

AWM52
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diaries, 1939-45 War

Item number: 8/2/25

25 Infantry Brigade

December 1943

WAR DIARY

ORIGINAL

From 1 Dec to 31 Dec 1943

18 JAN 1944

HQ 25 Aust Inf Bde

PLACE	DATE & TIME	EVENT	REMARKS
1	Dec 0700	NO change. Units now settled in new areas. (See sketch)	Ref maps 1 inch to 1 mile series unless otherwise stated.
	0800	2/33 Bn reported parties parties working on roads as ordered.	
	0825	2/25 Bn reported patrol on 5500 feature advised that track leads from their posn towards SHAGGY RIDGE. Does NOT show any signs of having been used during last week.	
	1640	B Coy PIB reported 2 natives wounded by explosion of booby traps at 575696.	
	1930	From 21 Bde: JAP gun fired on fwd Coy when our mortars opened up. 2/27 Bn patrol to 718647 NO contact. Disposns 2/31 Bn: BHQ 590597, HQ Coy 588596, A Coy 586595, B Coy 586594, C Coy 587596, D Coy 587598.	
	2200	Situation normal.	
2	Dec 0700	NO change.	
	0805	2/33 Bn reported miniature range under construction 627570. Also 2/25 & 2/33 Bns and Bde HQ have miniature ranges under construction in their respective areas.	
	1200	Brigade Major evacuated to hosp. From 21 Bde: JAP gun fired again 1130 hrs - 8 rds into 2/14 Bn area, 20 rds 2/16 Bn. NO casualties. Patrol from 2/16 Bn leaving a.m. 3 Dec to cut JAP L of C from SADDLE (FARIA-MINTJIM R) to SHAGGY RIDGE. Route from 688614 to MENE R junc 669628 thence NORTH to 655-657 and NE to 4200 feature. Return 6 Dec. Units 25 Bde informed of this patrol.	
3	Dec 0700	NO change.	
	2200	Situation normal. Malarial figures within Bde still rising and daily evacuations to hospitals from all Units still occur. The Bde is now approx half strength.	
4	Dec 0700	Situation normal. NO change yet in def role of 25 Bde as laid down in 7 DIV 00 No.8.	
	1200	NO change.	
	1630	PIB reported sounds LMG fire coming from NORTH of their posn.	
	1800	From 1800 to 1845 hrs JAP gun fired 39 rds into 21 Bde area. NO casualties.	
	2200	From 7 DIV: 16 KITTYHAWKS led in by BOOMERANGS successfully attacked Bridge 3 on BOGAD-JIM RD (see Photomap). WEST half of bridge demolished. Tac/R reported: (ref photomaps DAUMOINA & DAUMOINA SOUTH) NANZANRAI - village of 6 huts at 140160. Track runs from 137-132 to village and hardly used. Bridges seen 137132, 138159, 138157. A/C fired on from 128156. (Ref map MT KUBARI 1") At 598737 and 59742 possible look out posts seen. Well worn track runs from SAIPA 2 up spur to 598742 thence to 2nd look out posn 597742. These posns give commanding view of RAMU VALLEY from KOBEN to KESAWAI 3.	
	2230	Situation normal.	

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PLACE	DATE & TIME	EVENT	REMARKS
5 Dec	0700	Situation normal.	
	1200	Situation normal. Local patrols only.	
	1800	Situation NO change. Infm from 21 Bde:- 2/27 Bn re-grouped as follows - BHQ, A Coy, C Coy (less 1 Pl) B Coy (less 1 Pl) located GORDONS HILL 753607, D Coy plus Pl of B Coy TOMS POST, 1 Pl C Coy SAMS POST 784577.	
	2100	Infm received from DIV re AIROPS states:- 1 Sqn MARAUDERS, 1 Sqn MITCHELLS, 1 Sqn KITTYHAWKS attacked brs on BOGADJIM RD 1020 hrs today. Tac/R 1400 hrs reported slight damage to rd only and br 3 which was partly demolished by strike 4 Dec now completely repaired & road fully reconstructed. Tac/R report received of recce 3 Dec:- Ref maps URIGINA, KUBARI 1". KISA-ASAKE attempt made to surprise tps - NMS. Area generally well occupied. Track to BERI well worn. 5 huts at 476835. Tracks throughout show hy use. Track KISA-SANA well worn. NO recent additions to ORGORUNA 1, still shows signs recent occupation. ORGORUNA 2 did NOT appear well used. Track from KOBA to MATALOI 1 well used, also track to new def posn area 5284. This posn still shows signs of use. NO additional def works observed. Track from here to BOGADJIM RD & OLD YAULA shows signs of hy use. NANZANRAI area searched thoroughly. Ref DAUMOINA STH photomap. Village of 5 huts 133169. Approx 100' above rd, village observed at 138154. At 137157 & 133167 what appeared to be MT parks noticed, sufficient to take 3 tonners. Ref maps PAIPA, KUMBARUM 1/25000. NMS SE of BOGANON. Searched for gun posns 701650 & 703660. At 701650 nothing seen to suggest a gun posn. At 707659 a clearing approx 5 yds square seen. Track cleared away but ground NOT levelled. Additions have been made to def posns 688673.	
	2200	Situation normal. Strength of units:- Bde HQ 11 Offrs & 52 plus 2 & 14 att; Bde Sig Sec 2 & 31 plus 2&9; Gd Pl 1 & 31 plus 1 OR; Provost Sec 7 ORs; 315 LAD 1 & 12; 2/31 Bn 23 & 397 plus 3 & 28; 2/25 Bn 25 & 515 plus 2 & 36; 2/33 Bn 29 & 532 plus 6 & 27; PIB 4 & 14 plus 123 native tps. Progressive totals of evacuations to hosp due to malaria etc as follows:- Bde HQ 2 & 32; Bde Sig Sec 2 & 29; Gd Pl 27; Provost Sec 14; LAD 8; 2/31 18 & 577 (2 DOS); 2/25 7 & 573 (2 DOS); 2/33 9 & 452 (2 DOS).	
6 Dec	0700	Situation normal.	
	0800	Bns on rd building & maintenance and practice on miniature ranges.	
	0830	Advice from DIV that 1 Sqn MITCHELLS bombed BOGADJIM RD. Results unsatisfactory.	
	1200	Situation normal.	
	1530	Col MARSON (CO 2/25 Bn) and Col ROBSON (2/31 Bn CO) visited Brig EATHER at Bde HQ.	
	1920	From 21 Bde:- JAP gun fired 18 rds 2/14 Bn area. NO casualties.	
	1945	2/6 Sqn reported that a patrol from base 530714 followed very fresh JAP footprints down spur to vicinity village 515729, but were unable to contact enemy and will patrol beyond village to SOLU on 7 Dec. At approx 1935 hrs 2 u/i bombers came in from NORTH, flew down Valley, circled back over & dropped 1 bomb approx 400 yds WEST of Bde HQ. NO damage or casualties. BM returned from hosp this p.m..	
	2000	Situation normal.	
7 Dec	0700	Situation normal.	
	1652	PIB reported patrol from 557699 saw 1 JAP probably a scout at approx 577705. JAP withdrew. 2 JAP S also seen at 592705.	
	1936	From 21 Bde:- Slight contact with enemy patrol 706659. JAP gun fired 39 rds into 2/14 Bn area, destroying & dump of 60 Mortar bombs.	
	1940	2/6 Sqn reported that at 2320 hrs last night booby trap was sprung at their OP 455775. 6 rifle shots & loud cries heard. A patrol moved from KETOBA to OP this a.m. & found JAP eqpt & 2 rifles, also many bloodstains on the track. Recce patrol of 3 men ambushed 6 Dec at 433860. Pat leader killed. Another man wounded but escaped with 3rd member. Native guide leading pat believed killed. For purposes of communicating with Tac/R planes BOOMERANGS by W/T, 25 Bde now known as PIP 4.	

PLACE	DATE & TIME	EVENT	REMARKS
	8 Dec 0700	B Coy PIB reported that their fwd posn at 553693 had reported that 0230 hrs booby traps in vicinity of their camp exploded.	
		Major LARKIN (BM) left to attend Staff School. Lieut TIMBURY now A/BM.	
	0745	Between 0630 and 0745 hrs PIB heard very heavy firing from their fwd posn 553693. NO comms with their fwd posns since 0635 hrs. Last message stated that standing patrol at 557699 was returning to 553693. Tps in area 553693 may possibly have withdrawn to feature 5800 (area 5567). JAP attack probably now taking place on PIB. NO further details but found out that JAP had attacked fwd elements in area 5569.	
	0900	2/6 Cav reported that at 0230 hrs firing from vicinity PIB fwd posns. Firing was intermittent until 0515 hrs, when by mortar or mountain gun shelled area 5066. Heavy firing from PIB area. At 0645 hrs approx 30 tps were seen moving on kunai ridge 505698. Cav standing patrol at 530714 identified them as enemy. Line comms with all fwd patrols of Sqn now OUT, but still in W/T comm. JAPS reported by both Cav & PIB to be digging in on feature Squares 5069 & 5169.	
	0905	Two patrols 2/31 Bn now out - one to 558634, other along foothills to EVAPIA R and return. BOOMERANG Tac/R planes came over to recce JAP mvts in Cav & PIB areas but clouds prevented strafing. Planes returned to base but remain standing by to be recalled by Bde HQ when weather lifts. KITTYHAWKS also standing by to bomb & strafe.	
	1200	Units ordered to cease all firing on practice ranges to cease from 1300 hrs. Weather now cleared slightly. DIV informed. PIB ordered to move their rear HQ down out of the foothills to an area to be selected by the Coy Comd. Adv HQ to remain in present posn and send out patrols to try to locate their fwd tps who had scattered after JAP attack.	
	1315	BOOMERANGS over again to recce and then return to lead in KITTYHAWKS. Following posns were observed by pilot: Enemy over 200 strong dug in (30 holes) 503700. 15 holes 500693. Several holes 521700.	
	1330	One Tp 2/6 Cav at 450747 began to patrol back from their posn towards Sqn HQ at 486665, but struck a party of JAPS just WEST of KOROPA 464732. Enemy also attacked OP 2/6 Cav at 453786. NO details yet.	
		<u>NOTE</u> It is now apparent or appears apparent that the JAP is making a concerted drive to clear our tps and patrols from the hills back down into the RAMU VALLEY away from his L of C through ORGORUNA - MATALOI - KISA - BOGADJIM RD.	
	1530	NO contact made yet with fwd tps of PIB. KITTYHAWKS came over at 1530 hrs to bomb and strafe JAPS area 5069, 5169, but low cloud prevented strike from taking place. A/C returned to base and arrangements made to try again a.m. 9 Dec.	
	1600	2/31 Bn reported one Sec standing patrol now established at 597628 and can observe along line EVAPIA R to KESAWAI 2 area and along RAMU VALLEY. Six unidentified persons sighted approx 587648 moving NW.	

PLACE	DATE & TIME	EVENT	REMARKS
	8 Dec 1700	In view of the developments today and the possibility of a JAP push down into the RAMU VALLEY, two Coys 2/25 Bn are to move fwd to the EVAPIA R a.m. 9 Dec and establish a base there with one Coy. Other Coy to patrol fwd from base. Sec Arty to move fwd in support. 2/6 Cav to concentrate in vicinity OLD KOROPA area 4672. A preliminary report of the two Pls of B Coy PIB stated that JAPS of estimated strength 200 attacked their posn 550690 and forced them to scatter and withdraw. About 50 JAPS killed. Personnel of these Pls now filtering back to Coy HQ.	
	1730	2/6 Sqn reported JAPS now in RAMU VALLEY and attacking Sqn HQ. JAPS in overwhelming strength.	
	1735	Request made to DIV for further Sec of 25 pr guns to be made available to 54 Bty to support this Bde, as one Sec is moving fwd in support of patrols fwd of EVAPIA R.	
	1825	Tac/R 1400 hrs reported JAPS in posn on ridge from 512698 to 504698. Main posns on this ridge with additional posns 508703, 512713, 517 718, 498695. Defences include approx 78 foxholes and square weapon pits with more defences in course of construction.	
	1920	DIV ordered 2/6 Cav Sqn to come under comd 25 Bde forthwith and in event of Sqn having to withdraw to ensure that all documents and means of identification are destroyed.	
	1930	2/31 Bn reported that their C Coy moved out to a posn 558634 this side EVAPIA R. B & D Coys to fill in the gap.	
	2000	Summary of today's ops:- At 0630 hrs JAPS attacked and dispersed PIB fwd tps in area 5569. One NCO, who returned, estimated strength of JAPS as 2 Coys and JAP casualties as 50 killed. Own casualties NOT yet known. Intentions 9 Dec: 2 Coys 2/25 to move fwd as above; 1 Sec guns to move fwd to DID fwd of IOGE R; Air strike on JAPS in area 5069; PIB to re-organize fwd of EVAPIA R.	
		3 Sigs, 3 NCOs and 54 natives of Cav arrived at fwd DID.	
	2005	Cav HQ surrounded. Intend to break through and fall back to EVAPIA R.	
	2035	From DIV: Estimated 2 - 75 mm guns and one of smaller calibre active against 2/14 Bn fwd Coy area, JOHN'S KNOLL and area 703630. NO casualties. Patrol to JAP wired posn 705640 fired on by enemy.. 2/16 Bn engaged JAP posns SHAGGY RIDGE with mortar and MMG. Results NOT observed. 2/2 Cav Sqn engaged patrols contacted enemy at 402020 and ULILAI. 3407 formerly NOT occupied by enemy.	
	2045	PIB HQ & one Pl withdrawing towards EVAPIA R, vicinity track & river crossing 547627.	
	2115	2/31 patrols for night 8/9 Dec :- Standing patrols each of 4 men at 602595. Patrols of 4 men throughout night along foothills 300-400 yds above track to fwd DID and return.	
	2210	PIB back on this side of EVAPIA and ordered to take up posn for night fwd of DID at approx 559605. Arrangements being made by DIV to withdraw PIB PIB to EAST of MENE R. Air Strike 9 Dec: BOOMERANGS to lead in 16 P 40s at 0700 hrs to bomb & strafe enemy posn on ridge 5069-5169.	

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PLACE	DATE & TIME	EVENT	REMARKS
9	Dec 2100	<p>Situation: PIB now established in area 661562. 2/6 Cav Sqn less B & C Tps in MENE R area moving a.m. 10 Dec to area 6158. B & C Tps withdrawing to rejoin Sqn. A & C Coys 2/25 Bn NO contact. 2/31 Bn OP at 1915 hrs reported 15 JAPS in area bombed today. 2/33 Bn NO change. 54 Bty moved 2 short guns fwd to EAST bank IOGE R. Intention 10 Dec :- C Coy 2/25 Bn to move to area at present occupied by A Coy. PIB to patrol NW along both banks RAMU R and 2/6 Sqn to patrol high ground area 6061-6161. 54 Bty to move 2 long guns to EAST bank of EVAPIA R. <i>BAND D COYS 2/25 BN TO MOVE TO AREA AT PRESENT OCCUPIED BY C COY.</i></p>	
	2245	<p>From DIV:- 2/2 Sqn patrols attacked enemy posns at ULILAI and withdrew after inflicting casualties. NO enemy SUMAU 3899, TABALU 4296. Tac/R reports MT marks on track OLD YAULA to 545855 and signs of heavy use fwd to MATALOI 1. Def posn on track improved and still occupied. 239 Regt (JAP) identified in KETOBA area night 6/7 Dec. Estimate at least one Bn KESAWAI area. Tac/R today reports innumerable foxholes on two ridges areas 5069-5068. Air Strikes today:- 0855-1035 hrs, 19 500 lb bombs dropped, 16 in target area. Number of direct hits on pits. Strafing accurate and effective. A/A intense and one P40 damaged. 1220-1310 hrs, 18-500 lb bombs dropped all in target areas 4969-5069-5160 and 4850-4851. A/A light. Still a number of JAPS left on NORTH & WEST slopes of ridge. A/C searched along RAMU VALLEY WEST of KOBEN as far as square 3772. NO tps seen.</p>	
10	Dec 0545	<p>Single unidentified enemy A/C dropped 4-5 bombs area DID in Bde HQ area. Amn dump set on fire. Two casualties.</p>	
	0730	<p>One man wounded by shrapnel from exploding amn. B & D Coys 2/25 Bn began to move fwd to area 5563 and C Coy moved to join A Coy.</p>	
	1100	<p>Patrol 2/33 Bn moved out to investigate light seen in area 6459 during bombing this a.m. Approx 50 personnel 2/6 Sqn located this morning in KOBEN and ordered to move back to MENE R area via SOUTH bank of RAMU R.</p>	
	1230	<p>From 2/25 Bn:- SEARLES patrol to 493684 reported 30 huts in that area. Standing patrols established on high feature 532679 and on all tracks leading to fwd Coy perimeter. B & D Coys were in posn by 1130 hrs and C Coy now in posn with fwd Coy. SEARLES ambushed enemy force, approx 40, at creek crossing 503673, killing 12, wounding 8. Patrol then withdrew 400 yds to set further ambush. Own casualties NIL. One Sec A Coy sent fwd to support.</p>	
	1300	<p>Infm received C Tp 2/6 Sqn now in area fwd DID. Tps contacted at KOBEN this morning must be members of B Tp.</p>	
	1315	<p>Arty, in posn 562612 fwd DID area, fired on JAPS ambushed by SEARLES, possible JAP camp area, and JAP standing patrol area 5169.</p>	
	1430	<p>Maj Gen VASEY visited Bde.</p>	
	1530	<p>Native reported 8-10 very fresh JAP footprints at approx 555601. Patrol from 2/25 Bn following footprints and PIB patrol moving along River to that area. 2/25 Bn patrol on 5500 feature reported that shortly after A/A fired early this a.m. a plane crashed in area headwaters EVAPIA R.</p>	

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PLACE	DATE & TIME	EVENT	REMARKS
	10 Dec 1700	Disposns 2/25 Bn:- B Coy 556626, D Coy 551617, C Coy 521672, A Coy 523655. SEARLES ambush Pl to remain out until 1900 hrs. Arty personnel at approx 586595 with Sec B Coy as sk protection.	
	1955	PIB tps still coming in. Known casualties to date 10 natives wounded. 1 Offr 4 NCOs & 12 natives still missing. Attempt to cross RAMU R near PIB HQ unsuccessful. Patrols to 549607 report area clear. NO contact with 2/25 Bn patrol.	
	2001	2/6 Sqn in posn. Parties still missing are (1) Lieut WATSON, Padre, & 3 ORs (2) 1 Sec B Tp 2 Offrs & 15 ORs (3) 1 Sec C Tp 1 Offr & 27 ORs. Arty recce party returned with C Tp. B Tp last located by contact/R in area 4766. 2/25 Bn rear party reported party of 10 unidentified persons at approx 6361 on NORTH side of MENE R. Patrol from 2/25 Bn fwd to area formerly occupied by Sqn HQ reported huts burnt but NO signs of JAPS. Intention 11 Dec is as follows:- Continue patrol ops fwd of EVAPIA R with 2 Coys and to patrol high ground on right flank with one TP 2/6 Sqn.	
	2233	From DIV:- AIROPS - Heavy raid on BOGADJIM RD at 1000 hrs. Tac/R at 1500 hrs reported road clear, bridges intact and No.5 bridge completely reconstructed.	
	11 Dec 0600	One unidentified enemy A/C flew over Bde HQ area. NO bombs dropped.	
	0745	2/25 Bn reported Sec patrol last night killed 2 JAPS, wounded 4. Own casualties 1 wounded. At 0100 hrs 1 Offr & 20 men went out and returned to fwd Coy at 0530 hrs with wounded man. NO sign of enemy. Patrol from B Coy moving down EVAPIA R to wards RAMU R and HOWIE patrolling NORTH of C Coy. MACE taking Pl out to ambush posn. Patrol to investigate footprints area 6560 returned. Reported prints made by AUSTRALIANS & natives.	
	0835	From 21 Bde:- At 2230/10 Dec enemy bayonet attack under cover of heavy clouds made on fwd Arty post at 687612. Attack repulsed, enemy casualties 1 killed, 1 wounded. Own -4 wounded. Tac/R of KESAWAI area impossible owing to low cloud. At 0810 hrs party of own tps seen in square 5267.	
	0930	Bde Comd accompanied by OC 2/6 Cav went to DIV HQ.	
	1140	Composite Pl HQ Coy 2/25 Bn arrived at old DID area as protection for ARTY & QM.	
	1250	Tac/R of fwd area reported 40 infantry in foxholes at 505697 and 512697 with MG in latter posn. Infantry also seen in holes on hill 499716.	
	1950	2/25 Bn Sec patrol to 502664 - NO mvt seen. BURNS patrol EVAPIA-RAMU Rs now at 520630. MACE patrol ambushed 10 JAPS at 508668, killing 2 wounding 4 - Own casualties NIL. Patrol set booby traps and is remaining in posn until 2100 hrs. Approx 20 JAPS observed at 520704 and successful Arty shoot carried out on posn. HOWIE patrol to 514685 NO mvt seen. PIB OP established at 592549 - NIL report. Patrol along NORTH bank RAMU R to 533620 did NOT contact 2/25 Bn patrol. 1 Offr 2 NCOs and 1 wounded native reported in to fwd Coys 2/25 Bn. 2 NCOs, 9 natives still missing. Total casualties to date 11 natives wounded.	
	2000	2/6 Sqn reported party of 2 & 16 trying to march tonight along track from SOLU R to old Sqn HQ. 1 Offr, wounded, being carried by 4 natives. 4 & 16 still missing. 20 unidentified tps seen at 635592(KUMBARUM 1/25000) moving EAST.	

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PLACE	DATE & TIME	EVENT	REMARKS
	11 Dec 2005	From 21 Bde:- 2/2 Pnrs moved to LAKE area and established standing patrol at 650600. Movement seen last night vicinity BERT'S POST and attack expected there tonight.	
	2150	From DIV:- 2/2 Sqn patrol report KULAU occupied by approx 100 JAPS with HMGs mounted for A/A defence. Posn possibly being used as A/C spotting spotting station. 2/2 Sqn now concentrated at FAITA with standing patrols at all likely river crossings and patrols fwd to USINI and along RAMU R. One Tp in BENA area. Strengths of Units:→ Bde HQ 13 Offrs & 132 ORs plus 2 & 20 attached; 2/31 Bn 23 & 318 plus 6 & 33; 2/25 Bn 25 & 472 plus 4 & 40; 2/33 Bn 27 & 506 plus 6 & 27; 2/6 Sqn 13 & 135 plus 1 & 12 (4 & 60 unaccounted for); PIB 3 & 9 plus 87 natives and 38 carriers (1 & 4 and 14 natives missing). Evacuated sick:- Bde HQ 2 & 124; 2/31 Bn 19 & 657 (2 died of illness); 2/25 Bn 8 & 663 (2 died of illness; 2/33 Bn 10 & 525 (2 died of illness).	
	12 Dec 0500	Single enemy A/C over Bde HQ area dropped 3 bombs approx 1 mile to SE. NO casualties or damage.	
	0746	2/25 Bn patrols:- Standing patrol moving to 502665. Pl ambush established at 507668. THOMAS patrol to square 5068 via foothills. Standing patrol and Arty OP on trig pt approx 517684. Local patrol from rear Coys to RAMU R and square 5664.	
	0930	Units advised that standing patrol of one Tp 2/6 Sqn established in area 6460.	
	1150	NIL report received from PIB patrols.	
	1200	Patrol of 1 Offr 16 ORs & 36 natives from A Tp left 2/6 Sqn area - Route:- To creek junc 632613 thence NORTH up creek to junc 625627 thence up spur to 622640 (ref map KUMBARUM-PAIPA 1/25000). Tac/R plane registered Arty target X9 at 516718. Reported most enemy def areas now empty.	
	1300	STEEL Sec 2/25 Bn contacted enemy at 502665. Killed 4 wounded 2, own casualties 1 wounded. Another Sec moving fwd to join STEEL and investigate further.	
	1340	The following are amendments to 2/31 Bn disposns:- BHQ 590597, A Coy 586595, B Coy 586594, C Coy 568624, 2 Pls less 1 Sec 563629, Standing patrol at 595628 and night standing patrol 598601. Units advised that red, black, & white meteorological balloons will be released by 54 Bty at 0800, 1100, & 1600 hrs daily and with small lights attached at 2000, 2400 & 0400 hrs each night.	
	1535	2/25 Bn reported effective Arty fire at 1300 hrs in vicinity 502665 and beyond. STEEL patrol moved fwd at 1300 hrs and occupied huts. NO contact but 2 JAP bodies found. Patrols have established perimeter defence and will collect all valuable stores and return at 1830 hrs.	
	1600	5 rds from JAP mortar fell in 2/25 Bn fwd Pl area 507668. NO casualties. Our Arty replied and mortars ceased fire.	

PLACE	DATE & TIME	EVENT	REMARKS
	12 Dec 1930	All C Tp 2/6 Sqn now in Sqn area. NO word yet of TEASDALE'S party of 2 & 16. A Tp patrol NOT yet in posn on 5500 feature.	
	1931	2/25 Bn reported that 526630 D Coy patrol saw footprints made by approx 5 JAPS heading NW. Patrols to 508677 & 560651 NMS.	
	1932	PIB patrols & OP nothing to report.	
	1950	2/25 patrols 13 Dec:- (1) Sec to 499637 if crossing of RAMU R possible. (2) 1 Offr & 10 to square 5660.	
	2015	From 21 Bde:- D Coy 2/2 Pnrs now in posn 672610 with Sec at 648600.	
	2025	2/6 Sqn patrol to 5500 expected to reach summit tomorrow. Strength of patrol will later be built up to one Tp. Until then HOW patrol (2/25 Bn) will remain on the feature. Throughout day 54 Bty fired on opportunity targets and will fire on JAP fwd posns during night.	
	2100	2/25 Bn reported STEEL met strong opposition JAP posn at 496674. Patrol opened up with BRENS, OWENS & Grenades at 30 yds range killing 2 JAPS and probably wounding others. Own casualties NIL. JAPS attacked SAUNDERS patrol at 504669. Our Arty silenced JAP mortar and patrol opened fire as JAPS began to move off track. Enemy casualties unknown, own NIL. Patrols for 13 Dec:- (1) Small party to 499666. (2) Ambush posn to be maintained. (3) Pl C Coy to 517686 trying to get behind fwd JAP posns.	
	2200	From DIV:- 17 P40s dive bombed KISA at 0745 hrs scoring direct hit on MG posn. Tac/R of BOGADJIM RD reported bridges 5,6,7,8, & 11 washed away and road between bridges 1 & 2 under water.	
13 Dec	0120	Enemy in considerable force attacked A & C Coys 2/25 Bn.	
	0745	2/25 Bn reported that A & C Coys after approx 2 hrs heavy firing withdrew to area 5365, the JAPS occupying their original area. At 0345 hrs BURNS with 40 men and amm went fwd from rear Coys but at 0545 when last report was received had NOT contacted the fwd Coys. Our casualties expected to be heavy and incl 2 Offrs FEELY & SAUNDERS killed in action.	
	0830	HOW instructed to remain in posn with Cav patrol until further notice.	
	0900	BURNS patrol joined A Coy. Total casualties 2/25 Bn 5 killed 14 wounded. Estimated that JAP casualties were heavy.	
	0930	Tac/R reported only few JAPS in sight. Remainder probably hiding in timber. It is thought possible that the JAPS may outflank 25 Bde and come in between 21 & 25 Bdes thus threatening GUSAP strip, DIV HQ, and our main L of C. As it is considered inadvisable to extend the Bde front or to weaken the rear by sending more tps fwd, A & C Coys 2/25 Bn will withdraw during night 13/14 Dec to EAST bank of EVAPIA R where the remainder of the Bn is concentrated.	
	1100	Tac/R reported NMS in A & C Coys' original area. 25 JAPS seen at 563674, one at 518613, and one in foxhole at 529679.	
	1135	NIL report from PIB patrols and OP.	

PLACE	DATE & TIME	EVENT	REMARKS
	13 Dec 1155	HOW reported fresh tracks of own tps and natives on track WEST from 622440.	
	1400	Tac/R reported wireless aerial in village 565675. Village at 551707 recently burnt. Villages in square 5569 well used. Track along ridge from 530715 to 551707.	
	1740	A & C Coys 2/25 Bn now located 533658 & 539659 respectively.	
	1900	All pers 2/6 Sqn now returned. Total casualties in ops 1 Offr 2 ORs killed, 2 ORs wounded. No.2 Sec of A Tp now in posn on 5500 feature and will be joined by remainder of Tp as soon as rations are available.	
	1930	xxxxxxx 2/25 Bn withdrawn From 21 Bde:- Contact with enemy maintained throughout day.	
	2030	A & C Coys 2/25 Bn withdrawn to EAST of EVAPIA R. Later estimate of JAP strength in the attacks this a.m. 400. Three heavy attacks were beaten off and JAP casualties estimated as 100, killed . Sec of long guns now withdrawn to EAST bank of IOGE R with Sec of short guns. Intention 14 Dec:- To hold present posn, patrol fwd, inflict casualties and delay the enemy. Patrols 14 Dec:- 2/25 Bn - Patrol from D Coy to 499637. B Coy patrol to investigate area 5265. Patrol to RAMU. 24 hr Sec post to be maintained at 545628. Standing patrol at 551646 as usual.	
	14 Dec 0835	Light observed by 2/25 Bn in old fwd area. Quiet night.	
	1045	Units instructed to report to this HQ all lights appearing at night at night which are definitely NOT in areas occupied by our tps. Bearing, time seen, and nature of light, whether signalling or stationary, to be given. All units using V/T comn to inform this HQ of location of V/T stations.	
	1220	PALMER patrol from 2/6 Sqn now at approx 610628 moving NE up spur.	
	1300	Bde Comd met COs of 2/31 & 2/25 Bns at IOGE R to discuss situation.	
	1600	HOW observed smoke approx 615657.	
	1630	Patrol from B Coy 2/25 Bn returned after searching area 525655. Three JAP graves seen and approx 20 pits 6' x 2' x 2', NOT tactically sited. Six dead JAPS apparently killed by Arty fire found in area 522659. Ten ft wide track through kunai found leading off main track in this area. Patrol buried 2 AUSTRALIANS.	
	1700	Maj Gen VASEY visited Bde Comd and discussed arrangements for link up of 21 & 25 Bdes to prevent any large scale JAP mvt into RAMU VALLEY from NORTH. One Coy 2/2 Pnrs to move to HERALD HILL 648600 (KUMBARUM 1/25000) and remainder of Bn to move to feature 626 672610. 2/27 Bn to move to KUMBARUM area. 21 Bde is to attack and try to drive JAP from his strong strong posns on SHAGGY RIDGE. If this attack is successful JAP will have to withdraw slightly along his main L of C and will be denied deterred from attacking in great strength on 25 Bde front. 25 Bde is to remain in present posn and if any strong attack is made 2/25 Bn is to withdraw to EAST of IOGE R, where main strength of Bde is concentrated. A line is then to be taken up along the IOGE R with right flank 25 Bde linked with left flank 21 Bde.	

PLACE	DATE & TIME	EVENT	REMARKS
	14 Dec 1710	Locations 2/25 Bn:- BHQ 557627, A Coy 548618, C Coy 553613, D Coy 546623, HQ Coy 557609. Patrol from D Coy to square 5163 - NMS.	
	1815	PIB patrols and OP reported NMS. One Pl now based on SOUTH bank RAMU R 6055.	
	1905	No.2 Sec A Tp (HOOK) now at 612629 will patrol to area squares 6064 & 6065 15 Dec. BALL patrol (4 Sec B Tp) at 622604 will move tomorrow to establish base in area 6062 and patrol WEST & NORTH along Sqn boundary. Another Sec of A Tp expected to be in posn on 5500 feature tomorrow.	
	1920	From 21 Bde:- Bde re-grouping 15 Dec as follows:- Bde HQ to 696588, 2/16 Bn remains present posn, 2/27 Bn 744627, 1 Coy (less Pl at SAMS POST) 784577, 1 Coy fwd of FARIA R junction 706635, Remainder JOHNS KNOLL. 2/2 Pnrs to area BRIANS HILL 670612 and HERALD HILL. 2/14 Bn moves to vicinity 690590 when relieved. Patrol ops for 15 Dec:- Sec from 2/33 Bn moves out 0530 hrs to MENE R, thence along track to vicinity 608569 and return. PIB patrols as usual. Patrol of 2 & 50 from 2/25 Bn to investigate old posns square 5265. 24 hr standing patrol at 556600. Intention 15 Dec:- To hold present posn and delay enemy. During the day our Arty engaged opportunity targets on 5800 feature in square 5567. With reference to attack on night 12/13 Dec, attached as Appx "A" is list of questions by Bde Comd with answers from CO 2/25 Bn.	Appx "A"
	15 Dec 0800	NO contact during night. Patrols out as ordered.	
	1330	BURNS patrol (2/25 Bn) now in A Coy's former area making thorough investigation.	
	1445	Unidentified party of approx 15 seen by 2/6 Sqn moving down spur on bearing 45° TN from Sqn HQ.	
	1840	PIB patrol returned with 2 KANAKAS. Otherwise NMS. One Sec of Pl on SOUTH bank now established as OP under comd native Sgt at 592549 will keep 24 hr watch.	
	1900	BALL patrol seen bivouacing in area 6261.	
	1915	Report from BURNS stated enemy had dug in 164 weapon pits (approx 15% for 2 men) in A Coy area. NO digging in C Coy area. 11 JAP bodies were found and in 2 cases the right hand had been severed and a piece of cloth (NOT bandage) tied around the wrist. Both these bodies had been carefully buried. Patrol managed to salvage most of Coy's gear. Standing patrol at 557600 NIL report.	
	1945	From 21 Bde:- Re-grouping in progress throughout day. 2/14 Bn was relieved by 2/27 Bn and is staging night 15/16 at GUYS POST preparatory to moving into reserve posn 690590 16 Dec. D Coy 2/2 Pnrs in posn HERALD HILL and C Coy BRIANS HILL. Landslide to NORTH EAST of KAN-KYRIO, saddle now 300 yds x 500 yds, possibly covered JAP gun posn. Re-grouping to be completed 16 Dec.	

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PLACE	DATE & TIME	EVENT	REMARKS
15 Dec	<p>All patrols today reported NMS. Two patrols will leave 2/31 Bn tonight at 2130 hrs and return by 0630/16 Dec (1) From 581619 to 568628, thence to 600624 and return (2) D Coy patrol from 593603 to 600624, thence to 603615 and return.</p> <p>Patrols for 16 Dec:- Two day patrol of 30 (Capt WALKER) from 2/25 Bn to 5265 and beyond to try to contact enemy. 2/25 Bn patrol (MYATT) SOUTH of RAMU R to HOUSE KIAPS. Usual patrols by PIB and 2/6 Sqn.</p> <p>Tac/R at 1140 hrs of BOGADJIM RD reported bridges 1-13 incl washed away and road in NAN-ZANRAI area blocked by landslides in approx 15 places and washed away in two. Tac/R of KESAWAI area revealed heavy overnight use of track from SOLU R 482725 to 485684. Track from W/T station at 565675 showed heavy recent use and in places had been widened to 3-4'. Track from 510665 well worn and recently used. Two MMGs fired on A/C from edge of clearing at 555705 and 6-7 JAPS were seen running to foxholes. JAP L of C through KETOBA still showing signs of heavy use. A/C also saw JAPS digging in on 5800 feature and directed our Arty on to target.</p>		
16 Dec	0800	Situation normal.	
	1030	Tac/R from 0945 to 1020 hrs over whole area - NMS.	
	1215	Units advised that 2/2 Pnrs will try to contact patrol on 5500 with LUCAS lamp at 1400, 1500, 1600, & 1700 hrs. HOW instructed to inform this HQ if attempt successful.	
	1740	Units advised that 2/33 Bn would patrol tonight along MENE R then along track to approx 610569 and return. Also that night patrols from 2/31 Bn would continue until further notice.	
	1833	PIB patrols and OP nothing to report. 2 NCOs missing since action on 8 Dec now returned. Total casualties 11 natives wounded, 3 natives missing.	
	1900	HOOK patrol established OP at 617635. BALL patrol now based 594619 and will patrol tracks to EVAPIA R. Remainder of A & B Tps will move to bases tomorrow.	
	1930	From 21 Bde:- 2/14 Bn concentrated at 688585 at 1130 hrs. HQ Coy 2/2 Pnrs 687588. A & B Coys NO change.	
	1950	<p>WALKER patrol now at 516667 overlooking old Sqn HQ. NMS. Will move on 0700/17 Dec to SOLU R and then return to camp. MYATT patrol passed through ASSANAM approx 530595 and continued on to approx 1 mile from HOUSE KIAPS. Unable to proceed further owing to bad going. Patrol reported ASSANAM inhabited by old women & children. Another patrol will leave MYATT TOMORROW AND TRY TO REACH HOUSE KIAPS, via foothills. MYATT standing patrol at 556600 reported NMS and NO contact with or sign of PIB patrols. 2/31 Bn patrol saw 5 men in huts at 571661 and Arty engaged target.</p> <p>Patrols for 17 Dec:- 2/25 Bn - From C Coy to old posns to recover more eqpt. Standing patrol at 552645. 2/6 Sqn & PIB to patrol as usual. 2/31 Bn patrol leaving 0630 hrs to area 5765.</p>	

PLACE	DATE & TIME	EVENT	REMARKS
	16 Dec 2150	From 7 DIV:- Despite identifications reported, Tac/R and patrol activity indicate enemy activity in KESAWAI area limited. Recce in strength is being organised to confirm this. Patrol 2/2 Sqn reported URIGINA 1 & 2 clear of enemy. Following identifications found on JAP body area 5363 today:- 5 Coy 80 Regt, part 20 Div HQ, part 239 Regt. Tac/R today reported recent landslide at 695659. Signs of occupation in square 4968. L of C from KESAWAI 1 to SOLU R showed NO signs of use since rain.	
	17 Dec 0645	WALKER patrol moved on towards SOLU R. Expected to reach there and return to PIB village by 1530 hrs.	
	0945	Tac/R plane ordered to make recce of MATALOI, ORGORUNA, SOLU & BOKU Rs, and 5800 feature. Lately Tac/R has reported mvt on 5800 and if WALKER patrol reports NMS in SOLU R area, Bde Comd intends to move 2/33 Bn under cover of darkness on to the feature to attack any JAPS that may be there. Also if Tac/R reports NMS, PIB will move fwd to approx area 4866 to establish a base and patrol KOBEN-KOROPA-SOLU R area.	
	1130	2/25 Bn & 2/6 Sqn informed of 2/31 Bn patrol to area 5765.	
	1150	Tac/R reported NMS. During morning Bde Comd visited 2/25 Bn area.	
	1330	21 Bde locations:- 2/14 BHQ 688585, A Coy 690583, B Coy 690585, C Coy 688584, D Coy 689585. Re-grouping completed.	
	1400	Tac/R plane unable to carry out recce owing to low cloud.	
	1500	CO 2/33 Bn visited Bde Comd to discuss proposed move of Bn. Arrangements made as follows 3 Coys to move out at 0030/18 Dec to 5800 feature. Tps to march by night and take cover by day. Arty FOO to go fwd with Coys and to fire unlimited number of rds if JAPS located but Coys will NOT become actively engaged. Five days rations to be carried on man, 3 hard, 2 emergency, and base for rations to be established at 5766. No.11 W/T set to be taken and comm to be established with Bde HQ at 0700, 1200, & 1800 hrs daily.	
	1645	HOW informed that A Tp 2/6 Sqn would relieve him by 2000/18 Dec and instructed to rejoin Bn when relief completed.	
	1909	21 Bde maintained contact during day. BHQ 2/2 Pnrs now located at BRIANS HILL.	
	1900	Remainder B Tp 2/6 Sqn reached patrol base. NO report of remainder of A Tp. HOOK patrolled EAST to 619636 - NMS. BALL patrolled track from 616629 to 600630. Found booby trap in village at 593630 - NMS.	
	2005	2/25 Bn reported WALKER returned at 1800 hrs - NMS. MYATT patrol reached AESILIBA. Native inhabitants stated NO JAPS had been there. C Coy now in area 587585 will prepare def posn. Patrol ops 18 Dec:- 2/25 Bn- 3 patrols each of 2 Offrs and 6 ORs. MACE & SEARLES via A & C Coys' old area to squares 5267 & 5368 respectively. MYATT to a village approx 549573. 2/6 Sqn patrol (BROWN) to old Sqn HQ. Arty- harassing fire and registration of targets.	

