

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

Item number: 8/3/82

43 Infantry Battalion
February - April 1942

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Unit 43 Bn. Date and Time.—From 2 Feb. 42. To 3 Feb. 42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
NOONAMAH.	2 Feb. 42.	1800	"D" Coy., less one pl., proceeded by M.T. to BATCHELOR aerodrome to perform pioneer tasks and for the protection of the aerodrome. They were accompanied by one sec., carrier pl. and 15 O.R. from "E" (M.M.G.) Coy. - total strength - 4 Offr. and 108 O.R. "B" Coy., less one pl. and plus one sec. carrier pl., proceeded to WEST POINT to relieve 2/4 Pnr. Bn.. Their duty was the protection of the WEST POINT Battery and pioneer tasks generally.	
			Lt.-Col. A. Baldock, C.O. 43 Bn. received notification that he had been awarded the Australian Efficiency decoration.	
			Order of security and posting of Offr. --	Appx. 34.
	3 Feb. 42.	1800	The R.S.M. W.O. <u>11</u> A.D. Jackson was promoted to the rank of W.O. <u>I</u> .	

7703

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Unit 43 BN. Date and Time.—From 4 Feb. 42. To 9 Feb. 42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
NOONAMAH.	4 Feb. 42.	1800	Unit strength week ending 4 Feb. 4 Feb. 42. -	
			Active. Reinfcmts. Non-Effectives.	
			Unit Offr. O.R. Offr. O.R. Offr. O.R.	
			W.E. 36 875 7 162 - -	
			Actual 32 879 2 156 2 14.	
	5 Feb. 42.	1800	A det. of Carrier pl., comprising 12 O.R. on patrol duty at R.A.A.F. drome were relieved by a sec. of 27 Bn.	
	6 Feb. 42	1800	"A" Coy., comprising 4 Offr. and 121 O.R. proceeded by M.T. to ADELAIDE RIVER to relieve "C" Coy of general guard duties. Part 1 R/O 7/42 -	Appx. 35.
	7 Feb. 42.	1800	"C" Coy., comprising 5 Offr. and 125 O.R. returned to NOONAMAH from ADELAIDE RIVER.	
	9 Feb. 42.	1800	One Sjt. and three O.R. Reg. Police proceeded to 7 M.D. Provost Coy. for training.	

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WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

14 Feb. 42.

Unit 43 Bn.

Date and Time.—From 10 Feb. 42. To

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information						Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
NOONAMAH.	10 Feb. 42.	1800	R/O Part 1 -						Appx. 36.
	11 Feb. 42.	1800	Unit strength week ending 11 Feb. 42. -						
			Active.		Reinfcmts.		Non-Effectives.		
			Unit	Offr.	O.R.	Offr.	O.R.	Offr.	O.R.
			W.E.	36	875	7	162	-	-
			Actual.	32	879	2	153	2	16.
	12 Feb. 42.	1800	R/O Part 1. -						Appx. 37.
	13 Feb. 42.	1800	R/O Part 1. -						Appx. 38.
	14 Feb. 42.	1800	The following promotions have been gazetted --						
			Lieut. J.H. Badge to be Capt. (temp.) 29 Dec. 41.						
			Lieut. V.H. Bowen to be Capt. (temp.) 29 Dec. 41.						
			W.O.11 G.R. Furner to be Lieut. on probation. 2 Mar. 42.						
			Sjt. L.B. Willson to be Lieut. on probation. 3 Mar. 42.						
			S/Sjt. H.K. Frost to be Lieut. on probation. 3 Mar. 42.						

J.H.B.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Unit 43 Bn. Date and Time.—From 18 Feb. 42. To 18 Feb. 42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information						Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.	
NOONAMAH.	18 Feb. 42.	1800	Unit strength week ending 18 Feb. 42. -							
				Active.	Reinfcmts.		Non-Effectives.			
			Unit.	Offr.	O.R.	Offr.	O.R.	Offr.	O.R.	
			W.E.	36	875	7	162	-	-	
			Actual.	32	879	2	153	2	16.	
			Operations by H.M.A.S. and U.S. ships Appx.						Appx. 39.	
			R/O Part 1. Appx. -						Appx. 40.	
			A unit of stretcher bearers comprising one Sjt. and							
			21 O.R. were attached to 119 A.G.H. for training. Half							
			went to Berrimah Hospital and the remainder to Bagot							
			Hospital.							

743.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Unit 43 Bn. Date and Time.—From 19 Feb. 42 To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
NOONAMAH.	19 Feb. 42.	1800	Large formations of enemy dive-bombers and high-level bombers escorted by fighters attacked ships and wharves at DARWIN, the R.A.A.F. drome xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx and civilian air-port. Many ships were sunk, the wharf badly damaged, hangars and other buildings on R.A.A.F. drome destroyed and set on fire. Bombs were also dropped on the hospital, Post Office and other government buildings in DARWIN. Enemy fighters subsequently strafed machine-gun and other military posts, camp sites, Berrimah Hospital and many other places in the DARWIN Defence Area. Many casualties occurred and there was a large death roll, about 600, but confined mainly to shipping crews. One patient was killed at Berrimah Hospital. Some Japanese planes were shot down.	
			cont. -	

7/10

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Unit 43 BN. Date and Time.—From 23 Feb. 42 To 28 Feb. 42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
WINNELLITE	23 Feb. 42.	1800	43 Bn. weekly vehicle return (Appx.).	Appx. 41.
	25 Feb. 42.	1800	Unit strength for the week ending 25 Feb. 42. -	
			Active. Reinfcmts. Non-Effectives.	
			Unit. Offr. O.R. Offr. O.R. Offr. O.R.	
			W.E. 36 875 7 162 - -	
			Actual. 31 880 4 152 1 7.	
			R/O Part 1 (Appx.). -	Appx. 42.
	26 Feb. 42.	1800	Capt. S. ^{W.} Beach was admitted there to the	
			BERRIMAH Hospital with an injured foot.	
	28 Feb. 42.	1800	Instructions were issued ^{by} the C.O. of the Bn. in	
			reference to the action against the paratps should they	
			land in the vicinity of the camp. (See appx.)	Appx. 43.
			C.O. Lt.-Col. Baldock issued Operation Instruction No.	
			2 giving details of method to combat paratps. (see appx.).	Appx. 44.

7/103

Australian Military Forces—7th Military District.

Please quote this Number when replying.

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Head-Quarters,
Darwin.

43 Bn. HOME FORCES,
AUSTRALIA. 5 May 42.

7MD Records Office.

WAR DIARY.

Herewith the following:-

- (a) 43 Bn. War Diary (Original Copy) with appendices for the month of April 42.
- (b) 43 Bn. War Diary (Duplicate Copy) for the month of Mar. 42.

Please acknowledge Receipt.

W. Purward
Capt.
Lt. Col.
Comd. 43 Bn.
43rd Battalion

TELEPHONE—L 4181.

Australian Military Forces—4th Military District.

Please quote this Number when replying.

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Address

McMINN'S

Date

19 Mar 42

7th Military District Records Office

WAR DIARY

Herewith the following :

- (a) 43 Bn War Diary (original copy) with appendices for month of Feb 42
- (b) 43 Bn War Diary (duplicate copy) for month of Jan 42.

Please acknowledge receipt.

J. Bullock

Lt Col
Comd 43Bn

Received Acknowledged

L. S. ...
Capt.
Officer-in-Charge Records
7th Military District

23/3/42

43RD BATTALION

43RD BATTALION

12/11/23

HQ
7 MD
DARWIN.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

Officers - Seniority and Posting

43 Bn
Noonamah
1 Feb 42.

Appx. 34.

ORDER OF SENIORITY AND POSTING OF OFFICERS 43 Bn

Regtl. No.	Rank	Name	Subst. Rank	Date of First Appointment	Date of Present Rank	Posting
819652	Lt Col	BALDOCK A.	Maj	1 Nov 21	1 Oct 41	CO
822961	Maj	DAVIES B.G.	Capt	11 Jan 26	22 Feb 41	OC "A" Coy.
822962	"	ANDERSON A.	"	1 Jul 30	27 Feb 41	2 1/c (Temporarily detached to HQ 7MD for duty)
822965	"	WINTON J.F.	Lieut	10 Nov 36	25 Nov 41	OC "B" (IMG) Coy (Temporarily A/21/c)
8213037	Capt	HENDRY J.G. IMI	"	19 Nov 25	16 Jan 41	OC HQ Coy
822979	"	TAMBLYN A.A.	"	23 Dec 39	16 Jan 41	OC "C" Coy
822986	"	RAIT W.L.	"	24 Jul 36	16 Jan 41	OC "D" Coy
823743	"	PATERSON G.G.	"	12 Jul 40	16 Jan 41	OC "R" Coy
822984	"	VERNING D.J.	"	28 Mar 40	27 Nov 41	2 1/c "D" Coy
823745	"	THOMAS W.C.	"	10 Jul 40	27 Nov 41	2 1/c "E" (IMG) Coy (Temporarily A/OC)
823737	"	BEACH S.W.	"	10 Jul 40	27 Nov 41	2 1/c "R" Coy
822756	"	DURWARD A.A.	"	15 Jul 40	27 Nov 41	2 1/c "C" Coy
822652	"	McEWEN H.F.	"	24 Sep 40	27 Nov 41	OC "B" Coy
822983	Lieut	URWIN J.R.	"	10 Jan 40		OC A/A Pl
822976	"	MARSHALL S.R.	"	10 Jan 40		2 1/c "B" Coy
823744	"	SHAUGHNESSY F.R.	"	29 Sep 39		OC Mortar Pl
822890	"	ROBERTS S.R.A.	"	11 Jul 40		Pl Cond "E" (IMG) Coy
822724	"	BADGE J.H.	"	15 Jul 40		I.O.
822706	"	BOWEN V.H.	"	15 Jul 40		2 1/c "A" Coy
822987	"	BRYSON W.C.	"	1 Mar 27		E.O.
822659	"	MARTIN A.L.	"	20 Aug 40		Pl Cond "D" Coy
822668	"	THOMAS C.E.	"	20 Aug 40		Pl Cond "A" Coy
815685	"	TILLET S.D.	"	20 Aug 40		Sig Officer
822825	"	KENNEDY W.J.	"	16 Oct 40		Pl Cond "E" (IMG) Coy.

Order of Seniority and Posting of Officers 43 Bn (continued)

Regtl No	Rank	Name	Subst Rank	Date of First Appointment	Date of Present Rank	Posting
822910	Lieut (P)	SAINT H.E.	-	2 May 41		Pl Comd "E" (MMG) Coy (In hospital)
822720	" (P)	BURFITT H.K.	-	2 May 41		Pl Comd "C" Coy
822888	" (P)	PACKER A.W.	-	18 Nov 41		OC Carrier Pl
822930	" (P)	TROTT J.L.	-	18 Nov 41		Pl Comd "E" (MMG) Coy
822823	" (P)	JAMES A.C.	-	5 Dec 41		Pl Comd "A" Coy
822665	" (P)	WEST A.B.	-	5 Dec 41		Pl Comd "D" Coy

A.I.C. OFFICERS

SP4461	Lieut (T)	O'CONNOR C.G.		16 Oct 41		R Q M
SP6449	" (T)	FRESH H.G.		30 Oct 41		Adjutant.

J. Sedock
 Lt Col
 Comd 43 Bn
 (THE HINDMARSH REGIMENT)

Appr. 35

A3RD BATTALION

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

ROUTINE ORDERS PT. I.

BY LT. COL. A. BALDOCK, Commanding 43 Bn. (The Hindmarsh Regiment).
For Official Use AMR & O. No. 7/42. Noonamah 6 Feb 42.

1. DUTIES.

Duty Coy. Mounting 1900 hrs. 6 Feb 42	.. "R" Coy.
B. O. O. " " " "	.. Lieut. J.R. Urwin.
Duty Coy. Mounting 1900 hrs 7 Feb 42.	.. HQ Coy.
B. O. O. " " " "	.. Lt. W. J. Kennedy.
Duty Coy. Mounting 1900 hrs. 8 Feb 42	.. "E" Coy.
B. O. O. " " " "	.. Lt. S.R.A. Roberts
Duty Coy. Mounting 1900 hrs. 9 Feb 42	.. "C" Coy.
B. O. O. " " " "	.. Lt. G.R. Furner.
Duty Coy. Mounting 1900 hrs. 10 Feb 42	.. "R" Coy.
B. O. O. " " " "	.. Lt. K.R. Frost.
Duty Coy. Mounting 1900 hrs 11 Feb 42	.. HQ Coy.
B. O. O. " " " "	.. Lt. F. Shaughnessy.

2. LEAVE TRANSPORT.

Reference Para 12, sub-para 1, delete all reference "and will leave from Commonwealth Bank, Darwin", and insert "M T will assemble at Knuckey Street and will not proceed beyond that area".

3. TRANSPORT.

- (1) All vehicles leaving the Camp Area will carry a shovel and, where possible, an axe. Two days' emergency ration will also be carried.
- (2) Speed of M T Vehicles on roads and tracks within a radius of 80 miles from DARWIN POST OFFICE will be in accordance with the following schedule :-

<u>TYPE OF MOTOR VEHICLE.</u>	<u>MAXIMUM SPEED.</u>
Motor cars and m/cycles ..	30 miles per hour.
Motor trucks, motor lorries, motor vans, motor tractors and graders and any other class of motor vehicle ..	20 miles per hour.

4. PROVISION FOR DEPENDANTS ON P.M.F. KILLED OR MISSING.

When members of the Military Forces in receipt of pay under War Financial (Military Forces) Regulations are reported killed or missing, allotments and dependants' allowance are continued at public expense for specified periods (W.F.R. 51 and 52).

Approval has been given to apply the above principle to members of the Permanent Military Forces in receipt of pay under Military Financial Regulations. The following conditions have been approved :-

- (a)(1) Where a member is reported missing, payment may be made to his dependants, pending termination of his fate, of an amount equivalent to the standard allotment plus dependants allowance, which would be payable in respect of a member receiving pay under War Financial (Military Forces) Regulations of equivalent rank and with similar dependants.

R/O Det I. No 7/42
Appr 35

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

ROUTINE ORDERS PT I

No. 7/42 Page 2.

Para 4 sub-para (a) (ii-)

Payment is to be subject to the rules laid down in the case of similar payments to members on A.I.F. rates of pay.

(iii) Where a member with dependants is reported missing, who has made an allotment to other than a dependant, a payment on his behalf may be made in cases where hardship would otherwise result. Such payment is to be covered as far as possible by the rules applying to members receiving A.I.F. rates of pay.

5. MANTON GAP PIPE LINE.

Personnel noticing any break or other damage to Pipe Line will immediately report the matter to Bn. HQ, or direct to Mr. Haren Dept. of Interior, Darwin ('Phone number after hours 154).

6. APPLICATIONS FOR ENLISTMENT RAN, RAAF.

<u>RAN.</u>	S24201	..	Pte. MARTIN	R.E.G.
	S24200	..	" TANSELL	W.L.
<u>RAAF.</u>	S24439	..	Pte. TURNER	L.C.
	S24340	..	" BALDWIN	R.T.
	S26837	..	" NOTTIE	R.O.
	S24537	..	" NORMAN	G.
	S24550	..	" STEER	W.A.

H. G. Frith.
Lieut. A.I.C.
Adjutant 43 Bn.

NOTICE.

Camp Concert to be held at Theatre 2000 hrs, Sat. 7 Feb 42.

Church Parade 0930 hrs at Theatre, Sunday 8 Feb 42.

