabs, would accompany them. They were to take several donkeys, with sufficient food and water for 10 days, and upon arrival in TOBRUK would procure a ship and return to make for us a very easy and dramatic rescue. However, as the plan would not be put into action for five or six days and having heard the full report of how many trucks had been dumped over the wadi in which was quite a good quantity of rations, I decided to take a trek back to see what rations were left. Our sole diet of one handful of oatmeal per day was becoming exhausted, and I realised we would have to get rations somewhere, if we were going to see the two captains plan through. I set out with Bill and one RASC cove to investigate the wadi, but after a day's walk we arrived in the bottom of the wadi only to be informed by an arab that Germans came down every day and were coming along the wadi now. We climbed that wadi faster than any mountain goat and didn't stop until we were about three miles away. We had to return empty handed and shorten our already short rations. On the 14 May, the two captains started, and we were to give them 10 days if possible, before considering the scheme a failure. We were very restless owing to the fact of short rations, and slight dysentery, and to the fact that each day we waited we were getting weaker all the time. However, as the time was nearly up, and we had made a couple of trips to BOMBA to see how the land lay, we prepared on the night of 24 to move off. An arab friend had managed to get a tin of bully beef and an Italian biscuit each from DERNA and with a water bottle each and rations, set off on the morning of 25. I had got a rough idea of the nature of the country and the bottle necks at BOMBA, TIMINI and GAZALA. Bill and myself were to go in the first party, but the two RASC coves wanted to join us, and the other two Tommies were to give us four hours start, so as we would not be running into each other, on the way. We proceeded to BOMBA without event, but as we were about fifty yds from the road to BOMBA head, a truck load of Italians came along. We went to earth as quickly as possible and fortunately were not seen. Just as we were going again another one came back from the main road which was about 200 yds distant. I was half decided to wait for darkness as once we had crossed the road, had an open flat of about 600 yds before any cover was available. But it was essential to get past TIMINI the first night so as to be able to walk to GAZALA the next day. Speed was essential as we knew there were no arabs from whom we could get assistance, and no water. So we decided to give it a go, and when half way across the flat, another truck came down the road. Tried hard to get cover behind a camel bush, and thought we had been seen, as the truck had stopped and we could see the Italians were pointing straight at where we lay. The truck then started towards us but after a hundred yards or so turned back onto the road and went to BOMBA head. Needless to say we proceeded with much haste and found a stack of drums that may have been the object at which they were pointing. We carried on and arrived with sight of the first white house at TIMINI half an hour before sundown. I was very glad of a rest as the pace had been fairly brisk, and as we lay on the beach the two tommyes who were to leave after us came along, and I

I knew then that had been tailing us all day. As six was too many in one party they promised they would not leave until midnight to give us a chance of getting well ahead. At sundown we started (but as distance is very deceiving in the desert, and night marching damn near impossible), at midnight I could not see any sign of a white house. We kept going, and about 3 AM decided to wait for daylight and see the position of things. At dawn I found we were past the first white house, but were within 200 yards of a second around which were camped about 50 German trucks. Some more haste was urgently required, and after going about a mile, discovered two men walking towards us from the right. Thinking they were enemies, we had to get into a swamp and keep going. After an hour's wading arrived at the end and found the two tommies sitting down and watching us. After very mildly asking why we waded through the swamp, my flow of obscene language was sufficient to change their ideas about tailing us any further. I think they later walked to the road and gave themselves up as their water was just about finished then. Carried on all day and just before sundown came around a bend on the beach, and about 50 yds ahead a party of Italians were cleaning out a well. I had a good look at GAZALA which was about six miles distant, and tried to form a plan for getting past the white houses. There were quite a few small camps on the flat and I was dubious as to whether I could find a way through them. As darkness came we could see the Italians going into a camp about fifty yards away. Bill went over to an old tractor to see if there was any water in the radiator, but as it had been there for quite a long time, was very oily and rusty. I had a drink but was sick as soon as I had done so. We then decided to try the well, and moving quietly managed to get down O.K. The water was stinking but cool, and not bad to drink. Having finished the remainder of our good water, filled up the bottles and climbed out. However this water again made us sick, so we could only use it to wash out the mouth. As it was now getting late, and not being too sure of my bearings, decided to get on the main road. This we managed without incident, except for the barking of several dogs which caused us to go very carefully.

After walking on the road for an hour or more, I heard a noise behind, thinking it to be a truck in the distance, but found it to be a German on a push bike with the mud guards rattling. We just walked to the side of the road and sat down. He came along, stopped, had a look at us, and after walking about fifty yards, got on the bike again and rode away. We got on the road again and after a few hours with no white house in sight, decided to camp the night, as we were all feeling pretty seedy from the water.

We swung left off the road looking for cover and about fifty yards walk brought us to a German truck. Dodged it and ran into another. After dodging quite a number, we eventually came to a big thorn bush and we scrambled into it. At dawn I had a look around and I nearly had heart failure when I could see the number of trucks we had walked through. Looking left I found another convoy almost as big, within fifty yards of the bush. We got back into the bush and discovered that a road ran just in front of it. This led down to the coast, and about 8 AM the first truck load of Italians came along. Several trucks went up and down, also several walking parties, but we remained undiscovered. Shortly after noon everything seemed quiet, so we got out and moved over to a small wadi which led up the side of a rise. On reaching the top discovered quite a few camps and coves walking around, so moved back half way and waited for darkness. Our first day without water in the hot sun was not pleasant, so we were very anxious to get started. Took a bearing by a star and moved off, and arrived at a road which the RASC coves told me led to a water point. I was tempted to try for some water but hearing dogs barking, decided it was not worth the risk. After walking on for a while, waited for dawn and moved again. As we came over a rise, I could see the coast once again and carried on in that direction, but on the inner edge of some sand dunes, I could see three tents. As it was very early, nobody seemed to be up, so I thought it possible to dodge through the dunes. As we climbed the first one I could see nothing but over the second I nearly walked on top of a camp. It was then that I realised that the whole of the dunes was a large camp, so going as fast as possible, we managed to get clear. On about our second last dune, just as we got to the top, saw two men walking along the bottom going towards the sea. However, we gave them time to get to the beach and then continued. After having so many close calls I was beginning to wonder if our luck could hold as it had done so far. Kept walking, and as my boots were worn out and Bill had none either, the hard going soon started to make our feet sore. About an hour's walk brought us to a German truck parked very close to the shore. We moved up to see if it

were possible to get round it. However just as we were going to move to the beach again the truck moved towards us. We hurried into some bushes on top of a dune and the Jerry decided to pull his truck up at the same place. Not daring to move we watched the procedure. He was soon joined by two mates and they decided to have breakfast. The sight of water and coffee made us feel like rushing them. However, after they had had breakfast, a smoke and a yarn, they decided to move on. When the driver got into the truck, I thought he must see us as he looked straight into the bushes, but again Lady Luck favoured us. As soon as possible we moved on again as another truck and car had come down but were behind us, on the opposite side of a few dunes.

On for another couple of miles, when I could see a swimming party and some trucks ahead. It was then nearly noon and getting very hot. We had just passed three mines washed upon the beach, when I could see two men walking along the beach towards us. We moved up the bank and took cover behind a few camel bushes. It was not very long before we found the object of the two strollers were to use the mines as targets for rifles. Fortunately the mines were duds, but we had a few close calls from bullets that were ricocheting, some being much too close for comfort.

As this was our second day in the sun without water, we were hoping the Jerries would get an urgent call somewhere, but they kept coming down by the truck load, so we had no option but to wait for dark. At sundown a few trucks came and parked about two miles away from the beach. Bill decided to try to tap one of their radiators for water, so as soon as it was dark enough, we went up to within fifty yards of the truck selected. Bill went forward, and, as he told me later, he had just started to get thing going when a Jerry got out of the truck and saw his foot. He yelled out something, and went for a gun, so Bill up and went for the lick of his life. I lay quiet for a while to see what was going to happen and later moved back to the beach, but couldn't locate Bill, walked around all night trying to locate him, as I did not think that he had been caught. At daylight, failing to find him, moved on again, and a couple of miles up the beach found an old towel he had had wrapped around his foot, so I knew he was O.K. and had gone on.

Our tongues were swelling fast, and I knew it would be almost impossible to lay up another day in the sun without water. Just as the sun began to rise we walked around another small bay and could see we were right on a large German Signal Camp. I kept going and as it was a shelving beach, some of the tents were so close I could have spat on the men sleeping in them. A sentry was marching up and down outside a big tent 50 yds away. He stopped and looked at us, and I thought it was certain he would halt us, but he turned and walked along his beat. Looking straight ahead all the while, I kept going and could see him looking at us again. As we had 150 yds or more to cover before we were out of sight, I cannot explain why he did not recognise us. I was dressed in F.S. battle dress and was carrying my hat. The tommies were in their battle dress, wearing forage caps, and one a drivers cap. Continued on, and came to a blind wadi in which I could see quite a number of arab tents. I did not want to go in as I thought it too risky as there was a big German camp on top of the wadi. However one of the Tommies could not resist the cool waters of the Mediterranean, and started drinking it. I pulled him out and brought him around, but I knew he was bordering on the stage of madness and water was essential, so into the wadi we went. Met an arab and being unable to talk, pointed to my tongue. He told me he was a Senussi and I knew he would give us every assistance possible. He hid us in an old tank and later brought some arab bread, a small dish of olive oil, and a small pot of tea plus water. Having eaten the bread and olive oil, we had a couple of hours of much needed sleep, and discovered the swelling in the tongue to be almost gone. After sundown the arab came back again and said that after we had a meal he would show us the way. He led us to some salt bush away from the camp and there produced the meal. What it was made from I don't know, but it was as hot as the flames of hell, and of all things, it was served up in a po, handle and all. After the meal he gave me a packet of cigarettes and I have never enjoyed a cigarette so much in all my life. Then we proceeded on the last lap of our journey. The arab told us we had about ten miles to go, and 11 wadis to cross. Once we had crossed eight, he said, that was the end of the Germans' lines, and the eleventh was English. Also to keep to the coast as the Germans moved back every night. We carried on as quickly as possible, but owing to the fact that one chap had a very bad tendon in his leg, had to break the pace down. Eventually came to the wadis and his leg became so bad that he had to be given assistance. After climbing wadi after wadi, arrived at a fairly deep and wide one. I had miscounted one and thought it to be the tenth, and as we were crossing the bottom daylight started to break. I was almost on the wire before I saw it, and we had just got around the end and were going to start climbing a hill of sand when I heard someone call out Halt. I looked up and could see a man with the sights of a machine gun right on me. I sang out that I was an Australian and unarmed. He started to jabber something and not wishing to be shot I yelled again good and loud. I could see a man running along the top of the wadi some distance away and also heard him sing out. At last a voice from the top said "You are Australian". I said "Yes". He

said "We are Indians" and came down to assist us to the top. At last we knew we were once again in friendly hands after being 41 days in the desert.

Wm. A. J. Potter

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

2/15 Aust Inf Bn (Unit). 2 AVG 19 44 (Date).

(To be furnished by all units of Cavalry, Royal Armoured Corps, Infantry, Royal Army Veterinary Corps, Royal Army Pay Corps, Army Educational Corps, Corps of Military Police, and all Headquarters units).

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1	-	-
W.Os. Class II.	6	-	-
W.Os. Class III.			
Squadron or Company Quarter-master-Serjeants OR Colour-Serjeants	2	-	3
Staff Serjeants			
Serjeants	28	1	-
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.			
Corporals	59	-	2
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc.	491	-	162
TOTALS	587	1	167

* These Totals should agree with the details shown in Part D on page 2 of Army Form W.3009.

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
PAY SGT.	AARC		
MEDICAL	AAMC		
POSTAL CPL	AA POSTAL C		
FITTER	AADC		
MEDICAL L/CPL	AAMC		
PTE	AAMC		

Part C. Description of other ranks whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g. present whereabouts if known).
NIL				

2/15 Aust Inf Bn.

Unit.

Part D. Detail of Surplus or Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009.

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.									REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.							REMARKS.			
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.		Corporals	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.
Bricklayers																				
Butchers																				
Carpenters and Joiners																		1	1	
Clerks																		2	2	
Cooks																				
Despatch Riders																				
Drivers I.C. (Tracked)																				
" " (Wheeled)																				
Drivers-Mechanics																		7	7	
Drivers-Operators																				
Electricians																		1	1	
Equipment Repairers																				
Farriers																				
Fitters																				
Machine Gunners																				
Masons																		1	1	
Motor Mechanics																				
Pioneers, Infantry (other than tradesmen)																				
Plumbers and Pipefitters																				
Range Takers																				
Saddlers and Harness Makers																				
Saddle Tree Makers																				
Sanitary and Water Duties																				
Signallers																				
Storemen technical																		2	2	
Tailors																				
Wheelers																				
General duty personnel									1				3				2	147157		
TOTALS (to agree with Col- umns 3 and 4 of Part A).									1				3				2	162167		

2/15 Aust Inf Bn.

Unit.

Date of Despatch

2 Aug 41

[Signature]

Signature of Commander.

20 Aust Inf Bde

Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.

29-004

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/15 Aust Inf Bn (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels ...	<i>1</i>	<i>-</i>	
Majors ...	<i>1</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>2</i>
Captains ...	<i>5</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>3</i>
Lieutenants ...	<i>21</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>-</i>
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...	<i>1</i>	<i>-</i>	
District Officers ...			
TOTALS ...	<i>29</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>5</i>

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc.)

PART B.—PARTICULARS OF OFFICERS JOINED OR QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known).
	<i>Nik</i>		

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
CO. Lt. Col.		K.W.G. OGLE	2/15	Yes	
OC Hq Coy CAPT	T/MAJ	A.C. RALSTON.		-	
CM		A SKINNER		-	
OC B Coy		R.D. STRANGE		-	
Adjt		P.A. SUMMERS		-	
OC C Coy		F.L. BODE		-	
OC A Coy		W.W. COBB		-	
OC D Coy MAJ	T/MAJ	S.V. NEWCOMB		-	
2nd Lt.		M.R. STUART		-	
2nd Lt.		B. WILLIAMS		No	Att. duty M.F.S.
2nd Lt.		L. SNELL		Yes	
OC 1st Lt.		T.F. DAVIES		-	
2nd Lt.		D.D. WHALLEY		-	
TO.		M. HARRISON		-	
OC 1st Lt.		E.F. LUTHER		-	
OC 1st Lt.		W. ANGUS		No	det 20th Aust Inf Bde (L.C.)
OC 1st Lt.		K.B. JENKINSON		Yes	
OC 1st Lt.		C.W. HURDLEY		-	
OC 1st Lt.		A.C. JENSEN		-	
OC 1st Lt.		P.A. VATES		-	
TO.		G.A. BURNELL-SMITH		-	
OC 1st Lt.		C.I. BREST		-	
OC 1st Lt.		D.W.R. BODDINGS		-	
OC 1st Lt.		T. RAY		No	det 20th Aust Inf Bde
OC 1st Lt.		G. DEVERNE		Yes	
OC 1st Lt.		J. T. KEYS		-	
OC 1st Lt.		C.W.T. LECHE		-	
OC 1st Lt.		A.C. BEATTY		-	
OC 1st Lt.		W.G. MURKINSON		-	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher Acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
CAPT		S. ROSE	9th Div	22/1/41	CMO
CHAPLAIN		F.T. CAMERON	ADCD	9/1/41	Chaplain
MAJ		G.A. WILLIAMS	9th Div	23/1/41	OC 1st Lt.

2/15 Aust Inf Bde
(Unit.)

2 Aug 41
(Date of Despatch.)

K. M. Ogle Lt. Col.
(Signature of Commander.)

20 Aust Inf Bde
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

9 Aust Div.

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/15 Unit 2/15 (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels ...	—	—	1
Majors ...	1	—	2
Captains ...	5	—	3
Lieutenants ...	19	—	—
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...	1		1
District Officers ...			
TOTALS ...	26	—	6

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc.)

PART B.—PARTICULARS OF OFFICERS JOINED OR QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Lt-Col.	RWG POLE	2/15	6 Aug	Evacuated 4/16 M
LIEUT	E.F LUTHER	✓	4 "	Wounded but 20 Oct 2/15
LIEUT	C.W. HENTLEY	✓	4 "	✓

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known).

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Adj. Comd	T/MAJ	H. C. RILSTON	2/15	YES	
Q.M.		A. SHANNER		✓	
CC Coy		B. D. STRANSE		✓	
ADJT		R. A. SUTHERS		✓	
CC Coy		F. L. BOOE		✓	
CC Coy		W. W. COBB		✓	
CC Det	T/MAJ	S. P. MEXICOMB		✓	
2 1/2 Coy		M. R. STUART		✓	
2 1/2 Coy		B. WILLIAMS		NO	attending MEIS
2 1/2 Coy		L. SNELL		YES	
CC 10 Pl		T. P. DAVIES		✓	
2 1/2 Coy		D. D. WHALLEY		✓	
TC		M. HARLAND		✓	
CC 7 Pl		V. ANGUS		NO	det 9th Div to Pde (LU)
CC 13 Pl		R. G. JENKINSON		YES	
CC 2 Pl		H. C. JENSEN		NO	det 9th Div to Pde
CC 9 Pl		R. H. VATES		YES	
TC		G. A. SPINFIELD-SMITH		✓	
CC 11 Pl		C. I. GURST		✓	
CC 7 Pl		D. W. R. SLOGGINS		✓	
CC 15 Pl		J. KAY		NO	det 70th Div to Pde
CC 16 Pl		G. D. BURME		YES	
CC 11 Pl		J. T. KEYS		✓	
CC 5 Pl		C. W. J. LOGGON		✓	
CC 12 Pl		H. P. BEATTY		✓	
CC 3 Pl		V. G. HURISON		✓	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher Acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
CAPT		S. ROSE	12th ME	27 Jun	RMO
CHAPLAIN		F. J. CHIROUX	12th ME	7 May	Chaplain
LIEUT		G. H. WILLIAMS	12th ME	4 Jun	CC 1 Pl

2/15 (Unit.) A. C. RILSTON (Signature of Commander.)
 10 Aug 44 20th Div 1 Pde 9th Div (Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/15 Aust Inf Bn (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels ...	-	-	1
Majors ...	1	-	2
Captains ...	5	-	3
Lieutenants ...	19	-	-
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...	1		1
District Officers ...			
TOTALS ...	26	-	6

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc.)

PART B.—PARTICULARS OF OFFICERS JOINED OR QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Lieut.	R. W. G. DOLE		2/15	Evacuated 4/1/44
LIEUT.	F. F. LUTHER		11/11	Wounded Oct 20 1943 by 2nd Lt.
LIEUT.	C. W. HENTLEY		11/11	

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known).

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
ADJUTANT CAPT	T/MAJ.	A.C. RALSTON	2/15	YES.	
CM		A. SANNER		✓	
CC Coy		B.D. STRANGE		✓	
ADJT		R.H. SUTHERS		✓	
CC Coy		F.L. BODE		✓	
CC Coy		W.W. COBB		✓	
CC Det Coy	T/MAJ.	S.P. NEWCOMB		✓	
2 1/2 Coy		M.R. STUART		✓	
2 1/2 Det Coy		B. WILLIAMS		NO	attending METS.
2 1/2 B Coy		L. SNELL		YES	
CC 12 PL		T.P. DAVIES		✓	
2 1/2 C Coy		D.D. WHALLEY		✓	
T.O.		M. HURLAND		✓	
CC 7 PL		W. ANGUS		NO.	det 20 Det 2/15 (L1)
CC 13 PL		R.G. JENKINSON		YES.	
CC 2 PL		H.C. JENSEN		NO	det 10 9 Det 2/15
CC 9 PL		R.H. VATES		YES.	
100		G.A. GEMMELL-SMITH		✓	
CC 11 PL		C.I. GUEST		✓	
CC 7 PL		D.W.R. SCOBGINS.		✓	
CC 15 PL		J. RAY		NO.	det 20 Det 2/15
CC 16 PL		B. OSBORNE		YES.	
CC 4 PL		J.T. KEYS		✓	
CC 5 PL		C.W.J. LOGAN.		✓	
CC 12 PL		H.P. BEATTY		✓	
CC 3 PL		V.G. HURISON.		✓	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher Acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
CAPT.		S. ROSE	RAMC	27 JUN	RMO
CHAPLAIN		F.J. CAMROUX	ARCND	9 MAY	Chaplain
LIEUT.		G.D. WILLIAMS	9th Sig	24 JUN	CC 1 PL.

2/15 Aust Inf Bn
(Unit.)
10 Aug 41.
(Date of Despatch.)

A.C. Ralston
(Signature of Commander.)
20 Aust Inf Bn 9th Sig
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

2/15 Aust Inf Bn (Unit). 16 Aug 41 (Date).

(To be furnished by all units of Cavalry, Royal Armoured Corps, Infantry, Royal Army Veterinary Corps, Royal Army Pay Corps, Army Educational Corps, Corps of Military Police, and all Headquarters units).

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1 Detail.	2 Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1	-	
W.Os. Class II.	6	-	
W.Os. Class III.			
Squadron or Company Quarter-master-Serjeants OR Colour-Serjeants	2	-	3
Staff Serjeants			
Serjeants	24	-	3
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.			
Corporals	56	-	5
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc.	480	-	173
TOTALS	569	-	184

* These Totals should agree with the details shown in Part D on page 2 of Army Form W.3009.

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
PAY SGT	AAP.C		
MEDICAL -	AAM.C		
POSTAL CPL	AAPostal.C		
ENTER -	AADC		
MEDICAL L/CPL	AAM.C		
- Pte	-		

Part C. Description of other ranks whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g. present whereabouts if known).
NIL				

2/15 Aust Inf Bn

Unit.

Part D. Detail of Surplus or Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009.

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.									REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.							REMARKS.			
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.		Corporals	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.
Bricklayers																				
Butchers																				
Carpenters and Joiners ..																		2	2	
Clerks																		2	2	
Cooks																				
Despatch Riders																				
Drivers I.C. (Tracked) ..																				
" " (Wheeled) ..																				
Drivers-Mechanics																		1	1	
Drivers-Operators																				
Electricians																				
Equipment Repairers																		1	1	
Farriers																				
Fitters																				
Machine Gunners																				
Masons																		1	1	
Motor Mechanics																				
Pioneers, Infantry (other than tradesmen)																				
Plumbers and Pipefitters ..																				
Range Takers																				
Saddlers and Harness Makers																				
Saddle Tree Makers																				
Sanitary and Water Duties ..																				
Signallers																				
Storemen technical																		2	2	
Tailors																				
Wheelers																				
General duty personnel ..														3	3			5	157	168
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A).														3	3			5	157	184

2/15 Aust Inf Bn

Unit.

Date of Despatch

17 Aug 41

R. S. Sutherland Capt Lt-Col.

Signature of Commander.

20 Aust Inf Bde 9 Aust Div

Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/15 1st New Inf Bn (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>
Majors	<i>1</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>2</i>
Captains	<i>6</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>2</i>
Lieutenants	<i>19</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters	<i>1</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>
District Officers			
TOTALS	<i>27</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>5</i>

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc.)

PART B.—PARTICULARS OF OFFICERS JOINED OR QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
<i>CAPT.</i>	<i>S. TOPHAM.</i>	<i>2/15</i>	<i>15 Aug.</i>	<i>1st Sg Coy Camp Amisiga</i>
<i>LIEUT.</i>	<i>L. SNELL</i>	<i>2/15</i>	<i>13 "</i>	<i>Discharged MDS.</i>

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
<i>LIEUT.</i>	<i>L. SNELL</i>	<i>2/15</i>	<i>12 Aug</i>	<i>Evacuated 2/11 PD Amb.</i>

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known).

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Alon. Colonel CAPT	T/MAJ.	A.C. RALSTON.	3/15	YES	
OC HQ Coy ✓		S. TOPHAM.			
Q.M. ✓		H. SKINNER.			
OC B Coy ✓		B.D. STRANGE.			
ADJT. ✓		R.A. SUTHERS.			
OC A Coy ✓		F.L. BODE.			
OC H Coy ✓		W.W. COBB.			
OC D Coy LIEUT.	T/KAPT	S.P. NEWCOMB.			
2nd Lt A Coy ✓		M.R. STUART.			
2nd Lt D Coy ✓		B. WILLIAMS.		NO	attending HETS
3rd Lt B Coy ✓		L. SNELL.		YES	
OC 18 PL. ✓		T.P. DAVIES.			
2nd Lt C Coy ✓		D.D. WHALLEY.			
T.O. ✓		H. HARLAND.			
OC 8 PL. ✓		W. ANGUS.		NO	det 20th Aust Inf Bde (L.O.)
OC 13 PL. ✓		R.G. JENKINSON.		YES	
OC 2 PL. ✓		H.C. JENSEN.		NO	det 11th 9th Aust Bde
OC 9 PL. ✓		R.H. YATES.		YES	
I.O. ✓		G.H. GEMMELL-SMITH.			
OC 11 PL. ✓		C.I. GUEST.			
OC 7 PL. ✓		D.W.R. SCOGGINS.			
OC 15 PL. ✓		J. KAY.		NO	det 20th Aust Inf Bde
OC 14 PL. ✓		G. OSBORNE.		YES	
OC 4 PL. ✓		J.T. KEYS.			
OC 5 PL. ✓		C.W.J. LOGAN.			
OC 12 PL. ✓		H.P. BEATTY.			
OC 3 PL. ✓		W.G. MURISON.			

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher Acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
CAPT		M.R. ROBERTSON	ARMIC	10 Aug	R.M.O.
CHAPLAIN		F.J. CAMPBELL	ARMIC	9 May	Chaplain
LIEUT		G.D. WILLIAMS	9th Div Sigs	27 Jan	OC 1 PL

3/15 Aust Inf Bde

(Unit.)

Aug 41

(Date of Despatch.)

[Signature]
(Signature of Commander.)

20th Aust Inf Bde 9th Aust Div

(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

2/15 Aust Inf Coy (Unit).

23 Aug 1914 (Date).

(To be furnished by all units of Cavalry, Royal Armoured Corps, Infantry, Royal Army Veterinary Corps, Royal Army Pay Corps, Army Educational Corps, Corps of Military Police, and all Headquarters units).

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1		
W.Os. Class II.	5		1
W.Os. Class III.			
Squadron or Company Quarter-master-Serjeants OR Colour-Serjeants	2		3
Staff Serjeants			
Serjeants	25		2
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.			
Corporals	54		7
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc.	465		188
TOTALS	552	.	201

* These Totals should agree with the details shown in Part D on page 2 of Army Form W.3009.

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
<i>Pay Sjt.</i>	<i>AAPC</i>		
<i>MEDICAL</i>	<i>AAMC</i>		
<i>POSTAL Cpl</i>	<i>WARPOSTAL C.</i>		
<i>FITTER</i>	<i>AAO.C.</i>		
<i>MEDICAL 2/Lt</i>	<i>AAMC</i>		
<i>Plt</i>			

Part C. Description of other ranks whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g. present whereabouts if known).
<i>NIL.</i>				

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/15 Aust Inf Bn (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels	-	-	1
Majors	1		2
Captains	6		2
Lieutenants	15		4
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters	1		
District Officers			
TOTALS	23		9

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc.)

PART B.—PARTICULARS OF OFFICERS JOINED OR QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
LIEUT	W. ANGUS	2/15	16 Aug	Seconded 20 Aust Inf Bde.
LIEUT	H.C. JENSEN	-	19 Aug	US 9 Aust Div.
LIEUT.	J.T. KEYS	-	21 Aug	Leave WASH (ASW L. Scapula)
LIEUT.	T.P. DAVIES	-	30	(Sunderland)
LIEUT	G.A. WILLIAMS	9 Div Sigs.	22	Leaves to be attached.

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known).
	<i>NIL</i>		

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Prom Comd. Capt	T/MAS	A.C. KALSTON	2/15	Yes	
OC. Coy		S. TOPHAM			
QM.		A. SKINNER			
OC. Coy		B.D. STRANER			
ADJT.		R.A. SUTHERS			
OC. Coy		F.L. BODE			
OC. Coy		W.W. COBB			
OC. Coy	L/MS	S.P. NEWCOMB			
2/c		M.A. STUART			
2/c		B. WILLIAMS		No	Attending MESS.
2/c		L. SNELL		Yes	
2/c		D.D. WHALLEY			
T.O.		M. HARLAND			
OC. Pl		R.G. TENKINSON			
OC. Pl		R.A. YATES			
I.O.		G.A. GANNELL-SMITH			
OC. Pl		C.I. GUEST			
		D.W.R. SCOBINS			
		J. KAY			
		G. OSBORNE			
		C.W.T. LOBAN			
		R.P. BENTLEY		No	OC 20th Ind Inf Bde.
		W.S. MURISON		Yes	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher Acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
CAPT		S. ROSE	RAMC	27/10/41	RMO.
CHAPLAIN		F.J. CAMPBELL	AMCD	9/11/41	Chaplain

2/15 Aust Inf Bde
(Unit.)
23 Aug 41
(Date of Despatch.)

20th Aust Inf Bde 9th Div.
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)
[Signature]
(Signature of Commander.)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

2/15 Aust Inf Bn (Unit). 30 Aug 1941 (Date).

(To be furnished by all units of Cavalry, Royal Armoured Corps, Infantry, Royal Army Veterinary Corps, Royal Army Pay Corps, Army Educational Corps, Corps of Military Police, and all Headquarters units).

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1	-	-
W.Os. Class II.	6	-	-
W.Os. Class III.			
Squadron or Company Quarter-master-Serjeants OR Colour-Serjeants	3	-	2
Staff Serjeants			
Serjeants	28	1	-
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.			
Corporals	60	-	1
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc.	509	-	144
TOTALS	607	1	147

* These Totals should agree with the details shown in Part D on page 2 of Army Form W.3009.

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
PAY Sjt	AAP.C.		
MEDICAL -	AAM.C.		
- Cpl	AAM.C.		
FITTER -	A.A.O.C.		
POSTAL -	A.A. POSTAL C.		
MEDICAL L/Cpl	AAM.C.		
- Yt	AAM.C.		

Part C. Description of other ranks whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g. present whereabouts if known).
NIL				

2/15 Aust Inf Bn. Unit.

Part D. Detail of Surplus or Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009.

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.										REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.							REMARKS.		
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals		Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.
Bricklayers																				
Butchers																				
Carpenters and Joiners..																		2	2	
Clerks																		3	3	
Cooks																				
Despatch Riders																				
Drivers I.C. (Tracked) ..																				
" " (Wheeled)																				
Drivers-Mechanics																		7	7	
Drivers-Operators																				
Electricians																		1	1	
Equipment Repairers ..																				
Farriers																				
Fitters																				
Machine Gunners																				
Masons																		1	1	
Motor Mechanics																		1	1	
Pioneers, Infantry (other than tradesmen)																				
Plumbers and Pipefitters ..																				
Range Takers																				
Saddlers and Harness Makers																				
Saddle Tree Makers																				
Sanitary and Water Duties ..																				
Signallers																				
Storemen technical																		2	2	
Tailors																				
Wheelers																				
General duty personnel ..									1					2			1	127	130	
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A).									1				2				1	144	147	

2/15 Aust Inf Bn Unit.

Date of Despatch 31 Aug 41

[Signature] LT-Col
Signature of Commander.
20 Aust Inf Bde 9 Aust Div
Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/15 Aust Inf Bn (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels ...	1	-	-
Majors ...	1	-	2
Captains ...	6	-	2
Lieutenants ...	19	-	-
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...	1	-	-
District Officers ...			
TOTALS ...	28	-	4

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc.)

PART B.—PARTICULARS OF OFFICERS JOINED OR QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Lt. Col	R.W.G. DALE	2/15 BN	23 Aug	Discharged 4.9.68
LIEUT	E.M.H. CHRISTIE	-	28 Aug	from MP Staging Camp Arnhem
-	W.A. FERGUSON	-	28 Aug	-
-	D.B. WEIR	-	28 Aug	-
-	I.B.V. QUIGLEY	-	28 Aug	-
-	G.A. WILLIAMS	9 Div	23 Sep	attached for duty

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
<i>NIL</i>				

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known).
<i>NIL</i>			

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
e.o. Lt.-Col.		R.W.G. OGRE	2/10th	Yes	
2 1/2 CAPT	T/MAT.	A.C. KALSTON.			
O.C. 11th		S. TOPHAM.			
RM		A. SKINNER			
O.C. 1st Coy		B.D. STRANGE			
ADPT		R.H. SUTHERS			
O.C. 1st Coy		F.L. CODE			
		W.W. COBB		No	Attending METS
	LIEUT. T/CAPT.	S.P. NEWCOMB		Yes	
2 1/2 Coy		M.R. STUART		Yes	
		B. WILLIAMS		No	Attending METS.
		L. SWELL		Yes	
		D.D. WHALLEY		No	on 2nd 1st Coy
T.O.		M. HARRAND		Yes	
O.C. 1st		R.G. TENKINSON			
		EMIN CHRISTIE			
		W.A. FERGUSON.			
		R.A. YATES			
CO.		E.A. GEMMEL-SMITH			
O.C.H.		C.L. GUEST			
		D.R. WEIR			
		D.W.R. SCOBINE			
		T. KAY			
		G. OSADKNE			
		C.W.T. LOBAN.			
		A.P. BEATTY		No	on 2nd 1st Coy Bde.
		W.G. MORISON		Yes	
		L.B.V. RUILEY.		Yes	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher Acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Capt.		S. ROSE	1st Coy	27 June	
1st Lt.		P.T. COYNE	1st Coy	9 May	
2nd Lt.		G.A. WILLIAMS	9th Coy	23 July	

2/15 Aust Inf Bde
(Unit.)
31 Aug 41
(Date of Despatch.)

[Signature]
(Signature of Commander.)
20 Aust Inf Bde 9th Div
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

OCT 20 1941

uk WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 2118.

Unit 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

Month and Year SEP 41

(Erase heading not required).

