

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

Item number: 8/2/17

17 Infantry Brigade
October - November 1940,
Appendices

Tuesday Oct 1st.

I sent out what little information we received from Div re tomorrow's exercise.

Received Narrative + further details at approx 1600 - Brig called conference 1630 hrs of all C.O units + C.O 2/2 Bty + discussed the exercise - lack of definite information great handicap.

Brig then discussed operation for movement with staff who went into action to produce the operation order tracings, + administration instructions
17th Aust Inf Bde O. O NO 2 issued 0040 hrs 2nd Oct.

The typists + remainder of orderly room staff had worked excellently.

B.M. gave Bde personnel short lecture on their ^{function in field}
Wednesday Oct 2nd

B.M. + B.I.O marked out start line + all minor details tied up for move across start line 1400 hrs

Lieut M^e Goch returns as B.T.O after 6 weeks with 2/5 Bn - very regimental now.

Saturday 5th Oct.

✓ All looked much better this morning
& were ^{nowhere} heard that the "bump" of
had not greatly increased during our
absence. ✓

Brig. B.M. + S.C. leave for a
quiet night in Cairo [it is reported
that the S.C. arrived home just in
time to ~~stay~~ ^{blow} Reville - quiet night!].

It RAINED at 1750 - no one
could believe their eyes as it is the
~~the day of the election~~ just that has descended
upon us since we crossed the equator
back in April —

Sunday 6th Oct: —

✓ A quiet day was spent by most
in camp — B.I.O. spent day with
signals from exercise.

Monday 7th Oct: —

✓ Routine work — B.M. ~~make~~
goes on 'Pucci' for Belle exercise on to be
held on Thursday & Friday

Left to Idham & Col G.3 I 6 last
Din called to see Brig re exercise also
Colonel Ferguson ^{6 Aust Cav} on same subject.

Col Walker rang from our
"nothern area to be" to ask Brig to
come up to see area.

Unit to Hampton leaves us to become
Q.M. of 17 Aust Inf Belle Training Bn.

Tuesday Oct 8th.

Brig has very busy morning with continuous interviews - V.A.D.M.S Col Disher called to discuss the ~~ambulance~~ medical problems with regard to the base formations on the Snow.

He quite agreed with the Brigs idea of moving casualties to the outer edges of the main body - the ambulances moving them in the rear of the main body in the lane between M.G. + flank guard. He is however worried about the Vanguard + suggests that two ambulances work in the centre lane in rear of vanguard for picking up casualties from same.

17th Inf Bde Operation Order No 6 issued 1900 hrs.

Flying Officer Penni + Flying Officer Duke R.H.A.F. stationed at H.E.I.W.A.N. missed with us were giving us useful information re disposition of troops + M.P. from the flyers point of view also some useful tips on camouflage.

Wednesday: - Oct 9th

Brig goes north on recess by car

Three visits from Divisional staff Capt Oldham, Major Hyman, + Capt Lovell made the B.M. day a heavy one together with numerous rfc. with the 'enemy' for tomorrows exercise + a lecture to all officers + senior

N.C.O. on "Communications" — The B.M.
went over mistakes made by all in
recent ~~to~~ Div exercise. It importance
of correct signal procedure to produce
~~to~~ ~~the~~ correct action
day at in shortest time.

Thursday Oct 10th :—

✓ Bell exercise with the 21st Hd Bnt
co-operating.

✓ Operations as shown in
Summary.

Friday Oct 11th

✓ Exercise continued
& march back to camp in
base formation

Brig very pleased with whole
exercise which proved that
much had been learnt by all
from the mistakes made in the
Divisional exercise.

Friday cont.

When Brig; B.M. + S.C. attend cocktail party given by General Freyburg G.O.C. New Zealand Forces in Egypt to officers of this Bde to thank them for their help in preparing the camp at Maadi for the new N-2. Bde.

Brig + S.C. ^{+ B.M.} then carried on the good work celebrating the B.M. birthday - it is reported that the Brig can still show the young men a few points -

Saturday 12th Oct.


B.I.O. to Abyssinia to borrow some A.C. equipment.

Brig MacFarlane [O.C. Convoy of re-inforcement just arrived] comes as a ray of sunshine to the Brig - Col Lucas also called to discuss with the Brig to discuss problems of the northern defence scheme.

Rain again - it is amazing what a difference it makes to this place - no dust + a firm surface to walk on - some of the lads brought a football out to celebrate.

Sunday 13th Oct. -

Gen Mackays A.D.C. Lt Col Pether calls to see Brig



Brig begins to write report on Dwi exercise
with B.I.O. churning signals.

Brig, B.M. + S.C. dine with 2/6 Bn
who were also entertaining a party of nurses
- of staff sisters from Helopolis. These
guys were either in evacuation of B.E.F.
from France or Norway.

B.M. - S.C. + T.O. spend day in Cairo
- church - swim - And the bazaars.

Monday: - 14th Oct

Brig + S.C. go north ^{to discuss} ~~on~~ defensive
to discuss with Colonel Walker ~~defensive~~
defensive scheme.

Gen Mackey + G.I. also visiting
area were met.

A quiet day in camp with
few worries + interruptions.

Tuesday 15th Oct.

Brig has many interviews +
then begins to write report on
Dwi exercise.

It has been a long day
for all - many worries many little
things going wrong.

We received notification
the the G.O.C. B.E.F. will visit
our camp tomorrow to inspect
units whilst training.

Wednesday 16th Oct

✓ All preparations made for the reception of G.O.C B.T.F only to be sold for the second time - all off -

Our anti-tank Coy is being born selection of personnel being well under way

Brig very annoyed with the way we are being equipped with many articles - M.T which are cast off's from other units
Lunt French produces sample of ^{Christmas} postcard to be printed in the field by our press ~~units~~. 2 Postcards will be given to each man in the Bde.

What glorious sunsets - B.M
B.I.O do a little sky gazing

Thursday 17th Oct

✓ Lecture by Major Gen Freyberg V.C. C.B. C.M.G. D.S.O. LL.D. to all officers in camp on his experiences in France + England - giving details of German equipment & tactics is the most interesting - He gave us some details of reorganisation which ^{will} ~~was~~ take place in the future as a result of the Benthall report.
Bng "F" + Sig sections left for two day course

✓ Puckapunyal No 5 issued by the press

Brig + S.C. "went to town" before dinner
Visit from Lunt Col Doherty for dinner

Friday 18th Oct

✓ Brig + B.M. had photographs
taken for pay books
New censor stamp + Field Ammunition
Regs delivered
✓ Col Bingham C.1 6 Aust Div
calls on us

Saturday 19 Oct The Brigadier lectured
to all officers & senior N.C.O.s of the brigade his
subject being "Recent Divisional
Exercise". All the movements were
expounded in his usual clear style and
the theory of letting all ~~the~~ ranks into the
picture and so providing an interest being
squarely placed before the assembly (The
private makes the army)

The Brigadier dined with G.O.C. at
dinner tonight.

S.C. B.I.C. + S.O. took a well earned spell
& went off to Lusor for the week-end. We hope
they return as whole as we sent them off

Sunday - A quiet day - one we all dream
of - Brig and B.M. attended 26 BN
~~march~~ church parade in Cairns today.
Many of our personnel took the opportunity
to get out of camp for the day and the camp
presented a very quiet face for inspection.
Tonight 2050 hrs first ^{real} air-raid alarm since



arrival in Egypt. - One plane passed fairly close to
camp at great height on northward course - Planted
it's little bit of trouble at Maadi.

Big delighted with 2/6 Bn to church Parade
- "I was thrilled + proud of them"
Monday 21st Oct. -

✓ S.C. - B.I.O + S.O return
H hrs late from Luscor after a very
~~of~~ interesting two days which
made them feel that perhaps after all
we are not such a hampered race. -

Due to punching "moves" our
three day exercise was cancelled.

Tuesday: - 22nd Oct

✓ S.C. goes north to inspect
our new camp site. -

An raid alarm sounded.

0455 hrs all clear at 0513 the only
result being a rather disgruntled Bde HQ
at breakfast

B.M. goes out with 2/7 Bn to
watch their one day exercise

*Private War
Dray.*

H. C. 6 Aust. Div.,
E E L W A N.

24 Oct. 40.

G.O.Cs. Inspection of Training 25 October 1940.

PROPOSED ITINERARY.

<u>Time.</u>	<u>Action.</u>
0915 hrs.	Arrive at Camp Entrance. Led by two M.C. Orderlies to G.O.Cs. Office.
0918 hrs.	Arrive G.O.Cs. Office. Met by Comd. 17 Aust. Inf. Bde., Brig. S.G. Savidge D.S.O., M.C., E.D.
0920 hrs.	<u>2/5 Bn.</u> Met by A/C.O. Maj. G. E. Sell Loading of Pl. truck. Bren handling in Respirators. Preparation of Field Sketch by Int. Sec.
0926 hrs.	<u>2/6 Bn.</u> Met by A/C.O. Maj. H. Wrigley M.C. March past in column of route.
0932 hrs.	<u>2/7 Bn.</u> Met by C.O., Lt-Col. T.G. Walker E.D. Hand Grenade throwing. Wiring. A.A.L.M.C. Training.
0940 hrs.	<u>5 Aust. Cav.</u> Met by C.O., Lt-Col. M.A. Ferguson M.C. Maintenance of M.C. Carriers and Lt. Tanks.
0952 hrs.	Met by C.R.A., Brig. E.P. Herring D.S.O., M.C., E.D. <u>2/2 Fd. Regt.</u> Met by A/C.O., Maj. G.L. Young. Occupation of positions.
1000 hrs.	<u>2/1 Fd. Regt.</u> Met by C.O., Lt-Col. L.E.S. Barker M.C. A. Tk. Training.
1015 hrs.	Depart.

C.O.
conduct
Anthony
Eden
around their
own show.

- NOTES :
- All above timings are subject to unavoidable fluctuations of 10 mins. either way.
 - Comd. 17 Aust. Inf. Bde. will introduce C.O. at each stopping place. C.O. will accompany G.O.C. on inspection of his own unit.
 - D.A.D.O.S. 6 Aust. Div. will travel with inspection party.
 - C.Os. 6 Aust. Div. Sigs. (Lt-Col. J.F. Rather), A.A.S.C. (Capt. G.A. Nichols), 2/2 A.F.W. (Capt. E.W. Bryceson), 2/2 Aust. Fd. Amb. (Lt-Col. H.G. Furnell), 6 Aust. Div. Provost Coy. (Capt. R.B. Forayth M.C.) will assemble on road west of 2/2 Fd. Regt. at 1000 hrs. and follow entourage to 2/1 Fd. Regt. demonstration.
 - 6 Aust. Div. Provost Coy. will close road between Div. H.Q. and PALL MAIL theatre from 0915 hrs. to 0945 hrs.
 - One M.C.D.R. H.Q. 17 Aust. Inf. Bde. will accompany Bde. Comd. and follow his car.
 - No men in working dress, or on light duties, will be permitted to move within unit areas improperly dressed.

Distribution:
All Units HELWAN camp.

[Signature]
Col.
G.S. 6 Aust. Div.

Wednesday 23rd Oct:—

Notification received that Anthony Eden Secretary for War will visit HELWAN on Friday and inspect units at work [Third Amie preparations have been made for ^{an} ~~the~~ ~~visit~~ ~~of~~ ~~an~~ important visitor] B.M. held conference of units concerned.

Thursday 24th Oct:—

Operation orders for move produced ready for distribution

Brig attends cocktail party given by General Wavell G.C.M. Middle East representing General Mackay Present were Secretary for War Mr Anthony Eden - G.O.C. B.T.F. General Marston Wilson + sundry other "high" personages. ~~of~~ including Lord Somers (who is now Director General of Red Cross organization in Middle East.

Friday Oct 25th. — Anthony Eden.

✓ — ~~The~~ Secretary of War arrives
+ is met by Brig representing Gen
Mackay — ✓ Mr Eden was accompanied
by ✓ General Wavell + Gen Maitland
Wilson.

Anthony displayed keen interest
in his inspection of each unit at
work paying particular attention
to the equipment they were using.

The Brig was invited to drive with
Mr Eden who took the opportunity of
inquiring about the deficiencies of
equipment in this Bde.

The itinerary of inspection
went according to plan + was well
carried out by all units — Mr Eden
being particularly impressed by the
physique + bearing of the 2/6 Bn when
they marched past! After expressing
complete satisfaction with
the inspection Mr Eden departed
with his last words to the Brig being
"You will get your bloody equipment
my son I'll see to that!"

Brag + B.I.O dine in Cairo — more
chucks here —

Saturday Oct 26th —

Final points checked up for move — camouflaging of vehicles is being pushed on by 4/6 L.A.D working 24 hrs a day spraying with basic colour —

To test effectiveness of this camouflage from observation from air we arranged for them to be photographed & discovered that it is still the shadow of the vehicle which gives them away.

Bde HQ visit Cairo for their final play before going North.

Capt McLean leaves to organize supplies at our new camp

Sunday Oct 27th

Those damned Arabians do pick inconvenient hours for air raids — first alarm 0205 hrs air raid alarm rd 0240 all clear 0312 —

A very busy day for all packing vehicles ready for their move in morning. Bde Packing made us all realize what a terrific amount of unnecessary junk is being carried by us.

Another air raid alarm 1700 hrs all clear approx 1715 hrs.

As ~~the~~ ^{most} units down, sleeping in open order of the night

Monday - Tuesday.

Bugs comments.

After orders had been issued for the move we received instructions to send L.O. to M.E. with influence that he need not be of higher rank than Lieut - We sent the best Capt available as a matter of self respect i.e. Capt Bamford 2/7 Bn who had just returned from staff course.

When a complete plan had been created this able officer assisted by his knowledge of certain officers of M.E. whom he had met at Staff College worked out many difficulties.

Capt Bishop's work was outstanding & his initiative went to such lengths as borrowing a railway engine to commandeer various trucks & direct the remainder halted at H.E./WAN station to their proper destination. He remained behind with the rear party & saw them fed bathed & rested & eventually got them on the train for their destination.

Every staff officer was outstanding in his efforts to see the job through. Capt Brock came ahead to prepare the new camp. Capt Bishop remained behind as described above. Lt McGeoch with Capt Patterson controlled the road party. Lieut Schofield & Cosc

Last full mess in Helwan camp
+ no one seemed to be very sorry about
it

Monday: — Oct 28th

Everyone hard at work
loading M.T. trucks

Road party moves
off 0715 on time arriving at
new camp site after uneventful trip
at 1437 hrs.

Remainder of Bde have
 hectic day loading M.T. packing
 stores into trucks which arrived
 here to Egyptian Railway, from
 1 1/2 hrs later. — When they did
 arrive half the trucks were
 missing. S.C. in his usual style
 commandeered an engine + cruised
 around picking up spare
 trucks.

The personnel of Bde HQ +
 K. M. sigs did a wonderful
 job of work getting everything
 cleared from Bde HQ + the whole
 area thoroughly cleaned up by
 1600 hrs.

B.M. left 0700 hrs
for new camp

Brig leaves after lunch after
break + checking over final details

organized & worked out move from
Camp ^{to station + move of personnel}: Lt Col Ker 216 Bn on loan did
an equally good job in assisting Capt
Bishop
- Bug. with L.O. passed things with
M.E. + B.I.E.

S.C. - B.I.O. - Luit French base all
only officers left mess with the men —
Bde HQ + K sec sigs move
off to inland with 21 Bn at 2900 hrs
to finally inland at 2345 hrs.
Tuesday 29th Oct.

After an uneventful but
— boring trip we arrived at
Ikingi Maryut at 1300 hrs
16 hrs since leaving camp —

Ikingi Maryut — more dust —
We have several small buildings
for use as offices + a spacious officers
mess. Capt Bishop + Luit Kerr
plus war parties arrive after a
somewhat harassing trip at 0500 30th Oct.

Wednesday 30th Oct.

A busy day for all
completing slit trenches + erecting
tents. All officers digging their own
slit trenches

Tents are being erected with
at least 100 yds interval between tents.

Thursday Oct 31st

✓ All hand at work organising
& meeting tents.

✓ Brig holds conference of C O_s to
discuss Conts - training & leave

So far a leave is concerted this
Bde's views have never been accepted
by Division. The Bde view is that
leave should not only be a privilege
but C O_s should have power to
fairly administer it. A view has
always been taken that leave
is not a right. It issued indiscriminately
It is this that causes a great deal
of trouble. It appears that this view
will now be the view of Division -
this was gained at a meeting of Bde
Comd & Div Comd & his J.A.Q.

The Brig supported by his Bn Comds
have very confidence in not only
maintaining discipline but of
maintaining the unique family
outlook of the Bde if only permitted
to control without interference, the
Comds within the command.

Reinforcements arrive out of
the blue notification at 1626 hrs
that they would be here at 1700
150 ²/₅ Bn 100 ²/₆ Bn 50 ²/₇ -

— However they were all bedded
down & had a feed which
speaks well for Bn.

Friday 1st Nov: —

Brig accompanies Div Comd
to witness demonstration of Bde HQ
^{on move} ~~fully~~ with all transport by 16th Bde
for benefit of Season School — B.M
S.C. B.I.O also present.

Capt McLean arrives back
from hospital after bout of sand fly fever.
Brig is delighted with wonderful
progress that Bn's have ~~been~~ made
on completion of their ~~camp~~ camp sites
— many tents being already completely
chug in defenses prepared etc.

Dust — as we have
never known before — you breathe
eat + sleep in dust. 1st News Bulletin
procluded
Saturday 2nd Nov: —

General Sir Thomas Blamey
Corps Comd accompanied by his
aide Capt Tom Carlyon visited
all units in Division + called
on Brig.

We are now concentrating
on track discipline which we
have been rather lax with
until now.

The total blackout
has been carried out faithfully
by all ranks — Capt Peterson
has managed to borrow a
motor which generates power for
lighting our mess — the best
light we have had since
leaving Australia.

Sunday: — 3rd Nov

Just weekend
in our new area — no leave as yet
so much work to do. Brig visited
2/6 + is most pleased with progress made
Capt Gorman + Major Goward ACF
called to see Brig to discuss A-C-F
problems — Capt Gorman is a real tonic
at lunch he kept the mess rocking
with laughter. We are very fortunate
to have such able men controlling A-C-F
in the Middle East.

Brig - BM - SC have on recce of
Alexandria

Monday 4th Nov: —

Brig visited 2/5 2/7 Bns
+ inspected reinforcements ~~from~~ ^{at 2/5} they
seemed to be quite a promising bunch
with of course the usual few exceptions
however they had very little training
+ will require a good deal of attention
to bring them up to standard.

2/7 Bn report on "Fitness for
war" this month has an interesting
though rather alarming statement of
deficiencies in equipment. eg M. T + Bns
Carries ^{M/C} ~~the~~ have only 49 ~~at~~
instead of 79 — 23 Bn guns instead
of 50 almost complete lack of night
firing equipment + big shortages in
compasses + signal equipment.

Capt McLeans returns to hospital
not so good —

Tuesday Nov 5th.

Div Commander General Mackay inspects + addresses recruits of reinforcements of 2/5 - 2/6 - 2/7 Bns + is quite pleased with their general appearance - Bung + B.M go soundly with him.

The new moon brings the prospect of air-raids closer I think it will do the troops a lot of good + make them feel they are in the war.

Big mails bring ^{home} ~~the~~ ^{more} topics well to the front - sea mails appear to be coming regularly now. which together with the postage for surface mail is a big boon to the front.

Wednesday Nov 6th.

A quiet day - air raid warning "yellow" at 1430 was our first in this area. White followed at 1438 apparently ^{enemy} planes driven off before they approached our area - Our lads are longing to have a "crack" at the Dagoes!

Thursday Nov 7th

Bde I section leaves 0900 to take part in Div exercise for Bde I section working with Divisional I Sec - a very successful exercise though mistakes were made by all much benefit



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*Friday
Monday
Yellow - 1955
Red - 2003
Green 2105-*

Nov 6th

Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text in the lower middle section of the page.

was gained from exercise - The interrogation
of prisoners - interpretation of captured
documents + unrecorded messages being of
great value.

It - Brig saw GSO1 on the following
questions 1. When can we expect arrangements
to be made for reconnaissance of various
sectors we may have to take over. - Replies
received indicated that no thought
whatever had been given to this + it was
pointed out by Bde Comd that this
Bde was the only portion of the force yet
unable to obtain this experience - A neat
get away was the suggestion that my
B.M wrote his opposite number of the 5th
Indian Bde -

2. Brig raised question of equipment
shortage of which not only retarded training
but in having a damaging effect on the
morale of the troops - This met with an
attitude of "it is somebody else's business"
so which it was pointed out that the
G.I was the person whose duty it
should be to see we were placed on a
higher priority list

3. It was pointed out that
arrangements had been made for Col
Walker to travel by car to Palestine
to look over reinforcement affairs - this
not only saved time which was so
essential in this instance, but was
cheaper - an obvious "cock + bull" story
was put up, that it was the policy
of the G.O.C that officer's travel by

This page follows next page



conversation so obvious that essential requirements were left to the Brig's discussion. It is to be noted 2 week days only were allowed to complete a mass of detail covering a front of 30 miles which is rather bewildering in the light of 2 months taken in issuing an outline instruction so complete + unshading emanating from the G1 team.

First real air raid warning in this area provided a brilliant spectacle of searchlights + A.A. guns - no bombs dropped in our area.

Warnings
his Road Yellow 1958
" " Red 2003
" " Green 2105

17 Aust Inf Bde Op Instruction No 1
issued at 2020 hrs.

Saturday Nov 9th

Brig - B.M - B10
have with refs 2/15 - 2/17 Bn for
recce of Delta defensive areas - each
Bn concentrating in own sector. Brig
B.M B10 covering whole of 1st + 2nd
lines. S.C. conducting ^{comd.} inquiry
into deficiencies in Sgt's + Miss Cartkin
accounts.

by train + not car ~~was the~~. It was suggested that a Lt Col was entitled to considerations higher than that of lieutenant.

This was a shot by way of a rebuttal to the G I, public statement one one occasion that C O, had too much power + must be put in their place.

A signal was received in the afternoon confirming train travelling which was no doubt the first the General was heard of it.

During an interview with the A+Q it was pointed out that his refusal to supply an anvil + a blower to pioneer platoons on the grounds that Dwi was adverse to clutter up vehicles did not coincide with the fact that establishment showed a blacksmith receiving extra pay who was in possession of all the tools of his trade except his two essentials "a blower + an anvil".

Friday Nov 8th - Received Operation Instruction from L in concerning Delta position ~~after~~. After two months thought + prayer G I presented this document bustling in words in regard to essentials + conveying a plan to be applied by a rule of thumb method for both the Lt + Lt Bns each being responsible for ground. Totally different from the tactical point of view - a brief telephone



Air raid warnings 1st yellow 1928
Red 1931

2nd yellow 1957
Yellow 2032
Red 2038
Green 2116

Sunday 10th November

A quiet day was spent
by all - a visit to see Capt McLean
in hospital by B-1.0 + T.O. found him
much improved. Brig-B.M.-S.C.
make recce of area
Air Raid warnings Y 1046 W 1110

Monday 11th November.

T Bde I section leaves on
recce of left sector of delta defence
scheme.

Brig + B.M. make reconnaissance
of 3rd line and into Bde boundary
& left central area returning
home very very quick.

Air raid warnings Y 1920 W 1932
R 1940 Y 2042 R 2059 Y 2114

10/11/40 Sunday

① Air Raid Y 2000 hrs
R 2003 (ex 16 "Bde")
G. 2037



② Air Raid Y 2230
R 2232
G. 2245

Wed 13/11/40 Y 1715
~~13/14~~ R 1725
G. 1753

R. 1906
G. 2039

Thurs. 14/11/40

~~14/15~~

Y 1434

R. 1507

G. 1517

Y. 0115

Y 1901

R 0120

R 1903

G 0335

G. 1928

R 0357

G 0430

Air Raid
11/11

G.

10/11 Night
11/11 Monday

① Air Raid Y. 1046
W. 1110

Y 2221 ~~00~~

② 11/11 Y 1920
W. 1932

W 2246

R 2257

Y 2300

3) R. 1940
Y 2042
R 2059 - Y 2114

R 2303

G 2315

12/11/40 (Tuesday) Y 1652

G 1701

* Evening Y 1856

R 1858

G. 1945

R 2359

~~G. 0025~~

Fri 15/11/40 ~~00~~ 0026

~~Y~~ Y 0116

R 0121

Y 2221

R 2222

G 2300

G 0355

R 0358

G. 0431

~~15/16~~

Y. 1945

R 2008

G 2029



Sat.
16 Nov / Nov 17

Y 2006

R 2021

G 2050

Y 2111

R 2113

G 2136

Y 2353

R 0034

G 0136

Y 0233

R 0236

G 0258

~~Y 1150~~

~~W 1210~~

17/18

Tuesday 12th Nov.

✓ Brig + Padre Luni were left section
of 3rd line.

✓ Capt Howard O/C historical
section 2nd Echelon visited Bde HQ
& units to discuss war drains - stayed
night at Bde HQ

✓ Letter message received
from Div

Air raid warnings - Y 1652 G 1701
Y 1856 R 1858 G 1945 Y 2221
R 2222 G 2300

Wednesday 13th Nov

✓ Lt Col J. D. Wicking reported
for duty as L.O. 2/7 ✓

Unit dispositions placed on
map of delta defence sector. Brig
makes preparations for appreciation
of same area.

Air raid warnings Y 1715 R 1725
G 1753 R 1906 G 2039

Thursday 14th Nov.

✓ Report from 2/6 re suspicious light observed the night before
fwd'd to Div

B.M. spoke to Capt Cotter who was duty staff officer on Tuesday night + asked what action had been taken re the lights then reported
B.M. was advised that information gained was very good and was placed in a special file - B.M. then told Capt Cotter how the message should have been treated that such information was only of use if acted upon immediately when lights were observed.

✓ Brig busy writing appreciation of defence of Delta ✓

Air raid warnings Y 1434 R 1507
G 1517 Y 1901 R 1903 G 1928 Y
2221 W 2246 R 2251 Y 2306
R 2303 G 2315 R 2359 G 0026
Y 0116 R 0121 G 0355 R 0358 G 0431

Friday 15th Nov: —

✓ Plans of dispositions of Bde for the Delta defence scheme was fwd'd to Div

Div Com called to see Brig
Col Lovidge called + discussed appointment of an officer to replace Capt MacLean

B.M. makes reconnaissance of A. mining area south of I KINGI



Saturday 16th Nov.

✓ Bde HQ I Sec returns from delta
with a host of experiences ranging from
nearly wicking their truck to one
member being escorted over an
area in Donkey
✓

in raid warnings

Y 1945 R/2008 G-2029.

Capt W. H. Baker spends night at Bde H.Q.

Saturday 16th Nov

✓ Lt Pilcher called to say his
farewell prior to joining his unit
A.S.C. on vacating appointment as
A.D.C. to General Mackay - he
expressed his gratitude for the
co-operation shown by the Bde:

Lt Guy 2/6 Btn comes to us as
the new Liaison Officer from that
Bn - Lt Dowling L.O 2/5 returns
to the fold after 2 months L.O. course
at M.E.T.S. Cairo.

Bug & B.M. decide whilst out
of our area in desert that locating
of an exact spot is not so easy
after having decided that they were
on a certain spot they were rather
taken aback when they discovered
that this was not so their position
was miles away.

Notification received of official
recognition of Capt Bishop as S.C.
& the appointment of Capt Brock as
B.M. Bug B.M. + S.C. celebrate the
appointments in Alexandria whilst
the remainder of the young bucks
plus a few visitors were entertained
by the Bde swing band in the
mess - the band putting up
a jolly good show
✓ Co ✓

Air raid warnings y 2006 R 2021
G 2050 y 2111 R 2113 G 2136 y 2353
R 0034 G 0136 V 0233 R 0236
G 0258 y 1150 W 1210.

Sunday: - 17th Nov. Another quiet

✓ day spent by all

✓ Air raid alarms y 1150 W 1210
y 1711 R 1721 G 1802 R 1914 G 1925
R 0010 G 0028.

Col Mitchell of 8 Bn called to
see Brig.
✓

Monday 18th Nov.

✓ General Lawarak Comd 7th Div
called with General Mackay to
see Brig.
✓

Conference of COs (su agenda)
discussed preparations to be
made for forthcoming Divisional
exercise.
✓

Air raid warnings
y 2308 R 2319 G 2340 y 0020 R 0023
G 0045 R 0238 G 0245.

Tuesday 19th

Two new members arrive
our 2nd sig officer Luit
& a supply officer replacing
Capt Maclean Luit Gammie

Bde HQ moved out into the
desert to practice the movement
of Bde HQ in various formations
in column — desert or open formation
formation to be adopted at short
halt & the establishing of a
HQ

Col Connor called to see Brig
Bde HQ repeat afternoon exercise
in the "black" of an Egyptian
night — except for slight deviation
of bearing & being one L.O it
was very instructive exercise

Wednesday 20th Nov.

