

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

Item number: 8/2/23

**23 Infantry Brigade**  
**November - December 1942**

## WAR DIARY of INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form  
(adapted)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit HQ 23 Aust Inf Bde

Date and Time.—From 1 Nov 42 To 30 Nov 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
In The Field	1 Nov 42	PM	At night a cloth model exercise for offrs of 23 Bde HQ was conducted by Lieut ROSE, the subject being "the bn in night attack"	Trg Programme Appx "A" Int Summary No 109 Appx "B"
	2 Nov 42	AM	Brig A.W. POTTS, DSO, MC. arrived at this HQ and took comd of the Brigade. Lt-Col MONTGOMERY handed over and returned to 8 Aust Inf Bn.	
		PM	Capt PROSSOR and Lieut FITZGERALD took party of HQ personnel on night march to ACACIA GAP area to make preparation for Air Demonstration.	
	3 Nov 42		Brig POTTS and Maj DAVIES visited ACACIA GAP area.	
	4 Nov 42	PM	Brig POTTS accompanied by Lieut WILD addressed Coy Comds School on "Some aspects of recent operations in NEW GUINEA"	
	5 Nov 42	AM	Lieut ROSE left by air for No 11 LHQ INTELLIGENCE COURSE. Capt BROWN, Capt PROSSOR, Capt TEASDALE and Lieut CAMPBELL with party Signal personnel viewed demonstration by RAAF of Dive Bombing and Machine Gunning at 69 MILE area.	
		PM	Brig POTTS, Maj DAVIES, Capt PROSSOR and Lt-Col MONTGOMERY CO 8 Bn, visited MINDIL BEACH area to complete final preparations for TEWT on "Opposition to a Landing".	
			Brig POTTS and Capt PROSSOR proceeded to WINNELLIE SCHOOL, Brig POTTS made inspection of school and later lectured on "Some aspects of recent operations in NEW GUINEA" Lieut WILD and party from HQ proceeded on night compass march to ACACIA GAP Area and returning night 6 Nov.	
	6 Nov 42	AM	Brig POTTS accompanied by Maj DAVIES, made recce of TUMBLING WATERS area via SOUTHPORT STA and BYNOE RD to 30 mile.	
		PM	Maj DAVIES and Capt PROSSOR accompanied Lt-Col MONTGOMERY CO 8 Bn to No 1 Coy Comds Course where Maj DAVIES lectured on "Opposition to a Landing" after which students and DS and	

## WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit HQ 23 Aust Inf Bde

Date and Time.—From 1 Nov 42

To 30 Nov 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
	6 Nov 42	PM (con)	left by MT for MINDIL BEACH where TEWT was conducted, syndicates were very keen and it is considered most students gained a better appreciation of problems involved in taking up Beach Def area at night at short notice. TEWT completed 0640 hrs 7 Nov.	
	7 Nov 42	AM	Maj-Gen BERRYMAN DCGS and GOC Maj-Gen STEVENS visited Brig POTTS.	23 Bde MT Instn No 1 issued Appx "E"
		PM	Elimination sports for Bde HQ held in afternoon.	RO Issued Appx "F"
	8 Nov 42	AM	Brig POTTS accompanied by Lieut WILD attended Church Parade 7 Aust Inf Bn. Lieut TREVENEN 8 Bn attached to 23 Bde as acting Intelligence Officer.	
		PM	At night a cloth model exercise for officers of 23 Bde HQ was conducted by Maj DAVIES the subject being "Bn Diamond and Y Formations".	
	9 Nov 42	AM	Bde and att tps witnessed RAAF Bombing and Ground Strafing display at ACACIA GAP area.	See Appx "C" See Trg Programme Appx "D"
	10 Nov 42	AM	Light rain at 0600 hrs. Brig POTTS accompanied by Lieut WILD inspected the training of 19 MG Bn at their camp site.	Int Summary 110 Appx "G"
			Maj DAVIES, Lt-Col MONTGOMERY and Capt PROSSOR made recce of WEST TRACK JUNCTION Area in preparation for TEWT for NT Force Coy Comds Course.	
		PM	Brig POTTS and Maj DAVIES witnessed 7 Bn Coy Defence Exercise NORTH of 7 Bn Camp site. At 1700 hrs Brig POTTS delivered address to officers of 23 Bde on "Recent Fighting in NEW GUINEA"	See Appx 'D'
	11 Nov 42	PM	Brig POTTS accompanied by Lieut WILD lectured at WINNELLIE on "Recent Operations in NEW GUINEA"	
	12 Nov 42	PM	Brig POTTS accompanied by Lieut WILD, witnessed 8 Bn Coy Exercise on MANTON TRACK.	See Appx "D"

## WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit HQ 23 Aust Inf Bde

Date and Time.—From 1 Nov 42 To 30 Nov 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
	13 Nov 42	PM	A Conference of Bde Officers and Unit CO's was held to discuss Training Exercise No 7 and general matters of training and policy with Bde Comd. At 2000 hrs Lieut WILD lectured to Bde HQ Officers on Defence of Aerodrome against paratroops. Brig POTTS visited FORTRESS AREA and lectured 2/4 Aust Pnr Bn on "Operations in NEW GUINEA"	See Appx "I"
	14 Nov 42	AM	Bde Parade held. Brig POTTS inspected all units and took salute at march past.	Trg Programme to 21 Nov 42 See Appx "H" and Appx "J"
		PM	Sports contest held with teams from the following units competing. Bde HQ Gp, 2/8 Coy AASC, 7 Bn, 8 Bn 19 MG Bn, 2/4 Pnr Bn. Trophy for winning unit donated by YMCA was presented to 2/8 Coy AASC Brig A.W. POTTS. Maj-Gen STEVENS witnessed portion of the programme. Maj DAVIES visited Fortress Area and was conducted on inspection of Fortress Arty on 15 Nov 42.	
	15 Nov 42	AM	Lt-Col K.H. MONTGOMERY visited Brig POTTS and remained for Lunch.	
		PM	Commencing at 1945 hrs heavy rain fell for a period of 45 minutes.	
	16 Nov 42	AM	Brig POTTS witnessed Training Exercise No 7	See Appx "I" & Appx "K" RO Issued Appx "L"
		PM	At 2030 hrs Bde Comd held conference with unit CO's, Bde Offrs and umpires on Training Exercise No 7.	
	17 Nov 42	PM	Brig POTTS dined with 3 Bde HQ and subsequently addressed offrs of 3 Bde on recent Operations in NEW GUINEA.	Int Summary No 111 Appx "M"
			At 1925 hrs steady rain commenced and continued until 2030 hrs.	
	18 Nov 42	AM	Brig POTTS addressed 2/12 Fd Amb on Recent Operations in NG. Maj DAVIES attended conference on proposed Boat Training centre, at Force HQ at 1030 hrs.	RO Issued Appx "N"

WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit HQ 23 Aust Inf Bde

Date and Time.—From 1 Nov 42 To 30 Nov 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
	18 Nov 42	PM	Brig POTTS with Capt PROSSOR witnessed 7 Bn Coy Arty Co-operation exercise. Heavy rain fell at 1715 hrs.	See Appx "H" & Appx "J"
	19 Nov 42	PM	Brig POTTS witnessed commencement of 7 Bn Coy Arty Co-operation Exercise and conclusion of 8 Bn Coy Arty Co-operation Exercise. Commencing 2030 hrs heavy rain fell for 30 minutes.	See Appx "H" & Appx "j" Outline Trg Programme Dec - Jan issued. Appx "O"
	20 Nov 42	AM	Brig POTTS, Maj DAVIES and Capt TEASDALE carried out recce of KOOLPINYAH STATION AREA.	Appx "P"
		PM	At 2000 hrs Capt BROWN conducted a cloth model exercise for for Bde HQ Offrs on Battle Procedure.	
	21 Nov 42	AM	Brig POTTS accompanied by Capt PROSSOR visited 7 Bn - Bde Comd lectured to the troops on Recent Operations in NEW GUINEA.	Trg Programme week ending 28 Nov 42 issued Appx "Q"
	22 Nov 42	AM	Brig POTTS accompanied by Capt PROSSOR and Lieut CAYSER attended 8 Bn Church Parade.	Appx R" Letter to NT Force re A
		PM	Brig POTTS visited Force HQ to dine with GOC.	Ech Tpt Appx "S"
	23 Nov 42	AM	0615 hrs light rain fell for period of 30 minutes. Conference of Unit Comds and Bde Officers to discuss Boat Trg and Landing Operations.	See Appx "P" U" & "V"
		PM	Maj DAVIES with Lt-Col MONTGOMERY, Capt STEVENS and Capt PROSSOR inspected training areas for Boat Trg and Landing operations. Brig POTTS, accompanied by Lieut NASH visited 3 Aust Inf Bde and lectured to 3 Bde personnel on NEW GUINEA.	
	24 Nov 42	AM	Intermittent Rain. Brig POTTS visited 8 Bn with Maj DAVIES.	Int Summary No 112 Appx "T" Appx "U" Adm Instn No 2 Appx "V"

## WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C. 8  
(adapted.)

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Unit HQ 23 Aust Inf Bde

Date and Time.—From 1 Nov 42

To 30 Nov 42

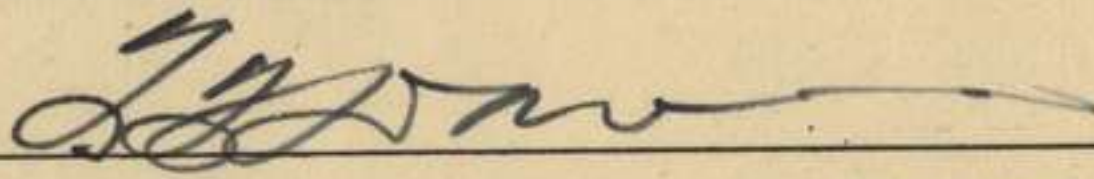
Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
	25 Nov 42	AM	Maj-Gen STEVENS, accompanied by Brig POTTS and Maj DAVIES, inspected trg in camp areas of 8 Bn, 7 Bn, 19 MG Bn.	
		PM	GOC Lunched with Bde Comd. Brig POTTS accompanied by Lieut WILD visited WINNELLIE and lectured to Junior Officers Wing on "NEW GUINEA" At 2000 hrs a cloth model exercise and discussion for officers of 23 Bde HQ was conducted by Capt BROWN, the Subject Being "BATTLE PROCEDURE"	
	26 Nov 42	AM	Brig POTTS accompanied by Maj DAVIES visited 8 Bn and lectured to personnel on "NEW GUINEA".	RO Issued Appx "X"
		PM	Brig POTTS with Maj DAVIES visited 19 Bde and lectured to offrs 19 Bde on "NEW GUINEA".	
	27 Nov 42	AM	Brig POTTS with Maj DAVIES visited 19 Aust MG Bn and lectured to troops on "NEW GUINEA"	
		PM	Brig POTTS with Maj DAVIES inspected Range practises at 7 Bn, and 30 yds range practice at 8 Bn. Brig POTTS accompanied by Capt REDWOOD visited and lectured to officers 11 Fd Regt.	
	28 Nov 42	AM	Brig POTTS and Maj DAVIES witnessed 23 Bde Military Elimination Sports on Bde Parade Ground.	
		PM	Brig POTTS and Maj DAVIES visited AASC sports at 2/8 Coy AASC Sports oval. At 2000 hrs Maj DAVIES lectured to officers of Bde HQ on "Military Appreciations"	
	30 Nov 42	AM	Brig POTTS and Maj DAVIES witnessed 8 Bn embussing for DARWIN for Boat Trg week.	
		PM	During evening Brig POTTS and Maj DAVIES messed with offrs 119 AGH. Later Brig POTTS lectured to offrs and OR's and personnel of AANS on "NEW GUINEA Operations".	

# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Unit -----

Date and Time.—From ----- To -----

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information		Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
	30 Nov 42		Officers of HQ 23 Aust Inf Bde		
		Comd	Brigadier	A.W. POTTS DSO, MC	
		BM SC	Major Captain	T.F. DAVIES H.V. BROWN	
		BM(L) IO	Lieut Lieut	A.R. DRIVER R.T.M. ROSE	Absent at RMC DUNTROON " " HQ School of Military Int
		TO LO 1	Captain Captain	J.W. REDWOOD N.F. PROSSOR	
		LO 2 BASCO	Lieut Lieut	W.H. WILD L.G. POWELL	
		Amenities Offr	Lieut	A.J. FITZGERALD	
		Hyg Offr Edu Offr	Lieut Lieut	N.V. CASEY R.A. PAULL	
		Sig Offrs	Captain Lieut	K.W. TEASDALE C.R.L. CAYSER	
					
				Major BM 23 Aust Inf Bde, AIF.	

25 AUST INF BDE TRAINING FOR WEEK ENDING 7 NOV 42

APPENDIX A

31 Oct 42

Ref Map DARWIN & ENVIRONS 1 in - 1 ml

Unit	Subject	Date	Time	SP or Firing pt	Route or Direction	Area	Type of Practice & Remarks
7 Aust Inf Bn	Night trg Hardening week	2 Nov	2000-0600	-	-	7 Bn - SOUTHPORT RD HENRY RD AREA	25 mile march
	Individual trg	3 Nov	2000-0600	-	-	Bn biv area	Weapon trg, LMG, Rd craft, Standing patrols, Unarmed def.
	Route march	4 Nov	2000-0600	-	-	7 Bn - SOUTHPORT RD - HENRY SPRINGS AREA	25 mile march & biv out
	coy trg	5 Nov	2000-0600	-	-	7 Bn - SOUTHPORT RD - HENRY SPRINGS AREA	River crossings, Night Navigation and night attacks on coy posns, Sec & pl patrols.
	March & Bn Exercise	6 Nov	2000-0600	-	-	HENRY SPRINGS AREA	20 mile march
		7 Nov	2000-0600	-	-	Vicinity Bn biv area	Occupation of a coy posn includ- ing digging & wiring, Inter coy patrols & attacks
8 Aust Inf Bn	Night trg Hardening week	2 Nov	2000-0600	-	8 Bn-MAIN RD MORFITT BY, to 930673 & return to Bn biv area via MORFITT BK		25 mile march
	Individual trg	3 Nov	2000-0600	-	-		Close order drill, Bayonet trg, Laying & lifting mine fields.
	Route march	4 Nov	2000-0600	-	8 Bn-MAIN RD to junc 146523 EAST to junc 966630 thence NORTH 955663	Biv area 955663	25 mile march & biv out
	coy Patrol Ex	5 Nov	2000-0630	-	-		Attention to be paid to silence and to observation of night Ttg Points.
	March & Bn						

District  
Training  
Head-Quarters  
Militia  
A



Unit	Subject	Date	Time	SP or firing pt	Route or Direction	Area	Type of practice & Remarks
8 Aust Inf Bn	I March & Bn Exercise	6 Nov	2000-0600	-	Leave Bn site 053003 for 070002 along ENCOMINE HT to S Bn biv area		20 mile march of Bn Ex along ENCOMINE HT
	Direction march	7 Nov	2000-0600	-	-	Vicinity Bn biv area	Keeping direction by night
	Map move (exp)	7 Nov	2200-0500	-	-	Vicinity Bn biv area	Coy coms testing coy effectiveness in rapidity of movement. Lines to be checked for security.
10 Aust Inf Bn	Night trg	2 Nov	1930-0530	Bn biv Area	Along ry track SOUTHPORT STA thence June 204735 to biv Area		Route march 35 miles
	Individual trg	3 Nov	1930-0530			Bn biv area	F & RT, Weapon and individual M19 trg, and adv handling.
	Route march	4 Nov	1700-0530	Bn biv Area	NORTH EAST RD 005000 - 040000 to 2000 Area	Biv during day Area	25 mile march
	Weapon trg	5 Nov	1030-0530				Adv handling, stoppages, fire orders.
	Route march	6 Nov	1700-0530	Biv area	Area 2000 thence 205000 - 081003 to Bn biv area		Route march
	Individual trg Weapon trg	7 Nov	1030-0530			Bn biv area	F & RT, Bayonet trg, stoppages, Adv handling, Route march 6 miles.

DISMISSED

SR Force 2  
War Diary 2  
File.

*[Signature]*  
Lt-Col  
Adm Comd 83 Aust Inf Bde.

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War Diary PPK 5

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No 109  
ISSUED BY 23 AUST INF BDE AIF

Compiled from information received between 2230 hrs 25 Oct 42 and 1400 hrs 31 Oct 42.

NOTE: Information contained herein will be passed on to all ranks.

1. DARWIN AREA

(a) Enemy Air Activity

(i) At a height of 8/10,000 ft one flight of EA passed over DARWIN between 0445 and 0515KL/26. Approx 18 bombs were dropped between SMITH and CAVANAUGH Streets. There were NO casualties but power lines were damaged and several buildings hit. S/L did NOT illuminate and AA did NOT engage.

(ii) An unknown number of EA attacked DARWIN at 0207KL/27. Bombs were dropped on SOUTH end of civil dome and SW of BAGOT Hosp. NO damage or casualties were caused. An AA barrage was maintained and one of our fighter a/c intercepted. The pilot reported that short bursts of MG fire were seen to enter an enemy machine.

(iii) It is believed that two, possibly three, unidentified planes flew over PINE CREEK at 0500KL/25.

(iv) Two unidentified silver-colored monoplanes with single radial engines, flying at 15,000ft, were reported as over GUNPA SPRINGS (DALY River Area) at 1145KL/25.

(v) There were indications that 2 EA carried out a recon of DARWIN on 27 Oct.

2. NEW GUINEA

(a) Summary

The principal front is still amongst the EASTERN slopes of the OWEN STANLEY RANGE. Our Forces are approx 8 miles from KOKODA, fighting on a down grade from the main escarpment. Flanking movements have been employed with success against prepared positions, sited on the knife-edged spurs which are characteristic of that locality.

In MILNE BAY and in the D'ENTRECASTEAUX Group our patrols are mopping up scattered parties of the enemy.

(b) Enemy Air Activity

Confined to minor recon.

(i) Runways at KOKODA and IOMA (near MAMBARE River) appear serviceable but NO enemy activity has been observed.

(c) Our Own Air Activity

(i) 24 Oct: Allied a/c attacked Jap shipping in RABAUL Harbour. One 12,000-ton tanker was hit amidships and left burning, 2 med cargo vessels were damaged, while a smaller ship was left sinking. A large fire was started and heavy explosions heard from what is thought to have been fuel dumps ashore.

(ii) 25 Oct: A further air attack was made upon RABAUL. One unidentified vessel was hit and an explosion caused aboard an anchored warship.

(iii) Allied a/c strafed GASMATA landing field. Light AA fire was encountered and one wrecked bomber seen on 12x ground.

(iv) Allied fighters strafed LAE on 27 Oct. Barges were destroyed and an AA posn silenced. The fuel store at VOCCO POINT was also destroyed.

(v) Continuous sorties have been made against enemy movement along the BUENA-KOKODA track. Owing to thick cover concrete results can seldom be observed, but, as a result, JAP movement has largely been confined to the hours of darkness.

(d) Land Operations

BUNA - KOKODA

(i) Our tps continued their adv towards ALOLA, in the face of strong enemy resistance which included the use of light arty and parties of snipers who were difficult to dislodge. A pocket of JAPS were discovered on precipitous slopes overlooking BORA CREEK village, but, by 27 Oct, this obstruction had been by-passed, and the leftbank of the enemy pushed back approx 1600 yds.

(ii) The enemy has been observed sending reserves towards KOKODA who appear to be eqpt with heavy packs and small bore rifles.

(iii) A new clearing SOUTH of PAIVA CREEK (SOUTH of WAIROPI) has been observed. There is also a new bridge 3 miles SOUTH of WAIROPI across the KUMUSI River.

D'ENTRECASTEAUX Group

(iv) A detachment of our tps was landed on GOODENOUGH Is on 22 Oct. Although they dispersed enemy forces estimated at 200 the following night, the main JAP party escaped to FERGUSSON Is. Further native reports suggest that a second enemy party of 250 from BUNA have reached DOBU PASSAGE, between NORMANBY and FERGUSSON Is. It is thought that this party was destined for GOODENOUGH Is, but was diverted on sighting our forces. Ops are proceeding.

MILNE BAY

(v) 26 Oct: It was reported that that portion of the TALASEA district from KULINGAI to LOLATOLO, a distance of 28 miles along the coast, was under the influence of former armed native police. The enemy are established at ULAMONA Mission, 55 miles EAST of LOLATOLO/

(e) Sea Operations

Although no ops of an offensive nature have taken place, enemy shipping concentrations at RABAUl on 27 Oct comprised 1 heavy and 1 light cruiser, 2 seaplane tenders, 3 tankers, 20 naval and 6 unidentified vessels.

At KAVIENG on 28 Oct there were 1 med cruiser, a 12,000-ton seaplane tender, and a 5,000-ton tpt.

(f) Passing Comment

A Press message from PORT MORESBY declares that the JAP habit of flooding occupied territory with counterfeit currency, is reacting upon them now that they are in retreat. One reason given for the wholesale desertion of native carriers in NEW GUINEA was their knowledge that the faked AUSTRALIAN notes received in payment from the JAPS are valueless.

3. SOLOMONS

(a) Allied Air Activity

Allied a/c made numerous sorties against enemy shipping in the vicinity of GUADALCANAL -

(i) 25 Oct: Allied dive-bombers scored a direct hit on a heavy cruiser and damaged a light cruiser to the NORTHWARD of FLORIDA Is. Both ships were last seen proceeding at reduced speed and leaving large oil slicks on the water.

(ii) 26 Oct: Allied F/B scored two direct hits on a heavy cruiser approx 250 miles NE of MALAITA.

(iii) 27 Oct: Two enemy destroyers were sunk while leaving the TULAGI Area.

(iv) 27 Oct: An attack was made by Allied bombers EAST of MALAITA, resulting in 3 x 1000 lb bomb hits being scored on a "SYOKAKU" class a/c carrier, 2 x 500 lb hits on another carrier of the same class, 2 x 1000 lb bomb hits on a "MOGAMI" class cruiser, while a further bomb found its mark on a battleship.

(NOTE - There are two a/c carriers in this class - the "SYOKAKU" and the "SUIKAKU". They are of 14,000 tons and carry 45 a/c).

(v) Allied a/c attacked BUKA PASSAGE aerodrome. One EA destroyed, and large fires, accompanied by loud explosions, were caused.

(B) Land Operations - GUADALCANAL

(i) After a heavy barrage beginning on 25 Oct, the JAPS attempted to cross the MATANIKAU River with tanks and massed inf. Four attacks were thrown back with the loss of 5 tanks. On the following day the enemy launched a further movement against a thinly-held sector SOUTH of HENDERSON Field. This had some measure of success until counter attacks restored the posn.

(ii) On the night of 26/27 Oct there was continuous enemy pressure along the LUNGA River, but, since that date, the tempo of the land fighting appears to have been on a reduced scale, with little variation in the original placement of either side.

(c) Geographical Data

Maps of GUADALCANAL are hard to come by, and the following geographical data is offered for info -

(i) GUADALCANAL Is. From TAIVA Pt to Pt URUZ on the NORTH coast. Grass-lands extend inland for a distance up to 3 miles, rising to a height of approx 300 ft. This open country, unusual in WEST PACIFIC islands, vanishes WEST of CAPE ESPERANCE. It is possible that JAP landings have been made at some or all of the following points.

(ii) VISALE - The site of an RC Mission. A possible landing spot exposed to the weather in NW Season (Oct-Mar), but NOT visible from LUNGA Pt.

(iii) MAROVOVO - Site of a C of E Mission in COUGHLAN BAY. Dangerous landing in NW Season, but hidden from LUNGA Pt.

(iv) BEAUFORT BAY - On SOUTH side of island. The commencement of a native track crossing the island to LUNGA Pt on WEST coast - a distance of 30 miles.

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AIR CO-OPERATION

1. A demonstration of dive bombing and strafing has been arranged for units and att tps of this Bde.
2. The demonstration will be held between 0900 hrs and 1830 hrs on 9 Nov, in the area of 250656, 248670, 236670, 236657.
3. Units will move to the area in accordance with the att March Table.
4. At biv. areas or debussing pts, sufficient time has been allowed for the tps to have breakfast.
5. Except for essential unit vehs. of units bivouacing, tpt will NOT proceed EAST beyond 219676. Tpt required by units bivouacing will NOT move SOUTH from biv areas with units on the morning of 9 Nov, but will move to unit RVs on the WEST of ACACIA GAP between 0900 hrs and 1000 hrs. Normal tpt will NOT be taken on exercise.
6. Guides will meet units at 21670 on the morning of 9 Nov.
7. Bns will move in normal deployed formation during hours of daylight.
8. On the return move, marching tps will halt from 1250 hrs to 1400 hrs for lunch.
9. The proposed programme of the demonstration is :---

0900 hrs	High and Low Dive bombing.
1010 hrs	Bombing and Ground strafing.
1040 hrs	Ground strafing.

Major  
BM 23 Aust Inf Bde. AIP.

DISTRIBUTION

42 FA Bty  
14 A Tk Bty  
HQ 23 FA Coy  
1 Sec 23 FA Coy  
7 Aust Inf Bn  
8 Aust Inf Bn  
19 Aust MG Bn  
2/8 Coy AASC  
2/103 LAD  
2/12 FA Amb  
Stand  
BM  
SC  
IO 1  
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War Diary 2

MARCH TABLE

Serial No	Unit	Manner of movement	Route	S T	S P	Biv or debussing area	Leave biv or debussing area.	Return move			Remarks
								S T	S P	Route	
1	42 Rd Bty	MT	MAIN RD, ACACIA GAP RD, NARRAKAI Track	0500 hrs 9 Nov	Unit Lines	Cattle Yd 212679	0700 hrs 9 Nov	Zero	244657	As for move out	Embus at CATTLE Yd 212679 for return
2	14 A Tk Bty	Foot	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Top move with bus
3	7 Bn	"	"	2030 hrs 8 Nov	Unit Lines	236684 NORTH of Track	0715 hrs 9 Nov	2+60	244657	"	-
4	8 Bn	"	Across country, then MANTON Tk NARRAKAI Track	2000 hrs 8 Nov	"	238680	0710 hrs 9 Nov	2+40	"	"	-
5	19 MG Bn	MT	MAIN RD, ACACIA GAP RD, NARRAKAI Track	0400 hrs 9 Nov	"	Track junc 217675	0700 hrs 9 Nov	2+10	"	"	Return by foot
6	1 Sec 23 Rd Coy	Foot	MAIN RD, ACACIA GAP RD, NARRAKAI Track	1300 hrs 8 Nov	"	244657	-	2+30	"	"	-
7	2/12 Rd Amb	"	MAIN RD, ACACIA GAP RD, NARRAKAI Track	0230 hrs 9 Nov	"	232680	0715 hrs 9 Nov	2+20	"	"	-

- NOTE
- Serial No 1 and 5 - MT Speed and density - MAIN RD 15 mph 10 vtm; Track 8 mph 10 vtm.
  - Serial 5. MT circuit - return empty via MANTON Tk if possible  
If returning via ACACIA GAP RD, then no move from debussing area before 0630 hrs.
  - ACACIA GAP RD is the track commencing at 2/106 LAD 145694.
  - 19 MG Bn responsible for own guides and traffic control posts for MT move.
  - Zero for return move will be notified on ground.

Ref Map DARWIN and ENVIRONS 1" - 1 ml

APPX

Unit	Subject	Date	Time	SP or Firing pt	Route or Direction	Area	Type of practice & Remarks
7 Aust Inf Bn	Air Bombing demonstration	9 Nov	0900-1030	-	-	250656 - 248670 - 236670 - 236657	Co-operation by RAAF - return by marching
	Sec & Pl Patrols Coy Exercise	10 Nov	0930-1315 1500-1745	- -	- -	Coy Areas Sq 1372	Coy in def-simulated shell fire A & D Coys
	Range practices		0800-1900	122727	40°		C coy - Bren.
	Sec & Pl Patrols Weapon trg Night patrols Range practices	11-13 Nov	1115-1315 1415-1745 2000-2230 0800-1900	- - - 122727	- - - 40°	Coy areas	Bren, bayonet, grenades. D, A & B Coys - Bren.
	Bde Sports & Pde	14 Nov	1000 -1700	-	-	152697	
8 Aust Inf Bn	Air Bombing demonstration	9 Nov	0900-1030	-	-	As for 7 Bn	Co-operation with RAAF - return by marching
	Range practices	Daily		143661	212°	-	Rifle - grouping, 200 <sup>m</sup> appln, snap
	Bren, LMG Night patrols	11 Nov	1030-1315 2030-2230	-	-	Coy areas To be notified	Elementary handling.
	Patrols by day Coy exercise	10, 12 13 Nov	1445-2200	- 158655	- EAST track	- 187649	Recce, standing, fighting. Def posn, incl digging & wiring and particularly patrolling.
	Bde Sports & Pde	14 Nov	1000-1700	-	-	152697	
19 Aust MG Bn	Air Bombing demonstration	9 Nov	0900-1030	-	-	As for 7 Bn	Co-operation with RAAF - return by marching.
	MG Weapon trg Patrols	10 - 13 Nov	0930-1730	-	-	Coy areas " "	
	Bde Sports & Pde	14 Nov	1000-1700	-	-	152697	

DISTRIBUTION NT Force (2). War Diary (2). File.

Brigadier  
Comd 23 Aust Inf Bde. AIF

APPY "E"  
23 Aust Inf Bde  
7 Nov 42

War Diary

23 AUST INF BDE M.T. INSTE No 1

1. ABBREVIATIONS - Correct use of

When compiling MT Returns for submission to higher authority units almost invariably use the abbreviation W/T to indicate water carts. W/T is the standard military abbreviation for Wireless Telegraphy and will not be used to indicate any other than Wireless Telegraphy vehicles. Water Carts will be shown as "Lorries 30 cwt Water" or as the case may be.

2. CONSERVATION OF RUBBER - Publicity Campaign

Units will submit a report to reach this HQ on or before 12 Nov 42, on the action taken in accordance with GPO 0422 of 25 Sep 42.

3. M.T. VEHICLES - AIF Numbers

A return will be submitted to this HQ by 12 Nov 42 setting out the vehicles by Reg number, make and type, bearing AIF numbers.

4. CAMOUFLAGE OF M.T. VEHICLES

Under the direction of Camouflage Officer, MT Force, a demonstration of the correct method and design for camouflaging MT Vehicles will be given at Bde HQ at 1100 hrs on Tuesday, 10 Nov 42. Unit T.O., or if he is not available, senior MT NCO will report to Bde T.O. at 1045 hrs.

*W. Brown*  
Captain  
SC 23 Aust Inf Bde. AIF.

DISTRIBUTION

42 Pz Bty  
14 A Tk Bty  
23 Pz Coy  
K Sec Sigs  
7 Aust Inf Bn  
8 Aust Inf Bn  
19 Aust MB Bn  
8/108 LAD  
856 LAD  
File  
War Diary 2

Copy to

2/12 Pz Amb (for information)  
Camouflage Officer MT Force (for information)



Information contained in this document is not to be communicated either directly or indirectly to the press or to any person not holding an official position in His Majesty's Services.

Serial No 15  
Nos 90 - 92

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

ROUTINE ORDER PART I

by  
BRIGADIER A.W. POTTS, DSO, MC  
Comd 23 Aust Inf Bde. AIF

In the field  
7 Nov 42

90. <u>DUTY OFFICERS</u>	Saturday	7 Nov 42	Lieut A.H. WILD
	Sunday	8 Nov 42	Lieut A.J. FITZGERALD
	Monday	9 Nov 42	Lieut R.A. NASH
	Tuesday	10 Nov 42	Lieut K.T.R. KILLEY
	Wednesday	11 Nov 42	Lieut N.V. CASEY
	Thursday	12 Nov 42	Capt N.F. PROSSOR
	Friday	13 Nov 42	Lieut L.G. POWELL
	Saturday	14 Nov 42	Lieut C R L. CAYSER
	Sunday	15 Nov 42	Capt K.W. TEASDALE

91. CLOTHING COUPONS

All ranks are advised that the "family" principle underlying clothes rationing applies to service coupons, i.e., it is permissible for the wife of a soldier to purchase feminine clothing with her husband's coupons.

Details of procedure may be obtained from AQ Office.

92. TENTS AND SURROUNDING AREAS

Tents and lines must be in inspection order by 1000 hrs daily.

This will entail folding of all bedding other than that of men on night duty and stacking it in an orderly pile at the heads of beds, except on regular occasions when at discretion of Sec Comds bedding will be hung out to air.

Disposal of all papers rubbish etc, from within the tent and its vicinity by placing it in bins provided.

All personal possessions laid out in an orderly fashion off the ground wherever possible.

Inspection of lines by orderly NCO of each sec prior to 1000 hrs daily.

*ABrown*  
Captain  
SC 23 Aust Inf Bde. AIF.

DISTRIBUTION "A"

APPX "G"  
War Diary

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No 110

Issued By 23 AUST INF BDE AIF

(Compiled from information received between 1400 hrs 31 Oct 42 and 1800 hrs 8 Nov 42)

NOTE : Information contained in this Summary will be passed to all ranks.