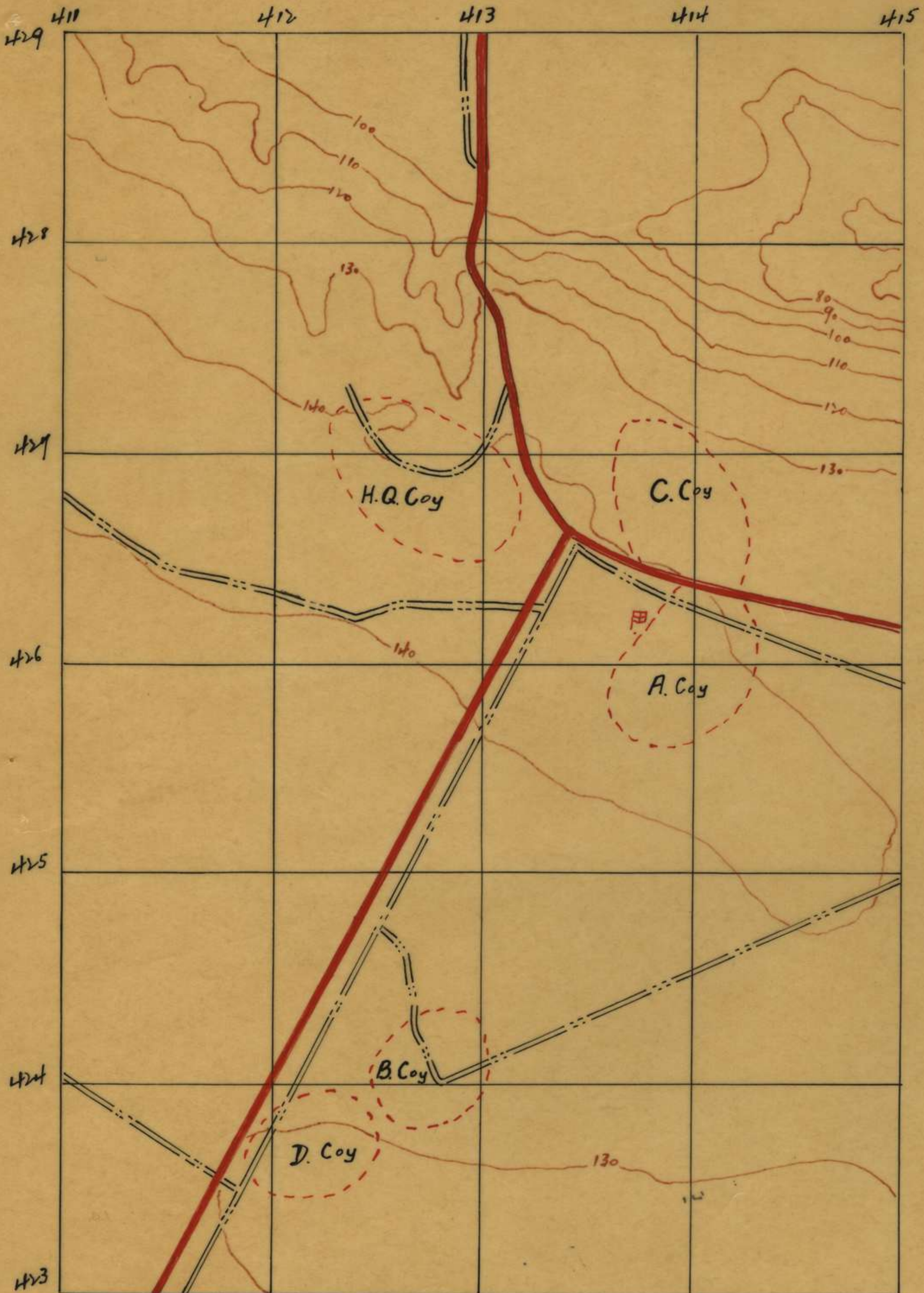
Commanding Officer *R. W. G.*

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
TOBRUCH	Sep			
	1	0530	D. Coy patrol reported in	See App A.
	2	0900	warning order to move 4/5 Sep received. Relieving Polish Bn Officers shown over Bn area	See App B for order
	2	0520	All patrols in.	See App A
		0915	28 shells in D Coy area. No damage.	
		2300	Throughout day 40 shells on D Coy area, 35 shells B Coy area, 43 shells C Coy area, 30 shells HQ Coy area. No damage.	
	3	1900	16 shells on Road Block, 12 shells D Coy area.	
	4	0500	All patrols in	See app A
		2130	Relief by 3 Polish Bn commenced	
	5	0200	Relief completed. Bn in position Mahmud area. Bn settles in new position and commences duties on Blue Line Defences	See Sit Map App A.
		0900	Lieut G.A. Williams ceases to be attached to Bn	see Caus Return App B
	6/14	Bn	Bn in reserve carrying out duties on Blue line defences	
	15	0900	Lieut Jenkinson evacuated to M D S	See Caus Return App B
	16		Bn to act as Mobile unit for purposes of G A	SEE O O No 9 App B
		0900	Lieut Whalley seconded to 20 Aust Inf Bde	See Caus Return App B
	17	2015	Bn commenced relief of 2/32 Bn	See O O No 10 App B
		2300	Bn in reserve Position SIDI DAUD area. Relief completed without hitch	See Sit Map App A

W. G.

2/15 Bn. dispositions

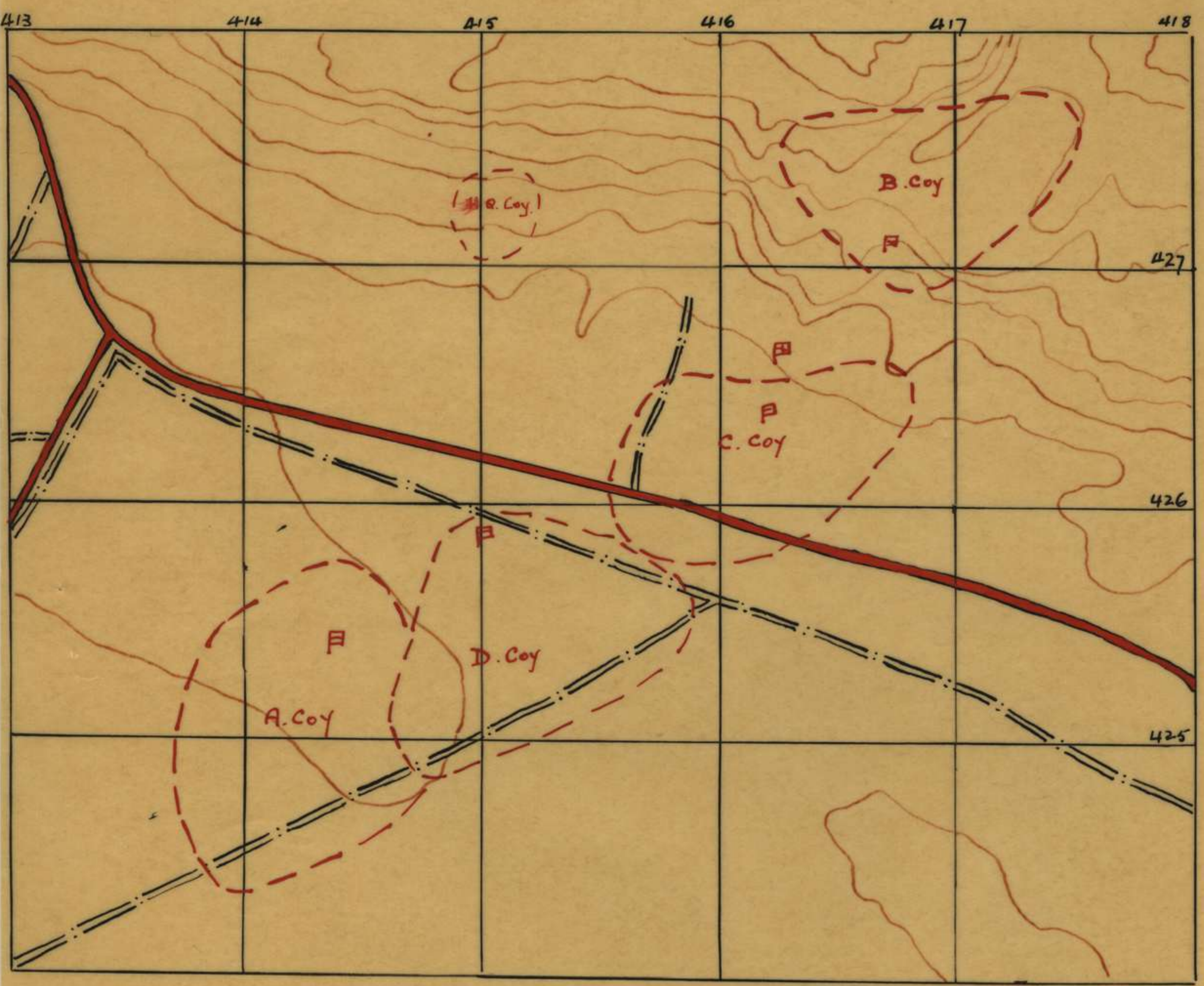
6 Sep 41.



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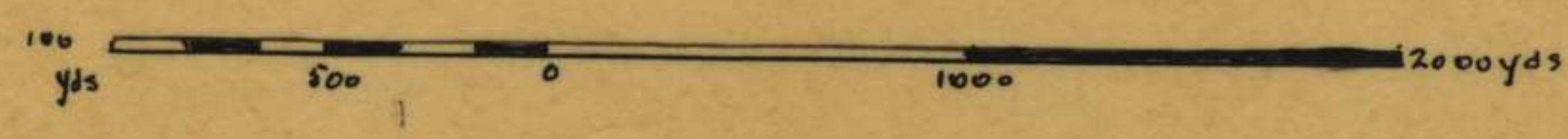
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2/15 DISPOSITIONS 18 SEP 41.

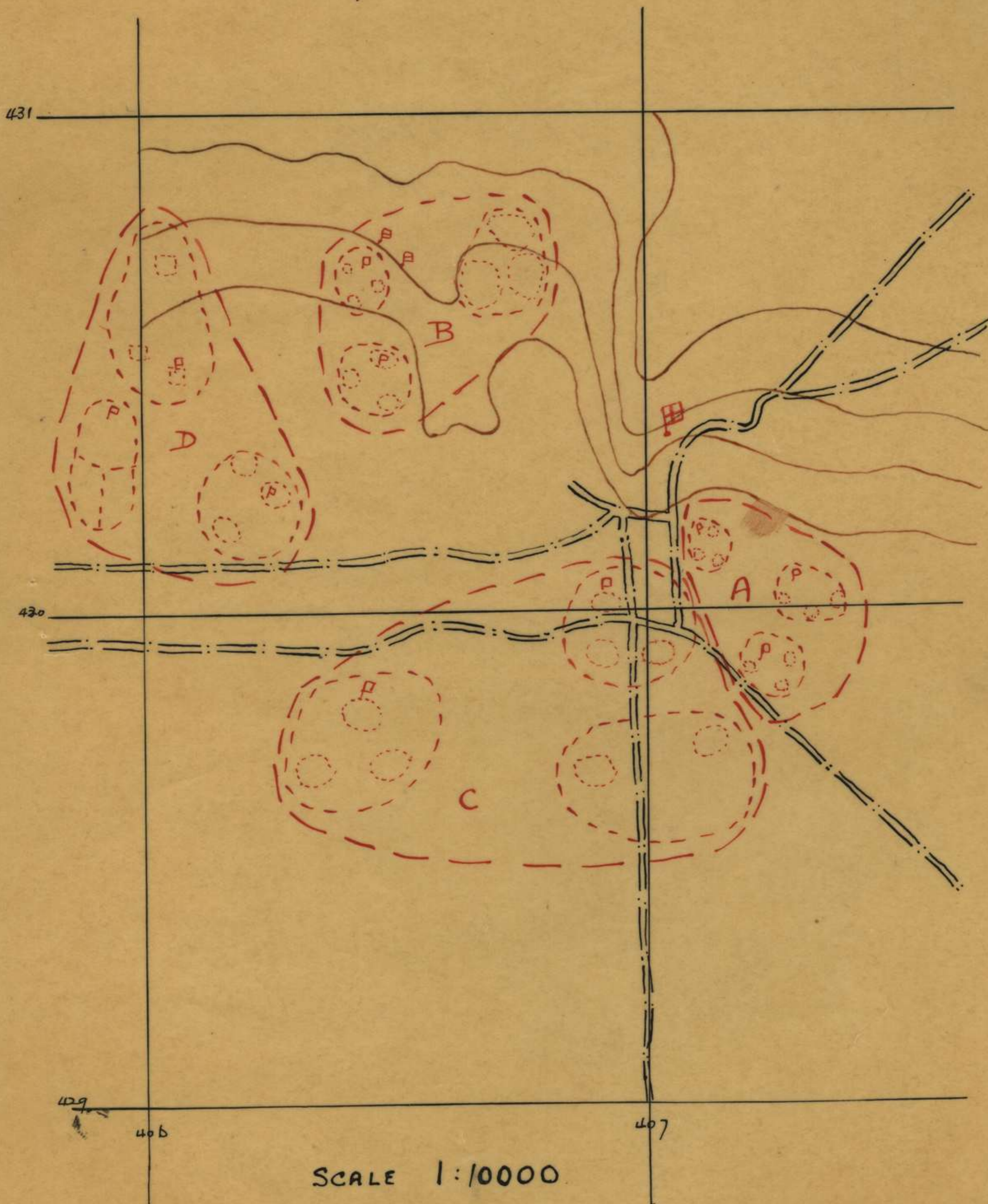


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I Sec 2/15.



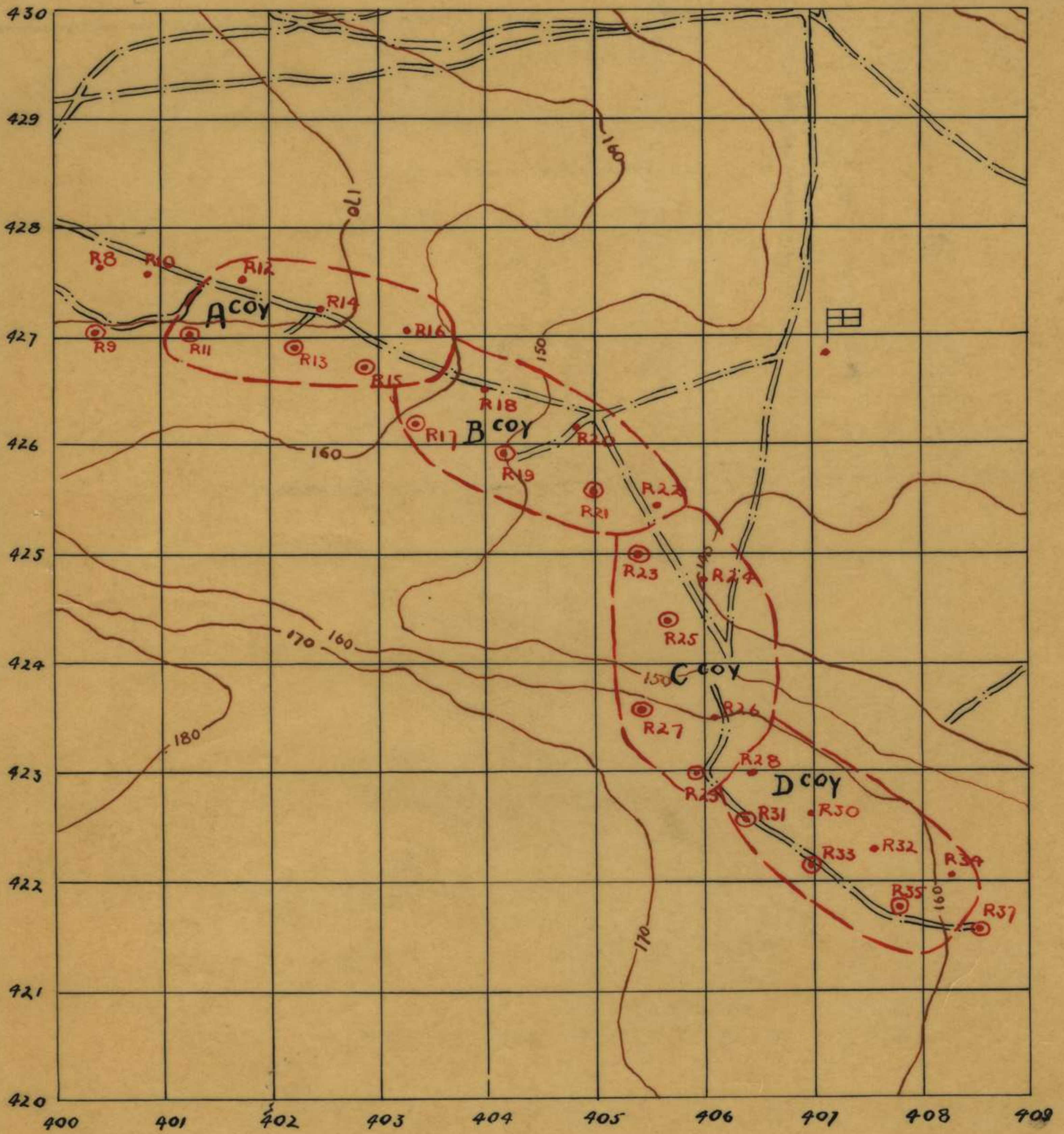
2/15 AUST INF BN DISPOSITION 27 SEP 41.



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2/15 AUST. INF BN DISPOSITION 30 SEP 41



SCALE: 1/50,000.

Ref. Map TOBRUCH 1:50000

2/1 5 AUST INF BN

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 1 Sept 41.

SERIAL NO	UNIT	TIME OUT	TIME IN	STRENGTH	ROUTE AND AREA PATROLLED	REPORT.
1	A COY					Protective patrol only to depth 2500 yds N M S
2	C COY					Protective patrol only to depth 2500 yds N M S
3	D COY	2025	0530	1 NCO 14 ORs	Out R46 to 41194171 back same route	<i>Dst Vaughan Leader</i> N M S
4	CARRIERS 1030	1200		3 carriers	Out through gap in minefield 41194171 to 41184152 to 41284152, through minefield at 41284152, along track back to 41404169, to R45	<i>Dst Christensen Leader</i> N M S/H

Christensen

2/15 AUST INF BN

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 2 Sept 41

SERIAL NO	UNIT	TIME OUT	TIME IN	STRENGTH	ROUTE AND AREA PATROLLED	REPORT
1	A COY	2200	0330	1 NCO 1 OFFR (Relieving Bn) 9 ORs	From R39 SOUTH to minefield along minefield WEST to Pipeline, then SOUTH to 41064173, then WEST to 41034173, then to 40984177 then back to pipeline and along it home.	<u>Sgt Cunningham Leader</u> Gaps made in Minefield found untouched. At 40984177 several men were seen on el ADEM Rd near truck (probably at 40944190) but they disappeared when patrol leader and 10 ORs went forward to investigate. (N.B. These were probably men from C Coy's patrol) N M S/H.
2	C COY	2200	0330	1 OFFR 10 ORs	From R37 to 40864187, due EAST to el ADEM Rd to 40944187, back along Rd home	<u>Capt Topham Leader</u> Heard sounds of compressor and of pickets being driven in, coming from SOUTH, when on traverse EAST of Road. Confirmed existence of small A Tk minefield at 40924187 which also crosses the road at this point. About 120 yds SOUTH of this is a further small minefield of A Tk and "Jumping Jacks" which was not investigated fully. N M S
3	DCOY					Protective only. N M S/H

2/18AUST INF BN

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 3 sept 41

Serial No	Unit	Time out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	A COY					protective only. N MS
2	C COY					1. Protective only 2. At 2245 hrs protective patrol reported 12 men to SOUTH of TWIN TANKS. Lieut Jenkinson and 6 ORs went out, but could not contact them after one hours search, Lieut Jen Leader.
3	D COY	2100	0230	1 Offr 10 ORs	From R45 SOUTH to 41084178 WEST to 41084178, back to 41084179 WEST to Road at 40934188, SOUTH to 40924185, back to ROAD BLK and R43.	At 41084178 area was searched for MONUMENT but it was NOT seen. An upturned ITALIAN light tank was found at approx 41084177, but not entered on account of possible booby traps. After moving past this patrol subjected to following mortar fire, giving impression that tank was used as OP. Patrol withdrew to PIPELINE and waited one hour for possible enemy patrol then moved WEST to el ADEM rd at 40934188, SOUTH along the road to approx 40924185, where patrol again waited one hour for possible enemy patrols. Back along road home with N M S. Patrol leader is of opinion tank used as OP since when they moved away from it the mortar fire followed them as if directed from an O P.

Wes

2/15 Aust Inf Bn

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 4 Esp 41

Unit	Serial No	Time out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
A Coy						Prospective patrol to minefield. Saw one man apparently stalking them. 1 NCO and 5 ORs sent out to take him but could not see him. gaps in field still intact. Lieut CHRISTIE leader
C Coy		2045	0300	1 OFFR 10 ORs	From R37 to TWIN TANKS to 40734192 then to 9 Kilo Paeg at 40834189 back parallel to road.	N M S. MG and Mortar fire heard to SOUTH and NE movement. A voice was heard to cry "halt".
C COY						Protective patrol to 1500 yds. N M S.
D Coy						protective patrol to 2000 yds N M S Leader Lieut Osborne
D Coy		0100	0500	1 Offr 10 ORs 2 sappers	From R43 to 40974187 then scattered EAST and back to R45	At 40834189 patrol was pinned down for 2 hrs by Mortar, MG and A Tk gun fire. Sound of A F V (tank) moving behind minefield and voices heard. MGs opened fire as mortars fell after 2 hours the patrol managed to withdraw and 3 men were found to be missing, including 2 sappers. These were later picked up at the pre-arranged spot. The sappers had lost gun cotton charges. patrol returned. The enemy's fire was very well directed and apparently patrol was skylined in bright moon light.

APPRECIATION BY

LT.-COL. R.W.G. OGLE. COMD. 2/15 AUST INF BN

dealing with counter attack on the Eastern Sector of TOBRUK by 2/15 Aust Inf Bn and attached troops.

11 Sep 41.

Ref Map TOBRUK 1:50000 with overprint.

OBJECT

1. To recapture posts in the area R70 to R79 incl.

FACTORS

2. Relative strengths and preliminary operations.

(a) ENEMY

In order to envisage the worst conditions, it is assumed that the enemy has penetrated the perimeter defences, capturing posts R70 to R79 incl, and that the following conditions apply:-

- i. Enemy has retained air superiority.
- ii. Dive bombing of perimeter posts, blue line locations, artillery positions, rear HQ.
- iii. Used air borne troops.
- iv. Deep penetration of enemy tanks with "sturm" artillery accompanying.
- v. Enemy occupation of anti tank ditch with forward troops infiltrated through our forward posts and holding positions between outer perimeter and B2 minefield, rendering inoperative our existing fwd arty OPS.
- vi. Threatened attacks elsewhere on the perimeter withing the Eastern Sector.

(b) OWN TFS

It is assumed that the reserve BN of the fwd Brigade has been committed and is in contact with the enemy infantry.

Troops available for counter attack are:-

2/15 Aust Inf Bn - located SIDI MAHMUD

One Sqn 1 RTR - (14 I Tanks) located about 411429

Three Secs 9 Aust A Tk Bty (3/2 pr portee, 3/2 pr towed) located SIDI MAHMUD

1 pl 1 RNF located SIDI MAHMUD

2/3 Fd Coy (less details) located SIDI MAHMUD

3. SPACE

Distances from present HQ 2/15 BN are :-

- | | | |
|-----|----------------------------|------------|
| (a) | To forward perimeter posts | - 9500 yds |
| (b) | To B2 minefield | - 5600 yds |
| (c) | To BLUE LINE | - 1800 yds |

DEDUCTIONS

To march any of these distances, carrying weapons and ammunition would result in considerable delay and would produce tired troops for the attack. Therefore, dependent on aerial activity and the depth of penetration, troops will move forward in motor vehicles from their Coy locations to an assembly area.

4. TOPOGRAPHY

Although the country is flat on the area SOUTH of BARDIA RD there is a slight rise between the BLUE LINE and the minefield and this would enable trucks to approach the vicinity of the minefield without being observed by ground observation from the captured posts but would leave them open to observation from elevated OPS and from the air. In addition, they may be fired on from enemy tanks which have penetrated to or beyond the BLUE LINE. To guard against the possibility of the latter, anti tank guns must protect each flank of the approach to the Assembly Area. Against observed artillery and aircraft, wide dispersion of vehicles approaching by numerous different tracks and emerging from the BLUE LINE at gaps other than the standard ones should apply. In addition arty should fire on enemy OPS during this period. On the NORTH of BARDIA RD the country is relatively tank proof because of its deep wadis but there is a possibility of tanks manoeuvring in a

/STRETCH

st stretch 1000 yds wide, from the road. Consideration must also be given to the possibility of tanks and sturm artillery lying up in these wadis when unable to outflank the minefield and later threatening the left flank of our counter attack. A Tk guns must therefore be allotted to left flank protection to meet this eventuality.

5. DEBUSSING AREAS.

Depend on extent of enemy penetration. The following cases will be considered:-

Case A: Enemy penetration to 1000 yds behind rear concrete posts. In this case debussing may be carried out at the old Italian gun pits from 41804238 to 41894246.

Case B: Enemy penetration to Hill 140 (41934233) and rd and tr junc 42024243. Debussing could be carried out at the line of old tank ditch running SW through 416424.

Case C: Enemy penetration beyond B2 minefield. Debussing could only be carried out inside the BLUE LINE.

6. OBJECTIVES.

In Case A nothing would be gained by introducing an intermediate objective and the OUTER TANK DITCH should be the final objective.

In Cases B and C the depth of the attack is 3000 yds and 4000 yds respectively; a suitable intermediate objective is the line of the new B16 minefield, but it is not advisable for the attack to stop at this point, therefore it should be regarded as a bound which can be reported clear of the enemy or otherwise. The frontage of the objective is 3000 yds, containing four forward concrete posts and four rear concrete posts. This is much too wide for a single BM objective.

The area could be divided into three suitable objectives of reasonable frontage:-

Right flank - R70, R72, R75, R73
 Centre flank - R72, R76, R77, R75
 Left flank - R74, R76, R79, R77

7. TANK OBSTACLES.

The obstacles to the advance of tanks into the attack are :-

- (a) Minefield on BLUE LINE.
- (b) Minefield B2
- (c) New minefield B16.
- (d) Spoke mines around posts.

With regard to the BLUE LINE minefield, the standard gaps will be closed on STAND TO and due to present enemy air superiority their positions are undoubtedly known to the enemy, and accordingly can be expected to be shelled. To get the tanks and lorries clear of the BLUE LINE it is therefore advisable to make new gaps in different places to the standard. This will require the services of the Engineers who will also require to stand by to replace the cut wire after exit.

With regards to minefield B2, the cairns will have been knocked down at STAND TO, and Engineers will be necessary with the tanks in order to assist in locating the field and to lift mines to allow passage of tanks. Where penetration has not over run the minefield (Cases A and B) this work can be performed by engineers riding on the tanks. In case A, (penetration beyond the minefield) tanks will have to take up hull down positions to cover the engineers while lifting the mines. In this case, engineers should be well forward so that the tanks can pass through with the minimum of delay.

With regard to the new minefield B16, we may expect heavy enemy artillery fire on the tanks while they are waiting for passages to be cleared.

This arty fire will come from enemy batteries located well in rear, from sturm artillery, infantry guns, probably at the forward posts and anti tank guns from the probable vicinity of the main tank ditch. At this stage there should be very active counter battery work by our arty, also fire onto enemy OPs and onto the main tank ditch. Our supporting A Tk Guns should be in a position which will enable them to engage sturm arty and infantry guns. This will mean sending say, two sections forward, one on each flank to occupy positions off their trucks, to engage these targets by observation. Engineers travelling on the tanks appear to be the best method of clearing the tracks for the tanks, but they should not proceed further than this point as thereafter the tanks can expect some heavy opposition from enemy projectiles.

Any attempt to lift the radial mines surrounding the posts would only result in casualties and there appears no other option but to warn the tanks not to approach closer than 150 yds to any forward concrete post.

8. IDENTIFICATION OF OCCUPANTS IN POSTS

It may be assumed that penetration by the enemy has succeeded in cutting all communication between the forward posts and their HQ. It will therefore be uncertain whether the concrete posts are still held by our troops or by the enemy. In addition each concrete post has an alternative earth works post and identification of the troops therein will also be difficult. Some standard method of disclosing their identity to the attacking tanks will have to be devised.

COURSES OPEN(a) To the ENEMY

9. Whatever his initial penetration he will undoubtedly occupy the MAIN TANK DITCH and will have therein infantry guns, anti tank guns, and mortars. With the latter, he can just reach the B2 minefield and this should influence the placing of the starting line which should be out of mortar range.

It is expected that he will also shell the BARDIA RD constantly and it would not be wise to use it for any purpose. This should influence any consideration of approach by the counter attacking troops along the Left of the road.

During daylight and to a lesser extent (by use of flares) at night, there is a possibility of dive bombing our lorries infantry. Dispersion will effect this but it might also be expedient to ask for a Bofors AA gun to be stationed near the BLUE LINE during Assembly. If parachute troops are dropped in the vicinity of the aerodrome, some portion of the BN may have been despatched on this role and the plan may have to be carried out with one Coy not available. These paratroops will also sever communications and may effect artillery co-operation. Since the best use must be made of the weapons in hand it is advisable to have the anti tank guns well forward to engage targets by observation and to keep machine guns as a mobile reserve to deal with enemy posts which escape the attention of the tanks.

(b) To OWN TPS

10. i. To move down the Northern side of BARDIA RD to an Assembly Area about 420425. This area is screened from view and is behind a natural tank obstacle. The disadvantages of this plan lie in the concentration which will occur in reaching the Assembly Area due to the narrow belt of flat country between the road and the southern end of the wadis. In addition, it is expected that BARDIA RD will receive constant attention from enemy artillery.
- ii. To move well to the South and attack along the periphery of the perimeter in a NE direction. Advantages are - cover from fwd troops during assembly, narrow objectives with deep penetration and clearance from the new minefield. The main disadvantages are increase in distance travelled, complete change of direction for tanks, and the exposure of the flank of the attack to enemy fire from the MAIN ANTI TANK DITCH.
- iii. To move direct into a frontal attack with all movements SOUTH of BARDIA RD. Advantages are, cover from reserve BN of fwd Bde while moving and forming up, distance travelled is shorter, fire from MAIN TANK DITCH will be masked by enemy troops which have penetrated defences, support may be expected from the flanks by troops still holding forward posts. Disadvantages are necessity for crossing two minefields, the frontal attack may be considered by the enemy to be obvious.
- Course iii is, however, considered to offer the best chance of success and will be adopted. It becomes necessary to determine the best method of attacking the 3000 yds front with one BN. Possibilities are -

11. (a) Attack on either flank, taking the objectives mentioned in para 6 and using the tanks to mop up along the periphery. This has the advantage that enemy support from the flank not being attacked would be limited. The disadvantage is that the advance along the periphery would be enfiladed by enemy in and beyond the MAIN TANK DITCH.
- (b) Attack the centre of the position and utilise the tanks to mop up by moving outwards in two directions. This plan enabled the units holding the flanking perimeter posts to assist the tanks by enfilade fire along the tank ditch, breaks up the continuity of the enemy position and threatens each flank separately. Its disadvantages are that the whole of the enemy front is able to fire on our advancing troops. It is nevertheless considered that the tanks will render their fire somewhat ineffective and this plan will be adopted.

With regard to the possibility of tank counter attack, it is presumed that the enemy will have constructed additional crossings since his initial penetration and the tanks should rally early behind the centre of the position to be in readiness to deal with the approach of fresh enemy tanks.

PLAN - DAYLIGHT ATTACK

12. General direction of attack: South of and parallel to BARDIA RD.
13. Three Coys forward, one in reserve.
14. Infantry preceded by I Tanks in two waves of six tanks each, two tanks being held in reserve. On reaching objective, each wave to divide into two groups and move outwards along the perimeter to the flanks of captured areas before rallying.
15. Artillery support by
 (a) Concentrations on OPs and counter battery fire during move in vehicles and during debussing and assembly.
 (b) Concentrations by observed fire during advance from FUP to minefield B16.
 (c) Heavy concentration on OPs, MAIN ANTI TANK DITCH and counter battery fire while gaps are being made in B16 minefield.
 (d) Concentrations on observed targets EAST of MAIN ANTI TANK DITCH during the assault.
16. Anti Tank Guns
 Two secs to move immediately behind the tanks from SIDI MAHMUD to a position on the ground on either flank to cover
 (a) Approach of Tp carrying Tpt to debussing point and their assembly at the ASSEMBLY AREA.
 (b) Making gaps in B2 minefield.
 One sec to move fwd behind the second wave of tanks to take up position to cover the right flank during the breaking of gaps in B16 minefield.
17. Machine Guns.
 One pl MG to be mobile reserve for despatch to either flank to deal with enemy centres of resistance which have not been silenced by tanks.
18. Objective
 Area of posts R72, R74, R77, R75, with exploitation 100 yds beyond MAIN A TK DITCH.
19. Frontage
 Each coy to occupy a frontage of 300 yds with 150 yds between Coys. This will give a frontage of 1200 yds to the BN.
20. Assembly
 Coys will move from their present positions through special gaps in the BLUE LINE minefield as follows:-
 A Coy - 2 gaps about 41604256
 C Coy - 2 gaps about 41564252
 B Coy - 2 gaps about 41424245
 D Coy - 2 gaps about 41324241
 Density 250 yds between vehicles.
21. DEBUSSING AREAS
Penetration A - line of old Italian gun pits 41804238 to 41894246 in the order right to left D, B, C, A Coys with 500 yds between coys.
Penetration B - line of old tank ditch running SW through 416424. A Coy astride its crossing with OLD BARDIA RD (41714251) thence 500 yds between Coys.
Penetration C - BLUE LINE. A Coy astride its crossing with OLD BARDIA RD (41604256) thence 500 yds between coys.
22. ASSEMBLY AREAS.
 300 yds ahead of DEBUSSING AREAS in each case.

23.

STARTING LINES

Taped by Intelligence Sec.

Cases B and C - Infantry S.L. as head of ASSEMBLY AREA, tank starting line yds behind Infantry S.L.

Case A - Tanks starting Line - taped between old gun positions. Inf Starting Lines - track parallel to and on EASTERN side of B2 minefield.

24.

TIMINGS

Rate of advance of tanks from S.L. = 150 yds in a minute

Rate of advance of Infantry = 75 yds per minute

Required that the first wave of tanks should be 700 yds ahead of the infantry when first wave Tks reach objectives.

Second wave Tks will follow first wave at distance of 500 yds.

Distance from Tk S.L. to objective = 4500 yds.

Time of travel = 30 minutes.

Distance from Inf S.L. to a point 700 yds back from objective = 3050 yds

Time of travel = 40 minutes

Therefore, first wave of tanks should leave their starting Line 10 minutes after the infantry has left their Inf S.L.

Thus, at Z + 20, the first wave of tanks will pass through the leading infantry when the latter have moved 750 yds forward of the Inf S.L.

25.