Preparations for Div exercise
go on —

Monday 19th

See Appended Notes.

Wednesday 20th
Prof. [unclear] [unclear]

Thursday 21 Nov. The brigade all prepared for divisional exercise moved out at an early hour. This is our biggest exercise to date and all of us are eager to do well.

First day went very well; our brigade succeeding with their attacks and everybody in the best of spirits.

Friday 22nd A freezing night - the blankets were pretty wet this morning but all that was soon forgotten in the (~~at~~) warmth of the morning sun - Moved off early again and carried on the attack - we have the enemy on the run - (if only it were so!!)

The day ended with us a clear sea miles in advance of previous positions, and everybody very cheery. The troops are doing a fine job.

Saturday Up betimes for the stand-to & more wet blankets to boot. Another attack and home.

Reached home after travelling in formation, the P.I.O astride a motor-bike in fine style. Camp and a good wash revived everybody. During the afternoon most took the time off to recuperate.

Sunday — Big attend

Dw conference & as usual
listened to criticism without
being able to state our side of
exercise — Not one useful lesson
was brought out during the discussion

Monday 25 Nov

B.I.O. ordered away for two days rest.

B.M. busy with our antiaircraft ^{security} area of observation and moving around the whole area placing posts for A.A. and observation.

Brig. moved out of camp with Col Godfree to witness exercises in Western Desert.

Tuesday 26 Nov

A reasonably quiet day with B.M. continuing on job of posts for aircraft ^{security} observation. Car broke down 7 miles from camp & regret to say dinner did not wait.

The leave roster is very popular. All those coming back faint glowing pictures of Alex. One lad said he was most impressed by the noise just before dawn, while the Italians tried a spot of bombing.

Capt McLean reported back from hospital looking much better and certainly he joined self again.

Wednesday 27th Nov.

✓ B.I.O returns to duty after 2 quiet days in Absc.

✓ Brig returns from "out west" (report later).

Our acting supply officer Lieut Bates leaves us having done an excellent job of work. ✓

Thursday 28th Nov: -

✓ Brig with B.M leave for the west

Rain during the greater part of the night has turned the sea of sand + dust to soupy mud - however it is still a most welcome relief to the ever present dust.

B.I.O attends Div conference for I.Os where the exercise was discussed + proposed remedies for "ships" suggested. Minimum requirements from Bates also discussed.

Friday 29th Nov: -

✓ Another quiet day - rumours of Div exercise - ✓

More rain during night has made the place very pleasant after so much dust. ✓

Pte War Diary

H. Q. 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.,
IKINGI MARYUT.
18 Nov. 40.

2/5 Bn.
2/6 Bn.
2/7 Bn.

Notes from Conference with C.Os. at Bde. H.Q.
18 Nov. 40.

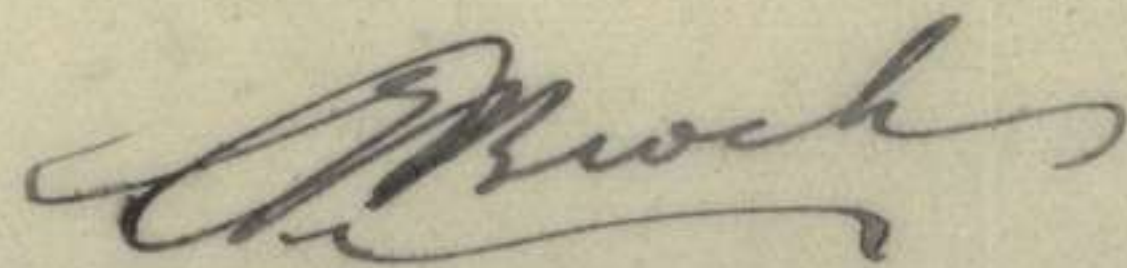
A Div. exercise is to be held 21 - 23 Nov.

Preparation :

1. Notes on Night Attacks issued for study.
2. Training : Drop existing syllabus and cover following :
 - (a) Lecturette to all officers and senior N.C.Os.
 - (b) Organize deployment by day.
 - (c) Give a Coy. demonstration by day.
 - (d) Practice Coy. moves by night.
 - (e) Move Bn. by day as a drill.
 - (f) Repeat Bn. move by night.
 - (g) I. Sec. movement on compass bearings each night.
 - (h) Move Tpt. each night on compass bearings.
 - (i) All officers to read A.T.M. and Manuals quoted in "Notes on Night Attacks", also N.C.Os. where possible.
 - (j) Officers possessing compasses practice their use at every opportunity.
3. General points to check :
 - (a) Layout of Bn. H.Q. as drill by day, also at night.
 - (b) Security of Bn. H.Q.
 - (c) Use of covered lights.
 - (d) Laying of tape lines.
 - (e) Preparations for digging in. What can Field Works Officer do ?
 - (f) Dispersion of (i) Tps.
(ii) Tpt.
 - (g) Insist that belief in moving across country without compass and distance check is fatal.
4. Admin. problems.
 - (i) Water
 - (a) Each Bn. will have a 400 gal tank on M.T.
 - (b) Method of distribution -
 1. at Coy. R.V.
 2. distribute to Pls. & Secs.
 - (c) Spare water in tins on Pl. trucks.
 - (ii) Feeding arrangements -
 - (a) No lights on M.T. except possibly dimmed and hidden rear light.
 - (b) Expect feeding to be complete before dark.
 - (c) Problem of hot breakfast.
 - (d) Midday meal. Practice, where possible, distribution in sec. lots.
 - (e) Good plan to cook evening meal ^{early} or day before and keep in containers to be heated before distribution.
 - (f) Probably cooking disallowed at night as fires may be extinguished.
5. Be prepared for the following, in which the Bde. or any one Bn. may be involved :-
 - (a) Night attack.
 - (b) Pursuit.
 - (c) Withdrawal.

6. Moves in box formation -

- (a) Use of carriers with a Pl. of A.Tk. Coy.
as vanguard.
- (b) Position of subordinate comds. in i
to their immediate superior.



Capt.,
Bde. Major, 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.

H. Q. 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.,
IKINGI MARYUT.
25 Nov. 40.

2/5 Bn.
2/6 Bn.
2/7 Bn.

Div. Exercise. 20/23 Nov. 40.

The Bde. carried out exercise as laid down in various orders and instructions. 2/6 Bn. led the march in box formation. A new idea was practiced to overcome M.T. congestion with A.G. and proved most successful. This involved the placing of the M.T. in rear of Bn., which moved in bounds between the head of the main body and rear of leading Bn., a distance of 750^x.

The work of the leading Bn. - 2/6 - was excellent. They covered the front completely and maintained close contact with tps. on flank. On contact with the enemy, they fought their way fwd., and when held up, pressed on with fighting patrols.

When a planned attack was held an excellent job of work was done by Lieut. Carroll, who took advantage of his defiladed posn. on the flank and moved his coy. fwd. and gained valuable ground.

The 2/5 Bn. was then brought in to a fight to gain ground under Div. instructions with the whole of the Div. arty. supporting them. They advanced along a rugged ridge in good formation and dash until held just short of their objective. The 2/6 Bn. conformed with this movement by advancing on the left over more or less open country, while the 2/7 Bn. closed down from a depth of 1000 to 500^x and moved as a reserve. The whole of this movement was carried out excellently, and just on nightfall the advance was held.

Dispositions were taken up for night by 2/6 - 2/5 covering front, 2/7 in reserve.

The gap between the two fwd. Bns. was closed up by moving a coy. from the 2/5 Bn., which took up their position in the difficulties of darkness.

2/5 Bn. sent out a patrol round the rear of enemy positions and moved a coy. to occupy a ridge in that area.

The enemy moved a patrol along the rd. through the gap before it was closed and captured the coy. comdr. during his recce.

Further patrolling disclosed points occupied by the enemy, to which strong fighting patrols were sent, to find they had returned. This policy was continued along the whole front and by dawn an intact line had been established nearly 1000^x ahead of the position taken up at dark.

The advance was continued next morning along line of narrow ridge, 2/7 Bn. leading, with 2/5 and 2/6 as reserves, moving on a parallel line. The 2/7 Bn. moved with great dash and, on contacting the enemy, fought him to his front and met him on flanks as positions were disclosed.

After a 6 mile advance they ran into a strong enemy defensive position from which a counter attack launched by a Bn. and carriers hit the leading two coys., who gave ground and retired 200^x to a ridge which they held. The reserves were thrown in in an endeavour to push fwd., but the line was stabilized and made secure against further counter attacks.

No further advance could be made without the weight of support of whole Div. arty. or by a night attack.

The Div. plan conformed to first suggestion, but a most unnecessary waste of time was due to working out barrage plans to cover whole depth of 2000^x advance. This was quite unnecessary beyond 500^x, when observed concentrations where required would have helped the troops forward.

The 2/5 Bn. carried out attack and found some difficulty in conforming to rate of advance of 100^x in 3 mins.

The objective was taken and Bns. placed to cover positions during night - 2/5 fwd., 2/6 supporting, 2/7 in reserve, all of whom were deployed sufficiently to cover their own areas. Bde. H.Q. was established fwd. of support Bn. - at 2230 hrs. orders were received to carry ~~out~~ a series of sand ridges on the left fwd. flank to link up with an attack planned by the left Bde. The dispositions taken up for night lent themselves to an attack by support Bn. There had been no opportunity for 2/6 to see ground by day as they had moved ~~by~~ into position just as darkness was falling. Plan was worked out from map and a skilful recce. by moonlight enabled a most successful attack to be carried out at dawn through a thick fog. All objectives were carried and tools were brought fwd. in carriers, which then carried out a recce. for some depth to the front.

The C.O. checked his disposition of extended front by moving round in a carrier. This completed exercise.

The work carried out by the Bns. was of a very high order and C.Os. directed their comds. with skill and confidence.

The exercise further proved ~~that~~ that junior leaders down to section comds. can be relied upon, with a certainty of fulfilling any role given them.

The work of Bde. Staff was all that could be desired. The L.Os. were of utmost help and aided in every possible way by taking information fwd. with an outline of situation and proposed plans, and they returned with complete information from fwd. areas, which was of greatest possible value.

Admin. arrangements for the feeding were excellent.

The Bde. can undertake operations of any nature now.

Brig.,
Comdg. 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.

Saturday 30th Nov

Last day of our 12th month
in the A.I.F. A beautiful crisp
clear day — Life is worth living
at this time of the year here

Bug & B.M. return from
Western desert after a strenuous
but interesting few days — They
were very impressed by the
friendliness & co-operation ^{hospitality} & help
given to them by the Indian Bde

News received from Div.
that the Bug is the Chief
Inspector in Div. exercise
which commences on Tuesday —
little time for preparation
for the most important part
in exercise "inspector having
correct pictures to hand to
those taking part."

Private 0.1

31 JUL

A. I. F. OFFICERS CLUB.

GAZA.
26 July 40.

At a general meeting of the A.I.F. Officers Club, Gaza, on 22 July, the attached Constitution and Rules were passed. The meeting adjourned until 2030 hrs 12 Aug at the Club.

Para. 5, as passed, increased by one, the number on the Committee as appointed at the meeting on 3 June. There is also a vacancy on the present Committee by reason of Lt.-Col. Irving's departure.

In view of this, and the fact that the meeting on 3 June was held so shortly after the arrival of the Second Convoy as to prevent a full representation of that Convoy, the Committee have unanimously decided to resign on 12 Aug, but all are willing to submit themselves for re-election at the adjourned meeting.

Discussion at the meeting on 22 July indicated that for the general welfare of the Club, representation on the management should be distributed throughout the camps. To save time at the adjourned meeting it is suggested that nominations for the Committee should be submitted in writing to the Secretary by 5 Aug.

[Signature]
Secretary.

A.Q. 17 Aug Inf. Bds.

SEEN BY

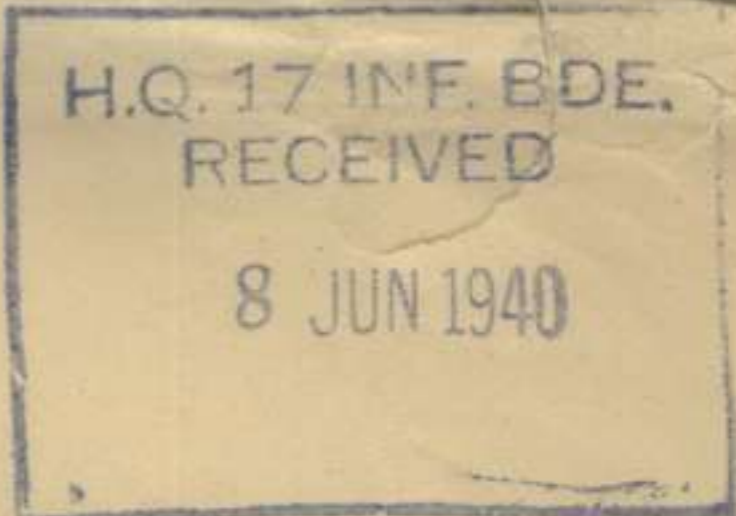
Date Initials

[Handwritten mark]

- Brig. ✓
- B.M.
- S.C.
- I.O.
- L.A.D.
- L. 2/5
- L. 2/6 *[Handwritten mark]*
- L. 2/7
- T.O.
- A.S.C. *[Handwritten mark]*
- C.Q.M.S.



FILE



AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

Headquarters,
6 Aus Div,
GAZA.

6 Jun, 40.

A.I.F. OFFICERS' CLUB

1. At a meeting held on 3 Jun, 40, it was decided to form an A.I.F. Officers' Club at GAZA in the building at present being used for that purpose and based on the following general principles:-

(a) All Officers of the A.I.F. and of H.M.'s Forces serving in GAZA district, all representatives of Press and Philanthropic Institutions living in A.I.F. Officers' Messes, and such civilians as may be approved by the Committee may be members of the Club. The wives of such members and all members of A.A.N.S. Messes shall be deemed eligible for associate membership.

(b) The following Committee was elected:-

- President - Col G.A.Vasey, D.S.O.
- Hon Secretary - Lieut A.R.Eva
- Hon Treasurer - Lieut R.R.Vial

Members:

- Lt-Col R.G.H.Irving, H.Q., 6 Aus Div
- Capt E.A.Hedburg, A.A.M.C.
- Capt F.H.L. Brown, Sigs 6 Aus Div.

(c) The rules of the Club were to be drawn up for presentation at a later general meeting.

2. At a Committee meeting held on 4 Jun, 40, the following decisions were made:-

(a) The membership fee will be 50 mils per week, payable fortnightly and collected through the mess accounts of the individuals.

(b) A person eligible to become a member shall be deemed to have become a member from the date he first buys a book of chits (vide sub para (c) below.) A member may resign on giving one month's notice in writing. It was decided that for purposes of membership subscription those persons who signed chits at the dance held on 25 May or subsequently will be charged membership fees from those dates.

(c) The system for the purchase of drinks and refreshments will be by chits purchasable in books each costing 500 mils. In order to record the disposal of chit books members' rank, name and unit will be entered in a register kept for that purpose. Chit books can only be purchased for cash.

(d) Except for the weekly subscription, all purchases at the Club will be made by means of chits.

3. The Club is located about one mile West of GAZA and consists of a newly-constructed building containing several rooms and a large flat roof. It is furnished with tables and easy chairs. Attached is a plan showing the location of the Club in relation to GAZA.

4. Facilities which the Club provides include:-

(a) An Officers' changing room, showers and hot baths. Towels are not provided. (These facilities are not available on days when organized functions are being held at the Club.)

Copy to Bns and Officers Mess ✓

(b) Refreshments:

- (i) Afternoon tea at a cost of 40 mils.
- (ii) Light supper consisting of eggs to order, bread and butter and tea, cost 75 mils.

(These will not be available on dance nights.)

(c) A bar serving drinks at usual prices; during entertainments there will usually be another bar on the roof.

(d) It is proposed to set aside one room as a card room.

(e) A reading and writing room will be available shortly. (The above facilities are available daily from 1200 hrs and from 1000 hrs on Sunday.)

5. It was decided that an afternoon tea dance will be held every Saturday from 1730 hrs to 2000 hrs. Members of the A.A.N.S. are eligible and invited to attend. Charge for admission, including one drink, 50 mils.

6. By the kind permission of the C.O., 2/8 Bn, the band of that unit will play at the Club from 1800 hrs to 2000 hrs on Wed, 12 Jun. Members of the A.A.N.S. may attend.

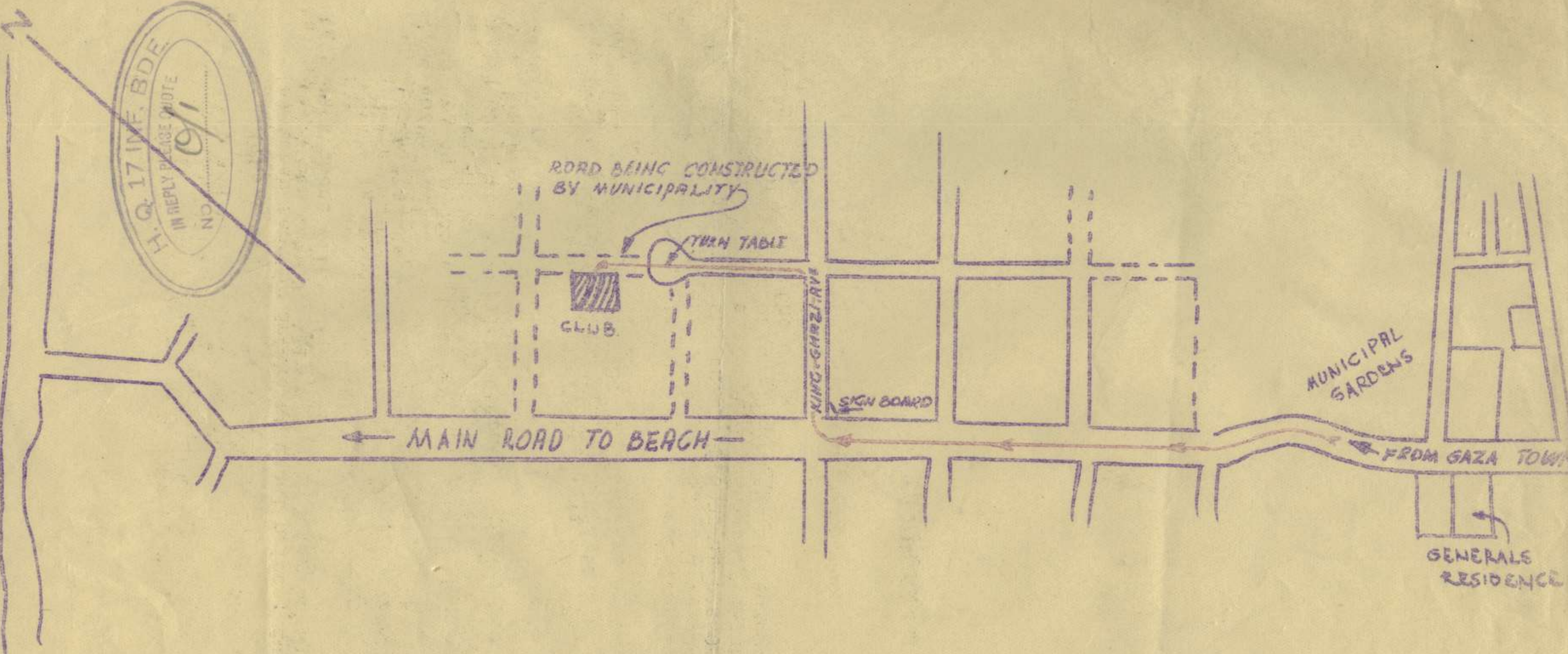
7. In conclusion, it is desired to draw attention to the fact that the A.I.F. Officers' Club is designed to provide social amenities for members and their friends at reasonable prices, and it is confidently anticipated that sufficient Officers will avail themselves of the privilege of membership so as to ensure the future of the Club.

On behalf of the Committee,

C. Casey

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

H.Q. 17 INF. BDE.
IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
NO. 19/1



SKETCH SHOWING ROUTE TO
A.I.F OFFICERS CLUB
GAZA

25 Oct. 40.

APPENDIX "B".TO 2/7 BN. OPERATION ORDER NO. 4.A.A. PROTECTION - MOVE TO AMIRYA, 28 OCT. 40.1. PROVISION OF A/A. L.M.Gs. :

B, C, and D. Coys. 2/7 Bn. will each provide the following :-

1 L.M.G. & Tripod.	} per Platoon.
1000 Rounds S.A.A.	
3 Men.	

No. 2. Platoon. - 4 L.M.Gs. & Tripods.
1000 rds. S.A.A. per gun.

2. ENTRAINING : On arrival at entraining point, 1 N.C.O. from each B, C, and D. Coys. will report to O/C. No. 2. Platoon (Lieut. K.H. MacQueen) for additional instructions.

L.M.Gs. will be erected under direction of O/C. No. 2. Platoon to cover entraining and will entrain on command of O/C. Train when remainder of Main Body has entrained.

L.M.Gs, Tripods, and Ammunition must be readily available and will travel with their crews. Platoon Commanders will be distributed throughout the train.

3. ON THE MOVE : Six air sentries with two L.M.Gs. will be detailed from No. 2. Platoon, three to travel on engine tender, or near it, and three on Guard's Van. One Section of No. 2. Platoon to travel on flats for protection of Carriers. B. and C. Coys. will each provide one, and D. Coy two, L.M.G. Sections to act as flank air sentries. B. Coy. left front of train. C. Coy. right front of train. D. Coy. left rear and right of train.

4. COMMUNICATIONS : No. 1. Platoon will arrange for three D.5's to be used for communication between air sentries at front, Guards Van, and O/C. Train. Air sentries on flanks will pass word down to O/C. Train whose position will be notified.

WARNING SIGNALS : "Enemy Aircraft in vicinity" - 1 Short, two long, and one short blast repeated in quick succession on engine whistle.
"Direct Attack" - Continuous blowing of whistle.
"All Clear" - Succession of long blasts.

5. IMMEDIATE DEFENCE OF TRAIN : When attacked, train will halt.

(a) Air sentries and sentries near tender and Guards Van will immediately detrain, move clear of train and open fire under control

APPENDIX "B".

of O/C. A/A. Platoon. Doors and windows will be closed, blinds drawn and troops detrained on order of O/C. Train. Respirators will be placed on in the "Alert" position and groundsheets ready for immediate use.

(b) On Detraining : Move to Coy. areas and disperse.

B. Coy.	200 yds.	left front of train.
Rec. Secs.	"	right front of train.
Bde. H.Q.	"	left centre of train.
C. Coy.	"	right centre of train.
D. Coy.	"	left rear of train.

L.M.Gs. and rifles will immediately open fire under the control of Platoon Commanders.

Coys. will detail one man from each carriage to remain in train to guard stores. On "All Clear" signal troops will entrain on command of O/C. Train.

6. DETRAINING : L.M.Gs. will be erected to cover detraining under direction of O/C. No. 2. Platoon. During the hours of daylight All L.M.G. personnel will remain with L.M.Gs. and be prepared for rapid action.

John W. ...

Capt.

ADJUTANT 2/7 BN.

ACK.

Issued by Orderly.

Time of signature hours.

<u>DISTRIBUTION.</u>	<u>COPY NO.</u>
C.O.	1.
Adjnt.	2.
I/O.	3.
A. Coy.	4.
B. Coy.	5.
C. Coy.	6.
D. Coy.	7.
H.Q. Coy	8 - 11.
17 Aust. Inf. Bde.	12.
2/2 A. Fd. Workshop	13.
File.	14.
War Diary	15 - 16.

S E C R E T.

Copy No. 12

23 Oct. 40.

APPENDIX "C".

2/7 BN. OPERATION ORDER NO. 4.

DETRAINMENT TABLE.

MOVE OF B, C, & D. COYS. 2/7 BN. 17 AUST. INF. BDE. H. Q.
2 Recovery Secs. 2/2 FD. WORKSHOPS.

TRAIN F.	TO BE PLACED BY	STATION - KAFR EL BAYH	TIME OF DEPARTURE.	DATE OF DEPARTURE.	COMPOSITION OF TRAIN.					SERIAL NOS.	REMARKS.	
					1/2 COMP.	3RD CLASS COACHES	BOX TRUCKS.	FLATS 50 TON.	GOODS BRAKE VAN.			
2300			2400	23 OCT.	1	6	14	3	1	15-16 9-14	1000 1030	Detrain at AMIRYA IKINGI MARIUT. 29 Oct. 40.

ALLOCATION OF COACHES.

NO.	DETAIL.	NOS. PERSONNEL.
1.	B. COY. 2/7 BN.	78.
2.	RHC. SEC.	00
3.	REC. SEC.	50.
32	17 AUST. INF. BDE. H.Q.	20.
4.	O/C. TRAIN. OFFICERS W.Os. D. COY. 2/7 BN.	10.
5.	17 AUST. INF. BDE. H.Q. C. COY. 2/7 BN.	35. 45.
6.	C. COY. 2/7 BN. H.Q. COY.	63. 15.
7.	D. COY. 2/7 BN.	80.

DISTRIBUTION : As per Appendix "B".

FILE COPY

H. Q. 17th AUS. INF. BDE.
IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
No. B2

The Secretary,
GAZA CLUB.

H. Q. 17 Aus. Inf. Bde.,
Beit Jirja.
12 Aug. 40.

Nomination for Committee.

The name of Lieut. J. S. Smith is submitted from
Beit Jirja as our nominee for election to the committee.


Comdg. 17 Aus. Inf. Bde. Brig.,

HQ
 2/5 ✓
 2/6 ✓
 2/7 ✓
 A.S.C. ✓
 16 Aug 40.

P. Masari
T. 9.
War Diary



No. 5B.

TALKING POINTS.

PERFIDY.

Berlin and Bari radio stations broadcast a story that British troops had forced their way into the HARAM es SHERIF (in the temple area at Jerusalem) where the IMAM of JERUSALEM was making a patriotic speech, and attacked the worshippers. As a result several Moslems were killed and a large number injured.

The Supreme Moslem Council issued a statement that the "report is absolutely without foundation" and warned all Moslems "Not to pay heed to such reports which are only intended to harm them". (There is no IMAM of JERUSALEM)

PROTECTOR.

Bari continues to tell how anxious are the Arabs for the deliverance promised by Mussolini - "the Protector of Islam". The Italians describe how pleased the Arabs are to see the planes. At the time the last raid occurred a well-attended indignation meeting against the Italian action was in progress in JAFFA.

CONFIRMATION.

During July British claim to have destroyed 76 Italian Aircraft. Of these a number were destroyed on the ground without their pilots. Italian casualty lists for July admit 76 pilots were killed or missing. British claims of German losses are made on the same basis and are equally conservative.

During the last 4 days the R.A.F. claim to have destroyed 293 German planes on the English coast.
 "Victory is Sure"

VILLAGE PATROLS.

Questions to be answered during week ending 1800hrs, Fri. 23 Aug 40:-
 (1) Sketch of village showing entrances, parking places, Mukhtars house, wells.

Distribution.

16 Aus Inf Bde 10
 17 Aus Inf Bde 10
 19 Aus Inf Bde 10
 6 Aus Cav 6

For Information.

D.S.P. GAZA 1

[Signature]
 Jov Col.
 G.S. 6 Aus Div.

H.Q. 17 Aus Inf. Bde.

SEEN BY

Date Initials

Jus
[Signature]

Brig. ✓
 B.M. ✓
 S.C. ✓
 I.O.
 L.A.D.
 L. 2/5 ✓
 L. 2/6 ✓
 L. 2/7
 T.O.
 A.S.C.
 Q.M.S.

*Pwasi
Mar D*



2/7 Bn.,
Royston Lines.

Staff Captain,
17th. Infantry Brigade,

Illicit Liquors

*Kozma Tzolotsides
Disposal of Liquor*

As certain signs pointed to the fact that troops were obtaining illicit liquor it was resolved that investigations would be made in the laundry building in the Grimwade Lines between the main Gaza Road and the water tower, which rumour had it was one of the main sources of supply.

Consequently at approx. 2030 hrs. on 3 Aug. 40 a member of the 2/7 I. Section proceeded to the said laundry and after conversing with a Greek subject, one Cosmas L. Tzolotsides, who runs a native restaurant next door., he obtained a medium-sized bottle of arac. He paid for this with a marked 100 mil-piece.

He then returned with the bottle to the 2/7 Lines and reported the matter to the I.O., who immediately detailed two other ~~men~~ I Section men and two guards to proceed with him.

The party on arrival at the restaurant at once surrounded the building, while the original of their number called out to the proprietor or licensee that he wanted another bottle. His exact words were "Hi, George, open up -- I want another bottle." On being asked if he wanted beer he said, "No, wine. You remember I was here half-an-hour ago."

