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

Item number: 8/3/62

24 Infantry Battalion

June 1945, Appendices

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

Army Form C2136 (Large)
(... of 100) (Adapted Sept. 1943)

MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

Call	Ser. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) Originator: DUDI

Date—Time of Origin: 2013301

Office Date Stamp

For Action

TO COBRA.

(w) For Information (INFO.)

Message Instructions — GR —

(18-20 incl JUN)

ORIGINATOR'S No.

— SECRET ⊙ Patrol Report from 17 PL fighting patrol ⊙ Patrol out 180830L in at present A DUDI posn 201030L ⊙ NARRATIVE:

A/ 180830L. 17 PL commanded by Lt Featherby moved out from DUDI posn on BUIN RD ⊙ Patrol moved along BUIN RD to 040361, and then moved on a bearing of 180° mag for approx 1100 yds to an overgrown garden at 042353, thence 250 yds SOUTH to another overgrown garden at 042351 ⊙ From this point patrol followed a well defined track running at 180° for 200 yds to a track junc with L 2 JAP sign posts in posn ⊙ the branch track ran off at 105° and the main track continued on 180° for a further 350 yds to a large garden. Footprints of 8 enemy moving South were noticed on main track. Prints were approx ½ day old ⊙ Garden at 044348 was very well cultivated and bore evidence of use the previous day ⊙ Kau-Kau was plentiful and some paw-paw also.

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means { except ..... } Wireless	If liable to be intercepted or fall into enemy hands, this message must be sent IN CIPHER	Originator's Instructions Degree of Priority	Time THI or TOR	System	Op
Signed	Signed		Time Cleared		

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

Army Form C2136 (Large)
(Pads of 100) (Adapted Sept. 1943)

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2

ORIGINATOR'S No.

but the main feature of the garden was a rice crop of appr 2 acres ⊙ Some of the crop had been reaped and stacked inside a lean-to on SOUTH edge of garden ⊙ a track ran EAST along the NORTH edge of garden to a log x-ing over the OGORATA RIVER at 045348 ⊙ Patrol then moved SOUTH through scrub for a further 850 yds to its base at 045343 ⊙ NO further tracks were seen enroute, and patrol arrived base at 1813301 ⊙ Patrol recced surrounding area and settled in for night ⊙ 19 JUNE ⊙ AT 1908151 a patrol of str 10 offr 10 ors left base to patrol to log crossing at 067338 ⊙ On opposite bank of river to patrol base was found a garden in good condition which contained Kau-Kau, paw-paw and a rice crop ready for reaping ⊙ Patrol then moved on a bearing of 114° for 200 yds to a creek 14' wide 18" deep at 047342 ⊙ Patrol continued for a further 2500 yds to log crossing over BLACK river at 067338 ⊙ Patrol was placed in posn at this point and

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Message Instructions — GR

3

ORIGINATOR'S No.

The patrol commander and INCO moved NORTH to recce area in vicinity of log x ing and to the NORTH of it ⊙ after moving for 250 yds to bend in river at 067339 our troops came across 5 enemy at this point ⊙ Enemy were armed with rifles and were sitting in a group ⊙ Patrol commander and his Cpl opened fire with Owen and grenades, killing 3 enemy and wounding 2 — Own Cas NIL ⊙ Our troops rejoined main body of patrol and patrol moved to an ambush posn at side of track at 064338 and remained in that posn for 1 hr 15 mins Result ⊙ NMSO A patrol of str 1 offr 5 ors then moved NE and crossed river at 069339 and recced area for 200 yds EAST ⊙ No signs of movement seen and patrol rejoined main body and proceeded direct to base and arrived there at 19:1630L ⊙ Patrols recced area for 700 yds NORTH-SOUTH-EAST and WEST of base but saw no signs of enemy movt ⊙ NO enemy posns were seen for duration of patrol ⊙ 20 JUNE ⊙ Patrol left base and moved

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Signed	Signed		Time Cleared		

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

Army Form C2136 (Large)
(Pads of 100) (Adapted Sept. 1943)

MESSAGE FORM

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FROM (A) — Originator — Date—Time of Origin — Office Date Stamp

For Action

TO

(w) For Information (INFO.)

Message Instructions — GR

4

ORIGINATOR'S No.

NORTH to BUIN Rd, thence NORTH to present DUDI location and arrived this HQ at 201030L ⊙ Total Cas for patrol — enemy 3 killed 2 wounded — OWN, NIL ⊙ Route taken by patrol would need considerable bulldozing to be made tankable and EAST bank of BLACK river at 067338 is 50' high, WEST bank 5' high ⊙ Country mainly fairly thick secondary growth, with thick undergrowth for most of way

V G Schmahl
Lnc

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Signed

If liable to be intercepted or fall into enemy hands, this message must be sent IN CIPHER

Signed

Originator's Instructions
Degree of Priority

Time	System	Op
THI or TOR		
Time Cleared		

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

Original Report of

FEATHERBY PATROL

PATROL

REF MAP — MONOITU - MAMAGOTA - MIVO 1:25000

UNIT — C Coy 24 aust Inf Bn

SUB UNIT

STR — 27 all 2 sigs 1 angau 8 natives

TIME OUT — 160800

DATE — 19 JUNE

COMD — SGT. LANGTREY

TYPE — RECCE

TIME IN — 19 1100

OBJECT

1. To check on reported enemy L of C SOUTH of BUIN RD in vic
2. Capture PW

ROUTE OUT — From MAMAGOTA JUNC SOUTH down MAMAGOTA RD to 988365 thence EAST to 032352 thence 046350

ROUTE IN — From 046350 to BUIN RD

ADM — MPT emergency rations, 4 days FOR, WS outfits

COMN — W/T

PART 1 — Patrol did not find reported L of C approx but contacted a possible enemy L of C approx

PART 2 — Patrol left MAMAGOTA junc and proceeded down MAMAGOTA rd to 988365 where patrol took a course on 104° M. after proceeding 150 yds the patrol crossed the HARI River. after another 800 yds the patrol crossed a small stream with steep banks. another small stream was crossed 70 yds further on. after proceeding a further 100 yds the patrol passed through an old enemy def posn with accom for 30 men. 20 yds from posn the patrol struck an old well defined track running on a bearing of 175° M. after going a further 700 yds on 104° the patrol crossed another small stream with a muddy bottom 6 ft wide, also another stream 170 yds further on. 480 yds on the patrol struck a sago swamp which the patrol left after going through it for 420 yds. 240 yds further on patrol struck an old track running on 200° M. a further 30 yds on a well defined track was crossed which had both Jap & Aust foot prints on it approx 2 days old & which was bearing at 135° M. 80 yds further on patrol crossed a muddy creek 30 ft wide where sago had been freshly cut. another creek was crossed 50 yds further on which had banks of 30 feet & a gravel bottom 10 ft wide. On the bank of this stream was a log water race thought to be in connection with the making of sago. 300 yds further on a small creek was crossed and after another 100 yds patrol found an old track with a hut frame on it. another 10 yds patrol struck well defined track 3 ft wide running on 160° M but which had not been recently used. another 50 yds on patrol found a small creek and after another 80 yds ran into deep swamp. A rise was reached 400 yds through swamp.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

2

Patrol here left swamp & another 400 yds on a creek was crossed on which patrol made base for night at 032352.

Day 2

From base at 032352 the patrol recced 1000 yds to the front & either flanks but could find no sign of the reported clearing or track in the area NMS. 480 yds from 032352 on a bearing of 104° patrol struck very old track on 194°.

Patrol left base 032352 at 1230 a moved on 173°. 40 yds out struck a creek 12 ft wide, steep banks, swamp bottom. 50 yds on struck another creek 10 ft wide. After going a further 480 yds the patrol struck swamp forest which continued for 800 yds to thick secondary growth. at 032347 the patrol changed its direction to to 87° M. a further 80 yds further on crossed a creek. After proceeding for a further 1100 yds patrol crossed a deep swampy donga. at 046350 after another 100 yds patrol struck OGORATA at 1630 hrs. It was 40 ft wide 3 ft 6 inches deep on EAST side, 20 ft banks. a small stream runs into it at 046353. The river at this spot has a log Xing a a sandy bottom.

Patrol formed base on river for night. The patrol patrolled 1000 yds each way along river but found no recently used tracks. a further 100 yds down stream from 046353 was another log crossing. The country between the Mamagota rd and the Orgarata River was intermitted rain & swamp forest with a little secondary growth. Was not bankable or jeepable. Movement by foot was slow. NMS

Day 3

Fighting patrol Sth 15 ors left base 083040hrs on 94° M & passed through garden on offside side of river from base 046353. After going 200 yds patrol crossed creek and another 200 yds on struck another creek 10 ft wide with 5 ft banks & a sandy bottom. after going a further 800 yds the patrol crossed a small creek & the country became thicker. 300 yds further on the patrol struck swamp which extended for 230 yds. after going 300 yds patrol crossed a donga & after a further 200 yds another donga. at another 100 yds patrol reached MOBIAI river with 40 ft banks, steam 30 ft wide, hard bottom & fil fil along sides of stream.

Patrol proceeded down stream 800 yds NMS but signs of 6 enemy mvd along track running NORTH along river. The patrol returned to where it struck the MOBIAI & then patrolled upstream. 80 yds up patrol struck two tracks. One coming from the NORTH and the other from the WEST. Both tracks showed signs of hvy use by 30 ths approx. The track from the WEST had yellow signal cable laid along it. Both the

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

tracks joined, crossed river & went EAST. at the Xing was a large log ¾ of way across stream at 073347. Patrol moved back on 274° M & after proceeding 520 yds changed to 360° for 320 yds where the patrol struck a well used track with sig cable along it. Patrol set ambush for 2½ hrs NMS. at 1500 hrs patrol cut 50 yds from sig cable & recced a track running NW – SE which was 3 ft wide & very meandering. all mvt on both tracks was no more than 2 hrs old & all mvt going EAST, some bare footed.

The patrol withdrew SOUTH 200 yds & proceeded on 274° M for 190 yds where fat footprints 1 day old going NORTH were crossed. After going 2400 yds patrol arrived back at base on ORGARATA 181700 hrs.

The patrol was relieved by 17 fd D coy the 18 June '45

DAY 4

at 190800 LANGTREY patrol proceeded out on 353° & at 700 yds crossed a creek & reached rice paddy another 50 yds on. After proceeding a further 100 yds patrol struck a track going to the EAST. a further 300 yds on a track was struck which went to the RIVER. 1000 yds further on patrol passed through a def posn for 200 men with pits connected by crawl trenches & bunda guide rails. Patrol continued on 360° & after proceeding across two creeks came out on BUIN rd at 58/59 bn drafting ground.

Patrol returned to BHQ by BUIN RD.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

PATROL REPORT

Ref Maps MUSARAKA, MIVO 1:25000.

Date 22 JUN 45

UNIT 24 Aust INF BN

Patrol Cond Lt Lawn.

SUB UNIT D Coy

Type Recce

Strength 2 offr 10 ors

Time in 221845L.

Time out 221015L

object To Recce area from MOBIHI River & MIVO River for Suitability of use of Tanks.

Route out South along East Bank of MOBIHI River & 085364
Thence East & MIVO River

Route IN West from MIVO River & RL Case.

Adm. M P T.

Intercomm. Runner.

PART 1

Task completed. ground Not Suitable for Tanks. very undulating.

PART 2

Movement along East bank of river was easy light undergrouth and level ground. is quite Tankable. The ground rises sharply at 085367.. Then eastward is very undulating, 6 streams have to be crossed varying from 3 to 14 ft wide with banks 4 to 15 ft high. which would need considerable amound of work to be made passable.. Crossed track at 102377 is 10' wide with foot Pad down centre well worn Sides overgrown with grass. could be used by tanks and Jeeps. only work needed is several logs to be stapled from across track.. track Runs North and South. area for 150 yds west of River bank. Thick undergrouth and Pt Pt 10 to 12 ft high very Thick Tomahed river at approx 104 377. river 50 to 60 yds wide Stony bottom 18 inches to 2 ft deep. west bank 3 ft high East bank 30 to 40 ft high 1 in 1 grade. to
Country covered on return journey very similar to that crossed on way out. a 60 ft Ridge Runs NE to SW to garden at. 078 375. an old foot Path Runs along Ridge to garden. had not been used for approx 1 month.

J Hackney
Lt

PATROL 340

Ref Map MIVO 1:25000

07 08 09 10 37

10' W 1'd
Banks 4' W 10' E.

6' W 16"d
B6'

4' W 10"d
B4'

3' W

Suitable For assembly area stream 8' W 1'd, Bank 4' E 10'

36

07 08 09

Swamp 50' W ankle deep

Areas Suitable For assembly but no available water

35

MOBILE

Ground very Rugged and Thick For 200' can be avoided by moving 400' EAST

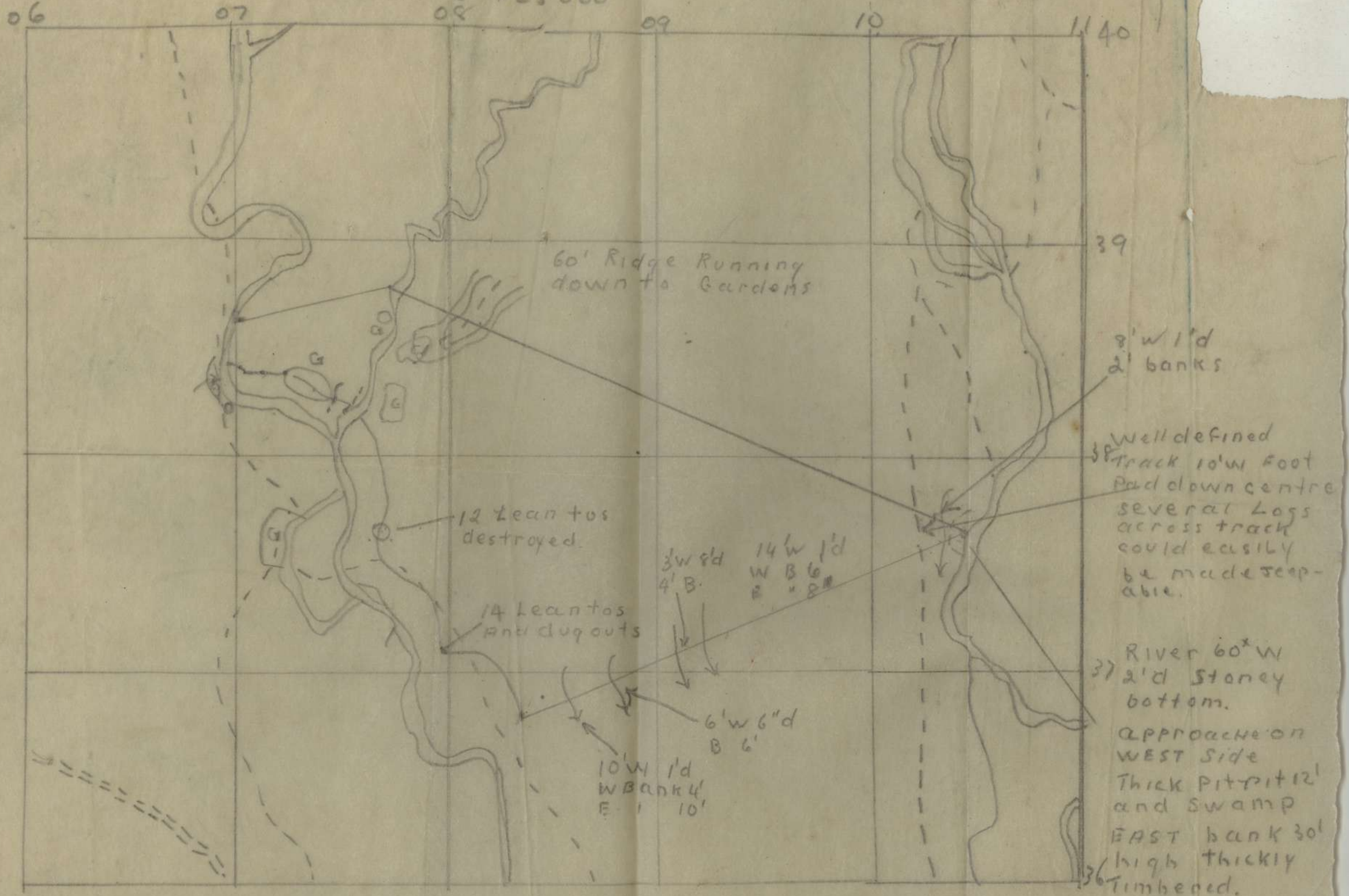
undergrowth thinned out Line of Rd Could be observed approx 150' SOUTH

33

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

PATROL 22 JUN 45

Ref Maps MUSARAKA MIVO 1.25000



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

PATROL (GRAHAM)

REF MAP — MONJOITU - MUSARAKA 1:25000
UNIT — 24 Aust Inf Bn
SUB UNIT — B Coy
STR — 1 off 30 ors
TIME OUT — 22 1200~
OBJECT — To contact C Coy at 088405. Escort native arm train to C Coy

DATE — 23 June
COMD — LT GRAHAM
TIME IN — 23 1230~
TYPE — FIGHTING

ROUTE OUT — from B Coy HQ 052430 to C Coy 088405 along sig wire laid from 952430 — 070390 —

ROUTE IN

ADM — MPT emergency rations
COMN — Runner

PART 1 — C Coy contacted
Enemy ambush contacted at

PART 2

Patrol left coy HQ 052430 221200~ and proceeded C Coy sig wire to 075410 & thence continued going EAST until patrol contacted one section of the LANGTREY patrol at 078410. The patrol proceeded EAST for a further 200 yds until sig wire crossed a very steep gully of 60 ft sides at 080410. The sig wire was cut on both sides of the gully. On reaching top of the EAST bank the fwd scout noticed one enemy. Patrol comd went fwd & observed three enemy & also indications of a large ambush posn set on our signal cable. The patrol skirted to the right & struck track to C Coy again at approx 082408 and continued into C Coy at 088 405. At least half a mile of signal wire had been removed by the enemy near BITO. The patrol contacted a patrol moving out from C Company to repair wire & warned them of ambush. After reporting in to C Company, patrol moved out on 253° M with a patrol from C coy to pick up the sec left at 078410. The patrol struck the KOROKO river & moved NORTH for 1000 yds but could not contact sig cable to C coy. a recce patrol was sent 500 yds further NORTH along river but they could not find sig wire or tracks to C company.

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2

The fatrol camped for night 22/23 June at 075405

at first light on 23 June fatrol moved SOUTH for 1000 yds and then formed base at 075400

From here recce parties were sent 1000 yds SOUTH but still could not find Signal cable.

The fatrol then moved in a NNW direction & contacted the C coy sig wire at 066415 Here the C coy fatrol was left to contact the section of C coy left at 078410

The fighting fatrol to continued along sig wire to B coy HQ 052430

NMS return journey

A.A. Graham Lt

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

PATROL REPORT 340

Ref map MIVO 1:25000.

Date 24 JUN 45

Unit 24 Aust Inf Bn

Patrol Comd Lt Heathcote

Sub unit D Coy

Type Recce

Strength 1 Off 10 ors.

TIME IN 1630L.

Time out 0930

object To Recce Bn assembly areas and LOFC

Route out SE & 095358. South & 095350 Thence SW & 089341.

Route IN Reverse & Route out.

Admn MPf

Inter Comm Runner

PART 1

Task Completed. Suitable assembly area at 090361. Possible & Constant Track Rd & 089341

PART 2.

Patrol moved in SE direction over undulating ground & 090361 Crossing 5 Streams varying from 4 & 12' wide. banks 4 & 10' high. These would need Considerable amount of work to be made Jeepable. at 090361. Eastern bank of Stream 8 & 10' high would be used for Bn assembly area. Remainder of first leg over Flat Country. at 092352 a Patch of Swamp 50x would need Corduroying.. undergrowth Throughout is light Movement easy. Second leg is also on Level ground. with light undergrowth.

