

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

**Item number: 8/3/54**

**15 Infantry Battalion**

**October 1943**



24 NOV 1943

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C. 2118  
(adapted.)

Unit 15 Aust Inf Bn

(Erase heading not required)

Date and Time.—From 1 Oct 43 To 2 Oct 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
LAFBU 3 Bn HQ 634347	1 Oct	—	Lieut OXLEY established base at BUSAMA, with total strength of 27 Europeans and 36 natives, incl 2 Offrs 20 O.R.'s of A. Coy 5 Europeans of P.I.B.	Schedule of Patrols Serial 1
WAGO Provisional 1 <sup>st</sup> to 1 mile		—	P.I.B. patrols investigated flares and smoke fires seen on night 30 Sep; found traces of enemy but made no contact. Patrols report one Kanaka seen scouting for Japs, which explains elusiveness of enemy.	
		—	HUNT FORCE having received orders to disband, returned to respective Coy perimeters, leaving OXLEY FORCE operating from BUSAMA to carry out further search for enemy.	See Appx D of 30 Sep (Note: - Attached 1 Oct)
		—	Screen on "Squad" Foot Drill, Rifle Exercises"	Appx A
			Report on Southern Patrol, under comd. Lieut. McCullough	Appx B - 30 Sep (Attch. 1 Oct)
			Report on Southern Patrol, under comd. Lieut SKENE	Appx B
			Report on HUNT FORCE	Appx D - 30 Sep (Attch 1 Oct)
		2330	Two green parachute flares observed by OXLEY FORCE at approx 615145	



# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required)

Unit 15 Aust. Inf. Bn Date and Time.—From 2 Oct 43 To 3 Oct 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
LABU 3	2 OCT	—	P.I.B. patrol investigated parachute flares from coast at 632149	
Bn HQ			to point of origin 615145. Found no sign of enemy	
634347		—	OXLEY reports no enemy in river valleys between BUSAMA and	
WAGO			ridge 610150, and believes enemy are in headwaters of BWUSSI	
Provisional			and BUANG River.	
1 inch to 1 mile	<del>2</del> 3 OCT	0200	Training Instr No 11	Appx A
		—	Daylight Saving Time was introduced, 0200 K/3 becoming 0300 L/3	
			P.I.B. Pl. and half A. Coy personnel moved from BUSAMA	
			to form a solid base for future patrolling at SOUTH of mouth of	
			BWUSSI River 633165. Remainder A. Coy troops were left at	
			BUSAMA to meet ration barge and move stores to 633165; leaving	
			a small force, approx one sec, at BUSAMA until enemy located.	
			Elements 542 U.S. Amphibious Engns. landed at LABU 1 and	
			joined elements of 532 Engns already there (see 30 SEP). Total strength now 300.	



# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form 2118  
(adapted)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 15 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 4 Oct 43 To \_\_\_\_\_

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
LABU 3 Bn HQ 634347	4 OCT	—	Warning Order 054 from 29 Bde that b. boy will move by barge 5 Oct to LAE, as present camp site is required by 542 U. S. Engos.	
WAGO Provisional 1 inch to 1 mile		0800	Patrol from OXLEY FORCE went up BWUSSI River, found large Jap camp 568188 vacated two days before.	Schedule of Patrols Serial No 4
		1330	D. boy received report from natives that Japs had returned to BUSAN village 591268, and natives have left village and come to SUGARLOAF.	
		1425	THIRGOOD patrol sent to investigate.	Schedule of Patrols Serial No 5
		—	OXLEY instructed to send one Sec A. boy and 20 P.I.B. to SUGARLOAF remainder to stay at BWUSSI River base and watch tchs; Sec. to remain at BUSAMA (1 Offr 3 O.R.'s 5 P.I.B.). Sec A. boy and 20 P.I.B. arrived D. boy 1930 hrs.	



# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form 7.2118  
(adapted.)

Unit 15 Aust. Inf Bn

(Erase heading not required).  
Date and Time.—From 5 Oct 43 To 6 Oct 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
LABU 3	5 Oct.	0830	b. bay moved in heavy rain by barge to form. 676445 LAE	
Rov H. B			1/25000.	
634347		0845	P.I.B. patrol under comd Lieut SMITH moved to BUSAN	Schedule of Patrols
WAGO				serial no 6
Provisional		1320	OXLEY instructed to continue patrolling BUANG River area as far as creek junc. 568216 until situation in D. bay area cleared up	
1 inch to 1 mile			OXLEY reported BUSAMA area clear of enemy; recalled Sec. A. bay from BUSAMA.	
	6 Oct.	0745-1815	OXLEY <del>patrolled</del> patrolled BUANG River to 549216. Two old Jap camps located	Schedule of Patrols Serial No 9.
		1515	P.I.B. patrol contacted Japs, killed one and heard more	Schedule of Patrols Serial no 6.
			D. bay patrols searching WEST; logs indicate enemy moving NORTH	



# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

Unit..... 15 Aust. Inf. Bn.....

(Erase heading not required).

Date and Time.—From..... 6 Oct 43..... To..... 8 Oct 43.....

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
LABU 3	6 Oct.	—	Routine Orders Part 1 - 51/43	Appx A.
Bn. H.Q.	<del>6</del>	—	Routine Orders Part 1 - 52/43	Appx B
634347	7 Oct.	0830	Lieut HOPKINS and 22 O.R.'s from D. Coy established standing patrol at BUSAN	Appx A - 12 Oct Schedule of Patrols Serial No 8.
WAGO				
Provisional				
1 inch to 1 mile.		1030	ANGAU representative reports reliable native from NAEHA village 573343 (5 miles WEST of LABU 3) reported approx 62 Japs with 4 L.M.G.'s moving NORTH at 1700 L/6 back to MARKHAM PT.	
		1200	A. Coy less OXLEY FORCE moved from LABU 2 to MARKHAM PT by barge, arrived <del>1630 L/7</del> 1630 L/7. Established base at 571432	Appx B - 24 Oct. Schedule of Patrols Serial No 10.
	<del>7</del>	MORNING	P.I.B. patrol killed one unarmed Jap at approx 574296	
	8 Oct	1535	OXLEY force returned to SUGARLOAF.	Schedule of Patrols Serial No 9.



# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

Unit..... 15 Aust. Inf. Bn.....

(Erase heading not required). 8 Oct 43 To 12 Oct 43  
Date and Time.—From.....To.....

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
LARU 3 Bn - H.Q. 634347	8 OCT	1650	HOPKINS patrol arrived NAEHA village, having moved from BUSAN	Appx A of 12 Oct Schedule of Patrols Serial No 11
WAGO Provisional 1 mile to 1 mile.	<del>8</del> 9 OCT	0950	HOPKINS patrol encountered four Japs NORTH of NAEHA, killed 1 captured LMG.	<del>At</del> Do.
	<del>8</del> 10 OCT	1330	OXLEY FORCE returned to boy area 638362 and ceased to function as a separate force.	
	<del>8</del> 10 OCT	1630	HOPKINS patrol located Jap hideout <sup>at appx 566313</sup> with 2 Japs in occupation. Attacked and killed both Japs.	Do
	<del>8</del> 11 OCT	—	Operational Instr No 34	Appx A.
	<del>8</del> 12 OCT	—	Grenade explosion heard by P.I.B. during night 11/12 OCT from direction of old Jap hideout. P.I.B. investigations 12 Oct found no signs of Japs.	
		0730	W.O. SENDEN and 7 O.R.'s left B. boy to relieve D boy patrol at	Appx A. 20 Oct



# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

Unit..... 15 Aust. Inf. Bn.

(Erase heading not required).  
Date and Time.—From..... 12 Oct 43 To..... 13 Oct 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
LABU 3	12 Oct.	[continued]	BUSAN Village. Arrived BUSAN 1215 L/12	Schedule of Patrols
Bm. M.Q.				Serial No 12.
634347		0851	Platoon HORNE and 25 O.R.'s left B boy and relieved HOPKINS patrol at NAEHA at 1215 L/12.	Appx A - 23 Oct
WAGO				Schedule of Patrols
Provisional				Serial No 13
1 inch to 1 mile		1240	HOPKINS patrol left NAEHA and returned to SUGARLOAF, arriving 1815 L/12.	Patrol Report Appx A
				Schedule of Patrols
				Serial No 11
		1630	Patrol from A. boy at MARKHAM PT. contacted approx 8 gaps at approx 564388. One gap killed, remainder fled back along track to S.W. One Aust. Bren in good working order captured.	Appx B - 24 Oct.
			Now considered unlikely any enemy SOUTH of WUKU CK.	
			Report on HOPKINS Patrol	Appx A.
	13 Oct	0900	3 Whites 33 Natives P.I.B. left NAEHA to establish new base for	



# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form 2118  
(adapted.)

Unit 15 Aust. Inf. Bn.

(Erase heading not required).  
Date and Time.—From 13 Oct 43 To 16 Oct. 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
LABU 3 Bn. H.Q.	13 Oct.	[continued]	patrols at approx 563378. Patrols to search NORTH and WEST for gap tch.	
634347 WAGO Provisional 1 inch to 1 mile	14 Oct.	—	P.I.B. patrolling along gap tch to approx 560370 found gap LMG magazine containing 21 rounds, one M.G. strip holding 27 rounds, one gap rifle holding 5 rounds, several steel helmets. Two day old gap camp holding approx 15 to 20 men at 561374. Located fresh gap camp at approx 590347 and killed 5 Japs.	
	15 Oct.	1600	A. boy patrol along tch leading SW returned MARKHAM PT. gap camp 7 to 10 days old found. One loaded gap rifle picked up.	Appx 17. See Appx B - 24 Oct.
		1830	P.I.B. patrol contacted A. boy at MARKHAM PT.	
		—	Area from MARKHAM PT. to WASI CK. now appears clear of enemy	
	16 Oct.	0745	1 N.C.O. & 11 O.R.'s left B. boy area and came under comd of	



# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

Unit 15 Aust. Inf Bn

(Erase heading not required).  
Date and Time.—From 16 Oct 43 To 20 Oct 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
LABU 3	16 Oct	[continued]	Lieut OXLEY for patrol activity based on TARI 1.	
Bn HQ		0815	9 PL A. boy plus personnel from B. boy under comd Lieut OXLEY moved to base at TARI 2, 600420, on MARKHAM RIVER to patrol and picquet gardens along river bank. Total strength of patrol 1 Offr 22 O.R.'s	Schedule of Patrols Serial No 14.
634347				
WAGO				
Provisional				
1 inch to 1 mile		1700	OXLEY patrol reports take from LABU clear as far as TARI 2. Formed solid perimeter at TARI 2. Contacted MACKRELL FORCE at 1600 L/16	Do.
	17 Oct	—	Screen on barracks	Appx A.
	18 Oct	—	<del>Patrol</del> P.I.B. natives suggest that Japs have moved across mountains at 560370 to SNAKE VALLEY	
		—	P.I.B. established base at MARKHAM PT with MACKRELL force	
		—	P.I.B. strength 3 Europeans 31 natives	
	20 Oct	1540	SENDEN patrol returned SUGARLOAF	Appx A and Schedule of Patrols Serial no 12



# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

Unit..... 15 Aust. Inf. Bn.....

(Erase heading not required).  
Date and Time.—From..... 20 Oct 43 To..... 21 Oct 43.....

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
LABU 3	20 Oct	—	Patrol from A. boy located 9 days old Jap camp of 35 beds at approx 565405. Unexploded allied bomb 300 lbs found 150 yards WEST of TARI at approx 607416	Schedule of Patrols Serial 14.
Bn H.Q. 634347			Report on SENDEN patrol	Appx A
WAGO			Routine Orders part 1 - 53/43	Appx B
Provisional 1 inch to 1 mile	21 Oct	1200	M.M.G. PL moved from LABU 3 by A.M. 45 to Bn position at LAE. NADZAB	
		0040	A. boy patrol located Jap tch leading NW. over MARKHAM RANGE at 562401. Approx 25 beds on tch and some discarded equipment incl one rifle. One dead naked Jap floated down MARKHAM RIVER morning 21 Oct, appeared to have been dead two or three days	Refer Appx B - 24 Oct.
		1300	A. boy advised they would be relieved by D. boy by 24 Oct	
		1845	1 NCO II O.R.'s previously attached to OXLEY patrol returned	



# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form 2118  
(adapted.)

Unit 15 Aust. Inf. Bn

(Erase heading not required)  
Date and Time.—From 21 Oct 43 To 23 Oct 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
LABU 3 Bn H.Q. 634347 WAGO Provisional 1 inch to 1 mile	21 Oct	[Continued]	to B boy at LABU 3 (Refer 16 Oct)	Schedule of Patrols Serial No 14
		1910	Message 0981 from 29 Bde: - Warning Order. 15 Bn less one boy and one Pl. will concentrate LAE area not before 25 Oct.	
			One boy to remain with PL P.I.B. to mop up enemy remaining SOUTH of MARKHAM RIVER	
	22 Oct	0700	D. boy left SUGARLOAF and moved to LABU 2 in preparation of relieving A. boy at MARKHAM PT and TARI and B boy at NAEHA	
			Operational Instr No 29	Appx A
	23 Oct	1335	Message 0986 from 29 Bde: - PL A. boy P.I.B. now under comd. 15 Bn will be relieved by PL from ANGAU. No movement before 0900 L/25	
			P.I.B. located two gap like converging on SOUTH bank of	Refer Appx B - 24 Oct.



# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit..... 15 Aust. Inf. Bn ..... Date and Time.—From..... 23 Oct 43 ..... To..... 24 Oct 43 .....

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
LABU 3 Bn. H. Q. 634347 WAGO Provisional 1 inch to 1 mile.	23 Oct.	[Continued)	MARKHAM RIVER at ref. NADZIB Provisional 1 inch to 1 mile 480503. 4 dead Japs found here and stench in nearby swamp indicates possible further bodies in swamp. Found rough camp at same reference capable of holding about 30 Japs. Improvised raft indicated enemy crossed or attempted to cross MARKHAM RIVER	
		1700	D. boy completed relief of A and B boys. B boy returned to LABU 3.	Appx A and Schedule of Patrols serial no 13.
		2100	Message 066 from 29 Bde :- Ref. move of Bn. First flight of seven L.C.V's each to carry twenty personnel or two tons cargo will report LABU 2 at 0800 L/25. Second flight of seven L.C.V's will report 1100 L/25. E.T.A. VOCC PT. 0915 L/25 and 1215 L/25.	Refer Overlay of Report on HORNE P.I.R. Patrol activity 24-31 Oct. early in NOVEMBER.
			Report on HORNE PATROL	Appx A
	24 Oct	AFTERNOON	A. boy returned boy area	Appx B - 24 Oct.
		1800	Message 0102 to D. boy :- Thirgood patrol at WUKU recalled	



# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

Unit 15 Aust. Inf. Bn

(Erase heading not required).  
Date and Time.—From 24 OCT 43 To 26 OCT 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
LABU 3 Bn. HQ 634347 WAGO Provisional 1 inch to 1 mile.	24 OCT	[Continued)	to LABU 2. Restrict P.I.B. activity to scouts to WAMPIT VALLEY and OOMSI 460457. P.I.B. to patrol SOUTH bank of MARKHAM RIVER to BWARIP 440523. D boy local patrols and act on any further intelligence gained. Do not cross MARKHAM RIVER without further orders. THIAGOOY Patrol to remain LABU 2 at your comd.	
	25 OCT	1310	Operational Instr No 30 <del>Report on</del> MACKRELL PATROL First flight comprising A & B boys and Bn. H.Q. left LABU 2 and moved by L.C.V. to LAE arriving 1345 hrs. Second flight H.Q. boy followed.	Appx A. Appx B.
Bn. HQ 67564345 LAE 1/25000	26 OCT	1530	Bn. less D. boy and the pl. of G. boy now at 67564345 LAE 1/25000 D. boy at MARKHAM PT. pl. of G. boy at SALAMAUVA.	
			SITNOR.	



# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

Unit..... 15 Aust Inf. Bn.....

(Erase heading not required).

Date and Time.—From..... 27 Oct 43 To..... 30 Oct 43.....

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Bn. H.Q. 67564345 LAE 1/25000	27 Oct.	0745	Bn. recon party comprising 1 O. 2 I. Personnel, 1 Offr 3 NCO's and 6 O.R.'s from each Coy moved to EDWARDS. ref. NAD2AB 3550 1 inch series 619432 to recon and peg out <sup>42</sup> Bn. Defensive position.	
	<del>27</del> 28 Oct.	— 0830 1030	Routine Orders Part 1 - 54/43 One Jap killed P. Coy area MARKHAM PT. P.I.B. patrol investigating huts at 440523 found one Jap outboard motor and spare parts. Both destroyed.	} Appx A. } Refer <sup>overlay of P.I.B.</sup> report on PHOENIX } Patrol Activity } Patrol attached early } 24-31 Oct. } in November.
		1430	Unexploded Allied parachute bomb <sup>found</sup> 400 yards SOUTH Bn. H.Q.	
		—	Weather: - Hot and Dry.	
	<del>28</del> 29 Oct.	— 1645	Routine Orders Part 1 55/43 Bn recon party returned Bn. H.Q.	} Appx A. } See 27 Oct.
		—	Weather. Mainly Hot + Dry, shower during night 29/30 Oct.	
	<del>29</del> 30 Oct.	— 1400	Message 0991 from 29 Bde: - Ref. map NAD2AB 1 inch.	



# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

Unit 15 Aust. Inf. Bn

(Erase heading not required)  
Date and Time.—From 30 Oct 43 To 31 Oct 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Rm. H. Q. <del>6756</del> 6756 4345 LAE 1/25000	30 Oct	[continued)	D. boy 15 BN less one pl will move to LAE forthwith. One PL and P.I.B. will establish standing patrol at MARKHAM PT and will continue patrolling between MARKHAM RIVER mouth and OOMSIS 460458.	
		1500	D. boy advised to prepare for move to LAE.	
		1920	Message Q 70 from 29 Bde :- Launches AM 45 will report LABU LAGOON entrance 0900 L/2 to embark D. boy less one pl. ETA VOCO PT 1030 L/2.	
		—	Weather Hot and dry Heavy rain night 30/31 Oct.	
	<del>30 Oct</del>	—	Location Statement as at 30 Oct 43	Appn A
	31 Oct.	1050	Message O 105 to D. boy :- D. boy less one pl to be at LAGOON mouth by 0900 hrs 2 Nov for move to LAE. One pl and WT set remain MARKHAM PT.	
		—	Weather :- Hot and dry, Light rain during night	

*[Signature]*  
4 Nov 43



# FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

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

62 / (Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 2/10/1943 15AUST INF BN (Unit)

W.E. 11/120/2 OFFRS. 32 O.R's. 738 + OFFRS. 1 O.R's. 34 ATT. BY W.E.

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

W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10					
Rein'ts Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.	DETAIL.	Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Rein'ts Required.					
	4	7	26	* * 1 Lieut.-Colonels 3 Majors 4 Captains 26 Lieutenants 1 Quarter-masters A.A.N.S. and A.A.M.W.S. Offrs. Civilians Counting as Offrs.	AAMC	1								
	4	7	35			1								
				DETAIL	A.I.P.	C.M.P.	A.W.A.S.	A.A.N.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL.	R.A.N.	R.A.A.P.	**	TOTAL.
Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in pers. 10 of instructions for compilation of form will complete Part E(1) & E(2).				A.	36									36
				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.
			NIL		

### OFFICERS QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit To.	Date.	CAUSE.
QX40878	LIEUT	CAVENAGH TJD	29AUST INF BDE	30/9/43	DETACHED FOR TEMPORARY DUTY
QX42394	LIEUT	WOODMAN BLV	7 AUST FD AMB	29/9/43	EVACUATED - PWD

## 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).
			NIL



**PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON POSTED STRENGTH**

A 500 Hrs. Saturday 2/10/1943 (Total to agree with Columns 4 and 7 of Part A.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held.	Army Number.	Surname.	Initials.	Posting.	Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.	Date of Detachment.
MAJOR(T/LT COL)	QX 6007	AMIES	JL	Co	YES		
CAPT(T/MAJOR)	QX 5102	JENYNS	JRT	2nd	YES		
CAPT(T/MAJOR)	QX 6056	PETRIE	AD	OC B Coy	NO	1st Lt. T. F. H. ...	28/7/43
LIEUT(T/MAJOR)	QX 33887	LACK	MM	OC B Coy	YES		
LIEUT(T/CAPT)	QX 50117	LEU	RS	No Posting	YES		
LIEUT(T/CAPT)	QX 34106	PROVAN	D	OC B Coy	YES		
LIEUT(T/CAPT)	QX 42374	HODGES	LL	ADJT	YES		
LIEUT(T/CAPT)	QX 33742	PROCTOR	PCR	OC C Coy	YES		
LIEUT	QX 33507	FARLEY	AW	2nd B Coy	YES		
LIEUT	QX 40878	LAVERNAH	TJD	OC B Coy	NO	TEMPORARY DUTY 2nd AUST INF BDE	1/9/43
"	QX 34111	MACKRELL	MH	2nd B Coy	YES		
"	QX 33887	WORT	EW	2nd B Coy	YES		
"	QX 42699	DERRICK	GAM	TO	YES		
LIEUT(T/CAPT)	QX 33740	BEIRNE	LJ	QM	YES		
LIEUT	QX 34109	STEPHENS	A	OC 5 PL	YES		
"	QX 34110	DAVIDSON	WS	No Posting	YES		
"	QX 68328	TENKS BURY	BR	OC 10 PL	YES		
"	QX 33741	LEARMONTH	AJ	OC 1 PL	YES		
"	QX 42375	COUTTS	RD	OC 2 PL	YES		
"	QX 35727	HORNE	CC	LO	YES		
"	QX 138176	OXLEY	PHG	OC 5 PL	YES		
"	VX 5315	MATTHEW	GN	2nd LLY	YES		
"	QX 70167	THIRGOOD	LR	OC 16 PL	YES		
(A)	VX 61888	BEST	LD	OC 13 PL	YES		
(A)	VX 117528	ST ELLIEN	JJ	OC 4 PL	NO	2nd AUST INF BDE	28/11/43
(A)	VX 120317	CAMPBELL	DL	OC 14 PL	YES		
(A)	VX 131159	SKEEN	CJ	No Posting	YES		
(A)	QX 161681	CADY	A	OC 3 PL	YES		
(A)	QX 33708	HOPKIN	RFA	OC 17 PL	YES		
(A)	QX 33745	TOMKINSON	JA	OC 1 PL	YES		
(A)	QX 43412	MC CULLOUGH	JB	OC 15 PL	YES		
(A)	QX 18770	BLETCHLEY	DW	OC 4 PL	YES		
(A)	QX 125163	EDWARDS	EC	OC 15 PL	YES		
(A)	QX 4234	BYRNE	LW	OC 7 PL	YES		
(A)	QX 311	TURNER	RA	OC 9 PL	YES		

**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 114259	M'NEIL PL	AAME	10/11/43	RMO
CHAPLAIN	QX 31743	HENRY WJ	AAMBDE	11/5/42	CHAPLAIN
WELFARE OFFR	B 263	WILLMORE C	YMCA	11/7/43	WELFARE OFFR

2 OCT 43

Date of Despatch

Signature of Commander Lt. Col.











**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.**

Trade	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, E.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	4	
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								Radiographers				Stevadores			
Computers								Riggers				Stokers, Staty. Engine			
Cooks, Hospital				GROUP II.				Sawyers				Storemen, Technical	3	2	1 NR
Coppersmiths				Armourers				Signallers	26	24	2 NR	Tailors	1	1	
Dispensers				Axemen				Signwriters				Textile Beaters			
Draughtsmen				Bakers				Telescope Identfn. Numbers				Tinsmiths			
Draughtsmen (Architectural)				By. Comd's. Asst.				Well Borers				Vulcanisers			
Draughtsmen (Engineering)				Rollermakers				Wheelers				Wagon Erectors			
Draughtsmen (Mechanical)				Carpenters	6	5	1 NR	Winchman				Whitesmiths			
Draughtsmen (Topographical)				Carpenters and Joiners				Wireman							
Electricians				Cooks		2	5 NR	Woodturners							
Electricians (M.V.)				Dental Mechanics											
Electricians (Signals)				Driver-Mech. (Eng. and Med.)											
Fitters				Driver-Operator											
Fitters (Cycle)				Drainers											
Fitters (Electrical)				Electricians											
Fitters (Gun)				Electricians (Engineers)											
Fitters (Instrument)				Fire Control Operators				GROUP III.				DETAILS OF NON-TRADESMEN.	683	466	221
Fitters (M.V.)				Gun Operator				Battery Surveyors							
Fitters, Railway Signal				Hatchman				Butchers	1	1					
Fitters, Signals				Height Taker				Clerks	4	4					
Grinder, Precision				Hello Operator				Clerks, Supply							
Mechanics, Instrument				Instrument Operator				Clerks, Technical							
Mechanics, Instrument (Signals)				Intelligence Duties	9	8	1 NR	Coach Trimmers							
Mechanics, Instrument (Surgical)				Joiners				Concretors							
Mechanics, Radio				Lineman				Cooks							
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.				AAPC	2	2	
Pattern Maker				Masons				Driver Mechanics				FD Post SGT	1	1	
Pharmacist				Massours				Driver Tptn. Plant				AAOC CPL	1	1	
Photographer, Wet Plate				Mechanics, M.T.				Engine Hands, I.C.				AACC	23	20	3 NR
Photewriter				Miners				Equipment Repairers	1		1 NR	BLACKSMITH	1	1	
Plumber				Moulders				Farrriers				GUNFITTER	1	1	
Saw Doctors				Nurses, Trained				Fitters' Mates				ARMOUR SGT	1	1	
Surveyors				Observation Post Assts.				Gun Layers							
CARRIED FORWARD				CARRIED FORWARD	15	15		CARRIED FORWARD	32	29		Totals of columns marked * to agree with columns 4 and 7, and 1 and 10 of Part A. respectively.	772	548	224

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.

2 OCT 43  
Date of Despatch

Signature of Commander



# FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

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

63 / (Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 9/10/1943 15 AUST INF BN (Unit)

W.E. 11/126/2 OFFRS. 32 O.R.'s. 738 + OFFRS. 1 O.R.'s. 34 ATT. BY W.E.

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

W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10					
Rein'ts Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.	DETAIL.	Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Rein'ts Required.					
	4	5	24	* * 1 Lieut.-Colonels 3 Majors 4 Captains 24 Lieutenants 1 Quarter-masters A.A.N.S. and A.A.M.W.S. Offrs. Civilians Counting as Offrs.	AAMC	1								
	4	5	33			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.P.	**	TOTAL.
				A.	34									34
				E.(1)										
				E.(2)										

Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in pars. 10 of instructions for completion of form will complete Part 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.
			NIL		

### OFFICERS QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit To.	Date.	CAUSE.
WX 311	LIEUT	TURNER RA	42 AUST INF BN	4.10.43	TRANSFERRED
QX 234	LIEUT	BYRNE LW	42 AUST INF BN	6.10.43	FOR TRANSFER

## 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).



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	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held.	Army Number.	Surname.	Initials.	Posting.	Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.	Date of Detachment.
MAJOR(T/LT COL)	QX 6007	AMIES	JL	CO	YES		
CAPT (T/MAJOR)	QX 45102	BENYNS	JRT	2 <sup>nd</sup> B Coy	YES		
CAPT (T/MAJOR)	QX 6056	PETRIE	AD	2 <sup>nd</sup> B Coy	NO	LHQ TACTICAL SCHOOL BELMONT	28/7/43
LIEUT (A/MAJOR)	QX 33887	LACK	HH	OC HQ Coy	YES		
LIEUT (T/CAPT)	QX 50119	LEU	RS	No Posting	YES		
LIEUT (T/CAPT)	QX 34106	PROVAN	D	OC D Coy	YES		
LIEUT (T/CAPT)	QX 42374	HODGES	EL	ADJUT	YES		
LIEUT (T/CAPT)	QX 33742	PROCTOR	PCR	OC C Coy	YES		
LIEUT	QX 33507	FARLEY	AW	2 <sup>nd</sup> B Coy	YES		
LIEUT	QX 40878	CAVENAGH	TJD	OC A Coy	NO	TEMP DUTY 29 AUST INF BDE	30/9/43
	QX 34111	MACKRELL	MH	2 <sup>nd</sup> D Coy	YES		
	QX 33889	WORT	CM	2 <sup>nd</sup> A Coy	YES		
	QX 42699	DERRICK	LAM	TO	YES		
LIEUT (T/CAPT)	QX 33740	BEIRNE	LJ	QM	YES		
LIEUT	QX 34109	STEPHENS	A	OC SPL	YES		
	QX 34110	DAVIDSON	WS	No Posting	YES		
	NX 68328	TEWKSBURY	HR				
	QX 33741	LEARMONTH	AJ	OC 1 PL	YES		
	QX 42375	COUTTS	RD	OC 2 PL	YES		
	QX 35727	HORNE	CC	IO	YES		
	NX 138176	DALEY	PHG	OC SPL	YES		
	VX 5315	MATTHEW	GN	2 <sup>nd</sup> C Coy	YES		
	NX 70167	THIRGOOD	LR	OC 16 PL	YES		
(A)	VX 61868	BEST	LD	OC 13 PL	YES		
(A)	VX 11725	ST ELLEN	JJ	OC 11 PL	NO	29 AUST INF BDE	26/8/43
(A)	VX 120319	CAMPBELL	DL	OC 14 PL	YES		
(A)	VX 131159	SKEEN	CJ	OC 9 PL	YES		
(A)	NX 161631	CADY	A	OC 3 PL	YES		
(A)	QX 33908	HOPKIN	RFH	OC 17 PL	YES		
(A)	QX 33745	TOMKINSON	JA	OC 18 PL	YES		
(A)	QX 43412	MCCULLOUGH	JB	OC 12 PL	YES		
(A)	Q 18770	BLETCHLEY	DW	OC 4 PL	YES		
(A)	D 125163	EDWARDS	EC	OC 15 PL	YES		

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	VX 114259	M'NEIL PL	RAMC	10/4/43	RMO
CHAPLAIN	QX 37743	HENRY WJ	29 A I BDE	7/5/42	CHAPLAIN
WELFARE OFFR	B 263	WILLMORE C	YMCA	11/7/43	WELFARE OFFR

9 OCT 43  
Date of Despatch

*[Signature]*  
Lt. Col.  
Commanding 15 Aust Inf Bn  
Signature of Commander



# FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

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

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 16/10/1943 15 Aust Inf Bn (Unit)

W.E. 11/1292 OFFRS. 32 O.R.'s 738 OFFRS. 1 O.R.'s 34 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'ts Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Rein'ts Required.			
	4	5	1 3 4 24 1	* * Lieut.-Colonels Majors Captains Lieutenants Quarter-masters A.A.N.S. and A.A.M.W.S. Offrs. Civilians Counting as Offrs.	A.A.M.C	1						
	4	5	33			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 para. 10 of instructions for compilation of form will complete Part E(1) & E(2).		A.	CLAS A 34									34
		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.
			NIL		

### OFFICERS QUITTED DURING WEEK.

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

## 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).



5 Aust Inf Bn Unit

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	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held.	Army Number.	Surname.	Initials.	Posting.	Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.	Date of Detachment.
MAJOR (T/LT. Col)	DX 6007	AMIES	JL	CO	YES		
CAPT. (T/Major)	RNS102	JENYNS	JRT	2nd	YES		
CAPT. (T/Major)	DX 6036	PETRIE	A.D.	2nd Coy	NO	LHR TACTICAL SCHOOL DEERHURST 26/11/43	
LIEUT. (A/Major)	DX 22857	LACK	HH	2nd Coy	YES		
LIEUT. (T/Capt)	DX 50119	LEU	RS	No posting	YES		
LIEUT. (T/Capt)	DX 20106	PROVAN	D	2nd Coy	YES		
LIEUT. (T/Capt)	DX 42972	MOSES	EL	2nd Coy	YES		
LIEUT. (T/Capt)	DX 32742	PROCTOR	PCR	2nd Coy	YES		
LIEUT.	DX 35557	FARLEY	AW	2nd Coy	YES		
"	DX 40879	CAVENAGH	TJD	2nd Coy	NO	Temp duty 29 Aust Inf Bde 30-9-43	
"	DX 20111	MACKRELL	MH	2nd Coy	YES		
"	DX 33539	WORT	CW	2nd Coy	YES		
"	DX 42699	DERRICK	GAM	2nd Coy	YES		
LIEUT. (T/Capt)	DX 30740	BEIRNE	LT	2nd Coy	YES		
LIEUT.	DX 31109	STEWENS	A	2nd Coy	YES		
"	DX 31110	DAVIDSON	WS	No posting	YES		
"	NX 68228	TENKSBURY	AR	2nd Coy	YES		
"	DX 33741	LEARNMOUTH	AJ	2nd Coy	YES		
"	DX 42275	COUTTS	RD	2nd Coy	YES		
"	DX 35727	HORNE	CC	1st Coy	YES		
"	DX 12676	OLLEY	PUG	2nd Coy	YES		
"	DX 5515	MATTHEW	GN	2nd Coy	YES		
"	NX 70167	TARLGOOD	LR	2nd Coy	YES		
(A)	YX 61868	BEST	LD	2nd Coy	YES		
(A)	YX 47525	ST. ELLEN	TJ	2nd Coy	NO	29 Aust Inf Bde	26/8/43
(A)	YX 20319	CAMPBELL	DL	2nd Coy	YES		
(A)	YX 12109	SKEEH	CT	2nd Coy	YES		
(A)	NX 16161	LADY	A	2nd Coy	YES		
(A)	DX 32908	HOPKIN	REH	2nd Coy	YES		
(A)	DX 32906	TOMKINSON	JA	2nd Coy	YES		
(A)	DX 42212	MCCULLOUGH	JD	2nd Coy	YES		
(A)	DX 16770	BLETCHLEY	DVY	2nd Coy	YES		
(A)	DX 12516	EDWARDS	EL	2nd Coy	YES		

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.	YX 114757	McNEIL	PL AAME	10/4/43	RMO
CHAPLAIN	DX 33743	HENRY	WF 29AIDE	7/5/43	CHAPLAIN
WELFARE OFF.	B 362	WILLMORE	C YMCA	14/7/43	WELFARE

16. OCT. 43  
Date of Despatch

*[Signature]*  
Signature of Commander











15 Aust Inf Bn Unit

Army Form W.3009  
(Adapted) (Page 2)  
(Revised Jan., 1943)  
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.			Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I. (cont.)			Details of Tradesmen. GROUP II. (cont.)			Details of Tradesmen. GROUP III. (cont.)		
W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.
			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	44	
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						Radiographers			Stevadores		
Computers						Riggers			Stokers, Staty. Engine		
Cooks, Hospital			GROUP II.			Sawyers			Storemen, Technical	3	2
Coppersmiths			Armourers			Signallers	26	24	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			Wheeler			Wagon Erectors		
Draughtsmen (Mechanical)			Carpenters	6	5	Winchman			Whitesmiths		
Draughtsmen (Topographical)			Carpenters and Joiners			Wireman					
Electricians			Cooks		2	Woodturners					
Electricians (M.V.)			Dental Mechanics								
Electricians (Signals)			Driver-Mech. (Eng. and Med.)								
Fitters			Driver-Operator								
Fitters (Cycle)			Drainers								
Fitters (Electrical)			Electricians								
Fitters (Gun)			Electricians (Engineers)								
Fitters (Instrument)			Fire Control Operators			GROUP III.			DETAILS OF NON-TRADESMEN.	683	453
Fitters (M.V.)			Gun Operator			Battery Surveyors				234	
Fitters, Railway Signal			Hatchman			Butchers	1	1			
Fitters, Signals			Height Taker			Clerks	4	4			
Grinder, Precision			Helio Operator			Clerks, Supply					
Mechanics, Instrument			Instrument Operator			Clerks, Technical					
Mechanics, Instrument (Signals)			Intelligence Duties	9	8	Coach Trimmers					
Mechanics, Instrument (Surgical)			Joiners			Concretors					
Mechanics, Radio			Lineman			Cooks					
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.			AAPC	2	2
Pattern Maker			Masons			Driver Mechanics			FD POST SGT	1	1
Pharmacist			Masseurs			Driver Tptn. Plant			AADC	1	1
Photographer, Wet Plate			Mechanics, M.T.			Engine Hands, I.C.			AIACC	23	20
Photowriter			Miners			Equipment Repairers	1	1	BLAKSMITH	1	1
Plumber			Moulders			Farriers			RUNFITTER	1	1
Saw Doctors			Nurses, Trained			Fitters' Mates			ARMOUR. SGT	1	1
Surveyors			Observation Post Assis.			Gun Layers					
CARRIED FORWARD			CARRIED FORWARD	15	15	CARRIED FORWARD	32	29	Totals of columns marked * to agree with columns 4 and 7, and 1 and 10 of Part A. respectively.	72	55
										*	*

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

Signature of Commander  
Lt. Col.



# FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

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

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 23 / 10 / 1943 15 Aust Inf Bn (Unit)

W.E. 11 / 12 / 2 OFFRS. 32 O.R's. 738 + OFFRS. 1 O.R's. 34 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'ts Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Rein'ts Required.					
	5	5	32	* * Lieut.-Colonels Majors Captains Lieutenants Quarter-masters A.A.N.S. and A.A.M.W.S. Offrs. Civilians Counting as Offrs.	AAMC	1								
	5	5	32			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.		33										33
		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.
QX6086	MAJOR	PETRIE	AD LHQTACTICAL SCH	2ND NOV	FROM ATTENDING SCHOOL

### OFFICERS QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit To.	Date.	CAUSE.
QX5049	CAPT	LEU	1AUST CORPS REC CAMP	17.10.43	FOR DISPOSAL

## 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).



**PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON POSTED STRENGTH**

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 23/10/1943 (Total to agree with Columns 4 and 7 of Part A.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held.	Army Number.	Surname.	Initials.	Posting.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.	Date of Detachment.
MAJOR(T/LT COL)	6X 6007	AMIES	JL	CO	YES		
CAPT(T/MAJOR)	6X 45102	JENYNS	JRT	2nd	YES		
CAPT(T/MAJOR)	6X 6056	PETRIE	ND	1/2 B Coy	YES		
LIEUT(A/MAJOR)	6X 33887	LACK	HM	1/4 H Coy	YES		
LIEUT(T/CAPT)	6X 34106	PROVAN	D	1/4 D Coy	YES		
LIEUT(T/CAPT)	6X 42374	HODGES	EL	ADJT	YES		
LIEUT(T/CAPT)	6X 33742	PROCTOR	PLR	1/4 C Coy	YES		
LIEUT	6X 33507	FARLEY	AW	1/4 B Coy	YES		
"	6X 40579	CAVENAGH	TJD	1/4 A Coy	NO	TEMP DUTY 29 AUST INF BDE	30/9/43
"	6X 34111	MACKEILL	MH	1/4 D Coy	YES		
"	6X 33889	WORT	CW	1/4 A Coy	YES		
"	6X 42677	DERRICK	GAM	TO	YES		
LIEUT(T/CAPT)	6X 33740	BEIRNE	LJ	RM	YES		
LIEUT	6X 34109	STEPHENS	A	1/4 SM	YES		
"	6X 34110	DAVIDSON	WS	No Postn	YES		
"	NX 68325	TEWKSBUARY	AR	1/4 10 PL	YES		
"	6X 33741	LEARMONTH	AJ	1/4 1 PL	YES		
"	6X 42373	COUTTS	RD	1/4 2 PL	YES		
"	6X 38727	HORNE	CC	IO	YES		
"	NX 138176	OXLEY	PHG	1/4 8 PL	YES		
"	VX 5315	MATTHEW	GN	1/4 C Coy	YES		
"	NX 70167	THIRBOOD	LR	1/4 16 PL	YES		
-(A)	VX 61868	BEST	LD	1/4 13 PL	YES		
-(A)	VX 47523	ST ELLEN	JJ	1/4 11 PL	NO	29 AUST INF BDE	26/8/43
-(A)	VX 62037	CAMPBELL	DL	1/4 14 PL	YES		
-(A)	VX 13489	SAGEEN	EJ	1/4 7 PL	YES		
-(A)	NX 161651	CADY	A	1/4 3 PL	YES		
-(A)	6X 33908	HOPKIN	RFH	1/4 17 PL	YES		
-(A)	6X 43412	PIEULLOUGH	JB	1/4 12 PL	YES		
-(A)	R 18770	BLETCHLEY	DW	1/4 4 PL	YES		
-(A)	R 123163	EDWARDS	EC	1/4 15 PL	YES		
-(A)	6X 33743	TOMKINSON	JA	1/4 18 PL	YES		

**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	VX 44259	M'NEIL PL	HAME	10/4/43	RMO
CHAPLAIN	6X 37743	HENRY WJ	29 AIBDE	7/5/43	CHAPLAIN
WELFARE OFFR	B 263	WILLMORE C	YMCA	14/7/43	WELFARE OFFR.

23 OCT 43  
Date of Despatch

Signature of Commander  
Commanding 15 Aust Inf Bn

Lt. Col  
a.w. 3m pads 2/43



# FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS

65 / (Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 23/10/1943 15AUST INF BN (Unit)

W.E. 11/120/2 OFFRS. 32 O.R.'s 738 + OFFRS. 1 O.R.'s 34 ATT. BY W.E.

## Part A. Posted Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements Required.

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.	AACC				
	1		5	W.Os. Class II.	AAMC	1			
	1		4	Squadron or Company Quartermaster Sgts.	AAPC				
				Staff Sergeants	AAOC				
			31	Sergeants	AEME	8		2	
	10		54	Corporals	FDPOST	6		2	
	256		375	Troopers, Privates, etc.		13		2	
				Civilians counting as O.R.					
268 *	268		470 *	Totals of cols. marked * should agree with details shown in Part E on Page 2.		28 *		6	6 N.R. *

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., 29 U.K. Forces, 10 N.Z. Forces.

Detail	A.I.F. CLASS A	C.M.F. CLASS B		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	237		261							498
B(1)										
B(2)										

## Part B. Other Ranks Attached from Other Units.

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

Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which they belong	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which they belong	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which detached.	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which detached.
3	29AUST INF BDE			13	29AUST INF BDE		
1	YMCA-AMENITIES			1	RECORDS		

## 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).
		NIL	







15 AUST INF BN

Unit

Army Form W.3009  
(Adapted) (Page 2)  
(Revised Jan., 1943)  
65 / 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	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, B.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				Rangefinders	4	4	
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								Radiographers				Stevedores			
Computers								Riggers				Stokers, Staty. Engine			
Cooks, Hospital				GROUP II.				Sawyers				Storemen, Technical	3	2	1 NR
Coppersmiths				Armourers				Signallers	26	23	3 NR	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	4	2 NR	Winchman				Whitesmiths			
Draughtsmen (Topographical)				Carpenters and Joiners				Wireman							
Electricians				Cooks		2	5 NR	Woodturners							
Electricians (M.V.)				Dental Mechanics											
Electricians (Signals)				Driver-Mech. (Eng. and Med.)											
Fitters				Driver-Operator											
Fitters (Cycle)				Drainers											
Fitters (Electrical)				Electricians											
Fitters (Gun)				Electricians (Engineers)											
Fitters (Instrument)				Fire Control Operators											
Fitters (M.V.)				Gun Operator											
Fitters, Railway Signal				Hatchman											
Fitters, Signals				Height Taker											
Grinder, Precision				Hello Operator											
Mechanics, Instrument				Instrument Operator											
Mechanics, Instrument (Signals)				Intelligence Duties	9	7	2 NR								
Mechanics, Instrument (Surgical)				Joiners											
Mechanics; Radio				Lineman											
Mechanics, Typewriter				Lineman, Signals											
Mechanics, Wireless				Lithographers											
Millwrights				Machinists, Metal											
Operators, Excavator				Machinists, Wood											
Pattern Maker				Masons											
Pharmacist				Masseurs											
Photographer, Wet Plate				Mechanics, M.T.											
Photowriter				Miners											
Plumber				Moulders											
Saw Doctors				Nurses, Trained											
Surveyors				Observation Post Assts.											
CARRIED FORWARD				CARRIED FORWARD	15	13		CARRIED FORWARD	32	28		Totals of columns marked * to agree with columns 4 and 7, and 1 and 10 of Part A. respectively.	772	498	274

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.

23 OCT 43  
Date of Despatch

*[Signature]*  
Signature of Commander



# FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS

66 (Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 30 10/194 3. 15 AUST INF (Unit)

I.E. 11/124 2 OFFRS. 320 R's. 738 + OFFRS. 1 O.R's. 34 ATT. BY W.E.

## Part A. Posted Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements Required.

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.	AACC				
	2		4	W.Os. Class II.	AA PC	1			
	1		4	Squadron or Company Quartermaster Sgts.	AAMC				
				Staff Sergeants	AAOC				
		1	32	Sergeants	AEME	8		2	
	9		55	Corporals	FDPOST	6		2	
	252		379	Troopers, Privates, etc.		13		2	
				Civilians counting as O.R.					
263 *	264	1	475 *	Totals of cols. marked * should agree with details shown in Part E on Page 2.		28 *		6	6 NR *

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.P. CLASS A		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	290		253							503
B(1)										
B(2)										

## Part B. Other Ranks Attached from Other Units.

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

Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which they belong	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which they belong	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which detached.	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which detached.
5	29 AUST INF BDE			13	29 AUST INF BDE		
1	YMCA-AMENITIES			1	RECORDS		

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

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**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.)	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, E.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	4	
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								Printers				Shoemaker and Boot Repairer			
Bricklayers								Radiographers				Stevadores			
Computers								Riggers				Stokers, Staty. Engine			
Cooks, Hospital				GROUP II.				Sawyers				Storemen, Technical	3	2	1 NR
Coppersmiths				Armourers				Signallers	26	23	3 NR	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	4	2 NR	Winchman				Whitesmiths			
Draughtsmen (Topographical)				Carpenters and Joiners				Wireman							
Electricians				Cooks		2	5 NR	Woodturners							
Electricians (M.V.)				Dental Mechanics											
Electricians (Signals)				Driver-Mech. (Eng. and Med.)											
Fitters				Driver-Operator											
Fitters (Cycle)				Drainers											
Fitters (Electrical)				Electricians											
Fitters (Gun)				Electricians (Engineers)											
Fitters (Instrument)				Fire Control Operators				GROUP III.				DETAILS OF NON-TRADESMEN.	683	427	263
Fitters (M.V.)				Gun Operator				Battery Surveyors							
Fitters, Railway Signal				Hatchman				Butchers	1	1					
Fitters, Signals				Height Taker				Clerks	4	4					
Grinder, Precision				Helio Operator				Clerks, Supply							
Mechanics, Instrument				Instrument Operator				Clerks, Technical							
Mechanics, Instrument (Signals)				Intelligence Duties	9	7	2 NR	Coach Trimmers							
Mechanics, Instrument (Surgical)				Joiners				Concretors							
Mechanics, Radio				Lineman				Cooks							
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.				AAPC	2	2	
Pattern Maker				Masons				Driver Mechanics				FD Post Sgt	1	1	
Pharmacist				Masseurs				Driver Tptn. Plant				AADC	1	1	
Photographer, Wet Plate				Mechanics, M.T.				Engine Hands, I.C.				AACC	23	18	5 NR
Photowriter				Miners				Equipment Repairers	1			1 NR ARMOUR SGT	1	1	
Plumber				Moulders				Farriers				BLACKSMITH	1	1	
Saw Doctors				Nurses, Trained				Fitters' Mates				GUNFITTER	1		1 NR
Surveyors				Observation Post Assts.				Gun Layers							
CARRIED FORWARD				CARRIED FORWARD	15	13		CARRIED FORWARD	32	28		Totals of columns marked * to agree with columns 4 and 7, and 1 and 10 of Part A. respectively.	772	503	269

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

a.w. 6m bks 3/43

Signature of Commander  
Lt. Col.  
Commanding 15 Aust Inf Bn







War Diary

Appx A

1 OCT 43

**Subject: SQUAD AND FOOT DRILL, RIFLE EXERCISES**

**TO ALL COYS**

Further to previous instrn of 29 SEP, the following irregularities in instrn and drill are noted and to create uniformity will be corrected forthwith.

1. **Instructors** - Too many instructors continue to permit faults to occur without correcting on the spot. A movement will be spoiled by a man moving his head. The instructor must immediately draw attention to this by saying - "Yta Blank, keep your head steady." Then repeat the movt until correct. It is useless to continue drilling without correcting mistakes between movements.
  
2. **SMG's** - Except when the parade is to become tactical, tps armed with SMG's will be to one end of the squad, NOT intermingled. When "Fall In" is given SMG's will be slung over the LEFT shoulder and kept there for the remainder of drill movts. With SMG's on the LEFT shoulder when marching at the slope it permits all right arms to be swung instead of riflemen swinging the right arm and SMG men the left, as at present. SMG's will be carried slung and NOT moved during rifle drill except for the "Port Arms" and "Examine Arms" when movts will be similar to that of a riflemen.
  
3. **Web Belt** - When drilling in web eqpt basic pouches must be fixed to the belt well to the front. If the basic pouches are to the side tps cannot move their rifles smoothly, thereby losing precision in the squad movts.

*[Signature]*  
Lt Col  
(S. L. AMES)

Commanding 15 Aust Inf Bn



Appx B

PATROL REPORT - BUSAMA to SUGAR LOAF.

Ref Map WAGO 1" to 1 mile.

As ordered by the C.O. I embarked on L.C.V. at 1230 hrs. from "A" Coy, 28 Sept '43, arriving BUSAMA 1500 hrs. On disembarking I was met by 2 Native Police Boys who informed me that Japs were on the track BUSAMA - BWUSSI RIVER. I immediately set out with my patrol, 1 Officer and 21 ORs for BWUSSI RIVER. Fresh Japanese footprints were observed on the beach about 10 mins. from BUSAMA, these were obvious right to the track junction just SOUTH of BWUSSI RIVER. The tracks showed that Japs had moved WEST up this track along BWUSSI RIVER VALLEY. As darkness was getting close I camped at the track junction. At 0600 hrs. 29 Sept. 43 10 Native Police arrived to watch the BWUSSI RIVER VALLEY. track so I moved as ordered to BUANG RIVER to contact with a small patrol under Sgt. Beitz, 5 ORs in strength. Lieut. McCullough's patrol along BUANG RIVER. Taking 2 ORx with me I moved to SUGAR LOAF, and reported by L/T to C.O. I was then ordered to place my patrol under command Capt. Provan, "D" Coy. and move back to BWUSSI RIVER.

C.J. SKEENE.      Lieut.  
VX 131159



was diary.

15 AUSTRALIAN BN

Ref. Map WAGO 1 inch to 1 mile.

Appx B - 30 Sep

PATROL REPORT.

Type of Patrol.  
Patrol Comd.  
Strength  
Time out  
Time in  
Task  
Remarks

Standing patrol supplied by D. Coy (HUNT FORCE).  
Lieut. MCCULLOUGH  
One officer, 20 O.R.'s.  
0820k/25 Sep.  
Morning 30 Sep.  
To set up an ambush on BUANG R.  
Patrol left D. Coy area 0820k/25 and moved by coastal route to BUANG R., where it remained in ambush until midday 29 Sep. During that period patrols were sent to mouth of BUANG R and also to BUANG R and tck junc. No Japs were encountered. At midday 29 Sep MCCULLOUGH'S patrol less 7 men left in ambush posn moved to mouth of BUANG RIV. R., and contacted SKENE'S party, and moved with them to BWUSSI R where Capt. PROVAN assumed comd of the whole force. MCCULLOUGH'S seven men on BUANG were ordered to return to D. Coy area on morning of 30 Sep. 43. The remainder reached D. Coy area with the main force on 1 Oct 43.

Sgd. by Lieut J.B. MCCULLOUGH  
O.C. Patrol.

