

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

Item number: 8/3/63

25 Infantry Battalion
August 1942

W A R D I A R Y

25 Aust. Inf. Bn.

Month of August 1942

Date	Time	Event
Aug 1	0500	Stand to. Weather fine
	0830	Lieut. Baker left with 13 Pl. 'C' Coy on patrol via KALOHI CK. and Government track over STIRLING Range to DOGURA. Return to be made via WAIGANI. Role - special recce under orders Bde. Comd. Native guides supplied.
2	0500	Stand to
	0815	Visit from Bishop Strong, Bishop of NG. First service received by our men this location.
	1800	Advice of organisation of Lightning Force received - to be a self-contained sub-unit, and always ready to march out and fight for 3 days.
3	0500	Stand to.
		First air-raid warning sounded - nothing eventuated.
	1300	Mail received by tps - morale raised immediately, although never low.
	1430	C.O. and Adj. inspected defences GURNEY FIELD and went on to GABA GABUNA to see F/L Cavanagh re R.A.A.F. mortars being loaned to supplement defences. Additional fighter planes and one bomber arrived No. 1 Strip. Tps delighted to see their hard work in laying strip put to good effect.
4	0500	Stand to.
		Clear day.
	0945	C.O., Adj., and Coy Comds left on recce of areas and roads over which unit may have to work - WAIGANI to GABA GABUNA.
	1245	First actual air-raid. One Kittyhawk set on fire and destroyed, when 2 Jap fighters dived and machine-gunned strip. A/A guns and fighters soon drove enemy off, having first destroyed most of them. Morale of tps at highest throughout - unit A/A L.M.Gs. in action. Belly tank from Jap plane fell in 'A' Coy area - immediately guarded and later removed to R.A.A.F. Operational HQ for examination. Much valuable information obtained.
5	0500	Stand to. Bright day with occasional clouds.
	0830	F/L Cavanagh called and arranged delivery of R.A.A.F. mortars (2) together with crews for training. Welcome addition of fire power.
	0920	Patrol left for TAUPOLA to locate crashed enemy plane reported by 'A' Coy.
	1030	Four Zeros sighted and chased into clouds by R.A.A.F. - no raid.
6	0500	Stand to. Fine and slightly cloudy.
	1500	Canteen visited by Adj. to note fairness of methods of distribution to Units, following upon complaints received from various sources. Everything apparently quite fair and in order. First issue of tobacco, cigarettes etc. distributed to men. Effect on men noticeable. C.O. and staff worked on organisation of Lightning Force and reduction of scale of equipment etc to be carried, to an absolute minimum. Total weight, incl clothing worn, about 70-75 lbs according to weapon carried.
7	0500	Stand to. Fine but cloudy.
	1030	Air-raid warning - bombers reported heading our way - did not arrive. Bde. Comd. visited area.
	2115	Sec. patrol, under Cpl. Pobar, returned from search for crashed plane. Found plane - Jap 2-seater recce fighter - plane and crew burnt - portions brought back for examination - natives on NORTH-ERN coast reported that another Jap plane crashed into the sea, in flames.

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Date	Time	Event
Aug 8	0500	Stand to. Fine and slightly cloudy.
	0845	Exercise carried out and 'A' Coy turned out to EASTERN end of strip to deny ground to paratps. Exercise successful and xxxx Coy in posn, having moved by foot and commandeered vehicles, by 0935 hrs.
	0915	Air-raid alert - nothing eventuated. Weather now rainy.
	1745	Lieut. Baker and 2 men returned from DOGURA by boat - others returning overland.
	2100	Air-raid alert - nothing eventuated.
9	0500	Stand to. Clear day.
	0830	O.P.D. church service in our area.
	1015	'D' Coy turned out for exercise to occupy def posns 'A' Coy and Bn.H.Q.. Intention - to make Coys accustomed to other Coys' areas - good turn out - no time wasted - completed in what was by then, fine rain. Advice received that Solomon Is. attacked by Allies.
10	0500	Stand to. Fine and cloudy.
	1000	Adj. left in carrier to endeavour to find suitable route for Carriers from area to head of KALOHI CK. Ground too steep and full of ridges - jungle too thick for penetration by any other than foot tps. 'A' Coy on rifle range constructed by Unit.
11	0500	Stand to. Cloudy and fine rain.
	0800	Lieut. Marsh set out to visit nearby native village to investigate complaints of pilfering fruit gardens.
	1230	Air-raid alert. Attack by Zeros, who machine-gunned around strip but could not approach very closely, due to A/A barrage and R.A.A.F. fighters who intercepted them. Two Zeros seen to be hit five later reported missing. One Kittyhawk crashed on side of strip within wire of one of our def posns and burst into flames. Pilot was killed. Patrols set out to endeavour to find crashed Jap planes and 2 parachutists reported to have descended.
	1620	Sec. 'E' (MG) Coy returned from SAMARAI, where engaged on salvage work.
	1915	Air-raid alert - nothing eventuated. 'A' Coy, 7 Pl., No 1 Sec established standing patrol junction tracks KALOHI CK. No 2 Sec standing patrol at head of KALOHI CK. 8 Pl., left on patrol to DOGURA via TAUPOLA. 9 Pl. left on patrol to DOGURA via WAIGANI.
	12	0500
12	0800	Patrol left to search for missing plane. Native labour employed for building shelters and store huts.
	0900	Lieut. Marsh and party patrolled from EANEANENE to junction of tracks KALOHI Ck. Lieut. Nelson and Pl. left on patrol, HQ Coy to KAPO.
	1400	Light rain commenced. B.M.G.O. called to approve of rifle range site. Volunteers called for instruction and allotment to teleradio unit 2/9 and 2/10 Bns. advance parties reported to have reached island
	13	0030
13	0500	Stand to. Cloudy and raining.
	0530	Nothing untoward happened so far. Advice received that Maj.Gen. Clowes, D.S.O., M.C. and 18 Aust. Inf. Bde. arrived.
	1710	Standing patrols from junction tracks KALOHI Ck. and OWAGALA returned.
	1740	Patrol under Cpl. Wren returned - negative report concerning location of crashed Jap planes.

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Month of August 1942.

Date	Time	Event
Aug 14	0500	Stand to. Cloudy and raining slightly. Mortar practice shoot being arranged for 15 Aug.
	0700	'A' Coy - No. 2 Sec left for OWAGALA as standing patrol. No. 8 Pl at DOGURA No. 9 Pl at DOGURA.
15	0500	Stand to. Fine and slightly cloudy.
	1000	Mortar practice shoot held - good shooting and very instructive for crews being trained for R.A.A.F. Shoot synchronised with movement of planes, by phone to R.A.A.F. Operational HQ.
	1030	Advice received that 'D' Coy under Capt. J. E. Duggan, to go to DOGURA and occupy that area. Role - special recce, and resist landing or infiltration from BUNA.
	1400	C.Os'. conference - all C.C.Coys., Q.M., I.O., R.M.O..
16	0500	Stand to. Cloudy, later developing into fine rain.
	0815	O.P.D. church service unit area. ADMS, Col. G.J. Maitland, D.S.O., D.C.M., called. C.C.S. to be established nearby. Standing patrol from 'A' Coy maintained at OWAGALA.
17	0500	Stand to. Fine, and scattered light clouds.
	0830	'D' Coy plus 19 Pl 'E' (MG) Coy., moved off overland to DOGURA, under Capt. E.G. White.
	0900	Air-raid alert - nothing eventuated. Boat - 'Maclaren King' - loaded with 'D' Coy gear. Visited A.N.G.A.U. to obtain large knives for use of 'D' Coy in track cutting. Finally necessary to impress same from natives.
	1400	Capt. J. E. Duggan left by 'Maclaren King' for WEDAUI and DOGURA.
	1500	Standing patrol from OWAGALA returned to area.
	1600	No. 8 and No. 9 Pls. expected back today from DOGURA. No. 13 and No. 15 Pls. of 'C' Coy took over def. posns on drome from Nos. 10 and 11 Pls. of 'B' Coy, during the day. Nos. 10 and 11 Pls. returned to Coy. HQ. 'C' Coy HQ occupied area formerly occupied by 'D' Coy.
18	0500	Stand to. Cloudy and light showers.
	0800	Patrol boat left for DOGURA with balance of 'D' Coy stores, under W.O.II Luxmore.
	0900	3" Mortar shoot on rifle range - very successful. Q.M. arrived back in 'Bronze Wing' from GOODENOUGH IS.
	1553	Pl. led by Lieut. Schlyder reported back from DOGURA.
	1935	Pl. led by Lieut. McInnes (I.O.) reported back from DOGURA.
19	0500	Stand to. Fine, but cloudy.
	0900	Use and explanation of use of 2" Mortar given by Offrs from 2/10 Bn. Demonstration shoot given. C.O. and Adj. shown round area.
	1400	C.O. advised that 2/9 and NOT 2/10 Bn to take over area.
	1415	Offrs boarded for A.I.F. - all passed. Partial pay made.
20	0500	Stand to. Fine, but cloudy.
	0700	One patrol of 30 men to HAGITA, via KALOHI Ck., OWAGALA, HQ Coy. Another patrol on same route, but in reverse order.
	0900	C.O. and Adj. met Lt-Col. Cummins, 2/9 Aust. Inf. Bn. area - discussed 'take-over' with him - shown round area.
	1500	Air-raid warning - planes at great height, but no attack.
	1730	Advice received that American 'Liberator' about to crash-land, and sec. of carriers to move to strip to assist to tow plane off, if required.
	1800	Plane made beautiful landing on two of three wheels - all crew safe - carriers towed plane off side of strip. 7 Aust. Inf. Bde. reported that 'Maclaren King' arrived DOGURA and radio installed.

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Date	Time	Event
Aug 21	0500	Stand to. Torrential rain - flats and creeks flooded badly - tpt disorganised, More gear to be loaded for 'D' Coy.
	1555	Cks too deep and rapid for 2/9 Bn to cross and take over strip def Warning order to be prepared to hand over drome defs to 2/9 Bn tomorrow morning.
22	0500	Stand to. Heavy rain - cks up again. Still too wet for a/9 Bn to take over strip defs.
	1100	Brig. John Field passed over Comd. Milne Force to Maj.Gen. Clowes, D.S.O., M.C.. 'Maclaren King' left for DOGURA again. Fine and cloudy - training carried out during afternoon. 2/9 Bn took over def. of GURNEY FIELD.
	1940	Air-raid warning - bombers sighted by spotters - did not arrive.
23	0500	Stand to. Fine, but cloudy.
	0750	Capt. C.S. Webster and Lieut. Smith left on patrol to DOGURA via STIRLING Range. Lieut. Morrison to leave by WAIGANI route, if native carriers available. C.O. and I.O. accompanied Capt. Webster as far as possible first day and returned.
	0815	Church parade.
	1300	Air-raid warning - 4 Zeros over bay - nothing eventuated.
	1400	Another partial pay for men - much appreciated.
24	0500	Stand to. Fine and becoming clear.
	1000	Conference of C.Os. and Adjts. all units at Bde - informed that new role of 25 Aust. Inf. Bn. was to be Bde Reserve.
	1430	C.O. and Adjt. proceeded on recce 9 Bn area, not previously seen - view to counter-attack that area, if necessary.
	1500	Air-raid warning - 2 flights of Zeros attacked, and were beaten off Recce continued through mangrove swamp, water' sedge to road. Valuable insight into mangrove swamp fighting obtained.
	2030	Recce completed.
25	0500	Stand to. Cloudy with light rain.
	0630	Pl. 'B' Coy under Lieut. Morrison left via STIRLING Range on patrol to DOGURA. Native carriers refused, therefore other route could not be taken. One sec. under Lieut. McInnes left to search for crashed plane.
	1230	Received warning order that attack imminent - 8 ships off coast - Japs already landed PORLOCK HARBOUR.
	1300	Conference all C.Os. at Bde. HQ. - reports received that ships closer - all posns manned and stocked up with food, amn. and water.
	1900	Tp. Arty moved into Bn. area - one Pl M.M.G. att to Lt-Col. Morgan for operations.
	2230	Ships now near EAST CAPE.
26	0230	Naval gunfire commenced from EASTERN end of Bay - target area was shore from GILI GILI to RABI - bombers heard flying overhead. Gunfire continued until daylight.
	0600	'C' Coy moved out to supplement 61 Bn in vicinity No. 3 Strip. Report that enemy convoy engaged by our fighters. 'C' Coy and 61 Bn sent forward to KB and into attack at 1600 hrs, returning to RABI to bivouac; there they subsequently surrounded by enemy coming down from the hills, and were forced to return to a further defensive posn and eventually to No. 3 Strip, from where those who were fit enough were sent back to KINARKO to hold the line.
	1200	C.O., was requested to proceed to HQ, 61 Bn to proffer advice where considered necessary.
	2130	'A' Coy was ordered to 61 Bn HQ, as DEPTH defence and remained over night. Order received from 7 Aust Inf Bde for Maj. Common to form composite Coy. and proceed GILI GILI Jetty area and occupy beach posns.
	2330	Comp. Coy. in posn. 2/10 Bn moved into our bivouac area.

Date	Time	Event
Aug 27	0315	During recce and liaison with neighbouring M.M.G., naval gunfire re-opened and shells burst near our tps on the shore, but no man hurt in this Unit. 1 man killed another Unit.
	-----	Pl under Lieut Green from 'B' Coy arrived 61 Bn HQ, as depth def.. C.O. arranged for boat for taking stores etc to RABI. In the afternoon verbal order by telephone for 'A' and 'C' Coys to take up depth def along road from No 3 Strip to RABI.
		2/10 Bn had moved from No 3 Strip and advanced towards KB MISSION.
	p.m.	The C.O. with Coy Comds proceeded on a recce to RABI. When passing a minefield a Bren Carrier immediately in rear, struck a mine and the occupants, together with the C.O. and party who were walking immediately in front, were all thrown down and the machine-guns on the carrier commenced to fire, together with other amn., which was being carried in the carrier. The 8 occupants were severely burned, being drenched with petrol from the explosion. The R.M.O. of 2/10 Bn was a victim; assistance was sent for, and after victims had been temporarily eased of pain, recce was continued. Areas were selected in depth def down the road from RABI to No. 3 Strip, with special attention to be given to tracks leading in to RABI, DURIA CK and KILARBO.
		Dispositions of the two Coys were:- <u>'A' Coy</u> - HQ at RABI - 8 Pl Sgt Rushton GAMA River - 7 Pl Lieut. Woodrow In depth between RABI and DURIA Ck - 9 Pl Lieut Schlyder.
		<u>'C' Coy</u> - HQ at KILARBO - together with 2 secs A/A Pl under Sgt Parkinson 15 Pl Sgt. Ludlow - DURIA Ck and track leading over hills 14 Pl Lieut Bathersby - area KILARBO Village and track leading thereto - also minefield. 13 Pl Sgt. Steele - POIN Ck and bomber bay in rear thereof, towards Strip.

On the 'drome itself was Lieut Green with one Pl of 'B' Coy, one sec A/A, 5 M.M.G. of 61 Bn under Lieut Graham, 3 A/Tk guns, one American A/Tk, 6 .50 Brownings, 30 Tommy guns, 2 Lewis guns under Cpl Taylor, A/A sec and 6 Bren guns. In addition, a number of Engrs with rifles were disposed along the edge of No 3 Strip. Lieut Graham of 61 Bn had this fire power co-ordinated when C.O. arrived at runway from forward recce, about 1830 hrs.

The C.O. established his HQ with Capt Kruse, F Coy, 43 American Engrs, some few hundred yards behind the Strip defs. Complete comm made between 2/10 Bn at KB, 7 Pl GAMA River, 'A' Coy HQ at RABI, 'C' Coy HQ at KILARBO and A/Tk pit at Strip; American 'phone at one of the .50 guns on the strip. This comm provided the means by which the battle was conducted throughout 27/28 Aug.

The events which occurred - not in chronological order - were as follows:-

Date	Time	Event
Aug 27		<p>2/10 Bn occupied perimeter def at KB and were heavily attacked. Jap tanks commenced shooting up personnel of 2/10 Bn and operating along the road towards GAMA River. Action was taken to obtain ST Grenades from 24 Fd Coy Angrs., molotoff cocktails and additional tommy-gun amn for 2/10 Bn. This was loaded in a 3-ton vehicle and taken forward by RSM Barnett (25 Bn). 2 A/Tk guns were ordered forward under Lieut Ackerman, 1 being towed by an American 6-wheeler, and 1 on Portee; it being suggested by C.O. that at least one must get through to cover the minefield. Inf protection to the A/Tk gun crew was given by Lieut Schindler and party, who were also instructed, after arrival at KILARBO, to go forward with RSM Barnett and form a carrying party to carry ST grenades and tommy-gun amn to RABI for the 2/10 Bn, from a point where it was thought the vehicle would get to, owing to the mud. The A/Tk guns had difficulty in getting through the mud and were constantly bogged, but managed to go forward to posns along the road covering the minefield. RSM Barnett, with ST Grenades and tommy amn was between KILARBO and RABI when tanks were reported at RABI. The R.S.M. organised a Pl of 2/10 Bn and primed the St Grenades by the lights of the vehicle. When it was known the tanks were coming, the vehicle was placed in the road as road-block, and the engine rendered useless.</p> <p>2/10 Bn made a stand over 400 yards behind KB, and later fell back. Lieut Woodrow was instructed to remain on the GAMA River with 7 Pl of 'A' Coy, and was informed that 2/10 Bn would strengthen his def on that line. However, the 2/10 Bn went straight through his defs on the GAMA River, leaving Lieut Woodrow with 7 Pl only., holding the GAMA River. Lieut Woodrow by phone reported 2 tanks attacking his posn, and all 2/10 Bn had passed through. He then fell back to RABI on to 'A' Coy HQ and 8 Pl. On arrival of the tanks at RABI, Capt Ryan telephoned the posn to the C.O. He was informed by the C.O. of the tactics adopted by the tanks further up, and was instructed to endeavour to shoot up the infantry in rear of the tanks, as ST grenades had been sent forward and, with the minefield and the A/Tk guns, the tanks would be suitably dealt with. It transpired that the tank was preceded by Jap infantry who followed close on the heels of 2/10 Bn in their withdrawal, and 7 and 8 Pls of 'A' Coy were unable to differentiate between the forces, as some of the Japs were repeating English words spoken by the retiring 2/10 Bn.</p> <p>Capt Ryan with 7 and 8 Pls opened fire on the Jap infantry, only to find he was attacked from Jap infantry who had already passed his posn. This forced him into the jungle on the N.W. side, where touch was lost with secs.. He endeavoured to fight his way back on to the road, via the jungle, but came in contact with fresh Jap tps moving wide and covering the road. He then moved N.W. to prevent being outflanked and keeping to the foothills, rejoined the Unit the following afternoon.</p> <p>The Engr. Cpl was instructed by the C.O. to close the minefield after it was learned that the 3-ton truck could not return.</p> <p>The Jap infantry approached No 9 Pl under Lieut Schlyder, who waited until after the last of 2/10 Bn had passed his posn before moving back to the road-block created by the 3-ton truck. A stand was made here, then encirclement took him back to the minefield. On reaching the minefield, Lieut Schlyder took up a posn across the bridge, phoning the C.O. from KILARBO of his intentions. Capt Steel, O.c. 'C' Coy was in touch with the C.O. throughout. With Capt Stevenson (Arty F.O.O.) and Sgt Parkinson together with Lieut Schlyder he organised the defs at KILARBO itself and forward thereof.</p>

Date	Time	Event
Aug 27	---	The A/Tk gun crew was covered by No 15 Pl under Sgt. Ludlow, but owing to their posn, he could not remain forward of the gun, but took up a posn on either side. The Japs put up a flare and the A/Tk gun was fired at and its crew rushed by Jap infantry who had infiltrated around the minefield. At this juncture Lieut Ackerman rushed the gun and removed the essential parts from it, and from the other gun which he thought was not covered by infantry. A battle ensued at KILARBO until the Jap infantry encircled the hutments. It was here that Sgt. Parkinson was bayoneted (in the lung) whilst firing a Lewis Gun. He subsequently died of wounds.
27/28		<p>The minefield across the strip was closed simultaneously to the minefield beyond KILARBO. The American Engr troops not engaged, were organised and placed under the command of Capt Kruse, to occupy a position in depth on the EASTERN side of Route 5. Members of 2/10 Bn, who had become separated from their Unit, were placed under the command of Capt Mathison of 2/10 Bn, and given a posn on WESTERN side of Route 5.</p> <p>Sgt. Steele, who earlier in the afternoon had cut a field of fire from the road to the coast, and who had placed his Pl (no.13) to fire down a cleared portion intended for an aeroplane bay, withdrew his forward sec at POIN Ck. Bridge to the new posn. Sgt. Ludlow with his Pl. (No 15) fell back to strengthen Sgt Steele's posn. One sec of No 14 Pl and a few men from 'A' Coy, joined them. The signaller from 'C' Coy teed into the line and gave the C.O. the approx. posns, and the situation. At this time a number of tps were passing across the runway, others were moving towards the beach, and others towards STEPHEN'S HOUSE. Pls under Sgts Steele and Ludlow consisted of 16 men each. 4 Bren guns were used, hand grenades and tommy guns. This small party stayed in this posn from 0500 hrs until 0810 hrs, and accounted for a large number of the enemy. As each party of the enemy entered the clearing they were suitably dealt with. One grenade disposed of a mortar crew of 3 men, and another a machine gun crew of 5. Occasional bursts of Bren fire were heard until about 0730.</p> <p>Arty. fire was withheld as numbers of our tps were considered to be in KILARBO and KINARKI area, and the C.O. considered the fire power of the strip sufficient to withstand any attack by the enemy. The fire power on the Strip was tried out at about 0530 hrs, but was controlled as far as possible, owing to friendly tps falling back from the runway. At no time did any enemy tps cross the strip, nor was there any sign of panic.</p> <p>It was intended, should the enemy come across the strip and overpower any of the gun crews, that a stand would be made with the American Engrs and the remnants of the 2/10 Bn on WEHURIA Ck, thence, if necessary, at the X-rds, where another posn was tentatively organised, ensuring some depth in the defence. At WEHURIA Ck was a pl of M.M.G. and an A/Tk gun.</p> <p>Every effort was made to protect the men of Sgt Steele's and Sgt Ludlow's pls as they came back across the strip. This was done with the excellent co-operation of the American A.A. tps (709 Airborne Arty), the party coming back in groups of 4 or 5 - well dispersed and covered by this American automatic fire.</p>

Date	Time	Event
Aug 27/28		'C' Coy HQ, with 2 secs of No 14 Pl, came over the strip towards the beach, covered by the Bren gun fire of L/Cpls Jorgensen and Wise, and Pte Davis. These three eventually came back covered by American automatic fire.
28		During the day of 28 Aug., the defences along the whole strip were strengthened by 'A' and 'C' Coys, all 2/10 Bn having left the area enroute to their bivouac area. Capt. Kruse and the Engrs were in depth def on WEHURIA Ck, and were put into the line. Throughout the day co-ordination was made along the whole strip by utilising every available man and weapon to the best advantage. The enemy made an attack on right flank, but the fire power there prevented any penetration and attack failed. An attack by 61 Bn across the front was proposed, but later in the night was cancelled. Adv Bn. HQ was moved back to the X-rds of Routes 5 & 6, some 200 yds in rear of WEHURIA Ck. The right rear defs, held by Composite Coy under Maj Common, were co-ordinated, and mines inserted that night on the eastern end of the strip.
28/29		On the night 28/29 Aug there was little activity, 1 mortar only being used on opportunity targets, after the cancellation of the attack by 61 Bn.
29		Adv Bn HQ was moved forward again to WEHURIA Ck, and during the day the front was changed, the American Engrs. being given the beach task, right rear flank, behind WEHURIA Ck. The Composite Coy of 25 Bn and A.A.S.C. personnel was placed in the front line at the strip, and 101 Ind. Bde. Wkshops in depth at Route 6. Additional phones were inserted and co-ordination effected from the beach to 61 Bn. 'C' Coy, 9 Bn, came under Comd., and occupied a depth posn on Route 6. During the day a fighting patrol, under Lieut Boys, was sent out as a protective det to the 61 Bn demolition party to blow up the tanks. The patrol went out, but the demolition party failed to arrive, and the patrol returned. Pl. under Lieut Boys was placed in posn alongside 'A' Coy on the strip.
29/30		On night 29/30 Aug, 1 mortar was in action in the triangle opposite the road from the strip.
30		Patrols from 61 Bn went out and the tanks were rendered useless by Lieut Schindler, (25 Bn). Patrols returned and reported no enemy up to KB. 2 mortar dets were linked up for action, on the strip.
31	0300	The enemy formed up for an attack immediately opposite the road across the strip at 0300 hrs, on 31 Aug. An arty barrage was ordered, followed by controlled mortar fire from a forward O.P. manned by Lieut Ackerman, A/Tk Officer. The enemy appeared to bunch considerably and shouted almost continuously, evidently for morale purposes, during the firing of the mortars, when somewhere in the vicinity of 200 mortar bombs were fired. The yelling and screaming of the enemy was very distinct across the strip, as was also the blowing of three bugle calls towards dawn. On three occasions the enemy lined up, and each time they were given rapid mortar fire with disastrous results. A switch-over was made to give mortar support to 61 bn at POIN Ck, bombs being placed to prevent infiltration towards STEPHEN'S HOUSE.

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Month of August 1942

Date	Time	Event
Aug 31	---	The fire control was excellent, as not one round was fired on the extreme right flank, where the enemy did not attempt to cross. On the left flank, 61 Bn machine guns opened fire, and adjusted their range after it was seen the trajectory of the bullets was passing over the heads of the enemy.
	0800	At 0800 hrs all was quiet, with the exception of snipers in trees, and the cries of the wounded enemy across the strip. The latter were silenced after a number of what appeared to be revolver shots, were heard, which was considered to be the killing of badly wounded enemy by their own pistol fire. Enemy dead in this attack were estimated at 200. Allied casualties - 3 killed, 12 wounded.
	0905	2/12 Bn commenced to move across the strip. Later 'C' and 'A' Coys, 9 Bn, came under comd 25 Bn, and followed 2/12 Bn towards KB. The posn at nightfall was as follows:- 2 Coys 2/12 Bn at KB, 'A' Coy 9 Bn depth posn between KB and RABI, 2 Coys 2/12 Bn and HQ at RABI with 'C' Coy, 9 Bn also at RABI. All were attacked that night and attacks beaten off.

Blades Lieut. Col.
Comdg. 25 Bn.

W. Jackson Capt

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

25 Aust Inf Bn (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
..... *			
..... *			
Lieut.-Colonels	1		
Majors			2
Captains	11	1	
Lieutenants.....	22	1	
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters	1		
Totals	36	2	2

*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
.....		NIL		
.....				
.....				
.....				
.....				

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
.....		NIL		
.....				
.....				
.....				
.....				

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known).
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.....			
.....			
.....			
.....			

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Major	221608	Tyler P A	25 Bn	Yes	
Capt	221610	Norman J B	"	Yes	
2nd Lt	221929	White C S	"	Yes	
"	221624	Johnson W J E	"	Yes	
"	221622	Leitch G D	"	Yes	
"	221621	Ryan G J	"	Yes	
"	221619	Duggan J P	"	Yes	
"	221617	Robbitt H J	"	Yes	
"	221614	McCoy J E C	"	Yes	
"	221612	Matheson J W	"	Yes	
"	221611	Just M E	"	Yes	
"	221608	Robinson W D	"	Yes	
2nd Lt	221607	Paterson J H A	"	Yes	
"	221606	McDonnell B D	"	Yes	
"	221605	Jefferson P S E	"	Yes	
"	221604	McCarty J	"	Yes	
"	221603	Chamberly T J	"	NO	as of 2/1/46
"	221602	March J A W	"	Yes	
"	221601	Wentham G H	"	Yes	
"	221599	P. Hall G G	"	NO	ECTS
"	221598	Crabtree T D	"	Yes	
"	221597	Green H S	"	NO	ECTS
"	221596	Reddell C F	"	NO	ECTS
"	221595	Robson A T	"	NO	ECTS
"	221594	Phillips J J	"	Yes	
"	221593	Bathurst J T D	"	Yes	
"	221592	McLennan W R	"	Yes	
"	221591	McDonald R N	"	Yes	
"	221590	Collins T J	"	Yes	
"	221589	Harris J M A	"	Yes	
"	221588	Rehder E J	"	Yes	
"	221587	Smith G J J	"	Yes	
"	221586	Cam F	"	Yes	
"	221585	Richardson A J	"	Yes	
"	221584	Morgan J E	"	Yes	
"	221583	Wardle P M	"	Yes	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Capt	R22862	Williamson W S	NAME		RMO
"	R22219	Boesman J	Chaplain		Chaplain

25 April 46 (Unit.)
 29-8-46 (Date of Despatch.)
 (Signature of Commander.)
 (Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

(Adapted)

25 Aust Inf Bn (Unit) 29-8-42 1942 (Date).

(To be furnished by all units and all Headquarter units.)

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1 Detail.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1	-	-
W.Os. Class II.	6	-	2
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants	6	-	1
Staff Serjeants	1	-	1
Serjeants	421	1	-
Corporals	83	-	3
Troopers, Privates, &c.	890 990	39	-
TOTALS	905 909	* 40	* 5

*These totals should agree with the details shown in Part D on page 2 of Army Form W.3009.

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
1 Cpl	7d Post Unit	1 OR	7 Inf Bde
1 Sgt	A.A.P.C.		
1 Cpl	A.A.M.C.	<u>OTHER ATTACHMENTS</u>	
1 OR	7d Hyd		
1 OR	A.A.O.D.	2 ORs	7 Inf Bde
1 OR	A.A.O.C.		
1 OR	A.A.O.W.		

Part C. Description of other ranks whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

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

25 Aust. Inf Bde Unit.

PART D. Detail of Surplus or Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W. 3009.

Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)
Ammunition Examiners			Fire Control Operators			Panel Beaters		
Armament Artificers			Fitters			Pattern Makers		
Armourers			Fitters and Turners			Pharmacists		
Artificers, Artillery			Fitters, Cycle			Photographers, dry plate		
Axemen			Fitters, Drivers			Photographers, wet plate		
Bakers			Fitter's Mates			Photo-Writers		
Battery Surveyors			Fitters, M.V.			Plate Layers		
Battery Comdrs. Asst.			Fitters, Railway Signal			Plumbers		
Blacksmiths			Fitters, Signal			Predictor Numbers		
Boilermakers			Grinders			Printers		
Bricklayers			Gun Layers			Radiator Mechanics		
Butchers			G.P.O. Assistants			Radiographers		
Camouflage Modeller			Gun Operators			Range Takers		
Carpenter and Joiner			Hammermen			Riggers		
Clerks			Height Takers			Riveters		
Clerks, Engineering			Helio Operators			Saddlers		
Clerks, Supply			Instrument Mechanics			Saddle Tree Makers		
Clerks, Technical			Instrument Mechanics, Surgical			Saw Doctors		
Coachmakers			Instrument Operators			Sawyers		
Computers			Intelligence Duties			Shoemakers		
Concretors			Joiners			Signallers		
Cooks			Leather Stitchers			Signwriters		
Cooks, Hospital			Linesmen			Stokers, Stationary Engine		
Coppersmiths			Linesmen, Signals			Storemen, Technical		
Dental Clerk Orderlies			Lithographers			Surveyors		
Despatch Riders			Machinists			Surveyors, Engineering		
Dispensers			Masons			Tailors		
Draughtsmen			Masseurs			Telescope Identification Numbers		
Draughtsmen, Architectural			Mechanics, Dental			Textile Refitters		
Draughtsmen, Mechanical			Mechanics, M.T.			Tinsmiths		
Draughtsmen, Signal			Mechanics, Typewriter			Toolmakers		
Draughtsmen, Topographical			Mechanics, Wireless			Turners		
Driver Mechanics			Millwrights			Vulcanizers		
Driver Operators			Miners			Wagon Erectors		
Drivers, Transportation Plant			Moulders			Watchmakers		
Electrical Fitters			Nursing Orderlies			Watermen		
Electricians			Nursing Orderlies (Mental)			Welders		
Electricians, Eng. Units			Nurses, Trained			Well Borers		
Electricians, Signal			Observation Post Assistants			Wheelers		
Engine Artificers			Operating Room Assistants			Whitesmiths		
Engine Hands I/C			Operators, Signal			Wiremen		
Equipment Repairers			Opticians			Woodturners		
Farriers			Painters					
General Duties 34								
Totals (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)	35							

Notes—(a) If rank other than Private is involved give details on back.