1. DARWIN AREA

(a) Our Own Air Activity

Recco patrols as usual. In addition heavy attacks upon enemy installations in TIMOR.

(i) 2 Nov : One formation of medium bombers bombed DILLI at 1035 hrs with 500lb bombs, most of which fell in the centre of the town. Interception was made by one ZEKKE which is considered to have been damaged. Only slight AA fire was encountered.

(ii) On the same date another formation of medium bombers struck at BOBONARO. Direct hits were observed on shops and barracks area. Buildings were set on fire and two large puffs of smoke were observed as our A/c crossed the coast on the return journey.

(iii) Between 0403 and 0635 hrs on 3 Nov a formation of medium bombers made individual runs over DILLI. Conditions were hazy but bombs fell in the town, adding to the fires already started on the previous day. A burst of AA fire was the only defence met with.

(iv) 3 Nov : At 1035 hrs a second formation of medium bombers carried out a further attack on DILLI. Bombs used were of an exceptionally heavy type and extensive damage was done. Interception was carried out by 4 to 6 ZEKES.

(v) 4 Nov : One formation of medium bombers attacked MOABISSE at half light from 5000ft. Sticks of bombs fell near the main buildings. There was no interception.

(vi) Another formation of medium bombers carried out a strike on AILSU at 1020 hrs. A number of buildings were demolished. No defensive measures were encountered.

(vii) 5 Nov : BOBONARO was attacked by our medium bombers at 0910 hrs from low altitude. Many direct hits were observed and fires started. Slight AA fire was noticed.

2. NEW GUINEA

(a) Summary

Our tps have maintained a steady adv in the OWEN STANLEY area with the reoccupation of KOKODA as a central feature of a satisfactory week.

At one time it looked as though the enemy had broken, but latest infm suggests that resistance is stiffening considerably, and that, in all probability, the Japs will attempt a stand on the EAST bank of the KUMUSI RIVER.

While enemy A/c strength has increased at RABAU in response to Allied bombings, activity has NOT been remarkable elsewhere. It is suggested that repeated Allied air attacks upon LAE and SALAMAU have forced the enemy to rely upon sea-borne A/c.

Allied A/c first made use of the KOKODA landing strip on 4 Nov. It is expected that this facility will do much to relieve supply problems presented by lengthening L of C.

(b) Enemy Air Activity

1 Nov : EA raided MORESBY. Bombs dropped in the harbour and NW of the SEVEN-MILE drome. There were no casualties or damage.

(c) Our Own Air Activity

(i) On 3 and 4 Nov LAE was bombed by Allied A/c. In both cases targets were the wharf area and shipping. EA are believed to be making only intermittent use of this drums.

(ii) 4 Nov : Three attacks were made upon SALAMAUA. Damage reported included houses, 5 supply trucks destroyed, barges damaged and AA posns silenced.

(iii) Constant strafing and bombing of enemy targets presented by enemy movement along the BUNA-KOKODA track have helped our ground tps considerably. There has been little opposition.

(d) Land Operations

BUNA-KOKODA

(i) 1 Nov : Our tps were overlooking KOKODA from PILA and WAURO, reports being received at this time to the effect that enemy casualties and food shortage were serious.

(ii) KOKODA was reoccupied on the morning of 2 Nov, our patrols continuing their adv along the WAIROPI track the following day. Natives were friendly.

Enemy resistance at this stage was slight, the only stand being made on our right flank where the Japs/sited a MG post of at least 4 guns on a prominent spur SOUTH of the pad approx 1500 yds EAST of the track junction at PIRIVI, 2 miles SE of KOKODA.

(iii) 4 Nov : Allied A/c bombed and strafed posn referred to above, ground tps finally driving the enemy from the spur and continuing the adv towards AIVI against more organised resistance. On the left flank our tps commenced an enveloping movement along the KOBARA-ILIMA track, while, in the central sector, the main fwd movement was continued towards WAIROPI, with fwd elements in touch with the enemy posns WEST of the OIVI hills.

(iv) By 5 Nov the enemy had been driven from a spur 4 miles EAST of KOKODA, and our forces were endeavouring to encircle further isolated enemy posns, while continuing the adv towards OIVI.

D'ENTRECASTEAUX Group

There is no fresh news of the mopping up ops in this area.

TROBLAND Group

1 Nov : A landing barge and well-used rd KIRIWINA Is was reported.

LOUISIADÉ ARCHIPELAGO

On the SOUTH side of DESKYTE Is 15 canoes have been observed. The Japs landed tps on this island some months ago, but since then no activity has been noticed.

(e) Operations at Sea

Odd vessels, none of which are sufficiently important to be worth reporting, have been seen moving furtively about the coast between LAE and the D'ENTRECASTEAUX group.

As the HQ of the Jap forces in the SW PACIFIC, RACAUI, continues to be the main base for enemy naval units, photo recon A/c have reported numbers as between 41 vessels in SIMPSONS HARBOUR on 31 Oct and 66 vessels on 6 Nov.

3. SOLOMONS

(a) Summary

Decreased naval activity, with a spurt of land fighting in which Allied tps were very much on top sums up the week's activity.

The most notable news is the results of a sea engagement on 26 OCT in which Allied bombs and torpedoes damaged 2 A/c carriers, 2 battleships, 3 cruisers. EA destroyed amounted to 115 with another 46 probably destroyed. This action is further referred to in sub-para (c).

Opinion differs as to reasons for the Jap withdrawal of their heavier naval units from the SOLOMONS, but, what looked like the beginnings of a major fleet action, has developed into cruiser and carrier support for land ops on GUADALCANAL.

(b) Enemy Air Activity

Nothing of an outstanding nature is reported.

(c) Our Own Air Activity

(i) 1 Nov : Allied A/c made two attacks on enemy shipping in BUIN - FAISI - TONOLEI area.

A direct hit was scored on a tpt, 1 possible and 2 near misses on an unidentified warship, a destroyer was probably damaged and near misses scored on another tpt.

(ii) Allied A/c destroyed 5 enemy planes on the beach at SANTA ISABEL Is on 1 Nov.

(d) Land Operations - GUADALCANAL

(i) 1 Nov : Allied forces, in conjunction with fighter A/c support, crossed the MATANIKAU RIVER on GUADALCANAL, forcing a slow Jap withdrawal. The movement was assisted by Allied naval units which shelled the enemy's left flank.

(ii) No ground activity was reported on the nights of 1 and 2 Nov, but by 3 Nov small parties of the enemy were again engaged and forced into a further retirement. On the night of 3 Nov, however, Jap reinforcements landed, and Allied ops the following day (4 Nov) were directed against them.

(iii) In the fighting WEST of LUNGA POINT 350 Japs are reported to have been killed. Much eqpt was captured.

(iv) Enemy units identified on GUADALCANAL include 4 Inf 29 Inf and 15 Hvy Arty Regts.

(e) Operations at Sea

Further to mention already made in sub para (a) of a sea engagement on 26 Oct, details disclose that 4 x 1000 lb bombs were dropped on a "TONE" class, with an additional hit scored on a "NATI" class cruiser.

The former carry 12 x 6.1 in.guns are rated second class cruisers, displace 8,500 tons, and were commissioned early in '37. The "NATI" ships are of 10,000 tons, rated first class, and were commissioned during '27 or '28 and have a main armament of 10 x 8 in.guns.

(i) Two torpedo hits were registered on a "NATORI" class cruiser in INDISPENSABLE STRAIT on 2 Nov. There are six ships in this class, which was built between '21 and '23. Displacement is 5170 tons, main armament 7 x 5.5 guns.

(ii) The Japs are stated to have evacuated WICKHAM Anchorage, between GATUKAI and VAGUNU Is at the southern end of NEW GEORGIA.

(iv) Constant air attacks against enemy shipping in the BUIN - FAISI locality has led to a nightly dispersal. Much of the benefit hitherto enjoyed by the use of the magnificent TONOLEI HARBOUR, at the SOUTH end of BOUGAINVILLE, has therefore been lost, enemy naval units finding it safer to use the inconvenient anchorages in the western sector of SHORTLAND and FAURO Islands.

For this reason the amount of shipping in the vicinity fluctuates too unduly to make the periodic sighting reports of value.

(v) Enemy submarines are again reported over a wide area. On 6 Nov their presence had been detected in the NEW HEBRIDES, between REMNEL Is and NEW CALEDONIA, and between ONTONG JAVA and SANTA CRUZ.

4. TIMOR

(a) Summary

By far the most important of the week's incidents have been the series of hy raids carried out by our medium bombers against points of enemy importance in TIMOR.

The effect upon native morale has been excellent, and the fact that the Japs have not returned the compliment to date may mean that their bomber strength is feeling the drain imposed on it by continual losses in other theatres.

Apparently, the only morale-boosting exhibition the enemy could stage was a mild performance of aerobatics by 3 Zeros over MOABISSE and AILEU.

5. APPENDICES

(a) Notes on identification of JAPANESE.

-----

SECRET  
APPENDIX A

To 23 Bde Int Summary 110

NOTES ON IDENTIFICATION OF JAPANESE

(It is always difficult to generalise about the physical appearance of a nation or race, the more so when there has been considerable inter-breeding, and the Japanese are no different from other Asiatics in this respect. There are tall Japanese and short Japanese, fat Japanese and lean Japanese, and this must be borne in mind when studying the following notes. Generally, the notes agree with commentators' personal observations of Japanese in the industrial, rural and coastal areas of JAPAN and exiled Japanese, except where noted.

a. GENERAL

Most Americans say it is difficult to distinguish the Japanese from the Chinese. The Japanese are aware of this confusion in the minds of their enemies, and they have not hesitated to take advantage of it by posing as Chinese or native tps. It is therefore important that tps learn how to identify the Japanese. A few notes are included here to help quick identification, but it must be remembered that none of the tests presented can be fool-proof.

b. APPEARANCE

(Physical culture is widely practised by the Japanese and has the effect of enlarging the torso and exaggerating the leg and arm muscles which makes the individual appear out of proportion. The peasant and fisherman class do NOT possess this characteristic.)

The Japanese and Chinese differ in their physical appearance. The Japanese have very short legs, but their bodies are of normal size. When seated, they appear to be of normal height, and you may therefore be surprised at their short stature when they stand up. You will find, however, that the Chinese are physically well formed and are about the same height as the average European. The eye of the Chinese is set much like that of the European, but it has a marked squint, whereas the eye of the Japanese is set at a slant to the nose. The nose of the Chinese has a definite bridge and his teeth are even and well formed. The Japanese teeth tend to "buck" or protrude, and the nose lacks a distinct bridge.

(The Japs generally have wide mouths which may exaggerate the tendency to "buck" teeth. This feature is much less marked in the commercial classes than in the peasants and fishermen.)

c. FEET

The feet and legs of the Japanese differ greatly from those of the Chinese and other Orientals. Practically all of the Japanese are pigeon-toed (this particularly applies to the women) and many are bow-legged, so that in walking they shuffle along. In no Chinese, and

in no other native of the Far East, except the Japanese, will be found the characteristic widespreading of the big toe or the extreme hardening of the flesh between the big and the second toes. In the case of many Japanese, this hardening amounts to a callous. This condition results from the wearing of the "geta" or wooden sandals and the constant pressure of the heavy thong that is the method of securing the "geta" to the foot. (Note also the Army glove shoe with a compartment for the big toe).

#### d. PRONUNCIATION

(It has been said that the average Chinese ejects each sound separately, whereas the Japanese run all the sounds together, with a lisping rattle. A great many of both Chinese and Japanese, peasant classes, would pronounce "rice" and "lice" and "sthlice.")

The Japanese, excepting the Officer class, have speech difficulties. They may invariably be discovered by a pronunciation test. Request the subject to repeat this or a similar test phrase: "Smith left the fortress." No Japanese can pronounce an "S" or "Z" without a definite inhalation which amounts to a hiss.

Rarely can a Japanese begin any sentence without this inward tone. The liquid "L" sound does not exist in Japanese. Consequently, the questioner would hear this phrase from a Japanese: "(hiss) Smit left the Fortress." The Chinese would say: "Smith left the faultless."

Thus the Chinese will say "Lice" for "rice" and the Japanese will say "rice" for "lice".

These differences are inherent in the native languages. "Th" is difficult, too, for the Japanese to pronounce. For "think" they say "sinku" or "shinku". Too many consonants together will cause a break for a vowel.

#### e. CAUTION

The Japanese wear a piece of clothing which resembles a long towel. This long towel "Fundoshi" (foon-do-shi, or athletic supporter), is wrapped around the waist and between the legs. It resembles the G-string, but it consists of many folds in which a Japanese prisoner will be able to hide many things.

Japanese prisoners of war will strenuously object to removing this G-string, but the personal safety of your command may depend upon it. Have the prisoners remove their G-strings while keeping them covered with rifles. Have them step away and then examine the G-strings for papers, weapons and other articles which may be hidden in the folds and pockets.

23 Aust Inf Bde  
6 Nov 42

PROGRAMME OF TRAINING

1. Training for the week ending 21 Nov will be as follows :--

16 Nov. Bn exercise under Bde direction for 7 Bn and 8 Bn.  
17 Nov COs discretion.  
18 Nov Coy exercise with arty sp - 7 Bn and 8 Bn.  
19 Nov Coy exercise with arty sp - 7 Bn and 8 Bn.  
20 Nov COs discretion.  
21 Nov COs discretion.

2. The coy exercise will be based on first contact and quick development of sp fire. One tp of 42 Fd Bty will co-operate with each Bn each day, using IE amm. The exercises will take place on the afternoon of the days mentioned, one coy from each Bn being exercised each day.

3. Ground selected should be situated fairly close to the MAIN RD, as weather conditions may restrict arty movement for any great distance along tracks. The areas selected should also be typical of this country - i.e. wooded.

The following areas are suggested and advice is required by 10 Nov as to suitability in order that the necessary danger areas may be proclaimed :--

7 Aust Inf Bn	ACACIA CAP RD.
8 Aust Inf Bn	Track to ACACIA CAP opposite Bn HQ.


4. The general direction of the arty fire should be easterly. Bns will be responsible for all safety precautions.

5. Bns will prepare own exercise, which will be repeated for the second coy the next day, arty tps being changed over between Bns. CO's will liaise direct with OC 42 Fd Bty in connection with the preparation of exercise.

6. Copy of scheme will be submitted to this HQ by 13 Nov.

7. 19 MG Bn will not participate but will carry out trg during the week as already arranged.

8. During the week ending 23 Nov, it is proposed to conduct instn for coy comds in ranging and engagement of targets, culminating in coy comds actually carrying out shoot in co-operation with arty. The shoot will probably be held on 26 Nov. Further details will be forwarded at a later date.

  
Major  
BM 23 Aust Inf Bde. AIF.


DISTRIBUTION

42 Fd Bty 11 Aust Fd Regt  
14 A Tk Bty 2/4 Aust A Tk Regt  
7 Aust Inf Bn  
8 Aust Inf Bn  
19 Aust MG Bn  
Comd  
BM  
SC  
LO  
File  
War Diary 2

23 AUST INF BDE TRG EXERCISE No 7

Ref Map DARWIN and ENVIRONS Sheet G, 1" - 1 ml  
ACACIA GAP RD Sketch map 4" - 1 ml

1. OBJECT To examine the relative values of diamond formation, as opposed to Y formation, in a def posn.
2. DATE The exercise will be held on 16 Nov from 1000 hrs to 1730 hrs. Tps will be in posn by 1000 hrs.
3. PLACE ACACIA GAP RD.
4. DIRECTOR Brigadier A.W. POTTS, DSO., MC.
5. TPS TAKING PART 7 Aust Inf Bn  
8 Aust Inf Bn  
42 Fd Bty 11 Aust Fd Regt  
14 A Tk Bty 2/4 Aust A Tk Regt  
Inf Bns will include carriers for this exercise.
6. UMPIRES 19 Aust MG Bn will provide umpires as follows :--  
2 Majors  
8 Capts or Lieuts.
7. CONFERENCE COs and umpires will attend conference at Bde HQ at 1700 hrs 13 Nov for preliminary arrangements, and a further conference at 2030 hrs at Bde HQ on 16 Nov to discuss the exercise.
8. METHOD OF CONDUCTING EXERCISE The exercise will be carried out in two phases.  
Phase 1. 1000 hrs - 1300 hrs.  
(a) 7 Bn with under comd tp A Tk and tp Fd Arty will occupy a posn astride rd at 178697 in Y formation in accordance with diagram issued by NT Force, to resist an enemy advancing from the EAST.  
(b) 8 Bn will commence advance westwards from ANTHILL SWAMP 189693 at 1000 hrs, moving in diamond formation. One tp A Tk and one tp arty under comd.  
(c) On contact 8 Bn will develop the normal infiltration and outflanking moves. 7 Bn will employ counter attacking coy and res coy as the situation demands.  
Timings and employment of arty are left to discretion of COs.  
Phase 2. 1430 hrs - 1730 hrs.  
(a) 8 Bn will occupy posn in diamond formation astride rd at 178697. Similar arty and A Tk under comd.  
(b) 7 Bn will commence advance westwards from ANTHILL SWAMP 189693 at 1430 hrs moving in diamond formation. Similar arty and A Tk under comd.  
(c) On contact, normal action will be employed by 7 Bn, attacking flanks at COs discretion. 8 Bn employing coys for counter attacks as the situation demands.

  
Major  
BM 23 Aust Inf Bde. AIF.

DISTRIBUTION

42 Fd Bty 11 Aust Fd Regt.  
14 A Tk Bty 2/4 Aust A Tk Regt  
7 Aust Inf Bn  
8 Aust Inf Bn

19 Aust MG Bn LO (1)  
Comd. File  
BM War diary 2  
SC



Ref Map DARWIN and ENVIRONS 1<sup>n</sup> - 1 ml

Unit	Subject	Date	Time	SP or Firing Pt	Route or Direction	Area	Type of Practice and Remarks
7 Aust Bn v Inf Bn	Bn exercise - Bde direction	16 Nov	1000-1730	-	-	178697	Use of mobile defence by Bn in Y Formation
	Weapon Trg	17 Nov	0930-1730	-	-	Coy areas	Bren, Bayonet, 2 <sup>n</sup> mortar
	Coy exercise with arty sp.	18/19 Nov	1400-1730	-	EAST	Track from 147694 to 218677	Contact and attack by Coy with actual arty sp fire (42 Fd Bty co-operating)
	Weapon Trg	20/21 Nov	0930-1730	-	-	Coy areas	
	Pl attack exercise	Nov					
	Range Practices	Daily	0900-1730	122727	40°	-	Rifle, LMG Practices
8 Aust Bn v Inf Bn	Bn exercise - Bde direction	16 Nov	1000-1730	-	-	178697	Use of diamond formation for defence and counter attack
	Weapon Trg	17,20, 21 Nov	0930-1730	-	-	Coy areas	Bren, bayonet and rifle. Concealment and camouflage and fieldcraft
	General patience Trg	21 Nov					
	Coy exercise with arty sp	18/19 Nov	1400-1730	-	EAST	Track from 160658 to 200668	Contact and attack by coy with actual arty sp fire (42 Fd Bty co-operating)
	Range Practices	Daily	0900-1730	143661	212°	-	Rifle, LMG.
19 Aust MG Bn	Indiv & See Trg ) MG Weapon Trg ) Patrols ) Range Practices )	16/21 Nov	0930-1730	-	-	Coy Areas	
				NOONAMAH	-	NOONAMAH RANGE	Rifle, MMG

## DISTRIBUTION

HQ HT Force (2)  
War Diary (2) ✓  
File

*[Signature]*  
Brigadier  
Comd 23 Aust Inf Bde *[Signature]*

Please quote this Number when replying.

--	--	--

Head-Quarters  
Darwin

23 Aust Inf Bde  
14 Nov 42  
S. 248/12/3

23 AUST INF BDE TRG EXERCISE No 7

The following additional arrangements will apply :-

- |                                  |                                      |  |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1. <u>REPRESENTATION OF FIRE</u> | Rifle<br>LMG<br>Fd Guns<br>A Tk Guns | Blank<br>Rattle<br>Geligaite<br>F.I.D. |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|

200 rds blank SAA will be issued to each Bn. Geligaite will be employed by Fd Arty to represent fall of shot and F.I.D. by A Tk guns to represent firing of guns. Necessary stores will be issued prior to exercise.

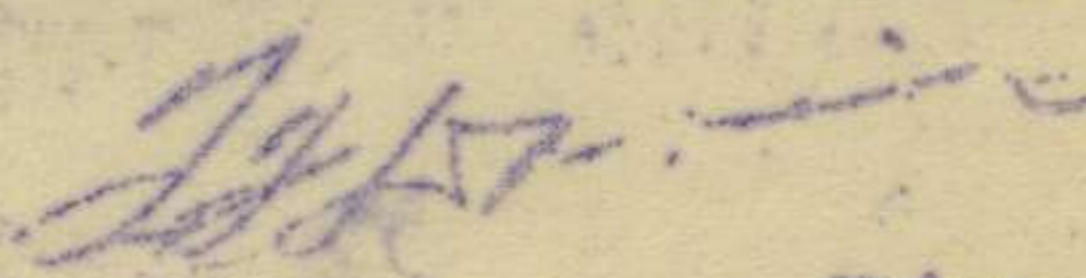
- |                 |                                  |                                 |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 2. <u>DRESS</u> | 7 Bn & att tps<br>8 Bn & att tps | Helmets Steel<br>Hats khaki fur |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|

3. SAFETY PRECAUTIONS  
Units will ensure that no weapons or magazines etc are loaded with ball amn during the exercise.

4. UMPIRES COM'S  
K Sec Sigs will provide two 101 sets - use R/T between chief umpires.  
19 MI Bn will provide four 108 sets - use R/T umpires attacking force.  
Defending umpires will use L/T to Coys - line laid by defending Bn.

5. CASUALTIES  
Umpires will create appropriate casualties during the exercise. Personnel will be instructed to act in accordance with nature of wound inflicted.

6. START TIME  
The advance in each phase will not commence until orders to do so are received from Bde HQ.



Major  
BM 23 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION

- 42 RI Bty
- 14 A Tk Bty
- 7 Aust Inf Bn
- 8 Aust Inf Bn
- 19 Aust MG Bn
- Umpires (10)
- Comd
- BM
- Sig Offr
- File
- War Diary (2) ✓

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Serial No 18  
Nos 93 - 94

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

## ROUTINE ORDER PART I

by

BRIGADIER A.W. POTTS, DSO, MC.  
Comd 23 Aust Inf Bde, AIF.

In the Field  
16 Nov 42

<u>93. DUTY OFFICERS</u>			
Monday	16 Nov 42	Lieut A.R. WILD	
Tuesday	17 Nov 42	Lieut J.L. TREVENAN	
Wednesday	18 Nov 42	Lieut A.J. FITZGERALD	
Thursday	19 Nov 42	Lieut R.A. NASH	
Friday	20 Nov 42	Lieut K.F.R. KILBY	
Saturday	21 Nov 42	Lieut N.V. CASEY	
Sunday	22 Nov 42	Capt H.F. PROSSER	
Monday	23 Nov 42	Lieut L.G. POWELL	
Tuesday	24 Nov 42	Lieut C.R.L. GAYSER	
Wednesday	25 Nov 42	Capt K.W. TEASDALE.	

Officers will commence duty at 1900 hrs on dates mentioned above.

94. REMITTANCES -  
SPECIAL XMAS  
REMITTANCES

In order to impart a personal aspect to remittances intended as Xmas presents to relatives and friends of personnel serving in the Northern Territory in places where no banking facilities exist, a personal message may be attached to Remittance Forms subject to the following conditions.

- Messages will be restricted to 10 words, including the names of the sender and will be confined to purely seasonal greetings.
- The name and address of the remitee will preface each message.
- Messages must be firmly attached to original and duplicate Remittance Forms (WF 131 or WF131 (a)) before despatch to the Command Paymaster.
- This service is only available where Remittance Forms reach the Command Pay Office between 15 Nov and 15 Dec, 1942.

*M. B. Brown*  
Captain  
SO 23 Aust Inf Bde. AIF.

DISTRIBUTION "A"NOTICE

Receipt is acknowledged with thanks of November - Comforts Issues as under from ACP :-

- 1 oz Tobacco
- 1 pkt Papers
- 1 Cake Soap
- 2 pkts P.Ks
- 1 Handkerchief

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCES  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No 111

War Diary  
APPX M

Issued by 23 Aust Inf Bde AIF

(Compiled from information received between 1800 hrs 8 Nov 42 and 1300 hrs 15 Nov 42)

NOTE: Information contained in this summary will be passed to all ranks.

1. DARWIN AREA

(a) Enemy Air Activity

Nil.

(b) Our own Air Activity

(i) Our med bombers attacked MOABISSE at 0745 hrs and BOBONARO at 0740 hrs on 11 Nov. In both cases, bomb loads dropped in target area, but detailed observation was rendered difficult owing to smoke and dust from the explosions. No AA fire was encountered, and NO interception attempted.

(ii) On 13 Nov, MANATUTO was bombed by our med bombers. Flashes and explosions were observed after the A/C left the target area. Neither AA defence nor enemy interception was attempted.

2. NORTH-WEST AUSTRALIA

An unidentified plane appeared over WYNDHAM at 0853 1/13. The aerodrome was circled at great height and the plane disappeared in a NORTH-erly direction. At 0950 1/13, a plane believed to be the same returned and again circled town and drome, finally leaving at 1011 1/13. There can be little doubt that this A/C was Japanese.

3. NEW GUINEA

(a) Summary

So far as is known, Japanese tps in the BUNA-KOKODA Area have received neither reinforcements nor supplies. Over the past week they have been consistently attacked from the ground and air, and have been forced from strongly entrenched positions in the OIVI-GORARI sector with heavy casualties. The KUMUSI River would appear suitable for an enemy stand, but fords and/or bridges are known to exist both NORTH and SOUTH of WAIROPI, and flanking tactics are likely to render any such move little more than a delaying action. It is probable that the final phase of these operations will be fought out around POPONDETTA, some 15 miles SW of BUNA.

(b) Enemy Air Activity

(i) Enemy A/C in small numbers have attacked our serial patrols on the Mainland, with conspicuous lack of success. A few Zekeas are using the LAE and BUNA landing strips, but Allied air superiority is such that only at RABAUL and KAVIENG are EA to be found in strength.

(ii) Enemy float planes have been seen in the vicinity of LAE, the first report for many weeks of this type being used in NEW GUINEA.

(c) Own Air Activity

(i) Wherever a target could be found, Allied A/C have bombed and strafed enemy positions and supply lines from BUNA to OIVI. Owing to heavy cover, results are seldom seen, but such efforts have been of material assistance to ground tps.

(ii) It is announced on 8 Nov that Allied forces had been secretly flown to the NORTH Coast of NEW GUINEA and were moving towards BUNA.

(c) Own Air Activity

(iii) On 8 Nov, Allied A/C strafed huts at SANANANDA, POPONDETTA and AMBOGO, hitting a structure thought to be a meteorological sta at POPONDETTA. Later on the same day, a heavier air attack was made upon enemy installations near SOPUTA, which is 8 M SW of BUNA. AA posns were silenced and am dumps hit. Subsequent analysis of photographs taken showed 12 EA destroyed on ground.

(iv) Further air operations on 8 Nov included an attack upon KAVIENG, bombs being dropped on aerodrome runway and dispersal area.

(v) A 5,000 ton tps was bombed in ST GEORGES Channel on 9 Nov, and beached on the WEST Coast of NEW IRELAND.

(vi) On 11 and 12 Nov, the area lying between WAIROPI and BUNA was heavily bombed and strafed by Allied A/C. Barges at SANANANDA were destroyed and villages raked.

(d) LAND Operations

(i) On 9 Nov our tps were facing the enemy at OIVI and endeavouring to work around their right flank towards GORARI, 4½ M NE of OIVI. Jap strength at OIVI was estimated at 2 reduced Bns, but posns held was naturally strong. Our 3 in Mortars were used to good effect from short range, causing heavy casualties.

(ii) The Air observation showed that the action at OIVI-GORARI might be regarded as a rearguard one, since the Japs appeared to be preparing strong posns at KANANDETTA, 1 M WEST of POPONDETTA. This posn has several times been bombed.

(iii) The GORARI flanking move was completed late on 9 Nov, our tps occupying what appeared to be an enemy HQ or dump. Jap casualties were 150 killed.

(iv) At this stage, infm from native sources was to the effect that the original Jap force at KOKODA had recently been relieved, tps of the outgoing garrison containing many casualties. The regt was said to be composed of tps of very small status. POW interrogation revealed that 1,000 Japs from the YAMANAJA Unit arrived at BUNA in Sep.

(v) During 10/11 Nov, the outflanking movement successfully completed at GORARI developed towards the EAST and WEST along the GORARI-ILIMA track. Forced out of his posns in front of OIVI on 10 Nov, fighting continued SOUTH of GORARI. Operations are still being continued in this area, with our tps surrounding an enemy posns WEST of ILIMA and others advancing EAST. These latter have contacted enemy at MORAU 5 M WEST WAIROPI.

(vi) Casualties inflicted upon the enemy in the GORARI action since 11 Nov are 5 offrs and 500 OR killed.

(vii) On 14 Nov, it was reported that enemy cavalry detts were patrolling the tracks around WAIROPI, while numerous parties of Japs are bivouaced on both sides of the track AWALA-WAIROPI.

(viii) Japs have informed natives that reinforcements are due.

(e) Operations at Sea

An enemy submarine shelled an Allied vessel at MISIMA in the LOUISIADDES. Ship returned fire but results not observed.

4 SOLOMONS(a) Summary

- (1) Latest news is to the effect that by units of the Jap fleet have returned to SOLOMONS Waters. This, however, has not prevented Allied warships from shelling Jap posns on GUADALCANAL.
- (11) Little precise infm of the land fighting is available. Allied forces are still forcing the Japs back to EAST and WEST of HENDERSON airfield, and our A/c are playing havoc with both EA and any shipping rash enough to remain within range.

(b) Enemy Air Activity

- (1) On 11 Nov, 7/10 EA attacked one Allied bomber over FAISI. As a result, one EA was destroyed and one possibly destroyed.
- (11) On 10, 11 and 12 Nov, by attacks were made on Allied posns on GUADALCANAL. On 10 Nov, 15 Zekes attempted to strafe land defences one was shot down. On 11 Nov, out of 25 bombers over GUADALCANAL, seven were destroyed. There are no details regarding air fighting on 12 Nov.

(c) Our Own Air Activity.

- (1) It has been announced that confirmed losses amongst EA in the SOLOMONS during October were 369.
- (11) Recently-released was the news that on 7 Nov, an enemy cruiser and 3 destroyers were attacked by Allied A/C 150 miles NORTH of Cape ESPERANCE. The cruiser was hit by a torpedo and one 1,000 lb bomb. A destroyer was torpedoed. In addition, 16 EA were shot down.
- (111) On 8 Nov, landing craft filled with supplies and a beached midget submarine were bombed and strafed at Cape ESPERANCE.
- (iv) On 9 Nov, four attacks were made on enemy posns on GUADALCANAL.
- (v) On the night 10/11 Nov, KIHILE Drome was bombed, large fires started, and 6 EA destroyed on the ground. At the same time, a 7,000 ton ship was hit.
- (vi) BUIN-FAISI-TONOLEI were again bombed by Allied A/C on 12 Nov. Direct hits were obtained on two ships estimated to be 11,000 and 6,000 tons.
- (vii) A further attack on 12 Nov resulted in 1 direct hit and 2 near misses on a hy destroyer; one hit and one possible hit on a lt cruiser; one very near miss on a destroyer and one near miss on a 9,000 tps.

(d) Land Operations

- (1) On 7 Nov, no activity was reported to the WEST of Allied posns on GUADALCANAL, but our tps were advancing to the EAST without gaining touch with the enemy.
- (11) Our forces had advanced to the METAPONA River 1/4 miles EAST of KOLI Pt by 9 Nov.
- (111) Reports were received on 10 Nov that the Japs were short of food and amm, and that their morale showed signs of deteriorating owing to constant bombing.
- (iv) A Jap outpost, together with equipment and documents was captured on MALAITA on 8 Nov.

(v) By 12 Nov, enemy resistance to the WEST of HENDERSFN airfield on GUADALCANAL was increasing; but not sufficiently to stem the Allied advance; while on the EASTern side, where Jap reinfts were secretly landed, Allied forces had surrounded the enemy at TETRE (12 miles from LUNGA Pt) and were busy mopping them up.

(vi) Latest reports dated 12 Nov speak of enemy posns on GUADALCANAL being heavily shelled by Allied naval units.

(e) Operations at Sea

(i) On 9 Nov, 48 vessels, incl 4 battleships and 6 tpts were in the vicinity of FAISI. Convoy under way.

