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

Item number: 8/3/27

2/27 Infantry Battalion

October 1943

2/27 Aust Inf Bn. D I A R Y . October 1943.

MONTHLY SUMMARY

The beginning of the month heralded the openning of the GUSAP AIR STRIP - prepared by the 2/27 Aust Inf Bn on the first Oct. The strip was soon developed into large Drome for Fighters and Bombers. The end of the Month saw the Divvy Role fulfilled. B

Bde rested for 2 days at GUSAP. Supplies caught up. Food was excellent under the circumstances. Engineers continued work on Jeep Track and Bridges.

On 4 Oct Bde continued adv. 2/16 Bn still leading and clearing small pockets of JAPS. 2/14 Bn following. Our Role for the day was to drop off men wherever needed by the Engineers for speedy construction of Jeep Track. By the end of day the Bn was strung out along miles of track. With leading elements at the BIWI RIVER. 2/16 Aust Inf Bn fwd elements had contacted the JAP in DUMPU AREA. Following day the Bn moved fwd and formed up North of DUMPU while CO (Lieut Col Bishop) received orders from Brigadier.Dougherty. This was the day the Bn had been waiting for. We were now to take over the Vanguard and continue the adv NOT down the RAMU VALLEY, but Northward into the FINNESTERRE RANGES, to attempt to locate the JAP L of C and to drive him from the Mountains overlooking the Valley - the final stage of our role.

Of course &.the Bn succeeded. We adv on KUMBARUM and the JAPS fled. Lieut Gordon King and 15 Pl of C Coy had the hazardous task of climbing a high dominating feature - later known as KINGS HILL - in the dark and whichwe knew had been held by JAPS.

Long range PATROLS were sent out to try and find JAP L of C. Lieut.Bob Johns and 7 Pl proceed straight up the URIA VALLEY. Lieut .Kel.Crocker and 11 Pl struck out in Westerly direction over some fierce country in an attempt to locate the JAP supply line, which we thought was in that direction.

Before these patrols could return the Bn received orders to cross into the FARIA VALLEY and proceed generally Northward towards the JAP MULE TRACK which was known from PW reports to be in that area and which linked up with JAP MT ROAD at KANKYRIO or PAIPA.

D Coy under cmnd Capt Fawcett took over the fwd Coy role from C Coy and adv up the URIA VALLEY and crossed a saddle into the FARIA VALLEY. Bn followed a day behind,that night D Coy struck the ENEMY in the VALLEY and next day the Bncaught up. A hazardous adv commenced with high ground and beautiful ambush psns on iether flank. However under thet dynamic leadership of Lt.Col. Bishop, who always acted with promptitude and vigour when crisis arose,the Bncould not fail. D Coy stillin the lead were held up and CO went fwd,summed up situation and ordered B Coy to strike up Right Bank onto high ground, the whole Bn to follow.

1 AUG 1944

Move was successfully acomplished and Lieut,Wally.McPher and 8 Pl remained below to guard our L of C and possible JAP counter attack down-stream.

On gaining the high ground Lieut Gordon McDonald and Pl located well worn JAP TRACK which turned out to be his L of C for his Tps in FARIA VALLEY AREA and connected with JAP MULE TRACK at KANKYRIO.

A Party of unsuspecting JAPS on this TRACK were routed and 8 killed. A JAP counter attack on 15 Pl Area was repulsed. Lt-Col Bishop est the Bn firmly astride the L of C.

The Ridge was known as TREVOR RIDGE, in honour of Lieut. TREV MARTIN who was killed in the action of that day. Trev, an original member of the Bn was liked and respected by all and his loss was indeed a misfortune.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

. Next day the Bn spent in improving thier psns and harassing known JAP psns with 3"M and MMG fire. A JAP mountain gun 75mm ranged on us and on the following day the Bn suffered more casualties from this gun than in any subsequent engagement. Bn HQ and D Coy caught most of it qand suffered in silence while our own Arty strove to locate this 75mm gun.

It can be recorded here that during a lull in the shelling, a stretcher party leaving our Bn HQ was fired on over open sights by the JAP gun and killed some of our wounded and wounded some of the Boong carriers. The event did not improve the temper of the Tps.

In the meantime Lieut Johns and 7 Pl patrol reported in, after skillfully avoiding a set ambush. His patrol had struck the JAP in well prepared psns further up the URIA VALLEY. He was sent fwd to take over JOHNS KNOLL from B Coy. The CO had ordered B Coy less 11 Pl plus the Pioneer Pl out on a recce in strength on our Right Flank. We had received NO rations or ammunition since KUMBARUM and we were anxiously awaiting the arrival of our Boong Train due in that day. However it was NOT to be. Lieut Kel Crocker and 11 PL having reported in at KUMBARUM were given the job of escorting the Native Carriers (BOONGS) 300 strong up to our psn, but during the night the JAP had moved in behind us and well to the rear and had set and ambush astride our L of C. A Stretcher party returning with wounded ran into the JAP from 1 side and Lieut Kel Crocker and the Supply Train hit the ambush from the otherside. Luckily only 2 casualties resulted but the natives dumped thier loads and legged it leaving 11 Pl with 300 Boong Loads to defend within a few yards of the JAP,an inenviable task.

The 2/14 Aust Inf Bn ,in reserve, came to the rescue and after a very hot engagement drove the Japs from our L of C . However,it took a complete day to re-organise the Natives and continue with the supplies,and in the meantime things were happening.

Early the following morning the JAPS attacked JOHNS KNOLL in force (One BN). The 2/27 Aust Inf Bn at this stage comprised BnHQ HQ Coy less the Pioneers and TK At,A COy less 8 PL at GUYS POST and 9 Pl at BEVERIDGES POST,C Coy complete and D Coy complete - just 2 Coys and 3 spare Pls. B Coy were still out on thier recce but communications had been cut. JOHNS KNOLL was lightly held by 19 men under Lieut Bob Johns. Ammunition and food stocks were low. Situation was fairly serious.

The attack developed rapidly and the JAPS support fire was very hvy, with machine guns and mortars firing on us from the East, The JAPS attacking from the South ,the machine gun Coy with wood-peckers supporting from the West and the JAP 75mm mountain gun at approx 1500 yards range from the North. An attack with support fire such as that should not fail. But it did. The men on JOHNS KNOLL fought magnificently. Lt-Col Bishop ordered up Lt.Gordon.McDonald and Pl to assist the remnents of 7 Pl. One mortar OP moved fwd and commenced shooting on the attacking JAPS. Time and time again the JAPS camein. Crawling,running,they managed twice to get within 5 yards of the crest. Ammunition was continually rushed up to JOHNS KNOLL and still they demanded more. The positon was critical. Our Boong train ambushed the previous day had not arrived and the only ammunition we had was that carried on the men. We had 6 3"M bobms left which the CO retained in event of the direst emergency.Lt-Col Bishop received orders from Bde to evacuate when he considered,it necessary. He refused to do this and sent out 2 Pls with a counter attack role - Lieut Bob Payne was on the Left flank and Lieut Rex Trenerry on thier Right Flank. These were entirely successful and sufficiently disorganised the ENEMY to course them to dig in. Lt-Col Bishop was hanging on grimly the JAPS were digging in and it appeared they would resume the offensive next morning. Our ammunition was down to 5 rounds per man. Then our last hope came good. Capt Toms with B Coy hearing the action, had sent 2 Pls to investigate while he remained with 1 Pl to complete his original task. These 2 Pls under Lieuts McRae & Cook struck the JAPS squarely in the rear

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and wiped out 2 woodpecker crews and caused considerable confusion in the JAP lines. As it was getting dark these 2 Pls dug in and sent a recce party out to try and contact the Bn. They succeeded after penetrating the HAP psns and contacted JOHNS KNOLL Lt-Col Bishop ordered them to return to Capt Toms with orders for him to move down to his 2 fwd Pls and to put in a Coy attack on Jap rear at first light.

By this time our Boong Train under Lieut Kel Crocker had arrived at GUYS POST. Fortunately our line of communication with GUYS POST had not been cut and Lt-Col Bishop ordered that the best type of native be selected and that ammunition only was to be carried, and that they push on immediately and attempt to reach our psns before morning. The Bn had enough ammunition left approximately 1 quarter hour of battle.

Covering almost impossible country in complete darkness Lieut Crocker managed to get the ammunition through by midnight. We backloaded our wounded the same night. Ammunition distributed and we felt more secure and informed Bde that Bn would not withdraw.

During the first action of the day the Col displayed great spirit and energy and was an inspiration to the defenders. The courage and boldness of employing 2 Pls for counter attack ~~leaving a very thin red line to hold~~ the main psn showed his determination to hold and his desire to wrest the inniative from the ENEMY. His tactics succeeded and the day was won.

from our scanty facces on ~~the~~ the main psn.

During the night the JAPS withdrew leaving a small pocket to guard the rear and 160 dead bodies.

Recce patrols est the psn of the JAP pocket (6 men) B Coy returned complete with casualties. Patrols went out to bury the JAP dead and bring in our own. Captured documents and material were collected and sent back to Bde. 2 Wounded JAPS were brought in as PW. One died, the other sent back on a stretcher. So far the Bn had sent back 3 live PW 2 of them unhurt. A point of interest here-the last wounded JAP to be brought in (a shattered leg) had buried 3 of his dead comrades and was painfully attempting to bury 4th when captured.

Our casualties for this action were comparatively light due mainly to well prepared psns.- KILLED.....
WOUNDED.....

B Coy of 2/14 Bn under cmnd Capt.Christopherson, had been ordered up tour psns as re-inforcements and were due to arrive the afternoon following the battle. The remaining pocket of JAPS was directly in line with thier route and they were requested to clear the pocket by coming down hill onto them from the rear. Somehow or other the Coy missed the JAP psn and reported into BN.

The Col ordered C Coy to send out patrol with B Coy 2/14 Bn. Patrol to est JAP psn so that B Coy 2/14 Bn could encircle and clear it. Lieut Bob Paine took out 2 secs, and our second commissioned casualty occured. The patrol contacted the JAPS and grenaded them. One grenade rebounded from a tree and Killed Lieut Bob Paine. The patrol withdrew with 3 casualties Maj.Johnson organised a good plan to get rid of these few JAPS but when put into operation the ENEMY had pulled out.

Lieut Bob Paine, another original member , had several times proved himself a good soldier. 2 of our finest Subalterns had been lost. A sad blow.

Lieut.Paine's counter attack the previous day had contributed very largely to the success of the day, as a subsequent examination of the ground revealed.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

. Padre.Norman and Capt Gove the RMO worked night and day with wounded and burials and often while BnHQ was under intense Mortar and Arty fire.

The RSM Harold Lyndon and his Batman Lindsay Hade were responsible for the continupus flow of ammunition into the fwd Pl areas and both worked endlessly and courageously. The whole show was team work and stubborn courage.

The Bde ordered our relief, and 2/16 Bn moved into our psns. The changeover was effected without a hitch and 2/27Bn returned to GUYS POST in torrential rain. While crossing the flooded FARIA RIVER 1 man was lost and his body recovered the next morning.

Owing to the wide dispersion of the Bn and to the fact that some Pls had borne the brunt of action Col Bishop formed composite Coys. Lieut Clampett took over A Coy when Capt Sims was evacuated with Pneumonia. A Coy was detailed to form a base high up on SHAGGY RIDGE. A Coy consisted of 9 Pl, 11 Pl ,18Pl. B Coy sent 10 Pl onto high ground in the rear as later known as BERTS POST. D Coy ,C Coy and HQ Coy and part of B Coy remained at GUYS POST. Mail and good food caught up and even parcels. Mental relaxation, cpmparative comfort, good supplies and the knowledge that the Bn had made a goodshowing, all helped to keep morale at a high level. Evacuations from Malaria and Scrub Typhus reached large proportions but soon the psn stabilised and the inflow and equalled the out flow. Seventy re-inforcements joined the Bn and Coy strengths averaged about 90.

BnHq was besieged by Pressmen Photographers, Divisional Red Caps and the such like. A Special hut had to be erected to accomodate the continual stream of visitors.

Meanwhile A Coy had found a JAP Strongpost, wired,on SHAGGY RIDGE. The CO ordered them to patrol and ascertain if psn could be outflanked but they were NOY successful. Remainder of B Coy (12 Pl and Coy HQ) moved to Saddle between BERTS POST and SHAGGY RIDGE. They patrolled across onto SHAGGY RIDGE and recced a considerable area, contacted A Coy but no JAPS The IO moved up to B Coy and took fwd recce patrol of 2 men from 12 Pl. Patrol moved Northward up extreme left ridge of SHAGGY RIDGE but eventually ran into 11Pl who were sitting quietly within 20 yards of the JAP wire. The psn could not be outflanked as it it was astride a narrow razorback with almost sheer sides. Capt White the Arty FOO moved up to within a few yards of the JAP wire and brought down hy Arty fire onto the psns. The JAPS withdrew and 18 Pl under Lieut.Robilliard occupied the psns and patroled fwd along this amazing Razorback,later to become famous and the sight of many valourous deeds. JAPS were again contacted and again shelled out of psn by Capt White the Arty FOO . C Coy moved up and relieved A Coy on SHAGGY RIDGE.

Lieuts.Fisher and Peter Langsford had rejoined the Unit after a protracted absence and filled vacancies caused by the death of Lieut Trev.Martin and Bob.Payne,both of C Coy. Further patrols est the new JAP psns located behind a narrow rocky pimple, further back along this yard wide Razorback.

Meanwhile some stray JAPS had fired on our BOONG TRAIN moving down the FARIA VALLEY, so 17 Pl were sent upstream to occupy THE PLATEAU- and a flatish piece of ground on the Eastern slopes of SHAGGY RIDGE which overlooked the FARIA RIVER and made our L of C secure,

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

. The CO,taking advantage of the lull in action,flewback to PORT MORESBY to fix up various Admin matters and at the same time he visited our casualties in Hospital.

Major.White was ordered back to take over DIVISION LOB GP much to his chargrin. Maj,Mc Kinna rejoined the Unit and Administered the Cmnd in Col Bishops absence. Within 3 days Maj. Mc Kinna had visited every Pl in the Bn,no mean feat,and had a thorough grip of the situation.

The JAPS in thier new psn on SHAGGY RIDGE could not be moved. They lived through terrific bombardments by Arty Mortar and Vickers but would not budge.

The Month ends with our front as follows. B COY guarding the left flank 1 hrs climb from GUYS POST. C COY well fwd along SHAGGY RIDGE, 3½ hrs climb from Bn HQ at GUYS POST. Lieut Gordon Mc Donald and 17 Pl well fwd along the FARIA RIVER on the PLATEAU, the remainder of the Bn at GUYS POST.

21 Bde had completed its Main Task. The Valley was secure for Air preparations, and the JAPS driven well back into the FINNISTERRES. From SHAGGY RIDGE a panoramic view of the country ahead could be obtained, the MADANG and BOGADJIM localities were clearly in sight. Barge and shipping movements were reported back.

The 2/14 Aust Inf Bn had secured our Right Flank . The 2/16 Aust Inf Bn were firmly ~~entrenched~~ established in the centre and 2/27 th Aust Inf Bn holding the Left Flank. The 2/2 Pnr Bn were in reserve. The 2/25 Aust Inf Bde had caught up and cleared and area further East of the JAPS. The 2/6 Independent Coy and B Coy of the PIB were patrolling far to the West to give ample warning of any JAP cou counter move from that direction. The 2/18 Aust Inf Bde were still in PORT MORESBY as reserve Bde and all GENERAL VASEY'S efforts to get them up failed.

October had been a memorable month for the Bn. Battle conditions generally were good. The work put in by individual Officers and men made our team a solid one. Padre Norman will long be remembered by the wounded and sick for hisdevotion to duty and ability to produce comforts,such as cigarettes&chocolates at the psychological moment. Lieut Bob Johns gallant defense on JOHNS KNOLL with a handfull of men against a Bn Attack will go down in the Histiry of the Bn and add to tradition. Lieut Gordon Mc - Donald proved himself again as a capable Soldier full of innitiative and spirit. His Pl xxx performed consistently well in every action the Bn experienced.

Doc.Gove,the RSM,Jack.Lee our QM all gave yoeman service in their various departments.

Brig.Dougherty was no jeephead Brigadier and travelled to all Bn Fronts at regular intervals.

MEDICAL.

Officer evacuations. Bob.Johns with malaria also Tom Cook and Don McRae; Capt Sims with pneumonia. Maj White to LOB and then to hospital with Typhus. Capt Beare malaria.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

. The Bn casualties to 31 Oct were as follows :-

K.I.A.	2	Officers.	18	OR's
D of W.			3	"
W.I.A.			54	"
W.R.O.D.			2	"
Acc Inj.			3	"
D.O.S.			4	"
Evac Malaria	3	"	125	"
" Other cases	4	"	90	"
TOTAL	9	Officers	299	OR's

ADDITIONS.

Seventy re-inforcements. Lieut Langsford and Lieut Fish en and Lieut Ross Goode came up from rear to take over as acting Adjt

Doc Gove received word that he was a father -,and was very reticent and shy about it all.

A.A. Picken Lt Col

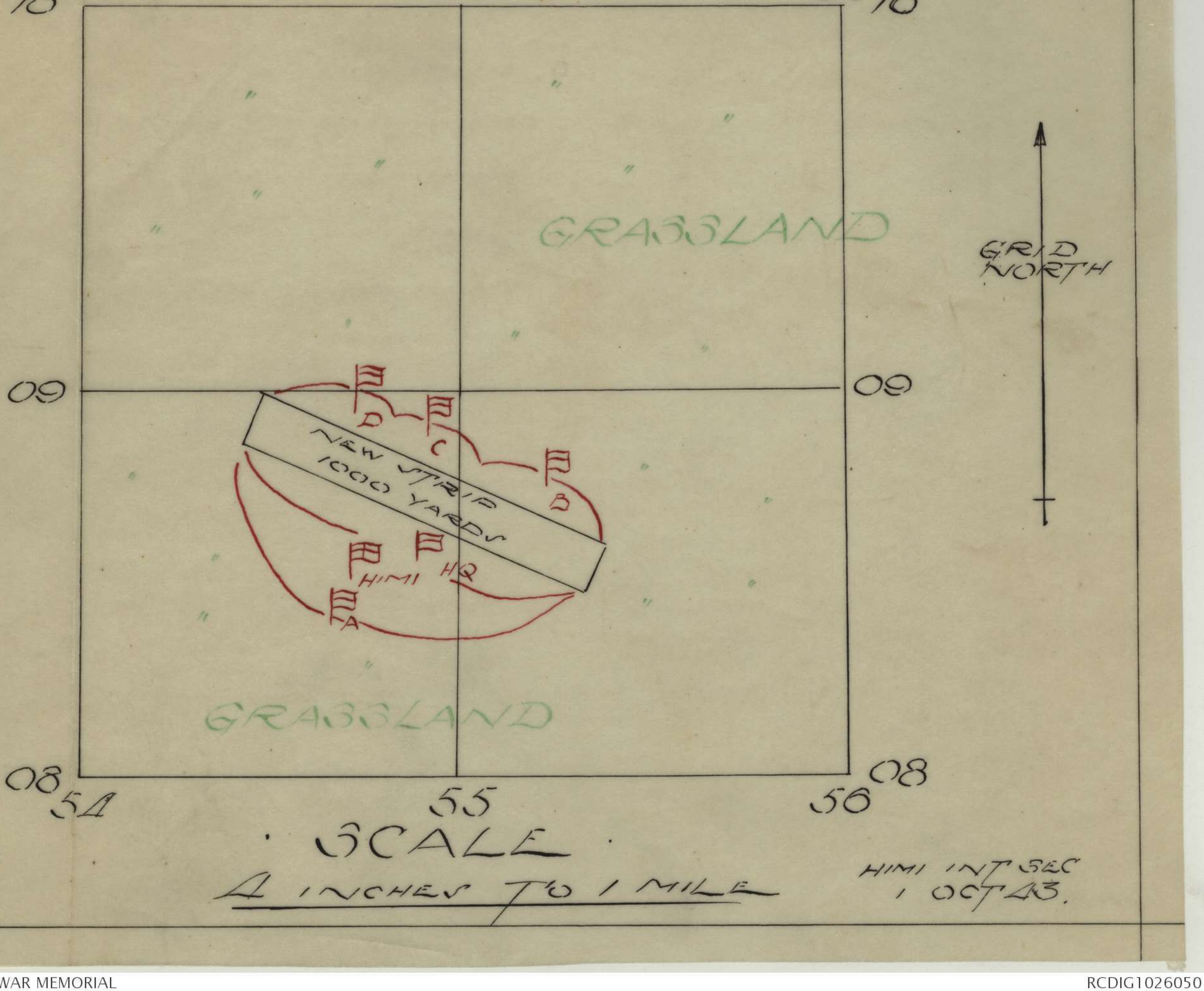
AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

COY DISPOSITIONS 1 OCT 43

VICINITY OF NEW STRIP, RAMU R/V

ENLARGED FROM FINNITEGU SHEET 1:63360

RF 1:15840



SCALE

4 INCHES TO 1 MILE

HIMI INT SEC
1 OCT 43.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

Ref FININTEGU 550086

0630 Rations collected from Dump and distributed to Tps, included @- Bully, biscuits,tea,sugar,chocolate, prunes,and curry powder.

0730 Tps move out to prepare a strip for plane landings, 1 Sec per Pl to remain in Area as Security personnel, All available machets and axes to be carried to the intended Strip area,any troops without machets ar axes to use bayonets for the grass cutting.

0830 Natives went to waterhole 560095 and contacted Capt Holly our Bn LO and brought back rations dropped by plane yesterday. 1 Man per Coy reported to Americans to learn procedure re care and training of 4 Dogs to be taken over by us, as Americans will be returning to Kaiapit.

1030 HQ Coy collecting 3 day supplies dropped by Douglas Aircraft.Elements of Bde are in Area.

1200 CO on recce and RQ arrived with B Ech on way up.

1300 This Bn detailed as Drome or Strip protecting Force working parties recalled and advised to wash and generally clean up so as they could take advantage of sunshine. After a clean up Coys will move out to thier defensive posn arround Drome or Strip.

1415 Coy Qm plus RQ in Strip area with rations for Tps.

1445 First Douglas Transport landed on Strip, theree Generals and an American Col as passengers ~~xx px~~; Second Plane brought first contingent of American Strip maintenance Sec.

1450 (1450) Tps commenced move from Biv sight to allotted posn around strip. See appx att

1530 CO went by Jeep to Strip in conference with 3 General

1600 Brig arrived at Strip as Generals were parting.Brig CO and BM had informal discussion near Bn HQ. On arrival in Strip area Tps dug in and erected shelters just before rain fell. On way out to Strip Area Tps had collected and carried poles to erect shelters. Natives were sent back to the River to bring supplies of water in tins. B Echelon now situated in Area Bn had just vaca-ted Adjt and RSM attempted to show and tell Natives how to erect shelter,the result being,a shelter faced into the rain,which seeped through all night. The natived and the remainder of

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

GUSAP STRIP 1 OCT 43.

Ref FININTEGU 550086

1600 Bn HQ were highly amused at this incident,but the Cmd Gp and RSM failed to see the joke. ASC personnel ferried supplies from Strip to Bde Area via Jepp.The American grader which had moved up the track from KAIAPIT commenced work on the Strip immeadiately on arrival. Kittyhawks had a close look at Tps just before dusk and as night fell B Echelon was lit up like Luna Park at Christmas Time. We received from Bde that R/T Code key words cancelled until further notice also an issue of DUMPU Maps and Unit was warned that they would probably move fwd on the morrow. From Bde new serial numbers for SWPA Air Ground Panel Code ,the these would take effect immediately and Coys notified to alter Code Cards. Night quiet.

GUSAP STRIP 2 OCT 43

0700 CO called Coy Cmdrs for conference. A & C Coys to remain in present Positiom for Strip protection pending arrival 2/25 Bde. Remainder of Bn to move forward as protection for Arty.
0730 Prepare to move.
0800 Move out, order of march B,Bn HQ,HQ,D. RAP join column along track Column ordered to march 45 min and then halt for ten mins, Unit made good progress; spirits very high and singing was indulged in,this being the first time noticed since leaving KAIAPIT.
0830 Unit halted to allow Arty personnel to pass through.
0915 One Jungle type 25 pounder passed through us, Tps were delighted at such a sight.
0940 Fighter Aircraft ,cover for Transport Planes,circling around Valley.
1025 2 Boomerangs flying very low, having a good look at our column.
1040 Engineers passed thrpugh on Jeeps, job ahead bridging GUSAP RIVER.
1100 Personnel in Bde Jeep passed us, CO asked them to notify Bde our approx psn as were were unable to locate and tap sig line. It was thought that line ran well to the RIGHT of our direction of adv.
1140 BM arrived in jeep contacted CO and passed on infm from Brig.
1145 Coys alloted areas for lunch and probable defenfing posn.
1210 GOC and Brig in Jepp passed through and Brig personnel marched fwd to Bde HQ psn. 2/14 Bn moved out and followed Bde;our QM arrived in Area.
1500 Coys alloted defending psns in Area. Tps dug in,had clean up in RAMU RIVER and washed clothing.
1600 Hot meal prepared for Tps and rations for tomorrow issued which included salt tablets.
1700 Hot meal consisted of Bully and Rice and Tea. Gear dumped at YAFATS RIVER arrived and troops welcomed clothes and tents.Small amount of mail arrived and was distibuted.
1900 Stand to
2000 Stand down.

RAMU VALLEY 3 OCT 43

Ref FININTEGU 462132

0200K Daylight saving time came into force,clocks were put forward anx hour,all Coys notified excluding C Coy. Timesnow denoted by letter"L"in lieu of"K".
0530 Stand To, alterations due to DST but stand to considered to early as at this time it is still dark.
0630 Stand down.
0850 2 Boomerangs and Transport Plane over Area.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

COY DISPOSITIONS

2 OCT 43.

ENLARGED FROM FININTEGU SHEET 1 INCH TO 1 MILE
VICINITY NEAR PUNANTI

44 45 46 47

15 14 13

RIVER

TIMBER

GRASSLAND

GRASSLAND

Gila Point

SCALE 4 INCHES TO 1 MILE.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

27 BN DISPOSITION 10 OCT 43

54 55 56

10

09

08

GRASSLAND

GRASSLAND

NEW STRIP

1000 YARDS

D

G

B

HQ

27

A

GN

SCALE 4" TO 1 MILE

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

Army Form W.3008
(Adapted) (Page 1)
Revised Jan., 1943

1 / 22 (Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 2 / 10 / 1943. 2/27 Aust Inf Bn (Unit)

W.E. 21 / 20 / 2. OFFRS. 32 O.R's. 739 *plus* OFFRS. 1 O.R's. 35 ATT. BY W.E.

PART A.—POSTED STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.				
Rein'fts Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Rein'fts Required.
				*					
				*					
			1	Lieut.-Colonels					
			3	Majors					
	2		7	Captains	AAMC	1			
		3	22	Lieutenants					
			1	Quarter-masters					
				A.A.N.S. and A.A.M.W.S. Offrs.					
				Civilians Counting as Offrs.					
	1	3	34			1			

Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in para 10 of instructions for compilation of form will complete Part E[1]& E[2].	DETAIL		A.I.F.	C.M.F.	A.W.A.S.	A.A.N.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL.	R.A.N.	R.A.A.F.	* *	TOTAL.
	A.											
	E.[1]											
	E.[2]											

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

* * Personnel belonging to a category not provided for in the analysis will be shown in this Col. Particulars will be shown, e.g., 20 U.K. Forces; 10 N.Z. Forces

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

OFFICERS JOINED DURING WEEK.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit From.	Date.	CAUSE.

OFFICERS QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit To.	Date.	CAUSE.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

Army Form W.3008
(Adapted) (Page 2)
[Revised Jan., 1943]

2/27 Aust Inf Bn .....Unit

1...../...22...(Serial No.)

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON POSTED STRENGTH

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 2...10.../194 . (Total to Agree with Columns 4 and 7 of Part A).

1 Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held.	2 Army Number	3 Surname.	4 Initials.	5 Posting.	6 Whether present with Unit [insert Yes or No]	7 If not present with Unit, state how employed.	8 Date of Detachment.
Maj(T/Lt Col)	VX 35	[illegible]	JA	HQ	Yes		
Major	NX 3709	[illegible]	JC	21/c	No	Det 7 AUST DIV LOB Gp	
"	VX 36378	[illegible]	[illegible]	Coy	Yes		
Capt(T/Maj)	QX 2915	[illegible]	[illegible]	HQ Coy	Yes		
Capt	QX 2924	[illegible]	[illegible]	Coy	Yes		
Lt(T/Capt)	QX 9455	[illegible]	[illegible]	Coy	Yes		
"	QX 6219	[illegible]	[illegible]	Coy	Yes		
"	QX 2955	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Yes		
Capt	QX 4530	[illegible]	[illegible]	21/c Coy	No	Det 7 AUST DIV LOB Gp	
Lt(T/Capt)	QX 2921	[illegible]	[illegible]	Adjt	Yes		
"	QX 2642	[illegible]	[illegible]	21/c Coy	No	Det 7 AUST DIV LOB Gp	
Lieut	VX 41615	[illegible]	[illegible]	21/c Coy	No	Loan HQ. Med report awaited	
"	QX 3269	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Yes		
"	QX 2633	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Yes		
"	QX 3082	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Yes		
"	QX 2795	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Yes		
"	QX 9362	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Yes		
"	QX 12503	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Yes		
"	QX 4627	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Yes		
"	QX 2914	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Yes		
"	QX 2797	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Yes		
"	QX 3078	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Yes		
"	QX 3270	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Yes		
"	QX 3121	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Yes		
"	QX 2775	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Yes		
"	QX 3086	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Yes		
"	NX 12073	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Yes		
Lt(T/Capt)	NX 11604	[illegible]	G	21/c	No	Att pend post from 16 A.U.H.R. Det 7 AUST DIV LOB Gp	
Lieut	NX 127269	[illegible]	E	[illegible]	Yes	Att pend post from 16 A.U.H.R.	
"	NX 12347	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Yes	" " " " "	
"	NX 127265	[illegible]	[illegible]	-	No	Hosp Aust. Att pend posting from 16 Aust Motor Regt	
"	NX 11388	[illegible]	N	[illegible]	Yes	Att pend post from 16 A.U.H.R.	
"	NX 127106	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	Yes	" " " " "	
"	NX 34444	[illegible]	[illegible]	-	No	Att pend post from 16 Aust H.Regt. Det 7 AUST DIV LOB Gp	
Capt	QX 2919	[illegible]	[illegible]	-	No	To HQ 1A Corps for retirement awaiting promulgation	
"	QX 2893	[illegible]	[illegible]	-	No	To 2 Aust Corps Reception Camp for transfer	
Lieut	NX 33309	[illegible]	[illegible]	-	No	Ex 16 A.U.H.R. Returns to Aust for discharge, to be War Correspondent.	

PART E.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER UNITS.

Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank, if Held.	Army Number.	Name and Initials.	Unit.	Date of Attachment.	Nature of Attachment.
Capt	QX 11061	[illegible]	[illegible]		Chaplain
"	VX 30525	[illegible]	[illegible]		"

2 Oct 43
Date of Despatch

H.R. Goode Lieut for Lt-Col
Signature of Commander
Comd 2/27 Aust Inf Bn.

First Aust Army Mob Print Unit—A72—62½M—5/43.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

Army Form W.3009 (*Adapted*)
(Page 1)
(Revised Jan. 1943.)

1/ 22 (Serial No.)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 2/10/1943 2/27 Aust Inf Bn (Unit)

W.E. 11/12/42 OFFRS. 32 O.R's. 739 + OFFRS. 1 O.R's. 35 ATT. BY W.E.

Part A. Posted Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements Required.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W E				
Reinfts. Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W E.	Deficient W E	Reinfts Required.
			1	W.Os. Class I					
			6	W.Os. Class II.		1			
			5	Squadron or Company Quartermaster Sgts					
		2	2	Staff Sergeants					
			32	Sergeants		10			
			64	Corporals		8			
60	60	16	588	Troopers, Privates, etc		15		1	1
				Civilians counting as O.R					
60 *	60	18	697 *	Totals of cols marked * should agree with details shown in Part E on Page 2.		34 *		1	1 *

Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in para. 7 of instructions for compilation of this return will complete analysis of Part B(1) and B(2).

* * Personnel belonging to a category not provided for in the analysis will be shown in this Col. Particulars will be shown, e.g., 20 U.K. Forces, 10 N.Z. Forces

Detail		A.I.F	C.M.F		A W A.S.	A.A.M.W S.	CIVIL	R.A.N.	R.A.A.F.	* *	TOTAL
			Under 19 Years.	19 Years and over							
A								[redacted]	[redacted]		
B(1)											
B(2)							[redacted]				

Part B. Other Ranks Attached from Other Units.

Number of O.Rs	Unit to which they belong	Number of O.Rs	Unit to which they belong
1	Canungra Training Centre		
1	AA Ch H		
5	AACC		

Part C. Other Ranks Included in Part A Detached to Other Units.

Number of O.Rs	Unit to which detached	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which detached

Part D. Description of Other Ranks Whose Return To ..... (Unit) is Particularly Requested. ...../...../194.....

Army No	Rank	Name and Initials	REMARKS (e.g., present whereabouts if known).

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

2/27 Aust Inf Bn ..... Unit

Army Form W 3009
(Adapted) (Page 2)
(Revised Jan., 1943)

1 22 Serial No.

PART E. Detail of Present Strength and Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009 at 0600 Hours Saturday 2 /10 /1943 .

Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I.*	W E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.
Ammunition Examiners			
Armament Artificer Fitter			
Armament Artificer Fitter (Electrical)			
Armament Artificer Fitter (M.V.)			
Armament Artificer Fitter (A.F.V.)			
Armament Artificer Instrument			
Armament Artificer Radio			
Armament Artificer Signals			
Armament Artificer Wireless			
Artificer, Artillery*			
Artificer, Engine			
Blacksmiths		1	
Bricklayers		1	
Computors			
Cooks, Hospital			
Coppersmiths			
Dispensers			
Draughtsmen			
Draughtsmen (Architectural)			
Draughtsmen (Engineering)			
Draughtsmen (Mechanical)			
Draughtsmen (Topographical)			
Electricians			
Electricians (M.V.)			
Electricians (Signals)			
Fitters			
Fitters (Cycle)			
Fitters (Electrical)			
Fitters (Gun)			
Fitters (Instrument)			
Fitters (M.V.)			
Fitters, Railway Signal			
Fitters, Signals			
Grinder, Precision			
Mechanics, Instrument			
Mechanics, Instrument (Signals)			
Mechanics, Instrument (Surgical)			
Mechanics, Radio			
Mechanics, Typewriter			
Mechanics, Wireless			
Millwrights			
Operators, Excavator			
Pattern Maker			
Pharmacist			
Photographer, Wet Plate			
Photowriter			
Plumber			
Saw Doctors			
Surveyors			
CARRIED FORWARD		2	

Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I. (cont.)	W E	Posted Strength	Reints. Required.
Forward		2	
Surveyors, Engineering			
Surveyors, R.A.A.			
Surveyors, Topographical			
Surveyors, Trigonometrical			
Toolmakers			
Turners			
Watchmakers			
Welders			

64 Cpls shown in Parts A and B include 2 A/Cpls carried supernumerary to W.E. as Y.M.C.A. Cpls. Authority - LHQ 629810 of 15 Sep 42.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

RAMU VALLEY 3 OCT 43.

Ref FININTEGU 462132

0915 Cof E church sevice held in BnHQ area.Pardre Cunningham of 2/16 Bn conducted R.C. church parade during the morning.

1030 PIB Patrols passed through. CO went fwd and inspected bridge being built ober GUSAP RIVER by RAE.On way back he visited 2/16 Bn.

1100 BM went back to ARIFAGAN STRIP (GUSAP) with orders for A and C Coys 2/27 Bn to rejoin remainder of Unit. D and B Coys dug poitions and prepared shelters for A and C Coys when they arrived.

1400 Patrol from Mortar Pl sent to investigate 2 caves in hills across River from our HQ, but had to return as time was insufficient for such an arduous patrol over rough country.

1500 Int Sec recced track to bridge over GUSAP RIVER.

1710 2 Boomerangs circling over area.

1738 A Coy arrived and taken to thier respective area.

1745 CO went to Bde for conference.

1830 YMCA provided half cup of white tea,this was appreciated as it was sometime since we had had an issue of milk.

2030 Coy Cmdrs conference at HQ.

2230 C Coy adv party arrived.

2400 C Coy main body arrived.

GUSAP RIVER DUMPU 4 OCT 43

Ref FININTEGU 456148

0730 D Coy moved out.

0800 Rations issued :- Grapefruit juice,tinned fruit,jam, peas and salmon. This was carried by Tps.

1015 Bn moved to GUSAP RIVER .

1055 Halted at Bridge.

1115 Commenced crossing of Bridge in single file as Engineers were still working on bridge. CO queried presence of No.,11 Wireless Set but learned this had been sent on to 2/14 Bn

1125 Bn passed through D Coy who had moved earlier to work on track and make it Jeepable.Capt Fawcett OC D Coy informed CO task had been completed, and was ordered to follow rear of Bn .

1130 Brig and staff in Jeep arrive.Brig told CO he would pr probably only make KAIGULAN No.,1..Man detailed to wai wait and close up Coys.

1215 Halted 1 Hour for lunch.Ref 805377.

1245 CO rang Capt Fawcett to erect sign for Jeeps to detour at cutting 436182. Bde I O contacted Bn I O and gave information from interrogation of PW.

1345 Crossed WARRIS RIVER and B Coy detailed to improve Xing.

1350 Reached KIAGULAN 2 found elements of Bde HQ and 2/7 Cav Sqn in the Village . Numerous bomb craters also huts damaged by Air Strike.Co instructed RMP remain and keep Unit moving in order.

1415 15Pl sent out as right flank protection 1Pl A Coy to crossing across Creek 300 yards NW of KAIGULAN 2.

1425 C Coy had halted and Cmd passed through C Coy and orders sent back 1Pl A Coy also to move on Right flank

1430 Fighter cover overhead, possibly believed General having a look around.

1435 CO sent word for 1 Sec C Coy to move on track and 2 Secs to move RIGHT of Track.

1450 Brig on line to CO and I O gave Bde our psns.CO ordered 1Pl of A Coy and D Coy plus Pioneer Pl to work on Xing and track in swamp area.

1550 Halted, progress very slow in last hour owing to numerous Xings and swamp it was thought that considera-able amount of work would be required to make this jeepable.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

(6) SHAGGY RIDGE.

named after capt Campbell, ~~who~~ well known by nick-name of "SHAGGY".
O.C A Coy. 2/27 Bn.

The 2/27 Bn, after being relieved from TREVOR'S RIDGE area on --- oct, returned to GUY'S Post, and capt Campbell and coy were ordered to move up on high feature on WEST of FARIA RV. as enemy had been observed on this feature prior to 2/27 Bn move back to Guy's Post.

This feature was very important ground to enemy as commanded view of KAMU VALLEY and proved to be found the enemy was prepared to hold at all cost.

~~The 2/27 Bn, had pt. ppt of and, were able~~

This feature, named "SHAGGY RIDGE" by 2/27 Bn, will be possibly, one of the most well-known and remembered battle grounds of New Guinea, — its fame will live for ever — SHAGGY RIDGE — "The one man front".

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

KAIGULAN 2 — 4 OCT 43

Ref DUMPU 777402

1605 Int Sec sent back with 1 Sig and phone to contact Engineers and pass on orders from Brig Dougherty to Swamp Area. Lieut Gossipp contacted,line tapped and he communicated with Bde.
1715 Bn arrived at BYWY RIVER and went into defensive psn. (See appx att)
1930 Stand to.Party line layed to Coys for the night;Tps received a little mail.
2015 Stand down.