(b) Authorized Trades or Specialists not included in list above will be added as required in spaces provided.

25 Aust. Inf Bde
Unit.

for *Jacob*
Signature of Commander.
7 Aust. Inf. Bde

Date of Despatch 29-8-42

Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.

Intelligence
25 Aust. Inf. Bn.

30 Mar 43.

Officer i/c.
Military History Section

Patrol Reports.

I have been led to believe that
the records in the War Diary were
not very complete at the time of their
first occupation of Ana in Milne Bay.
To this end I attach these patrol reports
so that some of the activities of the Bn
at that time may be more easily
traced. Any relevant inf. dealing
with tp. activity at that time should
append to future copies of War Diaries.

DR D. SIMON Lieut.

I. O. 25 Aust. Inf. Bn.

(COPY)

Report on Patrol - GILI GILI to SIASIADA 10/8/42

Departed from GILI GILI by launch "Mascot" 1300 arrived GIBARA 1500 proceeded to Duabo. Instructed natives in small villages en route to Duabo to plat sago leaves and store them at Gibara in readiness for shipment to GILI GILI on 18/8/42. Track from Gibra to Duabo is fair and after leaving the village of Puitie rises to height of about 1150 ft where Duabo is situated on the summit. Good observation towards Giligili is obtained from Duabo. The track to Duabo could at present be utilized by pack animals, ~~an~~ a large area of sweet potatoes has been planted by Duabo natives and about 40 tons should be ready for harvest in 3 months. Instruction regarding a radio found at Duabo Mission house given to send same to Giligili.

- 11/8/42 Departed Duabo by fair track passing ATATA village at foot of mountain, Inspected village and houses for any loot, proceeded on to WATABU village situated on bank of Jones River, instructions issued re maintenance of tracks and forwarding any useful information to ANGAU at Giligili - crossed river about 80 yds wide here by canoe and proceeded to POPOARUARUA where same instructions and routine given as at WATABU. WATABU is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours walk from DUABO and POPOARUARUA about $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours from WATABU. After leaving ATATA the country is found to be undulating, the Jones river draining the valley and is fed by small creeks which can be crossed in most instances by native foot bridges. Proceeded from ~~XX~~ POPOATUARUA to SAGARIA about $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours walk stayed overnight with W.O. Jansen, Manager of rubber and cononut plantation in this area.
- 12/8/42 Inspected 76 native labours at SAGARAI. Instructed them in their duties and on new conditions prevailing and signed them on to work for 2 years. Attended to minor native complaints.
- 13/8/42 To mission Rubber Plantation 3 miles from SAGARAI signed on 13 native labours for 2 years, very wet weather and river in flood, a very large area of sweet potatoes planted at Mission Plantation should yield 60 tons in another 10 weeks.
- 14/8/42 To Tomanau Rubber Plantation ~~3 miles from~~ about $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours walk from SAGARAI by good motor road, signed on 25 native labours for manager Mr Palmer and adjusted minor native labour troubles. Proceeded on to ~~an~~ SIASIADA native village, inspected houses and issued general instruction to village Constable and Councillors. Ten natives to report to GILI GILI for work and two carpenters, a number of natives from this village are at present away doing sawmilling work at KWATO.
- 15/8/42 Departed from SAGARAI for return to GIBARA via POMAPOMA situated on Jones River thence connecting up to WATABAU after $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours walk. Return trip SAGARAI to GIBARA taking about 6 hours, this track could be used in all weather if a flying fox would be constructed near POMAPOMA where river is about 80 yds across. In rainy weather this river is impassable. On return trip collected odd bicycles, hurricane lamps, knives, axes, telescope etc, ehich can be used at GILI GILI. Traded in Tobacco for most of these articles.

GENERAL.

During patrol met Lt. Ryan Intelligence Officer and informed him Mr. Palmer of TOMANAN had two useful maps of SAMARAI Districts in his possession. Lt Ryan intends to visit Mr. Palmer and take copies of these maps.

About 450 head of cattle fit for slaughter are on Sagarai Plantation.

Patrol concluded 15/8/42.

Sgd W. MOSSMAN Lt.
A.D.O.
SAMARAI DISTRICT.

on

*Near Col.
Others reports
on way, over
is typed
(m) Subj.*

PATROL TO MULLIN'S HARBOUR

Date 11 Aug 42.
Weather overcast

PART I

The object of this recce was to cover all tracks leading to and from MULLIN'S HARBOUR and SAGARI VALLEY and to find if a possible road could be constructed from this area to BALAGA.

The recce revealed that any attempt to make a road to MULLIN'S HARBOUR, although possible, would take some time and would be a very hard task as there are no bridges of any nature except the logs which the natives throw across the cks. and SAGARI RIVER has no bridge of any nature anywhere along its entire length. The range which would have to be crossed, although 600 ft. high, rises with a gradient of about 1 : 2 and 1 : 1 on the MILNE BAY side, while on the opposite side the track goes down a narrow ridge about 10 ft wide with a straight drop on both sides, making this point very dangerous, and any attempt to make a road would prove very difficult.

After reaching the foot of this range on the SAGARI VALLEY side the track then goes through very thick jungle until the village of POMA POMA is reached, which is situated on the bank of the SAGARI RIVER. At this point the river has been crossed and as no bridges exist one has to wade. At the time of crossing very heavy rain had made this river rise to the height of about five ft. at the point crossed and the river running at the rate of about five knots, which made the crossing very hard and very dangerous. On the opposite side the track then goes to SAGARI PLANTATION and from this point a good motor road goes down to TOMANALI LANDING at MULLIN'S HARBOUR. From this point a launch can then be taken to KONEMATAWA at the EASTERN side of the HARBOUR where shipping up to 20,000 tons can berth quite easily.

Before reaching TOMANALI LANDING a track runs EAST to SIESEADA and thence to WERI WERI on the EASTERN side of the HARBOUR and from WERI WERI the track follows the HARBOUR to KONEMAIWA, but as before no bridges exist and the track is not wide enough for motor traffic.

The track which goes through DUABO is very steep and rises to about 1200 ft. and has a gradient on MILNE BAY side to about 1 : 1 in many places, making a road over this point almost impossible. On the opposite side the track goes from DUATO to the village of ARTA ARTA at a very steep angle and the soil is very muddy and would not be a good foundation for a road. From ARTA ARTA quite a good road built by natives goes to TOMANAU LANDING through POI POI, ALUA ALUA and HAWAAI, SAGAH PLANTATION, thence TOMANAU LANDING, but as before no bridges except one log across a ck. exist and the number of cks. are many, between 30 and 40.

PART II.

NATURE OF TRACKS : All tracks covered have been made by natives and are very rough. Mud along most of route, except on the range, sometimes over our ankles for five miles without any sign of improvement which made walking very difficult.

Enemy patrols coming over these tracks from MULLIN'S HARBOUR would have to carry all eqpt of a light nature such as LMGs, mortars, Vickers, anything which would be of a heavy nature would not be brought over the range as it would be impossible.

Villages : At the undermentioned points accomodation for troops can be obtained for the strength of about a pl.

DUABO † Good mission house constructed with wood and an iron roof. Good point for rest house and ration dump for patrols.

POI POI, ALUA ALUA - Govt rest house built by natives, also good ration dump for patrols.

SAGARI PLANTATION - Good 5 room house owned by a Mr Gray, plantation manager, who is now in Australia. This house has every convenience and would make an excellent ration dump.

Ration Dumps : The ration dumps referred to above are points where supplies could be placed and patrols going to MULLIN'S HARBOUR would not need take any supplies with them, but would draw from the above points as they passed through. No need for guards on these supplies as the V.C. in these villages would see that the Army supplies were not removed by natives who in any case would not attempt to remove same at the risk of being sent to jail.

General Remarks :

Medical ↗ At SIESIADA medical supplies of almost anything that is needed in this country is stored. This belongs to Oxford Group Mission, but the supplies are by far too great for the native population of this village.

The native in charge told me he has $4\frac{1}{2}$ years' supply of quinine. Most of this is in powder form.

Aircraft Directions : A folder which was found in the home of a Mr. Gray at SAGARI contained a lot of secret directions to American aircraft. This was found or given by members of the crew of an aircraft which crashed on a reef somewhere in this area about five months ago. The crew of the aircraft were picked up by a launch from a plantation in this area and this would appear how this folder was obtained. This folder has been passed on to Bde H.Q.

(Sgd) C.W. RYAN Lieut.

? m.w.

RECCE REPORT No 3

on

TRACK FROM WAIGANI TO MULLENS HARBOUR

by personnel of

55 Bn

9 Bn

on 21 - 26 Jul 42

PART I.

A. TRACK

From WAIGANI to ^UDAWABO MISSION on summit of DAWABO MT the track varies in width from 8 ft to 3 ft. It is slippery, and during ascent of mt is overgrown with tree roots. A spiral in good order also runs up the mountain and is crossed in several places by this native track. The track descends South side of mt by bridle track to ARTA ARTA. From ARTA ARTA to TOMONAU landing the track becomes a well made rd 10 ft wide. The surface is partly gravel and partly wet and soggy earth. At TOMONAU landing rd ceases and rest of journey is by water to KONAMI the outlet and South end of MULLENS Harbour.

B. BRIDGES

The road was evidently built first, and brs intended to be built, were not attempted, although from SAGARI plantation to TOMONAU landing there are well made brs capable of carrying 5 tons.

C. STREAMS

There are approx 25 wet creeks crossing the track. These are mainly fast flowing and shallow capable of being forded. The JONES river is 150 yds (approx) wide at ford while water itself is 75 feet wide, $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft deep.

D. MTS

DAWABO MT crosses between PIWEETA and WAHTUBLE is 1152 ft high.

E. OPS.

DAWABO Mission makes an excellent O.P. because (1) It is 1152 ft high (2) It has an uninterrupted view of all surrounding districts from MILNE BAY to MULLENS HARBOUR.

F. ADVISABILITY OF CONSTRUCTING ROAD.

If the object of building rd is to provide a means of transporting goods and personnel from MULLENS HARBOUR, the construction of a rd to TOMONAU is NOT advisable because (1) there appears to be no chance of constructing road from TOMONAU to landing place at KONAMIA through thick mangrove and heavy swamp. (2) Goods would have to be placed in launch at KONAMIA from ship and carried to TOMONAU and again off loaded.

If object is to build rd to link up with a possible rd to MORESBY from MULLENS HARBOUR, then construction of rd to TOMONAU is advisable. From here the road could skirt the West side of harbour and avoid mangroves and swamp.

PART II.

A. TRACKS

1. HAGITA turnoff to PEWEETA VILLAGE. = approx 5 mls.

General width of track approx 8 ft.

Nature of track :- Soggy for greatest portion and interlaced with tree roots. Track narrows in different parts mainly near river edge. Track crossed by 8 wet creeks and 9 dry creeks varying in size and depth from very shallow depressions to others of 15 ft width and 10 ft depth.

These tracks run mainly through very dense jungle, and although cleared, is covered with roots and is in a very sodden condition.

2. PEWEETA VILLAGE to DAWABO MISSION = approx $1\frac{1}{2}$ mls.

Start of track leads through PEWEETA VILLAGE to foot of DAWABO MOUNTAIN. This mountain can be climbed either by a spiral track or by a very steep native track. The spiral track has a gradient of 1 in 20 and is crossed in several places by native track. It is 3 ft wide. The native track has a gradient of 1 in 2. This track consists of a stairway of treeroots up the side of mountain through dense jungle. The height of the mountain is 1152 ft. There are 3 wet creeks and 1 dry creek on this portion of track.

3. DAWABO MISSION to ARTA ARTA VILLAGE = approx $1\frac{1}{4}$ mls.

For first stage there is a gradual decline through tall grass then track becomes bridle path down easiest part of Mountain. Track has many tree roots and is very slippery in places. Track crosses 1 dry creek. Track mainly through dense jungle.

4. ARTA ARTA to WAHTUBLE VILLAGE = approx 3 mls.

From here track becomes a well made road 10 feet wide with drains both sides. The surface is partly gravel, partly wet and soggy earth but with a little gravel laid on it could be converted into a worth while road. This road runs through to SAGARI PLANTATION. Road is crossed by two wet creeks and three dry creeks most of which have foot bridges across. One creek in particular viz; WAIBALAN" is fairly wide and deep. The road passes through a series of Native Gardens with a scattering of tall grass but otherwise mainly Jungle.

5. WAHTUBLE to POI POI ARUA VILLAGE = approx $2\frac{1}{4}$ mls.

Leaving WAHTUBLE the rd crosses the SAGARI (JONES) River. The River from bank to bank is approx 150 yds wide at the ford. The water itself approx 75 ft wide, $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft deep and is fordable for M.T. After crossing river the rd was soggy with long stretches to the village of POI POI ARUA. Rd crossed by two dry creeks and and five wet creeks, the latter flowing freely. These creeks range in depth from 3 ft to 20 ft with a width of 4 ft to 25 ft. One creek in particular approx 300 yds from village has a stout wooden bridge capable of holding 5 tons. For most part track is bordered each side by dense jungle intersperced with native gardens. Approx 200 yds before entering POI POI ARUA a track branching off to the left at 135° leads to a gold mine run by Mr Tardy.

6. POI POI ARUA to HAWARI VILLAGE = approx 1 ml.

The rd showed very little variation still maintaining its width and well kept appearance changing at varying intervals from a hard gravel surface to a soggy slippery one. There are 3 dry creeks very deep and narrow and 1 wet creek. A small narrow one. Reaching HAWARI the road to MULLENS HARBOUR turned right while the other rd continues on to FIVE BAYS crossing a river at the furthest end of the village. The river, a fast flowing stream with a very rocky bottom has a depth $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft and a width 50 yds. Track bordered each side by dense jungle interspersed by series of native gardens.

7. HAWARI to SAGARI PLANTATION = approx 2 $\frac{1}{3}$ mls.

Track for most part soggy and slippery with a few firm patches crossed by 1 wet creek track leaving jungle approx $\frac{3}{4}$ ml from Manggers residence, enters coconut plantation.

8. SAGARI PLANTATION to TOMONAU LANDING = approx 5 mls.

This rd is well formed and drained, metal surface with well made bridges capable of carrying 5 to 20 tons weight running for approx 7 mls through 3 rubber plantations - viz SAGARI - BAUMATA - (Catholic Mission Plantation) and TOMONAU. The rd with a little repair could be made to carry traffic of any tonnage. Road crossed by 4 wet creeks.

9. TOMONAU LANDING to KONAMIA (MULLENS HARBOUR) - (by water)

TOMONAU LANDING is a cleared space on the bank of the salt water tidal creek to which the launch is moored, the banks of which are perpendicular.

Width at Normal	High Tide	22 yds	depth	10 ft	approx			
"	"	"	Low	"	15 yds	"	3 ft	"

It is approx 12 miles in a South West direction to an island named VERI VERI, thence another 6 mls in a westerly direction to KONAMIA. There is, on an average, two tides every 24 hours, being two hours later each day. It has been suggested that flat bottom barges or punts with a cargo of 30 to 40 tons drawing the smallest possible draught of water could be towed from KONAMIA to TOMONAU LANDING by small motor launch.

KONAMIA is on the Southern side of MULLENS HARBOUR and is the depot for transfer for rubber from rubber plantation in SAGARI VALLEY. This has about the deepest water and most suitable spot for the harbouring of ships of large tonnage. The beach here resembles PONTOON WHARF at GILI GILI and is protected from open sea by BONA BONA IS. MULLENS HARBOUR is more or less land locked by same island.

B. VILLAGES

For most part the villages are well kept and exceptionally clean and mostly controlled by police boys, having extensive flower and fruit gardens.

1. PIWEETA Demawkileefi (Chief)

This village covers area approx 30 acres.

2. DAWABO MISSION

This mission run by the Oxford Group, who evacuated at commencement of war at present run by 2 native girls.

3. ARTA ARTA Kwamoca (Chief)

A big well cleared village with coconut trees and extensive gardens.

4. WAHTUBLE

Same as previous village only situated on bank of SAGARI RIVER. (JONES).

5. POI POI ARUA Dialay = (Police Boy)

This is easily the biggest and prettiest of all the villages. Here also lives Mr Tardy (half Arab and half Italian) who runs a gold mine and is suspected of being a fifth columnist.

6. HAWARI Dewahsi = (Chief)

This is just a small village.

7. SAGARI PLANTATION

This consists of a well built bungalow one occupied by Mr Jensen (Manager) 3 machine sheds, fowl runs, 4 long tin sheds for native workers and a small native village and garden and slaughter yards. It covers an area of 600 acres of which 150 acres are coconut and 450 acres rubber. There is also a rubber factory on plantation. This plantation runs a Chev truck with a milage of 10,000 also a launch capable of carrying 2½ tons rubber.

8. BAUMATA PLANTATION

Is owned by Catholic Mission. This is only a young plantation of 165 acres of which 112 acres are 2 year old rubber trees and 53 acres ready to be planted. This plantation is also managed by Mr Jensen. It is very well fenced by a five strand wire fence with wooden gates for M.T. and stile for pedestrians.

9. KAI ORA

An abandoned, burnt out, rubber plantation overgrown with tropical undergrowth.

10. TOMONAU PLANTATION

Is managed by a white man, Mr Palmer, who also owns a quarter share in same. Consists of 110 acres, 60 acres tapping rubber; 50 acres untapped.

COPY.

C.O.

25 Aust Inf Bn.

SUBJECT: Report on Delivery Supplies, DOGURA, BARTLE BAY.

Re the above,- I wish to report that on Wednesday 12 Aug 42 I loaded supplies sufficient for 60 men for 12 days on board the "TIE RYO" whose destination was DOGURA MISSION. First night the boat arrived at EAST CAPE where boat anchored for night. Those on board included six Americans who were en route to CAPE VARELA, GOONENOUGH IS to take up duty as "spotters". DOGURA MISSION was reached at approx. 1700 hrs Aug 13. Father Bodger met the boat and rendered valuable assistance in unloading stores by obtaining native assistance. He readily made available the rest house for the storage of the supplies. This man is an authority on that part of the island and speaks the various dialects fluently. At approx 0700 hrs 14 Aug the boat set sail for FERGUSON IS, the object being to pick up natives to assist the Americans in establishing their observation posts. The boat anchored Seymour Bay 1600 hrs 14 Aug and W.O. II Rutledge, A.N.G.A.U. met boat. This man also speaks native tongue fluently and speedily arranged native carriers to assist the American party. There is a D.O. at FERGUSON IS and natives can be obtained there. The boat departed from FERGUSON IS 0900 hrs 15 Aug, ~~XX~~ for GOONENOUGH IS. On the N.E. of this island there is a spotting station equipped with radio. I was unable to gain name of location, their place of residence being on the side of one of the many spurs on the island. This party were ANGAU men. Boat anchored there for a period whilst inquiries were made re planes which were forced to land on that island. There is ample room for emergency landing grounds to be made on Goodenough Is. Native labour could readily prepare these grounds and maintain them in good order. About 10 miles from this spotting station the "BRONZEWING" was anchored, this ship being used by Air force personnel who were dismantling the wrecked aircraft. Natives were freely used to transport engines and parts to the boat. A feature of this operation was the ability of about 20 natives who transported one engine complete, weighing over 3,000 pounds, to the "BRONZEWING". These natives are exceptionally strong and are invaluable for any kind of carrying work. It would always be advisable, if this Unit had to move over mountains, to have available numbers of natives to transport gear. They are tireless and eat only frugal fare, namely about one lb of rice per man per day. The women folk are also useful for carrying duties and were freely used in transporting various things from the planes which were distant over 4 miles from the coast.

I returned by the "Bronzewing" arriving GILI GILI approx. 1000 hrs 19 Aug 42. Inquiries made revealed that American spotters have been in touch with their unit which is the 8 Fighter Control, situated rear of Bde H.Q.

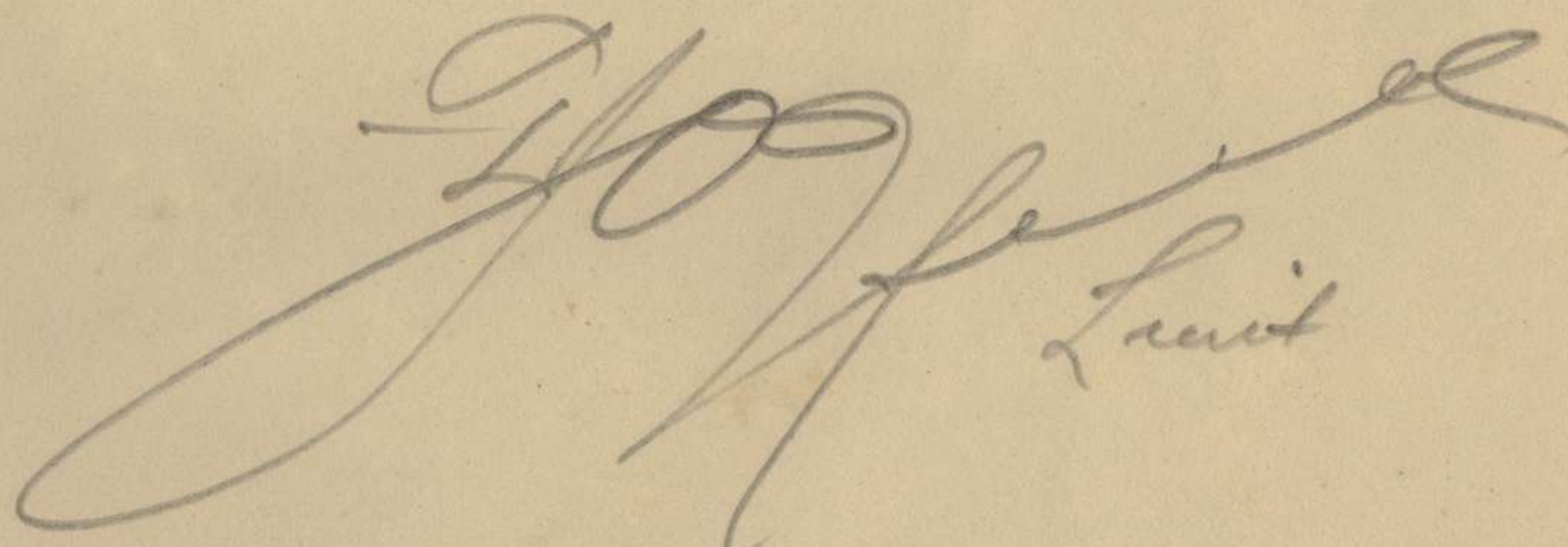
Sgd. P.J.O'Neill, Lieut.

25 Aust Inf Bn

Subject: Report on Delivered Supplies Dogara Part B

Re the above, I wish to report that on Wednesday 12 August I loaded supplies sufficient for 60 men for 12 days and boarded the "The Kyo" whose destination was Dogara Mission. First night the boat arrived at East Cape, where boat anchored for night. Those on board included six Americans who were en route to Cape Variela Goodenough Is to take up duty as "spotters". Dogara Mission was reached at approx 1700 hrs Aug 13. Father Bodger met boat & rendered valuable assistance in unloading stores by obtaining native assistance. He readily made available the best house for the storage of the supplies. This man is an authority on that part of the island & speaks the various dialects fluently. At approx 0700 hrs 14 Aug the boat set sail for Ferguson Is the object being to pick up natives to assist the Americans in establishing their observation posts. The boat anchored Seymour Bay 1600 hrs 14 Aug & W.O. Nutledge ANGAU met boat. This man also speaks native tongue fluently & speedily arranged native carriers to assist the American party. There is a D.O. at Ferguson Is & natives can be obtained there. The boat departed from Ferguson Is 0900 hrs 15 Aug for Goodenough Is. On the NE of this island there is a spotting station equipped with radio. I was unable to gain name of location, their place of residence being on the side of one of the many spurs on the island. This party were ANGAU men. Boat anchored there for a period whilst enquiries were made re planes which were forced to land on that island. There is ample room for emergency landing grounds to be made on Goodenough Is. Native labour could readily prepare these grounds & maintain them in good order. About 10 miles from this spotting station the "Bron Zewing" was anchored, this ship being used by our force personnel who were dismantling the wrecked aircraft. Natives were freely used to transport engines & parts to the boat. A feature of this operation was the ability of about 20 natives who transported one engine complete weighing over 3000 pounds, to the "Bron Zewing". These natives are exceptionally strong & are invaluable for any kind of carrying work. It would always be advisable if this Unit had to move over mountains to have available numbers of natives to transport gear. They are fierce & extremely brutal but are extremely hard workers.

The women folk are also useful for carrying
ducks & were busily used in transporting various
things from the planes which were distant over
40 miles from the coast. I returned by the
"Bronze-wing" arriving Gile Gile approx 1000 hrs
19 Aug 42. Enquiries made revealed that
American spotters have been in touch with their
Unit which is the 8 Fighter Control situated
near of Bde HQs


Lewis

SECRET.

PLACE GILLI GILLI

DATE 18 AUG. 42

Report on patrol by 8 Pl. A Coy. 25 Bn.
from 8 AUG. to 18 AUG. #2

ROUTE. GURNEY FIELD, STERLING RANGE, WAMAWAMANA,
TOPURA, CAPE FREKE, IWEDAU MISSION) Returning via
STERLING RANGE, PARIPIRIWA, STERLING RANGE, (main portion) BALAGA, WAIGANI

PART I.

TRA

TRACKS

~~GILLI GILLI~~

GURNEY FIELD to WAMAWAMANA

This track crossed the STERLING RANGE at an approximate height of 3000 ft. Spd. carrying up to 76 lbs. can make the journey comfortably in 9 hrs.

WAMAWAMANA to HIOGE MISSION

This track follows the beach which is loosely gravelled and is tiring to march along. The mission can be reached comfortably in 3 hours.

HIOGE MISSION to LAVORA (East of Cape Freke)

This track is on firm ground, easy marching and can be covered in 5 hrs.

LAVORA to (WEDAU DOGURA MISSION)

Slow movement is necessary around portions of CAPE FREKE but the mission is easily reached in 7 hours

RETURN JOURNEY 2.

DAGURA MISSION TO BABUNAKI

This track is good walking and can be covered comfortably in 3 hrs.

BABUNAKI TO PIRIPIRINA

This track crossed a spur of the STERLING RANGE at an approximate height of 4000 ft. and can be covered in 8 hours. It is doubtful if any but picked troops would cover this with a 76 lb. pack and still be in a condition to fight.

PIRIPIRINA TO BARAGA

This track ~~that~~ crossed the same spur of range that is crossed by the WAMAWAMANA track and can be covered in 9 hours. The same difficulties would arise on this with a pack as on the ~~pre~~ last track.

O.P.s.

There are two places on the WAMAWAMANA track that allow observation on the dome area but these are normally covered by cloud.

Bridges.

There are many foot bridges ~~formed~~ by trees dropped across re-entrants.

Offensive Action on the jungle Tracks.

The jungle tracks are ideal for ambush the deciding factor on clashes in the ranges being early information.

Defensive Positions

The track ^{itself} is more suitable for defense than the jungle native gardens or villages.

Transport other than carriers.

The WAMA WAMA track with changes in portions may possibly be negotiated by mules but the advice of some person with experience is necessary about this. The DUBUNAKI track to the foot NOWNA is impossible even for mules.

PART. II.

Tracks

GURNEY FIELD to WAMAWAMANA

- There are 6 track junctions on this route
1. a track to KEPO on the right reached immediately after entering the jungle.
 2. a track to GAYAVA on the right reached ^{25 mins.} ~~immediately~~ after entering the jungle.
 3. a track to a native garden on the right 3 mins. walking from no. 2 track.
 4. a track to a native garden on the right 12 mins. walking from no. 3 track.
 5. a track to a village on the left 4 mins walking from no. 4 track.
 6. junction with the government track coming in on the left $1\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. walking after entering the jungle.
- There is no difficult climbing encountered within two hours. The track winds consistently and is covered with many slippery, moss covered roots. ~~and~~ ^{For} for the most part it has been well chosen, and any improvements if the track is to be used only by carriers would not recompense the labour.

Troops carrying a 76 lb. pack can cross this track in 9 hrs. ^{a small} If only

number of ~~a few~~ ~~packed~~ men or troops without packs could make the trip much more quickly.

There is a village and garden through which the track runs 3 hrs. walking from the top of the range. The name is ~~IATA~~ IATHAPARA and the garden is worked by the natives from WAMAWAMANA who have ceased going there since the air-raids, being scared of the A.A. fire as the shrapnel falls over the range. The clearing is approximately 400' by 250'. From the foot of the range to WAMAWAMANA is 40 mins. walking, the track winding through an open grass covered valley.

The track crosses two good streams one 1½ hrs. walking after entering the jungle, the other on the N side at the foot of the range. ~~where there is a good bivouac area.~~

Sleeping on the track would in most places be dangerous but could be done by small ~~parties~~ parties if necessary.

The summit of the range was reached in 3½ hrs. walking time after entering the jungle.

WAMAWAMANA to HIOGE Mission

TAVPOLA as marked on the usual maps does not exist.

The beach is flat along this stretch and is covered with loose gravel which is tiring to march along. Ops. carrying a 76 lb. pack can reach the mission in 3 hrs.

WAMAWAMANA is on the beach, is a well kept village, has a government rest house and the natives there speak good English.

There are occasional deserted huts along the track and 2 hrs from WAMAWAMANA is a village IWAMUTUNA consisting of only a few huts and it appears to be deserted.

Three hundred yds. E. of HIOGE MISSION is a ^{small} village WAKAURUA

HIOGE MISSION is in charge of a native by the name of PETER

HIOGE MISSION to LAVORA

This track is on firm ground, easy marching and with a 76 lb. pack can be covered in 5 hrs.

There are 5 villages on the way

GONAPORA of approx. 12 huts is 20 mins. from the mission.

TAPORA about the same size is 25 mins. from GONAPORA

PARIMETA of about 6 huts is 50 mins. from TAPORA

AIGURA of 4 huts is 15 mins. from PARIMETA

IMIMRI is ~~30 mins.~~ ^{a small village} and 30 mins. from AIGURA

Five hundred yds. or from LAVARRA is a government rest-house.

There is a stream crossed ~~near~~ near HIOGE MISSION, ~~running into the sea~~ that rises N of PIRIPIRINA and a track follows this down

LAVARRA to DAGOURA MISSION

This track can be covered in 7 hrs. by tps. carrying a 76 lb. pack.

The track round CAPE FREERE necessitates careful movement in places, as it crosses many spurs and steep ~~re-entrants~~ ^{re-entrants}.

