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Commonwealth Military Forces unit war
diaries, 1939-45 War

Item number: 8/3/63

25 Infantry Battalion

December 1944

-7. FEB. 1945 - 7 FEB. 1945

WAR DIARY

25th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

From 2359 hrs 30 Nov 44 to 1630 hrs 3 Dec 44.

PLACE	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	Remarks and ref to appx, diaries, etc
SAURAGE TRAIL (Ref map TOROKINA 1:63,360).	Dec 1		Today Maj R. Weppner (2IC) and six coy offr's attended an arty shoot by 4 Aust Fd Regt in square 6676 (TOROKINA 1:63,360).	
		1700	SITREP 15 to 011630L. SITNOR	
	2	0710	Lt-Col McKinna (CO), Lt McDonald (IO), and batman departed for HQ 9 Bn in the PIATERAPAIA-SISIVIE area, where they will spend three days observing ops.	
			Overlay showing patrols carried out for week ending 1 Dec 44 W3008 and W3009 - 2 Dec 44 RO Part I No 28 - 2 Dec 44	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX Appx A Appx B
			Sjt J Pynt (of Det Public Relations Sec, HQ 3 Aust Div) called on Int Sec today to obtain particulars of this unit's formation and activities during the early part of the war. He also desired particulars of the senior offr's of the bn. It is expected that members of the Public Relations Sec will periodically visit units in action to obtain stories and photographs of unit activities for publication in home-town newspapers.	
			Capt M. E. Just (OC D Coy) with nine other offr's, attended an arty shoot by 4 Aust Fd Regt in square 6676 (TOROKINA 1:63,360).	
		1700	SITREP 16 to 021630L. CO IO and CO's batman departed this HQ 020710L to observe 9 Bn ops. SITNOR	
	3		Capt Watson (2/8 Aust Cdo Sqn) visited Bn HQ this morning to obtain infm of tracks north of the LARUMA RIVER in the direction of KURAI0 MISSION.	
			An NCO from the Int Sec departed 0700 hrs for HQ 9 Bn at PURUTUPAIA to obtain infm of topography and mapping in the area.	
		1630	SITREP 17 to 031630L. SITNOR	

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WAR DIARY

25th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

From 1630 hrs 3 Dec 44 to 2030 hrs 5 Dec 44.

PLACE	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	Remarks and ref to appx, diaries, etc.
SAURAGE TRAIL	Dec	3	During the day approx seventy members of the bn spent the day at the swimming beach near TOROKINA fighter strip. Tpt to the beach was provided.	
(Ref map TOROKINA 1:63,360).		4	An interchange of offr of this bn and 4 Aust Fd Regt took place today. Lts Moore and Bestel are attached to B Coy and Bdrs Maddern and Page to D Coy. These offr and NCOs will accompany our patrols to gain experience of inf tactics. Lts Hill, Simmons, and Mulry are attached to 4 Aust Fd Regt.	
		1630	SITREP 18 to 041630L. SITNOR Today Lt-Gen S. G. Savige (GOC 2 Aust Corps), Maj-Gen Bridgeford (GOC 3 Aust Div), Brig J. Field (Comd 7 Aust Inf Bde), accompanied by Maj R. Weppner (2IC), visited Bn HQ and later inspected D Coy area. During the afternoon C Coy 61 Bn moved to 9 Bn area to counter possible outflanking movement by an alleged coy of Japs on MT DEACON. A message was received from 7 Bde ordering all tps to remain within their unit lines. At 1915 hrs Maj Summerton (BM) visited Bn HQ and discussed the situation with Maj Weppner. Capt Low (Adjt) visited all coy comds to advise them of the situation.	NOTE: This report, based on infm of a Jap patrol from a native source, was later proved to be exaggerated.
		5 0330	Lt-Col McKinna, Lt McDonald, and batman returned from 9 Bn area.	
		0900	Maj Summerton (BM) visited Bn HQ and gave latest tac R infm from 9 Bn area.	
		1630	SITREP 19 to 051630L. SITNOR	
		2030	WEATHER REPORT to 052030L. Hy rain from 051900L, otherwise fine cloudy nil wind. Lt Darlison and 22 OR (A Coy) were detached to RAAF at PIVA BOMBER strip to provide security guard for an indefinite period.	

W A R D I A R Y

25th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

From 2030 hrs 5 Dec 44

to 1645 hrs 8 Dec 44.

PLACE	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	Remarks and ref to appx, diaries, etc	
SAURAGE TRAIL	Dec	6	1015	Brig J. Field (Comd 7 Bde) visited Bn HQ this morning	
				From today working parties from A C D and HQ Coys commenced clearing a site for the bn LOB area and erecting the necessary improvements.	
				During the afternoon Lt-Col McKinna visited C and D Coy areas.	
			1500	Padre Cahill and Cpl Hogg (Int Sec) returned from 9 Bn area.	
			1650	SITREP 20 to 061640L. SITNOR	
		7	AM	Lt-Col McKinna (CO), Capt Low (Adjnt), Lt McDonald (IO) visited Lt Darlison (OC guard) at RAAF stores dump on PIVA BOMBER strip. While in the area the CO discussed air-ops with the ALO attached to 84 RAAF Sqn (Army Co-op) and gained infm on air sp likely to be of value in the future.	
				Following his visit to the RAAF Sqn the CO was summoned to Bde, where he was instructed to recce an area in the vicinity of junc LARUMA R-JAVA CREEK, suitable for occupation by a bn in the event of a Jap drive down the LARUMA R.	
			1640	SITREP 21 to 071630L. SITNOR	
		8	0745	The following Rgp departed from Bn HQ to recce area junc LARUMA R-JAVA CK:- CO, 2IC, Adjnt, IO, QM, Sig Offr, MGO, Mortar Offr, Tka Offr, OC all coys, RSM and two Int cpls. The party returned approx 1430 hrs.	
			1645	SITREP 22 to 081630L. Bn R gp recced area LARUMA R - JAVA CK junc for bn def posns. otherwise normal patrolling, SITNOR	
				Bde Education Offr lectured all coys and Bn HQ in turn during the morning.	

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W A R D I A R Y

25th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

From 1645 hrs 8 Dec 44 to 1640 hrs 12 Dec 44.

PLACE	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	Remarks and ref to appx, diaries, etc.
SAURAGE TRAIL	Dec	8	REPORT: Recce of 9 Bn Area (Topography and Tracks) 25 Bn Patrol Schedule for week ending 8 Dec 44 (dated 6 Dec) Overlay showing patrols carried for week ending 8 Dec 44	Appx C (original only) Appx D " " Appx E (original only)
		9 1640	SITREP 23 to 091630L. normal patrolling SITNOR	
		10 AM	Capt Webb (IO 11 Bde), accompanied by Capt Timson (IO 7 Bde) visited Bn HQ to gain infm of patrols carried out by B Coy 25 Bn. He advised that 26 Aust Inf Bn would relieve 25 Bn of responsibility for the 148 Regt front from AM 11 Dec.	
		PM	Lt-Col Abbott (CO 26 Bn) accompanied by his IO visited Bn HQ in connection with the relief referred to in preceding entry.	
		1630	SITREP 24 to 101630L. SITNOR	
		11 1630	SITREP 25 to 111630L. 26 Bn today relieved B Coy 25 Bn of its patrolling responsibilities otherwise SITNOR	
		2200	WARNING ORDER - relief of 9 Bn by 25 Bn	Appx F (original only)
		12	25 Bn Patrol Schedule for week ending 15 Dec 44 25 Bn Summary of Trg Syllabus 11-17 Dec 44 W3008 and W3009 - 9 Dec 44 REPORT on Reconnaissance of LARUMA R - JAVA CREEK Area (incl sketch map JAVA CK AREA 1:7920 and fire-plan overlay)	Appx G " " Appx H " " Appx J Appx K
		0830	An R gp under comd Maj Weppner (2IC) and incl all coy and pl comds and six members of the Int Sec, departed from Bn HQ to make a detailed recce of coy areas in JAVA CK area. Detail was added to the existing map of the area and a co-ordinated fire plan compiled. (See Appx K, ref preceding entry.)	
		12 PM	Maj Yott (OC 10 Bty 4 Aust Fd Regt) called on Lt-Col McKinna. 10 Bty will be in sp of this bn in the PIATERIPAIA area.	
		PM	Lt-Col McKinna visited HQ 7 Bde to confer with the BM regarding the relief of the 9 Bn.	

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W A R D I A R Y

25th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

From 1640 hrs 12 Dec 44 to 1630 hrs 16 Dec 44.

PLACE	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	Remarks and ref to appx, diaries, etc.
SAURAGE TRAIL	Dec 12	1640	SITREP 26 to 121630L. ref map TOROKINA 1 inch. B Coy moved to 594972 by 121200L. 2 pl vacated area 594972 and moved to Bn IOB area 597965. A C D coys normal patrolling. A Coy patrol located double set footprints 601014 followed same to junc LARUMA R - JAVA CK 605014. three prints from bare feet one right foot imprint split-toed sandal	
	13	0830	An O gp conference was held at Bn HQ to discuss the relief of the 9 Bn in the PIATERIPAIA area and coy comds were advised the composition of the recce and adv parties moving fwd on 15 and 17 Dec respectively. OO for relief of 9 Bn - from 7 Bde	Appx L (original only) ✓
	14	1630	SITREP 28 to 141630L. normal patrolling SITNOR	
	15	0640	Bn R gp comprising CO, IO, MGO, Mortar offr, coy comds, five members Int Sec, and orderlies, departed for 9 Bn area. RO Part I No 29 - 14 Dec 44	Appx M ✓
		1630	This morning Lt Col Kelly (CO), Maj Callinan (2IC), and Lt Sprilyan (IO) of 31/51 Aust Inf Bn, visited Bn HQ for infm regarding former 129 US Regt front. Responsibility for this sector will be assumed by 31/51 Bn when this unit moves to PIATERIPAIA area. An Int NCO conducted the party over the whole sector from right to left and to each coy HQ where the party was met by the coy 2IC and pl comds. SITREP 29 to 151630L. bn recce party departed this HQ at 150640L for 9 Bn area otherwise normal patrolling SITNOR Sketch map Bn Area Lake KATHLEEN Sector 1:3960	Appx N ✓
	16		W3008 and W3009 Overlay showing patrols carried out week ending 15 Dec 44	Appx O Appx P (original only) ✓
		1630	SITREP 30 to 161630L. SITNOR	

WAR DIARY

25th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

From 1630 hrs 16 Dec 44 to 1035 hrs 19 Dec 44

PLACE	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	Remarks and ref to appx, diaries, etc
SAURAGE TRAIL	Dec	16 1745	At an officers' conference Maj Weppner (2IC) passed on to offr's points of interest from CO's letter received this afternoon. Movement of bn will take place as follows:- 20 Dec - B and C Coys, 1 Pl (many as possible), 2 Pl, 3Pl less 4 dets, 4 Pl, 6 Pl, part of Bn HQ; on 21 Dec - A and D Coys, balance 1 Pl, balance 3 Pl and Bn HQ.	
			WEATHER REPORT for 24 hrs ending 162000L. Day overcast after showers night 15-16. Hy rain commenced 161830L.	
		17 0715	Bn adv party departed Bn HQ for 9 Bn area under comd Capt Low (Adj't). Arrived 0900 hrs and Coys adv parties moved to respective areas.	
		17 1600	Received 25 Aust Inf Bn movement order for relief 9 Bn.	Appx Q
		1630	Sitrep 3 1 to 171630L. At 170715L Bn adv party departed this Hq for 9 Bn area arriving 0900 hrs otherwise SITNOR.	
			Weather report to 172000 hrs - rain throughout night 16/17 Dec. Fine but overcast through day.	
		18 AM	General Sturdee GOC 1 Aust Army accompanied by Major General Bridgford 3 Aust Div visited this Bn area this morning. The General was met by Major Weppner 2 IC who answered questions re coy dispositions and Bn matters in general.	
		1630	Sitrep 32 to 181630L. SITNOR.	
		19 0640	Message from Bde. Text: Issue of Christmas turkey. Inf Bns and 11 Aust Field Ambulance draw their entitlement of Christmas turkey on 23rd Dec between 1500 and 1600 hrs.	Delivered to fwd area by native train Xmas Day.
		1035	Message all tps. Entertainment as follows: Concert party Memorial Park 19 Dec, pictures Memorial 20 Dec.	

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25th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

From 1035 hrs 19 Dec 44

to 21 Dec 44

PLACE	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	Remarks and ref to appx, diaries, etc.
SAURAGE TRAIL	19	1630	Sitrep 33 to 191630L. SITNOR.	
		1630	WO1 Frost S and Cpl McCarthy W of V section Fd Sec arrived Bn HQ 191500L and will be attached to this Bn for forthcoming op.	
Ref map KOWARO 1: 25000		AM	Bn tac HQ moved to Martin's Knoll (672110).	
	20	0630	Convoy comprising B and C Coys, parts HQ Coy and Bn HQ moved from SAURAGE TRAIL, arrived Roadhead 0945 hrs, proceeded to allotted areas for relief 9 Bn.	
		1600	B Coy arrived 9 Bn B Coy posn 677125 (BARTON'S KNOLL).	
	21	0620	Balance of Bn departed SAURAGE TRAIL for roadhead 659095 arriving 0830 hrs.	
			List names given features KOWARO sheet.	Appx R
		0800	Message from C Coy: 15 pl and att pers arrived CHOKO RIDGE 201522L. Stayed night and moved fwd at 210630L for KEENAN'S RIDGE	
		0830	Message from B Coy: Have taken over responsibility B Coy 9 Bn from 210730L	
		0925	Message from C Coy: 15 pl arrived KEENAN'S RIDGE 210810L and took over. Relieved pers departed 210820L.	
		0900	Tac R request for 22 Dec signalled 7 Bde. 1. Gen recce PEARL RIDGE area. 2. Recce suspected Coy HQ area 687127.	
		1145	To 7 Bde. Request for air sp 22 Dec. Ref map KOWARO 1: 25000 Request dive-bombing attack destroy en def posns, trenches feature 680128. NOT co-ordinated with movt own tps who will occupy posns later. Own tps - one Coy ARTY HILL, one Coy rear	

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25th AUSTRALIA N INFANTRY BATTALION

D I A R Y

From 1145 hrs 21 Dec 44

to 2000 hrs 21 Dec 44

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PLACE	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	Remarks and ref to appx, diaries etc.
Ref map KOWARO 1: 25000	21	1145	slopes feature 678125. On approach of AC 2 in mortar parachute flares will be fired from our fwd posns, also white cross on ground immediately fwd own tps. Line of approach arranged by RAAF. Time required - not before 220900L. Own tps SOUTH of target bomb-line ck junc 682125 to river bend 674126. En AA no infm. ALO and pilot visited area this morning and are conversant with posn.	
		1305	Message from 25 Bn IOB: Forwarding 22Dec ACF parcels. ETD 220630	Parcels distributed a ll ranks Xmas Eve - excellent parcels greatly appreciated.
		1505	Message to Coys: Dive bombing attack will take place on feature 680128 at 220900L. Est 10 en in occupation. Part B Coy will occupy posn later. All infm.	
		1515	Message from A Coy: Relief completed 2 11330L. Coy HQ ref 683118.	
		1540	Message from D Coy: Change over effected by 211300L. 18 pl, Coy HQ GEORGE HILL 679114. 16 pl LITTLE GEORGE 680114, 17 pl intermediate.	
		1600	Sitrep 34 to 211600L. 25 Bn relief of 9 Bn complete by 211330L. Locations. Comd Post plus 4 pl MARTIN'S KNOLL 672110. A Coy ARTY HILL 683118. B Coy BARTON'S KNOLL 677125. C Coy less 15 pl roadhead 659095. 15 pl KEENAN'S RIDGE 606 148. D Coy GEORGE and LITTLE GEORGE 679114. 5 pl WILLIAMSON'S KNOLL 663102. Rear Bn Hq and att tps roadhead 659095. SITNOR.	
		1800	Lt Colonel McKinna assumed comd PIATERAPIA - SISIVIE area from Lt Colonel Matthews. Weather report to 212000L. Light shower 211800L- otherwise fine with good visibility.	

25th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION

From 2000 hrs 21 Dec 44 to 1000 hrs 22 Dec 44

PLACE	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	Remarks and ref to Appx diaries et
Ref map KOWARO 1: 25000	21		Message from B Coy: FOO and mortar sjt made ranging recce patrol today. Tasks registered: Arty on 680128, mortars on 682128. En sightings 2.	
	22	0820	Tac R request made to 7 Bde for 23 Dec: 1. Recce probable track 673129 to OLD VIVIE. 2. Recce clearing 680163.	
		0830	Sitrep 35 to 220830L. SITNR.	
			Yesterday an RAAF party visited Bn HQ and A Coy. Members were Major Daniels (ALO), S/Ldr Palmer F/Lt Curtis, P/Os Reynolds and Glassop. During their visit arrangements were made for air strike today (22 Dec).	
		1050	Tac R report following air strike 22 Dec- Results bombing and strafing . 2 dud bombs other 2 on target. Strafing in the main successful. 682128 lean-to and trench . Track as shown from 680138 to 680132. Track from 680132 to top of ridge then EAST along ridge to 682128. At 682128 4 to 6 Japs running towards WEST. Our tps appear to be adv OK. Observe grenades being thrown.	This report from Boomerang pilot.
			Infm to hand concerning en in PEARL RIDGE area: strength est 80/90 all ranks, main strength at 686124, (ambush fwd at 686122), 685127 , 680128 (with ambush fwd at 680127).	
			The en outpost at 680127 had given trouble and inflicted cas on our predecessors and B Coy's attack on 22 Dec aimed at clearing this posn and at the same time to establish a footing on PEARL RIDGE.	
			Following attack by Wirraways (2 effective bombs dropped) a nd arty sp an attack was made at 220936L by 12 pl from BARTON'S KNOLL and the outpost posn was in our hands by 1000 hrs. 10 pl then endeavoured to push further along the narrow ridge, but came under accurate LMG and rifle	

2 5th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

From 1000 hrs 22 Dec

to 1600 hrs 23 Dec.

PLACE	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	Remarks and ref to appx, diaries, etc.
ref map KOWARO 1: 25000	22		fire, sustaining casualties. Owing to the nature of the ground, flanking movts were impracticable, and the pl established a def posn at 680127. Own cas 1 killed 3 wounded. En cas unknown, but a rifle and cap both bespattered with blood were located in the en posn, also an OSMG carried by Pte Barton 9 Bn when killed in this area.	
		1300	Adv HQ C Coy with 2 sections 13 pl established CHOKO RIDGE.	
		1600	Sitrep 36 to 1600 hrs. (Main text B Coy's attack). 10 pl now at 680127, HQ and rem of Coy 677125.	
			Weather report to 222000L. Light rain 1800 to 1830 hrs otherwise fine, good visibility.	
	23	0830	Sitrep 37 to 230830L. At 230605L 10 pl heard movt 100 yds NORTH of posn. Mortars harassed area with unknown results.	
		0849	Tac R request to Bde for 24 Dec- recce area square 6812.	
		1000	A Coy patrol of 1 offr and 4 ors located en in ambush posn 686122. Lt K. Smith was killed. 1 en known killed. (Lt Smith was buried PUP KNOLL at 231500L.	
			Today a party of visiting offrns incl Brig J. Field comd 7 Bde, Lt Colonel Blair OC 11 Aust Fd Amb, Commander Branson RAN, Capt Duckworth RAN, Lt Commander Pennell RAN, Lt Col Haward Royal Marines, Maj Thomas G11 ops LHQ Hollandia, CRE corps (Brig manor) and CRE 3 Div visited comd post and fwd to ARTY HILL posns. (Also to be checked)	
		1600	Sitrep 38 to 231600L. A Coy security patrol 1 offr 4 or came under en rifle fire 686122 at 231000L. Cas. Own 1 offr killed, en 1 killed 1 probably killed. B Coy engaged en posns 681128 with 3 in mortar at 231200L on sounds of en chopping. 10 pl listening post heard screams and chopping ceased.	

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25th Australian Infantry Battalion

From 1600 hrs 23 Dec to 0830 hrs 25 Dec, 44

PLACE	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	Remarks and ref to appx, diaries, etc.
ref map KOWARO 1: 25000	23	1730	Message from Bde: Comd and staff wish offr and men in Bde gp a merry Xmas and a happy New Year	
	24	0830	Sitrep 39 to 240830L. At 240700L single shot fired on A Coy fwd pl. B Coy 232035L en attempted infiltration at 680127 and left flank. En withdrew under fire- our cas Nil, en unknown. C Coy patrol on PM 23 heard voices saw fresh footprints approx 619137.	
		0905	Tac R request to Bde for 25 Dec. Recce area sqs 6712 and 6812, recce knoll 683123 for cleared area and possible en posns.	
		1520	B Coy patrol 1 offr 6 or from ref 679126 to 683127 returned. Sighted 2 en on ridge approx 683128 and heard sounds of chopping 685127.	
		1600	Sitrep 40 to 241600L. Previous entry plus - A Coy patrol of 1 offr 11 or 3 native scouts to feature 686126- 695122, returned 241430L. At 691124 chopping sounds were heard 300 yds to NW. Signs of Jap patrolling seen along PEARL RIDGE to 691124 (furthest point reached)	
		1745	Received message from Bde: Owing to only small stocks of beer being available this area until further shipment arrives from Australia distribution will be on a limited basis only. Each addressee will advise by 2000 hrs number of pers for whom it is desired to draw beer for week ending 30 Dec. Please treat as urgent.	Treated as urgent.
		1520	B Coy patrol from BARTON'S KNOLL Reached track junc 673129 via upper BAWABU RIDGE. NMS, tr reported easy going. Weather report to 2000 hrs: Fine with fair visibility.	
	25	0827	Adv HQ C Coy closed CHOKO RIDGE re-opened roadhead same time.	
		0830	Sitrep 41 to 250830L. At 250150L small party Japs approached A Coy fwd pl. Booby traps sprung and pl engaged with grenades. En heard withdrawing and were engaged by mortars. Cas - own nil en unknown. At 250715L arty engaged en ambush posn 686122.	

25th A USTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION

From 0830 hrs 25 Dec to 16 00 hrs 26 Dec 44

PLACE	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	Remarks and ref to appx, diaries, etc.
XXXX ref map KOWARO 1: 25000	25	0930	Tac R request to Bde. for 26 Dec: 1. Recce top and NE side PEARL RIDGE from 688126 to 673131. 2. Across saddle from ref 688126 to 686120.	
		1230	Tac R report dropped at Comd Post by Boomerang: 1106 hrs 692124 small clearing felled tree with two holes dug out under it. Signs of occupation but N M S. 1120 hrs 681127 tr observed running EAST WEST. along crest N M S. 1145 hrs 714168, 6 15x20 ft huts, 1 15x40 ft hut good condition N M S. Owing to cloud cannot guarantee map ref. 1150 hrs 753184 N M S.	
		1355	Request to 7 Bde for air strike 27 Dec : Result of Tac R report morning 25 Dec- request bombing and strafing mission to destroy en hut concentration 714168. Target infm. 6 huts 15x20 ft 1 hut 15x40 ft. Location own tps. None of own tps fwd of EAST WEST grid line 14.	
		1600	Sitrep 42 to 251600L. HQ C Coy moved from CHOKO RIDGE 620125 to 659095. 1 section 4 pl moved to CHOKO RIDGE. Patrol incl FOO and mortar sjt from OP 683124 reg arty and mortars on 681128 and 680128. En sightings 2 same posn as 24 Dec. 1 running quickly indicated fair tr.	
	26	0830	Sitrep 34 to 260830L. B Coy. At 252345L 10 pl were attacked from rear. Attack repulsed. Own cas 1 killed 3 wounded, en cas unknown. B Coy posns now 11 pl plus 8 & 9 secs 680127. HQ and rest of Coy plus 1 det of mortars, 1 sub sec MMG 677125.	
1405		Verbal from 16 Fd Coy: WO from 16 Fd Coy inspected WP arty Hill and MARTIN'S KNOLL and reports pumping impracticable- suggests 44 Gallon drums for storage at WPs. (Scarcity of water was a problem necessitating much carrying from trickles at 670110 and 683117).		
1600		Sitrep 44 to 261600L. D Coy patrol reced area ARTY RIDGE - PEAR HILL feature for possible L of C through to BARTON'S KNOLL. Reported unsuitable immediate use. (L of C to left flank is by BAWABU RIDGE)		

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25th A USTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION

From 1600 hrs 26 Dec 44 to 15 00 hrs 27 Dec 44

PLACE	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	Remarks and ref to appx diaries etc.
ref map KOWARO 1: 25000	26	1545	This morning Maj Summerton BM 7 Bde visited Comd Post - infm CO that 26 Bn will relieve 25 Bn 5 Jan 45.	
			3 offrs and 8 NCOs of 26 Bn arrived at Comd Post-will remain with this Bn period to change-over.	
		1745	O gp conference w as held at Comd Post. CO outlined plan for attack on PEARL RIDGE to take place on 30 Dec, pointing out that owing to shortage of nat carriers, many of our own tps would have to be used in the next few days getting ammunition, rations and re-organisation stores fwd. Coys were given preliminary patrolling tasks to be implemented immediately.	
	27	0830	Sitrep 45 to 270830L. 12 pl 61 Bn arrived roadhead 261125L and took over def responsibilities rear Bn HQ, otherwise SITNOR.	
		0830	Request to 7 Bde for air strike 28 Dec: Result ground patrol 24 Dec request bombing mission destroy en posns 688124 to 687127. Location own tps. 1 Coy ARTY HILL, 1 Coy BARTON'S KNOLL. Line of approach from SE to NW, morta r smoke will be placed on target. Time of attack not before 1000 hrs not after 1200 hrs. Target bomb-line. Own tps SOUTH of line cr junc 688118 to knoll 683124. Request for Arty R 28 Dec 44- tr junc 678130 from 0800 hrs to 1000 hrs.	
		1000	Warning Order from 7 Bde. 25 Bn will be relieved by 11 Bde unit. Relief to be complete by 1200 hrs 5 Jan 45. Adv party 40 pers fwd to 25 Bn 2 Jan, SISIVIE party 3 Jan. Main body 4 Jan. 10 Bty 4 Fd Reg remaining in area passed to comd 11 Bde on change over. All other units returning TOROKINA. Further orders 28Dec.	
		1500	A Coy patrol found Jap pill-boxes and fox-hole 686121- posn approx 130 yds from fwd pl. Fox-hole dug approx 3 days ago, N M S.	

25th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION

From 1500 hrs 27 Dec 44 to 2000 hrs 28 Dec 44.

PLACE	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	Remarks and ref to appx, diaries etc
ref map KOWARO 1 : 25000	27 1317	1517	B Coy patrol reported having moved as far as very small knoll 678127 - possible approach to enemy's right flank.	
		1535	C Coy Hq and elements of Coy arrived Comd Post en route WERDA'S KNOLL.	
		1600	Sitrep 46 to 271600L. C Coy HQ now located 672110 otherwise SITNOR.	
		1830	1 Jap surrendered to B Coy fwd pl 680127. He was immediately escorted back to Comd Post arriving 272050L. He was in weak condition and was given food and medical attention. Arrangements were made for ATIS representative (billeted at roadhead) to interrogate PW at Comd Post morning 28 Dec.	Reports appx S
		2250	Message from 7 Bde: Air strike of 12 Corsairs led by one Wirraway ETD TOROKINA 281115L approved. Wirraway will contact gp station prior to strike and request parachute flares to indicate fwd tps posn. Wirraway will indicate target to bombing craft by smoke bomb. No mortar smoke target indication required.	
			Weather report to "72000L: Fine with fair visibility.	
	28	0830	Sitrep 47 to 280830L. Text concerns Jap PW.	
		0845	Request for Tac R 7 Bde for 29 Dec: Recce area PEARL RIDGE between grid line 70 and 68 and approaches. Request for Arty R 29 Dec. Targets to be defined to pilot between 690125 and 678130.	
		1100	Two containers with sundry comforts issues were dropped at comd post, generously donated by RAAF personnel.	
			SITREP 48 to 281630L. Patrols contacted enemy posns at 687122 and 685127 and withdrew after drawing fire. Our cas one slightly wounded. C Coy less 15 pl located WERDA'S KNOLL.	
			In today's patrolling tasks two fighting patrols were given specific instrs to pinpoint the enemy defs on (1) the spur connecting ARTY RIDGE and PEARL RIDGE approx 687122 (str 1 offr 10 OR); and (2) PEAR HILL at approx 685127. Shots were exchanged and the enemy posns located. Our cas one slightly wounded, enemy unknown. A patrol from B Coy carried out further recce for likely approaches from west to BAKERS BROW.- reported small knoll astride track at 676131 suitable two-pl perimeter, also enemy activity at 681135 (later found to be on enemy L of C.	

15.

W A R D I A R Y

25th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

From 2000 hrs 28 Dec 44 to 30 Dec 44.

PLACE	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REMARKS AND REF TO APPX, DIARIES, ETC.
	1944			
Ref map KOWARO 1:25,000.	DEC	2000	Request to 7 Bde for air sp 30 Dec. Result of ground patrols reports afternoon 28 dec request bombing and strafing mission destroy enemy posns from 687127 to 685126. TARGET INFM. pillboxes and foxholes on ridge possibly concealed from air by bamboo. LOCATION OWN TROOPS. A Coy ARTY RIDGE 685120 B Coy 680127 C Coy 673 129. LINE OF APPROACH from SW to NE. 3 in mortar sink will be placed near as possible to centre of target on approach of planes. TIME ATTACK REQUIRED. NOT before 0700 hrs NOT later than 0730 hrs. tps will follow in afetr strike. TARGET BOMBLINE. ck junc 687118 to BAKER'S BROW 680128.	
			WEATHER REPORT to 282 ⁰⁰ L. Fine to 281830L when there was lt shower. Visibility throughout day fair to good	
		29	SITREP 49 to 290830L. Text concerns 28 Dec patrols as entered above.	
		1415	Message from 7 Bde. Air strike 30 Dec 44 of 10 CORSAIRS led in by one BOOMERANG ETOT 0710 and completed by 0730 approved.	
		1630	SITREP 50 to 291630L. C Coy patrol established NO enemy from track junc 673129 to 666135. Other C Coy patrol (NOT yet returned) moving to track junc 673129 and return. B Coy less 10 pl moved to WERDA'S KNOLL.	
		1830	Received D Coy patrol report for 28 Dec 44. Fighting Recce Patrol	Appx T
		30	The plan for the attack on PEARL RIDGE was briefly	
			1. A Coy located ARTY HILL to be responsible for clearing north east spur to 686123, then become reserve coy.	
			2. D Coy located GEORGE HILL to move through A Coy and capture hill at 687126.	
			3. C Coy less 15 pl located 672128 to move to track junc 678130 and cut jap L of C. (From patrol and int infm CO's appreciation was that Jap L of C was along track through 678141 to 688126 thence east along PEARL RIDGE.)	
			4. B Coy less 10 Pl - located WERDA'S KNOLL - to use C Coy posn at 678130 as a firm base and capture BAKER'S KNOLL 680128.	

WAR DIARY

25th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

From 30 Dec 44 to

Place	DATE	HOOR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REMARKS AND REF TO APPX, DIARIES, ETC.
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Ref map	1944			
KOWARO	DEC			
1:25,000.	30			

L of C along PEARL RIDGE to be opened by fighting patrols, responsible as under:-

- A Coy from own posn to D Coy;
- D Coy from own posn to B Coy;
- B Coy from own posn to C Coy.

Own posns indicated to fighting patrols by verrey flares.

Pnr pl to commence work on improvement to new L of C as soon as patrols report same clear.

RAPs to be established at ARTY HILL and WERDA'S KNOLL. Med staging post at MARTIN'S KNOLL.

Fwd dumps of amm, rations, and consolidation stores to be est at ARTY HILL and WERDA'S KNOLL.

Adv Bn HQ ARTY HILL.

H hour to be signalled at completion of air strike.

Sp arms and weapons;-

Air strike - bombing and strafing on enemy posns 687126

<u>Arty;</u> <u>Serial</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Target</u>	<u>Map Ref</u>	<u>Rate of Fire</u>	<u>In Sp of</u>
1	H to Hplus 6	R103	686123	3 min normal 3 min rapid	A Coy
2	H plus 20 to H plus 30	V3	678130	normal	C Coy
3	On call	R 107	685127	3 min slow 3 min normal 3 min rapid	D Coy
4	On call	E24	680127	normal	B Coy
5	On call	switch from E 24 (E23)	682127	rapid	B Coy
6	On call	R107	685127	3 min normal 3 min rapid	D Coy

WAR DIARY

17.

25th AUSTRALIAN ~~ENGINEER~~ BATTALION .

From 30 Dec 44 ~~etc~~

PLACE	DATE	HOUR	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION				REMARKS AND REF TO APPX, DIARIES, ETC.
	1945						
Ref map KOWARO 1:25,000	DEC	30	<u>3 in Mortar</u>				
			H plus 20 to H plus 30	Target 678130	Slow	A Coy have one 3 in mortar on call. D Coy do B Coy do	
			<u>MMG</u>				
			H to H plus 6	Target 685127	One sec normal.		
			In reorganisation one sec with B Coy, one MMG with D Coy, one MMG remains with A Coy.				
			Report PEARL RIDGE ops 15 Dec 44 - 5 Jan 45 (This report exceeds duration of this war diary).				Appx U(original only)

WARDIARY

18.

25th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

30 Dec 44

PLACE	DATE	HOUR	Summary of events and information	Remarks and ref to appx, diaries, etc.
	1944			
Ref map KOWARO 1:25,000	DEC 30	0710	Tac bn hq established ARTY RIDGE.	
		-	Light rain which commenced 0515 hrs ceased 0710 hrs and visibility over target area improved sufficiently for air strike to take place.	
		0710	12 Corsairs led in by Boomerang bombed target 687126 from 0710 to 0725 hrs, when strafing commenced. Strafing was completed by 0740 hrs. At least five bombs were duds and two others fell short of the target area, but the strafing appeared to be most accurate.	
			On completion of air strike H hr was signalled - 0800 hrs.	
			<u>A COY</u>	
		0800	A Coy with sp of arty (target R103) and one MMG (target 685126) adv along northeast spur from ARTY RIDGE.	
		0812	10 rnds gunfire and 0834 1 rnd gunfire put down on R103.	
		0840	Coy had adv approx 300 yds and was under hy fire from posn on spur in front and sniper fire from PEAR HILL.	
		0905	Arty and mortar fire engaged jap posns while MMG sprayed snipers' trees.	
		0914	9 pl commenced moving around left flank but owing to the steepness of the ridge and the fact that the slope was covered by enemy fire the adv was soon held up. Snipers on PEAR HILL continued to fire whenever our tps moved, although sprayed periodically by MMG.	
		1018	Arty and mortar fire was brought down on PEAR HILL in an endeavour to knock out the snipers. At least four shells burst in a large tree, knocking off several large limbs. A Coy reported that two bodies fell to the ground.	

25th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

30 Dec 44

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of events and information	Remarks and ref to appx, diaries, etc.
Ref map KOWARO 1:25,000	1944			
	DEC	1030	A Coy reported almost on objective but still under hy fire. Cas - enemy unknown; own one killed four wounded.	
	30	1100	A Coy again attempted to move fwd with sp one sec MMG but sustained more cas and were held up by hy fire.	
		1135	CO moved fwd to A Coy.	
		1330	8 pl endeavoured to adv around right flank but were exposed to enemy fire on a steep slope and could not move fwd.	
		1350	CO returned to tac hq. A Coy cas now reported 2 killed 4 wounded 1 missing.	
		1537	A coy ordered to reorganise, the fwd pl to hold ground won during the day.	
		1725	7 pl digging in at 687124. 8 and 9 pls withdrew to original coy perimeter on ARTY RIDGE.	
		<u>C COY. less 15 pl .</u>		
		0814	C Coy less 15 pl reached 673129 but did not locate track leading east, and commenced cutting a track.	
		1048	Coy reported about 100 yds from objective at track junc 678130 surprised three japs in hut about 20 yds on north slope of ridge. Two Japs were killed and one wounded, who escaped with an LMG.	
		1104	Coy reached objective but came under fire from a JUKI firing from approx 678129.	
			Patrols to both flanks inflicted cas on enemy patrols but failed to disable or capture Juki. Juki fired spasmodically on coy posn during afternoon. Cas - enemy 2 killed (additional); own 1 wounded.	
			MMG from B Coy posn (677131) unsuccessfully engaged Juki, fire being directed by an observer in C Coy's fwd posns.	

