

Series: AWM95
Australian Army commanders' diaries

Headquarters units

Item number: 1/1/1

Item: Headquarters Australian Army
Force, Far East Land Forces

Unit history sheets and monthly
reports

[Sept 1955 - 30 Sept 1959]

UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and year Sept 55

Commanding Officer Lt Col DG SHARP OBE

Place	Date	Summary of events and information	Reference to Appendices
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SINGAPORE

1 Sep 55	The first member of HQ AUST ARMY COMPONENT BCFESR, 3/161 Major T.R. WARREN MVO, DAA & QMG deplaned at SINGAPORE and commenced arrangements for the reception of the main body of the HQ.	
8 Sep 55	5/74 Capt L.A. MARSHALL assumed duty as Staff Captain Q.	
12 Sep 55	2/258 Lt Col D.G. SHARP OBE, Commander Aust Army Component BCFESR deplaned SINGAPORE. The main body arrived in MALAYA and the unit commenced to function as a HQ. A nominal roll of the HQ's personnel is attached.	Appendix A

APPENDIX A

NOMINAL ROLL OF HQ AUST ARMY COMPONENT BCFESR

2/258 Lt. Col D.G. SHARP OBE R Aust Inf
3/161 Major T.R. WARREN MVO R Aust
5/74 Captain L.A. MARSHALL MBE R Aust Inf
6/33 Captain P. EDDINGTON R Aust Inf
3/4760 Sgt G.F. SMART RAASC
1/2118 Cpl A.J. CAMPBELL RAASC
1/1489 Pte L.J. RAWLINS RAASC
2/8920 Pte F. AMBROSE
2/8246 Pte A.F. APPEL

UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and year Oct 55 Commanding Officer Col FW SPEED OBE ED

Place	Date	Summary of events and information	Reference to Appendices
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SINGAPORE OCTOBER

Without alteration of the roll of the headquarters a new appointment was established entitled Commander Australian Army Force in the rank of Colonel

The Commander Aust Component ECFESR, Lt Col D.G. SHARP OBE and the DAA & QMG Major T.R. WARREN MVO commenced a tour of formations and units in MALAYA covering the following:

- 10 Oct 55 (a) HQ MALAYA Command
 (b) 4 Tp RAE
 (c) 16 Fd Amb RAMC
 (d) 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp Pro Unit.

12 Oct 55 3 Coy RASC at IPOH.

13 Oct 55 HQ 1 Federal Division and 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp Workshops.

- 14 Oct 55 (a) Australian Component HQ 28 COMWEL
 Indep Inf Bde Gp
 (b) 2 RAR
 (c) 105 Fd Bty RAA
 (d) 105 Fd Bty LAD
 (e) 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Sig Sqn
 (f) 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Pro Unit.

During these visits the Commander addressed all Australian Troops and liaised with Commanders and staffs.

16 Oct 55 The Legal Officer NX 124446 Major J.M. SMAIL arrived and assumed duty.

20 Oct 55 The Commander and DAA & QMG visited MALAYA Command.
The unit Chaplains arrived and assumed duty.
 1/8061 Chap 4th Class F.C. HAM
 1/8069 Chap 4th Class T.G. GANZER
 4/8042 Chap 4th Class K.D. MACK.

21 Oct 55 Commander and DAA & QMG returned to SINGAPORE.

25 Oct 55 3/37501 Col F.W. SPEED OBE ED deplaned SINGAPORE and assumed duty as Commander Aust Army Force and Lt Col SHARP OBE assumed duty as AA & QMG.

27 Oct 55 Col SPEED and AA & QMG commenced a tour of inspection of units and formations in MALAYA.

A nominal roll of the HQ staff is attached. Appendix A.

APPENDIX A

NOMINAL ROLL HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

3/37501	Col F.W. SPEED OBE ED
2/258	Lt. Col D.G. SHARP OBE
3/161	Major T.R. WARREN MVO
5/74	Capt L.A. MARSHALL MBE
6/33	Capt P. EDDINGTON
1/8061	Chap 4th Class F.C. HAM
1/8069	Chap 4th Class T.G. GANZER
4/8042	Chap 4th Class K.D. MACK
NX 124446	Major J.M. SMALL
3/4760	Sgt G.F. SMART
1/2118	Cpl A.J. CAMPBELL
1/1489	Pte L.J. RAWLINS
2/8920	Pte F. AMBROSE
2/8246	Pte A.F. APPEL.

/LY

UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and year NOV 55

Commanding Officer Col FW SPEED OBE ED

Place	Date	Summary of events and information	Reference to Appendices
SINGAPORE	NOVEMBER	The work of the headquarters proceeded. The establishment was superseded by AUST VIII/30/2 of 25 Nov 55. A nominal roll of HQ staff is attached.	Appendix A
	2 Nov 55	Commander and AA & QMG returned to SINGAPORE.	
	25 Nov 55	Orderly Room Sgt 3/4760 Sgt SMART G.F. transferred to Unallotted List MALAYA.	

APPENDIX A

NOMINAL ROLL HQ AUST ARMY FORCE
FARELF

3/37501	Col F.W. SPEED OBE ED
2/258	Lt. Col D.G. SHARP OBE
3/161	Major T.R. WARREN MVO
NX 124446	Major J.M. SMALL
5/74	Captain L.A. MARSHALL MBE
6/33	Captain P. EDDINGTON
1/2118	Cpl A.J. CAMPBELL
1/1489	Pte L.J. RAWLINS
2/8920	Pte F. AMBROSE

/LY

UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and year Dec 55

Commanding Officer Col FW SPEED OBE ED

Place	Date	Summary of events and information	Reference to Appendices
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SINGAPORE

8 Dec 55	The Quartermaster General, Major General R.G. POLLARD CBE, DSO deplaned SINGAPORE.
13 Dec 55	Maj General POLLARD emplaned for AUSTRALIA.
20 Dec 55	DAA & QMG visited MALAYA Command. 3/10742 Sgt J. CREAMER deplaned SINGAPORE and assumed duty as Orderly Room Sergeant.

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UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and year Jan 56 Commanding Officer Col F.W. SPEED OBE ED

Place	Date	Summary of events and information	Reference to Appendices
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SINGAPORE	2 Jan 56	DAA & QMG returned to SINGAPORE.	
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	12 Jan 56	2/40158 Capt E.M. McCORMICK deplaned SINGAPORE and assumed duty as Staff Captain 'A'.	
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	18 Jan 56	DAA & QMG departed for liaison visit to PENANG.	
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	21 Jan 56	Commander Colonel SPEED departed for PENANG.	
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	22 Jan 56	Commander met the first families to arrive in PENANG.	
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	24 Jan 56	DAA & QMG returned to SINGAPORE. AA & QMG departed on liaison visit to PENANG.	
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	25 Jan 56	AA & QMG returned to SINGAPORE.	
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	28 Jan 56	2/8870 Pte KILLICK deplaned SINGAPORE for duty as driver.	
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	30 Jan 56	Commander visited units at IPOH and TAIPING.	
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	31 Jan 56	Commander attended opening of the GARRISON CLUB, PENANG.	
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Nominal Roll of the HQ Staff attached.

Appendix A

NOMINAL ROLL
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

3/37501 Col F.W. SPEED OBE ED
2/258 Lt Col D.G. SHARP OBE
3/161 Maj T.R. WARREN MVO
2/124446 Maj J.M. SM~~OR~~AIL
2/40158 Capt E.M. McCORMICK
5/74 Capt L.A. MARSHALL MBR
6/33 Capt P. EDDIGHTON
3/10742 Sgt J. CREAMER
1/2118 Cpl A.J. CAMPBELL
1/1489 Pte L.J. RAWLINS
2/8920 Pte F. AMBROSE
2/8870 Pte F.C. KILLICK

UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and year FEB 56 Commanding Officer Col F.W. SPEED OBE ED

Place	Date	Summary of events and information	Reference to Appendices
SINGAPORE	3 Feb 56	Mr. FORD of Dept Army Finance Branch arrived SINGAPORE.	
	14 Feb 56	DAA & QMG visited KUALA LUMPUR liaison with AD Hirings.	
	15 Feb 56	DAA & QMG visited PENANG. Liaison regarding Hostel and Housing. AA & QMG visited PENANG to inspect Housing, Hostel, Garrison Club and visit 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp.	
	16 Feb 56	DAA & QMG visited TAIPING.	
	17 Feb 56	DAA & QMG visited IPOH and returned to SINGAPORE.	
	28 Feb 56	Commander visited FARELF Training Centre, JOHORE BAHRU. Attached is a copy of the Commander's Monthly Report 1/56.	Appendix A

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

Quote in reply: 35/1/3

HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
SINGAPORE

4 Feb 56

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT No 1/56

1. Although instructions have not yet been received to submit a regular report, this first report is forwarded as it is considered that the Australian Army Force FARELF has reached a stage of development that such a report may be of value.

FORMATIVE PERIOD

2. The following dates were of significance in the setting up of the Force:-

1 Sep 55	First member of the advance party arrived SINGAPORE
12 Sep 55	Remainder of advance party arrived MALAYA
19 Oct 55	Main Body arrived PENANG
2 Jan 56	2 RAR and one tp 105 Fd Bty began operations in the secondary role.

3. Initially the organization for command of the force included a headquarters for liaison and Australian administration with a lieutenant-colonel designated as Commander HQ Australian Army Component BCFESR. The precise relationship of this Commander and the commanding officer of 2 RAR was not promulgated. In Oct 55 the organization was changed. Without altering the role of the headquarters, a new appointment was establishment entitled Commander Australian Army Force in the rank of Colonel, and this officer assumed duty on 25 Oct 55.

STATE

4. The state of the force at 31 Jan 56 was:-

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>ORs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	102	1381	1483
Strength	101	1321	1422

These figures include the Wrls Tp (Aust) which is under-implemented at present, by 27 other ranks.

EMPLOYMENT

5. The duties on which the force has been employed during the month of Jan 56 have been:-

2 RAR)	Training, and operations in
105 Fd Bty)	the secondary role
4 Tp RAE		Road & bridge construction near TEMERLOH
Aust Component,		Transport duties, sometimes involving
3 Coy RASC		movement in 'black' areas.
Other units		Normal duties in the FARELF administrative organization.

6. In many of the Emergency operations, companies (and in some cases, platoons) operate independently. 2 RAR is operating as a unit with its rifle coys deployed widely, working to one aim and coordinated at a battalion command post. Support Company was initially organized as a fifth rifle company of four platoons; but the intention is that the mortar platoon and possibly the machine gun platoon will function normally while the remainder of the company will assist in relieving the rifle companies for rest. The troop of 105 Fd Bty is in support, mainly on harrassing tasks.

7. In the three weeks since operations began, there were several contacts with CTs, resulting in one member of an armed work force being wounded and captured. One Australian sergeant was accidentally wounded and subsequently died.

MORALE

8. In earlier months two factors adversely affected morale:-

- (a) The misconceptions in the minds of almost all troops leaving AUSTRALIA, regarding the period which would elapse before married accommodation would be available to those requiring it.
- (b) In the case of 2 RAR and 105 Fd Bty the two cancellations of orders for movement to mainland training areas which occurred in Dec 55.

9. There is some evidence that 2 RAR's morale is not yet fully restored. The commencement of operations gave a substantial lift; but the absence of spectacular results, which is a feature of this type of operation, has been a disappointment.

10. Personnel in sub-units integrated with UNITED KINGDOM units have, in all cases, settled down well. Except for the present shortage of married accommodation, they appear well content.

DISCIPLINE

11. Discipline generally has been very good; and commanders at all levels have made favourable comments. It has been noticed particularly that the number of incidents reported by military police in GEORGETOWN (PENANG) has been low. The Chief Police Officer PENANG (Civil) spoke highly of the general behaviour.

MARRIED ACCOMMODATION

12. Provision of married accommodation is well in hand. The position is still very fluid and it is difficult to give figures which are unambiguous.

13. The commitment for married accommodation, definite and possible, is as follows:-

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>ORs</u>	<u>Total</u>
(a) Personnel who have requested married accommodation	54	224	278
(b) Married personnel who have NOT yet requested accommodation	4	104	108

NOTE. The figures in (b) cannot be guaranteed as the Records Det does not maintain full data and it is undesirable at the present time to obtain confirmation from the members themselves.

14. The availability of accommodation, to meet the needs of those who have requested it, is:-

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>ORs</u>	<u>Total</u>
(a) Married Quarters	1	-	1
(b) Hirings - Firm	13	12	25
- In sight	5	11	16
(c) Building/Leasing Projects - In progress	20	92	112
- Projected	2	46	48
	<u>41</u>	<u>161</u>	<u>202</u>
(d) Private Accommodation	14	7	21
(e) Hotels, Hostels, etc	15	41	56
	<u>29</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>77</u>

These totals should not be added together as the result would convey a false impression. Some of private accommodation (d) will be vacated when houses become available in the building/leasing projects; and there will be a substantial change in the hotels, hostels, etc group (e) as other accommodation emerges.

ADMINISTRATION GENERALLY

15. Due to factors outside army control, the headquarters and administrative organization of the Force was not set up before the arrival of unit main bodies. Despite the excellent preliminary work done by the combined Service/Treasury team on conditions of service, three difficulties early became evident:-

- (a) A substantial number of FARELF staff officers were unaware of the correct approach to Australian problems. Even those who consciously thought about the relationship of the Australian Force to the theatre as a whole, tended to think in terms of NATO, rather than the British Commonwealth. This led to some wrong decisions and much additional work in establishing correct procedures.
- (b) Certain matters which were supposed to be handled by FARELF (notably provision of married accommodation and movement/transit into the theatre of Australian personnel including families) became most pressing and to be taken over by HQ Australian Army Force.
- (c) The headquarters, designed to handle day to day administration of wholly Australian content in an established force, was unable to cope with the volume of work in a newly established organization, particularly as it was necessary to deal as first priority with the two aspects in (a) and (b) above.

16. These troubles have now been largely overcome, although the headquarters itself is not yet functioning as efficiently as it should. This is receiving attention.

17. It is becoming increasingly evident that some of the administrative procedures of the force will need to be overhauled. Although individually each is theoretically sound and quite reasonable in its application, the total of work involved at unit and headquarters levels is proving too onerous. A start has been made on these matters.

Sgd: Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

DISTRIBUTION: AHQ MELBOURNE (4)
GHQ FARELF (1)
FILE (1)

UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and year MAR 56 Commanding Officer Col F.W. SPEED OBE ED

Place	Date	Summary of events and information	Reference to Appendices
SINGAPORE	1 Mar 56	Commander visited BMH TAIPING, 2 Inf Wksp REME and 1 Fed Div.	
	2 Mar 56	Commander visited 2 RAR and 105 Fd Bty. Mr. NICHOL, Director of Public Relations deplaned SINGAPORE.	
	3 Mar 56	Commander visited HQ 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp and returned to SINGAPORE.	
	4 Mar 56	Mr. HAGARTY Dept of Treasury and Mr. SHEERAN Dept of Finance (A) deplaned SINGAPORE.	
	8 Mar 56	Major General REFSHAUGE DGMS arrived SINGAPORE.	
	19 Mar 56	DAA & QMG visited KUALA LUMPUR and PENANG regarding the housing project.	
	12 Mar 56	6/33 Capt P. EDDINGTON transferred to Misc Aust Dets BCFESR 5/74 Capt L.A. MARSHALL reposted from SC 'Q' to ADMIN OFFR.	
	22 Mar 56	Major General REFSHAUGE emplaned for AUSTRALIA.	
	28 Mar 56	AA & QMG attended a housing conference at PENANG.	
		Copy of Commander's Monthly Report 2/56 is attached.	Appendix A
		Copy on Nominal Roll of AG Staff attached.	Appendix B

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

Quote in reply: 35/1/3

HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
SINGAPORE.

6 Mar 56.

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT No 2/56

1. This report follows that forwarded under Aust Army Force FARELF 35/1/3 of 4 Feb 56, and covers the month of Feb 56.

STATE

2. The state of the force at 29 Feb 56 was

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>ORs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	103	1382	1485
Strength	100	1333	1433

These figures include the Wrls Tp (Aust) which is under-implemented at present, by 27 other ranks.

EMPLOYMENT

3. The duties on which the force has been employed during Feb 56 have been:-

2 RAR) 105 Fd Bty)	Training, and operations in the secondary role.
4 Tp RAE	Road & bridge construction near TEMERLOH.
Aust Component, 3 Coy RASC	Transport duties, Sometimes involving movement in 'black' areas.
Other units	Normal duties in the FARELF administrative organization.

4. 2 RAR and one troop 105 Fd Bty are the Army element of a security force responsible for an area of approximately 300 Square miles. In this area is a loosely knit Communist Terrorist organization of above 40 members, which, in recent months, has followed an unaggressive policy. This, together with the elusiveness normal in guerrilla forces, has made them extremely difficult to run down. On the other hand, the combined efforts of the police and army units have brought about a state of com-evidently deter the CTs and their sympathisers from a resumption of violence.

5. During the month there were several contacts but these were productive only of some limited information. One MALAY civilian was accidentally killed when he set off an ambush, in a locality which was prohibited at the time.

2/.....

6. There is evidence that a higher standard of small arms shooting would have resulted in conversion of some of the contacts into kills, and this is now receiving special attention.

7. During the period 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde OFP was moved from WARDIEBURN (near KUALA LUMPUR) to BUTTERWORTH.

MORALE

8. There is undoubtedly a feeling of frustration in 2 BAR at the lack of positive results in the current operations. Discussion with individual troops usually leads to a reference to "looking for a needle in a haystack" and often to the disconcerting fact that the "needle" moves about. At present the frustration is not serious, and a few successful contacts would undoubtedly raise morale.

9. Morale in other units seems high.

MARRIED ACCOMMODATION

10. There has been no significant variation in the married accommodation position, but steady progress is being made.

11. After much negotiation, agreement has been reached with GHQ FARELF on the method by which hirings will be provided on the mainland on MALAYA and on SINGAPORE Island for UNITED KINGDOM families, to enable Australian families to be accommodated in married quarters in PENANG. This agreement is now with HQ MALAYA Comd for confirmation.

ADMINISTRATION GENERALLY

12. With the assistance of Mr. H. FORD who is visiting from the Directorate of Finance (C) AHQ, a start has been made on a review of a number of Pay and related matters. Several submissions have been made to AHQ, and others are being held for discussion with the Director of Finance (A) when he arrived.

13. Whilst the review referred to will be beneficial, it has not as yet disclosed any substantial avenues for the reduction of the work load.

Sgd
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

Col

DISTRIBUTION:

AHQ MELBOURNE (6)
C in C FARELF (1)
GOC MALAYA Comd (1)
GOC 1 Fed Div (1)
File (1)

APPENDIX B

NOMINAL ROLL
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

3/37501	Col F.W. SPEED OBE ED
2/258	Lt Col D.G. SHARP OBE
3/161	Maj J.R. WARREN MVO
NX 124446	Maj J.M. SMAIL
2/40155	Capt E.M. McCORMICK
5/74	Capt (QM) L.A. MARSHALL MBE
NX 124446	Maj J.M. SMAIL
3/10742	Sgt J. CREAMER
1/2118	Cpl A.J. COMPBELL
1/1489	Pte L.J. RAWLINS
2/8870	Pte F.C. KILLICK
2/4676	Pte C.B. KIEHNE

UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and year APRIL 1956

Commanding Officer Col FW SPEED OBE ED.

Place	Date	Summary of events and information	Reference to Appendices
SINGAPORE	1 Apr 56	2/4676 Pte CB KIEHNE posted as driver vice Pte AMBROSE.	
	4 Apr 56	Commander visited CE MALAYA Command.	
	5 Apr 56	Commander visited 4 Tp RAE and families at PETALING JAYA.	
	9 Apr 56	AA & QMG Inspected housing at MINDEN Barracks, PENANG.	
	11 Apr 56	2/8920 Pte F AMBROSE transferred to AUST DET RD1.	
	12 Apr 56	Lt Col ISAKSSON PSD & S deplaned SINGAPORE.	
	14 Apr 56	Mr HAGARTY & Mr SHEERAN returned to AUSTRALIA.	
	23 Apr 56	Commander visited HQ 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde GP PENANG.	
	24 Apr 56	Commander visited 2 RAR at KULIM.	
	25 Apr 56	Commander attended ANZAC Day Parade at PENANG. Members of the HQ paraded with the guard of honour at the dawn services at the CENOTAPH SINGAPORE. All officers attended and a wreath was laid by Lt Col SHARP.	
	26 Apr 56	Commander visited HQ MALAYA Command.	
	27 Apr 56	Commander returned to SINGAPORE Copy of Commander's Monthly report No. 3/56 is attached.	Appendix A
		Copy of Nominal Roll of HQ Staff is attached.	Appendix B

C O P Y

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

Quote in reply: 35/1/3

HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
SINGAPORE

3 Apr 56

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT NO 3/56

1. This report covers the month of Mar 56.

STATE

2. The state of the force at 31 Mar 56 was

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>ORs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	102	1383	1485
Strength	98	1318	1416

These figures include the Wrls Tp (Aust) which is under-implemented at present, by 27 other ranks.

EMPLOYMENT

3. The duties on which the force has been employed during Mar 56 have been :-

2 RAR)	Training, and operations in the secondary role.
105 Fd Bty)	
4 Tp RAE	Road & bridge construction near TEMERLOH.
Aust Component,)	Transport duties, sometimes involving movement in 'black' areas.
3 Coy RASC)	
Other units	Normal duties in the FARELF Administrative organisation.

4. During the month there were several contacts. One of these resulted in one CT being killed and two wounded. In the encounter one Australian sergeant was wounded, and subsequently died.

TRAINING

5. During the month special attention was given within 2 RAR to small arms shooting. A marked improvement against opportunity targets was achieved.

ACCIDENTS

6. In the period 15-23 Mar 56, three cases occurred of accidental discharge of small arms weapons : two were fatal. A separate report was made on this matter and the reports of the individual Courts of Enquiry will follow.

MORALE

7. There is evidence that 2 RAR has settled down to the emergency operations. The frustration previously mentioned has diminished and the outlook is more cheerful. The morale of the other units of the force continues to be high.

DISCIPLINE/.....

DISCIPLINE

8. The behaviour of the troops in general has been uniformly good. There have been incidents of ill-discipline on leave, and one case of several psychiatric patients going absent without leave from hospital and returning fighting drunk, but these incidents have been isolated.

LEAVE

9. All units now have continuous leave programmes.

10. 2 RAR withdraws one company at a time for 26 days leave and re-fitting. This will result in all personnel having had an opportunity to take leave before 30 Jun 56.

11. Adequate vacancies have been available so far at Service leave centres. Most units have a system whereby personnel may take leave but remain living in unit lines, in a section set apart for the purpose. Reveille and meal hours are elastic. This arrangement has proved surprisingly popular and successful. Nevertheless, it is thought there will be a greater use of leave centres as time goes on.

GARRISON CLUB PENANG

12. The expectations regarding the Garrison Club PENANG have been more than fulfilled. The club is very well patronized and is well spoken of, particularly by the RAAF. Stage 2, the provision of a large dining room and dance floor, is almost complete.

MARRIED ACCOMMODATION

13. Steady progress is being made with construction of the 112 houses in PENANG. When last seen (16 Mar) the roofing tiles were being put on in the 12 house project.

ADMINISTRATION GENERALLY

14. The backlog in the paymasters section has been reduced to manageable proportions and, with the arrival of the additional personnel due shortly, it is expected that most of the delays will be eliminated. A number of individual inefficiencies in system (eg method of paying wives' allotments) have been corrected.

15. The visit of the Director of Finance (A) AHQ and the Chief Finance Officer Defence Division Treasury is proving very helpful. A number of problems have been examined. Some have been put right; others have been noted for remedial action on their return to AUSTRALIA.

(Sgd)

/CE

Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

DISTRIBUTION

AHQ MELBOURNE (6)
C in C FARELF (1)
GOC MALAYA Comd (1)
GOC 1 Fed Div (1)
File (1)

CONFIDENTIAL

UNIT HISTORYHQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and year: MAY 1956

Commanding Officer Col FW SPEED OBE ED

Place	Date	Summary of events and information	Reference to Appendices
SINGAPORE	3 May 56	Archbishop HALSE of BRISBANE deplaned SINGAPORE on visit.	
	8 May 56	Commander visited 3 Coy RASC.	
	9 May 56	Commander visited 2 RAR.	
	10 May 56	Commander visited BMH KINRARA, 2 Inf Wksp REME and 1 Fed Div. Archbishop HALSE departed SINGAPORE.	
	15 May 56	AA & QMG visited PENANG.	
	17 May 56	AA & QMG returned SINGAPORE.	
	21 May 56	DAA & QMG made liaison visit to (a) 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp Pro Unit (b) PENANG Garrison (c) 2 RAR rear (d) Aust Hostel	
	22 May 56	DAA & QMG visited (a) HQ 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp (b) 105 Fd Bty RAA (c) 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp OFF (d) 2 RAR	
	23 May 56	DAA & QMG visited units at TAIPING.	
	24 May 56	DAA & QMG visited units at KUALA LUMPUR.	
	26 May 56	DAA & QMG returned to SINGAPORE. A copy of Commander's Monthly Report No 4/56 is attached.	Appendix A

C O P Y

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

Quote in reply: 35/1/3

HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
SINGAPORE

3 May 56

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT No 4/56

1. This report covers the month of Apr 56.

STATE

2. The state of the force at 30 Apr 56 was

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>ORs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	102	1383	1185
Strength	100	1320	1420

The figures include the Wrls Tp (Aust which is under-implemented at present, by 27 other ranks.

EMPLOYMENT

3. The duties on which the force has been employed during Apr 56 have been :-

2 RAR) 105 Fd Bty)	Training, and operations in the secondary role.
4 Tp RAE	Road & Bridge construction near TEMERLOH.
Aust Component 3 Coy RASC	Transport duties, sometimes involving movement in 'black' areas.
Other units	Normal duties in the FARELF Administrative Organization.

4. During the month 2 RAR made one contact only, when a patrol encountered a CT camp guarded by two sentries. It was estimated that 12 CTs made their escape when the camp was overrun. It is not known if any CT casualties were caused; one Australian officer was slightly wounded in the face.

5. At the end of the month 2 RAR began moving to a new area in PERAK. This was in conformity with a plan under which HQ 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp (with 1 RSF also under command) has assumed operational responsibility for NORTH PERAK, in addition to PENANG and PROVINCE WELLESLEY. This in turn is part of the overall project for stepping-up operations in the Emergency.

TRAINING

6. Following the three accidents which occurred in March a comprehensive programme was undertaken of tests of elementary small arms training followed by re-training as necessary. In addition a special effort was made to ensure that all personnel, junior leaders and troops, understand and apply normal elementary safety precautions and the degrees of readiness prescribed for Emergency operations.

7. In carrying out this latter refresher training, it has been necessary to guard against over-insurance, for such caution could lead to personnel being caught unprepared in an encounter with CTs.

2/.....

MORALE

8. The settling down in 2 RAR, reported last month, has continued. The cheerful outlook normal in the Australian soldier was much more in evidence.

COMPLAINTS

9. Apart from the usual number of individual complaints which were dealt with, two subjects of a major nature arose during the period :-

- (a) Non-application to MALAYA/SINGAPORE of income tax exemption, and re-establishment or re-employment benefits. This has been reported separately.
- (b) The matter of rebates to personnel accommodated in the Other Ranks' Hostel PENANG when absent for one or more days. A submission is with AHQ.

ANZAC DAY

- 10. AMF personnel took part in ANZAC Day services in each station.
- 11. The Australian Commission in SINGAPORE, with the assistance of HQ Aust Army Force, set the pattern for the services, which was then followed, with modifications, in all localities. The RAN was represented in SINGAPORE and there were substantial RAAF elements in SINGAPORE and PENANG. Comd Aust Army Force attended in PENANG as the major centre and was represented by the AA & QMG in SINGAPORE. In SINGAPORE, members of UK units which has taken part in the landing at GALLIPOLI were present.

MARRIED ACCOMMODATION

- 12. During the month the long hoped for take-over of married quarters in PENANG by Australian families from UNITED KINGDOM families began. A regrettable feature was the decision that RHODESIAN AFRICAN RIFLES families, which were to have gone direct into hirings in SINGAPORE Island, would stage through married quarters in PENANG. Although remedial action is in hand, a delay will occur in the take-over of those quarters by Australians.
- 13. The contractor has advised that the first houses being built for leasing in PENANG will be available earlier in JUNE than the contract specifies. There is still a possibility that a quarry strike may cause with later deliveries.

HEADQUARTERS

- 14. On 30 Apr 56 HQ Aust Army Force FARELF took over a new hut which had just been finished alongside the existing buildings. This has enabled the Headquarters and attached elements to function reasonably for the first time since setting up. Together with a steady improvement in working efficiency the new layout will contribute materially to the effectiveness of the Headquarters.
- 15. The Staff Captain (Q) has not yet been appointed to the Headquarters and, if this could be done, it would be of very great assistance in overcoming the backlog of routine Q work.

ADMINISTRATION GENERALLY

16. During the visit of the Director of Finance (A) AHQ and the Chief Finance Officer Defence Division Treasury the whole range of problems affecting finance was discussed and many matters were clarified. It is hoped, as a consequence of their return to AUSTRALIA, that a substantial number of outstanding problems will be resolved.

Sgd:-

/CE

Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

DISTRIBUTION:

AHQ MELBOURNE	(6)	GOC 1 Fed Div	(1)
C in C FARELF	(1)	File	(1)
GOC MALAYA Comd	(1)		

Appendix 'B'

NOMINAL ROLL

HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

3/37501 Col FW SPEED OBE ED
2/258 Lt Col DG SHARP OBE
3/161 Maj TR WARREN MVO
NX/124446 Maj JM SM^{AIT}~~OR~~
2/40158 Capt EM McCORMICK
5/74 Capt LA MARSHALL
3/10742 Sgt J CREAMER
1/2118 Cpl AJ CAMPBELL
1/1489 Pte LJ RAWLINS
2/8870 Pte FC KILLICK
2/4676 Pte CB KIEHNE

/CE

UNIT HISTORY

HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and year: JUNE 1956

Commanding Officer Col FW SPEED OBE ED

Place	Date	Summary of events and information	Reference to Appendices
SINGAPORE	4 Jun 56	Commander visited HQ MALAYA Command 16 Fd Amb RAMC and the housing at KUALA LUMPUR.	
	9 Jun 56	3/40082 CAPT L LOGAN assumed duty as SC 'Q'.	
	24 Jun 56	Brig WILTON CBE DSO and Lt Col FERGUSON DSO MC visited HQ 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp and 2 RAR.	
	25 Jun 56	Commander visited 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Sig Sqn, 105 Fd Bty RAA and HQ 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp at BUTTERWORTH.	
	26 Jun 56	Commander visited 2 RAR Rear Details and 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp Pro Unit at PENANG.	
		A copy of Commander's Monthly report No 5/56 is attached.	Appendix A
		Nominal Roll of HQ Staff is attached.	Appendix B

C O P Y

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

Quote in reply: 35/1/3

HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
SINGAPORE

1 Jun 56

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT No 5/56

1. This report covers the month of May 56.

STATE

2. The state of the force at 30 May 56 was :-

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>ORs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	103	1383	1486
Strength	100	1307	1407

The figures include the Wrls Tp (Aust) which is under-implemented at present, by 27 other ranks.