FOUND

The following are the numbers of rifles held by Provost Section at Alice Springs :-

A88019 A87121 59983 A52705 45144 5818 4004 1079

Any enquiry regarding this will be directed to BnHQ.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

Appsc. 36.

ROUTINE ORDERS PT I

43RD BATTALION

BY LT. COL. A. BALDOCK E.D. Commanding 43 Bn. (The Hindmarsh Regiment)

For Official use Only AMR & O No. 8/42 NOONAMAH 10 Feb 42.

1. TRAINING REPORTS

Coy training reports for previous week will reach Bn. HQ by 1600 hrs on Sunday. This amends R.O. 4/42. Syllabus for following week will be submitted at the same time.

2. KIT INSPECTION.

Coys will report by 1000 hrs Feb 11 in compliance with R.O. 5/42 para. 2.

3. CENSORSHIP.

Coys Comds. will submit by 0900 hrs Feb 11 a certificate that R.O. 6/42 para 7 re Censorship has been read to, and is understood by, all members of their Comd. A serious view will be taken of any future breaches reported.

4. A.W.L.

The following Officers will constitute a Court of Inquiry :-

S22965	..	Maj. J. T. Winton	43 Bn
S23745	..	Capt. W. C. Thomas	43 Bn
S23744	..	Lt. F. Shaughnessy	43 Bn.

to inquire into and report on absence without leave of S26933, Pte. A. F. Cornish, "R" Coy and S27242 Pte. W. G. Schmitt, "B" Coy from about 2300 hrs 17 Jan 42.

Report will be submitted by 1800 hrs 15 Feb 42.

5. MECHANICAL VEHICLES.

Attention is drawn to 7 M D R. O. No. 6 paras 3 and 4 and to MBI Q180 of 31 Dec 41.

6. BOTTLED BEER.

Personnel will NOT carry bottled drink of any kind either alcoholic or not, when in uniform. Strong disciplinary action will be taken against any member contravening this order.

7. INTERCOMMUNICATION.

Coy Comds. will ensure that all members are instructed as to the whereabouts of headquarters and private quarters of all Officers in their Comds, principal Officers of Bn. HQ and neighbouring Coys. This is to save time in emergency.

8. SANITATION.

Latrine available for personnel of Guard and Paratroops situated 50 yds East of "IN" gate. Guard responsible for cleanliness.

9. APPLICATIONS FOR A.I.F., R.A.A.F.

It is placed on record the following personnel have volunteered for service in the respective arms :-

<u>A.I.F.</u>		<u>R.A.A.F.</u>	
S 21443	Pte Klei	G.H.	S26508 Pte Barton B.
			S24467 " Stokes A.N.

J. J. ...
for Lieut. Adjt.

R/O Pt I No 8/42 Appsc 36

For Official Use Only.
Vide AMR & O 1587

NOOMAH,
12 Feb 42.

43RD BATTALION

ROUTINE ORDER PART I.
No. 9/42.

BY LT. COL. A. BALDOCK E.D. Comd. 43 Bn. AM.F.

1. DUTIES.

Duty Coy mounting	1900 hrs	12 Feb	42	..	"E" Coy.
B. O. O.	"	"	"	..	W.O.II Appelby.
Duty Coy mounting	1900 hrs	13 Feb	42	..	"R" Coy.
B. O. O.	"	"	"	..	W.O.II Boyley.
Duty Coy	"	14	"	..	HQ Coy.
B. O. O.	"	"	"	..	Lt. Kennedy.
Duty Coy	"	15	"	..	"E" Coy.
B. O. O.	"	"	"	..	Lt. Shaughnessy
Duty Coy	"	16	"	..	"R" Coy.
B. O. O.	"	"	"	..	Lt. Roberts
Duty Coy	"	17	"	..	HQ Coy
B. O. O.	"	"	"	..	Lt. Trott
Duty Coy	"	18	"	..	"E" Coy
B. O. O.	"	"	"	..	W.O.II Boyley.

2. SMALL ARMS.

Closer attention is to be paid to the care of arms. Climatic conditions are no excuse for the present condition of many rifles. This is a Platoon Comdrs responsibility and as from 12 Feb 42 the Armourer Sjt will make an inspection of rifles by Platoons. O.C. Coys will give every assistance. Disciplinary action will be taken in cases of neglect to preserve arms.

3. LOST EQUIPMENT.

Any losses of equipment etc., are to be reported promptly. on Form Q1. This is the basis for decision as to courts, payments. Failure of Coys to submit proper reports has led to delay in an investigation.

4. GUARDS AND PICQUET.

Coys when mounting as Duty Coy will parade Guard and First Relief of Picquet to Bn. HQ under the comd of C.S.M. or Coy Orderly Sjt at 1700 hrs on the day of mounting, for one and a half hrs intensive training under the supervision of the R.S.M.

5. COURT OF INQUIRY.

The following will constitute a Court of Inquiry :-

S22979	Capt. Tamblyn A. A.	43 Bn.	President.
S23546	Lieut Frost H. K.	"	Member
S22770	Lieut Fumer G. R.	"	"

to inquire into and report on loss of rifle No. 88019 reported in R.O. No. 5, 7 M D of 30 Jan 42, as recovered at Alice Springs. Rifle on issue to S24641 Pte. Tonkin T. C. "A" Coy, 43 Bn.

Report to reach 43 Bn HQ by 20 Feb 42.

6. "Q" INSTRUCTION CLASS.

There will be a parade of all Officers and NCO's at Bn HQ at 2000 hrs Sat 14 Feb for lecture on "Q" matters.

R/10 Part I No 9/42
Appx 37

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

ROUTINE ORDER PT I

NO. 9/42. Pg 2

7. CENSORSHIP.

All franking Officers are to be informed that parcels, packets, telegrams and letters whether registered or not are not to be handed back to the sender once they are franked. The stamping with Censorship Stamp must be done under the supervision of an Officer and the despatch of such mail should be entrusted to a responsible N.C.O.

H. F. Rich.

Lieut. A.I.C.
Adj. 43 Bn.

NOTICES.

LOST: Bramac D.R. waterproof jacket at 1700 hrs on Feb 6 vicinity 18 mile point Darwin Road.

CHURCH PARADE:

Church Parade at 0930 hrs at Theatre Sunday 15 Feb 42.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

Appx. 38.

For Official Use Only.
Vide AMR & O 1587.

NOONAMAH.
13 Feb 42.

43RD BATTALION

ROUTINE ORDER PART I.
No. 10/42.

BY LT. COL. A. BALDOCK E.D.

Comd. 43 Bn. A.M.F.

1. ROUTINE.

As from 0001 hrs, 14 Feb 42, the following routine will apply :-

Reveille	..	0700 hrs.
Breakfast	..	0800 "
Sick parade	..	0830 "
Parade	..	0900 "
Break Off	..	1300 "
Mid-day meal	..	1315 "
Parade	..	1400 "
Dismiss	..	1800 "
Evening Mess	..	1900 "
Lights out	..	2245 "

Returns A14 and W3006 will be submitted by 0730 hrs daily.

2. MUSKETRY - AIMING INSTRUCTION.

Every Pl. Comd. will personally coach his men in firing the rifle from both the lying and standing positions. Poor results in the past can be traced to faulty elementary training, i.e. bad positions; incorrect holding, pulling the trigger, failure to appreciate what a correct aim looks like; failure to control breathing. These errors will be even more patent in the standing position unless checked. This is the duty of Pl. Comds. There is no mystery about the art. It is all set out clearly in SAT Pams No. 2 and 3. Read the lessons and teach them correctly and with vigor. Brightening up of muscle exercises will also be attended to. No excuses will be accepted for bad work whatsoever. You will use every spare minute on weapon training designed to destroy the enemy.

3. TRAINING POLICY.

Circular on Bn. Training Policy is issued herewith. It is a Confidential document and receipt will be acknowledged by every Officer.

4. CAMERAS.

Coy Comds. will submit by 1200 hrs 17 Feb 42, a certificate that 23 Aust Inf Bde R. O. No 86 Para 2, re cameras has been complied with.

5. COURT OF INQUIRY.

The names of Capts. McEwen and D. J. Venning are removed from Court of Inquiry referred to in R. O. 5/42 Para 8. Capt. H. H. Durward and Lieut J. M. Urwin and substituted as members. Date of report Feb 20, 42.

6. COOKING DUTY.

Applications are invited from men who CAN cook and are INTERESTED in cooking for employment on Cook-House duty.

H. G. Smith.

Lieut. A.I.C.
Adj. 43 Bn.

R/10 Part I 17/10/42
Appx 10/42

NOTICES.

WELFARE CLUB.

The Womens' Welfare Club of the Bn. has now been licenced by the F.F.C.F. to work in conjunction with that organisation and to raise funds on its behalf.

The F.F.C.F. has already sent parcels of soap, cigarettes and tobacco to this Unit and further parcels may be sent. But, it is expected of the women folk that they do their share towards the raising of funds. Any help that we may receive is likely to be contingent on that.

The wife of the CO. (Mrs. E. Baldock of 275 Military Road, Semaphore) is desirous that women folk with interest in this Bn should join in the work of the Welfare Club. This appeal goes to Officers as well as to the men. The response to date has been disheartening.

Sub-committees at Broken Hill, Port Pirie and Wallaroo could be formed.

Meetings will be held fortnightly at Shell House Theatre on 18 Feb, 4th and 18 March.

As direct benefit is to be gained by this service, please write home and get the women folk interested and working. The Club provides fellowship as well as a field for war work.

I. 1
SECRET.

43 In H.Q.
18 Feb 42.

Copy 9.
War Diary

Appx. 39.

43RD BATTALION

TO ALL COYS.

The following is a copy of an instruction received from General Staff(Intelligence) 7AD:-

OPERATIONS BY I.M.A.S. SHIPS AND U.S. SHIPS - - - SECRECY.

"With reference to the above it is imperative that immediate steps be taken by UNITS to ensure that personnel are adequately instructed as to the necessity for absolute SECRECY regarding any movement whatsoever of any ships of our NAVAL Forces or those of our Allies, especially actions of Naval Forces off the Australian Coast.

"Under no circumstances must any reference to shipping action or movements be made in correspondence, nor may such movements or actions be discussed in public places.

"All ranks are to be informed that failure to comply with these instructions constitutes a breach of the NATIONAL SECURITY REGULATIONS Section 17, and offenders will be dealt with in a manner calculated to act as a deterrent to others. Penalties for breaches of the above Regulations are heavy, and it is hoped that all ranks will co-operate in maintaining complete secrecy of movements, not only of ships, but also of troops, aircraft or any other information which would or might be, directly or indirectly useful to the enemy."

Please comply with its requirements and advise this HQ when this has been done.

MAPS DARWIN AND ENVIRONS 1" SHEETS 2 and 5.

These maps give information which would be useful to the enemy, and have accordingly been withdrawn.

Any that remain in your possession (irrespective of condition) must be returned immediately. Please render a return stating that this order has been complied with.

CENSORSHIP.

It is again emphasized that once a telegram, letter (registered or otherwise) packet or parcel has been franked it must NOT be passed back to the sender for conveyance to P.O. or for any other reason. If any officers, and ^{particularly} those recently appointed, are not fully conversant with Army Field Censorship Instruction No. 7 (Revised) which embodies and amplifies instructions contained in the Manual of Military Intelligence in the Field (Para 2-1938) and in P.S.P.S. (Para 3-1939), they are requested to contact the I.O.

Security Instructions by I.O.

Appx 39

Alpha 39

2. CIPHER.

All officers should be familiar with the particular cipher in use for all operational and other confidential messages, the current code word, and should know how to encipher or decipher a message. If in doubt please contact the I.O.

REPORTS OF ENEMY MOVEMENT.

- 2. All reports of Enemy or unidentified aircraft movements should invariably contain:-
 - (a) Time of Sighting.
 - (b) Number of Aircraft.
 - (c) Type or serial no.
 - (d) Course.

If any of these details are not known the fact should be stated.

- 2. In the case of lights seen out to sea by beach watching posts a bearing of the light will be given.

SECRET DOCUMENTS.

All secret and security documents Intelligence summaries etc. are available for perusal by officers upon application to the I.O.

J. J. Bagg

Capt.
I.O. 43 Bn.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

40

Security Use Only.
Vide AMR & O 1587.

NOONAMAH.
18 Feb 42,

43RD BATTALION

ROUTINE ORDER PART I
No. 10/42.

BY LT. COL. A. BALDOCK E.D. Comd. 43 Bn. A.M.F.

1. DUTIES.

Duty Coy.	Mounting	1900 hrs	19 Feb 42	..	"R" Coy.
B.O.O.	"	"	"	..	WO II Boyley
Duty Coy,	"	"	20 Feb 42	..	HQ Coy
B.O.O.	"	"	"	..	Lt. Furner
Duty Coy	"	"	21 Feb 42	..	"E" Coy,
B.O.O.	"	"	"	..	Lt. Roberts
Duty Coy.	"	"	22 Feb 42	..	"R" Coy.
B.O.O.	"	"	"	..	Lt. Trott
Duty Coy	"	"	23 Feb 42	..	HQ Coy
B.O.O.	"	"	"	..	WO II APPELBY
Duty Coy	"	"	24 Feb 42	..	"E" Coy.
B.O.O.	"	"	"	..	Lt. Shaughnessy
Duty Coy	"	"	25 Feb 42	..	"R" Coy
B.O.O.	"	"	"	..	WO II Boyley
Duty Coy	"	"	26 Feb 42	..	HQ Coy
B.O.O.	"	"	"	..	Lt. Furner
Duty Coy	"	"	27 Feb 42	..	"E" Coy
B.O.O.	"	"	"	..	Lt. Roberts
Duty Coy	"	"	28 Feb 42	..	"R" Coy.
B.O.O.	"	"	"	..	Lt. Trott.

2. GRENADES.

Coy Comds. will caution all ranks that Grenades now in stock have four-second fuses. They are for use as hand-thrown grenades only. Always look for the description on the box. Those for rifle use and with a seven-second fuse are marked accordingly.

3. TYPISTS 7 M.D.

Vacancies exist at 7 M D H Q for a number of typists. Coys will supply list of personnel who have necessary qualifications for, and are desirous of appointment. Return will be submitted forthwith.

4. DEFERRED PAY.

Approval has been given with effect from 7 Nov for deferred pay at the rate of 1/- per day to be credited for each day of service at an operational station for S.M.F. on continuous Full Time Duty.

Northern Territory, (Alice Springs and all stations in Northern Territory North of Alice Springs) is an operational station.

Payment starts from date of arrival in the station and ceases on transfer out.

Pay. Sgt will have the necessary credit entries made in pay books.

For [Signature]
Lieut. A.I.C.
Adj. 43 Bn.

NOTICES.

LOST: Bramac D.R. waterproof jacket at 1700 hrs on Feb 6 vicinity 18 mile point Darwin Road. Coys to investigate and report.

*2/10. Part I no 10/42
Appex 40*

Approved

43RD BATTALION

23 Aust Inf Bde

43 Bn Weekly Vehicle Return as at 23 Feb 42,

1200 hrs Monday

Serial No	TYPE	W.E. (11/12/2)	On Issue	Avail- lable	Not Avail- able (See Over)
1	Bicycles	33	17	17	
2	Motor Cycles	20	6	6	
3	Car DS	1	1	1	
4	Trucks 15 cwt AALMG	6	12cwt 1 15cwt 9 1ton 53	1 8 50	1 3
	GS	49			
	GS(Personnel)	7			
5	Office	1	-	-	
6	Trucks 3 ton GS	8	30cwt 11	11	
	Kitchen	6			
	Water	2			
7	Carriers Arm'd	11	11	9	2
	3" Mortar	7			
8	Total (Excl Serials 1 & 2)	98	88	82	6

NOTE : Serial 4 W/E now shows all 15 cwt. Vehicles on issue are suitable as to type.

