

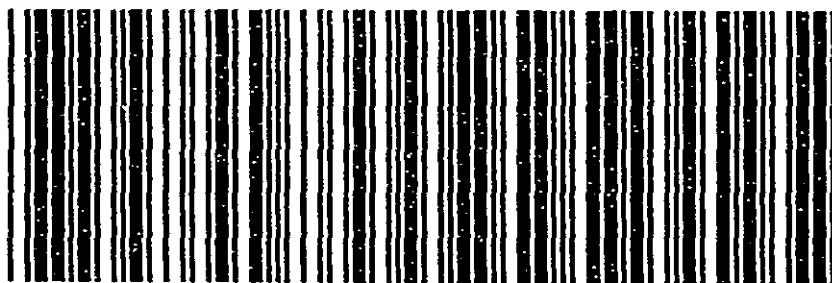
AWM52

Australian Military Forces, Army headquarters,
formation and unit diaries, 1939-1945

1/5/1 DIVISIONS

1 Australian Division
General Staff Branch (1
Aust Div GS Branch)

December 1941



1/5/1-001

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C2118
(adapted.)

Unit H Q 1 Div.

Date and Time.—From 0950K/8 Dec '41. To 0035K/10 Dec. '41.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Vic Bks	8 Dec 41	0950	Milcommand advises that state of war exists between Australia and Japan. 1 Div units ordered to move in accordance with O O L.	O O L attchd. (Appendix 1) <i>AMG</i>
Vic Bks	9 Dec 41		Units arrived at location by 0900 hrs. Right Sector 28 Bde H Q Mt. Keira 34 Bn Wollongong Area 45 Bn Loftus - Pt Hacking area Left Sector 9 Bde H Q Thornleigh 1 Bn Showground Sydney 17 Bn Frenchs Forest 18 Bn St. Ives Showground	
		2355	Gunfire was reported between ULLADULLA & PT PERPENDICULAR. R A N & R A A F advised. 28 Bde troops & F D C troops in southern area stood by and N E S warned to stand by. 9 Bde warned. S U R & 53 Bn warned to stand to for defence of INGLEBURN.	<i>AMG</i>
Vic Bks	10 Dec 41	0035	R A A F advised that Southern Area ordered no search of area ULLADULLA - PT PERPENDICULAR till 0400K.	} C O I C kept fully informed of all action. <i>AMG</i>
			An aerial sweep carried out after dawn to a depth of 300 miles off JERVIS BAY was completely negative as regards enemy, but R A N vessels were seen in vicinity.	
			At 1126 all troops ordered to withdraw to posns occupied prior to 2000K/9.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

Unit H Q 1 Div.

Date and Time.—From 1010K/10 Dec'41. To 1610K/13 Dec'41.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Vic Bks	10 Dec 41	1010	Message received from NORFOLK ISLAND Detachment asking that det mobilise, owing to gravity of situation.	} Passed to G.1 } for necessary action.
		2024	S/L and white flares reported about 8/10 miles seaward from MONA VALE and gunfire reported 5 miles east of CRONULLA at 2130K.	
		2203	C O I C stated that CANBERRA was carrying out firing practise using star shells and S/L off Banks at 2130.	} C O I C notified. <i>AMG</i>
Vic Bks	12 Dec 41	0915	Informed by C O I C that G EORGES HTS would be evacuated until further notice. Middle Bty and A/A proof shooting.	<i>AMG</i>
Burwood	13 Dec 41		R A A 1 Div & G Branch moved to headquarters at Burwood. All units and C O I C notified.	
		1510	C O I C reported suspicious vessel sighted off TATHRA. Report graded low by C O I C but A/C search being carried out.	
		1610	Army instructed that P A D measures (slit trenches etc) be carried out in all camps and military establishments. Concealment and dispersal to be rigidly enforced and alternative and dummy positions provided. Where I M G & A A stands available, A A defence to be provided and continuously manned.	<i>AMG</i>

H.Q. 1st DIVISION

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Unit H Q 1 Div.