WAR DIARY

25th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

30 Dec 44

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of events and information	Remarks and ref to appx, diaries, etc
	1944			
Ref map KOWARO 1:25,000	DEC	30	Huts previously mentioned 20 yds north of objective were searched and much med eqpt and documents were recovered. This is considered to be coy aid post.	
		1537	Coy ordered to dig in on objective. Total cas for day - Enemy 4 killed 1 wounded; own 1 wounded. Six rifles and 1 sword were captured. <u>B COY less 10 pl.</u>	
		0800	Coy departed WERDA'S KNOLL and at 1255 was reported to be at 677131 (100 yds NW of C Coy). Patrols were sent out from this posn to recce route of attack on BAKERS BROW from the SW. No contact was made.	
		1537	As B C Coy was not firmly established at track junc 678130 B Coy was ordered to dig in at 677131 and launch their attack on BAKER'S BROW next day. <u>D COY.</u>	
			D Coy moved from GEORGE and LITTLE GEORGE to ARTY RIDGE before H Hr. During the day Capt Just (OC) reced A Coy's fwd pl posn but D Coy did not attack as A Coy was still under hy enemy fire on their objective (D Coy's start line).	
		1537	D Coy was ordered to return to GEORGE and LITTLE GEORGE and be prepared to attack on the 31st.	
			<u>Other items:-</u>	
		0745	SITREP 51 to 300745L. bn comd post established 684118 at 300710L. bombing and strafing commenced 300710L finished 300740L. H hr set at 300800L	

25th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

30 Dec 44

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of events and information	Remarks and ref to appx, diaries, etc.
	1944			
Ref map KOWARO 1:25,000	DEC 30	0815	Maj Jackson (OC HQ Coy) arrived at comd post.	
		0823	Maj Summerton (BM) arrived at comd post.	
		1045	Maj Weppner (2IC) arrived at comd post from LOB gp.	
		1440	Maj Summerton and Maj Jackson departed for rd head.	
		1600	SITREP 52 to 301600L. A coy following bombing and strafing attacked along NE spur ARTY HILL at 300800L and reached 686124 at 300914L. encountered accurate sniper fire. fwd pl pinned down. patrols to each flank failed to clear posns to enable A coy's fwd movement. C Coy in posn at 679130 by 301430L. C Coy encountered opposition incl LMG before reaching objective. killed 4 enemy incl sjt and captured 6 rifles 1 sword med kit and documents. B coy situated 678130 and patrolling preparatory to attack on feature 680128. total cas for day. own 2 killed 5 wounded 1 badly wounded not yet brought in. enemy 4 killed	
		1730	Tac hq moved back to MARTIN'S KNOLL.	
		1745	Message to 7 Bde. Request for air sp 31 Dec 44. ref map KOWARO 1:25,000. result tac R morning 30 Dec request bombing and strafing mission destroy enemy huts 672174. TARGET INFM. two well concealed huts one dug in side of feature. location own tps. none west grid line 14. time attack required NOT before 1000 hrs NOT after 1500 hrs. TARGET BOMBLINE. ck junc 686144 to track junc and ck junc 666139.	
			WEATHER REPORT to 302000L. raining from dawn to 300650L with poor visibility. Visibility cleared sufficiently to enable air strike at 0710 hrs. Throughout day cloudy but visibility good at low altitude.	

25th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

30 - 31 Dec 44.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of events and information	Remarks and ref to appx, diaries, etc.
	1944			
Ref Map KOWARO 1:25,000	DEC 30	2250	C Coy repulsed enemy counter-attack from south and SE. Enemy used LMG and grenades. The enemy was active outside the coy perimeter during the night but did not launch another attack. Cas:- enemy unknown; own nil.	
			<p>On the night of the 30th the plan for the attack was changed; it was decided that D Coy's attack would be made from PEAR HILL. Although the route from ARTY HILL to PEAR HILL is a difficult one it was considered that it provided a better approach to PEARL RIDGE than through A Coy's fwd pl.</p>	
	31		<u>D COY.</u>	
		0830	Coy passed through A Coy's perimeter on ARTY HILL and commenced cutting their way through fallen bamboo which covered the slopes of ARTY RIDGE and PEAR HILL. Going was fairly difficult.	
		1200	Coy reported posn 683122.	
		1500	Coy reported posn on top of PEAR HILL 683125 - H hr for coy attack set at 1525 hrs.	
		1525	Bty fired concentration on objective 685127 - 3 min slow, 3 min normal, 3 min rapid. A Coy created a diversion on their sector to cover D Coy's forming up and drew by enemy fire.	
		1534	D Coy attacked along saddle against very light opposition and by 1615 hrs coy was established on objective and consolidating.	
		1625	D Coy reported one pl exploiting to high ground about 200 yds east. Pl formed a perimeter on this posn. Coy was astride a well-defined track running along PEARL RIDGE. Native carriers stated that this was the "Big road" - the NUMA NUMA trail.	
			<p>In their attack D Coy killed two enemy and captured a TAISHO 11 LMG and several rifles. Many documents were recovered from pits and from huts on north slope of PEARL RIDGE.</p>	

25th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

31 Dec 44

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of events and information	Remarks and ref to appx, diaries, etc.
Ref map KOWARO 1:25,000.	1944 DEC 31		<p>The enemy had an extensive def posn on D Coy's objective, incl many pits constructed within the last two or three days. Earlier posns were well-constructed, covered pits linked up by deep comm trenches. Few of these had been occupied for some time and it is considered that the enemy withdrew men from this posn to reinforce his posn on NE spur facing A Coy.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>C COY less 15 pl.</u></p> <p>0600 - Coy still under fire from JUKI and unable to adv. Arty failed to dislodge enemy.</p> <p>0830</p> <p>1030 A patrol of 1 offr and 3 OR, which departed 0830 hrs to locate gun, returned without reaching objective. Our cas one OR killed, pffr (Lt McLeod) wounded, remaining on duty. Enemy cas unknown.</p> <p>Efforts were made to bring fire from grenade discharger on to JUKI from left flank of C Coy's posn, and met with success.</p> <p>1135 Coy reported that JUKI was out of action and the crew had been killed. The JUKI had been knocked out of its line of fire and it was believed to have been rendered unserviceable. 3 enemy were killed by grenades but when an attempt was made to recover the JUKI one of our men was killed.</p> <p>1230 14 pl plus one sec moved around right flank and unsuccessfully attacked enemy posn. Cas:- enemy unknown; own 5 wounded (incl 3 remaining on duty).</p> <p>1530 Coy reported still in posn on track junc and preparing to occupy posn for the night.</p> <p>Cas for day:- Enemy 3 killed; own 2 killed, 6 wounded (incl 4 remaining on duty).</p>	

WAR DIARY

25th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

31 Dec 44

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of events and information	Remarks and ref to appx, diaries, etc.
	1944			
Ref map KOWARO 1;25,000	DEC 31		<u>B COY</u> 676127	
		0830	Coy HQ and 12 pl moved to ck junc 677131 and at 1005 reported they were adv cautiously up spur towards BAKER'S BROW. 11 pl remained at 677131 and 10 pl at 680127.	
		1545	12 pl and coy hq had infiltrated jap posns unobserved and were situated just below jap posns on top of BAKERS BROW at 681129 with more Jap posns on right flank between 12 pl and 10 pl. In the fighting which followed 7 Japs (incl 1 offr) were killed and it is estimated 4 or 5 escaped, some being wounded. A sec patrol was sent to the right flank to link up with 10 pl which attacked up the track. At 1645 hrs the pls linked up, having killed three japs. 10 pl joined 12 pl and coy hq and formed a perimeter on the south slope of BAKER'S BROW, ixpi while still under enemy rifle fire from posns on steep slope above. 11 pl occupied 10 pl's old posn at 680127. Cas for day:- enemy 10 killed; own 2 wounded.	
	31		<u>Other items;</u>	
		0830	SITREP 53 to 310830L. at 301145L and 3103 ⁰¹ enemy counter-attacked C coy posn but were driven off. our cas NIL enemy unknown. 15 pl situated KEENAN'S RIDGE reports that at 302200L unidentified plane flew around for one hour at point north of pl posn. dropped two flares then flew to NE	
		1234	Message from 7 Bde. ref map TOROKINA RIVER hasty terrain sheet on return from present posn 25 aust inf bn will occupy area vacated by 164 US Regt. extends from 13452173 to 13312195. role perimeter defence.	

WAR DIARY

25

25th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

31 Dec 44 to 1 Jan 45

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of events and information	Remarks and ref to appx, diaries, etc.
	1944			
Ref Map KOWARO 1:25,000	DEC 31	1630	<p>SITREP 54 to 311630L. at 310815L patrol of 1 offr 3 OR moved out to neutralise LMG holding up C Coy adv at 679130. patrol failed coming under fire from LMG. at 311200L LMG knocked out by rifle grenades. at 311230L 14 pl plus one sec unsuccessfully attacked LMG Posn 4 OR being wounded by enemy covering posn. at 310830L D coy commenced adv up PEAR HILL feature for attack on 676126. objective reached by 311615L against light opposition. D coy consolidating position. A coy gave diversionary fire to assist D Coy in final adv. B Coy. 12 pl at 311000L began adv up spur from 677127 and got amongst enemy on BAKER'S BROW without being observed. fighting in progress. 311630L. cas known. own 2 killed 6 wounded enemy 4 killed.</p> <p>WEATHER REPORT to 312000L. rain and low fog to 310810L when weather cleared. good visibility for rest of day</p> <p><u>A COY</u></p> <p>010200 0430 Enemy made light attack on 7 pl without success. Cas:- enemy unknown; own nil.</p> <p><u>C COY</u></p> <p>Enemy made several attempts to infiltrate coy perimeter between 312100L and 010300L. 3 dead japs were found outside wire at first light. Own cas nil.</p> <p><u>D COY</u></p> <p>One Jap killed outside perimeter at first light.</p>	

WAR DIARY

26.

25th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTALION.

1 Jan 45.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of events and information	Remarks and ref to appx, diaries, etc.
Ref map KOWARO 1:25,000	1945 JAN 1	0830	SITREP 55 to 010830L. enemy attempted light attacks on A coy right flank from 010200L to 010430L. own cas nil enemy unknown. by nightfall 31 dec 10 and 12 pls and coy hq had consolidated at 680127. 11 pl at 680126 rear coy hq plus 3 sec plus mortar 687125. enemy counter-attacked C coy between 312100L and 010300L spasmodically. 3 dead enemy found outside wire this morning also JUKI HMG captured. C coy cas 2 wounded. D Coy had quiet night. one enemy killed on coy perimeter at first light	This JUKI had previously been reported as an LMG.

At the beginning of 1945 PEARL RIDGE was virtually in our hands. The Jap L of C had been cut and our posn astride his L of C held in the face of determined counter-attacks. It remained only to clear the isolated enemy gps between our coy localities in order to open our new L of C from ARTY HILL to the left flank.

25 Aust Inf Bn - Report on Ops PIATERAPAIA area 15 Dec 44-5 Jan 45 .
 W3008 and W3009 - 23 Dec 44
 W3008 and W3009 - 30 Dec 44
 (NOTE: It will be seen that on the 30th, the day on which the attack was launched against PEARL RIDGE, the strength of the bn fwd of the TOROKINA PERIMETER was approx 240 less than the WE for an inf bn (tropical scale.)
 Enlargement KOWARO 1:25,000
 C Coy area and dispositions PEARL RIDGE
 Sketch map Jap ambush posn - B Coy area
 Overlay for KOWARO 1:25,000 - Patrols 22-29 Dec 44.

Appx U
 Appx V
 Appx W

 Appx X
 Appx X (i)
 Appx X (ii)
 Appx Y

[Handwritten mark]

20 Jan 45.

[Signature]
 Lt-Col,
 CO 25 Aust Inf Bn.

25 AUST INF BN

REPORT ON OPERATIONS

PIATERAPAIA AREA

15 DEC 1944 TO 5 JAN 1945

19 MAR 1945

Ref Map KOWARA 1:25000

PART 1 - RECORD OF EVENTS

- 13 DEC 44 7 Aust Inf Bde OO No 3 received advising that 25 Bn would relieve 9 Bn in the SISIVIE - PIATERAPAIA area.
- 15 DEC 44 Normal R Group plus Rifle Coy Comds left TOROKINA 0640 hrs.
- 17 DEC 44 Adv Party (40 all ranks) left TOROKINA 0715 hrs.
- 20 DEC 44 B and C Coys plus portions of Bn HQ and HQ Coy moved to Roadhead.
15 Pl of C Coy moved from there to CHOKO RIDGE en route to relieve the Pl of 9 Pl at SISIVIE, while B Coy moved via MARTIN'S KNOLL & BAWABU RIDGE to BARTON'S KNOLL to relieve B Coy 9 Bn. (Although carrying full gear, incl blankets, B Coy put up the remarkable performance of covering the whole distance and completing the relief by 1600 hrs the same day).
- 21 DEC 44 Balance of 25 Bn moved from TOROKINA and relieved the remainder of 9 Bn.
Relief was complete by 211430 hrs, and comd passed from Lt Col Matthews to Lt Col McKinna at 211800L.
At this time, 25 Bn was disposed as under:
- | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|--------|
| Comd Post plus 4 Pl | MARTIN'S KNOLL | 672110 |
| A Coy | ARTY HILL | 683118 |
| B Coy | BARTON'S KNOLL | 677125 |
| C Coy less 15 Pl | Rd Head | 659095 |
| 15 Pl | KEENAN'S RIDGE | 606148 |
| D Coy | GEORGE HILL &
LITTLE GEORGE | 679114 |
| 5 Pl | WILLIAMSON'S
KNOLL | 665102 |
| Rear Bn HQ and att tps | Rd Head | 659095 |

At time of take-over, enemy strength on PEARL RIDGE was estimated at 80 to 90 all ranks (3 Div Int Summary).
An enemy outpost posn at 680126 had given trouble and inflicted casualties on our predecessors, and it was decided that this should be cleared as soon as possible, and at the same time an attempt made to establish a footing on PEARL RIDGE. Following bombing by Wirraways (2 effective bombs dropped) and arty sp, an attack was made at 220936 hrs by 12 Pl (Lt CHESTERTON) from BARTON'S KNOLL, and the outpost posn was in our hands by 1000 hrs. 10 Pl (Lt SIMMONS) then endeavoured to push further along the narrow ridge, but came under accurate LMG and rifle fire, and sustained casualties. Owing to the nature of the ground, flanking movements were impracticable, and the Pl established a def posn at 680127.
Own casualties - 1 killed, 3 wounded. Enemy casualties unknown, but a rifle and cap, both covered in blood were located in the enemy posn, also an OSMG carried by Pte BARTON, 9 Bn when killed in this area.

For the next week all Coys were engaged in extensive patrolling to gain infm for a major attack on PEARL RIDGE, which was fixed for 30 Dec 44.

The following are the more important events:-

- 23 DEC 44 (a) Patrol of 1 Offr and 4 ORs from A Coy located enemy in ambush posn 686122. Lt K. SMITH was killed. One enemy known killed. (Lt SMITH was buried PUP KNOLL at 231500L).
- (b) B Coy established OP in tree at 678125 and engaged enemy posn with 3 in Mortar fire. Listening post heard screams and other indications of casualties having been inflicted on enemy.
- (c) At 2035 hrs, booby traps fwd of 10 Pl perimeter were sprung, and enemy launched a counter-attack - repulsed. Enemy again counter-attacked several hrs later, and this was also beaten off. Casualties - own NIL, but some damage to weapons. Enemy - not known.
- 24 DEC 44 (a) B Coy patrol moved on to PEARL RIDGE and located enemy at 683127 and 685127.
- (b) Another patrol from B Coy reached track junc 673129, gaining infm regarding routes from WEST.
- 25 DEC 44 (a) At 0150 hrs, a small party of enemy attempted to penetrate A Coy perimeter at 685119, but were driven off.
- (b) Lt CHESTERTON located an OP on PEARL HILL from which observation could be obtained ^{portion of} on BAKER HILL. He later took Arty FOO and Mortar Sjt to this OP. Fire was brought down on enemy posns.
- (c) At 2345 hrs, enemy attacked 10 Pl, but were repulsed with casualties unknown. Own casualties 1 killed, 3 wounded, (one of whom died at ADS).
- 26 DEC 44 (a) Patrol from C Coy left on 4 day recce of western end of PEARL RIDGE, moving out via MT FRY 618133 to 619139, 637143, 650145, 673129, thence SOUTH along BAWABU RIDGE to MARTIN'S KNOLL.
- (b) 1745 hrs, O Gp conference at which CO outlined plan for attack on PEARL RIDGE to take place on 30 Dec, and pointed out that owing to shortage of native carriers, many of our own tps would have to be used in the next few days getting amm, rations and reorganisation stores fwd.
- 27 DEC 44 A Coy patrol probed enemy def fwd of ARTY HILL. B Coy patrol reached 678128 and reported possible approach to enemy posns on BAKER HILL. 1830 hrs a Jap surrendered to B Coy at 680127. He was escorted back to the Comd Post, arriving at 2050 hrs, kept in custody overnight, and interrogated by Sjt KIMURA on the morning of 28 Dec. Tps from A and D Coys carried fwd amm and reorganisation stores to ARTY HILL.
- 28 DEC 44 Patrols were sent from A and D Coys respectively with specific instructions to pin point the enemy defences on (i) the spur connecting ARTY HILL and PEARL RIDGE, and (ii) PEAR HILL. Both patrols were successful and drew fire from enemy bunkers and pill boxes at 686122 and 685127. Shots were exchanged, and the

enemy was coaxed into disclosing his posns. Enemy casualties were unknown; one of our troops wounded. Patrol from B Coy carried out further recon of western approaches to BAKER HILL and reported enemy activity at 681135 (later found to be on Jap L of C). C Coy less 15 Pl moved from Rd Head to WERDA'S KNOLL, their responsibilities at Rd Head being taken over by 12 Pl 61 Bn. 15 Pl remained at KEENAN'S RIDGE. Tps from D Coy and Tk A Pl carried fwd amm and stores to ARTY HILL.

29 DEC 44 C Coy patrols recon area in vicinity of 673128, then C Coy less 15 Pl moved northwards to 672128 and established a perimeter def. **B Coy less 10 Pl moved from BARTON'S KNOLL to WERDA'S KNOLL. 10 Pl remained in posn at 680127 in contact with enemy.** Tk A Pl and Pnrs carried amm and stores fwd to WERDA'S KNOLL.

30 DEC 44 The plan for the attack on PEARL RIDGE was briefly:-

1. A Coy - located ARTY HILL - to be responsible for clearing NORTH-EAST SPUR to 686123, then becomes res Coy.
2. D Coy - located GEORGE HILL - to move through A Coy and capture hill at 687126.
3. C Coy less 15 Pl - located 672128 - to move to track junc 678130 and cut Jap L of C. (From patrol and int infm, CO's appreciation was that Jap L of C was along track through 678141 to 673126 thence EAST along PEARL RIDGE).
4. B Coy less 10 Pl - located WERDA'S KNOLL - to use C Coy posn at 678130 as a firm base and capture BAKER HILL 680128

L of C along PEARL RIDGE to be opened by fighting patrols. Responsibility as under:-

A Coy from own posn to D Coy;
D Coy from own posn to B Coy;
B Coy from own posn to C Coy;

Own positions indicated to fighting patrols by very flares.

Pnr Pl to commence work on improvement of new L of C as soon as patrols report same clear.
RAPs to be established at ARTY HILL and WERDA'S KNOLL. Med staging post at MARTIN'S KNOLL.

Fwd dumps of amm, rations, and consolidation stores to be established at ARTY HILL and WERDA'S KNOLL.

Adv Bn HQ - ARTY HILL

H Hour to be signalled at completion of air strike.

Supporting arms and weapons:-

Air Strike

Bombing and strafing on enemy posns 687126 (approx 0700 hrs).

<u>Arty</u>	<u>Serial</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Target</u>	<u>Map Ref</u>	<u>Rate of Fire</u>	<u>In Sp Of</u>
	1	H to H plus 6	R103	686123	3 min normal 3 min rapid	A Coy
	2	H plus 20 to H plus 30	V3	678130	normal	C Coy
	3	On call	R107	685127	3 min slow 3 min normal 3 min rapid	D Coy
	4	On call	E24	680127	normal	B Coy
	5	On call (Switch from E24)	E23	682127	rapid	B Coy
	6	On call	R107	685127	3 min normal 3 min rapid	D Coy

3 In Mortar

H plus 20 to H plus 30 target 678130 slow
 A Coy have one 3 in Mortar on call
 D Coy " " " " " " "
 B Coy " " " " " " "

MMG

H to H plus 6 1 sec normal on target 685126

In reorganisation -

- 1 sec with B Coy
- 1 MMG with D Coy
- 1 MMG remains with A Coy.

Bombing and strafing was completed by 0745 hrs and H Hr was signalled as 0800.

The fwd Pl of A Coy advanced 350 yds, and came under intense fire, sustaining some casualties. Efforts were made to out-flank the enemy, which were well dug in in a razor-backed ridge, but owing to the steepness of the sides of the ridge, and the fact that they were commanded by the enemy posns, the second Pl was soon in difficulties and at 1430 hrs was extricated with difficulty. Attempts were made to encircle the enemy from both sides, but failed. A Bren gunner crawled to within 5 feet of an enemy pill box, but was killed, others became casualties from grenades and sniper fire, our casualties being 3 killed and six wounded at this stage.

At 1600 hrs, A Coy were ordered to reorganise, and the fwd Pl to dig in at the point where it was halted.

In the meantime C Coy had made very slow progress, having had to cut their way through the jungle for some distance, and did not establish themselves on their objective until 1445 hrs. A JUKI also gave trouble. 6 enemy were killed and 1 wounded who escaped. Own cas - 1 wounded.
 The Coy was ordered to maintain its posn and dig in.

B Coy were instructed to form a perimeter def and launch their attack on the next day.

On the evening of 30 Dec, plan was changed, in that D Coy would attack their objective via PEAR HILL. Although this entailed a long and difficult climb in the approach, it was considered that casualties would be much lighter than if attacking along NORTH EAST SPUR.

C Coy were counter-attacked at 302250 hrs - enemy repulsed.

31 DEC 44

A Coy created a diversionary attack to keep enemy attention occupied on NORTH EAST SPUR while D Coy approached their objective via PEAR HILL. By 1615 hrs they had taken their objective and commenced digging in at 685127, while one Pl exploited towards A Coy and established a def posn for the night at 688128.

Own cas - NIL. Enemy cas - 2 killed.

(It appears as if the Jap reinforced his positions in front of A Coy with men from this sector).

On the left flank, C Coy were subjected to Rifle and HMG fire for most of the morning, and all attempts to advance were frustrated until the JUKI was put out of action by rifle grenades and LMG fire. Own cas - 5 wounded (1 died later). Enemy cas - 4 killed.

B Coy commenced their attack at 1000 hrs and gained their objective by 1625 hrs, and dug in at 680128 while still being subjected to spasmodic fire from a few Japs - 10 enemy killed incl 1 officer. 10 Pl then attacked up the track, killing three enemy and establishing contact with B Coy HQ.

1 JAN 45.

0200 hrs to 0430 hrs counter-attack on A Coy.

0010 hrs to 0300 hrs counter-attack on C Coy.

Own cas - 2 wounded. Enemy cas - 10 killed.

D Coy killed 1 Jap while establishing contact with A and B Coys.

By 1400 hrs PEARL RIDGE from 686124 to 673130 was clear of enemy and the L of C open to all Coys via ARTY HILL. Pns immediately commenced work on improving this L of C.

2 JAN 45

Fighting Patrols from D Coy and C Coy established that PEARL RIDGE was clear of enemy from 699122 to 660133.

Resce Patrol along Jap L of C - now definitely established running NNE from 678130 - saw 12 Japs at 680133 in prepared positions. Enemy was engaged by fire from 3 in Mortar - results unknown.

Further patrols on 3 and 4 Jan reported enemy still in def posn 680133.

25 Bn was relieved by 26 Bn on 4 Jan 1945 and Comd passed to Lt Col Abbott at 1510 hrs.

25 Bn returned to TOROKINA Jan 4 and 5, 1945

NOTES

1. Casualties

Own casualties for period of ops were:-

Killed in Action	-	1 Offr	7 ORs
Died of Wounds	-		2 ORs
Wounded in Action	-	2 Offrs	23 ORs

3 Offrs 32 ORs

Enemy casualties - 34 killed, 1 PW.

The above figures are the actual number of bodies recovered and buried.

2. Pnr Pl 25 Bn, which had already spent 4 weeks in the area with 9 Bn, continued with its splendid work until 4 Jan 45, when it was relieved.
3. All patrols, apart from normal security patrols, were set down by Bn.
4. The medical set-up was splendid.
5. Arty sp left nothing to be desired. Shooting was most accurate, and co-op excellent.
6. Comms were very good, and at no time was any Coy out of touch by telephone with Bn; arty lines being used in cases of emergency.
7. The 'Q' side was handled well, and reflected great credit on the QM.
8. Captured enemy equipment included:-
 - 1 JUKI HMG
 - 1 Type 96 LMG
 - 2 NAMBU LMGs
 - 30 Rifles
 - 2 Type 89 grenade dischargers
 - 2 Pns Binoculars
 - Medical stores and instruments
 - Numerous documents, and a few maps
 - Several swords

PART II

The main lesson learned was from the op on 30 Dec 44, when a Coy lost the impetus of its attack and could not get going again. Many lessons were learned from the various supply problems; in jungle warfare, 80% of the difficulties are on the 'Q' side.

This small op was most valuable in shaking the whole unit down to an organised team, and refreshing memories regarding points brought out in previous training.

PART III

1. Weapons

The PIAT would be most useful in clearing prepared enemy positions which hold up an advance which is confined to a very narrow front. e.g. pill boxes and bunkers covering razor backed ridges.

2. Amn

(a) The phosphorous hand grenade - Type 77 - is too dangerous to the thrower in the jungle. The American type, which has a 4 to 5 sec delay, and operates similarly to our 36 grenade, is much safer. It allows the thrower to take cover after throwing, and is much better for dropping into enemy pill-boxes. The tape and pin release on our own grenade is very uncertain when dropping into pill-boxes, and partial removal of the tape is dangerous.

(b) All amn should be packed in native carrier loads of 35 to 40 lbs. Cases of amn vary in weight from 24 lbs (36 grenades) to 84 lbs (carton-packed .303) and 102 lbs (3,200 rds 9 mm).

It is uneconomical in natives, and is awkward to handle into fwd posns.

3. Equipment

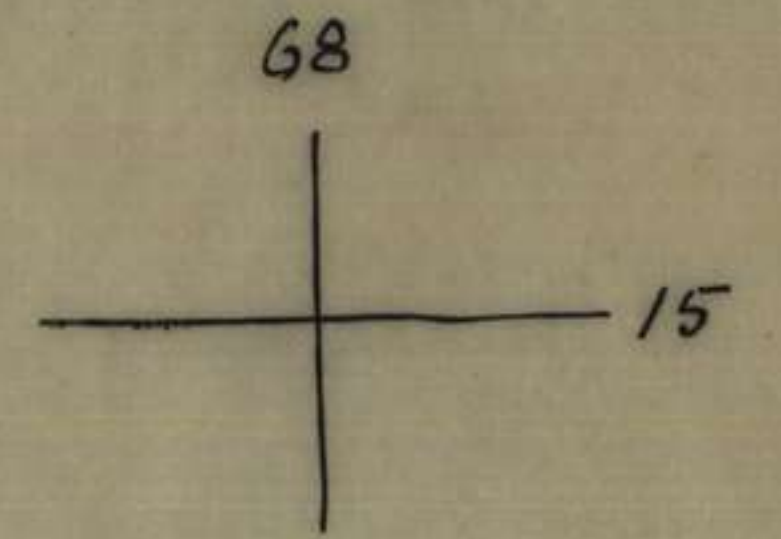
An inf bn on tropical scale WE needs more telephones. Pl def localities are a natural corollary of jungle warfare, and they are often widely separated.

WE should be increased by at least 6 telephones (generator type, as a caller using the DV phone cannot raise anybody over a long distance).

A few sound-powered phones would be invaluable for listening posts and other posns which are in close proximity of the enemy.

Lt Col
CO 25 Aust Inf Bn

Ref Map: KOWARD 1:25,000
Overlay.

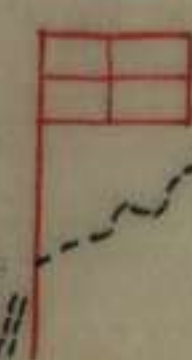
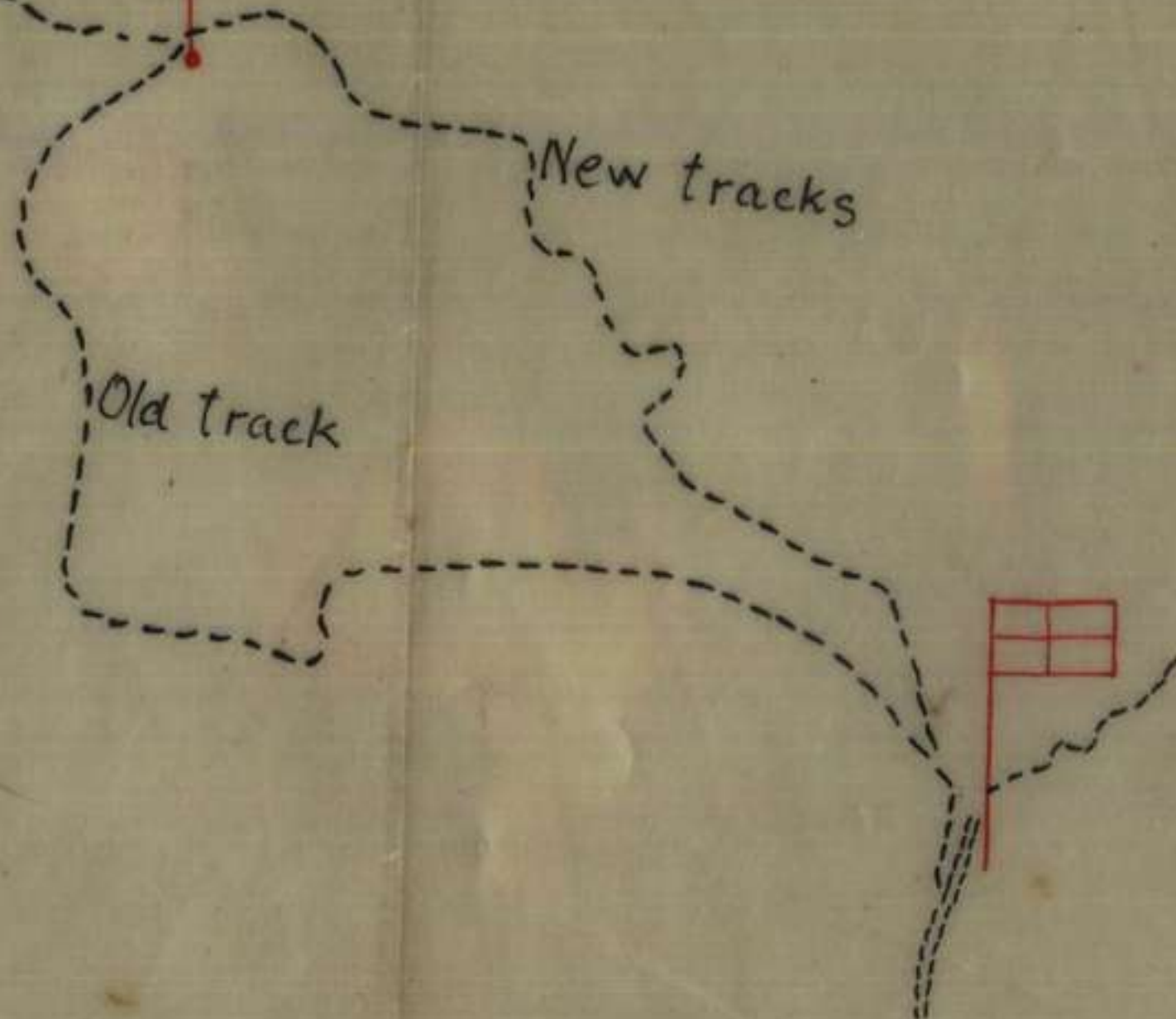


Staging Post

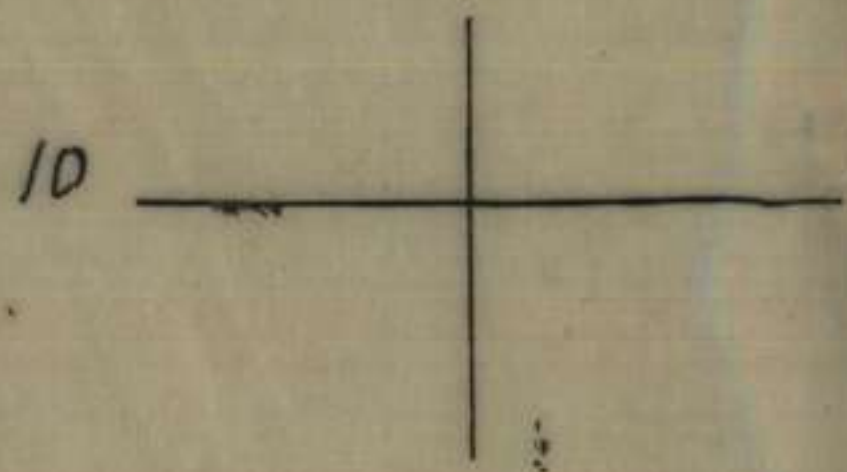


New tracks

Old track

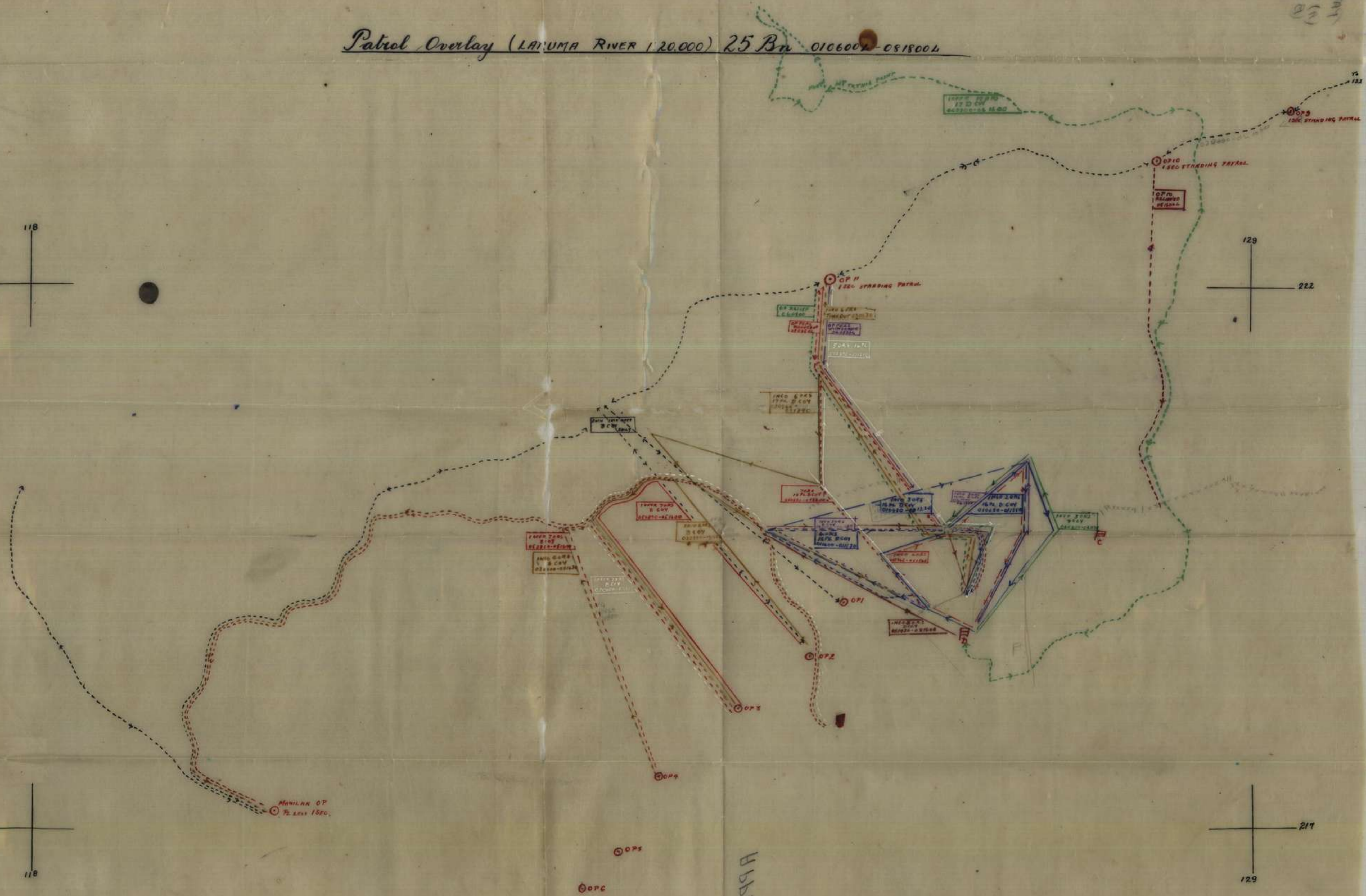
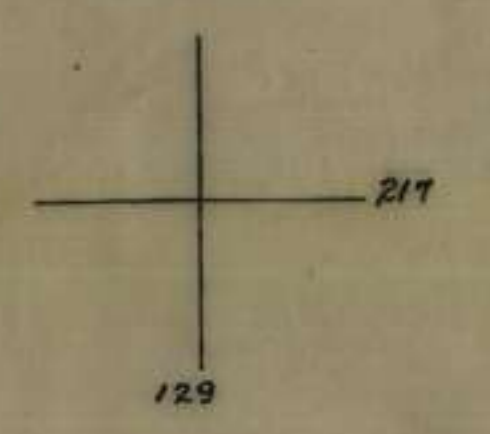
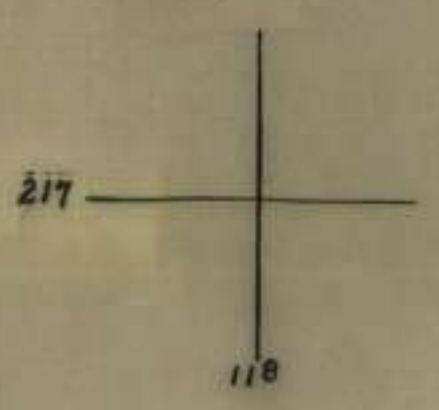
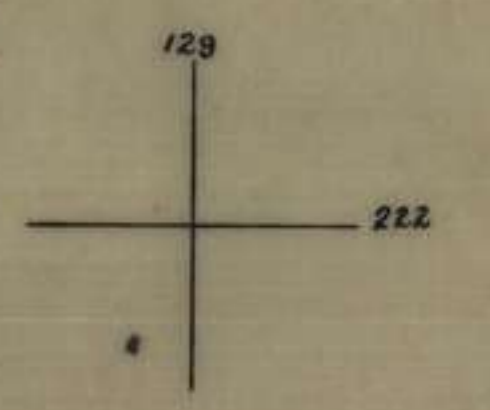
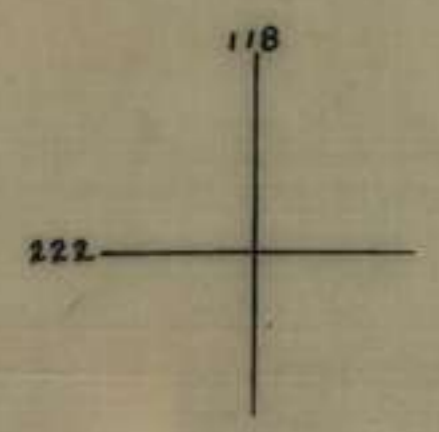


61



Patrol Overlay (LAIUMA RIVER 1:20,000) 25 Bn 0106004-0818004

Handwritten notes in the top right corner, including "1st AUGUST 1968" and "BACK OF (N) (B)".