Third leg over level ground. & within 400x of 089340 nature is very rugged. and thick. This can be overcome by moving 100x East. where the ground is level and can be used as L of C. The undergrowth in Vic of 089340 had been thinned out. So Patrol did not continue onto the Rd. which could be seen approx 150x South of this Posn.

Heathcote
Lt Ldr.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

PATROL 350

REF MAP — MONOITU MUSARAKA 1:25000
UNIT — 24 Aust Inf Bn
SUB UNIT — B coy
STR — 1 ofl 12 ors
TIME OUT — 260800L
OBJECTS — To contact C Coy
Escort Arty personnel to C Coy

DATE — 26 JUNE
COMD — SGT ROBERTSON
TYPE — CONTACT
TIME IN — 26

ROUTE OUT — From B coy 052430 to approx 069421 to 072425 down to approx
ROUTE IN — 083416 to approx 082412 to C Coy 088407
Reverse route out.

COMN — Runner

ADM — MPT, emergency rations

PART 1

Patrol contacted C Coy.

PART 2

Patrol left coy HQ 052430 at 260800L and proceeded along COMMANDO RD to approx 069421 where patrol moved NORTHERLY along track for approx 500 yds to 072425 at track junc. Patrol moved along track running SE to approx 083416 where track ran SOUTH to approx 082412. Patrol left track & proceeded into C Coy at 088407.

Arty foo & fpo left at C Coy & patrol returned reverse route out arriving B coy 261700L.

No signs seen of enemy mvt. on route travelled.

Vegetation rain forest, secondary growth, cocoanut groves, gardens.

The MOSARAKA map 1:25000 has most of the tracks wrongly shown. Generally the waterways are correct except for the small creeks shown on map which sometimes are not found at all.

SJt. J. A. Robertson

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

PATROL — B coy

REF MAP	MONOITU – MUSARAKA 1:25000	DATE	JUNE 26
UNIT	24 Aust Inf Bn	COMD	LT GRAHAM
SUB UNIT	B coy	TYPE	RECCE
STR	1 off 15 ors	TIME IN	26 1230L
TIME OUT	26 1030L		

OBJECT — To investigate result of arty shoot on enemy posn 068421 night 25/26 JUNE. and see if enemy still in occupation

ROUTE OUT — From B coy 052430 to 068421 along track (COMMANDO RD)

ROUTE IN — Reverse route out

ADM — MPT

COMN — Runner

PART 1 — The posn is still occupied
There are signs of effective arty shooting onto posn.

PART 2.

Patrol left coy HQ 052430 and proceeded along track KINGORI—KATSUWA to track junc at approx 067421.

after leaving the junc, while continuing EAST, the patrol heard sounds of chopping coming from the posn 068421.

a short distance past the junc the patrol saw mvt at side of track but did not fire as there was not a definite target. soon after seeing the mvt, the patrol heard the chopping stop so it is presumed that a lookout man was observing the patrol & warned the enemy of its approach.

While approaching the posn the patrol observed many signs of the arty being on the target and it is thought that the effective arty shooting has compelled the enemy to build well logged shelter-pits.

J.J. Graham Lt

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

Cpl Coleman / Trol 229

SP. 90yds EAST of HOHOORAI FORD on BOIN RD

Moved on 10° 76 paces, 40°–56ft, 360°–56ft; 25°–37ft) here struck track runs, one went on 103°, followed other on 350°, At further 35 paces came to clearing about 60yds, looked like old garden well overgrown. 96ft; 45°–44ft 343°–20ft, here pad branched on 125°, 287°–45ft, came to edge of clearing 60yds diam, 335°–61ft here struck ~~track~~ garden 150yds diam, good condition with beans?, 322°–200ft, 345°–50ft, 290°–15ft, here track branched off on 226°, 346°–44ft, track runs off on 15° (JOAC 300°–65ft, 345°–54ft and moved up the other pad) (Moved back to track junc 22°–30ft, 74°–287ft, 27°–55ft, here faint pad branched off on 242°–26ft, here saw, approx 8 25mm shells ~~cases~~ and 3 cases, well corroded.

5°–50ft, 350°–155ft, here struck TIGER RD followed latter WEST for 500ft and struck Hogorai river.. Thence followed TIGER RD to log x'ing on POROREI River, Thence on bearing 227° for 2700ft, Stirling C. coy locality.

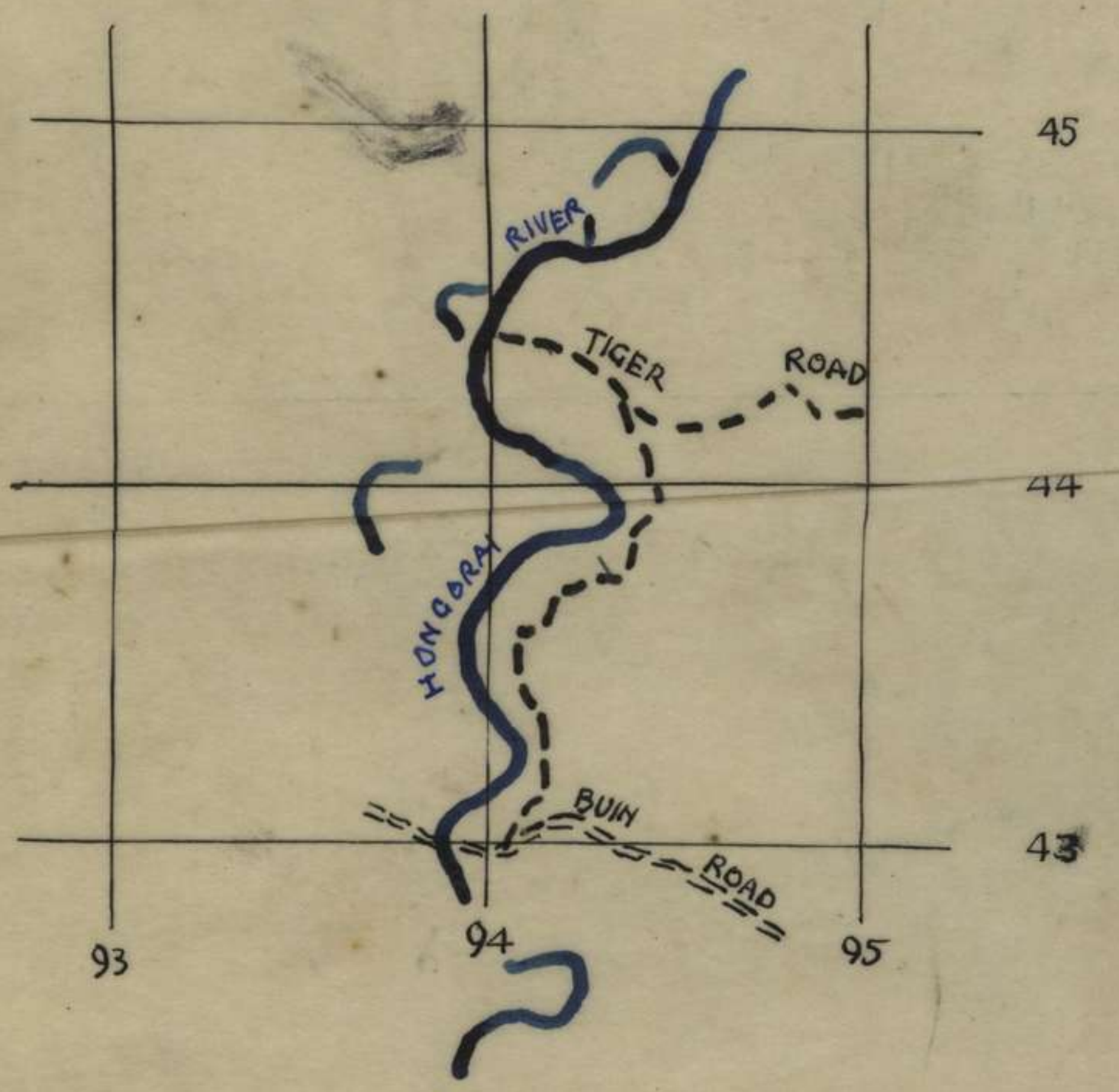
PACES: up to TIGER RD, 30 mins, From log x'ing to coy 130 to 100yds.

str Inco 1000

0500 1220 27 may Stirling 15th

Patrol 229

943437 sheet one



PATROL REPORT No 251

Ref Map MONOITU 1:25000
Unit 24 Aust Inf Bn (AIF)
Sub-unit B coy
Strength 1 Cpl 12 ors
Time Out 010800L

Date 1 June 45
Comd Cpl. SYKES
Type Fighting
Time In 011500L

Object 1. Clear track of enemy and locate any mines or booby traps.
2. Est standing patrol at 986422, to protect C coy recce party.

Route Out. Coy HQ 974429 to 986422 along SOUTH side of track
Route In Reverse route out on NORTH side of track
Adm MPT
Intercomn W/T

PART 1.

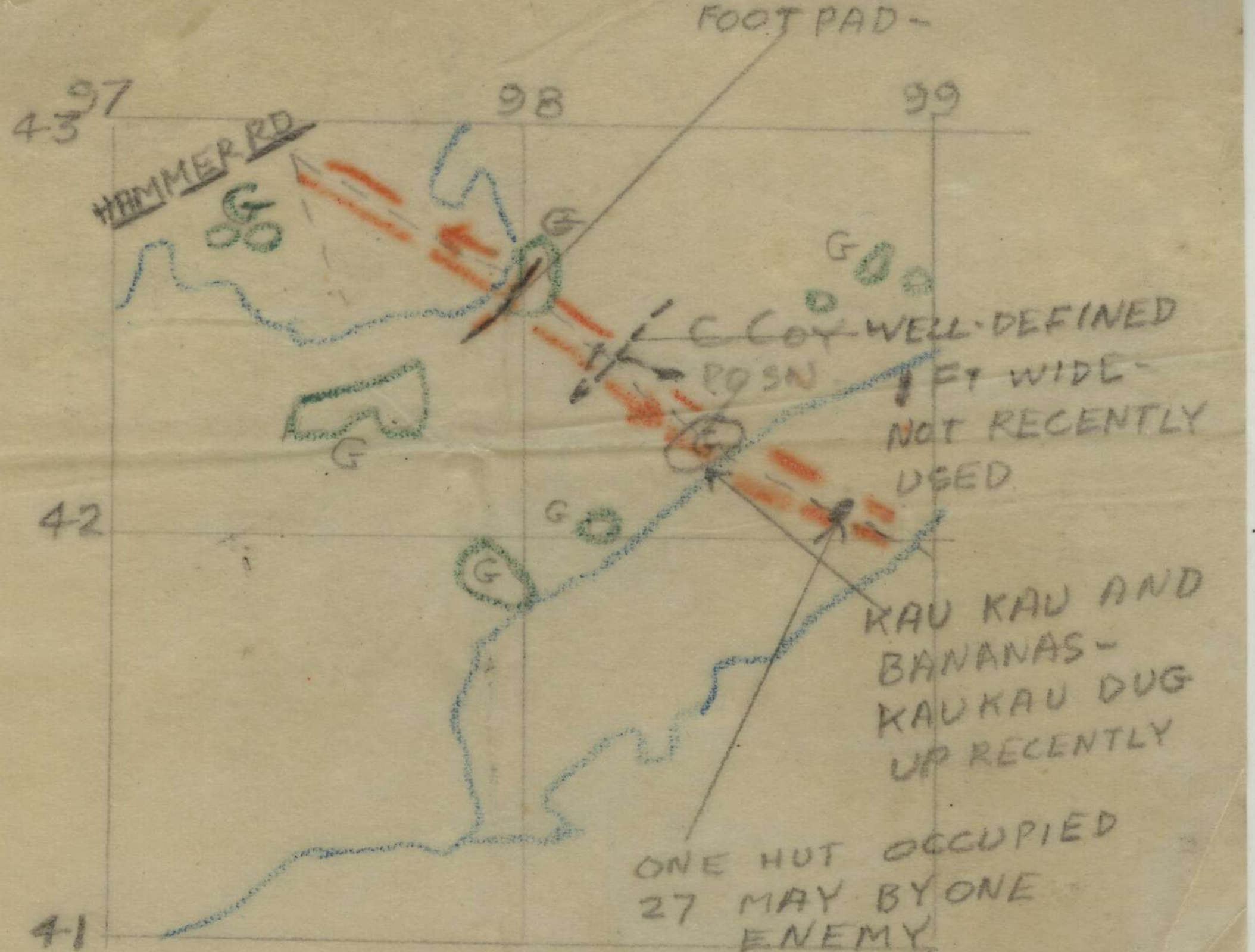
Object achieved. NMS. No mines or booby traps found.

PART 2.

From coy HQ, moved down SOUTH side of track, touching in on track at intervals SUNW river 400 yds from HAMMER rd. On SOUTH bank of river, pads 6 ins wide seen leading both ways along bank of river. 250 yds past river, climbed escarpment 40 ft high, average gradient 2 in 1. At 982425, tracks lead off at 20°, 95°, 200° and 185° mag. Tracks well-defined, 1 ft wide, not recently used by enemy. 1015L Reached creek at 985422. Garden on North side of creek - 200 yds by 150 yds. Contained kau kau and banana. Kau kau had been recently removed. 1145L contacted C coy recce party, then crossed creek, moved to 986422 onto small ridge 20 ft above level of creek and est ambush posn. Recced SE along track for 600 yds. At 988421, found a hut occupied on 27 May by one enemy.
Returned to Coy HQ via track.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

PATROL 251



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

PATROL REPORT 257 sent to Lude

Ref Map MONOITU 1/25000

Date 1 JUNE

UNIT 24 Bn (1 Inf Pl)

Sub Unit D Coy

Patrol Cmd Lcpl WHITE

Strength INCO 3 ors

Type Recce

TIME IN 1600.L

TIME OUT 0930.L

Object To Recce gardens North & NE Commando Rd.

Route out To Log x-ing 960438 EAST & garden 971437.
NORTH & 976456

Route IN. 976456. SOUTH & Coy HQ

Admin MPT

Inter Comm Runner.

PART 1

Task Completed.

PART 2.

garden at 969430 has mainly Kau Kau Bananas and Patch of Rice in various Stages of growth. Moved across country & Log xing. which did not show Signs of recent use. garden at 971437 is 200 x 50. mainly Banana Plants. The Limit of which is Dr Green for Cutting. also Kau Kau in garden. a Small well worn Pad runs from this garden to one at 973437 and Continues to garden at 976442 which is on high bank of river. a Patch of Rice Pit Pit grows along bank. Bananas and Kau Kau growing in garden. gardens at 976444 and 974446 could not located. Garden at 973446. is 100x100. mainly Bananas and Kau Kau. with Small Patch of young Corn. at 968448 a Small garden 80x50 located at well worn track runs in NW Side of garden in NE direction. at 976456 was the furthest point reached. Sound of Jap Engines could be heard in Easterly direction. Enemy Area located at 979438 Consisting of 12 Can bis each accomadate 5 Pers. 30 Pits 1' deep 1 Covered Pit. Vacated approx 4 to 5 days. 100 gds from Area along track in NW direction 1 dead Jap found. dead for approx 3 weeks.

No Sign of Recent Movement in gardens visited

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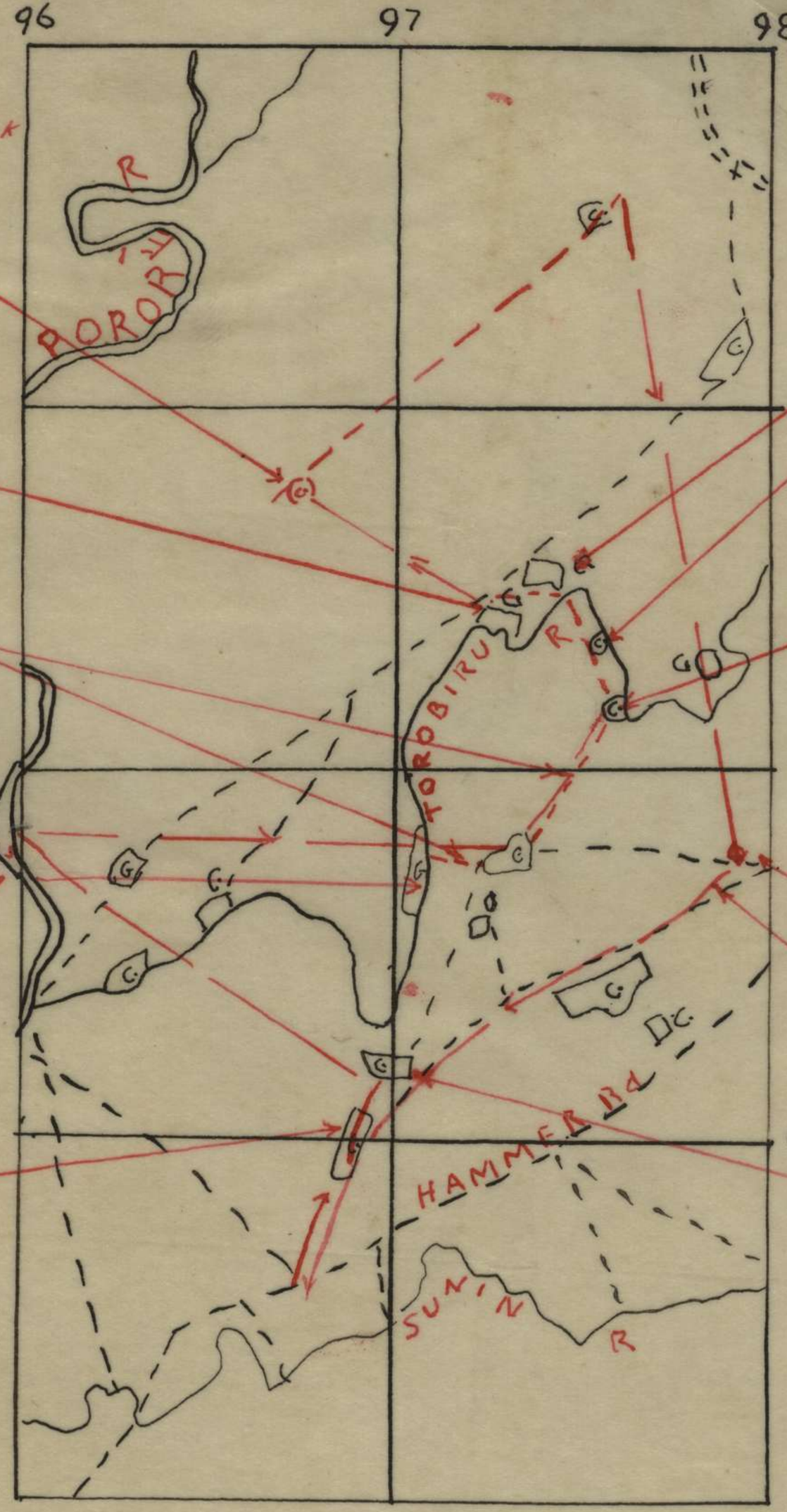
or on tracks. The route covered by
Patrol was through Sandy Light undergrowth
Several Ridges. Had to be climbed. mostly
60 to 80' high. Land did not present any great
difficulty.

A Blechynden
2 Lieut

P[illegible]TROL 257

Ref Map MONOITU 1:25000



Garden 80x50' Kau Kau well worn Track Runs past Garden.

Garden 100'x100' Bananas Kau Kau and corn not yet headed.

Well Worn Foot Pad connects Gardens.

Garden 200'x50' Banana and Kau Kau. Bananas To Green for picking

Small patch of Rice 20'x30' Kau Kau and Banana Plants.

Gardens could Not be Located

Garden 300'x200' on River bank Banana Kaukau. Pit Pit on bank

Enemy Posn 12 Lean tos 30 pits 1' deep vacated 4 to 5 days.

1 dead Jap on Track. approx 3 weeks decd.

