

## WAR DIARY

or

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required)

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence  
Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. I.  
Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
Sept 4th 1943. (Sat)	"C" Coy left PISKA by M.T. and arrived at railhead BARKAKHANA.	
Sept 5th 1943. (Sun)	Two N.C.O.s evacuated to Hospital at BARKAKHANA.	
Sept 6th 1943. (Mon)	"C" Coy entrained at BARKAKHANA for MADRAS.	
Sept 7th 1943. (Mon)	One B.O.R. absented himself at TATANAGAR.	
Sept 8th 1943. (Wed)	Bn less "C" Coy left PISKA 0930 hrs by M.T. arrived BARKAKHANA 1115 hrs.	
Sept 9th 1943. (Thur)	Bn less "C" Coy left BARKAKHANA by Train at 1030 hrs.	
Sept 10th 1943. (Fri)	One Pte "C" Coy evacuated to Hospital WALTAIR.	
Sept 11th 1943. (Sat)	One N.C.O. and two Ptes evacuated at CUTTACK.	
Sept 12th 1943. (Sun)	4 Ptes evacuated to Hospital HERAMPUR.	
Sept 13th 1943. (Mon)	"C" Coy arrived at MADRAS and marched to Rest Camp.	
Sept 14th 1943. (Tue)	1 N.C.O. evacuated to Hospital at WALTAIR.	
Sept 15th 1943. (Wed)	2 N.C.O.s and 9 Ptes evacuated to Hospital at MADRAS from "C" Coy.	
Sept 16th 1943. (Thur)	Bn less "C" Coy arrived in MADRAS at 0600 hrs and marched to Rest Camp, WILLINGDON CLUB.	
Sept 17th 1943. (Fri)	IN REST CAMP.	
Sept 18th 1943. (Sat)	3 N.C.O.s and 5 Ptes evacuated to Hospital MADRAS.	
Sept 19th 1943. (Sun)	2 Ptes absented themselves at MADRAS.	
Sept 20th 1943. (Mon)	Bn embarked on T.S.S. ETHIOPIA at 1400 hrs MADRAS.	
Sept 21st 1943. (Tue)	1 B.O. and Followers EMBARKED ON (NAME OF SHIP UNKNOWN)	
Sept 22nd 1943. (Wed)	T.S.S. ETHIOPIA sailed 1740 hrs.	
Sept 23rd 1943. (Thur)	At SEA.	
Sept 24th 1943. (Fri)	Arrived VIZAGAPATAM 1000 hrs. Took on supplies. Sailed 1845 hrs.	
Sept 25th 1943. (Sat)	AT SEA.	
Sept 26th 1943. (Sun)	AT SEA.	
Sept 27th 1943. (Mon)	Arrived at CHITTAGONG at 0600 hrs. Remained on Ship overnight.	
Sept 28th 1943. (Tue)	Disembarked 0915 hrs. Proceeded by march route to REST CAMP No. 60.	
Sept 29th 1943. (Wed)	Bn proceeded by march route to CHITTAGONG Rly Stn and entrained for DOZHARAI at 1330 hrs. Arrived DOZHARAI 1500 hrs and marched to staging Camp No. 1.	
Sept 30th 1943. (Thur)	Proceeded to staging Camp No. 3 by march route at 0630 hrs.	
Sept 31st 1943. (Fri)	Arrived in Camp 1315 hrs.	
Sept 32nd 1943. (Sat)	Left Staging Camp No. 3 at 0645 hrs.	

Sept 25th 1943. (Sat)	Arrived Staging Camp No. 6 at 1100 hrs. Marched from Camp No. 6 at 0700 hrs and arrived at Camp No. 8 1400 hrs.	
Sept 26th 1943. (Sun)	Marched from Camp No. 8 at 0630 hrs and arrived at Camp No. 12 1340 hrs.	
Sept 27th 1943. (Mon)	Marched from Camp No. 12 to JETTY (TUMBRU GHAT) at 0430 hrs. Embarked on S.S. CHINDWIN and BARGE at 0600 hrs. Sailed at 0815 hrs. Arrived at BAWLI SOUTH 1300 hrs. Disembarked and marched to Camp. Arrived Camp 1400 hrs. Unloaded all Baggage and carried it to Camp.	
Sept 28th 1943. (Tues)	IN CAMP. Collecting and sorting of baggage.	
Sept 29th 1943. (Wed)	"D" Coy left Bn for WABYIN by march route at 1100 hrs.	
	Remainder of Bn Resting.	
Sept 30th 1943. (Thur)	Bn left for WABYIN by march route at 0900 hrs arrived 1400 hrs.	
<p style="text-align: center;">GR Nimmo                      Capt for, Lieutenant Colonel, Commanding, 2nd Bn The King's Own Scottish Borderers, T.W.</p>		

## WAR DIARY

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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

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Burma &amp; India M.S. D/1 &amp; D/5 O.S. 1934 - 35

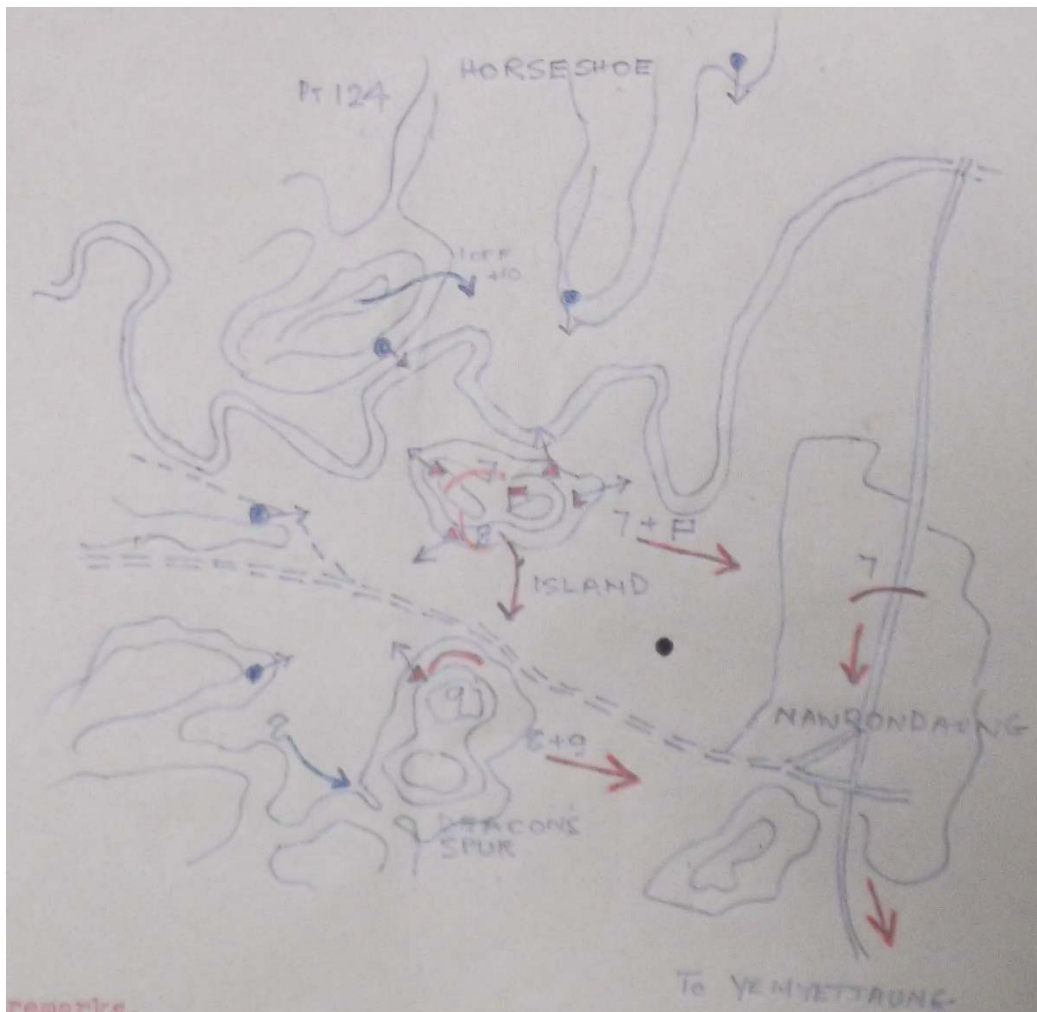
Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
1 Oct. 43. Wabyin.	Bn in new area. Collecting kit from AMINPARA Jetty 367634. "D" Coy sited O.P's and found recce patrol NIL Report.	KA Capt.
2 Oct. 43. Wabyin.	Allocation of Coy Areas. Local patrols No. 1 patrol to ULUBANNA 344503 NIL Report.	
1100 hrs. 3 Oct. 43 Wabyin.	No. 2 patrol to 361448 NIL Report. 12 Japs reported moving from NAYA MAGHPARA 3644 to foothills 3745. One Platoon sent to Recce. NIL Report.	KA Capt.
0330 hrs. 4 Oct. 43 Wabyin.	No. 1 patrol (1 Officer, 5 Full Ranks, 12 B.O.Rs) to 385505 returned 1805 hrs. NIL Report.	KA Capt.
0800 hrs. " " " "	No. 2 patrol (1 Officer, 2 Full Ranks, 4 B.O.Rs) left area to form O.P. on pt 1749.	KA Capt.
0800 hrs. 5 Oct 43 Wabyin.	No. 1 patrol left area to relieve O.P. on pt 1749 (1 Officer 1 F.R. 6 B.O.Rs).	
1730 hrs. 5 Oct 43 Wabyin.	No. 2 patrol (Capt Knox) left area for NAWRONDAUNG 3444 BAKKAGONNA 3542 and HABIBPARA (3242) 1 Officer 6 B.O.Rs.	
1830 hrs. 5 Oct 43 Wabyin.	No. 2 patrol (4 Oct 43) returned. NIL Report.	KA Capt.
1200 hrs. 6 Oct 43 Wabyin.	No. 1 patrol left to relieve O.P. on pt 1749 and push forward to pt 1619 (1 Officer, 1 F.R. 5 B.O.Rs).	
1500 hrs. 6 Oct 43 Wabyin.	No. 2 patrol (5 Oct Capt Knox) reached ANUAK SHWEZA 315400. Nothing seen in MAUNGDAW.	
1400 hrs. 6 Oct 43 Wabyin.	No. 1 patrol (5 Oct) returned. NIL Report.	KA Capt.
1600 hrs. 7 Oct 43 Wabyin.	1 C.S.M. 2 B.O.Rs returned from HABIBPARA asking for reinforcements in order to lay ambush in LETTHA 3240.	
1200 hrs. 7 Oct 43 Wabyin.	No. 1 patrol (Capt Newcome) left to relieve O.P. at Pt 1619 (1 Officer & 20 B.O.Rs).	
1630 hrs. 7 Oct 43 Wabyin.	No. 1 patrol (6 Oct) returned. NIL Report.	
1800 hrs. 7 Oct 43 Wabyin.	No. 2 patrol (Lt. Erskine) left for HABIBPARA to support Capt Knox (1 Officer 21 B.O.Rs)	KA Capt.
0930 hrs. 8 Oct 43 Wabyin.	No. 1 patrol left area to recce 3644. Returned 1630 hrs, NIL Report.	
0200 hrs. (approx) "	Ambush Party in LETTHA attacked - patrol withdrew.	As per Appendix "A"

1315 hrs. 8 Oct	"	Part of No. 2 patrol (5 Oct Capt Knox) and reinforcements returned and reported ambush successful - Casualties inflicted - 24 killed many wounded.	
1400 hrs. 8 Oct	"	Remainder of Capt Knox's patrol returned. Casualties sustained Lt. Erskine wounded, 1 B.O.R. killed, 1 B.O.R. drowned, 1 wounded missing, 2 believed captured.	KA Capt.
1000 hrs 8 Oct 43	Wabyin	No. 1 patrol (7 Oct - Capt Newcome) reported being fired on from Pt 1301 which was found to be wired and occupied by JAPS. Patrol withdrew to Pt 1749.	KA Capt.
1000 hrs 9 Oct 43	Wabyin	No. 1 patrol ("B" Coy) left to relieve O.P. on Pt 1749 (1 Officer, 4 F.R. & 18 B.O.Rs).	
1730 hrs 9 Oct 43	Wabyin	No. 1 patrol (7 Oct - Capt Newcome) returned to area less 3 men lost.	KA Capt.
0640 hrs 10 Oct 43	Wabyin	Bn provided escort for I. ARTY who shelled Pts 124 & 141.	
1800 hrs 10 Oct 43	Wabyin	3 missing men from Capt Newcome's patrol returned to camp.	KA Capt.
1000 hrs 11 Oct 43	Wabyin	No.1 patrol left area to relieve O.P. on Pt 1619 (2 Officers, 4 F.R. 30 B.O.Rs).	
1400 hrs 11 Oct 43	Wabyin	No.2 patrol left area for 372438. Returned 1730 hrs. NIL Report.	
1415 hrs 11 Oct 43	Wabyin	No.3 patrol left area for Pt 1749. Returned 1915 hrs. NIL Report.	
1615 hrs 11 Oct 43	Wabyin	No. 1 patrol (9 Oct) returned to area. NIL Report.	KA Capt.
2100 hrs 12 Oct 43	Wabyin	No. 1 patrol left area for NAWRONDAUNG (3444). Enemy encountered at ISLAND (352441). Enemy casualties - 8 killed, 2 wounded. Own casualties - 1 killed, 2 wounded. (Lt Shaw 39 BORS).	Appendix "B"
0920 hrs 13 Oct 43	Wabyin	No. 1 patrol (11 Oct) returned. NIL Report.	KA Capt.
0230 hrs 13 Oct 43	Wabyin	No. 1 patrol left area on recce (1 Officer, 20 B.O.Rs) returned 1800 hrs. NIL Report.	
1700 hrs 13 Oct 43	Wabyin	No. 1 patrol (12 Oct) returned to area.	KA Capt.
0200 hrs 14 Oct 43	Wabyin	No. 1 patrol left on recce (1 Officer 20 BORS) Returned 1700 hrs. NIL Report.	KA Capt.
0400 hrs 15 Oct 43	Wabyin	No. 1 patrol left for area 3645 (1 Officer 21 BORS) returned 1850 hrs NIL Report.	
0600 hrs 15 Oct 43	Wabyin	No. 2 patrol left for spur 352445 (1 Officer, 20 BORS) returned 1640 hrs. NIL Report.	KA Capt.
2350 hrs 15 Oct 43	Wabyin	No. 3 patrol left area for NORTH ISLAND (315401) (1 Officer 1 F.R. 21 BORS) Deception move	
1430 hrs 16 Oct 43	Wabyin	No. 3 patrol (15 Oct) returned. NIL Report.	
1850 hrs 16 Oct 43	Wabyin	Bn moved forward to ZEGANBYIN (3647) No incidents occurred.	
2115 hrs 16 Oct 43	"	Bn arrived ZEGANBYIN. Digging in of new positions during night 16/17 Oct.	KA Capt.
0805 hrs 17 Oct43	Zeganbyin (3647)	R.A.F. bombed HORSESHOE (3543) 1 VENGEANCE crashed area KWELA-BINGA. 1 Pilot's body recovered by villagers.	
1440 hrs	"	R.A.F. strafed RAZABIL (365395)	KA Capt.

1930 hrs	18 Oct 43	"	No.1 patrol left area for ISLAND (352442) (1 Officer 1 B.O.R.)	
0300 hrs	" "	"	No.1 patrol left for Pt 124 (3543) (1 Officer 1 F.R. 3 BORs) returned 1930 hrs.	
0330 hrs	" "	"	No.2 patrol left for 372437 (1 Officer 4 BORs) returned 1925 hrs.	
2130 hrs	" "	"	No.1 patrol (18 Oct) returned	KA Capt.
0500 hrs	20 Oct 43	"	No.1 patrol left for KWELA-BINGA (355433) (1 Officer 6 BORs)	
0850 hrs	" "	"	No.2 patrol left for 372438. Returned 1900 hrs. (1 Officer 3 BORs).	
2300 hrs	" "	"	No.3 patrol left for BAKKAGONA (352433) (1 Officer, 10 BORs.)	KA Capt.
1900 hrs	21 Oct 43	"	No.1 patrol (20 Oct) returned	
2100 hrs	" "	"	No.3 patrol (20 Oct) returned	
0300 hrs	22 Oct 43	"	No.1 patrol left area for 372438 (1 Officer 4 BORs) returned 1930 hrs	
2000 hrs	" "	"	No.2 patrol left area for 372438 (1 Officer 18 BORs)	KA Capt.
0330 hrs	23 Oct 43	"	No.2 patrol (22 Oct) returned	
1820 hrs	24 Oct 43	"	JAPS mortared "B" Coy area. NO casualties NOR damage.	KA Capt.
1830 hrs	25 Oct 43	"	No.1 patrol left area for 363434 (1 Officer 4 F.R. 9 BORs).	KA Capt.
0430 hrs	26 Oct 43	"	No.1 patrol (25 Oct) returned. Reported sounds of enemy digging in area 3643.	KA Capt.
0345 hrs	27 Oct 43	"	No.1 patrol left area for 352434. Returned 1615 hrs. Claim 5 casualties inflicted on JAPS in area 352438. (1 Officer 3 F.R. 10 BORs).	KA Capt.
1845 hrs	28 Oct 43	"	No.2 patrol left area for 362431. (1 Officer 15 BORs)	
"	" " " " "	"	No.1 patrol (Capt Bell) left area for Pt 124 (3543) (1 Officer, 6 F.R. 29 BORs). Contacted enemy wired position. Own casualties - 2 killed, 4 wounded, 1 Officer (Capt Bell) missing believed captured, 1 captured/escaped, 10 missing believed wounded.	Appendix "C"
0800 hrs	29 Oct 43	"	No.1 patrol (28 Oct - Capt Bell) returned.	KA Capt.
0130 hrs	30 Oct 43	"	No.1 patrol left area to try and locate missing men (1 Officer 11 BORs) returned 0730 hrs.	KA Capt.
0015 hrs	31 Oct 43	Zeganbyin	No. 1 patrol left area to try and locate missing men. (1 Officer, 3 F.R. 10 BORs) returned 0700 hrs.	KA Capt.
0710 hrs	" "	"	No. 2 patrol left area for 353434 (1 Officer 3 BORs).	KA Capt.
<del>0530 hrs</del>	<del>1 Nov 43</del>	<del>"</del>	<del>No. 2 patrol (31 Oct) returned.</del>	<del>KA Capt.</del>

PATROL NO. JAM 1.