Date and Time.—From 2100K/13 Dec. 41 To 1400 K/17 Dec 41.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and Appendices, Dia.
Burwood.	13 Dec 41	2100	34 Bn D Coy reported an unidentified plane presumed R A A F trainer dropped improvised incendiary bombs in the vicinity Coy & Pl H Q.	C O I C informed Further investigation some time later failed to substantiate this report.
Burwood	14 Dec 41	1900	Unidentified ship acting strangely. Navy was at first unable to identify and said that if the vessel was heading for Sydney it should arrive approx 1930K. Later the vessel was identified and strange movements accounted for by shipping instructions requiring ships to steer zig zag course.	C O I C } G C C } informed G C C }
Burwood	15 Dec 41	1630	Ref plane dropping improvised incendiary bombs (13/12/41) direct questioning revealed plane not seen - only heard. Inference is that the start of grass fire and noise of engine are not connected.	C O I C informed
Burwood	16 Dec 41		Report from 9 Bde that man and woman seen observing BARRENJOEY 1300/14 with instruments with many lenses. Ford Coupe CR.798 with unusual gas producer.	C O I C } notified.
Burwood	17 Dec 41	1400	Sub calibre practise shoot by 9.2 Bty North Hd and also from Signal Bty. Routine shipping and aircraft reports from units, all those referred to C O I C being verified.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

Unit H Q 1 Div.

Date and Time.—From 18 Dec '41. To 23 Dec '41.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Burwood	18 Dec 41		Normal plane and shipping reports.	
Burwood	19 Dec 41		6 pdr practise shoot held at Nth Head. A Capt Conley reported to 9 Fd Coy at Ingleburn, representing himself to be in charge of engineers training. His action and apparent lack of knowledge aroused the suspicion of the Coy officers. Enquiries from IB showed that D R O had no record of this man in A M F or A I F. Later IB reported that A H Q verified Capt CONLEY'S statement and all enquiries were to be dropped.	
Burwood	20 Dec 41		Reported from 9 Bde that signals were being made from Newport Beach to sea. Local police were informed and it was later ascertained that the alleged signals were merely light flashes caused by a N E S warden returning home along the beach.	
Burwood	21 Dec 41		Routine shipping and aircraft reports.	
Burwood	22 Dec 41		Reports received from 9 Bde of bushfires occurring regularly at week end in vicinity of Peats Bight and Pittwater. Confirmed by rangers. Forwarded to IB for investigation.	Further fires broke out in area mentioned on Saturday following report.
Burwood	23 Dec 41		Routine shipping and aircraft reports.	

H.Q. 1st DIVISION

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

Unit H Q 1 Div.

Date and Time.—From 24 Dec '41 To 28 Dec '41.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
	24 Dec 41		Routine shipping and aircraft reports.	<i>CMH</i>
	25 Dec 41		Col Lee advised that S U R & Z tp were not to be moved from their present camp.	
			3 Fd Sqn came under comd and H Q were established at ROSEBERRY RACECOURSE.	See Op Inst No.2. <i>CMH</i> (Appendix 2)
	26 Dec 41		Units occupied battle positions. 9 Bde in left sector (18 Bn Narrabeen - B. Bay; 7 Gn Bn Narrabeen area; 17 Bn Pt Jackson Long Reef area). Central sector occupied by 1 Bn. Right sector 28 Bde with 45 Bn in Pt Hacking area; 34 Bn in Kembla area and 13 Gn Bn in Wollongong area.	See Op Inst No.1. See sectors as defined in Op Plan No.1. & Amdt No.1 <i>CMH</i> (Appendix 3)
	27 Dec 41		C.I.C. advised that R D F picked up 4 vessels at distance of 50 - 90 miles steaming towards Sydney at 12-15 knots. R.A.N. could account for only one vessel. Air search of area ordered for dawn at 0350K further bearings were received, indicating a fifth ship and showing that the convoy had maintained its course and speed.	
			Later, it was reported that the readings from R D F were caused by echoes from cliff and inexperienced operators on duty.	<i>CMH</i>
		1615	A fisherman, Mr. Donnelly reported seeing object, possibly a submarine, 2 miles off MAROUBRA.	Received from C I C.
	28 Dec 41		Normal plane and shipping reports. Units engaged in preparation of defensive positions on beaches etc. Technical and supporting arms carrying out normal role in field.	<i>CMH</i>

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C-2119
(adapted.)

