

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

**Item number: 8/3/6**

**2/6 Infantry Battalion**  
**November - December 1941**



2/6 AUST INF BN

86

NOV '41

PALESTINE

TRAINING

BIVOUAC AT  
ASLUJ

enabled bn to carry out complete Bn Fd  
Firing exercise in which all Inf weapons  
were brought into action. Considered  
that the period spent at ASLUJ is one  
of most valuable training periods carried  
out by unit. Details of exercise app.  
sketch maps app

2/6 AUST INF BN  
NOV '41

MOVEMENT

MOVE TO SYRIA?

Advance party leaves for SYRIA 29 Nov  
arriving in new camp KHANE MAISSALOUN  
30 Nov.

2/6 AUST INF BN  
NOV '41.

MAPS

TRACES

associated with Bn firing exercise at  
ASLUJ app.

2/6 AUST INF BN  
NOV '41



NOVEMBER MONTH  
1941 YEAR

DEC 30 1941

A.I.F. FORM C 2118A

# WAR DIARY

(RENDER UNDER SECRET COVER)

UNIT 2/6 AUST INF BN

For material required, see F.S.R. Vol. 1, Sec. 174

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS Routine training details and information given in Casualty Returns are NOT required	REFERENCES TO APPENDICES	C.O.'s REPORT AND COMMENTS ON MONTH (On Operations, Equipment, Movement, Health, Administration, etc.)
ASLUJ	1	Bn exercise at ASLUJ continued. Dawn attack on LONG RIDGE and ROUND KNOLL carried out as a drill by "C" and "D" Coys; both doing good work. Next a withdrawal to the Staging Camp area was carried out. The afternoon was spent in checking arms and ammunition, and in trying to escape from the files. In the evening, the Padre, with the assistance of the Band, organised a concert.	Sketch Map Appendix 5	
	2	Church parade - Padre E.E. SAVILLE - attended by personnel from attached units.  Unit moved to Assembly Area for commencement of main exercise. The first phase was the Bn in attack in which the unit's role was to clean up part of an enemy harrassing force. The Start Line was crossed at 1430 hrs.  After covering 1000 yards, a platoon of the left forward Coy came under fire from SANDY KNOLL. (Enemy represented by silhouette	Appendix 4 and Appendix 5	Signature.....

A150 Mob Print Sec AIF-25M-4/41-G.



NOVEMBER MONTH

A.I.F. FORM C 2118A

## WAR DIARY

(RENDER UNDER SECRET COVER)

UNIT 2/6 AUST INF BN.

1941 YEAR

For material required, see F.S.R. Vol. 1, Sec. 174

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS Routine training details and information given in Casualty Returns are NOT required	REFERENCES TO APPENDICES	C.O.'s REPORT AND COMMENTS ON MONTH (On Operations, Equipment, Movement, Health, Administration, etc.)
ASLUJ	2	<p>targets.) A successful attack, by the Coy, followed. This was supported by 2" and 3" Mortars. "A" Coy had meanwhile reached CAVE KNOLL from where they reported the presence of enemy on TWIN KNOLLS. An attack by two Coys, supported by M.M.Gs. and 3" Mortars, followed. This exercise was also well carried out and, on success signal, tools were brought up and consolidation and digging-in commenced. There was considerable patrol activity during the night, and enemy was encountered on LONG RIDGE and ROUND KNOLL.</p>		
	3	<p>A dawn attack on these features was ordered, and carried out at 0330 hrs; providing an excellent lesson in the functioning of front line transport, and bringing up supplies during and after the operation. In the afternoon an effective demonstration of defensive fire was given. At 2130 hrs a warning</p>		<p style="text-align: right;">Signature.....</p>

A150 Mob Print Sec AIF-25M-4/41-G.



NOVEMBER MONTH  
1941 YEAR

A.I.F. FORM C 2118A

# WAR DIARY

(RENDER UNDER SECRET COVER)

UNIT 2/6 AUST INF BN.

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ASLUJ	3	order for a withdrawal was given.		
	4	Final orders for withdrawal were sent out at 0630 hrs. The recce parties reported to the 2 i/c at 0815 hrs on BARRELL HILL, and an efficiently executed move was completed by 1115 hrs - carriers and A/Tk guns provided a covering force. This was the final exercise on the ASLUJ bivouac. At 1200 hrs orders were issued for the move back to KHASSA of "A" "B" and "C" Coys; the party arriving at 1800 hrs.		The bivouac at ASLUJ ENABLED THE Bn to carry out a complete Bn Fd Firing exercise in which all the Infantry weapons were brought into action. In addition a Pl of 2/1 MMg and a Troop of 1 Aust A/Tk Regt took part and demonstrated the effectiveness of the fire of supporting weapons and the value of co-operation between the various arms. It is considered that the period spent at ASLUJ is one of the most valuable training periods carried out by the unit.
KHASSA	5	"A" Coy warned to prepare to move to BAALBEK to take over security duties. Bn H.Q. "D" and H.Q. Coys return from ASLUJ.	Appendices	
	6	"A" Coy - Major G.F. SMITH O/C, left for BAALBEK per unit transport.	6 7 8	
	7	At 0830 hrs Bn, less "A" and "D" Coys, moved to beach at ASCELON; returning in time for the evening meal		Signature.....

A150 Mob Print Sec AIF-25M-4/41-G.



NOVEMBER MONTH  
1941 YEAR

A.I.F. FORM C 2118A

# WAR DIARY

(RENDER UNDER SECRET COVER)

UNIT 2/6 AUST INF BN

For material required, see F.S.R. Vol. 1, Sec. 174

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KHAUSA	7	Capt M.M. DUNN, a previous officer of the unit, was the guest at formal mess. He had just returned from TOBRUK where he had charge of the Guards Coy attached to 9 Div. <i>soH</i>		
	8	Football match against our old rivals, 2/2 Fd Regt; the third for the year and the result was the third win for the gunners <i>soH</i>		
	9	At 0800 hrs a four day leave party with Padre E.E. SAVILLE in charge left. At 0900 hrs a combined Church parade with 2/1 M.G. Bn in Camp cinema. Cricket match against 2/2 Fd Regt with similar result to Saturday's football match. Fifty three reinforcements marched in, making unit strength now 32 officers and 624 other ranks. Lieut E.A. LEWIS left for A.I.F. Intelligence School, NEUSEIRAT. <i>soH</i>		
	10	Capt I.E. KERR, O/C "C" Coy, left for A.I.F. Junior Staff School. Reinforcements paraded for an address by C.O. <i>soH</i>		

A150 Mob Print Sec AIF-25M-4/41-G.

Signature.....



NOVEMBER MONTH  
1941 YEAR

A.I.F. FORM C 2118A

# WAR DIARY

(RENDER UNDER SECRET COVER)

UNIT 2/6 AUST INF BN

For material required, see F.S.R. Vol. 1, Sec. 174

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KHASHA	11	C.O. and Capt E.W. WEATE left for SYRIA to continue recee for 17 Bde (DJEIDE) position. Eight Bren carriers arrived from Ordnance, bringing Carrier Platoon up to strength as far as regards vehicles. <i>both</i>		
	12	As from 1800 hrs unit came under command R.A.A. 6 Aust Div. <i>both</i>		
HILL 69	13	"C" Coy marched out at 0830 hrs for exercise in occupation of defensive position. <i>both</i> Warning order to prepare to move to HILL 69 was received at 1600 hrs. One platoon of "C" and "D" Coys ordered to move as advance party. Both platoons packed up, struck tents, had mess and were ready to move by 1705 hrs. On arrival at HILL 69 officers of advance party were invited to mess with Lieut.Col J.H. STEPHENSON, E.D., Camp Commandant, HILL 69 - a gesture that was very much appreciated. <i>both</i>		
KHASHA	14	The main body moved out of KHASHA camp at		Signature.....

A150 Mob Print Sec AIF-25M-1/41-G.



NOVEMBER MONTH  
1941 YEAR

A.I.F. FORM C 2118A

# WAR DIARY

(RENDER UNDER SECRET COVER)

UNIT 2/6 AUST INF BN

For material required, see F.S.R. Vol. 1, Sec. 174

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KHASSA	14	1030 hrs and the rear party was clear at 1200 hrs, having left the lines in a far better state than when the unit marched in. <i>oot</i>		
HILL 69		Lieut. Col J.W. CRAWFORD, E.D., Administering Command 20 Bde, when 2 i/c reported that the move was complete, expressed amazement that the move had been performed so rapidly. Lieut F.D. CLARKE returned to unit from 17 Aust Inf Tng Bn, his place being taken by Lieut F.J. LANE. <i>Lieut CLARKE was recalled to 17 ITB by AIF Reinforcement Depot. oot</i>		
	15	Forty O.Rs. to JAFFA Range for grenade practice with Capt G.R. WARFE i/c. Capt WARFE reported that results were not entirely satisfactory as some troops showed ignorance of safety precautions and undue nervousness. Further grenade training was therefore ordered. H.Q. Coy defeated "D" Coy at football. C.O. and I.O. returned at 1530 hrs from recce of DJEIDE position. <small>A150 Mob Print Sec AIF-25M-4/41-G.</small>		Signature.....



NOVEMBER MONTH  
1941 YEAR

A.I.F. FORM C 2118A

# WAR DIARY

(RENDER UNDER SECRET COVER)

UNIT 2/6 AUST INF BN

For material required, see F.S.R. Vol. 1, Sec. 174

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS Routine training details and information given in Casualty Returns are NOT required	REFERENCES TO APPENDICES	C.O.'s REPORT AND COMMENTS ON MONTH (On Operations, Equipment, Movement, Health, Administration, etc.)
HILL 69	15	Lieut J.H. STEPHENSON, E.D., Camp Commandant, HILL 69 and Lieut.Col T.N. CONROY, 2/32 Bn, were official guests at mess. The former was welcomed as an old friend and the latter as the first C.O. of a 9 Div unit to visit the mess.		
	16	Church parade at 0900 hrs in the Camp cinema, HILL 69. Indoor service went with a swing, although in his sermon Padre E.E. SAVILLE had to compete with bass drums of two units marching by outside. R.M.O. - Capt E.A. HEDBERG - who had been with the unit since Feb 41, marched out to 1 A.G.H. He will be greatly missed by the unit. Capt L.P. GRAY marched in from 2/7 Fd Amb to take Capt HEDBERG'S place.		
	17	T/ Major G.N. NORRIS, who was with the unit during the early part of the Libyan campaign, and had recently been G.2, A.I.F. Base Area,		

A150 Mob Print Sec AIF-25M-4/41-G.

Signature.....



NOVEMBER MONTH

A.I.F. FORM C 2118A

## WAR DIARY

(RENDER UNDER SECRET COVER)

UNIT 2/6 AUST INF BN

1941 YEAR

For material required, see F.S.R. Vol. 1, Sec. 174

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS Routine training details and information given in Casualty Returns are NOT required	REFERENCES TO APPENDICES	C.O.'s REPORT AND COMMENTS ON MONTH (On Operations, Equipment, Movement, Health, Administration, etc.)
HILL 69	17	returned to unit and was appointed O/C "C" Coy.		
		C.O. visited 17 Aust Inf Tng Bn. <i>both</i>		
	18	Recce party, consisting of C.O., I.O., two members of Int Sec and range taker departed for DJEIDE position. A notably generous scale of leave allotted to the Bn from 18 to 25 Nov - 300 men proceeded on leave. HAIFA leave commenced. <i>both</i>		
	19	Range takers class commenced for four days in unit lines. Instructor provided by 2/1 M.G. Bn. Orders given for Mortar Platoon to be increased to four detachments. Adjutant on leave - Lieut A.G.S. EDGAR acting adjutant. <i>both</i>		
	22	Inter-Coy football - "B" Coy defeated "C" Coy Lieut W.L. SHERGOLD returned to unit from 17 Aust Inf Tng Bn, after absence through illness. <i>both</i>		
	23	Church parade - Padre SAVILLE - at 0900 hrs.		
	24	Major G.F. SMITH, O/C "A" Coy marched out to take up duties as C.O., 17 Aust Inf Tng Bn. <i>both</i>		

A150 Mob Print Sec AIF-25M-4/41-G.

Signature.....



NOVEMBER MONTH  
1941 YEAR

A.I.F. FORM C 2118A

# WAR DIARY

(RENDER UNDER SECRET COVER)

UNIT 2/6 AUST INF BN

For material required, see F.S.R. Vol. I, Sec. 174

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS Routine training details and information given in Casualty Returns are NOT required	REFERENCES TO APPENDICES	C.O.'s. REPORT AND COMMENTS ON MONTH (On Operations, Equipment, Movement, Health, Administration, etc.)
HILL 69	24	Major J.G. ROWAN, M.C., Major G.N. NORRIS, Capt K.S. PICKEN, Capt G.P. SWINBURNE, Capt J.S. JONES and Lieut W.L.A. ROBERTS left for H.Q. 17 Aust Inf Bde. Lieut J.H. PAWSON marched out to take up duties as L.O.3, 17 Bde, his predecessor - Lieut H.V. BROWN - having been appointed acting Staff Captain. <i>WA</i>		
	25	Party as above, together with C.O., Capt W.H. SHERLOCK and I.O. attended lectures and demonstration at H.Q. X Corps, on the principles to be adopted by Ninth Army in defence of SYRIA. Sixty four reinforcements and three "X" list men marched in. Unit strength now 33 officers and 718 other ranks. <i>WA</i>		
	26	Warning received to move to SYRIA. Party of 32 O.Rs. (Lieut P.B. HAYES i/c) to HAFFA Range for A/Tk practice. Party of officers at 17 Bde visited probable 2/6 Bn sector at DJEIDE position. <i>WA</i>		

A150 Mob Print Sec AIF-25M-4/41-G.

Signature.....