- 1) Patrol Comdr. Lieut. L.W. Shaw.
- 2) Composition. 1 Offr. 4 Full Ranks, 34 B.O.Rs., 1 B.I.C., 1 Native Guide.
- 3) Orders. To occupy ISLAND 351442 with covering section on spur 352445, to observe movement on Pt.124 and harass them.
- 4) Time out. 2100 hrs. 12 Oct.
- 5) Time in. 1700 hrs. 13 Oct.
- 6) Route. ZEGANBYIN - 2230 hrs left in sampans - 2310 hrs arrived YEMYETTAUNG - track S.W. to NAWRONDAUNG.
- 7) Enemy encountered or located. At Pt.124 strength 12 0915 hrs.  
Spur 352445 strength 8 0945 hrs.  
Area - L.M.Gs as shown.
- 8) Casualties inflicted on enemy. 8 killed - 2 wounded.
- 9) Own casualties. 1 killed - 3 wounded (2 very slightly).
- 10) Inf. from locals. 1 "V" Force killed in action. One native brought in Pte. McLeod's body.
- 11) Amn. expended. As per appendix "A".
- 12) Losses of equipt. " " "
- 13) Brief Topographical report. Landing stage at YEMYETTAUNG usable at low water, good mule-able track leading to NAWRONDAUNG. Jungle on island - spur very thick scrub interlaced with creepers - bamboos - trees - several large mango trees on N. end island - banana grove. Island surrounded by paddy (not low lying).



14) General remarks.

Reached NAWRONDAUNG 2359 hrs took up defensive positions on X roads, sent 9 section up on to spur 352445. 7,8 and Pl H.Q. covered themselves across paddy to ISLAND at 0545 hrs and occupied it as shown on sketch map - No opposition - only old slit trenches 0835. Pl Comdr and 5 went back to village to contact "V" force for information. 0915 hrs - 7 section saw 1 Officer and 1 man, later followed by 10 men, come out of position on hill NORTH of Pt. 124 and came down track to bathe - gave them burst of 7 L.M.G. - Gun jammed - estimate 2 Killed 2 wounded - riflemen accounted for 2 more, then Jap L.M.G. opened up on them.

Pln Comd returned across paddy with "V" Force man who whilst showing position of Jap L.M.G. was shot through stomach, 8 Sec then ordered to withdraw to Spur and reinforce 9 Sec - heavy L.M.G. fire crossing paddy and some men had to remain with Pln H.Q. Cpl. Deacon (9) was lying amongst Sec and was hit in the arm and Pte. McLeod was killed. 9 and 8 Secs covered themselves back to village. Sgt. Duffy with one man was covering last man over paddy when eight Japs appeared round back of Spur. He killed four with hand grenade, other four withdrew but covered paddy with fire, so L.M.G. had to be left. 7 Sec then covered Pln H.Q. off Island to village then withdrew as shown taking up covering positions back to jetty. Pln H.Q. remained in NAWRONDAUNG for 15 mins - Japs did not follow up - 3 mortar shells were fired as patrol withdrew. Amn dump on inner (W) face of Pt. 124.

JAP INFORMATION.

Small men - greenish jackets, long slacks, peaked hats and helmets. One gun looked like "STEN".

Signed.

Remarks by C.O.

PATROL REPORT - CAPTAIN K. KNOX M.C. - K.O.S.B.  
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5 October.

1730 hrs Left Camp 1 B.O. 9 B.O.Rs, one B.O.R. sent back with fever from ZEGANBYIN.

Route KWINSARABIL-KWELA BINGA.

2115 hrs heard of 5 Japs in LETTHA, moved to HABIBPARA and stayed night in V force H.Q. in school.

6 October.

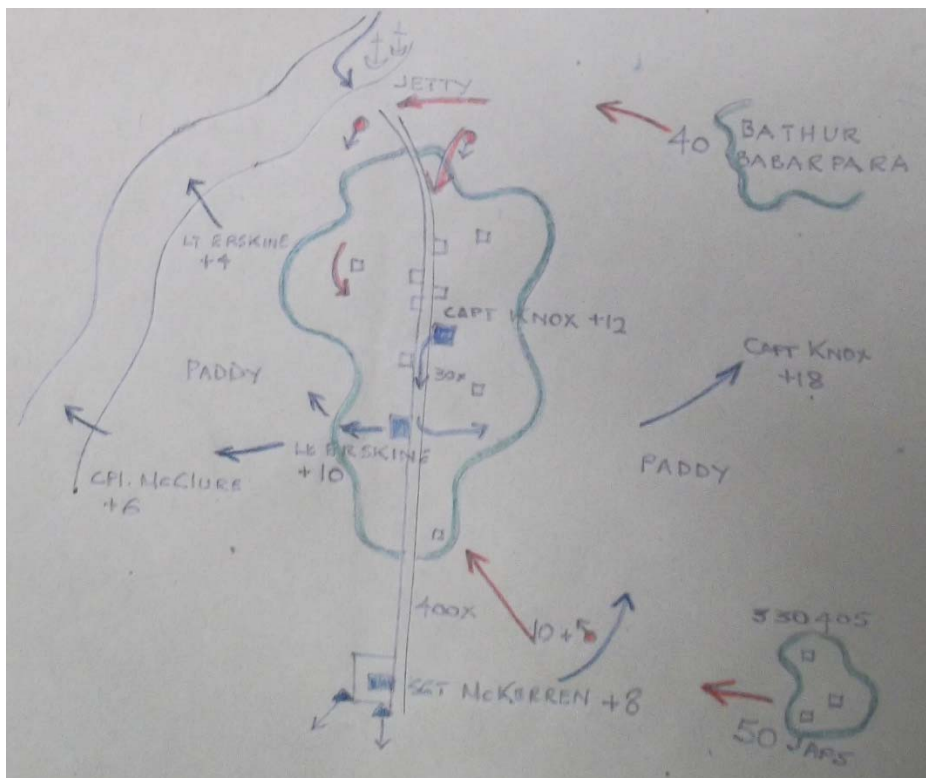
Conference with headman of LETTHA, and "V" force agent "BUDWOODIN" reported patrols 5-10 Japs come often to LETTHA. Crossed chaung to GINNAPARA 3143 KAPPAGAUNG 3042 and moved down to ANAUK SHWEZA 3140. Studied MAUNGDAW at 1500 hrs but saw NO signs of digging reported on jetty nor any movement. Returned same route to HABIBPARA and stayed night.

7 October.

Report by headman LETTHA, 16 Japs and small guard outside, had come to village at 0800 hrs and ordered him to produce 50 coolies to carry away scrap iron dump in LETTHA to MAUNGDAW, 2 trips were made. Capt. Knox wanted to ambush them, but natives would not provide sampans as they considered force inadequate. Asked for 30 men. Capt. Knox and 3 B.O.Rs stayed in HABIBPARA, C.S.M. Miles, Cpl. McClure and Pte. Bell(60) came back to ZEGANBYIN by sampan in 1½ hrs and reached camp at 1600 hrs approx.

Lieutenant J.D. Erskine with 23 B.O.Rs left at 1915 hrs and moved from ZEGANBYIN to HABIBPARA by sampan, arriving 2300 hrs. Headman arranged to clear some houses for an ambush and "V" force laid on sampans. Whole party under Capt. Knox moved down to LETTHA at 0400 hrs, arriving 0500 hrs.

SKETCH OF LETTHA.





#### ORDERS.

Capt. Knox had stationed Sgt. McKerron and 8 men with 2 L.M.Gs in a compound 400 yards SOUTH of village with orders to allow all through, to be dealt with by main body and to prevent any reinforcement.

Lieutenant Erskine was posted in a hut with 10 men near market place with orders to rush out and assist main Body when firing started.

Capt. Knox with 12 was in a house 30 yards NORTH.

Orders for withdrawal were if successful, back by sampan. If attacked in force, by sampan or alternatively across country, keeping to low ground on EAST.

Party under Sgt. McKerron saw 10 Japs come from S.E. through the paddy and up through village, but did not open fire as per orders. Moved out to covering positions, astride road.

The firing continued for 35 mins, so they went round the flank to assist main body. They then saw 50 Japs in extended order, coming from small village 330405. They met Capt. Knox retiring and returned with him.

No Casualties - 1 T.S.M.C. and 1 L.M.G. lost in chaung when boat sank, but native later brought in L.M.G.

Main Body first saw 40 Japs coming from N.E., slipping forward in threes and fours, obviously knowing of presence of patrol.

1 section with L.M.G. went straight to jetty, but sampans had left, 1 section with L.M.G. came down road and 1 section worked through village on WEST. 1 section came up road from SOUTH in front of Jap Company Comdr.(?) and L.M.G. When this section came opposite the hut the main body opened up with T.S.M.C., rifles, grenades and revolvers and the officer, runner, 2 L.M.G. gunners and medical orderly were killed. Many more were killed in paddy and village. The villagers by this time had all vanished, except some little boys. With the intention of concentrating his forces, Capt. Knox moved down to Lieut. Erskine's section. Lieut. Erskine's section, after killing the remainder of the section on the road had made for the jetty. Lieut. Erskine made for the jetty and after swimming chaung, crossed the NAAF and reached TEKNAAF with 4 B.O.Rs - further information to follow. Cpl. McClure cut away from this party with 6 men and crossed the paddy and tried to swim the chaung. They had to return and left their arms behind with L/C Clements wounded in the arm and Pte. Dalrymple who could not swim - L/C Lough was lost in Midstream (believed drowned). Cpl. McClure and 3 B.O.Rs returned via DALIADARA 3141 - ASHE SHWEZA 3042 - and across country to ZEGANBYIN.

Capt. Knox shouted to Lieut. Erskine's section, to come back but was not heard, so he moved back through village to join up with L.M.G. section. Just then 50 Japs were seen advancing in extended order, so after being joined by Sgt. McKerron's party they made way across marsh to chaung near HABIBPARA, crossed in sampans then back via ZINBAINGNYA 3247.

#### Casualties - Enemy.

MINIMUM estimate seen dead 24 - Many more killed and wounded in paddy and village.

#### Casualties - Own.

Vide our 10/3 dated 8 October.

Lieut. Erskine wounded in leg - 1 B.O.R. Killed - 1 Believed drowned - 1 Wounded Missing and 2 Believed Captured.

#### Information from Locals.

As per above, Headman of LETTHA and "BUDWOODIN" very helpful indeed, provided sampans, food etc. All villagers on way back showed routes and tracks and were friendly.

Someone in HABIBPARA must be JAPANESE AGENT, as whole ambush was known to the enemy. Local report, reinforcements came KANYANDIN

#### Information - Japanese.

TACTICS - When fired on, Japs made for trees and several shot whilst climbing. Japs did not follow up. All very bad shots and fired wildly.

DRESS - L.M.G. gunners were dressed in Dark Green and BLACK (repeat BLACK) uniforms. Remainder in Green or Brown material, good like American uniforms.

Senior Officer of two, wore WHITE shirt and Bush-hat, did not look like Japanese - more like Burmese - JIF ?, also carried stick and not sword.

HEADRESS - Mainly peaked cap, also steel helmets and some with black leather helmets like a crash helmet with 2 iron bands on top.

SIZE - Many were very big Japs over 6 feet, but mostly average 5 feet 6 inches.

WEAPONS - "96" type L.M.G., "86" type grenade discharger, rifles long, LEE ENFIELD rifles and bayonets and grenades. One man carried small dark green box on back, possibly wireless or Amn Box.

MORALE - Obviously expecting and knowing presence of enemy - did not get to close quarters and fired very wildly as soon as fired upon.

OWN TROOPS - Favoured T.S.M.C. and LEE ENFIELD rifle. Many Japs shot at long range with these but few with New Type. Grenades very useful.

95% men returned barefooted, as impossible to swim with boots - few men with "Patrol Boots" found them very Satisfactory.

MORALE OF TROOPS - very high indeed and high Standard of fitness.

Signed:- K.R. KNOX. Capt.

Report from Captain K.R. Knox and Patrol, less Lieut. Erskine and party.

Signed:- J.A.K. HOPE. Lieut. (I.O.).

PATROL NO. BULL 1.

Patrol Comdr :- CAPTAIN D.M. BELL.  
Composition :- 4 Full Ranks, 30 B.O.Rs.  
Orders :- To approach rear of Pt. 124 via re-entrant 357437, find out whether Pt. 124 was occupied and if so attack it.  
Time Out :- 2000 hrs 27 Oct 43.  
Time In :- 0600 hrs 28 Oct 43.  
Route :- HATHIPAUK 357441 (deserted) re-entrant 357437.  
Enemy Located :- Pt. 124 & Spur 357438 at 0220 hrs - Strongly held and wired.  
Spur 356441 at 0730 hrs - Strength - L.M.G.

Casualties inflicted on Enemy

:- Unknown.

Own Casualties :- 1 Officer & 10 B.O.Rs MISSING. 6 B.O.Rs WOUNDED (1 since died of wounds). SEE APPENDIX A

Information from Locals

:- Information from Capt. Strong "V" Force - Japs had withdrawn to line of KWEZA-BINGA gap, leaving standing Patrol of 10 men on Pt. 124.

Amn. Expenditure :- As per Appendix "A".

Losses of Equipment " " " " .

Brief Topographical Report

:- Chaung 358440 fordable - Hill slopes, very thick scrub and very steep.

APPENDIX "A".  
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Patrol crossed CHAUNG and moved up re-entrant 358437 and on to SPUR 357438, where they encountered wire and a fox-hole which they found to be unoccupied but a shovel lying beside it. They moved forward through the wire until they came across several strands of wire with tins attached. The Patrol Comdr put his Pln in an all-round defensive position and decided to wait until first light to decide on any further action. After half an hour (0220 hrs) three L.M.Gs opened up from short range and hand grenades were thrown (discharger cups were believed to have been used). Patrol returned fire with L.M.G. and Grenades and several Japs were seen to fall. Jap Grenades fell on 2 sections, inflicting casualties. The Patrol Comdr then gave the orders to withdraw down the hill. As they moved down the hill, several grenades were thrown at them inflicting further casualties - some of these were Bakelite and the splintering caused little damage. During the withdrawal through thick scrub and darkness, several men were separated from their sections.

CASUALTIES - ENEMY :- NOT KNOWN.

CASUALTIES - OWN TPS :- SIX WOUNDED, EVACUATED TO A.D.S.

2 POSSIBLY KILLED.

1 OFFICER AND 3 B.O.Rs BELIEVED WOUNDED.

6 B.O.Rs NOT YET RETURNED.

As the Patrol withdrew to own positions, they were fired at by L.M.Gs on the foremost edge of SPUR 356441.

Pte. Green returned. He had seen Jap Officer with a T.S.M.C. shoot Pte. Mawston, who was wounded. Whilst crossing CHAUNG he was fired on by L.M.Gs. on SPUR 355441. Our own Brens replied and silenced Jap L.M.G.

1300 hrs Pte. Bonnar returned, he had been taken prisoner and taken to what he thought to be H. Q. where he was asked questions which he could not understand and kicked in the stomach and beaten up. As he was being escorted away, he dived down the hillside, dropping 2 Grenades behind him. He then made his way back across the CHAUNG.

JAP INFORMATION.

Officer very short, bush hat, Tommy Gun, NO sword.

NO non-japs seen.

Several men with RED badges on arms.

Grenades H.E. and Bakelite used - also grenade dischargers.

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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~  
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Map ref. MAUNGDAW NORTH No. 2, 3 & 4  
1:25000. September 43.

Map Ref. BURMA & INDIA O.S. 84 D.1 and D.5

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
<u>1800 hrs. 1 Nov 43.</u> <u>Mon. ZEGANBYIN. 350468</u>	No.1 Patrol. Lieut. Hunter (SUFFOLK Regt attached for training) 7 BORS mixed K.O.S.B. and SUFFOLK to KWELA BINGA 351433.	KA
<u>0600 hrs. 2 Nov 43.</u> <u>Tues. ZEGANBYIN. 350468</u>	No.1 Patrol. Returns - Nil Report.	
2300 hrs. <u>Tues. " " "</u>	No.2 PATROL. Lieut. Laurie and 23 B.O.Rs to track 361432. Cut Jap telephone wire, withdrew on approach of larger JAP Patrol.	KA
<u>0430 hrs. 3 Nov 43.</u> <u>Wed. ZEGANBYIN. 350468</u>	No.2 PATROL returns. Situation normal.	KA
<u>0930 hrs. 4 Nov 43.</u> <u>Thur. ZEGANBYIN. 350468</u>	Pte. Clark, "D" Coy died after explosion of hand grenade he was cleaning.	KA
<u>5 Nov 43.</u> <u>Fri. ZEGANBYIN. 350468</u>	Situation normal.	KA
<u>0600 hrs. 6 Nov 43.</u> <u>Sat. ZEGANBYIN. 350468</u>	Bn relieved by 2/1 PUNJAB REGT 123 Bde. 5 Div. Moved back by Coys independently to rest area MAUNGHNAMA 336563. "D", "HQ", "C", & "B" Coys.	KA
<u>7 Nov 43.</u> <u>Sun. MAUNGHNAMA.336563</u>	Rest Camp.	)
<u>8 Nov 43.</u> <u>Mon. MAUNGHNAMA.336563</u>	Rest Camp.	)
<u>9 Nov 43.</u> <u>Tues. MAUNGHNAMA.336563</u>	Rest Camp. Coy Football competition.	) KA
<u>10 Nov 43.</u> <u>Wed. MAUNGHNAMA.336563</u>	1 Pl "D" Coy on guard duties AMINPARA Jetty 3253.	)
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		)
		)