Garden 100'x50' Banana. Kaukau. Paw Paw. Chillies and pumpkin.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

PATROL REPORT No 264

REF. MAP · MONOITU 1/25000
UNIT 24 AUST INF BN.
SUB UNIT 14 Pl C Coy
STRENGTH 1 offrs. 1 NCO. 12 ors.
TIME OUT 030800L
OBJECT destroy enemy encountered en route.
ROUTE OUT Coy HQ — EAST to track junc 990419 — SE along track to junc 001413 — SW along PEPERU river to track 993409. N.W. along track to junc 965422.
ROUTE IN along track to Coy HQ
ADMIN ~~+~~ · Malarial precautions carried out.
INTERCOMM W/T.
RESULT object achieved

DATE 3 JUNE 45
COMD LT. SPENDLOVE
TYPE Fighting.
TIME IN 041815L.

PART I

PART II

Leg I

Patrol moved from Coy HQ 979418 on bearing of 79° M.

200 x creek. 12 wide. 6" depth. bank 25' high
660 x overgrown garden 80 x x 150 x
910 x old jap hut ~~with~~ built over air raid shelter
1040 x creek rocky bottom. 30' bank. 12' wide 18" deep.
1230 x track 45° well defined. Followed this track for 170 x to track junc tracks running 45° x 110°

Leg II on 115° M.

160 x 10 delapidated huts (broken). old hut area. accn. 60.
1035 x overgrown garden 150 x x 150 x.
1045 x small track at 200°. unused.
1225 x Creek. 30' bank. 4 ft wide. 1' deep
1300 x 20' rise into old garden.
1390 x PEPERU river 60' bank 35' wide 3' deep. 001412

Leg III on 229°.
160 x old native garden
300 x creek. 4' wide 9" deep steep bank 30' high
660 x old native garden 994414

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

Leg IV 215°

400 yds well defined track 300° 991410.

Leg V 300°.

312 yds creek. 6' wide 6" deep banks 15' high

620 yds creek 8' wide 6" deep banks 12' high
6 very old broken down huts on WEST bank
probable old native area very dirty

950 yds track joins one at 20° and one at 360.

1150 yds creek 12ft wide 1' deep 30' banks on EAST side
10 huts on EAST bank old no sign of recent use.
accn 60 Here there were signs of a hasty
withdrawal. kau kau (cooked) sprinkled
with salt. left on ground.

Leg VI 290°. moved along well defined track.

700x garden on SOUTH edge of track. 100x x 100x

870x track joins 29° & 20°

970x creek 10' wide 18" deep 30' banks either side

1650x SWAMP river 40ft banks on EAST side gradual
slope on WEST side for 30 yds to garden.
River at this point 30' wide. 2' deep 966424.

2050 HAMMER rd (965426) followed rd to CAMO. thence
by track to BITO. 979418.

Signed. SPENDLOVE
Date. 4 June 45
Rank. Lt.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

PATROL REPORT No 264

REF. MAP. MONOITU 1/25000

UNIT 24 Aust Inf Bn.

SUB UNIT. 14 Pl C Coy

STRENGTH. Toffrs. Incd. 12 ors.

TIME. OUT. 030800L

DATE 3 JUNE 45

CONID AT SPENDLOVE

TYPE Fighting.

TIME IN 041815L.

OBJECT. destroy enemy encountered en route.

ROUTE OUT. Coy HQ – EAST to track junc 990419 – SE along track to junc 001413 – SW along PEPERU river to track 993409. NW along track to junc 965422 along track to Coy HQ

ROUTE IN

DMN

INTERCOMN w/t Malarial precautions carried out

RESULTS w/t

PART I

object achieved

NARRATIVE

PART II

Leg I.

Patrol moved from Coy HQ 979418 on bearing of 79° M.

200ˣ creek. 12 wide. 6" depth. banks 25' high

660ˣ overgrown garden. 80ˣ x 150ˣ

910ˣ old jap hut ~~—~~ built over air raid shelter

1040ˣ creek rocky bottom. 30' bank 12' wide 18" deep.

1230ˣ track 45° well defined. Followed this track for 170ˣ to track junc tracks running 115° & 110°

Leg II on 115° M.

100ˣ 10 delapidated huts (broken). old bivvy area. accn. 60.

1035ˣ overgrown garden 150ˣ x 150ˣ.

1045ˣ small track at 200°. unused.

1185ˣ Creek. 30' bank. 4 ft wide. 1' deep

1300ˣ 20' rise into old garden.

1390ˣ PEPERU. river 60' bank 35' wide 3' deep. 001412

Leg III on 229°.

160ˣ old native garden

300ˣ creek. 2' wide 9" deep steep bank 30' high

660ˣ old native garden 994414

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

Leg IV 215°

400 yds well defined tracks 300° 991410.

Leg V 300°.

312 yds creek. 6' wide 6" deep banks 15' high

620 yds creek 8' wide 6" deep banks 12' high
6 very old broken down huts on WEST bank
probable old native area very dirty

950 yds tracks join one at 20° and one at 360°

1150 yds creek 12 ft wide 1' deep 30' bank on EAST side
10 huts on EAST bank old no sign of recent use
accn 60 Here there were signs of a hasty withdrawal. kau kau (cookad) sprinkled with salt left on ground.

Leg VI 290°. moved along well defined tracks.

700' garden on SOUTH edge of track. 100' x 100'

970' track joins 29° + 20°.

970' creek 10' wide 18" deep 30' bank either side

1650' SUNIM river 40ft banks on EAST side gradual slope on WEST side for 30 yds to garden.
River at this point 30' wide. 2' deep 966424.

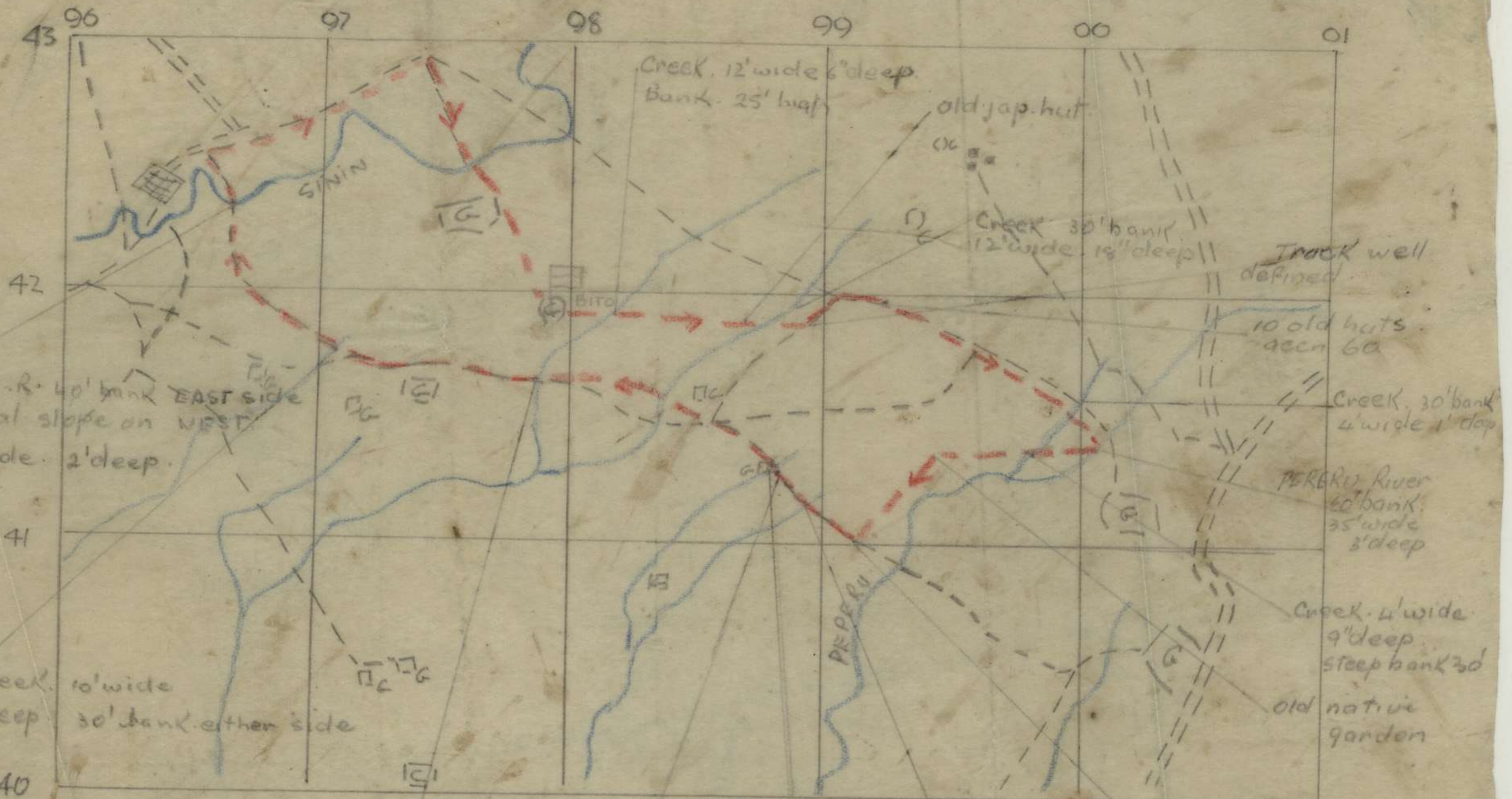
2050 HAMMER rd (965426) followed rd to GAMO. thence by track to BITO. 979418.

Signed. SPENDLOVE
Date. 4 June 45
Rank. Lt.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

ROUTE OF PATROL No 264

REF MAP MONOITU 1:25000



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

Patrol No 265 Date 3 JUN 45

Patrol Commander:- S/T LESLIE Strength 11 O.R.s

Type:- FIGHTING.

Object 1. To destroy enemy parties up to strength 15
2. To investigate all lateral tracks up to 400 yds.
3. To salvage eqpt abandoned by natives 2 JUN 45

Route Out FOXO to 961415 then SE along route of DUDI STALLION to TOMOI R. at 978397 then SSW along river to DUDI STALLION
Route In 974392 to FOXO via BUIN RD.

Time Out:- 0700 Time In 1530.

Result:- N. M.S.
8 lateral tracks crossed and investigated 5 of which showed recent use by large enemy parties.
eqpt abandoned by natives located and salvaged.

Narrative:-

Patrol left FOXO 0700 contacted ACORN STALLION and then moved North 300ˣ to bulldozed rd NE of BUIN RD. followed this 700ˣ SE to track at 967415. Then SE along track over 3 creeks to C coy STALLION at 971407. From them obtained information that sig wire laid to DUDI on 2 JUN 45. had been cut in numerous places. Moved from C coy 200 paces SE along DUDI track and then 100 paces on a bearing of 223° then turned on a bearing of 133° and moved parallel to DUDI sig wire for 40 yds to EAST side of enemy pos. This was unoccupied but several wires tied a foot above the ground were suspected as booby traps. Moved 100 paces to well defined track running SW to old garden. No recent use. Continued 300 paces to creek 4ft wide 6" deep with 30 ft bank on NORTH side and marshy ground on SOUTH. extending 40 paces to small creek and then 15 ft rise to level ground. Continued on bearing 133° for 100 paces to well defined track and on following this EAST to DUDI track found no trace of their sig wire. From this pt to the TOMOI R. the wire has been rolled up. Continued 60 paces to old unused track then 40 paces to new well defined track. owing to nature of ground it was impossible to estimate direction of enemy movement but the track had been recently used. From here for 200 paces SE the area has been tracked by parties moving in all directions and there has been a great deal of movement recently. Continued on bearing 133° for 300 paces past old hut and bomb shelter and across old track running SSE. No recent use. Moved 200 paces to TOMOI R bank and track which follows NORTH bank of river. This track is up to 5 ft wide in parts and appears to have been used as an L of C. Recent signs of a large party of Japs

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

Patrol No 265 Date 2 JUN 45

Narrative (cont) moving EAST along this track. Moved SW along the bank of the TOMOI with this track as axis of move. Moved 200 yards and located 4 boy-bods and field dressings at the scene of the previous days ambush. Continued on and contacted DUDI and ACORN STALLION at BUIN RD FORD of TOMOI R. Moved back to FOXO via BUIN RD.

Signed: J B Leslie. Lt.

PATROL 265

REPORT.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

Patrol No 1 Date 4 June

Patrol Commander: Mr Timms Strength 1 NCO 13 ORS

Type: Fighting

Object: Destroy enemy parties up to 15. Investigate all
lateral tracks up to 400 yds. Search all enemy
vacated Posns. Accurate traverse of route. Complete topo report
Route Out: Coy HQ. thence E to Garden LAT'ZDA (983408) thence ESE to
Log XLLT'ZDR (993407) thence N.W. to ank Pcfeus river to log XLET'ZFR (993467) thence NW
Route Out SW to Coy HQ. (987415 XL A R Z F G) thence W.N.W. to garden LERZFR. thence

Time Out 0800L Time In 1730L

Result: Object was achieved, and no enemy sighted enroute.
No enemy posns encountered and all tracks recced bore
no signs of enemy movt with the last two days. Gardens mainly
overgrown, secondary growth most of way, scattered lge timber TOMOI area

Narrative:

Patrol moved out from FOXO on a bearing of 82°
for 600 yds where a track was discovered. It was well worn
but bore no signs of recent movt. Track was crossed at
967408. Patrol then continued on 82° for a further 900 yds to an
overgrown garden at 979408. From there patrol proceeded SE to
Tomoi river and found that the ground in vicinity of
West bank of river ~~was~~ covered with lge scattered timber,
where as country further back along route was mainly
sloondary growth. Patrol then moved upstream along the
WEST bank for approx 500 yds, then moved on a bearing of 310°
for 900 yds to track junction at 985414. Track running EAST
and WEST was well defined but the track running NE was
not well defined. At this point patrol saw 2 Jap boot prints
1 rubber and 1 round studded. Prints were at least 2 days old and running
to the EAST. Patrol then followed track WEST to garden at
982414. Garden had been cultivated up till two or three weeks
ago, but no signs of enemy movement were seen. Patrol then
moved on a bearing of 262° for approx 2200 yds and finally
reached BUIN RD at 962412. Patrol found no traces of enemy on
last 2200 yds of patrol, and on reaching BUIN RD patrol then
returned to FOXO arriving at 041730L.

Enemy Contacted | Est Strength | Weapons Used

Signed W Timms
Rank W.O.II

3 Jun 45

Patrol No 262

Patrol Commander Lt N.E. Eaborn Strength 1 off INCO 12 Ors.
Sqn Fighting

Object (1) Destroy en parties contacted en route. (2) Complete Topo. report. (3) Traverse all lateral tracks. (4) Gain P.W.

Route Out From FOXO HQ to BITO 979418 to 995429 thence 984438

Route In From 984438 along HAMMER RD. to BUIN RD thence FOXO H/Q

Time Out 0800

Result (1) No enemy encountered
(2) No signs of recent enemy movement.

Time In 1615.

Narrative -

Patrol left FOXO HQ on bearing of 52° mag and travelled for 2530 yds to BITO position at 979418. The country for the first 1000 yds was covered with very thick secondary growth. The ground was firm on SOUTH side of creek but on northern side was swampy in places along edge of creek. Track at 968410 was well defined and patrol contacted native carrier line and escort from STALLION moving NORTH. Area between track and BITO was not so thickly covered and visibility was 20-25 yds. An old Jap grave was found on track after travelling 1750 yds. All lateral tracks were traversed but no signs of recent enemy movement were found. Patrol left BITO on heading of 149° mag through heavy secondary growth to garden at 982420 thence on same heading for further 1050 yds through a series of three garden areas linked together with old track 18" wide showing signs of recent use. Patrol moved on a further 400 yds to large garden area in which was found a banana leaf lean-to approx 7 days old at MR 995429. No signs of recent digging were found in gardens encountered. All gardens grew bananas, paw-paw and Kau Kau. Patrol then moved on bearing of 305° mag to HAMMER Rd at 984438 The country in this area was covered with secondary growth with visibility 10-15 yds. The banks of SUNIN RIVER are steep sloped. River - fast flowing, average depth 18" width 10 ft rocky bottom. Patrol then returned to FOXO H.Q. via HAMMER and BUIN RD.

Enemy Contacted Nil Est Strength Weapons Used. -

Signed Haslam
Rank Lt.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

PATROL REPORT 69

Ref Map MONDITU · 1·25000.

Date. 4 July 44

UNIT 24 Aust. INF BTN

Patrol Comd Lt LAWN

Sub UNIT D Coy

Type Fighting.

strength 1 offr 100 ors

Time in 1100L.

Time out 0900L

Object To Recce area S PEPIRU River and destroy enemy Parties encountered

Route out Bearing 83°.

Route IN Reverse Route.

Adm MPT

intercomm Runner.

PART 1

Task not completed owing to contact with Enemy at 978399.

PART 2

Patrol moved on bearing 83° crossed several well worn tracks which had been used within last 48 hrs. 2 large Pits located at 976399. Possible Store. Pits had No Cover. at 978399. 3 enemy sighted. Patrol opened fire killing 1 and wounding one. Enemy opened fire approx 40° E NST of where 3 sighted. Enemy used 1 Juki 1 LMG 1 grenade discharge. Patrol broke Contact and returned to Coy locality. a later Patrol with Mortar FOO from STALLION brought Mortar fire on Posn.

Enemy Contacted at 978399.
Enemy Str est 40
Enemy in defensive Posn
Enemy Supported by 1 JUKI 1 LMG 1 grenade discharger