(See appx)

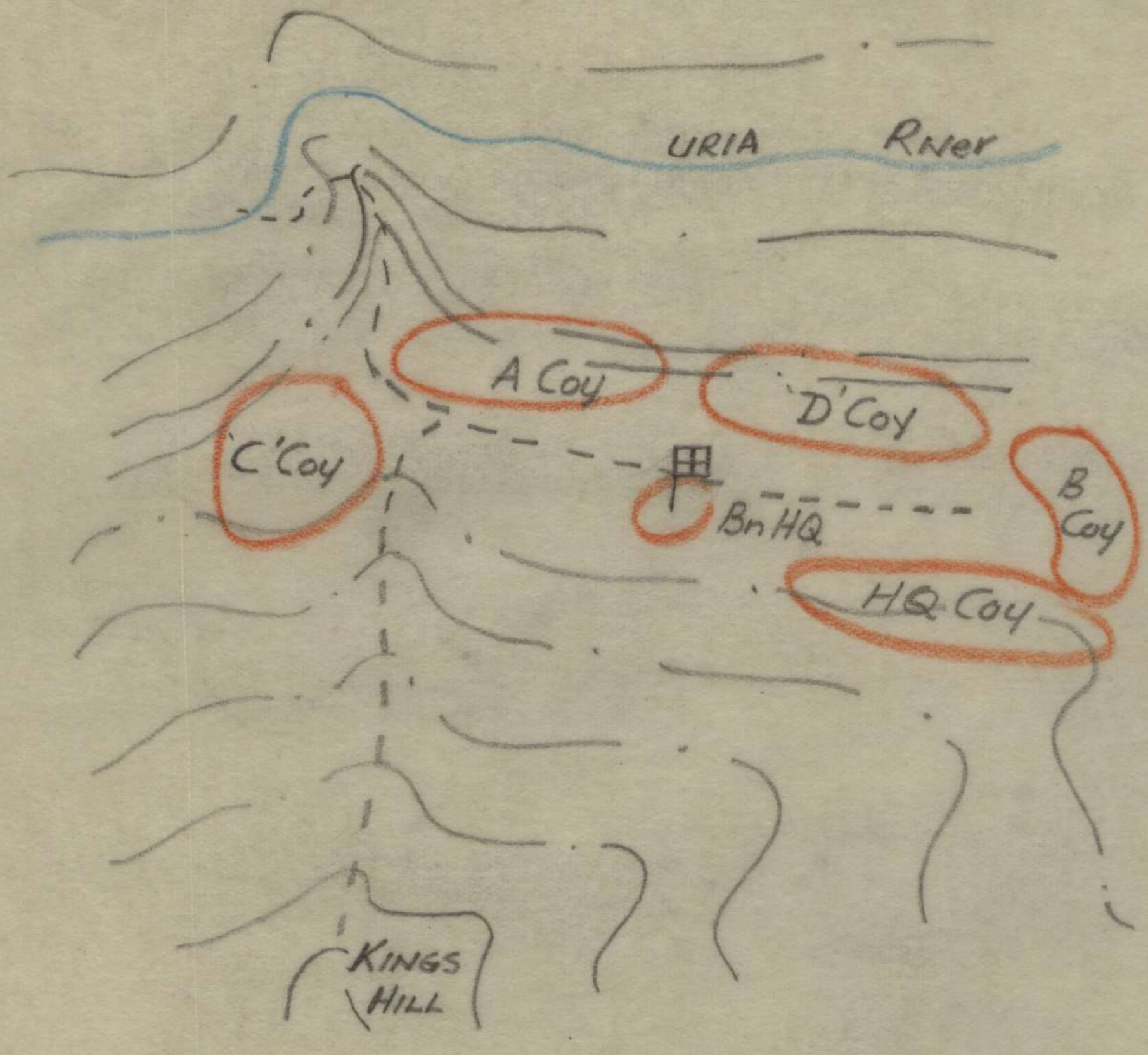
BIWI RIVER — Ref 726457 — 5 OCT 43

1020 Much Air Activity overhead, 7 Liberators plus fighter escort flying around area.
1115 Bn ready to move;Co ordereddto move.
1150 Contacted LO at SURINAM RIVER CROSSING and halted for lunch.
1315 Bn moving fwd,1 Man left to contact B Coy.
1400 Arty att personnel in communication with 511 wireless setwith gun,in rear. This set considered very suitable for Infantry use, being very light ,easily handled and very efficient. It was very noticeable the number of favourable comments made by our Sigs regarding this American Para-Troop Wireless Set Model.
1520 Coys arriving in timber on the URIA RIVERand took up defensive psn 696537.
1530 Member of Int Sec went fwd to observe any ENEMY movement around fire which had started across the Valley on our arrival at the River.
1615 CO called all Coy Cmdrs an operational order issued for attack on KUNBARUM. See appendix "B3"
1630 Attack commenced,axis of advance as per operational ord order. C Coy sent 1 Pl (15) to take over role of B Coy Pl which had not come fwd. Heavy rain commenced and visibility was limited.
1635 12Pl passed through cmd and taken over original role of C Coy Pl thus allowing C Coy Pl to return to its Coy.
1650 CO gone fwd to contact C Coy.
1700 A Coy sent in PW under escort to BnHQ; Prisoner was captured in banana plantation on East side of URIA River,he was unarmed and wearing rank of Superior Pte. RMP sent back with Prisoner to Bde.
1729 C Coy halted awaiting for A Coy on RIGHT flank to move fwd as C Coy were getting to far fwd. A Coy slow progress was due to difficult high ground which they had to picquet.CO sent fwd Cmd 108 wireless set to 12 Pl;communication between sets at this stage was very bad.
1750 4 Men observed on feature ahead unable to identify at this stage,later identified as JAP OP who retreated over skyline and down other side of ridge.CO ordered C Coy to halt to allow rear to close up and A Coy to catch up on RIGHT FLANK.
1820 About 10 rifle shots heard on LEFT ,direction of 12Pl.
1825 14Pl ordered to take up defensive posn in Bottle Neck and 15 Pl to occupy high ground on LEFT FLANK.
1840 More ENEMY movement observed on Ridge,CO asked MrLieut Clampett if a few rounds of 3"M would be effective on top of the Ridge feature.This idea was later cancelled.
1905 Report from D Coy ENEMY movement observed at rear of feature and appeared to be retreating. CO alloted areas for Coy defensive psns for the night.Our dispositions 707570. Coy dispositions,C Coy plus 13 Pl 708563,14Pl 705574,15Pl 712522, A Coy 714563,B Coy less 12 Pl 707566,12Pl 695567, D Coy 709565,HQ Coy 708568, BnHQ 708569. Coys maintained a perimiter psn for night

(See appx att)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

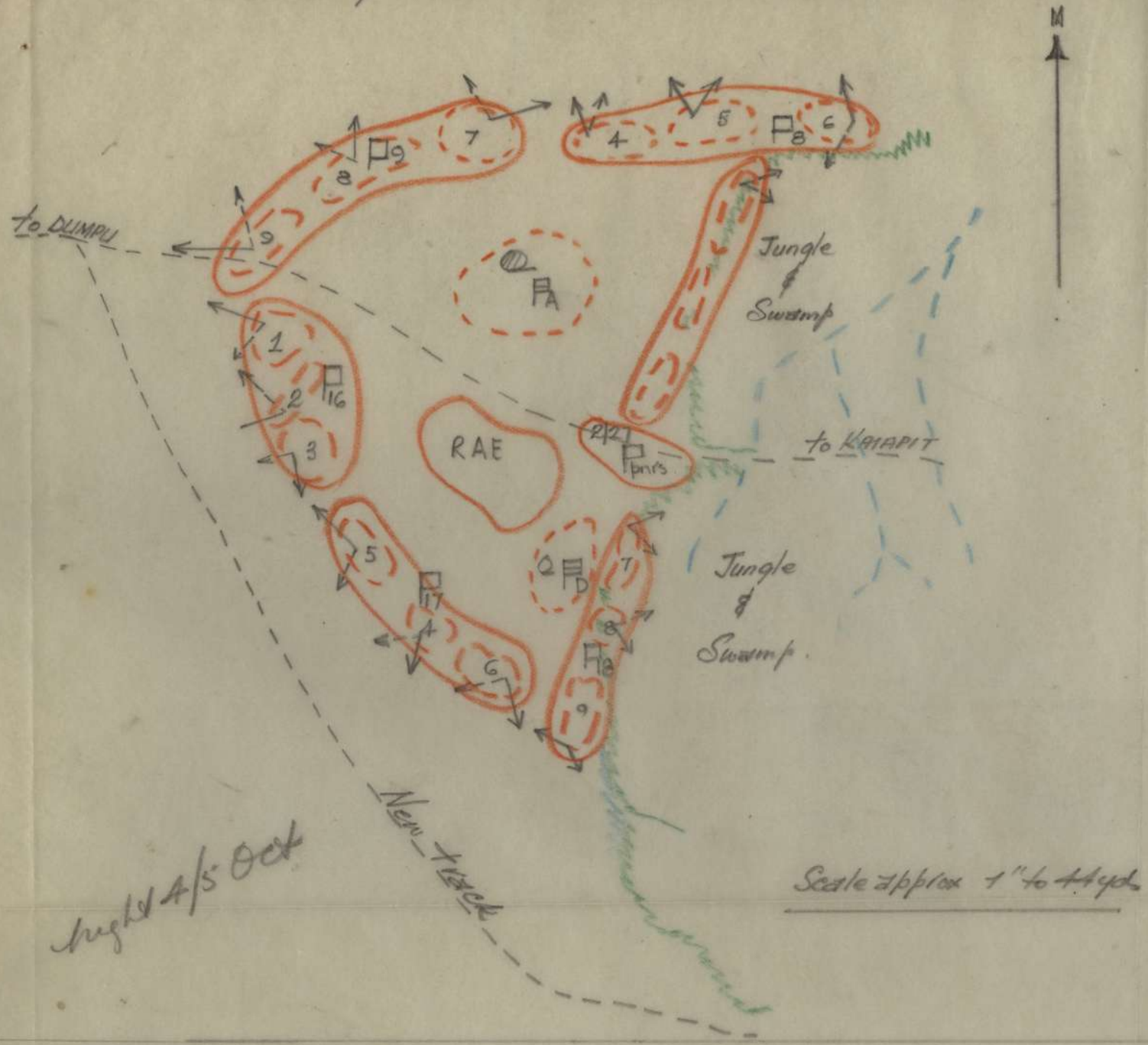
HIMI DISPOSITIONS
KUMBARUM AREA



HIMI IntSec
5Oct

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

A.D. Coy. Pnrs + RAE Dispns 40c/43 A Coy MR 754435



B4

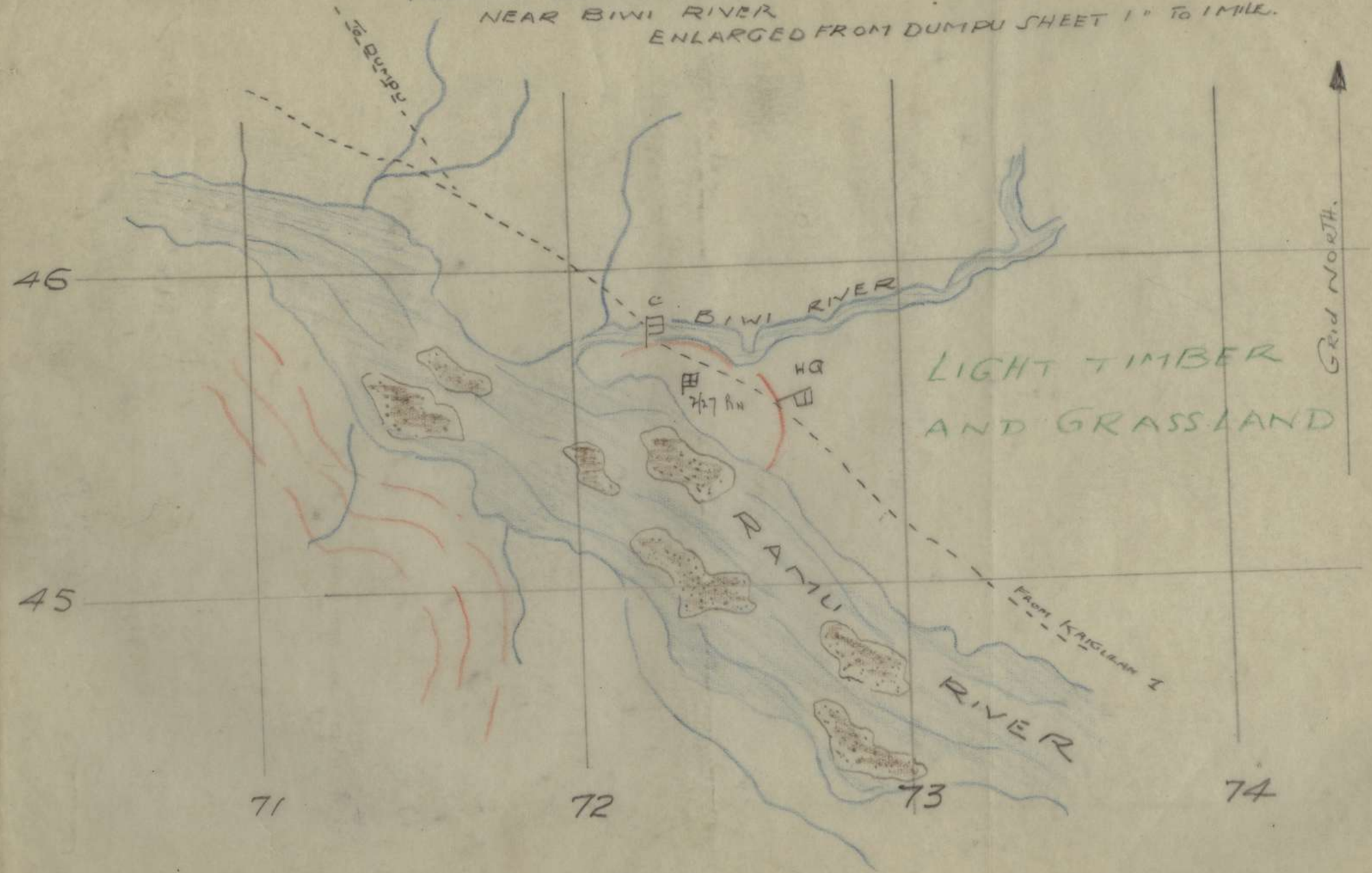
AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

COY DISPOSITIONS

4 OCT 43

B5

VICINITY DUMPU - KAIGULAN TRACK
NEAR BIWI RIVER
ENLARGED FROM DUMPU SHEET 1" TO 1 MILE.



SCALE
4 INCHES TO 1 MILE

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

KUMBARUM 6 OCT 43

Ref DUMPU 710570

Night Normal defensive protective measures taken and NIL reports during night.

0600 All available natives under Tom Healy (Angau) move to SURINAM RIVER XING to collect rations as Tps at this stage were down to emergency rations,but were ordered to await arrival of supplies before eating.

0700 CO went fwd to C Coy. 1 Lightning flying over area.

0720 C Coy observed movement on Ridge, but men turned out to be own Tps.

0730 2 Boomerangs circling area and ground strips laid out CO ordered line to be laid to 15Pl on KINGS HILL.

0 (beforehand referred to as Ridge and Feature)

0830 208 set only means of communication we have with Bde,Sit Re p forwarded.

0900 D Coy Patrol from River reported in,NO contact made and reported found new track.

0920 CO est OP up a tree to observe the progress of our Supply Train which should be on the way back.

0935 Int Section relieved CO in OP.

0940 A Coy arrived in Bn Area and passed on information to CO of old foxholes and signal wire found on way in

1010 Patrol moved down RAMU VALLEY believed to be 2/14 Bn

1012 In communication by line with 15Pl who can observe 15 ENEMY in Village 684592,this village is not marked on Map.

1020 Rations arrived by Jeep, as follows:- Meat bread, butter, rice, biscuits,flour,wheatmeal,salt,marg., dryfruit,tinned fruit,cheese,salt tablets,milk.jam, sugar tinned vegetables,Pork and beans,peas,dehydrate spuds and onions ,fruit juice and tea.

1030 CO in communication with Bde giving our locations & Patrol intentions; as BM failed to receive our Sit Re last night,it was considered a very poor show by CO Report from 15Pl more Jap movement seen ~~from~~ in Village 684592.

1035 Air activity WEST of our psn.

1040 Firing heard from the direction of 11Pl and ~~was~~ believed to be firing at JAPS on RIDGE,left FLANK.

1130 Reported from KINGS OP 20 JAPS moving North West along FARIA RIVER.

1200 New Password issued;CO asked Arty if they could engage JAPS in Village 684592.

1205 Lieut Pearson of Arty FOO on way up to top of KINGS HILL OP at 70~~4573~~ to observe proposed target.

1335 Arty registering on Village.

1345 Hot meal issued to Tps,this being first meal for the day.New scale rations were much appreciated.

1410 Rang Bde in reference to new maps for patrols going out.

1500 OP reports village shows NO signs of movement,and it is considered the ENEMY have moved out of Village up RIVER FARIA.

1525 Information received from Bde that PW captured by A Coy 5 Oct had given valuable information re Bogajim Ramu Valley Road. This information was passed to A Coy.

1535 2 Members of Int Section to move with D Coy patrol to FARIA RIVERto recce track for future use. appr at

1540 MG fire heard fwd of C Coy & up URIA RIVER.Report received 3 JAPS sighted moving down RIVER,C Coy killed 2 and 1 escaped.

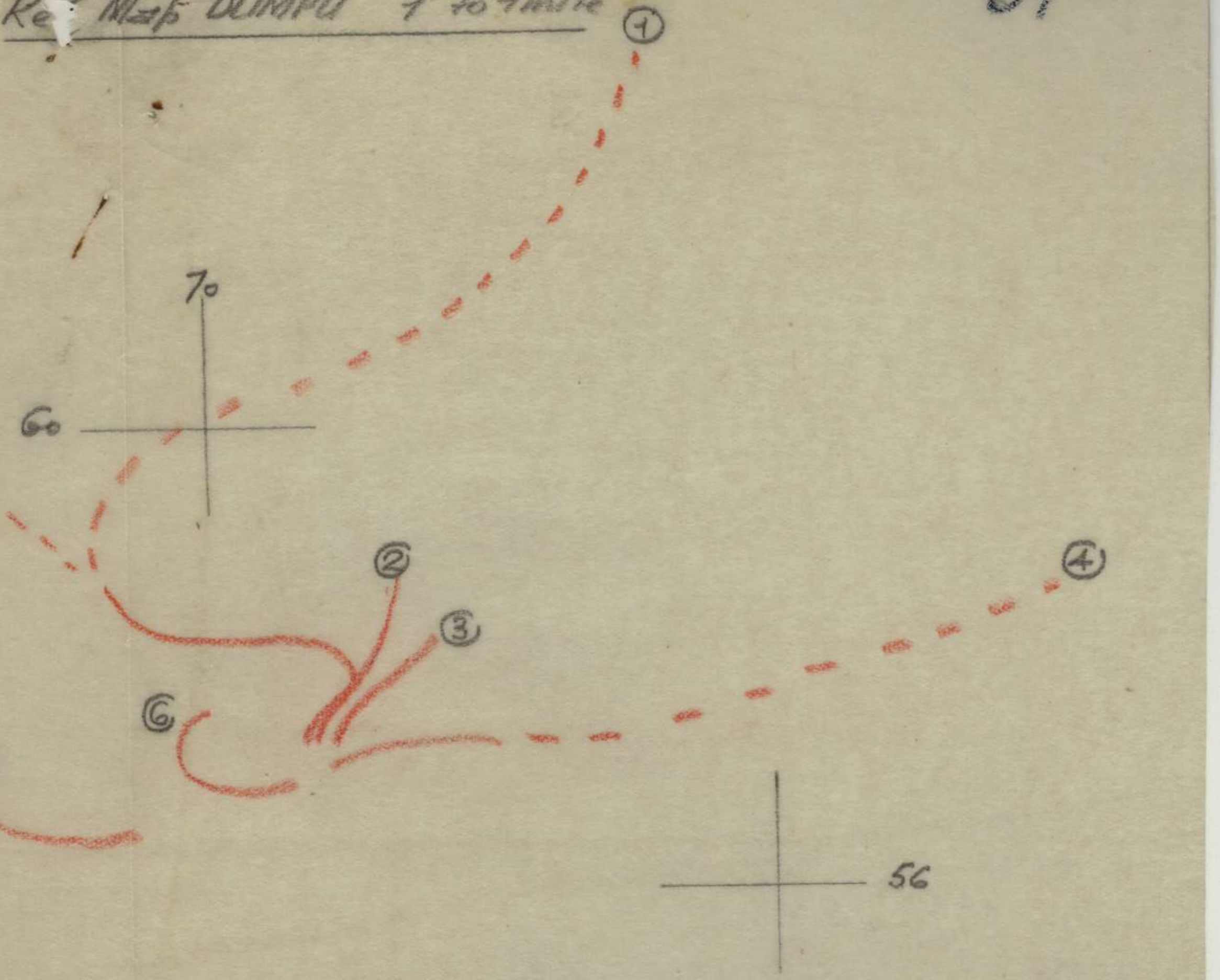
1600 L Sec of 11Pl on feature 695565 ordered to remain there all the time. Sit Rep to all Coys.LSec from 13Pl to investigate ENEMY dead in URIA RIVER,see Appendix"C 3".Patrol of 1 Sec of 8Pl A Coy to survey country the other side of TWIN HILLS FEATURE. See appendix "C4".

1625 T/R over area.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

Ref Map DUMPU 1" to 1 mile

B7



Routes
Routes projected
1 'D' Coy
2 Lieut Johns Recce UR1A never to locate & reported by Toc/R
3
4 Lieut Brooker - patrol to locate Sup'posed Jap track
5 Cpl Hansen - Sea patrol to obs Lake - Obs 2 villages West of Lake - no mvt observed
6

HQMI IntSec
7Oct43

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

KUMBARUM 6 OCT 43

Ref DUMPU 710570

1640 FSW member marched in to be attached to Unit for indefinite period.
1645 Request fromAArty situated 1500 yards in our rear for notice of patrol activity in thier area during night.
1730 1 Sec B Coy sent to Arty to act a s Arty protection for Jungle type 25 Pounder.Patrol C Coy returned report 2 ENEMY DEAD found.
1800 Captured JAP gear from 2 ENEMY killed by 13PL arrived at Bn HQ this included 2 rifles,grenades 2 Diaries containing sketches compass flag and pouches bayonet and belt,numerous personal papers service ribbons money (including 1 Jap Australian Pound)
1930 This captured materiel was sent back to Bde.Report from B Coy Patrolcsee appendix "C2". NO contact. Cup of tea supplied by YMCA .
2015 A Coy patrol returned see Appendix "C4".
2025 15Pl report fire or light seen approx 340 degrees, appears to be North of FARIA RIVER and Village on spur at CREEK Junc. This light was observed for dur duration of 5 minutes.

KUMBARUM 7 OCT 43

0730 A Coy sent out patrol up River to search for JAPS reported to have been seen in Area approx C Coy area URIA RIVER.on 6 Oct 43.
0830 2 Boomerangs on T/R over area. D Coy patrol leaves.
0930 Padre Norman and Burial Party going up URIA RIVER to bury 2 ENEMY killed yesterday.
0935 Rifle fire heard, report awaited.
0945 Int Section gone to Bde for New Maps and Sit Rep.
1035 Report from D Coy have found well worn track leading from URIA RIVER and now leaving GORGE village believed 1500 yards ahead.
1115 7 Pl patrol left KUMBARUM to locate supposed bridge over URIA RIVERat about 716586.See Appendix "C5" B77
1130 Lieut Twist proceeded to KINGS OP.
1145 CO left Bn for KINGS OP,to observe village 684592
1315 B Coy 12Pl reported progress very slow owing to dificult terrain.
1325 Report from D Coy,have contacted ENEMY killing 3 no further details.
1400 Brigadier Dougherty arrived and proceeded to KINGS OP,Staff Capt Geddes also arrived with rations.
1500 Capt.Tellinder asked if we had received information from Capt Thomas about possible Jeep track.
1515 John's Patrol A Coy reports progress slow up URIA RIVER and has not contacted bridge as yet,have run out 750 yds of sig wire from D Coy turn off.
1635 Johns Patrol reports large fallen tree across URIA RIV RIVER at T/R supposed bridged psn,NO track found leading to tree. Followed up CREEK,at 725597 a re-enterant runs due East.Sighted and fired on 2 JAPS on Junction,they escaped and proceeded up main River.
1640 12Pl patrol recalled,7Pl and 11Pl patrols come under cmd Bde. 15Pl to remain in present posn to act as flank guard tomorrow.
1810 Coy Cmdrs conference and OO for morning move issued See appendix "D3".
1910 OC D Coy reports he is at 685594 with Capt Thomas of the ENGINEERS and will we inform his HQ also BM that road is impracticable but mule track possible,this would require a fair amount of work.
2000 Additional rations arrive. Reort received from D Coy that rear guard on URIA RIVER killed three out of 8 JAPS, Lieut JOHNS of A Coy with patrol inspected body as rearguard had to move on.Pioneer Pl ordered to bury JAPS and bring back personal effects.Patrol of Pioneer Pl reported back with surprisingly little

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

KUMBARUM 7 OCT 43

Ref DUMPU 710570

2000 as apparently Lieut Johns and patrol souvenired swords pistol and binoculars. PadreNNorman reported that the two Japs killed on side of URIA RIVER were buried and he placed stick denoting date killed and rank. See Appendix "B7" for reports.

KUMBARUM 8 OCT 43

0200 Report from D Coy that JAPS had attacked thier forw forward Pl,NO furhter details as line had been cut and we are now out of communication.See appendix "C6".7Pl also out of communication.
0700 Breakfast of fresh eggs and Bn preparing to move.
0830 Bn on move but HQ Coy late in preparation for move.
0910 Message received at Cmd from rear of column that pace is to fast.
0920 1 Sec of C Coy sent to picquet high ground on RIGHT FLANK. Track up URIA RIVER very slippery and necessitated numerous crossing of River. Along track 2 Jap grenades and an old groundsheet were seen.Kings Hill Patrol joined column and reported NO movement could be seen upFARIA RIVER this morning.This Pl has been stationed on KINGS HILL and commanded a good view over FARIA RIVER and Village (GUY'S POST). They also reported at first light having heard a lot of firing,believe that this was possibly Johns Patrol in contact, but later found out this was incorrect as this firing was D Coy in contact with the ENEMY. "C6"
1115 CO received message giving information of D Coy action, our casuaties 1 KIA and 1 WIA.ENEMY possibly three killed.
1245 Lunch and halt,wounded stretcher case and captured documents on way back to Bde. Cpl Box of C Coy on recce patrol of high sub feature on East bank of FARIA RIVER .
1330 CO trying to get in communication with Bde on 11 set but without success.
1345 CO gone fwd to D Coy at Village later known as GUY'S POST; ordered column to move at 1400L.
1400 Bn moved and at 1530L column had arrived at GUY'S POST after a very difficult climb from river mainly due to the wet track.
2110 Lieut Johns Patrol returned to KUMBARUMwithout locating supposed bridge. See appendix "C5".

GUYS POST 9 OCT 43

Ref DUMPU 687593

0530 Stand to.1 rifle shot heard,later reoported to be Pte Hickman who was accidently wounded.
0630 Stand down.
0700 Flank guard sent out to picquet high ground.
0730 D Coy who were stationed down inFARIA RIVER for the night will be advance guard for push up FARIA RIVER.Lieut Martin and Pl to await C Coy arrival down in FARIA RIVER and then join Coy.
0830 Bn moved from GUYS POST to FARIA RIVER.Lieut Garnock 9 Pl plus YMCA representative and 1 Sec of HQ COY left at GUY'S POST as holding force. Padre and party proceeded to grave sight og Pte Edmunds killed in action 8 Oct 43 and conducted burial service. Capt Sims evacuated with pneumonia.Lieut "Shaggy" Clampett taken over command of A Coy.
0850 Rifle fire heard from D Coy.
0910 CO went fwd and passed word back 5 yard interval between men.
0920 Forward section of D Coy fired on and column have halted.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

GUYS POST 9 OCT 43

Ref DUMPU 687593

0926 Cmnd in communication with D Coy and informed, struck three JAPS In river bed and Killed them, but have also been fired on from high ground see appendix "C7". 1 Sec XX Pl ordered by OC D Coy to high ground at 692604, this Sec came from 10 Pl and Lieut Reddin the I O passed the information back to Bde.

0934 JAPS throwing grenades from high ground to River bed CO had a close shave.

0945 Word passed back for column to keep dispersed and use cover.

0950 CO ordered 17 Pl to move up RIdge on RIGHT East bank of FARIA RIVER and fwd of small, Creek to overlook Japs who were holding up our adv. This ridge was later called TREVORS RIDGE. See Sppendix "C8".

0955 CO communicated with Cmd informing that ENEMY on hig ground, column held up, and requesting stretcher bear -er come fwd the I O passed this information back to Bde. CO decided that Valley was too much of a defile and that a Pl of the ENEMY could hold up our adv all day; CO ordered that all Unit to go to high ground on East side of the River, but column to re- main in present psn for another 30 mins. Heavy fire still can be heard from fwd section. The Bn order of column was D Coy advance guard followed by BnHQ and thence by B Coy and C Coy A Coy supplied the picquets for the near high ground on either bank of the FARIA RIVER.

0958 Machine gun fire heavy rifle fire and grenades continues ahead. Information received that Pte Acker. Brown had been killed and Sgt Beveridge wounde

1007 CO in communication with Brig. I Sjt arrived at Cmd Post

1015 the I Sjt Raftery to contact Lieut Snooks of ANGAU

1017 C Coy informed of posn and intentions; ENEMY Still using grenades freely.

1026 17Pl moving up re-enterant 700608 and CO still fwd JAP sniper in action on West Bank of FARIA RIVER.

1030 Column ready to move. Cpl Fanning Section on high ground West of RIVER. Lieut Trennery Pl ordered to hold river, while column moved up re-enterant on East side of FARIA RIVER 700608 to high ground and following behind 17Pl. Lieut Mc Phersons Pl to hold high grouhd South of the re-enterant, this here after to be known as Beveridges Post. See appendix "C9". CO instructed I O to inform Bde our psn by code as soon as possible.

1100 CO enquired if Sec with Arty as protection, would be coming fwd with B Coy patrol.

1145 CO in communication with Brig giving our psn at 700608 and intends calling the Brig at 1230L

1215 MG fire from West side of FARIA RIVER believed to be Section left as picquet. Later found, Pl of B Coy fired on JAPS on Left side of RIVER killing 2.

1230 Halt for lunch, communication with Bde est. CO gone fwd to B Coy.

1305 CO in communication with C Coy who informs them that they had just halted for lunch. THis breakdown due to message to halt at 1230 for lunch not being passed down from fromt to rear. Information received that 50 natives would be leaving GUYS POST bringing forward 3" Mortar bombs and Sig gear. BEVERIDGES POST on the line and word received that CO still fwd and with 17Pl on top of high ground followed by 5 PL and remainder of B Coy. Lieut Snook while recce JAP Track on top of high feature observed 16 JAPS mov- ing towards Ridge South of us. CO ordered 17 Pl to go to saddle and ambush ENEMY. Pioneer Pl to go fwd and give cover to 17 Pl.

1435 OC of B Coy to come fwd to CO.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

Army Form W.3008
(Adapted) (Page 1)
Revised Jan., 1943

1 / 23 (Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 9 / 10 / 1943 . 2/27 Aust Inf Bn (Unit)

W.E. 11 12c / 2 . OFFRS. 32 O.R's. 739 *plus* OFFRS. 1 O.R's. 35 ATT. BY W.E.

PART A.—POSTED STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.				
Rein'fts Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Rein'fts Required.
			1	Lieut.-Colonels					
			3	Majors					
	1		7	Captains	AAMC	1			
		3	22	Lieutenants					
			1	Quarter-masters					
				A.A.N.S. and A.A.M.W.S. Offrs.					
				Civilians Counting as Offrs.					
	1	3	34			1			

Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in para 10 of instructions for compilation of form will complete Part E[1]& E[2].	DETAIL		A.I.F.	C.M.F.	A.W.A.S.	A.A.N.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL.	R.A.N.	R.A.A.F.	* *	TOTAL.
	A.											
	E.[1]											
	E.[2]											

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

* * Personnel belonging to a category not provided for in the analysis will be shown in this Col. Particulars will be shown, e.g., 20 U.K. Forces; 10 N.Z. Forces

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

OFFICERS JOINED DURING WEEK.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit From.	Date.	CAUSE.

OFFICERS QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit To.	Date.	CAUSE.

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO ..... (Unit) IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED ...../...../194.....

Army No.	Rank	Name and Initials	REMARKS [e.g. present whereabouts if known].

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

2/27 Aust Inf Bn
.....Unit

Army Form W.3008
(Adapted) (Page 2)
[Revised Jan., 1943]
1 / 23 (Serial No.)

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON POSTED STRENGTH

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday .9../.10./1943. (Total to Agree with Columns 4 and 7 of Part A).

1 Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held.	2 Army Number	3 Surname.	4 Initials.	5 Posting.	6 Whether present with Unit [insert Yes or No]	7 If not present with Unit, state how employed.	8 Date of Detachment.
Maj(T/LtCl)	VX 35	BISHOP	JA	CO	Yes		
Major	SX 3709	McKINNA	JG	2i/c	No	Det 7 AUST DIV LOB Gp	
"	VX 36378	WHITE	DAH OCH	QCoy	Yes		
Capt(T/Maj)	SX 2915	JOHNSON	RL OC	CCoy	Yes		
Capt	SX 2924	TOMS	SJ OC	BCoy	Yes		
Lt(T/Capt)	SX 9455	SIMS	CAW OC	ACoy	Yes		
"	SX 6219	FAWCETT	GH OC	DCoy	Yes		
"	SX 2955	LEE	JD	QM	Yes		
Capt	SX 4530	PUTTMAN	RM	2i/cCCoy	No	Det 7 AUST DIV LOB Gp	
Lt(T/Capt)	SX 2921	BEARE	JH	Adjt	Yes		
"	SX 2642	MADIGAN	RJ	2i/cBCoy	No	Det 7 AUST DIV LOB Gp	
Lieut	VX 41615	BELL	FD	2i/cACoy	No	Hosp NG Med report awaited	
"	SX 3169	CLAMPETT	RW	OC 3Pl	Yes		
"	SX 2633	KING	CA	OC15Pl	Yes		
"	SX 3082	MARTIN	ET	OC13Pl	Yes		
"	SX 2795	TRENERRY	AR	OC16Pl	Yes		
"	SX9362	REDDIN	JW	IO	Yes		
"	SX 12503	COOK	FT	OC 5Pl	Yes		
"	SX 4627	SMYTH	JM	OC 1Pl	Yes		
"	SX 2914	CROCKER	KF	OC11Pl	Yes		
"	SX 2797	TWIST	LF	OC 2Pl	Yes		
"	SX 3078	JOHNS	RD	OC 7Pl	Yes		
"	SX 3278	MACDONALD	GG	OC17Pl	Yes		
"	SX 3121	SUTTON	AJ	OC10Pl	Yes		
"	SX 2775	MACPHERSON	WN	OC 8Pl	Yes		
"	SX 3086	PAINE	R	OC14Pl	Yes		
"	NX112073	ROBILLIARD	GHG	OC18Pl	Yes		
Lt(T/Capt)	NX116841	RICHARDSON	EGD	2i/cDCoy	No	Att pend post from 16 A.M.R. Det 7 AUST DIV LOB Gp	
Lieut	NX127269	GOODE	HR	TO	Yes	Att pend post from 16 A.M.R.	
"	NX123471	GARNOCK	JC	OC 9Pl	Yes	" " " " " "	
"	NX127265	FISHER	CM	-	No	Hosp Aust. att pend post from 16 Aust Motor Regt	
"	NX114388	YOUNG	NA	OC 4Pl	Yes	Att pend post from 16 A M R	
"	NX127106	McRAE	DC	OC12Pl	Yes	" " " " " "	
"	NX 34444	ARNOTT	DBH	-	No	Att pend post from 16 A.M.R. Det 7 AUST DIV LOB Gp	
Capt	SX 2919	MUSSARED	WK	-	No	To GDD SA LofC for retirement awaiting promulgation	
"	SX 2893	SANDISON	CH	-	No	To 2 Aust Corp Reception Camp for transfer	
Lieut	NX 33399	WILLIAMS	HI	-	No	Ex 16 Aust Motor Regt. Returns to Aust for discharge, to be War Correspondent	

PART E.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER UNITS.

Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank, if Held.	Army Number.	Name and Initials.	Unit.	Date of Attachment.	Nature of Attachment.
Capt	SX 11061	NORMAN H	AA Ch D		Chaplain
"	VX 39525	COVE W	AAMC		RMO

9 Oct 43
Date of Despatch

A Lloyd Lieut for Lt-Col
Signature of Commanding Officer
Comd 2/27 Aust Inf Bn,

First Aust Army Mob Print Unit—A72—62½M—5/43.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

Army Form W.3009 (Adapted)
(Page 1)
(Revised Jan. 1943.)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS

1/ 23 (Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 9/ 10/1943 2/27 Aust Inf Bn (Unit)

W.E. 11/ 12c 2. OFFRS. 32 O.R's. 739 + OFFRS. 1 O.R's. 35 ATT. BY W.E.

Part A. Posted Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements Required.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W E				
Reinfts. Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W E.	Deficient W E	Reinfts Required.
			1	W.Os. Class I					
			6	W.Os. Class II.		1			
			5	Squadron or Company Quartermaster Sgts					
		1		Staff Sergeants					
			31	Sergeants		10			
			64	Corporals		8			
65	65	16	583	Troopers, Privates, etc		15		1	1
				Civilians counting as O.R					
65 *	65	17	690 *	Totals of cols marked * should agree with details shown in Part E on Page 2.		34 *		1	1 *

Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in para. 7 of instructions for compilation of this return will complete analysis of Part B(1) and B(2).

* * Personnel belonging to a category not provided for in the analysis will be shown in this Col. Particulars will be shown, e.g., 20 U.K. Forces, 10 N.Z. Forces

Detail		A.I.F	C.M.F Under 19 Years	C.M.F 19 Years and over	A W A.S.	A.A.M.W S.	CIVIL	R.A.N.	R.A.A.F.	* *	TOTAL
A								[redacted]	[redacted]		
B(1)											
B(2)							[redacted]				

Part B. Other Ranks Attached from Other Units.

Number of O.Rs	Unit to which they belong	Number of O.Rs	Unit to which they belong
1	Canungra Training Centre		
1	AA Ch D		
5	AACC		

Part C. Other Ranks Included in Part A Detached to Other Units.

Number of O.Rs	Unit to which detached	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which detached

Part D. Description of Other Ranks Whose Return To ..... (Unit) is Particularly Requested. ...../...../194.....

Army No	Rank	Name and Initials	REMARKS (e.g., present whereabouts if known).

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

2/27 Aust Inf Bn
Unit

Army Form W 3009
(Adapted) (Page 2)
(Revised Jan., 1943)
1 / 23 Serial No.

PART E. Detail of Present Strength and Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009 at 0600 Hours Saturday 9 / 10 /1943 .

Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I.*	W E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I. (cont.) Forward	W E	Posted Strength 2	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP II. (cont.) Forward	W.E. 13	Posted Strength. 16	Reints. Required. 4	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP III. (cont.) Forward	W.E. 43	Posted Strength. 56	Reints. Required. 3
Ammunition Examiners				Surveyors, Engineering				Operating Room Assts.				G.P.O. Assistants			
Armament Artificer Fitter				Surveyors, R.A.A.				Operator, Keyboard				Hammermen			
Armament Artificer Fitter (Electrical)				Surveyors, Topographical				Operator, Line				Leather Stitchers			
Armament Artificer Fitter (M.V.)				Surveyors, Trigonometrical				Operator, Signal				Orderlies, Nursing			
Armament Artificer Fitter (A.F.V.)				Toolmakers				Operator, Switchboard				Orderlies, Nursing Mental			
Armament Artificer Instrument				Turners				Operator, Wireless				Plate Layers			
Armament Artificer Radio				Watchmakers				Opticians				Rangetakers	4	3	1
Armament Artificer Signals				Welders				Painters				Rivetters			
Armament Artificer Wireless								Panel Beaters				Roughriders			
Artificer, Artillery								Photographer, Dry Plate				Saddlers			
Artificer, Engine								Predictor Numbers				Saddletree makers			
Blacksmiths		1						Printers				Shoemaker and Boot Repairer			
Bricklayers		1						Radiographers				Stevedores			
Computors								Riggers				Stokers, Staty. Engine			
Cooks, Hospital				GROUP II.				Sawyers				Storemen, Technical	3	3	
Coppersmiths				Armourers				Signallers	24	22	2	Tailors	1		1
Dispensers				Axemen				Signwriters				Textile Refitters			
Draughtsmen				Bakers				Telescope Identfn Numbers				Tinsmiths			
Draughtsmen (Architectural)				Bty. Comd's. Asst.				Well Borers				Vulcanizers			
Draughtsmen (Engineering)				Boilermakers				Wheelers				Wagon Erectors			
Draughtsmen (Mechanical)				Carpenters	6	5	1	Winchman				Whitesmiths			
Draughtsmen (Topographical)				Carpenters and Joiners				Wireman				WO 1	1	1	
Electricians				Cooks				Woodturners				WO11	6	6	
Electricians (M.V.)				Dental Mechanics								CQMS	5	5	
Electricians (Signals)				Driver-Mech. (Eng. and Med.)								S/Sgt		1	
Fitters				Driver-Operator		2						Sgt	31	31	
Fitters (Cycle)				Drainers								CPL	64	64	
Fitters (Electrical)				Electricians											
Fitters (Gun)				Electricians (Engineers)											
Fitters (Instrument)				Fire Control Operators				GROUP III.				DETAILS OF NON-TRADESMEN.			
Fitters (M.V.)				Gun Operator				Battery Surveyors				Tk/Ark	15	13	2
Fitters, Railway Signal				Hatchman				Butchers	1	2		Mortar	28	28	
Fitters, Signals				Height Taker				Clerks	4	4		MMG	20	9[illegible]	11
Grinder, Precision				Helio Operator				Clerks, Supply				Water D/M	2	2	
Mechanics, Instrument				Instrument Operator				Clerks, Technical				Hygiene "	4	4	
Mechanics, Instrument (Signals)				Intelligence Duties	7	7		Coach Trimmers				SB	18	17	1
Mechanics, Instrument (Surgical)				Joiners				Concretors				RMP	6	6	
Mechanics, Radio				Lineman				Cooks				Riflemen	488	442	46
Mechanics, Typewriter				Lineman, Signals				Dental Clerk Orderlies							
Mechanics, Wireless				Lithographers				Despatch Riders				ATTACHED BY W.E.			
Millwrights				Machinists, Metal				Draughtsmen, Signals				AAMC	4	4	
Operators, Excavator				Machinists, Wood				Drivers, H.T.				AACC	23	23	
Pattern Maker				Masons				Driver Mechanics		11		AEME	4	3	1
Pharmacist				Masseurs				Driver Tptn. Plant				AA Postal	1	1	
Photographer, Wet Plate				Mechanics, M.T.				Engine Hands, I.C.				AA Pay C	2	2	
Photowriter				Miners				Equipment Repairers	1	1		AAOC	1	1	
Plumber				Moulders				Farriers							
Saw Doctors				Nurses, Trained				Fitters' Mates							
Surveyors				Observation Post Assts.				Gun Layers							
CARRIED FORWARD		2.		CARRIED FORWARD	13	11	1	CARRIED FORWARD	43	52	3	Totals of columns marked * to agree with columns 4 and 7, and 1 and 10 of Part A respectively	774	725 *	66 *

NOTES.—(a) If rank other than private is involved give details on back.
(b) Authorised trades or specialists not included in list will be added as required in spaces provided.
(c) Where A.W.A.S. and/or A.A.M.W.S. personnel are desired show details on back
(d) Where replacement not desired note accordingly on return by insertion of N.R. in col. "Reints. Required."
(e) Where any request or notation is made on back of form, the words "See Back" should be written in one of the blank spaces on this page.

9 Oct 43
Date of Despatch

D R Goode Lieut for Lt-Col
Signature of Commanding Officer
Comd 2/27 Aust Inf Bn

First Aust Army Mob Print Unit—A76—30M—5/43

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

GUY'S POST 9 OCT 43

Ref DUMPU 687593

1435 Firing heard ,presumably 17 Pl in action.
1515 Lieut Mc Donald reported attacking party of JAPS found on wide track,and am now mopping up. His Pl killed 8 much equipment and weapons were captured and each man was carrying a surplus 7 days rations.
1517 Two wounded came into RAP and informed MO one more would be following probably a stretcher case.
1520 Pioneer Pl placed under Cmd of B Coy.
1522 CO gone fwd with OC of B Coy.
1540 MO,Capt Gove, giving medical attention to wounded. Line to all Coys now working well.
1542 Report from BEVERIDGES POST that they can see movement believed to be ENEMY and intend to fire on them in five minutes.When asked for compass bearing on the movement it was found that the men he intended to shoot up were we us and Coy.; we informed Lieut McDonald that wounded were on thier way back and for him to keep an eye on them. CO ordered phone to be laid fwd to B Coy. (Delete McDONALD insert McPHERSON).
1545 C Coy arrived and moving fwd to thier Coy psn.
1625 JAP PW brought in, suffering from jabbering malaria was given quinine; he showed a keen interest in our boots and seemed surprised at quality of same, gestured and made comparison with his own which were very much worn.
1635 Heavy LMG fire fwd,JAP counter attack 2 more ENEMY killed. B Coy ordered fwd to Pimple 200 yds South of Track,C Coy astride track D Coy on knoll North of track with BnHQ and HQ Coy. Lieut Trevor. Martin was killed by sniper while moving fwd to contact Mieut Sutton.This loss was a sad one for the Bn.This sniper was observed and promptly accounted for by Lieut Reddin the I O. See App "D4".
2305 Out of communication with rear by line but do not consider wire has been cut.

TREVOR RIDGE 10 OCT 43

Ref DUMPU 717615

0630 TOJO startled the early morning air with his usual heathen chorus,known to so many as a prelude to an attack,however 13 (thirteen)Pl showed him the serrors of his ways by killing 2 and wounding 1 out of the six noisy intruders.
0650 CO on line to Brig.
0730 Section of C Coy reported to BnHQ,having beaten pit pit area along TREVORS RIDGE and between C Coy area and BnHQ.Much to thier disgust no ENEMY were discovered. RMO reported wounded man on stretcher had good night.
0735 Padre Norman asked C Coy to make preparations for burial of Lieut Trev Martin.
0800 B Coy to send patrol accompanied by Lieut Snooks to recce ridge fwd of B Coy area. Bde now in communication with Bn rear.
0815 Wounded man and escort left BnHQ Area for GUYS POST.
0845 CO and QM and I O,Padre and escort attended burial service of Lieut Martin.The grave is situated at 72106115. A large cross was erected over the grave.
0927 Patrol of 32 men seen,possibly 2/16 Bn moving on high ground West of FARIA RIVER.
0935 1 Lightning and 1 Mitchell pass overhead.
1005 CO and party returned from burial service.
1030 Vickers and Mortars intend holding shoot on Village in re-enterant North of this psn;CO ordered 15 3"M bobmbs and 2 belts to be used.
1120 D Coy report they can see ENEMY movement,CO gone fwd to D Coy and ordered 1 Vickers to follow.
1126 Vickers opened up, three Japs believed killed.
1146 3"M shooting on suspected JAP posn on THE PLATEAU West of BEVERIDGES POST and across FARIA RIVER and Vickers opened up on fleeing JAPS,possibly ------

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

TREVORS RIDGE 10 OCT 43

Ref DUMPU 717615

1146 killing two. At this stage ~~xxx~~ our Tps had considered that they had just given the JAPS 2 surprises in the form of our Mortar and Vickers shoots.

1340 JAPS opened up with Arty,shells passed overhead, possible a JAP BN Gun and caused consternation amongst the Natives (Boongs)who were members of our Supply train.Cpl.Dawe & Sec to retrieve Brown's body

1400 Flash reported by Arty OP on a bearing of 300-degrees from BISHOP'S HILL and at an approx range of 1500 yds.

1455 Arty fired 21 rounds of 25 pounder amn on suspected ENEMY gun position;CO at this time at Arty OP.

1535 Vickers opened up on 8 JAPS who were carrying a wireless, and moving to the high ground on West side of FARIA RIVER in the vicinity of THE PLATEAU. It was believed that the wireless was being used by OP to relay firing orders to JAP Gun at 653616.

1550 Vickers again firing on same target but higher up feature. Cpl Lindsay Dawe reported K.I.A.

1635 2 Machine gun bursts heard fwd. Cpl Deering and patrol returned from Village fired on earlier by our Vickers and 3" Mortars.Village was clear of ENEMY though showed signs of recent occupation.

1700 Word received that man carried out on stretcher earlier in the day (Cpl Daniels) died of wounds on track to GUYS POST.

1720 CO received word that Johns Patrol will be at BEVERIDGES POST tonight,and Lieut Crocker and Patrol ordered to come fwd early in the morning.

1730 Arty shooting on Village in FARIA RIVER VALLEY North of our Positions. Natives bring in captured Jap material from C Coy area,19 rifles 2 LMG,3 89 Discharger Cups,numerous bags of 89 amunition.

1805 Word received from BEVERIDGES POST that man ~~x~~ accidently shot in lung,RMO on line giving instruct -ions for First Aid.

1810 Arrangements made for T/R up FARIA RIVER and Village area for the following day.

1900 Tps STAND TO.

2000 TPS STAND DOWN --- Nil report.

TREVORS RIDGE 11 OCT 43

0700 Arrangements made for B Coy to put up SMOKE signal when 2/16 Bn patrol comes in view.

0730 C Coy advised BnHQ of intended patrol South along Mule Track and towards URIA RIVER.

0900 Sit Rep to Bde.2/16 Bn sending patrol to locate Cpl.Fannings Section.

0910 Word received Lieut Johns Patrol left BEVERIDGES POS for BnHQ.

0915 JAP seen across RIVER on high ground (the PLATEAU) in suspected JAP OP Area. Information from Bde that Sjt Raftery the I Sjt to return to Bde and thence proceed to OCTU at WOODSIDE SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

0930 18 Pl to Move down RIDGE from BISHOPS HILL towards FARIA RIVER and to clear ENEMY pocket and thus enable party fromBEVERIDGES POST to retrieve Cpl Lindsay.Dawe's body.