<u>1000 hrs. 11 Nov 43.</u> <u>Thur. MAUNGHNAMA.336563</u>	Church services. Pres in Bn area. C.of.E. in Bde area. Lieut. Connolly injured by explosion of Gun Cotton, evacuated to MDS on D.I.list. Lieut. Shaw took over from Lieut. Connolly at AMINPARA.	KA
<u>12 Nov 43.</u> <u>Fri. MAUNGHNAMA.336563</u>	Field Firing.	KA
<u>13 Nov 43.</u> <u>Sat. MAUNGHNAMA.336563</u>	Field Firing. BESA Concert 1700 hrs.	KA
<u>1400 hrs. 14 Nov 43.</u> <u>Sun. MAUNGHNAMA.336563</u>	Bn move independently by coys in M.T. to WABYIN 366497. <u>2100 hrs.</u> Bn moved over NGAKYEDAUK Pass.	KA
<u>0030 hrs. 15 Nov 43.</u> <u>Mon. NGAKYEDAUK CH.425511</u> <u>1000 hrs. " " " "</u>	Bn harboured in area of CHAUNG 420515. Reccd Bn area. Bn H.Q. moved to 425511. "B" coy less 1 pl 425512. 10 Pl 437517. "C" coy 422513. "D" Coy 433512.	KA KA
<u>16 Nov 43.</u> <u>Tues. NGAKYEDAUK CH.425511</u>	Bn digging in, clearing tracks.	KA
<u>0500 hrs. 17 Nov 43.</u> <u>Wed. NGAKYEDAUK CH.425511</u>	Recce Patrol to PALANGYWA. Nil report. 442486. "C" coy moved to new posns. HQ 429500. 13 Pl 430499. 14 Pl 428498. 15 Pl 428500. 16 Pl "D" Coy cut track & mvd fwd to 436496. "D" coy less 1 Pl mvd into area 4350 after relief by 7/2 PUNJAB Coy.	KA
<u>1900 hrs. 18 Nov 43.</u> <u>Thur. NGAKYEDAUK CH.425511</u>	18 Pl relieved by Pl 7/2 PUNJAB 435495. Recce PATROL 1 NCO + 3 men to 433485 N.E.S. Recce PATROL 2 N.C.O. + 3 men to PALANGYWA 441485	KA KA
<u>0070 hrs. 19 Nov 43.</u> <u>Fri. NGAKYEDAUK CH.425511</u> <u>0700 hrs. " " "</u> <u>*1300 " " "</u> <u>1330 " " "</u>	Recce PATROL 3 N.C.O. + 3 men to 439485. * Patrol 2 returned NES. Patrol 3 returned NES.	
<u>1800 " " "</u>	"C" coy mvd fwd to area 4249. "D" coy mvd fwd to area 4349. Patrol 1 returned. Small parties Japs seen SOUTH of TATMIN CHAUNG.	KA
<u>0300 hrs. 20 Nov 43.</u> <u>Sat. NGAKYEDAUK CH.425511</u> <u>1145 hrs. " " "</u>	Fighting PATROL 1. Lieut. Shaw 10 men to 441482. Patrol 1 returned N E S.	KA KA
<u>0800 hrs. 21 Nov 43.</u> <u>Sun. NGAKYEDAUK CH.425511</u> <u>1600 hrs. " " "</u>	Recce Patrol 1. 1 W.O. 3 BORS to 431486, reported Jap posns SOUTH Bank TATMIN CHAUNG TWIN TREE HILL 428484. Patrol 1 returned. "C" Coy O.P. established 430488.	KA

<u>22 Nov 43.</u> <u>Mon. NGAKYEDAUK CH.425511</u>	Sitrep normal.	KA
<u>0830 hrs. 23 Nov 43.</u> <u>Tues. TATMIN CH. 432501</u>	Bn mvd to new area. "B" Coy less 1 Pl mvd to 432500. 6 B.O.Rs left for U.K.	KA
<u>1130 hrs. 24 Nov 43.</u> <u>Wed. TATMIN CH. 432501</u>	6 Vengeances dive bombed BROAD HILL 4347.	KA
<u>25 Nov 43.</u> <u>Thur. TATMIN CH. 432501</u>	Sitrep normal.	KA
<u>1800 hrs. 26 Nov 43.</u> <u>Fri. TATMIN CH. 432501</u>	Recce Patrol 1. N.C.O. and 4 BORs to 438483.	KA
<u>1900 hrs. " " "</u>	Recce Patrol 2. N.C.O. and 3 BORs to 453472.	KA
<u>0030 hrs. 27 Nov 43.</u> <u>Sat. TATMIN CH. 432501</u> <u>0630 hrs. " " "</u>	Patrol 1 returned N E S. Patrol 2 returned. Enemy reported TATMIN CH. 437481.	KA
<u>0330 hrs. 28 Nov 43.</u> <u>Sun. TATMIN CH. 432501</u>	Fighting Patrol 1. Lieut. Russell (3 B.Os. 24 BORs. 1 BIC.) to TATMINKALI	
0800 hrs *	* Captured 4 enemy agents (A D C) ambushed 3 JAPS in O.P. 2 killed one wounded, captured, died in R.A.P. 0815 hrs.	KA
<u>0800 hrs. 29 Nov 43.</u> <u>Mon. TATMIN CH. 432501</u>	C.O.s conference O.O. 7.	KA
<u>2000 hrs. " " "</u>	Recce Patrol 1. (1 W.O. 2 BORs 1 BIC) to TATMINKALI.	KA
<u>0630 hrs. 30 Nov 43.</u> <u>Tues. TATMIN CH. 432501</u>	Patrol 1 returned. Enemy heard SOUTH Bank TATMIN CH. 4447. 4547.	KA
<u>1730 hrs. " " "</u>	Recce patrol 1. Lieut. Shaw. 3 BORs to TATMINKALI.	
<u>1900 hrs " " "</u>	Pte. Bowers "C" Coy accidentally shot, evacuated to A.D.S.	KA
	<p style="text-align: right;">Lieut-Col.            Commanding, 2/K.O.S.Borderers.            3/12/43.            TW.</p>	

2nd Bn The K.O.S.B.

## WAR DIARY

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☒  
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~  
(Erase heading not required)

(a) Ref Burma & India M/S D & D5  
O.S. 1934 - 35 1" = 1 Mile.  
(b) Maungdaw North Sheet 4: 1: 25000

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
0600 hrs 1 Dec. 43. Ngakyedauk Ch. 431500	Lt Shaw returned from recce to TATMINKHALI reported 4 Japs seen moving EAST 450482.	KA Capt.
1800 hrs 1 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch. 431500	52 reinforcements arrived.	KA Capt.
1015 hrs 2 Dec. 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Capt Hope & 6 B.O.Rs on contact patrol to 4/1 GR 460505 returned 1415 hrs.	KA Capt.
0330 hrs 3 Dec. 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Lieut. Turnbull & 20 BORS "B" Coy with demolition party Cpl Anderson & 6 BORS HQ Coy to TATMINKHALI 443481 to blow Japs O.P. up. Returned O.K. with papers and leaflets.	KA Capt.
0815 hrs 3 Dec. 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Lt Topham & 10 B.O.Rs Wilts Regt left for 443481	KA Capt.
0530 hrs 4 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Lt Topham returned. Nil Report	KA Capt.
1830 hrs 5 Dec. 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Patrol Pansy I Cpl Robertson & 3 BORS to recce wire fence 439479. Sitreps Normal.	Very excellent detailed report by Cpl Robertson
0600 hrs 6 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Pansy I returned. NES.	KA Capt.
1800 hrs 6 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Peony I INCO 2 BORS "C" Coy to recce wire near BROAD HILL 437479 NES	KA Capt.
2100 hrs 6 Dec 43. 7 Dec 43 Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Returned to camp. Sitreps normal.	KA Capt.
0400 hrs 8 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Patrol Dandelion I Sgt Armstrong & 1 BOR to recce CHOTABIL and observe Pt. 182 4548.	KA Capt.
1720 hrs 8 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Patrol returned NES but information received from locals about Jap sentries.	KA Capt.
9 Dec 43 Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	15 men repatriated to U.K. Sitreps normal.	KA Capt.
10 Dec 43 Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Sitreps normal.	KA Capt.
11 Dec 43 Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Sitreps normal.	KA Capt.



0330 hrs 11 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch. 431500	Lily 1 (Capt Knox, 1 B.O. & 30 BORs) left to raid house of Moti Rahman Jap agent and headman of TATMINGYANGYWA.	KA Capt.
0815 hrs 11 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch. 431500	Lily 1 returned to area NES but 4 jap agents captured and many incriminating documents. 5 men repatriated to the U.K.	KA Capt.
1830 hrs 11 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Lily II Cpl Robertson & 1 BOR left to recce EAST HILL 4447.	Excellent detailed report from patrol.
2130 hrs 11 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Returned. Enemy occupied BUNKER positions and foxholes found 44154775.	KA Capt.
12 Dec. 43 Ngakyedauk Ch. 431500	Sitreps normal.	KA Capt.
1500 hrs 12 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch. 431500	Leave party left also 7 men to broadcast to U.K. from Dacca.	KA Capt.
0900 hrs 13 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch. 431500	Bn visited by new Brigadier Crowther. Sitreps normal. 2/Lt Cuthbertson (KOSB) posted to KOSB. TOS w.e.f. 13/12/43.	KA Capt.
14 Dec 43 Ngakyedauk Ch. 431500	Sitreps normal.	KA Capt.
1900 hrs 14 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch. 431500	Nasturtium 1 Capt Gillespie left to recce SOUTH & EAST HILL. Fired at by sentry 442473 returned 2330 hrs.	KA Capt.
0800 hrs 15 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Lt-Col W.G. Mattingley, Lt Russell, Sgt Armstrong, Cpl Roberts, L/Cpl Walker, Ptes Braggins, Parfitt and Ball presented to Commander-in-Chief S.E. Asia Command, Lord Louis Mountbatten at Bde H.Q.	KA Capt.
1800 hrs 15 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Anemone 1 (Lt Russell 2 B.Os 48 BORs, 2 B.I.C. to TATMINGYANGYWA to ambush Jap patrol. Lt Coupland (R.S.) posted to KOSB T.O.S. w.e.f. 16/12/43.	KA Capt.
0530 hrs 16 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Anemone 1 returned NES. Enemy documents taken from headman's house.	KA Capt.
1830 16 Dec 43 Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Snapdragon 1 (Wilts 1 Officer 2 BORs) to rear of EAST HILL NES.	KA Capt.
1830 hrs 16 Dec 43 Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Snapdragon II (1 N.C.O. & 1 BOR) to NORTH spur EAST HILL. Fired on and returned 2330 hrs.	KA Capt.
1730 hrs 16 Dec 43 Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Japs opened MMG fire and Mortars onto TATMINGYAUNGYWA from EAST HILL.	KA Capt.
17 Dec 43 Ngakyedauk Ch. 431500	Sitreps normal.	KA Capt.
1800 hrs 18 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Snowdrop 1 (Capt Nimmo 3 BORs, 1 B.I.C.) to rear EAST HILL NES.	KA Capt.
" " " " " "	Snowdrop ii (1 N.C.O. 3 BORs) to south TATMINGYAUNGYWA NES.	KA Capt.
2100 hrs 18 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Jap propaganda broadcast in Urdu & Gurkhali from EAST HILL.	KA Capt.

0330 hrs 19 Dec 43 Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Snowdrop 1 returned from EAST HILL having located sentry positions 444476.	KA Capt.
0530 hrs 19 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Lotus 1 (Capt Knox 34 BORs 1 B.I.C.) occupied TATMINKHALI village 450480 and tank 454478 to cut off retreat of Japs from Pt. 182 when attacked by 1 Queens.	KA Capt.
1830 hrs 19 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Lotus ii (Lt McIntosh & 2 BORs) left for EAST HILL.	KA Capt.
1950 hrs 19 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Lotus 1 returned. NO contact made with enemy seen during capture of Pt 182.	KA Capt.
0830 hrs 20 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Draft of 83 B.O.Rs at Bn from Deolali. Reformed "A" Coy. Major Bacchus appointed "A" Coy commander.	KA Capt.
1830 hrs 20 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Iris 1 (Lt Chisholm and 4 left to recce main re-entrant and South Spur of EAST HILL after receipt of "V" Force report that Japs had evacuated it at 0700 hrs. 0030 hrs 21 Dec 43 IRIS 1 returned NES.	KA Capt.
" " " " " "	Iris ii (1 N.C.O. & 4 B.O.Rs) to north spur EAST HILL.	KA Capt.
0200 hrs 21 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Iris ii returned NES.	KA Capt.
0400 hrs 21 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Crocus 1 (Lt Cuthbertson and 17 Pln) left to occupy EAST HILL.	KA Capt.
0700 hrs 21 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	17 Pln in position 441475. Much enemy material and many documents found on EAST HILL, collected and returned to Div.	KA Capt.
1800 hrs 22 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Violet 1 (Lt Wood and 3 B.O.Rs) to KYAUK PYUDAUNG 4546. Returned 2350 hrs NES.	KA Capt.
" " " " " "	Violet ii (Cpl Forsyth & 1 B.O.R.) to MIDDLE HILL 4446.	KA Capt.
0045 hrs 23 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	Violet ii returned NTR.	KA Capt.
1800 hrs 23 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	NARCISSUS 1 (Lt Wood & 1 BOR) to KIDNEY HILL 460460.	KA Capt.
0200 hrs 24 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch 431500	NARCISSUS 1 returned NES.	KA Capt.
0815 hrs 24 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch. 431500	CORNFLOWER 1 (Sgt Armstrong & 1 B.I.C.) to 3 pimples 460453.	KA Capt.
1500 hrs 24 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch. 431500	CORNFLOWER 1. Fired on by LMG from 458453. Attacked by 8 Japs.	KA Capt.
1515 hrs 24 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch. 431500	Patrol returned fire 7 Jap casualties.	KA Capt.
1945 hrs 24 Dec 43. Ngakyedauk Ch. 431500	CORNFLOWER 1 returned.	KA Capt.
0830 hrs 24 Dec 43. Tatmin Ch 431491	Bn HQ moved to 431491. "A" Coy 432490. "B" Coy 430492.	KA Capt.
0900 hrs 25 Dec 43. Tatmin Ch 431491	Divine Service.	KA Capt.

1300 hrs 25 Dec 43. Tatmin Ch 431491	Troops Christmas Dinner, including Poultry, Pudding, Beer and Rum.	KA Capt.
0930 hrs 26 Dec 43. Tatmin Ch 431491	Cpl McClure & Pte McCrone presented with the M.M. by the Div Commander for their part in the LETTHA raid 8 October 43.	
1530 hrs 26 Dec 43. Tatmin Ch 431491	Enemy shell landed in 13 Pln "C" Coy. Ptes. Horton, Studholme & Bowden wounded.	Pte Horton since lost sight. <del>Pte Studholme lost foot.</del> KA
0300 hrs 27 Dec 43. Tatmin Ch 431491	BUTTERCUP 1. (Sgt Young & 2 BORs) to 461453. Returned 1525 hrs N.T.R.	
0300 hrs 27 Dec 43.	Lieutenant T.J. Connolly died in Calcutta Hospital - Diagnosis amputation Right Forearm and multiple injuries.	KA Capt.
0230 hrs 28 Dec 43. Tatmin Ch 431491	BLUEBELL 1 (Lt Turnbull & 2 B.O.Rs) to hill 461452.	KA Capt. KA Capt.
1730 hrs 28 Dec 43. Tatmin Ch 431491.	T/Major McConnel KOSB posted to 2/K.O.S.B. T.O.S. w.e.f. 16.12.43. Broadcasting party returned from Dacca.	KA Capt.
2100 hrs 28 Dec 43. Tatmin Ch 431491	BLUEBELL 1 returned with information concerning Japs on feature 4544.	KA Capt.
0900 hrs 29 Dec 43. Tatmin Ch 431491	CARNATION 1 (Sgt Douglas & 1 Sniper) to 455455. Returned 1500 hrs NES.	KA Capt.
1800 hrs 29 Dec 43. Tatmin Ch 431491	CARNATION ii (Sgt Gibson & 1 BOR) 455453	KA Capt. KA Capt.
0200 hrs 30 Dec 43. Tatmin Ch 431491	CARNATION ii returned NES.	KA Capt.
1730 hrs 30 Dec 43. Tatmin Ch 431491	SUNFLOWER 1 (Cpl Murray & 1 B.O.R.) across MAUNGDAW-BUTHIDAUNG Road to 465442.	
2100 hrs 31 Dec 43. Tatmin Ch 431491	Cpl Murray returned with information re enemy on features 4544, 4644.	KA Capt.
	NOTE. "Pansy", "Carnation", "Sunflower" etc are code names for patrols.	KA Capt.

2 KOSB

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(a) Ref. Burma & India M/S D & D5  
O.S. 1934 - 35 1" = 1 Mile.  
(b) Maungdaw North Sheet 4 1-25000

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
2300 18 Jan 44	Bn start out to attack ABLE at area 4545 and 4544	K.A. Major
19 Jan 44	Bn attack ABLE 4544 and gain footing on NE corner 455454 2 BORs killed 7 wounded 1 BO wounded.	K.A. Major
20 Jan 44	Bn moved SW against opposition and took up positions area 454446. Casualties 2 BORs killed 5 wounded.	K.A. Major
1600 20 Jan 44	Shelling of Bn area. Commanding Officer killed 2 BO's wounded 3 BORs killed and 7 wounded. After dark Japs counter attacked C and D Coys 458446. Attack beaten off. 6 Jap bodies recovered next morning. Own casualties nil.	K.A. Major
21 Jan 44	Local Patrol - situation normal.	K.A. Major
22 Jan 44	Patrol to SOUTH PIMPLE 463448 met Jap grenade and LMG fire and withdrew. 4 BORs wounded.	K.A. Major
23 Jan 44	A Coy attacked NORTH PIMPLE 461454 and CENTRE PIMPLE 462451 via LETWEDET HILL 465453. Heavy Jap fire from PIMPLES and shell fire from area 162. 2 BO's killed 1 BO wounded. Company reformed and reached pt 461453.	K.A. Major
24 Jan 44	Local patrolling. Reformed A Coy with Coy of 7/2 P.R. cleared PIMPLE 462451. 12 Jap bodies recovered. 1 Coy 1/11 SIKH took over features 4645 and 463448.	K.A. Major
25 Jan 44	4/1 GR attacked positions NW ABLE 453455 and withdrew evening 26 Jan. Fighting patrol of C Coy encountered strong Jap post on ridge 455448 and withdrew. 1 BO killed. 5 BORs wounded. 4 BORs missing.	K.A. Major
25/26 Jan 44	Enemy grenade fire on Bn area.	K.A. Major
26 Jan 44	B Coy area 452445 shelled by Jap regimental gun. Patrols to NW ABLE 453455 found no enemy but tracks made by Japs.	K.A. Major
27 Jan 44	A, C and D Coys moved back to area 430497 leaving skeleton Bn HQ and B Coy area 459445. 4/1 GR took over positions vacated without incident.	K.A. Major
28 Jan 44	Situation normal.	K.A. Major
29 Jan 44	Situation normal.	K.A. Major
2000 30 Jan 44	Situation normal. B Coy and Bn HQ moved back to area 430497 without incident.	K.A. Major
31 Jan 44	Rest day. Situation normal.	K.A. Major

	<p>No details for the period 1-17 Jan 44 are available owing to loss of documents through enemy action. During this period intensive patrolling of the areas ABLE, PIMPLES and LETWEDET was carried out.</p>	
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K Abrahams  
Major  
A/Adjt.