EMPLOYMENT

3. The duties on which the force has been employed during May 56 have been :-

2 RAR) 105 Fd Bty)	Training, and operations in the secondary role.
4 Tp RAE	Road & bridge construction near TEMERLOH.
Aust Component 3 Coy RASC	Transport duties, sometimes involving movement in 'black' areas.
Other Units	Normal duties in the FARELF Administrative Organization.

4. At the beginning of the month 2 RAR moved to new locations in the KUALA KANGSAR area, with one company on an independent mission at KROH. Since arriving in the new area the unit has had one kill and a number of other contacts.

5. One Tp 105 Fd Bty remained in operation in the BONGSU area, in support of 1 MALAY.

6. 11 Indep Fd Sqn, of which 4 Tp RAE, is part, is nearing completion of its construction task.

7. In 3 Coy RASC, Capt A.E. GOODALL RAASC is administering command of the Company while a change in officers commanding is taking place. A period of three months is possible.

MORALE
DISCIPLINE

8. There has been no significant change in these two matters since the last reports.

REINFORCEMENTS 9. Delays in/.....

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- 2 -

REINFORCEMENTS

9. Delays in arrival of reinforcements are now beginning to be felt: in some cases several months have elapsed between the departure of a soldier and the arrival of the replacement. The matter is under action.

MARRIED ACCOMMODATION

10. The take-over of the first eight dwellings in PENANG, built for leasing under special approvals, is beginning - one month ahead of schedule. Further deliveries are expected at present to be on, or ahead of, time.

MOVEMENT OF FAMILIES

11. Movement of families to MALAYA/ SINGAPORE has been proceeding steadily for some months. Difficulties of a minor nature only have been encountered and these have been resolved as they arose.

12. Although transit through SINGAPORE is the responsibility of the FARELF Movement organization, a representative of HQ Aust Army Force meets each arrival to ensure that full action is taken in any case of need. In addition an officer's wife meets each family having a young child or children.

Sgd:

/CE

Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

DISTRIBUTION

AHQ MELBOURNE	(6)
C in C FARELF	(1)
GOC MALAYA Comd	(1)
GOC 1 Fed Div	(1)
File	(1)

CONFIDENTIAL

Appendix 'B'

NOMINAL ROLL

HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

3/37501	Col FW SPEED OBE ED
2/258	Lt Col DG SHARP OBE
3/161	Maj TR WARREN MVO
NX/124446	Maj JM SMERAIL
2/40158	Capt EM McCORMICK
3/40082	Capt L LOGAN
5/74	Capt (QM) LA MARSHALL MBE
3/10742	Sgt J CREAMER
1/2118	Cpl AJ CAMPBELL
1/1489	Pte LJ RAWLINS
2/8870	Pte FC KILLICK
2/4676	Pte CB KIEHNE

/CE

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES



36/7/5

HQ AUST. ARMY FORCE FARELF
SINGAPORE.

14 Aug 56

Military History Section
Army Headquarters
Victoria Barracks
MELBOURNE

UNIT HISTORY

Reference MBI 3/55.

- ... 1. Attached is the history of HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
for July 56.

Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

93

20/8
MIL HIST

UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and Year JUL 56

Commanding Officer Col FW SPEED OBE ED

Place	Date	Summary of Events and Information	Reference to Appendices
SINGAPORE	1 Jul 56	Lt Col WHEELER AQMG AHQ emplaned for AUSTRALIA.	
	6 Jul 56	Mr Robert MOORE, Broadcasting Official deplaned SINGAPORE. Commander made routine visits to the following units:	
	10 Jul 56	1 Fed Div BMH KAMUNTING 2 Inf Wksp REME 3 Coy RASC.	
	11 Jul 56	HQ 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp 2 RAR and returned to SINGAPORE.	
	11 Jul 56	Mr Robert MOORE returned AUSTRALIA.	
	12 Jul 56	DAA & QMG made liaison visit to Q Maint MALAYA Command.	
	13 Jul 56	DAA & QMG made liaison visit to HQ PENANG Garrison and returned to SINGAPORE.	
	22 Jul 56	Lieut Gen Sir Henry WELLS KBE, CB, DSO, Chief of the General Staff accompanied by his MA Maj K.J. ORAM RAA deplaned SINGAPORE.	
	23 Jul 56	CGS visited HQ Aust Army Force FARELF.	
	24 Jul 56	CGS accompanied by Commander Aust Army Force FARELF left SINGAPORE and visited the following formations, units and installations in MALAYA:	
	24 Jul 56	HQ MALAYA Command.	
	25 Jul 56	3 Coy RASC 2 RAR 105 Fd Bty RAA	
	26 Jul 56	HQ 1 Federal Division 2 Infantry Workshop REME BMH KAMUNTING	
	27 Jul 56	HQ 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp Sig Sqn 105 Fd Bty LAD HQ 105 Fd Bty RAA 11 Indep Fd Sqn RE 16 Fd Amb RAMC Minden Barracks PENANG.	
	28 Jul 56	Sandycroft Leave Centre Aust Hostel Aust Accn Runnymede Hotel Garrison OR Club	
	30 Jul 56	HQ MALAYA Command CGS and Commander returned to SINGAPORE.	
		A copy of the Commander's Monthly Report is attached.	Appx A

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

Quote in reply: 35/1/3

HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
SINGAPORE

2 Aug 56

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT No 7/56

1. This report covers the month of July 56.

STATE

2. The state of the force at 31 Jul 56 was:-

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>ORs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	104	1386	1490
Strength	104	1315	1419

These figures are subject to the following comments:-

- (a) 2 RAR is restricted by 53 other rank appointments not to be filled whilst the battalion is in MALAYA. The establishment total shown above includes 2 RAR at the restricted establishment.
- (b) Wrls Tp (AUST) is under-implemented at present, by 27 other ranks. The establishment total shown above includes the Wrls Tp (AUST) at its full authorization and not the under-implementation figure.

EMPLOYMENT

3. The duties on which the force has been employed during Jul 56 have been:-

2 RAR	}	Operations in the secondary role, and training.
105 Fd Bty		
4 Tp RAE		Completion of road and bridge construction task.
Aust Component		Transport duties, sometimes involving movement in 'black' areas.
3 Coy RASC		
Other units		Normal duties in the FARELF Administrative Organization.

4. The follow-up operations in the 2 RAR area (referred to in the last report) did not produce further contact, though on two occasions very fresh spoor was encountered. Normal activities were resumed about 9 Jul.
5. 105 Fd Bty now has one troop in support of each battalion of 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp.
6. In the last week of the month, 11 Indep Fd Sqn RE moved from the TEMERLOH area. Its locations are now:-

HQ and 4 Tp RAE	BUTTERWORTH
Two tps	HOBART (GURUN).

4 Tp RAE is to

4 Tp RAE is to undertake a bomb disposal task on PENANG Island and possibly a landing strip task at SUNGEI SIPUT, the latter for Tactical Headquarters 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp.

2 RAR

7. The Chief of the General Staff after his visit to the unit on 25-26 Jul 56 expressed satisfaction with the standard which it had reached and conditions generally within the unit. Certain matters requiring attention were discussed in detail after which he indicated that he was well pleased with the progress made by the battalion.

INTEGRATION

8. The visit of the Chief of the General Staff brought to prominence the situation existing regarding the integration into UNITED KINGDOM units of Australian sub-units and personnel. In some cases the situation reached was found satisfactory, in two cases not good - 3 Coy RASC and 2 Inf Wksp REME.

9. The following tentative conclusions have been drawn:-

(a) The Australian soldier is a Regular generally of more mature age, knowledge and experience than the national servicemen who provides the greater proportion of the strength of integrated units. Conditions of control, discipline, duties and leave applicable to the young short term compulsory serviceman are often inappropriate for the older long term enlisted Regular.

(b) Many of the UNITED KINGDOM non-commissioned officers are younger and less experienced than the Australian soldiers with whom they are associated.

(c) The problem is accentuated where:-

(i) a wide integration is effected, as for example in all or most trades of a workshop unit, and/or

(ii) Australian personnel are mixed with UNITED KINGDOM personnel in individual barrack rooms.

These are not serious in themselves - they may even be advantageous - but they do increase the need for good leadership.

(d) Where the senior Australian officer is mature, reasonably experienced, and adept in man-management the irritations of integration do not assume serious proportions. Even if these qualities are lacking or insufficiently developed, and the UNITED KINGDOM commanding officer fully understands the Australian mentality, an untoward situation is not likely to arise. However if the Australian officer is not well chosen and the UNITED KINGDOM commanding officer does not really know how to handle Australians, trouble can ensue.

(e) There is some evidence that the risk is greatest in the medium-sized unit (e.g. motor transport company, infantry workshop) with a substantial number (40 - 60) of Australian personnel.

(f) The point + + /

(f) The point at which HQ Aust Army Force FARELF should intervene in a matter which is primarily a unit/formation responsibility, requires nice judgment.

10. To define the problem more clearly, arrangements have been made for Maj L.C. CHAMBERS RAASC att 2 RAR to visit 3 Coy RASC for 14-28 days and to report his conclusions.

11. In the case of 2 Inf Wksp REME the following action has been taken:-

(a) AHQ has been requested to assist in removing unhappiness caused by inability to achieve promotion. HQ AUST Army Force FARELF 161/1/5 of 20 Jul refers.

(b) Arrangements have been made for a regrouping of personnel within the unit so that Australian members will be under direct control of Australian officers and will have direct access to them, particularly on administrative matters.

MORALE

12. With the exception of the Australian Components of 3 Coy RASC and 2 Inf Wksp REME, the morale of the Australian units remains high. 2 RAR in particular is in better form than it has been since soon after its arrival. Due to factors set out above, the Australian personnel of the two units mentioned are at present discontented. Restorative action is in hand.

DISCIPLINE

13. There has been no significant change since the last report.

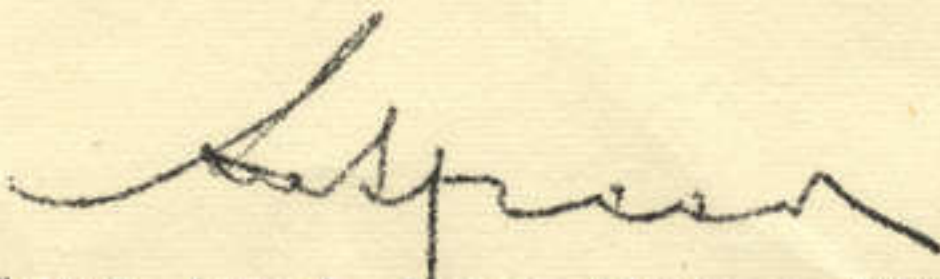
14. There has been a decline in the VD rate during the month.

MARRIED ACCOMMODATION

15. Good progress continues to be made with the occupation of hirings built for leasing in PENANG.

16. The move of three units from the KUALA LUMPUR area to the PENANG-BUTTERWORTH area has necessitated provision being made for the move of their families to PENANG. This has begun, but will not be completed for some time due to the need to maintain equity with families of 2 RAR and of units which have been stationed in PENANG-BUTTERWORTH since the inception of the Force.

17. Arrangements for the handover of vacated hirings, for UNITED KINGDOM use, have been made.


Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

Distribution/.....

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DISTRIBUTION

- AHQ MELBOURNE (6)
- C in C FARELF (1)
- GOC MALAYA Comd (1)
- GOC 1 Fed Div (1)
- War Diary (2)
- File (1)

(a) Arrangements have been made for a reorganisation of personnel within the unit so that Australian members will be under direct control of Australian officers and will have direct access to them, particularly on administrative matters.

(b) Arrangements have been made for a reorganisation of personnel within the unit so that Australian members will be under direct control of Australian officers and will have direct access to them, particularly on administrative matters.

NOTES

12. With the exception of the Australian Component of 3 Coy RASG and 2 Inf Wap RASG, the morale of the Australian units remains high. 2 IAR in particular is in better form than it has been since soon after its arrival. Due to factors set out above, the Australian personnel of the two units mentioned are at present unencumbered.

DISCIPLINE

13. There has been no significant change since the last report.

14. There has been a decline in the VD rate during the month.

MARRIED ACCOMMODATION

15. Good progress continues to be made with the occupation of billeting units for housing in PERANG.

16. The move of three units from the KUALA LUMPUR area to the PERANG-BUTTERWORTH area has necessitated provision being made for the move of their families to PERANG. This has begun, but will not be completed for some time due to the need to maintain equity with families of 2 IAR and of units which have been stationed in PERANG-BUTTERWORTH since the inception of the Force.

17. Arrangements for the handover of vacated billeting for UNITED KINGDOM and have been made.

[Handwritten signature]
 Commandant
 1st Australian Army Force

Station/.....

U-1
AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In Reply Please Quote: 36/7/5

HQ AUST. ARMY FORCE FARELF
SINGAPORE.

13 Sep 56

Military History Section
Army Headquarters
Victoria Barracks
MELBOURNE

UNIT HISTORY

Reference MBI 3/55.

- ... 1. Attached is the history of HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
for Aug 56.

David J. Sharp
Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and Year Aug 56

Commanding Officer Col F.W. SPEED OBE ED

Place	Date	Summary of Events and Information	Reference to Appendices
SINGAPORE	1 Aug 56	Lieut Gen Sir Henry WELLS KBE, CB DSO emplaned at SINGAPORE for USA. Mr GYE of Scientific Research returned to AUSTRALIA. AA & QMG visited PENANG Garrison.	
	2 Aug 56	Major K.A. ORAM RAA MA to the CGS departed for AUSTRALIA. AA & QMG returned to SINGAPORE.	
	5 Aug 56	Col D. VINCENT D.Sigs arrived on visit.	
	7 Aug 56	Col D VINCENT departed for AUSTRALIA.	
	9 Aug 56	Commander visited following units: 3 Coy RASC 2 RAR.	
	10 Aug 56	Commander visited the following units: HQ 1 Federal Division 2 Inf Wksp REME BMH KAMUNTING.	
	11 Aug 56	Commander returned SINGAPORE.	
	23 Aug 56	Commander visited HQ MALAYA Command KUALA LUMPUR. A copy of the Commander's Monthly Report is attached.	Appx A.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

Quote in reply: 35/1/3

HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
 SINGAPORE

1 Sep 56

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT No 8/56

1. This report covers the month of Aug 56.

STATE

2. The state of the force at 31 Aug 56 was:-

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>ORs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	104	1388	1492
Strength	103	1338	1441

These figures are subject to the following comments:-

(a) 2 RAR is restricted by 53 other rank appointments not to be filled whilst the battalion is in MALAYA. The establishment total shown above includes 2 RAR at the restricted establishment.

(b) Wrls Tp (AUST) is under-implemented at present, by 27 other ranks. The establishment total shown above includes the Wrls Tp (AUST) at its full authorization and not the under-implementation figure.

EMPLOYMENT

3. The duties on which the force has been employed during Aug 56 have been:-

2 RAR 105 Fd Bty	} Operations in the secondary role, and training.
Other units	
	Normal duties in the FARELF organization, including the Emergency.

4. In the 2 RAR areas, the month was devoid of major incident. There were two CT sightings, in one of which one member of 2 RAR was wounded in the face and shoulder.

INTEGRATION

5. Maj L.C. CHAMBERS RAASC att 2 RAR completed his report into the situation in 3 Coy RASC as indicated in the last monthly report, on 10 Aug 56. Due to the personal interest of the GOCs concerned the report has not yet reached HQ Aust Army Force FARELF but is expected shortly.

6. In the meantime/....

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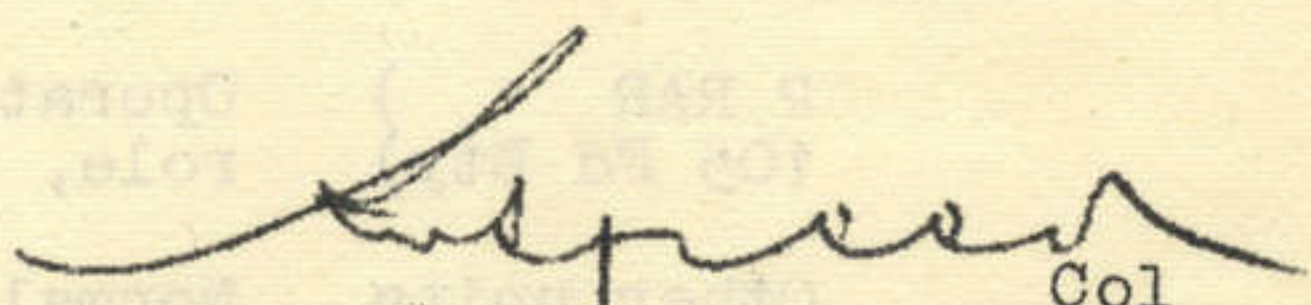
- 6. In the meantime, the following have been the developments:
 - (a) Remedial action within the company, based on Maj CHAMBERS' report, has begun.
 - (b) A request has been made to AHQ for permission to return to AUSTRALIA eight members of the company whose conduct has been most unsatisfactory.
 - (c) The new OC has commenced duty with the unit.
- 7. A report on Integration generally has been prepared and will be forwarded with Maj CHAMBERS' report on 3 Coy RASC.

MORALE

- 8. Within 3 Coy RASC and 2 Inf Wksp there is an attitude of 'wait and see', regarding the changes being made. The remedial action referred to above, will remove the chief causes of irritation. Action by unit officers and non-commissioned officers should then lift morale progressively. However, it will be some time before a high standard is reached; and there is an element of doubt whether there will be a complete rapprochement between Australian and UNITED KINGDOM personnel in those two units until time transfers at least a proportion of those concerned.
- 9. 4 Tp RAE has now completed its independent task in the AYER KRING area and is more closely associated with the Sqn HQ. Also there has been a (normal) change of OC. There is nothing to suggest deterioration at present but the position will need watching.
- 10. Morale in other units continues high.

MARRIED ACCOMMODATION

- 11. There is nothing of consequence to report regarding the continuing deliveries of hirings being built for leasing in PENANG.


 Col
 Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

DISTRIBUTION

- AHQ MELBOURNE (6)
- C in C FARELF (1)
- GOC MALAYA Comd (1)
- GOC 1 Fed Div (1)
- War Diary (2)
- File (1)

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In Reply Please Quote: 36/7/5

HQ AUST. ARMY FORCE FARELF
SINGAPORE.

1 Oct 56

Military History Section
Army Headquarters
Victoria Barracks
MELBOURNE

UNIT HISTORY

Reference MBI 3/55.

- ... 1. Attached is the history of HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
for Sep 56.

Derek G. Shaw Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF
AED

UNIT HISTORY

HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and Year Sep 56

Commanding Officer COL F.W. SPEED OBE ED.

Place	Date	Summary of Events and Information	Reference to Appendices
SINGAPORE	3 Sep 56	DAA & QMG admitted BMH SINGAPORE	
	4 Sep 56	Major DAVIDSON RA DAA & QMG 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp visited Headquarters.	
	10 Sep 56	Commander visited PENANG Garrison and Australian Houses in PENANG.	
	11 Sep 56	Commander visited the following units at BUTTERWORTH: HQ 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp 105 Fd Bty RAA 11 Indep Fd Sqn RE 16 Field Amb RAMC 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp Pro Unit. Commander returned to SINGAPORE.	
	13 Sep 56	Colonel W.B. LEONARD Director of Aust Army Canteen Services visited headquarters.	
	14 Sep 56	Commander visited 3 Coy RASC.	
	17 Sep 56	Brigadier P.P. JACKSON Engineer in Chief AHQ visited headquarters. Lieutenant Colonel L.V. GREEN Director of Army Education AHQ visited headquarters.	
	19 Sep 56	AA & QMG visited PENANG Garrison.	
	20 Sep 56	AA & QMG visited HQ 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp and returned to SINGAPORE.	
	27 Sep 56	Commander emplaned SINGAPORE for AUSTRALIA on visit to AHQ.	

A copy of the Commander's Monthly Report
is attached.

Appx A

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

Quote in reply: 35/1/3

HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
SINGAPORE

26 Sep 56

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT No 9/56

1. This report covers the month of Sep 56.

STATE

2. The state of the force at 26 Sep 56 was:-

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>ORs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	109	1390	1499
Strength	112	1334	1446

These figures are subject to the following comments:-

- (a) 2 RAR is restricted by 53 other rank appointments not to be filled whilst the battalion is in MALAYA. The establishment total shown above includes 2 RAR at the restricted establishment.
- (b) Wrls Tp (AUST) is under-implemented at present, by 27 other ranks. The establishment total shown above includes the Wrls Tp (AUST) at its full authorization and not the under-implementation figure.

EMPLOYMENT

3. The duties on which the force has been employed during Sep 56 have been:-

2 RAR	}	Operations in the secondary role, and training.
105 Fd Bty		
Other units		Normal duties in the FARELF organization, including the Emergency.

4. In the 2 RAR areas, the month was again devoid of major incident.

INTEGRATION

5. The report by Maj L.C. CHAMBERS RAASC att 2 RAR together with comments by superior commanders was forwarded to AHQ MELBOURNE on 7 Sep 56.

6. 3 Coy RASC/.....

6. 3 Coy RASC was visited twice during the month and the position can be summarized as follows:

- (a) The new OC is fully seized with the problem and has appropriate action in hand.
- (b) His difficulties are not confined to AUSTRALIAN troubles.
- (c) He will need to be given a reasonable period in which to show that he will apply the right measures and can gain control.
- (d) There is a feeling among a substantial section of the AUSTRALIANS that any complaint should automatically be adjusted to their satisfaction.
- (e) There is evidence that the small group of eight members, whose return to AUSTRALIA has been approved, were coercing others into non-fraternization between AUSTRALIAN and UNITED KINGDOM personnel.

MORALE

7. Action taken in 3 Coy RASC and 2 Inf Wksp has removed some of the causes of low morale; but it cannot yet be said that there is any notable improvement. It will take some time for personnel to realise that some of the causes of irritation cannot be removed and that it is necessary for them to meet the situation part way.

8. A visit to 4 Tp RAE showed that a lowering of morale was in fact developing due to the causes mentioned in the last report. The whole subject was gone into carefully with the new UNITED KINGDOM OC and the AUSTRALIAN OIC. The former is quite clear as to the requirement and the degree of accord between the two officers is satisfactory. The matter was also mentioned to the Brigade Commander who will watch it carefully.

9. Morale in other units continues high

MARRIED ACCOMMODATION

10. A brief statement of the present position is as follows:

Requested married accommodation	265
Granted restricted tour of duty	36
NOT asked for accommodation	77
Married members in Force (approx)	<u>378</u>

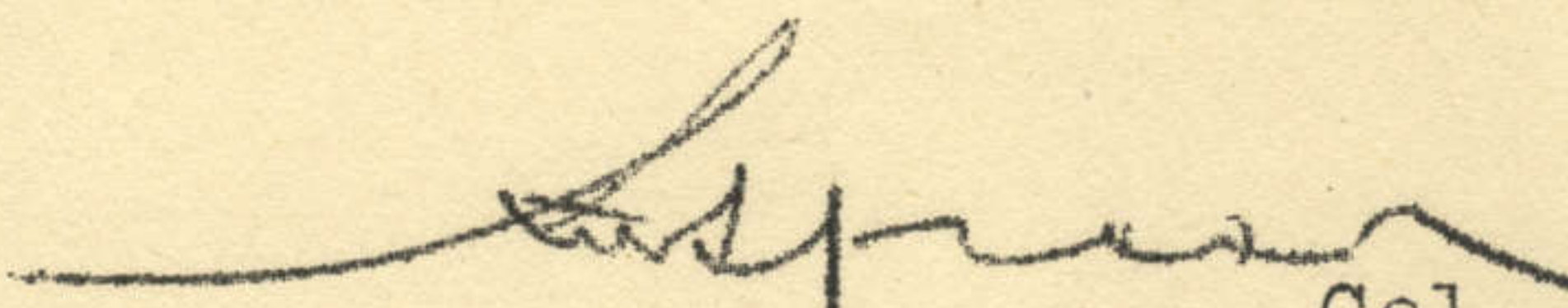
By 30 Nov 56 accommodation, some of a temporary nature, will have been provided for all who have asked for it. However, except for a small availability of space in the Australian Hostel PENANG, provision has not yet been made for

- (a) members who may change their minds;
- (b) personnel who replace those granted a restricted tour; or
- (c) personnel who/.....

- (c) personnel who later replace members at present in MALAYA who do not intend bringing their families.

ADMINISTRATION GENERALLY

11. It may be of value to give an indication of the nature and scope of administrative problems which are dealt with daily. Attached at Appendix 'A' is a summary of the matters encountered in the course of a routine visit to two integrated units and a garrison headquarters - matters which are outside the normal routine subjects.


Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

DISTRIBUTION:

AHQ MELBOURNE	(6)	}	without Appendix.
C in C FARELF	(1)		
GOC MALAYA Comd	(1)		
GOC 1 Fed Div	(1)		
War Diary	(2)		
File	(1)		

AUSTRALIAN DOMESTIC PROBLEMS
DEALT WITH IN A SINGLE VISIT TO THREE UNITS

UNIT 'A' (Integrated)

1. Discussed effect on unit of certain changes in allocation of unit accommodation. Asked information on rumour that a further change was contemplated in three months. Took note of replies for discussion with higher authority when opportunity offers.
 2. AUSTRALIAN OIC asked for advice on how to deal with Pte BAYONET who
 - (a) is a poor quality soldier.
 - (b) was recently deterred from marrying a PORTUGUESE whom he believed was pregnant by him.
 - (c) Now wants to marry that woman's sister.
 3. Enquired position regarding Pte LADLE, a cook, who had been transferred to the unit three months before to get him away from a woman of JAPANESE/INDONESIAN parentage with three (? illegitimate) children, with whom he was contemplating marriage. AUSTRALIAN OIC advised that
 - (a) Member is a good cook who is doing well in the unit.
 - (b) The woman moved from his old to his new station (110 miles) with her children but left again after three weeks.
 - (c) The woman occasionally visits the new station at week-ends.
- The case is being watched.
4. Acting CO (UK officer) asked about repair of an AUSTRALIAN jeep windscreen accidentally broken by a ball. Wanted to collect \$2 per child present at the game. Informed him of correct procedure.
 5. Made quick inspection of deficiencies in vehicles of AUSTRALIAN origin and undertook to endeavour to hasten supplies through Ordnance GHQ.
 6. Spoke to a group of AUSTRALIAN soldiers engaged in vehicle maintenance. Answered queries on
 - (a) Repatriation benefits
 - (b) Meaning of phrase "2 - 2½ years" in connection with tour of duty.

7. Discussed/.....

7. Discussed with Acting CO and AUSTRALIAN OIC rumours they had heard about Integration. Both were insistent that, while there were irritations of integration in the unit, they were of minor significance only. (In this unit the AUSTRALIAN OIC is capable, experienced and balanced).
8. Asked AUSTRALIAN OIC about his recent change in married accommodation. Both he and his wife are very happy. Was having some trouble with hot water heater but otherwise no complaint.

UNIT 'B' (Integrated)

1. OC upset at the move of his unit which was then taking place. Felt that inefficiency in Hirings organization had led to failure to secure better accommodation. Pacified him a little; and took note to speak for third time to higher authority on attitude of civilian officer concerned.
2. Examined inadequacy of Q store arrangements and offered some suggestions. (This is quite outside function of Comd Aust Army Force, but sometimes helps a junior officer who is feeling "out on a limb").
3. Discussed L/Cpl BELT an AUSTRALIAN who is odd man out in an otherwise good team. Unable to transfer him to another unit as all are integrated and he would probably be a bad influence elsewhere also. Administrative reversion is not the right answer as he is a good man otherwise. Soldier is away on stores escort at present and will interview him on next visit.
4. OC raised inequity of 15% rental charge for a corporal living in a low quality hiring compared with that for a private soldier in the TANJONG TOKONG estate. Explained position.
5. Saw Cpl PACK who had asked to be paraded on rejection of application for restricted tour of duty. Explained position, and told him application could be re-submitted on additional evidence now advanced.
6. Saw Pte RIFLE who wants to marry a JAPANESE with whom he has been corresponding for just over three years. Could not shake him. He is a good type likely to be promoted shortly, intelligent, sincere. Explained procedure and left him to make application.
7. Noted four minor matters for action at HQ Aust Army Force.

GARRISON HEADQUARTERS

1. Discussed Garrison plan for re-housing of several families to remove anomalies and some dissatisfaction.
2. Discussed transport of AUSTRALIAN families to medical and dental consultation and minor treatment. Undertook to ascertain exactly what had been agreed before Force arrived.
3. Explained position regarding provision of a NAAFI families shop in TANJONG TOKONG estate and discussed refusal of owners of Garrison Club to provide one there. Agreed to examine latter, in attempt to find solution.
4. Garrison Commander/.....

4. Garrison Commander raised question of payment for damage done at Garrison Club by personnel of a RN ship recently in port.
5. Discussed inefficiency of Duty NCO system. Unable to find better solution.
6. Examined books of account and system of audit for takings at Garrison Club from juke box, pin table and billiards fee.
7. Undertook to investigate delay in payment of several Garrison Club accounts.
8. Garrison Commander raised question of relief for Hostel Manager who needs leave after torrid eight months duty. Undertook to find one somehow.
9. Listened to impassioned plea for early decision on grass cutting machine for Hostel.
10. Garrison Commander asked for advice on action to be taken on reports by Welfare personnel that two soldiers children were dirty and had neglected skin infections. Also raised question on absentees from school.
11. Discussed need for a UK chaplain in PENANG area to relieve Australian chaplains of some garrison duties. This has been tried before but there is an extreme shortage of UK chaplains.
12. Raised with Garrison Commander the difficulties of transport of families to hospital in TAIPING when the case is not an emergency one. Agreed to take it up with GHQ.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In Reply Please Quote: 36/7/5

HQ AUST. ARMY FORCE FARELF
SINGAPORE.

