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

Item number: 8/3/31

2/31 Infantry Battalion
October 1943

LT-COL. E. M. ROBSON Commanding

Unit 2/31 Aust Inf Bn.

Date and Time. -From 1 October 1943 To 1 October 1943.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
JMI RIVER	1 0ct	0800	Commanding Officer's conference - Orders. Companies to	Composite map
		SEA 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	widen perimeter. Standing patrols to be posted, dig in.	taken and areas occupied by the
			All personnel, (not mote than 50% to be away from companies	month of October.
			at the one time) to have an opportunity to bathe before 1200	
			hours.	
		1530	Commanding Officer's orders - All standing patrols to be	
			recalled 1815 hours. Sentries one per section from 1815 hours	
			to reveille 0600 hours. Fires permitted. Move unlikely today	
		1610	Order from Brigade. Battalion to prepare to move immediate	у.
			Order of march. Recce Group, O Group, B, D, A, C Companies,	LIVE A CONTRACT OF THE PARTY OF
			BHQ and HQ company.	
		1655	Battalion leaves Bivouac area 763926 AMARI 1" to one mile,	
	1 安徽建立		and crosses UMI RIVER.	
SAGERAK		1750	Battalion arrives and takes up position in rear of 2/33	

By Authority: L. F. Johnston, Commonwealth Government Printer, Canberra.

(Erase heading not required.)

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. M. ROBSON Commanding

Unit 2/31 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time. -From 1 October 1943 To 1 October 1943.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SAGERAK		1750	Australian Infantry Battalion. Reference 748945 AMARI one	
			inch to one mile.	Appendix "A"
			Heavy gear being ferried across UMI RIVER, and brought forward	
			to dump area 748945 AMARI one inch to one mile.	
		1810	Commanding Officer to Brigade. Orders - Brigade to move	
			0530/2 en route for MARAWASSA. Order of march 2/33 Australian	
			Infantry Battalion; 2/31 Australian Infantry Battalion: 2/25	
			Australian Infantry Brigade.	
		1910	Commanding Officer's conference. Orders - Reveille 0400 hours.	
			Battalion to move off 0540 hours. Order of march B Company	
			Recce Group, one platoon D Company, O Group, two platoons D	
			Company, A, C, BHQ, HQ company, one section of mortars, and	
			one section MMGs, move in position to be able to support B	
			Company.	

By Authority: L. F. Johnston, Commonwealth Government Printer, Canberra.

Army Form C. 2118. (adapted.)

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. M. ROBSON Commanding

(Erase heading not required.)

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry Bat Date in Time. - From 2 October 1943 To 2 October 1943.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
	2 0ct	0540	Battalion moves off in following order B company, Recce group	
			one platoon D, O Group, two platoons D company, A, C, BHQ and	
			HQ company.	
MARAWASSA		1130	Battalion arrives area 638020 AMARI one inch tokone mile,	
			and goes into bivouac area and awaits orders.	Appendix "B"
		1730	Brigadier's orders - Intention of Brigade to concentrate in	
			the SAC SAC area.	
		1830	Commanding Officer's orders - Battalion will move to area	
			SAC SAC. Start time 0630/3. Order of march D company, Recce	
			group, one platoon A, O Group, two platoons A, C, B, HQ, BHQ.	
			Reveille 0500 hours.	
MORESBY	2 0ct		Second weekly lecture by Brigade Educational Serjeant on War	
			operations on all theatres of War during the week. Two "X"	
			list personnel joined the LOB Group.	

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. M. ROBSON DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. (Erase heading not required.)

Commanding

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry Battalion of Time.—From 3 October 1943 To 4 October 1943.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
	3 Oct	0500	Reveille.	
		0630	Battalion moves off in the following order. D company, Recce	
			group, one plateon A company, O group, two plateons A company,	
			C, B, HQ and BHQ.	
		1145	LIEUTENANT-GENERAL VASEY meets Battalion.	
SAC SAC		1245	Battalion arrives bivouac area - reference 499094 FININTEGU	
			one inch to one mile. Battalion commenced their five day hard	
			rations at breakfast today.	appendix "C"
		1925	Commanding Officer's instructions - No move tomorrow 4 October.	
			Reveille 0700 hours. All watches put forward one hour as from	
			1725 hours.	
MORESBY			Daylight saving commenced. Watches put forward one hour at	
			0200 hours. Church Parade. One "X" list personnel joined LOB (Froup.
SAC SAC	4 Oct	0700	Reiveille.	

Army Form C. 2118. (adapted.)

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. M. ROBSON

Commanding

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry BattDdie and Time. - From 4 October 1943. To 4 October 1943.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information. Remarks and references Appendices, Diaries,
	4 0ct	1400	Commanding Officer to Brigade for orders.
		1630	Commanding Officer's conference - Orders. Intention of Brigade
			to concentrate in the BUM BUM area. Order of march 2/33
			Australian Infantry Battalion, 2/31 Australian Infantry Battalion.
			2/25 Australian Infantry Battalion.
and and		13/45	Battalion will move at 0700 hours via main track to BUM BUm.
			Order of march A, Recce Group, BHQ, O Group, B, C, D, HQ companies
			less Pioneer Platoon, R.A.P.
		14.935	Our role on arrival will be to patrol north of the GUSAP RIVER.
			D company - On arrival LIEUTENANT McCOY will report to Commanding
			Officer for orders regarding platoon patrol (18 Platoon) to
The Residence of the last			investigate a dump which is reported to exist in the vicinity
			of 860410 DUMPU one inch to one mile.
	1 1 1 6	2130	Change in orders. Battalion now to move to KAIGULAN. Platoon

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. M. ROBSON Commanding

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry Bathalion Time.-From 4 October 1943. To 5 October 1943.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
	4 0ct	2130	patrol by D company now cancelled.	
	5 0ct	0530	Reveille.	
		0700	Battalion moves. Order of march A, Recce Group, BHQ, O Group	
			B. C. D. HQ Companies less Pioneer Platoon, R.A.P.	
KAIGULAN		1252	Battalion moved into bivouac area along the line of the WARRI	S
			RIVER reference 794416 DUMPU one inch to one mile.	Appendix "D"
		1430	D company to move out on a fightingpatrol, to move to WAMPUM -	
			one platoon to move along track to KORAN and destroy any enemy	
			in that area. Section patrol to move out from WAMPUN in vario	us
			directions, particularly on high ground. Company to return by	
			last light if possible.	
			C company. 13 Platoon under WO IX MacDowell to move on a reco	е
			patrol to NAMAPUT and search the area within one thousand yard	s
			radius of the village.	

By Authority: L. F. Johnston, Commonwealth Government Printer, Canberra.

6.

Commanding

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry Bat Date and Time. - From 5 October 1943 To 6 October 1943.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
	5 0ct	1430	All companies to place standing patrols on company fronts	
	1 5 1 5 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		(five hundred yards) to be withdrawn at standto.	
		1925	C Company recce patrol returns.	Appendix "E"
		2115	D Company patrol reported in.	Appendix "F"
THE ROLL OF THE PARTY OF THE PA	6 Oct	0545	Standto.	
			Battalion to remain in area.	
		0630	A company's fighting patrol under CAPTAIN RYLANDS moves out.	
			Patrol to move to WAMPUN thence to KORAN - obtain information	
			regarding enemy, and destroy all enemy sighted.	
		1430	Commanding Officer to Brigade for orders.	
		1850	Commanding Officer's conference - Orders. Brigade role, defen	ce
			of L of C area, GUSAP to SULAMAI RIVERS. Battalion to remain	
			in present position.	
			A company's patrol reported approximately company of Japs in	

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LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. M. ROBSON Commanding

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry Batt Date and Time. - From 6 October 1943 To 6 October 1943.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.	***************************************
			position area 773506 DUMPU one inch to one mile. Requests su	pport.	-
			B and C companies, two platoon and two detachments of mortars		
			to move at 0600/7 and give support. Order of march C, Recce		
			Group and Signal Detail, two and three platoons, B Company,		
			R.A.P, Brigade Cable laying party. Five jeeps carrying ammun	ition	P 37
			and support weapons.		
			ROUTE - to WAMPUN, to KORAN, then as guided.		1 S.
			ADMINISTRATION - Dress, belt, bayonet, shovel, machete, water		
			bottle on sling.		
			Ammunition - One hundred rounds per man in bandoliers, two		
			grenades per man, Brens eight mags. Mortars three inch, eigh	ty	
			bombs per mortar. MMGs . rounds per gun.		
			RATIONS - one emergency only to be carried.		
			COMMUNICATION - Line direct to Brigade.		- 6

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LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E.M. ROBSON Commanding

(Erase heading not required.)

Unit2/31 Australian Infantry Batt Date and Time. - From 6 October 1943 To 7 October 1943.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
		2100	Message from CAPTAIN RYLANDS - Enemy contacted at reference	
			DUMPU one inch to one mile 773506. Enemy in well prepared	
			defensive position with numerous outposts situated on high group	ind.
			We attacked at last light and took an outpost position. Own	
	The state of the s		casualties one killed. Enemy unknown. Requests one thousands	
			rounds .303, and has sent back guides.	
		2130	Three guides sent back by CAPTAIN RYLANDS arrive.	
MORESBY	6 Oct		Shoot on rifle range for all personnel in LOB Area.	
KAIGULAN	7 0ct	0430	Reveille for B and C companies, and MMG and Mortar platoons.	
		0545	Remainder of Battalion standto.	
		0600	B and C companies with Mortar and MMG detachments move out.	
		0920	Guides from A company met support group at 766490 DUMPU one	
			inch to one mile advising that enemy had evacuated position,	
			and could not be located. Move continued.	

Army Form C. 2118. (adapted.)

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E.M. ROBSON

Commanding

Unit2/31 Australian Infantry Batt Date and Time. - From 7 October 1943 To 8 October 1943.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c
KAIGULAN	7 0ct	1010	Recce Group met by LIEUTENANT LEWINGTON at 765497 DUMPU	
			one inch to one mile. Companies and support platoons were	
			told to sit down. Recce group moved forward to contact Office	r
			Commanding A Company CAPTAIN RYLANDS, who confirmed guide's	
			message that enemy had withdrawn.	
		1030	Battalion dispositions on WARRIS RIVER altered to give	
			perimeter defence.	Appendix "G"
		1245	A, B, C companies and support groups, with exception of one	
			platoon A, commenced to move back to bivouac area.	
		1530	Main body arrives bivouac area.	
		2000	Platoon patrol A company returns.	Appendix "H"
MORESBY			One "X" list personnel and one reinforcement marched in.	
KAIGULAN	8 0ct	0630	Patrol of platoon strength (16 Platoon) under LIEUTENANT SA	WYER
			moves out.	

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. M. ROBSON WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. (Erase heading not required.)

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry Battalion Time. - From 8 October 1943 To 10 October 1943.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
KAIGULAN	8 Oct	1715	Patrol returns bivouac area.	Appendix "I"
	9 0ct	0630	Two patrols each of platoon strength move out.	
		1500	Ten platoon under LIEUTENANT McMAUGH returns.	Appendix "J"
		1700	Twelve Platoon under LIEUTENANT ROBINSON returns.	Appendix "K"
MORESBY	9 0ct		LIEUTENANT DE DAUNTON marched in from "X" list.	
			Third weekly lecture by Educational Serjeant.	
KAIGULAN	10 Oct	0630	C Company patrol of thiry four other ranks under LIEUTENANT	
			ROBERTSON moves out.	
		0900	Church Parade.	
		0930	Battalion advised that it is to hold itself in readiness to	
			move in support of 2/33 Australian Infantry Battalion who had	
			moved forward to engage enemy on Jap track to GURUMBU, or to	
			KESAWAI. The former depending mainly on the size of the Jap	
			force to be engaged.	

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LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. M. ROBSON

Commanding

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry Bathate and Time. - From 10 October 1943 To 12 October 1943.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
KAIGULAN		1500	C Company's patrol returns.	Appendix "L"
MORESBY	10 Oct		Seventeen "X" list personnel emplaned for Forward Area.	
			Church Parade.	
KAIGULAN	11 Oct	0700	Patrol from A Company (Sight platoon under LIEUTENANT GOULD)	noveout.
		1300	Four personnel moved to Brigade as part of Brigade recce party	,
			to move to KESAWAI and recce tracks to DAUMOINA.	
		1430	Eight platoon patrol returns.	Appendix "M".
MORESBY	11 Oct		Route march to beach and swimming parade for personnel LOB Gro	up.
KAIGULAN	12 0ct	0630	Patrol from D company (18 Platoon under LIEUTENANT McCOY) move	dout.
		0900	Commanding Officer to Brigade for orders.	
		1330	Commanding Officer's orders - Battalion to move at 1830 hours	to
			SULAMAI RIVER via WAMPUN and KORAN, thence to position occupie	d
			by 2/33 Australian Infantry Battalion, which we are to relieve	
			Order of march A, one platoon C, Recce Group, two platoon C,	

Army Form C. 2118. (adapted.)

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. M. ROBSON

(Erase heading not required.)

Commanding

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry BattDate and Time. - From 12 October 1943 To 13 October 1943.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
The state of the s			D, B, HQ, BHQ and B echelon.	
		1830	Battalion moves off in order as above.	
MORESBY	12 Oct		One "X" List marched in LOB Group.	
SULAMAI	13 Oct	0130	Arrive SULAMAI RIVER and bivouac reference DUMPU one inch to	
			one mile. Square 7551. Note: Heavy rain during march and	
			nature of country reason for slow progress.	Appendix "N"
		0545	Standto.	
		0730	Battalion continues move in following order - Route - up	
			SULAMAI RIVER to bridge at fork reference DUMPU one inch to	
			one mile 771526 thence along Jap track to 2/33 Australian	
			Infantry Battalion's positions in square.	
SQUARE 7755		1333	After a climb of three thousand feet reached position held by	
to one mile			2/33 Australian Infantry Battalion. The track followed, owing	3
			to rain and the movement of large number of troops, very muddy	

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E M. ROBSON Commanding

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry Bat Date and Time. - From 13 October 1943To 13 October 1943.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SQUARE 7755 DUMPU one inch		1400	Commanding Officer's orders - After appreciation of the situa-	ion -
to one mile			A and C Companies to move out and endeavour to reach high gro	und
			www west of enemy's position. This high ground dominated the	enemy's
The second secon			position and was covered with rain forest, as were also the	
			approaches to it, while the position occupied by the enemy	
			was located on three burnt kunai features forming a long spur	
			from the higher rain forest feature.	Appendix "9"
			If possible these two companies to wakk cut line of Jap withda	awal
			(thought to be along northern slope of kunai spur, thence mort	hwest
			through rain forest at foot of high kunai feature - later prov	red
			correct).	
		1500	Eighteen platoon patrol which had not returned when Battalion	
			left WARRIS RIVER area reaches Battalion.	Appendix "P"
		1615	A and C companies move out.	

15.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. M. ROBSON

(Erase heading not required.)

Commanding

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry BatDate and Time. - From 13 October 1943To 14 October 1943.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SQUARE 7755 DUMPU one inch	13 Oct		Arrangements made with LIEUTENANT-COLONEL COTTON for the	
to one mile			relief of two forward companies of 02/33 Australian Infantry	
			Battalion to commence at 1900 hours.	
		2000	Commanding Officer's orders - To MAJOR HALL, harassing fire	
			programme, with two three inch mortars and MMG to be arranged	
			and carried out between 2300/13 and 0400/14.	
		2048	Battalion in position, relief completed.	
			Advice from Brigade by W/T enemy position to be dive bombed and	
			straffed A.M 14.	
	13/13 Oct	2300 to	Harassing fire at half hourly intervals, belts and bombs being	
			expended. This fire was answered by enemy MMG fire on each	
			occasion up till 0300 hours.	
	14 Oct	0545	Stand to.	
		0615	Eleven platoon patrol sent south into narrow strip of rain	

Army Form C. 2118. (adapted.)

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. M. ROBSON Commanding

(Erase heading not required.)

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry Bat Date and Time. - From 14 October 1943 To 14 October 1943.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SQUARE 7755 DUMPU one inch	14 Oct		forest EAST and below enemy position, to endeavour to draw	
to one mile			enemy fire - no fire forthcoming from enemy.	
		0630	Platoon patrol from D company move WEST along track towards	
		3 - 13	Jap position.	
		0648 to 0635	Mortars and MMG fire on enemy positions.	
		0700	Reports from B and D companies indicate that enemy has evacuat	ed
			positions - no movement, no fire.	
		0705	Advice received from Brigade - Dive bombing of enemy positions	
			arranged for 1000 hours.	
		0722	Still no movement or fire from enemy position - Commanding	
			Officer orders B company to send out a platoon patrol to	
			seize easternmost feature occupied by enemy. If successful	
			push on up spur to main Jap position. Other platoons to	
			arrange covering fire.	

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. M. ROBSON Commanding

(Erase heading not required.)

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry BathalianTime.-From 14 October1943 To 14 October 1943.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SQUARE 7755 DUMPU one inch	14 Oct	0725	Eleven plate on under LIEUTENANT ROBINSON moves out.	
to one mile		0730	D company patrol reports having moved three hundred yards along	
			track towards Jap position. N.M.S.	
		0930	Dive bombing programme cancelled.	
		0940	No word received from eleven platoon patrol, no fire heard from	
			enemy position.	
			As enemy position was no more than eight hundred yards direct	
			from our forward companies and eleven platoon patrol had been	
			out for two hours without reporting, Commanding Officer decided	
			to push platoon patrol under LIEUTENANT O'DONNELL straight up	
			on to enemy position, and advised patrol which was already	
			three hundred yards along track, to move forward immediately.	
		0955	D Company reports enemy positions evacuated - ordered to push	
			forward to main position and send patrol twenty minutes down Jap	track.

By Authority: L. F. Johnston, Commonwealth Government Printer, Canberra.

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LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. M. ROBSON

(Erase heading not required.)

Commanding

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry BattDate and Time. - From 14 October 1943 To 14 October 1943

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information. Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SQUARE 7755	14 Oct	1010	A and C companies ordered to return to battalion area, as
to one mile			D company's patrol now reports no enemy in area he had previously
			occupied in strength. Also reported that no Jap casualties
			or equipment were sighted; positions well dug in, and sufficient
			to accomadate two companies; indications of orderly withdrawal.
			Remainder of battalion to move forward in following order -
			D Company, Recce Group, B Company, HQ Company, BHQ, and A and
			C Companies to follow on on their return.
		1200	Bn arrives at position two thousand yards forward along Jap
145			track, general direction N.W - awaits A and C companies.
		1315	A and C company patrols overtake remainder Battalion.
			See report Appendix "Q"
		1330	Battalion moves forward along Jap track, general direction N.W
ne inch to one n		1610	Bn arrives bivouac position, and takes up position astride track. Appendix "R"

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. M. ROBSON

Commanding

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry Babate and Time. - From 14 October 1943To 15 October 1943

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SQUARE 7657 Dumpu one inch	14 Oct	1730	Orders from Brigade - Battalion less one company to remain	
to one mile			in present position. One company to patrol forward along track	k,
			communications by line (to be laid).	
		1800	Commanding Officer's orders - B company to move 0700/15 and	
			patrol along Jap track.	
MORESBY	14 Oct		Three "X" list personnel marched in to LOB Group.	
SQUARE 7657	15 Oct	0545	Stand to.	
to one mile.		0700	B company's patrol moves out, general direction of track	
			NORTH WEST.	
		0755	B company reports track well graded but muddy. Has reached	
			Jap bivouac position.	
		0815	B company reports killing one Jap.	
		0855	B company investigates side track leading to two huts. One	
			Jap killed. Now two miles from battalion.	

Army Form C. 2118. (adapted.)

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. M. ROBSON Commanding (Erase heading not required.)

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry Ba Datel and Time. - From 15 October 1943T.o. 15 October 1943.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information. Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &co.	
SQUARE 7657 DUMPU one inch	15 Oct	0900	Brigade orders - Battalion will move forward and secure ground	
to one mile			covered by B company at 1600 hours/15 by 1000/16.	
		0950	F.O.O. CAPTAIN BRISTOL F troop 54 Battery arrives at battalion.	
		1055	B company reports track rising and getting steadily worse,	
			general direction NORTH to NORTH EAST. Have now worked round	
			from EAST, to WESTERN slopes of high feature.	
		1100	Commanding Officer's orders - Battalion to move at 1130 hours.	
			Order of march D company, R group, A, C, BHQ, HQ. Halting	
			every twenty minutes and teeing into line laid by B company.	
		1330	B company reports track as splitting three ways with barricade	
			across centre track.	
			Commanding Officer instructs B company to take up defensive	
			position and investigate tracks. See report Appendix "S"	
GURUMBA SQUARE 7561 DUMPU		1400	Battalion arrives position occupied by B company and moves	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. M. ROBSON (Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118. (adapted.)

Commanding

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry Bathalind Time. - From 15 October 1943. To 16 October 1943.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GURUMBU SQUARE 7561	15 Oct	1400	into defensive position for the night.	
Dumpu one inc	h		Sight seems to have been large Jap dump. Reference DUMPU	
			Square 7561.	Appendix "T"
		2145	One Japa killed crawling along track towards C company's	
			position. Later discovered he was carrying six pounds of gun	
			cotton with fuse attached.	
MORESBY	15 Oct		Six "X" list personnel marched into LOB Group.	
GURUMBU SQUARE 7561	16 Oct	0545	Stand to.	
inch to one n	ile	0700	Two patrols from D company each of platoon strength, and one	
			from B company move out.	
			D company's patrol under LIEUTENANT O'DONNELL to move along	
			main track.	
			D company's patrol under LIEUTENANT SAWYER move out NORTH EAST	
			track through B company's position.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. M. ROBSON Commanding

(Erase heading not required.)

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry Babateland Time. - From 16 October 1943 To 16 October 1943

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GURUMBU SQUARE 7561	16 Oct	0700	B company's patrol to move WEST along track to assure extent	
DUMPU one inch to one mile			of track.	
		0800	O'DONNELL'S patrol reports freshly dug grave three quarters o	frakent bound.
			a mile forward of battalion.	
		1025	O'DONNELL'S patrol reports reaching a number of creeks believ	ed
			to be headwaters of URIA RIVER. Japs had bivouaced here over	night.
		1130	Same patrol reports another Jap bivouac area, and small Jap	
			ammunition dump. Have reached spot where track forks. One	
			leading NORTH NORTH WEST, the other NORTH NORTH EAST.	
		1200	D company's patrol under LIEUTENANT SAWYER returns.	
		1215	Patrol of section strength under LIEUTENANT McMAUGH moves	
			west down track to recce route down east bank of URIA RIVER.	
		1240	D company's patrol ordered to return.	
		1400	B company's patrol returns. Reports track following creek	

(Erase heading not required.)

