

**Series: AWM95**  
Australian Army commanders' diaries

Miscellaneous units

**Item number: 17/4/19**

**Item: Australian Observer Unit**

Narrative

[1-30 Apr 1954]



S E C R E T

# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C.2118.  
(Adapted.)

(Erase heading not required.)

Unit Australian Observer Unit  
MALAYA Date and Time.—From 1 April 1954 To 30 April 1954

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SINGAPORE	1 Apr		Capt Mitchell returned by plane from Kuala Lumpur at 1830 hrs.	
	2 Apr		Capt Mitchell attended conference at FARELF	
	3 Apr		Cpl Bettens, L/Cpls Buckton and Jordan returned from Kuala Lumpur by train 0800 hrs.	
			Received signal authorising extension of tour for 14 days (approx) of L/Cpl Jordan.	
	4 Apr		Nil to report	
	5 Apr		Capt Mitchell had an interview iwth Mr. Watt, Australian Commissioner, concerning ANZAC parade on 25 April.	
			Sgt Ziebell arrived from KLUANG for documentation pending RTU Australia on 13 April	
	6 Apr		Received signal that Sigmn Lea and Godley were due to depart for Singapore by RAF Courier, Hastings plane from Mallala on 14 April.	Posting Order U54/54



## WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C.2118.  
(Adapted.)

(Erase heading not required.)

Australian Observer Unit  
 Unit Malaya Date and Time.—From 1 April 54 To 30 April 54

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SINGAPORE	6 Apr	cont:	Advice received from Movement Control Capt Williams would now depart RTU on S.S. GORGON on 14 June instead of 3 June.	
	7 Apr		Nil to report.	
	8 Apr		Pay Day. Detachment paraded after pay and were addressed by Capt Mitchell on general points concerned with discipline, dress, barrack quarters, Anzac Parade and security measures.	
	9 Apr		Capt O'Dowd rang to say that himself and his four NCO's would be present on Anzac Day.	
	10 Apr		Received a signal on 7 Apr giving details of posting of 2/8108 S/Sgt Buchanan L. vice 2/35825 T/WO.II Maddock G. Movement to be arranged as soon as possible.	Posting Order U565/54
	11 Apr		Nil to report.	
	12 Apr		Capt Mitchell attended a conference at GHQ - outcome of which was another liaison visit to the Federation Authorities was	



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Unit Australian Observer Unit  
Malaya Date and Time.—From 1 April 1954 To 30 April 1954

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SINGAPORE	12 Apr	cont:	indicated. This visit will commence on 15 April and probably end on 10 May.	
	13 Apr		Rang F.O. Watson RAAF, Tengah and arranged an interview between him and S/Sgt Antcliff to arrange details of Anzac Dawn Service. 3/2828 Sgt Ziebell I.D. embarked on S.S. GORGON for Fremantle for RTU on completion of his tour of duty "on loan" to British Army.	
	14 Apr		Rang HQ Malaya and arranged accommodation for liaison visit of Capt Mitchell.	
	15 Apr		Capt Mitchell departed by plane 0715 for Kuala Lumpur on liaison visit and special duties. Ring from WO.II Maddock (Kluang) No. " Stn Workshops REME, to say that all Australians at depot would be down for Anzac Parade (25 April).	



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Army Form C.2118.  
(Adapted.)

(Erase heading not required.)

Unit Australian Observer Unit Date and Time.—From 1 April 1954 To 30 April 1954  
Malaya

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SINGAPORE	15 Apr	cont:	3/3147 L/Cpl Jordan C.C. H. R Aust Sigs, emplaned for Australia on QANTAS at Kallang Airport, for RTA on completion of his two year tour of duty with this unit.	
	16 Apr		5/1902 Sigmn Lea P. and 2/5177 Sigmn Godley D.R. both R Aust Sigs, arrived by RAF Courier plane at 1700 hrs at Changi Airfield for posting to this unit on 12 months tour of duty.	
	17-18 Apr		Nil to report.	
	19 Apr		S/Sgt Antcliff began drilling members of unit who will be participating in the guard at Cenotaph on Anzac Day.	
	20 Apr		Sigmn Lea and Godley were photographed for Identity Cards.	
	21 Apr		Chief Clerk (MP2) rang re difference of "on loan" and "attached" personnel.	
			S/Sgt Antcliff met F/Lt Thoms and arranged details for purchasing wreath for Anzac Day.	



## WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118  
(Adapted)

(Erase heading not required)

D.4081/7.45-C.6546

Unit Australian Observer Unit  
Malaya Date and Time.— From 1 April 1954 To 30 April 1954

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SINGAPORE	22 Apr		Obtained bayonet frogs and rifle slings for Anzac Day Parade from Singapore Guard Regiment.	
	23 Apr		S/Sgt Antcliff visited RAAF Tengah to clear up final details of Anzac Parade and pick up clothing items and arrange for rifles.	
	24 Apr		Another training parade - rifle drill.  Capt O'Dowd, Sgts Moon, Davie and Appleton arrived from FTC and WO.II Maddock and Cpl Lish from KLUANG for tomorrow's parade.	
	25 April		Anzac Day - Dawn Parade of this unit held in conjunction with RAAF No.1 Squadron at Cenotaph, Singapore waterfront.	
	26 Apr		WO.II Bradley in hospital (BMH) visited by S/Sgt Antcliff.  Sigm Godley visited RMO with strained hand.	
	27 Apr		Ring from Capt Spencer (Q Movements) re delay in departure of WO.II Maddock - he has been held up pending training of suitable relief and for special operational work now in progress - CREME recommended one month delay in Maddock's departure and hence	



WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118  
(Adapted)

(Erase heading not required)

D.4001/7.45-C.0546

Unit Australian Observer Unit  
Malaya

Date and Time.— From 1 April 1954 To 30 April 1954

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SINGAPORE	27 Apr	cont:	his movement to Australia cancelled.	
			Cpl Bettens visited RMO.— boil in ear.	
	28 Apr		Maldist advise that owing to warning of movement from Australia	
			of S/Sgt Buchanan, extension of time for WO.II Maddock not approved.	
	29 Apr		Signal advising L/Cpl Fisher ETD Mallala, Australia, 29 April.	
	30 Apr		Parcel of magazines and newspapers arrived by QANTAS.	
			WO.II Maddock now to embark 7 July for RTA on SS CHARON.	