A clink of bottles was then heard and Tzolotsides opened the window when he was immediately apprehended. The two guards remained outside the building at the entrances while the I.O and the two remaining members of the party entered through the window.

The proprietor was in an extremely agitated state of mind and cowered and skulked round the room in a bewildered fashion. On being asked in English for his money he did not seem to understand, but on the question being repeated in Arabic he produced a sum of about 300 mils, mostly in small coins. In this sum was the marked 100 mil-piece and the money was temporarily confiscated.

At this moment the Field Officer, Capt. Crawford, of 2/7 Bn. appeared and thereafter a very thorough search was made. Some five bottles of doubtful liquor were discovered and are now at

17 Infantry Brigade H.Q.; otherwise nothing of an incriminating nature could be found. It should be remarked, however, that the room was in a condition of great filth and dirtiness. Eggs, olive oil, and kerosene, crusts of bread, and countless unwashed plates and dishes could be observed scattered around.

Very little information could be extracted from Tsolotsides, whose knowledge of English was poor in the extreme. While he was donning his shoes and a coat, under supervision, four of the party proceeded to a nearby hut where a Christian Arab, Moses Hadad by name, sleeps and has his being. This youth who is 17 years of age had been questioned by Capt. Crawford before. He speaks some English and has apparently until a week ago been working for Tsolotsides. As far as could be ascertained he had been told that there was no more work for him but he had nevertheless continued to haunt the neighbourhood. He denied all knowledge of illicit liquor or the sale thereof, but he was in such a frightened condition that his evidence was valueless and contradictory. No traces of liquor could be found in his quarters.

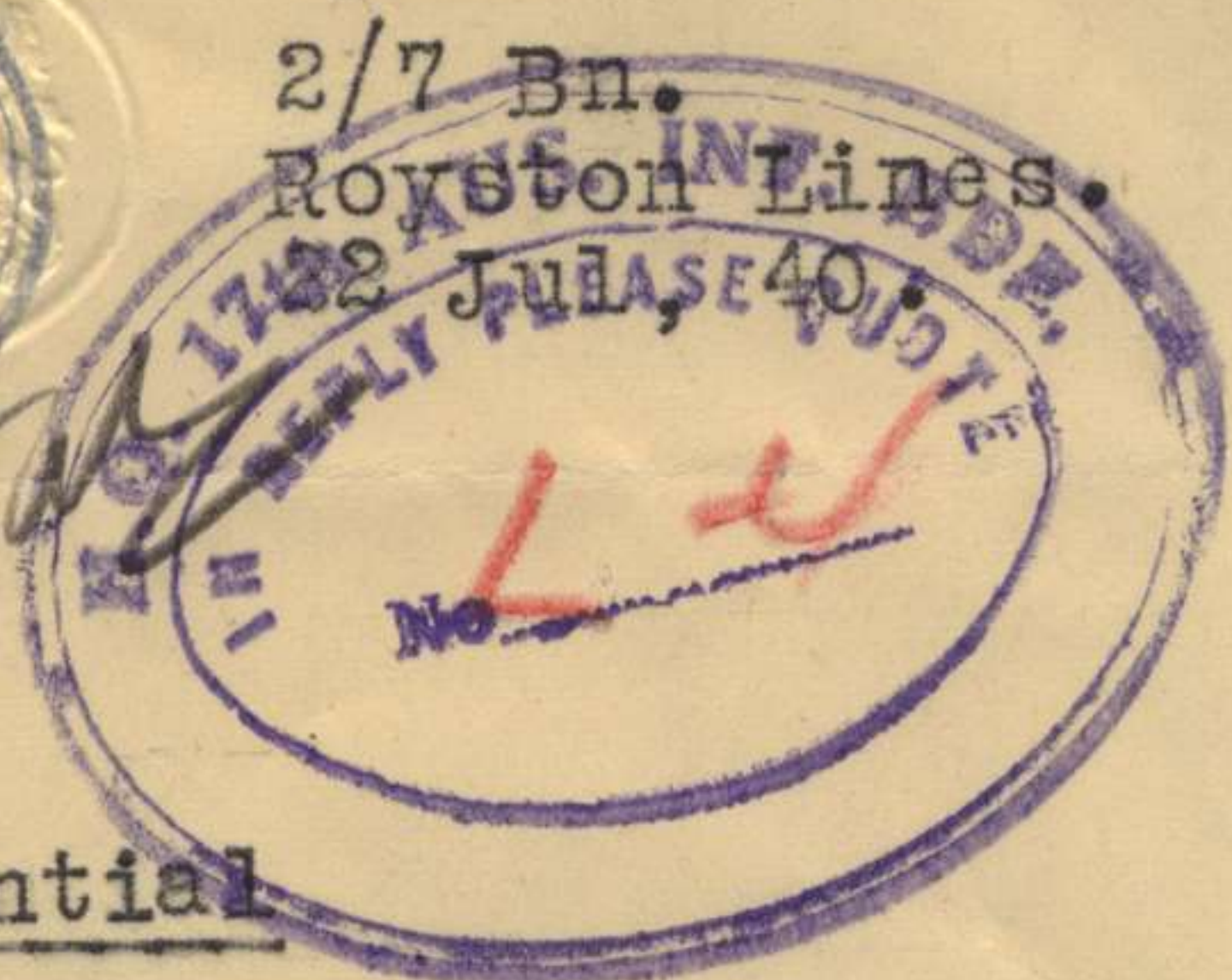
He was used as an interpreter to enable some leading questions to be put to Tsolotsides but not much information was gleaned. Tsolotsides stated that on one occasion some soldiers entered his restaurant and on seeing some hard liquor demanded it by threats after he had first refused to give it to them. He also said that he only kept it for civilians and that his source of supply was Jaffa. He later denied this, stating it came from Tel Aviv and also, as far as could be gathered, from a Moslem who frequently passes by on the main road. It also appeared that the arac discovered had been in his possession some seven days. Tsolotsides stated he worked for Bisharat, the contractor.

Both lots of premises were then locked and the prisoners conducted to the 2/7 Bn. guard tent, where they passed the night. By this time both of them appeared to be in a calmer state of mind, Tsolotsides in particular treating the affair in a very collected manner.

Attached are certain papers including a passport belonging to Tsolotsides, who has now been handed over by the 2/7 authorities to the Field Officer.

J. H. Ward
C.O.,
2/7 Bn.

4 Aug 40



H.Q. 17 Aus. Inf. Bde.

Confidential

A report has been received at this H.Q. from Regt Police Sgt that arrack or cheap wine is being sold in the vicinity of the camp or in one of the camp buildings. A suspected building in these lines has been watched without result, and the Police Sgt has nothing definite on which to proceed. This report is submitted as the drink may be sold in another units lines.

Careful watch is being maintained but men questioned deny all knowledge of drink other than beer, though there are indications of more potent liquor being available.

Threlwacker Lt. Col.
Comdg 2/7 Bn.

Staff Capt.

Nothing much can be done until further report



2/7 Bn.
Royston Lines.
22 Jul, 40.

H.Q. 17 Aus. Inf. Bde.

Confidential

A report has been received at this H.Q. from Regt Police Sgt that arrack or cheap wine is being sold in the vicinity of the camp or in one of the camp buildings.

A suspected building in these lines has been watched without result, and the Police Sgt has nothing definite on which to proceed. This report is submitted as the drink may be sold in another units lines.

Careful watch is being maintained but men questioned deny all knowledge of drink other than beer, though there are indications of more potent liquor being available.

Shoemaker Lt:Col.
Comd 2/7 Bn.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

2/7 Bn.
Royston Lines.
19 Aug, 40.



H.Q. 17 Aus. Inf. Bde.

Re Liquor supplied from Cafes etc
to personnel on leave.

Observation of the effect of liquor served to men on leave rather indicates that some of the liquor available is of such a nature as may warrant further investigation.

I am attaching reports from the R.M.O. and some officers who returned with the last leave party to Tel Aviv but a similar phenomenon has been observed on other occasions.

It is suggested that an investigation into some of the liquor sold by purchasing samples at places frequented by troops may show that the liquor itself has been fortified with some undesirable substance or is of such a nature that other steps should be taken.

JWB

2.

W. G. Warren

Lt. Col.
Cmdg. 2/7 Bn.

6 Aus. Div.

Forwarded.

ll Brig.
Comdg. 17 Aus. Inf. Bde.

H.Q. 17 Aus Inf. Bde.

SEEN BY

Date Initials

20 Aug. 40.

- Brig. ✓
- B.M.
- S.C. - *WJL*
- I.O.
- L.A.D.
- L. 2/5 ✓
- L. 2/6 ✓
- L. 2/7 ✓
- T.O. ✓
- A.S.C.
- C.Q.M.S.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No. *10*

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	IN <i>TFN - TFE</i>	<i>3</i>
	OUT	

No. of Groups *GR.*
11

OFFICE DATE STAMP
TFN-24N.40.
SIGNALS

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO *2/7 BN AIF*

FROM *DADOS S7D.*

Originator's Number *OS 1171*

Date *24*

In Reply to Number *AD 127*

Not available

Bloody - Bloody - Bloody.

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

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

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN.
0950

SIGNED

SIGNED (BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.
1100.

T.O.R.

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER
<i>W</i>	<i>1100</i>	<i>John H. Sgtn</i>									

Handwritten initials and scribbles at the top left of the page.



TO

FROM

DATE

NO SIGNATURES TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS LINE

Large area of the message form, mostly blank with some faint ghosting of text.

TO

FROM

27 Bolton

Bentley

INSTRUCTIONS AND CUT

TO

132



MESSAGE FORM



MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

No. of Groups. OFFICE DATE STAMP

GR.



CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

VICE RMA DREG

FROM

SAGE

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

Can you possibly issue 50 Brew guns with accessories to DREG tomorrow 24th Indents by DRLS today. Please advise DREG who require the guns for security duties.

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

Robert Wilson

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

SIGNED

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

Important

TIME OF ORIGIN

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

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

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

*PWK IN IN DIA
DIARY (PRIVATE)*

No. of Groups.

GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

HALU

FROM

DREG

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

24

Attached

are

messages

from

SAGE

to

VIGE

and

reply

of

VIGE

to

DREG

○

may

this

matter

be

taken

up

as

urgent

please

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

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

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

1845

Stanford Capt
SIGNED

SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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

PUBLISHED
EVERY
SATURDAY

THE A.I.F. NEWS



AVAILABLE
AT ALL
CANTEENS

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No. 34

PALESTINE, 2nd. NOVEMBER 1940

Price 5 Mills

WAR MINISTER'S TOUR

Mr. Eden Visits Aussies In Western Desert

(From John Hetherington, Australian Evening Newspapers Correspondent with the A.I.F.)

WESTERN DESERT, October 24.

The Minister for War (Mr. Anthony Eden) visited Australian troops serving in the Western Desert today, good-temperedly tramping through powdery dust to get a series of intimate glimpses of the men at work.

It was Mr. Eden's first sight of the Australians in the Middle East since he saw the first contingent of the A.I.F. in Palestine in the middle of February.

Occasional remarks he made to officers with whom he toured the Australian area showed that he was impressed with the way the men had developed under the intensive training they have undergone in the Middle East.

Once he commented: "They certainly look fit for anything."

Mr. Eden himself does not show the slightest symptom of the mental strain Britain's War Minister should be suffering if absurd German claims contained an atom of truth. On the contrary, he looks even younger and more cheerful than he did eight months ago.

He was welcomed at the Australian headquarters by the Australian commander and officers, with whom he chatted for a few minutes, asking how they were settling in and whether they found the dust trying.

He then motored to different parts of the Australian area where he stepped from his car and strolled about, examining slit trenches, glancing into tents and surveying with evident satisfaction the husky troops drawn up on their parade-grounds.

"BOYS" DUG IN

The Australians in the Western Desert are now thoroughly dug in, literally as well as figuratively, in the great waste of dun-coloured sand in which their positions lie.

In the Australian area I have seen some of the most elaborate slit trenches — it is not too much to describe them as homelike — I have seen anywhere.

Some of these trenches are even equipped with seats to enable the occupants to spend the time in the most comfortable circumstances during prolonged air-raid alarms.

The Australians have been obliged to turn out of their beds and take refuge in the slit trenches on several nights recently when Italian bombers were operating in the vicinity.

The chief effect of these raids seems to have been to make the men go to bed earlier to ensure at least a few hours sleep before the bombers appear.

This is understandable, because a few nights ago the men in one part of the Australian area spent two hours in the trenches in the early morning while anti-aircraft guns were driving off raiders.

The men are speedily learning one essential branch of desert warfare — the method of having a bath in a pannikinful of water. They have found it is possible to have a complete spongebath with this amount of water by intelligent use of the facewasher.

Some wit has dubbed this spongebathing the "Western Desert shampoo". Anyway, it is a good substitute for showers, which are out of the question in the desert.



In the course of his tour of Middle East stations, The Secretary of State for War (Mr. Anthony Eden), pictured above, said: "Our aim is to lift up our fallen comrades, to taste with them the fruits of victory, and to share with them the happier future which we are convinced is reserved for Europe."

WAR COUNCIL'S FIRST MEETING

NEW REGULATIONS?

The Australian War Advisory Council met for the first time on Tuesday, when consideration was given to the question of passing regulations for the protection of persons suffering financial difficulties because of the war.

The Council met under the presidency of the Prime Minister (Mr. Menzies), the other three Government representatives being Messrs. Fadden, Hughes and McEwen.

The four Labour representatives on the Council are Messrs. John Curtin (Leader of the Opposition), F. M. Forde (Deputy Leader), Norman Makin and J. A. Beasley.

Chief functions of the Council will be to consider and advise the Government on matters relating to defence.

BIG CABINET RESHUFFLE

Sir Earle Page Included

CANBERRA, Oct. 28.

Following on the formation of the Advisory War Council last Tuesday, there has been an important reshuffle in the Federal Cabinet, the reconstitution of which was announced yesterday by the Prime Minister (Mr. Menzies).

Among the surprises was the return to the Ministry of Commerce of Sir Earle Page, with whom Mr. Menzies has effected a reconciliation. Several major re-allocations of portfolios were made, resulting in the dropping of Mr. A. G. Cameron, the recently-resigned leader of the Federal Country Party, and Deputy Prime Minister.

All members of the New Cabinet were sworn in by the Governor-General (Lord Gowrie) on Sunday.

Mr. Menzies stated afterwards that the new portfolio allotted to Mr. Holt would entail duties very similar to those of Lord Bevin in England.

Mr. Hughes, veteran member of the Cabinet, in addition to retaining the Attorney-Generalship, becomes Minister for the Navy in Mr. Cameron's stead.

Mr. Spender, whose meteoric rise to the office of Treasurer was a highlight of the re-casting of the Cabinet on Mr. Menzies' assumption of leadership in April last year, has been entrusted with administration of the Department of the Army, and Mr. Fadden, the late Mr. Fairbairn's successor as Minister for Air, becomes Treasurer.

Mr. McEwen, who recently tied with Sir Earle Page for leadership of the Country Party in succession to Mr. Cameron, transfers from External Affairs to Air and Civil Aviation.

Sir Frederick Stewart is succeeded in the Ministry of Supply, Development and Munitions, by Senator McBride, but retains Social Services and Health portfolios in addition to that of External Affairs.

Mr. Thorby, one of the "stormy petrels" of Federal politics in recent years, once again has been dropped, this time in favour of Senator McLeay, who transfers from Customs to become Postmaster-General, Minister for Repatriation and Vice-President of the Executive Council.

Mr. Harold Holt, former Assistant Minister for Supply and Development, who recently enlisted in the A.I.F., returns to the Cabinet in charge of the new Ministry of Labour and National Service. He is the youngest member of the present Parliament.

Mr. H. L. Anthony, member for Muswellbrock (N.S.W.), becomes an Assistant Minister and the fourth C. P. member of the Ministry.

State representation in the new Cabinet is as follows:—

New South Wales:—5 Ministers and 1 Assistant.

Victoria:—3 Ministers and 1 Assistant.

Queensland:—2 Ministers and 1 Assistant.

South Australia:—2 Ministers.

West Australia:—1 Assistant Minister.

The former Leader of the Country Party (Mr. A. G. Cameron) has joined the U.A.P. following differences of opinion at last week's party meeting and his own resignation.

When the new Senate meets in the middle of next year the

Government will have a majority of two — 19 to 17, and its position in the Upper House thus will be better than that in the Representatives.

The Government victory in the Senate election was an unexpected feature of the poll last month, and has been interpreted by Mr. Menzies and his colleagues as a mandate to continue their present programme in relation to the prosecution of the war.

New Ministry

Mr. Menzies: Prime Minister, Minister for Defence Coordination and Information.

Mr. Fadden: Treasurer.

Mr. Hughes: Attorney-General and Minister for the Navy.

Mr. Spender: Minister for the Army.

Senator McLeay: Postmaster-General, Minister for Repatriation and Vice-President of the Executive Council.

Mr. McEwen: Minister for Air and Civil Aviation.

Senator Foll: Minister for the Interior.

Sir Earle Page: Minister for Commerce.

Sir Frederick Stewart: Minister for External Affairs, Health and Social Services.

Senator McBride: Minister for Supply, Development and Munitions.

Mr. Harrison: Minister for Customs.

Mr. Holt: Minister for Labour and National Service.

Assistant Ministers: Senators Collett, Collins and Leckie and Mr. Anthony.

Messrs. Menzies, Hughes, Fadden, Spender and McEwen comprise the Inner Cabinet.

"Two-up" Raid at Bathurst Goal

SYDNEY, Oct. 28.

Bathurst goalbirds struck when warders raided their "two-up" school and confiscated the tobacco stakes.

The men were returned to the cells.

Women and Uniforms

SIR C. JESS'S ADVICE.

SYDNEY, Oct. 28.

Seventeen Sydney uniformed war women's organisations were criticised severely by Lieutenant General Sir Carl Jess, chairman of the Manpower Committee, for using material and labour needed to outfit the A.I.F.

He said the women should carry on with their knitting and not parade in "pretties."

The women remain defiant. The Government has no power to ban uniforms for such organisations.

N. Z. GOVERNOR-GENERAL

WELLINGTON (NZ), Oct. 27.

The vice-regal party escaped unharmed when three rooms were set on fire at a hotel at Nelson during a farewell gathering to the Governor-General (Viscount Galway).

Some damage was caused, but the incendiary was not caught.

3000 Officers to be Trained Annually

MELBOURNE, Oct. 28.

Enlarged Officers' Training Courses will train 3000 Army officers annually, the Department of the Army announced yesterday.

By the end of the year also there will be three more garrison part-time battalions, which will be going into camp in January.

TRAGIC FIRE AT COLLINGWOOD

MELBOURNE, Oct. 28.

In a Collingwood factory blaze on Saturday, Third Officer F. H. Cooke and Fireman G. M. Wright were killed. Four others were injured and a fifth fireman was overcome by smoke.

Family Tragedy near Ballarat

MELBOURNE, Oct. 28.

William Fraser, 60, and John Fraser, 25, were murdered with a slasher at a lonely farmhouse near Ballarat on Tuesday, and Mrs. Ruby Pearl Fraser, 48, was drowned in a deep well nearby.

A carving knife was found in Mrs. Fraser's bedroom and a slasher was later recovered from the well.

THE LOOKING-GLASS!

Do You Recognise Yourself?

(By "Eavesdropper")

Patients learn that the bugler of a certain general hospital has made application to join the Palestine Symphony Orchestra. They hope he lands the job!

You may know Corporal Jack Baxter-Thompson, but we'll bet a thousand miles to a Tel Aviv tram ticket that you know the "bloke with the big boots." They are, of course, one and the same person. Corporal Jack made his first entry into the "public Service" as a Messing Corporal at the Melbourne showgrounds.

The "Whistling Butcher" was seen ambling in Jaffa Road the other day.

Sister Nora Macdonald, one of a handful of Australian lassies to be in the Middle East when war broke out, is spending a few days leave in visiting some of the places she learnt about in kindergarten days.

A certain Arabic theatre recently closed its doors when a threatening sky changed to heavy rain, and many persons who had braved the elements returned home disappointed.

Why all the crowd gathers in Sgt. Cohen's Canteen?—"BILL OF FARE." Chicken Broth made from real chicken ... 10 miles Hump Steak right off the grill ... 25 miles Roast chicken as tender as your heart ... 65 miles Hot Sav & Roll - Dunkum Alsatian ... 15 miles Fruit Salad & Ice Cream—like Mother's ... 45 miles

It took quite a time to become used to new voices on the telephone exchange. Everybody missed Cpl Stan Clipstone's business-like "Number Please!"

A recent mail brought me a copy of the Red Cliffs and Merbsin "Growers Gazette" containing an extensive honor roll for the former district. Incidentally, Capt. George Walker says that in nearly every camp he visits he meets members of the North Murray Borderers or other lads from Mildura district.

Keith Williams is about the bonniest soul in the A.I.F. these days, despite the fact that he has acquired a fiancée—in Australia. Since his bosom pals — Derm Noonan, Cliff Wilkinson and Bob Hermes — transferred, Keith hasn't been the same. Here's hoping the mainman treats him kindly till he catches up with the "three musketeers."

It's amazing how some of the less experienced drivers "negotiate" the Seven Sisters!

Backed up well by George Rose and his clarinet — playing that thing is worse than pumping a tyre, if George's expressions are any criterion — Tommie Rhodes has kept the boys up to scratch with his sessions of "Jam" and "home cooking." No wonder, anyway; the art gallery in Tommie's cap is enough to make anyone sing!

The martial music provided by "Ras" and his bandmen always brings a crowd to witness changing of the guard ceremonies.

Even leakage in the roof and spouting couldn't upset L/Cpl Reggie Ralph's enthusiasm for having the stables in "applepie" order. But, then, it rains in north-eastern Victoria, too!

John Roberts has acquired his Corporal's stripes in roundabout fashion — which makes them the more commendable. He graduated from the switchboard to driver before "falling on his feet."

If the number of journalist-soldiers is an indication, there should be no dearth of spy yarns and manuscripts on war days when the A.I.F. has finished Hun-hunting. Well-known names in Melbourne and Victorian journalism are those of Lieut. Quentin Tilley ("Age") and John Strong,

AUSSIES WATCH AIR ACTION

ITALIAN RAIDERS FLEE

(From John Hetherington, Australian Evening News, Correspondent with the A.I.F.)

Australian troops in the Western Desert had "ringide seats" at a spectacular battle between Italian air raiders and British anti-aircraft batteries in early morning darkness a few days ago. They were awakened by the thunderous noise of heavy gunfire and, tumbling from their beds, saw a thrilling fight raging some miles away. The sky was lit up by flashes of guns and crisscrossing beams of searchlights, accompanied by the sound of bursting shells which resembled the growl of heavy surf.

Many men were reluctant to leave the vantage-points from which they watched the battle even to take shelter in slit trenches, as they are required to do when enemy aircraft are in the vicinity.

Still, the raid was a poor affair — from the Italian viewpoint — because the heavy barrage forced the enemy pilots to drop their bombs in unoccupied areas and return to their bases without causing damage or a single casualty.

It was the first glimpse most of the Australians had had of authentic action, though some of the Australian posts in more advanced areas of the desert have been air-raided two or three times. However, bombs have invariably fallen a long distance from their marks, causing no casualties.

Major C. D. Horne showed some of his true form in a recent cricket match by contributing a good 35. Why all the crowd gathers in Sgt. Cohen's Canteen?—"BILL OF FARE." Chicken Broth made from real chicken ... 10 miles Hump Steak right off the grill ... 25 miles Roast chicken as tender as your heart ... 65 miles Hot Sav & Roll - Dunkum Alsatian ... 15 miles Fruit Salad & Ice Cream—like Mother's ... 45 miles

Ex-earsman gunner raven says that British sport is on the decline. Italy has nearly every boat race on the Mediterranean this summer!

Pte. Joe Thompson has a grudge against life. He enlisted in the army as a Motor Mechanic. He passed all examinations; so they sent him to Palestine as a cook.

Corporal A. Meyerson put over a first-class wisecrack the other day. Someone asked the Corporal how his mother-in-law was. He said: "Haven't spoken to her for years."

"Sorry to hear that. What's the matter?" "She's dead."

Why worry? Why not enjoy life and sing Grand Opera Arias under the shower like Ptes. Angus Clues and Darcy Loughlin; and like J. C. Clark who whistles away the hours playing a little tin whistle.

Taking it all round it's a nice war and Pte. A. E. Hearne finds no trouble in writing 30 letters a week to the folk at home telling them what their Hero Son is doing in far-away Palestine.

Driver (We'll call him Smith) went A.W.L. with a blonde in an Army Car in Tel Aviv. When he returned his Colonel said: "Your driving licence is cancelled." "Smithy" replied: "I wish you'd cancel my marriage licence too!"

"Don't want to see Tel Aviv" said Capt. D. Boden. The Captain has censured 30 letters a day for the last week and never wants to see or hear of Tel Aviv again.

"Cut my hair like a gasfitter barber" was the wish of signalmaster Campbell. His wish was granted!

Now that he has care of the King's Australian naves, the "Little Digger" will be dividing his time between solving knotty legal problems and calculating in knots. In other words, waiving the rules and ruling the waves!

We hear the beach season closes in November. Sea-Nymphs Sisters Pitt, Smith, Rafer and McFarlane, and Miss Colbatch will have a job ahead of them to retain their sun-tan.

Aussies Defeat Police At Mt. Scopus

At Mt. Scopus

An A.I.F. Rugby Union team from Kilo 89 defeated a team from the Jerusalem Police Training Depot on the Mt. Scopus ground by 9 points to three. A large number of spectators were present and they were treated to an afternoon of enjoyable rugby. A pleasing feature of the day was the way in which the Australians, led by their captain, doubled on to the field.

The Police won the toss, and the Aussies kicked off. From the very start the game was marked by its keenness and the Aussies' three-quarters were very much to the fore, only to be repulsed time and again by the fine tackling of the Police backs and the kicking of the Depot full-back.

It was a ding-dong game from start to finish, very even throughout and with both sides having hard luck on their scoring efforts. The first score came when the Depot were awarded a kick for an infringement under the posts and Atkinson made no mistake in notching the first points for the Depot. The score standing at three points to none in favour of the Police at the interval.

Aussies Hit Back From the resumption the Aussies seemed set on wiping off the arrears, and after some ten minutes play were rewarded, scoring half-way through the posts and the touch-line. It was a difficult kick and the try was unconverted.

A few minutes later, following a fumble by Hunt of the Depot, the Australians snapped up a loose ball and once again crossed the Police line. The ensuing kick, taken right on the touch-line from an acute angle, was carried away by the wind, striking the upright and dropping outside. This gave the Aussies the lead at six to three.

At this stage of the game Fate smiled unkindly on the Depot. Atkinson and Webster, both dashing to catch a dropping ball, collided heavily, the former sustaining a cut eye and Webster a badly bruised nose, forcing the pair of them to leave the game. The Depot had, therefore, to continue with six forwards. They, however, continued to hold their heavier opponents despite their setback. They were pressing all the while and were well up on the ball to the end of the game which came with a nine points to three in favour of the Aussies.

The tackling on both sides was good throughout the game and many a prospective try was nipped in the bud by the grassing of the man in possession. The Police forwards were good, although lacking cohesion at times, but the three of the Aussies appeared to have more penetrating power than those of the Depot.

The Police had a newcomer in their side at full-back. This man, Webster, certainly showed promise and after practice should fit in well with the team. It was rather unfortunate that he was injured in his first game, but more will be seen of him later.

The Aussies were a well disciplined and forceful team, and it was a joy to watch that pastmaster in the art of "selling the dummy," Robinson, puzzling the Police.

CAPITAL CITIES "GOING STRONG"

"CHLOE" LOANED FOR WAR FUNDS

For the benefit of those from other States who may read this I will add that my impression of Sydney (I had been there many times before) was the number of militia men about the streets. I saw few A.I.F. — they would be in camp — but there were thousands of soldiers with red stripes down their pants and other regalia common to the militiamen. The A.I.F. chaps don't like them much I gathered.

Melbourne was as cold as usual and everyone had a Pukka throat. Young and Jacksons is as popular as ever and it should be of great interest that "Chloe" has been loaned for exhibition in aid of War funds. The women who were always dying to see Chloe can now do so.

Flinders St. Station entrance is known as "Soldiers' Corner" as it is the meeting place of all the chaps from the forces. Adelaide appeared the same as usual while Perth is also the same grand old town. I don't think there is any city in Australia which treats its soldiers better than the Western Capital.

No A.I.F. chap is allowed to walk far — he is always given a lift and the fact that he is "broke" doesn't mean that he can't get a few drinks. Good old Perth — It's very much like Brisbane and that's talking.

And as Mr. Fitzpatrick's travelogue fame would say "And so we say farewell to beautiful Australia, land of the beautiful beaches, fair women and glorious beer."

Judge Sentences Schoolmate

To men who went to school together 45 years ago met again in the Old Bailey recently in the roles of judge and prisoner.