(ii) Air photographs of portion of the BUIN-FAISI Area taken on 12 Nov revealed the following shipping:-

- 2 " heavy cruisers
- 1 " cruiser (possible)
- 15 destroyers
- 2 large mine-layers (possible)
- 2 MLC approx 12,000 tons each (possible)
- 2 tankers
- 2 seaplane tenders
- 16 merchant vessels 3/12,000 tons
- 2 " " small

(iii) On 11 Nov, an enemy submarine was sighted SOUTH of GUADALCANAL and probably sunk.

(iv) On 12 Nov, 3 submarines were seen outside KOLO Lagoon which is at the SE end of the NEW GEORGIA Gp between NANGUNU and GATUKI Is.

PROGRAMME OF TRG - OUTLINE FOR DEC & JAN

APPX 0

1. Unit syllabi will be designed to cover the following trg during Dec and Jan.

- Dec (a) Boat trg centre DARWIN 6 days
- (b) Close order drill, weapon trg, individual and sec stalks and fd craft, concealment and camflg. 6 days
- (c) Range practices, pl fd firing exercises with mortar sp, grenade firing and assault course. 6 days
- (d) Night trg week incl occupation and organization of coy def posn, with digging and wiring, patrols, night navigation, night stalking and use of bayonet. 6 days
- (e) Physical efficiency tests (ATM 8), TOET's, and practising of quick turn out of Bns by day and by night will also be carried out during the month.

Subjects (a) and (b) will each be allotted a complete week other subjects being spread over remainder of month. Report on results of TOET's by coys and specialist pls, expressed as percentages of particular sub unit, will be fwded to this HQ at end of Dec.

- Jan (a) Crossing water obstacles, rafts, swimming equipment across river, culminating in coy exercises establishing br heads for Bn 6 days
- (b) Range practices, Coy fd firing exercises, pl competition (ATM 4) 6 days.
- (c) Night trg week, incl coy/cross country, night attack (pl and coy), occupation and organization of coy posn incl patrolling (enemy to be used for hara sing purposes during whole night) 6 days
- (d) Pl, coy and Bn attack exercises incl attacks on established enemy posns. (situation to be such as to provide for movement to assembly area and employment of battle procedure - speed in recce, planning, and issue of orders, essential) 6 days.
- (e) Bde movement and attack exercise (at end of month) 2 days

2. Tps will be maintained in a state of marching fitness by marching at least 15 miles each week in not more than two marches.

3. General patience trg will be carried out during the whole period as opportunity offers and during exercises.

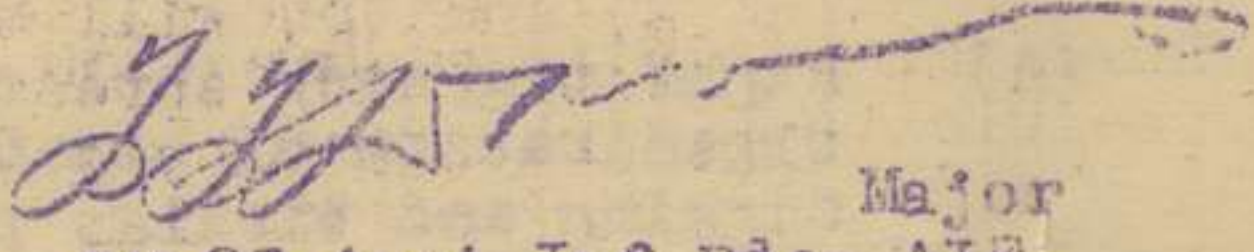
4. 19 MG Bn will follow above syllabus where applicable, but will concentrate on IMG technical and tactical trg. Exercises will be designed to teach IMG sp by sec, pl and coys. Some of these exercises should involve long carries, and also the quick sp of inf attacks at short ranges (200 - 400 yds).



5. Offrs and NCO tactical trg will be carried out by both inf and MG Bns by means of sand table or cloth model exercises, at least one exercise each week. Subjects to be covered are :--

- Fire orders
- Verbal orders
- Appreciations (up to that required of a coy comd.)
- Pl and coy attacks (Inf Bns)
- Sp of Coy and Bn attacks ( MG Bn)
- Night attacks.

In addition, at least one half day TEWT each month, on the ground, will be held for offrs.

  
 Major  
 BM 23 Aust Inf Bde. AIF.

DISTRIBUTION

- 7 Aust Inf Bn
- 8 Aust Inf Bn
- 19 Aust MG Bn
- 42 Fd Bty
- 14 A Tk Bty
- 23 Fd Coy
- HQ NT Force 2)
- File
- War Diary 2

for information

*APPX "N"*  
*War Diary*

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

HQ 23 Aust Inf Bde  
In the Field  
18 Nov 42

ROUTINE ORDER PART I No 1

by  
BRIGADIER A.W. POTTS, DSO., MC.  
Comd 23 Aust Inf Bde Gp

1. SUNBATHING

It is directed that all personnel of this Bde dispense with shirts and spend a period in the sun daily. This period is to be increased to a maximum of one hour when a protective colouring has been obtained

The hour recommended is 1400 hrs to 1500 hrs but this is dependant on unit trg programmes.

This policy is to be observed within the unit lines and is NOT to be extended to personnel who must leave unit area. All such personnel must be correctly dressed in shirt, shorts, sock tops boots and puttees.

*A. Brown*  
Captain  
SC 23 Aust Inf Bde. AIF.

DISTRIBUTION "B"

BOAT TRG AND LANDING OPS

1. A boat trg centre will be established at LARRAKEYAH BARRACKS and MINDIL BEACH during Dec and Jan. Facilities will be allotted to each Bde in turn.
2. 23 Aust Inf Bde has been allotted the period from 30 Nov to 21 Dec and allotment to units is as follows :--

8 Aust Inf Bn incl E Tp 14 A Tk Bty	30 Nov - 7 Dec
7 " " " " " D " " " "	7 Dec - 14 Dec
19 " MG Bn	14 Dec - 21 Dec

Portion of Bde HQ will be att to each bn for instn, and will move and live with bns during the periods mentioned.

3. These periods will allow units six clear days trg. It will not be possible to observe Sunday as a rest day - the extra time available on the day of the moves to and from the trg centre will be made available for rest.
4. Moves to and from the centre will be made by MP and will be carried out as tactical moves. It is suggested that R and O Gp procedure be adopted for the move to the centre.

ASC Pls providing MP for move will bivouac in general area and will attach a MC orderly to Bn HQ for liaison. If tpt is required for exercise purposes (for example to tpt sub-units to site for use of recce boats) this pl will provide it on request.

5. Each inf bn will take one carr (on transporter) to the centre to give trg in embarking and disembarking of it to carr and mortar pl personnel. A Tk tps of 14 Aust A Tk Bty will take their guns for the same reason.
6. The object of the trg is to teach inf
  - (a) Embarking in small boats from beaches, wharves and "Mother ships"
  - (b) Disembarking from small boats on to beaches and coasts.
  - (c) Propelling craft to beaches
  - (d) Rapid reorganization and deployment on beach, i.e. establishing a bn head in the shortest possible time.

All trg must aim at teaching all ranks to embark and disembark with minimum delay while wearing full battle equipment.

7. As the object of the course is to train assault tps, the subsequent beach organization, unloading of stores, etc will not be included in the syllabus except by way of lectures to offr and NCOs.
8. During the course an offr of RAN and also RAAF will each deliver a lecture dealing with the part their particular Service plays in joint ops.
9. Each bn will select 80 ORs to be trained as crew, under RAE supervision, for folding boats. These personnel will remain as crew during the whole period of the Bns stay at the centre. Personnel selected should be able to swim and also if possible have some knowledge of rowing.
10. Unit trg syllabi will be planned on the following lines :--

1st day. Move to area, allotment to quarters. Address by unit and sub-unit comds on object, scope, and application of course.

2nd Day. Pnr Pl receive instn in handling of assault boats (Instns provided by RAE)  
 Folding boat crews receive instn in FBE.  
 Remainder of bn practise use of rope ladders, nets and organization of boat loads etc, also rapid deployment after disembarkation incl negotiation of obstacles, beach wiring etc. During this day, Eng's will give demonstration of clearing beach wiring by bangalore torpedo.

3rd Day. Crews of folding boats continue instn.  
 Bn practise use of assault boats and as for second day incl embarkation from wharves and beaches, and disembarkation. Pnr pl provide instns for assault boats.  
 Practise in use of recce boats also, at, say, RAPID Cr.

4th Day. First lessons in use of FBE, and practise also as for day 3.

5, 6, 7 Day. Further practise use of assault boats, FBE, and exercises in landing ops. Incl short moves as tows, with practise in various phases both by day and night. First done as sub-units.

Course to culminate in Bn landing op, during darkness, with some enemy located in landing area. Exercise areas should include landing points on difficult coast line as well as on beaches.

8 Day. Hand over to incoming unit and return to camp.

11. Equipment will be provided as under :--

Folding boats	16	
Assault boats	46	
Recce boats	22	
Life Jackets	50	approx

RAE personnel will be in control of these boats and will provide for their maintenance and storage when not in use.

12. Navy will provide towage for small craft on occasions, and it is expected will provide sufficient towage for 500 personnel for the concluding exercise. All arrangements and requests will be made through Capt PROSSOR, 23 Aust Inf Bde HQ, who will act as LO with Navy RAE and Frt Comd during the course. He will reside with each Bn in turn during its stay at the centre.

13. Incidental lessons such as use of sharpened bayonet to clear way through foliage near water edge, immediate cleaning of arms and amm after contact with salt water, action in event of boats being holed, swimming etc should be incorporated in trg.

14. Trg should first be carried out without equipment, and then with full battle equipment worn and arms carried. Speed in disembarkation and deployment on landing are of prime importance and will be insisted upon from the beginning of the instructional period.

15. 19 MG Bn will carry out syllabus as above, with necessary modifications for their role as a MG Bn.

16. Q and tpt arrangements will be advised separately.

*[Signature]*  
 Major  
 BM 23 Aust Inf Bde. AIF.

DISTRIBUTION

14 A Tk Ety 2/4 Aust A Tk Regt	Comd	File
23 Pd Coy (2)	BM (2)	War Diary (2)
7 Aust Inf Bn	SC	
8 Aust Inf Bn	LO	
19 Aust MG Bn	TO	

MINISTER OF DEFENCE  
 DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE - CO-ORDINATION

*War Diaries*

Ref Map DARWIN & ENVIRONS 1" - 1 ml

Unit	Subject	Date	Time	SP or Firing pt	Route or Direction	Area	Type of Practice & Remarks
7 Aust Inf Bn	Coy Marches	Daily	0930-1115	-	Tracks from Coy Area	-	-
	Weapon trg		1130-1500	-	-	Coy areas	Rifle, Bayonet, Grenade
	Rd Craft Range Practices		1500-1745 0830-1900	-	-	"	2" mortar, Bren.
	Pl trg	24 Nov	1500-1700	122727	40°	Coy Areas	Rifle, LMG. Opposed pls - infiltration of def, pl locality
	Night Patrols	25 Nov	2000-2200	-	-	Coy areas	Inter pl - "free for all"
8 Aust Inf Bn	Weapon trg	Daily	0930-1800	-	-	Two coys will carry out march of 30 mls on circuit, period three nights & two days, & carry out this trg during bivouacs, also patrol trg.	LMG, rifle, bayonet, grenades
	Rd craft	"	-	-	-		Concealment & camflg, general patience trg, passage of water obstacles incl in rd craft
	Pl trg-assault course exercise	"	1030-1530	-	-	156637	-
	Range practices	"	0900-1730	143661	212°	-	Rifle, LMG
	Rd firing exercise - carrier pl	25, 26, 27 Nov	1030-1800	238685	5° 90° 270°	ACACIA GAP AREA	-
10 Aust Inf Bn	Coy marches	Daily	2 hours	-	(a) BYHOE BAY RD (b) Track along ry	-	Times vary each day for each coy
	MG trg	Daily	0930-1730	-	-	Coy areas	Individual trg, mechanism & handling, Fire orders, see occupation.
	Weapon trg	"	0930-1730	-	-	"	Rifle, bayonet, and grenades
	Rd craft	23-24 Nov	1500-1730	-	-	Coy areas	Recon & fighting patrols, use of compass

Unit	Subject	Date	Time	SP or Firing pt	Route or Direction	Area	Type of practice & Remarks
19 Aust MG Bn (Cont)	Md craft	25 Nov	1930-2230	-	-	Coy areas	Recco patrols by night
T	T	T					
	Range practices	Daily	0900-1730	NOONAMAH	-	NOONAMAH RANGE	MMI, rifle.

DISTRIBUTION

HQ NT Force      2  
 War Diary        2  
 File                1

*[Signature]*  
 Brigadier  
 Comd 23 Aust Inf Bde. AIF.

*War Diary* APPX 'R'  
SECRET

23 AUST INF BDE OI No 15

Copy No 12

22 Nov 42

Ref Map DARWIN & ENVIRONS 1" - 1 ml  
Sheets 3, 5, 6.

To. 7 Aust Inf Bn  
8 Aust Inf Bn  
19 Aust MG Bn

1. It is necessary that HQ NT Force be kept informed regarding the practicability of moving tps by MT on the various rds and tracks likely to be used for ops should such occur during the wet season.
2. 23 Aust Inf Bde has been made responsible for patrolling certain rds and tracks in order to ascertain the condition of such with regard to reasons in para 1 above.
3. Units will patrol rds and tracks allotted on Monday of each week and render a report to reach Bde HQ by 1300 hrs each Tuesday. Report will answer the following questions :--
  - (a) What is the general condition of the rd surface?
  - (b) How far from the main rd can convoys including tp carrying vehs move?
  - (c) In general can vehs leave the rd for dispersion purposes?
4. Composition of patrols will include an offr and will be carried out in MT, two vehs being used with necessary tools and tow ropes to assist each other in case of emergency. Vehs employed will be one 3 ton lorry and one 1 ton van.
5. Rds and tracks allotted for these patrols are as follows :--

- |               |       |   |
|---------------|-------|---|
| 8 Aust Inf Bn | (i)   | 36 ml - SOUTHPORT RD STA - OBSERVATION HILL |
|               | (ii)  | 30 ml - TUMBLING WATERS                     |
|               | (iii) | 40 ml - Ry                                  |
| 7 Aust Inf Bn | (iv)  | HOWARD SPRINGS - KOOLPINYAH                 |
|               | (v)   | McMINNS LAGOON - KOOLPINYAH                 |
|               | (vi)  | KOOLPINYAH - HUMPTY DOO                     |

one patrol may be used if the different rds and tracks can be traversed as a circuit, but separate reports re each responsibility are required.

19 MG Bn will be prepared to take over any of the patrols when ordered, should the inf bns be required for other duties.

ACK.

*J. J. ...*  
Major  
BM 23 Aust Inf Bde. AIF.

Signed at 1045 hrs

Issued through Sigs

DISTRIBUTION

	Copy No	
K Sec Sigs	"	1
7 Aust Inf Bn	"	2
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SC	"	7
TO	"	8
IO	"	9
File	"	10
War Diary	"	11 - 12

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE - CO-ORDINATION

HQ NT ForceSECRETA ECH TPT - REF NT FORCE TRG INSTN No 36

1. Scale of tpt for inf bns was laid down in NT Force Adm Order No 12 of 26 Apr 42. A Ech then consisted of the following MT vehs :--

CO	1 Car DS
Bn HQ	1 x 1 ton van
HQ Coy	1 "
Rifle Coys (1 van each pl)	12 "
<u>Total</u>	<u>15 vehs</u>

2. A Ech MT veh composition was altered to the following vehs by verbal instns to Bde Comd on about 12 May 42 :--

CO	1 Car DS
Bn HQ	1 x 1 ton van
RAP	1 "
Rifle Coys (1 per coy)	4 "
Mortars (amm)	1 "
<u>Total</u>	<u>8 vehs</u> (in addition 3 x 1 ton vans were allowed for MMG Coy - then on est)

3. This was found to be unsatisfactory within this Bde. Was altered to the following composition on about 31 May 42 :--

CO	1 Car DS
Bn HQ	1 x 1 ton van
RAP	1 "
Sigs	1 "
HQ Coy	1 "
Rifle Coys (1 per coy)	4 "
<u>Total</u>	<u>9 vehs</u> (in addition 3 x 1 ton vans were allowed for MMG Coy - not now on est)

4. This last scale of A Ech tpt has now been increased by addition of A Tk pl vehs (5). These were formerly included in vehs with Bn A Ech by attachment of one A Tk tp to each Bn, so that no change in numbers of vehs has been made. A Ech also includes carriers as follows :--

CO	3
Mortar Pl	7
Carrier Pl	13
<u>Total</u>	<u>21</u>

5. Bde HQ tpt includes one 1 ton veh from each bn, carrying a mixed load of amm, as immediate amm reserve.

6. The loading of Bn A Ech vehs adopted by this Bde has been as follows :--



Sub-unit	Veh	Nos	Loading
CO	Car DS	1	Rations 1 day (3) Water 4 gals, Petrol 4 gals; SMG, SMG amn 200 rds
Bn HQ	1 ton	1	Use of Bn HQ and I Sec personnel. Respirators ) all A Tk Rifle 1 Rations 1 day) pers Amn SAA 1000 rds I Sec box A Tk 240 rds Bn HQ stationery box Grenades 3 boxes Typewriter  Tools Picks 8 Wire 1 concertina Shovels 8 Petrol 4 gals Axe 1 Water 6 gals
RAP	1 ton	1	Use of RMO and medical sec. Respirators ) all Tools picks 2 Rations 1 day) pers shovels 2 Stretchers 3 axe 1 RAP kit  Petrol 4 gals. Water 10 - 40 gals.
Sigs	1 ton	1	Use of Regtl Sigs. Respirators ) all A Tk Rifle Rations 1 day) pers Amn SAA 2000 rds Sig gear A Tk 240 rds (Phones, cable, switchboard, batteries, Lucas lamps etc) Tools Picks 3 Shovels 3 Axe 1 Mattocks 2 Wire 1 concertina Petrol 4 gals. Water 4 gals
HQ Coy	1 ton	1	Use of Coy HQ, 2 and 5 pls. Respirators ) all 4 AALMG mtgs Rations 1 day) pers Amn SAA 7500 rds Pnr tools & explosives SMG 1000 rds box, crowbars 2  Tools picks 9 Wire 1 concertina shovels 9 Petrol 4 gals axes 3 Water 6 gals
Rifle Coys	1 ton	4	Each coy one veh for use of Coy HQ and 3 pls. Respirators ) all A Tk rifle 1 Rations 1 day) pers Amn SAA 12000 rds Tools picks 11 SMG 3000 rds shovels 11 A Tk 240 rds axes 3 Grenades 7 sec 3bxx machettes 3 Sig cart 120 Molotov Cocktails 12 Wire 1 concertina Petrol 4 gals. Water 16 gals
Carriers	MT & Mortar	21	Crews, rations 1 day, respirators, weapons & amn, Petrol and Water.

NOTE - Respirators carried on MT in accordance with Force Instns.

7. Foregoing loading list overloads vehs. The question of the carriage of men's packs, containing waterproof sheet, mosquito net, blanket, change of clothing etc, has not been settled. It has been found that personnel are overloaded if they carry packs on their backs - if they are carried on B Ech they may not be able to be brought forward when required. In event of it being necessary to carry mens packs with fighting tps a return to the original A Ech composition of one 1 ton veh per rifle pl and an additional one 1 ton veh for HQ Coy is favoured. This would enable also better loading to be arranged.

*A W Potts*  
Brigadier  
Comd 23 Aust Inf Bde AIF.

APPX "T"  
War Diary

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

23 AUST INT DDE INT SUMMARY No 112

Compiled from information received between 1500 hrs 15 Nov 42 and 1600 hrs 23 Nov 42.

NOTE: Information contained herein will be passed to all ranks.

DAWUN AREA

(a) Enemy Air Activity

As reported 0550K/23 six flights of BA attacked LAE. Details of damage to LAE and to the airfield are being reported. Details of damage to LAE and to the airfield are being reported. Details of damage to LAE and to the airfield are being reported.

NEW GUINEA

(a) SUMMARY

Attempts which were frustrated by Allied A/C were apparently made to evacuate the Japanese garrison in the Buna sector. This having failed, JAPANESE forces are now holding an ill-defined line from a point about 3000 ft above the Buna airfield to a point about 3000 ft above the Buna airfield. The Japanese are now holding an ill-defined line from a point about 3000 ft above the Buna airfield to a point about 3000 ft above the Buna airfield.

(b) Enemy Air Activity

(i) An attempt to provide air support for the Buna garrison increased numbers of BA were being used. Details of damage to LAE and to the airfield are being reported.

(ii) 10 Nov: 18 enemy bombers attacked the Buna area. Details of damage to LAE and to the airfield are being reported.

(iii) 17 Nov: 18 bombers and fighters attacked the Buna area. Details of damage to LAE and to the airfield are being reported.

(iv) 23 Nov: 7 BA attempted interception of Allied A/C in the Buna area. Details of damage to LAE and to the airfield are being reported.

(c) Our Own Air Activity

(i) Our A/C have carried out successful attacks upon the enemy airfield at LAE. Details of damage to LAE and to the airfield are being reported.

(ii) Again on 18 Nov the LAE area was attacked. Details of damage to LAE and to the airfield are being reported.

(iii) LAE and SALAMUA received further attention on 18 and 19 Nov. Details of damage to LAE and to the airfield are being reported.

(iv) Med bombers and fighters have bombed enemy installations in the Buna area during the week. Details of damage to LAE and to the airfield are being reported.

(vi) 17 Nov: Allied A/C bombed shipping in RABAU, 2 direct hits being scored on a MV which was left smoking. On 19 Nov another raid was staged, but results were unobserved.

(vii) Two air attacks were made on KAVIENG on 19 and 20 Nov. Extremely bad weather prevented observation of results in the former raid, but during the latter raid bombs were seen to fall on runway and in dispersal area.

(viii) On 20 and 21 Nov KAVIENG was again attacked. One EA was destroyed on ground, AA posts silenced and fuel dumps hit.

#### (d) Land Operations

(i) Our patrols contacted strong enemy pickets at MUBO near LAE, where there have recently been signs of much enemy activity. The Japs are reported as showing signs of nerves. Mortar fire is opened on the slightest provocation. Movement of barges along the coast has been observed and defences about HEATH'S PLANTATION are being strengthened. Hy floods are hampering the movements of our tps.

(ii) Subsequent to the crossing of the KUMUSTI by our tps, the adv was continued towards PORONDETTA, with an Allied coln moving in towards BUNA from the SE.

(iii) There was every sign of flight by the JAPS after fighting at GORARI, where 2 enemy bns are stated to have suffered casualties amounting to 1185. Eqt was found strewn along the tracks, and native reports spoke of the JAPS being short of food.

(iv) The first enemy stand was made NORTH of the GIRUA River and at SOPUTA Village but by the evening of 20 Nov these posts had been cleared, and our tps quickly in posn approx 1 mile SOUTH of BUNA and 500 yds from the SE corner landing strip which is about 2 1/2 miles from BUNA settlement.

(v) Concurrent with the main thrust, the Allied coln on the right flank adv with only slight opposition in the region of CAPE ENDAIADSE. On the left flank additional forces were preparing to attack GONA on 20 Nov.

### 4. SOLONONS

#### (a) SUMMARY

The week opened with rumours of a major naval action in waters adjacent to GUADALCANAL, upon which island large convoys were known to be converging. Later, it was announced by the press that the JAPANESE had suffered by losses both in men and material, and were withdrawing to lick their wounds. Enemy air attacks have been made on Allied ground forces, but these have had no effect on our adv which is steadily progressing. According to press reports, half of the enemy reinforcements landed on GUADALCANAL early in the month have been killed, and the remainder driven into the jungle.

#### (b) Enemy Air Activity

Very little of significance has occurred. The only report of an enemy attack was dated 15 Nov, when bombers, escorted by 2 fighters, were over GUADALCANAL. Of these 6 fighters were destroyed. On 16 Nov a ZEKU made a forced landing at BICO with W/T eqpt and bomb sight intact.

#### (c) Our Own Air Activity

(i) Attacks were mainly directed upon enemy shipping and the KIRILI aerodrome, the principal JAP strip for land-based A/C. The precise part played by A/C in the naval engagement already referred to is not yet clear, but it is stated that, on 14 Nov, Allied A/C scored 7 torpedoes and 2 1000 lb bomb hits on a battleship near SAVO Is. Eight of 10 escorting ZEKES were shot down. Later, air attacks led to a 10,000 ton tpt being set on fire.

(c) Our Own Air Activity

(ii) On the night of 16 Nov Allied A/C bombed KIHILI strip, starting 6 large and 6 small fires in and around the runway. 3 EA were definitely destroyed.

(iii) 18 Nov: Allied A/C destroyed 12 ZEKES and 2 F/P in the BUIN - FAISI area.

(iv) 14 Nov: Allied bombers scored a hit and several near misses on tpts near GUADALCANAL. Of the escorting fighter A/D, 6 out of 15 were destroyed for certain.

(d) Land Operations

Numbers (unknown) of JAP tpts with naval escort were approaching GUADALCANAL at the beginning of the week, with the obvious intention of landing a large force on the island.

The main attempt was frustrated, but it is likely that small parties of JAPS have been put ashore. If this is so very little result is apparent. All that is known is that bush fighting both EAST and WEST of the HENDERSON airfield is continuing, and that results are very much our way.

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APPRX Diary  
23 Aust Inf Bde  
24 Nov 42

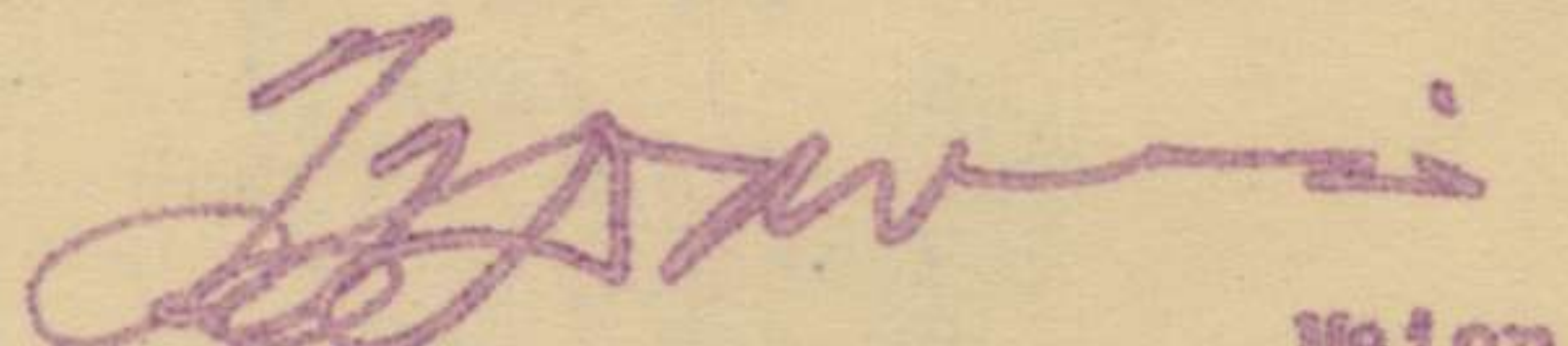
BOAT TRG AND LANDING OPS

1. It is expected that towing boats will be provided by Navy on the following basis, for units of this Bde when at IARRAKYAH :---

Day	No of Launches	Times available	Place reporting
Day 5 Fri	1	0830 - 1300 1400 - 1730 2030 - 2300	MINDIL BEACH
" 6 Sat	1	do	DARWIN JETTY
" 7 Sun	1	do	do
" 8 Mon	3	0330 - 0730	do

This will enable coy landing exercises to be carried out on Fri, Sat, and Sun, and Bn Op at first light on Mon.

2. Some of the launches provided for the Bn landing op will be capable of carrying up to 80 personnel, and so allow subsequent flights to be put ashore if folding boats are insufficient to accommodate all personnel in first three flights.
3. Assault boats are NOT suitable for towing purposes.
4. Before embarking in boats, all personnel will undo buckle of waist belt and shoulder straps of shirts so that equipment may be easily removed in event of accident. Rifle Slings will be loosened for a similar reason.

  
Major  
BM 23 Aust Inf Bde. AIF.

DISTRIBUTION

14 A Tk Bty  
23 Fd Coy  
7 Aust Inf Bn  
8 Aust Inf Bn  
19 Aust MG Bn  
BM  
LO  
File  
War Diary 2.

24 Nov 42

APPX "V"

23 AUST INF BDE ADM INSTN No 2

BOAT TRG AND LANDING OPS

1. Ref this HQ instn dated 20 Nov 42.

Units will move to occupy LARRAKEYAH BARRACKS as follows :--

Unit	Adv Party	Main Body
8 Aust Inf Bn 16 CRs Bde HQ	28 Nov	30 Nov
19 Aust MG Bn 16 CRs Bde HQ	5 Dec	7 Dec
7 Aust Inf Bn 16 CRs Bde HQ	12 Dec	14 Dec

The Following Buildings have been allotted :--

House Vicinity LARRAKEYAH Mess	CO & IO
Sjts Mess	Oftrs & Sjts
Block 3	CRS
Block 4	CRS
Kitchen Block (less sec allotted to engr	CRS

2. MOVEMENT

- (a) Adv parties will move under unit arrangements.
- (b) 2/8 Coy will supply tpt to lift main body reporting to unit lines 0830 hrs on day of movement, and demands for tpt will be submitted to this HQ on Wed of the week preceding movement.
- (c) S.T. not before 0900 hrs.
- (d) Movement will be unit responsibility, but it is suggested that in order to avoid congestion in Fortress Area convey moves in coy gps.
- (e) One carrier will be taken by 8 Bn and 7 Bn and this will be transported on trailer supplied by 2 Sec NT FORCE Ord Wkshps which will report to unit by 0900 hrs on day of movement.
- (f) 7 Bn will detach long wheel base 3 ton lorry with driver to move with 8 Bn.

This veh will remain in DARWIN till all units have completed trg programme.

3. ADM

- (a) Intents for rations will be submitted direct to DID adjacent to VESTEYS and must be allotted between 0800 and 1200 hrs daily. Bde HQ personnel attached will be rationed by units but RAE personnel will provide for themselves.
  - (b) Water is laid on to barracks. WPs at VESTEYS and BOTANICAL GARDENS.
  - (c) RP at DID.
  - (e) Medical - RMO's will establish RAP at MINDIL BEACH as well as in billeting area. ADMS will arrange to have an ambulance stationed constantly at MINDIL BEACH.
- Evacuation will be to KAHLIN Hospital.

MINDIL BARRACKS

*M. P. Bowers*  
Captain  
SG 23 Aust Inf Bde. AIF.

DISTRIBUTION

14 A. Tr Coy., 23 Rd Coy., 7 Bn, 8 Bn, 19 MG Bn., 2/8 Coy AASC.,  
2 Sec NTF Ord Wkshps., File., War Diary 2.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE - CO-ORDINATION

HQ NT ForceREPORT ON RDS AND TRACKS AS AT 1600 HRS 23 NOV 42

WEATHER:- Steady rain had fallen night 22/23 Nov. Sky overcast but no rain fell during recce.

1. ROUTE:- 36 MILE - SOUTHPORT STA - OBSERVATION HILL.

- (a) Road surface to TUMBLING WATERS is very firm, but deteriorates to 869767 but is passable to MT. From 869767 to PIONEER CK impassable to MT Convoy. From PIONEER CK to OBSERVATION HILL, the surface is hard except for MAGNETIC BEATS AREA 819787 which is impassable to MT Convoy.
- (b) Distance from MAIN RD which convoys, incl tp carrying vehs, can move is 17 mls to 869767.
- (c) Generally vehs can leave rd for dispersion except area 2000 yds EAST SOUTHPORT RD STA. and area 793779 - 775804.

2. ROUTE:- 30 MILE - TUMBLING WATERS.

- (a) General condition of rd surface is bad and it will be necessary to raise the surface of this rd to allow sufficient drainage.
- (b) Distance from MAIN RD which convoys can move is 10 mls to 979767.
- (c) Generally vehs can leave rd for dispersion provided care is taken to avoid low lying areas.

3. ROUTE:- 40 MILE - RAILWAY 970680.

- (a) The greater part of the surface of this track is soft but passable to MT Convoy.
- (b) Track is passable over its entire length (11.4 mls) to Ry 970680.
- (c) Generally vehs can leave rd for dispersion purposes.

4. ROUTE:- HOWARD SPRINGS - KOOLPINYAH.

- (a) General condition of rd and track surfaces is fair and passable to MT. HOWARD SPRINGS RD though well formed is badly corrugated, Rd construction parties are still engaged on track from HOWARD R Xing to KOOLPINYAH.

- (b) Convoys ,including tp carrying vehs can move along track to KOOLPINYAH.
- (c) From MAIN RD to HOWARD RIVER Xing vehs can leave rd for dispersion. From HOWARD RIVER Xing to 165118 track runs through low swampy ground where vehs could not disperse to any extent. From 165118 to KOOLPINYAH dispersal of MT is possible.