Serial 6 No 3 ton MT on issue.

[Signature]
Lt Col
Comd 43Bn

Vehicle Return
Hydra 41

100-111

VEHICLES GROUNDED 23 Feb 42.

VANS 15 CWT.

1 Brake lines broken (parts unobtainable)

VANS 1 TON

3 (2) Damaged Accident, at Field W/Shop
(1) Springs (108 L.A.D.)

CARRIERS	NO	REASON	STATUS	REMARKS
Over	17	17	33	
	0	0	20	
	1	1	1	
			0	
	20	20	19	
			7	
			1	
			8	
	11	11	8	
	5	5	5	
	9	11	11	
			7	
	0	0	0	

2 (1) 108 L.A.D.
(1) Field W/Shop.

NOTE: Serials shown are not shown as to vehicle or parts and are subject to change.

John ...

100 111
100 111

*100 111
100 111
100 111*

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

Apr. 42. IO

Official AMR & O 1587

WINNELLIE
25 Feb 42

43RD BATTALION

ROUTINE ORDERS PART I
No 11/42

BY LT COL A. BALDOCK E.D.

Comd. 43 Bn A.M.F.

1. DUTIES

Duty Coy	Mounting	1900 hrs	1 Mar	42	..	HQ Coy
B.O.O.	"	"	"	"	..	Lieut M.E. Saint
Duty Coy	"	"	2 Mar	42	..	E Coy
B.O.O.	"	"	"	"	..	Lt Urwin
Duty Coy	"	"	3 Mar	42	..	R Coy
B.O.O.	"	"	"	"	..	Lt Kennedy
Duty Coy	"	"	4 Mar	42	..	HQ Coy
B.O.O.	"	"	"	"	..	Lt Burfitt
Duty Coy,	"	"	5 Mar	42	..	E Coy
B.O.O.	"	"	"	"	..	Lt Shaughnessy
Duty Coy	"	"	6 Mar	42	..	R Coy
B.O.O.	"	"	"	"	..	Lt Roberts
Duty Coy	"	"	7 Mar	42	..	HQ Coy
B.O.O.	"	"	"	"	..	WO11 Carter

2. LIGHTS OUT

The time for "Lights Out" is now 2215 hrs. It is the duty of Bn and Coy Orderly Officers and NCO's to see that the order is obeyed and that ABSOLUTE SILENCE is maintained in quarters after that time. Chatterers are to be dealt with. Remember other soldiers want to sleep even if they do not.

3. A14 (STRENGTH RETURN)

When submitting strength returns Coys will show vehicles on charge together with note as to whether available or not.

4. INTERCOM.

Coy Comds will ensure that all members are instructed as to the whereabouts of HQ and private quarters of all officers in their commands, principal officers of BnHQ and neighbouring Coys. This is to save time in emergency. (R/O 8/42 para 7)
Coy Comds will report their trng localities and/or report centres to Bn I.O. daily.

5. FIELD DRESSINGS.

Coys will submit a list showing No, Name, Rank, of all personnel not now in possession of First Field Dressing. If an issue has been made and cannot be produced for inspection a report on the deficiency will be rendered with the above return. Returns required at BnHQ at 1800 hrs 28 Feb 42.

6. PL FIRST AID KITS.

Coys will take immediate steps to procure for each pl a small air-tight tin (approx. size of custard tin) together with at least three small bottles. As soon as containers are complete, Coys will arrange with RMO to draw emergency First Aid equipment sufficient for each pl.

7. APPLICATIONS FOR RAN, AIF AND RAAF.

It is placed on record that the following personnel have volunteered for service in the respective arms.

RAN - S24726 Pte Korte R. S23013 Pte Painter R.R.

AIF - S19976 Pte Warhurst R.M.

RAAF - S24531 Pte O'Donohue K.C. S24424 Pte Paley R.F.
 S24601 Pte Delamere G.S. S23107 Pte Pipprell A.R.

*R/O Bn I. No 11/42
Apr 42*

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

ROUTINE ORDER PART 1

No 11/42 Page 2.

Appx. 42.

8. IDENTITY DISCS

Coy's will submit daily a progress report on the stamping of Identity Discs.

9. LOOTING

It has been reported that some Units and individual members of the services are removing goods and various kinds of machinery without authority. "Appropriations" are viewed seriously and any individual soldier found looting or in possession of loot, will be dealt with severely. Officers will sign and initial 7MD Memo on this subject.

10. IDENTIFICATION OF UNIT

Steps are to be taken immediately to have any marks, figures or names which may lead to the identification of this Unit removed from personal packages, belongings, buildings, tents or from any place that may be so marked. The attention of Coy Comdrs is specially directed to this para.

11. MOSQUITO CONTROL

All personnel in camp will endeavour to control increase of mosquito breeding.

All areas will be cleared of all tins, drums etc., likely to hold water. Nets will be drawn at night. Sprays, where available, are to be used frequently, and every effort is to be made to minimise the danger from diseases carried and spread by mosquitos.

12. AIR RAID WARNINGS.

Attention of all personnel is drawn to the correct signals being given for "Alert", "Alarm" and "All Clear", especially to the fact that on Alert being sounded all ranks carry on their normal tasks until such time as General Alarm is sounded.

The blowing of motor horns must be strictly controlled and any attempt to immitate sirens and produce false alarms will be severely dealt with.

The conservation of amm is strongly urged, and is only to be used when there is a good possibility of hitting an enemy target.

13. NOTIFICATION OF WAR CASUALTIES

The following is advised relative to the notification to DRO of War Casualties.

Casualties are to read - killed in action, killed by accident, died of wounds, died of gas, died of disease, died of wounds accidentally received, died of injuries accidentally received, drowned-accident, drowned-enemy action, wounded in action, wounded-accidentally, gassed.

It is to be noted that of those killed in action died of wounds, or wounded in action, these should state whether it is by enemy aircraft, and of those wounded in action should state whether remaining on duty.

The information should include, NAME, NUMBER, RANK, UNIT, DATE OF CASUALTY AND NATURE OF CASUALTY, and be phoned immediately, or forwarded as early as practicable to DRO.

All personal effects, other than military issue, of deceased personnel, are to be forwarded to this office (DRO)

J. G. F. v. d. L.
Lieut A.I.C.

A443

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

43RD BATTALION

HQ 43 Bn
Winnellie
28 Feb 42

ACTION AGAINST PARATPS

- 1 The recent air raid over DARWIN has shown that the threat of attack by paratps and airborne tps is a real danger that must be kept in mind by all ranks
- 2 While we take certain protective, passive defence measures to minimise effects of bombing or machine gunning, the need for an aggressive defence against paratps is stressed and is to be developed in all phases of tng
- 3 Enemy methods include the dropping of paratps during momentary lulls, the "straffing" of one area to detract attention from paratp action in another place
- 4 Although "Blitzed" we must still remain alert for opportunities of hitting back with telling effect. Paratps must be our special meat.
- 5 Discipline is the antidote to panic or "nerves"
- 6 Offensive measures include
 - (a) Complete recce of area of responsibility by ALL officers and NCO's and tng in area where possible
 - (b) Arms and amn ready for immediate use, night and day, right where the soldier is tng, working or resting.
 - (c) Posting of intelligent, alert minded men as air sentries sentries
 - (d) Anti- paratp pl ready for call at five(5) min notice DAY AND NIGHT
 - (e) Vehicles of carrier pl concealed but equipped for immediate offensive action.
 - (f) Men and vehicles of IMG and Mortar pls ready for immediate call-out by day. Belts filled and proportion of bombs on wheels
 - (g) ALL AA guns ready to switch from air to ground tgts.
 - (h) EVERY MAN to leave his kit packed and tidy ALL the time.
 - (i) Rehearsals
- 7 Areas of responsibility, command posts and defence scheme of Bn issued separately.

W.B. Aldock
Lt-Col
Comd 43 Bn

*Action Against Paratps - B.O.S. instructions
Alpha 43*

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

HQ 43 Bn
WINNELLIE
28 Feb 42

Apr. 44.

SECRET.

Refs: Map DARWIN one inch
25 Aust Inf Bde S/7/47

OPERATION INSTRUCTION No 2

Action Against Paratps

43RD BATTALION

INFORMATION

- 1 It is possible that enemy may attempt to land paratps under cover of bombing or machine gunning, in cleared or sparsely timbered areas in the vicinity of the camp site
- 2 Units will be responsible for defence of their respective camp sites and will maintain existing AA defences

INTENTION

- 3 43 Bn will take vigorous action to kill every parachutist seen in its area of operations

METHOD

- 4 The area allotted this Bn and zones of responsibility are shown on attached sketch
- 5 Sub unit comdrs will at all times be on the alert for the opportunity of offensive action against paratps
- 6 Enemy planes will not be engaged by AA Vickers or LMG or rifle fire unless they are within effective range and present a good target. Hasty opening of fire wastes amm, gives away the AA posn and attracts enemy fire. Strict discipline and good fire control are essential
- 7 Other units in Winnellie Camp will maintain AA defences. Additional tasks for 43 Bn are
- 8 ANTI PARATP PL C and D Coys on alternate days will supply one pl at full strength in personnel and arms, fully motorised for duty as anti paratp pl. Degree of readiness-Five mins day or night. To train in camp area
Likely areas of activity - North Australia Road to Ironstone Lagoon. 2 - Quarantine road north and south.
Packs carried in pl trucks. Kit bags stacked in Coy Q store
Runner maintained at Bn HQ
- 9 CARRIER SEC Degree of readiness by day. Immediate
Guns and amm of carriers. Half guns fixed for AA while in parking area
Sec within call of Bn HQ
Likely areas of activity - Darwin road to Ironstone Lagoon
2- Camp Area, 5 WDF Sta
- 10 "E" (LMG) Coy Degree of Readiness. Day five mins. AA posts immediate.
Tng area - Timber SE of Bn camp site. Maintain DR at Bn HQ after "Alert"
One det AA defence vicinity camp incinerator(indic)
One sub sec western edge vacant camp site(indic)
One pl - Ovals. OC will co-ordinate fire plan in consultation with reps A Bk bty of 2/14 Fd Regt and OC Petrol Pt in area
One Pl - Mobile res in camp site. Secondary task-AA
- 11 MORTAR PL Mobile Res. Readiness -Five mins by day
- 12 CAMP DETAILS Permit duties in camp, such as clerks, cooks batmen etc will constitute pl under OC HQ Coy. Rallying centre vicinity boxing ring. Task - Fighting patrol camp area, oval north of 43 Bn entrance.

*Operation Instruction No 2 - Paratps
Apr 44*

affs. 44.

- 13 OFF DUTY Paratp Pl. Bn Reserve. Tng area to be notified
- 14 "R" Coy. Tng Area -- Vicinity WDF Sta which with Ironstone Lagoon approaches is likely area of activity
- 15 23 Fd Coy RAE AA and ground defence southern end of RAE camp site. Ground defence at northern ~~gate~~ entrance
- 16 2/11 Fd Coy RAE AA and ground targets camp site. Attack through timber south and south west of camp site. Warn 43 Bn

TRANSPORT

- 17 "E" Coy will make available ~~three~~ two (2) trucks one ton for off-duty paratp pl on general alarm
- TO 43 Bn will make available to R Coy three (3) trucks one ton on "alert" and will supply drivers
- As AA Pl is in fixed positions, the three trucks one ton required by paratp pl will be those earmarked for AAING Pl. This is a temporary measure pending full establishment of MT

18

TRAIN MOVEMENT

- 18 AA and Anti-paratp pl in conjunction will be prepared to give aerial defence for ~~train~~ the entraining or detraining of tps at WINNELLIE sta at short notice .

ACK

[Handwritten signature]

Lt Col
Comd 43 Bn

Distribution

A B C D E HQ R Coys Bn Hq .
 CO Adjnt IO TO (action)
 27 Bn, 2/11 Fd Coy, 23 Fd Coy
 A Tk bty 2/11 Fd Regt., OC Pet
 Pt, 24 US Arty, Winnellie area
 23 Aust Inf Bde(3) For Information

Issued at 16 00 hrs 28 Feb

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

App. 45

HQ 43 Bn.,
WINNELLIE.
4 March, 42.

43RD BATTALION

23 Aust Inf Bde.

TRAINING REPORT 43 BN MONTH OF FEB 42.

SYLLABUS:

Detached duties have seriously interfered with the collective training of this Bn. All Comds. have been impressed with this need to do at least one hour's intensive training daily, particularly in the handling of weapons.

The two rifle platoons at Winnellie do anti-paratroop duty on alternate days with a syllabus to fit that aspect of defence.

LOCATION OF UNITS are :-

"A" Coy - "C" Coy (less one pl) Adelaide River :
Working parties, guards.
"B" Coy, less one pl, plus one section carriers,
West Point, one pl. "B" Coy at Manton Dam - security
duty.
"D" Coy, (less one pl) one sec M.M.B (less guns)
5 sigs, one sec carriers at Batchelor aerodrome.
Drone defence.

at Winnellie - "E" Coy (less one sec) Bn. HQ less stretcher bearers
Reg. Police.

HQ Coy one pl. C Coy one pl. D Coy (at Winnellie
and R Coy Camp).

43 Bn moved to Winnellie on 20 Feb 42.

STRENGTH: 35 Officers 1040 O. R.

DETACHED DUTIES: 15 O. 503 O. R.

OTHERS NOT AVAILABLE: Sick in Hospital 1 O. 6 O.R.
Sick in lines - O. 9 O.R.
Perm. L/Duties 11 O.R.

PROGRESS:

Rifle Coys have completed sec. training and musketry results are showing improved results.

Sig. Platoon progress shows :-

MORSE SPEED.

1 JAN 42

1 MAR 42.

Strength 1 - 27

Strength 1 - 41

10 w.p.m. 9
6 - 8 " 3
6 w.p.m. 4
4 w.p.m. 9
Untrained 2

10 w.p.m. 4
12 " 4
10 " 7
6 " 18
4 " 6
Untrained 2

Transport Pl. shows improvement in handling vehicles dispersal and camouflage.

Men from Mortar Pl. are being trained as carrier drivers, although it is doubtful now whether carriers will be made available.

FUTURE TRAINING: There is still the need for persistent hammering at points in elem. training, particularly with regard to weapons. (Officers have gone over routes in area,

*F.O.S. Training Report - February
App. 45*

but so far few N.C.O's have gone out.
"I" Section will escort parties at first opportunity.
More training will be given in timber country fighting,
practical river crossings.
All N.C.O's have been trained in T.S.M.G.

MORALE: Now very good. There is little need to talk about
the reality of enemy action and there are no sceptics
now.

GENERAL: Medical examinations revealed that there were 4 men
who were unfit and 6 men who were unfit for field
formations.

A draft of 10 was evacuated by Hospital Ship, 'MANUNDA'
on 20 Feb and arrangements are being made for 4 men to be
drafted to GDD Winnellie pending transfer to State of
Enlistment. Application has been made to secure Hospital
employment for 6 men.