PLACE	DATE & TIME	EVENT	REMARKS
	18 Dec 0030	B, C, & D Coys 2/33 Bn moved out from Bn area.	
	0700	2/33 Bn Coys at 545625 (MT OTTO 1").	
	0730	PIB began move to new area.	
	1200	Sec patrol 2/33 Bn recceing fwd to spur leading up to 5800.	
	1400	2/33 Bn to move fwd at 1800 hrs and bivouac 559637 at approx 1900 hrs. Daylight move essential to cross River. Arrangements made for 2/31 Bn patrol to 5765 to guide Coys by better track than one now in use.	
	1600	DOUCH patrol (1 & 15) arrived at 5500 to relieve HOW who will begin return tomorrow.	
	1530	2/33 Bn fwd began to move fwd from 2/25 Bn area.	
	1600	BROWN patrol reported back to 2/25 Bn. Found NO sign of enemy and NO tracks. All huts burnt except three.	
	1630	Tac/R of 5800 reported NMS. Infm passed to 2/33 Bn fwd.	
	1935	From 21 Bde:- Maintained contact and continued patrol ops throughout day. Patrol 2/2 Pnrs leaving BRIANS HILL tomorrow along gen line MENE R to find alternate L of C.	
	1945	All patrols returned report NMS. 2/25 Bn patrols found more JAP bodies bringing total known killed to 2 Offrs & 20 ORs. Also reported track leading from area 5169 meets former track at 528677 and from junction wide track used by JAPS on night of attack leading to C Coy's old posn. MYATT patrol was unable to cross RAMU R, so moved along bank to 530617. Comm NOT yet established with PIB.	
	2135	2/33 Bn patrol now at 560640 and will move at 0130/19 Dec up spur to 573645. Malaria casualties heavy and aid post being established at present posn. NO enemy sighted but patrol will carry out harassing fire during night. Tac/R this a.m. of BOGADJIM RD reported NO attempt at reconstruction of bridges. NMS KISA-ASAKE area. NO sign of heavy use of tracks and NO additions or alterations to def posns.	
	19 Dec 0715	2/33 Bn patrol now in posn 578656 and sending Sec patrol fwd to area 5766.	
	0800	5 day patrol (MILFORD) strength 2 & 38 left 2/25 Bn. Patrol to move via track used by JAPS night 12/13 Dec and ridge squares 5069, 5169 and try to cut main JAP road.	
	0830	PIB base established at approx 4860. Will patrol SOLU R area today.	
	0910	From 21 Bde:- 2/27 Bn patrol 1 NCO & 4 ORs to JAP posns Upper FARIA R missing. Strong patrol investigating today.	
	1040	Tac/R revealed NO mvt feature 5800 area. Only signs of occupation on track from 5800 to 541723. Infm fwded to 2/33 patrol.	
	1215	2/33 Bn Sec patrol reached 567664, reported NMS. B Coy now in posn there and remainder of patrol moving fwd to join them. On arrival Coys will patrol fwd by features, building up on each. Objective today 564672.	
	1345	Infm required from 2/33 Bn as to existence of track from 565675 to 610720 and number of fever casualties on patrol.	
	1425	2/33 Bn contacted JAPS strength unknown. Arty engaging immediately.	

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PLACE	DATE & TIME	EVENT	REMARKS
	19 Dec 1530	<p>PIB ordered to report posn and map ref of place at which patrols intend to cross RAMU R. 5800 feature on bearing of 342° from 2/33 patrol. Approaches on left precipitous and inadvisable. Strength of enemy estimated at NOT less than 2 Pls. Patrol will try to drive JAPS out of posn by 1800 hrs and if unsuccessful will withdraw to feature 578656 leaving ambush on track. Ambush will retire into perimeter.</p>	
	1545	<p>PIB based at 480660. Patrol to SOLU R reported 1 JAP guard at approx 491713 and evidence of enemy patrol activity in area.</p>	
	1600	<p>Gen BLAMEY & Maj Gen VASEY arrived at Bde and later visited 2/31 Bn area.</p>	
	1700	<p>2/33 Bn patrol reported enemy forced to withdraw by Arty fire. B Coy now forming perimeter on highest pt and second perimeter to be formed on open feature 1500 yds this side. Battle casualties NIL. Fewer casualties 40 and more expected following heavy rain storms. Patrol was instructed to send map refs of posns and to patrol fwd on 20 Dec.</p>	
	1830	<p>2/6 Sqn patrols to 640645 & along EAST bank of EVAPIA R returned. NMS.</p>	
	1925	<p>2/33 patrol in perimeters at 562677 & 568663. Corrected estimate of JAP strength 1 Pl. Intend to hold fwd pimple and to send Coy patrols NE & NW tomorrow.</p>	
	1945	<p>From 21 Bde:- 4 men of 2/27 Bn patrol to 705639 believed killed. 2/2 Pnrs patrol reached approx 673660. NO contact.</p>	
	1950	<p>MILFORD reported:- Patrol at 502718 following JAP withdrawal track. Signs of considerable enemy activity. JAPS on features 499728 & 519718 and L of C appears to lead over these features. Patrol ops 20 Dec:- 2/33 Bn patrolling from 5800. PIB patrols to SOLU R. MILFORD patrol to move on at first light. Patrol of 12 men from 2/25 Bn to 520670. 2/6 Sqn & 2/31 Bn local patrols. Arty - registration & harassing fire. Tac/R this a.m. of BOGADJIM RD revealed heavy traffic, landslides and washaways having been by-passed by foot tracks. NO attempts made to clear road for MT. Broad well used L of C from OLD YAULA through def posn 5284-MATALOI 1 & 2-KOBE-ASAKE-ORGORUNA 1 & 2-Crossing of BOKU R 453781-KETOBA-ISARIBA. Defences at last 2 posns have been extended. Units strengths:- Bde HQ 13 Offrs & 127 ORs plus 3 & 20 attached; 2/31 Bn 25 & 387 plus 5 & 30; 2/25 Bn 23 & 420 plus 5 & 35; 2/33 Bn 24 & 419 plus 6 & 27; 2/6 Sqn 14 & 136 plus 1 & 15; PIB 3 & 7 and 93 natives plus 38 carriers. Evacuated sick:- Bde HQ 3 & 142; 2/31 Bn 20 & 723; 2/25 Bn 8 & 766; 2/33 Bn 15 & 651; 2/6 Sqn 4 & 74; PIB 1 & 22.</p>	
	20 Dec 0845	<p>Situation normal.</p>	
	0950	<p>C Coy 2/33 Bn moving fwd to establish base 2000 yds fwd of B Coy. Coy will send small patrols fwd from there and is to return to 568663 by 1700 hrs. Further patrols moving EAST & NE.</p>	

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PLACE	DATE & TIME	EVENT	REMARKS
	1145		
20 Dec	2230	Location state 25 Bde:- Bde HQ 610567; 2/31 Bn BHQ 590597, HQ Coy 588596, A Coy 586595 with Pls at 592603, 604594, & 581619, B Coy 585594, C Coy 568624, with Pl at 563629, D Coy 587598, Sec standing patrols at 599603 & 602595; 2/25 Bn Rear HQ 618578, Adv HQ 556625, A Coy 552619, B Coy 557626, C Coy 586584, D Coy 550625, HQ Coy 560610, B Coy standing patrol 553645, Sec standing patrol 556601; 2/33 Bn BHQ 6257, A & HQ Coys 6257, B Coy 564677, C Coy & D Coy 568663; 2/6 Sqn Sqn HQ & C Tp 627587, A Tp 2 Secs on 5500 feature with standing patrol 640644, one Sec 615629, B Tp 595618; PIB 480660.	
	1230	2/33 patrol EAST sighted unidentified party of 4 at 585675 possibly 2/6 Sqn pers. Patrol NE proceeded 3000 yds past shelled huts on disused track possibly AMUBA track as shown on map.	
	1500	PIB patrol sighted 2 JAPS and smoke from camp fires on end of kunai ridge approx 489718. Patrol along RAMU found 2 sets enemy footprints about one day old at approx 463690.	
	1540	C Coy 2/33 Bn established base 5569 and sent Pl patrol approx 1400 yds fwd to next feature and Sec patrols fwd from there. All patrols reported NMS and Coy to begin return at 1600 hrs.	
	1715	2/33 Bn patrol ordered to return to camp tomorrow.	
	1935	2/25 Bn unable to establish comm with MILFORD.	
	1940	From 21 Bde:- Air strike on SHAGGY RIDGE considered effective. 4-500 lb bombs in target area. 2/27 Bn patrol to 705639 made contact and inflicted unknown number casualties. Own casualties 2 ORs wounded. One man of patrol 18 Dec to same posn returned and reported other 3 killed. Tac/R today reported NMS SOUTH of a line from 550670 to 500740. Intention 21 Dec:- B Tp 2/6 Sqn to move to A Tp base 619636 and patrol to WEST & NORTH. PIB patrol NW to SOLU R. MILFORD patrol to move on.	
	2120	From DIV:- 2/2 Sqn patrol reports URIGINA area clear of enemy.	
21 Dec	0830	PIB moving to new base 531642.	
	1020	Report received from MILFORD:- Patrol contacted JAPS at 1600/20 Dec while adv up steep track at 527743. Leading Sec fired on by 4 MGs and withdrew to perimeter area 5272. Sec leader and one OR missing believed killed. MILFORD & 5 ORs remained in vicinity until 1830 hrs in attempt to rescue missing men or confirm their deaths. Attempt unsuccessful. Patrol ordered to return to camp if casualties confirmed. If NOT, one Sec to remain behind for further attempt at confirmation and then return. Patrol report att as Appendix "B".	Appx "B"
	1350	PIB base established in new area.	
	1710	PIB patrol reported possible JAP ambush posn at approx 484715. Saw 1 JAP but NO contact made.	
	1800	2/33 Bn now complete in former area 6257. Patrol report att as Appendix "C".	v Appx "C"
	1830	B Tp 2/6 Sqn now at 619635.	
	1940	From 21 Bde:- 2/2 Pnr patrol now at 675660 sighted JAP posn estimated strength 1 Pl. Patrol making further investigation. 25 Bde is now engaged in constructing a def system consisting of trenches, barbed wire entanglements, mines & booby traps. Areas have been allotted to units as in att sketch.	Appx "D"

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PLACE	DATE & TIME	EVENT	REMARKS
	21 Dec	<p>Work commenced on Bde HQ defences approx 9 days ago and revetting & construction of sleeping bays now in progress. Att as Appx "E" is plan of Bde HQ def system.</p> <p>Intention 22 Dec:- 2/25 Bn to be re-disposed. Standing patrols at 554645 & 557601 to be withdrawn. C Coy 2/31 Bn to be relieved by B Coy ^{2/31 Bn} PIB patrols to SOLU R. 54 Bty registration of targets. A & B Tps 2/6 Sqn to be re-disposed and standing patrols to be established where necessary.</p>	APPX "E"
	2000	<p>One of men missing from 2/25 Bn patrol now returned wounded. He reported that he killed 6 JAPS with OWEN & grenades and then escaped by rolling down a steep bank. Second man was then struggling with 5-6 JAPS and is still missing.</p>	
	22 Dec	<p>0800 Situation normal throughout night.</p> <p>1100 Changeover B & C Coys 2/31 Bn completed.</p> <p>1200 Infm received from DIV that 1 MITCHELL bomber returning from mission over WEWAK crashed in vicinity OLD KOROPA at approx 1130 hrs and that crew was safe. PIB were ordered to send out patrol to find pers and bring them in to Bde HQ.</p> <p>1600 25 Bde disposns:- Bde HQ 610567; 2/25 Bn BHQ 598590; HQ Coy 598588; A Coy 596588; B Coy 593593, C Coy 593587, D Coy remaining at 545624 as track block with patrols fwd to give early warning of enemy mvt. Coy to retire if pressed by enemy to prepared defences EAST of IOGE R. 2/33 Bn BHQ 621573, HQ Coy 620573, A Coy 630585, B Coy 619575, C Coy 621586, D Coy 622574; 2/31 Bn BHQ 590597, HQ Coy 588596, A Coy 587598, B Coy, 568624, C Coy 585594, D Coy 586595, Pls D Coy 592603, 604594, & 581619, Sec standing patrols at 599603, 602595; PIB 532642; 2/6 Sqn Sqn HQ, & HQs A & B Tps, & Secs 2, 4, & 6 619636, Secs 1 & 3 638633.</p> <p>Infm received that crashed plane was seen at 412722. Crew were instructed to head EAST to track and follow it to 25 Bde.</p> <p>1820 PIB patrol reported JAP seen at 482697. Other patrols unable to locate plane crew. 2 day patrol leaving tomorrow to square 4172 for further search.</p> <p>1955 2/2 Pnr patrol reached 682646 and now returning.</p> <p>Tac/R today reports still NO attempt to reconstruct brs but landslides in NANZANRAI area have been cleared. Signs of foot traffic along road and limited MT tracks between MADELUBU & NANZANRAI</p>	
	23 Dec	<p>0800 NO change in situation.</p> <p>0930 2/6 Sqn standing patrol fired on 2 JAPS fwd of their posn.</p> <p>1000 Infm received that missing flyers had been located this a.m. on island in RAMU at 435705. PIB patrols carrying extra rations sent out to that area.</p> <p>Bde Comd met COs of three Bns at 2/25 Bn this a.m. and discussed def plan and probable intentions. Intentions are as follows:- PIB to be withdrawn behind fwd Coys and 2/31 & 2/25 Bns to institute more active patrolling to SOLU R.</p>	

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PLACE	DATE & TIME	EVENT	REMARKS
	23 Dec 1130	2/6 Sqn standing patrol sighted 8 unidentified tps on ridge fwd of their posn. One Sec moving to reinforce patrol and another Sec standing by.	
	1630	PIB two day patrol at 443703 - airmen NOT yet located.	
	1825	Patrol from PIB to square 4968 reported NMS. NO further comm from 2 day patrol.	
		Intention 24 Dec:- Local patrols and continuation of def works. Patrols from D Coy 2/25 Bn (1) Down EVAPIA to RAMU R, then along river to 552603, thence to old DID and return to Coy. (2) Through PIB to foothills and return.	
	24 Dec 0845	PIB patrol returned to base. Saw NO signs of airmen.	
	1130	A Tp 2/6 Sqn fired on JAPS approaching their posns from NORTH & EAST. JAPS withdrew.	
	1200	Two day patrol of 1 & 17 from 2/6 Sqn left to patrol NE along SOUTH bank of MENE R.	
	1400	Brig, BM, SC & IO went fwd to 2/31 Bn and discussed intended patrol ops with CO. PIB to establish base behind fwd Coys of 2/31 & 2/25 Bns approx area 5560 and continue patrols to SOLU R. 2/25 & 2/31 Bns to institute more active patrolling fwd as follows:- Pl to leave 2/31 Bn at first light 25 Dec and move along main track towards SOLU until 1600 hrs. Patrol to bivouac and begin return to unit at midnight. Similar patrol to leave 2/25 Bn at first light 26 Dec. Coy patrol from 2/31 Bn to move out at last light 26 Dec.	
	1430	Patrol of 10 moved out from 2/25 Bn to search for airmen, who were last seen by BOOMERANG at 435705 at 1000 hrs. Patrol to proceed to opposite HOUSE KIAPS and if time allows will split and patrol along both banks until dark and if necessary resume first light 25 Dec.	
	1725	Tac/R plane reported having been fired on by tracer from area 5167.	
	1845	2/6 Sqn HQ reported NO further comm from A Tp. Intermittent BREN & rifle fire heard from that direction until approx 1330 hrs.	
	1930	D Coy 2/25 Bn patrols report NMS.	
	2300	PIB withdrew through D Coy 2/25 Bn.	
	25 Dec 0630	2/31 Bn patrol to SOLU R moved out.	
	1030	2/6 Sqn 2 day patrol now at 663623. Will move fwd short distance and then return to unit.	
	1300	During a.m. A & B Tps sighted several small parties JAPS to NORTH & NE and fired on them. At 1115 hrs MENE patrol contacted JAPS, unknown strength, at approx 6662 but withdrew owing to proximity of Mortar fire from 2/2 Pnrs. Standing patrol at 640645 withdrawn to 5500. Airmen now located by BOOMERANG at 490638. Pilot saw NO sign of 2/25 Bn patrol.	
	1330	2/31 Bn patrol now at 483711. NMS.	
	1430	Further patrol left 2/25 Bn to go direct to 490638.	
	1700	2/25 Bn patrol now 1000 yds SE of HOUSE KIAPS and moving on.	
	1810	PIB now established at 557607.	
	1830	2/31 Bn patrol reached 477736 NORTH of SOLU. NMS. Patrol returned 3000yds to bivouac till midnight and then return. 2/25 Bn patrol now trying to cross RAMU. Reported airmen in vicinity of HOUSE KIAPS.	
		Patrol ops 26 Dec:- Pl 2/25 Bn NW along track to SOLU. 2/6 Sqn patrol to square 6464.	

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PLACE	DATE & TIME	EVENT	REMARKS
	25 Dec	Strength of Units:- Bde HQ 13 Offrs & 142 ORs plus 3 & 20 att; 2/31 Bn 25 & 403 plus 3 & 32; 2/25 Bn 24 & 442 plus 4 & 28; 2/33 Bn 26 & 465 plus 6 & 30; PIB 4 & 11, 121 natives plus 36 carriers; 2/6 Sqn 20 & 151 plus 1 & 13. Evacuated sick:- Bde HQ 4 & 146; 2/31 Bn 21 & 771 (3 DOS); 2/25 Bn 8 & 819 (3 DOS); 2/33 Bn 14 & 691 (2 DOS); PIB 1 & 19; 2/6 Sqn 5 & 92.	
	26 Dec 0630	2/25 Bn patrol to SOLU R left Bn area.	
	0845	2/31 Bn patrol returned to unit.	
	0900	3 of ROBERTS patrol (2/25 Bn) now across RAMU R trying to locate airmen.	
	1000	Brig left for DIV to meet several INDIAN ARMY Offrs. Certain of these Offrs will be att to Bns for regtl duties and others as observers.	
	1200	PIB located airmen at approx 527605 and are now returning with them to jeep head.	
	1515	Bde Comd visited 2/31 Bn. Coy patrol from 2/31 to leave at 1930 hrs tonight and remain out for 6 days. Mvt to be made only by night and patrol to beging return at end of 3 days fwd march. Route - via main track to SOLU, thence through KETOBA to BOKU R crossing, thence along track to ORGORUNA 2. Object - To obtain all possible infm about enemy mvts, locations etc. To try to take 1 or 2 PW. Comm by 208 set - reports to be made at 0900, 1200, & 1800 hrs daily. Patrol NOT to be committed.	
	1800	2/6 Sqn patrols reported NMS.	
	1915	C Coy 2/31 Bn left on 6 day patrol.(OAKHILL'S patrol)	
	1937	From 21 Bde:- NO change in situation. Attack supported by air & arty to be made on enemy posns SHAGGY RIDGE 27 Dec.	
	2000	NO report received from 2/25 Bn SOLU patrol.	
	27 Dec 0900	2/25 Bn SOLU patrol returned. Reached 470731, where they found fresh footprints made by 2 JAPS moving NW. Contacted OAKHILL at 524656 at 0100 hrs.	
	1245	OAKHILL reported at 0630 hrs at 512664, where they contacted DODD patrol. Small recce party moving by covered approach to SOLU. 208 set receiving but NOT transmitting.	
	1905	PIB patrol to RAMU and along bank to EVAPIA reported area clear.	
	2000	NO further comm received from OAKHILL.	
	2020	From 21 Bde:- After intense bombing & strafing by 17 KITTYHAWKS and by arty concentrations, B Coy 2/16 Bn attacked and captured enemy posns SHAGGY RIDGE rock face & pimple at 1039 hrs. The Coy consolidated and was later relieved by D Coy who now have half a Sec fwd of the PIMPLE and remainder on reverse slope of rock extending EAST from PIMPLE. Further adv along ridge held up by 6 JAPS with one known LMG innstone bunker. Enemy casualties 10 killed, Own 3 killed 8 wounded. 2 LMGs captured and identification of 78 Regt. The ground gained considerably strengthens our def posn and prevents observation of DUMPY landing strip. 2/27 Bn created diversion with Pl raid on Upper FARIA area. Known JAP cas 3 killed, Own 2 wounded. Intention 28 Dec - to reduce JAP bunker posns and capture further PIMPLE 100 yds to NORTH in order to consolidate posns gained today.	

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PLACE	DATE & TIME	EVENT	REMARKS
	27 Dec	Intention 28 Dec:- Local patrols and construction of defences. 54 Bty will register targets fwd of 2/25 & 2/31 Bn areas.	
	28 Dec 1000	Fwd Pl 2/31 Bn patrol contacted enemy (estimated 1 Sec) at approx 446737. 1 Offr wounded. Remaining 2 Pls holding high ground approx 458741. OAKHILL moving fwd to join Pl and clear ISARIBA village.	
	1300	OAKHILL completed in ISARIBA. NO further contact. Patrolling fwd to NORTH towards KETOBA and NW towards BUNAGUNA from track junction 442750.	
	1725	PIB patrol along NORTH bank of RAMU to 480660 and back via main track reported NMS.	
	2000	Patrol from OAKHILL to BUNAGUNA NOT yet returned. D Coy 2/25 Bn will be relieved by B Coy a.m. 29 Dec and will move to 589583.	
	2005	From 21 Bde:- D Coy 2/16 Bn occupied all of SHAGGY RIDGE by 1300 hrs. JAPS counter-attacked once but were driven back. Enemy casualties 15 killed, own 8 wounded. Intend to consolidate on ridge tomorrow with view to further adv. Approx 100 JAPS seen on feature 679656 and engaged by Arty.	
	2030	2/6 Sqn reported 3 red flashes from 5800 feature and shortly after 2/33 Bn observed 3 green VEREY lights in direction of SHAGGY RIDGE. 5 day patrol Pl strength from 2/25 Bn to leave first light 29 Dec to investigate probable JAP re-occupation of 5800 feature. Tac/R today reported bridge at 453782 still down. Track through KARONA well worn and small unused tracks along ridge of 447782 to 442788 and leading up to this ridge on SW side.	
	29 Dec 0700	THOMAS patrol to 5800 left 2/25 Bn. Arty will support patrol if necessary.	
	0906	OAKHILL at BOKU patrolling fwd. NMS.	
	1200	THOMAS at 565638. NMS.	
	1330	OAKHILL at 450780. Patrolled EAST bank of BOKU to 466782 and WEST bank to 442787. Patrol sent to ORGORUNA 2.	
	1435	2/6 Sqn sighted 5 JAPS at 644623.	
	1620	Tac/R reported diggings ORGORUNA facing EAST SE at 565665. Extensive diggings ORGORUNA 2 and some at ORGORUNA 1. 6 JAPS strafed at ORGORUNA 1 and at least one killed.	
	1730	Sec patrol from THOMAS at 568647. NMS.	
	1830	PIB patrol to 480660 reported area clear.	
	1925	From 21 Bde:- Enemy Arty fired on fwd posns SHAGGY RIDGE (2/16 Bn). Our casualties 1 Offr killed and 1 & 4 wounded. 2/16 BHQ now at 688614.	
	1940	OAKHILL reported patrol reached 456809. At least 1 Sec JAPS digging in in this area. Two LMGs, 1 MMG, and 1 lt Mortar observed at 458806 and mvt seen on feature 444779. Patrol to ORGORUNA 2 returned. Reported at least 1 Pl JAPS digging in there and on nearby feature. Enemy casualties 1 killed, own casualties NIL. Patrol to commence return first light 30 Dec. Tac/R today reported track from MUNAWAN through KARONA to 442795 fairly well worn. NMS. Bridge 453782 still down.	

JWC

PLACE	DATE & TIME	EVENT	REMARKS
	30 Dec 0800	Situation normal.	
	1045	OAKHILL began return at first light and is now at 457760. Patrol will return through area 5074 and search for man missing from 2/25 Bn patrol of 20 Dec.	
	1120	THOMAS patrol contacted enemy OP 400 yds from village at approx 565665. 1 JAP killed, 1 wounded.	
	1315	OAKHILL's present posn 465766. NMS.	
	1416	THOMAS patrolled 400 yds from previous posn but made NO further contact. Small patrol being sent fwd to 4800 at 1430 hrs.	
	1450	Tac/R of 5800 reported NMS.	
	1845	2/6 Sqn reported that 3 men of B Tp patrol of 6 ORs lost contact and are still missing. OWEN and enemy rifle fire was heard from vicinity 600652. At 1435 hrs the carrier train with escort of 5 ORs contacted 6 JAPS at 642613 killing one.	
	2000	Patrol fwd from THOMAS reported contact with at least 1 Sec JAPS astride knife edged spur leading to 4800. Our Arty fired in support and JAPS withdrew. Patrol has now withdrawn 400 yds for the night and will return to camp tomorrow. Our casualties 2 killed, 2 wounded. Intention 31 Dec:- 2/6 Sqn patrol, 1 & 12 to go to 600652 to locate missing men. Escort of 1 & 12 to accompany carrier train to A Tp. 2/31 & 2/25 Bn patrols returning to camp. registration of short 25 prs & 3" Mortars in squares 6260, 6261, 6360, 6361, NOT before 1000 hrs. Notification has been received of the following periodical awards to members of this Bde for period 1 Oct 42 to 31 Mar 43:- CBE Brig K W EATHER DSO Lt-col A W BUTTROSE (Comd 2/33 Bn during that period); Lt-col R H MARSON (2/25 Bn) To 2/25 Bn - bar to MC, MC, and MM. The following immediate awards have been made for recent ops:- 2/25 Bn 3 MMs; 2/31 Bn DCM & 2 MMs; 2/33 Bn MC & 2 MMs.	
	31 Dec 0130	Telephone message received from DIV stating that this Bde is to be relieved within the next few days and to move back to PT MORESBY. Full instns to follow.	
	0700	Adv party consisting of 6 Offrs from each of 2/25 & 2/33 Bns, 3 Offrs & 3 ORs of 2/31 Bn, & 1 Offr of Bde HQ left for PT MORESBY.	
	0830	Three men missing from 2/6 Sqn patrol returned and reported that they were heavily fired on by 10 JAPS in area 6065.	
	0850	OAKHILL now in area 4975.	
	0900	Bde Comd left for 7 DIV to discuss arrangements for relief of Bde.	
	1030	Lt BALL & 2/Lt LEANDER of US Air Force Air Liaison party arrived at Bde and arrangements were made for them to spend one day with each Bn. 18 Bde & 15 Bde are now in process of moving by air to DUMPU from MORESBY & NADZAB respectively. 2/9 & 24 Bns arrived this a.m. 18 Bde will relieve 21 Bde and 25 Bde will be relieved by 24 Bn and part 21 Bde. The remainder of 15 Bde will eventually relieve 21 Bde.	

PLACE	DATE & TIME	EVENT	REMARKS
	31 Dec 1520	ENGLISH Offrs att to Bns have been instructed to move with units to DUMPU air strip and report there to Station Comd for onward mvt to 18 Bde.	
	1630	Lt-gen LUMSDEN of the BRITISH ARMY visited Bde Comd.	
	1700	THOMAS patrol returned to Unit. Patrol report att as Appendix "F".	Appx "F"
	1815	2/6 Sqn reported that BOOMERANG Tac/R plane crashed in area 6266 and burst into flames.	
	1820	Patrol from 2/6 Sqn left to investigate plane crash. Patrol is to bivouac for night at 623636 and move on at first light.	
	2015	WARNING ORDER received from 7 DIV that Bde is on 24 hrs notice to move by air to PT MORESBY.	
	2140	From DIV:- Air strike today destroyed BOGADJIM RD in 2 places near OLD YAULA. Tac/R reported that all bridges have been re-built except Nos. 1,2,& 3, which are being by-passed. Intention 1 Jan 1944:- 2/33 Bn to move to air strip. 2/31 & 2/25 Bns to be relieved by 2/14 & 24 Bns respectively. OAKHILL patrol to return to camp. Patrol report att as Appendix "G".	Appx "G"
		Notification was received today that the VICTORIA CROSS has been awarded to QX20656 Pte R. KELLIHER of 2/25 Bn for gallantry in action during LAE ops.	
		Attached as Appendix "H" are patrol reports for period 1-31 Dec, NOT specifically referred to above.	Appx "H"
		Attached as Appendix "J" are sketches showing dispositions of units of Bde on the dates specified thereon.	Appx "J"

Appx "K" for Tac/R Reports, OCT-NOV-DEC 43.



Appx H.

PATROL REPORT - SOLU RIVER TO 572790 - URIGINA 1"

Left patrol base 496746 at 1230 hrs 5 Dec moving NW along native pad to 485755 thence east to 500754 (no bridge), up creek for 15 mins then up native pad along spur 5076 to hut at 530784 to village 537793 arriving there at 1230 hrs. Followed pad for a while - running east - then broke bush ~~at~~ across saddle 543792 to 544796 where a good track running east/west was located. Showed signs of recent and heavy use and appeared to be an old Government track as trees had been cut ~~in~~ a long time ago and earth cut away in places. Average width - 4'. At 0930 hrs two men were left in observation and two moved east along track for approximately 400 yds where a pad was found branching SE. This also showed signs of use by enemy and natives. Followed pad leading to old vacated JAP camp at 553787 - down creek to vacated JAP hut at 567787 on south bank. From here on, strong stone defensive breast works were found on both sides of creek, about 30 yds apart and right down through two very narrow gorges to 572790 where a JAP guard and two huts were sighted. Patrol then withdrew to main track and picked up the two observers, who reported no movement. Patrol returned to base by the same route, except for following creek down from 500760 to patrol base.

TIMES

496746 up creek to	500760	-	1½ hrs. (Native pad 3 hrs)
500760 to hut	530784	-	4 hrs.
530784 to village	537793	-	1½ hrs.
Village to track	544796	-	4½ hrs. (NO pad)
544796 to	572790	-	2 hrs.

Paper with JAP writing found at vacated hut 567787. Apparently request for supplies and of no value.

Bicycle tyre marks seen on track, but bicycle could NOT have been ridden along it.

NO line of communication along track.

R PEDERSEN "I" Sjt
2/6 Aust Cav (Commando) Sqn.

I. O.
Sr. Bok

Herewith condensed reports on tracks
covered by this SQN in KESAWAI area. Capt JACOBSEN
directly has enlargements showing tracks and pads.

Traps on KISA ORBORUNA area, originally
requested by DIV, will be forwarded on to you as
soon as completed.

Ed. L. Howard Lt.

10. 8/6 Cav SQN.
17 Dec.

TRACK + PATROL REPORT KESAWHI AREA 10-28 Nov.

10 Nov Track ISARIBA to KARONA:- ISARIBA - BUNAGUNTA 50 mins track drops through rain forest for 20 mins to flat thence 5 mins to turn off main track to West along heavily timbered flat swampy country to village.

BUNAGUNTA - SAUSI. 35 mins over flat swampy timbered country to creek thence 15 mins good walking to SAUSI.

SAUSI - KARONA 25 mins good flat dry walking through heavy timber crossing BOKU river 5 mins before KARONA (Jap huts on south side of river.)

OBSTACLES. Swampy ground for early part, BOKU river approx. 150' wide 2' deep stony bottom.

11 Nov Track ISARIBA to vacated JAP POSN vicinity 480806:- ISARIBA to KETABA $\frac{3}{4}$ hr undulating muddy track through rain forest.

KETABA to BOKU river bridge $\frac{3}{4}$ hr first part of track undulating then drop of approx 700' to river. (A 9' x 80' bridge crosses river on track to ORGURUNTA)

Bridge to 480806 slight native pad mostly following river bed (A dry season track).

12 Nov Track BOKU river bridge to ORGURUNTA 2 - 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ hrs - sharp climb for first 50 mins through rain forest then easy climb to village.

13 Nov Native pad ISARIBA to SOLU RIVER 495746: 4 hrs along main track to 447748 thence up creek bed (12" deep) to 463756. Paths up spurs to huts 463758 (A pad branches NW here).

Pad continues NE climbing gradually for 25 mins. then East crossing over small spurs to branch at 476763 (Branch goes up spur in NNE direction) Pad continues SE dropping down sharply in places, crosses two small creeks and then further drop to SOLU. Rain forest throughout. Suitable foot traffic only.

14 Nov Patrol of tracks area 516718 - Native pads only running North, SW and South down to creeks

14 Nov (CONT.) Track TAP CAMP 522658 to junction 487685 - 80 mins
3' to 8' wide, swampy in parts.

15 Nov Native pad from OP 453772 runs East of ridge to creek
465777. Time 25 mins. Pad also runs South along ridge
then SE to approx 459765 with pad branching East to
Native hideout.

Native pad from BOKU river 462780 SE to 478767
2 hrs steep climb through rain forest.

16 Nov Native pad ~~from OP 453772~~ 478767 to 495787: - 2 hrs - along
ridge with exceedingly steep climb of approx 400' early
impracticable for heavy use.

Native pad 478767 to pad 476763 - 15 mins drop of
300' early then gradual slope down.

Native pad from huts 463757 to 460765 - 1 1/2 hrs,
steady climb on good pad.

17 Nov Native pad 506743 to village 515728 - 75 mins gradual
then steep climb through rain forest.

Pad 484756 to huts 499753 - 1 hr - difficult track
through rain forest.

18 Nov Native pad from BOKU bridge SW to village 442767 thence
South and SE to join main track at 445759 - 1 1/2 hrs
through rain forest with steep climb early.

Track KARONA - YAGUNBU - 1 hr - follows edge of timber
good flat track crosses 3 creeks, YAGUNBU on Southern side YAGUNBU river

21 Nov Native pad OP 495787 to KOBH - recess only to 496805, 40 mins,
steep drop down spur covered with heavy timber, pad overgrown.
KARONA - MUTAWANA - 50 mins along main track to 416793, branches
West through swamp to MUTAWANA at 395785. Native pad branches
East off main track 416792 - 20 mins to 432801 - pad continues
not reced.

20-23 Nov Native pad 498760 to village 532794 - 8 hrs - pad indistinct
and overgrown to 509768 thence to hut 514773, pad then forks but
rejoins. At 526785 a pad branches East, then SE to cut out
at 540775 (Jap road visible from 544773).

25-26 Nov. Tracks YAGUNBU to URIFA.

YAGUNBU to HIYAMBI - 20 mins, crosses YAGUNBU river, then along good flat well drained wide track through heavy timber. HIYAMBI to GITINA - 4 mins. GITINA to URIGINAZ - 25 mins good flat walking through heavy timber, rise of 50' to URIGINAZ which is built on red soil. URIGINAZ to URIGINA - 30 mins flat walking, wide track - patches of kunai to SW of tracks. URIGINA to village 395858 - 20 mins - flat walking, crosses ELI river. Village to URIFA - 60 mins - re-crosses ELI, follows bed of river to 409864 thence east up gradual slope to URIFA - 200 yards past URIFA tracks forks, (not reced).

25-27 Nov. Native pad YAGUNBU to HUTS 457823 - 2 hrs - branches of main track 407807 follows general line of river to 425813, up river to pad leaving river 427815, follows course of river to huts at 440812 thence along ridge North of river to huts at 452821 and 457823.

28 Nov Native pad from village 532794 proceeds NW down spur, crosses 3 creeks to hit main creek at 517806, thence down creek bed passing vacated enemy defensive position covering creek at 513808. Track continues on downstream. Time 1 hr.

28 Nov From MAIKE-SOLU junction. East along feature - no pad but good easy walking all way. At 562745 encountered track running NW x SE along ridge. Followed track NE to point 555750 where gaps encountered. Time - 2 1/2 hrs.

4 DEC. At 489695 good flat track through rain forest branches to NW going to Old KOROPA. Time 1 hr. Track at 485695 does not exist. Various native pads vicinity Old KOROPA but all cross swampy ground to contact main KOROPA-BUNAGUNA track. KOBEN not known to local natives.

7 DEC Track at 545800 AMUBA 1:25,000 located running EAST-WEST through rain forest - 4' wide, clay surface in good condition - signs of recent heavy use. Native Pad at 548798 AMUBA going S.E. thence down creek to road - 400' of defences prior to reaching road. Time 548798 to road 1 3/4 hrs. N.B. Track on map URIGINA running NORTH from 545790 non-existent

PATROL REPORT

UNIT 2/31 Aust Inf Bn
TYPE Recce
TIME OUT 0645 hrs 25 Dec 43.
TIME IN 0900 hrs 26 Dec 43.
STRENGTH 1 Offr 23 ORs
ROUTE See sketch
OBJECT 24 hrs general recce.

REPORT Patrol moved out through D Coy 2/25 Bn and then NW.
On arriving at D Coy 2/25 Bn, a Sgt and 3 natives were waiting to accompany the patrol to the PIB Camp to de-louse booby traps set the previous night. On arriving and inspecting booby traps that had been set off the night before, it was evident that the grenades had been set off by a dog.

The patrol moved on to the position previously held by A Coy 2/25 Bn and halted to send out 2 small parties, one down the creek to the left, and the other along the track and in to the right.. When these patrols returned and reported NMS, the patrol again moved fwd, this time with the scout further fwd than before owing to the type of country. With high ground on the right it is possible to be ambushed in several places, the most suitable being the posn by 2/25 Bn - 484708 - the track up to this point and for about another 500 yds is from 4 to 8' wide. The track is in fairly good order, but from 485713 fwd to 485722 is very boggy and becomes narrow, in places being only 2-3' wide.

At 1615 hrs the patrol reached a creek bed 40 yds wide with about 5' of water. This was taken to be the SOLU R. Two Secs went fwd for 1000 yds but contacted nothing. There were NO tracks in this area fresher than 4 days old.

The patrol then moved back to 485713, owing to condition of track orders were to bivouac from 1630 hrs till 2400 hrs and listen for sign of any movement. NMS and nothing heard to 2400 hrs.

Patrol left bivouac area and then moved to 483691 and halted for 2 hrs. Nothing seen or heard at this posn. Leaving here at 0400 hrs moved back to PIB camp and there contacted 2/25 Bn patrol going out over same route.

Resting here for 1 hr, patrol then moved back to camp, arriving at 0900 hrs 26 Dec. Throughout the patrol NMS and nothing heard. Only tracks seen were 4 days old with the exception of 5 native tracks, 4 going WEST, and one coming back.

APPX "G"

PATROL REPORT

UNIT 2/31 Aust Inf Bn

TYPE Recce & Fighting

TIME OUT 1915 hrs 26 Dec 43.

TIME IN 1530 hrs 1 Jan 44.

STRENGTH Coy

ROUTE See sketch.

OBJECT To patrol as far as SOLU R, to obtain as much information as possible about enemy strength, dispositions etc, to capture PW, if possible, to clean up any parties of JAPS met, but NOT to become heavily committed.