7 Nov 56

Military History Section
Army Headquarters
Victoria Barracks
MELBOURNE

UNIT HISTORY

Reference MBI 3/55.

- ... 1. Attached is the history of HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
for Sep 56.
Oct

David G. Thompson
Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF
AOP

UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and Year OCT 56

Commanding Col F.W. SPEED OBE ED.
Officer

Place	Date	Summary of Events and Information	Refer to Annexure
SINGAPORE	15 Oct 56	SC Q attended conference on Ration Scales at TAIPING.	
	17 Oct 56	Commander Aust Army Force FARELF Col F.W. SPEED returned to SINGAPORE from AUSTRALIA.	
	18 Oct 56	Mr DULFER HYAMS ANA Radio Reporter visited Headquarters.	
	19 Oct 56	Lt Col V.L. GREEN Director of Army Education AHQ visited headquarters.	
	30 Oct 56	Brigadier P.P. JACKSON Engineer in Chief, AHQ passed through SINGAPORE on return to AUSTRALIA from UK.	

A copy of the Commander's Monthly Report is attached.

Annex A.

Quote in reply: 35/1/3

HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
SINGAPORE

2 Nov 56

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT No. 10/56

1. This report covers the month of Oct 56.

STATE

2. The state of the force at 31 Oct 56 was:-

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>ORs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	109	1390	1499
Strength	108	1315	1423

These figures are subject to the following comments:-

- (a) 2 RAR is restricted by 53 other rank appointments not to be filled whilst the battalion is in MALAYA. The establishment total shown above includes 2 RAR at the restricted establishment.
- (b) Wrls Tp(Aust) is under-implemented at present, by 27 other ranks. The establishment total shown above includes the Wrls Tp(Aust) at its full authorization and not the under-implementation figure.
3. It will be noticed that there is a decrease in other rank strengths of 19, mostly in 2 RAR.

EMPLOYMENT

4. The duties on which the force has been employed during Oct 56 have been:-

2 RAR	}	Operations in the secondary role, and training.
105 Fd Bty		
Other units		Normal duties in the FARELF organization, including the Emergency.

5. In the 2 RAR areas, there were two contacts with CTs, in which fire was exchanged. Two days after the second incident, a rubber tapper found the body of a CT who had died of wounds as a result of that encounter.

THE EMERGENCY

6. During the month, there were two significant occurrences in the Emergency (unconnected with AUSTRALIAN troops):-

- (a) On 2 Oct, villagers in the TANKAK area (JOHORE) captured two CTs, one of whom was a District Committee Member. On the following morning, after an action in which four CTs were eliminated by 1 Fed Regt, five more CTs were captured by villagers. This is the first occasion in which villagers, on their own initiative, have captured CT personnel.

6.(b) On 18 Oct/....

CONFIDENTIAL

- 2 -

6. (b) On 18 Oct, also in JOHORE, there were two incidents which were the first in which CHINESE operational Home Guard sections showed determined resistance to CT attacks.
7. In Oct, there was a marked increase in the number of eliminations - 41 (to 0900 hrs 30 Oct), compared with an average for the past six months of 29 per month.

SINGAPORE CIVIL DISTURBANCES

8. Following a stay-in strike by several groups of CHINESE Secondary students and ejection action by the SINGAPORE Government, rioting broke out on 26 Oct and continued until 28 Oct. Vigorous police/military action (including a stringent curfew) and the arrest of a substantial number of militant trades union leaders etc brought the situation under control. Tension continues but there is a gradual return to normal. Total casualties were 13 killed 92 reported injured.
9. During the rioting, the following sporadic minor incidents affected AUSTRALIAN personnel:-
- (a) a member of 2 RAR attending a course in SINGAPORE was attacked while returning from evening leave as a passenger on the motor-cycle of a UNITED KINGDOM soldier, on the first night. He suffered lacerations to the head and a broken arm.
 - (b) A detail of the Wrls Tp(Aust) travelling to duty in an army vehicle, drove through an ineffective ambush. Stones and bottles were thrown without effect.
 - (c) Whilst travelling on a visit to the EAST Coast the Commander's car was attacked by a small group of rioters with lumps of concrete. One hit only was registered.
 - (d) A jeep proceeding to the airport on duty was struck by a bottle of acid. Minor splashes only were sustained.
10. It has not been necessary to evacuate any AUSTRALIAN families from their homes.

INTEGRATION

11. Remedial action in 3 Coy RASC is now taking effect. The new company commander is showing a real grasp of the situation; and the removal of the eight troublesome soldiers appears to have been salutary. UNITED KINGDOM and AUSTRALIAN personnel now seem to be finding a reasonable basis on which to live together. It is too early yet to say more.
12. The position in 2 Inf Wksp is improved. There should be further improvement when full details of career planning intentions are received from AHQ.

MORALE

13. Apart from the improving tendency in the two units referred to above, there is nothing significant to report.

VENEREAL DISEASE

14. There has been no significant change in the VD rate.

15. In this connection/....

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Annex 1 to
Final Report of the
No. 76/7/5 of Nov 56.

- 3 -

15. In this connection it is noted that on some occasions the AUSTRALIAN rate is compared with the overall figure for UNITED KINGDOM personnel. It will be realised that this gives a wrong impression as a very high proportion (approx two-thirds) of the latter are national service men, the great majority of whom are not inclined to take the risk of infection.

MARRIED ACCOMMODATION

16. The programme for provision of married accommodation is proceeding satisfactorily. All present serving personnel who have requested accommodation, have now had their families warned for movement or called forward.
17. As previously stated, provision has not yet begun for those who may change their minds about not bringing their families, or for married personnel who may be posted as reinforcements in future months.


Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

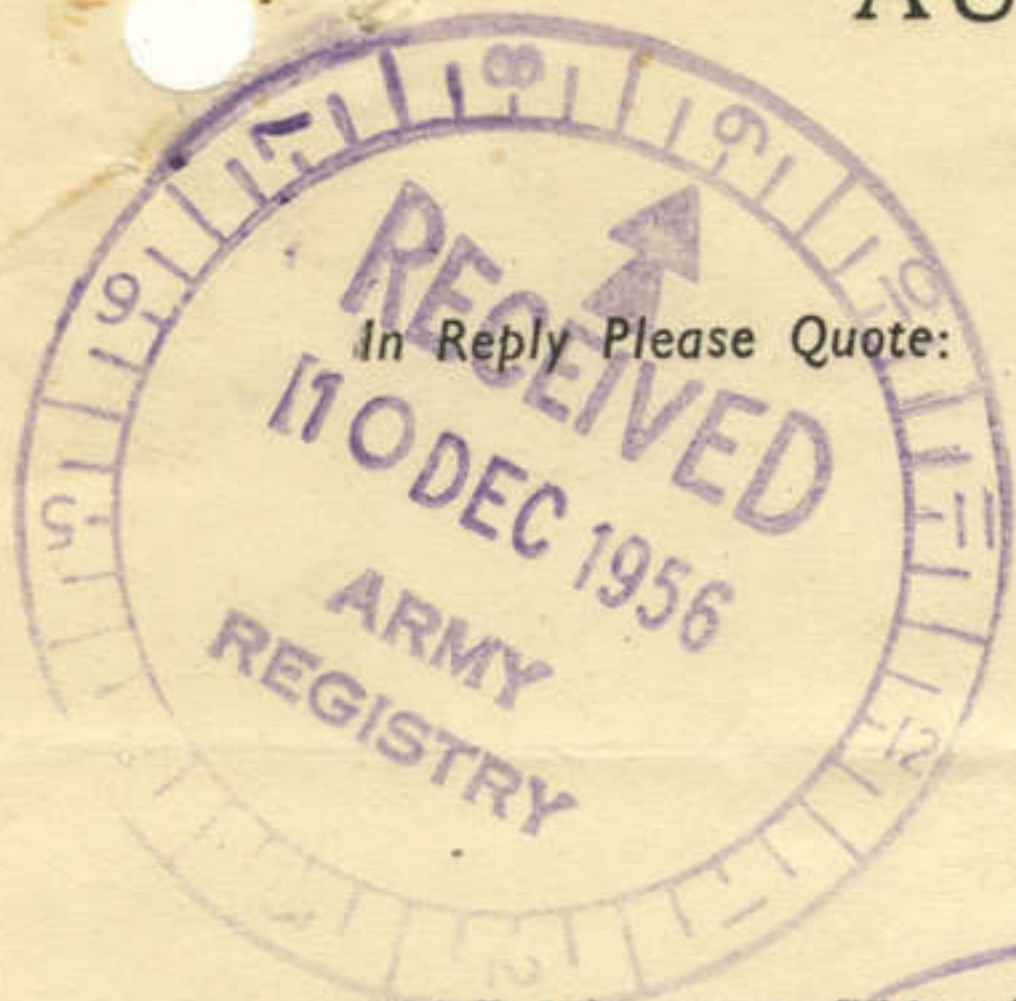
DISTRIBUTION

AHQ MELBOURNE	(6)
C in C FARELF	(1)
GOC MALAYA Comd	(1)
GOC 1 Fed Div	(1)
War Diary	(2)
File	(1)

FWS/PT

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AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES



36/7/5

HQ AUST. ARMY FORCE FARELF
SINGAPORE.

6 Dec 56

Military History Section
Army Headquarters
Victoria Barracks
MELBOURNE

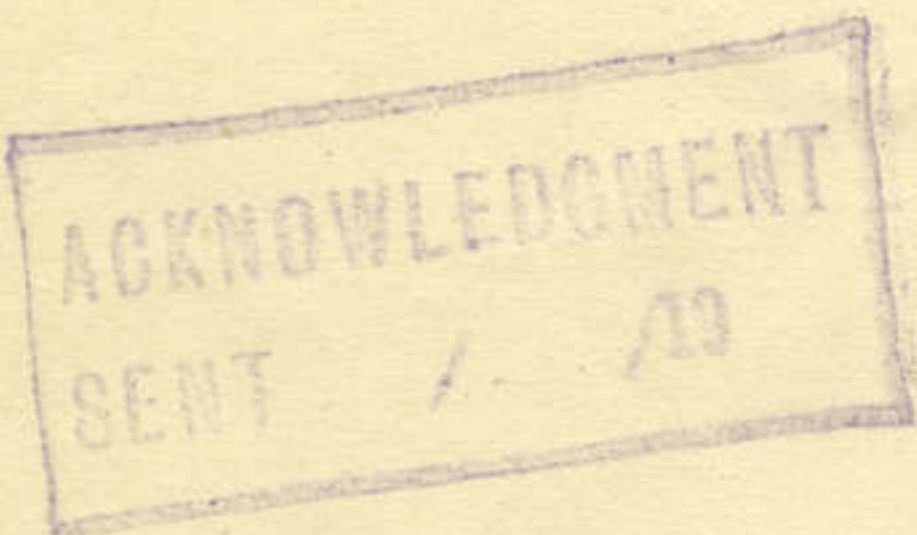
UNIT HISTORY

Reference MBI 3/55.

- ... 1. Attached is the history of HQ Aust Army Force FARELF for NOV 56.

93
MH

James Hojts
Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF



323
10
14

UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and Year: NOV 56

Commanding Officer: Col F.W. SPEED OBE, ED.

Place	Date	Summary of Events and Information	Ref to Annexures
SINGAPORE	6 Nov 56	Commander visited 3 Coy RASC at IPOH.	
	7 Nov 56	Commander visited following units: 1 Fed Div HQ 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp 2 RAR BMH.	
	8 Nov 56	Commander visited 2 Inf Wksp at TAIPING and returned to SINGAPORE.	
	19 Nov 56	AA & QMG visited HQ 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp and PENANG Gar.	
	20 Nov 56	Commander visited following units at KUALA LUMPUR: MALAYA Comd HQ Federation Army 656 AOP Sqn Aust Offr at 55 Coy RASC. AA & QMG returned to SINGAPORE. DAA & QMG visited SUNGEI PATANI to arrange air photographs for CGS Exercise.	
	24 Nov 56	DAA & QMG visited MALAYAN Film Unit at KUALA LUMPUR and returned SINGAPORE.	
		A copy of the Commander's Monthly Report is attached.	Annex A.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

Quote in reply: 35/1/3

HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
SINGAPORE

1 Dec 56

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT No. 11/56

1. This report covers the month of Nov 56.

STATE

2. The state of the force at 30 Nov 56 was:-

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>ORs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	109	1388	1497
Strength	104	1325	1429

These figures are subject to the following comments:-

- (a) 2 RAR is restricted by 53 other rank appointments not to be filled whilst the battalion is in MALAYA. The establishment total shown above includes 2 RAR at the restricted establishment.
- (b) Wrls Tp (Aust) is under-implemented at present, by 27 other ranks. The establishment total shown above includes the Wrls Tp (Aust) at its full authorization and not the under-implementation figure.

3. 1 Offr 52 OR granted a restricted tour of duty will be departing MALAYA/SINGAPORE on 2 Dec 56. It is understood that over 50 reinforcements are awaiting movement in AUSTRALIA.

EMPLOYMENT

4. The duties on which the force has been employed during Nov 56 have been:-

- 2 RAR) Operations in the secondary role,
- 105 Fd Bty) and training.
- Other units) Normal duties in the FARELF
-) organization, including the
-) Emergency.

5. During Nov, /.....

5. During Nov, 2 RAR made three contacts. On 5 Nov, a CT was fired on and wounded. On 6 Nov, 6 - 8 CTs in a well sited camp were encountered by a patrol returning to base. Two CTs were wounded. On 20 Nov, one CT was fired on and killed. Letters indicate he was the CT wounded on 5 Nov. There were no casualties to own troops.
6. On 23 Nov, 2 RAR began movement to MINDEN Barracks for retraining. Transfer of command in the KUALA KANGSAR area is to take place on 3 Dec.

INTEGRATION

7. The situation in 3 Coy RASC and 2 Inf Wksp REME is now reasonably stable. Earlier problems have been resolved and the attitude of most personnel towards Integration is now satisfactory. There are some exceptions and these are receiving attention.
8. OC 3 Coy RASC, who was appointed specifically to remedy the situation in the company, has just been medically boarded and is being evacuated to the United Kingdom. Replacement is being sought as a matter of urgency.

MORALE

9. Morale in 3 Coy RASC and 2 Inf Wksp REME is now as good as it is likely to be in the immediate future. If no untoward incidents occur, there is a reasonable prospect of further improvement in the new year. In the case of 3 Coy RASC the early provision and suitability of the new commander will be of considerable importance.

MARRIED ACCOMMODATION

10. On 26 Nov, the last 20 houses of the 100 house build/lease project in PENANG were taken over. The target date was 30 Nov 56.
11. All married personnel who arrived in MALAYA/SINGAPORE in Sep/Oct 55 and elected to bring their families, are housed; and all except recent reinforcements are accommodated. The delay in the case of personnel now arriving varies from nil to about six weeks. TAIPING is the only difficult centre.
12. In PENANG, 40 families are located in the Australian Hostel. All have indicated that they desire a house when it can be provided.
13. Australian families from the mainland are making limited use of the Hostel for leave purposes; and it is being kept full by allotting a small number of vacancies to United Kingdom other ranks families. This latter arrangement has enable us to reciprocate for the vacancies in the RUNNYMEDE Officers Hostel which have been allotted to AUSTRALIA since the arrival of the force.

14. A separate/.....

14. A separate report has been made on the effect which current developments in MALAYA Command are likely to have on married accommodation. HQ Aust Army Force S/C/6 of 30 Nov 56 refers.

15. Authority has not yet been received to rent a building in the 100 house estate for NAAFI to open a families shop. This was forwarded to AHQ in HQ Aust Army Force S/A/6(c) of 13 Aug 56.


Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

DISTRIBUTION:

AHQ MELBOURNE	(6)
C in C FARELF	(1)
GOC MALAYA Comd	(1)
GOC 1 Fed Div	(1)
War Diary	(2)
File	(1)

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AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In Reply Please Quote: 36/7/5

HQ AUST. ARMY FORCE FARELF
SINGAPORE.

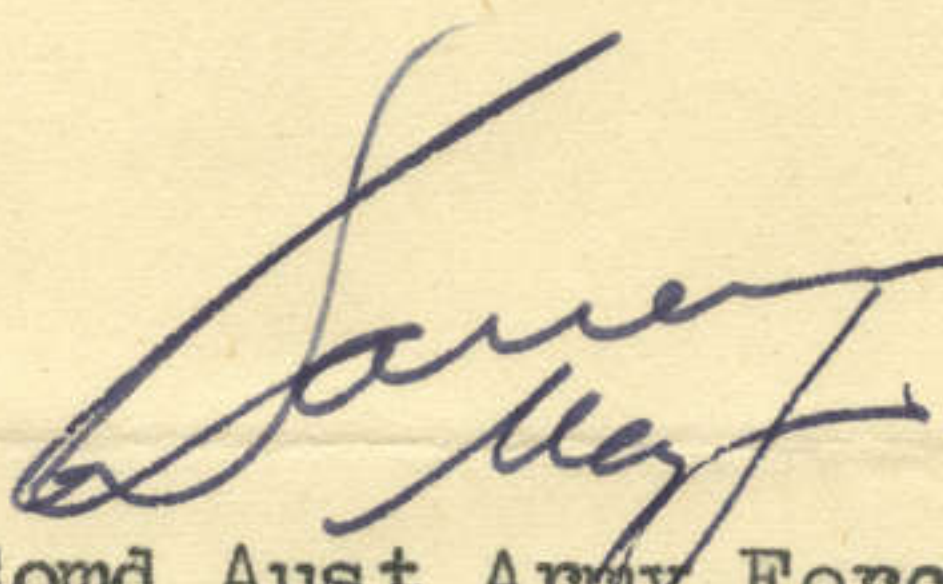
4 Jan 57

Military History Section
Army Headquarters
Victoria Barracks
MELBOURNE

UNIT HISTORY

Reference MBI 3/55.

- ... 1. Attached is the history of HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
for DEC 56.


Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

ACKNOWLEDGMENT
SENT 11/1/57

bb

UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and Year DEC 56

Commanding Officer: Col F.W. SPEED OBE, ED.

Place	Date	Summary of Events and Information	Ref to Annexure
SINGAPORE	3 Dec 56	Commander visited Federation Military College and Australian officers at HQ 17 Gur Div then returned to SINGAPORE.	
	5 Dec 56	Commander visited HQ 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp to meet Australian Parliamentary Delegation.	
	6 Dec 56	Commander returned to SINGAPORE.	
	13 Dec 56	AQMG visited PENANG on housing matters.	
	14 Dec 56	AQMG returned to SINGAPORE.	
	17 Dec 56	Brig M.F. BROGAN OBE, BGS GHQ FARELF visited HQ Aust Army Force FARELF.	
	19 Dec 56	SC 'Q' visited PENANG Garrison and 2 RAR.	
	21 Dec 56	SC 'Q' returned SINGAPORE.	

A copy of the Commander's Monthly Report is attached.

Annex A

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

Quote in reply: 35/1/3

HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
SINGAPORE

31 Dec 56

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT No. 12/56

1. This report covers the month of Dec 56.

STATE

2. The state of the force at 31 Dec 56 was:-

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>ORs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	108	1389	1497
Strength	105	1296	1401

These figures are subject to the following comments:-

- (a) 2 RAR is restricted by 53 other rank appointments not to be filled whilst the battalion is in MALAYA. The establishment total shown above includes 2 RAR at the restricted establishment.
- (b) Wrls Tp (Aust) is under-implemented at present, by 27 other ranks. The establishment total shown above includes the Wrls Tp (Aust) at its full authorization and not the under-implementation figure.
3. Transportation difficulties due to the Olympic Games have delayed the movement of reinforcements to the theatre.

EMPLOYMENT

4. The duties on which the force has been employed during Dec 56 have been:-
- | | | |
|-------------|---|--|
| 2 RAR | } | Withdrawal from Emergency operation. |
| 105 Fd Bty | | Re-training. |
| Other units | | Normal duties in the FARELF organization, including the Emergency. |

The re-training programmes were followed without incident.

PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION/.....

PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION

5. During the month a group of five members of Federal Parliament visited Australian units etc in BUTTERWORTH and PENANG. With the exception of one member who was concerned only with immediate withdrawal of the Force, the delegation spoke highly of what they saw. One criticism only was made - regarding the accommodation of 11 Indep Fd Sqn RE. At the time, this was awaiting an approval for works which had been referred to AHQ because of the amount involved in a project embracing several units.

INTEGRATION

6. Integration in 3 Coy RASC suffered an unfortunate check in that the officer commanding (Maj J.N. ASHWORTH MC RASC) was evacuated to hospital and boarded for return to home establishment. This officer had succeeded in getting the company in hand and was well respected by the Australian component.
7. Initially it was believed that a suitable RASC officer could not quickly be found to relieve Maj ASHWORTH and the possibility of appointing a RAASC officer was being explored. However, the decision was taken to transfer a RASC officer recently arrived in FARELF from a staff appointment. This officer is to assume duty on 14 Jan 57.
8. In the meantime, Capt A.E. GOODALL RAASC is administering command.
9. A proposal by HQ Aust Army Force FARELF on future integration, to take effect when units and sub-units of the present force are relieved in late 1957, is being examined by GHQ FARELF.

MORALE

10. Morale in 3 Coy RASC is satisfactory. 2 Inf Wksp REME appears to have stabilized. In other units, morale continues at a high level.

CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES


11. Satisfactory arrangements for Christmas activities were made in all cases. In addition each member received a Parcel from the RSL and Fighting Forces Comforts Fund.
12. Most units took part in same charitable activity for sick or under-privileged children.

MARRIED ACCOMMODATION

13. At the end of the year 280 families were accommodated in MALAYA/SINGAPORE; and 24 had been called forwarded to available accommodation but had not arrived from AUSTRALIA. (These latter are families of reinforcement personnel; all original applicants are housed). Subject to any recent requests, there are no outstanding applications for accommodation except that two families are temporarily located in PENANG awaiting housing in TAIPING.

14. Action is now/.....

14. Action is now in hand, so far as is practicable under current authorizations, towards the provision of accommodation for further married personnel who may elect to bring their families to MALAYA. At present there is a small margin in the Australian Hostel PENANG for other ranks stationed in the area and further hirings are in sight for officers there. Elsewhere there should be no great difficulty in meeting requirements, except in TAIPING. Special attention is being given to that station.

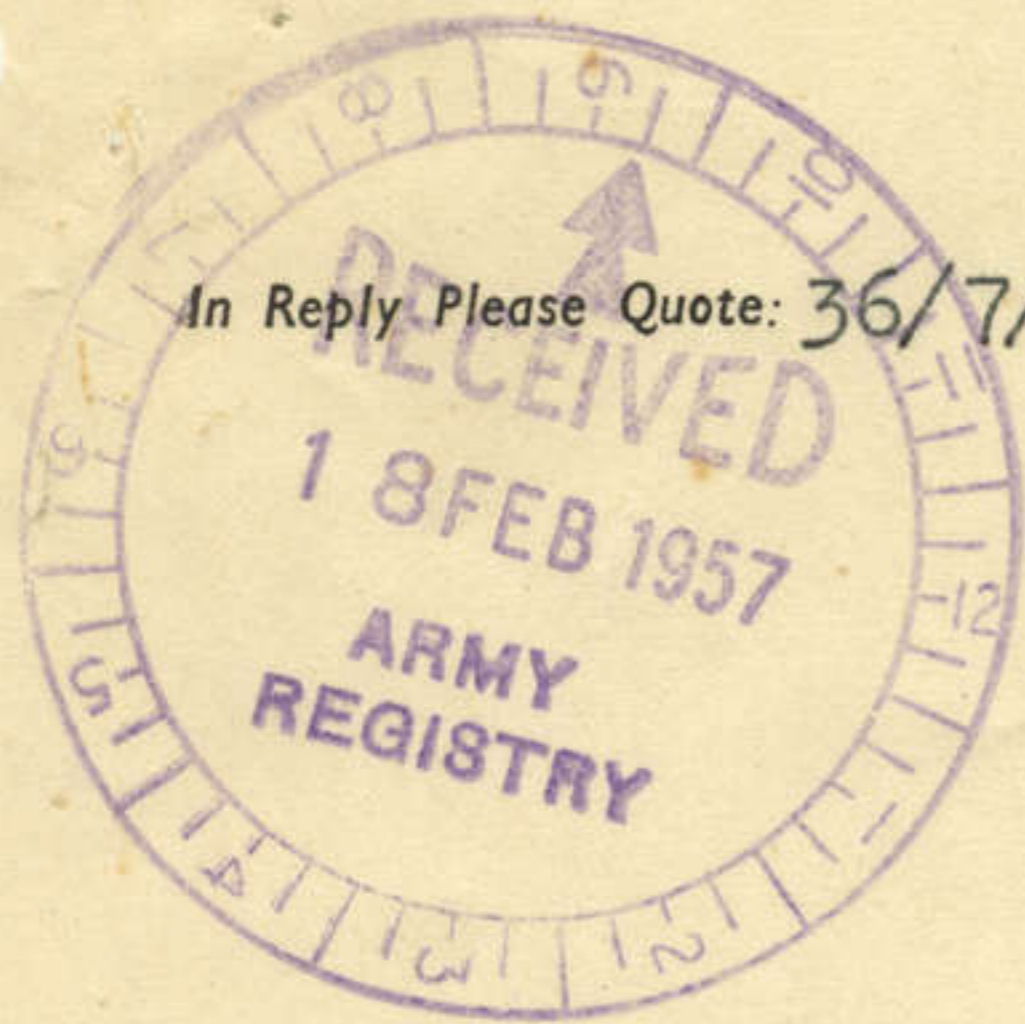

Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

DISTRIBUTION:

AHQ MELBOURNE	(6)
C in C FARELF	(1)
GOC MALAYA Comd	(1)
GOC 1 Fed Div	(1)
War Diary	(2)
File	(1)

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES



HQ AUST. ARMY FORCE FARELF
SINGAPORE.

13 Feb 57

Military History Section,
Army Headquarters,
Victoria Barracks,
MELBOURNE.

UNIT HISTORY

Reference: MBI 3/55.

- ... 1. Attached is the history of HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
for Jan 57.

Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

18/2
MIL HIST

Acknowledged 18 Feb 57.

bb.

G3

UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and Year: JAN 57.

Commanding Officer: Col F.W. SPEED OBE, ED.

Place	Date	Summary of Events and Information	Ref to Annexures
SINGAPORE	3 Jan 57	3/475 Maj J.F. McDONAGH, RAE arrived SINGAPORE and assumed duty as DAQMG. Commander departed PENANG and visited HQ 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp and units in PENANG/BUTTERWORTH area.	
	5 Jan 57	Commander returned SINGAPORE.	
	10 Jan 57	Commander departed TAIPING visited: HQ 1 Federal Division 2 Inf Wksp REME BMH KAMUNTING.	
	11 Jan 57	Commander visited 3 Coy RASC at IPOH and returned to SINGAPORE.	
	14 Jan 57	AQMG and DAQMG visited HQ PENANG Garrison.	
	15 Jan 57	AQMG and DAQMG visited HQ 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp and returned SINGAPORE.	

A copy of the Commander's Monthly Report is attached.

Annex 'A'

A nominal roll of the Staff of HQ AUST Army Force FARELF showing appointments is attached.

Annex 'B'

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

Quote in reply: 35/1/3

HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
SINGAPORE

1 Feb 57

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT No 1/57

1. This report covers the month of Jan 57.

STATE

2. The state of the force at 31 Jan 57 was:-

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>ORs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	108	1389	1497
Strength	113	1298	1411

These figures are subject to the following comments:-

- (a) 2 RAR is restricted by 53 other rank appointments not to be filled whilst the battalion is in MALAYA. The establishment total shown above includes 2 RAR at the restricted establishment.
- (b) Wrls Tp (Aust) is under-implemented at present, by 18 other ranks. The establishment total shown above includes the Wrls Tp (Aust) at its full authorization and not the under-implementation figure.
- (c) The over-strength in officers is due to the presence of five reinforcement officers in 2 RAR, the officers whom they are relieving being still with the unit.
3. Movement of reinforcements to the theatre has improved, but 2 RAR is still deficient about 55 other ranks.

EMPLOYMENT

4. The duties on which the force has been employed during Dec 56 have been:-

2 RAR	Retraining.
105 Fd Bty	Operations in the secondary role, and training.
Other units	Normal duties in the FARELF organization, including the Emergency.

The re-training/.....

The re-training programmes were followed without incident.

CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR ACTIVITIES

5. The behaviour of Australian troops over the Christmas/New Year period was outstandingly good. One incident only occurred - when a small group of Australians in PENANG went to the assistance of a military police patrol which was being attacked by merchant seamen. In the Garrison Club PENANG no damage was reported over the whole period despite very high attendance.

INTEGRATION

6. A proposal on the form of integration to apply when units and sub-units of the present force are relieved in late 1957, was forwarded to AHQ MELBOURNE under HQ Aust Army Force FARELF 131/1/2 of 15 Jan 57.

MORALE

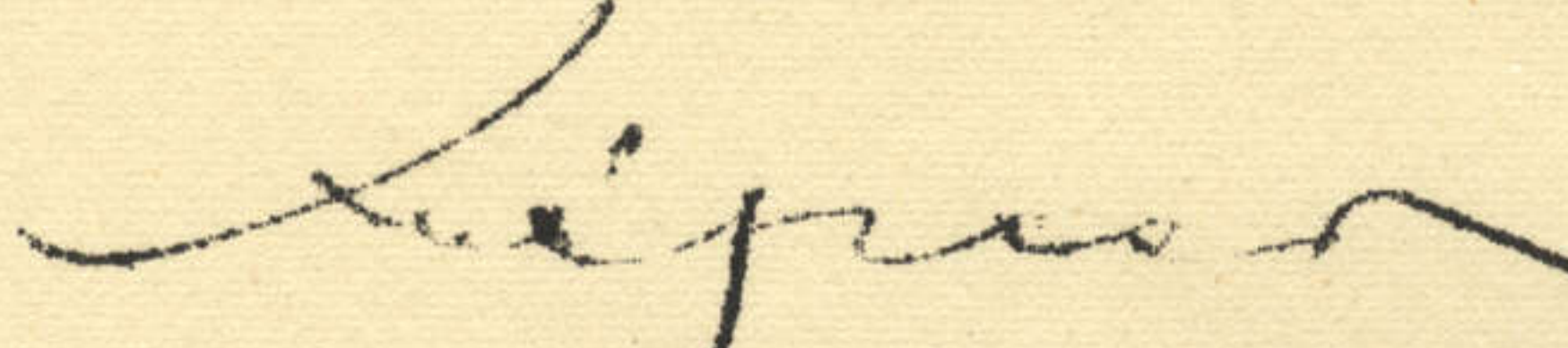
7. There is evidence of some deterioration in the morale of 3 Coy RASC due partly to a drop in the standard of messing and partly to rejection of proposals for improvement in ablution and latrine facilities. Action has been taken by FARELF to restore the messing position. The works difficulty is due to lack of UNITED KINGDOM funds for a short-term camp.
8. Morale in 2 Inf Wksp REME is satisfactory. In other units, morale continues at a high level.