The prisoner, who, was sentenced to two years' imprisonment on charges of fraud and theft, said to the judge: "I went to your school. I knew you as a good athlete and happy schoolboy. The prisoners say you are one of the fairest judges on the bench and all hope they come before you."

Turning to the jury he added: "You're a moth-eaten lot." Judge Cecil Whiteley, who was educated first at Dulwich College and later at Cambridge, did not comment.

The prisoner struggled with the warders in the dock and was carried to the cells.

There is a human story behind the meeting. After leaving school Judge Whiteley and the prisoner each achieved early success, the judge in criminal law and the prisoner in business, earning £1500 a year, with a staff of 300. The prisoner went to the war in 1914 as a private, and was promoted to lieutenant, receiving the Military Medal for Gallantry. He was wounded in the head, and came back to find his only income a disability-pension of £100 a year.

He drifted into crime, and had 15 convictions since 1920, mostly for obtaining credit and food by fraud. Often he went to expensive restaurants accompanied by friends and passed worthless cheques.

Judge Whiteley, in 1925, bound over the prisoner on a charge of fraud. Later, on a similar charge, sentenced him to 18 months' imprisonment.

THE GHOSTS of GAZA!

Long Siege in 329 B.C.

R. F. Stuart-Burnett C. F.

Part 2

Many favourable comments have been made on Padre Stuart-Burnett's story of historic Gaza in last week's issue. This week the Padre carries the story further and tells how Cambyses, the son of Cyrus the "Persian", captured Gaza after a long and bloody siege in 329 B.C.

Hardly had this troubled city witnessed their departure than she found herself under the sway of the Babylon. Yet there was no peace. It was strange that Zedekiah, king of Judah, even at this late hour and after so many exposures, should have listened to Egypt.

Pharaoh Necho had been succeeded by Pasmethichus in 593 B.C. and he in turn by Hophra in 588 B.C. It was at the latter's instigation that Zedekiah revolted. The result was swift and decisive. Nebuchadnezzar marched on the country, Jerusalem was razed to the ground and the Israelites taken into captivity. In the general upheaval the kingdom of the Philistines ceased to exist — their cities of the plain were destroyed and their people were scattered. The subjugation was complete. The inscription reads C. 586 "Under Marduk's mighty protection, I marched through far off lands, from North sea to South".

ROMAN LEGIONS

With the death of the great warrior Alexander, his kingdoms were divided. To the Ptolemies went Egypt, also Palestine; to the Seleucids of Syria, Asia Minor, Mesopotamia and North Syria. Long and bitter wars quickly ensued between these rival houses and Syria and Palestine became their stage. It seems that in these contests Egypt retained South Syria until the end of the third century B.C. but lost it to the Seleucids in 210, regained it a year later and lost most of it a second time in 201 B.C.

In the midst of all this turmoil of war lay the city of Gaza — the outpost of Africa, the doorway of Asia. When Antiochus Epiphanes chastised the Jews, and what was infinitely worse desecrated the Temples they broke in revolt under the leadership of that heroic priest, Mattathias. It was his son Judas Maccabaeus who at length succeeded in inflicting a decisive defeat on the Syrians c. 165 B.C.

Under the Maccabean dynasty life was no more peaceful in Gaza, than her previous history. Twice the city suffered humiliation. Jonathan

New Australian Soldiers' Club

Arrangements have been concluded by the Australian Comforts Fund to take over as a going concern the Atlantic Hotel in central Alexandria for use as a leave centre for Australian soldiers.

The Hotel will be conducted as an Australian Soldiers' Club on the same lines as the Hotel Pagan in Jerusalem. The exact tariff is not yet fixed, but it will be a minimum price within the reach of every soldier.

The Atlantic Hotel consists of four floors, excellently furnished, and, in practically all cases, men on leave will be accommodated with not more than two beds to a room. There is accommodation for approximately 150 men per night, and meals will be provided at the Hotel.

In addition, arrangements are in progress for the installation of an elaborate shower room for the men on daily leave as well as those staying at the hotel. Showers will be free of charge.

It is hoped at an early date to provide amenities for the men on leave in the form of dance parties, boating and swimming.

The new club was expected to be established in time to receive the first leave party yesterday.

in 145 B.C. burned its suburbs and forced the city to ask for terms, and again fifty years later the pent-up hatred of centuries burst in devastation upon her. Alexander Jannaeus, after a years seige in which the whole of the oasis was stripped and laid waste, took the town, burned every building and massacred the whole population. The deserted and barren city now lay under the domination of the Jew at last!

It required the genius of Rome and the power of her legions to build a bulwark between Syria and Egypt, and even those powers took nearly two centuries to complete their task. In 64 B.C. Pompey brought the first Roman legions to Eastern Palestine. Gaza, which by this time had rehabilitated itself, was taken two years later and made a free city. Five years later it was entirely rebuilt by Cabinius on a new site — probably close to the harbour. In the reign of the Emperor Augustus it was presented to Herod the Great who was born in the neighbouring and equally historic city of Aesalon. On the death of Herod "bring Greek" as Josephus says it was taken from the Jews and attached to the province of Syria. It prospered considerably under its Roman masters.

At home the Army authorities has issued a statement expressing pride in the standard of efficiency in conduct and management of A.I.F. camps. They are models of efficiency and economy. All waste is being avoided and even empty bottles are being collected and the proceeds given to Canteen funds.

Two Words For A.I.F. The behaviour of A.I.F. men who travelled in a luxurious British passenger ship, now being used for the transport of troops, was commended highly by one of the liner's senior officers. Some brass letterings, apparently removed as souvenirs, were missing, but no other damage was done; the highly-polished panelling on the ship did not show a scratch.

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Whatever You need, ask Henderson's

9th DIVISIONAL COMMANDER

The appointment of Major General H.G. Wynter as Commander of the 9th Division, A.I.F., was announced at the end of last week by the Prime Minister (Mr. Menzies).

General Wynter, who has been in command of members of the A.I.F. in the United Kingdom, is 54 years of age and has had a brilliant record in the Army. He was commissioned in 1907 and served with the A.I.F. in the Great War.

"Don" In Khaki Donald George Bradman, Australian cricket captain, has forsaken the R.A.A.F. to become a physical and recreational instructor in the Army.

Don previously enlisted in the Air Force and was waiting to be called up. It is almost certain that he will not be able to play for South Australia in the patriotic match at the picturesque Adelaide oval during Christmas week, but he will probably be available for all other games.

A large number of such instructors have been attached to new militia units in Australia to form the army into one of athletes. The standard to which they hope to train every Australian soldier is a very high one. Each man should be able to run a mile in 6 mins. 5 secs., 100 yds. in 16 secs., jump at least 3 ft. 8 inches in height and 13 ft. in length, and throw a 16-lb shot at least 29 ft.

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FROUMINE'S BISCUITS ARE GOOD BISCUITS

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UNIFORMS & EQUIPMENT

W. A. Henderson P.O. B. 854 — SANSUR-BUILDING — PHONE 2982 JERUSALEM

SPECIALISTS IN APPROVED TYPE OF CAMP-EQUIPMENT — FLAGS — WINTER UNIFORMS TRENCHCOATS — FORAGE CAPS — SAM BROWNE BELTS — SHIRTS — STOCKINGS — STEEL TRUNKS, Etc. Etc.

Whatever You need, ask Henderson's

United Film Service (Palestine) Ltd. CINEMA PROGRAMMES

(Subject to changes)

Camps	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
QASTINA	Rosalie	The Moon's Our Home	Convict 99	Bluebird's Eight Wife	Hollywood Cavalcade	Merrily We Life	They Made Me A Criminal
BARBARA	Disputed Passage	In Old Chicago	Rosalie	Nothing Is Sacred	They Made Me A Criminal	The Moon's Our Home	Huckleberry Finn
BEIT JIRJA	Huckleberry Finn	Dark Journey	Spring Madness	The Rat	In Old Chicago	Bluebird's Eight Wife	Nothing Sacred
DEIR SUNEID	Dea d End	The Rat	Love Finds Andy Hardy	Here I Am A Stranger	Saint In New York	Spring Madness	I'll Give A Million
GAZA RIDGE	Stage Coach	Here I Am A Stranger	They Made Me A Criminal	Huckleberry Finn	Disputed Passage	Within The Law	Your's For The Asking

Summary of Last Week's Wireless News from Australia

FEDERAL

ARMY MECHANISATION

The Commonwealth Supply Department intends to buy 2,000 motor vehicles to further increase the mechanical army. The new motor vehicles are supplementary to the programme already made for the making of thousands of motor vehicles of all types costing £3,000,000.

DOUBLE AWARD.

Aircraftman Fuller, who safely landed two planes which collided in mid-air in Sydney recently, has had the unusual experience of being punished and decorated! He is receiving decoration for his skill in landing the interlocked machines, and is being punished for giving information to the press, and also for another matter in connection with the collision. The Minister for Air, Mr. Fadden, has called for a report.

EGG SHIPMENTS

The Minister for Commerce (Mr. Cameron) announced that the British Government had agreed to extend the period of shipments under the present egg contract to include January and February. Mr. Cameron said that about six to eight thousand cases of eggs will be shipped in those two months. Nearly 600,000 cases of eggs valued at £1,100,000 will be shipped from Australia during the season. This is nearly double the 300,000 cases worth £600,000 shipped last season. Mr. Cameron considers that the extension of shipments will assist the poultry industry and help the local market.

MIGRATION STATISTICS

The Commonwealth Statistician (Dr. Rowland Wilson) has issued a bulletin showing losses and gains in Australian States through migration. Tasmania lost nearly 6,000 residents in the first six months of the present year. Victoria gained more than 10,000 in the same period. Queensland lost about 350 by migration compared with a gain of nearly 6,000 by natural increase. Victoria is the only State where there are more women than men.

AIRMEN DECORATED

The Air Board in Melbourne has announced that an Australian airman overseas, Flight Lieutenant Garling, has been decorated with the Flying Cross. He is being awarded with the Sunderland Flying Boats in England and has persistently shown great coolness, gallantry and attention to duty. Flying Officer J. Alcock has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. He shot down seven enemy aircraft, and in one action, although wounded, he descended by parachute into the sea and swam ashore. He has shown continuous courage and initiative and devotion to duty.

Squadron Leader A.A.M. Bowman a Tasmanian with the R.A.F. in the Middle East, also has been awarded the D. F. C. for Light-air navigation and fighting skill, as well as efficiency, endurance and courage.

Going into town on leave?

If you run short of smokes remember you can get our cigarettes anywhere

MASPERO CIGARETTE SPECIALISTS

In the following columns is given a summary of news from Canberra and the six States as received on the short-wave from Australia and re-broadcast from the Palestine Broadcasting Service by the A.I.F. Radio Reporter during the past week.

Members of the Force are asked to note that, commencing from tomorrow, Sunday, November 3, the "Australia Calling" session will be heard from Jerusalem at 5.15 p.m. instead of 5.30 p.m.

The artists for the week will be:— Malcolm McEarchern, Oliver Wakefield, Carroll Gibbons, Jack Buchanan, Sandy Powell, Ivor Moreton and Dave Kaye, and, not least, Lance Fairfax.

FEDERAL

AIRMAIL IMPROVEMENTS

The Combined Dutch Airlines have completed arrangements to operate a 121-day return air service between Australia and Lydda in Palestine. The new service will come into force in a few weeks' time. It will run once a week in either direction. Outward bound from Australia will take six days for the 10,200 miles—11 days under the present Dutch time table, and 3 days less than the Empire air schedule.

The Postmaster General (Mr. Theobald) said that men of the A.I.F. in Palestine would get airmail rates reduced as soon as the British Government was approached to reduce the airmail charge some time ago.

TAXATION

The Federal Government announced the per capita payment on taxation in Australia would be £13.4 per head, compared with last year when it was £12.10 per head. Taxation for the year was £144,500,000; £90,000,000 was taken from last year when it was £144,500,000; £90,000,000 was taken by the Commonwealth and £54,500,000, by the States.

NEW HIGHWAY

A race to beat the seasonal rains is being made in the building of the new highway in Northern Territory. Senator Foll, the Minister for the Interior, said that if the rains held off another month the highway would be completed before the rains set in. The building is going on at the rate of 20 miles a week.

SHALE OILFIELD

A new shale oil field is to be developed at Downie in New South Wales. The Federal Treasurer (Mr. Spender), has approved of an application by a company which, it was stated, will have a capital of £2,500,000. If the scheme is successful the directors of the company expect that more than 30,000,000 gallons of petrol will be produced each year. The approval was given to the company on condition that control of the field will be kept in Australia. It is believed that eventually the scheme will give employment to 1500 men.

PRISONERS OF WAR

It is reported officially that three members of the crew of H.M.A.S. Hobart who were reported missing after the Somaliland evacuation in August are prisoners of war. They are Petty Officer Hugh Jones, Able Seaman Charles Sweeney, and Able Seaman William Holland. They were believed to have been killed in action, they volunteered to mount a 3-pounder gun and showed great devotion to duty in covering the withdrawal of small British forces.

VICTORIA

PRINCE HENRY HOSPITAL

The Premier (Mr. Dunstan) opened the new Prince Henry Hospital in St. Kilda Road, Melbourne recently. It is equipped with some of the most modern instruments. The building cost £75,000. An appeal raised £75,000 and the Government contributed £180,000 towards the cost. Now there only remains a balance of £20,000 to be obtained.

CLEARING THE SLUMS.

Under the Slum Abolition Scheme Victoria expects 1,000 houses to be built or under construction in Melbourne by the end of the year. So far 834 houses have been built and almost contracts are being let almost weekly. A large scale settlement scheme is being completed at the Bend. 106 houses have been built already.

The Cable Won!

Souvenir hunters on Sunday stripped Australia's last cable tram of almost everything that could be removed, when it was given a remarkable farewell by cheering crowds in Bourke Street.

It had been decided to keep the tram going until the cable snapped, but the Tramways Board became impatient and resolved to place the new double-decker buses in operation this week.

The Bourke Street cable tram was a picturesque part of Melbourne's daily life, and visitors from many parts of the world also have enjoyed the thrill of spending along at 12 to 15 miles an hour. And so another of Melbourne's links with the "naughty nineties" has been severed—with it, too, has gone the gripman's familiar advice "Hold on round the curve."

RED CROSS SUPPLIES

The Australian Red Cross Society has sent 336,000 worth of goods and equipment, as well as comforts, to the fighting forces overseas up to the present time. Middle East supplies are being maintained and three additional shipments worth £60,000 are being prepared. Orders have been placed for 62 ambulances.

WET CANTEENS

Wet canteens for ranks below sergeants will be introduced in Australian camps shortly, according to the former Minister for the Army (Senator McBride). "Unless something untoward happens this will be one of the first matters to be dealt with by the new Cabinet," said Mr. Menzies, when asked to comment.

A.I.F. Concert Party and Orchestra

Anyone who has had stage experience, or wants some, or who can act or play an instrument or sing and dance and who thinks he can qualify as a member of the "Auslies" concert party please send a written application stating experience to the Amenities Officer, 1st Aust. Corps.

TASMANIA

WOUNDED SOLDIER SAFE.

News has reached Tasmania that Captain J. R. Johnston who had been wounded, has escaped and reached Gibraltar. He was a former-Alde-De-Camp to a former Government in Tasmania.

FOREST FIRES

Forest fires in the Deloraine locality are causing concern to wood cutters.

MAGNESIUM MINE.

A company with £500,000 capital has been formed in Tasmania for the production of magnesium. There are now two magnesium plants in England and the formation of this Tasmanian company provides the Empire with a third supply of magnesium. Until 1938 there were no magnesium plants in the Empire. The State Government intends to establish mines in large areas and it is hoped to mine 10,000 tons of ore a year to yield 1,000 tons of magnesium. The Federal Government will use most of Tasmania's magnesium for war purposes.

ESTATE DONATED.

The Government of Tasmania has accepted a building and land originally owned by the late Mr. W. A. Cooper, in North Hobart. It is being converted into a military hospital for use of convalescent homes.

NEW PLANT.

The Minister for Mines has announced that a new plant is to be established to produce electro shale oil.

LONGFORD SHOW.

In spite of bitter wintry weather the Longford Show was a great success. The standard of the exhibits was very high despite the long dry spell that has been experienced during what should have been winter.

EAST-WEST ROAD.

A new Roads Bill is at present under consideration by the Tasmanian Government. If it is passed, direct access will be made by road between East and West. The State Government and the Launceston City Council will share the cost of the highway.

TROLLEY BUSES.

The Hobart City Council is negotiating with the Chinese Government for eight trolley buses. They were made in England and intended for Canton, but because of the position in the Far East they cannot be delivered.

"VET" SERVICES.

Veterinary services are being extended in Tasmania. Six new veterinary surgeons will be appointed in different centres, and a high standard has been set.

"I DON'T CHOOSE TO RUN"

—CAL COOLIDGE

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Summary of Week's Wireless News (Cont.)

NEW SOUTH WALES

NEW CAMP.

A military camp is planned in New South Wales on a basis similar to that of the Hydro camp. It is expected to be on a position selected for one of the camps offered, probably north of Sydney.

FOR SOLDIERS' CHILDREN.

The Health Committee of the Sydney Council is considering opening playgrounds in the metropolitan area for at least two evenings a week. The action will be taken to give some definite occupation to children whose fathers have enlisted and whose mothers are working. The Supervisor of Playgrounds said that the absence of parents made children run about the streets at night and this action would keep them off the streets.

HARVEST BEGUN.

The wheat harvest has begun in New South Wales. Last weekend men started work on the northern and north western crops.

MENTIONED IN DESPATCHES.

Two Australian Naval officers have been mentioned in despatches overseas. Lt. Com. Cook who has served with the Royal Navy for more than two years. He was on the Royal Oak when it was torpedoed and in a light cruiser when it was bombed and sunk. Second Lieut. White was on board an Avro biplane as Observer when he distinguished himself. He is 28 years of age and was born in Parramatta, New South Wales.

Three new Garrison Battalions, similar to the militia, are being formed and nearly 21 thousand men will be drawn from the Returned Soldiers' League. This is part of a plan for a general extension of the garrison system throughout Australia. Existing battalions will have full-time duty for the duration of the war.

N. S. W.

HELPING APPRENTICES

The Chairman of the New South Wales Railways Commission (Mr. Hartigan) states that apprentices of the railways services are to be given the opportunity of taking degrees at the University in Sydney. They will be credited with having completed a two years' degree which the Secretary of Engineering might require. While at the University the apprentices will be paid, at least, the basic wage and the University charges will be paid by the Railways Department.

COAL MINE FIRE

A fire commenced in the Aberdale pithead on Tuesday morning. Considerable damage was done and about 500 men are likely to be out of work for some time.

HOUSING SCHEME

The Federal Government has decided to build 100 cottages for married men and a hostel for 200 single men at Lithgow in New South Wales. The necessity for this housing scheme is very urgent as there has been considerable increases in the population at Lithgow because of munition production there. The cottages for married men will be built of timber and fibre. They will contain four rooms, kitchen and bathroom and electrical apparatus. Single men will have dining and recreation rooms, and in addition a fully equipped kitchen with utensils, and sleeping accommodation.

WAR STRAIN

According to the annual report of the Inspector-General for Insane (Dr. Wallace) there is, so far, no evidence that the war has increased insanity in New South Wales. The war strain on people is noticeable in war time, and psychiatrists are available to patients in the Mental Hospital. It is expected that nervous cases will increase because of anxiety as the war goes on.

South Australia

TO FLY AGAIN

It is announced that an old flag which saw service in France in the last war may be carried into action again in this war. It belonged to the 4th Battalion and is to be presented to that unit's successor when it goes abroad.

HUGE FACTORY FIRE

During the weekend a fire broke out at the Dunlop Rubber Factory and damage is estimated at £120,000. This is the biggest fire in the history of Adelaide since 1922.

MONEY "ROLLS" IN!

Country districts in South Australia continue to give support to the patriotic appeal. £1,000 has been sent as a second contribution from one district for the purchase of a mobile surgical unit. Another district has already sent more than £3,000 and expects to raise £750 at a patriotic carnival on Saturday. The Returned Soldiers' League has contributed £750, and Whyalla has also given £750.

WELFARE BUREAU

A welfare Bureau for members of the fighting forces is being established in Adelaide. A committee of experts will advise on all matters appertaining to the men on active service and their dependents. Forty thousand pounds has been raised and other members of the general public have offered financial assistance.

RED CROSS - EGYPT

It was announced in Adelaide today that a South Australian branch of the Red Cross Society will be opened in Egypt under the direction of Mr. Tupper. It will supervise the distribution of comforts and other Red Cross benefits.

R.S.V.D.C.

After months of intensive training more than 5,000 of the Returned Soldiers' Voluntary Defence Corps marched through Adelaide at the weekend. The men took more than half-an-hour to pass and a crowd estimated at more than 10,000 people watched them. A patriotic demonstration was held in Adelaide in the afternoon.

QUEENSLAND

ANZAC HOUSE

The Minister for Works (Mr. H. Bruce) said last night that the first section of the Anzac building scheme will commence during the present financial year. The cost will be nearly £100,000. One building will face Anzac Square and will house the State Defences Corporation and the Royal Development Board. The design will conform with buildings on adjoining sites. Important works will also be carried out in other parts of the city.

SCIENTISTS WRECKED

The American schooner, Director II, which arrived in Brisbane recently with a party of American scientists, has been wrecked off the Queensland coast and is a total loss.

The Director II set out from New York harbour two years ago and during the last voyage to Brisbane called at many of the Pacific Islands to study bird life and native customs and music. The scientists had intended spending many months studying the Great Barrier Reef.

PROXY VOTES

The acting Attorney-General (Mr. O'Keefe) stated that wherever possible polling booths will be provided in other States for absentee Queensland voters. Proxy votes will be provided for soldiers overseas. This was considered the most democratic way of giving them an opportunity to vote. Men leaving home may arrange for a proxy in any State election which might occur in their absence. There was no proxy in the last war.

WATER SUPPLY

The Brisbane City Council intends to supplement the City water supply by the construction of an additional main. Tenders have been called for the supply of piping and fittings. The new main will feed the first section of the present main and it is completed it will be 16 miles long and will increase the daily water supply by four million gallons.

STATE ELECTION

A brother of a former Queensland Premier is standing for election in the State House. He is Mr. Theodore, a former member for Scully. A Country Party candidate, Mr. A. A. Moule was also nominated last night. A former Chairman of the Country Party, Mr. A. Page, will contest the seat as an independent candidate.

LOST AT DUNKIRK

It was officially announced last night that the well known Brisbane tug, "Koorngal" which was handed over to the Admiralty in April, was lost in the Dunkirk episode. She was lost in the harbour. The "Koorngal" was considered to be the most powerful tug in Australia.

LIQUOR TRADING

Members of the Queensland Liquor Traders' Association intend to press for a referendum on the hours of liquor trading. It will perhaps take place at the State elections next year. The hours at present are 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and the question to be decided by referendum is whether 6, 8 or 11 p.m. should be the hour for closing.

N.Z.'s Economic Plans

WELLINGTON, Oct. 27. Economic plans have been adopted by all parties in New Zealand to increase war efficiency. Wages, prices and costs will be established and strictly controlled. Everyday commodities also will be standardised and the forty-hour week will be suspended in selected industries.

A. R. P. REHEARSAL

One of the biggest air raid precautions rehearsals yet was carried out in Adelaide. The whole city was blacked out completely when the lighting power was cut off intentionally, and more than 3000 members of the A.R.P. organisation proceeded to their posts and carried out practices at their various duties.

Western Australia

KALGOORLIE SEAT

The Prime Minister (Mr. Menzies), and the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Curtin), will take part in the by-election for the Kalgoorlie seat which was formerly held by the late Mr. A.E. Green. It has been pointed out that the fighting services abroad will not vote for the by-election as the special legislation permitting them to vote in the recent Federal elections was passed for that occasion only. Mr. R.G. Murray, who had been endorsed as the U.A.P. candidate, will not be able to continue with his nomination because of military duties. Four candidates have been nominated. They are:— Messrs. F. L. Lee (U.A.P.), H. P. Johnson (Labor), F. R. Flinlay (Ind.) and T. Ferguson (Liberal).

UNIVERSITY CLAIM

The University authorities have made a claim against the Commonwealth Government for £13,500 compensation. The Government has taken over the University for a Military Hospital, valuing the buildings at £13,500, whereas the University authorities consider it worth far more than that figure.

THIRSTY WEATHER!

In 20 out of the first 24 days of this month the temperature at Marble Bar, Western Australia, has been over the century. It has been one of the hottest Octobers on record. Last week 107 degrees was recorded more than four times, and during the last 15 days it has been only once under 100 degrees. A fire broke out in the only hotel in the district and only the prompt action of the people prevented it from spreading.

WEARV WORKERS

The Minister for Works (Mr. Millington) has approved an application for works at North Wharf, Fremantle. The cost will be £70,000 and the work will begin almost immediately. An additional £50,000 will be spent on a new subway, the building of which commenced last week.

NAVY ORDER

The Government Railway Department has received an order from the Naval Authorities for the manufacture of steering gear for naval ships. The contract is worth £23,000.

ATHOL TIER'S SUDDEN DEATH

WELL-KNOWN COMEDIAN

(Air Mail)
Athol Tier, one of Australia's best known comedians, has died in Sydney, following a sudden attack of pneumonia. He was an Australian who went to England early in his career and made a big name in the London and provincial music halls in pantomime. After a tour of America he returned to Australia and topped the bill on the Tivoli Circuit.

Like most theatrical artists he devoted all his time in the past few years to radio. His best known features were "Mrs. Aris and Mrs. Iggs," and "How the other half lives," regularly featured from 3 A.W. Melbourne. Athol Tier's death follows the deaths of two other well-known artists earlier in the month. They were Field Fisher, and Darcy Kelway, whose best known part was as one of the "old dears" in "Mrs. Olimes and Mrs. Hentwhistle."

UNDERWORLD FEUD

SYDNEY, Oct. 28. Henry Slater, 55, ex-underworld-gunsman, and a companion of "Squizz" Taylor, was shot down at La Prouse on Friday. His unknown murderer walked slowly from the body towards a cycle and escaped. Slater, who was engaged on relief work, had not been troublesome for several years.

MINES RESTAURANT

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24, Allenby Rd., Tel Aviv

CONFERENCE AT NEW DELHI

TRADE AND INDUSTRY

NEW DELHI, Oct. 29. Several delegations to the Eastern Group Conference on war supplies are anxious to take advantage of the presence of so many Empire representatives to discuss informally the broad questions of trade and industry. It is understood discussions between the Commerce Department of India and certain delegations will commence shortly.

The object of the conference is to try and arrange that countries east of Suez will supply provisions and arm troops in the Middle East, Egypt and Palestine, thus making them independent of supplies through the Mediterranean.

The Australian delegation is led by Sir Walter Massey Greene, a former Defence Minister, and New Zealand, Hong Kong and Shanghai, as well as Palestine and African colonies, are represented.

More R. A. A. F. Trainees

MELBOURNE, Oct. 28. The arrival in England of the second batch of Australian air trainees was announced by the Department of the Air. The men were enthusiastically welcomed. "More bad news for Hitler" was the comment of the Minister (Mr. Fadden).

By the end of the year several quotas of Australian trained air crews will have gone to Canada, the United Kingdom and elsewhere. All are in advanced stages of training and Australia generally is well ahead of schedule in connection with the Empire air scheme.

Aviatix Married

SYDNEY, Oct. 28. Miss Barbara Hitchens, Australian aviatix, has married Pilot Officer K. S. Brown.

The bride met her husband two years ago at Mildura, where she was forced to leave her plane for some weeks pending renewal of its airworthiness certificate by the then Minister for Civil Aviation (Mr. Thorby).

NURSES' CONTRIBUTION.

The Nurses' War Fund of the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney, through the Australian Red Cross Society, has presented a diathermy machine to the 1st A.G.H. Colonel H.E. Cohen, Overseas Commissioner of the Red Cross Society, handed the machine over recently.

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JERUSALEM

TAXI

DAY AND NIGHT

PHONE 3

THE RAMADAN GUN WHICH WENT OFF TOO EARLY

Short Story by Winston Davis

THE khamain had stilled the day to dead inertia. You dare not move: life was one continual bath....

And what time was it? You could not tell by the sky. Overcast, khamain laden, it too looked as though it had not enough strength to support itself and would sag in at any moment.

He looked behind him at the old bell-clock which ticked so sententiously and righteously before the row of bottles, Ye Old Scotch, And Mr. Haig don't be Vague, on the shelf. It could tick the hours so slowly away, Mr. Mustapha thought.

Mr. Mustapha felt it incumbent upon him to belch again.

The Australian, the sole inhabitant of Mr. Mustapha's nice little Cafe, brought hither by the Arab guide for a pre-arranged rabe-off, considerably too much Mr. Mustapha thought at the time, awoke with a start.