A.I.F: Applications have been made for overseas service as follows:-

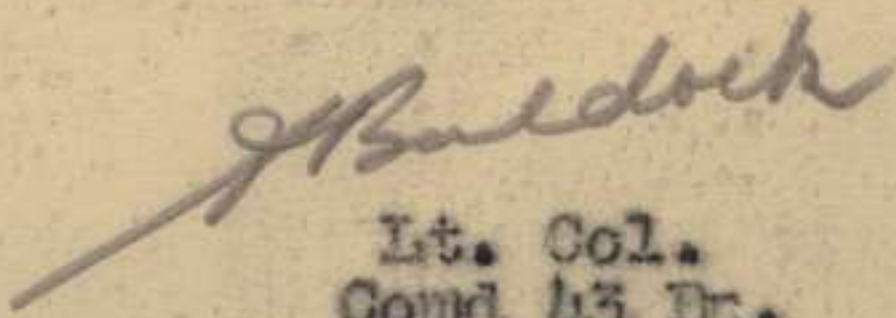
R.A.N. - 11 A.I.F. - 19 R.A.A.F. - 37

STORES: Requisitions have been submitted for stores according
to W.E..

Most important items still require include - M.M.G. filled
spare parts cases, boxes spare and bolts L.M.G., camouflage
material (not a single net on issue) Sig equipment such
as lamps electric, reels cable, strips terminal, wire P13,
apparatus cable laying, mattocks, voltmeters and tools of
all descriptions.

TRANSPORT:

T. O. 23 Aust Inf Bde has been most helpful in securing
vehicles and spares. We still particularly need tools,
vans, office (1) trucks 30 cwt (5) motor cycles (14)
and covers canvas for carriers (11) bicycles (16).


Lt. Col.
Comd 43 Bn.

43 Bn.,
WIMMILLIE.
5 March 42.

R.M.O.'s REPORT. - MONTH OF FEB 42.

Attendance at the R.A.P. has decreased considerably during the last month. This due to there being a new R.M.O. in the Unit so that many at the beginning of the month turned up merely for curiosity; a much bigger factor was the air raid, 19/2/42, and since then the troops have been much more interested in digging slit trenches than attending sick parades.

There has been no serious illness, and only about 2 - 3 per week are sent to Hospital. At the R.A.P. we have had 42 admitted for at least one night. Most of these have been mild Dengues or infected insect bites with inflammation of the lymph glands. Practically all in the R.A.P. would be available for duties if any emergency arose.

From this Unit 11 have been sent South as Medically Unfit and 4 more are waiting to go. There are 6 not fit for field duties and are awaiting transfer to another unit. There are also 6 at the convalescent Hospital and 119 A.G.H. at Adelaide River, and about another 4 at Berrimah Hospital.

The stretcher bearers of the Unit are divided between Bagot and Berrimah Hospitals, and according to the C.O.'s of these places these Stretcher Bearers were a credit to the Unit on the day of the air raid.

Generally speaking, the health of the Unit is satisfactory, the chief inconvenience at present being insect bites and subsequent infection. As a result I would like to suggest compulsory bathing at night because boils and infection are the so called "dirt disease" and are therefore nothing for the Unit or the men to be proud of.

(sgd) J.S.T.T. HILL
Capt. R.M.O. 43 Bn.

43RD BATTALION

R. M. O.'s Report - Feb 42

Appx. 46

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required)

Unit 43 Bn. Date and Time.—From 1 Mar. 42 To 2 Mar. 42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
McMinn's WINNELLIE N.T.	1 Mar. 42.	1800	An inspection was made of a new camp site situated about 200 yards north of McMinn's Lagoon Station.	
			R/O Pt. 11 No. 4. (see appx.).	Appx. 47.
			Personnel unfit for field (see appx.)	Appx. 48.
	2 Mar. 42.	1800	Maj. J.T. Winton has been charged with the responsibility of laying out the new camp site. It is virgin bush country with a good deal of heavy timber and low scrub affording fair cover from aerial observation.	
			Maj. A. Anderson, 2 I.C. of this Bn., who has been assisting as Town Major at Darwin, has been granted 10 days' leave.	
			R/O Pt. 1 No. 12/42 (see appx.).	Appx. 49.
			Practice exercise# against landing of paratroops was carried out without previous warning. Exercise was	
			carried out smoothly and with reasonable efficiency.	

43 Battalion

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required)

Unit 43 Bn.

Date and Time.—From 3 Mar. 42. To 4 Mar. 42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
<i>WINNELLIE McMann's</i>	3 Mar. 42.	1800	Water supply was connected to new camp site and Coy. areas allotted. Pioneer Pl. and a pl. of 2 "C" Coy. assisted with lay-out.	
	4 Mar. 42.	1800.	Bn. strength is:- 37 Offr. and 1041 O.R. Sick in hospital -- 7 Sick in lines -- 9.	
			About six Jap. plane fighters over the area at at 1505 hrs. The first and only alarm was given at 1505 by this unit. The all-clear was sounded at 1525 hrs. No damage was done. Planes were fired on by our posts but were not within close range. The central authority controlling the air-raid alarm failed to function for the first alarm. A further general alarm was given at 1532 hrs. and the all clear at 1605 hrs. but planes were neither seen nor heard.	

7103

43 Battalion

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required)

Unit 43 Bn.Date and Time.—From 5 Mar. 42. To 44

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
<i>WINNELLIE</i> McMinn's	5 Mar. 42.	1800	<p>Received from 23 Aust. Inf. Bde. operation instruction No. 8. We now form part of the DISTRICT RESERVE. Role - To remain in reserve and to attack enemy when direction of this attack is disclosed. The most probable line of attack is forward towards towards the DARWIN PENINSULA, LEE POINT or SHOAL BAY areas, but preparations will be made for counter attack against an enemy landing and approach from BYNOE BAY and other directions.</p> <p>Six aircraft with American markings have been flying low over the camp and area adjacent to R.A.A.F. The planes appear to be A 24's. Time 1305 hrs. At 1315 hrs. an alert was given followed almost immediately by the General Alarm. All clear at 1335 hrs. No enemy planes seen.</p>	

43 Battalion

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Unit 43 Bn. Date and Time.—From 7 Mar. 42. To 14

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
McMinn's	7 Mar. 42.	1800	<p>The movement of the Bn. to McMinn's, map ref. Darwin Sketch Map 066,992 map ref. Darwin Sketch Map 066,992, commenced at 1800 hrs.</p> <p>The site had previously been layed out by Maj. J.T. Winton assisted by the "I" Sec.. Coy. areas had been allotted and tracks kept to a minimum. The site following was the order of movement:-</p> <p>1 pl. "C" Coy.</p> <p>"B" Coy. (less one pl.).</p> <p>"E" Coy.</p> <p>H.Q. Coy. (less A.A. pl. & Adm. pl. and detachment of sigs.).</p> <p>B.H.Q. (less ord. room staff.).</p>	

43 Battalion 113

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

10 Mar. 42.

Unit 43 Bn.

Date and Time.—From 9 Mar. 42. To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
McMinn's	9 Mar. 42.	1800	<p>The Adm. pl. and det. of Sigs completed the movement of the Bn. At 0800 hrs. one pl. of "D" Coy. proceeded direct to BATCHELOR aerodrome to bring the Coy. to full strength. Their task is ground defence of BATCHELOR drome.</p>	
			R/O Pt. 1 No. 13/42. (see appx.)	Appx. 52.
			R/O Pt. 1 No. 14/42. (see appx.)	Appx. 53.
	10 Mar. 42.	1800	<p>The Bn. has now settled in new position. Particular care was taken in regard to sanitation and to minimise fly nuisance.</p>	
			<p>Extensive recce. of country to the EAST has been undertaken. Water in running streams^{streams} in area tested and was suitable for use of the troops.</p>	

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43 Battalion

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required)

Unit 43 Bn.

Date and Time.—From 12 Mar. 42. To 13 Mar. 42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
McMinn's	12 Mar. 42.	1800	<p>At short notice the Bn. was shifted to a point about 2 miles EAST of the camp. "I" Sec. and Reg. Police and Sig., mortar and Pioneer Pl. of H.Q. Coy. also took part in the exercise which was designed mainly with the object of giving practice and seeing how quickly a move could be made. The exercise was successful but movement times were considered by the C.O. Lt.-Col. Baldock to be too slow.</p>	
			R/O Pt. 1 No. 15/42. (see appx.)	Appx. 54.
			Bn. Practice Exercise (see appx.)	Appx. 55.
	13 Mar. 42.	1800	<p>Exercise of the previous day repeated. The move was made more quickly but the establishment of sig. communication was still considered to be too slow.</p>	

77B

43 Battalion

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required)

Unit 43 Bn.Date and Time.—From 14 Mar. 42. To 15 Mar. 42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
McMinn's	14 Mar. 42.	1800	Exercise in the field was again repeated at a different location. "I" Sec. did not take part as they were engaged in a recce of an area stretching from Packard's Knob, Marlow's Lagoon and beyond to the coast at a point 928023 map ref. DARWIN Sketch map 1". Object --- to ascertain suitability of area for holding defensive position of enemy advancing from DARWIN, LEE POINT, SHOAL BAY PENINSULA area.	
			Maj.-Gen. Ivan McKay, G.O.C. of Aust. Forces, paid an official visit to B.H.Q. and observed the Bn. at training and expressed satisfaction with what he saw.	
	15 Mar. 42.	1800	Change of Roles for "A" and "D" Coys. 43 Bn. (see appx.).	Appx. 57

43 Battalion

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Unit 43 Bn.Date and Time.—From 15 Mar. 42. To 16 Mar. 42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
McMinn's	15 Mar. 42.	1800	"A" Coy. (Maj. B.G. Davies) on duty at ADELAIDE RIVER and "D" Coy. (Capt. W.L. Rait) whose role was the ground defence of BATCHELOR aerodrome, were advised that they would exchange roles and tasks. The change-over to be completed by 1200 hrs. 18 Mar. 42.	
			R/O Pt. 1 No. 16/42 (see appx.) etc	Appx. 56.
	16 Mar. 42.	1800	At 0900 hrs. the Bn. conducted a transport exercise to test lifting capacity of Bn. M.T. and to determine the time required to move tactically, also to practise the Regimental Police in etc traffic control. The first vehicle moved off at 0900 hrs. and the last at 0936, only one minute late. The exercise was a marked success and afforded valuable practice.	
			43 Bn. Transport Exercise (see appx.)	Appx. 58.

7703
43 Battalion

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required)

Unit 43 Bn.Date and Time.—From 17 Mar. 42. To 18 Mar. 42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
McMinn's	17 Mar. 42.	1800	One Pl. of "C" Coy. moved out to MANTON DAM at 0900 hrs. to relieve one Pl. of "B" Coy. who rejoined their Coy. at McMinn's. Their role is the protection of the dam.	
			R/O Pt. 1 No. 17/42. (see appx.).	Appx. 59.
			43 Bn. W.E. Form (see appx.).	Appx. 60.
			43 Bn Field Return of Offr. (see appx.).	Appx. 61.
	18 Mar. 42.	1800	The change over between "A" Coy. ADELAIDE RIVER and "D" Coy. at BATCHELOR aerodrome completed.	
			Bn. strength:-	
			35 Offr.; 1037 O.R. total 1072.	
			Sick in Hospital -- 1 Offr.; 4 O.R.	
			Sick in lines -- 4 O.R.	

7/13
43 Battalion

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required)

Unit 43 Bn.Date and Time.—From 19 Mar. 42. To 20 Mar. 42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
McMinn's	19 Mar. 42.	1800	The following promotions to commissioned rank as from 20 Feb. 42 have been notified to the Bn.:- Sjt. N.L. Grimm to Lieut. Sjt. J.J. Meade to Lieut. W.O.11 F.H. Carter to Lieut.	
	20 Mar. 42.	1800	The "I" Sec. has been endeavouring, during the last few days, to find an alternative route across country to join McMinn's with the HOWARD RIVER road and so avoid the congestion on the main highway in the event of an emergency. All attempts to find a usable track south of McMinn's Lagoon were abortive, but a route has been found in a northerly direction west involving a west crossing of the WEST BRANCH of the HOWARD RIVER and linking up with the HOWARD RIVER road in the vicinity of map ref.	

DARWIN 1" 065080.

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43 Battalion

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required)

Unit 43 Bn. Date and Time.—From 21 Mar. 42. To 23 Mar. 42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
McLinn's	21 Mar. 42.	1800	A further transport exercise was conducted in which all Bn. tpt. took part. The movement proceeded smoothly but there was a tendency to be ahead of time.	
			Bn. Transport Exercise (see appx.).	Appx. 62
	23 Mar. 42.	1800	"I" Sec. engaged in plotting new track through to HOWARD RIVER. They were followed by carriers and a working party. Good progress was made. Pioneer Pl. has commenced the bridging of the WEST ARM of the HOWARD RIVER to connect with the road.	

T/B

43 Battalion

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Unit 43 Bn. Date and Time.—From 24 Mar. 42. To 26 Mar. 42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
McLinn's	24 Mar. 42.		Two secs. of "R" Coy., comprising one Offr. and 26 O.R., have been given a patrol task at HOWARD RIVER	
			Crossing map ref. 095084. They relieved two secs. of the 27 Bn. at 1700 hrs.	
			R/O Pt. 1, No. 18/42. (see appx. 63).	Appx. 63.
	25 Mar. 42.		A detachment from "R" Coy., comprising one Offr. (Lieut. F.H. Carter) and 25 O.R., have proceeded to ADELAIDE RIVER as a working party to chop wood for fuel.	
			R/O Pt. 1, No. 19/42. (see appx.)	Appx. 64.
	26 Mar. 42.		Due to a change in the higher command the whole defensive scheme of the Bn. has been changed. ^{THE} covering force will be recalled from Beach Defence area, only a skeleton force remaining. All tents are to remain up and the area area to be so left as to give impression of occupancy.	

7/13
43 Battalion

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Unit 43 Bn. Date and Time.—From 26 Mar. 42. To 27 Mar. 42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
McLinn's	26 Mar. 42.		This Bn. was given instructions to be in readiness for a quick move.	
	27 Mar. 42.	0200	Coy. Comdrs., Adjts. and I.O., were called to Bn H.Q. and received orders from the C.O. (Lt.-Col. Baldoek) that in accordance with instructions received from Bde. the Bn. would move to its battle position astride the North Australia road from 018030 to 036017 with Bn. H.Q. N.W. of Brookings Creek at 020027 map ref. DARWIN 1". Orders for the return of two Pls. of "C" Coy. at MANTON DAM were ^{DESPATCHED} received by D.R. The whole defensive scheme is based on a series of Coy. defensive localities, each Coy. having supporting arms attached. The Bn. area is to be occupied by "C" Coy. forward, "B" Coy. centre and "A" Coy. rear ^{WITH} "D" Coy. remaining at ADELAIDE RIVER.	