MARRIED ACCOMMODATION

9. The availability of married accommodation is at present very satisfactory. In some cases married reinforcements are able to bring their families with them from AUSTRALIA. In all others, except members of 2 Inf Wksp REME (TAIPING), families can be called forward within 2 - 4 weeks of the member's arrival. TAIPING still presents difficulty: there are no outstanding requests for accommodation, but two families are quartered in PENANG.
10. The possibility of difficulty in housing married personnel arriving as replacements for restricted tour personnel has not materialised. Among 44 reinforcements received, only six were married, and their families are being absorbed without trouble.
11. With a view to the future commitment, a further concentrated attack was made on TAIPING on 21 - 22 Jan. There are only seven suitable dwellings under construction, all allocated for occupation. However, there is a possibility that some of these may be secured for Australian personnel. Attempts to arrange building for leasing by the Army have so far proved abortive because Banks will not finance such a project in TAIPING. They regard the town as commercially finished.

12. Efforts to/.....

12. Efforts to build/lease are still being pursued in the hope that the continuing display of army interest will stimulate finance. The chief difficulty is the limit of three years for leases. This is regarded by financiers as too short a guarantee of occupancy.


Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

DISTRIBUTION:

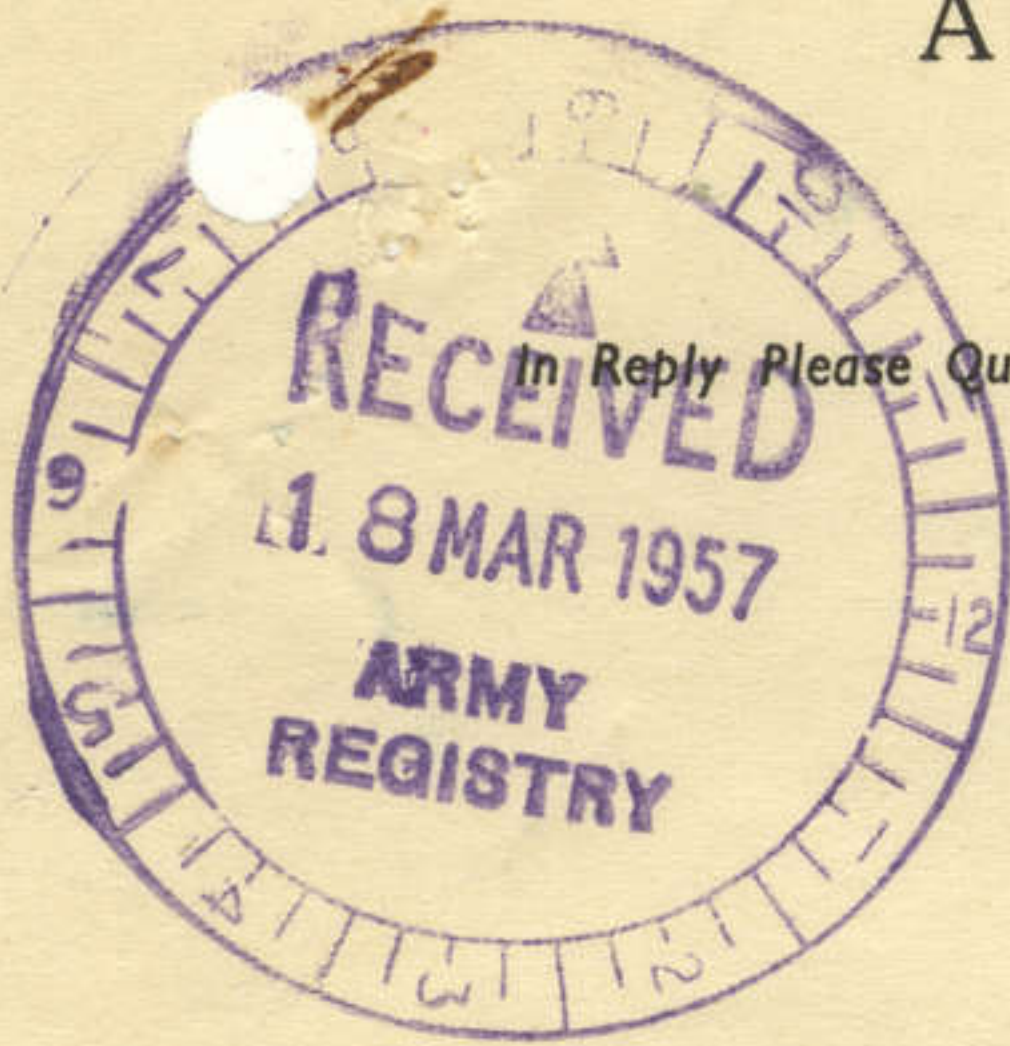
AHQ MELBOURNE	(6)
C in C FARELF	(1)
GOC MALAYA Comd	(1)
GOC 1 Fed Div	(1)
War Diary	(2)
File	(1)

CONFIDENTIAL

Annex 'B' to
HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
memo 36/7/5 of Feb 57

Commander	3/37501	Col	F.W. SPEED OBE., ED.
DAAG	3/161	Maj	T.R. WARREN MVO.
SC 'A'	2/40158	Capt	E.M. McCORMICK.
AQMG	2/258	Lt Col	D.G. SHARP OBE.
DAQMG	3/475	Maj	J.F. McDONAGH.
SC 'Q'	3/40082	Capt	L. LOGAN.
Adm Offr	5/74	Capt	L.A. MARSHALL MBE.
Chief Clerk	3/10742	Sgt	J. CREAMER.
Clerk GD (Cpl)	1/2118	Cpl	A.J. CAMPBELL.
Pte (Dvr)	1/1489	Pte	L.J. RAWLINS.
	2/8870	Pte	F.C. KILLICK.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES



HQ AUST. ARMY FORCE FARELF
SINGAPORE.


11 Mar 57

Military History Section,
Army Headquarters,
Victoria Barracks,
MELBOURNE.

UNIT HISTORY

Reference: MBI 3/55.

- ... 1. Attached is the history of HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
for Feb 57.


Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

95

18/3
MIL HIST

UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and Year: Feb 57

Commanding Officer Col F.W. SPEED OBE ED

Place	Date	Summary of Events and Information	Ref to Annexure
SINGAPORE	9 Feb 57	Commander visited HQ MALAYA Comd at KUALA LUMPUR and returned to SINGAPORE.	
	16 Feb 57	2/410475 Pte ELSTON C.J. arrived SINGAPORE and assumed duty as a Dvr (Pte).	
	19 Feb 57	Brig D.C. MCKENZIE OBE DST AHQ MELBOURNE visited the headquarters.	
	23 Feb 57	Maj Gen H.G. EDGAR CBE DCGS AHQ MELBOURNE arrived SINGAPORE.	
	25 Feb 57	Maj Gen EDGAR visited the headquarters then departed for KUALA LUMPUR accompanied by Col SPEED and visited HQ MALAYA Comd.	
	26 Feb 57	Maj Gen EDGAR and Col SPEED arrived BUTTERWORTH and visited the following units: HQ 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp Sig Sqn 11 Indep Fd Sqn RE 105 Fd Bty RAA 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp OFF	
	27 Feb 57	Maj Gen EDGAR and Col SPEED visited the following units at PENANG. 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp Pro Unit 16 Fd Amb RAMC Pl 2 RAR at Minden Barracks, They also visited The Australian Married Quarters at Tanjong Tokong The Australian Hostel The Garrison Club	
	28 Feb 57	Maj Gen EDGAR and Col SPEED visited the following units at TAIPING. HQ 1 Fed Div 2 Inf Wksp REME BMH KAMUNTING A copy of the Commander's Monthly Report is attached.	Annex A

CONFIDENTIAL

Annex 'A' to
HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
Memo 36/7/5 of Mar 57.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

Quote in reply: 35/1/3

HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
SINGAPORE

4 Mar 57

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT No 2/57

1. This report covers the month of Feb 57.

STATE

2. The state of the force at 28 Feb 57 was:-

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>ORs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	109	1389	1498
Strength	112	1282	1394

These figures are subject to the following comments:-

- (a) 2 RAR is restricted by 53 other rank appointments not to be filled whilst the battalion is in MALAYA. The establishment total shown above includes 2 RAR at the restricted establishment.
- (b) Wrls Tp (Aust) is under-implemented at present, by 18 other ranks. The establishment total shown above includes the Wrls Tp (Aust) at its full authorization and not the under-implementation figure.
- (c) The over-strength in officers is due to the presence of three reinforcement officers in 2 RAR, the officers whom they are relieving being still with the unit.
3. It will be observed that, due to the non-arrival of reinforcements, there is now a deficiency of 107 other ranks.

EMPLOYMENT

4. The duties on which the force has been employed during Feb 57 have been:-

2 RAR)	Operations in the secondary role, and training.
105 Fd Bty)	
Other units		Normal duties in the FARELF organization, including the Emergency.

5. 2 RAR has/.....

- 5. 2 RAR has returned to virtually the same area as it held before retraining, with some minor changes in sub-unit operational camps.
- 6. On 22 Feb, 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp (1 RST, 2 RAR, and under command 3 MALAY) began a short special operation in an area WEST of IPOH VJ 8772, intended to disrupt and inflict casualties on communist terrorist elements there. 2 RAR was allotted the area MANONG VJ 6472 - KLEDANG SAJONG Forest Reserve. By 28 Feb, three kills had been achieved none of which were in the 2 RAR area.

MORALE

- 7. There is nothing of significance to report on this subject.

MARRIED ACCOMMODATION

- 8. With the exception of those stationed in TAIPING, all personnel desiring accommodation either have their families with them or have accommodation awaiting the arrival of their families from AUSTRALIA.
- 9. The concentration on TAIPING reported last month has proved fruitful to the extent that accommodation is in sight for all personnel requiring it at present. There is also a possibility that the financier resistance experienced to date may be yielding to pressure. The future need is 6 officers' and 10 other ranks' dwellings for HQ 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp and ancillary units, in Jun 57.
- 10. In all areas attention is now focussed on the requirements of accommodation for the new units etc to arrive in late 1957. It is understood that a forecast of numbers is being prepared by AHQ MELBOURNE.

AUDIT

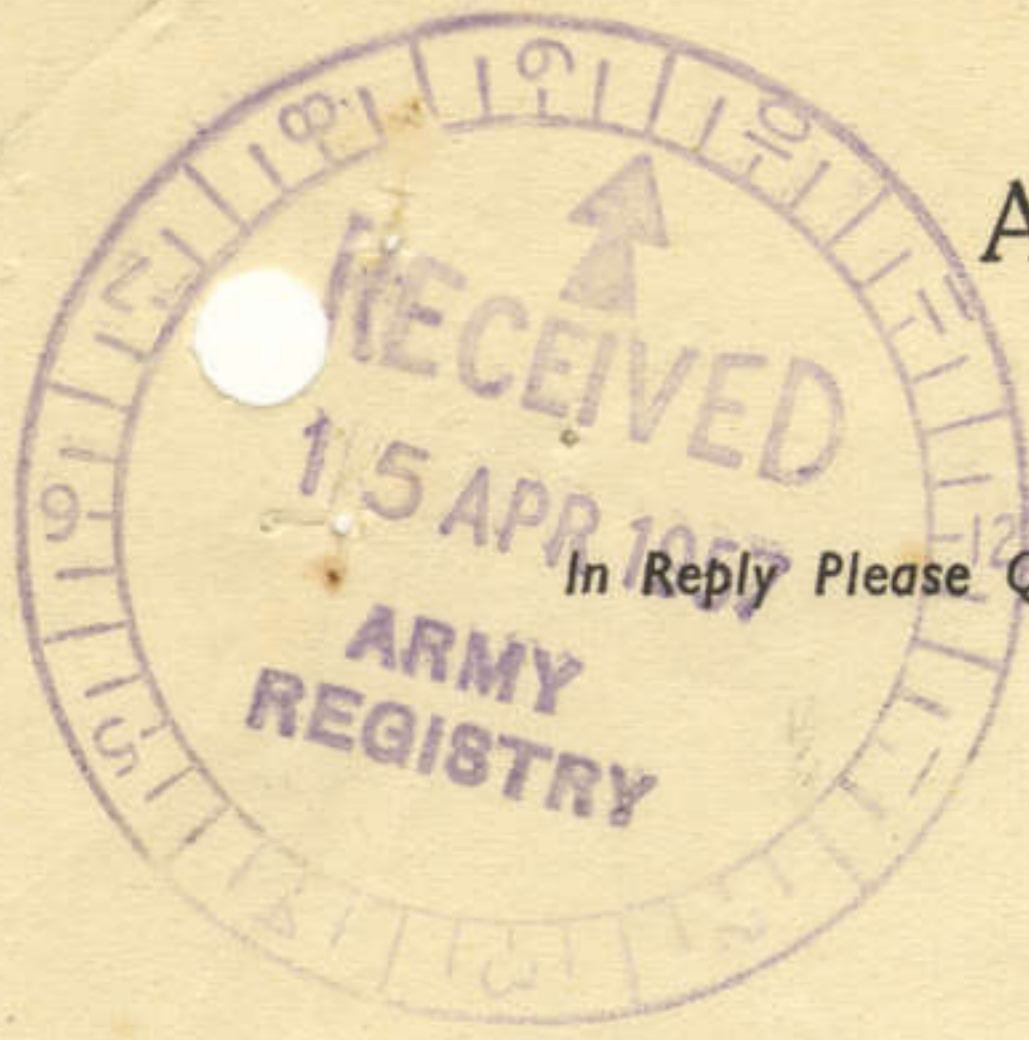
- 11. A period of eighteen months has elapsed since the establishment of the Force, and there is as yet only a very limited programme of Audit. The normal checks required by UAP are of course applied: and the FARELF Command Secretary's organization is, by AHQ request, conducting a periodical check of the Pay Office Cash. The audit normally conducted by the Army Audit Staff, or its equivalent, is not yet effected, and the backlog is increasing.
- 12. The matter is more fully reported in HQ Aust Army Force FARELF 79/1/9 of 22 Feb 57.


Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

DISTRIBUTION:

AHQ MELBOURNE (6)
 C in C FARELF (1)
 GOC MALAYA Comd (1)
 GOC 1 Fed Div (1)
 War Diary (2)
 File (1)


CONFIDENTIAL



AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

HQ AUST. ARMY FORCE FARELF
SINGAPORE.

9 Apr 57



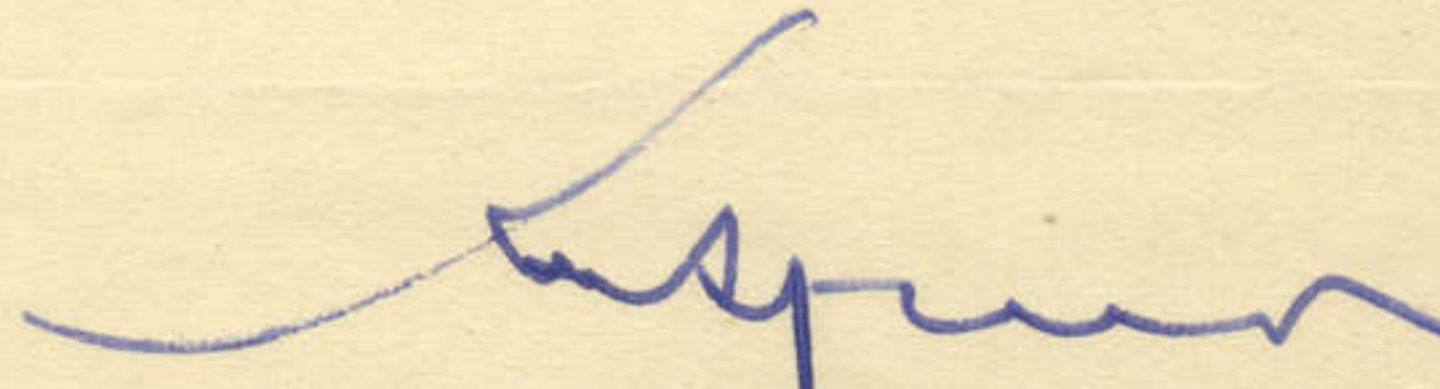
Military History Section,
Army Headquarters,
Victoria Barracks,
MELBOURNE.

UNIT HISTORY

Reference: MBI 3/55.

- ... 1. Attached is the history of HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
for Mar 57.

53



Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

15/4
MIL HIST

UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and Year: Feb 57

Commanding Officer Col F.W. SPEED OBE ED

Place	Date	Summary of Events and Information	Ref to Annexure
SINGAPORE	1 Mar 57	Maj Gen H.G. EDGAR CBE DCGS AHQ MELBOURNE and Commander visited the following units 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp KUALA KANGSAR 2 RAR KUALA KANGSAR 3 Coy RASC IPOH	
	2 Mar 57	Maj Gen EDGAR and Commander attended unveiling SINGAPORE War Memorial at KRANJI cemetery	
	3 Mar 57	Maj Gen EDGAR, Commander and Staff HQ Aust Army Force FARELF attended Aust memorial service SINGAPORE War Memorial	
	4 Mar 57	AQMG visited PENANG Garrison	
	6 Mar 57	Maj Gen EDGAR emplaned SINGAPORE for AUSTRALIA AQMG returned SINGAPORE	
	17 Mar 57	2/37624 Lt Col J.R. WATCH R Aust Inf AQMG designate Aust Army Force FARELF disembarked SINGAPORE	
	19 Mar 57	AQMG and Lt Col WATCH visited HQ 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp BUTTERWORTH	
	20 Mar 57	AQMG and Lt Col WATCH visited the following units at BUTTERWORTH 105 Fd Bty RAA 11 Indep Fd Sqn RE 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp Sig Sqn 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp OFF	
	21 Mar 57	AQMG and Lt Col WATCH returned SINGAPORE	
	22 Mar 57	2/37624 Lt Col J.R. WATCH R Aust Inf assumed duties AQMG Aust Army Force FARELF vice 2/258 Lt Col D.G. SHARP OBE R Aust Inf	
	27 Mar 57	Lt Col SHARP embarked SINGAPORE for AUSTRALIA on conclusion of tour of duty	
	28 Mar 57	Mr. A.G. BROWN CBE MC Chief Commissioner Aust Red Cross arrived SINGAPORE on visit to Aust Army Force FARELF	
	30 Mar 57	BM 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp visited HQ Aust Army Force FARELF A copy of the Commander's Monthly Report is attached.	Annex A

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

Quote in reply: 35/1/3

HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
SINGAPORE

1 Apr 57

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT No 3/57

1. This report covers the month of Mar 57.

STATE

2. The state of the force at 31 Mar 57 was:-

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>ORs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	109	1389	1498
Strength	111	1298	1409

These figures are subject to the following comments:-

- (a) 2 RAR is restricted by 53 other rank appointments not to be filled whilst the battalion is in MALAYA. The establishment total shown above includes 2 RAR at the restricted establishment.
- (b) Wrls Tp (Aust) is under-implemented at present, by 18 other ranks. The establishment total shown above includes the Wrls Tp (Aust) at its full authorization and not the under-implementation figure.
- (c) The over-strength in officers is due to the presence of two officers in 2 RAR about to move to AUSTRALIA.
3. It will be observed that, due to the non-arrival of reinforcements, there is now a deficiency of 91 other ranks.

EMPLOYMENT

4. The duties on which the force has been employed during Mar 57 have been:-

2 RAR) Operations in the secondary role,
105 Fd Bty) and training.

Other units Normal duties in the FARELF organization, including the Emergency.

CHANGES IN COMMAND/.....

CHANGES IN COMMAND ORGANIZATION

5. On 1 Jun 57, HQ 1 Fed Div, which at present commands 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp and controls the Emergency operations in NORTH MALAYA, is to disband.
6. From that date 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp, its headquarters having moved to TAIPING, is to come under direct operational command of HQ MALAYA Comd: and is to be responsible for Emergency operations in PENANG, PROVINCE WELLESLEY, and PERAK, NORTH of a line inclusive of IPOH. (17 GUR Div is to be responsible for operations in JOHORE and MALACCA; and HQ Fed Army for the remaining operational areas).
7. For administration, 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp is to be under HQ 27 GUR Div. An Increment is being added to the brigade headquarters for area administration in NORTH MALAYA.

INTEGRATION

8. The firm proposals by AHQ MELBOURNE for integration of Australian units and personnel into the FARELF organization are with GHQ FARELF. It is understood that they will require War Office concurrence.

MORALE

9. There is nothing of significance to report on this subject.

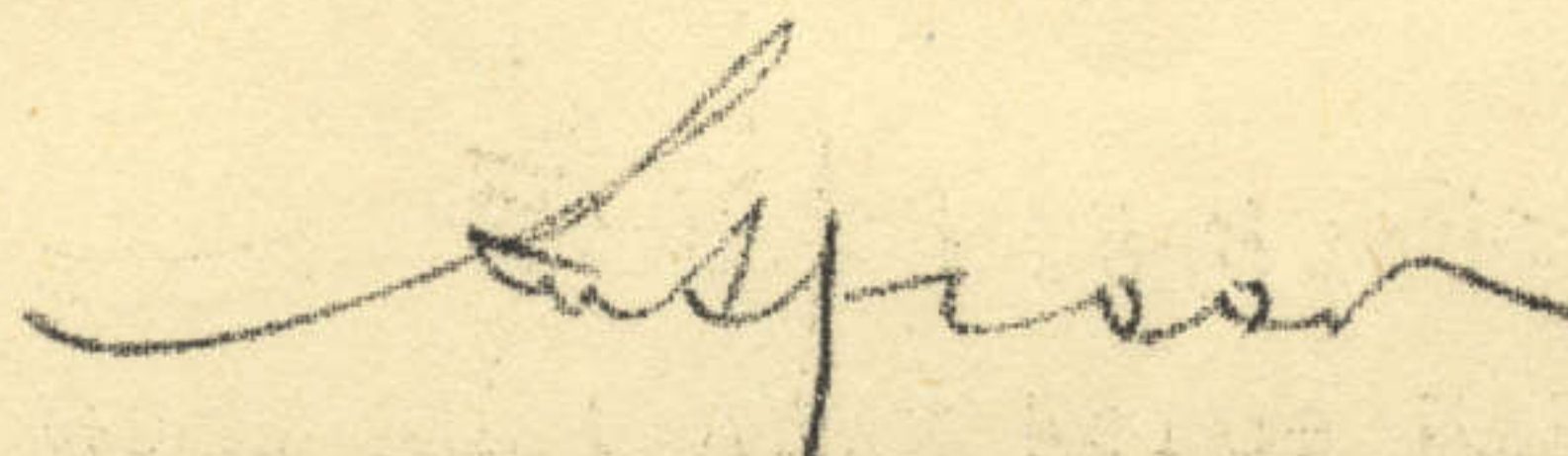
RELIEF OF THE PRESENT FORCE

10. There is much speculation and several rumours regarding the procedure for relief at the end of this year of the units etc at present in MALAYA/SINGAPORE. Every effort is being made to combat this by the dissemination of factual information.
11. The main aspects being debated by the troops are
 - (a) The method and time of movement back to AUSTRALIA.
 - (b) How far it will be possible for families to travel with members.
 - (c) The intention regarding wives who, due to pregnancy, will be unable to travel at the time the major movement is in progress.
 - (d) The possibility of transfer to incoming units - in some cases to complete a normal tour of 2 - 2½ years, in others to gain an extended tour.
 - (e) The position regarding call forward of families of reinforcements, recently arrived and now arriving, whose units/sub-units are to return to AUSTRALIA at the end of the year.

MARRIED ACCOMMODATION/.....

MARRIED ACCOMMODATION

12. There is now nothing of significance to report on this subject.


Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

DISTRIBUTION:

AHQ MELBOURNE	(6)
C in C FARELF	(1)
GOC MALAYA Comd	(1)
GOC 1 Fed Div	(1)
War Diary	(2)
File	(1)

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In Reply Please Quote: 36/7/5

HQ AUST. ARMY FORCE FARELF
SINGAPORE.

8 May 57

Military History Section,
Army Headquarters,
Victoria Barracks,
MELBOURNE.

UNIT HISTORY

Reference: MBI 3/55.

- ... 1. Attached is the history of HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
for Apr 57.


Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

CONFIDENTIAL

Annex 'A' to
HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
Memo 76/7/5 of May 57.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

Quote in reply: 35/1/3

HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
SINGAPORE

1 May 57

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT No 4/57

1. This report covers the month of Apr 57.

STATE

2. The state of the force at 30 Apr 57 was:-

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>ORs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	107	1389	1496
Strength	109	1278	1387

These figures are subject to the following comments:-

- (a) 2 RAR is restricted by 53 other rank appointments not to be filled whilst the battalion is in MALAYA. The establishment total shown above includes 2 RAR at the restricted establishment.
- (b) Wrls Tp (Aust) is under-implemented at present, by 18 other ranks. The establishment total shown above includes the Wrls Tp (Aust) at its full authorization and not the under-implementation figure.
- (c) The over-strength in officers is due to the presence of two officers about to return to AUSTRALIA.

3. It will be observed that, due to the non-arrival of reinforcements, there is now a deficiency of 111 other ranks.

EMPLOYMENT

4. The duties on which the force has been employed during Mar 57 have been:-

- | | | |
|-------------|---|--|
| 2 RAR | } | Operations in the secondary role, and training. |
| 105 Fd Bty | | |
| Other units | | Normal duties in the FARELF organization, including the Emergency. |

ANZAC DAY/.....

ANZAC DAY

5. Aust Army Force took part in ANZAC Day services in all centres. In most cases these took the form of dawn services arranged by the local Australian Commission or Australian Association. The RAAF and the New Zealand Services were represented.

MORALE

6. The position in the two units which were the subject of concern in Aug 56 may be summarized as follows:

- (a) 3 Coy RASC. The state of morale which was achieved when the unit was first integrated, has been retrieved to a fair degree - this despite a second change in officers commanding and only partial amelioration of the unsatisfactory camp conditions.
- (b) 2 Inf Wksp. Although there has been an improvement, this unit has not responded as well as it should have done. There have been several factors, peculiar to this unit, which have contributed to this inadequacy of result. Recent changes will effect some improvement but it is unlikely that the position will be restored by the time the Australian Component is withdrawn at the end of the year.

7. There is nothing significant to report in other units.

AUST HOSTEL PENANG

8. Recently there were two instances of wives living in the Australian Hostel PENANG writing direct to the Minister, complaining that they had not been allotted married quarters. In each case it was shown that no fault attached to the Army; but the incidents were sufficiently close together to suggest that the position of families resident in the hostel should be examined to see whether there were any grounds for discontent.

9. The investigation has revealed no unexpected features. The position can be summarized as follows:

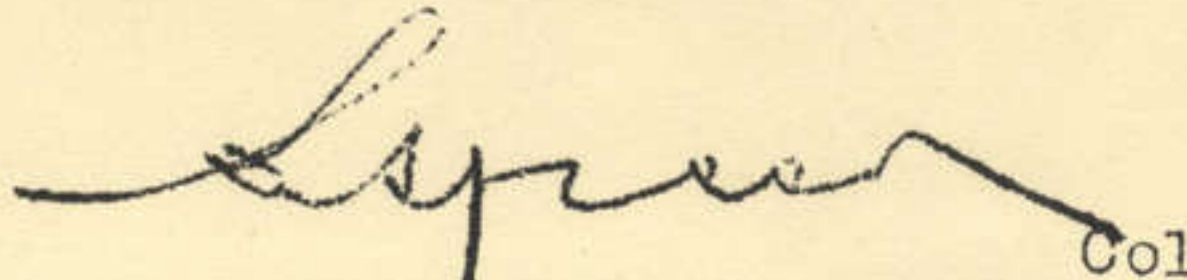
- (a) The Australian Hostel PENANG is semi-permanent accommodation for families, as well as transit accommodation pending allocation of housing. Therefore an individual family with a low priority for housing (eg a soldier on his first engagement and without children) may well be accommodated in the hostel for the greater part, or even the whole, of the member's tour in MALAYA.

- (b) Of the 20 families who have been in the Hostel since before 1 Jan 57, only four have any children. The age of the 20 wives ranges from 16½ years to 23 years, with an average of about 19 years.

- (c) All families/.....

- (c) All families would prefer to live in "a house of their own". Five are likely to make a fuss about it: two of those have already written to the Minister.
- (d) Apart from the fact that the debit to the soldier's pay account is considered to be too high, there is no criticism of any substance regarding conditions in the Hostel.
- (e) Whilst it is not by any means a major consideration, boredom is the one tangible factor common to most of the wives in the Hostel. Some have taken steps to avoid it. Attempts by the welfare organization to provide dressmaking classes, language courses, etc for the others have met with failure.

10. The situation will be closely watched and any remedial measures which suggest themselves will be applied.


Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

DISTRIBUTION:

AHQ MELBOURNE	(6)
C in C FARELF	(1)
GOC MALAYA Comd	(1)
GOC 1 Fed Div	(1)
War Diary	(2)
File	(1)

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In Reply Please Quote: 36/7/5

HQ AUST. ARMY FORCE FARELF
SINGAPORE.