REPORT

<u>Map Ref</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>
585594	261915L	Coy moved out of camp area NE along track. Going good until dark.
546624	2215	Arrived at 2/25 Bn fwd Coy. Served with tea & buns.
	2245	Moved on.
546627	2330	Arrived EVAPIA R - approx 30 ft wide & 2 ft deep.
532644	270200	Track entered rain forest, going from EVAPIA to timber very fair.
	0330	Forced to halt as darkness in the timber also very muddy track made it impossible to move.
	0615	Coy moved on.
522658	0700	Contacted 2/25 Bn Coy patrol moving back to camp area.
512664	0745	Coy halted for breakfast. Sentries posted.
	1000	One man sent back to report to 2/25 Bn as Coy had NO contact by air with own Bn HQ. Rest of Coy slept till 1400 hrs.
	1400	One NCO & 5 ORs moved fwd along track to recce SOLU R crossing.
	1615	Message received from ROBSON to move fwd to SOLU R by last light.
	1640	Coy moved. So far NMS. Going from here to SOLU very muddy and extra slow. Mud in parts over knees.
722488	1700	Arrived at river NOT marked on map. Thought at first to be SOLU.
	1745	Coy arrived at SOLU R where our Sec recce patrol met us and told us NMS. River 40 yds wide 3 ft deep.
478728	1800	Coy took up def posn for bivouac. 14 Pl moved on to KOROPA to recce village and to hold track junc.
	1945	3 men returned from 14 Pl with infm that Pl was holding village. NMS. One foot print seen, very narrow print.
	280001	Coy endeavoured to move on but found it impossible owing to darkness.

<u>Map Ref</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>
478728	280615L	Coy moved on into KOROPA.
466733	0645	Arrived KOROPA.
	0700	15 Pl moved fwd along track to investigate ISARIBA village and track junc ref KOBAN 434716.
	0830	Coy moved fwd.
434716	0915	Coy halted on ridge to try and contact ROBSON. 0915 hrs s hots heard from direction of ISARIBA where 15 Pl were. Approx 1000 yds ahead. OC and 4 went fwd to investigate and found Lieut PIPER hit in left arm but the 2 enemy had withdrawn.
	0940	Coy moved fwd into ISARIBA and took up all round def with recce patrol to track junc 426724.
452747	1300	Message received from ROBSON that BOOMERANGS coming over to investigate. BOOMERANGS overhead for approx 45 mins. PIPER and 1 sick man from 13 Pl moved back to Bn. Also recce patrol reported back from track junc 426724. One enemy seen who withdrew EAST along track.
	1340	Coy moved on.
448749	1440	Coy halted to try and contact Bn. NO result. Also Sec of 15 Pl who left main track at ref 451733 to report on track to BUNAGUNA reported having reached SAUSI village but track had NOT been used for a long while.
	1445	2 JAPS seen in bushes on NORTH side of track. Lost in bushes.
	1500	Coy moved to KETOBA.
448766	1645	Coy reached KETOBA. NO sign of enemy. Took up all round def for bivouac.
	1700	DISNEY Sec sent fwd to recce BOKU R crossing & br.
	1900	Recce returns and reports br wrecked and only approx 10 ft left on each side. NMS. Also river easy to cross, approx 30 yds wide 2½ ft deep.
	290700L	Sec of DISNEY sent to BOKU crossing.
452754	0720	Coy moved fwd. Very heavy going.
	0845	Coy halted. Sigs again tried to get messages to Bn.
	0930	ROBERTSON (Coy 2 i/c) and 5 ORs went fwd to recce ORGORUNA 2. Also OC Major and Int representative recce BOKU R to SOUTH. NMS.
	1245	Native seen on top of bald kunai feature ref 445887.
	1255	2 reports (sounded like Mortar) heard from direction of ORGORUNA.
	1315	OC, 1 OWEN gunner & I man moved along track to contact ROBERTSON patrol. Going very steep but fair track.
460810	1635	Reached ORGORUNA.
	1640	OC patrol fired on from ORGORUNA approx strength 1 Pl. Patrol forced to withdraw, firing very hy; SMGs, LMGs, also 5 rds Mortar.
	1700	BOOMERANGS came over and strafed ORGORUNA village.
448766	1840	OC patrol arrived back to Coy bivouac area at KETOBA.
	1915	ROBERTSON patrol reported back, 1 JAP killed and had to withdraw and moved round SOUTH side of village where 1 JAP was seen washing also saw 1 native who appeared to be working for JAPS. Night of 29th very wet.
	300545L	Stand to. Sigs trying to contact Bn. Fog very hy.

<u>Map Ref</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>
448766	300830L	Coy moved off from KETOBA approx bearing 80° to try and reach headwaters of SOLU to investigate 1 man who is missing from 2/25 Bn. Going very steep and tracks had to be made.
457760	1030	Coy halted to allow Sigs to contact Bn.
	1600	Moved down very steep grade to native village. NMS. Track through village running approx NORTH & SOUTH. Bivouac for night, also at 1600 hrs WOODPECKER heard to NORTH approx 2000 yds fired 2 bursts.
	310545L	Stand to.
	0730	Coy moved on bearing approx 100°.
	0800	7 sick men with Sec 5 men sent to return to SOLU crossing as going too tough for sick men. Instns were to wait at XXXX crossing till 011000L for rest of Coy and if they did NOT reach there by that time to return to Bn.
	1140	Native women & children heard in creek but went to the hills when Coy tried to outflank them. Going still very hard and very hard to pin point posn owing to jungle and grades.
	1430	Coy moving down grade to contact ck as time did NOT allow us to get objective.
473748	1610	Coy struck ck and follow it SOUTH.
448749	1700	Contacted track a ck junc and moved along track EAST to ISARIBA arriving there 1700 hrs. NMS but several tracks were seen and appeared to be enemy prints.
466733	1840	Arrived KOROPA where Coy bivouaced for night.
	010545L	Stand to. Rained most of night.
	0715	3 men sent fwd as runners to ROBSON as NO contact could NOT be made by wireless.
	0735	Coy moved from KOROPA.
	0810	Arrived at SOLU crossing. River had risen since we crossed going out. Now 4 ft deep 40 yds wide running very swift.
484724	0830	Halted for breakfast. Rations now getting rather low.
	0915	Coy moved for home. Track very muddy owing to rain during night.
523650	1345	About 10 dead JAPS seen lying on ground where 2/25 Bn were in contact lately.
	1410	Coy arrived EVAPIA R and halted on banks for lunch while OC moved on 1000 yds to 2/25 Bn fwd Coy to ring ROBSON and XXXX report on patrol. Here OC was told that 2/31 Bn had left area and we were to move to DUMPU strip by 020745L.
	1530	Coy moved back to old Coy area on YOGIA R arriving 1815 hrs. Good tea was served and Coy enjoyed good clean up.
	020530L	Coy rose and prepared to move by Jeeps to strip where we arrived at 0745 hrs.
	020830L	Loaded into planes and landed PT MORESBY 1030 hrs.

PATROL REPORT

Appx "F"

UNIT 2/25 Aust Inf Bn

Ref maps
MT OTTO & URUGINA
1" to 1 mile.

Type Recce & Fighting.

Time Out 0650 hrs 29 Dec

Time In 1645 hrs 31 Dec.

Strength 3 Offrs 26 ORs.

Route See report.

Object To patrol 5800 feature 562677.

Report After leaving Bn area patrol reached 569647 at approx 1500 hrs. Returned 2 sick to B Coy. One Sec of 8 men acted as carriers and protective party. Bivouaced night at this map ref and moved fwd first light. Stretcher party following and approx 45 mins behind main body.

Reached 565665 at approx 1045 hrs and took up temporary def posn while making contact with Bn. (Intercomm - 208 Set & 2 Walkie-Talkies), and waiting for remaining Sec to rejoin patrol. At approx 1110 hrs patrol fired on 2 JAPS, killing one and wounding one. Wounded man got away into scrub. Searched dead man, stripping him, but only papers were contained in cigarette case - later returned to I Sec. Both JAPS left their weapons, 1 rifle and 1 OWEN gun (No. 11992) and old pair Field glasses (Tubular - French make). Patrol went fwd ~~leaving Sigs and 5 sick men~~ and investigated track for approx 400 yds; NO sign of enemy, but half grown dog seen.

At approx 1430 hrs patrol moved fwd leaving Sigs and 5 sick men as protection for Sig Sec. Also 1 Walkie Talkie set which remained on continuous watch.

At approx 1530 hrs patrol was fired on by at least 2 OWEN guns and rifles. Took up posn on knoll at 564669 and approx 100 yds from JAP posn. As JAP was astride knife edge spur decided to ask for Arty support (See report on Arty shoot). At approx 1630 hrs 6 men under Cpl TIERNEY, clawed their way along side of knife edged spur, found that JAP had withdrawn, and NO sign of enemy up to 200 yds behind original posn. JAP had dug 3 2-man pits (one with overhead cover) astride track. Recovered 2 JAP shovels and pits had been freshly dug.

At approx 2000 hrs took up def posn for night with patrol at 564667. At 0640 hrs following morning 7 men under Sgt SCOTT went fwd and took up posn at former JAP posn preparatory to whole patrol moving on along 5800 feature. At approx 0830 hrs received message to return to Bn. Patrol began return at 0900 hrs and reached Bn at approx 1645 hrs 31 Dec 43

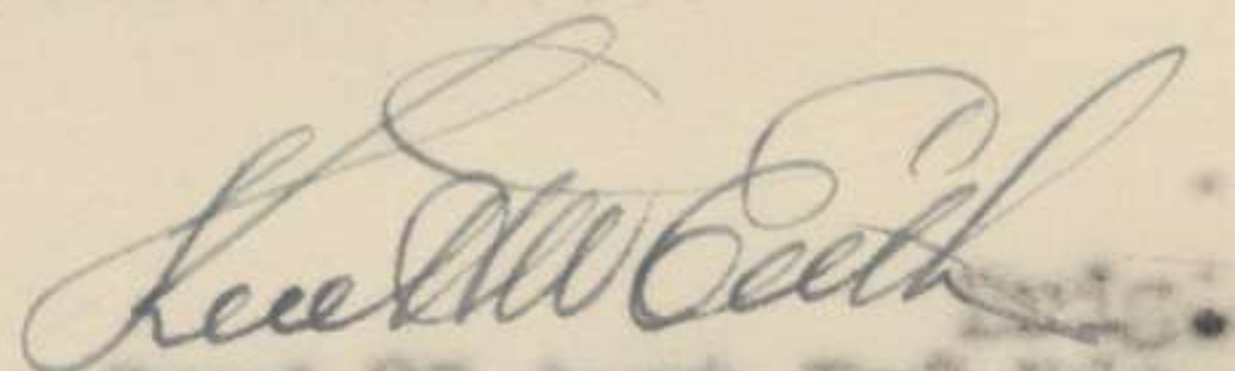
25 Aust Inf Div.
24 December 43.

To Commanders:

2/25 Aust Inf Bn
2/51 Aust Inf Bn
2/33 Aust Inf Bn
2/8 Aust Cav (Commando) Sqn
54 Aust PD Bty BAA
D. Coy P.I. Bn

I would be very pleased if you will convey to all ranks under your command, my personal best wishes for the XMAS and NEW YEAR Season. Also my appreciation of their splendid work of training and campaigning in the year 1943.

I am confident that 1944 will bring us greater opportunities for work and fighting and the close of this New Year will show a very marked progress along the road to final and complete victory of the Allied Arms.


Comd 25 Aust Inf Div.

APPENDIX "A"

With reference to the attack on 2/25 Bn fwd Coys on night 12/13 Dec, the following are questions asked by Bde Comd with answers from the CO 2/25 Bn.

- Q. What type of weapon pits had been dug?
- A. One man circular pits and two man slit trenches. Each man had an alternative pit.
- Q. What field of Fire? Natural or otherwise?
- A. Lanes of fire had been cut for all automatic weapons.
- Q. Were booby traps set to give warning?
- A. Booby traps had been set on tracks in the scrub, but the main track was left clear as 2/6 Cav Sqn personnel were expected.
- Q. Were outposts put out at dusk?
- A. A Coy had 3 outposts which came in at 2100 hrs. C Coy had one, which came in at 2200 hrs.
- Q. How long had Coys been in the posns which were attacked?
- A. A Coy in posn 4 days and C Coy 2½ days before attack.
- Q. What strength were Coys?
- A. A Coy - 5 Offrs 81 ORs plus 1 Offr & 4 ORs (Arty).
C Coy - 4 Offrs 80 ORs incl 6 MMG crew.
- Q. Had any efforts been made to hide or bury cable?
- A. Cable was NOT buried but tied overhead well off the track. Existing cable was used - 2 lines.
- Q. What gave the alarm? What time?
- A. JAP fired hut and opened with automatics, rifles & grenades on 13 Pl C Coy at 0100 hrs. A Coy stood to and were attacked at 0115 hrs, on one third their perimeter, encircling to one half of perimeter.
- Q. What time elapsed after first alarm before Coys' full fire power developed?
- A. Full fire power incl VICKERS MG developed immediately JAP attacked each Coy.
- Q. Were weapon pits mutually supporting?
- A. Yes.

Q. What was the diameter of the perimeter?

A. A Coy's perimeter 120 yds by 80 yds.
C Coy on knife edge extending over 500 yds.

Q. Who gave the order to withdraw? At what time?

A. At 0500 hrs C Coy's posn untenable. A Coy's posn deteriorating owing to C Coy being outflanked. Order to withdraw given by Maj ROBERTSON at 0500 hrs.

Q. How close were the enemy at that time?

A. Enemy were from 6 feet to 30 yds in jungle and 30-50 yds in kunai at time of withdrawal.

Q. Give an estimate of enemy strength.

A.. A Coy estimate 120 men attacked their Coy posn, while 300 in two waves attacked c Coy.

Q. What casualties were suffered and inflicted?

A. A Coy - 2 Offrs (incl 1 Arty) and 3 ORs killed. 7 ORs wounded.
C Coy - 7 ORs wounded.
Enemy - Both Coys estimate 50 enemy casualties. Total 100.

Q. Were the Coys holding high ground?

A. C Coy were holding high ground, A Coy in village holding track.

Q. Did both Coys withdraw together?

A.. It was a co-ordinated withdrawal by both Coys at the same time, organized by Maj ROBERTSON.

PATROL REPORT

Appx B

UNIT 2/25 Aust Inf Bn

Type Recce

Time out 0845 hrs 19 Dec

Time in 1900 hrs 22 Dec

Strength 2 Offrs 38 ORs

Route See report.

Object To recce for 5 days area NORTH of AIRSTRIKE RIDGE along gen line of SOLU R, HAILE R and try to obtain view of JAP MT road.

Report Patrol departed Bn area 550625 at 0845 hrs 19 Dec and ~~reached~~ ~~crest of kunai ridge at 507716 at 1725 hrs~~ moved along main KESAWAI track to 523653. Moved up across kunai hills about 530678 and struck wide lanes in kunai used by JAPS during their attack. Anticipating JAP withdrawal tracks would eventually cross creek, patrol moved into creek at 515703 and followed it down to 505704, where a major JAP track entered it from AIRSTRIKE RIDGE, and followed NORTH up another kunai hill. Patrol followed this ~~track~~ track and arrived 1725 hrs on crest of ridge 507716. JAP track continued down into SOLU R.

Patrol remained on reverse slope of hill until nightfall as ~~no~~ mvt and fires had been noticed on wooded feature beyond SOLU R at 486735. Communicated with MARSON (2/25 Bn) from this pt, using 208 set.

Anticipating possible JAP activity on hill ahead, patrol moved after dark to night perimeter on a feature 400 yds to right along spur. Quiet night but patrol withdrew from perimeter posn at 0530 hrs and assembled again on reverse slope of 507716. Small patrol under Lieut O'Rourke moved down to SOLU R 490732 at 0530 hrs to investigate first light the activity noticed the previous day. Communicated again with 2/25 Bn 0800/21 Dec and as NO report had been received from O'ROURKE and NO firing heard, main body of patrol moved down to SOLU R at 0900 hrs. O'ROURKE reported in at 1000 hrs - NO sign of JAP though he had recently occupied posns in area. Fires and mvt attributed to natives - many females seen but NO males.

At 1100 hrs patrol proceeded from pt 490732 on SOLU R, moved steadily throughout, crossing & re-crossing R several times, and at 1600 hrs was approaching top of steep wooded ridge about 523748. The track up to this pt was particularly well defined and had been used by a considerable force, though with one exception, it was certain it had NOT been used for several days. Leading scouts had noticed one plain set of JAP shoe prints, at least one day old - two days at most.

30 yds below crest of this ridge a very well defined and much used track joined the path patrol had been following and came up sharply from the left out of a saddle of the ridge. Foot traffic only showed on this track - NO mule prints - and evidently NOT used for a couple of days.

Patrol continued towards ridge crest and leading Sec came upon a small kunai clearing on top about 40 yds diameter with a couple of half burnt huts on left side. Cpl and leading Sec extended out and went fwd to investigate. Remainder of patrol waited on track at entrance to clearing. MOREL had apparently noticed something on right side of clearing and ~~motioned~~ motioned Sec and patrol to remain. Immediately 2 JAP MGs opened on Sec in clearing, followed by 2 more and several rifles. Sec withdrew on comd of OC patrol except Cpl MOREL & Pte LAWTON, then missing, believed killed. Recce of area proved JAP posn unassailable, as only approach was up track, climbing approx 45°, with crest of ridge falling away precipitously on near and far side of posn.

OC patrol decided to withdraw and main body under O'ROURKE with moved back to ~~posn~~ SOLU R for night perimeter. OC patrol with 5 others ~~and~~ OWEN guns remained vicinity JAP posn until 1730 hrs. The 2 missing men had OWEN guns, but as NO OWEN fire was heard, NO answer from them to a call out and NO groaning heard, it was presumed that they were definitely missing believed killed and rear party moved back to main body at 1730 hrs.

JAP fire was produced from 1 WOODPECKER, 3 MGs, and several rifles. Many grenades were thrown by JAP into ~~the~~ clearing and he kept up a fairly incessant fire from 1605 hrs, when he first opened until ~~he~~ close on 1745 hrs.

Rear party joined main body on SOLU R 490732 and after dark took up night perimeter on feature 507716. Patrol withdrew before first light to reverse slope and message sent to Bn re contact with JAPS. Patrol ordered to return to Unit.

At 1100 hrs 22 Dec patrol moved down creek bed from 505707, following it down and returning to Unit along main track below foothills from SOLU R. Arrived Unit area 1900/21 Dec. At approx 1930 Pte LAWTON returned also, reporting he had escaped from clearing by rolling down steep slope on far side of clearing and following SOLU R back. When he left area NO sound had come from posn occupied by Cpl MOREL in clearing. One OWEN gun was lost with MOREL. Lawton returned with his.

Description of JAP posn. (see sketch attached)

The small clearing occupied by the JAP was only about 40 yds in diameter. It sat on the crest of the ridge commanding the 2 tracks, the only path of approach from the SOUTH side. It is presumed that these two tracks after converging would have led down far side of ridge towards bed of HAILE R and on to destination. Track followed by patrol ran up knife-edged spur, timbered, and falling away sharply on both sides. Ridge on either side of JAP posn also fell away sharply, allowing him to concentrate all fire on approaching tracks, which he did.

The kunai in the clearing was cut for about 20 yds. A couple of half burnt huts stood on left edge and close by were several weapon pits and foxholes, facing towards right of clearing as though ready for occupation in event of a threat from right flank. The whole of the JAP fire came from right side of clearing, where all four guns & personnel were well concealed ~~xxxx~~ by tall kunai & cane and fairly thick jungle brush.

A sketch map found by OC patrol on top of ridge 507716 - found among broken grass as though JAP had lain there some time - fwded to Bde.

Observations of Patrol Leader.

1. It seems reasonable to assume that JAP was lying in ambush. As patrol approached NO sound was heard in area, which is unusual for the JAP, and he could have been warned by natives, whom we saw on previous night, or have seen patrol advance while still some distance away, or a JAP, whose fresh footprints were seen on track, could have picked up patrol on previous day. In addition practically all his fire was opened simultaneously, as soon as Cpl MOREL gave the indication that something was wrong.

2. It was first thought that this posn commanded his L of C to any tps he may have had on feature 5800, but, although this could be so, it appears that the ridge he occupied does NOT directly connect with 5800.

3. The track coming up from the left near his posn appeared to be another of his withdrawal tracks, coming possibly from far side of SOLU R, but as there was NO evidence of mule traffic on it, it may be that his mule track ran NORTH along the far bank of the SOLU R towards DAUMOINA or turned right further on and branched towards YOKOPI.

4. The JAP lanes trampled in the kunai in the rear of AIRSTRIKE RIDGE were undoubtedly one way traffic only. Tracks of varying size ran down all spurs from his posns on the ridge, and the major ones were about 20 ft wide in some places.

5. In the creek in rear of AIRSTRIKE RIDGE were several areas, where parties had camped, possibly overnight, and in all creeks and covered lines of withdrawal, was evidence in plenty of his passage.

6. Evidence of consumption by JAP of our operational & emergency rations. Several JAP boots seen with soles held on by signal cable.

Field SKETCH

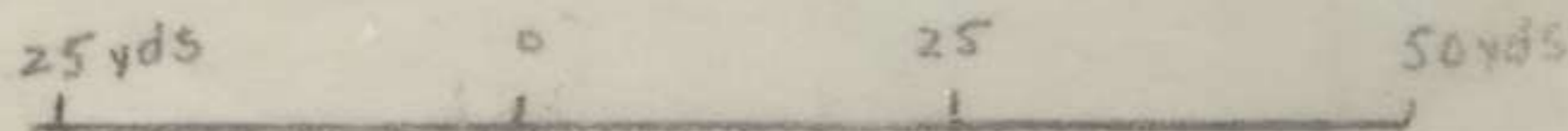
JAP POSN'S ENCOUNTERED BY 2/25 PAT.
20 DEC 43



M.N.

SCALE 1" = 25 yds

FORM LINES ONLY = 10'



Whole AREA HEAVILY
Timbered - except
KUNAI - KNOLL.

PATROL REPORT

Appx C

UNIT 2/33 Aust Inf Bn

TYPE Recce patrol in force

TIME OUT 0030 hrs 18 Dec 43.

TIME IN 1900 hrs 21 Dec 43.

STRENGTH Bn HQ, B, C, & D Coys under Lt-col COTTON with Sec MGs and 2 Tps Arty (54 Bty) under Capt BRISTOL.

OBJECT To find if enemy was in occupation of 5800 feature, to annihilate small parties of enemy, but NOT to become heavily committed.

ROUTE As per sketch.

REPORT Ref maps DUMPU, MT OTTO, URIGINA 1".

17 DEC At 2215 hrs 17 Dec Jeeps carrying heavy gear and haversacks left for jeep head (2/25 Bn rear echelon area). At 0030 hrs 18 Dec patrol moved out - Order of march - B Coy, Comd Gp, C, D, HQ Coys plus 50 native carriers. Arrived jeep-head 0300 hrs.

18 DEC Left jeep-head at 0445 hrs, delay caused by the very muddy road hampering the jeeps with heavy gear. At 0520 hrs reached 2/25 Bn FDLs and took up posn between there and EVAPIA R.

18 DEC At 1015 hrs 19 Dec IO with 4 men went fwd to 564641 to recce approached to 5800 feature. Returned 1310 hrs. At 1320 hrs CO issued instns to Coy Comds and at 1500 hrs patrol moved off - C Coy, Comd Gp, D, B, HQ, Coys, and native carriers. By 1730 hrs all tps in posn 563639.

At 1900 hrs 2 JAPS were sighted at 565665 - engaged by Arty fire and same pt was incl in arty programme for night.

19 DEC At 0130 hrs patrol moved off in same order. Owing to a very rocky creek and very steep ground CO decided to take different route from that advised by 2/31 Bn. By 0545 hrs all Coys incl bearers were in posn at 578657 - stand to observed to 0630 hrs. At 0930 hrs Sec of B Coy patrolled to GREEN KNOLL 568663 and at 1015 hrs B Coy moved to KNOLL. At 1230 hrs remainder COTTON patrol moved fwd. At 1410 hrs Sec patrol of B Coy pushing fwd from GREEN KNOLL made contact 700 yds SOUTH of highest pinnacle - enemy strength unknown - patrol withdrew, NO casualties. Under direction of Capt BRISTOL Arty engaged enemy, firing 120 rds into their posn. At 1700 hrs enemy withdrew under shellfire and B Coy backed up by C & D Coys occupied 5800 feature. B Coy with 17 Pl D Coy formed perimeter on highest pinnacle at 562677 with C Coy, HQ, and BN HQ forming second perimeter 568663 - all quiet during night.

DEC 20 Stand to from 0500 - 0645 hrs. At 0830 hrs Bn HQ moved to pinnacle 200 yds SE of present posn - patrolling of whole area carried out during day as per trace attached. 7 JAPS foxholes found 564672, containing shovels, 1 machete, ground sheets, all bearing evidence of very hasty withdrawal. 2 persons seen 587672 during the day but believed to be natives or Cav Sqn. At 1800 hrs perimeters taken up as previous night - all quiet during night.

DEC 21 Patrol began to return to camp arriving Jeep head 1545 hrs. Reached camp at 1900 hrs.

R. A. A. F.Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION.....	MADZAB.....	UNIT.....	4 th MC SQN.....	SORTIE No.....	2 (7 Div).....	A/C No. - TYPE.....	1146-115 1146-107.....	DATE.....	4 Oct '43.....
ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....	TAC/R. MIDDLE RAMU VALLEY AREA.....								
REF. MAPS.....	MADANG & RAMU STRAT.....	PILOT.....	F/O STALEY.....	TIME UP.....	1630.....	VISIBILITY.....		WEATHER.....	
		OBSERVER.....	F/O HOLYMAN.....	TIME DOWN.....	1850.....	FAIR.....		HEAVY SCATTERED STORMS.....	
				TOTAL.....	2 hrs 20 m.....				

Place or Ref.

Time

Height

REPORT — INTERROGATION

SAUS	1705	40' AGL	Island made by river as shown on map is not there. At this point 3 streams come into main river. No movement seen, but 2 canoes moored above village. Aircraft circled for some time but no troops appeared.
FIATH			What may have been the old air strip located where FIATH marked on map. 2 new houses built with big timber and having a fence that appeared more like a barricade around it. M.M.S. aircraft again circled waiting for signs of movement. Heavy rain had just fallen all through this area.
GONI			Looking fire in edge of Kunai, but not movement seen.
KORAKI			3 cooking fires, no movement seen.
ALIFISH			Kunai still burning in this area. No movement seen.
SARINAM			Message dropped on Bde H.Q. SQ 7938, sign displayed.
			Message dropped on Div. sign displayed.

Time and Signature.....

J.D. Johnson
Capt H.Q.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

45 Aust H.Q. Sec. (AC).

R. A. A. F.Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION <u>NADZAB</u>	UNIT <u>4 AC. SQN.</u>	SORTIE No. <u>1. (7 Div.)</u>	A/C No. - TYPE <u>A46-107</u> <u>A46-115</u>	DATE <u>5 Oct '43</u>
ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE <u>TAC/R DUMPU AREA.</u>				
REF. MAPS <u>1:63360 SERIES</u>	PILOT <u>F/O. HOLYMAN</u>	TIME UP <u>0705</u>	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	OBSERVER <u>F/O. STALEY</u>	TIME DOWN <u>0915</u>	<u>FAIR - ONLY</u>	<u>LOW CLOUD.</u>
		TOTAL <u>2 HRS 10 M.</u>		

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT — INTERROGATION
<u>DUMPU.</u>	<u>0705</u>	<u>40' AGL.</u>	<p>Own troops across SURINAM RVR near old DUMPU air strip.</p> <p>Well constructed ^{wooden} bridge crossing URHA RVR 717589, well worn track disappears into jungle on either side. Bridge appears at least 6' wide. Track in jungle cannot be followed from air.</p> <p>Track KUMBARUM-BOGANON appears to be more or less as marked on map. This is only visible from the air in odd places.</p> <p>^{wooden} Bridge 759915 crossing SURINAM. Strongly constructed and at least 6' wide.</p> <p>Track from SURINAM to SIMBO is very well worn. where it can be observed from air.</p>
<u>SIMBO</u>	<u>1630/9</u>		<p>Decent sized village, aircraft unable to follow up any further, owing to cloud. N.M.S.</p> <p>From SURINAM bridge 759915 (near river junction which may be inaccurate on map) road goes through S.Qs 7653-7754-7655-7756, cloud prevented further Recce at this point. This road appears an Engineers job and is definitely wide enough for jeep traffic. It is ^{cut} into mountain and from air appears much like the BULLDOG road. Message dropped on Bde (sign put out).</p> <p>DIV did NOT put out sign and message not dropped, aircraft circled for some time in area.</p>

25

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... <u>NADZAR</u>	UNIT..... <u>4 AC. SQN.</u>	SORTIE No. <u>2</u> (<u>7 DIV.</u>)	A/C No. - TYPE..... <u>1146-107</u> <u>1146-115</u>	DATE..... <u>6 Oct '43</u>
ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE..... <u>TAC R. BOODJIM ROAD STRAEL N. 9 KEY POINT 3</u>				
REF. MAPS..... <u>DUMPU 1:63360</u>	PILOT..... <u>F/O STALEY</u>	TIME UP..... <u>1600.</u>	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	OBSERVER..... <u>F/O HOLYMAN</u>	TIME DOWN..... <u>1740</u>	<u>POOR</u>	<u>RAIN & LOW CLOUD.</u>
		TOTAL..... <u>1 hr 40m.</u>		

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT — INTERROGATION
<u>706 587</u> <u>URIA RIVER</u>	<u>1630</u>	<u>40'</u>	Track followed from S.Q. 7456 which winds through to URIA RVR and crosses approx 706 587. This is a wooden bridge about 6' wide and fairly well made with cross planks and trestles. Road could not be followed on NW bank of river owing to heavy jungle.
<u>761 545</u>	<u>1640</u>	<u>40'</u>	761 545, 24 troops ran for cover. Pilot identified as 17 papers and 4 natives. KUNHI burning in this area. Heavy thunderstorms in hills prevented further Recce.
	<u>1700</u>	<u>40'</u>	} <u>See attached.</u>
	<u>1705</u>	<u>"</u>	
			<u>See attached</u>

Time and Signature..... JR J. J. J. J.
Lieut. H.H.O.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
45 Aust HI Sec (AC)

649—N.G. Press Unit—9/43—3m

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

A-46-117

LOCATION NADZAB UNIT H A/C SQUADRON SORTIE No. No 1 (1 Div) A/C No. - TYPE A-46-121 DATE 7 Oct 43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE TAC/R SUPPOSED JAP L.O.C FROM KEY POINT (8) 794507 TO SUPPLY CAMP 581772

REF. MAPS <u>Dumpy } MT KUBARI } 1/63360</u>	PILOT <u>Flt PIZER</u>	TIME UP <u>0705</u>	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	OBSERVER <u>Flt OLORENSHAW</u>	TIME DOWN <u>0940</u>	<u>FAIR</u>	<u>LOW CLOUD</u>
		TOTAL <u>2 HRS 35 MINS</u>		

REPORT — INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	Observations
<u>WAMPUM 801157</u>	<u>0740</u>	<u>40'</u>	<u>WAMPUM to KORAM no movement seen.</u>
<u>SALIMA 837538</u>	<u>0745</u>	<u>40'</u>	<u>Men ran far cover pilot unable to identify.</u>
<u>GURUMBUS 819618</u>	<u>0755</u>	<u>40'</u>	<u>Men again run far cover, pilot unable to identify. Odd huts in these villages smouldering but still standing.</u>
			<u>Low cloud interfered with TAC/R at this point, and track was not picked up to PAIPA N.M.S PAIPA village or along tracks or villages to Supply Camp.</u>
			<u>Pilot used opinion that country through which supposed track leads from KEY POINTS 18 to 4, would be very difficult-going and does not suggest end of L.O.C</u>
			<u>Red 1430/7</u>

Time and Signature R. Olorenshaw
H/O

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

45 MUST A/C SECTION (A/C)

1730

7/31

pl pat to NAM. IN

located 5' lead gopro 82+443

1 lead Aust. along Wasaino R.

Small amount Eqpt in NAM

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... <u>NADZAB</u>	UNIT..... <u>4 AC. SQN.</u>	SORTIE No. <u>2</u> (<u>7 DIV.</u>)	A/C No. - TYPE..... <u>F46-115</u> <u>F46-117</u>	DATE..... <u>7 Oct 43</u>
ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE..... <u>TAC/R BOGADJIM RD - SUPPLY CAMP 581772 to DAUMONIA 577840 - KESAWAI 456716</u>				
REF. MAPS..... <u>URINGA. 1:63360.</u>	PILOT..... <u>F/O. STALEY</u>	TIME UP..... <u>0705</u>	VISIBILITY.....	WEATHER.....
	OBSERVER..... <u>F/LT. OLORENSHAW</u>	TIME DOWN..... <u>0940</u>	<u>FAIR</u>	<u>LOW CLOUD.</u>
		TOTAL..... <u>2 Hrs 35 M.</u>		

REPORT — INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	Description
<u>SUPPLY CAMP 581772</u>	<u>0815</u>	<u>40'</u>	<u>2 japs seen sauntering along road towards village marked as Supply Camp. 4 japs strafed.</u>
			<u>Going north to DAUMONIA is an excellent motor road 15'-20' wide. There are odd shuts scattered along this road, no movement seen.</u>
<u>DAUMONIA 577840</u>	<u>0825</u>	<u>40'</u>	<u>Not a particularly large village but there are many tracks of motor transport in this area.</u>
			<u>Track DAUMONIA - KESAWAI can be followed from air for approx 1 mile, where it goes into heavy jungle and reappears village 540790 and follows KUNAI Ridge to village 520785. Track as marked on map from here cannot be picked up from air, but a fairly well worn pad can be followed running SOUTH to S.G. 5270 thence SE to S.G. 5567.</u>
<u>KESAWAI 456716</u>	<u>0840</u>	<u>40'</u>	<u>This village not located country in area very swampy, but ISIRIBA is a good sized village on top of KUNAI RIDGE with many fresh tracks around it, the main track leads SE and disappears into jungle and reappears at KORAPI.</u>

Time and Signature..... J. O. Olorenshaw
NMS

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

25 Ble

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

H 46 - 106.

LOCATION..... <u>NADZAB</u>	UNIT..... <u>H.A.C. SQUADRON</u>	SORTIE No. <u>2 (7(Div))</u>	A/C No. - TYPE..... <u>P4L-117</u>	DATE..... <u>10 Oct 43</u>
ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE..... <u>TACKLE OF DEFENCE AREA SURINAM, URU RYA AREAS STRAFF @ OPPORTUNITY TARGETS</u>				
REF. MAPS..... <u>DUMP 4 1/63360</u>	PILOT..... <u>F/O HOLYMAN</u>	TIME UP..... <u>1605</u>	VISIBILITY..... <u>GOOD</u>	WEATHER..... <u>CLOUDY OVER HILLS</u>
	OBSERVER..... <u>F/O MASSON</u>	TIME DOWN..... <u>1800</u>		
		TOTAL..... <u>1HR 55 MINS</u>		

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT — INTERROGATION
DEFENCE AREA SQ 75544	1645	50-500 A.G.L.	<p>2 japs in foxholes 745532 fired on A/C with rifles, ridge runs N.W. and more foxholes have been started. There are no machine guns in these pits at present but they have very commanding view over own troops. Japs were trapped and killed observed main defence area 755545, japs in strength in trenches and foxholes fired on aircraft with rifles and machine guns. A/C strafed trenches destroying hut and machine guns, casualties inflicted. As escort aircraft approached japs were taking cover in fan numbers. In one particular trench 758546 about thirty japs observed.</p> <p>Aircraft engaged with cannon & machine guns. On second run A/C was halted in that place by M.G. fire. Pilot dived on machine guns and called in RAAF P.40's to strafe area. M.G.'s did not again open fire; all rifle fire had ceased also.</p> <p>As aircraft indicated on Tac/R^{ac} had been shot away pilot returned to Base.</p> <p>Escort A/C observed at least 12 foxholes along ridge approx 770550.</p>

Time and Signature..... R. Kenyon Lang
 Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc..... Ken

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION NADZAB UNIT 4 AC. SQN. SORTIE No. 1. (7 Div) A/C No. - TYPE A20-561 DATE 10 Oct '43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE TAC/R. & PHOTO/R DEFENCE AREA & BRIDGES SURINAM & URIFA RVERS.

REF. MAPS <u>DUMPU 1/63360</u>	PILOT <u>F/O DARBISHIRE</u>	TIME UP <u>1020</u>	VISIBILITY
	OBSERVER <u>F/O HACKSHALL</u>	TIME DOWN <u>1255</u>	<u>FAIR</u>
		TOTAL <u>2 Hrs 35 M.</u>	WEATHER <u>LOW CLOUD</u>

Place or Ref.	Time	Height <small>A.G.L.</small>	REPORT — INTERROGATION
<u>DEFENCE AREA S.O. 7554</u>	<u>1135</u>	<u>50'-100'</u>	<p style="text-align: right;"><small>OWING TO LOW CLOUD NO VERTICLES possible.</small></p> <p>Own troops EAST side SURINAM along track 764520 to bridge 772527. natives moving NORTH 769530 who cleared off at sight of aircraft. Foxholes & trenches running approx NW on very prominent RIDGE from 762541 for full length of open part of Ridge (approx 400'). No movement seen in foxholes or trenches which are not covered, open country on WESTERN side of slope has been burnt, no field gun was located, but position which aroused suspicion, was photographed at 760537. Top of hill was Reced, no tracks or positions picked up. Disused village 738553 with many fresh tracks. Most of the huts are flat. At SE end of village are two clearings covered with thatch which aroused suspicion - Photographed. Weapon pit on kunai covered steep spur at approx 715575 with 2 pups who crouched each time aircraft passed over. Weapon in pit had telescopic sight. This pit covers junct of URIFA RVR and unnamed creek joining at approx 711575. Message dropped 21 Bde. Aircraft had front-tank held by small arms fire.</p>
	<u>1145</u>		

Time and Signature J. P. Scherston Langh
Lieut H.L.O.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

7 Div

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION NADZAB UNIT 4 AC SQN. SORTIE No. 1. (7 Div) A/C No. - TYPE A46-117
A46-121 DATE 11 Oct '43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE CONT & TAC/R DEFENCE AREA 7654-7653 @ BOGADJIM ROAD.

REF. MAPS DUMPU 1/63360 PILOT F/O. MASSON TIME UP 0900 VISIBILITY WEATHER
POOR LOW CLOUD

OBSERVER F/O. PIZER TIME DOWN 1130
TOTAL 2 HRS 30M.

REPORT — INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	Report
DEFENCE AREA 7654-7653.	0945	40'	No movement seen in trenches or foxholes on Ridge 755545. Own troops dug in on Ridge 755540. Troops waved to aircraft. 12 foxholes on small plateau overlooking valley S.G. 7558, no movement seen. Aircraft called "BOB 1." (21 Bde), and communications satisfactorily established. "BOB 1." instructed aircraft to investigate supposed enemy position on junction URUA RVR S.G. 7461, and straff if necessary. Small village of 12 huts and small gardens located on edge of RVR - N.M.S. Low cloud made straffing impractical and pilot advised "BOB 1." no movement seen, and gave map reference of village as 740612. Small footbridge across river 743613.
BOGADJIM Rd.	1005	40'	Pilot was not able to follow up BOGADJIM ROAD owing to low cloud.
	1030	40'	message dropped on 21 Bde, DIV & 25 Bde signs NOT located.