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. M. ROBSON Commanding

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry Bat Date and Time. - From 16 October 1943To 17 October 1943

Remarks and references to Summary of Events and Information. Place. Date. Hour. Appendices, Diaries, &c. GURUMBU 16 Oct to EAST bank URIA RIVER to vicinity KUMBARUM. 1400 SQUARE 7561 DUMPU one inch 1620 LIEUTENANT O'DONNELL'S patrol returns. See report Appendix "U" to one mile 1650 LIEUTENANT SAWYER'S patrol returns. See report Appendix "V" Orders from Brigade - Battalion to remain in area 743617 -1722 block Jap track - patrol to contact 2/16 Australian Infantry Battalion - recce probable route back, via KUMBARUM, down URIA RIVER. Commanding Officer's orders - C company patrol to move along 1830 main Jap track, contact 2/16 Austtralian Infantry Battalion and ascertain our position. One platoon A company to move along track then west; contact 2/16 Australian Infantry Battalion and ascertain our position. One section HQ coy to patrol SOUTH WEST to KUMBARUM, and ascertain what troops are in this area. Ccompany's patrol under CAPTAIN MCKENZIE move out along main 17 Oct 0700

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Army Form C. 2118. (adapted.)

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. M. ROBSON Commanding

(Erase heading not required.)

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry Bat Date and Time. - From 17 October 1943.To 17 October 1943

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
QUARE 7561	17 Oct	0.700	Jap track.	
UMPU one inch o one mile		0730	One platoon A company under LIEUTENANT SUTHERLAND move out.	
			One section under MAJOR HALL move out along SOUTH WEST track.	phus.calogeder
		1200	Wireless communication with MAJOR HALL'S patrol unsatisfactory	
			owing to jungle.	
		1455	Word received from MAJOR HALL through Brigade, stating that he	
			had contacted 2/14 Australian Infantry Battalion at bridge	
			709570 DUMPU one inch to one mile at 1330 hours. Reports that	
			track followed is very rough and difficult, and that he does not	
			expect to reach Battalion before nightfall.	
		1800	MAJOR HALL'S patrol arrives back. Reports having killed one Jap	
			and places battalion in square 7563, instead of position previous	sly
			thought.	
		1905	Brigade orders - Battalion to move to DUMPU area not later than	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. M. ROBSON Commanding

(Erase heading not required.)

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry BatDate and Time. - From 17 October 1943 To 18 October 1943.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
URUMBU Square 7561 DUMPU one inch to	17 Oct	- 477	early morning 19 October. Route via URIA RIVER.	
one mile.		1910	Report from McKENZIE'S patrol arrived with three malaria cases	
			who returned from patrol.	
		44 6	No report SUTHERLAND'S patrol.	
MORESBY	17 OCT		Four "X" list personnel marched into LOB Group. Church Parade.	
GURUMBU SQUARE 7561	18 Oct	0820	Orders from Brigade - Battalion less patrols and elements	
DUMPU one inch to one mile			required to clear area of stores, to move to battalion bivouac	
			area in square 7051 DUMPU one inch to one mile by quickest route	
			One platoon to remain as protection along track to SULAMAI	
			for personnel and natives clearing stores.	
		0840	Commanding Officer's orders - Battalion less C company and two	
			platoons A company and B Echelon will move at 0930 hours. One	
			platoon under LIEUTENANT GOULD to remain as protection. Order	
			of march - one platoon A company, Recce Group, D Company, B comp	any

Army Form C. 2118. (adapted.)

LIEUTENANT-GOLONEL E. M. ROBSON

(Erase heading not required.)

Commanding

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry Bathate and Time. - From 18 October 19470 19 October 1943.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GURUMBU SQUARE 7561	18 Oct	0840	HQ company. Route - to river fork 743612 DUMPU one inch to	
DUMPU one inch one mile	to		one mile, then URIA RIVER to bivouac area.	
		0930	Battalion moves off.	
		1300	Arrives river fork 743612 DUMPU one inch to one mile.	
KUMBARUM		1700	Arrives bivouac area 705560 DUMPU one inch to one mile.	Appendix "W"
	Bank and		Going had been very rough throughout day. URIA RIVER had to	
			be crossed and re-crossed numerous times. Some equipment lost	
			owing to strength and depth of river.	
		1800	Orders from Brigade - Battalion less elements mentioned above	
			to bivouac square 7056 and move to square 6257, where defensive	
			position to be taken up.	
MORESBY	18 Oct		LIEUTENANT WEBB marched in to LOB Group.	
KUMBARUM	19 Oct	0630	Commanding Officer's orders - Battalion to move at 0800 hours	
			to area 6257 - order of march HQ company, R Group, BHQ, D	

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Army Form C. 2118. (adapted.)

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. M. ROBSON Commanding (Erase heading not required.)

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry Batate and Time. - From 19 October 1943To 20 October 1943.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
KUMBARUM	19 Oct	0630	company, B company, A company less two platoons, C company and	
			one platoon (LIEUTENANT SUTHERLANDS) wich are to follow same	
			route as taken by battalion down URIA RIVER, to follow on	
			after arrival at 7056.	
			One platoon A company under LIEUTENANT GOULD is to move with B	
			echelon back to SULAMAI RIVER thence forward to square 6257.	
MOSIA RIVER AREA		1430	Arrive square 6257, and companies move into respective areas.	Appendix "X"
		1500	Mail including parcels arrive. Most welcome.	
			Advice received from Brigade that C company and one platoon	
			A company are moving down URIA RIVER, having bivouaced in	
			Battalion position Square 7563.	
			Seventeen "X" list personnel marched in from LOB Group.	
MORESBY	19 Oct		LIEUTENANT HAMILTON and two other ranks marched in to LOB Grou	p.
MOSIA RIVER ARE	A 20 Oct	0545	Stand to.	

Army Form C. 2118. (adapted.)

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. M. ROBSON Commanding (Erase heading not required.)

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry BaDateland Time. - From 20 October 1943

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MOSIA RIVER A	REA 20 Oct	1230	C company and one platoon A company march in from bivouac area	
			7056. See C company report	Appendix "Y"
			See A company report	Appendix "Z"
			General improvement to area.	
	21 Oct	1200	Orders from Brigade - Two companies to move to FARIA RIVER and	
			construct an M.D.S - Brigade role; responsible for area north	
			of RAMU RIVER and bounded by DUMPU one inch to one mile 62554	6
			to 640636 to MT KUBARI one inch to one mile 671673, along lin	е
			of and including YOKOPI track, to MT KUBARK one inch to one mi	le,
			585677, thence to URIGINA one inch to one mile 507651 to MT 07	TO
			one inch to one mile 499638.	
			General improvement of camp area. Construction of native huts	
			Issuing of shortages of equipment and clothing.	
		1830	Commanding Officer's orders - HQ and D companies to move to FA	RIA RIVER

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. M. ROBSON

(Erase heading not required.)

Commanding

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry Battodiand Time. - From 21 October 1943To 22 October 1943.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MOSIA RIVER	21 Oct 1830		and remain in position there until M.D.S completed.	
			Start time 0700/22.	
MORESBY	21 Oct		Two other ranks marched in to LOB Group.	
MOSIA RIVER	22 Oct	0700	HQ and D companies move out. C Company move into D company's	
AREA			vacated area.	
		1100	Orders from Brigade - Compnay patrol to be sent out, duration	
			three days. Move to KESAWAI I and patrol NORTH to KISA.	
			Object - to obtain information re enemy, destroy any enemy	
			located, provided such action does not mean becoming heavily	
			committed.	
		1205	WARNING ORDER - B company to move to 625574 DUMPU one inch to	
			one mile not before 1430 hours, and take up a temporary posi	tion
			for night 22/23, preparatory to moving out on patrol as per	
			later orders. A company to relieve B company not before 1430	hours.

30.

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WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. M. ROBSON Commanding

(Erase heading not required.)

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry BatDateind Time. - From 22 October 1943 To 22 October 1943

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MOSIA RIVER	22 Oct	1215	D and HQ companies arrive reference 629543 DUMPU one inch to	
			one mile.	Appendix A 1
		1500	B company in position at reference 625574. A company occupyi	ng
			B company's old position.	
		1515	E troop 54 Battery move into A company's position.	Appendix B 1
		1530	Commanding Officer's orders - B company to move 0700/23 and	
			patrol as per Brigade's orders.	
		2100	Advice from Brigade - Company patrol now to move to EVAPIA RI	VER
			and patrol along it (previous orders cancelled).	
			Commanding Officer's orders - B Company to move at 0700/23.	
			Route via track receed by Brigade patrol to junction of track	
			and EVAPIA RIVER, thence along course of river, until area	
			suitable for patrol base reached, probably in SQUARE 5763	
			URIGINA one inch to one mile. From patrol base, two patrols	

Army Form C. 2118. (adapted.)

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. M. ROBSON

Commanding

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry Bat Date and Time. - From 22 October 1943 To 24 October 1943.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information. Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MOSIA RIVER	22 Oct	2100	each of platoon strength, to be sent out on routes. (Officer's
AREA			Commanding discretion).
			ADMINISTRATION - Five days track rations plus one days normal
			rations to be carried.
			COMMUNICATION - By 11 and 108 W/T sets. 11 Set at patrol base
			direct to Brigade. 108 Set Platoon patrols to platoon base.
	23 Oct	0700	B Company's patrol moves out.
			General improvement of Battalion area throughout day.
		1430	Commanding Officer to Brigade to discuss equipment and Battalion
			organisation.
	24 Oct	0815	Recce party including Commanding Officer, A and C Companys'
			Commanders and Artillery party, move out to recce Battalion area
			to be taken up in the event of enemy approach. Reference
			DUMPU one inch to one mile SQUARES 6357, 6358. Appendix C 1

Army Form C. 2118. (adapted.)

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. M. ROBSON Commanding (Erase heading not required.)

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry BatDate and Time. - From 24 October 1943To 24 October 1943.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Suppression of Events and Information	parks and references to opendices, Diaries, &c.
MOSIA RIVER	24 Oct	1845	Commanding Officer's orders - Patrol from A Company, of platoon	
			strength together with WO, and one Signaller from Artillery to	
			move out 0700/25.	
			OBJECT - to obtain information re enemy and destroy any encountered	,
		The state of the s	also to examine and report on topography and tracks.	
			ROUTE - from A Company's position to 621592 MENE RIVER fork,	
			thence NORTH via main stream. Extent of patrol - to enable to	
			return to company area by 1730 hours.	
		a Takey	Return route - down main track to fork 621592, look along east	
			branch, skirt feature "31" reference 636582 DUMPU one inch to one	
			mile, thence to A Company's area.	
	A Briance		A patrol of one section from C Company, plus elements of	
			artillery, for general observation - standing patrol at 632581	
the second			OBJECT - To observe all movements.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. M. ROBSON Commanding

(Erase heading not required.)

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry BatDateland Time. -From 24 October 1943. To 25 October 1943.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MOSIA RIVER	24 Oct	1845	Start time 0730 hours. Time IN 0700 hours.	
			Recce parties from D and HQ Companies to move out and recce-	
2.7			area previously receed by Commanding Officer's party.	
			Time out 0930/25.	
MORESBY	24		One reinforcement and two "X" list personnel marched in to Lor	Group.
			Church Parade.	
MOSIA RIVER AREA	25 Oct	0700	A Company's patrol (nine platoon under LIEUTENANT McDOUGALL)	
			moved out as per Commanding Officer's orders 24.	
		0730	C Company's standing patrol move out.	
		0800	A company less 9 Platoon and skeleton force commence sonstruct	ion
			of jeep track from Battalion area to Hill "31" in SQUARE 6358.	
		0930	Recce party from D and HQ Companies move out to recce alternat	ive
			Battalion area.	
		1711	Nine Platoon patrol under LIEUTENANT McDOUGALL returns.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. M. ROBSON Commanding

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry BatDate and Time. -From 25 October 1943 To 26 October 1943

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MOSIA RIVER	25 Oct	1900	Commanding Officer's orders for patrols on 26 October -	
			C Company to provide section for patrol to move via Hill "31"	
			(EAST slope) to line of kunai and rain forest on Hill "60"	
			reference 690590 DUMPU one inch to one mile, thence south to	
			652577, thence to Company area.	
			OBJECT - to obtain information re enemy, and own troops.	
			Recce possible jeep track up Hill "60".	
			START TIME 0700/26. TIME IN 1700/26.	
MORESBY	25 Oct		Two "X" list personnel marched in to LOB Group.	
MOSIA RIVER	26 Oct	0700	C Company's section patrol move out.	
A D C.A		0730	A Company's standing patrol moves out to observation post.	
		0930	B Company's patrol to EVAPIA RIVER returns.	Appendix "D" 1
			Camp area now being developed into permanent camp site.	
		1545	C Company's patrol of one section under Corporal Wade returns.	

Army Form C. 2118. (adapted.)

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. M. ROBSON

(Erase heading not required.)

Commanding
Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry Ballate hind Time.—From 26 October 19470 26 October 1943

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MOSIA RIVER AREA	26 Oct	1600	C Company's patrol of one section under Corporal Disney return	ns.
		1615	Commanding Officer's orders - C Company to send out a patrol	of
			two men under Corporal Disney to investigate the possibility	
			of a jeep track from feature "31" to link up with jeep track	
			in valley.	
			Start time 0730/27. Return on completion of task. Corporal	
			Disney to try out new operational ration.	
			A Company to send out patrol of one section to move via easter	2
			slope of feature "31", to line of kunai and rain forest on	
			Hill "60" reference 650590, thence SOUTH to 652577, thence to	
			company area.	
			OBJECT - to obtain information re enemy and own troops.	
			START - 0730/27. Return 1730/27.	
			C Company to provide one section, as standing patrol at observe	ation

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118 (adapted.)

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. M. ROBSON Commanding

(Erase heading not required)

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry Battali Date and Time.—From 26 October 19479 27 October 1943

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information Remarks and references Appendices, Diaries, &
MOSIA RIVER	26 Oct	1615	post, reference 628582 DUMPU one inch to one mile.
MORESBY	26 Oct		Two "X" list personnel marched in to LOB Group.
			Fourteen "X" list and two reinforcement personnel emplaned
			for forward area from LOB Group.
MOSIA RIVER AREA	.27 Oct	0730	C Company's standing patrol moves to observation post.
			C Company's patrol of two men and Corporal Disney move out.
			A Company's section patrol moves out.
		1435	Corporal Disney and two men return, having found suitable route
			for jeep track.
		1545	A Company's patrol (one section under Corporal Packer) returns.
		1700	C Company's standing patrol returns from observation post.
		1830	Commanding Officer's orders - Two platoons C Company to begin
			work on jeep track from feature "31" to valley.
			A Company to continue work on foot track from Battalion area

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Army Form C.2118 (adapted.)

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. M. ROBSON Commanding

(Erase heading not required)

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry Battaliomate and Time.-From 27 October 1943To 29 October 1943

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information Remarks and reference Appendices, Diaries,	CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF THE
MOSIA RIVER AREA	27 Oct	1830	to feature "31". A Company also to provide standing patrol of	
			one section at observation post 628582. Time out 0730/28	
			Time In 1700/28.	
	28 Oct	0730	One section from A Company move to observation post at reference	
			628582.	
		0900	Commanding Officer, Company Commanders, and 2 1/c s move up	
			to feature "31" to recce the position for a T.E.W.T for the	
			purpose of deciding the positions which would be taken up for a	
			two company defensive area.	
			C Company begin work on jeep track from feature "31" to main jeep	
			track in valley.	•••••
		1700	A Company's standing patrol returns from observation post.	
MORESBY	28 Oct		Three "X" list personnel marched in to LOB Group.	
MOSIA RIVER Area	29 Oct	0800	Standing patrol of platoon strength under LIEUTENANT GOULD move	

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WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E. M. ROBSON

(Erase heading not required)

Commanding

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry Battaliopate and Time.-From 29 October 1943 To 31 October 1943.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MOSIA RIVER AREA	29 OCT	0800	out to feature "31".	
			A Company at work improving foot track from Battalion area to	
			feature "31".	
			C Company continue work on jeep track from feature "31" crossing	g
			MOSIA RIVER at 638563 DUMPU one inch to one mile, and joining u	p
			with main jeep track.	
MORESBY	29 Oct		One other rank marched out to NG Details Depot for discharge.	
MOSIA RIVER	30 Oct	0730	B Company move out to track and river junction reference 609583	
		***************************************	DUMPU oneinch to one mile to work on main jeep track.	
MORESBY	30 0ct		Six other ranks emplaned for Forward Area from LOB Group.	
MOSIA RIVER AREA	31 Oct	0730	C Company move out to work on main jeep track, and five platoon	
			HQ Company move out to lay corduroy on same track.	
			B Company take over two man standing patrols previously maintai	ned
			by five platoon in their area.	

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Army Form C.2118 (adapted.)

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL E, M. ROBSON Commanding

(Erase heading not required)

Unit 2/31 Australian Infantry Battalignate and Time.—From 31 October 1943 To 31 October 1943.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MORESBY	31 Oct		Three Officers and three other ranks "X2 List personnel	
			emplaned for forward area from LOB Group.	
*****			One other rank "X" List marched in to LOB Group.	
•••••			Church Parade.	
•••••		***************************************		
			mulsbrown Wol	***************************************
		•••••••••••••••••••••••••		

PATROL REPORT - 23 October 1943 - Appendix "D" 1

Type Patrol

- Recce Patrol.

Time Out

- 0700 hours 23 October 1943.

Strength

- Company.
- Recce headwaters of EVAPIA RIVER.

Route

- Via 25 Australian Infantry Brigade thence NORT EAST along track to EVAPIA RIVER, then NORTH WEST along SOUTHERN bank of river.

Unit

- JACKSON Company of ROBSON Battalion.

Weapons Time In

- Company weapons.
- 0930 hours 26 October 1943.

REPORT

Company moved out of Battalion area at 0700 hours on the 23 October 1943. Moved through 2/33% Australian Infantry Battalion area, thence along track to NORTH EAST. Track good, jeep road through kunai approximately five feet high.

0820 hours

- Crossed MENE RIVER map reference DUMPU one inch to one mile 628660. River approximately twelve inches deep and twenty five wide crossable for heeps.

0900 hours

- Crossed YOGIA RIVER reference 584594 end of jeep track.
Track between MENE RIVER and YOGIA RIVER very muddy and needs attention to carry much traffic. At this point native carriers (twenty five) with Brigade Signallers were picked up.

0900 to 1115 hours - Reference 584594 - 549630 track very difficult and crossing steep dongas most of the way. With a fair amount of work track could be made jeepable.

1115 hours

- Reference 584594. Arrive at EVAPIA RIVER and halted for forty five minutes for lunch.

1230 to 1545 hours - Reference 584594 - 574628. Moved along VAPIA RIVER bed, crossing and recrossing as going was very difficult and slow. No evidence of enemy or tracks, nor own troops. River running fast, approximately three feet deet and twenty feet wide. Stony bottom.

1545 hours

- Reference 574628. Halted for bivouac - DAY 1. Around defence, also established base for Brigade No. 11 set. DAY 3. From here eleven and ten platoons patrolled up river on 24 October. (See patrol report attached)

1115 hours

- Ten platoon arrive back to this area 574628.

Halted for lunch, food obtainable from native gardens.

1215 hours

- Company move back along EVAPIA RIVER.

1230 hours

- Reference 456639. Contacted company patrol moving in opposite direction to patrol for five days in headwaters of EVAPIA RIVER - Officer Commanding JACKSON company handed all information to this position (2/25 Australian Infantry Battalion).

1415 hours

- Reference 549630. Arrived back to track and river junction then moved along track to SOUTH WEST.

1615 hours

- Reference 586595. Arrived YOGIA RIVER, bivouaced for NIGHT 3. Sentries posted during night one per section.

0600 hours

- DAY 4. Stand to.

0745 hours

- Company move back along track to MENE RIVER. Reference 604576. Twenty minutes halt.

0905 hours

- Moved back via 25 Australian Infantry Brigade, xxxxxxx to 2/31 Australian Infantry Battaxlion camp area. Reference 619572, arriving 0930 hours 26 October.

(Conta)

Halts during march - ten minutes every half hour.

L. Matheson
"B" Company Intelligence
Section
1045 hours
26 October 1943.

Patrol Report

Appendix D 1

Ву

- Intelligence Section 2/31 Australian Infantry Battalion.

Type

- Recce patrol.

Dime out

- 0730 hours 24 October 1943.

Time In

- 0930 hours 25 October 1943.

Strength

- One platoon (eleven platoon of B Company 2/31 Australian Infantry Battalion. In Command MAJOR JACKSON, Officer Commanding B Company)

Weapons

- Platoon weapons.

Objects

- (1) To obtain information (2) To recce for tracks. (3) General. To obtain information re enemy and own troops.

Route out

- From patrol base map reference MT OTTO 574628 via EVAPIA RIVER to DUMPU 589627 then via spur to 600628.

Route In

- Map reference DUMPU 600628 via spur to river junction at 582624 then via EVAPIA RIVER to patrol base MT OTTO 574628. See Appendix attached.

(1) Enemy activity seen. Nil Own troops seen. (2) Tracks found.

(3) Observation post established. Map reference DUMPU one inch to one mile 602628.

1 Information - No enemy sighted, nor any sighs of enemy moving in area re enemy. recently.

Information - No signs of own troops occupying or moving in area. re own troops

2. Recce - Movement of patrol was partly along EVAPIA RIVER bed, and for tracks partly over kunai (up to three feet high) covered spur, to a height of approximately two thousand feet. No tracks were encountered. Climb for first three hundred feet was nearly perpendicular. Four men failed to make the grade, and remained for the night on the river, and rejoined patrol in morning. Remainder of climb to bivouac area was steep, making for slow going. Route for return to EVAPIA RIVER was in places very steep running down several smaller spurs.

3. General

Observation post was established at 1430 hours on 24 October. Field of view was obtained to timber in vicinity battalion bivouac area map reference DUMPU one inch to one mile 620574, RAMU RIVER to KESAWAI Number three map reference MT OTTO one inch to one mile 543614, mountains on NORTH bank of EVAPIA RIVER, and feature five thousand five hundred feet to the WEST. Small parties of natives were observed moving over area. Native gardens were seen in area at approximately two thousand feet. Vegetation is mainly kunai covered slopes, with rain forests on higher features, and on borders of gullies.

EVAPIA RIVER

Course of river in places could not be reconciled with map, and trace is attached showing what is considered more approximate course.

C Company 13 Platoon

.

Patrol Report

Appendix E 5 October 1943

Туре

- Recce

Personnel

- WO II MacDOWELL, thirteen platoon, (thirty one other ranks, one Intelligence Section, one R.A.P representative).

Weapons

- Three Brens, six OSMGs, one pistol, twenty two rifles, sixty four grenades.

Route Out

- From 797416 reference map DUMPU one inch to one mile, along NORTH EAST bank of WARRIS RIVER to NAMAPUT.

Time Out

- 1440 hours 5 Oct 43.

Route In

- via NORTH WEST bank of WARRIS RIVER to 797416.

Time In

- 1725 hours 5 October 1943.