APP E

No-28

ROUTINE ORDERS PART I

2 Dec 44

Lt-Col J.G. McKenna Commanding 25 Aust Inf Bn

200. IMPROPER DESTRUCTION OF SIGNALS EQUIPMENT (First Aust Army Order A261)

1. No member will, without authority, destroy, remove or otherwise interfere with (whether by cutting, discharging firearms at, or otherwise) any insulators or signal cable.
2. Application will be made for the trial of offenders by Court Martial.

201. REMITTANCES OF UNDRAWN PAY AND CASH (First Aust Army Order A263)

1. It is anticipated that there will be a heavy demand by members to avail themselves of the opportunity of sending remittances to residents in Australia as Christmas Gifts.
2. It is accordingly desired that personnel make remittances as early as possible.
3. Remittances forwarded through AAPG channels and received by the District Accounts Office, New Guinea, on or before the 10th December, 1944, will be paid by the 23rd December, 1944.

202. INJURIES CAUSED BY ACCIDENTS WITH EXPLOSIVES AND LIVE AMMUNITION (GRO A382/44)

1. Members of the public have been killed or seriously injured recently as the result of handling explosives and live ammunition which either:
 - (a) have been taken or sent home by members of the forces as souvenirs; or
 - (b) have been negligently left in places to which the public has access.
2. To prevent a recurrence of such accidents the following instructions will be observed strictly
3. (a) Unless acting in the course of his military duties or unless so authorised by or under the National Security (Firearms and Explosives) Regulations, a member of the AMF will not have in his possession or deliver or transmit or attempt to deliver or transmit to any other person any bomb, shell or other explosive or live ammunition of any kind.
 - (b) All Coys will take vigorous action to ensure that members comply with the terms of this paragraph.
4. (a) When any member serving outside Australia and Tasmania is to return to Australia or Tasmania, his kit and baggage will be inspected thoroughly, prior to his embarkation or emplaning, to ensure that he is not in possession of any explosives or live ammunition of any kind other than such as may be necessary in the course of his military duties.
5. If a member is charged with an offence against this order, a summary of evidence will be taken and an application submitted to superior authority for trial by court-martial.

203. DRESS (First Aust Army Order A 250)

The following instructions will apply to all ranks as a precaution against DENGUE FEVER and skin diseases:

- (a) All ranks may sunbake $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 hour daily (stripped);
- (b) Other than (a) above, shirts will be worn at all times with the exception that members of authorised working parties, whilst actually engaged in strenuous work, may remove shirts during daylight hours when not in enclosed or sheltered areas.

2. Provisions of this Order will be strictly enforced and disciplinary action will be taken against offenders.

204. SECURITY AND CENSORSHIP (GRO G371 of 13 Oct 44.)

Until further notice, personnel under command 2 Aust Corps or 4 Aust Base Sub Area are NOT permitted to state that they are in the SOLOMONS, or to mention change of location, or to give any indication of movement either from the mainland or NEW GUINEA

Further, NO reference is permitted to well known topographical features in the Northern Solomons, such as volcanoes, which would indicate the presence of Australian Troops in this group of islands.

205. DRESS - PRECAUTION AGAINST MALARIA AND INSECT BORNE DISEASES
(2 Aust Corps Order A8 of 27 Nov 44)

Trousers - It has been observed that certain personnel on occasions wear shorts, running trunks, swimming trunks. This practice will cease immediately, and the correct dress of trousers and gaiters will be worn.

206. ISSUE OF SOAP-TOILET (2 Aust Corps Order Q.15 of 27 Nov 44) -

Soap, toilet will become a general issue outside the mainland of Australia. The issue will be on the basis of two 4 oz cakes per man per 28 days, and will come into operation immediately.

207. CENSORSHIP
(3 Aust Div Order 467 of 29 Nov 44)

1. A number of letters have recently been intercepted by the Base Censor addressed to strangers whose names have been obtained by the writers from American personnel or by some other means.
2. Communications with Pen Friends are NOT permitted under Censorship Instructions.
3. The attention of all Franking Officers and ORs will be directed to this Order.

.....Capt
Adjt 25 Aust Inf Bn

NOTICES

DESTRUCTION OF MAIL MATTER -

The undermentioned mails despatched by a North bound train ex Sydney 1033 hrs on 30 Oct 44, were almost completely destroyed by fire which broke out in the Mail Van at Wyong, NSW -

Office of Origin	Destination	Type of Mail	Total Bags
AUST BASE PO SYDNEY	LAE	Other articles and parcels	369
" " " "	MADANG	" "	140

It is advised that 137 bags of mail were salvaged.

SWIMMING - The existing 3 Aust Div Beach will be closed on 2 Dec. Personnel from 3 Aust Div units will swim at No 4 Beach, to which Control Tower has now been moved.

The result of trial by District Court Martial convened by GOC 3 Aust Div is published hereunder :-

Nature and date of Trial - DCM 23 Nov 44.
Accused - Q 22363 PTE POSTLE Walter Allen - 25 Aust Inf Bn
Charge - Desertion Finding - Guilty of the Charge
Sentence - Detention for one (1) year
Confirmation - Confirmed - GOC 3 Aust Div, 24 Nov 44.

Nature and date of Trial - DCM 23 Nov 44.
Accused - Q 103162 PTE DAWSON Claude Harold, 25 Aust Inf Bn.
Charge - Desertion Finding - Guilty of the Charge
Sentence - Detention for six (6) months.
Confirmation - Confirmed, GOC 3 Aust Div, 24 Nov 44.

DISTRIBUTION - LIST "A"

RECEIVED 25 Dec 44
AUSTRALIA
7 Dec 44

RECCE OF 9 BN AREA (TOPOGRAPHY AND TRACK TIMINGS)

Ref Maps: KOWARA, IBO, NUMA NUMA

1. Below are given points of likely interest observed by the CO and IO during their recent trip to 9 Bn area.

2. 2 Dec Departed MEMORIAL BARK corner 0745 hrs
Arrived 9 Bn ref 659094 0930 hrs

Departed 9 Bn HQ for LITTLE GEORGE hill
ref 680115 1045 hrs

Arrived LITTLE GEORGE hill 1245 hrs

Departed LITTLE GEORGE hill for 9 Bn HQ 1437 hrs

Arrived 9 Bn HQ 1530 hrs

3. 3 Dec Departed 9 Bn HQ for A Coy posn 0750 hrs
ref 605144

Arrived A Coy 1330 hrs

4. 4 Dec Departed A Coy for 9 Bn HQ 1000 hrs

Arrived 9 Bn HQ 1420 hrs

5. 5 Dec Departed 9 Bn HQ on return journey 0100 hrs

Arrived 25 Bn HQ 0330 hrs

COMMENTARY

6. 2 Dec The MT trip to 9 Bn HQ took 1 1/2 hrs. Apart from the twentyfive river crossings, which are numbered consecutively from the perimeter, the road is reasonably good. The crossings are rough, the bed of the stream being strewn with boulders. Ten-wheeled American trucks are the only type of MT suitable for the trip. These are operated by an Aust Gen Tpt Coy.

7. 9 Bn HQ area is the limit of MT movement so the trip to LITTLE GEORGE hill was a heel-and-toe job. The walking time for the outward trip was two hours and despite good track improvement the going was fairly tough. C and D coys were then in occupation of the ridge from ref 672109 to LITTLE GEORGE hill 680115. The return journey, for the greater part downhill, occupied 50 mins.

8. The track as shown on the 1:25,000 series maps is accurate except for the first 200 yards. Appx A attached is an overlay which shows the necessary correction for this sector.

9. Various minor features encountered en route have been given local names, the map refs for which have been circulated from this HQ. Signs have been placed on these features for ground identification.

3 Dec

10. The move to A Coy started at 0750 after a restless night caused by two rounds harassing fire per hour from a troop of short 25-prs located a hundred yds distant. A Coy posn was reached at 1330 hrs, but as a halt was made at the half-way house ref 642112 for 50 mins the march time was 4 hrs 50 mins. This trip is somewhat tiring as the rise in elevation from 2400 ft at 9 Bn HQ to 4200 ft at A Coy posn indicates. Located at the half-way house, a veritable oasis to a tired traveller, are a Red Shield representative who dispenses coffee and biscuits, an ANGAU set-up for the purpose of controlling 'boong' trains, and a medical aid post operated by a few members of 11 Fd Amb. The

11. The map spot of A Coy posn at present is a debateable point, but the following points would indicate that the ref 605144 is the correct one:

(a) the EAST coast of BOUGAINVILLE is plainly discernable from A Coy and the 4200 ridge at the above ref is one spot in the area which would allow of this.

(b) A Coy ridge runs east-west as does the feature at the above ref.

(c) From A Coy posn KIVIRI PT ref 782324 can be seen on a mag bearing of 36°. The back bearing runs through the 4200 feature as also does a back bearing from CASUARINA ISLAND ref 838333 seen from A Coy on a mag bearing of 43°.

(d) Observation north from A Coy posn shows a good comparison between ground and map.

12. The night was spent with A Coy. The return journey was commenced at 1000 hrs and 9 Bn HQ reached at 1420 hrs after a 65 min break at the half-way house. The marching time therefore was 3 1/2 hrs and was in the main easy going.

TRACKS

13. There are three tracks between 9 Bn HQ and half-way house, but the original one over hilly country has lost favour in place of those which follow the river. These latter, one of which is close to the stream and is best in dry weather and the other which obviates the more difficult crossings and is best in wet weather, are being improved by our Pnr PL. Attached as appx A is an overlay showing what is considered the correct placing of the route to A Coy.

GENERAL

14. Of the maps available the recently issued 1:25,000 series is by far the most accurate and is well deserving of close study. The party situated at ref 657096 has ranged on ARTY HILL at a range of 3900 yds on a grid bearing of 47° and on SISIVIE ridge, range 9500, grid bearing 328°. This latter task is almost

15. During the trip natives were used to carry packs so the times given would of necessity be increased with packs. A Coy, 9 Bn moving over the old, more difficult track, took two days to reach this posn.

16. The track as shown on the 1:25,000 series is accurate except for the first 200 yards. Appx A attached is an overlay which shows the necessary correction for this sector.

F. M. Donaldson Lt.

10 25 Aust Inf Bn.

3 Dec

17. The move to A Coy started at 0730 after a restless night caused by two rounds harassing fire per hour from a troop of short SS-prs located a hundred yds distant. A Coy posn was reached at 1230 hrs, but as a half was made at the half-way house ref 64212 for 30 mins the march time was 4 hrs 30 mins. This trip is somewhat tiring as the rise in elevation from 2400 ft at 9 Bn HQ to 4200 ft at A Coy posn indicates. Located at the half-way house, a veritable case of a tired traveller, are a Red Shield representative who dispenses coffee and biscuits, and AMOAU set-up for the purpose of controlling 'boom' trails, and a medical aid post operated by a few members of 11 Bn. The

APPX D

25 Aust Inf Bn,
6 Dec 44.

25 BN PATROLS SCHEDULE FOR WEEK ENDING 8 DEC.

by	Ser No	Pl	Type	Time Out	Time in	Strength	Route out	Route in	Task	Spec Instns
A	1		Security	0745L	1200L	4 ORs	NUMA NUMA trail to OLD Arty posns 13282286	Same	GENERAL	DAILY PATROL
B	1	10	Recce	0800L	1500L	1 NCO 4ORs	Out through OP 1 12542192 to river at 12312207.	Return same route	Traverse track.	DAILY PATROL
	2	11	Recce	0800L	1500L	L NCO 4ORs	Out through OP 2 at 12502186 to road and river at 12322209.	Return same route	Traverse track	DAILY PATROL until travers finished.
	3	12	Recce	050800L	051600L	1 offr 1 NCO 6ORs	Out through OP 2 a t 12502186 t o PIVA TRAIL thence west to 12312198.12442180.	Return south through OP 3 a t	Routing Recce a rea for a ny enemy movement.	
	4	11	Recce	050800L	081600L	1 offr 1 NCO 6 ORs a ccomp by Lt MOORE 4 Pd Regt.	Out OP3 to PIVA trail to 12272198	Direct to OP4 a t 12362175.	a s above	
	5	10	Recce	070800L	071800L	1 offr 1 NCO 6 ORs accomp by ARTY offr	Out OP3 12322168 NW to PIVA TRAIL thence east along PIVA TRAIL to trail and road junc. 12542179.		Recce area for any signs enemy movement	Ascertain time required to traverse the route.
	6	11	Recce	080800L	081500L	1 NCO 4ORs	Out OP3 12442150 to PIVA TRAIL	Return same route	Traverse track	
	7	12	Recce	080800L	081500L	1 NCO 4ORs	Out OP4 12362175 to PIVA TRAIL 12272198	Return same route	Traverse track	
C	1	10 OP	Daily patrol Recce	irregular	irregular	3ORs	SP 10 OP 12812231 west along river to 12722233	Return same route	Security patrol	DAILY PATROL
	2	"	"	"	"	"	SP 10 OP 12812231 east along river to OP9	" " "	"	" "

18 Dec 44
PATROLS SCHEDULE FOR WEEK ENDING 8 DEC.

25 Aust Inf Bn,
6 Dec 44.

Co	Ser No.	Pl	Type	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route out	Route in	Task	Spec Instns
Don	1	16	Standing	030800L	031130L	1 NCO 6 ORs	Centre trail SHEPHERDS FOLLY. OP11	Same	Warn of an approach PsW safe passage for our troops.	Briefed by Coy Comdr.
	2	17	Recce	030830L	031430L	1 " 3 "	Centre trail SHEPHERDS FOLLY. south to junction 12522202 west to PIVA trail	SE to left gap in wire	Any enemy or natives in area. tracks.	Forestry unit recce for timber stand
	3	18	Standing	031800L	040600L	3 ORs	To OP11	Same	Man pl OP give warning on approach enemy	
	4	16	"	031800L	040600L	3 ORs	To OP11	Same	Man pl OP give warning enemy approach approach	
	5	16	Recce	031330L	031445L	1 NCO 4 ORs	OP11 up river 300 yds	Same	Watch for tracks, enemy approach, anything unusual.	
	6	18	Recce	040900L	041400L	1 " 3 "	Right track to listening post. Bearing approx 250 degrees to SHEPHERDS FOLLY	Track junc SE to perimeter.	Track making recce.	
	7	16	Standing	040500L	040600L	1 " 6 "	Track junc 12562197.			
	8	16	Contact	040900L	041000L	1 " 3 "	From OP centre trail to SHEPHERDS FOLLY	--- Same as OP11		Same as OP11.
	9	16	Recce	050700L	051300L	1 " 6 "	Left trail to SHEPHERDS FOLLY	S.FOLLY to camp.		Tracks nature.
							Center trail to OP11	Same		Contact OP11.
	10	18	Recce	060900L	061130L	1 " 3 "	Right ¹²⁷⁰²¹⁹⁷ track to listening post bearing approx 250 deg to to S.FOLLY track junc 12562197	Track junc SE to perimeter	Track making recce	Watch for natives, pads, dogs.

y	SER	Pl	Type	Time Out	Time in	Strength	Route out	Route in	Task	Spec instns
on	11	16	Standing	060800L	061130L	1 NCO & 6 ORs	Centre trail to OP 11		Relieve OP 11 (Warn enemy approach, delay & deploy, POW's, safe passage own tps)	Brief by Coy Comds
"	12		Track Recce	060700L	061700L	8 Offrs 11 ORs	Coy HQ to 12502237 via WEBB Rd by trans-back to Coy HQ port. N.W. to AT SINIMA R. N.E. along river 500 yds	Direct line		7 Offrs from 4 Fd Regt with patrol for patrol trg.
"	13	16	Contact	070830L	071200L	1 NCO 4 ORs	L trail track to OP 11	Centre track	Recce for tracks pads dogs.	
"	14	17	Recce	080830L	081200L	1 NCO 4 ORs	L trail	Centre trail	Natives & enemy movt.	
"	15	18	"	081430L	081600L	1 NCO 3 ORs	Right track then left to S. FOLLY	S. FOLLY to L track	Recce tracks	
"	16	18	"	051345L	051545L	1 NCO 4 ORs	L gap through wire to track junction EAST to S. FOLLY then across to L track back to 18 Pl area.		Recce tracks	

*Left gap in wire to track junction
12462197 then east to
SHEPHERDS FOLLY 12632197* Same route.

*Ally Greenwood Sgt
for IO AOD*

12462197

I rec'd copy Patrol schedule
week ending 1400 hrs

Handwritten notes in margin:
10
11
12
13
14

Handwritten notes:
I set patrol schedule for 1400 hrs
I set patrol schedule for 1400 hrs
I set patrol schedule for 1400 hrs
I set patrol schedule for 1400 hrs
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I set patrol schedule for 1400 hrs

Day	Time	Location	Strength	Route	Task
"	18 18	"	1 150 4 ONA	"	Resce pьcoKa
"	18 18	"	1 150 2 ONA	"	Resce pьcoKa
"	18 18	Resce	1 150 4 ONA	"	enema movt. Истрела & дога.
"	18 18	Controf	1 150 4 ONA	"	pьcoKa bьca Resce for
"	18 18	Цьск Resce	8 0112 11 ONA	"	pьc. atрь батлoл for батлoл 1 0112 11 ONA from 14 14 Res
on	11 18	стандинг	1 150 4 ONA	"	ante besange omь pьca & deblod, 10M.12, abpьocp, dejev (Mьлн enemь) Kellele 0B 11 Batel pa Col
Y	18 18	Цьск	1 150 4 ONA	Route 11	Task

15 12 31 1

3.

MESSAGE FORM

APPX F

War Diary
Register No. 11

Call	Ser. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions
			hogg 98 all

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A)	Originator	Date—Time of Origin
	7 AVST INF BN	112000L

Office Date Stamp

For Action

TO 25 AVST INF BN
(w) For Information (INFO.)

Message Instructions GR

QQY 95

ORIGINATOR'S No.

0.1339 SECRET O WARNING ORDER O

25 Aust Inf Bn will relieve 9 Aust Inf Bn
fwd area O relief to commence 20 Dec to
be completed by 23 Dec O Recce parties 15 Dec adv
parties 17 Dec O 25 Aust Inf Bn will have
under cmd one Bty R.F.A. 3 Aust Div
7 Aust Inf Bde sig sec one coy 61 Aust Inf
Bn A coy 11 Aust M Amb and for camp
adm 224 Aust Sup Depot pl O 9 Aust Inf
Bn will assume perimeter defs 15 Dec
on relief O Further details later Ack
all Infrm

112000L

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means { except } Wireless	If liable to be intercepted or fall into enemy hands, this message must be sent IN CIPHER	Originator's Instructions Degree of Priority		
		Time	System	Op
		TH or TOR		
		112000L	F	AR
Signed	Signed	Time Cleared		

25^{Bn} PATROL SCHEDULE WEEK ENDING 15 DEC.

Coy	Ser No.	Pl	Type	Time out.	Time in.	Strength	Route out	Route in	Task	Spec Instns
A.	1		Security	0745	1200	4 ORs	NUMA NUMA trail to old Arty posns 13282286.	Same		
B	2	11	Standing	121200L	191200L	1 offr 20 ORs	By truck to Marilan OP.	XXXX	Recce daily to OP 10 and Atsinima Lake.	Any enemy sitings.
"	3)			110800L	111300L	1 NCO 3 ORs	No 3 track 12432183 to PIVA trail.	Same		Traverse track accurately.
"	4)	10	Recce	120800L	121300L					
"	5)			130800L	131300L					
"	6)			110800L	111300L	1 NCO 3 ORs	No 4 track from 12352176 to PIVA trail.	Same	" " "	
"	7)	10	Recce	120800L	121300L					
"	8)			130800L	131300L					
"	9	12	Recce	130800L	131500L	1 NCO 3 ORs	No 3 from 12432183 to PIVA trail.	Back through OP 4.	Any enemy movement.	
"	10	12	Recce	140800L	141300L	1 NCO 3 ORs	xxxx through No 1 12492188 . 12532192 to PIVA trail.	Back through No 2 12492188.	" " "	
"	11	12	Recce	140700L	141700L	1 NCO 3 ORs	No 5 through 12311270 to PIVA trail to MARILAN OP	By truck LARUMA Rd.	" " "	
"	12	10	Recce	150800L	151400L	1 NCO 3 ORs	Out OP 1 to PIVA trail.	Back OP 3 XXXXXXXXXX .	" " "	
C	13	OP 10	Daily Recce	Irregular		1 NCO 3 ORs	12812230 W along R to 12732233.	Return same route.	Security patrol.	
"	14	"	"	"	"	"	12812230 E along R to OP 9 12962238.	" " "	" " "	

NOTE. B coy patrols ceased as from 101800L - coy being relieved of its patrolling responsibility by 26 Bn.

25th PATROLS SCHEDULE WEEK ENDING 15 DEC.

25 Aust Inf Bn.

Coy	Ser No.	Pl	Type	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route Out	Route In	Task	Spec Instns
DON.	15	18	Standing Relief	090800L	121230L	1 NCO 6 ORs	Centre trail via bamboo 12512214 to OP 11.	-----	Relieve OP 11. Warn of enemy approach. Delay and deploy. PsW Safe passage own tps.	Briefed by Coy Comd.
	16	16	Recce	090800L	091600L	1 offr 10"	Left gap PIVA trail to WEBB Rd to Question Hill 12402230.	Same	Native or enemy movement, suitability for OP.	Briefed by Coy comd. Toggle ropes for River crossing.
	17	18	Contact	100830L	101130L	1 NCO 3 "	Right gap to S.Folly, centre trail to OP 11.	Centre trail to S. Folly. Right gap Coy wire.	Contact OP 11, supplies security.	Pl comd brief
	18	16	Recce	111300L	111530L	1 " 3"	Left trail to bamboo.	To track juncl 265-2205 to camp.	Contact patrol OP 11, Enemy and native movements.	OP send to man patrol to contact.
	19	17	Recce	121300L	121330L	1 " 3"	Centre trail S.Folly to track junc 12532199.	SW to PIVA trail-camp.	General recce.	Briefed Coy Comd
	20	18	Standing Relief	121030L	131230L	1 " 6 "	Left trail via bamboo to OP 11.	-----	Relief of OP 11. Warn enemy approach, Delay and deploy. PsW. Safe passage own tps.	" " " " Pl "
	21	18	Contact	130830L	131200L	1 " 6 "	Centre trail to OP 11.	Left trail to camp.	Recce for tracks, pads, dogs etc.	" " "
	22	17	Recce	131500L	131600L	1 " 2 "	Left trail to track junc 12652205 via S. FOLLY.	Same	Recce for tracks, pads, dogs etc.	" " "
	23	17	Recce	140700L	14630L	10 offr 10"	Tpt Webb Rd 12502236. SW to Question Hill.	Q.Hill to LARUMA R. WEBB Rd crossing, PIVA Trail to camp.	Native or enemy movement. suitability for OP.	Briefed Coy Comd toggle roaps for river crossing.
	24	17	Standing Relief	151030L	151230L	1 NCO 6 "	Relief OP 11. Left trail via bamboo to OP 11.	Left track to camp.	XXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXX	Briefed by Coy Comd.
	25	18	Recce	151500L	151630L	1 " 3 "	Right gap, right track to S.Folly.	Left trail to camp.	Recce for tracks pads, natives, dogs.	Briefed Pl Comd.
	26	18	Recce	140830L	121130L	1 NCO 3 ORs	Right Gap, SHEP FOLLY to BAMB00	LEFT TRAIL to camp.		<i>A. M. Donald</i> It. IO 25 Aust Inf Bn.

War diary

APPX H

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

(DHJM/INW 8/12)

Subject - SUMMARY TRAINING SYLLABUS - 11-17 DEC 44.

HQ 25 Aust Inf Bn,
8 Dec 44.
Ref 44/25/43.

HQ, 7 Aust Inf Nde (AIF)

1. Subjoined is 25 AUSTR INF BN Summary of Training Syllabus
11 - 17 Dec 44.

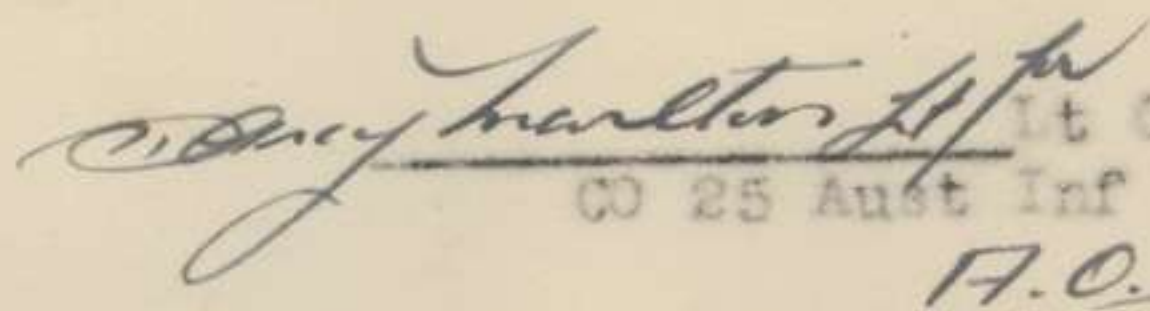
2. Owing to present disposition of Bn and variety of tasks allotted to
Coys, it is not possible to forecast an accurately timed syllabus. However
following weekly summary will be adhered to as closely as possible.

3. Ref Map LARUMA RIVER 1 : 20,000

Date	Unit	Area of Trg	Subject	Lessons	Remarks
Period 11-17 Dec 44.	25 Aust Inf Bn A Coy	Ref 12922197 NUMA NUMA RD	Route March Weapon Trg	Hardening up Rifle, Bren Grenade, SMG recap	Daily Daily
		Area vicin- ity Ref 1292197	Patrols - on duty BRIEFING Track going Maps Sec & Pl Attack Inspections Maintenance weapons, amm and clothing First Aid	Observations Recording Agressive Action Importance of Efficient weapons. protection Necessity for quick action Simple remed- ies	 Daily Practical CAB & General interest. twice weekly
Period 11 - 17 Dec 44.	25 Aust Inf Bn B Coy	Squares 126218	Inspections Weapon & amm maintenance Clothing main- tenance Sand Table disc- ussions 9 En SITREP. Sec Attacks Contact Drill Pl Attacks Pl Comds discuss- ions, Education lectures. Track going map Booby Traps, General. Route March Sport	Weapon efficiency protection Familiarity with Topography & place names Infantry Trg Initiative Agressive Action General interest CAB Observation trg Recording Detecting March discipline Physical fitnes	Daily Realistic Trg. Recreation
Period 11 - 17 Dec 44	25 Aust Inf Bn C Coy	Perimeter Rd Koromikina Rd Camp Area	Route March " " Discussions Education lectures Inspections, amm maintenance, clothing	March discipl- line General Interest X CAB Weapon efficiency protection	Daily " Recreation

SUMMARY TRAINING SYLLABUS (continued)

Date	Unit	Area of Trg	Subject	Lessons	Remarks
Period 11-17 Dec 44.	25 Aust Inf Bn C Coy (contd)	Ref Area 12752197 Webb Rd Ref 12852234 - OP 11, 12552221 Coy boundary	Standing patrols Recece Patrols Track going Maps Fighting patrols, Contact Drill	Battle Drill Necessity for accurate information Patrol Reports Methods Preparation Searching area for infm.	Actual positions 50% Coy stand down
Period 11-17 Dec 44.	25 Aust Inf Bn D Coy	Ref Map LAR-UNA RIVER 1 : 20,000 12652188 (Coy Area) Ref 12432005 Jap Pill Boxes	Wanning OP 11 Map reading recap. Sec & Pl attacks on old Jap posn. Weapon Trg Inspection Arms, clothing, main-tenance amm. Pl Comds' discuss- ion. Education Lecture	Preparation Searching area for infm. Finding posn on maps. IT methods & weapons Use of 2" mortar and OSMG in Jungle Bren Weapon efficiency protection. CAB, General Interest	By each Pl As arranged with Ede Education Officer
Period 11-17 Dec 44	25 Aust Inf Bn HQ Coy	Ref Map - TOROKINA RIVER 1:20000 Bn HQ Ref 13012196 Fwd 9 Bn Ref 13122195 C Coy Area	Sport Administrative Duties. Tpt & Q Improvement of L of C Area fwd Inspections Maintenance arms amm, & clothing	Teamwork Weapon efficiency protection	Greater part of Coy manning perimeter Def posns & Supply work. Parties for preparation Bn IOB Area Pioneer Pl engaged.


 Lt Col
 CO 25 Aust Inf Bn
 F.O.D.

War Diary
APPX K

REPORT ON RECONNAISSANCE OF
LARUMA RIVER - JAVA CREEK AREA

Ref Map - LARUMA RIVER FORKS 1 : 20000

8 Dec 44.

1. Object - To locate a suitable Bn position from which operations can be carried out to prevent enemy interference with the L of C.
2. The firm base must necessarily be established SOUTH of the TRACK JUNCTION at 13292285, with patrols operating forward. Therefore, the most suitable ground for a defensive position and base for offensive operations along the L of C, is the area immediately NORTH of the junction of LARUMA RIVER and JAVA CREEK.
At this point, high ground dominates all approaches to the L of C SOUTH of the 228 Grid, and patrols can effectively cover the approaches NORTH of 228 Grid.
3. Topography -
The spur in sq 132224 is heavily timbered and is typical jungle. Observation of the L of C or the LARUMA RIVER is NOT possible from this spur.
The creek, which runs WEST and then SOUTH joining JAVA CREEK at 13192242, is flowing at approximately 3 mph and the volume of water is equivalent to that in JAVA CREEK. Average width is 30 feet and depth 18 inches. Steep banks with undergrowth to the water's edge.
Between the above Ck and the LARUMA RIVER is a plateau, timbered and covered with thick undergrowth. The cliffs shown in sq 131224 is the bank of the river and has a sheer drop of 40 feet; it continues NORTH WEST at the same height to at least as far as 13232255 (Recce party turned WEST at this point.)
From the top of the cliff face at 13172247 the river and the road can be overlooked for a distance of 2500 yards Northwards. The tents of our troops at PIATERAPAIA could also be seen. It is an excellent OP and suitable MMG positions can be located on either side of it.
The bed of the LARUMA RIVER varies in width from 80 yards to 200 yards, the main channel is approx 40 yards wide, flowing at 5 to 7 mph and 2 feet deep.
The road which follows the bank of the river along this section, is mainly of hard sand but in several places is surfaced with broken rock or pebbles.
Between the LARUMA RIVER and the commencement of the steep slopes of TAIRA BLUFF, are low hills and ridges, timbered and covered with undergrowth.
4. The attached sketch map shows the proposed disposition of Coys, the fire plan and OPs. A Coy is the reserve Coy and supplies the patrols for the northern part of the L of C.

J. S. ...

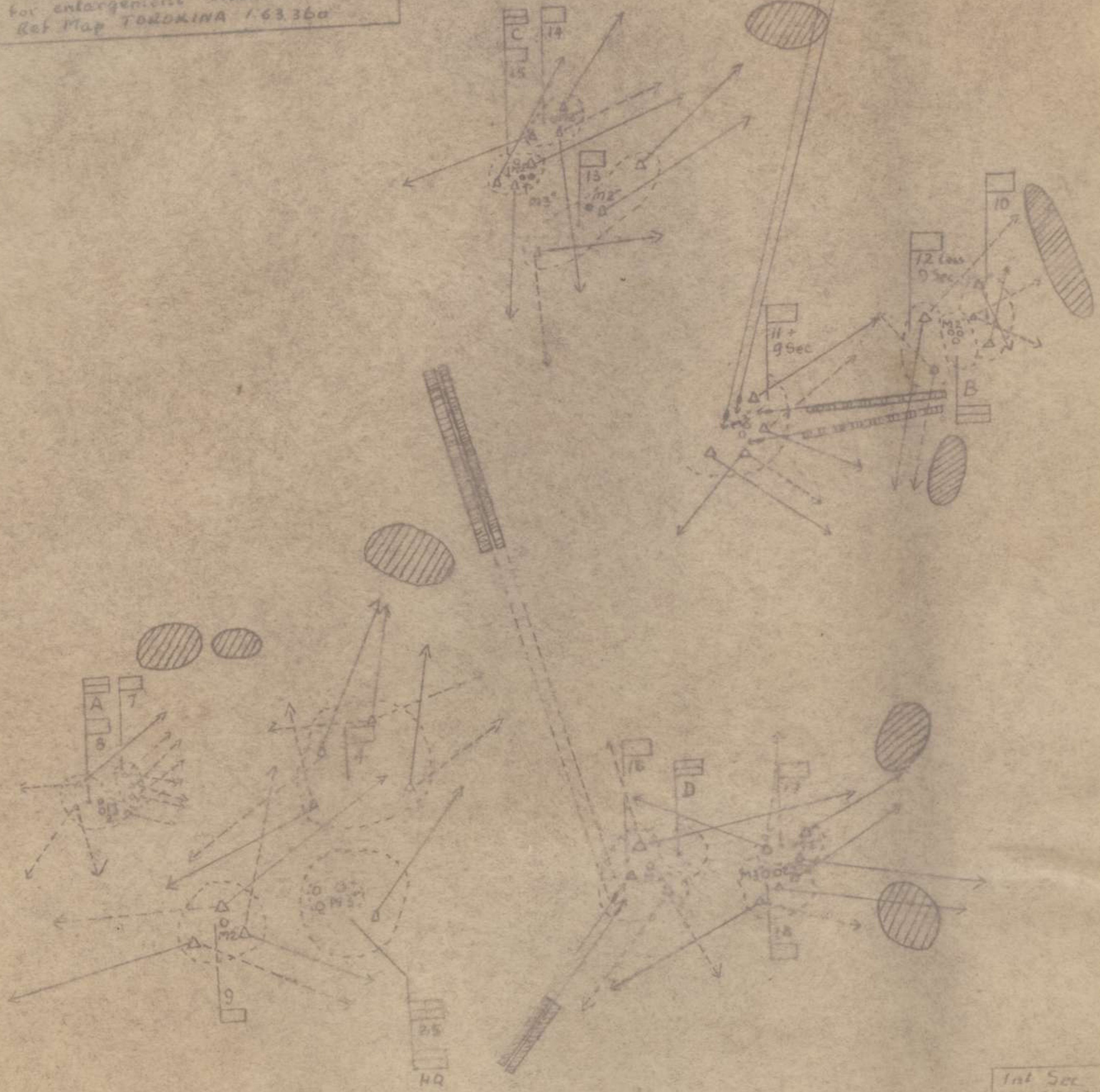
Lt Col.
OO 25 Aust Inf Bn

PROPOSED FIRE PLAN

25 AUST INF BN

Overlay for enlargement JAVA CK AREA
1:7020 Ref Map TOROKINA 1:63,360

03



Int Sec
25 Aust Inf Bn
11 Dec 44

60

01

JAVA CREEK AREA

REF. MAP - TOROKINA I.N. TO I.G.A.Z.



Compiled from
air photos and
a traverse.

R.F. - 79/20

Scale 1 in to 220 yds.

Int. Sec.
25 Aust. Inf. Bn.
8-11 Dec 44



V.I. - 25 ft (approx)

7 AUST INF BDE OP ORDER NO 3
 Ref maps :- Current 1:25,000 series.

Copy No 3
 12 Dec 44.