Time and Signature J. R. McKeenan
Lead A.I.O.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

45 AUST AL SEC (AC)

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

R.A.A.F. Form A.55.
(R.A.F. Form 790.)

PILOT'S REPORT.

To GEORGE BOB 1
BOB 2

Map Ref. Dumper

Visibility _____

TIME.	OBSERVATION.
0945	NMS on ridge 785545 many tracks leading to jungle uphill at end of ridge
1000	Own troops at 05000. Top of ridge
1020	NMS seen 710610
1030	NMS FOXGLOVE Road nearby repaired
1045	NMS Dammun

1100/12

From F/O [unclear]

Rank and Name,

Squadron, 12

Date, 12/12

PILOT'S REPORT.

To Woodhouse Map Ref. _____
 Visibility _____

TIME.

OBSERVATION.

1645

2 Japs in fox holes. (O.P.) at 735-520. Strapped & appear to be dead. one fired on A/c with rifle. fox holes dug along top of this ridge overlooking our troops.

1700

Japs observed in trenches in force at 725-545 along ridge and possible machine guns at this point machine gun firing A/c hit. No heavy guns seen

A.S. at other 2 defence positions

From

W. Holyman
 Rank and Name, /

Squadron.

Date,

1725 / 10 Oct

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION.....	UNIT.....	SORTIE No.....	A/C No. - TYPE.....	DATE.....
NADZAB	4 A.C. SQUADRON	2 (7 DIV)	A 46-117 A 46-115	12 Oct 43
ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....	TAC/R LOCATE ENEMY POSITION APPROX SQ 7858 AND LEAD IN STRAFFING ATTACK.			
REF. MAPS.....	PILOT.....	TIME UP.....	VISIBILITY.....	WEATHER.....
DUMPU 1/63360	F/O PIZER	1605	FAIR	LOW CLOUD
	OBSERVER.....	TIME DOWN.....		
	F/O MASSON	1850		
		TOTAL.....		
		2 HRS 45 MINS		

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT — INTERROGATION
	1645		<p>Bob 2 did not answer call from aircraft. Area located, but does not appear to be very extensively fortified, no foxholes or trenches are visible from air. Country is rugged with small landsheds. No strips to indicate own F.D. were sighted. A.C. kept going all into valley to try and contact BOB 2, but did not get into communication until 1810 HRS. BOB 2 asked A.C. to go back and strafe area from EAST to WEST. As pilot had been briefed to strafe SOUTH to NORTH unless own indicator strips or hostile position positively identified, petrol was running low, he suggested "unless vital will return to base". BOB 2 agreed.</p> <p>Low cloud + rain prevented close view lower BOB 2 TIM ROAD area.</p>
			1115/13
			Time and Signature..... <i>R. Schuster</i> Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc..... 45 AUST AR SECTION (AC)

"IVAN"

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

A. 46-117

LOCATION N4DZAB UNIT 4 A.C. SQUADRON SORTIE No. No. 1 (7 DIV) A/C No. - TYPE A. 46-115 DATE 12 OCT. 43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE TAC/PT UAI 194 SULINTAN RVR. AREAS. BOBARTIM RD. + STRAFF OPPORTUNITY TARGETS.

REF. MAPS <u>DUMPU</u> <u>MT KUBARR 1/63360</u>	PILOT <u>F/O DARBISHIRE</u>	TIME UP <u>0900</u>	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	OBSERVER <u>F/O MILLER-RANDLE</u>	TIME DOWN <u>1130</u>	<u>GOOD</u>	<u>FINE</u>
		TOTAL <u>2 HRS 30 MINS.</u>		

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT - INTERROGATION
	0950	50-500	SO 7854 Very heavy jungle - no movement seen.
			SO 7753 pads leading into jungle through KUNAI.
			695600 Own troops in fair numbers on ridge, troops matted.
			SO 7161 Light jungle tracks observed in area. Smoke observed in SO 8054
			685625 - 18 Japs observed on high ridge approx 1-1.5 miles long running N+S. and 4,000' high Japs took cover. Tracks along whole length of top of ridge with foot-holes about every 50 yds. Many scattered tracks through foot-holes. This ridge commands view of ridge when own troops sighted. At NORTH end of RIDGE tracks disappear into jungle.
KANKIRYA 283662	1030	"	no movement seen, along track or villages to YOKOPI.
			595749 - 9 Japs with packs heading South, Japs straggled one observed hit, as ran for cover - Pilot suspects other casualties implicated.
Supply Camp 581772	1030	"	no movement seen, road appears to have had recent work done on surface, M.T. tracks observed as far South as YOKOPI.
	1010	"	Aircraft contacted "BOBI." communications satisfactory "BOB 2" not contacted. Message dropped DIV. 25 BDE. 21 BDE not located.

Time and Signature R. A. A. F. [Signature]
 Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc. hour ALO

649-N.G. Press Unit-9/43-3m

45 Aust A.L. SEC (A.C.)

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

R.A.A.F. Form A.55.
(R.A.F. Form 790.)

PILOT'S REPORT.

To GEORGE BOB1, BOB2

Map Ref. Dumper

Visibility Good
scattered clouds

TIME.	OBSERVATION.
1000	positions on ridge 7556 strafed approx 30 enemy in trenches & hollow ridge. enemy seen to run up ridge at in between strafing runs.
1055	New trenches 200 - 500 yards up ridge from position strafed NMS seen on Uria River in lean-to huts at 689604
1100	10 gaps seen in trenches & foxholes on ledge ^{south of falls} approx opposite creek with huts in it. ledge has had mortar fire on it.
1105	many tracks on kunai face of hill west of mortar fire sniper gun still in position of yesterday

From W. Danbridge

Rank and Name,

Squadron.

Date, 13

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

R.A.A.F. Form A.55.
(R.A.F. Form 790.)

PILOT'S REPORT.

To

Map Ref.

Visibility

TIME.

OBSERVATION.

[Faint handwritten text, possibly describing a mission or location]

WMS in trench at 769545

our troops in dug in now

at ridge 753535

Rank and Name,

son.

Date,

11.40 T. H. TENNANT, C

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

R.A.A.F. Form A.55.
(R.A.F. Form 790.)

PILOT'S REPORT.

To: GEORGE BULL
3092

Map Ref. *Dumfries*

Visibility *1000*

TIME.	OBSERVATION.
1645	Wireless aerial seen 400 yds up ridge from position straffed this morning (1656)
	NMS seen along ridge
1700	NMS seen in village on the River 701609 (approx)
1705	NMS on main big ridge to W of URIA River

From *F. Carstairs*

Rank and Name,

Squadron, *4*

Date, *13*

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

R.A.A.F. Form A.55.
(R.A.F. Form 790.)

PILOT'S REPORT.

To Came all from report Map Ref. _____
Visibility _____

TIME.

OBSERVATION.

0140

Track Koram NMS

Sulima - Movement seen

no. Native Villages
Personnel seen for cover
NO indication as to Japanese activities

GORUMBO

Similar to
Achtung! (Lushan)

to YOKOPI

NMS

From

710 P. Pizer 1945/19

Rank and Name,

Squadron.

Date, 7

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... <u>NADZIB.</u>	UNIT..... <u>A.F.C. SON.</u>	SORTIE No. <u>1. (7 DIV.)</u>	A/C No. - TYPE..... <u>#46-134</u> <u>#46-115</u>	DATE..... <u>13 Oct '43</u>
ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE..... <u>TAC/R. To locate ENEMY DEFENCE POSITION S.O. 7557 & LEAD IN STRAFFING ATTACK.</u>				
REF. MAPS..... <u>DUMPU 1/63360</u>	PILOT..... <u>F/O. D ARBISHIRE</u>	TIME UP..... <u>0923</u>	VISIBILITY.....	WEATHER.....
	OBSERVER..... <u>F/O. MILLER-RANDLE</u>	TIME DOWN..... <u>1150</u>	<u>GOOD</u>	<u>FINE SCATTERED CLOUD.</u>
		TOTAL..... <u>2 Hrs 37 M.</u>		

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT — INTERROGATION
<u>DEFENCE AREA S.O. 7557</u>	<u>1000</u>	<u>40'</u>	<p>Communications established with "BOB 2" who told aircraft to go ahead and do straffing job and that "BOB 2" adv would direct from forward area and that F.D.L.s were marked. Aircraft proceeded to area establishing communications with "BOB 2" adv, area was identified and BOOMERANGS indicated straffing area to RAAF P40 by cannon fire. Approx 50 paps were observed in trenches, these were straffed heavily. "BOB 2" adv advised A/C that paps were also 400' WEST, A/C lead P40s onto this area and it was heavily straffed. In between runs pilot observed odd paps climbing out of trenches and foxholes and running for jungle. A/C advised "BOB 2" adv he had finished straffing and "BOB 2" adv asked him to stay in area making dummy passes while ground troops advanced, this procedure was carried out for 5 MINS, while own troops were approaching "BLIND" position under cover of own mortar fire. Pilot then successfully directed mortar fire, and was able to keep "BOB 2" adv in the picture generally regarding own and hostile troop movements. At one stage 2 paps were seen to carry stretcher load of what appeared to be</p>
			Time and Signature.....
			Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... UNIT..... SORTIE No..... A/C No. - TYPE..... DATE.....

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....

REF. MAPS.....	PILOT.....	TIME UP.....	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	OBSERVER.....	TIME DOWN.....		
	TOTAL.....			

REPORT — INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	Report
			ammunition into trench. Mortar bomb scored direct hit into trench. Pilot then advised "BOB 2" adv he had further recce to complete and would call back.
URIH RVR.	1045	40'	N.M.S. in small village of 2 or 3 huts 689604 gaps observed in shallow trenches S.Q. 6860, our mortars fired on position.
S.Q. 6862	1115	40'	Foxhole with LMG but no troop observed. There were many tracks on kunai face of hill which runs approx N.W. These positions were under fire apparently from own Artillery.
			2 huts with many fresh tracks at 675608 - N.M.S.
			"BOB 2" adv contacted aircraft again and advised he had no further message.
	1135	40'	Message dropped on DIV & 25 Bde, 21 Bde NOT located. "BOB 2" came up on R/T and advised Brigadier satisfied with job.

Time and Signature..... *J.R. Thomson*
Lieut. A.I.D.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

45 Aust A.I. Sec (AC).

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

R.A.A.F. Form A.55.
(R.A.F. Form 790.)

PILOT'S REPORT.

To

Map Ref. MT KOBOKI

Visibility DUMPO

TIME.	OBSERVATION.
11.5	DUMPO (MT) AND surrounding bombed & strafed. Jap snipers 400 - strafed on high ridge 0862.
2.00	seen in Bay region head V.M.S. seen in Faria region

300/15

From

Rank and Name,

Squadron.

Date,

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... NADZAB..... UNIT..... 4 AC. SQN...... SORTIE No. 2. (7 DIV)..... A/C No. - TYPE..... A46-117
A46-119...... DATE..... 13 Oct '43.....

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE..... TAC/R & LEAD BOMBING & STRAFFING STRIKE ON JAP POSITION N.E GUYS POST......

REF. MAPS..... DUMPU 1/63340..... PILOT..... F/O. MASSON..... TIME UP..... 1330..... VISIBILITY..... WEATHER.....

..... OBSERVER..... F/O. DICKSON..... TIME DOWN..... 1505.....

..... TOTAL..... 1HR 35M......

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT — INTERROGATION
			Pilot landed at MALLETT and discussed mission with American 41 SQN.
			Time up MALLETT 1330.
S.O. 6959 TO S.O. 6960	1400	40'	Indicator strips were in position and easily identified, and mortar smoke clearly indicated the Bomb line after aircraft had circled position once.
			BOOMERANGS indicated line by diving and firing cannons. Some bombs appeared to fall WEST of track, but pilot observed straffing as being accurate.
VILLAGE 710 638	1430	40'	Village 710 638 was under cloud and as there is a very steep spur immediately NORTH, pilot did NOT lead P 39's in. 8- P 39's did bombing and straffing.
			No trouble of any sort was experienced by pilot in picking up ground indicators, identifying bomb line from mortar smoke, or in indicating to P 39's.
			Pilot receded track after straffing run and no movement seen.
			Time and Signature.....
			Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

25

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... NADZAB UNIT..... 4 HC SQUADRON SORTIE No. 142 (7 DIV) A/C No. - TYPE..... A46-117
A46-115 DATE..... 14 Oct '47

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE..... TAC/R + RECONNAISSANCE TO LEAD IN STRIKE FORCE BOBADJIM ROAD AREA

REF. MAPS..... Dumpy PILOT..... F/O DARBISHIRE TIME UP..... 0740 VISIBILITY..... WEATHER.....
1/63360 OBSERVER..... F/O MILLER-RANDLE TIME DOWN..... 0845 GOOD FAIR
TOTAL..... 1 HR 5 MIN

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT — INTERROGATION
<u>KAIAPIT</u>	<u>0740</u>	<u>5000'</u>	<u>Boomerangs took off to RV with 41 SQDN over KAIAPIT. TSHI-TSHI US owing to rain 41 SQDN could not get off. AC returned to Base.</u>
<u>KANKIRYO</u>	<u>1030</u>	<u>46-560'</u>	<u>Boomerangs landed TSHI TSHI and discussed sortie with 41 SQDN. Aircraft proceeded to KANKIRYO, Jap HQ NOT located & no suitable target sighted. SORTIE 2. F/O DARBISHIRE F/O MASSON. UP 1000 hrs DOWN 1330 hrs TOTAL 3 HRS 30.</u>
<u>YOKOPI 605733</u>	<u>1035</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>No suitable target located</u>
<u>PAIPA 640698</u>	<u>1045</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>Small party of Japs ran into jungle, one pass made results unknown.</u>
<u>Supply Camp 581771</u>	<u>1055</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>Japs seen making on village Boomerangs lead in 8 P40's who dove-bombed position. Bombing was observed in <u>Shiraga</u> <u>area</u>, the first bomb scoring a direct hit on a hut. the area was thoroughly strafed afterwards</u>
<u>670670</u>	<u>1110</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>30 Japs heading South ran for cover. strafed. Aircraft tried to contact Bobi by R/T but did not get into communication.</u>
<u>SQ 7163</u>	<u>1120</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>Very close search made for reported Jap mountain gun N.M.S. heavy jungle in this area makes observation difficult.</u>
			Time and Signature..... <u>J.R. McKeilton Langh</u> <u>new</u>
			Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION.....	UNIT.....	SORTIE No.....	A/C No. - TYPE.....	DATE.....
ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....				
REF. MAPS.....	PILOT.....	TIME UP.....	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	OBSERVER.....	TIME DOWN.....		
		TOTAL.....		

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT — INTERROGATION
688642	1130	40'	<i>Snipers sighted on rd. 4 snipers with rifles on top of ridge, several passes made, one sniper seen dead, one wounded. Small gap defence position appears to have been vacated. Message dropped on 21 BDE DIV. 25 BDE. Contacted BOB 2 by R/T</i>
685625	1245	"	
696612	1300	"	
649—N.G. Press Unit—9/43—3m			Time and Signature <i>J. R. Scheitler 60394</i> <i>lieut</i> Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc. <i>45 Aust AL SEC (AC)</i>

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

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LOCATION NADZAB UNIT 4 AC. SON. SORTIE No. 1. (7 Div.) A/C No. - TYPE A46-117
A46-115 DATE 16 Oct 43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE MC/R & ARTY/R BOGADJIM RD, KANKIRYO - DAUMONIA ENEMY AREA 7062.

REF. MAPS Dumpy 1/6330 PILOT F/O DICKSON TIME UP 0850 VISIBILITY GOOD WEATHER FINE

OBSERVER F/O MASSON TIME DOWN 1130

TOTAL 2 HRS 35 M.

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT — INTERROGATION
<u>PAIPA</u> <u>640699</u>	<u>0925</u>	<u>40'</u>	<u>2 paps sitting near hut, paps cleared into cover, area strafed.</u>
<u>SUPPLY CAMP</u> <u>681771</u>	<u>0945</u>	<u>40'</u>	<u>3 MT, small type, appeared little bigger than paps, standing on side of road, 4 paps standing alongside. paps ran into huts. P40's & BOOMERANGS strafed area and huts, huts were left burning and one direct hit on MT with cannon shell observed.</u>
<u>SHIBA 625710</u>	<u>1015</u>	<u>40'</u>	<u>2 new looking huts in open beside road, huts strafed. Escort P40's observed 18-24 MT camouflaged along road. Target engaged and 2 trucks left in flames and considered all damaged, about 8 separate strikes made, petrol fires started along line of trucks. Fire returned from ground from 2 huts - huts strafed.</u>
<u>KUMBARUM</u> <u>709570</u>	<u>1035</u>	<u>40'</u>	<u>Aircraft called up "GUY," communications fair only. Pilot called for fire on target village 708638. "Guy" advised would engage, but before first round fired informed a/c that own FDL's were too close pilot then gave as target small village 698677.</u>

Time and Signature R. D. ...
[Signature]

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION.....	UNIT.....	SORTIE No.....	A/C No. - TYPE.....	DATE.....
ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....				
REF. MAPS.....	PILOT.....	TIME UP.....	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
.....	OBSERVER.....	TIME DOWN.....		
TOTAL.....				

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT — INTERROGATION
			<p>"Guy" advised a/c "Russ" would engage. "Russ" very difficult to receive signals weak. "BOB" came up and advised owing to doubtful position of own patrols target not safe for engagements. "BOB" asked a/c to test communication again in 15 M. no signals received a/c called frequently on way down valley.</p>
819618 GURUMBU 1	1055	40'	<p>W.M.S. on tracks or in village. low clouds made observation difficult in this area.</p>
To GURUMBU 2 745 615.			
685 625.	1100	40'	<p>Snipers reported this point 15 Oct appear to have vacated area. 688642 single pap sniper observed.</p>
S.G. 7160	1110	40'	<p>Own troops dug in on Ridge.</p>

Time and Signature..... *J. Scheiterer*
Lieut

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

25

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

A.46-117
A.46-119
A.46-113
A.46-119

LOCATION NADZAB UNIT 4AC SQDN SORTIE No. 8 1+2 (7DIV) A/C No. - TYPE P.W.6-119 DATE 19 Oct '43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE TAC/R TO LEAD IN STRIKE FORCE BOGADJIM ROAD.

REF. MAPS Dumpy MTKUBARI
1/63360

PILOT F/O MASSON
OBSERVER F/O DICKSON

TIME UP 1215
TIME DOWN 1430
TOTAL 2 HRS 15 MINS

VISIBILITY
POOR

WEATHER
LOW CLOUD
RAIN

REPORT — INTERROGATION

Boomerangs landed at TSILI-TSILI to discuss sortie with strike force. Strike force had previous commitments and could not make sortie. Boomerangs returned to base.

VISIBILITY - POOR. WEATHER - LOW CLOUD & RAIN.

SORTIE 2. F/O DARBISHIRE - F/O TRUMPER UP 1600-DOWN 1735 - TOTAL 1 HR 35 M.

CONTACT/R + ARTY/R. BOGADJIM Rd. AREA.

BOGADJIM Rd.

40'

Target area under cloud. Russ' & BOBI: contacted by R/T pilot - advised Russ' owing to cloud, unable to engage target - messages dropped on DIV & 21 BDE.

40'

Time and Signature R. Johnston Langh
Lead R.40

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.
45 AUST A.W.SEC. (A.C.)

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION NADZAB UNIT H. G. Co. SORTIE No. 2 (7 Div) A/C No. - TYPE A46-117 A46-95 DATE 21 Oct 43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE Lead in strike Suva area by P. 40.

REF. MAPS <u>Suva</u> <u>Photo map</u>	PILOT <u>Flt Lt Mason</u> OBSERVER <u>Flt Lt Dixon</u>	TIME UP <u>1415</u> TIME DOWN <u>1615</u> TOTAL <u>2 hrs</u>	VISIBILITY <u>7 mi</u>	WEATHER <u>Low Broken</u>
---	---	--	---------------------------	------------------------------

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT — INTERROGATION
<u>DAUMOINA</u>	<u>1525</u>	<u>40'</u>	<u>Lead in 7 P40s at 12215. 5 x 500 lb in target area. Only 4 bombs seen to explode. 2 huts demolished completely - 1 damaged. Road at approx 123113 damaged. All etc strafed village after bombing. Two enemy seen to run for cover - strafed. No other movement seen. Road to DAUMOINA - YAUUA strafed.</u>
<u>KOFEBI</u>	<u>1535</u>		<u>Village strafed but not bombed. Village of approx 4-5 huts at 119124 strafed. One hut at 123118 strafed. N. N. S.</u>
	<u>1555</u>		<u>Message dropped in area - no ground sign observed. Message recovered by soldier filling jeep at creek</u>

Time and Signature..... [Signature]
Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc..... 21/10/43

649—N.G. Press Unit—9/43—3m

25

Div. please pass - A.D. beggs Short J.R.2

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION NADZIB UNIT 4 HC. SQN. SORTIE No. 1. (1 Div.) A/C No. - TYPE 1146-119 1146-113 DATE 21 Oct '43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE TACR BOGOTIM ROAD - JAPPA AREA

REF. MAPS MT. KUBARI
DUNNAN } 1/63360
BAGASIM }
DAUMONIA }
BAUK } PHOTO
DAUMONIA SOUTH }

PILOT F/O DARRISHIRE
OBSERVER F. MILLER-RANDALL

TIME UP 1130
TIME DOWN 1340
TOTAL 2 HRS 10 MINS

VISIBILITY GOOD
WEATHER GOOD

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT-INTERROGATION
J JAPPA 490944	1210	50'-500' AGL	Aircraft proceeded to TSIKI-TSIKI to pick up fighting cover Aircraft contacted PIP2 who had no message to pass N.M.S. in village, but 500950 3 gaps observed heading NE with picks up. gaps took cover. No digging observed in area Tracks are very well worn and an unnatural looking clearing at 485941 which is about 50' across and has had tracks cut-out recently. This clearing does not appear to command any approaches and would be under observation from the hill approx 1400' SW. Track from WYAI to JAPPA No movement seen, but well worn, likewise track heading NW from JAPPA to EBU + ULIA Track JAPP NE to OROMUGE very well worn 13 gaps sighted heading SOUTH observed gaps took cover @ terrain prevented stripping. Villages is an descent size 12-15 huts - no fires seen burning but fresh ashes noticed.
WYAI 475910 ULIA 403985 OROMUGE 510965	1220		Track JAPP NE to OROMUGE very well worn 13 gaps sighted heading SOUTH observed gaps took cover @ terrain prevented stripping. Villages is an descent size 12-15 huts - no fires seen burning but fresh ashes noticed.
ADTUA1 532957			Track OROMUGE-ADTUA1 very well worn No movement seen in village which consists of between 8-10 huts.

Time and Signature J.R. Dickinson
Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc. 45 MINS (AC)

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION.....	UNIT.....	SORTIE No.....	A/C No. - TYPE.....	DATE.....
ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....				
REF. MAPS.....	PILOT.....	TIME UP.....	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
.....	OBSERVER.....	TIME DOWN.....		
		TOTAL.....		

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
	1230	50-500	Laundry generally through this area is not as rugged as that which BOGADOM road passes through References DAUMONIA PHOTO MAP.
YAUUA 125154			1 japs sighted who ran into hut; Hut strapped.
KWATO 123163			At our huts, area bridge 14 N.M.S. Huts strapped No movement seen. Huts strapped. All jungle has been cleared around huts.
HIYAU 12129 (BAUK PHOTO MAP)			3 japs seen strapped results 0 4.
124132 (REF DAUMONIA PHOTO MAP)			4 heavy mechanical transports camouflaged on road facing SOUTH, appeared to be under repair, wheel lying beside one truck. Heavily strapped one appeared to be smoking when aircraft left area. No movement seen.
123121	1245	50-500	On ridge 50-100' above road appears to be a cutting into hill with lag roof cover low jungle has been cleared but trees remain. Foot track runs from position to DAUMONIA Road climbs very sharply near position and bends back over it. Position commands

Time and Signature..... *R. J. Smith*
Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... UNIT..... SORTIE No..... A/C No. - TYPE..... DATE.....

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....

REF. MAPS.....

PILOT.....
OBSERVER.....

TIME UP.....
TIME DOWN.....
TOTAL.....

VISIBILITY

WEATHER

REPORT-INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	
		50-500	DAUM-114 and road to SOUTH. Dawn hill from bend 122100. It suggests a gun position from which ammunition could be lowered from road above.
121133	1250		A very wide track runs due WEST to this point; there are several "Bays" which would be big enough to house heavy M.T. Up to 20 new looking huts in area and the whole suggests a possible M.T. staging base.
139169 (REF DAUMONNA STN PHOTO)			10 new looking huts on top of ridge. No movement seen
132144	1300	"	New village previously reported has had an additional 10-12 new huts added. Light M.T. tracks observed as far SOUTH as 614719 (REF MTKUBAR 1/63360) There is a turning bay at this point.
689659	1315	"	Suspected gun position, N.M.S. and position does not appear to have altered. Guy and RUSS not contacted.

Time and Signature..... *J.R. Kingston*
Lieut A.L.O.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
45 AUST AL SEC. (A.C.)

DIST:- NGF(2), 2AUST CORPS, 7DIV, 21BDE, 25BDE, A2.5AF, 1AUST AL GP, 4 AC SQN, 1/O 4AC SQN, WAR DIARY, FILE.

R. A. A. F.

[Handwritten signature]

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION NADZAB UNIT 4 AC SQN. SORTIE No. 1. (7DIV). A/C No. - TYPE A46/113 A46/119 DATE 25 Oct '43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE LEAD IN DIVE BOMBING & STRAFING SORTIE BY 8 P40s ON HEADWATERS FARIA RIVER.

REF. MAPS. <u>MT. KUBARI 1"</u>	PILOT <u>F/O. Darbshire</u>	TIME UP. <u>1200</u>	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
<u>DUMPU 1"</u>	OBSERVER <u>F/O. Miller-Randle</u>	TIME DOWN. <u>1450</u>	<u>GOOD</u>	<u>LOW BROKEN</u>
		TOTAL <u>2Hrs 50m.</u>		

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT-INTERROGATION
<u>DUMPU</u>	<u>1230</u>	<u>300'</u>	<u>Called up "PIP5" - passed to "PIP2" who advised "PIP2" forward now working.</u>
			<u>"PIP2" advised also that smoke round be dropped 500yds forward of forward troops as indication for bombing.</u>
	<u>1250</u>		<u>1 BOOMERANG led in and also indicated target by tracer.</u>
			<u>1 x 500 and 7 x 250 HE instantaneous dropped in target area. "PIP2" forward then requested strafing 200yds forward of bomb area.</u>
			<u>The area covered by bombs was approx 300 x 200 yds at map ref 705643.</u>
			<u>2 BOOMERANGS 8 P40s then strafed area from bomb craters to source of FARIA RIV.</u>
	<u>1305</u>		<u>6 Japs were seen running out of area at 695650 - strafed - Result 2 killed 3 wounded.</u>
	<u>1315</u>		<u>4 Japs at 685661 were seen moving NW - results 2 wounded.</u>
	<u>1330</u>		<u>"PIP2" forward requested observation of mortar fire. 2 rounds only observed - not satisfactory due to dense growth. One BOOMERANG was holed by small arms fire.</u>
			Time and Signature.....
			Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION.....	UNIT.....	SORTIE No.....	A/C No. - TYPE.....	DATE.....
ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....				
REF. MAPS.....	PILOT.....	TIME UP.....	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
.....	OBSERVER.....	TIME DOWN.....		
		TOTAL.....		

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height
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		Called up "RUSS" who requested search for suspected Mountain gun position at ref 689661.
		Position indicated by 2 rounds smoke.
		Area thoroughly reced - 2 cleared patches were observed within 30-40 yds of reference. No signs of digging - weapons - N.M.S. No tracks seen leading to either of the clearings .
		At suspected gun position at 689659 two huts were observed. These did not appear to be newly constructed .
		Dropped message on DIV.

Time and Signature..... *Alverson* A.L.O.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

45 AUST AL SEC (AC).

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION NADZAB UNIT 4 AC SQN. SORTIE No. 1. (7DIV). A/C No. - TYPE M46/119 M46/117 DATE 26 OCT'43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE TAC/R BOGADJIM NTH OF DAUMOINA. LOCATE BRIDGE OR SUITABLE PART OF ROAD TO KEEP BLOCKED.

REF. MAPS. <u>URIGINA 1"</u>	PILOT <u>F/O. Trumper</u>	TIME UP. <u>1400</u>	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
<u>DUMPU 1"</u>	OBSERVER <u>F/O. Dickson</u>	TIME DOWN. <u>1730</u>	<u>POOR - FAIR</u>	<u>LOW RAIN CLOUD.</u>
		TOTAL <u>3Hrs 30m.</u>		

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
<u>DUMPU</u>	<u>1445</u>	<u>1800'</u>	<u>Called "PIF5" - "PIF4" intercepted with priority message to check location of own troops EVAPIA RIV. Unable to obtain further instructions due to communications breaking down. On return from recce - contacted "PIF4" who gave further directions. Own troops seen in Camp at 667547 - Further recce up river not possible due to low cloud and holed petrol tank. "PIF4" unable to proceed with request.</u>
<u>BOGADJIM RD.</u>	<u>1500</u>	<u>500'</u> <u>A.G.L.</u>	<u>Unable to proceed up BOGADJIM Road due to low cloud.</u>
<u>Track DAUMOINA</u>			<u>Unable to recce North end of track due to low cloud. Track first sighted at 544800 - thence along contours to 514767 - thence to 514763 thence to 509765 - thence to small log bridge approx 5' wide</u>
<u>KOROPA.</u>	<u>1520</u>	<u>50/100'</u> <u>A.SL.</u>	<u>at 503753 thence following general line of river to 502749 at which point it crosses a small wooden bridge approx 3' wide with hand rail. Track then turns West to 485748 in a gentle "S" turn. Track follows ridge to KETOBA at 457765. No track was observed from 494749 - KOROPA as shown on map. A semi circular slit trench and 4-5 weapon pits was seen at 524786 as reported 24 OCT'43. N.M.S. on track but it appears to be well used and in good condition.</u>
			Time and Signature.....
			Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION.....		UNIT.....	SORTIE No.....	A/C No. - TYPE.....	DATE.....
ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....					
REF. MAPS.....	PILOT.....	TIME UP.....		VISIBILITY	WEATHER
.....	OBSERVER.....	TIME DOWN.....			
.....	.....	TOTAL.....			

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	Report
KETOBA	1645	50/100° A.G.L.	When approaching KETOBA along track from East, tracer fire was directed at a/c from general area of the village. One Jap definitely identified and seen firing rifle at a/c. Both recce a/c then strafed the area. At least one source of fire was put out of action. 6 strafing runs were made. Both recce a/c were holed - one u/x - several bad holes. Pilots estimate 6 AALMG and rifle fire.
ISARIBA.	1700		Track from KETOBA - ISARIBA shows signs of fresh development. It has been widened for 500yds NW of ISARIBA. N.M.S. Message dropped on DIV.
Time and Signature.....			<i>Steve Cohn</i> A.L.O.
45			Time Passed To Bde, Div, etc.....

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R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION NADZAR UNIT 4 AC SQN SORTIE No. 1 (7PM) A/C No. - TYPE 146-119 146-111 DATE 25 Oct 43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE CONT/RA TUC/R

REF. MAPS <u>URIGINA 1"</u> <u>MT KUBURI 1"</u> <u>BMI-AK PHOTO MAP</u>	PILOT <u>F/O. DICKSON</u>	TIME UP <u>0710</u>	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	OBSERVER <u>F/C. TRUMPER</u>	TIME DOWN <u>0930</u>	<u>POOR-FAIR</u>	<u>LOW BROKEN</u>
		TOTAL <u>21M 20M</u>		

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT-INTERROGATION
<u>Dumps</u>	<u>0740</u>	<u>2000'</u> <u>H.G.L.</u>	<u>called "PIP 5" - no instructions.</u> <u>called "PIP 2" - no instructions.</u>
<u>SHAGGY Ridge</u>	<u>0810</u>	<u>50/100'</u> <u>H.G.L.</u>	<u>Ref 635655 685 730 through march made of area. Country very heavily wooded.</u> <u>No tracks observed. No signs of digging. H.M.S.</u>
	<u>0815</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>At 635655 approx 40 min. traps seen - ward to aft. Area covered by PAIPA</u> <u>along MINDZIM Riv to indicate thoroughly searched. Odd glimpses of tracks</u> <u>but no definite track observed leading from own traps area to road.</u> <u>No signs enemy activity. H.M.S. Clouds hanging on Ridge - observation</u> <u>made difficult.</u>
<u>BCCADTIM Riv.</u>			<u>Road road for length shown on BMI-AK PHOTO MAP.</u> <u>Bridges 148 were considered suitable by pilot. Difficult to Difficult to</u> <u>be improved in by-passing, should there be kept out of count.</u> <u>The country on each side is being very steep</u> <u>and spurs run right to Rivers edge. The banks</u>

Time and Signature.....
Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION.....	UNIT.....	SORTIE No.....	A/C No. - TYPE.....	DATE.....
ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....				
REF. MAPS.....	PILOT.....	TIME UP.....	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	OBSERVER.....	TIME DOWN.....		
		TOTAL.....		

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
			<p>of the night - are approx 5 ft light than points. All other bridges shown on this map / were seen by passing by comparison.</p> <p>Bombing information - It is considered that a wind from NE to SW is the most probable. Approaching from NE the bridge could be clearly seen from a distance for some time. About crossing the bridge possibly obscured by a hill about 1000 ft. the only highest from 1000 ft and under. The terrain rises from 130132. At this point it is approx 500 ft rising sharply to approx 2500 ft. A zigzag line of a road is suggested as a main route. As bombing in this direction is generally from the opposite side of road. Direct bombing could be carried out from either NE or SW.</p>

Time and Signature.....

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

A.S.O

45 MUST A L SEC (AC).

724—N.G. Press Unit—10/43—10m.

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R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4 AC. SQN. SORTIE No. 2. (1 Div.) A/C No. - TYPE A46-111 A46-118 DATE 30 Oct '43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE TAC/R LOCATE ENEMY GUN POSITION.

REF. MAPS <u>DUMPU 1"</u> <u>MT. KUBARI 1"</u>	PILOT <u>F/O. TRUMPER</u> OBSERVER <u>F/O. DICKSON</u>	TIME UP <u>1600</u> TIME DOWN <u>1810</u> TOTAL <u>2 HRS 10 M</u>	VISIBILITY <u>POOR</u>	WEATHER <u>LOW OVERCAST</u>
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Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
<u>DUMPU</u>	<u>1700</u>		<p>REPORT BY COVER PILOT. RECCE A/C OVERDUE.</p> <p>At Map Ref 671 674 pilot observed a number of logs and branches in a wiywam formation. From this point a well graded road of approx 5ft wide winds down to 669 673 where he observed a cleared circle of approx 30 ft diameter in the NW end of which he observed a levelled section of approx 5 ft square. This road did not show any signs of wheel tracks.</p> <p>There are 4 trees within this circle which have been stripped of their branches. Forward of this the ground falls away and the timber would not present any obstruction. N.M.S. - no sign of gun.</p> <p>At 668 676 4-5 huts were seen. The road mentioned above also leads to these huts. N.M.S.</p> <p>Direction of suspected gun position was indicated by green flare which fell at 706 639.</p>

Time and Signature [Signature] A.C.O.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc. 45 AUST AL SEC (AC)

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R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4 AC. SON SORTIE No. 1 (7 DIV) A/C No. - TYPE A46-118 A46-111 DATE 30 Oct 43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE TAC/R.

REF. MAPS <u>DUMPU 1"</u> <u>MT. KUBARI 1"</u>	PILOT <u>F/O MILLER-RANDLE</u> OBSERVER <u>F/A. OLORENSHAW</u>	TIME UP <u>0950</u> TIME DOWN <u>1210</u> TOTAL <u>2hrs 20m.</u>	VISIBILITY <u>GOOD</u>	WEATHER <u>CLEAR</u>
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Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT-INTERROGATION
<u>DUMPU</u>	<u>1005</u>		"PIP 5" called - directed to "PIP 2". called "PIP 2" - answered for smoke to indicate recon area. Smoke placed on 704495, 693652 & 691656.
	<u>1118</u>	<u>40'</u>	At refs 690653 & 688655 there are two shallow trenches covered indentions on the top of which undergrowth has been flattened. No tracks leading to these positions were observed. No sign digging or weapons. N.M.S. A close search for a track from ref 780620 - BANERI was made without success. From 780620 @ GURUMBU a track was run for approx 1000' NORTH and the same distance from BANERI STH. They did not appear to be well worn. The country in this area is particularly mountainous and is heavily timbered. N.M.S in triangle GURUMBU - AMUSOM - BANERI. A village was seen at 824679. Messages dropped on "PIP 5 & 2"
			Time and Signature <i>[Signature]</i> A.L.C.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc. 45 HUNT A.L. SEC (AC)

724-N.G. Press Unit-10/43-10m.

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION ejusap UNIT 4 AC. SON. SORTIE No. 1. (7 Div.) A/C No. - TYPE 1746-119 1746-107 DATE 29 Oct '43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE TAC/R & CONT/R.

REF. MAPS DUMPU 1" PILOT F/O. TRUMPER TIME UP 1100 VISIBILITY WEATHER
MT. OTTO 1" OBSERVER F/O. DICKSON TIME DOWN 1330 FAIR-GOOD. LOW - BROKEN
URIGINA 1" TOTAL 2 Hrs 30 M.

REPORT-INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT-INTERROGATION
<u>DUMPU</u>	<u>1110</u>	<u>2000'</u>	<u>called "PIP5". REQUESTED search 6 personnel along RAMU Riv from PURIA</u>
		<u>A.G.L.</u>	<u>Riv - WAIMERIBA. A thorough search was made & unable to locate.</u>
	<u>1245</u>		<u>called "PIP5" - advised results recd - passed to "PIP2".</u>
			<u>called "PIP2" - who placed smoke on Map Ref 699611 - requested locate</u>
			<u>enemy position. Approx 12 camouflaged foxholes were seen. 9 grass huts</u>
			<u>in front Riv REF 702610. Well above track level from foxholes to Riv. H.H.S.</u>
			<u>2x2 man tents seen under trees at REF 695605. 3x4 2 man tents</u>
			<u>seen at 687603.</u>

Messages dropped on "PIP2" & "PIP5".

Time and Signature [Signature] Capt
H.I.O.
 Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc. 45
AUST A.I. SEC (AC).

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R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4 AC SQN SORTIE No. 1 (7 DIV) A/C No. - TYPE A46-118 A46-93 DATE 31 Oct '43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE SEARCH FOR MISSING A/C. TAC/R SUSPECTED GUN POSITION.

REF. MAPS <u>DUMPU 1"</u> <u>MT. KUBARI 1"</u>	PILOT <u>F/O. DICKSON</u> ESCORT <u>F/O. MILLER-RANDLE</u> OBSERVER	TIME UP <u>0845</u> TIME DOWN <u>1045</u> TOTAL <u>2 HRS.</u>	VISIBILITY <u>FAIR</u>	WEATHER <u>HIGH OVERCAST</u> <u>SCATTERED LOW BROKEN</u>
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Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
	<u>0900</u>		<u>Dropped message "PIP 5" - no instructions.</u> <u>contacted "PIP 2" - no contact.</u>
<u>SUSPECTED GUN POSITION.</u>	<u>0930</u>	<u>100/500'</u> <u>A.G.L.</u>	<u>At map ref 669674 approx 15 logs have been placed across creek. They do not appear to be in the form of a constructed bridge.</u> <u>At 664679 three huts were observed in a group. A road of approx 5ft winds around these huts but does not appear to lead to anything definite.</u> <u>At 666676 a square of approx 5ft was seen at the end of a 5ft road which winds over the spur and ends at creek 670665. This square appears to be surfaced with rocks.</u> <u>The pilot flew from this position through gap at headwaters of FARRIA Riv - states he could observe this position all the way. His height at the gap was approx 50' A.G.L. N.M.S. No sign of gun - No wheel tracks on road.</u> <u>Pilot gained impression that in this confined area there are a number of places in which a small gun could be concealed.</u>

Time and Signature.....