"Mos' rude of you... Mos' rude of you!" The Australian admonished pointing a finger, the control of which, he seemed to have lost, at Mr. Mustapha. "Do you know what I ought to do to you?" Mr. Mustapha looked uncomfortable, "I ought to do to you?"

"No," the infidel parried, you buy me the next arak...."

"Where you going, where you going," he screamed, "you pay for drinks first...."

There was a look of contempt on the lean Australian's face: "You leave it to me: you hungry old!"

To be called that on Ramadan! Y'Allah my God!

Now Mr. Mustapha had on other grievance to add to his troubles: the khamain, the fast, the Australian. He could rave, he could tell the barber next door, he could tell the military police. But what use? These Australians!

His ravings subsided. The old bell clock ticked on. The khamain chewed you to a piece of rag. Nodding... the whole world was nodding... on an empty stomach.

STATE FINANCES

Improved Position In Queensland

(Wireless News) In his annual report the Queensland Director of Labor (Mr. N. McAuley) pointed out that employment figures reached a new peak in 1939-40. Eighty-eight thousand people, the highest on record, were employed in factories alone, the total representing an increase of nearly 2000 on last year's figures alone.

During the last financial year also the Queensland railways improved their position. There was a surplus of £20,000, compared with a deficit of £53,000 in the previous year. Earnings improved by £200,000, and working expenditure by only £200,000, the net revenue for the year being nearly £1,700,000.

It is estimated in the new Tasmanian budget that expenditure for the present financial year will decrease by at least £35,000, and that the deficit will be £2,200,000.

"A swig of this will make you feel.... well, yippee..." The Australian replied with a sweep of his arm almost dropping Mr. Mustapha to the ground. "Musa, no donkey, drink....!"

"No, no, no, no!" Mr. Mustapha had to expostulate. He even had to struggle to get away from the monster and that was bad for his stomach. "But why no drink?" These Australians... Mr. Mustapha began to think murderously.... won't take no for an answer.

"Where you going, where you going," he screamed, "you pay for drinks first...."

There was a look of contempt on the lean Australian's face: "You leave it to me: you hungry old!"

To be called that on Ramadan! Y'Allah my God!

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Suddenly the silence was broken by a shattering explosion. Mr. Mustapha nearly broke his neck, such a start he gave. The Ramadan gun! He looked at the clock on the shelf! Two O'clock: Curse it: the thing was always going wrong.

Mr. Mustapha dived under the counter and brought forth a napkin. Oh, food, oh heavenly delight, oh ecstasy. A sleepy muzezzin began to call from the minaret: maybe he should pray first....

The town seemed to break to life. The shrill cry of many hungry little voices arose as they cheered the end of the fast, the pitter patter of their feet on the dusty lane as they ran homewards, feastwards.

CENTRAL MOTOR CAR SERVICE (Cars, Moussa Marto Prop) TANGRED LANE JERUSALEM TAXI PHONE 3977 Daily Service to all Parts of Palestine, Syria & Transjordan

LAUGH with "LOWER"

Dishing It Out To Them!

One never knows when one is safe. Earlier in the week a lady alleged that when adding some lemon essence to some simmering milk the whole lot exploded.

The case was dismissed, but it has made me very wary of custards and such things.

Fifth column custard and incendiary ice-cream may yet appear. Precautions should be taken. Meals should be prepared under war conditions and allowed to stay on the dining table until the all-clear signal is given.

How easy it would be to mix in a few detonators in a nut-milk chocolate, for instance.

There are sturdy souls who would say: "We went to So-and-so's for dinner last night. Had a real good blow-out. There were only two casualties. Everybody gave a big sigh of relief after we'd got through the soup without anything happening, but I knew it couldn't last. Luckily, the fish exploded before it was served. Wrecked the kitchen, of course.

"WARE NUT SHELL!" "After that, everything went all right until we got around to the nuts.

"The first walnut to be cracked blew a hole in the roof, but I must say we had a perfect host.

"He had an ambulance waiting outside, and we finished our coffee in Ward B."

Gourmets are always clamoring for more interesting meals; what could be more interesting than that?

Two diggers had a car in Egypt and came sailing down the road when a copper pulled them up. "Ay, you can't go down there, one way traffic."

"Oh well, we'll go down here to the left." "You can't do that, no left hand turns."

"Well, we'll go down to the right."

"Can't do that, no right hand turns after six."

"Oh well, looks like we'll have to scuttle the 'b' thing."



1st Aussie:—What was the name of the hotel you stopped at in Tel-Aviv? 2nd Aussie:—O, I can't remember the name. Just a second and I'll look through my tozels.

Meat, salt and grapes.... Mr. Mustapha allowed a grape to nestle on the hollow of his tongue then rapturously he squashed it against the roof of his mouth. He could almost hear the pips go ping on the bottom of his cavernous stomach... He chuckled.

But what was this, the Muzezzin had stopped calling... A low hubbub came from the far end of the street. Mr. Mustapha peered out. There was a crowd gathering too.... What was this: all good people should be in the Mosque now....

..... Then his heart turned over: in the middle of that throng between two military policemen was the Australian. He was yelling, he was fighting. But what was he saying? Mr. Mustapha's face paled as he heard, even in the khamain.

"Where's my Goo' frined Musa....?" he was crying, "I did it for him.... Couldn't bear to see the old starve!"

A sickening fear clutched at Mr. Mustapha's heart. The beggar running before that mob, his eyes ogling, his crippled legs dangling, was screaming like the hysterical half woman that he was:

"The Australi, the Australi let the Ramadan gun off: he let it off. And it is too early by a long way! Imsha! Imsha! Shufte! Coosey! Coosey!"

These Australians: Y'Allah, my God, he had broken his fast.

.....

CENTRAL MOTOR CAR SERVICE (Cars, Moussa Marto Prop) TANGRED LANE JERUSALEM TAXI PHONE 3977 Daily Service to all Parts of Palestine, Syria & Transjordan

WORLD of SPORT

CRICKET OPENS

NEW SOUTH WALES

The New South Wales selectors chose two strong teams for the trial match at the Sydney Cricket Ground this week-end. Stan McCabe and Bill O'Reilly are the captains. Three fast bowlers — J.G. Lush, Barry Scott (former Victorian) and T. Brooks, who has shown good form this season — are included.

Only one century was scored in the opening day of the fourth round of the District competition on Saturday — Westcott scored 116 not out for Western Suburbs. McCabe's score for Mosman was 66 not out, and Barry Scott, now with Mosman, took five wickets for 61.

VICTORIA.

The second round of the V.C.A. district matches resulted:— Essendon d. Melbourne Hawthorn d. Carlton Northcote d. Richmond Footscray d. South Melbourne University d. Collingwood Fitzroy d. North Melbourne St. Kilda d. Elsternwick.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

In his first innings for the season in club cricket at Adelaide, Don Bradman (Kensington captain) scored a dashing double-century. He compiled his 212 runs in 195 minutes, and his total included two sixers and 28 boundaries.

NEW ZEALAND.

J. Cowie, N. Z. fast bowler, captured five wickets with six balls in the opening matches at Auckland.

MELBOURNE'S SPORTING LORD MAYOR.

Cr. Frank Beaurepaire's election as Lord Mayor of Melbourne in succession to Cr. A. W. Coles (now M. H. R. for Henty) will be acclaimed in sporting circles. He is a former Olympic and world champion swimmer and in his career won 34 Australian championships and more than 200 senior championships in all parts of the world. He also has the Gold Medal of the Royal Human Society for a shark rescue in New South Wales in 1922.

Cr. Beaurepaire is chairman of the Olympic Tyre and Rubber Company and has been a member of the City Council for 12 years. In addition to being president of the Herald "Learn to Swim" movement, an office he has held for some years, he is an executive officer of the Victorian Division of the A.C.F.

TROTTING INQUIRY.

Mr. J. R. Lee, M.L.A. (N.S.W.) said that the committee inquiring into trotting races is not likely to resume its sittings until the war is over.

Three members of the committee, including Mr. Lee, are engaged in militia duties at present.

LESS DOG RACING.

The Victorian Legislative Assembly passed a new Dog Racing Bill yesterday. Under this Bill, meetings will be reduced by more

than 25 per cent, and the greatest number of meetings allowable on any one course will be 70 per year. The decision applies to White City, Napier Park, Gracedale Park and Sandhurst. At present, Gracedale Park stages 104 meetings a year.

SCARFE'S GOOD BOUT.

The Australian heavyweight wrestling champion, Eddie Scarfe, was defeated by Chief Little Wolf at the Sydney Stadium on Monday night. Scarfe made a fine effort in the first six rounds but weakened over the last few rounds and took the onus of a

DEMPSEY JOLTS "WRASSLER"

Some months ago a big fat wrestler tore Jack Dempsey's expensive silk shirt and Mr. D. knocked him down. Jack was refereeing a bout in which the roly-poly was a principal.

The "wrassler", a bloke named Luttrell, challenged the old "Manassa Mauler", to a regular ring contest. Jack has shaken hands with his popular New York cafe that he has become a complete isolationist so far as fistie warfare is concerned.

But a "wrassler's" challenge, of all things, could not be ignored. So the old war-horse stripped and went into action.

The other night at Atlanta, Georgia, he knocked Luttrell, a 16-stone Texas Cowboy (pity the poor cowpony) for a row of ringside seats in two rounds. Cowpoke Clarence (the big 'un's inappropriate Christian name) never put a glove on the old 'un. After the fight, which was in aid of the Red Cross — Dempsey said:

"I have no intention of making a comeback, I'm too old at 45. But at that I might tackle a few wrestlers or third-rate boxers just for charity."

fine defeat. The Australian was applauded at the end of every round. Chief Little Wolf was always too strong for him.

HEAD-OF-THE-RIVER

Headmasters of the Victorian Public Schools have decided to make no change in the Head-of-the-River course next year. It had been suggested that the race should be rowed on the Lower Yarra, but it will be rowed on the Upper Yarra as in the past.

A proposal to stage the 1941 event on Lake Wendouree, Ballarat, was rejected also.

QUESTION OF RULES.

"There is no question that the sooner the League adopts Association rules, the better for the Australian game," wrote H. A. de Lacy, the "Sporting Globe's" football writer in his comments on the V.F.A. final in which Port Melbourne (ultimate premiers) defeated Prahran, 33.22 (160 pts.) to 17.11 (113 pts.).

The game itself was a delightful exhibition of the Australian code — fast, clever and without a stop — and the crowd thoroughly appreciated the brand of football served up to them.

SPEED BOAT RECORDS.

In Sydney yesterday two more Australian speed boat records were established. A 14-ft. Hydroplane reached an average of 57 miles an hour, nearly 10 miles an hour better than that held by a South Australian boat. It had a 225 cubic inch draught. The other record was a Spitfire which

The Southern Cross in Heaven

There's a Southern Cross in Heaven. And it's riding in the skies Where we left our wives and sweethearts: Where we said our last "Good-byes." And they hid their tears and heartaches As they sent us with a smile, And they whispered "Till we meet again, Please God, a little while."

There's a Southern Cross in Heaven; No chance formation this, For every British soldier yet Has had his cross to kiss. Because it lies beyond our reach, The faith that it imparts Is carried, not around our necks, But deep within our hearts.

There's a Southern Cross in Heaven, And it sinks towards our wake, As o'er the sea our Westward and Our Northward course we take. Australians all, abroad or home, Be this our battle cry: That o'er one star be dimmed by shame, Then will we gladly die.

And the Southern Cross in Heaven Will shine in memory Of those who will but see its light Through Death's eternity, And those of us who God doth spare Will sail where, o'er the foam, The Southern Cross in Heaven Points to Home, Sweet Home.

E. V. Haywood, 1/5/40.

THE "A. I. F. NEWS"

IS YOUR WEEKLY— THE PALESTINE POST MUST BE your DAILY



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Gilltown's Second Moonee Valley Cup

Wins from Apostrophe And Katanga

FAVOURITE, GLADYNEV, FALLS

By Keith McClure

Displaying marked improvement on his recent form, Gilltown scored an all-the-way win in the Moonee Valley Gold Cup on Saturday last, beating the Adelaide Cup winner, Apostrophe, by a length and a half with Katanga third. It was Gilltown's second successive win in the Moonee Valley Cup. His victory last year was achieved in similar fashion. Gilltown, who was ridden in brilliant style by the crack Sydney jockey, W. Cook, equalled the record of Little Bob and Gladwyn both of whom won the Valley Cup twice in succession. Gilltown started at 20/1.

There was a sensational incident in the race when Gladynev, which had been backed to favouritism on the strength of his good second to Beauivre in the Caulfield Cup the previous week, fell three furlongs from home. At the time Gladynev was in a forward position and appeared likely to take a hand in the finish.

CUP WINNING HABIT

Gilltown has made a habit of winning Gold Cups for his sporting owner, Mr. Ossie Triggs. He won the City Tattersall's Gold Cup at Randwick early last year and was later taken to Melbourne where he won the Werribee Gold Cup and Moonee Valley Gold Cup in the space of three days. His form this year had not been very encouraging although he finished second to Beauivre in the Doomben Cup in July. H. Hughes, the Sydney jockey, was associated with Gilltown in all his Cup successes last year. W. Cook, who had the winning mount on Saturday, was the leading jockey in Sydney last season.

Early in his career, Gilltown, a six-year-old by Excitement from Chorus, was raced by Mrs. P. H. Osborne, but his form was of little account. It was not until he won the Alfred Hill Handicap

at Randwick in 1938 that he came into prominence. He was then raced in partnership by Mr. Triggs and M. L. J. Sullivan. Gilltown was later taken over solely by his present owner and tried as a stay-er he won the Moorefield Handicap of ten furlongs. Several months later he won the City Tatt's Cup, over eleven furlongs, and 12 months ago won the Werribee and Valley Cups. Gilltown failed in the Melbourne Cup last year. He is engaged in the big race next Tuesday with 7.12.

Apostrophe, which won the Adelaide Cup earlier this year, is a five-year-old by Parenthesis, and he has proved himself a solid stayer. He is engaged in the Melbourne Cup with 7.11.

Katanga, a four-year-old, is also a good stayer. He is by The Buzzard and has 8.7 in the Cup.

"Troupers" Raise Standard

MERITORIOUS PERFORMANCE

"A greatly enhanced show" was the unanimous verdict of the audience that overflowed the Garrison Theatre at Gaza Ridge on Tuesday evening, and again at Beit Jirja on Thursday evening, when "The Troupers" presented a highly meritorious programme with pep and verve.

From the opening number, charmingly announced by the popular Blondie, to the closing ensemble, a riot of clever nonsense, the Troupers' very original version of "Snow White", there was not a dull moment. Each individual artist won wholehearted admiration and applause by sheer merit. Demands for encores were insistent and frequent, and everyone left the theatre in a happy mood.

Mitzi Bera was in the top of form, and was especially acceptable in the Symphony of Flowers (with the support of the Six Sweethearts — regrettably reduced to five on this occasion owing to indisposition of one member). Mitzi again scored heavily in the popular number, "My Heart Belongs to Daddy". The novelty dances of the agile and artistic Monna afforded great pleasure. They included a striking modern tango, and an extremely clever dance-cum-piano with ultra-novel effects by the highly efficient Golden Seven Revue Band.

Mia Pick gave to distinguished dance — one with a skating theme, and the other a writhing Indian dance. Walter Jenner, popular tenor, gave a dramatic rendition of "Land of Smiles", and as contrasting encore, an artistic interpretation of "Believe me if all those endearing young charms". Subsequently he brought the house down in his role of Snow White.

Another well-deserved success was achieved by Mitzi Bera and

A.R.P. Organisation

(Wireless News)

"New South Wales does not intend to build air raid shelters in Sydney at present," said Mr. Bruxner, Minister in Charge of National Emergency Services, last week-end.

Mr. Bruxner added that the civilian population was fully prepared for any possible air attacks, while many thousand people had been trained in various phases of air raid precautions work and every Council had a staff of fully-trained men.

However, the New South Wales Government is trying to induce the Federal Government to make greater developments in air raid precautions in Australia and is planning a scheme for emergency services to cope with any situation.

In Melbourne the Air Raid Precautions Committee has expressed satisfaction with the city's preparations against attack from the air. An official stated that a very efficient organisation had been developed with the services of highly-trained men. More volunteers would be trained in A.R.P. work, and the Federal Government had agreed to provide more equipment.

Walter Jenner in a "Merry Widow" scene.

The instrumental numbers were characterised by a high degree of technical perfection, and excellent presentation. They included "Saxophobia" in which Mr. Carten established an undoubted place for the saxophone as a "musical instrument" and two equally clever clarinet soli. A trombone solo by Jack Schefer, and a cello solo by Henry Bowden also won well-merited applause.

If this standard of show is maintained, this clever company will never need to complain of lack of support from the A.I.F.

MOONEE VALLEY RESULTS

Bookmakers had a royal day at Moonee Valley on Saturday last when only one favourite — Beau Vite — was successful.

Gitano (12/1), Gilltown (20/1), Ortel (33/1) and The Decoration (20/1) were excellent results for the ring.

RESULTS:—

St. Albans Handicap (five furlongs), first division:— Bitano 1; King of the Mist 2; Status 3. Winners' price, 12/1.

Second division. Pierre 1; Marcopere 2; Basalt 3. 5/1.

Broadmeadows Steeplechase (about two miles):— Dornford 1; Highland March 2; Tornarsuk 3. 5/1.

W. S. Cox Plate (nine and a half furlongs):— Beau Vite 1; Ajax 2; Beauivre 3. 7/4.

Moonee Valley Gold Cup (one mile, five furlongs):— Gilltown 1; Apostrophe 2; Katanga 3. 20/1.

Dundonald Handicap (six furlongs):— Ortel 1; Pure Gold 2; Dreamsome 3. 33/1.

Phoenix Handicap (one mile):— The Decoration 1; Waxwings 2; Mohican 3. 20/1.

Randwick Results

Trial Mile:— Teddy Rion 1; Mainray 2; Australasia 3. 10/1.

Juvenile Handicap (five furlongs):— It's Funny 1; Milanja 2; Dick Whittington 3. 3/1.

Macquarie Grove Handicap:— Willie Green 1; Bestop 2; Metallic 3. 7/1.

Varroville Handicap (six furlongs):— Jaz Beau 1; Forward 2; Benburb 3. 10/1.

Homebush Handicap (one mile and a quarter):— Yours Truly 1; Bel Oiseau 2; Fearless 3. 8/1.

Welter Handicap (seven furlongs):— Amazu 1; Novice 2; June 3. 14/1.

Beau Vite Continues Winning Run

DOWN AJAX IN COX PLATE

Continuing his brilliant sequence of wins, the New Zealand champion, Beau Vite, further consolidated his position as favourite for the Melbourne Cup, by scoring a narrow win from Ajax and Beauivre, the Caulfield Cup winner, in the W.S. Cox Plate at Moonee Valley on Saturday last.

A feature of the race was that Beau Vite started favourite at 7/4 against with Ajax at slightly longer odds. It was the first time that Beau Vite and Beauivre had opposed Ajax this season. Rivette was an acceptor for the race but it is not known whether she ran or not.

Earlier in the week Beau Vite galloped a mile in 1.40 on the track and it was on the strength of this gallop that he was so confidently backed against the Victorian champion.

The Cox Plate, which is run over nine and a half furlongs, provided a thrilling finish, Beau Vite getting the upper hand of Ajax in the last few yards to win by half a neck, with Beauivre, which did not have the best of runs, only a head away third.

NO FLIES ON UNCLE

If you want to tell a few tall stories to R.S.M. Freddie Ulbrick, don't tell him any about football for Freddie is an old footballer himself and played League both in Victoria and Tassie.

One day last week Cpl. Cos. Stacey and Ptes. "Gunner" Harris and Pat Seaman asked the R.S.M. for a leave pass to watch a football match.

It was just too bad that the R.S.M. "smelt a rat," and having a feeling that the match would be held at Spinney's "wet" cafe, took a stroll around during the afternoon and discovered the culprits "hard at play."

JAMES SCOBIE — THE JOCKEY

The late James Scobie, who won almost every event of importance in Australia as a trainer, was a successful jumping jockey in his early days.

He scored his first success as a jockey in Melbourne on March 2, 1880, when he rode Zephyr to victory in the hurdle race on the opening day of the Australian Cup meeting. Some weeks later Scobie rode Zephyr to victory in a hurdle race at Randwick.

Scobie achieved one of his ambitions when he won the Grand National Hurdle Race for Sir Thomas Fitzgerald on Rhesus. On that occasion Rhesus defeated Lothair, which was trained by Bob Howie, who had been instrumental in bringing Scobie to Melbourne. The win of Rhesus was a personal triumph for Scobie. For weeks he had schooled Lothair and expected to ride him in the big race. A few days before the event Howie informed him that Mascall, a more experienced jockey, would be riding Lothair. Scobie was bitterly disappointed but he derived great satisfaction in beating Howie's candidate. That was Scobie's only success in the G.N. Hurdle Race. The story of Scobie's Grand National Steeplechase win on Ruby was published recently.

Scobie won the Australian Steeplechase twice. His first success was on Euchre. Blue Mountain, which he originally owned and sold to the late Mr. Norman Wilson, who was then Master of the Ballarat Hounds, gave him his second success. Blue Mountain gave Scobie a thrilling ride as he balked at once fence and lost considerable ground. Scobie persevered however and eventually won the race. In later years Scobie trained for Mr. Wilson and

THE THREE MUSKETEERS

BEAU VITE — BEAULIVRE — HIGH CASTE

The New Zealand champions, Beau Vite, Beauivre and High Caste (now owned in Sydney) are proving invincible this season. They have won every event of importance so far decided.

Beau Vite, which has been specially set for the Melbourne Cup, won his fifth successive race this season by downing Ajax in the W. S. Cox Plate at Moonee Valley last Saturday. So far this season he has won the Hill Stakes, Colin Stephen Stakes, A.J.C. Metropolitan, Craven Plate and W.S. Cox Plate.

Beauivre has won his share of good races. He has accounted for the Doomben Cup, Warwick Farm Stakes, Canterbury Stakes, Chelmsford Stakes and the Caulfield Cup.

High Caste has not been idle. After placings in the Hill, Canterbury and Chelmsford Stakes he won the Clarendon Handicap and A.J.C. Epsom Handicap and then went to Melbourne and scored his second successive win over Ajax in the Caulfield Stakes.

All three are engaged in the Melbourne Cup next week. Beauivre has 9.8 (including a 7lb. penalty for winning the Caulfield Cup), Beau Vite 9.1 and High Caste 8.11.

Deckard Fatally Injured

The well-known steeplechaser, Deckard fell in a race at Flemington recently and was so badly injured that he had to be destroyed. Deckard, which was raced by Mr. "S. A. Rawdon" won many good steeplechases. He was a recruit from the hunting field and won many hunt steeplechases with huge weights before competing in open company.

won many races for him including the Australian Cup with Ringwood.

(James Scobie — The Trainer, next week).

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SHIP'S ROUTINE ORDER

by
LIEUT.-COLONEL A. H. L. GODFREY, M. C., E. D.
AT SEA

1. DUTIES. 17/18 May, 1940

Officer of the Guard (1600 - 0200) --- Lieut. H. McB. STEWART.
Sergeant of the Guard (1600 - 0200) --- Sgt. G. T. L. RICHARDS.

2. DIS-EMBARKATION. Disembarkation will take place at KANTARA at 0200 Hrs, 18 May 40. All personnel, less sick, nurses and rear parties will disembark at KANTARA.

DRESS. Officers: - Battle dress, special web equipment, haversack, waterbottle, respirator, revolver, steel helmet. Officers' baggage (one suitcase and valise only) will be stacked on the after well deck by 2000 hours 17 May 1940 as follows:-

2/6 Bn. Starboard side
Other units Port side

Other Ranks: - Battle dress, rifle, web equipment, ammunition, steel helmet, respirator, haversack, water bottle, universal and sea kit bags. One blanket per man will be placed in universal kit bags, and great-coats will be carried. Mess tins must be accessible.

NOMINAL ROLLS: Disembarkation nominal rolls will be drawn by Units from Ship's Orderly Room at 1400 hours and carefully checked. Rolls must be returned to Ship's Orderly Room by 1800 hours together with a return in duplicate showing numbers of Officers, V.O.s and Other Ranks disembarking at KANTARA. Separate nominal rolls will be prepared by Units for sick personnel disembarking at Port Said and rear parties.

BAGGAGE PARTIES: 2/6 Bn. and 2/1st C.C.S. will each detail a Baggage Party comprising 1 Officer and 25 O.R.'s. Officers in charge of baggage parties will report to Ship's Adjutant at 1200 hours today for detailed instructions.

REAR PARTIES: Each Unit will detail a Rear Party to consist of one officer and 4 H.C.C.'s. This party will disembark at Port Said.

PROCEDURE. Units will be fallen in, ready to disembark, at 0145 hrs on decks as follows:-

2/6 BN (under unit arrangement) Promenade Deck
2/8 Bn and 17th Bde --- Foreward Well deck
O'seas Base --- No. 3 Main troop deck.
6 Div Provost --- No. 2 Main troop deck
2/1 C.C.S. --- Families smoke room.

2/6 Bn will comprise first train and remaining Units second train. Personnel for first train will be marched to platform where Universal Kit Bags will be loaded into luggage vans. Sea Kit Bags will then be placed in carriages as allotted. Sub-units will then form up and march to refreshment area where meal will be served and train ration issued. All ranks must pay careful attention to number of carriage and compartment in which sea kit bag is placed to prevent confusion on return to the train. Unit commanders will ensure that each man is in possession of mess tin, knife, fork and spoon when marched to refreshment area. Personnel for second train will not move on to platform but will form up in area as shown by guides until first train departs when a similar procedure to that of the first train will be followed.

Q. A. TILLEY, Lieut.
Ship's Adjutant EMT Y2.

Capt Brock has streptococcal
infection of throat and is
unfit for duty. He has
been ordered by M.O. to
proceed to Port Said and
Khosaka Hospital, where
he will probably remain
for about a week.

H.Q. 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.,
KINGI MARYUT,
2 Nov. 40.

NEWS SUMMARY

No 3.

1200 hrs 1 Nov - 0400 hrs 2 Nov 40.

GREEK NAVAL ACTION LASTED ONE HOUR OFF THE GREEK COAST. AN ITALIAN BOMBER SEAPLANE WAS SHOT DOWN.

BRITISH PLANES MADE A RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHT OVER GREECE ON THURSDAY, WHEN AN ITALIAN PLANE WAS SHOT DOWN.

THE FURTHEST ADVANCED POSTS OF THE ITALIANS IS SITUATED 20 MILES INSIDE THE GREEK BORDER.

ITALIANS ARE CARRYING OUT ROAD REPAIRS AND REPAIRING CROSSINGS AS THEY MOVE FORWARD. WEATHER IS HEAVY AND THE ENEMY IS MEETING WITH CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTY.

ITALIAN CLAIMS TODAY ARE COMPARATIVELY MODEST COMPARED TO YESTERDAY'S CLAIMS IN WHICH THEY GAVE DETAILS OF AN ADVANCE 30 MILES INTO GREEK TERRITORY.

NAPLES. - NAPLES WAS BOMBED BY R.A.F., OIL TANKS BEING SET ALIGHT. ALL PLANES RETURNED SAFELY.

ATHENS. - ATHENS WAS RAIDED YESTERDAY (Friday). THE ONLY CASUALTIES WERE A NUMBER OF FISH WHICH FISHERMEN COLLECTED AFTER THE RAID. DAMAGE WAS NEGLIGIBLE.

25 ITALIAN BOMBERS ATTACKED THE PORT OF PATRAS AND VERY MINOR DAMAGE WAS CAUSED.

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BOMBS WERE DROPPED IN S.E. ENGLAND, PORTSMOUTH, LONDON, LINCOLNSHIRE, MIDLANDS and E. SCOTLAND.

THE DAMAGE WAS SMALL AND CASUALTIES ALSO SMALL.

THE NUMBER OF BOMBERS SHOT DOWN OVER ENGLAND IN OCT WAS 26 AS COMPARED WITH 39 IN SEP.

BRITISH SHIPS WERE SHELLED IN THE STRAITS OF DOVER YESTERDAY. OVER 100 SHELLS WERE FORED, THE ACTION LASTING $1\frac{1}{2}$ HRS. NO SHIPS WERE HIT.

HUDSON BOMBERS SCORED A DIRECT HIT ON AN ENEMY SUPPLY SHIP OFF THE S.E. COAST OF NORWAY. ONE PLANE IS MISSING.

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K. J. Schofield
.....Lieut.
B.I.C., 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.