NOVEMBER MONTH  
1941 YEAR

A.I.F. FORM C 2118A

# WAR DIARY

(RENDER UNDER SECRET COVER)

UNIT 2/6 AUST INF BN

For material required, see F.S.R. Vol. 1, Sec. 174

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS Routine training details and information given in Casualty Returns are NOT required	REFERENCES TO APPENDICES	C.O's. REPORT AND COMMENTS ON MONTH (On Operations, Equipment, Movement, Health, Administration, etc.)
HILL 69	27	Issue of one extra blanket per man. Major J.G. ROWAN and party of officers returned to unit. <i>both</i>		
	28	Bn prepares to move. Conference of officers at 1500 hrs to discuss order of movement. <i>both</i>		
	29	Advance party of 4 officers and 129 O.Rs. (Capt J.S. JONES i/c) left for SYRIA at 0900 hrs and bivouaced for the night at AFFULA. At 1630 hrs an order was received postponing the movement of the main body. <i>both</i>		
	30	Church parade - Camp cinema HILL 69. Advance party arrived in new camp KHANE MAISSALOUN (Ref Map ZEBDANI 1:50,000 - 17931829) at 1500 hrs. <i>both</i>		

A150 Mob Print Sec AIF-25M-4/41-G.

*Stronigley*  
Lieut./Col.  
Commanding 2/6 Aust. Inf. Bn.  
Signature.....



# FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

(Unit.) For Week Ending .....

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

War Establishment.	1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
	*			
	*			
	*			
	*			
	Lieut.-Colonels ... ..	1		
	Majors... ..	2		
	Captains ... ..	9		
	Lieutenants ... ..	21		
	2nd Lieutenants ... ..			
	Quartermasters ... ..			
	District Officers ... ..			
	TOTALS ... ..	33		

\* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc.).

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

**Officers JOINED during week.**

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

**Officers QUITTED during week.**

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

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

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known).
Lieut	K.L. Broughan		17 Aust Inf Trng Bn.















# FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

(Unit.) For Week Ending .....

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

War Establishment.	1	2	3	4
	Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
	*			
	*			
	*			
	*			
	Lieut.-Colonels ...			
	Majors... ..	1		
	Captains ... ..	2		
	Lieutenants ... ..	7		
	2nd Lieutenants ... ..	21		
	Quartermasters ... ..			
	District Officers ... ..			
	TOTALS ... ..	33		

\* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc.).

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

### Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

### Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

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

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known).
Lieut.	H.L. Sherzold		17 Aust Inf Trng Bn
Lieut.	H.L. Brauchun		17 Aust Inf Trng Bn



**PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.**

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	M. or S.	Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	Date Joined Unit.	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
1		Lt. Col		H. Wrigley	MC	Yes		C.O.
2		Major		G.F. Smith		Yes		CC "A" Coy
3		Major		J.G. Rowan	MC	Yes		2i/c Bn
4		Capt		E.W. Weate		Yes		
5		Capt		E.S. Picken		Yes		CC HQ Coy
6		Capt		G.P. Swinburne		Yes		CC "D" Coy
7		Capt		J.S. Jones		Yes		CC "B" Coy
8		Capt		I.E. Kerr		Yes		CC "C" Coy
9		Capt		G.R. Warfe		Yes		2i/c "C" Coy
10		Capt		Q.A. Tilley		Yes		2i/c "B" Coy
11		Capt		W.H. Sherlock		Yes		2i/c "A" Coy
12		Lieut		P.B. Hayes		Yes		Pl Comdr
13		Lieut		W.R. Dexter		Yes		Pl Comdr
14		Lieut		H. McB Stewart		Yes		A/Q.M.
15		Lieut	T/Capt	A.G. Sheldrick		Yes		Adjutant
16		Lieut		H.B. Gullett		Yes		Pl Comdr
17		Lieut		F.J. Lane		Yes		Pl Comdr
18		Lieut		D.O. Hay		Yes		Int Off
19		Lieut		J.H. Pawson		Yes		Pl Comdr
20		Lieut		E.A. Lewis		Yes		Pl Comdr
21		Lieut		M.N.J. Harris		Yes		Pl Comdr (A.)
22		Lieut		H.L. Lever		Yes		Pl Comdr
23		Lieut		A.G.S. Edgar		Yes		Pl Comdr
24		Lieut		A.R. Ross		Yes		Pl Comd Car r
25		Lieut		J.H. Waterston		Yes		Pl Comdr (Mo)
26		Lieut		R.G. Burke		Yes		Pl Comdr
27		Lieut		J.C. Walker		Yes		Pl Comdr
28		Lieut		A.T. Irwin		Schools		Pl Comdr
29		Lieut		W.L.A. Roberts		Yes		Pl Comdr (Sig)
30		Lieut		D.H. Macrae		Yes		Pl Comdr
31		Lieut		H.J. Cameron		School		Pl Comdr (Pi)
32		Lieut		S.R. Walker		Yes		T.O. eer
33		Lieut		H.M.L. Marsden		Yes		Pl Comdr
34								

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Capt		H.A. Hedberg	R/EC		R.M.O.
Chaplain		E.E. Saville	AACHD		Padre

2/6 Aust Inf Bn (Unit.)

8 Nov 41 (Date of Despatch.)

*J.G. Rowan*  
Major for  
Lt. Col Commanding 2/6 Aust Inf Bn  
17 Aust Inf Bde 6 Aust Div.  
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)



**FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.**

.....(Unit). .....19..... (Date).

(To be furnished by all units of Cavalry, Infantry, Royal Tank Corps, Royal Army Veterinary Corps, Royal Army Pay Corps, Army Educational Corps, Corps of Military Police, and all Headquarter units).

**Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.**

1 Detail.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1		
W.Os. Class II.	5		
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants OR Colour-Serjeants	3		
Staff Serjeants	1		
Serjeants	23		
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.	52		
Corporals			
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc.	539		129
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>624</b>	*	* <b>129</b>

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

**Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.**

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Units and Corps to which they belong.
VX4753 Sgt A Jamison	A/PC		
VX4406 Cpl Couglo	2/2 Fd Amb		
VX4408 Cpl Dowd	2/2 Fd Amb		
VX3949 Pte Ashton	2/2 Fd Amb.		
VX13330 Cpl Seales	A.Med 6 Div Postal Unit.		

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

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g. present whereabouts if known).
VX3277	Sgt	Easton	BRC	17 Aust Inf Trng Bn.



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

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.							REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.							REMARKS.		
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour Sergeants.	Staff Sergeants.	Sergeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour Sergeants.	Sergeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.		Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.
Bricklayers																	
Butchers																	
Carpenters and Joiners																	
„ (trained in wheeling duties).																	
Clerks																	
Despatch Riders																	
Draughtsmen (topo)																	
Drivers H.T. and/or I.C.																	
Electricians																	
Farriers																	
Fitters																	
Masons																	
Painters and Decorators																	
Plumbers and Gasfitters																	
Saddlers and Harness Makers																	
Saddle Tree Makers																	
Signallers																	
Storemen technical																	
Vickers Machine Gunners																	
Wheelers																	
General duty personnel																	129 129
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A).																	129 129

2/6 Aust Inf Bn

8 Nov 41 Unit.

Date of Despatch

*J. Rowan* Major for  
Lt. Col. Comd 2/6 Aust Inf Bn  
Signature of Commander  
17 Aust Inf Bde 6 Aust Div

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



# FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/6 AUST INF BN.

15 November 1941

(Unit.) For Week Ending

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

War Establishment.	1	2	3	4
	Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
	*			
	*			
	*			
	*			
	Lieut.-Colonels ...	1		
	Majors... ..	2		
	Captains ... ..	9		
	Lieutenants ... ..	20	----	----
	2nd Lieutenants ... ..			
	Quartermasters ... ..			
	District Officers ... ..			
	TOTALS ... ..	32	----	----

\* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc.).

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

### Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

### Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Lieut	LANE F.J.		14 Nov	Seconded 17 I.T.B.N.

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

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



PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	M. or S.	Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	Date Joined Unit.	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
1		Lt.Col		H. Wrigley MC.		YES		C.O.
2		Major		G.F. SMITH		YES		OC "A" Coy
3		Major		J.G. Rowan MC		YES		2i/c Bn.
4		Capt		E.W. Weate		YES		
5		Capt		K.S. Picken		YES		OC HQ Coy
6		Capt		G.P. Swinburne		YES		OC "D" Coy
7		Capt		J.S. Jones		YES		OC "B" Coy
8		Capt		I.E. Kerr		SCHOOL		OC "C" Coy
9		Capt		G.R. Warfe		YES		2i/c "C" Coy
10		Capt		Q.A. Tilley		YES		2i/c "B" Coy
11		Capt		W.H. Sherlock		YES		2i/c "A" Coy
12		Lieut		P.B. Hayes		YES		Pl Comdr
13		Lieut		W.R. Dexter		YES		Pl Comdr
14		Lieut		H.McB. Stewart		YES		A/Q.M.
15		Lieut	T/Capt	A.G. Sheldrick		YES		Adjutant
16		Lieut		H.B. Gullett		YES		Pl Comdr
17		Lieut		D.O. Hay		YES		<del>Six months</del> I.O.
18		Lieut		J.H. Pawson		YES		Pl Comdr
19		Lieut		E.A. Lewis		SCHOOL		Pl Comdr
20		Lieut		M.N.J. Harris		YES		Pl Comdr (AA) <del>in</del>
21		Lieut		H.L. Laver		YES		Pl Comdr
22		Lieut		A.G.S. Edgar		YES		Pl Comdr
23		Lieut		A.R. Ross		YES		Pl Comdr Carrier
24		Lieut		J.W. Waterston		YES		Pl Comdr Mortars
25		Lieut		R.G. Burke		YES		Pl Comdr
26		Lieut		J.C. Walker		YES		Pl Comdr
27		Lieut		A.T. Irwin		SCHOOL		Pl Comdr
28		Lieut		W.L.A. Roberts		YES		Pl Comdr Sigs
29		Lieut		D.M. Macrae		YES		Pl Comdr
30		Lieut		W.J. Cameron		YES		Pl Comdr Pioneer
31		Lieut		S.R. Walker		YES		Transport Offr
32		Lieut		H.McL. Marsden		YES		Pl Comdr
33								
34								

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Capt		E.A. Hedberg	AAMC		R.M.O.
Chaplain		E.E. Saville	AACHD		Padre

2/6 Aust Inf Bn  
(Unit.)

15 Nov 41  
(Date of Despatch.)

*H. Wrigley*  
Lieut.Col.  
Commanding 2/6 Aust Inf Bn.  
17 Aust Inf Bde 6 Aust Div.  
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)











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1<sup>st</sup> Lieut

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FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

**2/6 Aust Inf Bn** (Unit) **22 Nov** 19**41** (Date).

(To be furnished by all units of Cavalry, Royal Armoured Corps, Infantry, Royal Army Veterinary Corps, Royal Army Pay Corps, Army Educational Corps, Corps of Military Police, and all Headquarters units).

**Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.**

1 Detail.	2 Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	<b>1</b>		
W.Os. Class II.	<b>5</b>		
W.Os. Class III.			
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants OR Colour-Serjeants	<b>3</b>		
Staff Serjeants			
Serjeants			
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.	<b>27</b>		
Corporals <b>L/Sgts</b>	<b>2</b>		
	<b>46</b>		
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusilliers, etc.	<b>577</b>		<b>92</b>
TOTALS	<b>661</b>		<b>92</b>

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

**Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.**

Detail	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
<b>VX4753 Sgt Jamieson A.</b>	<b>A.A.Pay C.</b>		
<b>VX4406 Cpl Cogle ME</b>	<b>2/2 Fd Amb</b>		
<b>VX4408 Cpl Dowd RF</b>	<b>2/2 Fd Amb</b>		
<b>VX13330 Cpl Sealies AMcD</b>	<b>6 Div Post Unit</b>		
<b>VX 5110 Cpl Murrell ALK</b>	<b>AAOD</b>		
<b>VX3949 Pte Ashton HR.</b>	<b>2/2 Fd Amb</b>		
<b>VX31250 Pte Evans W.</b>	<b>AAOD</b>		

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

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



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

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.									REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.							REMARKS.			
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.O.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.O.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.		Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.
Bricklayers ... ..																				
Butchers ... ..																				
Carpenters and Joiners ...																				
Clerks ... ..																				
Cooks ... ..																				
Despatch Riders ... ..																				
Drivers I.C. (Tracked) ...																				
" " (Wheeled) ...																				
Drivers-Mechanics ... ..																				
Drivers-Operators ... ..																				
Electricians ... ..																				
Equipment Repairers ...																				
Farriers ... ..																				
Fitters ... ..																				
Machine Gunners ... ..																				
Masons ... ..																				
Motor Mechanics ... ..																				
Pioneers, Infantry (other than tradesmen) ... ..																				
Plumbers and Pipefitters ...																				
Range Takers ... ..																				
Saddlers & Harness Maker																				
Saddle Tree Makers ... ..																				
Sanitary and Water Duties																				
Signallers ... ..																				
Storemen technical ... ..																				
Tailors ... ..																				
Wheelers ... ..																				
General duty personnel ...																			92	92
TOTALS (to agree with Col- umn 3 and 4 of Part A).																			92	92

2/6 Aust Inf Bn

Unit.

Date of Despatch 22 Nov 41

*J. Rowan Major*  
Lieut. Col. A.O.O.  
Signature of Commander.  
Commanding 2/6 Aust Inf Bn,  
17 Aust Inf Bde, 6 Aust Div.  
Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.



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# FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/6 Aust Inf Bn (Unit.) For Week Ending .....

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

War Establishment.	1	2	3	4
	Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
	*			
	*			
	*			
	*			
	Lieut.-Colonels ... ..	<b>1</b>		
	Majors ... ..	<b>3</b>		
	Captains ... ..	<b>9</b>		
	Lieutenants ... ..	<b>20</b>		
	2nd Lieutenants ... ..			
	Quartermasters ... ..			
	District Officers ... ..			
	<b>TOTALS ... ..</b>	<b>33</b>		

\* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc.).