INFM

1. As contained in current sitreps and int summaries.

INTENTION

2. 7 Aust Inf Bde will interchange units in fwd and perimeter roles.

METHOD3. Relieving Units

- (a) 25 Aust Inf Bn with under comd :
 10 Bty 4 Aust Fd Regt
 One det 7 Aust Inf Bde Sig Sec

A Coy 11 Aust Fd Amb (remaining in situ)
 and, for camp adm and local defs only,
 224 Aust Sup Dep Pl (remaining in situ)
 will relieve 9 Aust Inf Bn of operational commitments in
 SISIVIE - PIATERIPAIA areas.

- (b) (i) 9 Aust Inf Bn will relieve 25 Aust Inf Bn of def responsibilities along TOROKINA perimeter.
 (ii) On return to TOROKINA the following will revert to comd respective units :
 12 Bty 4 Aust Fd Regt
 Det 7 Aust Inf Bde Sig Sec
 C Coy 61 Aust Inf Bn
 (iii) Pnr Pl 25 Aust Inf Bn will remain fwd and revert to comd parent unit on takeover.

4. Responsibilities

- (a) 25 Aust Inf Bn will secure or hold, as applicable, the high ground on gen line 706121 - 650144 - 595168 and will recce the area fwd of that line with a view to securing all possible infm concerning the enemy.
 (b) 9 Aust Inf Bn will take over the perimeter defs and security patrols of 25 Aust Inf Bn - these defs are as known to Comd 9 Aust Inf Bn.

5. Dates(a) Commencement and Completion

- (i) Except in the case of 10 Bty 4 Aust Fd Regt reliefs of main bodies will be commenced on 20 Dec 44 and will be completed by 23 Dec 44, or as soon as practicable thereafter.
 (ii) 10 Bty 4 Aust Fd Regt will relieve 12 Bty 4 Aust Fd Regt on 19 Dec 44. The additional tp of pers at present att 12 Bty for working parties will not be replaced.
 (iii) Arrangements have been made for OC 10 Bty 4 Aust Fd Regt to liaise direct with 25 Aust Inf Bn.

(b) Recce Gps

As selected by bn comds concerned, and as mutually arranged, recce gps will be exchanged on 15 Dec 44. The same tpt will be used for both gps.

(c) Adv Parties

Adv Parties, not to exceed 40 in number, will move to respective new areas on 17 Dec 44.

6. Air(a) Tac R

- (i) One tac R flight per day will be available to 25 Aust Inf Bn. Requests, stating tasks in particular and tasks in gen, will be signalled to reach this HQ by 0930 hrs on the day prior to requirement.

(ii) This flight is also available for arty R, and 10 Bty 4 Aust Fd Regt will continue listening out to aircraft on frequencies as advised from time to time.

(b) Bombing and Strafing

Requests for air sp will be made as per 7 Aust Inf Bde 05/18 of 12 Dec 44 (not to all addressees), and will reach this HQ by 0930 hrs on the day before support is required.

7. Patrols - ANGAU Pers and Police Boys

Except with prior approval of this HQ, ANGAU pers and police boys att 25 Aust Inf Bn will not proceed north of the line OLD SISIVIE 608182 - track junc 638180 - track junc 685174.

ADM

8. Issued separately.

INTERCOMN

9. Line

- (a) As far as possible all posns will be linked by L/T - all existing circuits in both fwd and perimeter posns will be taken over by incoming bns.
- (b) As bn stocks of wire are used, immediate replenishment will be demanded from 7 Aust Inf Bde Sig Sec.
- (c) Two telephone sets "L" No 2 (AUST) at present on loan to 9 Aust Inf Bn from 7 Aust Inf Bde Sig Sec will be transferred, on loan only, to 25 Aust Inf Bn.

10. Wireless

- (a) Two No 11 sets on charge to 7 Aust Inf Bde Sig Sec, and at present in fwd area, will remain and pass to control 25 Aust Inf Bn.
- (b) Five 108 mk III sets at present on charge to 9 Aust Inf Bn will be transferred to 7 Aust Inf Bde Wireless Pool under arrangements 7 Aust Inf Bde Sig Sec. They will remain in area and are allotted to 25 Aust Inf Bn on takeover.
- (c) All HQ offrs will be prepared to speak by R/T, using R/T Code No 2, at all times - the code word for the time being is OLDMACHINERY/G.

11. Pigeons

Existing pigeon link will be taken over by 25 Aust Inf Bn.

12. Sig Security

- (a) 25 Aust Inf Bn will use designatory and unit code words at all times whilst in fwd posn. Lists have already been issued.
- (b) See also HQ 7 Aust Inf Bde Sig Security Instr being issued 12 Dec 44.

13. Pass Words

25 Aust Inf Bn will take over current pass words of 9 Aust Inf Bn. These are as ordered in HQ 7 Aust Inf Bde INT 2/44 of 3 Dec 44.

14. Codewords

- (a) 25 Aust Inf Bn will signal
 - (i) assumption of comd in fwd area - by codeword OBOE (_____ hrs _____ Dec 44)
 - (ii) completion of relief :
LILY _____ hrs _____ Dec 44.

- (b) 9 Aust Inf Bn will signal
- (i) takeover of def responsibilities TOROKINA perimeter by codeword PINK giving time and date.
 - (ii) completion of move inside perimeter :
GIN _____ hrs _____ Dec 44.

ACKNOWLEDGE

Signed at 1700 hrs
 Issued by LO & DRLS

J. Summerton
 Maj
 BM 7 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION

Copy No

9 Aust Inf Bn	1
Rear 9 Aust Inf Bn	2
25 Aust Inf Bn	3
61 Aust Inf Bn	4
7 Aust Inf Bde Sig Sec	5
224 Aust Sup Dep Pl	6
11 Aust Fd Amb	7
RAA 3 Aust Div (2)	8 - 9
Comd	10
File	11 - 12
War Diary	13 - 15

25
7 AUST INF BDE ADM INSTRUCTION NO 3
Issued with 7 Aust Inf Bde 0 0 No 3.

Copy No 2
 12 Dec 44

MED

1. (a) A Coy 11 Aust Fd Amb will continue to maintain ADS (with surgical team) at rd head, a lt sec at KEENANS RIDGE and a MSP at DOYABIE RIVER CROSSING.
 (b) Evacuation from rd head is by 2½ ton 6 x 6 veh at present attached to ADS.

RESERVES

2. Stocks of the DID at ERIE are being maintained at :-
- | | | |
|----------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Sups | 10 days SWPA for | 1400 |
| | 4 days FORs for | 1500 |
| | 14 days | for 300 natives |
| POL | 14 days | |
| Expense Stores | 14 days | |
| Amn | 21 days on scale | vide Appx A attached |

POSTAL

3. Unit postal sta manned by 3 Aust Div postal unit is operating at rd head for handling of incoming and outgoing mail.

CANTEEN SUPS

4. By unit arrangement with unit LOB.

AMN

5. A complete interchange of first line amn will be effected between 9 Aust Inf Bn and 25 Aust Inf Bn in the unit dumps as they exist at the time of relief.

TRANSFER UNIT STORES

6. With the object of minimising the handling of accn stores, 9 Aust Inf Bn will hand over following unit stores on the ground at rd head and forward and will take delivery of equivalent quantities from 25 Aust Inf Bn in latter's present area :-

* All cooking gear with fwd coys.
 Tentage
 Tent shelter halves (of personnel fwd of rd head)

TPT

7. Units will advise this HQ of their tpt requirements for each of 15, 17, 20, 21, 22 and 23 Dec by 0900 hrs the previous day. This HQ will coordinate convoys so as to backload tps and stores from rd head where possible.

TC

8. Traffic Control in rd head area will be effected by 3 Aust Div pro post.

Signed at 1700 hrs

W. J. ... Capt
 Staff Capt 7 Aust Inf Bde

Issued by LD * DRLS

DISTRIBUTIONCopy No

9 Aust Inf Bn	1
25 Aust Inf Bn	2
61 Aust Inf Bn	3
11 Aust Fd Amb	4
7 Aust Inf Bde Sig Sec	5
224 Aust Sup Dep Pl	6
Comd	7
TO	8
Bde ASC Offr	9
Pro Sgt	10
File	11
War Diary	12 - 14

SECRET

Appx A to 7 Aust Inf Bde
Adm Instr No 3 of 12 Dec 44

AMN USAGE RATES

1. Our tps will be in lt contact with the enemy in the DOYABIE RIVER - SISIVIE sector and amn usage rates are therefore estimated at a quiet rate..

2. Expenditure in rounds per day

Inf

(a)	.303 in (stripless belt)	1000 rounds
(b)	.303 in (carton packed)	2000 rounds
(c)	.303 in (charger packed)	3200 rounds
(d)	SMG 9 mm	3000 rounds
(e)	2 in Mortar	
	i HE	36 rounds
	ii Smoke	12 rounds
	iii Star	6 rounds
(f)	3 in Mortar	
	i HE	48 rounds
	ii Smoke	16 rounds
(g)	1 in Sig (various colours)	12 rounds
(h)	grenade No 36M 4 sec	60
(i)	" " 7 sec	20

Arty

(a)	25 pr HE	15 RPG
(b)	25 pr smoke	3 "

APPX M
Law Diary

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

RESTRICTED

No - 390

ROUTINE ORDERS PART I.

14 Dec 44.

Lt-Col J. G. McKINNA

Commanding 25 Aust Inf Bn .

208. INCOME TAX - MEMBERS WITH DEPENDANTS RESIDENT OVERSEAS - GRO F431/44.

1. The Income Tax Assessment Act provides for rebates of tax in respect of a taxpayer's dependants resident in Australia.
2. Where a member of the AMF has married while serving overseas, rebates may be claimed in respect of his wife, and of any children of the marriage, even if they are residing overseas. Such persons are, for this purpose, deemed to be domiciled in Australia.
3. No rebate will be allowed in respect of other dependants residing outside Australia.
4. GRO F.377/1944 is cancelled.

209. CENSORSHIP OF PARCELS - First Aust Army Order G280 -

1. Private parcels will not be sent out of the Army area by any means, including the Military Forwarding Organisation, unless they have first been censored and franked by an officer.
2. Private parcels include cases, baggage or other packages despatched by individuals, as distinct from official consignments from Formation or Unit Headquarters. Parcels despatched through postal channels will be censored and franked in the same way as ordinary mail. Those sent through the Military Forwarding Organisation will be handled as follows :-
 3. Action by Sender -
 - (a) The regimental number, rank and name of the sender will be shown on the outside of the parcel, in addition to the addressee's regimental number, rank and name if applicable. The name of the sender's unit, and the name of the unit to which the parcel is to be sent will NOT appear on the parcel itself.
 - (b) A stout label will be attached to the parcel by the sender showing his regimental number, rank, name and unit, and also the full address of the individual or unit to which the parcel is consigned.
 4. Action by Franking Officer
 - (a) Check the contents of the parcel in the presence of the sender, removing and handing to the sender any article which contravenes GRO G371 of 1944 part C or First Aust Army Administrative Standing Orders Chapter 14 paras 10, 11, 19 and 20.
 - (b) Check that the correct procedure has been observed by the sender in addressing the parcel.
 - (c) Frank the parcel by signing on the outside and pass it to the unit censor.
 5. Action by Unit Censor -
 - (a) Ensure that the franking officer's signature is legible before impressing the unit censor stamp on the parcel.
 - (b) Arrange for the parcel to be forwarded through unit channels to the MFO.
 6. Private parcels despatched through the Military Forwarding Organisation, as well as by post, are liable to censorship check by Base Censor. Disciplinary action will be taken if breaches are discovered.

210. RE-SALE OF CANTEEN GOODS - PROHIBITION OF - First Aust Army Order Q283

- (a) Attention is directed to GRO 66/44.
- (b) The re-sale (except by messes and unit canteens) of any article or commodity of any nature originally purchased from Aust Army Canteen Services is prohibited.

211. UNIT CENSORSHIP - 2 Aust Corps Order G 26 -

- (a) Field Censorship reports that Unit franking officers are excising from soldiers' mail matter and comments that do not constitute breaches of security.
- (b) Letters are subject to censorship for security purposes only. Exercise of censorship for other purposes gives rise to resentment among ORs and tends to lead to evasion of censorship.

213. UNIT RESPONSIBILITY (Continued)

(c) Franking officers must regard as sacrosanct all information they learn from censoring soldiers' letters, and must not divulge such information except in the course of duty, or discuss the contents of soldiers' letters amongst themselves. Breaches of this order will entail severe disciplinary action.

212. BOOBY TRAPS, BLIND AMM AND UNEXPLODED BOMBS (3 Div HQ 466/44)

Booby traps, blind amm and unexploded bombs are being found both inside and outside the perimeter. All troops will be warned of the danger of interfering with any of these types of amm whether Australian American or Japanese pattern. On discovery, HQ 25 Aust Inf Bn will be notified immediately and arrangements will be made for destruction or removal to be carried out.

211. LIFE ASSURANCE POLICIES TAKEN OUT BY MEMBERS OF THE FORCES - GRO

F412/44.

1. Life Assurance policies taken out by members of the forces on their own lives after September, 1939, usually contain a war clause which imposes upon the member assured, if he wishes to remain covered under his policy for the full sum assured while serving outside the Commonwealth, the obligation of -

- (a) informing the life assurance office concerned of his departure from Australia and of the date thereof, and
- (b) payment to that office of an extra war loading premium.

2. Certain life assurance offices regard the Territories of Papua and New Guinea as being, for this purpose outside the Commonwealth, and there are variations in the rate of war loading premiums charged by different offices, while, in some circumstances, an office may not be prepared to cover the additional risk and may, therefore, refuse to quote any extra premium. A member who desires to remain covered while serving outside the Commonwealth should ascertain from the office concerned to what areas the existing cover extends and what rates of war loading premiums are required should he serve outside those areas.

3. If the member subsequently embarks for service outside the Commonwealth, he may arrange through army channels -

- (a) for payment of the amount of extra war loading premium (as previously ascertained by him) to the office concerned, by means of a remittance of undrawn pay; and
- (b) for notice of the date of embarkation to be given to that office by the DFO when paying the remittance.

The member will attach to the remittance form a letter requesting the giving up of the notice mentioned in sub-para (b) of this paragraph.

4. For security reasons, direct notification by members to life assurance offices of their impending or actual embarkation is strictly prohibited.

214. STATEMENT OF AFFAIRS OF 25 AUST INF BN REGIMENTAL TRUST FUND
as at 30 Nov 44.

BALANCE in Trust Account as at 3 Nov 44		£ 228: 9: 2
ADD - Canteen Grant - 27 Nov 44	£ 56:13:10	
54 Bn Distribution - 29 Nov 44	20: 6:10	77: - : 8
<u>TOTAL RECEIPTS</u>		£ 305: 9:10
DEDUCT - Puggarees - 22 Nov 44		21:18:10
<u>BALANCE as at 30 Nov 44</u>		<u>£ 283:11:--</u>

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AS AT 30 NOV 44.

Wireless (Less Depreciation)	£ 35:--:--
Aladdin Lamps & Pressure Lamps (incl damage and depreciation)	30:--:--
Sporting Gear (Less Depreciation)	65:--:--
Cash in Trust Account	283:11:--
	<u>£ 413:11:--</u>

DISTRIBUTION - LIST "A"

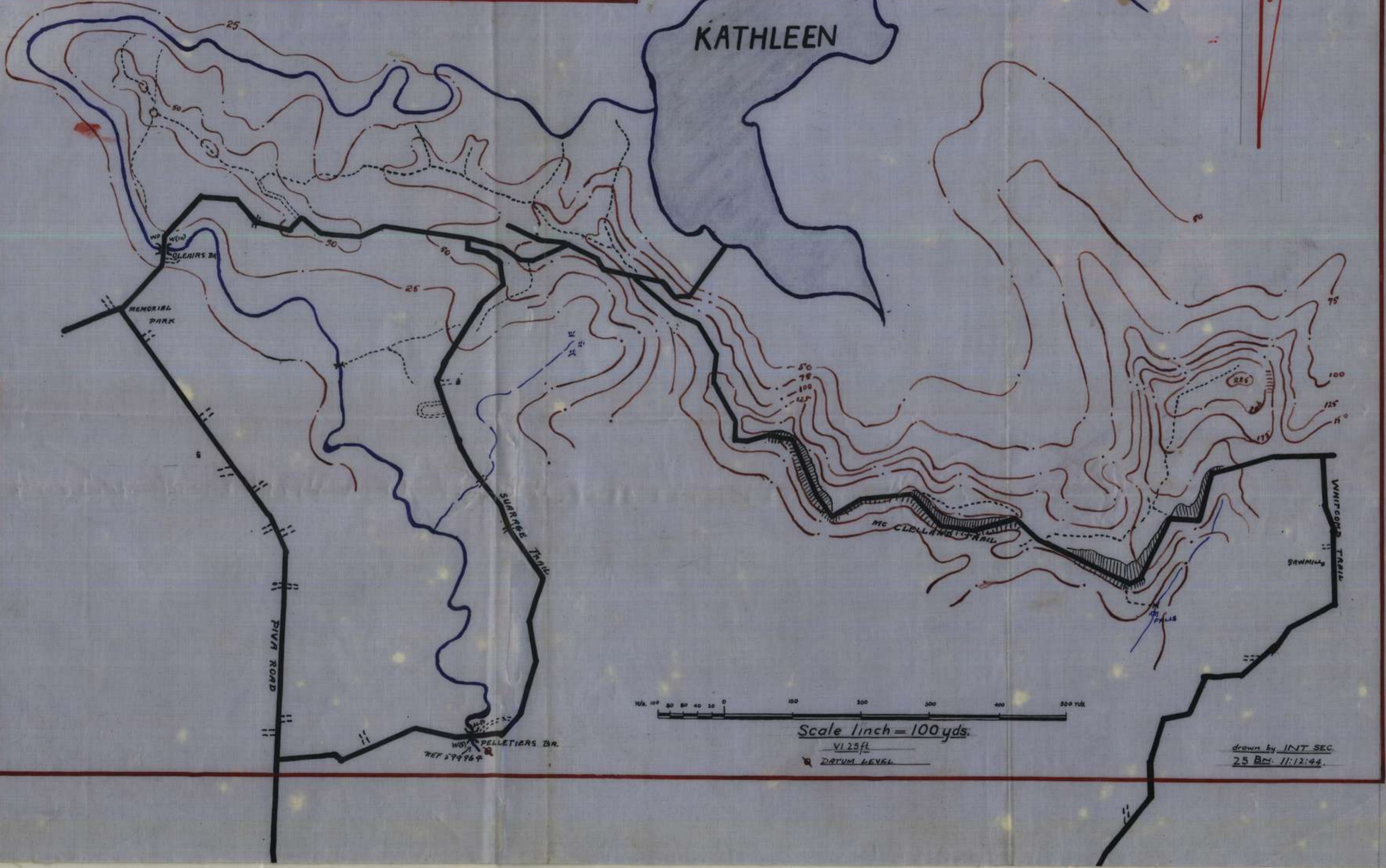
Capt
Adj't 25 Aust Inf Bn

APPX N

BN AREA
LAKE KATHLEEN SECTOR OF PERIMETER

RF 1:3960

REFMAP TOROKINA 1 INCH

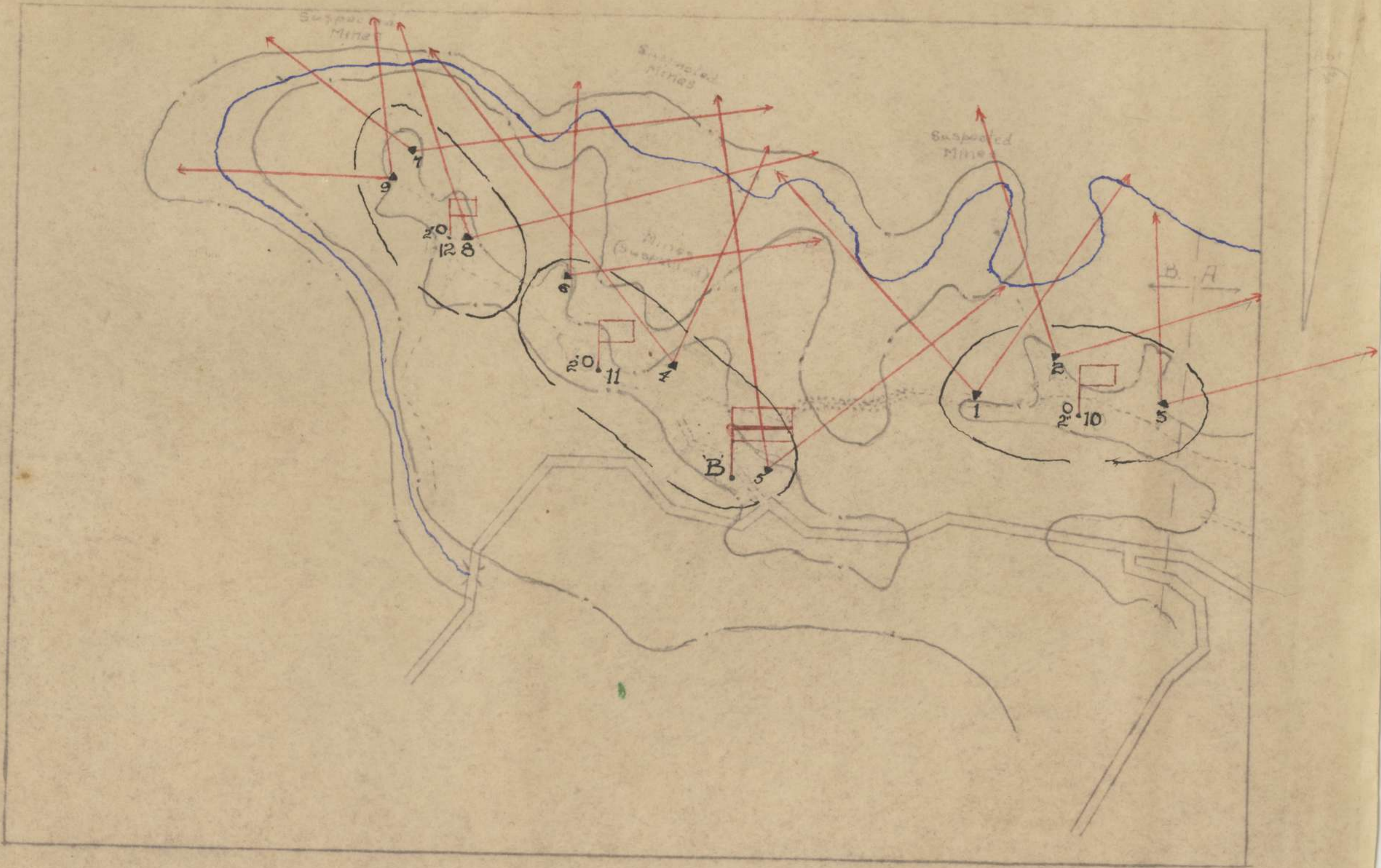


drawn by INJT SEC
25 Bm 11:12:44

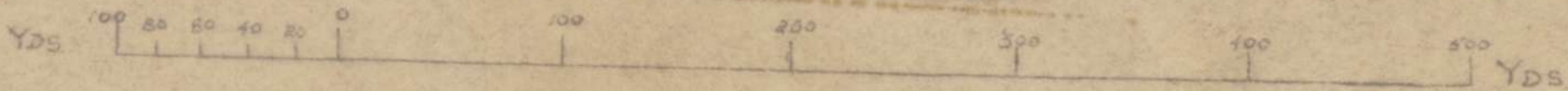
PL. DISPOSNS
AND
FIRE PLAN.

SWITCH MAP
BOBY AREA

RF 1:3952

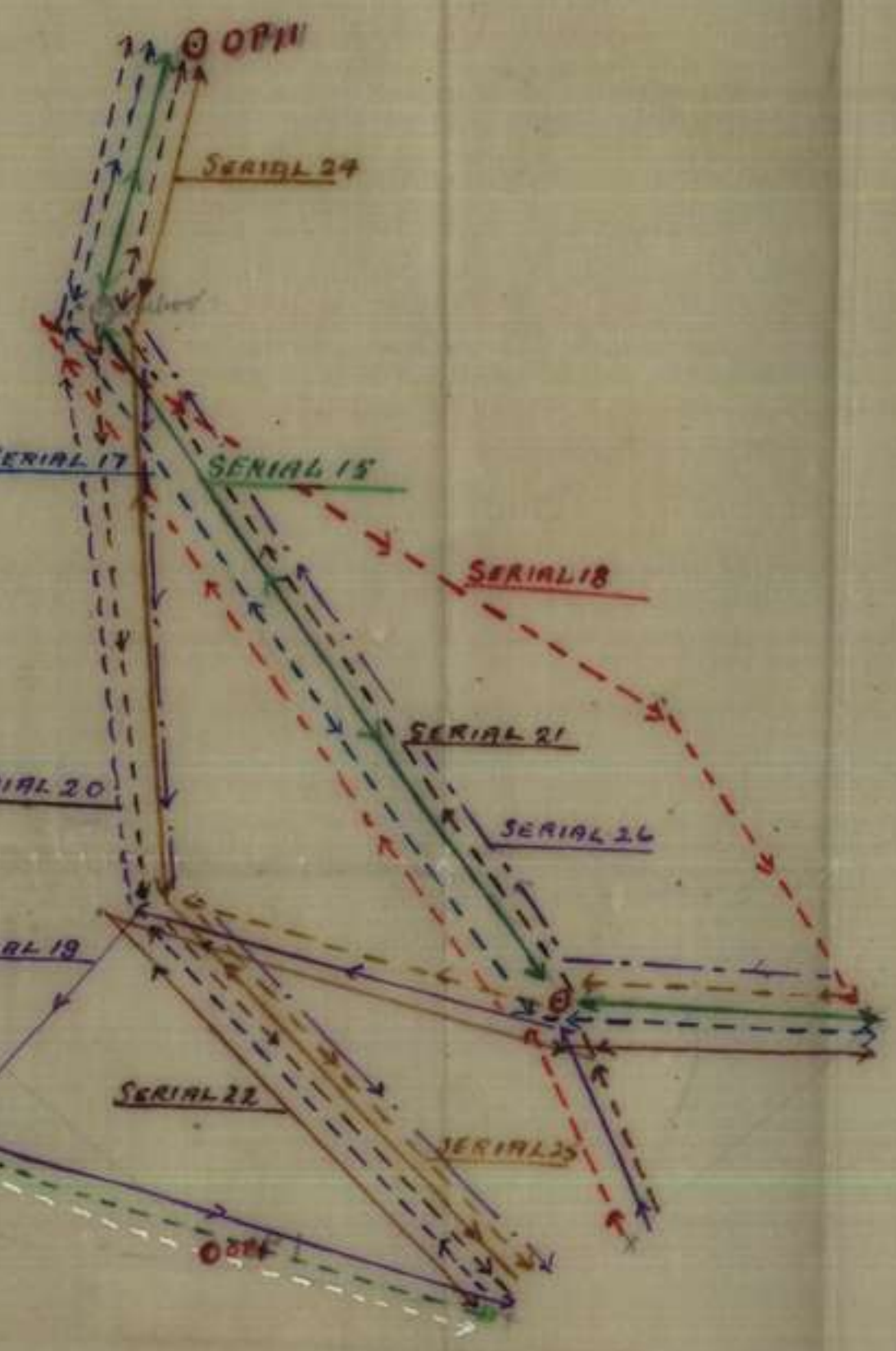
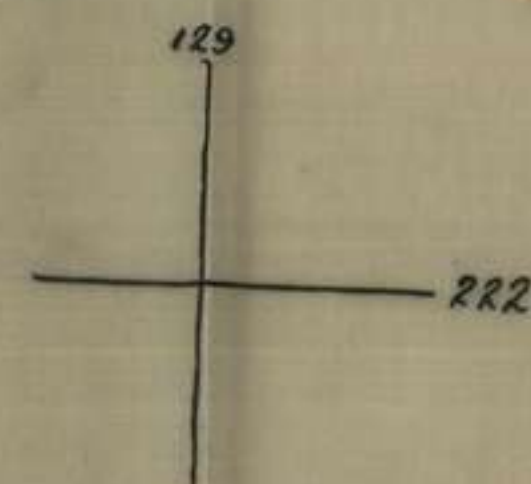
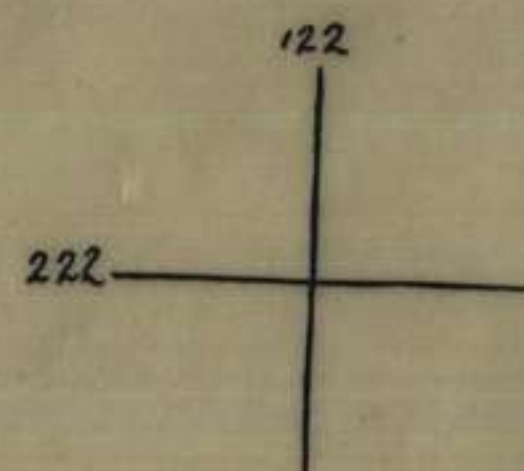


Scale: 1 in to 100 yds



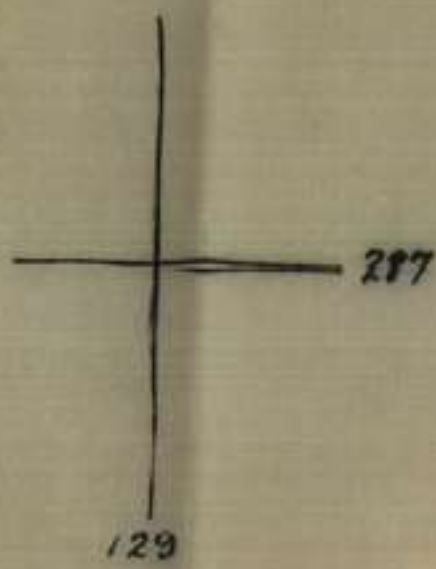
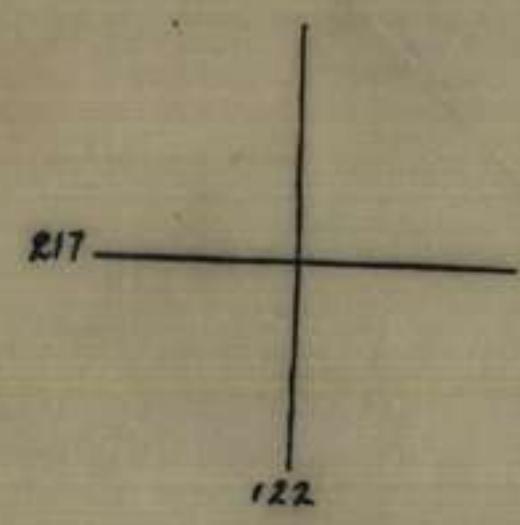
Patrol Overlay - LARUMA RIVER 1:20 000

For week ending 1800 hrs 15 DEC 49.



LARUMA

Note B Coy Patrols Serials 2-12
cancelled - 26 Bn assuming responsibility
as from 101800H



LEGEND

DAILY SECURITY PATROLS	○
4 DEC PATROLS	○
10 DEC PATROLS	○
11 DEC PATROLS	○
12 DEC PATROLS	○
13 DEC PATROLS	○
14 DEC PATROLS	○
15 DEC PATROLS	○

17 Dec 44.

25 AUST INF BN - MOVEMENT ORDER.

Ref Map LARUMA RIVER - 1 : 20,000.

less LOB & Adv elements

1. 25 AUST INF BN will move to NUMA NUMA road head by MT on 20 and 21 Dec 44.

2. Order of Movement -

(a) 20 Dec, B Coy, C Coy, Part HQ Coy (as previously arranged), part Bn HQ and Q Truck.

(b) 21 Dec - A Coy, D Coy, Balance of HQ Coy, Balance of Bn HQ incl 6 Bde Sig Personnel and 2 Field Security Personnel.

3. SF - NUMA NUMA TRAIL Sentry Bok ref 12832202.

ST - 0630 hrs (both days)

4. Allotment of vehicles -

Vehicles will report to Coys as follows at 0550 hrs (day of move)

20 Dec 44.

Serial	Coy	No of Personnel	Vehicles	Place
A	B	90	6 x 3 tons.	Coy HQ.
B	C	86	6 x 3 "	Coy HQ or 29 Bde Area if Creek Crossing out
C	HQ	94	7 x 3 "	As arranged by HQ Coy
D	Bn HQ	10	1 x 3 "	Bn HQ
E	Q Store	Stores etc.	1 x 3 "	Q Store evening of 19 Dec 44.

21 Dec 44.

F	A	86	8 x 3 "	Coy HQ
G	D	81	8 x 3 "	Coy HQ
H	HQ	42	5 x 3 "	As for Serial C
I	Bn HQ	7	1 x 3 "	Bn HQ
J	Bde Sig Sec	6)		
	Fd Security	2)	1 x 3 "	Bn HQ

5. Assembly - All Serials will assemble in order of movement by 0620 hrs on day of move.

6. Guides - Will be supplied by Coys' LOB pers to report to TO. Time and place arranged direct with TO.

7. Timings - Reveille - 0500 hrs (day of Move)
Breakfast- 0530 " "

8. Rear Parties - 1 x 3 ton truck with LOB pers will report to HQ of Coys at 0600 hrs on day of move and will return all cooking gear etc to LOB Area. To be arranged by TO and Lt JEFFERIES.

Tools will be carried by parties and will fill in last latrine pits as ordered by Coys.

9. Administration - Rations (a) 1 day's hard and 1 day's emergency carried on man.
(b) as per CO's conference.

Signed 1545 hrs 17 Dec 44 - issued by DR.

Major
2 IC 25 Aust Inf Bn

DISTRIBUTION -

1 A Coy	4 D Coy	7 RQMS	10 LOB (Lt Jefferies)
2 B Coy	5 HQ Coy	8 Asst Adjt	11 7 Aust Inf Bde (AIF)
3 C Coy	6 TO	9 2 IC	12 File
			13/14 War Diary

orig APPX R.

LIST OF NAMES GIVEN FEATURES PEARL RIDGE AREA.

Ref map KOWARO 1: 25000.