~~There is one hut 15 mins. from LAVARRA called DARATEPENNA~~
The first village ~~west of~~ ^{is} a hut and named VONUPOPOWARI and is on the N.W. ~~beach~~ portion of CAPE FREERE and 2 1/4 hrs. from LAVARRA

The next village about 6 huts and named BOUTU is 45 mins from LAVARRA
BODUMI ^{another} a small village and 10 mins. from BOUTU

There is a rest house 5 mins. from BOUTU ^{which} is called DIVARI

DIVARI is about 300 yds. E. of LARONAI MISSION, which is on the S.E. ^{corner} ~~beach~~ of BATTLE BAY and is in charge of FATHER BRADY.

DAGOURA MISSION is 1 1/2 hrs from LARONAI mission and between them ^{from top to N} ~~to the~~ beach are the following villages

NUMAUB	4 huts
UAI	3 huts
IANHURI	5 huts
REBO	2 huts

BOEKA then the track crosses grass flats and comes to a string of 6 villages consisting of about 50 huts and known collectively as RUMMA RUMMA.

BARARA mission station another string of 6 villages of about 50 huts and known collectively as WADUBO

The URAMA river, which is about 40 yds. wide.

Then the village of WEDAM which is at the bottom of the hill on which the DAGURA mission is built

The beach on the whole is ^{narrowed} ~~very~~ with coconut trees to within a few yds of the ~~water~~ ^{and} around CAPE FREKE there is no beach, ~~and with~~ ^{portions} ~~having a precipitous drop straight~~ ^{to the sea}

DAGURA to BABUNAKI

This track crosses the URAMA river, runs ^{through native gardens and} parallel to ^{with} the beach for 1 hour, marching.

Then it follows an open grass covered spur ~~climbers~~ rising at BABUNAKI to over about 1800 ft. It is an easy gradual rise and can be done by without difficulty in 3 hrs., by ^{troops} carrying a 76 lb. pack, ^{mission} church, and BABUNAKI ^{mission} consists of about 6 huts and overlooks DAGURA, and the large valley and BARTHOBY.

BABUNAKI to PIRIPIRINA

^{Portions of} This track has ^{are} some difficult portions and with the steep rise I doubt if any but picked troops would cross it with a 76 lb. pack and still be in a condition to fight. The spur of the STERLING RANGE that is crossed here rises to approx. 4000 ft. and runs into CAPE FREKE, where ~~it ends~~

The TAMEO River rises ^{from} ~~from~~ this spur and flows between it and the main spur of the STERLING RANGE. ~~It~~ runs along the N. side of ~~the~~ HIOCKE BAY. It flows into the sea near the HIOCKE MISSION and N of TOUPORA as shown on the issue map.

There is a track following this stream from PIRIPIRINA

Between the bottom of the range and PIRIPIRINA the track crosses this stream seven times.

PIRIPIRINA to BALAGA

This track also has some difficult part and crosses the same range that is crossed by the WAMAWAMANA track. I doubt that this could be crossed other by any but picked troops with 25 lb. packs. This range is crossed at approx. 3000 ft.

PIRIPIRINA consists of about 10 huts.

The next village is TOPU 40 mins. from PIRIPIRINA on the bank of the VIEA stream and consists of about 6 huts.

LAGAMA village of 2 huts is 1 1/2 hrs. from TOPU

The track crosses the ARADA river at the bottom of the range, on the S side, several times.

There are 3 villages on the track after the range is crossed.

PODA 2 huts. 8 hrs. from PIRIPIRINA

NOWRA 2 1/2 hrs. from PODA is a very well kept village and the G.B.N. have a standing patrol at this track point.

BALAGA 12 mins from NOWRA is another well kept village of about 10 huts.

There are two track junctions. between PODA and NOWRA. One to the left 28 mins. from PODA and the guide did not

As to where this led

The other to the right & 2 mins from this track leads to KAPUKUVA from where there is another track to
 • DAGURA.

There is a report from the natives of another track from WAA WAIGANI that comes out in the vicinity of HIOGE TOPURA but I could not find a guide that knew it although ~~some~~ of the boys are sure it exists.

O.P.'s available to watch our area

on the WAMANAMA track there is one point that is from which part of the coconut plantation can be seen and this appeared to be HAGITA but I could not ascertain this for certain. The bearing from here is 205° . This point ~~can~~ be reached in 30 mins. from the junc. with the government track. and it is normally covered by clouds. From the ~~summit~~ ^{crest} of the range the guides said that GIKKI GIKKI can be seen but the clouds prevented any visibility. ~~The bearing or direction in which to reach the bay could be seen is~~
Fighting on the jungle tracks

These tracks are ideal for ambush the deciding factor being early information. The natives if used would be of great assistance.
 at 11 o'clock on the last day of the return journey my guide reported that a patrol had left BAKABA and was ^{moving} coming on the same track. at 12.30 hrs. we met 3 men from the 9 Bn. who confirmed that they had left BAKABA at 0915 hrs. at 11

42 - 61

25 Aust. Inf. Bn.
AUSTRALIA

23 Aug 42.

7 Aust. Inf. Bde.

REPORT OF FIGHTING PATROL - 25 Bn

Led by Lieut. E. Schlyder

20 Aug. 42

On the morning 11 Aug, a fighting patrol, strength 1 Pl., with all Pl. weapons and amm., left bivouac area at 1000 hrs, and moved by M.T. to WAIGANI.

When nearing WAIGANI, Pte. Sharpley L.S. was struck by a low-hanging wire across the road, and received injuries to the chin. He collapsed whilst receiving treatment, so I decided to send him back to biv. area by M.T.

Patrol left WAIGANI at 1100 hrs with 26 bearers and 1 guide, and moved through cocoonut plantation in direction of BALAGA village, at which we arrived at 1135 hrs. Patrol passed through village of NOWRA at 1200 hrs and followed track to village of PODA.

The track from the HARADA R. through BALAGA to PODA is from 10' to 20' in width, and presents ideal fields of fire for Brens for most of its length; also good places for ambush.

Patrol reached PODA at 1245 hrs, where decided to have lunch. At 1330 decided to move on, but found that the bearers would go no further until next morning, the reason being that the next village was a day's march away and they would not camp out at night because of the rain which was falling fairly heavily. I speedily found out that argument was of no avail. Not knowing the route I had to stop there until next morning.

Patrol left PODA at 0630 hrs on 12 Aug and proceeded along HARADA R.. After wading knee-deep for nearly 4 hrs the guide informed me he was on the wrong track. Patrol had to move back almost to PODA and then along another branch stream. About an hour later the guide informed me he was again on the wrong track. At this point I decided to have lunch and then sent guide ahead to attempt to find the right track. At 1330 hrs he arrived back saying he could not find the right road. I then sent him back to PODA to get information as to proper route, and half an hour later he arrived back with a new guide.

The patrol only had a mere 3 days rations with them, and these delays meant doing 4 days march on a bare 3 days rations.

At 1330 we moved off on right track. This route led over the ranges along the crest of a razorback ridge. This track is very steep and in places dangerous, owing to the slippery yellow clay. Men continually fell and in some cases were very fortunate in not receiving serious injuries.

Later on in the afternoon patrol began to straggle out and the bearers raced ahead of us. Men carrying Brens were very tired and could not keep up. Owing to being continually dropped in mud and slush, these guns plus T.S.M.Gs and rifles were in no condition to be used immediately if the necessity had arisen.

Just on dark 7 0/rs and myself reached the small village of KIU, with the bearers. The remaining members of patrol were some 2 m. behind. Shots were fired during the night to attract their attention, and a party of natives were sent out to try and locate them, but had no success. Tea that night consisted of two biscuits and tea. The following morning the remainder of the patrol were located in a creek bed where they had spent the night huddled together in pouring rain. The men took it all in good spirit and had no complaints.

At 0930 patrol moved off again over very difficult country until the mission of PIERE PIERENINA was reached about 1445. Patrol rested here for about 30 mins. Here the guide took the wrong track again and brought us out on the beach at TOPURA on the EAST side of CAPE FREE, instead of the WEST side.

The route taken from KIU through the village of NAIGWAGWA is very rough and steep. From the village of KIU to PIERE PIERENINA mission the route presents ideal places for ambushing enemy patrols. Large bodies of men could be trapped on this track with no hope of escaping.

The track from PIERE PIERENINA mission to TOPURA is a government road about 10' wide, along which the Bren could be used to very good advantage. This track leads over bare ridges of black slippery soil, crossing the HAMELO and TAMEO Rivers, and leads through the villages of ETOBA Mission - LAPAW - KUMARUMA, and comes out at TOPURA a couple of miles WEST of HIOGE Mission.

By taking the wrong road it meant an extra days march to reach DOGURA, this being reached at dark the next evening, Friday 14 Aug. The patrol reached DOGURA completely exhausted, some members in a very bad physical state. During that day the bearers were left well behind and most of them did not reach DOGURA until nearly midnight, they being exhausted also.

At DOGURA we were treated very well, the patrol being looked after by Sister Williams. There I rested the men for 2 days, on the Sister's advice. Father Bodger offered to take the patrol as far as HIOGE mission in the Mission schooner, so on Sunday night at 1900 hrs the patrol embarked aboard the 'McClarién King'. We reached HIOGE mission at 2200 hrs on Sunday night and were bedded down at the Government rest house. I left 4 men aboard shil to be brought home to

GILI GILI. These men were in a bad condition and could not walk.

The next day, Monday 17 Aug, the native priest told me he had seen a Zero with smoke pouring from its tail going out to sea and losing height. The priest had heard the noise of the raid on the previous Tuesday and said he thought it was on that day that he had seen the Zero in flames.

From HIOGE mission we moved along the beach to WAMANAWAMA where patrol spent the night. Patrol left this village at 0730 hrs on 18 Aug and proceeded over the ranges x via the GAP to bivouac area, arriving here at about 1630 hrs.

GENERAL REMARKS

The use of the Bren Gun in the ranges proper is so restricted as to be rendered useless, the jungle being too dense and tracks too narrow and steep for effective use. The weight and general awkwardness of this gun restricts mobility to such an extent as to render speedy action with the gun impossible, and so making it a hindrance to the effectiveness and efficiency of any patrol. If carried for any length of time the gun members are in no condition to use the gun.

Pack animals are out of the question; no animal could get over the tracks in the hills. T.S.M.Gs. and bombs would be the only means of combating enemy patrols.

The members of the patrol showed great determination and fortitude during the duration of same. For the first 4 days and nights it rained heavily and tps were only having one meal per day; but no member complained of the hardships under which he travelled.

Most of the patrol arrived back at bivouac area with their feet in a bad condition, and boots in bad state of repair. It would be advisable to issue men with new boots before setting out on long patrols, as the soles of repaired boots tend to come off, which renders additional hardships.

Equipment should be cut down to an absolute minimum, so as to gain maximum mobility, and I consider the weight carried by the men (approx. 70 lbs) as being excessive. This is borne out by Father Bodger of DOGURA mission, who has an intimate knowledge of local conditions and states also that the weight carried is by far excessive.

(Sgd) E. Schlyder Lieut.

[Empty rectangular box]

Date
Address

Please note the number area telephone.

Australian Military Forces

Lt. Col.,
C.O., 25 Aust. Inf. Bn.

TELEPHONES

Report of Fighting Patrol. led by Lieut Ellyden
20th August 1942.

On the morning 11th Aug a fighting patrol, strength one pl with all pl. weapons & ammo left Biv area at 1000 hrs & moved by M.T. to WAIGANI.

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The track from the HARADA R., through BALAGA to POPA is from 10 to 20' in width and presents ideal fields of fire for Brens for most of its length & also good places for ambush.

Patrol reached POPA at 1245 hrs & I decided to have lunch. At 1330, decided to move on, but found that the bearers would go no farther until next morning, the reason being, the next village was a days' march away & they would not camp

out at night because of the rain which was falling fairly heavily. I speedily found out that argument was of no avail. Not knowing the route, I had to stop there until next morning.

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Patrol had to move back almost to POPA & then along another branch stream. About an hour later the guide informed me, he was again on the wrong track.

At this point I decided to have lunch & then sent guide ahead to attempt to find the right track. 1300 hrs he arrived back saying he could not find the right road. I then sent him back to POPA to get information as to proper route & half hour later arrived back with new guide.

The patrol only had a mere 3 days ration with them & these 3 days meant doing 4 days march on a bare 3 days ration.

At 1330 we moved off on right track. This route led over the ranges, along the crest of a razor backed ridge. This track is very steep & in places dangerous, owing to

The slippery yellow clay. Men continually fell & in some cases were very fortunate in not receiving serious injuries.

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At DOGURA, we were treated very well, the patrol being looked after by Sister William. Here I rested the men for 2 days, on the Sister's advice. Father BODGER offered to take the patrol as far as HIOGE mission in the mission schooner, so on Sunday night, at ~~19~~ 1900 hrs the patrol embarked aboard the "McClavin King". We reached HIOGE mission at 2200 hrs on Sunday night & were bedded down at the Government rest house. I left 4 men aboard ship to be brought home to GILIGILI. These men were in a bad condition & could not walk.

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Equipment should be cut down to an absolute minimum so as to gain maximum mobility & I consider the weight carried by the men (app 70 lbs) is ~~excessive~~, as being excessive.

This is borne out by Father Bodger of POGGIERA mission who has an intimate knowledge of local conditions & states also that the weight carried is by far excessive.

E. Kelly Lieut

- D 1 Coy @ Doguwa H.K. M.M.G.
- C 1 Coy Static Def Drome & mobile H.
- A 1 Coy Drome working party & load
? Range
- B 1 Coy. weekly patrols & standing
patrols.

Wamawamana }
 (1 day) }
 Toupota }
 Doguwa }
 Houla }
 Range }
 Para Perina. }
 Guabanarke }
 Name }
 Carrier }

To discuss with Lt McDunn.
 Lt Schlyder }
 Best place for leaving
 Rations }
 ? set from Owagaga

Lee
 17 Aug 42

25 Aust Inf Bn
19 Aug 42.

7 Aust Inf Bde.

PATROL REPORT - 25 Aust Inf Bn - INVESTIGATION OF SUB-JUNGLE
AND TRACKS SOUTH OF GURNEY FIELD - 15.8.42.

Lieut Woodrow, 25 Aust Inf Bn. reports as follows,-

"As instructed by C.O. I took two Secs. of 7 Pl and two "I" Sec. personnel on patrol to look for tracks in jungle on SOUTH side of runway. We left from WEST end of runway at 0915 hrs, one patrol going along road to LOUDAVA MISSION to find openings into jungle. Road was bordered by a swamp on left. The first discernable track was through a garden about one-third of a mile from coast on a small stream. Road bordered by grass about 6 ft. high. The other patrol proceeded up SOUTH side of drome for about one-third mile, fringing jungle. A track was discovered in a S.E. direction. We followed this through and met the other patrol at the stream. This track is very muddy for about 200 yds but easy to negotiate; would be good in dry weather.

"We proceeded to MAIWARA village (2 patrols) and had lunch. We returned to bridge at junc. of road to mission and MAIWARA village.

"One patrol endeavoured to follow up KALOHI CREEK but were unsuccessful. The other patrol started from bridge at junc. of rds to mission and MAIWARA village and HAGITA HOUSE in an attempt to find a direct route in a northerly direction to runway. We found a track on the right bank running NORTH for about one mile. We passed through a village and then bore N.W. and struck a fence at the SOUTH side of the drome just EAST of No. 11 Pl, B Coy posn. The track is just at the angle of the fence. My opinion is that tracks could be cut through nearly all of the jungle between Rd HAGITA - MISSION and drome with the exception of the EAST end.

"There were no tps between MAIWARA VILLAGE and LAUDAVA MISSION along the coast that we could see. We returned to camp at 1530 hrs."

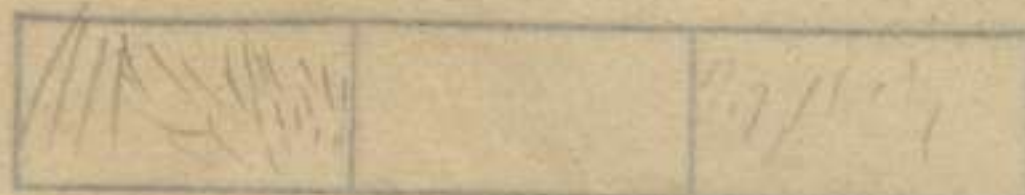
Sketch att. for adding to Bde track map.

Edwards

Lt-Col

Date C.O. 25 Aust Inf Bn.

Address



Please note this sketch when returning

Australian Military Forces

ЛЕГЕБНОЕ

Patrol Report
1 and 3 Sec 7 PL - A Coy 25 Aust Inf Bn
on 15 Aug 42

As instructed by CO. I took two Secs of 7 PL and 2 two I Sec personnel on patrol to look for tracks in jungle on SOUTH side of Runway.

We left from WEST end of runway at 0915 hrs. one patrol going along road to LAUDAVA MISSION to find openings into jungle. Road was bordered by a swamp on left. The first discernable track was through a garden about $\frac{1}{3}$ mile from coast on a small stream. Road bordered by grass abt 6' high. The other patrol proceeded up SOUTH side of drome for about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile fringing jungle. A track was discovered in a SE direction. We followed this through and met the other patrol at the stream. This track is very muddy for about 200 yds but easy to negotiate would be good in dry weather.

We proceeded to MAIWARA village (2 patrols) and had lunch. We returned to bridge at junction of Road to Mission and MAIWARA Village.

One patrol endeavoured to follow up KALOHI CREEK but were unsuccessful. The other patrol started from bridge at junction of rds to mission and MAIWARA VILLAGE and HAGITA HOUSE in an attempt to find a direct route in a NORTH. direction to runway. We found a track on the right bank running NORTH for about 1 mile. We passed through a village and then bore N.W and struck the fence at the SOUTH side of the drome just EAST of NO 11 PL B Coy post. The track is just at the angle of the fence. My opinion is that tracks could be cut through nearly all of the jungle to the WEST between HAGITA - MISSION and drome with the exception of the EAST end.

There were no tps between MAIWARA VILLAGE and LAUDAVA MISSION along the coast, that we could see. We returned to camp at 1530 hrs

D Woodie Lieut

OC. NO 7 PL. A Coy

25 Aust Inf Bn

16 Aug 42 1230 hrs.

Horrockses
REGD.

36in.

"GLEE-SPUN"

40yds.

100% Fibro Dress Fabric.

H131

H132

H133

H134

42

-

43

25 Aust Inf Bn.

19 Aug 42.

7 Aust Inf Bde.

PATROL REPORT - 25 BN - Route No. 7 (25 Bn Biv. Area to head of KALOHI CK and return via KALOHI CK track).

Herewith patrol report by Lieut Nelson, 25 Aust Inf Bn. on routes via Road No. 7 (25 Bn Biv. area) to head of KALOHI CK returning via track down KALOHI CK on 12 Aug for your information.



Lt-Col
C.O. 25 Aust Inf Bn.

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Please quote this number when replying.

Date

Address

Australian Military Forces—Northern Command

TELEPHONE—

D. Coy.

13 Aug 42.

Patrol Report.

Patrol of "D" Coy Strength 1 Off. 3 NCO. 20 OR. left "D" Coy
area 0930 hrs 12 Aug 42. Route via Bn. HQ. thence
to native plantation via H.Q. Coy.

Information given by natives at the garden revealed
that a track from the garden would take us to
KALOHU CK. This track runs approx. NW. from the
garden and joins KALOHU CK about 300 yds EAST
of creek junction. The track is fairly well defined &
the going reasonably good.

The creek junction mentioned
appears to be an important tactical feature being also
the junction of several important tracks. There is a
track going NORTH over the hill to connect up with
the Government Road. Another runs west to EANI
EANI village. KALOHU CK itself is also a route.

After reaching the creek the patrol
moved east along the creek for a distance of about a
mile where a halt was made for lunch.

From here I took two men
Pte Downes & Pte Compton, and made further recon
of KALOHU CK. We moved along the creek for about
a mile. The creek is joined here by another over
a waterfall about 70-80 ft high. This fall is about 1 1/2

miles above previous creek junction.

Moving along the creek we reached a deep gorge which narrowed down to a width of about 10 feet & was from 200-300 feet deep. The creek is very fast flowing through the gorge with pools of ~~water~~ about 5 feet in depth. Progress through the gorge was slow & difficult and after going about 200 yds through the gorge we turned back.

The patrol returned to camp via KAKOHU CK & reached the bivouac area at 1630 hrs.

Marching time from D boy area to KAKOHU CK via native garden was 1½ hrs. //

Attached is rough memory sketch of patrol route from native garden.

W.R. Nelson Lieut.

D Coy, 13 Aug 42.

PATROL REPORT.

Patrol of "D" Coy strength 1 Offr, 3 N.C.Os, 20 O.Rs left D Coy area at 0930 hrs. 12 Aug 42. Route via Bn. H.Q., thence to native plantation. Information given by native at the garden revealed that a track from the garden would take us to KALOHI CK. This track runs approx. N.W. from the garden and joins KALOHI CK about 300 yds EAST of creek junction. The track is fairly well defined and the going reasonably good.

The creek junction mentioned appears to be an important tactical feature being also the junction of several important tracks. There is a track going NORTH over the hill to connect up with the Government road. Another runs west to EANI EANI village. KALOHI CK itself is also a route.

After reaching the creek the patrol moved east along the creek for a distance of about a mile where a halt was made for lunch. From here I took two men, Pte Downes and Pte Compton and made further recce. of KALOHI CK. We moved along the creek for about a mile. The creek is joined here by another over a waterfall about 70-80 ft high. This fall is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles above previous creek junction.

Moving along the creek we reached a deep gorge which narrowed down to a width of about 10 feet and was from 200 to 300 ft deep. The creek is very fast flowing through the gorge with pools of about 5 feet in depth. Progress through the gorge was slow and difficult and after going about 200 yds through the gorge we turned back.

The patrol returned to camp via KALOHI CK and reached the bivouac area at 1630 hrs. Marching time from D Coy area to KALOHI CK via garden was $1\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.

Sgd. W.R. NELSON Lieut.

D Coy, 13 Aug 42.

PATROL REPORT.

Patrol of "D" Coy strength 1 Offr, 3 N.C.Os, 20 O.Rs left D Coy area at 0930 hrs. 12 Aug 42. Route via En. H., thence to native plantation. Information given by native at the garden revealed that a track from the garden would take us to KALOHI CK. This track runs approx. N.W. from the garden and joins KALOHI CK about 300 yds EAST of creek junction. The track is fairly well defined and the going reasonably good.

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D Coy, 13 Aug 42.

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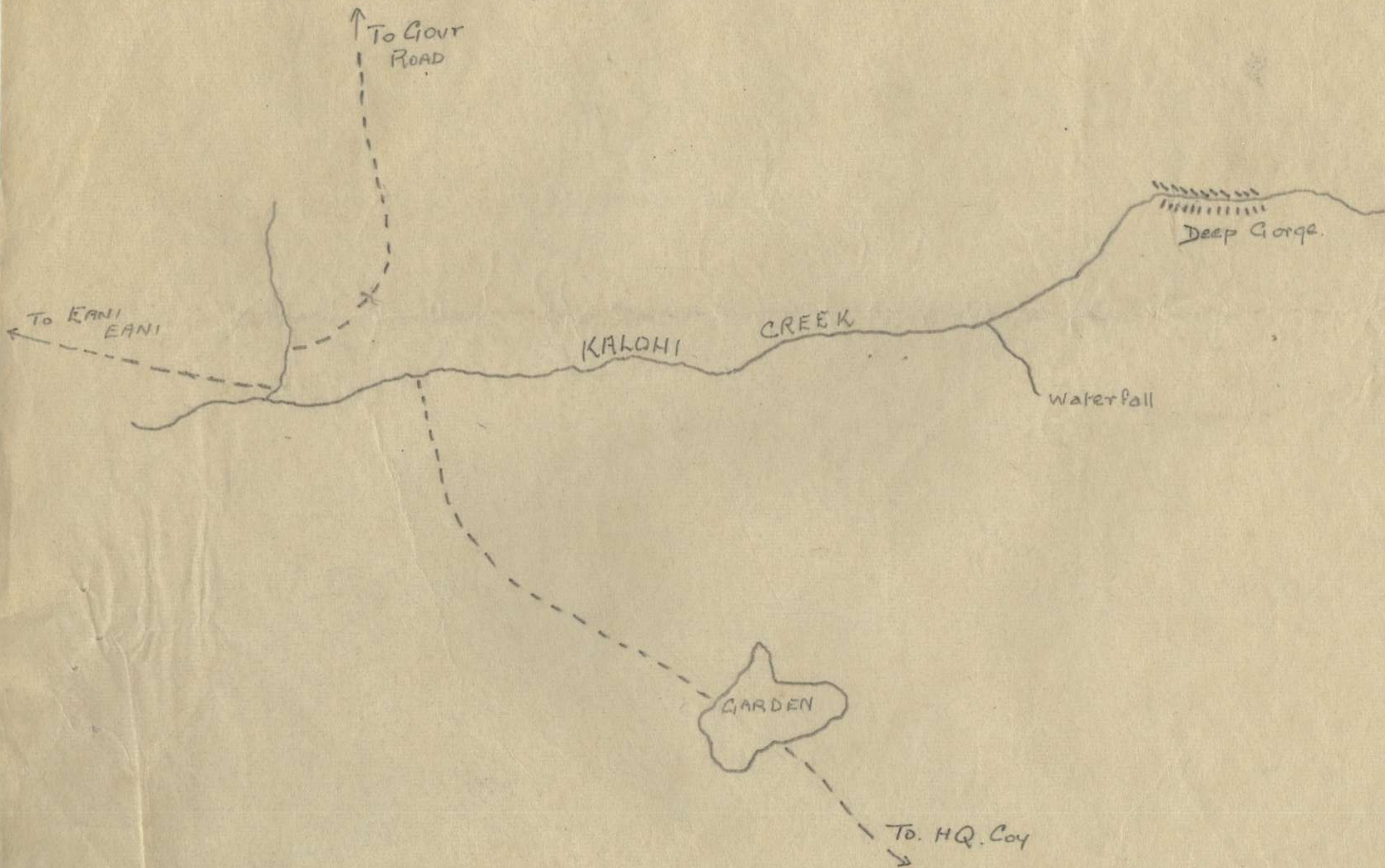
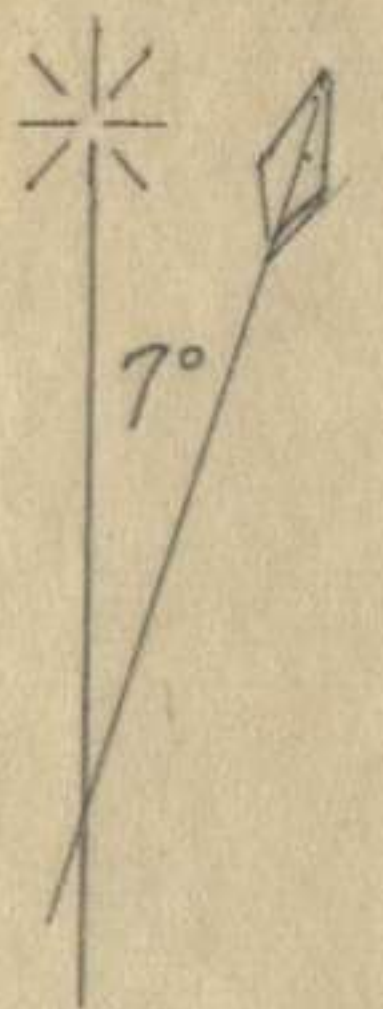
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The patrol returned to camp via KALOHI CK and reached the bivouac area at 1630 hrs. Marching time from D Coy area to KALOHI CK via garden was $1\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.

Sgd. W.R. NELSON Lieut.

ROUGH. MEMORY SKETCH.

D. Coy Patrol Route - 12 Aug 42.



Scale 2" to 1 mile (Approx.)

42 - 43

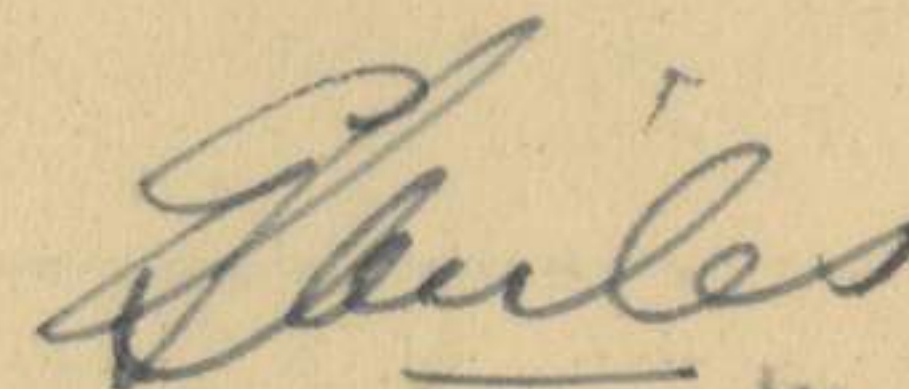
25 Aust Inf Bn
19 Aug 42.

7 Aust Inf Bde.

STANDING PATROLS - 25 AUST INF BN - OWAHGAGA VILLAGE.

Herewith report from Lieut WOODROW, 25 Aust Inf Bn. on the posn dealing with the employment of standing patrols on tracks leading over the Stirling Range for your information.

The recommendation is being given a trial on return of Pl patrols from DOGURA Mission, which patrols reported in last night.



lt-Col
C.O. 25 Aust Inf Bn.

11 - 13 Aug 42

Report of Standing Patrol

HQ and NO1 Sec. of 7. PE. A Coy 25 Aust Inf Bn

Patrol left at 1130 hrs 11 Aug 42 by Coy vehicle and debussed at 978994 GILLI GILLI map. proceeding up Govt Road through EANEANE VILLAGE. About $\frac{1}{2}$ mile through VILLAGE we were fired on by an ^{Enemy Lighter} ~~2000~~ from appx 500'. There appeared to be a heavy AA posn about 200' to EAST of us. The Govt Track was plotted by 2 members of our I Sec up to the first fork of KALOHI CREEK. About $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles of this track could be made passable for Cameros with a little work and clearing. We arrived at KALOHI CREEK fork at 1500 hrs and camped to allow members of I Sec to explore left branch of KALOHI CREEK. We met a native here who told us there was a track to DOGURA and also one to HEOGI. and TOUPOLA.

We left this posn at 0730 hrs 12 Aug 42 crossed a very steep spur still on GOVT ROAD and arrived at another tributary of KALOHI CREEK at 1100 hrs. Had lunch here and resumed journey at 1230 hrs arriving at OWANGAGA. Clearing and Village at 1330 hrs

We established a Bren gun posn covering track down the range from TOUPOLA out of trees and stones having no digging tools. At 1520 hrs a native runner left for HQ Coy with a rough report and to guide the relief sec. back to our posn.

At 1100 hrs on 13 Aug 42 we left OWANGAGA clearing by a track SOUTH. which crossed another fork of the right fork of KALOHI CREEK. We then turned SW. and joined the GOVT TRACK about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile above the first fork. This was a barely discernable track and hard to follow in the wet weather.