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
<b>Major</b>	<b>G.M. Norris</b>		<b>17 Nov 41</b>	<b>On ceasing to be seconded HQ AIF Base Area as GSO(ii)(o)</b>

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

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

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



PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	M. or S.	Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	Date Joined Unit.	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
1		Lieut. Col		H. Wrigley MC.		Yes		C.O.
2		Major		G.F. Smith		Yes		OC "A" Coy
3		Major		J.G. Rowan MC.		Yes		2i/c Bn.
4		Capt	T/Major	G.M. Norris		Yes		OC "C" Coy
5		Capt		E.W. Weate		Yes		
6		Capt		K.S. Picken		Yes		OC "HQ" Coy
7		Capt		G.P. Swinburne		Yes		OC "D" Coy
8		Capt		J.S. Jones		Yes		OC "B" Coy
9		Capt		I.E. Kerr		School		
10		Capt		G.R. Warfe		Yes		2i/c "C" Coy
11		Capt		Q.A. Tilley		Yes		2i/c "B" Coy
12		Capt		W.H. Sherlock		Yes		2i/c "A" Coy
13		Lieut		P.B. Hayes		Yes		Pl Comdr
14		Lieut		W.R. Dexter		Yes		Pl Comdr
15		Lieut		H.McB. Stewart		Yes		A/QM.
16		Lieut	T/Capt	A.G. Sheldrick		Yes		Adjutant
17		Lieut		H.B. Gullett		Yes		Pl Comdr
18		Lieut		D.O. Hay		Yes		Rk Int Offr
19		Lieut		J.H. Pawson		Yes		Pl Comdr
20		Lieut		E.A. Lewis		School		Pl Comdr
21		Lieut		M.N.J. Harris		Yes		Pl Comdr (AA)
22		Lieut		H.L. Laver		Yes		Pl Comdr
23		Lieut		A.G.S. Edgar		Yes		Pl Comdr
24		Lieut		A.R. Ross		Yes		Pl Comdr (Carriers)
25		Lieut		J.W. Waterston		Yes		Pl Comdr (Mortar)
26		Lieut		R.G. Burke		Yes		Pl Comdr
27		Lieut		J.C. Walker		Yes		Pl Comdr
28		Lieut		A.T. Irwin		School		Pl Comdr
29		Lieut		W.L.A. Roberts		Yes		Pl Comdr (Sigs)
30		Lieut		D.M. Macrae		Yes		Pl Comdr
31		Lieut		W.J. Cameron		Yes		Pl Comdr (Pioneer)
32		Lieut		S.R. Walker		Yes		T.O.
33		Lieut		H.McL. Marsden		Yes		Pl. Comdr
34								

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Capt		L.P. Gray	AAMC		R.M.O.
Chaplain		E.E. Seville	AACHD		Padre

2/6 Aust Inf Bn

(Unit.)

22 Nov 41

(Date of Despatch.)

*J. Rowan Major 2/6*  
 (Signature of Commander.)  
 Commanding 2/6 Aust Inf Bn  
 17 Aust Inf Bde. 6 Aust Div  
 (Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)



# FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/6 Aust Inf Bn (Unit.)

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

1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits one establishment)
Lieut.-Colonels ...	1		
Majors ...	2		
Captains ...	9		
Lieutenants ...	21		
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...			
District Officers ...			
Totals ...	33		

\*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc).

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

**Officers JOINED during week.**

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

**Officers QUITTED during week.**

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Major	G.F. SMITH		24 Nov 41	Seconded as CO 17 A.I.TBn.

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

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known.)
Lieut	K.L. Brougham		17 Aust Inf Trng Bn.



**PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.**

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No.)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Lieut.Col		H. Wrigley MC		Yes	CO Bn
Major		J.G. Rowan MC		Yes	2i/v Bn
Capt	T/Major	G.M. NORRIS		Yes	OC C Coy
Capt		E.W. Weate		Yes	<del>XXXXXXXXXX</del>
Capt		K.S. Picken		Yes	OC HQ Coy
Capt		G.P. Swinburne		Yes	OC D Coy
Capt		J.S. Jones		Yes	OC B Coy
Capt		I.E. Kerr		School	<del>XXXXXXXXXX</del>
Capt		G.R. Warfe		Yes	2i/c C Coy
Capt		W.A. Tilley		Yes	2i/c B Coy
Capt		W.H. Sherlock		Yes	2i/c A Coy
Lieut		P.B. Hayes		Yes	Pl Comdr
Lieut		W.R. Dexter		Yes	Pl Comdr
Lieut		H.McB. Stewart		Yes	A/QM.
Lieut	T/Capt	A.G. Sheldrick		Yes	Adjutant
Lieut		H.B. Gullett		Yes	Pl Comdr
Lieut		D.O. Hay		Yes	Int Offr
Lieut		J.H. Pawson		Yes	Pl Comdr
Lieut		E.A. Lewis		School	Pl Comdr
Lieut		M.N.J. Harris		Yes	Pl Comd (AA)
Lieut		H.L. LAVER		Yes	Pl Comdr
Lieut		A.G.S. Edgar		Yes	Pl Comdr
Lieut		A.R. Ross		Yes	Pl Comd (Carr)
Lieut		J.W. Waterston		Yes	Pl Comd (Mort)
Lieut		R.G. Burke		Yes	Pl Comdr
Lieut		J.C. WALKER		Yes	Pl Comdr
Lieut		A.T. Irwin		School	Pl Comdr
Lieut		W.L.A. Roberts		Yes	Pl Comdr) Sigs)
Lieut		W.L. Shergold		Yes	Pl Comdr
Lieut		D.M. Macrae		Yes	Pl Comdr
Lieut		W.J. Cameron		Yes	Pl Comd (Pion)
Lieut		S.R. Walker		Yes	T.O.
Lieut		H.McI. Marsden		Yes	Pl Comdr

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Capt		Kelf I.L.	AAMC	25 Nov	R.M.O.
Chaplain		Saville E.E.	AACH D		Padre

2/6 Aust Inf Bn

(Unit.)

29 Nov 41.

(Date of Despatch.)

*J. Rowan Major for* Lieut.Col R.O.D.  
(Signature of Commander.)  
Commanding 2/6 Aust Inf Bn.  
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)



FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

2/6 Aust Inf Bn (Unit). 29 Nov 41, 19 (Date).

(To be furnished by all units of Cavalry, Royal Armoured Corps, Infantry, Royal Army Veterinary Corps, Royal Army Pay Corps, Army Educational Corps, Corps of Military Police, and all Headquarters units).

**Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.**

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1		
W.Os. Class II.	5		
W.Os. Class III.			
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants OR Colour-Serjeants	3		
Staff Serjeants	22		
Serjeants	29		
Buglers, Trumpeters L/Sgts	2		
Corporals	45		
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc.	633		35
TOTALS	718	•	• 35

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

**Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.**

Detail	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
VX4753 Sgt A Jamieson	AAPC	VX31250 Pte A.G. Evans	AAOD
VX4406 Cpl M.E. Cogle	2/2 Fd Amb		
VX4408 Cpl H.P. Dowd	2/2 Fd Amb		
5110 VX13330 Cpl A.L.K. Murrell	AAOD		
VX13330 Cpl A. McD Seales	6 Div Post Unit		
VX3949 Pte Ashton H.R.	2/2 Fd Amb		

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

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



ANALYSIS OF CHARGES - NOVEMBER, 1941.

Absent without leave	23
Neglect to the prejudice of good order and military discipline	1
Failing to appear at a place of parade	9
Neglect to obey security orders	7
Contravention of Standing Orders	2
Losing by neglect his regimental necessaries	1
-----	
Total number of Charges	43
-----	



Appx 4

OBJECTS:

- (a) To teach Coy and subordinate Comds the tactical handling of their commands during an attack against an unorganised defensive position.
- (b) To practice other ranks of the unit in field firing exercises.
- (c) Co-operation of other arms.

LESSONS:

1. Battle Procedure:

Time is the vital factor in battle and every device should be used to shorten the period of reece and preparation.

To achieve this object the essentials are:-

- (i) Intelligent anticipation by all commanders.
- (ii) Issue of warning orders.
- (iii) An organised system which avoids unnecessary delays.

IT 37 Sec 37 para I

2. Issue of Verbal Orders:

Verbal orders are, as a rule, far too long and too academic. Junior leaders are obviously nervous of omitting some trifling point that they include much that the recipients do not want. Officers should remember that the manner in which a verbal order is given has a profound psychological effect on the recipient. A hesitating or confused order can never induce the determination and will to win which is necessary to success. On the other hand an order given in a clear and determined way induces confidence at once. ATM No 30 Para 7.

3. Methods of Attack:

- (a) There are many methods of attack, all depending on some combination of the use of ground and the employment of fire and manoeuvre. IT Chap XI Sec 66 4
- (b) The attack will move step by step through the enemy defences - a fresh objective being selected and fresh plan being made quickly after each success.

4. Consolidation:

Consolidation has as its purpose to secure the objectives which have been reached, or other important localities which have been occupied, against counter-attack and as a base for further advance. The process includes organising the position for defence; the reorganisation of the troops; the replenishment of ammunition, &c; the establishment of communication both to the rear and to the flanks; provision for observation and information; arrangements for supporting a further advance.

The defence should be established in depth; the forward localities being lightly held and as many troops as possible withdrawn into local reserve. If counter attack by AFVs is possible, anti tank defence will be important and it may be advisable to site sections of field artillery well forward, espacially to deal with a tank attack.

If the ground won is of tactical importance to the further conduct of the battle, or is likely to be occupied for any length of time, tools should be sent forward and entrenching



should be begun as early as possible. Engineers may be sent forward to put some locality of particular importance into a state of defence.

OPENING NARRATIVE:

Ref Maps RAFA 1:100,000, BEERSHEBA 1:100,000

1. In Oct 41 the situation in the ME is as follows:-
  - (a) Fighting has extended into Palestine; the Sinians have crossed the Turco-egyptian border and their advance has been temporarily checked.
  - (b) The Air Forces of both sides are approximately equal but air activity has increased during the last 24 hours.
  - (c) It is definitely known that the Sinians have chemical units and the possibility of the use of gas may be anticipated.
  - (d) The enemy mechanised forces are inferior to our own but have had more experience with AFVs in desert warfare.
2. For the past six months 6 Aust Div has been stationed in Southern Palestine for internal security and defence of L. of C.
3. During the middle of October, 17 Aust Inf Bde, which was concentrated in BEERSHEBA area was ordered to move to the frontier.
4. The Bde bivouaced for the night / Oct in area  
 At 2000 hrs a conference was held at Bde Hq and the brigadier when addressing the COs said: "You realize that some enemy estimated at two Coys and some MMGS, Mortars and tanks have pushed around the flank of our force with the intention of cutting our L. of C. They are reported to be in the vicinity of KHASKIN EL MEMDUD PT 337 096042 (RAFAH sheet), and reliable reports from agents indicate that their object is the destruction of the aerodrome and wireless station at ASLUJ. I intend to use 2/6 Bn to deal with this threat. The following troops will come under command from 0700 hrs Oct:-  
     1 pl 2/1 MG Bn.  
     1 tp 2/1 A/Tk Regt.  
     1 bty 2/2 Fd Regt in support.  
 You will move at 0700 hrs Oct; you can communicate with me from ASLUJ police post.

NARRATIVE 1:

CO called conference of Coy Comds at 2130 hrs; representatives of units coming under comd were present. Cist of his orders was as follows:-

1. Inf as per opening narrative.
2. Role of Bn to advance with view to intercepting enemy force and securing successively the following bounds:-
  - (i) Spur and line of Wadi 124048. (BEERSHEBA sheet).
  - (ii) Line of Wadi M and E in THELEME (120048).
  - (iii) High Ground. Trig 312. 115048.
  - (iv) Ring contour PT 303 - 109046.
  - (v) PT 348 104045.
3. Bn assembly area - Track and dismantled railway 126048  
Required as CO 2/6 Bn your orders for the advance.



D.S. NOTES:Intention:

2/6 Bn will advance towards KHASHA EL MEMDUD to intercept enemy force.

Method:

1. Mob Tps: 1 sec Carriers will act as mob tps.
2. Fwd Tps: "A" Coy - Right.  
"B" Coy - Left.  
Frontage of Bn ~~600~~<sup>800</sup> yds.
3. Bn will move in box formation (square).
4. Reserve: "C" Coy - Right.  
"D" Coy - Left.  
Distance from fwd Coys - 800 yds.
5. S.P. Flags: Blue - Right.  
White - Left.
6. Zero:
7. Axis of Advance: 281 deg ~~Grid~~<sup>Grid</sup>
8. Responsibility of direction: ~~Right~~<sup>Left</sup> flank will direct. IO will arrange maintenance of direction.
9. MIGs: will move between Res Coys.
10. Art: ~~1,000 yds in rear of box.~~
11. A/Ch: 1 Tp with mob tps. ~~right~~<sup>right</sup> flank
12. AA Pl: 1 det Bn Hq. 1 det "B" ech in assembly area.
13. Mortars: 1 det "A" Coy under comd ) 3 only  
1 det "B" Coy under comd ) available.  
2 det Reserve )
14. Carriers: 1 sec as mob tps to move by bounds up to 1,000 yds ahead of unit.  
1 sec left flank.  
1 sec reserve behind res coys.  
(Theory Only)
15. Rear Gd: Reserve Coys will detail one pl each to act as rear gd under comd ~~junior~~<sup>Senior</sup> pl comd.
16. Admin: R.A.P. Appendix "A".  
"B" ech vehicles Bn assembly area. ~~Tps will carry midday meal and iron rations.~~ Water bottles to be filled.
17. Intercom: Bn Hq will move as per Appendix "A". Sigs will provide V/T to each Coy, W/T to each fwd Coy.



4

NARRATIVE 2:

Bn moves off in formation already given. After moving for a distance of approx 2,000 yds the leading platoon which had reached BALD KNOLL came under fire from SANDY KNOLL about 500 yds to the left front. During the firing the Coy Comd moved forward and meets a runner with the following message: "Enemy estimated 2 secs in occupation on SANDY KNOLL approximately 300 yds to the left flank. Further earth works noticed on ridge 800 yds beyond. Am engaging enemy from present posn. Casualties 2 ORs killed, 3 wounded."

Required as OC Coy what action would you take?

D.S. NOTES:

"B" Coy Comd moves up to right fwd edge of BALD KNOLL, quickly appreciates situation. He has with him Sig with LOS set. Sends the following message to CO:- "Enemy in occupation of SANDY KNOLL and Wadi Ridge. Am going to secure SANDY KNOLL." Pl Comds of leading pl and left pl and Mor det comd have just joined Coy Comd. He issues the following order:

Intention:

"B" Coy will attack and capture SANDY KNOLL.

Method:

- 1. Fwd Pl: No ~~10~~<sup>10</sup> Pl.
- 2. Objective: SANDY KNOLL.
- 3. Start Line: Present posn.
- 4. Zero: 15 minutes time.
- 5. Rate of Advance: 100 yds in two minutes
- 6. Mortars: Will fire concentration for five minutes on located enemy posn. (Mortars 3" to fire 2 rds only.)
- 7. Reserves: No ~~10~~<sup>12</sup> fwd Pl, will assist attack by fire of all weapons from present posn.  
No ~~10~~<sup>11</sup> Pl to remain in present posn and be prepared to move to line of Wadi in rear of No 10 Pl.  
Pl truck to remain in present posn until capture of objective.
- 8. Coy HQ: Will be on right of BALD KNOLL.