2 KOSB

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(b) Maungdaw North Sheet 4 1-25000

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
1 Feb 1944	Situation normal. Bn packed ready to move - move cancelled.	K.A. Major
1800 2 Feb 1944	Situation normal. Bn moved to area 464506 - Bn arrived new area 2100 hrs.	K.A. Major
3 Feb 1944	Situation normal.	K.A. Major
1300 4 Feb 1944	Bn moved to area 9256. Bn object to stop infiltration of enemy from area TAUNG BAZAAR. Enemy reported 1000 strong.	K.A. Major
5 Feb 1944	Enemy attacked Bn position 4756 and 4755. Enemy almost reached Bde.	K.A. Major
6 Feb 1944	Enemy again attacked Bn positions. 2 Pls B Coy sent to assist Bde. Night 6/7 C and D Coys attacked enemy area 4756.	K.A. Major
7 Feb 1944	Situation normal. Patrol of 1 BO and 6 BORs to pass area 457545 discovered enemy astride L of C. Night 7/8 Bn moved to area 489531 and established defensive positions for protection of artillery.	K.A. Major
8 Feb 1944	Situation normal - active patrolling.	K.A. Major
9 Feb 1944	Situation normal. 1 Prisoner taken by C Coy 0900 hrs. Another taken but shot while trying to escape.	K.A. Major
10 Feb 1944	Situation normal. Patrolling day and night. Supplies dropped by RAF.	K.A. Major
11 Feb 1944	Situation normal. Patrolling throughout day and night. A Coy patrol met enemy at Pt. 206 (484412). 1 Jap badly wounded, 1 LMG and Regimental flag captured.	K.A. Major
12 Feb 1944	Situation normal. Patrol reported 1 casualty on enemy party. Patrolling still active. 2200 hrs C Coy went out on 48 hrs fighting patrol leaving Bn area 4853. C Coy met party of Japs and killed 6. Own casualties 1 BOR killed 2 BO's and 7 BOR's wounded.	K.A. Major
13 Feb 1944	Situation normal. Patrolling carried out during day. Recce patrol to area 166 (481545) ran into enemy. 1 BO and 2 BOR's killed.	K.A. Major
14 Feb 1944	Situation normal. Four bodies taken from chaung 492540 by C Coy, 1 native woman, 1 Jap and 2 IORs. Patrolling carried out day and night.	K.A. Major
15 Feb 1944	Situation normal. Bn moved to new area 4251 at 2130 hrs.	K.A. Major
0315 16 Feb 1944	Bn arrived new area 4251. Situation normal.	K.A. Major

17 Feb 1944	Situation normal. A Coy moved 1 mile into NGAKYEDAUK PASS. No enemy seen.	K.A. Major
18 Feb 1944	Situation normal. C Coy attacked and cleared feature 422507 and linked up with W YORKS. Enemy shelled Div area 4251.	
19 Feb 1944	Situation normal. Two patrols to SAUSAGE feature 423508 - one to the north - the other to the south. Patrol to N end contacted enemy 1 BOR killed. NES by other patrol.	K.A. Major
20 Feb 1944	Situation normal. Patrol to old Bn area 4259 to observe HAMBONE 431470 and BROAD HILL 4347 report NES. Contact patrol sent out from D Coy to contact patrol from 33 Bde. C Coy attack SAUSAGE 423508 with tank support.	K.A. Major
21 Feb 1944	Patrols carried out by day and night. SAUSAGE 423508 again attacked with tank support.	K.A. Major
1100 22 Feb 1944	Bn moved to open NGAKYEDAUK PASS. Bn established in pass. Contact made with tps coming from WEST end of pass. 1 BO and 1 BOR killed. 2 BO's and 2 BOR's wounded.	K.A. Major
23 Feb 1944	Situation normal. Pass not yet open to convoys.	K.A. Major
24 Feb 1944	Situation normal. Pass open to convoys. A Coy relieved by D Coy in pass.	K.A. Major
25 Feb 1944	Situation normal.	K.A. Major
1400 26 Feb 1944	Bn moved back to old area 4251. Situation normal.	K.A. Major
27 Feb 1944	Bn moved to area 129 feature 4650.	
28 Feb 1944	Bn moved to take over positions from QUEEN'S REGT. 4648, 4647, 4749.	K.A. Major
29 Feb 1944	Situation normal.	K.A. Major

## WAR DIARY

OR

REF.: MAUNGDAW NORTH SHEET 4

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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

2.53 ins to 1 ml.

(Erase heading not required)

BURMA &amp; INDIA SHEET 84C/8

1 in to 1 ml.

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
1st March 1944	Sitrep normal.	K.A. Maj
2nd March 1944	4 enemy shells landed area Bn H.Q. 468472. No casualties. (1000 hrs).	K.A. Maj
3rd March 1944	Sitrep normal.	K.A. Maj
4th March 1944	Own patrols fired on from PUNKORI (490475). Premature 3" Mortar bomb explosion at "O" Gp H.Q. 1 B.O.R. killed, 1 B.O. & 1 B.O.R. wounded. 2 enemy 105 mm shells in Bn H.Q. 1 B.O. & 2 B.O.R.'s wounded.	K.A. Maj
5th March 1944	4 24 hrs Patrols to Eastern edges of Pt. 162 Massif (area 4946).	K.A. Maj
6th March 1944	0420 hrs. 4 shells own Arty landed in "A" Coy area. 1 B.O.R. wounded. 24 hrs Patrols returned with good results.	K.A. Maj
7th March 1944	Own Arty carried out harassing fire on Pt. 162 area throughout day and night.	K.A. Maj
8th DAY OF MARCH, 1944	Sitrep normal. ARTILLERY FIRED DURING DAY. PATROL OUT DURING DAY & NIGHT.	KA
9th " " MARCH, 1944	Sitrep normal. Patrolling carried out during day & night. AIR STRIKE at 1600 hrs, SOUTH of BUTHIDAUNG.	KA
10th " " MARCH, 1944	Sitrep normal. ARTY FIRE during day and night. Patrols out during day and night, patrol out to N.E. of 162, 479467.	KA
11th " " MARCH, 1944	Sitrep normal. Patrolling of N.E. of pt. 162 feature continued. ARTY Fire during day and night.	KA
12th " " MARCH, 1944	Patrolling of N.E. of pt. 162 continues.	KA
13th " " MARCH, 1944	Sitrep NORMAL.	KA
14th " " MARCH, 1944	Patrol to Northern edge of pt. 162, 479467.	KA
15th " " MARCH, 1944	SITREP NORMAL. BN spent day preparing for attack on pt. 162.	KA
16th " " MARCH, 1944	Patrolling of Northern edges of pt. 162.	KA
17th " " MARCH, 1944	0415 hrs. Bn left area to attack pt 162. 0930 hrs. ARTY barrage put down on N.E. corner of pt. 162. TANKS, also, were in support. 1000 hrs. Barrage was stopped. C and B Coys went forward and took objectives. D and A followed, also obtaining objectives. BHQ moved on to feature and took over from D Coy. D Coy moved forward to feature covering TATMIN CHAUNG. 2 plns of B Coy went to N.E. of pt 162 and also to PUNKORI, report N.E.S.	



18th March 1944	OWN CASUALTIES: 6 BORs wounded (4 by own shrapnel, 2 by enemy shrapnel). Patrols to N.E. features of Pt. 162 Massif brought back abandoned Jap kit and documents; incl respirators. Bn H.Q. area shelled by enemy 75 mm gun 1600-1620 hrs. No personnel casualties. 6 mules wounded.	KA
19th March 1944	"A" Coy moved by M.T. to GOPPE BAZAAR (422703 Coy area). Japs shelled Maungdaw-Buthidaung Rd at intervals between B.M. 75 and western approaches Buthidaung. Vengeances dive bombed 162 feature 1630 hrs. Bn less "A" Coy moved to "Admin Box" area 420515.	KA
20th March 1944	All quiet!	KA
21st March 1944	Bn moved to area GOPPE (4270).	KA
22nd March 1944	Sitrep normal.	KA
23rd March 1944	Sitrep normal.	KA
24th March 1944	Patrols through GOPPE BAZAAR, KANBU area. All quiet.	KA
25th DAY OF MARCH, 1944	PATROLS TO KYAUNDAUNG BAZAR and MAUNGNAMA - Nothing to report.	KA
26th " " MARCH, 1944	ONE FIVE-DAY PATROL left 0630 hrs in N.E. direction, visiting villages to N and NE in radius of 10-20 miles. <u>1930 hrs</u> , patrol to MAUNGNAMA (recce).	KA
27th " " MARCH, 1944	Recce patrol to MAUNGNAMA returned - N.E.S. One 3-DAY patrol left for the EAST. On receipt of report that enemy had been seen E. of TAUNG BAZAR, two COYS "stood by" and a <u>FIGHTING PATROL</u> went to MAUNGNAMA. The night passed quietly.	KA
28th " " MARCH, 1944	Recce patrols to WARU, SANTI & KAILAUPHI. PARTY of 7 went to KYAUNDAUNG BAZAR to bring in a B.O.R. This man was part of 5-day patrol of 26th inst., who had been taken ill. 5-day patrol returned two days early, on 'V' Force suggestion that destination would take too long to reach. N.E.S. or heard. B Coy moved to WARU to establish "patrol base".	KA
29th " " MARCH, 1944	Contact patrol, CAPT YOUNG, went to WARU. D Coy on "mule escort" (convoy) to Brigade HQ, then under special orders from that HQ. 3-day patrol to AMILA - CHAUNGSHE - ALIGYAUNG returned - N.E.S. Reported uninhabited and deserted villages en route.	KA
30th " " MARCH, 1944	Contact patrol to B Coy returned; reports difficulties of movement through uninhabited jungle and hill-country (1" MAP, this area, extremely in-accurate!). 8-day patrol, CAPT Gillespie, left for PANZAI BAZAR - NGAHAN - NGOWFEWNGROWA. Local patrolling continued actively.	KA
31st " " MARCH, 1944	Local patrolling continued - KAILAUPHA - TINMAI - QUEN CHAUNG. ALL report N.E.S.	KA

## WAR DIARY

OR

Ref. Maps: Burma &amp; India

84 C/8, 84 C/12, 84 C/7, 84 C/11

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence  
Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. I.  
Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~  
(Erase heading not required)

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
1st April 1944	1 Recce Patrol to KYAUNGDAUNG BAZAAR 4178. 1 RECCE Patrol OBRU area 4274 - Both patrols N.E.S.	KA
2nd April 1944	Recce patrol to NGOFEWNGROWA and TABRUGRI (5388 and 5482) (4 days).	KA
3rd April 1944	Sitrep normal.	KA
4th April 1944	Recce patrol to TINMAI (4478). N.E.S.	KA
5th April 1944	8-day Recce patrol returned from NGOFEWNGROWA - NGAHAN - THARRETPOUKKYET ( ) - PANZAI BAZAAR (3988) - GOPPE. N.E.S.	KA
6th April 1944	4-day Recce patrol returned reporting N.E.S. Recce patrol to QUEN CHAUNG area (4067) N.E.S.	KA
7th April 1944	"A" Coy moved to take up posns at head of GOPPE PASS (351701).	KA
8th April 1944	5-day Recce patrol to PANZAI BAZAAR - NGOFEWNGROWA areas.	KA
9th April 1944	Divisional Commander visited Battalion to make presentation of medal ribbons. Patrol to recce route for mules and jeeps from GOPPE to BOGALE ( ). Patrol to recce mule track BOGALE, LEILO ( ), BANDAT ( ) and KABUN ( ).	KA
10th April 1944	Sitrep normal. "A" Coy returned to Bn area.	KA
11th April 1944	Recce patrol to BOGALE returned. " " " PANZAI BAZAAR & SHABE BAZAAR (2787) Local patrolling continued.	KA
12th April 1944	Sitrep normal. 5-day recce patrol returned, reports route un-muleable. 1 Platoon "C" Coy to Patrol base at BOGALE.	KA
13th April 1944	Fighting patrol TAUNG BAZAAR (4961), MANJARI (5167), SAINGDIN chaung. N.E.S.	KA
14th April 1944	Local patrolling continued.	KA
15th April 1944	Sitrep normal.	KA
16th April 1944	- " -	KA
17th April 1944	Recce patrol TAUNG - WARU (4971). N.E.S. " " PRINKHAUNG (4361). N.E.S. 1 Pl "C" Coy relieved Pl at patrol base (BOGALE).	KA
	4-day Recce patrol KANDARU (4080) - NGOFEWNGROWA - PANZAI.	KA

18th April 1944	3-day Recce patrol to NGAHAN. Local patrolling.	KA
19th April 1944	"C" Coy Pl relieved at patrol base (BOGALE)	KA
20th April 1944	Patrol - PANZAI area report N.E.S. 3-day & 4-day Patrols returned NES.	KA
21st April 1944	Local patrolling.	KA
22nd April 1944	Recce patrol TINMAI (4478). N.E.S. Fighting patrol to TAUNG - MANJARI - SAINGDIN chaung. Returned 24th April. N.E.S.	KA
23rd April 1944	Local patrols.	KA
24th April 1944	Recce patrol to QUEN CHAUNG. N.E.S.	KA
25th April 1944 (1900 - 2230 hrs)	Bn marched across GOPPE PASS to BAWLI BAZAAR.	KA
26th April 1944	Bn concentrated near BAWLI (0900 hrs). Left in M.T. 1100 hrs for DOHAZARI. Arrvd DOHAZARI 1900-2200 hrs.	KA
27th April 1944	Moved by rail to SILCHAR (ASSAM).	KA
28th April 1944	Arrvd SILCHAR 1800 hrs.	KA
29th April 1944	Bn to Airfield to emplane for IMPHAL. Seven planes with personnel reached IMPHAL - remainder turned back owing to bad weather. No further flying this day.	KA
30th April 1944	Bn still encamped at SILCHAR. Airfield flooded.	KA
	K Abrahams Capt, Adjt. for Comdr 2 KOSB	

## WAR DIARY

OR

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required)

REF. MAPS:-

INDIA 83 H/N.E.

ASSAM N.G. - 46

MOLVOM

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence  
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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
1st MAY - SILCHAR	Bn still waiting in camp for emplaning orders. Weather still holding up flying.	KA
2nd MAY - SILCHAR	Bn spent another day in camp. Weather still bad.	KA
3rd MAY - SILCHAR	Flying still not possible from SILCHAR Airstrip. Orders received to move to SYLHET.	KA
4th MAY -	Bn moved by train to SYLHET and arrived at 2100 hrs. Bn proceeded by M.T. to Airfield.	KA
5th MAY - SYLHET - IMPHAL	Bn flown by 27 DAKOTA Aircraft to IMPHAL and took up defensive posns in MAHARABI village (2977).	KA
6th MAY - MAHARABI	"D" Coy took over defence of hill feature 2976 from 3 Platoons Ghurkhas of 17 Division. Bn settling in.	KA
7th MAY - - " -	1 Section "D" Coy standing patrol based on SENJAM KHUNOU (2573). 1 Platoon "C" Coy established Patrol base (6th MAY) at LAIRENKABI (2465) with V Force personnel already working from here. Patrols from here to LAIRENSAJIK (2470), KHARAM KHUNOU (2171), NEPALI KHUTI (2009), PHAIYENG (2266), NATOP (1864), THENCHING (1861), SINGH BAGAN (1561), MANANCHING (0663), SHONGLUNG (1471), KHARAM (1873), IRENG (1772), all report N.E.S.	KA KA
8th MAY - MAHARABI	Bn spent quiet "administration" day.	KA
9th MAY - - " -	Standing patrol based on SENJAM KHUNOU, visited WAIPHET KHUL (2078) and SAMUK (1578) - N.E.S. and no reports of enemy from locals. LAIRENKABI Platoon actively patrolling foothills and villages to West, North & South but all quiet these areas. 1 Sec from the Platoon now based at KANGCHUP KHUL (1669) and patrolling SHONGLUNG (1471), SHONGJANG (1274), SAMUK (1578), WAIPHET KHUL, KHARAM, IRENG - N.E.S. and no interesting local reports. "D" Coy Sec based in SENJAM KHUNOU now withdrawn.	KA KA
10th MAY - - " -	Bn front all quiet throughout day. At night, 4 Recce patrols to ridge at 307832, 312831, 319827 and 322826. 1 Fighting Patrol to area 309819 to engage any enemy trying to molest our Recce patrols.	KA (Ref Map MOLVOM)
11th MAY - - " -	All above patrols returned safely and reported the following - ridge at 307832 - 2 Jap sentries covering the steep slope from	KA

<p>12th MAY - - " -</p>	<p>South, ridge at 312831 found no enemy or posns but reverse slope not searched. Patrols to 319827 and 322826 did not reach top of objectives due to great steepness and other physical difficulties but no enemy mvt heard above.</p> <p>Fighting Patrol area 309819 scoured large area but failed to engage any enemy throughout night even after creating noises and occasional random firing. All patrols heard 4/8 G.R. patrols on their right being engaged by enemy L.M.G. &amp; G.D. fire. Four other recce patrols set out after dark for above same areas and one recce to EKBAN EKWAN 322839.</p> <p>All patrols returned without loss and reported: 1) Ridge 307832 N.E.S. or mvt heard. 2) Ridge 313832 N.E.S. or mvt heard. 3) 2 Japs seen on ridge 315828. 4) Ridge 320827 talking and mvt heard - estimated at least an enemy section there. 5) Patrol reached outskirts EKBAN EKWAN where killed one Jap found shadowing them in scrub. No other enemy seen or heard in vicinity before or after the killing. Used track found leading into village from Southerly direction.</p>	<p>KA</p> <p>KA</p>
<p>13th MAY - - " -</p>	<p>LAIRENKABI Platoon has been actively patrolling all routes in villages in hills to the West in co-op with V-Force. No enemy seen and still no reports from locals about the Jap but in the evening a Manipuri villager picked up by V-Force in the hills was brought to Bn H.Q. thence Bde H.Q. for interrogation.</p> <p>Villagers had been forced by Japs in KANGLATONBI area (2983) to guide I.N.A. personnel through hills towards HAOCHANG area (0770). Reported enemy doing much foraging in local villages and stated there were about 300 Japs in areas North of KANGLATONBI.</p>	<p>KA</p> <p>KA</p>
<p>14th MAY - - " -</p>	<p>Orders Group received final orders for attack on Pt. 3813 ridge (squares 3082 &amp; 3182).</p>	<p>KA</p>
<p>15th MAY - - " -</p>	<p>0015hrs. Bn moved to F.U.P. area about 3182. A &amp; B Coys moved onto lower slopes of objectives. 0445 hrs. Both Coys attacked objectives each with 2 Platoons up and one in reserve. (No Arty support). Left hand Pl &amp; Coy H.Q. "B" Coy got to within 40 yds of objective but were held up by very heavy L.M.G., M.M.G. and grenade fire and had to fall back to an exposed posn just below objective after sustaining fairly heavy casualties. Right hand Platoon appeared to have reached objective at 314831 but were not seen or contacted throughout day. "A" Coy right hand Platoon also held up very close to objective by very heavy L.M.G., M.M.G. and Grenade fire from extensive enemy bunker posns at 322826 and 325825. Coy H.Q. and left hand Platoon with small elements of rt</p>	<p>KA</p>