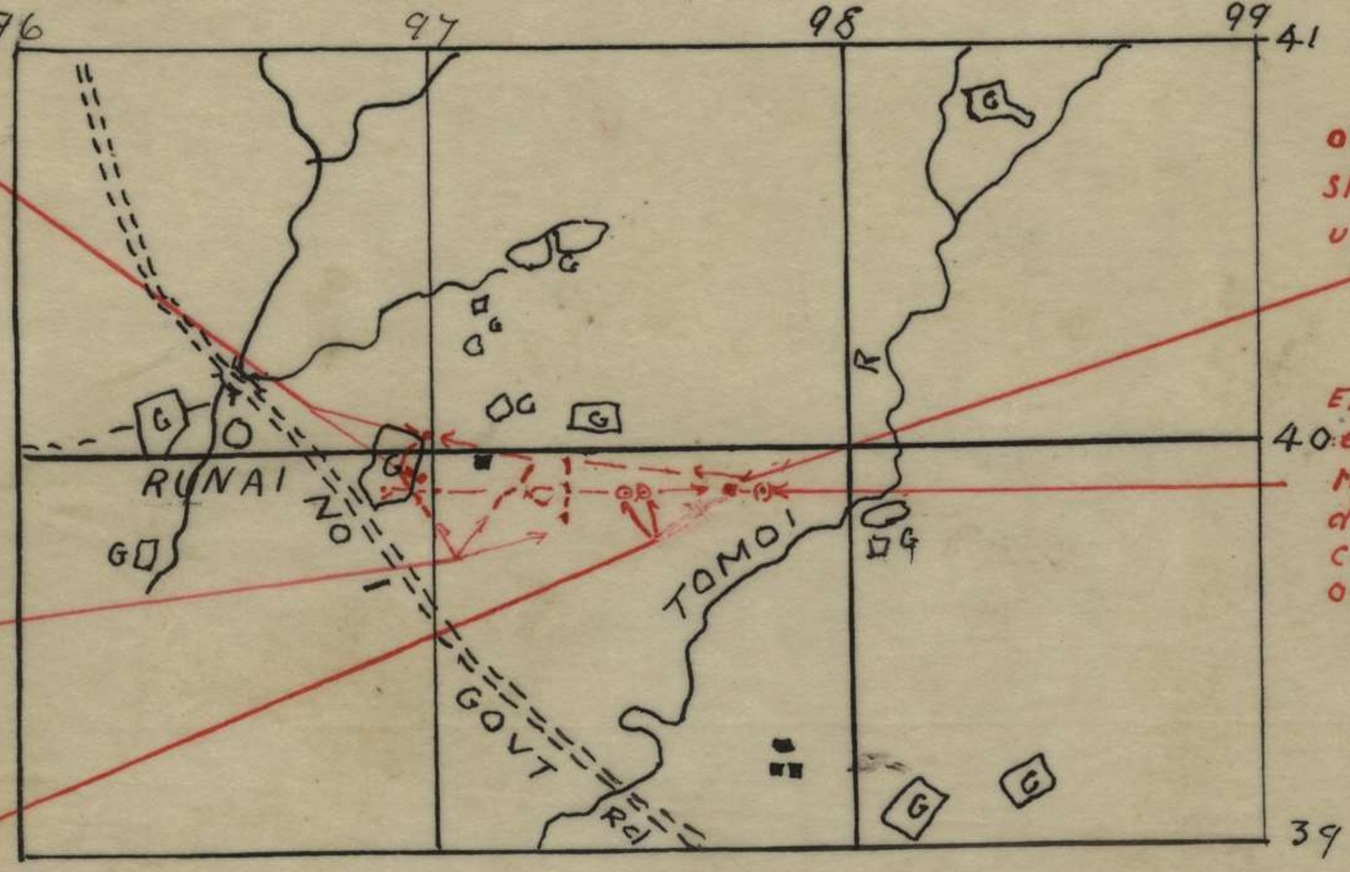
Cas Enemy 1K 1W.
Own NIL

K Mackaday
Lt Sec

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

PATROL 269

Ref Map MONOITU 1:25000



2 pill boxes on edge of Garden 20ft x 80ft Kau Kau. Rice

old hut and air Raid Shelter No Sign of Recent use

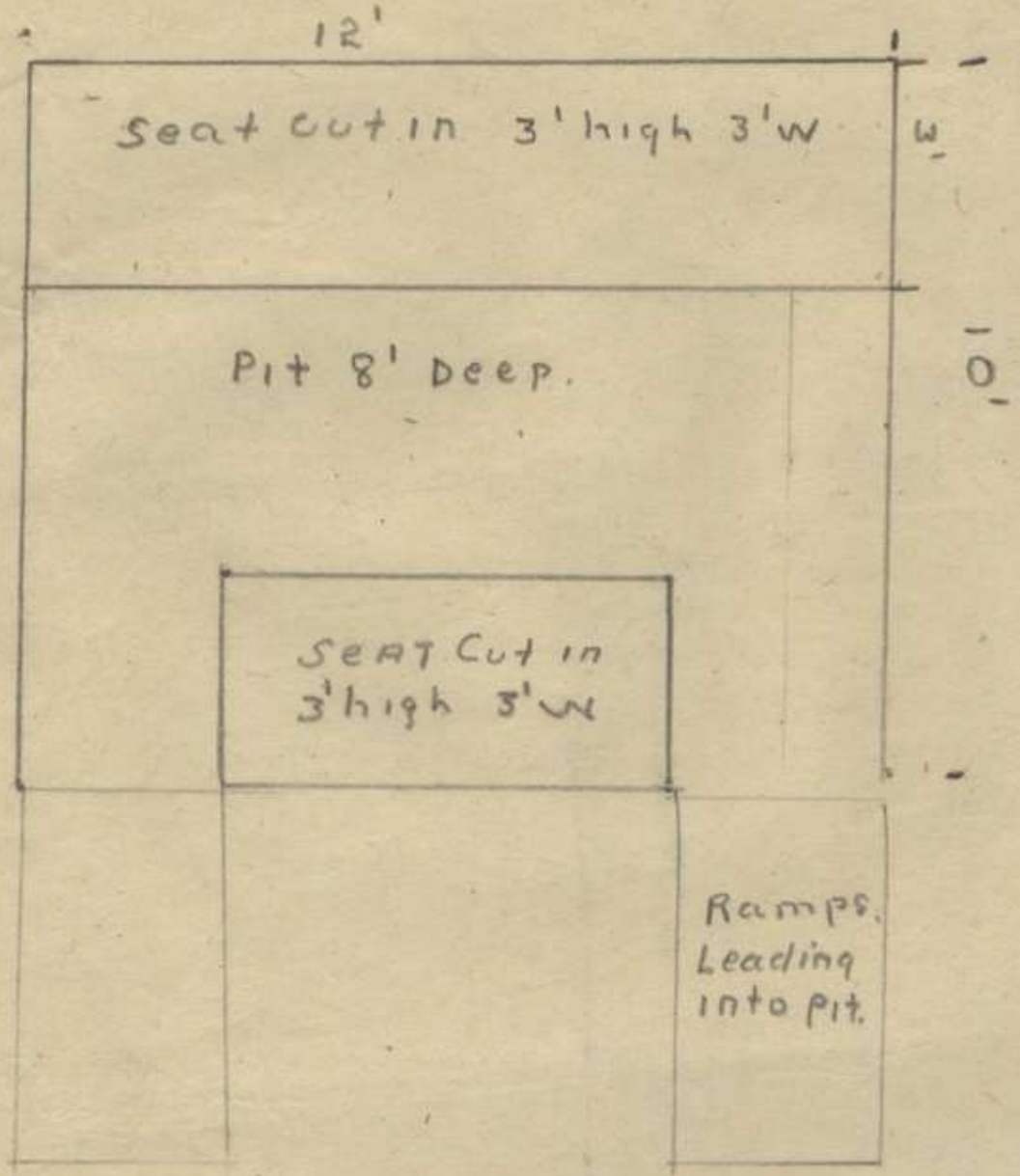
Enemy out post Contacted. enemy used 1 JUKI 1 LMG Rifles and grenade discharged Cas enemy 1K 1W Own Nil

Tracks well worn Showed Signs of Recent use within 48 hrs.

2 Large pits 12' Long 8' deep 10' wide. uncovered

2/4 Aust INF. Bn

SKETCH OF PITS AT 975399.



1 pit did not have ramps is same size and shape

PATROL 272

Date 5 JUN 45

Ref MAP MONOLTU 1·25000.

Patrol Cond Sit BEST.

Unit 2A AustINFBN

Type Fighting

Sub-unit D Coy

Time IN 1645L.

Strength 1 off 10 ors.

Object To Recce area & PEPIRU River and destroy any enemy encountered.

Time-out 0815L

Route out NE along EAST bank PINTAI River to gardens 983415. Thence EAST to PEPIRU River.

Route IN From 000412 on bearing 243°. A Coy Locality

Admn MPT.

Inter Comn Runner

PART 1

Task Not completed owing to Patrol being unable to locate PEPIRU River.

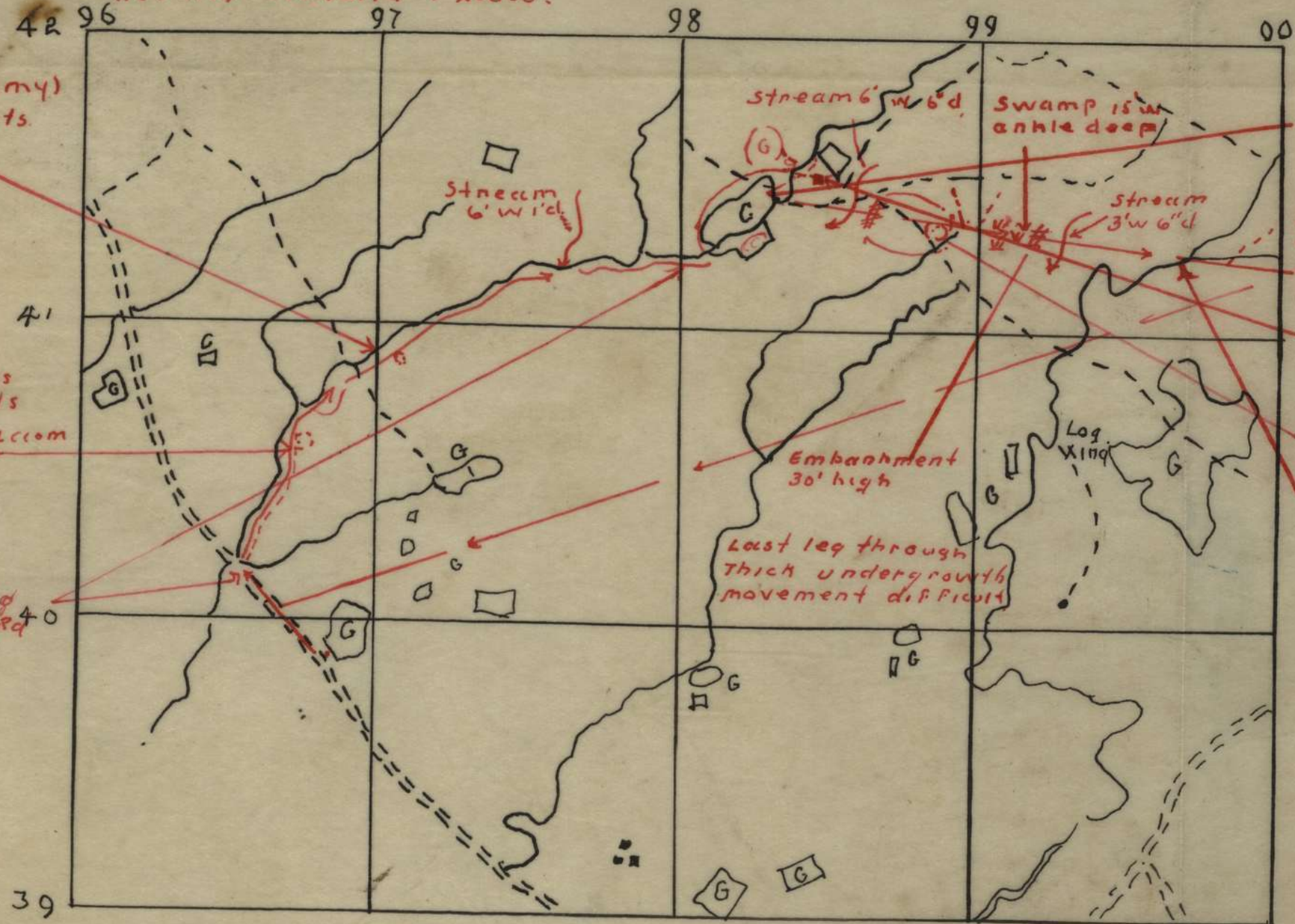
PART 2

Patrol moved along EAST bank of PINTAI river to 967406 where enemy Posn located. 10 Lean tos 12 Covered Pits 12 Pits. areas approx 50 yds.. a Small Posn located at 971409. 2 huts 10 Pits. 3 gardens are located in area 983415. 1-200x80' Fence around garden. Bananas Kau Kau Paw Paw. Pinapple growing in garden. 2nd Garden approx 50'x50'. Consisted of Kau Kau which had all been dug within last week. Had been well kept. Bottom garden approx 50x50. Mainly Kau Kau was overgrown. at this Point River Runs around N W side of Big garden and not as shown on Map. This Point was approx 1400 yds. 1 Large hut 20'x20' and Trench 14' long 4' deep 2' high located at 984415. well worn tracks led from river & hut. Patrol reached 000412 and could not locate PEPIRU river. Returned to Coy locality on bearing of 243°. Thought thickly timbered jungle, undergrowth being exceptionly hard to move through. Country is undulating. No Enemy Sighted on Patrol Route.

H Hardacre
Lt

PATROL 272.

Ref Map MONDITH 1:25000.



24 AUSTINGIN

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

send to 58/59.

PATROL No 782

Ref Map MONOITU 1:25000 8 JUN 45
Unit 2 AUST INF BN (AIF) Comd Lt McLEAN
Sub-unit 10 pl B Coy Type Recce patrol
Strength 1 offr 3 NCOs 2 INT pers 1 Sig 13 ors
Time Out 0709 00L Time In 0818 50L
Route Out Coy HQ 953356 via MAMAGOTA rd to 982354 then across country to 999337 where patrol base est. Patrolled NORTH and SOUTH along track.
Route In Reverse route out
Adm Carried 1 meal SWP, 2 days operations.
MIPT.
Comm W/T and runner.

PART 1

Patrol base est 999337. Patrol NORTH reached , unable proceed further due to presence of enemy. Patrol SOUTH reached , unable continue due to impassable swamps

PART 2

Patrol moved behind Recce patrol with Pk's for 1500 yds down MAMAGOTA rd, then took lead and cleared rd to 982354. Garden 500 x 200 yds very well cultivated, containing excellent taro taro at 984354.
Crossed MIMI R. river, which was 30 ft wide 15 ins deep, with banks 8 ft high, but Pk crossing could be made with aid of bulldozer. Moved on bearing 128 degrees mag to 996340. Unable locate track, so bed night.
Moved on 0715 hrs to 999337, where small pad, 6 ins wide and overgrown was found. Patrol base est.
Patrol, comd Lt McLEAN followed pad NORTH to vic 022369, where pad joined well defined track at right angle bnd. Track 2 ft wide, very heavily used, ran at 30 degrees and 120 degrees mag. and had a new sig wire along rd.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

This track had been used within 2 hours of arrival of patrol by 6 Jap's moving SE. Timber for defences had been freshly cut in area, indicating def Jpns nearby. Due to thick undergrowth and much wait-a-while patrol unable to move off the track. To avoid detection, patrol did not move onto track or cut sig wire. Moved back to base.
Patrol 2, comd Cpl SYKES, moved SOUTH along track and reached 983320, where the swamp became impassable a log path had been laid across the swamp, but had rotted away. Patrol returned to base.
The complete patrol then returned to coy area via route out.

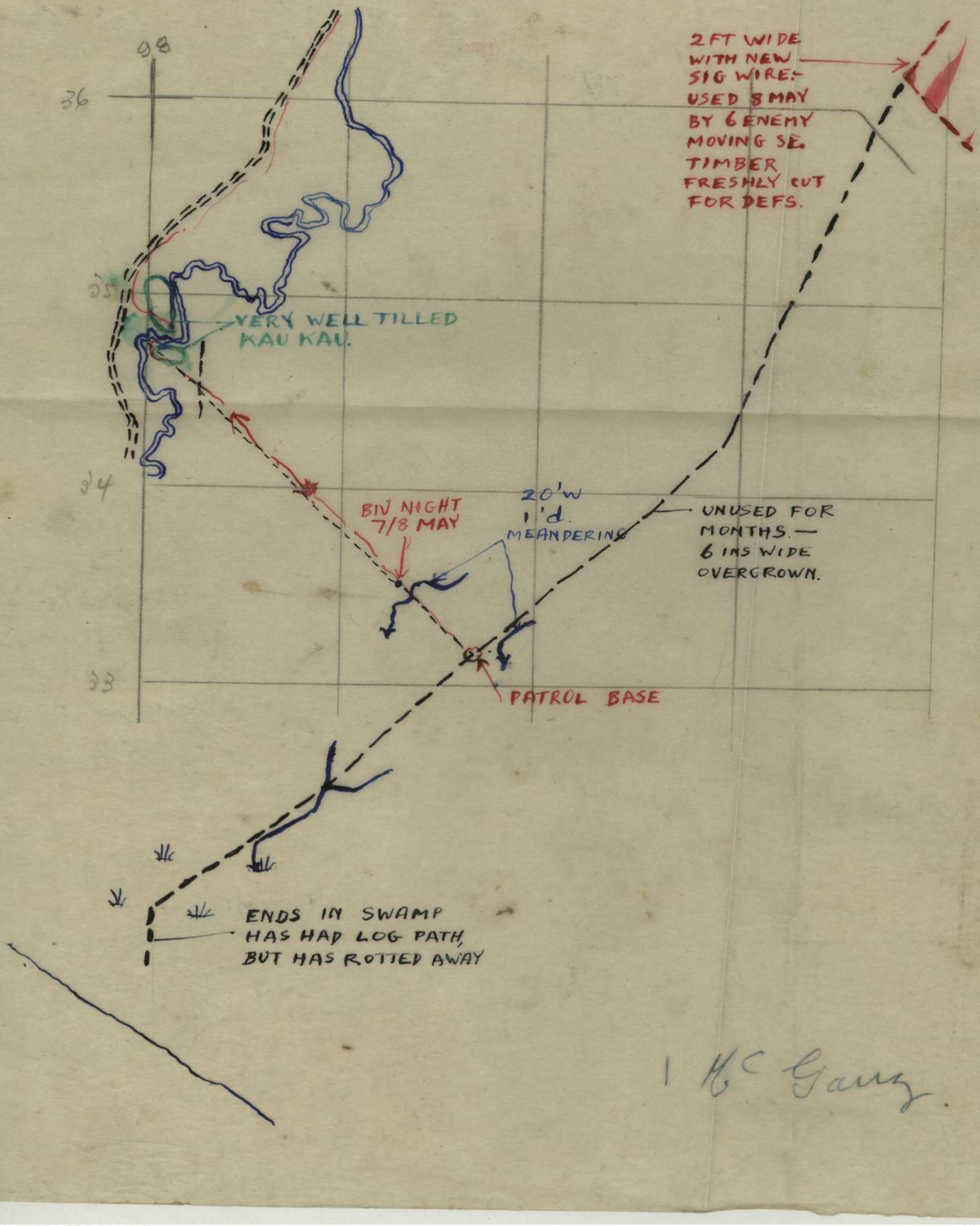
TOPO. Country from HAIKI river to track is all swamp forest, with small swamps, ankle deep throughout the whole area. Many vines plus wait-a-while make movement almost impossible. Country NORTH of patrol base, was rain forest, with large timber 30 yds apart, and very much wait-a-while and undergrowth. SOUTH from 993330 is continuous swamp, with many vines and golgol.
At 997339, and 001337, creeks 20 ft wide and 1 ft deep flow SOUTH on a meandering course. These creeks join at 993329 and contain good drinking water.
At 985351, a small pad runs at degrees mag. Neither this nor the track followed by the patrol had been used for some months.

Lt.

9 May 45

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

Patrol 282. 24 Bn



I HC Garry.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

PATROL REPORT No 87

REF MAP: MONOITU: 1/25.000 — 8 JUNE 45

UNIT: 24 Aust. Inf Bn — PATROL COMD: SGT. BEST

SUB:UNIT: D Coy. — Type: Recce & Fighting

STRENGTH: 1 NCO 13 ORs — Time In 1715L

Time Out: 0800 — ADM: M.P.T.

OBJECT: Destroy enemy parties encountered, gain PW, search all vacated enemy posns for documents, eqpt, investigate all lateral tracks for 400 Recce river xings for tanks & likely L of C

Route Out: Bn HQ SE along Buin Rd to junct 989391 thence SSE to PEPERU R 993380 thence across river & SOUTH to HARI R 995372 thence ENE along W bank HARI R to 997373 thence across river and S.E to 001370 thence NORTH to 002379 thence WEST to track junction 997381 thence to BUIN RD 982382 thence NNW along BUIN RD to TAITHI junct 996392 thence SW along MAMAGOTA RD to junc 989381.

ROUTE IN: NW along BUIN RD. to Coy HQ. — COMN: RUNNER.

PART I

Task completed. NMS

PART II

Patrol left fork of MAMAGOTA - BUIN RDs at 0900 hrs and struck PEPERU R. small unused garden on edge of river. No log xing found but natural stone ford makes xing easy. Jap sig wire (old) along SOUTH bank. River at xing 15ˣ wide 16" deep steep banks grade ½. 998373 track at 30° shown signs of enemy use 3 days ago. Remains of sml fire and banana leaf bed. Voices heard on patrols left front & on investigation fresh cut PAW-PAW was found. River at 999380 is 10 yds wide 2 ft deep, speed 10 M.P.H. PIT-PIT and thick undergrowth on NORTH bank. 40' to 50' drop but not steep. Fresh blood found and trampled grass in area gave impression of app 5 enemy having rested there same morning. Patrol reached track junction 997381. Area hvly bombed track in distinct signs of use 5 days ago. Firing heard NW appr 500 yds away. Tracks in area showed signs of hy use and of numerous parties having moved off track in all directions. Old posn 002377 consisted of 1 pillbox 5 foxholes in area 20 yds sq. Kitchen in area had been used 2 days ago. Trk at 002378 was well worn by very hy foot traffic. Sign post with Jap writing found on side of track. Garden at 000378 was very extensive 400ˣ by 400ˣ well used & had been recently tilled but no vegetables growing in area.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

PATROL REPORT 299

13 JUN 45

REF MAP — MONOITO - MAMAGATA. 1/25000 — TYPE FIGHTING.