On reaching objective and swinging outwards along A Tk Ditch to flanks of enemy positions, tanks will rally in an area about 42064224.

26.

BN HQ will be established at gun position 41894247 until capture of forward posts when it will move to gun position 42014230 using OLD BARDIA RD to 42074235, thence Road SW.

27.

Reports will be sent by fwd Coys when their leading troops have crossed B16 minefield.

28.

One sec Carriers to move 300 yds behind right and left fwd Coys and be prepared to engage enemy MG posts which have escaped the tanks.
One sec reserve with BN HQ.

29.

One det Mortars under Comd centre Coy.
One det reserve with BN HQ.

30.

One sec A Tk Guns for left flank protection (para 16).
Secs which protected forming up to move after tanks have cleared starting lines, one sec to right flank protection by taking up position off vehicle in vicinity Knoll 140 (41944233), one sec mobile reserve.

31

One Bofors AA Gun and team (if available) to be located about 41604256 until attacking tps had cleared Infantry starting Lines.

32.

Reserve Coy to cross S. Line at Z + 20 moving with their left flank on OLD BARDIA RD and being prepared to swing left behind the second wave of tanks when reaching objective.

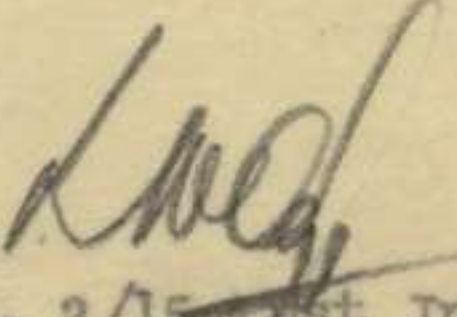
33.

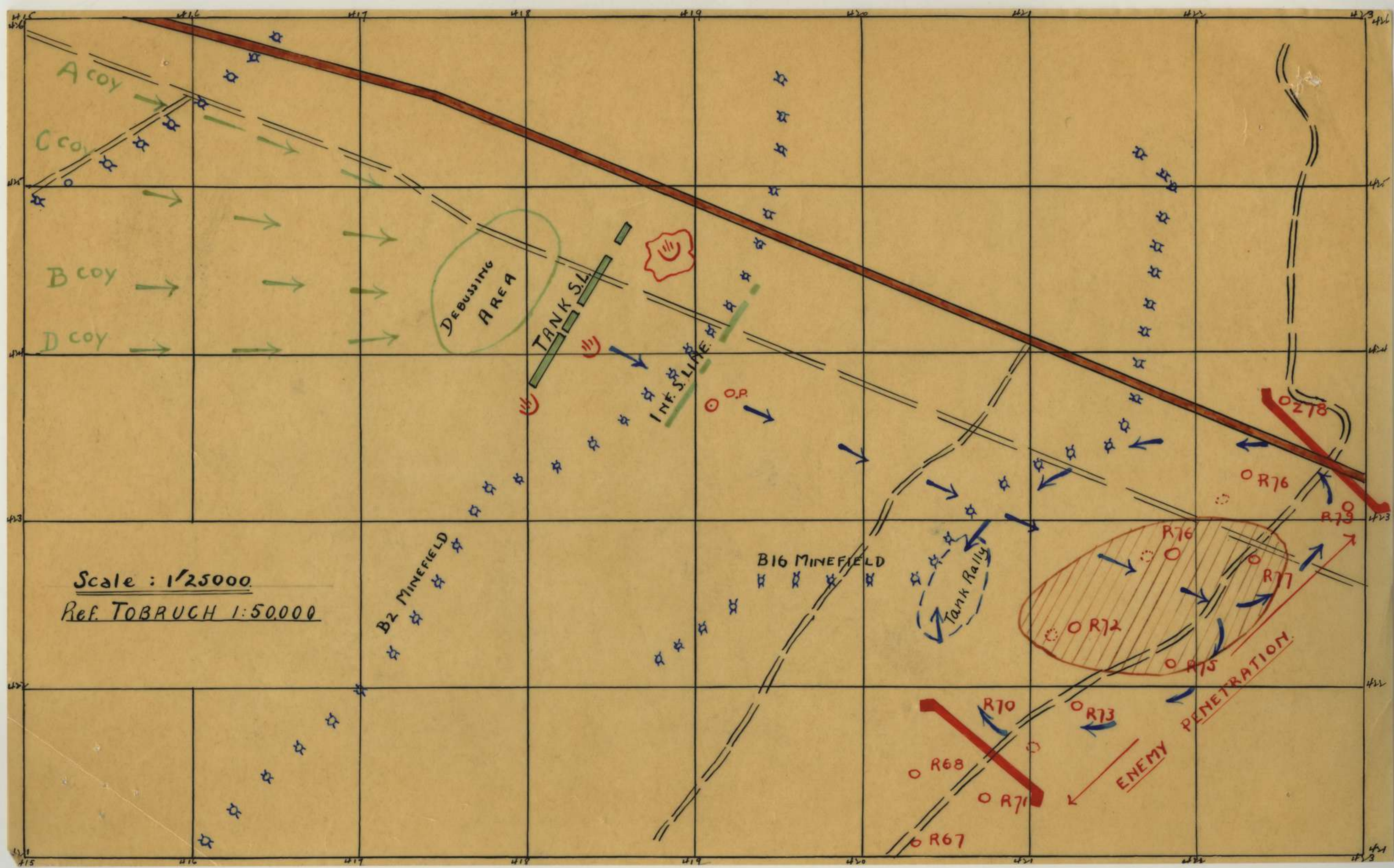
Engineers to effect crossings over minefields as follows:-

BLUE LINE - Eight gaps in minefield and wire, two to each Coy at the map references indicated in para 20. Engineers to stand by the gaps after exit and be prepared to reclose all except those at 41604256 which will be used for evacuation of casualties.B2 and B16 minefields.- six gaps in each. Sappers to ride on tanks for this purpose but Sappers will not move fwd from the B16 minefield after the passage of tanks.

MODIFICATIONS FOR NIGHT ATTACK

1. Tanks to move to SIDI MAHMUD and be prepared to move forward at dawn if required.
2. Engineers to accompany tanks as for daylight attack.
3. Frontage of each company to be reduced to 150 yds and BN frontage reduced to 500 yds. Attack with three Coys fwd.
4. Debussing area to remain unaltered.
5. FUP in square 419423.
6. Starting Line - Rd running SW through 420423.
7. Plan 1 - Capture area R70, R72, R75, R73.
8. Plan 2 - Capture area R74, R76, R79, R77.
9. Depending on circumstances and available information, either plan 1 or Plan 2 will be put into operation. On capture of objective reorganisation will take place and a new plan put into operation for movement along the perimeter.
10. Artillery to fire bursts onto MAIN ANTI TANK DITCH to cover approach of vehicles up to starting Line.
11. A Tk Guns - To move to S.L. portee and remain as mobile reserve. Main role - to move fwd on capture of objective for consolidation.
12. Engineers - To travel on each A Tk truck for clearance of passages through the minefields.
13. Machine Guns - Mobile reserve for use on consolidation.
14. Mortars - One det under Comd each flanking coy.
15. Carriers - To move from DEBUSSING AREA at first light and r.v. at starting Line.
16. Direction - Flares from R71 and Z81 commencing at Z - 2 and continuing each ten minutes until capture of objective.
17. BN HQ - On starting Line at bend 42014231 until capture of objective, thereafter (a - Post R76
(b - Post R70)
18. Reserve Coy Follow leading Coys at 15 minutes interval.


 Lt.-Col.
 Comd. 2/15 Arst Inf Bn



Scale : 1/25000
 Ref. TOBRUCH 1:50,000

1 Sep 41.

2/15 AUST INF BN O O NO. 8.

Ref Map : TOBRUCH 1/50000 with overprint.

INFORMATION

1. Enemy As per I Summaries
2. Own Tps (a) 20 Aust Inf Bde holds EL ADEM SECTOR.
2/15 Aust Inf Bn left fwd astride EL ADEM RD.
(b) Relieving Bde is in Div Res. 3 Relieving Bn in area EL ADEM-BARDIA Rd Junct.

INTENTION

3. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn will be relieved by 3 Relieving Bn on night 4/5 Sep 41 and will move into Div Res in EL ADEM - BARDIA Rd Junct area.

METHOD

4. Relief

2/15 Bn Coy	To be relieved by 3 Relieving Bn Coy	To move to new area
A Coy	C Coy	S of BARDIA Rd in Sq 413425
B Coy	A Coy	BLUE LINE (E of D Coy)
C Coy	D Coy	N of BARDIA Rd Sq 413426
D Coy	B Coy	BLUE LINE (adjacent to EL ADEM RD)
Hq Coy	Hq Coy	PW Compound
B Ech	B Ech	Alloted area in Sq 413431

5. Adv Parties

- (a) Advance parties consisting of 1 Offr per coy and 1 NCO and 1 OR per pl will be arranged by coys to report to new coy areas on morning of 4 Sep. They will make detailed recce of new coy area and will be prepared to guide coy to new position at night.
- (b) Bn Hq Adv party of one I Sec, one clerk, will similarly report to new Bn Hq.
- (c) Trucks will call for adv parties as follows:-
 - (i) One 3 ton truck to A Coy at 0900 hrs, then at D Coy.
 - (ii) One 3 ton truck to Hq Coy at 0900 hrs, then to B Coy, and Bn Hq.
 - (iii) One 15 cwt truck to C Coy at 0900 hrs.
 These trucks will return to B Ech after delivering adv parties to new positions.

6. Debussing Points

Coy Comds will select debussing points in Coy areas at which incoming unit will debus and outgoing tps will embus.

7. Guides

- (a) Guides will be provided as follows:-

No of Guides	Provided by	To report to	Time	Purpose
1	Each Coy and Bn Hq	4 KILO Stone	10 minutes before times in para 9	Take incoming tpt to debussing areas
3	D Coy	6 KILO Stone	2130	To guide 18 pl relief to posts
3	C Coy	6 KILO Stone	2200	To guide 15 pl relief to posts
1 per post	A, D, and C Coys	Coy debussing point	As Re- quired	To guide tps to posts
As required	B Coy and Hq Coy	Coy debussing point	do	To guide tps to areas
1	Hq Coy	4 KILO Stone	2115	To guide RD BLOCK relief

- (b) Guides to 4 KILO Stone will report there to Provost Sjt who will be responsible for allocation of guides and direction of incoming traffic.
8. Tp Carrying Tpt
A Sec 1 Tp Carrying Coy AASC will bring in relieving unit and vehicles will be handed over to Coys to convey tps back to new positions.
9. Times
(a) Reliefs will arrive at 4 KILO Stone as follows:-
A Coy Relief 2100 hrs 4 Sep
Hq Coy and Bn Hq Relief 2130 hrs
RAP Relief 2130 hrs
D Coy Relief 2200 hrs
C Coy Relief 2230 hrs
B Coy Relief 2300 hrs
(b) B Ech will change over during daylight on 4 Sep under mutual arrangements by Q.Ms and T.Os.
(c) 2/15 Aust Inf Bn will be in new positions by 0500 hrs 5 Sep.
10. Patrols
(a) Coys will maintain protective patrols until first light 5 Sep.
(b) One 3 ton truck will collect patrols from A, D and C Coys at 4 KILO Stone after first light 5 Sep. Relieving Bn will provide tpt for these personnel from the forward area to the 4 KILO Stone.
11. Rear Parties
(a) The undermentioned rear parties will be left with Relieving Bn for 2 days after completion of relief:-
(i) Lieut.G.A.GEMMELL-SMITH for duty at Bn Hq.
(ii) 1 Offr, 1 Sjt, 1 Cpl and 3 ORs per coy.
(iii) 1 NCO and 1 OR for B Ech.
(iv) Sigs as arranged by Sigs Offr.
(b) Duties will be to assist Relieving Bn as required with particular reference to patrolling and locating minefields.
(c) Rear Parties will be rationed by Relieving Bn.
(d) Transport will call for rear parties not before 2100 hrs on night 6 Sep as follows:-
(i) A, D and C Coys Parties - One 3 ton truck
(ii) B, Hq and Bn Hq parties - One 3 ton truck
12. Hq Guard Personnel
The attached personnel of Hq Gd Bn under Comd A Coy will remain so until evening of 6 Sep when they will be returned to 20 Aust Inf Bde. T.O. will arrange for tpt to report A Coy Hq in EL ADEM - BARDIA RD JUNCT at a time to be notified.
13. Arty
The 3 - 75mm guns will be handed over in present position. Hq Coy will make necessary arrangements.
- ADMX
14. Weapons
Weapons will be handed over in present position as follows:-
(a) A Coy : 2 Lewis Guns, 4 Boys A Tk Rifles, 5 Breda 3.8mm LMGs, 5 Fiat MGs,
B Coy : 4 Boys A Tk Rifles, 1-45mm Mortar.
C Coy : 3 Boys A Tk Rifles, 1 Lewis Gun, 3 Schwartzlowe MGs, 1 Spandau MG,
2 Fiat MGs, 5 Breda 3.8 mm LMGs, 1-45mm Mortar.
D Coy : 3 Schwartzlowe MGs, 6 Fiat MGs, 2 Breda 3.8 mm LMGs,
Hq Coy: 1 - 3" Mortar, 2 Vickers MMGs, 2 Spandau MGs, 1-3.8 mm Breda LMGs
2 - 81mm Mortar, 1 Lewis Gun.
15. Amm
Filled magazines for Bren and TSM Guns will be carried, also 150 rds SAA and two Grenades H.E. per man. All other amm, including S.T. Grenades No. 88 A Tk Grenades etc, will be handed over.
16. Trench Stores
All trench stores etc, including box latrines, will be handed over in posts.

- 17. Emergency Rations
(a) Emergency rations and water will be retained by outgoing Coys and will not be handed over. Reserve rations will be carried in the boxes provided for the purpose.
- 18. Signal Equipment.
Details and method of signal equipment change-over will be effected by mutual arrangement between Sig Offrs of respective units.
- 19. Tpt
Additional tpt for carrying stores etc will report to coys by 2050 hrs but not before 2030 hrs 4 Sep 41 as follows:-

A Coy	2 - 3 ton trucks
B Coy	3 - 1 ton trucks
C Coy	2 - 3 ton trucks
D Coy	1 - 3 ton trucks
HQ Coy	2 - 15 cwt trucks
- 20. R.A.P.
RAP will not move from present location until Relieving RAP is established. It will then move back to new position in PW Compound.
- 21. Hygiene
Os C Coys will direct particular attention to matters of hygiene on handover, and will ensure that all matters of refuse are adequately disposed of and that all posts and coy areas are handed over in a state of utmost cleanliness.
- 22. Inventories
Os C Coys will ensure that inventories are prepared in respect of all items of every description, including weapons, amm and trench stores, handed over, and that receipts are taken for the same. A consolidated list of all items so handed over, supported by such receipts, will be handed in to Bn HQ by 1200 hrs 5 Sep 41.

INTERCOMN

- 23. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn will close in present position at 2330 hrs 4 Sep, and will reopen in new area at same time. C.O. and Adjt will remain in present position until relief completed. Maj WALSTON will move to new Bn HQ by 2100 hrs 4 Sep and remain there until relief completed.
- 24. The undermentioned code words will be phoned to present Bn HQ to indicate "Relief completed", and will again be phoned to new Bn HQ when new position occupied:-

A Coy	JAMES
B Coy	FRIEND
C Coy	BOTTOM
D Coy	THACK
HQ Coy	UNCLE
RAP	DOG

Code words to be phoned to 20 Aust Inf Bde HQ to indicate "Relief completed" WINTON.

ACK

(R.A.SUTHERS) Capt.
Adj. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

Time of Signature *23/5 hrs*
Method of Issue *Orderly*

DISTRIBUTION

A COY	Copy No. 1	Q.M.	Copy No. 8
B COY	2	T.O.	9
C COY	3	3 RELIEVING BN	10
D COY	4	20 AUST INF BDE	11
HQ COY	5	2/32 BN	12
COMD	6	107 RHA	13
I.O.	7	FILE	14
		WAR DIARY	15-16

4 Sep 41.

2/15 AUST INF BN OPERATION INSTRUCTION NO.9.
 (Issued with Appendix "A")

Ref Map: TOBRUK :1:50000

1. 20 Aust Inf Bde is moving into Div Reserve, commencing 3 Sep 41.
2. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn on relief will move to EL ADEM - BARDIA Rd Junct area and will
 - (a) Afford anti paratroop defence of an area between the BLUE LINE and the vicinity of EL GUBBI aerodrome.
 - (b) Provide working party on construction of BLUE LINE
 - (c) provide fatigues to AAD, AOD, Beach Hospital and as called for.
3. ANTI PARATROOP DEFENCE.
 - (a) AREAS (i) The area in which 2/15 BN is responsible for engaging paratroops is as follows:- FORT PILASTRINO then SE along top of escarpment to SIDI MAHMUD 413427 - then to BLUE LINE at 417427- then SW and and later NW along BLUE LINE to rd junct 40684268 then NORTH to point of commencement.
 - (ii) This will be divided into three sub areas X, Y and Z as shown on Appendix A.
 - (iii) Responsibility for these areas is

Area X	B Coy
Area Y	D Coy
Area Z	A Coy
 - (iv) In addition to the area abovementioned 2/15 BN may be called upon to engage paratroops in the EL GUBBI aerodrome area where a system of Armd C patrols is being maintained by KDG. The responsibility for this action will be with C Coy. The area of patrol into which C Coy may be called is:- Exclusive town TOBRUK- coastline SE to MARSABEAD - SW to 417427. thence along escarpment westward to rd bend 41304278.
 - (b) Method. (i) General. Irrespective of responsibilities defined herein, any troops which are in the near vicinity of paratroops landings, will engage them automatically with all weapons available and prevent them from gaining a footing. Their presence will be reported immediately to the nearest Unit HQ for transmission through Bde to Fortress HQ.
 - (ii) Coy Comds will recce area for which they are responsible.
 - (iii) One AASC truck will be kept permanently in each Coy area, and will be loaded at all times with LMGs, A Tk Rifles and amm for one platoon.
 - (iv) In the event of paratroop landing this truck with personnel will be despatched immediately to the area of the landing.
 - (v) To provide against landings occurring while two coys are out of the area on working parties, one AASC truck will be retained permanently at HQ Coy to be loaded at all times with two Brens, A Tk rifle and amm. In the event of a landing this truck with personnel of AA Pl will be sent wherever required.
4. FATIGUES
 - (a) On days the Bn is Duty Bn, the following fatigues will be supplied:-

Serial 1 - AAD - 1 Offr, 2 Sjts, 5 Cpls, 75 ORs report to HQ AAD at 0830 hrs
Lunch 1230-1400 hrs, cease work 1730 hrs
Serial 2 - AOD - 1 Offr, 1 Sjt, 3 Cpls, 27 ORs report 0800 hrs, lunch
1230-1400 hrs, cease work 1700 hrs
Serial 3 - Beach Hospital - 2 Offrs, 4 Sjts, 10 Cpls, 90 ORs report 0730 hrs
lunch 1130-1500 hrs, cease work 1800 hrs.
 - (b) For week ending 12 Sep fatigues will be supplied as follows-

Serials 1 and 2 - A Coy
Serial 3 - D Coy
 - (c) Coys will be notified later days when Bn is Duty Bn
5. WORK ON BLUE LINE CONSTRUCTION

For week ending 12 Sep this work will be carried out by B Coy.

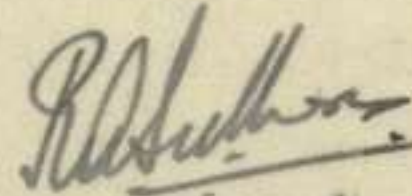
6. TRAINING

All coys except when on fatigues mentioned above will carry out training in P and RT, Rifle and Bayonet Exercises from 1000 hrs to 1100 hrs and 1600 hrs to 1630 hrs daily. Coy Comds will arrange own syllabus and the actual training will be supervised by Pl Comds .

7. GENERAL

- (a) Working and fatigue parties will at all times be fully armed and carry SAA.
 (b) Air sentries will be posted by Offrs in comd of working and fatigue parties as required.
 (c) Offrs in Comd of fatigue parties will arrange for the posting of an orderly at telephone nearest to place where work is being carried out and will make all possible arrangements for facilitating quick communication between BN HQ and fatigue party.

ACK



(R.A. SUTHERS) Capt.
 Adj. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

Time of Signature... 1745 hrs

Method of Issue... Orderly

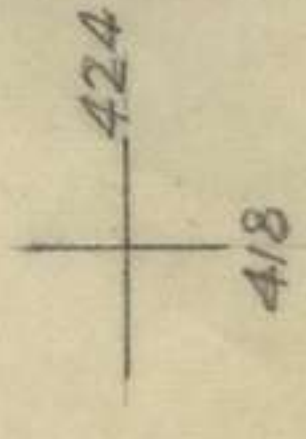
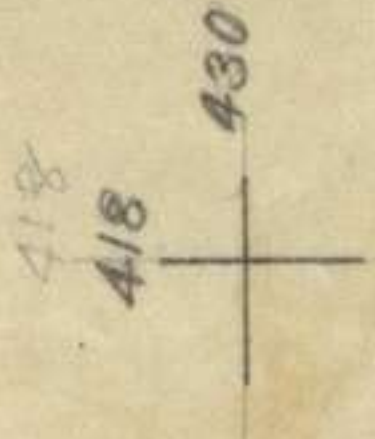
<u>DISTRIBUTION</u>	O.I. Copy No.	Appx A Copy No.
A Coy	1	1
B Coy	2	2
C Coy	3	3
D Coy	4	4
HQ Coy	5	5
Comd	6	6
20 Aust Inf Bde	7	7
1 Tpt Carrying Coy AASC	8	8
File	9	9
War Diary	10-11	10-11

SECRET

APPENDIX "A"

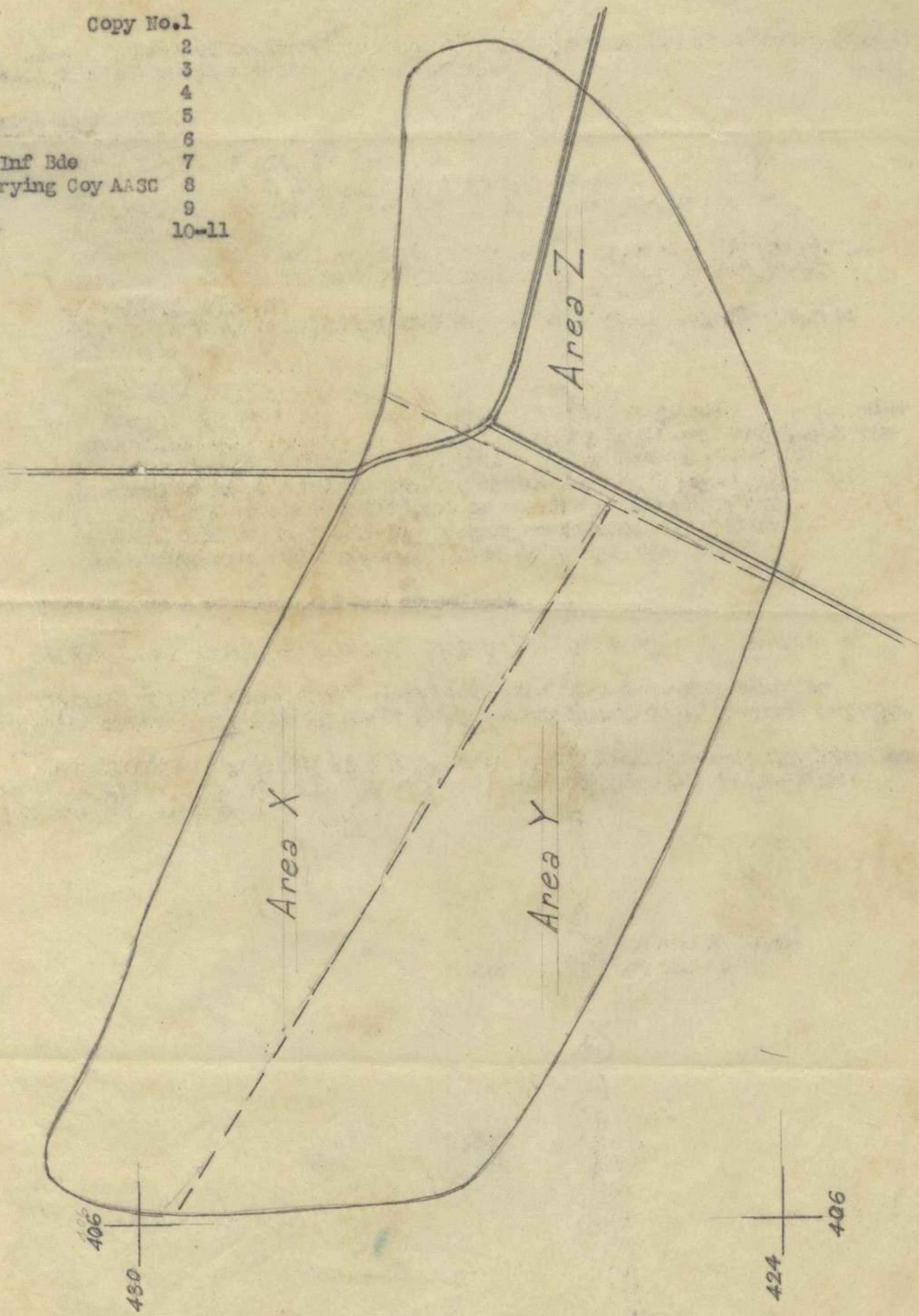
Issued with 2/15 Aust Inf Bn O Instn No.9

Copy No.



A Coy	Copy No.1
B Coy	2
C Coy	3
D Coy	4
HQ Coy	5
Comd	6
20 Aust Inf Bde	7
1 Tpt Carrying Coy AASC	8
File	9
War Diary	10-11

DEFENSIVE TASKS 2/15 Bn
 Traced on TOBRUCH 1:50,000 Sheet



Robb

S E C R E T

Copy No. //

4 Sep 41.

AMENDMENT No. 1 TO
2/15 AUST INF BN O I No. 9

Owing to amended instructions received since preparation of abovementioned O I, the following amendments and additions are notified:-

1. Paragraph 4. FATIGUES.

Serial 1 - AAD - 1 Offr, 1 Sjt, 20 ORs.

Serial 3 - Beach Hospital - 1 Offr, 1 Sjt, 4 Cpls, 38 ORs.

The fatigues detailed in para 4 will in the first instance be supplied on 6 Sep.

Serial 4 - In addition D Coy will supply a party of 30 ORs for camouflage work, details of which will be supplied on receipt of same from Fortress Camouflage Officer.

This party will be supplied on 6 Sep and such other dates as will be notified.

2. The following additional tasks will be performed:-

Serial 5 - Working party of 1 Offr, and 70 ORs to EL GUBBI aerodrome, to work under supervision of 7 Fd Coy, to be supplied daily by C Coy. Details later.

Serial 6 - Working party of 2 Offrs, 80 ORs from B Coy to work on BLUE LINE in vicinity of EL ADEM Rd under supervision of 3 Fd Coy. Details later.

Serial 7 - All ranks not engaged on fatigues or working parties as above detailed will be available for working on defended localities in SIDI MAHMUD area under supervision of 7 Fd Coy. Details later.

3. Paras 5 and 6 of O.I. No.9 are cancelled.

4. Mid-day meal in all Serials will be provided under coy arrangements.

5. Pioneer Pl Comd is appointed Works Offr, and will be responsible for visiting the site of each working party daily and to submit daily progress reports.

6. No work will be required on 5 Sep, which is allotted for Coy administration and at discretion of Coy Comds. All coys will be fully prepared to carry out duties as required on 6 Sep 41.

R.A. Suthers

(R.A. SUTHERS) Capt.
Adjt. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

16 Sep 41.

2/15 AUST INF BN O O No. 9

Ref Map TOBRUK 1/50000

INFORMATION

1. Supplied daily by Intelligence Summary.

INTENTION

2. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn will stand-to in fighting order and be ready to move at short notice.

METHOD

3. On receipt of code word "BOOMERANG" all portions of the Bn will
 - (a) Establish a dump of packs, greatcoats, and blankets within the wired area of their platoon HQ and detail one man per pl to guard the dump.
 - (b) Ensure that each man has a full waterbottle and one days reserve rations in the haversack.
 - (c) Stack the remainder of the reserve ration and reserve water at the pl HQ dump.
 - (d) Ensure that each man carries 50 rds SAA.
 - (e) Stack all kitchen and cooking gear and generally leave the posts capable of being occupied by another unit as soon as 2/15 Bn moves out.
 - (f) Load 12 picks and 12 shovels in Coy truck, and spare SAA and mortar amm in Coy Comds truck.
 - (g) On completion, embus all troops in 3 ton lorries supplied by AASC; Each truck to carry weapons and amm of the unit which it contains. Trucks by day must not be closer to each other than 100 yds. By night this may be reduced to 50 yds.
 - (h) Notify BN HQ that troops are ready to move by using code word mentioned herein. When this has been done troops may get out of the lorries but must remain close alongside under Comd of their respective sub unit Comd.
 - (j) 2 i/c Coy will remain at Coy telephone until the unit is ordered to move. Coy Comd will report to BN HQ by truck as soon as the completion of his Coy stand-to is reported.
 - (k) T.O. will despatch one 15 cwt van to BN HQ for use of I Sec, one 15 cwt (or 1 ton) van to BN HQ for BN office truck. The 15 cwt van at present standing by in BN HQ area will be used for Sig stores. He will then report to BN HQ.
 - (l) B Ech will arrange to pack all non essential battle equipment and check all vehicles.

4. WORKS

- (a) If "stand-to" is ordered during working hours, notification to Coy Comds will be made as follows:-
 - HQ Coy - By telephone from Adjf.
 - A Coy - by messenger from I Sec
 - B Coy - By telephone from Adjf.
 - C and D Coys - By truck standing-by at BN HQ. Route will be via PW Cage to C Coy, then to D Coy works, returning along EL ADEM Rd to BN HQ. Coys on work will immediately return to their Coy localities and proceed with stand-to arrangements.
- (b) If "stand-to" is ordered during the night, communication will be by means of telephone in all cases.

When engaged in subterranean work at EL GUBBI aerodrome, one man will be added to the working party demand in future. This man will move to the site of the work with the working party and will then return to the NW corner of the canteen where he will await the BN HQ truck and act as guide to the working party. The truck will be sent direct from BN HQ to the canteen where the driver will pick up the guide and proceed to the Comd of the working party who will immediately return to his Coy location at SIDI MAHMUD and prepare for "stand-to".

5. AASC TPT

A total of 5/3 ton lorries will be available for each Rifle Coy. One is at present with each Coy for use on paratroop defence. Remainder will report to Coy localities on "stand-to" being ordered.

5. AASC TPT CONTD

Notification of "BOOMERANG" to O.C. AASC Sec will be by Orderly from I Sec. Three 3 ton lorries will move to HQ Coy for their use and one to BN HQ.

6. BN HQ

Notification of "BOOMERANG" to BN HQ personnel and Sigs will be by the ringing of the alarm shell-case mounted outside the Orderly Room. Personnel will stack packs, blankets, officers' personal gear, officers' mess gear, cooking equipment etc in a dump between the Orderly Room and Mess tent. Officers' Mess cook and officers' Mess steward will remain as guard on the dump. R.S.M. will load the BN SAA truck and stand-by at Orderly Room. R.M.O. will pack and report when completed.

7. PERSONNEL LEFT OUT OF BATTLE

The following personnel will rendez-vous in a dispersed formation 50 yds west of the signal office, carrying all equipment. Those from B and D Coys will rendez-vous at their respective Coy HQ and await tpt. T.S. will arrange to collect all personnel and convey them to BN B Ech area where they will be accommodated. Personnel are as follows:-

BN HQ	(BN 2 i/c (One Clerk (One Pte. I Sec (One med Cpl.
HQ Coy	(2 Signallers (2 Mortar personnel (2 Carrier personnel (CSM, Clerk. (B Ech personnel.

Rifle Coys - Coy HQ Clerk, CQMS, Storeman, one man per sec.

Officers - QM, TO, one officer each Rifle Coy, Pioneer officer.

ADM8. Rations

- (i) One days rations will be carried on the man.
- (ii) If possible, a meal will be served after readiness for stand-to by use of Kitchen utensils withdrawn from dump and cared for by dump piquet.

9. Arms

- (i) 50 rds will be carried on the man and 2 grenades H.E. by every man not armed with automatic weapons.
- (ii) All Bren guns and TSM gun magazines will be carried filled.
- (iii) Reserver - Coys will carry their own reserve. Bn Res will be in the vicinity of BN HQ.

INTERCOMM10. Code words for completion of "stand-to" and ready to move.

HQ Coy	- MOUNT
A Coy	- COACH
B Coy	- FRIEND
C Coy	- BUTCH
D Coy	- THACK
B Ech	- GAME
RAF	- ALEX

These code words will be phoned to BN HQ and will be passed onto 20 Aust Inf Bde. On completion of stand-to when whole Bn is ready to move, the code word "BUTTER" will be phoned to Bde.

11. The order for stand-to will be given by the code word "BOOMERANG". If the stand-to is for practice purposes only, the code words will be "PRACTICE BOOMERANG".
12. Coy telephones will be carried in Coy HQ trucks and will be disconnected by 2 i/c after he has received order to move.

ACK

R.A. Suthers
(R.A. SUTHERS) Capt.
Adj. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

Time of signature *1659 hrs*

Method of Issue *Orderly*

DISTRIBUTION

	Copy No.
A Coy	1
B Coy	2
C Coy	3
D Coy	4
IR Coy	5
QM	6
TO	7
I.O	8
R.M.O.	9
Comd	10
20 Aust Inf Bde	11
3 A Tk Regt	12
Sp Carrying Coy ASC	13
File	14
War Diary	15-16

17 Sep 41.

2/15 AUST INF BN O O No. 10.

Ref map - TOBRUCH 1/50000

INFORMATION

1. As per Intelligence summaries.

INTENTION

2. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn will relieve 2/32 Aust Inf Bn on night 17/18 Sep 41 and 2/1 Aust Pnr Bn will move into area vacated by 2/15 Aust Inf Bn.