PATROL REPORT.

Appx D - 30 Sep.

PROVAN PATROL (HUNT FORCE).

Strength  
Time out  
Time in  
Route out

5 Offrs 60 O.R.'s.  
1200k/29 Sep 43.  
1400k/ 1 Oct 43.  
3 Offrs and 26 O.R.'s landed by L.C.V. one mile SOUTH of BWUSSI R, and followed coastal route to mouth of BWUSSI R which was reached at 1440k/29. SKENE'S party (1 offr 22 O.R.'s) and MCCULLOUGH'S party (1 offr 12 O.R.'s) marched from BUANG R along coastal tck and joined O.C. patrol at BWUSSI R at 1525k/29.

Route in  
REMARKS

Coastal tck from BWUSSI R to D.Coy area.  
10 police boys at BWUSSI R acted as guides and scouts. PROVAN FORCE commenced approach to BWUSSI village 585162 at 1600 hrs, where natives reported 61 Japs with 2 L.M.G.'s. FORCE followed main tck and by 1830 hrs pls were in posn on NORTH, EAST, and SOUTH of village. On morning of 30 Sep force closed in at first light and attacked at 0600 hrs. 3 Japs escaped through kunai grass to hills and the village was otherwise deserted. It was evident from signs near huts that a mere handful of Japs had occupied BWUSSI but there was no sign of main force. At 0800 hrs PROVAN FORCE returned to tck junc. 633164 and took up posn there. Police boys were unable to locate Japs during the day. At 1645 hrs 30 Sep one Pl P.I.B. under comd LIEUT G. SMITH arrived by L.C.V. At 0800 hrs 1 Oct P.I.B. patrol reported that apparently a kanaka was scouting for the Japs and informing them of Aust. troop movements. No trace of Japs observed throughout this day. At 1230 hrs 1 Oct Lieuts OXLEY and SKENE with 22 O.R.'s. moved to BUSABA village by coastal route and remainder of PROVAN FORCE returned to D.Coy area at 1400k/1 Oct. At 0730k/30 when returning from BWUSSI village

Own troops encountered







3 OCT 43

Appn A.

15 AUGT INF BN - TRG INSTRN No 11

1. Consistent with patrols and local secy as during the past week the following will be included in the Coys training activities for the week ending 10 OCT 43.
2. WEAPON TRG - At least  $\frac{1}{2}$  hr daily, covering all weapons and to include speed in going into action, taking up a posn of advantage for the particular type of weapon and bearing in mind the fire posn, cover from fire, and cover from view.
3. Squad and Foot Drill and Rifle Exercises -  
At least  $\frac{1}{2}$  hr daily, to rectify faults noticed last week.
4. Observing and Reporting - To develop the individual powers of observation, correct deduction and clear reporting. Trg will be individual by parties of not more than one Sec and the period one hr. An area will be given to be covered by observation. To create better trg another squad will carry out some manoeuvre or task within the observed area, such tasks etc, and number of tps employed being unknown to the Observing Sec. The Observing Sec must be concealed from the tps being observed. At the conclusion of the period each individual member of the sec will submit his observers report. An average individual report from each Pl will be submitted to Bn Hq during the week.
5. Scouting and Stalking - To improve the standard of individuals in approaching an enemy post unseen or unheard. Points to note are, placing of feet on the ground, dodging dry twigs and leaves, insuring no part of the clothing or eqpt catches on twigs.  
An enemy will be used for the purpose of the exercise.
6. Lecturettes - of not more than 15 mins on:-
  - (a) Secy.
  - (b) Pers and field hygiene.
  - (c) Anti-malarial precautions.
  - (d) You and the Native.

*George* Capt  
(R. L. HODGINS)

Adjutant 15 Augt Inf Bn



AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES ROUTINE ORDERS PART 1

6 Oct 43

by

Lt Col J. L. AMISS

Commanding 15 Aust Inf Bn

1. PISTOLS, POSSESSION OF

Pistols of any type or description shall not be sold, purchased or exchanged. On and after 15 Apr 43 it will be an offence for any member of the AMF to have in his possession or custody any pistol other than one issued to him by Army authority or where he has the permission referred to in para 3 hereof. Permission may be granted by a Formation Comd to any member to have in his possession a pistol other than one issued to him; such permission to be in writing, signed personally by Formation Comd. All ranks in possession of pistols not issued to them or not provided for under the last para will forthwith surrender the same to the QM or HQ Orderly Room of their unit. All ranks having pistols in their possession are held personally responsible therefor and will immediately report the loss of such pistol. The loss of a pistol is to be regarded as an offence for which the offender is to be tried by Court-martial, unless the Formation Comd otherwise directs. In all cases of loss of pistols, the offender will be charged and a Summary of Evidence, which will be forwarded to the Formation Comd, will be taken.

2. INCREASE IN PAY AS FROM 1 JUL 43

In crease in pay has been granted to the following -

(i) To L/Cpls not trade grouped - 6d per day.

Pay is therefore active pay 7/- per day, deferred pay 2/- per day.

(ii) Proficiency Pay - To L/Cpls and privates not trade grouped, who have

(a) Completed 6 months continuous service.

(b) Who has not committed during the preceding 6 months a breach of good conduct, involving a penalty higher than 7 days C.B. or a fine of £1 or more.

(c) Who has passed the prescribed examination of proficiency.

Details of the prescribed examinations in proficiency will be promulgated as soon as available.

(iii) Further details covering proficiency pay in cases of transfers, casualties, promotions and breaches of good conduct will be promulgated direct to coys.

3. GIFT PARCELS FOR UNITED KINGDOM ADDRESSEES; DUTY FREE CONCESSION

1. A concession has been sanctioned by the United Kingdom authorities which permits members of the AMF and the British Army, serving in Australia, to send to their relatives and friends in the United Kingdom four (4) gift parcels a year, duty free. The usual postage rates are payable.

2. Such parcels must not weigh more than 5 lbs each nor exceed 30/- in value, and contents may not include:-

(a) Any drinking spirits;

(b) More than  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb total weight of tobacco, including cigars and cigarettes (300 cigarettes or 50 cigars =  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb), or any tobacco goods marked "H.M. Ships only";

(c) More than  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint of scent;

(d) More than 2 lbs of any one foodstuff.

3. Special Customs Declarations (Army Form W 5192) will be affixed to the parcels; these will be secured through normal stationery channels for issue, under unit arrangements, on a basis of a maximum of four a year to any one sender. A comparatively few forms should suffice for needs of any one unit, and each form issued therein will have entered upon it the recipient's number and name and be signed by the issuing officer in the space provided.

4. It is stressed that full duty will be charged on the contents/which infringe restrictions expressed in para 2. of parcels

4. DEPOSITS TO PAY BOOKS AND CASH REMITTANCES

1. The attention of all members is drawn to the necessity for obtaining official receipts for all moneys paid to members of the AAFG.

2. The official receipts issued by AAFG personnel are of two kinds, -



- (1) Pay Sergeants' Receipts (WF176) - issued by pay sergeants and personnel carrying out pay duties within units;
- (11) Commonwealth of Australia Official Receipts (as used in all Commonwealth Government departments) - issued by paymasters of formations and depot cash offices.

Deposits to pay books -

3. Credits arising from cash deposits appearing in members' pay books are only accepted as bona fide in cash offices if one of the above receipts for the amount of the credit is affixed to the back of the pay book. Unless this credit entry is so supported, no portion thereof can be drawn until confirmation is obtained.

Cash remittances -

4. Upon completion of a Cash Remittance (Form WF131A), the remitter must receive from the member of the AAFPC concerned one of the above receipts for the amount paid by him, the number of which be quoted in any inquiry relative to same.
5. It is the responsibility of all members to obtain receipts for all moneys paid to members of the AAFPC.

*E. L. Hodges* Capt  
(E. L. HODGES)

Adjutant 15 Aust Inf Bn



War diary

15 AUST INF BN

Appx B.

6 OCT 43

52/43

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES XXXXXX ROUTINE ORDERS PART I

by

Lt Col J. L. AMIES

COMMANDING 15 Aust Inf Bn

POWERS OF SENTRIES AND GUARDS

1. Regulation 8A of the National Security (General) Regulations (Statutory Rules 1942, No 374) provides that, without derogating from or restricting the existing powers or rights of sentries and guards, a military sentry or guard stationed or posted at, on, in, or in the neighbourhood or vicinity of, any prohibited place, protected area, a controlled area, or any premises used by the Commonwealth, or used for defence purposes or for essential services, or any vehicle, vessel or aircraft used by the Commonwealth, or any enclosed wharf or picking up place, or any merchant vessel lying in port, or any road, pathway or waterway, specified in an order by the Minister, which passes through or near a prohibited place or work of defence, may be armed, and may -
  - (i) use his weapon against, or otherwise attack, any person who, in disregard of a warning given by a sentry or guard, approaches, enters, leaves, or passes over or in the vicinity or neighbourhood of, or attempts to approach, enter, leave or pass over or in the vicinity or neighbourhood of, that place, area, premises, vehicle, vessel, aircraft, wharf, picking up place, road, pathway, or waterway, or who, after being arrested for so doing, escapes; and
  - (ii) Use his weapons against, or otherwise attack, any person attacking him or who is reasonably suspected of being about to attack him.
2. There are, however, certain principles which must guide all sentries and guards in the execution of their duty as such, and in the exercise of the right to resort to arms.
3. These principles are:-
  - (a) Sentries and guards will be ordered to take any action required to ensure the safety of their posts or to defeat the activities of enemy, or suspected enemy, agents.
  - (b) If necessary, they will fire upon or otherwise attack any persons threatening the safety of their posts or engaging in hostile actions.
  - (c) Before firing upon any person, the sentry or guard will, except in an urgent case of self-defence, challenge that person to "Halt". If that person does not halt, the sentry should challenge him again with "Halt, or I fire". If he does not halt, and no other means are available for stopping him - as for example, by calling on the rest of the guard - it is the duty of the sentry to shoot.
  - (d) The sentry will use his intelligence and sense of responsibility in choosing whether he will shoot or not, and he must be careful not to allow any suspected person to approach so close that he can be rushed and overpowered.
  - (e) Guards of enemy prisoners of war. An enemy prisoner of war attempting to escape may be fired upon, but a previous summons to surrender will be given if possible.
  - (f) Guards of members of the forces in custody.
    - (i) An escort or guard is not justified in using his weapons merely for the purpose of preventing another member from escaping from custody and if he so uses his weapons he may render himself, as well as any officer or NCO under whose orders he acted, liable to be charged with murder, manslaughter or incitement to murder.



- (ii) If a member in custody attempts to escape, the escort or sentry will immediately raise the alarm and give chase. He will may call upon any passer-by to assist him in apprehending the escapee.
- (iii) An escort or guard may be justified in using his weapons when a member in custody resorts to violence. In such circumstances an escort or guard may meet force with force, but care must be taken to use no more force than is necessary to overcome the violence ~~is~~ offered. Hence, even when violence is offered to an escort or guard, it will only be as a last resort that the use of weapons will be justified.
4. Orders for guards and sentries will be framed in conformity with the above and guards and sentries will be suitably instructed as to their powers and duties.
5. GRC A 682/1942 is cancelled.

*Hodges*

Capt

(R. L. HODGES)

Adjutant 15 Aust Inf Bn



HQ 29 Aust Inf Bde (AIF).  
10 Oct 43.

Ref Maps : LAE 1/25000  
HEATHS 1/25000

OUTLINE PLAN

1. The outline plan for the defence of LAE is as follows :
  - (a) One infantry brigade will hold the line of BUSU RIVER from the coast incl MALAHANG ANCHORAGE to incl BUSU BRIDGE. This will be known as the BUSU SECTOR.
  - (b) The coast between excl MARKHAM RIVER and incl MALAHANG ANCHORAGE will be held by base units supported by beach guns and MMGs. This will be known as the BUMBU SECTOR.
  - (c) One infantry battalion will hold position astride the MARKHAM VALLEY rd in the vicinity of EDWARDS and including high ground to the north. This will be known as the EDWARDS CK SECTOR.
  - (d) One infantry brigade less one battalion in Div reserve.

PRESENT POLICY.

2. In view of the absence of threat to LAE under present circumstances, and the immediate necessity of concentrating all reserves on the building of a base, preparation will be confined to recce, planning and initial preparation of positions.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR RECCE

3. Responsibility for recce will be as follows :
  - (a) 4 AUST INF BDE will recce positions for one infantry brigade between excl MALAHANG ANCHORAGE - BUSU RIVER - incl BUSU BRIDGE.
  - (b) 29 Aust Inf Bde will recce :
    - (i) 42 Aust Inf Bn : positions for one battalion astride the MARKHAM VALLEY RD in vicinity EDWARDS including high ground to the north to cover approaches from MARKHAM VALLEY.
    - (ii) 47 Aust Inf Bn : positions for four companies between excl MARKHAM RIVER and incl MALAHANG ANCHORAGE.  
  
Positions for MMGs between MARKHAM RIVER and MALAHANG ANCHORAGE. Sites will be selected as required by tactical necessity but must not exceed twelve in number. This recce will be co-ordinated with RAA recce for beach gun and AA sites and with 4 Aust Inf Bde concerning coverage of inter-sector boundary. It is likely that unit MMG platoons will be used to man these positions.
    - (iii) 15 Aust Inf Bn. Two company localities in area ~~MR~~ MT LUNAMAN - TERRACE.
  - (c) RAA will recce battery positions for two field regiments to fulfil the following tasks:
    - (i) Two regiments to cover area east of BUSU RIVER, one of which will be able to fire as far east as SINGAUA PLANTATION.
    - (ii) Two regiments to cover beaches between MARKHAM RIVER and BUSU RIVER.
    - (iii) One regiment to cover MARKHAM VALLEY as far west as WHITTAKERS.
  - (d) RAA will recce the following positions for Tk/A guns :



- (i) Two troops in beach gun role between MARKHAM RIVER and BUSU RIVER.
- (ii) One troop with Tk/A role in vicinity LAE AIRFIELD.

On completion of recce plans will be prepared by comds concerned and submitted to this HQ. Plans will be prepared and submitted by 1800 hrs 16Oct 43.

DEGREE OF PREPARATION.

4. On plans being approved, following preparation will immediately be made :

(a) Infantry

- (i) Battalion positions will be clearly marked on ground down to weapon pits.
- (ii) MG positions covering beaches will be prepared and occupied.
- (iii) Fields of fire will be pegged.
- (iv) Localities will be signposted down to section localities.

(b) Field Arty

Positions will be prepared for one regiment to cover east of BUSU RIVER and one regiment to cover beach between MARKHAM RIVER and BUSU RIVER. These positions will be occupied by night.

(c) Tk/A Arty

- (i) Positions for Tk/A guns with beach roles will be prepared and personnel will live on the gun positions.
- (ii) Positions for one troop will be selected and marked in area LAE AIRFIELD.
- (iii) 42 Aust Inf Bn may include as many Tk/A guns as necessary from brigade resources in plans for the EDWARDS CK SECTOR.

Units will be responsible for the preparation of positions which they recce.

5. ACKNOWLEDGE

Time of Signature 2020 hrs.  
Method of Issue Sigs.

H.E.WESTON Capt.  
for BM 29 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION.

15 Aust Inf Bn	1
42 Aust Inf Bn	2
47 Aust Inf Bn	3
Comd	4
BM	5
SC	6
5 Aust Div ( for infm)	7
4 Aust Inf Bde(for infm)	8
File	9
War Diary	10-11



15 AUST. INF. BN.

Appx A.

PATROL REPORT.

TYPE  
STRENGTH  
TIME OUT  
TIME IN  
GENERAL

Fighting  
1 Officer, 22 O.R.'s plus 1 Sgt and 8 P.I.B.  
0800L/7 Oct. 43  
1815L/12 Oct. 43.

Left Coy area at SUGARLOAF at 0800L/7 to take up position at BUSAN village in support of P.I.B. who were sending out patrols NORTH of village. Arrived at BUSAN at 0950L/7 and formed perimeter on NORTH side of village. Received message from O.C. D. Coy at 1200hrs to proceed to MARKHAM PT with P.I.B. as Japs had been seen moving in this direction. Both Australians with the P.I.B. at BUSAN were sick so the patrol waited until fresh man arrived at 1500 hrs. Left BUSAN at 1600 hrs and proceeded NORTH to small ck. Here a perimeter for the night was formed.

Left perimeter 0800L/8 and proceeded NORTH. Arrived NAEHA village 1650 hrs. Much evidence of movement by large party of Japs noticed on track. Information gained from the natives at OKO village and NAEHA village showed that 57 Japs had passed through villages on the evening of 6 Oct.

Left NAEHA at 0830L/9 and followed Jap tracks running in NORTH WEST direction from village. After crossing very deep sago swamp track followed foothills. At 1150 hrs encountered 4 Japs on track travelling SOUTH towards NAEHA. P.I.B. scout killed one Jap. Captured L.M.G. which was being carried by Jap who was shot. Others made off very quickly. Pushed on in pursuit but men's physical condition and hard going compelled me to halt. Received message from O.C. D. Coy at 1610 hrs which stated to use NAEHA as base and that additional four day's rations were being sent to NAEHA. Returned to NAEHA and found rations had arrived.