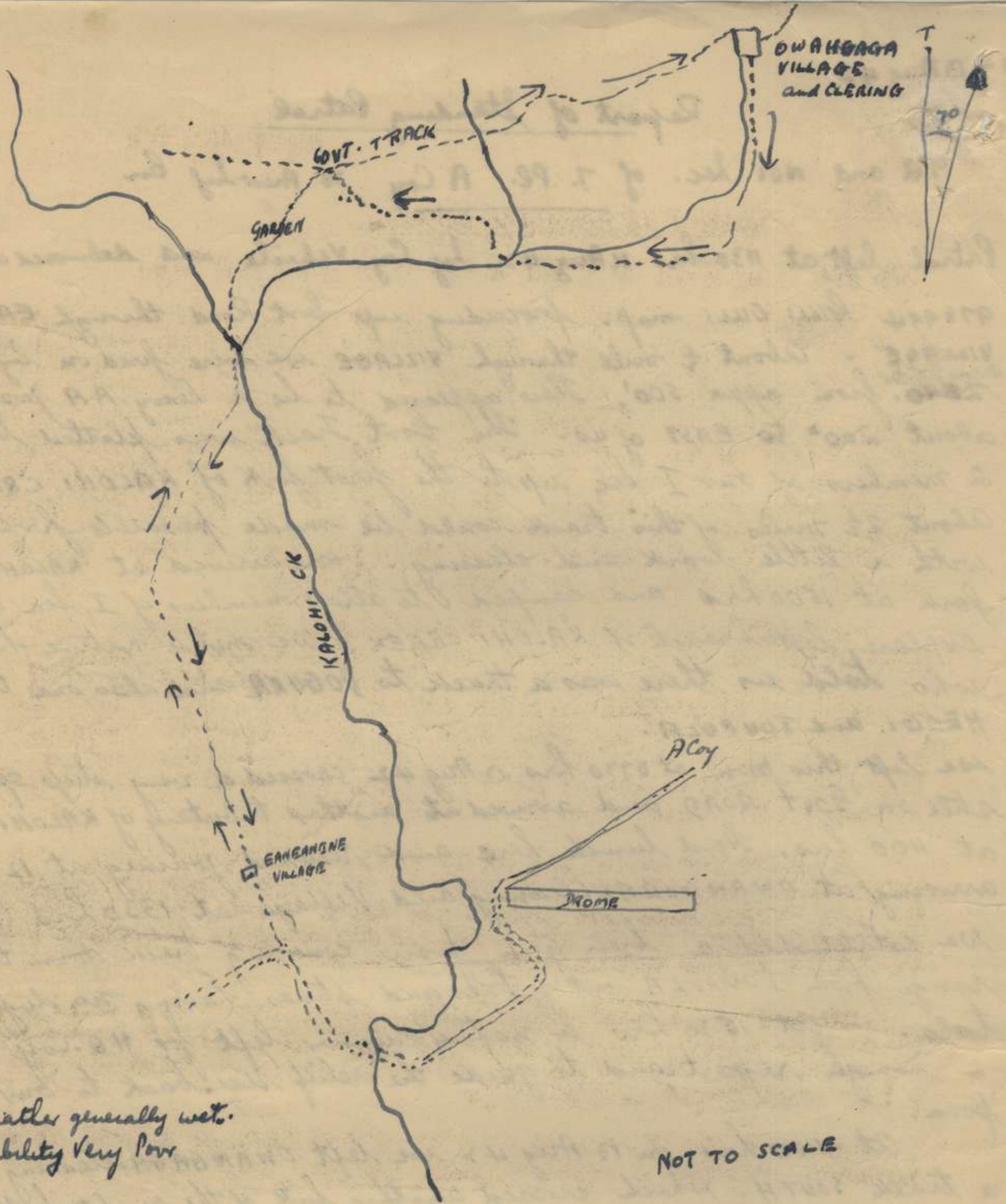
We met the relief sec about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile above first fork. where a track leads off WEST. presumably to DOGURA MISSION

We arrived at the entrance of the GOVT TRACK at 1700 hrs and received a lift home arriving at 1730 hrs.

We left 2 I Sec men at the first fork of KALOHI CREEK to endeavour to find a track to HQ Coy. but they were unsuccessful.

My recommendation is to employ a whole pb. as a standing patrol. one sec on first fork of KALOHI CREEK. and ~~two~~ ^{two} sec at OWANGAGA clearing to protect both tracks. A suggestion is to leave them out 7 days to give them a chance to patrol and plot tracks properly. They could also leave their Brens there as these are very cumbersome to carry up

D. Brown Lieut
OB. NO 7 PE A Coy
14 Aug 42 1030 hrs



Weather generally wet.
 Visibility Very Poor

NOT TO SCALE

O. Woodroffe Lieut.

11-13 Aug 42.

REPORT OF STANDING PATROL.

H.Q. and No.1 Sec. of 7 Pl, A Coy - 25 Aust Inf Bn..

Patrol left at 1130 hrs 11 Aug 42 by Coy vehicle and debussed at 978994 GILLI GILLI map, proceeding up Govt. road through EANEANENE village. About half a mile through village we were fired on by an enemy fighter from approx. 500 ft. There appeared to be a heavy A.A. posn about 200 yds to EAST of us. The Govt. track was plotted by two members of our I Sec. up to the first fork of KALOHI CK. About 2½ miles of this track could be made passable for carriers with a little work and clearing. We arrived at KALOHI CK fork at 1500 hrs. and camped to allow members of I sec. to explore left branch of KALOHI CK. We met a native here who told us there was a track to DOGURA and also one to HEOGI and TOUPOLA.

We left this posn at 0730 hrs 12 Aug 42 crossed a very steep spur still on Govt. road and arrived at another tributary of KALOHI CK at 1100 hrs. Had lunch here and resumed journey at 1230 hrs. arriving at OWANGAGA clearing and village at 1330 hrs. We established a Bren gun posn covering track down the range from TOUPOLA, out of trees and stones, having no digging tools. At 1520 hrs a native runner left for H.Q. Coy with a rough report and to guide the relief sec. back to our posn.

At 1100 hrs on 13 Aug 42 we left OWANGAGA clearing by a track SOUTH which crossed another fork of the right fork of KALOHI CK. We then turned S.E. and joined the Govt. Track about 1 mile above the first fork. This was a barely discernable track and hard to follow in the wet weather.

We met the relief sec about three-quarters of a mile above first fork where a track leads off WEST, presumably to DOGURA MISSION. We arrived at the entrance of the Govt Track at 1700 hrs and recd a lift home arriving 1730 hrs.

We left two I sec. men at the first fork of KALOHI CK to endeavour to find a track to H.Q. Coy but they were unsuccessful.

My recommendation is to employ a whole Pl as a standing patrol. One sec. on first fork of KALOHI CK and two secs at OWANGAGA clearing to protect both tracks. A suggestion is to leave them out seven days to give them a chance to patrol and plot tracks properly. They could also leave their Brens there as these are very cumbersome to carry up.

Sgd. D.E. Woodrow, Lieut.
O.C. No. 7 Pl A Coy.
14 Aug, 1030 hrs.

11-13 Aug 42.

REPORT OF STANDING PATROL.

H.Q. and No.1 Sec. of 7 Pl, A Coy - 25 Aust Inf Bn...

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Sgd. D.E. Woodrow, Lieut.
O.C. No. 7 Pl A Coy.
14 Aug, 1030 hrs.

11-13 Aug 42.

REPORT OF STANDING PATROL.

H.Q. and No.1 Sec. of 7 Pl, A Coy - 25 Aust Inf Bn..

Patrol left at 1130 hrs 11 Aug 42 by Coy vehicle and debussed at 978994 GILLI GILLI map, proceeding up Govt. road through EANEANE village. About half a mile through village we were fired on by an enemy fighter from approx. 500 ft. There appeared to be a heavy A.A. posn about 200 yds to EAST of us. The Govt. track was plotted by two members of our I Sec. up to the first fork of KALOHI CK. About 2 miles of this track could be made passable for carriers with a little work and clearing. We arrived at KALOHI CK fork at 1500 hrs. and camped to allow members of I sec. to explore left branch of KALOHI CK. We met a native here who told us there was a track to DOGURA and also one to HEOGI and TOUPOLA.

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Sgd. D.E. Woodrow, Lieut.
O.C. No. 7 Pl A Coy.
14 Aug, 1030 hrs.

42 - 43

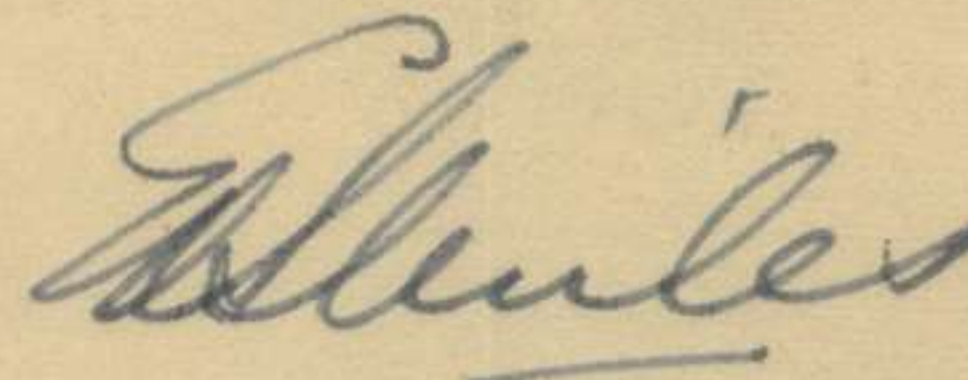
25 Aust Inf Bn.

19 Aug 42.

7 Aust Inf Bde.

PATROL REPORT - 25 Aust Inf Bn - GURNEY FIELD to KALOHI CK
and return by different routes - 12 Aug 42.

Herewith report in duplicate of patrol taken by Lieut Marsh, 25 Bn. on 12 Aug 42 through EANEANENE village towards the head of KALOHI CK returning downstream via KALOHI CK track, for your information.



Lt-Col
C.O. 25 Aust Inf Bn.

TELEPHONE—

Australian Military Forces—Northern Command.

Please quote this Number when replying.

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Address

Date

17 P1 PATROL - AUG.

PATROL OF 21 MEN LED BY LIEUT A.W. MARSH and 4 N.C.Os.

The patrol moved out at 0940 hrs through the road at the western end of GURNEY aerodrome, and eventually turned off the road heading north. EANEANENE village was reached at 1048 hrs. Two other tracks were noticed leading away from the village, one right and one left. The patrol reached KALOHI CK branch at 1130 hrs. Three other tracks were seen between the village and the creek, two leading left and one right, apparently ending in KALOHI CK. These tracks were very indistinct. Patrol then followed this branch of the creek for about 250 yds. which then opened out into the main stream. This was reached at 1215 hrs. Lieut Marsh with one N.C.O. and four other ranks followed KALOHI CK up for about one mile, leaving at 1327 hrs. A Dogura mission native (Alfred) was met and questioned concerning aeroplanes. He could give no information. A patrol led by Lieut W.R. Nelson was also encountered. Our patrol then returned to the main body at 1455 hrs.

At 1500 hrs. the full patrol set out downstream for bivouac area. At 1520 hrs an Air Force party was met, whose mission was to search for lost Allied planes. The patrol reached its bivouac area at 1610 hrs.

TELEPHONE—

Australian Military Forces—Northern Command.

Please quote this Number when replying.

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Address

Date

17 PL PATROL - AUG.

PATROL OF 21 MEN LED BY LIEUT A.W. MARSH and 4 N.C.Os.

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ANY REFERENCE TO SHIPPING OR TROOP MOVEMENTS WILL RESULT IN THE DELAY OR MUTILATION OF THIS LETTER

ERNEST J. HAREWOOD, O.B.E.,
Lt.-Commissioner.

Red Shield Huts-Hostels

TERRITORIAL HEADQUARTERS:
Eastern Australia—140 Elizabeth St., Sydney, N.S.W.

For Australian Troops

HEADQUARTERS FOR QUEENSLAND:
162 ANN ST., BRISBANE. Phone B 5226



FROM:—

No.

NAME

UNIT

CAMP

194

PATRON—RT. HON. Wm. M. HUGHES, P.C

17 PL. PATROL. AUG.

Patrol of 21 men led by Lieut. A.W. Marsh = 4 N.C.O's.

The patrol moved out at 0940 hrs through the road at the Western end of Curney Aerodrome, and eventually turned off the road heading north. Kancanene village was reached at 1048 hrs. Two other tracks were noticed leading away from the village, one right & one left. The patrol reached Kolohi Creek branch at 1130 hrs. Three other tracks were seen between the village and the Creek, 2 leading left & one right, apparently ~~to~~ ending in Kolohi Creek. These tracks were very indistinct. Patrol then followed this branch of the Creek for about 250 yds. which then opened out into the main stream. This was reached at 1215 hrs. Lieut. Marsh with 1 N.C.O. & 4 other ranks followed Kolohi Creek up for about 1 mile, leaving at 1327 hrs. A Dogura Mission native (Alfred) was met and questioned concerning aeroplanes. He could give no information. A patrol led by Lieut. W.R. Nelson was also encountered. Our patrol then returned to the main body at 1455 hrs.

At 1500 hrs. the full patrol set out downstream for Buwona area. At 1520 hrs. an Air Force party was met whose mission was to search for lost allied planes. The patrol reached its Buwona area at 1610 hrs.

PLEASE WRITE ON BOTH SIDES

Report of Morning Patrol

to 1500 hrs 12 Aug 42

Not see H.Q. of 7th Div. tracks at or about 1
in Coy vehicles for about 2 miles
WEST of Alodiamene. Track to
right at bend at a bearing of 330. and
followed track, which was plotted by
I see.

at 2 1/2 miles could be made
usable by carriers with very little
work and clearing.

KALOTI EK. where it forks

I now followed left fork for about 1
mile up. We camped at fork
night 11/12 Aug.

Met a native who advised us
there was a track to DOEURA + also one
to HEORI.

I consider it would be necessary
to have a standing patrol. There is
2 tracks lead in from beach at NORTH.

Crossed steep spur and again
struck right fork of KALOTI EK. where
we had lunch 12 Aug.

Proceeded to DWABACA village arrived
at 1330 hrs. Village is in clearing
and could be defended as track over
RANGE is very steep. My recommendation

is to establish 2 standing
patrols of about Sec. strength
One at park of KALOH
one at OWAHQAGA mitage
unless we hear from you
we will return tomorrow 13 Aug.

We were fired on by Zero
from abt 500' but no casualties

Met Nicholas at OWAHQAGA
who advised that he had met

20 8 PL at WAUWOMANK 12 Aug

near Wagan
Stone site

Signed

Standing patrol
established at
Owahgaga PL
Question of a PL
being used with HQ
at Owahgaga being considered
- wait developments. Dogura area

1 Coy + PL moving to Dogura
one Coy on ground fixed defences
one Coy Road + Stone
one Coy for a Panatrol
+ patrols to Dogura

To Full River
from Spatterig str Goodenough Is.

CO 25 Aust Inf Bn @ null
NOT arrive back for at
least 10 days boat
diverted @ O'Neill

1130 K/15
1700 K/15

in 479 1950-

Australian Military Forces - Northern Command

Please quote this number when replying.

25 Aust Inf Bn.
15 Aug 42.

42

secret.

Address Date

7 Aust Inf Bde.

INVESTIGATION - DOGURA - LIEUT A.T. BAKER.

The following particulars have been obtained from Lieut A.T. Baker, who is at A.D.S. recovering from acute malaria.

Soil test made 3 ft. 6" resulted in

1'	2" black soil.
2'	4" reddish clay.

This was taken on the upper plateau. The lower plateau would have additional alluvial soil similar to GURNEY FIELD. The lower plateau is bounded by WAMERA and URUAN RIVERS. The banks are very low and it is quite possible the course of one of the streams could be diverted and filled in with a bulldozer, thereby extending the proposed field.

Lt-Col
C.O. 25 Aust Inf Bn.

RECCE REPORT OF DOGURA MISSION PATROL

BY 13 PL 25 AUST. INF. BN.

PERSONNEL - 1 OFFR 27 O.Rs

MAP REF. Biv. Area 149° 20' E 10° 19' S) PAPUA Part of Eastern
Dogura 149° 6' E 10° 5' S) Div.

DATE Sat. 1. Aug. 42 0815 hrs to Sat. 8. Aug. 42 1800 hrs

OBJECT OF PATROL to obtain knowledge of tracks - villages - natives and especially to ascertain suitability of DOGURA MISSION FLATS for construction of aerodrome & Biv. area available.

PART I

Patrol left Biv. area 0815 hrs Sat. 1. Aug. 42 proceeding to KALOHI CK Thence N.N.W. up bed of KALOHI CK about 2 miles & N.E. along spur of the STIRLING RANGE to the crest of the range where patrol biv. Sat. night. Sunday, patrol descended to coast at WAUWOMANA, then proceeded WEST along coast. to TOPURA where patrol biv. Sunday ngt. Delay was occasioned at this stage by illness of Pte Hault. Monday Sjt Steele carried on along coast track with Pl less myself and 3 O.Rs. We go by boat to LARANI and thence to DOGURA which was reached at 1800 hrs. The Pl arrived here at 0800 hrs next morning, and rested at the mission till Thursday afternoon - this period being occupied in making recce of suggested aerodrome site and biv. area with the assistance of Father Bodger. The return journey was commenced by Pl under comd Sjt Steele at 1400 hrs Thursday, 6. Aug. 42 and proceeded S.E. to QUABANAKI where halt was made for night. Friday Pl proceeded S.E. to biv at PENI PARERE (village) where they stayed the night. Proceeding on Sat. again S.E. down a spur of the range to MADA R., thence S & S.E. to BALAGA & WYGANI and thence M.T. WEST to biv. area which was reached at 1800 hrs. I left DOGURA Jean L with 2 O.Rs at 0900 hrs Friday morning, proceeded down coast calling at TAUPOLO MISSION 1200 hrs and arriving GILIGILI at 1630 hrs Sat. 8. Aug. 42, arriving biv. area 1730 hrs.

GENERAL CONCLUSIONS - Tracks useful for foot traffic only, unsuitable for pack mules. Aerodrome site - excellent provided length is sufficient - open to Paratroop attack also to seaborne attack. Water excellent.

PART II

ROUTE TAKEN - Start at Biv. area 0815 hrs S.E. & W along aerodrome to quarry on KALOHI CK, thence N.N.W. along bed of the river which was crossed and recrossed 32 times a distance of two miles to where ck forks on foothills of STIRLING RANGE. This point was reached at 1105 hrs (here main branch of ck swings back at 302 deg.) From here the track proceeds N.E. along crest of spur of the foothills - and is very narrow (1 ft to 18 ins. in places) - ascent is steep and at 1130 hrs track branches off to left at 295 deg. The track now swings on to a main spur of the range passing around the left side and descending to rapidly falling stream - presumably the right hand branch of KALOHI CK. From here the track ascends steeply again across a native village and source of a stream (LAUCAM CK) and then ascends steeply to the crest of the range. All of this track is through jungle country. The descent of range is on a steep narrow track in general N.E. direction to a strong rock bottomed ck. This portion of track is again through jungle, passing through one native garden. From ck remainder of descent is through grass covered foothills practically bare of trees.

Emerging through native garden on beach at WAUWOMANA the track follows the coast along the shingle shores through the DWAULA villages. This track swings back from the beach to cross two small ~~villages~~ ridges - crossing a small ck to arrive at HEOGI village, with its native mission stn. Passing through HEOGI the track Xed the TAMEO R about 200 ydsn from the mouth. The river is here about 50 yds wide but easily fordable. The track from here winds along rock faced banks 50 ft above the sea to TOPURA village. Leaving TOPURA it follows the shore through the villages of PARIMETA & HIMIMELA to YABORU. Here it ascends on to the slopes of the mountain spur which forms CAPE FRERE. Here the track winds precipitously in and out at a height of 200 ft above sea level. In places it is just wide enough for a foothold and traces of landslides are app arent. In the recesses of the mountain ridge five cks are Xed cascading down from the mountain heights. The track is very much exposed for the whole of the distance. Turnign CAPE FRERE the track Xed several dpp ck beds to the beach of BARTLE BAY. Here the track again follows the shore through a small village to LARANI MISSION. Leaving LARANI it follows the beach over shingle swinging inland to X the URANI R to WOMERA mission. From WOMERA there is a well defined track through the grass flats to the ford on WOMERA R. Xing the river the track becomes suitable for M.T. passes through WEDAN village and then ascends 200 ft to the CATHEDRAL at DOGUNA. THE RETURN JOURNEY - the track taken was through WEDAN-WOMERA on to the beach. From the beach it swings S and rapidly ascends the foothills to QUABANAKI village (which is 2000 ft above sea level) 145 deg. from DOGURA. The distance from DOGURA is about 7 miles. From QUABANAKI the ascent continues steeply in a S.E. direction on reaching the top of the mountain the track turns S and then S.E. Xing UWAGANI CK on to another spur thence on to COURU MT. Here the direction is S.W. for a short distance. Xing on to the S of the mountain the track swings at 67 deg. on to a ridge DOWABA. The track descends this ridge in a S.E. direction. At the base of this ridge the GARAWELA CK is Xed. This is a trib. of the TAMEO R. From here the track swings at 270 along the WAXIGI CK to ascend the PERI PARERE (VIEI) The track then ascedns at 127 deg. S Xing a ck MEAMEATUTU CK swings E and then S to village TAUPU. From here the track ascends S Xing a small ck and then VIEI CK. thence S.E. across HOROMIA CK. Continuing up ride the S track Xes BODI BODI CK ascending to the crest of a spur of the STIRLING RANGE. This spur is followed to its junction in the URADA RIVER. This river is follwed S & S.E. to PAUDA village. Thence S.E. to NOWIA VILLAGE - through BOLAGA TO WIGANI. Then W to biv. area.

NATIVES & VILLAGES - those encountered were all ~~fix~~ friendly and willing to help HIOGI. TOPURA, LARANI & WAMERA are the largest villages. Fruit and vegetables were plentiful on northern side of mountains.

DOGURA MISSION

Founded 1891. 252 ft above sea level. Posn of flat - 70 ft above sea level. length of flat 1000 yds - width of flat 700 yds - total area of flat 3 x $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles. Water ~~supply~~ supply - running water and plenty of it. Biv. areas - good, dispersion good. Camouflage not the best. Roads are very few but can be extended to a limit. Wharf - Depth of water 15 ft extending to 30 fathoms. Can be developed into 1st class wharves. BAYS - GOODENOUGH BAY - very deep water

BARTLE BAY - smaller but farily deep water. Winds are chiefly S.E. day time April Nov. Wet Season N.W. entirely surrounded by mountains with a few tracks leading in. These tracks could be covered by small parties. Runaway could be established but in open country. Bay is not much good for sea planes owing to adverse widns. BARTLE BAY - anchorage good, 49 fathoms, off shore.

PLEASE WRITE ON BOTH SIDES

RECCE REPORT OF DOGURA MISSION PATROL

BY 13 PL 25 AUST. INF. BN.

PERSONNEL - 1 OFFR 27 O.Rs

MAP REF. Biv. Area 149° 20' E 10° 19' S } PAPUA Part of Eastern
Dogura 149° 6' E 10° 5' S } Div.

DATE Sat. 1. Aug. 42 0815 hrs to Sat. 8. Aug. 42 1800 hrs

OBJECT OF PATROL to obtain knowledge of tracks - villages - natives and especially to ascertain suitability of DOGURA MISSION FLATS for construction of aerodrome & Biv. area available.

PART I

Patrol left Biv. area 0815 hrs Sat. 1. Aug. 42 proceeding to KALOHI CK thence N.N.W. up bed of KALOHI CK about 2 miles & N.E. along spur of the STIRLING RANGE to the crest of the range where patrol biv. Sat. night. Sunday, patrol descended to coast at WAUWOMANA, then proceeded WEST along coast. to TOPURA where patrol biv. Sunday ngt. Delay was occasioned at this stage by illness of Pte Hault. Monday Sjt Steele carried on along coast track with Pl less myself and 3 O.Rs. We go by boat to LARANI and thence to DOGURA which was reached at 1800 hrs. The Pl arrived here at 0800 hrs next morning, and rested at the mission till Thursday afternoon - this period being occupied in making recce of suggested aerodrome site and biv. area with the assistance of Father Bodger. The return journey was commenced by Pl under cmd Sjt Steele at 1400 hrs Thursday, 6. Aug. 42 and proceeded S.E. to QUABANAKI where halt was made for night. Friday Pl proceeded S.E. to biv at FENI PARERE (village) where they stayed the night. Proceeding on Sat. again S.E. down a spur of the range to MADA R., thence S & S.E. to BALAGA & WYGANI and thence N.T. WEST to biv. area which was reached at 1800 hrs. I left DOGURA Jean L with 2 O.Rs at 0900 hrs Friday morning, proceeded down coast calling at TAUPOLO MISSION 1200 hrs and arriving GILIGILI at 1630 hrs Sat. 8. Aug. 42, arriving biv. area 1730 hrs.

GENERAL CONCLUSIONS - Tracks useful for foot traffic only, unsuitable for pack mules. Aerodrome site - excellent provided length is sufficient - open to Paratroop attack also to seaborne attack. Water excellent.

PART II

ROUTE TAKEN - Start at Biv. area 0815 hrs S.E. & W along aerodrome to quarry on KALOHI CK, thence N.N.W. along bed of the river which was crossed and recrossed 32 times a distance of two miles to where ck forks on foothills of STIRLING RANGE. This point was reached at 1105 hrs (here main branch of ck swings back at 302 deg.) From here the track proceeds N.E. along crest of spur of the foothills - and is very narrow (1 ft to 18 ins. in places) - ascent is steep and at 1130 hrs track branches off to left at 295 deg. The track now swings on to a main spur of the range passing around the left side and descending to rapidly falling stream - presumably the right hand branch of KALOHI CK. From here the track ascends steeply again across a native village and source of a stream (LAUCAM CK) and then ascends steeply to the crest of the range. All of this track is through jungle country. The descent of range is on a steep narrow track in general N.E. direction to a strong rock bottomed ck. This portion of track is again through jungle, passing through one native garden. From ck remainder of descent is through grass covered foothills practically bare of trees.

Emerging through native garden on beach at WAUWOMANA the track follows the coast along the shingle shores through the DWANLA villages. This track swings back from the beach to cross two small ridges - crossing a small ck to arrive at HEOGI village, with its native mission station. Passing through HEOGI the track crossed the JAMES RIVER about 200 X from the mouth. The river is here about 50 X wide but easily fordable. The track from here winds along rock faced banks 50 ft above the sea to TOPURA village. Leaving TOPURA it follows the shore through the villages of PARIMETA & HEMMELA to YABONU. Here it ascends on to the slopes of the mountain spur which forms CAPE FRERE. Here the track winds precipitously in and out at a height of 200 ft above sea level. In places it is just wide enough for a foothold and traces of landslides are apparent. In the recesses of the mountain ridge five cks are Xed cascading down from the mountain heights. The track is very much exposed for the whole of the distance. Turning CAPE FRERE the track crossed several deep ck beds to the beach of BATTLE BAY. Here the track again follows the shore through a small village to LARANI Mission. Leaving LARANI it follows the beach over shingle swinging inland to cross the URANI R to WOMERA mission. From WOMERA there is a well defined track through the grass flats to the ford on WOMERA R. King the river the track becomes suitable for H.T. passes through WEDAN village and then ascends 200 ft to the Cathedral at DEGUNA. THE RETURN JOURNEY - the track taken was through WEDAN-WOMERA on to the beach. From the beach it swings S and rapidly ascends the foothills to QUABANAKI village (which is above 2000 ft sea level) 145 deg from DOGURA. The distance from DOGURA is about 7 miles. From QUABANAKI the ascent continues steeply in a S.E. direction on reaching the top of the mountain the track turns S and then S.E. King UWAGANI CK on to another spur thence on to GOURU MT. Here the direction is S.W. for a short distance. King on to the S of the mountain the track swings at 67 deg on to a ridge DOWABA. The track descends this ridge in a s.e. direction. At the base of this ridge the GARAWELA CK is Xed. This is a trib of the TAMEO R. From here the track swings at 270 along to WAXIGI CK to ascend to PERI PARERE (VEIE) From VEIE the track ascends at 127 deg. Xes HEAMEATUFU CK swings E and then S to village TAUFU. From here the track ascends S King a small ck and then VISI CK, thence S.E. across HIRONIA CK. Continuing up ridge the S. track Xes BODI BODI CK. ascending to the crest of a spur of the STIRLING RANGE. This spur is followed to its junction in the URADA RIVER. This river is followed S & S.E. to PAUMA village. Thence S.E. to NOWIA VILLAGE - through BOLAGA to WIGANI. Then W to biv. area.

NATIVES & VILLAGES Those encountered were all friendly and willing to help. HEOGI, TOPURA, LARANI & WOMERA are the largest villages. Fruit and vegetables were plentiful on northern side of mountains.

DOGURA MISSION

Founded 1891. 252 ft above sea level. Posn of flat - 70 ft above sea level. Length of flat 1000 yds - width of flat 700 yds - total area of flat 3 x 1 1/2 miles. Water supply - running water and plenty of it. Biv. areas - good, dispersion good. Camouflage not the best. Roads are very few but can be extended to a limit. Wharf - Depth of water 15 f extending to 30 fathoms. Can be developed into 1st class wharves. Bays GOODENOUGH BAY - very deep water

BATTLE BAY - Smaller but fairly deep water. Winds are chiefly S.E. day-time April Nov Wet season N.W. area entirely surrounded by mountains with a few tracks leading in. These tracks could be covered by small parties. Runaway could be established but in open country. Bay is not much good for sea planes owing to adverse winds. BATTLE BAY - anchorage good, 49 fathoms, off shore.

BALAGA & WYGANI MISSION
Mrs. I left DOGURA Jean L with 20 O.Rs at 0900 hrs Fri. morning, proceeded
down coast calling at TAVPOPO Mission 1200 hrs and arrived GILIGILI at 1630
hrs Sat. 8. Aug. 42

RECCO REPORT OF DOGURA MISSION PATROL
BY 13 PL 25 AUST. INF. BN.

PERSONNEL 1 offr 27 O.Rs

MAP REF. Biv. Area 149° 20' E 10° 19' S) PAPUA Part of
DOGURA 149° 6' E 10° 5' S) Eastern Div.

DATE Sat. 1. Aug. 42 0815 hrs to Sat. 8. Aug. 42 1800 hrs

OBJECT OF PATROL - To obtain knowledge of tracks - villages - natives - and especially to ascertain suitability of DOGURA Mission Flats for construction of aerodrome and biv. areas available.

PART I

Patrol left Biv. area 0815 hrs Sat. 1. Aug. 42 proceeding to KALOHI CK thence N.W. up bed of KALOHI CK about 2 miles & N.E. along spur of STIRLING RANGE to the crest of the range where patrol bivouac. Sat. night. Sunday patrol descended to coast at WAUWOMANA. Then proceeded WEST along coast, to TOPURA where patrol biv. Sunday night. Delay was occasioned on this stage by illness of Pte Hault. Monday, Sjt Steele carried on along coast track with pl less myself and 3 O.Rs. We go by boat to LARANI and thence to DOGURA which was reached at 0800 hrs next morning. The Pl rested at the mission till Thursday afternoon - this period being occupied in making recce of suggested aerodrome site & biv. areas with the assistance of Father Bodger. The return journey was commenced by Pl under comd Sjt Steele at 1400 hrs Thu. 6. Aug. 42. and proceeded S.E. to QUABANAKI where halt was made for night. Fri. Pl proceed S.E. to biv. at PENI PARERE (village) where they biv. the night. Proceeding on Sat. again S.E. down a spur of the range to MADA R. Thence S & S.E. to BALAGA & WYGANI and thence N.T. WEST to biv. area which was reached at 1800 hrs. I left DOGURA Jean L with 20 O.Rs at 0900 hrs Fri. morning, proceeded down coast calling at TAVPOPO Mission 1200 hrs and arrived GILIGILI at 1630 hrs Sat. 8. Aug. 42. Reached biv. area 1730 hrs.

