

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

Item number: 8/3/20

2/20 Infantry Battalion

January - June 1942

Sub. 58

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C
(adapted)

(Erase heading not required.)

Unit 2/20 Bn AIF.

Date and Time:—From 1 Jan '42.

To 15 Jan '42.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, etc.
Mersing	1-1-42		Normal routine 1900 hrs curfew established Endau area. Pahang placed out of bounds. All Carriers grounded due to steering trouble in new Carriers. Strength 38 Offrs 878 O/rs 4 O/rs to Hospital 4 on strength from 'X' List. 2 transferred to other Units.	
	2-1-42		Normal Routine. Casualties: 3 to Hospital, 3 from 'X' List, 13 from G.B.D., 1 to G.B.D.	
	3-1-42.		Normal Routine. 7 to Hospital, 7 to 'Rose Force', 4 detached.	
	4-1-42.		Normal Routine. Casualties: 9 to Hospital, 1 taken on strength.	
	5-1-42.		Normal Routine. 6 to Hospital, Taken on Strength 1.	
	6-1-42.		Normal Routine. Casualties 8 to Hospital, 4 Taken on Strength.	
	7-1-42.		All Carriers now in commission. 1 to Hospital, Strength 38 Offrs. 856 O/rs.	
	8-1-42.		Normal Routine. New Code names taken into use. 4 to Hospital 4 on Strength	
	9-1-42.		Normal Routine. 7 to Hospital, 26 taken on Strength.	
	10-1-42.		Normal Routine. 9 to Hospital, 3 taken on Strength	
	11-1-42.		Normal Routine. 3 to Hospital, 2 Taken on strength transferred 4.	
	12-1-42.		Normal Routine. Lieut Bavertz and 8 o/rs to Hospital. Taken on strength nil. Missing 2.	
	13-1-42.		Normal routine. to Hospital 6. taken on Strength 1.	
	14-1-42.		Normal Routine. Recce patrol. to Hospital 7 taken on strength 2.	
			Rompin ^{Sighted} 30 Japs wearing steel helmets, Black coats khaki shorts. To Hospital 6 TAKEN ON Strength 2.	
	15-1-42.		Normal Routine. Endau bombed. To Hospital 5, 3 Battle Casualties.	



Sheet 59

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form (adapt)

(Erase heading not required.)

Unit 2/20 Bn A.I.F. Date and Time:—From 15 Jan '42. To 21 Jan '42.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, etc.
	16-1-42.		Strength 37 Offrs 837 O/rs. Reward of \$50.00 for Single Seater, \$100.00 for Double seater plane offered to A/A crews of Bde. Endau reported 30 Japs 8 miles North of Endau. Engaged 2 A/A S.M.G. ordered report to Endau to assist Endau. Detachment. Normal Routine. Capt. Gibbings rejoined, 9 to Hospital. Taken on Strength 34 ex G.B.D. Killed 1. Rumour of landing on coast between EndauPenyabong, not confirmed. Mersing Bombed 0907 hrs Only 1 plane over, 4 bombs dropped.	
	17-1-42.		Normal Routine. Arrangements made to shift Endau force which had been bombed consistently for 3 days. Endau Force withdrew to Bukit Lankap during night. To Hospital 8. Taken on strength 2.	
	18-1-42.		Normal Routine. Use of Pass Word discontinued. Sgt-Pilot Harrison 21 Squadron RAAF found floating down river suffering from slight wounds and exhaustion. 9 to Hospital.	
	19-1-42. 20-1-42 20-1-42.		Normal Routine. Patrols out on North of River. 7 to Hospital. <i>Normal Routine. Many reports of plane north of river during night. 2 shot down 1.</i> 7 Pl. made contact with enemy. Ambushed landing party, killing 10. Enemy forced into minefields which did not explode owing to prolonged immersion. 7 Pl. withdrew to South of River successfully with 2 wounded only. Considerable minor hostile action during day. Increased Air action. At dusk No. 5 section withdrew South of River as position considered to be vulnerable. To Hospital Lieut Wisdom and 7 O/rs. 3 Wounded. Taken on strength 3. Strength 38 Offrs & 829 O/rs.	

Sheet 60

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form
(adapt)

Unit 2/20 Bn A.I.F.

Date and Time:—From 22 Jan '42.

To 28 Jan '42.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, etc.
	22-1-42.		Minor brushes with enemy. Our Artillery used very accurately. Sniping by enemy along river bank and much work appeared to be going on. Killed in action 1. Wounded 4 to Hospital 4. Missing 2. Missing believed Killed 1.	
	23-1-42.		Still minor brushes, patrolling constantly. To Hospital 4. Taken on strength 1.	
	24-1-42.		Still minor brushes, patrolling constantly. To Hospital 4. Rejoined 1.	
	25-1-42.		By day patrol activity Japs seem to concentrate on left flank. Unit evacuated Mersing at night and took up position at Jemaluang crossroads. To hospital 10. Taken on strength 1.	
	26-1-42.		Coys reconnoitering position Jemaluang and strengthening same C Coy which had been detached at Endau and withdrew through Bukit Langkap rejoined Unit. To Hospital Capt Yates and 7 o/rs. Taken on Strength 2.	
	27-1-42.		Driving night 26/27. Firing heard in direction of area held by 2/18 Bn. Later reported 3 Coys 2/18 Bn engaged. 2/18 withdrew through our lines during morning. During afternoon contact made with enemy. Sniping tactics by him only. Much use was made of artillery. During night 27/28 Bn withdrew to harbour 2 1/2 miles north of Kota Tinggi. To Hospital 11 accidentally wounded 1. Taken on strength 7.	
	28-1-42.		Bn. in harbour. Strength 36 Offrs 781 o/rs. Capt Carter and Lieut	



Sheet 61

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form
(adapt)

(Erase heading not required.)

Unit 2/20 BN A.I.F.

Date and Time:—From 28 Jan '42.

To 31 Jan '42.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, etc.
	29-1-42.		<p>O'Keefe. 9 o/rs. <i>evacuated to hospital</i> ^{head} In morning Bn moved to take up Bridge head ^{head} position. 2 miles outside Johore Bah ru. Position was reconstructed ^{reconstructed} and taken up. 3 to Hospital.</p>	
	30-1-42.		<p>Bridge head position fully occupied. To Hospital Lieuts White and Ramsbotham and 7 o/rs. 3 accidentally wounded.</p>	
	31-1-42.		<p>In early morning 0530 Bn withdrew from Bridge Head. Crossed Causeway to Singapore Island and took up position on North West of Island. Recces commenced at once. Lieut B D Richards and 6 o/rs to Hospital. Strength 32 Offrs 757 o/rs.</p>	<p><i>War diary of Cameron House attached.</i></p>
			<p><i>W. Ramsbotham RSM Comd 2/20 BN 17/1/42</i></p>	



2/20 BN. - WAR DIARY - ENDAU FORCE.

January 42.

1. 0700 hrs. HMS. "Kelana" under Comd. Lieut. Windsor and Launch Sri Pekan, under Comd. Mr. Cope arrived from Kuantan via Pekan, and came under Comd. O.C. Endau Force.
4. Redisposition of force to meet threat from North and North West rather than from sea.
8. "D" Coy. 2/19 Bn. arrived from Jemaluang Area - O.C. Maj. T. Vincent. Maj. Robertson appointed O.C. Endau Force. One Pl. "D" Coy. disposed North of S. Endau on patrol task to Pontian.
9. Mr. Cope and patrol of two men from "C" Coy proceeded on recce. to Rompin and Nanasik.
- 10-13. Normal recce. and patrol activity North of Endau.
14. First contact gained by patrol of "D" Coy. ^{2/19 Bn} with enemy force, estimated strength 50, at Pontian.
15. 16 Pl. delaying action along coast to North Bank of S. Endau. Pl. forced to withdraw across river at dusk. Casualties 1 N.C.O. and 2 O.Rs. missing. Constant enemy air activity over our positions during day. Planes in pairs consistently bombed and machine-gunned our posts during daylight hours. No night activity from enemy air arm.
16. One Pl. "D" Coy. ^{2/19 Bn} landed at junc. of S. Endau and S. Anak Endau to deliver a flank attack on enemy. Action fought during day and pl. withdrawn during night 16/17 Jan. Own Casualties one O.R. killed, enemy casualties estimated 20 dead and some wounded. Casualties by air action - one killed and one wounded. Resumption of enemy air activity. Unconfirmed report of enemy landing vicinity Wireless Point, subsequently proved incorrect. 14 Pl. forced to withdraw from forward posts owing to intense dive-bombing and ground strafing. HMS. "Kelana" under Comd. Lieut. Craig heavily attacked by enemy air arm by bombs and M.Gs and by M.G. fire from ground tps. North of River. Fought very gallant action, engaging enemy ground positions with 6 pdrs gun and aircraft with A/A M.Gs. Malay crew did splendid work. Vessel subsequently severely damaged and had to be beached. Rendered unserviceable.
17. Air activity intensified. "D" Coy. ordered to return to own unit at Jemaluang and "C" Coy. to prepare for withdrawal to Bt. Langkap. O.C. Force recalled to report to Ede. H.Q. "D" Coy. successfully withdrawn by M.T. via Mersing. Force Comd. returned Endau night of 17 Jan with final orders for withdrawal of "C" Coy. During day a number of our river craft sunk or put out of action.

Jan.

17 Contd.

air action. HMS. "Shun An" sustained minor damage, with some casualties amongst the Malay Ratings.

"C" Coy. successfully engaged enemy land positions by mortar and M.M.G. fire. Enemy answering fire quickly silenced.

Capt. W.A. Carter resumed comd. of composite force.

Balance of stores etc. from Endau evacuated by M.T. Convoy to Mersing under Comd. Maj. Robertson, ~~xxxxxxx~~.

Evacuation of Endau by road complete by 0030 hrs 18 Jan 42.

18. Last troops left Endau Village at about 0200 hrs, 14 Pl. moving by HMS. "Shunan" to Bt. Langkap. 15 Pl. to Labong area as standing patrol on river (S. Endau), 13 Pl and Coy. H.Q. on Launch Penegar. Coy. less 15 Pl. completed move (after some difficulty with river craft) by 1500 hrs and took up positions on Bt. Langkap. No activity during day. At 1800 hrs approx. 18 Pl. "D" Coy. 2/19 Bn. sent forward on HMS "Shunan" to relieve 15 Pl. as fwd. tps.
19. I.O. 2/20 Bn. (Lieut. Lennon) arrived Bt. Langkap with orders for withdrawal of force, less small standing patrol, to Robertsons Wharf. 18 Pl. "D" Coy. 2/19 Bn. withdrawn to Bt. Langkap and Force dispersed for day. Some air activity and isolated bombing of Bt. Langkap. About 1600 hrs withdrawal of Force to Robertsons Wharf commenced with 18 Pl. By 2000 hrs river craft had not returned for second party so remainder was ferried onto HMS "Shunan".
20. About 0500 hrs HMS "Shunan" commenced trip up stream - arriving at Robertsons Wharf (and only after some very expert handling by Lieut. Henman, RNVR) at about 0800 hrs. Force deployed for day, 15 pl at Robertsons Wharf, 14 Pl. along Robertsons Rd. and 13 Pl. at junc. Robertson and Kahang Rds. (Approx 110 M.P.)
21. 14 Pl. moved to island on S. Lenggor (about 3 miles from Kahang Rd) otherwise dispositions unchanged. No activity.
22. 13 Pl. and Coy. H.Q. moved to Bridge (Approx 113 M.P.) Kahang Rd. No activity. Some arms and amm. moved from Bt. Langkap via Kahang.
23. Standing patrol at Bt. Langkap withdrawn. Coy. withdrawn to Rubber Estate about 120 $\frac{1}{2}$ M.P. (Old Div. Sig. H.Q.) Local patrolling and protection to Eng. demolition party. No activity.
24. Deployment extended slightly to cover vicinity Kahang Rd. between 119 and 121 M.Ps. Covering party for Eng. provided. No activity.
25. Force withdrawn along Kahang Rd. to contact left flank 2/20 Bn. at

Jan.

25 Contd.

123 M.P.

Disposed to cover Kahang Rd and North.

No local activity.

26. Coy. moved to rejoin 2/20 Bn. at about 0900 hrs, moving to 87 M.P.
Kota Tinggi Rd. as Bn. Reserve.
Move completed 1200 hrs.



2/20 Bn. AIF. WAR DIARY FROM 1-31 JAN. 42.