METHOD

3. Coys will move to areas occupied by same respective coys of 2/32 Aust Inf Bn. B Ech will move to new site as selected by Q.M. and T.O.
4. Adv Parties
Coy Comds will arrange for advance parties of 1 NCO per Pl to move to new positions on day of 17 Sep 41 who will be prepared to act as guides and to take over reserve rations and water as herein provided.
5. Timings and Route
D Coy will move at 2015 hrs along EL ADEM RD, BARDIA RD to about 41454282 thence to OLD BARDIA RD to new positions.
R.A.P. at 2015 hrs along BARDIA RD thence direct to new positions.
C Coy at 2040 hrs along BARDIA RD. Coy will ensure that no vehicles remain parked on BARDIA RD or on track leading NORTH from 41574260.
B Coy at 2050 hrs along BARDIA RD thence by track direct to position.
A Coy at 2100 hrs by direct track from present position to new position.
HQ Coy and BN HQ at 2125 hrs by direct route along BARDIA RD.
6. P A D
When in new position Coy Comds will ensure that no additional canvas or other unauthorised pattern shelters, douvres or other structures are erected.

ADM

7. Weapons and Amn
 - (i) All weapons and amn will be taken to new position.
 - (ii) Automatic weapon magazines will be carried filled as usual.
 - (iii) 50 rds SAA and two grenades H.E. will be carried on the man.
8. Trench stores, including box latrines will be handed over to 2/1 Aust Pnr Bn.
9. Rations
Three days reserve of biscuits and bully beef will be handed over in each Pl locality at Pl HQ. Reserve water in tins will also be so left. Special res ration boxes containing tea and sugar will be taken to new position.
10. Receipts
Receipts will be taken by Coys for all items handed over to 2/1 Aust Pnr Bn and will be handed in to BN HQ by 1800 hrs on 18 Sep.
11. Tpt
 - (i) Tp Carrying Tpt from A Sec 1 Tp carrying Coy AASC will be allotted for use for Coys as follows:-

A Coy	3 x three ton trucks
B Coy	5 x three ton trucks
C Coy	3 x three ton trucks
D Coy	5 x three ton trucks
HQ Coy	2 x three ton trucks
BN HQ	1 x three ton truck.

These will report to Coys by 1930 hrs 17 Sep.

 - (ii) Unit tpt for carrying stores etc on the basis 1 one ton and 1 three ton truck per coy will also be available.
 - (iii) BN HQ and HQ Coy unit tpt will be as already arranged with T.O.

INTERCOMM

12.

- (i) 2/15 Aust Inf Bn will close in present location at 2230 hrs.
 (ii) Maj. RALSTON will remain at present BN HQ until 2/1 Aust Pnr Bn has moved into position.

13. Communications

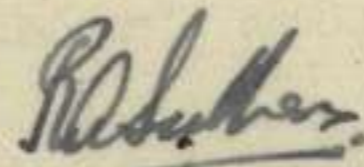
Telephones will be taken by Coys, and hand over of sig equipment will be as arranged by sig Sjt.

14. The undermentioned code words will be phoned to present BN HQ to indicate "Relief completed", and will again be phoned to new BN HQ when new position occupied..-

A Coy JAMES
 B Coy FRIEND
 C Coy BOTTOM
 D Coy THACK
 HQ Coy UNCLE
 RAP DOG

Code word to be phoned to 20 Aust Inf Bde HQ to indicate "Relief completed" WINTON.

ACK



(R.A. SUTHERS) Capt
 Adj. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

Time of Signature..... *1653hrs*

Method of Issue..... *Orderly*

DISTRIBUTION

A Coy	Copy No. 1
B Coy	2
C Coy	3
D Coy	4
HQ Coy	5
Comd	6
I.O.	7 "
Q.M.	8
T.O.	9
2/32 Aust Inf Bn	10
2/1 Aust Pnr Bn	11
20 Aust Inf Bde	12
File	13
War Diary	14-15

2/15 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

LT.-COL. R.W.G. OGLE. COMD

Nos. 28 - 35.

HQ 2/15 Aust Inf Bn
In the Field
20 Sep 41.

28. SUPPLEMENTARY NEXT-OF-KIN.

(a) AIF (ME) Order No. 16 is repeated for information:-

"Approval is given for the compilation of a record of supplementary next-of-kin to enable casualty advices to be forwarded to near relatives on active service in addition to the normal notification to next-of-kin in Australia. All ranks may apply through the usual channels for registration as the supplementary next-of-kin of a named relative, on active service with the AIF in the Middle East."

(b) Coys will bring this to the notice of all ranks and will forward to BN HQ by 1800 hrs 22 Sep 41 all applications for registration as supplementary next-of-kin.

29. AIR MAIL LABELS

AIF (ME), Order 134 is repeated:-

"The use of Air Mail labels, or envelopes bearing the air mail imprint, for letters to be despatched by surface transport, is irregular and will be discontinued forthwith."

30. GAMBLING

AIF (ME) order 541 is repeated:-

"1. Attention is drawn to the following provision of A.M.R.&.O. 322:-

"Gambling in a camp or other military premises or on any ship carrying troops is forbidden."

2. The game of "Two-up" is forbidden within or in the vicinity of any military camp, premises, club or institute in bounds to members of the AIF.

3. Members of the AIF are forbidden to take part in any such game of "Two-up". Taking part in the game includes "keeping the ring" or being present at a "Two-up School".

31. CASH DEPOSITS IN PAYBOOKS

AIF (ME) Order 544 is repeated:-

"Unless accompanied by written approval from the C.O. that the money was lawfully obtained, amounts in excess of £A5 will not be accepted for credit in paybooks.

Should any attempt be made by the soldier to deposit amounts of £A5 at different cash offices, pay personnel will, if necessary, refer the matter to the soldier's C.O."

32. PETROL

9 Aust Div RO 332 of 21 Aug 41 is repeated:-

"It is probable that petrol will be issued shortly in 4 gall returnable containers.

In order that supplies may be maintained, it is essential that these containers are promptly returned. All units are asked to cooperate to the fullest extent in this regard."

33. TRAFFIC - EL GUBBI AERODROME

9 Aust Div RO 310 is repeated:-

"The surface of EL GUBBI Aerodrome is rapidly becoming unserviceable through vehicles driving across it and making deep ruts. In future all vehicles, incl R.A.F. will drive around and NOT across the Aerodrome."

34. RESERVE RATIONS AND WATER

(a) 9 Aust Div RO 151 is repeated:-

"Reserve rations and water will be checked daily by an officer and a weekly certificate will be rendered by each unit to show: ration strength, number of reserve rations and water held, explanation of discrepancies, if any."

(b) Coys will continue to submit information to Q.M.

35. DUTIES ON PRESENTS SENT TO AUSTRALIA.

- (a) AIF (ME) Order 604 provides that presents and other dutiable goods may, subject to certain conditions, be admitted without payment of Customs Duty and Sales Tax, when forwarded to Australia by members of the AIF.
- (b) The conditions governing relief from payment of Customs Duty and Sales Tax are:-
- (i) The concession is limited to the admission of dutiable goods to the value of £10 from any one individual in any twelve months and payment of duty is required in respect of any amount over £10.
- (ii) The words "presents" or the term "other dutiable goods" is to be taken as including articles of adornment, curios, jewellery and other such articles which would be ordinarily brought back to Australia by persons returning from overseas.

R.A. Suthers

(R.A. SUTHERS) Capt.
Adj. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

DISTRIBUTION

	Copy No.	I.O.	Copy No.
A Coy	1	I.O.	7
B Coy	2	Comd	8
C Coy	3	Q.M.	9
D Coy	4	R.M.O.	10
H Coy	5	File	11
T.O.	6	War Diary	12 - 13

NOTICESCOMFORTS

Receipt is acknowledged of the undermentioned items from Aust Comforts Fund.

On 12 Aug 41.

Soup	tins	100	Playing Cards	pkts	43
Beans	"	93	Paper	sheets	3619
Tobacco (2 ozs)	"	56	Envelopes		603
Syrup	"	9	Cigarette papers	pkts	64
Tooth Brushes		120	Blades Razor	pkts	241
Coffe & Milk	"	29	Globex	tins	3
Coits	sets	1	Dominoes	sets	1
Cake	blocks	3	Canned Tomatoes	tins	3
Cigarettes	pkts	120.			

On 11 Sep 41

Cigarettes	Pkts	480	Cake	blocks	1
Tobacco	tins	148	Fruit	tins	27
Papers	pkts	202	Sox	prs	75
Soap	cakes	120	Handkerchief		150
Jam	tins	48	Washers		27
Syrup	"	9	Writing Paper	sheets	1809
Camp Pie Rex	"	24	Envelopes		1809
Vegetables	"	100	Sauce	bottles	5
Biscuits	pkts	14	Cordial	"	5

CHRISTMAS MAILS

It is recommended that Christmas Mails be posted to reach Egypt by the dates shown, in order to reach their destinations by Christmas Day.

	Surface Mail	Ordinary Air Mail	Airmail Lettercards	Airgraphs
United Kingdom and Eire	18-9-41	25-10-41	25-11-41	25-11-41
Australia	1-11-41	1-12-41	1-12-41	
India	10-11-41	10-12-41	10-12-41	
New Zealand	15-10-41	25-11-41	25-11-41	
South Africa	1-11-41	1-12-41	1-12-41	
N & S Rhodesia	1-11-41	10-12-41	10-12-41	
East Africa	15-12-41	10-12-41	10-12-41	

26 Sep 41.

2/15 AUST INF BN O O No. 11.

Ref Map TOBRUK 1/50000.

INFORMATION

1. Enemy - as shown in Intelligence summaries.
2. Own Tps - 20 Aust Inf Bde is holding EASTERN Sector, with 2/15 Aust Inf Bn in Bde Res.

INTENTION

3. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn will be relieved by 2 Kings Own on 27 Sep and will move into Div Res in PHASTRINO area.

METHOD

4. (a) Coys will move to areas occupied by same respective Coys of 2 King's Own.
(b) B Ech will move to area previously occupied when in Div Res in sq 413431.
5. RBCCE
Coy Comds, with one guide per pl, will report to 2 King's Own HQ at 1400 hrs 26 Sep 41 and make recce of new position.
6. (1) ADV PARTIES
Pl guides will act as adv parties and will report at new positions at 0800 hrs 27 Sep with exception of D Coy guides who will report at 0830. They will be prepared to guide their Coys to new positions and will take over from outgoing Coys reserve water, trench stores latrine seats etc.
(ii) Tpt for adv parties, which will also carry guides mentioned in para 7 of this order, will be provided as follows:-
(a) 1 van for D Coy adv party and guide, to call at D Coy HQ at 0745.
(b) 1 van for HQ Coy and A Coy to call at HQ Coy at 0800 hrs, then at A Coy. This van will also call at BN HQ to pick up BN HQ guide.
(c) 1 van for C Coy and B Coy, to call at C Coy at 0800 hrs, then at B Coy.
(iii) This Tpt after delivering personnel will immediately return to unit.
7. GUIDES
2/15 Aust Inf Bn will provide guides for incoming unit, on the scale of one per Coy, including HQ Coy and one for BN HQ. They will report to 2 King's Own HQ at 0900 hrs 27 Sep and will guide incoming unit.
8. TIMINGS
Relieving Coys will leave King's Own area at the times shown on
27 Sep.
D Coy 0830 hrs
C Coy 1030 hrs
B Coy 1130 hrs
A Coy 1300 hrs
BN HQ and WAP 1400 hrs
HQ Coy 1530 hrs.
9. ROUTE
Route to be taken will be by MAIN RD through TOBRUK and EAGLE JUNCT.
10. DISPERSION
Vehicles will not move at closer intervals than 300 yds.
11. REAR PARTIES.
(a) The following rear parties will remain with incoming unit for 24 hrs.
1 NCO per Pl.
Cpl. SHERA with BN HQ.
(b) One 30 cwt truck will call at D Coy HQ at 1400 hrs 28 Sep and will collect rear parties of D Coy, then HQ Coy, BN HQ, and A Coy. One 15 cwt truck will call at C Coy HQ at 1400 hrs to collect rear party then to B Coy HQ.

12. B ECH
Details of B Ech relief will be by mutual arrangement between respective Q.M.S.
13. Coys will ensure that adv parties from 2 King's Own at present in area are given all possible information and assistance regarding minefields, booby traps and the local situation and conditions. To be done

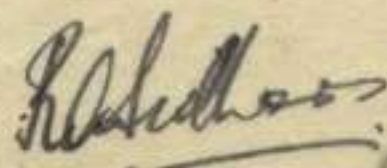
AIM

14. WEAPONS
(a) Weapons in excess of gloss scale will be handed over as follows:-
- | | | | |
|-------|---------------------------|-----------|-------|
| A Coy | 1 Bren. | 1 .08 VPO | Y03 A |
| B Coy | 1 Bren | | Y03 B |
| C Coy | 1 Bren, 1 Boys A Tk Rifle | | Y03 C |
| D Coy | 1 Boys A Tk Rifle. | | Y03 D |
- (b) B Coy will also hand over Bred A Tk Gun in its area. Y03 H
15. AIM
- (a) Automatic weapon magazines will be carried filled. .0-1
- (b) 50 rds SAA and 2 Grenades H.E. will be carried on the man. .0-1
- (c) All aim in excess of gloss scale will be handed over. .0-1
16. TRENCH STORES
All trench stores including box latrines will be left in position.
17. RATIONS
Reserve rations will be taken out, but reserve water in containers will be handed over to incoming unit.
18. RECEIPTS
Coy Comds will prepare inventories of stores etc handed over and will obtain receipts for the same.
19. TPT
- (a) Tp carrying Tpt from B sec 2 Tp carrying Coy AASC, used by incoming unit will be used to convey tps to new area.
- (b) Unit tpt for carrying stores etc on the basis of 1 one ton and 1 three ton truck per coy will also be available.
- (c) Unit tpt for BN HQ and HQ Coy will be provided on the same basis as for previous moves.
20. SIG EQUIPMENT
Handover of sig equipment will be by mutual arrangement between respective sig personnel.
21. ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL
Personnel of the Border Regt at present with Coys will move with Coys.

INTERCOMM

22. COMMAND
2/15 Aust Inf Bn comes under Comd 18 Inf Bde at 1800 hrs 26 Sep and reverts to Comd of 20 Aust Inf Bde on completion of relief.
23. REPORTS
2/15 Aust Inf Bn will close in present location at 1500 hrs and will re-open at that time at new HQ.
24. CODE
The code to indicate "Relief completed" which will be phoned to BN HQ on occupation of new position will be :-
- | | |
|--------|--------|
| A Coy | JAMES |
| B Coy | FRIEND |
| C Coy | BORTON |
| D Coy | THACK |
| HQ Coy | UNCLE |
- RAP
The code word "DOG" will be phoned to Bde on completion of BN relief.

AGE



(R.A. SUTHERS) Capt.

Add. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

Details of a relief will be by mutual arrangement between respective P.M.s.

Coy will ensure that any parties from King's own at present in area are given all possible information and assistance regarding movements, body traps and the local situation. Method of distribution to be determined by mutual arrangement between respective P.M.s.

DISTRIBUTION

- (a) Weapons in excess of those listed will be handed over as follows:
 - A Coy 1 Bren. I Coy
 - B Coy 2 Bren. I Coy
 - C Coy 1 Bren, 1 Coy A TR Rifle
 - D Coy 1 Coy A TR Rifle
 - B Coy will also hand over 5 Bren A TR gun in its area.
- (b)
 - 10. I.O.
 - 11. 30 Aust Inf Bde
 - 12. 16 Inf Bde
- (c)
 - 13. Trench stores
 - 14. Reserve rations will be taken out, but reserve water in containers will be handed over to incoming unit.

RECEIPTS

Coy comd will prepare inventories of stores etc handed over and will obtain receipts for the same.

THE

- (a) To carrying the from B see 2 of carrying Coy AASC, used by incoming unit will be used to convey the to new area.
- (b) Unit for carrying stores etc on the back of 1 one ton and 1 three ton truck per Coy will also be available.
- (c) Unit for H and H Coy will be provided on the same basis as for previous moves.

210 EQUIPMENT

Handover of the equipment will be by mutual arrangement between respective P.M.s.

ADDITIONAL TRENCH

Personnel of the Border Regt at present with Coy will move with Coy.

INTERCOM

22. The Aust Inf Bde on completion of relief.

REPORTS

23. The Aust Inf Bde will close in present location at 1500 hrs and will re-open at that time at new H.

CODE

24. The code to indicate "relief completed" which will be phoned to H on occupation of new position will be:-

- A Coy JAMES
- B Coy FRANK
- C Coy BERTON
- D Coy THOMAS
- H Coy UICHLI

The code word "RELIEF" will be phoned to H on completion of the relief.

[Handwritten signature]
(M.A. SUTHERS) (C.M.F.)

.....nd 2591..... COPY NO. 8.....

27 Sep 41.

2/15 AUST INF BN WARNING ORDER

Ref MAP TORBUCH 1/50000 with overprint.

NOI TUNI STRIG

INTENTION

1. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn will relieve 2 Polish Bn in EL AIEM SECTOR on night 30 Sep/1 Oct.

METHOD

2. RECCO
Coy Comds will recco fwd positions on 29 Sep.
A Coy truck will convey all Coy Comds from PIASTRINO positions to 2 Polish BN HQ arriving at 0530 hrs. Truck will then return. Coy Comds will be taken fwd by Polish trucks. On completion of recco, Comds B, C and D Coys will walk back to Polish BN HQ and ring 2/15 BN for vehicle to pick them up. Comd A Coy will remain fwd until night unless conditions permit him to walk out by day.

3. RELIEF

(a) Areas to be taken over are as follows:-

Coy	To relieve Polish	Area
A	No.1 Coy (Lieut. ZARYONCH)	R11 to R15/16.
B	No.3 Coy (Lieut. HARRAPEVITCH)	R17/18 to R21.
C	No.2 Coy (Capt. ARROY-YECK)	R22/23 to R29/30
D	No.4 Coy (Lieut. MARSHEFFSKI)	R31/32 to R35/34.

(b) HQ Coy will take over from Polish HQ Coy, and will take over Bush Arty, consisting of 1/75 mm and 2/77 mm guns.

4. NUCLEUS PARTIES

The following nucleus parties will move to Polish BN HQ at 2030 hrs 29 Sep:-
Intelligence Officer
Mortar offr and 1 OR, take over each Mortars, carriers and Bush Arty.
1 offr per rifle coy and -
One OR per Coy HQ
One OR per section
One Sjt for each pl.
They will move in own tpt to coy locations with guides to be provided at Polish BN HQ.
Nucleus parties will remain in position until BN takes over. They will take over foreign weapons, trench stores etc.

5. PATROLS

Patrols will be maintained by 2 Polish BN until 0530 hrs 1 Oct. Coys will arrange for patrols to be returned to BN HQ before first light. T.O. will arrange for their return to 2 Polish BN at PIASTRINO.

6. REAR PARTY

2 Polish BN will provide Rear party of:-
BN HQ - 1 offr
Each Coy - 1 offr, 2 NCOs, 3 ORs.
B Ech - 1 NCO and 1 OR.
They will remain with 2/15 BN for 24 hrs after relief. Coys will arrange to return them to BN HQ at 0600 hrs 2 Oct. T.O. will arrange for their return to PIASTRINO.

7. FOREIGN WEAPONS

Foreign Weapons etc will be taken over in posts.

8. Further details will be advised later.

ACK

R.A. Suthers

(R.A. SUTHERS) capt.

1925 hrs

Issued by *Orderly*

2/15 AUST INF BR WARRING ORDER

DISTRIBUTION

Net Imp TOROUGH 1/30000 with overprint.

COY	copy No.	REMARKS
A COY	1	
B COY	2	
C COY	3	
D COY	4	
HQ COY	5	
Comd	6	

COY Comds will receive and position on 22 Sep. A Coy truck will convey all Coy Comds from PHASTRINO position to 2 Polish HQ arriving at 0830 hrs. Truck will be taken up by Polish Comds. On completion of relief Comds will be taken up by Polish Comds. D, C and B Coy will wait for Polish HQ and remain for vehicle to pick them up. Comd A Coy will remain for night unless conditions permit him to walk out by day.

(a) Areas to be taken over are as follows:-

COY	To relieve Polish	Area
A	No.1 COY (Lieut. KARZYCH)	R14 to R18/18.
B	No.2 COY (Lieut. KARZYCH)	R14 to R21.
C	No.3 COY (Capt. ARNOY-TECH)	R22 to R28/28.
D	No.4 COY (Lieut. KARZYCH)	R21 to R28/28.

(b) HQ Coy will take over from Polish HQ Coy, and will take over Bush Area consisting of 1/15 and 2/17 hrs guns.

NUCLEAR PARTIES

The following nuclear parties will move to Polish HQ at 0830 hrs 22 Sept:-
 Intelligence Officer
 Mortar Officer and 1 OR take over each mortar, carbine and Bush Area.
 1 OR per rifle Coy and -
 One OR per Coy HQ
 One OR per section
 One OR for each pl.
 They will move in own file to Coy positions with guides to be provided at Polish HQ.
 Nuclear parties will remain in position until HQ takes over. They will take over foreign weapons, trench stores etc.

PATROLS
 Patrols will be maintained by 2 Polish HQ until 0830 hrs 1 Oct. Coy will arrange for patrols to be returned to HQ before first light. T.O. will arrange for their return to 2 Polish HQ at PHASTRINO.

REAR PARTY
 2 Polish HQ will provide Rear Party of:-
 HQ HQ - 1 OR
 Each Coy - 1 OR, 2 HQS, 3 ORS.
 B Coy - 1 HQ and 1 OR.
 They will remain with 2/15 HQ for 24 hrs after relief. Coy will arrange to return them to HQ at 0800 hrs 2 Oct. T.O. will arrange for their return to PHASTRINO.

FORGIVEN WEAPONS
 Foreign weapons etc will be taken over in posts.

Further details will be advised later.

Orderly
 (R.A. BUEBERS) Capt.

ACK

29 Sep 41.

2/15 AUST INF BN O O No. 12.

Ref Map TOBRUCH 1/50000 with overprint.

INFORMATION

1. Enemy - as per Intelligence summaries.
2. Own Tps - 2 Polish Bn is in right of EL ADEM sector.
2/15 Aust Inf Bn is in Div Res in PILASTRINO Area.

INTENTION

3. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn will relieve 2 Polish Bn on night 30 Sep/1 Oct.

METHOD4. RELIEF

- (a) Areas to be taken over are as follows:-

Coy	To relieve Polish	Area
A	No. 1 Coy	R11 to R15/16
B	No. 3 Coy	R17/18 to R21
C	No. 2 Coy	R22/23 to R29/26
D	No. 4 Coy	R31/28 to R35/34

- (b) HQ Coy will take over from Polish HQ Coy, and will take over Bush Arty consisting of 1/75 mm and 2/77 mm guns.

5. RECCE

Recce as already detailed in Warning Order of 27 Sep 41.

6. NUCLEUS PARTIES

- (a) The following nucleus parties will move to Polish BN HQ at 2030 hrs 29 Sep:-

- (i) Intelligence Offr and one member I Sec.
- (ii) No. 5 Pl Comd and 1 OR to take over each Mortars, Carriers and Bush Arty
- (iii) One NCO and one OR No. 1 Pl.
- (iv) One Offr per Rifle Coy and
- (v) One OR per Coy HQ
- (vi) One OR per section
- (vii) One Sjt for each pl.

- (b) They will move in own tpt to Coy locations with guides to be provided at Polish BN HQ. They will remain in position until BN takes over, and will be responsible for taking over foreign weapons, trench stores etc.

7. TIMINGS

- (a) Coys will leave from vicinity of PILASTRINO at the following times:-

HQ Coy and BN HQ	2030 hrs
A Coy	2030 hrs
D Coy	2050 hrs
C Coy	2115 hrs
B Coy	2200 hrs

- (b) There will be no movement of vehicles of any character before the times stated herein.

8. TPT

- (a) Tp carrying Tpt (3 tonners) from B Sec 2 Tp carrying Coy will report to Coys as follows:-

Coys	No.	Time to report
HQ Coy	4	1945 hrs
BN HQ	1	1945 hrs
A Coy	5	1945 hrs
D Coy	5	2000 hrs
C Coy	5	2015 hrs
B Coy	5	2030 hrs

- (b) This tpt will take out 2 Polish BN and return to Div Res area.
- (c) HQ Coy will arrange that tpt carrying personnel to take over Bush Arty will accompany D Coy, and will report to D Coy HQ not later than 2040 hrs
- (d) Mortar personnel will move as arranged by Lieut. MURISON.

9. GUIDES AND MOVEMENT
(a) Guides from 2 Polish BN will report at Bridge at 40704304 in time to lead Coy columns at times mentioned in para 7.
(b) Columns if waiting at this point will remain not closer than 200 yds apart.
(c) T.O. will supervise all movement of M.T. from general area of Bridge.
10. PATROLS
(a) Patrols will be maintained by 2 Polish BN until 0530 hrs 1 Oct. Coys will return patrols to BN HQ by first light.
(b) Tpt to return personnel of patrols will be provided by Polish BN and NOT by T.O. as laid down in para 6 of warning Order.
11. REAR PARTY
There will be NO rear party left by 2 Polish BN as provided by warning Order.
12. B Ech
B Ech will change over with 2 Polish BN B Ech during daylight 30 Sep.
- AMM
13. WEAPONS
All weapons surplus to G1098 scale will be handed over to 2 Polish BN and all weapons surplus to that units G1098 scale will be taken over in forward posts in present locations.
14. TRENCH STORES
All trench stores including res SAA, grenades of all kinds, engineer stores, latrine seats etc will be left in posts and receipts taken and given.
15. AMM
Amm as for all previous moves will be taken.
16. SIG EQUIPMENT
Details of change over will be by mutual arrangement between sig Sjt and Polish sigs O.
17. EMERGENCY RATIONS
All reserve rations and all reserve water will be taken forward by 2/15 BN who will NOT take over any of these commodities in the posts.
18. R.A.P.
(a) R.A.P. will move with BN HQ.
(b) After relief, sick parades will be held after dark each night at times to be arranged by the R.M.O.
19. TPT FOR STORES
(a) Unit tpt to carry stores etc will report to Coys and to BN HQ on usual basis.
(b) All B Ech tpt will be clear of PIASTRINO by first light 1 Oct.
20. DAY DISCIPLINE AFTER RELIEF
(a) Tpt movement generally will be reduced to a minimum both when moving along the fwd area and about BN HQ.
(b) A Coy Comd's truck will be parked with B Coy and will not be taken fwd to A Coy HQ.
(c) All ranks will be impressed with the necessity to remain out of sight during hours of daylight and will restrict movement above ground to a minimum.
- INTERCOMM
21. COMD
2/15 Aust Inf Bn will come under comd Polish Bde at 1800 hrs 30 Sep and revert to comd 20 Aust Inf Bde on arrival in fwd area.
22. (a). BN HQ will close in present location at 2030 hrs and reopen at that hour in new area.
(b) MAJ. WILLIAMS will remain at BN HQ until whole of Polish BN has reported in, when he will come forward to new location.

23. CODES

- (a) The undermentioned code words will be phoned as follows:-
 - (i) To MAJ. WILLIAMS on leaving present position and
 - (ii) To new BN HQ on completion of relief; viz

A Coy	GREAT
B Coy	FRIEND
C Coy	BOTTOM
D Coy	TRACK
HQ Coy	OFTEN
R A P	DOG

- (b) On completion of relief by whole BN, the code word MEXICO will be phoned to 20 Aust Inf Bde.

ACK

R. A. Suthers
 (R.A. SUTHERS) capt.
 Adj. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

Time of signature.....*1730hrs*.....

Issued by.....*Orderly*.....

DISTRIBUTION

A Coy	Copy No. 1
B Coy	2
C Coy	3
D Coy	4
HQ Coy	5
Comd.	6
2 i/c	7
I.O.	8
QM/TO	9
RMO	10
B Sec 2 Tp Carrying Coy	11
2 Polish BN	12
20 Aust Inf Bde	13
File	14
War Diary	15 - 18.

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/15 Aust Inf Bn (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels ...	1	-	-
Majors ...	1	-	2
Captains ...	5	-	3
Lieutenants ...	19	-	-
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...	1	-	
District Officers ...			
TOTALS ...	27	-	5

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc.)

PART B.—PARTICULARS OF OFFICERS JOINED OR QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
<i>NIL</i>				

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
<i>AX6225</i> CAPT.	<i>F.L. BODE</i>	<i>2/15.</i>	<i>31 Aug</i>	<i>WOUNDED IN ACTION EVAC. TO WASH.</i>
<i>VX14737</i> LIEUT	<i>G.H. WILLIAMS</i>	<i>9 Div Sigs</i>	<i>5 Sep</i>	<i>Ceases Attachment.</i>

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known).
<i>NIL</i>			

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
C.O. Lt. Col.	Nx12305	R.W.G. OGKE.	2/15	Yes	
2 1/2 C. CAPT-T/MAS	Rx6219	A.C. RALSTON.			
O.C. Coy CAPT.	Rx6285	S. TOPHAM			
RM	Rx6172	A. SKINNER.			
O.C. B Coy	Rx6222	B.D. STRANGE			
Asst. O.	Rx6221	R.A. SUTHERS			
O.C. A Coy	Rx6223	W.W. COBB		No	Attending METS.
O.C. D Coy	Lieut-T/MAS Rx6238	S.P. NEWCOMB		Yes	
2 1/2 C. Coy	Lieut Rx6224	M.R. STUART		Yes	
	Rx6200	B. WILLIAMS		No	Attending METS.
	Rx6226	L. SMELL		Yes	
	Rx6227	D.D. WHALLEY		No	Det. 20th Inf Bde
T.O.	Rx6242	M. HARLAND		Yes	
O.C. Pl.	Rx6274	R.B. JENKINSON.			
	Rx6230	EMM. CHRISTIE			
	Rx6195	W.A. FERGUSON			
	Rx6256	R.A. YATES			
I.O.	Rx8571	G.A. BENNELL-SMITH			
O.C. Pl.	Rx934	C.I. GUEST			
	Rx815	D.B. WEIR			
	Rx6518	D.W.R. SCOGGINS			
	Rx2995	J. KAY.			
	Rx814	G. OSBORNE			
	Rx8523	C.W.J. LOBAN.			
	Rx825	A.P. BEATTY		No	Det. 20th Inf Bde
	Rx949	W.B. MURISON		Yes	
	Rx9453	I.D.V. QUIGLEY		Yes	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher Acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
CAPT	Vx3948	S. ROSE.	AAMC	29 Jun	AMO
Chaplain	Nx70322	F.J. CAMROUX.	AACD.	9 May	Chaplain

2/15 20th Inf Bde
(Unit.)
7 Sep. 41.
(Date of Despatch.)

[Signature]
(Signature of Commander.)
20th Inf Bde 9th Div
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

2/15 Aust Troop (Unit). 6 Sep 41 (Date).

(To be furnished by all units of Cavalry, Royal Armoured Corps, Infantry, Royal Army Veterinary Corps, Royal Army Pay Corps, Army Educational Corps, Corps of Military Police, and all Headquarters units).

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1 Detail.	2 Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1	-	-
W.Os. Class II.	6	-	-
W.Os. Class III.			
Squadron or Company Quarter-master-Serjeants OR Colour-Serjeants	3	-	2
Staff Serjeants			
Serjeants	26	-	1
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.			
Corporals	58	-	3
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc.	492		161
TOTALS	586	*	* 167

* These Totals should agree with the details shown in Part D on page 2 of Army Form W.3009.

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
PAY Sjt	AAPC		
MEDICAL /	AAMC		
/ CPL	/		
FITTER /	AAOC		
POSTAL /	AAPOSTAL C.		
MEDICAL L/Cpl	AAMC		
/ Pte	/		

Part C. Description of other ranks whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g. present whereabouts if known).
Nil				

2/15 Aust Inf Bn

Unit.

Part D. Detail of Surplus or Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009.

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.									REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.							REMARKS.			
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.O.M.S.; C.O.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.O.M.S.; C.O.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.		Corporals	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.
Bricklayers																				
Butchers																				
Carpenters and Joiners ..																		2	2	
Clerks														1				3	4	
Cooks																				
Despatch Riders																				
Drivers I.C. (Tracked) ..																				
" " (Wheeled) ..																				
Drivers-Mechanics																		7	7	
Drivers-Operators																				
Electricians																		1	1	
Equipment Repairers ..																				
Farriers																				
Fitters																				
Machine Gunners																				
Masons																		1	1	
Motor Mechanics																				
Pioneers, Infantry (other than tradesmen)																				
Plumbers and Pipefitters ..																				
Range Takers																				
Saddlers and Harness Makers																				
Saddle Tree Makers																				
Sanitary and Water Duties ..																				
Signallers																				
Storemen technical																		2	2	
Tailors																				
Wheelers																				
General duty personnel ..														2				3	144	149
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A).														2	1			3	161	167

2/15 Aust Inf Bn

Unit.

Date of Despatch

7 Sep 41

Lt. Col

Signature of Commander.

20 Aust Inf Bde 9 Aust Div.

Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/15 Aust Inf Bn (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels	1	-	1
Majors	1	-	1
Captains	5	-	5
Lieutenants	17	-	17
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters	1	-	1
District Officers			
TOTALS	27	-	5

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc.)

PART B.—PARTICULARS OF OFFICERS JOINED OR QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
<i>Nil</i>				

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
<i>Nil</i>				

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known).
<i>Nil</i>			

H.O. 1. Sec
A.F.

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
C.O. Lt. Col		R.W.G. OGLE.	2/15 Inf.	Yes.	
2/c	T/MAS.	A.C. RAUSTON.			
O.C. Coy		S. TOPHAM.			
RM		A. SKINNER			
O.C. Coy		B.D. STRANGE.			
Adj.		R.A. SUTHERS.			
O.C. Coy		W.W. COBB.		No	Attending METS
O.C. Coy	T/CAPT	S.P. NEWCOMB		Yes	
2/c		M.R. STUART.		Yes	
		B. WILLIAMS		No	Attending METS
		L. SNELL.		No	Attending METS.
		D.D. WHALLEY.		No	Det 20th Inf Bde
T.O.		M. HARLAND.		Yes	
O.C. Pl		R.G. JENKINSON.			
O.C.		E.M.A. CHRISTIE.			
		W.A. FERGUSON.			
		R.A. YATES			
I.O.		G.A. GEMMELL-SMITH.			
O.C. Pl		G.I. GUEST.			
		D.B. WEIR.			
		D.W.R. SCOBINS			
		J. KAY.			
		G. OSBORNE.			
		G.W.J. LOGAN.			
		A.P. BEATTY.		No	Det 20th Inf Bde
		W.G. MURISON		Yes	
		I.D.V. QUIGLEY		Yes	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher Acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
CAPT.		S. ROSE	RRMC	27 June	RRMO.
Chaplain		F.S. CAMERON	RAChD	9 May	Chaplain.