<p>15th MAY - PT. 3813 RIDGE</p>	<p>hand and reserve Pl established themselves on precarious posn at 319827 and held on throughout day.  2 Platoons "D" Coy went up ridge to help "B" Coy but they were also pinned to ground area "B" Coy H.Q. (309829). 1 Pl "C" Coy sent up to assist "A" Coy. "B" Coy subjected to accurate enemy Mortar, 75 mm gun and sniper fire intermittently all day. "A" Coy also experienced sniping and L.M.C. fire at the slightest movement. 1400 hrs 2 Pls of "D" withdrawn to area Bn H.Q. (313815). Three "LEE" tanks blasted enemy bunkers overlooking "B" Coy - very good shoot which very probably caused the Jap casualties but failed to shift him. 1630 hrs "B" Coy ordered to withdraw to area Bn H.Q. This done without loss. Casualties to date were <u>"A" Coy</u>: 2 B.O.'s killed<sup>x</sup>, 2 B.O.R.'s killed, 1 B.O.<sup>o</sup> wounded and 8 B.O.R.'s wounded. <u>"B" Coy</u>: Killed - 1 B.O.<sup>+</sup> &amp; 5 B.O.R.'s. Wounded - 1 B.O.<sup>o</sup> &amp; 11 B.O.R.s. <u>"C" Coy</u>: Killed - 1 B.O.R. Wounded 4 B.O.R.'s. <u>"D" Coy</u>: Killed - 1 B.O.<sup>z</sup> &amp; 1 B.O.R. Wounded - 5 B.O.R.'s. Area Bn H.Q. was shelled by 6 rds from 75 mm gun but no damage or casualties resulted.</p>	<p>KA</p> <p>KA</p> <p><sup>x</sup> Major G.R. Nimmo M.C.  <sup>x</sup> 2 Lieut A.J. Etherington  <sup>o</sup> Capt T.R. Turnbull  <sup>+</sup> Capt C.E.P. Coupland  <sup>o</sup> Capt C.C.J. Russell  <sup>z</sup> Lieut A.S. Craig</p>
<p>16th MAY - - " -</p>	<p>Elements of missing Pl of "B" seen on top of ridge 315830 (confirmed by "A" Coy). Up to 1730 hrs quiet on Bn front with our forward troops holding on to gains within a few yards of the enemy. Arty had effectively shelled area vacated by "B" Coy. 1730 hrs 8 "Hurribombers" bombed Jap Bunkers at approx 322827 but observed to be only partly successful. This was immediately followed up by an attack by 1 Pl of "A" Coy which again got within a few yards of large enemy bunker and partly inside enemy wire. Again extremely heavy L.M.G., M.M.G., Grenade &amp; Sniper's fire stopped this action from the immediate bunker and another higher up. Pl withdrew at dark under cover of our L.M.G., Mortar &amp; Arty fire. Pl killed at least 7 Japs and probably killed or wounded others. Own casualties for the day (mainly in this above action!) were: Killed - 9 B.O.R.'s Wounded 1 B.O.<sup>+</sup> &amp; 7 B.O.R.'s.</p>	<p>KA</p>
<p>16th May - Pt. 3813 RIDGE</p>	<p>1930 hrs. Party with food, water &amp; ammo set out to contact "B" Coy Pl still holding out on ridge. Withdrew when ambushed at foot of a spur leading to the Platoon (1 B.O. wounded). During night Bn front quiet.</p>	<p><sup>+</sup> 2 Lt. R.C Golding</p>
<p>17th MAY - - " -</p>	<p>0100 hrs. Strong Pl "D" Coy set off to attack Jap posns at 310830 from the rear (North) but owing to extremely heavy and difficult going, withdrew without commitment, having reached just below enemy posns. This was now in broad daylight and the enemy had spotted the Platoon and was ready to open up his murderous fire</p>	

17th May - Pt. 3813 ridge	<p>over knife-edged approaches. (<u>These approaches</u> were found on <u>all</u> the enemy posns concerning the Bn).</p> <p>0900 hrs 2 B.O.R.'s from isolated Pl "B" Coy arrived Bn H.Q. to report. Pl still holding on in most precarious posn but badly in need of water, food and ammo.</p> <p>1915 hrs. Party with water, food &amp; ammo set out for the "missing" pl but were forced to return unsuccessful due to very dark night and the terrible ascent made worse by very heavy rain. During the night Bn front quiet.</p>	KA
18th May - "	<p>0545 hrs. Verely light signals fired from Bn H.Q. in endeavour to get the B Coy Pl to withdraw. Unsuccessful. 1100 hrs. D Coy relieved A Coy on Ridge without incident. A Coy returned area Bn H.Q. One section D Coy crawled WEST along Ridge &amp; contacted the "missing" Pl B Coy. This Pl withdrew to D Coy H.Q. and their vacated position eventually occupied by one Pl D Coy. During afternoon patrol to enemy trenches 312881 killed two japs in quick rush and withdrew. Patrol to 322827 drew automatic &amp; grenade fire from enemy bunkers and withdrew without loss. Patrols during night to same enemy posns drew L.M.G, M.M.G. and grenade fire without loss to themselves. 2 man patrol to enemy trenches late afternoon (from Bn H.Q. area) made another quick rush &amp; killed 3 japs before withdrawing.</p>	KA
19th May - "	<p>Own arty harassing fire throughout day on enemy bunkers. Cas probably inflicted. Quiet throughout night.</p>	KA
20th May - "	<p>By 1000 hrs C Coy relieved D Coy. D Coy returned Bn H.Q. area. Patrol to 312831 discovered extensive enemy bunkers unoccupied and very badly damaged by arty and mortar fire. These posns quickly occupied by B Coy. Enemy posns at 322827 reported clear of enemy. 1 Pl of C Coy moved onto 322827, 1 Pl area Pt. 3813 &amp; 1 Pl A Coy to 318827.</p>	KA
21ST May. PT. 3813 Ridge	<p>Forward Coys spent day consolidating posns, collecting much enemy equipment &amp; documents &amp; burying our own dead. Over 30 jap bodies were found area 312831 &amp; 6 more bodies at 322827. Many more enemy cas probably removed in previous 2 or 3 days.</p>	KA
22ND May. "	<p>A Coy now occupying ridge area Phaileng, ref 3180. During day &amp; night a number of standing patrols were put round Coy areas. All report N.E.S.</p>	KA
23RD May. "	<p>Quiet day &amp; night. Nothing to report.</p>	KA
24TH May. "	<p>All Coys standing patrols report quiet night. A Coy took over posns at 347829 from one Coy. I/11 Sikhs. B Coy took over Phaileng positions.</p>	KA

25TH May.	"	Bn front quiet throughout night. All Coy standing patrols N.T.R. D Coy took up posns on Sengmai Bastion, approx 3079 (ref. map 83 H/N.E.)	KA
26TH May.	"	Standing patrols from all Coy areas N.T.R. Bn mainly engaged with feeding & maintaining Coys in heavy rain over most difficult ground & hills.	KA
27TH May.	"	All patrols N.T.R. Another quiet day & night. Heavy rain continues.	KA
28TH May.	"	Own air activity observed over strongly held jap posns to our EAST on 9 BDE's front. Intermittent fire to our WEST on 123 BDE's front.	KA
29TH May.	PT. 3813 Ridge	All patrols from Coys N.T.R. Bde Commander visited Bn areas.	KA
30TH May.	"	Bn front quiet during night. All patrols N.T.R. Approx 0900 hrs. A Coy small patrol went up ridge area "HUMP" 363832 killed 1 jap, withdrew without loss on being fired upon from top of ridge.	KA
31ST May.	"	Bn front quiet during night. N.T.R. Patrolling continues all round Bn positions.	KA



## WAR DIARY

OR

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required)

REF. MAPS:-

INDIA 83 K/SW, 83 L/NW

UKHRUL

SANGSHAK

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence  
Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. I.  
Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
1st July - LEISHAN - TOINEM	<p>0730 hrs. Bn column proceeded via track East to LUINEM (6901). Long march with extremely steep gradients and flooded "paddy" crossings to negotiate. Arrived LUINEM approx 1400 hrs. "B" Coy remained at LEISHAN. Weather again making movement and administration difficult.</p> <p>Remainder Bde column situated this area and continuing march to UKHRUL tomorrow. Information received of 40 Japs holding LAMLANG (7593) against the attentions of the 1/11 Sikhs. N.T.R. throughout night.</p>	JR Stewart Capt
2nd July - TOINEM	<p>1400 hrs "B" Coy rejoined Bn. "D" Coy moved out with Bde H.Q. towards THOUBAL RIVER. Remainder Bn spent day resting apart from recce patrolling. Recce patrol to THOUBAL R. at approx 737050 N.E.S. Recce patrol to PHADANG (7204) N.E.S. Patrol to APHUNG (6504) received report from locals of 10 armed Japs at MAICHON (6708) and a large number of sick and wounded enemy at KHOKAN (7111). Locals say Japs at LAMLANG making every possible effort to get food in locality (NAGAS most un-cooperative to the Jap!).</p>	JR Stewart Capt
3rd July - LUINEM	<p>0730 hrs. Bn less "D" Coy moved down to THOUBAL R. (square 7100) thence East up hill to approx 767010 and dug in in torrential rain. Track to hill had been almost impassable to men or mules because of knee deep mud and no detours. Orders received at 1700 hrs to march on UKHRUL next morning to reinforce 4/8 G.R. who with 2 Coys had taken small part of South end of village. Japs holding strong posns in Fort, Hospital, P.O. area and all Northern half of village. D Coy remaining at THOUBAL R. to assist with rations from air drops.</p>	JR Stewart Capt
4th July - UKHRUL	<p>0500 hrs. "B" Coy moved to 793003 to establish Admin box for Bn. Tac H.Q., "A" &amp; "C" Coys with Tac H.Q. 4/8 G.R. moved at 0700 hrs towards UKHRUL and by 0900 hrs were established in P.O. area opposite the FORT. 4/8 G.R. already there were endeavouring to move North through village against determined Jap L.M.G. &amp; M.M.G. fire from the FORT and posns to the East &amp; North. Slightest movement by our troops brought down automatic and sniper fire.</p>	JR Stewart Capt

<p>5th July - - " -</p> <p>UKHRUL</p>	<p>1300 hrs. "C" Coy relieved 1 Coy 4/8 G.R. on Eastern perimeter of base.</p> <p>"A" Coy &amp; Tac H.Q. situated just below "C" Coy's small ridge but perimeter very small and confined among huts and broken down buildings. Received reports of enemy Gun situated about 1500 yds to the South. Reports received of elements 33 Bde column about 4 mls to North of UKHRUL. In the afternoon, "C" Coy had 1 B.O.R. killed and 1 wounded by snipers from the FORT. 1900 hrs 4 enemy grenade discharger shells caused slight wounds to 4 B.O.R.'s in "A" Coy. Slight Jap movement observed during day on jungle clad ridge approx 2000 yds to the South. All quiet throughout night in our sector.</p> <p>Fighting Patrol from "A" Coy reached a posn on rd approx 1000 yds to the South of our posns, lay in ambush for some time but N.E.S. Reported enemy gun remains un-discovered. Another "A" Coy patrol moving via rd and track junc 807925 surprised small Jap party, killing three, probably wounding one and took one very sick and hungry prisoner, without loss to themselves.</p> <p>From brief interrogation prisoner appeared to be a straggler from enemy unit withdrawing from Kohima.</p> <p>1400 hrs. An enemy gun firing from a posn approx 2500 yds due South fired four shells in our area causing slight wounds to 2 B.O.R.'s. Between 1600 hrs &amp; 1715 hrs, one 75 mm gun firing from approx same posn heavily shelled area Bde H.Q. and Mountain Bty posn (squares 7601 &amp; 7701), causing a few casualties but no damage to our guns caused. Mtn Bty replied to enemy fire and for a period a gun dual was in progress. (A second enemy gun was discovered firing during above period from vicinity HUMPUM (Sq. 7995). 1800 hrs. Jap sniper engaged our posns from a well concealed tree posn at range of about 80 yds. No casualties suffered and a Sec of "A" Coy claims to have killed this sniper. Successful air drop took place today which relieved our ration situation after being 1½ days short.</p>	<p>JR Stewart Capt</p> <p>JR Stewart Capt</p> <p>JR Stewart Capt</p> <p>JR Stewart Capt</p> <p>JR Stewart Capt</p>
<p>6th JULY - UKHRUL</p>	<p>0700 hrs. 1 Pl "A" Coy set out and established themselves approx 806995. 0800 hrs. Our 3" mortars engaged area in which some fire smoke was seen rising on ridge about 2000 yds due South. 1300 hrs. Remainder "A" Coy joined their leading Pl area 806995. Coy's object to prevent enemy mvt in or out of South end UKHRUL. Enemy were holding strong posns on ridges and defiles to the EAST &amp; SOUTH areas of rd preventing any further mvt of "A" Coy. Patrol to area 793977 killed two Japs in some old bashas. (Both in starved condition, one rifle between them). Night 6/7th July</p>	<p>JR Stewart Capt</p> <p>JR Stewart Capt</p> <p>JR Stewart Capt</p>

<p>7th JULY - UKHRUL</p>	<p>recce patrol to FORT found it occpd by estimated 15 men. Much noise of digging and moving of timber etc. Another Recce patrol found HOSPITAL (807998) also occpd and digging and work going on. Small enemy party approx 0100 hrs moving near "D" Coy. Posns fired on and chased off. Search in morning produced Jap Officer's sword and equipment and bloodstains where one Bren gunner claimed a kill. Proposed Air Strike on FORT was cancelled due to rain and mist over area.</p> <p>0900 hrs. "B" Coy established area 785987 in base to prevent enemy mvt EAST or WEST. One of their patrols to rd &amp; track junc (805978) was fired on by L.M.C. and Grenade Discharger and estimated enemy at weak Coy strength holding strong commanding posns. "A" Coy still held up in their restricted posn. 33 Bde elements reported in North end of UKHRUL.</p>	<p>JR Stewart Capt  <u>NOTE.</u> "D" Coy had re-joined Bn and took over "A" Coy's posns evening 5th July.  JR Stewart Capt  * It was considered that the enemy shelling was a cover to allow remaining Jap elements in FORT, HOSPITAL and other strong points in UKHRUL to withdraw to the EAST and SOUTH EAST. Probably the Jap was giving us the benefit of his last shells before dismantling his Gun and withdrawing.  JR Stewart Capt</p>
<p>8th JULY - - " -</p> <p>UKHRUL</p>	<p>Between 1000-1100 hrs and 1130-1230 hrs enemy 75 mm gun from same undiscovered posn to the South heavily shelled our confined area, firing between 50 and 60 shells at very close range. We suffered 2 B.O.R.'s killed and 12 B.O.R.'s wounded. Approx 1330 hrs "D" Coy patrol to FORT found it unoccupied and 1 Pl "C" Coy searched the area.* Fort was extensively damaged by bomb, mortar and shell fire. It had a most commanding posn over open ground with perfect nests for sniping activities. 1 Pl "D" Coy reached HOSPITAL area by 1800 hrs with no enemy opposition and had patrols pushing forward to rd &amp; track junc 807995 finding enemy still in occpn there. 1900 hrs "D" Coy less 1 Pl established area Hosp. (807998), remaining Pl area just North of rd &amp; track junc (808995). This Pl had a few exchanges of shots here and continuing to probe en. posns. All UKHRUL now clear of en. with elements 33 Bde holding North half and 89 Bde the Southern positions.</p>	<p>JR Stewart Capt  JR Stewart Capt</p>
<p>9th JULY - - " -</p>	<p>0430 hrs. "D" Coy occpd without opposition Jap posn at 808995. 0800 hrs. "A" Coy pushed through to occupy ridge 806990 and patrol fwd. Area cleared up to rd &amp; track junc 807982. Remainder Bn now pushed through to occupy HUMPUM village killing 2 Japs (stragglers). "A" Coy established rd block west of WANTUNG (7994). 1 lone Jap wounded 2 I.O.R.'s in attached Mule Coy moving through village during the night. Villagers confirmed Jap withdrawal East with many sick and wounded.</p>	<p>JR Stewart Capt</p>
<p>10th JULY - UKHRUL</p>	<p>0730 hrs. Bn moving by bounds, established on rd area sq. 4991 and FINCH's CORNER 753889 by 1400 hrs with no enemy seen except 1 Jap killed during march. Patrol contacted 1st DEVONS near M.S. 34 (732882). In new area many signs of hasty Jap evacuation. Much</p>	<p>JR Stewart Capt  * This area probably</p>

11th July - FINCH'S CORNER	valuable Signal equipment found plus an assortment of ammo, saddlery and clothing.* Quiet night spent in our area. Patrol to contact 1/11 Sikh at SANGSHAK (7887). Killed 4 Japs en route. Bn had patrols out in all directions trying to contact & destroy enemy remnants. Further contact made with DEVONS who report contact with our troops further South. IMPHAL-UKHRUL now open and free of enemy, apart from isolated elements to the West. 1300 hrs. First M.T. convoy arrived from South carrying G.O.C. 7th Ind. Div who congratulated Bn on their recent work. 1600 hrs. Ambulance Jeep convoy passed on to UKHRUL to evacuate Bde wounded. Quiet uneventful night spent.	housed a Jap H.Q. Vehicle marks seen on rd to South and on rd to SANGSHAK. JR Stewart Capt
12th July - - " -	Fighting patrol to valley area sqs. 7487 & 7486 could not discover any Japs to kill in very thick country. 15 cwt convoy arrvd from Imphal with rations but rd becoming almost impassable due to heavy rain. Jap elements west of rd seem to be avoiding our sector in their attempts to straggle East. Main en. mvt taking place between THOUBAL R. & rd further South.	JR Stewart Capt
13th July - - " -	Another patrol working in close country to the South-East found no traces of enemy. Heavy rains restricting ground mvts.	JR Stewart Capt
14th July - FINCH'S CORNER	Our Patrols EAST & NORTH still unable to contact any Jap parties.	
15th July - - " -	N.T.R. own area. Devons report engaging small Jap parties engaged trying to cross rd in their area.	JR Stewart Capt
16th July - - " -	N.T.R. own area day & night. Rd now useable only by Jeeps with chains. Heavy rain unabating.	JR Stewart Capt
17th July - - " -	N.T.R. own area. Columns of 23 Bde passing through each day on way to rest area (a number of very bedraggled prisoners going through each day. NOTE. Not the slightest semblance of any of the "all-conquering, invincible Jap super-men"!!).	
18th July - - " -	Another quiet, uneventful day. Our patrols still searching adjacent areas (NOTE:- Our patrol area is very limited indeed). Jap ammo dump discovered nr FINCH'S CORNER - 140 75 mm shells with fuses and 8 105 mm.	JR Stewart Capt
19th July - - " -	During night 18th/19th 3 Japs approached our posts but quickly made off on fire being opened. One Jap probably wounded.	JR Stewart Capt
20th July - FINCH'S CORNER	1 Jap with extensive wounds found near area "D" Coy post which had engaged 3 enemy previous night. Evacuated after treatment in A.D.S.	JR Stewart Capt
21st July - - " -	0745 hrs. Bn moved to area M.S. 25 (657818). Strenuous march through terrific mud & rain. M.T. bogged at various places en route.	JR Stewart Capt JR Stewart Capt