PEARL RIDGE	695122 to 649150
BAWABU RIDGE	675116 to 681128
ARTY RIDGE	685118 to 678119
PEAR HILL feature	683122- 682125- 685126
PEAR HILL approx	684125
MORETON'S REST	664096
BARGES HILL	664099
WILLIAMSON'S KNOLL	663102
JACKSON'S KNOLL	665104
RYAN'S KNOLL	667105
ABBOTT'S KNOLL	668106
SMEDLEY'S KNOLL	670108
MARTIN'S KNOLL	672110
GEORGE HILL	679114
LITTLE GEORGE	680114
PUP KNOLL	682116
ARTY HILL	684118
RADFORD'S KNOLL	672120
* WERDA'S KNOLL	67212 2
BARTON'S KNOLL feature	677125
← BAKER'S BROW	680128
MT DEACON	685109
CHOKO RIDGE	620125
KEENAN'S RIDGE	606148

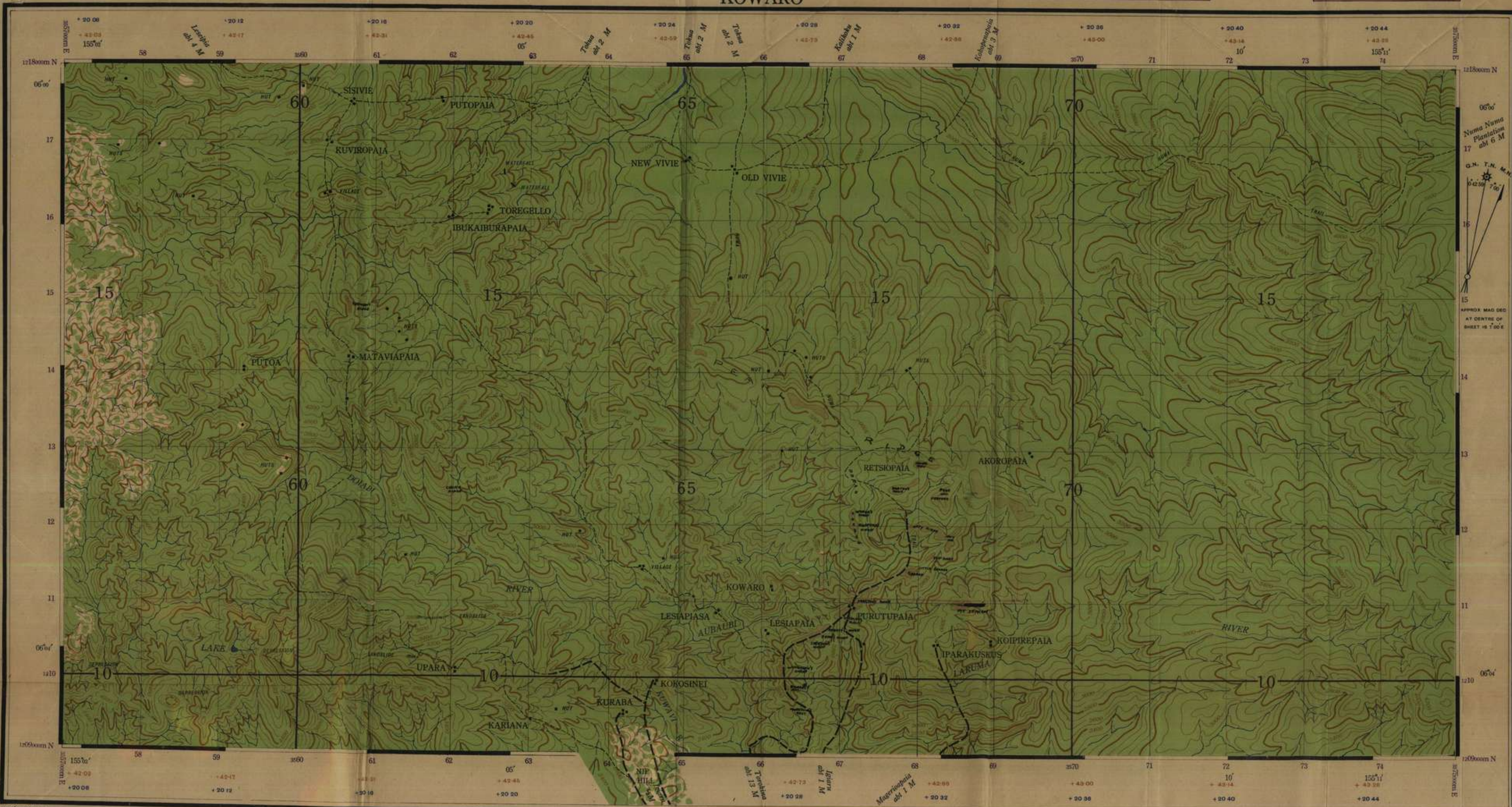
1:25,000

NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES GRID
SOUTHERN NEW GUINEA ZONE

BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND KOWARO

WARNING
THE GRID ON THIS MAP DOES NOT AGREE WITH
THE GRID ON CORRESPONDING 1-INCH MAP

REFER TO THIS MAP AS:
NO 4830 KOWARO 1: 25000 SERIES



100/020/4830

CONTROL: Naval Astronomical Station at TOROKINA
Lat 06° 12' 18" S. Long 155° 02' 02.5" E.
and Traversed by 670 Eng. Topo Company (U.S. Army)

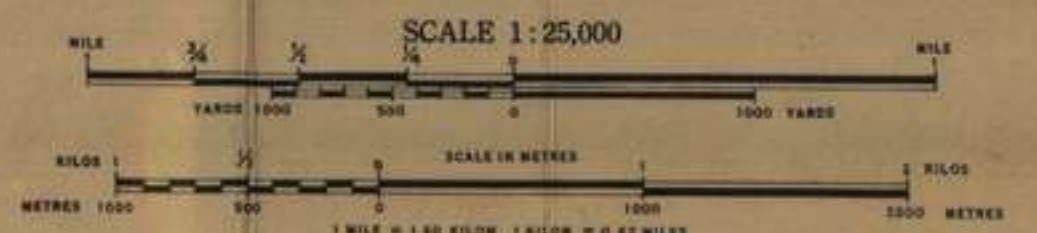
PROJECTION: Lambert Conical Orthomorphic

AIR PHOTOGRAPHY: 17th Photo Squadron 13th Air Force

MISSIONS: 4C 143A 4B 196C R1 R2 R4 R5 4B 237D

COMPILATION & DRAWING: Surveyed with aid of aerial photographs by Det 2 Aust Field Survey Company, Aust Svy Corps, Nov '44

REPRODUCTION: 2/1 Aust Army Topo Survey Coy Nov '44



WARNING: FORM LINES ONLY, NOT CONTOURS
(INTERVALS APPROXIMATELY 100 FEET)

NOTE: This map was produced from aerial photographs. Due to lack of accurate ground control distances and heights on this map may be at variance with actual ground distances.

The figures within the borders of this map are for artillery purposes. The brown figures denote convergence and the blue figures denote corrections in minutes and seconds of mean time, based on standard Meridian 150° E.

Officers using this map are requested to make any necessary additions or amendments on the map itself and forward to A D Survey H Q of Force concerned.

Coral Reef	- - - - -
Sand	- - - - -
Trig. Stations	△ 90°
and altitude	△ 45°
Third	△ 15°
Fourth	△ 10°
Astronomical Station	○
Native Village	●
Unidentified Native Village	○
Buildings	■
River or perennial Stream	—
Non perennial Stream	- - -
Fathom Line	- - - - -

Swamp	- - - - -
Spring Well, Waterhole	- - - - -
Mangroves	- - - - -
Dense Jungle Forest	- - - - -
Open Forest	- - - - -
Scattered Timber	- - - - -
Plantation	- - - - -
Secondary Growth	- - - - -
Contour Form Lines	- - - - -
Depression Contour	- - - - -
Cliffs & Steep Slopes	- - - - -

TO GIVE A REFERENCE ON THIS SHEET	
Pay attention to larger marginal figures and to those printed on the face of the map.	
POINT TOWARD (VILLAGE)	
East	112
North	99
West	62
South	112
REFERENCE 622112	
Unit	Metre
Scale	5000
Reference to nearest	100
Nearest and farthest distance	100 Kilometres

25 Aust Inf Bn

25 Aust Inf Bn
28 Dec 44.

APPX S

Ref Map KOWARO 1 : 25000.

Subject - PRELIMINARY INTERROGATION OF
L cpl TOSHINOBU YAMASAKI

The abovenamed PW surrendered to B coy posn ref 680127 at 271830L

Preliminary interrogation was carried out by R T Kimura on morning 28 Dec at 25 Bn Comd Post ref 672111.

Particulars of PW

L cpl YOSHINOBU YAMASAKI is a machine gunner and member of 6 Coy 2 Bn 81 Regt. Aged 24, he is a farmer in civil life. He received 8 years schooling including 2 years at middle school. He arrived at BOUGANVILLE from RABAUL during Nov 43.

Details of Surrender

He came in with full intention to surrender. His reason - he had been slugged by his sec leader at 5 Coy HQ, because he was unable due to weakness, to perform sentry duties. PW was handed two grenades and ordered to throw them at the enemy. PW took one hour from 5 Coy HQ to reach PEARL RIDGE and moved straight forward to point of surrender. This time of one hour included many rests and he considers that about 30 mins would be average time.

His knowledge of strengths and dispositions of JAP forces on PEARL RIDGE is therefore limited.

PW bears no visable injury except for abrasions on left side of face caused by the maltreatment mentioned above. He is however, weak and suffering from mal-nutrition. He stated that shortage of food tended to make the men irritable and short tempered.

E.O.B. (Note : some of the following are merely confirmations.)

The statement made in a recent Div Summary that E.O.B. has now become a matter of strengths and dispositions rather than unit identifications, appears to be borne out.

5 Coy Comd	-	1st Lt TSUJIMOTO
6 " "	-	" " ITO
2 Bn "	-	Capt NAMIMATSU
81 Regt "	-	Col KANEKO
38 IMB "	-	Maj Gen KIJIMA
3 Base Pt Comd	-	1st Lt KAMIFUJI.

Enemy Strengths and Dispositions (local area)

Sketch attached as appx A is appreciation made as a result of questioning and sketch made by PW. Its accuracy is questionable as PW apparently was somewhat uncertain in his orientation. The sketch made by PW does bear some resemblance to our previous opinion regarding enemy dispositions.

PW stated that at each of the three main posts shown in Appx A dugouts are situated on each side of the track.

Enemy Intentions

PW believes that enemy is incapable of and has no intention of becoming aggressive. His patrolling activities do not follow any schedule and become the prerogative of the local def post commander. Enemy tps condition is not good enough for sustained and active patrolling.

However general policy is that if a posn is lost they will counter-attack the following night.

Enemy Supplies.

PW was without boots, his clothing torn and tattered and his condition weak from malnutrition. This tells one story of the enemy supply situation. PW stated that food brought to fwd tps was insufficient but equally distributed and some of his compatriots were faring somewhat better than he was on the diet which comprised of barley, a little white rice, dried fruit (salty and not unlike dried apricots) dehydrated beans for sauce.

Amn replacement is from 5 Coy HQ, which in turn is supplied

from NUMA NUMA. PW however does not think that at present there is much reserve on amn at 5 Coy.

Miscellaneous

PW stated that a number are inclined to surrender but havn't "the guts" as talk on this subject is suppressed by the offr.

Our Arty is on the target, but although it causes alarm and despondency, as yet no fox-holes have been hit or casualties caused.

PW was at 5 Coy HQ for 15 days and at 3 Base Pt for 10 days making 25 days since he left NUMA NUMA.

PW stated that gas warfare eqpt was on the island but that the majority had discarded their respirators as international law forbade the use of gas.

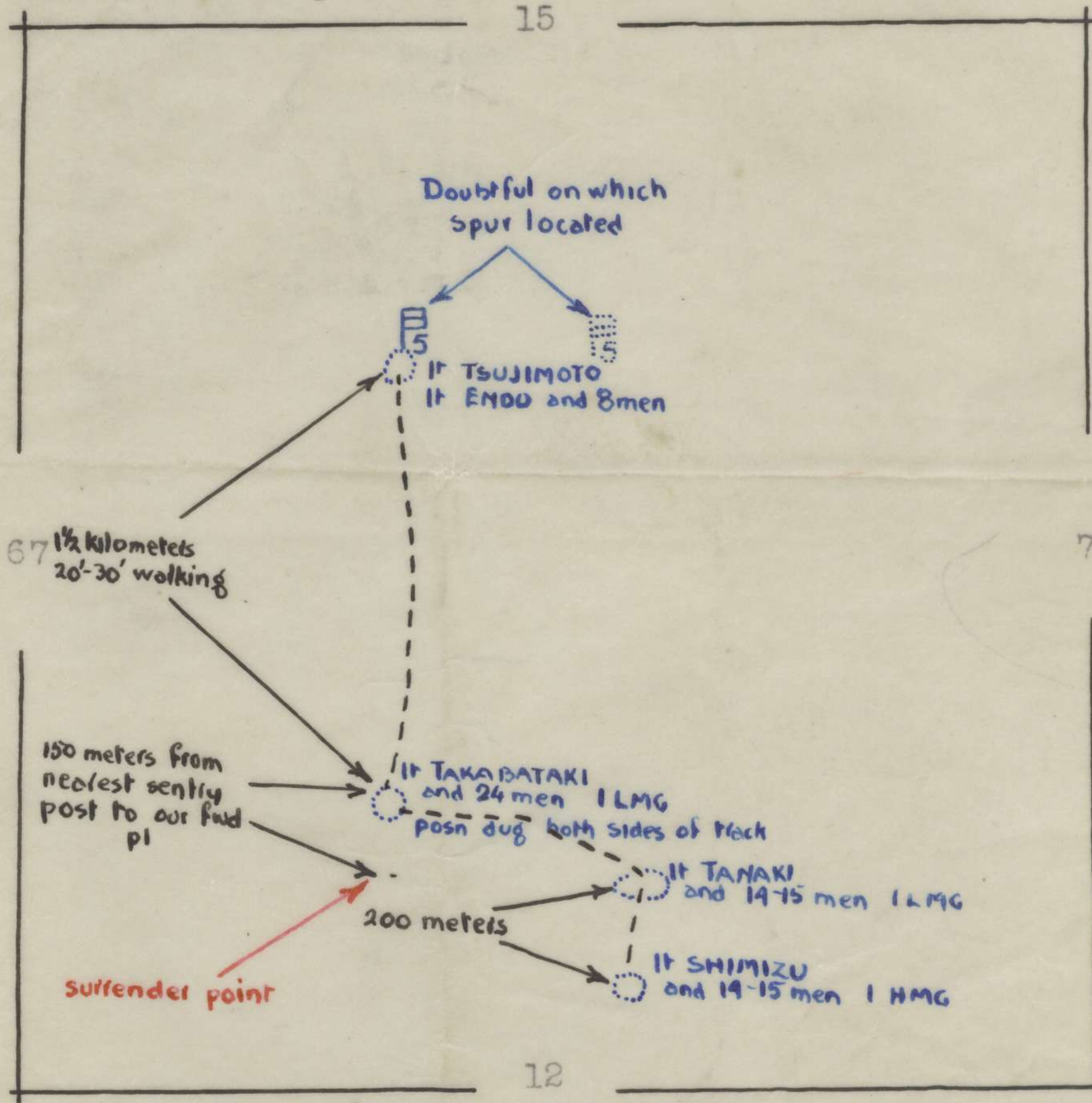
Sgd R McDonald Lt,
IO 25 Aust Inf Bn

INTERROGATOR : Sjt R T KIMURA.

overlay KOWARO 1:25000

Tentative adaption of sketch drawn by P W 19

15



Note..suggested L of C.....

PW SPOT INTERROGATION NO 2

Date - 28 Dec 44
 Time - 1800 hrs
 Place - 25 Bn Hosp
 (A Coy 11 Fd Amb)
 Interrogator's No- 94

Personal Details -

Name - YAMASAKI, YOSHINOBU
 PWs No - 19 (Accorded by us)
 Rank - L/Cpl
 Unit - 6 Coy, MG Pl, 2 Bn, 81 Inf Regt, 38 IMD.
 Place of capture - Surrendered on PEARL RIDGE at our B Coy posn.
 Date of capture - Surrendered evening of 27 Dec.
 Religion - Bhuddist.
 Prefecture - HYOGO - KEN.
 Father's name - ZENTARO, living.
 Mother's " - TOYO, living, also two elder married sisters and PW
 is only son, and single.
 Age - 24 years Occupation - Farmer.

Preamble :-

Six years of grammar school plus two years of high school. Physical condition is very poor due to Malaria, Beri Beri, malnutrition and sores on both feet. Right foot is also cut by bamboo, bruise near left temple where he was hit by section leader. Very cooperative, sincere, and presents his entire knowledge, viewpoints and estimations to the best of his ability.

Short Chronology :-

Feb 20 1943 went to China, participated in campaign at JOSHU. ^{OCT} ~~Nov~~ 15 1943 left China for TRUK, debarked and stayed for two days, then proceeded to RABAU, stayed for fifteen days, arrived on West Coast of BOUGAINVILLE at BOTO near ~~XXXXX~~ KARIO on ^{NOV} ~~Dec~~ 18, 1943.

PW's Coy :-

1st Lt ITO, CO - Headquarters at 1st Base Point. There are 47/48 men there. 5 or 6 men are with TANAKA sentry post, 4 men are at 3 BP.

PW's Bn :-

Capt NAMIMATSU - CO. NAMIMATSU issues 2 Bn orders, but 1st Lt KAMIFUJI distributes the set orders from 3 BP because it is the most convenient location and closer to the front than is 1 BP. Personnel at 1 BP include Bn HQ, 5 and 6 Coy HQ, remnants of Bn Gun Pl and ^{Compound} ~~Compound~~ gun Unit. There are 140 to 150 men in all, and PW believes 20 to 25 men are ill at 1 BP.

PW's Regimental HQ :-

At NUMA NUMA under Maj-Gen KIJIMA. Over 500 men there, serves as support base. Believes there should be 5 or 6 tanks there with some personnel in reserve for emergency. PW only went to sea coast near NUMA NUMA to fish, consequently does not know area above NUMA NUMA. He does not believe that there is gas warfare equipment at NUMA NUMA but is positive they will not use it, as a matter of fact many of his buddies have thrown gas masks because International Law forbids the use of gas. The standard type of gas for the Japanese Army are sneezing gas, lewisite and yperite (sternator and lachrymator) PW says he has not seen any flame gas used by the Japanese Army except in JAPAN.

Intentions of Enemy :-

Immediately after losing a position to the enemy PW usually execute a night counter attack in an attempt to retake the position. Other than that, he knows of no offensive plans. Due to lack of food, men, ammunition, weapons also low moral condition discourages any offensive plans.

Supplies :-

Weapons, ammunition and food are obtained from NUMA NUMA. ^{Coy} ~~Coy~~ has very little medicine - only of first aid nature. Although there are various medical supplies at NUMA NUMA, PW feels that it is still insufficient. PW had no shoes and says he could not even expect an old pair for replacement, however most soldiers had shoes. Type of food is salted barley with dried plum, powdered Soya Bean Sauce, salt and wild leaves, potatoes and Sak Sak. There is powdered miso (bean mash)

Supplies (Continued)

at NUMA NUMA, but PW has not had any at the front lines.

Information on Base Points :-

1 BP ~~point~~ is two Japanese miles from NUMA NUMA. It is nominally 2 Bn HQ under Capt NAMIMATSU (Int Note :- previously reported by other PWs as 1st Lt). Weapons are 1 Pom Pom gun with unknown quantity of ammunition, 4 grenade dischargers in each Coy, 2 HMG, 3 LMG in each Coy, numerous grenades and rifles. There are no mortars. Although quantity of ammunition is unknown it can be obtained from NUMA NUMA. NAMIMATSU was wounded at the front about two months ago, therefore he stayed at 1 BP instead of going to 3 BP so KAMIFUJI took his place at 3 BP.

2 BP is 8 kilometres from 1 BP or about 4 hours walk. Sjt Major TANAGOSHI and 4 men plus three linemen (telephone men). There were 3 or 4 other men there previously but had left for PEARL RIDGE area to fight. All men at this BP belong to 2 Bn HQ ~~xxx~~. Weapons are 1 LMG, grenades and rifles.

3 BP is about 8 kilometres from 2 BP. 1st Lt KAMIFUJI is CO with 30 men. Among the 30 men are some 2 Bn HQ men, 4 men from the 6 Coy and an unknown number of 5 Coy men. A few shelters were built there prior to arrival of these 30 men, out of Sak Sak leaves. Weapons are 1 HMG, 1 LMG, 2 grenade dischargers, grenades rifles and unknown quantity of ammunition. There were 6 men there belonging to the 2 Bn Gun Pl who left for REPRIAPAIA outpost and were subsequently replaced by TANAHASHI and sentries at REPRIAPAIA. Upon leaving REPRIAPAIA the afore-mentioned 6 men of the 2 Bn Gun Pl were distributed to the various outposts.

5 Coy HQ is about a two hours walk or 4 kilometres from 3 BP. 1st Lt TSUJIMOTO is CO. 2 Lt ENDO a Pl Leader, is acting at present as 2 IC under TSUJIMOTO. Other personnel are 2 orderlies, 3 communication men, 1 section leader, 1 medical enlisted man and 1 infantryman - total of 10. Also nearby are a medical officer - name unknown - 1 NCO and 1 infantryman. 7 and 8 Coys have been dissolved and remnants have been distributed among 5 and 6 Coys. 5 Coy HQ to 2 Lt TAKABATAKE'S outpost is about 25 to 30 minute walk or 1 1/2 kilometres. The ~~xxx~~ small ^{track} and surrounding area between the two points has been bombed. TAKABATAKE has about 24 men. He is an officer of a pom pom unit but they have not a pom pom gun there. 15 or 16 men of the 24 belong to the said pom pom unit. The remainder are a mixture of 5 Coy and Bn Gun personnel. The weapons are 1 grenade discharger (PW says uncertain but probable) 3 grenades per man, 500 rounds of ammunition for their 1 LMG and the usual type 38 rifles.

1st Lt SHIMIZU'S outpost has 15 or 16 men and is located actually 300 metres South from TAKABATAKE and have possibly 1 grenade discharger but PW says that he is sure there is one LMG with 500 rounds and rifles also 3 grenades per man.

1st Lt TANAKA'S outpost has 15 or 16 men and are located about 100 metres to the rear of SHIMIZU which would be approx 200 metres SE of TAKABATAKE. About 6 men are from the 5 Coy and 5 or 6 belong to the 6 Coy. 1 man was wounded by our Arty Fire about 23/24 Dec and PW says two others were wounded but he does not know what unit they were from. The weapons are 1 HMG, unknown amount of ammunition, grenades and rifles. It must be remembered that ammunition may be obtained from NUMA NUMA at any time.

PW's Itinerary :-

Left 1 BP on Nov 25 under Lt KAMIFUJI and 29 or 30 men for 3 BP. Required 3 days to arrive at 5 Coy HQ. Slept at 2 and 3 BP en route. Each man carried two days rations of white rice. The three officers in the party KAMIFUJI, 1st Lt OYA and 2nd Lt TAKABATAKE carried pistols. 2 6 Coy men of which PW was one carried one LMG and 300 rounds of ammunition. Two other men had one grenade discharger apiece. The remaining 25 men carried rifles. TAKABATAKE is actually a pom pom gun unit leader but did not bring any artillery and was assigned to duty as sentry post leader. 14 or 15 men of this group belong to the pom pom unit. 3 or 4 men of Bn gun Pl, 5 men of 6 Coy and 3 men of 5 Coy compose this 30 men group.

At Sjt TANAHASHI'S outpost at REPRIAPAIA are a total of 9 men including 3 mPs in charge of 20 natives who work in gardens. All of the men belong to 6 Coy. Location is 4 kilometres SE of 3 BP as estimated by PW (Int note :- see attached sketch) PW heard that TOKOPENAPAIA is somewhere near REPRIAPAIA.

Miscellaneous - PW does not know any details of Japs night attack on Christmas night on our B Coy posn. He was struck by Cpl who is a section leader for inability to, due to poor physical condition, execute gardening duties and even sentry duty. He was so angered that he decided to surrender at the first opportunity. The following day, which was the 26 Dec ENDO the Pl officer presented him with 2 grenades and the ticklish duty of placing said

Miscellaneous (Continued)

grenades at Australian Posns. PW left that 5 Coy HQ to carry out his mission but his only intention was to surrender. En route to our lines he stopped at TAKABATAKE'S outpost and received instructions as to our posns and how to get there. He slept 150 metres below sentry post that night of 26 Dec. The next day until evening he waited at the same spot because he felt that he would be shot by our sentries if he attempted to surrender during the day. Therefore with the impression that our sentries would withdraw within the perimeter by evening he felt that it would be safe for him to approach after that time, although he felt that he would be eventually shot by our troops within a day or two after surrender. He threw his grenades away just before he surrendered. None of his own men know that he surrendered.

PW does not know of the bombing of Jap posn near 3 BP by eight of our Corsairs approximately a fortnight ago.

He cannot estimate how many men there are on the whole island. When he was in China he was with this same Unit the 81 Regt. PW says that he does not know where the rumours originate concerning the PHILLIPINES and the bombing of JAPAN proper but he believes that half of the men feel that it is merely rumours and there is no way of obtaining definite information of the facts.

PW says the Japanese army never used gas in CHINA.

Information concerning the upper West Coast of this island may be obtained from this PW through subsequent interrogation

Attached is an improved but unaltered copy of sketch drawn by PW.

Rusty Kimura Sjt

To - 15th Aust. Battalion
COMMAND POST



PW #19 SPOT INTER #2

Dec 28 44 1800 hrs.

Sgt. Rusty Kimura

His name was and is Yoshinobu Yamasaki a L/cpl of the 6th Coy, 2 Bn., 81 inf regt, 38 IMB Imperial Japanese Army. It was on Dec 28 1944 at the 25 Aust Inf Bn's tactical Hq on MARTIN'S KNOLL. As Col McKinna, Lt McDonald, Sjt Greenwood of the 25th Bn and myself (temporarily attached to the above unit from the US Intelligence) stepped down the four or five earthen steps into the fox-hole which was about 5 ft deep and 10 ft square and covered with a tent, we saw him sitting there on a stretcher which was elevated a yd or so off the ground. He had no shoes and his only garment was a once durable Judo pantaloons. His nakedness from the waist up revealed his frightful, emaciated, skeleton figure which was typical of the Jap tps on this island in the main. He certainly did not represent a perfect example of the mighty fanatical Jap soldier and a far cry from the once proud soldier as he sat there, a pitiful, bewildered man.

I had just been sent up from the rear Bn HQ ^{TO INTERROGATE} this PW who had voluntarily surrendered the night before to the 25 Bn "B" Coy. My duty was to extract whatever infm I could which would be of immediate tactical value but the puzzled & stupid expression manifested on his countenance did little to encourage my hopes; however he proved to be quite an intelligent fellow and revealed infm which turned out to be of no little value as a copy of the report attached to this article will show. Undoubtedly his initial stupid appearance was due entirely to shock and malnutrition. I greeted him in his native tongue; "How are you? are you badly hurt?" to which he replied respectfully; "I am all right, just weak from lack of food and I have beri-beri." I enquired as to the swelling near his left temple which effected his bloodshot eye and he explained; "My section leader, a cpl, hit me because I was unable to perform my duties due to my weak physical condition." I remarked that the cpl must be a brutal sort of a person but the PW attempted to mitigate the act, adding that everyone was in an irritable state of mind due to lack of all supplies and failure in combat with the Allied forces on this island. Nevertheless, the blow on the head ~~was~~ was sufficient to incite him to surrender.

Upon obtaining the necessary infm he was walked back to the rear hospital area whence I had come only a short time previously. The necessary care and medical ^{ATTENTION} was accorded him by the Australian medical staff and upon concluding the usual subsequent military interrogation I had an informal brief chat with him and the following is the course of our conversation which shows the philosophy and the opinions of an average Jap soldier.

"Were you surprised to see me? and what did you think?" I asked with obvious curiosity. He grinned; "Oh - I was startled." I interrupted with; "Am I that homely?" and grinned back at him. "Oh no sir!" he exclaimed in an attempt to console me. "I was puzzled and wondered what you were doing in the Allied army and finally surmised that you are an Nisei (American - Jap) but I was pleased to find that there was someone who could speak my native tongue." he added.

"What kind of treatment did you expect from your enemies while you were harbouring the desire to surrender?" I queried with interest.

"Truthfully, I didn't care what was to happen to me. I expected a final cup of tea or perhaps even a dinner after which I expected immediate execution but I had made my decision and was not afraid. I was surprised that they (the Aussies) were sympathetic and kind. I only ^{HOPE} that upon ~~my~~ my recovery, I will be given the opportunity to work or do something to show my appreciation for the humane treatment given to me," he said with sincerity. I waved his offer aside with my opinion that; "I don't think that you will have to do much for the duration," which he accepted with surprise and doubt. I continued; "Now tell me, what about the surrender leaflets which the Allied forces dropped amongst you? What is the general opinion amongst your friends about the leaflets? Do any others wish to surrender? If so, why don't they?"

"Well, -" he answered thoughtfully, "half of them are sceptical and half of them believe in the leaflets and I am sure that there ^{are} some who would rather surrender than to go on continually suffering but they are kept in check by the offrs; and too, when

the opportunity to surrender does present itself, there arise many factors to postpone if not eliminate the desire to surrender. You know, such things as pride, no actual proof that the leaflets are sincere, loyalty to the Emperor, friends and fear of disgrace, also the thought that there will be other opportunities to surrender in the future tend to postpone their intentions."

After explaining Japan's present plight of utter hopelessness as far as winning the war is concerned, I ventured: "Do you still think that Japan has a chance of winning this war?" He smiled sadly: "If what you say is true, I suppose not. I guess the Allies have far too superior strength in weapons and manpower, but Japan will be harder to defeat as the Allies approach the homeland and Japan's morale will be the last to crumble."

"What is your opinion of the fighting ability of the Aussie soldier in comparison with the American?"

"Well, our battles with the Americans have always been on a larger scale and at the time when we were pretty well equipped. Almost all of the weapons of war were put in to use. I suppose it is unnecessary for the Aussies to employ any more weapons and men than what they are now using for a campaign like this. I can't see any difference in the fighting ability of the Yanks and the Aussies," he explained lengthily.

"Do you think that Tojo is a great man, and is he popular in Japan?"

"Yes he is truly a great man and very well liked because ^{he} is quiet and ^{an} unassuming gentleman. He has risen to the top the hard way."

"What has been the attitude of the Japanese people and the government in recent years towards the Germans and Italians?"

"We have always respected ^{the Germans} for their military might and their world-famous reputation in the scientific and medical world, but there has risen in Japan since years prior to this war, an under-current of mistrust towards the Germans because they have brazenly attempted to spread their Nazi doctrines in Japan using the schools and other organizations as the medium. As for the Italians - they just don't count," he chuckled. He continued: "I think that Japan has a more sincere feeling of sympathy and friendship for the Russians and the Chinese despite their continual quarreling. Those two peoples are a more peaceful and carefree people in reality and I think that they will eventually prove to be Japan's best friends."

"Do you want to return to Japan after the war to see your friends and family and to continue making a peaceful living which you were doing before this war broke out?" "I can't return -- ever!" he said wistfully. "We prisoners of war are considered dead by the Japanese army and substitute ashes are sent to our next of kin with the proper official notification attached to that ~~the~~ affect. I would be a disgrace to the Emperor, my family name and my friends if I return to Japan with a prisoner record."

"Don't you believe that there is hope that the Allies will change the system of government for Japan after the war to a more democratic form in which case you all will be able to return without the slightest fear of disgrace?"

"I don't think so because even if the system of government be changed, the attitude of the people towards ~~us~~ us will never change, - at least not over-night. We have been taught too long that it is the height of disgrace to permit ourselves to become a prisoners of war even if captured in an unconscious state."

"Then you think that the friends back home will all ostracise you?"

"They would be compelled to socially even though I do know that most of them would desire to accept me as their friend again and that they are an understanding people individually. It only requires one person, one ultra-patriot in the whole village resenting my past record, to make my life miserable."

"Then what do you expect to do after this war?"

"I don't know, - maybe we PsW will be permitted to live in Australia or to colonise one of these islands. I don't know what's to happen to us, - it doesn't matter much any more anyway," he ended with a sigh.

Realising that he must rest for a while due to his weak condition, I departed with assurance that there will be good food and everything possible will be done to make life comfortable for him and that I would drop around again. I also assured him (not too confidently) that his future will not be as dark as it appeared to be just so he would maintain a fragment of faith. He thanked me for the humane treatment accorded him and begged me to convey his gratitude to the Aussie doctors and their orderlies, which I did before I left him there, sitting on his stretcher, still bewildered and lonely but with a slightly rosier outlook on life, especially on learning that there are other members of his army (former members) who are also PsW and that he would join them soon.

I did not see him thereafter for he was sent to the main hospital further in the rear area on the following morning. I often wonder what is to become of such liabilities (the common Jap PW) who are the unfortunates of an unfortunate army which is trying vainly "to pull the chestnuts out of the fire" for Tojo and his short sighted cohorts. I do not envy the future of Yoshinobu Yamasaki L/cpl of the IMPERIAL JAPANESE ARMY, for there is no future as far as he is concerned and I personally see no remedy but everything may come out "in the wash" as the saying goes. There will be many more Yoshinobu Yamasakis before this holocaust is over and I will hear the same old story from any of them that I interrogate.

Sherman said "War is hell" he didn't know the half of it.

of

These are the impressions, Sjt ("Rusty") Kimira of ATIS following his interrogation of this PW.

appx T

PATROL REPORT

FIGHTING RECCE PATROL BY 16 PL D COY 25 AUST INF BN

Ref Map - KOWARO 1:25000

Date - 28 Dec 44.

Object - Find location of enemy posn - strength in area junc PEAR KNOLL - PEARL RIDGE.

Patrol Comd - Lt H. Shepherd.

Strength - 1 and 16

Time Out - 083028L

Time in - 161528L

Route Out and Route In - As overlay att.

Information enemy - Force approx 685129, Dug in.

Strength - 1 LMG certain, riflemen (could not ascertain number), several shots fired and working of bolt heard.

Movement in Area - Nil

Unoccupied posn pill boxes and fox holes scattered along RIDGE running from PEAR KNOLL to PEARL RIDGE at approx 684126. Deserted posn with defined pad running to present enemy location. Pill boxes also sighted covering re-entrant at approx 686126. Unoccupied

Deduction - Main task of force seems to be covering approach from PEAR KNOLL.

It appears that owing to shortage of men the fwd posns have been withdrawn to present location.

Movement - NCO reported he saw 3 Japs move down spur- then back on feature left of PEAR KNOLL.

Tracks - From ARTY HILL to OP PEAR KNOLL in bad condition. Slippery making going heavy, steep approach to CREEK 683121 and from CREEK to OP. Track would require several days work before suitable for L of C. Stretcher cases would be extremely difficult. From OP PEAR KNOLL to fwd posn made our track impossible to move quietly owing to bamboo and undergrowth. Defined pad runs from fwd posn to present posn approx 75 yds. Time taken for return trip 1hr 30 mins.