3 NOVEMBER 1940.

NEWS SUMMARY NO 4

1200 hrs 2 Nov - 0400 hrs 3 Nov 40

1. BRITISH BOMBERS RAIDED BERLIN IN TWO WAVES YESTERDAY. THE ATTACKS WERE THE HEAVIEST DELIVERED ON THE GERMAN CAPITAL SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE WAR.
GREAT CONGESTION WAS CAUSED IN THE CITY, OWING TO THE DISLOCATION OF TRANSPORT, AND GREAT FIRES IN THE CITY. THE LARGE RAILWAY SIDINGS ADJOINING BERLIN WERE SET ON FIRE TOGETHER WITH SYNTHETIC OIL PLANTS AT GELSENERKIRCHEN. KRUPP'S WORKS AT ESSEN AND AIRPORTS IN GERMANY AND OCCUPIED TERRITORY WERE ALSO HEAVILY BOMBED.
EXPERIENCED PILOTS DESCRIBED THE RESULTING FIRES AS THE LARGEST SINCE RAIDS BEGAN.
2 AIRCRAFT ARE MISSING.
2. IN RAIDS OVER ENGLAND 9 ENEMY PLANES WERE SHOT DOWN.
LONDON WAS RAIDED EARLY ON THE MORNING OF Nov 2., BUT THERE WAS ONLY MINOR DAMAGE AND NO CASUALTIES. BOMBS WERE DROPPED IN KENSINGTON SQUARE AND THE ROYAL HOSPITAL CHELSEA - TWO WARDS OF THE HOSPITAL HAVE BEEN DAMAGED, ALTHOUGH NOT SERIOUSLY. IN ALL 18 BOMBS HAVE BEEN DROPPED IN THE HOSPITAL GROUNDS.
2 MESSERSCHMITTS 109, DROPPED 3 BOMBS ON A CONVOY IN THE THAMES ESTUARY, ALL OF WHICH MISSED AND THE PLANES WERE DRIVEN OFF.
2 PLANES WERE SHOT DOWN BY A/A FIRE AND FIGHTER PLANES IN THE THAMES ESTUARY YESTERDAY. THE 'ROYAL EAGLE', A FORMER PLEASURE FERRY BEING RESPONSIBLE FOR ONE.
SINCE THE BEGINNING OF LARGE SCALE AIR RAIDS OVER ENGLAND ON AUGUST 9, GERMANY HAS LOST 2442 PLANES. THE RATE OF LOSS IN PLANES HAS BEEN 3 TO 1, WHILST RATE OF LOSS FOR AIRMEN HAS BEEN 14 TO 1.
SINCE LAST MONTH NO JUNKERS DIVE-BOMBERS HAVE BEEN USED IN DAYLIGHT OWING TO THE TREMENDOUS LOSSES INFLICTED.
THE GERMANS TRIED VARIOUS METHODS OF PROTECTION, FINALLY USING A 4 - 1 FIGHTER PROTECTION. THIS WAS A FAILURE SO THE JUNKERS WERE TAKEN OUT OF SERVICE.
3. THE S. AFRICAN AIRFORCE IN NAIROBI SHOT DOWN TWO ITALIAN PLANES AND DAMAGED A THIRD; WHICH IS BELIEVED TO HAVE CRASHED.
THERE IS NO OTHER NEWS OF AIR ACTIVITY FROM THE SOUTH AFRICAN AIR FORCE.
GENERAL SMUTS WAS ENTHUSIASTICALLY WELCOMED IN NAIROBI WHILST ON HIS RECRUITING CAMPAIGN. NATIVES ARE BEING TRAINED IN LARGE NUMBERS AND SHOULD PROVIDE A FEARLESS FIGHTING FORCE.
4. CAIRO, SATURDAY. - QUIET ON ALL FRONTS.
5. PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT AND MR VENDELL WILKIE ARE WINDING-UP THEIR BARGAINING CAMPAIGNS.
MR ROOSEVELT ADDRESSED THE WORKERS IN A PLANE FACTORY, URGING THEM TO INCREASE PRODUCTION FOR THE R.A.F. HE CONCLUDED WITH "GOD BLESS YOU - WORK ON".
6. AS YET THERE HAS BEEN NO MAJOR BATTLE IN GREECE. THE ADVANCE BY THE ITALIANS ALONG THE COAST IS VERY SLOW, HEAVY WEATHER IS INTERFERING WITH OPERATIONS AND GREEK RESISTANCE IS BECOMING STRONGER AS REINFORCEMENTS ARRIVE TO CARRY ON THE STRUGGLE.
RE THE OTHER FRONTS, THE ITALIANS HAVE BEEN PUSHED BACK OVER THE GREEK-ALBANIAN BORDER AND THE GREEKS HAVE ADVANCED 2½ MILES INTO ENEMY TERRITORY. THE MAIN FIGHTING HERE IS BEING DONE BY THE 'KILIED REGIMENTS', CRACK GREEK TROOPS.
ENEMY POSITIONS HAVE BEEN CAPTURED AT THE POINT OF THE BAYONET. PRISONERS INCLUDED 9 OFFICERS AND 53 MEN TOGETHER WITH LARGE NUMBERS OF HORSES.
THE ITALIANS ARE USING ARE USING LARGE NUMBERS OF LIGHT TANKS ON THE COAST BUT ARE NOT MEETING WITH ANY GREAT SUCCESS.
SALONIKA, PATRES, ATHENS AND CRETE WERE RAIDED YESTERDAY BUT ONLY MINOR DAMAGE RESULTED.
FIGHTERS AND A/A DEFENSES DROVE RAIDERS OFF FROM CORINTH.
PRESIDENT INOENU IN A SPEECH AT ANKARA REFERRED TO 'THE UNBREAKABLE BONDS OF ALLIANCE BETWEEN TURKEY AND BRITAIN'. THIS IS THE FIRST EMPHATIC DECLARATION EMANATING FROM TURKEY SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE WAR. HE ALSO ANNOUNCED NEW STEPS WOULD BE TAKEN TO INCREASE THE MILITARY PREPAREDNESS OF THE COUNTRY.
7. THERE APPEARS TO BE NO QUESTION OF THE FRENCH FLEET PASSING INTO AXIS HANDS AT PRESENT. MARSHAL BENEDETO PETAIN WILL NOT ALLOW THIS ALTHOUGH M. LAVAL AND WEALTHY INDUSTRIALISTS FAVOUR THE MOVEMENT, IN THE BELIEF THAT THEY WILL DO BETTER FOR THEMSELVES.

8. GERMAN TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS ARE SHOWING SERIOUS FAULTS. THERE IS A SHORTAGE OF RAIL WAGONS IN GERMAN AND OCCUPIED TERRITORY AND LARGE AMOUNTS OF GOODS CANNOT BE CARRIED.

BREAKDOWNS ARE FREQUENT AND CONSEQUENTLY LEADS TO MAKE-SHIFT TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS.

9. BRITAIN'S NEW SLOGAN IS 'HOLD ON AND PUSH ON'. WINTER APPROACHING SHOWS THE FINGER-POST TO DEFEAT FOR GERMANY.

10. THE ITALIAN DECLARATION OF WAR ON GREECE HAS PROVIDED THE BRITISH NAVY IN THE MEDITERRANEAN WITH GREAT OPPORTUNITIES OF WHICH THEY ARE ALREADY AVAILING THEMSELVES, IT WAS STATED IN WELL-INFORMED NAVAL CIRCLES IN LONDON.

NOTHING CAN BE SAID AT PRESENT THAT WOULD COMPROMISE OPERATIONS ALREADY IN PROGRESS BUT OBVIOUSLY IF, FOR EXAMPLE, WE WISH TO MAINTAIN COMMUNICATIONS TO THE AEGEAN, CRETE IS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE. THE MANY ISLANDS OF THE AEGEAN ALSO OFFER POSITIONS FROM WHICH WE COULD FUEL LIGHT CRAFT, AND THE IONIAN ISLANDS SIMILARLY HAVE VALUABLE STRATEGIC POSSIBILITIES.

TIME, IT WAS STATED, IS ON OUR SIDE, AND IT WILL BE TAKEN BY THE FORELOCK, BUT IN THE MEANWHILE THE NAVY IS DOING EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO HARASS THE ITALIAN LEFT FLANK IN LIBYA.

IN VIEW OF THE RISE OF AIR ATTACK IN THE MEDITERRANEAN, SUPPLY SHIPS FOR THE FLEET IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN NORMALLY USE THE CAPE ROUTE, TAKING THE AVERAGE TIME OF NINE WEEKS FOR THE VOYAGE. THIS NECESSITATES CONTROL OF THE RED SEA, WHICH IS BEING AND WILL BE MAINTAINED.

V. J. Schfield
.....Lieut.
R. I. C., 17 AUST. INF. BDE.

H.Q. 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.,
DEINGI MARYUT,
2 Nov. 40.

NEWS SUMMARY

No 3.

1200 hrs 1 Nov - 0400 hrs 2 Nov 40.

GREEK NAVAL ACTION LASTED ONE HOUR OFF THE GREEK COAST. AN ITALIAN BOMBER SEAPLANE WAS SHOT DOWN.

BRITISH PLANES MADE A RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHT OVER HERZEG ON THURSDAY, MET AN ITALIAN PLANE AND SHOT IT DOWN.

THE FURTHEST ADVANCED POSTS OF THE ITALIANS IS SITUATED 10 MILES INSIDE THE GREEK BORDER.

ITALIANS ARE CARRYING OUT ROAD REPAIRS AND REPAIRING CROSSINGS AS THEY MOVE FORWARD. WEATHER IS HEAVY AND THE ENEMY IS MEETING WITH CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTY.

ITALIAN CLAIMS TODAY ARE COMPARATIVELY MODEST COMPARED TO YESTERDAYS CLAIMS IN WHICH THEY GAVE DETAILS OF AN ADVANCE 30 MILES INTO GREEK TERRITORY.

NAPLES. - NAPLES WAS BOMBED BY R.A.F., OIL TANKS BEING SET ALIGHT. ALL PLANES RETURNED SAFELY.

ATHENS. - ATHENS WAS RAIDED YESTERDAY (Friday). THE ONLY CASUALTIES WERE A NUMBER OF FISH WHICH FISHERMEN COLLECTED AFTER THE RAID. DAMAGE WAS NEGLIGIBLE.

25 ITALIAN BOMBERS ATTACKED THE PORT OF PATRAS AND VERY MINOR DAMAGE WAS CAUSED.

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BOMBS WERE DROPPED IN S.E. ENGLAND, PORTSMOUTH, LONDON, LINCOLNSHIRE, MIDLANDS and E. SCOTLAND.

THE DAMAGE WAS SMALL AND CASUALTIES ALSO SMALL.

THE NUMBER OF BOMBERS SHOT DOWN OVER ENGLAND IN OCT WAS 26 AS COMPARED WITH 20 IN SEP.

BRITISH SHIPS WERE SHELLED IN THE STRAITS OF DOWR YESTERDAY. OVER 100 SHELLS WERE FOKED, THE ACTION LASTING 1½ HRS. NO SHIPS WERE HIT.

HUDSON BOMBERS SCORED A DIRECT HIT ON AN ENEMY SUPPLY SHIP OFF THE S.E. COAST OF NORWAY. ONE PLANE IS MISSING.

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V. J. Schofield
.....Lieut.
B.I.O., 12 Asst. Inf. Bde.

H.Q. 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.,
IKINGI MARYUT,
4 Nov 40.

NEWS SUMMARY No. 5.

0400 hrs 3 Nov 40 - 2300 hrs 3 Nov

LONDON. Mr ALEXANDER, FIRST LORD OF THE ADMIRALTY, ANNOUNCED THE LANDING OF BRITISH TROOPS IN GREECE. THE SIZE OF THE FORCE IS NOT YET DISCLOSED. A BRITISH GENERAL HAS ALSO ARRIVED IN ATHENS, HAVING LEFT EGYPT TO TAKE CHARGE.

FIGHTING IN GREECE AND ALBANIA CONSISTS CHIEFLY OF HEAVY ARTILLERY DUELS IN WHICH THE GREEKS ARE HOLDING THEIR OWN. ON THE MACEDONIAN FRONTIER THE GREEKS ARE HOLDING THEIR POSITIONS $3\frac{1}{2}$ MILES IN ALBANIAN TERRITORY. ON THE COASTLAND NORTH-WESTERN FRONTS, THE ITALIANS HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFULLY HELD BY STRONG GREEK FORCES. GREEK AIRCRAFT SUCCESSFULLY RAIDED ENEMY AERODROMES IN ALBANIA. CONCENTRATIONS OF TROOPS AND TRANSPORT WERE ALSO ATTACKED. 2 PLANES FAILED TO RETURN TO THEIR BASE.

SALONIKA, PATRAS, CORINTH, ATHENS WERE AGAIN BOMBED AND SUBJECTED TO RAIDS ON THE CIVILIAN POPULATION; SOME WERE KILLED BUT THE MATERIAL DAMAGE WAS NOT LARGE.

ITALIANS ARE USING GREEK NATIONAL MARKINGS ON THEIR PLANES. ONE BOMBER-SEAPLANE WHICH WAS FORCED DOWN WAS CARRYING GREEK IDENTIFICATION. THE CREW WAS TAKEN PRISONER.

GENERAL de GUALLE EXPRESSED HIS ADMIRATION FOR GREEK RESISTANCE TODAY AND EXHORTED THEM TO HOLD ON UNTIL THE FINAL VICTORY.

THE SWISS HAVE OFFERED TO TAKE CARE OF GREEK INTERESTS IN ROME DURING THE WAR.

FUNDS FOR THE RELIEF OF DISTRESS IN THE BOMBED AREAS ARE SPRINGING UP ALL OVER THE WORLD + A STRIKING TRIBUTE OF THE FRIENDSHIP DISPLAYED TO GREECE.

THE FORMER ALBANIAN MINISTER TO GREECE HAS PLACED HIS SERVICES AT THE DISPOSAL OF THE GREEK GOVERNMENT. HE DECLARED THAT ALBANIA WAS AWAITING THE MOMENT WHEN THE YOKE OF ITALIAN OPPRESSION COULD BE THROWN ASIDE AND THE COUNTRY PUT ON ITS FORMER BASIS.

HAILE SELASSIE IS NOW IN THE SUDAN, WITH THE OBJECT OF ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ INCITING ABYSSINIAN CHIEFS TO REVOLT AGAINST ITALIAN RULE.

GENERAL SMUTS AND Mr ANTHONY EDEN MET YESTERDAY (SATURDAY) IN KHARTOUM AND DISCUSSED THE GENERAL SITUATION.

THE DUCHESS OF KENT ATTENDED A GREEK SERVICE IN LONDON TODAY (SUNDAY).

ITALY IN AN OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE TODAY ADMITTED THE LOSS OF TWO SUBMARINES. THIS HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN ANNOUNCED BY THE BRITISH ADMIRALTY.

CAIRO. THERE IS VERY SMALL ACTIVITY THROUGHOUT THE MIDDLE EAST. KASSALA - MECHANISED PATROLS ARE ACTIVE. EGYPT AND PALESTINE - NO NEWS.

LONDON. MORE FREE FRENCH WARSHIPS HAVE NOW ENTERED THE SERVICE OF THE BRITISH NAVY AND BEGAN OPERATIONS YESTERDAY. THESE SHIPS HAV BEEN REFITTED, CLEANED, AND IN SOME CASES BUILDING HAS BEEN COMPLETED. THEY ARE MANNED BY FRENCH NAVAL MEN.

UNFAVOURABLE CONDITIONS IN WESTERN EUROPE LED TO THE CANCELLATION OF BRITISH RAIDS ON GERMANY LAST NIGHT (SATURDAY-SUNDAY) GERMAN RAIDS ON ENGLAND WERE ALSO ON A SMALL SCALE. TWO ENEMY PLANES WERE DESTROYED WHILE ONE OF OUR FIGHTERS IS MISSING. NINE WERE DESTROYED IN DAYLIGHT RAIDS. TWO DIVE BOMBERS CAME DOWN TO FIVE HUNDRED FEET OVER THE LONDON AREA YESTERDAY, SOME SHOPS BEING DESTROYED BUT LITTLE OTHER DAMAGE WAS CAUSED. THEY WERE ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ EVENTUALLY DRIVEN OFF BY A/A FIRE.

IT WAS ANNOUNCED IN LONDON THAT THE FIRST AND SECOND FLOORS OF LARGE BUILDINGS ARE AS GOOD AS BASEMENTS DURING AN AIR-RAID, PROVIDED THERE ARE FOUR OR MORE STORIES ABOVE. MORE DEEP AIR-RAID SHELTERS ARE BEING CONSTRUCTED THROUGHOUT THE LONDON AREA.

NORWAY IS BECOMING RESTIVE UNDER GERMAN ~~IN~~ DOMINATION. ~~XXXXXXXX~~ TRONDHEIM REFUSES TO RECOGNISE THE QUISLING GOVERNMENT.

SHORTAGES ARE SPREADING THROUGH EUROPE IN AN ALARMING MANNER. DENMARK HAS NO BUTTER, INSTEAD CREAM HAS TO GO TO FACTORIES FROM WHERE THE BUTTER IS SENT TO GERMANY. 1 lb OF MARGARINE IS ALLOWED PER MONTH. CONSIDERABLE RATIONING HAS TAKEN PLACE IN FRANCE - ONE SUCH ITEM BEING SUGAR - 1 lb BEING ALLOWED PER MONTH. SOAP IS ALMOST UNOBTAINABLE. IN SWEDEN 1 lb CHEESE IS BEING ALLOWED BETWEEN NOW AND XMAS.

Mr ROOSEVELT SAID HIS ONLY REASON FOR CAMPAIGNING FOR ANOTHER TERM WAS BECAUSE A STORM HAD TO BE WELTERED AND HE INTENDED TO STAND BY UNTIL THE JOB WAS DONE. AFTER THAT THERE WOULD BE A NEW PRESIDENT.

RACING RESULTS :- PER FAVOUR AUSTRALIAN COMFORTS FUND.

CHULFIELD CUP. 1. BEAU LIVRE.
2. GLADIYEV.
3. HISTORIAN.

BEAU LIVRE 10/1. WON BY HALF A LENGTH.
FAVOURITE WAS HIGH CASTE UNTIL A FEW MINUTES BEFORE THE RACE WHEN TRUE FLIGHT GAINED FAVOUR.

MOONEE VALLEY CUP. 1. GILLTOWN.
PRICE 10/1 (NOTE :- GILLTOWN WON SAME RACE IN 1939 AT 50/1.)

W.S.COX PLATE. 1. BEAU VITE. (FAVOURITE)
2. AJAX.
3. BEAU LIVRE.

A.J.C. DERBY. 1. PANDECT.
2. ~~KXNDCKK~~ LUCRATIVE.

MELBOURNE CUP ACCEPTORS, HORSES, RIDERS, AND APPROXIMATE PRICES.

<u>HORSE.</u>	<u>RIDER</u>	<u>APPROX. PRICE.</u>
BEAU VITE.	McMENAMIN.	3
MAIKAI	MUNRO	8
APOSTROPHE	MEDHURST	9
HISTORIAN	BREASLEY	10
BEAU LIVRE.	DEWHURST.	10
LUCRATIVE.	UNKNOWN.	12
PANDECT.	COOK	12
TIDAL WAVE.	SELLWOOD.	14
WILSON.	BADGER	14
PANTLER.	HARTNEY.	14
SCIENTIST.	THOMPSON.	16
GILLTOWN.	O'SULLIVAN.	25
TRUE FLIGHT.	PURTELL	25
KATANGA	BANTLE	33
DASHING CAVALIER.	COUTTS	33
OLD ROWLEY	UNKNOWN	33
MORVREN	POWELL	40
CHEERY JACK	PERCIVAL	50
JOHN DORY	GILMORE	50
INDIGNITY	HANLEY	66
WEST WIND	UNKNOWN	100

K. Schofield

.....Lieut.
B.I.O., 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.

H.Q., 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.,
IKINGI MARYUT,
5 Nov 40.

NEWS SUMMARY No 62

0100 hrs 4 Nov. ----- 2200 hrs
4 Nov 40.

The Greeks are showing great satisfaction for the help Britain is extending to them. They say there is no need to worry as they are holding their own and mobilisation is not yet complete.

Attacks launched by the Italians today (Monday) were repelled. On the MACEDONIAN frontier the Greeks have made a further advance and are now holding a range of hills west of their former position. The new movement carries the war well into Italian territory. The EPIRUS front was the scene of another Greek success, the Italians having been repelled, losing at the same time nine tanks and prisoners. The number of prisoners was unspecified. The FLORINA SECTOR is also the scene of large Italian losses. As on the other fronts the enemy are being held successfully.

The next move which the Italians are thought to be undertaking is an attack along the coast. The Greeks are not under-rating Italian strength but are confident of holding this attack when it comes.

A message from JUGO-SLAVIA, describes the surrounding of an entire Italian division. This is not yet confirmed.

The British troops referred to previously have landed in GREECE. An Australian destroyer has also arrived on the scene today.

Italians made 15 raids on Greece and territory now occupied by the Greeks yesterday. Raids on SALONIKA, were not very successful as four planes were shot down by A/A fire.

The R.A.F. took up the attack yesterday and despatched four enemy aircraft. Air-raid warnings were sounded in ATHENS, but no bombs were dropped, only one plane being seen flying high over the city.

The British Red Cross organisation has been placed at the disposal of the Greek Red Cross with orders to do everything possible in the matter of medical supplies. There was a naval engagement fought off the coast of CORFU in which an Italian warship was badly damaged and was in flames.

Another report states that an Italian warship was sunk near CORFU. This may be a report on the same ship.

A message from JAPAN states that Greek vessels will be able to leave JAPAN after unloading as a result of which Greeks state that Greek vessels chartered by Japanese firms will be allowed to continue their voyages.

For the first night in nearly two months there was no night raid over England (Sunday). Today (Monday) German raiders appeared over N.E. SCOTLAND and EAST ANGLIA. Some bombs were dropped but damage was small.

R.A.F. bombers set out on stormy journeys to NAPLES and KIEL. The Naval dockyards at KIEL were heavily bombed for 70 minutes. The attack was highly successful.

The attack on NAPLES also produced a 'black-out' over ROME - evidencing the tension under which the Italians are labouring. Oil tanks were bombed despite accurate A/A fire. The accuracy of the A/A fire was in marked contrast to that encountered in the previous raids.

Flushing was also bombed with heavy bombs, 2 aircraft failing to return from this raid.

Tonight (Monday) there were the usual warnings in LONDON, although up to 0200 hrs there had been no bombs dropped.

Goering has issued a decree making the German 'black-out', 'blacker'. Blue lights are now compulsory.

LEBERRA, Oct 28. Following on the formation of the Advisory War Council last Tuesday, there has been an important reshuffle in the Federal Cabinet, the reconstitution of which was announced yesterday by the Prime Minister, Mr Menzies.

Among the surprises was the return to the Ministry of Commerce of Sir Earle Page, with whom Mr Menzies has effected a reconciliation. Several major re-allocations of portfolios were made, resulting in the dropping of Mr A.G. Cameron, the recently-resigned leader of the Federal Country Party, and Deputy Prime Minister. The new Ministry consists of :-

Mr MENZIES : Prime Minister, Minister for Defence Coordination and Information; Mr HUGHES, Attorney General and Minister for Navy; Mr SPENDER, Minister for the Army; Senator McLELLY,

Post Master General, Minister for Repatriation and Vice-President of the Executive Council; Mr McEWAN, Minister for Air and Civil Aviation; Senator FOLL, Minister for Interior; Sir EARLE PAGE, Minister for Commerce; Sir Frederick STEWART, Minister for External Affairs, Health and Social Services; Senator McBRIDE, Minister for Supply, Development and Munitions; Mr HARRISON, Minister for Customs; Mr HOLT, Minister for Labour and National Services; Assistant Ministers, Senators COLLETT, COLLINS, and LUCKIE and Mr ANTICOPY.

Messrs MENZIES, HUGHES, MALDEN, SPENDER, and McEWAN comprise the Inner Cabinet.

The appointment of Major-General H. G. Wynter as Commander of the 9th Australian Division, A.I.F., was announced at the end of last week by the Prime Minister Mr Menzies.

General Wynter, who has been in command of members of the A.I.F. in England is 54 years of age and has a brilliant record in the Army. He was commissioned in 1907 and served with the A.I.F. in the Great War.

Donald George Bradman, Australian Cricket Captain, has forsaken the R.A.A.F., to become a physical and recreational instructor in the Army.

CRICKET : The second round of the V.C.A. district matches resulted :-
 ESSINGTON d MELBOURNE. HAWTHORNE d CARLTON. NORTHCOOTE d RICHMOND. FOOTSCRAY d SOUTH MELBOURNE. UNIVERSITY d COLLINGWOOD. FITZROY d NORTH MELBOURNE. St KILDA d MELBURNICK.

ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED BY THE AUSTRALIAN COMFORTS FUND TO TAKE OVER AS A GOING CONCERN THE ATLANTIC HOTEL IN GENERAL ALEXANDRIA FOR USE AS A LEAVE CENTRE FOR AUSTRALIAN SOLDIERS.

ADDIS ABABA (Monday) Eleven Italian airmen have been taken prisoner as a result of recent South African air force successes in shooting down two Savoias and one Caproni.

A communique states that aircraft of the South African Air Force bombed and machine-gunned enemy troop concentrations in Southern ABYSSINIA.

NEW YORK (Monday) With only Election Eve Radio Addresses to wind up the Presidential Election Campaign, excitement was at fever heat over the week-end.

The general opinion is that voting will close with the advantage resting with Mr Roosevelt.

V. J. Spald
Lieut.
B.I.C., 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.

H.Q., 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.,
IKINGI MARYUT,
6 Nov 40.

NEWS SUMMARY No 6.

2300 hrs 4 Nov to 2500 hrs 5 Nov.

LONDON : Mr Churchill made a speech today to the House of Commons, in which he dealt with all aspects of the war. It is to be noted that he does not spare the country from the truth. Any matters that are causing grave concern are dealt with in a plain, unvarnished manner.

His first point was the air-attacks on Great Britain - 1400 civilians have been killed - 20000 seriously wounded, whilst 200 soldiers have been killed.

The raids have been for the greater part on large cities, but even though Hitler has done his worst, the cities still stand and business proceeds as usual. Four-fifths of the casualties have been in LONDON - so much for Hitler's vaunted air-war on military objectives.

The scale of attacks have dwindled in the last few weeks, but this must not be taken as a sign of weakness but rather as a period of preparation for the next onslaught.

The 'U' Boat campaign was far more serious - since the defection of France, ports for refuelling, cleaning and reconditioning have been denied us. The effect of the 'U' Boats on our Merchant Navy has been heavy, although we still have nearly as much tonnage as before the war. The 'U' Boat campaign however is being dealt with and in the near future we can hope for still better results. The Government, he said, was looking forward to 1942-43 and building accordingly. At that time Great Britain should be well-off for ships. Of course, he added, if the Germans collapse before then, well and good, we can still use the ships.

Invasion was the next point dealt with. The danger was now diminished although all possible pressure was still being applied on the channel ports. There were still great masses of ships still waiting in these ports and it was useless to think that some attempt would not be made to use them.

The Army was now completely mobile and was spoiling for a test with Hitler's Army.

The 'Home Guard' totalled one million seven thousand men, half of whom were veterans of the last war. The whole Army was to be trained to the highest degree for the time when it would have the job of freeing the countries now under Hitler's domination.

The fleet was being reinforced as much as possible to combat the enemy at sea. In the Mediterranean the fleet was now very strong and waiting for the Italian navy to come out and try its luck.

Greek resistance to the Italians was strong. Mussolini had made himself a murderer of women and children by his cold-blooded act of invasion. In the past France and Britain were ready to go to the aid of the Greeks but as Free French forces were otherwise occupied, it was left to Britain to do all that she could. His last statement on this subject was that we would do all that we could. So far we have attacked Italian bases and Naples. These attacks would increase in intensity until Mussolini crashed and regretted his step.

In the Middle East a shock awaits Mussolini just whenever he is prepared to meet it.

Reinforcements have been proceeding to the Middle East to the limit of shipping capacity, so there was nothing to fear from that quarter.

The Axis had made demands on Jugo-Slavia and Bulgaria, but following on the lead of Greece, they would probably be rejected. King Boris of Bulgaria had given a guarantee on this subject and Jugo-Slavian feeling had hardened in the last few days as a result of events in the last fortnight.

Hitler's promises to the Arabs were not very promising in the light of his acts throughout Europe. Anybody could, with a little thought, see the impossibility of his promises.

Mr Churchill also stated that he had every confidence in Marshal Petain not delivering a stab in the back to Great Britain. The people who wished to oppose England were the 'industrialists and M. Laval, who thereby hoped to line their pockets.

ATHENS. Athens had its longest alarm today. - 20 minutes. Six bombers attacked, casualties were small, 2 killed and six wounded, being the total. Four fighters drove them off and dispersed them.

The first night raid on Athens also occurred last night. No details are yet available.

The Greeks are now building 'roof-top' air-raid shelters throughout Athens. This is a new experiment and has every chance of success.

R.A.F. planes are carrying out reconnaissance flights over Italy and Greece. Together with Greek forces, they bombed and machine-gunned Italian forces in their lines. 5 Italian and 1 Greek plane were shot down.