2/15 Aust. Inf Bde
(Unit.)

14 Sep 41
(Date of Despatch.)

[Signature]
(Signature of Commander.)

20th Inf Bde
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

(Unit) 19..... (Date).

(To be furnished by all units of Cavalry, Royal Armoured Corps, Infantry, Royal Army Veterinary Corps, Royal Army Pay Corps, Army Educational Corps, Corps of Military Police, and all Headquarters units).

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1		
W.Os. Class II.	6		
W.Os. Class III.			
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants OR Colour-Serjeants	3		2
Staff Serjeants			
Serjeants	25		2
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.			
Corporals	56		5
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc.	485		168
TOTALS	576	-	177

* These Totals should agree with the details shown in Part D on page 2 of Army Form W.3009.

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
Pay Sjt	AAPC		
MEDICAL -	AAME		
- Cpl	-		
FITTER -	AAOC		
POSTAL -	AAPOSTAL C		
MEDICAL L/Cpl etc	AAME		

Part C. Description of other ranks whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g. present whereabouts if known).
Nil.				

2/15 Aust Inf Bn. Unit.

Part D. Detail of Surplus or Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009.

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.									REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.						REMARKS.				
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Serjeants.		Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.
Bricklayers																				
Butchers																				
Carpenters and Joiners ..																		2	2	
Clerks																				
Cooks														1				3	4	
Despatch Riders																				
Drivers I.C. (Tracked) ..																				
" " (Wheeled) ..																				
Drivers-Mechanics																		7	7	
Drivers-Operators																				
Electricians																		1	1	
Equipment Repairers ..																				
Farriers																				
Fitters																				
Machine Gunners																				
Masons																		1	1	
Motor Mechanics																		1	1	
Pioneers, Infantry (other than tradesmen)																				
Plumbers and Pipefitters ..																				
Range Takers																				
Saddlers and Harness Makers																				
Saddle Tree Makers																				
Sanitary and Water Duties ..																				
Signallers																				
Storemen technical																		2	2	
Tailors																				
Wheelers																				
General duty personnel ..														2	1			5	151	159
TOTALS (to agree with Col- umns 3 and 4 of Part A).														2	2			5	168	177

2/15 Aust Inf Bn. Unit.

Date of Despatch 14 Sep 41.

[Signature]
Lt-Col
Signature of Commander.
20 Aust Inf Bde 9 Aust Div.
Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

215 Aust Inf Bn (Unit). *20 Sep* 1941 (Date).

(To be furnished by all units of Cavalry, Royal Armoured Corps, Infantry, Royal Army Veterinary Corps, Royal Army Pay Corps, Army Educational Corps, Corps of Military Police, and all Headquarters units).

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1 Detail.	2 Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1	-	-
W.Os. Class II.	7	1	-
W.Os. Class III.			
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants OR Colour-Serjeants	4	-	1
Staff Serjeants			
Serjeants	27	-	-
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.			
Corporals	63	2	-
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc.	501		152
TOTALS	603	* 3	* 153

* These Totals should agree with the details shown in Part D on page 2 of Army Form W.3009.

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
<i>PAY SGT</i>	<i>A.A.P.C.</i>		
<i>MEDICAL -</i>	<i>A.A.M.C.</i>		
<i>- CPL</i>	<i>-</i>		
<i>FITTER -</i>	<i>A.A.O.C.</i>		
<i>POSTAL -</i>	<i>A.A. POSTAL C.</i>		
<i>MEDICAL L/CPL</i>	<i>A.A.M.C.</i>		
<i>- PTE</i>	<i>-</i>		

Part C. Description of other ranks whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g. present whereabouts if known).
<i>N/A</i>				

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/15 Aust Inf Bn (Unit)

PART A.— STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels ...	1	—	—
Majors ...	1	—	2
Captains ...	5	—	3
Lieutenants ...	7	—	2
2nd Lieutenants ...		—	
Quartermasters ...	1	—	—
District Officers ...			
TOTALS ...	25	—	7

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc.)

PART B.— PARTICULARS OF OFFICERS JOINED OR QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
<i>NIL</i>				

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
<i>LIEUT</i>	<i>R.G. JENKINSON</i>	<i>2/15</i>	<i>15 Sep</i>	<i>Excess 2/15 to 2nd Bn - M.A.S.</i>
<i>✓</i>	<i>D.D. WHALLEY</i>	<i>✓</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>Seconded to 2nd Bn / Bde</i>

PART C.— DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known).
<i>NIL</i>			

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
CO. LT-COL.		A.W.G. OGLE.	3/5	YES.	
2/12 CAPT.	T/MAJ.	A.C. RALSTON.			
O-C Coy ✓		S. TOPHAM.			
Q.M. ✓		H. SKINNER.			
OC Coy ✓		B. D. STRANGE			
ADJT. ✓		R. SUTHERS			
OC Coy ✓		W. W. COBB		NO	attending HETS
OC Coy ✓	T/ADT.	S. P. NEWCOMB		YES	
3/12 Coy ✓		H. R. STUART		✓	
✓		B. WILLIAMS		NO	attending HETS
✓		L. SWELL		✓	attending junior office
T.O. ✓		M. HARLAND		YES	
OC PL ✓		F. M. CHRISTIE			
✓		W. A. FERGUSON.			
✓		R. A. VATES			
I.O. ✓		G. A. GEMMELL-SMITH.			
OC PL ✓		C. J. GUEST			
✓		D. B. WEIR			
✓		D. W. SCOBBS			
✓		L. KAY.			
✓		G. OSBORNE			
✓		C. W. LORAN.			
✓		A. P. BEATTY		NO	det 20 April 2/1 Bde
✓		W. G. HURISON.		YES	
✓		I. D. V. QUIGLEY		✓	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher Acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
CAPT		S. ROSE	RAMC	27 JUN	RMD
Chaplain		F. J. CHAIRMAN	RAMC	9 MAY	Chaplain

3/15 April 2/1 Bde
 (Unit.)
 Sep 41
 (Date of Despatch.)

[Signature]
 (Signature of Commander.)
 20 April 2/1 Bde 9 April 41
 (Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

2/15 Aust Inf Bde

Unit.

Part D. Detail of Surplus or Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009.

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.									REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.						REMARKS.				
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Serjeants.		Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.
Bricklayers																				
Butchers																				
Carpenters and Joiners..																		2	2	
Clerks																				
Cooks																		2	2	
Despatch Riders																				
Drivers I.C. (Tracked) ..																				
" " (Wheeled)																				
Drivers-Mechanics																		6	6	
Drivers-Operators																				
Electricians																				
Equipment Repairers ..																		1	1	
Farriers																				
Fitters																				
Machine Gunners																				
Masons																		1	1	
Motor Mechanics																		1	1	
Pioneers, Infantry (other than tradesmen)																				
Plumbers and Pipefitters ..																				
Range Takers																				
Saddlers and Harness Makers																				
Saddle Tree Makers																				
Sanitary and Water Duties ..																				
Signallers																				
Storemen technical																		2	2	
Tailors																				
Wheelers																				
General duty personnel ..						21	4	6					1					107	108	
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A).						21	4	6					1					122	123	

2/15 Aust Inf Bde Unit.

Date of Despatch

28 Sep 41

[Signature]

Signature of Commander.

LTJ-CON

20 Aust Inf Bde 9 Aust Div Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/15 Aust Inf Bn (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels	<i>1</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>
Majors	<i>1</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>2</i>
Captains	<i>5</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>3</i>
Lieutenants	<i>17</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>2</i>
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters	<i>1</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>
District Officers			
TOTALS	<i>25</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>7</i>

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc.)

PART B.—PARTICULARS OF OFFICERS JOINED OR QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
<i>LIEUT</i>	<i>R.G. JENKINSON</i>	<i>2/15</i>	<i>20 Sep</i>	<i>Discharged H.A.G.M.</i>

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
<i>LIEUT</i>	<i>C.W.J. LOGAN</i>	<i>2/15</i>	<i>23 Sep</i>	<i>Evac. H.A.G.M. (at Jarradice)</i>

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known).
	<i>N.H.</i>		

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
C.O. Lt. Col.		R.W.G. DOYLE	2/15	YES	
OC. Coy CAPT.	T/MAJ	AL. RALSTON			
		S. TOPHAM			
GM. CAPT.		H. SKINNER			
OC. Coy-		B. D. STRAIGER			
ADJT. CAPT		R.H. SUTHERS			
OC. Coy -		W.W. COBB		NO	attending METS
OC. Coy Lieut	T/CAPT	S.P. NEWCOMB		YES	
2/1 Coy -		M.R. STUART		YES	
		B. WILLIAMS		NO	attending METS
		L. SNELL		NO	attending Junior Officers Course
T.O.		M. HARLAND		YES	
OC. Pl.		R.G. JENKINSON			
		E. MCCHRISTIE			
		W.A. FERGUSON			
		R.H. YATES			
I.O.		G.A. GEMMEL-SMITH			
OC. Pl.		C.I. GUEST			
		D.B. WEIR			
		D.W.R. SCODDINS		NO	Det 20 Aust Inf Bde.
		J. KAY		YES	
		G. OSBORNE			
		H.P. BEATTY			
		W.G. MURISON			
		I.V. QUIGLEY			

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher Acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Capt.		S. ROSE	H.A.M.C.	27 Jun	R.M.O.
Chaplain		F.J. CAMROUX	H.A.C.D.	9 May	Chaplain
Maj		J.M. WILKINS	2/17 Aust Inf Bde	22 Sep	pending transfer to Regt Bde

2/15 Aust Inf Bde

(Unit.)

28 Sep 41

(Date of Despatch.)

LT.-COL

(Signature of Commander.)

20 Aust Inf Bde 9 Aust Div.
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

NOV - 81941

WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Unit 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

Month and Year October 41.

(Erase heading not required).

Commanding Officer

[Handwritten signatures]

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
TOBRUCH AREA.	Oct			
	1	0900	Quiet night. Patrols out in protective capacity . N M S.	
		1930	Days shelling A Coy 23 shells, B Coy 6 shells with 1 OR wounded, D Coy 43 shells	
	2	0500	All patrols in - very little to report	see report app A.
		0900	60 shells near B Coy HQ after Staff car had left.	
		1900	Days shelling A Coy 68 shells, B Coy 89 shells. C Coy 20 shells, d Coy 72 shells,	No damage
	3	0500	All patrols in, Lt. Col. Ogle had gone with the patrol Mr Christie took out, to look over the line of approach for Tanks.	See Report app A
		1120	5 HE shells on BHQ area- 1 OR slightly wounded. Otherwise no damage.	
		1900	Days shelling A Coy 75, B Coy Nil, C Coy 6 shells, D Coy 39 shells. No damage	
		2200	G.O.C. Brigadier and relieving G.O.C. visited C & D Coys. Maj. Gen. Marsehead Brig Martin SJJ Murray	
	4	0500	All patrols in	See Report App A
		1830	12 Shells A Coy, 38 Shells B Coy, 5 Shells C Coy, D Coy 56, throughout day. No damage	
		2200	Decided Bn would raid CARMUSA strong point with B Coy and tanks in support	see 00 app B
	5	0500	All patrols in	see Report app A
	1830	4 Shells A Coy, 9 shells B Coy, 9 shells C Coy, throughout day, No damage		
6	0505	All patrols in	see Report App A.	

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WAR DIARY

OR

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118.

Unit 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

Commanding Officer

Month and Year OCTOBER 41

[Handwritten signature]

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
TOBRUCH AREA	6	1110	16 HE shells in BHQ area, 1 dud. No damage.	
		1900	Days shelling A Coy 41, B Coy 12 shells, C Coy nil, D Coy 58 shells. No damage.	
	7	0500	All patrols in	see Report App A
		0900	Lieut Ferguson evacuated to AGH.	see Casualty Return
		1900	Days shelling A Coy 42 shells, B Coy Nil, C Coy 5 shells, D Coy 61 shells, No damage	
	8	2200	C Coy 2/13 Bn relieved B Coy who go to reserve for raid against CARMUSA. Lieuts Harland, Guest and Christie attached for purposes of raid. - also Lieut Stuart <i>RUP</i>	
		0500	All patrols in	see Report App A.
		1200	50 enemy planes flew over A Coy area.	
		1900	Days shelling A Coy 27 mixed, B Coy 3 shells, C Coy nil, D Coy 26 mixed HE and shrap No damage.	
	9	0200	Patrol under Lieut Christie returned from measuring distance to minefield, reported two men missing	See Report App A
		0230	Two men reported in - having lost their way.	
		1900	Days shelling BHQ 4 shells, A Coy 46, B Coy 18, C Coy 12, D Coy 73.	
		2040	70 81 mm Mortars and 12 HE on A Coy. Tank movement heard in front. 200 81mm Mortars on B Coy area. No damage.	
		2200	Mixed Mortar and Shell fire on whole front. Considerable activity on left front.	
		2205	Salvo of mortar xxx on A Coy HQ as if searching ground.	
	11	0510	All patrols in	See report App A.

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WAR DIARY

Army Form C. 2118.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Unit 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

Commanding Officer *[Signature]*

Month and Year OCTOBER 41

(Erase heading not required).

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
TOBRUCH	11	0815	10 Shells in BHQ area- No damage. Considerable shelling on left.	
AREA.		1900	Days shelling- A Coy 38, B Coy 170, C Coy 1, D Coy 57. One direct hit on R21 No damage or casualties.	
	12	0505	All patrols in	See Report App A.
		1600	Advance party of 2 nd Bn Black Watch arrived.	
		1700	B.M. from 2 ⁰ Aust Inf Bde advises HQ ME instruct cancel proposed raid.	
		1900	Lieuts Yates & Osborne evacuated to schools at base	
			Day's shelling. BHQ 9, A Coy 29, B Coy 5, D Coy 60; C Coy 83	
	13	0500	All patrols in	see Report App A
		0900	Lieut Scoggins evacuated to AGH	see Caus. Return App B
		1900	Day's shelling. BHQ 3, A Coy 40, B Coy 5, D Coy 21.	
		2035	C Coy 2/13 Bn relieved by B Coy without incident. Lieuts Harland, Guest and Christie return to respective platoons	
	14	0500	All patrols in	see Report App A
		1900	Day's shelling. A Coy 28, B Coy 25shells and 9 Mortars, C Coy Nil, D Coy 49.	
	15	0500	All patrols in	see Report App A
		0900	Lieut Stuart evacuated to AGH.	see Caus Return App B
		1000	9 HE and shrapnel over BHQ, no damage	

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WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C. 2118.

Unit 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

Commanding Officer *R. W. G.*

Month and Year October 41.

(Erase heading not required).

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
TOBRUCH	15	1900	Days shelling A Coy 23, B Coy 17, C Coy 33, D Coy 95.	
AREA	16	0500	All patrols in	see Report App A
		1000	Bgdr, Comd of 23 Bde ^(Brig Cox) visited CO and with him C & D Coys. 3/HE on BHQ. No damage.	
		1130	C Coy reported truck ran on minefield at 1945 hrs previous night. Pte Chafe badly shocked.	
		1900	Day's shelling A Coy 53, B Coy 1, D Coy 47. No damage.	
	17	0500	All patrols in	See Report app A.
		1700	Lieuts Harland and Weir, advance party leave for base. <i>by H.M.S. HAVOC</i>	
		1900	Day's shelling. A Coy 29, C Coy 45, D Coy 46. No damage	
	18	0550	All patrols in with NMS. 3 Booby traps in B Coy area exploded. No damage.	
		0910	4 Shells BHQ area. No damage.	
		1900	Day's shelling. A Coy 30, B Coy 6, D Coy 59. No damage.	
	19	0900	Warning order to move received.	See O O No 15 App B.
		1900	Day's shelling. A Coy 151, B Coy 4, D Coy 119. Shells.	
		2100	Advance party of 4 Border Regt arrived. 2/15 Bn advance party moved back.	
	20	0500	All patrols in	See Report App A
		1900	Day's shelling. A Coy 24 shells, D Coy 79 shells, B Coy 2 shells. No damage.	

WAR DIARY

UNIT 2/15 Aust Inf Bn.

Month and year .OCTOBER 41.....

Commanding Officer.....

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of events and information	References to Appendices	
TOBRUCH AREA	21	0500	All patrols in.	See Report App A.	
		1100	18 Shells on BHQ area. No damage.		
		1900	Day's shelling A Coy 8 shells, B Coy 17 shells, C Coy 32 shells, D Coy 116 shells. No damage.		
	22	0500	All patrols in. NMS.		See Report App A.
		1900	Day's shelling. BHQ 7 shells, B Coy 7 Shells, C Coy 25 shells, D Coy 44 Shells. No damage.		
		1930	Relief of Bn by 2 Border Regt commenced.		
	23	0300	Relief of Bn by 2 Border Regt completed. Bn in reserve position at Fort Pilastrino area.		
		0900	Bn settle in area and commence to hand over to 2 Bn Black Watch.		
	24	2100	First movement of Bn out of TOBRUCH commences - A, B & HQ coys & BHQ, less rear parties move to wharf.		
	25	0030	Embarkation completed without incident. A Coy, Bn HQ, HQ Coys on H.M.S. "GRIFFIN", B Coy on H.M.S. "ABDIAL".		
<u>ALEXANDRIA</u>	25	1630	Convoy arrives at Alexandria and embusses for EL AMRIYA, arriving without incident		
	26		Bn spent day resting and cleaning up. Remainder of Bn unable to be evacuated from TOBRUCH.		
	27	0400	Bn proceeds to entrain for HILL 69 Robertson Lines PALESTINE. Movement delayed by Railways until 1000 hrs.		

WAR DIARY

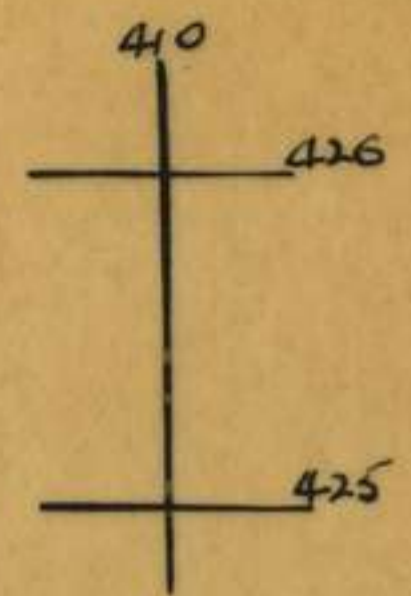
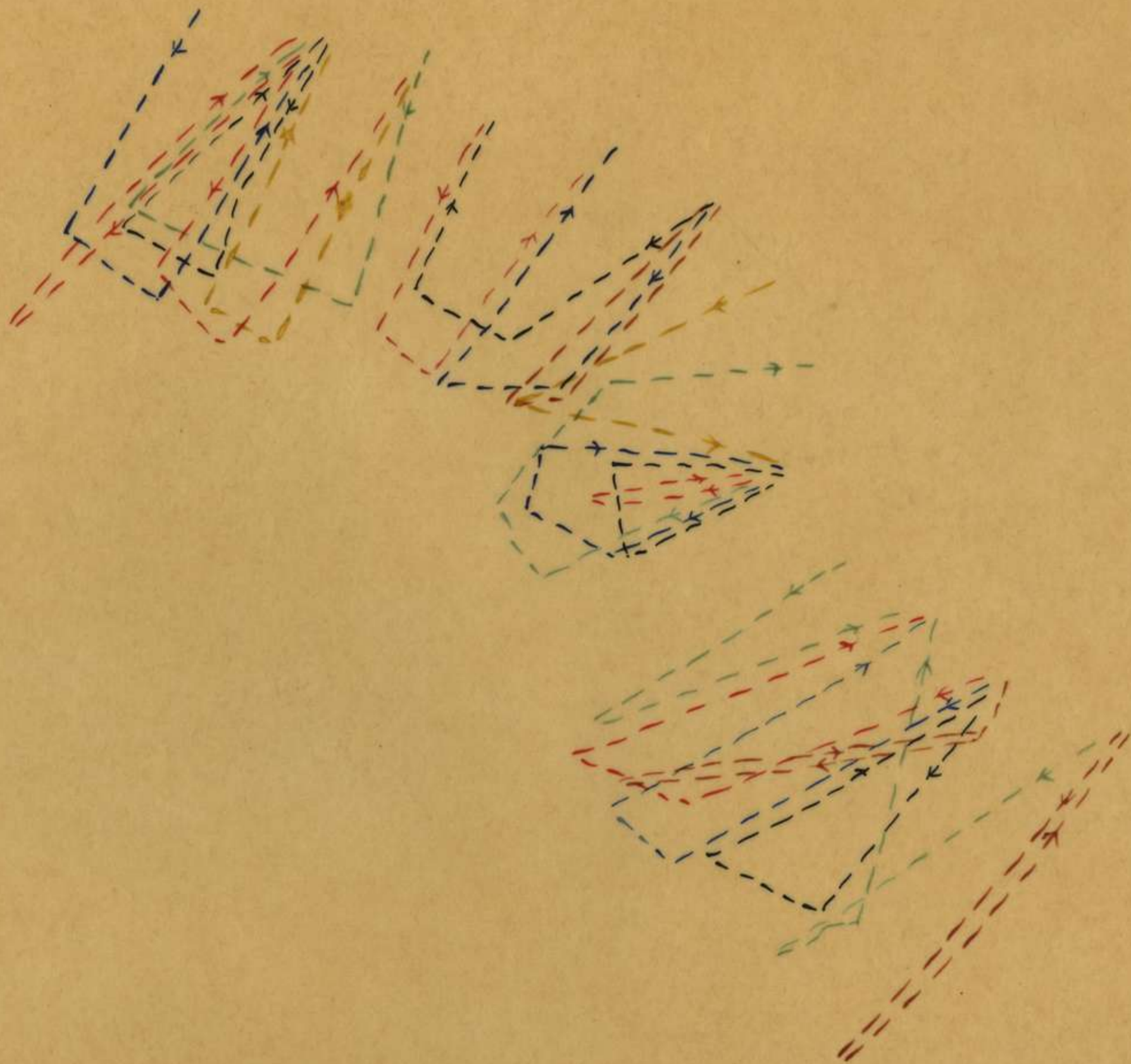
UNIT. 2/15. Aust. Inf. Bn

Month and year October 41.....

Commanding Officer..... *L. W. G.*

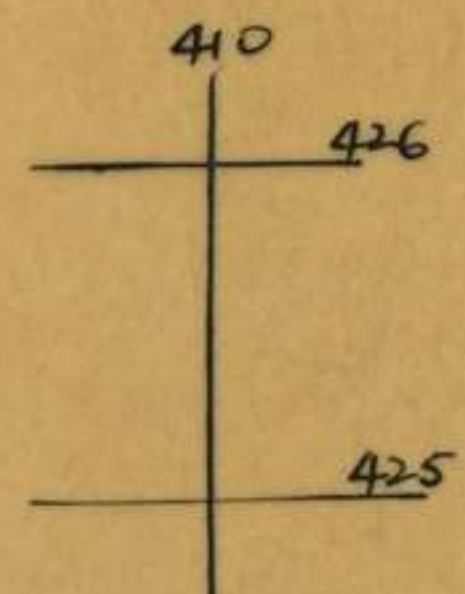
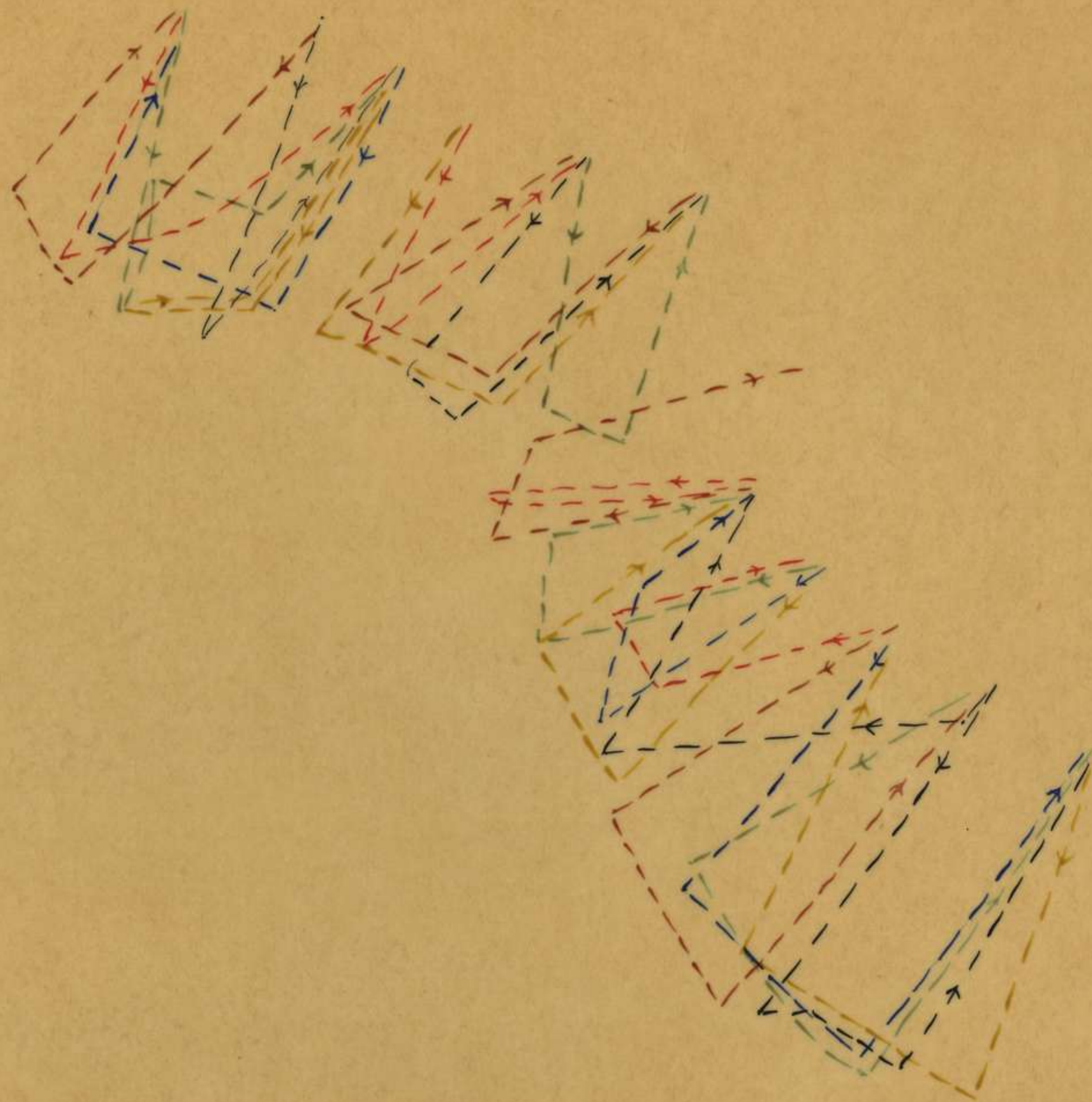
Place	Date	Hour	Summary of events and information	References to appendix
<u>EL KANTARA</u>	27	1700 2300	Bn arrives at EL KANTARA for evening meal Bn entrains again for PALESTINE	
<u>BEIT JERJA</u>	28	0700 1300	Bn arrives at BEIT JERJA for breakfast Bn embusses for HILL 69, arriving at 1400 hrs.	
<u>HILL 69 ROBERTSON LINES</u>	29 30	0900	Day spent settling down and necessary duties about camp area. Owing to the remainder of Bn being held up in TOBRUCH, following Posting of Officers made:- Adj. Lieut HARLAND, I O Lieut GEMMELL-SMITH, Messing Officer, Lieut WEIR, HQ Coy OC Lieut MURISON, No 1 Pl Lieut Helm, No 2 Pl Lieut LOGAN, No 4 Pl Lieut KEYS, No 5 Pl Lieut QUIGLEY, QM WO PULSFORD, A Coy OC Maj RALSTON, 2 i/c Capt COBB, 7 Pl Lieut BEATTY, 8 Pl Lieut Cunningham, 9 Pl Lieut YATES, B Coy OC Capt STRANGE, 2 i/c Capt BODE, Pl Comds Lieut SNELL, Lieut BROWN, Lieut JENKINSON. Details of D & C Coys come under Comd of A & B Coys respectively.	

L. W. G.



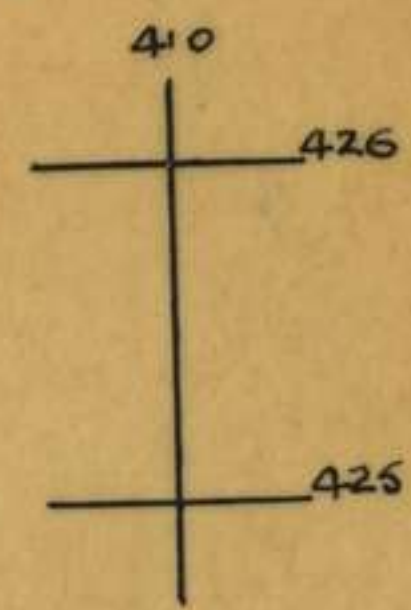
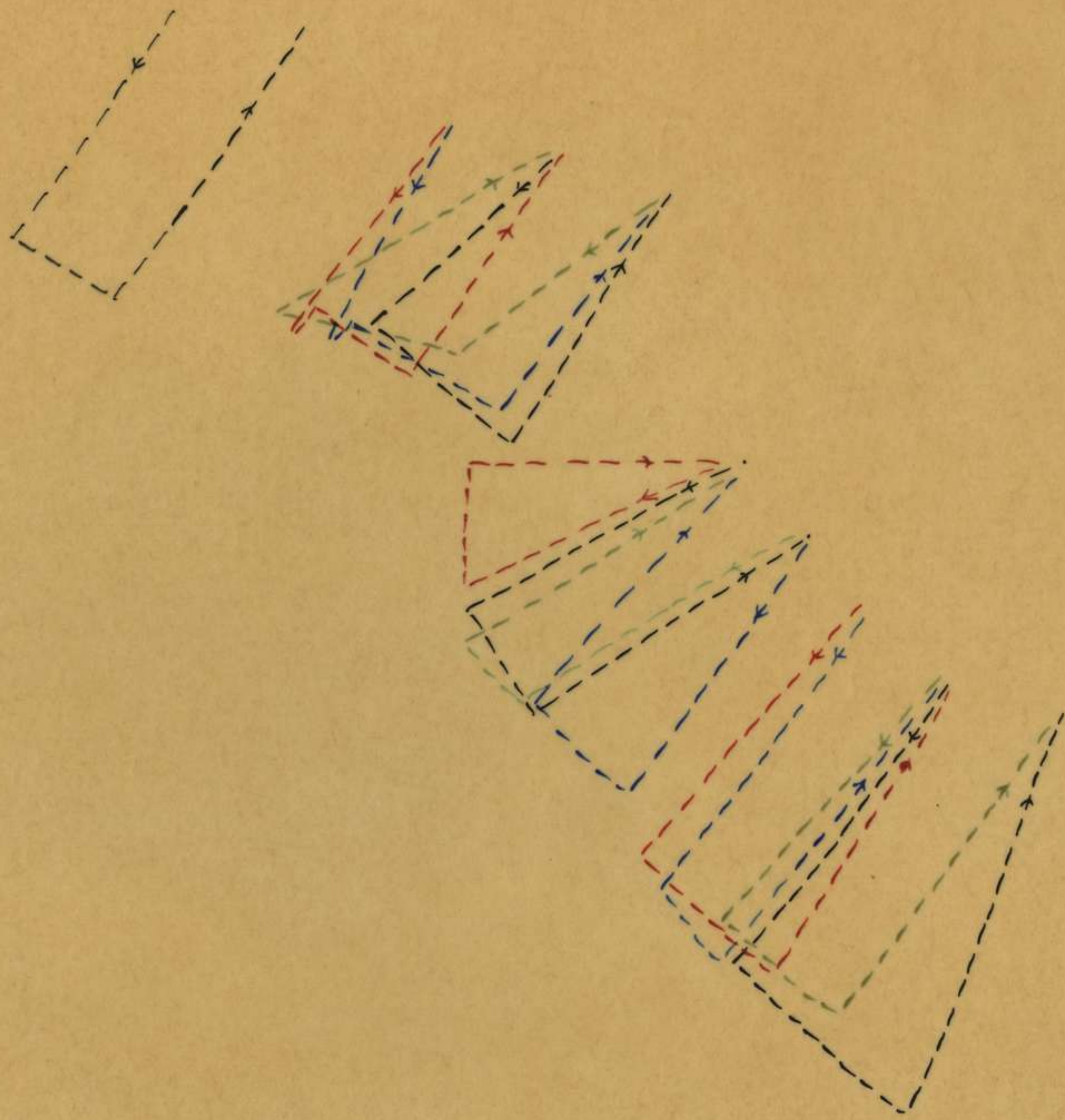
PATROLS

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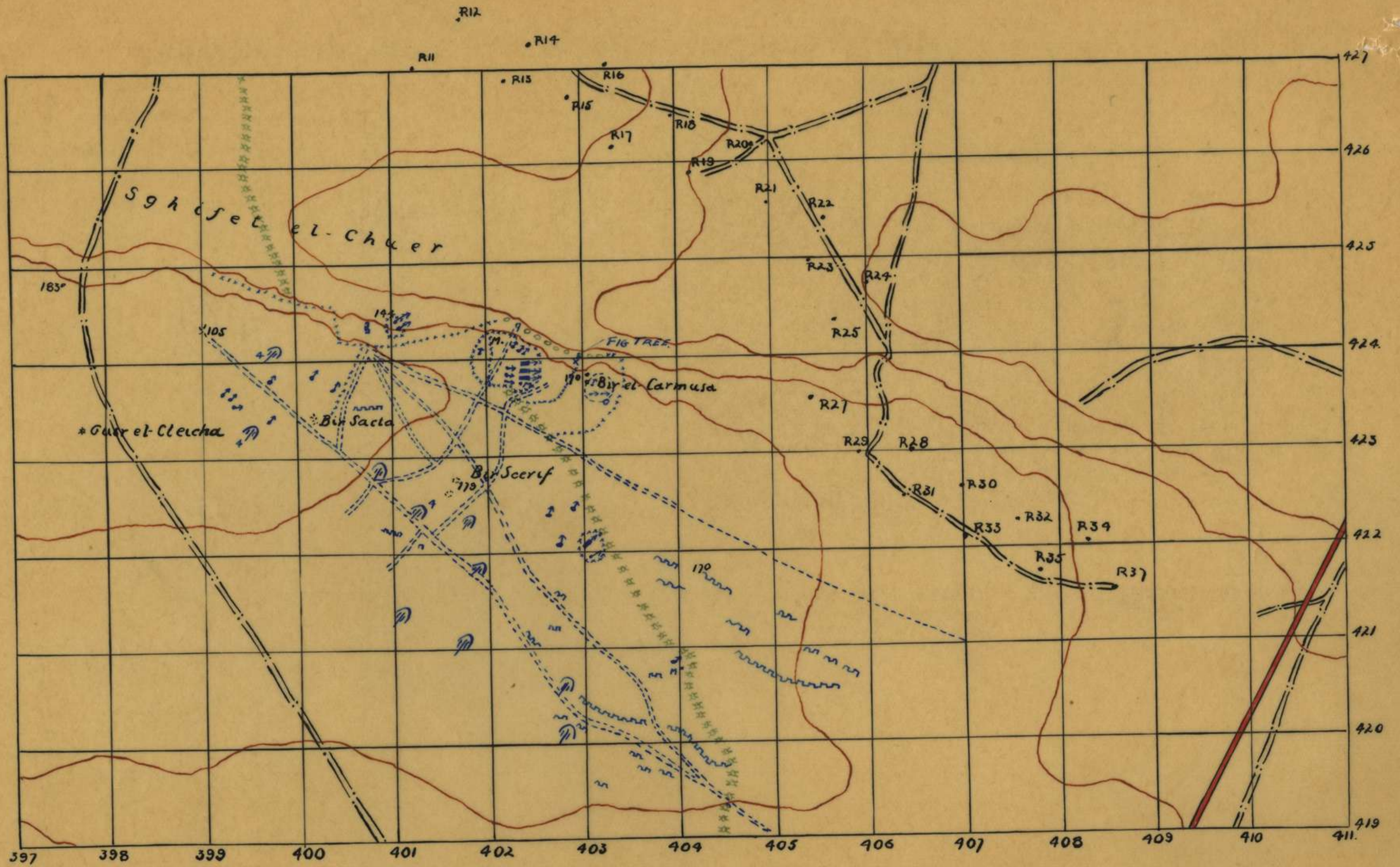
PATROLS

9 OCT 41	— — —
10 " "	— — —
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14 " "	— — —
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16 " "	— — —



PATROLS

17 OCT 41	—	→	—
18 " "	—	→	—
19 " "	—	→	—
20 " "	—	→	—



2/15 AUSE INF BR; PATROL REPORT FOR 424 IBS ended 0600 hrs 2 Oct 41

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	A Coy	2030	0750	1 off & 6 men	From R15 to 40204249 to 40104249 to R 15	40204251 is crest of rise before entering wadi. patrol was fired on by rifle and LMG from approx 300 yds. IALAN voices heard. At 40104249 digging parties heard, one on top of escarpment and one half way down, drilling, digging, voices and laughter heard. One voice sounded like GERMAN, others IALAN.
2	A Coy	0700	400	1 off & 6 men	From R15 to 40104255 to 40004259 to R15	At 40204256 forced to ground by fire from WEST. Fired on again at 40104257. Digging and talking easily heard on left. At 40104256 listened for half an hour. All work had ceased and it was decided to go no further. Fired on again at 40104255 from an automatic from the flat country to the WEST. Traverse then completed without incident. Enemy used many flares particularly about "moonset".
3						Other protective patrols- H.H.S.