5

COY FD FIRING EXERCISE - ASLUJ.

NARRATIVE 1 for LEFT COYS.

As Narrative 1 and Narrative 2 Bn Scheme. (incorporating Page 5).

SANDY KNOLL has been secured and Coy Comd has been thinking ahead and has a plan now prepared in outline for the attack on left feature of TWIN KNOLL. His first consideration is the re-organisation of his Coy prior to next move. He decides to move to original fwd Pl - 10 Pl to wadi right rear of SANDY KNOLL. Res Pl to wadi left rear of SANDY KNOLL. Mortars to remain present posn. Transport to remain in present posn. Coy HQ to rear of SANDY KNOLL. Pl Comds to report Coy HQ when in position for further orders. Coy Comd moves to SANDY KNOLL, makes final plan, returns to Coy HQ and gives the following verbal orders:-

Intention:

Coy will attack and capture left feature TWIN KNOLL.

Method:

1. 10 Pl right. Objective right of feature (indicated).
2. 11 Pl left. Objective feature and left edge (indicated).
3. Inter Pl Boundary: Top of SANDY KNOLL - Top of Left Knoll incl to left Pl.
4. Start Line: North-South line through SANDY KNOLL.
5. Limit of Exploitation: 100 yds beyond targets representing enemy
6. Zero: Signal from Director or Coy Comd.
7. Fire Plan: Mortars will fire concentrations of HE and Smoke from 3 - 3-to 3 plus 2. Four rounds (2 of each gully) to be used).  
2" Mortar Res Pl to move and come under comd left fwd Pl forthwith.
8. Reserve: 10 Pl. To remain in position until further orders
9. Rate of Advance: 100 yds in two minutes.
10. Direction of Attack: 281 deg Grid/
11. Action on Capture of Posn: Consolidate.

Administration:

C.A.P: Wadi near SANDY KNOLL.  
Amn: Coy res amn Wadi near SANDY KNOLL.  
Transport: Remain in present position until capture of objective.

Intercommunication:

Coy HQ: With 10 Pl.  
Bn HQ: BALD KNOLL.



NARRATIVE 1 for RIGHT COY.

As Opening Narrative and Narrative 1.

Fwd elements of right Coy have reached QUARRY KNOLL. Scouts have observed some activity on Wadi Ridge. The Coy has halted and the Coy Comd has moved to QUARRY KNOLL where he received a message from the leading Pl Comd. On viewing the area occupied by the enemy and appreciating the situation considers that a Pl attack has little chance of success. The ground over which the Coy has to move is open and exposed and offers little cover. A Tk ditch is being constructed midway between QUARRY KNOLL and his objective beyond which appears a Tk obstacle the edge of Wadi ASHUN. He decides to make a Coy attack, using such fire support that he has immediately available. Therefore issues following verbal orders:-

Intention:

"A" Coy will attack and capture WADI KNOLL.

Method:

Phase 1:

7 Pl to move forthwith to right end of A Tk obstacle and engage the enemy. (Targets situated directly in front).

Phase 2:

Attack KNOLL feature with 8 and 9 Pls. 8 Pl right, objective - Southern slopes of WADI KNOLL. 9 Pl left, WADI KNOLL.

Forming up Place:

WADI ASHUN left of TK DITCH.

Route:

Direct from present position.

Start Line:

Edge of Wadi.

Zero:

Signal from Director or Coy Comd.

Fire Support:

7 Pl will support attack by fire.  
2" Mortars to use smoke from 3 - 2 to 3 plus 2.

Reserve:

7 Pl will come into reserve after capture of objective.

C.A.B:

QUARRY HILL

R.A.A:

Reserve QUARRY HILL.

Coy HQ:

With 7 Pl.

Rn HQ:

BALD KNOLL.



6.

NARRATIVE 3:

CO moves fwd to BALD KNOLL just as the attack on SANDY KNOLL commences.  
He can see the enemy hastily preparing a position from Wadi Ridge and to the left behind SANDY KNOLL.  
Appreciating the situation he decides to attack.  
Sends message to R Gp and "A" Coy Comd. Probable role attack.  
Comd RV BALD KNOLL immediately.  
Instructs "B" Coy Comd to stand by for orders.  
The attack on SANDY KNOLL has been successful and CO proceeds to vantage point on SANDY KNOLL. Joined by R Gp he decides on his plan and moves back to BALD KNOLL and issues the following orders verbally:-

(Refer to this as 6 Bn Operation Order No 3.)

1. Information:

As for Narrative 3.

2. Intention:

6 Bn will attack and capture twin knolls.

3. Method:

(a) Fwd Tns:

Two Coys.  
"A" Coy Right; Objective Right Knoll and Wadi spur.  
"B" Coy Left; Objective Left Knoll.

(b) In-Coy boundary:

Small Knoll and Col (indicated).  
Center of flat feature between quarry Knoll and Bald Knoll. Incl to "B" Coy.

(c) Start Line:

Fwd edge Quarry Knoll and <sup>Sandy</sup> Bald Knoll.

(d) Rate of Advance:

100 yds in two minutes

(e) Zero:

To be notified.

(f) Direction of Attack:

<sup>281</sup>  
~~265~~ deg Grid.

(g) Fire Plan:

MIGs:

1 sec Right flank. Carriers to cover posn.  
Located enemy posn on Twin Knolls, Z - 5 to Z. Subsequent task protection right flank from Quarry Knoll.  
1 sec Bald Knoll frontal fire.  
4 belts per gun to be retained for consolidation Z - 5 to Z plus 2.  
To move to left fwd coy for consolidation.

Task

(h)

Arty:

Concentration on one my foremost localities/on twin Knolls from Z - 5 to Z plus 2. Then lift 400 yds from Z plus 2 to Z plus 5

(i) A/Tk Guns:

Opportunity targets. No of rds as considered necessary by A Tk tp comd (or protect area through which attack passes with special reference to Northern approach during advance to objective.

(j) Mortars:

Reserve Mortar Pl. From Bald Knoll smoke on twin Knolls from Z - 2 to Z plus 2.



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- (k) Reserve: "C" and "D" Coys.  
"C" Coy to move to QUARRY HILL.  
"D" Coy to move to BALD KNOLL.
- (l) Details of Hq Coy: To move to open area between res  
coys after capture of objective  
to line of Wadi ASLUJ.
- (m) Limit of Exploitation: 100 yds beyond target represent-  
ing enemy.

4. Administration:

RAP.

Wadi 300 yds South BALD KNOLL.

AMM/

5v rds per Rifle.  
10 rds per Bren  
3 bombs HE and 2 Smoke per 3" Mortar.  
5 bombs HE and 5 Smoke per 2" Mortar.  
To be expended.

"A" Ech vehicles to remain in present posn and move up on  
capture of objective.

QM will arrange to have Coy "B" Ech vehicles move to res  
Coy areas where guide from fwd coys will meet them.

5. Intercommunication:

Reports to command post on BALD KNOLL after capture of  
objective.

Bn Hq will be established in WADI rear of SANDY KNOLL

Note:

Secs (d) (f) and (m) of Method (Para 3) must be strictly  
adhered to.



Narrative 4:

CO when giving his orders for the attack gave a limit of exploitation and told Coy Comds to be prepared to consolidate the ground won.

The attack has been successful and transport has moved up. Coys have commenced consolidation.

Left res Coy has been ordered to provide covering parties for fwd Coys and OG Coy has sent a Pl each to FLAT HILL and ROUND HILL.

Orders for the occupation and consolidation are as follows:-

Intention:

2/6 Bn will ~~occupy and~~ consolidate enemy posns on TWIN KNOLLS.

Method:

Covering Tns:

1 sec Carriers right flank "A" Coy to provide protection of fwd Coys.

Fwd Coys:

"A" Right area objective as Bn attack exercise.  
"B" Left area objective as Bn attack ex.

Inter-Coy Boundary:

Col - Knoll right edge of BALD KNOLL (indicated).

Priority of Work:

1. Slit Trenches.
2. Sec Posts, trip wires and crawl trenches.
3. Pl localities.

Tools & Materials:

Only wire available 200 yds to each fwd Coy.

Fire Plan:

MMGs:

1 sec "A" Coy. Arc of fire left of flat hill to fwd "B" Coy area.  
Primary Task:- Fwd "B" Coy.  
1 sec "B" Coy. Arc of fire right fwd "A" Coy to flat hill.  
Primary Task:- Fwd "A" Coy.

A/Tk Guns:

1 sec "A" Coy under comd.  
1 sec "B" Coy (1 gun in area, 1 gun SANDY KNOLL)

Arty:

C.P.

D.P.

3" Mortars: As for Bn attack exercise.



Reserves: "C" and "D" Coys.  
To remain in present position.  
(Bn attack exercise)

Carriers: By Day - Patrol.  
By Night - Bn HQ area part of defence.

Mortars: 1 det reserve with registered task fwd  
"A" and "B" localities indicated.

A/A: As for Attack.

Pioneers: Wadi left Bn HQ.

Patrols: Instructions separately.

Stand To: 1730-1830 hrs.

Stand Down: 0530-0630 hrs.

Administration:

R.A.P. SAND KNOLL.

Am: Reserves as above.

Transport: 1 Vehicle "A" Ech to remain in Coy area during daylight.

Supplies: Hot meal to be delivered at 1700 hrs and 0700 hrs.

Intercommunication:

Bn HQ: Wadi near SANDY KNOLL.

G.P.: Sand Knoll.

Signal Plan: Line to Fwd Coys. R/T. - Alternative means lamp.

C.D.E.: Red - Green - Red. Right Coy.  
Green - Red - Green. Left Coy.

Password: Issued separately.

Any Questions



10  
DAWN ATTACK DIRECTION.

Note: This exercise will be carried out at approximately 0800 hrs on D for safety reasons.

Narrative: 5

The objectives captured by "A" and "B" Coys were consolidated and outposts provided by res Coy were withdrawn at last light.

"A" Coy arrange a recess patrolled of the Bn front on reaching flat feature. At approx 2100 hrs they make contact with enemy already in position.

"B" Coy sent out a standing patrol to relieve the outpost pl on ROUND KNOLL. At approximately 2115 hrs an enemy fighting patrol overran this knoll and occupied it.

CO received this information about 2140 hrs. He considered a dawn attack was necessary to establish command of the area.

As CO what action would you take?

D.S. MESSAGE:

A firm base has been established by two Coys ("A" AND "B"). The res Coys are at some distance. He decides to move the res Coys up in rear of fwd Coys and attack at first light.

Method:

End Use:

"C" Coy - Right.  
"D" Coy - Left.

Objectives:

Right Coy - Flat Knoll.  
Left Coy - Fwd slopes Round Hill.

Inter-Coy Boundary:

East-West re-entrant fwd "B" Coy area excl left fwd Coy.

Assembly Areas:

"C" Coy - Flat sandy feature between "A" and "B" Coys and 200 yds to rear.  
"D" Coy - Flat ground 300 yds left rear "B" Coy.

Direction of Attack:

"C" Coy - 281 deg.  
"D" Coy - 240 deg.

Sign:

sig Red/Green from Bn Hq.

Rate of Advance:

100 yds in two minutes.

Fire Plan:

Artillery:

NIL.

M/Gs:

1 sec "B" Coy. Fwd slopes ROUND HILL 2 to 2 plus 3. Rear slopes 2 plus 3 to 2 plus 5. Four belts per gun to be maintained for C/A.

Reserve:

Reserve mortar to move to "B" Coy area and come under ~~east-south-west~~ ~~east-south-west~~ comd "B" Coy. Det under under comd "A" Coy reverts to Bn to remain in present posn as reserve.

Fire Support:

"B" Coy will support with fire attack by "D" Coy on ROUND HILL from 2 to 2 plus 5, then opportunity targets.



Carriers:

To right flank "C" Coy on capture of objective.

Reserve:

"A" and "B" Coy present location.  
Hols - C/A.

Supplies:

Hot tea will be delivered at assembly area at 0400 hrs. Breakfast - Hot on capture of objective.

Transport:

"A" Ech will move up on capture of objective. Dump necessary stores and materials and return to Wadi.

Intercommunications:

Co. Hqs:

Remains present location.

Co. Post:

With "B" Coy.

Platoon:

"C" Coy re-entrant to "B" Coy through line of Wadi.

"B" Coy through "C" Coy to line of Wadi.

V/T with each Coy.



12

BN WITHDRAWAL EXERCISE.

Ref Man:

Note: To follow Bn in Defence Fd Firing Exercise ASLUJ.

1. Object:

To consider the withdrawal of a Bn from a defensive posn and to examine the procedure within a Bn and the Coy in preparation for, and in the execution of, a withdrawal.

2. Lessons to be Emphasised:

1. Wide frontages and sacrificing of depth. MTP 23 Para VI Sec 9.
2. Fwd observation and long field of fire. MTP 23 Para VI Sec 2.
3. Recce of routes for withdrawl. MTP 23 Sec 2 Para 5.
4. Withdrawal.

NARRATIVE:

The operation had been successful, the enemy suffered many casualties, and prisoners and materials have been captured by us.

Orders were received at 1600 hrs to the effect that a sqn of the Div Cav and attached tps would take over the area and to be prepared to withdraw to Biv area in vicinity 12 tanks ASLUJ. Position was to be denied enemy until 2200 hrs.

PROBLEM 1:

What do you consider would be normal recce party? (2) Its composition and (3) How would they travel.

D.S. NOTES:

Recce Party:

<u>Serial</u>	<u>Personnel</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Vehicles.</u>
1	<u>Bn HQ</u> 1 Officer 2 i/c 1 Clerk 1 Orderly D.R.	CO	1 - 15 cwt 1 DR
2	<u>HQ Coy</u> CSM No 1 Pl Sgt No 2 Pl 1 NCO No 3 Pl 1 NCO No 5 Pl 1 NCO MF Offr or Sgt	Coy Comd Sig Offr Pl Comd Pl Comd Pl Comd	1 - 15 cwt M.C. 1 - 15 cwt ME
3	<u>R/Coy's each</u> 1 Officer 2 i/c 1 Orderly 3 Pl Sgts	Coy Comd Pl Comds	1 - 15 cwt per Coy

Total:- 30 Offrs and ORs - 7 trucks 15 cwt - 3 MCs.