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... UNIT..... SORTIE No..... A/C No. - TYPE..... DATE.....

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....

REF. MAPS.....	PILOT.....	TIME UP.....	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	OBSERVER.....	TIME DOWN.....		
	TOTAL.....			

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
			Beside the road leading to the position at 672 674 (REPORTED 30/10) there are a number of logs interspersed, possibly with object of using them for chocks as the road is fairly steep at this point.
	1010		Contacted "PIP 2" - passed to "PIP 2" forward. A/c was directed on bearing of 324° from gun flare at 715 607. Bearing took pilot to position reported 30/10.
			BOMBING INFORMATION :- The best approach would be along Riv from NW direction for medium bombs. Dive bombing could be carried out from either NW or SE. After midday cloud forms - suggest all strikes this area be done in morning.
			Time and Signature..... <i>A. L. O.</i>
			Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc..... 45 H. I. S. T. A. L. SEC (AC)

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R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT A AC SQN SORTIE No. 2 (7 Div) A/C No. - TYPE 446-115 / 446-93 DATE 1 Nov 43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE LEAD IN STRIKE BY 8 P395 ON GUN POSITION KANKIRYO

REF. MAPS <u>MT. KUBARI 1"</u>	PILOT <u>F/O DICKSON</u>	TIME UP <u>1000</u>	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	ESCORT OBSERVER <u>F/O MILLER RANDLE</u>	TIME DOWN <u>1130</u>	<u>POOR</u>	<u>8/10 low broken closing in.</u>
		TOTAL <u>1 Hr 30m</u>		

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
<u>KANKIRYO</u>			<u>called "PIP5" - no contact.</u>
			<u>called "PIP2" - requested permission to strafe - granted.</u>
			<u>communications with strike force very difficult.</u>
	<u>1030</u>		<u>On arrival at target area - cloud was closing in making the sighting of the target very difficult.</u>
			<u>Lead pilot called up bomb a/c twice in an endeavour to lead them to secondary target - unable to contact. After two passes by lead a/c the target was sighted by bomb a/c. Recon pilot saw first bomb land near the target - unable to state accuracy of subsequent bombs as the target was obscured. Unable to state whether 4 or 8 bombs were dropped. The area was strafed by 2 Recon a/c after bombing.</u>
			<u>At the conclusion of the strike the lead Recon pilot went down to observe results. No bomb craters were seen in the close vicinity of the target. Timber very thick probably obscuring them. N.M.S.</u>
			<u>"PIP2" advised of result by R/T.</u>

Time and Signature [Signature] A20
 Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc 45 and A.L. Sec (A.C)

724—N.G. Press Unit—10/43—10m.

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

A46-134

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4 A.C. SQN SORTIE No. 3 (7 Div) A/C No. - TYPE A46-92 DATE 24 Oct 43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE LEAD. IN STRIKE BY 8 P 39⁵ ON ENEMY GUN POSITION MAP REF 669674

REF. MAPS MT. KUBARI PILOT F/O DICKSON TIME UP 14 45 VISIBILITY FAIR WEATHER LOW. BROKEN

OBSERVER F/O STALEY TIME DOWN 15 45

TOTAL 1 hr

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
<u>KANKIKYO</u>	<u>1455</u>	<u>3000</u>	<p>Called PIP 2, requested permission to strike. - Granted.</p> <p>With the exception of one - all bombs landed within a radius of 150 yds. of the target. The odd bomb landed at 665678.</p> <p>During the whole of the attack, piece A/C was circling observing results. One appeared to hit an ammunition dump as a heavy white layer explosion was observed. Reddish flame and blue smoke were seen at the time of the explosion. This explosion occurred at map REF 667676.</p> <p>One bomb caused a shower of uneven shaped and sized fragments. Pilot unable to indentify.</p> <p>One bomb appeared to hit road as a shower of bricks colored earth was thrown up. 8 x 500^{lb} dropped.</p> <p>Strafing by two Bombrangs and 4 P.39⁵ carried out after strike.</p> <p>Bombing very accurate in spite of trouble caused by low clouds.</p> <p>On return unable to contact - PIP 2 or 5 - R/T trouble.</p> <p>Message dropped on PIP 5.</p>
<u>MAP REF 667676</u>			

Time and Signature [Signature] PLO

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc. 45 AUSTAL SEC (AC)

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4 AC SQN. SORTIE No. 1 (1Dm) A/C No. - TYPE A46-118
A46-93 DATE 2 Nov '43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE LEAD IN STRIKE ON BRIDGES 7 & 8 BOGADJIM Rd. ARTY/R GUN POSITION.

REF. MAPS <u>PHOTO Map Bay-ak</u> <u>MT. KUBARI 1"</u>	PILOT <u>F/O. DICKSON</u> ESCORT OBSERVER <u>F/O. MILLER-RANDLE</u>	TIME UP <u>09 30</u> TIME DOWN <u>1300</u> TOTAL <u>3hrs 30m.</u>	VISIBILITY <u>GOOD</u>	WEATHER <u>CLEAR</u>
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REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
<u>DUMPU</u>			<u>called up "PIP 502" - advised going to target area - no requests.</u>
<u>BOGADJIM Rd.</u>	<u>1020</u>		<u>Two runs made by each of two Recce a/c - Bridges strafed to indicate target. Instructions passed by R/T to bombing a/c to ensure correct bridges.</u>
<u>PHOTO Map</u>			<u>Only 6 bombs were observed - these fell at the following MAP REFS 146140 - 152151 - 154153 - 155153 - 155154 - 156155 - Recce A/c endeavoured to call off bombing by R/T, but unable to contact.</u>
			<u>Road still open for traffic. Villages in general area strafed after bombing run.</u>
<u>KANKIRYO</u>			<u>8 well laden camouflaged heavy M.T. seen at MAP REF MT KUBARI 588848 - strafed by 2 Recce a/c. Some rounds 303 seen to enter one truck - otherwise results O.U.</u>
<u>KANKIRYO</u>			<u>called "PIP 5" on return - passed to "RUSS" for ARTY/R, on gun position 669674. Difficulty was experienced in clearing the RIDGE between our new gun position and enemy gun position.</u>

Time and Signature.....

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

-2-
R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... UNIT..... SORTIE No..... A/C No. - TYPE..... DATE.....

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....

REF. MAPS..... PILOT..... TIME UP..... VISIBILITY..... WEATHER.....

..... OBSERVER..... TIME DOWN.....

..... TOTAL.....

Place or Ref. Time Height REPORT—INTERROGATION

Rounds appeared
Rounds appeared to hit trees on RIDGE and fall most erratically. Finally 5 rounds were placed in a radius of 25 yds of gun position. Target registered as D.Z.

Bombing attack 1/11. enemy gun position. 3 craters were observed in close proximity to target. One crater observed at Map REF 668 673- a direct hit on cleared area. A further crater observed on road approx 20^x from above Map REF.

Message dropped on "PIP5".

Time and Signature..... *[Signature]*
F.L.O.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

45 AUST A.L. SEC (AC)

25

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4 AC. SQN. SORTIE No. 1 (7 DIV) A/C No. - TYPE A46-92 A46-134 DATE 4 Nov 43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE TAC/R KISA-ASAKE-ORGORUNA 102 - SUITABILITY BOMBING TARGET.

REF. MAPS <u>URIGINA 1"</u>	PILOT <u>F/O STALEY</u>	TIME UP <u>1505</u>	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	OBSERVER <u>F/L OLORENSHAW</u>	TIME DOWN <u>1620</u>	<u>FAIR - GOOD</u>	<u>LOW BROKEN</u>
		TOTAL <u>1 HR 15 M.</u>		

REPORT-INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT-INTERROGATION
<u>DUMPU</u>	<u>1515</u>	<u>1000'</u> <u>A.G.L</u>	<u>called up "PIP 5" - unable to contact.</u>
<u>ORGORUNA 2.</u>			<u>3 slit trenches - 1 approx 60 ft long at Map REF 453806 - commanding position overlooking SSW slopes. Tracks do not show recent heavy use. N.M.S. No sign of weapons. Water in some of the trenches.</u>
<u>ORGORUNA 1.</u>			<u>no sign of any defence works. N.M.S.</u>
<u>KISA - ASAKE</u>		<u>20/200'</u> <u>A.G.L.</u>	<u>N.M.S. Three new huts were observed at 472828. Quite a number of huts were in the framework stage - either in course of preparation or being dismantled. Both villages had a somewhat ruined appearance at the same time there was not any water in slit trenches or weapon pits. The track from ASAKE to SANA appeared to be the most used track in the area. No signs of weapons. Recce A/C were <u>NOT</u> fired on by A/A.</u>
<u>SANA</u>			<u>N.M.S. no defences.</u>
			<u>Dropped message on "PIP 205"</u>

Time and Signature..... F.L.O.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
45 MUST A.L. SEC (AC).

25

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4 AC. SON. SORTIE No. 2 (7 Div.) A/C No. - TYPE A46-134 A46-92 DATE 5 Nov '43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE TAC/R BOGADJIM Rd. KWATO - SUPPLY CAMP

REF. MAPS PHOTO MAP
DAUMOINA - DAUMOINA STA

PILOT F/L OLORENSHAW
ESCORT OBSERVER F/O STALEY

TIME UP 0850
TIME DOWN 1100
TOTAL 2Hrs 10m

VISIBILITY
GOOD

WEATHER
LOW BROKEN

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
DUMPU	0900	1000'	Called "PIP5" + "PIP2" advised "PIP5" not on air - a/c advised destination.
PHOTO MAP DAUMOINA	0920	50/100' A.G.L.	KWATO 123163. N.M.S. in village. Tracks show recent use. The village does not show any very recent additions. YAUHA 125155. N.M.S. Village appears deserted. Huts appear dilapidated. OLD YAUHA 125150 N.M.S. Village fairly well hidden by trees - appears to be in good condition and appears to be inhabited.
			At 123143. an M.T road runs in half circle to 123141. On this road 4-5 camouflaged humps were seen. These appear to be in the slope of M.T. - but not definitely identified as such. N.M.S. A/c strafed - results O.U. Top cover A/c observed tracks coming from this area on first three - subsequent dives nil.
	0947	"	123133. N.M.S.

Time and Signature.....

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... UNIT..... SORTIE No..... A/C No. - TYPE..... DATE.....

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....

REF. MAPS.....	PILOT.....	TIME UP.....	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	OBSERVER.....	TIME DOWN.....		
	TOTAL.....			

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
			DAUMOINA Village itself is in disrepair and is practically obliterated. Tracks leading through still appear to be used. Tracks emanating from village not followed.
DAUMOINA STN.			At 139169 N.M.S. no huts observed.
			at 133144 N.M.S. no huts observed.
		200'	At 140137 approx 6 foxholes were observed - one of which was half moon trench. N.M.S. No signs of weapons.
	1015		156109 N.M.S. M.T tracks end in village itself. From here to YOKOPI. PHOTO MAP AMUBA 175145 the track shows <u>recent</u> <u>very heavy</u> <u>use</u> . The marks on the track could be either foot or equine.
			Time and Signature.....
			Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... UNIT..... SORTIE No..... A/C No. - TYPE..... DATE.....

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....

REF. MAPS.....	PILOT.....	TIME UP.....	VISIBILITY.....	WEATHER.....
	OBSERVER.....	TIME DOWN.....		
	TOTAL.....			

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
			at ref 173148 AMUBA a figure dressed in white was observed moving NTH. He appeared to be either driving an animal or pushing some form of cart. Pilot unable to definitely identify on first sight - on return had disappeared.
BRIDGE 18.			This is not a large bridge and could be repaired within a few hours. The creek over which it passes is not deep. The country on either side presents no real difficulty for by-passing.
BRIDGE 19.			AS ABOVE.
Bridge 22			As above. This bridge appears to have been bombed and a temporary structure constructed at 121118 and used. This is not now in use. It has obviously been used as a by-pass during reconstruction of bridge 22.
			GENERAL INFORMATION:- Road from KWATO - SUPPLY CAMP. Rain has fallen recently over this stretch. Heavy use by M.T. was indicated. Tread marks of tyres were plainly visible. Message dropped on "PIP5".

Time and Signature..... *[Signature]*
 A.L.O.
 Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
 45 MUST A.L. SEC (AC).

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4 AC SQN SORTIE No. 1 (7 DIV) A/C No. - TYPE A46-119 A91-92 DATE 6 Nov '43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE TAC/R KISA ASAKE AREA - BRIDGES 7° 8' BOGADJIM Rd. UPPER FARIA Riv AREA.

REF. MAPS..... PILOT F/O STALEY TIME UP 0630 VISIBILITY..... WEATHER.....

..... ESCORT OBSERVER F/O HOLYMAN TIME DOWN 0810 GOOD CLEAR

..... TOTAL 1HR 40M

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
<u>DUMPU</u>	<u>0640</u>	<u>1000'</u> <u>AG.L.</u>	<u>called "PIP5" - no answer.</u>
<u>ORGORUNA 2.</u>	<u>0650</u>	<u>20/200'</u>	<u>All buildings in village burnt to ground. There have been burnt during last 24 hrs. All trenches in area have been cleared of water and appear to have been forked up. An addition appears to have been made to the crescent shaped trench reported on SW side of village. A square section of approx 8x4 ft with camouflaged roof has been added. N.M.S.</u>
<u>ORGORUNA 1.</u>	<u>0655</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>Track from villages 1-2 well worn and shows signs of use since recent rain. Huts intact - all tracks show signs of recent use. N.M.S.</u>
<u>KISA- ASAKE</u>	<u>0700</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>Track from ORGORUNA 2 was observed for ^{most} of its length and showed signs of recent use. No alteration to huts in either village. Tracks throughout also show recent use. All slit trenches and weapon pits have been cleared out and repaired. Fresh camouflage has been added to same. Track to SANHA was observed for half its length recently used.</u>
			Time and Signature.....
			Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION.....	UNIT.....	SORTIE No.....	A/C No. - TYPE.....	DATE.....
ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....				
REF. MAPS.....	PILOT.....	TIME UP.....	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
.....	OBSERVER.....	TIME DOWN.....		
		TOTAL.....		

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION	N.M.S. No	M.T. OBSERVED.
BOGADJIM Rd.	0710	40/100 A.G.L.	Bridges 7 & 8 undamaged. The road has had a lot of use in last 24 hrs. From DAUMOINA to SUPPLY CAMP the road has been used recently but four appearances not so heavily as from DAUMOINA NORTH. From SUPPLY CAMP to YOKOPI a double M.T track was observed. From YOKOPI- PAIPA signs of foot traffic observed.		
UPPER FARRIA			No enemy observed - own troops seen. Ridge not considered suitable bombing target. Considered a good strafing target particularly area around 686645. The timber is rather heavy at this point but could hold a number of japs. Many recent bomb craters were observed in the area. Some bombs have fallen towards the top of the ridge but the ridge itself is still intact. Message dropped on Div. "PIP 5" & "PIP 2"		

Time and Signature..... *Have got* H.T.O.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
45 Aust A.I. (AC)

25

[Handwritten signature]
11/11

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GLISAP UNIT 4 SQN SORTIE No. 1 (9 DIV) A/C No. - TYPE..... DATE 8th Nov 43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE LOCATE ENEMY GUN POSITION 670 675 - TRK/R & STRAFE OPPORTUNITY TARGETS TRACK

REF. MAPS <u>DUMPU 1"</u>	PILOT <u>F/O STALEY</u>	TIME UP <u>0835</u>	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
<u>MT KUBARI 1"</u>	ESCORT OBSERVER <u>F/O HOLYMAN</u>	TIME DOWN <u>1055</u>	<u>FAIR - POOR</u>	<u>LOW. BROKEN</u>
		TOTAL <u>2 Hrs. 20 MINS</u>		

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
<u>DUMPU</u>	<u>0845</u>	<u>1000'</u>	<u>Called PIP 5 - No response.</u>
		<u>AGL</u>	<u>Called PIP 2 - No response.</u>
<u>SUSPECTED GUN POSITION</u>	<u>0900</u>	<u>50/2000'</u>	<u>At 669679 a possible gun position was located. At this point the ground appears to have been levelled for an area 50x10'. A road composed of a series of cleared 10 ft wide areas joined by a track runs from 665678 abutting N.E. past two stacks and a hut to 669675. NMS. No sign of weapon.</u>
			<u>A second possible position was observed at 668676. At this point there was also a levelled area. A track runs from this point around the spur to 669677 where a gun could be concealed and out of range of our gun by virtue of being behind the spur. NMS. No sign of weapon.</u>
			<u>All tracks mentioned above bear the appearance of having been repaired subsequent to the recent strike and arty shoot.</u>
<u>TRACK BERRINGEE BANGRI</u>			<u>A thorough search was made throughout the length as marked on map. The only glimpse obtained by pilot was at ref 812743.</u>
			<u>There is a slight clearance at this point for approx 25 yds and had the appearance of being used.</u>

Time and Signature.....
Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION.....	UNIT.....	SORTIE No.....	A/C No. - TYPE.....	DATE.....
ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....				
REF. MAPS.....	PILOT.....	TIME UP.....	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	OBSERVER.....	TIME DOWN.....		
		TOTAL.....		

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
	1000	40/500'	<p>Pilot unable to ascertain from inspection how well used or how recently used cloud conditions were against observation</p> <p>Bombing information. Pilot suggests, ^{approach} approach from a southerly direction with left hand breakaway for given position. Then from N.W. direction approach up the valley for the possible hide out position with slight right hand breakaway.</p>
	1005		<p>Called PIP 2 - passed to "RUSS" who requested shoot. Pilot advised had only 30 mins petrol. RUSS agreed sufficient time. A/c had to return to guns to obtain communications. Three ranging rounds called for - cloud interfered with observation - communications then went out - pilot returned to base.</p>
			<p>Message dropped on "PIP 5" and "PIP 2"</p>

Time and Signature..... *Alain Col*
A.L.O.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
45 FIRST A.L. SEC (A.C)

724—N.G. Press Unit—10/43—10m.

25

R. A. A. F.

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Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

A 46 - 93
A 46 118

97100-8

LOCATION.....	UNIT.....	SORTIE No.....	A/C No. - TYPE.....	DATE.....
ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....	TAC/R BOGADJIM RD - KISA ASAKE AREA			
REF. MAPS.....	PILOT.....	TIME UP.....	VISIBILITY.....	WEATHER.....
MT. KUBARI 1"	F/O MILLER RANDLE	0910	GOOD	CLEAR
BOGADJIM 1"	ESCORTEE F/O PIZER	1110		
URIGINA 1"	OBSERVER.....	TOTAL.....		
		2 hrs.		

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
DUMPU	0920	1000'	Called PIP 5 - 710 message.
BOGADJIM RD	0940		Spillage shows BAH-AK-572809 intact. NMS between first points. At 585877 a rectangular white canvas awning was observed. Pilot unable to state what was concealed beneath. No action taken by P/O. At KWATO the pilot feels that he was shot at by small arms fire. A/C not held.
KISA-ASAKE		1000'	3 additional trenches were observed on western edge of KISA. All defences are still in good condition. No water in any ditches. NMS.
URIA			No trenches or defences were observed. NMS.
KOBA			Track from KISA-KOBA well worn. No defences or ditches observed at KOBA.
			Message dropped on PIP 5.

Time and Signature..... *[Signature]* P/O

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc..... 45 mins to 500 AC.

25

R. A. A. F.

[Handwritten signature]

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUMPH UNIT 4 AC Sqn SORTIE No. 1 (7 Div) A/C No. - TYPE A46-119 A46-22 DATE 9 Nov '43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE ARTY/R ENEMY GUN POSITION & ENEMY L of C

REF. MAPS <u>DUMPU 1"</u> <u>Mt KUBARI 1"</u>	PILOT <u>F/O HOLYMAN</u> ESCORT OBSERVER <u>F/O STALEY</u>	TIME UP <u>0835</u> TIME DOWN <u>1050</u> TOTAL <u>2 Hrs 15m</u>	VISIBILITY <u>GOOD</u>	WEATHER <u>CLEAR</u>
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REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	Report
<u>DUMPU</u>	<u>0850</u>	<u>1000'</u>	<u>called "PIP 5" - passed to "PIP 2"</u> <u>"PIP 2" requested ARTY shoot on page L of C. Winkers in a/c failed - passed task to cover a/c.</u>
	<u>0925</u>	<u>3000' ASL</u>	<u>boom pilot took over shoot. Requested accurate gun position 669679</u> <u>Smoke rounds difficult to observe. First round fell approx 690665. Second smoke fell at 675675. Difficulty was again experienced by rounds hitting intervening high ground. On fourth correction smoke fell in target area. Fifth correction right on target. Two rounds gunfire ordered. All rounds fell in target area. Observation at completion of shoot showed that the area was fully blasted. Communication improved on previous shoot. Target recorded <u>RR</u></u> <u>"Russ" passed a/c to "PIP 2" and, into requested search of area 6963.</u> <u>Requested search of area running NE through square. Pilot then searched in SQ 716A.</u> <u>A.M.S. communication not good</u>
			<u>Message dropped "PIP 2"</u>
			<u>Tracks were observed as per attached tracing.</u>

Time and Signature [Signature]
 Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc. A.I.O.
45 MUST AL SEC (AC).

25 Bde

off 12/11

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GLSAP UNIT 4 SQN SORTIE No. 1 (7. DIV.) A/C No. - TYPE F46-119 F46-92 DATE 10 NOV 43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE ARTY/R ENEMY GUN POSITION AND L OF C.

REF. MAPS <u>MT. KUBARI</u>	PILOT <u>F/O STALEY</u>	TIME UP <u>1120</u>	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	ESCORT <u>F/O HOLYMAN</u>	TIME DOWN <u>1250</u>	<u>GOOD.</u>	<u>LOW CLOUD</u>
	OBSERVER	TOTAL <u>1 hr 30 mins</u>		

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
<u>DUMPU</u>	<u>1300</u>	<u>1000'</u>	<u>Called PIP 5 - passed to "RUSS"</u> <u>communication to gun was bad - orders relayed to cover A/C to gun.</u>
	<u>1145</u>		<u>Bridge at 649691 selected on L of C. After three ranging shots it was</u> <u>obvious target out of range.</u>
	<u>1230</u>		<u>Target x 2 (gun position 679669) engaged. 3 rounds gunfire - all rounds</u> <u>in target area. Gun not observed.</u>
			<u>no further suitable target observed on L of C within range of guns. RUSS PIP 5</u> <u>x PIP 2 advised to this effect.</u>
			<u>Pilot's consider communications difficulties caused by them having to keep</u> <u>below the low cloud base which brought them below the level of</u> <u>the range between them and our gun position</u>
			Time and Signature <u>[Signature]</u> <u>F/O</u>
			Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc. <u>45</u> <u>Asst AL SEC (AC)</u>

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

A46-93
A46-118
A46-134

12/11

LOCATION GUSAP

UNIT 4 AC. SQN.

SORTIE No. 1. (1 DIV.)

A/C No. - TYPE

DATE 11 NOV '43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE

TAC/R WAMUNTI AREA LOCATE REPORTED JAP PATROL.

REF. MAPS

AMARI 1"
GUSAP 1"

PILOT

P/O MILLER RANDLE

TIME UP

0830

VISIBILITY

WEATHER

OBSERVER

S/P MUNRO
F/O PIZER

TIME DOWN

0950

GOOD

LOW BROKEN

TOTAL

1HR 20M.

Place or Ref.

Time

Height

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Track along GUSAP Riv from foothills to 670182 quite well defined. From 670182 - 072377 there does not appear to be any definite track. A number of pads emanate from these points and end in the scrub. Track from 072377 to WAMUNTI was not observed. WAMUNTI was pinpointed at 032457 where natives ran on approach of A/C. At approx 025442 a village was observed. Fairly well kept. N.M.S. Smoke was seen at the following points 033448 - 042447 - 073425, at the two latter REFS the smoke ceased after A/C passed over. At BUTEMU quite a number of natives were observed - did not run on approach of A/C. At BAKROKONO the village is in two parts. Many natives were seen - they waved to A/C. N.M.S. at 072377.

Time and Signature

Shane
A.R.O.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc

45 AUST. A.L. SEC (AC)

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4 AC SQN SORTIE No. 3 (7 Div) A/C No. - TYPE A41-93 A41-118 DATE 11 Nov '43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE TAC/R KABENAU Riv NANGAPO to HEADWATERS

REF. MAPS MT KUBARI 1"

PILOT F/O STALEY

TIME UP 1450

VISIBILITY

WEATHER

OBSERVER F/O MASSON

TIME DOWN 1625

Fair

Low CLOUD

TOTAL 1hr 35m

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
<u>DUMPU</u>			<u>Called "PIPS" - Passed to "PIP2" who requested near track BANGRI-BERRINGEE.</u>
<u>GERIK</u>			<u>Track from GERIK West across Riv is as per Map - Well defined - well worn - shows signs of recent use.</u> <u>An additional track was seen from 800885 along ridge to 793865.</u> <u>Thick jungle precluded pilot from observing further. Well worn and recently used - passes through 3-4 small well defined gorges.</u>
<u>SUNGUM</u>			<u>Track from GERIK to SUNGUM not observed.</u> <u>Track from SUNGUM to BANGRI was observed for practically its whole length.</u> <u>Thoroughly appeared good - well worn recently used. Cloud prevented further TAC/R of track to BERRINGEE.</u> <u>Bangri - one additional hut in course of construction. Tracks in village well worn - recently used. gave the impression of being well used by other than natives by reason of the fact that tracks were apparent as against a general padding effect caused by natives.</u>
			Time and Signature.....
			Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

-2.
R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... UNIT..... SORTIE No..... A/C No. - TYPE..... DATE.....

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....

REF. MAPS.....	PILOT.....	TIME UP.....	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	OBSERVER.....	TIME DOWN.....		
		TOTAL.....		

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
NINGAPO			<p>Village in good condition. On first pass by a/c 8-9 small heaps of white ashes were seen. On second visit one fire had burned up and smoke was seen to be rising from it. These patches of fire were on KNOLLS overlooking the Riv in the area REF 783867. The village gave the impression of "being used by natives only."</p> <p>A track was observed from 721780 following general line of RIVER along slopes to 731757 where it crosses the river then follows the ridge to AMUSON. A stack was observed at REF 728770. AMUSON is a well kept and orderly village. The northern approach from river for 200' was lined with yellow flowers.</p> <p>From AMUSON the track follows the river to the river at 760127. It then follows the bed of the river to 776716. At this point the valley becomes very narrow - cloud base low - pilot unable to continue search.</p>
			Time and Signature.....
			Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... UNIT..... SORTIE No..... A/C No. - TYPE..... DATE.....

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....

REF. MAPS..... PILOT..... TIME UP..... VISIBILITY..... WEATHER.....

..... OBSERVER..... TIME DOWN.....

..... TOTAL.....

Place or Ref. Time Height REPORT—INTERROGATION

At 109675 a well worn track was observed for approx 30'. blond prevented further recce.

Blond base prevented a really thorough search of the Riv. It is considered that barges could NOT navigate Riv in area under this recce. At NANGAPO rapids extend for 200'.

Messages dropped on "PIP 592".

Time and Signature..... H.L.O.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

45 Aust AL SEC (AC).

2/31 patrols 13 Nov.

B Coy ~~had~~ Standing patrol
701585 Located old Jap posn
30 weapon pits & Jap blankets.
located movement armed up on high
ground W of GUY'S POST. pat. to
Contact 2/33 13 Nov.

One ^{clerk} person on bridge
D Coy 3 Rec. Pats.
(Cook)
1 Sec. moves through Green Knot +
Buld Knot to 7360 then NW to GUY'S
& return. Leave case.
1 Sec 1 day (Uninjured) move Hill NW
then N to ~~the~~ 7361 then W to
1/5 Bn then GUY'S & return

Account to Rose
2/31 2/35 2/36
for track.

151-201 Brown Leaf - 10/13-10/14

REPORT - INTERROGATION

TIME UP
TIME DOWN
TIME UP
WEATHER

REF. MAPS
ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE
OBSERVER
PILOT
ASSEMBLY

LOCATION
SORTIE NO.
DATE

7059570
749556
K to 3th June 7059570
SW to ~~feature~~ 749556
F from
R.A.A.F.
RECONnaissance Report Form Co-OP

Time passed to Bde, Div, etc
Time and circumstances
11.10

25

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... GUSAP..... UNIT..... 4 HC SQN..... SORTIE No..... 2 (7 Div)..... A/C No. - TYPE..... A46-119
A46-93..... DATE..... 11 Nov 43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE..... ARTY/R

REF. MAPS..... <u>MT KUBARI 1"</u>	PILOT..... <u>F/O HOLYMAN</u>	TIME UP..... <u>1145</u>	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	OBSERVER..... <u>PL OGDRENSHAW</u>	TIME DOWN..... <u>1405</u>	<u>GOOD</u>	<u>Low Cloud</u>
		TOTAL..... <u>2 hrs 20m</u>		

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
<u>Dump 1</u>	<u>1215</u>	<u>1000'</u>	<p>Called "PIPS" - passed to "Russ."</p> <p>X 2 range by guns 304 fitted with new tanks. Ranging rounds fell 150' plus. After two separate rounds troop fire guns 304 were registered on target. Pilot requested to observe 3 rounds gunfire. The shells hit ridge - remainder fell in target area. A/c requested to make close inspection of target. Area was well blasted. During this inspection pilot observed 2 definite steel rim wheel tracks from gun position to hideout at ref 668684.</p> <p>As previously reported it is not possible to bring ARTY fire to bear on this position. Would have to be done by hand.</p> <p>The area from which this track emanated showed signs of emplacement having been dismantled logs and camouflage was scattered about.</p> <p>Message dropped "PIPS".</p>
	<u>1315</u>		

Time and Signature..... [Signature]
 ALO
 Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
 45 HUNT A L SEC (AC).

724—N.G. Press Unit—10/43—10m.

25

R. A. A. F.

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Handwritten signatures and initials
Brig

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4 AC SQN SORTIE No. 1 (1 Div) A/C No. - TYPE A46-137 A9L-93 148 DATE 12 Nov '43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE TAC/R - WAMUNTI - BERRINGGE. REPORTED JAP OCCUPATION.

REF. MAPS <u>Dumpy 1"</u>	PILOT <u>F/O. MILLER-RIDDLE</u>	TIME UP <u>0645</u>	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
<u>GUSAP 1"</u>	OBSERVER <u>S/L. MUNRO</u>	TIME DOWN <u>0830</u>	<u>GOOD</u>	<u>CLEAR - LOW BROKEN</u>
<u>MT KUBARI 1"</u>	<u>F/O. PIZER</u>	TOTAL <u>1 Hr 45m</u>		

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
	0700	5000' A.S.L.	BANKOKOMO - BUTEMU are as per map. WAMUNTI has now been placed as at 034464. Track from BUTEMU to WAMUNTI well defined and used and approx as per map. Track from BUTEMU to DANA was observed for most of its length - well used. Track from SERINE to GOMUMU observed from S.G 9952 to GOMUMU - not one well used. Track from GOMUMU to BOME well used (both halves). etatis in BOME run for cover on approach of a/c.
			Track from approx MUNGO to junction east of SISIMBA a normal native track - not particularly well used. Unable to follow track to BERRINGGE owing to low cloud. All villages contained natives - smoke was issuing from all villages observed.
	0740	8000' A.S.L.	A gap was observed in the ranges in the area approx 9966. 2-3 miles S.E. of which there is a basin of approx 2 miles diameter, Kunar covered in which many tracks were observed.

Time and Signature.....

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... UNIT..... SORTIE No..... A/C No. - TYPE..... DATE.....

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....

REF. MAPS.....	PILOT.....	TIME UP.....	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	OBSERVER.....	TIME DOWN.....		
		TOTAL.....		

REPORT—INTERROGATION

An occasional hut scattered throughout the basin. No natives seen - no smoke from huts. One large and one small lakes were observed.

The gap and lake were not accurately pinpointed. Accurate position will be stated in future report. Present ref approx only.

Message dropped on "PIP 5".

Time and Signature..... *[Signature]* A.I.O.
Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
45 FIRST A L SEC (AC)

pat to 2800 - nothing
other 2 - No branch, the 2 hrs from
hill 2400.
no pats tomorrow.

Place Refd.
Time
Height

OBSERVER
PILOT

UNIT
SORTIE NO

V/C No - TYPE

DATE

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

R.A.A.F.

28

Time passed to pilot, Div, etc.
Time and signature
W.V.O.

REPORT-INTERROGATION

TOTAL

TIME DOWN

TIME UP

VISIBILITY

WEATHER

[Faint handwritten notes and bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4 AC. SQN. SORTIE No. 2. (7 DIV) A/C No. - TYPE 1140-92 1140-119 DATE 14 Nov '43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE TAC/R BERRINGEE - BANERI - KABENALI RIV.

REF. MAPS <u>MT KUBARI 1"</u>	PILOT <u>F/O. STALEY</u>	TIME UP <u>0830</u>	VISIBILITY
	OBSERVER <u>F/O. MASSON</u>	TIME DOWN <u>1050</u>	GOOD
		TOTAL <u>2hrs 20M.</u>		WEATHER CLEAR

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
	0840	1000' A.S.L.	called "PIP" 5 & 2 - no contact withers 4/5.
KABENALI RIV.			Search from headwaters MOSH RIV to junction KABENALI RIV. No tracks N.M.S. Track picked up at 724 776 - this cuts bend of river to 724 785 then follows Riv bed to 738802 then follows Riv bank to 735822. Unable to follow from that point due to heavy timber. Tracks well worn - recently used. N.I.
NANGAPO			A track from 732872 South through village up spur to 732857. Heavy precluded any further pinpointing. A further track from village leads direction of Riv but not traced throughout its length.
BARUM	0940	40/1000 A.S.L.	Track from NANGAPO to BARUM was seen again at 730884 for a length of approx 1000* and again for a 1000* from BARUM S.W. A further track from BARUM running N.E. for approx 600* was cut out of kumai - well worn and recently used.
			The villages of BARUM - DAMUM - BANAI are in good condition and well used. All these villages have the appearance of being used by other than natives. N.M.S.

Time and Signature.....
Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

-2-
R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... UNIT..... SORTIE No..... A/C No. - TYPE..... DATE.....

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....

REF. MAPS.....	PILOT.....	TIME UP.....	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	OBSERVER.....	TIME DOWN.....		
		TOTAL.....		

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	
VILLAGE REF. 782852			A large village in good condition - does not appear to be well used. Grass was seen to be growing between huts. Track from BANNA - GERIK passes through centre of village. Track well worn and appears recently used.
			E.W. track from GERIK - SUNGUM not observed. Northern triangular track well worn - recently used.
BANGRI			Track from SUNGUM to BANGRI well worn. Western loop as at GUR indicated on maps not observed.
			From BANGRI - BERRINGGE no track was observed. Country very heavily timbered - very steep and rugged.
			A bear to hut was observed at 785689. No tracks to or from were observed.

Time and Signature..... *[Signature]* A.I.O.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

45 AUST AL Sec (AC)

25

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4 AC SQN SORTIE No. 1 (7 DIV) A/C No. - TYPE AA6-93 AA6-115 DATE 14 Nov '43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE ARTY/R ENEMY GUN POSITION MAP REF 658685

REF. MAPS <u>PAIPA 1/25000</u>	PILOT <u>P/O MILLER-RANDLE</u>	TIME UP <u>0845</u>	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	ESCORT <u>P/O HOLYMAN</u>	TIME DOWN <u>1000</u>	<u>GOOD</u>	<u>CLEAR</u>
	OBSERVER	TOTAL <u>1hr 15m</u>		

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
KANKIRYO	0900	2000' A.S.L.	<p>called "RUSS" who requested observation of fall of rounds on gun position.</p> <p>First round gunfire. 1 fell 50' left of target 2 fell 100' left of target fourth round hit ridge.</p> <p>Second round troop fire. 1 gun 50' plus, 2 gun 50' left, 3 50' left, 4 hit ridge.</p> <p>Third round troop fire. 102 guns on target, 3 guns 50' short, 4 hit ridge. Smoke and H.E falling practically in same spot.</p> <p>Requested also target on left & none observed within range of guns.</p> <p>KANKIRYO pinpointed as at ref 642702. No village observed at point marked on map.</p> <p>Gun position looks as though it has not been used in last 48 hrs.</p> <p>At gun hideout at ref 658694, two planks have been laid down as a ramp over a small gutter carrying water.</p> <p>The tracks previously reported lead over the above planks.</p> <p>Leaves were scattered over the tracks N.M.S.</p>

Time and Signature.....

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

25

R. A. A. F.

Brig BM
K. 14/11

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4 AC SQN SORTIE No. 1. (1 Div) A/C No. - TYPE H46-92 H46-119 DATE 15/10/43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE TALIR KISA - ASAKE - BOGADJIM Rd.

REF. MAPS <u>MT KUBARI 1" 3658</u> <u>URIGINAH 1" 3656</u>	PILOT <u>F/O STALEY</u> ESCORT <u>F/O MASSON</u> OBSERVER	TIME UP <u>0850</u> TIME DOWN <u>1110</u> TOTAL <u>2hrs 20m</u>	VISIBILITY <u>GOOD</u>	WEATHER <u>CLEAR</u>
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REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	Report
DUMPU	0900	2000'	Called "PIPS" - no contact.
ORGORUNH 2.	0920	MSL 40'	One new trench approx 10x2 ft has been dug. All other positions previously reported still in good condition and well used.
ORGORUNH 1.			At ref 457807 a new covered in and camouflaged digging was seen.
KISA - ASAKE KOBH.			The hangar type hut previously reported has been freshly camouflaged. Village has been dismantled. This has not been previously reported - has been dismantled for some time. A bridge at 488815 was seen. A small wooden bridge. Southern track KOBH-KISA well worn. All tracks in the area show heavy and recent use. N.M.S. no weapons observed.
MATALOI 2.			No huts in village. A trench approx 600 ft practically surrounds the remains of the village to WEST NORTH & EAST. All camouflaged and appears in good order. N.M.S. Well used track from MATALOI 2. to village at 507812. Also a track from MATALOI 2 for 600' NORTH.

Time and Signature.....

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

-2-

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION.....	UNIT.....	SORTIE No.....	A/C No. - TYPE.....	DATE.....
ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....				
REF. MAPS.....	PILOT.....	TIME UP.....	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	OBSERVER.....	TIME DOWN.....		
		TOTAL.....		

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	Report
MATHLOI 1.	0940	40'	From MATHLOI 1 to 2 the whole length of the track is honey combed with foxholes. All in good conditions. N.M.S. Approx 300' NORTH of the village there is a 40 ft trench running NE & SW in good conditions. On S.E. side half moon camouflaged runs for practically the whole length. The trench overlooks the village. Pilot unable to identify anything under camouflage. A track runs from MATHLOI 2 NE to high ground at 511834. It runs again near at 515836 where it appeared to widen slightly. N.M.S.
BIRI	1000		Appears to be used only by natives. The track NW of the general area appears much more used than those NORTH EAST. The area as a whole shows most general improvement.
MABELUBU			Track from village to native huts at 583237 is well used. A further track from village to 578855 is well worn and ends in the jungle.

Time and Signature.....
Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... UNIT..... SORTIE No..... A/C No. - TYPE..... DATE.....

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....

REF. MAPS.....	PILOT.....	TIME UP.....	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
.....	OBSERVER.....	TIME DOWN.....		
.....	.....	TOTAL.....	