[Handwritten signature]

2/15 AUST INF BN PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 3 Oct 41.

ser No	Unit	Time out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	A Coy	2045	0145	1 Sjt 4 ORs	Out R13, 40144254 to 40064234 to R 15	<u>Sjt ISON Leader</u> On the way out drilling was heard, using a hand set. Working parties could be seen on the escarpment. Patrol leader recce further to 40124250 but NO pits or MG posts seen. MG flashes seen on bearing 205° and 225°. At 40064254 MG fired from 223°. ground was recce round this point but N M S. returned to R13.
2	B Coy	2200	0400	1 offr 1 sgt 5 ORs (with Lieut Clancy of Border Regt)	Out R21 to 40334245 to 40274248 to R17	<u>Sjt Donely Leader.</u> From first point carrying parties could be seen at CARMUSA. From second point parties of men seen working and heard talking well below the crest (No bearing given).
3	C Coy	2200	0400	2 offrs 5 ORs (with Lieut Collinson of Border Regt)	Out R27 to 40414230 to 40414236 to R27	<u>Capt Tophan Leader.</u> The vicinity of 40414230 has been selected as a dummy post site. Marked by 50 yds tape running E - W. surrounding ground investigated. N M S.
4	D Coy	2030	0235	2 offrs 5 ORs (with Capt Suthers Adjt)	From R33 to 40554204 to 40494208	<u>Lieut Guest Leader.</u> <u>First Leg.</u> Weapon pits located at 300 yds. Recent footprints but no sign of recent occupation. At 1800 yds first line of sangars extending 300 yds EAST to WEST. Sangars in depth up to 2500 yds. Only ONE group showed signs of occupation and this NOT recent. This post had been heavily shelled. N.M. S. <u>SECOND LEG.</u> At 500 yds well constructed posts, one large firing or gun pit with sleeping pits sufficient for seven men. Three such posts investigated which showed NO sign of ever being occupied. NOT recently dug. Two unidentified graves in vicinity. N M S <u>Third Leg.</u> For 500 yds there were lines of sangars in depth about 120 yds apart. NO sign of occupation. N. M. S. <u>NOTE:</u> Many shell carrying cylinders were seen stacked at 40584205. The lid of one was brought in for investigation.

Lilly

2/15 AUST INF BN PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 4 Oct 41

ser No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	A Coy	2150	0145	1 offr 5 ORs	Out R11 to 40024255 thence 40094249. In R13	leader: MAJ PALSTON Small working party again heard at VIRGIN'S BREAST. ITALIAN voices clearly heard. N.M.S. leader: sjt DONELY.
2	B Coy	2200	0400	2 sjts 5 ORs	Out R21 to 40364242 to 40284242, back to R19	At 40364242 the patrol lay up for half an hour. Two men followed by another eight seen stealthily approaching from a bearing of 190°. They came within 200 yds of patrol. patrol leader considers he was seen and was being stalked. Accurate MG fire, one from BARNSA, and one from F16 TREE area, brought on to the patrol. Before moving to second position moved WEST but could see no sign of other patrol. From 40284242 patrol leader went up escarpment to look for minefield and turned back 20 paces from top without seeing any. returned to patrol and later BURSA opened from within 10 paces of where leader had been. returned without incident. Lieut CHRISTIE leader
3	C Coy	2150	0400	1 offr 1 Cpl 3 ORs	Out R27 to 40414230 Returned same route	commenced digging dummy pits. N.M.S.
4	BN	2150	0040	3 offrs 3 ORs	Out R27 to 40414230 to 40364235 to 40364237, returned R27	leader: Lieut Christie The C O made a close study of ground. N.M.S.
5	D Coy	2100	0200	2 offrs 5 ORs (Incl 3ds pond 23 Inf Bde)	Out R33 to 40454207 to 40414213 to R31	Lieut Osborne Leader FOR Langars investigated on way out, they appeared built up. Tk gun unit with sleeping bag behind. At 40454207 minefield reached. Normal field with furrow 's' mines two rows 'toller' then wire. Digging and drilling heard from here. Digging at WESTERN end of traverse bear traces of recent improvements. otherwise all digging in no way recent.

Calley

2/15 AUST INF BN PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ending 0600 hrs 5 Oct 41

ser No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	A Coy	2200	0130	1 sjt 5 ORs	out R13 to 40094251 then 40144246, back R13	<u>Leader: Sjt Neal</u> At 40154256 patrol was skylined on a crest and fired on by LMG from the patrol's right rear at a range of approx 500 yds. Tracer was used. patrol again came under fire on second leg but could not ascertain position of guns as NO muzzle flash was observed. patrol fired on again when at 40214256, probably by gas gun as first opened up. Returned to R13. N.M.S.
2	B Coy	2200	0515	1 offr 5 ORs	out R17 to 40254247 to 40294243 AND RETURNED to R19	<u>Leader: Lieut Ferguson.</u> Rifle shot fired from 40214245 also light seen for about a second. when at 40254247 PATROL fired on from direction of CAMUSA and pt 171. Throughout this leg there was much firing from right flank. On second leg much rifle fire from bottom of escarpment between 171 and 174. Bird calls heard on many occasions. Two men seen moving round 174, and at 40294243 the patrol engaged by LMG and rifle fire. patrol then returned without incident.
3	C Coy	2100	0200	2 offrs 5 ORs (incl Lieut Wilson of Att. Regt)	out R33 to 40464213 to 40394217 back in R31	<u>Leader: Capt Newcomb</u> patrol confirmed sangars as shown by aerial photographs, except on return journey when NO sangars were seen. N.M.S/H.
4	C Coy	2030	0400	1 offr 5 ORs	out R27 to dummy diggings at 40404234	<u>Leader: Lieut Ray</u> patrol lay up near this position, but no enemy movement seen or heard during the night.

Wells

B/15 AUST INF BN PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0800 hrs 6 Oct 41

Seq No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	A Coy	2130	0045	2 offrs 4 ORs (1 of att officers)	Out R 15 to 40234242 to 40064255, return to R13.	<u>Leader: Lieut Stuart</u> From 40234242 movement of sentries and men at pt 17L could be plainly seen. otherwise nothing to report.
2	B Coy	2100	0010	1 offr 1 Sjt 4 ORs	Out R28 to 40404218, returned to R51	<u>Leader: Capt strange.</u> Bangars and anti-tank gun pits found at 40494224 and 40454221, when at 40404218 patrol was within 100 to 150 yds of enemy wire and was pinned down by intense fire for an hour. The following was observed:- Mortar on 136° approx 500 yds A.Jk gun on 185° " 400 " (using IM) MGs on 189° " 700 " " " 280° " 300 " " " 298° " 300 " LMGs approx 136° " 500 " " " 255° " 400 " Enemy wire appeared to be D A with pickets 10-15 ft apart. NO minefield was encountered. The patrol withdrew without casualties, using the clouds, but was forced to ground three times. <u>Note:</u> It would appear that either enemy has moved forward of his minefield or the aerial photographs are out by about 500 yds at this point. B Coy patrol bears the latter out somewhat.
3	C Coy	2200	0140	1 Sjt 5 ORs	Out R27 to 40374229 to 40344234 TO 40414242 returned to R25	<u>Leader: Sjt Anderson</u> Patrol fired on when at 40394230 from a MG on the left. NO flash seen. Fired on again at 40344234 from left front and talking could be heard. H H S.
4	D Coy	2100	0015	1 Sjt 5 ORs	Out R25 to 40584201, back to 40584204 to 40584204, returned to R51	<u>Leader: Sjt vaughan.</u> Series of weapon pits seen on way out. minefield reached after 3350 yds on 240° from R55, that is at 40584201, which is 900 yds away from minefield shown by aerial photograph. patrol was fired on from 150 yds and withdrew. returned without incident.

Lu

2/13 Aust Inf Bn PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ending 0600 hrs 7 Oct 41

Patrol No	Unit	Time In	Time Out	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	A Coy	2145	0145	1 Cpl 5 ORs	Out R15 to 40174246 thence to 40124249 and return R15	<p><u>Leader: Cpl Curt</u> From 40174246 the patrol observed a cluster of men near P1171 and LMG flash on 209°. Three rows of 'Teller' mines seen at 40174246 with a trip wire behind the third. One mine was found to have the booby trap attachment on the side. Nearby the mine, by some bushes, were found 3 push type 's' mines. Further inspection interrupted by a patrol of 5 men going NORTH from 171. By the time the patrol had withdrawn from minefield to a suitable position, the five men had gone and it is thought they were a relief for a forward outpost on the minefield. patrol was completed without incident.</p>
2	C Coy	2030	0010	1 offr 5 ORs	Out R23 to 40354241 and in R27	<p><u>Leader: Lieut Christie</u> At 40354241 patrol heard digging and a large enemy working party was seen 3/400 yds ahead, 227 were counted and were working in groups spaced from 235° to 270°. The workers did not move around as if laying mines, but remained stationary. Unfinished work had NOT proceeded far. On trying to move round to the left to observe the working party on top of the escarpment, patrol fired on by enemy. patrol returned to R27 without incident.</p>

Other patrols NOTHING TO REPORT.
 B COY failed to locate minefield.

Curt

2/15 AUST INF BN PATROL REPORT for 24 hours ended 0600 hrs 8 Oct 41

Patrol No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	A Coy	1915	0130	1 WO1i 5 ORs	Out R11 to 40004253 to 40064248, return to R13	<p><u>Leader:</u> WO1i Robinson Patrol leader and one OR went forward to 39994252. voices heard, thought to be ITALIAN, at approx 40014247. NO digging or working heard. From 40064248 leader and one OR again went fwd to approx 40054247 and found a gate in enemy minefield, with two parallel trip wires NORTH-SOUTH. The gate was about 25 ft across. The minefield consisted of three rows of 'TELLER' 12-15 ft between rows and the mines 12-15 ft apart. Further investigations interrupted by 3 MGs and 3 81 mm Mortars, from approx 215° at 400 yds. patrol returned without further incident.</p>
2	B Coy 2/13 Bn	1900	0100	1 Offr 1 Cpl 4 ORs	Out R19 to 40294246 thence to 40244249 and return R17	<p><u>Leader:</u> Lieut P.B. Martin When at 40304248 one shot fired from 219°. N M S in strong posts on escarpment. second and third legs of patrol NMS/H.</p>
3	C Coy 2/15 Bn	1845	2220	1 Offr 5 ORs	Out R25 to 40394239 Returned same route	<p><u>Leader:</u> Lieut Kay Took up posn on fwd slope at 40394239. Fired 8 Bren mags into working party of 20-25 men approx 400 yds away. Enemy dropped tools, some ran and others went to ground. Bredas returned fire at 700 yds on 240° and 500 yds at 260°. Patrol withdrew over skyline and observed for ½ hr. N.M. S.</p>
4	B Coy	2015	0115	2 Sjts 4 ORs	Out R35 to 40444214 thence to 40384220 to R37	<p><u>Leader:</u> Sjt Donely Weapon pits seen at 40584218. At 40454215 patrol went to ground. One post seen to front with 8-10 men and another post further back and to left with 4 men. Enemy moved into pits and disappeared. patrol moved to 40444214. From there 236° to left hand rear posn approx 500 yds and 244° to front post approx 450 yds. NO wire seen and at this point NO minefield encountered. At 40404218 minefield reached, running on bearing of 150°. From furrow to row of 's' mines, one pace from 's' mines to 1st row 'Teller' 18 paces, second row 'Teller' 2 paces, then 2 paces to furrow and one pace to barbed trip wire, 5 Paces between mines. several 'Teller' mines investigated and found to be set as A Tk mines only. Enemy movement noticed and patrol observed for 20 mins. party of 3 approached within 350 yds on 271° and it is thought that they observed our patrol. At 40384220 wire was noticed and a listening post</p>

Address
Date

5 1845 0330 1 Offr Out R33 to 40514201 thence
5 ORs 40554273 thence to 41544190
return to R35

ReportB Coy continued.

seenfwd of enemy wire. One man came fwd and occupied listening post about 300 yds away. Then 3 MHGs and 2 LMG opened, followed by 2 A Tk guns and a mortar. Also cross fire from posts originally observed on first leg (two MG and 2 A Tk guns). Fire continued and patrol withdrew 150 yds. patrol returned to R27 and were forced to ground on number of occasions.

Leader: Lieut Weir.

At 2000 yds from R33 on a bearing of 223° a line of weapon pits 200 yds long, running on 125° - 305° was found, after a further 200 yds a derelict truck was passed and at 2400 yds on this bearing an ITALIAN speaking working party was heard at approx 40464213. At 40514201, 3000 yds out the enemy minefield was met and found to consist of 1 row anti-personnel mines 6 ft apart and 3 rows A Tk mines with trip wires in the rear 6" from the ground on iron pegs, the total width of the field being 10 yds. From the point of first contact, the field turned from 150° to 170° and continued on 170° for 900 yds, when it again swung to 140°. From 40514201 patrol moved on 130° and after going 100 yds when it crossed an area 15 ft wide with 2" split-lock markings. At this pt patrol was fired on from MGs from approx 40474199 and 40464204, and withdrew to 40554203, where it was again subjected to fire from mortar and A Tk guns from extreme range. Then proceeded on 150° for approx 600 yds and then to 40544190 again meeting the minefield. Returned to R35 without further incident.

Address
Date

2/15 AUST INF BN PATROL REPORT FOR 24HRS ended 0600 hrs 9 Oct 41

SER No	UNIT	TIME OUT	TIME IN	STRENGTH	ROUTE & AREA PATROLLED	REPORT
1	A Coy	1920	0015	1 WOii 5 ORs	Out R13 to 39994247 returned to R13	<p>Leader: WO ii WALSH</p> <p>Patrol continued on bearing 223° until 'Teller' mines were reached at approx 40014248. patrol leader and one OR investigated for about 200 yds past the minefield and part way up escarpment old sangars which appeared disused and fresh tank tracks. Return to 'Teller' mines and found the row 'S' type to the NORTH. Mines were 10 ft apart. Twelve lifted and brought in also a no of primary charges from Teller mines. The Teller mines appear to have been freshly set as booby traps.</p>
2	C Coy 2/13 Bn	1845	0300	1 Offr 5 ORs	Out R21 to 40344241 to 40394241 to 40344241	<p>Leader: Lieut Walker</p> <p>Patrol took up fire posn at 40344241 and observed. Twice during the night patrol moved 500 yds EAST to try to observe movement. Each time returned NMS. Came under enemy fire at one stage but could NOT see flash of gun. gun sounded like Bren.</p>
3	B Coy	1930	0140	1 Offr 5 ORs	Out R35 to 4068218 thence 260° to 40434214	<p>Leader: Lieut Christie</p> <p>Patrol fixed the S P at 40684218, then moved out on 260° measuring the distance with tape as it went. At 530 yds out a well worn road was crossed showing signs of recent use. Numerous gun pits were crossed on the way, none recently used. 1710 yds out- at 40434214 the enemy could be seen and heard digging in the minefield on both flanks and in front of patrol. patrol leader went fwd 60 yds to see if the taping could be continued. As there were men all along the field it was decided to withdraw. At this stage the patrol halted, the bulge in the field was on the left flank on a bearing of 160° and approx 150- 200 yds away. The ordinary line of the field in front was approx 300- 400 yds and appeared to run on to the right in a straight line. While halted a truck was heard to drive to the working party which appeared to be ITALIAN. patrol came back on 80°, dead on to the S P.</p>

2/15 Aust Inf Bn

PATROL REPORT

Page 2

4 D Coy 1845

0130

1 WOii

5 ORs

Out R35 to 40584194
return to R35

Leader: WO ii Leigh Cooper

At 40724210 fresh tank tracks seen and it is estimated they were made in the last 24 hrs. At 40684205 more fresh tracks seen running in direction of 150°. A further 100 yds another fresh track ran off at 200° and this tank was subsequently found laying up in minefield. A belt with GERMAN pistol, bayonet and small map board found at 40684203 also stick grenade. The latter was NOT touched, they had NOT been in the open long. At 40644202 a single man Op seen showing signs of recent occupation. Nearby was a telephone cable running at 147°, wire was black and new and had been laid from a car. At 40584194 saw motor cycle track, heard man running and give a guttural command. On 127° one med tank, one AFV with a truck. Also heard a steel door closed approx 230° at 400 yds. After moving 100 yds on way back patrol was fired on by AFV and fire continued for 500 yds.

NOTE: Later reports point that these tank tracks are not so recent.

2/15 Aust Inf Bn PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 10 Oct 41.

Ser No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Route
1	A Coy	1905	2305	1 Offr 6 ORs (incl 1 OR Polish Bn)	Out R13 to 40134246 thence to R15	<u>Leader: Lieut Scoggins</u> At 40134247 MG flashes seen to right front well up on escarpment. At 40134246 the track along the minefield could be seen plainly 20 yds ahead. The patrol was fired on by at least 12 Bredas and one 20mm A Tk gun. The fire seemed to come from three strong posts, one around pt 171, one around pt 166, and one between the two and lower down the escarpment. 20 mm A Tk guns have been located at pts 171 and 166, 81 mm Mortars at pt 171, 45 mm Mortar vicinity pt 166. patrol withdrew without casualty.
2	C Coy 2/13 Bn	1845	2330	1 Offr 1 Cpl 7 ORs	Out R19 to 40294243 thence 40314240 and return R21	<u>Leader: Lieut S R Leach</u> First leg N E S/H. After going 400 yds the patrol was in the re-entrant leading to FIG TREE and only 50 yds from top of escarpment. Four large sangars 5/4 ft high were seen. patrol was fired on during the return journey., firstly by a Bren then by small arms D F fire, Zollothurn from 40254243, LMGs, Broda and Mortar from square 402424. Fire lasted about 10 mins. Estimated strength in vicinity- 10 LMGs with a number of Zollothurns and 81 MM Mortars.
3	D Coy	1845	0145	1 Offr 8 ORs	From R33 to 40534198 to 40554196 thence 40574198 to 406444194 and return R 35	<u>Leader: Lieut Osborne.</u> At 40534198 a MG firing on sound, opened on patrol. The gun appeared close. patrol withdrew and moved EAST and again penetrated on original bearing. At 40554195 patrol came under heavy fire which extended well along the front on both sides. MGs and A Tk guns seemed regularly spaced along the line which was approx 250 yds ahead. patrol withdrew 350 yds and continued on 115° to 40604196. Heard talking and saw 2 men moving quickly disappeared in a SOUTHERLY direction. patrol concluded without further incident.
4	B Coy	1845	2345	1 Offr 5 ORs	From R33 to s p 40684218 then on 270° to 40424217	<u>Leader: Lieut Harland</u> At approx 40544217 on the bearing 270° enemy opened fire along whole of immediate front (time 2045 hrs), and patrol went to ground. At 4042417 leader made receive of area, visibility being extremely good, and sounds being audible up to 2000 yds. patrol returned in through H27 without incident.

2/15 Aust Inf Bn PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 11 Oct 41

SER NO	UNIT	TIME OUT	TIME IN	STRENGTH	ROUTE AND AREA PATROLLED	REPORT
1	A COY	1945	0100	1 Cpl 5 ORs	Out R11 on 220° to 4004253 then 40194259 in R15	<u>LEADER: Cpl Cross</u> Heavy fire was opened up on WEST of patrol when at 40024264., from Mortars, MGs and A Tk guns. patrol leader estimated several guns at 39974246, 1 MG and 1 A Tk gun a further 400 yds EAST along the escarpment, and a further MG at 40044244. From this point EAST along the escarpment, 6 45mm Mortars, 2 A Tk guns and 1 81 mm Mortar. patrol continued remaining legs without incident.
2	C COY 2/13	2015	0100	1 sjt 8 ORs	Out R17 on 205° to 40254245 back in R19	<u>Leader: sjt Brennan</u> When at 40254246 on first bearing enemy D F opened up and patrol went to ground and observed 15 MGs firing in line from foot of escarpment. On bearing 200° from this point, located at least 4 81 mm Mortars and numerous 45mm Mortars, visibility being extremely good patrol returned to R19 without incident.
3	C Coy	2030	0100	1 sjt 8 ORs	Out R27 on 270° to 40344235 then to 40394228 back in R27	<u>Leader: sjt Starmer.</u> At 40394255 on first bearing patrol was pinned to ground for 55 mins by enemy D F. After this stopped patrol moved on to 40344235 from which point 2 men were seen to move from a posn 250 yds SW of patrol. MG posts were observed on left and right of patrol and appeared at approx the same distance. Visibility was very clear but patrol could not distinguish whether the enemy posns were protected by mines or wire. patrol withdrew for 200 yds then proceeded to 40394228 and back to R27 without further incident.
4	B Coy	2030	0010	1 offr 9 ORs	Out R31 on 268° to 40464221 then on 320° to 40424226 back to R27	<u>Leader: Lieut Guest.</u> When 550 yds out on first bearing patrol was pinned to ground by enemy D F, but proceeded to 40464221 where they ceased. When at 40424226 a battery of guns opened up from a bearing of 265°. patrol returned to R27 with out further incident.
5	D Coy					protective only. N M S.

NOTE: From the general D F put along the whole front it is possible that the enemy has adopted this as a method of preventing patrols reaching his minefield before moonrise.

2/15 AUST INF BN PATROL REPORT FOR 24 HRS ENDED 0600 hrs 12 Oct 41.

Ser No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
						PROTECTIVE ONLY all coys. Nothing to report.

2/15 AUST INF BN PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 13 Oct 41

SER NO	UNIT	TIME OUT	TIME IN	STRENGTH	ROUTE AND AREA PATROLLED	REPORT
						protective patrols set only and nothing to report.

2/15 Aust Inf Bn PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 14 Oct 41

Ser No	Unit	Time Out	Time in	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	A Coy	1930	0015	1 Offr 7 ORs	From R15 to 40194249 then on 290° to 40054254 back to R11 on 24°	<u>Leader: Lieut Beatty</u> Barking of dogs heard from enemy positions minefields and occasional mortar fire in front of field, probably D F. Otherwise N M S/H. Protective only N M S.
2	B Coy					
3	C Coy	1830	0130	1 Offr 10 ORs	From R29 on 238° to 40424219 then on 30° to 40454229 returned through R27	<u>Leader: Capt Topham</u> Flares and intermittent fixed line MG fire from approx 40414213 and 40454212, but otherwise N M S/H
4	D Coy	1830	0130	1 Offr 3 Tk Hunters 7 ORs	From R31 on 220° to 40484207 then on 137° to 40604194, back to R35 on 40°	<u>Leader: Lieut Weir</u> N M S/H.

2/15 Aust inf Bn PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 15 Oct 41

Ser No	UNIT	TIME OUT	TIME IN	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	A COY	1830	0130	1 Offr 10 ORs	From R13 on 225° to 40044251 to 40004258, back to R11 on 45°	N M S/H
2	B Coy	1830	0130	1 NCO 10 ORs	From R21 on 230° to 40544243 then on 295° to 40244248, back to R19 on 60°	N M S/H
3	D Coy	1830	0130	1 Sjt 3 Tank Hunters 7 ORs	From R31 on 240° to 40424213 then on 160° to 40504199 back to R33 on 40°	Leader: Sjt Storey At 40454216 on first leg shouting and sounds of MT changing gears, heard to WEST of patrol from approx area 40364213. Patrol proceeded to 40434214 and then turned on 150°. After going 100 yds to 40434211 came upon a minefield and followed it for 200 yds when it took a sharp turn NE. 150 yds from the turn turn are two graves. Field runs NE for approx 300 yds a then turns SOUTH sharply. Patrol continued on to 40504199 again meeting the field running NE for 150 yds before turning SOUTH. Field marked by furrows approx 3 Ft apart. Patrol returned to R33 without incident
4	C Coy	1830	0115	1 NCO 10 ORs	From R27 on 260° to 40344231 then on 15° to 40364239 back to R25 on 77°	When at 40344231 patrol fired on from 3 MGS from approx 40284227, 40354232 and 40294235. Flares were also sent up from these posns. patrol returned on 18° for 800 yds then returned to R25 without incident

2/55 Aust Inf Bn PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 16 Oct 41

Ser No	Unit	Time Out	Time in	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	A COY	2000	0040	1 NCO 10 ORs	Our R11 on 193° to 40084249 back to 40104258 thence to 40184256 in R15	<u>Leader: Cpl Curr</u> At 40084249 one man found to be missing so patrol retraced steps to 40104258 then went 100° to 40184256 and in to R15. with N M S/H. The missing man subsequently reported at R11 having lost the patrol during a halt.
2	B COY	1830	0130	1 NCO 10 ORs	Out R19 on 192° to 40384241 then on 110° to 40444239 back to R21	<u>Leader: Sjt Desailly</u> MG fire and flares from direction of CARMUSA were seen when patrol was at 40384241, but otherwise nothing to report.
3	C COY	1848	2315	1 NCO 10 ORs	Out R29 on 255° to 40374224 then on 10° to 40384233 back to R27	<u>Leader: Sjt Anderson</u> Patrol backed moved to 40454226 on first leg when flares and spasmodic MG fire were seen coming from approx 40224225. It then went on the same bearing, (255°) to 40374224 when men were heard talking and MT movement heard on bearing of 300°. patrol turned on 10° to 40384233 when more flares and fixed line fire MG, seen coming from direction of CARMUSA. In R27 without further incident.
4	D COY	1830	0040	1 Offr 3 Tk Hunters 7 ORs	Our R35 on 215° to 40604193 then on 320° to 40484208 back in R33.	<u>Leader: Lieut Guest</u> At 40624195 on first bearing of 215° patrol came across a shell dump set with fuses, detonators and gun cotton, ready for blowing. Proceeded to 40604193 then turned on 320°. During this leg patrol was pinned down by MG fire- not directed at patrol but probably on Fixed lines. Proceeded to 40484208 lying up for 15mins at 7 points but N M S. Returned to R33 with incident. N B. The fuses, detonators and gun cotton have subsequently been identified as our own.

2/15 Aust Inf Bn PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 17 Oct 41

Ser No	UNIT	Time Out	Time in	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	A Coy	2130	0100	1 HCO 8 ORs	Route R15 on 215° for 3500 yds, then on 270° for 900 yds, back same route	<u>Leader: Sjt Neale</u> At end of first leg 43174249, patrol lay up for 30 mins and heard enemy apparently calling each other along front to SOUTH. Moved on 270° to 40384249 and again lay up for 30 mins with NMS/H. On returning to first point an A Tk gun fired several rounds and mortar fire was also seen, but not aimed at patrol. Returned to R15 with nothing to report.
2	B Coy	2300	0300	1 HCO 10 ORs	From R17 on 215° for 3000 yds, then on 115° for 1500 yds, back to R21	<u>Leader: Sjt Mead</u> At end of first leg 40214247 patrol lay up for 30 mins and observed enemy A Tk gun, Breda, mortar and MG fire, though not aimed at patrol. These seemed to be coming from strong posts around CARUSA. Moved on bearing of 115° to 40334241 and again lay up for 30 mins. On this leg bird calls were heard to the SOUTH and also saw saw sporadic fixed line firing from 2 MGs. Returned to R21 with out further incident.
3	C Coy	2130	0130	1 offr 8 ORs & 1 HCO att	From R29 on 220° to 40434214 then on 315° to 40384224 back to R27	<u>Leader: Lieut Christie</u> patrol lay up at each of the points for 30 mins, but N H S.
4	D Coy	2130	0230	1 HCO 3 Tank hunters 7 ORs	From R25 on 200° to 40694192 then on 300° to 40524202 back to R21	<u>Leader: Sjt McGill</u> At end of first leg 40694192 patrol lay up for 30 mins and heard two vehicles a good distance in front. Turned on 300° to 40524202 and again lay up for 30 mins with N H S. Returned to R21 without incident.

Christie

2/15 Aust Inf Bn PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs a.m. 18 Oct 41

Ser No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	A COY	2030	0230	1 NCO 10 ORs	OUT R11 on 230° to 40004255 then on 150° to 40064249, back to R13	<u>Leader: Sgt Walsh</u> Patrol lay up and listened at intervals but N M SH
2	B COY	2300	0300	1 NCO 10 ORs	out R19 on 230° to 40264246 then on 130° to 40374237, back to R21	<u>Leader: Sgt Doneley</u> At 40264246 patrol heard a working party at the foot of Pt 171, using only picks and shovels and numbering approx 20 men. Four single rifle shots were fired from the foot of GARRUSA and were answered from the foot of Pt 171 to the left of the working party. The working party finished at 0150hrs and after a short wait the patrol coughed and drew fire from the riflemen and was also a few bursts of MG fire from GARRUSA. returned to R21 without incident.
3	D COY	2230	0300	1 NCO 10 ORs	out R33 on 220° to minefield at 40584188 then on 150° to 40584188, back in R35	<u>Leader: Sgt Storey.</u> Minefield found to consist of 's' type mines about 1 yd in from furrow and running on 187°. Towards the end of the second leg 40584188, coughing and voices could be heard from the direction of the minefield to the SOUTH. patrol returned to R35 without incident.
4	C COY	2300	0300	1 NCO 3 Tk Mnters 8 ORs	out R27 on 245° to 40344226 then on 180° to 40294218, back in R29	<u>Leader: Cpl Wilson</u> N M S/R.

NOTE. As single rifle shots were heard by previous patrols, it would appear that the enemy has adopted this as a further method of signalling.

Wilson

ser No	Time Out	Time In	strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
<u>1 A COY</u>					
<u>2 B COY</u>					
	2300	0500	1 NCO 9 ORs 1 offr attached	Out R17 on 215° to 40214245 back to 40234247 then on 125° to 40504242 in R19	Protective only N M S/H. Leader: sjt shrapnel patrol reached 40214245 without contacting minefield, although mortar fire was encountered and flares went up from the EAST. It then returned to 40234247 and then moved on bearing 125°. At 40284244 a stone wall running on 115° was encountered. patrol was fired on by a great number (about 500) of rifle shots on bearing 265°, also a mortar on long range and same bearing. No working parties or enemy patrols encountered. patrol returned to R18.
<u>3 C COY</u>					
	2300	0300	1 sjt 8 ORs	Out R27 on 245° to 40344226 thence due NORTH to 40344225 thence due EAST to R27	Observations were made for 30 mins at the end of each leg but N M S. There was intermittent MG and mortar fire fire continuous throughout the night. (Leader: sjt starmer)
<u>4 D Coy</u>					
	2300	0330	1 WO11 3 Tk Hunters 7 ORs	Out R31 on 220° to 40474207 thence on 135° to 40564197 and return to R33	Leader: WO11 carter. On first leg patrol fired on by MG and A Tk fire when at 40534213 40534213 and again at 40474207, when very accurate fire thought to bear on patrol. The second and third legs were completed without incident and many unoccupied sangars were investigated and NO recent signs of occupation found.