Left NAEHA 0900L/10 with 4 day's rations to continue pursuit. At 1430 hrs P.I.B. scouts found indications of much movement by Japs on track. Two P.I.B. patrols were sent out and they returned with the information that they had found large Jap camp with two Japs in occupation. Attacked camp and killed enemy. This camp had been used as a hideout by a force of about 50 Japs for some time. Sent out 2 P.I.B. patrols to attempt to locate further tracks as main track seemed to come to an end at this point. P.I.B. patrols returned and reported that there was no track further on. They stated that Japs had split up at this point and made their own way. Native guides said that track was only pig hunting track and that there was no way through to MARKHAM PT. Formed perimeter for night.

At 0800L/11 a P.I.B. patrol was sent out to find direction in which Japs went but returned at 0915 hrs and stated non-existence of tracks. Sent out another P.I.B. patrol at 0930 hrs to confirm report of first. They returned with same information so at 1040 hrs left for NAEHA.

At 1630 hrs Lieut SMITH of the P.I.B. arrived at NAEHA with remainder of his platoon. He carried a message which stated that my force would be relieved by B. Coy the next morning.

Relieved by HORNE FORCE at 1215 hrs 12 Oct and returned to SUGARLOAF arriving at 1815 hrs.

Sgd. by R.F. HOPKIN Lieut  
O.C. PATROL.



15 AUST INF BN

Appx A

LOCATION STATEMENT

as at 14 OCT 43

<u>Sub Unit</u>	<u>Map Ref</u>	
B.H.Q.	634347	)
HQ Coy less 5 Pl	634348	)
A Coy less two Pls	641363	)
B Coy less one Pl	634346	) WAGO 1"
Pl Standing Patrol B Coy	NEAHA 572299	)
D Coy	628269	)
7 & 8 Pl A Coy	MARKHAM PT 571432	(NADZAB 1/4")
C Coy plus 5 Pl	676435	(LAE 1:25000)

Lt Col

(J. L. AMIES)

Commanding 15 Aust Inf Bn



*War Diary*

Subject: CENSORSHIP

*Appendix A*

HQ 15 Aust Inf Bn  
17 OCT 43

TO ALL COYS

1. As the requisite period has elapsed since completion of the SALAMUA - LAE operations troops are permitted to mention in correspondence that they participated in this campaign.  
All references must however be in the past tense and no mention is permitted of present or future locations or roles.
2. The following are examples of points which are permissible:-
  - (a) Names of places seen.
  - (b) Impression and description of country.
  - (c) Sea travel, provided the route or type and technical description of craft is NOT mentioned.
  - (d) Personal incidents and experiences in action.
  - (e) Impressions of JAP as a soldier and his living conditions.
  - (f) Ref may be made to American Forces and AIF generally but not names of units.
3. Information NOT allowed.
  - (a) Mention of other unit names or locations.
  - (b) Numbers of battle casualties.
  - (c) Description of captured weapons and documents.
  - (d) Description of our own installations or fortifications in places visited.

*Quodius Capt*  
Adjt 15 Aust Inf Bn



PATROL REPORT.

Alpha A. - 20 Oct

Composition. 1 W.O. 7 Ptes. Arms. 1 Bren, 3 O.S.M.G's 4 Rifles.  
Type. Standing at BUSAN VILLAGE.  
Time Out. 0730 hrs 12 Oct. 43.  
Time In. 1500 hrs. 20 Oct. '43 to 'D' Coy. ~~BHE~~ BUBI 1100/21 KARI.  
Object. To stand at Busan Village. Patrol vicinity and meet any opposition.

General.

The patrol sent out small recce patrols daily round village and foothills and to INAGRI RIVER. Particular care was taken on each patrol to look for the slightest sign of enemy in area, and no sign whatsoever seen. Nightly security heard or saw NO signs or sounds of a suspicious nature.

On arrival at BUSAN, the patrol instructed the Luluai of the village to report if the women and boys saw Japs in or about the gardens, to move slowly back to village showing no alarm and take children and women to the huts and remain there.

Natives. The natives are all strictly pro-British and offered all information possible. Guides were readily available, likewise messengers and carriers.

Gardens. There is a large supply of vegetables in form of taro, which is quite palatable to whites, bananas and pawpaws.

Village. Approx. 23 huts in village and if necessary would accommodate 180-200 personnel. The village was very clean, likewise the natives themselves, very few showing any disease. Approx. 200 in the village. 15-20 boys always on hand that could be used for carriers.

Tracks. All tracks are fairly muddy, suitable only for native carriers and tps. on foot.

Water. There is a constant supply in the form of a fairly fast running creek. This rises rapidly after rain in the hills.

Pests. Few ere noticed. Very few sandflies and mosquitoes (anopheline and dengue types).

H. SENDEN. W.O.II.  
O/c Patrol.



FORCES  
AUSTRALIAN MILITARY/ROUTINE ORDERS PART I

Copy No  
53/43

20 Oct 1943

By

Lt Col J. L. AMES

Commanding 15 Aust Inf Bn

1. MECHANICAL VEHICLES -

New Guinea Force Orders 299, 300, 305, 453, 483, 534, 567 and 584 of 1942 and 56, 246, 314 and 334 of 1943 are cancelled. Many instances of reckless and careless driving of mechanical vehicles and driving at excessive speed are occurring. These and other improper practices in relation to mechanical vehicles frequently constitute a menace to other vehicles and to the safety of personnel and are responsible for undue wear and tear on vehicles and tyres. Accordingly they must cease. Personnel when driving mechanical vehicles will maintain the strictest road discipline and drive at such a speed and in such a manner that their vehicles are completely under control and they are in a position to meet any emergency that may arise. The maximum speed permitted for vehicles in the IAB sub area is 30 mph. In other areas the maximum speeds, whether higher or lower, have been fixed by the Comds of those areas. Personnel will not drive at the maximum speed where the circumstances render that speed unsafe.

The following specific provisions will be observed:-

- (a) An Officer will not drive a mechanical vehicle except -
  - (i) When under driving instruction.
  - (ii) For the purpose of maintaining his efficiency as a driver.
  - (iii) Where operationally necessary.
  - (iv) When no driver is available.
  - (v) To rest the member normally driving the vehicle.
- (b) When driving a mechanical vehicle the driver will not permit more than one person to sit beside him on the front seat.
- (c) Drivers of mechanical vehicles will not when approaching road corners change to a lower gear for the purpose of reducing speed but will, when necessary, reduce the speed by application of the foot brake.
- (d) No mechanical vehicle will be left unattended except in an authorised military parking area.
- (e) Personnel will not drive mechanical vehicles with tail boards swinging free. If the load is such that the tail board cannot be closed up, it will be secured in a horizontal position either with the chains provided or by rope.
- (f) Wheel chains will not be carried on front bumper bar of vehicle. They will be carried only in lockers or other suitable containers.
- (g) The use of chains on dry roads is forbidden. Wheel chains will be used only when conditions so require.
- (h) Motor cycles will be fitted with efficient silencers. Personnel will not modify silencers unless authorized by competent authority to do so.
- (i) Except for operational reasons in forward areas -
  - (i) Pillion riding on motor cycles is forbidden.
  - (ii) A load of more than 20 lb will not be carried on motor cycle rear carriers.

Speed traps will be operated by Provost personnel in various areas. Provost personnel will report without delay offences against this Order.

It will be the responsibility of CO's to ensure that the members of their Coys are made fully conversant with the requirements of this order, to continually impress upon members the necessity for strictly adhering to the same and to enforce the provisions of the Order by taking disciplinary action in respect of breaches.

When Provost personnel are required as witnesses, units will notify them promptly of the time and place of hearing.

2. FORWARDING ARTICLES TO MAINLAND - HQF Orders, serials 585 of 7 Dec 42, 616 of 26 Dec 42 and 35 of 8 Feb 43 are cancelled.

No member shall, except in the course of his duty, despatch, or cause to be despatched, to AUSTRALIA -



- (a) Any property issued, distributed, or sold by, or belonging to, the Commonwealth or any part of the Defence Force of the Commonwealth or any Allied Country or Force;
- (b) Any captured enemy document, equipment or property;
- (c) Any article sold, distributed or supplied by AUSTRALIAN Defence Canteen Service or any Allied Force's Canteen, or any similar institution, or any A.M.F. recognised philanthropic organisation;
- (d) Any tobacco or cigarettes.

A member proceeding to AUSTRALIA on leave or temporary leave duty will not take with him more tobacco or cigarettes than is reasonably required to meet his personal requirements during his period of absence from NEW GUINEA. Other members proceeding to AUSTRALIA will not take with them more tobacco or cigarettes than is reasonably required to meet their personal requirements whilst in transit to the Mainland.

It will be borne in mind continuously that:-

- (a) One of the reasons for rationing tobacco and cigarettes in AUSTRALIA is to ensure that adequate supplies are available for troops in operational areas; and
  - (b) Tobacco and cigarettes supplied to troops in NEW GUINEA are excise free which represents a substantial saving to all concerned.
- (1) The despatch or carriage of tobacco or cigarettes to AUSTRALIA in breach of this Order may result in :-
- (a) Troops in forward areas not being adequately catered for owing to a consequential general shortage of supplies; and
  - (b) The withdrawal of the privilege of freedom from excise duty, resulting in troops in all areas being required to pay mainland prices.
- (2) It is, therefore, in the interest of all concerned to strictly adhere to the provisions of this Order.

Disciplinary action will be taken in respect of all disclosed breaches of paras 2, 3 and 4 of this order and where tobacco or cigarettes are intercepted in transit to AUSTRALIA, the same will be confiscated and, after disciplinary action has been completed, donated to the Red Cross Society.

The attention of franking officers is drawn to the pre-franking requisites in relation to parcels or packets, the detailed procedure for franking the same and the action to be taken in regard to prohibited articles (vide App "A" to LHQ Field Censorship Instruction No 4 and paras 5 (g) and 6 (b) of App "B" thereto.

The attention of Unit Censors is drawn to their duties in relation to censorship of parcels and packets as prescribed in the above instruction 9 (b).

Disciplinary action will be taken where franking officers or Unit Censors offend against the provisions mentioned in paras 8 and 9 above.

CO's will ensure that the provisions of this Order are complied with. Wht

### 3. FOURTH LIBERTY LOAN -

The Fourth Liberty Loan (War) of \$125,000,000 is now open for subscription. Arrangements have been made for the paymasters to accept applications for Commonwealth Govern. Inscribed Stock or Treasury Bonds from members of the forces serving in AUSTRALIA or NEW GUINEA who may be desirous of investing their savings in the loan.

#### PARTICULARS OF LOAN -

Loan applications may be made for an amount of \$10 or higher amount being a multiple of \$10.

Stock will be inscribed at par for amounts of \$100 or multiples of \$10 above \$100 as required.

Treasury Bonds are payable to bearer and are issued at par for \$10, \$50, \$100, \$500 and \$1,000. Interest is payable at 3½% per annum if invested for five years and at 3% per annum if invested for sixteen years, and will be credited half-yearly to the member's savings bank account or current account if desired.



Interest will be subject to Commonwealth Taxation, but will not be subject to any income tax under the law of the State. During the period of uniform taxation, a rebate of 2/- in the £ on interest will be allowed to cover freedom from State taxation. Any bank nominated by the member will hold the bonds in safe custody for the member if such is desired.

Procedure for lodging applications -

Applications forms will be available from paymasters or may be obtained through unit pay sergeants, and are required to be completed in duplicate. The applicant's signature will be witnessed by an Officer of the same unit. Sufficient credit must be available in the member's pay book to cover the amount it is desired to invest in the loan. The amount subscribed will be debited in the pay book. Paymasters may accept cash in payment of a loan subscription, in which case the amount tendered will be entered in the pay book to establish the necessary credit and an official receipt issued and pasted in the pay book. The Commonwealth Bank will forward to members an interim receipt for the amount subscribed.

General -

Both Treasury and Inscribed Stock are readily realisable and may be sold at any time. Any bank will arrange this for the member if desired. Where practicable, the substance of this order will be explained to personnel on parade.

4. MALARIA CONTROL -

With the introduction of Daylight Saving, reveille in this area will NOT be before 0700 hrs.

5. STEEL HELMETS -

Steel helmets may be returned to Ordnance at the discretion of Unit Comds. At the same time, any man who wishes to retain one will be permitted to do so.

6. NATIVE ADMINISTRATION - UNAUTHORIZED SUPPLY OF EXPLOSIVES.

The supply without authority of any arms, ammunition or explosives to the natives is prohibited. Severe disciplinary action will be taken in all cases of breach of this order.

7. APPOINTMENT OF LANCE CORPORALS AND LANCE BOMBARDIERS-

All male members who, on or after 1 JUL 45, held the appointment of lance corporal or lance bombardier and who were not in receipt of pay prescribed for a specialist or tradesman are entitled to be paid in respect of these appointments.

*E. L. Hodges*  
Capt

(E. L. HODGES)

Adjutant 15 Augt Inf Bn



Copy.  
22 Oct 45.

15 AUGST INF BN - OP INSTN NO 29.

Ref Maps. -

WADZAB 1:63360.  
WAGO 1:63360.

INFO

1. Enemy - The original MARKHAM POINT garrison estimated at 90 all ranks attempting to escape south have been continually harassed and at least 55 killed by our tps. The remainder are still at large in the area west of LABU LAGOON and south of MARKHAM RIVER.
2. Own Tps.
  - (a) 2, 4, and 5 PIs and "C" Coy less one PI have already moved to LAH. One PI of "C" Coy are on protective duties at the RADAR STN SALAMAU.
  - (b) One PI "A" Coy PIB are based at MARKHAM POINT operating u/c Bn.
  - (c) The remainder of the Bn. less "D" Coy are moving to LAE.

OPERATION.

3. "D" Coy plus all tps will continue the search for the remnants of the enemy.

METHOD.

4. Tps Available -
  - (a) Comd - Capt D. PROVAN
  - (b) "D" Coy.
  - (c) One PI PIB
  - (d) One det "L" Sec Sigs
  - (e) 2 "I" Sec Cypher details
  - (f) One det 3 PI.
5. Tasks. -
  - (a) Est firm base vic MARKHAM POINT 5643
  - (b) Standing patrols at TARI 6041 and WUKU 5732
  - (c) Patrols - PIB + Scouts to be sent west to the WAMPIT - SNAKE VALLEY areas to question natives and ascertain if any enemy hiding those areas.  
Patrols west to GENSIS 460457 - GABENSIS 430405 and GARAGOS River or Valley 3332.  
"D" Coy - Acting on intelligence from PIB long range patrols seek out and destroy the enemy. In the meantime
    - (i) patrol south from MARKHAM POINT to village 585370
    - (ii) SW along crest of MARKHAM BANKS
    - (iii) NATIVE GARDEN along MARKHAM RIVER east-west of TARI.
 Det 3 PI - Escort duty with native trains from supply point to base.
6. "D" Coy will relieve tps "A" Coy at present engaged in search for enemy by 1000 hrs Sun 25 Oct.

ADM.

7. Sup Pt & Coy B BCH. - Beachhead LABU 2.
8. Supply Routes -
  - (a) To MARKHAM POINT base by native carriers along the south bank MARKHAM RIVER.



(b) To WUKU by canoe via LABU 1-GOON + HAKI-  
WUKU CRANK.

9. Nations -

Reserve rations held at  
WUKU  
LABU 2  
TARI  
BARHAM POINT.

will be taken over by "D" Coy.  
3 days res rations will be held at each dump.  
as for rations in para 9

10. Medical Supplies -

11. Casualties -

Sick or wounded will be evacuated to AMERICAN  
barge camp at LABU 1 thence by barge to LAK.

12. Native Carriers -

20 carriers will be retained vicinity LABU 2  
for supply trains for the Coy. The remaining  
natives will be mustered by AMBU rep and trans-  
ported to LAK under directions HQ 5 Div.

13. AMU

- Scale "A" only to be carried.

INTERCOM.

14. No. 11 w/T link to 29 Bde will be set at BARHAM POINT.

15. Native runners from WUKU to LABU 2 and from LABU 2 via TARI to  
BARHAM POINT

16. Sitreps will be forwarded by 0700 hrs and 2300 hrs daily.

ACK

Issued by Sigs & ID to Bde

Signed at 1000 hrs 22 Oct 43

Distrib - List "A".

*Esodges Capt.  
Adj. Lt.  
15 Aust. Inf Bn.*



PATROL REPORT. - HORNE PATROL.

Appx A

12th. - 23rd. Oct. 1943.

Ref. Maps :- ( WAGO B 55/10 1 inch to 1 mile  
NADZAB 3550 1 inch series.

Composition.

1 Officer, 1 sgt, 3 Ppls., 21 O.R.'s.

Equipment.

P1. Weapons

Route Out:

LABU III - WASI CK. - LAMI Village - WUKU-  
NAEHA.

Route In :-

NAEHA - POEDI CK. - WUKU CK. - LABU III.

Time Out.

0830/12

Time In

1530/23

Details:-

Left B Coy, Labu 3 634346/0830/12, marched to Lagoon at 630346 and embarked in canoes. Entered mouth of WASI Creek 0920 hrs, arrived LAMI Village approx. 591304 0950 hrs. Left LAMI 1000 hrs marched SW through sago, crossed WASI Ck. moved NW through sago, crossed POETA CK. arrived WUKU Village 562324 1115 hrs. Left WUKU 1140 hrs went NW crossed WUKU CK., moved north crossed POMAKWA CK., arrived NAEHA Village 573343 1215 hrs. HOPKINS Patrol left NAEHA for SUGARLOAF 1240/12.