Consider taking a small proportion of A/Tk rifles LMGs and tripods for protection and a sig terminal (lamps).



NARRATIVE:

Reece party as suggested has moved off to Bn bivouac area.

CO called conference of O Gp at 1700 hrs to give plan of withdrawal. He insisted that there would be no reece of Coy areas before 1800 hrs.

Required your plan for withdrawal of Bn?

D.S. NOTES:

1. Information

As per Narrative.

2. Intention:

2/6 Bn to withdraw to bivouac area.

3. Method:

- (a) Fwd Coys: "A" Coy - Right.  
"B" Coy - Left.
- (b) FDLs: Fwd slopes TWIN KNOLLS.
- (c) Time to be denied: 2200 hrs.
- (d) Thinning out to commence: 2030 hrs .
- (e) Coy Assembly Area: "C" Coy - Wadi rear "A" Coy.  
"D" Coy - Rear SANDY KNOLL.  
"E" Coy - Rear QUARRY KNOLL.  
"B" Coy - Rear BALD KNOLL.
- (f) Co-ordinating Lines: All tps to be clear of line  
QUARRY KNOLL - SANDY KNOLL by 2300  
hrs .
- (g) Fire Support:  
Arty: Normal concentrations until 2300 hrs  
Migs: I see with each "A" and "B" Coys to  
move from this posn with rear  
elements at 2200 hrs.  
A/Tk Guns: Move with "A" Ech vehicles - See Tpt.
- (h) Sig Pl: Less V/T (Lamps) with Coys and Bn Hq.  
to move to new area. Move to  
commence 1815 hrs.
- (i) A/A: Det Bn Hq to move at 1820 forthwith  
to bivouac area.
- (j) Mortars: As for Coys. Res det to move at  
1820 new area.
- (k) Carriers: Rear Guard.
- (l) Pioneers: Move to new area 1825 hrs.
- (m) Routes: Direct from Coy assembly area.



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4. Administration:

- (a) R.A.P. Closed present location 1800 hrs.  
Reopen 12 Tanks 1830 hrs.
- (b) Traffic Control: RPs will establish checking points along track to ASLUJ police post.
- (c) Stragglers: Move along line of Wadi to mosque ASLUJ.
- (d) S.A.A. Full scale to be carried.
- (e) Transport: "A" and "B" Ech vehicles to IV new area 1900 hrs.
- (f) Supplies: Evening Meal - 1730 hrs.  
Tools, greatcoats, blankets to be loaded by 1815 on Coy vehicles.

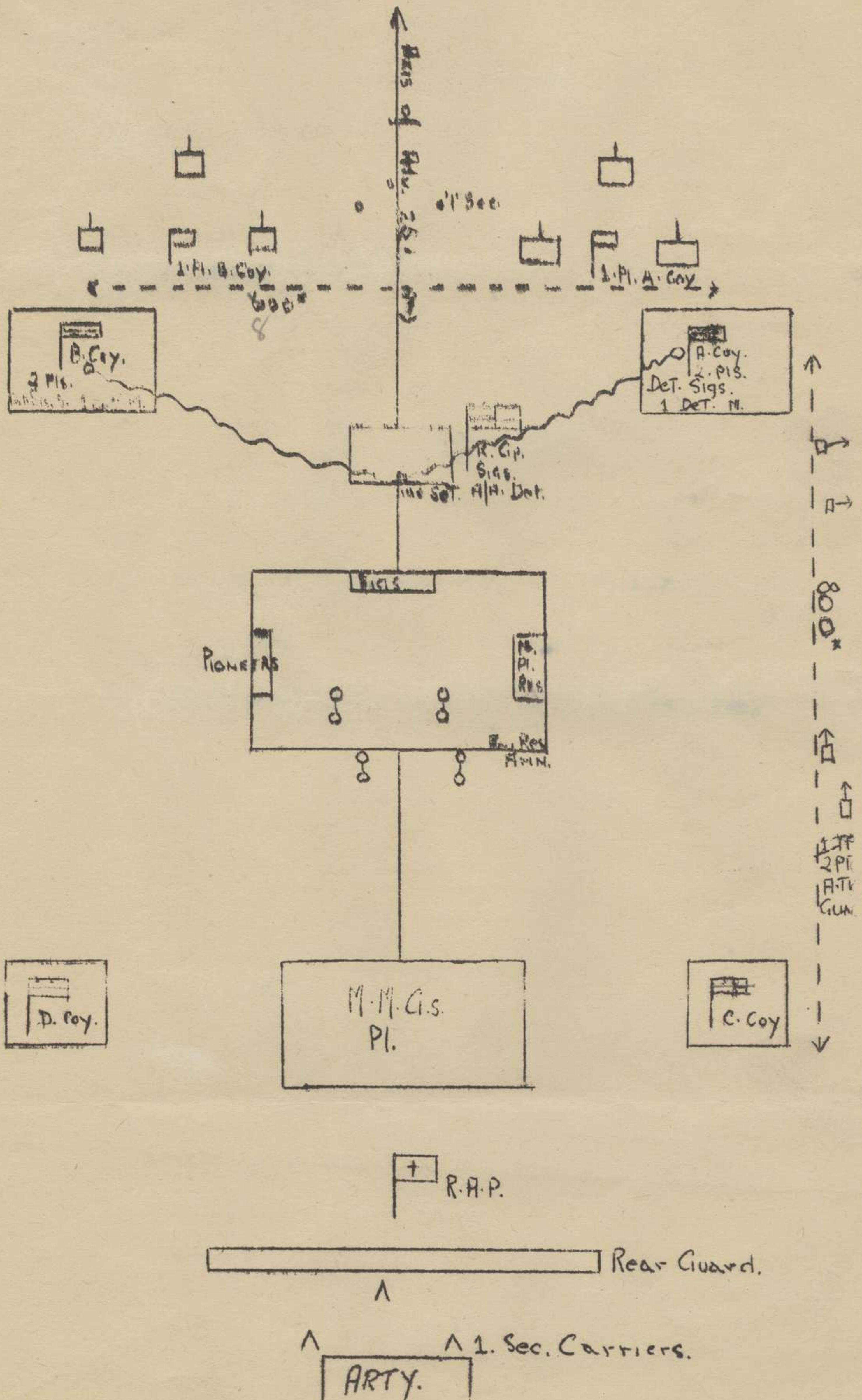
5. Intercommunication:

- (a) Main Bn HQ: Near 12 Tks opens 1800 hrs.
- (b) Rear Bn HQ: Moves with "B" Coy.
- (c) Reports: To "B" Coy before and during move.
- (d) W/T with Rear HQ.



Operations Order

Appendix - "A"





C.P.H. 6

REPORT ON 2/6 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY EXERCISE - BIR ASLUJ.

1. 2/6 Aust Inf Bn, together with one troop of 1 A/Tk Regt, one platoon 2/1 Aust (M.G.) Bn and detachment of 2/7 Aust Fd Amb conducted a combined tactical and field firing exercise at BIR ASLUJ from 27 Oct 41 to 4 Nov 41.
2. Lessons Emphasised:
  - (a) Battle procedure.
  - (b) Issue of verbal orders.
  - (c) Methods of attack.
  - (d) Consolidation.
  - (e) Withdrawal.
3. Time Table of Exercise:
  - D.1. (27 Oct 41) Bn commenced move to BIR ASLUJ.
  - D.2. Move to BIR ASLUJ completed. Sub-units at ASLUJ carried out training in preparation for exercise.
  - D.3. Coy field firing exercises carried out.
  - D.4. As for D.3.
  - D.5. Bn moved out to exercise area to conduct Bn exercise without firing.
  - D.6. Bn rehearsal for field firing exercise continued and completed.
  - D.7. Church parade. Bn moved out to conduct exercise, together with supporting arms and services.
  - D.8. Bn exercise continued. Defensive fire task (all arms) continued.
  - D.9. Bn exercise concluded. Move back to KHASSA commenced.
  - D.10. Move to KHASSA completed. Bn exercise concluded.
4. General Notes on Exercise:
  - (a) The primary purpose of the exercise was to enable all sub-units of the Bn to co-operate in a field firing exercise which, subject to safety precautions, was carried out under active service conditions.
  - (b) The secondary purpose of the exercise was to afford mutual training with supporting arms (as laid down in Para 1 above) and to give a practical demonstration of the fire power normally under control of the Bn Comd, to all members of the Bn.
  - (c) The move of the Bn, both to and from ASLUJ, was performed as a training exercise both for the Bn as a whole, and more specifically for the Transport section. The move was completed according to schedule and was without incident.
  - (d) At ASLUJ Bn training was divided into three phases as follows:-
    - (i) Preliminary training for both Coy and Bn exercises.
    - (ii) Routine training, with special emphasis on lessons to be taught during the Bn exercise.



## (iii) The Bn exercise.

Phases (i) and (ii) were carried out concurrently, sub-units not engaged on the field firing exercise area were exercised, with full transport and arms, in neighbouring areas.

- (e) All exercises, both Coy and Bn, were carried out in a satisfactory manner and much valuable experience was gained. Opportunity was taken, at the conclusion of each phase of the exercises, to discuss points which had arisen, with all subordinate commanders and it was by this means that the full value of the lessons brought out was obtained.
- (f) Special safety precautions were issued to cover all exercises and these were fully observed. No injuries were sustained by members of the Bn or of supporting arms throughout the exercise.
- (g) The local police at BIR ASLUJ were contacted at the commencement of the exercise and they kept the firing area clear of natives. No injuries were suffered by natives or civilian property damaged as a result of the exercise.
- (h) Ammunition expended during the exercise was as follows:-

S.A.A. .303 ball	10,226
S.A.A. .450 ball	1,072
2 <sup>nd</sup> Mortar H.E.	69
2 <sup>nd</sup> Mortar Smoke	52
3 <sup>rd</sup> Mortar H.E.	59
3 <sup>rd</sup> Mortar Smoke	56

- (i) Rations were delivered daily from KHASSA and were cooked under Coy arrangements at "B" Bachelon. Rations were, in all instances, well cooked and ample.
- (j) Beyond a minor outbreak of intestinal trouble, due to the abnormal number of flies in the area, the general health of the Bn was excellent. During the ten days at ASLUJ only four cases, three of intestinal trouble and one of poisoned arm, were evacuated to hospital. Sanitation, as laid down for the field, was enforced and the bivouac area was left in a clean and hygienic condition.
- (k) The experience of actually working with other arms in the field instead of in theory, was invaluable as it enabled all ranks to gain a clearer insight into the co-operation which is necessary for the successful conduct of any major military operation.
- (l) The co-operation of supporting arms throughout the Bn exercise was continuous and informative. Although limited as to ammunition both the M.M.Gs. and the A/Tk troop participated in all phases of the Bn field firing exercise, the former giving actual fire support, subject to safety precautions, in all attacks, and both arms laying down fire in the D.F. task.

5. The exercise, as conducted, was most successful and was a valuable adjunct to the normal training programme, giving, as it did, a more realistic picture of actual service conditions. The standard of training shown by all ranks was most satisfactory and it was apparent from results, that lessons brought out in preliminary exercises, were assimilated before commencement of the main exercise

*Wm.* Lieut.Col.  
Commanding 2/4 Aust Inf Bn



7  
1 Aust A/Tk Regt.,  
17 Nov 41.

SUBJECT:- Report on A/Tk Exercises in Co-operation with 2/6  
Aust Inf Bn.

On 2/4 Nov 41 "J" Tp, 1 Aust A/Tk Regt carried out field exercises in the ASLUJ area with 2/6 Bn.

The Tp provided A/Tk protection to the Bn in attack, consolidation, defence, and withdrawal.

The main points demonstrated by the exercises were as follows :-

- i. It is impracticable for towed anti-tank guns to support infantry in an attack except by providing static flank defence for the area of the attack. Once the attack is successful the guns can immediately assist in consolidation of the ground gained.
- ii. Carriers may be effectively used for the protection of guns while they are getting into action and whilst on the move.
- iii. The demonstration of fire by Bn weapons and supporting weapons was highly instructive and was valuable in shewing the capabilities and limitations of the anti-tank gun to the infantry. The demonstrations removed some misconceptions in this regard.
- iv. The co-operation of various arms in exercises adds much realism to training, especially from the anti-tank viewpoint.
- v. Inter-communication between guns and between Tp HQ and guns is difficult, especially when the troop is deployed and on the move. The difficulty is increased in sandy or muddy country. Infantry inter-Coy sigs can often help.
- vi. The question of rationing the troop may be simplified by having troop cook and cooking facilities. This problem will be met by the introduction of the amended establishment.

*John Moulden* Lieut.

*2/11/41*



Rear H.Q.,  
6 Aust Div.

SANITARY CONDITIONS - ASLUJ.

The attached report, from R.M.O., 2/6 Aust Inf  
Bn, is forwarded for information and any action deemed necessary.

*Jone*  
Lieut. Col.  
Commanding 2/6 Aust Inf Bn.

8  
Headquarters,  
2/6 Aust Inf Bn,  
10 Nov 41.

Appx 8



2/6 Aust Inf Bn.  
7 Nov 41.

Report on Sanitary Conditions at ASLUJ Camp

1. On the arrival of this Bn in the ASLUJ Area the following facts were noted:-

- (a) Water Supply. The source and pumps were inspected and the integrity of the pipes and tanks checked. The water was tested by Horrocks Test - giving a rich blue in the first cup.
- (b) Drainage of the Washing Stands and Showers. No means of conducting the waste water from the washing stands or from the showers or from the sink in one of the kitchens/exis. Consequently each was surrounded by a varying area of perpetually damp soil with stagnant pools here and there.
- (c) Camp Buildings. All of these were in disrepair - some evidence of fly proofing was still extant in some of these buildings - but none were fly proof. They were full of litter and dust - the stoves in the main kitchen by the water tanks were in disrepair. The surrounding area was fouled by inadequately buried rubbish - turned over by the Arabs and dogs and in the case of the main kitchen by pools of stagnant water in which, in addition to tins, vegetable marrows were rotting.
- (d) Latrines. There was no evidence of any latrines. The custom has apparently been to use shallow trench latrines - for several areas of disturbed soil - unmarked - were seen.
- (e) Guard Tent. The small tent in which the custodians of the water tanks lived was in a filthy condition - surrounded by refuse tins etc.
- (f) Flies. The house fly was present in great numbers - uniformly over the area.