Unit HQ 1 Div.

Date and Time.—From ^{1400K/}29 Dec '41. To 1200K/31 Dec '41.

[illegible]

REV. 1ST DIVISION

H.Q. 1st DIVISION

Appendix 1

SECRET.

No. S 459.

<u>DISTRIBUTION.</u>	<u>COPIES.</u>
R.A.A. 2 Copies	1 - 2
C.F.D.	3.
R.A.E.	4.
Sigs.	5.
9 Inf. Bde.	6.
1 Bn.	7.
28 Inf. Bde.	8.
A.S.C.	9.
A.D.M.S. (4 copies).	10 - 13.
1 Div. Postal Unit.	14.
1 Div. Provost Coy.	15.
4 Salvage Unit	16.

1 DIV. OPERATIONAL PLAN NO.1

1. Herewith copy No.34 of 1 Div. Operational Plan No.1.
2. Mob. Orders and adm. Instructions in connection with this plan have already been forwarded.
3. Engr. Plan (Appx. 1) will be forwarded later.
4. 9 and 28 Inf. Bdes. and 1 Bn. will complete their operational plans at earliest and forward two copies to H.Q. 1 Div.
5. Please acknowledge receipt on attached form.

(H.N.HERF ORD) Major.
General Staff 1st. Division.

Copies to:-

E.C.	17
G.O.C.	18
G.1	19
A.Q.	20
D.A.D.O.S.	21
H.Q. W.D.C.	22
File	23
Spares	24 - 40

H.Q. 1st DIVISION

SECRET. S 459

App 1 (contd)

COPY NO. 34

DATE. 8 Dec. 41.

1 DIV. OPERATIONAL PLAN NO.1.

Reference Maps. Survey Sheets 1" to 1 M.
Arty. Sheets 1/25000
Tourists Maps.

INFORMATION:-

1. Information regarding enemy tps. will be promulgated from time to time.
2. (a) Own tps. as shown in Order of Battle.
7 Garr. Bn.
13 Garr. Bn.
(b) Tps. on Right Flank.
4 Cav. Bde. Gp. Boundaries.
VICTORIAN Border to
Excl. Entrance LAKE
ILLAWARRA - DAPTO.
(c) Tps. on Left Flank.
N.C.F. Boundaries.
Excl. Southern Shore
BROKEN BAY & right
bank HAWKESBURY R.
to PORT STEPHENS.
(d) E.Comd. Res.
Mob. Res. 2 Div. and 3 Armd. Regt.

INTENTION

3. 1 Div. and all tps. will defend SYDNEY-KEMBLA area by stopping and destroying the enemy on or in the vicinity landing places.

METHOD

4. SECTORS. Def. area allotted to 1 Div. will be divided into sectors as follows:-

<u>KEMBLA</u>	Incl. Entrance LAKE ILLAWARRA - DAPTO
<u>SECTOR</u>	Incl. BREAKWATER-UNANDERRA-MT.KEMBLA - excl. No.1 Reservoir (Cordeaux Dam).
<u>WOLLONGONG</u>	Excl. BREAKWATER-UNANDERRA-MT.KEIRA Trig.
<u>SECTOR</u>	Incl. Southern shores Lagoon 8950-MT. KEIRA Trig.
<u>BULLI</u>	Excl. Southern shores Lagoon 8950- MT.KEIRA Trig
<u>SECTOR</u>	UNANDERRA. Incl. No.1 Reservoir Incl. SCARBOROUGH JETTY (9768) - STOKES CK.
<u>PORT HACKING</u>	Excl. SCARBOROUGH JETTY-STOKES CK.
<u>SECTOR</u>	Incl. INSCRIPTION POINT-Southern Shores BOTANY BAY and GEORGES R.