<u>Place.</u>	<u>Date.</u> 1942.	<u>Time.</u> Hrs.	
Mersing 835466.	1 Jan.		Erection of Defensive & Tactical wiring. Strengthening of Fd. Works. Thickening of A/T. & A/P. mine fields. All Carriers grounded, Reason - Steering weakness. Pahang placed out of bounds.
		1900	Endau Area. Curfew enforced from 1900 hrs until 0600 hrs nightly. Strength: 38 Offrs. 878 O.Rs. Casualties: 4 O.Rs. to Hospital 4 O.Rs. on strength from X List, 2 O.Rs. transferred to other Units.
	2 "		Strengthening Fd. Works. Corduroying of Rds. Developing an alternate "B" Echelon Area, 853437. Casualties 3 O.Rs. to Hospital, 3 O.Rs. on strength from X List, 13 O.Rs. on strength from G.B.D., 1 O.R. to G.B.D.
	3 "		Alternate "B" Echelon Area constructions proceeded with. Corduroying Rds. "ROSE FORCE": 7 O.Rs, selected from volunteers from the unit. These tps. moved to Div. Report Centre. Casualties: 7 O.Rs. to Hospital, 4 O.Rs. Detached.
	4 "	1600	Consideration given to the redistribution of the Bn. dispositions to meet a possible threat from the Nth. and NW. rather than from the sea. C.O. - Recce ENDAU AREA and MTH. S. ENDAU. Coy. exercises on these lines prepared. Alternate "B" Echelon construction completed. Fd. Works strengthened. Casualties 9 O.Rs. to Hospital, 1 O.R. taken on strength.
	5 "		Coy. exercises - Deployment, Jungle Fighting, Occupying Alternate Roles, Hardening & Seasoning to Mobile Roles. Casualties: 6 O.Rs. to Hospital, 1 O.R. taken on strength.
	6 "		Exercises as for 5 Jan 42 carried out. Casualties 8 O.Rs. to Hospital, 4 O.Rs. taken on strength.
	7 "		All Carriers in commission after modification of steering weakness. ENDAU FORCE formed. Maj. A.E. Robertson, 2i/c 2/20 Bn. to Comd. Tps. comprising Force - C. Coy. 2/20 Bn. (Capt. W.A. Carter) D. Coy. 2/19 Bn. (Maj. T. Vincent).
			Vessels under Comd. (a) HMS. "Shunan", HMS. "Kelana" (b) Customs Launches, "Pengejar" "Panchor" and "Sri Pekan". (c) Six Japanese Tugs, Two Tongkangs, Three motor Sampans.
8/10 Jan Incl.			Coy. exercises. Patrols MTH. Mersing. Refencing Defensive & Tactical Wiring on Beach damaged by tides. Casualties: 21 O.Rs. to Hospital, 33 O.Rs. taken on strength.

2/20 Bn. AIF. WAR DIARY FROM 1-31 JAN. 42.

<u>Place.</u>	<u>Date.</u> 1942.	<u>Time.</u> Hrs.	
Mersing 835466.	11 Jan.		Patrols NTH. S. MERSING. Strengthening Fd. Works. Nine (9) Bosche Lights received by Bn. for illumination of M.M.G. tasks &c. Experiments carried out on sea front with Beacons constructed of tins of petrol and ignition of perman- ganate and glycerine. <u>Medical.</u> Capt. HINDER and 4 O.Rs. from 2/9 Fd. Amb. established an A.D.S. at ENDAU. Casualties: 3 O.Rs. to Hospital, 2 O.Rs. taken on strength, 4 O.Rs. transferred out.
	12 "		Bde. Comd. arranged with Lieut. WINDSOR, R.N.V.R. to organise and pay the SAKAIS' for information from an area NTH. and WEST of ENDAU, from PONTAIN to the S. KEMBAR; Lieut. Windsor reported to O.C. ENDAU FORCE with the details. Very heavy rain fell MERSING - ENDAU. Fd. Works damaged. Active patrolling Nth. S. Mersing. Casualties Lieut. Baeyertz to Hospital, 8 O.Rs. to Hospital, 1 O.R. taken on strength.
	13 "		A/Tk. and A/P. Minefields - laying completed. An issue of special type bombs constructed by 2/10 Fd. Coy. were made to-day. Types:- 1. "The Fish Fizzler", a bomb containing 4 lb. gun cotton with a 7 sec. fuse, water tight and designed as a depth charge. Issued to A Coy. for River Defence. 2. "The Putrid Pansy", a gelignite bomb issued to D. Coy. for coastal defence. Seven sec. fuse.
	14 "		Heavy rail fell - interfered with Fd. Works. S. ENDAU rose 8 ft. above normal level owing to torrential rains, the barge boom carried away. Casualties: 6 O.Rs. to Hospital, 1 O.R. taken on strength. Active patrolling NTH. S. MERSING. Repairs to Fd. Works damaged by heavy rain. Bde. advised Recce Patrol from ENDAU FORCE had at ROMPIN at 1100 hrs 14 Jan. seen about 30 Japanese soldiers crossing River wearing steel helmets, black coats, khaki shorts. Casualties: 7 O.Rs. to Hospital, 2 O.Rs taken on strength.

*D. Thompson Capt
Adj. spoken*

2/20 Bn. AIF. WAR DIARY FROM 1-31 JAN. 42.

<u>Place.</u>	<u>Date.</u>	<u>Time.</u>
Mersing 835466.	1942. 15 Jan.	Hrs.

ENDAU FORCE at ENDAU bombed and machine-gunned. 2 A/A. LMG's 2/20 Bn. ordered by Bde. to move to ENDAU. Bde. Comd. offered rewards to A/A crews of the Bde. Gp:-
 1. \$50 for each single seater aircraft.
 2. \$10 for each double seater aircraft.

ENDAU FORCE reported that they had contacted & engaged a small enemy force, about 30 strong, 8 miles NTH. of S. ENDAU.

Active patrolling NTH. of S. MERSING.
 Casualties: 3 O.Rs. wounded evacuated.
 2 O.Rs. ill evacuated.

16 " 0907. Bn. strength 37 Offrs. 837 O.Rs.
 MERSING bombed. ENDAU FORCE heavily bombed & machine-gunned.

Active patrolling NTH. of S. MERSING
 " " to Bt. SAWAH.

Report received from Bde. that an enemy landing had taken place about ENDAU-PENYABONG - this report later reported unfounded.

8 Pl. (A. Coy) moved from Western Sector to Bukit SAWAH Sector, also established a Standing Patrol MAYANG ESTATE. Re-adjustment Bn. dispositions.

Casualties: Killed in Action 1 O.R., evacuated to Hospital 9 O.Rs. Capt. C.C. Gibbings rejoined Unit. 34 O.Rs. taken on strength.

17 " Bde. information received:-

- ENDAU. (1) Enemy force strongly reinforced.
- (2) ENDAU FORCE had fulfilled its role and would cease to operate from 17/18 Jan.
- (3) C.Coy. 2/20 Bn. to withdraw to Bukit Langkap 17/18 Jan 42.
- (4) D. Coy. 2/19 Bn. to rejoin Bn. at Jemaluang.
- (5) ENDAU AREA heavily bombed & machine-gunned.

MERSING AREA. Active patrolling MERSING- TENGLU, BUKIT SAWAH and MAYONG ESTATE Areas.

18 " 0200 Casualties: 8 O.Rs. to Hospital, 3 O.Rs. taken on strength
 ENDAU. C.Coy. reported last elements of Coy. leaving ENDAU VILLAGE.

0500 ENDAU-MERSING RD. Demolition & cratering of this Rd. STH to TENGLU BR (Excl) completed by 2/10 Fd. Coy.

Maj. A.E. Robertson (O.C. ENDAU FORCE) rejoined Unit.

*D.O. Thompson Capt
 Adjt. 2/20 Bn*

2/20 Bn. AIF. WAR DIARY FROM 1-31 JAN. 42.

<u>Place.</u>	<u>Date.</u>	<u>Time.</u>
Mersing 835466	18 Jan.	

PATROLS. Active patrols maintained in the following areas
TENGLU, MAYONG ESTATE, BUKIT SAWAH.
Sgt. Pilot Harrison, 21 Squadron RAAF was found floating
down MERSING RIVER on a raft by a patrol from A. Coy.
The airman was suffering from slight wounds & exhaustion.
Surplus Stores, Rations & Amn.

Bde. instructions received that above would be
moved in Unit transport to -

(a) Selected dump sites KOTI TINGGI RD.

(b) A/B.O.D. JOHORE BAHRU

as directed later in night.

Casualties: 9 O.Rs. to Hospital.

19 " Active patrolling NTH MERSING.

TENGLU BR. demolished.

Enemy aircraft active bombing & machine-gunning MERSING.

Surplus stores &c. being moved on a 24 hr. basis, in
Unit transport.

2045 A. Coy. report having seen flares about 6 miles NTH.
MERSING.

20 " Active patrols NTH. S.MERSING, no contact made.

Enemy aircraft active - bombing & machine-gunning
MERSING AREA.

Four O.Rs of D. Coy. 2/19 Bn. who had been missing since
being in contact with the enemy NTH of S. ENDAU on 16 Jan
approached & were brought through A.Coy. Area (7 Pl).

These tps. reported (1) Japs. in strength ENDAU VILLAGE,
occupying many houses, (2) Japs encountered 5 miles STH
of ENDAU on ENDAU-MERSING RD. This information passed
on to Bde.

10 x 3 Ton Res. M.T. Vehicles allotted to Bn. to evacuate
surplus stores.

Casualties: 5 O.Rs. to Hospital, 1 O.R. to hospital,
wounded in action.

21 " Patrols active NTH. MERSING.

7 Pl. (Lieut. F.Ramsbotham) A. Coy, ambushed enemy party
about 810517 (Padi Test Stn). Casualties, Enemy 10
killed, Own tps. 3 wounded. Enemy main force deployed
to flanks. 7 Pl. moved & prepared defensive positions

LALANG TRIG. AREA 8248. Enemy advanced through
A/P. minefields on flanks of Rd, - these minefields
generally failed to explode but enemy destroyed by

M.M.G, Mortar & Arty Fire.

Reason A/P
mines failed to
explode -
prolonged
immersion in
water due to
heavy rains.

*D. Thompson Capt
Hq. 2/20 Bn.*



2/20 Bn. AIF. WAR DIARY 1-31 JAN 42.

Place.
Mersing
835466

Date.
1942.
Jan 21.

Time.
Hrs.

7 Pl. opened fire from LALANG HILL and held enemy - orders from C.O. by phone to (~~less-No.5-See~~) withdraw to STH. side S. MERSING.
 Enemy casualties about 45 killed.
 Enemy aircraft action - Bombing & machine-gunning of MERSING Area.

1400 RD Block NTH of MERSING Br. completed under enemy fire.
 No.5 Sec. patrol contacted enemy vicinity MAYONG ESTATE - enemy concentrating in this area.
 Japanese concentration MAYONG ESTATE destroyed and/or dispersed by Arty fire (19 Bty. 2/10 Fd. Regt).
 Enemy aircraft action interspersed.

1900 No. 5 Sec. (7 Pl) withdrew to STH side of S.MERSING according to plan.
 Casualties - Own tps. 3 O.Rs. evacuated wounded, Lieut. J.K.Wisdom Evacuated sick, 4 O.Rs. evacuated sick, 3 O.Rs. taken on strength.

" 22. 0500 Enemy rushed MERSING BR. approaches and came under fire from - 1. Mortar, 2. V.M.Gs, 4 LMGs, 2 Secs. Enemy were completely routed.
 One Sec. 8 Pl. A. Coy. crossed River and destroyed many enemy tps. Casualties Own tps. 1 badly wounded. Enemy rear elements moved WEST apparently seeking a crossing - harrassed by our Arty. fire.
 Enemy aircraft. Intense bombing & machine-gunning of MERSING Areas, particularly any tp. movement.
 Enemy sniping along banks & across S.MERSING.
 Patrols sent across S.MERSING to contact enemy and locate his concentrations.
 Movement. Bde. H.Q.
 2/18 Bn. H.Q. moved to NITTSDALE ESTATE B.ECHELON Bde Gp. to concentrate Rubber Estate Area Jemaluang S.D. Camp.

Information to Bde. H.Q. and Coy. H.Qs.
 Bn. H.Q. will close here at 2000 hrs & open at 838457.

Casualties: Enemy - estimated, 220 killed.
 Own tps. Killed in Action 1
 Missing believed killed 1
 Missing 2
 Wounded 4

Arty. contributed largely in inflicting enemy casualties.

*W.D. Thompson 691
 Hqtr. 2/20 Bn*



2/20 Bn. AIF. WAR DIARY FROM 1-31 JAN 42.

<u>Place.</u>	<u>Date.</u>	<u>Time.</u>
Mersing	1942.	Hrs.
838457	22 Jan	2000

23 "

Bn. H.Q. **Established.**
 B. Echelon moved to Rubber Area, Jemaluang S.D.Camp.
 Patrols active NTH. S.MERSING locating enemy concentrations.
 Enemy constantly engaged by Bn. Mortars, and as information available from patrols, Arty. harrassing fire.
 Enemy air activity. Severe bombing & machine-gunning MERSING AREAS.
 Report received that Rd. MERSING-JEMALUANG and JEMALUANG bombed.
 Casualties. Enemy estimated considerable.
 Own tps. Nil.

24 "

0400

14 O.Rs. evacuated to Hospital.
 MERSING BR. demolished - gap of 150 ft. blown.
 Patrols NTH. S.MERSING constantly.
 Patrols reported Japanese concentration K.JAMARI - destroyed by Arty. harrassing fire controlled from Toddy Shop through A. Coy. H.Q.
 Casualties: Enemy - unknown.
 Own tps, 4 O.Rs. to Hospital
 1 O.R. rejoined unit.

25 "

1400

1530

Patrols reported Japanese concentrating BUKIT SAWAH AREA.
 Arty. fire requested and harrassing fire brought down.
 Enemy destroyed or dispersed.
 Enemy aircraft active bombing & machine-gunning Bn. Area.
 Conference at Bde. H.Q.
 2/20 Bn. ordered to withdraw to JEMALUANG X Rds. Area, night 25/26 Jan. No move prior to 2100 hrs. 2/2 Res. M.T. to move marching personnel.
 C.Os Orders. Bde. is falling back in conformity with WESTFORCE.
 2/20 Bn. will withdraw through 2/18 Bn & take up JEMALUANG X Rds. Position (old 2/19 Bn. Positions).
 Order of move - 7 Pl. and Arty. Observation Gp., 8 Pl., H.Q. Coy., Bn. H.Q., D. Coy., B. Coy plus 9 pl. of A. Coy.
 Embussing Point, JOHORE NTH. ESTATE 847415.
 2/2 Res. M.T. will move marching personnel.
 No movement prior to 2100 hrs.

*D.O. Thompson Capt
Hqtr after Bn*



2/20 Bn. AIF. WAR DIARY 1-31 JAN. 42.