2. Action taken

Following the arrival of the Battalion efforts were made to clean up the buildings and surrounding areas. Shallow trench latrines were used in the widely dispersed company areas, and the utmost vigilance in the use and policing of these enforced.

Despite these precautions there were a large number of cases of diarrhoea - a few of which were severe. From the incidence of these - they were associated with the contamination of food by flies rather than with the water.

3. Measures recommended.

- 1. A resident supervisory staff to check over the areas prior to the departure of each convoy.
- 2. The construction of several dispersed deep latrines.
- 3. The renovation of the existing buildings and the fly proofing of at least some of them.
- 4. The installation of several incinerators throughout the camp area.
- 5. An intensive anti-fly campaign.

*E.A. Heaberg*

Capt.  
R.M.O. 2/6 Aust Inf Bn.



Appx 9  
(COPY) 8  
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REPORT ON A/Tk PRACTICE - 26 NOV 41.

Target: Tank shaped screen 11 ft long moving alternately from right to left and from left to right. Speed - Approx 16 m.p.h. Number of men practised - 30. No of rounds per man - 2.

Results and scores were recorded as follows:- 2 points for a central hit on the target and one point for a hit on the target not in the centre.

			<u>1st</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>Total</u>	
<u>"B" COY:</u>	Pte LEE, R.T.		-	1	1	
	Pte McCOLL, S.Q.		-	-	-	
	Pte HEALEY, B.R.		-	-	-	
	Pte HARRIS, K.C.		-	-	-	
	Pte CURPHEY, R.F.		-	-	-	
	Pte MATHESON, P.A.		1	-	1	
	Pte COLEMAN, T.B.		-	2	2	
Pte WILLIAMS, G.		-	-	-		
<u>"C" COY:</u>	Pte BURGE, C.A.		2	2	4	
	Pte SHOESMITH, P.K.		-	1	1	
	Pte WHITE, A.E.		2	-	2	
	Pte CHRISTIE, R.R.		-	1	1	
	Pte SEYMOUR, R.		-	-	-	
	Pte HOCKING, D.G.		-	1	1	
	Pte TRASK, C.R.		1	2	3	x
	Pte FORSTER, E.A.		-	-	-	
<u>"D" COY:</u>	Pte CORNELL, E.		-	-	-	
	Pte COOKE, J.		-	2	2	
	Pte BARWISE, H.C.		-	2	2	
	Pte JOY, W.G.		-	2	2	
	Pte GARNER, L.M.		-	-	-	x
	Pte KENNY, J.F.		-	2	2	
	Pte RYAN, F.A.		-	-	-	x
	Pte COVENTRY, L.V.		1	-	1	
<u>H.Q COY:</u>	Pte NORGREN, S		-	-	-	
	Pte BANNON, C.G.		1	1	2	
	Pte KENNEDY, C;J.		1	1	2	x
	Pte WRIGHT, R.		-	1	1	
	Pte NEWTON, B.G.		-	1	1	
	Cpl FISK, C.J.		-	-	-	

x Denotes man fired second time

Handling of A/Tk rifle was good. I consider the low scoring to be due to lack of practice in firing at moving targets. Inability to maintain swing while firing.

Observation was good. I observed every shot through field glasses and with few exceptions shots were all close to target. Practice should show great improvement.

Facilities at the range were excellent except for the telephone which was useless. Scores were signalled to the mound by flag.

(Sgd) P.B. HAYES Lieut

O/C Range Party.



TRACE. 1.

LEGEND

A.COY. TIMES MARKED IN  
BLACK  
B.COY. TIMES MARKED IN  
GREEN.

1130 HRS.

1205 HRS.

1020 HRS.

1025 HRS.

0950 HRS.

0940 HRS.

SL. 0800. HRS.

ASSEMBLY  
AREA

L.W. MARRISON  
12. Nov. 41.



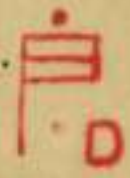
# TRACE II.

## LEGEND TIMES

DRILL FOR FD. FIRING IN RED

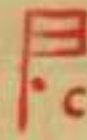
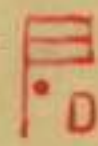
FD. FIRING IN BLACK.

1100 HRS  
1630 HRS



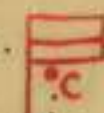
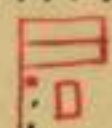
1100 HRS.  
1545 HRS.

1030 HRS  
1530 HRS

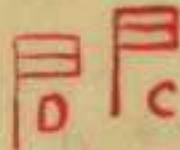


1000 HRS.  
1445 HRS.

0830 HRS  
1400 HRS



0830 HRS.  
1400 HRS.



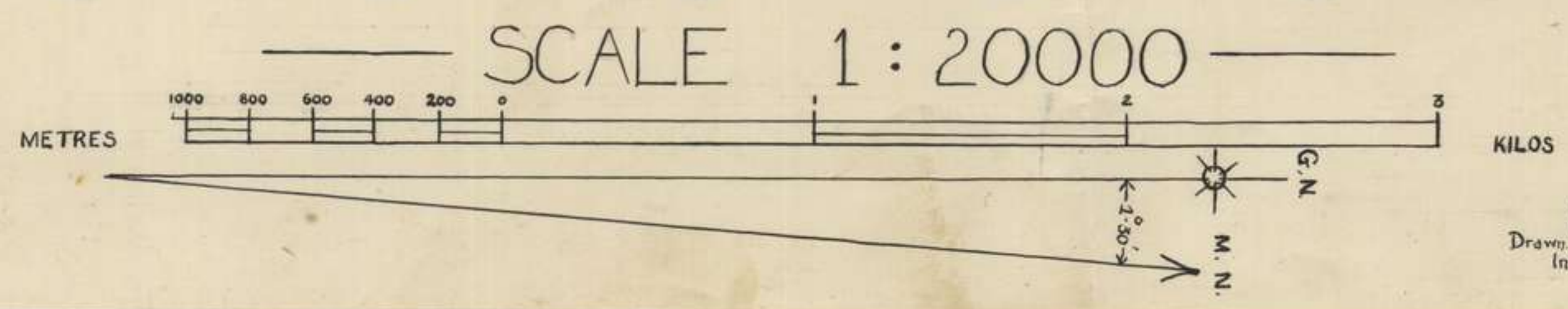
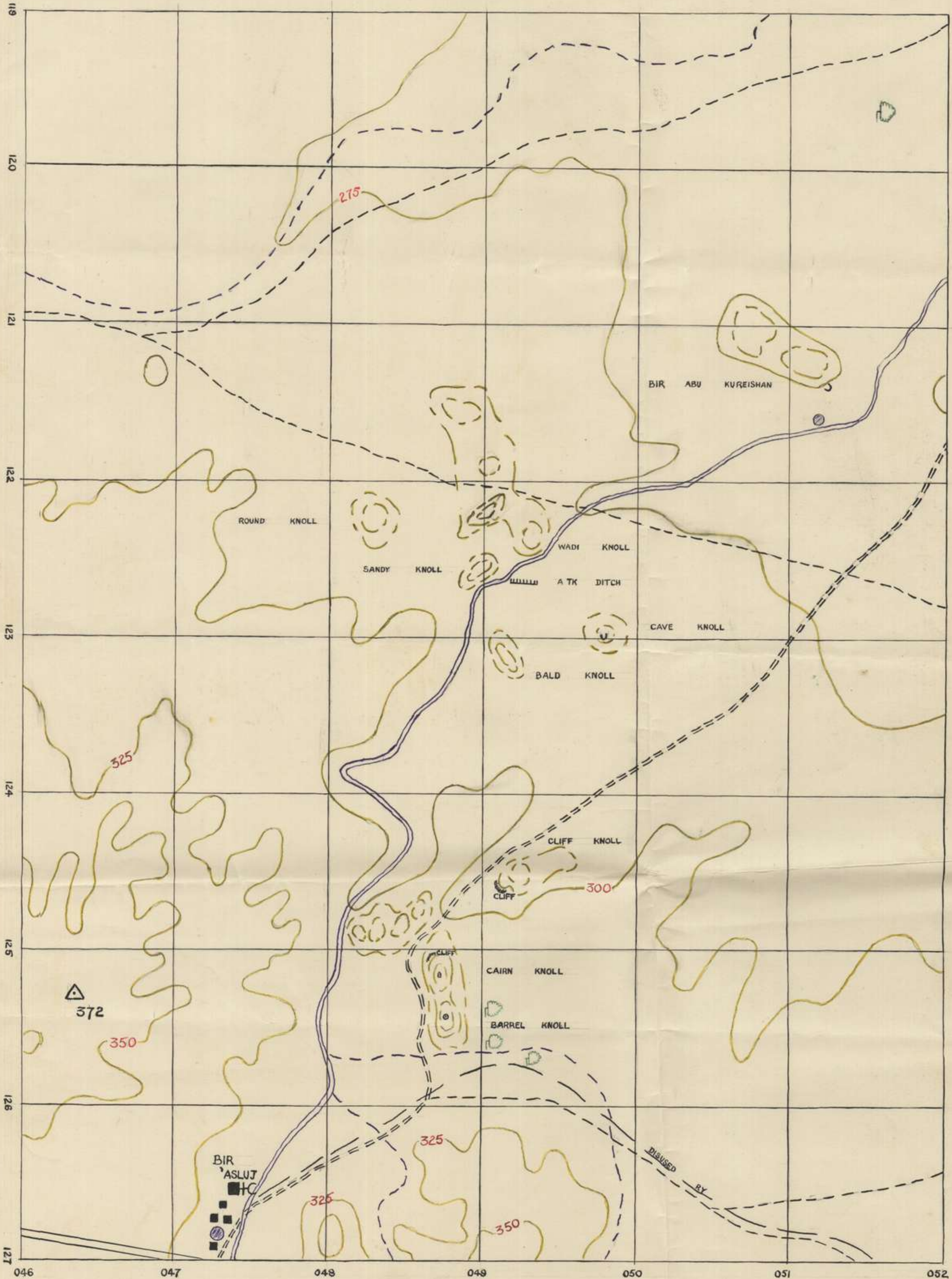
S.L. 0800 HRS  
1330 HRS.

2 x 1/2

L.W. MARSHALL, Int. Sec.  
12 Nov 45.



ENLARGEMENT 1:20000  
 FROM RAFAH - BEERSHEBA 1:50000



DATA COMPILED  
 RECCE 25 OCT 41  
 Drawn by R. Scott  
 Inf. Sec. 2/6 Bm.  
 5 Nov. 41



2/6 AUST INF BN

86

SYRIA-PALESTINE

MOVEMENT

HILL 69 -  
DIMAS

Bn moves, leaving HILL 69 3 Dec, arriving  
DIMAS 4 Dec.

2/6 AUST INF BN  
DEC 41

MAPS

HAFTE

1:50,000

2/6 AUST INF BN  
DEC 41

81216



DECEMBER MONTH

JAN 21 1942

A.I.F. FORM C 2118A

## WAR DIARY

(RENDER UNDER SECRET COVER)

UNIT 2/6 AUST INF BN

1941 YEAR

For material required, see F.S.R. Vol. 1, Sec. 174

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS Routine training details and information given in Casualty Returns are NOT required	REFERENCES TO APPENDICES	C.O.'s. REPORT AND COMMENTS ON MONTH (On Operations, Equipment, Movement, Health, Administration, etc.)
HILL 69	2	<p>Cpts K.S. PICKEN and J.S. JONES and Lieut W.R. DEXTER left on reconnaissance duties in X Corps area</p> <p>Camp preparing to move to SYRIA. At 2100 hrs convoy left in heavy rain for MAJDAL station.</p>		
	3	<p>At 0115 hrs unit entrained; arrived HAIFA at 0650 hrs; entrained on narrow gauge railway for DAMASCUS at 0750 hrs; arriving at 2355 hrs.</p>		
DIMAS	4	<p>Unit arrived in new camp (Ref Map ZEBDANI 1:50,000 - 17931829) at 0100 hrs; a hot meal was served on arrival and reveille in the morning deferred to 0800 hrs, with breakfast at 0900 hrs.</p> <p>Capt G.R. WARFE and Lieut A.G.S. EDGAR left for DJEDEIDE position to relieve Capt E.W. WEATE and Lieut D.O. HAY on recce duty.</p>		
	5	<p>Unit at work in making new camp comfortable - building paths, etc.</p> <p>T/Capt H. McB. STEWART, R.Q.M., congratulated on his appointment.</p>		
	7	<p>Church Parade - Padre SAVILLE - at 0930 hrs.</p> <p>In the afternoon a football match was played against 2/5 Bn, being won by the latter.</p> <p>The remainder of the unit was entertained by 6 Div Concert Party.</p> <p>"A" Coy relieved by "B" Coy - security duties BAALBEK area.</p>		<p>Signature <i>Jrr.</i></p>

A150 Mob Print Sec AIF-25M-4/41-G.



DECEMBER MONTH

A.I.F. FORM C 2118A

## WAR DIARY

(RENDER UNDER SECRET COVER)

UNIT 2/6 AUST INF BN

1941 YEAR

For material required, see F.S.R. Vol. 1, Sec. 174

2

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS Routine training details and information given in Casualty Returns are NOT required	REFERENCES TO APPENDICES	C.O.'s. REPORT AND COMMENTS ON MONTH (On Operations, Equipment, Movement, Health, Administration, etc.)
DIMAS	10	<p>Recce party, including C.O., 2 i/c and senior officers, was shown over BARZE fortress by the B.M. 17 Bde (Major J. BISHOP, M.B.E.)</p> <p>Lieut M.N.J. HARRIS left for DJEDEIDE area to relieve Lieut A.G.S. EDGAR on recce duty. <i>contd.</i></p>		
	11	Lieut A.G.S. EDGAR returned to unit to act as Assistant Adjutant <i>contd.</i>		
	14	Capt G.P. SWINBURNE - O/C "D" Coy and one of the unit's original officers - left to take up position as O/C 1 Aust Corps Field Punishment Centre. <i>contd.</i>		
	16	Brig S.G. SAVIGE, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., E.D. paid farewell visit to battalion prior to leaving for AUSTRALIA. <i>contd.</i>		
	17	B.G.S. X Corps, accompanied by Brig BOSSETT and Major J. BISHOP, inspected the left and right battalion areas, JEBEL MAZAR position, and discussed <del>and</del> the suggested platoon and section areas with the C.O. <i>contd.</i>		The B.G.S. X Corps showed a very keen interest in the positions selected and in one case only disagreed - reason being that the security of the troops holding the position was not considered sufficient.
	18	Lieuts J.W. PARK, C.L. McNAMARA and R.D. URQUHART marched in from 17 Aust Inf Tng Bn, under a scheme for attaching reinforcement officers to parent units for experience		The idea of attaching reinforcement officers for training is an excellent one, and these officers should gain greatly thereby. It will also assist units as they are often very short of officers as so many are employed on detached duty, temporarily, schools, etc.
	19	Church parade - Padre SAVILLE. <i>contd.</i>		
		Football match in DAMASCUS against 2/7 Bn - won by the latter after a fine game.		
	23	Lieut A.R. ROSS and Carrier Platoon arrived		

A150 Mob Print Sec AIF-25M-4/41-G.