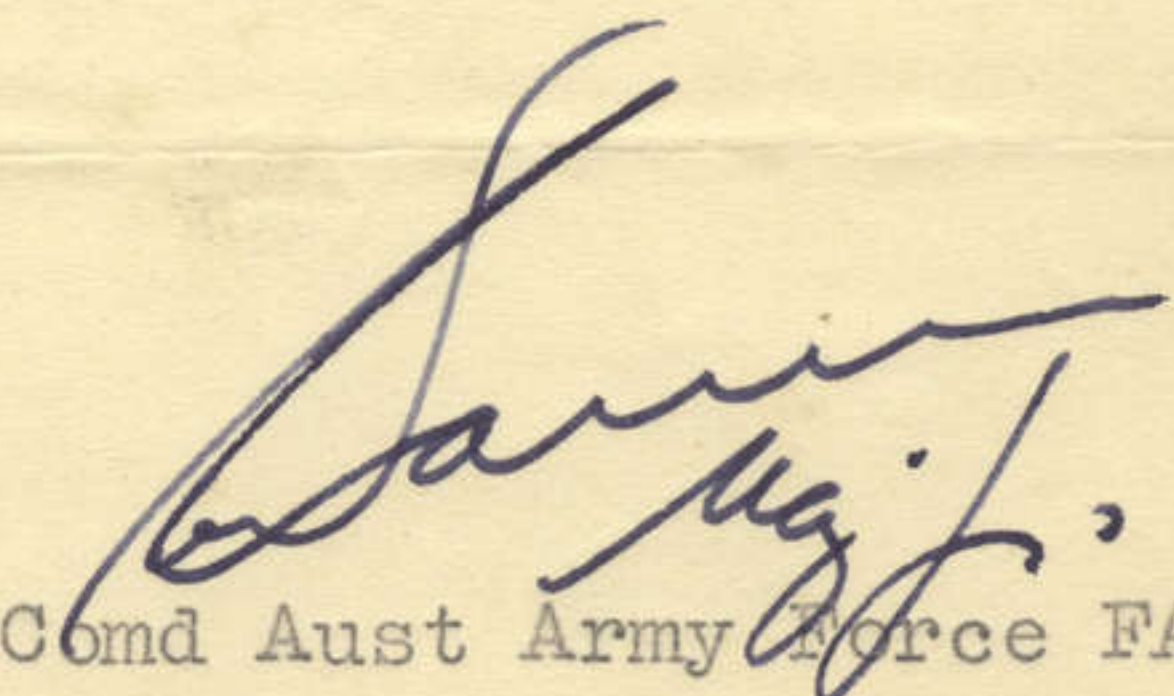
// Jun 57

Military History Section,
Army Headquarters,
Victoria Barracks,
MELBOURNE.

UNIT HISTORY

Reference: MBI 3/55.

- ... 1. Attached is the history of HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
for May 57.


Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and Year: May 57 Commanding Officer Col F.W. SPEED, OBE, ED.

Place	Date	Summary of Events and Information	Ref to Annexure
SINGAPORE	2 May 57	SC 'A' visited the following units:	
		28 COMWEL Bde Sig Sqn	
		28 COMWEL Bde OFF	
		11 Indep Fd Sqn RE	
		105 Fd Bty RAA	
	3 May 57	HQ 1 Fed Div	
		2 Inf Wksp REME	
		BMH KAMUNTING	
		2 RAR	
	4 May 57	3 Coy RASC	
	5 May 57	SC 'A' returned to SINGAPORE	
	7 May 57	DAA & QMG and DAA & QMG (designate) 28	
		COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp visited HQ Aust	
		Army Force FARELF	
	16 May 57	AQMGM visited the following units:	
		HQ 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp	
		105 Fd Bty RAA	
	17 May 57	HQ PENANG Gar	
		AQMGM returned to SINGAPORE	
	23 May 57	Commander visited the following units and	
		installations	
		16 Fd Amb RAMC	
		28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Pro Unit	
		The Australian Hostel PENANG	
		The Australian Married Quarters PENANG	
		The Garrison Club	
	24 May 57	HQ 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp	
		28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp Sig Sqn	
		11 Indep Fd Sqn RE	
		105 Fd Bty RAA	
		28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp OFF	
		Commander returned to SINGAPORE	
	30 May 57	Commander visited MALAYA Comd	
		A copy of the Commander's Monthly Report	
		is attached.	Annex A

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

Quote in reply: 35/1/3

HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
SINGAPORE

1 Jun 57

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT NO 5/57

1. This report covers the month of May 57.

STATE

2. The state of the force at 31 May 57 was:-

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>ORs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	104	1387	1491
Strength	101	1285	1386

These figures are subject to the following comments:-

- (a) 2 RAR is restricted by 53 other rank appointments not to be filled whilst the battalion is in MALAYA. The establishment total shown above includes 2 RAR at the restricted establishment.
- (b) Wrls Tp (Aust) is under-implemented at present, by 20 other ranks. The establishment total shown above includes the Wrls Tp (Aust) at its full authorization and not the under-implementation figure.
3. It will be observed that, due to the non-arrival of reinforcements, there is now a deficiency of 102 other ranks.

EMPLOYMENT

4. The duties on which the force has been employed during May 57 have been:-

2 RAR) Operations in the secondary role,
105 Fd Bty) and training.

Other units Normal duties in the FARELF organization,
including the Emergency.

MOVEMENT OF UNITS

5. HQ 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp, with its Sig Sqn and LAD, is moving from BUTTERWORTH to TAIPING and taking over the accommodation of HQ 1 Fed Div. From 1 Jun 57, with the addition of an increment for district duties, it will Command NORTH MALAYA Sub-District (PENANG, PROVINCE WELLESLEY, and PERAK North of a line inclusive of IPOH).

...../ RELIEF OF THE FORCE

RELIEF OF THE FORCE

6. The relief of 2 RAR, 105 Fd Bty, 4 Tp RAE and individual members of other units etc who have completed a tour of duty of 2 - 2½ years, has been announced by the Minister for the Army. Planning for the relief is well in hand. However arrangements cannot be firmed until the availability of a ship to move the bulk of the relief is known - capacity and estimated date of arrival.
7. The AHQ MELBOURNE General Staff instructions for the relief was received towards the end of April and, after check of certain aspects, was passed to all concerned on 2 May 57. The reduction of the Australian contribution to the BCFESR by 219 all ranks will necessitate some increase in UNITED KINGDOM manpower. GHQ FARELF is at present engaged in reducing other UNITED KINGDOM establishments to conform to recent defence changes and the need to increase the manpower of the BCFESR has presented a difficult problem.
8. To date, approximately 140 members have applied for an extension of their tour of duty.

MORALE

9. There is no significant change in the morale of the force. The prospect of relief, and the uncertainty regarding date and method of movement, is producing the inevitable crop of rumours. However, the attitude of those who have applied for an extension of tour is providing a useful counter-irritant.

VENERAL DISEASE

10. There has been a further drop in the monthly rate.


Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

DISTRIBUTION:

AHQ MELBOURNE	(6)
C in C FARELF	(1)
GOC MALAYA Comd	(1)
War Diary	(2)
File	(1)

CONFIDENTIAL

ORIGINAL

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES



36/7/5

HQ AUST. ARMY FORCE FARELF
SINGAPORE.

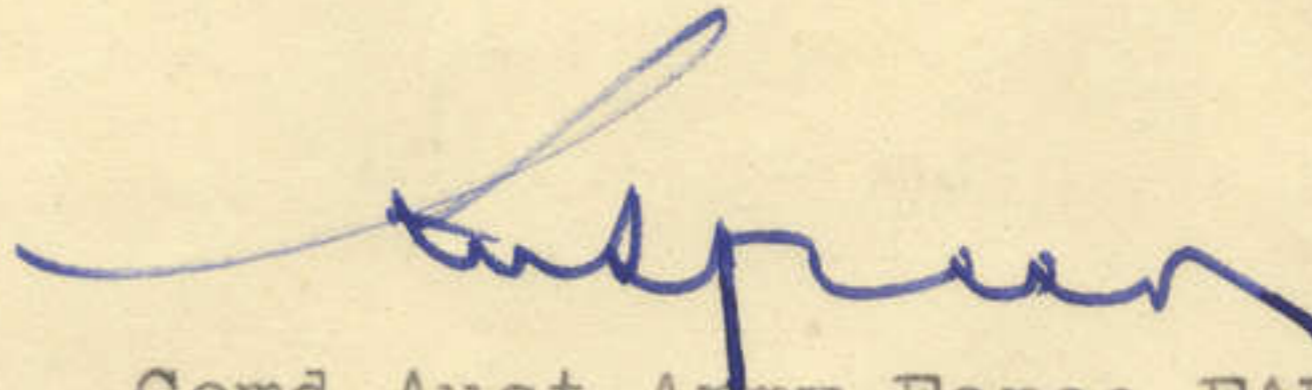
5 Jul 57

Military History Section,
Army Headquarters,
Victoria Barracks,
MELBOURNE

UNIT HISTORY

Reference: MBl 3/55

1. Attached is the history of HQ Aust Army Force FARELF for Jun 57.


Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

12/7
MIL HIST

G-3

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In Reply Please Quote: 36/7/5

HQ AUST. ARMY FORCE FARELF
SINGAPORE.

Jul 57

UNIT HISTORY

HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and Year: JUN 57 Commanding Officer Col F W SPEED, OBE, ED

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	Ref to Annex-ure.
SINGAPORE	11 Jun 57	<p>Commander visited the following Units:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">BMH KAMUNTING</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">2 Inf Wksp REME</p>	
	12 Jun 57	<p>Commander visited FORT CHABAI accompanied by OC 11 Indep Fd Sqn RE and DAA & QMG 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp/NMSD.</p> <p>Commander then returned to SINGAPORE.</p>	
	17 Jun 57	<p>Commander PENANG Garrison and BM 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp/NMSD visited HQ Aust Army Force FARELF.</p>	
	18 Jun 57	<p>AQMG attended conference at the Garrison Club PENANG.</p>	
	19 Jun 57	<p>AQMG returned to SINGAPORE.</p>	
	29 Jun 57	<p>3/37658 Capt B.E.D. ROBERTSON MC Administrative Officer designate Aust Army Force FARELF deplaned SINGAPORE.</p> <p>A copy of the Commander's Monthly Report is attached.</p>	Annex 'A'

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

Quote in reply: 35/1/3

HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
SINGAPORE

1 Jul 57

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT NO 6/57

1. This report covers the month of Jun 57.

STATE

2. The state of the force at 30 Jun 57 was:-

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>ORs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	104	1387	1491
Strength	107	1267	1374

These figures are subject to the following comments:-

- (a) 2 RAR is restricted by 53 other rank appointments not to be filled whilst the battalion is in MALAYA. The establishment total shown above includes 2 RAR at the restricted establishment.
- (b) Wrls Tp (Aust) is under-implemented at present, by 20 other ranks. The establishment total shown above includes the Wrls Tp (Aust) at its full authorization and not the under-implementation figure.
- (c) The over-strength in offices is due to three officers being in process of relief.
3. It will be observed that, due to the non-arrival of reinforcements, there is now a deficiency of 120 other ranks.

EMPLOYMENT

4. The duties on which the force has been employed during Jun 57 have been:-

2 RAR) Operations in the secondary role,
105 Fd Bty) and training.

Other units Normal duties in the FARELF organization,
including the Emergency.

5. Over the whole month, 2 RAR has been engaged in a special operation near KROH. The aim was to locate and destroy large parties of CTs believed to be living close to, and moving to and fro across, the SIAMESE border. The terrain is extremely rugged and the jungle dense. In the early stages recently occupied camps were located but no enemy encountered. On 24 Jun a patrol of four members bumped a party of about 40 CTs. Two members of 2 RAR were killed and one wounded. In an immediate follow up, another patrol killed one CT. On 25 Jun, in a third engagement, one member of 2 RAR was slightly wounded. On 26 Jun, another member of 2 RAR was killed in the operation; details are awaited.

RELIEF OF THE FORCE

6. GHQ FARELF has now accepted the composition of the force as it will be after relief, except for a small number of minor alterations which have been represented to AHQ MELBOURNE. The consequential increases in UNITED KINGDOM manpower are being absorbed.
7. The chief aspects of the relief which have yet to be resolved are:
 - (a) The composition of the element which is to travel in the NEW AUSTRALIA, particularly the number of families.
 - (b) Whether 3 RAR and 2 Tp RAE may be disembarked at SINGAPORE.
 - (c) Whether 3 RAR must take over 2 RAR's equipment or may receive a fresh issue, of standard equipment.
 - (d) The fate of the applications for extension of tour in MALAYA; and the names of those who will be arbitrarily transferred to the incoming units.
8. Approximately 175 members have applied for extension of their tour of duty.

RETRAINING 2 RAR

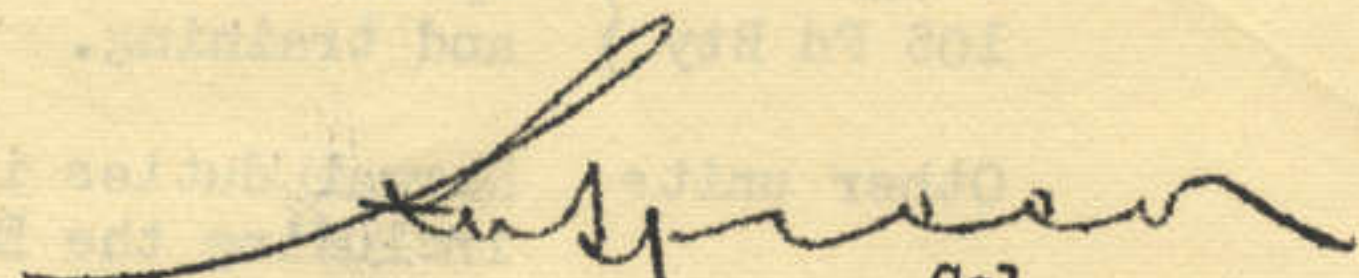
9. MALAYA Comd had originally arranged for the retraining of 2 RAR to take place from mid-Aug to mid-Oct.
10. The earlier arrival of the relief ship cannot be matched exactly, but retraining is to begin earlier than was originally planned. If 2 RAR can return its equipment to Ordnance instead of transferring it to 3 RAR (involving surveying and re-furbishing), this will also assist.

MORALE

11. There has been no significant change in the morale of the force. The uncertainty of some members whether they are to remain in MALAYA or return to AUSTRALIA is causing some restlessness; and early decisions on the matter (paragraph 7(a) above) will be most welcome.

MARRIED ACCOMMODATION

12. It is believed that there will be approximately the same number of married families after the major relief as before. Accommodation should therefore be sufficient; but, due to changes in locations, some new hirings will be required and some will be relinquished. Any small variation either way in the final total can be met.


Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

DISTRIBUTION:

- | | |
|-----------------|-----|
| AHQ MELBOURNE | (6) |
| C in C FARELF | (1) |
| GOC MALAYA Comd | (1) |
| War Diary | (2) |
| File | (1) |

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In Reply Please Quote: 36/7/5

HQ AUST. ARMY FORCE FARELF
SINGAPORE.

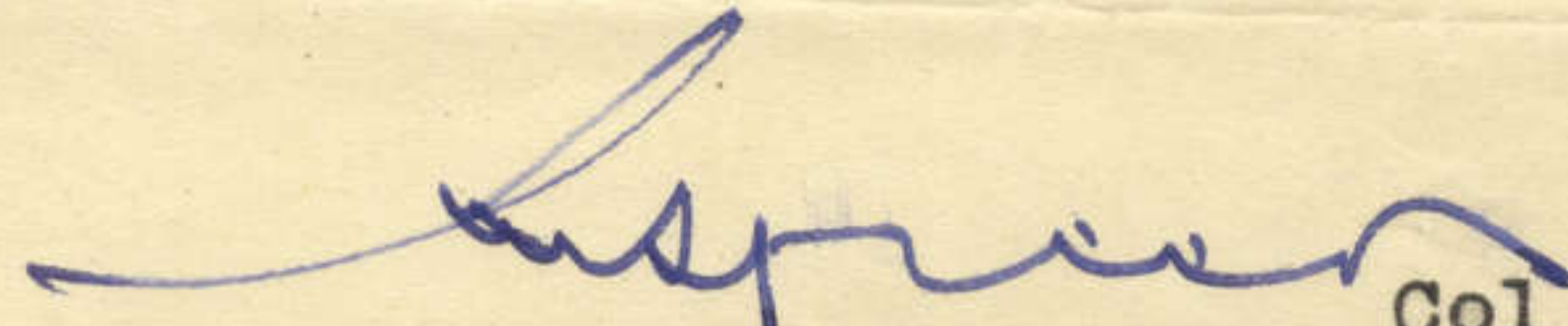
12 Aug 57

Military History Section,
Army Headquarters,
Victoria Barracks,
MELBOURNE

UNIT HISTORY

Reference: MBI 3/55

1. Attached is the history of HQ Aust Army Force FARELF for Jul 57.


Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In Reply Please Quote: 36/7/5

HQ AUST. ARMY FORCE FARELF
SINGAPORE.

Aug 57

UNIT HISTORY HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

MONTH and YEAR: JUL 57

Commanding Officer Col F W SPEED, OBE, ED.

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	Ref to Annexure
SINGAPORE	5 JUL 57	<p>DAQMG visited the following units: HQ 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp/ NMSD 28 COMWEL Bde Sig Sqn 2 Inf Wksp REME 2 RAR</p>	
	6 JUL 57	DAQMG returned to SINGAPORE.	
	9 JUL 57	<p>AQMG visited the following units: HQ 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp/ NMSD 2 Inf Wksp REME 2 RAR 3 Coy RASC</p>	
	12 JUL 57	AQMG returned to SINGAPORE.	
	17 JUL 57	3/37658 Capt B.E.D. ROBERTSON, MC, assumed the duties of Administrative Officer HQ Aust Army Force FARELF.	
	17 JUL 57	<p>GSO 3 visited the following units: 105 Fd Bty RAA 11 Indep Fd Sqn RE 28 COMWEL Bde OFP 16 Fd Amb RAMC 32 Dental Unit RAADC 28 COMWEL Bde Pro Unit</p>	
	18 JUL 57	GSO 3 returned to SINGAPORE.	
	22 JUL 57	w.e.f. 1 Jun 57, 5/7548 Capt D.W. PIPER posted as GSO 3 HQ Aust Army Force FARELF.	

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	Ref to Annexure
SINGAPORE	24 JUL 57	Commander visited the following units:	
	25 JUL 57	HQ 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp/ NMSD 2 RAR Commander visited the Outward Bound School at LUMUT, and then returned to SINGAPORE. A copy of the Commander's Monthly Report is attached.	Annex 'A'

/vs

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

Quote in Reply: 35/1/3

HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
SINGAPORE

2 Aug 57

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT NO 7/57

STATE

1. This report covers the month of Jul 57.
2. The state of the force at 31 Jul 57 was:-

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>ORs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	104	1387	1491
Strength	101	1255	1356

These figures are subject to the following comments:-

- (a) 2 RAR is restricted by 53 other rank appointments not to be filled whilst the battalion is in MALAYA. The establishment total shown above includes 2 RAR at the restricted establishment.
 - (b) Wrls Tp (Aust) is under-implemented at present by 17 other ranks. The establishment total shown above includes the Wrls Tp (Aust) at its full authorization and not the under-implementation figure.
3. It will be observed that, due to the non-arrival of reinforcements, there is now a deficiency of 132 other ranks.

EMPLOYMENT

4. The duties on which the force has been employed during Jul 57 have been:-

2 RAR	} Operations in the secondary role, and training.
105 Fd Bty	
Other units	Normal duties in the FARELF organization, including the Emergency.
5. The operation in the KROH area, which began early in June, ended this month. Developments in the latter stages resulted in the employment of practically the whole battalion. The result was disappointing - 2 RAR 3 OR killed 2 OR wounded, CTs 1 killed 1 wounded.
6. After the return of the battalion to the KUALA KANGSAR area, a small operation was mounted near SUNGAI SIPUT. This was unproductive.
7. On 28 Jul 57 2 RAR began moving to the areas in which it is to carry out re-training in the primary role.

RELIEF OF THE FORCE

8. Arrangements for the relief of the Force are progressing. The following matters of a major nature are outstanding at the present time:

8. (a) A decision on the equipping of 3 RAR
(b) Posting Orders for personnel relieving individually during the period Sep-Oct.
(c) Applications for married accommodation from approx 50% of married personnel understood to be moving to MALAYA
(d) Destinations of approx 30 married accompanied other rank personnel returning to AUSTRALIA
(e) Decisions on approx 40 personnel (including 12 married accompanied members) who have applied to remain on in MALAYA/SINGAPORE.

MORALE

9. There is nothing significant to report in this subject.

ALLOWANCES

10. AHQ Adm Instr dated 26 Aug 55 made provision for a review of allowances to be undertaken when the Force had become established. This review was completed and the results submitted in Aust Army Force FARELF 80/16/1 of 5 Sep 56. In view of the changes in personnel now taking place, it would seem desirable that a conclusion should be reached in this matter.

AUDIT

11. During the month, instructions were received for audit within the Force, except stores audit which is to follow. A trained auditor has not yet been posted but action has begun to implement the instructions required as far as is practicable.
12. It seem unlikely now that any audit of stores of 2 RAR, 105 Fd Bty and 4 Tp RAE will be undertaken before they return to AUSTRALIA. If this proves to be so, these three units will not have been subject to an audit of stores during the period of their service in MALAYA.


Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

DISTRIBUTION:

AHQ MELBOURNE	(6)
C in C FARELF	(1)
GOC MALAYA Comd	(1)
War Diary	(2)
File	(1)

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In Reply Please Quote: 36/7/5

HQ AUST. ARMY FORCE FARELF
SINGAPORE.


8 Oct 57

Military History Section,
Army Headquarters,
Victoria Barracks,
MELBOURNE

UNIT HISTORY

Reference: MBI 3/55

- ... 1. Attached is the history of HQ Aust Army Force
FARELF for Aug and Sep 57.


Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

(COPY)

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AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

Quote in Reply: 35/1/3

HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
SINGAPORE

2 Sep 57

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT NO 8/57

STATE

1. This report covers the month of Aug 57.
2. The state of the force at 31 Aug 57 was:-

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>ORs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	105	1388	1493
Strength	103	1239	1342

These figures are subject to the following comments:-

- (a) 2 RAR is restricted by 53 other rank appointments not to be filled whilst the battalion is in MALAYA. The establishment total shown above includes 2 RAR at the restricted establishment.
- (b) Wrls Tp (Aust) is under-implemented at present by 17 other ranks. The establishment total shown above includes the Wrls Tp (Aust) at its full authorization and not the under-implementation figure.

EMPLOYMENT

3. The duties on which the force has been employed during Aug 57 have been:-
 - 2 RAR Re-training, in the primary role
 - 105 Fd Bty Operations in the secondary role, and training.
 - 4 Tp RAE Road construction in NORTH KEDAH.
 - Other units Normal duties in the FARELF organization, including the Emergency.
4. 2 RAR's re-training programme began at individual and section level, is progressing through the sub-unit levels, and will culminate in three battalion exercises, with supporting arms.

COMMAND ORGANIZATION

5. During the month command of overseas Commonwealth forces in the Federation of MALAYA passed from HQ MALAYA Comd to HQ 17 Gur Div/OCLF.
6. The chain of command (other than Australian domestic administration) of Australian troops is now : GHQ FARELF - HQ 17 Gur Div/OCLF - HQ 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp/NMSD - units.

.....2/-

RELIEF OF THE FORCE

- 7. Good progress was made during the month with arrangements for the relief of the force.
- 8. A number of married personnel and their families have already left MALAYA, by scheduled air and sea - to create a vacuum in married accommodation. The first flight of relieving personnel is due from AUSTRALIA by chartered aircraft on 3 Sep. The relief will continue until end Nov 57.

MORALE

- 9. Early in the month there was a indication of a lowering of morale in 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp Sig Sqn. Remedial action was taken. It is not yet certain whether or not further steps may be necessary. Comd 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp has the unit under close watch, and the matter can well be left at that for the present.
- 10. The units/sub-units being relieved and the components being withdrawn all have their thoughts directed to AUSTRALIA, in some cases with mixed feelings. There has been some querulousness from a few of the families warned for movement in the NEW AUSTRALIA. It is not a popular means of transport.

AIF MEMORIAL

- 11. On 18 Aug 57, Comd Aust Army Force FARELF represented AUSTRALIA at a service of dedication of a memorial to prisoners of war and internees who died in CHANGI Prison and its precincts during 1942-1945. The memorial is in the form of an altar, screen and railing in the prison chapel.

MALAYAN INDEPENDENCE

- 12. On 31 Aug 57, the Federation of MALAYA achieved Independence within the British Commonwealth. Detachments from Australian units took part in the celebrations with units of other overseas Commonwealth forces.


 Col
 Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

DISTRIBUTION:

AHQ MELBOURNE	(6)
C-in-C FARELF	(1)
War Diary	(2)
File	(1)
Spare	(1)

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In Reply Please Quote: 36/7/5

HQ AUST. ARMY FORCE FARELF
SINGAPORE.

8 Oct 57

UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and Year: Aug 57 Commanding Officer Col F.W. SPEED, OBE, ED.

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REF TO ANNEXURE
SINGAPORE	6 Aug 57	Commander visited Australian Commission at KUALA LUMPUR.	
	12 Aug 57	AQMG visited 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp/NMSD.	
	13 Aug 57	AQMG returned to SINGAPORE.	
	19 Aug 57	Commander visited Commander 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp/NMSD at the Command Post at IPOH. Commander visited Deputy Commander and met Staff Officers at 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp/NMSD Main Headquarters at TAIPING.	
	20 Aug 57	<p>Commander visited GARRISON Commander at PENANG.</p> <p>He also visited:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 16 Fd Amb RAMC Elements 2 RAR 32 Dental Unit RAADC 28 COMWEL Bde Pro Unit GARRISON Club Australian Hostel TAJONG TOKONG housing estate SANDYCROFT leave centre <p>and then returned to SINGAPORE</p> <p>A copy of the Commander's Monthly Report is attached.</p>	Annex 'A'

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

Quote in Reply: 35/1/3

HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
SINGAPORE

1 Oct 57

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT NO 9/57

STATE

1. This report covers the month of Sep 57.
2. The state of the force at 30 Sep 57 was:-

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>ORs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	104	1388	1492
Strength	101	1186	1287

These figures are subject to the following comments:-

- (a) 2 RAR is restricted by 53 other rank appointments not to be filled whilst the battalion is in MALAYA. The establishment total shown above includes 2 RAR at the restricted establishment.
- (b) Wrls Tp (Aust) is under-implemented at present by 17 other ranks. The establishment total shown above includes the Wrls Tp (Aust) at its full authorization and not the under-implementation figure.

EMPLOYMENT

3. The duties on which the force has been employed during Sep 57 have been:-

2 RAR) Re-training in the primary role, and
105 Fd Bty) preparations for departure.
4 Tp RAE Road construction in NORTH KEDAH,
and preparation for departure.

Other units Normal duties in the FARELF organization,
including the Emergency.

4. 2 RAR's re-training programme finished with a successful battalion exercise in defence under nuclear conditions. A highlight of the exercise was that the deception arrangements were so effective that the 'enemy' aircraft failed to locate the defensive position, and in fact **bombed** the wrong hill.

RELIEF OF THE FORCE

5. All posting orders for the individual reliefs to take place during Oct - Nov 57 have now been received. Arrangements for the reception of the NEW AUSTRALIA are complete and preparation of members and families for return to AUSTRALIA in the NEW AUSTRALIA is well advanced.

2/....

6. Requests for information relating to personnel returning, particularly regarding leave etc, have presented some difficulty. It appears to have been overlooked that unit requirements on arrival may prevent the immediate despatch on leave of many personnel, at this stage units do not know these requirements, members' ideas on leave are bound to change en route, and the task of collecting the varied information required from units and detachments spread over NORTH MALAYA, in the time required, has presented a substantial problem. Also, long carriage typewriters and wide duplicators are not available to produce the documentation required in the form usually expected. However, a scheme has been evolved: and it is hoped that the information produced will remain sufficiently stable to meet Command requirements.

MORALE

7. There is nothing of significance to report in this matter. The position in 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp Sig Sqn is still being closely watched.

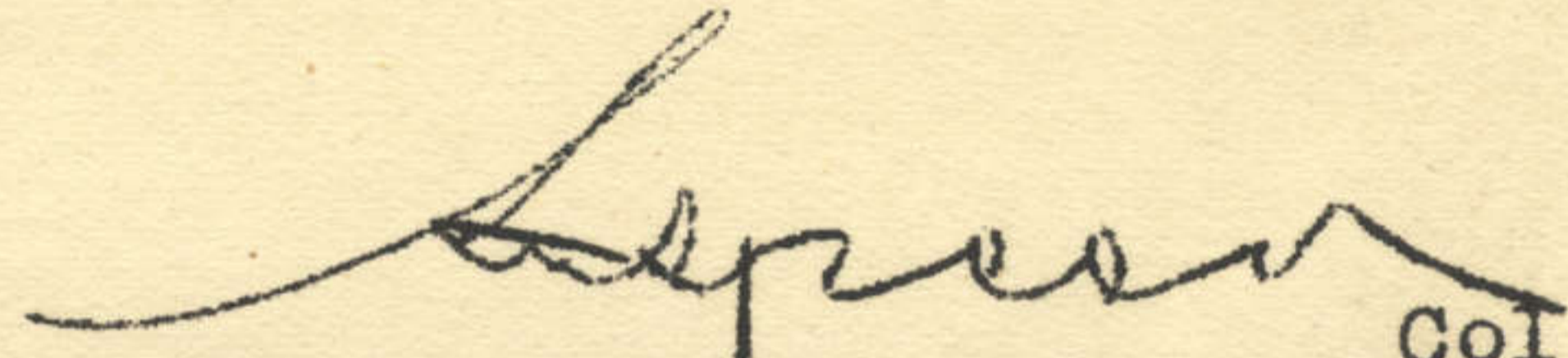
MARRIED ACCOMMODATION

8. Applications for married accommodation are still being received from personnel coming to MALAYA/SINGAPORE in the relief programme. Early in September the number of applications received passed the AHQ forecast given some time ago, and about the middle of the month the number of applications exceeded the number of dwellings being vacated. The expected surplus of married accommodation has therefore turned to a deficiency.
9. It seems that the explanation is a change of mind by a substantial number of members of 3 RAR.
10. The accommodation position now can be summarized as follows:-
- (a) All married quarters and hirings will be filled, including a number of hirings which it was hoped to abandon for various reasons.
 - (b) The Australian Hostel PENANG, which it was expected would in time run down to about half-full, will be filled to capacity indefinitely. As transit families move out into houses, the semi-permanent population will change to 60 families (approx) - each with no children or one infant.
 - (c) About 20 families have not yet been called forward because accommodation is not available for them.
11. Action is now in hand to locate accommodation for the families shut out, and for any more who are likely yet to apply. A particular effort is being made to arrange temporary accommodation for the 20 families at present excluded, so that they may move from AUSTRALIA with a minimum delay.