5. ROUTE:- MCMINNS LAGOON - KOOLPINYAH.

- (a) General condition of track surface is fair with the exception of swamp areas 096004, 119042, 160084, 192106 which are bad. Track is not passable to MT Convoy at 119042.
- (b) Distance from MAIN RD, which convoys including tp carriers can move is  $4\frac{1}{2}$  mls to swamp 119042.
- (c) Generally vehs can leave track for dispersion purposes except at Swamp areas mentioned in para (a). Dispersal areas to accommodate a Bde Convoy are available at (a) 127048 to 152078. (b) 193112 to 209168.

6. ROUTE:- KOOLPINYAH - HUMPTY DOO

- (a) General condition of the track is poor due to tree roots, waterways etc. The section of the track from 220023 to 255125 passes over bad swamp with two unbridged crossings off HOLLANDS CREEK. Patrol vehs had to be towed out at two points in this area. It is not possible to move MT convoy through this area.
- (b) An unbridged creek at 225119 ( $4\frac{1}{2}$  mls from KOOLPINYAH) presents a difficult crossing for convoys but is passable at 250999, 11 mls from KOOLPINYAH, the track is definitely impassable to MT CONVOY.
- (c) Country generally is unsuitable for dispersion of large numbers of vehs.

*M. Brown Capt J*  
Brigadier  
Comd 23 Aust Inf Bde. AIF.

AOD



Information contained in this document is not to be communicated either directly or indirectly to the press or to any person not holding an official position in His Majesty's Services.

Serial No 19  
Nos 95 - 97

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

ROUTINE ORDER PART I

by  
BRIGADIER A.W. POTTS, DSO., MC.  
Comd 23 Aust Inf Bde. AIF

In the Field  
26 Nov 42

95. <u>DUTY OFFICERS.</u>			
Thursday	26 Nov 42	Lieut W.H. WIID	
Friday	27 Nov 42	Lieut J.L. TREVENAN	
Saturday	28 Nov 42	Lieut A.J. FITZGERALD	
Sunday	29 Nov 42	Lieut R.A. NASH	
Monday	30 Nov 42	Lieut R PAULL	
Tuesday	1 Dec 42	Lieut N.V. CASEY	
Wednesday	2 Dec 42	Lieut L.G. POWELL	
Thursday	3 Dec 42	Lieut C.R.L. CAYSER	
Friday	4 Dec 42	Capt K.W. TEASDALE	

96. SECURITY OF INFORMATION  
(GRC 3561)

The attention of all ranks should be directed to the fact that the communication to any person, otherwise than in the course of official duty, of any naval, military or air force information is an offence under the Defence Act punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both.

An infringement of Army Field Censorship Instructions is an act of disloyalty which may incalculably harm the allied cause. This fact will be impressed upon all ranks. Rigorous steps will be taken to punish every detected offender, irrespective of rank.

An officer is responsible if a letter, after being franked by him, contains military information. By aiding and abetting the commission of an offence, the officer himself commits an offence and he is liable to punishment accordingly. This will not, however, absolve the writer of the letter from responsibility for the breach.

Penalties imposed for breaches of security will be notified in formation etc, Part 1 Routine Orders and, where practicable, such notifications will be read out on parade to troops within the formation etc.

Contravention of this order if committed by an officer will be reported to HQ so that, if thought necessary, the individual concerned may be called upon to show cause why his commission should not be cancelled.

97. MISUSE OF MAIL BAGS  
INF FORCE  
ORDER NO 14  
FORM 2251

Units are responsible for seeing that all mail bags are returned to the Postal Service with the least possible delay, and also for ensuring that mail bags are on no account utilised for purposes other than the conveyance of mails. Any breach of this order will be treated as an offence.

*A.W. Potts*  
Captain  
SC 23 Aust Inf Bde. AIF.

DISTRIBUTION "A"

War Diary

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

23 AUST INF BDE INT SUMMARY No 113

Compiled from information received between 1800 hrs 23 Nov 42  
and 1600 hrs 29 Nov 42.

NOTE: Information contained herein will be passed to all ranks.

1. DARWIN AREA

(a) Enemy Air Activity

(i) At 1116 (DARWIN TIME) on 25 Nov, 3 EA, probably on recon, were sighted over DARWIN. AA engaged. No bombs were dropped.

(ii) Three flts of EA attacked DARWIN at approx 0415 hrs on 26 Nov. Bombs fell between DALY Street Bridge and BOTANICAL Gardens. Damage included 2 buildings, water pipe and telephone line, but there were no casualties. At 0440 hrs, at least one formation of EA dropped bombs on HUGHES Field. One of our bombers was damaged, one slightly damaged, but there were no casualties to personnel. During the engagement S/L illuminated and AA went into action. One of our fighters took off failed to intercept.

(iii) Further enemy action on 26 Nov was as follows. At approx 1350 hrs, an EA, thought to be on recon, was over the DARWIN area, and at 1535 hrs, plots obtained suggested that EA were over STRAUSS and HUGHES landing strips. In neither case were A/C sighted.

(iv) At 0435 hrs on 27 Nov, EA (estimated at six) were reported as approaching EAST of DARWIN. Nineteen bombs fell in vicinity of COOMALIE Creek strip; 5 bombs were dropped 1500 yds EAST of HUGHES Field, and 6 in the bush at 24 mile. No damage or casualties were caused and AA did not engage.

(v) At 1040 hrs on 27 Nov, 6 ZEKES came in over LEE POINT at approx 29000 feet. They passed over DARWIN and BERRIMAH; thence to HUGHES Field where it is believed the formation split. Interception was attempted but no contact was made.

(iv) At 1140 hrs on 28 Nov, one EA was on recon. This A/C came in over COX PENINSULAR and made towards MANTON DAM. No further particulars are available.

2. NEW GUINEA.

(a) Summary. In the face of what is described as some of the heaviest air attacks yet carried out by Allied planes in SWPA, the enemy have made good use of the bad weather prevailing and succeeded in landing reinforcements at BUMA. Our troops continue to advance slowly in the face of field gun and mortar fire, but are beginning to encounter wired positions. Though air supremacy remains with us, Jap air support is on an increased scale, and it is believed that the enemy is developing new air fields at KOPOI and Cape GLOUCESTER to take the place of his present vulnerable bases at IAE and SALAMUA.

(b) Enemy Air Activity

(i) On 24 and 25 Nov, single EA raided Port MORESEBY; on the former date the target appeared to be a hosp and CCO where minor damage was caused. There were no casualties. The latter raid was upon WARDS drome. In this instance, no damage or casualties resulted.

(ii) On 26 Nov, approx 4 EA again raided MORESEBY. Bombs fell in the region of JACKSONS field and WARD Aerodrome. No casualties or damage reported. Our AA scored two probable hits.

(iii) On 26 Nov, 7 EA attacked our positions around Cape ENDAIDERE, destroying the bridge across the Mouth of the SAMBOGA River.

(c) Our Own Air Activity

(i) On 23/24 Nov, Allied A/C attacked enemy installations at KOKENGOLO Mission, New GEORGIA. All buildings in the compound were destroyed.

(ii) MUNDA, in NEW GEORGIA, was bombed by Allied A/C on 27 Nov, copra sheds and wharf being damaged.

(iii) Reservations of KIHILI Drome (BUIN Area) showed 4 F.P in harbour and 20 single-engined A/C on the landing strip. No great activity is reported, however, either from KIHILI or BUKA at the NORTHERN end of the same island (BOUGAINVILLE).

(d) Land Operations. No precise infm.

(e) Operations at Sea. On much reduced scale, and not of an offensive nature. Four submarines have been sighted in the waters surrounding the SOLOMONS, and seven around NEW GUINEA.

DISTRIBUTION. "B"

W/D

Ref Map DARWIN & NEIGHBOURS 1<sup>st</sup> - 1 ml

Unit	Subject	Date	Time	SP or Firing Pt	Route or Direction	Area	Type of Practice and Remarks
7 Aust Inf Bn	<u>Night Trg week</u>						
	(a) Night Range Practices	30 Nov 1 & 3 Dec	2030- 0400	123727	40°	-	Advancing and engaging targets at close quarters Bren - fixed line firing.
	(b) See recon & fighting patrols	1, 4, 5 Dec	1800- 0400	-	-	Coy areas	Incls, compass marches across country
	(c) Pl exercises - attack & defence	30 Nov	1800- 0400	-	-	A & D Coy areas to NE	One pl occupy def posn - opposing pl recon, patrol and attack.
	(d) Occupation of a Coy posn	3 Dec	1800- 0400	-	-	NE D coy area	Incl ap areas of HQ Coy in coy gps - recon posn dig and wire.
8 Aust Inf Bn	<u>Boat Trg Week</u>						
	(a) Instn and see trg handling boats, Embarking & disembarking, deployment etc.	1, 2, 3, Dec	(0900- 1730 2030- 2200	-	-	MINDIL BEACH DARWIN JETTY RAPID CREEK	
	(b) Coy landing Exercises	4, 5, 6 Dec	(0900- 1730 2030- 2200	-	-	DARWIN JETTY to HORNIBROOKS BEACH, DOCTORS GULF BOON BEACH	Boats towed by naval launches. Bn works in coy gps. Each coy carries out two day landings and one night landing.
	(c) Bn landing op	7 Dec	0400- 0730	-	-	DARWIN JETTY to VESTHYS BEACH	Boats towed, Bn landing and seizing br head.
	(d) Att A Trg Tp. A Trg pl & Carrier & mortar pl Boat trg	4, 5, 6 Dec	0900- 1730	-	-	MINDIL BEACH	Specialists carry out trg during these days as for inf also the loading and landing of carriers, A Trg guns on folding boat rafts.

Unit	Subject	Date	Time	SP or Firing Pt	Route or Direction	Area	Type of practice and Remarks
19 Aust ME Bn	MMG trg, Weapon trg and fd craft	Daily	0930- 1730	-	-	Coy areas	MMG trg in handling, immediate action, mechanism and see occupation.
	Range practices	<sup>4</sup> 2, 3, 5 Dec	0930- 1730	MOCHAMAH	-	-	Rifle practice, HQ Coy, A, D & B coys in turn
	Route March	30 Nov 3, 5 Dec	0930- 1130 1530- 1730	-	-	Some coys morning Remaining coys afternoon	4 mls total Carrying MMG and equipment
	Route March	1, 4 Dec	0930- 1730	Camp	BYHON RD to 008798, thence Ry hut 053757 thence ry track to camp	A & C coys 1 Dec HQ, B & D coys 4 Dec	<del>carrying MMG/equipment</del> <del>XXXX</del>

DISTRIBUTION

HQ NT Force 2  
War Diary 2  
File 1

  
Brigadier  
Comd 23 Aust Inf Bde. AIF.

WE AIF II/2/3

17-69

**FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS**

SERIAL NO 4/42

HQ 23 (Inf) Bde

(Unit)

**PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.**

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
BRIGADIER *	1		
Lieut.-Colonels			
Majors	1		
Captains		1	1
CHAPLAINS			
Lieutenants			
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals	17	2	2

\*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

**Officers JOINED during week.**

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
BRIG	POTTS A W	GEN LST	2 Nov 42	M/in ex 2111st L/Bde as Bde Comd

**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).

**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 and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
BRIGADIER	WX 1574	POTTS AW	Bde Band	yes.	
MAJOR	VX 44796	DAVIES TF	B M	"	
CAPTAIN	VX 5012	BROWN HY	S. C.	"	
"	VX 44784	REDWOOD JW	T O	no	School - NT force
"	VX 45737	PROSSOR NF	L O (U)	yes	
LIEUT	VY 39042	POWELL LG	BASCO	"	
"	VX 46440	MARSHALL LR	-	no	Detached NT force 5/1/42
"	VY 46432	ROSE RTM	I O	no	School - 1 MD
"	WX 4502	DRIVER AR	B.M (L)	"	School - 2 MD
"	VX 25426	WILD WH	L O (U)	yes	
"	VX 30357	FITZGERALD AJ	A O	"	
"	VXP 4411	KILLEY KTR	E O	"	
"	QX 27658	CASEY NV	HYG O	"	
CHAPLAIN	VH 4051	PIED AT	-	NO	Detached - 8 Bn
"	N 429400	FRY FJ	-	"	" - 7 Bn
"	NX 70677	KRUST GHD	-	"	" - 2/4 Bn
"	S 40268	BARRETT JC	-	"	" - 19 MG Bn

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.

HQ 23 Aust Inf Bde  
(Unit.)

(Signature of Commander.)

6 NOV 42.  
(Date of Despatch.)

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





HQ 23 Aust Lij 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 (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)
Ammunition Examiners			Fire Control Operators			Panel Beaters		
Armament Artificers	1		Fitters			Pattern Makers		
Armourers			Fitters and Turners			Pharmacists		
Artificers, Artillery	1		Fitters, Cycle			Photographers, dry plate		
Axemen			Fitters, Drivers			Photographers, wet plate		
Bakers	1		Fitters Mates			Photo-Writers		
Battery Surveyors			Fitters, M.V.		1	Plate Layers		
Battery Comdrs. Asst.	1		Fitters, Railway Signal			Plumbers		
Blacksmiths	1		Fitters, Signal			Predictor Numbers		
Boilermakers			Grinders			Printers		
Bricklayers			Gun Layers			Radiator Mechanics		
Butchers	1		G.P.O. Assistants			Radiographers		
Camouflage Modeller			Gun Operators			Range Takers		
Carpenter and Joiner			Hammermen			Riggers		
Clerks			Height Takers			Riveters		
Clerks, Engineering			Helio Operators			Saddlers		
Clerks, Supply			Instrument Mechanics	2		Saddle Tree Makers		
Clerks, Technical			Instrument Mechanics, Surgical			Saw Doctors		
Coachmakers			Instrument Operators			Sawyers		
Computers			Intelligence Duties		2	Shoemakers		
Concretors			Joiners			Signallers		
Cooks	2	1	Leather Stitchers			Signwriters		
Cooks, Hospital			Linesmen			Stokers, Stationary Engine		
Coppersmiths			Linesmen, Signals			Storemen, Technical		
Dental Clerk Orderlies			Lithographers			Surveyors		
Despatch Riders			Machinists			Surveyors, Engineering		
Dispensers			Masons			Tailors		
Draughtsmen			Masseurs			Telescope Identification Numbers		
Draughtsmen, Architectural			Mechanics, Dental			Textile Refitters		
Draughtsmen, Mechanical			Mechanics, M.T.	1		Tinsmiths		
Draughtsmen, Signal			Mechanics, Typewriter			Toolmakers		
Draughtsmen, Topographical			Mechanics, Wireless			Turners		
Driver Mechanics			Millwrights			Vulcanizers		
Driver Operators			Miners			Wagon Erectors		
Drivers, Transportation Plant			Moulders			Watchmakers		
Electrical Fitters			Nursing Orderlies			Watermen		
Electricians			Nursing Orderlies (Mental)			Welders		
Electricians, Eng. Units			Nurses, Trained			Well Borers		
Electricians, Signal			Observation Post Assistants			Wheelers		
Engine Artificers			Operating Room Assistants			Whitesmiths		
Engine Hands I/C			Operators, Signal			Wiremen		
Equipment Repairers			Opticians			Woodturners		
Farriers			Painters					
General Duties	1	1			8			
Transport Coy	1							
WO II (in Coy)	1							
Totals (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)				7	15			

Notes—(a) If rank other than Private is involved give details on back.  
(b) Authorised Trades or Specialists not included in list above will be added as required in spaces provided.

HQ 23 Aust Lij Bde  
Unit.

Signature of Commander.

Date of Despatch 1 Apr 42

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





**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 and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.		Corps.	Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
BRIGADIER.	WX1574	POTTS	A.W.	Bde Command	Yes	
MAJOR.	VX 44796	DAVIES	T.F.	B.M.	"	
CAPTAIN.	VX 5012	BROWN	H.V.	S.C.	"	
"	VX 44788	REDWOOD	J.W.	T.O.	No	school - NT Force
"	VX 45737	PROSSOR	N.F.	L.O. (1)	Yes	
Lieut	VX 39042	POWELL	L.G.	BASCO.	"	
"	VX 41440	MARSHALL	L.R.	-	No	Retained NT Force 54/1/42
"	VX 46432	ROSE	R.T.M.	I.O.	No	school - IMP
"	WX 4502	DRIVER	A.R.	B.M. (L)	"	" - 2 MD.
"	VX 28426	WILD	W.H.	L.O. (2)	Yes	
"	VX 30357	FITZGERALD	A.J.	A.O.	"	
"	VXP. 1111	KILLEY	M.T.R.	E.O.	"	
"	RX 27688	CASEY	N.V.	Hyp.O.	"	
CHAPLAIN.	VIM1081	PIDD	A.T.	-	No	Detached - 8 Bn
"	NA29402	FRY	F.T.	-	"	" - 7
"	MX 70677	KRUST	G.H.D.	-	"	" - 4th Av Bn
"	S 40265	BARRETT	J.C.	-	"	" - 17th Bn

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.

HQ 23 Aust Inf Bde

(Unit.)

(Signature of Commander.)

13 Feb 42

(Date of Despatch.)

NT Force

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

(Adapted)

Serial No 5/42

**FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.**

WE. REP.

II/2/3

HA 23 (ant Inf Bde)

(Unit)

13. Vos.

19 42 (Date).

To be furnished by all units and all Headquarter units.)

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Replacements required.

AMENDED PART 'A' AF W3009

Detail	War Establishment	Strength Excl Attd & 'X' List	Surplus	Deficiency	Remarks
W.O. CI I	1			1	
W.O. CI II	2	4	2		
C.Q.M.S.	1	1			
S/SQTS					
SQTS	5	3		2	
CPLS	7	7	1	1	
SPEC OP 1	1			1	
2	4	5	2	1	
3	2	3	1		
Ptes ETC	46	39		7	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>13</b>	

These totals are to agree with totals of part 'D'

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
Per. att. against WE			Other attachments
1 SQD 1 Bn 1 OR.	NT the Postal Unit		Nil.

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>(This section is crossed out with a diagonal line)</i>				

HQ 23 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 (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)
Ammunition Examiners			Fire Control Operators			Panel Beaters		
Armament Artificers			Fitters			Pattern Makers		
Armourers			Fitters and Turners			Pharmacists		
Artificers, Artillery			Fitters, Cycle			Photographers, dry plate		
Axemen			Fitters, Drivers			Photographers, wet plate		
Bakers	1		Fitter's Mates			Photo-Writers		
Battery Surveyors			Fitters, M.V.			Plate Layers		
Battery Comdrs. Asst.	1		Fitters, Railway Signal			Plumbers		
Blacksmiths			Fitters, Signal			Predictor Numbers		
Boilermakers	1		Grinders			Printers		
Bricklayers	1		Gun Layers			Radiator Mechanics		
Butchers			G.P.O. Assistants			Radiographers		
Camouflage Modeller	1		Gun Operators			Range Takers		
Carpenter and Joiner			Hammermen			Riggers		
Clerks			Height Takers			Riveters		
Clerks, Engineering			Helio Operators			Saddlers		
Clerks, Supply			Instrument Mechanics			Saddle Tree Makers		
Clerks, Technical			Instrument Mechanics, Surgical			Saw Doctors		
Coachmakers			Instrument Operators			Sawyers		
Computers			Intelligence Duties		2	Shoemakers		
Concretors			Joiners			Signallers		
Cooks	2	1	Leather Stitchers			Signwriters		
Cooks, Hospital			Linesmen			Stokers, Stationary Engine		
Coppersmiths			Linesmen, Signals			Storemen, Technical		
Dental Clerk Orderlies			Lithographers			Surveyors		
Despatch Riders			Machinists			Surveyors, Engineering		
Dispensers			Masons			Tailors		
Draughtsmen			Masseurs			Telescope Identification Numbers		
Draughtsmen, Architectural			Mechanics, Dental			Textile Refitters		
Draughtsmen, Mechanical			Mechanics, M.T.	1		Tinsmiths		
Draughtsmen, Signal			Mechanics, Typewriter			Toolmakers		
Draughtsmen, Topographical			Mechanics, Wireless			Turners		
Driver Mechanics			Millwrights			Vulcanizers		
Driver Operators			Miners			Wagon Erectors		
Drivers, Transportation Plant			Moulders			Watchmakers		
Electrical Fitters			Nursing Orderlies			Watermen		
Electricians			Nursing Orderlies (Mental)			Welders		
Electricians, Eng. Units			Nurses, Trained			Well Borers		
Electricians, Signal			Observation Post Assistants			Wheelers		
Engine Artificers			Operating Room Assistants			Whitesmiths		
Engine Hands I/C			Operators, Signal			Wiremen		
Equipment Repairers			Opticians			Woodturners		
Farriers			Painters					
BOONS	1	1	General Duties		7			
Transport Bde	1							
ALL		1						
WO 2 (see over)	1							
Totals (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)				6	13			

Notes—(a) If rank other than Private is involved give details on back.  
(b) Authorised Trades or Specialists not included in list above will be added as required in spaces provided.

HQ 23 Aust Inf Bde  
Unit.

Signature of Commander.

Date of Despatch 13 Nov 42

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

Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Number	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Number	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Number
Panel Beaters		Fire Control Operators		Administration Examiners	
Ballast Makers		Fitters		Armament Artificers	
Pharmacists		Fitters and Turners		Armourers	
Photographers, dry plate		Fitter	<b>SURPLUS</b>	Artificers, A.C.	
Photographers, wet plate		Fitters Drivers		Accountants	
Photo-Plates	<b>BOWO</b>	Fitters, M.T.	<b>I WO II</b>	Barbers	
Plate Layers		Fitters, Signal	<b>I Dr. MECH. TG III</b>	Battalion Surgeon	
Mechanics M.T.		Grinders		Battalion Quartermaster	
Intelligence		Gun Layers		Battalion Cooks	
Intelligence		G.O. Assistants		Battalion Signaller	
Intelligence		Gun Operators	<b>I TG II</b>	Battalion Veterinary Officer	
Cooks		Hammermen		Battalion Chaplain	
Cooks		Height Takers		Battalion Band Leader	
Cooks		Infantry Orderlies		Battalion Signaller	
Cooks		Instrument Mechanics, Surgical		Battalion Signaller	
Cooks		Instrument Operators		Battalion Signaller	
Cooks		Intelligence Duties		Battalion Signaller	
Cooks		Joiners		Battalion Signaller	
Cooks		Leather Binders		Battalion Signaller	
Cooks		Lineamen		Battalion Signaller	
Cooks		Lineamen, Signal		Battalion Signaller	
Cooks		Lithographers		Battalion Signaller	
Cooks		Machinists		Battalion Signaller	
Cooks		Masons		Battalion Signaller	
Cooks		Messengers		Battalion Signaller	
Cooks		Messengers, Dental		Battalion Signaller	
Cooks		Mechanics, M.T.		Battalion Signaller	
Cooks		Mechanics, Typewriter		Battalion Signaller	
Cooks		Mechanics, Wireless		Battalion Signaller	
Cooks		Millwrights		Battalion Signaller	
Cooks		Miners		Battalion Signaller	
Cooks		Moulders		Battalion Signaller	
Cooks		Nursing Orderlies		Battalion Signaller	
Cooks		Nursing Orderlies (Mental)		Battalion Signaller	
Cooks		Nurses, Trained		Battalion Signaller	
Cooks		Observation Post Assistants		Battalion Signaller	
Cooks		Operating Room Assistants		Battalion Signaller	
Cooks		Operators, Signal		Battalion Signaller	
Cooks		Opticians		Battalion Signaller	
Cooks		Painters		Battalion Signaller	

**1 WO II awaiting promotion to Commissioned Rank as SC (L).**

**DEFICIENCIES**

**SURPLUS**

**1 WO I**

**1 WO II**

**1 FITTER MT TG I**

**1 Dr. MECH. TG III**

**1 SGT**

**INTELLIGENCE**

**1 T.G. II**

**COOKS**

**1 CPL**

**1 WO II awaiting promotion to Commissioned Rank as SC (L).**

Totals (to agree with Columns 2 and 4 of Part A.)

Date of Despatch: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Commanding Officer: \_\_\_\_\_

Place, Date, Area, etc. with which unit is serving: \_\_\_\_\_





**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 and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
BRIGADIER	WX 1574	POTTS	AW	Yes	
MAJOR	VX 44796	DAVIES	T.F.	"	
CAPTAIN	VX 5012	BROWN	UV	"	
"	VX 44788	REDWOOD	T.W.	"	
"	VX 45737	PROSSER	MF	"	
Lieut.	VX 39082	POWELL	L.G.	"	
"	VX 46440	MARSHALL	L.R.	No	Relieved - NT 3000 - 5/11/42
"	VX 44433	ROSE	H.T.M.	"	School - G.L. to G.C.
"	WX 4502	DRIVER	A.R.	"	" - NSW L.G.C.
"	VX 28426	WILD	W.H.	Yes	
"	VX 30357	FITZGERALD	A.J.	"	
"	VX P 44411	KILLEY	K.T.R.	"	
"	GA 27655	CASEY	N.V.	"	
CHAPLAIN	VH 1081	PIDD	A.T.	No	Relieved - 8 Bn.
"	NW 9460	FRY	F.J.	"	" - 7 <sup>th</sup>
"	S 40268	BARRETT	J.L.	"	" - 19th Gen

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.

11223 Aust Reg Bde (Unit.)

(Signature of Commander.)

20 November 42 (Date of Despatch.)

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

Serial No 6/42

**FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.**

WE, AIF. II/2/3 17469. (Unit) 20 November 1942 (Date).

To be furnished by all units and all Headquarter units.)

AMENDED PART 'A' AF W3009

Detail	War Establishment	Strength Excl Attd & 'X' List	Surplus	Deficiency	Remarks
W.O. CI I	1			1	
W.O. CI II	2	4	2		
C.Q.M.S	1	1			
S/SGTS					
SGTS	5	3		2	
CPLS	7	7	1	1	
SPEC GP 1	1			1	
2	4	5	2	1	
3	2	3	1		
PTES ETC	46	39		7	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>13</b>	

x These totals are to agree with totals of part 'D'

**Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.**

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
Per attached again WE.			Other attachments
1 Sgt 16th I OR.	NT Force Postal Unit		NIL.

**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).
<del> </del>				

HR 23 *Unit*.....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 (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)
Ammunition Examiners			Fire Control Operators			Panel Beaters		
Armament Artificers			Fitters			Pattern Makers		
Armourers			Fitters and Turners			Pharmacists		
Artificers, Artillery			Fitters, Cycle			Photographers, dry plate		
Axemen			Fitters, Drivers			Photographers, wet plate		
Bakers			Fitter's Mates			Photo-Writers		
Battery Surveyors			Fitters, M.V.			Plate Layers		
Battery Comdrs. Asst.			Fitters, Railway Signal			Plumbers		
Blacksmiths			Fitters, Signal			Predictor Numbers		
Boilermakers			Grinders			Printers		
Bricklayers			Gun Layers			Radiator Mechanics		
Butchers			G.P.O. Assistants			Radiographers		
Camouflage Modeller			Gun Operators			Range Takers		
Carpenter and Joiner			Hammermen			Riggers		
Clerks			Height Takers			Riveters		
Clerks, Engineering			Helio Operators			Saddlers		
Clerks, Supply			Instrument Mechanics			Saddle Tree Makers		
Clerks, Technical			Instrument Mechanics, Surgical			Saw Doctors		
Coachmakers			Instrument Operators			Sawyers		
Computers			Intelligence Duties			Shoemakers		
Concretors			Joiners			Signallers		
Cooks	12	1	Leather Stitchers			Signwriters		
Cooks, Hospital			Linesmen			Stokers, Stationary Engine		
Coppersmiths			Linesmen, Signals			Storemen, Technical		
Dental Clerk Orderlies			Lithographers			Surveyors		
Despatch Riders			Machinists			Surveyors, Engineering		
Dispensers			Masons			Tailors		
Draughtsmen			Masseurs			Telescope Identification Numbers		
Draughtsmen, Architectural			Mechanics, Dental			Textile Refitters		
Draughtsmen, Mechanical			Mechanics, M.T.			Tinsmiths		
Draughtsmen, Signal			Mechanics, Typewriter			Toolmakers		
Draughtsmen, Topographical			Mechanics, Wireless			Turners		
Driver Mechanics			Millwrights			Vulcanizers		
Driver Operators			Miners			Wagon Erectors		
Drivers, Transportation Plant			Moulders			Watchmakers		
Electrical Fitters			Nursing Orderlies			Watermen		
Electricians			Nursing Orderlies (Mental)			Welders		
Electricians, Eng. Units			Nurses, Trained			Well Borers		
Electricians, Signal			Observation Post Assistants			Wheelers		
Engine Artificers			Operating Room Assistants			Whitesmiths		
Engine Hands I/C			Operators, Signal			Wiremen		
Equipment Repairers			Opticians			Woodturners		
Farriers			Painters					
<i>BDWO</i>	1	1	<i>Special Duties</i>		7			
<i>Transport Spt</i>	1							
<i>1 Sgt</i>		1						
<i>WO II (Receiver)</i>	1							
Totals (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)				6	13			

Notes—(a) If rank other than Private is involved give details on back.  
(b) Authorised Trades or Specialists not included in list above will be added as required in spaces provided.

HR 23 *Unit*.....Unit.

*Signature of Commander.*

Date of Despatch *20 Nov 42*

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





**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 and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
			APPOINTMENT.		
BRIGADIER.	VX 1574	POTTS A.W.	Bde Band	Yes.	
MAJOR.	VX 40746	DAVIES T.F.	B.M.	"	
CAPTAIN.	VX 5012	BROWN H.V.	S.C.	"	
"	VX 44755	REDWOOD J.W.	T.D.	"	
"	VX 45737	CROSSOR N.F.	LOM	"	
Kent	VX 39042	POWELL L.G.	BASCO	"	
"	VX 46440	MARSHALL L.M.	-	No	Detached NTJ - 142
"	VX 46432	ROSE A.T.M.	L.O.	"	School - 2 Lt of 5 Bn
"	VX 4502	DRIVER A.R.	B.M.(A)	"	" - NSW
"	VX 25436	WILD W.H.	L.O.(A)	Yes	
"	VX 30357	FITZGERALD A.J.	A.O.	"	
"	VAP 4444	KILLEY K.T.R.	E.S.	"	
"	OX 27558	CASEY N.V.	M49, O.	"	
CHAPLAIN	VIA1081	PIDD A.T.	-	No	Detached - 5 Bn
"	N124400	FRY E.J.	-	No	" - 7
"	S140268	BARRETT J.C.	-	No	" - 19 MGBn

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.

MG 23 Aust Inf Bn  
(Unit.)

*[Signature]*  
(Signature of Commander.)

27 November 42  
(Date of Despatch.)

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

**FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.**

(Adapted)

Serial No 7/42

118 23rd Anti Air Bde (Unit) 27 November 1942 (Date)

To be furnished by all units and all Headquarter units.)

WE 215 II/2/2 17 x 69

ANNEXED PART 'A' OF W.3009

Detail	Estabishment	Strength Excl Attd & 'X' List	Surplus	Deficiency	Remarks
W.O. CI I	1			1	
W.O. CI I	2	4	2		
C.Q.M.S.	1	1			
S/SGTS					
SGTS	5	3		2	
CPLS	7	7	1	1	
SPEC GP 1	4	5	2	1	
2	2	3	1		
3					
Pres MTC	46	38		8	
TOTALS	69	61	6	14	

These totals are to agree with totals of part 'D'

**Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.**

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
Pres attached against WE			Other attachments
1 Spc 1841 1 CR.	NT Force Postal Unit		MIL

**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).

HR 23 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 (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)
Ammunition Examiners			Fire Control Operators			Panel Beaters		
Armament Artificers			Fitters			Pattern Makers		
Armourers			Fitters and Turners			Pharmacists		
Artificers, Artillery			Fitters, Cycle			Photographers, dry plate		
Axemen			Fitters, Drivers			Photographers, wet plate		
Bakers			Fitter's Mates			Photo-Writers		
Battery Surveyors			Fitters, M.V.		1	Plate Layers		
Battery Comdrs. Asst.			Fitters, Railway Signal			Plumbers		
Blacksmiths			Fitters, Signal			Predictor Numbers		
Boilermakers			Grinders			Printers		
Bricklayers			Gun Layers			Radiator Mechanics		
Butchers			G.P.O. Assistants			Radiographers		
Camouflage Modeller			Gun Operators			Range Takers		
Carpenter and Joiner			Hammermen			Riggers		
Clerks			Height Takers			Rivetters		
Clerks, Engineering			Helio Operators			Saddlers		
Clerks, Supply			Instrument Mechanics			Saddle Tree Makers		
Clerks, Technical			Instrument Mechanics, Surgical			Saw Doctors		
Coachmakers			Instrument Operators			Sawyers		
Computers			Intelligence Duties		2	Shoemakers		
Concretors			Joiners			Signallers		
Cooks			Leather Stitchers			Signwriters		
Cooks, Hospital			Linesmen			Stokers, Stationary Engine		
Coppersmiths			Linesmen, Signals			Storemen, Technical		
Dental Clerk Orderlies			Lithographers			Surveyors		
Despatch Riders			Machinists			Surveyors, Engineering		
Dispensers			Masons			Tailors		
Draughtsmen			Masseurs			Telescope Identification Numbers		
Draughtsmen, Architectural			Mechanics, Dental			Textile Refitters		
Draughtsmen, Mechanical			Mechanics, M.T.		1	Tinsmiths		
Draughtsmen, Signal			Mechanics, Typewriter			Toolmakers		
Draughtsmen, Topographical			Mechanics, Wireless			Turners		
Driver Mechanics			Millwrights			Vulcanizers		
Driver Operators			Miners			Wagon Erectors		
Drivers, Transportation Plant			Moulders			Watchmakers		
Electrical Fitters			Nursing Orderlies			Watermen		
Electricians			Nursing Orderlies (Mental)			Welders		
Electricians, Eng. Units			Nurses, Trained			Well Borers		
Electricians, Signal			Observation Post Assistants			Wheelers		
Engine Artificers			Operating Room Assistants			Whitesmiths		
Engine Hands I/C			Operators, Signal			Wiremen		
Equipment Repairers			Opticians			Woodturners		
Farriers			Painters					
BOWO	1	1	General Duties		8			
Transport Spt	1							
" Spt		1						
WO II (in over)	1							
Totals (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)				6	11			

Notes—(a) If rank other than Private is involved give details on back.  
(b) Authorised Trades or Specialists not included in list above will be added as required in spaces provided.