<u>Place.</u>	<u>Date.</u>	<u>Time.</u>		
Mersing 838457	25 Jan.		2i/c's Recce Party will assemble there at 1630 hrs Bn. H.Q. will close 2120 hrs in column and open at 862265.	
		2330	Casualties 10 O.Rs. evacuated to Hospital. Bn. embussing JEMALUANG Rd at JOHORE NTH ESTATE 847415.	
			Remaining B.E.L. and Bosche light at MERSING demolished All other unit stores and B.D.S. equipment successfully removed.	
	26 "	0200	Bn. H.Q. opened at 862265. Bn. move completed. Dispositions occupied. R.A.P. 67½ mile harbour.	This move went very smoothly.
			Demolitions. Br. at 76 Mile demolished. Culvert at 73 Mile demolished. W.P. at 72¾ Mile demolished.	
			Coys. Recce. New positions. Coys. strengthening new positions. C. Coy. rejoined Bn. Bn. Dispositions.	C. Coy. had withdrawn from ENDAU to ROBERT- SONS WHARF- KLUANG Rd.
			D. Coy. KLUANG Rd. - K.T. Rd. (excl) area. B. Coy. K.T. Rd. incl. TIN MINE Areas (EAST) A. Coy. 69 Mile Area. C. Coy. 67 Mile Area. Bn. H.Q. 862265.	
	See Page 7a. --->		Information from Bde. Enemy ships off ENDAU bombed by our planes. Enemy about one Bn. ENDAU-MERSING Rd. bombed and machine-gunned by our planes, with good results.	
			Casualties: Capt. A.I. Yates and 7 O.Rs. to Hospital. 2 O.Rs. taken on strength.	
JEMALUANG.	27 "	0330	Firing heard in direction of 2/18 Bn. Ambush Area. Report 2/18 Bn. engaged with enemy LUO TYE ESTATE.	
		0900	2/18 Bn. commenced withdrawing through our lines.	
		1000	Conference Bde. H.Q. Orders issued for withdrawal down KOTI TINNGI Rd. 2/20 Bn. to cover 2/18 Bn. occupying Rd. 62 Mile Peg. to ULU SIDILLI. 2/20 Bn. to withdraw to 29½ Mile Harbour and come into Bde. Reserve. No withdrawal of 2/20 Bn. prior to 1930 hrs	

*LT Thompson Capt
Hq 2/20 Bn*



2/20 Bn. AIF. WAR DIARY 1-31 JAN 42.

<u>Place.</u>	<u>Date.</u>	<u>Time.</u>
JEMA- LUANG.	1942. 26 Jan	Hrs. 1000.

Bde. Conference at 2/20 Bn. H.Q.

1. Information enemy One Cruiser)
Two Destroyers) Off
Two Transports) ENDAU.
2. Proposed Ambush by 2/18 Bn. vicinity
NITTSDALE ESTATE discussed and orders
given.
3. Method of withdrawal of 2/18 Bn. through
2/20 Bn. given.
4. Method of withdrawal down KOTI TINGGI Rd
given, with 2/20 Bn to come into Reserve
at the 29 $\frac{1}{2}$ Mile Harbour.

See War
Diary
Endau Force.

*W.D. Thompson Capt.
Staff 2/20 Bn*



2/20 Bn. AIF. WAR DIARY 1-31 JAN. 42.

<u>Place.</u>	<u>Date.</u>	<u>Time.</u>
JEMA-	1942.	Hrs.
LUANG.	Jan 27	

Transport for marching tps to be notified later.
 One tp. 19 Bty. of 2/10 Fd. Regt. to cover
 2/20 Bn. withdrawal
 C.O's orders for withdrawal based on above -
 B. and D. Coys.
 Bn. H.Q.
 A. Coy.
 C. Coy.

1130	2/18 Bn. completed withdrawal through our lines covered by 2/10 Fd. Regt.
1630	Our Arty. opened on enemy concentrations at irregular intervals. Bn. mortars fired on enemy patrols in Jemaluang.
2100	B. and D. Coys. by foot to 67 Mile Harbour & embussed in 2/2 Res. M.T. Ferried to ULU SIDILLI. Bn. H.Q. and A and C Coys. by foot to 67 Mile Harbour, embussed and moved direct to 29½ Mile Harbour.

KOTI	"	28.	0045
TINNGI			
29½ MILE			0130
HARBOUR			0245

B. and D. Coys. embussed at ULU SIDILLI to Reserve position.
 Bn. H.Q. opened at 29½ Mile Harbour.
 Bn. complete at 29½ Mile Harbour, occupied a perimeter.
 Eng. Demolition Party ~~carried by~~ covered by A/C Det. demolished wooden bridge, also cratered road to delay enemy.
 C.O. Recce. of new Bn. Position.
 Warning Order received from Bde. that 2/20 Bn. would move early on 29 Jan 42 to JOHORE BAHRU as centre Bn. of an outer Br. Head Force, which would cover the withdrawal of all forces on the Mainland to Singapore Island.

Warning Order to Coys -
 No move prior to 0830 hrs 30 Jan 42.
 Order of movement - C., A., B., D.,
 Casualties: Capt. W.A. Carter & Lieut. C.W.O'Keefe and 9 O.Rs. evacuated to Hospital.
 Bn. commenced move by 2/2 Res, M.T. to Outer Bridge Head Area (move carried out by Coys. with vehicles spaced- Reason, enemy air activity).
 Recce. party under Maj. R.H.Cohen to Singapore Island.

A clean break was made with the enemy.

Bn. washed clothes & bodies, also rested. This was welcome having been in contact with the enemy for some days.

*D. Thompson Capt
Hq 2/20 Bn*



2/20 Bn. WAR DIARY 1-31 JAN 42.

<u>Place.</u>	<u>Date.</u>	<u>Time.</u>
29 $\frac{1}{2}$ MILE HARBOUR	1942. Jan 29.	Hrs.

C.O's Orders -

Outer Br. Head occupied to main lines "E" & "F"
 Outer line "E" from Western Rd. along AYER HITAM
 Rd. to TEBRAU JUNCT.
 Inner line "F" - Pier 700310- Rd. bend 713322-
 Rly- Rd. Junct 738335 to S. SENG KUANG.
 Right 2/19 Bn.
 Centre 2/20 Bn.
 Left 2nd. Bn. Gordon Highlanders.
 Arty. support - 2 Regts.
 L.O. with each Bn.
 F.O.O. with one Coy. each Bn.
 Inter Bn. boundaries
 Bn. H.Q.
 R.A.P.

Recce by Coy. Comds. of areas & routes.
 Enemy air recce. very active, but no ground attacks.
 Bn. occupied perimeter for night 29/30 Jan. 42.

" 30.

1400

Bn. Area, line "E" occupied.
 Communications being completed.
 Comd. Conference at Force H.Q.
 Method of withdrawal
 Route 2/20 Bn. West of Rly. Line 7331 and
 MOLEK ESTATE Rd. 7231.
 Rear Coy (to cross causeway first).

Communications complete.
 Casualties: Lieut. A.H.White, Lieut. F.Ramsbotham
 & 10 O.Rs evacuated to Hospital. 3 O.Rs.
 accidentally wounded.

" 31.

0430
 0500
 0630
 0730
 0800
 0900
 to
 1200
 1300

Orders received to withdraw to Line "E"
 Orders received to withdraw to Singapore Island.
 Bn. commenced to cross Causeway.
 Last elements entered.
 Last elements crossed.
 Bn. moving into assembly area MARSILING ESTATE. Tps
 from MANDAI Rd. to new position to be occupied WEST Cross
 Sector (KRANJI).
 Bn. in area LIM CAN CHU CHIENG Rd.
 2/20 Bn. was right Bn. of Bde. Sector.
 2/18 Bn. was centre Bn. of Bde. Sector.
 2/19 Bn. was left Bn. of Bde. Sector.

*Det Thompson Capt
 Hq. 2/20 Bn*



2/20 Bn. AIF. WAR DIARY 1-31 JAN 42.

Place. Date. Time.
1942.
31 Jan.

2/20 Bn. Right boundary S. KRANJI.
Inter Bn. Boundaries -
2/20 & 2/18 Bn.s S. SARIMBUN (Excl) to Rd. Junct.
673248 (incl) - S. KANGHOR
at 688241 (incl)
The 27 Bde. on Eastern Bank of S. KRANJI.
Recce. of Bn. and Coy. Areas.
Casualties: Lieut. B.D. Richardson & 6 O.Rs.
evacuated to Hospital.
Bn. Strength 32 Offrs. 757 O.Rs.

D. J. Thompson Capt.
Adj. 2/20 Bn. AIF.

R. D. Hendon
Admn. Comd. 2/20 Bn. AIF.

2/20 BN. - WAR DIARY - ENDAU FORCE.

January 42.

1. 0700 hrs. HMS. "Kelana" under Comd. Lieut. Windsor and Launch Sri Pekan, under Comd. Mr. Cope arrived from Kuantan via Pekan, and came under Comd. O.C. Endau Force.
4. Redisposition of force to meet threat from North and North West rather than from sea.
8. "D" Coy. 2/19 Bn. arrived from Jemaluang Area - O.C. Maj. T. Vincent. Maj. Robertson appointed O.C. Endau Force. One Pl. "D" Coy. disposed North of S. Endau on patrol task to Pontian.
9. Mr. Cope and patrol of two men from "C" Coy proceeded on recce. to Rompin and Nanasik.
- 10-13. Normal recce. and patrol activity North of Endau.
14. First contact gained by patrol of "D" Coy. with enemy force, estimated strength 50, at Pontian.
15. 16 Pl. delaying action along coast to North Bank of S. Endau. Pl. forced to withdraw across river at dusk. Casualties 1 N.C.O. and 2 O.Rs. missing. Constant enemy air activity over our positions during day. Planes in pairs consistently bombed and machine-gunned our posts during daylight hours. No night activity from enemy air arm.
16. One Pl. "D" Coy. landed at junc. of S. Endau and S. Anak Endau to deliver a flank attack on enemy. Action fought during day and pl. withdrawn during night 16/17 Jan. Own Casualties one O.R. killed, enemy casualties estimated 20 dead and some wounded. Casualties by air action - one killed and one wounded. Resumption of enemy air activity. Unconfirmed report of enemy landing vicinity Wireless Point, subsequently proved incorrect. 14 Pl. forced to withdraw from forward posts owing to intense dive-bombing and ground strafing. HMS. "Kelana" under Comd. Lieut. Craig heavily attacked by enemy air arm by bombs and M.Gs and by M.G. fire from ground tps. North of River. Fought very gallant action, engaging enemy ground positions with 6 pdrs gun and aircraft with A/A M.Gs. Malay crew did splendid work. Vessel subsequently severely damaged and had to be beached. Rendered unserviceable.
17. Air activity intensified. "D" Coy. ordered to return to own unit at Jemaluang and "C" Coy. to prepare for withdrawal to St. Langkap. O.C. Force recalled to report to Bde. H.Q. "D" Coy. successfully withdrawn by M.T. via Mersing. Force Comd. returned Endau night of 17 Jan with final orders for withdrawal of "C" Coy. During day a number of our river craft sunk or put out of action

Jan.

17 Contd.

air action. HMS. "Shun An" sustained minor damage, with some casualties amongst the Malay Ratings.

"C" Coy. successfully engaged enemy land positions by mortar and M.M.G. fire. Enemy answering fire quickly silenced.

Capt. W.A. Carter resumed comd. of composite force.

Balance of stores etc. from Endau evacuated by M.T. Convoy to Mersing under Comd. Maj. Robertson, ~~in command~~.

Evacuation of Endau by road complete by 0030 hrs 18 Jan 42.

18. Last troops left Endau Village at about 0200 hrs, 14 Pl. moving by HMS. "Shunan" to Bt. Langkap. 15 Pl. to Labong area as standing patrol on river (S. Endau), 13 Pl and Coy. H.Q. on Launch Penegar. Coy. less 15 Pl. completed move (after some difficulty with river craft) by 1500 hrs and took up positions on Bt. Langkap. No activity during day. At 1800 hrs approx. 18 Pl. "D" Coy. 2/19 Bn. sent forward on HMS "Shunan" to relieve 15 Pl. as fwd. tps.
19. I.O. 2/20 Bn. (Lieut. Lennon) arrived Bt. Langkap with orders for withdrawal of force, less small standing patrol, to Robertsons Wharf. 18 Pl. "D" Coy. 2/19 Bn. withdrawn to Bt. Langkap and Force dispersed for day. Some air activity and isolated bombing of Bt. Langkap. About 1800 hrs withdrawal of Force to Robertsons Wharf commenced with 18 Pl. By 2000 hrs river craft had not returned for second party so remainder was ferried onto HMS "Shunan".
20. About 0500 hrs HMS "Shunan" commenced trip up stream - arriving at Robertsons Wharf (and only after some very expert handling by Lieut. Henman, RNVR) at about 0800 hrs. Force deployed for day, 15 pl at Robertsons Wharf, 14 Pl. along Robertsons Rd. and 13 Pl. at junc. Robertson and Kahang Rds. (Approx 110 M.P.)
21. 14 Pl. moved to island on S. Lenggor (about 3 miles from Kahang Rd) otherwise dispositions unchanged. No activity.
22. 15 Pl. and Coy. H.Q. moved to Bridge (Approx 113 M.P.) Kahang Rd. No activity. Some arms and amm. moved from Bt. Langkap via Kahang.
23. Standing patrol at Bt. Langkap withdrawn. Coy. withdrawn to Rubber Estate about 120 $\frac{1}{2}$ M.P. (Old Div. Sig. H.Q.) Local patrolling and protection to Eng. demolition party. No activity.
24. Deployment extended slightly to cover vicinity Kahang Rd. between 119 and 121 M.Ps. Covering party for Eng. provided. No activity.
25. Force withdrawn along Kahang Rd. to contact left flank 2/20 Bn. at a ~~point~~

Jan.