0940 3" Motar firing three rounds on ENEMY psn in small re-enterant to cover party bringing in bod of Cpl Lindsay.Dawe.

0945 C Coy track patrol moves out.

0956 2/16 Bn Patrol sighted coming down Ridge West of FARIA RIVER,signals acknowledged.

0957 T/R overhead.

1007 T/R departed.

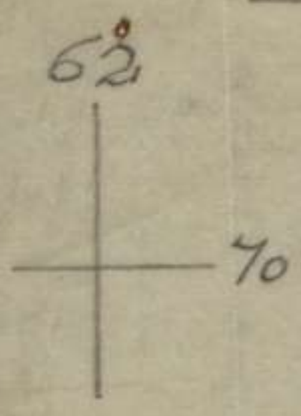
1008 In communication with 18 Pl,report progress slow, NO ENEMY sighted.

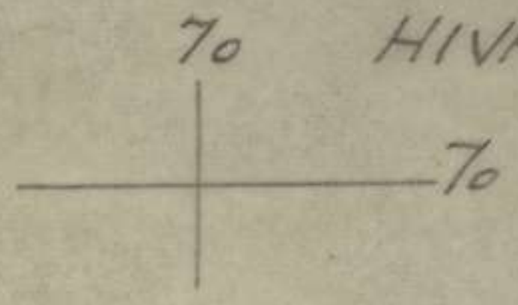
1010 18 Pl located unoccupied lookout in tree and well

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

88

SUPERIMPOSE on DUMPU 1inch to 1mile Sheet





DIVIDE AREA

Δ 1 KANKIRYO

Δ 2 RIRE?

Huts

SHAGGY RIDGE

TREVORS RIDGE

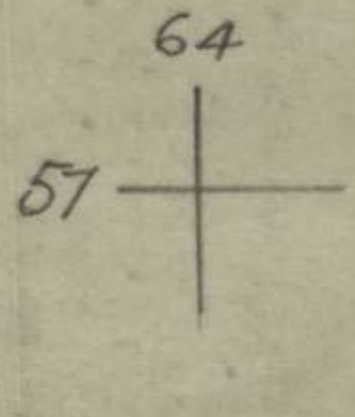
BEVERIDGES POST

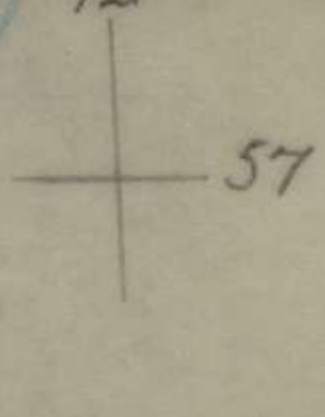
Buffalo pt

GOYS POST

FARIA R.

URIA River





Known Jap Tracks

Probable " "

2/27 Bn AIF
HIMI Int Sec
11 Oct 43

B.8.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

89

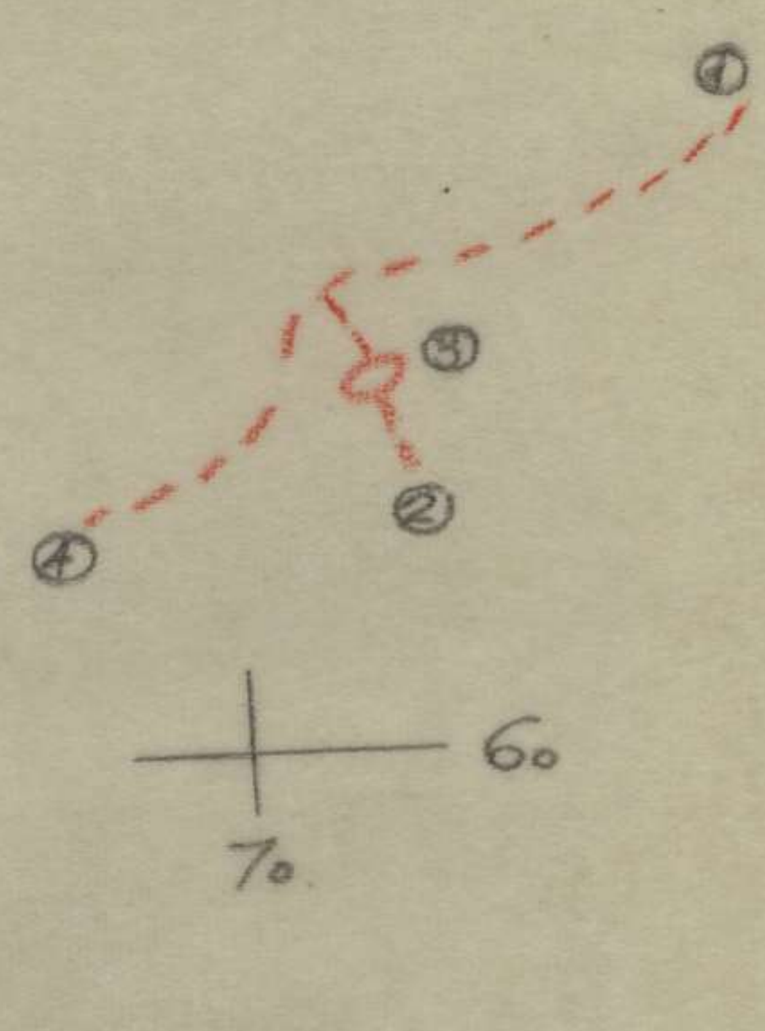
PATROLS TREVORS RIDGE 717615

Oct 11-12-43

Ref Map DUMPU 1" to 1 mile

1. B Coy (2 pl + bnr pl) 11 Oct
2 C Coy (1 Sec patrol 11 Oct
3 C Coy (1 Sec standing patrol) 12 Oct
4 C Coy (1 Sec patrol) 12 Oct





Hinai Int Sec
12 Oct
2/27 Bn A.I.F.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

1010 defined pad.
1015 Padre left with escort to bury Cpl Dawe and Pte Brown who's bodies were brought in to BEVERIDGES POST by A Coy party (8 Pl).
1021 2 T/R planes overhead.
1027 Heavy firing heard direction of URIA RIVER,this turned outto be 2/14 Bn clearing JAP pocket which had ambushed Lieut Crocker and his patrol coming forward with Boong Supply Train approx 707578. Later it was learned that Pte.Mal.KKKeefer,of the Bn Int Section was very drastically wounded in this ambush."It is fortunate that Nature deals in pairs" and the Bull luckily enough to still anticipate a successful married life.
1034 LIeut Johns Patrol arrived, strength 1 and 19 OR'S having been absent on URIA RIVER patrol for 3 days. See appendix "C5". This patrol was sent forward immeadiately to hold B Coy psn to allow B Coy to commence 3 Day patrol to High feature on East side FARIA RIVER.
1046 Message intercepted from 2/16 Bn ack receipt of smoke signal,giving thier location.
1048 Lt Col Bishop the CO received message from Bde telling him that JAPS have dug in near our previous psn and on KINGS HILL FEATURE but fwd of KINGS HILL, 706577 approximately.Lt Col Bishop very concerned about stretcher party returning and also our L of C.
1100 It is now reported JAPS dug in 1 mile up URIA RIVER from KUMBARUM,2/14 Bn under cmd Maj Mert.Lee is attacking.B Coy patrol moves out in strength to recce high feature 726623,and look for alternate L of C.See appendix"C11".
1158 Information from Bde,Pw interrogated stating "We are on No.,3 Key Position WANGURA 12 Kilo's from KANKIRYO,YANKOPI,which is at head of road"."Large Hill due EAST is hardest part of track and crosses FARIA RIVER at approx 736604".
1200 C Coy patrol down track reports in.
1211 Air activity;1 Sec Lieut Crocker's Pl arrived,this Section sent to A Coy until remainder arrives.
1241 C Coy track patrol reports found 13 unocupied JAP foxholes 200 yards South along track towards URIA RIVER see appendix "10" .
1315 JAPArty shelled our positions for 27 minutes, firing 35 to 40 rounds,our casualties light.
1345 Our Arty informed Col Bishop "am moving guns fwd and will be ready for action in 25 minutes.
1417 Lt Col Bishop on line to Bde giving information regarding shelling.
L435 Our Arty shooting,trying to locate JAP guns;commuications very bad,Bdr LeggolCO and I O relaying fire orders to Arty.
1440 A few JAPS still reportedto be on saddle overlooking our L of C 706577.
1447 Escort left with wounded. Sjt Raferty of Bn Int Section on way to OCTU School.
1455 JAP guns open up again on our stretcher party which had just left BnHQ,our casualties 1 wounded and 2 men who were already wounded hit again. CO sent party down to bring wounded men in.
1500 Mr,Lyndon the RSM,recc-ing alternate BnHQ position as present site exposed to Jap Arty.BnHQ moved back 100 yards to other side of TREVORS RIDGE.
1525 Int Section and Party set out to recce new track which would afford better cover from JAP Arty f~ wounded being evacuated. Firing heard directi of B Coy patrol.
1605 Vickers opened up on target across FARIA RIVER.
1610 Report from B Coy received "Struck slight oppo killed 2 ENEMY ,

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

TREVORS RIDGE 11 OCT 43

Ref DUMPU 717615

1610 ---- and consolidating for the night".
1635 New track established down to Creek.Sigs laid line along new track. Lt Col Bishop the CO,received report from GUYS POST that stretcher party which left this morning had to return owing to one of the escort being wounded in ambush.
1700 CO rang A Coy and ordered escort of 6 men to accompany stretchers to GUYS POST. Arty shooting in direction of URIA RIVER.
1705 CO rang GUYSPOST to arrange for escort to meet stretcher party about to leave.
1830 Sit Rep forwarded to Bde.
1840 Burial Service conducted by Padre Norman for our men killed by JAP Arty. Sig Berrett Sx 30677 & Sig.Wright Nx 82656 at TREVORS RIDGE 69736204.
1920 Message received,2/14 Bn had cleared ENEMY WHO were threatening our L of C at 706577 known from today as PALLIERS POST;killed 30 own casualties few.Maj Lee ~~formerly~~ in charge of 2/14 Bn during this actiбn. 2/14 Bn are going to patrol up FARIA RIVER as pfar as GUYS POST in the morning.
2330 Heavy rain commenced and continued through most of the night.

TREVORS RIDGE 12 OCT 43

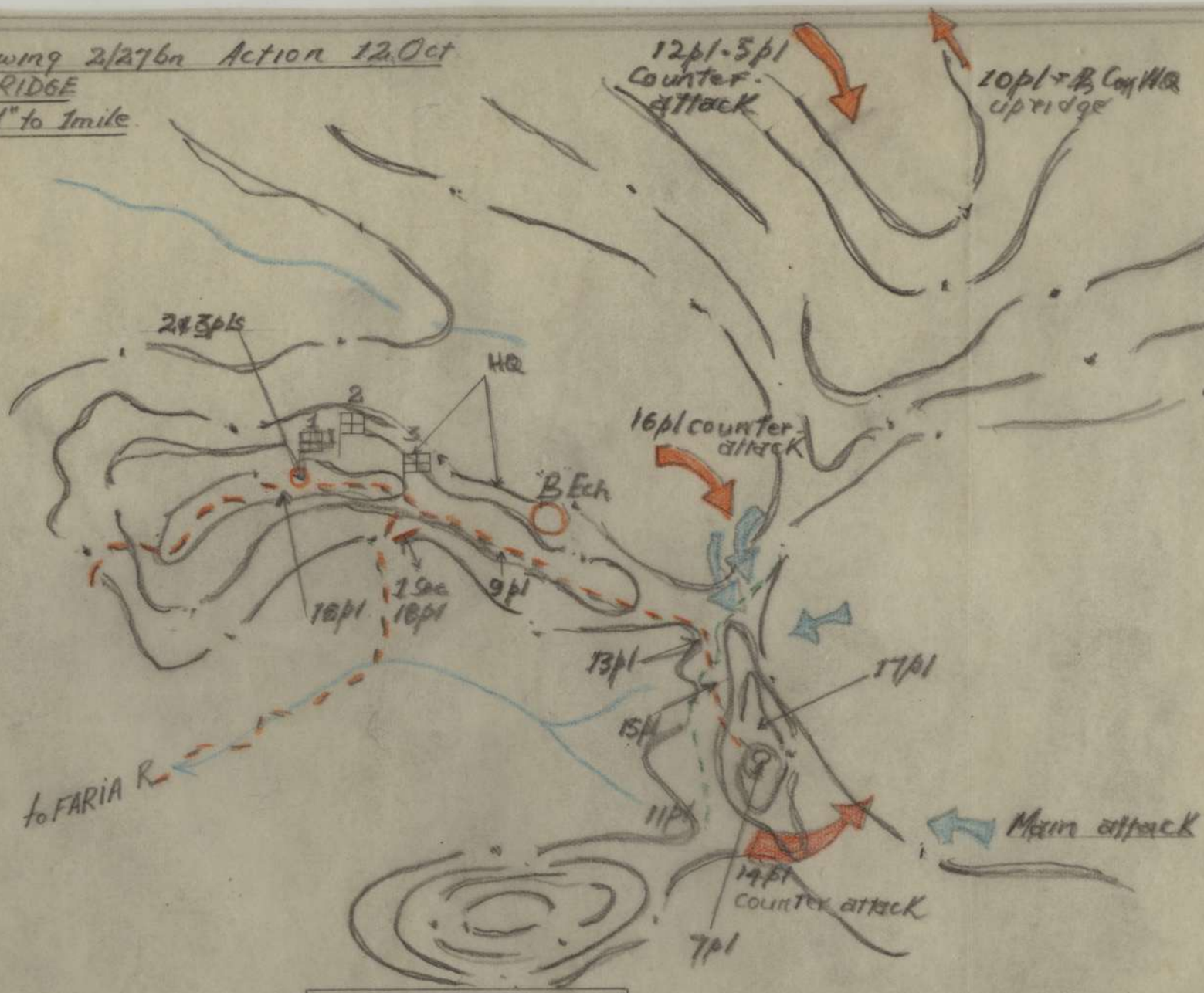
Ref DUMPU 717615

0730 Lt Col Bishop received information from the Sigs to the effect that our Arty gun positions at KUMBARUM were attacked during the night.Attack complete failure we suffered NO casualties.The ENEMY left large quantities of gun cotton and gelegnite when they hastily retired.GUYS POST reported wounded passed through OK.
0748 2 Boomerangs commenced 30 minute T/R over our area.
0930 Report from GUYS POST that the 2/14 Bn Patrol along FARIA RIVER from KUMBARUM had reached GUYS POST. The CO was very relieved to hear this news
0953 Our Arty shooting on JAPS still dug in on THE PLAT-EAU across the FARIA RIVER from BEVERIDGES POST. Firing 25 rounds on area& 4 direct hits was observ-on foxholes.
1030 2 Patrols from C Coy,1 patrol to move along JAP Mule Track South and sit on saddle where JAP fox-holes were found and other patrolx to investigate track diverting from foxholes.
1048 These patrols struck 11 JAPS moving towards our psns,the patrol opened fire on them and then withdrew back to thier Coy lines and and Bn was advised.This information passed onto all Coys and Bn "Stood to" as we had previously warned by Bde that we make get backwash of ENEMY retreating from 2/14 Bn action on the previous day.
1120 Issue of vitamin C Pills to all Coys.
1145 JAPS commenced to attack 7Pl psns on JOHNS KNOLL. Attack developed gradually and area from 7 Pl back to BnHQ on TREVORS RIDGE was heavily plaster-ed with 89 grenades and mortar fire for a consider-able period. JAP also using "WOODPECKERS"and attack was also supported by ENEMY MMG on WEST Bank of FARIA RIVER (THE PLATEAU) and Arty fire from FARIA VALLEY and forward of TREVORS RIDGE.
1200 CO ordered 17 Pl forward to assist Lieut Johns, JAPS continuing to attack fiercely on broad front supported by heavy MMG fire.At this stage it was definite that this action was more than a large patrol clash owing to the intensity of the battle.
1300 Lt Col Bishop recieved word that Cpl Fanning Sectix

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

B10

SKETCH MAP showing 2/27bn Action 12 Oct
at TREVORS RIDGE
Ref DUMPU 1" to 1 mile



HIMI Int Sec
17 Oct
2/27 Bn AIF.

B.10.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

TREVORS RIDGE 12 OCT 43

Ref DUMPU 717615

1300 had reported into GUYS POST after being out of communication for three days.

1305 Amn sent fwd from BnHQ to A Coy as amn pos serious.

1320 Lt Col Bishop ordered Sjt Eddy (Mortar OP) to report to Lieut Johns on JOHNS KNOLL and to enquire if he could be of assistance with 3" Mortar, but owing to our shortage of Mortar bombs CO could only allot 10 bombs for the shoot.

1330 Moetar shoot completed and CO allowed three more bombs to be used thus leaving our stock very depleted,having only 6 bombs left.

1335 JAPS still attacking fiercely to within ten yards of JOHNS KNOLL;Lieut Johns informed CO via phone the gravity of the situation;his Pl has suffered many casualties but will hold on and will hold out as long as amunition can be supplied;

1400 More amunition sent forward and WOODPECKER covering our track causing a lot of inconvenience and at this stage the situation had become very critical. Lieut Johns reported to CO that he may have to withdraw and evacuate his present position.

1405 CO ordered 14Pl to counter attack on right flank so as to endeavour to ease the pressure on the front-al attack.

1415 CO ordered Lieut Trenerry with 2 Sections to go forward to C Coy,picking up 1 Sec of C Coy to to work around left flank and counter attack.

1430 Lieut Johns informed CO that he will hold on as long as amunition lasts. Mr Lyndon the RSM,Pte Lindsay Hade and L/Cpl.Cullen did stirling work in keeping fwd troops supplied with amunition.

1500 CO in communication with Brigadier Dougherty and informed him that the situation was critical. The Brig told the CO to break contact and withdraw when he considered it necessary.CO replied he would hold on as he could not withdraw and leave B Coy out in the blue.
N.B.:- Bn had been out of communication with B Coy since 0200 and it was hoped that on hearing the tumult Capt Toms OC of B Coy would appreciate the situation and attack downhill at ENEMY'S REAR.In the event of a forced withdrawal through lack of ammunition, which at this stage was very low indeed CO decided on route of withdrawal through BEVERIDGES POST to GUYS POST to LAKE HILL AREA 6758,where he would hold on until relief arrived.

1513 Lieut.Bob Paine and 14 Pl of C Coy returned,reporting having cleared JAPS from 2 Ridges; CO ordered him out again to continue counter attacking onRIGHT flank as Lieut Johns had reported it had relieved his psn considerably.

1515 CO on W/T to Bde,GUYS POST picquet (9 Pl A Coy) to be relieved by 2/14 Bn sometime tonight. Intermittent JAP arty fire,and WOODPECKER still firing from THE PLATEAU.

1535 ENEMY still attacking strongly with heavy MMG support,our Vickers Section endeavoring to locate position and return fire.

1600 Ammunition drawn from Cmd BnHQ HQ Coy and sent fwd to JOHNS KNOLL. RAP very busy and stretchers being made to evacuate wounded.

1605 Firing heard from high up on Ridge on our Left flank and it is hoped that it was B Coy moving down and contacted ENEMY.

1630 CO decided to try and contact B Coy and sent L/Cpl Scott of RMP and Pte McManus of the Bn Int Section with instructions to Capt Toms OC B Coy to leave 1 Pl on high feature and counter attack with the remaining 2 Pls

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

x CP040 - 27 RW

TREVORS RIDGE 12 OCT 43

Ref DUMPU 717615

1645 Heavy firing heard on Ridge and it was considered definite that B Coy were in contact.

1700 Situation easier but ammunition position desperate.

1705 CO on line to GUYS POST stressed urgent need for ammunition and ordered Lieut Garnock to speed up Boong train with Lieut Crocker as escort and to dump rations and other gear and to bring on amn with selected Boongs no matter how late the hour. Lieut Garnock and Pl to rejoin Unit as soon as relieved by 2/14 Bn.

1710 CO received word that Air Strike would take place forward of our psns in the morning.

1725 Lieut Crocker and Pl plus carrier train arrived at GUYS POST and CO ordered to come fwd at full speed.

1805 JAP Arty shelling our positions again.

1835 Bdr Leggo believed he picked up gun flash and is through on line to Arty.

1900 Fire seen in area shelled by Arty, and is hoped that enemy guns have been put out of action.

1930 Firing has practically ceased and Lieut Johns reported ENEMY can be heard digging in and not withdrawing.

1945 Three men from B Coy who had moved through JAP psns contacted Lieut Johns and reported that 12 Pl & 5 Pl had attacked ENEMY from rear and had consolidated 1000 yds further East from JOHNS KNOLL, had suffered 6 casualties. OC B Coy and 10 Pl remained on feature and were awaiting orders. CO sent runner back to Capt Toms with orders to be prepared to attack at first sign of ENEMY resuming attack in the morning. This attack to be carried out by 12 & 5 Pl's as well as Coy HQ, 10 Pl to bring inwounded and in reserve.

0130 Lieut Crocker and 11Pl escorting Boong train with ammunition arrived. Boong train returned immeadiately with wounded. Capt Holly (LO) Lieut Ross Arty & Cpl Lindley of Bde Int Sec arrived also with Boong supply train. We heard good news that 71 reenforcements from LOB were waiting to come fwd from DUMPU, and that long barrelled 25 Pounders would be available for shoot next day.
N.B. :- Casualties for the day 7 KIA 28 WIA.
6 evacuated through sickness.

SEE APPENDIXES "B9, B10, C 12, C13, C14, C15, C16, C17, C18,

TREVOR RIDGE 13 OCT 43

0635 JAP WOODPECKER opened up from new psn just above the PLATEAU; this MMG first two bursts were tracer.

0750 Lieut Cook and Pl reported in, but struck NO opposition during the march back. 5Pl sent to take up psn in D Coy area. CO on phone to Bde giving Brig information and days intentions. 4Pl reported coming in through JOHNS KNOLL and went to D Coy area to strengthen this sector

0800 A recce patrol from C Coy found 6 JAPS dug in 200 yards forward of Coy area, thought to be left to cover JAP burial party. CO decided to leave them as they would save us a task of burying ENEMY dead and the 2/14 Bn B Coy would clear that area this afternoon.

0835 Arty registering with smoke for use later in day for proposed Air Strike.

0845 JAP mountain gun peppering TREVOR RIDGE and JOHNS KNOLL.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

TREVOR RIDGE 13 OCT 43

Ref DUMBU 717615

0900 Capt Toms with B Coy HQ plus 10 Pl reported in with 4 stretcher cases, having left 2 own dead 200 yards from JOHNS KNOLL. Lieut Snooks also returned with B Coy, see appendix "C19".

0925 Still under JAP Arty fire. Air Strike expected soon.

0940 JAP Mountain gun fired first dud shell but unable to locate it and verify calibre. Badly wounded JAP brought in on stretcher. Capt. Christopherson and B Coy 2/14 Bn left GUYS POST with intentions to clear Ridge from OP to JOHNS KNOLL and to attack pocket of 6 JAPS reported earlier by C Coy patrol.

1040 Awaiting Air Strike up FARIA RIVER VALLEY but bombing and Air Activity heard well to our right.

1045 JAP Arty opened up again peppering all along our positions; the lads treat this JAP action with great respect and are feeling the strain after yesterdays hard fighting, however thier spirits are high. The native carriers fear this gun and it can only be expected when they take to the bush. Capt John.D.Lee has set a stirling example and is doing his utmost to bolster the Natives morale.

1050 Word received that Air Strike on at 1100 hrs. 1 Airocobra flying over apparently on a recce.

1130 News received from Bde that the 2/16 Bn will relieve us possibly tomorrow and this Unit to return to GUYS POST.

1140 Report required by Bde of Lieut Garnocks patrol to LAKES AREA from GUYS POST. New password issued all Coys informed. Wounded JAP prisoner died.

1215 JAP Arty fired a few spasmodic rounds at our psns.

1240 Lieut Reddin gone to Recce new track from D Coy area to Creek, to afford a better covered L of C.

1300 Walking wounded and stretcher cases ready to move, but have to wait for Native train to arrive to supply stretcher bearers as there are only 9 natives left in this area, the large majority went bush when JAP arty opened up. Fortunately the natives only went back as far as GUYS POST and will be sent back tomorrow.

1345 Arty firing smoke in preparation for Air Strike.

1420 Aircobras overhead again and much awaited Air Strike commenced, bombing and straffing FARIA RIVER VALLEY. This action and sound delighted the troops.

1445 Air Strike finished. CO enthusiastic with the magnificant job the Air Force did, which included low straffing from 50 to 100 '. Air Strike led by 2 Boomerangs who indicated the target to the Air-cobras by making the first straffing run themselves.

1520 The CO informed the Brig of details of Air Strike and asked if a note of appreciation could be sent back through the proper channels.

1615 Native Boong train arrived.

1630 Boomerang T/R overhead apparently trying to ascertain effect of Air Strike. Cpl Bosher of FSW arrived and has taken over our captured maps, documents and other captured articles, he is returning immediate-ly with them to Bde. His arrival relieved the bottleneck of captured documents and the responsibil-ity of keeping them dry.

1715 Heavy rain commenced. RAP have been kepted very busy; Capt Gove and staff doing a job "par excellence".

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

S.A. Men In Daring Actions In Wild New Guinea Gorges

Story Of Series Of Skirmishes Which Cost Enemy 155 Dead

From MERVYN WESTON

WITH THE AUSTRALIAN TROOPS IN THE RAMU VALLEY, October 18.—This is a story mainly about South Australians who took part in a series of skirmishes over several days in the headwaters of the Faria River, in New Guinea, where fierce Japanese attempts to regain possession of their supply trail were brilliantly repulsed.

Referring to a battle which took place on Tuesday of last week, an officer said, "No one prayed for B Company and for ammunition as we did that day." Today, after wading to and fro through the foaming waters of the Uria and Faria Rivers, between gorges rising sheer for hundreds of feet, and up muddy inclines where one had to grab at every bush for leverage, I talked to the heroes of that battle. I heard how B Company did arrive in time, and how the "ammo," by careful conservation and methodical collections from our wounded, did hold out.

The Faria Valley, where the fighting has been taking place, is only as wide at its base, in most places, as the raging mountain river. There are sheer cliffs for hundreds of feet on either side. Ambush positions abound. Yet our men have relentlessly pushed the Japanese back, inflicting completely disproportionate casualties. Supply has been our heaviest worry, for besides the hard climbs and descents the rivers have to be crossed and recrossed some 32 times. The going, except for pinches, is not yet comparable with the Owen Stanleys, and our communications and carrier lines are better organised.

It is terrible country in which to fight a war, but the Japanese, who chose it as their battle-ground, are being soundly outfought.

I don't think there was a man in the outfit who took part in last week's battles who could show some article of his clothing or personal equipment without a tell-tale hole or tear. There were men still showing the effects of the most ferocious Japanese shelling, mortaring and grenading they have ever been called to face, but they could not restrain their pride in their unit's achievement.

Our men had actually cut a vital Japanese track on Sunday, October 10, after sidestepping a large party of Japanese who were waiting for them in the Faria River—an area abounding in ambush positions. Before the enemy realised what was happening, our force was on the ridge overlooking his track.

First Day's Clash

Our men did not know they had reached their objective until they saw a Japanese patrol moving along a well-defined track below them. It immediately became clear that we would have to occupy a knoll on either side of the track to command the position. One force under Lt. Gordon McDonald, of Walkerville, SA, moved quickly round to seize the knoll and then ambush the Japanese patrol. But the Japanese were in occupation—and at lunch and unsuspecting. McDonald's men went in firing their Brens and Owens from the hip. Thirteen Japanese never got a chance to use their weapons. The others fled. Other skirmishes brought the day's total of enemy dead to 20. We also occupied a knoll across the track, but a third and more commanding knoll to the left was found to be firmly held by the enemy.

At dawn on Monday, the Japanese tried to remove us from the knoll on the left flank. After four minutes of frantic shelling, they attacked in line across the trail, but were quickly beaten off with ten dead. The enemy then opened up with mountain guns, apparently firing over open sights from point-blank range. But our men merely [illegible] dug in further, and held on. Two stretcher cases and four sick and walking wounded being evacuated were fired on from point-blank range by the Japanese mountain guns and two men killed. The Japanese also cut our supply trail down the Faria, but our patrols restored the position, killing five Japanese and bringing Monday's total to 15.

The Crucial Action

Tuesday, the crucial day, opened with patrol activity. Our men spotted 16 Japanese moving forward, and a general stand-to was ordered. Boldly, the commander decided to reinforce his post astride the track and the one astride the track. He sighed for B Company, which had gone out some two miles to the north-east to see if there were a second Japanese track. At 10.45 a.m., supported by his artillery (firing from across the Faria on to our rear), mortars, machine-guns from the high knoll, and rifle grenades, the enemy began his attack. The ridge and knoll on our side of the track were his objective, for he knew that our post on the other side would be helpless if they were captured. His men came on in waves, and at times 2,000 could be seen at once—something almost unknown in New Guinea's jungles and Kunai. Though hammered by those mountain guns and mortars, and harassed particularly by a "woodpecker"—most deadly of the enemy's automatic weapons—our men threw each assault back.

Most of the weight fell on 19 men under Lt. Bob Johns, MM, of St. Peters, Adelaide, who had the job of holding the knoll. At times the Japanese got within 30 ft. Several times Johns thought he would have to withdraw, but in the scorching, steamy heat of that kunai-crested knoll he held on. As the afternoon wore on, Lt. McDonald was sent to reinforce him, as many of his men then had slight shrapnel wounds. The Japanese never got the knoll.



Lt. R. B. Johns

Room For Six On Knoll

I learned nothing of that story from Johns, who is a bright, retiring young soldier. He had a birthday last week, and celebrated it by being ambushed on the Uria River and skilfully extricating his troops. He only remembered next day that he had become a year older. Johns did say, however, that there was room for only six men on top of that knoll—reserves were sheltering just down the slope in defiance of the Japanese artillery. Throughout that day, one of those men had been Cpl. Paddy Carey, of Iron Knob, SA. Paddy had had over four years of war, and been in many "shows." Men came and went in this "show," but Paddy stayed. And he never got a scratch, though the Japanese four times got within 20 feet.

Pte. Ray Fisher, of Port Pirie, was also one of the boys of the knoll. He was blown up by a grenade which riddled parts of his clothing, smashed his rifle, and blew his pick to smithereens, but left him only shocked. Fisher was sent to platoon HQ, but refused to go back to the regimental post to see if he had any wounds. All the afternoon, he carried ammunition to the knoll under mortar, grenade and machine-gun fire.

When Bren gunners were killed, Pte. Roy Barnes, of Adelaide, dashed to them, thinking they were wounded. He came back with their Bren, discovered he had no clips, so dashed back again and collected them from the gunners. The Japanese had plenty of shots at him. He manned the Bren all the afternoon. Once, he went across an exposed slope to get two cans of water for the parched men of the knoll. He got back with the cans, but one was hit with a machine-gun burst as he was carrying it, and its precious water was lost.

At a crucial moment of the battle, the commander, to relieve pressure on the knoll, sent outflanking parties to counter-attack the enemy. One drove the Japanese off a small ridge leading to the knoll, killing 16. The other, led by Lt. Rex Trenerry, of Adelaide, came in behind the Japanese trying to drive down the main ridge. One section alone killed 14 Japanese in one action, and the platoon killed more than 40.

Still the Japanese came on, however, and it was then that our men prayed for B Company, for ammunition was getting very low.

B Company's Part

The commander of B Company heard the shooting, and realised that he might be wanted. He brought his men back to a feature overlooking the battleground, and took in the situation. Taking one platoon, he occupied a ridge covering the trail along which the Japanese were reinforcing. The others, under Lt. Tom Cook, of a famous Adelaide fighting family, and Lt. Don McCrae, fell on the Japanese flank from the north-east, and completely disorganised the enemy. They eliminated the enemy woodpecker, three Brens being turned on to it from 15 yards. "There were Japanese three and four deep round it," said Cook.

This force was held down at one point by withering fire from three light machine-guns. Sgt. Laurie Yandell, of SA, then went over the top to a ledge below and cleared the way by wiping out one post and covering the others. It was about this time that one private stormed a machine-gun post, killing four or five Japanese, and then moved on to attack other positions before he was killed.

Magnificent work was done by the mortar platoon under Sgt. George Cockburn, of SA. His observer, George Eddy, of SA, directed from the ridge, often dropping the bombs within 20 yards of our positions. L-Bdr. Ewart Leggo, of Victoria, who directed our own artillery, was under heavy fire all day.

Action finally died down at 7.30 p.m., just after dusk. Our men still faced an anxious period however, for ammunition had not got through. That region of cliffs and gorges is hard going, even in daylight, but reinforcements and ammunition got through shortly after midnight. Torrential rain had fallen early in the evening, and the Faria was so swollen that these men had to fasten themselves together to prevent themselves from being washed away.

The Reckoning

All this night the enemy could be heard carrying out wounded and burying his dead. At daybreak on Wednesday our men looked for a resumption of the battle, but the Japanese did not appear. There was some vicious shelling, however, and also machine-gun fire from across the valley. This our own artillery and Vickers soon silenced.

Anxiety was felt during the night at loss of communications with B Company. Pte. Jack McManus, of Iron Knob, SA, and L-Cpl. Herbert Scott, of Aldgate, SA, went out from HQ position, and Sgt. Yandell and [illegible]t. Des O'Conner, of SA, from B Company's area, both parties penetrating the Japanese lines and getting through with their messages.

Our men buried 55 Japanese from Tuesday's battle, and found 22 graves, some of which from their size, held more than one Japanese. There were some dead still unburied; so, at a conservative estimate, the enemy lost 120 dead on Tuesday, bringing the three-day total to 155.

Officers said that our counter-attacks at crucial periods, and the greater lethal qualities of our weapons, had been the deciding factors. Our men had shown they were just as resolute and effective in defence as they are in attack. Our casualties were only a fraction of the enemy's.

Game Youth

Here is another story of an incident in the Faria River area. It is about the youngest and greenest soldier of a platoon. When this platoon, led by Lt. Wally MacPherson, of Prospect, Adelaide, was driving up the Faria River, it was ambushed and one man killed. The Japanese paid with seven dead, but the body of the Australian lay in no-man's-land. Next day it was decided to recover the Australian and to remove the enemy dead from the water.

A section was detailed for the job. The party was ambushed, the section leader killed, another man wounded, and the party pinned down. It was then that Pte. Jack Simmons, of Marrickville, NSW, climbed quickly out of the river bed, and dodging behind rocks and what cover he could find, scaled up the cliff face. The Japanese fired at him repeatedly, but he doggedly kept on until out of sight. Then he crawled to a precipice overlooking the Japanese, calmly picked off two, and completely neutralised their fire while our men recovered their dead and withdrew.

Later, this youth, who looks younger than his 19 years, led a party to the precipice, and five more Japanese were killed, the ambush cleared and the way paved for our advance.

During this action, Pte. Tom Chapman, of Magill, SA, crawled out to get the body of the section leader right under the noses of the Japanese. From their post on the precipice Cpl. Brian Castle, of Adelaide, killed two Japanese from 800 yards with his Bren gun. Their bodies were seen to roll down the cliff face.

Then there was Cpl. Ron Box, of Denial Bay, SA, who, in a series of clashes, killed six Japanese, and who, despite severe shelling and machine-gun fire, continued to press forward with his patrol until ordered back.

Hunch Verified

After a party of Japanese had been caught at lunch near Johns Hill—named after the aforementioned Lt. Johns—just before last week's battle, Cpl. Frank Lundie, of Renmark, SA, moved among dead, touching each with his foot. One did not feel just right to Lundie. He pulled a leg over to make sure of his hunch. The Japanese promptly sat up, and, flinging up his hands, called in a beseeching tone, "No shoot! No shoot!" The Japanese was not wounded and had been shamming death.

Lundie, one of four brothers in the AIF, acquired fame as a tommygunner in the Owen Stanleys, his tally being upwards Japanese. He served with [illegible] Light Horse in the last brothers Albert and married, he served Middle East. Bill, killed in July in th Salamaua.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

TREVORS RIDGE. 13 OCT 43

Ref DUMPU 717615

1600 Capt.Christopherson of B Coy 2/14 Bn rang through to BnHQ that he had lunched at BEVERIDGES POST and was now on top of Wooded Knoll and could see JOHNS KNOLL a few hundred yards away on a bearing of 50 degrees, was instructed to continue on that bearing until he contacted B Coy of the 2/27 Bn.

1745 2/14 Bn B Coy contacted our D Coy having made a 90 degrees lefthanf turn and so did not clear the area intended by our CO; thus leaving the pocket of 6 JAPS still dug in forward of C Coy.

1815 Lieut Bob Paine and 2 Sec of 14 Pl sent out to clear JAP pocket. Lieut Paine was killed 1 OR wounded. Patrol returned.

TREVORS RIDGE 14 OCT 43

0630 Several small patrols set out to locate any fiurther JAP pockets and to retrieve our dead on TREVOR RIDGE.

0830 B Coy 2/14 Bn commenced encirclement of JAP pocket

0840 JAP Arty peppering our psns,2 Shells landed in Cmd Post damaging Sig switchboard and cutting our Arty Com line from OP. D Coy were instructed to put phone through to Arty Line,and communication were soon est. Arty OP consider they have located flash of Jap gun which seems to be in an entirely new posn. Arty to do an area shoot using long barrelled 25 Pounders for the first time. Sig Office moved to new posn and lines repaired. Arty shoot appeared to be very effective. Large flight of B 25's passed overhead escorted by Fighters, this was a very encouraging sight and the boys remarks were not in sympathy with the JAPS, however we were disappoint-ed as the bombing did not eventuate within our hearing.

0900 Cmd Post moved to new posn.

1010 2/16 Bn reported at BEVERIDGES POST.

1045 GUYS POST reports can see Lucas Lamp being used on high ridge,general direction NE.

1235 JAP prisoner with broken leg and large leather bag containing Maps and papers brought in by C Coy. Prisoner also had on his person a Claxton Siren which he had apparently been using to attract attention.

1320 Our Arty still shooting CO and IO of 2/16 Bn contacted our CO. Infm, sketch maps and appreciation of situ-ation were handed over.

1430 A Coy HQ and 9 Pl moved out to occupy SHAGGY RIDGE (This feature was named after Lieut "Shaggy" Clampett then OC A Coy),before dark as 2/14 Bn had not occupied this picquet point,and GUYS POST was unprotected from the left. Bn move delayed until B Coy had completed burial of ENEMY dead.All arrangements and detail made for our move back to GUYS POST.

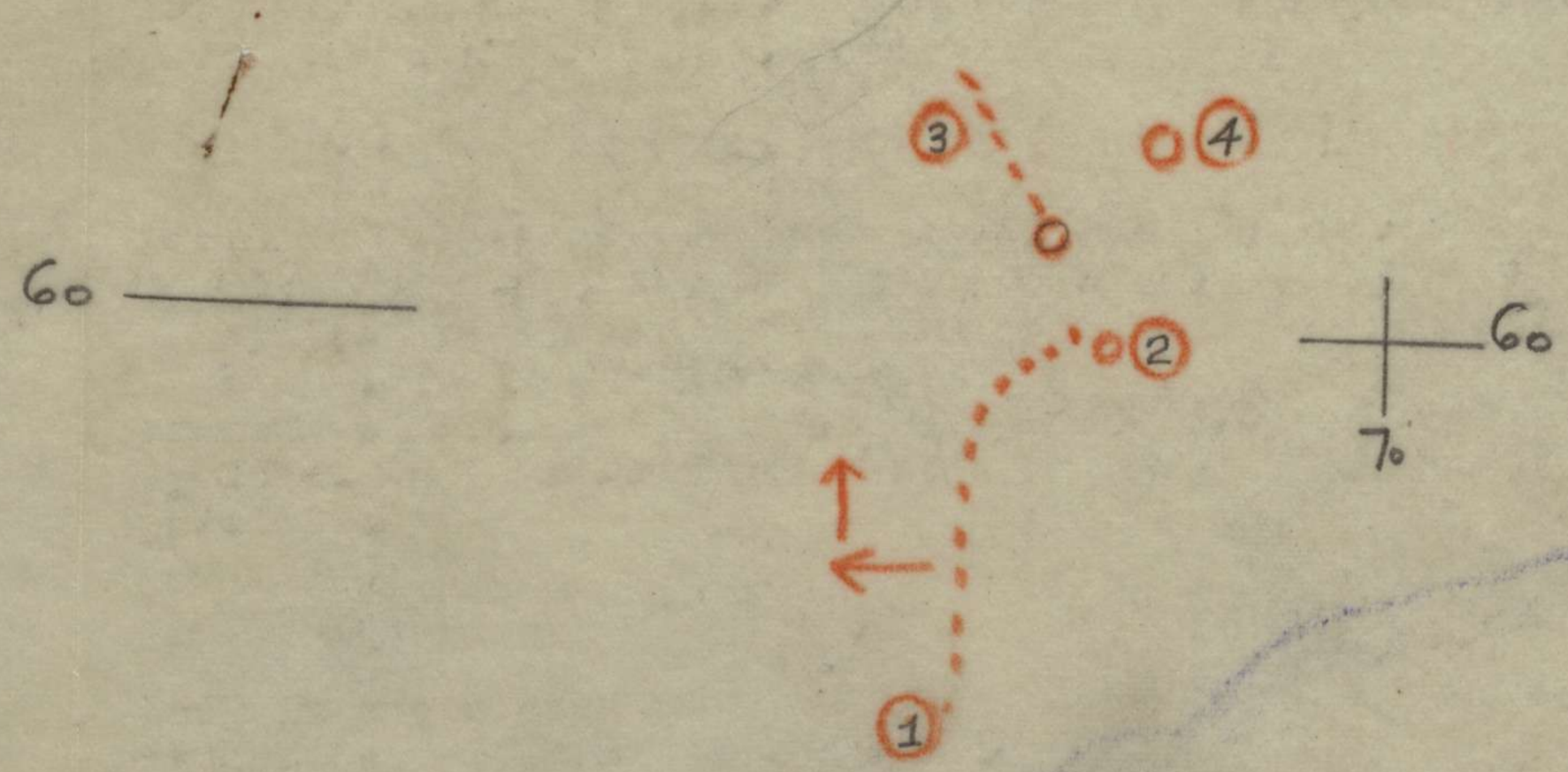
1730 Bn commenced to move in the following order HQ Coy BnHQ C,B,Cmd,D coys. Heavy rain commenced which obliterated the view from JAP OP on THE PLATEAU. The move was down hill was very steep and slippery The line began to space out as the rough pinches held up our descent,this track was deteriorating rapidly owing to the heavy rain and traffic and eventually became a running stream of mud.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

Patrol trace 15-16 Oct.

Super. impose DUMPU 1" to 1 mile

B11



	15 Oct
1	1 Pl 'B' Coy recce 'LAKE HILL' Area
2	Standing patrol
3	'A' Coy fighting patrol 16 Oct
4	Standing patrol 'Bev Post'
5	Escort patrols to 16 Bn on L of C.

2/27 Bn AIF

B11

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

TREVORS RIDGE 14 OCT 43

Ref DUMPU 717615

1730 Nearing BEVERIDGES POST the order was passed back for five yard interval between men and it was wondered at this stage if our fwd elements had struck opposition owing to the noise of the swollen FARIA RIVER it would be impossible to hear firing. On reaching BEVERIDGES P POST, the FARIA RIVER was found to be in flood,this necessitated the forming of a human chain to cross, and even then it was found to be no easy matter. The Bn negotiated six of these crossings before reaching GUYS POST. The river at most crossings was waist high and running at approx 10 knots.

2000 Owing to erroneous STOP message passed back,B Coy, Cmd and D Coy were unnecessarily delayed for 2 hours.

2330 The move was completed and hot meal and tea was provided, the Cooks doing an excellent job keeping the meals so long and fires going in heavy rain. Sig Blake of Div Sigs attached to this Bn was reported missing.

GUYS POST 15 OCT 43

Ref DUMPU 686593

0830 Breakfast consisting of well cooked porridge folowed by stew biscuits butter and jam which brightened the boys after thier arduous nights escapade.

1030 Arty shoot. Sheels passing over head.

1125 Bn advised by Bde that re-inforcements coming up to rejoin unit. Captured equipment and papers sent back to Bde with FSW representative.

1130 Mervyn Weston the War Correspondent representing the Adelaide"Advertiser"the Melbourne"Argus"the Perth Westralian"and American Magazine"Time" arrived and obtained from the CO the story of the action taken by the Bn on TREVORS RIDGE, also taking notes of individual action to mention in local papers. He expressed his appreciation for the material he had obtair -ed for his despatches. See appendix "D5".

1145 Div Sig Blake who failed to reach GUYS POST last night is still missing and 1 Section has been sent out to search for him.

1300 Brig arrives in Bn area,accompanied by Arty Officers (Capt Bluey White) Issue of tobacco and Craven A cigarettes purchased with Bn funds and issued to all troops.