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43 Battalion

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Unit 43 Bn. Date and Time.—From 27 Mar. 42. To 28 Mar. 42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
McMinn's	27 Mar. 42.		<p>Two batteries of the 147th. U.S.A. Fd. Arty. were attached to Bn. Their fire power comprised 8 75's, 4 A/tank guns and 6 .50 A/Ak guns. Each Coy. is to have M.M.G. and mortars under command. No move before 1200 hrs. The movement to be completed by 1800 hrs.</p> <p>1100 "C" Coy. returned to McMinn's.</p> <p>1200 Movement to battle position commenced and all except "B" Echelon were in position by 1800 hrs.</p> <p>Operation Order No.1. (see ap x.)</p>	Appx.65.
Brooking's Creek.	28 Mar. 42.		<p>The movement from McMinn's completed. Priority tasks tasks --- beating down high grass and preparing fields of fire. Slit trenches were sited tactically so that they could be used as fire trenches. In view of the fact that each Coy. would become in effect a</p>	

JHB

43 Battalion

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required)

Unit 43 Bn. Date and Time.—From 28 Mar. 42. To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Brooking's Creek.	28 Mar. 42.		<p>miniature fortress, Coys. were issued with emergency rations for seven days. Advice was received that the following amm. in addition to W.R. would be issued;—</p> <p style="text-align: center;">350,000 --- .303</p> <p style="text-align: center;">320 --- 3" mortar bombs</p> <p style="text-align: center;">200 --- Grenades.</p> <p>In addition two 3" mortar bombs and 14 L.M.G.'s were allotted to Bn.</p> <p>The following offrs. of the Bn. were today transferred to D.D. and R.D. 4 M.D. as they are considered ^{MEDICALLY} unfit for duty in 7 M.D.;—</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Maj. A. Anderson</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Capt. S.W. Beach.</p>	

JWB
43 Battalion

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required)

30 Mar. 42.

Unit 43 Bn.

Date and Time.—From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Brooking's Creek.	30 Mar. 42.		<p>Development of the area as a fortress proceeding with all speed, priority being given to the beating down of grass to clear fields of fire. All arty. and M.M.G.'s were given a line of fire to which they had to adhere clearing lanes through the timber to enable point blank range tasks to be undertaken. The 2 Bn. 147 Fd. Arty. (U.S.A. Maj. Sherburn O.C.) disliked the principle of separating their batteries and using their guns as single weapons. They also disliked the idea of shooting their guns over open sights at point blank range. Their reluctance to adopt the role as laid down by the G.O.C. caused the G.O. of this Bn. (Lt.-Col.) A. Baldoek grave concern, but by tactful handling of the situation the G.O. has now got their co-operation in the general</p>	

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43 Battalion

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Unit 43 Bn. Date and Time.—From 30 Mar. 42. To 31 Mar. 42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Brooking's Creek.	30 Mar. 42.		<p>plan as laid down. Troops are now feeding tactically meals being brought in to their posts in hot boxes.</p> <p>The following minutes reinforcement offrs. arrived from 4 M.D.:-</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Lieuts. Johnston, M.B. Horton and M.R. Pfeifer.</p>	
	31 Mar. 42.		<p>The G.O.C. (Maj.-Gen. Herring) visited the area. Following his visit there has been some alterations in the siting of M.M.G.'s and Pl. areas. Secs. are sited for all-round defence with two men in each trench and the sec. L.M.G. in a sec. protected position near the centre of the sec. area. Secs. to be about 150 yards apart.</p> <p>The G.O. (Lt.-Col. Baldoek) required Coys. to submit a return by 1000 hrs. 1 Apr. indicating M.T. re-</p>	

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43 Battalion

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Unit 43 Bn.

Date and Time.—From 31 Mar. 42. To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Brooking's Creek	31 Mar. 42.		quired to move to a new locality. (see appx.)	Appx. 66.
			Field Return of Offrs. (see appx.)	Appx. 67.
			Lieut. M.E. Saint, M.O. to ADELAIDE RIVER prior to being evacuated to 4 M.D. He was considered ^{MEDICALLY} unfit for duty in 7 M.D.	
			Bn. strength now is:-	
			38 Offr., 1030 O.R.	
			Sick in hospital - - 1 Offr., 12 O.R.	

J. Badae
43 Battalion

WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 43 Bn.

Date and Time.—From 1 Apr. 42. To

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Brooking's Creek	1 Apr. 42.	1800	<p>At 1400 hrs. "D" Coy., 7 Bn., took over the defensive area previously allotted to "A" Coy. They completed their move and came under command at 1800 hrs. "A" Coy.,</p> <p>under command Maj. B.G. Davies, remains at Batchelor aerodrome. Their role is the ground defence of the 'drome.</p> <p>To assist them in their task two vans light were sent to them to transport anti-paratroop patrol.</p> <p>Air-raids on the DARWIN area are now an almost daily occurrence. The C.O. (Lt.-Col. A Baldock) has issued orders requiring troops to carry on with their normal tasks unless the raid is obviously directed at our particular locality.</p>	

JTB

WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 43 Bn.Date and Time.—From 2 Apr. 42. To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Brooking's Creek	2 Apr. 42.		The object was to enable Offrs. and men to see and hear the	
N.T.			effect of the fire of the several types of weapons in the Fortress Area. The following weapons were fired:-	
			1. L.M.G. (One mag.).	
			2. Riflemen and L.M.G. as Sec. (Five rounds each man and one mag.).	
			3. M.M.G. (One belt).	
			4. 3" mortar (Five rounds).	
			5. 37 mm. A/Tk. Gun (Five rounds).	
			6. 75 mm. Fd. Gun (Five rounds).	
			7. Australian 2 pr. A/Tk. (Five rounds).	
			8. 18 pr. (Five rounds).	
			9. 45 How. (Five rounds).	
			43 Bn. Fire-power Demo. (see appx.)	Appx. 68.

WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 43 Bn.

Date and Time.—From 2 Apr. 42. To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Brooking's Creek N.T.	2 Apr. 42.		<p>The G.O.C. (Maj.-Gen. Herring) addressed all Offr. at the conclusion of the demonstration. He stated that we should feel honoured to be the troops selected to defend our country in what might prove to be the first attempted invasion in the history of Australia. He pointed out that the plan evolved was calculated to defeat the well-known tactics of the Japanese and if we stood fast and were prepared to fight, and if need be, die, for our country, we would repel the invader and would drive him into the sea.</p> <p>Coy. Order of Battle Requirements (see appx.).</p> <p>Bn. Order of Battle (see appx.#).</p> <p>43 Bn. Operational Order No.3. (see appx.).</p>	<p>Appx. 69.</p> <p>Appx. 70.</p> <p>Appx. 71.</p>

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WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 43 Bn. Date and Time.—From 3 Apr. 42. To 4 Apr. 42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Brooking's Creek N.T.	3 Apr. 42.		<p>Coys. have been organised on a four pl. basis since we have occupied our battle position. This was done by "R" Coy. supplying a pl. to each of the two rifle Coys. this Bn. has in the area. The remaining pl. became an employment Employment pl. and was given a defensive role role in the area "D" Coy. area.</p>	
	4 Apr. 42.		<p>Capt. G.C. Paterson, previously O.C. of "R" Coy., has been detached for duty at ADELAIDE RIVER.</p> <p>The following return has been supplied to Bde. by the Bn. I.O. It shows the total personnel and weapons in the Bn. area:—</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Offrs.— 53; O.R.—1322.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Total personnel—1375.</p>	

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WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 43 Bn.

Date and Time.—From 4 Apr. 42. To 5 Apr. 42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Brooking's Creek.	4 Apr. 42.		Fd. Guns (75's) - 8	
			A/Tk. (37 mm.) - 4	
N.T.			Mortars 3" - 8	
			Automatic weapons - 99	
			M.M.G. - 18	
			L.M.G. - 42	
			(U.S.A.) .30 - 2	
			(U.S.A.) Browning .50 6	
			Thompson Sub. M.G. 31. (see appx. 70).	
	5 Apr. 42.		Bn. day of rest but Offrs. received verbal orders from C.O. (Lt.-Col. A Baldock) in reference to Bn. movement exercise set down for 6 Apr.	
			Lieut. Urwin, commanding A/A pl., was admitted to hospital at ADELAIDE RIVER.	

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WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 43 Bn. Date and Time.—From 6 Apr. 42. To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Brooking's Creek	6 Apr. 42.		<p>At 0835 hrs. the Bn. received orders from Bde. that they were to move from fortress area to vicinity of Cross Roads map ref. 047084 there to establish a new fortress area on^{as} a base for offensive action. The start line was on the North Australia road map ref. 017033 and the start time was 0930 hrs. Bn. frontage was 400 yards and Coy. positions were:- "D" Coy. on the right of the road, "C" Coy. on the left, "E" Coy. right and H.Q. Coy. left with "B" Coy. across the road at the rear. The axis of the advance was along the DARWIN road and HOWARD SPRINGS road. Protection was afforded by one Sec. Carrier Pl. making good bounds to the railway crossing and beyond and reporting back.</p>	

74B

WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 43 Bn.Date and Time.—From 6 Apr. 42. To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Brooking's Creek	6 Apr. 42.		<p>One Sec. Carrier Pl. moved with "A" Echelon for rear protection. "A" Echelon's first move was at 1030 hrs. and they proceeded by short bounds. The Arty. moved in one bound. The exercise was late in starting but the movement proceeded smoothly and at a good rate of speed. At a subsequent conference of Offrs. the movement was discussed. The chief point of criticism made by the Bde. Maj. was the late start and the order of march, which he contended should be in the following order:- Carriers, Arty recce. party, Sig. vehicle, Mortars, M.M.G., Rifle Coys.</p> <p>The Bde. Comd. (Brig. Dougherty) addressed the Offrs. and made the following points:-</p>	
N.T.				

7703

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 43 Bn.Date and Time.—From 6 Apr. 42. To 8 Apr. 42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Brooking's Creek	6 Apr. 42.		1. Troops must be brought to a high standard of both mental and physical fitness and should be assisted to have a cheerful outlook.	
N.T.			2. Water discipline must be strictly enforced.	
			3. Troops must be made to face up to bombing.	
	7 Apr. 42.		The following changes in the posting of Offrs. took place today:-	
			Capt. A.A. Durwood ^{DURWARD} from 2 I.C., "C" Coy., to be	
			Adjutant and Lieut H.G. Frith, Adjutant, to be 2 I.C.	
			"C" Coy. This move was made in order to give Lieut. Frith more experience in the field. Lieut. Johnston	
			was appointed A/Ack. Pl. Comd.	
	8 Apr. 42.		Capt. W.L. Rait, O.C. of "D" Coy., marched out to D.D. & R.D., 4 M.D. He was released from 7 M.D.	

TWB

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 43 Bn.

Date and Time.—From 8 Apr. 42. To 9 Apr. 42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Brooking's Creek. N.T.	8 Apr. 42.		<p>to complete medical duties^{STUDIES} and posted as^{OF} Reserve Offr.</p> <p>The Bde. Comd. (Brig. Dougherty) inspected the Bn. defences accompanied by the Bn. 2 I.C. (Maj. J.T. Winton).</p> <p>The C.O. (Lt.-Col. A. Baldock) visited ADELAIDE RIVER and BATCHELOR aerodrome to inspect "D" and "A" Coys. respectivley, who are located at those centres.</p>	
	9 Apr. 42.	1800	<p>Today the Bn. commenced a range practice^{PRACTICE} within its area. The object being to improve the standard of shooting. Troops fired at service and silhouette targets from weapon pits and from standing position. The range Offr. was instructed to concentrate on improving the shooting of individual soldiers rather than on getting large numbers through the practice.</p>	

43RD BATTALION

WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 43 Bn.

Date and Time.—From 10 Apr. 42. To 11 Apr. 42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Brooking's Creek	10 Apr. 42.		<p>As a practice exercise, at 0800 hrs. the Bn, received orders to move to the Elizabeth River Bridge, there to take up a defensive position adopting the new diamond formation with 2,000 yards separating the forward and rear Coys., the two centre Coys. being either side of the road 800 yards apart. Bn. H.Q. were in a central position with the Adm. Pl. and portion of M.M.G. Coy. filling the gaps. At night the defences were tested by one Coy. 2/4 Pioneer Bn. and were proved to be sound. During the All troops slept in the open.</p> <p>Bn. Fd. Return of Offrs. and O.R. (see appx.).</p> <p>The Bn. returned to fortress area, leaving the Elizabeth River area at 1330 hrs. Troops stood up to the march of 9½ miles very well in spite of great heat and</p>	<p>Appx. 72.</p>
N.T.				
	11 Apr. 42.			

7/43

43RD BATTALION

WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

59
Army Form C.2116
(adapted.)Unit 43 Bn. Date and Time.—From 11 Apr. 42. To 12 Apr. 42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Brooking's Creek	11 Apr. 42.		trying conditions. Transport moved by bounds within protective screens at front and rear. The movement was well co-ordinated and the exercise proceeded smoothly. Practically all personnel marched.	
N.T.				
	12 Apr. 42.	1800	Rest day for the troops, but patrols were sent out as usual. Three at least go out during hours of darkness, and one always to the reaches of the EAST ARM arriving there before first light and then establishing a listening and watching patrol.	
			The Bn. received a warning order that its present force in the Fortress Area less two Coys. and one Pl. of M.M.G., five carriers and small detachment of sigs. and stretcher bearers, would move to ADELAIDE RIVER to assist in the defence of that area.	

7/103

43RD BATTALION

WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

60
Army Form C.2113
(adapted.)

Unit 43 Bn.

Date and Time.—From 13 Apr. 42. To 14 Apr. 42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Brooking's Creek	13 Apr. 42.		A fire-power demonstration was given from "B" Coy. area by all arms. To demonstrate to the troops the terrific power of the Bn.'s weapons, a demonstration was given by firing all weapons simultaneously.	
N.T.			No definite confirmation of the movement to ADELAIDE RIVER has been received but the Bn. has been given to understand that it will take place tomorrow at 0930 hrs.	
			"C" Coy. moved out from the fortress area to take up a defensive position at the DARWIN Civil Aerodrome.	
			200 Strength including attached personnel -- 5 Offr. and 153 O.R.	
			Promotion -- Sjt. E.K. Russack to be Lieut. on probation 1 Apr. 42.	
	14 Apr. 42.		Bn. strength -- 38 Offr. and 1025 O.R.	

JTB

43RD BATTALION

WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

15 Apr. 42.

Unit 43 Bn.

Date and Time.—From 14 Apr. 42. To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Brooking's Creek	14 Apr. 42.		Transport Required to Lift Bn. (see appx.).	Appx. 73.
N.T.	15 Apr. 42.		Orders were received from 23 Aust. Inf. Bde. that Bn. H.Q., less detachments of stretcher bearers, and H.Q. Coy.,	
			less detachment of Sigs., would proceed to ADELAIDE RIVER	
			there to assist with local defences. The C.O. (Lt.-Col.	
			A. Baldock) was appointed area commandant and was charged	
			with the task of co-ordinating all the local defences.	
			Units and sub-units in the area include:—	
			8 Amm. Sub-Park	
			9 Army Troops	
			Bulk Issue Petrol and Oil Depot	
			D.D. & R.D.	
			11 Supply Sec. A.S.C.	
			43 Bn. H.Q., H.Q. Coy., "D" Coy.	