SYDNEY
SECTOR

Excl. INSCRIPTION PT.-Southern shores BOTANY BAY
and GEORGES R.
Incl. SOUTH HEAD - Southern Shores PORT JACKSON
and PARRAMATTA R.

MANLY
SECTOR

Excl. SOUTH HEAD - Southern Shores PORT JACKSON
and PARRAMATTA R.
Excl. DEE WHY HEAD - ~~Trig 552~~ MANLY Trig. Trig 552
PYMBLE.

NARRABEEN
SECTOR

Incl. DEE WHY HEAD - MANLY Trig - Trig 552.
Excl. TURREMETTA HEAD - Trig. 552

BROKEN BAY
SECTOR

Incl. TURREMETTA HEAD - Trig. 552-PYMBLE-THOMPSONS
CORNER.
Incl. BARRENJOEY - sthrn. shores BROKEN BAY &
HAWKESBURY R. - West bank BEROWRA CREEK.

5. REAR BOUNDARY Incl. - Entrance LAKE ILLAWARRA- DAPTO -
CORDEAUX DAM - APPIN - SUTHERLAND -
PARRAMATTA - West bank BEROWRA CREEK.

6. FWD. TPS.(a) Right Bde. Area

Comd. Brig. 28 Inf. Bde.

KEMBLA SECTOR
WOLLONGONG SECTOR
BULLI SECTOR
PORT HACKING SECTOR

Under Comd
28 Inf. Bde.
28 Inf. Bde. Sig. Sec.
28 Bde. H.Q. Def. Pl.
291 L.A.D.
S.U.R.
13 Garr. Bn.
34 Bn.
45 Bn.
19 Bty., 9 Fd. Regt.
One Sec. "Z" Tp. (18 pdrs.)
10 Bty. 3 A/Tk. Regt.
18 Fd. Amb.

In Support.

One Tp. Med. Regt. (60 pdrs.)
17 A. Fd. Coy.
One Sec. 18 A. Fd. Coy.

(b) SYDNEY SECTOR

Comd. C.O., 1 Bn.

Under Comd.

1 Bn.
One ~~Tp~~ Tp. 12 Bty. 3 A/Tk. Regt.
One Coy. 9 Fd. Amb.

In Support

18 A. Fd. Coy. less one Sec.

(c) LEFT Bde. Area

Comd. Brig. 9 Inf. Bde.

MAINLY SECTOR
NARRABEEN SECTOR
BROKEN BAY SECTOR

Under Comd.

9 Inf. Bde.
9 Inf. Bde. Sig. Sec.
9 Inf. Bde. H.Q. Def. Pl.
254 L.A.D.
17 Bn.
7 Garr. Bn.
18 Bn.
20 Bty. 9 Fd. Regt.
One Sec. "Z" Tp. (18 pdr)
12 Bty. 3 A/Tk. Regt less One tp.
9 Fd. Amb. less one Coy.

In Support

One tp. Med. Regt. (6" Hows.)

7. RES.

Any A.I.F. tps available (Inf. & Pnrs).
9 Fd. Regt. less two Btys.
One tp. (18 pdr.) S.U.R.

PROBABLE ROLE OF RES.

- (a) Support any of the forward sectors.
- (b) Protect outlets from coastal area.
- (c) To meet any other situation that may arise.

8. ARTY

- (a) 9 Fd. Regt. - 19 Bty. under comd. 28 Inf. Bde.
20 Bty. " " 9 Inf. Bde.

Sub-units of 9 Fd. Regt. will remain under comd. Inf. Bdes.
in support of sectors.

- (b) Z Tp. will be used as beach guns and placed under comd. of
comd. Sector comds.

Z Tp. (18 pdr.) - One Sec. under comd. 28 Inf. Bde.
" " " " 9 Inf. Bde.

- (c) Two Btys. 3 A/Tk. Regt. - 10 Bty. under comd. 28 Inf. Bde.
1 Tp. 12 Bty. under comd. 1 Bn.
12 Bty. less 1 Tp. under comd 9 Inf. Bde.