HR 23 Aust Inf Bde Unit.

Signature of Commander.

Date of Despatch 27 Nov 42

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





WAR DIARY ~~OR INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit HQ 23 Aust Inf Bde

Date and Time.—From 1 Dec 42

To 31 Dec 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
In the Field	1 Dec 42	AM	2nd Group of Bde HQ personnel went out on compass march and were instructed and practiced in river crossings as per ATM No 12.	
	2 Dec 42	AM	Brig POTTS, Maj DAVIES and Capt BROWN viewed training of 8 Bn in Beach Landing at MINDIL BEACH.	
	3 Dec 42	PM	Brig POTTS accompanied by Major DAVIES visited temporary HQ of 8 Bn in LARRAKEYAH where Brig POTTS held a conference with CO's, reviewing the NT Force Defence Plan as applicable to this Bde, necessity for constant preparedness to resist possible aggression was stressed and a letter to Brig POTTS from the GOC, General STEVENS re increase of Japanese activities in TIMOR was discussed. Subsequent to this conference, Bde OI No 16 was issued (See appx A)	
			Later, landing ops by 8 Bn at MINDIL BEACH were inspected.	
	4 Dec 42	AM	Brig POTTS accompanied by Maj DAVIES visited 6 Aust Cav Regt, where the Brigadier lectured on Operations in NEW GUINEA.	
		PM	An appreciation was conducted by Maj DAVIES for all offr of this HQ.	
	5 Dec 42	AM	Brig POTTS and Maj DAVIES proceeded to DARWIN to view embarkation and subsequent landing operations by two coys of 8 Bn at the OVAL Area.	23 Bde OI No 16 - Appx "A" RO No 20 - Appx "B"
		PM	Brig POTTS and party attended a social function at 119 AGH Sisters Mess.	
	6 Dec 42	PM	The GOC, General STEVENS arrived here at 1645 hrs to confer with Brig POTTS, proceeding from here to DARWIN.	Bde trg Syllabus Week ending 13 Dec - Appx 'C'
	7 Dec 42	AM	Brig POTTS, Maj DAVIES and a party of officers from this HQ left here for DARWIN at 0500 hrs to witness a dawn landing and attack by 8 Bn on VESTY'S BEACH area. The GOC, General STEVENS was also present and expressed satisfaction with the	Bde Int Summary - Appx 'D'

WAR DIARY ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

PAGE 2

Unit HQ 23 Aust Inf Bde

Date and Time.—From To

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
	7 Dec	AM	operations. This completed the 8 Bns week of boat trg and by lunch the unit had returned to camp, the 19 MG Bn having taken over their quarters in LARRAKEYAH BARRACKS to commence similar trg for the ensuing week.	Arty Co-op ) Appx 'E' Coy Comds Shoots)
		PM	During the evening educational films and news reels were shown by the AES 16 MM projector.	
	8 Dec	AM	Brig POTTS and Lieut WILD proceeded to DARWIN to inspect 19 MG Bn commencing Boat Trg.	
		PM	Visitors to evening Mess were the CO of 14 L of C Area Lt-Col SADLER and Maj DUKE.	
	9 Dec	AM	Brig POTTS accompanied by Lieut WILD inspected 8 Aust Inf Bn on field firing exercises at ACACIA GAP. Maj DAVIES visited the 19 MG Bn engaged in landing ops trg in DARWIN. Group of Bde personnel went out on a compass march.	
	10 Dec	AM	Brig POTTS and Maj DAVIES proceeded to DARWIN to inspect boat trg by 19 MG Bn.	
		PM	2nd group of Bde personnel went out on compass march.	
	11 Dec	AM	Brig POTTS and Capt BROWN went to DARWIN and spent the day viewing all phases of 19 MG Bns boat trg.	
		PM	During the evening Maj DAVIES conducted a discussion for officers of this HQ on construction and issue of Operation Orders, subsequent to preceding lectures on appreciations.	
	12 Dec	AM	Brig POTTS and Lieut WILD inspected 8 Aust Inf Bn training in river crossings at MANTON RIVER. During these operations one soldier of the unit was accidentally drowned.	RO No 21 - Appx 'F' Bde trg Syllabus ) Appx Week ending 20 Dec) 'G'
	14 Dec		Brig POTTS, Maj DAVIES, Capt STEVENS visited DARWIN TO witness a dawn landing and attack by 19 MG Bn on VESTEY'S BEACH area	Training Programme Issued - Appx 'H'

This completed 19 MG Bns week of boat trg and by 1300 hrs unit had returned to camp, the 7 Aust Inf Bn having taken over their quarters in LARRAKEYAH BARRACKS to commence similar trg for ensuing week.

D.3485/5.39.—C.4788.

WAR DIARY ~~OR INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit HQ 23 Aust Inf Bde

Date and Time.—From ..... To .....

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
	14 Dec	AM	Heavy rain fell shortly after midnight. Brig POTTS visited 119 AGH.	
		PM	Lt-Col L de L MIELL, 6 Aust Cav Regt reported to '23 Bde HQ at 1400 hrs and arrangements were made for him to take over Command of 19 Aust MG Bn on 15 Dec 42.	
	15 Dec	AM	Lt-Col L de L MIELL took over Command of 19 Aust MG Bn.	Operation Instn No 17
		PM	Heavy rain recorded night 15/16 Dec 42.	issued - Appx 'I'
	16 Dec	AM	Brig POTTS and Maj DAVIES inspected 7 Aust Inf Bn Boat Trg ops and made recce of CASURRINA BEACH Area.	Int Summary No 115 Appx 'J'
	17 Dec	AM	Brig POTTS accompanied by Maj DAVIES inspected 7 Aust Inf Bn Boat Trg Ops.	
	18 Dec	AM	Brig POTTS accompanied by Lieut TREVENEN visited 8 Aust Inf Bn and inspected training of 8 Bn BATMANS COURSE.	
		PM	Brigadier POTTS accompanied by Maj DAVIES were guests at dinner given by Brigade Commander and Officers of HQ 19 Aust Inf Bde.	
	19 Dec	AM	Heavy rain fell 0400 - 0500 hrs. Lt-Col MIELL 19 Aust MG Bn, dined with Brig POTTS and met Lt-Col MONTGOMERY, Lt-Col OUTRIDGE and Bde HQ Officers.	Training Syllabus issued - Appx 'K'
	20 Dec	PM	At 2000 hrs Cap STEVENS conducted a cloth model exercise on Road Recce. Bde HQ Officers attended.	
	21 Dec	AM	Brig POTTS, Maj DAVIES and Capt STEVENS witnessed dawn landing operations of 7 Bn at VESTEY'S BEACH area. This completed 7 Bns week of boat trg and by lunch unit had returned to camp area. This completed Boat training period for 23 Bde.	RO issued Appx 'L'
			Road Recce carried out by 8 Bn and 19 MG Bn as per 23 Bde OI No 15. Capt PROSSOR returned from Liaison Duties with 23 Bde units on Boat Training Exercises.	Programme of Trg issued - Appx 'M'.

WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

PAGE 4

Unit HQ 23 Aust Inf Bde

Date and Time.—From To

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
	22 Dec	AM	Capt REDWOOD and Lieut WILD visited 8 Bn and 19 MG Bn re camp and MT camouflage.	Int Summary No 116 issued - Appx 'N'
			Lt-Col SHEPHERD (AAGMG) visited Bde Comd re units entering BERRY SPRINGS Rest Camp for periods week 8 Aust Inf Bn to commence on 2 Jan 43.	Appendices O,P,Q,R,S Road Recce Reports.
		PM	Lieut TREVENEN returned to 8 Bn after having acted temporary as Bde IO.	
	23 Dec	AM	Conference of COs to discuss points arising out of Boat Trg exercises in DARWIN Area.	
			Lieut WILD visited 7 Bn re camouflage.	
	24 Dec	PM	Officers Mess entertained representatives NAVY, NT FORCE, other Bdes and Bns of 23 Bde in evening.	Programme of Trg Assault Boats - Appx 'T'
	25 Dec	AM	Steady rain fell from 1000 hrs to 1430 hrs. Rest day mens Xmas meal at 1345 hrs.	
	26 Dec	PM	Brig POTTS, Capt BROWN, Lieut WILD attended Force swimming Carnival.	Road Recce Report for 24 Dec - Appx 'U'
	27 Dec	AM	Brig POTTS, Maj DAVIES attended church parade at 19 Aust MG Bn. Capt BROWN and Lieut WILD visited HUMPTY DOO area to locate a local buffalo hunter and arrange details for living off land i.e. local vegetable and animal life. Meeting places arranged and suggested date commencement 5 Jan. Suggested composition of part Offr from Bde and one or two from units.	Programme of Trg issued Appx 'V'
	28 Dec	AM	Lieut WILD visited 7 Bn and 8 Bn ref relief of A Tk tps attached.	Appx 'W' <sup>SUGGESTED</sup> Re-org of Tpt MG Bn issued.
		PM	Brig POTTS addressed all officers from Bde on Policy for Training 1943. Maj DAVIES conducted cloth model exercise at 2000 hrs on "Issue of Operation Order" all Bde HQ Officers attended.	



WAR DIARY ~~OR INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

PAGE 6

(Erase heading not required).

Unit HQ 23 Aust Inf Bde

Date and Time.—From To

Place	Date	<del>XXXX</del>	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
	31 Dec		OFFICERS OF HQ 23 AUST INF BDE	
		Comd	Brigadier A.W. POTTS DSO, MC.	
		BM	Major T.F. DAVIES	
		SC	Captain H.V. BROWN	
		BM(L) A/SC(L)	Lieut A.R. DRIVER - Lieut R.A. NASH	Absent at RMC DUNTROON
		IO TO	Lieut R.T.M. ROSE - Captain J.W. REDWOOD	Absent at LHQ School of Military Int.
		LO 1 LO 2	Captain N.F. PROSSOR Lieut W.H. WILD	
		BASCO Amen Offr	Captain L.G. POWELL Lieut A.J. FITZGERALD	
		Hyg Offr Edu Offr	Lieut N.V. CASEY Lieut R.A. PAULL	
		Sig Offrs	Captain K.W. TEASDALE Lieut C.R.L. CAYSER	
			<i>[Signature]</i> Major BM 23 Aust Inf Bde. AIF.	

1. Although no land action has as yet developed in NF, all units must maintain a state of preparedness so that action could be joined without delay. This requires that plans, orders, supplies and the like be checked and reviewed at frequent intervals to ascertain that such are consistent with likely roles of units.
2. Roles of units will of course, be dependant on orders of GOC to Bdes at time of ops, but will in all probability be in accordance with defence plans issued to Bdes. The roles of Bdes as outlined in these defence plans have been practised already by means of Force exercises in which units of this Bde participated.
3. Unit comds will keep themselves informed as to the condition of areas of likely ops as per defence plans. This will be achieved to some extent by perusal of weekly road patrol reports which are forwarded to Bns, but in addition personal recce by unit comds at suitable intervals will be necessary.
4. The ability of units to turn out at short notice is an essential part of the state of preparedness. Unit comds will arrange therefore for quick turn-outs by their units at frequent intervals. For these turn-outs, tpt will be loaded as if for ops, personnel carrying battle equipment, and a short move will be made to ensure that sub-units are fully prepared. A check will be made at each of these turn-outs to ascertain if personnel are properly equipped and that unit tpt is loaded correctly. On occasions, MF will be made available for the short moves mentioned.
5. When sub-units are to train in distant areas arrangements will be made beforehand by unit comds for their quick recall should the necessity arise.
6. Supplies will be maintained on the following basis at all times :--
  - (a) Rations - 5 days and emergency.  
During ops carried as follows:--  
On man - 2 days and emergency  
on A Ech Vehs - 1 day  
on B Ech vehs - 2 days.
  - (b) Water - minimum of 6 galls per veh on all vehs in addition to water carts.
  - (c) P.O.L. - 50 miles res each veh on all vehs.
  - (d) Amm - First line.  
At commencement of ops, riflemen carry 100 rds SAA, plus proportion of mags LMG.
7. Security measures such as arrangements for the destruction of documents and text books, and safeguarding of these and amm dumps at all times will be checked and reviewed.
8. Unit comds will ensure that the requirements of para 6 can be complied with. By 11 Dec 42 units will practise at least one quick turnout, and thereafter will practise turn-outs at intervals determined by unit comds and also when ordered by this HQ. Advice of each turn-out together with a brief report of any serious delay or irregularity will be rendered to this HQ subsequently to each occasion.

AOK.

  
Major  
BM 23 Aust Inf Bde. AIF.

Signed at 0910 hrs

Issued Through Sigs

DISTRIBUTION OVER.



DISTRIBUTION

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Copy No</u>
42 Fd Bty 11 Aust Fd Regt	1
14 A Tk Bty 2/4 Aust A Tk Regt	2
K Sec Sigs NT Force	3
1 Sec 23 Aust Fd Coy RAE	4
7 Aust Inf Bn	5
8 Aust Inf Bn	6
19 Aust MI Bn	7
2/108 LAD	8
236 LAD	9
Bde Comd	10
BH	11
SC	12
TO	13
BASCO	14
File	15
War Diary	16/17

The ability of units to carry out their duties is dependent on the availability of the above mentioned equipment. It is requested that units concerned should ensure that this equipment is maintained in a state of readiness for use at all times.

Units are requested to ensure that the above mentioned equipment is maintained in a state of readiness for use at all times. This includes ensuring that the equipment is stored in a secure and accessible location, and that it is regularly inspected and maintained.

- (a) Rations - 5 days and emergency. During operations as follows:
    - On main - 5 days and emergency
    - On A Bn - 1 day
    - On B Bn - 2 days
  - (b) Water - minimum of 6 gallons per man on all operations.
  - (c) P.O.L. - 50 gallons per man on all operations.
  - (d) Fuel - First line.
- At commencement of operations, rations and fuel should be provided in accordance with the above instructions.

Priority resources such as arrangements for the distribution of documents and text books, and arrangements for the distribution of all items will be detailed and reviewed.

This order will ensure that the requirements of the above instructions are complied with. By 11.00 AM on 11.01.42, all units will provide at least one copy of the above instructions to the HQ of their parent unit, and thereafter all units will be provided with a copy of the above instructions by their HQ. The HQ of each unit will be provided with a copy of the above instructions together with a report of any action taken in accordance with the above instructions. This report will be forwarded to the HQ of the parent unit as soon as possible.

BR 22 Insp. Lt. Col. A. J. ...

7

8

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED

Information contained in this document is not to be communicated either directly or indirectly to the press or to any person not holding an official position in His Majesty's Services.

Serial No 20  
Nos 98 - 102

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

ROUTINE ORDER PART I

by

BRIGADIER A.W. POTTS, DSO., MC.  
Comd 23 Aust Inf Bde. AIF

In the Field  
5 Dec 42

98. <u>DUTY OFFICERS.</u>			
	Saturday	5 Dec 42	Lieut W.H. WILD
	Sunday	6 Dec 42	Lieut D.G. HEALEY
	Monday	7 Dec 42	Lieut A.J. FITZGERALD
	Tuesday	8 Dec 42	Lieut R.A. NASH
	Wednesday	9 Dec 42	Lieut R.A. PAUL
	Thursday	10 Dec 42	Lieut N.V. CASEY
	Friday	11 Dec 42	Lieut L.G. POWELL
	Saturday	12 Dec 42	Lieut C.R.L. CAYSER

99. PROHIBITED AREAS (NT Force Order Serial 15 Para 233)  
Units are reminded that areas within a 5 mile radius of the following are out of bounds to all ranks :--

- (a) KOOLPINYAH Homestead.
- (b) KOOLPINYAH Slaughter Yards.
- (c) HUMPTY DOO Station.
- (d) Any Native Reservation.

100. SWIMMING - DANGER OF ACCIDENTS (NT Force Order Serial 15 Para 235)  
Accidents have occurred recently to personnel whilst swimming in various pools, etc in this area. In order to minimise the risk necessarily attached to this practice, personnel who are unable to swim will not be permitted to enter the water and at all times a capable swimmer will be detailed to watch the pool with a view to rendering assistance to anyone in difficulties.

The senior member present will ensure that this instruction is carried out.

101. CARE OF MOSQUITO NETS  
Owing to the difficulty experienced in replacing damaged or deficient Mosquito Nets - Personnel will ensure that the greatest care is exercised in maintaining the efficiency of these.

Personnel who lose full protection offered by these nets through carelessness will not be able to obtain replacements for some considerable time, if at all, the vital need for care being thus emphasised.

102. WASHING OF CLOTHES  
The practice of washing clothes under the showers will cease forthwith.

*A.W. Potts* Captain  
Comd 23 Aust Inf Bde. AIF.

DISTRIBUTION "A"

See Appendix "A" over

1. In order to obtain uniformity in the layout of blankets and kits and to enhance the general tidiness of the sleeping quarters the following instructions are issued :--

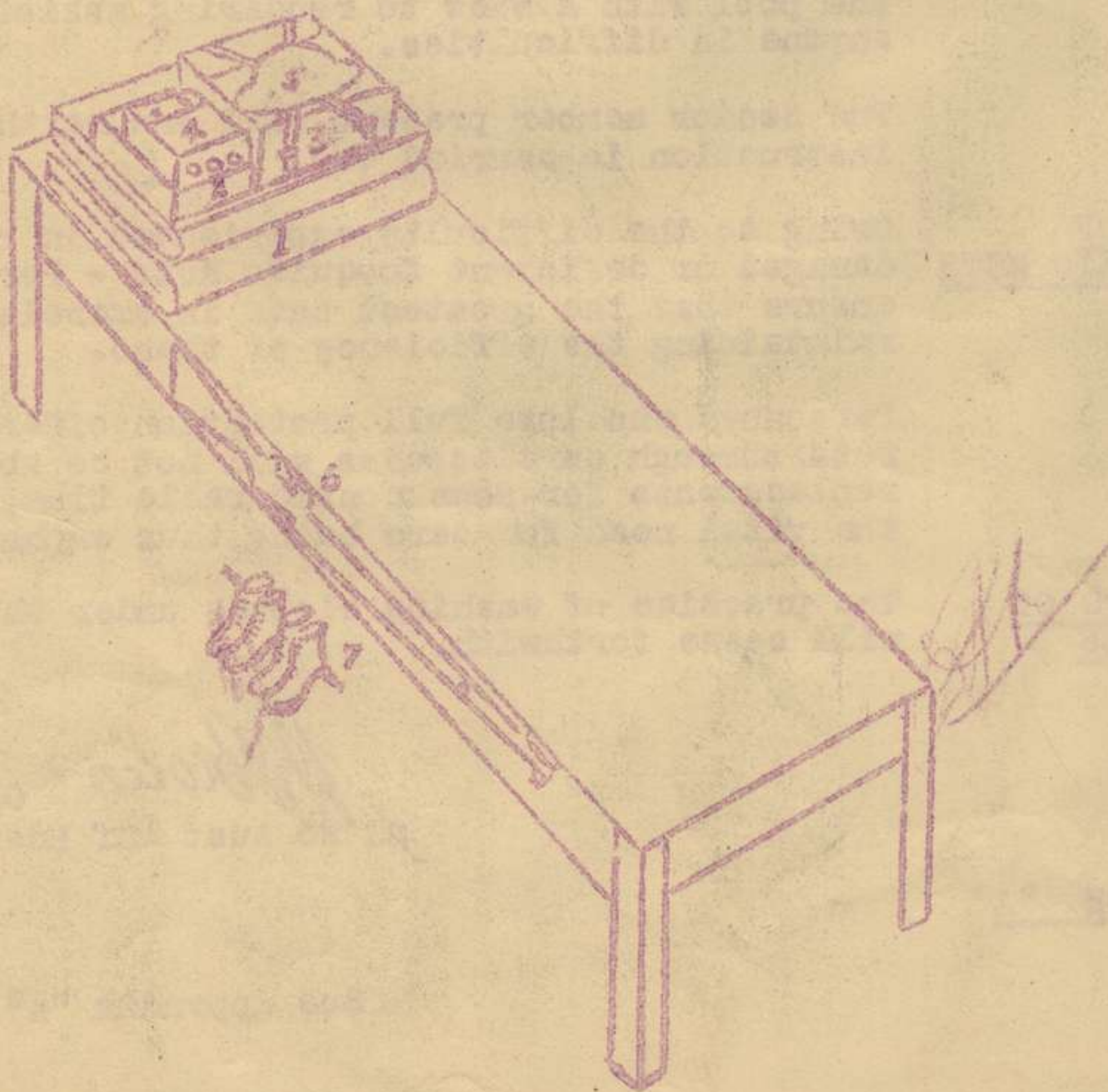
1. Blankets folded with round end to right of bed. To be folded in three, even end to top of bed.
2. Haversack on right top of blankets. To contain iron rations, messing gear and field dressing.
3. Pack on left top of blankets. To contain spare towel, shirt, shorts, socks, sock tops.
4. Respirator on top of haversack, flap uppermost, strap underneath.
5. Helmet steel on top of pack, strap tucked inside helmet.
6. Rifle slung on right side of bed, butt to head, sling uppermost.
7. Boots, sandshoes, placed at right side of bed, in centre, toes outward.

(For reference to above numbers see sketch below)

Equipment will be hung neatly on nails above bed or laid on top of respirator and helmet steel, pouches uppermost.

2. The above instructions will be given effect to forthwith.

*M. Brown*  
Captain  
25 Aust Inf Bde. AIF.



HHx C

25th AUST INF BDE TRG FOR WEEK ENDING 13 DEC 42

W D  
6 Dec 42

Ref Map DARWIN & ENVIRONS 1" - 1 ml

Unit	Subject	Date	Time	SP or firing pt	Route or Direction	Area	Type of Practice and Remarks
7 Aust Inf Bn	Weapon trg & Pd Craft	7 - 12 Dec	0030-1730	-	-	Camp Area	Pd craft incl Pd sketching map reading, see patrols concealment & camouflage.
	Patrols	10 Dec	0930-1300	-	Compass Course	-	Deep patrol exercise for 3000, each moves on separate course - distance 9 mls.
	Boat Drill (dry land) Rope climbing, lowering of eqpt by ropes etc	9, 10, 12 Dec	1400-1730	-	-	Camp Area	Preparation for Boat trg week
	Grenade throwing	8 Dec	1400-1730	123715	36°	-	Throwing from behind cover & from weapon pits
	Range practices	Daily	0930-1730	123727	40°	-	Rifle, LMG
NOTE As 7 Aust Inf Bn will supply all working parties for this week-balance of Bn will carry out above trg as one large coy.							
8 Aust Inf Bn	Range practices	Daily	1000-1800	145061	212°	-	{ 30 <sup>x</sup> - 500 <sup>x</sup> LMG Grenade throwing same area
	Grenade throwing	8 - 11 Dec	1000-1800	157635	210°	-	
	Coy Exercise - 30 ml move with tac situations	8 - 10 Dec 10-12 Dec	2200-2200 2200-2200	Camp Camp	(BROOKERS HIGHWAY. (LUCKY MINE TRACK (cross country to (51 ml MAIN RD	-	C Coy commence 8 Dec B " " 10 "
	Patrols by night	8 - 12 Dec	2030-2200	-	-	Various	A & D Coy - standing, recon and fighting patrols.
	Pd firing incl night firing exercise for AA pl, Mortar pl. Carrier pl.	8 - 10 Dec	0930-2230	238685	5° 90° 270°	ACACIA GAP	)

5/10

Unit	Subject	Date	Time	SF or firing pt	Route or Direction	Area	Type of practice & Remarks
19 Aust MG Bn	<u>Boat Trg Week</u>						
	(a) Insta in recon assault & folding boats, use of ropes & ladders, Cliff scaling with eqpt. Deployment from boats.	8-10 Dec	0930-1730	-	-	MINDIL BEACH RAPID CREEK	
	(b) Coy exercises - embarking, move and landing	11-12 Dec	0930-2200	-	-	DARWIN JETTY, to I HORNIBROOKS II DOCTORS GULLY III BOON BAY	Incl night landings
	(c) Pl exercises - river crossings	11-12 Dec	0930-1730	-	-	RAPID CREEK	Using recon boats & assault boats.
	(d) Bn Exercises	13 Dec	1430-1730	-	-	MINDIL BEACH	To enable personnel to visualise a landing
		14 Dec	0400-0700	-	-	VESTREYS BEACH	DAWN landing.

NOTE 19 Aust MG Bn will carry out Coy and Bn exercises as inf Bn, with some pls equipped as MG pls to represent attachments. This will enable trg to be carried out in their own particular role as well as giving tps the picture of the inf Bn landing with sp MG pls attached.

*[Signature]*  
Brigadier  
Comd 23 Aust Inf Bde. AIF  
*[Initials]*

DISTRIBUTION  
 WF Force 2  
 War Diary 2  
 File 1

Appx D

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

*War Diary*

23 AUST INF BDE INT SUMMARY No 114

Compiled from information received between 1600 hrs 22 Nov 42 and 1100 hrs 5 Dec 42.

NOTE: Information contained herein will be passed to all ranks.

1. DARWIN AREA

(a) Enemy Air Activity

On 29 Nov, 4 Zekes were over DARWIN on recon. AA engaged at 25,200 ft. It is considered that one EA was shot down.

An EA was sighted for a brief period over DARWIN on 2 Dec. AA did not engage.

On 3 Dec, 3 Zekes again reconnoitred the DARWIN Area. AA did not engage.

(b) Our Own Air Activity

On 2 Dec, a strafing attack was made by our A/C upon PENFOEI (KOEPAANG) as a result of which 15-18 enemy bombers and 2-3 fighters were damaged or destroyed on the ground. The smoke from burning planes and fuel dumps could be seen 50 MLs out to sea.

2. NOR-WEST AUSTRALIA

On 1 Dec, one EA was reported high over WYNDHAM.

3. NEW GUINEA

(a) Summary

The enemy have again attempted to strengthen their force at BUNA using considerable number of A/C to protect vessels engaged on the run. Little, if any, success attended this operation. Steady progress has been made by our land forces, which have broken through to the beach EAST of GONA and are now working their way towards the main Jap posns at SANANANDA. Allied air raids on LAE and SALAMAUA are forcing the Japs to disperse their A/C further afield.

(b) Enemy Air Activity

Air fighting in the BUNA sector has been continuous all the week. Lack of space prevents mention of all but the most outstanding incidents.

On 27 Nov, 10 EA bombed and strafed our posns at SOPUTA, causing some casualties.

On 28 Nov, EA bombed native villages at WAMPIT and BANKORA (WEST by SOUTH of LAE.)

29 Nov, 3 EA dropped about 15 bombs at MILNE BAY in vicinity of landing strip and camp area, causing slight damage.

MORESBY was raided on 30 Nov, about 20 bombs being dropped on JACKSON'S Field. No damage is reported.

(c) Our Own Air Activity

Heavy air attacks upon the BUNA-GONA sector have been undertaken in conjunction with land force ops. On 30 Nov, for example, 24 allied bombers and 16 fighters bombed and strafed BUNA, causing much damage and destroying 7 out of 12 intercepting ZEKES. Between 30 Nov and 1 Dec 5 more raids were made on BUNA.

Allied A/C discovered and attacked 4 enemy destroyers 25 miles WEST of ROOKE Is (between SW end of NEW BRITAIN and the mainland). One vessel was set on fire, another heavily damaged and a third possibly damaged.

2 - 3 Dec, Allied A/C made several attacks on 4 enemy destroyers approaching GONA from the direction of CAPE ORFORD (NEW BRITAIN). One probable near miss was scored on a destroyer. The A/C shadowing destroyers were five times intercepted by EA, varying up to 30 A/C. In these engagements 12 ZEKES were destroyed and 2 damaged. The Jap vessels were last seen heading NORTH. There is nothing to indicate that enemy tps had been landed or disembarked at BUNA.

2 Dec, Air ops included the strafing of barges carrying Japs in the vicinity of BUNA. Four of these craft were sunk.

(d) Land Operations

27 Nov, our tps attacking enemy posns on the BUNA-GONA front were pressing strongly on the right flank in the direction of the main BUNA strip and CAPE ENDAIADERE. In the centre they were endeavouring to outflank MG posns on the SOPUTA-SANANANDA track, while on the left patrol activity towards GONA resulted in dispersal of enemy detachments and the capture of numbers of RABAUL natives.

A successful mortar shoot cleared enemy posns on SOPUTA-SANANANDA track.

Heavy fighting on night 28/29 Nov accompanied an Allied move to the EAST of GONA, which synchronised with an attack on this village from the WEST.

On the right, Allied mortar fire destroyed enemy MG posns between the two BUNA strips, and a subsequent JAPANESE counter attack was repulsed with heavy loss.

Arty was being used by both sides, the Japs employing 37 mm 75 mm pieces.

By 28 Nov our fd guns, with the aid of air observation, were ranging on the beach and able to sink barges off SANANANDA POINT.

Fierce fighting around GONA continued during 29-30 Nov, but, with grenades and mortar support, our tps adv to within 100 yards of GONA on the EAST.

By this day the KUMUSI RIVER area was held to be clear of the enemy, native patrols having accounted for 95 JAPS killed between 19 and 28 Nov.

On 30 Nov, air photographs revealed that the enemy's line extended from the NORTH end of the EASTERN BUNA strip, WESTward along rd NORTH of main strip; then along the SOUTH of coconut plantations to the SOPUTA track. Strong posts were identified at a pt 1000 yds SSE BUNA Mission, and WEST of the main strip where the GUROPA rd entered the coconuts.

By 1 Dec our forward tps advancing on SANANANDA from the SOUTH were making headway. Other dets successfully cleared 6 enemy MG posns and isolated a small party of Japs 1000 yds EAST of the GONA Mission.

From LAE, reports dated 29 Nov, state that owing to consistent Allied bombing, the enemy has moved the majority of tps and material from SALAMAU to LABOBIA (approx 11 Mls SSE of SALAMAU). It was also reported that there were no Japs between SALUS (8 Mls SE) and PAIAWA, 38 Mls SE of SALAMAU.

(e) Operations by Sea

Operations by sea off the mainland of NEW GUINEA were largely confined to attempts to land reinfts and supplies for the beleaguered Jap garrison at BUNA. The reception accorded this operation has been dealt with in para 3 (c)

In addition to this, however, natives report that supplies are reaching LAE by submarines. Additional intelligence also speaks of the possibility of enemy submarines being between FINCHAVEN and BUNA, and it is possible that small quantities of stores may have been landed by night in this area.

4. SOLOMONS

(a) SUMMARY

There is little precise news from the SOLOMONS, but press reports mention the repulse of another enemy convoy attempting to land reinforcements on GUADALCANAL. Deductions drawn from infm received indicate that the Japs are concentrating on the development of ACE's at BUKA, KAHILI and, perhaps, KIETA on BOUGANVILLE Is. HEKATA BAY on YSABEL Is and some, as yet undisclosed, spot in NEW GEORGIA.

(b) Enemy Air Activity

Nothing of operational importance. On 26 Nov, photographs showed a total of 58 EA on the KAHILI dome.

(c) Own Air Activity

Three destroyers and 2 cargo vessels were observed off the NW Coast of VELLA LAVELLA on 28 Nov. As a result of continued naval and air action, at least one of the tpts was badly damaged.

Four air attacks were made on BUKA during 30 Nov. All bombs fell in the target area and fires were started.

On 1 Dec, KAHILI dome was raided, at least one grounded A/C being destroyed.

(d) Land Operations

The only report from GUADALCANAL states that on 1 Dec, ground activity was confined to patrols which had captured several rd posns and killed a number of Japs.



(e) Operations By Sea

The number of tpts and naval units using POVOLET HARBOUR near BUIN has decreased sharply, but an increase is shown in the BUKA PASSAGE area, where SOHANA HARBOUR offers excellent facilities for vessels of large tonnage.