On the Macedonian frontier the Greeks have carried their advance further to a new line of hills. On other fronts there has been no great movement.

Bombs were dropped on a large city in Jugo-Slavia by 3 unidentified planes. Later three more bombers attacked the city. No explanation is yet forthcoming.

An Italian communique today states that their attack is not yet completely developed.

CAIRO: In LIBYA enemy M.T. was machine-gunned by our planes, considerable damage being caused to some of them.

In Nairobi one plane was shot down; in the Sudan 4 were shot down and over the Red Sea one was badly damaged. Abyssinian bases were raided, all aircraft returning safely.

LONDON: The R.A.F. carried out raids over Germany despite bad weather.

Guy Fawkes night was celebrated by bombing invasions ports. Heavy bombs were dropped on all targets.

40,000 Dutch workers have been transferred to Germany. They consist mostly of men in the building trade, thus constituting a reply to the German howls of 'very little damage' being caused by R.A.F. bombers.

7 German and 6 of our own planes were destroyed over England today. 3 pilots are safe. Raids were carried out from a great height; East Kent suffering the greatest damage. Casualties were few.

Tonight planes appeared over London but attacks were fairly wide-spread.

The 'Windsor Castle', 19000 tons, after being attacked by a Fokker bomber has reached a Scottish port safely.

Two German submarines were sunk during the last few days.. One of them was responsible for the sinking of the 'Empress of Britain'. The crew was interned.

Three Italian ships were sunk in the Straits of Gibraltar. No other details are available.

A question was asked in the House of Commons today concerning the ringing of church bells. As is known bells have been silent for some time and it was desired to start the bells again. The answer was again 'no'.

MELBOURNE. The result of the Melbourne Cup for 1940 was as follows :-

	1	OLD ROWLEY	100 to 1	three quarters of a length
from	2	MAIKAI.	20 to 1	a neck
from	3	TIDAL WAVE.	40 to 1	

Time 3 mins 56 secs. 100,000 people saw the race.

V. J. Churchill

 B. I. O. 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.

H.Q. 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.,
IKINGI MARYUT,
8 Nov 40.

No 7.
NEWS SUMMARY

2300 hrs 5 Nov-0600 hrs
7 Nov

NEW YORK : Mr Roosevelt was elected for his third term ~~by~~ as president, by a large majority. The Democratic party has gained 468 seats out of the 531 seats contested, thus showing the great favour in which the party is held. In the Senate, the Democrats also hold control, having 16 seats to 7.

Mr Wilkie broadcast, stating that there was no doubt of the country being behind Mr Roosevelt. He wished him well and said the election was a triumph of democracy. Congratulations have come in from countries as far apart as Finland and China; although the Axis is noticeably quiet.

Mr Cordell Hull in a speech said that the result of the poll made it possible for the nation to go forward in a firm continuance of its foreign policy.

The election of President Roosevelt makes history, inasmuch as this is the first time a President has been elected for a third term.

ATHENS.

Greeks on the northern line have carried their forward lines further into Albania. 100 Italian prisoners were taken together with 9 tanks captured. The Tanks were put out of action by British A.Tk rifles which have been supplied since the beginning of the war. The Italians made an attack but were met by such fierce resistance that they withdrew. Unfortunately for them, their main body was attacked by their own tanks, thus turning the tables with a vengeance.

The only operations which have taken place on the central sector have been in favour of the Greeks. In this sector the Italians have been cut off and any movement they make is somewhat costly.

The British Government has extended financial aid to the Greeks; £5,000,000 has already been advanced, and more is following.

Greek air-forces attacked Italian bases and aerodromes in Albania. Bombing and machine-gunning had a considerable effect on the aerodromes as some planes were destroyed whilst on the ground.

The R.A.F. again raided Naples. The effect of the raid is not yet known. Reconnaissance flights were also made over Italian and Greek waters.

CAIRO.

Libya had a visit from the R.A.F. also. Planes were destroyed on the ground and considerable confusion was caused by machine-gunning enemy in concentrations. Bombs were dropped on Fort Maddalena; Abyassinian bases and in the Sudan. From these raids all aircraft returned safely.

LONDON.

Bremerhaven, was raided for 1 hour - ship-yards were left in flames. Explosions were very violent, the aircraft being thrown about at 2000 feet.

Naval dockyards at Emden were also left in flames. Bremer and Hamburg Railway ~~sixties~~ junctions were ~~severely~~ damaged; aerodromes in Germany and occupied territory were bombed, and considerable attention was again paid to invasion ports.

Raids on England were fairly light, Southampton suffering most. Some houses were destroyed and casualties were small. Planes came over at a height of 4 to 5 miles but most were driven off.

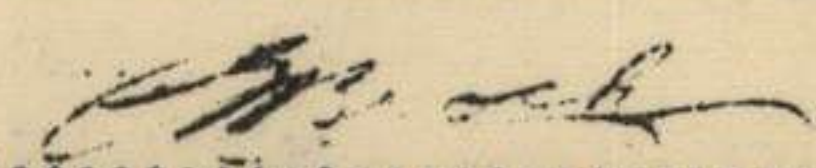
Hudson bomber patrols destroyed a German sea-plane off the coast of Norway yesterday. Another plane was also shot down by Skuas over the Mediterranean.

A quiet day was spent in London, no bombs were dropped although tonight raiders were over early and bombs were dropped indiscriminately and were spread throughout the suburbs.

One of our submarines sunk a large enemy oil-tanker off the French coast today. More pilots are wanted for the R.A.F. The growing strength of the air-force necessitates this step.

Sir Archibald Sinclair declared that air-bombing over Germany would increase in intensity every week.

In Italy a four-day week is being worked in some war industries owing to the shortage of war materials.


..... Capt
Maj. 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.

NEWS SUMMARY No 8.

2300 hrs 7 Nov to 2300 hrs 8 Nov.

LONDON: RAF planes again raided VALONA, Albania, yesterday. An aerodrome in the vicinity was heavily bombed and a number of airmen on the ground were killed as a result of the raid. One R.A.F. pilot was killed during the action by machine gun fire directed from the ground. A further attack was made yesterday upon NAPLES; considerable damage being done to various military objectives within the target area. One British plane is missing.

ATHENS: On the Macedonian front the Greek forces continue, despite Italian opposition, to occupy positions held in Albanian territory. The bombing of civil areas in SALONIKA is still a feature of Italian air activity in that centre. So far no military objectives, which might have been aimed at, have been hit. The Greeks have succeeded in capturing further prisoners in the FLORINA sector. A feature of the enemy attack, is their constant use of 'hand grenades'. So far the Greeks have been successful in repulsing their efforts. A point of particular interest is, that numbers of the bombs used are failing to explode. It is officially announced that ~~the~~ the Italian warship which flew northward after the naval engagement off CORFU, as previously reported, has now been sunk, thereby further depleting the already considerably diminished Italian naval resources.

LONDON. During the last 24 hours nine more enemy planes have been shot down over England - four British planes are missing. The Queen yesterday visited relatives of those who had been killed in air-raids. A mother who had lost two young children said 'all she wanted now was for England to win the war'. A striking example of the courage and determination which extends itself throughout the whole populace of the British Isles.

NEW YORK. National sentiment is strong in the hearts and minds of Greeks resident on the other side of the Atlantic sea-board. Thousands of them are besieging the Greek Consular Offices in New York awaiting the opportunity to return and render service to their country in its hour of need.

ATHENS. Mobile units attached to both Italian and Greek forces operating in Albania are experiencing considerable difficulty owing to unfavourable weather conditions.

LONDON. The solidity of the British Empire was again demonstrated today wherein each unit is ever ready to give practical help and encouragement to other units in their time of need. Australian sympathy for air-raid victims in England was given practical evidence when 10,000 blankets, the gift of the Australian people, were distributed among the needy yesterday.

Slight withdrawals were made by both Italian and Greek forces yesterday, mainly as a means of consolidating their positions. In the central sector where the Italian withdrawal was made the enemy lost much valuable war material. KORITZA is still in Italian hands though likely to fall at any moment as Greek forces have made a small but steady advance in this area. On the coastal front Italian pressure is heavy and this is where the Greek withdrawal took place. This sector is the only one which is well into Greek territory. The rest of the fighting having taken place on Albanian territory.

CAIRO. SIWA was raided twice yesterday causing slight damage. CALLABUT in the Sudan was re-captured by the British on Nov 6 despite strong opposition from enemy forces.

LONDON. Raids on Germany continued last night, dockyards being heavily bombed. The final score for the day in air-raids over England were 'planes lost' Germany 24 - England 4.

It is learned with regret that the ex-Prime Minister, Mr Neville Chamberlain is seriously ill.

H.Q., 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.,
KINGS MARYOT,
10 Nov. '40.

News Summary No. 9

2300 hrs 9 Nov to 0600 hrs 10 Nov.

LONDON. :

The Admiralty has announced that during an attack on shipping in the Thames, 2 Junkers were brought down by the 'Winchester'. A merchant ship of 1900 tons was sunk and another of 1200 tons damaged.

The total number of planes shot down over England yesterday was 22. Planes of the Coastal Command sunk two enemy supply ships during the past week. H.M. Submarine 'STURGESON' also sunk two enemy ships yesterday.

At the Lord Mayor's Banquet yesterday, Mr Churchill spoke of Mr Chamberlain's grave illness. 'The world', he said, 'knew we would survive the ordeal through which we were passing and the friendly countries could count on us'. Referring to the Presidential Elections in the U.S.A., Mr Churchill said, 'The news that Mr Willkie was standing behind Mr Roosevelt was as welcome as the news of his assurance of the aid we could expect from the U.S.A. Mr Churchill considered that Germany had reached the limit of her productive capacity for the manufacture of arms and ammunition. She was now concentrating her energies upon cutting off our sea supplies, which efforts, happily for us, had so far failed, and were in the future, doomed to failure.' Speaking of Greece, he said, 'she could expect all possible help from London' and he emphasised that 'such help would be forthcoming until the crimes that hung around the neck of Mussolini were atoned for.'

Once again last night Germany tasted the effectiveness of R.A.F. organisation and efficiency when British bombers raided Munich. Extensive damage was done to the 'nerve centre' of the Electric Railway system as was to a number of oil refineries in the vicinity. Altogether it was one of the largest and most successful attacks yet made on enemy territory. Destructive fires were started over a large area and upon completing their work we had the satisfaction of seeing all our planes return safely to their bases.

Having been announced earlier in the day that Hitler's speech from Munich would be broadcast over the Italian radio network, Italians had at the last moment to forego their entertainment, as the speech was postponed.

Another Italian centre engaging the attention of the R.A.F. is Milan. Yesterday its inhabitants had the doubtful pleasure of listening to a crescendo of effective R.A.F. bombs falling upon and doing considerable damage to their extensive cable works, instead of as is their wont, the strains of some great orchestra in their famous Opera.

CAIRO.

Long-range planes bombed yet another Italian town yesterday. BRINDISI. The railway terminus suffering heavy damage as a result.

ATHENS.

On the 100 mile Greek-Albanian front a battalion of Italians are surrounded. Of their number the Greeks have already taken 150 prisoners including 40 Officers, together with a considerable amount of equipment including machine guns and mortars.

EGYPT.

Enemy recon planes are active over forward troops in northern Sudan. During the capture of Gallabat by British Forces, as reported yesterday, 250 prisoners were taken together with arms and stores. During the day planes of the South African Air Force carried out recon over Abyssinian territory. One plane is missing.

LONDON.

Four enemy planes were shot down over England yesterday during day-light raids, some damage being done to private houses and some people were killed.

The Secretary for Mines, today called for volunteers for rescue work in London. It is considered that miners with under-ground experience would be able to render effective service during raids on the capital.

Signed.

V. J. Schofield.
B.I.O., 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.

NEWS SUMMARY No. 10.

0600 hrs 10 Nov to 0600 hrs 11 Nov.

LONDON. : After twenty years of political activity Mr Neville Chamberlain's death occurred peacefully at his house in the country yesterday evening. His name will go down in history as a man who, by acts of singular courage, by flying to see Hitler at Berchtesgaden in 1938, postponed war for twelve months, says Router's chief parliamentary correspondent. It will be continued to be argued whether Mr Chamberlain was justified in the action or not, nevertheless the sentiments expressed by Router in reference to his courage will be conceded by all thinking people. As Prime Minister he was a completely new type. Not a philosopher like Balfour, not a classical scholar like Asquith or a literatus like Baldwin. He was just a plain business man setting about his job building up Britain's biceps. Of his efforts for peace three things may be said. By getting into an aeroplane for the first time in his life at the age of 69 and going to see Hitler Mr Chamberlain achieved what no other statesman achieved before or since. If only for a moment he succeeded in shaking off the narcotic propaganda on which the German people were being fed. Secondly the annexation of Czechoslovakia was achieved by Hitler's perfidy and betrayal of the Munich Agreement and not by the Agreement itself. At that time Hitler had for the first time been compelled to negotiate. Thirdly Mr Chamberlain's efforts for peace exposed beyond all doubt Hitler as the aggressor.

Authoritative circles in London and Athens are reported to have expressed themselves satisfied with the military situation in Greece. It is reported that the famous Alpinist (Italian) Division has been annihilated in the Pindus Sector by the Greeks. It is stated that the Italians yesterday started a movement to relieve the column which was surrounded. The Greeks allowed them to approach within short range before opening fire with field guns and inflicting heavy casualties. Many prisoners were taken.

It is estimated that 500 people were killed in an earthquake which shook Bucharest in the early hours of yesterday morning. Casualties and damage are also reported in the provinces.

CAIRO. A communique issued by the Egyptian Ministry of National Defence states that on Nov 9 enemy aircraft dropped a few bombs on waste ground near Cairo. At the same time other aircraft dropped bombs in the desert near Ismailia. There were no casualties and material damage was negligible.

It has been decided to dispense with the services of six Italian Judges in the Mixed Courts. One will be replaced by a foreigner and the others by Egyptians.

R.A.F. bomber crews had a particularly busy time yesterday. Raids being made over the Reich, Italy, Albania. Oil tanks in the Ruhr and Rhine districts were hit and set on fire. Lights ~~at~~ on Toulon aerodrome were extinguished by machine gun fire and docks along the enemy coast were attacked, ships and buildings being hit. Railway lines were wrecked, locomotive sheds struck and sorting yards became engulfed in a mass of fires on Friday when R.A.F. bombers subjected the Munich railroad communications to one of the heaviest and most concentrated attacks yet launched by the British Air Force against a single objective.

The British community in Istanbul has contributed £20,000 for the purchase of a bomber for the R.A.F. The British Community in Iraq has sent £5,000 for a fighter.

The gross estate of Douglas Fairbanks senior, who died in Hollywood last December, is about £580,000 according to papers filed in New York.

(Signed) V. J. Schofield, Liéut.
B.I.O., 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.

NEWS SUMMARY No 11.

0600 hrs 11 Nov to 0600 hrs 12 Nov

- LONDON : The death of Mr Neville Chamberlain is widely regretted throughout the world, and newspapers both in England and abroad, whatever their opinions over Mr Chamberlain's 'appeasement' policy, unite in paying glowing tributes to his personal courage, sincerity of purpose and unflinching loyalty and devotion in the service of the State.
- ATHENS : The complete rout of the Third Alpine Division in the mountain heights of the Pindus range, and the defeat of a second Italian column attempting to relieve them has been accomplished by the Greek forces.
- CAIRO : H.Q., M.E., announced yesterday that a further attack had been made by R.A.F. planes on Naples. Once again the railway system, oil refineries particularly the railway junction, were the main objectives. Incendiary bombs started six fires near the railway station and a very large blaze was observed as a result of bombing near the refineries.
- Two raids have been made on Assab where warehouses and stores were attacked with some success. On Nov 9 Keren, Teclozan and Agordat were bombed. At Herin a large fire was started, smoke rising 3000 feet into the air.
- One of the longest bombing raids was carried out yesterday by planes of the R.A.F. when they flew 730 miles to Danzig the former 'free' city in Poland. The raid probably involved an over-all transit of 2000 miles. It was also the first time that a bombing attack had been made on occupied Polish territory by British planes.
- Raids over Germany, despite icy conditions, extended over an ever widening area. Targets included Gelsenkirchen, Ruhland (north of Dresden) and Breiten where oil refineries were bombed. Factories at Essen (Krupps), Mannheim, Amsterdam (Fokker) and Dresden; docks and shipping at Kiel and Duisburg together with numerous coastal sea-ports received a grueling from British bombs.
- Bucharest received a second shock following upon that which created such wide-spread destruction yesterday. The casualties are now estimated at 2000. Violent shocks were also felt in Turkey but neither casualties or damage were reported.
- Libreville, capital of Gabon in French Equatorial Africa has surrendered to General de Gaulle's forces.
- LONDON : It is now learned that 8 Italian aircraft were victims of a single R.A.F. fighter squadron in an attack on England today. There were no British losses in the combat.
- Germany has ~~xxx~~ admitted officially the sinking of a German warship by a British submarine. The ship is not identified nor are any details given.
- Though there was no official commemoration of Armistice Day this year, nevertheless London stood still for two minutes as the clocks struck eleven.
- Dr D. R. Pye, Director of Scientific Research at the Ministry of Aircraft Production referred yesterday in the course of a broadcast address to the flood of inventions pouring in from all parts of the world to help win the war. He said the department had the difficult task of sorting out nearly 3000 inventions each week.
- Impressive ceremonies were conducted in Turkey yesterday on the occasion of the second anniversary of the death of the famous soldier-statesman, Kemal Ataturk. Eighteen million Turks and foreigners kept five minutes silence as the 'death hour' struck in remembrance of the founder of modern Turkey.
- Well known to many Australians the 26,000 ton Canadian Pacific Liner, Empress of Japan which was attacked by German aircraft during its voyage has reached the United Kingdom safely under her own power.
- Mr Anthony Eden has returned from his tour of the Mediterranean and Middle East. He spoke highly of the standard reached in training by overseas troops in the regions he had visited and considered that they were vastly superior to any Italian forces they might in the future be called upon to face.

H.Q., 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.,
IKINGI MARYUT,
13 Nov 40.

News Summary No 12.

0600 hrs 12 Nov to 0600 hrs 13 Nov

LONDON : The reported version from a German source of an attack made on a British Convoy in which it was declared that five vessels were sunk, is officially denied by the Admiralty. The Convoy it is admitted, was attacked, but with vastly different results from those suggested in the German communication. Actually of their number, three enemy planes were shot down in the course of the ~~XXXX~~ engagement and all ships in the Convoy eventually reached port safely.

Once again German planes paid heavily when they continued their aerial activity over England yesterday. Twenty-nine more planes being lost to the enemy as a result of the day's action. Raids over England have noticeably eased off during the last few days and what damage has been caused has been very slight.

ATHENS. Acting in conjunction, planes from the R.A.F. and Greeks force once again attacked targets in the Naples area, railroads and factories being damaged. Brindisi had another, not exactly welcome visit, from R.A.F. bombers last evening. As in the Naples area, considerable confusion was caused when bombs dropped interfered with communications. The railway junction again suffered further heavy damage as did a number of important factories.

Greek resistance is fast developing into intensified action. Six hundred more Italian prisoners, including 11 Officers, were added yesterday to the number already captured, according to an official radio message received yesterday.

NEW YORK. A series of three violent explosions shook factories in the U.S.A. yesterday. So far twenty deaths have been reported.

MELBOURNE. The over-green Jack Crawford, Australia's Tennis Champion has again contributed to tennis history by winning the Australian Singles Championship. Entries for the Williamstown Cup which is to be run next Saturday are engaging the attention of racing enthusiasts throughout Australia at the moment who incidentally are praying that there will not be another 'Old Rowley'.

NEW YORK: The peoples under the iron heels of the Dictators will themselves rebel, said President Roosevelt in an Armistice Day speech. He expressed his faith in Democracy and identified Great Britain's cause with that of the U.S.A.

MOSCOW. The Soviet press is maintaining complete silence on M. Molotov's visit to the German capital at which place he arrived yesterday.

NEW YORK: It is reported that General Weygand has refused to return to France from North Africa where he is Commander-in-Chief of the French Forces. It is unofficially reported that Admiral Decoux, Governor-General of French Indo-China has resigned owing to increasing difficulties created by a strong group of supporters of the Free French movement in Saigon.

LONDON. The German radio claimed that in October 1939 they had sunk the aircraft carrier 'Ark Royal'. Later in June of this year the Italians put in a counter claim to have sunk her nine months later off the Balearic Isles. The still very much alive 'Ark Royal' replied to both claims yesterday in a very conclusive manner by sending a number of her planes to bomb Cagliari, in Sardinia. Italians forgetful of their previous claim to have sunk the ship admitted yesterday having retaliated by attacking the 'Ark Royal'. This time they did not claim to have sunk her as no hits were made.

BUCHAREST: The victims of the Rumanian earthquake are now estimated to number tens of thousands. Whole buildings were destroyed and occupants either killed or injured were covered with falling debris.

ALEXANDRIA. An Australian Hockey team met a team selected from the Alexandria Sporting Club in a friendly game on Sunday last. The Australians won after clever even play by the odd goal in five.

Signed. V. J. Schofield,
B.I.O., 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.

NEWS SUMMARY No. 13

From 0600 hrs 13 Nov to 0600 hrs
14 Nov.

LONDON: Rising to address the House of Commons today, the Prime Minister, Mr Churchill said, 'I have some news to tell you - good news'. 'The Fleet Air Arm attacked the Italian Navy today, and which has, for some time past, been sheltering in the harbour of Tranto. During the course of the engagement two Italian battleships of about 35,000 tons each were sunk. A like fate met two destroyers and a supply ship attached to the Italian force. The actual sinking of these ships was proved by photographic reconnaissance taken immediately after the action.' The result of this action is, according to newspaper reports, that Italy has now lost at least four, if not five, of her original complement of battleships since the beginning of the war, and that only one ensign of importance sails the Mediterranean, the ~~White Ensign~~ of the British Navy.

In other spheres of naval activity during the course of the day a British submarine succeeded in sinking two other enemy supply ships, one of which was in the vicinity of three thousand tons. No details of the other vessel are yet available.

To be numbered among the glorious achievements of the British Navy is the courageous stand made by H.M.S. Armed Merchantman 'Jervis Bay' when during the course of escort duty and as a means of protecting her convoy she tackled lone-handed an enemy warship of the 'pocket battle ship class.' The odds were against the 'Jervis Bay' nevertheless by the heroic action of her Captain and crew she succeeded in permitting the convoy to escape destruction by the enemy; already 29 of the ships concerned having reached port safely.

The 'Jervis Bay', a former Commonwealth liner of 14,000 tons is or was well known in Australian waters and her gallant ending should strike a cord of pride in the hearts of people not only generally but particularly throughout Australia. Her Commander Capt Fagan, his arm shattered, was last seen directing operations from the bridge when it was blown away. As she sank her guns still blazed away. Two-thirds of her crew were merchantmen. A late communique states that so far sixty-five survivors have been landed in Canada; owing to weather conditions fear is expressed for the safety of the remainder.

ATHENS: The Italians have suffered further severe reverses in Greece. After losing their crack Alpine division, as reported yesterday, they have now been compelled as a result of fierce Greek attacks to retreat well back into Albania. On the Adriatic coast the situation for the Italians is steadily growing worse. They have been pushed back on this front as far as the Calamas River.

LONDON: The R.A.F. continued their day and night attacks upon Germany and German occupied territory yesterday. Invasion ports again suffered and Berlin had another taste of British Air power during the early hours of the morning. One of our planes is missing.

CAIRO. Sidi Barrani received another hammering from the Mediterranean Fleet yesterday. As with the R.A.F. this force is doing a 'man sized job' and great credit is due the crews of ships and pilots of the Fleet Air Arm who continue to harass the enemy at every opportunity.

LONDON: Raiders over England last night had the benefit of a full moon. In London seven people were killed; 3 in a cinema and 4 in a block of flats. Among the casualties was the Minister for Health. In a South East coastal town six people met their death from enemy action.

The number of persons who lost their lives as a result of air action of Britain during the month of October was 6,334 or 620 less than the preceding month.

During the course of last night's air raid on London St Martin's-in-the-Field was slightly damaged. South Africa House was also damaged by the same bomb.

MELBOURNE: It is announced that the British and American ships sunk in Bass Strait recently was the result of mines laid by an enemy raider. The Straits which since the sinking have been closed to shipping are to be re-opened again tomorrow.

(Signed.)

V. J. Schofield, Lieut

H.Q., 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.

H.Q., 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.,
IKINGI MARYUT,
13 Nov 40.

N e w s S u m m a r y N o 12.

0600 hrs 12 Nov to 0600 hrs 13 Nov

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Greek resistance is fast developing into intensified action. Six hundred more Italian prisoners, including 11 Officers, were added yesterday to the number already captured, according to an official radio message received yesterday.

NEW YORK. A series of three violent explosions shook factories in the U.S.A. yesterday. So far twenty deaths have been reported.

MELBOURNE. The ever-green Jack Crawford, Australia's Tennis Champion has again contributed to tennis history by winning the Australian Singles Championship.

Entries for the Williamstown Cup which is to be run next Saturday are engaging the attention of racing enthusiasts throughout Australia at the moment who incidentally are praying that there will not be another 'Old Rowley'.

NEW YORK: The peoples under the iron heels of the Dictators will themselves rebel, said President Roosevelt in an Armistice Day speech. He expressed his faith in Democracy and identified Great Britain's cause with that of the U.S.A.

MOSCOW. The Soviet press is maintaining complete silence on M. Molotov's visit to the German capital at which place he arrived yesterday.

NEW YORK: It is reported that General Weygand has refused to return to France from North Africa where he is Commander-in-Chief of the French Forces. It is unofficially reported that Admiral Decoux, Governor-General of French Indo-China has resigned owing to increasing difficulties created by a strong group of supporters of the Free French movement in Saigon.

LONDON. The German radio claimed that in October 1939 they had sunk the aircraft carrier 'Ark Royal'. Later in June of this year the Italians put in a counter claim to have sunk her nine months later off the Balearic Isles. The still very much alive 'Ark Royal' replied to both claims yesterday in a very conclusive manner by sending a number of her planes to bomb Cagliari, in Sardinia. Italians forgetful of their previous claim to have sunk the ship admitted yesterday having retaliated by attacking the 'Ark Royal'. This time they did not claim to have sunk her as no hits were made.

BUCHAREST: The victims of the Rumanian earthquake are now estimated to number tens of thousands. Whole buildings were destroyed and occupants either killed or injured were covered with falling debris.

ALEXANDRIA. An Australian Hockey team met a team selected from the Alexandria Sporting Club in a friendly game on Sunday last. The Australians won after clever even play by the odd goal in five.

Signed. V. J. Schofield,
B.I.O., 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.

H.Q., 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.,
IKINGI MARYUT,
15 Nov 40.

NEWS SUMMARY No. 14

0600 hrs 14 Nov to 0600 hrs 15 Nov

LONDON:

An official Italian communique published yesterday admits the bombing of the Italian naval base at Taranto by planes from the Fleet Air Arm. No details of damage done however, appear in the report.

The R.A.F. continued their large scale operations over Italian territory yesterday. Oil refineries and ammunition dumps were the main objectives to engage their attention. At Valona, a fire started during the course of the previous night's raid was still burning fiercely yesterday. All our planes returned safely to their bases.

In Albania, the Italian forces are still in retreat, and are now back at their commencing point when hostilities broke out.

M. Molotov, the Soviet Foreign Minister, left Berlin for Moscow today. Before leaving however, he interviewed both the Japanese and Turkish Ambassadors to Germany. The result of these conversations are not published. Apart from political impressions M. Molotov has taken home with him one which should live long in his memory - an impression of his first 'Air Raid'. Despite German preparations to forestall any attack during the Diplomat's visit R.A.F. planes penetrated their defences and made several successful attacks on the German capital. A neutral correspondent states that during one of such raids thousands of people were trapped in cinemas. Two British planes were lost during the action.

It is reported that the Rumanian Prime Minister has arrived in Rome where he was met at the Station by Signor Mussolini. It is suggested that he may later visit Berlin.

CAIRO. The death of the Egyptian Prime Minister is announced today. He has occupied the Ministerial Post since last June.

During the course of a speech made by H.M. King Farouk ^{he} said that while his country had every intention of retaining its neutrality it would do all it could for Britain. The country appreciated Britain's help, particularly the purchase of the cotton crop.

The position in the Sudan is still unfavourable to the enemy who have suffered many casualties from our artillery fire.

LONDON: Following the death of the ex-Prime Minister of England, Mr Neville Chamberlain, his ashes yesterday were received into Westminster Abby, there to be lain along-side those whose names are illustrious in the archives of the Empire.

Six more survivors have been rescued following the 'Jarvis Bay' episode. Eight are still missing of the crew which included in their numbers thirteen seamen of the Royal Canadian Navy.