1400 Lieut Mc Donald and escort for Boong Train move out to 2/16 Bn at TREVORS RIDGE AREA.

1430 Lieut Sutton and 10 Pl left to relieve 2/7 Ind Coy at LAKE HILL later known as BERTS POST.677592. Bn as from today A Coy 9,11,18 Pls B Coy 7,10,12 Pls C Coy 13,14,15 Pl D Coy 16,17,8 Pls HQ Coy normal. Bn dispositions A Coy last night sent 9 Pl plus Coy HQ to picquet SHAGGY RIDGE, 11 and 18 Pls to follow today.B Coy,CoyHQ 7 & 12 Pls to go to LAKE HILL C & D Coy to defend GUYS POST, acting in the capacity of OP and escort duties. L Sec of D Coy to relieve 2/14 Bn Section on BUFFALOE POINT so called after the well known identity of the Bn Cpl Buff Deering who was the first to mount this point; Communication to be made ro A & B Coys by line;

1620 Body of Sig Blake found in FARIA RIVER by Sig Party on Line maintenance .

1630 Brig in conference with CO and Arty Officer Capt White The Brig and Arty Officer to stay the night. Light Aid Detachment from the 2/6 Fld Ambulance Capt Church MO and DID est permanently.

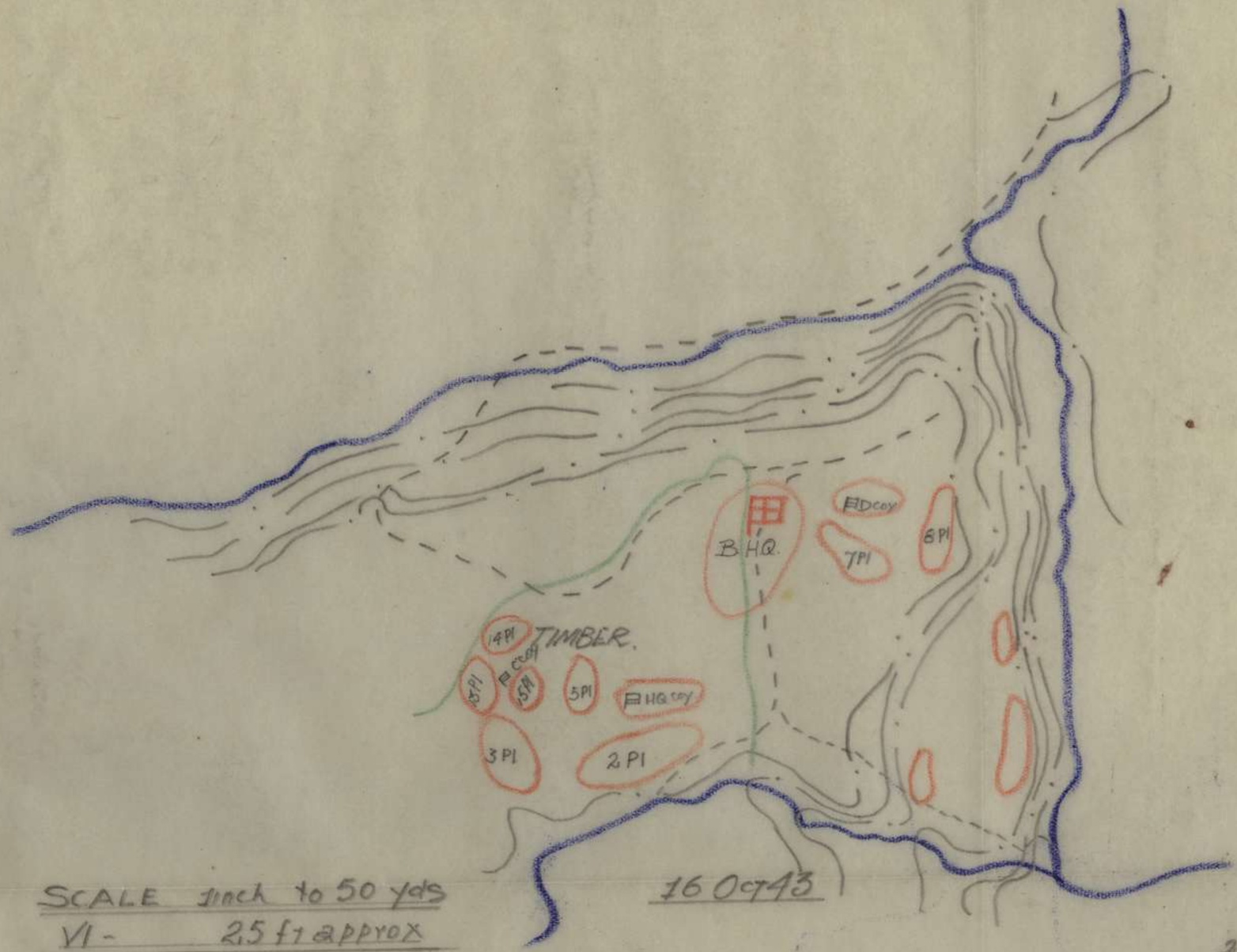
1900 Stand to.

2000 Stand down. Lights permitted.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

RF ÷ 1:1800.

SKETCH of GUYS POST SHOWING HIMI DISPNS - Ref Map DUMPU - 1" to 1 mile.



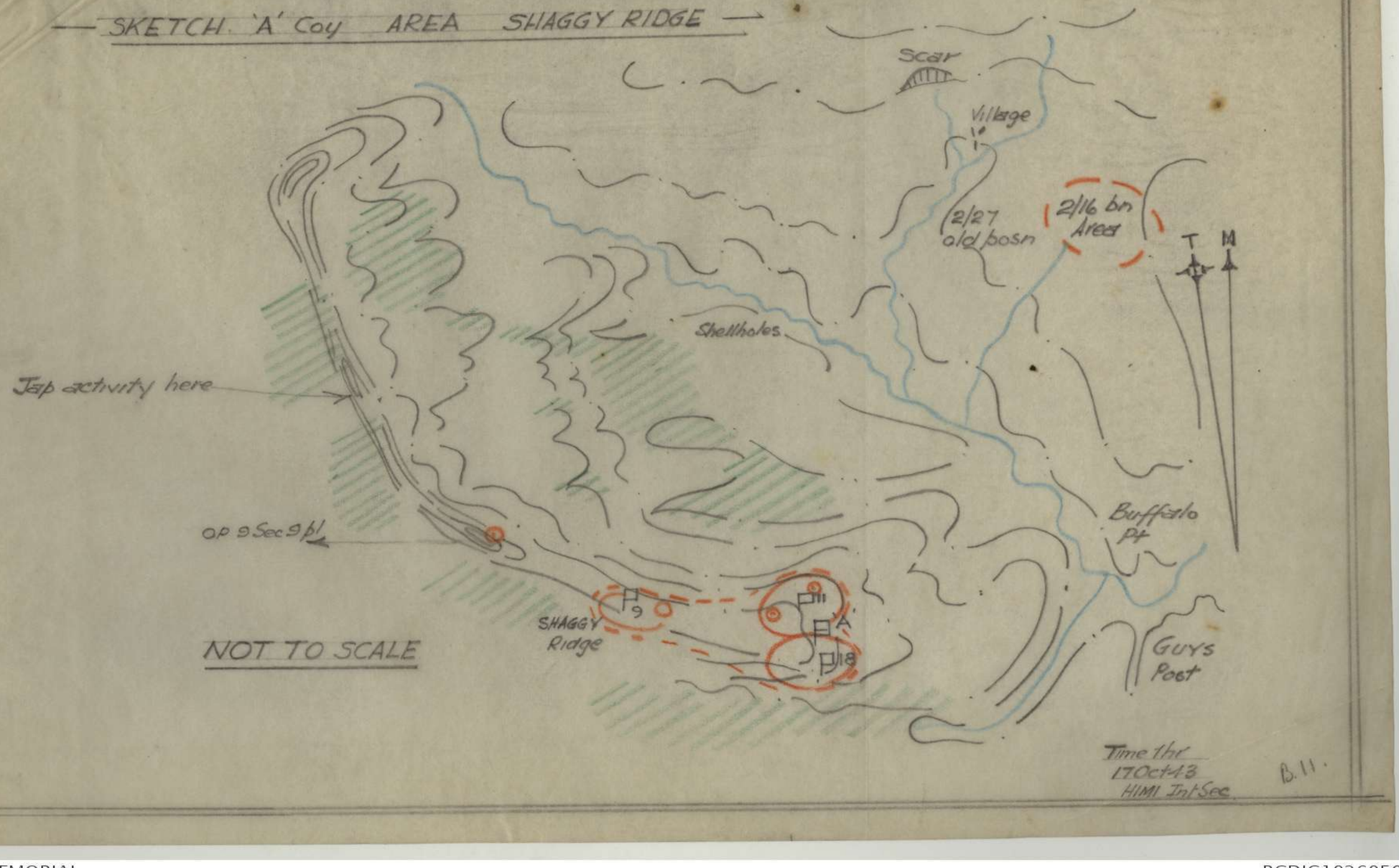
SCALE 1 inch to 50 yds
VI - 25 ft approx

16 Oct 43

2/27 Bn AIF

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

SKETCH 'A' Coy AREA SHAGGY RIDGE →

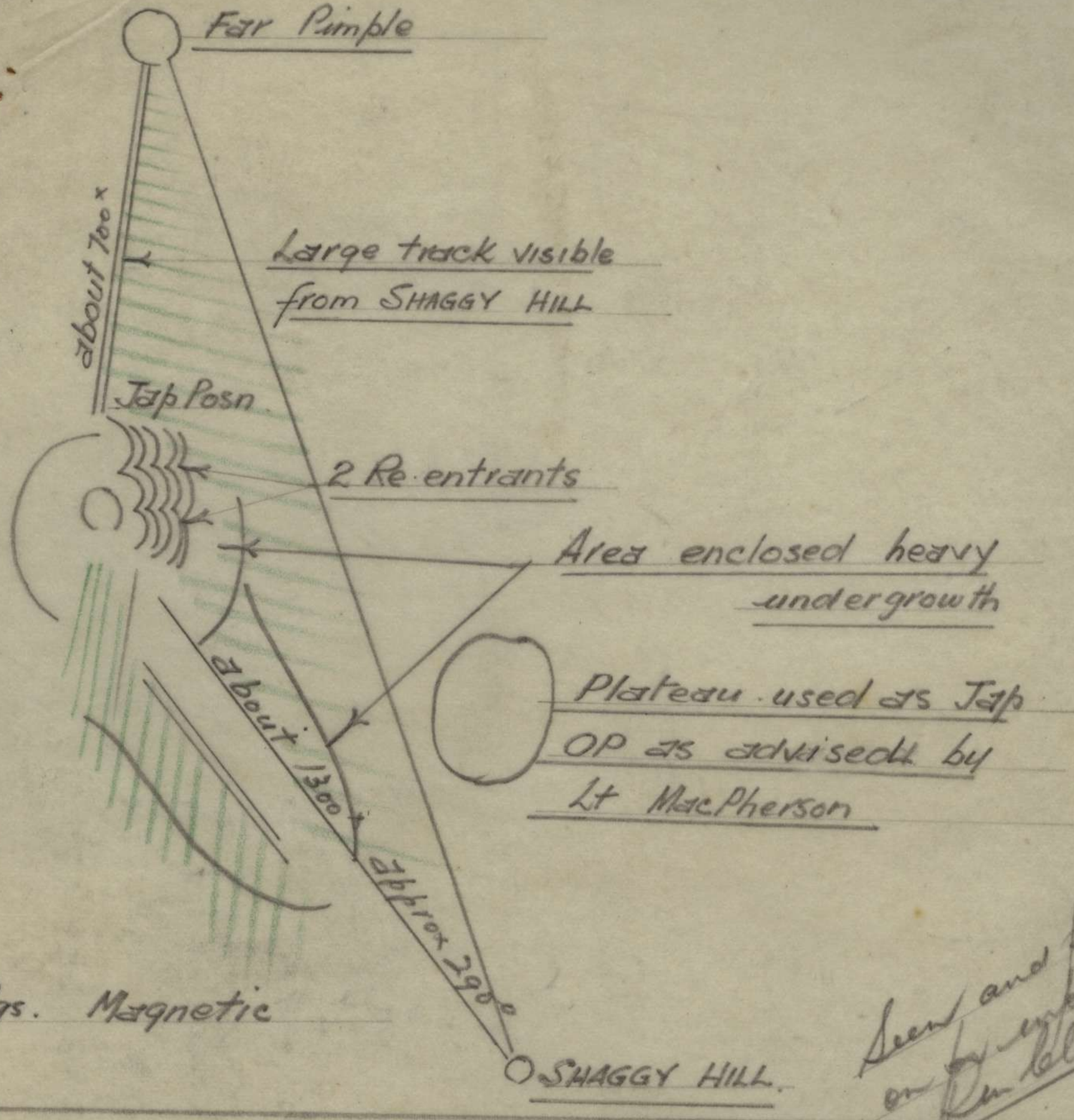


NOT TO SCALE

Time 1hr
17 Oct 43
HIMI Int Sec

B.11.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050


Far Pimple
about 700ˣ
Large track visible
from SHAGGY HILL
Jap Posn
2 Re-entrants
Area enclosed heavy
undergrowth
about 1300ˣ
approx 290°
Plateau used as Jap
OP as advised by
Lt MacPherson
SHAGGY HILL
Bgs. Magnetic
Seen and passed
on by information
Lt Lambeth
170ct

TRACK DETAIL GUY'S POST – "B" COY

REF MAP:- DUMPU 1 INCH TO 1 MILE

B

RF 1:3600

MAGNETIC NORTH

684590

GUY'S POST.

BERT'S POST

10

BEARINGS BY COMPASS
DISTANCE BY PACING AND EYE

SCALE.
1 INCH TO 300 YARDS.

HIMI INT SEC
21 OCT 43.

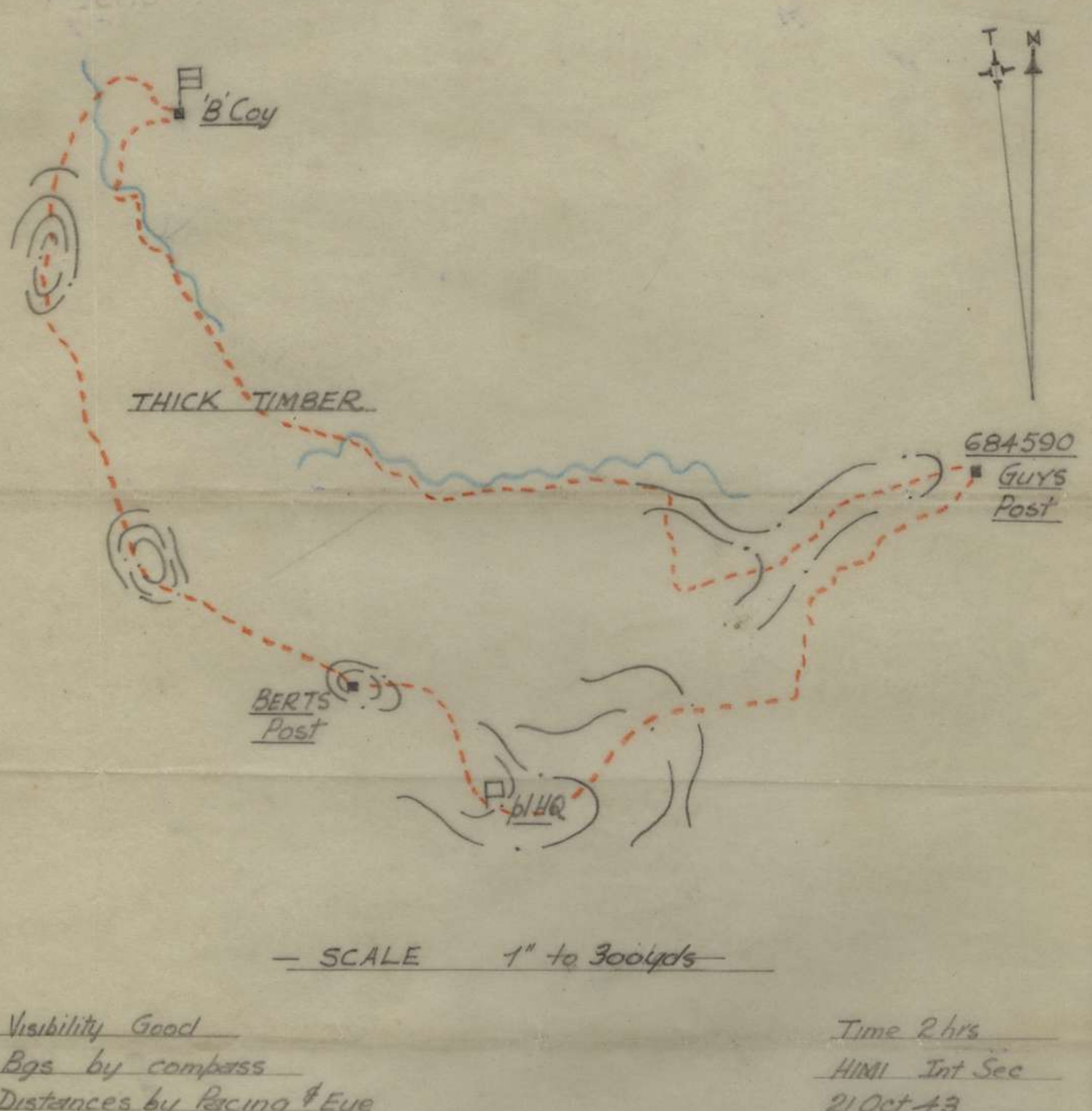
AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

RF 1:10800

— TRACK DETAIL - GUYS POST - 'B' Coy HQ —

— BERTS POST - GUYS POST —

— Ref Map DUMPU 1" to 1mile —



— SCALE 1" to 300yds —

Visibility Good
Bgs by compass
Distances by Pacing & Eye

Time 2 hrs
HQMI Int Sec
21 Oct 43

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

~~TKKMORK~~
GUYS POST 16 Oct 43

Ref DUMPU 686593.

0700 9 Pl patrol from A Coy area leaves to investigate signs of ENEMY activity to approx 689633.
0710 Brig left GUYS POST to go forward to 2/16 Bn with bodyguard supplied by D Coy. A Coy report that NO movement observed or heard during the night from SHAGGY RIDGE.
1045 Our re-inforcements arrive GUYS POST. JAP Arty shelling 2/16 Bn position.
1125 Report from A Coy recce patrol found four strand barb wire with tins attached 1500 yards up Ridge from SHAGGY RIDGE (Note this feature as a whole later became known as SHAGGY RIDGE) ,2 huts were observed behind fence. see appendix"C 20"
1300 Fighting Patrol sent out under Cmnd Sjt Lord to investigate above report.
1305 General Vasey, Tokyo's renowned leader of Vasey's Cut -throats,arrived in the Bn area at GUYS POST. He is looking very tired but is cheerful and was ready for a hearty meal. He was accompanied by 2 Official War Corespondents. CO ordered A Coy to try and observe flash of JAP gun. 2/16 Bn report gun shelling our old position on TREVORS RIDGE, and also JOHNS KNOLL.
1310 Sjt Dawson from B Coy with patrol set off to recce ~~kr~~ track from saddle ref 692577 following Native track to Lake Area.
1350 Brig returned from 2/16 Bn and decided to stay the night. CO requested Lieut Sutton to recce new L Of C in Lake Hill area.
1440 GOC going back to Bde. Some mail arrived mainly papers.
1500 Sjt Dawson patrol reported in. see appendix "C22"
1800 9 Pl fighting patrol returned.see appendix"C21".
1830 Lieut Sutton reported in from track recce patrol details by phone to CO. Coy dispositions sketches received see appendix "B11".

GUYS POST 17 OCT 43.

0740 Brigadier Dougherty returned to Bde after consuming an early breakfast.
0900 Padre held voluntry Church Parade which was well attended.Hymns were sung with much gusto.
1100 Maj Johnson OC C Coy visited BnHQ and the Int Section from the ADS, looking much better for the malarial treatment.
1415 CO and I O left to climb SHAGGY RIDGE.
1540 Movement observed on green pinnacle to the left of GUYS POST., unable to identify. Capt Toms OC B Coy shouting out news to the CO who is at this time one third on the way up SHAGGY RIDGE. CO unable to understand the conglomeration and returned to GUYS POST. Lieut Sutton later verified by phone that the movement reported was a party of natives,and he sent out a section to round them up.
1605 The patrol report of Lieut Rebilliard's recce of SHAGGY RIDGE reported by phone to I O,see appendix "C22".
2330 Sit Rep from Bde. All Coys advised.

GUYS POST 18 OCT43

0600 Stand to.
0600 Stand down.
0730 5 Pl to act as escort for Boong train to 2/16 Bn.
0900 Coy Cmdrs conference with CO.Lieut Johns left for B Company.
0914 CO in contact by phone with A Coy on SHAGGY RIDGE and instructed Lieut Clampett to report more regularly.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

RF 1:36000 approx

SKETCH of FARIA RIVER AREA



— Scale 1" = 1000 yds approx —

Visibility Cloudy
Measurements by eye
Bgs by Compass
Taken from A Coy posn
SHAGGY RIDGE

Time 5hrs
17 Oct 43
HMMI Int Sec.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

Army Form W.3008
(Adapted) (Page 1)
Revised Jan., 1943

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

1 / 24 (Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 16 / 10 / 193 . 2/27 Aust Inf Bn (Unit)

W.E. 11 / 12c 2 . OFFRS. 32 O.R's. 739 *plus* OFFRS. 1 O.R's. 35 ATT. BY W.E.

PART A.—POSTED STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.				
Rein'fts Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Rein'fts Required.
			1	Lieut.-Colonels					
			3	Majors					
	1		7	Captains	AAMC	1			
		3	22	Lieutenants					
			1	Quarter-masters					
				A.A.N.S. and A.A.M.W.S. Offrs.					
				Civilians Counting as Offrs.					
	1	3	34			1			

Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in para 10 of instructions for compilation of form will complete Part E[1]& E[2].

DETAIL		A.I.F.	C.M.F.	A.W.A.S.	A.A.N.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL.	R.A.N.	R.A.A.F.	* *	TOTAL.
A.											
E.[1]											
E.[2]											

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.
* * Personnel belonging to a category not provided for in the analysis will be shown in this Col. Particulars will be shown, e.g., 20 U.K. Forces; 10 N.Z. Forces

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

OFFICERS JOINED DURING WEEK.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit From.	Date.	CAUSE.
SX 8209	Lieut	WARBURTON WA	SA L of C Area		Returned to Unit
SX 6706	"	LANGSFORD P	"		" " "
			"		

OFFICERS QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit To.	Date.	CAUSE.

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO (Unit) IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED / /194 .

Army No.	Rank	Name and Initials	REMARKS [e.g. present whereabouts if known].

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

2/27 Aust Inf Bn .....Unit

Army Form W.3008
(Adapted) (Page 2)
[Revised Jan., 1943]
1 24 (Serial No.)

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON POSTED STRENGTH

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 16/10/1943 (Total to Agree with Columns 4 and 7 of Part A).

1 Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held.	2 Army Number	3 Surname.	4 Initials.	5 Posting.	6 Whether present with Unit [insert Yes or No]	7 If not present with Unit, state how employed.	8 Date of Detachment.
Maj(T/LtCl)	VX 35	BISHOP	JA	CO	Yes		
Maj	SX 3709	McKINNA	JG	2i/c	No	Det 7 AUST DIV LOB Gp	
"	VX 36378	WHITE	DAH	OCHGCoy	Yes		
Capt(T/Maj)	SX 2915	JOHNSON	RL	OCCCoy	Yes		
Capt	SX 2924	TOMS	SJ	OCBCoy	Yes		
Lt(T/Capt)	SX 9455	SIMS	CAW	OCACoy	Nos	Sick Hospital NG/ Reptd to K SL	
"	SX 6219	FAWCETT	GH	OCDCoy	Yes		
"	SX 2955	LEE	JD	QM	Yes		
Capt	SX 4530	PUTTMAN	RM	2i/cCCy	No	Det 7 AUST DIV LOB Gp	
Lt(T/Capt)	SX 2921	BEARE	JH	Adjt	Yes		
"	SX 2642	MADIGAN	RJ	2i/cBCy	No	Det 7 AUST DIV LOB Gp	
"	NX116841	RICHARDSON	EGD	2i/cDCy	No	Det 7 AUST DIV LOB Gp	
Lieut	VX 41615	BELL	FD	-	No	Hosp NG Med report awaited	
"	SX 3169	CLAMPETT	RW	OC 3Pl	Yes		
"	SX 2633	KING	GA	OC15Pl	Yes		
"	SX 2795	TRENERRY	AR	OC16Pl	Yes		
"	SX 9362	REDDIN	JW	IO	Yes		
"	SX 8209	WARBURTON	WA	2i/cACy	Nos	Det 7 AUST DIV LOB Gp	
"	SX 12503	COOK	FT	OC 5Pl	Yes		
"	SX 6706	LANGSFORD	P	OC13Pl	Yes		
"	SX 4627	SMYTH	JM	OC 1Pl	Yes		
"	SX 2914	CROCKER	KF	OC11Pl	Yes		
"	SX 2797	TWIST	LF	OC 2Pl	Yes		
"	SX 3078	JOHNS	RD	OC 7Pl	Yes		
"	SX 3278	MACDONALD	GG	OC17Pl	Yes		
"	SX 3121	SUTTON	AJ	OC10Pl	Yes		
"	SX 2775	MACPHERSON	WH	OC 8Pl	Yes		
"	NX127269	GOODE	HR	TO	Yes	Att pend post from 16 A.M.R.	
"	NX123471	GARNOCK	JC	OC 9Pl	Yes		
"	NX127265	FISHER	CM	OC14Pl	Yes		
"	NX114388	YOUNG	NA	OC 4Pl	No	Hosp NG	
"	NX127106	McRAE	GC	OC12Pl	Yes		
"	NX 34444	ARNOTT	DBH	-	No	Det 7 AUST DIV LOB Gp	
"	NX112073	ROBILLIARD	GHG	OC18Pl	Yes		
Capt	SX 2893	SANDISON	CH	-	No	To 2 Aust Corps Reception Camp fpr transfer	
~~Lieut~~	~~NX33399~~	~~WILLIAMS~~	~~HI~~	~~-~~	~~No~~	~~16 Aust Motor Regt Returns to Australia for discharge to be War Correspondent~~	

PART E.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER UNITS.

Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank, if Held.	Army Number.	Name and Initials.	Unit.	Date of Attachment.	Nature of Attachment.
Capt	SX 11061	NORMAN H	AA Ch D		Chaplain
"	VX 39525	GOVE W	AAMC		RMO
"		CHURCH	2/6 Fd Amb		MO ADS
"					
"					

16 Oct 43
Date of Despatch

K.K. Goode Lieut for Lt-Col
Signature of Commander
Comd 2/27 Aust Inf Bn

First Aust Army Mob Print Unit—A72—62½M—5/43.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

Army Form W.3009 (Adapted)
(Page 1)
(Revised Jan. 1943.)
1/24 (Serial No.)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 16/10/1943 2/27 Aust Inf Bn (Unit)

W.E. 11/12c 2. OFFRS. 32 O.R's. 739 OFFRS. 1 O.R's. 35 ATT. BY W.E.

Part A. Posted Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements Required.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W E				
Reinfts. Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W E.	Deficient W E	Reinfts Required.
			1	W.Os. Class I					
			6	W.Os. Class II.		1			
~~1~~	1		4	Squadron or Company Quartermaster Sgts					
		1	1	Staff Sergeants					
~~3~~	3		28	Sergeants		10			
~~10~~	10		54	Corporals		7		1	1
~~197~~ 211	197	16	451	Troopers, Privates, etc		15		1	1
				Civilians counting as O.R					
211 *	211	17	545 *	Totals of cols marked * should agree with details shown in Part E on Page 2.		33 *		2	2 *

Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in para. 7 of instructions for compilation of this return will complete analysis of Part B(1) and B(2).

* * Personnel belonging to a category not provided for in the analysis will be shown in this Col. Particulars will be shown, e.g., 20 U.K. Forces, 10 N.Z. Forces

Detail		A.I.F	C.M.F Under 19 Years.	C.M.F 19 Years and over	A W A.S.	A.A.M.W S.	CIVIL	R.A.N.	R.A.A.F.	* *	TOTAL
A		545	Medical Class A1					[redacted]	[redacted]		
B(1)		nil	"		"	B					
B(2)							[redacted]				

Part B. Other Ranks Attached from Other Units.

Number of O.Rs	Unit to which they belong	Number of O.Rs	Unit to which they belong
10	2/4 Fd Amb		
4	ANGAU		
2	AA Ch D		
1	Canungra Trg Centr		
2	7 AUST DIV Sigs		
1	FSS		

Part C. Other Ranks Included in Part A Detached to Other Units.

Number of O.Rs	Unit to which detached	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which detached

Part D. Description of Other Ranks Whose Return To ..... (Unit) is Particularly Requested. ...../...../194.....

Army No	Rank	Name and Initials	REMARKS (e.g., present whereabouts if known).

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

2/27 Aust Inf Bn ..... *Unit*

Army Form W 3009
(Adapted) (Page 2)
(Revised Jan., 1943)
1 / 24 Serial No.

PART E. Detail of Present Strength and Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009 at 0600 Hours Saturday 16 / 10 / 1943 .

Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I.	W E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.
Ammunition Examiners			
Armament Artificer Fitter			
Armament Artificer Fitter (Electrical)			
Armament Artificer Fitter (M.V.)			
Armament Artificer Fitter (A.F.V.)			
Armament Artificer Instrument			
Armament Artificer Radio			
Armament Artificer Signals			
Armament Artificer Wireless			
Artificer, Artillery			
Artificer, Engine			
Blacksmiths		1	
Bricklayers		1	
Computors			
Cooks, Hospital			
Coppersmiths			
Dispensers			
Draughtsmen			
Draughtsmen (Architectural)			
Draughtsmen (Engineering)			
Draughtsmen (Mechanical)			
Draughtsmen (Topographical)			
Electricians			
Electricians (M.V.)			
Electricians (Signals)			
Fitters			
Fitters (Cycle)			
Fitters (Electrical)			
Fitters (Gun)			
Fitters (Instrument)			
Fitters (M.V.)			
Fitters, Railway Signal			
Fitters, Signals			
Grinder, Precision			
Mechanics, Instrument			
Mechanics, Instrument (Signals)			
Mechanics, Instrument (Surgical)			
Mechanics, Radio			
Mechanics, Typewriter			
Mechanics, Wireless			
Millwrights			
Operators, Excavator			
Pattern Maker			
Pharmacist			
Photographer, Wet Plate			
Photowriter			
Plumber			
Saw Doctors			
Surveyors			
CARRIED FORWARD		2	

Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I. (cont.) Forward	W E	Posted Strength 2	Reints. Required
Surveyors, Engineering			
Surveyors, R.A.A.			
Surveyors, Topographical			
Surveyors, Trigonometrical			
Toolmakers			
Turners			
Watchmakers			
Welders			
GROUP II.			
Armourers			
Axemen			
Bakers			
Bty. Comd's. Asst.			
Boilermakers			
Carpenters	6	5	1
Carpenters and Joiners			
Cooks			
Dental Mechanics			
Driver-Mech. (Eng. and Med.)			
Driver-Operator		2	
Drainers			
Electricians			
Electricians (Engineers)			
Fire Control Operators			
Gun Operator			
Hatchman			
Height Taker			
Helio Operator			
Instrument Operator			
Intelligence Duties	7	4	3
Joiners			
Lineman			
Lineman, Signals			
Lithographers			
Machinists, Metal			
Machinists, Wood			
Masons			
Masseurs			
Mechanics, M.T.			
Miners			
Moulders			
Nurses, Trained			
Observation Post Assts.			
CARRIED FORWARD	13	13	4

Details of Tradesmen. GROUP II. (cont.) Forward	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.
Operating Room Assts.			
Operator, Keyboard			
Operator, Line			
Operator, Signal			
Operator, Switchboard			
Operator, Wireless			
Opticians			
Painters			
Panel Beaters			
Photographer, Dry Plate			
Predictor Numbers			
Printers			
Radiographers			
Riggers			
Sawyers			
Signallers	24	19	5
Signwriters			
Telescope Identfn Numbers			
Well Borers			
Wheelers			
Winchman			
Wireman			
Woodturners			
GROUP III.			
Battery Surveyors			
Butchers	1	2	
Clerks	4	4	
Clerks, Supply			
Clerks, Technical			
Coach Trimmers			
Concretors			
Cooks			
Dental Clerk Orderlies			
Despatch Riders			
Draughtsmen, Signals			
Drivers, H.T.			
Driver Mechanics		11	
Driver Tptn. Plant			
Engine Hands, I.C.			
Equipment Repairers	1	1	
Farriers			
Fitters' Mates			
Gun Layers			
CARRIED FORWARD	43	50	9

Details of Tradesmen. GROUP III. (cont.) Forward	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.
G.P.O. Assistants			
Hammermen			
Leather Stitchers			
Orderlies, Nursing			
Orderlies, Nursing Mental			
Plate Layers			
Rangetakers	4	3	1
Riveters			
Roughriders			
Saddlers			
Saddletree makers			
Shoemaker and Boot Repairer			
Stevedores			
Stokers, Staty. Engine			
Storemen, Technical	3	3	
Tailors	1		1
Textile Refitters			
Tinsmiths			
Vulcanizers			
Wagon Erectors			
Whitesmiths			
WO1	1	1	
WO11	6	6	
CQMS	5	4	1
S/Sgt		1	
Sgt	31	28	3
Cpl	64	54	10
DETAILS OF NON-TRADESMEN.			
Tk/Atk	15	12	3
Mortarmen	28	22	6
MMG	20	5	15
Water D/M	2	2	
Hygiene	4	2	2
S B	18	15	3
R MP	6	5	1
Riflemen	488	332	156 / 170
ATTACHED BY W.E.			
AAMC	4	3	1
AACC	23	23	
AEME	4	3	1
AA POSTAL	1	1	
AA PAY C	2	2	
AAOC	1	1	
Totals of columns marked * to agree with columns 4 and 7, and 1 and 10 of Part A respectively	774 *	578 *	213 *

NOTES.—(a) If rank other than private is involved give details on back.
(b) Authorised trades or specialists not included in list will be added as required in spaces provided.
(c) Where A.W.A.S. and/or A.A.M.W.S. personnel are desired show details on back.
(d) Where replacement not desired note accordingly on return by insertion of N.R. in col. "Reints. Required."
(e) Where any request or notation is made on back of form, the words "See Back" should be written in one of the blank spaces on this page.

16 Oct 43 ..... *Date of Despatch*

K H Goodlet Lieut for Lt-Col ..... *Signature of Commander*
Comd 2/27 Aust Inf Bn

First Aust Army Mob Print Unit—A76—30M—5/43

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

GUYS POST 18 OCT 43

Ref DUMPU 686593

0915 Our official total of JAPS killed by Bn since leaving KAIAPIT is 165,this count is the numbered buried by our troops and includes 22 JAPS buried by thier comrad-es,a number of these graves were large enough to hold more than 1 JAP but credit has only been taken for 1 each respectively.

0950 Coy Cmdrs con ference finished, CO outlined the following and the instructions are to be strictly adhered to. (1) CO detailed casualty rate due to sickness, this presenting and alarming figure (2) Casualties caused by accident.
Policy in future,
(a)..... Any man found walking about with his weapon cocked will be charged.
(b)..... All troops to sleep off ground.
(c)..... Strict malarial precautions to be taken.
(d)..... All water if not boiled to be sterilized.
(e)..... All holes containing water and not having adequate drainage to be filled in.
(f)..... All troops to shave daily.
(g) ..... Troops to use only,latrines in special area.
(h)..... HQ Coy to patrol and contact Lieut Suttons standing patrol each day,mainly for exercise.

1050 Brig Estick,Col.Beare ADMS,Padre Maj Reeding,and Padre Rosenshjar the RC Padre.

1130 14 Pl Cmd Sgt Phillips set out to recce new L of C to 2/16 Bn positions.

1145 Lieut Mc Pherson and Pl moved into D Coy area at GUYS POST. Cpl Hawkes of FSW brought back instruction f from Bde that breast pocket lapels of JAP PW must NOT be removed in future. If lapel taken off dead,care must be taken to mark from which breast pocket the lapel is removed as some have been found to be marked with Unit name and rank. All Coys notified of this instruction.

1200 Bde I O with Bn IO in conference.

1300 RC Mass held in trees near B Coy kitchen.

1430 Sjt Hale of Int Section returned from SHAGGY RIDGE after sketching this area. Bde Int Summary received and passed on to CO. Brig Estick and party plus War Correspondent returned to Bde.

1700 14 Pl arrived at BEVERIDGES POST contacted C Coy by phone.A Coy on SHAGGY RIDGE sent out patrol of 3 men.

182 0 14 Pl reported into GUYS POST

1835 Capt Vickers of the ROYAL ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERS who has been making observations on our methods and equipment has established his HQ at GUYS POST.

GUYS POST. 19 OCT 43.

0930 Padre Norman and Capt Vickers of REME gone back to Bde. Two recce patrols from B Coy set out. Lieut Twist and 22 OTR's from HQ Coy move out on routine patrol to BERTS POST 688606 KUMBARUM 1to 25,000.

0935 Pte.Roy McLeod instructed I Section on double trans-position cypher.

1050 CO on phone to Bri,movie photographer in area taking shots for MH & I Branch.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

GUYS POST 19 OCT 43

Ref KUMBARUM 698609 1 to 25,000

1105 CO on phone to Capt Toms, discussed position of B Coy on SHAGGY RIDGE.

1145 Lieut Twist and HQ Coy patrol contact B Coy Patrol in Saddle Area 687600.

1200 Int Section informed all Coys that written reports will be made out after all patrols,and forwarded to Bn Int Section immediately on return. The Pro Forma for such reports was forwarded to all Coys.

1215 10 Pl patrol No 1. returned from track recce see appendix "C23".

1425 10 Pl patrol No 2. reports no sign of movement see appendix "C24".

1500 Maj Lee Cmndr of 2/14 Bn visited Lt Col Bishop.Capt Toms contacted Lieut Crocker onpatrol SHAGGY RIDGE reported progress to CO.Capt Toms to move back to Lieut Suttons old position 686614. PIB patrol located in this area. Lt Col Bishop instructed PIB to await B Coy and A Coy actions on SHAGGY RIDGE,and follow through when pocket is cleared.

1525 A Coy instructed to move along right of SHAGGY RIDGE in the morning and in co-operation with B Coys patrol

1535 Lieut Twist and patrol of 22 men returned from routine patrol to BERTS POST. See appendix "C25".

1715 Lieut Reddin proceeded to B Coy.

1745 Capt Beare the Adjt informed Lieut Sutton of B Coy the instructions issued to PIB.

1747 Col spoke to Brigadier on phone re PIB patrol.

1820 Lieut Hughes IO 2/16 Bn spoke to Lt Col Bishop MBE about 2/16 Bn Coy attack on JAP pocket across FARIA RIVER from thier position. Attack to commence on first light on 20th ~~XXX~~.

1830 IO reported by phone arrived at B Coy HQ .

2000 CO talking on phone to 2/16 Bn. Made arrangements for Lieut Clampitt to keep his eyes on JAPS occupying the PLATEAU 705625.

GUYS POST 20 OCT 43

0600 Stand to. Arty ranging on THE PLATEAU.

0700 Stand down. Nil report.

0800 Sjt phillips to guide Boong Train up new track to 2/16 Positions; See appendix "C26". Patrol by Cpl Sharard of B Coy move out from BERTS POST to observe any sign of ENEMY ACTIVITY.

0815 C Coy to cut steps and improve track to B Coy at rear of SHAGGY RIDGE.

0845 B Coy reports on thier progress towards ENEMY positono on Pinnacle SHAGGY RIDGE. B Coy HQ moved forward to hut on hill and 7Pl under Lieut Johns taking up positon at 786614.

0915 CO on phone to BM;resume of A Coy and B Coy progress and intentions. CO enquired of 2/16 Bn action up FARIA RIVER,?NIL result.

0900 Lieut McRae and his Pl with full equipment moved up Green Spur of SHAGGY RIDGE to position where track disappears into dense foliage,later known as DONS POST 691620,he will make this position his Base and then move along SHAGGY RIDGE through the very thick timber and make contact with A Coy at the other end of SHAGGY RIDGE.Lieut Reddin will accompany this patrol. Will use Base for 24 hours and then return to B Coy HQ. PIB patrol to follow Lieut McRae when SHAGGY RIDGE IS cleared then move along ridge in general direction MT PROTHERO ~~XXXXX~~ 681653.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

GUYS POST 20 OCT 44.

Ref DUMPU 1" to 1 Mile
684 590

1055 B Coy Patrol from BERTS POST progressed 2000 yards up high ground. Patrol sighted probably PIB.

1120 A Coy within hearing distance of ENEMY position, can hear chopping and voices. B Coy warned of A Coy position and progress made.

1200 CO on phone with Lieut Clampett, received information of progress and appreciation of position on SHAGGY RIDGE. Men now within 5 yards of 4 strand barbwire fence in fromt of ENEMY position, majority of Pl within 30 yards. JAP position overlooks our troops and there is a 100' steep gully with precipitous banks between our troops and the ENEMY which hampers our advance. On both flanks there is a Cliff face. On the Southernsaide there is the 4 strand barbwire fence with warning devices attached. The highest point is covered with kunia grass and in this the JAPS have cut fire lanes. JAPS have dug in and bunkered thier positions on the left flank. The Arty registered hits this morning. Suggested that our Tps rush position via track leading up the centre with Arty Barrage as support. The lads are worn out from journey up there and would take a days preparation for sub unit to encircle JAP positions. PIB Patrol report that the JAP positions is the same as that located by Mc Culloch Patrol of last week and found to strong to attack. J AP has since improved the position. CO on phone to Brig Dougherty and gave him his plan - Improve track today and in the morning move C Coy with HQ Coy in support, move in afternoon; D Coy to hold GUYS POST and supply men for escort. Estimate C Coy complete encircling move by day after tomorrow. Attack from NNW with C Coy and 1Pl B Coy. C Coy to hold and give support from Razor back Ridge leaving 2 Pl's of B Coy handy and in reserve. Attack to be carried out with Arty concentration plus Bn 3"M and Vickers. Brig inanswer said " He did not wish to further exhaust the Bn and he would confer with the GOC this afternoon and he thought the higher plan might eventually obviate the necessity of carrying out this attack, but we were to minimise the risk of ENEMY re-inforcing by us keeping a careful watch on the position and there was NO desperate hurry to clear them out" The Brig agreed with the CO that we continue in improving the track and hold BEVERIDGES AND GUYS POST and with 2 Coys placed on SHAGGY RIDGE and SADDLE adjoining same to LAKES HILL, continue patrolling gathering as much topographical information and information re ENEMY as possible. PIB to remain with C Coy until further orders.

1220 Patrol observed 400 yards from BERTS POST HQ and fwd of them. 9 men probably PIB. The going is very hard and it will be sometime before thier identity will be ascertained

1300 CO on phone to Brig Dougherty.

1320 CO on phone with A Coy and received latest reports on situation on SHAGGY RIDGE.

1450 2/14 Bn Company Cmdrs pay CO visit.

1515 Recce patrol lead by Cpl Sharrard 10 Pl B Coy reported in See appendix "C28".

1520 Sgt Phillips with 14 Pl Track Recce returns to GUYS POST. See appendix "C26".

1530 HQ Coy Patrol to BERTS POST returned. See appendix "C27".

1730 Bn in contact via "walkie talkie" with B Coy. NO schedule arranged. Int report on PW previously captured by Bn received from Bde. See appendix "D6".

1810 2/16 Bn talking on phone with Capt Beare. Informed CO of thier intention to attack Green Plateau between first light and 2[illegible]0900L.