Object

- Patrol NAMAPUT village and radius of one thousand yards of it. Gain information re enemy in this area.

Report

Platoon moved to village in open formation. One up formation. Reached village 1615 hours.

Observed well worn tracks and foot marks along rivers (natives).

In the village eight huts (kunai) were burnt, two left standing. Jap ammunition and dixies were seen amongst ashes of two burnt huts.

Jap grave found in bank of river (832438). Inscription on sheet of paper on stick at head of grave. (Paper forwarded to Brigade).

One section patrolled from village to 836438. No evidence of enemy sighted.

One section patrolled from village to 837435. Discovered twenty four single man weapon pits, two kunai huts, and two bomb craters at 837435. Weapon pits had not been used since last rain.

One section patrolled twelve hundred yards along track to WAMPUM. Discovered eight roughly buried Japs at 829442. Jap equipment (new bayonets), eight weapon pits, and cooking pit were seen in same area. Tracks in vicinity were well worn and had been used recently. (four days previously).

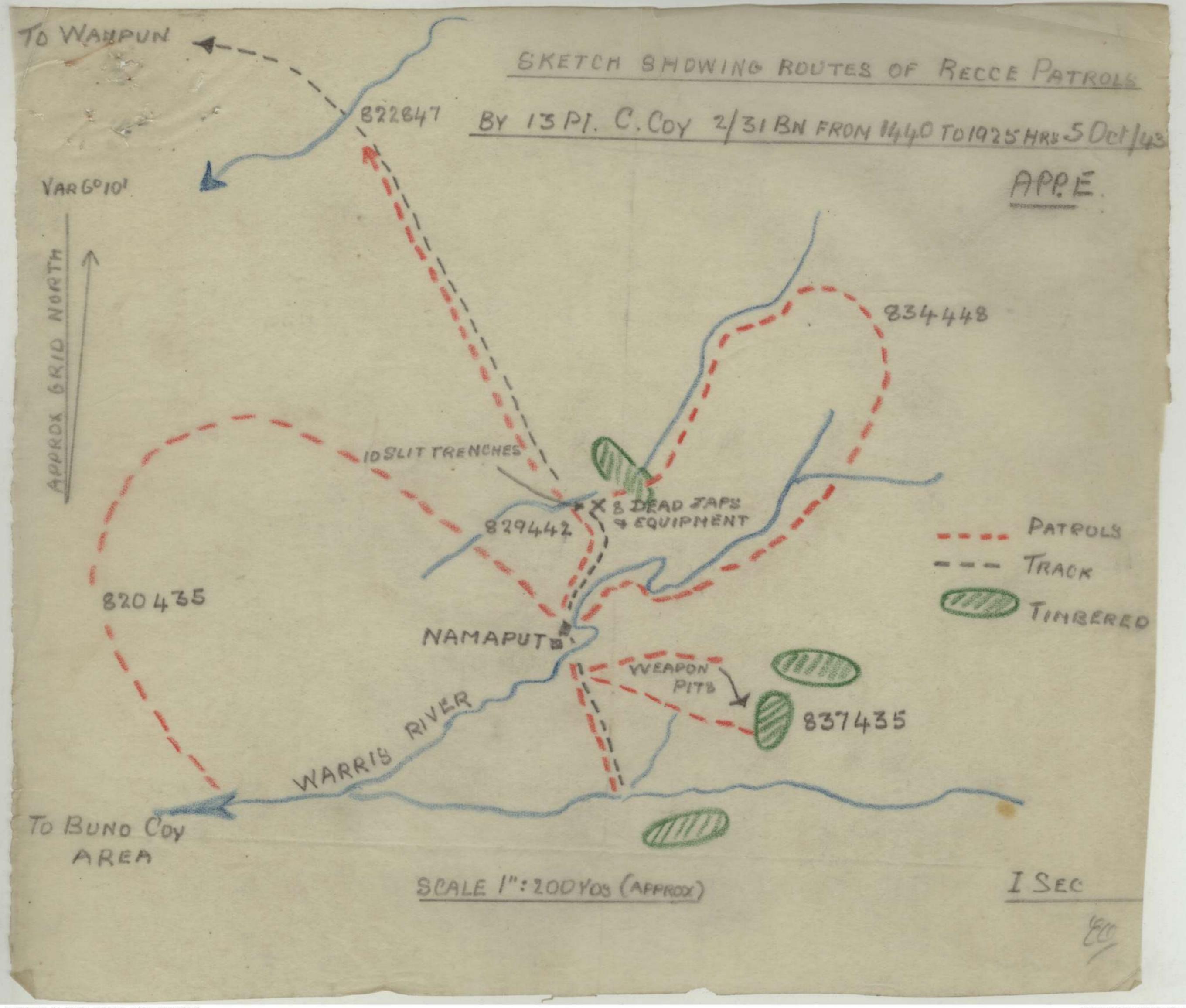
Another patrol moved from 829442, followed creek to head thence EAST across foothills to WARRIS RIVER, which was followed back to NAMAPUT.

In the village two Jap haversacks were found and contained a quantity of rice and six hundred rounds Jap rifle ammunition.

Also in same area, Australian hat band, large field dressing, and six 9 mm shell cases and same of .303 shell cases. A large clot of blood which appeared no more than one day old was also seen near shell cases.

Sjt Westaway and two men made a perimeter WEST and SOUTH of village one thousand yards. Nil report.

Signed G. MacDOWELL WO II



Туре

- Fighting

Personnel - CAPTAIN HAYES, and full company less two men from each plateon, and Company Headquarters plus three signallers and one 108 set as relay.

Weapons - normal

Route out - 794414 - NORTH until track thence to WAMPUM, thence twenty degrees for kww one thousand five hundred yards to three huts on kunai shelf.

Time out - 1443 hours 5 October.

Route In - Returned out route

Time in - 2115 hours 5 October 1943.

Object - To search ground to and in vicinity of WAMPUM VILLAGE and destroy any enemy seen.

Report

Company moved due MORTH until track was cut at 792440. Noted that creeks shown on map were actually gullies along which water had not flown for a considerable period (kunai growing on flat ground).

Track followed until 1535 hours when at 796446 wireless relay was dropped

off.
Company continued along track to WAMPUN, a section being sent forward

when entering timber at 801455. Arrived 1554 hours.

One section patrol sent WEST SOUTH WEST along creek one thousand two hundred yards. This patrol located dead native (not more than two days

hundred yards. This patrol located dead native (not more than two days dead). Had been shot in back, and one arm almost severed; at 794455. No signs enemy or enemy occupation.

In Village six huts (kunai) had been burnt down and only signs of enemy

occupation were six holes which had been dug in the sides of steep creek banks (possibly shelters from straffing) were not tactically sighted.

Signs of occupation by our troops was most evident. Signal wire, jeep tracks through village, wire leading across creek and in westerly direction. 1604 hours, heard faintly six bursts of automatic fire from WEST NORTH WEST.

1615 hours, crossed dry creek at 805457, continued NORTH up grade through high kunai.

1625 hours, section patrol from 805459 EAST along creek. Nil report.
Remainder of company pushed on bearing twenty degrees magnetic, and
reached kunai shelf 808470, where three unoccupied kunai huts were located.
Only evidence of previous Jap occupation was two inch square of paper with
Jap characters on it (may have been brought there by natives).

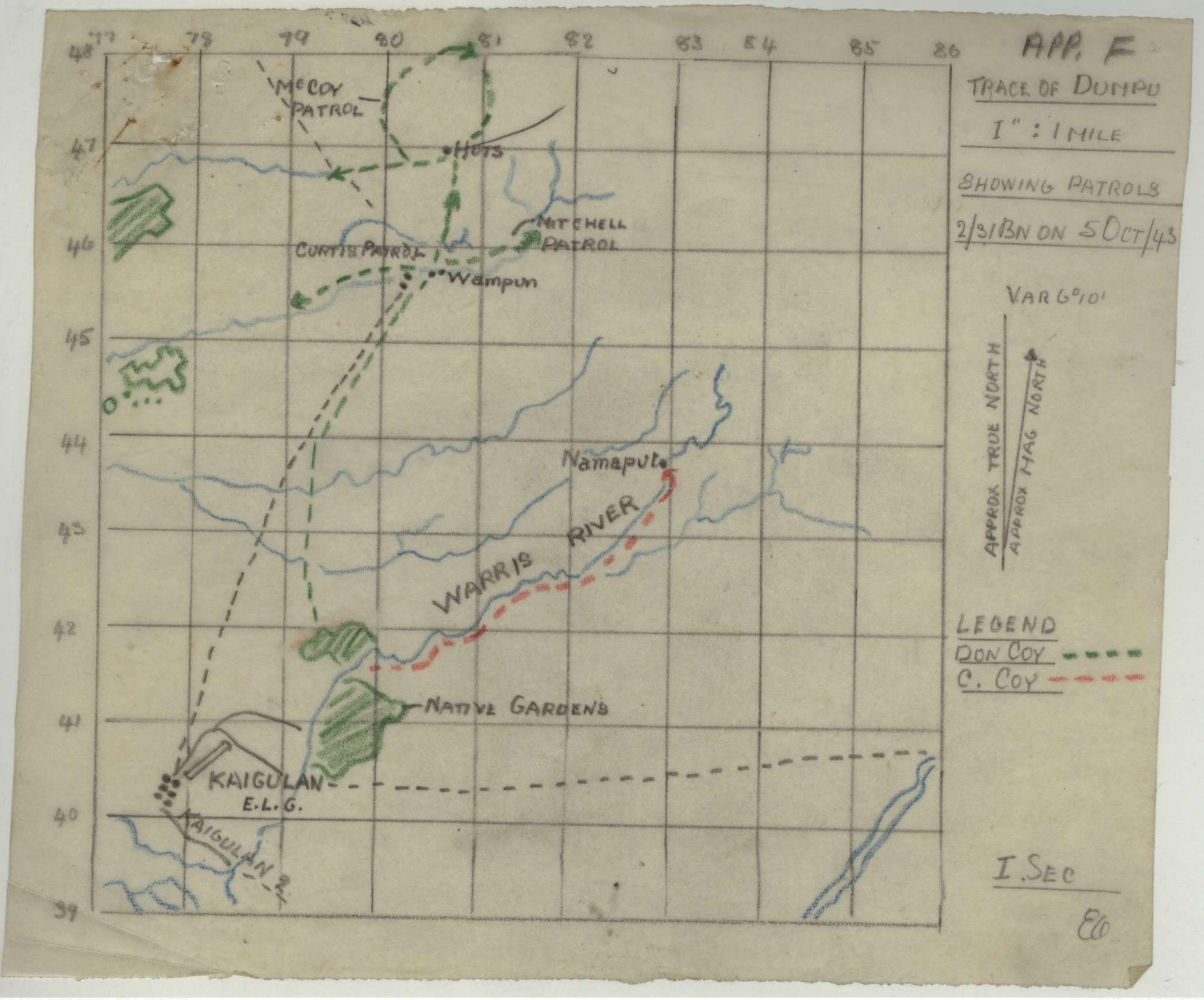
Numerous tracks leading WEST and NORTH from this area. Appeared to be

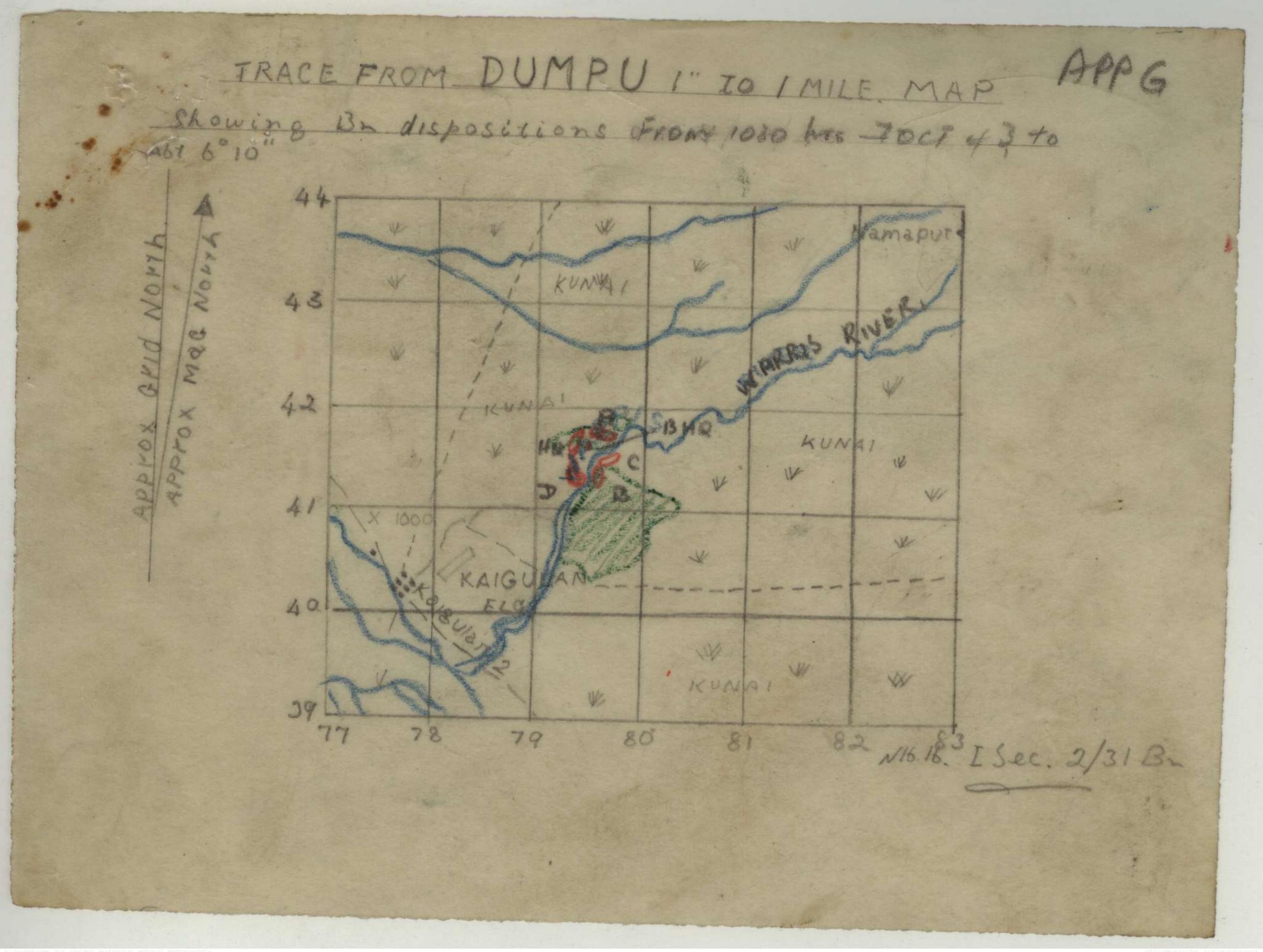
footpads only - no bootmarks sighted.

From 808470 a section patrol was sent out along a pad leading WEST and thought the track to KORAM moved twelve hundred yards along track. Nil report. One section moved from 808470 to 802470 to 802480 to 808477 thence to 808470. Found two points which gave view of the valley and had obviously been used as observations posts up to two days previously. Approximate area observation post 803478.

Three men searched amongst timber in wadi NORTH EAST of hut for a distance of two hundred yards. Nil report.

H. F. HAYES CAPTAIN.





Patrol Report

Date 6 October 1943.

Type - Fighting

Time Out - 0635 hours 6 October 1943.

Time In - 1715 hours 7 October 1943.

Number and One Captain, four Lieutenants, and one hundred and seven other rank of personnel ranks.

Officer Commanding - CAPTAIN RYLANDS.

Weapons - Nine IMGs, 19 OSMGs, seventy nine rifles.

Object - To proceed to village KORAM. Search for signs of enemy and enemy tracks leading from village.

Route out - On general bearing three hundred and twenty degrees, pick up branch leading to WAMPUN village. Thence to KORAM by most direct and tactical route.

Route In - Over route outlined in report. 784507 to 780493. Thence down main branch of BIWI RIVER to 776490. Thence to jeep track and along jeep track to WAMPUM. Direct from WAMPUM to camp.

Report

0635 hours to 0735 hours. Move out to position SOUTH of WAMPUM Village 800453.

0735 hours to 0805 hours. Form perimeter of defence while signallers contact Brigade.

0810 hours to 0850 hours. Move along track running in general direction of three hundred and twenty degrees. Rest.

0900 hours to 0915 hours. Take branch track leading off in general direction of fifty degrees (distance off main track approximately eight hundred yards) Halt on bank of BIWI RIVER. The leading platoon (eight platoon) sent one section to feature across second arm of BIWI RIVER to establish an observation post. One section (Corporal Confoy) up creek to ascertain position of village. One section forward astride track. Nine platoon (LIEUTENANT McDOUGALL) take up position on right flank. Seven platoon take up position along bank SOUTH and across track in rear.

AT 0925 Company headquarters move to position taken up by section eight platoon at observation post. 778492 DUMPU B 55/6.

At 0940 seven, eight and nine platoons called in to proceed up kunai feature sloping towards main arm of BIWI RIVER, moving in general direction of ten degrees.

At 0945 hours patrol seen twelve hundred yards (estimated) distant on bearing two hundred and thirty five degrees moving eastward.

At 1003 hours shots heard, appeared to be from direction three hundred and twenty degrees.

At 1004 hours Corporal Confoy reports village five hundred yards up second arm of BIWI RIVER (dry).

At 1005 hours what appeared to be an enemy observation post was sighted. Estimated map reference 773506. Distance judged to be eighteen hundred yards (probably more) bearing 335 degrees magnetic.

At 1015 hours single shot heard.

At 1016 hours number eight platoon was ordered to patrol up, a kunai feature between our position, map reference 785505, and enemy observation post. Seperate Patrol report appended.

At 1020 hours unable to get message back. R/T breakdown)

At 1030 hours Eight Platoon moved out.

At 1035 hours one section number seven platoon sent to feature (knob) forty five degrees magnetic reference 784496. One section sent to bank of main (wet) arm BIWI RIVER, map reference 782496.

At 1036 hours movement seen at what appeared to be foxholes at enemy observation post. Movement hurried. Could have been using W/T set. Four men.

From 1040 hours. Signallers were still trying to repair R/T set.

At 1105 hours CAPTAIN RYLANDS requests 2/33 Australian Infantry Battalion (whose patrol we sighted and previously mentioned) to contact Brigade by 208 R/T.

At 1130 hours 2/33 Australian Infantry Battalion's signallers finally get message through.

At 1150 hours possible change of men observed at enemy observation post.

At 1200 hours eight platoon in position.

From 1200 hours to 1325 hours company held present positions and Officer Commanding awaited report from eight platoon.

At 1250 hours runner despatched from eight platoon.

At 1325 hours runner reported as per Patrol report appended. Enemy in strength, probably one company. Task too big for one platoon.

At 1330 Officer Commanding called conference of Second in Charge, platoon Commands seven, eight and nine platoons, and gave orders to them to move (less party four men to watch heavier gear) to support of number eight platoor

At 1335 hours rest of Company moved towards position held by number eight platoon.

At 1430 rest of company arrive at map reference 781502.

At 1440 hours Jap LMG opened fire, not in A Company's direction but possibly at 2/33 Australian Infantry Battalion's patrol. Position of LMG appeared to be EAST of us.

From 1440 hours to 1540 hours intermittent LMG fire from position to EAST, with an occasional burst of LMG fire which appeared to be Australian being returned by some of our own forces in area. Enemy movement observed along ridge and estimated to be approximately Company strength.

At 1550 hours A Company moved around feature in NORTH EASTERLY direction. Travelling was slow, and Company was fired on by snipers. No casualties.

At 1650 hours Company takes up position at map reference 785505. Locate another enemy observation post at seven yards distant bearing three hundred and fifty five degrees. (784511). Strength approximately seven men.

At 1730 hours LMG from number nine platoon, seven section? (Private O'Brien) and two riflemen moved forward slightly from our position, opened fire and fired occasional bursts till 1750 hours.

At 1750 hours enemy appeared to be disorganised and by our observation had had at least one casualty inflicted upon them. Rest of seven section nine platoon move up and take up position either side of our IMG.

At 1840 hours number seven platoon move on to high ground left to give covering fire for nine platoon, who had been ordered to secure and hold enemy observation post (784511).

At 1845 we suffered one casualty from enemy sniper. Corporal Winter died at 1915 hours.

At 1915 hours objective attained by nine platoon.

At 1930 hours Company move along ridge and take up defensive position at 784507, as per sketch appended. Sentries posted. Nothing happened during night.

7 October 1943

At first light - small party enemy observed at observation post 773506.

At 0730 hours enemy appeared to have left position.

At 0830 hours Officer Commanding A Company orders number seven platoon to take patrol to this observation post to clean up any enemy left, search for tracks leading from observation post and ridge that was held in strength. Hold position.

At 0900 number seven platoon, MR. SUTHERLAND move out. (Report attached)

At 1115 hours reported number seven platoon in position. No enemy contacted.

At 1230 hours CAPTAIN RYLANDS went to Observation post held by MR. SUTHERLAND. Seperate patrol report appended.

AT 1240 Second in Charge lead Company less seven platoon back to main arm arriving at 1330 hours at 780493.