A/Tk guns will be allotted by bdes. under comd. of Sector comds.

- (d) Two tps. 1 Med. Regt
One tp. (60 pdr.) in support 28 Inf. Bde.
" " (6" How.) " " 9 Inf. Bde.

- (e) Naval guns on fixed mountings (if available)

Two 12 pdr. guns under comd. 9 Inf. Bde. - to be sited
as follows:-

One FAIRY BOWER Area.
One BAYVIEW Area.

10. ENGERS. Engr. Plan Appx. 1.

11. N.A.P. Two Divisions (each 8 boats) will co-operate in defence of SYDNEY - KEMBLA area - Further particulars will be issued later.

12. R.A.A.F. - To be issued later.

AIR.

13. Separate adm. instructions issued.

INTERCOM.

14. C.D.H. at "Broughton" STRATHFIELD area.
(Victoria Barracks until further advised)

15. Sig. Plan appx. G. to adm. plan.

16. C.R.Ps. Will be established at following points by
Bns. occupying sector concerned and will be in
direct communication with H.Q. 1 Div.

BELLAMBI pt. 928550

BAID HILL.

LONG REEF PENINSULA (Arty. Map Ref. 318312).

TURRIMETTA HD. (" " " 315367).

SOUTH BRAD (" " " 343454).

BARRIENJOEY (" " " 329507).

17. CODE. - Code words for operation of plan "SKOP"

18. R.A.A.F. TENTACLES - For direct air support.
Nine tentacles in three groups of three
will be required - and are to be
provided by arrangement with Corps.
Sigs. Further particulars will be
issued later.

(H.N. HERFORD) Major.
General Staff 1st. Division.

<u>DISTRIBUTION</u>	<u>COPIES.</u>
R.A.A. 2 Copies	1 - 2
C.F.D.	3
R.A.Z.	4
Sigs.	5
9 Inf. Bde.	6
28 Inf. Bde.	8
1 Bn.	7
A.S.C.	9
A.D.M.S. (4 Copies)	10 - 13
1 Div. Postal Unit	14
1 Div. Provost Coy.	15
4 Salvage Unit	16

Copy to :- E.C. 17. G.O.C. 18. G.I. 19. A.Q. 20. D.A.D.O.S. 21.
H.Q. V.D.C. 22.
File 23. Spare 24 -40.

HNE/DS

H.Q. 1st DIVISION
H.Q. 1st. Division,
"Broughton"
BURWOOD N.S.W.
29 Dec. 41.

Appendix 2

SECRET

C.R.E.
9 Inf. Bde.
28 Inf. Bde.
1 Bn.

1 DIV. OPERATIONAL INSTRUCTION NO.2

ALLOTMENT OF ENGRS.

1. One Sec. 5 Fd. Coy. will come under cmd. 1 Div. at 2400 hrs. 29 Dec. 41.
2. 3 Fd. Sqn. 1 Armd. Div. is under cmd. 1 Div. as from 25 Dec. 41.
3. Engr. personnel will be allotted as follows:-
 - (a) In support 28 Inf. Bde.) One Sec. 9 Fd. Coy.
(for 15 Garr. Bn. & 34 Bn.) " " 5 Fd. Coy.
Sectors)
 - (b) In support 45 Bn. & 1 Bn.) 3 Fd. Sqn. Armd. Div.
Sectors)
 - (c) In support 9 Inf. Bde. 9 Fd. Coy. less 1 Sec.
4. C.R.E. will appoint temporary cmd. for composite Fd. Coy. detailed in para. 3(a).
5. Engrs. will render all assistance to Units in the Sectors subject to requirements of 1 Div. Eng. Works Programme as embodied in 1 Div. Op. Plan.
6. Priority of tanks in Works Programme will be as determined by Cmd. 1 Div. in respect of Div. tasks and by Bde. Comds. in respect of other tanks.
7. Any co-operation between Div. and other engr. tasks will be effected by General Staff, 1 Div.
8. Camp accommodation necessary will be arranged by C.R.E. with "Q" Staff, 1 Div.