Lee

2/15 Aust Inf Bn PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 29 Oct 41

Ser No	Unit	Time out	Time in	strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	A COY					protective only. Leader: Sgt Mead.
2	B COY	2300	0500	1 NCO 10 ORs	Out R21 on 235° to 40354245 then on 285° to 40304246 back to R19	At 40354243 patrol lay up for 20 mins with NMS/H, then proceeded on bearing of 285° but after going 300 yds to 40304243 were pinned down by mortar fire/echoing from approx 800 yds SOUTH. When fire ceased patrol moved on to 40254245 where numerous weapon pits and holes were found - NCE recently occupied. patrol proceeded to 40304246 and lay up for 20 mins. N M S/H Returned to R19
3	C COY	2300	0500	1 offr 10 ORs	Out R29 on 240° to 40384218 then on 330° to 40364222 back in R27	Leader: Capt Topham while on first bearing was fired on several times from approx 40364217, apparently from fixed lines. Other fixed line fire also seen from 40364223 and 40324219. patrol reached 40384218 then went on 330° to 40364222 during which time an enemy searchlight lit up at 0115 hrs and remained light for 5 or 6 mins. patrol continued along with route and home with N M S.
4	D COY	2300	0500	1 NCO 7 ORs 3 Tank hunters	From R33 on 220° to 40524201 then on 126° to 40614194 back to R35	Leader: Sgt Baxter During second leg of patrol a searchlight shone along the field at 0115 hrs for approx 5 mins and came on again at 0130 hrs. otherwise N M S/H.

[Handwritten signature]

B10

2/15 Aust Inf Bn PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 21 Oct 41

ser No	Unit	Time Out	Time in	Strength	patrol and area shelled	Report
1	A Coy					Protective only NMS.
2	B Coy	2300	0500	1 NCO 9 ORs	Out R21 on 210° to 40244244x then to 40254246 then on 120° to 40374238 back to R21	<p>Leader: <u>Sjt Gonsley</u></p> <p>When the patrol had gone 1500 yds from R21 (to 40264249) two rifles and two mortars fired from the WEST, and another from CARMUSA fired 4 rds. patrol continued on to 40254246 and then to 40224244 where MB fire was heard on both flanks. patrol then moved on 120° and after 190 yds met trip wires - very taut - of three plain wires. It skirted round this wire to NORTH and WEST and came upon the minefield, consisting of 2 rows of 'teller' but NO 's' type. At this posn minefield ran on bearing of 100° and was investigated for 100 yds both ways. A black fuse wire was found leading to the enemy's posn in the WADI and attached to the corner of the minefield. patrol moved round the minefield which jutted out like a leg to 40254246, and then to 40374238 AND BACK TO R21 without further incident</p> <p><u>Note:</u> Apparently patrol struck the EASTERN end of the minefield running from 40224245 to 40324240 in general direction and proved that it does NOT link up with the field found at 40174245.</p> <p><u>Cpl McLaughlin</u></p> <p>On first leg at 40564214 patrol was pinned down by fixed line fire from two HGS firing from 235° then carried on to the S SOUTE without incident.</p> <p><u>Lieut Kay</u></p> <p>At 40524217 patrol met fixed line line fire but proceeded along route with N M S/H.</p>
3	D Coy	2300	0300	1 NCO 3 Tank Hunters 7 ORs	Out R3L on 217° to 40484204 then on 135° to 40534199, back in R33.	
4	C Coy	2300	0300	1 offr 10 ORs	Out R29 on 215° to 40484211 then on 315° to 40384219 back to R27	

G. S.

8/15 Aust Inf Bn PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 22 Oct 41

Ser No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	A Coy					protective only
2	B Coy	2300	0230	1 Sjt 10 ORs	Out R21 on 222° to 40354259 then on 305° to 40314241, back in R19	<u>Leader: Sjt Shrapnel</u> N H S/H other than enemy D F fire from mortars.
3	C Coy	2300	0230	1 Sjt 1 C ORs	Out R27 on 240° to 40384224 then on 330° to 40314251 back in R27	<u>Leader: Sjt Anderson</u> N H S/H other than enemy D F from MGs.
4	D Coy	2315	0245	1 NCO 7 ORs 3 Tank Hunters 1 Sjt from relieving Unit	Out R35 on 220° to 40574193 then on 315° to 40824195 back in R33	<u>Leader: Cpl Carcoe</u> N H S/H.

Carcoe

2/15 AUST INF BN O O NO; 13

Ref map TOBRUCH 1/50000 with overprint.

INFORMATION

1. Enemy - As per Intelligence Summaries.
2. Own Tps - (a) 2/15 Aust Inf Bn is in right of EL ADEM sector, B Coy occupying posts R17, R18, R19, R20, R21 and intermediate posts.
(b) 2/13 Aust Inf Bn is in Bde Res in BLUE LINE.

INTENTION

- (3) B Coy 2/15 Aust Inf Bn will be relieved on night 6/7 Oct 41 by C Coy 2/13 Aust Inf Bn, and will move to position now occupied by C Coy 2/13 Aust Inf Bn in BLUE LINE.

METHOD

4.(a)

RECCE

- Comd C Coy 2/13 Bn will call at post R20 at 1100 hrs 6 Oct to arrange details of relief.
- (b) Lieut. FERGUSON, B Coy 2/15 Bn will report to Comd C Coy 2/13 Bn in BLUE LINE AT 1400 hrs 6 Oct to recce new Coy area and to take over foreign weapons.
- (5) MOVEMENT
C Coy 2/13 Bn will arrive in area of post R20 not later than 2000 hrs 6 Oct by 3-ton Tp carrying lorries. This Tpt will be used by B Coy 2/15 Bn to move to new position.
6. GUIDE
B Coy 2/15 Bn will provide a guide to meet incoming tpt at gap in BLUE LINE minefield near TWIN POLES.
7. PATROLS
Protective patrols on Coy front will be provided by B Coy 2/15 Bn until first light 7 Oct. Personnel of patrols will march back to new Coy position immediately after first light. Their packs etc will be taken by tpt by the Coy.

ADM

8.

WEAPONS ETC

- (a) B Coy 2/15 Bn will take from present position G1098 scale of weapons and amm.
- (b) Telephones, trench stores and foreign weapons will all be handed over to C Coy 2/13 Bn.

9.

RES RATIONS

Reserve rations and water will be taken out.

10.

TPT

Two 3-ton trucks will report to B Coy 2/15 Bn by 1930 hrs 6 Oct for carrying stores etc.

INTERCOMB11. COMD

- (a) C Coy 2/13 Bn will come under Comd 2/15 Aust Inf Bn from time of completion of relief.
- (b) B Coy 2/15 Bn will remain under Comd 2/15 Aust Inf Bn after relief completed

12.

CODES

The following code words will be phoned to 2/15 Aust Inf Bn:-
By C Coy 2/13 Bn on completion of relief FRIEND
By B Coy 2/15 Bn on occupying new position NEIGHBOUR

ACK

R.A. Suthers
(R.A. SUTHERS) Capt.
Adj. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

Time of Signature..... 2210 hrs

Method of Issue..... *Orderly*

DISTRIBUTION

A Coy	Copy No. 1
B Coy	2
C Coy	3
Comd	4
T.O.	5
2/13 Aust Inf Bn	6
20 Aust Inf Bde	7
File	8
War Diary	9 - 10

11 Oct 41.

2/15 AUST INF BN O.O. No. 14

Ref Map TOBRUCH 1/50000 with overprint.

INFORMATION1. ENEMY

- (a) Units of PAVIA DIV extend from incl CARMUSA to astride EL ADEM RD.
- (b) The whole position is protected by a minefield consisting of a row of "S" type anti-personnel mines with two and in places three rows of Teller mines. This minefield is covered by fire from a series of weapon pits and strongposts extending along the front. The general line of the enemy FDLs is approx 200 yds behind the minefield.
- (c) On the right front from CARMUSA incl to 40354218 the posts are heavily constructed and appear to be encircled by wire, possibly concertina. In this sector the posts appear to be connected by an additional wire, probably DA. S E of this position the posts are in an earlier stage of construction and not so heavily wired. Recent patrols have heard and seen enemy working parties engaged immediately behind the minefield. Enemy listening posts have been noticed close behind the minefield and fire has been brought to bear on our patrols on the warning of these L.Ps. Patrol operations have been hampered by a period of bright moonlight.
- (d) Enemy fire has included that from Anti-tank guns and it is likely that each post contains some form of anti-tank weapon.
- (e) Tanks have been protecting enemy working parties on the area EAST of EL ADEM RD and as far WEST as the 405 N-S grid line.
- (f) On the night 9/10 a strong party of enemy tanks engaged a Squadron of I Tanks in vicinity of BIR AZAZI. The result was NOT decisive.

2. OWN TROOPS

- (a) B Coy 2/15 Aust Inf Bn has been relieved from a forward posn by C Coy 2/13 Aust Inf Bn in order to enable the former to train and prepare for a raid on enemy posts.
- (b) The following units come under Comd 20 Aust Inf Bde for the operation:-
 1/107 RIA Group
 1 Carpathian Arty Regt
 B Sqn 4 RTR
 12 Fd Coy R.E.
 X Coy 1 RNF

INTENTION

3. B Coy and Carrier Pl 2/15 Aust Inf Bn in conjunction with B Sqn 4 RTR will raid enemy posn in area 40294226 - 40354218 40334216 - 40274223

METHOD4. INFANTRY

Detailed Orders as to the action to be taken by B Coy are contained in Appendix A to this Order.

5. TANKS

Full details as to movement of B Sqn 4 RTR and action to be taken by them appear in Appendix D to this Order.

6. CARRIERS(a) PRELIMINARY MOVEMENT

Six Carriers 2/15 BN will move from present location to vicinity Cap R in Blue line minefield at 0100 hrs. Rate of travel 4 mph.

Drivers will exercise great care in reducing track slap and in avoiding sudden engine acceleration and thus ensure silent movement. Dispersion at Gap F, 60 yds between carriers. They will follow the last tank through the Tank Harbour, moving in bounds of 100 yds, if this will avoid noise. They will move behind the tanks from the Harbour to the Tank Starting Line and will follow tanks along the taped laneway, three carriers at rear of each tank column.

(b) TASKS

- (i) Two carriers with one Sapper each and containing two Bangalore torpedos each, will accompany the tanks, moving in rear of the second wave and being ready to move fwd to blow wire which is holding up the advance of the tanks. This should be done under the covering fire of the tanks. In addition, while fixing torpedo, the sapper and the carrier crew should ascertain if any mines have been laid under the wire. If this is discerned the carrier Comd will notify the Sqn Comd and will return to B Coy to pick up men for disarming.
- (ii) One Carrier containing one "I" personnel to move with the section allotted to the raiding of Headquarters marked "H" in Diagram B.
- (iii) One Carrier to carry two stretchers and assist in recovery of wounded. This carrier will not cross the enemy minefield but will cruise within 500 yds along the front thereof.
- (iv) Two carriers to move in vicinity of Coy HQ and be available at call of Coy Comd to carry out special tasks to assist the assaulting troops.

(c) GENERAL

All carriers will assist infantry assaulting parties where it is seen that this can be done. In addition, they will round-up P.W. and will be ready to convey captured weapons back to the perimeter. One set wire cutters will be carried in each carrier.

(d) SIGNALS

Each carrier is fitted with a blue flag which is to be used to signal the withdrawal. O.C. B Coy will, on arriving at the decision to move back, inform a carrier to move about the posts waving the blue flag. On observing this signal, all carriers will repeat it by waving their flags. They will then move out of the minefield gap with the tanks but will be prepared to assist walking wounded or stretcher cases back to the perimeter.

(e) ENTRY INTO PERIMETER

Carriers may re-enter the perimeter at crossings at ~~R26~~^{R31} and R27 or over the bridge at R31. This bridge will be marked with a large blue flag.

7. MACHINE GUNS

- (a) One Pl MMGs is supporting the attack by harassing the enemy strong point at BIR CARMUSA from first light until completion of the operation.
- (b) One Pl is to occupy a position inside the perimeter near post R31 with duties as follows:-
- (i) Protection of left flank of the attack against enemy counter attack by lorried infantry.
- (ii) Neutralisation of strong points at Bump in Enemy Minefield during the withdrawal only
- (c) Rates of fire -- normal.

8. ARTY

- (a) Support will be divided into four distinct periods.
- (i) Preliminary period - before zero.
- (ii) Phase I : From zero until tanks are formed up beyond enemy minefield.
- (iii) Phase II : The period of the fight amongst enemy posts until tanks and infantry have withdrawn out through enemy minefield.
- (iv) Phase III: Covering the return into our own lines.

- (b) PRELIMINARY PERIOD
Should difficulty occur in disarming the minefield, O.C. 5 Coy will first communicate with O.C. 2/15 BN by telephone and advise the direction and extent of enemy fire. 1 RM is prepared to engage any enemy targets in this vicinity on request. F.O.O. will be present at BN Battle HQ.
- (c) PHASE I
Counter bty and neutralisation of BIR CARMUSA area, of area near Dump in minefield and of posts to be attacked. In addition smoke on targets to both flanks and in rear of posts to be attacked.
- (d) PHASE II
2/15 Bush Arty on CARMUSA ESCARPMENT and WEST of 171. Remaining supporting arty on counter bty and neutralisation as for Phase I but excepting on posts being attacked. Two tps under call of F.O.O. moving in a light tank accompanying B Sqn 4 RTR. Two Tps observed fire under call of O.P. towers.
- (e) PHASE III
As for Phase II but with lower rate of fire.

9. ENGINEERS

- 12 Fd Coy R.E. is co-operating by
- (a) Supplying two sappers to ride in Carriers with two Bangalore torpedos each man. Duties to establish gaps in enemy wire.
- (b) Supplying two sappers to move with the infantry and to be regarded as reserves for operation of Bangalore torpedos.
- (c) Providing demolition charges of guncotton to be carried by each sapper for use on demolition of enemy guns and weapons.
- (d) Providing a bridge over anti-tank ditch between posts R29 and R31. Bridge to be capable of carrying I Tanks and to be erected during the night 13 Oct. Special care will be taken in order to avoid noise during erection. This is being effected by the use of greased planks for sliding girders thereon.
- (e) Marking route for tanks approach as follows:-
- (i) Provide shaded lamp at foot of escarpment road and break in wall on top of escarpment
- (ii) Provide shaded lamp at Gap F in Blue line minefield and at 400 yds intervals along direct route from Gap F to the Tank Harbour in square 407422. This also involves making a gap in B3 minefield which will be marked with shaded light and wire fence by Engrs.
- (iii) Taping route of tanks from Tank Harbour to Tank Starting Line and removal of spoke and semi circular minefields en route.
- (iv) Construction of two additional gates in perimeter wire near Post R33 and removal of mines from their vicinity.
- (v) Taping route from Bridge at R29 back through minefield to road at foot of escarpment about
- (f) Disarming B4 minefield from Gap 20 for a length of approx 50 yds in order to enable easy passage of casualties to R.A.P

10. TIMINGS

Timings will be notified in Appendix E to be issued.

ADM

11. AMMUNITION AND ARMAMENTS

50 rds SAA per rifleman, 2 grenades each man, one TSM Gun per section and one to Coy HQ, one Bren per section.

12. AMN RESERVE

The following will be carried in each carrier:-

1 Box SAA, 1 carrier magazine containing filled Bren magazines, 6 Drum type and 2 straight magazines for TSMG, 1 Box Grenades, 2 S.T. grenades, 2 Incendiary bombs, 2 Smoke generators.

13. MEDICAL

- (a) R.A.P. will close present position at 1800 hrs on day prior to operation and will reopen in Cave 40654233 at same time.

- (b) Casualties from A Coy 2/15 BN and C Coy 2/13 BN will evacuate direct to A.D.S. during the period of the operation and until R.A.P. is able to return to original location.
- (c) Two medical orderlies will accompany each platoon of B Coy
- (d) Ambulances from R.A.P. to M.D.S. will take route LOWER ESCARPMENT RD to 40824235 thence along track to junction with EL ADEM RD 41504277 thence NORTH to M.D.S.
14. HOT COCOA will be taken in old Italian thermos containers on basis one per section. Containers will be discarded after use. One panikkin for each section will be carried.
15. PETROL
- (a) Refilling point for carriers at Tank Harbour.
- (b) T.O. will provide 40 gallons of petrol at this point.
16. DRESS No. 12 Pl and details on special duties to wear desert boots. Remainder leather boots. Battle Dress and overalls will be worn by all troops.
17. MOVEMENT OF INFANTRY
B Coy will move in RASC trucks from present position to vicinity Tank Harbour moving by Gap F and route of tanks. One guide from No. 12 Pl will move over the route during daylight and be prepared to guide Pl forward at night.
18. MEALS
- (a) On completion of the operation troops will remain in concrete posts until ordered to rendezvous for embussing. In the event of strong enemy retaliatory measures on these forward posts it may not be possible to move the troops out in daylight.
C Coy will arrange to provide breakfast and lunch for 30 men each in posts R31, 29, 27, and 15 men in R25.
- (b) Additional water and rations will be drawn on 13 Oct. Mess tins and eating utensils of the men in fwd posts will be used in feeding the assaulting troops.
19. RUM Rum ration will be issued to assaulting troops by Post commanders of forward concrete posts. RUM will NOT be issued to tps prior to the operation.
- INTERCOMM
20. Adv Battle Hq will be established in post R29 from 1830 hrs. This will comprise C.O., I.O., Sjt. VASSELL, one I Sec, one Div Sig wireless operator, two Sig operators, one linesman. O.C. C Coy will arrange reservation of one room in the concrete post as Battle Hq.
21. Div Sigs are providing one R/T receiving set and operator netted to frequency of 4 RTR.
22. Sig Sjt will arrange to lay telephone from R29 to forward Hq of B Coy 2/15 BN. This will be commenced at 1915 hrs by running cable from R29 on a bearing of 210° for an approximate distance of 1700 yds. This should then meet the tape being run out by I Sec. Sigs will await O.C. B Coy and extend line as desired. C Coy will provide escort of one TSM Gunner to cover this operation. B Coy Signaller will man the terminal and will dismantle the station and return to the perimeter after the assault has commenced.
23. CODE WORDS
To be used by tanks when in receipt of information from B Coy Comd that withdrawal may be effected - "BLUE FLAG".
24. DISTINGUISHING SIGN
All troops moving along the tape line with duties to perform will wear white arm band on left arm. This will also be worn by Signal party laying line from R 29. Assaulting

troops moving out to lying-up position will recognise this mark and will refrain from loud challenging.

25. Sigs will link R.A.P. with Battle HQ by telephone.

ACK

R.A. Suthers
(R.A. SUTHERS) Capt.
Adj. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

Time of Signature..... *1325 hrs*
Method of Issue..... *Handwritten*

DISTRIBUTION

A Coy	Copy No. 1
B Coy	2
C Coy	3
D Coy	4
C Coy 2/13 Bn	5
Pioneer Offr	6
Sigs	7
Carrier Pl	8
I.O.	9
M.O.	10
2/13 Aust Inf Bn	11
2/17 Aust Inf Bn	12
C.O.	13
2 i/c	14
Adj. 2/15	15
Q.M.	16
2 Polish Bn	17
1/107 RIA Gp (1 for Carpathian Regt)	18 - 20
4 RTR (1 for B Sqd)	21 - 22
12 Fd Coy	23
X Coy 1 RNF	24
20 Aust Inf Bde	25 - 26
File	27
War Diary	28 - 29
Spares	30 - 35

APPENDIX "A" TO 2/15 AUSTINF BN O.O. No.14INFANTRY1. BREAKING ENEMY MINEFIELD

B Coy 2/15 Aust Inf Bn will provide party under Sjt. DONELEY to act as follows:-

- (a) Sjt. DONELEY with two men for disarming mines, and one man with Bren Gun and two men with TSMGs and two I personnel will move from the gap at at post R33 at 1845 hrs 13 Oct. Movement will be on a bearing of 270° from the peg marking the Tank Starting Line. I personnel will unroll a white tape en route but will not approach nearer to enemy minefield than 200 yds. On arrival at this point I personnel will work back towards Starting Line, tightening tape and pegging it to the ground.
- (b) Three additional I personnel will follow Sjt. DONELEY's party along the tape at distance of 300 yds. On arrival at point 200 yds clear of minefield they will move 200 yds north and proceed to lay tape back towards Starting Line, maintaining direction by using one man to move along centre line of lane.
- (c) Sjt. DONELEY will proceed with remainder of party to enemy minefield exercising extreme care in reservation of silence. They will unroll a 50 yds coil of tape when approaching minefield and will fasten the standing end securely to a Teller mine. The Bren and one TSM Gun will be posted near this point to guard left flank of disarming party. Sjt. DONELEY and two men with one TSMG as protection will proceed to disarm minefield, in a westerly direction. After disarming 50 yds of minefield they they will suitably mark the extent of this area by small white circles of calico and will then proceed a distance of 150 yds where they will locate the right flank of the gap by securely fixing the end of a roll of white tape to a Teller mine. The TG man will remain at this position while one man runs out the tape on a bearing of 90°. Sjt. DONELEY and the remaining men will then proceed to disarm mines working in the direction of the previously disarmed section. If possible, the complete gap of 200 yds shall be disarmed. If this is not practicable, two gaps of 50 yds each will be completed, but in this case both flanks of the gaps will be marked with a 3 ft square of blue cloth spread on the ground.
- (d) In the event of interruption of this work by the enemy, supporting fire may have to be obtained from artillery in order to complete it. This request will be conveyed by telephone to Comd. 2/15 BN by O.C. B Coy who will instal a telephone at his Coy lying-up area.
- (e) On completion of disarming, the following code words will be used to inform Comd 2/15 BN of the conditions,

"CUMMINS & CAMPBELL" - to signify "Two 50 yds gaps have been provided."
 "ALLENS" - to signify "One Gap 200 yds has been provided"
 "CYSTER" - to signify "Unable to effect a gap in the minefield due to enemy action".

2. ASSEMBLY OF COY

- (a) Coys will move by PIs along the taped route from R 33 commencing at the following times:-
- | | |
|------------------|------|
| Coy HQ and 12 Pl | 1905 |
| 10 Pl | 2200 |
| 11 Pl | 2300 |
- (b) Each pl will move with sections dispersed at 10 minutes intervals and will take up its position in the lying-up area located approximately 500 yds from enemy minefield.
- (c) No. 12 Pl will be prepared to give fire support to the disarming group.
- (d) In the lying-up area platoons will be sited for all round defence.

3. ASSAULT.

- (a) By Zero each pl will be arranged in "column of sections" facing the minefield, lying down. Interval between sections to be 50 yds. (See Diagram Appendix B).
- (b) After tanks have passed the lying-up area, Coy Comd will give the advance signal whereupon all pls will move forward. When the leading pl has advanced 500 yds beyond the line of the enemy posts, all pls will turn to the right and sections will shape into arrowhead formation at the double and the coy will follow the rear tps of tanks into the assault.
- (c) Each section is allotted a subordinate, lettered from A to J inclusive on Diagram B. Sections will assault their objectives and kill or drive enemy towards their minefield. Prisoners will move back under escort provided by each section and will make for the area bounded by posts R25 to R31. On approaching the anti tank ditch they will search for a red pennant mounted on the bank of the ditch which indicates the presence of a ladder. All movement will be widely dispersed. If the enemy located in a section objective surrenders immediately, section Comds will make rapid arrangements for their escort back with the minimum escort necessary. The remainder of the section will then proceed to smash enemy weapons within the post and on completion will endeavour to render assistance to assaulting troops, who are not being successful on other objectives.
- (d) On the withdrawal signal being given (Blue flag waved from moving carrier) troops will move out through the minefield in widely dispersed formation, and return to the perimeter.
- (e) All troops will be warned that they must report to the nearest concrete post or to the R.A.P. as soon as they return in order to have their names checked.

4. COMPANIES IN THE PERIMETER POSTS

- (a) D and C Coys will establish ladder parties in the anti tank ditch as follows:-

100 yds EAST of R31	-	1 Ladder	-	2 men
Between R31 and R29	-	2 Ladders	-	4 men
Between R29 and R27	-	4 Ladders	-	8 men
Between R27 and R25	-	5 Ladders	-	6 men ^P

- (b) Each Ladder Post will be marked by erecting a small red pennant on the top of the bank on the enemy side of the ditch.

5. STRETCHER PARTIES

Four men will be maintained in each post R33, R31, R29, R27, R25, with duties to move to anti tank ditch to receive any stretcher cases and carry same to R.A.P.

6. TAPES TO R.A.P.

C Coy will lay a tape through the minefield to guide walking wounded from concrete posts (R31/R25) to the R.A.P.

7. ROLL CALL

One OR will stand-by at each concrete post R33, 31, 29, 27, 25 with duties to record the names of 2/15 BN troops moving into their post. He will telephone these names to Coy HQ, who will compile a total list and forward it to Battle HQ at Post R29.

8. R.A.P.

C Coy will provide one man at R.A.P. to compile a similar roll of wounded men.

9. STAND TO

All posts will "stand to" during the operation. Stand to will commence at 0400 hrs and will continue until ordered to stand down. Movement around posts during daylight must be reduced to an absolute minimum and during the action no person is to move from his action station without permission of the Post Comd. AA INGS will be mounted and manned at each concrete post during stand to and for the remainder of the day of the operation.

10. PATROLS
Coys will maintain protective patrols only on the night/morning of the operation.
11. P.W.s
As P.W.s are brought into the concrete posts they will be marched back to the P.W. Collecting Point immediately by escorts from the personnel manning the forward concrete posts. Each post will detail two men to be ready for this duty and they will reconnoitre the route to P.W. Collecting Point the day prior to the operation.
12. P.W. COLLECTING POINT
Provost Sgt will establish P.W. Collecting Point about Bend in tank obstacle 40744238. I.O. will allot one 3-ton lorry for the purpose of removal of prisoners from collecting point.
13. SECURITY
Details of the operation may be conveyed to Pl Comds by Coy Comds on the night 13 Oct. Pl Comds will explain the details to the men in the posts NOT BEFORE 0400 hrs on 14 Oct. Operation Orders will not be taken forward of BN HQ. I.O. will retain Coy Comds copies and will issue to Coy Comds or 2 i/c at BN HQ when required. Brief notes may be made but they must be framed in such a manner that they do not disclose the operation.

RWJ

- SECRET -

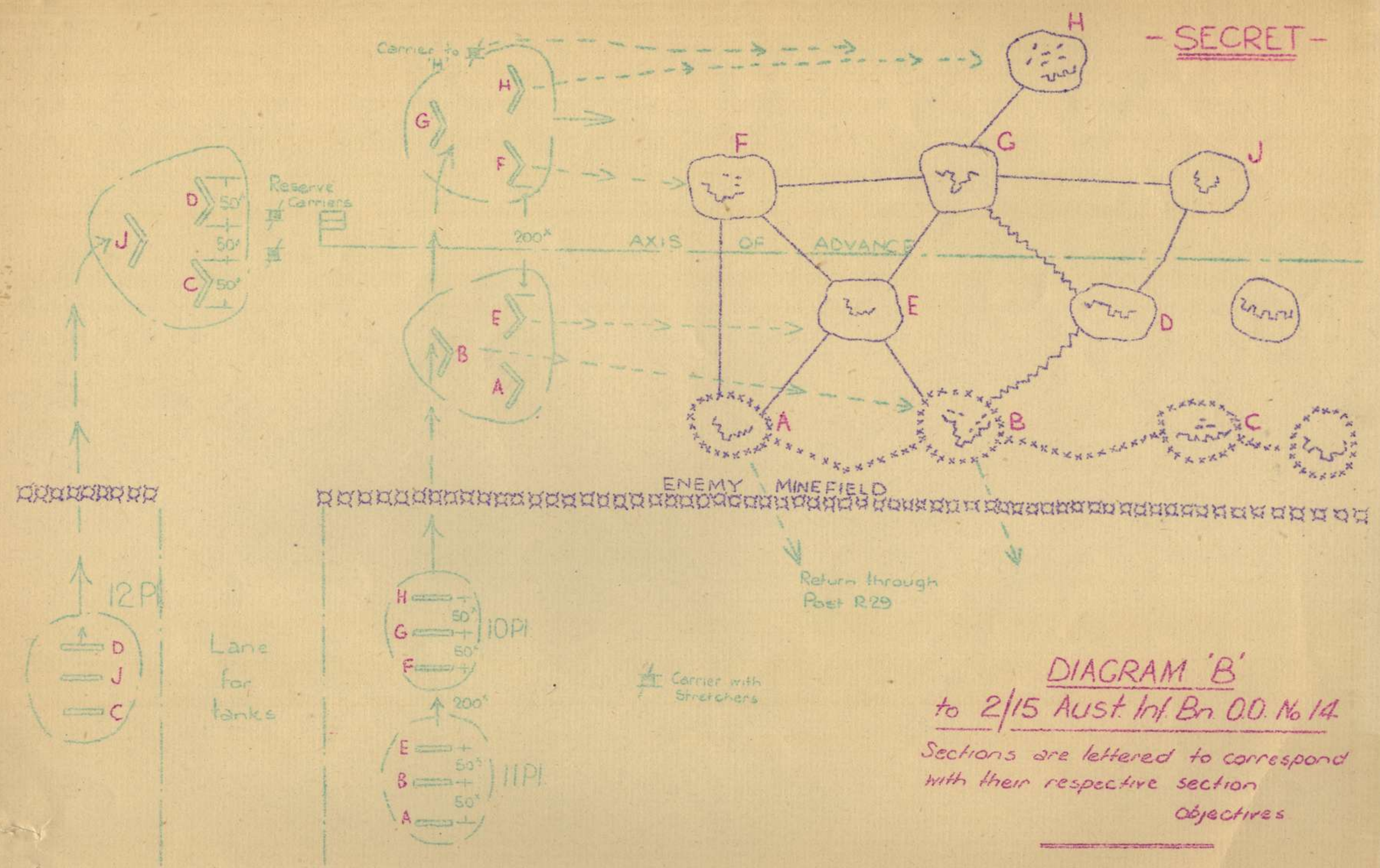


DIAGRAM 'B'
to 2/15 Aust. Inf. Bn. O.O. No 14
 Sections are lettered to correspond
 with their respective section
 objectives

MS

APPENDIX "D" TO 2/15 AUST INF BN O C No. 14TANKS

1. APPROACH TO HARBOUR
 - (a) B Sqn 4 RTR is moving from present position (square 411430) on morning 14 Oct along the following route:-
Escarpment Rd from 41064295 to gap in wall 40934293 and thence along guide fence to BLUE LINE minefield Gap F, thence by direct route to Harbour about NE corner of square 407422.
 - (b) Movement is to commence about midnight and rate will be approximately 2 m.p.h.
2. HARBOUR TO STARTING LINE
Timed to cross starting Line at zero hour, B Sqn 4 RTR is moving from Harbour along the road ascending the escarpment in vicinity of post B32, thence through three gates in the perimeter wire about 4074219 to the taped starting Line running NORTH/SOUTH through a point 450 yds SW of the central gate in the perimeter wire.
3. MARKING ROUTE
 - (a) TR Rd Coy is installing a shaded light on Escarpment Rd at foot of escarpment 41064295 and at gap in wall 40934293
 - (b) 12 Rd Coy is also marking direct route from Gap F to Harbour with shaded lights at 400 yds intervals, and is taping the route from Harbour to starting Line.
 - (c) All lights will face NORTH and will be lit before 1700 hrs 13 Oct
4. GUIDES
 - (a) 2/13 Aust Inf Bn is supplying 20 guides who will report to Lieut. QUIGLEY at HQ 2/15 INF at 1830 hrs 13 Oct in M.T.
 - (b) These guides will be disposed as follows:-
 - A. One man at each of the following points:-
 - (i) Tank Bivouac (411430) - To guide to foot of escarpment (41064295)
 - (ii) Foot of escarpment - To guide up Escarpment Road to break in wall (40934293)
 - (iii) Break in wall - To guide along guide fence to Gap F in Blue Line minefield.
 - (iv) Along the route from Gap F to Harbour placed midway between each two lamps. Each guide leads tanks to the next guide in succession along the route.
 - B. One guide to each tp of tanks to guide from Harbour to position on starting Line.
 - C. Two guides at gap 27 in DA minefield to guide tanks through gap.
 - (c) Guides between Gap F and starting Line will be warned to expect the passage of carriers along the route, following the tanks by bounds.
 - (d) Guides utilised for directing tanks from Bivouac Area to break in wall will walk through to Gap F behind the tanks. Guides utilised from Tank Harbour to starting Line will walk to Tank Harbour after tanks and carriers have moved out of perimeter. Lieut. QUIGLEY will arrange for a truck to move back from Tank Harbour to Gap F picking up guides and lamps en route, returning personnel to 2/13 INF and lamps to INF HQ.
5. TAPES FROM STARTING LINE TO ENEMY MINEFIELD
 - (a) I.O. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn will be responsible for:-
 - (i) Taping Tank starting Line.
 - (ii) Taping a laneway 200 yds wide from starting Line to enemy minefield. Laneway will be marked with a white tape on each kerb. I personnel so engaged will accompany the rifle Coy personnel allotted to the breaking of enemy minefield. They will tape firstly the southern boundary of the lane from starting Line to minefield and at this stage will not approach nearer than 200 yds to the enemy minefield. They will then tape the Northern boundary of the lane moving back from point opposite

- end of tape on Southern boundary, to the Starting Line.
- (b) Rifle Coy personnel responsible for disarming enemy minefield will lay the tapes from North and South boundaries of the gap back to connect with tapes laid by I Sec.

6. ACTION OF TANKS

- (a) The tanks are to advance within the lane from Starting Line in two columns, line ahead, moving at a speed of 6 to 8 m.p.h.
- (b) After passing through enemy minefield, they are to adopt an assaulting formation and to proceed at 6 to 8 m.p.h. along the line of enemy posts parallel to the minefield.
- (c) The axis of this assault will bring the right tps inside the line of forward posts. i.e., there will be no movement of tanks between the forward post and the minefield.
- (d) On reaching the vicinity of road (40244228) they are to turn about and moving slowly through the enemy position they are to give further support to the infantry engaged in mopping up.
- (e) On receipt of the signal to withdraw they are to leave the locality through the gaps in the minefield and return along the tapes to pass through the perimeter either at the exit gaps near post R35 or across a constructed bridge over the anti tank ditch on the eastern side of post R31. This bridge will be marked by 2/15 BN with a large Blue flag mounted about 10 feet above the bridge level.
- (f) Thereafter they are to rally at their Harbours and be prepared to move out again to repulse counter attacks.

7. INTERCOMN WITH TANKS

- (a) HQ of B Coy 2/15 BN will move on an axis parallel to enemy minefield and approximately 100 yds SOUTH of the second line of posts (see Diagram App C).
- (b) An orderly will carry a white circular disc 18" in diameter to indicate position of Coy HQ.
- (c) Communication between sqn Comd and Coy Comd will be as follows:
- (i) sqn Comd wishes to speak to Coy Comd - sqn Comd will traverse the axis until he locates the white disc. During this traverse, sqn Comd's tank will exhibit "Come on Infantry" flag.
- (ii) Coy Comd wishes to speak to sqn Comd - Coy Comd will press bell at rear of any tank and request tank crew to contact sqn Comd.
- (iii) Coy Comd indicates that raid is completed and tanks may withdraw from enemy position - As for sub para (ii) and in addition Carriers will move throughtout enemy position waving a Blue flag 2 ft square.
- (d) Infantry Comds should note that sqn Comd tank flies yellow pennant in addition to the usual recognition pennant.