1845 Informed of Arty shoot during night.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

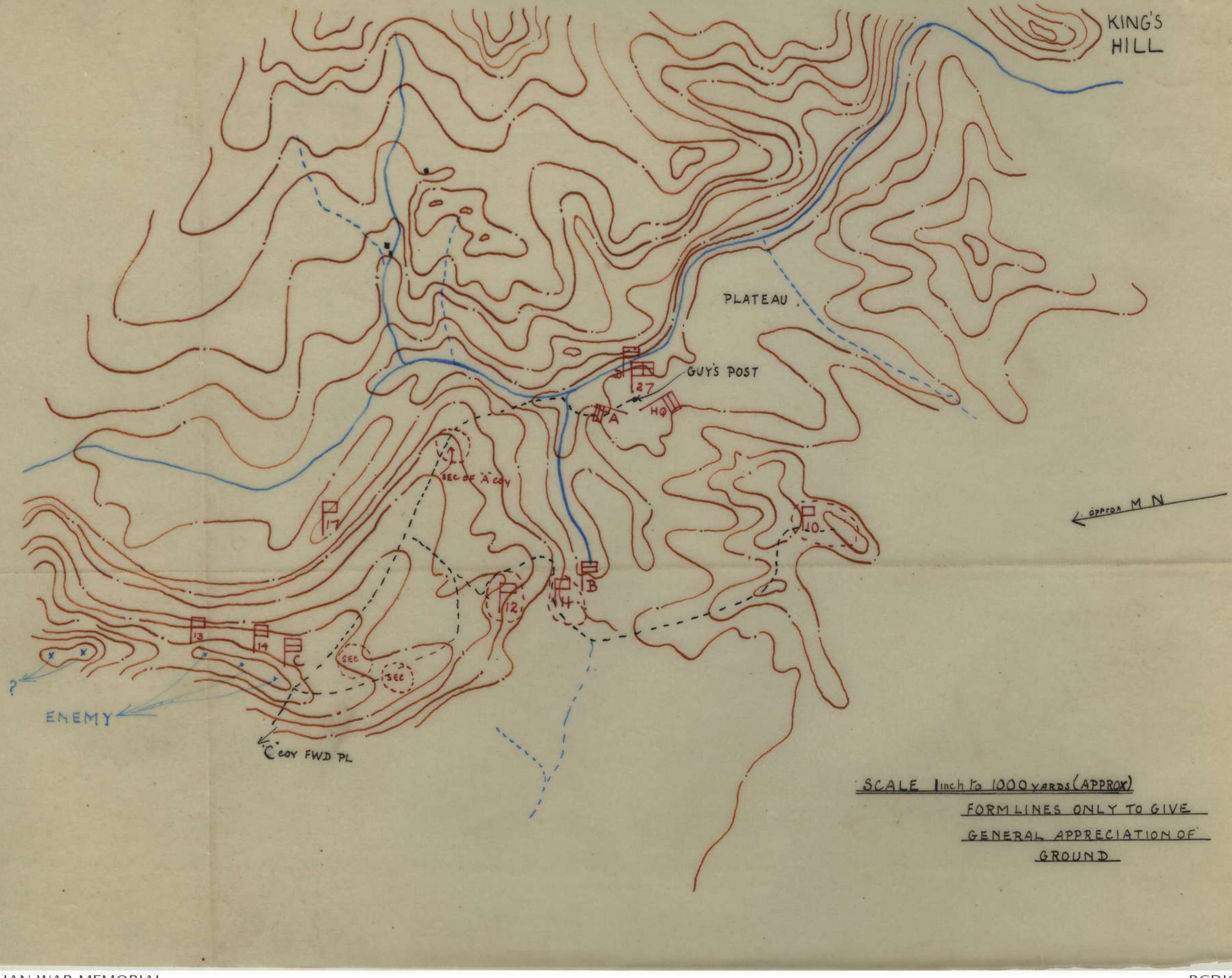
EYE SKETCH

Scale 1" to 1000 yds (V-approx)
Not formlines - only general
to give appreciation of ground
Note! SHAGGY RIDGE exaggerated

2/27 Bn
HIMI Int Sec
22 Oct 43

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

SKETCH OF "C" COY AND BN POSITION
22 OCT 43



SCALE 1 inch to 1000 YARDS (APPROX)

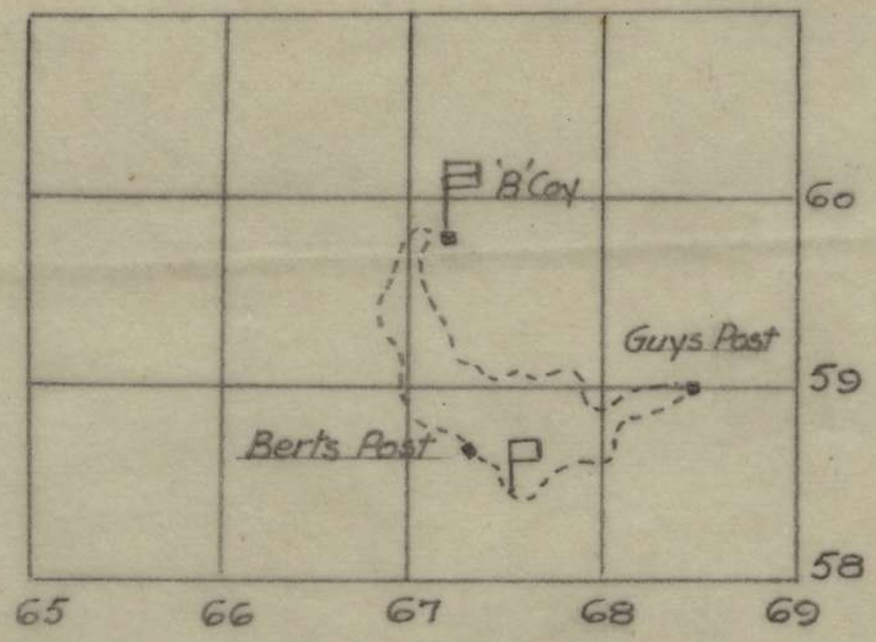
FORM LINES ONLY TO GIVE GENERAL APPRECIATION OF GROUND

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

OVERLAY SHOWING TRACKS - GUYS POST - 'B' Coy

Ref Map DUMPU 1" to 1 mile

RF 1:63360



Scale 1" to 1 mile

HIMI Int Sec
22 Oct 43

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

GUYS POST. 21 OCT 44.

Ref DUMPU 1" to 1 Mile
684590

0800 Recce Patrol from BERTS POST to follow old track NW of SHAGGY RIDGE. Believe this track leads up to SHAGGY RIDGE FEATURE.
0845 Fresh meat and bread today.
1000 CO gone up to B Coy position.
1030 New Mt KUBARI 1" to 1 Mile sheets received from Bde.
1222 Capt Holly Bde LO arrive GUYS POST, also Lieut Driver and Lieut Williams of Public Relations. Capt Holly to erect sign at turnoff at new 2/16 Bn L of C track on FARIA RIVER JUNCTION, on his way back to Bde.
1250 The Col with Maj Johnson and Capt Church of Light Section Sgt Rose and Cpl Le Messurier arrived at B Coy HQ. Capt Toms turned on an excellent lunch for the unexpected visitors. View obtained from B Coy HQ covers from WONKIN HILL GUSAP RIVER SURINAM RIVER AND RAMU RIVER. The large strip near Gusap River and in centre of Valley is well defined. Bde 2/14 and HQ positions easily picked out, the Arty Guns can also be seen plainly. The Jap is on a higher feature than B Coy and quite possibly has a better view.
1310 Lieut Driver to interview some of the Bn well known identities for country papers information and use.
1315 CO and party at BERTS POST. Very interested in possible Jeep tracks through Lakes Area, and below LAKES HILL. C Coy escort from 2/16 L Of C reported in. Message dogs to be returned immediately to Bde as theh are waiting for t them to leave with rest of dogs;
1500 Mr Reddin rang from A Coy. Arty required D 5 Phonr plus 3/4 mile of wire to be sent up.
1630 IO returned from B Coy position. This morning he left B Coy withpatrol to observe JAP positions. Left patrol and proceeded to A Coy position and thence back to Bn.
1640 CO arrived back from visit to B Coy.
1707 Arty shooting on SHAGGY RIDGE using delayed fuse shells. B Coy patrol reports received. See appendix "C29"

GUYS POST. 684590 22 OCT 43

0830 C Coy continue improving track. To make alteration at top end as suggested by Maj Johnson yesterday. Escort with Boong train for 2/16 Bn supplied by D Coy left.
0900 BERTS POST patrolling NNW from these HQ's.
1400 Brigadier Dougherty and Bde Major arrived at GUYS POST after visiting BUFFALOE POINT. Missed new turnoff inFARIA RIVER for 2/16 Bn L Of C. Brig to stay night then proceed to 2/16 Bn in the morning.
1430 Sign post sent down to be erected at 2/16 Bn L of C turnoff.
1520 Arty shell SHAGGY RIDGE. (Patrol reports see appdx "C30, - (C31, C32, C33, C34, C35.)

GUYS POST 684590 23 OCT 43

0730 A Coy reported in by phone. Nil repoert for last night.
0830 C Coy continue woth track. constuction and improvements. Maj Johnson released from 2/6 Light Section, fully recovered from malarial attack and now in Cmd C Coy.
0910 Brig left GUYS POST for 2/16 Bn position on JOHNS KNOLL, accompanied by BM. Intention to return here and stay the night.
1000 Brigade Orderly Room WO1 payed Bn a visit.
1045 Padre Norman arrived back after two day visit to Rear Deatails. Pay Sjt Smith on visit to check up details with Sjt McCormick.
1100 New pass word issued all Coy informed
1140 BUFFALOE POINT relieved by 18PL.
1530 BM learner and Lieut Saunders of 7 Div HQ plus S/Sjt Pemberton of Bde I Sec arrived at GUYS POST.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

GUY'S POST. 23 OCT 43.

Ref. DUMPU I" to I mile.
684590.

I600 Lieut. Garnock and nine platoon relieved Lieut. Crocker and platoon forward on Shaggy Ridge this morning. They reported no sign of enemy seen or heard. C. O. ordered a patrol to be sent forward to investigate and warn them to be very of a trap. Patrol crawled under barbwire fence and investigated Jap position, reported enemy withdrawn. See appendix C35.
I6I0 Brig. arrived back from 2/I6th visit.
I7I0 Jap position occupied by nine platoon. Found in area thirty-four foxholes, a large dugout also equipment and papers and several humpy shelters. Patrol moved forward further threehundred yards and heard chopping and digging Lieut. Robilliard and I8 platoon ordered forward.

GUY'S POST. 24 OCT 43.

0830 C. Coy., left position at GUY'S POST to relieve A. Coy., on SHAGGY RIDGE . A. Coy. to return to GUY'S POST and occupy C. Coy's previous positions.
0845 Brig. and Bde-Major Learner returned to Bde area with escort. C.O. plus I.O. and Sgt Wallace of Int. Sec. with Bde. Int. Sgt. left GUY'S POST to inspect A. and B. Coys, Positions on SHAGGY RIDGE. Sgt. Wallace to make map adjustments as near as feasable to the mush contorted U.S. Survey (Aerial+) map
0920 C. Coy. Q.M. and cooks plus boongs move out for SHAGGY RIDG
0930 Padre Norman held church parade followed by Holy Communion I7 Platoon relieved I6 Platoon at BEVERIDGE'S POST.
0940 Pay Sgt, Smith left for 2/27th Batt. rear details in Bde. area.
0950 I8 Platoon moved forward to locate enemy positions on SHAGGY RIDGE. Patrol fired on. Pte Truscott forward scout shot by sniper. Owing to the nature of the country patrol could not advance further. Truscott missing believed killed.
I005 Major Mc KInna (2 I.C.2/27th Batt.) and batman arrived from L.O.B. plus two O.RS.
II00 Two members of malarial squad reported into GUY'S POST
II30 I6 Platoon returned after being relieved at BEVERIDGE'S POS by I7 Platoon. See appendix C.37.
I430 C.O. andI.O. arrived at forward position on SHAGGY'S RIDGE. C. Coy. in process of relieving A. Coy.
I530 H.Q. Coy. Patrol returns. See apendix C.36.
I600 A. Coy. relief complete
I700 Lieut. Langsford and I4 Pl. sent forward two hundred yards to occupy razor back ridge leading up to large saddle aprox. three hundred yards off highest wooded peak on feature. Jap sniper operating from peak slightly wounded Cpl. Deering and a Pte. as they were digging in. Capt. "Blue" White who had remained with C. Coy. registered shots on new Jap positions. C.O. and I.O. plus party returned to GUY'S POST. Sgt.Wallace took bearings and definately pinpointed GUY'S POST, B. Coy. Position and SHAGGY RIDGE etc.
I800 A.Coy. in lines at GUY'S POST. Handed captured enemy documents in to be forwarded for interpretation to Bde.
I900 Stand To.
2000 Stand Down, nil report.
20I0 Sitrep from Bde. received by phone.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

GUY'S POST. 25 OCT 43.

Ref. DUMPU I" to I mile.
684590.

1000 C. Coy. up forward on SHAGGY RIDGE to construct track on opposite side of razor back, making journey backward and forward safer for troops C. COY. tobe supplied by route through B.Coy L. of C. C. O. instructed Maj. Johnston to move the platoon now on SHAGGY RIDGE and kitchen area up C.Coy. position. One section of A. Coy. will replace them. The C.O. inquired whether the barbwire or the supporting arms be of any assistance. Maj. Johnston thought either unnecessary. All Coys. and Batt. H.Q. to put out recognition strips,air, at first light tomorrow and leave till dusk, Aerial Photographic Unit to operate this area, weather permitting.

1130 C.O. gone to Bde. for two days accompanied by Maj. White who is returning to Pt. Moresby to take command of 7th. L.O.B group. Staff Sgt. Penkerton . Bde. I.Sec. also returned to his home manger, taking with him Jap documents captured during A. Coy's occupation of Jap position on SHAGGY RIDGE. Corporal Buff Deering and the other wounded man both of C.Coy., reported in to 6th. Field Amb., Light Section, Cpl. Deering reports boongs at Faria River and Creek junction below GUY'S POST, very exited, say"Jap man he come this way".

1145 Maj. Mc Kinna assumes command during C.O's absence, on visit to forward Coy's. Cpl. Jones of D.Coy who escorted to 2/16th Batt, the boong train, reported having been fired on between the third and fourth river croosing from BEVERIDGE'S POST, whilst on the way back to GUY'S POST. Sgt. Clark of Angau definately saw two Japs on the top of the Knoll on the North bank of the Faria River. The Japs fired two bursts of L.M.G., One high the other to the rear of train.

1200 Lieut. Trenerry and two sections from D. Coy to move out and clear area of Japs. Sgt. Driscoll commanding BEVERIDGE'S POST instructed to send a sec. to FARIA.R. and take up ambush positions Mr. Trenerry to contact this section in river. Lieut. Redden informed Lieut. Hughes of the 2/16th Batt . of our Intentions. C. Coy also warned.

1240 Fourteen Warhawks overhead.Evidently part of Air strike formation, followed by Boomerangs

1245 Arty shoot commenced also air strike.

1420 Firing of S. A.,L.M.G's. and three inch mortor heard in the direction of 2/16th forward Coy.

1425 Contacted BEVERIDGE'S POST for information on firing heard. Lieut Robilliard and 18 platoon on five mins notice to move.

1427 BEVERIDGE'S POST report firing well forward of their position.

1535 Art opened up using smoke shells firing forward of 2/16th positions.

1600 I.O. on phone to C.O., as result of their talk One section of eight platoon to occupied thirteen platoon's position on SHAGGY RIDGE (Sou-East corner), Thirteen platoon to move up and join main body of C. Coy. One section of C. Coy to be allocated to guard kitchen and water area. BEVERIDGE'S POST will be relieved by 2/16th sub-unit and the relieved platoon under Sgt. Driscoll to take up a position on the PLATEAU, opposite Side of FARIA RIVER to BEVERIDGE'S POST. Sgt Driscoll to take up position in trees at rear of PLATEAU, and cover wooded re-entrant at his rear, also to establish O.P. to cover FARIA RIVER and surrounding hills.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

RF. 1 1:1800.

SKETCH of GUYS POST SHOWING.

HIMI. DISPNS. - Ref Map DUMPU - 1" to 1 mile.

2/27 Bn



SCALE 1 inch to 50 yds.

VI - 25 ft approx

25 Oct 43

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

GUY'S POST. 25 OCT 43.

Ref. Dumpu I" to a mile.
684590

I605 C. Coy. report that Boomerangs fired on ~~twin~~ from TWIN HILLS, and that Jap woodpecker operating from that position firing at 2/I6th area.
I6I0 BEVERIDGE'S POST report that fifteen men passed on down the river going toward GUY'S POST.
I720 Lieut. Trenerry with patrol returned to GUY'S POST after thoroughly searching area for Jap ambush party on our L.O.C. between GUY'S and BEVERIDGE'S POSTS. Seeappendix C. 38.
I730 One section of I8 platoon to go up FARIA RIVER and escort back from 2/I6th, stretcher cases.
I735 I.O. Lieut Redden on phone to BERT'S POST; nil report from them and he gave them a resume of the days doings plus outside news.
I840 I8 platoon returned with 2/I6th stretcher cases.

GUY'S POST. 26 OCT 43.

0730 I.O. on phone with Maj. Johnston of C. Coy. Imformation given --- Change over at BEVERIDGE'S POST and relieved platoon to occupy new position on the PLATEAU north bank of FARIA RIVER approx. 686607.
Maj. Johnston gave shelling report of arty during night, Japs yelled and dug furiously. Nothing heard this morning presume Japs moved back from this area. C. Coy pushed recce. patrol forward along razor back, came to sheer rock face drop on left and very steep on the right Recce. patrol stopped within twenty to thirty yards from where Truscott was presumed killed.
0800 D. Coy escort for boong train to BEVERIDGE'S POST. Capt. Fawcett plus Coy H.Q. and one one platoon also went.
0900 Padre and Sgt. Mc Cormick set out for B. and C. Coys. ~~ar~~ areas to hold church service and check up admin. respectively.
0940 BEVERIDGE'S POST relieved by 2/I6th
I0I5 Padre at B. Coy.
I045 Stretcher cases left for Bde. area. Sgt. Wallace for rear details to fix War Diary.
III5 Message to all Coys. ---- The daily news sheet shall be sent to all platoons for troops information.
II30 W.O. I. Woodroofe of Bde. arrived.
II40 I.O. on phone with Maj. Johnstone. C. Coy. will construct track ~~tr~~ on left side of razor back ridge and sit there. Will send another recce. patrol forward ~~dow~~ down steep spur running to the WAND, and investigate huts seen at bottom. At the same time H.Q. Coy sending out patrol this morning. Route out through B. Coy H.Q. in a Nor-West direction around spur and inspect hut that can be seen from B. Coy area and proceed around spur on which said hut id located. Object to make sure no Japs in area and fix topography. C. Coy sending section down spur half the distance between DON'S POST and C. Coy to act as security to new L.O.C. Maj. Johnstone reported movement on THE PLATEAU, presumably D. Coy, C. Coy keeping close watch.
I200 Bdr. and two gunners arrived with wireless and phone to go forward to Capt. White at TWIN HILLS.
I540 Capt Bear on phone to Maj. Johnstone. G.O.C. at 2/I6th Battalion observed arty shoot on TWIN HILLS, shells covered the target area. Recce. party down spur (party from C. Coy.) did not arrive at their objective (hut) through intervening precipice. It took Boong train I½ hrs. from ~~D.~~ Coy DON'S POST to C. Coy kitchen.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

Army Form W.3008
(Adapted) (Page 1)
(Revised Jan., 1943)

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

...../.....(Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 23/10/194 3 2/27 Aust Inf Bn (Unit)

W.E. 11/120/2. OFFRS. 32 O.R's. 739 + OFFRS. 1 O.R's. 35 ATT. BY W.E.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.				
Rein'fts Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Rein'fts Required.
				*					
				*					
			1	Lieut.-Colonels					
			3	Majors					
	1		7	Captains	AAMC	1			
		3	22	Lieutenants					
			1	Quarter-masters					
				A.A.N.S. and A.A.M.W.S. Offrs.					
				Civilians Counting as Offrs.					
	1	3	34			1			

	DETAIL		A.I.F.	C.M.F.	A.W.A.S.	A.A.N.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL.	R.A.N.	R.A.A.F.	**	TOTAL.
Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in pars. 10 of instructions for compilation of form will complete Part E(1) & E(2).	A.											
	E.(1)											
	E.(2)											

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.
** Personnel belonging to a category not provided for in the analysis will be shown in this Col. Particulars will be shown, e.g., 20 U.K. Forces; 10 N.Z. Forces.

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

OFFICERS JOINED DURING WEEK

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit From.	Date.	CAUSE.
~~3K.2339~~	~~Lieut~~	~~GOOD~~	~~Dst~~ MG Dst Depot		R T U from Hospital

OFFICERS QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit To.	Date.	CAUSE.

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO.....(Unit) IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED. ...../...../194.....

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	REMARKS (e.g., present whereabouts if known).

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

2/27 Aust Inf Bn ..... Unit

Army Form W.3008
(Adapted) (Page 2)
(Revised Jan., 1943)
1 25 /..... (Serial No.)

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON POSTED STRENGTH

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 23 / 10 / 194 3 (Total to agree with Columns 4 and 7 of Part A.)

1 Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held.	2 Army Number.	3 Surname.	4 Initials.	5 Posting.	6 Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No)	7 If not present with Unit, state how employed.	8 Date of Detachment.
Maj (T/Lt Col)	VX 35	BISHOP	JA	Co	Yes		
Maj	SX 3709	McLEAN	JG	2i/c	Yes		
"	VX 36368	WILLIS	[illegible]	[illegible]oy	Yes		
Capt (T/Maj)	SX 2913	JOHNSON	RE	[illegible]oy	Yes		
Capt	SX 2924	TOMS	WE	[illegible]oy	Yes		
Lt(T/Capt)	SX 9455	SIMS	[illegible]	[illegible]oy	No	Sick Hosp HQ	
"	SX 6219	PARROTT	[illegible]	[illegible]oy	Yes		
"	SX 2955	LEE	JD	OC	Yes		
Capt	SX 4530	PUTTAM	[illegible]	2i/c Coy	No	Det 7 AUST DIV IOB Cp	
Lt(T/Capt)	SX 2921	BLAKE	JL	[illegible]11	Yes		
"	SX 2612	MADIGAN	[illegible]	2i/c Coy	No	Det 7 AUST DIV IOB Cp	
"	NX 31681	MACLANDRICH	[illegible]	2i/c Coy	No	Det 7 AUST DIV IOB Cp	
Lieut	VX 41615	BELL	FO	-	No	Hosp Aust.	
"	SX 3169	CLANCEY	[illegible]	[illegible]Coy	Yes		
"	SX 2633	LOUIS	GL	[illegible]Pl	Yes		
"	SX 2795	TRENDRICK	AR	[illegible]Pl	Yes		
"	SX 9362	RUDDUK	[illegible]	IO	Yes		
"	SX 12503	COOK	[illegible]	[illegible] Pl	Yes		
"	SX 6706	LANGSFORD	[illegible]	[illegible]Pl	Yes		
"	SX 1627	SMYTH	[illegible]	[illegible] Pl	Yes		
"	SX 2914	CHICKEN	[illegible]	[illegible]Pl	Yes		
"	SX 2797	SILK	[illegible]	[illegible] Pl	Yes		
"	SX 3678	JUDD	[illegible]	[illegible] Pl	Yes		
"	SX 3279	MACDONALD	[illegible]	[illegible]Pl	Yes		
"	SX 3121	BROOK	[illegible]	[illegible]Pl	Yes		
"	SX 2775	MACPHERSON	[illegible]	[illegible] Pl	Yes		
"	NX 27269	McCOB	[illegible]	IO	Yes	Att pend post from 16 A.H.R	
"	NX 23471	CARROLL	[illegible]	[illegible] Pl	Yes		
"	NX 27267	FISHER	[illegible]	[illegible]Pl	Yes	Att pend post from 16 A.H.R	
"	NX 14388	YOUNG	[illegible]	[illegible] Pl	No	Sick hosp HQ	
"	NX 27106	McRAE	[illegible]	[illegible]Pl	Yes		
"	VX 34444	ABBOTT	[illegible]	-	No	Det 7 AUST DIV IOB Cp	
"	NX 12673	MIDDLEJARD	[illegible]	[illegible]Pl	Yes		
"	SX 12330	GOOD	[illegible]	-	No	Det 7 AUST DIV IOB Cp	
Capt	SX 2893	SAUDISON	[illegible]	-	No	To 2 Aust Corp Reception Camp for transfer	

PART E.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER UNITS.

Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank, if Held.	Army Number.	Name and Initials.	Unit.	Date of Attachment.	Nature of Attachment.
Capt	SX 21063	FORMAN H	AASVN		Chaplain
"	VX 39525	CAVE [illegible]	[illegible]		RAC
"		CHAPMAN [illegible]	2/6 Fd Amb		MO Asst.

24 Oct 43 .....
Date of Despatch

K R Goode Lieut for Lt-Col .....
Signature of Commander
Cond 2/27 Aust Inf Bn

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

2/27 Aust Inf Bn ..... Unit

Army Form W 3009
(Adapted) (Page 2)
(Revised Jan., 1943)

1 / 25 Serial No.

PART E. Detail of Present Strength and Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009 at 0600 Hours Saturday 23 / 10 / 1943.

Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I.	W E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I. (cont.)	W E	Posted Strength	Reints. Required	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP II. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP III. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.
Ammunition Examiners				Surveyors, Engineering				Operating Room Assts.				G.P.O. Assistants			
Armament Artificer Fitter				Surveyors, R.A.A.				Operator, Keyboard				Hammermen			
Armament Artificer Fitter (Electrical)				Surveyors, Topographical				Operator, Line				Leather Stitchers			
Armament Artificer Fitter (M.V.)				Surveyors, Trigonometrical				Operator, Signal				Orderlies, Nursing			
Armament Artificer Fitter (A.F.V.)				Toolmakers				Operator, Switchboard				Orderlies, Nursing Mental			
Armament Artificer Instrument				Turners				Operator, Wireless				Plate Layers			
Armament Artificer Radio				Watchmakers				Opticians				Rangetakers	4	3	1
Armament Artificer Signals				Welders				Painters				Riveters			
Armament Artificer Wireless								Panel Beaters				Roughriders			
Artificer, Artillery								Photographer, Dry Plate				Saddlers			
Artificer, Engine								Predictor Numbers				Saddletree makers			
Blacksmiths								Printers				Shoemaker and Boot Repairer			
Bricklayers		1						Radiographers				Stevedores			
Computors								Riggers				Stokers, Staty. Engine			
Cooks, Hospital				GROUP II.				Sawyers				Storemen, Technical	3	3	
Coppersmiths				Armourers				Signallers	24	29	5	Tailors	2		1
Dispensers				Axemen				Signwriters				Textile Refitters			
Draughtsmen				Bakers				Telescope Identfn Numbers				Tinsmiths			
Draughtsmen (Architectural)				Bty. Comd's. Asst.				Well Borers				Vulcanizers			
Draughtsmen (Engineering)				Boilermakers				Wheelers				Wagon Erectors			
Draughtsmen (Mechanical)				Carpenters	6	3	3	Winchman				Whitesmiths			
Draughtsmen (Topographical)				Carpenters and Joiners				Wireman				NCO 2	2	2	
Electricians				Cooks				Woodturners				NCO 1	6	6	
Electricians (M.V.)				Dental Mechanics								Cpls	5	5	
Electricians (Signals)				Driver-Mech. (Eng. and Med.)								L/Cpl			1
Fitters				Driver-Operator		2						Sgt	32	30	
Fitters (Cycle)				Drainers								Cpl	64	59	
Fitters (Electrical)				Electricians											
Fitters (Gun)				Electricians (Engineers)											
Fitters (Instrument)				Fire Control Operators				GROUP III.				DETAILS OF NON-TRADESMEN.			
Fitters (M.V.)				Gun Operator				Battery Surveyors				Lt/Adt	15	12	4
Fitters, Railway Signal				Hatchman				Butchers	1	2		Batteries	20	22	7
Fitters, Signals				Height Taker				Clerks	4	4		HQ	20	6	14
Grinder, Precision				Helio Operator				Clerks, Supply				Motor Wks	2	2	
Mechanics, Instrument				Instrument Operator				Clerks, Technical				Signals	4	2	2
Mechanics, Instrument (Signals)				Intelligence Duties	7	2	5	Coach Trimmers				QM	15	15	2
Mechanics, Instrument (Surgical)				Joiners				Concretors				RAP	6	5	1
Mechanics, Radio				Lineman				Cooks				Attached	40	30	12
Mechanics, Typewriter				Lineman, Signals				Dental Clerk Orderlies							
Mechanics, Wireless				Lithographers				Despatch Riders				ATTACHED BY W.E.			
Millwrights				Machinists, Metal				Draughtsmen, Signals				AAHQ		4	3 1
Operators, Excavator				Machinists, Wood				Drivers, H.T.				AAQ	23	20	3
Pattern Maker				Masons				Driver Mechanics		11		AABS		3	3
Pharmacist				Masseurs				Driver Tptn. Plant				AA Postal		1	1
Photographer, Wet Plate				Mechanics, M.T.				Engine Hands, I.C.				AA Pay C		2	2
Photowriter				Miners				Equipment Repairers	1	1		AAOC		2	2
Plumber				Moulders				Farriers							
Saw Doctors				Nurses, Trained				Fitters' Mates							
Surveyors				Observation Post Assts.				Gun Layers							
CARRIED FORWARD		2		CARRIED FORWARD	13	8	8	CARRIED FORWARD	43	46	23	Totals of columns marked * to agree with columns 4 and 7, and 1 and 10 of Part A respectively	771	54*	243*

NOTES.—(a) If rank other than private is involved give details on back.
(b) Authorised trades or specialists not included in list will be added as required in spaces provided.
(c) Where A.W.A.S. and/or A.A.M.W.S. personnel are desired show details on back
(d) Where replacement not desired note accordingly on return by insertion of N.R. in col. "Reints. Required."
(e) Where any request or notation is made on back of form, the words "See Back" should be written in one of the blank spaces on this page.

24 Oct 43 ..... *Date of Despatch*

A R Lyon Lieut for Lt-Col ..... *Signature of Commander*

2/27 Aust Inf Bn

First Aust Army Mob Print Unit—A76—30M—5/43

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

Army Form W.3009 (Adapted)
(Page 1)
(Revised Jan. 1943.)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS

1 / 25 (Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 23 / 10 / 1943 2/27 Aust Inf Bn (Unit)

W.E. 11 / 12 / 2 OFFRS. 32 O.R's. 739 + OFFRS. 1 O.R's. 35 ATT. BY W.E.

Part A. Posted Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements Required.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W E				
Reinfts. Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W E.	Deficient W E	Reinfts Required.
			2	W.Os. Class I					
			6	W.Os. Class II.		2			
	2		4	Squadron or Company Quartermaster Sgts					
		1	1	Staff Sergeants					
	1		3	Sergeants		2		1	1
	5		59	Corporals		6		2	2
239	232	15	445	Troopers, Privates, etc		35		2	2
				Civilians counting as O.R					
239 *	239	16	516 *	Totals of cols marked * should agree with details shown in Part E on Page 2.		51 *		4	4 *

Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in para. 7 of instructions for compilation of this return will complete analysis of Part B(1) and B(2). * * Personnel belonging to a category not provided for in the analysis will be shown in this Col. Particulars will be shown, e.g., 20 U.K. Forces, 10 N.Z. Forces	Detail		A.I.F	C.M.F Under 19 Years	C.M.F 19 Years and over	A W A.S.	A.A.M.W S.	CIVIL	R.A.N.	R.A.A.F.	* *	TOTAL
	A	AI	516						[redacted]	[redacted]		
	B(1)		442									
	B(2)							[redacted]				

Part B. Other Ranks Attached from Other Units.

Number of O.Rs	Unit to which they belong	Number of O.Rs	Unit to which they belong
1	AA Gp D		
10	AMES		
1	2/2 Aust Inf Bn		
2	K Coc Dags		
2	ADOAU		
1	PRD		
6	AMOO		

Part C. Other Ranks Included in Part A Detached to Other Units.

Number of O.Rs	Unit to which detached	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which detached

Part D. Description of Other Ranks Whose Return To ..... (Unit) is Particularly Requested. ... / ... / 194 ...

Army No	Rank.	Name and Initials	REMARKS (e.g., present whereabouts if known).

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

GUY'S POST. 26 OCT 43.

Ref. DUMPU I" to a mile.
684590.

I540 C. Coy kitchen ten minutes from Coy H.Q. Dead Jap found in foxhole, papers and badges taken from corpse to be forwarded to B.H.Q. per boong train.
I630 Sgt, Driscoll contacted Batt. by phone from the PLATEAU
I700 Capt. Fawcett arrived at Btn.
I825 Lieut. Trenerry advised by Capt. Bear of his escort duties on the morrow. Sitrep to Bde. Maj. Mc Kinna on phone to Maj. Johnson. One thing referred to was 2/I6th Btn stunt tomorrow, Nothing known here, will check up. A section from GUY'S POST to go to DON'S POST to make a track forward to C. Coy area (5 pln).
I836 Message from Bde. to the effect that parcels may be posted with"no stamps availabe" on them. Normal postage charges must be paid by reciprient. Soldiers are advised to inform latter of this arrangement and save any misunderstanding.
I950 Mortar fire heard from the direction 2/I6th forward Coy.

GUY'S POST. 27 OCT 43.

0735 Plateau report Jap Mountain Gun firing on fwd 2/16Bn position.
0800 BBC News phoned to all Coys.HQ COy patrol left.
0830 Maj McKinna with Capt Fawcett and Lieut Mc Donald gone fwd to inspect PLATEAU POSITION.
0930 Pardre returned from visit to B Coy.DON & BERTS POSTS inclusive, stayed the night at B Coy HQ.
1045 IO on phone to Maj Johnson. IO on phone to PLATEAU latter to ring when Maj Mc Kinna arrives at that psn. Lieut King and patrol gone fwd to pin point ENEMY psn on SHAGGY RIDGE.
1100 Maj McKinna on phone to IO from PLATEAU. Lieut Mc-Donald to stay there;discussed patrols forward from PLATEAU to Wodded slopes East of JAPS psn on SHAGGY RIDGE.
1130 Lieut King patrol return having reached Saddle and located JAP positions.
1340 Maj Mc Kinna returns to GUYS POST?THOROUGHLY wet through and enjoyed every minute of thentrip.PLATEAU POST sent out patrol up Wooded re-enterant and tried to locate a track which Maj Johnson think starts from C Coy position on SHAGGY RIDGE and goes down towards wooded re-enterant and should link up with the PLATEAU.
1400 HQ patrol returned contacted NO ENEMY investigated Hut on Ridge and tracks on Western slopes of SHAGGY RIDGE,found NO sign of ENEMY.
1605 Arty shelling fwd of C Coy area. Positions pin pointed by Lieut Gordon King's patrol.
1905 Capt Fawcett on phone with Lieut McDonald who is now in command of PLATEAU AREA.
1950 Lt Col Bishop on phone to Maj Mc Kinna.Lt Col Bishop returning to PORT MORESBY for a few days. Bde advised Bn of Air Strike on the following morning on ENEMY fwd of 2/16 Bn with secondry target forward of C Coy.
1955 C Coy advised of Air Strike and Capt White instructed to fire smoke on ENEMY positions as soon as 2/16 Bn Air Strike completed.
2015 Bde requested to return periscopic binoculars to Bn for observation purposes
2305 Bde Sit Rep to hand All Coys informed.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

GUY'S POST. 28th. OCT. 43.

Ref. DUMPU I" to a mile.
684590.

0740 Air activity. Maj. Mc Kinna gone to BERT'S POST for tour of inspection. Sitrep to all Coys.
0925 Padre on phone to C. Coy. Arrangements for church parade tomorrow.
I020 B. Coy. report on phone to Lt. Redden that they are holding some natives found wandering the ir area. Have note in piece of bamboo?message states -- " These natives are moving on my orders, please let them pass" Signed Capt. Hamilton A. D. O. Mr. Redden checked up with authority from Bed Major. All O.K. natives allowed to pass through, they were leaving in direction of Bde. H.Q. when halted.
I030 Lt. Mc Rae of B. Coy. and D0N'S POST on way down to B.H.Q. reporting sick. Fifteen pln recce patrol sets out from C. Coy.
I345 Stretcher case(Lt. Mc Rae) arrived in. C. Coy patrol reported in and found Japs still occupying the ridge forward of C. Coy. See appendix C.40.
I445 Maj. Roden and 2/I4th Btn. I.O. and Sgt. on visit to Btn., also with them was London Times Representitive, Bde. L.O. Capt. Holly and Lieut. Pearson of arty. Given cup of tea, resume of the present situation in this area.I. Sgt. shown different Coy. Positions.
I550 Maj. Mc Kinna returns from BERT'S POST.
I600 C. Coy. advise Btn. have forwarded Captured torn Jap maps picked on new position.
I722 Maj. Johnston on the phone to Maj. Johnson. Truscott steel helmet alongside grave, exhumed body recognised by men as Truscott. Padre to bury him tomorrow. Thirty-four Jap positions in new area C. Coy. Occupied ten foxholes, remainder large square weapons pits with sleeping quarters and fireplace around which were feathers. Think this indicates supply problem rather difficult. resume
I800 Maj. Mc Kinna in communication with B.M. A short of the days happenings.
I900 Stand To.
2000 Stand Down.

GUY'S POST. 29th OCT 43.

0630 Arty commence shoot on SHAGGY RIDGE.
0805 Lt. Redden and Pte. Shermann gone to Lt. Macdonalds platoon in the PLATEAU area.
II25 C. Coy., advised by adjutant of T-R appearance, to locate smoke shell dropped by arty.
II30 Div. G III. Capt. Cuneen arrived on tour of area, lunched , then moved on to C. Coy., for the night.
I200 Two explosions up FARIA RIVER.
I300 Rourine patrol to BERT'S POST returns. See Appendix C. 4I.
I4I5 Lt. Redden returns from THE PLATEAU.
I530 Arty opened up, shoot forward of C. Coy Posn. Excellent shoot, target being highest knoll on ridge. Listening heard moaning form Jap positions after shelling.
I645 24 troops 8th. Batt., 2/4th Fld. Reg., arrived in this area laying cable from gun positions.
I700 Report from C. Coy., --- Following arty shoot, patrol pushed forward but Jap in foxhole covering track I50 yds., in front of C. Coy.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

HIMI DISPOSITIONS

FARIA RIVER AREA 28 Oct.

N (APPOX)

old ENEMY POSN

SHAGGY RIDGE

P1

P2

P3

P4

P5

P6

P7

P8

P9

P10

P11

P12

P13

P14

P15

P16

P17

P18

P19

P20

P21

P22

P23

P24

P25

P26

P27

P28

P29

P30

P31

P32

P33

P34

P35

P36

P37

P38

P39

P40

65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80

66 65 64 63 62 61 60 59 58 57 56 55

DUMPU

BEVERIDGE'S

GUY'S POST

AVERY'S

DALLEY'S

KOGG'S

FERRIS RANCH

UMA RIVER

YOUNG'S

MOTO'S

LEVETT'S

HAMILTON'S RIDGE

FOUR BRIDGES

Sulimgl River

HUTS

AMENDMENTS

SUPERIMPOSE ON DUMPU SHEET
1 INCH TO 1 MILE

21 AUST INF BDE
28 OCT 43.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

GUY'S POST. 29th OCT 43.

Ref. DUMPU I" to a mile.
684590.

I800 Bde. asked for feature overlap of SHAGGY RIDGE, this required urgently as we are working entirely in the dark in this area. Recce. paterol activity limited to practically nil owing to rain.
I900 Maj. Johnson advised Btn., that next day he would attempt to occupy highest knoll following 2" mortar and arty shoot.

GUY'S POST. 30th OCT 43.

0735 Sitrep to Bde.
0815 Intelligence report to all Coys.
0825 Maj. Mc Kinna and Q.M., Capt. Lee left for C. Coy., via B. Coy., Capt. Lee remaining there then to BERT'S POS T to contact Lt. Sutton re rations. Maj. Mc Kinna carried out tour of inspection C. Coy.1
0830 Patrol from C. Coy., moved down right of ridge to contact Lt. Macdonald's pln. on the PLATEAUQ Another patrol to redde and pinpoint Jap positions forward of C. Coy.,
1005 I.O. on phone to 2/16th Btn., Jap Mountain gun continues to blast this area.
1025 I.O. advised by phone from Bde that A/C over forward area to pick up smoke shelling by arty to pinpoint targets for A/C, nothing eventuated.
1045 Capt. Beare, Btn Adj., evacuated as sick.
1115 Lt. Goode arrived with boong train to take over duties as adjutant. Capt. Childs of postal arrived to check postal arrangement in Btn, spending the afternoon and night here.
1230 Capt. Toms B. Coy Visited H.q. for general information.
1510 I.O. (Bde.) Capt. Rowes and three insect men called on return journey from second 16th Btn., had cup of tea.
1630 Maj. Mc Kinna returns from C. Coy., posn., Situation unchanged, also Capt. Lee from B. Coy. C. Coy patrol located Japs forward of their positions. See appendix C. 42. line
1640 Arty sigs returned after laying to 2/16th posn.
1735 Sitrep to Bde.
1800 Capt. Cuneen returned from C. Coy., after tour of fwd. area.

GUY'S POST. 31 OCT 43.

0730 Sitrep to Bde.
0800 Capt. Rowes returned after general tour of Btn. area and fixing points of SHAGGY'S RIDGE. Capt. Childs, postal unit moved to 2/16th Btn.
0805 Patrol from B. Coy., to move west for five thousand yds one man from IIpln., with them to become familiar with track and area when II pln take over patrol
0930 Padre Norman conducted church service followed by Holy Communion.
1030 Boomerang dropped yesterday's Guinea Gold over Btn Area.
1130 Boong Train arrives. Pte Binstead returned to Int. Sec
1225 Brig. Dougherty, B.M., and Capt. Long worth of arty arrived, had lunch and returned to Bde at 1445.
1635 Lt. Moody arty survey officer and party arrive to fix points and map area.
1910 C. Coy., fired several bursts L.M.G. on Jap fwd on spur SHAGGY RIDGE. Three booby traps set by B. Coy., in their area from 1930 to 0700 hrs. daily. All notified.
2030 B.B.C. news sent out to all Coys.

See appendix C. 43., re C. Coy., PLATEAU patrol.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

OVERLAY SHOWING HIMI PATROLS FROM 31 OCT — 2 NOV 43

Ref Map:- DUMPU 1:63360.

63

66

DAPO List Brst

5500 feature

GREEN feature

SHAGGY RIDGE

0830 L/2

0800 L/1

0830 L/2

0800 L/1

1000/1800 L/1

0800 L/1

HIVA PLATEAU

70

DAPO

0830 L/2

BANO

0800 L/1

BUFFALO

KILU

S.P.

60

LEGEND

KILU

BANO

DAPO

HIVA

HIMI INT SEC
2 NOV 43

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

PANORAMA of TREVOR'S RIDGE
FROM GUNNER'S KNOLL



VISIBILITY - GOOD.
TIME: 1645 hrs
DATE 30 OCT 43

DRAWN BY W. H. WHYTE CAPT
LEVA.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

Army Form W.3009 (*Adapted*)
(Page 1)
(Revised Jan., 1943.)

1 / 26 (Serial No.)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 30/10/1943 2/27 Aust Inf (Unit)

W.E. 11/12c 2 OFFRS. 32 O.R's. 739+ OFFRS. 1 O.R's. 35 ATT. BY W.E.

Part A. Posted Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements Required.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.				
Reinfts. Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Reinfts. Required
			1	W.Os. Class I.					
			6	W.Os. Class II.		1			
	2		3	Squadron or Company Quartermaster Sgts.					
		1	1	Staff Sergeants					
	1		30	Sergeants		7		3	
	12		52	Corporals		8			
272	257	13	368	Troopers, Privates, etc.		16			3
				Civilians counting as O.R.					
272 *	272	14	481 *	Totals of cols. marked * should agree with details shown in Part E on Page 2		32 *		3	3 *

Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in para. 7 of instructions for compilation of this return will complete analysis of Part B(1) and B(2).

* * Personnel belonging to a category not provided for in the analysis will be shown in this Col. Particulars will be shown, e.g., 20 U.K. Forces, 10 N.Z. Forces.

Detail		A.I.F.	C.M.F.		A.W.A.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL	R.A.N	R.A.A.F	* *	TOTAL
			Under 19 Years.	19 Years and over.							
A								[redacted]	[redacted]		
B(1)											
B(2)							[redacted]				

Part B. Other Ranks Attached from Other Units.

Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which they belong	Number of O Rs.	Unit to which they belong
1	AA Ch D		
10	AAIC		
1	26 Auet Inf Bn		
4	K Sec Sigs		
2	AIGAU		

Part C. Other Ranks Included in Part A Detached to Other Units.

Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which detached	Number of O Rs	Unit to which detached

Part D. Description of Other Ranks Whose Return To.....(Unit) is Particularly Requested. ...../...../194.....

Army No	Rank.	Name and Initials.	REMARKS (e.g., present whereabouts if known).

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

2/27 Aust Inf Bn
.....Unit

Army Form W 3009
(Adapted) (Page 2)
(Revised Jan., 1943)
1 28
...../.....Serial No.

PART E. Detail of Present Strength and Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009 at 0600 Hours Saturday 30/10/1943.

Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I.	W E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I. (cont.) Forward	W E	Posted Strength	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP II. (cont.) Forward	W.E. 13	Posted Strength. 9	Reints. Required. 7	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP III. (cont.) Forward	W.E. 43	Posted Strength. 47	Reints. Required. 8
Ammunition Examiners				Surveyors, Engineering				Operating Room Assts.				G.P.O. Assistants			
Armament Artificer Fitter				Surveyors, R.A.A.				Operator, Keyboard				Hammermen			
Armament Artificer Fitter (Electrical)				Surveyors, Topographical				Operator, Line				Leather Stitchers			
Armament Artificer Fitter (M.V.)				Surveyors, Trigonometrical				Operator, Signal				Orderlies, Nursing			
Armament Artificer Fitter (A.F.V.)				Toolmakers				Operator, Switchboard				Orderlies, Nursing Mental			
Armament Artificer Instrument				Turners				Operator, Wireless				Plate Layers			
Armament Artificer Radio				Watchmakers				Opticians				Rangetakers	4	2	2
Armament Artificer Signals				Welders				Painters				Rivetters			
Armament Artificer Wireless								Panel Beaters				Roughriders			
Artificer, Artillery								Photographer, Dry Plate				Saddlers			
Artificer, Engine								Predictor Numbers				Saddletree makers			
Blacksmiths		1						Printers				Shoemaker and Boot Repairer			
Bricklayers								Radiographers				Stevedores			
Computors								Riggers				Stokers, Staty. Engine			
Cooks, Hospital				GROUP II.				Sawyers				Storemen, Technical	3	3	
Coppersmiths				Armourers				Signallers	24	22	2	Tailors	1		1
Dispensers				Axemen				Signwriters				Textile Refitters			
Draughtsmen				Bakers				Telescope Identifn Numbers				Tinsmiths			
Draughtsmen (Architectural)				Bty. Comd's. Asst.				Well Borers				Vulcanizers			
Draughtsmen (Engineering)				Boilermakers				Wheelers				Wagon Erectors			
Draughtsmen (Mechanical)				Carpenters	6	3	3	Winchman				Whitesmiths			
Draughtsmen (Topographical)				Carpenters and Joiners				Wireman				WO 1	1	1	
Electricians				Cooks				Woodturners				WO11	6	6	
Electricians (M.V.)				Dental Mechanics								CQMS	5	3	
Electricians (Signals)				Driver-Mech. (Eng. and Med.)								S/SGT		1	
Fitters				Driver-Operator		2						SGT	31	30	
Fitters (Cycle)				Drainers								CPL	64	52	
Fitters (Electrical)				Electricians											
Fitters (Gun)				Electricians (Engineers)											
Fitters (Instrument)				Fire Control Operators				GROUP III.				DETAILS OF NON-TRADESMEN.	15	9	
Fitters (M.V.)				Gun Operator				Battery Surveyors				L/Cpl	4	4	6
Fitters, Railway Signal				Hatchman				Butchers	1	3		Mort	28	19	9
Fitters, Signals				Height Taker				Clerks	4	4		Mio	20	6	14
Grinder, Precision				Helio Operator				Clerks, Supply				Water D/M	2	2	
Mechanics, Instrument				Instrument Operator				Clerks, Technical				Hygiene	4	3	1
Mechanics, Instrument (Signals)				Intelligence Duties	7	3	4	Coach Trimmers				S D	18	15	3
Mechanics, Instrument (Surgical)				Joiners				Concretors				R M P	6	5	1
Mechanics, Radio				Lineman				Cooks				Riflemen	488	277	266
Mechanics, Typewriter				Lineman, Signals				Dental Clerk Orderlies							
Mechanics, Wireless				Lithographers				Despatch Riders				ATTACHED BY W.E.			
Millwrights				Machinists, Metal				Draughtsmen, Signals				AAMC	4	4	
Operators, Excavator				Machinists, Wood				Drivers, H.T.				AMC	23	20	3
Pattern Maker				Masons				Driver Mechanics		8		AEME	3	3	
Pharmacist				Masseurs				Driver Tptn. Plant				AA Post	1	1	
Photographer, Wet Plate				Mechanics, M.T.				Engine Hands, I.C.				AA Pay C	2	2	
Photowriter				Miners				Equipment Repairers	1	1		AACC	2	2	
Plumber				Moulders				Farriers							
Saw Doctors				Nurses, Trained				Fitters' Mates							
Surveyors				Observation Post Assts.				Gun Layers							
CARRIED FORWARD		1		CARRIED FORWARD	23	9	7	CARRIED FORWARD	43	47	9	Totals of columns marked * to agree with columns 4 and 7, and 1 and 10 of Part A respectively	774	513 *	275 *

NOTES.—(a) If rank other than private is involved give details on back.
(b) Authorised trades or specialists not included in list will be added as required in spaces provided.
(c) Where A.W.A.S. and/or A.A.M.W.S. personnel are desired show details on back
(d) Where replacement not desired note accordingly on return by insertion of N.R. in col. "Reints. Required."
(e) Where any request or notation is made on back of form, the words "See Back" should be written in one of the blank spaces on this page.

30 Oct 43
Date of Despatch

Lt-Col
Signature of Commander
Comd 2/27 Aust Inf Bn.

rst Aust Army Mob Print Unit—A76—30M—5/43

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

Army Form W.1...
(Adapted) (Page 1.
(Revised Jan., 1943)

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

1 26 ...../.....(Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 30/10/194 3 2/27 Aust Inf Bn (Unit)

W.E. 11/12c/2 OFFRS. 32 O.R's. 739 + OFFRS. 1 O.R's. 35 ATT. BY W.E.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.				
Rein'fts Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Rein'fts Required.
	1	4	1 3 7 23 1	* * Lieut.-Colonels Majors Captains Lieutenants Quarter-masters A.A.N.S. and A.A.M.W.S. Offrs. Civilians Counting as Offrs.	AMC	1			
	1	4	36			1			

Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in pars. 10 of instructions for compilation of form will complete Part E(1) & E(2).	DETAIL		A.I.F.	C.M.F.	A.W.A.S.	A.A.N.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL.	R.A.N.	R.A.A.F.	* *	TOTAL.
	A.											
	E.(1)											
	E.(2)											

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.
* * Personnel belonging to a category not provided for in the analysis will be shown in this Col. Particulars will be shown, e.g., 20 U.K. Forces; 10 N.Z. Forces.

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

OFFICERS JOINED DURING WEEK

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit From.	Date.	CAUSE.

OFFICERS QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit To.	Date.	CAUSE.

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO.....(Unit) IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED. ...../...../194.....

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	REMARKS (e.g., present whereabouts if known).

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

2/27 Aust Inf Bn ..... Unit

Army Form W.3008
(Adapted) (Page 2)
(Revised Jan., 1943)

1 / 26 (Serial No.)

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON POSTED STRENGTH

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 30 / 10 /194.3 (Total to agree with Columns 4 and 7 of Part A.)

1 Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held.	2 Army Number.	3 Surname.	4 Initials.	5 Posting.	6 Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No)	7 If not present with Unit, state how employed.	8 Date of Detachment.
Maj(2/Lt col)	VX 35	MASON	JA	CO	No	Det temp 7 AUST DIV LOB Gp	
Maj	SX 3709	McKENNA	JG	2/IC	Yes		
"	VX 36308	WHITE	DH	Coy	No	Det 7 AUST DIV LOB Gp	
Capt(2/Maj)	SX 2925	JOHNSON	IG	CO	Yes		
Capt	SX 2924	[illegible]	SJ	OC	Yes		
Lt(2/Capt)	SX 2455	SIMS	CAM	OC	No	Sick Hosp NG	
"	SX 6219	FAWCETT	GI	OC	Yes		
"	SX 2955	LEE	JD	OC	Yes		
Capt	SX 4530	PUTNAM	RM	2i/c	No	Det 7 Aust Div LOB Gp	
Lt(2/Capt)	SX 2921	EVANS	JT	Adjt	Yes		
"	SX 2642	HANIGAN	RJ	2i/c	No	Det 7 AUST DIV LOB Gp	
"	NX116813	RICHARDSON	RGD	2i/c	No	Det 7 AUST DIV LOB Gp	
Lieut	VX 41615	BELL	PD	-	No	Sick Hosp Aust	
"	SX 3169	CAMPBELL	RJ	CO A Coy	Yes		
"	SX 2633	KING	GA	OC 15 Pl	Yes		
"	SX 2725	THOMSON	AT	OC 16 Pl	Yes		
"	SX 9562	HARDEN	JV	10	Yes		
"	SX 12503	COOK	FT	OC 5 Pl	Yes	Sick hosp NG	
"	SX 6706	LANGFORD	F	OC 13 Pl	Yes		
"	SX 4627	SMITH	JA	OC 1 Pl	Yes		
"	SX 2914	CROCKER	EF	OC 11 Pl	Yes		
"	SX 2797	TWIST	LF	OC 2 Pl	Yes		
"	SX 3079	JOHNS	HJ	OC 7 Pl	No	Sick hosp NG	
"	SX 3276	HARRISON	GJ	OC 17 Pl	Yes		
"	SX 3121	SUTTON	AJ	OC 10 Pl	Yes		
"	SX 2775	MACPHERSON	AG	OC 8 Pl	Yes		
"	NX127269	GOODS	EH	10	Yes	Att pond post from 16 Amb	
"	NX123471	GARTOCK	JG	OC 9 Pl	Yes		
"	NX127257	FISHER	GH	OC 14 Pl	Yes	Att pond post from 16 Amb	
"	NX114386	YOUNG	HA	OC 18 Pl	Yes		
"	NX127106	McRAE	HA	OC 12 Pl	No	Sick Hosp NG	
"	NX 34044	ARNOTT	HH	-	No	Det 5 U.S.A.A.F.	
"	NX112073	HUMILIAND	GHO	OC 17 Pl	Yes		
"	SX 12350	GOOD	DJ	-	No	Det 7 AUST DIV LOB Gp	
"	SX 4913	DARNELL	SF	-	No	Det Corps Reception	
Capt	SX 2693	SMITH	CH	-	No	To 2 Aust Corps Reception Camp for transfer.	

PART E.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER UNITS.

Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank, if Held.	Army Number.	Name and Initials.	Unit.	Date of Attachment.	Nature of Attachment.
Capt	SX 11661	NORMAN H	AACHD		Chaplain
"	VX 39525	COVE S	AAMC		RMO
"		CHURCH	2/26 Fd Amb AIF		MO AIG

30 Oct 43 ..... Date of Despatch

Lt-Col ..... Signature of Commander.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

WAR DIARY

[13422] W7670/M2618 2000m 9/17s 191 G & S E.1733. Forms/W.3121/5

Army Form W. 3121.

Date Recommendation passed forward.

	Received	Passed
Brigade		
Division		
Corps		
Army		

21 Aust Inf Bde Brigade. 7 Aust Div Division. NGF Corps.

Schedule No. (to be left blank)	Unit	Regtl. No.	Rank and Name (Christian names must be stated)	Action for which commended (Date and place of action must be stated)	Recommended by	Honour or Reward	(To be left blank)
	2/27 Aust Inf Bn	SX 3913	Cpl SULLIVAN Joseph Arthur Next of Kin Father, Mr. M.W. SULLIVAN, Box 94, Post Office, Bordertown, South Australia Date of Enlistment 29 May 40 Date of Birth 16 Feb 1919	On 9 Oct 43 after a successful attack on Key Pt 3 on TREVOR'S RIDGE a party of enemy were observed approaching along the track to counter attack. Reorganisation was in progress and wounded were being tended in a position slightly to the flank of the enemy line of advance. Two sections under the command of SX 3913 Cpl J.A. SULLIVAN was ordered to intercept to allow the wounded to be taken out. Although Cpl SULLIVAN was severely wounded in the right arm by the first burst of fire and was unable to use his arm, he continued to advance whilst directing the fire and movement of the small force. The determined manner of the approach caused the enemy to retire taking some dead and wounded and leaving three dead. Cpl SULLIVAN's gallantry and retention of control ensured success and the wounded were safely withdrawn to cover. I make the recommendation personally as at 9 Oct as I was on the spot. J A Bishop Lt-Col Comd 2/27 Aust Inf Bn 9 Oct 43 RECOMMENDED Brig Comd 21 Aust Inf Bde RECOMMENDED Maj-Gen GOC 7 AUST DIV	VX 35 Lt-Col BISHOP J A	M M Immediate	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

WAR DIARY

D13423 W7070/M2618 2000m 9/17s 191 G&S E.1733. Forms/W.3121/5

Army Form W. 3121.

Date Recommendation passed forward.

	Received	Passed
Brigade		
Division		
Corps		
Army		

21 Aust Inf Bde Brigade. 7 Aust Div Division. NGF Corps.

Schedule No. (to be left blank)	Unit	Regtl. No.	Rank and Name (Christian names must be stated)	Action for which commended (Date and place of action must be stated)	Recommended by	Honour or Reward	(To be left blank)
	2/27 Aust Inf Bn	SX 12049	A/Cpl DANIELS John Hamlyn Next of kin Father, Mr W R Daniels, Milang, South Australia Date of Enlistment 29 Mar 41 Date of Birth 8 Oct 21	On 9 Oct 43 17 Pl was ordered forward to ambush a party of sixteen enemy moving along a track towards Key Pt 3 on TREVOR'S RIDGE. On approaching the ambush position through thick cane, the leading section commanded by SX 12049 A/Cpl J.H. DANIELS, found it occupied by approximately twenty enemy. He immediately led his section forward firing from the hip and, although badly wounded by a grenade, continued to direct his section and fire on the enemy. With the support of another section twelve enemy were killed and the ground taken. A/Cpl DANIELS's courage and leadership was a great inspiration to his men and his gallantry was largely responsible for the success of the operation. ~~I make this recommendation personally as a result of 9 Oct 43 I was on the spot.~~ A Bishop Lt-Col Comd 2/27 Aust Inf Bn 9 Oct 43 RECOMMENDED Brig Comd 21 Aust Inf Bde RECOMMENDED Maj-Gen GOC 7 Aust Div	VX 35 Lt-Col BISHOP, J A	M M (Immediate)	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

"C.1"

PATROL REPORT. 5 OCT 43.

Recce Patrol. 15 Pl. 5th Oct. 43.
Object. To recce track up URIA RIVER and observe for enemy activity,
Answer. Track recced, not suitable for large body of troops Enemy foot-prints seen, recently made.

Cpl Box. 9 O.R'S. T.O. 0645 T.I. 1130

Route Out. Up URIA ~~XXXXX~~ CREEK via a very old track for 1500 yards approx. Same way back. Tracks of five rubber soled sho shoes and 1 hobnailed boot, also barefeet, quantity unknown. The imprints are deep compared with our own. Deduct con carrying heavy gear. The imprints are pointing up stream and seem very fresh. The banks of the CREEK are precipitous and very good ambushing positions available ad lib. No tracks leading off and foliage is thick jungle. Cpl Box seems to think it impossible to move a large body of troops up this track on URIA CREEK. Japs imprints followed with nil result.

Cpl R. Box.

"C.2"

Standing.
~~Recce~~ Patrol 12 Pl. 6th Oct. 43.
Object. To hold feature 675575 and watch for enemy activity.
Answer. Feature held no sign of enemy.
Ref Map DUMPU 1" to a mile

Lieut. D. Mc Rae.

Detail. Held posn over night on feature at foot of objective. Placed patrol on objective at first light - no sign of enemy. movement. Own troops occupying high feature - 705575 - C Coy. No sign of any movement during night. The wireless is not functioning - tried to contact by sig lamp early this morning.

"c.3"

Recce Patrol 14 Pl. 6th Oct. 43.

Ref Map DUMPU 1" to a mile.

Object. To collect information re shots in URIA RIVER by 13 Pl.
Answer. Two enemy dead found.

L/Cpl Nixon 3 O.R's. T.O. 1600 - T.I. 1730.

Route Out. Up URIA CREEK from A Coy posn to 150 yds up CREEK
Along URIA CREEK through 13 Pl. posn.
Found 2 enemy dead one on the left dide of creek, one on right.
Searched enemy and returned to lines with personal papers, Knick knacks, rifles, and one set of equipment.
D. Coy Who were swimming firther up the CREEK saw another enemy going down stream. Our patrol did not notice him and presumed he entered the patch of jungle on the opposite (left) side of the URIA CREEK and adjacent to 13 Pl position.

L/Cpl Nixen.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

"C.4"

PATROL REPORT. 6 OCT 43.

Recce Patrol. 8 Pl. 6th Oct. 43.

Ref DUMPU 1" to a mile.

Object. To survey country on other side 725675.
Answer. Country redded.

Cpl. Mc Phee 8 O.R's. T.O. 1600 - T.I. 2050

Route Out. The route to be taken out was not set down to a definite track as it was left to the patrol comd. to pick out the easiest way up and toreturn the best way he could. Coys. were warned about the patrol in case they came in after dark.

Details. Visibility fair, dense jungle and high kunai patches were all that could be seen. A waterfall could be seen distinctly in front and also many sheer rock faces. There was no movement or any sign of a better track, bar a few small ones that were very like pig tracks. The URIA RIVER appeared to swing right and then left and disappeared amongst a maze of cliff faces. The banks were very steep and looked impossible to cross. On the way out three fresh Jap footprints were seen on the NORTH side of the URIA RIVER. They were very fresh as they were right on the water's edge and although the water was lapping over them in places they had not been washed away. They would not have been more than a half an hour old, in my opinion. They were facing upstream. There was no sign of Jap positions on the feature.

Signed Cpl. A.M.C. Mc Phee.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

"C.5."

Oct 9. 43.

URIA RIVER PATROL REPORT.

1. Patrol found by KILU 7(Seven=)

2. Commanded by SX 3078 Lieut R.D. JOHNS

3. Patrol strength, 1 offr, 30 ors plus 3 sigs, 1 stretcher bearer and 7 native carriers.

4. To locate bridge over URIA RIVER supposed to be at 716586 and to recce track over bridge on both sides of river (Map ref of area at present in use).

5. Route out, along river bed to 744/616.

6. Route back, along high ground west of river.

7. Casualties - enemy 2 probably killed or wounded.

8. Casualties - own, 2 wounded one of whom remained on duty.

SX 3223 Cpl FOUREUR D.A. (Wounded slightly remaining on duty).

SX 3649 Pte GRAY E.G. (Wounded).

NARRATIVE

Left KUMBARUM 1115 hrs 7 Oct 43. Halted for lunch at pt where main Bn sig line turns EAST out of URIA RIVER. At lunch place met 5 Sec HIVI returning from a patrol EAST of the river. They reported firing on a party of 5 enemy in river bed.

Found 3 enemy dead including one offr approx 300 yds up riverbed from lunch place. Left guard of three men on the bodies and contacted HIMI 10 and asked for a burial party to remove bodies from the riverbed.

At 1630 reached a fork in river which I assume is fork at 743/612 on local map. If this was the case then the map must be incorrect as we had only laid one and half miles of sig cable. From the turnoff off the main Bn sig line to the river fork. I have calculated thatvriver fork should be shown on local map at 731/502.

At river fork saw two enemy following river bed 150 yds in advance of our patrol. We fired at them but they escaped up the right hand fork of the river, both apparently unhurt. These men were presumably the remainder of the enemy party engaged by 5 Sec HIVI. Rank HIMI 9 at river fork and were told to continue along the larger of the two rivers/

Continued along river until 1700 hrs, then moved into a defn posn on WEST bank. Could not scale cliffs to high ground so defn posn had to be located on river bank. Reported by phone to HIMI 10 at 1830 hrs, tried to report again at 1900 but found the line dead. Tried to contact unit by phonr all night without success.

At 0830 hrs Oct 8, sent out two sec patrols, one to recce right hand river,from the fork, the second to recce left hand river. The right hand sec moved to river fork and were ambushed there by a party of 10 or 20 enemy. Two enemy were probably killed or wounded. Own casualties, one wounded, another wounded but he remained on duty.

The left hand section reported river junction presumably the one shown at 747/618.

Line of withdrawl back to bn was blocked by ambush party, who were sighted on high ground in a posn from which we could not dislodge them.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

At 1030 we moved up river bed to river junction 747/618. At this pt we moved to high ground west of river and headed back for KUMBARUM. Moved back to URIA RIVER bed at point approx 500 yds above Bn sig line. At this point we cut our own sig line and calculated a sec of BODI who had been ambushed at the same place as our own patrol.

The native carriers, the wounded and one section were sent back, the remaining two sections protected the section of BODI and assisted them with their wounded.

Reported in to Rear Details at 2110 hrs. SX 3649 Pte GRAY E.G. was evacuated immediately. SX 3223 Cpl FOUREUR remained on duty.

TOPOGRAPHY

URIA RIVER bed, shallow, rocky veryy difficult for movement. Steep cliffs, on either side of river, in most placesm these are impossible to scale.

Hills on either side of river are densly covered with jungle on the slopes, but in most cases have clear tops covered with high grass.

When we were on the high ground WEST of the river a group of native huts were seen through glasses at point 755/614, with what appeared to be a track running down into it from a westerly direction.

The bridge was not located, though it may be on right hand fork of URIA river below the group of native huts.

GARUMBU - MINEEN track was not located.

SX 3078
Lieut R.D. JOHNS.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

"C.6."

REPORT BY CAPT FAWCETT 8 Oct to HIMI

Report NIGHT 7/8 Oct.

Biv at 685595 at 1700L.
0105L Enemy party estimated strength 2 LMG, gren dischargerm 10/20 riflemen attacked - atk lasted until 0140L - repulsed successfully. Casualties - own 1 OR killed, 1 OR wounded. Enemy unknown.

0539L Enemy again attacked, same strength - repulsed successfully, 1 MMG silenced attack ceased at 0605L.

TOTAL CASUALTIES

Own Killed NX124013 Pte Edmunds R.W.
Wounded VX 32312 Cpl Lawson F.

Enemy Killed 3 and possibly 3 more and some wounded

COMMUNICATION - line ceased at approx 0110L - apparently cut by enemy. WT with Arty established at 0945L - Sig party established line.

CAPTURED MATERIAL

Normal equipment
Maps
Wireless
Code Book?
Message pads etc.

1040 hrs.

G.H. FAWCETT Capt.
O.C. HIVA

Have taken up position on high ground approx 400 yards in rear of bivouac site at village.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

THE ACCOUNT OF THE ACTION ON 7/8 OCT.

On the night of the above date 17 Pl was the fwd pl of D Coy, a defn posn in the valley NORTH of GUYS CAMP.

At approximatelt 0100 hrs three enemy were seen to move down towards water and were fired on. It was thought that one enemy was killed and perhaps the other two wounded.

The enemy force being very small, approximately ten in ~~force~~ strength. About a dozen shots were fired by the enemy. Our casualties were two wounded.

At 0530 he attacked with a force slightly stronger than prior to this action. The enemy appeared to have at least two light automatics and one light mortar which he used without success.

This action lasted about twenty minutes and the enemy eventually withdrew. When daylight come it was found that we had killed three enemy and wounded a few judging by the bloodstains and equipment left behind. In the equipment captured were as follows:

1 Portable wireless set
Maps and message pads
Several rifles and sets of eqpt.

Our casualties were 1 killed (D/W) 1 wounded.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

"C.7."

On Sat Oct 9, 16 pl moved out ½ hr before the main party. At about 0830 hrs forward elements of the point section reported a party of 3 Japs advancing towards us. We took up a hurried posn and when the enemy were within 5 yards of the leading scout we opened fire.
I moved forward and sent a recce patrol out 100 yards in front. They returned and reported 16 to 20 Japs scattering in all directions.
We waited in ambush for one hour intil ordered to withdraw back to main body.

ENEMY CASUALTIES:

2 killed, 1 wounded. A party of 5 silenced with 2 bursts of machine gun fire.

OUR CASUALTIES:

1 killed and 1 slightly wounded.

A.R. TRENERRY Lieut
O.C. 16 Pl D Coy.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

"C. 8."

ACCOUNT OF ACTION ON TREVORS RIDGE 9 OCT 43.

On the morning of the 9 Oct 43, 17 Pl as rear pl of D Coy was ordered to move to the high ground on the right of FARIA VALLEY.

We moved up and took up a posn on the point of TREVORS RIDGE to have lunch. We then noticed the enemy moving up a track in the valley NORTH of TREVORS RIDGE which we thought may cross the saddle between EAST and WEST pts of TREVORS RIDGE. We were then ordered to move by the said saddle in hopes of either cutting track or ambushing the enemy. Soon after we moved, we heard a lot of noise such as tins rattling and a lot of talkiing going on in the centre of the saddl . No. 16 sec as the leading sec moved on the small track we found came up out of the valley on the left .

With Bren and Own gun in front we attacked the posn. The enemy was taken completely by suprise. No 5 sec then moved round the right flank up on to the knoll on the EAST end of the ridge. No 4 sec moving on the left occupied a posn just fwd of the enemy posn.

Soon after the enemy put in a counter attack for the left flank as we went to investigate two enemy dead. The attack was repulsed and the enemy withdrew.

The enemy fired only a few shots and used several grenades.

Our casualties numbered 5 wounded and enemy numbered 11 killed and several wounded and one prisoner. The equipment captured was :

20 rifles
3 LMG
Maps & Papers
3 light mortars.

G. MACDONALD Lieut.
OC 17 Pl.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

"C.9."

REPORT ON BEVERIDGE POST - 9 Oct 43 0 17 Oct 43.

On 9 Oct 43, 8pl was detailed to occupy a posn at BEVERIDGES overlooking FARIA RIVER, the object being to protect and provide escort to the L of C between GUYS POST and fwd tps. The feature was known as BEVERIDGES POST (it was in this vicinity that Pte BEVERIDGE was wounded). No sooner had the Pl begun moving to the POST than we received orders to engage an emeny force some 800 yds up the river. Two enemy were put out of action by our LMG fire.

A duty which had to be performed was the burial of one of our men who had been left 300 yds N from our post. This was carried out the following day. A fwd patrol or covering party, under the late Cpl DAW moved upstream 20 mins before the burial party. They sent back word that the body had been found and moved on to clean enemy dead from the stream. The Pl Comdr received another report that enemy had shifted their dead and that they (the patrol) would return in a few minutes. At the time, Pl Comdr with carrying party were collecting gear effects etc of dead man and had just began carrying him back when LMG rifle and gren fire opened up 100 yds N. Carrying party moved back with their burden and one of covering party hastily returned and reported that they had been ambushed. A Bren gunner and rifleman were sent fwd to endevour to support the withdrawl but nature of ground prevented them. Pte Fittock, wounded by a gren then returned to the main body.

Pte Jack Simmons, who has since been recommended for bravery and who was a member of the ambushed party, worked his way, under fire, up the bank of the river and moved through the scrub to take up a fire posn across a ravine facing the enemy posns. He shot two and quietened any fire, thus enabling remainder of party to make their escape. Cpl Daw was killed early and we were saddened to lose such a soldier and gentleman.

Pte Simmons returned to BEVERIDGE POST. In the meantime members of Pl voluntary offered to bring in Cpl Daw. They moved out with an LMG. Pte Simmons then moved out to guide them to his fire posn. Several more enemy were killed by this party and the S.B. Pte T. Chapman returned to riverbed and acting in a very brave manner, carried Lindsey Daw downstream for 50 yds. Cpl McPhee was accidently wounded and evacuated with a bullet wound in his chest.

On the following day, 11th, same party gave support while body was brought back to BEVERIDGE POST. Japs were still in posn and had since dug in. I conducted the burial services and late Padre NORMAN blessed the Holy Ground.

On the 12th pl was kept busy escorting stretcher parties and at night provided a standing patrol under CplmANDERSON on TREVOR RIDGE overlooking the creek to ensure safe arrival of amn train. Other duties carried out that day, while the Bn was aking history, were the reporting of enemy mvt on W side of FARIA RIVER, observing and correcting for arty fire on to enemy gun posn which could clearly be seen from BEVERIDGE POST.

Patrolling of L of C and escorting of wounded continued on following days and on 15th. enemy arty attempted to shell post, but could not engage us, much to our relief.

On 17th, our 8th day at POST we were relieved, after having gone through several anxious days. The enemy to my mind could have walked downstream and harrassed our L of C at anytime, but the reason they did not appears ti be that after we had worried them twice, they evidently thought we were in strength and were trying to push through to their gun posns. Thus they were on the defn. We were lead to believe this, for at night, they would open fire with gren & rifles, evidently to boost up their own morale. In conclusion the work of Pl was excellent as for 3 days parties would be escorting during the night

P.T.O.

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and men then returned to do up to 3 hours sentry duty. Every man pulled his weight and whether detailed or voluntary they worked untiringly.

W. MACPHERSON Lieut
O.C. BEVERIDGE POST.

"C.10"

PATROL REPORT. 11 OCT 43.

Recce Patrol. 14 Pl. 11th Oct. 43

Ref Map DUMPU 1" to a mile.

Object. To recce track in direction WAMPUM reporting general bearing and enemy movement.

Answer. Followed track 1000 yds., Three enemy seen.

L/Sgt. Usher 8 O.R's. T.O. 0945 - T.I. 1200

Route Out. Proceeded down track for 350 yds., and found 13 foxholes, some completed and all very new. These foxholes are on a saddle and are situated six on the left hand side and seven on the right hand side of the track, and facing in S. direction. Two raised flat forms consisting of logs on the right hand side and preparations to roof in were being made. There was a small footpath going in an E direction and one to the right leading over a knoll. The main track goes down the other side of the saddle in an E direction and then swings back in SSE direction and through a large re-entrant. 650 yds from the saddle the track divided, the left hand one dropped steeply for 30 yds and continued in SSE direction. Right hand track continued along side of re-entrant in SSE direction. Patrol followed on right track for 100 yds when we saw 3 Japs coming along lower track in the direction of DAPO. They must have heard the patrol and turned and ran when FIRED on. Nil result.
Track is in sloppy condition widens and narrows and has numerous detours from the main track. The foxholes are sighted on the track on each side of the saddle.
N.B. The 3 Japs fired on were unarmed and wearing no equipment except steel hats.

L/Sgt. Usher.

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"C.11."

PATROL REPORT.

B COY PATROL BY 10,12, & 5 PLs — 11 Oct 43

Ref Map: DUMPU SHEET 1/63360

OBJECT:

Recce in strength to high feature 726623 with a probable adv in a northerly direction if on Lt SNOOK'S advice that the patrol may encounter an alternative L of C for the Gap. Patrol left TREVORS RIDGE 1100 L 11 Oct 43 where our area was taken over by 7 Pl.

ROUTE TO 726623

Going slow as it was steep and muddy, and also sigs were laying cable of which we started off with 5 miles. Patrol arrived on objective at 1615 having made contact only once and the leading scouts 10 Pl Pte PHILP (Speargrass), Pte PEARSON A.C. each collected a kill with one shot. On contact 10 Pl quickly deployed and pushed through while 2 secs of 5 pl held the flanks as the nature of the country prevented complete encirclement by flanking secs.

Patrol was in contact by line with HIMI during night 11/12 Oct . At first light 12 Oct, 10 Pl sent three recce patrols of in strength 500 - 1000 yds checking the razor backs of likely approaches. One sec 5Pl kept a continuous standing patrol over blazed trail which had been marked on trees in vicinity of area where contact was made previous day.

At 0900 12 Oct failed to raise HIMI on line, and at 0930 12 Pl with 2 sigs as a line and covering party retraced sig line. When approx 1000 yds from JOHNS RIDGE 12 Pl reported back to Coy that heavy MG fire and mor duel appeared to be taking place between 12 Pl and TREVORS RIDGE and the sig line had been cut.

12 Pl were told to remain in that area and await arrival of 5 Pl wh covered the distance in excellent time (2½ hrs) arriving at 12 Pl approc 1430 hrs, 12Pl then moved fwd and at 1515 killed 2 Jap scouts.

12 & 5 Pls continued fwd and encountered Jap dug in posn with Hotchkiss MG. The area reported clear to BONO at 1845 hrs approc 700 yds from previous ridge. A party of 3, Sgt O'CONNOR, Sgt YANDELL and Pte NAPIER made their way through to HIMI leaving at 1920 and returning at 2030 with an order from CO to remain present area take up defn and remainder of BANO to move from objective and Coy to return to HIMI next morning. Sending fighting patrol to clear way for remainder of coy with stretcher cases.

13 Oct 43.

5 Pl moved off for HIMI at 0630 to clear route in. Remainder of coy HQ, 10 & 12pls with natives and casualties followed on leaving at 0730 hrs. Lt. SNOOK took charge of all natives for making of ~~sketch~~ stretchers for four wounded, L/Cpl Haynes, Sgt Underwood, Pte Virtue amd Pte Pescod who later died of wounds. Two cradles were also made by natives to bring in Ptes McInernay and Dean who were killed by sniper fire.

On coys return to HIMI, 5pl returned to HQ Coy, 12 pl came under comd D Coy, 10 pl under C Coy.

B Coy reoccupied JOHNS RIDGE with under comd 18, 7 & 11pls. During the moving the ridge came under accurate Jap arty fire causing the northern side of feature to become completely untenable. Pte Short was killed by arty fire, Pte Betts R.W. wounded, Pte Anderson accidently wounded through right hand when returning from patrol. Pte Standish evac ~~th~~ through shock. Coy spent remainder of day and night 13/14 JOHNS Ridge.

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B COY PATROL (CONT)

B Coy HQ & 10 pl with Lieut SNOOK and natives left objective 726623 at 2330 during a very heavy rain storm. Our route down to rejoin 12 and 5pls. Pte FRANCEY (Paddy) who was the leading scout for 10 Pl shot a Jap who was lying on the track. The trip down took the coy 6½ hrs arriving at 0600. Unfortunately 3 drums Diii Cable had to be left on feature (726623)

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"C 12".

MORTAR TASK - ATTACK 1230 hrs - 12 Oct 43.

Being sent forward by OC P1 to establish O.P. with fwd coy I gained the necessary infm from OC Coy in reference to the enemy's posn. I then established by O.P. in rear of fwd bren posn and contacted mortar by phone. Owing to the close nature of the country my observation was limited.

The method of laying the mortar was by general direction of the ~~fire~~ target and adjusting after the fall of the first bomb.

My opening range was 800 yds which fell plus (+) of the target. On decreasing the range by 100 yds to 700 yds and traversing RIGHT I was able to cover the whole area given me by O.C. Coy. In all thirteen (13) bombs were fired, but I was unable to observe full results of the shoot.

It was later confirmed that the mortar had knocked out one enemy mortar and had also inflicted heavy casualties in the area.

SX 3490
GUS COCKBURN
Sgt A/OC 3 P1.

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"C.13."

SECRET

REPORT ON ACTION AT TREVOR'S RIDGE. 12 Oct 43

NOTE:

At the request, rather demand, of the Int Section, this report is being made out of the Action fought on TREVORS RIDGE on 12 Oct 43.

They desire it in a narrative form with a personal touch, hence the departure from the orthodox style of official reports.

The Int Section are reminded that it is impossible during an action to record in the memory, such data as times, figures or names. This therefore will be largely a general impression, lacking much of the essential detail of the aforementioned action

NARRATIVE

At 1000 hrs on the morning of 11 Oct, 7 pl reported in to BHQ from BEVERIDGE POST, the strength of the pl at the time was 1 offr 22 ORs. The pl was ordered to relieve B Coy (code name BANO, consisting of 10, 12 and 5 Pl) who were moving out on a Coy patrol to probe grd EAST of TREVORS RIDGE. The pl were to remain inoccupation until the arrival of "Kel" Crocker a d his pl that evening.

Leaving one man per section at A Coy HQ (KILU), to erect platoon shelter, 7 pl relieved B Coy at 1100 hrs.

During the afternoon Kel Crocker was reported to have been delayed and 7pl was ordered to remain in occupation of the feature until next day. However, No.,5 sec of Crocker's Pl, under Cpl Don Macfarlane, arrived and were sent up to bolster the defn of the ridge. At this stage, much to the anxiety of OC. Ridge, this tactically vital feature was defended only by 24 all ranks, loss of it would have placed the unit in a serious posn a veritable thin red line.

During the night, movt suggestive of the moving of heavy eqpt, was reported SOUTH of the ridge, otherwise the night was uneventful. At standto on the morning of 12 Oct, three trees falling in the area SOUTH of the ridge and slight movt WEST was reported.

At 1030 a patrol from C Coy (DAPO) reported 14 of the enemy WEST of the feature, the TREVORS RIDGE force immediately stood to. Atn1045 Cpl Paddy CAREY whose sec were in defn of the ridge proper, fired the first shot at a Nip seen on the spur running SW from the ridge. Immediately the first enemy atk came in, estimated at the time to be an atk by two ~~enemie~~ coys. It was supported by MMG fire from four guns, sighted three beyond the saddle EAST of the feature, and one on the high ground well SE of the feature. Enemy 2" mor were situated in the saddle EAST of the ridge and on the spur SW. The enemy also fired LMGs extensively in this and his other atks as supporting weapons. The first wave was preceded by gren throwers followed by a bayonet assault.

This first assault gained for the enemy the lower easterly part of the ridge proper, the defenders of this ground were all wounded. This lower ridge however, was brought under heavy SA & gren fire from the remainder of Paddy Carey's sec on the ridge crest and was left untenable by the Nip/

During the remainder of the day three more separate atks, with intense supporting MG & Mor fire and a bayonet and gren assault were made. After the first assault the fire of two of the enemy 2" mor was directed at intervals on the BHQ area, some are said to have remarked that reinforcements and ammunition arrived more speedily after this.

At intervals during the day the ridge was harrassed by bursts of fire from an MMG situated on the high feature NW of NHQ. Immediately after the first assault one sec of men from C Coy were sent up by Maj JOHNSON as reinforcements.

After the second assault Lieut Macdonald was sent up with his pl. This

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This arrival improved the situation considerably and claims to ownership of the rifge swung in our favour.

At about 1600 the force of the atks died down, Bob SAINES pl was sent out from C Coy to skirt around the ridge to the right. Lieut TRENERRY and his pl were sent out around the ridge and up on to the high ground to the left.

At 1700 Kel Crocker and the remaining two sections of his pl joined the ridge force, his arrival gave complete confidence in the continued possession of the feature.

At 1730-1800 considerable SA fire was heard on the high ground EAST of the ridge, this was found later to be both Trenerry and B Coy making contact with the enemy. Occasional shots were heard from Bob SAINES pl on the right.

At 1800 hrs Bob made contact with the firce on the ridge with the report that the area SOUTH & SW of the feature was clear of live Japs. He then withdrew his pl back to C Coy's area. At 1830 hrs Lt. TRENERRY moved back to C Coy area through the ridge force with the infm that the area around the saddle EAST of the feature was clear.

At 1940 a party from B Coy Sgt O'Connor, Sgt Yandell and Pte Napier made contact with the ridge and reported to the area between B Coy and the feature to be clear. They returned to B Coy with orders to move back to the Bn area at first light the next day, clearing the area around the saddle thoroughly as they moved in.

The night of the 12/13 Oct was uneventful, though sounds judged to be the enemy moving his dead and wounded were heard at intervals, The ridge force stood to all night. During 0600-0700 on the morning of the 13th. Tom Cook and his pl arrived in from B Coy and reported the ground EAST of TREVORS RIDGE clear of the enemy. N Coy continued to arrive until 0815 when the last of their stretcher cases was brought in. At about 0830 hrs enemy arty fired ranging shots on the ridge from the valley N of BHQ. At 0900 hrs Capt Seymour Toms took over command of the ridge.

For gallantry and devotion to duty and the way in which he controlled his section on the ridge proper, Cpl Paddy Carey was recommended for military award.

After being slightly wounded Pte Fisher remained on duty, setting a splendid example by continuous trips under heavy fire supplying his section on the ridge with amn and orders. This gained his recommendation for military award.

For going out twice under heavy fire tomretrieve a Bren Gun and ammunition from a dead gunner and for later making another trip out under fire to collect two tins of water Pte Barney Barnes was recommended for an M.I.D.

Casualties on TREVORS RIDGE during the time covered by the report was Killed 2 ORs, Wounded

SX 3078
R.D. JOHNS Lieut.

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"C.14."

ACCOUNT OF ACTION OF 17 Pl OCT 12/13 TREVOR'S RIDGE

At approximately 1100 hrs 17 Pl was ordered to move up and reinforce 7 Pl on the top of Trevor's Ridge.

On the attainment of the knoll it was found that the Pl could not be given fixed positions and that the only thing to do was to fill in the pits vacated by 7 Pl through casualties. As we moved in the enemy's fire, which consisted of SAF, light mortars & grenades was fairly heavy, which called for quick movement on on the part of the lads taking up positions on the right flank. The lads moved in particularly well only having one casualty. The enemy maintained the pressure until approx 1300 hrs.

At approx 1500 hrs he again attacked using heavy MGs which proved most annoying as they were firing on the top of the knoll. This fire was ineffective as it was generally too high. We then used our 2" mortar and discharger cups which seemed to ease the situation a little. Our greatest problem was the shortage of ammunition which, unless made up, would mean we couldn't possibly hold on much longer. However we were fortunate enough in getting a few grenades and SAA for the LMG which were taking great toll of the enemy. At approx 1600 hrs a message came that a Pl of C Coy was moving around the right flank and a Pl of D Coy moving around the left flank which boosted the lads' morale considerably. At approx 1630 hrs, shots and explosions were heard on the left flank. The enemy fire decreased a little after this action but the heavy MGs were still engaging us. Nothing was heard from the right flank until the Pl Comd came in and said he could not get around owing to a steep ledge that was well forward on the right. He then went back and tried again and was successful in contacting the enemy but still couldn't move forward any great distance.

At approx 1830 shots were heard high up the valley which were thought and were hoping would be B Coy returning from their patrol. After this short action the enemy's fire practically ceased except for a few single shots. Shouting and screaming from the enemy cheered the lads considerably which also meant they enemy were withdrawing in a disorderly manner.

At 1900 hrs a patrol of three came through from B Coy and said the enemy had withdrawn and that they had knocked out the heavy MG on the side of the hill immediately in front. Orders were then given for B Coy to remain in their present position and for two Pls to move at first light and clear the area of any enemy which may have been about. From then on the night was very quiet apart from a noise from the right flank which sounded as though the enemy were either burying their dead or preparing for a dawn attack. 11 Pl came up to reinforce us at 0300 hrs by taking up positions on the right flank and so withdrawing our lads who had been there all day and bringing them down to the left flank positions, giving them a well earned rest.

First light came and nothing happened. Soon after B Coy came through and reported everything clear in front.

At approx 0900 hrs the enemy arty opened up on the knoll. This fire was most accurate and in a short time we found it necessary to vacate the North-west slope and to move to the other side. After this movement, apart from a few shots from the enemy arty, the action ceased. The remainder of the day was spent in mopping up.

The lads who did a particularly good job in 17 Pl were -
Ptes West J, Hillier R J and Addison K.

Signed "G G MACDONALD" Lieut
OC 17 Pl.

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"C.15."

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES OF PTE J. McMANUS & L/CPL SCOTT

From 1630 hrs Oct 12/43 to 0930 13 Oct 43.

OBJECTIVE:

Pase msge to Capt Toms from CO was to leave one Pl on highest feature nearest BHQ and for rest of company to hasten back to BHQ. Our track taking us around the left flank of the enemy.

ROUTE OUT

Leaving BHQ we proceeded to C Coy lines where Maj Johnson showed us the way out and advised us not to follow the sig cable allthe way as it was cut and it was thought the enemy may be laying in wait at that point. At this stage Sgt Tabe also took us down the main patha bit to show us where a booby trap had been placed. Leaving there we didn't follow the oath as far as we should and decided to go our own way having taken a general direction on the top of the feature. We had rather a tough climb breaking through creepers etc. About 1700 hrs we heard a few shots on our right. Continuing on we kept going until 2000 hrs when we decided to take cover fornthe night and placed ourselves under cover of a large prickly brush and two logs for the night

A very unpleasant night was spent in all as besides no sleep and plenty of rain a party of 6 or 8 enemy passed uncomfortably close at 2315 and a larger party on our left as we lay down the ridge at 0400 hrs. Just after light we moved on and contacted the sig wire and path 50 yds on our right, which we followed until we reached the summit of our object at 0810 hrs. only to find that B Coy had gone, the only signs of habitation being a few grass leantos and 3½ reels of sig cable.

After a vrief investigation we left almost immediately following the path along a third of the way down. We then took our own track once more avoiding the sodden path and having obtained a glimpse of BHQ for direction. Fortunately we struck C Coy lines almost where we started from taking 80 minutes to return and thankful to be back once again.

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"C 16."

REPORT BY LIEUT TRENERRY.

16 Oct 43

At 1400 hrs 12 Oct 43 I was detailed to take 2 secs from 16 Pl and 1 sec from 15 Pl and under instructions from Maj JOHNSOM was to move up and attack the enemy from his left flank. Our job was to releive the pressure on Bob JOHNS. At 1600 hrs rain set in and we took the advantage and made the track about 150 yds. to the rear of fwd Jap elements. 16 hand grenades was the starting signal thrown into 6 or 7 groups of Japs. Chaos and confusion set in among the Japs who dispersed very quickly and ran into our own fire. 5 Men and myself cleared the track forward to Bob John and 5 others cleared the track in the oppsite direction. The remainder took up posns just below the ridge. Both groups clearing the track ran backwards and forwards shooting at opportune targets.

The following were some of the individual efforts by my men :- Dave Blacker with bren firing from the hip accounted for 5 Japs who tried to withdraw along the track. Laurie Donnellan empties 2 mags of Owen Gun into 2 groups. A Walker accounted for 3 Japs with LMG at 10 yards range. The late Frank May collected 4 Japs before he himself was hit. Chellow Young and Clayfield each got 2 more Japs to their credit. Cpl Brine emptied a mag into a group with unknown results. Cpl Jones and Cpl Mills opened their score with one each. Alex Glen from C Coy emptied a mag into 2 other groups with unknown results. The track was later patrolled until 1830 hrs when the late Lieut Paine made an appearance and we withdrew through A Coy back to C Coy.