Signature *Mr.*



DECEMBER MONTH

A.I.F. FORM C 2118A

## WAR DIARY

(RENDER UNDER SECRET COVER)

UNIT 2/6 AUST INF BN

1941 YEAR

For material required, see F.S.R. Vol. 1, Sec. 174

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS Routine training details and information given in Casualty Returns are NOT required	REFERENCES TO APPENDICES	C.O.'s. REPORT AND COMMENTS ON MONTH (On Operations, Equipment, Movement, Health, Administration, etc.)
DIMAS	23	in camp, having been delayed in PALESTINE owing to difficulties in transporting their carriers. <i>cc Ad.</i>		
	24	Capts K.S. PICKEN and G.R. WARFE and Lieut M.N.J. HARRIS arrived from their respective recce areas to take part in the Christmas festivities. <i>cc Ad.</i>		
	25	Christmas Day - a holiday, but a very wet and cold one. <i>cc Ad.</i>		
	26	Work on recce and digging recommenced in spite of bad weather. <i>cc Ad.</i>		
	27	New commander of 17 Bde - Lieut. Col M.J. MOTEN, D.S.O., late C.O. 2/27 Bn - visited unit to check recce of reserve battalion area. He remained to lunch in the mess and several officers were introduced to him. <i>cc Ad.</i>		
	28	Another wet morning and so church parade was held inside the recreation hut. <i>cc Ad.</i>		
	29	School for C.O's. runners (two per Coy) commenced.  B.M. and Bde I.O. visited unit.  Lieut E.A. LEWIS returned to unit from A.I.F. (M.E.) Intelligence School. <i>cc Ad.</i>		
	31	The last day of 1941 - a bleak cold day.  Party of two officers and fifty other ranks attended concert party in DAMASCUS. <i>cc Ad.</i>		

A150 Mob Print Sec AIF-25M-4/41-G.

Signature *[Signature]* LieutCol  
Commanding 2/6 Aust Inf Bn



**FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.**

2/6 Aust Inf Bn (Unit). 6 Dec 1941 (Date).

(To be furnished by all units of Cavalry, Royal Armoured Corps, Infantry, Royal Army Veterinary Corps, Royal Army Pay Corps, Army Educational Corps, Corps of Military Police, and all Headquarters units).

**Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.**

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1		
W.Os. Class II.	5		
W.Os. Class III.			
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants OR Colour-Serjeants			
Staff Serjeants	4		
Serjeants	27		
Buglers, Trumpeters, <sup>Lt/Gts</sup>	2		
Corporals	45		
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc.	642		29
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>726</b>		<b>29</b>

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

**Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.**

Detail	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
VX4753 Sgt Jamieson	A. AAPC.	VX31250 Pte Evans	W. AAOD
VX4406 Cpl Cogle	M.E. 2/2 Fd Amb	<del>VX3222xxxx</del>	
VX4408 Cpl Dowd	H.P. 2/2 Fd Amb		
VX5110 Cpl Murrell	A.L.K. AAOD		
VX13330 Cpl Seales	A.McD. 6 Div Post Unit		

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

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g. present whereabouts if known)
VX5059	Cpl	H.W. Griffin		Tpt Cpl - 17 Aust Inf Trng Bn.







# FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/6 Aust Inf Bn,

(Unit.)

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

1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits one establishment)
.....*			
.....*			
.....*			
.....*			
Lieut.-Colonels ... ..	1		
Majors ... ..	2		
Captains ... ..	10		
Lieutenants ... ..	19		
2nd Lieutenants ... ..			
Quartermasters ... ..			
District Officers ... ..			
Totals ... ..	32	----	----

\*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc).

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

**Officers JOINED during week.**

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

**Officers QUITTED during week.**

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Lieut	J.H. Pawson		24/10/41	Seconded as L.O. 17 Aust Inf Bde.
.....				
.....				
.....				
.....				

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

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



**PART B.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.**

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No.)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Lieut. Col.		H. Wrigley MC.		Yes	C.O.
Major		J.G. Rowan MC.		Yes	2i/c Bn.
XXCapt	T/Major	G.M. Norris		Yes	OC C Coy
Capt		E.W. Weate		Yes	
Capt		K.S. Picken		Yes	OC HQ Coy
Capt		G.P. Swinburne		Yes	OC D Coy
Capt		J.S. Jones		Yes	OC B Coy
Capt		I.E. Kerr		School	
Capt		G.R. Warfe		Yes	2i/c C COY
Capt		Q.A. Tilley		Yes	2i/c B Coy
Capt		W.H. Sherlock		Yes	2i/c A Coy
Lieut		P.B. Hayes		Yes	Pl Comdr.
Lieut		W.R. Dexter		Yes	Pl Comdr.
Lieut	T/Capt	H.McB. Stewart		Yes	Q.M.
Lieut	T/Capt	A.G. Sheldrick		Yes	Adjutant
Lieut		H.B. Gullett		School	Pl Comdr.
Lieut		D.O. Hay		Yes	Int. Offr.
Lieut		E.A. Lewis		School	Pl Comdr.
Lieut		M.N.J. Harris		Yes	Pl Comdr (AA)
Lieut		H.L. Laver		Yes	Pl Comdr
Lieut		A.G.S. Edgar		Yes	Pl Comdr
Lieut		A.R. Ross		Yes	Pl Comd (Carrers)
Lieut		J.W. Waterston		Yes	Pl Comd (Mortars)
Lieut		R.G. BURKE		Yes	Pl Comdr.
Lieut		J.C. Walker		Yes	Pl Comdr
Lieut		A.T. Irwin		School	Pl Comdr
Lieut		W.L.A. Roberts		Yes	Pl Comd (Sigs)
Lieut		W.L. Shergold		Yes	Pl Comdr
Lieut		D.M. Macrae		Yes	Pl Comdr
Lieut		W.J. Cameron		Yes	Pl Comdr (pioneer)
Lieut		S.R. Walker		Yes	T.O.
Lieut		H.McL. Marsden		Yes	Pl. Comdr.

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Capt		I.L. Kelf	AAMC		R.M.O.
Chaplain		E.E. Saville	AACHD		Padre.

2/6 Aust Inf Bn

(Unit.)

6 Dec 41

(Date of Despatch.)

*J. Rowan Major*  
 (Signature of Commander)  
 Commanding 2/6 Aust Inf Bn.  
 17 Aust Inf Bde 6 Aust Div.  
 (Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)



**FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.**

(Unit) ..... 19 .. (Date).

(To be furnished by all units of Cavalry, Royal Armoured Corps, Infantry, Royal Army Veterinary Corps, Royal Army Pay Corps, Army Educational Corps, Corps of Military Police, and all Headquarters units).

**Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.**

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1		
W.Os. Class II.	5		
W.Os. Class III.			
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants OR Colour-Serjeants			
Staff Serjeants	4		
Serjeants	27		
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.	2		
Corporals	47		
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusillers, etc.	634		33
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>720</b>		<b>33</b>

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

**Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.**

Detail	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
4753 Sgt Jamieson	A. A.P.C.		
4408 Cpl Dowd	H.P. 2/2 Pz Amb		
4406 Cpl Gough	H.P. 2/2 Pz Amb		
5110 Cpl Murrell	A.L.R. AOD		
31250 Pte Evans	A. AOD		
13330 Cpl Seales	A.M.C. 6 Div Post Unit		

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

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g. present whereabouts if known)
VX5059	Cpl	H.W. Griffin		H.P. Cpl now at 17 Aust Inf Eng Bn.











**PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.**

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No.)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Lieut. Col		H. Wrigley M.C.		Yes	S.O.
Major		J.G. Rowan M.C.		Yes	21/6 Bn.
Capt	T/Major	G.M. Morris		Yes	22/6 Coy
Capt		E.W. Weste		Yes	
Capt		H.S. Picken		Yes	22/6 Coy
Capt		J.S. Jones		Yes	22/6 Coy
Capt		I.B. Kerr		School	
Capt		G.A. Warfe		Yes	21/6 C Coy
Capt		G.A. Tilley		Yes	21/6 B Coy
Capt		V.H. Sherlock		Yes	21/6 A Coy
Lieut		P.B. Hayes		Yes	P1 Comdr
Lieut		W.R. Dexter		Yes	P1 Comdr
Lieut	T/Capt	H.M.B. Stewart		Yes	S.O.
Lieut	S/Capt	A.C. Sheldrick		Yes	Adjutant
Lieut		H.B. Gulliett		School	P1 Comdr
Lieut		D.C. Hay		Yes	S.O.
Lieut		A.A. Lewis		School	P1 Comdr.
Lieut		M.R.J. Harris		Yes	P1 Comdr (AA)
Lieut		J. Dunley		Yes	P1 Comdr
Lieut		H.L. Lever		Yes	P1 Comdr
Lieut		A.C.S. Edgar		Yes	P1 Comdr
Lieut		A.H. Ross		Yes	P1 Comdr (Carr)
Lieut		J.B. Waterston		Yes	P1 Comdr (Mor)
Lieut		R.G. Burke		Yes	P1 Comdr
Lieut		J.C. Walker		Yes	P1 Comdr
Lieut		W.L.A. Roberts		Yes	P1 Comdr (Sigs)
Lieut		W.L. Shergold		Yes	P1 Comdr
Lieut		D.M. Keene		Yes	P1 Comdr
Lieut		W.J. Cameron		Yes	P1 Comdr (Pion'rs)
Lieut		S.R. Walker		Yes	S.O.
Lieut		H.M.B. Marsden		Yes	P1 Comdr

**(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.**

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Capt		I.L. Kelf	AANC		R.M.O.
Chaplain		R.B. Saville	AACHD		Padre

2/6 Aust Inf Bn  
13 Dec 41

(Unit.)

(Date of Despatch.)

*John Wrigley* Lieut. Col  
17 Sorghum Bde. (Signature of Commander.)

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



**FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.**

2/6 AUST INF BN (Unit). \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_ (Date).

(To be furnished by all units of Cavalry, Royal Armoured Corps, Infantry, Royal Army Veterinary Corps, Royal Army Pay Corps, Army Educational Corps, Corps of Military Police, and all Headquarters units).

**Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.**

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.			
W.Os. Class II.	55		
W.Os. Class III.			
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants OR Colour-Serjeants			
Staff Serjeants	4		
Serjeants	27		
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc. L/sgts	2		
Corporals	45		
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc.	628		44
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>711</b>		<b>44</b>

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

**Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.**

Detail	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
VX4753 Sgt A. Jamieson	AAPC		
VX4406 Cpl H.S. Gough	2/2 Fd Amb		
VX4408 Cpl H.P. Dowd	2/2 Fd Amb		
VX13330 Cpl A. McD. Seales	6 Div Post Unit		
VX5110 Cpl A.L.K. Murrell	AAOD		
VX31250 Pte A. Evans	AAOD		

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

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g. present whereabouts if known)
VX5059	Cpl	H.W. Griffin		17 Aust Inf Trng Bn. (MT Cpl).



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

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.								REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.							REMARKS.					
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.O.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.O.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Serjeants.		Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.	
Bricklayers ... ..																					
Butchers ... ..																					
Carpenters and Joiners ..																					
Clerks ... ..																					
Cooks ... ..																					
Despatch Riders ... ..																					
Drivers I.C. (Tracked) ...																					
"  " (Wheeled) ...																					
Drivers-Mechanics ... ..																					
Drivers-Operators ... ..																					
Electricians ... ..																					
Equipment Repairers ...																					
Farriers ... ..																					
Fitters ... ..																					
Machine Gunners ... ..																					
Masons ... ..																					
Motor Mechanics ... ..																					
Pioneers, Infantry (other than tradesmen) ... ..																					
Plumbers and Pipefitters ...																					
Range Takers ... ..																					
Saddlers & Harness Maker																					
Saddle Tree Makers ... ..																					
Sanitary and Water Duties																					
Signallers ... ..																					
Storemen technical ... ..																					
Tailors ... ..																					
Wheelers ... ..																					
<i>MC.</i>																					
General duty personnel ...																			43	43	
TOTALS (to agree with Col- umns 3 and 4 of Part A).																			1	43	44

VX5059 Cpl  
W Griffiths  
17 AITBn

2/6 Aust Inf Bn Unit.  
Date of Despatch 21 Dec 41

Signature of Commander.  
Commanding 2/6 Aust Inf Bn  
17 Aust Inf Bn, Bde, Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.

1916 2/12



# FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/6 AUST INF BN. (Unit.)

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

1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits one establishment)
Lieut.-Colonels ...	1		
Majors ...	2		
Captains ...	9		
Lieutenants ...	19		1
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...			
District Officers ...			
Totals ...	31		1

\*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc).