NAEHA used as base for HORNE Patrol, with L of C POEDI CK. WUKU CK. - LABU 3 by canoe.

Patrols picqueted NAEHA and WUKU gardens, patrolled west and NW along spur as far as LOOKOUT 552350, thence SW to approx. 526338. Patrols also moved south as far as approx. 542313, and north as far as approx. 560414. EKA Village 626355 and EPOAHO Village 628354 on LABU LAGOON were visited by canoe.

In all these patrols no live Japs were encountered. Two dead Japs were found on the track leading north from NAEHA. Patrol was relieved by THIRGOOD Patrol 1100/23.

HORNE Patrol left NAEHA 1400/23, marched to POEDI CK., 20 mins. away, embarked in canoes, and moved down the POEDI, WUKU CKS., to LAGOON, thence to LABU 3, arriving 1530/23.

TOPOGRAPHY.

(~~See attached sketch~~). See attached sketch

WASI CK.

Navigable to canoes, incl large canoes, as far as LAMI Village approx. 591304. It is very shallow at its mouth when tide is out. Canoes reach LAMI from LABU 3 in  $\frac{2}{3}$  hr.

Tck LAMI - WUKU. -  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hrs.

A difficult tck by means of logs through sago swamp as far as POETA CK. thence good tck through portion of WUKU gardens to WUKU 562324.

TCK. WUKU - NAEHA 573343 :  $\frac{1}{2}$  hr.

Very muddy tck, fair going, crosses WUKU and POMAKWA CKS. the latter by means of logs.

TCK. NAEHA - PILLI CK. 563385:  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hrs.

Originally a native pig hunting tck. but used by Japs to reach hideout at approx. 563385. Tck follows east edge of foothills good going, crosses NAEHA, WALE and POHANA CKS. slightly boggy for about 200 yds. after crossing NAEHA CK.

NAEHA CK. flows into POEDI, which in turn flows into WUKU CK.

POHANA CK. runs into WALE CK. which flows into the LAGOON. PILLI CK. flows north along edge of MARKHAM SPUR, thence east into LAGOON.

Tck from 563385 to MARKHAM POINT along PILLI CK. shown on NADZAB 3550 1 inch series, could not be found. Natives say it does not exist. Many native pig hunting tcks were found in this area, and it would be possible by keeping



close to east edge of foothills to reach MARKHAM POINT, though much cutting of 'wait-a-while' and vines would be required.

POEDI CK.

20 mins. march from NAEHA Village by means of logs through sago swamp. Ck. is navigable as far as 582339 only to small and medium sized canoes. POEDI CK. flows into WUKU CK. which in turn flows into LABU LAGOON at approx. 618352. Distance by canoe 582339 POEDI CK. to 630347 LABU LAGOON approx. <sup>ONE TO</sup> one and a half hours.

EKA VILLAGE 626355 situated on west edge of LABU LAGOON, reached only by canoe.

EPOAH Village 628354 situated on west edge of island in LABU LAGOON. Both these villages were inhabited by natives from LABU ~~XXXXXX~~ 2 when Japs came, but when Allies commenced bombing LABU LAGOON, natives vacated villages and moved back to NAEHA and WUKU. Natives report that when Jap invaded LABU villages, natives from LABU ~~XXXX~~ <sup>BUBU</sup> (1) moved to MARKHAM POINT and TARI; natives from LABU METI (2) went to EKA, EPOAH, NAEHA, WUKU and LAMI; and natives from LABU TALI (3) went to BUBI- INARICI area. ( Note native spelling of INAGARI CK.)

Natives refer to SUGARLOAF as SINA, and the creek at SUGARLOAF is BUBI Creek.

WAGO map was found inaccurate <sup>FRILLY</sup> as regards heights, though general shape of country was well depicted. NAEHA village is on edge of sago swamp at foot of hills, yet is shown as being 2500 feet high on map.

Sago extends right to edge of foothills all the way along from NAEHA to MARKHAM POINT.

.....horne.....Lieut.  
Patrol Comd.



TRACE SHOWING TRACKS AND CREEKS NAEHA - WUKU AREA

REF. MAPS WAGO B55/10 1 INCH TO 1 MILE NADZAB 3550 1 INCH SERIES





Ref Map - LAE 1:25000

INFO

1. Enemy - The original MARKHAM POINT garrison estimated at 90 all ranks attempting to escape south have been continually harassed and at least 55 killed by our tps. The remainder are still at large in the area west of LAHU LAGOON and south of MARKHAM RIVER.
2. Own Troop - (a) 2, 4 and 5 Pls and "C" Coy less one Pl have already moved to LAE. One Pl of "C" Coy are on protective duties at the RADAR STN SALAMUA.  
(b) One Pl "A" Coy PIB are based at MARKHAM POINT operating u/e Bn.  
(c) The remainder of the Bn less "D" Coy and one Det 3 Pl are moving to LAE.

INTENTION

3. 15 Bn less "D" Coy, one Det 3 Pl and one Pl "C" Coy will concentrate at LAE.

METHOD

4. By two flights of 7 LCV each to LAE and march route to Bn area.
5. EMBARKATION TABLE - See Appx "A".
6. March Route - WAGO POINT - CHINATOWN - BUTHEUM - KANKAMUN - Bn Biv Area 675436.  
HQ Coy at LAE will arrange guides for Coys at disembarkation point.
7. March Discipline - When moving along main roads against traffic tps will march by Sess 20 yds apart on right side of rd ONLY.

ADM

8. Dress - Marching Order.
9. Rations - (a) Unexpended portion of day's ration on man.  
(b) 14 days res will be left at LAHU 2 for "D" Coy force, remainder to be moved in bulk with Bn to LAE.  
(c) 7 days P.O.R. at LAHU 2 - remainder moves with Bn to LAE.
10. Medical Supplies - RMO will leave at LAHU 2 14 days supplies for "D" Coy force - remainder moves with Bn to LAE.
11. Amn - All amn less 20 rds 3 inch M. H.E. will be moved to LAE.
12. Native Carriers - All natives less 20 for use by "D" Coy remain u/e ANGAU rep for movt to LAE.
13. Security - Coy Comds will ensure that NO trace whatever remains in the area when vacated to identify the Bn's occupation of the area.

INTERCOMM

14. Bn HQ closes LAHU 2 with departure of 1st Flight reopens same time at 675436.
15. W/T - Det "L" Sec Sigs will move at 0800 hrs 28 OCT to MARKHAM PT. T.O. will arrange native carriers. On arrival at MARKHAM PT Det comes u/e CC "D" Coy.
16. "D" Coy to Bn HQ by W/T link to 29 Bde - L/T from Bde to Bn.

ACK

Issued by Sigs  
Signed at 1050 hrs 24 OCT 43

*E. L. HEDGES* Capt  
(E. L. HEDGES)

Distribution - LIST "A"

Adjutant 15 Augst Inf Bn



15 AUST INF BN - APPX "A" to OP INTN NO 30

EMBARKATION TABLE

<u>Serial</u>	<u>Sub Unit</u>	<u>Pers</u>	<u>Load Stores</u>	<u>Embarkation POINT</u>	<u>Embarkation TIME</u>	<u>Disembarkation POINT</u>
<u>1st Flight</u>						
1	Bn HQ and 1 Pl	20	-	BEACHHEAD LABU 2	0800 hrs 25 OCT v	Landing Beach Vicinity VOGO POINT
2	"	20	-	"	"	"
3	"	12	$\frac{3}{4}$ ton	"	"	"
4	B Coy	20	-	"	"	"
5	"	20	-	"	"	"
6	"	15	$\frac{1}{2}$ ton	"	"	"
7	HQ Coy	10	1 ton	"	"	"
<u>2nd Flight</u>						
8	A Coy	23	-	BEACHHEAD "A" Coy area	1100 hrs 25 OCT	"
9	"	24	-	"	"	"
10	"	15	$\frac{1}{2}$ ton	"	"	"
11	HQ Coy	24	-	BEACHHEAD LABU 2	"	"
12	"	10	$1\frac{1}{2}$ tons	"	"	"
13	"	-	$2\frac{1}{2}$ tons	"	"	"
14	"	-	$2\frac{1}{2}$ tons	"	"	"

Pers and Stores in Coy Groups as per above table will assemble at embarkation point 10 mins before embarkation time



Appendix B

15 Aust. Inf. Bn.

MARKHAM POINT OPS.

At 1200 hrs 7th. Oct 43 a force of 1 Officer (Lieut M. Mackrell) and 35 ORs. left by barge for MARKHAM POINT. A Base was established at 1630 hrs on 7th. at 571432 (NADZAB).

Continuous patrolling was carried out on tracks SW, WEST AND NORTH from MARKHAM POINT to prevent enemy reaching MARKHAM POINT and to ~~destroy~~ destroy parties contacted.

On 12th Oct at 1630 hrs a force of 8 Japs was contacted on SW track. One Jap was killed, and an Australian Bren gun was captured from the enemy, the remainder of whom fled.

On 15th Oct Japx beds from 7-10 days old were discovered on SW track and a loaded rifle was picked up.

On 16th. OXLEY force which had based at TARI VILLAGE contacted MARKHAM PT. force.

18th. October 3 Europeans and 35 natives from P.I.B. reported in to MARKHAM PT.

On 21st. a Jap track leading over MARKHAM RANGE in a N.W. direction from 560401 was discovered. approx. 25 beds were found and a patrol was sent to follow this route. On morning of 21st. a dead Jap floated down the MARKHAM RIVER.

On 23rd. Oct P.I.B. patrol was sent to investigate the area NORTH of MARKHAM PT. and discovered 4 dead Japs on the river bank at 480503.

MACKRELL FORCE relieved by "D" COY. at 1700 hrs. 23rd. Oct.

24th. Oct. MACKRELL FORCE returned to LABU II.

M.H. MACKRELL. Lieut.



By

Lt Col J. L. AMES

Commanding 15 Aust Inf Bn

1. INFORMATION REGARDING LOCATION OF GRAVES

- (i) It has been noticed that letters of condolence sent to next-of-kin by commanding officers, chaplains and others have, in some cases, disclosed the location of particular units by referring specifically to the place of burial of deceased members.
- (ii) Letters of condolence to next-of-kin and others from Commanding officers, chaplains and others will refer only to the actual burial service and contain no information regarding the location of the grave. (G.R.O. A270/43)

2. DRESS

- (i) A member issued with American Gaiters may wear same in lieu of gaiters SD.
- (ii) (a) Officers and WOs Class I may wear Sam Browne belts (without shoulder straps) or belts web;  
 (b) WOs Class II may wear belts, waist, brown, leather or belts web;  
 (c) All other ranks may wear belts web.
- (iii) Hats will be worn by all ranks except that Officers and drivers MT, at their option, may wear, in lieu, caps Officers pattern or SD respectively.
- (iv) Safari jackets may be worn only by those ranks who:-  
 (a) have returned from service with the AIF out of Australia or are now serving in New Guinea as members of the AIF; or  
 (b) have had such articles issued to them by Ordnance.
- (v) Personnel will wear the right arm colour patch of their unit on the RIGHT hand side of and in the centre of, the hat band.
- (vi) Notwithstanding that personnel wear other types of identity discs, all ranks will wear the identity discs issued to them.

3. TIME FOR REVEILLE

- (i) To minimize the danger of malarial infection from the activities of the Anopheline mosquito prior to sunrise, all units will ensure that, except for special reasons, reveille is not sounded earlier than one quarter hour prior to sunrise.
- (ii) Particular attention will be given to this order in view of the introduction of daylight saving time.
- (iii) Where for special reasons reveille is sounded before sunrise, troops will not be permitted to perform ablutions until sunrise and unit commanders will ensure that, in the meantime, the provisions of NEW GUINEA Force Order A407/43 is strictly complied with.

4. UNLAWFUL DISPOSAL OF EQUIPMENT

- (i) Attention has been directed to the unauthorized disposal of AMF equipment to members of the Allied Forces and civilians and the unauthorized receipt of Allied equipment by barter and otherwise by members of the AMF.
- (ii) Members are forbidden to part with, dispose of, or exchange by barter or otherwise, any item of AMF equipment or to receive by barter or otherwise any item of Allied equipment without the consent of the commanding officers of their units. Such consent will only be given on the direction of superior authority or when the exigencies of the service render it necessary and reference to superior authority is impracticable.
- (iii) Disciplinary action will be taken against members unlawfully disposing of AMF equipment or unlawfully in possession of Allied equipment, charges being laid under AA 17, AA 18(4) or AA 40, whichever is appropriate.

5. AVIATION PETROL UNLEADED

No indents will be placed on RAAF or US Army Air Force for 73 octane aviation gasoline (containing no tetra-ethyl lead) unless specifically required for use in aircraft engines. Any such indents will be endorsed by the officer commanding the indenting unit "required for aircraft engines."



6. DAMAGE TO SIGNAL COMMUNICATIONS

- (i) The importance and difficulty of maintaining line communications throughout the Corps area need hardly be stressed. Reports are being continually received of deliberate sabotage to signal lines. In some cases vital lines to forward areas have been cut with wire cutters or pliers for the purpose of making fishing and clothes lines. In some cases careless driving has caused extensive damage and prolonged periods of broken communications.
- (ii) As even normal maintenance of lines is extra-ordinarily difficult in this theatre, the task of signals will rapidly become impossible, if the present lack of consideration shown by some troops, for what are obviously signal communications, continues.
- (iii) Action will be taken immediately by Coy Commanders concerned to ensure that the importance of maintaining signal communications is impressed upon all personnel under their command. Should this not prove effective other steps should be taken, where necessary, to ensure that signal communications are not interrupted.

7. PISTOLS. POSSESSION OF

Pistols of any type or description shall not be sold, purchased or exchanged. On and after 15 Apr 43 it will be an offence for any member of the AMF to have in his possession or custody any pistol other than one issued to him by Army authority or where he has the permission referred to in para 3 thereof. Permission may be granted by a Formation Comd to any member to have in his possession a pistol other than one issued to him; such permission to be in writing, signed personally by Formation Comd. All ranks in possession of pistols not issued to them or not provided for under the last para will forthwith surrender the same to the QM or HQ Orderly Room of their unit. All ranks having pistols in their possession are held personally responsible therefore and will immediately report the loss of such pistol. The loss of a pistol is to be regarded as an offence for which the offender is to be tried by Court-Martial, unless the Formation Comd otherwise directs. In all cases of loss of pistols, the offender will be charged and a Summary of Evidence, which will be forwarded to the Formation Comd, will be taken.

*E. L. Hodges* Capt  
(E. L. HODGES)

Adjutant 15 Aust Inf Bn



AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES ROUTINE ORDERS PART I

by

Lt Col J. L. AMIES

Commanding 15 Aust Inf Bn

1. G.R.O. Q54 of 15/1/43 REGT TRUST FUND

(a) Balance standing to Credit of Fund at 31 JUL 43		£467/6/11
(b) Receipts during month of JUL		129/14/2
(c) Expenditure during month of JUL		15/-/-
(d) Disbursements " " " "		
Advance to Postal Sgt to hold stock of Postage Stamps for sale to droops.		15/-/-

G.R.O. Q54 of 15/1/43 REGT TRUST FUND

(a) Balance Standing to Credit of Fund at 31 AUG 43		£1011/5/2
(b) Receipts during month of AUG	£285/18/3	} 543/18/3
Return to Regt Fund of Part of Canteen Advance	258/-/-	
(c) Expenditure during month of AUG		207/11/2
(d) Disbursements during month of AUG		
Free distribution of Canteen Goods to tps	£105/15/9	
Stock lost in transit BUNA to MOROBE	7/7/-	
" " " " MOROBE to TAMBU	83/14/11	
" " deterioration	1/17/6	
Recreation Lighting	8/16/-	

G.R.O. Q54 of 15/1/43 REGT TRUST FUND

(a) Balance standing to Credit of Fund at 30 SEP 43		£872/15/10
£1137/17/11 less owing to Canteen Board	£265/2/1	
(b) Receipts during month of SEP	£65/11/11	} 100/-/9
Return to Regt Fund of Part of Canteen Advance	34/8/10	
(c) Expenditure during month of SEP		265/2/1
(d) Disbursements " " " "		
Free distribution Canteen Goods to tps	£265/2/1	

*George*  
Capt  
(E.L. HODGES)

Adjutant 15 Aust Inf Bn



FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS

At 0600 hrs Saturday 9/10/43

15 AUST INF BN (Unit)

W.E. 11/123/2 Offrs. 38 ORs 738 + Offrs 1 ORs 34 ATT by W.E.