25 Contd.

123 M.P.

Disposed to cover Kahang Rd and North.

No local activity.

26. Coy. moved to rejoin 2/20 Bn. at about 0900 hrs, moving to 87 M.P.
Kota Tinggi Rd. as Bn. Reserve.
Move completed 1200 hrs.

*Robertson Lt. Col.
Comd 7th Bn AIF*

ORIGINAL

2/20 BN. A. I. F. WAR DIARY - FEBRUARY 1942.

FEB.

1. Singapore Island, Kranji District.
Recce. of areas continued and defensive works commenced.
Dispositions:- "A" Coy. occupied N.E. Sector on West bank of S.Kranji, "D" Coy. centre sector facing North on Johore Straits, "C" Coy. Western sector also fronting Johore Straits, "B" Coy. unit reserve in perimeter in Namazie Estate.
Bn. H.Q. East of Lim Chu Kang Rd. 1½ miles South of Johore Straits.
R.A.P. approx. 100 yds. South of Bn. H.Q. B. Ech. under Bde. vicinity Tengah Aerodrome.
Supporting arms - One Bty. 2/15 Fd. Regt., One tp. 15 A/Tk. Regt., One Pl. 2/4 M.G. Bn., One Coy. Dalforce (Chinese Irregulars).
Dalforce boundaries right S. Buloh Besar, left Rubber Factory Namazie Estate.
2. Normal routine. Capt. J.M.Lowe rejoined Unit ex JMF.
3. Major Robertson detached to H.Q. A.I.F. on special duty. Normal routine.
- 4-5. Normal routine, recce and defensive works. B. Ech. moved to Bn. Area. Capt. Lowe resumed appt. as Adjt.
6. "C" Coy. patrol; led by Lieut. R. Homer, crossed Johore Straits to reconnoitre enemy positions.
7. Recce. patrol returned safely about 2300 hrs, report passed direct to Bde. H.Q. Harassing fire by enemy arty. during day, directed by O.P. from Mainland and planes.
Capt. Gibbings evacuated hospital with fever. Lieut. Hepburn appointed to Comd. "C" Coy.
8. Maj. Robertson appointed to Comd. 2/19 Bn. during illness Lt. Col. Anderson V.C., M.C. Enemy arty. and aircraft very active in Unit area. Enemy observation balloon over Mainland. Intensive shelling in early evening by arty. and mortar. Our arty. on counter battery work. During evening reports received at Bn. H.Q. of enemy landings on Pulau Buloh, at the mouth of S. Buloh Besar, Namazie House and in the Western sector. At 2200 hrs definite reports of enemy landings in strength in "C" and "D" Coys. areas and Dalforce Area.
Lieut. J. J. Read reported Killed in Action.
10 Pl. "B" Coy. moved up in support "C" Coy. 2200-2400 hrs "C" Coy. forced to withdraw and disorganised, falling back on Bn. H.Q. Area. Heavy fighting in all areas except "A" Coy.
Lieut. MacLean severely wounded and evacuated to hospital.
12 Pl. (Lieut. B. Tipping) plus one sec. Carriers sent to cover road entrance to fighter strip, contacted "D" Coy. and came under comd.
11 Pl. held as Bn. Reserve.

Feb.

9. 0200 hrs. "C" Coy. moved to position West of Lim Chu Keng Rd., and with "B" Coy. and "H.Q." Coy. details formed a perimeter round Bn. H.Q. Area. B. Ech. moved in and joined perimeter. Enemy L.M.G. fire, with red tracers, directed in Bn. H.Q. Area from high ground to the West. Enemy movement to the N.W., and in a S.E. direction endeavouring to get round our left flank. 3" mortars countered this move and enemy to N.W. withdrew. "A" Coy. less 7 Pl. ordered to withdraw and cover right flank of Bn. perimeter. 7 Pl. ordered to Bn. H.Q. Area.
- 0315 hrs., 7 Pl. reported in with a party of Dalforce. This party under Lieut. R. Cornforth ordered to take up a position West of Lim Chu Keng Rd. and South of position held by 10 pl.
- 0345 hrs. approx. 60 men from Dalforce arrived at Bn. H.Q. and were sent to join others under Lieut. Cornforth.
- Fighting patrol led by Lieut. Chave and Lieut. MacIntyre reported heavy enemy infiltration of our West flank.
- Patrol led by Lieut. Lennon in original areas between "D" and "A" Coys reported no enemy movement there.
- Lieut. MacIntyre Killed in this action.
- 0500 hrs., message to "D" Coy. ordering them to withdraw to the Bn. perimeter.
- 12 Pl. ordered to withdraw directly South and take up a position about 200 yds. North of Bn. H.Q.
- 0545 hrs. Heavy enemy fire from our West Flank on a frontage of 2/300 yds. Our mortars replied with satisfactory results.
- "C" Coy. withdrawn under Bn. Orders to conform with 12 Pl's new position and ultimately called in as Bn. Reserve.
- 0700 hrs. General firing with some small enemy advances on our West flanks. Firing heard from direction of "D" Coys. original position, "D" Coy. not yet reported in to Bn. perimeter.
- "A" Coy. ordered to Bn. Area.
- "D" Coy. unable to reach Bn. Area owing to enemy pressure. Coy. ambushed, heavy casualties, withdrew along general line to Aerodrome.
- 0730 hrs. Enemy in large numbers seen moving from West of Bn. perimeter East across Lim Chu Keng Road. Our mortars engaged and scattered them, inflicting casualties, but did not stop the movement.
- Enemy movement round Southern flank reported.
- Lieut. Baeyertz seriously wounded and evacuated.
- "A" Coy., less 7 Pl, occupied a position in perimeter North of Bn. H.Q.
- 12 Pl. plus H.Q. Coy. details successfully counter attacked North along road, supported by 3" mortars, and drove the enemy back over the Fighter Strip Road. Heavy casualties inflicted on enemy.
- Capt. J.M. Lowe killed, and Lieut. B. Tipping died of wounds at R.A.P.
- 0915 hrs. C.O. ordered withdrawal to Ama Keng Village, "A" Coy. less 7 Pl. to cover the withdrawal from hill immediately North of Bn. H.Q.
- "B" Coy. plus details to hold a feature in rear and East of the road.
- Capt. Ewart wounded in neck by ambushing party and Lieut. Lennon, Bn. I.C. killed by same party.
- 7 Pl. (Lieut. Cornforth) cleared up the ambush, all enemy being killed.
- "B" Coy. on reaching area position found it occupied in strength by the Japanese, opened fire, which was returned by the enemy from several directions. Casualties on both sides.

Feb.

9 Contd.

Lieut. Davies and 2 O.Rs. believed wounded and captured. Our force, much reduced, withdrew to Tengah Aerodrome. B. Ech. under Maj. R.H.Cohen and Capt. A.J. Betteridge, ordered to conform. Both these Officers killed during this action. Heavy casualties in B. Ech. personnel.

1130 hrs. C.O., Lt. Col. C.F.Assheton killed in action whilst leading a mixed party of 2/18 Bn. and 2/20 Bn. personnel in vicinity of Tengah Aerodrome.

Lieuts. H.W.Porter and B.A. Chave believed killed during this withdrawal.

1300 hrs. Capt Ewart and about 40 O.Rs. reported to Brig. H.B.Taylor, South of Tengah Aerodrome, remainder of Unit in small groups fighting their way South through strong enemy detachments.

"A" Coy., less 7 Pl., withdrawing after holding delaying position till 1000 hrs were machine gunned from both flanks and the rear, and Coy. broke into small detachments. Coy. Comd., Maj. Merrett with Lieuts. Gaven and Brooks passed through Tengah Aerodrome.

Lieut. Brooks wounded in back and evacuated to an R.A.P. in the rear area.

Maj. Merrett and remnants of "A" Coy. reached Bulim Village.

Lieut. Rowe and party being cut off from main body, crossed S. Kranji. On arrival at Bde. H.Q. Bulim Village, Maj. Merrett with about 50 men of the Bn. were ordered to move forward to the left flank of 2/29 Bn. N.W. of the Aerodrome, but on arrival found the 2/29 Bn. heavily engaged and preparing to withdraw. Maj. Merrett's party conformed to the movement of 2/29 Bn and later, when 2/18 Bn retired and Aerodrome troops withdrew, 2/20 Bn. moved back to Bulim Village.

Elements of 2/19 and 2/20 Bns. were then organised into a composite force to hold a reserve position in the Bde. sector of a line from S. Kranji to S. Jurong.

10.

Composite 19/20 Bn. withdrew to Bde. Assembly Area Racecourse Village, and at 1700 hrs moved out under Maj. Merrett to Reformatory Road Area. Other 2/20 Bn. Officers - Lieuts. Gaven, Stanistreet and Homer. Remainder of 22 Aust. Inf. Bde. tps. collected at Racecourse Village and moved by M.T. to G.B.D. at Golf Course.

"X" Bn. under Comd. Lt. Col. Boyes formed from Unit elements and moved out from G.B.D. during afternoon. 2/20 Bn. Officers with this force were Capt. G. Maxwell, O.C., H.Q. Coy., Capt. R.J.D. Richardson, O.C. Rifle Coy., Lieut. W.J.Richardson, Si/c, Lieuts. Brooks, Mudie, Rowe and Woods, Pl. Comds. A number of O.Rs of the Bn. also served in this Unit.

"Y" Bn. under Comd. Maj. Robertson was in process of being formed. Owing to lack of fit personnel not more than one Coy. could be raised. With this force were Capt. W.A.Carter, Capt. E.W.Gaden and Lieuts. Cowden, O'Keefe and Lee of 2/20 Bn. with a number of 2/20 Bn. O.Rs. This force moved out by M.T. during the night and debussed in Holland Rd. Area, moving by march route to Ulu Pandan Road. On arrival received orders from Bde, to form perimeter astride junc. Holland-Ulu Pandan Rds. Dispositions occupied by first light.

Feb.

10 Contd.

Heavy fighting heard from vicinity Reformatory Rd. and Bt. Timah Village. During night 10/11 Feb. composite 19/20 Bn. under Maj. Merrett were surrounded by Japanese and Bn. Comd. decided to withdraw and fight way back to Bde. Area.

Lieut. Homer received fatal injuries during this action.

During the withdrawal heavy enemy M.G. fire caused casualties and Maj. Merrett was wounded.

Composite force made its way back in groups to an area near Botanical Gardens where Lieut. F. Gaven established a collecting point.

During the same night "X" Bn. involved in heavy fighting and ultimately dispersed.

Capt. R.J.D. Richardson was wounded and Lieut. W.J. Richardson reported Missing in this action.

11. Major Robertson's Force:- Capt. Chisholm 2/18 Bn. arrived with orders to join Lt. Col. Varley and 2/18 Bn. in Reformatory Rd. Area. Coy. advanced deployed across country and occupied a R.A. position, (Known as the Fort), a half Coy. of Indian tps. with two white Officers were in possession. Contact established with Comd. 44 Ind. Inf. Bde. at whose H.Q. Lt. Col. Varley was.

One casualty by shell fire.

Some heavy fighting on this front during the day with heavy casualties among Indian and 2/18 Bn. tps. 2/20 Bn. sector quiet except for sniping and machine gunning.

2/18 Bn. and 44 Bde. H.Q. withdrew during night and a perimeter was formed by Maj. Robertson's Coy. (now called 2/20 Bn.) at the Fort and on a hill feature immediately North of that position; on our right and echeloned back covering several hill features was 2/4 M.G. Bn.

On our left flank and echeloned well back was a Punjab Bn.

Night of 11/12 Feb. was quiet, little enemy activity noted.

Own arty. caused many casualties in our positions. Lieuts. O'Keefe and Cowden were wounded, the former fatally.

12. Lieut. F. Gaven with a Coy. of 60 men from 2/19 and 2/20 Bns. reported to Bde. and came under Comd. 2/18 Bn. Later joined by a Pl. under Lieut. J. Rowe and a Pl. under Lt. Varley, 2/19 Bn. 2/20 Bn. Officers with this force were Lieuts. F. Gaven, Stanistreet, Rowe, Meagher, Mudie and Blackford. Coy. took up a position on left flank of 2/18 Bn. 2/20 Bn. at the Fort had no close contact during day, much sniping by the enemy and machine gun fire.

A good deal of enemy movement seen and arty. support called for on several occasions. Punjabis on our left flank withdrew during afternoon and later a patrol from a detached Coy. of 2/18 Bn. established contact with a patrol of 2/20 Bn.

Enemy tps. concentrations engaged by our arty. and broken up.

During late afternoon and early evening enemy, supported by mortars, attacked in force the positions of 2/4 M.G. Bn. on our right with success and afterwards attacked and captured the feature held by our right flank. Prior to this the Officer i/c of this hill, Capt. E.W. Gaden, was evacuated with ptomaine poisoning.

Unit received orders from H.Q. A.I.F. to withdraw and conform to Bde

Feb.

12 Contd.

perimeter which was ultimately established with 2/20 Bn. and 2/4 M.G. Bn. holding the most westerly position astride road junc. Holland-Ulu Pandan Rds.

Much enemy activity round both flanks and heavy arty. fire caused casualties.

At approx. 2130 hrs. force ordered to disengage and withdraw through 2/18 Bn. to Buena Vista Rd. triangle. Move successfully accomplished, all serviceable tpt. and wounded being evacuated. After arrival at Buena Vista Rd. Unit ordered to rd. junc. Holland and Farrar Rds. to reorganise.