STORES ACCOUNTS

12. Particular steps have been taken to ensure as far as possible that the stores accounts of 105 Fd Bty, 2 RAR, and 4 Tp RAE are as clean as possible. However, as no stores audit programme or auditor has been provided, the units will move

11. without having been subject to audit during their two years in the theatre.


Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

DISTRIBUTION:

AHQ MELBOURNE	(6)
C-in-C FARELF	(1)
War Diary	(2)
File	(1)
Spare	(1)

CONFIDENTIAL

/VS

36/7/5

8 Oct 57

UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and Year: Sep 57 Commanding Officer Col F.W. SPEED, OBE, ED.

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	Ref to Annexure
SINGAPORE	8 Sep 57	Commander visited GOC 17 GURKHA Div/OCLF, Brigadier in charge of Administration and the heads of branches.	
	9 Sep 57	Commander returned to SINGAPORE	
	16 Sep 57	Chief of the Australian General Staff Lieutenant General Sir Henry WELLS, KBE, CB, DSO, accompanied by Lieutenant Colonel J.K. LYNCH arrived in SINGAPORE and was met by Commander Aust Army Force FARELF. CGS visited HQ Aust Army Force FARELF. A copy of the Commander's Monthly Report is attached.	Annex 'A'

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In Reply Please Quote: 36/7/5

HQ AUST. ARMY FORCE FARELF
SINGAPORE.

8 Nov 57

Military History Section,
Army Headquarters,
Victoria Barracks,
MELBOURNE

UNIT HISTORY

Reference: MBI 3/55

- ... 1. Attached is the history of HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
for Oct 57.


Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF



UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and Year: Oct 57

Commanding Officer: Col F.W. SPEED
OBE, ED.

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REF TO ANNEX-URE
SINGAPORE	1 OCT 57 TO	Commander visited the following units:	
	2 OCT 57	2 RAR 16 Fd Amb, RAMC. 11 Indep Fd Sqn, RE HQ 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp/NMSD BMH KAMUNTING 2 Inf Wksp REME 3 Coy RASC.	
	16 OCT 57 TO	AQMG visited PENANG in connection with duties related to the embarkation and departure of units and families for AUSTRALIA	
	19 OCT 57		
	18 OCT 57	Commander visited PENANG during the embarkation and departure of units and families for AUSTRALIA.	
	19 OCT 57	Commander and AQMG returned to SINGAPORE.	
	21 OCT 57	Col D. VINCENT, Director of Signals Australian Military Forces visited Commander is Aust Army Force FARELF.	
	24 OCT 57 TO	Commander visited Army Headquarters, MELBOURNE and returned to SINGAPORE.	
	6 NOV 57		
	28 OCT 57 TO	DAQMG visited PENANG and returned to SINGAPORE.	
	29 OCT 57		
	28 OCT 57 TO	DAAG visited PENANG and returned to SINGAPORE.	
	31 OCT 57		
		A copy of the Commander's Monthly Report is attached.	ANNEX 'A'

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In Reply Please Quote: 35/1/3

HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
SINGAPORE

2 Nov 57

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT NO 10/57

STATE

1. This report covers the month of Oct 57.

2. The state of the force at 31 Oct 57 was:-

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>ORs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	102	1168	1270
Strength	110	1197	1307

These figures are subject to the following comments:

- (a) Wrls Tp (Aust) is under implemented at present by 15 other ranks. The establishment total shown above includes the Wrls Tp (Aust) at its full authorization and not the under implemented figure.
- (b) Approximately 8 officers and 78 other ranks are due to return to AUSTRALIA in the immediate future. These members are included in the strength figures quoted.
- (c) 15 other ranks posted to units have not yet arrived.
- (d) The Rear Party of 3 RAR has not yet arrived.

EMPLOYMENT

3. The duties on which the force has been employed during Oct 57 have been:-

- 2 RAR }
105 Fd Bty } Preparation for return to AUSTRALIA.
4 Tp RAE }
- 3 RAR }
100A Fd Bty } Training for Emergency operations.
2 Tp RAE }
- Other units Normal duties in the FARELF organization, including the Emergency.

RELIEF OF THE FORCE

4. The main bodies of 105 Fd Bty, 4 Tp RAE, and 2 RAR, plus other personnel being withdrawn or relieved individually, were to have embarked during the period 18 - 19 Oct in the NEW AUSTRALIA, after the arrival of 100A Fd Bty, 2 Tp RAE and 3 RAR. Due to a collision in TORRES STRAIT and to engine failure, the ship did not arrive in SINGAPORE until 11 Oct. After repairs, and the return journey to and from PENANG, it finally left for AUSTRALIA on 21 Oct 57.

5. Due to the time required in SINGAPORE for repairs to the ship, units and unaccompanied personnel for NORTH MALAYA were disembarked to NEE SOON transit camp. Urgently required personnel were ferried forward by rail; the remainder re-embarked when the ship was repaired. Accompanied personnel and families were ferried forward by rail and chartered aircraft as this was less expensive than accommodating them in hostels and hotels in SINGAPORE.
6. The extra time available to units moving out enable them to complete the return of equipment and stores more satisfactorily. Final discrepancies in stores accounting are expected to be small.
7. Disembarkations and embarkations were carried out by SINGAPORE Base District and NORTH MALAYA Sub-District, assisted by HQ Aust Army Force FARELF, expeditiously and smoothly.
8. Chartered aircraft No 2 deferred from 22 Oct was received and despatched on 29 Oct 57. This aircraft was delayed in departing from SINGAPORE on the return journey to Australia as the airport was closed for some hours as a result of a HERMES aircraft, under charter to the British Army as a troop carrier, over-running the strip. The QANTAS aircraft was not involved in the accident.

MORALE

9. There is nothing of significance to report in this matter.
10. There were some minor incidents affecting individual personnel in SINGAPORE and PENANG, but generally the behaviour of both incoming and outgoing troops was most satisfactory.

MARRIAGES TO ASIANS

11. In the first two years of the force being in MALAYA/SINGAPORE a total of 14 marriages to ASIANS were contracted, as follows:

(a) Married in MALAYA and Immigration clearance obtained in time for the wife to travel to AUSTRALIA with the husband	- 7
(b) Married in MALAYA but Immigration clearance not yet obtained:	
(i) member remaining in country	- 2
(ii) member returned to AUSTRALIA, wife to follow	- 2
(c) Not yet married. Members returned to AUSTRALIA : fiancées will follow when Immigration clearance obtained	- 3

12. Several other members married UNITED KINGDOM service women and EUROPEAN civilians.

MARRIED ACCOMMODATION

13. During the month, further applications for married accommodation were received from relieving personnel. There is now a short - fall of approximately 130 dwellings, against which the Australian Hostel can provide 60 rooms.

3/.....

14. A notable feature of the new "married population" is that 95 members have no children and 25 have one child only each.

15. The problem set by the unexpected increase in applications is under urgent action.

VISIT TO AHQ BY COMD

16. Col F.W. SPEED OBE ED, Comd Aust Army Force FARELF departed SINGAPORE on 20 Oct 57 for liaison visits to E Comd and AHQ. He is due to return to SINGAPORE on or about 6 Nov 57.

James
Major
Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF
AOD

/SC

DISTRIBUTION:

AHQ MELBOURNE (6)
C-in-C FARELF (1)
War Diary (2)
File (1)
Spare (1)

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In Reply Please Quote: 36/7/5

HQ AUST. ARMY FORCE FARELF
SINGAPORE.


9 Dec 57

Military History Section,
Army Headquarters,
Victoria Barracks,
MELBOURNE

UNIT HISTORY

Reference : MBI 3/55

- ... 1. Attached is the history of HQ Aust Army
Force FARELF for Nov 57.


Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

DWP /SC

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In Reply Please Quote: 36/7/5

HQ AUST. ARMY FORCE FARELF
SINGAPORE.

9 Dec 57

UNIT HISTORY HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

month and year: Nov 57 Commanding Officer: Col F.W. SPEED, OBE, ED.

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	Ref to Annexure
SINGAPORE	11 Nov 57	DAQMG visited BUTTERWORTH and returned to SINGAPORE	
	12 Nov 57		
	15 Nov 57	Mr AG BROWN, CBE, MC, Chief Commissioner, Australian Red Cross visited HQ Aust Army Force FARELF.	
	18 Nov 57	DAQMG visited BUTTERWORTH and returned to SINGAPORE	
	19 Nov 57		
	27 Nov 57	Commander visited the Australian High Commissioner at KUALA LUMPUR.	
	28 Nov 57	Commander visited the following units:	
	29 Nov 57	PENANG Gar	
		16 COMWEL Fd Amb RAMC	
		Sp Coy 3 RAR	
	28 COMWEL Bde Pro Unit		
	100(A) Fd Bty RAA		
	11 COMWEL Indep Fd Sqn RE		
	1 ACS RAAF		
	HQ 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp/NMSD		
	28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Sig Sqn		
	28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde LAD		
	A copy of the Commander's Monthly Report is attached.	ANNEX 'A'	

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AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In Reply Please Quote: 35/1/3

HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
SINGAPORE

3 Dec 57

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT NO. 11/57

STATE

1. This report covers the month of Nov 57.
2. The state of the force at 30 Nov 57 was:-

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>ORs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	102	1168	1270
Strength	108	1162	1270

These figures are subject to the following comments

- (a) Wrls Tp (Aust) is under implemented at present by 14 other ranks. The establishment total shown above includes the Wrls Tp (Aust) at its full authorization and not the under implemented figure.
- (b) The above strength figures include a small number of personnel due for return to AUSTRALIA, who have not yet left.

EMPLOYMENT

3. The duties on which the force has been employed during Nov 57 have been:-

3 RAR 100A Fd Bty	} Preparation for Emergency operations
2 Tp RAE	Training for Emergency operations and road construction in NORTH KEDAH
Other units	Normal duties in the FARELF organization, including the Emergency

RELIEF OF THE FORCE

4. 3 RAR has taken over substantially the same area in Operation SHARK NORTH as 2 RAR had, but has been relieved of responsibility for the KROH area.
5. Chartered aircraft Nos 3 and 4 were received and despatched on 13 and 19 Nov 57. The deferment of these aircraft enabled more personnel to be moved out and, for all practical purposes, this completed the Relief.
6. The small number remaining are being moved progressively as part of the individual movement which has now been resumed.

2/.....

NEW ZEALAND ARMY FORCE

- 7. In implementation of the NEW ZEALAND Governments decision to contribute an infantry battalion and some integrated staff to FARELF, a small headquarters, with a Colonel as Commander, has been set up alongside HQ Aust Army Force FARELF. The training advance party of the battalion arrived on 19 Nov 57. Close liaison between the two forces has already been established.
- 8. The MALAYAN allowances to be paid by NEW ZEALAND are notably better than those now paid by AUSTRALIA. Details are being forwarded to AHQ MELBOURNE in support of the request for increase made in Sep 56.

DISCIPLINE

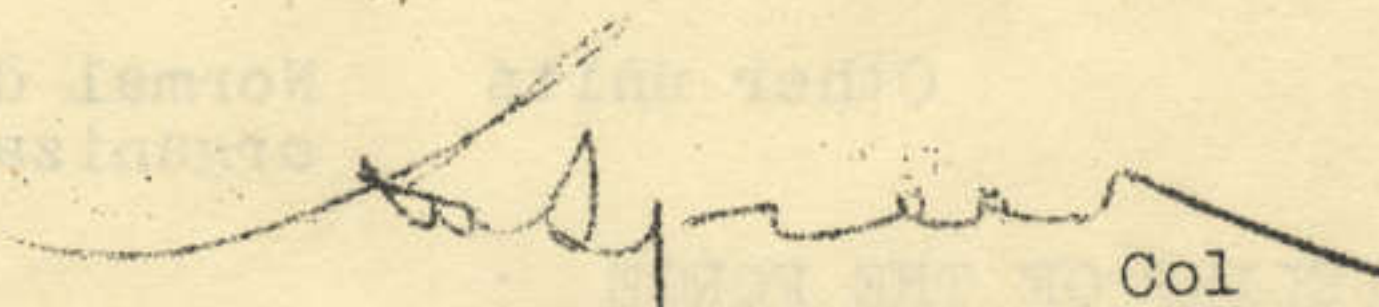
- 9. Information has just been received that HQ 17 GUR Div has ordered the move of 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp Pro Unit from GEORGETOWN to MINDEN Barracks PENANG. There are reasonable administrative reasons for this change, but it is possible that due weight has not been given to the effect which a move could have on the discipline of Australian troops frequenting the town. The matter is being taken up.

MORALE

- 10. 3 RAR and 100A Fd Bty are in particularly good heart and keen to get into operations. In other units, personnel appear to have settled down well.
- 11. There is some dissatisfaction that housing was not immediately available for all married members. However, an attempt to get up a petition amongst wives in the Australian Hostel resulted in only four signatures.

MARRIED ACCOMMODATION

- 12. Urgent action for the provision of extra housing continues. It is too early yet to give firm figures, but the outlook is better than was thought possible.


 Col
 Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

/VS

DISTRIBUTION:

- AHQ MELBOURNE (6)
- C-in-C FARELF (1)
- War Diary (2)
- File (1)
- Spare (1)

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In Reply Please Quote: 36/7/5

HQ AUST. ARMY FORCE FARELF
SINGAPORE.

9 Jan 58

Military History Section
Army Headquarters
Victoria Barracks
MELBOURNE

UNIT HISTORY

Reference : MBI 3/55

- ... 1. Attached is the history of Headquarters
Australian Army Force FARELF, for Dec 57.

R D Carroll Major
for Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

~~/SC~~

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In Reply Please Quote: 36/7/5

HQ AUST. ARMY FORCE FARELF
SINGAPORE.

9 Jan 58

UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and Year: Dec 57

Commander: Col F W SPEED, OBE, ED.

PEACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION	REF TO ANNEX
SINGAPORE	6 Dec 57	Paymaster visited PENANG	
	11-12 Dec 57	Paymaster visited HQ 28 COMWEL Bde, discuss pay services	
	13-14 Dec 57	AQMGM visited HQ 28 COMWEL Bde and other IU's - Q liaison duties	
	19-20 Dec 57	AQMGM visited 3 RAR - liaison duties	
	29-31 Dec 57	Maj SMAIL - Maj EWING - farewell/introductory visit units 28 Bde, PENANG Garrison	
		A copy of the Commander's Monthly Report is attached	Annex "A"

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In reply please quote: 35/1/3

HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
SINGAPORE

2 Jan 58

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT NO. 12/57

STATE

1. This report covers the month of Dec 57.
2. The state of the force at 31 Dec 57 was:-

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>ORs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	111	1159	1270
Strength	106	1155	1261

These figures are subject to the following comments:

- (a) Wrls Tp (Aust) is under implemented at present by 16 other ranks. The establishment total shown above includes the Wrls Tp (Aust) at its full authorization and not the under implemented figure.
- (b) The above strength figures include a small number of personnel due for return to AUSTRALIA who have not yet left.

EMPLOYMENT

3. The duties on which the force has been employed during Dec 57 have been:-

3 RAR 100 A Fd Bty	} Commencement of Emergency Operations,
2 Tp RAE	Road and bridge construction in NORTH KEDAH.
Other units	Normal duties in the FARELF organization, including the Emergency.

INTEGRATION

4. The inclusion of the word "Commonwealth" in the title of 2 Indep Fd Sqn RE and 16 Fd Amb has not yet taken place although agreed many months ago. It appears that there is some delay with the War Office.

DISCIPLINE

5. The move of 28 Comwel Indep Inf Bde Gp Pro Unit from its central position in GEORGETOWN to MINDEN Barracks (mentioned in the last report), has been cancelled. Instructions have been given by 17 GUR Div which may result in better accommodation being found in, or close to, the town.

2/...

MORALE

6. Morale continues high in all units.

FAMILIES MEDICAL TREATMENT

7. Some difficulty has emerged in the medical treatment of families located in PENANG. The trouble lies in the fact that PENANG is a large families station but has limited facilities for medical examination and treatment. Cases beyond the capacity of the medical inspection centre or medical reception station must go to BMH KAMUNTING (TAIPING). Unsatisfactory features of the system were high-lighted recently by two incidents -

(a) The fortnightly gynaecologists visit to PENANG did not take place as scheduled and several pregnant wives were instructed to go to KAMUNTING for consultation. No transport was provided.

(b) The mother of a child with a suspected broken finger was instructed to take the child to KAMUNTING for X-ray. There was no question of admission to hospital and the parent objected to going so far for a simple X-ray. When she arrived at KAMUNTING the X-ray room had closed for the weekly half-day stand down.

The subject is being ventilated with GHQ FARELF in an attempt to resolve the difficulties.

MARRIED ACCOMMODATION

8. As previously reported, there are approximately 130 more families requiring accommodation than before the recent relief. Of the families not yet allocated a house or flat, approximately 90 are without children at present.

9. The Australian Hostel PENANG will hold 60-64 families without children or with one infant. However an individual family should not be required to live there for the whole of its tour unless it is willing to do so - and there are few so willing.

10. To meet the additional commitment, the following progress has been made:

4 recently built houses have been hired and occupied.

7 houses now being vacated by other tenants will be hired in Jan 58.

25 houses under construction for a number of private owners will be leased on completion during Apr 58.

20 houses now under construction by Malayan Realty Ltd alongside TANJONG TOKONG Estate will be leased on completion by end Apr 58.

20 houses, additional to the 20 above, are being commenced for completion by end May 58.

20 flats, in two buildings, under construction will be leased on completion about end May 58.

In addition, it may reasonably be expected that a few more individual houses will come to notice during the next 2 - 3 months. Moreover, a few families have already found for themselves housing which, while not suitable for hiring as WD accommodation, is quite satisfactory for private rental until proper accommodation is produced.

3/...

11. Some of the families called forward in the earlier stages of the relief have been slow in arriving. Accordingly the opportunity was taken at the beginning of the month to call a further group of those waiting. Then, just before Christmas, it seemed that a reasonable risk could be taken, and the last of those who had applied for accommodation up to that date were called forward. Allowing for the normal delay in arrival, there will be space in the Australian Hostel and in other temporary accommodation to hold all these families until housing is ready.

12. The figures, both of housing available and of those requiring accommodation, are constantly changing. However, at present, it appears that by 30 Jun 58 when all the above listed dwellings should have been occupied, there will be 20 - 40 families in the Australian Hostel (some occupying more than one room each) on a semi-permanent basis.

13. By that time it will have been necessary to decide the intention regarding the future of the Hostel lease: and the various courses open are now being explored.

GENERAL

14. The major change-over of units, personnel and families, which has just taken place, has led to a crop of troubles, mostly of a minor nature. The following are of interest to indicate the nature of the problems:

- (a) The infantry battalion and the independent field battery, being on tropical establishment, have much less transport than their predecessors. This, coinciding with a major reduction in the transport scale of many United Kingdom administrative units, has produced difficulties.
- (b) Whereas the old units and components had achieved a high degree of competence in administrative procedures, the new units etc have found difficulty in gaining their administrative needs. UK staff officers who have come to the theatre in the last twelve months have not previously been confronted with these Australian difficulties, and some of them have not understood the need for thoughtful handling of the problems.
- (c) There have been a few cases of friction between Australian and United Kingdom individuals - the responsibility for starting it being about equally divided.
- (d) The large influx of new families has brought the inevitable small number of 'difficult' wives.

15. These troubles will all be resolved in time but, in the meantime, they impose some strain on existing cordial relations.

NEW ZEALAND ARMY FORCE

16. On 14 Dec 57, the main body of 1 NZ Regt arrived in TS "CAPTAIN COOK". After staging temporarily at NEE SOON transit camp the battalion will train at KOTA TINGGI for Emergency operations,

4/...

preparatory to joining 28 Comwel Indep Inf Bde Gp.

Col.
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF.

DISTRIBUTION

- AHQ MELBOURNE (6)
- C-in-C FARELF (1)
- War Diary (2)
- File (1)
- Spare (1)

(a) The infantry battalion and the independent field battery, being on tropical establishment, have much less transport than their predecessors. This, coinciding with a major reduction in the transport scale of many of the units, has produced a situation where the old units and components had achieved a high degree of competence in administrative procedures, the new units are having difficulty in retaining their administrative needs. UK staff officers who have come to the theatre in the last twelve months have not previously been contacted with these Australian difficulties and some of them have not understood the need for thought and handling of the problem.

(b) There have been a few cases of friction between Australian and United Kingdom individuals in the responsibility for getting things done. This is being generally avoided.

(c) The large influx of new families has brought the inevitable small number of 'difficult' wives.

THE AUSTRALIAN ARMY FORCE

On 24 Dec 51, the main body of 1 NZ Regt arrived in the "CAPTAIN COOK" area staying temporarily at WEA 8008 transit camp. The battalion will train at KOTA THUMB for emergency operations.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In Reply Please Quote:

36/7/5

HQ AUST. ARMY FORCE FARELF
SINGAPORE.

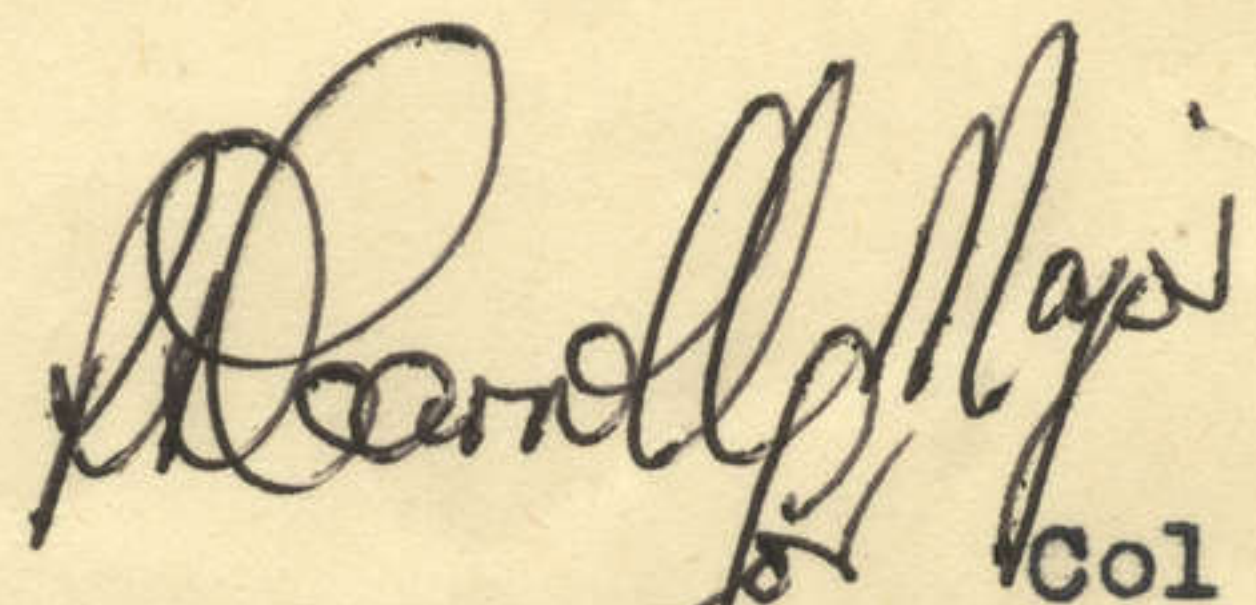
2 Dec 58

Military History Section
Army Headquarters
Victoria Barracks
MELBOURNE

UNIT HISTORY

Reference: MBI 3/55

- ... 1. Forwarded herewith are the unit history records for HQ Aust Army Force for the period Jan 58 to Nov 58 inclusive.


Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

FEB 58

UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and Year: JAN 58: Commander Col F.W. SPEED, OBE, ED.

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION
SINGAPORE	7-8 Jan 58	DADSR visited TAIPING and DAD Hirings visited PENANG.
	13-17 Jan 58	Legal Offr visited TAIPING (Court Martial).
	14-16 Jan 58	DAAG visited TAIPING - HQ 28 Bde, 3 RAR liaison duties.
	22-23 Jan 58	AQMG & DAAG visited Aust Army Units in PENANG and BUTTERWORTH as well as the Airfield Construction Sqn.

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In reply please quote: 35/1/3

HQ Aust. Army Force FARELF
SINGAPORE.

1 Feb 58

AUST. ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT NO. 1/58

STATE

1. This report covers the month of Jan 58.

2. The state of the force at 31 Jan 58 was:-

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>ORs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	111	1158	1269
Strength	104	1157	1261

These figures are subject to the following comments:

(a) Wrls Tp (Aust) is under implemented at present by 16 other ranks. The establishment total shown above includes the Wrls Tp (Aust) at its full authorization and not the under implemented figure.

(b) The above strength figures include two other ranks due for return to AUSTRALIA who have not yet left.

EMPLOYMENT

3. The duties on which the force has been employed during Dec 57 have been:-

3 RAR } Operations in the secondary role, and
100 A Fd Bty } training.

2 Tp RAE } Bridge construction in PERAK

Other units } Normal duties in the FARELF organization,
including the Emergency

MORALE

4. There is nothing of significance to report on this subject.

HEALTH

5. Medical statistics for the month of Dec 57 showed an increase in cases of intestinal and venereal diseases.

6. With the intestinal diseases, it appears likely that there were two principal factors:

(a) The outbreak of diarrhoea etc which seems to occur shortly after the arrival of most new troops.

(b) The source of infection in KUALA KANGSAR Camp, which is not yet eliminated.

2/...

It is significant that during December the incidence of intestinal diseases was lower elsewhere in 3 RAR than in KUALA KANGSAR and that during January there were practically no cases in other 3 RAR camps. Extraordinary measures have been taken by the unit and the Army Health organization. The results for January are awaited.

7. In the case of venereal diseases, it is probable that the Christmas - New Year festivities contributed to the increase.

8. During the month, a War Office instruction was promulgated in FARELF, removing the emphasis on physical measures to combat venereal diseases and placing emphasis on moral measures. As it is probable that this change results from the high proportion of national servicemen in the British Army, the instruction has been passed to AHQ MELBOURNE for advice in Australian policy (Aust Army Force FARELF 93/1/2 of 24 Jan 58 refers).

ALLOWANCES

9. On 31 Dec 57 details of the Malaya allowances payable to New Zealand Army Force FARELF were forwarded to AHQ MELBOURNE (Aust Army Force FARELF 80/16/1 of 31 Dec 57 refers). These show, inter alia, that a New Zealand private with a wife and three children receives practically the same pay and normal allowances as an Australian, but his Malaya Allowance is greater and his local deductions are less, by approx \$156 per pay.

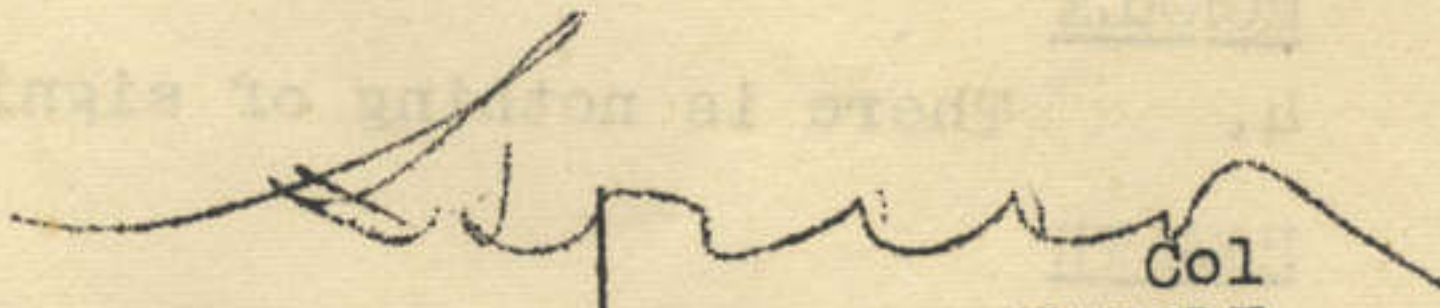
MARRIED ACCOMMODATION

10. The efforts by individual married members to obtain private accommodation in PENANG has proved most fruitful and 68 families now have housing which, whilst unsuitable for hiring officially, is acceptable as temporary accommodation pending completion of suitable dwellings now in course of erection.

11. Approximately 13 families have been called forward but have not yet arrived. Hostel accommodation is available for them. There are now no applications for married accommodation outstanding.

GENERAL

12. During January, the troubles in the settling in of new units and personnel were largely resolved. Transport difficulties have yet to be overcome.


Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

DISTRIBUTION

AHQ MELBOURNE	(6)
C-in-C FARELF	(1)
GOC 17 GUR DIV	(1)
WAR DIARY	(2) ✓
FILE	(1)
SPARE	(1)

MAR 58

UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and Year: FEB 58: Commander: Col E.G. McNAMARA ED.

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION
SINGAPORE	1 Feb 58	Col A.G. PIXTON US Military Liaison Offr visited 3 RAR.
	9 Feb 58	Col E.G. McNAMARA assumed duties of Comd.
	12-13 Feb 58	Col F.W. SPEED and Col E.G. McNAMARA visited KUALA LUMPUR and 55 Coy RASC (AD).
	14-Feb 58	Col E.G. McNAMARA & AQMG - conducted visit of all Aust Units on PENANG and BUTTERWORTH.
	22 Feb 58	Col F.W. SPEED RTA.
	25-27 Feb 58	DAD Hqs - visited TAIPING and Hirings in the Bde area.

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AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In Reply Please Quote: 35/1/3

HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
SINGAPORE

3 Mar 58

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT NO 2/58

1. This report covers the month of Feb 58.

STATE

2. The state of the force at 28 Feb 58 was:-

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>ORs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	111	1158	1269
Strength	109	1149	1258

These figures are subject to the following comments:

- (a) Wrls Tp (Aust) is under implemented at present by 16 other ranks. The establishment total shown above includes the Wrls Tp (Aust) at its full authorization and not the under implemented figure.
- (b) The above figures do not include One Salvation Army and three Red Cross representatives.