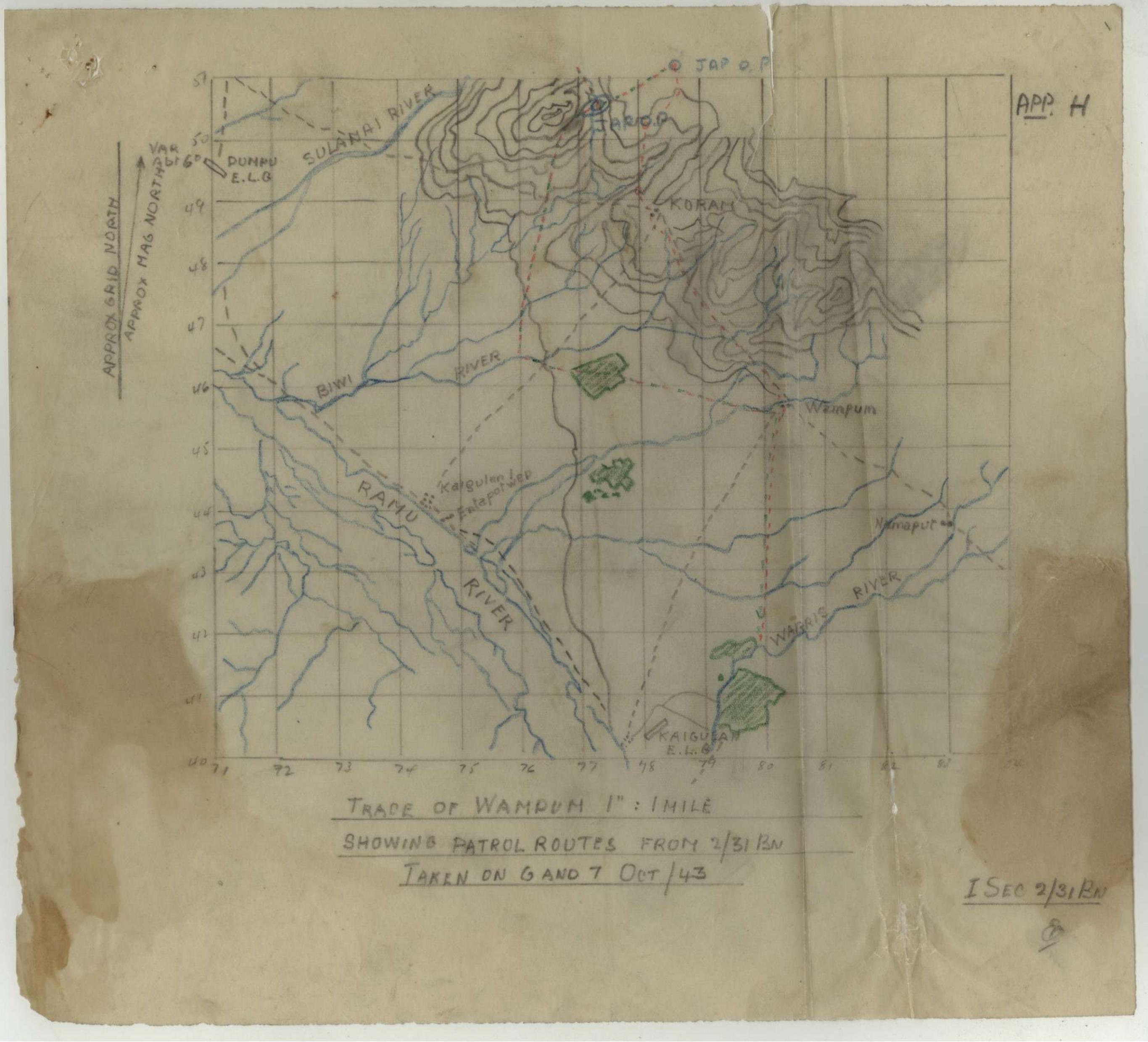
From 1330 hours to 1445 hours lunch and rest.

At 1445 hours moved down BIWI RIVER (main branch) till picking up Jeep track. Rested at 1535 hours.

At 1545 hours continue along Jeep track to WAMPUM Village. Through village, rested at 1635 hours. Thence in SOUTH WESTERLY direction to camp.

Arrived at 1715 hours.

H. A. BROWN Pte.
Intelligence Section
attached A Company.
7 October 1943.



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Type - Fighting

Time Out - 1030.

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Time In - Runner 1325 hours.

Number and Rank of personnel Number Eight Platoon - One Officer, One Serjeant, One Corporal, Two Lance Corporals, and twenty four Other ranks.

Officer Commanding - MR. GOULD

Weapons - Three LMGs, Six OSMGs, Two two inch mortars, nineteen rifles.

Object - Investigate and secure feature.

Route Out- On bearing of nine degrees to cross BIWI RIVER, thence NORTH WEST along spur using fold in ground to make WESTERN end of feature.

Route In - By runner.

Report

By runner. Enemy in strength. Task too big for platoon. Holding feature.

A Coy

Patrol Report

Туре

- Recce and Fighting

Personnel

- LIEUTENANT SUTHERLAND and twenty five other ranks.

Weapons

- Three Brens, six OSMGs, one two inch mortar, fourteen rifles.

Time out

- 0900 hours 7 October 1943.

Route Out

.

- From feature 784505 NORTH WEST across re-entrant, thence to point 773506 DUMPU one inch to one mile.

Time In

- 2000 hours 7 October 1943.

Route In

- as per sketch.

Object

- To move to position occupied by enemy 6 October. Destroy any enemy remaining-search for documents left by enemy - ascertain route of withdrawal and if possible obtain information re enemy's position.

Report

Patrol moved in NORTH WEST direction across re-entrant through high kunai to position 773506 where supposed enemy River observation post had

been sighted 6 October.

On reaching position after two and half hours march it was discovered that diggins, sufficient to accomadate two companies, extended NORTH EAST and SOUTH WEST of 773506 along the line of spur. In all these diggins covered a distance of approximately eight hundred yards, and were sited to protect forward and reverse slopes.

One section patrolled NORTH EAST from 773506 for distance of six hundred yards. Reported that apart from a track which appeared to have been used only by troops moving to and from their positions no tracks existed. No

enemy were sighted.

An observation post of four men was maintained at 773506. From this position six enemy were seen digging on burnt feature NORTH NORTH WEST of observation post. This feature overlooked our position and was approximately three mile distant and WEST of the SULAMAI RIVER.

At 1500 hours patrol moved SOUTH WEST along spur to enemy outpost positions at 768503 overlooking SULAMAI RIVER. Whilst moving to this position a patrol of A.I.F troops were sighted moving along NORTHERN bank of SULAMAI.

Their position was 740505.

It was noted that enemy had left a quantity of clothing and equipment, two respirators, small quantity of ammunition, and some booklets. and an identification disc. (These have been forwarded). No weapons seen. Evident enemy had lightened his load.

Continued NORTH WEST and at 1520 hours reached track running in NORTH NORTH WEST over foothills and across SULAMAI. Improvements had obviously been made to this track, but patrol did not follow it to SULAMAI, but moved

SOUTH EAST along same track.

At 1545 passed a waterhole on terrace. Continued SOUTH EAST and small

quantities of enemy ammunition was seen scattered along track.

At 1630 hours reached BIWI RIVER, fifteen feet wide, six inches deep, steep bank. Signs of enemy bivouac area, 765465 (sufficient for one company) Moved EAST to WAMPUM thence SOUTH to camp area.

Patrol Report

Appendix I
8 October 1943

Type - Recce and fighting patrol

Personnel LIEUTENANT SAWYER

Weapons -

Time Out- 0630 hours 8 October 1943

Route Out To WAMPUM - NAMAPUT.

Route In- NAMAPUT - 830438 - 794416

Time In - 1715

Object - To patrol area WAMPUM and NAMAPUT - search for and destroy enemy in that area.

Patrol moved direct to WAMPUM, thence 802465 (high ground WEST of KORAM track)

0930 from 802465 two one section patrols were sent out on bearings of three hundred and fifty degrees and sixty degrees respectively. Each patrol to move out for a distance of one thousand yards.

1000. A.I.F Company patrol seen moving over feature square 7649 in NORTHERLY direction.

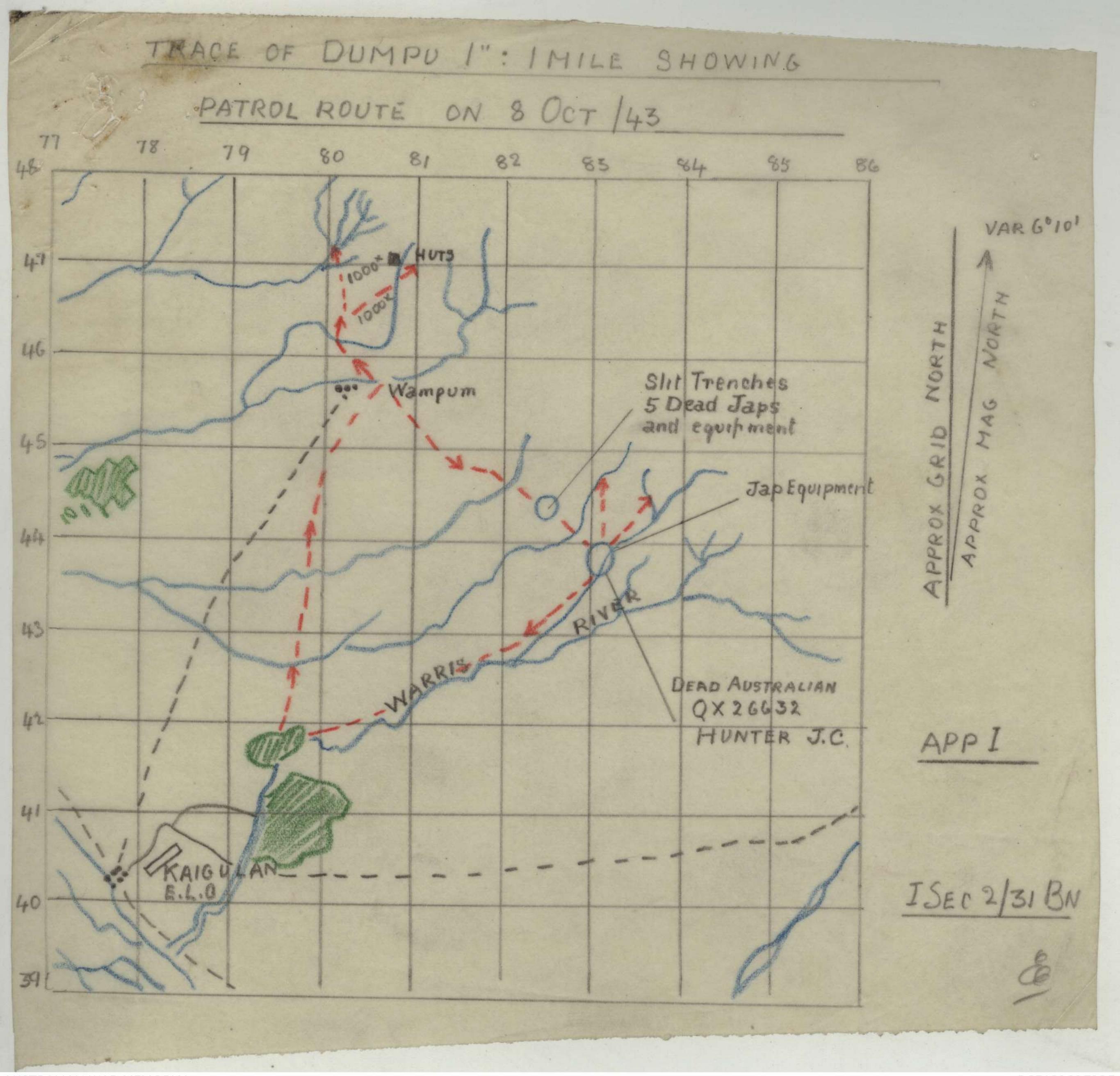
1115. Two section patrols return - nil report.

Japs were sighted, also slit trenches, and equipment previously reported by C Company on 5 October.

At 1445 reached NAMAPUT VILLAGE, and two patrols each of section strength were sent out on bearings of three hundred and sixty degrees and fourty five degrees respectively one thousand yards. Nil report on return at 1550.

Patrol then moved down WEST bank of WARRIS RIVER to 830438 where the body of an Australian soldier was found. Particulars are going forward. Number QX26632 Name HUNTER J.C Later buried at 830438.

Patrol moved from 830438 direct to camp area at 794416, arriving at 1715 hours.



Appendix J

Patrol Report JACKSON COMPANY

Type - Recce and Fighting.

Time Out - 0635 hours.

Number of One Officer, One Serjeant, thirty one other ranks personnel (LIEUTENANT McMAUGH)

Weapons - Brens, Rigles, Cup Discharger, Grenades and automatic weapons.

- To see if any Japs remained in position map reference 848395.

At the same time patrolling along WEST side of TUNKUAT RIVER
as far as above reference. Also to check and see whether track
from DUMPU ran below line "40".

Route out- Platoon left Battalion area and moved along EAST bank of WARRIS RIVER to track and road junction map reference 788393, thence along road through KAIGULAN to TUNKUAT RIVER, and road junction from there proceeded along EAST bank of TUNKUAT RIVER for three miles (approximately) to map reference 848395.

Route In - From map reference 848395 platoon proceeded along WEST bank of XXX TUNKUAT RIVER for approximately one mile, until jeep track reached. Then platoon moved direct to Battalion area on angle of two hundred and seventy five degrees.

Report

Visibility good. At 0705 hours junction of track and road reached map reference 788393, About four hundred yards from RAMU RIVER.

At 0755 hours Mitchell bomber encircling NORTH EAST from track.
At 0810 hours TUNKUAT RIVER and road junction reached. Fifteen minutes rest. Eleven Lightnings seen overhead, heading up valley in direction of MADANG. Mitchell bomber low over hills on left, probably on rece. Platoon proceeded along EAST bank of river for two miles, and at this point sub machine gunners crossed and searched village for enemy. No enemy and no signs of occupation. These troops noticed tracks which indicated Australian troop movement since last fall of rain (7 October). Remainder of platoon deployed, crossed river and entered village, approximately one mile further along river at 1130 hours. Three jeeps contacted. These were from 25 Australian Infantry Brigade Headquarters, and had been to dump "10". Lunch eaten at map reference 848395. Smoke observed in hills at bearing of eighty degrees about two thousand feet up.

At meal area in village there was food dump, mainly rice, some fish.

Small amounts of equipment and few grenades (unexploded).

At 1245 hours platoon moved along west bank to map reference 857406 and from there moved on bearing of two hundred and seventy five degrees direct for four miles to Company area, which was reached at 1440 hours.

Results . No Japs contacted.

Track from dump ran below line "402.

Signed K. Hirst

(Dump - approximately ten tins containing rice in which were packed several tins of Burnzo. Size of large tins - sixteen inches by eight inches by eight inches by eight inches. Also approximately six half filled corn sacks of rice. One dozen tins of fish spice. Several packets of cigarettes and sweets).

Appendix J

- Company Headquarters, B Company 9 October 1943.

- Ten Platoon

Subject - Patrol Report

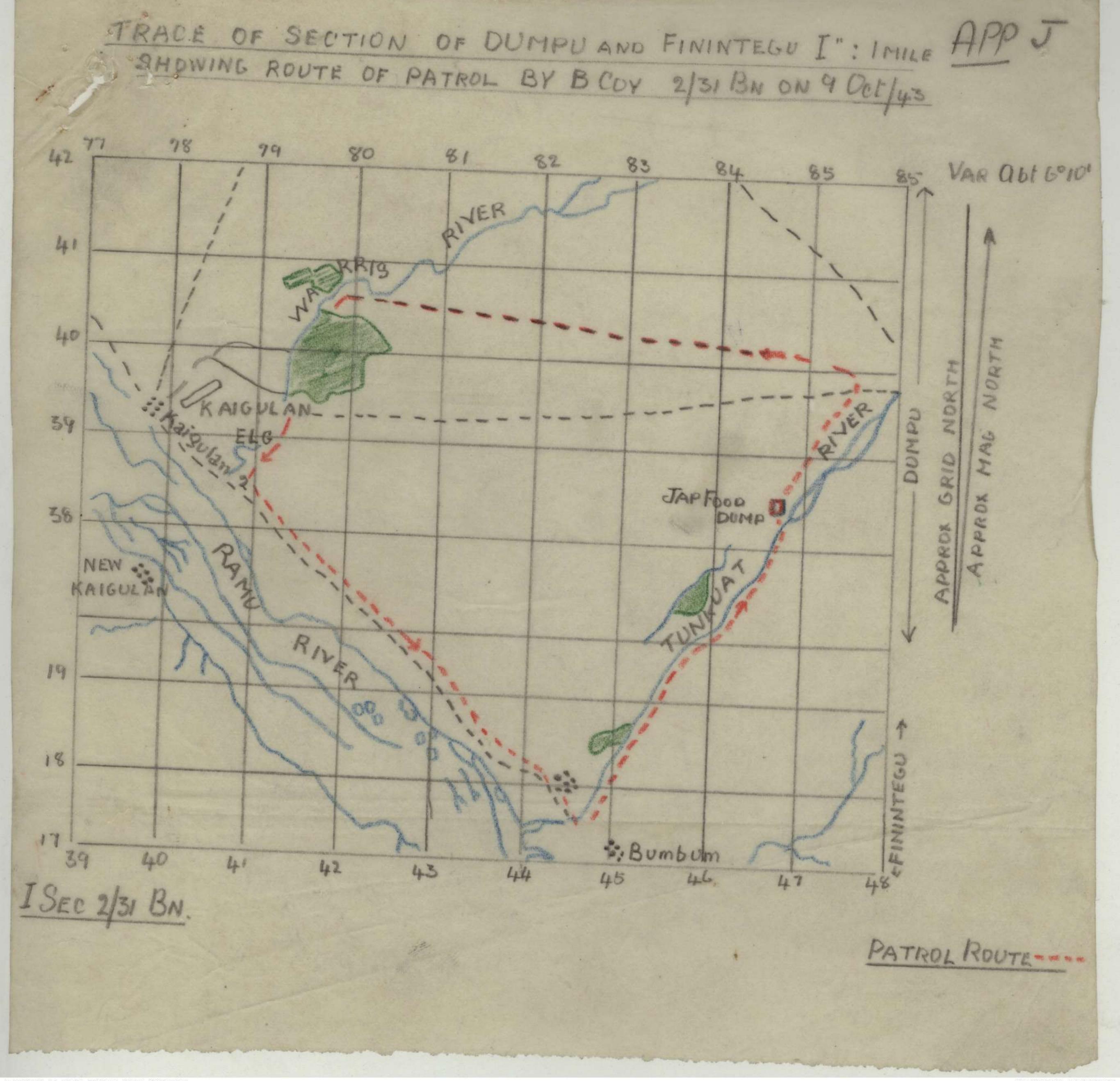
1.

- Fighting and Recce Patrol.
- 0635 hours 9 October 1943. 2.
- One Officer, LIEUT. McMAUGH, One Serjeant, thirty one other ranks. 3.
- To patrol from Battalion position to junction of WARRIS and RAMU 4. (a) RIVERS, hence to junction of track, TUNKUAT RIVER. Along EASTERN side of TUNKUAT RIVER to a distance of two to three miles. Then return to Battalion.
 - To find out if track from BOPIRUMPU VILLAGE to KAIGULAN was below (b) forty grid line.

5. Time In- 1440 hours 9 October 1943.

- The patrol moved out from Company lines at 0635 hours to junction 0. of WARRIS and RAMU RIVERS, along track to junction of track and TUNKUAT RIVER. This position was reached at 0810 hours. The patrol then moved up along EASTERN side of WARRIS RIVER for distance of two miles. Two sub machine gunners crossed to WESTERN bank of river to search native huts, position 842387. No trace of enemy was found. The patrol moved up to position 848395 where on WESTERN bank of river is a village of approximately ten to twelve huts. This area was searched and a Japanese dump of food of ten twenty five 1b tims of rice were located. It was thought that this dump was used for troops stationed in this village. Foxholes of which extended down WEST bank of TUNKUAT RIVER for approximately half a mile. The patrol ate in this area and then moved to position 868407, where track from dump "10" lead across TUNKUAT RIVER. From this position patrol returned to camp area direct by compass. No enemy patrols or personnel were seen, nor were any recently used tracks by the enemy found.

B. MCMAUGH LIEUT.



Patrol Report Date 9 October 1943 Appendix K

Туре

- Fighting - recce.

Time out

.

- 0630 hours 9 October 1943.

Time In

- 1700 hours 9 October 1943.

Number of personnel

- LIEUTENANT ROBINSON C. Cpl Dalton E; Corporal Mansell L.A; Corporal Thompson S; and twenty five other ranks.

Weapons

- Brens, three: OSMGs 6: rifles nineteen: Pistols one.

Object

- Patrol to NAMAPUT then along foothills to BOPIRUMPU and return to camp.

Route out

.

- Along WARRIS RIVER to NAMAPUT then along foothills to BOPIRUMPU.

Route In

- From BOPIRUMPU along main track to camp.

Report

- Patrol moved out at 0630 hours along WARRIS RIVER to NAMAPUT arriving there at 0730 hours. Nothing was sighted so patrol moved on about one thousand yards to investigate old Jap position, and saw only four or five dead Japs unburied. We left about 0830 hours and owing to the ruggedness of the country did not arrive at BOPIRUMPU until about 1330 hours, and saw nothing to report at that village. About 1400 hours the patrol left BOPIRUMPU and moved straight back to camp arriving about 1700 hours.

C. Robinson

Appendix K 9 October 1943

Patrol Report

Type of Patrol - Fighting and Recce.

Time Out

- 0630 hours

Number of Personnel

.

- LIEUTENANT ROBINSON, three N.C.Os and twenty five other ranks.

Weapons

- Brens three, OSMG six, Rifles minteen, Pistols -

Object

- Patrol to NAMAPUT and BOPIRUMPU to see if there is any enemy movement.

Route out

.

- NORTH EAST to NAMAPUT then along foothills to BOPIRUMPU.

Route In

- Track to TUNKUAT RIVER then across country to camp.

Time In

- 1700 hours 9 October 1943.

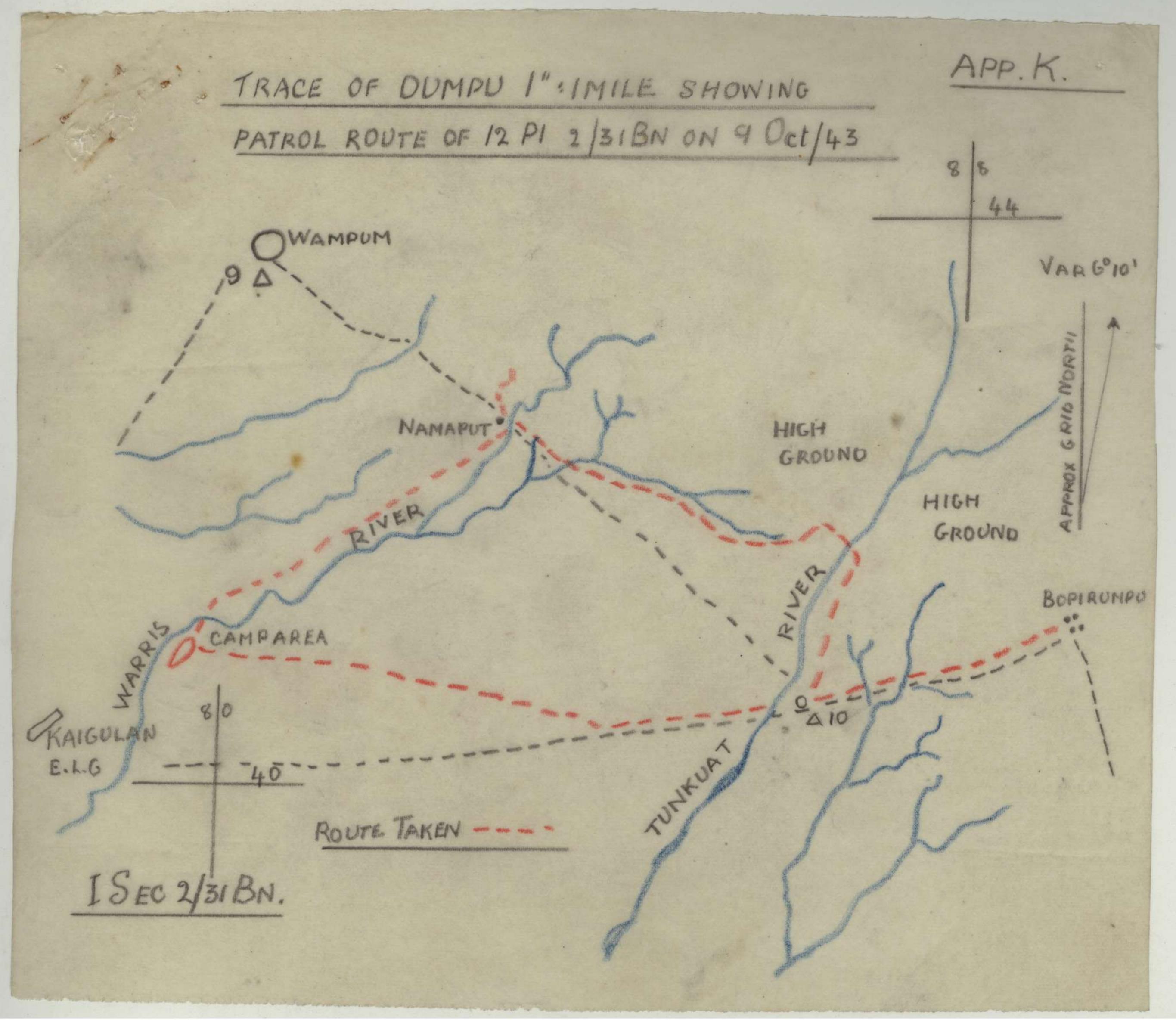
Report

- Patrol moved through C Company's lines at 0635 hours and crossed WEST bank of WARRIS RIVER, thence to NAMAPUT arriving 0730 hours. Two section moved along track to NORTH WEST and on to high ground reference DUMPU one inch to one mile 830442. Nothing to report except five or six dead unburied Japs. Patrol then moved over WARRIS RIVER and followed dry creek along foothills to WEST. Country very rugged. Crossed Tunkuat RIVER reference 969428 at 1030 hours. Followed river down till contacted track to NORTH WEST and moved along track to BOPIRUMPU, arriving 1330 hours BOPIRUMPU. Reported no movement but few old Jap dug in positions.