<p>22nd July - Area 657818</p>	<p>Bn marched to area M.S. 16 under better road conditions. Reached our camping site 1430 hrs. Bde of 2 Div in area preparing to move up rd to SANGSHAK area.</p>	<p>JR Stewart Capt</p>
<p>23rd July - M.S. 16 IMPHAL-UKHRUL Rd</p>	<p>Bn moved complete by M.T. to KOHIMA, where we became established in a tented camp area 508755 by 1800 hrs.</p>	<p>JR Stewart Capt</p>
<p>24th July - KOHIMA</p>	<p>Bn spent day removing a month of filth and dirt from bodies &amp; clothes. New kit issued and a day spent in organising our area.</p>	
<p>25th - 31st JULY - KOHIMA</p>	<p>Week spent in refitting and general smartening-up with various Coy &amp; Bn parades. On 30th July memorial service was held in memory of our dead of the past 10 months on active service.</p>	<p>JR Stewart Capt</p>

## WAR DIARY

OR

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

*(Erase heading not required)*

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Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
KOHIMA 1st Aug 1944.	Minden Day celebrated with a holiday for the whole Bn. Inter-Coy Sport held in the afternoon.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
2nd " "	Normal routine duties were carried out. Capt REV A.M. CAMPBELL joined Bn. Camp was repitched and area cleaned up in drive against flies	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
3rd " "	Normal routine duties carried out in camp. Lt. Col. H.R.R. CONDER O.B.E. joined the Bn and assumed command.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
4th " "	) Normal routine duties carried out in camp.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
5th " "	)	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
6th " "	Observed as Sunday. Normal Church Services held.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
7th " "	Normal routine duties carried out in camp.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
8th " "	Normal routine duties carried out in camp. No. 3194237 Sgt PATTERSON R. proceeded to BABINA to attend a hygiene course.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
9th " "	) Normal routine duties carried out in camp.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
10th " "	)	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
11th " "	Normal routine duties carried out in camp.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
KOHIMA 12th " "	2883393 Pte FRAZER M died of Typhus at 13th IND. C.C.S. Normal routine duties carried out in camp. T/Major F.A.W. COURTENAY-HOOD rejoined BN.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
13th " "	Observed as a Sunday. Normal Church Services were held. No. 15001644 A/U/L/SGT SYLVESTER J proceeded to SHILLONG to attend an Intelligence Course. D Coy finds guard for DIV. H.Q.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
14th " "	Normal routine duties carried out in camp. Members of the Bn attended E.N.S.A. Concert at KOHIMA.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
15th " "	Normal routine duties carried out in camp. Another party from Bn attended same concert at KOHIMA.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
16th " "	Normal routine duties carried out in camp. No 4534972 Pte Walker R. died of Typhus at No. 8 I.M.F.T.U. 1 Sgt, 3 Cpls and 17 Ptes from B Coy proceeded to IMPHAL to undertake guard duties at 115 P.O.W. Cage.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
17th " "	) Normal routine duties carried out in camp.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
18th " "	)	C Calderbank CAPTAIN

19th " "	Normal routine duties carried out in camp. No. 3184899 Sgt AITKEN P. proceeded to SAUGOR on a small arms course prior to joining 14th ARMY Training School at SHILLONG.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
KOHIMA 20th Aug 1944	Observed as a Sunday. Normal Church Services carried out. Guard returned from DIV. H.Q.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
21st " "	)	
22nd " "	) Normal routine duties carried out in camp.	
23rd " "	)	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
24th " "	Normal routine duties carried out in camp. Training directions by the Commanding Officer issued to Coys.	Training directions attached at Appendix "A"
25th " "	Normal routine duties carried out in camp.	
26th " "	Normal routine duties carried out in camp. Lt W.F. McNISH proceeded on Course to Army VET SCHOOL, AMBALA.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN C Calderbank CAPTAIN
27th " "	Observed as a Sunday. Normal Church Services carried out in camp. No. 2932850 Pte Stevenson J. and No. 3186456 Pte Hart M. proceeded on Cooks Refresher Course at POONA.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
28th " "	)	
29th " "	) Normal routine duties carried out in camp.	
30th " "	)	C Calderbank CAPTAIN
31st " "	Normal routine duties carried out in camp. No. 3194927 Pte DICKSON J. died of Typhus at 8 I.M.F.T.U. KOHIMA.	C Calderbank CAPTAIN

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KOHIMA. 1st September 1944.	Training and normal routine duties carried out in camp. Lt D.M. BOOTH, 1 NCO + 4 Ptes attend a local First Aid Vet Course.	Programme of Officers' & NCOs' Cadre attached at app. A.
" 2nd " "	Training and normal routine duties carried out in camp. Special attention being paid to hygiene & sanitation of camp site and anti-fly drive which continues throughout month.	
" 3rd " "	Church Services held for National Day of Prayer. Guard returns from 115 POW CAGE at IMPHAL.	
" 4th " "	Normal routine duties carried out in Camp. Training continues on a very limited scale owing to the acute shortage of men arising from the large number of men on leave and in hospital. Main causes of sickness are from Dysentery & diarrhoea - malaria & NYD fever. No fresh cases of Typhus have been experienced. Training Cadre for all Officers and senior NCOs commences.	
" 5th " "	Normal routine duties carried out in camp - training continued.	
" 6th " "	Bde TEWT is held to consider the defence of KOHIMA. Lt. Col. H.R.R. CONDER O.B.E., MAJOR GILLESPIE, MAJOR SULIS, CAPT TURNBULL & Capt WHYBORN were representative of the Bn. Training and normal routine duties carried out in camp.	
" 7th " "	) Training and normal routine duties carried out in Camp.	
" 8th " "	)	
" 9th " "	No. 3196237 Sgt Pattenson R & 15001644 Sgt Sylvester I return from Hygiene Course at BABINA & Intelligence course at SHILLONG, respectively.	
" 10th " "	Normal Church Services celebrated in camp.	
" 11th " "	MAJOR F.A.W. COURTENAY-HOOD, Lt NFG COOPER, 1 L/Cpl & 3 Ptes attend local Assault Engineering Course. 3 Ptes attend local Driver Mech's course. Capt M FERGUSON attends 3" MORTAR COURSE at DEHRA DHUN. Capt H.O. YOUNG attends Intelligence Course at SHILLONG. No. 5392723 Cpl SCOTT J. attends local MT Course.	
KOHIMA. 12. September 1944.	Training and normal routine duties carried out in Camp. Picture show given by Mobile Film Unit in Bde Concert Hall. Picture show was "THE LADY FROM PARIS".	



"	13	"	"	)		
"	14	"	"	)	Training and normal routine duties carried out in camp.	
"	15	"	"	)		
"	16	"	"	)	No. 14283236 Pte Gray R. attends driver mech's course at ARAGOAN. Normal routine duties carried out in camp. Training continues but still on a limited scale.	
"	17.	"	"		Church Services celebrated in Camp.	
"	18.	"	"		Training and normal routine duties carried out in camp. Mobile film unit gives cinema show in Bde Concert Hall. The same film is shown as on 12 Sept 1944.	
"	19.	"	"		Normal routine duties carried out in camp.	
"	20.	"	"		Training and normal routine duties carried out in camp. No. 3191904 L/Sgt CAMPBELL proceeds to SAUGAR to attend Inf course.	
"	21.	"	"		Normal routine duties carried out in camp. Training continues.	
"	22.	"	"		Normal routine duties and training carried out in camp. BESA Concert party visit Bde and give show in Bde Concert Hall in the evening. The show is called "The ROOSTERS".	
"	23.	"	"		Normal routine duties carried out in camp.	
"	24th	"	"		Church Services celebrated in Camp. No. 3606846 Cpl BUCKINGHAM J. proceeds to SHILLONG to attend intelligence course.	
"	25.	"	"		Cadre of 1 weeks duration commences for Junior NCOs.	Cadre programme attached at Appendix B.
"	26.	"	"		Normal routine duties and training carried out in camp.	
"	27.	"	"		Normal training and routine duties carried out in camp. Members of the Bn attend ENSA Show called GAY & CONTINENTAL given in 114 Bde Concert Hall in the evening.	
KOHIMA.	28.	Sep.	1944.		Normal training and routine duties carried out in camp. Training still on limited scale although position improves a little as men return from leave. Hospital admissions still very high, a large proportion occurring amongst men whilst on leave.	
"	29.	"	"		Bde exercise carried out in defence of KOHIMA. 2nd KOSB find composite company from Bn to take part in Exercise. Object of exercise to co-ordinate section positions and fire plan, decided upon from TEWT held on 6th Sept 44.	
"	30.	"	"		Normal training and routine duties carried out in camp.	

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~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required)

REF. MAPS

INDIA 83 K/NW

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
1ST OCT '44 - KOHIMA	Rest day with Church Service. 2 men entered hospital.	J.P. Culpin Lt
2ND OCT '44 - KOHIMA	Coys continued with weekly individual training programmes. 2nd Junior N.C.O. Cadre started. 7 men entered hospital. 3 men returned from hospital. 21 reinforcements joined Bn. 3188789 Pte Johnson proceeded to Veterinary Course to Army Vet School AMBALA. A picture show was held at Bde Concert Hall called "Thousands Cheer".	J.P. Culpin Lt
3rd OCT '44 - KOHIMA	1 man entered hospital. 14 men returned from hospital. 7 men returned from leave. 3194184 L/Sgt Forrester proceeded on Light Automatic Course at 14th Army School of Training, SHILLONG. 1 reinforcement joined Bn.	J.P. Culpin Lt
4th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	1 man entered hospital. 4 men returned from hospital. 1 man proceeded on leave. Bn football team played S. LANCS, 114 Bde and won 4-3.	J.P. Culpin Lt
5th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	15 BOR's left Bn to proceed to U.K. on repatriation. 4 men returned from leave. 5 men entered hospital. 7 men returned from hospital.	J.P. Culpin Lt
6th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	3 men entered hospital. 4 men returned from hospital. C.O's conference was held on training and general matters.	J.P. Culpin Lt
7th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	8 men entered hospital. 5 men returned from hospital. 1 man returned from leave. Bn football team played 53 I.G.H. at KOHIMA and won 2-1. Junior N.C.O's Cadre finished.	J.P. Culpin Lt
8th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	Rest day with Church Service. 3 men entered hospital. 5 men returned from hospital. 1 man returned from leave. 3195833 L/Cpl Mullany H., 3196231 Pte Niven W., 14587663 Pte Houston represented Bn in 7th Div football team which played 2nd Div team at KOHIMA and lost 0-3.	J.P. Culpin Lt
9th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	Coys continue with their weekly individual training programmes. 4 men entered hospital. 5 men returned from hospital. 1 man returned from leave. Capt C.E. Wyburn, 3193178 Pte Earnshaw G., 3252329 Pte Lafferty J. proceeded to DIMAPUR on a Watermanship Course also 14627933 Pte Hughes J. A picture show was held at the Bde Concert Hall called "The Man in Gray". 14510862 Pte Chaney	J.P. Culpin Lt

	H., 14595827 Pte Miller C., 4770335 Pte Porter E., 3131490 Cpl Skilling G., 14382985 Pte Taylor W., 3195300 Pte Shaw J., 14587740 Pte Martin G. were regraded and left Bn to proceed to COMILLA.	J.P. Culpin Lt
10th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	3 men entered hospital. 21 men returned from hospital. 3 men returned from leave. 4 men joined Bn as reinforcements. 3189999 L/Sgt Adamson proceeded to U.K. on repatriation.	J.P. Culpin Lt
11th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	3 men entered hospital. 1 officer and 4 men returned from hospital. 3195833 L/Cpl Mullany H., 3196231 Pte Niven W., 14587633 Pte Houston, represented the Bn in an Army team which played a touring professional team at KOHIMA. The latter won 4-1.	J.P. Culpin Lt
12th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	A Coy, C Coy and the Defence Pl of H.Q. Coy took part in a tactical exercise. The remainder of the Bn continued with their individual training programmes. 2 men entered hospital. 4 men returned from hospital and 1 man returned from leave.	J.P. Culpin Lt
13th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	C.O. attended and later held a conference on training and general matters. 2 men entered hospital, 2 men returned from hospital, 2 men returned from leave. 29 reinforcements joined Bn. Bn football team played 7/2 PUNJAB and won 4-0.	J.P. Culpin Lt
14th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	2 men entered hospital. 2 men returned from hospital. 2 men returned from leave. 6 reinforcements joined Bn. In a five-a-side football match H.Q. Coy beat B Coy 3-0. C Coy beat Adm Coy 2-0, A Coy beat D Coy 3-1.	J.P. Culpin Lt
15th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	Rest day with Church Service held. 2 men entered hospital. 1 man returned from hospital. 2 men returned from leave. Capt Mann and Lieut Prooth returned from leave. Sgt Erichson returned from CALCUTTA where he had been on duty. Notification was received that 3192832 Sgt Gallacher of B Coy died in B.M.H. LAHORE on 15 OCT 44.	J.P. Culpin Lt
16th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	Coys continued with their weekly individual training programmes. 3rd Junior N.C.O. Cadre started. 11 men were admitted to hospital. 8 men returned from hospital. 25 men returned from leave.	J.P. Culpin Lt
17th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	2 men were admitted to hospital. 12 men returned from hospital. 2 reinforcements joined Bn. Capt Wyburn and 3 B.O.R's returned from Watermanship Course at DIMAPUR. 3192069 Cpl Slater, an original K.O.S.B., joined Bn having been transferred from the SEAFORTHS.	J.P. Culpin Lt
18th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	1 man returned from hospital. 1 man returned from leave. Bn football team played the NORFOLKS and won 2-0. Personnel of Bn attended a Band concert given by the band of the N. STAFFS at KOHIMA.	J.P. Culpin Lt

19th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	5 men were admitted to hospital. 15 men returned from hospital. 4 men proceeded on leave. Capt Young and 3 men returned from leave. 7 reinforcements joined Bn.	J.P. Culpin Lt
20th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	A coy went on long route march. Other coys carried on with individual training programmes. Capt Stevens returned to Bn from Bde where he was acting as L.O. Cpl Nicols proceeded to U.K. on repatriation. 4 men were admitted to hospital. 3 men returned from hospital. 9 men proceeded on leave. 1 man returned from leave.	J.P. Culpin Lt
21st OCT '44 - KOHIMA	3 men were admitted to hospital. 1 man returned from hospital. In five-a-side football matches H.Q. Coy beat Adm Coy 2-1, D Coy beat A Coy 1-0, C Coy beat B Coy 3-2.	J.P. Culpin Lt
22nd OCT '44 - KOHIMA	Rest day with Church Service held. Lieut McNish returned from AT and veterinary first aid course at AMBALA. 14 reinforcements joined Bn.	J.P. Culpin Lt
23rd OCT '44 - KOHIMA	Coys continued with their weekly individual training programmes. 5 men were admitted to hospital. 9 men returned from hospital. 2 men returned from leave. 12 reinforcements joined Bn. 4th Junior N.C.O. Cadre commenced. 14213969 Pte Hawkin H. returned to Bn after attending a course on equipment repairing at 226 A.O.D. DIMAPUR. A picture show was held at the Bde Concert Hall called "Millions Like Us".	J.P. Culpin Lt
24th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	Lieut Culpin (Signal Officer) returned from hospital. Bn football team played 89 Bde team and won 3-0.	J.P. Culpin Lt
25th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	2 men were admitted to hospital. 6 men returned from hospital. C.O. attended conference held at Div H.Q. on training and general matters. Bn attended an F.S. lecture delivered by the Div F.S. Sgt.	J.P. Culpin Lt
26th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	5 men were admitted to hospital. 5 men returned from hospital. 3 men returned from leave. The Mortar Pl gave a mortar demonstration at Div H.Q. Massed Pipe bands of the GORDONS, R.S., CAMERONS, KOSB played selections to Bn. Cpl Mullany and Pte Houston played for 7th Div football team against 2nd Div. The latter won 3-0.	J.P. Culpin Lt
27th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	Lt. Col. of the "V" Force gave a very interesting lecture to the Bn. 30 reinforcements joined Bn. Lieut Henderson and Sgt Miller left for POONA to attend a Signal Course. 3139859 Pte Johnstone C. left Bn to attend a Saddlers Course at CAWNPORE. L/Sgt Cuthbertson left Bn to take charge of kit dump at RANCHI. Personnel of Bn attended a concert called "Gay and Continental" held at KOHIMA. 446270 Pte Denty J., 14623410 Pte Griffin D., 6351537 Pte Warner C., 3311946 Pte Carter C. were tried by Field	J.P. Culpin Lt

28th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	<p>General Court Martial. Lieut Arnott, Lieut Munro, Lieut Playle, Lieut Geddes joined Bn as reinforcements.</p> <p>Personnel of Bn attended 2nd Night of "Gay and Continental" at KOHIMA. Inter-coy five-a-side football matches were played. 3 men returned to Bn from escort duty. 25 men proceeded on leave. 4 men returned from leave. Sgt Cooper, L/Sgt Guthrie, Ptes Lachan, James, McCormick, Aitken, L/Cpl Reid, Ptes McLaren, England, McDonald, Hughes, Salter, Woods, Nicolson left Bn graded to take charge of kit dump at ATTOCK. Lieut Booth also left Bn graded. An R.S.M's drill parade was held.</p>	J.P. Culpin Lt
29th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	<p>Rest day with Church Service held. 2 men were admitted to hospital. 11 men returned from hospital. 6 men returned from leave. L/Cpl Galbraith returned from duty with 2nd Div. Lieut McGill, Lieut Brazier joined Bn as reinforcements. Cpl Johnstone returned to Bn from a Signal Course at POONA.</p>	J.P. Culpin Lt
30th OCT '44 - KOHIMA	<p>Coys continued with their weekly individual training programmes. 8 men were admitted to hospital. 4 men returned from hospital. Lieut Dale joined Bn as a reinforcement. Senior Cadre for Officers and Sgts commenced. 5th Junior N.C.O. Cadre commenced.</p>	J.P. Culpin Lt
31st OCT '44 - KOHIMA	<p>5 men were admitted to hospital. 8 men returned from hospital. 3194184 L/Sgt Forrester returned from a Light Automatic Course at SHILLONG.</p> <p>Bn Officers attended a lecture at KOHIMA given by General Slim, Army Commander, on the War in Burma from Sept 43 to present date. 2nd Div Concert Party held a concert at the Bde concert hall.</p>	J.P. Culpin Lt

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OR  
~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~  
(Erase heading not required)

