

Series: AWM95
Australian Army commanders' diaries

Miscellaneous units

Item number: 17/4/20

Item: Australian Observer Unit

Narrative

[1-31 May 1954]

S E C R E T

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Army Form C.211b
(Adapted)

D.4401/7.45-C.0546

Unit Australian Observer Unit
Malaya

Date and Time.— From 1 May 1954 To 31 May 1954

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SINGAPORE	1 May		2/2293 Cpl Fisher W.S. and 3/10124 Cfn Wall D.A. both RAEME, deplaned CHANGI Airfield from Australia by RAF Courier for posting "on loan" to No.2 Station Workshops Kluang.	
	2 May		Above new arrivals photographed for Identity Cards.	
	3 May		Received signal from Cabarlah Queensland increasing draft due to leave Unit for Malaya by one (3.3165) Sigmn McLeod T.R.)	
	4 May		F/Lt Thoms rang to say AHQ Melbourne expected members of this Unit to purchase similar items of RAAF clothing apparently at RAAF rates. AHQ was written on this matter.	
	5 May		Signal to say S/Sgt Buchanan emplaning QANTAS from Sydney on 10 May.	
			Sigmn Owbridge and McKinven reported sick. Owbridge two days no duties.	
			Cpl Fisher and Cfn Wall departed on posting to No.2 Station Workshops, Kluang at 0800 hrs.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Army Form C.211b
(Adapted)

D.4061/7.45-C.6546

Unit Australian Observer Unit
MalayaDate and Time.— From 1 May 1954 To 31 May 1954

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SINGAPORE	6 May		Nil to report.	
	7 May		Parcel fo magazines by QANTAS arrived for unit	
	8& 9 May		Nil to report.	
	10 May		New CSO FARELF, Brigadier Good CBE inspected barrack quarters offices 1600 hrs.	
			Sig McKinven reported sick - eye trouble.	
			Capt Mitchell arrived from Kuala Lumpur by plane at 2000 hrs.	
	11 May		Capt Mitchell attended conference at 1000 hrs and again 1500 hrs at GHQ.	
	12 May		Capt Mitchell attended conference with CSO FARELF, 1120, and again at GHQ 1500-1800.	
	13 May		Worked in office and Singapore generally on Admin matters.	
	14 May		Capt Mitchell departed for HQ Malaya and Federation Authorities on liaison visit by plane 0700 hrs.	
			Movements advise that Capt Williams now returning by BOAC to Perth on 22 June.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C.2118.
(Adapted.)

(Erase heading not required.)

Unit Australian Observer Unit
Malaya Date and Time.—From 1 May 1954 To 31 May 1954

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SINGAPORE	15-16 May		Nil to report.	
	17 May		5 members of Unit returning from temporary duty in Malaya to Singapore on train from Kuala Lumpur entrained 2000 hrs.	
	18 May		Members from Recce party return by train arriving 0800 hrs Singapore complete with all equipment. Received signal advising 5 Sigmn leaving Australia by QANTAS for Singapore 22 May.	
	19 May		Received signal advising attachment of Lt-Col Warfe to Unit for 3 months to study Jungle Warfare.	
	20 May		Nil to report.	
	21 May		Capt Mitchell returned from Kuala Lumpur by plane 1200 hrs.	
	22 May		Sigmn Lea fined 2 days pay for being absent. Capt Mitchell visited Singadist on admin matters. Had Unit paraded at 1230 hrs and administered a lecture on	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C.2118.
(Adapted.)

(Erase heading not required.)

Unit Australian Observer Unit
Malaya Date and Time.—From 1 May 1954 To 31 May 1954.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SINGAPORE	22 May	cont:	discipline, soldierly bearing and general behaviour.	
			Outlined plan of another reconnaissance to Federation of Malaya by elements of the Unit.	
	23 May		2/10724 Sigm Hurene H. 2/10593 Sigm Muirhead J.H. 6/717 Sigm Freestone H. 3/3165 Sigm McLeod T.R. and 1/1073 Sigm Machin, all R Aust Sigs deplaned Kallang Airport from Australia by QANTAS for posting to this Unit.	
	24 May		Gave introductory talk to above new arrivals.	
	25 May		The following members departed at 0500 hrs by 3 ton vehicle to pick up stores and equipment, thence entrain at 0800 hrs for a site in the Federation of Malaya to conduct a recce:- i/c Capt Mitchell. 2 i/c Cpl Reid, Sigm Mckinven, McCartney, Godley, Lea, Machin and Cpl Bettens. ETA at site of recce 1200 hrs on 26 May.	