TAB

WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 43 Bn.Date and Time.—From 15 Apr. 42. To 16 Apr. 42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Brooking's Creek N.T.	15 Apr. 42.		Total personnel in ADELAIDE RIVER area about 800. Maj. J.T. Winton was appointed acting C.O. of the 43 Bn.	
			Lt. Col. A. Baldock Lt.-Col. A. Baldock and the I.O. (Capt. J.H. Badge) proceeded to ADELAIDE RIVER to make a recce of the area and to select a new camp site.	
			Distribution and Movement of the 43 Bn. (see appx.). "B" Coy. and attached stretcher bearers and sigs. came under command 8 Bn. as from 0900 hrs.	Appx. 74.
	16 Apr. 42.		"E" Coy. with attached stretcher bearers came under command 2/4 Pioneer Bn. as from 0900 hrs.	
ADELAIDE RIVER N.T.	16 Apr. 42.		Bn. H.Q. and H.Q. Coy. commenced the move to ADELAIDE RIVER at 0900 hrs. The start line was at McMinn's. Vehicles required for the move were:-	

7/103

WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 43 Bn. Date and Time.—From 16 Apr. 42. To 19 Apr. 42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
ADELAIDE RIVER	16 Apr. 42.		42 One ton Vans.	
N.T.			7 30cwt. Vehicles.	
			9 3 Ton Vans.	
	17 Apr. 42.		Acting under orders from Bde. "E" Coy. H.Q., comprising two Offrs. and 12 O.R., rejoined the Unit at ADELAIDE RIVER.	
			Under the supervision of the Acting C.O. (Maj. J.T. Winton) the camp site was re-arranged, central kitchen established and arrangements made for the installation of a water supply. Particular attention was paid to the matter of sanitation.	
			Fd. Return of Offrs. and O.R. (see appx.).	Appx. 75.
	18 Apr. 42.	1800	Main activity today was a general recce. of the area and improvement of the camp site.	
	19 Apr. 42.	1800	Make and Mend day for the troops.	

19/03

43RD BATTALION

WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 43 Bn. Date and Time.—From 20 Apr.42. To 23 Apr.42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
ADELAIDE RIVER	20 Apr.42.		Lieuts. A.L. Martin and J.R. Urwin transferred to	
N.T.			D.D. and R.D., 4 M.D., (medically unfit) on 17 Apr.42.	
			43 Bn. Operation Instruction No.2. (see appx.).	Appx. 76.
			ADELAIDE RIVER Operation Order No. 2. (see appx.).	Appx. 77.
			43 Bn. Admn. Instruction Order No. 1. (see appx.).	Appx. 78.
	21 Apr.42.		Under the direction of the Actg. C.O. (Maj. J.T. Winton) the preparation of a defensive position in the	
			new area was pushed on with all speed.	
			ADELAIDE RIVER Admn. Matters (see appx.).	Appx. 79.
	22 Apr.42.		Extensive patrolling of the area carried out, three	
			patrols going out each night. One Sec. of Carriers also	
			goes out as a dawn patrol each day, patrolling to the south	
			of the ADELAIDE RIVER.	
	23 Apr.42.		New rifle range constructed in vicinity camp area.	

JTB

WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 43 Bn.Date and Time.—From 24 Apr. 42. To 28 Apr. 42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
ADELAIDE RIVER	24 Apr. 42.		Fd. Return of Offrs. and O.R. (see appx.).	Appx. 80.
N.T.	25 Apr. 42.		A detachment of Sigs. proceeded to BATCHELOR 'drome to service local communications.	
	27 Apr. 42.		Acting under instructions from the 23 Aust. Inf. Bde., the Bn. despatched its nine 30 cwt. vehicles to the Bde. M.T. Pool and withdrew from the Pool all its light and heavy vans.	
	28 Apr. 42.		The Bn. today received a copy of N.T. Force Operational Order No. 4. Due to improvements in air and supply positions it is now possible to move such our forces further SOUTH to counter attacks on the Line of Communication and to assume a stronger and more active offensive role than is open to the force in its present location.	

1/13

43RD BATTALION

WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

Army Form C.2113
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 43 Bn.

Date and Time.—From 30 Apr. 42. To ~~31 Apr. 42.~~

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
ADELAIDE RIVER	30 Apr. 42.		Advice was received from Adv. H.Q., N.T. Force, that	
N.T.			"B" Coy., "E" M.M.G. Coy. and "C" Coy., less two Pls.,	
			will come under command 3 Inf. Bde. from 0900 hrs. 1 May.	
			They will proceed direct to the Bn's new position. Two	
			Pls. of "C" Coy. will come under command A.A.S.C. on the	
			same date.	
	31 Apr. 42.		Bn. strength is:--	
			38 Offr. and 1022 O.R.	
			in hospital -- 1 Offr. and 33 O.R.	

J. B. Budge Capt.

Australian Military Forces—7th Military District.

Please quote this Number when replying.

--	--	--

Head-Quarters, 43 Bn
Darwin, 2 Apr 42

43RD BATTALION

HQ 7 MD (for info)
23 Aust Inf Bde (for info)

FIRE POWER DEMO

Location. 43 Bn Area . Quarry Spur immediately NW Stone Crusher Plant.

Time to Start . 1430 hrs. 2 Apr 42.

CO 43 Bn to explain object of demo and between series of shoots give brief description of weapon characteristics.

Firing sequence.

- (1) LMG
- (2) Riflemen and LMG as section.
- (3) MMG
- (4) Mortar
- (5) 37 mm A.Tk Gun
- (6) 75 mm Fd Piece
- (7) Aust 2 pr A Tk
- (8) 18 pr
- (9) 45 How

At the conclusion of the demo the GOC is to address all officers.

J. B. edock
Lt Col
Comd 43Bn

43 Bn. Fire-Power
Demo. Appx. 68.

Australian Military Forces—7th Military District.

Please quote this Number when replying.

--	--	--

Head-Quarters,
Darwin,

43 Bn
2 Apr 42

43RD BATTALION

To B and C Coys D Coy (7 Bn)

ORDER OF BATTLE

To enable a return to be submitted to Bde, Area Comds will supply the following information :-

1. The number of Offr and O.R. in their Coy H.Q. and Pls.
2. The number of all other Offr and O.R. who are within their area. Each sub-unit or other det. will be shown separately. American forces will also be shown.
3. "C" Coy will also include Bn.H.Q. and M.M.G.Coy. H.Q.
4. "D" Coy (7 Bn) will exclude Div. H.Q. but will include 2/11 Fd. Coy.
5. Should Area Comds be in any doubt whether to include any sub-units located on or near to area boundaries, they will confer with neighbouring commander to ensure that there is no duplication.
6. All weapons down to and including L.M.G.'s will be shown opposite each unit or sub-unit.
7. The information is required in return form as per attached specimen and is to reach this H.Q. by 1400 hrs. 4 Apr.
8. Absolute accuracy, particularly as regards weapons, is required.
9. Area Comds. will advise Bn. H.Q. of any subsequent change in armament or dispositions. This will be advised to I.O.

A Bada

Capt.

I.O. 43 Bn.

Copy. Order of Battle
Requirements. cdfpac. 69.

43RD BATTALION

ORDER OF BATTLE43 Bn
4 Apr 42Bn. Order of
Battle. Appx. 70.

SECRET

"C" Coy. Area

Name of Unit or Sub-Unit	Total Personnel		Fd. Guns (75's)	A.Tk. 37 m.m.	Mortars 3"	WEAPONS					
	Offr.	O.R.				AUTOMATIC WEAPONS					
						M.M.G. .303	L.M.G. .303	Browning .50	U.S.A. .30	A.A. .50	Thompson Sub.M.G. .45
"C" Coy.	5	145						9			9
Stretcher Bearers		6									
Det. Carrier Pl		10				3					
Det. A/A Pl	1	10						2			1
Det. Mortar Pl		18			3						
Signal Pl less det.	1	31									
"E" Coy det.	3	80				6		2			
Bn. H.Q.	4	26									2
U.S.A. 147 Fd Arty "D" Bty.	2	47	2						1	1	
do. 2 Bn H.Q. Bty A.Tk.		11		2						1	
	16	384	2	2	3	9	13		1	2	12

"B" Coy. Area

"B" Coy	5	131						9			9
"F" Bty. 2 Bn. 147 Fd. Arty.	2	52	2						1	/	
"E" Coy Sec	1	20				2					
Mortar Det		18			3						
Sig Det		7									
H.Q. Coy dets.	4	53						1			1
R.A.P. and sundry det. personnel	1	22									
	13	303	2		3	2	10	1	1	/	10

"D" Coy. Area 43RD BATTALION

"D" Coy 7 In.	5	129								
2 B. 147 Fd. Arty	10	120	4	2					3	
Det. Carrier Pl	1	12								
Pioneer Pl		28								
M.H.G. Pl	1	39								
"R" Coy Pl	1	28						3		1
Det. A.A. Pl		9						2		
Det. Sig. Pl.		6								
Stretcher Bearers and det. personnel	1	12								
2/11 Fd. Coy x	2	125						4		2
7 M.D. Survey Sec. x	2	37								1
23 Fd. Coy x	1	62						1		1
Det. Mortar Pl		12			2					
Det. Adm Pl		8								

24	635	4	2	2	7	19			3	9
---------------	-----	---	---	---	---	----	--	--	---	---

SUMMARY

"C" Coy Area	16	384	2	2	3	9	13		1	2	12
"B" Coy Area	13	303	2		3	2	10		1	1	10
"D" Coy Area	24	635	4	2	2	7	19			3	9
Total Personnel and Weapons within Bn Area	53	1322	8	4	8	18	42	1	2	6	31

Note - Personnel and weapons in Force H.Q. are not included in above figures.

J. J. Budge
 Capt.
 I.O. 43 In

No change from verbal orders

Secret

43 Bn OP order No 3

Copy No 3

Ref map Dawson 1" sheet 5. 6 Apr

43RD BATTALION

Information

- 1 Air reports enemy est Bn seen 0740 hrs 6 Apr at KOOLPINTAH adn Canada HOWARD SPRINGS ROAD via KOOLPINTAH TRACK
- 2 Other units in folios remain in present posns

Intention

- 3 43 Bn will move to positions near vicinity X roads HOWARD SPRINGS, PUMPING STA KOOLPINTAH to estab new folios on a base for offensive action

Method

- 4 Move off Square D right C left, E Right to left B Coy across road at rear
- 5 Axis of adv Dawson road, Howard Spr Road
- 6 Frontage ~~200~~ 400+
- 7 Protection. One per carri will make good and on RLY crossing - Howard S.

43 Bn. OP Order No. 3.
Appx. 71.

by 0920. Second report bound
1500x along Howard Sp road
from Alway. One see carrier
near protection with A ech

8 A Ech left first move approx
1030 hrs. Keep within one mile
marking tps by short bounds
right into Coln. During halt
off road, facing track

9 M.C. S.O. T.O. T.Sgt. Carrier 2
DP, total 6.

10 Aim - Coy resp for own protection

11 Assembly Area C Coy locality

12 Start line - Northern edge of C
Coy, defined by 1 see

13 Start line 0930.

14 Duty remain present pm. No
more likely before 1130. RV
on orders of CO 2 Pm 147 US
Fd duty. Move by one bound to
new fortress

Admin

15 Feeding. Unconsumed and ^{two}
day ration on man.

16 Ammo 70 rds on man. 4 LMG
may per LMG carried. Maximum

3RD BATTALION

Annex on MT

- 17 Baggage Dumped pl localities
- 18 Dress Battle order, incl shirts
- 19 Meduat. RRP share 3 on MT
with Pm HQ and 10

Intercom

- 20 Reports to head of coln
- 21 Coy comes at head, 2/10
w change coy moving along
road. Use push bikes to
full.
- 22 Wireless silence
- 23 Liaison arty maintain at Pm
HQ
- 24 ack

Method issue Verbal 0900

Time of Signature 0915

Distribution: 23 Aust Inf Bde 2
File 2

W.F. [Signature]
Lieut
Poyt 4300

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

43 Bn. (Unit)

43RD BATTALION

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels	1		
Majors	2		1
Captains	9		4
Lieutenants	25 <i>(includes 2 AIC)</i>		1
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals	37		6

*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
S22986	CAPT RAIT W.L	43 Bn	8/4/42	REAR H.Q 7 M.D MEMO 44/6 of 6/4/42

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

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

Bn. Tol Return of Offr. and O.R. appx 72.

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
LIEUT	S.P. 4461	O'CONNOR C.C.	A.I.C	YES	
LIEUT	S.P. 6449	FRITH H.G.	"	"	
LIEUT	Sx 12348	TOHASTON W.A.H.	43 Bn	"	
LIEUT	Sx 13363	PEIFFER M.R.	"	"	
LIEUT	Sx 13736	HORTON M.B.	"	"	
LIEUT	S 15685	TILLET S.D.	"	"	
MAJ. G. Col.	S 19652	BALDOCK A.	"	"	
LIEUT CAPT	S 22652	MCEWEN H.F.	"	"	
LIEUT	S 22659	MARTIN A.L.	"	No	x LIST B.
LIEUT	S 22668	WEST A.B.	"	YES	
LIEUT	S 22669	THOMAS C.E.	"	"	
LIEUT CAPT	S 22706	BOWEN V.H.	"	"	
LIEUT	S 22720	BURPITT N.K.	"	"	
LIEUT CAPT	S 22724	BADGE T.H.	"	"	
LIEUT	S 22728	CARTER F.H.	"	"	
LIEUT CAPT	S 22756	TURWARD A.A.	"	"	
LIEUT	S 22770	FURNER G.R.	"	"	
LIEUT	S 22823	JAMES A.C.	"	"	
LIEUT	S 22825	KENNEDY W.J.	"	"	
LIEUT	S 22859	MEADE J.J.	"	"	
LIEUT	S 22888	PACKER A.W.	"	"	
LIEUT	S 22890	ROBERTS S.R.A.	"	"	
LIEUT	S 22950	TROTT J.L.	"	"	
CAPT MAJ	S 22961	DAVIES B.G.	"	"	
LIEUT MAJ	S 22968	WINTON J.T.	"	"	
LIEUT	S 22976	MARSHALL S.R.	"	"	
LIEUT CAPT	S 22979	TAMBLYN A.A.	"	"	
LIEUT	S 22983	URWIN J.R.	"	No	x LIST B.
LIEUT CAPT	S 22984	VENNING D.D.	"	YES	
LIEUT	S 22987	BRYSON W.C.	"	"	
LIEUT	S 23266	WILSON L.B.	"	"	
LIEUT	S 3546	FROST H.K.	"	"	
LIEUT	S 3548	GRIMM N.W.	"	"	
LIEUT CAPT	S 3743	PATERSON G.C.	"	"	
LIEUT	S 3744	SHAUGHNESSY F.E.	"	"	
LIEUT CAPT	S 3745	THOMAS W.C.	"	"	
LIEUT CAPT	S 213039	HENDRY (MM) J.G.	"	"	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
PADRE	S 3133	FARMER S.H.	A.A.C.D.	18/12/41	PADRE
CAPT	S 38123	HILL J.S.T.T.	A.A.M.C.	29/1/42	R.M.O.

43rd Bn
(Unit.)

[Signature]
(Signature of Commander.)

10-4-42
(Date of Despatch.)

23rd Aust Inf Bde
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

AMENDED PART "A" W3009 43 Bn 10-4-42.

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
DETAILS	W/E	STRENGTH EXCL ATT & X LIST	SURPLUS	DEFICIENCY	REMARKS.
W.O.I	2	1		1	
W.O.II	8	4		4	
C.Q.M.S.	6	5		1	
S/Sjt	1	1			
Sjts	50	39		11	
Cpls.	94	98	4 Rifle & LMG	3 being 1 "	Cook Cpls Bootmaker
Spec Gp. II	3	1		2	
" " II	63	45		18	
" " III	51	20		31	
Ptes etc.	759	786	51	45	
TOTALS	1037	997	55	117	

W. Sedock

43RD BATTALION

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.