MAP REFS  
83 K/NW  
KOHIMA  
NORTH

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
1 DEC 44 - KOHIMA	<p>Court Martial of 4615174 Pte Callaghan F. resumed at 53 IGH KOHIMA and completed. C.O. recess area for two company camp along Jessami track.</p> <p>C.O. attends Brigade Conference at 1700 hrs re Brigade Scheme 2-6 Dec 44.</p> <p>Capt J.R. Stewart takes up Staff attachment at 7 Ind Inf Div. 7 BORs went on leave.</p> <p>1915 hrs O Gp Conference on Bde Exercise "Hope" at which A &amp; B Coys were ordered to find two recce patrols to RV at Pt 486721 South of Merema at 1030 hrs and C &amp; D Coys to provide two to RV at the same point at 1400 hrs. Rest of Bn to RV South of Merema by 1200 hrs on 3rd Dec 44.</p>	J.P. Culpin Lt
2nd Dec 44 - KOHIMA	<p>0830 hrs C.O. and IO go to pt 486721 for recce</p> <p>Patrols of A B C D Coys out all day in areas 480760 474766 468766. Reports collated by I Section at patrol bases by 0800 hrs 3 Dec 44. Bn prepare for move to concentration area. 1500 hrs CO returns from Recce.</p>	J.P. Culpin Lt
3rd Dec 44 - KOHIMA	<p>0745 C.O. leaves for concentration area. 0815 R and O Gps leave to meet C.O. 0900 hrs Bn marches out to concentration area. 0900 hrs Patrols report no enemy in Cheswema but enemy a Coy strong hold small feature running S.W. down ridge from CHESWEMA. Dug in posn found at 470765 with L.M.G. firing South. Section of enemy located at 481766. 1200 hrs Bn concentrated as follows:- Bn HQ 482742 A Coy 483743 B Coy 481742 C Coy 478741 D Coy 482732. O.P. established 485741 patrol base 482742. 1230 hrs Patrols report 800 Japs approx at CHESWEMA but considerable number North of Keruma. Enemy identified as 51 Regt but reduced by 50%. No early reinforcement likely. No enemy South of Cheswema. No excessive movement on BOKAJAN track. Probably 1 full strength Bn there. 1500 hrs C.O. calls R &amp; O Gps and gives following orders ☉ Intention to capture CHESWEMA A &amp; B Coys to form up S.E. of CHESWEMA A Coy left B Coy right and drive fwd on to CHESWEMA.</p>	J.P. Culpin Lt

<p>4th Dec 44 - MEREMA</p>	<p>Probable time of start 0930 hrs. D Coy RHQ C Coy to be ready to move along BOKAJAN track at 1015 hrs. Fire Plan:- 4 Squadrons Hurri-bombers and whole of 139 Regt RA to blast CHESWEMA H-30 to H. H - H+5 2 Bties of Mountain Artillery to engage NW of CHESWEMA.</p> <p>0001 hrs Patrols of A &amp; C Coys report enemy thinning out and evacuating CHESWEMA. 0030 hrs O Gp called and attack ordered for 0700 hrs A &amp; B Coys to attack from S.E. C Coy to push along BOKAJAN TRACK on to pt 465775 and then to send out a fighting patrol to contact a fighting patrol to be sent out by B Coy on reaching the objective to the BOKAJAN track. BHQ and D Coy to be ready to move when these patrols meet and report the road open. 0545 hrs Patrols report further enemy withdrawals</p> <p>0700 hrs CO's plan put into action</p> <p>0930 hrs Road opened by junction of C and B Coy patrols and BHQ and D Coy move as ordered.</p> <p>Main body reach 492773 at 1015 hrs. 1100 hrs O Gp called and ordered to advance with the intention of re-gaining contact with enemy reported 2,000 strong in area Phekekriema. 1115 Bn advances along Bokajan track. Order of March C B Mortars BHQ A D. 1400 hrs D Coy reach 4563. No contact. 1430 hrs Enemy one section strong reported one mile along track from 4563. Enemy destroyed 1450 hrs. 1530 hrs C Coy meet small arms fire at 435867 with assistance of Mortars. 1615 hrs One Platoon enemy contacted 435869 and destroyed. 1630 hrs Bn established itself for the night 435867. 1915 hrs Enemy patrol active against A Coy perimeter positions. 2000 hrs Jeep ration convoy ambushed at 440853. 7 Jeeps destroyed rations lost. 0530 hrs Patrols report several verey lights fired by enemy. 0600 hrs P/W Captain captured. On interrogation reveals he comes from 5 Coy 2 Bn 51 Regt. Said enemy on feature 3339 one Coy strong but main body withdrawn. 0700 hrs Fighting patrol of A Coy capture point 3339. 0900 hrs Bn moves out to capture ring contour NE of pt 3339. 0920 hrs Leading tps held up by shelling. 0925 hrs Mortars go into action against ring contour NE 3339. Track east of 3339 shelled by enemy and impassable.</p> <p>BHQ moves to foot of 3339 and digs in. Revealed enemy have 2 tps 105 mm's and two or more 75 mm's guns. Coys disposed around crest of 3339. 0945 hrs Bde Cmdr arrives 3339 for conference with C.O. and in order to formulate a plan. Air strike arranged for 1400 hrs. Decided C &amp; D Coys would attack enemy by left flanking</p>	<p>J.P. Culpin Lt</p>
<p>5th Dec 44 - KERUMA</p>	<p>0545 hrs Patrols report further enemy withdrawals</p> <p>0700 hrs CO's plan put into action</p> <p>0930 hrs Road opened by junction of C and B Coy patrols and BHQ and D Coy move as ordered.</p> <p>Main body reach 492773 at 1015 hrs. 1100 hrs O Gp called and ordered to advance with the intention of re-gaining contact with enemy reported 2,000 strong in area Phekekriema. 1115 Bn advances along Bokajan track. Order of March C B Mortars BHQ A D. 1400 hrs D Coy reach 4563. No contact. 1430 hrs Enemy one section strong reported one mile along track from 4563. Enemy destroyed 1450 hrs. 1530 hrs C Coy meet small arms fire at 435867 with assistance of Mortars. 1615 hrs One Platoon enemy contacted 435869 and destroyed. 1630 hrs Bn established itself for the night 435867. 1915 hrs Enemy patrol active against A Coy perimeter positions. 2000 hrs Jeep ration convoy ambushed at 440853. 7 Jeeps destroyed rations lost. 0530 hrs Patrols report several verey lights fired by enemy. 0600 hrs P/W Captain captured. On interrogation reveals he comes from 5 Coy 2 Bn 51 Regt. Said enemy on feature 3339 one Coy strong but main body withdrawn. 0700 hrs Fighting patrol of A Coy capture point 3339. 0900 hrs Bn moves out to capture ring contour NE of pt 3339. 0920 hrs Leading tps held up by shelling. 0925 hrs Mortars go into action against ring contour NE 3339. Track east of 3339 shelled by enemy and impassable.</p> <p>BHQ moves to foot of 3339 and digs in. Revealed enemy have 2 tps 105 mm's and two or more 75 mm's guns. Coys disposed around crest of 3339. 0945 hrs Bde Cmdr arrives 3339 for conference with C.O. and in order to formulate a plan. Air strike arranged for 1400 hrs. Decided C &amp; D Coys would attack enemy by left flanking</p>	<p>J.P. Culpin Lt</p>

<p>6th DEC 44 - BOKAJAN TRACK</p> <p>- KOHIMA</p>	<p>encircling attack and they move off at 1415 hrs with C.O. in command. The going is very difficult. 1530 hrs C &amp; D Coys reach their position in caves below enemy position. Arty smoke enemy position. D attempts a frontal assault, are checked and C Coy attempts an encirclement from the West in an attempt to get to the rear of enemy. C Coy breaks into enemy position and exercise ends. Whole battalion bivouac at pt 3339 in non-tactical bivouac. 0630 hrs All bedding ferried back to barracks in MT. 0900 hrs Bn begin the march back to barracks, in order BHQ C B HQ A D Coys Mules. 1300 hrs Halt North of Mile 18 and have hot meal. 1400 hrs March resumed. 1630 hrs Bn arrives back in Camp. 1 man evacuated with Malaria to MDS.</p>	<p>J.P. Culpin Lt</p> <p>J.P. Culpin Lt</p>
<p>7th DEC 44 - KOHIMA</p>	<p>2000 hrs ENSA concert at BDE THEATRE called "WHOOPEE". Routine as per Sunday. 1000 hrs Company Comdrs' Conference @ 1030 hrs Conference of all officers, WO's and NCO's down to section comdrs on EXERCISE HOPE. 2 men to hospital. 12 men return from hospital. Bn detailed to find guard of honour at IMPHAL on 15th DEC 44 and at KOHIMA on the 18th. 100 men to be selected from A &amp; D Coys. Lt F.J.G. Macdonald joins the Bn.</p>	<p>J.P. Culpin Lt</p>
<p>8th DEC 44 - KOHIMA</p>	<p>Training of Ceremonial Guard begins. 0900 hrs OC's B &amp; C Coys and Mortar Officer recce field firing area at CHAKHABAMA. 6165 Lt/QM Macdonald leaves for 28 days leave in UK. Pioneers go out to CHAKHABAMA. Lt A.C. Thomas, 2/LT F Dale and two NCO's attend course on "Close Quarter Battle" given locally. 2 men returned from hospital. 2 men admitted. 1400 hrs Conference for CO and Company Comdrs at HQ 89 Ind Inf BDE on exercise HOPE. 1800 hrs All available officers attend a lecture by Lt Col H. Grant Taylor on "Close quarter combat".</p>	<p>J.P. Culpin Lt</p>
<p>9th DEC 44 - KOHIMA</p>	<p>Visit by team of Psychologists 120 tested between 0930 hrs and 1100 hrs. 6 BOR's leave for 28 days UK leave. 2 discharged from hospital and 5 admitted. 16 graded BOR's posted away. Sgt Kennedy leaves for CHAKALA as an instructor. 1510 hrs 2i/c holds conference on welfare and UK leave.</p>	<p>J.P. Culpin Lt</p>
<p>10th DEC 44 - KOHIMA</p>	<p>REST DAY with Church parade. Team of psychologists again visit Bn to continue tests. 2 BO's and 209 BOR's tested in the two visits. 6 BOR's return from hospital. 2000 hrs Mobile Cinema visits Unit. B and C Coys move out to CHAKHABAMA field firing area.</p>	<p>J.P. Culpin Lt</p>
<p>11 Dec - KOHIMA</p>	<p>0830 hrs HQ Coy, Cadre, move out to CHAKHABAMA.</p>	



12 Dec - KOHIMA	3 men admitted to hospital. 1 man discharged. A & D Coys practise for ceremonial guard. Visit by DDOS 7 DIV. CO moves to CHAKHABAMA. Advance Party for Ceremonial Guard moves to Imphal. 3 men admitted to hospital. 8 men discharged.	J.P. Culpin Lt
13 Dec - KOHIMA	C.O. remains at CHAKHABAMA. Guard leaves for IMPHAL. Three men admitted to hospital and 7 discharged. 2000 hrs ENSA show at KOHIMA GARRISON THEATRE. 7 men go on leave.	J.P. Culpin Lt
14 DEC - KOHIMA	BRIGADIER visits CO at CHAKHABAMA. 1100 hrs A Coy moves to 7 DIV HQ to dig demonstration defensive posns. 3 men admitted to hospital, 8 discharged, 1 man goes on leave.	J.P. Culpin Lt
15 DEC KOHIMA	C.O. at CHAKHABAMA. 1415 Demonstration of defensive positions at 7 DIV HQ. 2i/c, Capts Charlier and Hayes attend. Ceremonial Guard at IMPHAL under Major Newcome at which medal presentation takes place.	J.P. Culpin Lt
16 DEC KOHIMA	Capt Wyburn posted to JAMSHEDPUR and S.O.S. accordingly. CO returns from CHAKHABAMA. Guard returns from IMPHAL. Orders received for Bn to move to area TAMU.	J.P. Culpin Lt
17 DEC - KOHIMA	REST DAY with Church service. B & C Coys march from CHAKHABAMA during night. Rehearsals for Medal presentation on KOHIMA AIRSTRIP on 18 DEC. CO attends. 0815 hrs 50 men of D Coy form part of cordon round airstrip. 5 men admitted to hospital, 2 discharged.	J.P. Culpin Lt
18 DEC 44 - KOHIMA	0900 hrs Presentation of Medals and awards on KOHIMA AIRSTRIP by Supreme Allied Commander Lord Louis Mountbatten. Cpl Walls receives Certificate of Gallantry and Sgt Michie the D.C.M. HQ Coy march in from CHAKHABAMA. 2 men admitted to hospital, 5 discharged, 4 return from leave.	J.P. Culpin Lt
19 DEC 44 - KOHIMA	0900 hrs Court Martial of Ptes Bonnar, Brand and Simpson. 1430 C.O.'s company cmdrs conference re Bn Move. Bn to move in M.T. on 28 DEC 44. Mules by road on 21 DEC. 4 men to hospital, 6 discharged, 4 return from leave. 1 B.O.R. re-inforcement. C.S.M. Douglas repatriated on compassionate grounds.	J.P. Culpin Lt
20 Dec - KOHIMA	Rest Day for B C & HQ Coys. Lt Prooth to hospital. 4 BORs admitted to hospital, 6 discharged. 2 BORs despatched on leave. 1 returns from leave. C.O. visits Animal Transport section at CHAKHABAMA where they celebrate Christmas.	J.P. Culpin Lt
21 DEC KOHIMA	Lt AC Thomas takes over duties as BDE L.O. and is struck off strength accordingly. Capt M Ferguson despatched on leave with 1	J.P. Culpin Lt

		BOR. 2 BORs to hospital, 3 discharged. C/Sgt Fulton despatched to ENSA.	
22 DEC	KOHIMA	0900 hrs Summary Trial of Lt DM McGill on charge under Sect 40 neglect to take adequate safety precautions whilst on the range. Reprimanded. 3 BORs admitted to hospital, 4 discharged.	J.P. Culpin Lt
23 Dec -	KOHIMA	4 BORs despatched on UK 28 days leave.	
24 Dec	KOHIMA	Day spent in sports with visit from mobile Cinema at 2000 hrs. REST DAY. 0930 Voluntary church parade. 1100 hrs to 1630 hrs P.R.I. runs a horse-racing meeting. 1830 hrs Voluntary Church service round a bonfire.	J.P. Culpin Lt
25 DEC	KOHIMA	Xmas Day. 1000 hrs Drum head service.	
		1230 hrs C.O. visits company messes & Sgt Mess with Adjutant 2i/c RQMS RSM and two pipers.	J.P. Culpin Lt
26 Dec	KOHIMA	Capt W. Sulis (graded) posted to Deolali.	
		Preparations for Bn Move.	J.P. Culpin Lt
27 Dec	KOHIMA	0700 hrs B & D Coys leave for TAMU in M.T.	
		0730 hrs C.O. leave for TAMU.	J.P. Culpin Lt
28 DEC	KOHIMA	0715 hrs BHQ HQ Coy A & C Coys leave for Palel via IMPHAL. Arrive PALEL 1600 hrs.	J.P. Culpin Lt
29 DEC	PALEL	0100 hrs Bn leaves for TAMU. 0740 hrs Arrive staging area South of TAMU. 1 man evacuated to hospital. C.O. reces training areas.	J.P. Culpin Lt
30 DEC	TAMU	Bn prepares Camp. Routine kit and equipment inspections. 30 BORs sent on leave.	J.P. Culpin Lt
		2i/c & Adjutant recce range areas.	
31 DEC	TAMU	REST DAY with drum head service at 0930 hrs.	J.P. Culpin Lt
		2100 hrs Visit of Mobile Cinema	
		1600 hrs Major Rose, Black Watch, joined the Bn as 2i/c.	

1945**WAR DIARY**

REF MAPS

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence  
Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. I.  
Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

OR

1/25,000

(a) ORIGINAL

**~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~**

TAMU NORTH

~~(b) DUPLICATE~~

(Erase heading not required)

TAMU SOUTH

~~(c) TRIPLICATE~~

84 J/1

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
1st JANUARY - TAMU.	General Holiday for New Years Day. C.O. 2i/c & A/Adj visited companies.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj
2nd JANUARY - TAMU.	B & D Companies left base camp for 2 days river crossing practice on the YU River approximate reference Square 8176. Capt (Adj) J.R. STEWART returned from 7th Indian Division HQ & resumed appointment of Adjutant. 2 men admitted to hospital today. 2 BORS joined as reinforcements.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj
3rd JANUARY - TAMU.	Bn carried out normal training i.e. Open country warfare, & thick jungle warfare, compass & navigation in close country. One man admitted to hospital & seven arrived back in the Bn from hospital. 1 BOR returned from leave.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj
4th JANUARY - TAMU.	MAJOR Browning leaves Bn to take new appointment as 2/I/C 1st Queens at Shillong. Companies carried out training as above. Summary of Evidence taken by the Adjutant in the case of No 3316450 Pte Arnott J.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj
5th JANUARY - TAMU.	Advance party under command of Captain T.R. Turnbull ie 1 Officer & 9 men left TAMU area map 791776 (TAMU-SOUTH) to proceed to Bn concentration area INTHE - MYITTHA River Valley. M/R 589168 (ref map 84 J/1). B & D Companies returned to Bn Base Camp. Admin instructions issued to Coys for move to Bn concentration area. Two BORS returned from hospital.	J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj
6th JANUARY - TAMU.	After a very wet night, due to "CHRISTMAS MONSOONS", the Bn remained under cover of bivouacs & spent the morning clearing & maintaining weapons. Bn camp area turned into a "quagmire" and water had to be drained into a nearby chaung. A F.G.C.M. was held at Bn HQ in the case of Pte Arnott. Major Rose was President, Capt Stewart - Prosecutor, Capt Calderbank - Defending Officer &	