NEW YORK: Considerable discussion is taking place in U.S.A. newspapers following Eire's further declaration of neutrality. The newspapers point out the impossibility of Eire's position without the backing of the R.A.F. and British Navy. One paper asks the question - 'What would be the fate of Eire if Britain lost the War?'

Signed. V. J. SCHOFIELD, Lt. B.I.O., 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.

H.Q. 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.,
IKINGI MARYUT,
16 Nov '40.

NEWS SUMMARY No 15

0600 hrs 15 Nov to 0600 hrs 16 Nov

Yesterday's air raids over England cost the enemy 19 planes - 15 were shot down in one action. Three were shot down in daylight raids; two over the Thames.

For two hours today German and British long range guns were in action across the channel. The British opened fire first - soon after the enemy retaliated - no casualties reported.

No reports are to hand from Greece.

The enemy are still concentrating on GALLIABUT - the enemy is being worried by our patrols - otherwise no change on all fronts.

The RAF finished off the good work done by the Fleet air arm yesterday. The ships crippled by the 'air arm' were sunk by the RAF - it is now officially reported that a third battleship was destroyed in the harbour at Taranto.

The more of the missing vessels of the 'Jervis Bay' episode are reported safe. This leaves only four unaccounted for.

A Messerschmitts 110 went up to intercept our planes over Germany and was shot down.

Ten British planes were lost during operations last night and yesterday.

One thousand were killed in COVENTRY; a factory having been hit. Two enemy planes were shot down.

The raid on LONDON commenced an hour later than the previous night - a Hospital, a nursing home and an ambulance Stn were hit - few casualties.

A gift of £5000 has been received from a Johannesburg resident for the purchase of a 'Spitfire'.

In BERLIN last night - fine moonlight night aided RAF - Rly Stn - Fire Stn - were hit and many fires started.

According to RAF reports salvage work has commenced on some of the crippled shipping in TARANTO harbour.

The funeral of the late Prime Minister of EGYPT took place yesterday.

Recently the Italians have lost three battleships, three destroyers, twenty-four submarines, two store ships and two auxiliaries.

For 41 planes we lost, the enemy has lost 564 - nearly nine times as many.

Yesterday 150 enemy planes crossed near KENT but were driven back by fighters.

General situation in Greece favours the Greeks. The Italians are preparing for bad news, Mussolini knows the gravity of his problems.

Signed.

V. J. Schofield. Lieut.
B.I.O., 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.

H.Q., 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.,
Ikingi Maryut,
17 Nov 40.

NEWS SUMMARY No. 16

0600 hrs 16 Nov to 0600 hrs 17 Nov.

HAMBURG : For the **second successive night** British bombers raided HAMBURG. Docks and oil plants were main targets. Explosive and incendiary bombs were dropped and extensive damage was done. Fierce fires were started. A correspondent in Vichy says, one British raid lasted five hours. Ship yards were attacked and all barges in water were sunk - thousands are being evacuated.

LONDON : Last night LONDON experienced the heaviest attack since operations began. Casualties were not as heavy as was first expected. Two raiders were shot down before midnight - there were more planes than usual, and they seemed to come over in groups. A Hospital and two Hotels were hit, also a boarding house and block of flats. The dispensary of the Hospital was set on fire by a fire bomb, but was quickly put out by firemen. In another area three wards of a childrens hospital were fired but all patients were carried to safety. In the Home Counties, an isolation ward was hit.

Twenty enemy planes were shot down yesterday. Britain lost two. Last week the enemy lost 62 planes as against nine British.

Only the walls remain standing of Coventry Cathedral which was bombed on Thursday night.

Yesterday the RAF attacked a column of Italian troops in ALBANIA. Heavy casualties were inflicted by the RAF who used machine guns.

SPAIN : American correspondents in SPAIN are forbidden to send messages out of SPAIN after Monday.

LONDON : Announced in LONDON today that luxuries would have to be cut down. Certain goods such as fountain pens and toys being included in the list. Supplies will be cut by a $\frac{1}{4}$ and some by a $\frac{1}{2}$.

Four German merchant ships are now reported to have left MEXICO where they have been waiting. A ship thought to be one of these, was seen burning fiercely in the MEXICO GULF today.

GREECE : Greeks have captured ten big guns on CORISKA front.

During the RAF attack on the Italian column yesterday, a Pilot described the Italians as having 'run like hell'. The RAF dived from heights of 20000 feet and at times came within 60 feet of the ground.

Seven unidentified planes flew over YUGOSLAVIAN territory today.

LONDON : The RAF used torpedo attacks on TARANTO harbour - flames 50 feet high were started on the ships - the enemy was busy salvaging when the attack commenced. It was learned that shipping was badly damaged and sunk.

- LONDON : In a broadcast of a 'Newsletter' to Australia this morning - Colin Wells made mention of Australia's forces standing by in EGYPT, eager and ready to take their salt.
- GREECE : 700 hundred Italian troops were captured by the Greeks in the PINDERS mountains this morning.
- LONDON : The King and Queen today visited COVENTRY and viewed the damage done Thursday nights raid. Blankets which were gifts from AUSTRALIA to the 'homeless'.
- GREECE : Greek advances are reported. The unidentified planes which bombed a monastery in YUGOSLAVIA last night, are now known to have been Italian planes.
- LONDON : In an Italian communique today it was announced that 59 vessels of the British Fleet and 78 others have been sunk. They also say that these operations took place outside Italian territorial waters.
This is ridiculed in Britain as the only operations carried out by the Italian Fleet were in TARANTO harbour where they have been hiding for weeks. Thanks to our airmen they will hide no more.
- MELBOURNE: The drought has at last broken in the Eastern States of Australia. Heavy rain is now falling.
The Prime Minister Mr Menzies is having difficulty in finding a 'Speaker' for the House of Representatives. The position is made delicate by representation in the 'House' - U.A.P-U.C.P., 36; Labour, 36; and Independents 2.
Sir Keith Murdoch has resigned his position as Director of Information and is succeeded by Mr Box, formerly Chief Film Censor.
The Commonwealth Steel Corporation has commenced the manufacture of 'Stainless Steel' in Australia.
Cr Frank Beaurepaire, former swimming champion and Managing Director of Olympic Tyre and Rubber Co., has been elected unopposed as Lord Mayor of Melbourne in succession to Cr Coles who recently was returned as Member for Henty in the House of Representatives.

Signed.

V. J. Schofield. Lieut.
B.I.O. 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.

H.Q., 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.,
IKINGI MARYUT,
18 Nov 40.

NEWS SUMMARY No. 17.

0600 hrs 17 Nov. to 0600 hrs 18 Nov.

- ITALY: The only Italian communique to be issued today was as follows :- "Greek attacks and counter-attacks took place yesterday".
- GREECE: Practically all the fighting now is on ALBANIAN soil, according to a Greek report.
CONISTA was re-captured by the Greeks yesterday.
- HAMBURG: For the third successive night, HAMBURG was the main target of attack by the R.A.F. Many fires were started, tons of bombs were dropped and extensive damage done to electrical works, oil refineries and ship yards. HAMBURG was not the only centre of attack. Aerodromes at ANTWERP and DUNKIRK were attacked. COLOGNE and BREMEN were raided during daylight. From all operations only three planes have failed to return.
- ENGLAND: Nine enemy planes have so far been shot down over ENGLAND today - five Messerschmitts came over the coast at KENT and made an attack and were quickly chased off. One Dornier came over and was shot down by Fighters. Waves, in groups of six flying high, were soon broken up by A.A. fire. Six more came in lower from the sea - but Spitfires and Hurricanes sent them back home.
The raids on LONDON were less heavy than the previous night. Raids were also carried out in the Home Counties, but damage was not extensive. Fires started in a Midland town were soon put out.
There were two 'alerts' in LONDON, the first one being the earliest since raids commenced. One bomb hit a hospital, another fell on the ruins of an old church, a 'playground' of a LONDON Council School was damaged, and four people were killed when a bus was hit.
- COVENTRY: It is now officially announced that only 200 were killed in COVENTRY, but 800 were injured.
- LONDON: One of the German ships mentioned as having been hiding in a MEXICAN Port has been scuttled and the remaining three put back to port. The Captain of the scuttled ship said he was signalled to surrender by a warship. He evidently took the German traditional way out and scuttled his ship.
- ROUMANIA: Jewish Doctors in ROUMANIA are only allowed to attend to Jews. The dismissal of all Jewish employees has been ordered.
- LONDON: Polish officials said NORWAY and POLAND stand together for the common cause. One of the ships in the Convoy which was protected by the 'JERVIS BAY' is said to have been carrying apples for EIRA.
An Admiralty communique announces that the British Fleet of Light Forces attacked a party of Italians in SOMALILAND today - no report to hand as yet.
Captain F. GAN of the 'JERVIS BAY' has been given a posthumous V.C.

J. Schofield
.....Lieut.
B.I.O., 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.

H.Q., 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.,
IKINGI MARYUT,
19 Nov 40.

NEWS SUMMARY

No 18
19 Nov.

0600 hrs 18 Nov to 0600 hrs 19 Nov.

- ENGLAND: Some bombs fell on and damaged private homes on the South Coast of England today. Casualties were not heavy. One bomb fell on a hospital between 2 wards.
- DOVER: For three hours yesterday artillery fire was exchanged across Dover.
- HAMBURG: Hamburg was again bombed last night, by RAF raiders. The raids started after dusk and continued until six a.m. Once again oil tanks and railways were hit.
- BRINDISI: A Cairo message states that the RAF raided Brindisi and did extensive damage to a railway station, an aerodrome and oil tanks.
- LONDON: The usual nightly attack took place on London last night - the enemy came singly and in pairs. They quickly dropped bombs and made off. 100 planes were driven off London in daylight yesterday - 14 were shot down during day - 12 by fighters, 1 by A.A. fire and another by a minesweeper which was the former paddle steamer, 'South Sea'.
The number of deaths in Coventry has now reached 250
- GREECE: On the Greek front - little change. Greeks continue to take prisoners and supplies. They have now taken up the offensive and are on Albanian soil
- LONDON: Liverpool and other Mersey towns were raided this morning. South districts had their 283rd raid today.
- NEW YORK: The New York Herald Tribune says 'Barbaric, becomes too tame a word for Hitler's attack on Coventry - and there is one answer. No means of help from the U.S.A. will be held back.'
- LONDON: A new force known as the Army Air Co-operation Command is to be formed as from 1 Dec. Squadrons and units will be available for the army or air force. Chief of the Command is to be Air Marshall Sir Arthur Barrett. Sir Hugh Dowding Chief of the Fighter Command is to go to U.S.A. to give his views on material needs. Air Marshall Douglas will succeed him in the Fighter Command.
- ATHENS: Reuter's correspondent in Athens said the Italians were attempting to use their Air Force the same as Germany did in Flanders and Norway. The morale of the Greeks is excellent. Fighting for the most part has been in rocks, cliffs and ravines. The Greeks have been using huge boulders of stone to advantage on Italian Convoys.
Greece has been free for the last few days from air raids.

V. F. Schepfield
.....Lieut.
B.I.O., 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.

H.Q., 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.,
IKINGI MARYUT,
20 Nov '40.

NEWS SUMMARY No. 19.

0600 hrs 19 Nov to 0600 hrs 20 Nov.

LONDON:

It has been announced that 96,000 parcels have been sent to British prisoners in Germany - Secretary of State for War, Anthony Eden, is quickly remedying the shortage of winter clothing for them.

The latest loss of Merchant Shipping, including the 'Jervis Bay Convoy' is 71,749 tons, 10 ships being British, 1 Allied and 2 neutral. This is only half the tonnage claimed to have been sunk by the enemy. The identity of the 'raider' ship is still unknown, but it is known to have been a warship.

TARANTO:

British bombing at Taranto has been extensive. It is known that no construction is done in the Naval Yards. The work has to be done by private yards and there would be obvious risk.

COVENTRY:

A message denouncing Hitler for his raid on Coventry has been received in England from Tel-Aviv.

LONDON:

Housewives are to be allowed extra for Xmas - but little hope is given for poultry.

Speaking of the 'State Home Guards', Sir Edward Grigg says - 'Danger still exists - but the 'Home Guard' stands marshalled behind invasion ports necessary to meet the enemy! The Guard is five times as good as the 'Territorial Army' - the age for active service is 65 years.

A fierce aerial battle took place yesterday in the AEGEUS between 12 British and Greek planes and 15 Italian - no report yet.

ITALY:

It is now confirmed that the Italians have been pushed back North of the Calamoo River - enemy supply and munition dumps have been destroyed.

Italians admit the bombing of Monistir in Yugoslavis - 9 were killed.

LONDON:

Britain and the U.S.A. have agreed on a site to be leased to America on the Atlantic.

V. J. Schfield
.....Liet,
B.I.O., 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.

LATE NEWS.

WESTERN DESERT: RAAF shot down three CR'42's possibly two, more. One of our planes is missing.

H.Q., 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.,
IKINGI MARYUT,
25 Nov. '40.

NEWS SUMMARY No. 22

0600 hrs 24 Nov. to 0600 hrs 25 Nov.

- GREECE: Furthering their advance into ALBANIAN territory, the Greeks have succeeded in capturing another village. The Greek advance has become so rapid that they are not stopping to collect 'booty' left behind by the retreating Italians. The streets of KORITZA are thronged with Greek troops. In their haste to evacuate the town the Italians left administrative offices all set up - documents were found which planned attacks against the Greeks. Among the numerous messages received by the Greek Prime Minister, following his countrymen's successful drive against the Italians was one from Mr Churchill which read - 'Heartfelt congratulations in your capture of KORITZA.'
- CAIRO: It is reported from KENYA that a strong enemy force has been driven off with heavy casualties.
- ITALY: RAF attacked goods yards and railways in Italy yesterday. Altogether 1000 fire bombs were dropped. Among other targets attacked were the Royal Arsenal and Fiat Motor Works. Only two planes are missing.
- GERMANY: The Arsenal at Essen, ports, shipyards, oil refineries and aerodromes covering a wide target area were attacked successfully by the RAF.
- ENGLAND: Enemy raids on Britain were centred on the South Coast. Included in the damage were commercial houses and two schools. There were a number of deaths. In the suburb of one coastal town seven fires were started but quickly extinguished. LONDON was unusually quiet. The enemy suffered further losses. Of eleven of their planes shot down seven were identified as being Italian. There were no British losses. National economy saving has amounted to 464 million pounds sterling. It is reported that SLAVAKIA has now joined the Axis powers. Following upon the successful RAF attack on TARANTO Harbour - the Swedish government has decided to spend 5½ million pounds on aircraft production which sum was originally intended for warship construction.
- AUSTRALIA: It is reported that Australians who have graduated from the Training School in CANADA will soon be seen in action.
- CAIRO: It is officially announced that British, New Zealand and Australian troops have landed in GREECE. Later reports from GREECE indicate that the Greeks have now occupied the town of MASEAPOLIS. The Greek front is now 35 miles north of KORITZA. The retreating Italians are being bombed by Greek and British planes. The Italians are pillaging and burning everything in their path of retreat.

(Signed)

V. J. Schofield,
B.I.O., 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.

H.Q. 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.
IKINGI MARYUT
24 Nov. 40

NEWS SUMMARY No. 21.

0600 hrs 23 Nov. to 0600 hrs 24 Nov.

LONDON: Greek troops continued their advance yesterday. KORITZA fell after a battle lasting nine days in naturally strong defensive country. The Italian forces defending this area consisted of six divisions, together with additional artillery and heavy machine gun units. Prisoners captured number several thousand including officers, in addition to large quantities of material. General MITTAKAS the Greek Premier in a broadcast said: 'The Greek Army gave Mussolini a reply he will never forget. We assure Mussolini that we are determined not to be exterminated but to live as a free and independent nation. Let us clench our teeth and fists and steel our hearts. The struggle will be long and bitter and our path not always easy, but we will defeat all difficulties'. In addition to retreating from KORITZA the culminating feature was the Greek pursuing the enemy in their own tanks. The Greeks have now driven all Italians off Greek soil and in addition comma the whole of South-Eastern ALBANIA. The night of 22/23 Nov., RAF planes bombed TARANTO and BARI, causing large fires. Other planes bombed the retreating Italians at KORITZA. In LYBIA the Ports of BARDIA, BOMBA, and DERNIA were bombed, considerable damage being done to barracks and jetties. An Admiralty announcement says, that British mines have closed BALTIC ports, and as a result shipments are being refused by shipping firms. German raiders were driven off by RAF fighters over Sth-East Coast of England yesterday. The Italian planes taking part in another raid met with disaster seven planes being shot down off DOVER, without loss to ourselves.

ANKARA: Turkey has taken more precautions by declaring a State of Siege in six states of European Turkey. The districts include ISTANBUL and ADRIANOPOLE.

LONDON: Rumania joined the AXIS by a Protocol signed in BERLIN yesterday and BERLIN claims that large forces of tanks, artillery and ammunition are being transported to Sth-East Europe, also predicts a simultaneous large-scale operation in the MEDITERRANEAN and on ENGLAND shortly.

CAIRO: It is now possible to give further details of the first aerial battle in which the Royal Australian Air Force was engaged with the Italians. Only four Australian planes were engaged against seventeen Italian fighters. The Australians came out with flying colours. They lost one of their four aircraft and an officer, but they definitely established the shooting down of three C.R.42's and believe that they got at least two or three others. Returning from patrol work they met the Italian fighters which were giving fighters protection to ground troops. A general dog-fight ensued, and the Australian Squadron, the first to come from the Dominions as a complete Unit to the Middle East, is not dissatisfied with its first engagement with the enemy.

Signed, V. J. SCHOFIELD
B.I.O., 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.

H.Q. 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.

IKINGI MARYUT.

27 Nov. 40.

NEWS SUMMARY No 24.

0600 hrs 26 Nov. to 0600 hrs 27 Nov. 40.

LONDON.

Greek troops landed behind the Italian lines yesterday, thus constituting a new threat to the retreating army. A number of new positions and 8000 more prisoners were the results of yesterdays fighting.

The troops who have landed behind the Italians probably did so by steamer. These troops will cut off communication and form a force to harass the enemy in their headlong rush.

In the Northern Sector the Greeks captured the colours of 3 Battalions, and in addition a Commanding Officer, Staff, two Company Commanders, the whole equipment of a battalion fell into Greek hands.

Retreating columns have been thrown into confusion by the heavy bombing carried out by R.A.F. planes acting in conjunction with Greek Air Forces.

Important military stores were attacked in Southern Albania, a large motor transport column was thrown into confusion and mule trains North of KORITZA were destroyed.

It is estimated that four enemy divisions have been broken up and destroyed on the Albanian front since the outbreak of war. This is not a particularly impressive performance for an army whose leader has lauded it's praises all over Europe for the past few years.

History shows that no army has been quite so ready to run away as the Italian army. Abyssinian and Albanian campaigns could not be termed conquest by war, whilst the attack on France was cowardly to say the least.

Britain defined her attitude to Bulgaria today when Mr Butler, Foreign Under Secretary, in answer to a question said that provided Bulgaria does not assist the Axis Powers actively or passively her integrity and independence will be respected in any eventual settlement.

It has been reported that the R.A.F. has again foiled an attempted invasion. This was supposed to have taken place last week. The report asserts the raids on Coventry, Birmingham, and London were part of the plan to confuse the defensive forces.

LONDON.

London newspapers are featuring photographs of the crippled Italian battleships in Taranto harbour. This is rather awkward for Mussolini to explain in the light of his recent speeches. The evidence is unchallengeable in respect of the old story "The camera does not lie".

CAIRO.

The R.A.F. continued to pound Italian bases in Albania, Italian East Africa and Abyssinia. Fires were started in a transport yard near ASSAB and as reported earlier, extensive damage was done in Albania.

JERUSALEM.

An explosion in the former French liner PATRIA, 12000 tons, whilst in harbour in HAIFA, capsized the vessel. The vessel had been taken over by a British Company and had 1800 illegal immigrants aboard. Deaths are fairly heavy it is feared.

LONDON.

Raids on the German harbours of WILHELMSHAVEN and KIEL were continued last night. Aerodromes were also attacked and bombed.

Britain had a quiet night. Only a few planes flew over the S.W. of England, no bombs being dropped.

The death of Lord Rothermere was announced from the Bermudas yesterday.

Anti-Nazi demonstrations are becoming more prevalent in France. This is somewhat heartening and is possibly due to the successes with which we have been meeting.

Shipping losses have been reduced again, a cheering sign after the past few weeks losses.

LONDON. TUESDAY. Mr Eden announced today that 3000 builders would be released from the army to repair damage caused in the raids over England.

Construction of ships in Canada is being speeded up, this will help to replace ships sunk by enemy submarine action.

Referring to Hitler's proposed Peace terms Mr Churchill said Britain will not even consider a Christmas truce.

Signed

V.J. Schofield.

B.I.O. 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.

H.Q. 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.
I K I N G I M A R Y U T.
26 Nov. 40.

NEWS SUMMARY No 23.

0600 hrs 25 Nov. - 0600 hrs 26 Nov.

The Greeks are advancing on the whole of the 150 mile front and are having difficulty in keeping up with the enemy.

Three divisions of retreating enemy were attacked by aircraft.

In spite of the ban on wireless the Italians are learning the truth of Mussolini's failure.

Yesterday 8000 prisoners were taken by the Greeks - making a total of 9500 for the two days.

A town in the west of England was bombed and fired last night - fire workers were kept busy. Hits were registered on two churches and a home for aged people. Some fatal casualties resulted.

London again had a quiet night although some houses were hit.

During Sunday the Coastal Command attacked A.A. and searchlight positions. One plane is missing.

The Polish Prime Minister said that the Polish Air Force have so far brought down 300 enemy planes and they are not all fighting yet. He said "In future we will be able to carry out long flights to Poland and later will use closer bases.

Australians who have graduated from the Empire Scheme School in Canada, yesterday arrived in a party in the N.W. of England and would soon be in action.

Hamburg was the centre of the R.A.F. attack last night - Oil refineries were fired and extensive damage was done to military objectives.

German invasion ports were raided and long range gun implacements were destroyed.

Seven enemy planes were shot down over England yesterday.

Signed.

V.J. Schofield.

B.I.O. 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.

H.Q., 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.,
IKINGI MARYUT,
28 Nov '40.

NEWS SUMMARY No. 25
0600 hrs 27 Nov to 0600 hrs 28 Nov.

LONDON: The Greeks are continuing their advance into ALBANIA in all sectors. There is no set front as the disorder of the Italians precludes any chance of this. Yesterday the Greeks advanced north-west to MOSCAPOLIS.
BULGARIA seems to have taken notice of England's attitude as they are now planning additional military defences. After the set back suffered by ITALY in the BALKANS it is obvious that other states are taking more heart.
ITALIAN planes bombed villages in CORFU, CRETE, yesterday. Some damage was done but there were few civilian casualties.
The RAF again attacked retreating ITALIAN forces and heavily bombed them. VALONA was again subjected to attack, one ship being badly damaged.
GERMANY cannot allow the ITALIANS to be defeated and so after the rumours of the last few days concerning GERMAN equipment being moved through the BALKANS we can expect some assistance for the tired foe.
The Mediterranean Fleet yesterday sighted portion of the ITALIAN Fleet and immediately engaged it at extreme range. In keeping with their usual form, the ITALIANS made a dive for home. No details of the action are yet available.

ANKARA: The TURKISH President has applied for closer co-operation between civil and military authorities for the defence of TURKEY.

LONDON: RAF bombers again attacked COLOGNE, BERLIN, and TURIN on Tuesday night. TURIN suffered heavily- another shot in the locker for Mussolini.
In addition RAF, ME, again bombed SIDI BARRANI and FORT MADDALENA. Troop concentrations at the latter mentioned position suffered heavily.

NEW YORK: The USA Minister for Shipping is now urging that 11 million tons of merchantile shipping should be pooled with Britain. This would, we think, give Hitler a headache. !!

Raids on west counties and LONDON were not very heavy yesterday and last night although the bag of planes shot down was of fairly high order. 11 Planes were brought down.

BIRMINGHAM, SOUTHAMPTON and BRISTOL have been centres of attack since the large scale raid on COVENTRY. These indiscriminate attacks on BRITAIN have had no decisive effect but have, on the contrary, tended to forge a stronger weapon against Hitler.

The Commander of the Free French Naval Force has called for volunteers for the Free French Navy. Naval schools will be opened in Great Britain for the volunteers.

Norwegians have started in the sabotage business. It seems to be a highly interesting pastime as their methods are to undermine mountains, causing avalanches and generally interrupting communications. One railway line was blocked in 12 places.

The Rumanians are indulging in the favourite German sport - 64 executions took place yesterday.

(Signed) V. J. Schofield,
B.I.O., 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.

H.Q., 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.,
IKINGI MARYUT,
29 Nov. 40.

N E W S S U M M A R Y N o . 2 6

0600 hrs 28 Nov. to 0600 hrs 29 Nov.

LONDON:

The Admiralty yesterday announced the result of the action reported to have taken place earlier in the week. One Italian cruiser was set on fire and two others seriously damaged. One cruiser the 'Berwick' was damaged by two hits. A battleship of the 'Littoria' class together with a cruiser were struck by aerial torpedoes despatched by planes of the Fleet Air Arm. The Italians failed to continue the action, using the high speed of their craft as a means of retreat. Of the planes covering their hasty withdrawal, two were shot down. One British plane is missing.

Disaster overtook Italian planes when they raided Crete and Salonika yesterday. Without loss to their own planes the Greeks succeeded in shooting down eight enemy machines.

Italian destroyers stood off CORFU yesterday and shelled the town. Upon the approach of Greek planes however the Italians quickly withdrew. Little damage resulted from the attack.

The 'bulge' in the centre of the otherwise fairly straight Greek line of advance has resulted in the Italians being fired on from all sides. The Italians are finding the position extremely difficult to negotiate. The Italian retreat is so rapid that description of complete actions between the opposing forces is difficult to portray, except that Italian aerial action designed to protect the enemy withdrawal is somewhat stopping the Greeks 'pushing home' their advantage to the fullest extent.

Aerodromes previously used by the Italians in ALBANIA are now being used as bases for Greek and RAF planes. Some useful Italian planes have been abandoned by the enemy on these dromes, so hurried was the departure of the enemy. The retreating forces are being continually harried by planes from the RAF.

A N.W. town in England received its heaviest raid last night. Though there were a few casualties material damage was light.

The RAF continued the bombardment of objectives, despite inclement weather conditions, in GERMANY last evening. Among the towns raided was COLOGNE, at which place military objectives received a severe buffeting.

Evidently the first result of RUMANIA'S incorporation in the Axis is the announcement that a State of Emergency has been declared in that country.

NEW YORK:

The Duke and Duchess of Windsor will visit MAAMI next week.

LONDON:

Fruit will disappear from the new diet scale issued by the Ministry of Food Supply as it is considered that it is no an essential and the ships required for its carriage could be better employed in the conveyance of necessary war materials. The Greeks indicated yesterday that they have given Britain full control of their shipping in waters outside the Mediterranean.

The Soviet Ambassador to England had a conversation with Mr Butler, Minister for Foreign Affairs yesterday.

(Signed)

V. J. Schofield, Lieut.
B.I.O., 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.

H.Q., 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.,
IKINGI MARYUT,
30 Nov 40.

NEWS SUMMARY No. 27.

0600 hrs 29 Nov to 0600 hrs 30 Nov.

- ATHENS: The Greek advance continues despite fierce fighting. A further large number of prisoners **has** been captured. The Italians have counter-attacked in the north but the Greek position remains satisfactory. Italian prisoners are complaining of the cold.
Italians have suffered severely in the air during the last two days, 10 planes being lost.
- CAIRO: Following the attack of two days ago the Royal Navy again shelled targets in SOMALILAND yesterday. Severe damage was done and a number of fires started.
- RUMANIA: Germany is being blamed for political terrorism in RUMANIA - 6000 persons attended a funeral of one of the victims.
- ANKARA: There is no change in TURKEY'S attitude towards the present international situation.
- LONDON: Last night LONDON suffered the heaviest air raid for some days. Following an early 'alert' enemy planes flew over at brief intervals. Wardens were quickly on the scene and put out 10 fire bombs in as many minutes. Other raids were over the South of England, Wales and East Anglia. During daylight raids on LONDON five enemy planes were shot down. During these engagements Britain lost two planes, the pilots of which are safe.
RAF raids on GERMANY continued. Among the targets were a submarine factory, specializing in the production of engines; Naval shipping yards; oil refineries, etc. On the homeward journey attacks were made on railway communications at ANTWERP and a FRENCH channel port.
HM the King saw planes load and take off and return to and from these raids. A sergeant who was taking off on his 29th raid told the King that 'he knew BERLIN well'.
The Duke of Kent visited defence areas at DOVER yesterday.
- CAIRO: A message of sympathy has been sent to H.Q., MELBOURNE, to be forwarded to relatives of Sqdn Leader Heath, who was killed in action over the desert on 19 Nov.

French Free Forces now total 45,000.

I. J. Schepherd
.....Lieut.
B.I.O., 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.