1 Dec, 5 vessels were anchored 10 miles SE of KIETA, which is opposite the old airfield, unused by us in peace-time

A number of submarines have been reported in the SOLOMONS area.

DISTRIBUTION "B"

APPR E  
BN/OW

WD


23 Aust Inf Bde  
7 Dec 42

3806-6-4

ARTY CG-OP + COY COMDS SHOOT

1. In order that inf oftrs may receive some experience in the shooting of fd arty, a short course has been arranged for coy comds of units of this Bde.
2. The object of the course is to teach coy comds a method of engaging targets with arty, so that they could take over from an OPD or a FOC in an emergency.
3. Each bn will arrange for two coy comds to attend this course, which will be conducted at HQ 42 Pd Bty and will terminate in an actual shoot by coy comds at a place to be arranged.
4. Dates and times for attendances are as follows :--

22 Dec -	1500 hrs -	1730 hrs
	1900 hrs -	2030 hrs
23 Dec -	0900 hrs -	1300 hrs
	1500 hrs -	1730 hrs
	1900 hrs -	2030 hrs
24 Dec -	1500 hrs -	1730 hrs
	1900 hrs -	2030 hrs
28 Dec -	1500 hrs -	1730 hrs
	1900 hrs -	2030 hrs
29 Dec -	0900 hrs -	1400 hrs (shoot)

  
 Major  
 BN 23 Aust Inf Bde. AIF.

DISTRIBUTION

- 42 Pd Bty
- 7 Aust Inf Bn
- 8 Aust Inf Bn
- 19 Aust Inf Bn
- File
- War Diary (2) ✓

Information contained in this document is not to be communicated either directly or indirectly to the press or to any person not holding an official position in His Majesty's Services.

Serial No 21  
Nos 103 - 105

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

ROUTINE ORDER PART I

by

BRIGADIER A.W. POTTS, DSO., MC  
Comd 23 Aust Inf Bde. AIF

In the Field  
13 Dec 42

103. <u>DUTY OFFICERS</u>	Sunday	13 Dec 42	Lieut A.J. FITZGERALD
	Monday	14 Dec 42	Lieut D.G. HEALEY
	Tuesday	15 Dec 42	Lieut W.H. WILD
	Wednesday	16 Dec 42	Lieut R.A. NASH
	Thursday	17 Dec 42	Lieut N.V. CASEY
	Friday	18 Dec 42	Lieut R.A. PAULL
	Saturday	19 Dec 42	Lieut G.R.L. CAYZER
	Sunday	20 Dec 42	Capt L.G. POWELL

104. PROHIBITION OF BETTING TELEGRAMS (ORO Q 634)  
The effect of a recent National Security Regulation is to prohibit the lodging for transmission of any telegram containing matter relating either directly or indirectly to the probable result of any future sporting event or to any wager or bet concerning the result of any sporting event. Consequently, in exercising their censorship functions, officers will not frank telegrams falling within this prohibition.

105. KITS AND EFFECTS OF ILLEGAL ABSENTEES AND KITS, EFFECTS AND EQUIPMENT FOUND IN RAILWAY CLOAKROOMS, ETC. (ORO Q 636)

A. Kits and Effects of Illegal Absentees -

1. Immediately a member of the AMF, including AWAS or AAMS or AAMNS, has been declared an illegal absentee, the following action will be taken in respect of effects other than those on charge to the member's unit.
2. The effects, after removal of items on charge to the member's unit, will be despatched to the section of Aust Kit Store servicing the formation to which the member belongs. If there is no such section the effects will be forwarded to the nearest Sub-HQ of Aust Kit Store. Such effects will be accompanied by AAF KS 4, in duplicate, such form containing a certificate to the effect that the member concerned is an illegal absentee. The effect will then be stored with other kits and effects of members of the same unit.
3. (a) Such effects will be noted by Aust Kit Store as those of an illegal absentee and will not be issued to the member concerned except on a request signed by or for the CO of the member concerned, either of his then unit or of a unit to which the member may be subsequently posted after being apprehended. If such member claims to have been discharged from the Military Forces and produces to Aust Kit Store his certificate of discharge, arrangements will be made for the kit to be disassembled in accordance with para (b) hereof and the personal effects forwarded to the member at an address nominated by him.

(b) If such effects have not been withdrawn after the expiration of six months after deposit, Aust Kit Store will ascertain, through LHQ Records Office, whether the member concerned is still an illegal absentee. If such member is found to be still illegally absent, then the effects concerned will be dissected and dealt with by Aust Kit Store as provided in the case of a deceased soldier by GRO Q 178/1942 and Administrative Instructions for Kit Stores 1942. If such member, upon such inquiry, is found to be no longer an illegal absentee, then the effects will be removed from the illegal absentee list and, if necessary, transferred to another section of Aust Kit Store. In the latter case, the member concerned will be so notified.

B. Equipment and Effects found on Railway Stations, Cloakrooms, Hotels, etc.

1. Action as set out below will be taken in all cases where arms, equipment, kits and personal effects are recovered from railway stations, railway and other non-military cloakrooms, hotels and other sources. Such action will be taken by the member of Movement Control, Provost Corps or other unit or person recovering the articles.

(a) Arms and equipment will then be returned to the nearest AAOC Depot. If the article can be identified, the owner's unit will be so advised by the AAOC Depot and the articles will be struck off the unit's charge.

(b) Kits and personal effects will, if the owner and his unit can be ascertained, be forwarded to the section of Aust Kit Store which serves the formation to which the member belongs. If there is no such section, such articles will be forwarded to the nearest Sub-HQ of Aust Kit Store. Such Sub-HQ will arrange for the storage of the article and notify the owner.

(c) If the ownership of the kit or effects cannot be established, the same will be forwarded to the nearest Sub-HQ of Aust Kit Store, by whom the articles will be dissected in accordance with GRO Q 178/1942 and Administrative Instructions for Kit Stores 1942. If the effects remain unidentifiable, the personal property therein will be stored by Aust Kit Store pending identification by description of contents, and the Army property therein dealt with as provided in GRO Q 178/1942, para 5 (c)(ii). If ownership of the effects is established during dissection, then the effects will be sent to the appropriate Kit Store Section and the owner will be so notified.

2. Arms, ammunition, or equipment will not be deposited in cloakrooms other than those staffed by military personnel, nor will they be left unattended by military personnel in hotels, restaurants, cafes or similar institutions.

*M. Brown*  
 Captain  
 SO 25 Aust Inf Bde. AIF.

DISTRIBUTION "A"

APPX. C.

War Diary

23 AUS INF BDE TRAINING FOR WEEK ENDING 20 Dec 43

13 Dec 43

Ref Map DARWIN and ENVIRONS 1" - 1 mi

Unit	Subject	Date	Time	SP or Firing pt	Route or Direction	Area	Type of practise and Remarks
7 Aust Inf Bn	<u>Boat Erg Week</u>						
	(a) Use of rafts, assault, folding boats. Rope ladders and cliff scaling, organisation of boat crews, rapid deployment.	15-17 Dec	0930 - 1730	-	-	MINDIL BEACH RAPID CREEK	-
	(b) Pl exercises and river crossings.	17-18 Dec	0930 - 1730	-	-	RAPID CREEK	-
	(c) Coy exercises, embarkation, move and landings.	18-20 Dec	0930 - 1730 2030 - 2300	-	-	MINDIL BEACH DARWIN JETTY to i. HORNIBROOKS JETTY ii. BOON BAY iii. DOCTORS GULF VICTORY BEACH	Incl night landings. Exercises for Coy ops.
(d) Bn exercise	21 Dec	0400 - 0730	-	-		Attack and capture CIVIL DRONE.	
8 Aust Inf Bn	Range practices Rifle, LMG, SMO.	14-19 Dec	0930 - 1800	143661	212°	-	TABLE A Pt II.
	Individual Erg and TORPs	14-19 Dec	0930 - 1800	-	-	-	-
	Passage of water Obstacles	14-19 Dec	1500 - 1800	-	-	WH 94 1564	ATN 13 appx K, MFP 23(v111)
	Assault Course - Pl exercise.	14-19 Dec	1000 - 1330	-	-	-	-
	Pl Craft	14-19 Dec	1550 - 1800	-	-	-	Concealment & camouflage demonstration - MFP 26
	Patrols	14-19 Dec	2030 - 2300	-	-	To be notified	Appx A Raft, fighting patrol.

NOTE: - All Coys on camp rotation, changing camp daily.

Unit	Subject	Date	Time	SP or Firing pt	Route or Direction	Area	Type of practice and Remarks
10 Aust Inf Bn	Range practices	Daily	0830-1730	070036	330°	-	Rifle, IED.
	IED trg	"	"	-	-	Coy Areas	IA, IED, TOMB. See occupations.
	Weapon Trg	"	"	-	-	"	Rifle, Bayonet, Grenades.
	PD Craft	17 Dec	1430-1730	-	-	"	PD sketch of Coy Area.
	Patrols	18 Dec	1430-1730	-	-	<del>XXXXXXXXXXXX</del>	Recon patrols - report from each man on patrol.
	Route March	15 Dec	2 hrs	-	-	Coy arrangement	All coys
	" "	17 Dec	0830-1400	Camp	BYHOS RD	BYHOS SPRINGS	B & D Coys
" "	19 Dec	"	"	"	"	A & C Coys	

DISTRIBUTION

HQ HT Force 2  
War Diary 2  
File 1

*[Signature]*  
Brigadier  
Comd 23 Aust Inf Bde. AIF.

*W. H. Scanlon*

BW/CW

*Apper H.*

23 Aust Inf Bde  
13 Dec 42

*S. 428/12/1*

TRAINING PROGRAMME

1. During the next few months, the height of undergrowth and grass will limit fields of fire from ground level. Units will therefore ensure that personnel receive trg in firing both rifles and LMGs from the kneeling and standing positions. Correct handling, changing magazines, reloading etc, will be insisted upon, and personnel of HQ Coy and Bn HQ will receive instruction as well as those of rifle coys.
2. It is expected that this Bde will be allotted 12 assault boats and 2 recon boats for trg during Jan and Feb. These will be allotted for weekly periods to each unit in turn, and will be used for river crossing exercises, already mentioned in trg outline for January.
3. Rd firing exercise will be arranged in conjunction with at least one of these river crossings exercises, in order to practise personnel in the crossing of a water obstacle with actual sp of small arms weapons and 3" mortars.



Major  
BM 23 Aust Inf Bde, AIF

Distribution

7 Aust Inf Bn  
8 Aust Inf Bn  
19 Aust HQ Bn  
War Diary 2  
File.

appx. I

SECRET

23 AUST INF BDE O.I. No 17

Copy No 16  
15 Dec 42  
S.434/3/3

GROUND RECCE (Inf Bns as per O.I. 15/16)

1. The present weekly road recce will, from now on, be done twice weekly. In conjunction with it a carrier recce will be made to determine how far towards the operational areas contemplated in NT Force Defence Scheme carriers can move freely. Commencing 17 Dec, road patrols will be carried out each Thurs and Mon.
2. Only one carrier will be used for this task on each recce and it will be conveyed as far as is practicable by MT. This will necessitate the selection of a suitable point for off loading the carrier from the MT veh. Such point should be situated as close as practicable to the point beyond which heavily laden MT cannot proceed, but it is realised that this may not be possible if the ground in that area is not suitable for the construction of a rough ramp.  
The carrier will be saved as much running under its own power as is possible.
3. ASC will provide one 3 ton lorry to each Bn, reporting at 0900 hrs each Mon and Thurs for purpose of transporting the carrier on this patrol.
4. The results of the carrier recce will be included as a brief statement on the patrol report.
5. All officers and senior NCOs must keep themselves familiar with the potential areas and particularly with the changes in ground surfaces caused by climatic conditions. In order that this may be achieved, Inf Bns will send small parties of Offrs and NCOs with the vehs carrying out the road patrols on each occasion that a patrol is made. Different personnel will be sent on each patrol, parties being so arranged that the relevant personnel make a recce once a month.  
19 MG Bn will make own arrangements for these recces when they are not nominated for any of the patrols.

A/TK RIFLES

6. A/Tk rifles must always be carried on operations and it must never be presumed that enemy tanks will not, or cannot operate. It is doubly important that they be carried when anti-tank portees cannot penetrate further, so that troops will not be caught without protection against tanks. These rifles may be carried on Coy "A" Ech vehs when such are moving with the tps, then by hand when vehs can no longer move or when contact with the enemy is imminent.

ANTI-GAS EQUIPMENT

7. Unless orders are issued to the contrary, respirators will not be carried in operations. Provision will be made to transport them in "B" Echelon vehicles.

ACK.

Signed at 1333 hrs.  
Issued through Sigs.

  
Major  
BM 23 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION

	Copy No
42 Fd Bty 11 Aust Fd Regt	1
14 A Tk Bty 2/4 Aust A Tk Regt	2
X Sec Sigs NT Force	3
1 Sec 23 Aust Fd Coy RAE	4
7 Aust Inf Bn	5
8 Aust Inf Bn	6
19 Aust MG Bn	7
2/108 LAD	8
236 LAD	9
Bde Comd	10
BN	11
SC	12
TO	13
BASCO	14
File	15
WAR DIRTY	16/17 ✓



AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

Appx. J

23 AUST INF BDE INT SUMMARY No 115

Compiled from information received between 1100 hrs 5 Dec 42 and 1100 hrs 13 Dec 42.

NOTE : Information contained herein will be passed to all ranks.

1. DARWIN AREA

(a) Enemy Air Activity

Enemy aerial recce during the past week have been :-

- i. On 5 Dec, it was reported that an enemy A/C "LILY" was over DARWIN on recce. AA did not engage and there was no fighter interception.
- ii. EA came in over FOG Bay on 7 Dec 42 and made towards BATCHELOR. In this region, the EA split up, one flt going over COX Peninsula and the remaining single EA flying NORTH to DARWIN Area. The single A/C was a "LILY" and was seen over DARWIN at 1326 hrs at 26,000 ft. AA engaged with no visible results
- iii. It was reported that at approx 1130 hrs 9 Dec 42, an unidentified A/C was about 70-80 Mls WEST of DARWIN.
- iv. On 10 Dec 42, 3 Zekes were over DARWIN Area on recce. They came in over BATCHELOR, then to HUGHES FIELD and at 1135 hrs were over LIVINGSTONE FIELD. P40s attempted to make interception but failed.
- v. One EA, type "DINAH", was sighted over DARWIN area at a height of 28,000 ft between 1400 and 1420 hrs on 11 Dec 42.

2. NEW GUINEA

(a) Summary

The Japanese are still finding considerable difficulty in reinforcing and supplying their tps in the BUNA and GONA Areas. As the attempts by sea proved unsuccessful, the enemy has taken to dropping supplies from bombers heavily escorted by Fighter planes. Allied tps are making slow but sure progress, whilst Allied A/C is heavily bombing and straffing Japanese bases.

(b) Enemy Air Activity

1 Enemy A/C have been busy during the past week, but have suffered heavily for their activities.

ii On 7 Dec, 18 enemy Bs, escorted by 12 Zekes, were intercepted by Allied A/C over GONA, and in the resulting clash, the Japs lost 18 planes of which 7 were Fs. Our losses were nil.

iii. An Allied fd hosp and DOBODURA strip were attacked by 7 VALS and 2 ZEKES on 7 Dec 42.

iv. Enemy A/C late in the afternoon of 7 Dec, dropped objects, presumably supplies, over the old strip at BUNA.

v. 9 enemy Bs and 18 Fs A/C on 10 Dec succeeded in eluding Allied A/C and parachuted 100 to 150 packets of supplies NW and on old strip at BUNA and in adjacent areas.

(c) Our Own Air Activity

i Allied A/C have consistently attacked enemy shipping, bases, supply dumps, aerodromes and posns with good results.

ii During the past week the enemy-occupied drome at LAE appears to have been singled out for heavy bombing and straffing attacks.

-2-

(c) Our Own Air Activity

8 B17s attacked LAE from 4,000 ft on 3 Dec with good effect. Bombs fell in target area, MG posts were silenced; one A/c was lost. Between 1430KL and 1530KL. 6 Dec, at least 6 enemy Bs and 23 Fs were in the vicinity of LAE drome.

On 6 Dec, Allied A/C bombed LAE, whilst on 7 Dec, our F planes strafed EA on the drome, 1 F and 1 B being definitely destroyed. Casualties were also inflicted on Jap personnel. The drome was observed to be littered with wrecked A/C.

Later on during the same dat Allied A/C were attacked by 2 ZEKES AA fire from the south and SW sides of runway. Whilst this was in progress, 6 North American Bs dropped their bombs on the NORTH end of the runway, causing by explosions. Clouds of by black smoke were also observed.

iii. The Japanese have been attempting to land stores and supplies from WEST SANANANDA point to BUNA by barges, rafts and drums, but these attempts have not been very successful, owing to strafing by Allied A/C as photographs disclose that 5 serviceable and 24 unserviceable barges were at BUNA on 7 Dec.

iv. Continual by bombing and strafing attacks have been carried out on BUNA Government Sta, previously erroneously known as BUNA Mission, and other Jap-occupied posns.

(d) Land Operations

i. 3 Dec: Our attacks continuing GONA-SANANANDA Front. Small parties of Japs being evacuated nightly from Mouth AMBUGA River. Patrols sent out to investigate made contact and inflicted by casualties.

ii. 4 Dec: Small pockets of resistance SOUTH of track 2 Mls EAST Gona were cleared out by our forces. Trackless country and sago swamps were encountered by our fwd elements in their adv towards GONA. Despite enemy opposition on left flank, our tps continue to push along SOPUTA-SANANANDA rd. During night 3/4 Dec, our arty maintained harassing fire on this track.

iii. On 5 Dec, elements of our forces entered BUNA Village, whilst other reached the coast on the EAST. The attack in vicinity of BUNA strip continued in face of MG and sniper fire. Allied arty continued harassing fire between BUNA Government Sta and GIROPA Pt. Our attack on SANANANDA from SOUTH continuing.

iv. Some ground was gained on 6 Dec when our forces attacked enemy posns SW GONA. There was no change in BUNA strip area. The enemy counter-attack our tps in the vicinity of the beach SE Village and simultaneously from BUNA Government Sta and BUNA Village, but both attacks were repulsed. The Japs left behind 30-40 killed.

v. During night 6/7 Dec, enemy trucks were observed moving between new and main strips at BUNA. Approx 25 Japs were observed to enter pillbox type defences. Our tps have succeeded in clearing up enemy in all but a strongly defended area near NORTHERN edge of new strip.

Our forces gained some ground along SOPUTA - SANANANDA track, although enemy MG strongposts are still active in the rear of our fwd tps. Others our tps engaged in clearing up these strongposts. Ground was gained at GONA, but enemy MGs are displaying great activity. An unsuccessful attempt was made to ambush our tps at the Mouth of AMBOGA River.

### Land operations-

VI 07 8 Dec, patrols sent out to ascertain strength of MUBO garrison estimated it had been reduced from 500 to 200. Allied tps attacking enemy SW GONA. Our arty shelled GONA Village during the morning and it was observed the Japanese tps were wearing respirators. Enemy replied to our fire. Hy mortar fire directed on enemy MG posns assisted our tps to make a slight adv between EASTern edge of new strip and NORTH Cape ENDAIADERE. Our tps also engaged strong enemy pillboxes located NORTH edge of wooded area EAST of rd between the two strips. An enemy patrol was observed in vicinity of bridge between these strips. The bridge is blocked with knife racks (portable obstacles constructed of hy barbed wire strung on wooden frames).

vii. During night 8/9 Dec when enemy attempted to infiltrate outpost near Gona, 95 Japs were killed and 4 taken prisoner. At AMBOGS River, our patrols charged enemy forces, killing 18 and taking 3 prisoners. Enemy posts were mopped up at GONA and the whole area occupied. Enemy tps believed landing vicinity Mouth KUMUSI River. Allied patrol surprised and inflicted by casualties on approx 50 Japs. An inflatable rubber boat was captured whilst 3 enemy motor boats laden with stores and eqpt were sunk during the afternoon, and following an Allied bombardment, our tps stormed and captured pillboxes BUNA Area. Japanese patrols following own mortar fire from Government Sta attacked our beach posns, but attacks repulsed and enemy lost some MGs. Allied arty harassing enemy posns obtained 6 direct hits in enemy AA posns located 1,000 yds SOUTH district office.

viii. On 10 Dec, strong Allied offensive patrols were active, one SOUTH SANANANDA, another moving EASTward along beach towards Cape KILLERTON. Other patrols were active attempting to outflank enemy AMBOGA Area River. Enemy MG posts BUNA Village and Government Sta Area were under mortar and 37 mm fire, whilst AA posns WEST of old strip were silenced by arty fire. Our tps made slight adv along a SOPUTA Creek towards SANANANDA, and inflicted some casualties. Enemy counter attacks were all repulsed. At GONA Mission Area, search disclosed supplies of all types of amm. 440 Japanese burned this area but many corpses remain. 16 PSW incl 10 stretcher-cases.

#### (c) See Operations

ONLY slight activity has been observed, and this mainly comprised attempts to land supplies and eqpt by barges.

### 3. NEW BRITAIN

i. On 6 Dec Allied A/C attacked KAVIENG. Bombs fell in vicinity of Government wharf and direct hits on probable bomb dump. Fires were started

ii. An early morning attack on 7 Dec was made by Allied A/C on GASMATA drome. Bombs dropped target area and large explosions observed.

iii. On 7 and 8 Dec, three attacks were made on 6 enemy destroyers on a SOUTHERly course between Cape ST GEORGE and JACQUINOT Bay. 2 direct hits and near misses were registered, damaging 1 or 2 destroyers. These 6 vessels were last observed heading NORTH by EAST 25 Mls SW Cape ST GEORGE Allied attacking A/C were intercepted by up to 15 Zeros. 7 Zeros were shot down, 2 probably shot down and 2 damaged.

## 4. SOLOMONS

i. American tps are steadily mopping up opposition on GUADALCANAL.

ii On 10 Dec, 11 B17s and 8 P38s attacked a possible A/C carrier and 3 other ships, but posn not given; 3 hits were scored on the possible carrier and 2 possible hits on a tanker. A number of Zekes intercepted and 6 of them destroyed.

iii. 5 of 15 Zekes were shot down over MUNDA (NEW GEORGIA) MUNDA is the most populous area of NEW GEORGIA.

## 5. TIMOR

The Japanese still continue to make hy use of rd along the NORTH Coast from DILLI to VILA DE MANATUTO. It is reported that the Japanese are making and using an aerodrome at FULLORO, but as yet, this is unconfirmed.

MF movement between DILLI and BOBONARO continues. Enemy have been reported as far SOUTH AS VIQUEQUE, and unconfirmed reports indicate that the enemy were moving WEST from VIQUEQUE.

MINOR clashes have taken place, mostly against hostile natives.

DISTRIBUTION

7 Aust Inf Bn	3
8 Aust Inf Bn	3
19 Aust MG Bn	3
14 A/TK Bty	1
42 Fd Bty	1
23 Fd Coy	1
108 LAD	1
K Sec Sigs	1
23 Aust Inf Bde	2
2/12 Fd Amb	1
War Diary	2
File	1

APPX K'

23. AUST INF BDE TRAINING FOR WEEK ENDING 24 DEC 42

19 Dec 42

REF MAP DARWIN AND ENVIRONS 1" - 1 ml

Unit	subject	Date	Time	SP or Firing Pt	Route or direction	Area	Type of practice and Remarks
7 Aust Inf Bn	Range Practices	22-24 Dec	0930-	(123727	35°	-	-
		"	1730	(123715	86°	-	-
	see stalks and Fieldcraft	"	"	-	-	Coy areas	-
	TORTs	22 Dec	1500-	-	-	-	Rifle, LMG
			1730				
	Coy March (Compass)	23, 24 Dec	1430-	-	Cross Country	-	one march each day of 7 1/2 mls
			1730				
8 Aust Inf Bn	Night Trg - a. weapon Trg	21 Dec	2000-	-	-	Coy Areas	All coys
			0530				
	b. occupation Coy def posn	22-24 Dec	2000-	-	-	190655	Incl digging, wiring & patrols, one coy each night
	c. Patrol exercise	22-24 Dec	2000-	-	-	193655	Pls to maintain standing patrols and listening posts to protect DA posn. one Coy each night.
	d. Passage of water obstacles by night	22-24 Dec	0130-	-	-	WH sq 1504	one Coy each night - to practise silent river crossing without boats.
			0530				
13 Aust Inf Bn	Range Practices	21-24 Dec	0930-	-	-	Hoonah Range	-
			1730				
	MM3 Trg - IA	" )	0930-	-	-	-	-
	See drill						
Bayonet trg, fieldcraft, concealment and camouflage	" )	1730	-	-	-	-	
Route March							
		"	2 hrs	-	-	-	Each coy to carry out 3 route marches during the week

DISTRIBUTION

HQ AF Force 2  
War Diary 2  
Fib 1

*[Signature]*  
Brigadier  
Comd 23 Aust Inf Bde *[Signature]*

Information contained in this document is not to be communicated either directly or indirectly to the press or to any person not holding an official position in His Majesty's Services.

Serial No 22  
Nos 106 - 109

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

ROUTINE ORDER PART I

By  
BRIGADIER A.W. POTTS, DSO., MC  
Comd 23 Aust Inf Bde AIF

In the Field  
21 Dec 42

106. <u>DUTY OFFICERS</u>	Monday	21 Dec 42	Lieut A J Fitzgerald
	Tuesday	22 Dec 42	Lieut J L Trevenen
	Wednesday	23 Dec 42	Lieut W H Wild
	Thursday	24 Dec 42	Lieut R A Nash
	Friday	25 Dec 42	Lieut N V Casey
	Saturday	26 Dec 42	Lieut R A Paul
	Sunday	27 Dec 42	Capt N F Prossor
	Monday	28 Dec 42	Lieut C R L Cayzer
	Tuesday	29 Dec 42	Capt L G Powell.

107. GREEN ENVELOPES The privilege of using green envelopes is withdrawn (NT Force Order para 249) owing to the continued abuses by personnel of this Force.

108. SECURITY OF INFORMATION (NT Force Order para 250)

(a) GRO 4561 is repeated for the information of and action by all ranks.

- i. The attention of all ranks should be directed to the fact that the communication to any person, otherwise than in the course of official duty, of any naval, military or air force information is an offence under the Defense Act punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both.
- ii. An infringement of Army Field Censorship Instructions is an act of disloyalty which may incalculably harm the Allied cause. This fact will be impressed upon all ranks. Rigorous steps will be taken to punish every detected offender, irrespective of rank.
- iii. An officer is responsible if a letter, after being franked by him, contains military information. By aiding and abetting the commission of an offence, the officer himself commits an offence and is liable to punishment accordingly. This will not, however, absolve the writer of the letter from responsibility for the breach.
- iv. Penalties imposed for breaches of security will be notified in formation, etc., Part I, Routine Orders, and, where practicable, such notifications will be read out on parade to troops within the formation, etc.
- v. Contravention of this order if committed by an officer will be reported to LHQ so that, if thought necessary, the individual concerned may be called upon to show cause why his commission should not be cancelled.

109. IDENTITY DISCS - WEARING OF

1. Attention is directed to the fact that there is a prescribed manner of wearing Discs Identity, namely, on a string around the neck. Discs Identity must be worn by all ranks at all times in this manner.
2. Instances have occurred of discs of injured personnel not being available after an accident, when blood transfusion was urgently required.

DISTRIBUTION "A"

*M. Brown*  
Comd 23 Aust Inf Bde AIF Captain

APPX M

23 Aust Inf Bde  
22 Dec 42

PROGRAMME OF TRAINING

1. Subjects for training during the month of Feb will be left to the discretion of COs. Working parties required of this Bde during the month will be so arranged that each Bn in turn will assume all duties for one week, and all three Bns a proportion for one week. This will allow each Bn two weeks clear of duty, and one week with a minimum of duty. At least half of the personnel of the unit should be available for training during the week a Bn is fully responsible for Bde duties.
2. During March and the following month, it is expected that Force Exercises will be resumed. The standard of physical fitness and marching condition, therefore, must be kept high so that units will be prepared for these exercises.
3. Quick turnouts will continue to be practised so that units will be prepared to meet any emergency.
4. Units will submit outline programmes for Feb to this HQ by 5 Jan 43.

  
Major  
HQ 23 Aust Inf Bde. AIF.

DISTRIBUTION

7 Aust Inf Bn  
8 Aust Inf Bn  
19 Aust Inf Bn  
BN  
SC  
War Diary 2  
File.

APPX N

War Diary

Compiled from information received between 1100 hrs 13 Dec 42 and 2400 hrs 20 Dec 42.

NOTE: Information contained herein will be passed to all ranks.

1. DARWIN AREA

(a) Enemy Air Activity

NIL enemy aerial activity reported during the period under review. Stated 2 float planes had attacked Allied shipping in the vicinity of WESSEL Island.

(b) Own Air Activity

14 Dec 42 -- Offensive patrols were carried out by Allied A/C over TANIMBAR and KEI Islands.

On 16 Dec 42, Hudson A/C participated in successful raids on MOABISSE and MINDELO (TIMOR). At MINDELO, a direct hit was made on the POSTO. All bombs dropped fell in target area.

MINDELO and TURISCAI were targets for bombing raids on 17 Dec 42. Bombs were dropped in village area, but dust obscured results.

On 18 Dec 42, 2 Beaufighters attacked an enemy vessel NORTH of LAKOR Island. Each A/C made 3 runs over the vessel and when they left, the vessel was burning and sinking.

2. NEW GUINEA

(a) Summary

Enemy resistance has been stubborn. Despite continuous pressure by our tps, the posn is still very much as it was a week ago. On 14 Dec 42, Allied tps occupied BUNA. The enemy is still persisting in endeavouring to land reinforcements and two attempts were made one at MAMBARE River and the other at KUMUSI River. Owing to the hammering received from Allied A/C, the landings were only partially successful. Allied A/C continue to have mastery of the air.

(b) Enemy Air Activity

Enemy A/C raided PORT MORESBY on 14, 15 and 16 Dec with very little success, and on 17 Dec, the raid on DOBODURA resulted in NIL damage and NIL casualties.

(c) Our Own Air Activity

Allied A/C were again busy attacking enemy shipping, dumps, bases, aerodromes and posns.

On 11 Dec, Allied A/C bombed enemy installations in BUNA Area with good results, and dive bombers bombed storehouses near SANANANDA POINT. Direct hits demolished majority of buildings.

Straffing attacks were made on enemy barges and area vicinity KUMUSI River on 12 Dec.

On 13 Dec, an enemy convoy of 5 destroyers was shadowed from 25 mls NNW MADANG to the Mouths of KUMUSI and MAMBARE Rivers.

Stores and tps were landed from the above convoy on 14 Dec in at least 30 barges, and whilst landings were taking place, Beaufighters straffed the barges for one hour. During SOUTHWARD journey of convoy and whilst landing ops were in progress Allied by B3 made a separate attack, but only one hit was registered. At least 10 enemy A/C covering the convoy were shot down and two probables. Between 0640KL and 1310KL, the same day, enemy tps, barges and supplies in the MAMBARE River area were bombed and straffed by 23 A-20s and 13 Beaufighters. Barges were destroyed and fires started in native huts at OBNA River and GAURORA Village. MG posts on the KUMUSI River Delta were silenced and explosions noted between AMBUSH Point and MAMBARE River.

On 15 and 16 Dec, Allied A/C continued attacking enemy-occupied areas KUMUSI to MAMBARE Rivers. Shacks TAUFUTU Village hit and stores straffed. Other results not observed.



On 17 Dec, BUNA Govt Sta Area was bombed whilst enemy barges at SANANANDA Point were strafed. Both LAE and SALAMAU were also bombed.

Allied A/C bombed and strafed area KUMUSI to MAMBARE Rivers. No enemy activity was observed. On 18 Dec, Allied A/C made 4 attacks on enemy convoy of 7 vessels heading ALEXISHAFEN from vicinity MA NUS Island. 2 direct hits registered, but vessels continued on way.

(d) Land Operations.

Our forces repulsed two enemy attacks in the AMBOGA Area on 11 Dec. 10 Japs, incl 1 offr, were killed. Material was captured. Our tps in a counter attack made some slight progress.

Captured documents reveal 3 bns of 170 Jap Regt landed between KUMUSI River and AMBOGA River from 4 destroyers on night 1/2 Dec. Allied attacks to 11 Dec inflicted 101 casualties on these tps.

On 12 Dec, Allied arty was active and two direct hits on Jap fwd elements vicinity of bridge between BUNA strips were scored.

Night 12/13 Dec, Allied patrols advanced to a pt 400 yds SOUTH of rd through BUNA Govt Sta. 10 enemy snipers were accounted for.

Supported by mortar and arty fire, Allied pressure continued on all enemy localities on 13 Dec. Recon patrols pushing into area SOUTH GIROPA Pt. Slight advance was made by Allied tps WEST of SOPUTA-SANANANDA track. Our patrols actively patrolling this track during night 13/14 Dec; one party succeeded in reaching rd block 600 yds NE track junc SOPUTA-SANANANDA track.