UNIT — 24 aust Inf Bn

SUBUNIT — C Coy — COMD — LT. F WHITEBROOK

STRENGTH — one plus plus 2 secs plus 2 tanks and bulldozer team

TIME OUT — 130830L — TIME IN — 131640L

OBJECT — To stage diversionary attack vicinity 003370

ROUTE OUT — SOUTH along MAMAGATA Rd from Coy HQ 004403 to 992370. thence across HARI Rwir to 997368

ROUTE IN. — Reverse

ADM. — MPT

COMN. — W/T. 208 and Tank W/T.

PART I

Located enemy posn contacted at 997368 where diversionary attack staged as instructed. NMS

PART II.

130800L Patrol left Coy HQ and moved SOUTH along MAMAGATA Rd to A Coy where two tanks and bulldozer team joined patrol which continued south along rd to 989370 thence WEST across the HARI Rwir at 992370 River was crossed by the tanks without difficulty. Continued on a bearing of 120 degrees for 600 yds through very thick undergrowth. The bulldozer being used to make a track for the tanks. The surface of the ground was soft and going was difficult for the tanks.

At 997368 Contacted a vacated Jap posn with aprox for 60-100 Consisting of foxholes vacated 2-3 days. The tanks and patrol opened fire with all weapons for 15 minutes then moved forward into the posn further progress with the tanks was not possible because a large donga which would require at least 2 days work by engrs to make it tank able

A message was received to contact the PIB but no contact made.

Patrol then returned arriving at Coy HQ 1640 hrs.

Signed J. K. Whitebrook

14. APR 45

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

PATROL REPORT 299 — 13 JUN 45

REF MAP — MONOITO - MAMAGATA 1/25000 — TYPE FIGHTING
UNIT — 2/4 aust Inf Bn
SUBUNIT — C Coy — COMD — LT F WHITEBROOK
STRENGTH — one plus plus 2 secs plus 2 tanks and bulldozer team
TIME OUT — 130830L — TIME IN — 131640L
OBJECT — To stage diversionary attack vicinity 003370
ROUTE OUT — SOUTH along MAMAGATA Rd from Coy HQ 004403 to 992370 thence across HARI River to 997368
ROUTE IN — Reverse
ADM — MPT
COMN — W/T 208 and Tank W/T

PART I

Located enemy post contacted at 997368 - where diversionary attack staged as instructed NIL

PART II

130800L Patrol left Coy HQ and moved SOUTH along MAMAGATA Rd to H Coy where two tanks and bulldozer team joined patrol which continued South along rd to 989370 thence WEST across the HARI River at 992370 River was crossed by the tanks without difficulty Continued on a bearing of 120 degrees for 600 yds through very thick undergrowth The bulldozer being used to make a track for the tanks. The surface of the ground was soft and going was difficult for the tanks.

at 997368 Contacted a vacated Jap post with about 50-100 containing of foxholes vacated 2-3 days The tanks and patrol opened fire with all weapons for 15 minutes then moved forward into the post Further progress with the tanks was not possible because of a large donga which would require at least 2 days work by engrs to make it tankable

A message was received to contact the PIB but no contact made

Patrol then returned arriving at Coy HQ 16 40 hrs

Signed

14 AFR 45

PATROL REPORT 298

REF MAP MONOITU - MAMAGOTA 1:25000

UNIT 24 Aust Inf Bn

SUBUNIT D COY

STR 1 OFFR 20 O/R 2 SIGS

TIME OUT 120800

DATE 14 JUNE

COMD LT LAWN

TYPE FIGHTING

TIME IN 13 1630

OBJECTS

1 To establish ambushes 015365 020364 night 12/13 June

2 Diversionary tactics to create diversion in enemy forces

ROUTE OUT

From Coy HQ along BUIN - MAMAGOTA RDS to 990365 to 010350

ROUTE IN

Reverse Route out.

ADM MPT

COMN W/T

PART 1 Objects achieved NMS

PART 2.

Patrol moved via BUIN - MAMAGOTA RDS to 990365 thence to 010350 where a base was established 121230[4].

Patrol then moved to track junc 018359 then to 013365 where a mock battle was staged.

Patrol then established ambushes at 015365 on track and at 020364 track junc which operated overnight 12/13 JUNE. NMS during night 12/13.

Patrol then moved back to track junc 018359 & from there it proceeded to 016361 and staged a mock battle after which it moved back to base 010350

131300[4] patrol plus two sections of PIB, which had joined patrol at 010350, staged mock battle at base 010350. Patrol plus PIB returned to MAMAGATA RD thence to Coy HQ

Lt D.E. Lawn

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

PATROL REPORT 208

REF MAP MONOITU - MAMAGOTA 1:25000
UNIT 24 Qmsl Sqn Bn
SUBUNIT D COY
STR 1 OFFR 20 O/R 2 SIGS
TIME OUT 120800
OBJECTS

DATE 14 JUNE
COMD LT LAWN
TYPE FIGHTING
TIME IN 13 1630

1 To establish ambushes 015365 020364 night 12/13 June
2 Diversionary tactics to create diversion in enemy forces

ROUTE OUT

From Coy HQ along BUIN - MAMAGOTA RDS to 990365 to 010350

ROUTE IN

Reverse Route out.

ADM MPT

COMN W/T

PART 1 Objects achieved NMS

PART 2

Patrol moved via BUIN - MAMAGOTA RDS to 990365 thence to 010350 where a base was established 121230[A].

Patrol then moved to track junc 018359 then to 013365 where a mock battle was staged

Patrol then established ambushes at 015365 on track and at 020364 track junc which operated overnight 12/13 JUNE. NMS during night 12/13.

Patrol then moved back to track junc 018359 a from there it proceeded to 016361 and staged a mock battle after which it moved back to base 010350

131300[A] patrol plus two sections of PIB, which had joined patrol a 010350, staged mock battle at base 010350. Patrol plus PIB returned to MAMAGATA RD thence to Coy HQ

Lt D.E. Lawn.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

Inf Sch

Patrol 301

Task Fighting

Drawn from A coy

Str one platoon

Comd Lt Leslie

Date 14 - 16 June 45

Route out Coy HQ South to 989364 to 010350

Route in reverse route out

Time out 140800L Time in 161200L

Task: To harass enemy vic RUSE 1

Part one.

Task Completed

1 14 Jun
est base at 012353

2 patrol from base to ORGORATA mined twice 042356
NMS

3 15 Jun.
Ambush posn est on 6 ft wide track with sig wire on side at 032361
Enemy party str 100 ambushed.
Cas Given Nil — Enemy 12 killed 3 wounded

4. Patrol did NOT locate track at 017345

Signed Lt Leslie

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

PATROL 301 14-16 June 45

TYPE. FIGHTING

A COY

PATROL COMD. Lt LESLIE

Strength 1 Pl

Route out.

Coy HQ thence SOUTH to 989364
to 010350 and est base

Route in.

Reverse route out

TIME OUT. 140800L TIME IN 161200

Task - to harass enemy

PART 2

patrol crossed HARI river at 991366 thence to
012353 where a base was est at 141230.
At 141300L a patrol comd by Lt LESLIE and 2
secs moved from base to the RUSEI area
reaching via ORGORATA river at 042356 where
9 old huts on EAST side of bank were observed.
The patrol recced the EAST bank extensively but
no significant enemy movements were observed and patrol
then returned to base.
On 150800L a strong ambush party of one
offr and 2 secs established a posn on a well worn
track 6 ft wide with sig wire on the side at
032361. This track showed signs of movement of large
parties to the EAST.
at 151030L a strong enemy party str 100 were
observed moving EAST along track. the ambush
party waited until the main body had passed
then engaged.
The enemy replied with 1 HMG three mortars
then attempting an outflanking mvt forced our

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

2
Ward to break contact. Cas during this action
were enemy 12 killed 3 wounded own nil.
The patrol then moved back to the base but owing
to the enemy's tactics patrol was devided and
one sec under comd cpl CRUISE not being
successful in contacting patrol base returned to
coy locality.

A further patrol left the base at 151600L
to recce reported track at 017345 - but did not
locate track as reported.

Patrol observed a well worn track at 009357
running NE - SW showing no signs of use
within the last 48 hrs track was 2 ft wide.
Vegetation contacted throughout patrol was
of a secondary nature lt to medium
Patrol completed task

170900L Signed H Lewis

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

PATROL REPORT. 302.

14 JUN 45

REF MAP MONOITU - MAMAGATA. 1/25000

UNIT 24 aust Inf Bn

SUBUNIT C Coy

COMD LT. FC WHITEBROOK

STRENGTH 1 Off 13 ORs

TIME OUT 140800L

TIME IN 141740L

OBJECT. 1. To destroy enemy encountered
2. Capture PW.
3. To investigate garden areas

ROUTE OUT Coy HQ. South along MAMAGATA Rd to 988373 - SE to 993370 - 003373 - 012368 - 019363 - South to vicinity

ROUTE IN 010350 - NE to 990365 - thence Coy HQ.

ADM MPT.

COMN RUNNER

PART. I

Route completed. No gardens seen as shown on map
No enemy movement seen.

PART. II.

140800L. Patrol left Coy HQ 004403 proceeded South along MAMAGATA Rd to 993370 where the HARI. River was crossed moved NE to 000372 where patrol crossed a track 1ft wide running at 30 deg magnetic: used this morning by two Japs moving E & S.T. a small team to observed close by. Patrol continued through very dense and tangled undergrowth & swampy surface to vicinity of reported garden at 003372 but no garden seen. Country is low secondary growth. Continued on bearing 100° mag to 013369 vicinity for garden without success.
moved SE to 017366 where a well worn track 2ft wide running NORTH and SOUTH was crossed. The track had been used extensively but not for at least 24 hrs. Japanese Cable along track was cut
Continued on bearing to vicinity 019364 vicinity area for track shown on map without success.
moved on bearing 208 degrees to 018362 where the well worn track was again crossed. at 012354 a swamp in places knee deep commenced & continued beyond 010350 where patrol was to contact A Coy patrol - This area would not be suitable for a base.
Returned to MAMAGATA Rd on bearing of 307°. Through very dense undergrowth and swamp from 010350 to 996360.

The Country in most parts is impassable to tanks and very slow going for infantry.

When at 013368. Patrol heard firing in vicinity of BOIN Rd

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

PATROL REPORT 302

14 JUN 45

REF MAP — MONOITU - MAMAGATA 1/25000

UNIT — 2/4 Aust Inf Bde

SUBUNIT — C Coy — COMD — LT FC WHITEBROOK

STRENGTH — 1 Off 13 ORs

TIME OUT — 140800L — TIME IN — 141740L

OBJECT — 1. To destroy enemy encountered
2. Capture PW
3. To investigate garden areas

ROUTE OUT — Coy H&S South along MAMAGATA Rd to 998373 - SE to 993370 - 003373 - 012368 - 019363 - South to 010350

ROUTE IN — 010350 - NE to 990365 - thence Coy H&Q

ADM — MPT

COMM — RUNNER

PART I

Route completed. No gardens seen as shown on maps
No enemy movement seen

PART II

140900L Patrol left Coy H&Q 004403 proceeded South along MAMAGATA Rd to 993370 where the HARI River was crossed moved NE to 000372 where patrol crossed a track 1ft wide running East & West. magnetic used thus morning by two jeeps moving E & W. a small bears to observed close by Patrol continued through very dense and tangled undergrowth a swampy surface to vicinity of reported garden at 003372 but no gardens seen country is low secondary growth Continued on bearing 100° mag to 013369 raced for gardens without success moved SE to 017366 where a well worn track 2ft wide running NORTH and SOUTH was crossed the track had been used extensively but not for at least 24 hrs. Jap signal Cable along track was cut Continued on bearing to vicinity 019364 raced area for track shown on maps without success.

moved on bearing 208 degrees to 018362 where the well worn track was again crossed at 012358 a swamp in places knee deep commenced & continued beyond 010350 where patrol was to contact A Coy patrol - this area would not be suitable for a base.

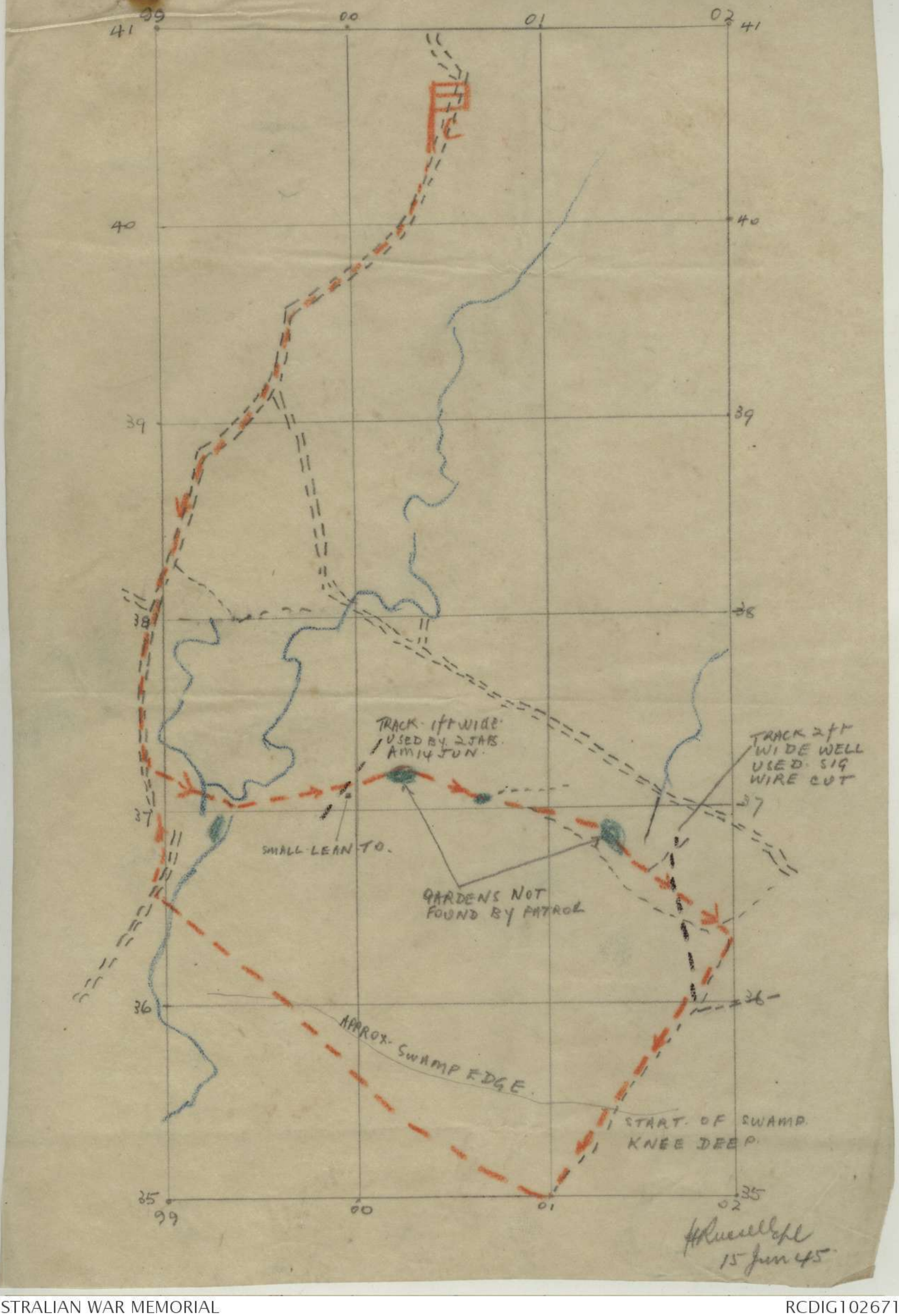
Returned to MAMAGATA Rd on bearing of 307° through very dense undergrowth and swamp from 010350 to 996360

The Country in most parts is impassable to tanks and very slow going for infantry

Patrol at 013368 heard firing in vicinity of BIN Rd

PATROL 302 - 14 JUN 45.

REF MAPS MONDITU - MAMAGATA 1/25000



H Russell Capt
15 Jun 45.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

ROBFORCE (COY MOVE BY 'B' COY)

REF MAP	MONOITU – MAMAGATA 1: 25000	DATE	14/15 JUNE
UNIT	24	COMD	CAPT ROBINSON
SUBUNIT	B coy	TYPE	COY MOVE
STR	coy HQ plus 2 pls, 1 tp tanks, bulldozer squad.	TIME IN	15.1045
TIME OUT	140745		
OBJECT	To establish B coy on ford 999381 by making an outflanking move through 989380 – 989371 – 992370 – to 999381		

Coy (2 pls B coy and 1 tp tanks, sec engrs, bull dozer crew) moved from 983385 at 140715. Left A coy from 989380 at 140915. after proceeding down the MAMAGOTA RD to 989371 the coy crossed the HARI river below the junc at 992370.

at 994368 the coy was held up by a small creek while the engrs prepared a crossing with the bull dozer. The coy crossed the creek and at 995370 was prevented from further mvt by a swamp 100 yds across and 3 feet deep. Patrol from coy recced to the EAST and at 997370 it found a well worn track running on 43° M. At 141330 while on track 2 japs approached from the SW. They escaped into bush after being fired on. The recce patrol going further EAST crossed two creeks which needed much work to make tankable so patrol returned.

a recce patrol NORTH to river & then upstream to ford found 995372 an 80 foot rise 1:1 and swamp beneath it. NMS this patrol.

15 1045 ROBFORCE returned to A coy MR 989380

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

ROBFORCE (COY MOVE BY 'B' COY)

REF MAP MONOITU - MAMAGATA 1: 25000
DATE 14/15 JUNE
UNIT 24
COMD CAPT ROBINSON
SUBUNIT B coy
TYPE COY MOVE
STR coy HQ plus 2 pls, 1 tp tanks, bulldozer squad.
TIME IN 151045
TIME OUT 140745
OBJECT To establish B coy on ford 999381 by making an out flanking move through 989380 - 989371 - 992370 - to 999381

Coy (2 pls B coy and 1 tp tanks, sec engrs, bull dozer crew) moved from 983385 at 140715. Left A coy from 989380 at 140915. After proceeding down the MAMAGOTA RD to 989371 the coy crossed the HARI river below the junc at 992370.

At 994368 the coy was held up by a small creek while the engrs prepared a crossing with the bull dozer. The coy crossed the creek and at 995370 was prevented from further mvt by a swamp 100 yds across and 3 feet deep. Patrol from coy recced to the EAST and at 997370 it found a well worn track running on 43° M. At 141330 whilst on track 2 Japs approached from the SW. They escaped into bush after being fired on. The recce patrol going further EAST crossed two creeks which needed much work to make tankable so patrol returned.

A recce patrol NORTH to river & then upstream to ford found 995372 an 80 foot rise 1:1 and swamp beneath it. VMS this patrol.

151045 ROBFORCE returned to A coy MR 989380

H Robinson Capt

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

Patrol Report No 307

Ref Map. Monoit v 1/25,000
Mamaqota 1/25 000

Patrol found by: 7 pl A Coy.

Patrol Comd : Lt Martin.

Patrol Str : 1 offr 10 ors. Nature: Fighting.

Time Out : 170800 h Time In 171545 h

Object of Patrol: 1. Destroy enemy parties contacted
2. Capture PW.
3. Est ambush posns in all used gardens and on all well worn tracks.
4. Complete Topo Report.

Route: CHQ 011374 to garden 017375 thence North along track to garden 017384 thence NE to garden 020385 thence to track 022388 then NE to ORGORATA river 033393. Down ORGORATA to BUIN Rd then back to coy

---

Part I

N. M. S.

No recent signs of enemy.