Lieut. Gaven's Coy. acted as extricating Coy. of 2/18 Bn. which withdrew to Buena Vista Rd. triangle following withdrawal of 2/20 Bn and 2/4 M.G. Bn. and enemy penetration in forward and right sectors of Bn. Area. On arrival the Coy. took up a position on a hill North of the Triangle.

13. 2/20 Bn. ordered to occupy Hill 90 and surrounding area in Holland Hill Rd. locality to conform with a perimeter then being established. The following tps. came under Comd:- Two detachments, 2/19 Bn., a half Coy. of 2/19 Bn. personnel, 2 Officers and 100 men of Ord. Fd. Park Coy. and "B" Coy. 2nd Bn. The Gordon Highlanders, O.C. Maj. Innes. Capt. A.I. Yates and C.C. Gibbings rejoined Bn. with draft. Enemy air arm very active and some arty. and mortar fire. No casualties. Lieut. Gaven's Coy. with 3/18 Bn. received reinforcements in Lieut. Hiddlestone and 30 men of AASC. Major Robertson promoted Lt. Col. and appointed to Comd. 2/20 Bn. Capt. Gaden with Lieuts. Cornforth and Cowden, with a composite force of 100 men, in defensive position as part of A.I.F. perimeter East of Tyersalls Palace on Clunice Rd.

14. Active patrolling by night and day, and Lieut. Gaven's Coy. destroyed an enemy cyclist patrol and drove another patrol off. Casualties 10 wounded by enemy mortar fire. Japanese movement in force seen well to the South of 2/20 Bn. sector moving in direction of Alexandra. Enemy observation balloon observed, N.W. of our position. Intermittent shelling by both sides and mortar fire. Our mortars shelled enemy positions vicinity Tanglin Halt. Capt. W.A. Carter promoted Major. Quiet night, normal patrol activity.

15. Situation as on previous day. In late afternoon A.I.F. perimeter subjected to two very accurate and intensive arty. barrages. Lieut. J. Rowe and 5 O.Rs wounded and evacuated. Orders received to cease fire at 2030 hrs and withdraw patrols etc.

16. Lieuts. Grieve, Simpson, Felsh and Ryan joined Unit ex G.B.D. and during the day considerable numbers of officers and O.Rs returned from service with other units. All tps. under Comd. 2/20 Bn. reverted to own Units control. Major W.A. Carter, performing duties of Bn. 2i/c. Capt. D.F. Thompson, performing duties of unit Adjutant.

*W. Roberts. Lt. Col.
Comd. 2/20th A.I.F.*

Feb.

17. Unit moved to R.V. at 1700 hrs for march to Changi Barracks.
Summary. Lt. Col. 1, Maj. 1, Capt. 6, Lieuts. 16, W.O.1. 1, W.O.2. 1, S/Sgt. 3, Sgt. 22, L/Sgt. 4, Cpl. 39, L/Cpl. 12, Ptes 392, Total 489.
18. Unit arrived at Barracks 0230 hrs, cup of hot tea given to all ranks, and barracks taken over in reasonable condition.
W.O.1. Blackie resumed duties as R.S.M.
Coys. allotted as follows:- H.Q. and B. Coys. on centre floors, A.C.D Coys on top floor, while bottom floor used as Mess.
19. Educational Scheme decided upon for training of men in various occupations.
Bn. Areas defined and clearing of same going on.
Lieut. Lusk performing duties of Q.M. Lieut. Blackford performing duties of Hygiene Officer.
22. Bn. Church Pde. held in Barracks.
23. Capt. Yates and Lieut. Mudie selected as Education Officers.
- Owing to Bn. strength being increased by personnel marching in, it has become necessary to form it into six Coys. with Admn. Group.
Maj. Merrett resumed duties as Bn. 2i/c.
Coys. allotted accommodation as follows:- C & D Coys. top floor, A & B Coys. centre floor, H.Q.1 and H.Q.2 Coys Ground Floor.
- An inspection of all Prisoners of War in Changi Area was made by the G.O.C. Japanese Imperial Army at 1600 hrs.
Lieut. Lee to perform duties of Entertainment Officer.
- Bn. mounted its first Beach Patrol Picquet at Kampong-Ayer-Gemurah.
First day of Bn. going on rice rations for three meals a day.
- First day of Bn. Agricultural party commencing duties.
Inspection of Barracks by Japanese Staff Officer.
Abution Point for bathing and washing completed for use by Bn.
Beach Picquet dismounted.
28. Bn. strength as at 1800 hrs - 50 Officers 676 O.Rs.
Approx. Bn. Casualties - 25 Officers, 484 O.Rs.

20 Bn. A.I.F. NOTES FOR - WAR-DIARY. - MARCH 1942.

MARCH.

1. Battalion commenced first swimming parade, and proceeded to beach a distance of $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles. Bn. church parade, combined Anglican Service. Officers commenced own cooking arrangements. NX 35012 Capt. R.J.D. Richardson marched in from hospital, where he was recovering from a wound received in action.
2. First day of educational scheme commenced in the following courses Business Training, under Lieut. J.K. Wisdom, General Education under Lieut. J.V. Mudie. Inspection made by Commander of Japanese Naval Forces of the P.O.W.'s camp today at 1600 hrs. Field Bakery made first issue of bread to A.I.F. units. NX 56116 Lieut. H.A. Woods and NX 69273 Lieut. M.J. Phillips marched in from hospital after recovering from wounds received in action.

March.

2 Contd.

Complete Nominal Rolls for sending to Australia handed to 2nd Ech.
Summary:- Lt. Col. 1, Maj. 2., Capt. 9, Lieut. 22, W.O. 1, 1, W.O.2.
1, S/Sgt. 3, Sgt. 32, L/Sgt. 5, Cpl. 43, L/Cpl. 30, Ptes. 523, Total 722.

4. Bn. Swimming Pde.
5. Swimming pdes. cancelled.
W.O.2. Webster H.E., arrived in Barracks after being missing since the attack on the Island - he was wounded in the hand.
Bn. commenced having 4 meals of rice per day.
Fresh meat again issued to-day.
The Field Bakery are supplying enough bread for one slice per man per day and will later endeavour to supply $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. bread for every 1 lb flour given by units.
6. Engineers completed showers at En. Ablution Point.
Bn. Entertainment Committee staged its first concert, which proved a great success.
7. Party of 54 men, under Lieuts. Armour and Cowden, moved to Singapore on fatigue work for Japanese Authorities.
8. Bn. Barracks sub-divided and top floor given to 27 Bde. for accommodation. This has been necessary owing to a change over in areas. Bn. now accommodated on two floors. Bn church parade held at 1800 hrs.
Four meals of rice per day is working quite satisfactorily.
9. Capt. Yates with a working party commenced the wiring of the A.I.F. area.
10. Large party of unit personnel working under the supervision of Engineers, on latrines. The Japanese Authorities have laid down a new timing schedule, to commence tonight, viz:- Reveille 0600 hrs, Lights Out. 2100 hrs.
11. This evening has been allotted as Battalion Sports evening, first since arriving in Changi Area. Coy's participated in an evening of cricket. First wiring task completed by Capt. Yates. Instructions have been received that fence is now to be ~~10 ft high~~ ^{triple donnet} with double apron each side.
12. NX 67514 Pte. Jeffrey, J.K. marched into unit this morning after being posted as missing since the Surrender of the Island, he had been wounded in the back, but was wandering around in the battle area until he gave himself up to the Japanese Authorities. Lt., Col. A.E. Robertson, administering command of the 22nd Bde during the absence of Brig. A.L. Varley. Thirty-seven personnel (specialists) moved out of camp for Singapore, to work on the building detachment party. Unit commenced building its own Bakery oven.
13. NX 35007 Lieut. J. Hepburn and NX 26488 W.O. 11 Chapman, M.E. marched in from 8/9 th. Field Ambulance. Entertainment committee staged their second unit concert which was again very much appreciated by all present. Education classes now to be held each alternate evening owing to the new time announced by the Japanese Authorities.

MARCH.

26. Unit on parade for the inspection of P.O.W.'s by General SUGETYAMA of the Japanese Imperial Army. NX 38150 Pte. Mulhearn, T. and NX 44295 Pte. Blackman, E. E. marched out to detention barracks.
27. 7 Officers one hundred fifty o/r's warned to stand by at half hours notice for move to Singapore as a working party.
28. Battle casualty list of unit completed and forwarded to Echelon. Summary:- Officers: Killed in action: 6. Believed K in A: 4. Died of Wounds: 2. Missing: 3. Total: 15.
Other-Ranks: Killed in action: 6. Believed K. in A: 28. Died of Wounds: 11. Missing believed drowned, (E.A.): 3. Missing believed wounded: 19. Missing: 245. Total: -315
29. Unit church parade held at 1700 hrs, this parade was attended by Brig. A. L. Varley.
30. Unit takes over Egigade duties from 2/18 Battalion.
31. Unit mounted its first guard since arriving in the P.O.W. Camp, this was an Officers guard under the command of Lieut. R. J. Stanistreet. A new allotment of areas take place from today. Twenty other-ranks marched into unit from Singapore parties. Indian guards are now being used on P.O.W. wired areas. After six weeks in our present surroundings everything has settled down to general routine with the troops more or less settling down to P.O.W. regulations.

D. J. Thompson Capt.
Adjutant. 2/20 Bn. A.I.F. P.O.W.

W. Roberts Lt., Col.
C.O. 2/20 Bn. A.I.F. P.O.W.



- April 1. NX 33391 Pte. Serong, G.L. marched into camp after wandering around the Island since the "Surrender"! NX 52213 Pte. Lawrence G. marched in from Detention Barracks, after completing 14 Days Detention. Seven personnel marched out to hospital, two marched in from hospital.
- " 2. 2/20 Bn. provided agricultural party for the 27th. Bde this day. Unit trailer for the carrying of rations completed, but much too large for the work it will be required to do. Five Officers and one hundred and fifty other-ranks warned to "stand by" for Singapore Working party on 4th. Two marched out to hospital and two marched in from hospital.
- " 3. Good Friday and Holy Communion held at 0830hrs. Combined church Service held at 1700hrs. NX 31893 Pte. Cranney R.T. has been absent from Camp for 72hrs., and is presumed missing. Unit providing 50 men for work on Bde. agricultural plots as from today. NX 26611 A/Sgt. Fardy, T. NX ~~52809~~ Cpl. Jewiss A.C. and NX 52129 Cpl. Charlton H.E. were reverted to the rank of Pte. as from today. (G.O.C. authority). Unit received issue of Hot-Cross-Buns from Field Bakery. One marched out to hospital and two marched in, from hospital.
- " 4. G.O.C. Major-General Callaghan, C.B. (V.D) inspected troops of the 22nd. Bde. this morning at 1100hrs. Unit party for Singapore cancelled. 27th. Bde. provided unit's agricultural party today. Full Casualty List of Unit prepared and Summary is as follows:- Officer's. Killed and Missing:- 15. Wounded:- 10. N.C.O's. Killed and Missing:- 27. Wounded:- 27. Other-Ranks. Killed and Missing:- 294 Wounded:- 139 TOTAL:- 512. One to hospital and six marched in from hospital.
- " 5. Easter Sunday and Combined Church Service held at 1700hrs. NX 52213 Pte. Wilesmith G.P. and NX 30860 Pte. Kingham C.C. marched ~~out from~~ Detention Barracks. Unit cricket team met the 2/10th Field Amb. in a match which resulted in a win for the medical Unit. Strong Piquet mounted to endeavour to stamp out organised gambling. Three marched in from hospital.
- " 6. Unit providing Anti-Malarial party for work under Hygiene Section. Battalion Bake-house has been obtaining some very good results with rice flour experiments. Agricultural Officer reports a good growth of sweet potatoes in Unit plot. One marched in from hospital, two from Convalescent Depot and one from Singapore working party,.
- " 7. Officer's of Unit attended a lecture given by Lt. Col. Galleghan.. E.I on the activities of the 2/30 Battalion on the Mainland. Small issue of clothing made to Unit today. Unit warned to stand by for working party to Singapore on the 9th. NX 52088 Cpl. Barnett J.L. and NX 33600 Pte. Bowman J.A.C. gave a blood transfusion for Lieut. MacLean A.H. ~~Who~~ marched out to hospital and three marched in from hospital.
- " 8. NX 35012 Capt. R.J.D. Richardson, moved out to Singapore for work on the A.I.F. Kit-Store. Unit advised that Japanese authorities have made a quantity of stores available for the commencement of a Canteen. Two marched in from hospital.
- " 9. Portion of Unit Barracks being used for the stacking of the cloth which is now arriving from the Kit-Store in Singapore. NX 31449 Pte. Doyle C.J. marched in from Detention Barracks. ~~xxxx~~ stores which are available for issue to troops on a Canteen basis will now be made by A.S.C. to Units according to their strenght figures.

D. Thompson Capt.

APRIL.