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

**Officers JOINED during week.**

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

**Officers QUITTED during week.**

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

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

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known.)
Lieut.	E.B. Broughan		} 17 Aust Inf
Lieut	E.S. Price		



**PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.**

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No.)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Lieut. Col		H. Wrigley M.C.		Yes	C.O.
Major		J.G. Rowan M.C.		Yes	21/c Bn.
Capt	T/Major	G.H. Norris		Yes	OC C Coy
Capt		E.W. Weate		Yes	
Capt		K.S. Picken		Yes	OC HQ Coy
Capt		J.S. Jones		Yes	OC B Coy
Capt		J.E. Kerr		School	
Capt		G.R. Warfe		Yes	21/c C Coy
Capt		Q.A. Tilley		Yes	21/c B Coy
Capt		W.H. Sherlock		Yes	21/c A Coy
Lieut		P.B. Hayes		Yes	Pl Comdr
Lieut		W.R. Dexter		Yes	Pl Comdr
Lieut	T/Capt	H.McB. Stewart		Yes	Q.M.
Lieut	T/Capt	A.G. Sheldrick		Yes	Adjutant
Lieut		H.B. Gullett		School	Pl Comdr
Lieut		D.O. Hay		Yes	Int Offr
Lieut		E.A. Lewis		School	Pl Comdr
Lieut		M.N.J. Harris		Yes	Pl Comd (AA)
Lieut		J. Dudley		Yes	Pl Comdr
Lieut		H.L. Laver		Yes	Pl Comdr
Lieut		A.G.S. Edgar		Yes	Pl Comdr
Lieut		A.R. Ross		Yes	Pl Comd (Carrs)
Lieut		J.W. Waterston		Yes	Pl Comd (Mortars)
Lieut		R.G. Burke		Yes	Pl Comdr
Lieut		J.C. Walker		Yes	Pl Comdr
Lieut		W.L.A. Roberts		Yes	Pl Comdr (Sigs)
Lieut		W.L. Shergold		Yes	Pl Comdr
Lieut		D.M. Macrae		Yes	Pl Comdr
Lieut		W.J. Cameron		Yes	Pl Comd (Pioneer)
Lieut		S.R. Walker		Yes	T.O.
Lieut		H.McL. Marsden		Yes	Pl Comdr

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Capt		I.L. Kelf	AAMC		R.M.O.
Chaplain		E.E. Saville	AACHD		Padre
Lieut		R.D. Urquhart	)	Attached as	Supernumerary
Lieut		J.W. Park	)	from 17 Aust	Inf Trng Bn.
Lieut		G.L. McNamara	)		

2/6 Aust Inf Bn (Unit.)

21 Dec 41 (Date of Despatch.)

Lieut. Col. (Signature of Commander.)  
Commanding 2/6 Aust Inf Bn  
17 Aust Inf Bde 6 Aust Div.  
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)



**FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.**

2/6 AUST INF BN. (Unit). 19 (Date).

(To be furnished by all units of Cavalry, Royal Armoured Corps, Infantry, Royal Army Veterinary Corps, Royal Army Pay Corps, Army Educational Corps, Corps of Military Police, and all Headquarters units).

**Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.**

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.			
W.Os. Class II.			
W.Os. Class III.	5		
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants OR Colour-Serjeants			
Staff Serjeants	4		
Serjeants	27		
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.	2		
L/Sgts	45		
Corporals			
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc.	628		42
TOTALS	711	.	42

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

**Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.**

Detail	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
VX.4753 Sgt A. Jamieson	AAPC		
VX.4406 Cpl H. E. Cogle	2/2 Fd Amb		
VX.4408 Cpl H. P. Dowd	2/2 Fd Amb		
VX.13330 Cpl. A. McD. Seales	6 Div Post Unit		
VX.5110 Cpl A. L. K. Murrell	AAOD		
VX.31250 Pte A. G. Evans	AAOD		

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

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g. present whereabouts if known)
VX.5059	Cpl	H. W. Griffin		(M.T. Cpl) } 17 Aust Inf
VX.10021	Pte	J. Camm		(Band) } Trg Bn.
VX.8427	Pte	H. J. Stream		(Band)



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

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.									REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.									REMARKS.	
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.O.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.O.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.		TOTAL.
Bricklayers ... ..																				
Butchers ... ..																				
Carpenters and Joiners ..																				
Clerks ... ..																				
Cooks ... ..																				
Despatch Riders ... ..																				
Drivers I.C. (Tracked) ...																				
"  " (Wheeled) ... ..																				
Drivers-Mechanics ... ..																				
Drivers-Operators ... ..																				
Electricians ... ..																				
Equipment Repairers ...																				
Farriers ... ..																				
Fitters ... ..																				
Machine Gunners ... ..																				
Masons ... ..																				
Motor Mechanics ... ..																				
Pioneers, Infantry (other than tradesmen) ... ..																				
Plumbers and Pipefitters ...																				
Range Takers ... ..																				
Saddlers & Harness Maker																				
Saddle Tree Makers ... ..																				
Sanitary and Water Duties																				
Signallers ... ..																				
Storemen technical ... ..																				
Tailors ... ..																				
Wheelers ... ..																				
<u>M.T.</u>																	1			VX5059 Cpl H.W.Griffin
<u>Bandsmen</u>																		2		VX10021 Pte ( J.Camm ( VX8427 Pte ( R.J.Stream
General duty personnel ...																		39		
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A).																		1	41	

2/6 Aust Inf Bn Unit.

Date of Despatch 28 Dec 41

*J. Rowan Major*  
Signature of Commander. *Rowan*  
Commanding 2/6 Aust Inf Bn.  
17 AUST. Divn. Area etc., with which unit is serving.







**PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.**

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No.)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Lieut. Col.		H. WRIGLEY M.C.		Yes	C.O.
Major		J.G. ROWAN M.C.		Yes	2i/c Bn.
Capt	T/Major	G.M. NORRIS		Yes	OC C Coy
Capt		E.W. WEATE		Yes	
Capt		K.S. PICKEN		Yes	OC HQ Coy
Capt		J.S. JONES		Yes	OC B Coy
Capt		I.E. KERR		School	
Capt		G.R. WARFE		Yes	2i/c C Coy
Capt		Q.A. TILLEY		Yes	2i/c B Coy
Capt		W.H. SHERLOCK		Yes	2i/c A Coy
Lieut		P.B. HAYES		Yes	Pl Comdr
Lieut		W.R. DEXTER		School	Pl Comdr
Lieut	T/Capt	H. McB STEWART		Yes	Q.M.
Lieut	T/Capt	A.G. SHELDRICK		Yes	Adjutant
Lieut		H.B. GULLETT		Yes	Pl Comdr
Lieut		D.O. HAY		Yes	Int Offr
Lieut		E.A. LEWIS		School	Pl Comdr
Lieut		M.N.J. HARRIS		Yes	Pl Comdr(AA)
Lieut		J. DUDLEY		Yes	Pl Comdr
Lieut		H.L. LAVER		Yes	Pl Comdr
Lieut		A.G.S. EDGAR		Yes	Pl Comdr
Lieut		A.R. ROSS		Yes	Pl Comdr(Carrier)
Lieut		J.W. WATERSTON		Yes	Pl Comdr(Mortars)
Lieut		R.G. BURKE		Yes	Pl Comdr
Lieut		J.C. WALKER		Yes	Pl Comdr
Lieut		W.L.A. ROBERTS		Yes	Pl Comdr(Sigs)
Lieut		W.L. SHERGOLD		School	Pl Comdr
Lieut		D.M. MACRAE		Yes	Pl Comdr
Lieut		W.J. CAMERON		Yes	Pl Comdr(Pioneer)
Lieut		S.R. WALKER		Yes	T.O.
Lieut		H. McL. MARSDEN		Yes	Pl Comdr

**(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.**

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Capt		I.L. KELF	AAMC		R.M.O.
Chaplain		E.E. SAVILLE	AACHD		Padre
Lieut		R.D. URQUHART	} Attached as Supernumerary from 17 Aust Inf Trg Bn.		
Lieut		J.W. PARK			
Lieut		G.L. McNAMARA			

2/6 Aust Inf Bn

(Unit.)

28 Dec 41

(Date of Despatch.)

*J. Rowan*  
Lieut. Col. A-Ord  
(Signature of Commander.)  
Commanding 2/6 Aust Inf Bn.  
17 Aust Inf Bde. 6 Aust Div.  
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)



REPORT BY QUARTER MASTER - Dec 41

During December arrangements were made for an issue of bedboards and paliasses for the troops. These were issued 28 Dec 41.

Heaters are almost unobtainable, but we have hopes of getting these early in the New Year.

A second uniform (SD) was issued to some of the troops on 27 Dec 41.

Another blanket, making a total of 5 per man was issued on Xmas Day.

A.A.C.I. provided £S 650 for the purchase of goods for the troops' Xmas Dinner, while Regt Funds provided £S 432 for the same purpose.

One Xmas Hamper per man was provided by A.C.F.



Capt.  
R.Q.M., 2/6 Aust Inf Bn.



W. B. ...  
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SPORTING RESULTS.

4

FOOTBALL.

BRIGADE COMPETITION.

21 December 41.

2/7 Bn. defeated 2/6 Bn.  
Scores. 8 goals 11 points 8 goals 9 points.

BATTALION COMPETITION.

20 December 41.

H.Q. Coy. defeated A. Coy.  
D. Coy. defeated C. Coy.  
4 goals 5 points 2 goals 4 points.

The Bn. matches were postponed on the 27 December 41.

BASKETBALL.

BRIGADE COMPETITION.

14 December 41.

2/6 Bn. defeated 17 Bde.H.Q.  
20 points 15 points.

21 December 41.

No. 1 team.  
2/7 Bn. defeated 2/6 Bn.  
30 points 16 points.

No 2 team  
2/7 Bn. defeated 2/6 Bn.  
22 points 21 points.

The match with 2/5 Bn. was postponed on the 28 December 41.

BATTALION COMPETITION.

20 December 41.

H.Q. Coy defeated D. Coy.  
Transport defeated B.H.Q. (walkover)  
C.Coy defeated A. Coy. (walkover)

SOCCER.

BRIGADE COMPETITION.

14 December 41.

2/6 Bn defeated 17 Bde H.Q.  
1 goal Nil.  
2/6 Bn. defeated 2/7 Bn.  
3 goals 2 goals.  
2/6 Bn. defeated 2/5 Bn.  
2 goals 1 goal.

BATTALION COMPETITION.

20 December 41.

H.Q. Coy. defeated A Coy.  
D. Coy. defeated C.Coy.  
1 goal Nil.

Bn. matches on 27 December 41. were postponed.

Signed. *W.P. Cameron*  
Bn. Sports Officer



CHRISTMAS, 1941.

Christmas Eve was a fitting prelude to the great day itself. A.C.F. hampers were distributed to all ranks, and most of us settled down to a pleasant evening, which was not altogether confined to anticipating the pleasures of the morrow.

On Christmas morning the unit was pleased to tumble out of bed, after an informal reveille, and find the camp area covered in snow. It seemed that this was to be the true Christmas we had read about in books, but never enjoyed. In one respect this hope was quickly dashed; there were no snow-men or snow fights, for the snow quickly disappeared into slush, and rain and a cold wind added to a generally bleak and cheerless atmosphere. In other respects, however, there were no disappointments.

The Christmas dinner in particular was a notable event. The men fed by companies and all the cooks rose to previously undreamed of heights in producing the following menu: Soup, turkey and pork, roast potatoes and peas, plum pudding and brandy sauce, fruit and nuts and free beer. Added to the pleasure of eating good food, was the pleasure of being waited on (even if not too skilfully) by officers and sergeants - a pleasure reciprocated by the latter.

After dinner came more rain and sleet, plenty of sleep and, during the evening, a little quiet celebration while officers and sergeants had their respective Christmas festivities. The "quiet celebration" continued until well on in the evening - and, even if reveille was more than usually difficult next morning, it had still been a great Christmas.

*Jm.*



REVIEW OF MONTH - DECEMBER, 1941.

The early part of the month was devoted to moving from HILL 69 to our new camp at MAISSALOUN. (Ref Map ZEBDANI 1:50,000 - 17931829).

The new camp consists of tin huts with cement floors; these provide good shelter from wind and rain but have, so far, been without linings, bed-boards or heaters.

The area is low-lying and, in wet weather, exceedingly muddy.

In the first fortnight much was done to make the camp more comfortable. Paths were laid and arrangements made for storing water for cooking and washing.

At present the unit's job is the reconnaissance, marking, and digging to one foot depth, of the JEBEL MAZAR fortress.

Each Bn area was first reced by the C.O., who then handed them over to Coys for completion. The work was divided as follows:-

Right Bn area - "C" Coy (Major G.M. NORRIS, O/C.)  
Left Bn area - "A" Coy (Capt W.H. SHERLOCK, Acting O/C.)  
Res Bn area - "D" Coy (Lieut P.B. HAYES, Acting O/C.)

Before digging commenced the area was visited by B.G.S. X Corps. The left and right Bn areas were ready for his inspection on 17 Dec and he expressed his approval, while suggesting some minor alterations in order to give greater ground protection to forward posts.

By the end of the month the position was as follows;-

Right Bn area - Recce of section posts of three Coys completed and spitlocking and digging commenced.

Left Bn area - Recce of section posts of four Coys complete and spitlocking and digging of two commenced.

Res Bn area - Recce of section posts of three Coys complete and spitlocking commenced.

Work was hindered by the weather, which made the ground sodden and wasted time by preventing troop carrying transport from entering the areas.

The wearing of capes, anti-gas, has made it possible to continue work during the rain.

The month ended happily with a Christmas that, in spite of snow, rain and unlimited wind, was heartily enjoyed by us all.

JM



Headquarters,  
2/6 Aust Inf Bn,  
28 Dec 41.

MEDICAL DIARY FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, 1941.

There has been a marked incidence of upper respiratory tract infection, due to the close proximity of the troops when sleeping and also to the inclemency of the weather at the present camp-site. All cases have been of a minor nature, and almost all have remained on duty. No cases of more serious respiratory infection have developed.

Owing to the profusion of loose stones on the camp-site and surrounding terrain, there have been a number of cases of strained knee and ankle joints, usually of a minor nature.

During the month there has been a marked decrease in the number of cases of infected sores, probably due to the onset of winter and the high altitude of the camp-site.

*R. Keef*

Capt.

R.M.O. 2/6 Aust Inf Bn.











SUMMARY OF OFFENCES - DECEMBER, 1941.

Absent without leave	14
Drunkenness	2
Being found beyond the limits of the C amp	3
Failure to appear at a place of parade	3
Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline	5
Committing an offence against the property of a resident of the country in which he is serving	1
Contravention of Standing Orders	1
Failure to obey a lawful command	1
Disobeying in such a manner as to show wilful defiance of authority	1
Losing by neglect his regimental necessaries, i.e. rifle bolt	1
When in confinement escaping	1
Making a false accusation against a soldier	1
Failing to obey Camp Security Orders	1