(H.N.HERFORD) Lt. Col.
General Staff 1st. Division.

COPY:

A.Q.
E.Cmd.

C O P Y N O. 35

H.Q. 1st Division

Appendix 3

SECRET
S688

25 Dec. 41.

1 DIV. OPERATIONAL INSTRUCTION NO.1

1. N.C.F. and 6 and 15 Motor Regts. are proceeding to battle positions on 26 Dec.
2. Units of 1 Div. will occupy their battle positions on 26 Dec. (already advised in message No. 041) as set out in Operational Plan No.1 and Amndt. No.1
3. Defended localities and posts will be constructed and wired, but care will be exercised that any digging in public parks, streets, promenades etc. is done with the knowledge of Councils and others concerned.
4. Ammunition will be issued to all units on war equipment scale. In the case of sub-units occupying F.D.Ls., S.A.A. will be issued to M.M.Gs., L.M.Gs., and men in accordance with special instructions already forwarded (S681) which are intended to apply to conditions when the civil population is intermixed with defended posts.
5. Special attention is drawn to the circular re. Amn. etc., above referred to.
6. Please acknowledge by message form immediately.

(H.N.HERFORD) Lt. Col.
General Staff 1st. Division.

DISTRIBUTION:

As for OPS. PLAN.

H.Q. 1st DIVISION

C O P Y N O. 23

SECRET.

690.

25 Dec. 41.

Appendix 3 (contd)

1 DIV. OP. PLAN. - AMENDT. NO.1

1. Para (2) After order in battle add 3 Fd. Sqn. 1 Armd. Div.
2. Para (4) Delete all KEMBLA WOLLONGONG & BULLI Sectors and substitute:-
KEMBLA SECTOR; incl. Entrance LAKE ILLAWARRA-BERKLEY RD.
-STH. COAST RD. 875505 - Rly. line
to coast.
BULLI SECTOR: Excl. Entrance LAKE ILLAWARRA-incl.
DAPTO-CORDEAUX DAM- STOKES CREEK-
SCARBOROUGH JETTY (9768)
3. Para (4) NARRABEEN SECTOR: Delete "Excl. TURIMETTA HD- Trig.
552 - substitute "incl. TURIMETTA HD. -
Trig 552.
BROKEN BAY SECTOR: Delete "incl. TURIMETTA HD. Trig. 552
PYMBLE - THOMPSONS CORNER".
Substitute - Excl. TURIMETTA HD.- Trig.
552 - incl. PYMBLE - THOMPSONS CORNER.
4. Para 6(a) Delete WOLLONGONG Sector.
Delete S.U.R.
Delete One Section "Z" Troop.
Delete One Section 18 A Fd. Coy.
Para 6(b) Delete 18 A Fd. Coy. less one section and substitute
3 Fd. Sqn. Armd. Div.
Para 6 (c) Delete One Section "Z" Tp.
Delete One Tp. Med. Regt. 6" How.
5. Para 7 Delete One Tp. 18 Pdr. (S.U.R.)
Insert para. 7 (11) - reserve for extreme emergency
only - S.U.R. & S.U.R. Tp. 18 Pdrs.
6. Para 9(b) Delete Para 9(b).
Para 9 (d) Delete Para 9(d) and substitute "B" Tp. 1 Med. Regt.
(60 pdr) in support 28 Inf. Bde.
Para 9(e) Delete Para 9(e) and substitute one 12 Pdr. Naval Gun
on fixed mounting under Comd. C.F.D. - FAIRY BOWER area.
7. Para 14 Delete "Victoria Barracks until further advised."
8. DISTRIBUTION: Add:
R.A.A.F. Copy No.24
G.2 Copy No.25
10/12 A/Tk. Bty. Copy No.26
R.A.N. Copy No.27
1 Med. Regt. Copy No.28
"Z" Tp. Copy No.29
L.O. Copy No.30

(H.N.HERFORD) Lt. Col.
General Staff 1st. Division.

Distribution:

As per. Ops Plan No.1 & Amdt.