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
			Pilot unable to identify identify anything where the track was.
			Light A/A was encountered in this area. N.M.S.
NANZANWRAL			No additional improvements seen.
			The road from YAULA to SUPPLY CAMP had been used subsequent to recent rain. Tracks were clear cut on sides of puddles.
			SUPPLY CAMP - SAIPA - very heavy foot traffic. Very little traffic since recent rain from SAIPA STN.
REF 858652			Unable to locate source of reported red very light. Country rugged and heavily timbered making observation difficult.
			Message dropped on "PIPS".

Time and Signature..... *[Signature]*
 H.I.O.
 Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
 45 HUST AL SEC (AL)

25

To go to B.M.

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4 MC Sqd SORTIE No. 2 (TDIV) A/C No. - TYPE A46-119 / A46-92 DATE 16 Nov '43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE TAC/R

REF. MAPS <u>URIGINA 3656 1"</u>	PILOT <u>F/O MASSON</u>	TIME UP <u>0915</u>	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	ESCORT OBSERVER <u>P/O STALEY</u>	TIME DOWN <u>1100</u>	<u>FAIR</u>	<u>LOW BROKEN</u>
		TOTAL <u>1hr 45m</u>		

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT-INTERROGATION
SANNA	1000	500' AGL	A village was observed at 440842. This village is what was known as KORIGINA. The track from SANNA runs in an opposite loop to that shown on map - thence along ridge and joins track at 434845 thence to URINA which is at 425874. A track going south from URINA was traced for approx 500'. Heavy timber prevented further observation. All tracks mentioned above are fairly well worn. No signs of diggings - N.M.S. in above villages.
RAINBANA			Tracks throughout village well worn and quite wide - particularly the one leaving in southerly direction. This was traced to ref 440886. N.M.S. no diggings.
JAPPA	1030		MURU Riv to JAPPA was traced no track seen. JAPPA village still in good condition - no additions made to it. N.M.S. Track from JAPPA to WIYAI very well worn.
URIGINA			Track from URIGINA - URIGINA 2 is very wide - approx 6ft, then tapering off to YAGUNIBU - still quite well worn.

Time and Signature.....

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

724-N.G. Press Unit-10/43-10m.

-2-
R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... UNIT..... SORTIE No..... A/C No. - TYPE..... DATE.....

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....

REF. MAPS..... PILOT..... TIME UP..... VISIBILITY..... WEATHER.....

OBSERVER..... TIME DOWN.....

TOTAL.....

Place or Ref. Time Height REPORT-INTERROGATION

CONTOUR INFORMATION :-

Area bounded by track SANA - URIA and URIA - URIGINA - YAGUNBU.
In this area there is a feature of approx 3000' A.S.L. The contours follow the general line of the tracks mentioned above - rising fairly steeply to the peak at approx 3000' at ref 415 838.
There is a saddle running E.W at approx 4348 44.

Time and Signature..... *[Signature]* F.L.O.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

45 AUSTRALIAN SEC (AC)

25

To Go to BM

BAIG ~~W/D~~
BM. ~~W/D~~

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4 AC SQN SORTIE No. 1 (1 Div) A/C No. - TYPE A46-115 DATE 16 Nov '43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE CONT/R BERRINGGE - TAL/R

REF. MAPS DUMPU 3655 1"
MT KUBARI 3658 1"

PILOT F/O. MILLE RANDLE
ESCORT
OBSERVER F/O. HOLYMAN

TIME UP 0722
TIME DOWN 0932
TOTAL 2 hrs 10m

VISIBILITY
GOOD

WEATHER
CLEAR

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
			called "PIP 2".
BERRINGGE	0745	40'	N.M.S.
GURUMBH	0750	"	3 columns of smoke observed at 815615 - own troops seen - named to A/C advised PIP 2.
			Smoke was seen also coming from 3 huts at 884637. Two persons were seen in this village. Pilot unable to identify as natives or Japs. They appeared to be wearing greyish khaki material. Pilot could not be sure if clothing was uniform or flap caps. One disappeared quickly into a hut - the other stood still under a tree. No connecting track from these three huts to MUMGO observed by pilot.
MUMGO			4 N.M.S.
TRACK TAL/R	0845		Indicating smoke fell at REF 717664. About 30 yds of track running E-W at 717657. This was just a short loop by passing a difficult patch in the river bed. No connecting tracks seen in this area.
PAIPA 25000	0845		
KUMBARUM 25000			
			Time and Signature.....
			Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION.....	UNIT.....	SORTIE No.....	A/C No. - TYPE.....	DATE.....
ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....				
REF. MAPS.....	PILOT.....	TIME UP.....	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	OBSERVER.....	TIME DOWN.....		
		TOTAL.....		

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
			From 715644-738625 a well defined and well used track was seen.
			From 715644 to 729644 it followed the line of the river. Then crosses river and runs E-W to 727644 where it follows the river bed to its end and then to 3200 feature at ref 738625.
			The map in this area is not very accurate. The tributary along which this track runs ends at 735633.
			At 733636 there is a small wooden bridge which appeared to have some form of roof on it. Pilot considers it is of native construction.
			"PIP 2" requested a search of the UPPER FARIA. N.M.S.
			"PIP 2" fwd requested a track track along ridge S.Q. 7064. A thorough search made - no tracks seen.
			Two of our traps seen at 720637.
			Message dropped on "PIP 2".

Time and Signature..... *[Signature]* A.L.O.
 Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
 45 AUST AL SEC (AG).

724—N.G. Press Unit—10/43—10m.

R. A. A. F.

Brig ^{See}
BM ~~X~~

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

UNIT A. H. Sqn

SORTIE No. 1 (7 Div)

A/C No. - TYPE 1146-119
1146-72

DATE 17 Nov '43

OF SORTIE T.H.R. SEARCH REPORTED CRASHED ENEMY BOMBER.

REF. MAPS DUMP 1"
MT OTTO 1"
PAIPA 1/25000
KUMBARUM 1/25000

PILOT F/O MASSON
OBSERVER F/O STALEY

TIME UP 1305
TIME DOWN 1415
TOTAL 1hr 10m

VISIBILITY
POOR

WEATHER
LOW CLOUD
RAIN.

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
<u>1/25000</u> <u>UPPER FARIA</u>			<u>called "PIP 2" - requested recon enemy gun position, also enemy position SHAGGY RIDGE.</u> <u>Recon abandoned due to very low clouds.</u>
<u>DUMP 1"</u>			<u>Unable locate crashed aircraft DUMP AREA.</u> <u>"PIP 502" advised of results by R/T.</u>

Time and Signature..... [Signature] A.L.O.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

45 FLUST AIR LIAISON SEC (A)

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

Brig BM
A/C
[Signature]

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4 AC. Sqn. SORTIE No. 1. (7 Div) A/C No. - TYPE A46-119 A46-92 DATE 18 Nov '43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE Task

REF. MAPS <u>PAIPA 1/25000</u> <u>KUMBARUM 1/25000</u>	PILOT <u>F/O. MASSON</u> ESCORT OBSERVER <u>F/O. STALEY</u>	TIME UP <u>1030</u> TIME DOWN <u>1220</u> TOTAL <u>1hr 50M</u>	VISIBILITY <u>POOR</u>	WEATHER <u>low CLOUD</u>
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REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
<u>Dumpu</u>	<u>1045</u>		<p>called "PIP2". Who requested a/c to remain in RAMLI VALLEY until mortar fire brought to bear on enemy.</p> <p>At 1045 "PIP2" advised mortar would commence at 1100. On enemy gun opening up, a/c were to be called in to observe gun flash. Enemy gun did not open until after a/c were requested to observe fall of mortar. Enemy gun then opened fire and a/c diverted to this task. No flashes were seen but greyish-black smoke was seen hanging in air at ref 656687. Owing to low cloud pilot was unable to closely see the point - therefore unable to state if there is a gun platform at the reference gun.</p> <p>"RUSS" contacted - registration not possible - low cloud closing in on target area.</p> <p>Message dropped on "PIP502".</p>

Time and Signature *[Signature]* A.L.O.
Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc. 45 HUST H.L. SEC (AC)

21100ah 25
21/11

R. A. A. F.

Brig Gen
21/11

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... GUSAP..... UNIT..... 4 AC SQN..... SORTIE No. 2. (7DIV)..... A/C No. - TYPE..... A46-134 A46-93..... DATE..... 19 NOV '43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE..... TAC/R.....

REF. MAPS..... URIGINA 3658 1"	PILOT..... F/O. Darbishire	TIME UP..... 1530	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	OBSERVER..... F/O. Miller-Randle	TIME DOWN..... 1705	VERY GOOD	CLEAR
		TOTAL..... 1Hr 35m.		

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	Report
BOGADJIM RD.			From AIYAU to Headwaters MINTJIM - N.M.S. - NO M.T.
		300'	At 585880 a portion of the road had been washed out by very recent rain. The repaired surface did not show any tracks.
	1600	A.G.L.	At 584860 a/c were fired on by A/A. A/C not hit but tracer seen. Pilot considers it was L.M.G.
			At 575578 a/c experienced concentrated small arms fire. It appeared to the pilot that approx 10 rifles were placed along side of road.
			At 579835 the bridge appears to have been repaired.
			At 570809 for approx 200X the road has been cut out of the side of the mountain and drops sheer for 300ft. By passing at this would prove extremely difficult.
			BOMBING INFORMATION:- Pilot considers dive bombing or medium level bombing would be most suitable form of attack. Approach would be from S.W. A clear view for 5 miles is obtained. A clean getaway to the N.E. along the MINTJIM RIV is open to dive bombers.
			PIP 2 requested observe results of mortar fire put down on 18 NOV '43. Pilot advised "PIP" 2 by R/T that rounds had fallen among enemy foxholes on SHAGGY RIDGE. Message dropped on "PIP" 5.

Time and Signature..... *[Signature]*..... AL O.
Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
45 AUST AL SEC (AC).

724—N.G. Press Unit—10/43—10m.

25 Bde.

R. A. A. F.

Brig *See [Signature]*

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

A46-119
A46-134

19 Nov 43

LOCATION..... GUSAP	UNIT..... 4 AC SQN.	SORTIE No..... 1. (7DIV)	A/C No. - TYPE.....	DATE.....
ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE..... PAIPA 1:25000	TAC/R & ARTY/R.			
REF. MAPS..... KUMBARUM 1:25000	PILOT..... F/O. Staley	TIME UP..... 0913	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	OBSERVER..... F/O. Messon	TIME DOWN..... 1150	GOOD	CLEAR
		TOTAL..... 2 Hrs 37m.		

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	
JUMPU	0920	1000*	<p>Called "PIP" 2 - requested stay in valley until called. Mortar ceased fire at 0925. Recce a/c called * to locate enemy gun position. "RUSS" contacted.</p> <p>At ref 659686 a levelled portion of ground was observed which could be fixed used on which to place a gun. A track lead from here to the back of the ridge. This track was approx 8' wide. No wheel tracks were observed but had a very well worn appearance. A clear field of fire was observed. Registered as X X3.</p> <p>At ref 666684 a similar position was observed. The platform in this position was cut out of the side of the ridge. Also a wide well used track ran behind the ridge. Registered as X4.</p> <p>After corrections - all rounds fell in target areas.</p> <p>Messages dropped on "PIP" 5&2.</p> <p>A ^c connecting road from X2 runs to X3. A connecting road from X3 - X4 was not observed - Pilot is of the opinion that such is likely.</p>
		AGL.	

Gusap

Time and Signature..... *[Signature]* **44.0.**

45 AUGST ALBEO (AC)

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R. A. A. F.

Brig *KIP*
BM. *23/11*

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4AC SON. SORTIE No. 2. (7DIV.) A/C No. - TYPE A46- 134 A46- 119 DATE 20 NOV '43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE ARTY/R.

REF. MAPS <u>PAIPA 1:25000</u>	PILOT <u>F/O. Staley</u>	TIME UP <u>1650</u>	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	ESCORT. <u>F/O. Masson</u>	TIME DOWN <u>1800</u>		
	OBSERVER	TOTAL <u>1hr 10m.</u>	<u>FAIR</u>	<u>LOW BROKEN</u>

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Called "RUSS" - Advised enemy gun had opened up. Had stopped firing before a/c reached area. "RUSS" had fired on X3, X4. Requested a/c to inspect these positions. N.M.S. Rounds had fallen in target area in both instances - but the platforms remain undamaged.

At ref 662683 a new position was observed. Again they had constructed a gun platform - With a track to a hideout behind the feature. This had definitely been constructed during the last 24 hrs. Portions of a wheel track were observed - these had the appearance of having been hurriedly brushed over with branches in an endeavour to hide them.

Only one gun was available for ranging. Target registered as X5.

BOMBING INFORMATION:- Dive bombing is considered by pilot as being the best method of ~~dislodging~~ dislodging gun from hideout. Approach would be along the MINTJIM RIV - Approach towards the headwaters. No hazards are presented in pull out.

"PIP" 5 advised by R/T.

Time and Signature *[Signature]*
A.L.O.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.
45 AUST AL SEC (AC).

25 Bde

R. A. A. F.

Brig W/O
BM 24/11

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION.....GUSAP	UNIT.....4 AC SQN.	SORTIE No. 1. (7DIV)	A/C No. - TYPE.....A46-119 A46-92	DATE 23 NOV '43
ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....	TAC/R SHAGGY RIDGE - LOCATE POSSIBLE ENEMY GUN.PO			
REF. MAPS.....PAIPA 1:25000	PILOT.....F/O. Masson	TIME UP.....0910	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	ESCORT.....	TIME DOWN.....1055	GOOD	CLEAR
	XOBSERVER.....F/O. Staley	TOTAL.....1hr 45m.		

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
	1030		Called "PIP" 5 - passed to "PIP" 2 forward.
			Area MT PROTHERO - saddle reced very closely. At ref 672 673675 a possible gun platform was observed.
			A piece of timber approx 9" through had been placed on the slope and the ground to the rear had been levelled off for an area of 10 x 7ft. Timber had been cleared on the Southern side indicating a field of fire towards our troops. This clearance is not very obvious from the air. The pilot estimates from its appearance that it has not been constructed for more than a week. A track running in a North Westerly direction was observed for 15 yds - leading into heavy timber. No tracks were observed N.M.S. No sign of weapons.
			At ref 676671 a half cheese clearing was observed. Some of the timber had the appearance of being having been cut fairly clean - other trees appeared to have been broken and knocked over. The portion of the track which runs past the clearing and to the FARIA VALLEY appears to be wider and more used than on previous observations.
			Smoke was seen rising from area ref 682648. A number of foxholes were seen at intervals along feature from ref 682646 - 681655.
			Messages dropped on "PIP" 5 & 2.

Time and Signature..... *[Signature]*
A.L.O.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
45 AUST AL SEC (AC).

25

R. A. A. F.

Brig *WDE*
BII *26/11*

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

A46-119
A46-93

DATE 24 NOV '43

LOCATION GUSAP

UNIT 4 AC SQN.

SORTIE No. 1. (7DIV).

A/C No. - TYPE

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE

TAC/R - ANTY/R. ENEMY GUN POSITION. 674675.

REF. MAPS PAIPA 1:25000

PILOT F/O. Mason

TIME UP 0840

VISIBILITY

WEATHER

ESCORT
OBSERVER F/O. Staley

TIME DOWN 1015

TOTAL 1hr 35m.

GOOD

HIGH BROKEN

Place or Ref.

Time

Height

Called "PIP" 5 - passed to "RUSS". REPORT—INTERROGATION

0900

After four corrections target was ranged. One round troop and 3 rounds gunfire put on target. All rounds fell in target area. Target recorded as X6.
The second round of smoke hit top of ridge and fell west of target area. This "Put Up" a Jap who ran from north to south side of gully at 670673.
A/C again were called out to observe enemy gun firing on our troops. Gun had ceased fire when a/c reached area. "RUSS" advised pilot of general direction from which fire was coming.

Medium level or dive bombing would be suitable. Dive bombing approach would be from West to East. Medium level from either East or West. The gun position is on westerly slopes of saddle with the ground falling away westerly into UPPER MINTJIN RIV VALLEY.

At ref 678668 a further partial clearing was observed similar to the one reported on 23 NOV. Again this was roughly half cheese shape of approx 10x across. The area was not cleared completely of growth. All trees had been broken off and lying on the ground this clearing is quite close to the one previously reported and is on opposite side of creek. No sign of track joining these two clearances was observed - but the creek bed could be used as a connecting track. Clearing has been made during last 24 hrs.

Messages dropped on "PIP" 5 & 2.

TERRAIN:- An additional track runs from 667675 in a gentle northerly direction to 676673.

The gully at ref 673667 extends to 677670.

Time and Signature *W. H. Rawlett*
A.L.O.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.

45 AUST AL SEC (AC).

25



R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... **GUSAP** UNIT..... **4 AC SQN.** SORTIE No. **1. (7 DIV).** A/C No. - TYPE..... **A46-134** DATE **25 NOV'43**
A46-03
 ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE..... **TAG/R & ARTY/R.**
 REF. MAPS..... **PAIPA 1:25000** PILOT..... **R/O. Staley** TIME UP..... **1350** VISIBILITY WEATHER
 ~~ESCORT~~ OBSERVER..... **W/O. McIntyre** TIME DOWN..... **1500** **FAIR** **LOW CLOUD**
 TOTAL..... **1hr 10m.**

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
DUMPU	1400		Called "PIP" 5 - passed to "PIP" 2.
	1420		TAG/R. Requested to locate enemy gun which had been firing on our troops. Cloud base on ranges.
			A/C requested to cruise in valley for 20 mins. Cloud did not lift - TAG/R not possible -
			A/C returned to base.

Time and Signature..... *[Signature]*
 Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
45 AUST AL SEC (AC).

724—N.G. Press Unit—10/43—10m.

25.

Handwritten: Briefing 9/11/28/44

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... GUSAP..... UNIT..... 4 AC SQN...... SORTIE No. 1. (7DIV). A/C No. - TYPE..... A46-119 A46-118..... DATE..... 26 NOV'43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE..... TAC/R & ARTY/R. ENEMY GUN POSITION.

REF. MAPS..... <u>PAIPA 1:25000</u>	PILOT..... <u>P/O. HANSON</u>	TIME UP..... <u>0845</u>	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	OBSERVER..... <u>P/O. McIntyre</u>	TIME DOWN..... <u>1130</u>		
		TOTAL TIME..... <u>2hrs 45m.</u>	<u>GOOD</u>	<u>LOW BROKEN</u>

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
<u>DUMFU</u>	<u>0855</u>		Established communications with "PIP" 2. Advised a/c to stay in valley until mortars commenced fire at 0900.
	<u>0901</u>		On commencement of mortar fire - Jap gun commenced to fire on our troops. A/C called in - mortar fire ceased. A/C came up FARIA RIV VALLEY - closely observed X6. This was smashed as a result of a direct hit obtained during previous shoot. Not capable of carrying gun in present state. Pilot then searched area covered by X2 - X5. All these positions showed an unused condition. They were still rain washed and definitely had not been used.
	<u>0945</u>		A/C then contacted "RUSS". "PIP" 2 then came up with message from F.O.O. located with him. Pilot was requested to search on a line 672665 to 681671. F.O.O. advised line of enemy fire approx that of X6. Gun fire heard quite distinctly by our ground force. F.O.O. suggested gun on a high position. Request area closely searched - as a result a possible position was observed at ref 680674. At this point there is a slight gully into which a platform has been cut. An area of 10 x 7ft was visible. The whole works run in an N.W. direction. The Western end is smooth and flat cleared of all vegetation - has a newish appearance - unwashed by rain. The Eastern end appears to be wider - but due to timber and position of sun pilot was unable to observe very closely. He feels that the Eastern end could be the hideout position - The Western end being the firing position. A half hour had elapsed since firing before this position was located. This position gives a good field of fire onto our troops. If bombing contemplated either dive or medium level would be suitable. Approach would be from South. Vegetation is rain forest.
			After 3 corrections one round gunfire put down on target. Recorded as X7.
			"RUSS" advised that a lot of small arms fire was being directed at a/c.
			Communications to "RUSS" & "PIP" 2 excellent.
			At 678659 one Jap seen to run to foxhole.
			Messages dropped on "PIP" 2 & 2.

Time and Signature..... *[Signature]*
 Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
45 ADST AL SIG (AG). A.L.O.

724—N.G. Press Unit—10/43—10m.

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R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

A46-93
A46-134

27 NOV '43

LOCATION.....	GUSAP	UNIT.....	4 AC SQN.	SORTIE No.....	1. (6MMG.BN).	A/C No. TYPE.....		DATE.....	27 NOV '43
ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....	TAC/R. TRACKS BOPIRUMPU - GOMUMU - WAMUNTI.								
REF. MAPS.....	DUMPU 1"	PILOT.....	F/O. Miller-Randle	TIME UP.....	0815	VISIBILITY		WEATHER	
	GUSAP 1"	ESCORT XXXXXXXXXX OBSERVER.....	F/O. Darbshire	TIME DOWN.....	0945				
				TOTAL.....	1hr 30m.	GOOD		CLEAR	

REPORT-INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT-INTERROGATION
WAMUNTI	0830		No track was observed from WAMUNTI - GOMUMU. GOMUMU is correctly placed as per map.
			No track observed from BOPIRUMPU - GOMUMU. BORIPUMPU not seen. Pilot suggests that the TUNCKUAT RIV could be used as a track from foothills to GOMUMU. The country from this area for most of the distance is kunai covered. Approx 3000x South of GOMUMU the timber thickens up to rain forest.
			The grade for two thirds of this distance is gradual - then gradually becoming steeper. As an alternative route pilot suggests leaving the river at approx 930468 and take a North Easterly course to west tracks GOMUMU - TOPIN. A village approx 10 - 12 huts was seen at ref 947450.
			No connecting track seen leading to TOPIN or in direction BOPIRUMPU.
S.Q. 0048			A village of approx 15 huts was observed at 002488. This is situated on quite a high ridge in thick rain forest with undergrowth. No defined tracks were seen emanating from this village.
BUTEMU.			A track was seen to lead from BUTEMU to a village at ref 995440.
			The track meanders S.W. to a gap at 018432 thence to BUTEMU - not over well defined except for approx 2000x from village at 013449. The country over which it passes is more undulating then CRAGGY.Heavy rain forest.
			Villages of approx 7 - 10 huts were seen at the following refs :- 004462 - 022491 - 011499.
			No connecting tracks were observed.
			Time and Signature..... <i>Alvest</i> A.L.O.
			Time Passed to Bde. Div. etc..... 45 AUST AL SQD (AC).

21

R. A. A. F.

Brig
BM

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION.....GUSAP..... UNIT.....4 AC SQN. SORTIE No. 2. (7DIV). A/C No. - TYPE.....A46-92
A46-119 DATE.....27 NOV'4

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....TAC/R. BOGADJIM ROAD.

REF. MAPS.....MT. KUBARI 1"	PILOT.....F/O. Staley	TIME UP.....1310	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
.....URIGINA 1"	ESCORT OBSERVER.....F/O. Masson	TIME DOWN.....1540	GOOD	CLEAR
		TOTAL.....2Hrs 30m.		

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	
DUMPU	1320		Called "PIP" 5 - unable to contact.
AIYAU BRIDGES 7&8.	1345	1000* A.G.L.	1 camouflaged M.T. seen facing BOGADJIM. N.M.S. No action by a/c. N.M.S. All damage to road repaired - signs of heavy M.T. usage. At 609918 a clearance was observed on South side of road. At this point the vegetation is rain forest with undergrowth. All undergrowth had been cleared away for 100x from the road - trees left standing. No sign of vehicle tracks or use subsequent to last rain. Pilot's impression that the clearing is fairly recent. Any creeper growth cut had not had time to die off and shows in tree tops. At 611918 two native huts were observed. N.M.S. A track showing use led from road to huts.
KWATO YAULA - OLD YAULA.	1400	1000* A.G.L.	N.M.S. No recent additions. Tracer - estimated .50 - was fired at a/c from KWATO and YAULA. Pilots unable to accurately pinpoint source of origin. Fire was accurate. A/C not damaged.
SAIPA			N.M.S. From SAIPA North to 600750 the western loop of the road appears to have been the more used recently.
ROAD USAGE.			Very heavy usage of the road as far as OLD YAULA - from there very much lighter to SUPPLY CAMP. From SUPPLY CAMP to HEAD MINTJIM RIV track shows heavy foot traffic.
ROAD - OLD YAULA - MATALOI No.1.		40* A.G.L.	From OLD YAULA a track proceeds West to 577864 thence along ridge in a South westerly direction to 523848 where it branches. One branch leads to 500x South of BIRI. The lower branch follows the ridge for 600x South then gradually losing height to MATALOI No.1. From OLD YAULA to the branch the track is 8 - 10 ft wide throughout - well trampled by foot traffic.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... UNIT..... SORTIE No..... A/C No. - TYPE..... DATE.....

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....

REF. MAPS..... PILOT..... OBSERVER.....

-2-

(Cont).

TIME UP.....

VISIBILITY

WEATHER

TIME DOWN.....

TOTAL.....

REPORT—INTERROGATION

It is wide enough to carry light M.T. - but no evidence of such use. The vegetation is rain forest with undergrowth - all undergrowth has been completely cleared away - No felled trees were observed, no steep grades throughout this portion of the track. The Northern branch to area BIRI is not wide and not ever well used. The Southern branch to MATALOI No. 1 thins to approx 5 ft and is very well worn - all usage is very recent.

From 529842 to 522850 and for a depth of 60 yds all undergrowth has been shepped about without any thought to preserve camouflage. Vines etc which have grown to tops of trees are showing brown. The whole area has been well trampled down. Throughout this clearance a maze of foxholes and trenches were observed. One trench was at least 100 ft long - approx 5 weapon bays were seen in this trench. No attempt was made to camouflage these works. The whole is on a high ground and overlooks the area covered by MATALOI - KOBA - KISA - ASAKE - BIRI. N.M.S. No weapons observed.

Messaged dropped on "PIP" 5.

1505

"PIP" 5 passed to "PIP" 2. who requested a search in X 8 area. Nothing further observed.

On way out to recce BOGADJIM RD pilot saw what appeared to be a red flash come from ref 675657.

On return journey pilot made thorough search of area - nothing seen.

Time and Signature..... *A.L.O.*

A.L.O.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

45 AUST AL SEC (AC).

25 Bde

Brig Area

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... GUSAP UNIT..... 4 AC SQN. SORTIE No..... 1. (V DIV). A/C No. - TYPE..... A46-93 A46-134 DATE..... 1 DEC '43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE..... TAC/R. NANZANRAI.

REF. MAPS..... DAUMONIA STH. P. Map.
 DAUMONIA P. Map
 MT. KUBARI I"

PILOT..... F/O. Miller-Randle
 ESCORT.....
 OBSERVER..... F/O. Guyot

TIME UP..... 1020

TIME DOWN..... 1200

TOTAL..... 1hr 40m.

VISIBILITY

GOOD

WEATHER

CLEAR

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	
NANZANRAI	1037		A village was pinpointed at 140160. 4 large and 2 small huts seen. All are disused - grass growing all around. One track running through village - very thin and hardly used. A track runs from 137132 to village - slightly more used than one in village. Bridges were seen at refs 137132 - 138159 - 138157. The latter approx 20ft long - wooden construction - may be capable of taking 3 tonner. The former two are wood and approx 12 ft long - capable of taking 3 tonners. N.M.S. A/C were fired on by either .303 or .50 from 128156. A/C not holed.
DAUMONIA STH.			
M.T. PARK	DAUMONIA 116145.		Signs of heavy recent use. No vehicles observed. N.M.S. No recent additions to huts.
XXXXXXXX MT. KUBARI.			At 598737 - 597742 what appeared to be possible lookout posts were observed. A well worn track - previously reported - runs from SAIPA 2 up the spur to the first position at ref 598737 - from there to second position at 597742 not so well worn. The posts are just small areas of kumai flattened down - the grass had not been worn away. These two positions give a commanding view of the RAMU VALLEY from KOBEN to KESATAI No.3. from the river to a 1000x towards the northern foothills. N.M.S.
	1110		Called up "RUSS" who requested search for targets on Jap L of C at Headwaters of MINTJ.M. No targets seen. "RUSS" advised by R/T.
SAIBA.			At ref 619709 a hut in good condition was observed at the end of a well used track running from SAIBA. 30-40x mag was disused lean-to. On the N.W. corner of the hut a 6ft square greyish white flat object was observed. Pilot was unable to identify.

Messages dropped on "PIP" 5 & 2.

Time and Signature.....
 Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc..... *Shawcross*

45 AUST AL SQN (AC).

25

*Brig
BN*

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4 AC SQN SORTIE No. 1. (7DIV). A/C No. - TYPE A46-93 A46-134 DATE 3 DEC'43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE TAC/R.

REF. MAPS. <u>URIGINA 1"</u> <u>MT. KUBARI 1"</u> <u>DAUNGINA 5TH P. Map</u>	PILOT <u>F/O. Miller-Bendie</u> ESCORT <u>F/O. Guyot</u> OBSERVERS <u></u>	TIME UP <u>0815</u> TIME DOWN <u>1025</u> TOTAL <u>2Hrs 10m.</u>	VISIBILITY <u>GOOD</u>	WEATHER <u>CLEAR</u>
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Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
<u>KISA - ASAKE</u>	<u>0845</u>	<u>50'</u> <u>A/C 1st</u>	An attempt was made to surprise troops in this area. Ground reports state a parade is held approx 0900 hrs daily. A/C came in from S.W. direction, N.E.S. The area generally has the same well occupied air. No additions were observed. Nothing observed in coconut plantations in village. Track to BIRI well worn. Five huts at 475835 - situated in heavy timber - tracks throughout show heavy use.
<u>SANA</u>			Track KISA - SANA well worn. SANA village also shows signs of recent use. N.E.S.
<u>ORGORUNA 1.</u> <u>ORGORUNA 2.</u>			No recent additions - still showing signs of occupation. Track to KISA well worn still. Did not appear to be particularly well used. A square structure of approx 12' by 14' was seen. This appeared to the pilot to be of similar construction to the roof of a hut. Track from KOBA to NATALOI No.1 very well used, also track to new defensive position square 5284. This position still showing signs of use - but no additional defensive work observed. Track from defensive position to BOGADJIM RD and OLD YAVLA still showing signs of heavy use.
<u>NANZAURAI.</u>			Area searched thoroughly. A village of 5 huts was observed at 133169 - approx 100 ft above road. The ground rises sheer - no tracks observed leading to huts. Gave impression that village had been well used previously - but not used at all recently.

Time and Signature.....
Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

724—N.G. Press Unit—10/43—10m.

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... UNIT..... SORTIE No..... A/C No. - TYPE..... DATE.....

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....

REF. MAPS..... PILOT..... TIME UP..... VISIBILITY..... WEATHER.....

..... OBSERVER..... TIME DOWN.....

..... TOTAL.....

-2-
(sent)

Place or Ref. Time Height REPORT—INTERROGATION

One hut in complete disrepair - the other very delapidated.

A village was observed at 133154. 4 huts and 2 leans to on East side of road - three on West side - One large two small. These huts gave impression of being used only occasionally - all in slight disrepair. No well defined tracks seen in villages.

M.T. PARKING AREAS.

At refs 137157 -133167 what appeared to be vehicle parks were observed. These were small ravines which had been dug sufficiently to take a 3 tonner. The one at 133167 had a 12' pole leaning across the entrance - possibly upon which to hang camouflage. In each instance tree overhang these position giving natural cover. The floor of these positions are rock and therefore did not show any sign of use by M.T.

Time and Signature.....

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

25

R. A. A. F.

Brig
BM

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4 AC SQN SORTIE No. 2.(7DIV). A/C No. - TYPE A46-119
A46-93 DATE 3 DEC '43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE TAC/R.

REF. MAPS <u>PAIPA 1:25000</u> <u>KIMBARUM "</u>	PILOT <u>F/O. JASSON</u>	TIME UP <u>1135</u>	VISIBILITY <u>GOOD</u>	WEATHER <u>CLEAR</u>
	ESCORT. <u>F/O. STALEY</u>	TIME DOWN <u>1320</u>		
	OBSERVER	TOTAL <u>1hr 45m.</u>		

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
	1230		Communications established with "PIP" 2 who requested search area S.E. of BOGANON. Approx 30 our own troops seen walking along track from 784580 - 783590. Waved to a/c. N.M.S. of S.E. of BOGANON.
Suspected enemy gun posn.	1200		Search for gun positions at refs 701650 and 703660 as given by ground troops. At 701650 shell craters were observed in target area. Pilot could not see anything that would suggest a gun position. Two small diggings of approx 3' by 18" were seen on the side of ridge at 699652. These were not big enough for a gun position. At 707659 a clearing of approx 5 yds diameter was observed. Trees had been cleared away - grass still evident. The ground at this point is quite steep and as yet no attempt has been made to level it off. N.M.S.
Defensive posn. 688673.			Additions to this area have been made. Two additional trenches were observed. One of 50' the other 100'. The smaller trench is "S" shaped. The larger } in the centre of which is mounted an LMG which fired on a/c on at least three occasions during the recon. The whole area has been improved and worked on.
			The square position previously reported is now not visible. Apparently has been completed and effectively camouflaged. Signs of heavy movement around whole area. N.M.S. other than machine gunner.
			Message dropped on "PIP" 5.

Time and Signature [Signature]
A.L.O.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.
45 AUST AL SEC (AC).

Brief
DM
R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... **GUSAP** UNIT..... **4 AC SQN** SORTIE No. **(7DIV)** A/C No. - TYPE..... **A46-93**
A46-119 DATE..... **4 DEC'43**

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE..... **LEAD IN 16 P40's ON STRIKE ON BRIDGES 1-2-3- BOGADJEM RD.**

REF. MAPS..... **BAU-AK Photo Map.**

PILOT..... **F/O. Staley**

TIME UP..... **0705**

VISIBILITY

WEATHER

ESCORT
OBSERVER..... **F/O. Holyman**

TIME DOWN..... **0835**

TOTAL..... **1hr 30m.**

GOOD AT TARGET

LOW BROKEN

Place or Ref. Time Height

REPORT—INTERROGATION

To Release

16 x 500lbs bombs dropped - 2 of which did not explode. one a/s returned to base with bomb - ~~UNABLE~~

First three bombs fell 2 - 300x South WALUGA village. Remainder fell around Bridge 3 in a radius of 100x. One bomb direct hit on Bridge 3 - half of which was blown away.

At present river is in flood - difficulty will be experienced in by passing - and possibly reconstructing - until river falls to normal.

Communications good.

Target was indicated by recce a/c circling and diving on target - plus conformation by R/T.

Recce a/c strafed BAU-AK on return - fire started in a hut - but soon burnt out.

"PIP" 5 advised by R/T.

Time and Signature..... *[Signature]*

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

25.

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION.....	GUSAP	UNIT.....	4 AC SQN.	SORTIE No.....	2. (7DIV).	A/C No. - TYPE.....	A46-93 A46-134	DATE.....	5 DEC '43
ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....	TAC/R DAMAGE BOGADJIM RD. FOLLOWING STRIKES.								
REF. MAPS.....	BAU-AK	P. Map.	PILOT.....	F/O. Miller-Randle	TIME UP.....	1410	VISIBILITY	WEATHER	
			ESCORT. OBSERVER.....	F/O. Guyot	TIME DOWN.....	1525	GOOD	SCATTERED LOW CLOUD.	
					TOTAL.....	1hr 15m.			

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	
BOGADJIM RD.	1420		Road from bridge 11 to bridge 1 closely reseed. Road is still open - all bridges still intact. 3m
			Bomb craters were observed in the following areas :-
			Bridge 1. 3 craters in vicinity. Bridge 3. 2 craters radius of 50 yds of bridge. Repaired from strike 4 DEG - complete with hand-rail. Loop road between bridge 3 and BAU-AK. 3 - 4 craters along side of loop. Bridges 4 & 5 no recent craters observed. Bridge 6 crater observed 141138.
			Bridges 7 - 8 - 9 no recent craters observed. Bridges 10 & 11 shallow craters observed in line 200 x 100 yds area ref 119123.
			Message dropped on "PIP" 5.

Time and Signature..... *[Signature]*

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc..... A.L.O.

45 AUST AL SEC (AC).

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0709
354

Bridges
Bl. #6

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4 AC SQN SORTIE No. 1. (7DIV) A/C No. - TYPE A46-134 DATE 6 DEC '43
A46-119

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE LEAD IN STRIKE ON BRIDGES 7 & 8.

REF. MAPS <u>BAU-AK Photo Map.</u>	PILOT <u>F/O. Guyot</u>	TIME UP..... <u>0800</u>	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	ESCORT. <u>F/O. Masson</u>	TIME DOWN..... <u>0940</u>		
	OBSERVER	TOTAL..... <u>1hr 40m.</u>			GOOD	CLEAR

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
			8 x 500 lb bombs dropped. Bombing accurate.
	0900		Wrong bridge bombed. Strike concentrated on 4 - 5 - 6. One direct hit on bridge 5 - completely demolished. River running high. Timber swept away.

Time and Signature..... *[Signature]*
A.L.O.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
45 AUST AL SEC (AC).

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R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... GUSAP UNIT..... 4 AC SQN. SORTIE No. 2. (7DIV). A/C No. - TYPE..... A46-93 A46-92 DATE 6 DEC'43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE..... TAC/R BRIDGE 5 KISA - ASAKE AREA.

REF. MAPS..... BAI-AK Photo Map
URIGINA 1"

PILOT..... F/O. Staley
ESCORT/OBSERVER..... F/O. Miller-Randle

TIME UP..... 1400
TIME DOWN..... 1550
TOTAL..... 1Hr 50m.

VISIBILITY
RESTRICTED

WEATHER
LOW BROKEN

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
			Bridges 7 & 8 indicated to 4 P40's cover. Recce a/c circled and made a pass to indicate. In ter-communications not clear.
BRIDGE 5.	1420		Confirmed as having been blown clean out. A number of logs seen on road Sth side of river. Possibly new material with which to repair bridge. N.M.S.
BRIDGE 3.	1430		A ford was observed on Nth side. Appeared to have been used by a limited number of M.T. Possibly whilst bridge being repaired. Stones in river bed had been levelled off.
SUSPECTED M.T. PARKS.	1440		At ref 1" 595890 - 5 large huts were observed - vehicle track was seen to go from road in a loop past huts through a large clearing and again join the road 250 yds Nth. Area well worn and suggests heavy use by M.T.
			At ref 1" 591888 - an M.T. track was observed to leave the road in a Westerly direction for 200x then 200x South - ending in heavy timber. Pilot unable to observe anything at end of track.
OLD YAULA.			Track to new defence position followed to S.Q. ref 1" 5385. Cloud prevented further recce. Showed evidence of recent heavy use.
MATALOT 1 & 2. KISA.	1500		No change. An additional 100' trench observed on Nth side of village. Approx 6 weapon bags were observed at intervals along trench these were camouflaged to trench line only.

Time and Signature.....

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION.....	UNIT.....	SORTIE No.....	A/C No. - TYPE.....	DATE.....
ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....		-2- (cont).		
REF. MAPS.....	PILOT.....	TIME UP.....	VISIBILITY.....	WEATHER.....
.....	OBSERVER.....	TIME DOWN.....		
		TOTAL.....		

REPORT—INTERROGATION

A few extra foxholes were seen scattered through original defences. N.M.S.

A foot track was seen from Bridge 5 to suspected M.T. Park at ref 595890 from there to OLD YAULA M.T. tracks were observed. This would suggest that M.T. had unloaded at the bridge - the loads being carried by hand to M.T. Park. These tracks were quite new indicating the road had been used subsequent to recent rain.