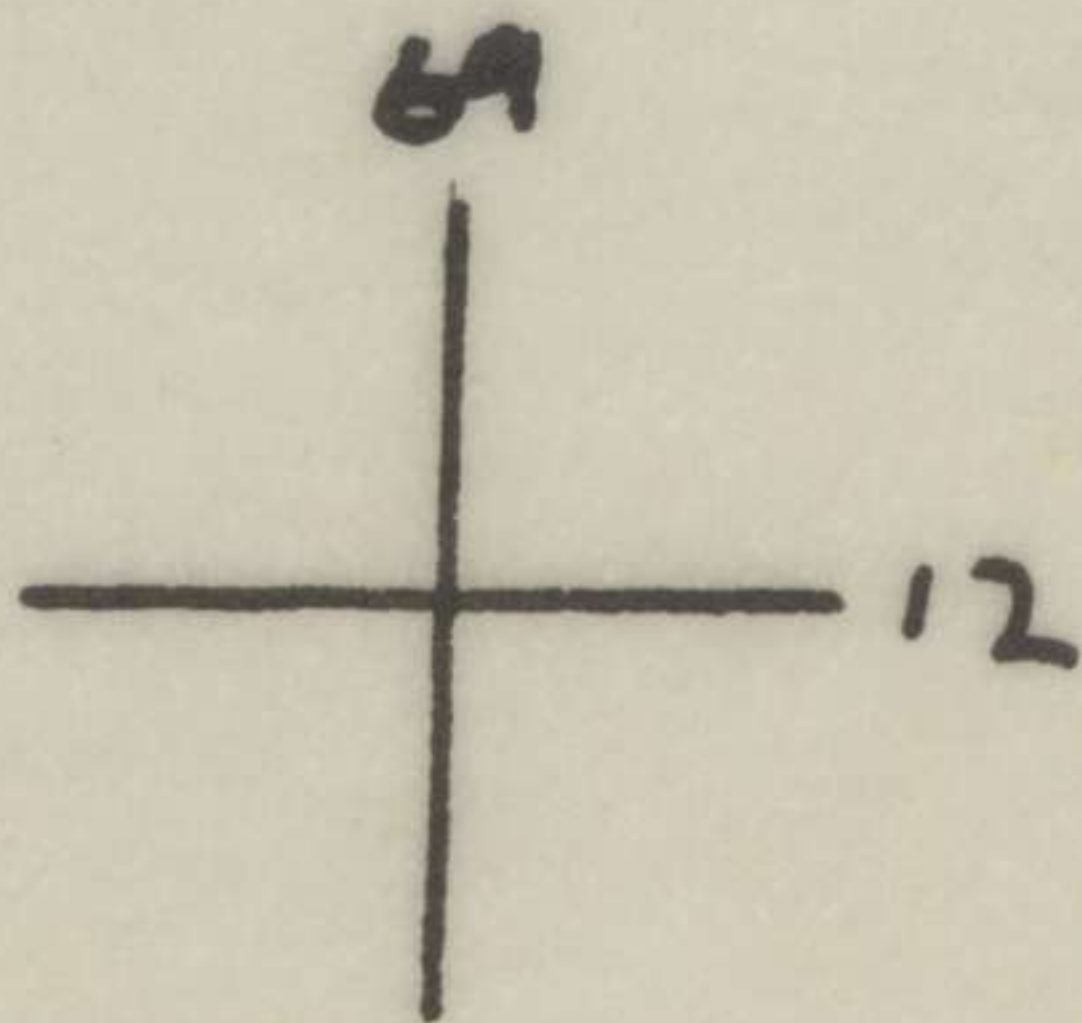
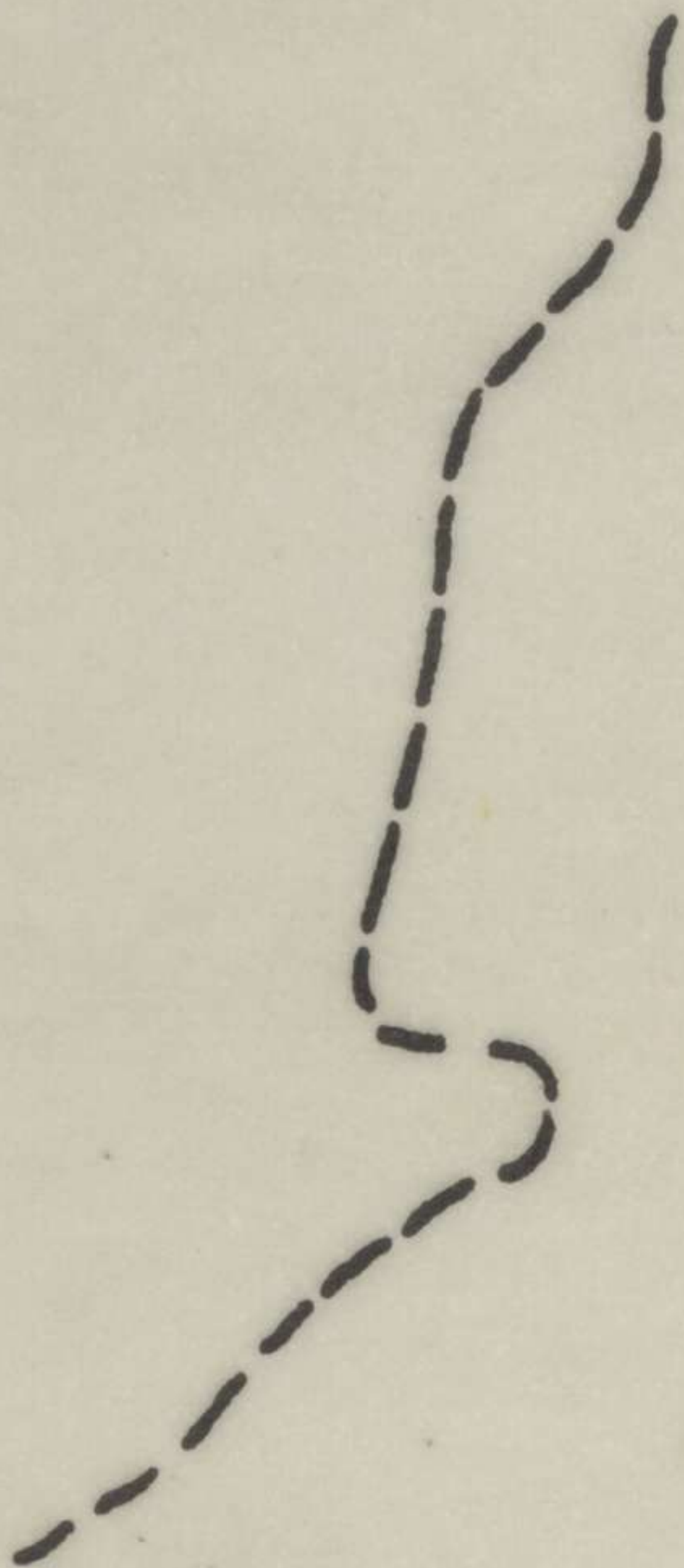
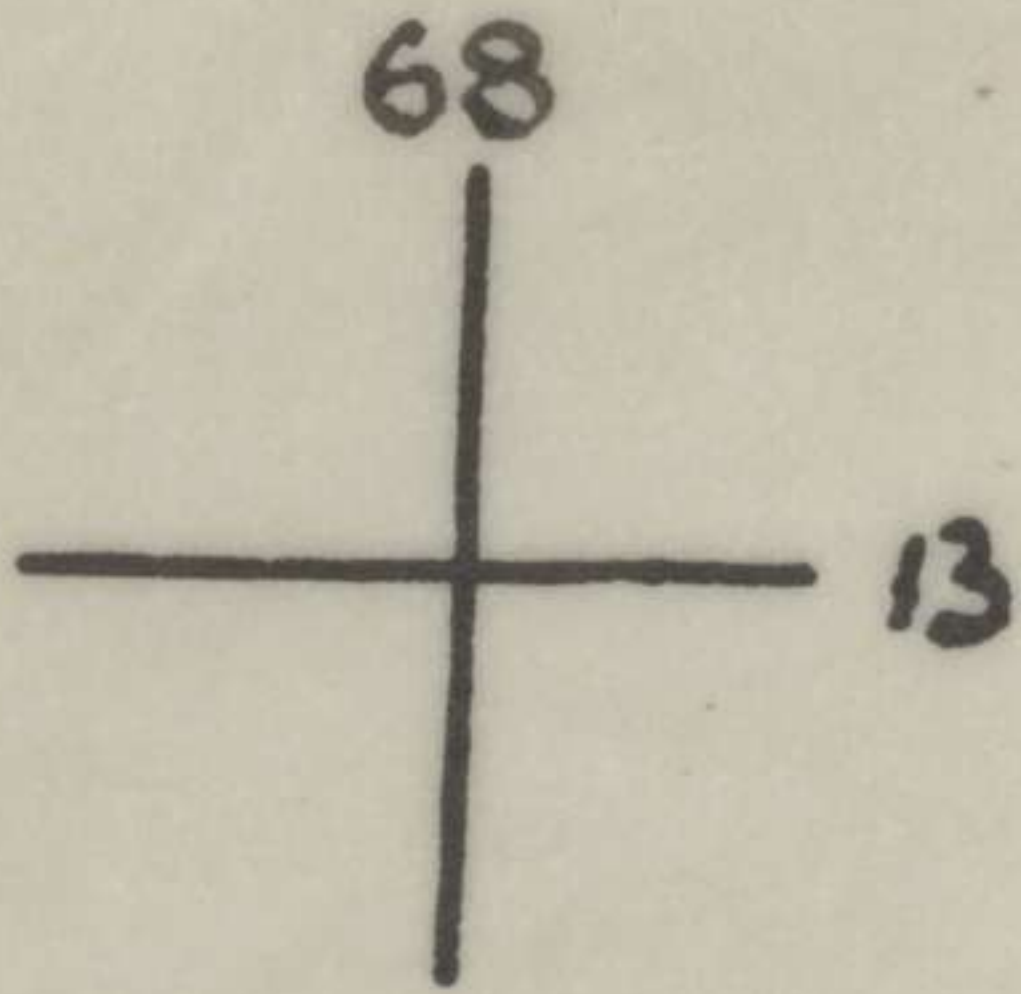
Topographical - Ridge running from PEAR KNOLL to PEARL RIDGE is razor back. 3 men abreast most of the way is the approx width. If moving on sides would be exposed to features right and left. These features dominate the razor back.

Vegetation - Undergrowth thick with bamboo. Several large trees on razor-back, feature right and left also around enemy posn - likely posn for snipers.

Casualties - 1 OR wounded on right hand.

General - Patrol was successful in finding location of enemy posns, but impossible to pin point exact posn owing to undergrowth and bamboo. Small clearing approx 20 yds width in front of posn with tree across track.

Found it impossible to move quietly owing to undergrowth and enemy must hear patrol several hundred yards before. Crews also a source of annoyance.



KOWARO
1:25000

25 AUST INF BN

REPORT ON OPERATIONS

PIATERAPAIA AREA

15 DEC 1944 TO 5 JAN 1945

Ref Map KOWARA 1:25000

PART 1 - RECORD OF EVENTS

- 13 DEC 44 7 Aust Inf Bde CO No 3 received advising that 25 Bn would relieve 9 Bn in the SISIVIE - PIATERAPAIA area.
- 15 DEC 44 Normal R Group plus Rifle Coy Comds left TOROKINA 0640 hrs.
- 17 DEC 44 Adv Party (40 all ranks) left TOROKINA 0716 hrs.
- 20 DEC 44 B and C Coys plus portions of Bn HQ and HQ Coy moved to Roadhead.
15 Pl of C Coy moved from there to CHOKO RIDGE en route to relieve the Pl of 9 Pl at SISIVIE, while B Coy moved via MARTIN'S KNOLL & BAWARO RIDGE to BARTON'S KNOLL to relieve B Coy 9 Bn. (Although carrying full gear, incl blankets, B Coy put up the remarkable performance of covering the whole distance and completing the relief by 1600 hrs the same day).
- 21 DEC 44 Balance of 25 Bn moved from TOROKINA and relieved the remainder of 9 Bn.
Relief was complete by 211430 hrs, and command passed from Lt Col Matthews to Lt Col McKenna at 211800L.

At this time, 25 Bn was disposed as under:

Comd Post plus 4 Pl	MARTIN'S KNOLL	672110
A Coy	ARTY HILL	683113
B Coy	BARTON'S KNOLL	677125
C Coy less 15 Pl	Rd Head	659095
15 Pl	KEEMAN'S RIDGE	606148
D Coy	GEORGE HILL & LITTLE GEORGE	679114
5 Pl	WILLIAMSON'S KNOLL	663102
Rear Bn HQ and att tps	Rd Head	659095

At time of take-over, enemy strength on PEARL RIDGE was estimated at 80 to 90 all ranks (3 Div Int Summary).
An enemy outpost posn at 680126 had given trouble and inflicted casualties on our predecessors, and it was decided that this should be cleared as soon as possible, and at the same time an attempt made to establish a footing on PEARL RIDGE. Following bombing by Wirraways (2 effective bombs dropped) and arty sp, an attack was made at 220936 hrs by 12 Pl (Lt CHESTERTON) from BARTON'S KNOLL, and the outpost posn was in our hands by 1000 hrs. 10 Pl (Lt SIMMONS) then endeavoured to push further along the narrow ridge, but came under accurate LMG and rifle fire, and sustained casualties. Owing to the nature of the ground, flanking movements were inappreciable, and the Pl established a def posn at 680127.
Own casualties - 1 killed, 3 wounded. Enemy casualties unknown, but a rifle and cap, both covered in blood were located in the enemy posn, also an OSMG carried by Pte BARTON, 9 Pl when killed in this area.

For the next week all Coys were engaged in extensive patrolling to gain infm for a major attack on PEARL RIDGE, which was fixed for 30 Dec 44. The following are the more important events:-

- 23 DEC 44 (a) Patrol of 1 Offr and 4 ORs from A Coy located enemy in ambush posn 686122. Lt K. SMITH was killed. One enemy known killed. (Lt SMITH was buried PUP KNOLL at 231500L).
- (b) B Coy established OP in tree at 678125 and engaged enemy posn with 3 in Mortar fire. Listening post heard screams and other indications of casualties having been inflicted on enemy.
- (c) At 2035 hrs, booby traps fwd of 10 Pl perimeter were sprung, and enemy launched a counter-attack - repulsed. Enemy again counter-attacked several hrs later, and this was also beaten off. Casualties - own NIL, but some damage to weapons. Enemy - not known.
- 24 DEC 44 (a) B Coy patrol moved on to PEARL RIDGE and located enemy at 683127 and 685127.
- (b) Another patrol from B Coy reached track junc 673129, gaining infm regarding routes from WEST.
- 25 DEC 44 (a) At 0150 hrs, a small party of enemy attempted to penetrate A Coy perimeter at 685119, but were driven off.
- (b) Lt CHESTERTON located an OP on PEARL HILL from which observation could be obtained on ^{top of} BAKER HILL. He later took Arty FOO and Mortar Sjt to this OP. Fire was brought down on enemy posns.
- (c) At 2345 hrs, enemy attacked 10 Pl, but were repulsed with casualties unknown. Own casualties 1 killed, 3 wounded, (one of whom died at ADS).
- 26 DEC 44 (a) Patrol from C Coy left on 4 day recce of western end of PEARL RIDGE, moving out via MT FRY 618133 to 619139, 637143, 650145, 673129, thence SOUTH along BAWABU RIDGE to MARTIN'S KNOLL.
- (b) 1745 hrs, O Gp conference at which CO outlined plan for attack on PEARL RIDGE to take place on 30 Dec, and pointed out that owing to shortage of native carriers, many of our own tps would have to be used in the next few days getting amm, rations and reorganisation stores fwd.
- 27 DEC 44 A Coy patrol probed enemy def fwd of ARTY HILL. B Coy patrol reached 678128 and reported possible approach to enemy posns on BAKER HILL. 1830 hrs a Jap surrendered to B Coy at 680127. He was escorted back to the Comd Post, arriving at 2050 hrs, kept in custody overnight, and interrogated by Sjt KIMURA on the morning of 28 Dec. Tps from A and D Coys carried fwd amm and reorganisation stores to ARTY HILL.
- 28 DEC 44 Patrols were sent from A and D Coys respectively with specific instructions to pin point the enemy defences on (i) the spur connecting ARTY HILL and PEARL RIDGE, and (ii) PEAR HILL. Both patrols were successful and drew fire from enemy bunkers and pill boxes at 686122 and 685127. Shots were exchanged, and the

enemy was coaxed into disclosing his posns. Enemy casualties were unknown; one of our troops wounded. Patrol from B Coy carried out further recce of western approaches to BAKER HILL and reported enemy activity at 681135 (later found to be on Jap L of C). C Coy less 15 Pl moved from Rd Head to WERDA'S KNOLL, their responsibilities at Rd Head being taken over by 12 Pl 61 Bn. 15 Pl remained at KEENAN'S RIDGE. Tps from D Coy and Tk A Pl carried fwd amn and stores to ARTY HILL.

29 DEC 44 C Coy patrols reccecd area in vicinity of 673128, then C Coy less 15 Pl moved northwards to 672128 and established a perimeter def. B Coy less 10 Pl moved from BARTON'S KNOLL to WERDA'S KNOLL. 10 Pl remained in posn at 680127 in contact with enemy. Tk A Pl and Pnrs carried amn and stores fwd to WERDA'S KNOLL.

30 DEC 44 The plan for the attack on PEARL RIDGE was briefly:-

1. A Coy - located ARTY HILL - to be responsible for clearing NORTH-EAST SPUR to 686123, then becomes res Coy.
2. D Coy - located GEORGE HILL - to move through A Coy and capture hill at 687126.
3. C Coy less 15 Pl - located 672128 - to move to track junc 678130 and cut Jap L of C. (From patrol and int infm, CO's appreciation was that Jap L of C was along track through 678141 to 688126 thence EAST along PEARL RIDGE).
4. B Coy less 10 Pl - located WERDA'S KNOLL - to use C Coy posn at 678130 as a firm base and capture BAKER HILL 680128

L of C along PEARL RIDGE to be opened by fighting patrols. Responsibility as under:-

A Coy from own posn to D Coy;
D Coy from own posn to B Coy;
B Coy from own posn to C Coy;

Own positions indicated to fighting patrols by berey flares.

Pnr Pl to commence work on improvement of new L of C as soon as patrols report same clear. RAPS to be established at ARTY HILL and WERDA'S KNOLL. Med staging post at MARTIN'S KNOLL.

Fwd dumps of amn, rations, and consolidation stores to be established at ARTY HILL and WERDA'S KNOLL.

Adv Bn HQ - ARTY HILL

H Hour to be signalled at completion of air strike.

Supporting arms and weapons:-

Air Strike

Bombing and strafing on enemy posns 687126 (approx 0700 hrs).

Arty

<u>Serial</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Target</u>	<u>Map Ref</u>	<u>Rate of Fire</u>	<u>In Sp Of</u>
1	H to H plus 6	R103	686123	3 min normal 3 min rapid	A Coy
2	H plus 20 to H plus 30	V3	678130	normal	C Coy
3	On call	R107	685127	3 min slow 3 min normal 3 min rapid	D Coy
4	On call	E24	680127	normal	B Coy
5	On call (Switch from E24)	E23	682127	rapid	B Coy
6	On call	R107	685127	3 min normal 3 min rapid	D Coy

3 In Mortar

H plus 20 to H plus 30 target 678130 slow
 A Coy have one 3 in Mortar on call
 D Coy " " " " " " "
 B Coy " " " " " " "

MMG

H to H plus 6 1 sec normal on target 685126

In reorganisation -

- 1 sec with B Coy
- 1 MMG with D Coy
- 1 MMG remains with A Coy.

Bombing and strafing was completed by 0745 hrs and H Hr was signalled as 0800.

The fwd Pl of A Coy advanced 350 yds, and came under intense fire, sustaining some casualties. Efforts were made to out-flank the enemy, which were well dug in in a razor-backed ridge, but owing to the steepness of the sides of the ridge, and the fact that they were commanded by the enemy posns, the second Pl was soon in difficulties and at 1430 hrs was extricated with difficulty. Attempts were made to encircle the enemy from both sides, but failed. A Bren gunner crawled to within 5 feet of an enemy pill box, but was killed, others became casualties from grenades and sniper fire, our casualties being 3 killed and six wounded at this stage.

At 1600 hrs, A Coy were ordered to reorganise, and the fwd Pl to dig in at the point where it was halted.

In the meantime C Coy had made very slow progress, having had to cut their way through the jungle for some distance, and did not establish themselves on their objective until 1445 hrs. A JUKI also gave trouble. 6 enemy were killed and 1 wounded who escaped. Own cas - 1 wounded.
 The Coy was ordered to maintain its posn and dig in.

B Coy were instructed to form a perimeter def and launch their attack on the next day.

On the evening of 30 Dec, plan was changed, in that D Coy would attack their objective via PEAR HILL. Although this entailed a long and difficult climb in the approach, it was considered that casualties would be much lighter than if attacking along NORTH EAST SPUR.

C Coy were counter-attacked at 302250 hrs - enemy repulsed.

31 DEC 44 A Coy created a diversionary attack to keep enemy attention occupied on NORTH EAST SPUR while D Coy approached their objective via PEAR HILL. By 1615 hrs they had taken their objective and commenced digging in at 685127, while one Pl exploited towards A Coy and established a def posn for the night at 688126.

Own cas - NIL. Enemy cas - 2 killed.
(It appears as if the Jap reinforced his positions in front of A Coy with men from this sector).

On the left flank, C Coy were subjected to Rifle and BMA fire for most of the morning, and all attempts to advance were frustrated until the JUKI was put out of action by rifle grenades and LMG fire. Own cas - 5 wounded (1 died later). Enemy cas - 4 killed.

B Coy commenced their attack at 1000 hrs and gained their objective by 1625 hrs, and dug in at 680128 while still being subjected to spasmodic fire from a few Japs - 10 enemy killed incl 1 officer. 10 Pl then attacked up the track, killing three enemy and establishing contact with B Coy HQ.

1 JAN 45. 0200 hrs to 0430 hrs counter-attack on A Coy.
0010 hrs to 0300 hrs counter-attack on C Coy.
Own cas - 2 wounded. Enemy cas - 10 killed.
D Coy killed 1 Jap while establishing contact with A and B Coys.

By 1400 hrs PEARL RIDGE from 686124 to 673130 was clear of enemy and the L of C open to all Coys via ARTY HILL. Pns immediately commenced work on improving this L of C.

2 JAN 45 Fighting Patrols from D Coy and C Coy established that PEARL RIDGE was clear of enemy from 699122 to 660133.

Recco Patrol along Jap L of C - now definitely established running NNE from 678130 - saw 12 Japs at 680133 in prepared positions. Enemy was engaged by fire from 3 in Mortar - results unknown.

Further patrols on 3 and 4 Jan reported enemy still in def posn 680133.

25 Bn was relieved by 26 Bn on 4 Jan 1945 and Comd passed to Lt Col Abbott at 1510 hrs.

25 Bn returned to TOROKINA Jan 4 and 5, 1945

NOTES

1. Casualties

Own casualties for period of ops were:-

Killed in Action - 1 Offr 7 ORs

Died of Wounds - 2 ORs

Wounded in Action - 2 Offrs 23 ORs

3 Offrs 32 ORs

Enemy casualties - 34 killed, 1 PW.

The above figures are the actual number of bodies recovered and buried.

2. Pnr Pl 25 Bn, which had already spent 4 weeks in the area with 9 Bn, continued with its splendid work until 4 Jan 45, when it was relieved.
3. All patrols, apart from normal security patrols, were set down by Bn.
4. The medical set-up was splendid.
5. Arty sp left nothing to be desired. Shooting was most accurate, and co-op excellent.
6. Comms were very good, and at no time was any Coy out of touch by telephone with Bn; arty lines being used in cases of emergency.
7. The 'Q' side was handled well, and reflected great credit on the QM.
8. Captured enemy equipment included:-
 - 1 JUKI HMG
 - 1 Type 96 LMG
 - 2 NAMBU LMGs
 - 30 Rifles
 - 2 Type 89 grenade dischargers
 - 2 Prs Binoculars
 - Medical stores and instruments
 - Numerous documents, and a few maps
 - Several swords

PART II

The main lesson learned was from the op on 30 Dec 44, when a Coy lost the impetus of its attack and could not get going again. Many lessons were learned from the various supply problems; in jungle warfare, 80% of the difficulties are on the 'Q' side.

This small op was most valuable in shaking the whole unit down to an organised team, and refreshing memories regarding points brought out in previous training.

PART III

1. Weapons

The PIAT would be most useful in clearing prepared enemy positions which hold up an advance which is confined to a very narrow front. e.g. pill boxes and bunkers covering razor backed ridges.

2. Amn

(a) The phosphorous hand grenade - Type 77 - is too dangerous to the thrower in the jungle. The American type, which has a 4 to 5 sec delay, and operates similarly to our 36 grenade, is much safer. It allows the thrower to take cover after throwing, and is much better for dropping into enemy pill-boxes. The tape and pin release on our own grenade is very uncertain when dropping into pill-boxes, and partial removal of the tape is dangerous.

(b) All amn should be packed in native carrier loads of 35 to 40 lbs. Cases of amn vary in weight from 24 lbs (36 grenades) to 84 lbs (carton-packed .303) and 102 lbs (3,200 rds 9 mm).

It is uneconomical in natives, and is awkward to handle into fwd posns.

3. Equipment

An inf bn on tropical scale WE needs more telephones. Pl def localities are a natural corollary of jungle warfare, and they are often widely separated.

WE should be increased by at least 6 telephones (generator type, as a caller using the DV phone cannot raise anybody over a long distance).,

A few sound-powered phones would be invaluable for listening posts and other posns which are in close proximity of the enemy.

Lt Col
CO 25 Aust Inf Bn

APPENDIX "A"
To report on PEARL
RIDGE operations.

AMMUNITION EXPENDED DURING PEARL RIDGE OPERATIONS

20 DEC 44 to 5 JAN 45 INCLUSIVE.

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>WUR</u>	<u>Amn expended</u>
.303 in Stripless Belt	17,000	8,100
.303 " Carton Packed	34,000	8,635
.303 " Charger Packed	53,400	2,445
9 mm SMG	51,000	8,260
2 in Mortar -		
HE	612	8
Smoke	294	12
Star	102	66
3 in Mortar -		
HE	816	268
Smoke	272	62
1 in Sig (various colours)	204	-
Grenade 36 m 4 Sec	1,020	640
" " 7 "	340	116
<u>Arty</u>		
25 pdr HE	3,060	2,247
" Smoke	612	104

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

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

52 / 44 (Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 30 / 12 / 1944 . 25 Aust Inf (Unit)

W.E. II / 1223 . OFFRS. 35 O.R.'s. 769 + OFFRS. 1 O.R.'s. 32 ATT. BY W.E.

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

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

DETAIL	A.I.P.	C.M.F.	A.W.A.S.	A.A.N.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL.	R.A.N.	R.A.A.F.	**	TOTAL.
A.	35									35
E.(1)										
E.(2)										

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

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

OFFICERS JOINED DURING WEEK

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit From.	Date.	CAUSE.
		N I L			

OFFICERS QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit To.	Date.	CAUSE.
VX88440	Lt	SMITH K.H.	Battle Casualty	23.12.44	Killed in Action

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO (Unit) IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED. 30 / 12 / 1944 . Serial 52/44

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

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON POSTED STRENGTH

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 30/12/1944 (Total to agree with Columns 4 and 7 of Part A.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held.	Army Number.	Surname.	Initials.	Posting.	Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.	Date of Detachment.
Lt Col	SX 3709	McKINNA	J.G.	CO	Yes		
Major	QX 40879	WEPFNER	R.	2 IC	"		
"	QX 34430	JACKSON	W.J.E.	OC HQ Coy	Yes		
Capt	QX 36183	JUST	M.F.	OC D Coy	Yes		
"	NX109207	LOW	J.B.	Adjnt	"		
"	QX 53202	McINNES	R.D.	-	No	"X" List LHQ Tac Sch	30.11.44
"	NX128782	GABEL	C.F.	OC B Coy	Yes		
"	VX 64391	BRUCE	W.P.	OC C Coy	"		
Lt/Capt	VX100095	CORBOULD	R.W.	-	"		
Lt	VX117109	SIMONSON	D.J.	-	No	"X" List 109 CCS	18.11.44
"	QX 36185	JEFFERIES	R.D.	Pl Comd	Yes		
"	QX 48877	HARLTON	D.H.J.	Asst Adjnt	Yes		
"	QX 48164	PHILLIPS	F.J.	Pl Comd	"		
"	NX128788	PEDER	A.H.	TO	Yes		
"	NX127503	MCGUIGAN	J.P.	Pl Comd	"		
Lt/Capt	QX 45300	HARRIS	H.A.	QM	"		
Lt	QX 34431	McDONALD	R.N.	IO	"		
"	QX 57134	MORRISON	L.E.	Pl Comd	"		
"	QX 51715	DEUBLE	L.M.	"	"		
"	QX 51714	HILL	F.V.	"	"		
"	NX143807	WORSLEY	M.R.	-	"		
"	QX 57166	JUTSUM	R.H.	Pl Comd	Yes		
"	QX 680	McLEOD	A.F.	"	"		
"	NX 33706	WRIGHT	J.	-	No	"X" list RAAF Sch of Army CO-op	31.12.44
"	NX 68272	SHAW	B.A.	A/OC A Coy	Yes		
"	NX 68188	DAWSON	A.E.	Pl Comd	Yes		
"	NX 41513	FRENCH	L.	"	"	(Rft offr)	
"	VX 63784	DARLISON	R.	"	"	"	
"	NX 60437	ROBERTSON	R.F.	"	"	"	
"	NX 56558	SHEPHERD	H.	"	"	"	
"	QX 35587	STEWART	R.R.	"	"	"	
"	NX108722	CHAMBERLAIN	H.B.	"	"	"	
"	QX 49488	MULRY	H.	"	"	"	
"	VX138298	STORAN	F.	-	No	"X" list, Second Aust Army JLS secondment pending as instr in Eng Bn	31.10.44
"	QX 36376	SIMMONS	M.H.	Pl Comd	Yes	(Rft offr)	
"	QX 37528	CHESTERTON	J.	"	"	"	
"	NX112956	KING	B.W.	"	"	"	
"	VX 43106	BARTLETT	R.L.	-	No	"X" list, LHQ Sch MI	4.11.44
"	QX 37722	TROTSMAN	I.H.	-	"	On Leave	22.12.44
Capt	NX168148	AIKEN	J.E.	RMO	Yes		

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

Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank, if Held.	Army Number.	Name and Initials.	Unit.	Date of Attachment.	Nature of Attachment.
Capt	QX 25965	CANILL B.	AA Ch D	7.4.44	Chaplain

30 Dec 44.
Date of Despatch

James J. ...
Signature of Commander
CO 25 Aust Inf Bn

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS

52 / 44 (Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 30 / 12 / 1944 25 Aust Inf (Unit)

W.E. 720 / 3 OFFRS 35 O.R's 760 + OFFRS 1 O.R's 32 ATT. BY W.E.

Part A. Posted Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements Required.

1 2 3 4				5	6 7 8 9 10				
W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.				
Reinfts. Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Reinfts. Required.
-	-	1	2	W.Os. Class I.					
NR	1	-	5	W.Os. Class II.	AAGC	1			
-	-	-	5	Squadron or Company Quartermaster Sgts.					
-	-	1	1	Staff Sergeants					
NR	3	-	29	Sergeants	See Back	7	-	2	NR
NR	16	-	51	Corporals	"	8	-	-	-
164	144	6	520	Troopers, Privates, etc.	"	13	-	1	NR
				Civilians counting as O.R.					
164	* 164	8	613 *	Totals of cols. marked * should agree with details shown in Part E on Page 2.		29 *		3	NR *

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

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

Detail	A.I.F.	C.M.P.		A.W.A.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL	R.A.N.	R.A.A.F.	**	TOTAL
		Under 19 Years	19 Years and over							
A	285	357					█	█		642
B(1)										
B(2)										

Part B. Other Ranks Attached from Other Units.

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

Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which they belong	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which they belong	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which detached.	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which detached.
1	YNCA 7 Aust Inf Bde			59	LOB		
1	7 Aust Inf Bde			1	Q'ld Ech and Records		
1	AES 7 Aust Inf Bde			1	7 Aust Inf Bde		
1	228 Lt AA Bty			1	61 Aust Inf Bn		
3	241 Aust IAD			12	Recreational Leave		
1	Allied Translators and Interpreters Section			7	Compassionate Leave		
				1	LHQ Sch of MI		
27	61 Aust Inf Bn			1	Land Forces Gas Sch		

Part D. Description of Other Ranks Whose Return To 25 Aust Inf Bn (Unit) is Particularly Requested. 30 / 12 / 1944

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

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 12/12/1914. 22 Aug 1914 (Unit)
EW NO DEHCHATT
 ATT BY W.E.

TRADE				Posted Strength		Rfts Required	
10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3
AAMC Chiroprapist Hyg Duties Med Orderlies				1 1 2		1 1 1	
AAGC Shoemaker				1		1	
AAPS Postal Duties				1		1	
AACC Caterer Cooks				23		22	
AAPC Pay Clerks				2		1	

Part B. Other Ranks Included in Part A Detached
 44/781A ORG THW SCANDOGA NI DETOP JENHOREP

No.	Rank	Name	Trade	Special Qualifications	Med Class
VX 107049	WO I	MUNDY	F.G. Clerk	RSM	1A

Part D. Description of Other Ranks Whose Return To
 (Unit) is Particularly Requested 22/12/14

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

PART E. Detail of Present Strength and Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009 at 0600 Hours Saturday 30 / 12 / 1944.

Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I.	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP II. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP III. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.
Ammunition Examiners				Surveyors, Engineering				Operating Room Assis.				G.P.O. Assistants			
Armament Artificer Fitter				Surveyors, R.A.A.				Operator, Keyboard				Hammermen			
Armament Artificer Fitter (Electrical)				Surveyors, Topographical				Operator, Line				Leather Stitchers			
Armament Artificer Fitter (M.V.)				Surveyors, Trigonometrical				Operator, Signal				Orderlies, Nursing			
Armament Artificer Fitter (A.F.V.)				Toolmakers				Operator, Switchboard				Orderlies, Nursing Mental			
Armament Artificer Instrument				Turners				Operator, Wireless				Plate Layers			
Armament Artificer Radio				Watchmakers				Opticians				Rangotakers	4	3	NR
Armament Artificer Signals				Welders				Painters				Rivettors			
Armament Artificer Wireless								Panel Beaters				Roughriders			
Artificer, Artillery								Photographer, Dry Plate				Saddlers			
Artificer, Engine								Predictor Numbers				Saddletree makers			
Blacksmiths	1	1						Printers				Shoemaker and Boot Repairer			
Bricklayers		1						Radiographers				Stevadores			
Computers								Riggers				Stokers, Staty. Engine			
Cooks, Hospital				GROUP II.				Sawyers				Storemen, Technical	4	4	
Coppersmiths				Armourers				Signallers	26	20		Tailors	2	2	
Dispensers				Axemen				Signwriters				Textile Refitters			
Draughtsmen				Bakers				Telescope Identfn. Numbers				Tinsmiths			
Draughtsmen (Architectural)				Bty. Comd's. Asst.				Well Borers				Vulcanizers			
Draughtsmen (Engineering)				Boilermakers				Wheelers				Wagon Erectors			
Draughtsmen (Mechanical)				Carpenters	6	4	NR	Winchman				Whitesmiths			
Draughtsmen (Topographical)				Carpenters and Joiners				Wireman				SPECIALISTS			
Electricians				Cooks				Woodturners				Batmen	34	34	
Electricians (M.V.)				Dental Mechanics								Gen Duties			
Electricians (Signals)				Driver-Mech. (Eng. and Med.)								Mess	3	3	
Fitters				Driver-Operator								Eyg	4	4	
Fitters (Cycle)				Drainers								LMO & Rfn	40	255	164
Fitters (Electrical)				Electricians								MNO	25	25	
Fitters (Gun)				Electricians (Engineers)								Orderlies	32	32	
Fitters (Instrument)				Fire Control Operators				GROUP III.				DETAILS OF NON-TRADESMEN.			
Fitters (M.V.)				Gun Operator				Battery Surveyors				PHPS	32	32	
Fitters, Railway Signal				Hatchman				Butchers	1	2		PRO	1	1	
Fitters, Signals				Height Taker				Clerks	12	12	NR	Mortars	75	75	
Grinder, Precision				Helio Operator				Clerks, Supply				RPS	6	6	
Mechanics, Instrument				Instrument Operator				Clerks, Technical				SBS	21	21	
Mechanics, Instrument (Signals)				Intelligence Duties	10	9	NR	Coach Trimmers				Tk/A	19	19	
Mechanics, Instrument (Surgical)				Joiners				Concretors				RSM	1	2	
Mechanics, Radio				Lineman				Cooks				Water Dut	2	2	
Mechanics, Typewriter				Lineman, Signals				Dental Clerk Orderlies				Storemen	6	6	
Mechanics, Wireless				Lithographers				Despatch Riders				ATTACHED BY W.E.			
Millwrights				Machinists, Metal				Draughtsmen, Signals				RQMS	1	1	
Operators, Excavator				Machinists, Wood				Drivers, H.T.				COMS	5	5	
Pattern Maker				Masons				Driver Mechanics		3		CSM	5	4	NR
Pharmacist				Masseurs				Driver Tptn. Plant				Sjts P1	25	24	NR
Photographer, Wet Plate				Mechanics, M.T.				Engine Hands, I.C.				Att on Wt	32	29	NR
Photewriter				Miners				Equipment Repairers	1	1					
Plumber				Moulders				Farriers							
Saw Doctors				Nurses, Trained				Fitters' Mates							
Surveyors				Observation Post Assts.				Gun Layers			1				
CARRIED FORWARD	1	2		CARRIED FORWARD	17	15		CARRIED FORWARD	57	59		Totals of columns marked * to agree with columns 4 and 7, and 1 and 10 of Part A. respectively.	80	1642	164

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

30 Dec 44
Date of Despatch

Robert Charlton Lt Gapt
Signature of Commander

SUMMARY OF NCO DEFICIENCIES

POSTED STRENGTH

TRADE	WO I	WO II	S/Sjt	Sjt	Cpl	WO I	WO II	S/Sjt	Sjt	Cpl	Rfts Required
"I" Duties				1	2						
Sigs				2	4						
Clerks				1	6						
Tailors				1	1						
Tech Storemen				1	1			1	1		
LMG & Rfn					36					23	
MNO					2					2	
Mortars					5					5	
Pioneers					4					4	
Transport					1					1	
Provost					1					1	
SBS					1					1	
Tk/A					2					4	
RSM					4					3	
RQMS											
CSM											
CQMS											
Sjt Platoon				25				6	24		
ATT ON THE											
AACO											
Chiropodist					1					1	
Hyg Duties					1					1	
Med Orderlies					1					1	
AACC											
Shoemaker					1					1	
AAPS											
Postal Duties				1						1	
AACC											
Caterer				1						1	
Cooks				5	5					4	
AAPC										5	
Pay Clerks				1	1					1	
				41	75					36	
										59	

TABLE Detail of Present Strength and Reinforcement Requirements in

Form 1 of Army Form W 3002 of 0800 Hours 21/11/42

DATE OF REPORT
 (1) This form is to be filled in by the commanding officer of the unit to which the deficiencies are reported.
 (2) The deficiencies should be reported as soon as they are discovered.
 (3) The deficiencies should be reported in the following order: (a) WO I, (b) WO II, (c) S/Sjt, (d) Sjt, (e) Cpl.
 (4) The deficiencies should be reported in the following order: (a) WO I, (b) WO II, (c) S/Sjt, (d) Sjt, (e) Cpl.
 (5) The deficiencies should be reported in the following order: (a) WO I, (b) WO II, (c) S/Sjt, (d) Sjt, (e) Cpl.
 (6) The deficiencies should be reported in the following order: (a) WO I, (b) WO II, (c) S/Sjt, (d) Sjt, (e) Cpl.

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

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

51/44 (Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 23/12/1944 25 Aust Inf Bn (Unit)

W.E. II/124 3 OFFRS. 35 O.R's. 769 + OFFRS. 1 O.R's. 32 ATT. BY W.E.

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

W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.					
Rein'ts Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Rein'ts Required.	
-	-	-	1	Lieut.-Colonels						
NR	1	-	2	Majors						
NR	3	-	5	Captains	AANC	1				
		6	25	Lieutenants						
			1	Quarter-masters						
			1	Lt Asst Adjt A.A.N.S. and A.A.M.W.S. Offrs.						
				Civilians Counting as Offrs.						
NR	4	6	35			1				

DETAIL	A.I.P.	C.M.F.	A.W.A.S.	A.A.N.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL.	R.A.N.	R.A.A.P.	**	TOTAL.
A.	36									36
E.(1)										
E.(2)										

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

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

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

OFFICERS JOINED DURING WEEK

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit From.	Date.	CAUSE.
VX100095	Lt/Capt	CONROUD R.W.	First Aust Army Jnr Staff Sch	21.12.44	Completion of Course
MX143807	Lt	WORSLEY N.R.	LHQ Sch of Hyg & Sanitation	21.12.44	Do do

OFFICERS QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit To.	Date.	CAUSE.
MX33706	Lt	WRIGHT J.	RAAF Sch of Army Co-op Canberra	21.12.44	To attend course from 2 Jan 45 - 2 Feb 45

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO 25 Aust Inf Bn (Unit) IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED. 23/12/1944 Serial 51/44

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

25 Aust Inf Bn Unit

51 / 44 (Serial No.)