Mathews, Cockburn, Butt and Myers did excellent work with grenades. The result of the action - "not enough Japs".

A.R. TRENERRY
Lieut.

Known enemy dead: 24 by SAA, unknown number by grenades.
Our Casualties: 2 killed, 1 wounded.

I would like to have recorded the sterling wo k done by the late Pte MAY F.W. and the late Pye AGETT L. These men by their efforts undoubtedly saved the lives of other members of the platoon.

A.R. TRENERRY
Lieut.

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"C.17."

THE ATTACK ON TREVOR'S RIDGE

On 12 Oct 43, I with 5 Pl were attached to B Coy. It was a glorious morning but things were quiet, too quiet in fact and from the top of the high feature B Coy were on, we couldn't hear a sound.

The first we knew that things were wrong was when our phone to Bn went dead and firing opened up, which continued all the morning. Capt Toms decided to send Lieut McRae with his two secs to find and repair the break in the line. They proceeded to the foot of the hill and discovered that ridge joining our feature with BnHQ was occupied by Japs so he phoned back to Coy HQ and I received orders to move down and clear the ridge.

I met Mac and he gave me all that he knew, so I pushed forward to contact the enemy. I handed 5 Pl over to Sgt Underwood, commonly known as "Underpants". The Japs were expecting us for they opened up with their "Woodpecker" and did they whistle, but the boys kept pushing on. I sent Sgt Yandell round on the right flank while a sec frOm B Coy, and Cpl Fitzgerald's went around on the left; well, Lum's sec on the right did a wonderful job and made it possible to wipe out the Woodpecker. The boys must have killed 20 or more Japs on the first knoll and by the way they bawled you would think they were killing a hundred of them.

We continued on along the ridge for another 100+ when 3 LMGs opened up on us and inflicted our first casualties, 2 killed 4 wounded. One of the killed was Dean who had done a fine job killing several Japs while firing his Bren from the hip as he advanced.

At about this time I found young Chappie of B Coy along side of me so asked him what would win the Goodwood whereupon he told me not to be so bloody silly, it was no time to talk about races.

Well, we had to shift these gunners so Lum kept moving his sec forward on the right flank and two of the gunners got out while the other covered them. Then Lum volunteered to go over the top after the remaining one himself so I slipped up behind him to give him covering fire, but as Lum went over the top the Japs cleared off into the kuniae.

By then it was dark and I had no stretchers for the wounded so decided to make a perimeter defence with the wounded in the middle, while Lum with two volunteers, Des O'Connor and another B Coy bloke went into Bn for help. They arrived back about 2 hrs later with a R A P chap with morphia for the wounded which enabled them to sleep most of the night, but it wouldn't take effect on Underpants and one could see his bald head glistening in the moonlight most of the night as he sat up and listened for the Jap attack that never came.

I sent McRae back to where the wire was cut so that he could get Capt Toms and the remainder of B Coy to move straight down to us. It took them 5½ hrs and they arrived at 0530 hrs, and was I pleased to see them.

At first light I took a fighting patrol through to BnHQ to clear the track of any remaining Japs but they were all gone and Capt Toms brought the sick in. Were we pleased when we were home again to the bosom of the Bn, for that first night was just a living nightmare expecting the Japs to counter-attack at any time.

The boys did a wonderful job for 5 secs shifted a whole Coy and not once did they hesitate during the whole attack.

Signed "F.T.COOK"
Lieut.

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"C 18."

On Tuesday 12 Oct 43 instns were received by Lieut R. PAINE for 14 Pl to take out a fighting patrol, the object of which was to get behind the enemy's supply line from the right flank and to cause as much havoc as possible. The job given us was completed successfuly after the second attempt

The patrol consisted of Lieut Paine Sgt Phillips MO. Wren and Alf Pickford Cpl Box and five men in 4 sec, L/Cpl Dickeson and five men in5 sec L/Sgt Usher and five men in 6 sec.

At about 1330 hours on Tuesday 12th Oct 1943 Bob Paine received orders to take 14 pl out as a fighting parol to cut the enemys supply line and to cause as much havoc as possible so as to ~~cloar~~ relieve pressure on Bob Johns pl. Quick orders were given to move out pl at 1345 with one meal in pocket. At the given time Ron Box sectiob started as first section down the track towards the saddle astride track, the first sign of the enemy was three Japs in foxholes. Blondie Dickeson and Titch Harrison both fired at the three Blondie killing one which was found to be a Stretcher Bearer the other two withdrew very quickly in to the low ground. Five section took up a position near four or five foxholes, while four section moved to a knowl on the right of track Ron Box's section had to move through high kuni grass near top of knowl, as he neared tophe was fired on by two or three Japs but after a few shots with rifle and a spray with bren he soon withdrew but at same time one of three was wounded as we found a track of blood leading down a hill. After this fire had orders to stay in same positions and wait for further orders either to give covering fore or to continue advance. While four and six sec moved around right of knowl then five sec received orders to continue their advance on the left of knowl. Just as they moved forward Alf Pickford saw movement in bushes firing at it killing one, as he gave a yell and a jabber. Several shots were fired at the jabbering and is not known if any were killed but no movement was seen after.

After this four and six sec came around from the right and the advance continued swinging around towards the ridge, here we found fresh made tracks through the kuni grass at the same time a snipert on the high end of razorback was continually firing with the Zyip going close over our heads, we worked our way up to about twenty yds from the top of the razorback then fired at a number of targets that came into view, things got a bit sticky so we withdrew down the hill a little then made our way back to the end of razor back, as time was moving on and Bob Paine thought we would only be out for a short time, we should move back to our lines keeping close to the side of the hill back to our positions arriving back at 1730.

Bob Paine reported into and was informed that we had to go out again and if necessary to stay out all night as the situation was was serious. The boys took a very dim view of this as it had just started to rain but all knew the job had to be done and done as quick as possible so we started out again moving out on the same track and up the hill to the high end of the razorback, just as we were nearing the topmBluey Lorimer ran into what we thought was the sniper he put two bursts into him, then we worked on to the top of the razorback, here we found a number of positions all along the razorback, as there was heavy firing along the razorback we moved through the kuni grass just down from the top, with Jim Usher's section at the end of the Japs position, then we put in the attack up the hill, immediately his fire turned on us with several greandes coming down the hill, one going off near Ron Box, with a piece hitting him on the top of the head also through the side of the face. Bert Searle collected a bit of shrap through the water bottle and into the hip, also John Green got a piece through the foot. Just after we started firing up the hill the Jap started to give orders, and we thought they were going to charge down the hill on to us, so we withdrew down the hill a bit and went behind cover waiting. Jim Usher's section at this time was being heavily fired on by LMG with the bullets flashing just above their heads.

The short time we were behind slight cover nearly everyone had shots at the Japs moving on razorbacks, with Bob Paine getting two killd Ron Box, Gordon Nixon, 2 Ben Stanmore 2 Clarence Brost each three killd with Blue Lorimer Titch Harrison Allen Lewis each with one kill to their credit. Shortly after the grenades coming down we worked back to the high end of the razor back this is where Green and Searle moved back to the track, with Ron Box

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 "C 18."

still carrying on and, when told to go back said he would carry on as there wasn't many in his section. When reaching the end of razorback Bob Paine sang out to Bob Johns to see if he could move up to his position, he received the OK to move up, by this time all firing had ceased, this was about 1900 hrs. Bob Paine returned shortly after, with the news that the Jap had withdrawn and that Bob Johns was very pleased with our results. At this time Ron Box was looking queer in the eyes so I Viv Phillips told him to go back, if he didn't he would kill himself, so after some forcing he retired down the hill, but after a short time we heard him calling out for Bob Paine and then he came up to us and said there are six Japs at the saddle and he didn't know if Green and Searle had got through, by this time Box didn't look so good, but when we moved along the razorback to see if all was clear he moved up throu A Coys position back to RAP, at same time all were told that that was the only way out for evacuations. As we moved along the razorback everyone was very cold as there was a slight wind coming up and as it had been raining everyone was wet through and shivering. Moving along the track we noticed all away along the ridge small holes which he used as he cam forward on to the ridge also tracks at about fifteen paces interval running to rear of ridge and connecting up with a track running along to the left. We went along the razorback for a short way running into Mr. Tremery's patrol who came around on the left, we carried along the razorback with five section on track and four and six on the bottom track which ran about fifteen yds down from the top.

We then moved back on our track to within fifty or sixty yards of A Coy where Bob Paine went forward to find out what we were to do stay out or return, the sections spread themselves out along the ridge watching each track which approached the ridge. At about 2030 we received orders to return back to our positions via A Coy arriving back at 2100, with the boys pleased with their days work, knowing they had done what they set out to do. The total casualties on us was three and the enemy 19 killed and several wounded.

Sgt PHILLIPS

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

"C.19." C.14.

13 Oct 43.

5 Pl moved off for HIMI at 0630 to clear route in. Remainder of coy HQ, 10 & 12pls with natives and casualties followed on leaving at 0730 hrs. Lt. SNOOK took charge of all natives for making of ~~sketch~~ stretchers for four wounded, L/Cpl Haynes, Sgt Underwood, Pte Virtue and Pte Pescod who later died of wounds. Two cradles were also made by natives to bring in Ptes McInernay and Dean who were killed by sniper fire.

On coys return to HIMI, 5pl returned to HQ Coy, 12 pl came under comd D Coy, 10 pl under C Coy.

B Coy reoccupied JOHNS RIDGE with under comd 18, 7 & 11pls. During the moving the ridge came under accurate Jap arty fire causing the northern side of feature to become completely untenable. Pte Short was killed by arty fire, Pte Betts R.M. wounded, Pte Anderson accidently wounded through right hand when returning from patrol. Pte Standish evac ~~th~~ through shock. Coy spent remainder of day and night 13/14 JOHNS Ridge.

C/1

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

"C20"

Map Ref: DUMPU 1" to 1 Mile

RECCE PATROL BY 9 PL - 16 OCT 43.

OBJECT :

Patrol ridge for signs of any enemy activity to approximately 689633

ROUTE OUT:

Followed along ridge.

ROUTE IN:

Back along ridge

INFORMATION:

Ridge is razorback all the way. Vegetation is very thick from half way along to the far end. Track we followed appeared to be an old pig track, then about 80 yds before last rise to high knoll we came across a recently used pad which led to a 4 strand barb wire fence with tins hanging on it so that they would rattle when moved. Barb wire fence appeared to run right around foot of high knoll. The fence has only very recently been erected in the area. Sighted Jap shelter behind fence but no movement.

I would estimate that from thisknoll he could see down the RAMU VALLEY also all of the upper FARIA VALLEY above feature on which KILU standing patrol is situated.

CASUALTIES:

Own - nil. Enemy - nil

PATROL COMD: Sgt Mulcahy

Patrol Strength - 1 Sgt, 1 Cpl, 4 OR

Time out 0700L. Time in 1115L.

J.R. MULCAHY
Sgt.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

"C 21".

RECCE PATROL by 9 Pl - 16 OCT 43.

Map Ref : DUMPU 1" to 1 mile.

Object:

To investigate barb wire fence contacted by earlier patrol, and general recce of that area.

Route Out:

Along razor back then into jungle and climb up along same razor back.

Route in:

Same as route out

INFORMATION:

At 1500L heard chopping approximately just below grassy end of ridge. At 1515L rear man of my patrol reported he had seen a Jap 50 yds in re-entrant on right, who was watching us. At the same time fwd scout heard movement and something slipm slightly ahead of him. I moved back to investigate Jap seen on right who in the meantime, had disappeared. I moved down to the right about 20yds to observe in re-entrant, observed nothing but distinctly heard chopping fwd. Movement was heard on our left flank and thought we were possibly surrounded, also as we were on a razor-back in a posn very unfavourable to us I withdrew my patrol to a more favourable posn where we remained listening for approximately one hour. About 100 yds to the rear of most fwd posn we found a freshly discharged Jap round which was possible to have been oneof the shots fired last night

DEDUCTIONS:

Japs appear to be cutting bamboo and I would think using it for rivetting their positions about the crest of the hill.

TOPOGRAPHY:

You move along a razor back all the way which climbs to a grassy ridge. Through the jungle it is very muddy and slippery.

Patrol Comd - Sgt LORD. Patrol Strength - 1 Sgt 1 Cpl 7 ORs.

Time out 1330L, Time in 1800L.

R.S. LORD
SGT.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

'C.22'

RECCE REPORT BY BANO PATROL 10 P1 16 OCT 43.

Intention:

To find a suitable JEEP track up to GUYS POST.

Left 1300 hrs starting from saddle ref 692-577 following native track down ro lake Ref 681-575, time taken down ¾ hrs connecting up with Arty jeep track, time back 1 hr.

The ground is rubble and workable, 1 swampy place of 25 yards which can be corcuroyed with the trees close by.

Having contacted the arty they think with a little work it is possible for a jeep to travel up to saddle 692-577. Estimate the grade 1 in 5 at the worst pinch.

The track passes down a razor back ridge from saddle 692-577 going due SOUTH. Walking time from arty to Guys Post with load estimated 2½ hrs.

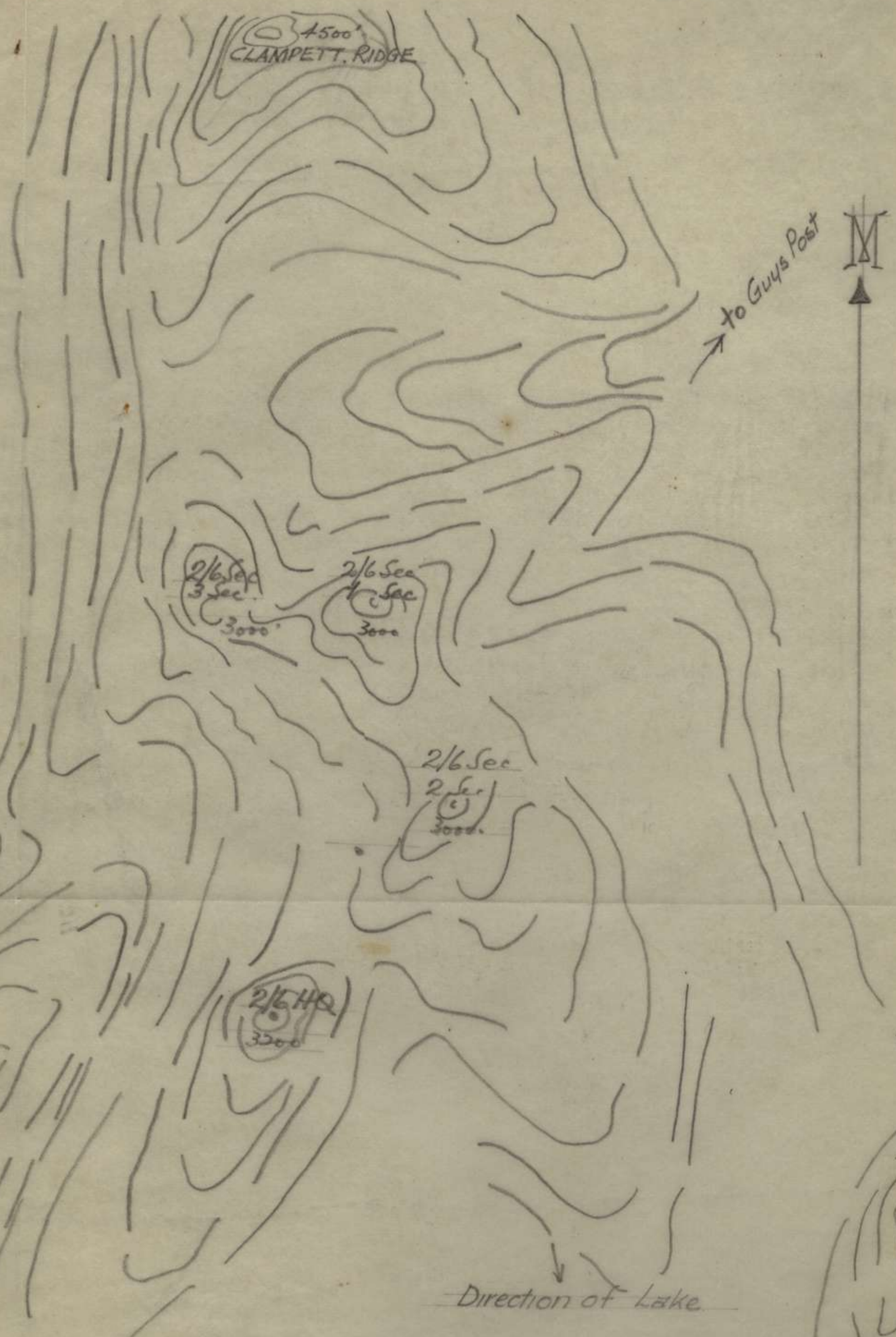
Sketch attached.

SX 3478
Sgt K.W. DAWSON
BANO.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

SKETCH of BANO PATROL AREA

C22.



SCALE 1" = 100 yds.

Time taken 1½ hrs
Bgs by Compass
Distances by Eye
Oct 16. 45
B Coy 2/27 Bn A.I.F.

R. Pannell Lt
Oct 16

C22 BHP

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

"C. ~~20~~ 22 A."

2/27 AUST INF BN

PATROL REPORT

17 OCT 43

Patrol by 18 Pl on 17 Oct 43

Ref map Mt Kubara 1" to 1 mile

OBJECT:- To recconoitre area and high ground 290 degrees mag of Shaggy's Hill and if possible destroy any enemy in that area.

ANSWER:- Patrol Comd - Lieut G. Robilliard
Strength - 1 Offr, 14 OR
Time out - 0750L
Time in - 1400 L
Route out - 290 deg on razorback ridge
Route in same.

NARRATIVE - The patrol moved a distance of approx 1200 yds along razorback about 150 yds beyond pt reached by two previous patrols. This point was at the extreme top of the razorback. Here the sec heard the enemy talking and chopping wood. I moved fwd to the fwd scout. The area was thickly studded with high cane which was very dense. The enemy were, in my opinion, about 40 yds away. I sent one man fwd about 20 yds and he reported that the cane was impenetrable and that he could not see through it. On the left was a sheer drop which prevented any movement to that flank. The enemy were talking and the sound of voices came from 4 different posns. There appeared to be between 8 and 10 voices.

On our right the ground fell away sharphly to a re-entrant which was very heavily wooded. I sent two men down to the re-entrant and they moved up towards the enemy posns. They reported that the re-entrant led up to a pimple on which the enemy were situated. The grade was fairly steep and very steep up to the pimple. Further to the right there is another re-entrant and there again the undergrowth is particularly dense.

The patrol remained in and recced the area for 75 mins. in an endevour to ascertain what the enemy were doing. We were unable to see them owing to the fact that they were above us and our vision was curtained by the foliage. Movt was very difficult owing to the non-existence of tracks.

DEDUCTIONS (1) In my opinion the enemy were either diggin posns, cutting tracks or extending the wire fence (previously reported by another patrol). NOTE: We did not see such fence and I think my patrol went to the left of it, i.e. that it is lower down the re-entrant.
(2) The enemy are present in some strength, probably a pl.
(3) The feature would be most difficult to attack owing to the nature of the terrain.

Rough sketch is appended - all bearings magnetic.

G. ROBILLIARD
Lieut.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

"C 23."

PATROL REPORT

Recce Patrol 10 Pl B Coy 19 Oct 43.

Object. To observe tracks and topography West of BERTS POST.

Answer. Tracks and topography noted.

L/Cpl.Mc Cormack.D.H. 4 OR's 0830 hrs 1215hrs

Route Out. Compass bearing first 800 yds 294 degrees then 270 degrees for next 2200 yds then 275 degrees for approx 1100 yds.

Route In. Same as route out

Track for first 2000 yds along Razorback little climbing able to make good time ,next 1000 yds fairly steep climb to top of feature,cross re-enterant for 100 yds then steady climb fo for 1000 yds approx distance 4000 yds.

Observation.

To South West with visibility good 3 to 4 miles with ~~xx~~ binoculars,visibility North West 1000 yards to thickly wooded feature. NO additional Tracks seen ,further patrolling would be difficult.

L/Cpl.McMormack.D.H.

"C.24."

Recce Patrol 10 Pl B Coy 19 Oct 43.

Ref Map Dumpu 1" to 1 mile

Object. To observe tracks movement and topography

Answer. Tracks noted NO movement seen.

L/Cpl Hanna.J.B. 4 OR's 0830 hrs 1425 hrs.

Route Out. 195 degrees.Single native pad followed along Razorback feature for approx 2000 yds then followed Creek to FARIA RIVER 675559.
Troops could move in single file to valley with little difficulty. From Valley back to Pl position very steep climb. There was no movement seen and the approx distance covered was 4000 yards.

Observation. WEST along Valley 3000 yds.SOUTH across RAMU VALLEY good.
Approximately 700 yards on route out track seen branching EAST towards LAKE AREA

Route In. Reverse of Route Out.

L/Cpl. J.B.Hanna.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

"C 25."

Rexce Patrol 2 Pl 19 Oct 43.

Ref Map DUMPU 1" to 1 mile.

Object. To contact BANO and recce new track to HIMI.

Answer. BANO contacted and new track recce to HIMI.

Lieut Twist.L. 22 OR's 0845 hrs 1530 hrs

BANO contacted . Patrol then followed down Ridge on a bearing approx 330 degrees towards 2 native huts which were situated on a steep spur.

No track was observed from huts in direction of HIMI. Patrol returned along track for approx 400 yards and found a track leading to low ground on RIGHT of BANO. Track followed along Spur passing through native gardens and two huts in the direction of HIMI.

Track disappeared on Spur. Patrol then moved down on RIGHT of Spur making own Track to steep Creek Crossing where unused well padded track was found.

Track leddonto next Spur on RIGHT where HIMI could be seen and thence along centre of Spu crossing three creeks until large creek below DAPO position was met.

Lieut.Laurie.Twist.
2 Pl.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

"C.26"

Report track trail to DADI from FARIA River by 14 pl C Coy. 20 Oct 43.

Sgt Phillips 2 OR

Time starting from FARIA River at 0915 arriving at DADI QM Store 1100 hrs.

Topographical

On turning up a tributary which runs approx 15 degs we went along it for about 400 yds to a re-entrant running to the left going up this re-entrant for about 250 yds, climbing some land slide ground (slate stone) then turning to the right out of the entrant on about 10 degs on to the main spur, then going on a bearing of 340 to 360 degs to the top into kunai grass. This runs right up to a razor back where the forward coy of DADI are situated

The going is toughest for the first 20 minutes then fairly easy climbing to the top. The supply train took 1 hr 45 minutes including three 10 minute spells.

I left to come back from DADI at 11.17 taking us 30 mins to get to the re-entrance mentioned. Here I made a recce to try and find a better way to this point.

We made a track do n the side of another re-entrant which runs left of one mentioned that is left going down. Running down a small waterway out to the tributary I found this track to be no better than the one we went up, only is was more useful if the landslide ground is found to be difficult after some use.

Please find rough sketch map of track.

Sgt PHILLIPS V7

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

RECCE PATROL REPORT "C.27."

20 Oct 43

To HIMI
From HIMI H

Found by 3 pl on 20 Oct.

OBJECT:- Recce and watching ENEMY approaches westward of GUY'S POST

ANSWER:- No enemy movement observed

PATROL COMD:- Sgt ROSENBERG, Strength - 21 all ranks.

TIME OUT:- 0930 TIME IN :- 1530.

DETAIL:- Patrol moved from GUY'S POST up LAKE feature to BERT'S POST then WEST for approx 2000 yds to large hill feature. No information re ENEMY. Casualties nil. Numerous suitable places for OPs. Topography of country from BERT'S POST :- rather open along ridges and easy travelling.

Sgt ROSENBERG.
20 Oct 43.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

RECCE PATROL "C28"

Bert's Patrol
20/10/43.
1520

Patrol direction NW for 5-6000 yards. About 2500 2 native huts (.)
2 old tracks leading from huts, one on bearing 60 deg. other due north
up to big green feature (.)
Very hard going. Estimate would ~~going~~ take over a day to move Bn tps.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

PATROL REPORT "C.28". 20 Oct 43

Patrol found by B Coy 10 Pl.

Récce Patrol, Strength 1 NCO, 8 ORs, Comd by Cpl SHARRAD Noel.

Object:- To observe tracks, movement and topography.

Time out 0800 hrs. Time in 1515 hrs.

Route Out:- From pl HQ bearing 295 degs for 800 yds, then bearing 350 degs d down spur 500 yds, then NW 315 degs for 800 yds to wooded re-entrant, very steep. On to sharp razor back to second re-entrant distance 1000 yds. Crossed re-entrant to small kunai covered feature 1000 yds. Then along razor back to objective, large kunai feature 1000 yds (distance approx 5000 yds)

Narrative :- Going fairly easy to first re-entrant, ~~pass~~ Crossed a track running NE. Hard going to second re-entrant where we discovered two native huts (unused for quite sometime), from huts there were two tracks, one leading 360 degs, the other 60 deg (both unused for quite a long t ime) followed lightly blazed trail on to objective.

Observations:- From objective WEST through large gorge observed RAMU Valley. NW large gorge approx 2 miles, further observation obscured by range. NORTH 1000 yds obscured by large range running NW from Shaggy's feature. Possible to move only in signle file, would take a large body of troops 12 hrs to reach objective.

Route back:- The same.

N.A. SHARRAD
Cpl.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

"C. 29"

PATROL REPORT. 21 OCT 43.

Recce. Patrol IO Pl. 21 OCT 43.
Object. To investigate movement on tracks.
Answer. Track recced.

L/Cpl. Mc. Cormack D.H. 3 O.R's 0830 I225 hrs.

Route Out. From Pl. H.Q., bearing 295 deg. for 800 yds., then bearing 270 deg. for another 200 yds along razor-back with gradual climb, then strike fairly steep climb for I000 yds to a re-entrant, bearing then of 230 deg for approximate I000 yds to a feature over-looking gully, approximate distance 5000 yds.

Narrative. Going rather good along razor back from Pl. position which has a track for 3000 yds. Going then gets harder for the next I000 yds to re-entrant. From then going is difficult owing to rather boggy ground to the feature. View Nth. West good across valley binnoculars; view north limited owing to heavily wooded features; a couple of old tracks running along razor back.

Route Back the same.

L/CPL Mc CORMACK.

"C. 3I."

Recce. Patrol IO Pl. 22 OCT 43.
Object. To check on tracks found by Cpl. Sharrod's patrol on 2Ist. Oct. 43.
Answer. Track investigated, native footprints seen.

Cpl. Sparre 50.R8s 09I0 II45 hrs.

General. Moved straight to second re-entrant where two tracks were found; one a blazed trail going N.E., the other going due north. Split party here and followed track to north, which went for 80 yds the swung EAST Moved for further 500 yds. Track had been used by natives this morning. This trail had been recently blazed, estimated one week.

CPL. L.T.SPARRE.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

PATROLSAND REPORTS.
"C30"

Standing Patrol 18 Pl 22 Oct 43

Ref Map MT KUBARI 1" to 1 Mile.

Object To operate as a standing Patrol from high ground 290 degrees off SHAGGY RIDGE,with a twofold object (a) Of sniping the ENEMY (b) Obatainijg more deatailed information of the nature of his activities.

Answer Information obtained.

Lieut Rebilliard 18 Pl 0600 1700 hrs.

General. The patrol moved put along razor back ridge and into thick timber. On arriving at our objective moved forward to,point A (as shown in rough sketch att). The area was considerably clearer than on 16 of Oct. The Bamboo was thinner and much more open. The ENEMY were moving around & cutting well back on the feature. I place 2 men at point A and 2 Men at point B in the creek and moved the remaunder back to point C. Up till 1400L the ENEMY remained high up on the position and although they could not actually be observed we could note thier whereabouts by movements of trees. At this time Cpl Thredgold and 1 Other man were in the fwd post,see suplementry report,The ENEMY were still digging in and cutting timber. On the arrival of Capt White of the Arty I was instructed to move men out as he was about to conduct a shoot.

Deductions. (a) ENEMY strength about 12 to 14
(b) " preparing extensive positions about 5 or 6 Posts,and surrounding same with barwire.The latter is now vi visible from point A
(c) ENEMY is clearing bamboo in direction of point A.
(d) ENEMY much more alert in that he has sentries posted.
(e) Any troops observing from point A are visible to sentries and must be particularly careful.
(f) In my opinion a Pl is a to larger body to have so close to ENEMY position. Reason necessity for silence and restricted area in which to disperse and man oeuvre.

SIGNED LIEUT RIBILLIARD.

"C32"
Supplementry report to "C30" by Corporal L.Thredgold.

Pte.Vandeleur and myself were on sentry duty at Point A I crawled forward and observed 4 strand barbwire fence with tins hanging on top and bottom strand the latter being 6" from the ground. I saw movement and then observed a JAP walking about with a machet in his hand,he was wearing a Jap suit and a peak cap. Just behind the wire I saw a JAP sitting on the hill obserbving and watching down the track I was on. He had a rifle across his knees. I saw another JAP walk pass me down the hill and started digging a position. He had a rifle above the hole. I sent Pte Vandeleur to watch his movements,while I got over in the trees to observe more clearly. Here I could see 1 splitting bamboos and taking them up the hill. There were quite a few talking in a low tone,I should say sbout 10 or 11 men all told. I got back on the track and a JAP came down alongside the fence and cut bamboos 15 yards in front of me. Since I was last on patrol in this area(16 inst)they have cleared quite an amount of b bamboos alojg the ridge. It looks as though they are making a fire lane down the track.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

RECCE PATROL
BY 18 PLATOON.

"C 30"

R.F. 1:360

ENEMY WORKING IN THIS AREA

APPROX NORTH

JAP POSNS

BAMBOO

DENSE UNDERGROWTH

CLIFF FACE SHEER DROP

A

B

C

18

TO SHAGGY'S POST

OPEN PATCH

DISTANCES

A to Fence Approx 15 yds.
B to JAP posns 30 yds.
C 80 yds.
Fnd Knoll to JAPS 50 yds.

- SCALE -

1 INCH TO 10 YARDS

FORM LINES TO GIVE IMPRESSION OF GROUND ONLY

Compiled from infm supplied by G Robilliard Lieut.

C 30

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

I heard 2 men talking near the bottom post so I did not fire because I knew 2 were behind me and there was only 1 way out and that was along the Ridge. I moved back a few yards while Pte Vandeleur covered me and had to move across a few yards of open where I was in full sight of the bottom position. I could see the JAP quite plainly about 15 yards on my left.He was on his own working with a long handled shovel. He stopped and observed for a few minutes then someone called him from above and he immediately got into the hole and worked quickly ,my idea it was his Corporal as he appeared to growl when the JAP answered back. I left my other man to watch while I went up further and observed the sentry. The JAP at the bottom post sang out in a sharp tone "corceta" and the sentry called out to the others that were talking and all sound ceased for ten minutes ormore. I think they were a bit suspicious as the air was very still,it was almost impossible to move in the mud without making a slight noise. I could hear chopping in several places but they were not talking as loud as previously,specially the the new post at the bottom,they were very quiet when anybody went down there. They appear to have positions right around the hill as could hear axes some distance away.One was chopping big timber like posts so they maybe extending the fence but I could'nt observe same to the right as a sentry was facing down my track. Behind the fence they had bamboos and dry leaves lying on the ground which would crack with movement. When we moved out they were again very quiet.

Signed L.J.Thredgold CPL.

" C32 "

Recce Patrol 2 Pl 22 Oct 43.

Object To recce ground West of B Coy HQ.

Answer Recced ground

Cpl.W.E.Bridge 15 OR's 0900 1330

Route Out Patrol moved out from HQ Coy Area and moved West of B Coy HQ. Contacted 10 Pl then moved along Ridge which B Coy occupy and then swung left at the fork in track just below B Coy HQ. Then followed track which ran in a Westerly direction for about 1500 yards to large feature with timber on Southern slope -Ref 655599 Dumpu 1" to 1 Mile. NO movement seen good view of surrounding Country,only one track to this feature and very muddy in places.

Route In Same as route out.

Signed Cpl.W.E.Bridge.

" C33 "

Recce Patrol 7 Pl 22 Oct 43.

Ref Dumpu 1"

Object To recce track leading up feature to above HUT RIDGE

Answer Track recced NO enemy contacted.

Cmd P.J.Carey 7 OR's TO 0900 TI 1130

Route Out Patrol moved out up track in Northerly direction for a distance of about 1500 yards. Followed track which was plainly marked and free from obstacles, very greasy and had not been used for sometime. Track likely appeoach to ENEMY positions above HUT RIDGE and could be used either by us or the ENEMY for an attack or recce

Signed P.J. Carey.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

" C34 "

Recce Patrol 9Pl 22 Oct 43.

Ref Dumpu 1"

Object. Recce ground fwd and right of 9 Sec for possible route of adv on right side of Timber up to the JAP positions.

Answer Ground recced and found very difficult.

Cpl W.E.Cremor 3 OR's TO 0915 TI 1130

Route Out. Moved out along edge of timber to where it ends in the re-enterant. This was very steep and rocky and not suitable for track. I could not cross or climb spur without coming well out in the open. I then followed creek up till I could turn off to the right and from there climb the next Knoll from this Knoll there sere false Crests all the way above it and very steep,being a narrow Razor Back and out in the open. Returned to the creek then turned left climbed up onto track to standing patrol and returned to 9 Sec Area.

Signed W.E.CREMOR Cpl.

" C35 "

Recce Patrol 9Pl 23 Oct 43.

Ref Dumpu 1"

Object. Recce JAP position on high feature and harrass
Answer. JAPS found to have evacuated thier position on high feature.

Cmd Lieut Garnock 13 OR's TO 0645 TI 1915

Route Out. Patrol moved out very cautiously to JAP wired position which was reached about 0810, NO JAP movement or sound was heard. About 0915 sticks were heard cracking in the timber on our right flank and to rear. I immediately slightly altered dispositions of patrol to mere suitable positions should we be surrounded. All remained very quiet from then until 1100 hrs. At 1110 hrs I went fwd to try and locate JAP sentry reported by patrol on previous day.This sentry was not there so I remained on the forward pimple until about 1230 hrs and could not observe any movement through binoculars or hear any sound of ENEMY. After lunch at 1330 I sent a Cpl and 2 OR's onto fwd pimple to listen and observe for any JAP movement. At 1500 hrs I moved fwd to them when they reported not seeing or hearing anything. 1530 hrs I sent a Sgt and 2 OR's around on the right flank to see what they could find out and I moved immediately back to the CPLS group up on the Knoll. We then moved fwd onto the fence where we were unable to observe any JAP activity. I left this Gp in position on the pimple and went around to the right flank to where Sgt Lord had moved about 10 yards through the fence of which some wires had been cut by Arty fire. From there we could see a couple of dug psns and what appeared to be 2 shelters but no movement of any kind. I then rang A Coy and reported that I did not think there were any JAPS in that psns and was instructed to recce the position more fully,occupy the position if possible and not to attack it;report to A Coy immediate on occupying Position, I left 2 men on the pimple where the phone was and 2 men on the pimple fwd of it, remainder I took fwd with me. The Cpls Gp was told to take up a fire position wherethey could give supporting fire to any of us moving up on thier right and await for sig before adv.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

"C35 " (Cont.)

The man on the phone was ordered to ring A Coy., and report immediately if there is any firing. I then moved around to the right flank with the remaining seven men. I then moved with four men forward into the best possible fire position and sent two around to the right flank to get as far forward as possible then take up fire position, these two got about half way up the hill. We then moved forward two men at a time the remaining five giving them cover, I kept bringing the bren forward into the most favourable position. On passing the first foxholes and finding them empty, the remaining foxholes were searched by three men under cover from the remaing four, the corporal's group was then moved up. A defensive was then taken upp two men searched the area. I sent a runner to the phone to report to A Coy., that we had occupied the position, also the runner was to send three of the men forward whom I had left back, leaving one on the phone. When these came forward I sent two men along razor back to the first pimple. On coming up to their position I moved the bren forward to that pimple, I then moved forward with the two scouts to the second pimple from there about fifty yards ahead from this position chopping was heard. I then sent a runner back to bring forward two more men. From this forward position I could not observe any Jap movement through the binnoculars. I then left the four men in this position in two groups approximately forty yards apart and returned to the phone reporting the situation personally to Lieut. Clampett. The position was occupied about I650. On returning from the phone I counted thirty foxholes four of which had received direct hits from the arty. Private Hawthorne handed a small box containg two small bottles, apparently a label off a tin, one tin of ointment and a piece of paper with pencil writing on it, this was forwarded to the Int. Sec.. About I800 I8 Platoon arrived, I handed over to them and returned to my platoon area, leaving the position about I840L.

J. C. Garnock, Lieut.

"C 36"
5 PL.

Recce Patrol — 24th Oct 43.

Ref Dumpu I"

Object. To recce possible enemy approaches to Guy's Post from the west.

Answer. Ground recced.

L/Sgt. Lashmar. — I5 ORr's — TO 0850 TI I5I5

Route Out. Patrol moved out along steep track through Bert's Post, then continued around ridge towards B Coy. H.Q. Smoke was observed from small fire for about five minutes at I200L., on a bearing of 325 degrees, it was on the forward slope of a large feature in the centre background. (Shaggy Ridge). The patrol located a pig fence along the creek and inspected tracks running in both directions. They did not appear to have been used for twenty four hours, and the only apparent marks were by our army boots, tracks had cobwebs built across them.

L/Sgt. Lashmar. A.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

PATROL AND REPORTS.

C37.

Standing patrol I6 Pln. 24 Oct. 43.

Ref. Map KUMBARUM 7076I9

Object Standing patrol at BEVERIDTE'S POST to protect L.O.C. to 2/I6th Btn, positions.

Answer Nilreport

Lieut. Trenerry I6 Pln. (24 O.R's) T.O. I7I400
T.I. 24II00

Lieut. Trenerry. A.

C.38.

Recce. Patrol. I6 Pln. 25 Oct. 43.

Object. To L.O.C. from GUY'S POST to BEVERIDGE'S POST and investigate the shooting at escort to ration party.

Answer. No enemy sighted

Liuet. Trenerry. 20 O.R's. T.O. I200 hrs.
T.I. I700 Hrs.

General. At the time stated patrol moved out and proceeded up the river to the third crossing where ther shooting took place. At this point there are two very steep ridges running to the river and between them there is a very thick belt of jungle. We scrambled through this jungle and combed it out as much as possible. We then moved to the clearing where Corp. Jones expected the fire to come from. Asection with Corp. Suttcliffe from a point above the position covered Corp. Jones and party whilst they completely combed the ridge without finding a trace of anything or anybody. Avery slight track was found and this was patrolled by Corp. Suttcliffe and group and by Corp. Snashall and party travelling in opposite directions. The track was very old and in both directions led to dead ends. We moved off this ridge at I530 hrs. and patrolled the ridge to BEVERIDGE'S POST. A very keen lookout was kept on the right flank on the return journey but nothing could be seen or heard.

Summary. In the jungle there were some excellent positions Available for the enemy to cover the creek, so why should he come out in the open to fire? From his suspected position he had a good field of fire extending for 250 yds., and yet he opened up at fifty yds. range at a moving target missing by ten yds.
Corp. Jones swears that only one burst was fired and yet the man shot at alleges three bursts. The men were travelling at fire yard intervals and only the front man was fired at, the remainder of the escort and natives were unmolested.
I am of the opinion that the firing came from one of the high ridges and one burst being fired, either for ranging purposes or as an attempt to molest or harass our L. of C.

Lieut. Trenerry.A.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

" C 39 "

Recce Patrol 2 Pl 25 OCT 43
Ref DUMPU 1"
Object. To recce track running a Westerky direction from B Coy HQ .
Answer. Track recced believed used for water purposes.

Cmnd Sgt L.A.Pullen 14 OR's TO 0845 TI 1440

Route Out From Pl Area at GUYS POST to BERTS POST along Ridge towards B Coy HQ,turned in Westerly direction just passed a burnt patch of Kunai on the right of the ridge tthis track ran down the hill on a compass bearing of 269 degrees for about 400 yards,then turned North and lead to a steep bank and down into a small but fast flowing stream. About 40 yards up from the stram we found an old delapitated Pig fence. The track turned to the right a few yards this side of the fence ,this track lead down into the Creek bed for 200 yards, then the track petered out and the Creekked forke the greater quantity of water coming from the Left branch (We were travelling up stream) On right bank of Creek we passed through a quantity of vegetable marrow vines.Turning sharp right here 50 yards back from Creek junction a comparatively fresh track ran up a steep bank. Estimated 1 or two persons had scaled this bank, it is very steep and we had to pull one another up with rifles . This trqack eventually lead back to where we had entered the Creek. From there the route in was back to SUTTONS POST (BERTS) along the same track as Patrol went out. Consider where we met the Creek to be an ideal Ambush position. Reason being both banks densely timbered and it would be very difficult tp pick up ambushers positions. The banks being steep would make it very difficult t o disperse troops qu quickly. Cobwebs were across Creek bed indicating that NO one had been along during the last few hours. Nothing unusual was observed, the track up stream on a a bearing of 60 degrees.

Signed L.A.Pullen SGT.

" C 40 "

Recce Patrol 15 Pl 28 OCT 43
Ref DUMPU 1"
Object (1) to determine whether JAPS still in occupation of Risge fwd of C Coy.
(2) to determine ENEMIY'S fwd position.
Answe (1) Yes
(2) Approx 9000to 10000 yards fwd of C Coty psn.

Cmd FL Tabe Sgt 20 OR's TO 0900 TI 1030

Route Out. The patrol left positions occupied by Cpl Mills approx 450 yards from C Coy HQ at 0900 hrs and moved down the left side of the Ridge for 30 yards,then maved fwd in the general direction of the top of the Ridge again. MMoved along for a distance of 120 to 140 yards and struck approx 9 - 12 JAP psns, some constructed just below Ridge and others 10 feet down Left side of Ridge . Effects of Arty shoot could be seen with several hits on top of Ridge. Then moved to top of Ridge and keeping below the skyline moved to top of Knoll where Timber covers entire Ridge Moved along top Ridge down on Saddle,then up onto another small Knoll but saw ENEMY. Then moved fwd to next Knoll, whixh was about 6 to 8 feet wide and located more JAP psns construvcted on Left and right of Ridge also on top of it. Psns on right of Ridge constructed only a few feet below Ridge but those on the Left cor constructed 10 to115 feet down. At this point intermittent sounds of chopping were heard at about 100 to 150 yards fwd. Moved fwd t to Saddle below Knoll but heard NO further sound. At this saddle, track leaves ridge and moves to the right of next Knoll which rises fairly sharply from Saddle and is covered with dense clumps of bamboo . Moved along track for approx 30 yards from Saddle but could neither see nor hear anything . Then moved back to fwd Section Post and reported results of Patrol.

SGT FRANK TABE. (signed)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

" C 41"

Track Movement Patrol BERTS POST 28 Oct 43
10 Pl

Ref DUMPU 1"

Objest Track movement NW of BERTS POST.

Answer NO movement seen and tracks have not been used recently.

Cmd A/Cpl Mc Cormack and 6 OR'S TO o'30 TI 1255

Route Out North West from BERTS POST to 2 huts inspected on previous patrols. From the 2 huts followed tracks for 200 yards NO movement seen and track s had not been used of late.

Route In Same as route out.

Signed A/Cpl Mc Cormick.

" C 42 "

Recce and location Patrol 14 Pl 30 Oct 43

Ref Dumpu 1" See shketch attached.

Object. (1) Locate ENEMY positions fwd of 14 Pl area.
(2) Place BOOBY TRAP fwd of 4 Sec psn.

Answer. (1) Two foxholes located approx 170 paces fwd and along track - see sketch.
(2) BOOBY TRAP placed approx 30 paces along track from fwd section.

Cmd Cpl Scott 3 OR's TO 1445 TI 1530

Route Out . Through fwd post the first 50 yards moved up hill bearing 360 degreesUntil the foxholes were encountered the track was practically the same though visibility improved. Fin al 60 paces level going but gradually rising to ENEMY psns.ENEMY appear to be occupying above psn and improving same

Cpl. Scott.

" C 43 "

Recce Patrol 17 Pl 31 Oct 43

Ref DUMPU 1" See Map attached.

Object Te recce TWIN PIMPLE AREA.

Answer Objective NOT reached.

Cmd Cpl Sims 4 OR's TO 1000 TI 1400

Route Out. From point A could observe Ridge running to point B, jungle on narrow Ridge very thick. From A to D small plateau thick kunai also odd studded trees, observing down to gully to point E steep and bare in parts and small trees. Observing down to point F could see Creek Jct also 2 Huts fwd of 2/16 Psns.NO ENEMY movement seen at all . Looking towards point H could see quite a number of shell holes. Could not observe much on points I and E as foliage was to thick

Signed

Cpl Sims.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

2030/3rd Oct.

H.Q. 21 AUST INF BDE.
3 OCT 43.