Part II

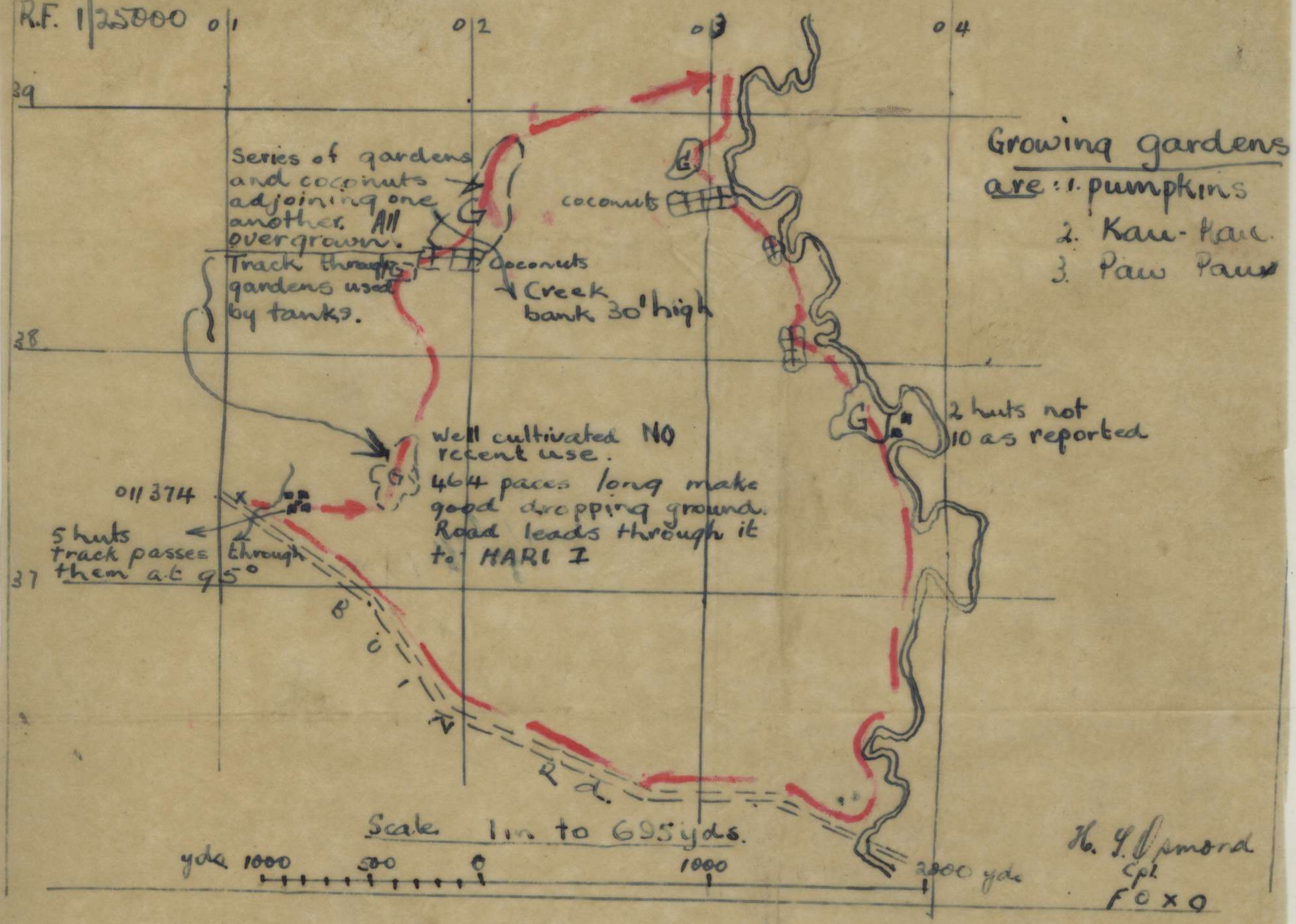
See Sketch attached.

W. Martin Lt.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

Route Traversed by Patrol 307

Ref Map: Monomotiu 1/25000



H. S. Osmond
Cpl.
FOXO

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

PATROL REPORT 308 17 JUN 45

REF MAP MONOITV 1/25000 FIGHTING

UNIT 24 Const Inf Bn

SUB UNIT C Coy COMD Lt Spendlove

STRENGTH 1/Off 14 ORs

TIME OUT 170800L TIME IN 171700L

OBJECT a. To destroy enemy encountered
b. Search all gardens en route
c. Set ambushes on well worn tracks
d. capture PW
e. Info report

ROUTE OUT Coy H&Q to 006401 - 014405 - HARI River 023406
033405 - OGORATA R - 042404 - 041416 -

ROUTE IN along S/L of Coy C to TAI TAI thence SW along
M. AMAGATA - TAI TAI Rd to Coy H&Q

ADM MPT

COMM RUNNER

PART I

no enemy seen - Tracks and gardens en route showed no signs of recent use - Country between the HARI River and OGORATA R very thick undergrowth hard and slow going

PART II

moved from Coy H&Q on bearing of 120° mag for 200 yds to a small clearing and hut at 006401 through thick secondary growth.

530 for 120 yds when a creek 10ft wide 1ft deep with 20ft banks was crossed - followed a track for 60 yds on bearing 100° and came to a clearing and two huts at 012402 followed track another 50 yds to a small creek where track petered out continued on same bearing 55° for 50 yds when another creek 6ft wide 2ft deep with steep banks 20ft high was crossed - continued to garden at 014405. gardens is overgrown and tracks not used for sometime. going on this leg was easier with rain forest and light undergrowth

continued on general bearing 90° for 200 yds to an old garden which was recced. the track ran around the edge of the garden then on bearing of 115° to HARI River at 023406 crossed the HARI at this point and moved on bearing of 78° mag 200 yds along track came to a large but clear defined track 6 ft wide running North and South which was crossed - the track had not been used for at least one week. The country from the Hari to Ogarata River is very thick undergrowth and very difficult to keep on a bearing after 200 yds the OGARATA to Kuru was out of approx 033405.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

2

Continued on bearing 90° for 200 yds to a clearing with a track 18 ins wide running North and South and crossed after 700 yds creek 8 ft wide 2 ft. deep steep bank 50 ft high on EAST side continued for another 250 yds where well defined track thought to be the one shown on map at 042404 followed track on general bearing 75° for 1100 yds to a track junc which was found 57/60 2 of C. many recent footprints and two dog turds (wet) seen
Followed track WEST to TAI TAI Rd thence SW along Rd to ~~[illegible]~~ Coy HQ

all gardens seen enroute were overgrown and showed no sign of recent use Tracks seen had not been used for at least one week

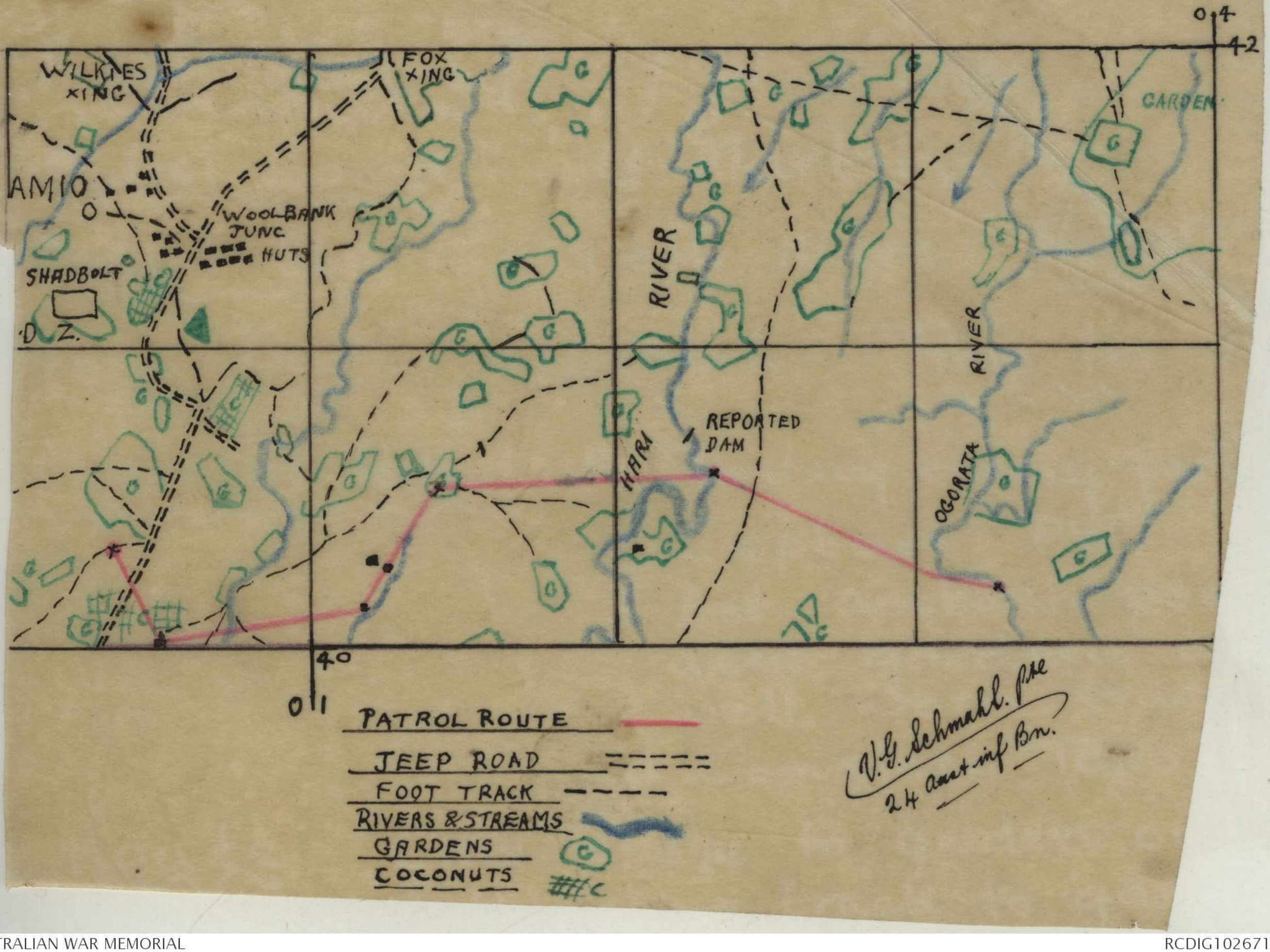
M Gardiner Lt

17 JUN 45

PATROL REPORT N°308

REF MAP: MONOITU

SCALE. 1:25,000



V.G. Schmahl. Pte
24 Aust inf Bn.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

PATROL ROBFORCE 4

REF MAP Monoitu - Rumiki -
UNIT 24 Aust Inf Bn
SUB UNIT B Coy
STR 1 sjt 8 ors
TIME OUT 190830
OBJECT

DATE 20 June
COMD Sgt Gavey
TIME IN 191400

Capture PW
Full topo infm of track traversed
Destroy enemy parties.

ROUTE OUT From coy HQ 520430 to approx 060 500

ROUTE IN Reverse route out

ADM MPT emergency rations

COMN Runner

PART 1

Track reced to 060500
N M S

PART 2

Patrol left coy HQ 052430 190830 and proceeded along track to gardens 200 yds at 048 431. Patrol went a further 100 yds and struck further gaidens. at 700 yds from start patrol struck a disused hut on right at 04 8 435. Patrol proceeded 170 yds where a track was contacted which crossed main track at 048 436. a further 410 yds another track branched off to left at 048 437. patrol proceeded a further 170 yds where a track crossed the main track at 047 438. after proceeding 200 yds another track branched off to left at approx 046 441. Patrol proceeded approx 1000 yds and found a track to the right. after another 180 yds patrol struck a large garden with a track to the left. Bush kanakas struck here said Aust soldiers were camped on right. a further 150 yds a track was found going to the left. Patrol proceeded 1800 yds & struck a track going to right at 058 455. a further 30 yds a track went to left. after going another 330 yds patrol found another garden. a further 430 yds a track went to left. Another 330 yds another track to the right at 052 470. Natives contacted here state that this track goes to AGAPINA and that the village is populated by women children and native animals. AGAPINA about 200 yds off main track. Patrol then returned to coy HQ.

Track whole length follows along top of 50 cliff not shown on map. It is 12 - 20 ft wide jeepable but muddy in wet weather. Vegetation rain forest & gardens.

A E Gavey Sgt.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

PATROL ROBFORCE 1

REF MAP MONOITU - RUMIKI -
UNIT 24 Aust Inf Bn
SUB UNIT B Coy
STR 1 sjt 8 ors
TIME OUT 190330
OBJECT

DATE 20 JUNE
COMD SGT GAVEY
TIME IN 191400

Capture PW
Full topo infm of track traversed
Destroy enemy parties.

ROUTE OUT From coy HQ 520430 to approx 060500

ROUTE IN Reverse route out

ADM MPT emergency rations

COMN Runner

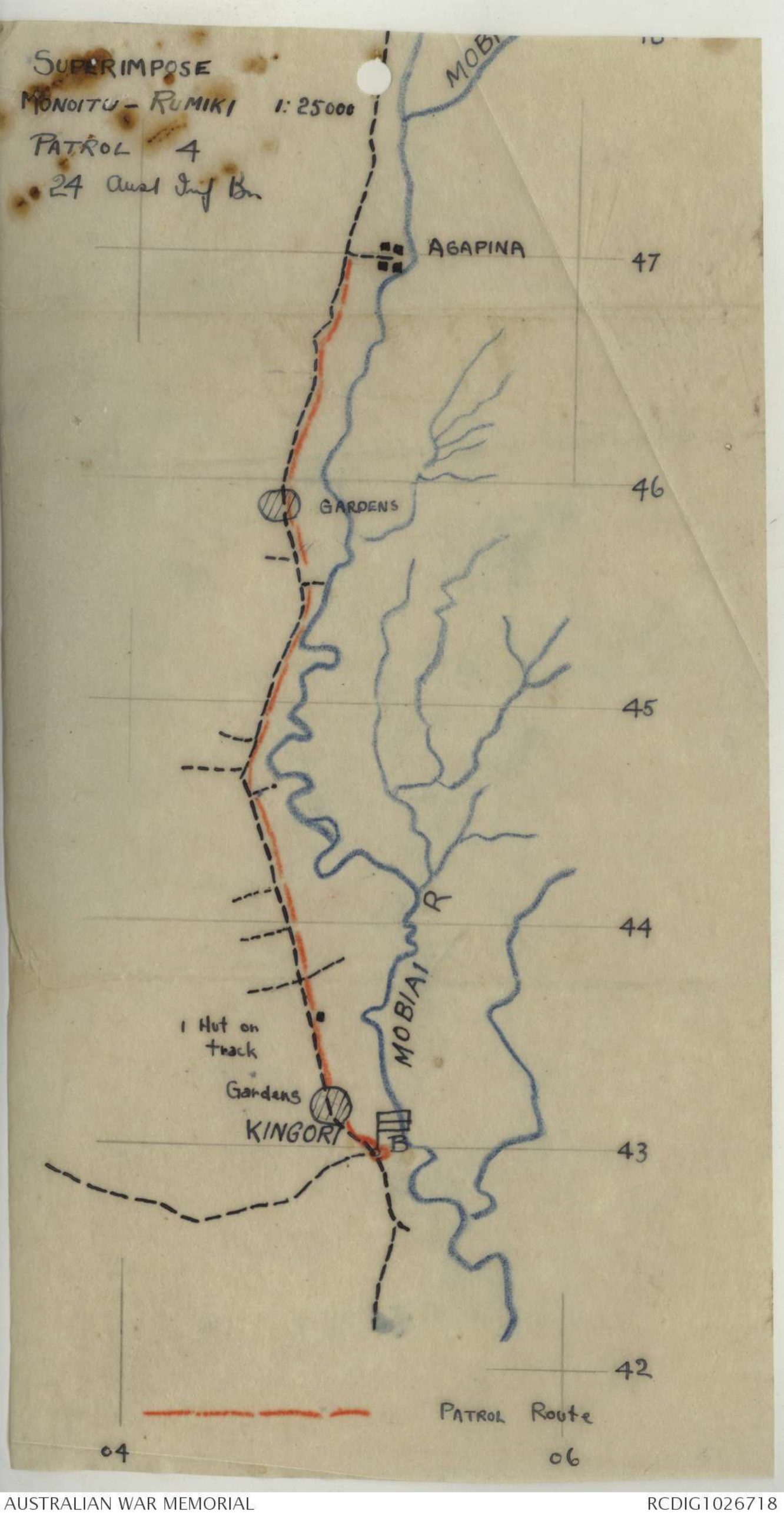
PART 1 Track recced to 060500
NMS

PART 2 Patrol left coy HQ 052430 190830 and proceeded along track to gardens 200 yds at 048431. Patrol went a further 100 yds and struck a disused hut further gardens. at 700 yds from start patrol struck a disused hut on right at 048435. Patrol proceeded 170 yds where a track was contacted which crossed main track at 048436. a further 410 yds another track branched off to left at 048437. patrol proceeded a further 170 yds where a track crossed the main track at 047438. after proceeding 200 yds another track branched off to left at approx 046441. Patrol proceeded approx 1000 yds and found a track to the right. after another 180 yds patrol struck a large garden with a track to the left. Bush kanakas struck here said Aust soldiers were camped on right. a further 150 yds a track was found going to the left. Patrol proceeded 1800 yds & struck a track going to right at 058455. a further 30 yds a track went to left. after going another 330 yds patrol found another garden. a further 430 yds a track went to left. another 330 yds another track to the right at 052470. Natives contacted here state that this track goes to AGAPINA and that the village is populated by women children and native animals. AGAPINA about 200 yds off main track. Patrol then returned to coy HQ.

Track whole length follows along top of 50 cliff not shown on map. It is 12-20 ft wide jeepable but muddy in wet weather. Vegetation rain forest & gardens.

W L Gavey Sgt.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

PATROL ROBFORCE 2

REF MAP — MONOITU - MASARAKA 1:25000
UNIT — 24 Aust Inf Bn
SUBUNIT — B Coy
Sh — 2 sjt 21 ors ICAP att
TIME OUT — 180830
OBJECT — Destroy enemy parties encountered
Search vacated enemy posns for documents etc
Topo report on tracks as to tankability & jeepability

DATE — 20 JUNE
COMD — Sjt ROBERTSON
TIME IN — 191700

ROUTE OUT — From Coy HQ 052430 to 095406 along track to 105403 to 103358

ROUTE IN — Reverse route out

ADM — MPT

COMN — CARRIER PIGEON

PART 1 — NMS. Reached Objective
Topo info in report

PART 2

Patrol left Coy HQ 052430, 180830L & proceeded along track to MOBIAI river which was crossed at 055425. Two dead Japs found 20 yds from river on EAST bank. Banks of MOBIAI R very steep with 50 ft high slopes. Patrol proceeded through IERI 065423 and MATALASI 073420 to 077418 where track being followed ran into garden & was lost. Patrol here could not find track to KATSUWA at 095406 so followed a track, well defined, bearing NE for 300 yds to hut on top of escarpment at 079421. Here the patrol turned SE along an ill defined track for approx 1000 yds. This track here ran into a well defined track bearing NORTH-SOUTH. The NORTH-SOUTH track was followed for 600 yds where it went SW through a garden area. It was followed a further 400 yds to 081411. From here the patrol went on a bearing SE for 2300 yds and struck a well defined NORTH-SOUTH track at 103388. After proceeding a further 200 yds on NE bearing patrol struck MIVO river at 105389 where there is an island in middle of river. From 103388 to island in river is a track, recently used by enemy but not heavily used, which runs to garden on island.

Patrol moved back to 103388 & moved SOUTH along track for 2700 yds to 103358 where the track becomes ill defined at 103359 there is a branch track leading to gardens on river bank which contains 3 unoccupied huts. No signs of recent use in gardens or huts.

Patrol returned NORTH

S.Sgt A. A. Robertson

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

back along track to 103376 & from here patrol went on bearing of 330° to 097387 where patrol made bivouac for night 18/19 June.

at 190730 patrol proceeded on 320° to 086399 & struck a track which was followed NORTH to 090420 where patrol struck a track June on which PIB had ambush set.

Patrol proceeded NW to 074425 & contacted PIB again. From here it proceeded on 270° to creek at 069425 which was followed down to track Xing at 064423.