At 0930 KL/14 Dec, Allied forces occupied BUNA Village and immediately set about reorganising. In the AMBOGA Area, slight adv was made towards Mouth of river.

On 15 Dec, our tps attacked Jap posns in cocconut grove SOUTH BUNA Govt Sta, whilst on the SANANANDA front, casualties were inflicted on the enemy by our effective arty fire.

During morning 15 Dec, Allied arty was again effective and succeeded in destroying the centre span of bridge SOUTH of the Mouth of creek leading to sta. Active patrols succeeded in accounting for several enemy snipers along SOPUTA-SANANANDA track.

An Allied patrol on 15 Dec reported strong enemy posn NW of Mouth AMBOGA River. Our forces EAST of new strip BUNA made a slight advance. Patrols were sent fwd from both flanks. Other Allied forces, when endeavouring to encircle enemy emplacements EAST of bridge between the two strips, met by enemy machine gun fire. Harassing arty fire was then brought to bear on these posns. In vicinity of BUNA Govt Sta, Allied tps cleared enemy from cocconut grove WEST of entrance creek, capturing enemy food dump. Some of our tps succeeded in crossing to the EAST side of creek. During the morning, the enemy, supported by mortar and arty fire, launched a counter attack which was successfully repelled. At least 20 Japs were killed in this engagement.

On 17 Dec, our tps made slight progress and cleared out some enemy pockets SE Mouth AMBOGA River, and are now closing in on enemy in village EAST of river mouth.

Allied tanks came into prominence on 13 Dec when an enemy posn in vicinity of Cape ENDALADERE was captured. The enemy is strongly resisting EAST end of new strip. Allied tps attacked island mouth of entrance creek Govt Sta and on rd junc SOUTH entrance creek. Allied arty again proved its effectiveness by silencing enemy guns firing from direction GIROPA Point. Despite increased enemy arty fire, our tps were active along SOPUTA-SANANANDA track.

(e) Sea Operations

Only slight activity has been observed, and this mainly comprised attempts to land reinfts and supplies, and is dealt with previously.

3. NEW BRITAIN

On 13 Dec, 1 enemy destroyer was attacked by Allied A/C whilst in vicinity of ST GEORGES Channel. The same day, GASMATA drome was attacked. Bombs fell in target area, starting fires. The drome appears unservicable.

Allied A/C bombed GASMATA drome. Results were not observed. On 14 Dec, when 48 mls SOUTH of GASMATA, a number of B24s were attacked by 10 to 15 Zekes. 2 Zekes were shot down and one damaged. 5 B24s were damaged.

Allied Bs attacked 6 enemy destroyers near GASMATA without success, but were more successful against 8 intercepting Zekes, as 2 were shot down.

It is suspected that a number of Japs made a landing at Cape GLAUCESTER from 2 Warships on 15 Dec.

#### 4. SOLOMONS

Allied dive bombers scored 6 hits when an attack was made on 11 destroyers off NORTH Bay, NEW GEORGIA on 11 Dec. 7 B17s raided MUNDA airfield during the morning.

MUNDA airfield was again the target for attacks on 12, 13 and 14 Dec. 45 tons of bombs were dropped during 12 and 13 Dec. Runway was badly damaged and many casualties inflicted.

On 16 Dec 42, Allied A/C bombed and strafed MUNDA in 2 attacks. Interception was made by 12 Zekes, and 3 were shot down. 1 B17 was lost, but crew all safe.

A large destroyer or cruiser was attacked off MUNDA on 16 Dec. A direct hit was obtained on stern end also a near miss. Much debris on water and smoke coming from vessel, which was stopped.

EA unsuccessfully bombed F strip GUADALCANAL on 13 Dec. Allied patrols destroyed 2 enemy MG posts and their crews. Our patrols are generally mopping up enemy remaining on this Island.

Much activity is reported on BUKA and KIHILI dromes.

It is reported that the enemy is short of food at BOUGAINVILLE Island.

#### 5. TIMOR

A party estimated at 100 Japs and 200 natives moved down through SAME ALAS to FATAQUAC and later made off towards HATA HUDO. Otherwise, all has been very quiet on the island.

DISTRIBUTION "B"

APPX 'O'

# Australian Military Forces—7th Military District.

SECRET

Please quote this Number when replying.

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Head-Quarters, 23 Aust Inf Bde  
Darwin, 1 Dec 42


HQ NT FORCE

## REPORT ON ROADS AND TRACKS AS AT 1600 HRS 30 NOV 42

WEATHER - Steady rain had fallen during night 28/29 Nov. Fine clear day at time of recce.

Ref Map DARWIN & ENVIRONS 1" - 1 mile

- (1) ROUTE - 36 MILE - SOUTHPORT STA - OBSERVATION HILL
  - (a) General conditions of road surface is fair. Bad patches in vicinity of PIONEER CREEK Crossing are under repair.
  - (b) Distance from MAIN ROAD which convoys including troop carrying vehicles, can move is 31.4 miles to map ref 753828.
  - (c) Generally vehicles can leave road for dispersion except area 2000 yds EAST of SOUTHPORT STA and area 793779 - 775804.
- (2) ROUTE - 30 MILE - TUMBLING WATERS
  - (a) Road surface is very rough. It will be necessary to raise the level in places to allow satisfactory drainage, but the foundation is solid and capable of carrying any troop transport.
  - (b) Track is passable to convoys throughout, distance of 14.2 miles.
  - (c) Generally vehicles can leave road for dispersion providing low lying areas are avoided.
- (3) ROUTE - 40 MILE - RAILWAY 970680
  - (a) General surface of track is firm at present.
  - (b) Track is passable to convoys over its entire length (11.4 miles) while swamps and crossings are dry. Heavy rain would necessitate the raising of low lying areas and the erection of bridges to allow passage of convoys.
  - (c) Dispersion of vehicles is possible in present state of country but further rains will not permit MT to leave track.
- (4) ROUTE - HOWARD SPRINGS - KOOLPINYAH
  - (a) General condition of road and track surface is fair. HOWARD SPRINGS ROAD though well formed is badly corrugated and construction parties are still engaged on track between HOWARD RIVER Crossing to KOOLPINYAH.
  - (b) Convoys including troop carrying vehicles, can move through entire track to KOOLPINYAH but at present would be retarded through boggy areas undergoing repairs.
  - (c) Country is suitable for dispersion of convoys generally, with the exception of low swamp areas between HOWARD RIVER Crossing to map ref 165118.
- (5) ROUTE - McMINNS LAGOON - KOOLPINYAH
  - (a) General condition of track surface is fair and mainly very firm with exception of swamp areas 096004, 119042, 160084, 192106 which would retard convoy movement.
  - (b) Distance from MAIN ROAD which convoy, including troop carrying vehicles can move is  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles to swamp crossing 119042.
  - (c) Generally vehicles can leave track for dispersal except at swamp areas mentioned in para (a). Dispersal areas sufficient for a Bde convoy available at (a) 127043 to 152078 (b) 193112 to 209168.
- (6) ROUTE - KOOLPINYAH - HUMPTY DOO
  - (a) General condition of track is poor owing to tree roots, waterways etc, and heavy timber slows down vehicles often causing them to make detours.
  - (b) Unbridged creek crossing at map ref 225119 ( $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles from KOOLPINYAH) would be difficult spot for large convoy. Track would be impassable for convoys at map ref 250999, (11 miles from KOOLPINYAH) where it crosses HOLLANDS CREEK and enters heavy swamp area.
  - (c) Country generally is unsuitable for dispersion of large numbers of vehicles, SOUTH of map ref 223115

  
Brigadier  
Comd 23 Aust Inf Bde

Appx 'P'

# Australian Military Forces—7th Military District.

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SECRET

Head-Quarters, 23 Aust Inf Bde  
Darwin, 9 Dec 42

HQ NT Force

## REPORT ON ROADS AND TRACKS AS AT 1600 HRS 7 DEC 42

WEATHER - Cloudy with scattered showers during patrol. Rain had fallen daily throughout area for preceding week.

Ref Map DARWIN & ENVIRONS 1" - 1 mile Sheets 3, 5 & 6

- (1) ROUTE - 36 MILE - SOUTHPORT STA - OBSERVATION HILL
  - (a) General condition of surface is good to TUMBLING WATERS but deteriorates from that point WEST.
  - (b) Distance from MAIN ROAD which convoys can move in, 19 miles Map ref 857783.
  - (c) Good dispersion areas except for points where water courses occur.
- (2) ROUTE - 30 MILE - TUMBLING WATERS
  - (a) General condition of surface is very bad.
  - (b) Distance from MAIN ROAD which convoy could move is 5 miles - map ref 034845.
  - (c) Vehicles can leave track for dispersion provided that low-lying areas are avoided.
- (3) ROUTE - 40 MILE - RAILWAY 970680
  - (a) General condition of road surface is fair.
  - (b) Track is passable for convoys throughout at present. Heavy rains will render it useless.
  - (c) Suitable dispersion facilities on ironstone ridges.
- (4) ROUTE - HOWARD SPRINGS - KOOLPINYAH
  - (a) General condition of road and track surface is fair. Construction parties still engaged on track between Howard River King and KOOLPINYAH.
  - (b) Distance passable by convoys from main road is 8 miles to 135106. Repairs in progress will render track passable to KOOLPINYAH.
  - (c) Country is suitable for dispersion with exception of low swamp area between HOWARD RIVER King and point 165118. Continuous rains will reduce suitable area.
- (5) ROUTE - McMINNS LAGOON - KOOLPINYAH
  - (a) Surface generally is fair with the exception of swamp areas 096004, 119042, 160084, 192106.
  - (b) Distance from MAIN ROAD which convoys could traverse is 1½ miles to point 096004.
  - (c) Generally vehicles can leave track for dispersal except at swamp areas mentioned in para (a).
- (6) ROUTE - KOOLPINYAH - HUMPTY DOO
  - (a) Condition of surface is poor owing to exposed roots, waterways etc.
  - (b) Track would be impassable to convoys at point 225119 (4½ miles from KOOLPINYAH).
  - (c) Country unsuitable for dispersion SOUTH of point 223115.



Brigadier  
Comd 23 Aust Inf Bde

APPX 'Q'

Australian Military Forces—7th Military District.

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SECRET

Head-Quarters, 23 Aust Inf Bde  
Darwin, 16 Dec 42


HQ NT FORCE

REPORT ON ROADS AND TRACKS AS AT 1600 HRS 15 DEC 42

WEATHER - Cloudy with scattered showers during patrols. Rain had fallen daily during preceding week.

Ref Map DARWIN & ENVIRONS 1" to 1 mile Sheets 3, 5 & 6

- (1) ROUTE - 36 MILE - SOUTHPORT STATION - OBSERVATION HILL
  - (a) General condition of road surface is firm. River crossing at 974718 was covered with 18 inches of water. Current was fast and further progress impossible. A new bridge is required. With exception of a few bad patches at PIONEER CK WEST 2000 yds and MAGNETIC FLATS, the surface is firm.
  - (b) Distance from Main Rd which convoys can move in - 8.5 miles Map ref 974718.
  - (c) Generally vehicles can leave road for dispersion purposes, except areas SOUTHPORT railway station WEST 2000 yds; TUMBLING WATERS EAST 1000 yds; PIONEER CREEK EAST 1000 yds; 895747 - 903742; 793779 - 775804.
- (2) ROUTE - 30 MILE TO TUMBLING WATERS
  - (a) General condition of road is bad.
  - (b) Distance from MAIN RD which convoys can move is 5 miles Map ref 034845.
  - (c) Vehicles can leave track for dispersion provided low lying areas are avoided.
- (3) ROUTE - 40 MILE TO RAILWAY LINE 970680
  - (a) General condition of road is fair.
  - (b) Distance from MAIN RD which convoys can move is 10 miles Map ref 979678. Further heavy rain will render it useless.
  - (c) Suitable dispersion areas on ironstone ridges.
- (4) ROUTE - HOWARD SPRINGS - KOOLPINYAH
  - (a) General condition of road surface is very fair.
  - (b) Convoys, incl troop carrying vehicles can move along entire length of track to KOOLPINYAH.
  - (c) Country is suitable for dispersion with exception of low swamp area between HOWARD R King and 165118. Further rain will render dispersion unsafe except on ironstone ridges.
- (5) ROUTE - McMINNS - KOOLPINYAH
  - (a) General condition of surface is firm on high ground and impassable at low areas - chiefly 119042, 160084, 192106.
  - (b) Distance from main road which convoys can move is 4½ miles to 119042.
  - (c) The numerous boggy low lying areas make dispersion unsafe.
- (6) ROUTE - KOOLPINYAH - HUMPTY DOO
  - (a) Condition of surface is bad.
  - (b) The track is impassable to MT convoy at 225119 (4½ miles from KOOLPINYAH) and 252996 (11.7 miles).
  - (c) Dispersion is not possible.

  
Brigadier  
Comd 23 Aust Inf Bde

APPX "R"

Australian Military Forces—7th Military District.

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SECRET

Head-Quarters, 23 Aust Inf Bde  
Darwin, 18 Dec 42


HQ NT Force

REPORT ON ROADS AND TRACKS AS AT 1600 HRS 17 DEC 42

WEATHER - Heavy rain had fallen night 15/16 Dec. Only light showers had been recorded since.

Ref Map DARWIN & ENVIRONS 1" to 1 Mile Sheets 3, 5 & 6

- (1) ROUTE - 36 MILE - SOUTHPORT STATION - OBSERVATION HILL
  - (a) General condition of road surface to TUMBLING WATERS is good. Bridge at 974718 is an obstacle to MT convoy. Road on EASTERN side of TUMBLING WATERS 933716 has been washed away and is impassable to MT or Carriers. Engineers are repairing damage. Recce beyond this point impossible.
  - (b) Distance from main road which convoy including troop carrying vehicles can move is 8.5 miles to 974718.
  - (c) Dispersion is possible except for low lying areas immediately WEST of SOUTHPORT Station and EAST of TUMBLING WATERS/
  - (d) Carriers. Carriers could move along road to TUMBLING WATERS without difficulty but NOT beyond.
- (2) ROUTE - 30 MILE TO TUMBLING WATERSZ
  - (a) General condition of road is fair. Road is holding water at many points from NA Road to Berry River Crossing 000791. Approach to Bridge 962748 is under repair.
  - (b) Distance from main rd which convoy including troop carrying vehicles can move is 5 miles to 034845.
  - (c) Areas for dispersal are not available without risk, although ground is drying rapidly.
  - (d) Carriers. Carrier was able to proceed past 034845 to TUMBLING WATERS.
- (3) ROUTE - 40 MILE TO RAILWAY LINE 970680
  - (a) General condition of road surface is poor. Low soft portions of track would not give passage to MT convoys until dried out.
  - (b) Distance MT convoy can move from NA Road is 7.5 miles.
  - (c) Generally vehicles can leave road for dispersion on high ground in area.
  - (d) Carriers. A carrier was able to move along entire length of track (11.4 miles) without difficulty.
- (4) ROUTE - HOWARD SPRINGS - KOOLPINYAH
  - (a) The general condition of the track surface is firm. Construction parties are still engaged on this road.
  - (b) Convoys, including troop carrying vehicles, can move from NA Road to KOOLPINYAH.
  - (c) Vehicles can leave road for dispersion on any ironstone ridges. Low lying areas must be avoided.
  - (d) Carriers. Road is impassable to carriers.
- (5) ROUTE - McMINNS - KOOLPINYAH
  - (a) General condition of road surface is firm on high ground and impassable at low areas 119042, 160087, 192106.
  - (b) Distance MT convoys can move from NA Road is 4½ miles to 119042 which is impassable.
  - (c) Numerous boggy areas make dispersion unsafe.
  - (d) Carriers. Carrier was able to travel along entire length of road to KOOLPINYAH without difficulty.
- (6) ROUTE - KOOLPINYAH - HUMPTY DOO
  - (a) General condition of track is fair, rough in places and impassable to MT convoy at 252996.
  - (b) MT convoy can move 11.7 miles from KOOLPINYAH to 252996, which is impassable.
  - (c) Dispersion is only possible on high ground 10 miles from KOOLPINYAH.
  - (d) Carriers. A carrier was able to move along track without difficulty.

  
Comd; 23 Aust. Inf. Bde. Brigs

W.P. Ryan  
Appx 'S'

SECRET

23 Aust Inf Bde  
23 Dec 43

5.467

13. AF Force

REPORT ON ROADS AND TRACKS AS AT 1600 HRS 21 DEC 43

WEATHER:- Overcast + heavy rain recorded 0400 - 0500 hrs 20 Dec -  
light showers only since.

1. ROUTE:- 36 MILE - SOUTHPOINT SPA - OBSERVATION HILL

- (a) The general condition of the road surface is good. Several portions of road which appear impassable were found to be very solid.
- (b) The distance which convoys including troop carrying vehicles can move is to MAGNETIC FLATS, 020786.
- (c) Generally vehicles can leave road for dispersal except in low lying areas.
- (d) Carrier moved along entire route with difficulty.

2. ROUTE:- 30 MILE - TUMBLING WATERS.

- (a) The general condition of road surface is good. Construction parties are engaged on this road. Foundations are solid.
- (b) Convoys can move along entire length of road to TUMBLING WATERS.
- (c) Areas for dispersal are NOT obtainable without risk.
- (d) Carriers can move along road without difficulty.

3. ROUTE:- 40 MILE to RAILWAY LINE 970000

- (a) General condition of track surface is poor, many water courses crossing it.
- (b) The distance from MAIN RD that AF convoy can move is 7.5 miles.
- (c) Dispersal areas are available on high ground which stretches approx 6 miles, commencing 1.5 miles from MAIN RD.
- (d) Carriers can use track for full distance (11.4 miles)

4. ROUTE:- HOWARD SPRINGS - KOOLEPINYAH

- (a) General condition of road is fair. HOWARD SPRINGS RD though well formed is corrugated.
- (b) AF convoys can move along entire track to KOOLEPINYAH.
- (c) From MAIN ROAD to HOWARD RIVER King, vehicles can leave road for dispersal. From HOWARD RIVER King to 106110 track runs through low ground where vehicles could not disperse. From 106110 to KOOLEPINYAH dispersal of AF is possible.
- (d) Carriers can move along entire length of track.

5. ROUTE:- MCHEENS - KOOLPINYAH

- (a) Condition of track surface is fair but very soft in swamp areas 096004, 119042, 160004, 193106.
- (b) Distance from MAIN ROAD which MT convoy can move is 4½ miles to swamp 119042 which is impassable to MT convoy.
- (c) MT dispersal Areas are NOT available.
- (d) Carriers can move along entire length of track to KOOLPINYAH.

6. ROUTE:- KOOLPINYAH - HUNPTY DOO

- (a) General surface of track is fair. Many rough patches exist and point 253996 is impassable to MT convoy.
- (b) MT convoy can move 11.7 miles from KOOLPINYAH.
- (c) Dispersal is only possible on high ground 10 miles from KOOLPINYAH.
- (d) Carrier was able to move from KOOLPINYAH to HUNPTY DOO without great difficulty.

*A. W. Potts*  
Brigadier  
Comd 23 Aust Inf Bde, AIF.

Copies to -

6 Aust Cav Regt  
3 Aust Inf Bde  
13 Aust Inf Bde



APPX "T"

BH/GW

*War Diary*  
23 Aust Inf Bde  
24 Dec 43

PROGRAMME OF TRAINING

ASSAULT BOATS

1. Twelve boats have been allotted to this Bde, and will be available to Bns as follows :--

8 Aust Inf Bn	-	24 Dec	-	3 Jan
19 Aust MG Bn	-	3 Jan	-	10 Jan
7 Aust Inf Bn	-	10 Jan	-	17 Jan
8 Aust Inf Bn	-	17 Jan	-	24 Jan
7 Aust Inf Bn	-	24 Jan	-	31 Jan

2. Units will deliver boats to next unit on list at conclusion of each period for which boats are allotted.

3. Care will be exercised by units to prevent damage to boats or equipment. Any damage will be reported the same day as it occurs, to this HQ, in order that immediate action may be taken to effect repairs.

*A*  
Major  
BH 23 Aust Inf Bde. AIF.

DISTRIBUTION

7 Aust Inf Bn  
8 Aust Inf Bn  
19 Aust MG Bn  
War Diary 2  
File

SECRET

23 Aug Inf 166  
26 Dec 43

IN THE FIELD

REPORT ON ROADS AND TRACKS AS AT 1000 HRS 24 DEC 43

Weather - Light showers during day.

Ref Map DAWSON & REYNOLDS 1" = 1 mile SHEETS 3, 5 & 6.

1. ROUTE - 36 MILE - SOUTHPORT STA - OBSERVATION HILL

- (a) General condition of road surface is good. Several portions of road which appear impassable were found to have solid foundations.
- (b) Distance from MAIN ROAD which convoys including troop carrying vehicles can move is 12.4 miles from MAIN ROAD. Soft portions situated in area 14 to 16.4 miles west of SOUTHPORT ST sta are obstacles to convoys and require attention.
- (c) Dispersal areas high ground west of FISHING CREEK.
- (d) Carriers can move along road to OBSERVATION HILL, lighter vehicles 15 out or 1 ton unsuitable for use on track past FISHING CREEK.

2. ROUTE - 39 MILE to TUMBLING WATER

- (a) Generally road surface good, from BUSHY CAY ROAD to BRIDGE CR is under repair, some deterioration in waterlogged sections SOUTH of BRIDGE CR. Foundations solid.
- (b) Convoys including troop carrying vehicles can move from MAIN ROAD to TUMBLING WATER.
- (c) Iron stone ridges only suitable dispersal areas.
- (d) Carriers can use track for full distance.

3. ROUTE - 40 MILE to RAILWAY LINE BYONG

- (a) General condition of track poor, numerous watercourses, some of which obstacles.
- (b) Convoys including troop carrying vehicles can move to a point 7.5 miles from MAIN ROAD.
- (c) Dispersal areas on high ground off track.
- (d) Carriers could use track for full distance 11.4 miles.

4. ROUTE - HOWARD SPRINGS - KOLPINYAN

- (a) General condition road surface fair, HOWARD SPRINGS ROAD though well formed is corrugated.
- (b) Convoys and troop carrying vehicles can move all the way to KOLPINYAN.
- (c) Dispersal areas obtainable on high ground, low lying areas MUST be avoided.
- (d) Carriers can use track for full distance.

5. ROUTE - BUSHY CAY - KOLPINYAN

- (a) General condition of track fair, some boggy patches 50/100 yds.
- (b) Distance from MAIN ROAD which convoys including troop carriers can move is 5 miles to way ref 100010.
- (c) Generally vehicles can disperse on high ground except at areas 100010, 100020, 100030.
- (d) Carriers moved through entire length road to KOLPINYAN without difficulty.

G. NOTES - KOMPATIAH - KUMBEK DIA

- (a) General condition of track surface had being boggy at 210140, 210150, 210160, 210170, further rain will render impassable.
- (b) Light vehicles only can now go 10 miles from KOMPATIAH to HOLLANDS CREEK crossing at 210300.
- (c) Owing to flat surface country, individual motor vehicles from track unless careful route made for dispersal areas.
- (d) Carrier proceeded as far as ref 210200, could have gone farther but ~~was~~ considered undesirable damage track further, as extensive repairs are needed from this point for Shulas across heavy black soil swamp area.

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
 Brigadier  
 Genl 23 Aust Inf Bde, AIF.

(101)

Copies to :-  
 6 Aust Cav Regt  
 3 Aust Inf Bde  
 10 Aust Inf Bde.

Appx "V"

83 AUSLT INF BDE TRAINING FOR FIELD EXERCISES 2 JAN 43

27 Dec 42

17D

REF HQD DAWKIN AND RIVERBANKS I<sup>n</sup> - 1 HQ

Unit	Subject	Date	Time	SP or Pirina	Route or Direction	Area	Type of practice and remarks
7 Aust Inf Bn	Range Practice	Daily	0830- 1730	237737	36°		Coy practice each day
	TESTS-all weapons					Coy Areas	
	Route March 7 1/2 miles	28, 30 Dec, 2 Jan.	1000 hrs				March will include COE and patrol duties
	Physical Efficiency Tests Individual Avg	Daily Daily				Coy Areas	Individual - T.S.M.G., Rifle, L.M.G., Grenade and fd craft.
8 Aust Inf Bn	Range Practice	Daily	0830- 1500	143601	213°		Grouping and application 100 rifle.
	TESTS-all weapons					Coy Areas	
	P1 & Coy Exercises- water obstacles Tactical Company march by Coys					WE AT 1500	Using assault boats. March will include COE and patrol duties.
			1000- 2300	Bn in gate	153601, 213° to 070604, 211° to 060603, then EAST to camp.		
19 Aust Inf Bn	Range Practice	Daily	0830- 1730	070056 HUGHANAN Range	303°		Coy practice each day
	Route March	29, 31 Dec	2 hrs				Coy marches- one carrying HQ equipment
	Night attack & defence	30 Dec	1200- 2100			Coy Areas	Coy Exercises.
	HQ & weapon Avg	Daily	0830- 1730			" "	Including HQ sec drill, P1 occupation.

DISTRIBUTION

HQ Force 2  
War Diary 2  
File.

Brigadier  
Comd 83 Aust Inf Bde. AIF

HQ NT ForceREORGANIZATION OF TRANSPORT - MG Bn

1. 19 Aust MG Bn is at present equipped with MT (wheeled) on the scale laid down for an infantry battalion in NT Force Adm Order No 12 of 26 Apr 42.
2. At that time this Bn was allotted to an infantry role.
3. To carry out their present role of MG Bn, additional transport is necessary for the carriage of MMGs, stores and ammunition if mobility is to be attained.
4. The following scale is suggested :--

A Ech

CO	1	Car DS (or 6 seater utility)
Office Van	1	1 ton van
RAP	1	1 ton van
Res Amn	2	3 ton lorries
HQ Coy	1	1 ton (including AA Pl eqpt, amm, and per box of Adm Pl)
Sigs	2	1 ton (Sig gear, phones, cable, LOS R/T and six 101 W/T sets)
Four MG coy HQ	4	1 ton (each coy HQ one veh)
12 MMG Pls (3 per Coy)	36	1 ton (each pl - one veh Pl HQ, one veh each sec)
Total vehs	45	(being 1 Car, 45 1 ton, 2 3 ton vehs)

B Ech

QM	1	1 ton (QM, stores, spare clothing)
TO	1	1 ton (TO, mechanics eqpt, MT spares)
Rations	1	1 ton (Ration collection and delivery, also for use 2 1/c Bn when at B Ech)
Kitchens	5	3 ton (Cooking gear, res rations, respirators and packs, one veh each MG Coy, one veh Bn HQ, HQ Coy.)
Petrol	1	3 ton (Reserve, and distribution of petrol)
Water	2	30 cwt (water lorries may be 3 ton if available)
Total	11	(Being 3 1 ton, 2 30 cwt water, 6 3 ton vehs)

4. Motor Cycles - 50 allotment as per W/E III/62/1
5. The above scale of transport allows the carriage of all necessary operational equipment but is insufficient to motorize the battalion. About thirty troop carrying 3 ton vehicles would be required to lift remaining personnel, if the battalion were at full strength.
6. If it is considered desirable that the battalion be motorized, the scale of transport shown in W/E III/62/1 is suggested as a basis. Some modification of B Ech would be possible, but it is doubtful if the A Ech scale could be modified to any extent.
7. Battalion training is now reaching the stage where mobility and availability of MT will play a big part in exercises. Transport held is sufficient only to allow one coy to operate, the remainder of the battalion then being immobilized with regard to operations.

was diary -

G. W. P. B.

Brigadier  
Comd 23 Aust Inf Bde. AIF.

23 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No 117

Compiled from information received between 2400 hrs 20 Dec and 1800 hrs 27 Dec 42.

NOTE: Information contained herein will be passed to all ranks.

1. DARWIN AREA.

(a) Enemy Air Activity

There were indications of the approach of two formations of A/C on 23 Dec. The A/C were WSW of CAPE FOURCROY on a SOUTHERLY course towards ANSON BAY.

The approaching A/C appeared to turn back when off Point BLAZE. P40s were airborne, but no interception was made.

(b) Own Air Activity

(i) 22 Dec - Beaufighter A/C flying at 500 ft carried out a strafing attack on the aerodrome at FUILORO (TIMOR).

(ii) 23 Dec - Hudson A/C on recon of ARU Islands sighted an EA which made off when Hudsons adopted offensive tactics. The Hudsons then proceeded to DOBO and unloaded their bombs in the town area.

An enemy seaplane was sighted to the EAST of DUBO and one Hudson attacked. The seaplane made off emitting smoke and flames, and is considered to have been destroyed.

FUILORO was again singled out for attack by Beaufighters on 23 Dec. On arrival over target area, one EA was just airborne, one about to take off and another stationary on the drome. Bursts were fired at A/C about to take off, but results not observed. Interception was made by 2 NATES and in resulting clash, one NATE was probably destroyed.

One of the Beaufighters engaged to take part in the above task before reaching the target area, signalled that it had engine trouble and was returning to base. This A/C has failed to return and must be presumed lost.

(iii) FUILORO drome was again the target for the Beaufighters on 24 Dec. Two EA about to take off were strafed, one set on fire and the other damaged. A crashed EA was noticed 200 yds off strip and is presumed to have been the NATE claimed as shot down the previous day.

Hudson A/C attacked shipping landing stores at IAVAI. 1 hit 5 near misses were registered. AA was encountered and one Hudson failed to return from this operation.

(iv) 25 Dec - Bad weather interfered with operations of Beaufighters and only one A/C succeeded in locating target area at IAVAI. No SHIPPING was sighted, but stores and personnel were strafed.

(v) 26 Dec - LAGA was singled out for an attack by 6 Hudsons. All bombs dropped in target area and fires started.

Beaufighters succeeded in strafing targets at LAGA and IAVAI.

(vi) 27 Dec - 6 Hudsons attacked IAVAI. Bombs were dropped in approx target area. Interception was made by 3 ZEKES. One Hudson and one ZEKE were shot down.

4 Beaufighters attacked the area just after Hudsons had departed. Stores and dumps were strafed and from one, flames and columns of black smoke were observed to come.

Beaufighter A/C strafed planes and personnel observed on drome. Two latter Beaufighters just before reaching drome were attacked from behind by 2 ZEKES. Evasive tactics were carried out and ZEKES shaken off.

NEW GUINEA

(a) Allied pressure is still being maintained and the enemy is gradually being forced to lose ground. Allied A/C continue to maintain air supremacy although aerial activity on both sides appears to be on a reduced scale. The Japanese have evidently found that their attempts to land reinforcements by sea have been disastrous and no further attempts have been reported during the period under review. It now appears that the enemy troops in Buna Area will have to rely on supplies and stores being dropped by air, but this will be very difficult owing to allied aerial supremacy.

(b) Enemy Air Activity

- (i) Jackson field was raided by one enemy A/C. 10 bombs, incl incendiaries, were dropped and a small grass fire started. Otherwise no damage or casualties.
- (ii) On 26 Dec EA raided PROT MORESBY but no details are as yet available.

(c) Own Air Activity

- (i) 19 Dec - BUNA GOVT STA was bombed and strafed.
- (ii) Enemy installations at GIROPA Point were bombed at 0200KL/20, and at 1228KL, a strafing attack over the same area was carried out.
- (iii) Fires were started at BUNA GOVT STA following on a raid on 21 Dec. An enemy destroyer was sighted 25 Mls NORTH of CAPE WARD on NW course. 4 of the bombs dropped straddled the stern of this vessel.
- (iv) 22 Dec - Allie A/C bombed and strafed MAMBA Mission. All bombs fell in target areas.
- (v) 23 Dec - BEAK Island and SANANANDA Area were strafed by our A/C.
- (vi) Only 2 out of 20 Japanese in canoes at KELKEL, (5 Mls SOUTH of SALAMUA,) reached the shore following a strafing from Allied A/C. The village of KELKEL was also strafed. Whilst strafing area mouth of AMBOGA River, Allied A/C reported observing ground to air signals 2 Mls NW of mouth of river.
- During morning of 24 Dec, Allied A/C made 3 attacks and dropped bombs on LAE drome runway and in JACOBSON'S Plantation.
- (vii) On 25 Dec, Allied A/C dropped bombs in vicinity of JACOBSEN'S Plantation, but results were not observed. However, much enemy activity was noticed at NORTH end of LAE aerodrome.