1400 hours. Patrol left BOPIRUMPU and moved back along track to THNKUAT RIVER where it was forded, (depth approximately three feet and ten yards wide), moved along track for approximately two thousands yards and thought track to be going too far SOUTH, so moved across country on approximate bearing of 280 degrees to camp arriving 1700 hours.

UNIT REPORTING - JACKSON COMPANY (Twelve Platoon)

L. Matheson Intelligence Section 1730 hours 9 October 1943.



Appendix L

Patrol Report

Reference Map DUMPU - one inch to one mile

Date 10 October 1943

FROM - ROBSON at WARRIS RIVER

KORAM and return.

Time out - 0630

Time In - 1500

Route - NORTH from ROBSON through kunai to jeep track, thence to WAMPUM. Followed jeep track from WAMPUM to NORTH EAST of KORAM then descended slope to KORAM. From KORAM returned to ROBSON on bearing of 164 degrees in extended order.

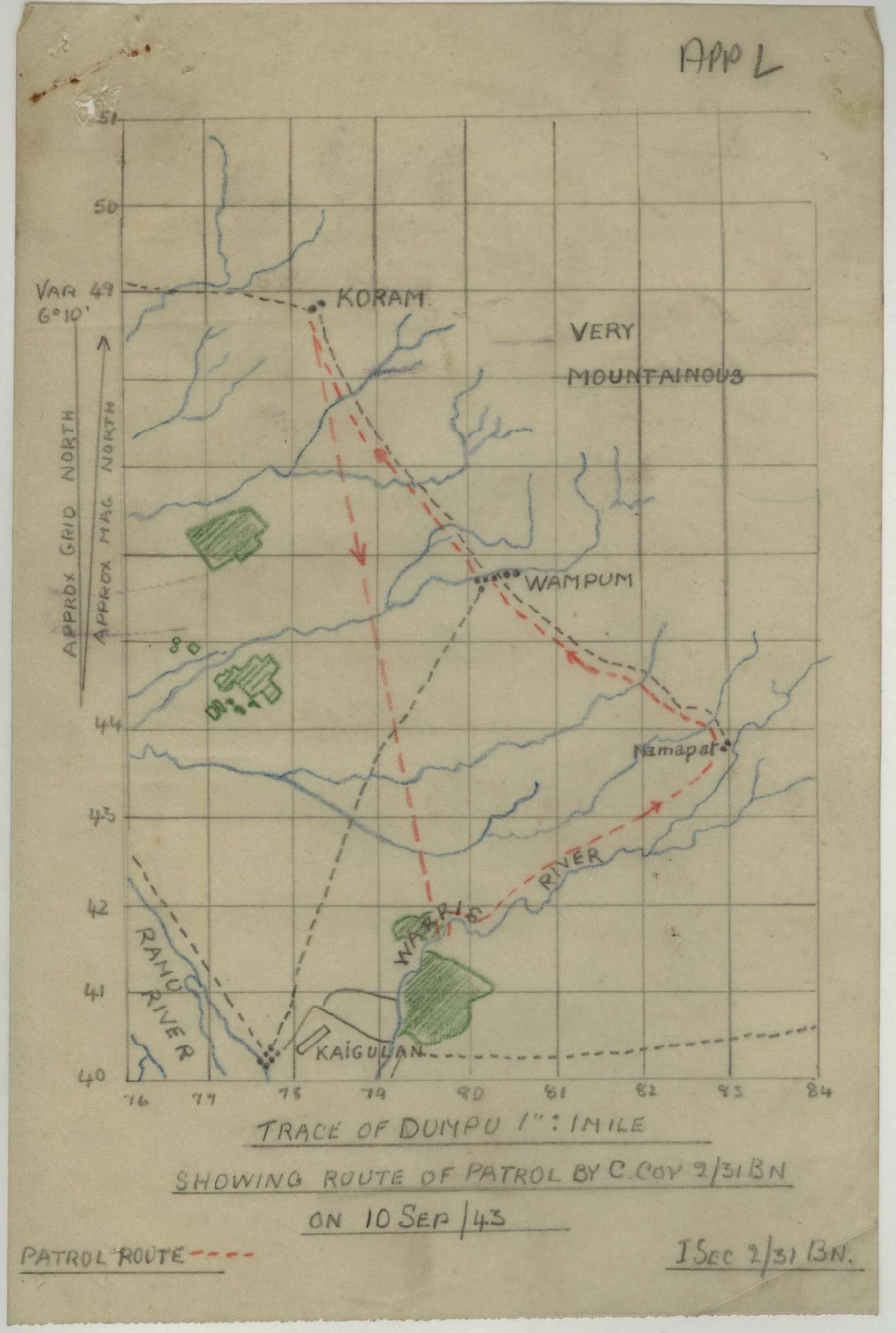
Information - Nil enemy contacted on patrol. No signs of enemy movement.

No footprints on tracks which werewashed clear by recent rains.

Saw company 2/33 Australian Infantry Battalion moving along foothills to SURINAM RIVER. Supplied guide to jeep proceeding to KORAM.

B. ROBERTSON LIEUT. C Coy

E. Condran Intelligence Section



A Company Patrol Report.

Type of Patrol - Recce protective.

Number of personnel - One Officer, twenty nine other ranks including stretcher bearer, and Intelligence man. MR. GOULD Officer Commanding.

11 October, 1943

Weapons.

- Three LMGs; Six OSMGs: nineteen rifles.

Time Out

- 0700 hours

Time In

.

- 1430 hours

Object

- To search ground for possible isolated enemy positions, enemy patrolling, enemy movement. Destroy enemy encountered if not in force. Establish base vicinity NAMAPUT VILLAGE, to send out short patrols from.

Route out

.

- Direct to WAMPUM VILLAGE, thence by track in general direction of one hundred and twenty five degrees Magnetic to NAMAPUT, where base for short patrols is to be established, thence by track on general bearing of one hundred and twenty five degrees Magnetic to TUNKUAT RIVER.

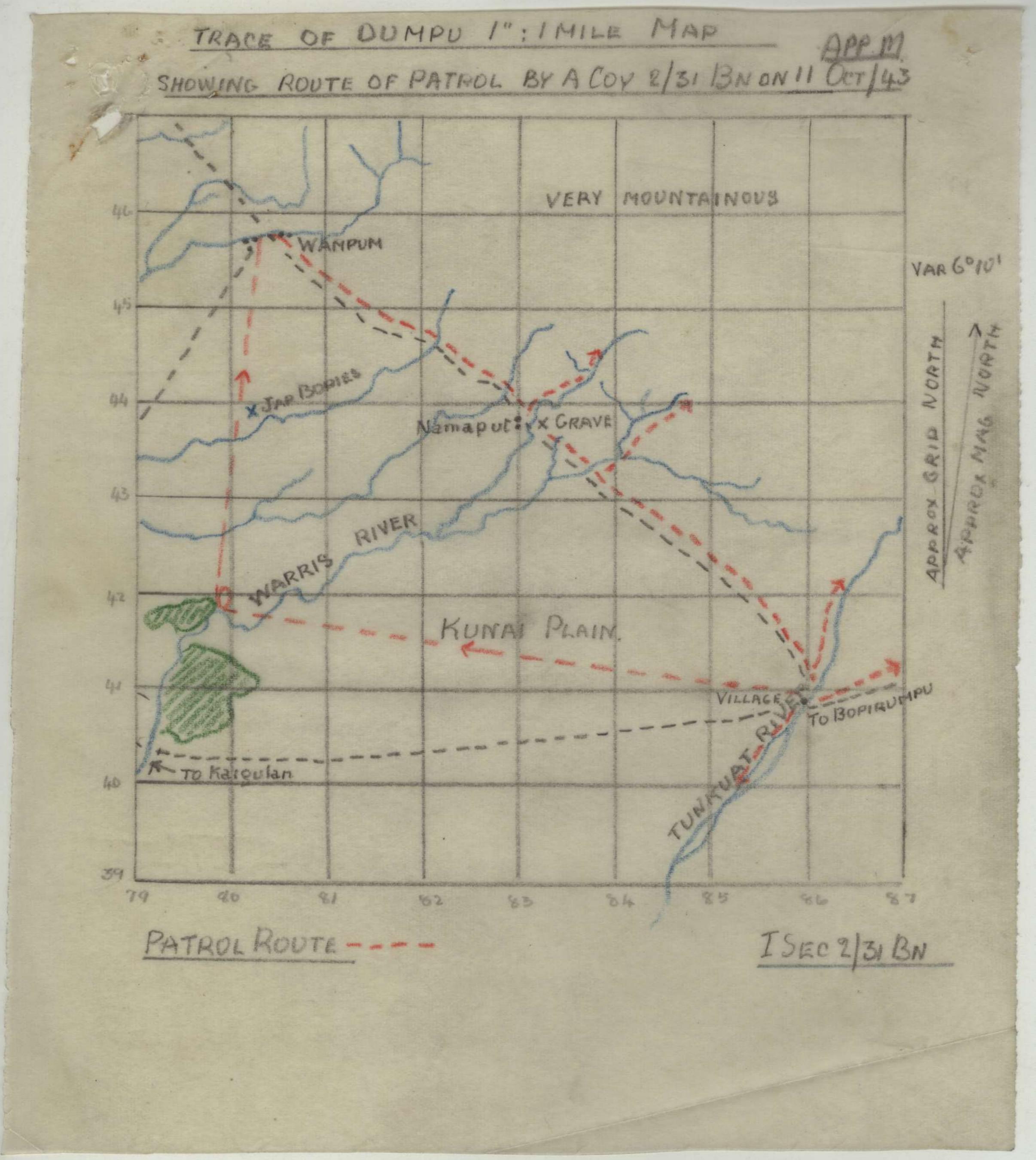
Route In

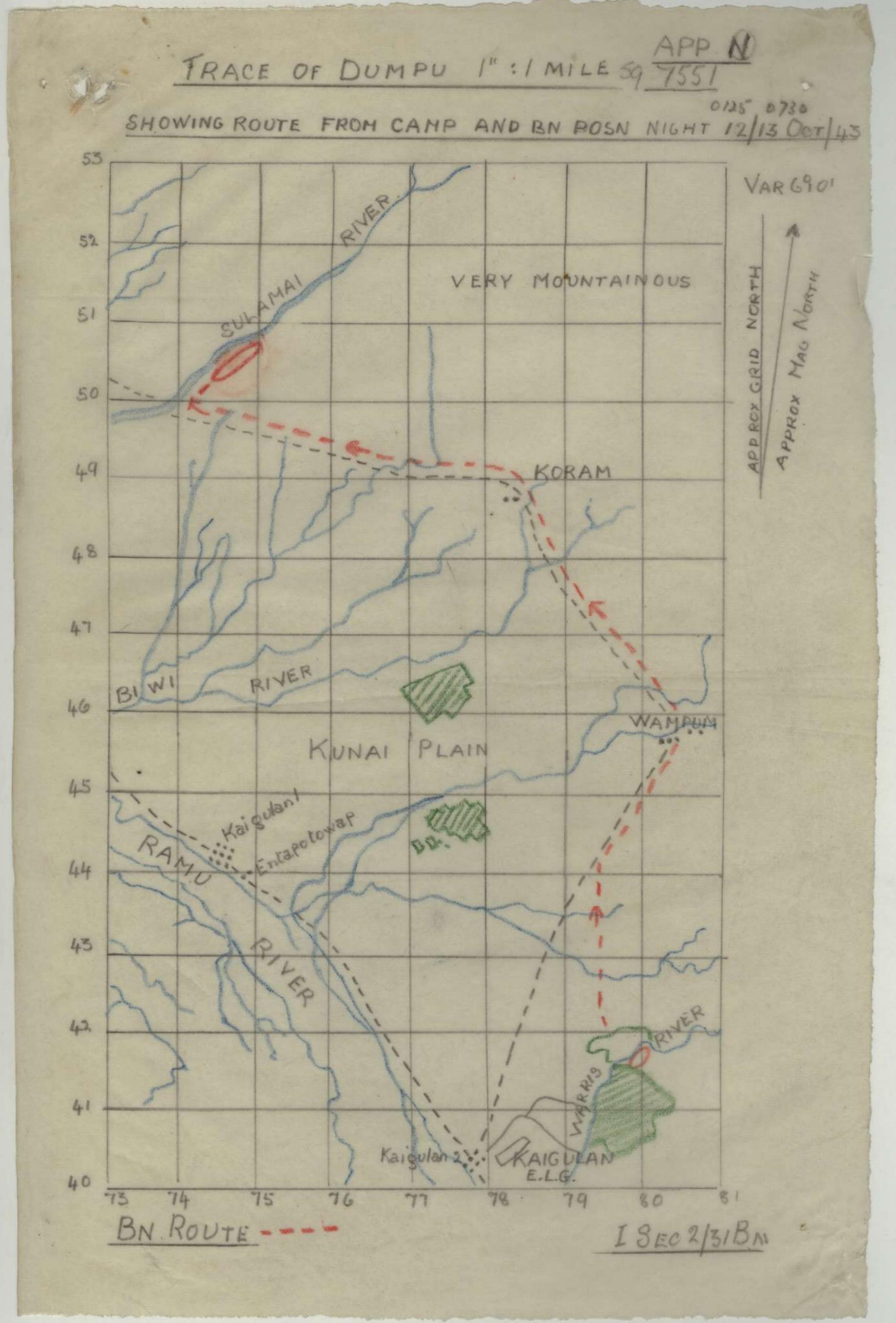
- From TUNKUAT RIVER in general direction of two hundred and seventy degrees Magnetic to A Company's Headquarters.

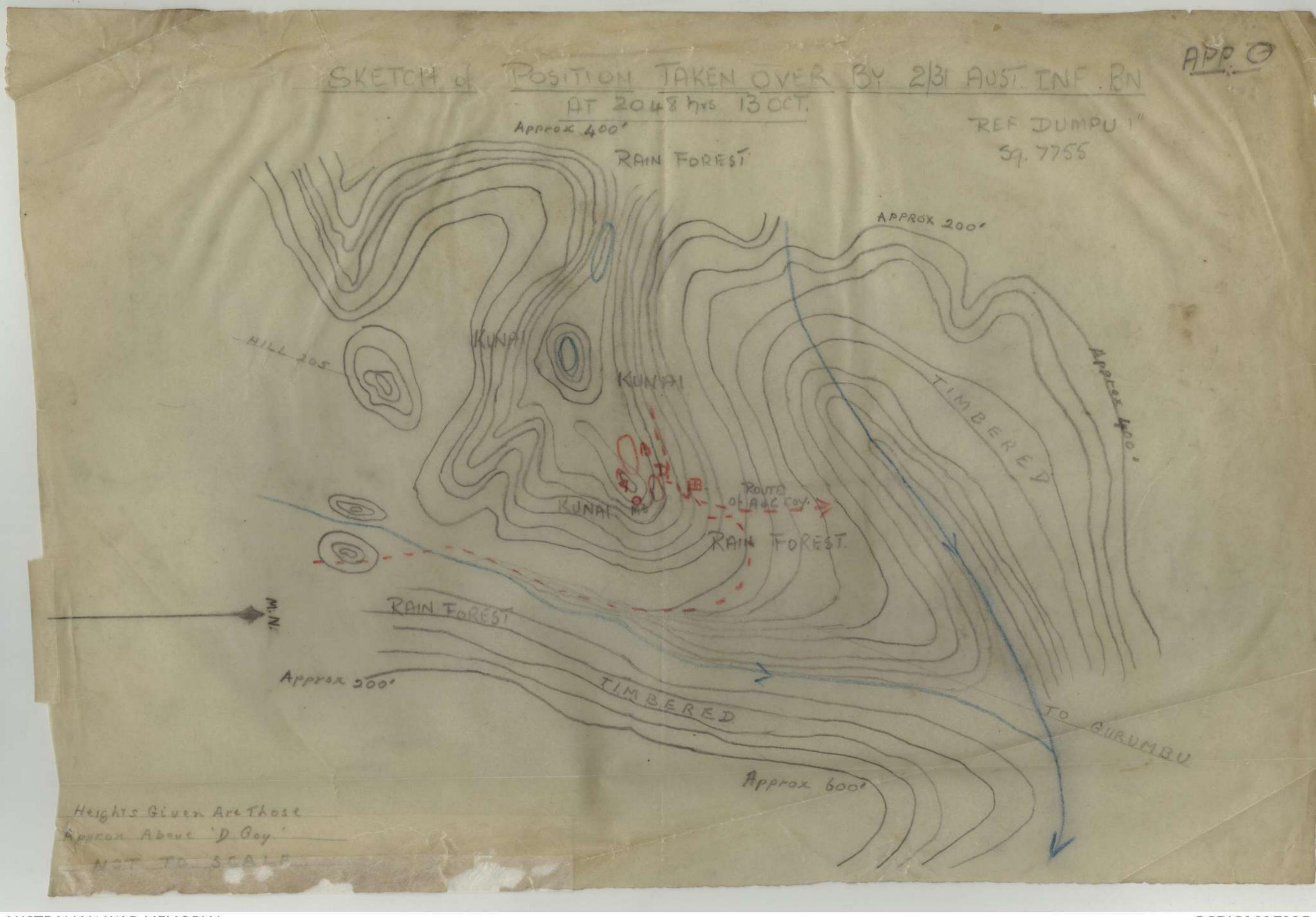
Report

0700 to 0740 hours move to WAMPUM. Rest. 0800 to 0840 hours move towards NAMAPUT. Rest. Five dead Jap bodies unburied in vicinity 880438. At 0855 to 0940 hours. Reach NAMAPUT. Number four section sent on short patrol one thousands yards up re-entrant. Grave not identified at 832437. No enemy encountered. No recent signs enemy activity. At 0950 eight platoon moved toward TUNKUAT RIVER. Stopped at 836424, While while Number five section patrolled up re-entrant for distance eight hundred yards. No enemy encountered. No recent signs enemy activity. Five section returned 836424 at 1015 hours. 1015 to 1050 hours. Moved toward TUNKUAT RIVER. Rest. 1100 to 1130 hours. Arrived TUNKUAT RIVER. Lunch. Native fires burning in village (not shown on map) 860411. Wo sign enemy. 1130 hours to 1200 hours. One to three men patrol sent up west bank, one thousand yards of TUNKUAT RIVER. One to three men patrol sent down WEST bank one thousand yards of TUNKUAT RIVER. One to three men patrol one thousand yards along track to BOPIRUMPU VILLAGE. No enemy seen. No recent enemy activity. 1230 to 1430 hours. Moved back to A Company's Headquarters.

F. GOULD LIEUT.







APP P TRACE OF DUMPU I": I MILE SHOWING PATROL ROUTE FROM DON Coy 2/31 BN. ON 12 Oct/43 53 VAR 60101 52 VERY MOUNTAINOUS 51 50 KORAM 49 48 RIVER 46 KUNAI 45 44 43 42 40 74 80 79 PATROL ROUTE I SEC 2/31 BN.

Type - Recce

13 October 1943.

Rumber of personnel - One Officer, one Corporal, eight other ranks.

Officer Commanding - CAPTAIN RYLANDS

Weapons - One LMG, one OSMG, seven rifles.

Time out - 1830 hours

Time in - 1930 hours

Object - Recce for route of approach to position to be taken up on 14 October 1943, and search for enemy outposts.

14 October 1943, and search for enemy outposts.

Route out - In NORTH WEST direction for four hundred yards, thence SOUTH WEST towards enemy positions.

Route In - Direct.

Report

Cover for approach to position to be taken up ample. Going hard, grades steep. After moving approximately four hundred yards on bearing of three hundred degrees magnetic party moved in SOUTH WEST direction towards enemy positions, and cut made path four feet wide extensively used by enemy. No enemy seen. Distance of path from A Company's position approximately nine hundred yards.

1615 to 1820. Moved on general bearing of three hundred degrees magnetic from a distance of approximately one mile. - Moving tedious, grades steep,

forest dense.

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Intention. To get in position so that it would be possible to reach kunai knob behind enemy position at on 14 October 1943.

At 1820 hours. Go into defensive position on high spur.

Sense 1" to 200 Your Transport too"

At 1830 hours patrol five section number eight platoon with CAPTAIN RMIANDS left to make recee. Report by CAPTAIN RYLANDS over phone to BHQ.