GENERAL CONCLUSIONS Tracks useful for foot traffic only - unsuitable for pack mules.

Aerodrome Site - Excellent if length is sufficient - open to paratroop attack also to sea borne attack. Dispersal areas adequate. Water supply excellent.

PART II

Route Taken - Start at biv. area 0815 hrs S.E. & W along aerodrome rd to Quarry on KALOHI CK; thence N.W. along bed of the river which was crossed and recrossed 32 times, a distance of two miles to where ck forks on foothills of STIRLING RANGE. This point was reached at 1105 hrs (here main branch of ck swings back at 302 deg. From here the track proceeds N.E. along crest of spur of the foothills - and is very narrow (1 ft to 18 ins in places - Ascent is steep and at 1130 track branches off to left at 295 deg. The tracks now swings on to a main spur of the range passing round the left side and descending to rapidly falling stream. - presumably the right hand ~~branch~~ branch of KALOHI CK. From here the track ascends steeply again across a native village and source of a stream (LAUCAM CK) and then ascends steeply to the crest of the range. All of this track is through jungle country. ~~This portion of track is through jungle~~ The descent of range is on a narrow steep track in general N.E. direction to a strong, rock-bottomed ck. This portion of track is again through jungle - passing through one native garden. From ck the remainder of descent is through grass covered foothills, practically bare of trees. Emerging through native garden on beach at WAUWOMANA the track follows the coast along the shingle shores through the DWLAULA villages. This track swings back from the beach to cross two small ridges - crossing a small ck to arrive at HEOGI village with its native mission station. Crossing through HEOGI the track crossed the TAMEO R. abt at 200 x from the mouth. The river is here about 50 x wide but easily fordable. The track from here winds along rock faced banks 50 ft above the sea to TAPURA village. Leaving Tapura it follows the shore through the villages of PARIMETA and HIMINELA to YABORU. Here it ascends on to the slopes of mountain spur which forms CAPE FRERE. Here the track winds precipitously in and out at a height of 200 ft above sea level. In places it is just wide enough for a foothold and traces of landslides are apparent. In the recesses of the mountain ridge, five cks are crossed cascading down from the mountain heights. The track is very much exposed for the whole

of this distance. Turning CAPE FRERE the track crossed several deep ck beds to the beach of BARTLE BAY. Here the track again follows the shore through a small village to LARANI mission. Leaving LARANI it follows the beach over shingle inland to cross URUARH River to WAMERA mission. From WAMERA there is a well defined track through the grass flats to the ford on WAMERA RIVER. Crossing the river the track becomes suitable for M.T. passes through WEDAR village and then ascends 200 ft to the Cathedral at DOGURA.

The return journey, the track was taken through WEDAM - WAMIRA onto the beach. From the beach it swings S and rapidly ascends the foothills to QUABANAKI village, which is about 2000 ft above sea level. 145 deg. from DOGURA the distance from DOGURA is about 7 mls. From QUABANAKI the ascent continues steeply in a S.E. direction on reaching the top of the mountain the track turns S and then S.E. Crossing UWAGANI CK onto another spur thence onto GURU Mtn. Here the direction is S.W. for a short distance. Crossing onto the S of the mtn the track swings at 67 deg. onto a village DOWABA. The track descends this ridge in a S.E. direction. At the base of this ridge SARAWELA CK is crossed. This is a tributary of the TAMEO RIVER. From here the track swings 270 deg. along the WASHAGI CK to ascend to FERI PARERE (Viei). From VIEI the track ascends at 127 deg., crosses MEANEATUTU CK, swings E and then S to village TAUPU. From here the track ascends S crossing a small CK and then VEIE CK, thence S.E. across HIRONHA CK. Continuing up ridge to S. track crosses BODI BODI CK, ascends to the crest of a spur of the STIRLING RANGE. This spur is followed E & S.E. to the URION CK which is followed to its junction at the URADA RIVER. This river is followed S & S.E. to PAUGA VILLAGE thence S.E. to NOWIA village, through BOLUGU to WAGANI, then W to biv. area.

NATIVES & VILLAGES. - Natives encountered were all friendly and willing to help. HEOGI-TOPURA-LANANI and WOMERA are the largest villages. Fruit & vegetables were plentiful on northern side of mountains.

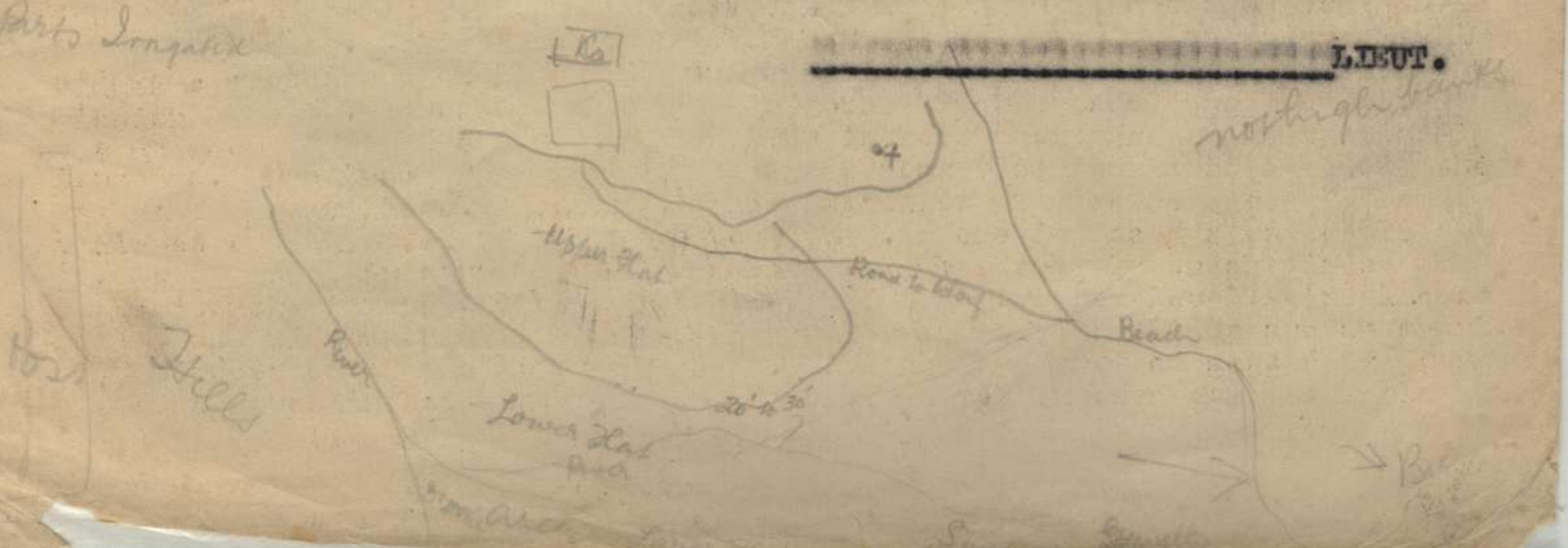
DOGURA MISSION

Founded 10. Aug. 1891.
 Height above sea level 212 ft
 Position of flat - 70 ft above sea level
 Length of flat 1000 yds } Total flat area 3 x 1 1/2 mls.
 Width of flat 700 yds }
 Water Supply - Running water and plenty of it.
 Areas Biv. - Good, dispersion good.
 Camouflage - not the best.
 Roads - very few but can be extended to a limit
 Wharf - depth of water 15 ft extending to 30 fathoms, can be developed into first class.
 Bays - GOODENOUGH BAY very deep water
 BARTLE BAY - smaller but fairly deep water.
 Winds - chiefly S.E. daytime Apr - Nov. Wet season N.W. area entirely surrounded by mountains with a few tracks leading in. These tracks could be covered by small parties. Runaway could be established but in open country. Bay is not much good for seaplanes owing to adverse winds.
 Bartle Bay - anchorage good 49 fathoms off shore.

6 to 8 ft above sea level on flats (Viei)
Black Soil - Hence Clay (River)

River Stone bottom

*Crumbles
 Parts Longated*



42 - 43

25 Aust Inf Bn
15 Aug 42.

7 Aust Inf Bde.

PATROL - 12/13 Aug 42.

Att. hereto is copy of patrol report by Cpl Wren of this Unit. This patrol was carried out in an endeavour to trace the source of a column of smoke on 11th Aug, which it was thought might be from a fallen 'plane.

Heales

Lt-Col
C.O. 25 Aust Inf Bn.

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Please quote this number when replying.

Date
Address

Australian Military Forces—Northern Command

TELEPHONE—

picked up a native boy who was working nearby. These two then went to a native camp further down the creek to try & find someone who knew the area better but unsuccessfully. We left here at 1340 hrs & again crossed the creek. After travelling along the creek for a few hundred yards we got on to a track going up a narrow spur in a N.W. direction. Before going up we went to the spot from which I had taken the bearing of 322° M on the column of smoke on the previous day. No trace of smoke could be seen then. We followed this track which was fast growing steeper and followed this until 1430 hrs when one man. Pte Campbell reported sick and left us to return to camp. The going was now becoming very heavy and the track which was very faint at starting now became much

more marked as other fainter tracks came in from the right. When we had gone approx. $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles up the tracks we came upon a very clear patch of about five acres covered with long grass. Here guide No 2 left us for about a half hour and returned with Guide No 3 who lived nearby. The interpreter & guide No 2 then left us & returned. We decided to make camp here & four of us then went with this guide to his garden which was about a mile further up. From this point a very good view of all of aerodrome area was had. Practically the full length of the landing strip could be seen. A bearing taken from here to the eastern end of the strip was 194° M. He told us that he had seen no plane come down or any smoke on 11th Aug & gave it as his opinion that most of the fighting took place further

The name of this garden
 Pounceis like "MARRPUN"
 & contains two huts

④

West of here. He also said that two white men from "big guns" had been there about two weeks from before. After arranging to meet him next morning we returned to where we meant to camp. Meanwhile it commenced to rain. As we could get no shelter we had to camp in the open. The rain continued all night and by morning most of our clothes & equipment were rather wet. On the morning of 13th it was still raining & very foggy. Visibility was only about 50 yards in the open. We realized then that unless the rain ceased we would have to depend rather on information we could pick up than on our own observation. At 0800 hrs we found guide No 3 who led us along another track down the hill to a garden on Awaduma bk. This was approx. a mile further on. Here we found a native boy who

also had seen nothing unusual on Aug 11th. In questioning our guide we obtained the following information: - (1) That there were no more natives living further down the Awaduma bk from here & that it was not possible to travel further down the creek. (2) That there were native gardens on the Ushunia bk and that a track across the hills existed & would take a full days walk there & back. (3) That tracks existed which led further along the hills to the N.W. We saw one of these which was rather faint. (4) That as previously mentioned all the natives who live in this area have only recently moved there & as yet no real villages exist. Most of the papaw & banana trees appear young.

We estimated that this latter garden was approx. on the line of the direction in which the smoke was seen on the

previous day. Hence as it had not been seen here it did not appear likely that it had come from the hills on either bank of Awa cuma Lk. All gardens seen had lately been cleared & timber burnt but none of the occupants claimed to have had fires going on 11th Aug. Meanwhile the rain had ~~got~~ become heavier and continued heavy until 1100 hrs when it eased somewhat.

As the rain showed no signs of stopping, the visibility had not improved & the men's clothes were mostly wet. Cpl Smith & I agreed that it was advisable to return to H.Q. & report. We left at approx. 1345^{hrs} & arrived back at 1600 hrs.

I ul ul ren Cpl.
18/8/42

DETAILED REPORT OF PATROL BY A COY - 12-13 AUG, 42.

Patrol consisted of Cpl Wren O.W., Cpl Frith, and 7 others.

OBJECT OF PATROL. To investigate column of smoke seen by C Coy patrol of 11 Aug.

Patrol left A Coy bivouac area at 1200 hrs. 12 Aug with guide No.1 who directed us to Captain Austin. I interviewed him and he told me he had very little knowledge of the area we were going to patrol as the natives who live there have only moved up into the hills recently. He lent us a native who was to assist as an interpreter to enable us to pick up another guide who knew the area. Guide No. 1 left us here. We crossed AWADUMA CK at the American camp and proceeded up along the creek about half a mile where we stopped for dinner. Here our interpreter picked up a native boy who was working nearby. These two then went to a native camp further down the creek to try and find someone who knew the area better, but unsuccessfully. We left here at 1340 hrs and again crossed the creek. After travelling along the creek for a few hundred yards we got on to a track going up a narrow spur in a N.W. direction. Before going up we went to the spot from which I had taken the bearing of 322 degM on the column of smoke on the previous day. No trace of smoke could be seen then. We followed this track which was fast growing steeper, and followed this until 1430 hrs when one man, Pte Campbell reported sick and left us to return to camp. The going was now becoming very heavy and the track which was very faint at starting now became much more marked, as other fainter tracks came in from the right. When we had gone approx. $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles up the track we came upon a very clear patch of about five acres covered with long grass. Here guide No. 2 left us for about a half hour and returned with guide No. 3 who lived nearby. The interpreter and guide No.2 then left us and returned. We decided to make camp here and four of us then went with this guide to his garden which was about a mile further up. The name of this garden sounded like "MARPAH" and contained two huts. From this point a very good view of all aerodrome area was had. Practically the full length of the landing strip could be seen. A bearing taken from here to the eastern end of the strip was 194 deg M. He told us that he had seen no plane come down or any smoke on 11th Aug and gave it as his opinion that most of the fighting took place further west of here. He also said that two white men from "big guns" had been there about two weeks before. After arranging to meet him next morning we returned to where we meant to camp. Meanwhile it commenced to rain. As we could get no shelter we had to camp in the open. The rain continued all night and by morning most of our clothes and equipment were rather wet. On the morning of 13th it was still raining and very foggy. Visibility was only about 50 yds in the open. We realized then that unless the rain ceased we would have to depend rather on information we could pick up than on our own observation. At 0800 hrs. we found guide No.3 who led us along another track down the hill to a garden on AWADUMA CK. This was approx. a mile further on. Here we found a native boy who also had seen nothing unusual on Aug 11th. On questioning our guide we obtained the following information.-

1. That there were no more natives living further down the AWADUMA Ck from here and that it was not possible to travel further down the Ck.
2. That there were native gardens on the Wehuria Ck and that a track across the hills existed and would take a full days walk there and back.
3. That tracks existed which led further along the hills to the N.W. We saw one of these which was rather faint.
4. That as previously mentioned all the natives who live in this area have only recently moved there and as yet no real villages exist. Most of the papaw and banana trees appear young.

We estimated that this latter garden was approx. on the line of direction in which the smoke was seen on the previous day. Hence as it had not been seen here it did not appear likely that it had come from the hills on either bank of AWADUMA Ck. All gardens seen had lately been cleared and timber burnt but none of the occupants claimed to have had fires going on 11th Aug. Meanwhile the rain had become heavier and continued heavy until 1100 hrs. when it eased somewhat.

(2)

As the rain showed no signs of stopping, the visibility had not improved and the mens clothes were mostly wet, Cpl Frith and I agreed that it was advisable to return to H.Q. and report. We left at approx. 1345 hrs. and arrived back at 1600 hrs.

Sgd. O.W.Wren, Cpl.
13/8/42.

DETAILED REPORT OF PATROL BY A COY - 12-13 AUG, 42.

Patrol consisted of Cpl Wren G.W., Cpl Frith, and 7 others.

OBJECT OF PATROL. To investigate column of smoke seen by C Coy patrol of 11 Aug.

Patrol left A Coy bivouac area at 1200 hrs. 12 Aug with guide No. 1 who directed us to Captain Austin. I interviewed him and he told me he had very little knowledge of the area we were going to patrol as the natives who live there have only moved up into the hills recently. He lent us a native who was to assist as an interpreter to enable us to pick up another guide who knew the area. Guide No. 1 left us here. We crossed AWADUMA CK at the American camp and proceeded up along the creek about half a mile where we stopped for dinner. Here our interpreter picked up a native boy who was working nearby. These two then went to a native camp further down the creek to try and find someone who knew the area better, but unsuccessfully. We left here at 1340 hrs and again crossed the creek. After travelling along the creek for a few hundred yards we got on to a track going up a narrow spur in a N.W. direction. Before going up we went to the spot from which I had taken the bearing of 322 deg M on the column of smoke on the previous day. No trace of smoke could be seen then. We followed this track which was fast growing steeper, and followed this until 1430 hrs when one man, Pte Campbell reported sick and left us to return to camp. The going was now becoming very heavy and the track which was very faint at starting now became much more marked, as other fainter tracks came in from the right. When we had gone approx. 1½ miles up the track we came upon a very clear patch of about five acres covered with long grass. Here guide No. 2 left us for about a half hour and returned with guide No. 3 who lived nearby. The interpreter and guide No. 2 then left us and returned. We decided to make camp here and four of us then went with this guide to his garden which was about a mile further up. The name of this garden sounded like "MARFAN" and contained two huts. From this point a very good view of all aerodrome area was had. Practically the full length of the landing strip could be seen. A bearing taken from here to the eastern end of the strip was 194 deg M. He told us that he had seen no plane come down or any smoke on 11th Aug and gave it as his opinion that most of the fighting took place further west of here. He also said that two white men from "big guns" had been there about two weeks before. After arranging to meet him next morning we returned to where we meant to camp. Meanwhile it commenced to rain. As we could get no shelter we had to camp in the open. The rain continued all night and by morning most of our clothes and equipment were rather wet. On the morning of 13th it was still raining and very foggy. Visibility was only about 50 yds in the open. We realized then that unless the rain ceased we would have to depend rather on information we could pick up than on our own observation. At 0800 hrs. we found guide No. 3 who led us along another track down the hill to a garden on AWADUMA CK. This was approx. a mile further on. Here we found a native boy who also had seen nothing unusual on Aug 11th. On questioning our guide we obtained the following information.-

1. That there were no more natives living further down the AWADUMA CK from here and that it was not possible to travel further down the CK.
2. That there were native gardens on the Wehuria CK and that a track across the hills existed and would take a full days walk there and back.
3. That tracks existed which led further along the hills to the N.W. We saw one of these which was rather faint.
4. That as previously mentioned all the natives who live in this area have only recently moved there and as yet no real villages exist. Most of the papaw and banana trees appear young.

We estimated that this latter garden was approx. on the line of direction in which the smoke was seen on the previous day. Hence as it had not been seen here it did not appear likely that it had come from the hills on either bank of AWADUMA CK. All gardens seen had lately been cleared and timber burnt but none of the occupants claimed to have had fires going on 11th Aug. Meanwhile the rain had become heavier and continued heavy until 1100 hrs. when it eased somewhat.

(2)

As the rain showed no signs of stopping, the visibility had not improved and the mens clothes were mostly wet, Cpl Frith and I agreed that it was advisable to return to H.Q. and report. We left at approx. 1345 hrs. and arrived back at 1600 hrs.

Sgd. O.W.Wren, Cpl.
13/8/42.

TELEPHONE—

Australian Military Forces—Northern Command.

Please quote this Number when replying.

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Address

Date

SUMMARY OF PATROL.

Patrol conducted by A Coy 12/13 Aug. - Patrol consisted of Cpl Wren O.W., Cpl. Frith and 6 others.

OBJECT OF PATROL. To investigate column of smoke seen by C Coy patrol of 11 Aug.

Patrol left A Coy area 1200 hrs 12th with Guide No. 1, picked up interpreter at 1230, arrived at crossing of Awaduma Ck near American camp and picked up guide No. 2 and started up track along spur on right bank of ck at 1340 hrs. Arrived at first native garden 1600 hrs. Arranged for guide for next morning. At 0800 hrs 13th followed another track down far slope of hill to another garden on AWADUMA CK.

From information received we arrived at the following conclusions:

1. Natives saw no plane come down or smoke on 11th.
2. No tracks exist leading down AWADUMA CK from this point
3. From this position natives should have seen anything unusual in the Awaduma Ck area.

Sgd. O.W.Wren, Cpl
13/8/42.

TELEPHONE—

Australian Military Forces—Northern Command.

Please quote this Number when replying.

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From information received we arrived at the following conclusions:

1. Natives saw no plane come down or smoke on 11th.
2. No tracks exist leading down AWADUMA CK from this point
3. From this position natives should have seen anything unusual in the Awaduma Ck area.

Sgd. O.W. Wren, Cpl
13/8/42.

Summary of Patrol

①

Patrol conducted by A. Coy 12-13 Aug
Patrol consisted of 6 pl when O.W.

" Frith

16 ops.

Object of Patrol:- To investigate
column of smoke seen by C. Coy patrol
of 11th Aug.

Patrol left A. Coy area 1200 hrs 12th
with Guide No 1. Picked up
interpreter at 1230 arrived at
crossing of Awaduma Ck near
American camp & picked up Guide No 2
& started up track along spur on
right bank of creek at 1340 hrs.

Arrived at first native garden
1600 hrs. Arranged for guide for
next morning. At 0900 hrs 13th

followed another track down
far slope of hill to another
garden on Awaduma Ck.

From information received we
arrived at following conclusions:

- ① Natives saw no plane come down
or smoke on 11th
- ② No tracks exist leading down
Awaduma Ck from this point.

③ From this position natives should
have seen anything unusual in
the Awaduma lake area.

F. W. W. W. W. W. W.

13-8-42

Australian Military Forces.

Please quote this Number when replying.

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Address

Date

REPORT OF RECCE PATROL MAPA AREA 12/13 AUG.42.

At 1130 hrs, 12 Aug.42, we left A Coy area with guide No. 1 at 1200 hrs, interviewed Capt Austin at ANGAU and picked up interpreter.

At 1230 hrs. arrived at start point at crossing AWADUMA Ck. At 1300 hrs interpreter picked up guide no.2. From here bathe went to villages further up the ck to find another guide, but returned later having no success.

At this point we had dinner at 1345 hrs.

We started off again, followed path up narrow spur on left of ck. At 1430 hrs I sent one man, Pte Campbell J.A.M.H. back to camp as he was unfit for the journey.

Still following path about 2½ miles up located native hut and gardens. Here interpreter and guide No.2 found us another guide and former two returned.

The village had a name sounding like MARPUH.

We could get no information here about planes coming down or of smoke seen on the 11th. It was then 1545 hrs.

From this point a perfect view of aerodrome and ~~sur~~ surroundings could be obtained.

Guide informed us that 2 white men from big gun (probably A/A) had been here about two weeks ago. No others had been in that area.

Rain set in at 1600 hrs 12 Aug and we camped for the night. Morning of 13 Aug still raining and very foggy. Visibility limited to about 50' in very open spaces.

At 0800 hrs we ~~xxx~~ picked up guide No 3 and went with him to garden on AWADUMA Ck., a further $\frac{3}{4}$ mile. Name sounded like MUDOWA. Native boy here saw nothing of planes or smoke on 11 Aug.42. "No other white been here before", he said.

Guide No 3 said it was impossible to follow ck. down from here. Said path leads over mountain to WEHURIA Ck and natives have gardens here. He said it would be a full day's travel from MUDOWA.

Very heavy rain from 1000 hrs to 1200 hrs 13 Aug.42.

As men were wet through and it did not appear possible to observe with any success, we decided to return to Bivouac Area.

(sgd) C.J. Frith. L/Cpl.

"A" Coy 25 Aust Inf Bn.

13 Aug. 42.

Australian Military Forces.

Please quote this Number when replying.

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Date

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"A" Coy 25 Aust Inf Bn.

13 Aug. 42.

Australian Military Forces.

Please quote this Number when replying.

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Still following path about 2½ miles up located native hut and gardens. Here interpreter and guide No.2 found us another guide and former two returned.

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Rain set in at 1600 hrs 12 Aug and we camped for the night. Morning of 13 Aug still raining and very foggy. Visibility limited to about 50' in very open spaces.

At 0800 hrs we ~~was~~ picked up guide No 3 and went with him to garden on AWADUMA Ck., a further $\frac{5}{8}$ mile. Name sounded like MUDOWA. Native boy here saw nothing of planes or smoke on 11 Aug.42. "No other white been here before", he said.

Guide No 3 said it was impossible to follow ck. down from here. said path leads over mountain to WEHURIA Ck and natives have gardens here. He said it would be a full day's travel from MUDOWA.

Very heavy rain from 1000 hrs to 1200 hrs 13 Aug.42.

As men were wet through and it did not appear possible to observe with any success, we decided to return to Bivouac Area.

(sgd) C.J. Frith. L/Cpl.

"A" Coy 25 Aust Inf Bn.

13 Aug. 42.

Report of Keesee Patrol MAPA area

12/13 Aug 42

12 Aug 42

at 1130 hrs, we left A Coy area with guide no 1.
at 1200 hrs interviewed Capt. Austin at ANBAU
and picked up interpreter.

1230 hrs arrived at start point at crossing
AWADUNA CR. at 1300 hrs interpreter picked
up guide no 2. From here both went
to village further up the cr. to find
another guide, but returned later
after having no success.

at this point we had dinner at 1245 hrs

We started off again, followed path
up narrow spur on left of creek. At 1430
hrs I sent one man, Pte Campbell, JAMM.
back to camp as he was unfit for the
journey.

Still following path about 2 1/2 miles
up located native hut and garden.

Here, interpreter + guide no 2 found
no another guide and former two returned.

The village had a name sounding
like MARPUH.

We could get no information
here about planes coming down or of
smoke seen on the 11th. It was then
1545 hrs.

From this point a perfect view could
be obtained of aerodrome and surrounding

Guide informed us that 2 white men
from Big gun (probably A/A) had been
here about two weeks ago. No others
had been in that area.

Rain set in at 1600 hrs 12 aug. and we
camped for the night. Rain continued
all night. Morning of 13 aug still raining
and very foggy. Visibility limited to about
50' in very open spaces.

at 0800 hrs we picked up guide no 3
and went with him to garden on AWADUMA
ck. a further $\frac{3}{4}$ miles. Name sounded
like MUDOWA. Native boy here saw
nothing of planes or smoke on 11 aug.
"No other white been here before", he said.

Guide no 3 said it was impossible to
follow ck. down from here. Said path
leads over mountain to WEHURIA ck.
and natives have gardens here. He said
it would be a five days travel from

MUDOWA.
Very heavy rain from 1000 hrs to 1200
hrs 13 aug.

As men were wet through and it did
not appear possible to observe with any
success, we decided to return to Bis area.

(Signed) C. J. Frith Lyle.
A Coy.
25 Aust Inf Bn
13 Aug 42

Patrol Report

D. Leoy

7 Aug 42

Patrol strength 2 offrs. 300.R. set out from R.A.A.F. camp on KALOHI CK. at 1145 hrs 6 Aug 42. Route followed was the course of KALOHI CK which was crossed & recrossed 33 times.

Patrol halted for lunch 12.30 hrs. after having travelled approx 1 1/2 miles from start point, and moved off at 1310 hrs.

Patrol reached junction of two creeks at approx 3 1/2 miles from start point at 1405 hrs.

The men were allowed to rest here and I accompanied by Lieut Collins & Sgt Hill moved along left fork of creek over which was a large log. About 50 yds past the log a track ~~was~~ turns off to the right & moves up over the hill. We went to the top of the hill and reached a native plantation. After going 30 yds into the plantation a track turns right and from the start of this track which I marked by blazing a small tree I could get fair observation to Bn. Area. I took a bearing from a tree to the bare knoll N.W. of "D" bay area. Bearing was ~~151~~ 151° M. Sgt. Hill fired white flare at 1435 hrs. This flare was very difficult to see & I suggest that a green flare be used in future should this idea be tried again.

Patrol left creek junction at 1505 hrs & followed course of creek on return journey. Arrived at bivouac area at 1630 hrs.

There are no good swimming places on KALOHI CK, the deepest pool being only about 3 feet & this one was not large enough in area to allow more than one man to swim. This pool is about 3/4 mile from starting point.

Up & down
Kalohe CK

W.R. Nelson Lieut

Patrol Leader

~~SOTAS~~

~~KAPU~~

Duplicate

42 -

25 Aust Inf Bn

13 Aug 42.

7 Aust Inf Bde.

PATROL REPORT - HEAD OF AWADUNA CK - 11 AUG 42.

HEREWITH patrol report by Sjt J.J. Ludlow of 25 Aust Inf Bn. who investigated the head of AWADUNA CK on 11 Aug 42. Map is att. for your information.

Lt-Col
C.O. 25 Aust Inf Bn.

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Please quote this number when replying

Date
Address

Australian Military Forces - Northern Command

LEGATION

Further to the report of patrol by C Coy made by Sjt Ludlow on 11/8/42
I submit the following information obtained on patrol 12-13 Aug.-

- (1). Track No.1 shown on sketch begins very faint and after being joined by other tracks probably those shown becomes much plainer and continues right around the hills linking up native gardens and finally reaching the Awanduma Ck well above the falls.
- (2). That no track exists leading from this point to the falls and that at the best it would be very difficult to get down to the falls.
- (3). That a track exists which leads from here over the hills to the Wehuria Ck.
- (4). That a possible track exists which leads further along the hills to the left.
- (5). That there are no actual villages in this area, and natives are scattered and have not been here for any considerable time.

Sgd. O.Wren, Cpl
13/8/42.

Further to the report of patrol by C Coy made by Sjt Ludlow on 11/8,
I submit the following information obtained on patrol 12-13 Aug.-

- (1). Track No.1 shown on sketch begins very faint and after being joined by other tracks probably those shown becomes much plainer and continues right around the hills linking up native gardens and finally reaching the Awanduma Ck well above the falls.
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- (4). That a possible track exists which leads further along the hills to the left.
- (5). That there are no actual villages in this area, and natives are scattered and have not been here for any considerable time.

Sgd. O.Wren, Cpl
13/8/42.

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by C. Coy made by Sjt Ludlow
on 11/8/42 I submit the following
information obtained on patrol 12-13 Aug:-

① Track No 1 shown on sketch
begins very faint and after being
joined by other tracks probably
those shown becomes much ~~clearer~~
plainer & continues right around
the hills linking up native
gardens & finally reaching the
Awaduma bk well above the
falls.

② That no track exists leading
from this point to the falls and
that at the best it would be
very difficult to ^{get} down to the
falls.

③ That a track exists which
leads from here over the hills
to the Uchuria bk.

④ That a possible track exists
which leads further along the
hills to the left.

⑤ That there are no actual villages
in this area & natives ^{are scattered &} have not been
here for any considerable time.

Dulubren Cape
13/8/42

P.O.

Find attached 3 copies of
report. (see.) wanted by
you.

P. J. Stone Capt.

Berkeley

B Aug.

0725

~~LITTLE ABILE ON BOTH SIDES~~
REPORT OF REGGE PATROL WHICH ADVANCED UP ANADUMA CK

Patrol comprised Sjt. J.J. Ludlow, Cpl Wren O.W., and 7 O.Rs.

OBJECT OF PATROL - to report any tracks leading from ck into hills, also to reach source of ck and find out if it would be necessary to post a standing patrol in that area in the event of enemy being able to cross range and advance along ck.

START POINT - Point where route 8 crossed AWADUMA ck in vicinity of American Negro camp.