2/14 BN.
2/16 BN.
2/27 BN.
Lieut Pearson 2/4 AUST FD REGT.
2/6 AUST FD COY.
2/6 AUST INDEP. COY.
B. COY. P.I.B.
NO 5 PL. 2/2 AUST SUPP. DEPOT COY.
2/6 AUST FD AMB.

I wish to convey to all members of the Brigade Group during the advance from KIAPIT to GUSAP RIVER Area, my appreciation of the excellent spirit and efficient work done during the advance a rapid one for the undeveloped type of terrain covered.

To those who have plodded on and gained ground, to the signalmen who have maintained comnucations under difficulties, to those who have worked tirelessly to maintain supplies, to the engineers who have done excellent work in crossing rivers and making roads, to the artillery who have been ready to support us, to the medical units who have been ready at all times to relieve casualties had they occurred. To those American, Australian and Papuan, who selected, prepared, improved and defended the air strips at KIAPIT and GUSAP RIVER WHICH ARE SO NECESSARY FOR THE SPEEDING UP of our drive Northward, and to any others who have co-operated with 21 Bde. I say that you have done much to prepare the way to success of future phases of this campaign.

I anticipate that now there will be a breathing space, purely a breathing space, while we gather momentum for the next drive. During this period how short or how long it will be I do not know, I want you to lo look to your fitness, and guard your health and strength. While you are doing this, fir firepower from planes and guns, and supplies, will be built up behind us. Thus by concetrating all our resources we will be able to roll on again, minimising casualties for ourselves and bringing far greater death and devastation to the Jap and all he owns.

Ivan. DOUGHERTY, Brigadier.
Comd. 21 Aust Inf Bde.

D6

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

SECRET

Copy No.

1115/4th Oct.

2/27 AUST INF BN

O O No. 2

by

Lt-Col J A BISHOP MBE

Ref MAP FININTIGU & DUMPU
1" to 1 Mile

1115 4 Oct 43

INFM

INTENTION

2/27 Bn to move to BIWY RIVER.

METHOD

Bn will cross GUSAP River at 1115, order of march C, Comd, BHQ, HQ, A and B. D Coy to move to GUSAP RIVER at 0730 and to work on Xing under direction of engineers. B Coy to remain at WARRIS RIVER to make xing of same jeepable. 10 Pioneers to remain with B. 1 Sec of B Coy to establish outposts on WAMPUN track. 5Pl to send recce party ahead. Other working parties as required to be dropped off rear of coln as Unit advances.

ADMIN

20 Picks to be carried by B Coy. 104 natives with HQ Coy, 9 natives with BHQ.

INTERCOM

By Line.

BDE O O

INFM

INTENTION

2/16 Bn adv Bn to secure Bridgehead over SURINAM RIVER and send protective force to DUMPU ALG. 2/14 Bn as flank protection to move from present posn at GUSAP RIVER to KAIGALUN 2 and then NE to WAMPUN. 2/27 Bn as reserve bn responsible for all crk & river xings excl. of GUSAP to BIWY RIVER and to make track jeepable. Bde order of march and times to cross GUSAP RIVER - 2/16 Bn 0830, 2/14 + 1 Pl PIB 0930, 21 Bde HQ + light sec fd amb and remainder of PIB 1000, 2/27 1115. 2/16 will lay wire ~~to~~ with fwd coy, rear elements of Bde to T in on line, double line to be laid to DIV. B Ech and DID to move to KAIGULAN 2.

ADMIN

130 natives per Bn

INTERCOMN

Line

D7.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

2/27 AUST INF BN

SECRET

O O No 3

(verbal)

by

Lt-Col J A BISHOP MBE

1615/5 Oct.

INFM

Enemy beleived to be in occupation of KOMBARUM Area.

INTENTION

2/27 Bn to occupy KOMBARUM and secure high ground

METHOD

Order of adv - C Coy + 12 Pl B Coy, Comd post + FOO, B Coy, HQ & BHQ D Coy and A Coy right flank protection. Route - main force west of track OLD DUMPU to KOMBARUM.

TASK

C Coy to occupy and consolidate KOMBARUM, 12 Pl to secure and picquet feature 695567. A Coy route EAST of URIA RIVER, task - occupy and picquet with one Pl each of the features 705543, 707552 and 714563. A Coy to move level with C Coy. Start time 1630L/5 , start pt 694528 and EAST WEST line through that pt.

ADMIN

As usual

INTERCOMN

108 sets with Comd Post, C Coy 12 Pl and A Coy. Sig line to be laid along line of adv

Issued at 1615L/5 by Lt-Col BISHOP.

D8.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

0830/5th Cct.

SECRET

VERBAL

2/27 AUST INF BN

OO NO 4.

by

Lt-Col J A BISHOP MBE

REF MAP DUMPU 1" to 1 Mile

INFM

Enemy

Have withdrawn from village, confirmation of this from Don Coy patrol.

INTENTION

Bn to adv and occupy PEARSON'S TARGET VILLAGE 685594

METHOD

Move at 0800 hrs 8 Oct 43, order of march C, Cond, B BHQ, A, 15Pl & 13 Pl as flank protection and picquet. Route follow sig wire up URIA, cross saddle to FARIA RIVER then proceed to Don Coy posn. Start point BHQ

ADMIN

2 Days emergency, 3 days hard & uncomsumed portion of days ration to be carried by all ranks. Mors & bombs to remain in present posn with priority to come fwd on next carrier train. Natives to carry haversack of OCs of Coy and 2" Mor amn. 145 Natives allotted to Bn for move. CQMS & Cooks & Gear to move with coys. Carrier line of 300 natives tofollow Bn with rations.

INTERCOMN

Coys to tee in on line at every halt. 108 sets with C,B,A, COMD & BHQ. ~~issued~~

ISSUED at 1810 hrs.
by Lt-Col JA BISHOP
7 Oct 43.

D9

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

N.G. Forces.
G81/2908.

HANDLING OF CAPTURED DOCUMENTS AND EQUIPMENT.

1. The following briefly describes the present system of handling captured documents and equipment.

(a) All captured enemy documents and equipment handed in to intelligence by forward troops are tagged by a printed label.

(b) The finder, if he so desires, may name himself or some other person to whom the souvenir may be sent when no longer required by intelligence.

(c) The article, with the tag attached, is forwarded to Adv. L.H.Q (Aust.); after preliminary examination, together with a letter giving necessary details for the disposal of the article. A copy of this letter is sent also under separate cover.

(d) In the case of:-
Documents adv. L.H.Q. fwd the article to A.T.I.Q. If not required to be held there it is returned to Adv, L.H.Q., for disposal.
EQUIPMENT. In some cases the article is disposed of immediately by L.H.Q., Adv. in accordance with the finders wishes. In others it is sent to M.G.O., Branch Melbourne for technical examination. If it is not required by them it is released, but if release is not possible a letter is sent to the finder informing him of this.

2. With regard to para 1. (b), above, troops should be encouraged to name a person on the mainland rather than himself. Every article which is returned to the finder is passed back to NEW GUINEA and then generally returned by him to AUSTRALIA via postal channels. Although covered in censorship by a certificate stating " Of no intelligence value" there is a risk of loss and/or delay in transit. This risk is obviated by direct forwarding to person named in AUSTRALIA. If, however, a soldier desired particularly that the article be returned to him, every effort to comply will be made.

3. It is requested please that lists of captured documents and equipment, together with finder's address and instruction s b e forwarded periodically by divisions to this H.Q. through normal channels. Those lists will be, in turn, forwarded to Adv. L.H.Q.

4. In this way a check can be made to ensure that articles are disposed of, so far as possible, in accordance with the finder's wishes. This policy, it is considered, will assist in the correct disposal of articles and promote goodwill with forward troops.

Signed. F.H. BERRYMAN, Maj-Gen.
Deputy Chief of the General Staff.

15/Oct.

D10

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

D 6/1730/20 Oct.

INFORMATION FROM PW's CAPTURED DOCUMENTS — 21 INF BDE 20 Oct 43

2/14 Aust Inf Bn.
2/16 " " "
2/27 " " "

Extracts from Interrogation Report - P W'S 271

Name KIMURA Yoshikazu.

Rank Superior Pte Unit. 20 Div 78 Regt 1 Bn 2 Coy 1 Pl.

How captured PW'S unit met our Tps on,he believes 15 Oct. PW was member of an advance party of 6. PW remembers having fallen down a cliff and injured his hip and then became unconcious. He was found unconcious.by our Tps at 710675 (DUMPU SHEET)

Strengths. 78 Regt is at less than half strength
3 Bn and attached.A total of 200 tps returned from fwd of WAMPUM made up as follows -
3 Bn HQ - annihilated
3 Coy 6 40 (went fwd to rescue adv gd - 2Pl annihilat annihilated.)
11 Coy - Annihilated
5 Coy 80 Regt - 20
Indep Engrs - 10
The rest of the 200 comprised other Coys the PW does not remember.
4 Coy 1 Bn was ordered to fight to last in SURINAM area and PW believes it was annihilated.

Intentions. 78 Regt was to go to KANKIRYO to make a stand.

Morale. PW states that prior to XXXXXXXX battle his Unit was on 1/3 rations and many were down with Malaria - personnel were weak when time of battle arrived . PW states There is much confusion in Cmds and the indep det comds . Ordinarily Soldiers are quite disgusted because they are kept in ignorance of the situation and allowed only the minimum knowledge to function.PW believes that Jap Tps are demoralised and on the retreat. They are spiritually and physically unable to attack and press the issue.PW states that he and his comrades believe that the war is lost in New Guinea and will not last long. He was told by superior Officers he was unable to return to his home in Japan if captured. His treatment as a PW would depend upon the individual CO of Aust Unit concerned. He says he was surprised to receive such kind and humane treatment and believes that if his comrades should know the type of treatment he is now receiving they would ground arms and surrender.

Tactics. Pw stated that Jap Units are usually on high ground.He recomend that our Tps instead of moving along Riverbeds should adv just below tops of ridges with the object of encircling Japs on heights.

-- SUMMARY))

Indentification.
All PW's captured in area to date have been part of 78 Regt and captured documents have not disclosed the presence of any other Units.PW's have all been ready to supply any information they can and captured documents continue to reveal much valuable information.

Japanese Maps. In the main these have not been accurate and it is interesting to note that where ever possible the Jap continues to copy our maps in particular the 4 mile to 1" series.

Signed Robert.M.Rose.Capt.

Int Sec 21 Aust Infantry Brigade.

D 11

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

1222/21st Oct.

Liuet. Col. J. A. Bishop, C.O. 2/27thBtn, interviewed at KUMBARUM, (New Guinea) on 26th October I943, by W. H. Williams (Aust. Public Relations).

Col. Bishop said that his Btn. approached KUMBARUM in heavy rain on the 5th Oct. 43. There were Japs on all the surrounding features. One offr. and eight men of a pln. got up to the top of KING HILL on the night of 5th Oct, and the remainder of the pln. joined them next day, when it was found that the Japs had withdrawn during the night. On Oct 6th. patrols were sent up the URIA RIVER and along the high ground S.E. of the river URIA. The platoon that went up the ~~the~~ URIA was commanded by Lieut. J. D. J OHNS OF Sth. Australia and the platoon that went up and patrolled the high ground was commanded by Lieut. K. F. Crocker of Sth. Australia.
On Oct 6th Col. Bishop was ordered to SEND a coy on a fighting patrol along the FARIA RIVER, and move N.E. along the FARIA to discover anyJap positions. D. Coy., commanded by Capt. Guy Fawcett of N. S. W. left KUMBARUM at I500 hrs. on 6th Oct. and halted for thenight along the URIA RIVER. The Coy. left the following morning, (7thOct) and crossed the saddle betweer the URIA and the FARIA RIVERS, about two miles from KUMBARUM. Beforeleaving the URIA RIVER, Capt. Fawcett sent a patrol (sec) along, commanded by Cpl. J. A. Sullivan about 400 yds. N.E. of the URIA to piquet the river while Coy. crossed the saddle to the FARIA RIVER. The piquet encountered a small Jap patrol, killing three of the enemy, without loss or casualties to themselves. Cpl Sullivan reported to Lieut Johns' patrol moving up the URIA RIVER and followed D. Coy. across the saddle to the FARIA.
D. Coy. moved along the FARIA RIVER, camping and providing it's own piquet at GUY'S POST, approx. four air-miles N.W. OF KUMBARUM.
That afternoon, (7th Oct.) Col. Bishop received an order to move the Btn. on a fighting PATROL along the FARIA RIVER, and on the high ground to the north. The Btn. was not to go more than two day's supply turn-round (one full day's march for native carrier's). Col. Bishop was then to form a patrol base, and endeavour to find and get astride the Jap track believed to run from WAMPUM TO BOGADJIM. Early on the morning of 8thOct, in the FARIA RIVER below GUY'S POST. D. Coy encounteredthree Japs including one officer. The Japs blundered in to D. Coy's position. The Japs were killed. D. Coy. suffered two casulties. At dawn the same day, D. Coy. was attacked by approximately I4 Japs, using grenade discharger and two machine guns. D. Coy. beat off the attack, and moved a few hundred yards to the rear , on to the plateau known as GUY'S POST.
At approxima tely I400 hrs. Col. Bishop arrived with the remainderof the Btn. at GUY'S POST. During the afternoon piquets were sent out on to the high ground on each side of the FARIA RIVER, in preparation for an advance on the following day (9th Oct.)
On 9th Oct. D. Coy. moved off 0800 hrs. and the remainder of ~~th~~ the Btn at 0930. At approximately I000 hrs. D. Coy. encountered a strong enemy position covering the FARIA RIVER about two miles along the river North from GUY'S POST.
Col. Bishop went forward, and found that ~~Col. Bishop~~ Capt. Fawcett had sent one section to try to get on the high ground to the right, so as to bring flanking fire on the enemy. Col. Bishop instructed Capt. Fawcett to send a platoon after the section, with instructions to get as high as possible, and report ~~what support~~ what support it could GIVE to an advance.
The enemy opened fire with grenade dischargers. Enemy FIRE became so heavy, that Col. Bishop was convinced his troops were near ~~th~~ the Jap L. of C. Col. Bishop consulted Lieut. Snook, who was attached to the Btn. (Lieut. Snook, who is on the staff of the Chief Engineer), Formerly lived in New Guinea and knows the country well.

D12

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

Lieut. Snook had with him a houseboy who had previously been forced into service by the Japanese, but who had run. Before the Australians had started to move on to high ground, Col. Bishop beckoned to some men on a point to which he had sent a piquet, to come down and follow the Btn., the men were later proved to be a Jap piquet who had beaten the Australian piquet to the point by half an hour!
Col. Bishop had left a platoon at GUY'S POST, and he decided to move a platoon on to the high ground on the right (N.E.)- of the FARIA RIVER in order to protect his L. of C. This position was to become known as BEVERIDGE POST, and named after Pte. G. A. Beveridge of N.S.W., who was wounded at that spot. Col. Bishop then left D. Coy. to hold the river, until the Btn. passed through and moved north to the high ground overlooking the river (a mile from BEVERIDGE POST, which is about two miles from GUY'S POST). On reaching the crest of ridge, the Btn. contacted Lt. Mc Donald's platoon, which had previously been sent to that ground. At that stage Lieut. Mc Donalds platoon and the pioneer platoon (under B. Coy.) had reached the top of the ridge, and the remainder of the Btn. was climbing the steep hillside through heavy timber, On the ridge Cpl. F. J. Lundy, and Lt. Snook were manning an O-Pip watching the Jap track and heard a rustling on the steep hill-side below them. As one section climbed one side of the ridge, a soldier was heard panting as he climbed up the opp-osite side. To the amazement of those who saw him, when the soldier stood up in sight, he turned out to be a Jap. The Jap panicked, and jumped over a steep cliff about 100 ft. high he may well have been killed by the fall, but may have escaped because of the bushes which could have BROKEN his fall.
B. Coy. commanded by Capt. Seymour Toms, was the leading Coy, at this stage and from the top of the ridge Capt. Toms and Lt. Snook observed 14 Japs moving along a well defined track in the gully below. The track appeared to run from the FARIA RIVER, N.E. across a saddle approximately 400yds from the ridge onto which the Btn. had climbed. Col, Bishop sent Lt. Mc Donalds platoon forward, with orders to move on to the saddle and locate the track, setting an ambush for the enemy On approaching the saddle through pit - pit cane, the pln., observed 15 Japs already on the saddle - the Japs, who WERE CAUGHT TAKING MEAL immediately attacked. Eight of the Japs were killed - the remainder escaped. No. 5 Platoon (Pnrs.) was sent to hold a small knoll across the track from the ridge. Cpl. J. H. Daniels, who had led the first section into the attack was badly wounded. Several walking wounded had to be cleared A further party of 14 Japs approached up the track. In order to get the wounded out, the saddle was held by one section, and two sections, led by Cpl, Sullivan, went to intercept the Jap force, The attack was beaten off. Cpl. Sullivan, although wounded, continued to lead his small force. The wounded were withdrawn, and the Btn. took up a position hold-ing the ridge, and the saddle over which the Jap track crossed and the small knoll on the other side of the track. Those places were subquently named TREVOR'S RIDGE and JOHN'S KNOLL. While recci. his position, Lt. Trevor Martin (Sth. Aus.) was killed by a sniper. TREVOR'S RIDGE was named after him. At dawn on 10 Oct, a Jap force (Probably not more than 30) attacked. The Japs yelled for four minutes, and then attacked ~~The Japs~~ astride the track. The enemy was repulsed without l loss to the Australians. During the remainder ~~the Btn.~~ of the day the Btn. patrolled the Jap track in each direction from the saddle, but saw no sign of the enemy. During the Morning the Australians fired with some EFFECT at enemy observed climbing a steep ridge to the west side of the river (about 600 yds. from BEVERIDGE POST-).

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

One or two JAPS threw up thier arms and disappeared over the Ridge. During the day a patrol moved along the FARIA RI VER from BEVERIDGES POST and encountered ENEMY opposition. Five ENEMY were killed ,for the loss of one Australian (Cpl.L.C. Dawes) killed, and one wounded. During the afternoon 2 JAP Fd Guns,believed to be 75 MM Mountain gun, opened fire on the Bn from the FARIA RI VER. The guns were very close as the first shell passed very close to the top of TREVOR RIDGE,and exploded somw thousands of yards further on. The JAP range ws then dropped,and the Bn came under fire from point blank range,suffering some casualties (8). BdrE.W.Leggo of Melbourne,who was acting as FOO with the Bn, endeavoured to bring counter battery fire from 1 short 25 pounder supporting the Bn.He was xuccessful in silencing the mountain guns for a while. Bdr Leggo's wireless set was out of order and reliance had to be made on line communication to the gun. On the 11 Oct at about 0900 hrs a Pl was sent on fighting Patrol to endeavor to locate the ENEMY, fwd of BEVERIDGES POST.It was thought that there were JAPS protecting the ENEMY guns.Owing to the nature of the country the Patrol was not able to get right to the spot,but saw NO sign of the ENEMY from the position it reached. The JAP guns opened fire about midday from long range further up the FARIA RIVER the second shell put out of action the new Arty wireless set received that morning and wounded the operator,. There after Bdr Leggo remained in his observation post and relayed his orders verbally some 30 yards to Lieut J.W.Reddin (27 Bn Int Officer) SA,who again relayed the orders verbally to Lt Col Bishop who passed them on with a No 11 wireless set to Bde HQ,from there the orders were passed by telephone to the guns. Throughout the afternoon,Bdr Leggo remained in his OP endeavoring to observe the ENEMY guns,but his effects were nullified by the insufficient rangexxxxf of the short 25 pounder. The gun position Officer with the Arty said that he could get his guns 800 yds closer, but this was not enough as a further 2000 yd range wqas required. At 1500 hrs B Coy left on a recce in force to the high ground North above TREVORS RIDGE with orders to find a suitable psn on which a Pl Out Post could be held, and to report on the possibility of moving around the high ground to the Saddle between the FARIA and the MINJIM RIVERS. B Coy reached High point on the Ridge before nightfall,and was ordered NOT to move further except on small reece patrols until furtherrorders,this descision was made because it had taken 5 hrs to climb a distance of 2 miles. Lieut Johns Pl was sent to hold JOHNS KNOLL while B Coy was away. Late in the afternoon a stretcher party accompanied by sick and walking wounded was shelled by an ENEMY gun,the gunners of which could apparently see the party over open sights and some of the walking wounded became stratcher cases.A new track had to be found to get them down under the cover of darkness.

On the 12th of Oct in view of the damage caused by the JAP mountain gun Col Bishop considered moving the Bn to a wooded ridge which adjoined the saddle on TREVORS RIDGE. At 10 30 hrs a recce patrol of 2 Sections moved along the JAP track in order to make sure that the Ridge was clear of the ENEMY before another recce. The patrol encountered a patrol of 18 JAPS in deployed formation moving astride the track. The patrol fired on and dispersed the JAPS,and returned with the information. At 1045 hrs the ENEMY attacked in strength (12th Oct),. (It was subsequently found that the Jap attacked with a Bn - 4 Coys, suppo rted by a MG Coy and 2 Mountain Guns) The weight of the JAP attack was thrown against JOHNS KNOLL ,then held by Lieut Johns with 19 Men. Lieut Mc Donald Pl from D Coy was sent to JOHNS KNOLL to re-inforce Lieut Johns. Woodpecker (Jap medium MG) were firing from a higher Ridge above JOHNS KNOLL,and into the Australians backs from a plateau on the West of the FARIA RIVE above BEVERIDGES POST.As the ENEMY had cut the Bn supply line, and and the 2/14 Bn was still engaged in clearing the FARIA RIVER NO supplies had reached the 2/27 Bn for 2 days. The ammunition problem was becoming acute. The mountain gun was firing accurately dispersinf its fire over D Coy,(holding TREVOR RIDGE),Cmnd Post and RAP and Pl on JOHNS KNOLL. Several shells and grenades hit the RAP and CMND POST causing sasualites.It was difficult to find a comparatively safe place for the wounded. Although the grenades and shells were falling around the Native compound

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

(in B Echelon) the natives remained comparatively quiet although frightened.The line to D Coy,futher up the Ridge had been cut, but it was felt the Capt Toms would return to the Bn assistance as soon as possible. The Bn strength was 2 rifle Coys and HQ Coy which had 2 Vickers Guns and 1 3" Mortar. The Vickers Guns were employed to counter fire from ENEMY MG rfrom the Plateau across the River, and the Mortar for which there were only 18 Bombs was placed in support of JOHNS KNOLL; The ENEMY got to within 20 yards of the Australians, Sgt G Eddy of SA went fwd and directed the Mortar Fire,the Mortar Bombs landing 20 yds in front of the AUSTRALIAN TPS.. Only 12 Mortar Rnds could be used as 6 had to be held for a last minute reserve,but the 12 rounds caused havoc among the ENEMY. The ENEMY guns appeared to have been moved closer and Bdr Leggo remained in his OP all day, although the communication line was frequently cut by shell fire,it was repaired by the Bn Sigs each time it was cut. About 1500 hrsthe position on JOHNS KNOLL was desperate. C Coy astride the track was ordered to put in 2 encircling counter attacks.Lieut Bob Payne and his Pl moved to the right and Lieut Trenerry to the left both counter attacks had to drive the ENEMY from small Ridges before forming; the attacks were successful,at least 55 JAPS being killed. The Ammunition positionw was becoming more strained and as only 1 Pl of D Coy remained to hold TREVORS RIDGE,somerisk had to be taken,the ammunition from that Pl and HQ Coy was rationed in order to provide for the Pl on JOHNS KNOLL. WO 1 LYNDON the Bn RSM made 3 journeys with ammunition to JOHNS KNOLL during the day,on each occasion he had to move under hvy fire to get ammunition up,he was assisted by his batman (Pte Lindsay Hade).At about 1800 hrs heavy firing was heard from further up the Ridge,and fire from the Woodpeckers in the Area abruptly ceased.It was realised later that B Coy had returned to the Bns assistance,and had attacked the ENEMY flank immediately. The Bn could not contact B Coy but the pressure on JOHNS KNOLL eased considerably. At that hour Cpl Scott and Pte McManus left to try and get ground the JAP lines and contact B Coy with orders for them to remain on the Ridge for the night,and counter attack as soon as hostilities were resumed in the morning. Orders were received from Bde (21 Bde HQ) to withdraw if it became necessary leaving B Coy to fight its way through or go around the Japanese, as there were several circutitous route by which they could reach GUYS POST. It was considered that if the Bn could hold out until night fall it would be able to contact B Coy and the Enemy defeated if ammunition could reach the Bn during the night. At night fall Enemy attack ceased,and the Unit had not yielded 1 inch of ground. The Brigade Cmndr told Col Bishop that Lieut Crockers Pl wouldrrejoinfhim during the night,and that the 2/14 Bn would relieve Lieut Garnock Pl at GUYS POST,thereby enabling the Bn to concentrate,The Bde Cmdr also sent 1 Coy of the 2/14 Bn (Capt Christopherson) to GUYS POST to be at the Bns immediate call; At approx 2030 hrs 3 Aust tps worked through the JAP positions from B Coy,to obtain orders and to report that they had 2 men killed and 4 stretcher cases. the orders carried by Cpl Scott and Pte Mc Manus were repeated with the addition that the stretcher cases were to be brought out with the reserve Pl. The runners from B Coy reported Lieut McRae and Lieut F Cook Pio neer Pl hadd carried out the attack whilst Capt S.J. Toms and Coy HQ remained on the ridge with Lieut A.J.Sutton Pl in reserve.

At 0200 hrs on the 13th of Oct Lieut Crocker and Lieut Garnock arrived with thier Pls and the much needed ammunition. All wounded were evacuated by the returning native train,and the Unit waited with cinfidence for the coming of daylight.The Brig told the Bn that Capt Christopherson's Coy would move to BEVERIDGES POST in the morning ,and advance along the Ridge the 27th Bn had intended to occupy.

In the morning of 13th of Oct the ENEMY Arty and the Woodpeckers from across the River opened fire. Shortly after daylight, but NO ENEMY attack eventuated and firing died down. Capt Toms had marched for 5 Hrs with his reserve Pl during the night, with the stretcher cases being carried and rejoinrd the Bn. He reported that the Pl had adv through many ENEMY dead,but had seen NO signs of live JAPS. A Patrol from C Coy was sent East along the Track and reported a small party of JAPS holding a Spur across the tracks,noise heard during the night was evidenti

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

MADE BY Jap burial parties, which were being covered by gpd of the ENEMY . As Capt Christopherson Coy was approaching from above them the JAPS were left for the Coy to deal with. Cpl Scott and Pte McManus returned having reached B Coy psn after Capt Toms had left. They reported that at 0400 hrs a party of approx 100 Japs had moved NW along the ridge below them.

ENEMY shelling continued intermittently throughout the day, but by keeping movement to the minimum, few casualties were suffered. Capt Christopherson's Coy unfortunately missed the small remaining ENEMY psn, but went out to destroy the ENEMY cove covered by a patrol of 2 Sections Cmded by Lieut Bob Johns who knew the area well. In a short clash just before dark Lieut Payne was killed and two men were wounded; Capt Christopherson then took up a position fwd of C & B Coys for the night, and the wounded -ed were evacuated, the strechers having to be carried by our own menas all the natived had been sent back to GUYS POST. The 2/16 Bn arrived at GUYS POST By the evening and were to relieve on the 14 Oct. On the morning of 14 Oct Capt Christopherson executed a well panned encircling attack on the remaining ENEMY, but found that the ENEMY HAD withdrawn during the early hours of the morning. The JAP fd Gun fired five rounds at approx 0730 hrs, 2 shells falling in the Cmd Post, damaging the Signal exchange, 2 shells in D Coy, and 1 in Capt Christopherson's HQ, killing the CSM. During the afternoon the 2/16 Bn took up psns on the Ridge just to the East along which Capt Christopherson had advanced and occupied psns astride the track and on JOHNS KNOLL. During the afternoon covering parties protected burial parties. Many documents and much material was collected. The total ENEMY dead was 140. During the early hours of the evenong the Bn retired to GUYS POST in pouring rain the 2/16 Bn having completed the relief. The CO Lt Col Bishop IO Lieut Reddin with D Coy acting as rear guard arrived at 1130 Hrs at GUYSPOST. The hot meal was waiting and everyone was in excellent spirits.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

1315/216

"D.I."

AMERICANS & DOGS

Lieut R. JOHNSON & 5 Sgts, 4 Dogs - 1 Messenger & 3 Scout Dogs.

These dogs were trained in U.S.A. and brought here to NG as an experiment to find out how the dogs would work under these conditions. If considered satisfactory we (2/27) would take over dogs and Lieut R Johnson and party to return to USA and submit report to his C.O.

Dogs were originally trained for use in Alaska and snow country 3 of the Sgts were ski-troops.

HQ of the Unit in Washington DC

This venture with this type of trained dog has great possibilities as first day they were used ~~our unit~~ with our unit, they were very efficient, and performed any task asked of them. Scout dogs smelt out posns Japs had occupied - messenger dog carried messages between comd and rear BHQ in excellent time. . Extrene heat and height of kunai were against the dogs

-D13

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

R.M.O's Report

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

R.M.O's. REPORT. 31st OCT 43.

On arrival at KIAPIT on the 24th Sept., 43 the health of the Btn. was excellent and this was reflected in the way in which the Btn. moved up the RAMU VALLEY covering long distances per day and suffering surprisingly few casualties from sickness. Minor foot disabalities, mainly blisters, were adequately and promptly treated by the unit Chiropodist, Cpl/ Miller. Upon arrival at KING'S HILL on 6thOct., 43, some cases of Malaria were evacuated and from then onwards increased steadily, reaching it's apex when the Btn., returned to GUY'S POST after being in action. At time of writing, the number of cases of malaria is falling rapidly.
While the Btn. was moving in action at TREVOR'S RIDGE, the R.A.P. was almost continuously under fire, but no casualties occurred among the A.A.M.C. personnel, although the unit Chiropodist had to be evacuated with malaria during the action.
Splendid work was performed by all stretcher bearers, two of which were evacuated B/casualties.
During the period the unit was in action the R.A.P. evacuated B/casualties, wounded and remaining on duty, and sick.
Most of the latter were cases of malaria, although a fair percentage of those evacuated sick were subquently proved to be cases of scrub typhus and time of writing five deaths from this disease have been reported.
At one stage, early in the action a party of sick and wounded were fired on by enemy mountain gun, shortly after leaving the R.A.P. and some of the wounded were wounded a second time as well as causing casualties among the sick.
This necessitated delay in the evacuation of sick and wounded, this having to be done after dark, until a new track could be recod.
Since the unit has been relieved the evacuations due to malaria have been very high , averaging, for the first few, (three or four) days, about eight men a day. Acting under instructions from the G.M.O. area, all cases with temps. above 100 degrees are now being evacuated.
Mild diarrhoea is at present prevalent, but id readily amenable to treatment and dysentery is very rare.
Deep trench, Closed latrines are in use, and proving eminently satisfactory.
Since the Btn., has been resting, sick parades have become smaller and EVACUATIONS LESS.
Unit Chiropodist has returned to unit, but at time of writing three S/bearers are absent from unit sick.

Signed W. Gove (Capt.) R.M.O.

Casulties to the 31st Oct 43.

Killed in action.	2	18
Died of wounds.		3
Wounded inaction		54
Wounded in action, remained on duty.		2
Accidentally injured		3
Died of sickness		4
Evacuated with malaria	3	125
Evacuated other cases	4	90
Total	9	299

31 OCT 43.

D 14

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

~~20~~ 2030/31st Oct.

Report and interrogation of native picked up
by BANO patrol SHAGGY RIDGE area.

Interrogation by W.O~~I~~, Healy. ANGAU.

Native stated that he dwelt previously at GUY'S POST, which was known locally as SEGARI. He was not molested until a Jap patrol came to the plateau, recently, killed one of his sons and forced him to take to the bush. Previous to this the Japs did not use the FARIA RIVER as an exit to the RAMU VALLEY, but used a route from PAIPA to BERRINGE. He stated that twelve months have elapsed since he travelled north, but he knows of the Japanese motor road. He described the usual route taken by natives from MARAWASA to BOGADJIM, which is as follows:-

MARAWASA - WAMPUM - GURUMBU - BERRINGE.	
BERRINGE - PAIPA ,	5 to 6 hrs, journey along well made Japanese tracks.
PAIPA - YOKOPI	1 day following course of MINTJIM RIVER. BASWA is not shown on map, but may be DAUMONA (He did not seem to know the latter place.)
BASWA ½ MABELUBA	Half along MINTJIM RIVER, from here along the river to BOGADJIM, ONE DAY.

He stated that MINTJIM RIVER was very shallow from MABELUBA to BOGADJIM.

31st Oct. 43.

D15

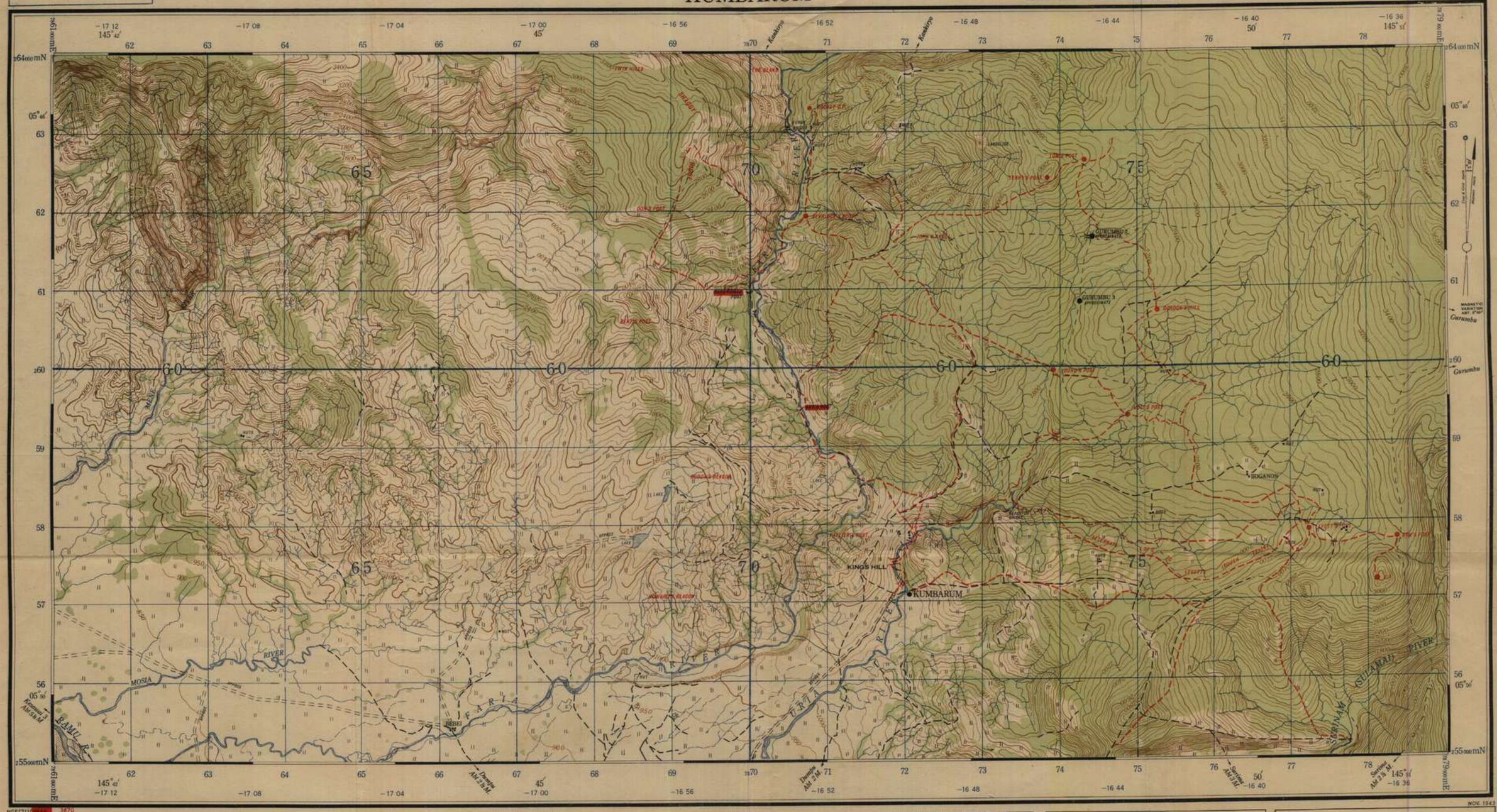
AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES GRID
EQUATORIAL ZONE

NEW GUINEA
KUMBARUM

NOTE: GRID ON THIS MAP DOES NOT AGREE WITH DUMPU 1 INCH PROVISIONAL EDITION

REFER TO THIS MAP AS
KUMBARUM 3670 1 : 25000 SERIES



NOV. 1943

NGF/71U 3670

Bridge
Motor Road
Jeep Track
Foot Track
Reported Track
Telegraph Line
Airfield
Sea Plane Base
Cemetery
Mission Station
Spot Height
Grasslands

CONTROL: Taken from Mt. Kubari and Dumpu 1 Inch Provisional Editions
PROJECTION: Lambert Conical Orthomorphic
AIR PHOTOGRAPHY: 8th. Photo. Squadron 5th. Air Force
MISSIONS: 245y 264w 273x 277z 293y
COMPILATION and DRAWING: 3 Aust. Field Survey Coy. A.I.F.
REPRODUCTION: 2/1 Aust. Army Topo. Survey Coy.

RED OVERPRINT BY 2/1 AUST. ARMY TOPO. SURVEY COY. DEC. 1943
FROM INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY NEW GUINEA FORCE

LOCALITY DIAGRAM

URIGINA	MT KUBARI, AMUSON, PAIPA	POMMERN BAY
MT OTTO	DUMPU	GUSAP
BENA BENA	FININTEGU	AMARI

SCALE 1: 25,000

FORM LINE INTERVAL 50 FEET
SCALE IN METRES
1 MILE = 1·60 KILOM. 1 KILOM = 0·62 MILES

RELIABILITY DIAGRAM

A LOW ALTITUDE VERTICAL PHOTOS
B HIGH ALTITUDE VERTICAL PHOTOS
C OBLIQUE PHOTOS

The blue figures within the borders of this map are for artillery purposes and denote corrections in minutes and seconds of mean time. There is no convergence correction in this zone.

TO GIVE A GRID REFERENCE ON THIS SHEET
PAY NO ATTENTION TO THE SMALLER OR OBSCURE FIGURES AT THE CORNERS AND IN MARGINS, THEY ARE FOR FINDING FULL GRID VALUES
PAY ATTENTION TO LARGER MARGINAL FIGURES AND TO THOSE PRINTED ON FACE OF THE MAP.
POINT BEBEI (VILLAGE)
EAST — NORTH
REFERENCE 662 554
UNIT METRE SQUARE 1000 REFERENCE TO NEAREST 100
NEAREST SIMILAR REFERENCE DISTANT 100 KILOMETRES

Officers using this map are requested to make any necessary additions or amendments on the map itself and forward to A.D. Survey H.Q. NGF

NOTE. Form Lines are intended to indicate shape of hill features and should not be taken as contours. Heights are only approximate.

Reef
Trig. Stations and altitude — First Class 905′, Second 692′, Third 529′, Fourth 205′
Astronomical Station
Native Garden
Native Village
Unidentified Native Village
Buildings
River or perennial Stream
Non perennial Stream
Fathom Line

Swamp
Spring Well, Waterhole
Mangroves
Dense Jungle Forest
Forest
Scattered Timber
Plantation
Secondary Growth
Contours Form Lines
Ridges
Cliffs

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026050

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.
(adapted.)

Unit 2/27 Aust Inf Bn (LOB Gp) *Date and Time.—From* 24 Sept 43 *To* 4 Oct 43.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
ANA VALLEY	24 Sep 43		LOB Gp(O.C. Capt Putman) employed in cleaning, packing etc., after departure of Bn.	
" "	25 " "		Cleaning and packing continues.	
" "	26 " "		Cleaning and packing continues	
" "	27 " "		" " "	
" "	28 " "		LOB Gp make final preparation for movement new area at POM POM VALLEY .	
POM POM VALLEY	29 " "		LOB Gp move to area POM POM VALLEY	
" " "	30 " "		Establishing camp and getting things in order.	
" " "	1 Oct 43		Route March, weapon training.	
" " "	2 " "		" " " "	
" " "	3 " "		Church Parade.	
" " "	4 " "		Syllabus for the week includes route marches 2o Miles, Range practice and weapon training.	

7872.L.

By Authority: L. F. JOHNSTON, Commonwealth Government Printer, Canberra.

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WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.
(adapted.)

Unit 2/27 Aust Inf Bn (LOB Gp) *Date and Time.—From* 5 Oct 43 *To* 15 Oct 43.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
POM POM VALLEY	5 Oct 43		Cricket Match HQ Coy defeated by the Rest.	
" " "	6 " "		32 Personnel warned for forward movement.	
" " "	7 " "		32 Personnel left area for forward movement-at 1200hrs returned to area.	
" " "	8 " "		Ditto regarding the 32 personnel.	
" " "	9 " "		2-66 personnel left area for forward movement and did not return to area.	
" " "	10 " "		Church parade.	
" " "	11 " "		Syllabus for the week - Route Marches 20 miles, Range practice, weapon training and map reading.	
" " "	12 " "		" " " " "	
" " "	13 " "		" " " " "	
" " "	14 " "		" " " " "	
" " "	15 " "		" " " " "	

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WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.
(adapted.)

Unit 2/27 Aust Inf Bn (LOB Gp) *Date and Time.—From* 16 Oct 43 *To* 26 Oct 43.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
POM POM VALLEY	16 Oct 43		As for previous day.	
" " "	17 " "		Church Parade.	
" " "	18 " "		Training syllabus as for previous week.	
" " "	19 " "			
" " "	2o Oct "		SX3900 S/Sgt Longbotham H.E.A. died at 2/5 AGH Scrub Typhus S/Sgt Longbotham buried-Ceremony conducted at BOMANA Cemetery Capt Puttman and an NCO and 8 men from B Coyattended.	
" " "	21 " "		SX18017 Pte Boxer K.A. died at 2/5 AGH. Scrub Typhus. Pte Boxer was buried at Bomana Cemetery. Ceremony attended by Capt Puttman and NCO and 8 men from B Coy. ~~NX161023 Pte SMITH J.J. died at 2/5 AGH Scrub Typhus.~~	
" " "	22 " "		SX12326 Pte Coulls A.A. died at 2/5 AGH Scrub Typhus. NX 161023 Pte Smith and SX12326 Pte Coulls buried at Bomana Cemetery. The ceremonies were attended by Capt Putman an NCO and 8 men from B Coy and HQ Coy.	
" " "	23 " "			
" " "	24 " "		CHURCH PARADE.	
" " "	25 " "		Training as per syllabus attached.	
" " "	26 " "		" " "	

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WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.
(adapted.)

Unit 2/27 Aust Inf Bn (LOB Gp) *Date and Time.—From* 27 Oct 43 *To* 31 Oct 43

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
POM POM VALLEY (LOB GP)	27 Oct 43		Training as per syllabus	
"	28 Oct 43		VX35 Lt-Col J.A.Bishop returned to LOB Gp from fwd area.	
"	29 Oct 43		CO visited CRA 7 Aust Div,lunched at 2/16 Bn then made a trip to 2/5 and 2/1 AGH to visit memebers of the bn and pass on a word of cheer. He was accompanied by Capt Puttman and Pte Dowsett.	
"	30 Oct 43		Lt-Col Bishop visited Brig Chilton in the moring returning to LOB Gp for lunch. Accompanied by Capt Puttman the CO, in the afternoon, made a trip to the 2/9 AGH. He visited and chatted with members of the bn confined there.	
"	31 Oct 43	0530	The CO departed for fwd area.	
		0900	Church Parade was conducted by padre Bradley in 25Bde area.	
			During the month all hospitals have been visited daily. Patients are given cigs, cordial and what ever other amenities are available. Some of the more seriously ill members are making satisfactory headway.	

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TRAINING SYLLABUS FOR WEEK ENDING 30 OCT. 43

DAY	SUBJECT	INSTRUCTOR	
Mon. 25 OCT.	RANGE:-OWEN-I5 rds RIFLE-I0rds	H.Q. D COYS. A COY B&C "	0830-0930 0930-I030 I030-II30
Tues.26 Oct.	S.AT. Vol.I Pam.I5 Pages I0-I5	Sgt. Rosche	
	S.AT. Vol.I Pam. 4 LessonII	Cpl. Pell	
	S.A.T. Vol.I Pam.3 Lessons I3&I4	Sgt. Harvey	
Wed. 27 Oct.	S.A.T. Vol.I Pam.8 2" Mortar	Cpl. Box	
	S.A.T. Vol.I Pam.I3 Lessons I&2	Sgt. Reeves	
	S.A.T. Vol.I Pam.4 Lessons I3&I4	Sgt. Harvey	
Thur. 28 Oct.	RANGE:- L.M.G. 20 rds. per. man Times as for Mon.		
Fri. 29 Oct.	Cricket match V2/I4 Bn.		0930
Sat. 30 Oct.	ROUTE MARCH		

PACKS TO BE AIRED ON MONDAY & THURSDAY

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