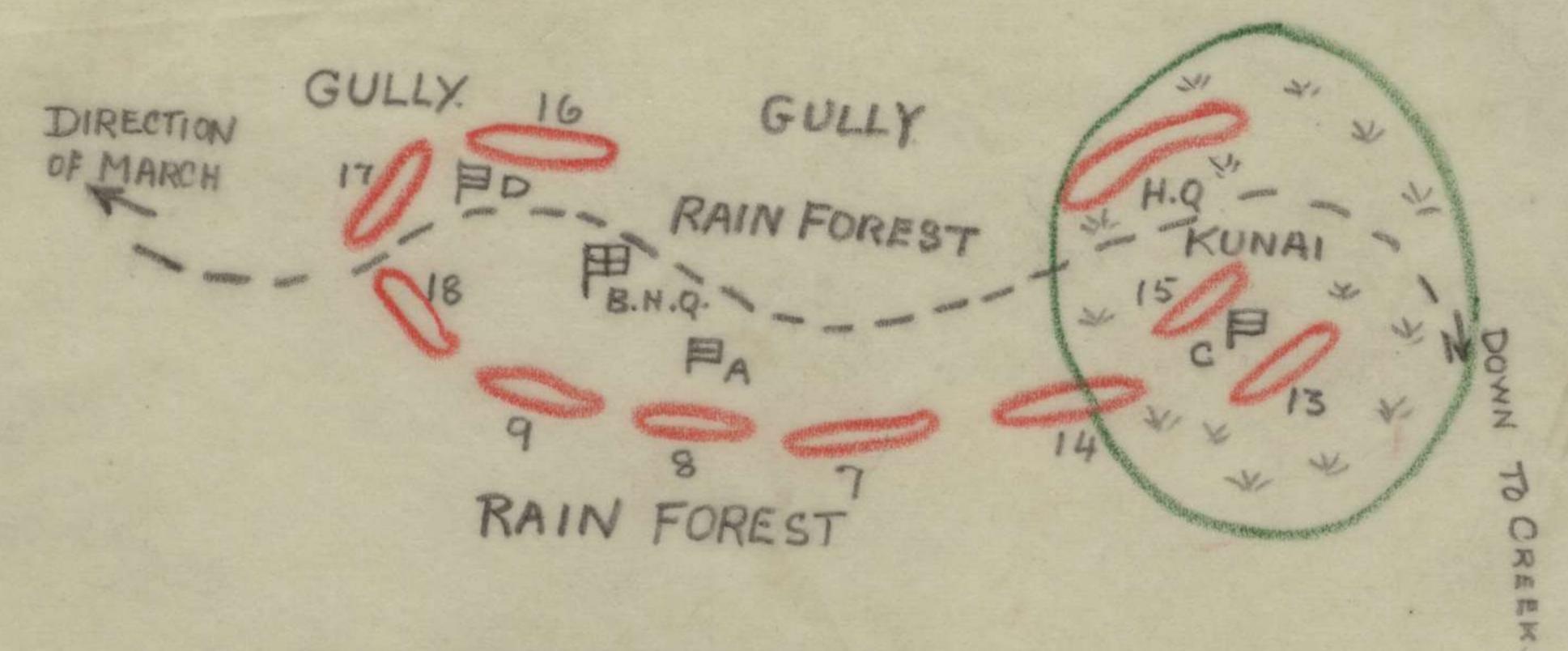
Patrol report attached.

H.A. Brown.

DISPOSITION OF BN AT OTOOLTS 15 Oct 143 APP. R. AFTER B COY MOVED OUT ON PATROL

M.N.

REF. DUMPU!" 59. 7657



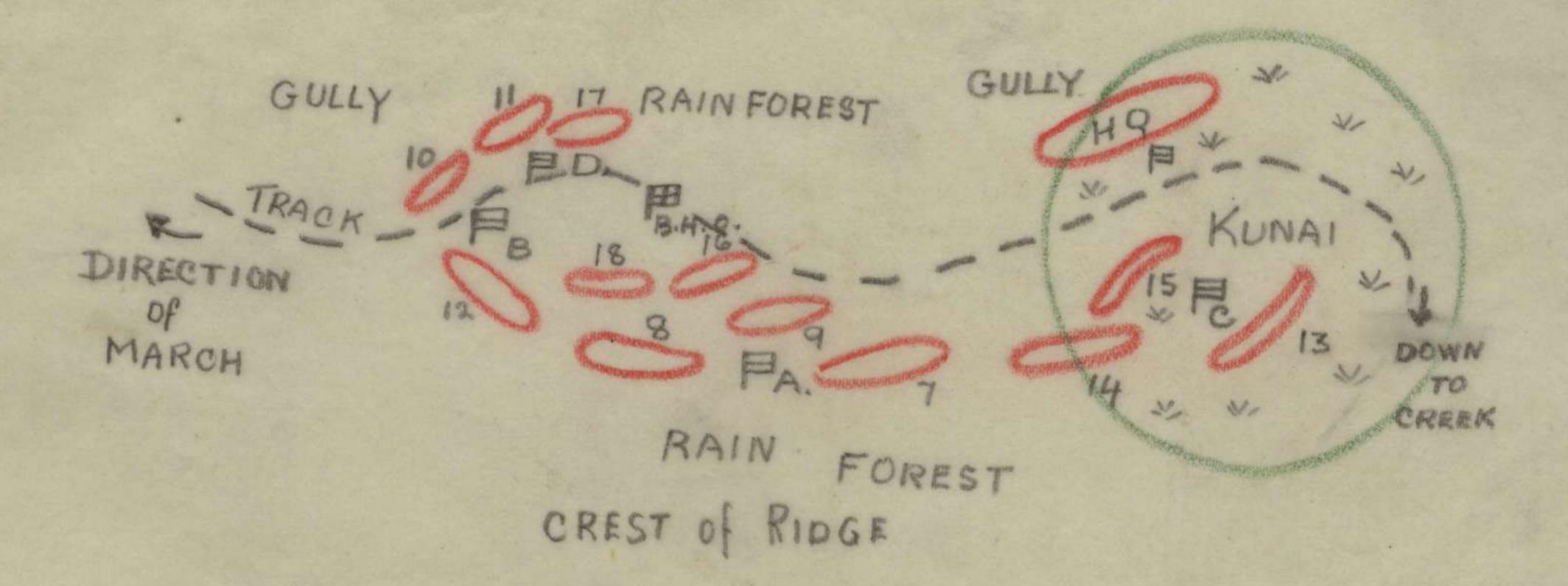
CREST OF RIDGE

SCALE APPROX 1": 200409.

I SEC 2/31 BN

DISPOSITIONS OF BN FROM
1610hrs/14 Oct. TO 0700 hrs/15 Oct/43

M.N.



SCALE APPROX 1" TO 200 YOS

I SEC 2/31 BN.

At 0715 hours JACKSON Company moved from bivouac area and moved in NORTHERLY direction generally.

At 0810 hours Jap killed in camp which had been vacated.

At 1040 khours small village passed. Very heavy going - mud twelve to eighteen deep. Weather fine.

At 1135 hours one Jap shot in hut; camp had been vacated.

1200 hours to 1245 hours. Lunch.

Main track three hundred and fourty degrees. Maps and note books collected at Jap camp. Little equipment left which indicated that withdrawal had been orderly.

At 1330 hours road block reached with three tracks branching off.

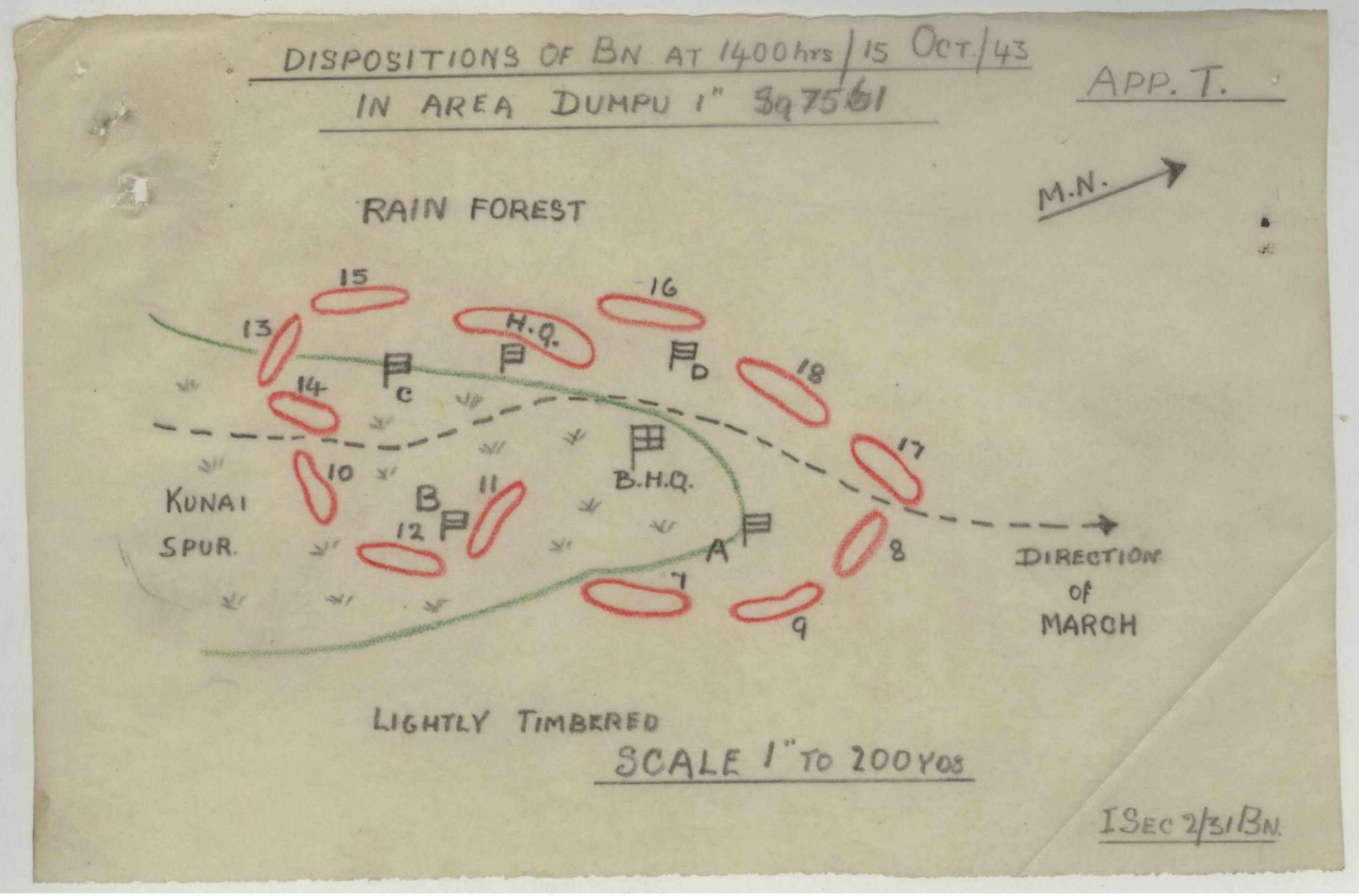
At 1350 hours ten platoon took over the lead from eleven platoon. at same hour section of eleven platoon fired on Jap and missed. Track had been used by packhorses. Track to left led to Jap camp which had been vacated. Japs had been in this camp last night as indicated by freshly cut leaves. Three lots of abandoned Jap equipment seen by twelve platoon.

At 1530 hours Company took up positions on hill (sketch attached).

Ten platoon patrolled track leading NORTH WEST below huts, distance of approximately five hundred yards, track leading to creek.

1800 hours.

Signed K. Hirst.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1027135

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Time out - 0700

Time in - 1620

- LIEUTENANT O'DONNELL, Sjt Pepper, thirty other ranks. Personnel

Weapons - All platoon weapons.

- To recee track thought to be track to YOKOPI. Object

Route - Along track leading NORTH from ROBSON position. ****

Route In - Returned same as out.

Report.

Patrol moved off along track which showed signs of much use during previous months, but nothing fresh till half a mile along found a camp of three palm leaf shelters, where six to eight Japs had camped previous night, and had left some two or three hours before. Fifty yards past this camp was a Jap grave which had been filled in on previous day, and a blanket and pole stretcher.

Here also is a bridge across a ten foot gully, constructed of four poles three to four inches thick, laid side by side lengthways over gully. This bridge would definitely not carry a horse, but there is a detour to the right leading across the gully which had not been used much.

Moved on along the track and found nothing of note except a few articles of clothing - raincoats, shirts and worn out boots - scattered here and there. At two and half miles a dead horse in a creek, and on the other bank were two weapon pits sited to cover the track, and covered with palm shelters. At three miles patrol found what had been a camp site recently, probably camped twenty to thirty men. There are no permanent buildings, and the camp appeared to be a temporary dump.

Articles found here included six empty pine cases, capacity about one bushel, four tins slightly larger than Australian Army biscuit tins, about one thousand rounds of ammunition, rifle or LMG, nine grenades, two respirators, and articles of clothing, including one pair of boots (U.S).

From here had a good view of kunai hills on NORTH WEST side of URIA RIVER and two miles distant. General direction315 degrees magnetic. On the slope of one of these hills are five native but and a garden. About a hundred yards from entering camp is a fork in the track. One section recoed right track to five hundred yards, and reported that track turned from NORTH to NORTH EAST, and climbed gradually round side of ridge to a native garden about one hundred yards square. Also saw fresh tracks of eight to twelve Japs, and two barefoot tracks all made earlier in the day.

One section recoed to five hundred yards on left track which leads NORTH WEST and goes steeply down hill, gradually turning left and appears to lead in the direction of DUMPU.

Very little Jap rations found; only very small patches of spilt rice, and about one 1b of dehydrated potatoes.

The track leads generally NORTH WEST and throughout all the distances is very rough surface. Water plentiful en route.

Wire laid by the patrol, and communication every half hour with ROBSON by phone.

Signed M. O'DONNELL LIEUT.

Appendix V 16 october 1943

Time Out

- 0700

Time in

11771111

- 1650

Personnel

- LIEUTENANT SAWYER, Serjeant Lewington, twenty four other ranks, and three signallers with 108 set.

Weapons

,,,,,,

- Platoon weapons.

Object

- To recce track leading NORTH EAST through B company's position.

Route

11111

- Along track generally NORTH to NORTH EAST and return same way.

Report

By 0820 hours patrol had moved to half mile past B company's forward patrol. Track four feet wide, down steeply and not very muddy going, nearly straight.

Moved along to till 0855 when out of 108 communication. Signallers returned to last point of contact.

0900 - reached a good fast flowing stream flowing SOUTH. Track forked on EAST bank, one going EAST, the other NORTH. Both tracks narrow, and showing little signs of use. Patrol moved on NORTH track, which showed more signs of recent use.

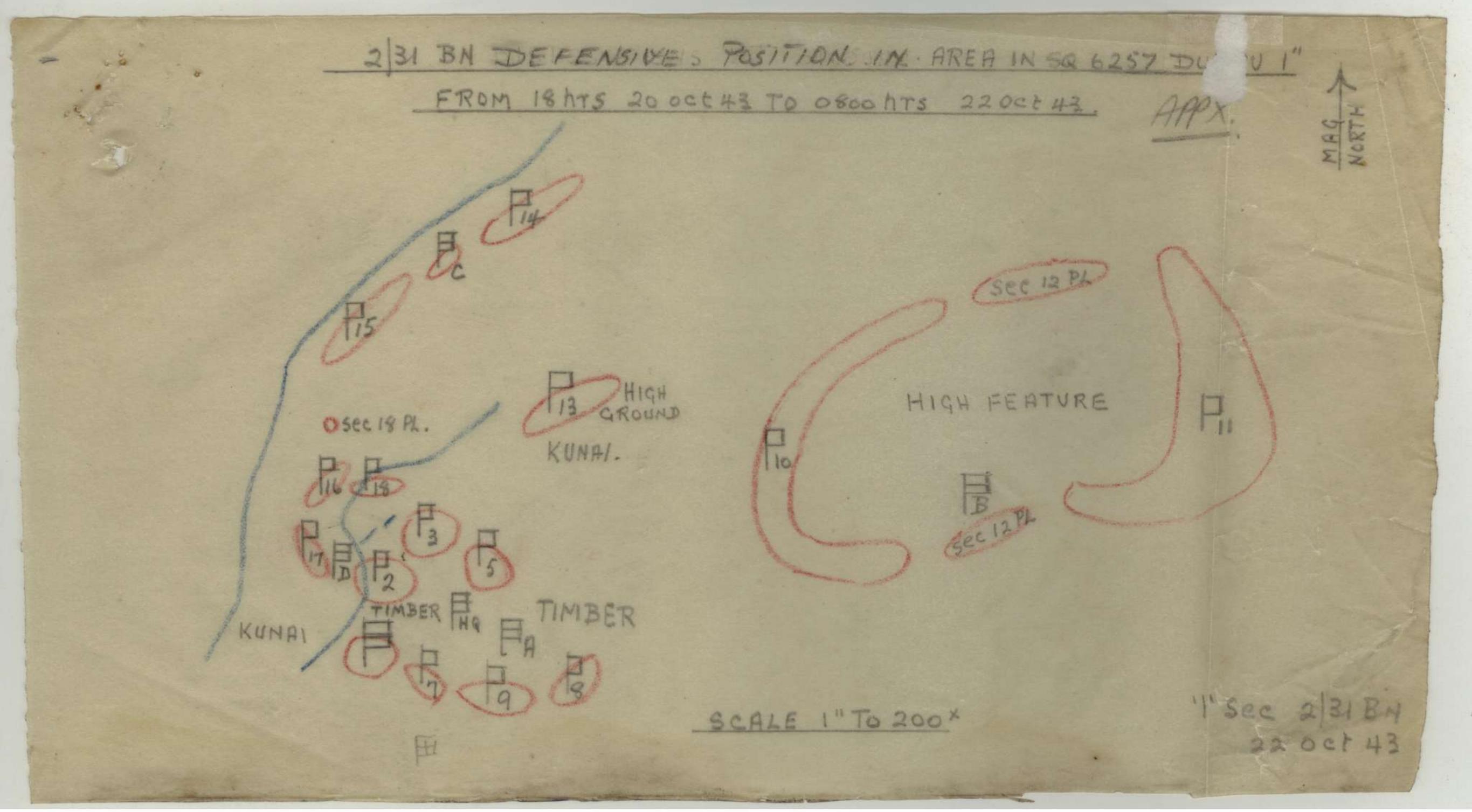
At 0915 two natives overtook the patrol. They were wearing Jap trousers and behaving suspiciously, so were kept with patrol. Could not get any information from them then.

lllo - had crossed another high feature, and down to another good stream flowing SOUTH also. A large landslide on left of track just before stream, four hundred yards square. The track here faded out to a faint native pad. Patrol followed it bearing about thirty degrees, to high ground. Then returned along same track to bivouac area.

From 0830 onwards two sets of day old footprints followed track to extent of patrol. These were probably Jap.

The only other signs of Jap presence were odd pieces of paper, such as cigarette packets, and it seemed certain that no great number of Japs had used the track for a considerable time.

E. SAWYER LIEUT.



APPN TRACE OF DUMPU !": IMILE SHOWING BN DISPOSITIONS FROM 1700HM /8/OCT TO 0800 ON 19/-66 607 LAKE Kumparum BN APPROVE 50 W GRID Bebei W WI 1/1 KUNA PLAIN W 11 54 44 41 MI 55 W .Dumpu 52 DUMPU. E.L.G VI VA 51 I SEC 2/3/BN.

Appendix Y

Unit - 2/31 Australian Infantry Battalion.

Time Out - 0730 hours 17 October 1943.

Time In - 1630 hours 18 October 1943.

Personnel - C Company. Officer Commanding CAPTAIN MCKENZIE.

Route - NORTH WEST along Jap track.

Object - To cover Jap track as far as time allows and endeavour to contact 2/16 Australian xxx Infantry Battalian.

Type Patrol- Recce.

Report: -

* * * * * * * * * * *

- 0730 hours- Company moved out general direction of track WEST SOUTH WEST; after first five hundred yards track condition improves slight-ly. Visibility poor owing to mist and thickness of timber.
- 0845 hours- No. 11 Set got through to Brigade at this spot; approximately one mile from Battalion. A high feature taken taken to be "4100" could be seen on a magnetic bearing 251 degrees, distance 4,000 yards, which, assuming Battalion position to be reference DUMPU one inch to one mile 764588, makes our present position 751587.
- 0915 hours- Track now bearing NORTH WEST. Condition of track very bad; mud sometimes knee deep, and going is generally down hill.
- 1030 hours- Reached "Idea Hope" Creek. A Company's patrol passed.
- 1100 hours- Reached creek junction, approximately three miles from Battalion.

 A Company's patrol which was ahead of "C" sighted one Jap
 straggler at junction. Signs of recent Jap bivouac. Some
 discarded gear.
- 1145 hours- Five hundred yards along right flank of track now running due NORTH, large native garden. Patrol stopped here for lunch.
- 1300 hours- Moved on in general direction NORTH WEST; track now falling steeply to fairly large stream, with good flow of water. This had been well bridged but had been destroyed within the last forty eight hours. Track now runs due WEST through another large native garden. Estimated position Jap, map 037037.
- 1500 hours- Crossed another large stream. Bridge had been recently chopped down, and an attempt made to dig out the track. Shovel and mattock had been left behind. This creek was taken for some of the forks of the URIA. The track followed the stream for a distance of four to five hundred yards into a small enclosed valley, which had been a Jap dump. Estimated position DUMPU one inch to one mile 735605. Buildings had recently been burnt. Here a main track runs north; a small track crosses another creek and follows down stream. Section patrols were sent down each of these tracks. The one following the main running WORTH found and killed one Jap (probably a straggler; he was in a fox hole covering the track with a bag of grenades, and loaded rifle; badge and identification disc sent to Brigade) The whole area stank of dysentery. Patrol bivouaced in vicinity for the night. No. Il set found to be out of contact with Brigade.
- 18 October- Patrol went forward down the track following WEST bank of river 0730 hours to see if track was practicable for the patrol.
- 0930 hours- Patrol pushed forward along track following WEST bank of river for five hundred yards, where it crosses both creeks, and bears in general direction SOUTH WEST. The first half mile fairly level going, then track turns SOUTH WEST and begins to climb, condition of track bad, narrow and very slippery.

- 1020 hours Track now swings SOUTH WEST to SOUTH, and seems to be bearing back to the main track followed yesterday. Track now climbing steeply.
- 1200 hours Track comes out to five feet wide track running WEST which seemed to be track taken by A Company's patrol on 17 October.

 No. 11 set put up but out of order. Section patrol sent along track in each direction. The patrol going east reached main track after stiff six hundred yards climb. Patrol going west followed track to a large Jap camp and dump area on the banks of URIA RIVER.
- 1300 hours Patrol had meal, and then returned to Battalion area over same route as taken on way out.
- 1530 hours Arrived Battalion area.

Unit

- 2/31 Australian Infantry Battalion.

. . . . Time Out - 0830 hours 17 October 1943.

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Time In - 1530 hours 18 October 1943.

Personnel - One Officer, One Serjeant, two Corporals, one Lance Corporal and twenty eight other ranks.

Type patrol- Recce.

Route

- NORTH EAST from Battalion position to track first three miles ahead, then along left branch of track.

Report

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- 0830 to 1130, two and half hours, three miles NORTH WEST track formed, graded four to five feet wide, well used, mud up to twleve inches deep. Track inclined slightly downhill, but generally working round head waters of RIVER URIA flowing continuous. Many signs of use of track by Japs within fortyeight hours.