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON POSTED STRENGTH

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 23 / 12 / 1944 (Total to agree with Columns 4 and 7 of Part A.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held.	Army Number.	Surname.	Initials.	Posting.	Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.	Date of Detachment.
Lt Col	EX 3709	McKINNA	J.G.	CO	Yes		
Major	OX 40879	KEPPNER	R.	2 IC	No	LOB	
"	OX 34450	JACKSON	W.J.R.	OC HQ Coy	Yes		
Capt	OX 36183	JUST	H.B.	OC B Coy	"		
"	MX108207	LOW	J.D.	Adj't	"		
"	MX128782	SABEL	C.P.	OC B Coy	"		
Lt/Capt	VX100025	CORBUID	R.W.	"	No	LOB	
Capt	VX64391	BRUCE	H.F.	OC C Coy	Yes		
Lt	OX 36183	JEFFERIES	H.D.K.	Pl Comd	No	LOB	
"	OX 43877	MARLTON	D.H.J.	Asst Adj't	Yes		
"	OX 45164	PHILLIPS	V.J.	Pl Comd	No	LOB	
"	MX128788	PEDIN	A.H.	TO	Yes		
"	MX127303	McQUIGAN	J.P.	Pl Comd	"		
Lt/Capt	OX 45300	HARRIS	H.A.	QM	"		
Lt	OX 34431	MCDONALD	R.W.	IO	"		
"	OX 57134	MORRISON	L.H.	Pl Comd	"		
"	OX 51715	DEUBLE	L.M.	"	"		
"	OX 51714	HILL	F.V.	"	"		
"	MX143807	WORSLEY	M.R.	"	No	LOB	
"	OX 57166	JUTSUM	R.H.	Pl Comd	Yes		
"	OX 680	McLEOD	A.F.	"	"		
"	MX 68272	SHAW	E.A.A.	OC A Coy	Yes		
"	MX 66183	DAWSON	A.E.	Pl Comd	Yes		
"	MX 41513	FRENCH	L.	"	"	(aft offr)	
"	VX 63784	DARLISON	H.	"	"	"	
"	MX 60437	ROBERTSON	R.P.	"	"	"	
"	MX 56558	SHEPHERD	H.	"	"	"	
"	OX 33587	STEWART	R.K.	"	"	"	
"	MX108722	CHAMBERLAIN	H.B.	"	"	"	
"	OX 49458	MULRY	H.	"	"	"	
"	OX 36376	SIMMONS	H.H.	"	"	"	
"	OX 37328	CHESTERTON	J.	"	"	"	
"	MX112256	KING	B.W.	"	"	"	
"	VX 88440	SMITH	K.H.	"	"	"	
"	OX 37722	TROTMAN	I.H.	"	No	LOB	
Capt	MX168148	AIXEN	J.E.	RMO	Yes		

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

Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank, if Held.	Army Number.	Name and Initials.	Unit.	Date of Attachment.	Nature of Attachment.
Capt	OX 28065	CARILL B.	AA Ch D	7.4.44	Chaplain

Date of Despatch

Signature of Commander

CO 25 Aust Inf Bn

PART D--NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON POSTED STRENGTH

At 0000 Hrs. Saturday 12/19/51 (Total to agree with Columns 4 and 7 of Part A.)

8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
		Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No)	NAME	Initials	Rank	Posting	Substantive Rank and Number
Capt	OX 35561		CORFE		J.E.	3CL 7 Aust Inf Bde	
Lt	OX 51713		HILSON		W.E.	Second Aust Army	Jnr Leaders
"	Q 22003		STEARLE		S.D.	"	Sch
"	MX144427		BANKO		J.C.	"	
"	NZ104830		TAYLOR		A.J.	"	
"	VX136298		STONAN		P.	"	
"	MX135482		RUDD		L.M.	LC 7 Aust Inf Bde	
"	VX 43106		BARTLETT		R.L.	LHQ Sch of MI	
"	VX117109		SIMONSON		D.J.	109 Aust CCS	
Capt	OX 53202		HOINES		R.D.	LHQ Tac School.	
Lt	MX 33706		WRIGHT		J.	RAAF Sch of Army Co-op Canberra.	

PART E--NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER UNITS

Substantive Rank and Number	Army Number	Name and Initials	Unit	Date of Attachment	Reason of Attachment

Signature of Commander _____
Date of Despatch _____

W/ Diary

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 27/12/1944. 25 Aust Inf Bn (Unit)

W.E. 17/12/3. OFFRS. 35 O.R's. 769 OFFRS. 1 O.R's. 32 ATT. BY W.E.

Part A. Posted Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements Required.

W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.				
Reinfts. Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Reinfts. Required.
-	-	1	2	W.Os. Class I.					
NR	1	-	5	W.Os. Class II.	AACC	1			
-	-	1	6	Squadron or Company Quartermaster Sgts.					
-	-	1	1	Staff Sergeants					
NR	1	-	31	Sergeants	See Back	8	-	1	NR
NR	15	-	52	Corporals	" "	8	-	-	-
156 NR	139	6	525	Troopers, Privates, etc.	" "	13	-	1	NR
				Civilians counting as O.R.					
156	* 156	9	622*	Totals of cols. marked * should agree with details shown in Part E on Page 2.		30*		2	NR

Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in para. 7 of instructions for compilation of this return will complete analysis of Part B(1) and B(2).
 ** Personnel belonging to a category not provided for in the analysis will be shown in this Col Particulars will be shown, e.g., 20 U.K. Forces, 10 N.Z. Forces.

Detail	A.I.F.	C.M.F.		A.W.A.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL	R.A.N.	R.A.A.F.	**	TOTAL.
		Under 19 Years.	19 Years and over.							
A	287		365							652
B(1)										
B(2)										

Part B. Other Ranks Attached from Other Units.

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

Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which they belong	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which they belong	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which detached.	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which detached.
1	YMCA 7 Aust Inf Bde			71	LOB		
1	7 Aust Inf Bde			1	Q'ld Ech and Records		
1	228 Lt AA Bty			1	61 Aust Inf Bn		
4	241 Aust LAD			7	Compassionate Leave		
				1	LHQ Sch of MI		
				1	Land Forces Gas School		
				1	3 Aust Div Flame Throwers Sch		

Part D. Description of Other Ranks Whose Return To 25 Aust Inf Bn (Unit) is Particularly Requested. 23/12/1944. Serial 51/44.

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

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS

At 0800 Hrs. Saturday 22/12/14. 22nd Inf. Coy. (Mtd)

W.E. IV 100 A. OTHER RANKS. 22ND INF. COY. (Mtd) BY W.E.

Part A. Posted Strength **NO. DETACHMENTS ATTACHED** Requirements Required.

ATTACHED ALLOWED TRADE				WE		Posted Strength		Rfts Required	
Rank	W.E.	W.E.	Strength	Att. to Coy.	Strength	W.E.	Strength	W.E.	Strength
AANC									
Chiropodist					1		1		
Hyg Duties					1		1		
Med Orderlies					2		1	1	OR
AAOC									
Shoemaker					1		1		
AAPS									
Postal Duties					1		1		
W.AACG									
Caterer					1		1		
Cooks					23		22		NR
AAPC									
Pay Clerks					2		2		
				32		30		1	

Analysis of Post to be shown here
 Units only noted in Part B of this return will
 complete analysis of Part B(1) and B(2).
 * Personnel belonging to a category in Part B(1) will be shown, e.g. in U.K. Total in W.E. Form.

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

No.	Rank	Name	Trade	Special Qualifications	Med Class
VX 107049	WO I	MUNDY	F.G. Clerk	RSM	A1

Part D. Description of Other Ranks Whose Return to (Unit) is Particularly Requested.

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

PART E. Detail of Present Strength and Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009 at 0600 Hours Saturday 23/12 /1944.

Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I.	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP II. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP III. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.
Ammunition Examiners				Surveyors, Engineering				Operating Room Assts.				G.P.O. Assistants			
Armament Artificer Fitter				Surveyors, R.A.A.				Operator, Keyboard				Hammermen			
Armament Artificer Fitter (Electrical)				Surveyors, Topographical				Operator, Line				Leather Stitchers			
Armament Artificer Fitter (M.V.)				Surveyors, Trigonometrical				Operator, Signal				Orderlies, Nursing			
Armament Artificer Fitter (A.F.V.)				Toolmakers				Operator, Switchboard				Orderlies, Nursing Mental			
Armament Artificer Instrument				Turners				Operator, Wireless				Plate Layers			
Armament Artificer Radio				Watchmakers				Opticians				Bangotakers	4	3	NR
Armament Artificer Signals				Welders				Painters				Riveters			
Armament Artificer Wireless								Panel Beaters				Roughriders			
Artificer, Artillery								Photographer, Dry Plate				Saddlers			
Artificer, Engine								Predictor Numbers				Saddletree makers			
Blacksmiths	1	1						Printers				Shoemaker and Boot Repairer			
Bricklayers		1						Radiographers				Stvedores			
Computers								Riggers				Stokers, Staty. Engine			
Cooks, Hospital				GROUP II				Sawyers				Storemen, Technical	4	4	
Coppersmiths				Armourers				Signallers	26	26		Tailors	2	2	
Dispensers				Axemen				Signwriters				Textile Refitters			
Draughtsmen				Bakers				Telescope Identfn. Numbers				Tinsmiths			
Draughtsmen (Architectural)				Bty. Comd's Asst.				Well Borers				Vulcanizers			
Draughtsmen (Engineering)				Boilermakers				Wheelers				Wagon Erectors			
Draughtsmen (Mechanical)				Carpenters		6	4	Winchman				Whitesmiths			
Draughtsmen (Topographical)				Carpenters and Joiners				Wireman				SPECIALISTS			
Electricians				Cooks				Woodturners				Batmen	34	34	
Electricians (M.V.)				Dental Mechanics								Gen Duties			
Electricians (Signals)				Driver-Mech. (Eng. and Med.)								Mess	3	3	
Fitters				Driver-Operator								Hyg	4	4	
Fitters (Cycle)				Drainers								LPG & Rfn	409259	156	
Fitters (Electrical)				Electricians								MNO	25	25	
Fitters (Gun)				Electricians (Engineers)								Orderlies	32	32	
Fitters (Instrument)				Fire Control Operators				GROUP III				DETAILS OF NON-TRADESMEN			
Fitters (M.V.)				Gun Operator				Battery Surveyors				Pnra	32	32	
Fitters, Railway Signal				Hatchman				Butchers	1	2		Pro	1	1	
Fitters, Signals				Height Taker				Clerks	12	11	NR	Mortars	75	75	
Grinder, Precision				Helio Operator				Clerks, Supply				RPs	6	6	
Mechanics, Instrument				Instrument Operator				Clerks, Technical				SBs	21	21	
Mechanics, Instrument (Signals)				Intelligence Duties		10	9	Coach Trimmers				Tk/A	19	19	
Mechanics, Instrument (Surgical)				Joiners				Concretors				RSM	1	2	
Mechanics, Radio				Lineman				Cooks				Water Dut	2	2	
Mechanics, Typewriter				Lineman, Signals				Dental Clerk Orderlies				Storemen	6	6	
Mechanics, Wireless				Lithographers				Despatch Riders				ATTACHED BY W.E.			
Millwrights				Machinists, Metal				Draughtsmen, Signals				RQMS	1	1	
Operators, Excavator				Machinists, Wood				Drivers, H.T.				COMS	5	6	
Pattern Maker				Masons				Driver Mechanics		3		CSM	5	4	NR
Pharmacist				Masseurs				Driver Tptn. Plant				Sjts Pl	25	26	
Photographer, Wet Plate				Mechanics, M.T.				Engine Hands, I.C.				Att on WR	32	30	
Photowriter				Miners				Equipment Repairers	1	1					
Plumber				Moulders				Farriers							
Saw Doctors				Nurses, Trained				Fitters' Mates							
Surveyors				Observation Post Assts.				Gun Layers		1					
CARRIED FORWARD	1	2		CARRIED FORWARD	17	15		CARRIED FORWARD	57	59		Totals of columns marked * to agree with columns 4 and 7. and 1 and 10 of Part A. respectively.	80	1652	156

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

23 Dec 44.
Date of Despatch

[Signature]
Signature of Commander

SUMMARY OF NCO DEFICIENCIES

POSTED STRENGTH

TRADE	WE						POSTED STRENGTH						Rfts Required
	WO I	WO II	s/Sjt	Sjt	Cpl		WO I	WO II	s/Sjt	Sjt	Cpl		
"I" Duties				1	2					1	2		
Sigs				2	4					1	4		NR
Clerks				1	6					1	6		
Tailors				1	1				1		1		
Tech Storemen				1						1			
LMG & Rfn					3	6					25		NR
NMG					2						1		NR
Mortars					5						5		NR
Pioneers					4						4		
T'port					1						-		NR
Provost				1	1					1	1		NR
SBs				1	2					1	3		NR
Tk/A					4								NR
RSM													
RQMS													
CSM													
CQMS													
Sjtk Platoon					25						26		
ATT ON WE													
AAMC													
Chiropodist					1						1		
Hyg Duties					1						1		
Med Orderlies					1						1		
AAOC													
Shoemaker													
AAPS													
Postal Duties					1						1		
AACC													
Caterer				1						1			
Cooks					5	5					4	5	NR
AAPC													
Fay Clerks				1	1					1	1		
TOTAL	1	7	5	41	75		2	6	7	39	60		

Detail of Present Strength and Reinforcements required as follows:

Serial No. 17
Regiment (Battalion)
Class of Service A 3000

AMC

AMC

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

Army Form W.3008
(Adapted) (Page 1)
(Revised Jan., 1943)
50 / 44 (Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 16/12/1944 25 Aust Inf Bn (Unit)

W.E. II/1273 OFFRS. 35 O.R.'s 769 + OFFRS. 1 O.R.'s 32 ATT. BY W.E.

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

W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.				
Rein'ts Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Rein'ts Required.
-	-	-	1	*					
NR	1	-	2	Lieut.-Colonels					
NR	4	-	4	Majors	AA MC	1			
		6	25	Captains					
			1	Lieutenants					
			1	Quarter-masters A.A.N.S. and A.A.M.W.S. Offrs.					
				Civilians Counting as Offrs.					
NR	5	6	34			1			

	DETAIL	A.I.P.	C.M.F.	A.W.A.S.	A.A.N.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL.	R.A.N.	R.A.A.F.	**	TOTAL.
Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in pars. 10 of instructions for compilation of form will complete Part E(1) & E(2).	A.	35									35
	E.(1)										
	E.(2)										

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

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

OFFICERS JOINED DURING WEEK

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

OFFICERS QUITTED DURING WEEK.

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

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO 25 Aust Inf Bn (Unit) IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED. 16/12/1944, Serial 50/44

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

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON POSTED STRENGTH

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 16/12/1944 (Total to agree with Columns 4 and 7 of Part A.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held.	Army Number.	Surname.	Initials.	Posting.	Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.	Date of Detachment.
Lt Col	SX 3709	McKINNA	J.G.	CO	Yes		
Major	QX 40879	WEDDNER	R.	2 IC	"		
"	QX 34430	JACKSON	W.J.E.	OC Coy	"	(HQ Coy)	
Capt	QX 36183	JUST	H.E.	"	"	(D Coy)	
"	NX109207	LOW	J.B.	Adjt	"		
"	NX128782	CABEL	C.P.	OC Coy	"	(B Coy)	
"	VX 64391	BRUCE	W.P.	"	"	(C Coy)	
Lt	QX 36185	JEFFRIES	R.D.K.	P1 Comd	"		
"	QX 48877	MARLTON	D.H.J.	Asst Adjt	"		
"	QX 43164	PHILLIPS	F.J.	P1 Comd	"		
"	NX128788	PEDEN	A.H.	TO	"		
"	NX127303	McQUIGAN	J.P.	P1 Comd	"		
Lt/capt	QX 45300	HARRIS	H.A.	QM	"		
Lt	QX 34431	McDONALD	R.H.	IO	"		
"	QX 57134	MORRISON	L.E.	P1 Comd	"		
"	Q X51715	DEUBLE	L.W.	"	No	Det for Duty 9 Aust Inf Bn	
"	QX 51714	HILL	F.V.	"	Yes		(27.11.44)
"	QX 57166	JUTSUM	B.H.	"	"		
"	QX 680	McLEOD	A.F.	"	"		
"	NX 33706	WRIGHT	J.	"	"		
"	NX 69272	SHAW	B.A.	A/OC Coy	"	(A Coy)	
"	NX 69188	DAWSON	A.E.	P1 Comd	"		
"	NX 41513	FRENCH	L.	"	"	(HQT offr)	
"	VX 63784	DANLISON	H.	"	"		
"	NX 60437	ROBERTSON	R.P.	"	"		
"	NX 56559	SHEPHERD	H.	"	"		
"	QX 33597	STEWART	R.F.	"	"		
"	NX108722	CHAMBERLAIN	H.E.	"	"		
"	QX 49469	MULNY	H.	"	"		
"	QX 36376	SIMMONS	W.H.	"	"		
"	QX 37529	CHESTERTON	J.	"	"		
"	NX112256	KING	R.W.	"	"		
"	VX 68440	SMITH	K.H.	"	"		
"	QX 37722	TROTMAN	I.H.	"	"		
Capt	NX169148	AIKEN	J.E.	IMO	"		

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

Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank, if Held.	Army Number.	Name and Initials.	Unit.	Date of Attachment.	Nature of Attachment.
Capt	QX 25965	CARILL B.	AA Ch D	7/4/44	Chaplain
"	QX 59163	COOKE H.C.	A Sec, 63 Aust Dental Unit	19/11/44	Dental Officer

16 Dec 44
Date of Despatch

[Signature]
Signature of Commander
CO 25 Aust Inf Bn

AOP

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 16/12/1944 4 25 Aust Inf (Unit)

W.E. 11203 OFFRS. 35 O.R's. 769 OFFRS. 1 O.R's. 30 ATT. BY W.E.

Part A. Posted Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements Required.

W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.				
Reinfts. Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Reinfts. Required.
-	-	1	2	W.Os. Class I.					
NR	1	-	5	W.Os. Class II.	AACC	1			
-	-	-	5	Squadron or Company Quartermaster Sgts.					
-	-	1	1	Staff Sergeants					
NR	1	-	31	Sergeants	See Back	9	-	-	-
NR	16	-	51	Corporals	" "	8	-	-	-
155	137	5	526	Troopers, Privates, etc.	" "	13	-	1	1
				Civilians counting as O.R.					
155	155	7	621	Totals of cols. marked * should agree with details shown in Part E on Page 2.		31*		1	1

Detail	A.I.F.	C.M.F.		A.W.A.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL	R.A.N.	R.A.A.F.	**	TOTAL
		Under 19 Years.	19 Years and over.							
A	204		368							652
B(1)										
B(2)										

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

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

Part B. Other Ranks Attached from Other Units.

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

Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which they belong	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which they belong	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which detached.	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which detached.
1	YMCA 7 Aust Inf Bde			1	Q'ld Echelon and Records		
1	7 Aust Inf Bde			1	61 Aust Inf Bn		
1	228 Lt AA Bty			7	Compassionate Leave		
4	A Sec, 63 Aust Dental Unit			1	LHQ Sch of MI		
4	241 Aust LAD			2	B/4 Aust Bakery School		
				1	Land Forces Gas School		
				31	9 Aust Inf Bn		

Part D. Description of Other Ranks Whose Return To 25 Aust Inf Bn (Unit) is Particularly Requested. 16/12/1944 4

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

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS

At 0800 Hrs. Saturday 10/10/1914 22 ANZAC BATTAL (C.M.)

W.E. No. 1000 OTHERS 2000
 W.E. No. 1000 OTHERS 2000
 W.E. No. 1000 OTHERS 2000

Part A Posted Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements Required.

ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.				W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED			
TRADE	7	6	5	EW	Posted Strength	Detached	Strength Required
AAMC Chiropodists				1	1		
Hyg. Duties				1	1		
Med Orderlies				2	1	1 OR	
AACC Shoemaker				1	1		
AAPS Postal Duties				1	1		
AAGC Caterer Cooks				1 23	1 23		
AAPC Pay Clerks				2	2		
				32	31	1	

Part C. Other Ranks Included in Part A Detached to Other Units.				Part B. Other Ranks Attached from Other Units.			
Number of O.R.	Unit to which detached.	Number of O.R.	Unit to which they belong.	Number of O.R.	Unit to which they belong.	Number of O.R.	Unit to which they belong.
1	21st Coy	1	21st Coy	1	21st Coy	1	21st Coy
1	21st Coy	1	21st Coy	1	21st Coy	1	21st Coy
1	21st Coy	1	21st Coy	1	21st Coy	1	21st Coy
1	21st Coy	1	21st Coy	1	21st Coy	1	21st Coy
1	21st Coy	1	21st Coy	1	21st Coy	1	21st Coy
1	21st Coy	1	21st Coy	1	21st Coy	1	21st Coy
1	21st Coy	1	21st Coy	1	21st Coy	1	21st Coy
1	21st Coy	1	21st Coy	1	21st Coy	1	21st Coy
1	21st Coy	1	21st Coy	1	21st Coy	1	21st Coy
1	21st Coy	1	21st Coy	1	21st Coy	1	21st Coy

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

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

PART E. Detail of Present Strength and Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009 at 0600 Hours Saturday 16/12/1944.

Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I.	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP II. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP III. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.
Ammunition Examiners				Surveyors, Engineering				Operating Room Assts.				G.P.O. Assistants			
Armament Artificer Fitter				Surveyors, E.A.A.				Operator, Keyboard				Hammermen			
Armament Artificer Fitter (Electrical)				Surveyors, Topographical				Operator, Line				Leather Stitchers			
Armament Artificer Fitter (M.V.)				Surveyors, Trigonometrical				Operator, Signal				Orderlies, Nursing			
Armament Artificer Fitter (A.F.V.)				Toolmakers				Operator, Switchboard				Orderlies, Nursing Mental			
Armament Artificer Instrument				Turners				Operator, Wireless				Plate Layers			
Armament Artificer Radio				Watchmakers				Opticians				Bangetakers	4	3	NR
Armament Artificer Signals				Welders				Painters				Bivettors			
Armament Artificer Wireless								Panel Beaters				Roughriders			
Artificer, Artillery								Photographer, Dry Plate				Saddlers			
Artificer, Engine								Predictor Numbers				Saddletree makers			
Blacksmiths	1	1						Printers				Shoemaker and Boot Repairer			
Bricklayers		1						Radiographers				Stevedores			
Computers								Riggers				Stokers, Staty. Engine			
Cooks, Hospital				GROUP II.				Sawyers				Storemen, Technical	4	3	NR
Coppersmiths				Armourers				Signallers	26	26		Tailors	2	2	-
Dispensers				Axemen				Signwriters				Textile Refitters			
Draughtsmen				Bakers				Telescope Identfn. Numbers				Tinsmiths			
Draughtsmen (Architectural)				Bty. Comd's. Asst.				Well Borers				Vulcanizers			
Draughtsmen (Engineering)				Boilermakers				Wheelers				Wagon Erectors			
Draughtsmen (Mechanical)				Carpenters		4	NR	Winchman				Whitesmiths			
Draughtsmen (Topographical)				Carpenters and Joiners				Wireman				SPECIALISTS			
Electricians				Cooks				Woodturners				Batmen	34	34	
Electricians (M.V.)				Dental Mechanics								Gen Duties			
Electricians (Signals)				Driver-Mech. (Eng. and Med.)								Mess	3	3	
Fitters				Driver-Operator								Hyg	4	4	
Fitters (Cycle)				Drainers								LMG & Rfn	409	260	155
Fitters (Electrical)				Electricians								MMG	23	23	
Fitters (Gun)				Electricians (Engineers)								Orderlies	32	32	
Fitters (Instrument)				Fire Control Operators				GROUP III.				DETAILS OF NON-TRADESMEN			
Fitters (M.V.)				Gun Operator				Battery Surveyors				Pnrs	32	32	
Fitters, Railway Signal				Hatchman				Butchers	1	2		Pro	1	1	
Fitters, Signals				Height Taker				Clerks	12	11	NR	Mortars	73	73	
Grinder, Precision				Helio Operator				Clerks, Supply				RPs	6	6	
Mechanics, Instrument				Instrument Operator				Clerks, Technical				SBs	21	21	
Mechanics, Instrument (Signals)				Intelligence Duties	10	9	NR	Coach Trimmers				Tk/A	19	19	
Mechanics, Instrument (Surgical)				Joiners				Concretors				RSW	1	2	
Mechanics, Radio				Lineman				Cooks				Water Dut	2	2	
Mechanics, Typewriter				Lineman, Signals				Dental Clerk Orderlies				Storemen	6	6	
Mechanics, Wireless				Lithographers				Despatch Riders				ATTACHED BY W.E.			
Millwrights				Machinists, Metal				Draughtsmen, Signals				RQMS	1	1	
Operators, Excavator				Machinists, Wood				Drivers, H.T.				CQMS	5	5	
Pattern Maker				Masons				Driver Mechanics		3		CSM	5	4	NR
Pharmacist				Masseurs				Driver Tptn. Plant				Sjts Pl	25	26	
Photographer, Wet Plate				Mechanics, M.T.				Engine Hands, I.C.				Att on WR	32	31	1
Photewriter				Miners				Equipment Repairers	1	1					
Plumber				Moulders				Farriers							
Saw Doctors				Nurses, Trained				Fitters' Mates							
Surveyors				Observation Post Assts.				Gun Layers		1					
CARRIED FORWARD	1	2		CARRIED FORWARD	17	15		CARRIED FORWARD	57	59		Totals of columns marked * to agree with columns 4 and 7, and 1 and 10 of Part A. respectively.	80	1652	156

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

Date of Despatch

Signature of Commander

Capt

Adjt 25 Aust Inf Bn

THE...
 Date of...
 Structure of...
 Date of...

SUMMARY OF NCO DEFICIENCIES

TRADE	WE						POSTED STRENGTH						Rfts Required	
	WO	I	WO	II	S/Sjt	Sjt	WO	I	WO	II	S/Sjt	Sjt		Cpl
"I" Duties						1								
Sigs						2								
Clerks						1								
Tailors						1								
Tech Storemen						1								
LMG & Rfn													36	NR
MMG													2	NR
Mortars													5	NR
Pioneers													4	NR
T'port													1	NR
Provost						1								
SBs						1								
Tk/A						1								
RSM						1								
RQMS						1								
CSM						1								
CQMS						1								
Sjts Platoon					5	25					5	26		
ATT ON WE														
AAMC														
Chiropodist						1								1
Hyg Duties						1								1
Med Orderlies						1								1
AAOC						1								1
Shoemaker						1								1
AAPS						1								1
Postal Duties						1								1
AACC						1								1
Caterer						1								1
Cooks						5								5
AAPC						5								5
Pay Clerks						1								1
						1								1
						7								7
						5								5
						41								41
						75								75
														2
														6
														6
														40
														59

TABLE Detail of Present Strength and Reinforcement Requirements...
 of...
 of...

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

Army Form W.3008
(Adapted) (Page 1)
(Revised Jan., 1943)
49 / 44 (Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 9 / 12 / 1944 25 Aust Inf Bn (Unit)

W.E. 11 12c 3 OFFRS. 33 O.R's. 769 + OFFRS. 1 O.R's. 32 ATT. BY W.E.

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

W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.									
Rein'ts Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Rein'ts Required.					
-	-	-	1	*										
NR	1	-	2	Lieut.-Colonels										
NR	4	-	4	Majors	AANC	1								
		6	25	Captains										
			1	Lieutenants										
			1	Quarter-masters										
			1	Lt Asst Adj										
				A.A.N.S. and A.A.M.W.S. Offrs.										
				Civilians Counting as Offrs.										
NR	5	6	34			1								
				DETAIL	A.I.P.	C.M.F.	A.W.A.S.	A.A.N.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL.	R.A.N.	R.A.A.P.	**	TOTAL.
				A.	35									35
				E.(1)										
				E.(2)										

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

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

OFFICERS JOINED DURING WEEK

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

OFFICERS QUITTED DURING WEEK.

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

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO 25 Aust Inf Bn (Unit) IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED. 9 / 12 / 1944 Serial 49/44

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

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON POSTED STRENGTH

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 9 / 12 / 1944 (Total to agree with Columns 4 and 7 of Part A.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held.	Army Number.	Surname.	Initials.	Posting.	Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.	Date of Detachment.
Lt Col	SX 3709	McKINNA	J.G.	CO	Yes		
Major	QX40879	WEPPEER	R.	2 IC	"		
"	QX34430	JACKSON	W.J.E.	OC Coy	"	(HQ Coy)	
Capt	QX36183	JUST	H.E.	"	"	(D Coy)	
"	MX109207	LOW	J.P.	Adjnt	"		
"	MX128782	GABEL	C.P.	OC Coy	"	(B Coy)	
"	VX 84391	BRUCE	W.P.	"	"	(C Coy)	
Lt	QX 36185	JEPFERIES	R.D.K.	P1 Comd	"		
"	QX 48877	MARLTON	D.H.J.	Asst Adjnt	Yes		
"	QX 43164	PHILLIPS	F.J.	P1 Comd	Yes		
"	MX128788	PEDER	A.H.	TO	"		
"	MX127303	McQUIGAN	J.P.	P1 Comd	"		
Lt/Capt	QX 45300	HARRIS	H.A.	QM	"		
Lt	QX 34431	McDONALD	R.H.	IO	"		
"	QX 57134	MORRISON	L.E.	P1 Comd	"		
"	QX 51718	DEUBLE	L.E.	"	No	Det for Duty 9 Aust Inf Bn	
"	QX 51714	HILL	F.V.	"	Yes		(27.11.44)
"	QX 57166	JUTSUM	R.H.	"	"		
"	QX 680	McLEOD	A.F.	"	"		
"	MX 33708	WRIGHT	J.	"	"		
"	MX 68272	SHAW	B.A.	1/OC Coy	"	(A Coy)	
"	MX 68188	DAWSON	A.E.	"	"		
"	MX 41513	FRENCH	L.	"	"	(Rpt Offr)	
"	VX 83784	DARLISON	R.	"	"		
"	MX 60437	ROBERTSON	R.P.	"	"		
"	MX 56588	SHEPHERD	H.	"	"		
"	QX 33887	STEWART	R.E.	"	"		
"	MX108722	CHAMBERLAIN	H.R.	"	"		
"	QX 49468	MULRY	H.	"	"		
"	QX 36376	SIMMONS	H.H.	"	"		
"	QX 37828	CHRISTERTON	J.	"	"		
"	MX112256	KING	B.W.	"	"		
"	VX 88440	SMITH	R.H.	"	"		
"	QX 37722	TROTMAN	I.E.	"	"		
Capt	MX168148	AIKEN	J.E.	RMO	"		

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

Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank, if Held.	Army Number.	Name and Initials.	Unit.	Date of Attachment.	Nature of Attachment.
Capt	QX 25965	CAHILL E.	AA Ch D	7/4/44	Chaplain
"	QX 59163	COOK M.G.	A Sec, 63 Aust Dental Unit	19/11/44	Dental Officer

9 Dec 44

Date of Despatch

J. McKinna
Signature of Commander
CO 25 Aust Inf Bn

Lt Col

PART D—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON POSTED STRENGTH

(Total to Columns 4 and 7 of Part A) **X** LIST

Rank	Service Number	Name	Branch	Initials	Post
Capt	QX 35561	CORPSE		J. H.	SCL 7 Aust Inf Bde
Lt	QX 51713	NELSON		W. H.	Second Aust Army Jnr Leaders Sch
"	Q 22003	STEELE		S. D.	"
"	NX144427	BANKO		J. C.	"
"	NX104830	TAYLOR		A. J.	"
"	VX136298	STORAN		F.	"
"	NX133482	RUDD		L. M.	LO 7 Aust Inf Bde
"	NX143807	WORSLEY		M. H.	LHQ Sch of Hygiene and Sanitation
"	VX 43108	BARTLETT		R. L.	LHQ Sch of MI
Lt/Capt	VX100095	CORBOULD		R. W.	First Aust Army Jnr Staff Sch
Lt	VX117109	SIMONSON		D. J.	100 Aust CCS
Capt	QX 53202	McINNES		R. D.	LHQ Tactical School

PART E—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER UNITS

Rank	Service Number	Name	Branch	Initials	Post

Signature of Commander
Lt Col

Date of Despatch
9 Dec 44

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS

ATTACHED ON WE

W.E. II 120 2 OTHERS O.R.'s + OTHERS O.R.'s ATT BY W.E.

TRADE	Posted Strength		Det'd Strength		Rfts Required	
	W.E.	Other O.R.'s	W.E.	Other O.R.'s	W.E.	Other O.R.'s
AANC Chiropodists	1		1		1	
Hyg Duties	1		1		1	
Med Orderlies	2		1		1	
AACC Shoemaker	1		1		1	
AAPS Postal Duties	1		1		1	
AACC Caterer	1		1		1	
Cooks	23		23		23	
AAPC Pay Clerks	2		2		2	
TOTAL	32		31		31	

Part C. Other Ranks Included in Part A Detached to Other Units				Part B. Other Ranks Attached from Other Units			
Number of O.R.	Unit to which detached	Number of O.R.	Unit to which they belong	Number of O.R.	Unit to which they belong	Number of O.R.	Unit to which they belong
1	21st Battalion and records	1	21st Battalion				
1	21st Battalion	1	21st Battalion				
1	21st Battalion	1	21st Battalion				
1	21st Battalion	1	21st Battalion				
1	21st Battalion	1	21st Battalion				
1	21st Battalion	1	21st Battalion				
1	21st Battalion	1	21st Battalion				
1	21st Battalion	1	21st Battalion				
1	21st Battalion	1	21st Battalion				
1	21st Battalion	1	21st Battalion				

Part D. Description of Other Ranks Whose Return To (Unit) is Extraordinarily Requested

Serial No.	Name and Initials	Rank	Army No.

PART E. Detail of Present Strength and Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009 at 0600 Hours Saturday 9/12/1944.

Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I.	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP II. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP III. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.
Ammunition Examiners				Surveyors, Engineering				Operating Room Assts.				G.P.O. Assistants			
Armament Artificer Fitter				Surveyors, R.A.A.				Operator, Keyboard				Hammermen			
Armament Artificer Fitter (Electrical)				Surveyors, Topographical				Operator, Line				Leather Stitchers			
Armament Artificer Fitter (M.V.)				Surveyors, Trigonometrical				Operator, Signal				Orderlies, Nursing			
Armament Artificer Fitter (A.F.V.)				Toolmakers				Operator, Switchboard				Orderlies, Nursing Mental			
Armament Artificer Instrument				Turners				Operator, Wireless				Plate Layers			
Armament Artificer Radio				Watchmakers				Opticians				Rangetakers	4	3	
Armament Artificer Signals				Welders				Painters				Rivetters			
Armament Artificer Wireless								Panel Beaters				Roughriders			
Artificer, Artillery								Photographer, Dry Plate				Saddlers			
Artificer, Engine								Predictor Numbers				Saddletree makers			
Blacksmiths	1	1						Printers				Shoemaker and Boot Repairer			
Bricklayers		1						Radlographers				Stevadores			
Computers								Biggers				Stokers, Staty. Engine			
Cooks, Hospital				GROUP II.				Sawyers				Storemen, Technical	4	3	NR
Coppersmiths				Armourers				Signallers	26	26	-	Tailors	2	2	-
Dispensers				Axemen				Signwriters				Textile Refitters			
Draughtsmen				Bakers				Telescope Identfn. Numbers				Tinsmiths			
Draughtsmen (Architectural)				By. Comd's. Asst.				Well Borers				Vulcanizers			
Draughtsmen (Engineering)				Boilermakers				Wheeler				Wagon Erectors			
Draughtsmen (Mechanical)				Carpenters	6	4	NR	Winchman				Whitesmiths			
Draughtsmen (Topographical)				Carpenters and Joiners				Wireman				SPECIALISTS			
Electricians				Cooks				Woodturners				Batmen	34	34	
Electricians (M.V.)				Dental Mechanics								Gen Duties			
Electricians (Signals)				Driver-Mech. (Eng. and Med.)								Mess	3	3	
Fitters				Driver-Operator								Byg	4	4	
Fitters (Cycle)				Drainers								LNG & Rfn	409270	144	
Fitters (Electrical)				Electricians								MMG	23	23	
Fitters (Gun)				Electricians (Engineers)								Orderlies	32	32	
Fitters (Instrument)				Fire Control Operators				GROUP III.				XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX			
Fitters (M.V.)				Gun Operator				Battery Surveyors				Pnrs	32	32	
Fitters, Railway Signal				Hatchman				Butchers	1	2		Pro	1	1	
Fitters, Signals				Height Taker				Clerks	12	11	NR	Mortars	73	73	
Grinder, Precision				Helio Operator				Clerks, Supply				RPB	6	6	
Mechanics, Instrument				Instrument Operator				Clerks, Technical				SBs	21	21	
Mechanics, Instrument (Signals)				Intelligence Duties	10	9	NR	Coach Trimmers				Tk/A	19	19	
Mechanics, Instrument (Surgical)				Joiners				Concretors				RSM	1	2	
Mechanics, Radio				Lineman				Cooks				Water Dut	2	2	
Mechanics, Typewriter				Lineman, Signals				Dental Clerk Orderlies				Storemen	6	6	
Mechanics, Wireless				Lithographers				Despatch Riders				XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX			
Millwrights				Machinists, Metal				Draughtsmen, Signals				RQMS	1	1	
Operators, Excavator				Machinists, Wood				Drivers, H.T.				CQMS	5	5	
Pattern Maker				Masons				Driver Mechanics		2		CSM	5	5	
Pharmacist				Masseurs				Driver Tptn. Plant				Sjts Pl	25	26	
Photographer, Wet Plate				Mechanics, M.T.				Engine Hands, I.C.				Att on WE	32	31	1
Photowriter				Miners				Equipment Repairers	1	1					
Plumber				Moulders				Farriers							
Saw Doctors				Nurses, Trained				Fitters' Mates							
Surveyors				Observation Post Assts.				Gun Layers		1					
CARRIED FORWARD	1	2		CARRIED FORWARD	17	15		CARRIED FORWARD	57	58		Totals of columns marked * to agree with columns 4 and 7, and 1 and 10 of Part A. respectively.	801662	145	

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

9 Dec 44
Date of Despatch

Signature of Commander
Adj 25 Aust Inf Bn

SUMMARY OF NCO DEFICIENCIES

TRADE	WE					POSTED STRENGTH					Rfts Recd.	
	WO I	WO II	S/Sjt	Sjt	Cpl	WO I	WO II	S/Sjt	Sjt	Cpl		
"I" Duties				1	2				1	2		
Sigs					4				4	4		
Clerks				2	6				1	6	NR	
Tailors				1	1				1	1		
Tech Storemen				1				1	1			
LMG & Rfn					36					26	NR	
MNG					2				1	1		
Mortars					5				5	5	NR	
Pioneers					4				4	4	NR	
T'port					1						NR	
Provost				1	1				1	1		
SBs				1	2				1	1	NR	
Tk/A					4				2	2	NR	
RSM												
RQMS												
CSM												
CQMS												
Sjts Platoon				25					26			
ATT ON WE												
AANC												
Chiropodist					1					1		
Hyg Duties				1					1			
Med Orderlies				1					1			
AAOC												
Shoemaker					1					1		
AAPS												
Postal Duties				1					1			
AACC												
Caterer												
Cooks				5	5				5	5		
AAPC												
Pay Clerks				1	1				1	1		
TOTAL	1	7	5	41	75			2	7	6	40	60

THE A OF VINY LOM M 3000 91 0030 16 0030 W PRO VINY A 10 A 11
 BY KE: DEPT OF LICENSING AND REGISTRATION
 22 2004 JUL 10
 (Number) (Date) (Year)
 Year 2004 M 2000

Was heavy
FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

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

48/44 (Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 2/12/1944. 25 Aust Inf (Unit)

W.E. II/12c/3 OFFRS. 33 O.R.'s. 769 + OFFRS. 1 O.R.'s. 32 ATT. BY W.E. *APPX A*

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

W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.					
Rein'ts Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Rein'ts Required.	
-	-	-	1	Lieut.-Colonels						
NR	1	-	2	Majors						
NR	4	-	4	Captains	AAMC	1				
		6	25	Lieutenants						
			1	Quarter-masters						
			1	A.A.N.S. and A.A.M.W.S. Offrs.						
				Civilians Counting as Offrs.						
NR	5	6	34			1				

DETAIL	A.I.F.	C.M.F.	A.W.A.S.	A.A.N.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL.	R.A.N.	R.A.A.F.	**	TOTAL.
A.	35									35
E.(1)										
E.(2)										

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

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

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

OFFICERS JOINED DURING WEEK

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit From.	Date.	CAUSE.
QX 36185	Lt	JEFFERIES R.D.K.	111 CCS	26.11.44	From "X" List Hosp

OFFICERS QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit To.	Date.	CAUSE.
QX 36182	Capt	WHITE E.G.	GDD Redbank	30.11.44	For discharge & T'fer to R of C
QX53202	"	McINNES R.D.	LHQ Tactical School	"	To attend B Wing, Course 15, 10 Dec 44-21 Jan 45.