(d) Land Operations

- (i) On 18 Dec at BUNA, difficulty was being experienced by our tps in clearing enemy from log emplacements are connected with underground tunnels. Allied tps are attacking along front which runs NORTH to SOUTH and extends along line 600 yds WEST of Cape ENDAIADERE to EAST end of new strip. 13 enemy gun emplacements with steel tops are strongly resisting Allied tanks in this vicinity.
- Allied tps now defending ENTRANCE Creek Island, whilst rd junc at end of ENTRANCE Creek is defended by the enemy with 7 fortified bunkers. 20 enemy trucks were observed on track and 5 destroyed by our Arty.
- (ii) Allied patrols were active on 19 Dec and one patrol located an enemy dump 800 yds WEST SIWORI Creek and killed 4 Japs, whilst another surprised and caused Japanese casualties in vicinity mouth of GIRA River. It was reported that 250 Japs were concentrated at mouth of MAMBARE River.
- Allied Cav supported by arty attacked along SOPUTA-SANANANDA rd and by fighting was in progress SOUTH of track junc.
- (iii) On 20 Dec, Allied tps succeeded in obtaining control of the whole of the new strip area and occupy all area EAST of a line running from coast approx 2000 yds WEST Cape ENDAIADERE SOUTH to SINKMI Creek, thence along SINKMI Creek facing SW, thence along line of rd to br between 2 strips, thence SW to jungle.
- GOVT STA AREA - Allied sandpit NORTH of ENTRANCE Creek Island through EAST side of BUNA Village, thence SOUTH approx 400 yds to track Junc; other tps attacking to WEST clearing out strong enemy emplacements still resisting at apex of 2 tracks approx 700 yds SSW SIWORI Village.
- Allied tps engaged in clearing enemy pockets vicinity track 1900 yds SW of rd block SOPUTA SANANANDA rd. Until this is complete no further advance of fwd elements in vicinity of rd block will be attempted. Patrols reported area between KUMUSI and MAMBARE Rivers clear of enemy.
- During night 20/21 Dec, cav patrols after fierce clashes near fwd rd block, captured 2 lorries loaded with amm.
- Our tps preparing attack strong pockets still resisting SOUTH rd junc 1900 yds SW rd block.

(v) On 21 Dec, Allied tps were attacking along line running from coast approx 2500 yds WEST of Cape ENDAIADERE SOUTH to SINEMI Creek, thence along Creek to EAST end of old strip, thence SE to br, then SW along edge of timber to a pt approx 550 yds SOUTH of EAST end of old strip. All enemy bunkers vicinity of br now in Allied hands. 2 enemy AA guns SOUTH of old strip were destroyed by arty fire. Over 100 enemy dead were found in an area 300 yds square in vicinity of Cape ENDAIADERE.

(vi) In the BUNA STRIPS area on 21 Dec, an Allied det crossed SINEMI Creek approx 200 yds NORTH of br between strips. Patrols were engaged on mopping up enemy in vicinity Cape ENDAIADERE. It was estimated that there are 350 Japs left in area vicinity G. ROFA point. Allied tps made a slight adv along whole front in SOPUTA-SANAWANDA rd area.

(vii) GOVT STA AREA - By fighting continued on 22 Dec and 250 Japs were killed and wounded NORTH of track just SOUTH end of ENTRANCE Creek.

Allied tps established a bridgehead area between 100 and 500 yds SOUTH of mouth of Creek.

WEST of BUNA village Allied patrols moving to establish bridgehead WEST of SIWORI Creek.

In the Strip Area, our attacks resulted in further ground being gained EAST of SINEMI Creek and between coast. Tps who crossed track on 21 Dec advanced 1000 yds along old strip with two elements along line running NORTH to Creek. Allied arty succeeded in destroying enemy coastal guns at NW end of main strip.

A track of the SOPUTA-SANAWANDA rd area located enemy trench marks along edge of timber belt approx 350 yds EAST of rd just SOUTH of rd block.

Our patrols remain active in AMOGA area.

(viii) After a report that a large grain left the mouth of WAMARE River during night of 22/23 Dec, 9 Japs only were observed in DUVIRA Camp (MOUTH WAMARE River).

Tps fwd and rear of rd block on SOPUTA-SANAWANDA rd made further slight progress on 23 Dec.

In the BUNA Strip Area, our tps, together with those protecting left flank (SOUTH of old strip) adv a further 400 yds. Despite enemy activity, right flank is secure on SINEMI Creek. The enemy is still strongly resisting at WEST of old strip.

GOVT STA AREA - Allied tps supported by arty fire adv from SW of GOVT Garden to the NE of Garden. They are now on frontage from just SOUTH of mouth ENTRANCE Creek to track at pt approx half way between creek and junction of tracks. Enemy posts in the Garden area being mopped up.

(viii) AMOGA AREA - On 24 Dec it is reported that small enemy parties were at MUPUDA (6 Mls SOUTH of mouth KUMOSI River), SENAMI (5 Mls SOUTH KUMOSI) and DANAWATU (8 Mls SOUTH KUMOSI Inlands).

BUNA STRIPS AREA - Allied tps continued their advance of 21 Dec. The new front is now from coast at mouth of SINEMI Creek, SSE to a pt 500 yds SW of EAST end of old strip. Strong enemy resistance is being encountered from strong points in depth vicinity of timber belt and coconut grove WEST end of old strip.

Adv made through Govt Sta Garden continues and bridgehead EAST of ENTRANCE Creek enlarged.

In the area WEST of BUNA village, Allied patrols report strong enemy patrol 500 yds SE TAN KERA.

SOPUTA-SANAWANDA ROAD - Allied patrols which continue to remain active reported enemy constructing earthworks NORTH of our two points. Enemy planes have been over this area during 5 of last 6 nights and although some bombs were dropped, it is presumed more likely that they were dropping supplies. Scattered and large bodies enemy in strong defensive positions EAST of track make our progress difficult.

In the AMOGA Area, 20 to 30 enemy in poor condition with 2 landmines were observed at DUVIRA and appeared to be preparing to evacuate.

(ix) It is reported that 450 Japs have been landed at KAUKENAU (SW Coast of DUTCH NEW GUINEA) and to have occupied 3 places within a radius of 10 Mls.



### 3. NEW BRITAIN

- (i) Much activity was observed at LAKUNAI and VUNAKANAU aerodromes where new dispersal bays have been repaired.
- (ii) On 23 Dec. one Allied recon A/C was intercepted by 3 ZEKES and in the resulting clash, 1 ZEKE was shot down and the other two were damaged. Allied A/C attacked and set on fire a 1000 ton vessel in ARAWA Harbour on 23 Dec.
- (iii) On 23 Dec. two bombing attacks were made on droms at Cape GLOUCESTER. Bombs were dropped in dispersal area but results not observed. As the result of a direct bomb hit, an enemy tpt in ARAWA Harbour exploded and sank within two minutes.
- (iv) Two attacks made on GASMATA Drome during morning of 24 Dec. Results were not observed owing to interception by EA, 3, possibly 4, out of a total of 12 intercepting ZEKES were shot down. At 1625KL, a enemy 5000 ton tps was left sinking as a result of bombing by Allied A/C.

### 4. TIMOR

Reports indicate skirmishes between our tps and hostile natives in TURISCAI AREA. It is also reported that Japanese and hostile natives are in BIRPANO-RELAN River Area. No activity elsewhere apart from landing of Japs by Japs at LAVAL previously referred to.

### 5. ENEMY BQPF

#### Jap Cardboard Bomb

Reports to hand state that the Japanese are using a HE bomb with a cardboard outer casing. The purpose of this bomb could be to introduce fright, also for its blast effect against light structures.

Unconfirmed info about the bomb states that :-

- (i) Such bombs are freely used and range from 12" to 3' 6" Long and up to 8" in diameter.
- (ii) The bombs are initiated with standard Jap impact type fuse.
- (iii) A piece of glass tubing was found near one of these bombs. This may possibly be the housing for a standard type fuse. Any additional info, or confirmation of the use of this bomb, should be forwarded immediately to this HQ.

### DISTRIBUTION

42 Cpl Bty	1
14 A Tk Bty	1
X Sec Sigc	1
23 AI Coy	1
7 Aust Inf Bn	3
8 Aust Inf Bn	3
19 Aust Inf Bn	3
108 LAD	1
236 LAD	1
2/12 Aust FD Amb	1
War Diary	2
Bde EO	1
File	1

Appsc Y

Wardlaw

SECRET

23 Aust Inf Bde  
23 Dec 42

23 AF Force

REPORT ON ROADS AND TRACKS AS AT 1000 HRS 23 Dec 42

WEATHER : Overcast, heavy rain had fallen previous night.

Ref Maps DARWIN & ENVIRONS 1<sup>st</sup> - 1 mile. SHEETS 3, 5 and 6.

1. ROUTE - 50 MILE - SOUTHPORT BY SEA - OBSERVATION HILL

- (a) General condition road surface is good to crossing 974718 where causeway is washed away, and the crossing is impassable. Strong current flowing.
- (b) Distance from MAIN ROAD which convoys including troop carrying vehicles can move is 8.5 miles to 974718.
- (c) Vehicles cannot leave road without risk.
- (d) Carriers could move along road to 974718.

2. ROUTE - 30 MILE to TUMBLING WATERS

- (a) General condition road surface good, at points SOUTH of BERRY Ck surface is holding water and wearing badly, but foundation still solid.
- (b) Distance from main road which convoys including troop carrying vehicles can move is 11 miles to 982743 where DARWIN RIVER is 2 ft 6 ins above bridge, and flowing rapidly.
- (c) Nature of ground unsuitable for dispersal without risk.
- (d) Carriers could move along road to 982743.

3. ROUTE - 40 MILE to RAILWAY LINE 970690

- (a) General condition of road poor, and bad from 970675 to point 1.5 miles EAST, natural seepage keeps this section soft.
- (b) Distance from MAIN ROAD which convoys including troop carrying vehicles can move is 7.5 miles.
- (c) Dispersal areas on high ground off track.
- (d) Carriers could move along track for full distance.

4. ROUTE - HOWARD SPRINGS - KOOLPINYAH

- (a) General condition of road surface is fair.
- (b) Convoys, including troop carrying vehicles can move from MAIN ROAD to KOOLPINYAH.
- (c) Generally vehicles can leave track for dispersal except between area 095082 to 100116.
- (d) Carriers could move along track for full distance.

5. ROUTE - BARKING - KOOLPINYAH

- (a) General condition of track is fair to 095005.
- (b) Distance from MAIN ROAD which convoys including troop carrying vehicles can move is 1 1/2 miles to Map Ref 095005.
- (c) Dispersal possible off track as far as 095005.
- (d) Carriers could use track to 095005.

6. ROUTE - KOOLPINYAH - HUPPY DOO

- (a) General condition of track is fair.
- (b) Distance from KOOLPINYAH STA which convoys including troop carrying vehicles can move is 12 miles to 255005.
- (c) Generally dispersal areas can be obtained up to Map Ref 250040 10 miles from KOOLPINYAH.
- (d) Carrier covered entire distance to HUPPY DOO without much trouble.

--	--	--

Darwin  
Head-Quarters  
 Capt.  
 Brigadier  
 23 Aust Inf Bde. AIF.

A.O.D.

Copies to -

- 6 Aust Cav Bde
- 3 Aust Inf Bde
- 19 Aust Inf Bde.

Military Forces - 7th Military District

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED

Information contained in this document is not to be communicated either directly or indirectly to the press or to any person not holding an official position in His Majesty's Services.

Serial No 23  
Paras 110 - 118

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

ROUTINE ORDER PART I

by

BRIGADIER A.W. POTTS, DSO., MC.  
Comd 23 Aust Inf Bde. AIF.

In the Field  
30 Dec 42

110. <u>DUTY OFFICERS</u>	Wednesday	30 Dec 42	Lieut A.J FITZGERALD
	Thursday	31 Dec 42	Lieut W.H. WILD
	Friday	1 Jan 43	Lieut R.A. NASH
	Saturday	2 Jan 43	Lieut N.V. CASEY
	Sunday	3 Jan 43	Lieut R.A. PAULL
	Monday	4 Jan 43	Capt E.W. TEASDALE
	Tuesday	5 Jan 43	Capt N.F. BROSSOR
	Wednesday	6 Jan 43	Lieut C.R.L. CAYSER
	Thursday	7 Jan 43	Capt L.G. POWELL

111. FALSE STATEMENTS TO OBTAIN LEAVE ETC (GRO A661)

1. Attention is directed to regulation 73A of the National Security (General) Regulations, inserted by Statutory Rules 1942 No 475. That regulation is as follows :--

"73A - (1) A person shall not knowingly produce or present to any person any document containing any false statement or from which any material omission has been made, or knowingly make or connive at the making of any false statement, whether oral or in writing, or any omission, for the purpose of obtaining for any person or of assisting any person to obtain -

- (a) exemption from service in or leave of absence from any part of the defence Force;
- (b) a transfer from one unit, service, department, corps or arm of the Defence Force to another or from any place at which he is serving as a member of the Defence Force to any other place;
- (c) the transfer from any place of detention to any other place, or the release, whether temporarily or permanently, of any person detained in pursuance of any instrument made or issued under any regulation made in pursuance of the act, or any benefit or special treatment for any person so detained.

2. In any prosecution for a contravention of sub-regulation (1) of this regulation, any document purporting to be signed by the accused person, or to be authorised by him -

- (a) shall be admissable in evidence against him without proof that the signature thereon is his signature or that the document was authorised by him; and
- (b) shall be prima facie evidence that any statements contained therein were made, and that the document was produced or presented, by him or with his authority.

3. In any proceedings under this regulation against any person, the onus shall be upon that person of satisfying the court that the statement or representation which is the subject matter of the prosecution was true.

112. FALSE STATEMENTS TO SECURE EXEMPTION, LEAVE, ETC. (GRO A 657)

A recent Statutory Rule has amended AMR & O by inserting a new AMR 203A, the full text of which will be published shortly, and which provides in effect that every person subject to military law, whether on war service or not, who, with intent to deceive, makes any false statement or representation, whether verbal or in writing, in connexion with any application that --

- (a) any member of the military forces shall be granted exemption from service or leave of absence; or
- (b) any member of the Defence Force shall be transferred from one arm, service, department, corps or unit of the Defence Force to another or from one place to another; shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable to penalties as prescribed by AMR 215.

The averments by the prosecution that the statement or representation attributed to the accused was false, and was made with intent to deceive, shall be prima facie evidence of such falsity and intent.

113. CLEANING OF WEB EQUIPMENT AND GAITERS. (GRO O 657)

The practice of bleaching articles of web equipment and web gaiters, either by excessive washing with soap and soda or other means, is to cease immediately.

Items treated in this manner are not only unduly conspicuous in action but the treatment greatly deteriorates the material and reduces the life of the article.

When it is necessary to clean any item by washing lukewarm soapy water and light scrubbing only should be used. However, such washing should be restricted to occasions when it is absolutely essential.

*M. Brown*  
Captain  
SC 23 Aust Inf Bde. AIF

DISTRIBUTION "A".

WE. AIF. II/2/3 17\*69

**FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS**

Serial No 8/42

HQ 23 Const Reg Bde (Unit)

**PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.**

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
BRIGADIER. *	1		
Lieut.-Colonels			
Majors	1		
Captains	3		1
Lieutenants	8	1	1
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals	16	1	2

\*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

**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).

**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 and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
			APPOINTMENT		
BRIGADIER	WX1574	POTTS	AW.	Yes	
MAJOR	VX11746	DAVIES	T.P.	"	
CAPTAIN.	VX 5012	BROWN.	H.V.	"	
"	V1 11758	HEDWOOD	J.W.	"	
"	VX 45737	PROSSOR	N.F.	"	
Lieut	VX 39042	POWELL	L.G.	"	
"	VX 46460	MARSHALL	L.A.	No.	Detached 5th Div
"	VX 46432	ROSE	R.M.	"	School - 6th Div
"	WX 4502	DRIVER.	A.R.	"	" - NSW "
"	VX 38436	WILD.	W.H.	Yes.	
"	VX 30357	FITZGERALD.	A.J.	"	
"	AX 27658	CASEY	N.V.	"	
"	VX P 4111	KILLEY	K.T.R.	"	
CHAPLAIN.	V1 11081	PIDD	A.T.	No.	Detached 8 Div
"	N1 19100	FRY	F.J.	"	" 7 Div
"	S 40268	BARRETT	J.C.	"	" 19 MG Bn.

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.

MG 23 Aust Inf Bde  
(Unit.)

*[Signature]*  
(Signature of Commander.)

11 December 42.  
(Date of Despatch.)

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

(Adapted)

**FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.**

Serial No. 8/102

14222nd Signal Bn (Unit) 11 Dec. 1942 (Date)

To be furnished by all units and all Headquarter units.)

WE. AIF. II/2/3 17x69.

Part A Strength Surplus or Reinforcements required.

AMENDED PART 'A' AF W3009

Detail	War Establishment	Strength Excl Attd & 'X' List	Surplus	Deficiency	Remarks
W.O. Cl I	1			1	
W.O. Cl II	2	4	2		
C.Q.M.S.	1	1			
S/SGTS					
SGTS	5	3		2	
CPLS	7	5		2	
SPEC OP 1	1			1	
2	4	4	2	2	
3	2	3	1		
Ptes ETC	46	35		11	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>19</b>	

These totals are to agree with totals of part 'D'

**Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.**

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
Det. attached against WE.	WE.		Other attachments
1 S/Lt 16th IOR.	1st Postal Unit		Mil.

**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).







WE AIF II/2/3 17x69

**FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS**

Serial No 9/42

HQ 23 Aust Inf Bde (Unit)

**PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.**

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
BRIGADIER *	1		
*			
Lieut.-Colonels			
Majors	1		
Captains	4		
CHAPLAIN	3		
Lieutenants	7		1
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals	16		1

\*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

**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).

**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 and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.		Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
BRIGADIER	VX1574	POTTS	H.W.	Bde Band	YES	
MAJOR	VX44796	DAVIES	T.F.	B.M.	"	
CAPTAIN	VX5012	BROWN	H.V.	S.C.	"	
"	VX44788	KEDWOOD	J.W.	T.O.	"	
"	VX45753	PROSSOR	N.F.	L.O.(1)	"	
"	VX39042	POWELL	L.G.	BASCO	"	
LIEUT	VX44440	MARSHALL	L.R.	-	NO	Detached NT Force 5/1/42
"	VX44432	ROSE	R.T.M.	I.O.	"	School Qld 2 of 6 Area
"	WX4502	DRIVER	H.A.	B.M.(L)	"	" NSW "
"	VX28426	WILD	W.H.	L.O.(2)	YES	
"	VX30357	FITZGERALD	A.J.	H.O.	"	
"	VX27085	CASEY	N.V.	498	"	
"	VXP4411	KILLEY	K.T.K.	E.O.	NO	at NT Force Reception Camp
CHAPLAIN	V141081	PIDD	H.T.	-	NO	Detached 8 Bn
"	N429400	FRY	F.J.	-	"	" 7 Bn
"	S40268	KHARRATT	J.C.	-	"	" 19 MG Bn

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.

HQ 23 Aust Lf/Bk  
(Unit.)

11 Dec 42  
(Date of Despatch.)

Capl  
H. B. ...  
(Signature of Commander.)

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



HQ 23 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 (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)
Ammunition Examiners			Fire Control Operators			Panel Beaters		
Armament Artificers			Fitters			Pattern Makers		
Armourers			Fitters and Turners			Pharmacists		
Artificers, Artillery			Fitters, Cycle			Photographers, dry plate		
Axemen			Fitters, Drivers			Photographers, wet plate		
Bakers			Fitter's Mates			Photo-Writers		
Battery Surveyors			Fitters, M.V.			Plate Layers		
Battery Comdrs. Asst.			Fitters, Railway Signal			Plumbers		
Blacksmiths			Fitters, Signal			Predictor Numbers		
Boilermakers			Grinders			Printers		
Bricklayers			Gun Layers			Radiator Mechanics		
Butchers			G.P.O. Assistants			Radiographers		
Camouflage Modeller			Gun Operators			Range Takers		
Carpenter and Joiner			Hammermen			Riggers		
Clerks			Height Takers			Riveters		
Clerks, Engineering			Helio Operators			Saddlers		
Clerks, Supply			Instrument Mechanics			Saddle Tree Makers		
Clerks, Technical			Instrument Mechanics, Surgical			Saw Doctors		
Coachmakers			Instrument Operators			Sawyers		
Computers			Intelligence Duties		2	Shoemakers		
Concretors			Joiners			Signallers		
Cooks	2	1	Leather Stitchers			Signwriters		
Cooks, Hospital			Linesmen			Stokers, Stationary Engine		
Coppersmiths			Linesmen, Signals			Storemen, Technical		
Dental Clerk Orderlies			Lithographers			Surveyors		
Despatch Riders			Machinists			Surveyors, Engineering		
Dispensers			Masons			Tailors		
Draughtsmen			Masseurs			Telescope Identification Numbers		
Draughtsmen, Architectural			Mechanics, Dental			Textile Refitters		
Draughtsmen, Mechanical			Mechanics, M.T. (T&E)		1	Tinsmiths		
Draughtsmen, Signal			Mechanics, Typewriter			Toolmakers		
Draughtsmen, Topographical			Mechanics, Wireless			Turners		
Driver Mechanics	1		Millwrights			Vulcanizers		
Driver Operators			Miners			Wagon Erectors		
Drivers, Transportation Plant			Moulders			Watchmakers		
Electrical Fitters			Nursing Orderlies			Watermen		
Electricians			Nursing Orderlies (Mental)			Welders		
Electricians, Eng. Units			Nurses, Trained			Well Borers		
Electricians, Signal			Observation Post Assistants			Wheelers		
Engine Artificers			Operating Room Assistants			Whitesmiths		
Engine Hands I/C			Operators, Signal			Wiremen		
Equipment Repairers			Opticians			Woodturners		
Farriers			Painters					
General Duties	1	1			11			
Transport Sgt								
Totals (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)				4	18			

Notes—(a) If rank other than Private is involved give details on back.  
(b) Authorised Trades or Specialists not included in list above will be added as required in spaces provided.

HQ 23 Aust Inf Bde Unit.

Signature of Commander. Capt. Bde.

Date of Despatch 11 Dec 42

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



WE. AIF. II/2/3 17 x 69

**FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS**

Serial No 10/42

HQ 23rd Army Pde (Unit)

**PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.**

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
BRAZIER *	1		
Lieut.-Colonels			
Majors	1		
Captains	4		
CHAPLAINS			
Lieutenants	3		1
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals	16		1

\*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

**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).

**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 and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
BRIGADIER	WA1574	POTTS AW	APPOINTMENT	Yes	
MAJOR	YX 44706	DAVIES TF	AM		
CAPTAIN	YX 5012	BROWN HV	SC		
	YX 44725	REDWOOD JW	TO		
	YX 45733	PROSSER MF	LD (1)		
	YX 39442	POWELL LG	BASCO		
LIEUT	YX 46440	MARSHALL LR	-	No	Detached NT 3000 50/402
	YX 46432	ROSE RTM	LD		Detached 50/402
	WX 4502	DRIVER AR	RM/W		NSW
	YX 35426	WILD WH	LD (2)	Yes	
	YX 30357	FITZGERAID AT	AO		
	RY 17655	CASBY NV	Hvy. D		
	YXP 4441	KILLEY MTR	ED	No	ABS. NSWK of 8 Area.
CHAPLAIN	VIN 051	PIDD AT		No	Detached - 5 Bn
	WA 2640	FRY FT			7
	SH 225	BARRETT JC			19/403 Bn

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
YX 59013	Frank	PAULL PA	200	22/1/42	attached as ED
YX 44120		TREVENEN JL	2 Bn	12/1/42	ID

WA 22600/10/41  
(Unit.)

*Frank*  
(Signature of Commander.)

12/1/42  
(Date of Despatch.)

NT 3000  
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)



Serial No 10142

**FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.**

(Adapted)

11423 (Unit) 15 Dec. 1942 (Date).

To be furnished by all units and all Headquarter units.)

WE AIF. II/2/3 17x69.

AMENDED PART 'A' AF W3009

Detail	War Establishment	Strength Excl Attd & 'X' List	Surplus	Deficiency	Remarks
W.O. CI I	1			1	
W.O. CI II	2	3	1		
C.Q.M.S	1	1			
S/SQTS					
SGTS	5	3		2	
CPLS	7	6		1	
SPEC GP 1	1			1	
2	4	6	2		
3	2	3	1		
PTES ETC	46	35		11	
TOTALS	69	57	4	16	

\* These totals are to agree with totals of part 'D'

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
Post. attached from WE.			Other Attachments
1 S/Sgt 1 OR	NT Postal Unit		Nic.

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).

HR 230 Unit of the ... 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 (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)
Ammunition Examiners			Fire Control Operators			Panel Beaters		
Armament Artificers	1		Fitters			Pattern Makers		
Armourers			Fitters and Turners			Pharmacists		
Artificers, Artillery	1		Fitters, Cycle			Photographers, dry plate		
Axemen			Fitters, Drivers			Photographers, wet plate		
Bakers	1		Fitter's Mates			Photo-Writers		
Battery Surveyors			Fitters, M.V.			Plate Layers		
Battery Comdrs. Asst.	1		Fitters, Railway Signal			Plumbers		
Blacksmiths			Fitters, Signal			Predictor Numbers		
Boilermakers			Grinders			Printers		
Bricklayers			Gun Layers			Radiator Mechanics		
Butchers			G.P.O. Assistants			Radiographers		
Camouflage Modeller			Gun Operators			Range Takers		
Carpenter and Joiner			Hammermen			Riggers		
Clerks			Height Takers			Rivetters		
Clerks, Engineering			Helio Operators			Saddlers		
Clerks, Supply			Instrument Mechanics			Saddle Tree Makers		
Clerks, Technical			Instrument Mechanics, Surgical			Saw Doctors		
Coachmakers			Instrument Operators			Sawyers		
Computers			Intelligence Duties			Shoemakers		
Concretors			Joiners			Signallers		
Cooks	2	1	Leather Stitchers			Signwriters		
Cooks, Hospital			Linesmen			Stokers, Stationary Engine		
Coppersmiths			Linesmen, Signals			Storemen, Technical		
Dental Clerk Orderlies			Lithographers			Surveyors		
Despatch Riders			Machinists			Surveyors, Engineering		
Dispensers			Masons			Tailors		
Draughtsmen			Masseurs			Telescope Identification Numbers		
Draughtsmen, Architectural			Mechanics, Dental			Textile Refitters		
Draughtsmen, Mechanical			Mechanics, M.T.			Tinsmiths		
Draughtsmen, Signal			Mechanics, Typewriter			Toolmakers		
Draughtsmen, Topographical			Mechanics, Wireless			Turners		
Driver Mechanics	1		Millwrights			Vulcanizers		
Driver Operators			Miners			Wagon Erectors		
Drivers, Transportation Plant			Moulders			Watchmakers		
Electrical Fitters			Nursing Orderlies			Watermen		
Electricians			Nursing Orderlies (Mental)			Welders		
Electricians, Eng. Units			Nurses, Trained			Well Borers		
Electricians, Signal			Observation Post Assistants			Wheeliars		
Engine Artificers			Operating Room Assistants			Whitesmiths		
Engine Hands I/C			Operators, Signal			Wiremen		
Equipment Repairers			Opticians			Woodturners		
Farriers			Painters					
Bowls	1	1	General Duties		11			
Transit Sigs		1						
Totals (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)				4	16			

Notes—(a) If rank other than Private is involved give details on back.  
(b) Authorised Trades or Specialists not included in list above will be added as required in spaces provided.

HR 230 Unit of the ...

Unit.

Signature of Commander.

Date of Despatch.

18 December 42

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



WE. AIF. II/2/3 17 x 69.

**FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS**

SERIAL No. 11/42

HQ 23rd Conty Inf Bde (Unit)

**PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.**

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
BRIGADIER * * Lieut.-Colonels	1		
Majors	1		
Captains	4		
Lieutenants	7		1
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals	16		1

\*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

**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.
Field	TREVENEN J.L.	8 Bn.	22/10/42	cannot be attached as per 15
"	KILLEY KTR	AES	18 Dec 42	" " " EO

**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 and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.		Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
BRIGADIER.	WX 1574	POTTS.	AW	Bu Comd.	Yes	
MAJOR.	VX 44796	DAVIES	TF	AM	"	
CAPTAIN	VX 5012	BROWN.	HV	SC	"	
"	VX 44788	REDWOOD	JW	TO	"	
"	VX 45733	PROSSOR.	N.F.	LO(1)	"	
LIEUT.	VX 46440	MARSHALL	LR	-	No	detached MONT 3rd - 50th 42
"	VX 46432	ROSE	RTM	LO	"	school Qltk 46.
"	WX 4502	DRIVER.	AR	BM(L)	"	NSW
"	VX 28426	WILD.	WH	LO(2)	Yes	
"	VA 30357	FITZGERALD.	AJ	AO	"	
"	AX 27688	CASEY	NY	Hqg O.	"	
<del>"</del>	<del>VX 44797</del>	<del>KILLEY</del>	<del>N.F.</del>	<del>EO</del>	<del>No</del>	<del>NT Force</del>
"	VX 89013	PAULL	PA	EO	Yes	
CHAPLAIN.	V 141081	PIDD	AJ	-	No	detached - 8 Bn.
"	N 429400	FRY	FJ	-	"	- 7 "
"	S 40268	BARRETT	JC	-	"	- 19 MG Bn.

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
<del>VX 44797</del>	<del>Killey</del>	<del>PAULL</del>	<del>PA</del>	<del>REC</del>	<del>from 4th Bn</del>

HR 23 Aust Inf Bde  
(Unit.)

*[Signature]*  
(Signature of Commander.)

25 December 42  
(Date of Despatch.)

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

SERIAL NO 11/112

**FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.**

(Adapted)

WE AIF. II/2/3 17x69.

HQ 23rd Aust Inf Bde

(Unit) 25 December 1942 (Date).

To be furnished by all units and all Headquarter units.)

AMENDED PART 'A' AF W3009

Detail	War Establishment	Strength Excl Attd & 'X' List	Surplus	Deficiency	Remarks
W.O. CI I	1			1	
W.O. CI II	2	3	1		
C.Q.M.S.	1	1			
S/SGTS					
SGTS	5	3		2	
CPLS	7	6		1	
SPEC GP 1	1			1	
2	4	6	2		
3	2	3	1		
ETCS ETC	46	35		11	
TOTALS	69	57	4	16	

x These totals are to agree with totals of part 'D'

\*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.
Reattached against WE		Other attachments	
1 S/Lt 16 ME I OR.	MT Postal Unit.		Nil

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).

HR 23 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 (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)
Ammunition Examiners			Fire Control Operators			Panel Beaters		
Armament Artificers			Fitters			Pattern Makers		
Armourers			Fitters and Turners			Pharmacists		
Artificers, Artillery			Fitters, Cycle			Photographers, dry plate		
Axemen			Fitters, Drivers			Photographers, wet plate		
Bakers			Fitter's Mates			Photo-Writers		
Battery Surveyors			Fitters, M.V.			Plate Layers		
Battery Comdrs. Asst.			Fitters, Railway Signal			Plumbers		
Blacksmiths			Fitters, Signal			Predictor Numbers		
Boilermakers			Grinders			Printers		
Bricklayers			Gun Layers			Radiator Mechanics		
Butchers			G.P.O. Assistants			Radiographers		
Camouflage Modeller			Gun Operators			Range Takers		
Carpenter and Joiner			Hammermen			Riggers		
Clerks			Height Takers			Riveters		
Clerks, Engineering			Helio Operators			Saddlers		
Clerks, Supply			Instrument Mechanics			Saddle Tree Makers		
Clerks, Technical			Instrument Mechanics, Surgical			Saw Doctors		
Coachmakers			Instrument Operators			Sawyers		
Computers			Intelligence Duties			Shoemakers		
Concretors			Joiners			Signallers		
Cooks	2	1	Leather Stitchers			Signwriters		
Cooks, Hospital			Linesmen			Stokers, Stationary Engine		
Coppersmiths			Linesmen, Signals			Storemen, Technical		
Dental Clerk Orderlies			Lithographers			Surveyors		
Despatch Riders			Machinists			Surveyors, Engineering		
Dispensers			Masons			Tailors		
Draughtsmen			Masseurs			Telescope Identification Numbers		
Draughtsmen, Architectural			Mechanics, Dental			Textile Refitters		
Draughtsmen, Mechanical			Mechanics, M.T.			Tinsmiths		
Draughtsmen, Signal			Mechanics, Typewriter			Toolmakers		
Draughtsmen, Topographical			Mechanics, Wireless			Turners		
Driver Mechanics	1		Millwrights			Vulcanizers		
Driver Operators			Miners			Wagon Erectors		
Drivers, Transportation Plant			Moulders			Watchmakers		
Electrical Fitters			Nursing Orderlies			Watermen		
Electricians			Nursing Orderlies (Mental)			Welders		
Electricians, Eng. Units			Nurses, Trained			Well Borers		
Electricians, Signal			Observation Post Assistants			Wheelers		
Engine Artificers			Operating Room Assistants			Whitesmiths		
Engine Hands I/C			Operators, Signal			Wiremen		
Equipment Repairers			Opticians			Woodturners		
Farriers			Painters					
Bowls	1	1	General Duties		0			
Transfer Site		1						
Totals (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)				4	16			

Notes—(a) If rank other than Private is involved give details on back.  
(b) Authorised Trades or Specialists not included in list above will be added as required in spaces provided.

HR 23 Aust Inf Bde Unit.

Signature of Commander, Capt. NT 3000

Date of Despatch 29 December 42

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