1130 hours forward scout fired on lone unarmed Jap who dived to cover and escaped. Seven machine gun strips, and five grenades found in his hiding place fifteen yards south of track. Passed track junction at this time, 1130 to 1200 hours, five hundred yards NORTH WEST continued along right branch of track (main formed track) but contacted no further enemy. Halted for lunch. 1230 to 1245 hours, five hundred yards SOUTH EAST returned to track junction. 1245 to 1400 hours, one mile SOUTH WEST moved down left branch of track - track unformed, ungraded. seemed older than main track, not so much used, surface not cut up as much as other track, very slippery on steep grades. Steps put in in three places. Track runs in straight line down right side of a spur to a fast flowing stream (width ten yards, depth eighteen inches) river crossed by jeep bridge. Two small old Jap dumps on this stretch, one at river, one half way down hill. Each dump had three or four huts which had not been used for several months. No stores in dumps. Dumps were protected by defences, approximately one platoon strength each. These defences had been improved by the addition of additional weapon pits, dug not more than three days ago, and sheltered by fresh banana leaves. One Jap officer's grave on west bank of river seemed to be attended to since last rain (rice in bowl was dry on trip out, wet after rain on return trip).

1400 to 1515 hours, one mile slightly NORTH of WEST. Crossed directly over steep sided spur to another creek of same size as last; track in same condition; defensive positions on top of spur astride track, approximately two platoons. Second river also bridged. Small dump on second creek. Two rivers crossed appeared to join slightly under one mile down stream from

Battalion. Established camp at this river.

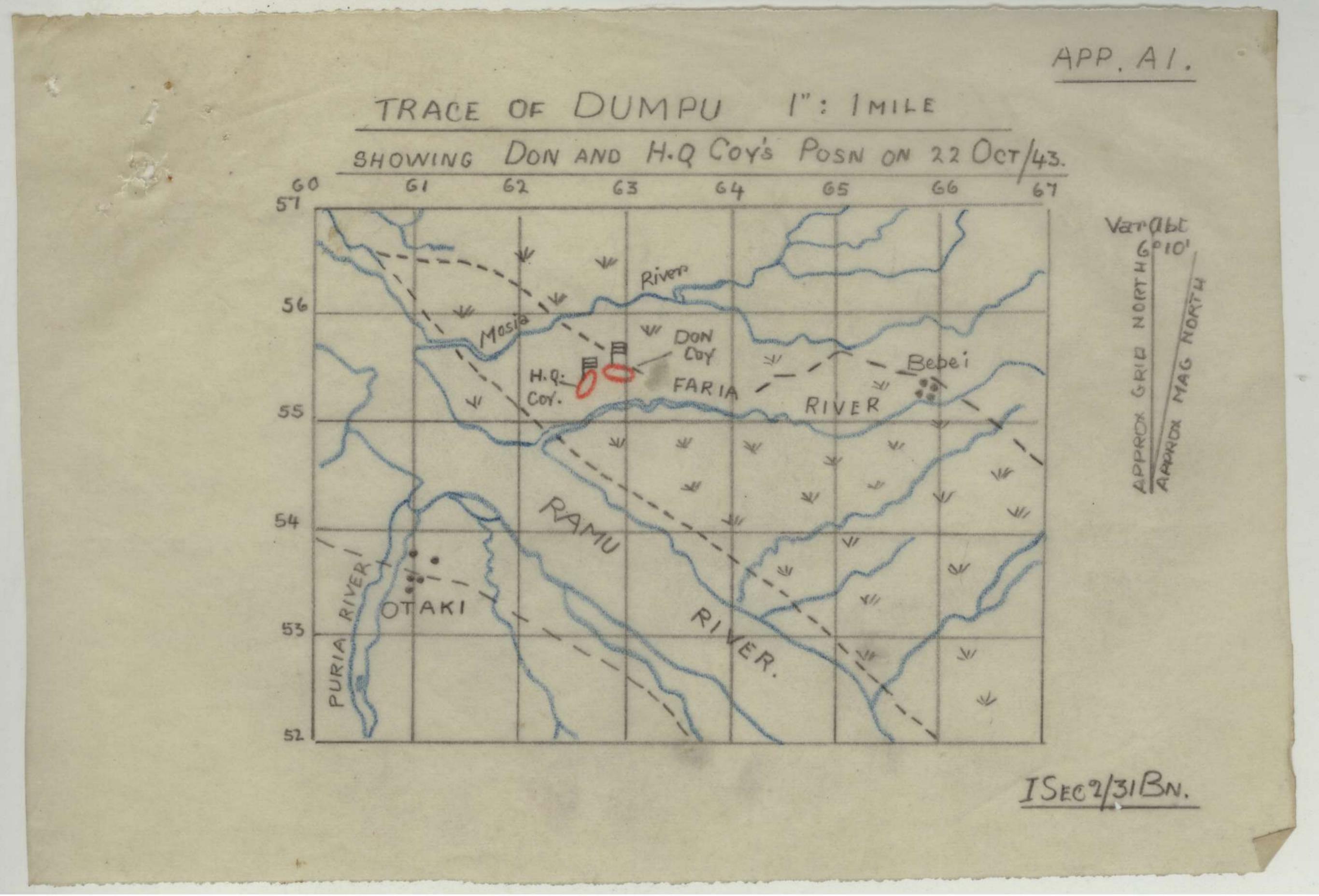
1530 to 1645 hours, one and half miles slightly NORTH of WEST. Continued with lightly equipped patrol along track which rose steadily for at least two miles. No contact made. Brack not

used recently.

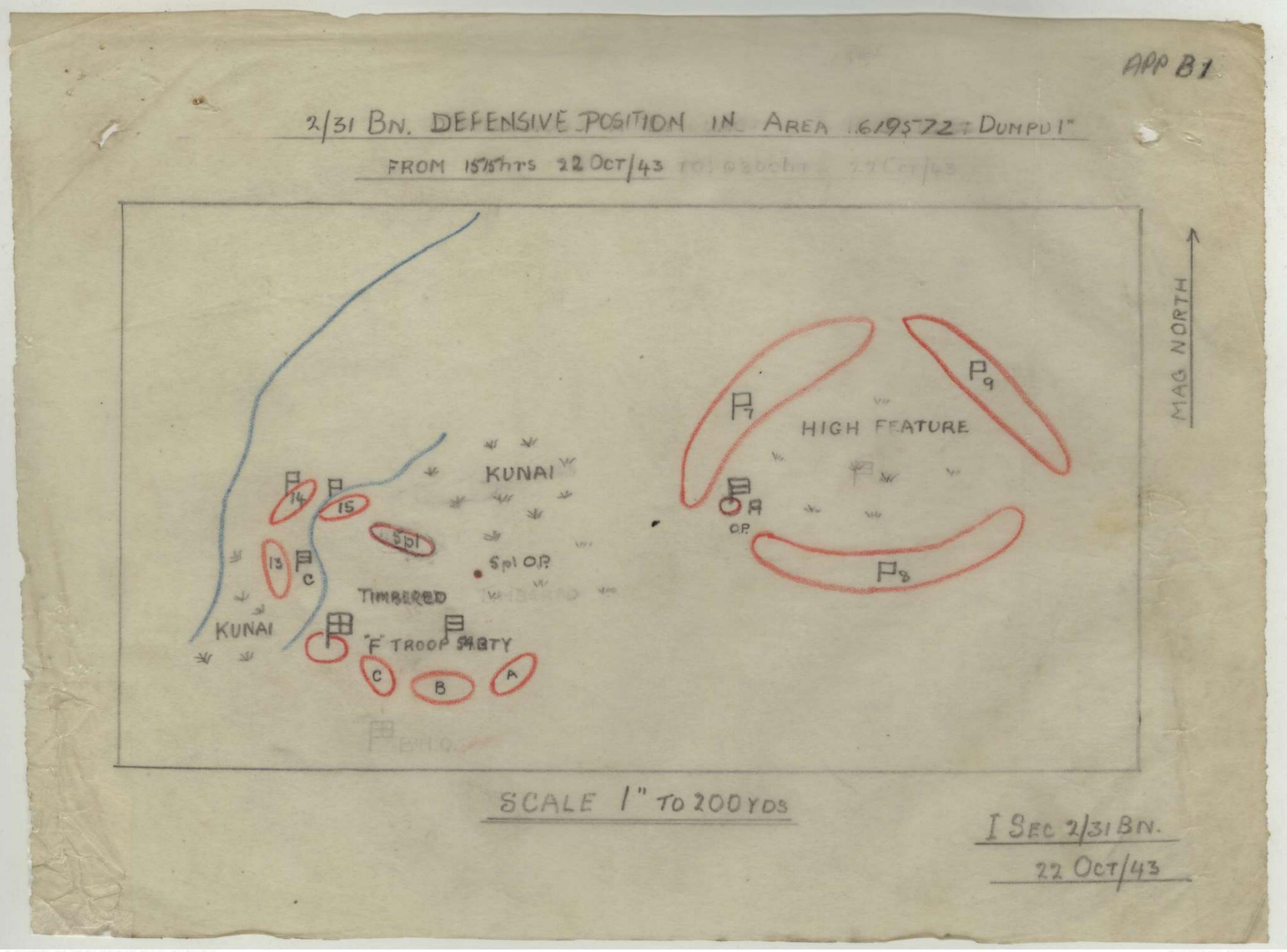
At 1730 hours returned to camp, on river. 1800 hours, patrol from 2/14 Australian Infantry Battalion (six men under LIEUTENANT YOUNG) contacted us. He said he had left the right forward company 2/16 Australian Infantry Battalion at 1600 hours and moved NORTH five hundred yards, then turned EAST travelled about three miles all along track, and had met us. He also said the Jap track continued to the WEST after going through 2/16 Australian Infantry Battalion, and said that the right forward company 2/16 Australian Infantry Battalion was astride the Jap track at 715610 DUMPU one inch to one mile. Returned by same route to camp at Battalion.

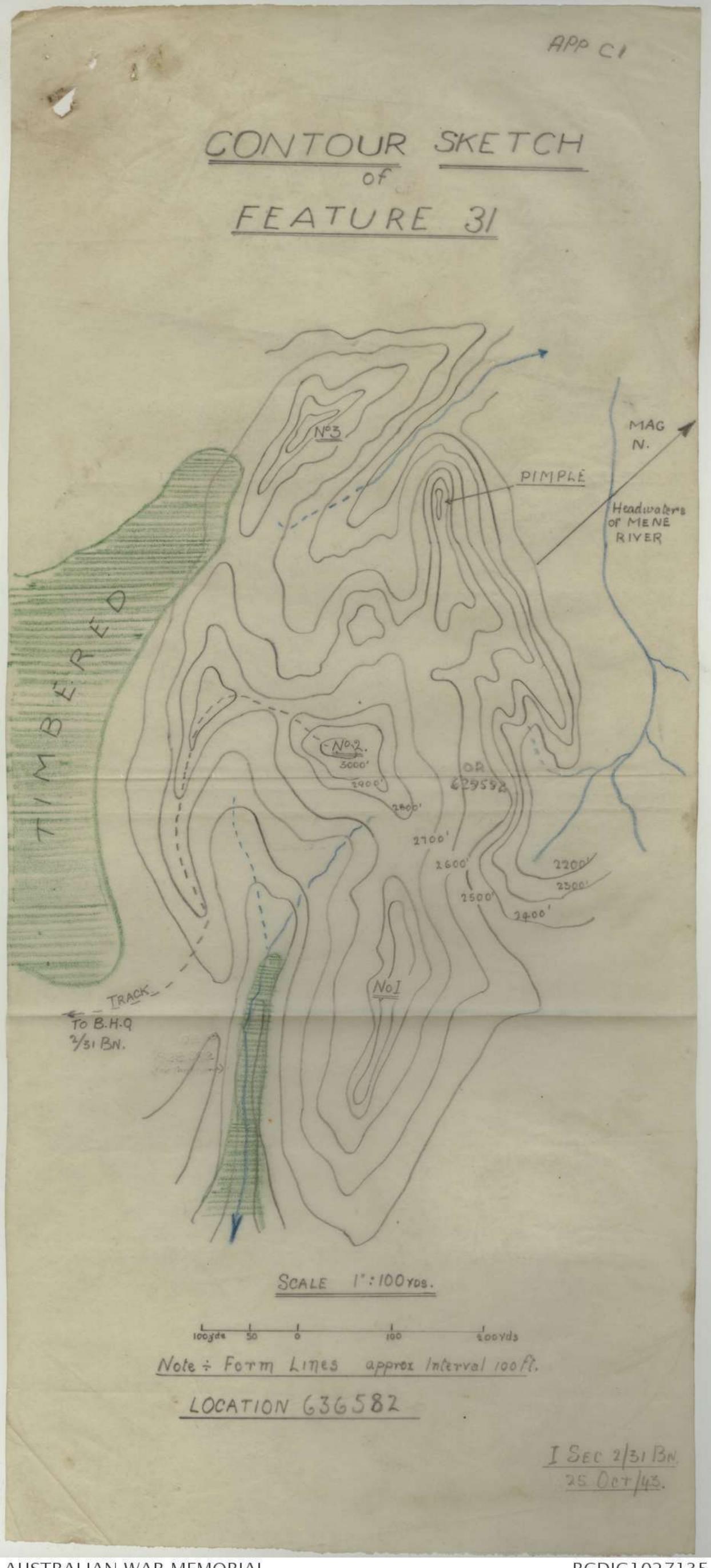
Assuming LIEUTENANT YOUNG had correct position of 2/16 Australian Infantry Battalion right flank, and the map of the area was approximately correct I would put Jap track as running through the following points: 700612, 715610, 719618, 745617, 752614, 770616 and the Battalion followed to KUMBARUM runs approximately

from 7860 - 720592 thence down URIA RIVER Signed D.F. SUTHERLAND LIEUT 1600 hours 21 October



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1027135





Patrol by eleven platoon 2/31 Australian Infantry Battalion.

Purpose - Reconnaisance of existing tracks and enemy activity in the area of the upper reaches of the EVAPIA RIVER.

Patrol Commander - LIEUTENANT McMAUGH.

Route - Along the banks of the EVAPIA RIVER and return via same track.

Time out - Patrol left patrol base map reference MT OTTO one inch to one mile 574642 at 0945 hours 24 October.

Time in - Patrol arrived back at patrol base map reference 574642 MT OTTO 1100 hours 25 October.

Patrol moved forward along the bed of the river wintout incident, until a native village newly erected and comprising sixto eight huts was reached at 591630 DUMPU. Patrol rested while Patrol Commander interrogated natives. The natives stated that there was no enemy activity in the area, but could not give any information regarding tracks etc. Patrol moved on to 597650 DUMPU where lunch was eaten and where a ration and blanket dump was established and guarded by two men.

Patrol was resumed at 1230 hours and proceeded to 618662 MT KUBARI one inch to one mile and arrived there at 1430 hours. Patrol rested ten minutes prior return to patrol bivouac area 597650 DUMPU where it returned by 1600 hours 24 October.

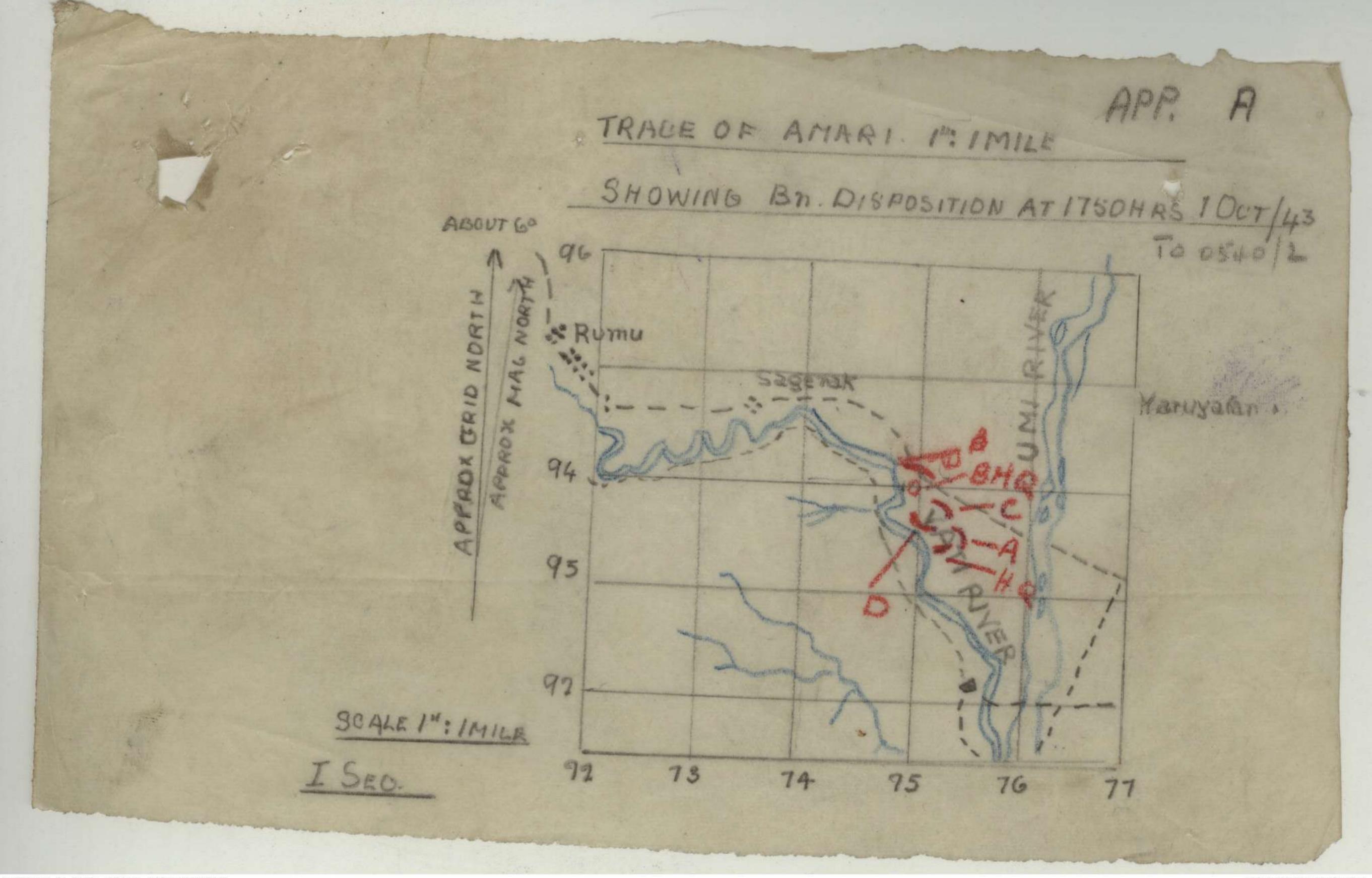
There was a complete absence of signs of enemy activity along the route and the track, except apparently for casual native traffic, was seldom used. The track was fairly level and progress was easy, until map reference 597050 DUMPU was reached. The route from 597650 DUMPU to 618662 MT KUBARI was in parts exceedingly difficult and progress was slow.

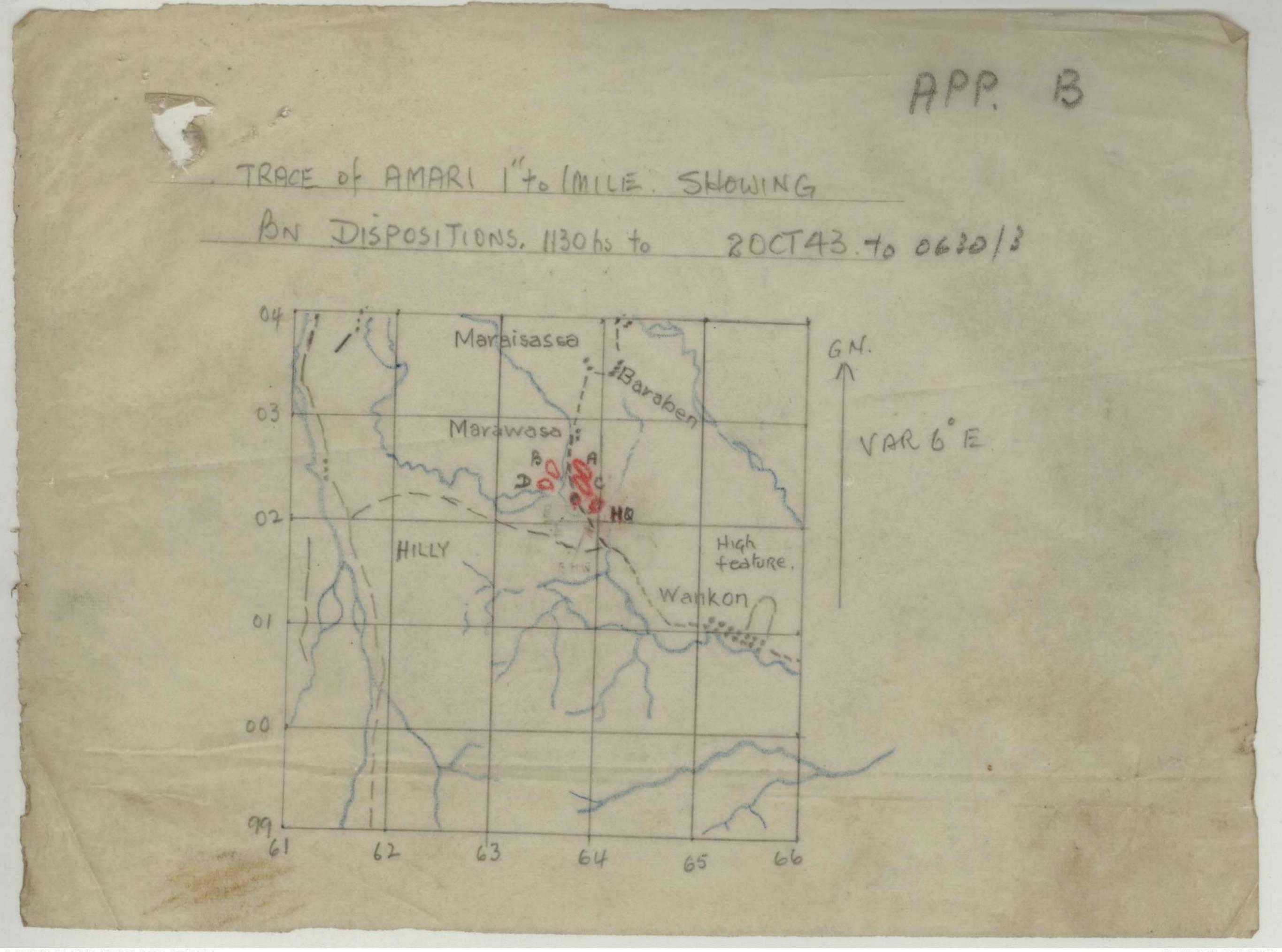
From patrol objective a high feature believed to be headwaters of the EVAPIA RIVER could be observed approximately three thousand five hundred feet yards distant. The feature was thickly covered by jungle growth and observation of possible enemy movement would have been difficult.