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO 65 Aust Inf Bn (Unit) IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED. 2/12/1944. Serial 48/44

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

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON POSTED STRENGTH

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 2nd / 12 / 194⁴ (Total to agree with Columns 4 and 7 of Part A.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held.	Army Number.	Surname.	Initials.	Posting.	Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.	Date of Detachment.
Lt Col	GX 3709	McKINNA	J.G.	CO	Yes		
Major	GX 40879	WEPPNER	R.	2 IC	"		
"	GX 34430	JACKSON	W.J.E.	CO Coy	"		
Capt	GX 36183	JUST	H.E.	"	"		
"	EX109207	LOW	J.H.	Adjt	"		
"	EX128782	SABEL	C.P.	CO Coy	"		
"	VX 64391	BRUCE	W.F.	"	"		
Lt	GX 36185	JEPPERIES	R.D.R.	Pl Comd	"		
"	GX 48977	MARLTON	D.H.J.	Asst Adjt	Yes		
"	GX 43164	PHILLIPS	F.J.	Pl Comd	Yes		
"	EX128788	PHDEN	A.H.	TO	"		
"	EX127303	McGUITAN	J.P.	Pl Comd	"		
Lt/Capt	GX 45300	HARRIS	H.A.	QM	"		
Lt	GX 34431	McDONALD	R.N.	IC	"		
"	GX 57134	MORRISON	L.E.	Pl Comd	"		
"	GX 51715	DEUBLE	L.H.	"	No	Det for Duty @ Aust Inf Bn	(27.11.44)
"	GX 51714	HILL	F.V.	"	Yes		
"	GX 57165	JUTSUM	R.H.	"	"		
"	GX 680	McLEOD	A.F.	"	"		
"	EX 33706	WRIGHT	J.	"	"		
"	EX 68272	SHAW	B.A.	"	"		
"	EX 68188	DAWSON	A.E.	"	"		
"	EX 41513	FRENCH	L.	"	"	(Rft offr)	
"	VX 63784	DARLISON	R.	"	"	"	
"	EX 60437	ROBERTSON	R.F.	"	"	"	
"	EX 56558	JHEPHRD	H.	"	"	"	
"	GX 33587	STEWART	H.K.	"	"	"	
"	EX108722	CHAMBERLAIN	H.B.	"	"	"	
"	GX 49468	MUIRY	H.	"	"	"	
"	GX 36376	SIMMONS	M.H.	"	"	"	
"	GX 37528	CHESTERTON	J.	"	"	"	
"	EX112256	KING	B.W.	"	"	"	
"	VX 58440	SMITH	K.H.	"	"	"	
"	XXXXXXXX						
"	GX 37722	TROTMAN	I.H.	"	"	"	
Capt	EX168148	AIKEN	J.E.	RMO	"		

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

Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held.	Army Number.	Name and Initials.	Unit.	Date of Attachment.	Nature of Attachment.
Capt	GX25965	CARILL B.	AA Ch D	7/4/44	Chaplain
H.Capt	B2/350	JOHNS W.H.	Salv Army	15/6/44	Amenities

2 Dec 44
Date of Despatch

W. J. E. Jackson
Signature of Commander
CO 25 Aust Inf Bn Lt Col
AOD

PART D--NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON POSTED STRENGTH

At 0800 Hrs Saturday 1941 (Total "X" LIST in Columns 4 and 7 of Part A.)

8	Rank	Service Number	Name	Unit	Initials	Post	Remarks
	Capt	QX 35561	CORFE		J.E.	SCL 7 Aust Inf Bde	
	Lt	QX 51713	NELSON		W.R.	Second Aust Army Jnr Leaders Sch	
	"	Q 22003	STEELE		S.D.	"	
	"	NX144427	BANKO		J.C.	"	
	"	EX104830	TAYLOR		A.J.	"	
	"	VX136298	STORAN		P.	"	
	"	NX133482	RUDD		L.W.	LO 7 Aust Inf Bde	
	"	NX143807	WORSLEY		M.R.	LHQ Sch of Hygiene and Sanitation	
	"	VX 43106	BARTLETT		R.L.	LHQ Sch of MI	
	Lt/Capt	VX100095	CORBOULD		R.W.	First Aust Army Jnr Staff Sch	
	Lt	VX117109	SIMONSON		D.J.	109 Aust CCS	
	Capt	QX 53202	McINNES		R.D.	LHQ Tactical School	

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

Subordinate's Rank and Name	Army Number	Name and Initials	Unit	Nature of Attachment	Date of Attachment

Date of Despatch

Signature of Commander

War diary

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS

48/44 (Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 2/12/1944 25 Aust Inf Bn (Unit)

W.E. 120 / 3 OFFRS 35 O.R's 769 + OFFRS 1 O.R's 32 ATT. BY W.E.

Part A. Posted Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements Required.

Table with 10 columns: 1-4 (W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED), 5 (DETAIL), 6-10 (ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.). Rows include W.Os. Class I, II, Sergeants, Corporals, Troopers, Privates, etc., and a total row.

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

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

Summary table with columns: Detail, A.I.F., C.M.P. (Under 19 Years, 19 Years and over), A.W.A.S., A.A.M.W.S., CIVIL, R.A.N., R.A.A.F., **, TOTAL. Row A shows 288 and 379.

Part B. Other Ranks Attached from Other Units.

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

Two tables side-by-side. Part B table: Number of O.Rs., Unit to which they belong, Number of O.Rs., Unit to which they belong. Part C table: Number of O.Rs., Unit to which detached, Number of O.Rs., Unit to which detached.

Part D. Description of Other Ranks Whose Return To 25 Aust Inf Bn (Unit) is Particularly Requested. 2/12/1944

Table with 4 columns: Army No, Rank, Name and Initials, REMARKS (e.g., present whereabouts if known). Contains 'NIL' in the Name and Initials column.

PART E. Detail of Present Strength and Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009 at 0600 Hours Saturday 2 / 12/1944.

Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I.	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP II. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP III. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.
Ammunition Examiners				Surveyors, Engineering				Operating Room Assts.				G.P.O. Assistants			
Armament Artificer Fitter				Surveyors, E.A.A.				Operator, Keyboard				Hammermen			
Armament Artificer Fitter (Electrical)				Surveyors, Topographical				Operator, Line				Leather Stitchers			
Armament Artificer Fitter (M.V.)				Surveyors, Trigonometrical				Operator, Signal				Orderlies, Nursing			
Armament Artificer Fitter (A.F.V.)				Toolmakers				Operator, Switchboard				Orderlies, Nursing Mental			
Armament Artificer Instrument				Turners				Operator, Wireless				Plate Layers			
Armament Artificer Radio				Watchmakers				Opticians				Rangetakers	4	3	
Armament Artificer Signals				Welders				Painters				Riveters			
Armament Artificer Wireless								Panel Beaters				Roughriders			
Artificer, Artillery								Photographer, Dry Plate				Saddlers			
Artificer, Engine								Predictor Numbers				Saddletree makers			
Blacksmiths	1	1						Printers				Shoemaker and Boot Repairer			
Bricklayers		1						Radlographers				Stevedores			
Computors								Riggers				Stokers, Staty. Engine			
Cooks, Hospital				GROUP II				Sawyers				Storemen, Technical	4	3	NR
Coppersmiths				Armourers				Signallers	26	26	-	Tailors	2	2	-
Dispensers				Axemen				Signwriters				Textile Refitters			
Draughtsmen				Bakers				Telescope Identfn. Numbers				Tinsmiths			
Draughtsmen (Architectural)				By. Comd's. Asst.				Well Borers				Vulcanizers			
Draughtsmen (Engineering)				Bollermakers				Wheelers				Wagon Erectors			
Draughtsmen (Mechanical)				Carpenters	6	4	NR	Winchman				Whitesmiths			
Draughtsmen (Topographical)				Carpenters and Joiners				Wireman				SPECIALISTS			
Electricians				Cocks				Woodturners				Batmen	34	34	
Electricians (M.V.)				Dental Mechanics								Gen Duties			
Electricians (Signals)				Driver-Mech. (Eng. and Med.)								Mess	3	3	-
Fitters				Driver-Operator								Hyg	4	4	-
Fitters (Cycle)				Drainers								IMG & Rfn	409	276	138
Fitters (Electrical)				Electricians								MMO	23	23	
Fitters (Gun)				Electricians (Engineers)								Orderlies	32	32	
Fitters (Instrument)				Fire Control Operators				GROUP III				DETAILS OF NON-TRADESMEN			
Fitters (M.V.)				Gun Operator				Battery Surveyors				Pnrs	32	32	
Fitters, Railway Signal				Hatchman				Butchers	1	2		Pro	1	1	
Fitters, Signals				Height Taker				Clerks	12	11	NR	Mortars	73	73	
Grinder, Precision				Helio Operator				Clerks, Supply				RP's	6	6	
Mechanics, Instrument				Instrument Operator				Clerks, Technical				SB's	21	21	
Mechanics, Instrument (Signals)				Intelligence Duties	10	9	NR	Coach Trimmers				Tk/A	19	19	
Mechanics, Instrument (Surgical)				Joiners				Concretors				RSW	1	2	
Mechanics, Radio				Lineman				Cooks				Water Dut	2	2	
Mechanics, Typewriter				Lineman, Signals				Dental Clerk Orderlies				Storemen	6	6	
Mechanics, Wireless				Lithographers				Despatch Riders				ATTACHED BY W.E.			
Millwrights				Machinists, Metal				Draughtsmen, Signals				RQMS	1	1	
Operators, Excavator				Machinists, Wood				Drivers, H.T.				CQMS	5	5	
Pattern Maker				Masons				Driver Mechanics		2		CWM	5	5	
Pharmacist				Masseurs				Driver Tptn. Plant				Sjts Pl	25	25	
Photographer, Wet Plate				Mechanics, M.T.				Engine Hands, I.C.				Att on WE	32	31	1
Photowriter				Miners				Equipment Repairers	1	1					
Plumber				Moulders				Farriers							
Saw Doctors				Nurses, Trained				Fitters' Mates							
Surveyors				Observation Post Assts.				Gun Layers		1					
CARRIED FORWARD	1	2		CARRIED FORWARD	17	15		CARRIED FORWARD	57	58		Totals of columns marked * to agree with columns 4 and 7, and 1 and 10 of Part A. respectively.	801667	139	*

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

Date of Despatch 2 Dec 44

Signature of Commander *P. Lowe*

Capt.

SUMMARY OF NCO DEFICIENCIES

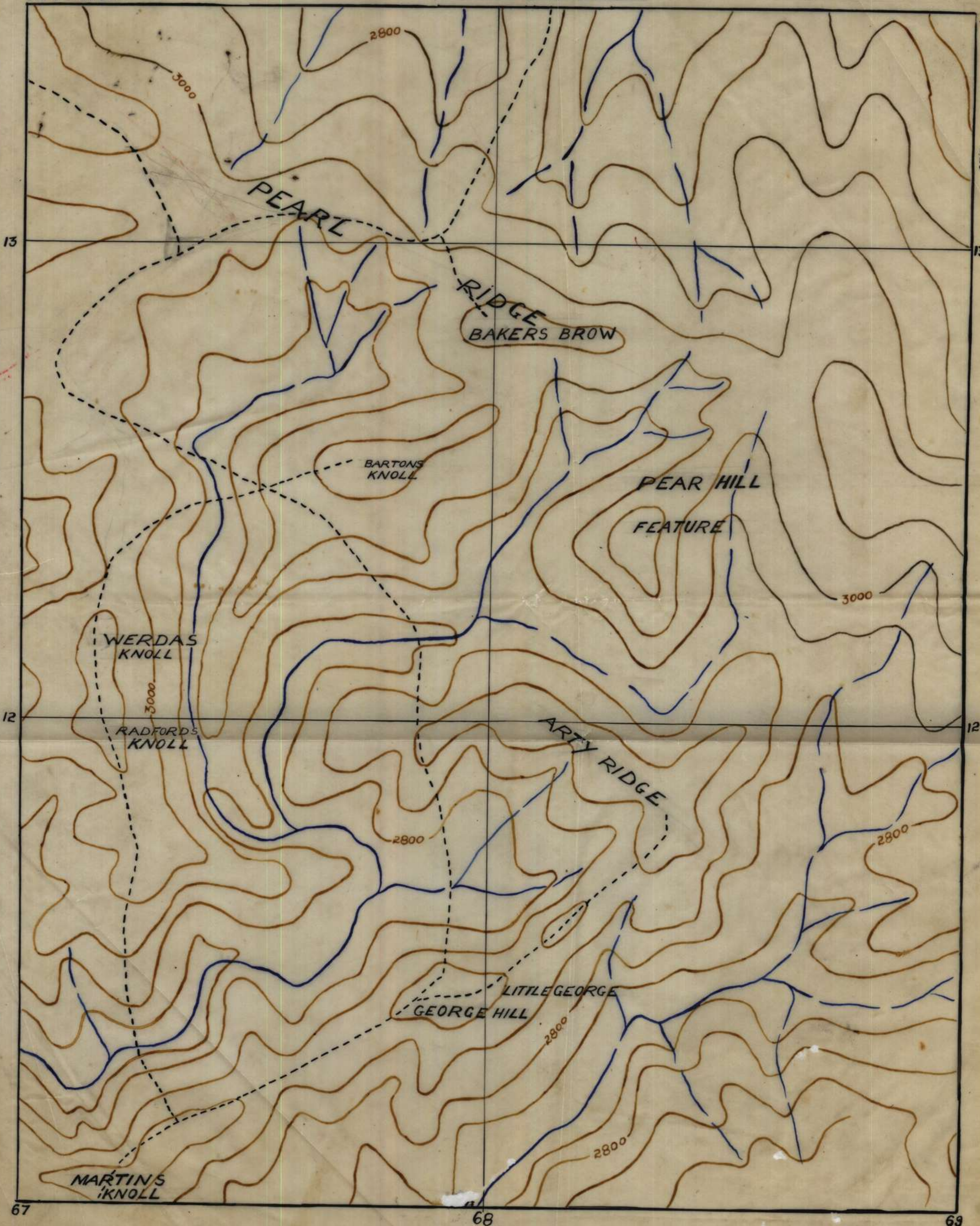
TRADE	WE					POSTED STRENGTH					Rfts Recd
	WO I	WO II	S/Sjt	Sjt	Cpl	WO I	WO II	S/Sjt	Sjt	Cpl	
"I" Duties				1	2				1	2	
Sigs					4					4	
Clerks				2	6				1	6	
Tailors				1	1					1	
Tech Storemen				1							
IMG & Rfm											
MMG					36					27	
Mortars					2					2	
Pioneers					5					5	
T'Port					4					4	
Provost					1					-	
SBs				1	1				1	1	
Tk/A					2					1	
RSM					4					2	
RQMS											
CSM											
CQMS											
Sjts Platoon				25					25		
ATT ON WE											
AAMC											
Chiropodist					1					1	
Hyg Duties				1							
Med Orderlies				1					1		
AAOC											
Shoemaker					1					1	
AAPS											
Postal Duties				1							
AACC											
Caterer											
Cooks				5	5			1		5	
AAPC											
Pay Clerks				1	1					1	
TOTAL	1	7	5	41	75	2	7	6	38	62	

TABLE DETAILED OF PRESENT STRENGTH AND REQUISITEMENTS REQUIRED BY THE COMPANY OF THE 1ST BATTALION THE AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

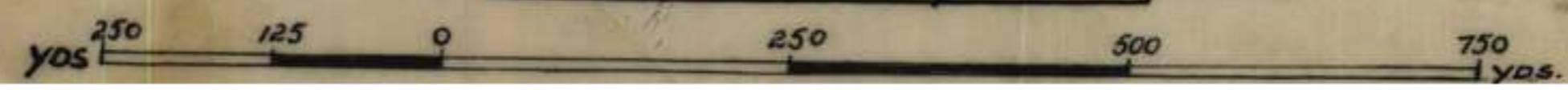
ENLARGEMENT KOWARO 1:25000

Appa X

R.F. 1:6250



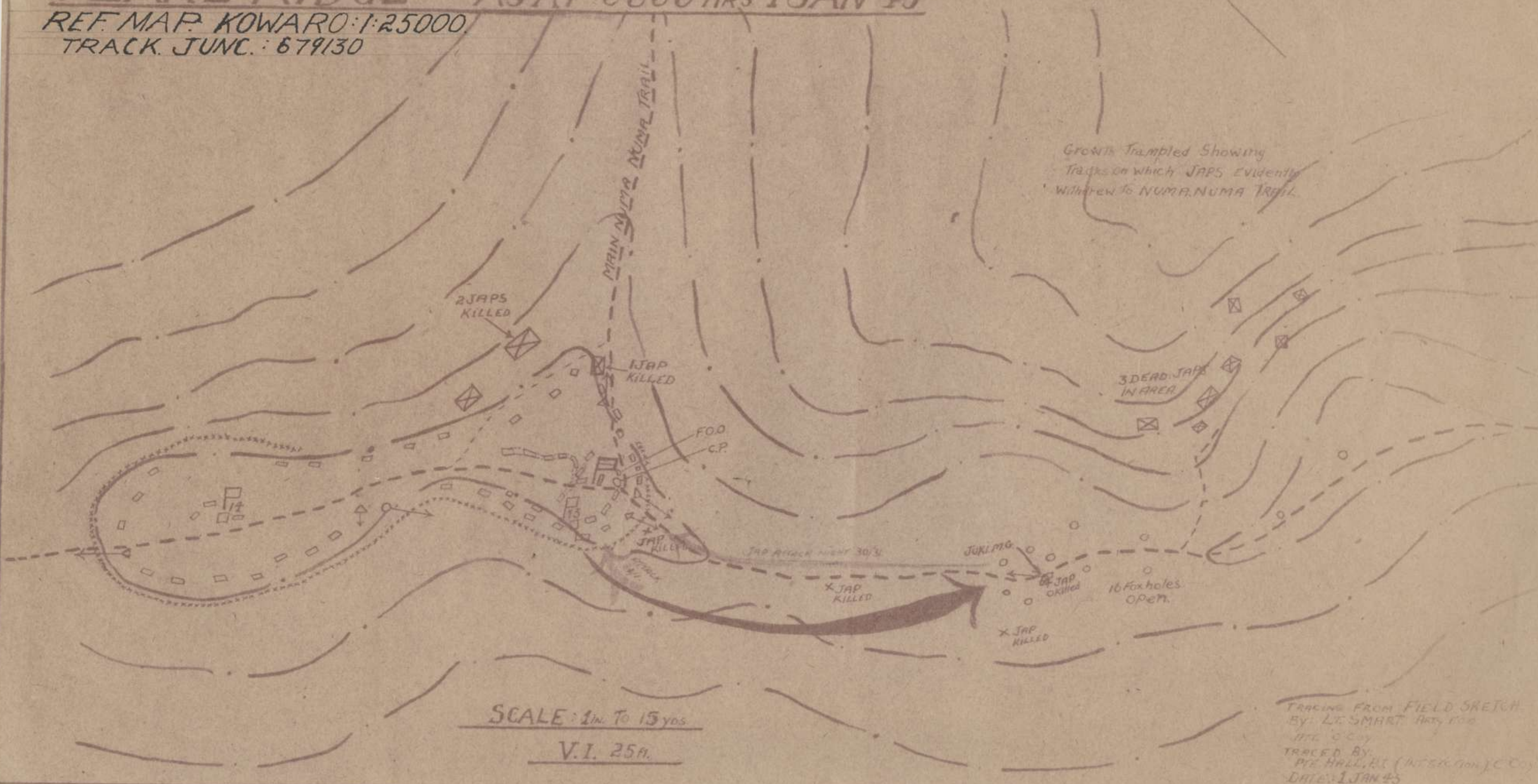
SCALE: 173 yds To lin.



C COY AREA AND DISPOSITIONS PEARL RIDGE : AS AT 0800 HRS 1 JAN 45

REF. MAP. KOWARO: 1:25000
TRACK. JUNC.: 879130

Appx X(i)



SCALE: 1 in To 15 yds
V.I. 25A

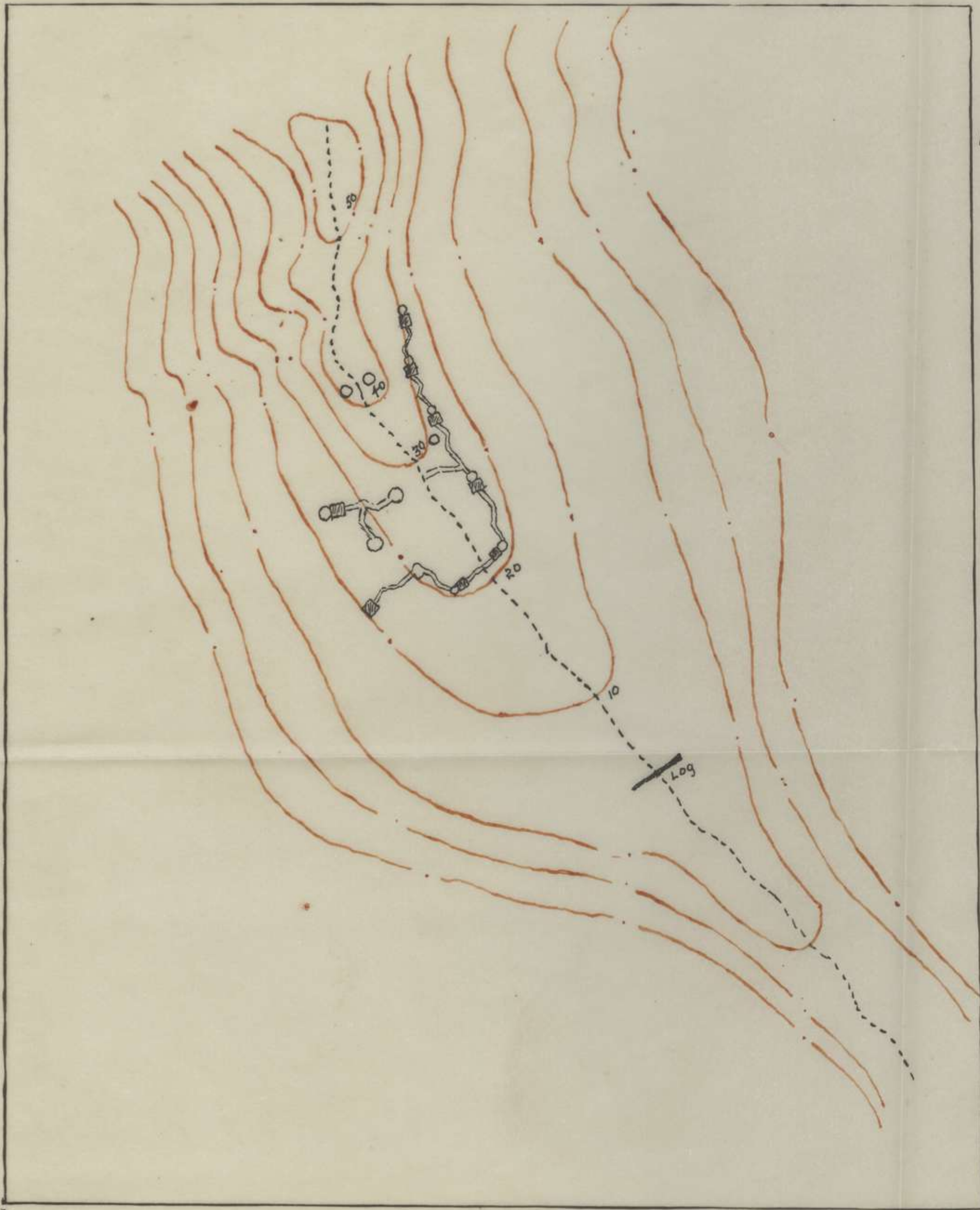
TRACING FROM FIELD SKETCH
By: LT. SMART, ARTY. COO.
JMC. O'CONNOR
TRACED BY:
PVT. HALL, RT. (INTER. COY) C COY
DATE: 1 JAN 45

SKETCH MAP JAP AMBUSH POSN.

REF MAP KOWARO 1:25,000 Ref. 680128

ATTACKED BY B COY.

— 22 Dec. 1944. —

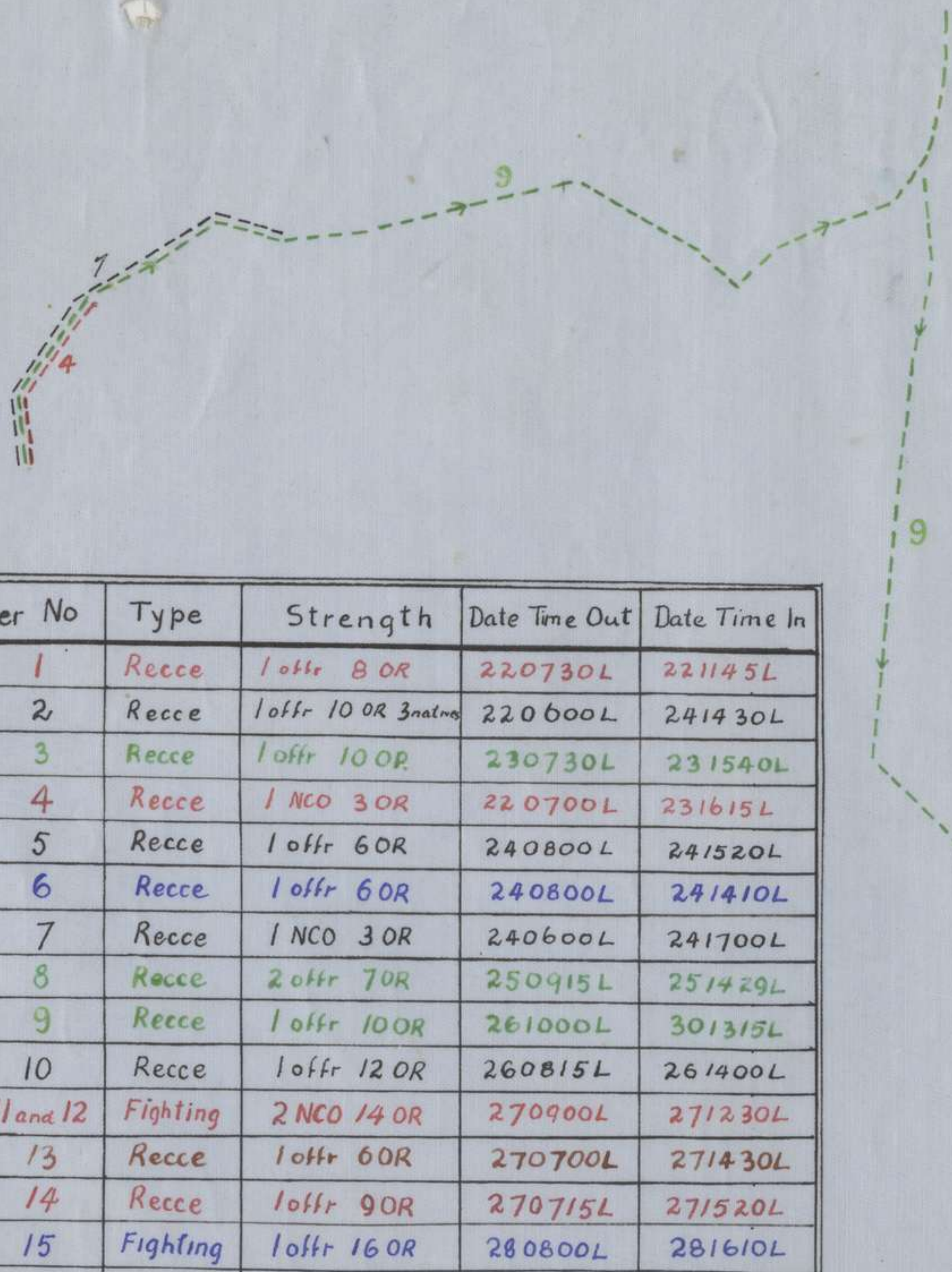


Scale 20Yds. to 1in.

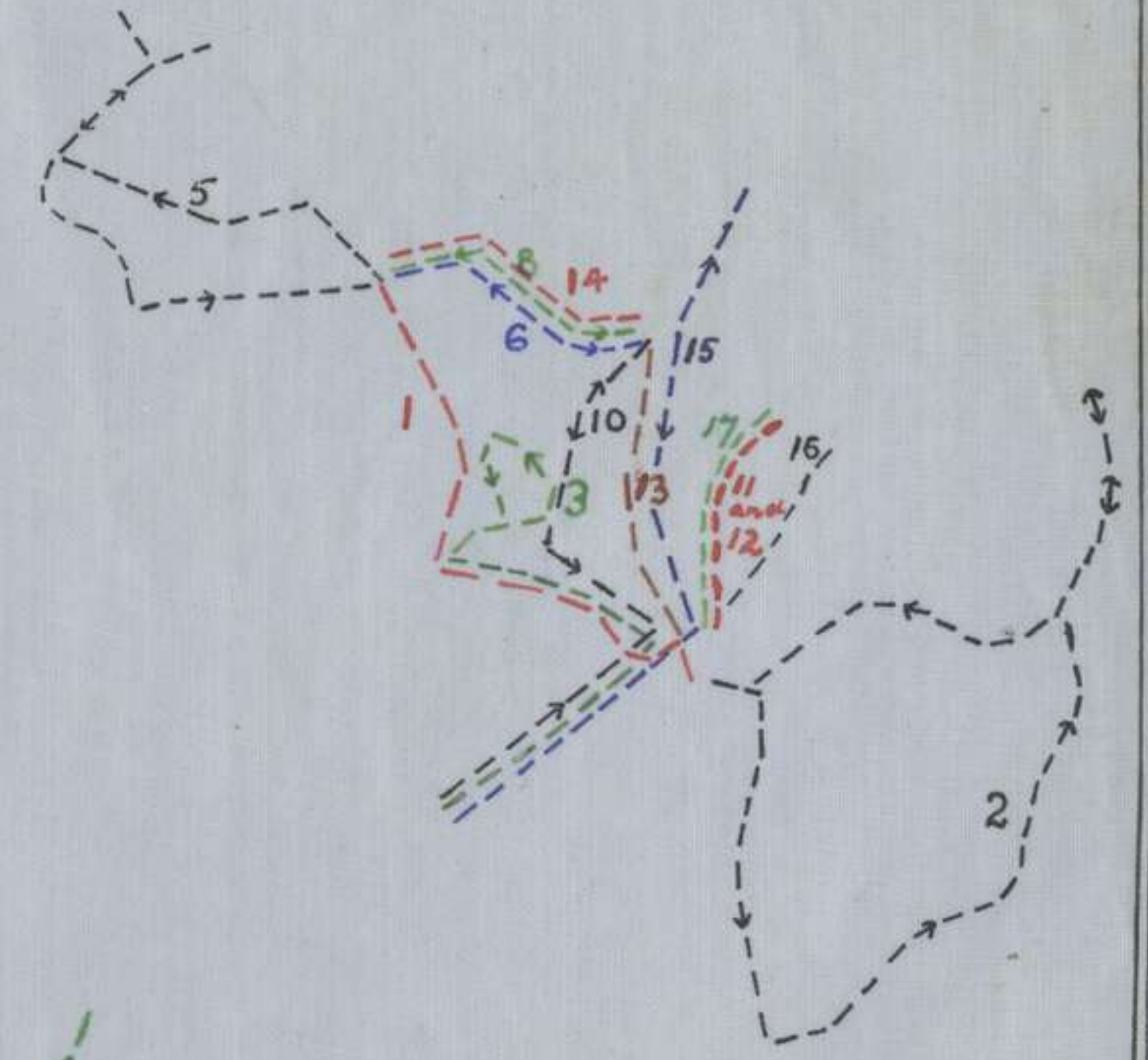
COVERED PIT
APPROX 4' x 4'

Appendix Y

25 Aust Inf Bn
PATROLS - 22 - 29 Dec 44.
Overlay for KOWARO 1:25,000



Ser No	Type	Strength	Date Time Out	Date Time In
1	Recce	1 offr 8 OR	220730L	221145L
2	Recce	1 offr 10 OR 3 natives	220600L	241430L
3	Recce	1 offr 10 OR	230730L	231540L
4	Recce	1 NCO 3 OR	220700L	231615L
5	Recce	1 offr 6 OR	240800L	241520L
6	Recce	1 offr 6 OR	240800L	241410L
7	Recce	1 NCO 3 OR	240600L	241700L
8	Recce	2 offr 7 OR	250915L	251429L
9	Recce	1 offr 10 OR	261000L	301315L
10	Recce	1 offr 12 OR	260815L	261400L
11 and 12	Fighting	2 NCO 14 OR	270900L	271230L
13	Recce	1 offr 6 OR	270700L	271430L
14	Recce	1 offr 9 OR	270715L	271520L
15	Fighting	1 offr 16 OR	280800L	281610L
16	Recce	1 offr 10 OR	281300L	281650L
17	Recce	1 offr 6 OR	290930L	291115L



Int Sec, 25 Aust Inf Bn. 1 Jan 45

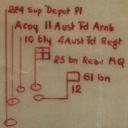
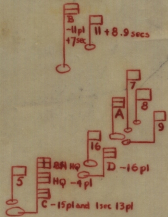
87 1940



OVERLAY for KOWARD 1:25000

DISPOSES 26 AUGST INF bn
SS SS

261200 hrs



AWM52 8/3/63/18 Curators Note

[Unit War Diaries, 1939-45 War] 25 Australian Infantry Battalion, December 1944

In February 2022 the attached map overlay was located on file AWM52 8/2/8/6 [Unit War Diaries, 1939-45 War] HQ 8 Australian Infantry Brigade, October 1942, as page 7. It is clear that it did not belong to that file as it relates to a map in Bougainville and it associated with 25 Infantry Battalion.

A search through other files found it belonged to AWM52 8/3/63/18 as it is an overlay for a map of Kowaro on 26 November 1944. This is where 25 Bn was located at the time.

Stuart Bennington

Curator Official Records

16 February 2022