START TIME - 0915 hrs *11 Aug 42*

TRACKS TO REPORT

1. Single mantrack leading up spur in northern edge of plantation rising almost from rt bank of ck (where person is facing downstream). This track follows edge of plantation until it reaches scrub in foothills of range and continues on. Track is very faint in beginning.
2. Track leading up narrow spur at approx, 1000 yds from start point on rt bank of ck. Compass bearing showed 280 deg. M direction of track. Single mantrack fairly steep from appearance appeared to be native tracks not frequently used.
3. Approx. 100 yds further along rt bank of ck, much clearer track leading off on bearing of approx. 300 deg. Very steep, single mantrack also appears to be native track.
4. Approx. 80 yds further along rt bank leading off and joining previous one about 150 yds up side of spur. Very steep also one mantrack used apparently by natives.

REPORT ON SOURCE OF CK

Reached a waterfall where patrol was terminated. Banks of ck were very precarious and difficult to scale. Waterfall was approx. 50 ft high and of solid rock bed. An attempt was made to pass around fall but was abandoned owing to hills forming banks being too steep and undergrowth very thick. On this evidence a standing patrol would not be necessary in this area owing to nature of country and lack of tracks. Patrol returned to S.P. at 1630 hrs.

(Banks of ck are referred to as rt and lt bank as person faces downstream)

DETAILED ACCOUNT OF PATROL

Patrol left S.P. at time given. From S.P. a road built of coral but now overgrown runs for approx. 200 yds towards bend in ck. We then followed a cattle track to bend in ck where we crossed rt bank. Ck here flows almost due S for short distance. Fence runs along rt bank for short distance. Approx. 80 yds from bend is spur on which is No. 1 track. From here we crossed and recrossed ck several times until approx 1000 yds from S.P. we found NO. 2 track. Following along a faint track on rt bank we noticed a dry gully running into ck and advancing along same we found a small waterfall about 50 yds from ck with a small stream trickling over rock. The water was evidently soaking underground into ck. Several faint tracks were noticed leading steeply out of this gully.

Approx. 50 yds further along rt bank we found track No. 3. On advancing a further 80 yds along this bank we discovered track No. 4. I carried out a recce for 100 to 200 yds along each of these tracks except track No. 1 which later on in the afternoon I explored for about 800 to 1000 yds and found that it branches on top of spur. One track goes ahead and the branch to the rt. After leaving track No. 4 we crossed the ck again to left bank and on the return journey in the afternoon we examined patch of open country on left bank slightly down stream from this Xing. We saw what appeared to be a native grave also some cattle tracks leading into the foothills but found they were very short and led into the scrub only a little way. From the Xing we had to keep to bed of ck as banks became very high and covered with jungle to water's edge. We advanced approx. 800 yds then had to take to water as bed of ck was very rocky and banks becoming very steep. At intervals along this distance we noticed some very deep dry gullies entering ck on either side. At one place I examined a fairly open patch on left bank and found a short track and what appeared to be at one time a native garden. After taking to water we advanced approx. 200 yds and was stopped by a waterfall with a deep pool at bottom in ck bed. We made an attempt to reach top of banks here and passed waterfall but owing to steepness and dampness abandoned attempt. We reached crest of hills which formed bank of ck here but were not on top of range. Could not discover any tracks on either side. Vegetation and scrub here is fairly thick and mossgrown. Atmosphere is very damp. Wherever possible on either side of ck we penetrated scrub and on some occasions found tracks which were only pig tracks and did not lead to anything of importance. The return journey was carried out along almost the same route as the outward one and we arrived at the S.P. at time given. On return journey we saw clouds of smoke rising at intervals behind large spur. A compass bearing was taken from a tree which we blazed onto rt of two prominent trees on top of range in direction of smoke and showed 322 deg. approx. While examining track No. 1 in afternoon we contacted a patrol at approx. 1600 hrs which was heading in the direction of the smoke.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT



1911
1912
1913
1914

Red Shield Huts-Hostels

Commissioner
Ernest T. Havremood, O.B.E.

125 VAN ST BRISBANE PHONE B 2550
HEADQUARTERS FOR QUEENSLAND

For Australian Troops

ENTRANCE TO TERRITORY
TERRITORIAL HEADQUARTERS

ALL REFERENCE TO SHIPPING OF GOODS MODERNISED WITH REGARD TO THE DEPT OF ADMINISTRATION OF THIS TERRITORY

~~SECRET~~
REPORT OF REGGE PATROL WHICH ADVANCED UP ANADUMA CK

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START POINT - Point where route 8 crossed ANADUMA ck in vicinity of American Negro camp.

START TIME - 0915 hrs

11 Aug 42

TRACKS TO REPORT

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REPORT ON SOURCE OF CK

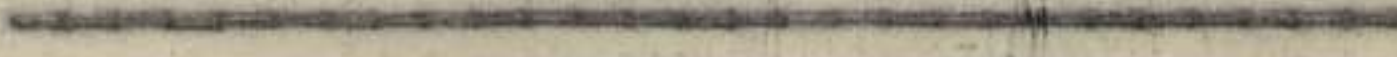
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DETAILED ACCOUNT OF PATROL

Patrol left S.P. at time given. From S.P. a road built of coral but now overgrown runs for approx. 200 yds towards bend in ck. We then followed a cattle track to bend in ck where we crossed rt bank. Ck here flows almost due S for short distance. Fence runs along rt bank for short distance. Approx. 80 yds from bend is spur on which is No. 1 track. From here we crossed and recrossed ck several times until approx 1000 yds from S.P. we found NO. 2 track. Following along a faint track on rt bank we noticed a dry gully running into ck and advancing along same we found a small waterfall about 50 yds from ck with a small stream trickling over rock. The water was evidently soaking underground into ck. Several faint tracks were noticed leading steeply out of this gully.

Approx. 50 yds further along rt bank we found track No. 3. On advancing a further 80 yds along this bank we discovered track No. 4. I carried out a reece for 100 to 200 yds along each of these tracks except track No. 1 which later on in the afternoon I explored for about 800 to 1000 yds and found that it branches on top of spur. One track goes ahead and the branch to the rt. After leaving track No. 4 we crossed the ck again to left bank and on the return journey in the afternoon we examined patch of open country on left bank slightly down stream from this Xing. We saw what appeared to be a native grave also some cattle tracks leading into the foothills but found they were very short and led into the scrub only a littl way. From the Xing we had to keep to bed of ck as banks became very high and covered with jungle to water's edge. We advanced approx. 800 yds then had to take to water as bed of ck was very rocky and banks becoming very steep. At intervals along this distance we noticed some very deep dry gullies entering ck on either side. At one place I examined a fairly open patch on left bank and found a short track and what appeared to be at one time a native garden. After taking to water we advanced approx. 200 yds and was stopped by a waterfall with a deep pool at bottom in ck bed. We made an attempt to reach top of banks here and passed waterfall but owing to steepness and dampness abandoned attempt. We reached crest of hills which formed bank of ck here but were not on top of range. Could not discover any tracks on either side. Vegetation and scrub here is fairly thick and mossgrown. Atmosphere is very damp. Wherever possible on either side of ck we penetrated scrub and on some occasions found tracks which were only pig tracks and did not lead to anything of importance. The return journey was carried out along almost the same route as the outward one and we arrived at the S.P. at time given. On return journey we saw clouds of smoke rising at intervals behind large spur. A compass bearing was taken from a tree which we bla_zed onto rt of two prominent trees on top of range in direction fo smoke and showed 322 deg. approx. While examining track No. 1 in afternoon we contacted a patrol at approx. 1600 hrs which was heading in the direction of the smoke.



REVERSE SIDE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS NOT TO BE REPRODUCED

REVERSE SIDE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS NOT TO BE REPRODUCED

Red Shield Huts-Hostels

GENERAL INFORMATION



FOR AUSTRALIAN TROOPS

FOR AUSTRALIAN TROOPS

4. Appr...
one about 150 yds up ~~WATERFALL~~ WATERFALL ON BOTH SIDES
apparently by ~~RESCUE~~ RESCUE PATROL WHICH ADVANCED UP ANADUMA CK

PATROL COMPOSED OF: J.J. Ludlow, Cpl Wron O.W., and 7 O.Ns.

REASON FOR WATERFALL: ~~patrol was terminated from ck into hills, also to~~
~~reach source of ck as it was not necessary to post a standing~~
~~patrol in this area in the event of enemy being able to cross range and~~
~~advance along it.~~

START POINT - Point where route 8 crossed ANADUMA ck in vicinity of American Negro camp.

START TIME - 0915 hrs *11 Aug 42*

TRACKS TO REPORT

1. Single mantrack leading up spur in northern edge of plantation rising almost from rt bank of ck (where person is facing downstream). This track follows edge of plantation until it reaches scrub in foothills of range and continues on. Track is very faint in beginning.
2. Track leading up narrow spur at approx. 1000 yds from start point on rt bank of ck. Compass bearing showed 280 deg. in direction of track. Single mantrack fairly steep from appearance appeared to be native tracks not frequently used.
3. Approx. 100 yds further along rt bank of ck, much clearer track leading off on bearing of approx. 300 deg. Very steep, single mantrack also appears to be native track.
4. Approx. 80 yds further along rt bank leading off and joining previous one about 150 yds up side of spur. Very steep also one mantrack used apparently by natives.

REPORT ON SOURCE OF CK

Reached a waterfall where patrol was terminated. Banks of ck were very precarious and difficult to scale. Waterfall was approx. 50 ft high and of solid rock bed. An attempt was made to pass around fall but was abandoned owing to hills forming banks being too steep and undergrowth very thick. On this evidence a standing patrol would not be necessary in this area owing to nature of country and lack of tracks. Patrol returned to S.P. at 1630 hrs.

(Banks of ck are referred to as rt and lt bank as person faces downstream)

DETAILED ACCOUNT OF PATROL

L.V.M.
Patrol left S.P. at time given. From S.P. a road built of coral but now overgrown runs for approx. 200 yds towards bend in ck. We then followed a cattle track to bend in ck where we crossed rt bank. Ck here flows almost due S for short distance. Fence runs along rt bank for short distance. Approx. 80 yds from bend is spur on which is No. 1 track. From here we crossed and recrossed ck several times until approx 1000 yds from S.P. we found No. 2 track. Following along a faint track on rt bank we noticed a dry gully running into ck and advancing along same we found a small water fall about 50 yds from ck with a small stream trickling over rock. The water was evidently soaking underground into ck. Several faint tracks were noticed leading steeply out of this gully.

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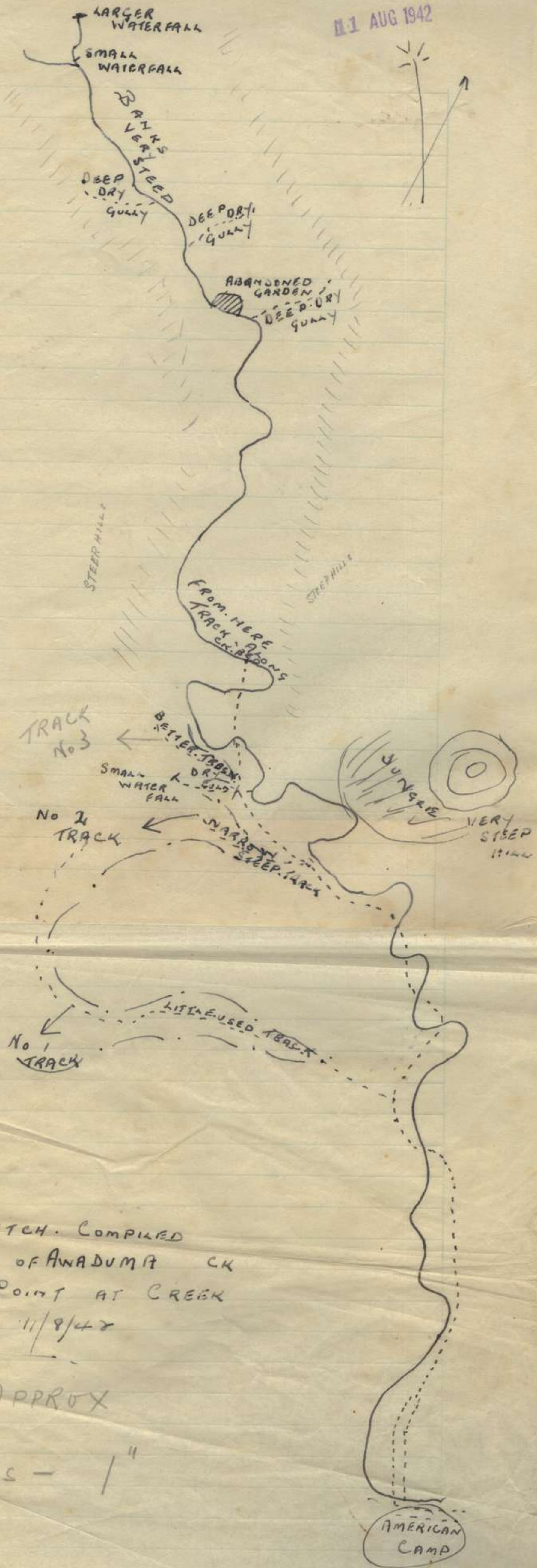
BY APPOINTMENT TO HIS MAJESTY THE KING



Red Shield Hut-Hostels

For Australian Troops

11 AUG 1942



ROUGH SKETCH COMPILED
 ON PATROL OF AWADUMA CK
 FROM START POINT AT CREEK
 CROSSING 11/8/42

SCALE APPROX
 100 yds - 1"

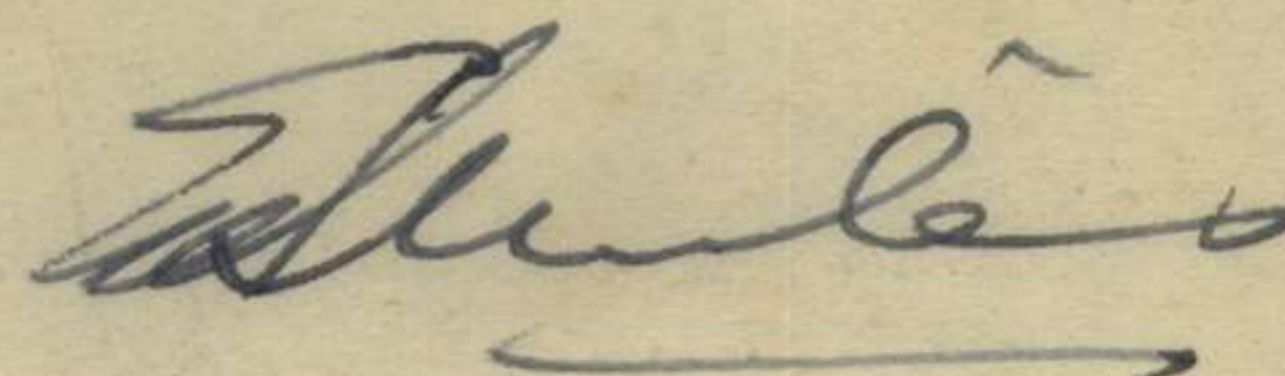
42 - 43

25 Aust Inf Bn
12 Aug 42.

H.Q.
MILNEFORCE.

PATROL REPORT.

Att. is report on patrol under Lieut R.D. McInnes to GADAVA on 2 Aug 42, together with sketch showing the routes on forward and return journeys.



Lt-Col
C.O. 25 Aust Inf Bn.

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Please quote this number when replying.

Date
Address

Australian Military Forces—Northern Command.

TELEPHONE—

TRACK RECCE. TO GADAVA

SKETCH ATTACHED

TELEPHONE
2 AUG. 42.

The Recce. party consisted of 1 off. 1 W.O. and 5 O.Rs.

We entered the jungle at 0830 hrs and $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from the entrance is a deserted village. At 0850 we reached a single hut, occupied by one family. The native's name is SOJAS and he can be conversed with in pidgen English. Two minutes marching from here are two huts occupied by BOYOTU, brother of SOJAS.

The track is clear and the ground flat. The track is following a creek, which the native said is named MAY, and it crosses and recrosses it continually. A walking pace of 2 m.p.h. is quite comfortable.

At 0857 we left the creek to follow a spur on the left, the gradient from here being approximately $\frac{1}{6}$ and the walking pace 1 to $\frac{1}{2}$ m.p.h.

We reached GADAVA at 0930 hrs. This is easily recognised by the native garden planted in a cleared patch of jungle. The native's name is TOYO and unlike the others could not be made to understand English.

GADAVA overlooked the Aerodrome, portion of the 25 Bn. Area, and portion of the Bay as far E on the N shore as Netur Is. At this angle of observation no tents or movement can be seen through the Coconut trees and its value as an O.P. is slight. The natives said that there were no other villages near there.

The track by which we returned comes out into the Coconut grove at a much closer point than where we entered. We cleared the jungle here after only 25 minutes walking.

(Sgd.) R.D. McINNIS Lieut.
I.O. 25 Bn.

TRACK RECCE. TO GADAVA

—TELEPHONE—

SKETCH ATTACHED

2 AUG. 42.

The Recce. party consisted of 1 off. 1 W.O. and 5 O.Rs.

We entered the jungle at 0830 hrs and $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from the entrance is a deserted village. At 0850 we reached a single hut, occupied by one family. The native's name is SOJAS and he can be conversed with in pidgen English. Two minutes marching from here are two huts occupied by BOYOTU, brother of SOJAS.

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(Sgd.) R.D. MCINNIS Lieut.
I.O. 25 Bn.

TRACK RECCE. TO GADAVA

SKETCH ATTACHED

TELEPHONES
2 AUG. 42.

The Recce. party consisted of 1 Off. 1 W.O. and 5 O.Rs.

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(Sgd.) R.D. McINNES Lieut.
I.O. 25 Bn.

TRACK RECCÉ TO GADAVA

For Typing

SKETCH ATTACHED

2 AUG. 42.

The reccé party consisted of 10 off.

1 W.O. and 5 O.R.s.

We entered the jungle at 0830 hrs. and $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from the entrance is a deserted village. At 0850 we reached a single hut, occupied by one family. The native's name is ^{SOJAS} ~~SOLDIER~~ and he can be conversed with in pigeon English.

Two minutes marching from here are two huts occupied by BOYOTU, brother of ^{SOJAS} ~~SOLDIER~~.

The track is clear and the ground flat. The track is following a creek, which the native said is named MAY, and it crossed and recrossed it continually.

A walking pace of 2 M.P.H. is quite comfortable.

At 0857 we left the creek to follow

2.
A spur on the left, the gradient from here being approximately $1/6$ and the walking pace 1 to $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles P.H.

We reached GADAVA at 0930 hrs.

This is easily recognised by the native garden planted in a cleared patch of jungle. The natives name is TOYO and unlike the others could not be made to understand English.

GADAVA overlooks the aerodrome, portion of the 25 Bn. area, and portion of the bay as far E on the N shore as NETUR IS.

at this angle of observation no tents or movement can be seen through the coconut trees and its value as an O.P. is slight.

The natives said that there were no other villages near there.

The track by which ^{we} returned comes

out into the cocconut grove at a much
closer point than where we entered.
We cleared the jungle here after only
25 minutes walking.

R. H. James Lieut.
I. O. 25 Co.

SCALE 3" = 1 mile



SEC

TO: - O A

FROM: - C L.

Arrived DOGURA Mission 0800 hrs. 14 Aug. ©
Patrol successful so far © mens feet
cut about © Pte Houbt seriously ill
with acute malaria temperature
on arrival was 105° © Is being well
looked after by trained sister here
© Will spell here for 36 hours. © ~~the~~
patient will have to remain here as
he cannot be moved © Apart from
this everything OK.

1800 14 Aug.

Col. South
Lt. Snook
" Brown
" Coake
" Barber
" Campbell
" Casler

Col. to remain
Guide

22 AUG 1942

R. a. a. f.
 Base Operations
 Lau River
 1940 K/4.

Received from Lt R. McJames. Q. 21661
 I.O. 25th Batt.

- 1) Data plate
- 2) L^o.
- 3) Copper pipe
- 4) Ball + socket control arms
- 5) T union
- 6) Bull selector cock
- 7) Two ball + socket control arms.
- 8) 1 Fish plate
- 9) 3 pieces Lural
- 10) 1 Revolver
- 11) 1 rounds ammunition
- 12) 1 piece frame member.

L.P. Rose.
 P/O.

This unit to forward copy of full
 report to R. a. a. f. Base Operations.

To ALL Coys, EB, EC, WA, WB,
FROM GAMA DA 130 9

(92)

Under Bde instructions received tonight all Coys will forward a location report or disposition map showing positions of Coys and detached platoons or patrols. This MUST reach this HQ by 0800 hrs, commencing from tomorrow. They could be sent with Parade States. Bde Situation map has to be at Bde HQ by 0900 hrs. Please send these in punctually and regularly.

2130
2131

Zero 7 Mls. N of this
town

Re-entrant

Warpic Village

Policeman

6 natives

cut way thro

149 men

No clothing on barrel

Body $\frac{1}{2}$ out plane

$\frac{1}{2}$ inside

hand with glove
on still grasping
mully

One wing is OK

Zero Rising Sun
markings

(830)

Warria Cr.

Taupota

Tabola

X

~~1 day~~

A

C

D

~~1 day~~

Schlyder

Collins

1 day 3/4

55 Am

1/2 day

1/2 day after Gadava.
 1/2 day from thence to Deck.

1/2 day after Gadava

1 day
 Tracks

Schlyder Kapo.

Collins (Jungle)
 Corp. all 3 Pl Comd Kalohi

3 day

Schlyder

1 sec. Have patrol
 (3 days)

week 7/8

A Baker pl.

1/2 day Gadava
 after 1 day.

2nd ~~1 day~~ full day Batt. Kalohi.

4	July
14	R.
<hr/>	
18	
14	
<hr/>	
32	

2 Aug

RECCÉ REPORT

on

TRACK FROM WAIGANI TO MULLENS HARBOUR

by personnel of

55 Bn

9 Bn

on 21 - 26 Jul 42

PART I.

A. TRACK

From WAIGANI to DAWABO MISSION on summit of DAWABO MT the track varies in width from 8 ft to 3 ft. It is slippery, and during ascent of mt is overgrown with tree roots. A spiral track in good order also runs up the mountain and is crossed in several places by this native track. The track descends south side of mt by bridle track to ARTA ARTA. From ARTA ARTA to TOMONAU landing the track becomes a well made rd 10 ft wide. The surface is partly gravel and partly wet and soggy earth. At TOMONAU landing rd ceases and rest of journey is by water to KONAMIA the outlet and south end of MULLENS Harbour.

B. BRIDGES

The road was evidently built first, and brs intended to be built, were not attempted, although from SAGARI plantation to TOMONAU landing there are well made brs capable of carrying 5 tons.

C. STREAMS

There are approx 25 wet creeks crossing the track. These are mainly fast flowing and shallow capable of being forded. The JONES river is 150 yds (approx) wide at ford while water itself is 75 feet wide, 2½ ft deep.

D. MTS

DAWABO MT crosses between PIWEETA and WANTUBLE is 1152 ft high.

E. OPS.

DAWABO mission makes an excellent O.P. because (1) It is 1152 ft high (2) It has uninterrupted view of all surrounding districts from MILNE BAY to MULLENS HARBOUR.

F. ADVISABILITY OF CONSTRUCTING ROAD.

If the object of building rd is to provide a means of transporting goods and personnel from MULLENS HARBOUR, the construction of a rd to TOMONAU is NOT advisable because (1) there appears to be no chance of constructing road from TOMONAU to landing place at KONAMIA through thick mangrove and heavy swamp.

(2) Goods would have to be placed in launch at KONAMIA from ship and carried to TOMONAU and again off loaded.

If object is to build rd to link up with a possible rd to MORESBY from MULLENS HARBOUR, then construction of rd to TOMONAU is advisable. From here the road could skirt the west side of harbour and avoid mangroves and swamp.

PART II.

A. TRACKS.

1. HACITA turnoff to PEWEETA VILLAGE. - approx 5 mls.

General width of track approx 8 ft.

Nature of track :- Soggy for greatest portion and interlaced with tree roots. Track narrows in different parts mainly near river edge. Track crossed by 8 wet creeks and 9 dry creeks varying in size and depth from very shallow depressions to others of 15 ft width and 10 ft depth.

These tracks run mainly through very dense jungle, and although cleared, is covered with roots and is in a very sodden condition.

2. PEWEETA VILLAGE to DAWABO MISSION - approx 1½ mls.

Start of track leads through PEWEETA VILLAGE to foot of DAWABO MOUNTAIN. This mountain can be climbed either by a spiral track or by a very steep native track. The spiral track has a gradient of 1 in 20 and is crossed in several places by native track. It is 3 ft wide. The native track has a gradient of 1 in 2. This track consists of a stairway of tree roots up the side of mountain through dense jungle. The height of the mountain is 1152 ft. There are 3 wet creeks and 1 dry creek on this portion of track.

3. DAWABO MISSION TO ARTA ARTA VILLAGE - approx 1½ mls.

For first stage there is a gradual decline through tall grass then track becomes bridle path down easiest part of Mountain. Track has many tree roots and is very slippery in places. Track crosses 1 dry creek. Track mainly through dense jungle.

4. ARTA ARTA to WANTUBLE VILLAGE - approx 3 mls.

From here track becomes a well made road 10 feet wide with drains both sides. The surface is partly gravel, partly wet and soggy earth but with a little gravel laid on it could be converted into a worth while road. This road runs through to SAGARI PLANTATION. Road is crossed by two wet creeks and three dry creeks most of which have foot bridges across. One creek in particular viz: WAIBALAN" is fairly wide and deep. The road passes through a series of Native Gardens with a scattering of tall grass but otherwise mainly Jungle.

5. WANTUBLE to POI POI ARUA VILLAGE - approx 2½ mls

Leaving WANTUBLE the rd crosses the SAGARI (JONES) RIVER. The River from bank to bank is approx 150 yds wide at the ford. The water itself approx 75 ft wide, 2½ ft deep and is fordable for M.F. After crossing river the rd was soggy for with long stretches to the village of POI POI ARUA. Rd crossed by two dry creeks and five wet creeks, the latter flowing freely. These creeks range in depth from 3 ft to 20 ft with a width of 4 ft to 25 ft. One creek in particular approx 300 yds from village has a stout wooden bridge capable of holding 5 tons. For most part track is bordered each side by dense jungle interspersed with native gardens. Approx 200 yds before entering POI POI ARUA a track branching off to the left at 135° leads to a gold mine run by Mr Tardy.

6. POI POI ARUA to HAWARI VILLAGE - approx 1 ml.

The rd showed very little variation still maintaining its width and well kept appearance changing at varying intervals from a hard gravel surface to a soggy slippery one. There are 3 dry creeks very deep and narrow and 1 wet creek. A small narrow one, Reaching HAWARI the road to MULLERS HARBOUR turned right while the other rd continues on to FIVE BAYS crossing a river at the furthest end of the village. The river, a fast flowing stream with a very rocky bottom has a depth 2½ ft and a width 50 yds. Track bordered each side by dense jungle interspersed by series of native gardens.

7. HAWARI to SAGARI PLANTATION.- approx 2 1/3 mls.

Track for most part soggy and slippery with a few farm patches crossed by 1 wet creek track leaving jungle approx 1/2 ml from Managers residence, enters coconut plantation.

8. SAGARI PLANTATION to TOMONAU LANDING - approx 5 mls.

This rd is well formed and drained, metal surface with well made bridges capable of carrying 5 to 20 tons weight running for approx 7 mls through 3 rubber plantations - viz SAGARI - BAURATA - (Catholic Mission Plantation) and TOMONAU. The rd with a little repair could be made to carry traffic of any tonnage. Road crossed by 4 wet creeks.

9. TOMONAU LANDING to KONAMIA (MULLENS HARBOUR)-(by water)

TOMONAU LANDING is a cleared space on the bank of the salt water tidal creek to which the launch is moored, the banks of which are perpendicular.

Width at Normal High Tide	22 yds	depth	10 ft	approx
" " " Low	15 yds	"	3 "	"

It is approx 12 miles in a south west direction to an island named VERI VERI, thence another 6 mls in a westerly direction to KONAMIA. There is, on an average, two tides every 24 hours, being two hours later each day. It has been suggested that flat bottom barges or punts with a cargo of 30 to 40 tons drawing the smallest possible draught of water could be towed from KONAMIA to TOMONAU LANDING by small motor launch.

KONAMIA is on the southern side of MULLENS HARBOUR and is the depot for transfer for rubber from rubber plantation in SAGARI VALLEY. This has about the deepest water and most suitable spot for the harbouring of ships of large tonnage. The beach here resembles PONTOON WHARF at GILLI GILLI and is protected from open sea by BONA BONA IS. MULLENS HARBOUR is more or less land locked by same island.

10. VILLAGES

For most part the villages are well kept and exceptionally clean and mostly controlled by police boys, having extensive flower and fruit gardens.

1. PIWRETA Demawileefi (Chief)

This village covers area approx 30 acres.

2. DAWABO MISSION

This mission run by the Oxford Group, who evacuated at commencement of war at present run by 2 native girls.

3. ARTA ARTA Kwameca (Chief)

A big well cleared village with coconut trees and extensive gardens.

4. WARTUBLE

Same as previous village only situated on bank of SAGARI RIVER. (JONES).

5. POI POI ARUA Dialay - (Police Boy)

This is easily the ^{biggest} ~~biggest~~ and prettiest of all the villages. Here also lives Mr Tardy (half Arab and half Italian) who runs a gold mine and is suspected of being a fifth columnist.

6. HAWARI Dewahel - (Chief)

This is just a small new village.

7. SAGARI PLANTATION

This consists of a well built bungalow one occupied by Mr Jensen (Manager) 3 machine sheds, fowl runs, 4 long tin sheds for native workers and a small native village and garden and slaughter yards. It covers an area of 300 acres of which 150 acres are coconut and 150 acres rubber. There is also a rubber factory on plantation. This plantation runs a Chev truck with a mileage of 10,000 also a launch capable of carrying 20 tons rubber.

8. BAUMATA PLANTATION

Is owned by Catholic Mission. This is only a young plantation of 165 acres of which 112 acres are 2 year old rubber trees and 53 acres ready to be planted. This plantation is also managed by Mr Jensen. It is very well fenced by a five strand wire fence with wooden gates for M.T. and stiles for pedestrians.