Recce a/c Holed by A/A Nth of KWATO. Pilot unable to pinpoint.

Messages dropped on "PIP" 5.

Time and Signature..... *A. L. O.*

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

45 AUST AL SEC (AC).

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R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION.....GUSAP.....

UNIT.....4 AC SQN.....

SORTIE No. 2. (7DIV).....

A/C No. - TYPE.....A46-93
A46-134.....

DATE.....7 DEC '43.....

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....

TAG/R. & CONT/R. CHIMBU AREA.

REF. MAPS.....DUMFU 1".....

PILOT.....F/O. Miller-Randle.....

TIME UP.....1440.....

VISIBILITY

WEATHER

ESCORT
OBSERVER.....F/O. Guyot.....

TIME DOWN.....1540.....

POOR

LOW CLOUD.

TOTAL.....1hr.....

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref. Time Height

Unable to carry out recce due to cloud.

Advised "PIP" 5 & 2 by R/T.

Time and Signature.....*A.L.O.*
A.L.O.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
45 AUST AL SEC (AG).

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R. A. A. F.



Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION.....GUSAP.....	UNIT.....4 AC SQN.....	SORTIE No. 1. (2 DIV).....	A/C No. - TYPE.....A46-93 A46-134.....	DATE.....8 DEC 43.....
ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....TAC/R.....				
REF. MAPS.....URIGINA 1".....	PILOT.....F/O. Messon.....	TIME UP.....0900.....	VISIBILITY.....	WEATHER.....
.....	ESCORT.....	TIME DOWN.....1020.....	POOR	LOW CLOUD
.....	OBSERVER.....F/O. Carter.....	TOTAL.....1hr 20m.....		

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT-INTERROGATION
KESAWAI	0920		<p>Communications established "PIP" 4 - patchy. Unable communicate "PIP" 4 forward.</p> <p>Some foxholes were seen on East and West ends of kunai Ridge in area bounded by refs 507698 & 517698. - also two foxholes seen at ref 519701.</p> <p>These refs are appox only as pilot was unable to accurately orient himself due to low cloud base. These observations were made through two small gaps in the cloud.</p> <p>From what pilot could see - strafing would be the best method of air dislodgement. Approach from East to West. Strafing would have to be most accurate as area is small and our own troops are in close proximity.</p>

Time and Signature.....*Shaw Cole*.....
A.L.O.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
45 AUST AL SEC (AC).

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R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION.....GUSAP..... UNIT.....4 AC SQN..... SORTIE No. 2. (7DIV). A/C No. - TYPE.....A46-92
 A46-118 DATE 8 DEC '43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE..... TAG/R.

REF. MAPS. P.M. BAU-AK	PILOT.....F/O. Staley	TIME UP.....1005	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
MT. KUBARI 1"	ESCORT.	TIME DOWN.....1115		
URIGINA 1"	OBSERVER.....F/O. Guyot	TOTAL.....1hr 10m.	GOOD	LOW BROKEN

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
BRIDGE 5.			Still in course of reconstruction - appear to be making a very thorough job of it. The ford reported 7 DEC has been used extensively. The road shows normal amount of use. A/A of approx 20m.m. was experienced in vicinity of bridge 5. Pilot unable to pinpoint source.
TRACK OLD YAULA DEF POSN.			On track from OLD YAULA to ref 1" 545855 M.T. tracks were seen. Defence position has been generally cleaned up. All dead foliage and undergrowth has been cleared away from the ground - even the dead creeper growth has been removed from tree tops. Still showing signs of occupation. Ground has been trampled and warn. N.M.S.
/ to MATALOI No.1.			Track from defence/position also showing signs of heavy use.

Time and Signature..... *[Signature]*
 A.L.O.
 Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
 45 AUST AL SEC (AC).

724—N.G. Press Unit—10/43—10m.

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Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4 AC SQN. SORTIE No. 8. (7DIV). A/C No. - TYPE A46-119 A46-134 DATE 8 DEC 43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....		TAC/R.					
REF. MAPS.....	<u>URIGINA 1"</u>	PILOT.....	<u>F/O. Nasson</u>	TIME UP.....	<u>1300</u>	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
		ESCORT.....	<u>F/O. Carter</u>	TIME DOWN.....	<u>1435</u>		
		OBSERVER.....		TOTAL.....	<u>1hr 35m.</u>	<u>GOOD</u>	<u>SCATTERED CLOUD</u>

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
<u>KESAWAI.</u>			<u>At refs 498695 - 504698 - 512698 - 508703 and approx 512713 & 517718 foxholes and square weapon pits were observed.</u>
<u>498695.</u>			<u>15 foxholes on both sides of ridge - the larger proportion on crown of ridge. Two holes were approx 3ft 6ins diameter and were the largest observed.</u>
<u>504698.</u>			<u>30 foxholes and square weapon pits. Square pits are being timbered. The majority of these defences are on the crest of the ridge and command the sloping ground in a South & South West-erly direction. The balance are on the North western slopes and command the sloping ground in a West & North westerly direction. This position appears to be the main defence.</u>
<u>512698.</u>			<u>4 foxholes on crest - commanding the western slopes.</u>
<u>508703.</u>			<u>6 foxholes in course of construction. A number of clearings were observed in preparation for additional diggings. At this ref 3 dead Japs were observed - stripped of all clothing.</u>
<u>APPROX 512713.</u>			<u>15-20 foxholes on the ridge - this position is approx 500ft higher than the Southern defences.</u>

Time and Signature.....
Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... UNIT..... 4 AC SQN. SORTIE No..... A/C No. - TYPE..... DATE.....

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE..... ⁻²⁻
(cont).

REF. MAPS.....	PILOT.....	TIME UP.....	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
.....	OBSERVER.....	TIME DOWN.....		
		TOTAL.....		

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	
<u>APPROX 517718.</u>			<u>2 foxholes - a number of positions in course of preparation - grass had been cleared away - this again is slightly higher than the position of approx 512713. This position is forward by 200 yds of the street of dense rain forest.</u>

Pilot estimates there were at least 200 Japs seen - the main body being around the position at ref 512698. Japs were unable - in the main - to take cover due to diggings being uncompleted - and due to lack of timber. In all the pilot observed at least 12 dead Japs.

Our own troops were observed on ridge at approx ref 528714. They were in the prone firing position.

It is presumed that the Japs will dig in completely during the night and therefore dive bombing would now be necessary to dislodge them. Approach would be from East to West or from ENE to WSW. The terrain to the East is approx 4-5000ft sloping away South and west to the RAMU VALLEY.

STRIKE INFORMATION.

Message dropped on "PIP" 4.

Time and Signature..... *[Signature]*
A.L.O.
Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
45 AUST AL SEC (AC).

724—N.G. Press Unit—10/43—10m.


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Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... <u>GUSAP</u>	UNIT..... <u>4 AC SQN.</u>	SORTIE No. <u>4 (7DIV)</u>	A/C No. - TYPE..... <u>A46-119</u> <u>A46-134</u>	DATE..... <u>8 DEC'43</u>
ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE..... <u>LEAD IN STRIKE ENEMY POSITION KESAWAI AREA.</u>				
REF. MAPS..... <u>IRIGINA 1*</u>	PILOT..... <u>F/O. Mason</u>	TIME UP..... <u>1530</u>	VISIBILITY..... <u>POOR</u>	WEATHER..... <u>LOW CLOUD & RAIN</u>
	OBSERVER <u>F/O. Garter</u>	TIME DOWN..... <u>1630</u>		
		TOTAL..... <u>1hr</u>		

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	
	1530		<p>2 BOOMERANGS & 8 P40's airborne, on reaching target area cloud had formed and was right down to foot hills. Rain also over whole area. Strike force remained in area for approx 45 mins in hopes of cloud lifting.</p> <p>Strike abandoned at 1620.</p> <p>"PIP" 4 & 5 advised by R/T.</p>
			Time and Signature.....  A.L.O.
			Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc..... 45 AUST AL SEC (AC).

724—N.G. Press Unit—10/43—10m.

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Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4AC SQN. SORTIE No. 1. (7DIV). A/C No. TYPE A46-92 A46-119 DATE 7 DEC'43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE TAC/R.

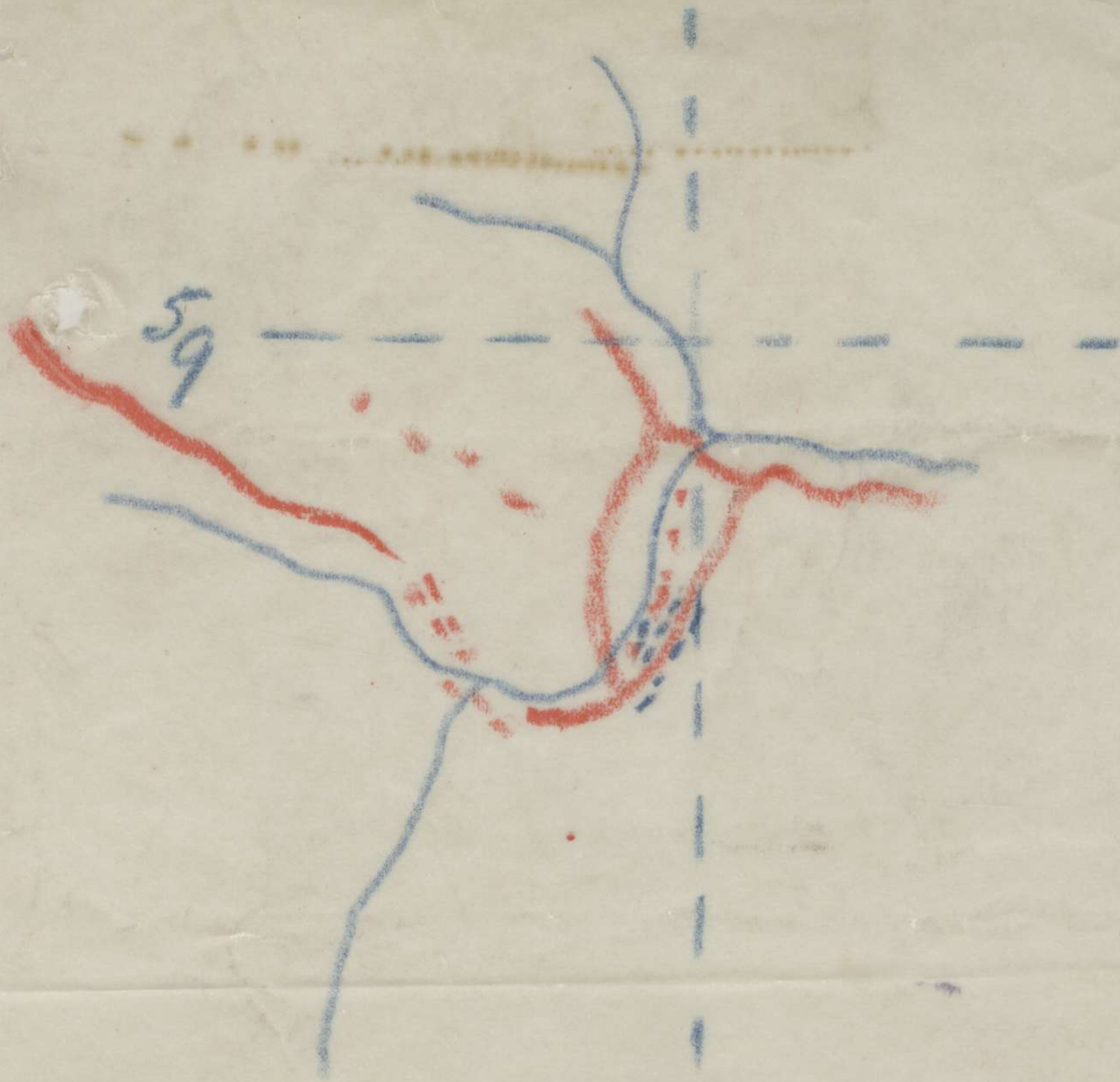
REF. MAPS <u>BAU-AK P.M.</u>	PILOT <u>F/O. Masson</u>	TIME UP <u>0955</u>	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	ESCORT. <u>F/O. Staley</u>	TIME DOWN <u>1110</u>		
	NO OBSERVER	TOTAL <u>1Hr 15m.</u>	<u>FAIR</u>	<u>LOW BROKEN</u>

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	
<u>BRIDGE 5.</u>	<u>1005</u>	<u>500°</u> <u>A.G.L.</u>	<u>Partially repaired. Main part of work done - decking only to be placed in position - all bearers in position.</u> <u>River has kna been forded at ref P.M. 146140 by M.T. It appeared that only a few M.T. had forded the river - fairly heavy foot traffic had also forded at this point. From BAU-AK to bridge 5 the road had hardly been used at all by M.T. From BAU-AK Nth signs of heavy use were observed. South of bridge 5 the road shows normal usage. N.M.S. No M.T. observed.</u>
<u>REF P.M.</u> <u>112114</u>	<u>1015</u>	<u>1000°</u> <u>A.G.L.</u>	<u>At this point a loop M.T. track was observed to go from REF 114115 in a westerly direction to 113113. From the centre of which a road runs for approx 50yds in a westerly direction. This app- to the pilot to be a possible parking area - or dispersal area. Timber in this area would provide very good cover for M.T. No huts observed N.M.S.</u>
<u>M.T. PARK</u> <u>1" 592890.</u>			<u>Pilots sketch of area - reported 6 DEC.</u>
<u>Track OLD YAULA</u> <u>-MATALOI No.1.</u>	<u>1020</u>		<u>Cloud again obscured any observation of new defence position S.Q. 1" 5384.</u> <u>Track still showing heavy use.</u>

Time and Signature.....

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....



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*Brig Gen
B.M.*

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... GUSAP..... UNIT..... 4 AC SQN...... SORTIE No. 3. (7DIV)...... A/C No. - TYPE..... A46-92
A46-118..... DATE 9 DEC '43.....

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE..... LEAD IN STRIKE BY 18 P40'S KESAWAI AREA.

REF. MAPS..... <u>URIGINA 1"</u>	PILOT..... <u>F/O. Staley</u>	TIME UP..... <u>1220</u>	VISIBILITY.....	WEATHER.....
	ESCORT.....	TIME DOWN..... <u>1310</u>	GOOD	SCATTERED CLOUD
	OBSERVER..... <u>F/O. Guyot</u>	TOTAL..... <u>1hr 50m.</u>		

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
			18 x 500lbs bombs dropped.
			All bombs fell in target area. Area bombed squares 4969 - 5069 - 5169 & 4850 - 4851. Bombing accurate.
			All a/c strafed after bombing. Strafing accurate. A/A light.
			Still quite a number of Japs left on ^{road →} Western slopes of ridge.
			"PIP" 4 requested a CONT/R along RAMU VALLEY four miles West of KOBEN. Valley searched as far as S.Q. 3772. No troops seen.
			Own troops seen between KESAWAI 3 and EVAPIA Riv.
			Advised "PIP" 5 by R/T.
			Time and Signature..... <i>A. H. C.</i>
			A.L.C.
			Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
			45 AUST AL SEC (AC).

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R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

A46-93
A46-119

DATE 9 DEC 43

LOCATION..... GUSAP UNIT..... 4. SQN. (AG)..... SORTIE NO. (TRIV)..... A/C No. - TYPE.....

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE..... LEAD IN STRIKE BY 21P40's ON DEFENCE POSITION KESAWAI.

REF. MAPS..... ORIGINAL 1"	PILOT..... F/O. Mason	TIME UP..... 0855	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	ESCORT.....	TIME DOWN..... 1035		
	OBSERVER..... Miller-Randle	TOTAL..... 1hr 35m.	FAIR	LOW BROKEN CLOUD

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	
			19 x 500lbs bombs dropped.
			All bombs very accurately placed. Recce pilots estimate only three bombs not on a position or on an occupied track. All other bombs individually effective - a number of direct hits on pits.
			Strike concentrated on two ridges refs S.Q.'s 4969 - 5069 - 5169 - 5068 & 5168.
			After strike all a/c came down and strafed. Recce pilots observed this strafing very closely - considered that strafing also was most accurate and effective.
			During target indicating passes intense light A/A experienced - only one gun kept firing after bombs had been released. This gun was at ref 500705.
			One P40 damaged - landed at DIMPU Strip.
			50-60 our own troops were seen at approx S.Q. 5362. saved hat s wildly to a/c.
			"pip" 4 & 5 advised by R/T.

Time and Signature..... *[Signature]*
 A.S.O.
 Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
 45 AUST AL SEC (AG)

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R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4 AC SQN. SORTIE No. 1. (7DIV.) A/C No. - TYPE A46-92 DATE 9 DEC '43
A46-134

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE

Tac/R KESAWAI AREA.

REF. MAPS URIGINA 1"

PILOT F/O. Staley

TIME UP 0640

VISIBILITY

WEATHER

ESCORT F/O. Guyot
OBSERVER

TIME DOWN 0830

GOOD

SCATTERED CLOUD

TOTAL 1hr 50m.

Place or Ref.	Time	Height
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REPORT—INTERROGATION

Communication with "PIP" 4 established.
 At ref 510685 30 Japs and 3 MMG - which fired at a/c. Ref 520700 20 Japs seen.
 Positions at ref ~~510685~~ 518702 - 512712 and 518718 appeared to be abandoned.

All tracks in area very well worn.

The two ridges areas 5069 & 5068 are now thoroughly ~~studded~~ with foxholes. Too many for pilot to count or estimate. Most foxholes have been well camouflaged but still discernable from the air from tracks leading to them.
 Pilot estimates that there are at least 300 Japs in the area.

A/C were fired on from at least three positions - unable to pinpoint actual source.

Messing gear seen lying around H.Q.'s 2/6 Cav Comd Sqn also sign

↑
TV

Messages dropped on "PIP" 5 & 4.

Time and Signature..... *[Signature]*
A.L.O.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
45 AUST AL Sec (AC).

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Brig Gen
BM

[Signature]

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4 AC SQN. SORTIE No. 1. (7DIV). A/C No. - TYPE A46- A46- DATE 10 DEC '43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE TAC/R JAP L of C. CONT/R. CAV PATROLS.

REF. MAPS	URIGINA 1"	PILOT	F/O. Miller-Randle	TIME UP	0720	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	MT. KUBARI 1"	ESCORT	F/O. Masson	TIME DOWN	0910		
	MT. OTTO 1"	OBSERVER		TOTAL	1hr 50m.	FAIR	LOW CLOUD.
	DUMPU 1"						

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	Report
SAIPA 2.			Track SAIPA 2 - 5800 Feature ref 562678. Pilot unable to observed track throughout length. Observed only from feature to Riv at ref 574684. Only a thin one man track and does not show recent excessive use. Does not show sufficient use to suggest an L of C. Track from 5800 feature to KESAWAI 3 broad and well used.
5800 Feature.			At this point there are two groups of huts - 7 & 5 approx. Approx 4 - 5 people were seen sitting in the huts. They appeared to be wearing greyish uniforms. Two of them had on only trousers. Did not attempt to communicate with a/c or leave huts.
KOROPA to ref 520705.			Track from KOROPA to foothills at ref 490720 wide black and heavily used recently - Surface slushy. From 490720 to 520705 there are about 8 tracks branching off main track to defence positions. The main track gradually lessens from 490720 to 520705, suggesting that the enemy had gradually fanned out to their various locations. From KOROPA Nth to KOPA covered with cloud - preventing recce of connecting tracks. Track from 520705 to 5800 feature diminishes to a pad - has been used - but not extensively.
			A track was observed running from 520705 in a curving Nth Westerly direction over ridge to 515726 where it disappears into heavy rain forest. Cloud prevented further recce of the track. Not very wide - but well used recently.
			Time and Signature.....
			Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... UNIT..... SORTIE No..... A/C No. - TYPE..... DATE.....

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE..... -2-

REF. MAPS.....	PILOT.....	TIME UP.....	VISIBILITY
.....	OBSERVER.....	TIME DOWN.....	WEATHER
.....	.....	TOTAL.....	.....

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
KETOBA.			Was observed through gap in cloud. Village exceptionally well worn - likewise the track leading North. Cloud prevented further observation.
KISA.			Track from KISA to KOBA exceptionally well worn. Cloud prevented further recce Sth.
Def Posns. 5284.			Still showing usual amount of use. Track useage consistent with previous reports.
OWN TROOPS	0845		Approx 40-50 own troops seen S.Q. 4571. Two native carriers in party. When first seen were heading S.E. direction. Message dropped advising to move along Sth side of RAMU. Also asked if needed medical-food-or ammunition form a xxxx circle and wave towel - this they did - and proceeded to cross the RAMU as directed.
KESAWAI STRIP	0735		Two huts burnt down still smoking - one other still in flames.
KESAWAI.			The defences have been extended to include S.Q. 5269 - 5268. No Japs seen over any part of area.
			Time and Signature.....
			Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... UNIT..... SORTIE No..... A/C No. - TYPE..... DATE.....

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE..... -3-.....

REF. MAPS.....	PILOT.....	TIME UP.....	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
.....	OBSERVER.....	TIME DOWN.....		
.....	.....	TOTAL.....	

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Diggings have been deepened and improved since 9 DEC.

No messages dropped - enemy a/c in area.

Time and Signature..... *[Signature]*.....
A.L.O.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

45 AUST AL SCE (AC).

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Handwritten signature/initials

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... GUSAP UNIT..... 4. AC SQN SORTIE No. 3. (7DIV). A/C No. - TYPE..... A46-92 A46-148 DATE..... 10 DEC'4

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE..... TAC/R ENEMY L of C to KESAWAI - BOGADJIM RD.

REF. MAPS..... URIGINA 1"	PILOT..... F/O. Guyot	TIME UP..... 1345	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
..... MT. KUBARI 1"	ESCORT.....	TIME DOWN..... 1600		
	OBSERVER..... F/O. Carter	TOTAL..... 2Hrs 15m.	FAIR	LOW CLOUD

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	
Track KISA - KETOBA.	1500		Track from KISA to KETOBA via ORGORUNA 1 & 2 - well used and well defined - approx 5 ft in width. Appears to have been used recently. Bridge on BOKU Riv is of a thin light construction.
			Track from KETOBA to KEROPA via ISARIBA not very well worn. At KETOBA there were a number of small tracks which proceeded in sth Easterly direction. They led into heavy timber - pilot unable to trace very far. The portions observed were well worn.
BOGADJIM RD.	1400		Road closely reced from SUPPLY CAMP to BAU-AK. Pilot did not observe any new bomb craters. Road still open - all bridges intact. A small M.T. - approx Jeep size - seen on road at ref 570820. Took cover on side of road under heavy timber.
BRIDGE 5.			Completely repaired and in use.
			. 5 A/A encountered at NANZAWRAI. 20m.m. at YAULA and .5 at bridges 7 & 8. One recce a/c holed starboard wing.
Heights A.S.L.			Bridges 7 & 8 estimated 180'. YAULA estimated 1300'.

Time and Signature..... *[Signature]*
 Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc..... A.L.O.

45 AUST AL SEC (AC).

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R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4 AC SQN. SORTIE No. 2. (7DIV). A/C No. - TYPE A20-561
A46-118 DATE 10 DEC '43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE SUPPLY DROPPING

REF. MAPS URIGINA 1"

PILOT F/O. Staley

TIME UP 1400

VISIBILITY

WEATHER

OBSERVER F/Sgt. Williams

TIME DOWN 1540

GOOD

SCATTERED CLOUD

ESCORT F/O. Holyman

TOTAL 1hr 40m.

Place or Ref.

Time

Height

REPORT—INTERROGATION

KESAWAI

1430

Supplies successfully dropped on party at S.Q. 4766.

Party estimated approx 35 plus 10 natives.

Time and Signature.....

[Signature]
A.L.O.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

45 AUST AL SEC (AC).

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R. A. A. F.

J. H. E.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4 AC SQN. SORTIE No. 1. (7DIV). A/C No. - TYPE A46-148
A46-118 DATE 11DEC'43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE TAC/R. 25 BDE FRONT - KISA.

REF. MAPS <u>URIGINA 1"</u>	PILOT <u>F/O. Guyot</u>	TIME UP <u>0715</u>	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	ESCORT. <u>F/O. Carter</u>	TIME DOWN <u>0830</u>		
	OBSERVER <u>F/O. Carter</u>	TOTAL <u>1Hr 15m.</u>	<u>POOR - NIL</u>	<u>LOW CLOUD</u>

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
KESAWAI.			Cloud base to ground - recce impossible.
BRIDGE Ref 453781.			Through small break in cloud pilot observed that what appeared to be a reasonably heavy growth of green grass on the bridge with a small track passing through the centre. Total width of bridge approx 6 ft.
OWN TROOPS	0810		Own troops seen in S.Q. 5267. Waved a white sheet. They were observed from RAMU VALLEY.
			Recce abandoned at 0820.

[Signature]
 Time and Signature.....
 A.L.O.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
 45 AUST AL SEC (AC).

724—N.G. Press Unit—10/43—10m.

130950L
25

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... **GUSA-P** UNIT..... **4 AC SQN.** SORTIE No. **2. (7DIV).** A/C No. - TYPE..... **A46-118**
A46-148 DATE **11 DEC'43**

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE..... **TAC/R 25 BDE FRONT.**

REF. MAPS..... **URIGINA 1"**

PILOT..... **F/O. Goyot**

TIME UP..... **1230**

VISIBILITY

WEATHER

ESCORT..... **F/O. Carter**
OBSERVER.....

TIME DOWN..... **1405**

TOTAL..... **1hr 35m.**

POOR

LOW CLOUD

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
			No further developments seen.
KESAWAI	1250		40 Japs seen in foxholes in S.Q's 5069 & 5169. Without shirts. At 512697 an A/A LMG was seen. MMG kept trained on a/c. At ref 514688 approx 15 Japs were seen in valley - fully clothed - including steel helmets.
	1310		Our Arty was seen to be engaging position at ref 499716. Rain prevented further observation. 1 recce a/c holed. Called up "RUSS" - not on air.

Time and Signature.....

[Signature]
A.L.O.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
45 AUST AL SEC (AC).

1209504

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R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION.....**GUSAP**..... UNIT.....**4 AC SQN.**..... SORTIE No...**3.** (7DIV)..... A/C No. - TYPE.....**A46-92**
A46-93..... DATE.....**11 DEC '43**.....

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....**TAC/R KISA.**.....

REF. MAPS..... ORIGINA 1st	PILOT..... F/O. Staley	TIME UP..... 1335	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	ESCORT OBSERVER..... F/O. Miller-Randle	TIME DOWN..... 1430	POOR	LOW CLOUD.
		TOTAL..... 45m.		

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Area completely clouded over - recce not completed.

Time and Signature.....*[Signature]*.....
 Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....**A.L.O.**.....

45 AUST AL SEC (AG).

724—N.G. Press Unit—10/43—10m.

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R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... **GISAP**..... UNIT..... **A AC SQN.**..... SORTIE No. **3.** (7DIV)...... A/C No. - TYPE..... **M46-118**
M46-92..... DATE..... **12 DEC' 43**

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE..... **T-6/R.**

REF. MAPS..... **IRIGINA 1"**..... PILOT..... **P/O. Carter**
ESCORT
OBSERVER..... **P/O. Miller-Bandle**

TIME UP..... **1530**
TIME DOWN..... **1730**
TOTAL..... **2 HRS.**

VISIBILITY.....
WEATHER.....
GOOD
SCATTERED CLOUD

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
KESAWAI	1620		<p>Approx 5 own troops seen at ref 498665 waved to a/c with handkerchiefs. Also approx 15-20 own troops seen at 513658 moving in a S.E. direction.</p> <p>At ref 493683 the saplings in the native garden at this ref have been chopped down and removed. A number of small tracks led into the garden.</p> <p>A Jap was seen in a foxhole at ref 504683.</p> <p>A/c was fired on by machine gun post registered as X 9 this day.</p> <p>Two tracks were observed leading from track at approx 487683 & 586673 to North bank of RANU South of the above refs. Fairly well worn.</p>
5800 Feature			<p>A figure was observed bending inside a hut. was wearing trousers and long gaiters - no shirt.</p>
			<p>Time and Signature..... <i>[Signature]</i></p> <p>Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc..... A.L.S.O.</p>

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R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... **GUSAP** UNIT..... **4 AC SQN.** SORTIE No..... **2. (7DIV)** A/C No. - TYPE..... **A46-119**
A46-148 DATE..... **12 DEC '45**

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE..... **TAC/R & ARTY/R.**

REF. MAPS..... **URIGINA 1"** PILOT..... **F/O. Ipsen** TIME UP..... **1045** VISIBILITY..... WEATHER.....
 **ESCORT**..... **F/O. Guyot** TIME DOWN..... **1300**
 **OBSERVER**..... TOTAL..... **2hrs 15m.** **GOOD** **BROKEN**
 **CLOUD**

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	
KESAWAI	1100		Area thoroughly reconed. MMG posts seen at 521698 and 49067. The positions on kunai ridges appear to be disused. On ridge at ref 496685 4 Japs were seen each digging a hole. Took cover in jungle on approach of a/c. Tracks were seen going from original position into thick timber, South. Tracks were broad and well worn. Small clearances of undergrowth were observed in area from 482690 - 500690. No actual diggings were seen - but clearings suggest preparations for such. The ground in this belt of timber is wet and boggy. Two Japs were seen in foxholes at ref 508702. Track well worn - wide. Shows heavy recent use - surface very cut up. Showing very much more use than track SOLU RIV - 520705.
TRACK KEROPA to KESAWAI 1.			

Time and Signature.....

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION.....	UNIT.....	SORTIE No.....	A/C No. - TYPE.....	DATE.....
ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....				
REF. MAPS.....	PILOT.....	TIME UP.....	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	OBSERVER.....	TIME DOWN.....		
		TOTAL.....		

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Track previously reported from 520705 - 515718 was seen to extend in a northerly direction along ridge to 515738 - pilot unable to trace further. Quite broad and very well worn recently.

Unable to retrace - area covered in cloud.

Called up "RUSS". Unable to contact. "GUY" advised "RUSS" off air, offered to relay. Machine gun post at ref 521698 registered as X 9.

Shoot abandoned from ground.

"PIP" 5 requested search for enemy a/c and parachutest crashed 5 miles due East of them - Pilot unable to locate.

Machine gun fire was experienced by a/c from refs 512673 - 510670 - 514672.

Time and Signature.....

A.L.O.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

45 AUST AL SEC (AC).

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R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4 AC SQN. SORTIE No. 1. (7DIV.) A/C No. - TYPE A46-92
A46-118 DATE 12 DEC '43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE LEAD IN STRIKE 17 P40'S KISA.

REF. MAPS <u>URIGINA 1"</u>	PILOT <u>F/O. Staley</u>	TIME UP <u>0710</u>	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	ESCORT. <u>F/O. Holyman</u>	TIME DOWN <u>0900</u>		
	OBSERVER	TOTAL <u>1hr 50m.</u>	<u>FAIR</u>	<u>BROKEN CLOUD</u>

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
			34 x 300 lb bombs dropped in pairs.
<u>KISA.</u>			
			10 of the first 16 fell well in the target area. The last two of the 16 bombs dropped fell 1000x N.E. of target - The remaining bombs were dropped at this position.
<u>RESULT.</u>			Unsatisfactory - little damage done.
			A/A experienced from URIGINA No.1.
<u>Def posn 5384.</u>			Shows signs of less activity than last report.
<u>BOGADJIM RD.</u>			Road between bridges 1 & 2 under water.
			Bridges 5 - 6 - 7 - 8 - 11, have been washed away by flood waters.
			Debris is washed up against 3 & 9.
			Time and Signature.....
			Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

724—N.G. Press Unit—10/43—10m.

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R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... **CUSAP** UNIT..... **4 AC SQN.** SORTIE No. **2. (7DIV).** A/C No. - TYPE..... **A46-118**
A46-119 DATE..... **13 DEC'43**

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....

REF. MAPS..... **ORIGINA 1"**

PILOT..... **F/O HILLER-RANDLE**
ESCORT..... **F/O STALEY**
OBSERVER.....

TAG/R.

TIME UP..... **1355**
TIME DOWN..... **1525**
TOTAL..... **1hr 30m.**

VISIBILITY

WEATHER

FAIR

LOW CLOUD

Place or Ref. Time Height

REPORT—INTERROGATION

"PIP" 4 requested close resce S.O. 5667.

**5800 Feature
(3150 f ASL).**

At 564674 a Jap was seen standing beside the centre support of a hut.
From a second hut a pole was seen protruding from the roof.

From this pole a wire was observed to lead into hut - suggesting a wireless station. Ground
around huts not very well worn.

Track from feature to KUSAKI 3 not particularly well used.
Track north from feature also not particularly well used.

At ref. 554695 a lot of litter and refuse was seen around the huts. The ground surrounding well
trampled down.

Village at ref 568698 appears to be deserted - has not been used for some time. Overgrown with
grass.

Time and Signature.....

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... UNIT..... SORTIE No..... A/C No. - TYPE..... DATE.....

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....

REF. MAPS.....	PILOT.....	TIME UP.....	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
.....	OBSERVER.....	TIME DOWN.....		
		TOTAL.....		

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
			Track from ref 551707 leading in a N.E. direction along ridge to 528714. well used recently - approx 3ft wide. The south side of ridge is well timbered - the North side burnt covered. Track runs along the edge of timber.
			"VIP" 4 then requested search for "heavy piece" in S.Q. 5169. "RUSS" advised ready on air for shot if required.
			No likely gun positions were observed.
			A loop to was seen at 515712. A track fairly well used passes by and joins the other track at refs 514709 and 519716. N.E.S.
			2 huts seen at ref 509695 - timber is along the creek junction at this point. Can be seen only from north - partly obscured by trees. Shows signs of usage. N.E.S.
			200 Feature shows indicated height above sea level as 3150.

Time and Signature..... *[Signature]*
 A.L.O.
 Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
 45 AUST AL SEC (AC).

724—N.G. Press Unit—10/43—10m.

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

A46-92
A46-148

LOCATION..... **GUSAP**..... UNIT..... **4. AC SQN.**..... SORTIE No. **1. (7DIV).**..... A/C No. - TYPE..... DATE **13 DEC '43**

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....		TAC/R.....		
REF. MAPS..... URIGINA 1"	PILOT..... F/O. Carter	TIME UP..... 0940	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
..... MT. OTTO 1"	ESCORT.....	TIME DOWN..... 1235	GOOD	BROKEN CLOUD
	OBSERVER..... F/O. Guyot	TOTAL..... 2Hrs 55m.		

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
KESAWAI	0950		<p>Ref S.Q. 5165 . village of 4-5 huts. Tracks in village well worn. N.M.S.</p> <p>Approx 200 own troops seen S.Q. 5365 - moving in an easterly direction. Identified by waving to a/c. Seen to be carrying two stretchers.</p> <p>Foxholes extend from village S.Q. 5165 - along ridge to North for approx 1000x. Appeared to be empty. Approx 6 small tents observed still in area.</p> <p>Track leads from village S.Q. 5165 along ridge to North of ref 520673 then N.E. along ridge to track at 540686.</p> <p>One Jap seen sitting at ref 529678. Took no action on approach of a/c.</p> <p>3-4 foxholes seen at 529678.</p> <p>At 519684 one Jap seen. At this ref there were approx 6 foxholes. Have an inhabited appearance. A track leads from 529678 - 519684.-well used. From this track two small tracks lead down slope to creek.</p> <p>A small track leads from 529678 - 537679.</p>
			<p style="text-align: right;">Time and Signature.....</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....</p>

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... UNIT..... SORTIE No..... A/C No. - TYPE..... DATE.....

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE..... -2-.....

REF. MAPS.....	PILOT.....	TIME UP.....	VISIBILITY
.....	OBSERVER.....	TIME DOWN.....	WEATHER
.....	.....	TOTAL.....	.....

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
			Timbered stretch from KESAWAI 1 - to village S.Q. 5165 still showing signs of occupation - N.M.S.
			No bridge at ref 482725.
			Track BOKU RIV - KETOBA - ISARIBA - KOROPA - SOLU RIV - broad - well worn and recently used.
			A village of two huts was observed 552692. 20-30 Japs were seen 100x west standing on edge of small clearing took cover on approach of a/c. Track from this clearing runs Easterly down slope to creek.
			Two seen in huts took no action on approach of a/c.
			A flat top log used as a bridge was seen at ref 573685. Covered in mud.
			Small track leads from 656686 - 665688. No continuation of either ends seen.
			Time and Signature..... <i>Shawcock</i> A.L.O.
			Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc..... 45 AUSTRAL SEC (AC).

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R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

A46- 93
A46- 148

DATE 14 DEC '43

LOCATION GUSAP

UNIT GUSAP 4 AC SQN. SORTIE No. 2. (7DIV).

A/C No. - TYPE

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE

TAG/R.

REF. MAPS URICINA 1"

PILOT F/O. Miller-Rundle

TIME UP 1310

VISIBILITY

WEATHER

MT. OTTO 1"

ESCORT. F/O. Guyot
OBSERVER

TIME DOWN 1450

DUMPU 1"

TOTAL 1hr 40m.

FAIR

LOW CLOUD

Place or Ref. Time Height

REPORT—INTERROGATION

KESAWAI

1335

"PIP" 4 requested search from S.O. 5956 - 4567. Approx 6 own troops seen at village 575563. Moved to a/c. No further movement seen in area requested.

Track from 488671 to HOUSE KIAPS well worn.

Track runs from village at 551707 along ridge to ref 541723 - disappears into heavy timber. New - not over well worn.

Foxhole and slit trenches seen at burnt down village ref 530715. Full of water but earth around had new appearance.

L of C from KETGBA still showing heavy use.

Apart from own troops M.H.S. over whole area.

Cloud made observation very difficult.

Time and Signature

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.

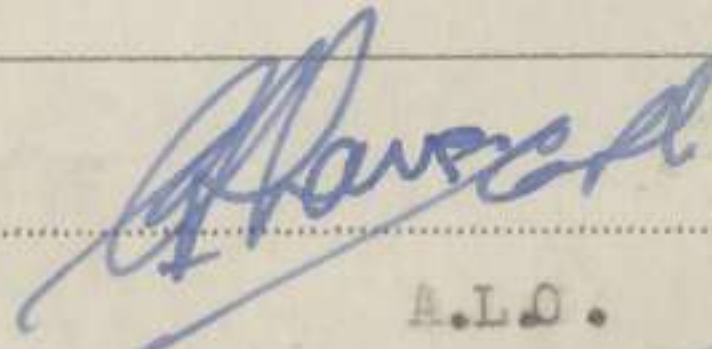
45 INST AL SEC (AC).

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... <u>GUSAP</u>	UNIT..... <u>4 AC SQN.</u>	SORTIE No. <u>1.</u> (7DIV)	A/C No. - TYPE..... <u>A46-119</u> <u>A46-134</u>	DATE <u>15 DEC 43</u>
ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....		<u>TAC/R.</u>		
REF. MAPS.....	PILOT..... <u>F/O. Guyot</u>	TIME UP..... <u>0920</u>	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	ESCORT.....	TIME DOWN..... <u>1120</u>		
	OBSERVER..... <u>F/O. Taylor</u>	TOTAL..... <u>2 Hrs</u>	<u>GOOD</u>	<u>BROKEN CLOUD</u>

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
<u>KESAWAI</u>	<u>0940</u>		<p>N.M.S. in the area surrounding 5800 feature - there are still signs of the area having been used. No A/A experienced throughout recce.</p> <p>Tracks from Southern defence to Riv quite well worn do not appear to have been used recently. Tracks on South side of RAMU do not show recent use - generally thin - and in some cases overgrown.</p> <p>Track from ref 556704 - 562706 well worn. MMG positions at 556705 unoccupied.</p> <p>L of C from SOLU RIV to KESAWAI 1 unaltered.</p> <p>Pilot unable to trace track from SAIPA 2 - 5800 feature.</p> <p>Landslide not located.</p> <p>Our ARTY seen engaging in S.Q. 6966.</p> <p>Communications to "PIP" 4 not good.</p> <p>"RUSS" asked if any targets - none engaged.</p>

Time and Signature..... 