PART A

Reinfts Required	Deficient W.E.	Surplus W.E.	Posted Stgth	Detail	Corps	Pos- ted Stgth	Der- icient W.E.	Rein. Reqr.
		1	1	W.Os Class I	AAMC			
	8		7	W.Os Class II	AAPC	1		
			3	Quartermaster Sgts	AEME			
				Staff Sgts	AACC			
	3		81	Sergeants	AACC	6	2	
	236		61	Corporals	PA Post	7	1	
			395	Privates etc		15		
240	241	1	498			31	3	5 <sup>MR</sup>

<u>Detail</u>	<u>AIF Class A</u>	<u>C.M.F. Class A</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
A	240	289	529

PART B OTHER RANKS ATTACHED FROM OTHER UNITS

No of O.Rs	Unit to which they belong
3	29 Aust Inf Bde
1	YMCA Amenities

PART C OTHER RANKS INCLUDED IN PART A DETACHED TO OTHER UNITS

No of O.Rs	Unit to which detach- ed.
13	29 Aust Inf Bde
1	Records

PART D

N I L



A. I. E.

WO 1	1
WO 11	5
s/Sgts	3
Sgts	29
Cpls	30
Ptes	129
TC Sigs	17
" Rangefakern	3
" Storemen	1
" Clerks	3
" Carpenters	3
" Intelligence	4

238

Attd WE

WO 11	1
Sgts	4
Cpls	1
Blacksmith	1
Cooks	5

12

TOTAL

240



15 AUST INF BN (Unit)

63 Serial No

**PART E, DETAIL OF PRESENT STRENGTH AND REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED AS SHOWN IN PART A OF ARMY FORM W3009 at 0600 hrs SATURDAY 9/10/43**

GROUP II

Detail of Tradesmen	W.B.	Posted Stgth	Reinfts Required
Carpenters and Joiners	6	5	1 NR
Cooks		2	Sur
Intelligence Duties	9	8	1 NR
Signallers	26	24	2 NR

GROUP III

Butchers	1	1	
Clerks	4	4	
Equipment Repairers	1		1 NR
Rangefakers	4	4	
Storemen Technical	3	2	1 NR
Tailors	1	1	

DETAILS OF NON-TRADESMEN

<u>ATTACHED BY WE -</u> AAMC	4	4	
AAPC	2	2	
Fd Post Sgt	1	1	
AACG	1	1	
AACC	23	20	3 NR
Blacksmith	1	1	
Gunfitter	1	1	
Armourer Sgt	1	1	

772 529 243

9 OCT 43 ..... Date of Despatch

*[Signature]*  
 ..... Lt. Col.  
 ..... Commanding 15 Aust Inf Bn ..... Lt Col  
 Signature of Commander



Location Statement.

as at 30 Oct. 1943.

*Alfred A.*

Ref Maps :

LAE 1:25000  
HEATHS 1:25000  
WAGO 1:63360

Sub Unit.

Location.

B.H.Q.

67564345

H.Q. Coy.

67584350

A "

67624356

B "

67554338

C " less 1 Pl SALAMAUA.

67684362

D " One Section LABU 2. 634350

" Pl less  
1 Sec. TARI. 60884155

Coy less Pl. MARKHAM PT. 57004320

Pl P.I.B. (u/c) " 57004320

*Home. L.* ..... Lieut.  
I.O. 15 Aust Inf Bn.



HISTORY OF OPERATIONS - OCT 43

On the 1st OCT 43 the Bn was located on the coast of HUON GULF south of the MARKHAM Rv engaged in mopping up remnants of the enemy endeavouring to escape from LAE or SALAMAUA. The Bn was deployed with C Coy at LABU 1 covering the mouth of LABU LAGOON and south bank of MARKHAM Rv, Bn HQ A and B Coys between LABU 1 and LABU 3, with D Coy at SUGARLOAF. A special force under comd of Lieut OXLEY, incl 1 Pl P.I.B. was based on BUSAMA, working back to the north to shepherd the enemy into ambushes on the BUANG Rv and at SUGARLOAF. An advance party was already at LAE preparing for the Bn's concentration there as soon as mopping up completed.

From OCT 1 to OCT 8, OXLEY force (the force based on BUSAMA) patrolled vigourously from the coast inland to the headwaters of the GWADO, BWUSSI and BUANG Rv and explored all native gardens in the area. No contact was made with enemy but signs observed indicated that the enemy were retracing their steps back north, keeping to the jungle and working in groups. On 4 OCT natives reported to D Coy at SUGARLOAF that a large party of armed enemy had entered their villages of BUSAN early that morning. A strong fighting patrol from D Coy was despatched immediately to investigate and the chase was renewed north from this village, the enemy constantly on the move.

On 5 OCT C Coy moved by barge to LAE to the future Bn location at 676435 (LAE 1:25000). On 7 OCT as it was apparent the enemy were moving north towards MARKHAM PT, A Coy less OXLEY Force moved to MARKHAM PT to intercept the enemy, whilst D Coy chased them from the south. OXLEY Force having established that the area south of the BUANG Rv was clear of enemy returned to SUGARLOAF on 8 OCT and thence to their camp north of LABU 2. The P.I.B. attached were placed under comd D Coy and assisted in tracking the enemy ~~with~~ north towards MARKHAM PT. On 12 OCT B Coy relieved D Coy in the search, D Coy returning to their camp at SUGARLOAF. On 16 OCT, the remainder of A Coy (Oxley Force) moved ~~to their camp~~ and based themselves at TARI on MARKHAM Rv, to assist their Coy (A Coy) in the patrolling and picqueting of all gardens and tracks on MARKHAM Rv bank. On 18 OCT the P.I.B. Pl operating from the south contacted A Coy at MARKHAM PT and based there for future patrolling. From 4 OCT to 18 OCT, D and B Coy patrols assisted by P.I.B. had killed a further 12 Japs and captured two LMG's and the chase continued, the enemy working in small parties and keeping in the dense jungle and away from all known tracks. On 16 OCT one pl of C Coy moved from LAE to SALAMAUA to protect the RADAR Station there and patrol approaches for any enemy stragglers in the area.

On 23 OCT D Coy relieved A Coy at TARI and MARKHAM PT, and patrols were pushed out west and south from MARKHAM PT, to the WAMPIT and SNAKE valleys. A Coy returned to camp at old posn north of LABU 2.

On 25 OCT the Bn less D Coy, moved by barge to LAE, and joined C Coy and the Bn Adv Party. D Coy remained to continue the hunt for the enemy south of MARKHAM Rv. D Coy and the P.I.B. continued the search and by 31 OCT had accounted for a further 14 of the enemy, and established the fact that the remnants of the force, not more than 10 had endeavoured to cross the MARKHAM Rv by improvised raft. It is not known how many succeeded. It is also apparent that few, if any, Japs now remain alive south of the MARKHAM Rv. From 26 to 31 OCT the Bn less D Coy and one Pl C Coy, at LAE were busily employed in building a permanent camp and on divisional working parties for the development of the base of LAE. Reconnaissance was made by C.O. and Coy Comds of areas in the vicinity of EDWARDS, the TERRACE AIRFIELD, and MT LUNAMAN, and plans made for the occupation of defence posns ~~made~~ at these points should the occasion arise.

The refitting of the Bn in clothing and equipt also commenced on 26 OCT. The delivery of small supplies of fresh meat and butter assisted tps to "pick up" in health after four months on hard rations under difficult conditions.

*[Signature]*  
.....Lt Col Commanding 15 Bn.



15 AUST INF BN

Q.M.'s REPORT FOR MONTH OF OCT

Subjects: Clothing, Equipment and Rations.

- CLOTHING:** First three weeks of OCT clothing in short supply owing to tactical situation and lack of transport. Last week of month tactical situation and transport improved consequently clothing position within Unit improved. Further supplies promised to bring Unit up to scale of issue. Position satisfactory.
- EQUIPMENT:** Most of unit web and fighting equipment at present being replaced and maintained. Position satisfactory.
- RATIONS:** First three weeks of month rations very poor with little or no variety. Again this could be attributed to the tactical situation. Last week of month variety of rations improved. Fresh items came to hand such as meat, butter and potatoes. Position satisfactory.

*L. J. Beirne* Capt

(L. J. BEIRNE)

Q.M. 15 Aust Inf Bn



15 AUST INF BN

R.M.O's REPORT - OCT 43

Health:-

High incidence of PUO has continued, there being 67 evacuations for the month of which 62 were PUO. The majority of these cases are malaria. Health is otherwise fairly good. There is virtually no diarrhoea.

HYGIENE:-

During first 3 weeks of month at LABU hygiene rose to fairly high standard, but flies were a problem and flywire was not available. Last week at LAE in a partly prepared position. Good latrines and cookhouses had been installed, and incinerators, washing up tubs etc, made. Mess huts are under construction.

MALARIA CONTROL:-

Replacement of lost and u/s mosquito nets during the month should cause a big decrease in PUO figures during NOV. Personal protection has been good, but increased use of repellent lotion and even stricter enforcement of clothing regulations will help to lower the malaria rate.

No Rega sprays or hand sprays are held by the Bn, and none are available. Spraying was carried out once at LABU with a borrowed sprayer.

RATIONS:-

Bad at beginning of month. Slight improvement in variety of tinned food during the month.

Vast improvement at end of month by issue of fresh meat, potatoes and butter, eggs.

Fresh fruit/and vegetables are still badly needed.

*P. L. McNEIL*  
Signed (P. L. McNEIL) Capt

R.M.O. 15 Aust Inf Bn



Field Return of Officers

D3008  
Serial no 66  
Obon no 30/10/43

Changes since last return

Part A.

Postea Strength

Surplus

Lieutenants

23

6

Analysis of ~~class~~ <sup>Part</sup> A.

AIF Class A 34

Total 34

Part B

VX 117591 Lieut Passmore Rb. Taken on strength 23.10.43  
QX 33908 " Hopkin RTH. Evacuated to keep, 23.10.43.  
(Plu.)



Schedule of Patrols

1 Oct. - 4 Oct. 43.

15 Aust. Inf. Bn.

Ref. Map: Wago 1" to 1ml.

Task for all patrols: Search for & destroy enemy.

19.20

SERIAL	SUPPLIED BY.	PATROL COMD.	STRENGTH.	TIME OUT.	ROUTE OUT.	TIME IN.	ROUTE IN.	RESULTS.
1	A. 4 P.I.B.	Lieut Osley	28 Europeans 36 Natives	1330 K/1	BUSAMA, north to BWUSSI RIV. Small patrol up crk 640120 - 635095	1530 K/1	As route out	N.M.S.
2	P.I.B.			0800 K/1	GWADO VALLEY 632149 coast spur 610150 north & east to coast	1600 K/2	By coast to BUSAMA	N.M.S.
	P.I.B.			0800 K/2	valley entering GWADO VALLEY from 615125 to 593135.	1600 K/2	As route out.	N.M.S.
3	A.			0800 K/2	GWADO VALLEY 632149 to crk. junc 601102	1530 K/2	As route out.	N.M.S.
4	A. 4 P.I.B.	Lieut Osley	6 A. Coy 14 P.I.B.	0800 L/4	West along BWUSSI RIV. to BWUSSI VILLAGE 596165. to huts 585161, crk. & riv. junc 578160 followed Jap track N.W., to ambush posn. converging trks 550175 on top of ridge - spur NE. to gap camp 568188	1730 L/4	From 568188 via crk entering BWUSSI RIV. at 613167.	N.M.S. Large gap camp found 568188 where 40 men had camped two days before. Two Jap grenades found.



15. Aust. Inf. Bn

Ref. Map: Lago. 1° to 176

W.D.

Schedule of Patrols

- 4 Oct - 9 Oct. 43 -

All tasks to search for and destroy any enemy

SUPPLIED BY	PATROL COMD	STRENGTH	TIME OUT	ROUTE OUT	TIME IN	ROUTE IN	Results
5 D.	Lieut Thurgood	1 off. 24 ORS.	<del>1835L/4</del> 1425L/4	SUGAR LOAF to BUSAN VILLAGE	1835L/4	As out	N.M.S.
6 P.I.B.	Lieut Smith	1 off. 22 ORS	0845L/5	SUGAR LOAF to BUSAN 591268	1825L/6	As out.	5 Oct: Found signs of taro dug from native garden. Signs one day old. Found tek too dark to follow. 6 Oct: Patrol from BUSAN first light to 1215 hrs found signs 2-103 days old on edge swamp. At 1300 hrs second patrol left village contacted Japs 1515 hrs approx 582/263 on spurt. 1 Jap seen and killed. Japs heard running into bush NEAST
7 A.	Lieut Oxlief	6 ORS.	0800L/5	From base 633165 up BUNUSI RIV as far as 585165	1400L/5	As out	N.M.S.
8 D	Lieut Hopkins	1 off. 4 ORS 18 ORS.	0830L/7	Sugar loaf to BUSAN	1050L/7		Standing patrol at village. Patrol now moving fwd on border to follow Japs NE.
9 A. P.I.B.	Lieut Oxlief	1 Sgt + 8 ORS } 1 off + 6 ORS. }	0745L/6	BUANG RIV as far as 549216	1815L/6	As out. Returned SUGAR LOAF. 1535L/8	At 605224 Jap camp vacated three days " 575224 " " " two days both camps would hold 20 men
10 A.	Lieut Mackrell	2 pls.	1200L/7	LABU 2 to MARKHAM PT by barge. Tasks. establish base Patrol S & E. to intercept enemy	AFTERNOON 24 Oct.	As out.	N.M.S. 8 Oct. 43. Refer App B - 24 Oct.
11 D.	Lieut Hopkins	1 off 22 ORS	1100L/7	BUSAN VILLAGE. thence to NEAHA.	1700L/9.	Remained NEAHA as base. Conclusion of task returned via LAGOON - BNHQ - D. Coy area	Arrived NEAHA (571301) at 1700L/8. 0830L/9 left NEAHA encountered enemy N.W tek. 1 Jap killed 1 LMG. captured. Returned NEAHA and established base for future patrols. 10 Oct: See attached APPENDIX 11 Oct: N.M.S. 12 Oct: Relieved by Lieut Hornes patrol 25 ORS. at 1215L/12.



Schedule of Patrols.

15 Aust. Inf. Bn.

Ref. Map WAGO 1 inch to 1 mile

All tasks to search for and  
destroy any enemy

	SUPPLIES BY	PATROL COMP	STRENGTH	TIME OUT	ROUTE OUT	TIME IN.	ROUTE IN.	RESULTS.
12	B.	WO Sanders	1 W.O. 7 O.R.'s	0730 L/12	SUGARLOAF to BUSAN VILLAGE	1500 L/20	As out	See Patrol Report Appx A 20 Oct.
13	B	Lieut. HORNE	1 Offr <del>11</del> 25 O.R.'s	0830 L/12	LABU 3 - WASI CK - LAMI Village - WUKU - NAEHA	1530 L/23	NAEHA - POEDI CK - WUKU CK - LABU 3	See Patrol Report Appx A - 23 Oct.
14	A.	Lieut OXLEY	1 Offr 22 O.R.'s	0815/16	641363 to TARI 2 600420	1845 L/21 /23	As out (See results) As out	Formed perimeter at TARI 2. Contacted A. Coy at MARKHAM PT. 1600 L/16. N.M.S. 17 Oct. No trace of gaps NAEHA, TARI or MARKHAM PT. 18 Oct. N.M.S. 19 Oct. Found unexploded bomb 300 lbs 150 yds WEST of TARI at approx 607416 20 Oct. Located 9 days old gap camp 565405 N.M.S. 21 Oct. At 1845 L/21 12 B Coy personnel returned to LABU 3 N.M.S. 22 Oct. Relieved by D. Coy 23 Oct and returned to Coy area.
15	D	Capt PROVAN	4 Offrs 50 O.R.s (incl 1 DET mortars)	0700/22	SUGARLOAF - LABU 3 - MARKHAM PT.			Refer Patrol report after NOVEMBER. Refer Overlay P.I.B. Patrol Activity 24-31 Oct. 43.

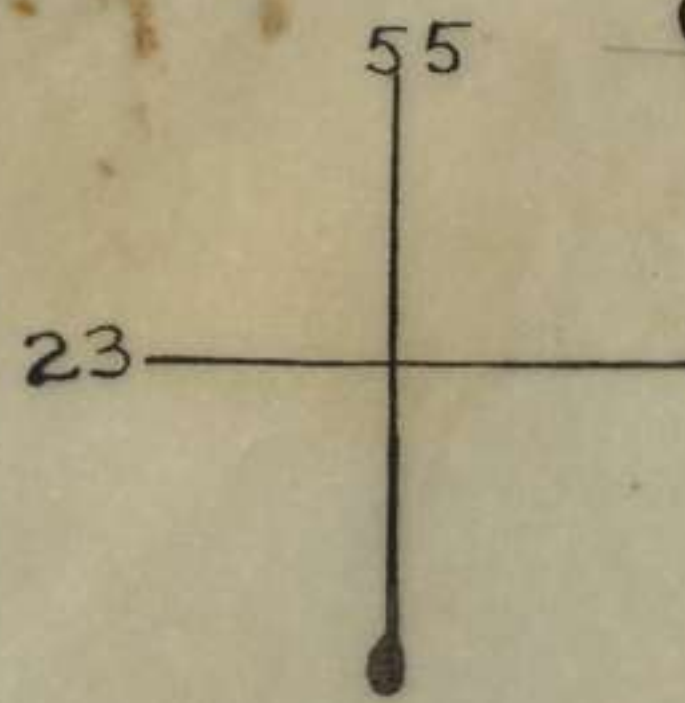


15 Aust. Inf. Bn.

Overlay showing Mopping-up Operations

FOR PERIOD 1-6 Oct 43.