Red

APPENDIX E TO 2/15 AUST INF BN O O No. 14TIMINGS

- ZERO -- 0530 hrs being the time at which tanks will cross their starting line outside the perimeter near Post R33.
- Z + 15 -- Tanks cross gap in enemy minefield.
- Z + 60 -- Latest hour to which the assault will be continued. If "BLUE FLAG" is not given before this time, troops will commence their withdrawal at Z + 60.
- Z + 100 -- Artillery concentration as laid down in Arty Fire plan ceases. It is expected that all tps will be back within perimeter at this time. If this is not so, a continuation of arty neutralising fire will be arranged with F.O.O. at Post R29.

Red

S E C R E T

Copy No. 7...

HQ 2/15 Aust Inf Bn
In the Field
13 Oct 41.

RELIEF OF C COY 2/13 AUST INF BN BY B COY 2/15 AUST INF BN

1. C Coy 2/13 Aust Inf Bn will be relieved by B Coy 2/15 Aust Inf Bn on 13 Oct 41.
2. Relief will commence at 1800 hrs. Details of relief have been arranged mutually by Coy Comds.
3. Protective patrols on coy front will be provided by C Coy 2/13 Bn until midnight, and from midnight B Coy 2/15 Bn will take over patrol duties.
4. The truck provided by B Coy 2/15 Bn which takes personnel of C Coy 2/13 Bn patrol back to that coys' new area after midnight will bring back to B Coy the guides left by B Coy in that position.
5. The weapons taken into fwd positions by C Coy 2/13 Bn will be taken out by them.
6. B Coy on completion of relief will telephone to Bn HQ the code word "NEIGHBOUR"
7. C Coy 2/13 Bn will revert to comd 2/15 Aust Inf Bn on completion of relief.

R.A. Suthers
(R.A. SUTHERS) capt.
Adj. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

DISTRIBUTION

	Copy No.
B Coy 2/15 Bn	1
C Coy 2/13 Bn	2
2/13 Bn	3
20 Aust Inf Bde	4
File	5
War Diary	6 - 7

2/15 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

ROUTINE ORDERS

L BY
Lt.-COL.R.W.G. OGLE. COMD.

Nos.36-40

HQ 2/15 Aust Inf Bn
In the Field
17 Oct 41.

36. ACTING WARRANT OF W.C. RANK - RELINQUISHMENT OF.

AIF Order (ME) No. 829 is repeated:-

"Further to AIF Order (ME) No. 17, of 20 Jul, 1940, in connection with the appointment to, confirmation and relinquishment of Acting warrant rank or non-commissioned rank, vice casualties, personnel appointed to acting warrant or non-commissioned rank for reasons other than the replacement of casualties will automatically relinquish such rank when personnel concerned are transferred to "X List".

Commanding Officers will ensure the lodgement of the necessary Casualty Returns with officer-in-charge, 2nd Echelon, AIF (ME), and that the necessary adjustments are made in the soldier's paybook."

37. RETURNABLE PETROL CONTAINERS

AIF Order (ME) No. 634 is repeated:-

1. A large number of 4 - gallon returnable square cans and 4-gallon returnable round drums have been put into circulation in the Middle East.
2. These containers are being filled with leaded petrol, a petrol with a tetra-ethyl-lead content. Tetra-ethyl-lead is a highly dangerous poison and may tend to remain in the inside seams of the can.
3. O's.C units will, therefore, warn all ranks against the use of these returnable petrol containers for water for either drinking or washing purposes.
4. Arrangements have been made for all future issues of such containers to be stencilled:-

PETROL
LEADED
POISON"

38. INTELLIGENCE CORPS -(FIELD SECURITY WING)

General Order No. 938 is repeated:-

1. Personnel are required immediately for Field Security Sections in the Middle East.
2. F.S. Sections consist of Officers (Lieut or Capt), W.O.II, Sjtts, Cpls, and L/Cpls. Officers receive staff pay (Capt 5/-, Lieuts. 2/6, per diem). ORs receive Corps Pay at the following daily rates: Sjt. 6d, Cpl and L/Cpl. 1s., ORs draw plain clothes allowance (3d per diem). The chances of promotion are good.
3. The work is important, of a responsible nature and offers scope for the exercise of independence and resource. Common sense and discretion are fundamental requirements, other necessary requirements are integrity, intelligence and initiative. Languages and knowledge of Middle East countries are desirable but not essential.
Officers and Other Ranks who wish to transfer to the Intelligence Corps for duty with the F.S. Sections will forward their application in duplicate through the usual channels to A.C. Branch, G.H.Q., M.E.F. (Pro forma to Appendix A.C.I. 399 of 1940 will be used.) Commanding Officers will forward all applications stating their opinion of the applicants, commonsense and discretion. At the same time they will give the names of any tradesmen or specialists whom they will find it difficult to release.
4. There is an increasing demand for Formations for F.S. Sections but personnel of the right type cannot be supplied unless Commanding Officers will cooperate by releasing suitable men."

39. MARINE SALVAGE WORK - PERSONNEL EXPERIENCED IN

General Order No. 941 is repeated:-

- "(a). A few Other Ranks are required with knowledge and experience of Marine salvage work,
- (b). Full information will be given in each case as to the name or names of the Marine salvage companies by which an applicant has been employed, the nature of the work carried out by the Companies and work in which the individual himself specialises. Divers and Riveters are particularly required.
- (c). Applicants who are accepted will be re-mustered in their appropriate trade.
- (d). Names of applicants who appear to their Commanding Officers to be qualified will be forwarded direct by Units to G.H.Q. (A.C. I(b)) as soon as possible, together with C.Os recommendations as to availability. In view of the importance of obtaining suitable personnel no application will be refused on the grounds that the man concerned cannot be spared; the decision will be made in this HQ."

46. CAPTURED ENEMY AMMUNITION

General Order No. 982 is repeated:-

"Cases are occurring where enemy ammunition is not being reported to the Ordnance service through the usual channels.

The fact that certain units are now armed with captured enemy weapons has led to a tendency to collect enemy ammunition for their own use instead of drawing it from ammunition echelons or Ordnance Dumps and depots.

There are now in the Middle East so many different types of enemy ammunition that non-technical personnel are liable to mistake one type for another, and this may lead to damage to weapons, misfires or other faults in functioning. In extreme cases accidents involving injury to personnel might occur.

All ranks must be warned that no experiments on captured enemy ammunition may be carried out without the consent of G.H.Q. M.S.F. vide Magazine Regulations Part II 1934 para 88.

(R.A. SUTHERS) Capt.
Adjt. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

DISTRIBUTION

	Copy No.
A Coy	1
B Coy	2
C Coy	3
D Coy	4
HQ Coy	5
Q.M.	6
R.M.O.	7
Comd	8
2 i/c	9
File	10
War Diary	11 - 12

S E C R E T

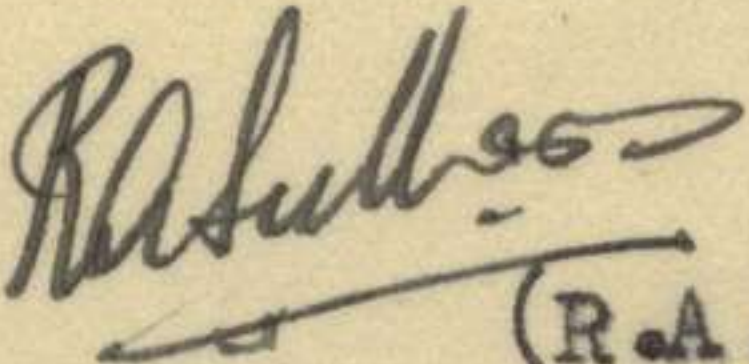
Copy No. ¹⁶.....

21 Oct 41.

AMENDMENT TO 2/15 AUST INF BN O O No. 15

Para 15 (b) is deleted and the following is substituted therefor:-

"(b) Reserve beef and biscuits will be left in posts; reserve sugar and tea will be taken out in ration boxes."


(R.A. SUTHERS) Capt.
Adj. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

19 Oct 41.

2/15 AUST INF BN O.O. NO. 15

Ref Map TOBRUCH 1/50000 with overprint.

INFORMATION

1. Enemy - As per "I" summaries.
2. Own Tps - (a). 2/15 Aust Inf Bn is in right fwd position in SOUTHERN Sector.
(b). 4 Bn Borders is in Div Res position in PIASTRINO area.

INTENTION

3. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn will be relieved by 4 Bn Borders on night 22/23 Oct 41 and will move to PIASTRINO area.

METHOD

4. RELIEF
Coys will be relieved in their present positions by corresponding Coys of 4 Bn Borders.
5. ADV PARTIES
 - (a) Adv parties from 4 Bn Borders will consist as follows:-
 - (i) 1 offr and batman per Coy Hq.
 - (ii) 1 OR per sec post.
 - (iii) 2 Pl to relieve Bush Arty.
 - (b) Adv parties will arrive at BN Hq at 1900 hrs 19 Oct in own tpt. They will be guided from BN Hq to Coy positions by guide to be provided by coys, who will report at BN Hq not later than 1945 hrs.
 - (c) 2/15 Aust Inf Bn will send back to PIASTRINO on tpt used by Borders Adv parties one man per section to act as adv party for 2/15 Bn. They will remain at PIASTRINO until relief completed.
 - (d) Lieut. REMINGTON, Border I.O., will arrive at BN Hq on 21 Oct.
6. GUIDES
 - (a) 2/15 Bn will provide guides to bring in Borders on night of relief, on the scale of one per Coy including Hq Coy, one from BN Hq and one from R.A.P.
 - (b) On night 20/21 Oct 2 men from each service will be sent back to PIASTRINO by truck to be practised as guides, to ensure that they know the route by dark.
 - (c) Guides will be sent by Coys to BN Hq on night 21/22 Oct, where they will remain for morning and midday meals. They will report to Borders Hq at PIASTRINO at 1400 hrs 22 Oct.
 - (d) Coys will tape laneways through minefields where tp carrying tpt will move, and Coy Comds will ensure in addition that guides from Coy Hq to Pl debussing points walk in front of trucks.
7. RECE
 - (a) Coy Comds 2/15 Aust Inf Bn will recon new area on 21 Oct.
 - (b) They will report to BN Hq in time to ensure that tpt bringing them out will be able to return to coys by first light.
 - (c) Tpt from BN Hq to PIASTRINO will be provided at BN Hq to arrive there 0830 hrs.
 - (d) After recon Coy Comds will return to BN Hq by tpt and will walk back to coys.
8. TIMINGS
4 Bn Borders depart from PIASTRINO on night 22/23 Oct as follows:-

B Coy	at 1900 hrs
BN Hq & Hq Coy	} at 1915 hrs
R.A.P.	
A Coy	at 1930 hrs
C Coy	at 2000 hrs
B Coy	at 2030 hrs.
9. REAR PARTY
 - (a) A rear party of 1 man in each A, C and D Coys will be left by 2/15 Bn to instruct incoming Coys in use of foreign weapons.
 - (b) These personnel will be returned by Borders ration trucks on night 23 Oct to Border BN Hq from where they will be picked up by 2/15 Bn tpt.
 - (c) D Coy rear party will report to C Coy in time to leave there with C Coy rear party on ration truck.
10. BLACK WATCH ADV PARTIES
Black Watch parties at present with 2/15 Bn will move back to PIASTRINO with Coy Comds in case manner as detailed in para 7.
11. B ECH
Relief by B Ech of units will take place on afternoon of 22 Oct as mutually arranged between respective Q.Ms.
12. PATROLS
 - (a) 2/15 Bn will maintain protective patrols throughout night of relief. A and B Coys

- (b) to 1200 yds, C and D Coys to 2000 yds.
- (c) Such patrols will be in to respective Coy HQs by 0430 hrs 23 Oct. One 30 cwt or 3-ton truck will be at A Coy HQ at 0430 and with A Coy patrol personnel will move to B Coy HQ for patrol personnel, thence to PILASTRINO. One truck will similarly be at D Coy HQ at 0430 and move to C Coy HQ and thence to PILASTRINO with patrol personnel.

ADM
13.

WEAPONS

All weapons and amm surplus to GLOSS scale will be handed over. Each man will carry 50 rds SAA and 2 Grenades H.E. Bren and TSM Gun magazines will be carried filled.

14.

TRENCH STORES

All trench stores will be handed over as for previous moves.

15.

EMERGENCY RATIONS

- (a)
- (b)

3 days reserve water will be handed over in the posts. Reserve rations will be taken out in ration boxes.

16.

HYGIENE

- (a)
- (b)
- (c)

Latrine seats will be included in trench stores handed over. Coy Comds will ensure that all latrine positions are provided with fresh trenches. Particular attention will be given that all areas will be left in a state of utmost cleanliness.

17.

TPT

- (a)
- (b)
- (c)

Tp carrying tpt used by incoming unit will be used by outgoing coys. Coys will also be provided with one 3-ton and one 1-ton truck or their equivalent for carrying stores etc. Additional tpt for BN HQ and HQ Coy will be on usual basis.

18.

There will be no movement of vehicles fwd of TWIN POLES before 1900 hrs, and no movement about BN HQ area before 1745 hrs.

19.

SIG EQUIPMENT

Handover of sig equipment will be by mutual arrangement between sig personnel of each unit.

INTERCOMB

20.(a)

BN 2 i/c with Cpl. SHERRA from BN HQ will report to new BN HQ position at 1800 hrs 22 Oct.

(b)

2/15 Aust Inf Bn will close in present position at 2230 hrs and reopen at that time in new area.

21.

CODES

- (a)
- (i)
- (ii)

The undermentioned code words will be phoned to present BN HQ when relief completed and to new BN HQ when occupation of new position completed:-

- A Coy GREAT
- B Coy FRIEND
- C Coy BOTTOM
- D Coy TRACK
- HQ Coy OPTAN
- R.A.P. DOG

(b)

On completion of relief by whole Bn, the code word MEXICO will be phoned to 20 Aust Inf Bde.

ACK

R.A. Suthers
(R.A. SUTHERS) Capt.
Adj. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

Time of Signature..... *1450 hrs*
Method of Issue..... *Orderly*

DISTRIBUTION

A Coy	Copy No. 1	Comd.	Copy No. 8
B Coy	2	2 i/c	9
C Coy	3	1.0.	10
D Coy	4	4 Bn Borders	11
HQ Coy	5	2 Bn Black Watch	12
CM/TO	6	20 Aust Inf Bde	13
R.M.O.	7	File	14
		War Diary	15 - 16

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

2/15 Aust Inf Bn (Unit). 4 Oct. 1941 (Date).

(To be furnished by all units of Cavalry, Royal Armoured Corps, Infantry, Royal Army Veterinary Corps, Royal Army Pay Corps, Army Educational Corps, Corps of Military Police, and all Headquarters units).

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1 Detail.	2 Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1	-	-
W.Os. Class II.	5	-	1
W.Os. Class III.			
Squadron or Company Quarter-master-Serjeants OR Colour-Serjeants	4	-	1
Staff Serjeants			
Serjeants	26	-	1
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.			
Corporals	56	-	5
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc.	541		112
TOTALS	633	* -	* 120

* These Totals should agree with the details shown in Part D on page 2 of Army Form W.3009.

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
PAY SGT	AAPC	BATMAN	2/15 Aust Inf Bn.
MEDICAL -	AAMC		
- Cpl	AAMC		
FITTER -	AADC		
POSTAL -	AA POSTAL C.		
MEDICAL L/Cpl	AAMC		
- Pte	-		

Part C. Description of other ranks whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g. present whereabouts if known).
NIL				

2/15 Aust Inf Bn

Unit.

Part D. Detail of Surplus or Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009.

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.									REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.							REMARKS.			
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.		Corporals	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.
Bricklayers																				
Butchers																				
Carpenters and Joiners..																		2	2	
Clerks																				
Cooks														1				2	2	
Despatch Riders																				
Drivers I.C. (Tracked) ..																				
" " (Wheeled)																				
Drivers-Mechanics																		6	6	
Drivers-Operators																				
Electricians																				
Equipment Repairers ..																		1	1	
Farriers																				
Fitters																				
Machine Gunners																				
Masons																		1	1	
Motor Mechanics																		1	1	
Pioneers, Infantry (other than tradesmen)																				
Plumbers and Pipefitters ..																				
Range Takers																		1	1	
Saddlers and Harness Makers																				
Saddle Tree Makers																				
Sanitary and Water Duties ..																				
Signallers																				
Storemen technical																		2	2	
Tailors																				
Wheelers																				
General duty personnel ..											1		1					5	96	103
TOTALS (to agree with Col- umns 3 and 4 of Part A).											1		1					5	112	120

2/15 Aust Inf Bn
Unit.

Date of Despatch: 5 OCT 1941

[Signature]
Signature of Commander.
20 Aust Inf Bde 9 Aust Div
Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/15 Aust Inf Bn. (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels	1	-	
Majors	5	-	2
Captains	17	-	3
Lieutenants		-	2
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters	1	-	
District Officers			
TOTALS	25	-	7

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc.)

PART B.—PARTICULARS OF OFFICERS JOINED OR QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
NIL				

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
NIL				

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known).
NIL			

PART D.— NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
C.O.	Lt. Col	R. W. G. DALE	2/15	Yes.	
O.S. Coy	CAPT.	A.C. KRISTON			
		S. TOPHAM			
R.M.		A. SKINNER			
O.C. Coy		B.D. STRANGE			
Adj. Coy		R.A. SUTHERS			
O.C. Coy		W.W. COBB		No	attending METS
	Lieut	S.P. NEWCOMB		Yes	
2/c Coy		M.R. STUART		Yes	
		B. WILLIAMS		No.	attending METS.
		L. SNELL		No	Junior Officer Course
T.O.		M. HARRISON		Yes	
O.C.P.		R.G. TENNISON			
		E.M. CHRISTIE			
		W.A. FERGUSON			
		R.A. YATES			
10.		G.A. GEMMELL-SMITH			
O.C.P.		C.I. GUEST			
		D.B. WEIR			
		D.W.R. SCOTT		No.	Det. 20th Inf Bde.
		J. KAY		Yes	
		G. OSBORNE			
		A.P. BEATTY			
		W.B. MORISON			
		I.D.V. QUIGLEY			

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher Acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
CAPT		S. ROSE	FIAMC	27 Jun	RMO.
Chaplain		F.J. CAMROUX	FAChD.	9 May	Chaplain
MAJ.		J.M. WILLIAMS	2/19/42 Inf Bn	22 Sep	pending transfer to Regt. Bn.

2/15 20th Inf Bde
(Unit.)

5 OCT 1941

(Date of Despatch.)

(Signature of Commander.)

Lt. Col
20th Inf Bde 9th Div
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

2/15 Aust Inf Bn (Unit). *11 Oct 1941* (Date).

(To be furnished by all units of Cavalry, Royal Armoured Corps, Infantry, Royal Army Veterinary Corps, Royal Army Pay Corps, Army Educational Corps, Corps of Military Police, and all Headquarters units).

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1 Detail.	2 Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required. (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.		-	-
W.Os. Class II.	1	-	-
W.Os. Class III.	6	-	-
Squadron or Company Quarter-master-Serjeants OR Colour-Serjeants	4	-	1
Staff Serjeants			
Serjeants	25	-	2
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.			
Corporals	58	-	3
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc.	521	-	132
TOTALS	615	*	* 138

* These Totals should agree with the details shown in Part D on page 2 of Army Form W.3009.

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
<i>Pay SGT</i>	<i>AAPC</i>	<i>MEDICAL Lt Col</i>	<i>AAMC</i>
<i>MEDICAL</i>	<i>AAMC</i>	<i>Platoon</i>	
<i>CPL</i>		<i>BATMAN</i>	<i>2/15 Aust Inf Bn</i>
<i>FITTER</i>	<i>AAOC</i>		
<i>ARMOURER</i>			
<i>POSTAL</i>	<i>AA Postal Co</i>		

Part C. Description of other ranks whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g. present whereabouts if known).
<i>NIL</i>				

2/15 Aust Inf Bn Unit.

Part D. Detail of Surplus or Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009.

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.									REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.									REMARKS.	
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.O.M.S.; C.O.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W. Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.O.M.S.; C.O.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.		TOTAL.
Bricklayers																				
Butchers																				
Carpenters and Joiners																			2	2
Clerks																				
Cooks														1					2	3
Despatch Riders																				
Drivers I.C. (Tracked)																				
" " (Wheeled)																				
Drivers-Mechanics																			6	6
Drivers-Operators																				
Electricians																				
Equipment Repairers																			1	1
Farriers																				
Fitters																				
Machine Gunners																				
Masons																			1	1
Motor Mechanics																			1	1
Pioneers, Infantry (other than tradesmen)																				
Plumbers and Pipefitters																				
Range Takers																			1	1
Saddlers and Harness Makers																				
Saddle Tree Makers																				
Sanitary and Water Duties																				
Signallers																				
Storemen technical																			2	2
Tailors																				
Wheelers																				
General duty personnel														1	1				3	116121
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A).														1	2				3	132138

2/15 Aust Inf Bn Unit.
Date of Despatch 12 Oct 41

Signature of Commander.
20 Aust Inf Bde 9 Aust Div
Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/15 Aust Inf Bn. (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels ...	<i>1</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>
Majors ...	<i>1</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>2</i>
Captains ...	<i>5</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>10</i>
Lieutenants ...	<i>16</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>3</i>
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...	<i>1</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>
District Officers ...			
TOTALS ...	<i>24</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>8</i>

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc.)

PART B.—PARTICULARS OF OFFICERS JOINED OR QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
		<i>1/12</i>		

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
<i>LIEUT</i>	<i>WA. FERGUSON</i>	<i>2/15</i>	<i>7 Oct</i>	<i>Leave 4 AGH (Janssen)</i>

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known).

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
C.O. Lt. Col		R.W.G. OBLE	2/15	YES	
OC Coy Capt	TIMMS	A.C. RALSTON			
-		S. TOPHAM			
QM		H. SKINNER			
OC Coy		B.D. STRAIN			
ADFT		RA SUTHERS			
OC Coy		W.W. COBB		NO	Attending METS
-	LIEUT TIKHIT	S.P. NEWCOMB		YES	
1/2 Coy		M.R. STURTT		YES	
-		B. WILLIAMS		NO	Attending METS
-		L. SNEEL		NO	Junior officer
OC Pl		M. HARLAND		YES	
T.O.		R.G. JENKINSON			
OC Pl		E.M.V. CHRISTIE			
-		RA. YATES			
I.O.		G.A. GEMMEL-SMITH			
OC Pl		C.I. GUEST			
-		D.B. WEIR			
-		D.W.R. SEAGINS			
-		J. KAY			
-		G. OSBORNE			
-		A.P. BEATTY			
-		W.G. MORISON			
-		I.D.V. QUIGLEY			

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher Acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
CAPT		S. ROSE	AACMG	27 Jan	R.O.D.
CHAPLAIN		F.J. CAMARON	AACAD	9 May	CHAPLAIN
MAJ		J.M. WILLIAMS	47 Coy	22 Sep	Pending transfer to Regt list

2/15 Aust Inf Bn.
(Unit.)
20041
(Date of Despatch.)

[Signature]
(Signature of Commander.)
20 Aust Inf Bde
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/15 Aust Inf Bn (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels ...	1	-	-
Majors ...	1	-	2
Captains ...	5	-	3
Lieutenants ...	14	-	5
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...	1	-	-
District Officers ...			
TOTALS ...	22	-	10

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc.)

PART B.—PARTICULARS OF OFFICERS JOINED OR QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
LIEUT	DWR SCOGGINS	2/15	13 Oct	Leave to MDS (Inability)
-	M.R. STUART	-	15 Oct.	Leave to MDS (Jaundice)

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known).

PART D.— NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
C.O.D.T.-CON		R.W.G. OGLE	2/15	yes	
OC Coy CAPT	T/MAJ	A.C. RALSTON			
-		S. TOPHAM			
Q.M.		A. SKINNER			
OC Coy		B.D. STRANGE			
ADJT		R.A. SUTHERS			
OC Coy		W.W. COBB		NO	attending METS
OC Coy LIEN	T/CAPT	S.P. NEWCOMB		YES	
2 nd Coy		B. WILLIAMS		NO	attending METS
-		L. SNELL		NO	attending Junior Officers course
T.O.		M. HARLAND		YES	
OC Pt		R.G. JENKINSEN			
-		E.M. CHRISTIE			
-		R.A. YATES		NO	attending Fd Works course
1.0		G.A. GEMMELL-SMITH		YES	(Skel Major)
OC Pt		C.I. GUEST			
-		D.B. WEIR			
-		J. KAY			
-		G. OSBORNE		NO	attending AIR (ME) Inf School
-		A.P. BEATTY		YES	
-		W.G. MURISON			
-		I.D.V. QUIGLEY			

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher Acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
CAPT.		S. ROSE	AAMC	27 JUN	R.M.O.
CHAPLAIN		F.J. CAMROUX	AACHD	9 MAY	CHAPLAIN
MAJ		J.M. WILLIAMS	27 Aust Inf Bn	22 SEP	Pending transfer to Regt list.

2/15 AUST. INF. BN.

19 OCT 1941

(Date of Despatch.)

(Unit.)

[Signature]
20 Aust Inf Bde 9 Aust Div
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

(Signature of Commander.)

2/15 Aust Inf Bn

Unit.

Part D. Detail of Surplus or Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009.

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.									REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.									REMARKS.	
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.		TOTAL.
Bricklayers																				
Butchers																				
Carpenters and Joiners																		2	2	
Clerks																				
Cooks														1				2	3	
Despatch Riders																				
Drivers I.C. (Tracked)																				
" " (Wheeled)																		6	6	
Drivers-Mechanics																				
Drivers-Operators																				
Electricians																				
Equipment Repairers																		1	1	
Farriers																				
Fitters																				
Machine Gunners																				
Masons																		1	1	
Motor Mechanics																		1	1	
Pioneers, Infantry (other than tradesmen)																				
Plumbers and Pipefitters																				
Range Takers																		1	1	
Saddlers and Harness Makers																				
Saddle Tree Makers																				
Sanitary and Water Duties																				
Signallers																				
Storemen technical																		2	2	
Tailors																				
Wheelers																				
General duty personnel														1	1			1	116	119
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A).														1	2			1	132	136

2/15 AUST. INF. BN.

19 OCT 1941

Date of Despatch

Unit.

[Signature]

Signature of Commander.

20 Aust Inf Bde 9 Aust Div
Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.

LT.-Col

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/15 Aust Inf Bn

(Unit) *25 Oct 41*

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment)
•			
•			
•			
•			
Lieut.-Colonels ...	<i>1</i>		<i>2</i>
Majors ...	<i>1</i>		<i>3</i>
Captains ...	<i>5</i>		<i>5</i>
Lieutenants ...	<i>14</i>		
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...	<i>1</i>		
District Officers ...			
Totals ...	<i>22</i>		<i>10</i>

*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc).

PART B.—PARTICULARS OF OFFICERS JOINED OR QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
<i>NIW</i>				

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
<i>NIW</i>				

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known.)
<i>NIW</i>			

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials	Corps	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No.)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
C.O. Lt-Col		R. V. G. OGLE	215 Bn	yes	
OC Coy CAPT	T/MAJ	A. C. RALSTON			
-		S. TOPHAM			
Q.M. -		A. SKINNER			
OC Coy -		B. D. STRANGE			
ADJT -		R. A. SUTHERS			
C.O. Coy CAPT		W. W. COBB		No	Adv Party
- - - LIEUT	T/CAPT	S. P. NEWCOMB		YES	
OC Coy -		B. WILLIAMS		No	Attending METS
- - -		L. SNELL			- Junior Officer School
T.O. -		M. HARLAND			Adv Party
OC PA -		R. G. JENKINSON		YES	
- - -		E. M. N. CHRISTIE		YES	
- - -		R. A. YATES		No	attending for welcome
I.O. :		G. A. GEMMEL-SMITH		YES	
OC PA -		C. I. GUEST		YES	
		D. B. WEIR		No	Adv Party.
		J. KAY		YES	
		G. OSBORNE			
		A. P. BEATTY			
		W. G. MURISON			
		I. V. QUIGLEY			

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
CAPT		S. ROSE	ARML	27 Jun	RMO
CHAPLAIN		E. J. CAMIROUX	ARLHD	9 May	CHAPLAIN
MAJ		J. M. WILLIAMS	217 Aust Inf Bn	22 Sep	Pending T/pt to Regt's dist

215 Aust Inf Bn

(Unit.)

29 Oct 44

(Date of Despatch.)

[Signature]

(Signature of Commander.)

20 Aust Inf Bde

(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

Lt-Col.

9 Aust Div

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

2/15 Aust Inf Bn (Unit), *25 Oct 41* 19 (Date).

(To be furnished by all units of Cavalry, Royal Armoured Corps, Infantry, Royal Army Veterinary Corps, Royal Army Pay Corps, Army Educational Corps, Corps of Military Police, and all Headquarters units).

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1 Detail.	2 Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1		
W.Os. Class II.	6		
W.Os. Class III.			
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants OR Colour-Serjeants	4		1
Staff Serjeants			
Serjeants	25		2
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.			
Corporals	58		3
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc.	512		141
TOTALS	606		147

*These Totals should agree with the details shown in Part D on page 2 of Army Form W.3009.

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
PAY Sgt.	AA.P.C.	SHOEMAKER Pte	AAO.C.
MEDICAL Sgt.	A.A.M.C.	MEDICAL L/Kpl	AAMC.
POSTAL CPL	AA POSTAL C.	MEDICAL Pte	AAMC
FITTER CPL	A-A O.C.	BATMAN -	2/17 Aust Inf Bn
- Pte	AA O.C.		
- Pte	AAO.C.		
ARMOURER CPL	AAO.C.		

Part C. Description of other ranks whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g. present whereabouts if known)
		NIL		

2/15 Aust Inf Bn Unit.

Part D. Detail of Surplus or Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009.

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.									REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.									REMARKS.	
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.		TOTAL.
Bricklayers																				
Butchers																				
Carpenters and Joiners																			2	2
Clerks																				
Cooks														1				1	2	
Despatch Riders																				
Drivers I.C. (Tracked)																				
„ „ (Wheeled)																			6	6
Drivers-Mechanics																				
Drivers-Operators																				
Electricians																				
Equipment Repairers																			1	1
Farriers																				
Fitters																				
Machine Gunners																				
Masons																			1	1
Motor Mechanics																			1	1
Pioneers, Infantry (other than tradesmen)																				
Plumbers and Pipefitters																				
Range Takers																			1	1
Saddlers & Harness Makers																				
Saddle Tree Makers																				
Sanitary and Water Duties																				
Signallers																				
Storemen technical																			2	2
Tailors																				
Wheelers																				
General duty personnel														1	1	3	126	131		
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A).														1	2	3	141	147		

2/15 Aust Inf Bn Unit.

L. W. G. P. Lt. Col
Signature of Commander.

Date of Despatch 29 Oct 41

20 Aust Inf Bde 9 Aust Div
Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

2/12/41 (Unit) 5th Coy 1941 (Date).

(To be furnished by all units of Cavalry, Royal Armoured Corps, Infantry, Royal Army Veterinary Corps, Royal Army Pay Corps, Army Educational Corps, Corps of Military Police, and all Headquarters units).

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1		
W.Os. Class II.	6		
W.Os. Class III.			
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants OR Colour-Serjeants	4		1
Staff Serjeants			
Serjeants	25		2
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.			
Corporals	58		3
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc.	512		141
TOTALS	606		147

*These Totals should agree with the details shown in Part D on page 2 of Army Form W.3009.

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
PAY SGT	A APC	SMITHMANOR Pte	A.A.O.C.
MEDICAL SGT	A.A.M.C.	MEDICAL L/Cpl	A.A.M.C.
POSTAL Cpl	A.A. POSTAL C	MEDICAL Pte	A.A.M.C.
FITTER -	A.A.O.C.	BATTMAN -	2/12/41
FITTER -	A.A.O.C.		
FITTER -	A.A.O.C.		
ARMOURER Cpl	A.A.O.C.		

Part C. Description of other ranks whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g. present whereabouts if known)

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/15 Aust Inf Bn

(Unit.) *25 Oct 41*

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment)
•			
•			
•			
•			
Lieut.-Colonels ...	<i>1</i>		<i>-</i>
Majors ...	<i>1</i>		<i>2</i>
Captains ...	<i>5</i>		<i>3</i>
Lieutenants ...	<i>14</i>		<i>5</i>
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...	<i>1</i>		<i>-</i>
District Officers ...			
Totals ...	<i>22</i>		<i>10</i>

*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc).

PART B.—PARTICULARS OF OFFICERS JOINED OR QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
<i>NIW</i>				

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
<i>NIW</i>				

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known.)
<i>NIW</i>			

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials	Corps	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No.)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
C.O. Lt-Com		R.V.G. OGLE	2/15 Bn	Yes	
OC Coy CAPT	T/MAT	A.C. KALSTON			
-		S. TOPHAM			
Q.M. -		A. SKINNER			
OL Coy -		B.D. STRANGE			
ADJT -		R.A. SUTHERS			
OL Coy CAPT		W.W. COBB		No	Adv Party
- - LIEUT	T/CAPT	S.P. NEWCOMB		YES	
2/15 Coy -		B. WILLIAMS		No	Attending METS
- -		L. SNELL			- Junior Officer School
T.O. -		M. HARLAND			Adv Party
OC Pl -		R.G. JENKINSON		YES	
- -		E.M. N. CHRISTIE		YES	
- -		R.A. YATES		No	attending to Wks course
I.O. -		G.A. GEMMEL-SMITH		YES	
OL Pl -		C.I. GUEST		YES	
		D.B. WEIR		No	Adv Party.
		J. KAY		YES	
		G. OSBORNE			
		A.P. BEATTY			
		W.G. MURISON			
		I.V. QUIGLEY			

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
CAPT		S. ROSE	AAML	27 JUN	RMO
CHAPLAIN		F.J. CAMROUX	AALD	9 MAY	CHAPLAIN
MAT		J. M. WILLIAMS	2/15 Aust Inf Bn	22 Sep	Pending T/fer to Regt's list

2/15 Aust Inf Bn

(Unit.)

29 Oct 44

(Date of Despatch.)

[Signature]

(Signature of Commander.)

20 Aust Inf Bde

(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

Lt-Col.

9 Aust Div