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc..... A.L.D.

45 AUST AL SEC (AC).

724—N.G. Press Unit—10/43—10m.

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Brig BM

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

A46-119
A46-93

LOCATION CUSAP UNIT 4 AC SQN. SORTIE No. 1. (VDIV). A/C No. - TYPE DATE 15 DEC '43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....

REF. MAPS.....

PILOT F/O. Mason
ESCORT F/O. Miller-Bundle
OBSERVER.....

TAG/R.
TIME UP 0940
TIME DOWN 1145
TOTAL 2 hrs.

VISIBILITY
FAIR

WEATHER
LOW BROKEN

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref. Time Height

KISAWAZ

0930

At ref 555705 approx 6-7 Japs were seen to run for their foxholes - of which there were four - a/c strafed - two MG then opened up on a/c from the edge of a clearing.

At ref 557702 4 x 2 man foxholes were seen - partly camouflaged with grass N.E.S.

Around the huts at ref 554690 approx 15 foxholes were seen. Four of which were approx 6 x 4 ft. Command the South and westerly slopes.

The top of the ridge is kumai covered - slopes are heavily timbered.

The creek valley area 562686 - 560678 is also kumai covered.

The track from W/T station at 565675 - 542723 shows heavy recent use.

Parts have been widened to 3-4 ft. It follows the ridge throughout its length passing the huts previously reported in this area.

In the section between 565675 and 554690 a number of foxholes were seen at intervals of approx 30-40 yds apart.

Time and Signature.....

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

Brig
B.M.

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... UNIT..... SORTIE No..... A/C No. - TYPE..... DATE.....

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....

REF. MAPS.....	PILOT.....	TIME UP.....	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	OBSERVER.....	TIME DOWN.....		
		TOTAL.....		

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Track from 510665 - 515732 well worn and recently used. No diggings seen throughout its length. At ref 518719 a clearing in the secondary growth was observed. In it were a number of heaps of what appeared to be leaves and grass. Cloud made observation difficult - pilot unable to ascertain if any diggings under these heaps. The area was trampled down - but not bare.

Track from SOLU RIV at 483725 to 485684 - where it disappears into the jungle - shows heavy over night use - boot marks clearly seen in the mud.

Track from SOLU RIV at 483725 to 520705 does not show so much use as the above track. Ground is much harder and may not show use quite so clearly.

Original defence position on KUNAI HILL does not show any change. Diggings appear uninhabited and are still full of water.

W/T station at ref 565675 strafed heavily by a/c - N.M.S. before and after strafing.

"PIP" 4 then passed over to "RUSS".

Ranging was commenced on huts and diggings at ref 554690 - cloud made observation difficult.

One more correction of 100x left would have ranged on target.

A/C advised 11 unidentified a/s in area. - shoot then abandoned.

Time and Signature..... *[Signature]*

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
45 AUST AL SEC (AC).

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*Brig
BIT*

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

M46-134
M46-118

15 DEC'43

LOCATION..... **GUSAP** UNIT..... **4 AG Sqn.** SORTIE No..... **2. (7DIV)** A/C No. - TYPE..... DATE.....

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....

REF. MAPS.....	PILOT..... F/O. Staley	TIME UP..... 1115	VISIBILITY.....	WEATHER.....
	ESCORT..... F/O. Holyman	TIME DOWN..... 1345	GOOD	BROKEN CLOUD
	OBSERVER.....	TOTAL..... 1hr 30m.		

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	
BOGADJIN RD	1140		<p>Bridge 1 - 13 inclusive washed away. From AIYAU North to bridge 1 there was no sign of traffic in any form.</p> <p>From AIYAU Sth to OLD TAULA there were signs of recent foot traffic along the road. There were no signs of river having been forded at any point.</p> <p>South of bridge 13 evidence foot traffic was observed.</p>
N-NZARAI			<p>From ref 577817 to 572615 there are approx 15 road blocks where soil has been brought down by recent heavy rain. In two places this is particularly heavy. At ref 577817 the road itself has been completely washed away. This will necessitate cutting into the cliff side or by passing over steep country.</p>
			<p>From SUPPLY CAMP Nth and to SAIPA 2 the traffic appears to have been equally heavy. From SAIPA 2 Sth the track thins away very much. This suggests that possibly supplies are being brought in this way to the KEMWAI area.</p>
			<p>At ref 600740 there were a number of recent bomb craters. Foot traffic had by passed these craters. Two small bridges have been demolished.</p>
			<p>At approx 695663 a land slide has occurred.</p>
			<p>N.M.S. throughout race.</p>

Time and Signature..... *[Signature]*
 A.L.S.O.
 Time Passed to Hde. Div. etc. (S).....

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R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4 AC SQN. SORTIE No. 3. (7DIV). A/C No. - TYPE A46-134 A46-118 DATE 16 DEC 43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE TAC/R

REF. MAPS <u>MT. KUBARI 1"</u> <u>URIGINA 1"</u>	PILOT <u>F/O. Staley</u> ESCORT. OBSERVER <u>F/L. Olorenshaw</u>	TIME UP <u>1425</u> TIME DOWN <u>1600</u> TOTAL <u>1hr 35m.</u>	VISIBILITY <u>FAIR</u>	WEATHER <u>BROKEN CLOUD</u>
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REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
	<u>1440</u>		<u>Recent landslide pinpointed at ref 695659.</u>
<u>KESAWAI</u>			<u>At ref 553691 one Jap seen in hut - no action on approach of a/c - otherwise N.M.S. throughout.</u>
			<u>Two or three small kunai patches were observed in dense timber - these were trampled down - but not bare. No diggings in any of these patches. Possible sleeping areas.</u>
			<u>In S.Q. 4968 there appears to be some occupation and activity. The undergrowth has been trampled down - and small patches of kunai on the edge of the jungle also have been trampled down.</u>
			<u>L of C from KESAWAI 1 - SOLU RIV had been rained on during early afternoon - no foot marks subsequent to rain.</u>
			<u>Track from 5800 Feature - SAIPA 2 not observed.</u>
			Time and Signature <u><i>[Signature]</i></u> A.L.O.
			Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc..... <u>45 AUST AL SEC (AC).</u>

R. A. A. F.

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Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

UNIT 4 ac sqm. SORTIE No. 3. (Vdiv). V/C No. TYPE DATE 16 Dec 43

LOCATION GUSAP

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE

REF. MAPS MT. KUBARI 1" URIGINA 1"

PHOT. P/O. Staley

REPORT. I.I. Gierenshaw

TIME UP 1425

TIME DOWN 1600

TOTAL 1hr 35m.

WEATHER BROKEN CLOUDS

VISIBILITY FAIR

MTA

REPORT-INTERROGATION

Place or Ref. Height Time

HAWAII 1440

At ref 523591 one tap seen in hut - no action on approach of a - otherwise N.W.S. throughout.

Two or three small knelt patches were observed in dense timber - these were trampled down - but not bare. No digging in any of these patches.

Possible sleeping areas.

In S. 4938 there appears to be some occupation and activity.

The undergrowth has been trampled down - and small patches of forest on the edge of the jungle also have been trampled down.

I of C from KAWAII 1 - SOUTH RIV had been rained on during early afternoon - no foot marks subsequent to rain.

Track from 5800 feature - SALIA 2 not observed.

Time and signature A.I.O.

Time passed to Bde Div, etc.

45 AUST AL SEC (AC).

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R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... GUSAP UNIT..... 4 AC SQN. SORTIE No. 1. (7DIV). A/C No. - TYPE..... A46-119 DATE 17 DEC'43
A46-134

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....		<u>TAC/R.</u>	
REF. MAPS..... <u>URIGINA 1"</u>	PILOT..... <u>F/O. Miller-Randle</u>	TIME UP..... <u>0930</u>	VISIBILITY.....
	ESCORT.....	TIME DOWN..... <u>1150</u>	WEATHER.....
	OBSERVER..... <u>F/O. Staley</u>	TOTAL..... <u>2Hrs 20m.</u>	<u>GOOD</u>
			<u>CLEAR</u>

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	
<u>KESAWAI</u>	<u>0940</u>	<u>50'</u>	<u>Approx 20 own troops seen S.Q. 5266 & 5166. Waved to a/c.</u>
		<u>A.G.L.</u>	
			<u>The whole of Bde front was closely reced from low level. All foxholes and huts appear to be taking on a disused appearance.</u>
			<u>N.M.S. throughout whole area.</u>
			<u>L of C from KESAWAI 1 to SOLU RIV has not been used since recent rain.</u>
			<u>A track running through the original defence position, was the only track which gave any suggestion of use.</u>
<u>X 12.</u>			<u>ARTY observed engaging W/T Station 5800 Feature. Aerial has been removed from hut.</u>
			<u>A/C took over shoot - gave four corrections - target ranged, recorded X 12.</u>

Time and Signature..... *[Signature]*
 A.L.O.
 Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
 45 AUST AL SEC (AC).

25

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP

UNIT 4 AC SQN.

SORTIE No. 2. (7DIV).

A/C No. - TYPE A46-148
A46-118

DATE 17 DEC 43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE

TAG/R.

REF. MAPS

PILOT F/O. Guyot

TIME UP 1305

VISIBILITY

WEATHER

~~ESCORT~~
OBSERVER P/O. Taylor

TIME DOWN 1405

TOTAL 1 Hr.

VERY POOR

LOW CLOUD

Place or Ref.

Time

Height

REPORT—INTERROGATION

BOGADJIM RD.

1320

Recce abandoned due to weather.

Time and Signature

Chave
A.L.O.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.

45 AUST AL SEC (AC).

25

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4 AC SQN. SORTIE No. 1. (7DIV). A/C No. - TYPE A46-148 A46-118 DATE 18 DEC '43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE TAC/R.

REF. MAPS.....	PILOT <u>F/O. Guyot</u>	TIME UP.....	0950	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	ESCORT.....	TIME DOWN.....	1130		
	OBSERVER <u>F/O. Taylor</u>	TOTAL.....	1hr 40m.	GOOD	MEDIUM CLOUD

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
BOGADJIM RD.	1000		Bridges 1 - 13 are still down. No apparent attempt at reconstruction. Riv still appears to be running fresh. No foot or mule tracks were observed along or beside road. No sign of any river ford. N.M.S. No A/A.
			At ref 581844 three landslides were observed on the road. Only one would require any effort to clear.
MINTJIM RIV.	1025		Track from Riv at 654913 to WENGA quite broad and well worn. At time of recce it was in dark shadow due to position of sun and heavy timber. Undergrowth appeared to have been cleared away. Pilot unable to see clearly enough to ascertain if recently used. At ref 639888 a small track was observed for approx 300x. Had been recently inundated with water and had half dried up. Was not showing any signs of footmarks subsequent to flooding. In area S.Q. 6384 odd glimpses of a narrow ill-defined track was seen. It went to riv at 624840. No sign of the river having been forded - no bridge observed. No further trace of track.
KISA ASAKE AREA.			A close recce was made of the whole of the area - N.M.S. No sign of heavy use of tracks in the area. No further additions or alterations to previously reported defences.

Time and Signature..... *[Signature]*
A.L.O.
Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
45 AUST AL SEC (AC).

724—N.G. Press Unit—10/43—10m.

25

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4 AC SQN. SORTIE No. 4. (7DIV.) A/C No. - TYPE A46-134
A46-148 DATE 18 DEC '43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE

TAG/R.

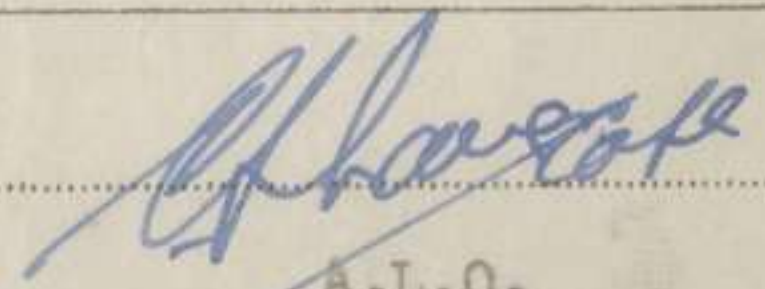
REF. MAPS. <u>URIGINA 1"</u>	PILOT <u>F/O. Staley</u>	TIME UP <u>1500</u>	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	ESCORT	TIME DOWN <u>1630</u>		
	OBSERVER <u>F/O. Holyman</u>	TOTAL <u>1hr 30m.</u>	<u>GOOD</u>	<u>BROKEN CLOUD</u>

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
---------------	------	--------	----------------------

KESAWAI

1520

Around all huts in area grass appears to have been trampled a little more since last report. The only other signs of occupation was seen on track from 5800 Feature to 541723 and the L of C from SOLU RIV to KESAWAI 1 - these two tracks were fairly well used during last 24hrs. N.M.S. in whole area.

Time and Signature..... 

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

45 AUST AL SEC (AC)°

25

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4 AC SQN. SORTIE No. 1. (7DIV). A/C No. - TYPE A46-145 A46-134 DATE 19 DEC 43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE		TAC/R.	
REF. MAPS	PILOT <u>F/O. Taylor</u>	TIME UP <u>0925</u>	VISIBILITY
	ESCORT.	TIME DOWN <u>1135</u>	WEATHER
	OBSERVER <u>F/O. Staley</u>	TOTAL <u>2Hrs 10m.</u>	<u>GOOD</u>
			<u>BROKEN MEDIUM CLOUD</u>

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
MINTJIM RIV.	1015		Odd glimpses of thin lightly used tracks were seen at the following refs 637897 - 639892 - 653870 - 648858 - 618838 - 590830. Villages were observed at 648858 & 623839 - both deserted. No bridges were observed throughout length of Riv.
YAULA & OLD YAULA.			No signs of excessive activity was observed - appeared to have had normal use as reported on previous TAC/R's.
SUPPLY CAMP.			Normal usage observed - nothing has been added.
NANZAWRAI			All small land slides have been by passed by foot traffic. Where road had been washed away a foot track has been cut into side of hill. Traffic had been quite heavy. Still no attempt to clear the road for M.T.
L of C.			A broad well used L of C was traced from OLD YAULA - through defence position 5284 - NATALOI 1&2 - KOBA - via Southerly loop to ASAKE - ORGORUNA 1 & 2 crossing BOKU RIV 453781 - (bridge down at this point) - thence KEPOBA and ISARIBA.
			The general area KISA ASAKE much the same as previous reports.
			No additions to defences.

Time and Signature.....
Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... UNIT..... SORTIE No..... A/C No. - TYPE..... DATE.....

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....

REF. MAPS..... PILOT..... TIME UP..... VISIBILITY..... WEATHER.....
OBSERVER..... TIME DOWN..... TOTAL.....

Place or Ref.

Time

Height

REPORT-INTERROGATION

KETOBA
ISARIBA.
Both these positions have been increased in defences. Additions have ~~xix~~ taken the form of foxholes and slit trenches.
Recce was not taken past this point.

Time and Signature..... A.L.O.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc..... 45 AUSTRAL SEC (A) ST

25

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... GUSAP..... UNIT..... 4. AC SQN..... SORTIE No..... 5. (7DIV)..... A/C No. - TYPE..... A46-119
 A46-134..... DATE 19 DEC 43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE..... TAC/R.....

REF. MAPS..... URIGINA 1"	PILOT..... F/L. Olorenshaw	TIME UP..... 1455	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	ESCORT.....	TIME DOWN..... 1650		
	OBSERVER..... F/O. Staley	TOTAL..... 1Hr 45m.	FAIR	BROKEN CLOUD

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
5800 Feature	1505		Approx 30 own troops seen area 556663. Waved to a/c - moving in N.E. direction. No sign of any action against Japs. Patrol S.W. of 5800 feature not seen.
KARONA 426783			A village of approx 6 huts. Village burnt out - still smoking. A trampled patch of kunai was seen approx 200x North of village.
ISARIBA.			N.M.S. Village has an occupied appearance - some trenches carried water.
KETOBA			Defence positions on Northern side of village have been added.
ORGORUNA 2.			N.M.S. Shows signs of much recent activity. Footmarks showed up plainly after recent rain. Chips from chopped logs and branches lying around area. Partly completed diggings were seen.
KISA.			Track from ORGORUNA 1 - KISA - and all other tracks leading into KISA shows use subsequent to recent rain - footmarks clearly seen.

724—N.G. Press Unit—10/43—10m.

Time and Signature..... *[Signature]*
 Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
 45 AUST AL SEC (AC).

211000
Off

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R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION.....GUSAP..... UNIT.....4 AC SQN..... SORTIE No. 1. (7DIV). A/C No. - TYPE.....A46-145 A46-119 DATE 20 DEC '43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....		LEAD IN PRACTICE STRIKE BY P40'S.		
REF. MAPS.....PAIPA 1/25000	PILOT.....F/O. Olorenshaw	TIME UP.....1005	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	ESCORT.	TIME DOWN.....1110		
	*OBSERVER.....W/O. Holyman	TOTAL.....1hr 5m.	GOOD	CLEAR

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
PIMPLE (SHAGGY RIDGE).			4 x 500lbs bombs dropped.
			Bombing very accurate - 2 dead on top of ridge - two <u>very slightly</u> off Eastern side of ridge.
			Timing O.K.
			Red mortar shell put up for test visibility - seen very clearly.
			Air to air communications excellent.

Time and Signature.....*A. L. O.*
A.L.O.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
45 AUST AL SEC (AC).

724—N.G. Press Unit—10/43—10m.

25

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4 AC SQN. SORTIE NO. (TDIV) A/C No. - TYPE M4C-118 M4C-148 DATE 20 DEC 43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE CONT/R & TAG/R.

REF. MAPS <u>URIGINA 1"</u>	PILOT <u>ESCORT F/O. Mason</u>	TIME UP <u>1130</u>	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	OBSERVER <u>F/O. Guyot</u>	TIME DOWN <u>1230</u>		
		TOTAL <u>1 Hr.</u>	<u>POOR</u>	<u>LOW CLOUD.</u>

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
<u>5800 feature</u>			<u>cloud base very low. Unable to make search.</u>
<u>S.Q. 5070</u>			<u>No sign of our patrol.</u>
<u>S.Q. 4972</u>			<u>N.M.S. Thin lightly used track running N.E. for 200m from 490720. Approx 1ft wide - barely used.</u>
			<u>Track KISAPAI 1 to SOLU RIV only slightly used.</u>
<u>S.Q. 5272</u>			<u>Unable to recon due to cloud.</u>
			<u>N.M.S. South of a line from 550670 to 500740. North of this line completely cloud covered.</u>

Time and Signature [Signature]
 A.L.O.
 Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
45 AUST AL SER (AC).

724—N.G. Press Unit—10/43—10m.

25

R. A. A. F.


Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... GUSAP UNIT..... 4 AC SQN. SORTIE No. 1. (7DIV). A/C No. - TYPE..... A46-119 A46-118 DATE 21 DEC'43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE..... TAC/R.

REF. MAPS..... URIGINA 1"	PILOT..... F/O. Guyot	TIME UP..... 1430	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	ESCORT. OBSERVER..... P/O. Taylor	TIME DOWN..... 1530	HAZY	LOW CLOUD SHOWERY
		TOTAL..... 1hr.		

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
KESAWAI			Recce requested S.Q. 5374. Area thoroughly searched. N.M.S. No track activity apparent.
			Search was made to locate own patrol approx S.Q. 5170 - not seen.
			N.M.S. throughout area.

Time and Signature..... 
 A.L. O.
 Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

724—N.G. Press Unit—10/43—10m.

R. A. A. F.

(2)

Low map
Rev.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION.....	UNIT.....	SORTIE No.....	A/C No. - TYPE.....	DATE.....
ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....				
REF. MAPS.....	PILOT.....	TIME UP.....	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	OBSERVER.....	TIME DOWN.....		
		TOTAL.....		

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	
Supply Camp. YAHLA.			No recent vehicle or foot tracks apparent. Both places appeared to Pilot at time of recon to be lacking activity.
MINSJIM RIVER.			Track was traced from MASHUNJI along KOFEBI RIV to junction with MINSJIM. At ref 621838. Track was well worn and recently used between these two refs. Further North only odd glimpses were seen as previously reported.
			West of BUCADJIM ¹⁰⁰⁰ / ₁₀ recon not possible.

Time and Signature..... *[Signature]*
45 AUST AL SEC (A C)
 Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

25 Dec

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

GUSAP.

A 46- 148

LOCATION.....

UNIT..... **4 A.C.S.Q.n**.....

SORTIE No. **2 (7 DIV)**.....

A/C No. - TYPE..... **A46-145**.....

DATE..... **22 DEC 43.**

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....

TAG/R.

REF. MAPS.....

PILOT.....
 ESCORT..... **F/O HOLYMAN***
~~XXXXXXXX~~
 OBSERVER..... **F/L OLORENSHAW.**

TIME UP..... **0910**.....

VISIBILITY

WEATHER

TIME DOWN..... **1020**.....

GOOD.

Low CLOUD.

TOTAL..... **1hr 10MIN.**.....

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.

Time

Height

BOGADJIM ROAD.

All bridges still down - river normal. No sign of fording of river by M/T.

No indication of foot traffic from Bridge 1- MABLUBU.

All small landslides have been cleared away- or by-passed by foot traffic. Further cutting into mountain has been carried out at point where road was washed away. Signs of M/T were observed from MABLUBU to ref 579800. No positive indication of M/T usage South of landslide area.

N.M.S. No M/T seen/

From Supply Camp track appears to be only lightly used.

BRIDGES 7 & 8.

A by- pass track was observed to run over kunai spur on East side of river. Pilot states that extreme difficulty would be experienced in portering supplies. Spur rises very sharply from Riv to 500 ft. A village of 3 huts- one of which is comparatively new - was observed well

hidden in trees at ref P. Map BAU-AK 134132. A track leads from road to village. Track and

surroundings of village well worn and recently used. N.M.S.

Time and Signature.....

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

25 Bde.

[Handwritten signature]

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

A46- 118

23 Dec 43

A46- 148

LOCATION..... CHAP.....

UNIT..... 4AC SQN......

SORTIE No..... 1. (7 DIV).....

A/C No. - TYPE.....

DATE.....

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....

TAC/R

REF. MAPS..... ORIGINA 1*

PILOT..... F/O MASSON

TIME UP..... 0900

VISIBILITY

WEATHER

BAG. STB 1*

OBSERVER..... F/O ELLERS

TIME DOWN.....

FAIR

LOW BROKEN

TOTAL..... 1hr 45MIN.

Place or Ref.

Time

Height

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Track KETOBA - ORGORUNA - well used.

0930

No change from last report. Still signs of plenty of movement.

KISA - SANA

Showing signs of freshing up of defences.

ORGORUNA

Track from KOBAN - MATALOI 2 and 1 showing distinct boot marks which pilot considers made this morning. No change in defence positions - still in good condition.

MATALOI 1

Track MATALOI 1 - defence position well worn - showing boot marks made this morning -

DEF POSN 5384

Has NOT been extended - has occupied appearance. Tracks throughout area well trampled. Cloud prevented further recce this area.

No change - is NOT defended - no signs of use.

KISA

Track from KISA - SANA - KORIGINA (437844) - URIA

Time and Signature.....

Ref 424865 - Quite broad and well worn.

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... **GUSAP** UNIT..... SORTIE No..... A/C No. - TYPE..... DATE.....

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....

REF. MAPS.....	PILOT.....	TIME UP.....	VISIBILITY
.....	OBSERVER.....	TIME DOWN.....	WEATHER
.....	.....	TOTAL.....	.....

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
RAINBANA			Track from URIA - RAINBANA observed for half its length. Approx 3' wide and well worn used. RAINBANA - WIYAI Track SUNXWYAI - XAKX observed for approx 2-300yds each end. Not particularly well used Track WIYAI - KISA followed to approx 474895. quite broad and well used. No defences RAINBANA NA of WIYAI .
JAPPA			Track from WIYAI - JAPPA - particularly well used - approx 5 ft wide. Village very well used and in good condition. No defence observed. Track leading N E from JAPPA observed for only 200 yds. Thin but well worn. Again picked up at ref 334974 - ASTAPRAD . Approx 6 ft wide and well worn. Track between ASTAPRAD and TABAU has been worn into one large area. No defences observed.
ULIA			Track TABAU - ULIA - wide and well used. In ULIA two stacks of 6 pieces of timber of 6ft by 3" x 2" were observed - timber was newly sawn.
KULAU			Cloud prevented close view of this village. From approx 1 and half miles off and from under cloud pilot observed what appeared to be 6 square white roofed buildings - plus a big rectangular village - the extending approx quarter of mile.
			Time and Signature.....
			Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

25 Bde.

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4 AC Sqn SORTIE No. 4 (7 Div) A/C No. - TYPE A46-93 DATE 25 Dec 43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE Cont./R - Crashed B25 crew

REF. MAPS <u>URIGINA 1"</u>	PILOT <u>F/O Ellars</u>	TIME UP <u>1030</u>	VISIBILITY <u>Good</u>	WEATHER <u>Fine</u>
<u>MT OTTO 1"</u>	OBSERVER	TIME DOWN <u>1150</u>		
		TOTAL <u>1hr 20mins</u>		

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
<u>Koben</u>	<u>1050</u>		Unable locate crew or patrol based House KAIPS. Pilot searched RAMU Riv and area for at least mile along south bank from ref 438701 - House KIAPS. Crew last seen at ref 438701.

Time and Signature [Signature]
 Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.
 45 Aust AL Sec

724—N.G. Press Unit—10/43—10m.

25.
R
280940L
Off

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

A46-145

LOCATION CUSAP.

UNIT 4 AC Sqn

SORTIE No. 2 (7 Div)

A/C No. - TYPE A46-115

DATE 27 Dec 43.

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....

Arty/R

REF. MAPS PAIPA 1"
KUMBARUM 1"

PILOT F/O Guyot.

TIME UP 1045

VISIBILITY

WEATHER

OBSERVER F/O Ellers

TIME DOWN 1135

Poor

Low Cloud.

TOTAL 50mins.

REPORT-INTERROGATION

Place or Ref. Time Height

Unable to conduct shoot due to low cloud.

Comms difficult to "RUSS" - Relayed through "PIP" 2.

Shaggy Ridge

105'S

Time and Signature..... [Signature] 110

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
48 AVST A.L. Sec (A.C)

25 Bde
R
280940L
H

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4 AC Sqn SORTIE No 7 (7 Div) A/C No. - TYPE A46-118 DATE 25 Dec 43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE Cont/B Crew Crashed B25.

REF. MAPS <u>URIGINA 1"</u> <u>MT OTTO 1"</u>	PILOT <u>F/O Staley</u>	TIME UP <u>1615</u>	VISIBILITY <u>Good</u>	WEATHER <u>Fine.</u>
	OBSERVER	TIME DOWN <u>1720</u>		
		TOTAL <u>1hr 5 mins</u>		

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	Report
<u>House KIAPS</u>			<u>pilot contacted patrol at ref 499628 moving in direction of House KIAPS. No sign of crew in House Kiaps area. Each side of river searched for 4-5 miles radius from House KIAPS.</u>

Time and Signature [Signature]
Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc 45 Aust AL Sec (AC)

724—N.G. Press Unit—10/43—10m.

25 Bde
2800 W
2800 W

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... **GUSAP** UNIT..... **A A.C. Sqn** SORTIE No..... **1. (7 DIV)** A/C No. - TYPE..... **A46-143**
A46-184 DATE..... **DEC 27 43.**

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE..... **LEAD IN STRIKE BY 17 P40s. SHAGGY RIDGE. ARTY/R**

REF. MAPS..... KUMBARUM 125000	PILOT..... F/L OLERENSHAW	TIME UP..... 0735	VISIBILITY.....	WEATHER.....
PAIPA 125000	OBSERVER..... F/O HOLYMAN	TIME DOWN..... 1010	GOOD	FINE
		TOTAL..... 2hrs 35 Min.		BROKEN LOW CLOUD.

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
Shaggy Ridge	0830.		"17 ² " 500 lb bombs dropped. Bombing accurate. 12 in target area.
			Sequence of attack and close support satisfactory.
			Strafing effective.
			Escort pilot counted 14 Japs in two and threes running away from battle area through X17. Arty fire requested twice - refused. Told to wait 40mins. A/c then strafed Japs at this point.
			When gun offered cloud was closing in - a/c unable to carry out shoot.

Time and Signature..... *[Signature]* **A. L. O.**

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc..... **45 Aust Al 500 (AC)**

724—N.G. Press Unit—10/43—10m.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

PILOT'S REPORT.

PIP 4

Map Ref.

Visibility.

TIME

OBSERVATION

1210 20 OWN INF ISARIBA MOVING

NW

1230 BDG 453782 STILL DOWN

440 KORONA BURNT BUT TOK
THROUGH IS WELL WORN

10 OWN INF HEADING SE
ON TOK 434747

SUT ALONG RIDGE AT
447782 TO 442788 AND
SUT LEADING UP TO THIS
RIDGE ON SW SIDE

From

P/O TAYLOR

4

28/12

Rank & Name

Squadron

Date

291420 L
JW

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION GUSAP UNIT 4 AC Sqn SORTIE No. 2 (7 Div) A/C No. - TYPE A46-145 A46-115 DATE 28 Dec 43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE Tag/R

REF. MAPS <u>BAU AK P/m</u>	PILOT <u>F/O Mason</u>	TIME UP <u>0825</u>	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
<u>URIGINA 1"</u>	OBSERVER <u>F/O Guyot</u>	TIME DOWN <u>0935</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Low Broken.</u>
<u>MT KUBARI 1"</u>		TOTAL <u>1hr 10mins</u>		

REPORT—INTERROGATION

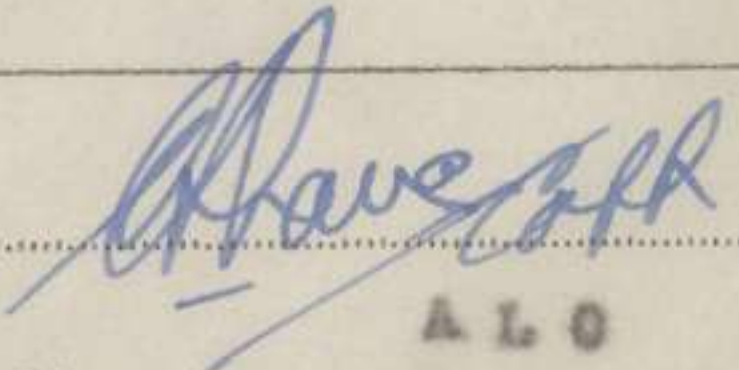
Place or Ref.	Time	Height	
STORAGE TANKS			NOT obs by pilot. At this ref there are two huts. A track leads WALUGA north to the huts and then follows ridge to village at ref 152155. Well used recently.
BAU AK Pltn. 154159.			
BRIDGES.			Bridges 1,2,&3 are still down. M.T. fords were obs in the vicinity of each of these bridges.
			Bridge 4 re-built - 5 still down. M.T. ford at ref 147140. This bridge appears to be the latest in constn. - timber still very new in appearance.
			Bridge 6 still down - M.T. Ford at bridge site.
BRIDGES 7 & 8.			At bridge 7 location they appear to have built up a stone base in the river bed to assist M.T. crossing. Bridge 8 has been reconstructed in a far more solid form than any other.
			Bridges 9 - 10- 11 - 12 - 13 reconstructed.
			To OLD YAULA the road showed fairly heavy recent M.T. useage. South from OLD YAULA useage diminished as far as SUPPLY CAMP.
MAUZOBUIA.			In the landslide area the road has been cleared and repaired for a width of approx 6-7ft. Tracks which appeared to be either jeep size M.T. or hand-cart were obs.
			Time and Signature.....
			Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION.....	UNIT.....	SORTIE No. <u>8 (7 div)</u>	A/C No. - TYPE.....	DATE.....
ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....				
REF. MAPS.....	PILOT.....	TIME UP.....	VISIBILITY	WEATHER
	OBSERVER.....	TIME DOWN.....		
		TOTAL.....		

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
SUPPLY CAMP.			Road from SUPPLY CAMP south NUF obs due to low cloud.
			MS. NO H.T. obs throughout length of road obs.
			No change on previous reports.
			No change on previous reports. The only significant feature being the apparent termination of the main H.T. usage.
YALDA & OLD YALDA.			Track from OLD YALDA to ref post shows NO change. NO H.T. tracks obs. Further recon sent to KISA ASKS NOT possible due to low cloud.

Time and Signature..... 
Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
45 HOURS A L SEC (AG).
A L O

724—N.G. Press Unit—10/43—10m.

23
R
29/14/201

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

A46-134
A46-93

28 Dec 43.

LOCATION..... **GUSAP** UNIT..... **4 AC Sqn** SORTIE No..... **1 (7 Div)** A/C No. - TYPE..... DATE.....

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....

Tac/R & Arty/R

REF. MAPS..... **PAIPA 1/25000**

PILOT..... **F/O Holyman**

TIME UP..... **0800**

VISIBILITY.....

WEATHER.....

OBSERVER..... **F/O Taylor**

TIME DOWN..... **1000**

Good

Low Cloud.

TOTAL..... **2hrs.**

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
SHAGGY RIDGE	0815		Comms with "BLUE" Excellent.
	0820		NMS on ridge. Own troops seen fwd of PIMPLE in foxholes - mortar shoot obs.
X18 677658	0830		Track jctn. During registration, an opportunity target of 7 - 8 Japs were obs. Guns were switched - and ref 686664 was finally recorded as X19. At this ref there is a covered foxhole in which two Japs and suspected LMG obs. Recce a/c strafed after target regd. All rounds fell in target area - NO direct hit on foxhole.
	0935		X18 NOT yet recorded.
	0940.		Shoot concluded - guns required for a priority target.

Time and Signature..... .....
ALO

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
45 Aust AL Sec (AG)

801—N.G. Press Unit—11/43/10m.

28.
R
29/12/43

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

A46-93

LOCATION GUSAP. UNIT 4 AC Sqn SORTIE No. 3 (7 Div) A/C No. - TYPE A46-148 DATE 28 Dec 43

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE Cont/R & Tac/R

REF. MAPS URIGINA 1st

PILOT P/O Taylor

TIME UP 1210

VISIBILITY

WEATHER

OBSERVER F/O Ellers

TIME DOWN 1345

Good

Medium cloud.

TOTAL

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
TSARIBA	1220		Approx 20 own troops seen in TSARIBA - waved to a/c. A few were making long track NW. Also 10 troops moving SE along track at ref 434746. NO recog. signs to a/c.
KETOBA			NMS. Village in fairly good condition. NO track useage apparent. NO new def. obs. Bridge at ref 453782 still down. Track across did NOT appear to have been used recently.
KARONA.			Track from MUNAWANA through KARONA to ref 442795 appeared fairly well worn. NMS. A slightly used track was obs from ref. 442788 - 446782. Two or three thin tracks were also seen along side of ridge running south.

Time and Signature [Signature]

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc. 45
45 AUST AL SEC (AC).

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

A46-115

LOCATION..... **GUSAP** UNIT..... **4 AC Sqn.** SORTIE No. **1 (7 Div)** A/C No. - TYPE..... **A46-93** DATE..... **30 Dec 43.**

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE..... **Tac/R, Arty/R SHAGGY RIDGE REA.**

REF. MAPS..... **PAIPA 1/25000**

PILOT..... **F/O Holyman**

TIME UP..... **0815**

VISIBILITY

WEATHER

OBSERVER..... **F/O Illers**

TIME DOWN..... **0915**

Air

Low Cloud.

TOTAL..... **1hr**

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
SQ 6966	0825		On top of ^{hill} line extending over area approx 150yds square, all undergrowth has been cleared, leaving big trees only. Ground gives impression of being very well trampled. Well defined foot track leads to posn from 685665 running approx east to 695667 where there is a zig zag trench. Owing low cloud covering area, pilot was unable to make detailed recon, but in fleeting glances NI in area. Pilot considers that this would be a good gun posn and is probably defended in some strength.
685665			Occupied foxhole with grass cover over top. One Jap seen.
SHAGGY RIDGE.			Area under cloud. Message dropped on Div. Contacted "PIP" 2 and "MINK" on R/T.

Time and Signature..... *J.R. Sheridan*

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc.....
45 Anst AL Sec (AG)

25

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

LOCATION..... **GUSAP** UNIT..... **4 AG SQN** SORTIE No. **2 (7 Div)** A/C No. - TYPE..... **A46-93
A46-145** DATE..... **30 Dec 43**

ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE..... **Tac/R Feature 5800, Track SOLU Riv - KETONA, ORGURONA VILLAGES.**

REF. MAPS..... URIGINA 1"	PILOT..... F/O Staley	TIME UP..... 1435	VISIBILITY.....	WEATHER.....
.....	OBSERVER..... F/O Taylor	TIME DOWN..... 1615	Fair	Low Broken Cloud.
.....	.....	TOTAL..... 1hr 40min .....	.....	.....

REPORT—INTERROGATION

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	Report
5800 FEATURE	1430		Top of feature under cloud, own troops seen sneaking through kun-i ridge towards scrub higher up 558663.
ORGURONA 2	1520		Large pit (approx 15ft square) about 50yds up hill (east) from barricade. HNS but a/c holed by rifle fire. Area gives impression of considerable recent use.
KISA ASAKE	1540		All tracks very well worn. Further trenches have been dug and all diggings are in good condition. Track from KISA ASAKE - KOBIA (flattened) NATALOI 2 - NATALOI 1 thence running NW very well worn.
			Track has been used considerably since this mornings rain. This track has been used for more than any other in the area.
NATALOI			Diggings in NATALOI 1 & 2 appear to be disused.
KETONA	1600		Track as marked on map from KETONA east to SOLU Riv was NOT be picked up from the air and country does NOT suggest a good L of G. A slightly used track circles feature to the east and then heads north towards BOKU Riv bridge. NO movement seen of our own troops.

Time and Signature..... *[Signature]*

Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc..... **A L G.**

801—N.G. Press Unit—11/43/10m.

45 AUST AL SQN (AG)

R. A. A. F.

Reconnaissance Report Army Co-op

25.

LOCATION.....	GUSAP	UNIT.....	4 AG SQN	SORTIE No.....	2 (7 Div)	A/C No. - TYPE.....	46 - 145	DATE.....	30 Dec 43.
ORDERS AND NATURE OF SORTIE.....	Tas/R 5800 Feature - BOKU Riv and GROUNDIA								
REF. MAPS.....	URICINA 1 ^a	PILOT.....	S/O Staley	TIME UP.....	0850	VISIBILITY	POOR	WEATHER	Low Cloud
		OBSERVER.....	S/O Miller-Buddle	TIME DOWN.....	0910				
				TOTAL.....	50min				

Place or Ref.	Time	Height	REPORT—INTERROGATION
5800 Feature			NB. Detailed recon impossible owing to low cloud - pilot considers area unoccupied. Area across to BOKU Riv under cloud.
BOKU Riv GROUNDIA			Bridge area clear of cloud. NB. Heavy rain appeared to have fallen recently in area. Pilot circled over cloud for some time and eventually got fleeting glance at both villages. NB, but pilot considers that defenses in GROUNDIA & have been improved in the last seven days. Pilot confirms barricade reported Tas/R 29/12/43. Contacted "PIP" 4 by R/R.
			Time and Signature..... <i>J. R. Schenker</i>
			Time Passed to Bde, Div, etc..... 25 Dec 43 (AG)

801—N.G. Press Unit—11/43/10m.