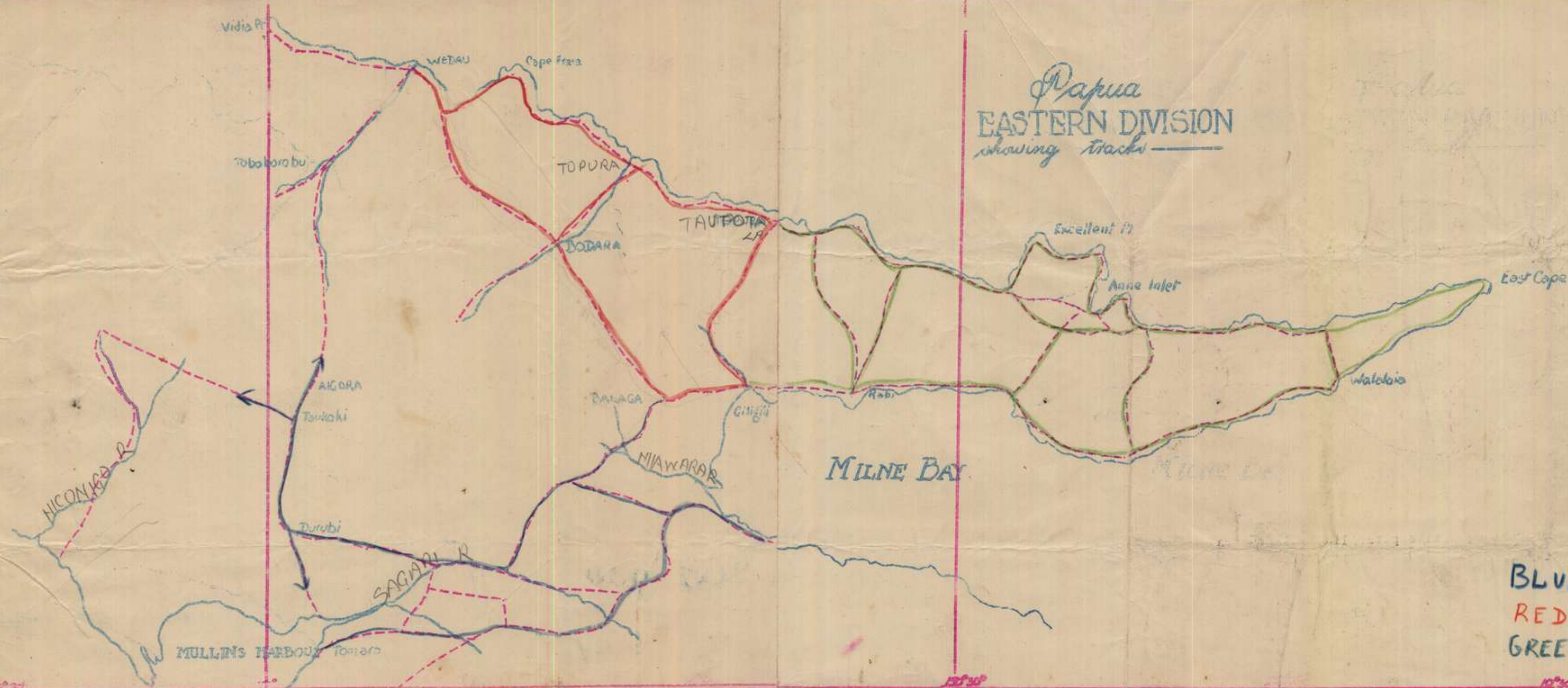
9. KAI ORA

An abandoned, burnt out, rubber plantation overgrown with tropical undergrowth.

10. TOMONAU PLANTATION.

Is managed by a white man, Mr Palmer, who also owns a quarter share in same. Consists of 110 acres. 60 acres tapping rubber; 50 acres untapped.

Papua EASTERN DIVISION showing tracks



BLUE 9BN
 RED 25BN
 GREEN 61BN

Standing Patrol

Kolehi CK.

Dick Schlyper

Arthur Baker

Cpl Robar

V Hannay

A Mengel

J Hogg

J Battersby

W Nelson

J Collins

T Hill

Best
Infermes

John of
Tracks

1. Kolohe CK
1. with Boat Rations
1. for relief

7 Aug 42.

MILNEFORCE OP INSTN No 3

PATROLS

To Comds. 9 Aust Inf Bn.
25 Aust Inf Bn.
61 Aust Inf Bn.

Ref MAPS : EASTERN DIV, PAPUA, sheet 1 - 4 mls to 1 in.
Sketch att.

INFM.

1. (a) JAP discovery of this base by air recce may be followed by ground recce or attacks by patrols.

(b) These may be carried out by patrols using tracks from BUNA or by parties landed from the sea on the North coast of S.E. NEW GUINEA.

(c) JAP action against MILNEFORCE may include attempts to instal spotting stas in the hills overlooking MILNE BAY. Per for these stas may move overland or be put ashore from small craft or flying boats.

(d) In their operations in other parts of NEW GUINEA JAPS have used native guides and may be expected to do so here.

2. 61 Bn is establishing standing patrol of Pl strength at TAUPOTA.

INTENTION

3. MILNEFORCE will prevent by active patrolling JAP penetration of S.E. NEW GUINEA.

METHOD

4. Zones for Patrols

(a) Zones for patrols are allotted as follows :-

- | | | | |
|-----|--|----------|---------|
| I | EAST CAPE - GILI GILI - TAUPOTA All incl : | 61 Bn. | |
| II | excl GILI GILI excl BALAGA - incl WEDAU - excl TAUPOTA | } 25 Bn. | |
| III | excl GILI GILI - incl GABAGABUNA - incl MULLINS HARBOUR - incl AIGORA - incl BALAGA. | | } 9 Bn. |
| | (see sketch att) | | |

(b) The following overland approaches to MILNE BAY must be closely watched.

- (i) by 61 Bn: tracks through and over STIRLING RANGE between EAST CAPE and incl TAUPOTA
- (ii) by 25 Bn: tracks leading from North coast between excl TAUPOTA and incl WEDAU (DOGURA MISSION)
- (iii) by 9 Bn : tracks through AIGORA and from direction of MULLINS HARBOUR.

5. Recce Patrols

(a) Within these zones units will carry out constant and active recce to learn all tracks, accustom men to mountains and jungle, choose places for ambush, and give warning of JAP attempts to penetrate into this area.

(b) Reports of all patrols will be sent to this H.Q. by quickest means.

(c) There are many more tracks than are shown on ref map and sketch. None must be neglected and none must be regarded as too difficult for JAPS.

6. Standing patrols

(a) Units will maintain by day and night standing patrols of not less than sec strength at nodal points where important tracks join.

(b) These points will be prepared for def and will act also as report centres for checking recce patrols out and in.

(c) They must be provided with means of intercomm to coy H.Q. by line or cyclist orderly.

7. Fighting Patrols

(a) Units will send out weekly two pls on 7 day patrols.

(b) These patrols should follow a circular route over the most important tracks within the unit zone. Patrols should traverse the route in opposite directions, meeting on the third or fourth day to exchange infm.

8. Eqpt of patrols

(a) Patrols must be lightly equipped but must carry all essential weapons and amn (incl grenades), tents mosquito net and ground sheets.

(b) Units will experiment in carrying bren gun stripped over difficult mountain tracks. Tree spike must always be taken with bren gun.

(c) If it is impracticable to carry bren guns over a particular track, at least two T.S.M.Gs per sec will be carried.

9. Security

Units will ensure that patrols carry no letters or papers identifying the unit and that name of unit is obliterated from all pay books.

10. Guides

Where necessary, native guides will be obtained through A.N.G.A.U.

11. Sups

For long distance patrols units will arrange to dump sups at turning pt for return trip.

12. Medical

S.Bs and medical kit will accompany all patrols of more than sec strength.

13. Intercomm.

(a) Teleradio set is being reestablished at TAUPOTA. In cases of EMERGENCY ONLY, messages may be passed through this.

(b) I.O. MILNEFORCE will provide units with reporting code for use with teleradio sets.

ACK.

Signed at 1620 hrs.

Issued by L.Os.

J.B. Mahoney Maj
H.Q. MILNEFORCE.

DISTRIBUTION

Copy No	1	9 Aust Inf Bn.
	2	25 Aust Inf Bn.
	3	61 Aust Inf Bn.
	4	Comd
	5	S.C.
	6	I.O.
	7	Staff
	8	R.A.A.F. O.B.
	9	A.N.G.A.U.
	10	L.H.Q.
	11	N.G.F.
	12 - 13	War Diary
	14 - 15	File.

42 SECRET.

25 Aust Inf Bn

5 Aug 42.

7 Aust Inf Bde.

PATROL REPORT.
DOGURA MISSION - WEDAUI VILLAGE.

Ref. secret message 0507 31 Jul, patrol left at 0815 hrs ^{1 Aug} and entered track KALOHI CK (led by native guides) at the N.W. end of the runway en route to STIRLING RANGE. The Adj. (Capt Jackson) and runner accompanied the party to within about 1,000 ft. of the summit of the STIRLING RANGE.

Most of the track was along the bed of the KALOHI CK over river stones ~~and~~ crossing and recrossing the creek in all 33 times, until the track left the creek to commence the climb up the STIRLING RANGE. The Adj reports constant wading through the creek and the rough passage over the river stones caused the soles of boots which had been re-soled to peel off.

At 1500 hrs. today 5 Aug 42 the following message was received from Lieut Baker, in charge of the patrol, through ANGAU, evidently brought by native carrier. ~~to OA from CL.~~

To OA From CL

"Arrived DOGURA MISSION 0800 hrs 4 Aug. Patrol successful so far. Men's feet cut about. Pte Hoult seriously ill with acute malaria, temperature on arrival was 105 deg. Is being well looked after by trained Sister here. Will spell here for 36 hrs. Patient will have to remain here as he cannot be moved. Apart from this everything O.K.. 1800 hrs. 4 Aug."

It would appear three days were taken for the journey to DOGURA MISSION.

CL is code ^{message} name for Lieut Baker OA is for CO

0815	1 Aug	Sat	
	2 ✓	Sun	
	3 ✓	Mon	
arr 0800	4 ✓	Tues	@ Dogura Mission
	5 ✓	wed	Resting Dogura
Say leave	6 ✓	Thur	for Wedau
	7	Fri	@ Locdan Recce.
	8	Sat	To mission
	9	Sun	
	10	Mon	
	11	Tue	
	12	wed	Shd arrive camp.

Ed Miles
LT-COL
C.O. 25 Aust Inf Bn.

*Rations
3 days
7 days*

*10
Emerg Iron
Ration*

1. Aug. 42

Nominal Roll of C Coy Personnel on Patrol

No	Rank	Name	Address
Q 22053	Pte	Steele Frank	Caves Road, Stanthorpe
Q 22022	"	Hoult Russell	Glen Muir via Stanthorpe
Q 104383	"	Hickey Walter Dennis	"Broadleigh" Warra. W. Line
Q 22018	"	Hisco Graham Heylett	Mt Tully Rd, Stanthorpe
Q X 31185	"	Lewis Ernest William	Milton Rd, Toombul, Brisbane
Q 22028	"	Kelly Thomas	Appelthorpe via Stanthorpe
Q 128825	"	Doolan ^{Dennis} Michael	Mt Kent, Robby
Q 22602	"	Garland Morgan James	Armois via Stanthorpe
Q 22734	"	Colley James William	Denham St, Stanthorpe
Q 104256	"	Scott ^{Dyald} Scott Henderson	Colville, Mandilla
Q X 31103	"	O'Donnell ^{John} Francis	of Railway Dept, ^{Membum} N.C. Line Raff Avenue, Holland Pk Brisbane
Q X 26847	"	Shill Herbert Henry	of Mrs E Fletcher Edgar St, East Brisbane
Q X 31222	"	Davis ^{Ronald} James	Edgar St, East Brisbane
Q X 31097	"	Santowski ^{Robin} Francis	Mt Malloy via Cairns
Q X 31104	"	Warren ^{Stanley} Gordon	80 Duke St, Campsie, Sydney
Q 104219	"	Mergel ^{Harold} Carl	20 Tourist Rd Toowoomba
Q 22600	Cpl	Giltrow ^{Roman George} Thomas	Albert St, Toowoomba
Q 104198	4cpl	Jorgensen ^{Eric} Norman	6 Stephen St, Toowoomba
Q 22861	Pte	Hodgson ^{John} Harold	Grange St, Stanthorpe
Q 104244	"	Roughlead ^{Harold} Byrnes	20 Hogan St, Toowoomba
Q 103131	"	Marsh ^{Kenneth} Stanley	Hayes St, Laidley
Q 22578	"	Biddow ^{Kurt} Michael	Cubey via Stanthorpe
Q 103149	"	Smith Roger	Liston, N.S.W
Q X 31101	"	Keddie ^{Robert} William	Mt Malloy via Cairns
Q 22637	Cpl	Gwynne ^{Francis} Ronald	Wood St, Dalby
Q 22054	4cpl	Steele Ray	Caves Rd, Stanthorpe
Q 22003	Sgt	Stale ^{Stanley} David	Box 97, Stanthorpe
Q 21976	Lieut	Baker ^{Arthur} Thistle	Bapaune via Stanthorpe.

K F Holzworth Cpl
C Coy.

Call and Instructions Serial No

25 bn rptd ANGAU

From FALL RIVER Orig No 0507 Date 31 In reply to No

SECRET ○ Lieut A T BAKER
 25 bn will lead patrol
 pl strength to DOGURA MISSION
 WEDA U village 149°06 East 10°05
 South ref map PAPUA Eastern
 div | in to 4
 mls ○ route out LAVIAM
 CK track over STIRLING RANGE
 TAUPOTA villages Coast rd CAPE
 FRERE BARTLE BAY WEDA U ○
 route in WAMIRA QUAGUNAKI BODARA

Originators Instructions Signature T.O.O. T.H.I.

Call and Instructions Serial No

Orig No Date In reply to No

EAVORI track Crossing KALOHI CREEK
 ⊙ lieutenant BAKER report This
 HQ for instrs 1800 K/31
 ⊙ 25 bn collect two
 native guides ANGAU no 2 cottage
 0730 K/1 ⊙ patrol will
 carry 3 days rations plus
 one emergency ration and replenish
 3 days rations at DOGURA
 MISSION for return journey ⊙
 SC will load 7 days
 rations for 30 men on
 MACLAREN KING at GILIGILI wharf
 by 1500 K/1 ⊙ lieutenant
 BAKER will arrange storage surplus
 at DOGURA MISSION ⊙ accommodation
 for pl day at mission ⊙
 one Joma honen May DOGURA 1645 ACK
 NOTWT K/31

Australian Military Forces.

Please quote this Number when replying.

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Address 25 Aust Inf Bn

Date 3 Aug 42.

7 Aust Inf Bde.

REPORT OF RECCE. PATROL - 30 Jul. to 1 Aug 42 - GILLI-GILLI TO WAMAWAMANA

The following is a report on the above patrol, which was lead by Lieut E. Schlyder.-

"On Thu 30 Jul 42 a patrol consisting of 2 N.C.Os, 6 O.Rs and myself left Biv area at 0830 hrs. Each member of the patrol carried an average of 55-lb of equipment with him. The patrol moved to the village of KAPO, where a guide was picked up. Left village at 0945 hrs and moved in a northerly direction, its first objective being the GAP in the STIRLING RANGES. The patrol moved along narrow and very treacherous track, through two (2) native gardens (as shown on map). At 1300 hrs, arrived at ARROW CK. where patrol had (ki-ki) meal.

1400 hrs patrol moved, still in northerly direction, through another native garden (see map) midway between ARROW CK and GAP, where a new guide was picked up. 1545 hrs. patrol arrived at GAP in a severe state of exhaustion.

GENERAL. Route to GAP is very narrow, slippery, treacherous, and at some stages, tps climbed at an angle over 60 deg. Ground is very wet. Timber and scrub on this side of Range is fairly thick, but individuals could move through jungle quite easily if track not available.

If tps are to fight in these hills and with any sort of success, it would be advisable to break them in in easy stages, with light equipment, before letting them go on with jungle fighting proper, otherwise spirit of tps will be broken.

"At 1605 hrs. patrol started down ranges towards beach, passing through native village and gardens en route (see map). At 1700 hrs. patrol reached foothills of ranges and moved through deep open ravines, crossing a small stream twice, to the beach. At 1745 hrs. patrol arrived at destination, the village of WAMAWAMANA, in a very tired condition.

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"The patrol camped at village of WAMAWAMANA on the nights of 30/31 and 31/1 Aug. On the morning of the 31 Jul, I split main patrol into two groups. One group under Cpl Kennett, and one group under my command. Cpl Kennett's patrol moved in the direction of Cape FREER and I moved in the direction of EXCELLENT PT.

Both patrols arrived back at village of WAMAWAMANA at about 1545 hrs. The results of both patrols are shown on att.map and in general remarks.

At 0710 hrs on 1 Aug 42 the patrol started back from NORTH coast to GILLI-GILLI arriving back at 1630 hrs.

GENERAL REMARKS. At TAUPOTA mission, there are three white people, namely - Father Jennings, Miss P.N.Inman and Miss M.Mills, the mission being C. of E. These people gave me all the information they could.

The coastal belt NORTH of range is very dry. There has been a drought for the last three years. Last year the natives nearly starved and had to be fed by the mission, who receive their rations from PORT MORESBY.

Malaria on NORTH side of Ranges is not very bad, according to the Missionaries. Only a few cases are treated each year. It was noticeable that mosquitoes were very few and far between. No member of patrol reported presence of same. Sand flies are very bad in summer time, but are not troublesome at present.

Prevailing wind blows from SOUTH to S.E. continually and is very strong.

TIDE. Very little difference in changes of tide, but water is very deep off shore, about 1 to 200 yds. out and quite suitable for fairly large vessels to move in. Normally a rough surf running.

BEACH. Most of the beach between HIOGE mission and AWALAMA mission is suitable for landing of tps from small craft and rafts, the beaches being heavily gravelled and fairly flat. About 10 yds. from water's edge, the beaches are fringed with odd palms and tropical foliage and in some places it runs up into a bank about 10 to 20 ft in height. Running back from the beach are fairly level and grassy flats, bisected by several small streams. The flats would make good landing grounds for enemy para tps who could easily straddle the track leading over range to GILLIGILLI. These flats run back into very high and steep, grass covered, treeless, razor backed ridges, with small ridges jutting out in all directions.

WATER. There are several small streams, which flow fairly strongly to the sea. This water is very clear and quite safe to drink.

(3)

TRACKS. There are three tracks over the Ranges from this area to GILLIGILLI area.


1. From GILLIGILLI over GAP to WAMAWAMANA
2. From TAUPOTA mission through GOGUATA to GILLIGILLI.
3. From MODAUA mission to RABI then to GILLIGILLI.

"Every year tracks are changed by natives. All tracks run through their gardens and when garden sites are changed ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ they cut new tracks and do away with the old ones.

"I found the natives on NORTH coast very willing to help in any way and very ready to give information. They are very frightened of the Japs and a lot of the villages are nearly deserted, the inhabitants having moves up into the hills. Natives are very clean and tidy in appearance and treat visitors well. They do not try to become familiar with white people.

"No information available as to the whereabouts of the three white men mentioned in my previous report. Missionaries had not seen or heard anything of them.

"At 1015 hrs. and 1045 hrs. on 31 Jul loud ~~explosions~~ detonations were heard in the FERGUSSEN IS. area. Also plane activity in that area. About 2300 hrs same day loud detonations heard again from same direction. "



Lt-Col
C.O. 25 Aust Inf Bn.

Australian Military Forces.

Please quote this Number when replying.

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Address 25 Aust Inf Bn
Date 3 Aug 42.

7 Aust Inf Bde.

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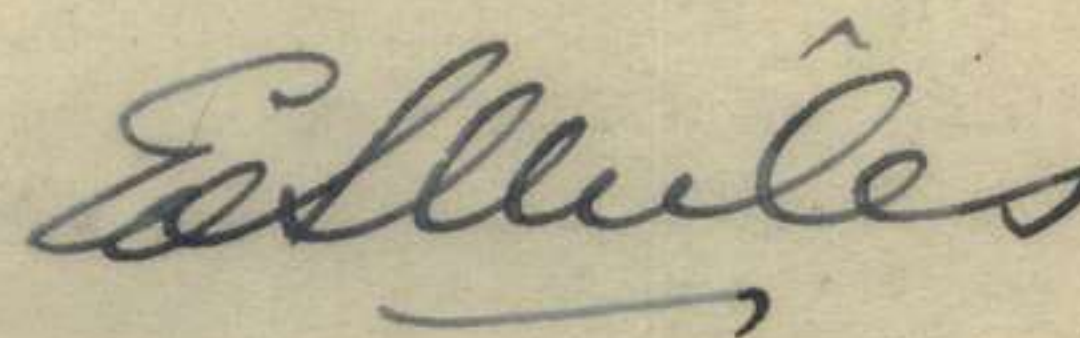
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Lt-Col
C.O. 25 Aust Inf Bn.

Australian Military Forces.

Please quote this Number when replying.

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Address **25 Aust Inf Bn**
Date **3 Aug 42.**

7 Aust Inf Bde.

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E. Stiles

Lt-Col
C.O. 25 Aust Inf Bn.

GILLIGILLI to WAMAKAMA.

Report of Recce. Patrol. from 30th July to 1st Aug 42.
Ed by. Lieut C. Mellyden

On the Thursday 30th July 42. a patrol, consisting of 2 MCO's, BOR's & myself left Bir. Area at 0830 hrs.

Each member of patrol carried an average of 55 lbs of equipment with him.

The patrol moved to the village of KAPO, where a guide was picked up. Left village at 0945 hrs & moved in a Northerly direction, its first objective being the GAP in the STIRLING RANGES. The patrol moved along narrow & very treacherous track, through two (2) native gardens (as shown on map). At 1300 hrs, arrived at ARROW. CRK. where patrol had (Ki-ki.) meal.

1400 hrs patrol moved, still in Northerly direction, through another native garden (see map) midway between ARROW. CRK & GAP. where a new guide was picked up.

1545 hrs patrol arrived at GAP in a severe state of exhaustion. At this

General - Route to GAP is very narrow, slippery, treacherous & at some stages, the climbed at an angle over 60°. - Ground is very wet - Timber & scrub on this side of RANGE is fairly thick, but individuals could move through jungle quite easily if track not available.

If tps are to fight in these hills & with any sort of success, it would be advisable to break them in, in easy stages with light equipment, before letting them go on with jungle fighting proper otherwise the spirit of tps will be broken.

At 1605 hrs patrol started down Ranges towards beach, passing through native village & gardens en route. (see map).

At 1700 patrol reached foothills of Ranges & moved through deep open ravines ~~to beach~~, crossing a small stream twice, to the beach.

At 1745 hrs patrol arrived at destination, the village of WAMAWAMANA, in a very tired condition.

General

The route down from the Gap is very steep & slippery & at times, track leads round ridges several hundreds of feet in height.

The jungle on this side of Range is very thick, and I think, impassable to man, if not using ready made tracks.

The patrol camped at village of WAMAWAMANA on the nights of 30/31st & 31/1st Aug. On the morning of the 31st July, I split main patrol

into 2 groups. One group under Cpl Kennett,
 & one group under my Command. Cpl Kennett
 patrol moved in the direction of Cpe. FREER, & I
 moved in direction of ~~Excellent~~ EXCELLENT
 Pt.

Both patrols arrived back into village
 of WAMAWAMANA at about 1545 hrs. The results
 of both patrols are shown on attached maps &
 in General Remarks.

At 0710 hrs on 1st Aug 42. the patrol
 started back from NORTH coast to GILLIGILLI,
 arriving back at 1630 hrs.

General Remarks

At TAUPOTA mission, there are 3 white
 people, namely - Father Jennings -
 Miss F.N. Inman, and Miss M. Mills,
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Malaria on NORTH side of RANGES is not very bad, according to the missionaries. Only a few cases are treated each year.

It was noticeable that mosquitoes were very few & far between. No member of patrol reported presence of same.

Sand flies are very bad in summer time but are not troublesome at present.

Prevailing wind blows from SOUTH to S.E. continually & is very strong.

TIDE. Very little difference in changes of tide but water is very deep off shore; about 1 to 200' out & quite suitable for fairly large vessels to move in. Normally a rough surf running.

BEACH - Most of the beach between HIOGE mission & ANALAMA mission is suitable for ~~land~~ landing of troops from small craft & rafts, the beaches being heavily gravelled & fairly flat. About 10' from water's edge, the beaches are fringed with odd palms & tropical foliage & in some places, it runs up into a bank about 10 to 20' in height.

Running back from beach, are fairly level & grassy flats, bisected by several small streams. The flats would make good landing grounds for every para. tps. who could easily straddle the track leading over Range to GILLIGILLI.

These flats run back into very high & steep, grassed covered, treeless, razor-backed ridges, with small ridges jutting out in all directions.

WATER:: There are several small streams with which flow fairly strongly to the sea. This water is very clear & quite safe to drink.

TRACKS:: There are 3 tracks over the Ranges from this area to GILLIGILLI area.

- 1 From GILLIGILLI over GAP to WAMAWRAMAKA
- 2 From TAYPOTA mission through GOQUATA to GILLIGILLI.
- 3 From MODAKA mission to RABI then to GILLIGILLI.

Every year tracks are changed by natives. All tracks run through their gardens & when garden sites are changed they cut new tracks & do away with the old ones.

I found the natives on NORTH Coast very willing to help in any way & very ready to give information.

They are very frightened of the Japs & a lot of the villages are nearly deserted, the inhabitants having moved up into the hills.

Natives are very clean & tidy in appearance & habits & treat visitors well. They do not try to become familiar with white people.

No information available as to the whereabouts of the 3 white men mentioned in my previous report. Missionaries had not seen or heard anything of them.

At 1015 hrs & 1045 hrs on 31st July, ~~large~~ ^{loud} detonations were heard in the FERGUSSEN Isd area, also plane activity in that area. About 2300 hrs same day heard loud, detonations heard again from same directions.

Ellebyer Lieut

Date 2nd August 42

Kadava Village

Guide 0730 hrs.

L.O.

Lt M Innes.

RSM

Evans

Dossey

McFarlane

Houston

I personnel

1 off 1 WO & 5 OR

—

Adjt. (James)

Report of Recce. 29-7-42.

Start Point:- Bald Hill, followed fence west about 200 yds. turned right moved in a northerly direction across stream, climbed over hill on which were growing coconuts and NORTH EAST to boundary fence, on a bald spur, on which was Blade Grass, continuing ^{NORTH} NORTH EAST. along fence, crossed through fence on top of hill, following narrow track through jungle, passed Pig Traps, and continued on a bearing of approx 20°. crossed two small streams, the tracks here appeared to be only pig tracks. Climbed hill then moved east through Boundary fence of Coconut plantation continued on original bearing through Plantation across boundary fence again and continued north through further jungle past another pig trap, where the track stopped. He continued on the same bearing through jungle until meeting plainly defined track back through T.V.D.

Route map attached.

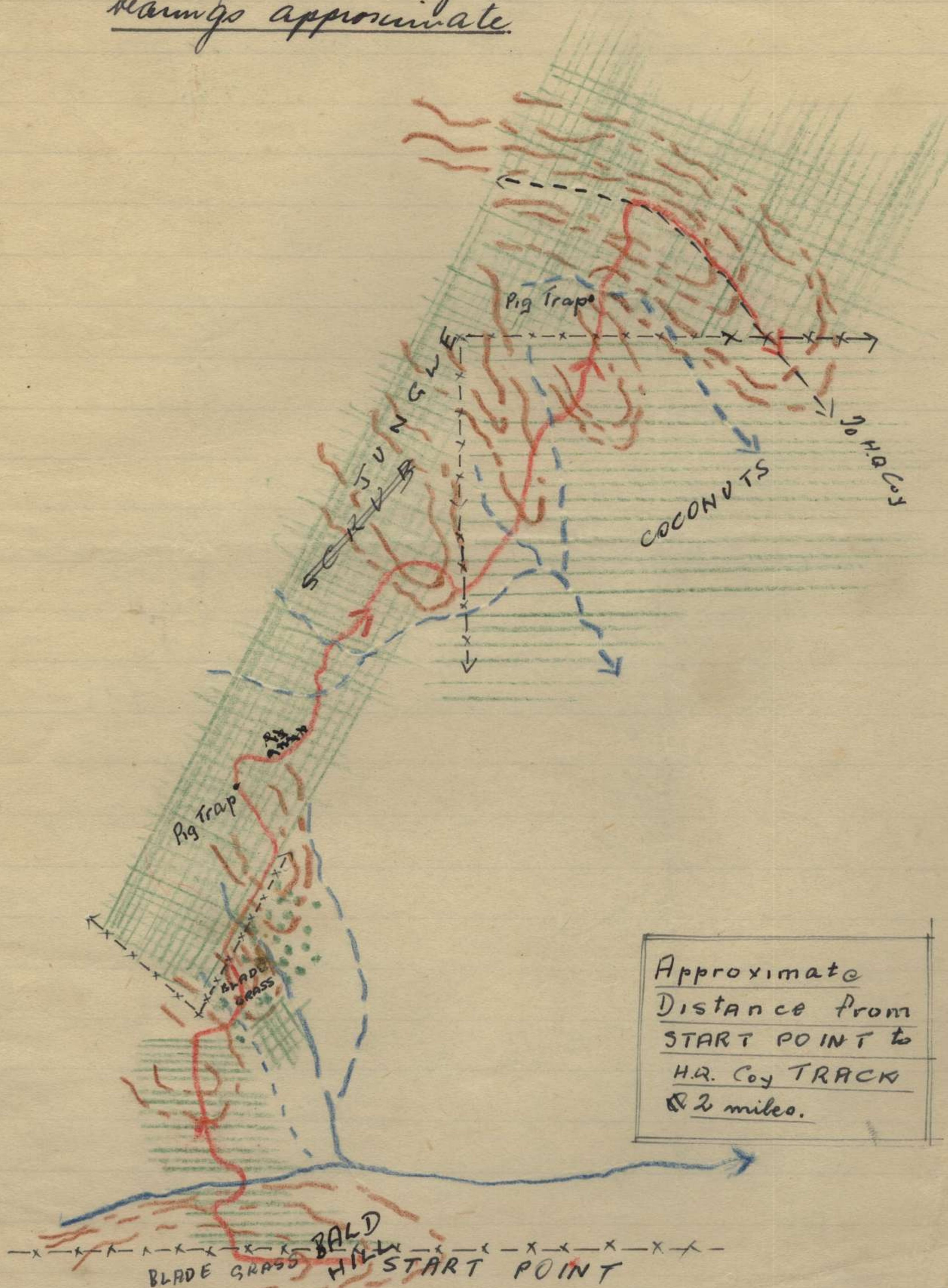
[Handwritten signature]

J. J. Bellini Lieut

AREA Approx 1 mile N.W.

of GAMA (to accompany RECCE. REPORT
dated 29 July 1942)

Drawn from memory Distances and
bearings approximate.



Gama
Wia

AL17

29

Patrol advises that native at village KAPO approx N.E. of
village BANARON on WAGER CK gave info of track to sea over
ridges beyond ① two days ago 3 white men arrived at
village, obtained information, had meal and returned to
beach ② Patrol followed boot tracks of very small last in
westerly direction over high ridge until lost at garden ③
Native information track back to beach north of Sterling
range

L 832221 2219
 2220.

25 Aust. Inf. Bn.
AUSTRALIA
30 Jul 42.

7 Aust. Inf. Bde.

REPORT - TRACK RECCE. PATROL
'A' Coy. - 25 Aust. Inf. Bn. - 29 Jul 42

Departed: 'H.Q.' Coy cookhouse at approx. 0930 hrs. 29 Jul 42, moving on a bearing of 20°. On reaching edge of jungle a party under comd. A/Sgt. Rushton moved off in a westerly direction.

Main party, under Lieut. E.L. Schlyder, moved in NORTHERLY direction cutting a track through fairly dense jungle until arrived at a village named BANARON, on the bank of WAGER CR.

Then moved in N.E. direction along river bank until party observed another village named KAPO. There one man questioned, who gave information after being beguiled by the offer of a little tobacco. Man questioned on the matter of tracks, and asked if there was a track over the ridges, to the beach beyond. Party informed there was, and track was pointed out. Man also advised that, two days previous to party's arrival at KAPO, three Big Bosses (white men) had journeyed from the beach over the ridges to his village where they obtained information, had ki-ki (meal) and started back over the ridges to the beach.

Party left the village, moving in WESTERLY direction over a high ridge and observed boot tracks, several days old, heading back over ridges. It was noticeable that the boot tracks were of a very small last. On following track party came across small native garden and one hut. On moving on a further $\frac{1}{2}$ MILE party came across a larger native garden and 2 huts. Here ONE track went through the garden and believed to lead over the ridges. ONE branched N.W. along which party moved for about 1200 YDS. until reached a branch track, which lead in a NORTHERLY direction.