EMPLOYMENT

3. The duties on which the force has been employed during Feb 58 have been:-

3 RAR	}	Operations in the secondary role, and training.
100 A Fd Bty		
2 Tp RAE		Bridge construction in PERAK
Other Units		Normal duties in the FARELF organization, including the Emergency

COMMAND

4. On 15 Feb 58, command of Aust Army Force FARELF passed from Col F.W. SPEED, OBE, ED, to Col E.G. McNAMARA ED, on completion of tour of duty.

MOORALE

5. There is nothing of significance to report on this subject.

HEALTH

6. The incidence of preventable diseases showed a change for the month of Jan 58.

7. There was a substantial reduction in the number of cases of intestinal diseases, but KUALA KANGSAR camp still remains a source of infection.

8. Further cases of venereal disease resulted from the Christmas - New Year period and the statistics remained high.

CONFIDENTIAL

2/.....

9. With reference to para 8 of Report No 1/58, the directions of AHQ have been received on this matter and are being discussed with GHQ. All measures possible within the new policies will be actively taken.

FAMILIES MEDICAL TREATMENT

10. Some progress was made during the month in improving arrangements for the medical treatment of families in the PENANG area, referred to in Report No 12/57. The posting of an RAAMC officer, at present projected, should greatly assist.

11. An impasse has been reached regarding payment for transport, and a submission has been made to AHQ MELBOURNE (Aust Army Force FARELF 51/1/13 of 15 Feb 58 refers).

MARRIED ACCOMMODATION

12. Pending the delivery of the additional accommodation referred to in Report No 12/57, the situation remains substantially unchanged. The families of all personnel who have applied for accommodation, have been called forward.

Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

DISTRIBUTION:

- AHQ MELBOURNE (6)
- C-in-C FARELF (1)
- GOC 17 GUR DIV (1)
- WAR DIARY (2)
- FILE (1)
- SPARE (1)

APR 58

UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and Year: MAR 58: Commander: Col E.G. McNAMARA, ED.

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION
SINGAPORE	4-6 Mar 58	Comd visited units and installations in PENANG, BUTTERWORTH and KROH.
	4-7 Mar 58	DAD Hqs visited PENANG - Hirings TANJONG TOKONG.
	8-12 Mar 58	Adm Offr visited BUTTERWORTH - Defending Offr DCM.
	14-23 Mar 58	Col NICOL and Capt BENNETT (DPR) visited HQ Aust Army Force, TAIPING and PENANG.
	18-22 Mar 58	DAAG, visited TAIPING, KUALA KANGSAR, PENANG, KUALA LUMPUR - liaison duties.
	23-31 Mar 58	Capt BENNETT att 3 RAR.

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In Reply Please Quote: 35/1/3

HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
SINGAPORE

2 Apr 58

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT NO 3/58

1. This report covers the month of Mar 58.

STATE OF THE FORCE

2. The state of the force at 31 Mar 58 was:-

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>Ors</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	111	1159	1270
Strength	107	1137	1244

These figures are subject to the following comments:

- (a) Wrls Tp(Aust) is under implemented at present by 19 other ranks. The establishment total shown above includes the Wrls Tp (Aust) at its full authorization and not the under implemented figure.
- (b) The above figures do not include One Salvation Army and three Red Cross representatives.

EMPLOYMENT

3. The duties on which the force has been employed during Mar 58 have been:-

3 RAR 100A Fd Bty	} Operations in the secondary role, and training.
2 Tp RAE	Training and Administration.
Other Units	Normal duties in the FARELF organization, including the Emergency

MORALE

4. The morale of the force continues at a high level.

HEALTH.

5. There was a further reduction in the number of cases of intestinal diseases in the month of February. This was due, it is considered to more rigid hygiene measures which are being actively pursued. It is hoped that this trend will continue.

2/.....

6. A slight reduction in the number of VD cases is as yet no cause for comfort; the rate remains far too high.

7. GHQ have agreed to the variations recommended by AHQ MELBOURNE to the new British policy on VD. Appropriate instructions have been issued to all units concerned and Australian unit commanders are fully aware of their responsibilities.

FAMILIES MEDICAL TREATMENT

8. Advice has been received from AHQ MELBOURNE (A326-1-83(Q1) of 11 Mar 58) that authority cannot be given to pay for transport used to carry families from PENANG to TAIPING for medical treatment. However if statistical evidence can be produced to show that the 1/- per day deduction from each married members pay is adequate to cover treatment plus transport, AHQ is prepared to resubmit the case to Treasury.

9. An examination of costs is being carried out and if justified a further submission will be made.

DISCIPLINE

10. A proposal has been forwarded to AHQ (HQ Aust Army Force 147/1/1 of 21 Mar 58) for an amendment to the Defence (Visiting Forces) Act to give reciprocal powers of arrest. Such an amendment will greatly facilitate the conduct of a Military Policeman in effecting the arrest of a soldier of a different British Commonwealth nation.

11. The New Zealand Government has recently amended its Visiting Forces Act to include such powers.

BUKIT TERENDAK

12. Following the receipt at GHQ of certain approvals to proceed with the construction of a cantonment for the Commonwealth Brigade Group at BUKIT TERENDAK (MALACCA), discussions have taken place between GHQ and HQ Aust Army Force FARELF on the requirements, particularly of married accommodation, for the Australian component. Discussions are proceeding.

MARRIED ACCOMMODATION

13. There is no significant change in the situation.

Ch. K. ... Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

DISTRIBUTION

- AHQ MELBOURNE (6)
- C-in-C FARELF (1)
- GOC 17 GUR DIV (1)
- WAR DIARY (2)
- FILE (1)
- SPARE (1)



MAY 58

UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and Year: APR 58: Commander: Col E.G. McNAMARA ED.

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION
SINGAPORE	1 - 20 Apr 58	Capt BENNETT att 3 RAR and HQ Aust Army Force
	15 - 18 Apr 58	AQMG visited PENANG, TAIPING, KUALA KANGSAR and IPOH on Q Liaison visits.
	22 - 23 Apr 58	Comd and AQMG visited MALACCA to view MALACCA Cantonment area.
	27 - 30 Apr 58	Edn Offr visited SEREMBAN, KUALA LUMPUR, CAMERON HIGHLANDS - visits to RAEC Edn Centres.

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In Reply Please Quote: 35/1/3

HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
SINGAPORE

/ May 58

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT NO 4/58

1. This report covers the month of Apr 58.

STATE OF THE FORCE

2. The state of the force at 30 Apr 58 was:-

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>Ors</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	112	1159	1271
Strength	110	1139	1249

These figures are subject to the following comments:

- (a) Wrls Tp(Aust) is under implemented at present by 19 other ranks. The establishment total shown above includes the Wrls Tp (Aust) at its full authorization and not the under implemented figure.
- (b) The above figures do not include One Salvation Army and three Red Cross representatives.

EMPLOYMENT

3. The duties on which the force has been employed during Apr 58 have been:-

3 RAR 100A Fd Bty)	Operations in the secondary role, and training.
2 Tp RAE		Training and Administration.
Other Units		Normal duties in the FARELF organization, including the Emergency

MORALE

4. The morale of the force received an "uplift" on 23 Apr with the successful contact by one of our patrols with a small CT force (see para 8 below).

HEALTH

5. A comparison of the figures for diseases, notifiable and otherwise, during the past few months shows a progressive decline since the relief of the force in Nov 57.
6. Despite a few sporadic cases of diarrhoea the overall number of cases is lower than any previous month.
7. The number of VD cases remains much the same.

OPERATIONS

8. Following a period of intense patrol activity, a jeep patrol of 3 RAR searching minor roads sighted a CT party in some undergrowth at 1600 hrs 23 Apr. Crash action followed in which one CT was killed and one wounded and captured. Two others managed to escape.

BUKIT TERENDAK

9. On 22 and 23 Apr, Comd and AQMG Aust Army Force carried out a ground and air reconnaissance of the site for the Commonwealth Brigade cantonment and the surrounding country. This was by way of being a preliminary reconnaissance in preparation for the visit of DQMG and D Finance AHQ MELBOURNE. Useful initial discussions were held with interested local bodies.

Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

DISTRIBUTION

- AHQ MELBOURNE (6)
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- GOC 17 GUR DIV (1)
- WAR DIARY (2)
- FILE (1)
- SPARE (1)

JUN 58

UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and Year: MAY 58: Commander: Col E.G. McNAMARA ED.

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION
SINGAPORE	1 - 2 May 58	Edn Offr completed visit to RAEC Edn Centres.
	6 May 58	Comd and Brig LOGAN visited KUALA LUMPUR. Comd returned same day and Brig LOGAN continued tour to MALACCA and TAIPING.
	9 - 26 May 58	CMF Offrs visited SINGAPORE, and attached to units MALAYA.
	15 - 16 May 58	DAD Hirings visited TAIPING.
	19 - 24 May 58	Edn Offr visited all schools in TAIPING, PENANG and BUTTERWORTH.
	24 May 58	Capt J.W. BURNS arrived in SINGAPORE to take appointment of SC'A'.
	28 May 58	Maj EWING visited PENANG.

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AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In Reply Please Quote: 35/1/3

HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
SINGAPORE

3 Jun 58

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT NO 4/58

1. This report covers the month of May 58.

STATE OF THE FORCE

2. The state of the force at 31 May 58 was:

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>Ors</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	112	1159	1271
Strength	104	1141	1245

These figures are subject to the following comments:

- (a) Wrls Tp(Aust) is under implemented at present by 19 other ranks. The establishment total shown above includes the Wrls Tp (Aust) at its full authorization and not the under implemented figure.
- (b) The above figures do not include One Salvation Army and three Red Cross representatives.

EMPLOYMENT

3. The duties on which the force has been employed during May 58 have been:

3 RAR 100A Fd Bty	} Operations in the secondary role, and training.
2 Tp RAE	Bridge and road construction at NAKA, KEDAH.
Other Units	Normal duties in the FARELF organization, including the Emergency

MORALE

4. There is nothing of significance to report on this subject.

HEALTH

5. Figures for general diseases continue to show an improvement. Diarrhoea and skin diseases continue to give our medical staffs their largest amount of work.

6. The figures for VD have decreased slightly again.

7. Three cases of malaria have been encountered. Whilst the taking of paludrine is strictly policed when soldiers are on duty, there are still some who do not take it whilst on leave or stand-down even though issued with it.

8. The arrival in SINGAPORE on 30 May 58 of Maj F. A. LILIER RAAMC to take up his duties as Australian MO in PENANG was most welcome. After a preliminary briefing at this HQ, he flew to PENANG the same day. His primary task will be the medical care of our families in PENANG. For this reason he is being kept almost completely free of administration. In addition he will act as medical advisor to the Commander Aust Army Force FARELF.

9. Whilst the present epidemic of cholera continues in BANGKOK no member of the Australian force will be permitted to proceed on leave to that area.

VISIT BY DQMG, AHQ

10. Brigadier E. LOGAN, DQMG, AHQ visited FARELF from 3 to 19 May 58. Whilst the primary aim of the visit was to discuss the building of the cantonment at BUKIT TERENDAK, advantage was taken of his presence and a tour of all Australian units and installations in SINGAPORE and MALAYA was made.

11. The visit was of considerable value to the Australian Force. The troops were inclined to air their views and problems more freely than had hitherto been experienced. These were in the main financial by nature, and in almost every case have been or are being dealt with by this HQ.

BUKIT TERENDAK

12. The period 5 to 9 May was set aside for discussions and examination by DQMG of the BUKIT TERENDAK project.

13. Staff discussions and briefings took place at GHQ on 5 and 6 May. Prior to proceeding to MALACCA on 6 May, the Australian High Commissioner was visited in KUALA LUMPUR and given a full briefing as to Australian proposals in the project.

14. A ground and air reconnaissance of the site was conducted on 7 and 8 May and further discussions held on 9 May on the return of DQMG to GHQ.

15. On 16 and 17 May, final discussions were held at GHQ at which the DQMG was given further information received from LONDON of a possible change in the scales and amount of married accommodation to be built in the cantonment.

VISIT OF CMF OFFICERS

16. A party of five CMF officers visited Australian Army Force FARELF from 9 to 26 May. The aim of the visit was to give selected CMF officers an opportunity to study and work with operational units actively engaged in the Emergency.

17. From verbal reports received and from questioning each of the officers concerned, it is considered that the visit was well worthwhile. A detailed report is being compiled for submission to AHQ.

VEHICLES - TRUCKS 2½ TON, GMC; TRUCKS ½ TON GS FORD/WILLYS

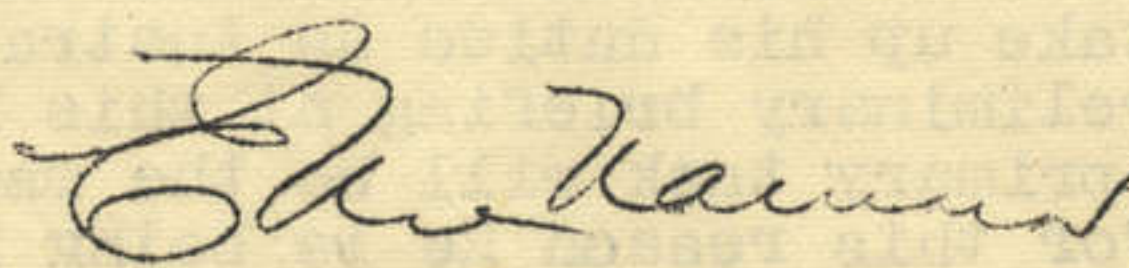
18. A survey is being made by this HQ of the holdings, condition and repairs situation in respect of the above types of vehicles held by Australian units. The results of this survey will be forwarded to AHQ in due course.

MARRIED ACCOMMODATION

19. A further 35 houses have been taken over in PENANG as WD Hirings. These have been occupied by families who have been living in accommodation obtained privately and which was not acceptable for hiring by WD.

DISTRIBUTION

AHQ MELBOURNE	(6)
C-in-C FARELF	(1)
GOC 17 GUR DIV	(1)
WAR DIARY	(2)
FILE	(1)
SPARE	(1)

 Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

JUL 58

UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and Year: JUN 58: Commander: Col E.G. McNAMARA ED.

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION
SINGAPORE	9 - 11 Jun 58	AQMG visited TAIPING, KUALA KANGSAR, IPOH, liaison duties.
	11 - 19 Jun 58	Maj E.L. DEANE (DADDS) visited HQ Aust Army Force, PENANG, BUTTERWORTH, TAIPING, KUALA KANGSAR & IPOH.
	11 - 21 Jun 58	DGMS visited HQ Aust Army Force, KUALA LUMPUR, PENANG, TAIPING - accompanied by Comd.
	16 - 19 Jun 58	DADSR visited IPOH - Unit Trials - 11 Indep Fd Sqn RE.
	25 - 30 Jun 58	Lt Col DUNSTAN (AHQ) visited HQ Aust Army Force FARELF. Trg Centre.
	26 - 27 Jun 58	DAAG visited PENANG.
	28 Jun 58	DMI visited HQ Aust Army Force.

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 AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In reply Please
 Quote - 35/1/3

HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
 SINGAPORE

3 Jul 58

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT NO 6/58

1. This report covers the month of Jun 58.

STATE OF THE FORCE

2. The state of the force at 30 Jun 58 was:

	Offrs	ORs	Total
Establishment	112	1159	1271
Strength	108	1152	1260

These figures are subject to the following comments:

- (a) Wrls Tp (Aust) is under implemented at present by 14 other ranks. The establishment total shown above includes the Wrls Tp (Aust) at its full authorization and not the under implemented figure.
- (b) The above figures do not include One Salvation Army and three Red Cross representatives.

EMPLOYMENT

3. The duties on which the force has been employed during Jun 58 have been:

3 RAR	}	Operations in the secondary role, and training.
100A Fd Bty		
2 Tp RAE		Road construction at LASAH, PERAK.
other Units		Normal duties in the FARELF organization, including the Emergency

MORALE

4. The morale of the force has not shown any change.

HEALTH

5. The greatest improvement was reflected in the figures for diarrhoea. VD however, continues at a high level.

VISIT OF DGMS

6. Maj-Gen W D REFSHAUGE, DGMS Army Headquarters, MELBOURNE, visited Aust Army Force from 11 to 19 Jun 58 inclusive. During his tour of SINGAPORE and MALAYA, he visited all medical units and installations which deal with Australian patients. He also visited all Australian units in the field.

7. Full discussions were held on the subject of VD with the Force and unit commanders, with medical authorities at various levels and with the staff at GHQ. Decisions by Army Headquarters, MELBOURNE, on the introduction of additional measures to combat this problem are awaited. In the meantime, all positive action possible within existing policy will continue to be taken by commanders at all levels.

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- 2 -

8. Valuable assistance and advice was given by DGMS to Maj F A LILIER RAAMC in setting up his organisation for the medical care of families on PENANG.

LIAISON LETTERS

9. With a view to increasing the flow of information between GHQ FARELF and Army Headquarters, MELBOURNE the issue of a bi-monthly liaison letter by HQ Aust Army Force FARELF has been introduced. This frequency will be reviewed in the light of experience to see whether it fulfils the requirement.

100 1197 1130


Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

11;

DISTRIBUTION

AHQ MELBOURNE	(6)
C-in-C FARELF	(1)
GOC 17 GUR DIV	(1)
WAR DIARY	(2)
FILE	(1)
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AUG 58

UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and Year: JUL 58: Commander: Col E.G. McNAMARA, ED.

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION
SINGAPORE	1-7 Jul 58	Lt/Col DUNSTAN returned from 3 RAR and continued visit FARELF Trg Centre.
	2 Jul 58	Legal Offr visited PENANG.
	7-11 Jul 58	Edn Offr visited, TAIPING, KUALA KANGSAR - Edn duties.
	8-9 Jul 58	SC'A' visited TAIPING - Routine duties.
	10-11 Jul 58	Comd visited PENANG - Aust Units and installations.
	24-25 Jul 58	Paymaster visited PENANG/BUTTERWORTH Pay duties.
	28-29 Jul 58	DADSR visited IPOH - Angledozer trials 11 Indep Fd Sqn RE.
	28-31 Jul 58	DAQMG visited TAIPING, KUALA KANGSAR - liaison duties.
	31 Jul	AQMG visited PENANG.

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AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In Reply Please Quote: 35/1/3

HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
SINGAPORE

/ Aug 58

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT NO 7/58

1. This report covers the month of Jul 58.

STATE OF THE FORCE

2. The state of the force at 31 Jul 58 was:

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>ORs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	112	1159	1271
Strength	109	1153	1262

These figures are subject to the following comments:

- (a) Wrls Tp (Aust) is under implemented at present by 14 other ranks. The establishment total shown above includes the Wrls Tp (Aust) at its full authorization and not the under implemented figure.
- (b) The above figures do not include One Salvation Army and three Red Cross representatives.

EMPLOYMENT

3. The duties on which the force has been employed during Jul 58 have been:

- 3 RAR) Operations in the secondary role,
100A Fd Bty) and training.
- 2 Tp RAE Road construction at LASAH, PERAK.
- Other Units Normal duties in the FARELF organization, including the Emergency.

MORALE

4. The morale of the force has not shown any change.

HEALTH

5. The figures for VD showed a significant fall, the lowest since May 57. It is hoped that this trend continues.

OPERATIONS

6. 3 RAR had their biggest success on operations to date when on 27 Jul a three man night ambush opened fire on four CTs, killing three and wounding one. The wounded CT escaped.

7. On 28 Jul, a further two CTs were taken by the battalion but a decision has not yet been made as to whether they surrendered or were captured. Until the decision has been made this particular item is not for general publication.

MALACCA CANTONMENT

8. GHQ have reacted strongly to the result of the Treasury conference held in MELBOURNE from 9 to 11 Jul 58. Their main concern is the delay which could occur if replanning becomes necessary at this late stage because of a desire to alter standards of accommodation etc. The delay could be anything from six to eighteen months.

9. Such a delay could throw out of gear the whole programme of redeployment as agreed with the Federation Government. It would also complicate our own arrangements for terminating leases on our many hirings in PENANG as now planned for late 1960.

10. GHQ have sent their views to War Office and are pressing strongly for further conference to be held, this time in SINGAPORE.

ANNIVERSARY OF MERDEKA - MALAYA

11. Arrangements have been made between GHQ, this HQ, the Federation Government and the respective High Commissioners in MALAYA, for UK, Australian and NEW ZEALAND troops to participate in parades to celebrate the first anniversary of the Independence of MALAYA on 31 Aug 58.

12. Participation in the main parade at KUALA LUMPUR will be as follows:-

UK Army	-	30 all ranks
Aust Army	-	30 all ranks
NZ Army	-	30 all ranks
RAF	-	30 all ranks

13. Where local parades are held by state authorities, participation by Commonwealth troops will be at the discretion of local commanders and subject to operational requirements.

MARRIED ACCOMMODATION

14. A block of 20 flats and 24 more houses have been taken over in PENANG as WD hirings. These have been used to re-house families who were formerly living in privately obtained accommodation.

Shekhar Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

DISTRIBUTION:

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SEP 58

UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and Year: AUG 58: Commander: Col E.G. McNAMARA ED.

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION
SINGAPORE	20 Aug - 23 Aug 58	Archbishop of BRISBANE visited HQ Aust Army Force, PENANG, BUTTERWORTH, TAIPING & KUALA KANGSAR.
	17 Aug - 5 Sep 58	Lt Col J.S. MACARTHUR Deputy Director of Signals visited HQ Aust Army Force and units in MALAYA.
	21 Aug - 3 Sep 58	DAD Haring and his successor visited PENANG, TAIPING, IPOH and KUALA LUMPUR.
	25 Aug - 29 Aug 58	AQMG & Paymaster visited SEREMBAN, KUALA LUMPUR, IPOH, KUALA KANGSAR, CAMERON HIGHLANDS, TAIPING, PENANG, Liaison Duties.
	26 Aug - 5 Sep 58	Lt Col R.G. LAWRENCE CO designate of 101 Wrls Regt visited HQ Aust Army Force and Wrls Tp Type F.
	28 Aug 58	Comd visited Aust High Commissioner at KUALA LUMPUR.

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AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
SINGAPORE

In Reply Please
Quote - 35/1/3

/ Sep 58

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT NO 8/58

1. This report covers the month of Aug 58.

STATE OF THE FORCE

2. The state of the force at 31 Aug 58 was:

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>ORs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	118	1169	1287
Strength	115	1161	1276

These figures are subject to the following comments:

- (a) Wrls Tp (Aust) is under implemented at present by 14 other ranks. The establishment total shown above includes the Wrls Tp (Aust) at its full authorization and not the under implemented figure.
- (b) The above figures do not include One Salvation Army and three Red Cross representatives.

EMPLOYMENT

3. The duties on which the force has been employed during Aug 58 have been:

3 RAR 100A Fd Bty	}	Operations in the secondary role, and training.
2 Tp RAE		Road construction at LASAH, PERAK.
Other Units		Normal duties in the FARELF organization, including the Emergency.

MORALE

4. The morale of the force has not shown any change.

HEALTH

5. The downward trend in VD figures as mentioned in Report No 7/58 did not continue. Latest figures show a return to the general average rate.

6. Figures for skin diseases show a marked reduction but this is thought to be due to seasonal conditions.

VISIT OF ARCHBISHOP OF BRISBANE

7. The Very Reverend R C HALSE, DD, Archbishop of BRISBANE visited Aust Army Force, FARELF from 20 to 24 Aug 58. The visit was made during his return to AUSTRALIA from the Lambeth Conference in LONDON.

8. The Archbishop visited units in SINGAPORE and PENANG, HQ 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp, 3 RAR, 100(A) Fd Bty, 2 Fd Engr Tp and BMH TAIPING. He also visited RAAF BUTTERWORTH.

CONFIDENTIAL

1 Sep 58

CHANGE OF COMMAND, 28 COMWEL INDEP INF BDE GP

9. On 31 Jul 58, Brig H J MOGG, DSO, assumed command of 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp vice Brig P N M MOORE, DSO, MC.

1. This report covers the month of Aug 58.

STATE OF THE FORCE

2. The state of the force at 31 Aug 58 was:

Total	ORA	Other
1287	1189	118
1278	1181	115

[Signature]
Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

The figures are subject to the following comments:

(a) WIA Tp (Aust) is under implementation at present

by all other ranks. The establishment total

above includes the WIA Tp (Aust) at 1

authorisation and not the under implemented

DISTRIBUTION

- AHQ MELBOURNE (6)
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(b) The above figures do not include

and three Red Cross representatives.

EMPLOYMENT

3. The duties on which the force has been employed during

Aug 58 have been:

5 RAR, 3 RAR, 100A RQ Bty, 2 Tp RAB

Road construction at LABAK, LABAK.

Other units

Normal duties in the FARELF organisation,

including the emergency.

MOBILITY

4. The morale of the force has not shown any change.

HEALTH

5. The downward trend in health as mentioned in Reports

no 758 did not continue. No 758 show a return to the

general average rate.

6. Figures for skin diseases show a marked reduction but this

is thought to be due to seasonal conditions.

VISIT OF ARCHBISHOP OF BRISBANE

7. The Very Reverend R. G. CASE, DD, Archbishop of Brisbane

visited Aust Army Force, FARELF from 20 to 24 Aug 58. The visit

was made during his return to Australia from the Lambeth Conference

in London.

8. The Archbishop visited units in SINGAPORE and PENANG.

He 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp, 3 RAR, 100(A) RQ Bty, 2 Tp RAB and

and HM TAIPING. He also visited RAAF BUTTERWORTH.

OCT 58

UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and Year: SEP 58: Commander: Col E.G. McNAMARA ED.

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION
SINGAPORE	1 Sep - 4 Sep 58	Legal Offr visited TAIPING.
	3 Sep - 5 Sep 58	Comd visited TAIPING & KUALA KANGSAR.
	8 Sep - 10 Sep 58	DAD Hirings visited PENANG.
	10 Sep - 14 Sep 58	Mr A.G. BROWN, CBE, MC, the Red Cross Commissioner visited HQ Aust Army Force, PENANG, BUTTERWORTH, TAIPING, KUALA KANGSAR, CAMERON HIGHLANDS & IPOH.
	15 Sep - 19 Sep 58	DAAG visited SEREMBAN, TAIPING, KUALA KANGSAR, BUTTERWORTH, PENANG Liaison Duties.
	30 Sep 58 - 1 Oct 58	AQMG visited PENANG - Q Duties.

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AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
SINGAPORE

In Reply Please
Quote - 35/1/3

1 Oct 58

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT NO 9/58

1. This report covers the month of Sep 58.

STATE OF THE FORCE

2. The state of the force at 30 Sep 58 was:

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>ORs</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	116	1170	1286
Strength	110	1161	1271

These figures are subject to the following comments:

- (a) Wrls Tp (Aust) is under implemented at present by 14 other ranks. The establishment total shown above includes the Wrls Tp (Aust) at its full authorization and not the under implemented figure.
- (b) The above figures do not include One Salvation Army and three Red Cross representatives.

EMPLOYMENT

3. The duties on which the force has been employed during Aug 58 have been:

3 RAR) 100A Fd Bty)	Operations in the secondary role, and training.
2 Tp RAE	Demolition of obsolete coast defences PENANG, and training
Other Units	Normal duties in the FARELF organization, including the Emergency.

MORALE

4. The morale of the force has not shown any change.

HEALTH

5. The figures for VD show no marked change. The improvement in skin disease figures continues.

OPERATIONS

6. With reference to Report No 7/58, the wounded CT referred to in para 6 was subsequently captured. Confirmation has been received that the two CTs referred to in para 7 were captured.

CONFIDENTIAL

MEDICAL CARE OF FAMILIES

7. The appointment of Maj F A LILIER, RAAMC, to the Force for the medical care of Australian families in PENANG has been fully justified. His organization including Australian nursing sisters, regular visits by specialists from BMH TAIPING and supplemented by assistance and facilities from RAAF, is now providing effective treatment for the large number of families on the island. Adequate treatment is given either in the surgery or at home thus reducing to a minimum the need for wives and children to travel some 80 miles to the nearest military hospital.

HIGHER DUTIES ALLOWANCE FOR INTEGRATED OFFICERS

8. Consequent upon the receipt of applications for the payment of higher duties allowance received from certain Australian officers serving in integrated appointments in FARELF, a submission was made to GHQ that the United Kingdom should accept responsibility for the payment.

9. The matter was referred to War Office who have now given their agreement and arrangements are being made for the payment of the claims.

10. Details of the arrangements are being notified to AHQ separately.

(SGD)

Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

DISTRIBUTION

AHQ MELBOURNE	(6)
C-in-C FARELF	(1)
GOC 17 GUR DIV	(1)
WAR DIARY	(2)
FILE	(1)
SPARE	(1)

NOV 58

UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and Year: OCT 58: Commander: Col E.G. McNAMARA ED.

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION
SINGAPORE	5 Oct - 11 Oct 58	SC "Q" visited IPOH, KUALA KANGSAR, PENANG - Stocktake discrepancies.
	12 Oct - 25 Oct 58	Col N A M NICHOLLS visited HQ Aust Army Force, MALACCA, KUALA LUMPUR, IPOH, TAIPING, BUTTERWORTH, PENANG & KUALA KANGSAR.
	14 Oct - 15 Oct 58	Lt Col WHITE CO 3 RAR and Maj SEDDON OC 100(A) Fd Bty visited HQ Aust Army Force for conference with Comd.
	17 Oct - 31 Oct 58	Comd visited AHQ MELBOURNE for Adm Symposium.
	23 Oct - 30 Oct 58	Chap-Gen DAWS & BEGBIE visited HQ Aust Army Force, PENANG, BUTTERWORTH, TAIPING & KUALA KANGSAR.
	23 Oct - 24 Oct 58	DADSR visited PENANG - Angle dozer trials 11 Indep Fd Sqn

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In Reply Please Quote: 35/1/3

HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
SINGAPORE

5 Nov 58

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT NO 10/58

1. This report covers the month of Oct 58.

STATE OF THE FORCE

2. The state of the Force at 31 Oct 58 was:

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>OR</u>
Estb	116	1170
Posted Strength	113	1156

3. The figures in para 2 do not include one Salvation Army and three Red Cross representatives.

EMPLOYMENT

4. All units have been employed on operations in the secondary role and training.

MORALE

5. The morale of the Force has not shown any change.

HEALTH

6. The VD figures for Oct will not be available for some weeks but it is not expected that they will differ greatly from the previous figures.

VISIT OF DMO

7. Col N.A.M. NICHOLLS visited Aust Army Force from 12 Oct to 25 Oct prior to attending the C-in-C's Exercise at HONG KONG.