The patrol then proceeded NW along track to coy HQ at 052430

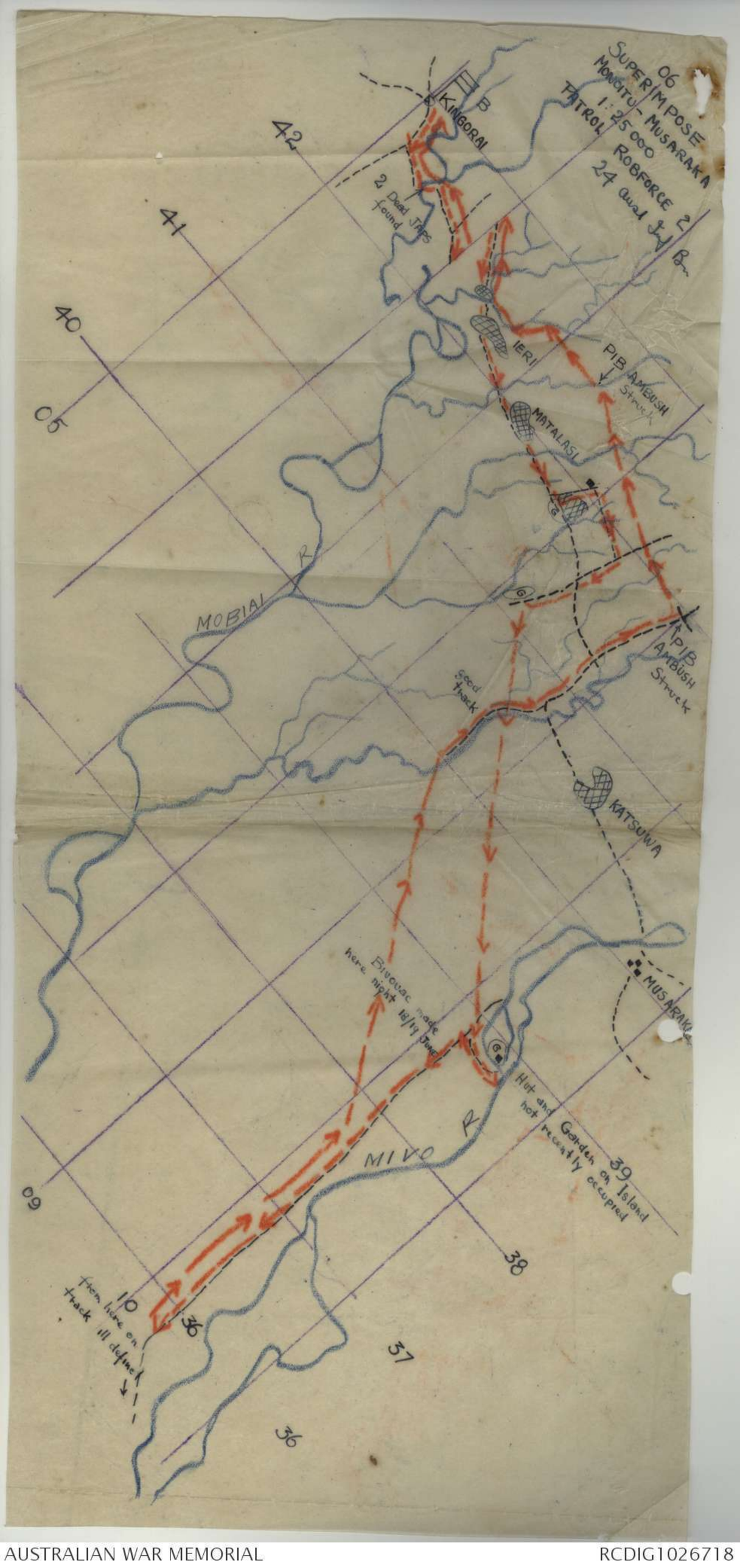
Remarks

1. The general terrain was rugged & the majority of the streams struck had steep banks height average 30 feet on both sides.

2. Vegetation rain forest with medium undergrowth

3. Tracks contacted were solid but could NOT be used by tanks or jeeps due to the numerous steep banked streams on all tracks going EAST - WEST. Tracks going NORTH - SOUTH could be used by jeeps or tanks with a little work.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

PATROL REPORT 311

~~Ref Map~~ Monoitu, Musuraka, Niva River 1:25000 — 18-20 JUNE
~~Unit~~ 24 Aust Inf Bn (AIF) — COMD. LT FEATHERBY
~~Sub Unit~~ D coy 1T pl — TYPE. Fighting
~~Strength~~. 1 pl.
~~Time Out~~ 180830L. — Time In. 201030L
~~Object~~ Relieve Patrol No 304 and carry out same task.
~~Route Out~~ From Coy HQ to 040361, 180° to 042353, to 042351 to 045348 to Base at 045343.
~~Route In~~ From Base NORTH to BUIN RD thence to present D coy location (20 JUN)
~~Admin~~: M.P.T.
~~Comm~~. Runner.

PART. 1

~~Object~~. Carried out. Enemy contacted 067339.

PART. 2.

NARRATIVE Patrol left coy HQ and moved along BUIN RD to 040361 thence moved on a bearing of 180°M for approx 1100 yds to an overgrown garden at 042353, thence 250 yds SOUTH to another overgrown garden at 042351. From this point patrol followed a well defined track running on bearing of 180°M for 200 yds to a track junc. with 2 JAP signposts in position. The branch track ran off at 105°M, and main track continued on same bearing for a further 350 yds to a large garden. Footprints of 5 ENEMY moving SOUTH were noticed on main track. Prints were approx ½ day old. Garden at 044348 was very well cultivated and evidence of use previous day. Kau Kau was plentiful and also some PAW PAW. But the main feature of the garden was a rice crop of approx 2 acres. Some of the crop had been reaped and stacked inside a lean to on SOUTH edge of garden. A track ran EAST along the NORTH edge of the garden to a log crossing over the ODORATA R.V. at 045348. Patrol then moved SOUTH through scrub for a further 850 yds to its BASE at 045343. No further tracks were seen on route and patrol arrived at BASE at 181330L. Patrol recce surrounding area and then proceeded to bed down for night 18 JUN-19 JUN.

19TH JUNE. At 190815L a patrol of strength 1 offr 10 ors left BASE to patrol to log xing at 067338. On opposite bank of river to patrol BASE was found a garden in good conditions which contained KAU KAU, PAW PAW and a rice crop ready for reaping. Patrol then moved on a bearing of 114°M for 200 yds to a creek 14' wide 18" deep at 047342. Patrol continued for a further 2500 yds to log xing over MOBIAI R.V. at 067335. Patrol was placed in posn at this point and patrol comd with INCO moved NORTH to recce area in vic of —

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

PATROL REPORT N°311 (CONT'D)

logging and to the NORTH of it. After moving for 250 yds to bend in river at 067339, adv tps came across 5 enemy at this point. Enemy were armed with rifles and were sitting in a group. Patrol comd and this cpl opened fire with OWEN and grenades killing 3 enemy and aboundering 2. Own cas NIL. Our tps rejoined main body of patrol and patrol moved to 064338 where an ambush was set on either side of track. Remained in that posn for 1 hr 15 mins NMS. Patrol of str. 1 offr 5 ors then moved NE and crossed river at 069339 and recced area for 200 yds EAST. No signs of mov. seen and patrol rejoined main body and proceeded direct to BASE arriving at 191630L. Patrols recced area for 700x NORTH SOUTH EAST and WEST of BASE but NMS No enemy posns were seens for duration of patrol.

20 JUNE. Patrol left BASE and moved NORTH to BUIN RD. thence NORTH to present Decoy locations and arrived this HQ at 201030L. Route taken by patrol would need considerable dozing to be made trafficable and EAST bank of MOBIAH RV at 067338 is 50' high, WEST bank 5' high. Country mainly fairly thick secondary growth with thick undergrowth for most of the way

CONTACT REPORT

Enemy Contacted at 067339.
Enemy Numerical Strength. 5
Enemy was sitting in group, and were armed with rifles.
CAS. ENEMY 3 KILLED 2 WOUNDED
OWN NIL.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

PATROL ROBFORCE B

REF MAP	MONOITU 25000
UNIT	24 Aust Inf Bn
SUB UNIT	B Coy
STR	1 NCO 5 ors
TIME OUT	180830
OBJECT	1. Destroy enemy parties up to str 5 2. Capture PW 3. Traverse track and investigate lateral tracks 4 Whether track tankable or jeepable
ROUTE OUT	From Coy HQ 052430 along main track to 045446
ROUTE IN	REVERSE Route out
ADMN	EMERGENCY RATIONS
COMN	Runner

DATE 18 JUN
COMD Cpl CONROY
TIME IN 181400 L

PART 1

1. No PW taken
2. no enemy encountered
3. Track traversed from 051430 to 047055 and lateral tracks investigated
4. Track is 12 - 20 ft wide & would permit passage of tanks and jeeps but for heavy traffic would need maintenance.

PART 2

Patrol left coy HQ 052430 180830 L and proceeded along track KINGORI - KINNURI. At 180 yds patrol found garden on EAST of track which was then running 300°. a further 210 yds further on a small garden was passed. a further 400 yds patrol struck a COCONNUT grove which had one hut near track on right. From hut on main track an old disused track ran EAST down CLIFF to several delafidated huts.

Patrol continued along on track on 350° for a further 430 yds when a track went to left 288° and to right 60°. Left hand track followed to fork 044437. Right hand track was followed down cliff for 160 yds to small ck. Patrol continued along main track on for another 260 yds where another track branched off on 225° which ended in gardens after 300 yds. The escarpment (50 ft deep) was ten ft on right of main track here. Patrol continued another 240 yds & struck another track crossing the main track at 280° and 85° which was disused but well defined. Patrol continued along main track on 245° for 240 yds & struck well defined track 235° which was followed for 140 yds but continued along through rain forest. Patrol continued on 245° for another 240 yds & struck well defined pad 90° which went down cliff. Main track now bearing at 10°. a further 160 yds patrol struck another track 85° which ended at garden. Patrol continued further 320 yds with out striking further topo details & returned to Coy HQ

OVER →

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

Track generally was cleared up to 20 ft & would permit ops of jeeps & tanks using it as it is not broken & is level. An escarpment on right of track (50 feet drop) possibly drains the track well. Heavy traffic would cut track surface

Growth - rain forest along track

No signs of enemy posns or mvt along route

SIGNED J V Conroy Capt

DATE JUNE 18

SUPERIMPOSE MONOITU 1:25000

PATROL ROBFORCE 3 24 Aust Inf Bn

04 05 06

45

44

43

42

KINNRI

Gardens

Huts in cocoanuts

KINGORI

KAPANA

MOBIAI R.

50' cliff

50' cliff

LEGEND

Gardens found

Huts SEEN

Tracks followed

50' Escarpment.

04 05 06

A Braman

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

PATROL 305 (R FORCE 1) Sent to Bde.

REF MAP MONOITU – MASARAKA 25000
UNIT 24 Cmwl Inf Bn
SUB UNIT B coy
STR 1 offr 20 ors
TIME OUT 17 0800L
OBJECT To destroy enemy parties encountered
Capture of PW
Full topo infm of all tracks contacted along route

DATE 18 JUNE
COMD Lt McLEAN
TIME IN 181600L

ROUTE OUT from KINGORAI 052430 to KATSUWA 095406 to junc 075381

ADM MPT
ROUTE IN from river junc 075381 to 048390 to COMN Runner
Coy HQ 052430

PART 1

Contact made with enemy 062427
Tracks reported on in PART 2

PART 2

Patrol left base at KINGORI 170800 and proceeded down track to river Xing 055426 and moved along track 800 yds from river to 062427 where fwd scout observed freshly cut track 90° into jungle & while examining jap foot prints on track patrol came under heavy LMG rifle & grenade fire. Following exchange of fire contact was broken NIL cas both sides. Patrol then moved EAST through broken rugged country and at 071428 crossed well worn track running NE. Patrol continued to 076424 thence SE to cocoanut plantation 079419. At 078423, 5 natives were observed moving EAST carrying bananas & making much noise. The patrol remained unobserved from them. From here patrol moved SOUTH from cocoanuts to 079418 where a track was crossed which had foot prints of 6 enemy moving EAST. The track was in flat country & narrow 18" although well defined. It could be widened to 14 ft. At 079417 patrol crossed a well worn track running NORTH – SOUTH which had a bivouac area for approx 10 men.

Patrol moved SOUTH for 1000 yds then turned EAST for 400 yds to 081408 where another well worn track running NORTH – SOUTH was contacted which had foot prints of 6 japs moving SOUTH. Foot prints approx 1 day old. Patrol continued and at 083408 another track contacted running NORTH – SOUTH which was crossed. At 087408 patrol found an old native village with a well worn track running NORTH – SOUTH through it.

Next page →

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

June 1

16 1330

GAMO
LION
Methaphos dust 38/4009 pistol 36 wounded fatally 1 hit 1 fatal
16 surrendered 16 found camouflaged by secondary growth documents 1 hit 2 hits
in pit under 18130 18100 (captured by AIB from BUIN) found 3rd Jap HQ 9th
18130 052439 N of BUIN all on Bana
PW Jap 4th Div 104355 coast 9th RoBE
LION 30
GAMO
18 1330 50/ fatigue party
by 20-30 Japs (by w/T).

6

On this track at village was jap bivouac of night 16/17 June recon 10-12 men. The patrol moved EAST & crossed river at 091408 & proceeded EAST along partly overgrown track to COCOANUTS in KATSUWA area 097407. From here patrol moved WEST & bivouacked night 17/18 June 090408. The vegetation on this leg was rain forest with medium undergrowth, considered tankable.

At 180700 patrol moved from 090408 down WEST bank of river and 1 088407 struck a well worn track 20° which crossed the river o Patrol followed down WEST bank to June 075381. Terrain on this leg swamp forest to 300 yds in from river. From there it is high rugged country and all is considered untankable.

From June 075381 patrol went 290° and at 071381 found foot prints of 2 japs moving WEST through scrub. At 065385 patrol struck a well worn track running NORTH-SOUTH. Continuing, patrol struck another well worn track running NORTH-SOUTH at 061387. The patrol continued and at 059388 a well worn track was struck which was running NE. At 058388 a well worn track running NORTH was found along which ran D3 sig cable ^ 20× of which was removed This track showed heavy use by our own troops moving SOUTH. From this point 058388 a freshly cut track ran NE.

At 059359 patrol struck a freshly used lean to & found a M 36 grenade. This was thought to be a PIB sleeping area.

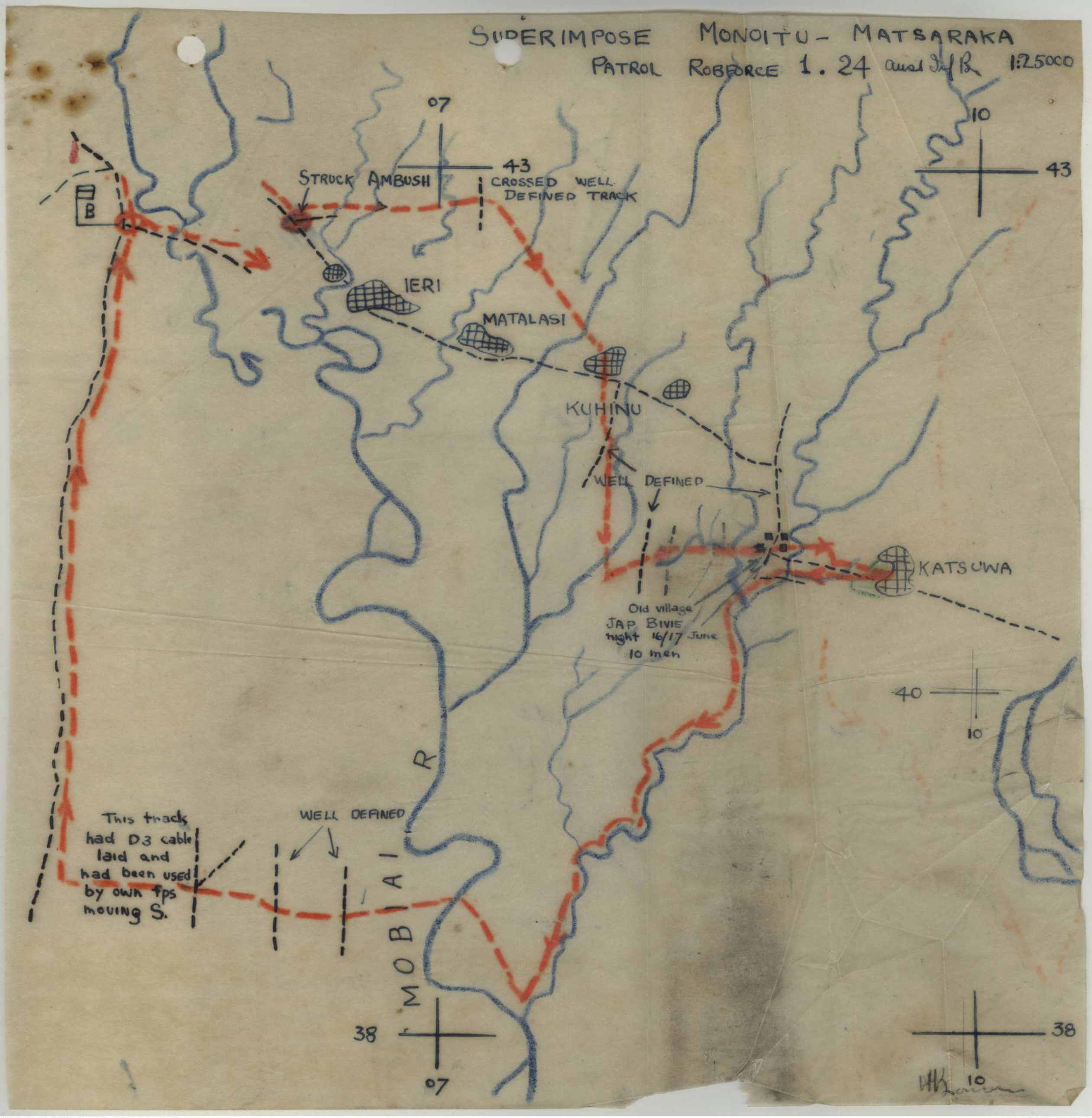
Patrol continued from 058388 and at 048390 patrol contacted BARRETS RD & returned to Coy HQ

Vegetation on this leg was mainly secondary growth with gal gal. The country is flat & considered tankable except for two small streams 500 yds and 600 yds EAST of BARRETS RD which both had high banks.

DATE 19 JUNE
SGD

At 171645c while at 087408 patrol heard small arms engagement in general NE general direction at approx 800 yds.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

PATROL ROBFORCE 5

REF MAP	MONOITU - MUSARAKA 1:25000	DATE	20 JUNE
UNIT	24 Aust Inf Bn	COMD	LT GRAHAM
SUB UNIT	B Coy	TYPE	FIGHTING
STR	1 off 23 ors	TIME IN	20 1830"
TIME OUT	20 0830"		

OBJECT To clear track from 052430 to 095405 for coy move by C Coy

ROUTE OUT From 052430 to 095405

ROUTE IN Reverse route out

NDM MPT emergency rations.

COMN Runner

PART 1 Enemy str 12 approx contacted 068421. This force fwd elements of larger force.

PART 2 Patrol left coy HQ 052430 at 20 0800" and proceeded along KATSUWA track enroute KATSUWA. At 068421 patrol struck an enemy posn of a str of approx 12 which fired on the patrol with 2 LMGs 3 mortars + rifles. The fire was controlled and this force appeared to be the fwd elements of a larger force further along the track. The enemy appeared to be working on a def posn further along track when our patrol contacted them.

Patrol returned to track junc below enemy posn & recced a track bearing SOUTH for 1000 yds from 065422 to 068411. After reaching 068411 two runners were sent back to 065422 to guide C coy to the patrol. After arrival of C coy, patrol & coy moved on a bearing of 103° M and after proceeding for approx 1000 yds struck KOROKO river at garden 074405. The fighting patrol left C coy & proceeded back to 068411 and from here on bearing of 310° to 059429. From here patrol returned to coy HQ 052430 at 20 1830".