- " 10. Unit commenced constructing shade shelter's for troops over mess-ing areas. Officers of unit attended a lecture given by Col. Kappee of 8 Div. Sigs., on "Communications and Lessons Learnt, during the Malayan Campaign." One marched in from hospital.
- " 11. NX 45175 Pte. Davison A.E. marched out to the Detention Barracks. Special instructions have been issued to unit today regarding the cooking of rice as the medical authorities are concerned over the lack of Vitamin "B". Three marched in from hospital.
- " 12. Combined church service held at 1700 hrs. 3 Officers and 85 men working on Anti-Malarial work today. NX 40878 Lieut. L.J. Ryan evacuated to hospital. NX 31893 Pte. Cranney R.T., NX 55102 Pte. Fowler N.W. and NX 51966 Pte. Bayliss F.O. arrived back in Camp after being absent for various periods, some of the time being spent in Japanese hands. One marched in from hospital.
- " 13. Lieut. F. Gaven and twenty other ranks warned to stand by for a move to Mersing for the dismantling of land mines. Unit to take over portion of Bde. duties tonight. NX 45130 Pte. Burns S.A.N. arrived in Camp after being absent for 22 days. Officers of unit attended lecture given by Major Hunter B.M. of the Artillery Bde., on the "Artillery Operations in the Malayan Campaign." One evacuated to hospital. Three marched in from hospital and three from Convalescent Depot.
- " 14. NX 31893 Pte. Cranney R.T. marched out to Detention Barracks. Mersing party issued with clothing. Two marched in from hospital.
- " 15. Two Officers and eighty-eight other-ranks detailed to standby for move to Singapore tomorrow. Two evacuated to hospital. One marched in from hospital and one from Con. Depot. NX 4429 Pte. Blackman E. marched in from Detention Barracks.
- " 16. Singapore Party moved off under Capt. C.C. Gibbings at 0800 hrs; Unit received "boring machine", and a twenty-four hour roster has been drawn up for the purpose of placing down as many latrine holes as possible in the 48 hours that it is allotted to the unit. Singapore party arrived back in camp as no accommodation was available in Singapore. 2/19 Bn., relieved our unit guard on the Ordnance Kit-Store. Twelve other-ranks marched in from Singapore working party. Three evacuated to hospital.
- " 17. Officers of unit attended a lecture given by Lt. Col. A.E. Robertson on "The Arms of an Infantry Battalion.
- " 18. NX 38150 Pte. Mulhearn T. marched in from Detention Barracks. The following promotions appeared on G.O.C.'s Promotions and Appointments Order dated 18 April. '42. Major. A.E. Robertson to be Lt. Col. from 11.2.42 and to Command. Capt. J.G. Fairley to be Major from 14.2.42. Capt. W.A. Carter to be Major from 14.2.42. Lieut. R.V. Pockley to be Capt. from 30.1.42. Lieut. J. Hepburn to be Capt. from 30.1.42. Lieut. F. Gaven to be Capt. from 30.1.42. NX 53430 Pte. Higham G.E. and NX 57409 Pte. Saville V.H. awarded 28 days detention. NX 68499 Pte. Trotter L.H. and NX 4405 Pte. Bluhdorn B.D. awarded 7 days detention. Three evacuated to hospital.
- " 19. Combined church service held at 1700 hrs. Syllabus drawn up for W.O. and N.C.O.'s course to commence tomorrow. One evacuated to hospital and one to Con. Depot. Two marched in from hospital.
- " 20. Officers of unit attended lecture given by Lt. Col. Summers on "Medical difficulties and Evacuations on the Mainland." W.O. and N.C.O.'s course commenced, this course is to strengthen the discipline of the unit. Three marched in from hospital.

- April. 21. Unit warned to stand by with 8 Officers and 200 o/rs for a Singapore working party on 22nd. Two evacuated to hospital and three marched in from hospital, also one from Con. Depot.
- " 22. **WX** 39223 Capt. J.P. Catchlove marched in from 2nd. Con. Depot after convalescing from a wound received in action. **TX** 6071 Capt G.M. Crabbe marched out to 2/9th Field Amb. **NX** 55267 Pte. Hollis K marched in from Detention Barracks, after receiving four days remission of sentence. Unit's duties mounted on Bde. "Retreat", parade, this parade is to take place daily. **NX** 35012 Capt. R.J.D. Richardson, marched in from Singapore after completing duty at Kit-Store. Two marched in from hospital.
- " 23. Capt. A.C.M. Ewart nominated and selected to be Infantry Instructor at Div. Cadre. Lieut's. Lusk, Phillips, Simpson and Thom nominated and selected to attend. Two to hospital, (one suspected case of Beri-Beri.) Two marched in from hospital.
- " 24. Rice-grinder constructed by Capt. Ewart completed and put into operation. One evacuated to hospital.
- " 25. Anzac Day and Dawn Service was held at 0715 hrs, Unit laid a wreath and it was quite an impressive Service. Capt. Yates nominated as Unit Yeast production Officer. The production of yeast has become necessary owing to the lack of Vitamins and the danger of Beri-Beri. One evacuated to hospital and three marched in from hospital.
- " 26. Church Service held at 1015 hrs. Unit received its first issue of clothing from Ordnance, which had been obtained from the AIF Kit-Store in Singapore, .Cricket match played today between AIF and 11th. Division, unit representatives were:- Lieut. Cornforth, Pte. Stewart J. and W.O. Webster H. (umpire). Capt. A.C.M. Ewart, Lieut Lusk, Phillip. Simpson, Thom marched out to Div. Cadre. One evacuated to hospital, and one marched in from hospital.
- " 27. **NX** 34719 Major J.G. Fairley marched into unit after being seconded to 22nd. Bde. H.Q. since June. '41. Unit mounted Bde. Duties. **NX** 53430 Pte. Higham G.E. and **NX** 57409 Pte. Saville V.H. marched out to Detention Barracks, to complete 28 days detention. **NX** 14496 Pte Schulz R.H. awarded 7 days unit detention. Two evacuated to hospital and two marched in from hospital.
- " 28. A quantity of personnel property recovered from Kit-Store was handed to the unit today. One evacuated to hospital. Two marched in from hospital and one from Con. Depot.
- " 29. Coys commenced issuing of clothing to personnel, issue to be: 2 shirts, 2 shorts, 1 pr. boots, 2 pr. socks, 1 hat or cap, cape or ground sheet, 1 pr. long trousers, 2 towels, 2 singlets, 2 pr. short pants, razor, comb, 4 brushes. One evacuated to hospital and one marched in from hospital.
- " 30. Unit duties marched past the G.O.C. on "Retreat" parade this evening. Total personnel now in hospital from unit is 2 Officers 65 o/rs. Strength of unit in Camp. 19 officers ~~41~~ o/rs. Detached in working parties:- 12 officers 344 o/rs. Two evacuated to hosp.

D. Thompson Capt.
Adj. 2/20 Bn. A.I.F.

R.O. French Maj.
Admn. Comd. 2/20 Bn. A.I.F.

NOTES ON WAR DIARY - 2/20 BN.AIF.

Period 15 May
- 10 JUN 42.

May

15. Remaining personnel of the unit were this day engaged in clearing and cleaning floor area vacated by 'A' Force. Under Bde. direction, 2/19 and 2/20 Bns. combined for the purpose of cooking arrangements.
16. Of the remaining personnel only 12 were classified as 'Fit'. These included RSM., ORSjt., RAP. staff and batmen. 2/20 Bn. ceased furnishing guard for lower main gate. This duty now to be furnished by 27 Aust. Inf. Bde. and 2/20 Bn. of 22 Aust. Inf. Bde. on alternate days. Strength 1 Offr., 1 Sjt., 6 Ptes. Guard now to be located at NAAFI gate.
17. All personnel, fit and unfit, engaged in barracks area administration, hygiene etc.
18. All personnel as above, engaged during working hours in maintenance duties.
19. Party of 1 Offr. (Lieut. G. Blackford) and 14 O.Rs. left this unit to join working party at PULAU BUKUM. The destination of this party was later changed to BLAKANG MATI.
20. All cooking gear withdrawn from this unit and returned to 2/18 Bn. Q store. 2/20 Bn. this day vacated No. 9 building and moved into building occupied by 2/18 Bn. (No. 11). Bde. Gp., 2/18, 2/19 and 2/20 bn. details now all located in the one building.
21. All personnel employed cleaning up ground floor of building vacated by this unit, in readiness for occupation by details of Ordnance Depot personnel.
22. Personnel still engaged as for 21 May, and performing barrack maintenance duties. Instructions issued HQ AIF in regard to disposal of Kit Bags, and personal effects of Missing, deceased and personnel sailed with 'A' force. Personal effects may be sent to 2nd Ech. Kit bags of SINGAPORE working parties, less surplus contents to be returned to Ordnance and arrangements will be made to have these transported to SINGAPORE for distribution.
23. Unit garden party now operating under Lieut. Simpson. All personnel of unit reclassified by R.M.O.
24. Essential maintenance duties carried out. Church parade (O.P.D.) now held in 2/19 Bn. building. Daily return of 'Fit' personnel now required by 22 Aust. Inf. Bde. Offrs. Refresher Course held at 8 Aust. Div. terminated this day.
25. Lieuts. Thoms and Phillips returning to unit.
25. Lieut. F. Lusk rejoined unit from A.G.H. and resumed duties Adjt.

- May
26. Lecture to Offrs. delivered by CRE., Malayan Comd. Personnel of the unit engaged daily in barrack maintenance duties, salt water parties etc.
 27. Daily fatigues and maintenance duties carried out as above.
 28. Lecture to Offrs. by Maj.P.Head, HQ., AIF - Subject - 'Courts Martial' .
Steel helmets withdrawn and to be returned to Ordnance Depot. Return required of personnel desirous of continuing Educational classes; sufficient numbers being so desirous, efforts will be made for the continuance of these classes daily from 1630 to 1730 hrs. so as not to interfere with barrack and area duties.
 29. Lecture by Maj.P.Head, HQ. AIF to Offrs. Second lecture on the subject of 'Courts Martial'.
Lecture to tps. of 22 Aust. Inf. Bde. by Brig.H.B.Taylor - Subject - 'Operations of 22 Aust. Inf. Bde. on the island of SINGAPORE'.
 30. 27 Aust. Inf. Bde. took over guard at NAAFI gate. No guard will now be furnished by any unit of 22 Aust. Inf. Bde.
 31. Church parade (O.P.D.) now held in 27 Bde. Mess Room. During the past week personnel engaged daily on maintenance duties and essential fatigues.
Lecture to Offrs. by ~~Lt.Gen.Heath~~ in No.5 Bldg.

JUN.

1. Lecture by Brig.H.B.Taylor to all ranks - Subject - 'Operations of 22 Aust. Inf. Bde. in MALAYA' (mainland).
2. Fatigues and maintenance duties being carried out daily by all personnel - including volunteers from unfit personnel.
3. Lecture by Maj.Gunther, RAE. to Offrs. of 22 Aust. Inf. Bde. Gp. Brig.H.B.Taylor will, with effect from this date, administer comd. of 22 Aust. Inf. Bde. and will comd. an area to be known as Area 'M'.
4. Under Bde. instructions, and under unit arrangements, talks to tps. are now held each alternate day and of 1 hr. duration. The subjects include matters of general interest e.g. Banking, Wool & Sheep. telephone services etc.. Former employees of the Repatriation Dept. have also promised to assist in talks on Land Settlement, Pensions Rights, the rehabilitation of the soldier in civil life etc.
5. The Japanese authorities have now intimated that a sum of

Contd./

~~May~~
JUN.

5. of money will now be allotted to P.o W. in CHANGI area as Working Pay.
6. Certain articles may now be purchased through HQ., AIF for cash. These articles consist of tinned fruit, sardines, toffee, sugar, salt, sauce etc. etc. Limited quantities as yet only available. Proposed to make area purchases for the benefit of tps. using proportion of Japanese allocation of Working pay. Meantime tps. may make purchases for cash.
7. All personnel are daily performing necessary maintenance duties and fatigues in and around barracks area.
8. A second Offrs. refresher Course assembled this day at HQ., AIF. Lieuts. Ryan and Simpson attended from this unit. Sjt. H.Hewitt, Unit Sjt.Clerk from 2nd Ech. rejoined unit for duty. All personnel reclassified by R.M.O.
9. 3 O.Rs. proceeded to join Working party at Great World Camp. .

PART A.

1	2	3	4	5	6
Detail.	War Estab lishment	Posted Strength ex cluding Attached	Surplus	Deficiency	Remarks.
W.O. Class.1.	1	1	-	-	
W.O. Class.11	6	6	-	-	
S or C, Q. M. S.	5	5	-	-	
S/Sjts.	-	-	-	-	
Sjts.	32	29	-	3	
Cpls.	70	65	-	5	
Group 1 Spec ialists	1	1	-	-	
" 2 "	57	51	-	6	
" 3 "	43	21	-	22	
Tprs. Ptes. Etc.	561	724	163	-	
<u>TOTALS.</u>	776	903.	X 163	X 36.	127 surplus of Establishment.

X To agree with Part D on Page 2.

ACTIVE STRENGTH (This Return)	903	plus 9 Attached
ACTIVE STRENGTH (Last Return)	911	plus 8 Attached.
DIFFERENCE OF.	8	Decrease.

MARCHED IN.

MARCHED OUT.

From Hospital ex 'X' List	10	To Hospital Posted to 'X' List	30
From Detention ex 'X' List	Nil.	From Detention ex 'X' List	Nil.
Transferred from Other Units.	Nil.	Transferred to Other Units.	4
From G B D ex 'X' List.	12	Deceased (Drowned)	1
From G B D.	5		
Rejoined Unit ex Duties.	1	Detached for Duties.	Nil.

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/20 Bn. A.I.F. MALAYA. (Unit).

Part A.—Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements Required.

1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
	*		
	*		
Lieut.-Colonels	1	-	-
Majors	3	-	-
Captains	6	-	4
Lieutenants	28	2	-
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals	38	2	4

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

Part B.—Particulars of Officers Joined or Quitted during week.

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Captain.	EWART.	A.C.M.		