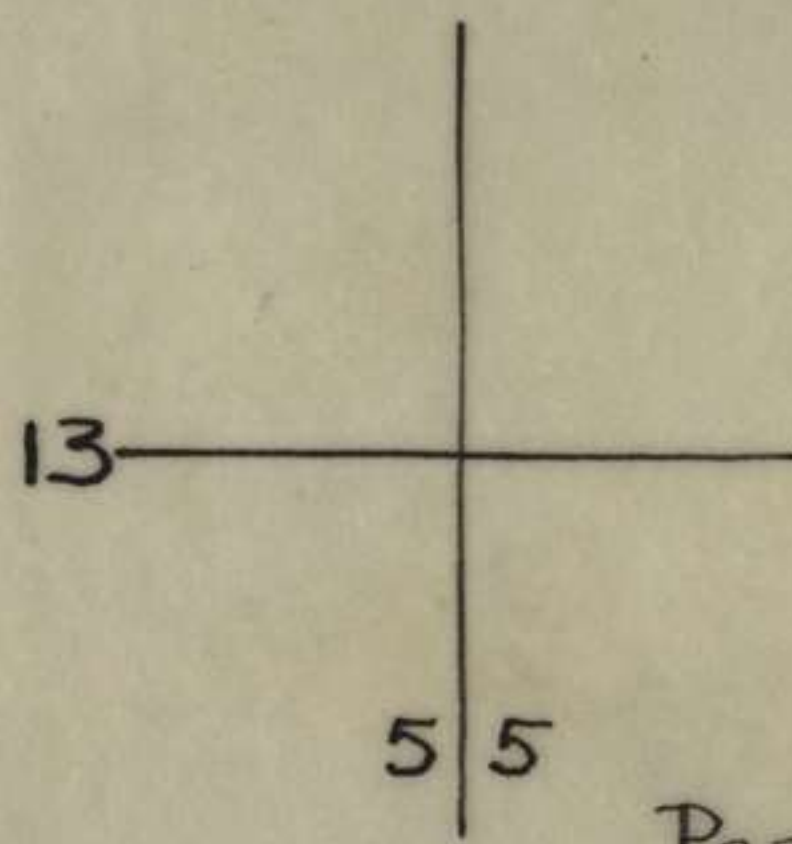
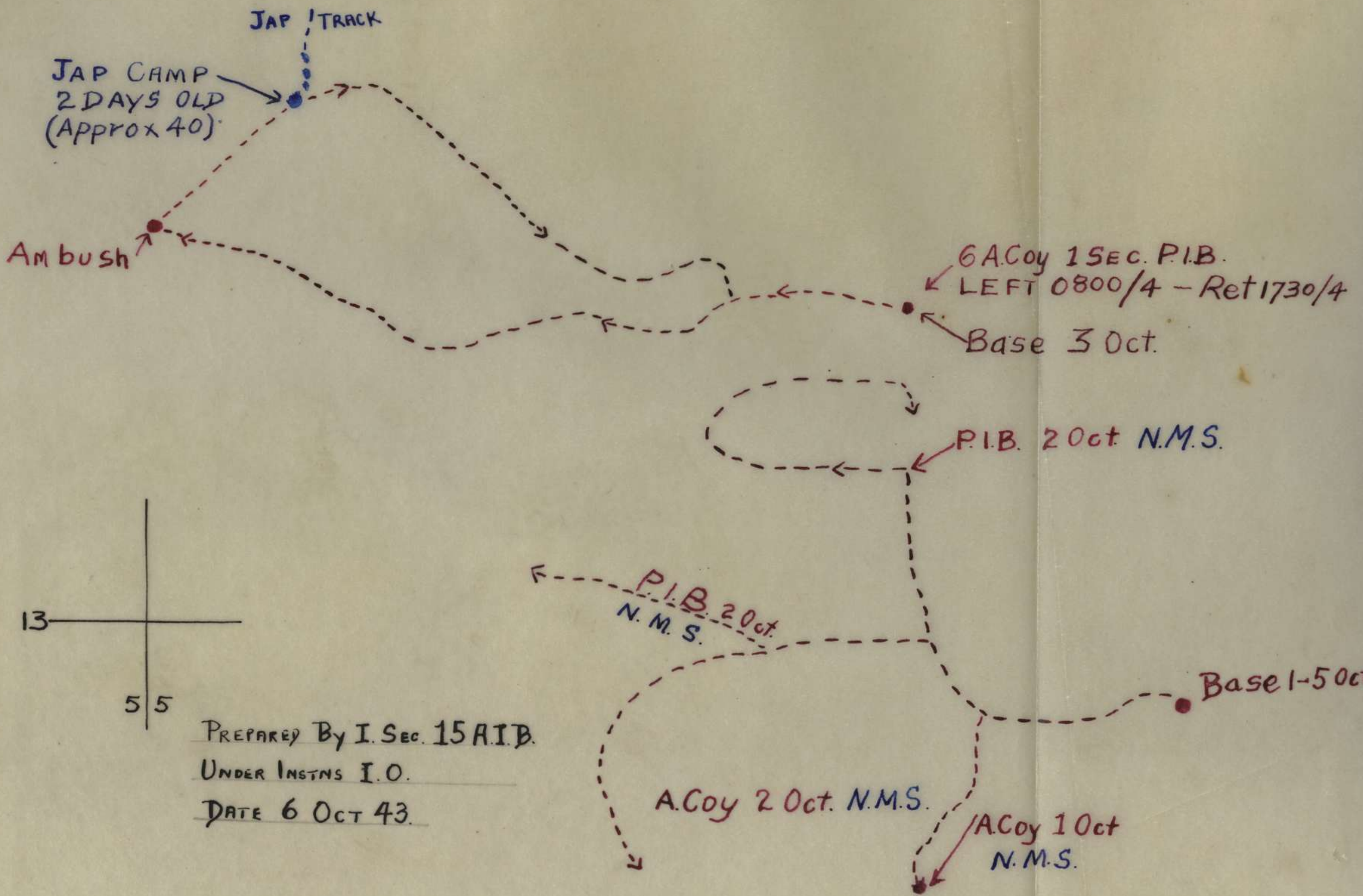
REF MAP WAGO PROV 1 INCH TO 1 MILE



20 P.I.B. + 1 Sec A. Coy

Left 1530/4

A Coy + P.I.B.  
6 Oct



PREPARED BY I. SEC. 15 A.I.B.

UNDER INSTNS I.O.

DATE 6 OCT 43.



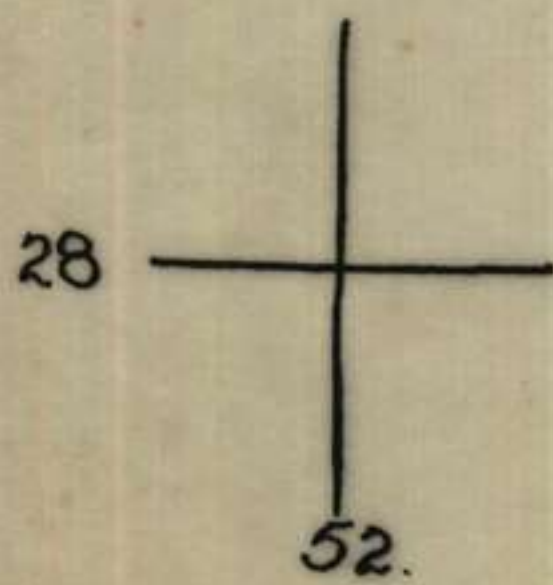
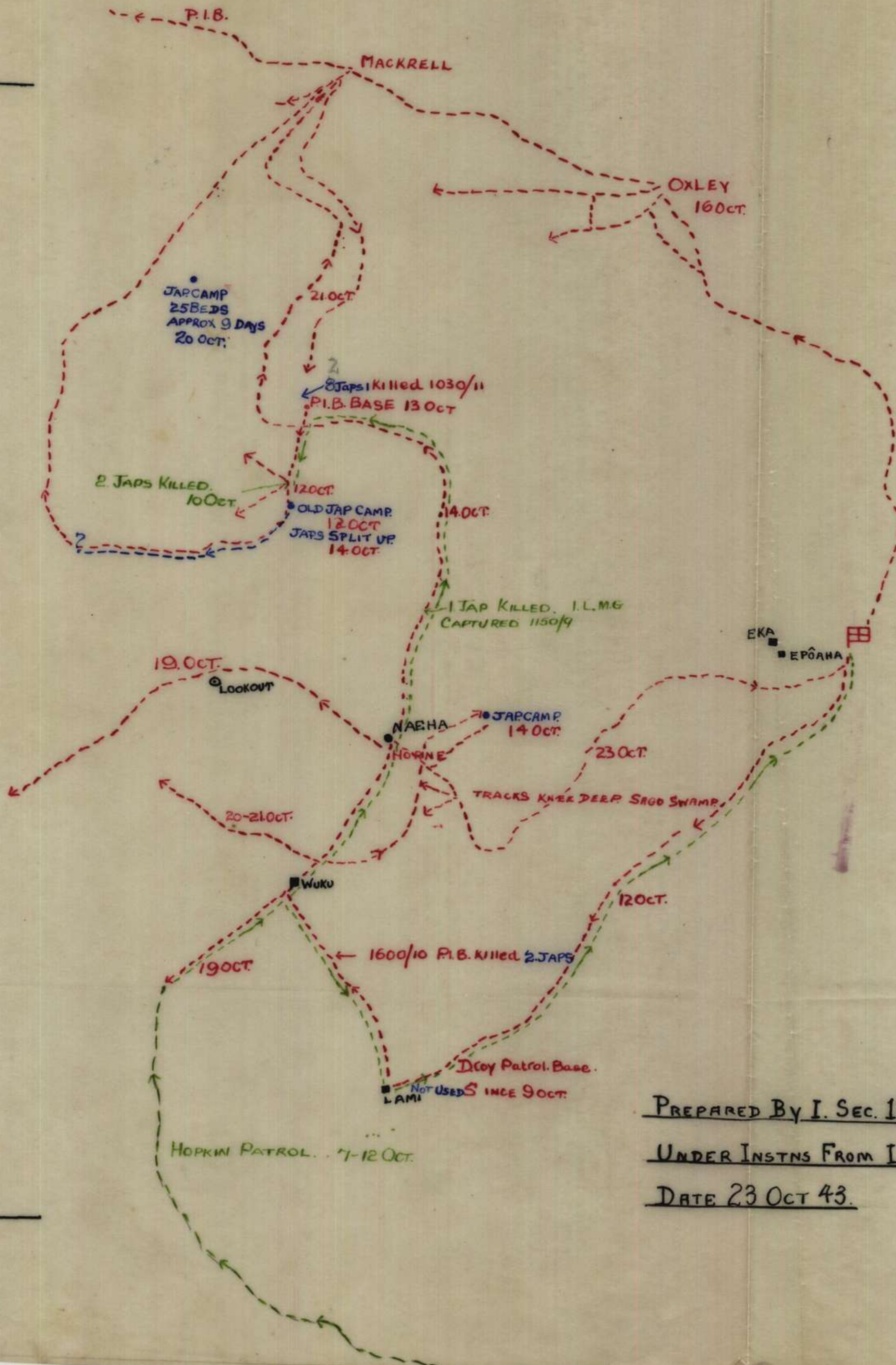
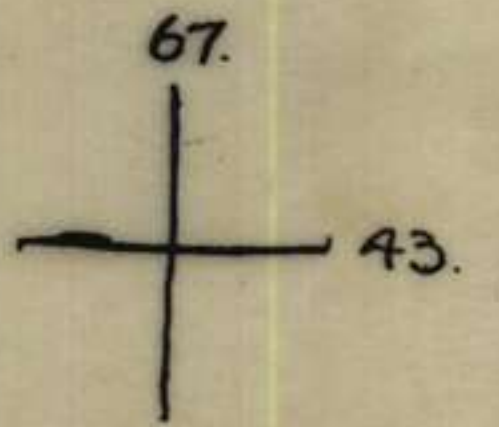
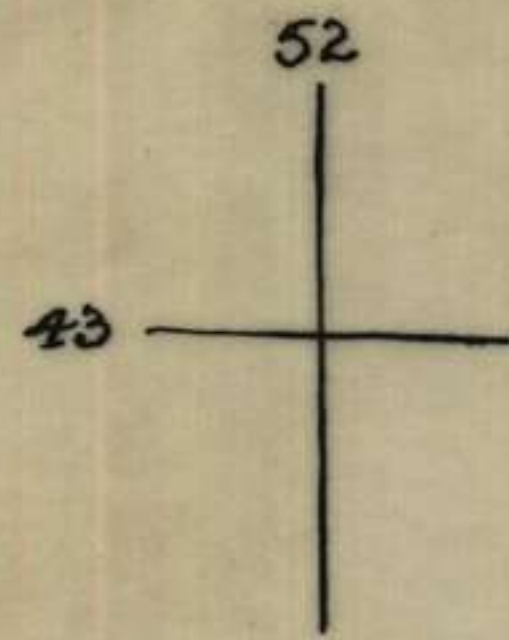
15 Aust. Inf. Bn.

OVERLAY SHOWING MOPPING-UP OPERATIONS FOR PERIOD 7-23 OCT 43.

REF MAPS NADZAB 3550 1 INCH SERIES

AND

WAGO PROVISIONAL 1 INCH SERIES



PREPARED BY I. SEC. 15 A.I.BN.

UNDER INSTNS FROM I.O.

DATE 23 OCT 43.

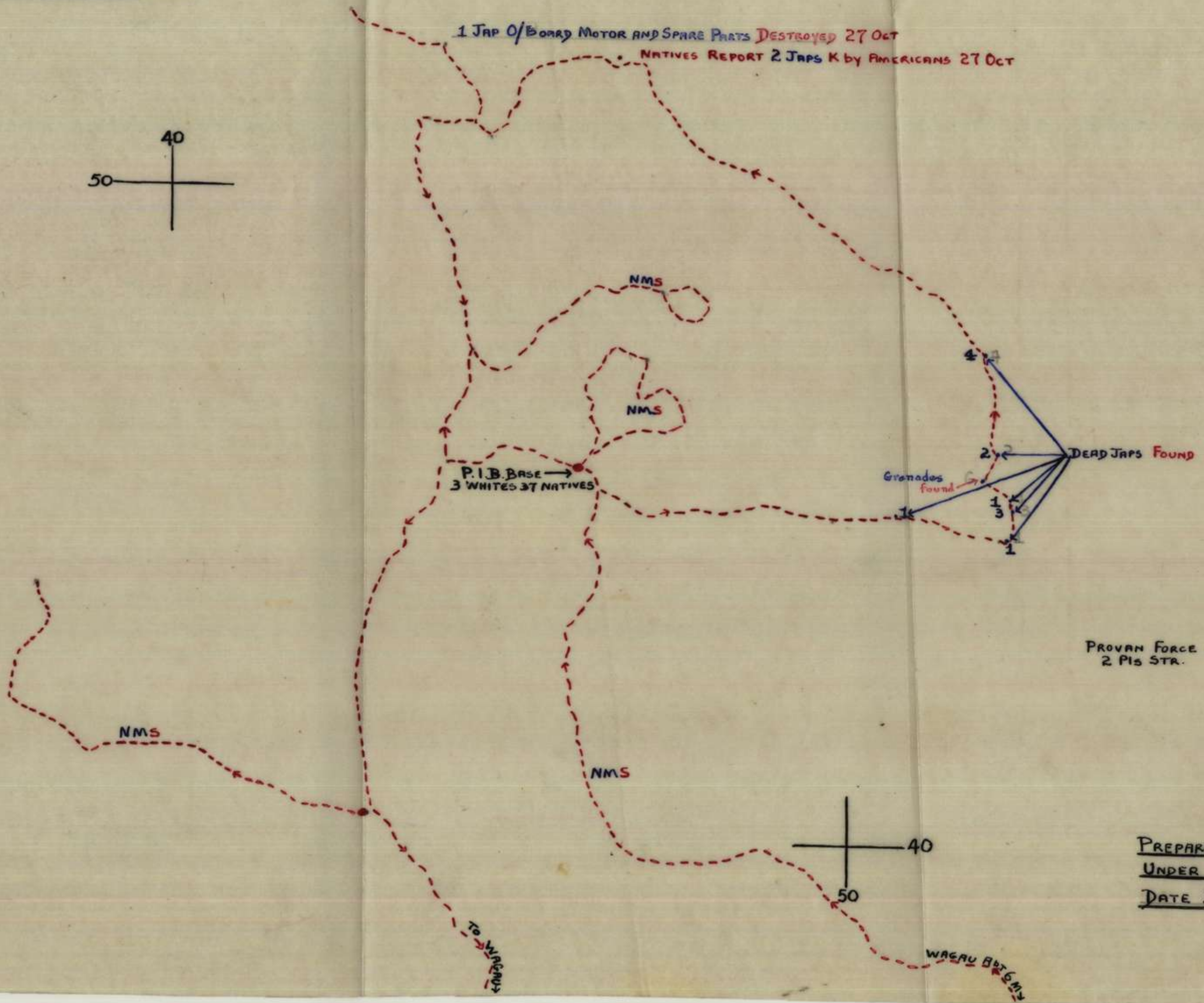
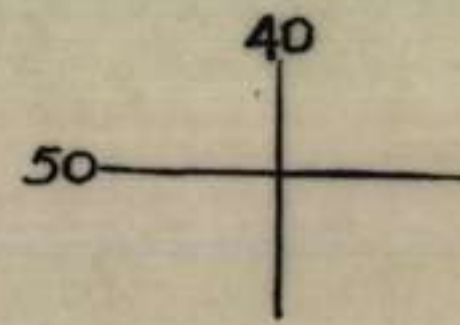


15 Aust. Inf. Bn.

Overlay

P.I.B. Patrol Activity 24-31 Oct 43

REF. MAP NADZAB 3550 1 INCH SERIES



PROVAN FORCE  
2 PIS STR. →

PREPARED BY I. SEC 15 A.I.B.N.  
UNDER INSTNS :- I.O.  
DATE 31 OCT 43.

TO WAGAU

WAGAU BPT 6 M