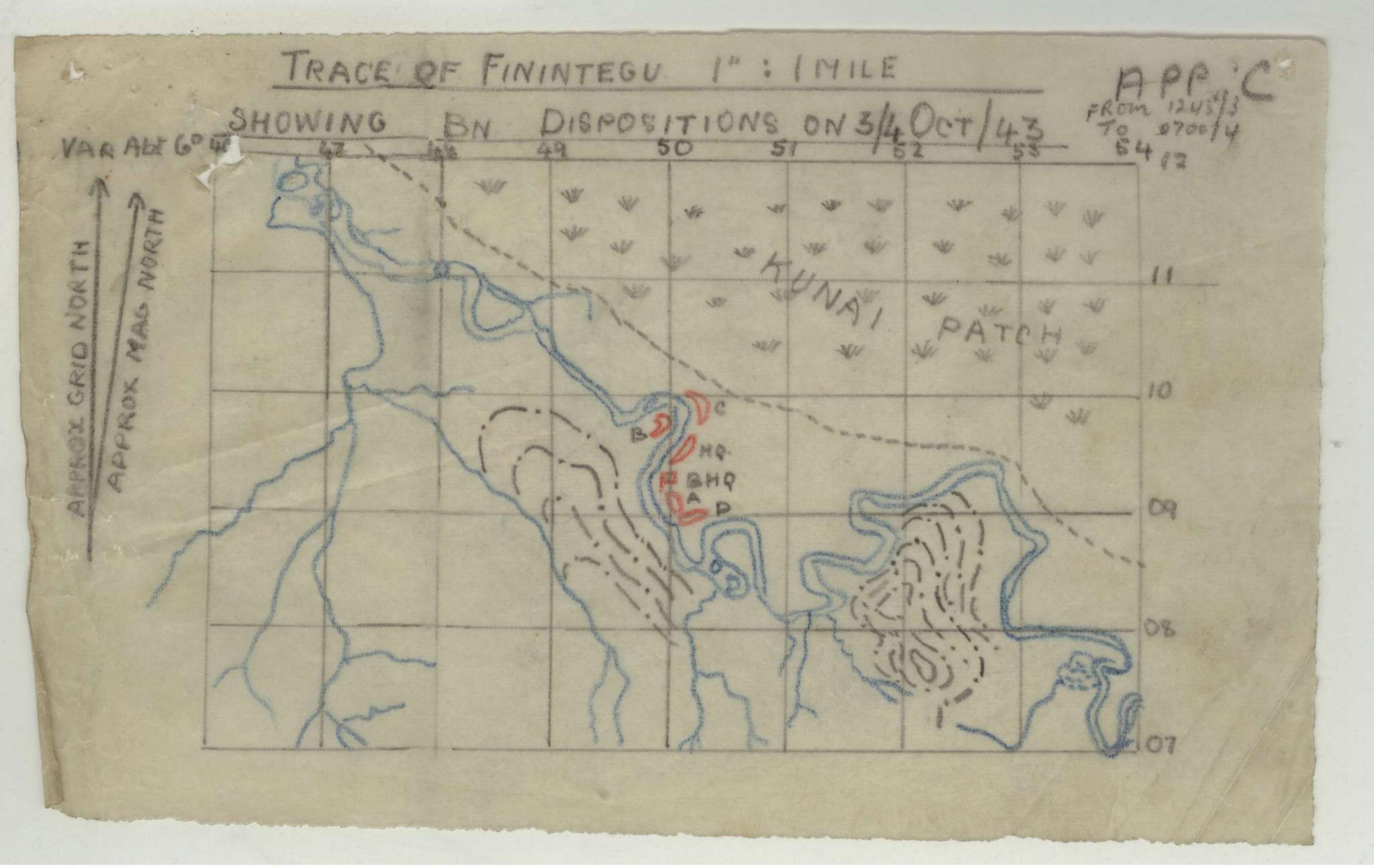
Between 597650 DUMPU and 618662 MT KUBARI six strongly flowing creeks not marked in maps were observed and their locations noted. Locations were: MT KUBARI, 609660 leaving River at 130 degrees. MT KUBARI, 603656 315 degrees. MT KUBARI, 601656, 130 degrees. DUMPU, 597650, 340 degrees. DUMPU, 597642, 90 degrees. DUMPU, 628578, 130 degrees.

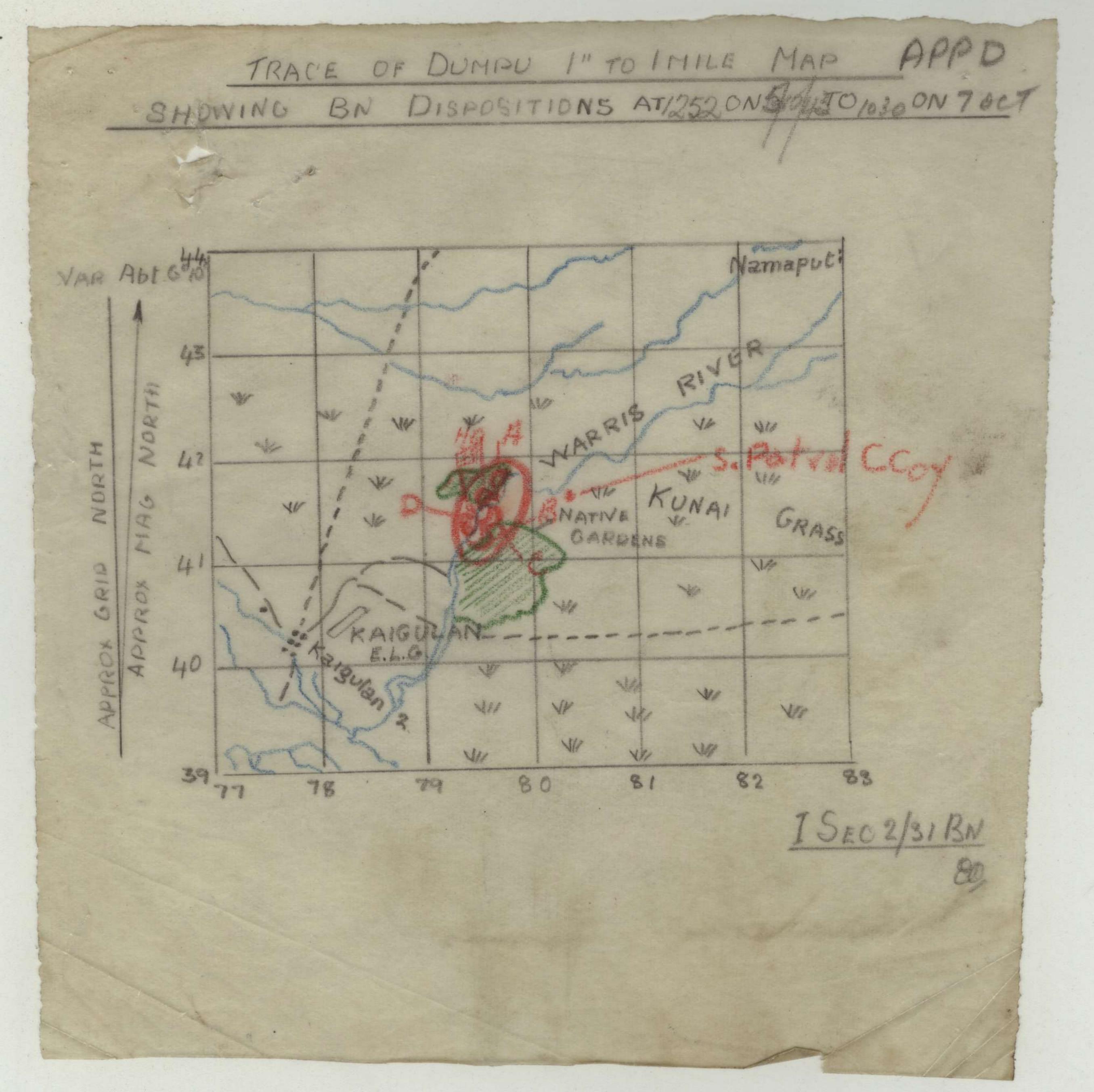
Patrol stood to 0545 hours 25 October until daylight, breakfasted and broke camp, for return to company bivouac area 574629 MT OTTO 0745 hours 25 October.

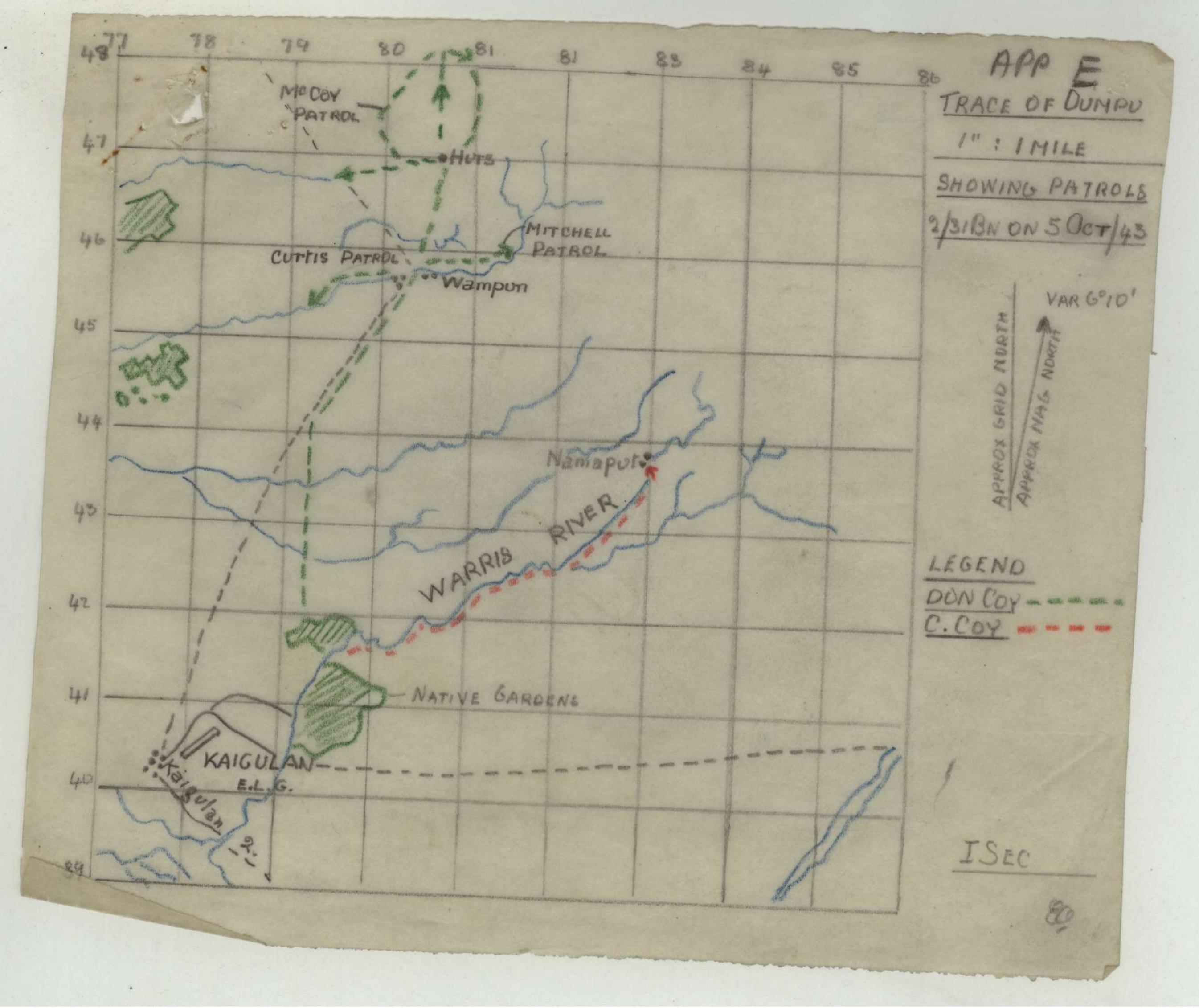
Comment - Patrol of this area is difficult as the precipitious nature of country in the immediate vicinity of the river limited movement entirely to the bed of the river. Lack of signs of enemy activity in this area is also probably due to this, for as patrol had advanced to an area that would logically be assumed to be under enemy observation (approximately five thousand yards distant from PAIPA) it is surprising that no trace of his movements whatever could be found. Information obtained from personnel of 2/7 Independent company revealed that DAUMOINA was six and half hours easy going from KOROPA.

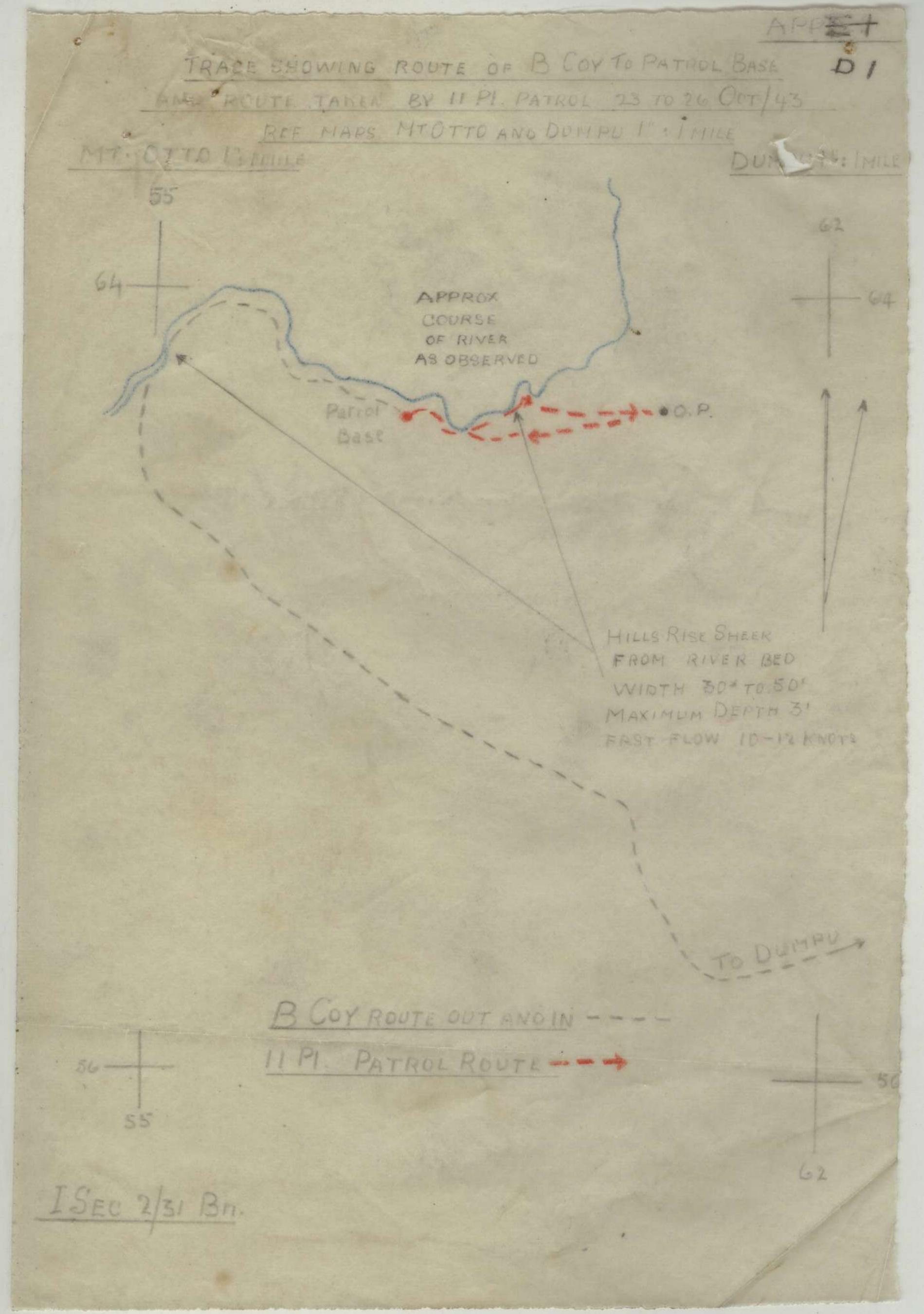


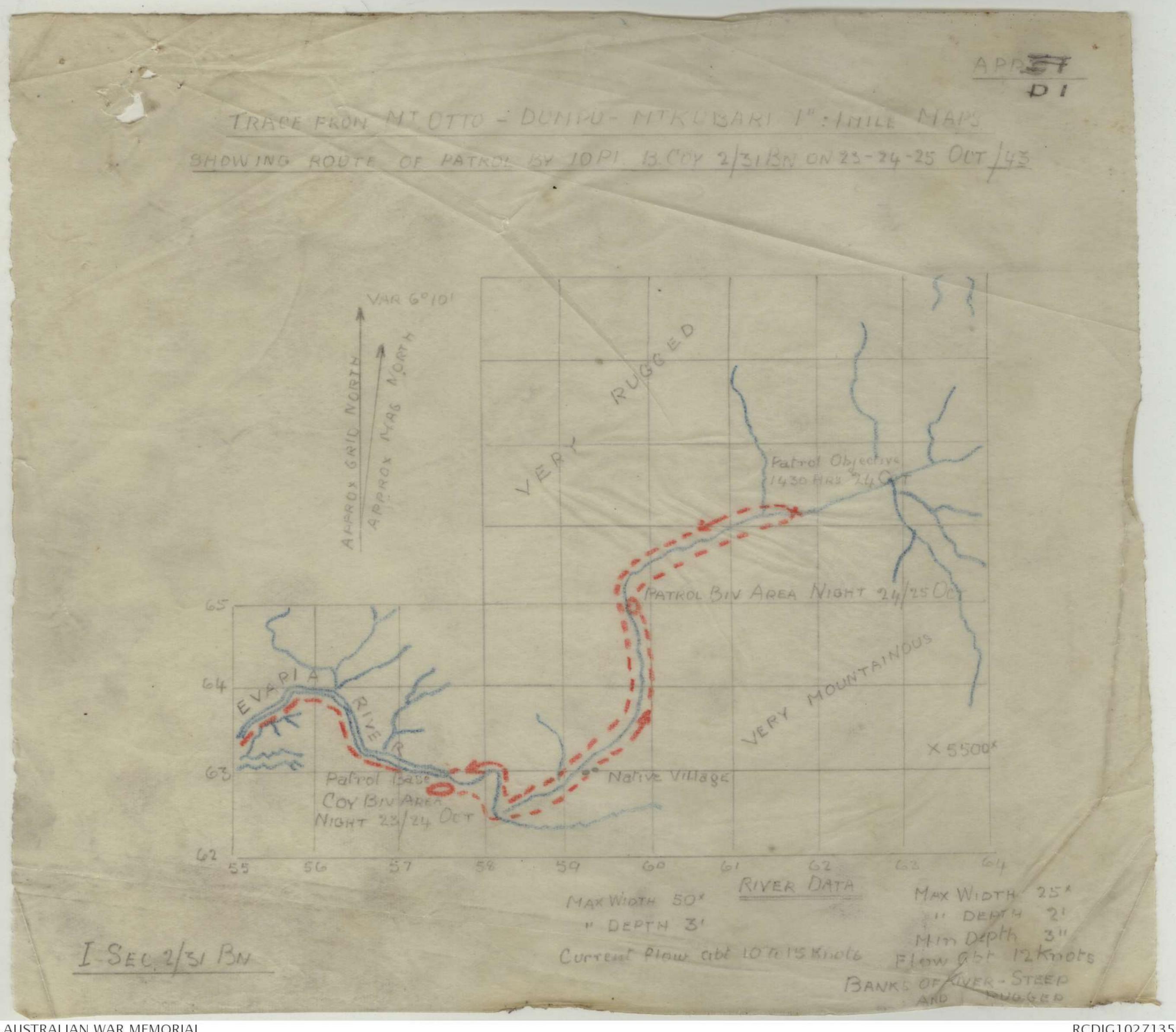


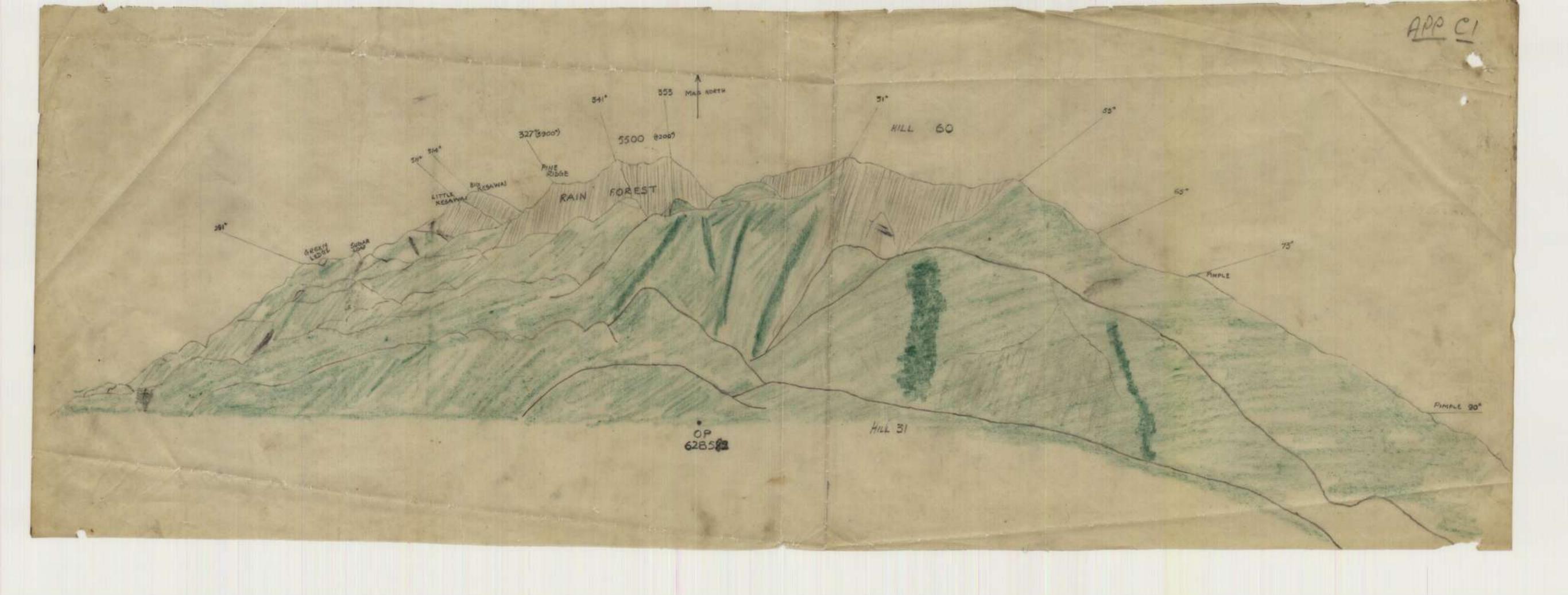












AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

RCDIG1027135