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Part C.—Description of Officers whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

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

Part D.—Nominal Roll of Officers on Strength.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Lt.-Col.	NX 379	ASSHETON. C.F.	2/20 Bn.	Yes.	
Major.	NX34192	ROBERTSON. A.E.	"	"	
"	NX35002	MERRETT. R.O.	"	"	
"	NX 499	COHEN. R.H.	"	"	
Captain.	NX35012	RICHARDSON. R.J.D.	"	"	
"	NX 498	EWART. A.C.M.	"	"	
"	NX34852	CARTER. W.A.	"	"	
"	NX12543	GADEN. E.W.	"	"	
"	NX70256	BETTERIDGE. A.J.	"	"	
"	NX35016	MAXWELL. G.L.	"	"	
Lieutenant	NX35004	YATES. A.I.	"	"	
"	NX12571	DAVIES. A.G.	"	"	
"	NX34640	BROOKS. J.S.	"	"	
"	NX70260	LUSK. F.G.	"	"	
"	NX70275	POCKLEY. R.V.	"	"	
"	NX34867	READ. J.J.	"	"	
"	NX35100	WHITE. A.H.	"	"	
"	NX35011	RICHARDSON. W.J.	"	"	
"	NX35013	RICHARDSON. B.D.	"	"	
"	NX12556	PORTER. H.W.	"	"	
"	NX35007	HEPBURN. J.	"	"	
"	NX34995	GAVEN. F.	"	"	
"	NX50546	MacLEAN. A.H.	"	"	
"	NX56164	MUDIE. J.V.	"	"	
"	NX52502	TIPPING. B.G.	"	"	
"	NX59561	RAMSBOTHAM. F.	"	"	
"	NX46215	ROWE. J.C.	"	"	
"	NX26769	ARMOUR. R.A.	"	"	
"	NX59135	STANISTREET. R.W.	"	"	
"	NX56116	WOODS. H.A.	"	"	
"	NX45803	HOMER. R.	"	"	
"	NX65413	LENNON. J.J.	"	"	
"	NX52188	WISDOM. J.K.	"	"	
"	NX58702	BAEVERTZ. C.R.	"	"	
"	NX46496	O'KEEFE. C.C.W.	"	"	
"	NX66178	McCINTYRE. A.	"	"	
"	NX14091	CHAVE. B.A.	"	"	
"	NX51473	BLACKFORD. G.H.	"	"	

(ii) Officers Attached from other Corps.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Captain.	VX39223	CATCHLOVE. J.P.	A.A.M.C.	21-4-41	R.M.O.
Padre.	NX35108	SEXTON. C.G.	A.A.Ch.D.	16-4-40	CHAPLAIN.

2/20 Bn. A.I.F.

Unit.

Lieut for I

Signature of Commander.

3 JANUARY 1942

Date of Despatch.

22 Aust Inf Bde Malaya.

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

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

2/20 BN AIF. (Unit) 3 January 1942 (Date).

(To be furnished by all units and all Headquarter units.)

Part A.—Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1 Detail.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
W.Os. Class I			
W.Os. Class II			
Squadron or Company Quarter-master-Serjeants			
Staff Serjeants			
Serjeants			
Corporals			
Troopers, Privates, &c. .. .			
TOTALS ..			

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

Part B.—Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
Pay Sergeant	A of P. G.	Qlt Post orderly	4 Det Postal
Sgt Armourer	A of O. C.		
Qlt MT Fitter	"		
MT Fitter	"		
MT Fitter	"	(Detailed to 2/14 BN)	
MT Fitter	"		
Wholesale	"		
Rats on - Bunks	2 Awt 4 of Bde		

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

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



2/20 Bn AIF Unit.

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

Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.							REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.					Remarks.		
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, &c.	Total.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Serjeants.		Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, &c.
Bricklayers															
Butchers															
Carpenters and Joiners															
Clerks															
Despatch Riders															
Draughtsmen (topo)															
Drivers H.T. and/or I.C.															
Electricians															
Farriers															
Fitters															
Masons															
Painters and Decorators															
Plumbers and Gasfitters															
Saddlers and Harness Makers															
Signallers															
Store men technical															
Vickers Machine Gunners															
Cooks															
General duty personnel								85	135			35		8	
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A)								85	135			35		8	128 surplus of 180 allowed

2/20 Bn AIF Unit.

Maximilian Lescot per H.H.
Signature of Commander.

3 January 41 Date of Despatch.

22 Aust Inf Bde Melbourne Bde., Divn., Area, &c., with which unit is serving.

10: 1: 42.

"PRO-FORMA" - Amendment to A.F. W.3009.

PART A.

1	2	3	4	5	6
Detail.	War Estab lishment	Posted Strength ex cluding Attached	Surplus	Deficiency	Remarks.
W.O. Class.I.	1	1	-	-	
W.O. Class.II	6	6	-	-	
S or C.Q.I.S.	5	5	-	-	
S/Sjts.	-	-	-	-	
Sjts.	32	31	-	1	
Cpls.	70	67	-	3	
Group I Spec ialists	1	1	-	-	
" 2 "	57	50	-	7	
" 3 "	43	20	-	23	
Trns. Ptes. Etc.	561	709	148	-	
<u>TOTALS.</u>	776	890	X 148	X 34	114 Surplus to Establishment.

X To agree with Part D on Page 2.

Active Strength (This Return)	890
Active Strength (Last Return)	903
Decrease of	13

Marched In

Marched out

From Hospital en X List	13	20 Hospital Posted X List	42
Transferred from Other Units	NIL	Transferred to other Units	7
From G B D en X List	20		
From G B D.	3		
Rejoined en Duties	NIL	Detached for Duties	9

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

2/20 Bn AIF. (Unit) 10 January 42 (Date).

(To be furnished by all units and all Headquarter units.)

Part A.—Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1 Detail.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
W.Os. Class I			
W.Os. Class II			
Squadron or Company Quarter-master-Serjeants			
Staff Serjeants			
Serjeants			
Corporals			
Troopers, Privates, &c. .. .			
TOTALS ..			

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

Part B.—Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
Pay sergeant	AAFC	1st Port orderly	6th Div Postal
Sq armourer	A.A.O.C.		
Sgt MT Fitter	"		
MT Fitter	"	(Detailed 2/14 Bn)	
MT Fitter	"		
MT Fitter	"		
Shoemaker	"		
Palman-Bruce	22 Aust Inf Bde		

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

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



2/20 Bn AIF. Unit.

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

Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.							REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.						Remarks.	
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, &c.	Total.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Serjeants.	Corporals.		Troopers, Privates, &c.
Bricklayers															
Butchers															
Carpenters and Joiners															
Clerks															
Despatch Riders															
Draughtsmen (topo)															
Drivers H.T. and/or I.C.															
Electricians															
Farriers															
Fitters															
Masons															
Painters and Decorators															
Plumbers and Gasfitters															
Saddlers and Harness Makers															
Signallers															
Storemen technical															
Vickers Machine Gunners															
Cooks															
General duty personnel							118	118			1	3		4	
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A)							118	118			1	3		4	114 surplus

2/20 Bn AIF.
10 January 42
Unit.

Signature of Commander.

10 January 42
Date of Despatch.

22 Aust Inf Bde Abela
Bde., Divn., Area, &c., with which unit is serving.

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/20 Bn A.I.F. (Unit).

Part A.—Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements Required.

1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
	*		
	*		
Lieut.-Colonels	1	-	-
Majors	3	-	-
Captains	6	-	4
Lieutenants	28	2	-
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals	38	2	4

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

Part B.—Particulars of Officers Joined or Quitted during week.

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Part C.—Description of Officers whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

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

Part D.—Nominal Roll of Officers on Strength.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
LT-COL	NX 379	ASSHETON C.F.	2/20 BN	YES	
MAJOR	NX 34912	ROBERTSON A.E.	"	"	
"	NX 35002	MERRETT R.O.	"	"	
"	NX 499	COHEN R.H.	"	"	
CAPTAIN	NX 35012	RICHARDSON R.J.D.	"	"	
"	NX 498	EWART A.C.M.	"	"	
"	NX 34852	CARTER W.A.	"	"	
"	NX 12543	GADEN E.W.	"	"	
"	NX 70256	BETTERRIDGE R.J.	"	"	
"	NX 35016	MAXWELL G.L.	"	"	
LIBUTENANT	NX 35004	YATES A.I.	"	"	
"	NX 12571	DAVIES H.G.	"	"	
"	NX 34659	BRDOKS J.S.	"	"	
"	NX 70260	LUSK F.G.	"	"	
"	NX 70275	POCKLEY R.V.	"	"	
"	NX 34867	READ J.J.	"	"	
"	NX 35100	WHITE A.H.	"	"	
"	NX 35011	RICHARDSON W.J.	"	"	
"	NX 35013	RICHARDSON B.D.	"	"	
"	NX 12556	PORTER H.W.	"	"	
"	NX 35007	HEPBURN J.	"	"	
"	NX 34885	GAVEN F.	"	"	
"	NX 50465	MACLEAN A.H.	"	"	
"	NX 56164	MIDDIE J.V.	"	"	
"	NX 52502	TIPPING B.G.	"	"	
"	NX 59561	RAMSBOTHAM F.	"	"	
"	NX 46215	ROWE J.C.	"	"	
"	NX 26769	ARMOUR R.A.	"	"	
"	NX 59135	STANISTREET R.V.	"	"	
"	NX 56116	WOODS H.A.	"	"	

(ii) Officers Attached from other Corps.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
CAPTAIN	VX 39223	CATCHLOVE J.P.A.M.C.	21-4-41	R.M.O.	
PADRE	NX 35108	SEXTON C.G.	R.A.C.H.D.	16-9-40	CHAPLAIN.

2/20 BN A.I.F.

Unit.

10 JANUARY 1942

Date of Despatch.

[Signature] Lieut for Lt-Col
Signature of Commander.

52 AUST. INF BDE MALAYA

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

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/20 Bn AIF(Unit).

Part A.—Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements Required.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels			
Majors			
Captains			
Lieutenants			
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals			

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

Part B.—Particulars of Officers Joined or Quitted during week.

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Part C.—Description of Officers whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

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

Part D.—Nominal Roll of Officers on Strength.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
LIEUTENANT	NW5803	HOMER R	2/20 Bn	YES	
"	NR65413	LENNON J. J.	"	"	
"	NR52188	WISDOM J. K.	"	"	
"	NR58702	BAEYERTZ C. R.	"	"	
"	NR44496	O'KEEFE C. C. W.	"	"	
"	NR66178	MCINTYRE A	"	"	
"	NR14091	CHAVE B. A.	"	"	
"	NR51473	BLACKFORD G. H.	"	"	
/					

(ii) Officers Attached from other Corps.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
/					

2/20 Bn A.I.F.

Unit.

10 JANUARY 1942

Date of Despatch.

[Signature] Lieut for Lt-Col

Signature of Commander.

22 Aust Inf Bde MALAYA

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

PART A.

"PRO-FORMA" - Amendment to A.F. W.3009

1	2	3	4	5	6
Details.	War Estab- lishment.	Posted Strength Excluding Attached.	Surplus.	Deficiency	Remarks.
W.O. Class I.	1	1			
W.O. Class II.	6	6			
S or C.Q.M.S.	5	5			
S/Sjts.	—	—			
Sjts.	32	25		7	
Cpls.	70	64		6	
Group 1 Specialists.	1	1	—	—	
" 2 "	57	50		7	
" 3 "	43	21		22	
Tprs. Ptes. Etc.	561	704	143		
TOTALS.	776	877	X 143	X 42	101 Surplus to Establishment

X To agree with Part D on Page 2.

active Strength	(This Return)	877
active Strength	Last Return	890
Decrease		13

Marched In

from Hospital Ex X List	8
Transferred from other units	2 Nil
from G.B.D. ex X List	27
from G.B.D.	7
<u>Killed in action</u>	1
Resumed Ex Duties	Nil

Marched Out

To Hospital Posted X List	50
Transferred to other units	1
Killed in Action	1
Detached for Duties	Nil

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

2/20 Bn AIF (Unit) 17 January 1942 (Date)

(To be furnished by all units and all Headquarter units.)

Part A.—Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1 Detail.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
W.Os. Class I			
W.Os. Class II			
Squadron or Company Quarter- master-Serjeants			
Staff Serjeants			
Serjeants			
Corporals			
Troopers, Privates, &c. .. .			
TOTALS			

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

Part B.—Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
PAY SERGEANT	A A P C.	CPI Post Orderly	8 DIV POSTAL
SST ARMOURER	A A O C		
SST MT FITTER	"		
MT FITTER	"	[DETACHED 2/18 BN]	
MT FITTER	"		
SST MT FITTER	"		
SHOEMAKER	"		
BATMAN-DRIVER	22 AUST INF BDC		

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

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

2/20 Bn AIF. Unit.

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

Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.							REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.						Remarks.		
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, &c.	Total.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Serjeants.	Corporals.		Troopers, Privates, &c.	Total.
Bricklayers																
Butchers																
Carpenters and Joiners																
Clerks																
Despatch Riders																
Draughtsmen (topo)																
Drivers H.T. and/or I.C.																
Electricians																
Farriers																
Fitters																
Masons																
Painters and Decorators																
Plumbers and Gasfitters																
Saddlers and Harness Makers																
Signallers																
Storemen technical																
Vickers Machine Gunners																
Cooks																
General duty personnel							114	114			76				13	
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A)							114	114			76				13	101 surplus to establishment

2/20 Bn AIF
Unit.
17 January 1942
Date of Despatch.

Leant for Lt Col
Signature of Commander.
22 Aust Inf Bde Kokaya
Bde., Divn., Area, &c., with which unit is serving.

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

.....(Unit).

Part A.—Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements Required.

1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels	1		
Majors	3		
Captains	27		# 34
Lieutenants	27	59	
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals	38	59	# 34

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

Part B.—Particulars of Officers Joined or Quitted during week.