Party continued along original track in WESTERLY direction for 450 YDS. then track turned NORTHERLY direction. Party crossed a few creeks on journey. On continuing NORTH for 400 YDS. party came across branch track, running WEST to creek. Party moved NORTHERLY direction for about 300 YDS. then had dinner. Here three men sent back along track to KAPO village to check up on all bearings and data, with orders to await return of main party.

(over)

25 Bn PATROL REPORT (contd)

Lieut. Schlyder with THREE men then moved along track in N.E. direction until came to large river dotted with heavy rapids. The river ran in EASTERLY direction, then turned SOUTH. Party followed river towards ridges with the aim of reaching gap in mountains. The river wound in a NORTHERLY direction. Party followed along river passing KOREE FALLS in progress; then moved another $\frac{1}{2}$ mile until could go no further. The river was bounded by almost perpendicular hills about 400 FEET high, almost impassable to man.

Party then returned to KAPO village and questioned native about the beach again. He agreed to lead party over track to beach for the reward of ONE stick of tobacco and ONE box of matches (and said 'Don't forget the biscuits'). This man named TWO villages en route, the same being KILGOY and KIKOR, the latter almost on the beach.

From here party returned to camp, arriving back about 1730 HRS.

Lieut. Schlyder considers the jungle to be such that no cutting would be necessary to enable TPS. to move through it.

Jacques Carr
Adj. Lt. Col.,
C.O., 25 Aust. Inf. Bn.

25 Aust. Inf. Bn.
AUSTRALIA
30 Jul 42.

7 Aust. Inf. Bde.

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Party left the village, moving in WESTERLY direction over a high ridge and observed boot tracks, several days old, heading back over ridges. It was noticeable that the boot tracks were of a very small last. On following track party came across small native garden and one hut. On moving on a further $\frac{1}{4}$ MILE party came across a larger native garden and 2 huts. Here ONE track went through the garden and believed to lead over the ridges. ONE branched N.W. along which party moved for about 1200 YDS. until reached a branch track, which lead in a NORTHERLY direction.

Party continued along original track in WESTERLY direction for 450 YDS. then track turned NORTHERLY direction. Party crossed a few creeks on journey. On continuing NORTH for 400 YDS. party came across branch track, running WEST to creek. Party moved NORTHERLY direction for about 300 YDS. then had dinner. Here three men sent back along track to KAPO village to check up on all bearings and data, with orders to await return of main party.

(over)

25 BN PATROL REPORT (contd)

Lieut. Schlyder with THREE men then moved along track in N.E. direction until came to large river dotted with heavy rapids. The river ran in EASTERLY direction, then turned SOUTH. Party followed river towards ridges with the aim of reaching gap in mountains. The river wound in a NORTHERLY direction. Party followed along river passing KOREE FALLS in progress; then moved another $\frac{1}{2}$ mile until could go no further. The river was bounded by almost perpendicular hills about 400 FEET high, almost impassable to man.

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Jacques Gu
Adj a Lt. Col.,
C.O., 25 Aust. Inf. Bn.

25 Aust. Inf. Bn.
AUSTRALIA
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Party left the village, moving in WESTERLY direction over a high ridge and observed boot tracks, several days old, heading back over ridges. It was noticeable that the boot tracks were of a very small last. On following track party came across small native garden and one hut. On moving on a further $\frac{1}{2}$ MILE party came across a larger native garden and 2 huts. Here ONE track went through the garden and believed to lead over the ridges. ONE branched N.W. along which party moved for about 1200 YDS. until reached a branch track, which lead in a NORTHERLY direction.

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(over)

(contd)

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From here party returned to camp, arriving back about 1730 HRS.

Lieut. Schlyder considers the jungle to be such that no cutting would be necessary to enable TPS. to move through it.

James Coy
Adjt

Lt. Col.,
C.O., 25 Aust. Inf. Bn.

Reece Patrol Report.

A Coy.

HQ Coy

Patrol left ~~Cyrt~~ Cookhouse app. 0930 hrs 29th July moving on a bearing of 20°. On reaching edge of jungle a party under command of Sgt Ribbton moved off in a westerly direction.

My party moved in northerly direction cutting a track through fairly dense jungle until we arrived at a village named BANARON on the bank of WAGER CRK.

Then moved in NE direction along river bank until we observed another village named KAPO. Here we questioned one man who gave us information after being beguiled by the offer of a little tobacco. We questioned him on the matter of tracks, ~~he informed~~ if there was a track over the ridges to the beach beyond. He informed me there was and pointed out the track. He also informed me that, two days previous to our arrival in said village, that three Big Bosses (white men) had journeyed from the beach over the ridges to his village where they obtained information, had ki-ki-(meat) and started back over the ridges to the beach.

We left the village, moving in westerly direction over a high ridge & observed foot tracks several days old heading back over ridges. It was noticeable that the best tracks were of a

a very small last. On following track, we came across small native garden & one hut. On moving on further a further $\frac{1}{4}$ mile we came across a larger native garden, ^{+ 2 huts} there one ^{track} went through the garden ^{which we believe} leads over the ridges.

One branched N.WEST along which we moved for about 1200 until we reached a branch track which lead in a northerly direction. We continued along original track in westerly direction for 450 x then ^{track} we turned northerly direction & ^{we} crossed a few creeks on journey. On continuing NORTH for 400 x came across branch track running WEST to creek. We moved northerly direction for about 200 x where we had dinner. Here I sent three men back along track to KAPO village to check up on all bearings & data, ~~also~~ with orders to await my return.

Taking 3 men with me, we moved along track N.E. direction until we came to large river dotted with heavy rapids. The ^{river} ran in easterly direction & then turned SOUTH. We followed river towards ridges until the aim of reaching gap in mountains. The river ~~turning~~ wound in a northerly direction. We followed along river passing HORRE falls in progress. We moved another $\frac{1}{4}$ mile until we could go no further. The river was bounded

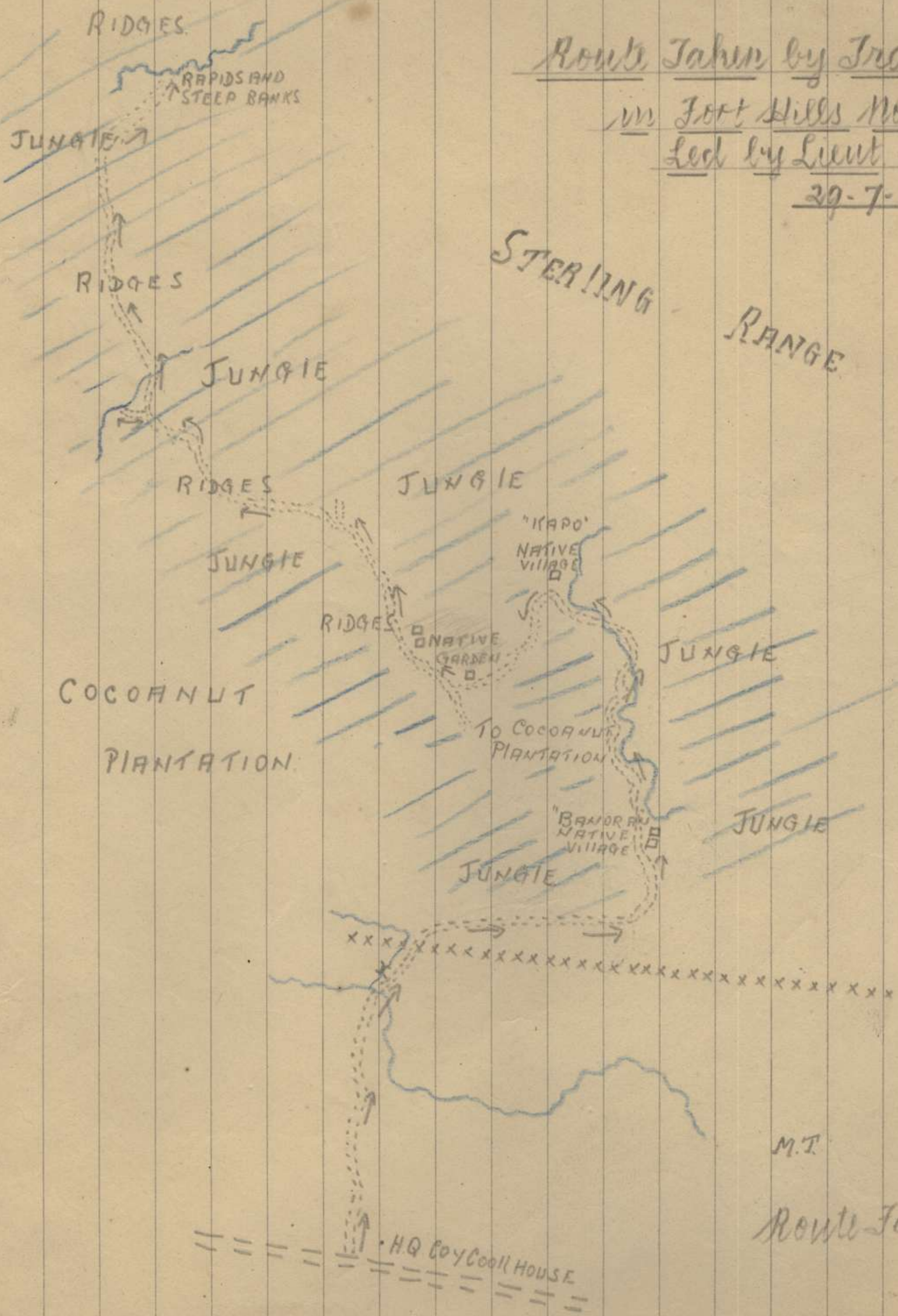
by almost perpendicular hills about 400 feet in height, almost impassible to man. We returned to KAPO village & questioned ~~man~~ native about beach again. He agreed to lead us over track to beach for the reward of 1 stick of tobacco & 1 box of matches (said don't forget the biscuits). He told me the names of two villages en route, the same being KILGAY & KIKOR, the latter almost on the beach. From here we returned to camp, ~~at~~ arriving back about 1730 hrs. I consider the jungle to be such that no cutting would be necessary to enable troops to move through it.

E. Helyar Lieut.

Route Taken by Track Recce. Patrol

in Foot Hills North of Camp Area
Led by Lieut R. Schlyder

29-7-42



M.T.
Route Followed →

15.7 Moncrie FF 1942

42 - 43

25 Aust Inf Bn
HOME FORCES,
23 Jul 42.

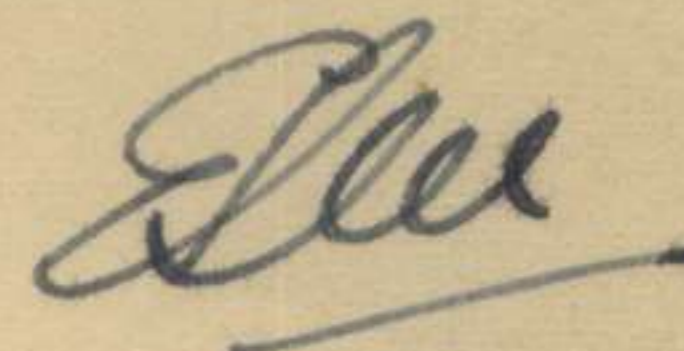
SECRET.

7 Aust Inf Bde

RECCE. PATROLS.

Ref. secret memo M.3 dated 19 Jul 42.- Pl.Comds.,
Nos. 7 and 9 Pls of A Coy 55 Bn were contacted and a representative
of each Coy (6) was att. to patrols carried out on 21 Jul 42 as
follows, -

1. From Waigama to Balaga and Tulai River.
2. Jungle tracks leading from rubber plantation towards
Sagarai valley.



Lt-Col
C.O. 25 Aust Inf Bde.

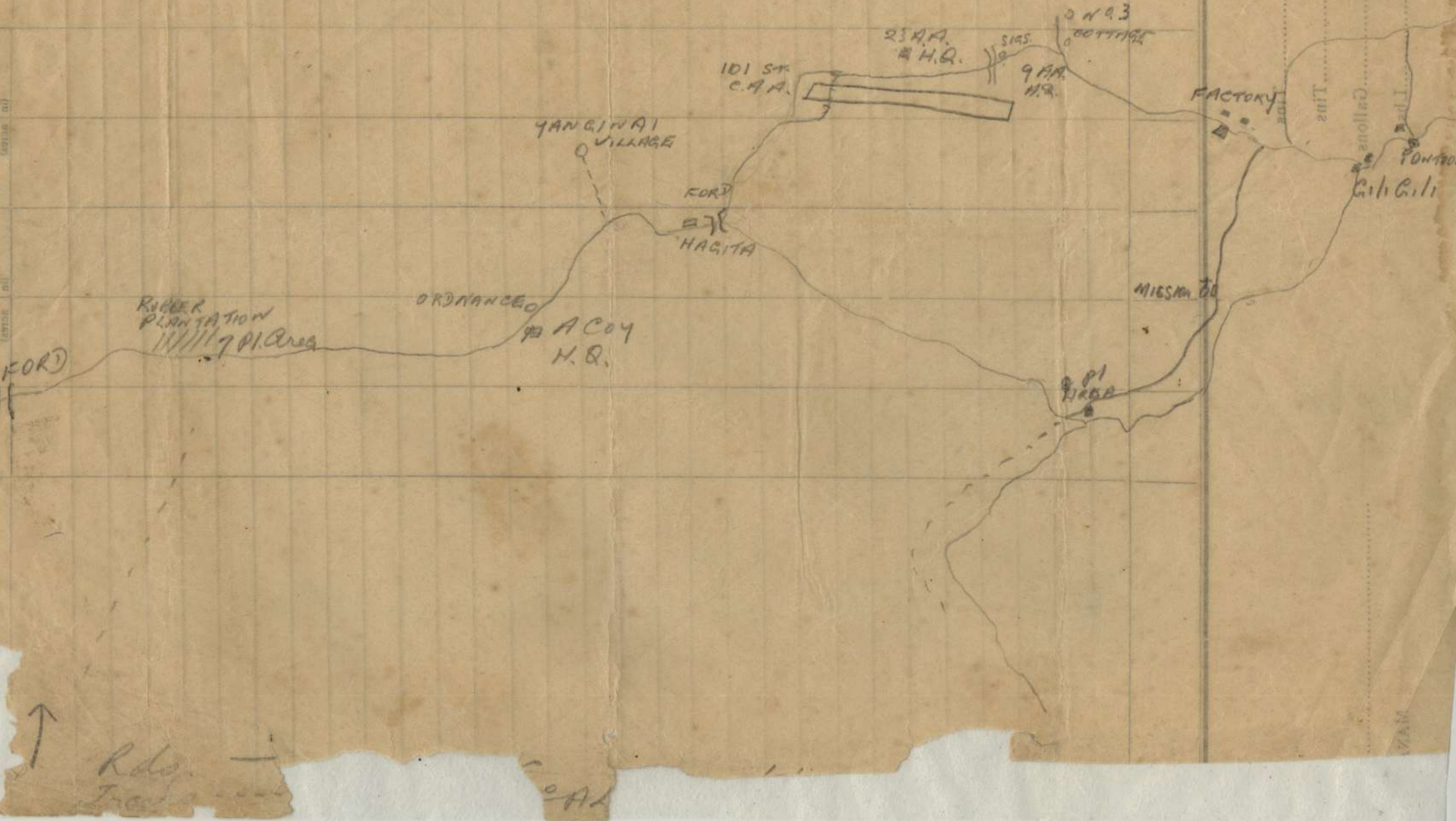
British New Guinea Development Coy. Ltd.

MONTHLY REPORT

WEIGAI HOSP
AKKA
TO ALAGA LABS

ESTATE

Position
Area Cultivated
Area of Coconuts Planted
Plows (in acres)
Harrows (in acres)
Rainfall



SCALE 8 in = 1"



To DAGOURA

Taupe

3000'

4000'

STIRLING

RAI

5000'

RAIN

FOREST

HAGARA

HAGITA

GILI GILI

GABAGABUNA

To MORESBY

1500'

RAIN

FOREST

500'

MULLINC

HARBOUR

MANGROVES

JONES R

MISSION

1100'

SAGARAI

VALLEY

5000'

4000'

2000'

Patrol Report

BALAGA Area - 21 July 1942.

Lt. 25 Aus. Inf. Bn.

Patrol comprised five members 55 Aus. Inf. Bn and six members 25 Aus. Inf. Bn.

The attached map indicates routes followed.

0840 hrs departed WAIGANI FACTORY

1015 hrs arrived BALAGA (bal'-a-ga)

1115 hrs arrived TULAI RIVER

1140 hrs departed TULAI RIVER

1245 hrs returned BALAGA

1400 hrs departed BALAGA

1445 hrs arrived CARPULEEKA

1515 hrs departed CARPULEEKA

1600 hrs returned BALAGA

1645 hrs returned WAIGANI FACTORY

1. Track BALAGA - TULAI RIVER follows lower EASTERN slope of a jungle-covered mountain. Place DUGHAMA is inhabited

by an aged native FLANIKI.

55 Aus. Inf Bn reports good spring exists about 100^x WEST of DUGHAMA.

Surface of track is rough but could be negotiated by carriers. There is complete cover from aerial observation.

TULAI RIVER is about 30^x wide, 3 feet deep with hard, pebbly bottom. Banks steep, about 20ft high.

2. Track BALAGA-CARPULEEKA is about 20ft wide and well cleared. Suitable for carriers whole distance. Suitable for light M.T. as far as river crossing ^{1/2} mile from CARPULEEKA provided ^{crossing of} dry watercourse between BALAGA and NOWLA is improved. There are extensive native plantations along this track.

Path leading EAST between NOWLA and CARPULEEKA is reported best route to DAGULA on coast about 35 miles distant.

21 July 1942

J. Hogg
D. Coy.

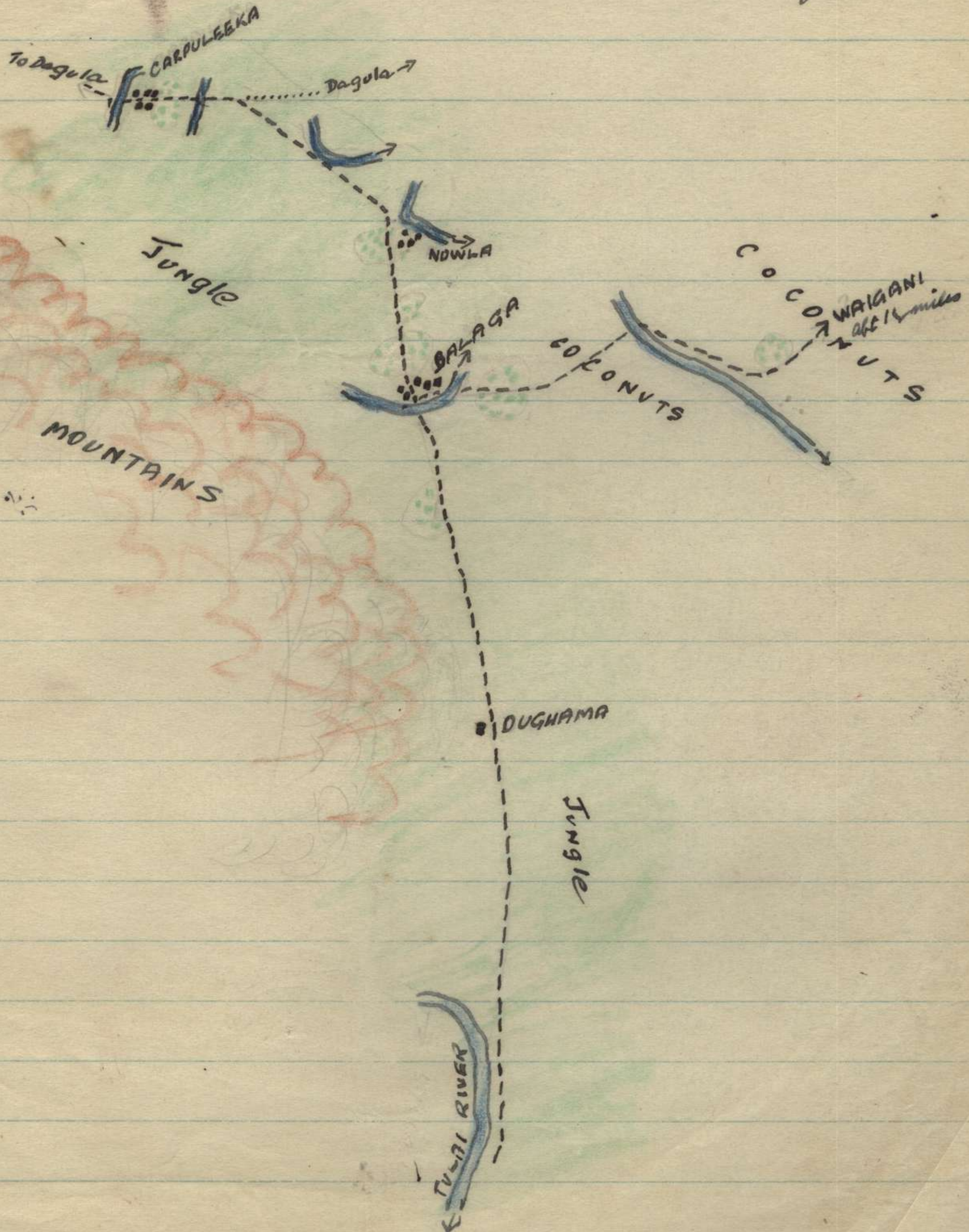
BALAGA AREA

Scale 1 IN TO 1 MILE : 63360



Distances and bearings approximate
Drawn from memory.

J. F. Higg Pt
21 July 1942



25 SATURDAY 176-189

Shony

Copra
South road
Mundy
dis d poli
Mantman

drying & bagging.
Metalling bins, drum, 3 laborers.
to 3/4.
do.

Tractor ambund.
Yark saddls.

Colman. Tractor ambund.

30 Days

JUNE 1927

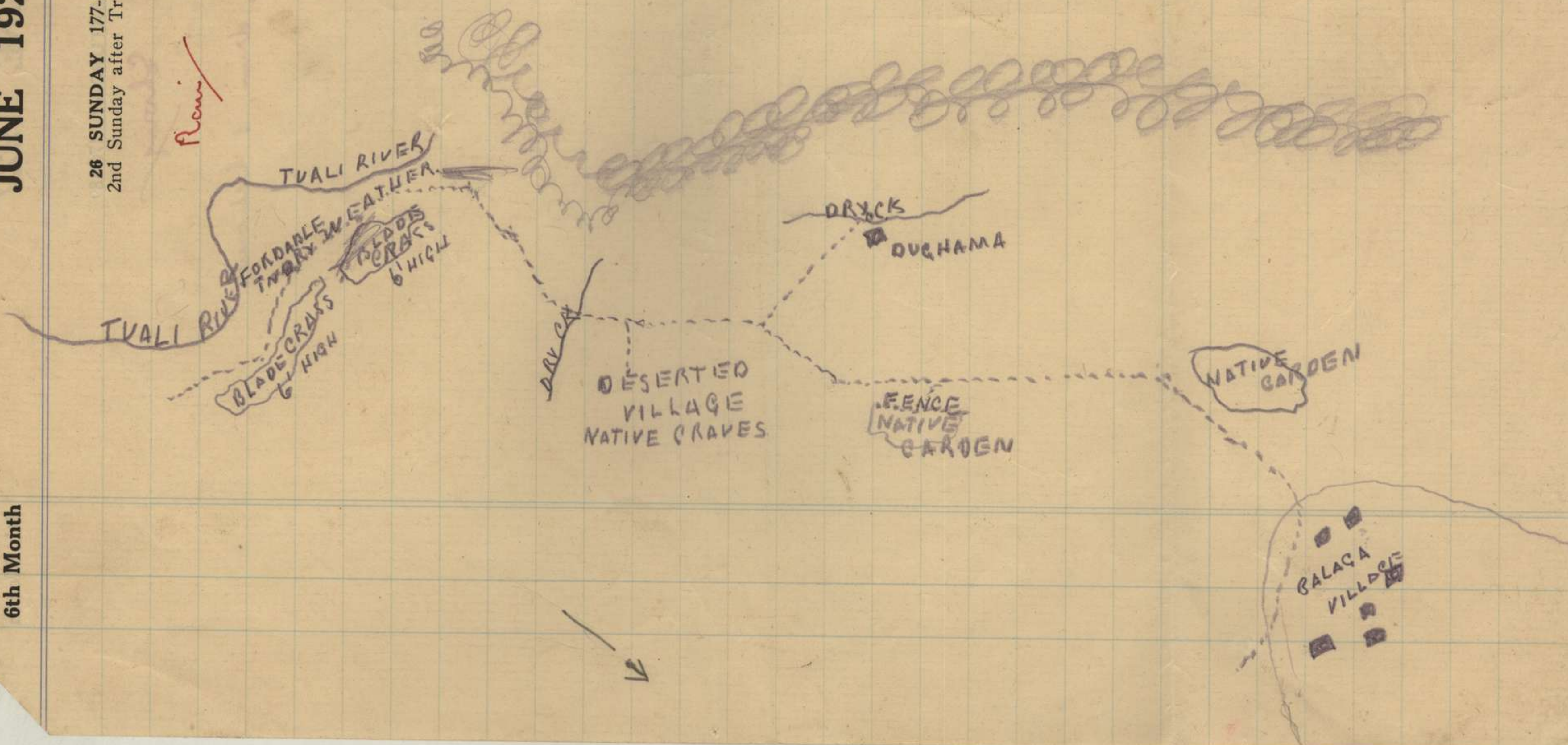
6th Month

26 SUNDAY 177-188
2nd Sunday after Trinity

MADE BY Ch. Gilthor N.G.T.
DATE 21/7/42

BEARINGS
⊕ DISTANCE APPROX. 4 1/2 miles

Rain



6 SATURDAY 218-147

June

Copra

drying & bagging.

weeding

time acc. digging out low grass 20 mts

dis & pits

do

Harmoning

to 18/19.

by line road

by staking with trench 5/9 blocks.

Maintenance

tree & that.

Coleman

Harmoning. + U. car.

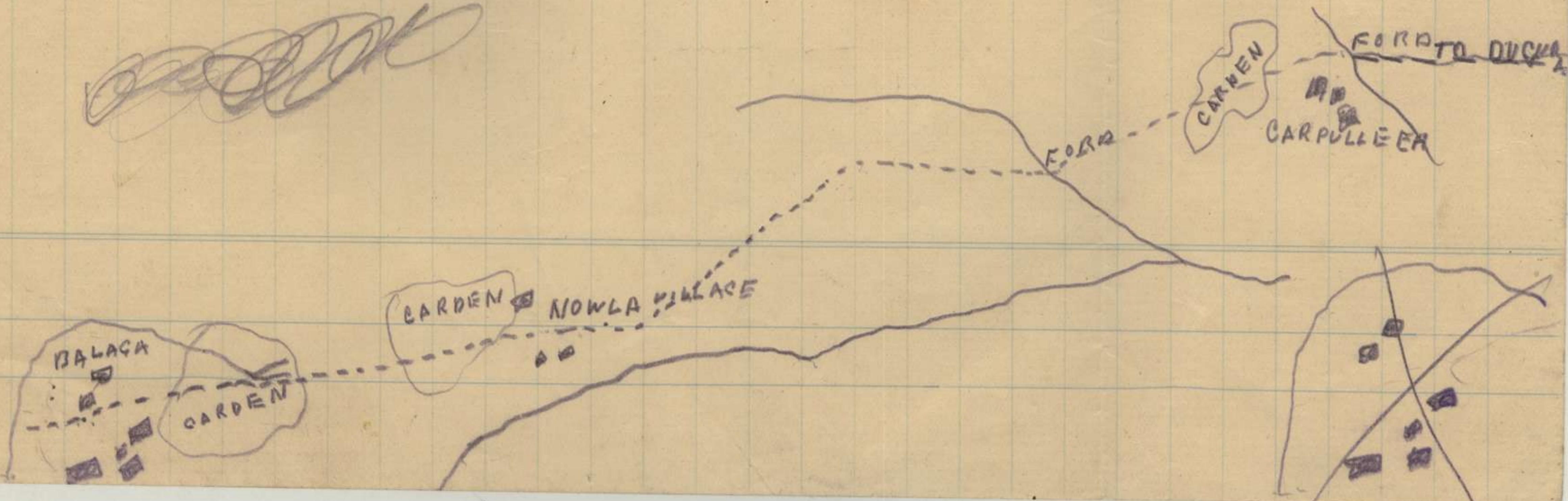
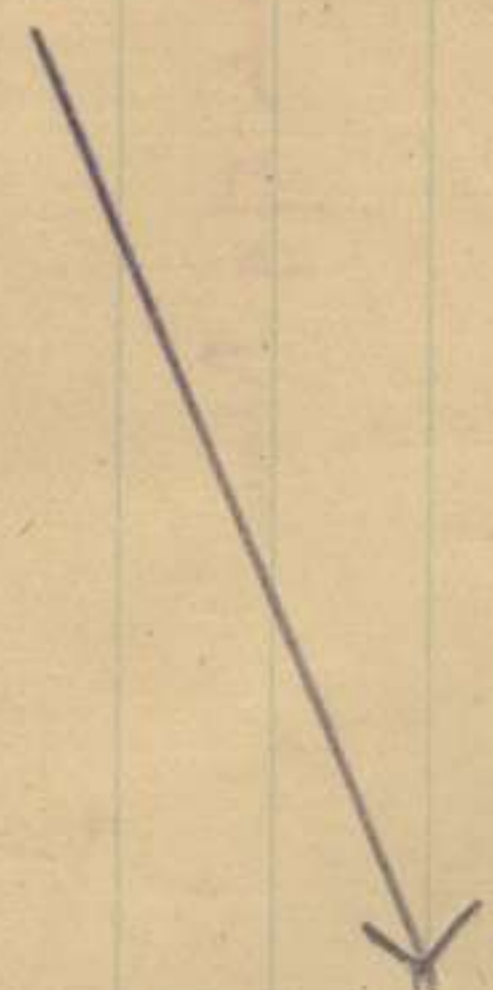
31 Days

AUGUST 1927

8th Month

7 SUNDAY 219-146
8th Sunday after Trinity

dmw



MADE BY *Ch. Gilbrone*
DATE *21/7/42*

BEARINGS APPROX.
DISTANCE $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles

TELEPHONE—

Australian Military Forces—Northern Command.

Please quote this Number when replying.

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Address

Date

PATROL REPORT

UNIT.

Serial No.	Date	Composition of Patrol incl. name of Comd.	Time out	Time in.	Remarks. (Route taken, and anything of military value noticed).

TELEPHONE—

JCM/WEM (19/7)

N^o M3

~~Australian Military Forces—Northern Command.~~

Please quote this Number when replying.

SECRET

Address

Date

19 Jul 42.

Subject : RECCE PATROLS

- 9 Aust Inf Bn.
- 25 Aust Inf Bn.
- 61 Aust Inf Bn.
- det 55 Aust Inf Bn.

Copy to Comd.
I Sec File.

9, 25, and 61 Aust Inf Bns will immediately make contact with dets 55 Aust Inf Bn in their respective areas and take part in joint recce patrols, especially of tracks, in order to acquire local knowledge from tps already in the area.

2. Reports of all patrols will be sent to this H.Q. according to pro forma laid down.

ACK.

J. Mahoney Maj.
Bde Maj. 7 Aust Inf Bde.

Ack. 1650 hrs. 19 July.
L. W. Gander sig.

Lee
19 Jul 42