CONTACT MADE 068421 at 20 1030"

ENEMY STR EST. 12 in party contacted

ENEMY WAS IN DEF POSN

SUPPORTED BY KNEE MORTARS

CAS OWN 3 wounded

ENEMY 2 killed 3 wounded.

SGN [signature]

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

S[illegible]ERIMPOSE MONOITU – MUSARAKA
1:[illegible]000

PATROL ROB FORCE 5

KINGORI

43

IERI

ENEMY Contacted here
5th 12

MATALASI

42

Track followed

MOBIAI R.

41

C coy left here
patrol returned

Garden

40

05 → 06 Route 07 08

Patrol Report No 317

Ref Maps: Monoitu Scale 1/25000 Date 20.6.45
Musaraka
Mivo

Patrol found by: 7 pl Foxo.

Patrol Comd: Lt Martin

Patrol Str: 1 offr 12 Ors: Nature: Recce

Time Out: 1030 hrs 19 Jun. Time In: 1000 hrs 20 Jun

Object of Patrol: 1. Recce area between MOBIAI and MIVO Rivers to ascertain if area suitable for tanks.
2. Report on fordability of MOBIAI and MIVO Rivers.

Route Out: D Coy HQ 041371 to 072376 across MOBIAI river to 077375 thence SE to 087360 due East to MIVO River to 085360 north along river for 1700 yds then NW to garden 078384 thence SW to MOBIAI river 077375

Route In: 077375 to D Coy HQ - South along Barrett's Rd then west along Buin Rd to FOXO HQ.

Part I

1. Because of the undulating nature of the country with ravines and gullies 50 ft deep consider the country in the main untankable.

2. The banks of the rivers are steep with dozer work the rivers would be fordable.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

Part II

Leg I

Start point Dcoy 041371. Brg 74° Mag. At 042372 passed through a small overgrown garden. At 055373 crossed over a small ck 4 ft wide with 10 ft banks. These banks could be "dozed" readily. At 056373 crossed a track, with sig wire, used by Aust troops. Track ran at 130° Mag. At 062374 struck a steep escarpment 30 ft high. Ground at base of escarpment for a distance of 25 yds was swampy. Continued on brg and struck Mobiai River at 072376.

Country covered by this leg is covered by thick secondary growth with few big trees.

This ground is Tankable.

MOBIAI River

At this point the river is 40 yds wide and up to 3 ft deep. Bank on west side 15 ft sheer drop. Both banks of river lined with pit-pit.

After the bank had been "dozed down river would be crossable for Tanks.

Leg II

Island is very undulating with small hill features up to 50 ft high. West bank of Eastern branch of river is 30 ft high, whilst its East bank is 15 ft high. This arm of the river is 30 yds wide

Running down ~~East~~ western side of island parallel river is a well worn track

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

~~x~~ not recently used

The island is covered with thick secondary growth and unsuitable for crossing by tanks.

Leg III

Unable to find track ~~~~ reported to be running down East bank of MOBIAI river, so followed down river bank for distance of 1900 yds.

Covered with secondary growth with visibility up to 20 and 30 yds.

Ground covered very undulating with gullies up to 30 ft deep thus making this ground unsuitable for tanks.

Leg IV

The patrol moved east from 087360 to the MIVO River at 105360.

Ground traversed was still undulating with gullies up to fifty feet deep. Thick secondary growth with few big trees covered this area. Considered this ground difficult for tanks.

MIVO River. At 105360 the banks are steep, 20 ft high. The river 40 to 50 yds wide varying from 2 to 3 ft deep. The river would be crossable for tanks if the banks were "doyed" down

Leg V

The patrol at this point struck a well defined track

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

4 Ab ft wide running nor Ah/and south along Ahe west bank of Ahe river. The tracks had been well worn but showed no signs of recent use. The patrol followed Ahe track NORTH for 1700 yds. Because of the firm surface Ahis track when widened would be satisfactory for tanks, ~~was~~ Ab move along.

Several small, unused, overgrown, isolated gardens were passed whilst mouring along this track.

Leg VII

From 104376 Ahe patrol moved NW Ab gardens 078384. At 096377 patrol passed through an overgrown garden which has several overgrown tracks leading out from it.

As for leg IV this track was undulating with numerous deep gullies and considered difficult tank country.

Leg VII From Ahe gardens Ahe patrol searched for Ahe tracks marked on sketch but was unable Ab locate it so moved S.W along Ahe MOBIAI river's east bank Ab where they originally crossed it at 077375. This ground Ahough slightly undulating could be used by tanks successfully.

From here Ahe patrol returned Ahrough Dcoy via Leg I Ab FOXO HQ.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

FROM BUIN RD TO SP [illegible] up rd.

Leg			
1.	74°	—	3250 yds
2.	94°	—	600 yds
3.	138°	—	1,900 yds
4.	83°	—	1,400 yds
5.	1700 yds	NORTH	
6.	281°	—	3000 yds
7.	193°	—	1,100 yds

West arm Mobiai R. 40 yds wide 2-3 ft deep bank 15 ft, steep.

East arm Mobiai River 30' wide 2-3 ft deep. West bank 30 ft. East bank 15 ft.

Unable to locate this track

Thick Secondary growth.

Ground undulating gullies up to 50 ft deep.

Track 4-6 ft wide. Firm surface well worn No recent use

MAVO River at this pt 40-50' wide with banks 20 ft high Depth 2-3 ft

HUTS (REPORTED)

MUSAKAKA (Reported)

Escarpment 30 ft high

80° M. Track used by Aust sig wire

Found well worn track down west bank of isle running parallel with a stream No sign recent use

CULVERT

BUIN ROAD

RIVER

CLEARING

SECONDARY GROWTH

OLORAIN

MOBIAI

FORD

LOG KING (Reported)

WAPIAI

SHISHIGATERO

DETOUR

38 37 36 35 34 33

03 04 05 06 07 08 09 00 01 02

PATROL (GRAHAM)

REF MAP — MONOITU - MUSARAKA 1:25000
UNIT — 24 Aust Inf Bn
SUB UNIT — B coy
STR — 1 off 30 ors
TIME OUT — 22 1200L
OBJECT — To contact C. Coy at 088405
Escort native arm train to C Coy

DATE — 23 June
COMD — LT. GRAHAM
TIME IN — 23 1230L
TYPE — FIGHTING

ROUTE OUT — From B coy HQ 052430 to C coy 088405 along sig wire laid from 052430 — 078410 —
ROUTE IN

ADM — MPT emergency rations
COMM — Runner

PART 1 — C Coy contacted 088405
Enemy ambush seen at approx 074410

PART 2

Patrol left coy HQ 052430 221200L and proceeded C. Coy sig wire to 078410 — where one section of the LANGTREY patrol at 078410. The patrol proceeded EAST for a further 200 yds until sig wire crossed a very steep gully of 60 ft sides at 080410. The sig wire was cut on both sides of the gully. On reaching top of the EAST bank the fwd scout noticed one enemy. Patrol comd went fwd & observed three enemy & also indications of a large ambush posn set on our signal cable. The patrol skirted to the right & struck back to C Coy again at approx 082408 and continued into C Coy at 088 405. At least half a mile of signal wire had been removed by the enemy. The patrol contacted a patrol moving out from C Company to repair wire & warned them of ambush. After reporting in to C Company, patrol moved out on 253° M with a patrol from C coy to pick up the sec left at 078410. The patrol struck the KOROKO river & moved NORTH for 1000 yds but could not contact sig cable to C coy.

A recce patrol was sent 500 yds further NORTH along river but they could not find sig wire or track to C company.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

2.

The patrol camped for night 22/23 June at 075405.

at first light on 23 June patrol moved SOUTH for 1000 yds and then formed base at 075400

From here recce parties were send 1000 yds SOUTH but still could not find signal cable.

The patrol then moved in a NNW direction & contacted the C coy sig wire at 066415. Here the C coy patrol was left to contact the section of C coy left at 078410

The fighting patrol to continued along sig wire to B coy HQ 052430

NMS return journey

A Graham Lt

SUPERIMPOSE MONOITU - MUSARA 1:250.

GRAHAM PATROL 24 Aust Inf Bn JUNE 23

05 06 07 08 09

43 42 41 40

B

IERI

MATALASI R

R

MOBIALA

KOROKO

CONTACTED SECTION OF BITO HERE

JAP ambush here

½ Mk Sig line removed by enemy

C

ROUTE of PATROL

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

PATROL 337

REF MAP MONOITU MUSARAKA 1:25000
UNIT 24 Aust Inf Bn
SUBUNIT B coy
STR 1 offr
TIME OOT 240830c

DATE 24 June
COMD LT. POWNALL
TIME IN 241700c
TYPE FIGHTING

OBJECT To locate pinpoint and destroy enemy posns
Topo report mad COMMANDO Rod.

ROUTE OUT From B coy HQ 052430 to track junc 068421 thence down NORTH - SOUTH track 100 yds thence EAST onto enemy left flank

ROUTE IN Reversed Route out

ADM M.P.T emergency rations

COMN L/T onto existing C coy — B coy line and Runner.

PART 1 Enemy contacted approx 069420 str unknown
Commando rd crosses numerous steep banked creeks (average 30 ft high) and is a solid track capable of being enlarged
vegetation rain forest, COCONUTS secondary growth.

PART 2 Patrol left B coy 052430 and proceeded down KATSUWA track to junc of NORTH - SOUTH and EAST - WEST track at 068421. The patrol then moved down the NORTH - SOUTH track 100 yds from here it moved EAST onto left flank of enemy posn and struck six dummy posns. While examining dummy weapon pits patrol was fired on by enemy dug in approx 5 yds further EAST by 2 LMG's, rifles, knee mortar. The patrol engaged the enemy killing 2, probably killing another. The patrol broke contact and went back 300 yds onto EAST - WEST track at approx 066421.

From here a grenade discharger was used onto the enemy posn. The patrol here contacted Coy HQ by L/T & arranged for arty onto posn

When arty shoot was finished patrol moved to where originally fired on by enemy & were again subject to heavy fire from 2 LMG's, rifles knee mortar a OSMG (2). The patrol returned fire and after a time broke contact & returned up track WEST of track junc & contacted coy HQ by phone. Patrol then moved back to B coy reverse route out.

It is thought that the arty shoot onto enemy posn 069420 was too far in rear of posn. It is very difficult to act as O.P. for arty or air strike because of thick overhead cover round enemy posn Observing results is done by ear only.

W.E. Pownall Lt.

ENEMY CONTACTED IN DEFENSIVE POSN AT 069420

CAS ENEMY 2K 1 probable K
OWN NIL

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

SUPERIMPOSE MONOITU – MUSARAKA 1:25000

Patrol 337 24 Aust Inf Bn.

05 06 07 08

44

43

42

KINGORI

R. MOBIAI

IERI

MATALASI

JAP POSN

Between COCOANUTS and CREEK DONGA

Patrol route →

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

PATROL 337

REF MAP	MONOITU MUSARAKA 1:25000	DATE	24 June
UNIT	24 Aust Inf Bn	COMD	LT. POWNALL
SUBUNIT	B coy	TIME IN	241700c
STR	1 offr	TYPE	FIGHTING
TIME OUT	240830c		

OBJECT — To locate pinpoint and destroy enemy posns
Topo report incl COMMANDO RD.

ROUTE OUT — From B coy HQ 052430 to track junc 068421 thence down NORTH - SOUTH track 100 yds thence EAST onto enemy left flank

ROUTE IN — Reverse route out

ADM — M.P.T emergency rations

COMN — L/T onto existing C Coy — B coy line and Runner

PART 1 — Enemy contacted approx 069420 str unknown
COMMANDO rd crosses numerous steep banked creeks (average 30 ft high) but is a solid track capable of being enlarged
Vegetation; Rain forest, cocoanuts, secondary growth

PART 2 — Patrol left B coy 052430 and proceeded down KATSOWA track to junc of NORTH - SOUTH and EAST - WEST track at. 068421. The patrol then moved down the NORTH - SOUTH track 100 yds. From here it moved EAST onto left flank of enemy posn and struck six dummy posns. While examining dummy weapon pits patrol was fired on by enemy dug in approx 5 yds further EAST by 2 LMG's, rifles, knee mortar. The patrol engaged the enemy killing 2, probably killing another. The patrol broke contact and went back 300 yds onto EAST - WEST track at approx 066421.

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When arty shoot was finished patrol moved to where originally fired on by enemy & were again subject to heavy fire from 2 LMG's, rifles knee mortar & OSMG (2). The patrol returned fire and after a time broke contact & returned up track WEST of track junc & contacted coy HQ by phone. Patrol then moved back to B coy reverse route out

It is thought that the arty shoot onto enemy posn 069420 was too far in rear of posn. It is very difficult to act as O.P. for arty or air strike because of thick overhead cover round enemy posn. Observing results is done by ear only.

LT Pownall Lt.

ENEMY CONTACTED IN DEFENSIVE POSN AT 069420

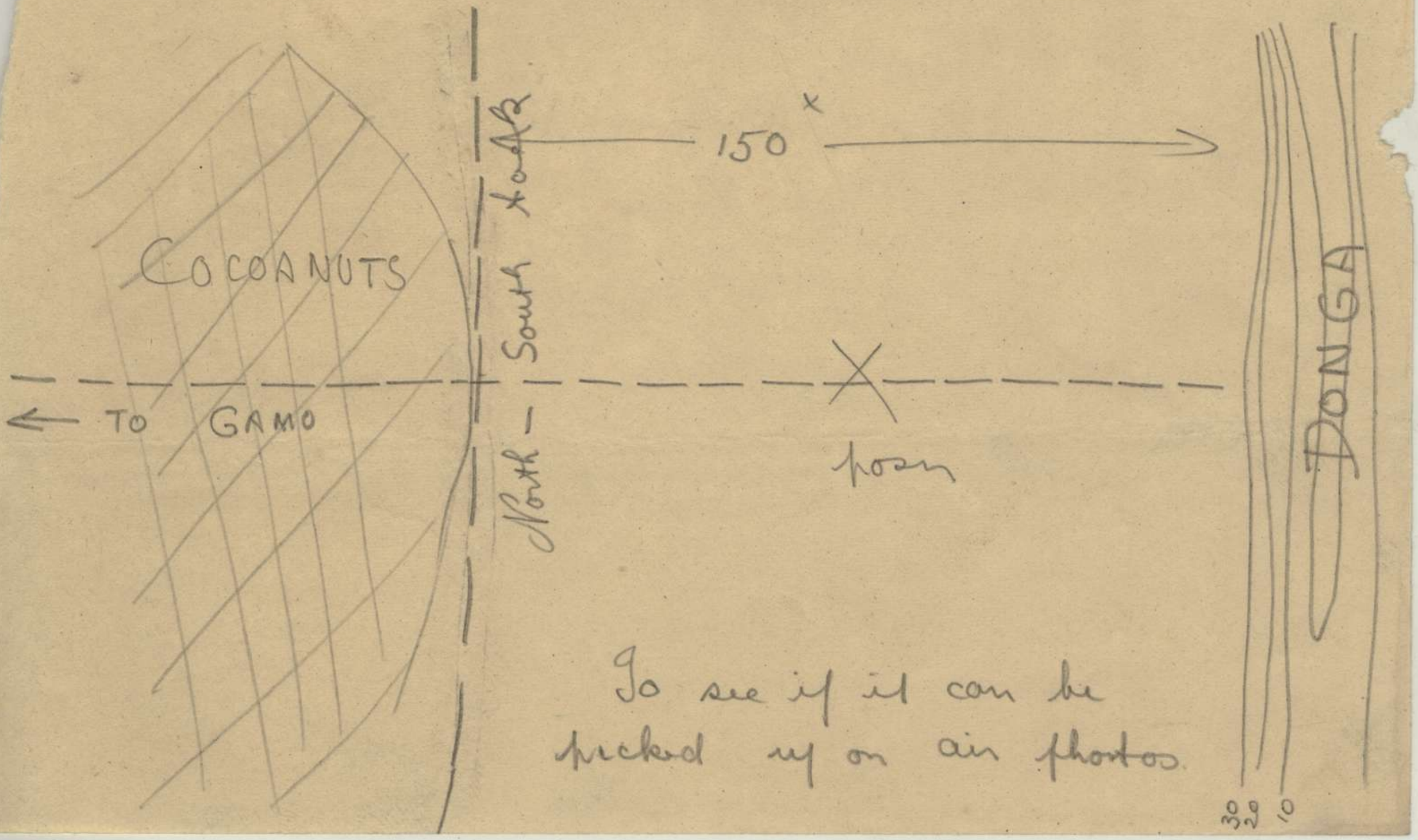
CAS. ENEMY 2K 1 probable K.
OWN NIL

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

Dave

Sketch following. You can pin it onto duplicate. I thought you may want this quickly & if I don't send it now I'll never get it away

Sketch of enemy from 069420



To see if it can be picked up on air photos.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

1340
1340

Patrol Report 405

Patrol No: TYPE of PATROL: RECCE.

Date: 7 JUL 45.

Strength: 1 off 16 O.R's Cond By: Lt Leslie J.B.

Object: Recce and TOPO report view L of C
BITO to VIPER.

TIME OUT: 0915 hrs TIME IN: 1430 hrs.

ROUTE OUT: BITO. SOUTH across TOHODO R.
S.S.E. to track running S to S.E. along
EAST bank of TOHODO. THENCE to LAWN'S
base.

ROUTE IN: LAWN'S base to VIPER and FOXO.

RESULT: The track known as "LUSH'S
track" (089405 to 079387) is trafficable
and exceptionally good for foot traffic.
The country west to MOBIRI from here is
very rugged. The route is not considered
suitable as an L of C. (see TOPO report)

N.M.S.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

NARRATIVE:

Patrol left BITO at 0915 and moved SOUTH to TOHODO RIVER. Thence along the bed of TOHODO R. for 500 yds to a small track which joins river on EAST side. The river here is 12 ft wide 1 ft deep. with 10 ft steep bank on EAST. Low bank on WEST running 20 yds to a steep rise.

Patrol moved SOUTH along this track for 100 yds then track turned SSE and continued for 200 yds to join with LOSH'S track. Patrol moved S.W. down this track for 1600 paces to garden at 078385. Then on bearing of 263° 35 paces to TOHODO river. The river here is 12 ft wide with steep 30 ft bank on EAST and low bank on WEST running back 20 yds to steep 20 ft rise. After moving up this rise on WEST bank patrol continued WEST for 800 paces through flat country and secondary growth to to steep 40 ft bank into ck 4 ft wide running S.W. Then up 40 ft steep bank to ridge. Extremely well worn N-S. track on top of this ridge used by natives within last 24 hrs, moving NORTH.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

NARRATIVE (cont)

Patrol continued WEST over two more small creeks running S.W. and with steep 30 ft banks and ridges between them. Thence 600 paces to MOBIAI river and 500 paces SOUTH to LAWNS base.

J B Taylor Lt.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718

TOPOGRAPHICAL REPORT

Patrol No.

From BITO to TOHODO river th moves down steep 40 ft bank. River here is 12 ft widd with steep banks on both sides. Bed of the river is soled and water 1 ft to 2 ft deep for 500 yds to bend where river turns W.S.W. and small 1 ft fad runs in 6 ft bank on EAST side. This fad is well defined 4 ft wide and traverses flat country for 300 yds to jnc with LUSH's track. LUSH's track is 6 ft wide and appears to be old GOVT track from its long straight stretches. For 1600 yards this tracks follows course of TOHODO closely except where it cuts off meanders in the river, and traverses flat country with firm ground and secondary growth. After 1600 yards track enters old garden and TOHODO river is 30 yds to WEST with steep 30 ft bank. On West side bank is low with high ground 30 yds WEST. Crossed TOHODO River at

this entrenched meander and moved up 30ft steep bank to plateau with firm ground and secondary growth. From here on country is extremely rough with three creeks running from NORTH to SOUTH through swampy ground and separated by 40ft ridges. These ridges are steep and flat on top with a track on top of each running NORTH – SOUTH. After crossing the third creek the country rises again for 30ft and then is flat to the MOBIAI.

J B Heslin Lt.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1026718