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Captain	Gibbins C.C.	2/20 Bn	16/14	Ex F.B.D. Ex X List

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Lieutenant	BAEYERTZ C.B.	2/20 Bn	12/14	Evacuated to Hosp. Posted X List

Part C.—Description of Officers whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

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

Part D.—Nominal Roll of Officers on Strength.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
LT-COL	NX 379	ASSHETON C.F.	2/20 BN	YES	
MAJOR	NX 34912	ROBERTSON A.E.	"	"	
"	NX 35002 35002	MERRETT R.O.	"	"	
"	NX 499	COHEN R.H.	"	"	
CAPTAIN	NX 35012	RICHARDSON R.J.O.	"	"	
"	NX 498	EWART A.C.M.	"	"	
"	NX 34852	CARTER W.A.	"	"	
"	NX 12543	GADEN E.W.	"	"	
"	NX 70256	BETTERIDGE A.J.	"	"	
"	NX 35016	MAXWELL G.L.	"	"	
LIEUTENANT	NX 35004	YATES A.I.	"	"	
"	NX 12571	DAVIES A.G.	"	"	
"	NX 34659	BROOKS J.P.	"	"	
"	NX 70260	LUSK F.G.	"	"	
"	NX 70275	POCKLEY R.V.	"	"	
"	NX 34867	READ J.J.	"	"	
"	NX 35100	WHITE A.H.	"	"	
"	NX 35011	RICHARDSON W.J.	"	"	
"	NX 35013	RICHARDSON B.D.	"	"	
"	NX 12556	PORTER H.W.	"	"	
"	NX 35007	HEPBURN J.	"	"	
"	NX 34885	GAVEN F.	"	"	
"	NX 50465	MACLEAN A.H.	"	"	
"	NX 56164	MULDIE J.V.	"	"	
"	NX 52502	TIPPING B.G.	"	"	
"	NX 59561	RAMSBOOTHAM F.	"	"	
"	NX 46215	ROWE J.E.	"	"	
"	NX 26769	ARMOUR R.A.	"	"	
"	NX 59135	STANISIRETT R.W.	"	"	
"	NX 56116	WOODS H.A.	"	"	

(ii) Officers Attached from other Corps.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
CAPTAIN	VX 39223	CATEHLOVE J.P.	A.A.M.C.	21/4/41	R.M.O.
PADRE	NX 35108	SEXTON C.G.	A.A.Ch.D.	16/9/41	CHAPLAIN

2/20 BN A.I.F.

Unit.

17 JANUARY 1942.

Date of Despatch.

[Signature] Lieut Gen Lt Col

Signature of Commander.

22 Aust. Inf Bde. MALAYA

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

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

.....(Unit).

Part A.—Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements Required.

1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels	1		
Majors	3		
Captains	10		
Lieutenants	22		
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals	36		

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

Part B.—Particulars of Officers Joined or Quitted during week.

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
 	KIEHL BARVERTZ C B	2/20 Bn	12/42	Evacuated to Hosp. Posted X. lost

Part C.—Description of Officers whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

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

Part D.—Nominal Roll of Officers on Strength.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
LIEUTENANT	NX 45803	HOMER R	2/20 BN	YES	
"	NX 65413	LENNON J J	"	"	
"	NX 52188	WISDOM J K	"	"	
"	NX 58702	BAEYERT C B	"	NO	To X List
"	NX 46496	O'KEEFE C C W	"	YES	
"	NX 66178	MACINTYRE A	"	"	
"	NX 44091	CHAVE R A	"	"	
"	NX 51473	BLACKFORD G H S	"	"	
CAPTAIN	NX 34840	GIBBINGS C C	"	"	Ex 980 Ex X List

(ii) Officers Attached from other Corps.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.

2/20 BN A I F
Unit.
19th JANUARY 1942
Date of Despatch.

[Signature]
Signature of Commander.
22 Aust Inf Bde MALAYA
Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.

PART A.

"PRO-FORMA" - Amendment to A.F. W.3009

24/1/42

1	2	3	4	5	6
Details.	War Estab- lishment.	Posted Strength Excluding Attached.	Surplus.	Deficiency	Remarks.
W.O. Class 1.	1	1	—	—	
W.O. Class 11.	6	6	—	—	
S or C.Q.M.S.	5	5	—	—	
S/Sjts.	—	—	—	—	
Sjts.	32	25	—	7	
Cpls.	70	64	—	6	
Group 1 Specialists.	1	1	—	—	
" 2 "	57	48	—	9	
" 3 "	43	21	—	22	
Tprs. Ptes. Etc.	561	658	97	—	
TOTALS.	776	829	X 97	X 44	53 Surplus to Establishment

X To agree with Part D on Page 2.

Active Strength (This Return) 824

Active " (Last Return) 877

Decrease of 48

MARCHED IN

from Hospital Ex. X. List	5
Transferred from other units	Nih
from G. B. N. ex X List	Nih
from G. B. N.	Nih
Rejoined Ex Units	Nih
TOTAL	<u>5</u>

MARCHED OUT

To Hospital Posted to X List	37
Transferred to other Unit	6
Killed in Action	1
Wounded " To X List	7
Posted to X List Ex Detached	2
TOTAL	<u>53</u>



FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

.....(Unit).

Part A.—Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements Required.

1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
	*		
	*		
Lieut.-Colonels	1		
Majors	3		
Captains	89		43
Lieutenants	2625	87	
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals ..	37	87	43

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

Part B.—Particulars of Officers Joined or Quitted during week.

Officers JOINED during week.

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

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Lieut	NISBOM J K	2/28 Bn	31 1.42	Evac to Hosp
.....				

Part C.—Description of Officers whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

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

Part D.—Nominal Roll of Officers on Strength.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
LT COL	NY 379	ASSHERTON C F	2/200 Bn	YES	
MAJOR	NY 34912	ROBERTSON A E	"	"	
"	NY 35002	MERRETT R D	"	"	
"	NY 499	COLLIER R H	"	"	
CAPTAIN	NY 35012	RICHARDSON R J O	"	"	
"	NY 498	EWART A E M	"	"	
"	NY 34853	CHARTER M A	"	"	
"	NY 34840	GIBBINGS C E	"	"	
"	NY 12543	GADEN E W	"	"	
"	NY 70256	BETTERIDGE A J	"	"	
"	NY 35016	MAXWELL G L	"	"	
LIUTENANT	NY 35004	VATES A I	"	"	
LIUTENANT	NY 12571	DAVIES A G	"	"	
"	NY 34659	BROOKS J S	"	"	
"	NY 70260	LUSH F G	"	"	
"	NY 70275	MOCKLEY R Y	"	"	
"	NY 34867	READ J J	"	"	
"	NY 35100	WHITE A H	"	"	
"	NY 35011	RICHARDSON M J	"	"	
"	NY 35013	RICHARDSON R D	"	"	
"	NY 12556	PORTER H W	"	"	
"	NY 35007	HARDMAN J	"	"	
"	NY 34885	GAVEN F	"	"	
"	NY 50465	MURDOGH A H	"	"	
"	NY 56164	MIDDIE J V	"	"	
"	NY 53502	TIPPING B G	"	"	
"	NY 59561	KANSBOTHAM F	"	"	
"	NY 46215	ROYCE J C	"	"	
"	NY 26769	ARMOUR R A	"	"	
"	NY 59135	STANISFRET A W	"	"	

(ii) Officers Attached from other Corps.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
CAPTAIN	VX 39223	CATELHOVE J P	A A M E	21-4-44	R. M. D.
MAJOR	NY 35105	SEXTON C G	A A C N D	16-9-44	(CHAPLAIN) Posted to X Coy

2/20 Bn AIF

Unit.

24/11/42

Date of Despatch.

Signature of Commander.
22 Aust Inf Bde MALAYA

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



FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

.....(Unit).

Part A.—Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements Required.

1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
	*		
	*		
Lieut.-Colonels			
Majors			
Captains			
Lieutenants			
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals ..			

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

Part B.—Particulars of Officers Joined or Quitted during week.

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Lieut	WISOKOM	2/20/42	21/42	Evac to Hosp Postal to ...

Part C.—Description of Officers whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

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



Part D.—Nominal Roll of Officers on Strength.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Lieut	NY 5116	WOODS H H	2/20 BN	YES	
"	NY 45803	HOMER R	"	"	
"	NY 45413	LENDON J J	"	"	
"	NY 52186	WISDOM Z H	"	NO	posted to 4th
"	NY 46496	PKERFE C P W	"	YES	
"	NY 46178	MARINTYRE A	"	"	
"	NY 14091	CHAVE B A	"	"	
"	NY 51473	BLACKFORD G H S	"	"	
"	34810				

(ii) Officers Attached from other Corps.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.

2/20 BN A.I.F.
Unit.
24 January 42
Date of Despatch.

James [Signature]
Signature of Commander.
22 April 1942
Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.

31/1/42

PAR A.

"PRO-FORMA" - Amendment to A.F. W.3009

1	2	3	4	5	6
Details.	War Estab- lishment.	Posted Strength Excluding Attached.	Surplus.	Deficiency	Remarks.
W.O. Class 1.	1	1	—	—	
W.O. Class 11.	6	5	—	1	
S or C.Q.M.S.	5	5	—	—	
S/Sjts.	—	—	—	—	
Sjts.	32	22	—	10	
Cpls.	70	59	—	11	
Group 1 Specialists.	1	1	—	—	
" 2 "	57	48	—	9	
" 3 "	43	21	—	22	
Tprs. Ptes. Etc.	561	612	51	—	
TOTALS.	776	774	X 51	X 53	Deficiency on Est 2.

X To agree with Part D on Page 2.

Active Strength	(This Return	774
200	(Last Return	829
	Decrease	55

Marched In

Marched Out

From Hosp. Ex. X list 5
 Taken on strength Ex. Rose-ter 7

To Hosp. Posten X list 59
 Transferred 1
 Missing believed Killed 1
 Missing 4
 accidentally Wounded 2

Refused Ex. Duties 1

Detached for Duties 2

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

.....(Unit).

Part A.—Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements Required.

1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels	1	—	—
Majors	3	—	—
Captains	6	—	5
Lieutenants	22	4	
2nd Lieutenants	—	—	
Quartermasters	—	—	
Totals	32	4	5

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

Part B.—Particulars of Officers Joined or Quitted during week.

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
<i>(This section is crossed out with a diagonal line)</i>				

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Captain	VATES A.I.	2/20 Bn.	26.1.42	Evacuated to Hosp to X List
"	CARTER W.A.	"	28.1.42	do
Lieut.	O'KEEFE C.E.W.	"	28.1.42	do
"	RAMSBOTHAM F.	"	30.1.42	do
"	WHITE A.H.	"	30.1.42	do

Part C.—Description of Officers whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known).
<i>(This section is crossed out with a diagonal line)</i>			

Part D.—Nominal Roll of Officers on Strength.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Lt Col	NX 379	ASSHETON C F	2/20 BN	Yes	
MAJOR	NX 34912	ROBERTSON A E	"	"	
do	NX 35002	MERRETT R O	"	"	
"	NX 499	COHEN R H	"	"	
CAPTAIN	NX 35012	RICHARDSON R J O	"	"	
"	NX 498	EWART A E M	"	"	
"	NX 34852	CARTER W A	"	No	Posted to X list
"	NX 34840	GIBBINGS C E	"	Yes	
"	NX 12543	GADEN K W	"	"	
"	NX 70256	BETTERIDGE A J	"	"	
"	NX 35016	MAXWELL G N	"	"	
"	NX 35004	YATES A J	"	No	Posted to X list
Lieutenant	NX 12571	DAVIES A G	"	Yes	
"	NX 34659	BROOKS J S	"	"	
"	NX 70260	LUSK F G	"	"	
"	NX 70275	POCALEY R V	"	"	
"	NX 34864	READ J J	"	"	
"	NX 35100	WHITE A H	"	No	Posted to X list
"	NX 35011	RICHARDSON W J	"	Yes	
"	NX 35013	RICHARDSON B D	"	"	
"	NX 12556	PORTER H W	"	"	
"	NX 35007	HEDBURN J	"	"	
"	NX 34885	GAVEN F	"	"	
"	NX 50465	MACLEAN A H	"	"	
"	NX 56164	MUDIE J V	"	"	
"	NX 52502	TIPPING B G	"	"	
"	NX 59561	RAMSDATHAM F	"	No	Posted to X list
"	NX 46215	ROWE J C	"	Yes	
"	NX 26769	ARMOUR R A	"	"	
"	NX 59135	STANISTREET R W	"	"	

(ii) Officers Attached from other Corps.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
CAPTAIN	VX 39223	CATEHLOVE J P	A A M E	21.4.41	R. M. O
PADRE	NX 35108	SEXTON C G	A A C H D	16.9.41	CHAPLAIN (X. list)

2/20 BN. A. I. I

Unit.

31-1-42

Date of Despatch.

[Signature]
Signature of Commander.

22. Aust Inf Bde
Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

.....(Unit).

Part A.—Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements Required.

1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
	*		
	*		
Lieut.-Colonels			
Majors			
Captains			
Lieutenants			
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals			

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

Part B.—Particulars of Officers Joined or Quitted during week.

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
NIL				

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Part C.—Description of Officers whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

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

Part D.—Nominal Roll of Officers on Strength.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Lieutenant	NX56116	WOODS H A	2/20 Bn	yes	
"	NX45803	HOMER R	do	"	
"	NX65413	LENDON J J	"	"	
"	NX46496	O'KEEFE P W	"	No	Posted to X Unit
"	NX66178	MARINTYRE A	"	yes	
"	NX14091	CHAYE B A	"	"	
"	NX51473	BLACKFORD G H S	"	"	
/					

(ii) Officers Attached from other Corps.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.

2/20 Bn a I J

Unit.

31 1 42

Date of Despatch.

[Signature]

Lieut Col St. Noel

Signature of Commander.

22 Aust Inf Bde MALAYA

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