8. During his tour he visited the more important Service installations in SINGAPORE and all the Australian units in MALAYA.

9. Discussions on the problems of operating light aircraft in the tropics were held at GHQ. Col NICHOLLS also visited HQ 656 Light Aircraft Squadron at KUALA LUMPUR.

GENERAL

10. All other matters of general interest were discussed by Comd Aust Army Force during his recent visit to MELBOURNE.

R. G. ...
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

DISTRIBUTION:
AHQ MELBOURNE (6)
C-in-C FARELF (1)
GOC 17 GUR DIV (1)
WAR DIARY (2)
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CONFIDENTIAL

DEC 58

UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month and Year: NOV 58: Commander: Col E.G. McNAMARA, ED.

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION
SINGAPORE	1-6 Nov 58	Gen DAWS returned to SINGAPORE.
	1-7 Nov 58	Gen BEGBIE returned to SINGAPORE.
	3-11 Nov 58	Lt Gen GARRETT CB, CBE, and Comd (CGS) HQ Aust Army Force visited PENANG, BUTTERWORTH, TAIPING and MALACCA.
	4-7 Nov 58	E in C visited HQ Aust Army Force, TAIPING, BUTTERWORTH.
	8-10 Nov 58	Brig JACKSON DST visited HQ Aust Army Force.
	10-26 Nov 58	5 CMF Offrs arrived for SINGAPORE for trg and att to units.
	17-18 Nov 58	DAAG visited PENANG - Liaison duties.
	20-25 Nov 58	SC"A" visited PENANG, KUALA KANGSAR, TAIPING, BUTTERWORTH, conducted Tour with CMF Offrs.

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AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In Reply Please Quote - 35/1/3

HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
SINGAPORE

/ Dec 58

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT NO 11/58

1. The report covers the month of Nov 58.

STATE OF FORCE

2. The state of the Force as at 30 Nov 58 was -

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	116	1170	1286
Posted strength	112	1184	1266

3. The above figures do not include one Salvation Army and three Red Cross representatives.

EMPLOYMENT

4. The duties on which the force was employed during Nov 58 were -

3 RAR 100A Fd Bty	}	Operations in the secondary role, and training.
2 Tp RAE		
Other units		Training and road construction in LASAH area.
		Normal duties in FARELF including the emergency.

MORALE

5. The morale of the force is considered to be of a high degree.

HEALTH

6. The health figures have not shown any significant change.

7. Capt W J WATSON, RMO, 1 RAR arrived in SINGAPORE on 25 Nov 58 for a 12 weeks attachment to appropriate medical installations and to 3 RAR. This will provide valuable experience of health conditions and problems in this theatre which should provide a good basis for a health education programme for 1 RAR and other elements involved in the relief of the force in Oct 59.

VISIT OF CGS

8. Lt Gen A R GARRETT, CE, CIE, CGS, visited Aust Army Force, FARELF from 3 to 11 Nov 58. During the period, he visited every Australian unit, Australian components of integrated units and met the various Australian officers and other ranks serving with British headquarters and units. He also met a number of Australian wives.

9. General GARRETT also visited BUKIT TERENDAK, the site for the MALACCA Cantonment and was shown the progress of construction to date.

2/.....

VISIT OF CHAPLAINS GENERAL

10. Chap Gen The Reverend A E S BEGBIE and Chap Gen The Reverend C K DAWS visited Aust Army Force FARELF from 23 Oct to 7 Nov 58. They visited all Australian units, integrated units and centres where Australian troops are located or where Australian families reside.

VISIT OF E in C

11. Brig S J BLEECHMORE visited Aust Army Force FARELF from 4 to 7 Nov 58 on his way to UK to attend the UK E in Cs conference and exercise. He visited BUKIT TERENDAK, Engr Trg Centre, 11 Indep Fd Sqn (2 Tp RAE), 10 Tn Sqn RE and various engineer base installations in SINGAPORE.

VISIT OF DST

12. Brig D R JACKSON, DSO, DST, visited HQ Aust Army Force, GHQ FARELF and certain RASC installations in SINGAPORE on 8/9 Nov 58, on his way to AUSTRALIA from UK.

VISIT OF CMF OFFICERS

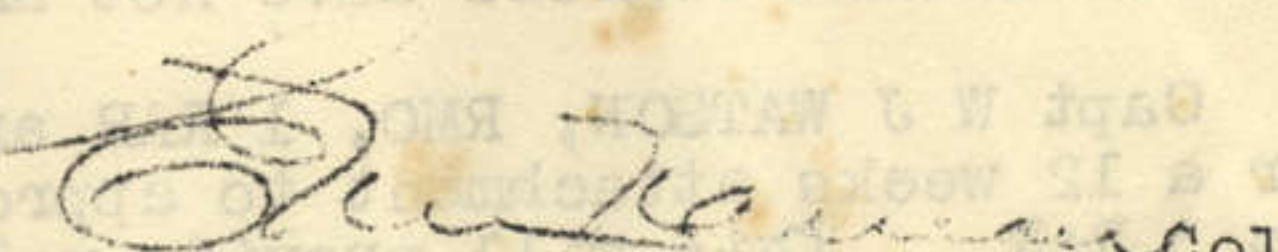
13. A second party of five CMF officers visited Aust Army Force FARELF from 9 to 28 Nov 58. The party comprised one infantry lieutenant colonel, one RAASC lieutenant colonel, one gunner major, one gunner captain and one signals captain.

14. Extensive briefings on the Emergency and operations against the CTs were given at the various HQs which the party visited on its way to 3 RAR. The main aim of the tour was achieved during the period spent at 3 RAR where all members actively participated in the current operations.

15. Initial discussions with the party indicated that the tour was a distinct success and should be repeated in due course. A detailed report is being prepared and will be forwarded to AHQ shortly.

OPERATIONS

16. On 20 Nov 58, 3 RAR Tracker Team led by Lt C H DUCKER followed up some tracks previously sighted by 3 Pl. Contact was made with a CT camp and in the ensuing action three CTs were killed. There were no casualties to our own troops.


Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

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AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

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36/7/5

HQ AUST. ARMY FORCE FARELF
SINGAPORE.

6 Jan 59

Military History Section
Army Headquarters
Victoria Barracks
MELBOURNE

UNIT HISTORY

Reference : MBI 3/55.

... 1. Forwarded herewith are the unit history records
for HQ AUST Army Force for Dec 58.

McConnell Major
Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

Jan 59

UNIT HISTORY

HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

MONTH and YEAR : Dec '58

COMMANDER : Col E.G. McNAMARA ED

<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION</u>
SINGAPORE	4 - 5 Dec 58	Commander to A Fd Bty St BARBARA's Day Celebrations.
	4 - 5 Dec 58	Education Officer, Lt O'DONOGHUE visited HQ AUST Army Force for discussions and visits to BAC Schools.
	14 - 19 Dec 58	DAAG, Maj CARROLL to NORTH BORNEO for recce GHQ Training Area and discussions at Secretariat JESSELTON.
	15 - 19 Dec 58	SC 'Q', Capt McKIMMON to KUALA KANGSAR and BUTTERWORTH for stocktake investigations at 3 RAR and A Fd Bty.
	17 - 18 Dec 58	Legal Officer, Maj EWING to IPOH - Judge advocate on UK DCM.
	29 Dec 58 (for approx 3 weeks)	Cash Office Rep to KUALA KANGSAR coach new UPR at 3 RAR.

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AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In Reply Please Quote: 35/1/3

HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
SINGAPORE

2 Jan 59

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT NO 12/58

1. The report covers the month of Dec 58.

STATE OF FORCE

2. The state of the Force as at 31 Dec 58 was -

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	116	1173	1289
Posted strength	113	1120	1233

3. The above figures do not include one Salvation Army and four Red Cross representatives.

EMPLOYMENT

4. The duties on which the force was employed during Dec 58 were -

3 RAR) Operations in the secondary role, and
"A" Fd Bty) training.
2 Tp RAE Training and road construction in LASAH area.
Other units Normal duties in FARELF including the emergency.

MORALE

5. The morale of the force continues at a high level.

HEALTH


6. The only significant change in health figures has been the drop in the number of cases intestinal diseases. The figure is the lowest since the present force arrived in the theatre. This trend will be watched with interest.

PROVOST

7. The appointment of an Australian officer to fill the vacancy for second in command of 28 COMWEL Indep Inf Bde Gp Pro Unit is most welcome. His arrival will enable the planned redeployment of the HQ of the unit to proceed.

ST BARBARA'S DAY

8. On 4 Dec 58, "A" Fd Bty celebrated the anniversary of St Barbara's Day. St Barbara is the patron Saint of gunners. All ranks took part in an intense day of inter troop sport. Comd Aust Army Force FARELF attended in the afternoon and at the conclusion of the programme presented the St Barbara's Day Shield to the winning troop - "B" Troop. BHQ was second and "A" Troop third.


Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

D I S T R I B U T I O N

AHQ MELBOURNE	(6)	WAR DIARY	(2)
C-in-C FARELF	(1)	FILE	(1)
GOC 17 GUR DIV	(1)	SPARE	(1)

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

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HQ AUST. ARMY FORCE FARELF
SINGAPORE.


3 Feb 59

Military History Section
Army Headquarters
Victoria Barracks
MELBOURNE

UNIT HISTORY

Reference:- MBI 3/55

... 1. Forwarded herewith is the unit history record for
Jan 59.


Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

UNIT HISTORY

HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month Year : Jan 59

Commander: Col E.G. McNAMARA ED

Place	Date	Summary of Events and Information
<u>SINGAPORE</u>	6 - 7 Jan 59	(i) Commander to IPOH for discussions with 28 Bde Commander.
		(ii) Visit 3 RAR.
		(iii) Visit AUST High Commissioner in KUALA LUMPUR.
	6 - 7 Jan 59	Legal Officer, Maj EWING to BUTTERWORTH for AUSTRALIAN Court Martial.
	9 - 16 Jan 59	AUST Records Detachment Liaison Visit to all AUST units : S/Sgt GARDINER made the visit.
	15 - 17 Jan 59	Legal Officer, Maj EWING to TAIPING for NZ Court Martial.
	19 - 23 Jan 59	DAAG, Maj CARROLL to TAIPING, KUALA KANGSAR, BUTTERWORTH and PENANG - liaison visit.
29 - 30 Jan 59	AQMG, Lt-Col WATCH to PENANG - conference visit hostel and club.	

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AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In Reply Please Quote: 35/1/3

HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
SINGAPORE

/ Feb 59

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT NO 1/59

1. The report covers the month of Jan 59.

STATE OF FORCE

2. The state of the Force as at 31 Jan 59 was -

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	115	1175	1290
Posted strength	114	1100	1214

3. The above figures do not include one Salvation Army and four Red Cross representatives.

EMPLOYMENT

4. The duties on which the force was employed during Jan 59 were -

- 3 RAR) Operations in the secondary role, and
- "A" Fd Bty) training.
- 2 Tp RAE Training and bridge construction at SELAMA (N.W. PERAK)
- Other units Normal duties in FARELF including the emergency.

MORALE

5. The morale of the force has not shown any change.

HEALTH

6. The downward trend in the number of cases of intestinal diseases continues. Figures for VD show a light decrease. In other diseases there has been no significant change.

7. A concerted effort is being made throughout 17 Gurkha Div/OCLF to provide more recreational and other facilities with the aim of having the troops spend more of their leisure time in camps.

8. A further measure being introduced in UK units is the return to UK for discharge of any soldier who contracts VD three times. Australian policy was never relaxed in this regard and a number of soldiers have already been sent back to AUSTRALIA for discharge.

9. No decision has yet been reached on the re-introduction of PACs.

2/.....

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- 2 -

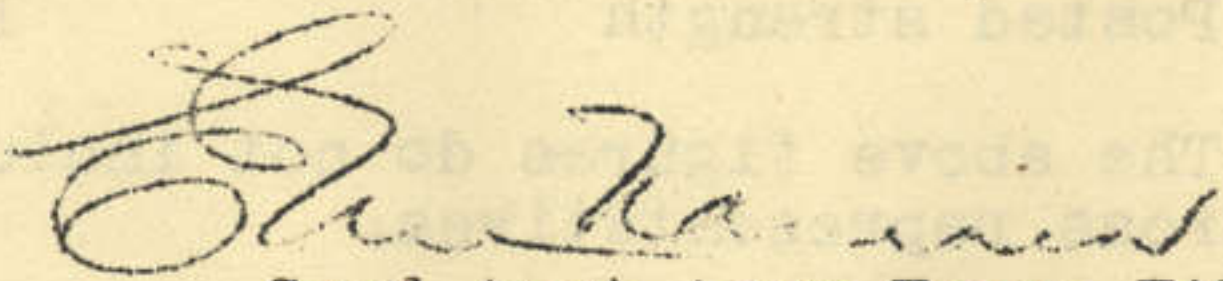
RELIEF OF FORCE

10. Detailed planning for the relief of Aust Army Force FARELF in Oct/Nov 59 is proceeding and forecasts of personnel requirements are being compiled for submission to AHQ.

GENERAL SERVICE MEDAL (MALAYA)

11. GHQ FARELF have received advice from War Office that as from 31 Jan 59, service in the Colony of SINGAPORE will no longer count for the award of the General Service Medal. This Order has received the Royal Assent.

12. Advice from AHQ on the matter is awaited.


Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

DISTRIBUTION:

AHQ MELBOURNE	(6)
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AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

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HQ AUST. ARMY FORCE FARELF
SINGAPORE.

10 Jun 59

Military History Section
Army Headquarters,
Victoria Barracks,
MELBOURNE

UNIT HISTORY

Reference : MBI 3/55

- ... 1. Forwarded herewith are the unit history records
for Feb, Mar, Apr and May 59.



for Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

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UNIT HISTORY

HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month Year : Feb 59

Commander : Col E.G. McNAMARA ED

<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION</u>
<u>SINGAPORE</u>	16 - 21 Feb 59	DAQMG, Maj BRUMFIELD to Taiping, Kuala Kangsar, Butterworth and Penang, for Liaison visit.
	20 - 26 Feb 59	Commissioner Brown Australian Red Cross visited units and components of the Force in Singapore and Malaya and conferred with DMS GHQ FARELF and Red Cross Representatives.
	19 - 28 Feb 59	Brig LEONARD Australian Army Canteens Services visited Singapore and Malaya for discussions with NAAFI.
	26 Feb 59	Capt WATSON RMO 1 RAR completed attachment to Force and returned to Australia.

UNIT HISTORY

HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month Year : Mar 59

Commander : Col E.G. McNAMARA ED

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION
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SINGAPORE

2 - 11 Mar 59

Aust Records Detachment Liaison visit to all units and components Malaya. WOI Clayton made visit.

23 - 26 Mar 59

Commander visited Penang, Butterworth, Taiping, Kuala Kangsar and Ipoh areas.

23 - 29 Mar 59

Capt McKIMMON Staff Capt 'Q' visited units and components in Malaya.

UNIT HISTORY

HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month Year : Apr 59

Commander : Col E.G. McNAMARA ED

<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION</u>
<u>SINGAPORE</u>		
	13 - 17 Apr 59	Maj EWING Legal Offr visited Taiping and Butterworth on Court Martial Duties.
	13 - 18 Apr 59	Maj EATHER Paymaster Elect visited all units and components in Malaya. He was accompanied by retiring Paymaster Maj LEWIS.
	20 Apr 59	Brig LOGAN, DQMG, arrived to begin a visit to all units and for discussions on MALACCA cantonment.
	20 - 29 Apr 59	Aust Records Detachment Liaison visit to all units and components - S/Sgt GARDINER made visit.
	28 Apr 59	Maj A.M. SALTER Retiring GS0III commenced liaison visit to all units and components.

UNIT HISTORY

HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month Year : May 59

Commander : Col E.G. McNAMARA ED

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION
<u>SINGAPORE</u>	3 May 59	Maj SALTER, retiring GSOIII returned from Liaison visit.
	4 May 59	Brig LOGAN departed for Australia after concluding visit and discussions.
	4 May 59	Capt STEWART arrived to assume duties of Staff Capt 'A'.
	7 - 14 May 59	Maj EWING Legal Offr to Taiping for Court Martial duties.
	12 May 59	Maj SALTER departed for Australia. - Capt BURNS relinquished Staff Capt 'A' and assumed GSOIII. - Capt STEWART assumed Staff Capt 'A'. - Maj EATHER assumed Paymaster. Maj LEWIS departed for Australia.
	23 - 29 May 59	Col ROSEBLADE, D Sigs accompanied by Major CARROLL visited all Australian Signal installations in Singapore and Malaya.
	21 May 59	Legal Offr Major EWING commences Liaison and Court Martial duties Kuala Lumpur, Taiping and Penang areas.
	30 May 59	Minister for the Army, The Hon J.O. CRAMER arrived in SINGAPORE to commence his visit to Aust Army Force FARELF. He is accompanied by Mrs CRAMER and his Private Secretary.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In Reply Please Quote: 36/7/5

HQ AUST. ARMY FORCE FARELF
SINGAPORE.

17 Jul 59

Military History Section,
Army Headquarters,
Victoria Barracks,
MELBOURNE

UNIT HISTORY

... 1. Forwarded herewith is the unit history for Jun 59.

Richard Major
Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

216

UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month Year: Jun 59

Commander: Col E.G. McNAMARA ED.

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION
SINGAPORE	1 - 2 Jun	Minister for the Army, The Hon J.O. CRAMER MP visited HQ Aust Army Force, married quarters SERANGOON and made calls on UK service chiefs.
	1 - 4 Jun	Maj EWING Legal Officer to TAIPING for Court Martial duties.
	2 - 10 Jun	Minister for the Army visited MALACCA, SEREMBAN, KUALA LUMPUR, TAIPING, KUALA KANGSAR, BUTTERWORTH, PENANG. Accompanied by Mrs CRAMER and Comd Aust Army Force (Col E.G. McNAMARA ED).
	5 - 12 Jun	Aust Records Detachment liaison visit to all units and components. Visit made by WO1 CLAYTON.
	11 - 12 Jun	Minister for the Army and Mrs CRAMER in SINGAPORE. Departed for BANGKOK on morning 12 Jun.
	12 - 13 Jun	Brig T CAPE DSO MBE (DMGO) arrived 12 Jun. Visited Ordnance installations on SINGAPORE.
	14 - 22 Jun	(a) Brig CAPE visited SEREMBAN, KUALA LUMPUR, TAIPING, KUALA KANGSAR, PENANG. (b) Departed PENANG by train for BANGKOK 22 Jun.
	16 - 17 Jun	Maj R.D. CARROLL (DAAG) and Maj W.M. AIRD (DADSR) conducted liaison visit to PENANG.
	16 - 19 Jun	Maj EWING, Legal Officer to TAIPING for Court Martial duties.
	22 Jun	Col F.G. HASSETT DSO MVO OBE (Mil Sec) arrived SINGAPORE.
	23 - 24 Jun	Military Secretary interviewed Australian Officers in SINGAPORE.
	25 Jun	Military Secretary departed SINGAPORE to tour units in MALAYA and interview Australian Officers. Accompanied by Maj I.R.W. BRUMFIELD (DAQMG).
	26 Jun	Mr S.M. PHINGSTHORNE (Senior Finance Officer, Dept of Treasury, Defence Division) arrived SINGAPORE to investigate local allowances.
	27 - 30 Jun	Mr PHINGSTHORNE conducting investigation in SINGAPORE; interviewed members and families.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

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3677/5


HQ AUST. ARMY FORCE FARELF
SINGAPORE.

9 Oct 59

Military History Section
Army Headquarters
Victoria Barracks
MELBOURNE

UNIT HISTORY

- ... 1. Forwarded herewith is the unit history for the months of Jul, Aug and Sep 59.

 Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

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UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month Year: Jul 59

Commander: Col E.G. McNAMARA, ED.

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION
SINGAPORE	2 Jul	Col F.G. HASSETT DSO MVO OBE (Mil Sec) returned to SINGAPORE after interviewing officers in MALAYA. He was accompanied by Maj I.R.W. BRUMFIELD during tour.
	4 Jul	Col F.G. HASSETT departed for AUSTRALIA
	6-13 Jul	Lt Col J.R. WATCH (AQMG) and Lt Col A.O. BALDWIN MC (AQMG designate) carried out liaison and handover tour. Visited PENANG, SEREMBAN, MALACCA, TAIPING, IPOH, KUALA KANGSAR, BUTTERWORTH and KUALA LUMPUR.
	7-16 Jul	Mr S.M. PHINGSTHORNE (Senior Finance Officer, Dept of Treasury, Defence Division) visited units and married quarters in MALAYA to interview members and families. He was accompanied by Maj W.M. AIRD (DADSR).
	9-10 Jul	Maj EWING (Legal Officer) to TAIPING for Court Martial duties.
	14 Jul	Lt Col A.O. BALDWIN MC assumed appointment as AQMG.
	15-16 Jul	Col E.G. McNAMARA, ED (Comd) visited units in MALAYA.
	15-29 Jul	Maj EWING (Legal Officer) to AUSTRALIA as courier for Dept of External Affairs. Whilst in AUSTRALIA carried out liaison duties.
	17 Jul	Lt Col R.G. LAWRENCE OBE (CO 101 Wrls Regt) arrived to visit Wrls Tp Type F.
	21 Jul	Mr PHINGSTHORNE departed for AUSTRALIA.
	24 Jul	Lt Col A.G. JACK ED (D Mov AHQ) arrived for discussions and liaison in connection with the Relief of the Force.
	27-30 Jul	Lt Col A.G. JACK ED accompanied by Lt Col A.O. BALDWIN MC (AQMG) visited units in MALAYA and shipping agents in PENANG.
	27 Jul	Col D McDONALD (D Svy designate) arrived en route to UK - departed 2 Aug
	28 Jul - 7 Aug	Aust Records Det liaison visit to all units and components. Visit made by S/Sgt GARDINER.

UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUSTRALIAN ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month Year: Aug 59

Commander: Col E.G. McNAMARA, ED.

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION
SINGAPORE	1 Aug	Lt Col J.R. WATCH departed for AUSTRALIA.
	4 Aug	Lt Col A.G. JACK ED departed for AUSTRALIA.
	4 Aug	Capt C.A. GOYNE (Adm Offr designate) arrived from AUSTRALIA.
	8 Aug	Lt Col R.G. LAWRENCE returned to AUSTRALIA on completion of visit to Wrls Tp Type F.
	17 Aug	Capt GOYNE assumed duties as Adm Offr.
	19-21 Aug	Capt J.M. STEWART (SC 'A') visited units in MALAYA.
	23-25 Aug	Capt J.R. McKIMMON (SC 'Q') on liaison visit to units in MALAYA.
	25 Aug	Maj B.E.D. ROBERTSON MC (Ex Adm Offr) departed for AUSTRALIA.
	31 Aug	Col R.A. HAY MBE (DAP AHQ) arrived.

UNIT HISTORY
HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF

Month Year: Sep 59

Commander: Col E.G. McNAMARA, ED.

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND INFORMATION
SINGAPORE	1 Sep	Advance parties from 1 RAR and 101 Fd Bty arrived in SINGAPORE en route for MALAYA.
	2 Sep	Col R.A. HAY MBE (DAP AHQ) returned to AUSTRALIA.
	3-4 Sep	Maj W.M. AIRD (DADSR) visited BUTTERWORTH to observe angle dozer trials conducted by 11 Indep Fd Sqn.
	3-5 Sep	Maj M.J. EWING (Legal Officer) visited TAIPING on Court Martial duties.
	10 Sep	Col E.G. McNAMARA ED (Comd) visited units on PENANG.
	14 Sep	Maj P.J. NORTON (OC 101 Fd Bty) arrived en route to MALAYA.
	15-20 Sep	Vice Admiral Sir ROY DOWLING KBE CB DSO (Chairman of Chief of Staff Committee) visited units in MALAYA prior to departure on 20 Sep.
	18 Sep	Lt Col W.J. MORROW OBE (CO 1 RAR) arrived en route to MALAYA.
	18-26 Sep	Liaison visit to all units and components by S/Sgt GARDINER of Aust Records Det.
	19-23 Sep	Dr J.L. FARRANDS (Scientific Adviser to the Military Board) visited GHQ FARELF (incl HQ Aust Army Force) and units whilst en route to UK.
	21-23 Sep	Maj R.D. CARROLL (DAAG) and Maj I.R.W. BRUMFIELD (DAQMG) visited units in PENANG and MALAYA in connection with the Relief of the Force.

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AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In Reply Please Quote: 35/1/3

HQ AUST Army Force FARELF
SINGAPORE

/ Aug 59

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT NO 7/59

1. The report covers the month of Jul 59.

STATE OF FORCE

2. The state of the Force as at 31 Jul 59 was:-

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	119	1182	1301
Posted Strength	122	1108	1230

3. The above figures do not include one Salvation Army and three Red Cross Representatives.

EMPLOYMENT

4. The duties on which the force was employed during Jun 59 were:-

3 RAR	Operations in the secondary role, and training.
'A' Fd Bty	Major war training.
2 Tp RAE	Road construction in SIK, KEDAH.
Other units	Normal duties in FARELF including the emergency.

MORALE

5. The morale of the Force continues at a high level.

HEALTH

6. There has been no significant change in the health statistics for the Force.

RELIEF OF THE FORCE

7. Planning for the relief of the Force in Sep/Oct 59 is virtually complete. Every officer, other rank and dependent due for return to AUSTRALIA in the relief has been allocated to either aircraft or M.V. 'FLAMINIA'. A total of 1164 persons are involved, comprising 673 members and 491 dependents.

8. With the exception of one WO II in 3 RAR, every officer and other rank has been informed of his posting on return to AUSTRALIA.

9. D. Mov, AHQ has visited Aust Army Force, FARELF and has agreed with the local authorities the various arrangements for the reception and handling of the ship. A final coordinating conference was held with GHQ representatives on 31 Jul 59. GHQ is to issue an executive administrative instruction in the near future.

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT NO. 1159

John Hamner
Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

Distribution :

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- UNIT HISTORY ✓ (2)
- FILE (2)

MOBILE

REPAIR

RELIEF OF THE FORCE

AUSTRALIA

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AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In Reply Please Quote: 35/1/3

HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
SINGAPORE

2 Sep 59

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT NO 8/59

1. The report covers the month of Aug 59.

STATE OF FORCE

2. The state of the Force as at 31 Aug 59 was:-

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	115	1182	1297
Posted Strength	116	1070	1186

3. The above figures do not include one Salvation Army and three Red Cross Representatives.

EMPLOYMENT

4. The duties on which the force was employed during Aug 59 were:-

3 RAR	Operations in the secondary role, and training.
"A" Fd Bty	Major war training.
2 Tp RAE	Road construction in SIK, KEDAH.
Other units	Normal duties in FARELF including the emergency.

MORALE

5. The morale of the Force is considered to be high. The Relief of the Force now in progress is a contributing factor.

HEALTH

6. There is nothing significant to report.

RELIEF OF FORCE.

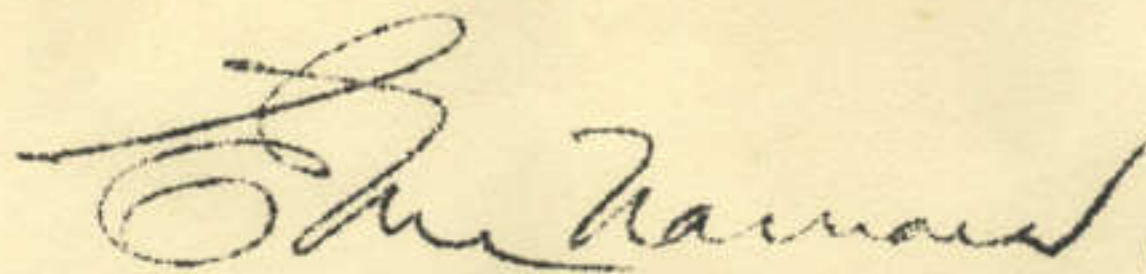
7. The following movement has taken place:-

(a) Returned to AUSTRALIA

33 members
74 dependents

(b) Arrived in MALAYA

9 members
23 dependents


Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

D I S T R I B U T I O N

AHQ MELBOURNE	{6}	UNIT HISTORY	{2}
C-in-C FARELF	{1}	FILE	{2}
GOC 17 GUR DIV	{1}		

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AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In reply please quote: 35/1/3

HQ Aust Army Force FARELF
SINGAPORE.

2 Oct 59

AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF
MONTHLY REPORT NO 9/59

1. The report covers the month of Sep 59.

STATE OF FORCE

2. The state of the Force as at 30 Sep 59 was:-

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>Total</u>
Establishment	115	1181	1296
Posted Strength	131	1065	1196

3. The above figures do not include one Salvation Army and three Red Cross Representatives.

4. The figures do include the following:-

14 Offrs 51 OR - Advance Parties 1 RAR
4 Offrs 5 OR - Advance Party 101 Fd Bty

EMPLOYMENT

5. The duties on which the force was employed during Sep 59 were:-

3 RAR	Operations in the secondary role, and administration.
"A" Fd Bty	} Administration.
2 Tp RAE	
Other Units	Normal duties in FARELF including the emergency.

MORALE

6. The morale of the force continues at a high level.

HEALTH

7. There is nothing significant to report.

RELIEF OF FORCE

8. The following movement has taken place:-

(a) Returned to AUSTRALIA

132 members
175 dependents

2/.....

(b) Arrived in MALAYA

111 members

77 dependents

9. 1 RAR Training Advance Party is undergoing a series of courses at the Jungle Warfare School in MALAYA in preparation for the arrival of the main body of 1 RAR and 1 Fd Tp.

WITHDRAWAL FROM OPERATIONS

10. 3 RAR was withdrawn from operations in the Emergency on 12 Sep 59 to prepare for movement to AUSTRALIA.

PRESENTATION OF SHIELDS TO UNITS PARTICIPATING IN THE EMERGENCY

11. Shields are being presented by the Mentri Besar (State Premier) of PERAK to all Commonwealth units which took part in Operation "GINGER".

12. 3 RAR and "A" Fd Bty received their shields on 28 Sep 59. 11 Indep Fd Sqn RE, in which 2 Fd Tp RAE was integrated, will receive its shield on 5 Oct 59.

Col
Comd Aust Army Force FARELF

CONFIDENTIAL

D I S T R I B U T I O N

AHQ MELBOURNE (6)
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