BnHQ 43 Bn
Home Forces
Australia
14 Apr 42

43RD BATTALION

23 Aust Inf Bde

TRANSPORT REQUIRED TO LIFT BATTALION

Detail	1 Ton	30 cwt	3 Ton	No of Personnel
<u>Ee Coy</u>				
Personnel		5		100
Stores		2		
Ann	6			
Reserve Rations		1		
<u>BnHQ</u>				
Personnel		2		30
Stores	3	1		
Ann } Rations }	1			
<u>RAP</u> v		1		
<u>CANTEN</u>	1	2		
<u>POST OFFICE</u>	1			
<u>OFFICERS' MESS</u>	1			
<u>HQ Coy</u>				
Personnel	19	3		212
Stores	3	4	1	
Ann	5	4	1	
Rations		1		
Stretchers		3		
<u>LIEUT PFEIFFER</u>		1	1	23
	42	30	3	365
Own Transport	15	5	3	
	27	25	-	

*Transport Required
To Lift Bn. Appx. 75.*

Hq 43 Bn
15 Apr 42.

DISTRIBUTION AND MOVEMENT OF 43 Bn.

43RD BATTALION

1. B Coy with attached sign and stretcher bearers will come under command of B Bn as from 0900 hrs. 16 Apr.
2. E Coy with attached Stretcher Bearers will come under command 2/4 Pioneers as from 0900 hrs 16 Apr.
3. Bn Hq and Hq Coy will move to ANGLADE RIVER on Thursday 16 Apr 42.
 1. Start line HESTON'S
 2. Start time 0900 hrs
 3. Transport movement 20 HEM 7 VEM to be controlled by S.O.
 4. All B and E Coy transport will be utilised for the move and returned.
 5. 11 empty vehicles will return from the Pool.
 6. R Coy, R.A.P., Gunton and Post Office vehicles will move in Hq Coy group
4. Reserve am and rations now held by Bn Hq and Hq Coy will be returned to G by 1100 hrs 15 April 42.
5. Carriers with their reserve petrol will all be harboured adjacent to present Bn Hq position
 1. Gns will be dismounted from the carriers and held by Hq Coy
 2. One H.C.O. and 1 Mech. will be left in charge and attached to B Coy for rations etc.
6. All sig wire can be taken in except the line to B30 on 15 Apr 42 BR's will be maintained near Bn Hq.
7. G will arrange rations for various groups now under command to be rationed when unit moves out.
8. S.O. will provide transport at 1400 hrs on 15 Apr 42 and all stores will be loaded by 1800 hrs 15 Apr 42.

Edward Capt.
Adj. 43 Bn.

*Distribution and move-
ment of Bn. 43 Bn. 74.*

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

43 Bn (Unit)

43RD BATTALION

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels	1		
Majors	2		1
Captains	9		4
Lieutenants	26 (INCLUDES 2 A.I.C)		
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals	38		5

*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
S23446	LIEUT. RUSSACK F.K.	43 Bn	11/4/42	VIDE 7 MD MEMO 282/6 DATED 11/4/42

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

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

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

Ed. Return of Offr. and O.R. cdf for 75.

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
LIEUT	S.P. 444	O'CONNOR C.C.	A.I.C.	YES	
LIEUT	S.P. 6149	FRITH H.G.	"	"	
LIEUT	SX 12348	TOMASTON W.A.H.	43 Bn	"	
LIEUT	SX 13263	DEEIFFER M.R.	"	"	
LIEUT	SX 13736	HORTON M.R.	"	"	
LIEUT	S 15685	TILLET S.D.	"	"	
MAT. S. Col.	S19652	BALDOCK A.	"	"	
LIEUT CAPT.	S22652	MCFWEN H.F.	"	"	
LIEUT	S22659	MARTIN A.L.	"	"	
LIEUT	S22665	WEST A.B.	"	"	
LIEUT	S22668	THOMAS C.E.	"	"	
LIEUT CAPT	S22706	BOWEN V.H.	"	"	
LIEUT	S22720	BURFITT N.K.	"	"	
LIEUT CAPT	S22724	RADGE J.H.	"	"	
LIEUT	S22728	CARTER F.H.	"	"	
LIEUT CAPT	S22756	DURWARD A.A.	"	"	
LIEUT	S22770	FURNER G.R.	"	"	
LIEUT	S22853	TAMES A.C.	"	"	
LIEUT	S22825	KENNEDY W.J.	"	"	
LIEUT	S22859	MEADE J.T.	"	"	
LIEUT	S22888	PACKER A.W.	"	"	
LIEUT	S22890	ROBERTS S.P.A.	"	"	
LIEUT	S22930	TROTT J.L.	"	"	
CAPT MAT.	S22961	DAVIES B.G.	"	"	
LIEUT MAT.	S22963	WINTON J.T.	"	"	
LIEUT	S22976	MARSHALL S.R.	"	"	
LIEUT CAPT	S22979	TAMBLYN H.A.	"	"	
LIEUT	S22983	IRWIN J.R.	"	No	X LIST B.
LIEUT CAPT	S22984	VENNING D.J.	"	YES	
LIEUT	S22987	BRUSON W.C.	"	"	
LIEUT	S23266	WILKSON L.B.	"	"	
LIEUT	S23446	RUSSACK E.H.	"	"	
LIEUT	S23546	FROST H.W.	"	"	
LIEUT	S23548	GRIMM N.L.	"	"	
LIEUT CAPT	S23743	PATERSON G.C.	"	No	DETACHED FOR DUTY
LIEUT	S23744	SHAUGHNESSY F.E.	"	YES	
LIEUT CAPT	S23745	THOMAS K.B.	"	"	
LIEUT CAPT	S213039	HENDRY (M.M.) J.G.	"	"	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
PADRE	S3133	FARMER S.H.	A.A.C.D.	18/12/41	PADRE
CAPT.	S38123	HILL J.S.T.T.	A.A.M.C.	29/1/42	R.M.O.

43 Bn
17/4/42
(Unit.)
(Date of Despatch.)

Al Deward Capt
(Signature of Commander.)
23 Cust of Bde.
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

Unit.

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

Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)
Ammunition Examiners			Fire Control Operators			Panel Beaters		
Armament Artificers			Fitters			Pattern Makers		
Armourers			Fitters and Turners			Pharmacists		
Artificers, Artillery			Fitters, Cycle			Photographers, dry plate		
Axemen			Fitters, Drivers			Photographers, wet plate		
Bakers			Fitter's Mates			Photo-Writers		
Battery Surveyors			Fitters, M.V.			Plate Layers		
Battery Comdrs. Asst.			Fitters, Railway Signal			Plumbers		
Blacksmiths		1	Fitters, Signal			Predictor Numbers		
Boilermakers			Grinders			Printers		
Bricklayers		1	Gun Layers			Radiator Mechanics		
Butchers			G.P.O. Assistants			Radiographers		
Camouflage Modeller			Gun Operators			Range Takers		7
Carpenter and Joiner		3	Hammermen			Riggers		
Clerks		1	Height Takers			Riveters		
Clerks, Engineering			Helio Operators			Saddlers		
Clerks, Supply			Instrument Mechanics			Saddle Tree Makers		
Clerks, Technical			Instrument Mechanics, Surgical			Saw Doctors		
Coachmakers			Instrument Operators			Sawyers		
Computers			Intelligence Duties		1	Shoemakers		
Concretors			Joiners			Signallers		
Cooks			Leather Stitchers			Signwriters		
Cooks, Hospital			Linesmen			Stokers, Stationary Engine		
Coppersmiths			Linesmen, Signals			Storemen, Technical		3
Dental Clerk Orderlies			Lithographers			Surveyors		
Despatch Riders			Machinists			Surveyors, Engineering		
Dispensers			Masons			Tailors		1
Draughtsmen			Masseurs			Telescope Identification Numbers		
Draughtsmen, Architectural			Mechanics, Dental			Textile Refitters		
Draughtsmen, Mechanical			Mechanics, M.T.		1	Tinsmiths		
Draughtsmen, Signal			Mechanics, Typewriter			Toolmakers		
Draughtsmen, Topographical			Mechanics, Wireless			Turners		
Driver Mechanics		20	Millwrights			Vulcanizers		
Driver Operators			Miners			Wagon Erectors		
Drivers, Transportation Plant			Moulders			Watchmakers		
Electrical Fitters			Nursing Orderlies			Watermen		
Electricians			Nursing Orderlies (Mental)			Welders		
Electricians, Eng. Units			Nurses, Trained			Well Borers		
Electricians, Signal			Observation Post Assistants			Wheelers		
Engine Artificers			Operating Room Assistants			Whitesmiths		
Engine Hands I/C			Operators, Signal			Wiremen		
Equipment Repairers		1	Opticians			Woodturners		
Farriers			Painters			LMG + Riflemen	51	45
Totals (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)		27			29		51	85

Notes—(a) If rank other than Private is involved give details on back.
(b) Authorised Trades or Specialists not included in list above will be added as required in spaces provided.

43 B

Unit.

Date of Despatch

17 Apr 42

W. Woodard Capt 1st Co

Signature of Commander.

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

23 Aust Inf Bde.

43RD BATTALION

Unit

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

Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Number	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Number	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Number
Panel Beaters		Fire Control Operators		Ammunition Examiners	
Pattern Makers		Fitters		Armament Artificers	
Patronists		Fitters and Turners		Armourers	
Photographers dry plate		Fitters, Cycle		Artificers, Artillery	
Photographers wet plate		Fitter, Drivers		Assmen	
Photo-Writers		Fitter's Mate		Bakers	
Plate Layers		Fitter, M.V.		Battery Surveyors	
Plumbers		Fitters, Railway Signal		Battery Comdr. Asst.	
Predictor Numbers		Fitters, Signal	1	Blacksmiths	
Printers		Grinders		Boltonmakers	
Radiator Mechanics		Gun Layers	1	Bricklayers	
Radio-Operators		G.P.O. Assistants		Butchers	
Range Finders		Gun Operators		Camouflage Modeler	
Riggers		Hammermen	3	Carpenter and Joiner	
Riveters		Ironworkers		Clerks	

SURPLUS

DEFICIENCY

DETAILS	WOI	WOII	S/Sgt	CMS	Sgt	Cpl	DETAILS	WOI	WOII	S/Sgt	CMS	Sgt	Cpl
Rifle + LMG				1		2	Rifle + LMG		4			1	10
							Canteen	1					
							Cook						2
							Shoemaker						1
						2		1	4	-	1	10	3

Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Number	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Number	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Number
Textile Beaters		Mechanics, Dental		Draughtsmen, Architectural	
Tinsmiths	1	Mechanics, M.T.		Draughtsmen, Mechanical	
Toolmakers		Mechanics, Typewriter		Draughtsmen, Signal	
Turners		Mechanics, Wireless		Draughtsmen, Topographical	
Vulcanizers		Millwrights	20	Driver, Mechanic	
Wagon Erectors		Painters		Driver, Operator	
Watchmakers		Plumbers		Driver, Transportation Plant	
Watermen		Riveting Orderlies		Electrical Fitters	
Welders		Riveting Orderlies (Metal)		Electricians	
Well Hokers		Nurses, Trained		Electricians, Eng. Units	
Wheavers		Observation Post Assistants		Electricians, Signal	
Whitcombers		Operating Room Assistants		Engine Artificers	
Widmen		Operators, Signal		Engine Hands I/C	
Woodturners		Opticians	1	Equipment Repairer	
		Painters		Farmers	

W.M. + L.M.G. 21 NR

21 82

Notes—(a) If rank other than Private is involved give details on back.
(b) Authorized Trades or Specialists not included in list above will be added as required in spaces provided.

Date of Despatch: 17 April 42
Unit: 43 R
Signature of Commanding Officer: [Signature]
Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving: 23rd Army Bde.

Australian Military Forces—7th Military District.

Please quote this Number when replying.

[Empty box for quoting number]

Head-Quarters,
Darwin.

43 Bn
20 Apr 42

W. D. King

SECRET

Copy No. **6**.....

43RD BATTALION

43 Bn OPERATION INSTRUCTION No. 2.

1. COMMAND.
 - (1) B Coy HQ and B Pl (Lieut Pfeiffer) will come under command HQ Coy 1800 hrs 18 Apr 42.
 - (2) Capt W.C. Thomas will be available to assist Carrier Pl in tactical handling of HQ and special duties.

2. PATROLS.

The following fighting patrols will be instituted by HQ Coy and attached troops, commencing 1800 hrs 20 Apr 42 and continue until further notice.

 - (1) Patrols to be maintained at intervals from 2100 hrs to 0630 hrs nightly.
Area : W of MAIN ROAD and to include PERHEL and AMH DRIPS
Strength : 1 HQ and 9 men, with rifles and 2 TRIC's.
 - (2) Patrol from 0530 hrs to 0700 hrs.
Area : RLY LINE to 1500 yds S of RLY BRIDGE.
Strength : 1 HQ and 9 men with rifles and 1 T.S.M.C.
 - (3) Patrol from 0530 hrs to 0700 hrs.
Area : MAIN ROAD to 2000 yds N of HUGHES CREEK BRIDGE.
Strength : Carrier Sec 3 HQ.

3. AREA DEFENCE.

All trenches will be dug in close proximity to Diversion shelters and sighted to minimise danger in movement by night.
All grass will be beaten down or burned before defensive positions are prepared.

4. TRAINING.

Training will include one hour ^{the} weapon daily for all units.
Respirators will be worn in the GAS position from 1000 hrs to 1030 hrs daily.
Coy Comd will submit Training Progress Reports to this BnHQ by 1000 hrs each Monday.

5. CAMOUFLAGE.

All tents etc and defensive works will be camouflaged as soon as possible after erection or construction.

J. W. Wilson
Maj for Lt Col
Comd 43 Bn

Distribution
HQ Coy
Capt W.C. Thomas
B Coy
Area Commandant (for information)
File

*43 Bn. Operation
Instruction No. 2.
Appx. 7b.*

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

SECRET

ADELAIDE RIVER AREA OPERATION ORDER No 2

20 Apr 42

Copy No.....

Ref Map . Sketch A ADELAIDE RIVER 4 inch one mile

INFORMATION

1. It is likely that Jap tps will attempt to cut the L of C at ADELAIDE RIVER by land parties working along the DALY and/or ROPER Rivers or by using the Stapleton Cr approach
- 2 The most serious threat, however, is dive bombing and use of para tps
- 3 It may be expected that pursuit planes will take off before any direct air attack is made on the area

INTENTION

- 4 ADELAIDE RIVER AREA will be held by tps in that area
- 5 There will be NO withdrawal .All comds will conduct an aggressive defence, seeking every opportunity for vigorous attack to kill and destroy any force that may land

METHOD

- 6 Command Area Commandant , Lt Col A Baldock
 Staff 2 i/c Maj J.T.WINTON , 43 Bn
 Adjnt Capt A A DURWARD, 43 Bn Adjnt
 I.O. Capt H BADGE , 43 Bn IO
 Sig O Lieut S D TILLET , 43 Bn SO

7 Defensive localities and tps allotted -

Serial	Location	Unit	Comd
1	SIGNAL HILL 063056	Op HQ (43 Bn HQ)	Lt-Col BALDOCK
2	SNAKE CR BR	8 Div ASP	Lt MAITLAND
3	Northern end Ord & AASC lines 064055	4 Pnr Coy	Lt THOMPSON
4	Sport Oval 074055	GDD,RRD,Farm	Capt LEVITT
5	Ford-Rlwy Br over	Salvage	
-	Adel Riv	9 Army Tps Coy	Maj SLATER
6	High ground SW Adel	HQ Coy 43 Bn	Capt HENDRY
7	River 0605		
7	Aerodrome, Sq 0903	One pl 43 Bn One sec carriers 43 Bn (on MT)	Lt CARTER
8	Main Camp Site	D Coy 43 Bn	Capt Venning
9	SIGNAL HILL	One sec carrier on MT	Lt GRIMM

- 8C LMGs in the areas will be sited for ground as well as air targets
- 9 Arty will be sited for all-round fire effect, with particular reference to road approaches, Brs over ADELAIDE and SNAKE RIVERS aerodrome
- 10 Mortar dets (two mortars) are allotted under command in coy localities shown in serials 2,3, and 6 of para 7 above
- 11 MMGs will be sited for siggle gun ~~xxxx~~ direct
- 12 Occupation of Posns. On the alarm being given for ground or paratp attack , tps will move quietly to battle stations. In the event of dive bomber attack on the camp area, tps will either move to slit trenches in the defensive area under command or lay down in their immediate vicinity if trenches are some distance away
 THERE WILL BE NO RUNNING

43RD BATTALION

Adelaide River Operation Order No 2. Alpha 77.

- 13 Alerts. During periods of "alert" which will be notified to OCs, troops will continue normal duty
- 14 Aircraft. Enemy aircraft will be engaged by SAA fire if within effective range and presenting a good target
- 15 Spotters. Spotters will be appointed in each coy locality to be on the alert and give warning of paratroop or ground attack
- 16 Protective detts. One sec carrier pl (on LT) may be given either of the following tasks
 (a) Road patrol
 (b) Flank protection camp area
 according to orders from CO
- 17 Observation. Sigs, 43 Bn, will maintain observation posts at Mt CARR and STATION RANGE
- 18 Fire Precaution. All units will take immediate steps to prevent the spread of fire which may be caused by incendiary bullets. Precautions include setting up of fire extinguishers, buckets or boxes of sand in tent and hut areas, burning of fire breaks.
- 19 Patrolling. 43 Bn Hq Coy will be responsible for active patrolling of amn and petrol dump areas day and night and will send out dawn patrols to recone junctions Adelaide River 060042 and area extending from SW corner Mt Carr 07055 and ADELAIDE RIVER 05302
- 20 Special Duty. Personnel attached to
 (a) Ordnance Stores
 (b) 11 Sup Pers Coy
 (c) Bakery
 (d) B.I.P.O.D.
 (e) Power House

will be primarily responsible for the p

will be primarily responsible for the protection of their own installations: BIPOD to maintain fire fighting patrol in its area

21 Field Works. Priority of field works tasks is

- 1 Burning and/or rolling grass to provide fields of fire of at least 100 yds, improving to 200-250 yds at earliest
- 2 Slit trenches, three posts per section locality, 2ft 6 in wide, 3 ft 6 in deep, V-shape
- 3 Trip wires with sound effects

ADM

- 22 Amn. All ranks will carry 50 rds SAA
- 23 Rations. One day emergency ration to be carried by all ranks: water bottle filled
- 24 Dress. Battle order, incl steel helmet, respirator. Shirts will be worn by all ranks

INTERCOM.

- 25 Battle headquarters opens at SIGNAL HILL on "alarm"
- 25 43 Bn will make immediate arrangements for sig comm by line to coy localities and arty
- 26 Signal for Battle Stations - Power House whistle. Alternative - Siren, short blasts from Camp HQ

ACK

L. J. King Capt
 Officer in Charge Adm, Adelaide
 River Area

Signed at 2005 hrs
 Issued by DR at 2200 hrs

43RD BATTALION

Australian Military Forces—7th Military District.

Please quote this Number when replying.

--	--	--

Head-Quarters, 43 Bn
Darwin. 20 Apr 42

W. G. Thomas

43 Bn AMM INSTRUCTION NO 1.

43RD BATTALION

1. CAMP ROUTINE.

Reveille	0615 hrs
Breakfast	0730 hrs
Lunch	1300 hrs
Evening Meal	1800 hrs
Lights Out	2230 hrs

2. CAMP CLEANLINESS *etc.*

All officers will accept as their personal responsibility the necessity for keeping the Camp Area clean and tidy. Particular attention will be paid to the immediate disposal of food tins and beer bottles sold from the Canteen.

3. PERSONAL CLEANLINESS

Due to the excessive dust in the Area all ranks will bathe daily. Clothes will be washed at every opportunity and regular foot inspections will be conducted.

4. FIRE.

The proximity of PETROL and AMM DUMPS increases the danger from fire. Every precaution will be taken to see that essential fires do not get out of control. SMOKING OR STRIKING MATCHES IS FORBIDDEN IN PETROL AND AMM DUMPS.

5. SPEED LIMIT.

All drivers will be warned that the Max speed on roads in Camp or Hospital Areas is 5 MPH. Severe disciplinary action will be taken against offenders detected.

6. COLOUR PATCHES.

Unit colour patches will be ~~sewn~~ sewn to hat band and worn on the RIGHT HAND SIDE of the Hat. Bands Hat will be sewn to hat. AIF personal allotted to this Unit will wear the colour patch of this Unit but will retain and wear titles AUSTRALIA on shoulder straps.

7. SECURITY.

The practice of making copies of Operation and Admin Instructions received from higher formations will be discontinued immediately. Brief notes may be made to assist in the promulgation of the information contained therein.

J. W. Wilson
Maj for Lt Col
Comd 43 Bn.

Distribution

Hq Coy
Capt W.G. Thomas
D Coy
Area Commandant (For information)
File

*43 Bn. Admin. In-
struction No. 1. Appx. 78.*

1.0.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.

Circular No. 1

21 April 42.

43RD BATTALION

ALL UNITS
ADELAIDE RIVER.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS.

1. DRESS.

It is noted that many men in the area present an unsoldierly, untidy appearance (unshaven, trousers unbuttoned, no shirts, no socks, etc.). An immediate improvement is expected and, in this connection, a direction has been given that ALL ranks will wear shirts unless expressly excepted by an officer because of manual labor tasks. Drivers and all ranks engaged in office or admin work will wear shirts at all times.

2. OBJECT.

The object of this instruction is to provide some protection against the possible use of spray gas, to minimize effects of dirt, and chaffing by equipment.

3. RESPIRATORS.

Until further notice respirators are to be worn daily by ALL RANKS from 1000 to 1050 hrs. They will be carried at the slung position (steel helmets attached) at other times.

4. ARMS.

Arms and equipment are to be kept at hand always. It is emphasized that working parties must be given protection against air attack which may come without warning.

5. DISCIPLINE.

There is a tendency for troops in camp to adopt a "back area" attitude. There is no "front" and it is important that battle area discipline be maintained in the L. of C. camp area.

A high standard can be maintained by insistence on clean and correct turnout, regular inspection of arms, short drill periods for "smartening", by giving the men a complete picture of the part they play in the defence of the area and operations. Generally, watch the welfare of your men: avoid unnecessary fatigues but do see that parties detailed turn up on time properly equipped for the task and that they work diligently.

6. CENSORSHIP.

Units not holding a censorship stamp will deposit outward mail matter in Camp H.Q. Office. It must be franked first by an officer.

Money will not be accepted for stamps or registrations. Articles for registration will be handed in separately to the Orderly Room Clerk who will list them on a proformer. The sender's name and address will be inscribed on the back of the envelope. Official receipts for registered letters etc. will be forwarded through units.

7. PASSING ON INFORMATION.

A serious view is taken of the fact that officers and men, and C.O.'s are not passing on orders. Examples are the failure of men to obey orders about the wearing of shirts and respirators.

.....LT. COL.
AREA COMMANDANT,
ADELAIDE RIVER.

*Adelaide River Admin
Matters. v. p. 79.*

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

43 Bn. (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels	1		
Majors	2		1
Captains	9		4
Lieutenants	24 (includes 2 A.I.C.)		2
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals	36		7

*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
S22689	LIEUT MARTIN AL	43 Bn	17/1/42	TRANS. TO DWARF. KESWICK
S22983	LIEUT URWIN JR	"	17/1/42	MEDICALLY UNFIT FOR SERVICE 7 MD. do.

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

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

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
LIEUT	S.P. 42161	O'CONNOR, C.C.	A.I.C.	YES	
LIEUT	S.P. 6449	FRITH, H.G.	"	"	
LIEUT	Sx 12348	JOHNSTON, W.A.H.	43 Bn	"	
LIEUT	Sx 13363	DEIFFER, M.R.	"	"	
LIEUT	Sx 13736	HORTON, M.B.	"	"	
LIEUT	S 15285	TILLET, S.D.	"	"	
MAT. LT. COL.	S 19652	BALDWIN, A.	"	"	
LIEUT. CAPT.	S22652	M'EWEN, H.F.	"	"	
LIEUT	S22665	WEST, A.B.	"	"	
LIEUT	S22669	THOMAS, C.F.	"	"	
LIEUT. CAPT.	S22706	BOWEN, V.H.	"	"	
LIEUT	S22720	BURFITT, N.K.	"	"	
LIEUT. CAPT.	S22724	BADGE, J.H.	"	"	
LIEUT	S22728	CARTER, F.H.	"	"	
LIEUT. CAPT.	S22756	DURWARD, H.A.	"	"	
LIEUT	S22770	FURNER, G.R.	"	"	
LIEUT	S22823	JAMES, A.C.	"	"	
LIEUT	S22825	KENNEDY, W.J.	"	"	
LIEUT	S22859	MEADE, J.J.	"	"	
LIEUT	S22888	PRICKER, A.W.	"	"	
LIEUT	S22890	ROBERTS, S.P.A.	"	"	
LIEUT	S22930	TROTT, J.L.	"	"	
CAPT. MAT.	S22961	DAVIES, B.G.	"	"	
LIEUT. MAT.	S22965	WINTON, J.T.	"	"	
LIEUT	S22976	MARSHALL, S.R.	"	"	
LIEUT. CAPT.	S22979	TAMBLIN, A.A.	"	"	
LIEUT. CAPT.	S22984	VENNING, D.J.	"	"	
LIEUT	S22987	BRISON, W.C.	"	"	
LIEUT	S23266	WILLSON, L.B.	"	"	
LIEUT	S23446	RUSSACK, E.K.	"	"	
LIEUT	S23546	FROST, H.H.	"	"	
LIEUT	S23548	GRIMM, N.L.	"	NO	X LIST B.
LIEUT. CAPT.	S23743	DATERSON, G.C.	"	NO	DETACHED FOR DUTY.
LIEUT	S23744	SHAUGHNESSY, F.E.	"	YES	
LIEUT. CAPT.	S23745	THOMAS, W.C.	"	YES	
LIEUT. CAPT.	S23837	HENDRY (M.M.), J.G.	"	"	

43RD BATTALION

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
PADRE	S3133	FARMER, S.H.	H.A.C.D.	15/12/41	PADRE.
CAPT.	S38123	HILL, J.S.T.	A.A.M.C.	29/1/42	R.M.O.

43 Bn

(Unit.)

24/4/42

(Date of Despatch.)

(Signature of Commander.)

23 Aust Inf Bde.

(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

7d. Return of Officers & Other Ranks. Appx 80.

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

43 Br. (Unit) 24/4/1942 (Date).

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

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1 Detail.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1		1
W.Os. Class II.	4		4
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants	5		1
Staff Serjeants	1		
Serjeants	40		10
Corporals	98	4 (R.M. L.M.G.)	3
Troopers, Privates, &c.	858	61	94
TOTALS	1007	* 65	* 113

43RD BATTALION

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

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
W.O. J. H. Jackson	A.I.B.	R. I. A.	
W.O. J. W. Mackay	A.I.B.	R. Q. No. 1.	

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

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

43 Bn

Unit.

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

Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)
Ammunition Examiners			Fire Control Operators			Panel Beaters		
Armament Artificers			Fitters			Pattern Makers		
Armourers			Fitters and Turners			Pharmacists		
Artificers, Artillery			Fitters, Cycle			Photographers, dry plate		
Axemen			Fitters, Drivers			Photographers, wet plate		
Bakers			Fitter's Mates			Photo-Writers		
Battery Surveyors			Fitters, M.V.			Plate Layers		
Battery Comdrs. Asst.			Fitters, Railway Signal			Plumbers		
Blacksmiths		1	Fitters, Signal			Predictor Numbers		
Boilermakers			Grinders			Printers		
Bricklayers		1	Gun Layers			Radiator Mechanics		
Butchers			G.P.O. Assistants			Radiographers		
Camouflage Modeller			Gun Operators			Range Takers		7
Carpenter and Joiner		3	Hammermen			Riggers		
Clerks		1	Height Takers			Riveters		
Clerks, Engineering			Helio Operators			Saddlers		
Clerks, Supply			Instrument Mechanics			Saddle Tree Makers		
Clerks, Technical			Instrument Mechanics, Surgical			Saw Doctors		
Coachmakers			Instrument Operators			Sawyers		
Computers			Intelligence Duties		1	Shoemakers		
Concretors			Joiners			Signallers		
Cooks	1		Leather Stitchers			Signwriters		
Cooks, Hospital			Linesmen			Stokers, Stationary Engine		
Coppersmiths			Linesmen, Signals			Storemen, Technical		3
Dental Clerk Orderlies			Lithographers			Surveyors		
Despatch Riders			Machinists			Surveyors, Engineering		
Dispensers			Masons			Tailors		1
Draughtsmen			Masseurs			Telescope Identification Numbers		
Draughtsmen, Architectural			Mechanics, Dental			Textile Refitters		
Draughtsmen, Mechanical			Mechanics, M.T.		1	Tinsmiths		
Draughtsmen, Signal			Mechanics, Typewriter			Toolmakers		
Draughtsmen, Topographical			Mechanics, Wireless			Turners		
Driver Mechanics		20	Millwrights			Vulcanizers		
Driver Operators			Miners			Wagon Erectors		
Drivers, Transportation Plant			Moulders			Watchmakers		
Electrical Fitters			Nursing Orderlies			Watermen		
Electricians			Nursing Orderlies (Mental)			Welders		
Electricians, Eng. Units			Nurses, Trained			Well Borers		
Electricians, Signal			Observation Post Assistants			Wheelers		
Engine Artificers			Operating Room Assistants			Whitesmiths		
Engine Hands I/C			Operators, Signal			Wiremen		
Equipment Repairers		1	Opticians			Woodturners		
Farriers			Painters			LMG & Riflemen	60	54
Totals (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)		27			29			11 011

43RD BATTALION

Notes—(a) If rank other than Private is involved give details on back.
(b) Authorised Trades or Specialists not included in list above will be added as required in spaces provided.

43 Bn

Unit.

Date of Despatch 24/4/42

[Signature]
Signature of Commander.

23 Aust Inf Bde
Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.

AMENDED PART A. 43 Bn.

24/4/42.

1	2	3	4	5	6
DETAILS.	W/E	STRENGTH EXCL ATT & X LIST	SURPLUS	DEFICIENCY	REMARKS.
W. O. I	2	1		1	
W. O. II	8	4		4	
G. Q. M. S.	6	5		1	
S/Sjts.	1	1		-	
Sjts.	50	40		10	
Cpl.s	94	98	4	3	
Gp. I	3	1		2	
Gp. II	63	59	1	5	
Gp. III	51	18		33	
Ptes.	759	780	60	54	
TOTALS.	1037	1007	65	113	

*Capt. Baag
(war diary?)*

DETAILS.	1021	1001	62	112	
WFE	120 21 63 20 5 8	180 18 20 7 28 10 7 2 1	60 7 1 1	21 22 22 22 19 1 1 1	
ATT & X LIST					
STRENGTH EXCL					
SURPLUS					
DEFICIENCY					
REMARKS.					

STRENGTH.

REMARKS.