<p>7th JANUARY - TAMU.</p>	<p>Lieut Geddes as a member of the court. The Bn was inoculated with T.A.B. and anti-Tetanus today.</p> <p>Extremely heavy rain continued throughout the night, but at about 0900 hrs the sun broke through. The remainder of the day was spent in drying clothes, erecting new shelters &amp; cleaning weapons. All roads are closed &amp; the move to the concentration area was indefinitely postponed. 3 BORs were admitted to hospital. Holy Communion &amp; Morning Service was cancelled due to the rain.</p>	<p>J.R. Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p>8th JANUARY - TAMU.</p>	<p>Weather is back to normal again &amp; training resumed. B Company went out on a route march to the YU RIVER (TAMU-SOUTH) where zeroing of weapons, river crossing practice &amp; swimming took place. They returned to camp at 1300 hrs. The Padre, Rev AM Campbell, held his usual Padres hour and the subject of repatriation for BORs was widely discussed. One man was admitted to hospital.</p>	<p>J.R. Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p>9th JANUARY - TAMU</p>	<p>Transport to move the Bn has still not arrived, due to the roads being closed with the 2 days rain. The Bn was put on a "4 hours notice", &amp; companies marched to the River camp area to continue "Watermanship" training. See YU River (TAMU-SOUTH). Three BORs were admitted to hospital and 1 discharged. 1 BOR rejoined the Bn from leave. Pte Bell (No. 3190416) rejoined us having completed a Motor Mechanics Course at Rawalpindi.</p>	<p>J.R. Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p>10th JANUARY - TAMU.</p>	<p>The Commanding Officer held an R+O Group &amp; explained that transport would arrive to move the Bn. Since no exact time was obtainable the Bn was to be ready to move at 0900 hrs. At 1045 hrs, word was received that our transport had been diverted to some other unit, &amp; that there would be no more before the 12th January. The C.O. then gave orders to re-erect bivouacs etc, &amp; put the Bn on 4 hours notice to move. Since it was into the afternoon before the camp was put in order &amp; meals prepared, the remainder of the afternoon was spent in sports &amp; "Housey-Housey". The companies challenged each other at Basketball &amp; provided plenty of amusement to the Bn. Weather has now changed &amp; the roads are now nearly back to normal. 5 men were admitted to hospital.</p>	<p>J.R. Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>

<p>11th JANUARY - TAMU.</p>	<p>Lieut Brazier with 2 jeeps &amp; trailers left at 0700 hrs this morning for TAUKKYAN ( ) taking with him mail which had been held up for 4 days. He was ordered to bring back the mail for the whole Brigade, &amp; to purchase as many cigarettes as possible. Cigarettes have been very short &amp; we have completely exhausted our meagre reserves. Incoming mail for the past 4 days still unlocated. 1 man admitted to hospital.</p>	<p>J.R. Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p>12th JANUARY - TAMU.</p>	<p>Corps transport arrived at 1830 hrs and was allotted to Companies. Trucks loaded up &amp; lined up ready for the move out at 0330 hrs on 13 JAN. Bn then rested or slept until 0200 hrs 13 JAN. Lieut Brazier arrived back to Bn area at 2345 hrs having been unsuccessful in obtaining any incoming mail. This is the 5th day without mail &amp; already there are signs of discontent amongst the men.</p>	<p>J.R. Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p>13th JANUARY - TAMU. - INTHE</p>	<p>Reveille was at 0200 hrs, &amp; the Bn had tea served which was made by the baggage party. At 0330 hrs the Bn moved out in Corps transport for destination at Bde concentration area at INTHE (ref map 84J/1 - 589168). At 0715 hrs the Bn arrived at YAZAGYO - mile 61 (RP 5705 - map 84I (Eastwards) &amp; halted for breakfast. At 0950 hrs the Bn moved on to Stage No.6 TAUKKYAN - 84I (RP 5055 on Quarter inch map) which was to be our destination for that day. On arrival there our Bde L.O. Lieut Thomas informed us that we were to proceed to INTHE (ref map 84J/1 - 589168) by transport. Bn arrived in area INTHE at 1600 hrs &amp; was met by Capt Turnbull and guides who directed companies to their respective areas. The C.O. held an "O" Group at 1700 hrs &amp; informed Coy Commanders as to the Tactical Situation. "Stand-to" was at 1800 hrs, &amp; all lights, fires, smoking &amp; talking were to be restricted to a minimum. 1 man to hospital &amp; 5 men rejoined from hospital, also 4 men from leave.</p>	<p>J.R. Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p>14th JANUARY - INTHE.</p>	<p>2/Lieut Hewitt joined the Bn today &amp; was posted to D Company. Stand-to at 0600 hrs started the day for us &amp; the Bn proceeded to improve positions. Brigade Operation Order No2 received at 0800 hrs. The C.O. held R&amp;O Group, giving orders for onward move of Bn to area 1000x SE of KINYANTAUNG (near MYINTHA 628960 (84J/2). This was on an all pack basis &amp; we received 50 extra mules to lift blankets, mosquito nets &amp; groundsheets. The C.O. &amp; the Adj attended a conference at Bde HQ on future operations. The remainder of the day was spent in rope-loading kit &amp; washing</p>	<p>J.R. Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>

<p>15th JANUARY - KINYANTAUNG.</p>	<p>clothes etc. The Bn marched out at 1800 hrs to the skirl of the pipes playing the regimental march past on the following order of march. Bn HQ, HQ, D, C, B &amp; A Coys followed by the mules.</p> <p>The Bn arrived in the Stage No.1 area at (621960 - area MYINTHA (84J/2 one inch) after a gruelling 16 mile night march. Advance parties met the Bn &amp; put people in their respective area. Stand-to was at 0600 hrs &amp; thereafter the day was spent in resting &amp; sleeping. The C.O. held an "O" Group at Bn HQ at 1400 hrs, giving details for the onward march of the Bn to KAN (363240 - 84J/3 one inch map). The Bn moved out at 1800 hrs in the following order of march. Mules, Bn HQ, C, B, HQ, A, D &amp; Admin Coys. Still no sign of incoming mail. 2 men admitted to hospital.</p>	<p>J.R. Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p>16th JANUARY - KAN</p>	<p>Bn arrived in the area of KAN, Stage 2 (363240 - 84J/3 1" to 1 mile) at 1245 hrs on 15th January after another very hard 12 mile march. The roads were extremely dusty &amp; very rough with the result a number of sprained ankles to some feet were involved. Since no moon was up it made the march very difficult. Bn rested as on the 16th JAN &amp; the C.O. gave out orders for the move to Stage 3. The Bn moved out at 1800 hrs as follows. Mules, Bn HQ, D, HQ, A, B, C and Admin Coys. We arrived at our destination after 13½ miles of rough marching. Our destination was changed from area KAN to 4½ miles further on. Bn marched out at 1800 hrs &amp; arrived at destination at 2310 hrs. Men received the usual hot tea and haversack rations on arrival.</p>	<p>J.R. Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p>17th JANUARY - TEHLAW.</p>	<p>After having had approx 6 hours sleep the Bn "Stood-to" at 0600 hrs. The CO had a conference &amp; informed us that there was a possibility of Japanese Long Range patrols operating in our area. The necessary precautions were taken. At 1200 hrs the C.O. attended a conference at Bde &amp; gave out orders for Column "B" of which he was to command for the forward move of the Bde. The remainder of the day was spent in cutting down kit to a bare minimum &amp; making final arrangements for rear &amp; baggage parties. At 1830 hrs the CO held an "O" Group conference &amp; gave orders for next move forward on the 19th. At 1835 the Adj received a message that 40 reinforcements were at KAN (363240 - 84J/3 1" to 1 mile) airfield. Trucks were despatched &amp; returned with 2 officers &amp; 26 ORs. Remainder of reinforcement were for the 1/11 Sikhs &amp; 4/8 Gurkhas. Captain Ferguson &amp; Lieut Killip were the 2 officers. Capt Ferguson assumed appointment of Mortar Officer. 9 BORS</p>	<p>J.R. Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>

<p>18th JANUARY - TEHLAW.</p>	<p>admitted to hospital &amp; 2 rejoined Bn from hospital. 1 man returned from a course &amp; 3 from leave.</p> <p>Bn still resting &amp; organising for the Column march which is to advance SOUTH to contact Japs who are withdrawing SOUTH. Bn area is TEHLAW (84J/3 - 349155 1" to 1 mile). The C.O. attended a conference at Div HQ near KAN. CO held an R&amp;O Group &amp; gave orders out for the move to area SAINGDU (388980 84J/4). Stand to now changed to 1815 hrs.</p>	<p>J.R. Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p>19th JANUARY - SAINGDU</p>	<p>The Bn moved out from TEHLAW &amp; marched 14 miles along a very dusty and rough road to our destination near SAINGDU (388980 - 84J/4). The going was very bad but the troops, although very tired came on in grand form. Guides met the respective groups and the Bn went into Protected Areas. Ten men were evacuated to the Bn base as unfit. COs "O" Group at 1700 hrs gave detail for onward march of Bn. Men engaged in refreshing wash &amp; swim in a nearby river. The C.O., Lieut Radcliffe &amp; the Rev Campbell were ordered to be evacuated by the M.O. on the 20th JAN.</p>	<p>J.R. Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p>20th JANUARY - SAINGDU</p>	<p>The Bn had "stand-to" at 0600 hrs, breakfasts at 0645 hrs, moved out at 0800 hrs. Bn arrived at LENU (439891 - 84J/4) after a reasonable 12 mile march. We still have managed to bring up 6 Jeeps &amp; trailers with us. Still no mail.</p>	<p>J.R. Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p>21st JANUARY - TAZAN</p>	<p>Bn arrived at TAZAN ( ) after a good 14 mile march. Colonel Conder handed over command of B Column to Colonel Hamilton 1/11 Sikhs. Col Hamilton gave Major Rose orders that our Bn had to do an encircling march on its own. No jeeps &amp; trailers can travel over our route &amp; so we are now on an all pack basis. The men unfit to do the distance have been weeded out &amp; were returned to base. MT under command Capt Stalker travel with Column B. We had an air-drop by Dakotas including 2 days F.S. rations. Kit now reduced to 1 Battledress, F.S.M.O. washing &amp; shaving kit. C.O. gave orders for onward move to KYAW (630643 - 84J/5 1" to 1 mile).</p>	<p>J.R. Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p>22nd JANUARY - KYAW</p>	<p>Bn moved out in 3 groups. At 0600 hrs Major Courtenay-Hood now acting 2/i/c &amp; Lieut Culpin with 1 Pl moved out as a Flying Column to go on ahead to arrange our disps &amp; to get guides &amp; coolies for next days march. C Coy plus R&amp;O Groups under the C.O. left at 0630 hrs &amp; the main body left at 0645 hrs under the Adj.</p>	

<p>23rd JANUARY - TANDAW</p>	<p>1 BIC bombardier &amp; 1 Burmese guide went with the flying column &amp; the Advance party respectively. Bn arrived at KYAW after a very gruelling march over a 16 mile elephant track &amp; took up a defensive night position near KYAW (630643). C.O. made contact with CO Chin Hill Bn &amp; got latest information on Japanese movements. Our air-drop did NOT materialise so now reduced to 1 days FS rations &amp; emergency rations. Mules in good condition. C.O. gave out orders for onward move.</p> <p>Bn moved out as above with guides with A Coy leading &amp; after doing the 17 miles over the elephant track arrived at TANDAW (683465 84K/5 1" to 1 mile) with all the men in good heart. Natives gave us a good welcome &amp; seemed very friendly. Had a successful air-drop today. No mail dropped. CO had R&amp;O groups at 1600 hrs for onward move. Plenty water available from KYAW CHAUNG. No sick except blistered feet &amp; sores.</p>	<p>J.R. Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p>24th JANUARY - MAUK-KABAING</p>	<p>Bn "stood-to" at 0600 hrs, had breakfast at 0630 hrs &amp; marched out as the 2 previous with D Coy leading &amp; with B, Bn HQ &amp; HQ Coy, C &amp; A Coy escorting the mules. Travelling along the elephant track the Bn reached the village of MAUK-KABAING (633332 - 84K/6 1" to 1 mile) after an 8 mile march. Original intention had been to go to TAUNG-KABAING (630302 - 84K/6) but contact was made with B Column &amp; the CO had orders to wait here. Air-drop successful &amp; official mail was dropped by 2 AUSTERS on the Paddy field nearby.</p>	<p>J.R. Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p>25th JANUARY - NYAUNGBINTHA</p>	<p>At 0700 hrs the main body left MAUK-KABIN with local guides &amp; acted as Advance guard to B Column. At 1030 hrs Bn less D Coy &amp; mules arrived at destination &amp; proceeded to put a road-block across the TILIN-PAUK ROAD at MS 57-57½ (656205). Dispositions were as follows. A Coy - 655208. B Coy - 656212. C Coy 657213. D Coy area 664213 protecting Bn HQ, HQ Coy &amp; Admin Coy. 1 Pl D Coy on high ground (664209), Bn HQ at 661211. Air strip &amp; water points were secured. Bn dug in &amp; settled down for the night. Capt Young &amp; 5 men patrolled to NYAUNGBINTHA (679195 - 84K/6) but no enemy seen. Stand-to at 1815 hrs.</p>	<p>J.R. Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p>26th JANUARY - NYAUNGBINTHA</p>	<p>Stand-to started day at 0600 hrs. At 0615 hrs message received to say 30 JAPS arrived NYAUNGBINTHA &amp; about 10 JAPS in area (655200 - 84K/6). CO sent out D Coy plus 1 Pl of A Coy &amp; 1 det Mortars to destroy the enemy. Later report, 20 to 30 JAPS withdrew into area SOUTH and from CHAUNG-U (6916 - 84K/6). D Coy met no opposition &amp;</p>	



<p>27th JANUARY - THAYETTAW</p>	<p>returned to base leaving 1 pl at NYAUNGBINTHA. Patrols to SATHEIN (710210) and PEBINSHIMA (685190) &amp; reported N.E.S. Patrol to CHAUNG-U also saw no enemy.</p> <p>At 0600 hrs this morning firing broke out to the SOUTH of our position on the main road near our Bn positions at NYAUNGBINTHA. It turned out to be about 30 Japs who ran into the Gunners who were harboured on the main road. Fire was returned &amp; the Japs retreated SOUTH towards THAYETTAW (706099 - 84K/7). Bn moved out at 0830 hrs having first sent out a Platoon under Lieut Geddes to clear road to MS 56. He reported N.E.S. but reported plenty of footprints. Bn arrived in area of THAYETTAW at about 1330 hrs after passing through 1/11 Sikhs at PAUK &amp; cleared road to the high ground SOUTH of THAYETTAW. Bn HQ set up in the CHAUNG at (701099 - 84K/7) with COYS disposed of as follows. B Coy on ring contour (695099) to road running along chaung from WEST to EAST &amp; tying in with D Coy at 695094 who were on the high ground &amp; astride the track. A Coy sat astride the track near the village of THAYETTAW at about (705098 - 84J/7) linking up with C Coy on high ground at about (706093) thus forming all round defence. Distance marched was about 12 miles along very dusty earth track. Lt-Colonel Conder, Capt Rev Campbell &amp; 10 men rejoined the Bn. Major Rose assumed 2/i/c and Major Courtenay-Hood took over command of B Coy. - 9 men evacuated sick to ADS today. The Brigadier arrived and gave the CO orders for onward move of Bn. We have 1 Bty (500 Bty of 136 Fd Regt in support who came into our "Box" at (702099). C.O. gave out verbal orders at 1800 hrs. Quiet night &amp; our patrols &amp; ambushes reported N.E.S.</p>	<p>J.R. Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p>28th JANUARY - TANGEDAW.</p>	<p>Bn stand-to at 1600 hrs &amp; moved out at 0730 hrs in the following order of march. A Coy, Tac HQ, "O" Group, Bty of 136 Fd Regt, REs, C Coy, Bn HQ, HQ Coy, RAP, mules and D Coy. B Coy remained behind to protect a troop of guns which were in support, &amp; followed on behind on being relieved by 4/8 GR. The objective was to be the high ground on the EAST bank of the YAW-CHAUNG in square (8705). Failing to make the high ground, the Bn was to establish itself near the area of THANBYA-AING (8504 - 84K/11). The Bn after crossing the YAW CHAUNG twice &amp; clearing the high ground and villages eventually arrived at square (8404) without opposition. A Coy reported that enemy seen on high ground area (8705). The C.O. ordered the gunners &amp; the Mortar Officer to tickle this up, &amp; whilst this was going on A Coy crossed the</p>	<p>J.R. Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>

	<p>chaung &amp; eventually secured objective. Bn took up a defended locality roughly as follows. A Coy on hill feature (862053) connecting up with C who were on high ground (873056). C Coy connected up with D Coy who established themselves on high ground at (876052) &amp; in turn linked up with B Coy whose area was from 876048 to chaung then along chaung to connect up with A Coy. Brigadier arrived &amp; gave the C.O. his orders for next days move which were passed on by the CO at R&amp;O groups conference at 1745 hrs. Patrols reported N.E.S. but had information of Jap activities around the villages of YEBYADAW (8803) and THAMADAW (8903). Verrey-lights presumably fired by Jap isolated parties seen at 2359 hrs to our NORTH &amp; SOUTH. Rest of night very quiet. B Coy plus the Mortar Pl &amp; 1 Gunner FOO moved out at midnight to secure our next days objective of Pt 997 near the village of YOZAYAT (024003 - 84K/11). Men are in good heart &amp; morale is very high. Rations were brought up in our jeeps who now return to Bn command. The sick-rate is very low &amp; is mostly due to blistered feet. Boots are getting in a bad state &amp; we hope to get an air-drop of boots in a day or two.</p>	<p>J.R. Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p>29th JANUARY - YOZAYAT</p>	<p>Bn arrived at YOZAYAT (024003) after an uneventful but gruelling &amp; dusty 11 miles march. A Recce patrol through the village under Sgt Kennedy was fired on by 5 or 6 JAPS. B Coy put a road block on the road 3 miles to the EAST and encircled to the SOUTH, but met with no success. The Bn disposed themselves as follows on this the most tactical position in the area. Bn HQ area (025002) C Coy (025006 to astride road (028003) A Coy - 028003 to 025000. B Coy 025000 to &amp; incl road 023003. D Coy 023003 to link up &amp; complete defended locality at 025006. Standing patrols at pt 1127 square 0201. Track junction 029035. Track junction 018982. Patrols fighting to village of MAGYITHONBIN (045002) and via pt 1127 to track junction 029035 thence to village of HNAWBAUK (012043) thence by track back to pt 1127. Gunners with 1 Bty (500 Bty) are in our perimeter at 024002. Water shown on map at 022007 non-existent but 2 large pools of water in the Bn area suitable for washing &amp; drinking. CO had orders group &amp; informed us that we would likely stay in the position for 2 or 3 days to let other elements catch up with us. Washing of clothes, kit checks etc were to be put into force immediately. Some of our heavy baggage arrived at about 1700 hrs &amp; we were able to make ourselves more comfortable for the night. Remainder of the night quiet &amp; nothing to report.</p>	<p>J.R. Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>

<p>30th JANUARY - YOZAYAT</p>	<p>Stand-to at 0600 hrs started the day. Then our ambush &amp; standing patrols started returning to camp. They had been most unfortunate &amp; just missed catching some Japs in each case. With a bottle of beer at stake for the first "dead" Nippon, presented by Col Conder, the rivalry is terrific, &amp; the keenness shown by all ranks is worthy of the Regiment. At about 0915 hrs 2 signallers from Bde HQ on their DRLS run to us were shot up by a Jap ambush party with an LMG 2 miles to the WEST and our rear at approx 875 (square 9999). One signaller came on &amp; reported this to us whilst the other returned to Bde. A patrol from B Coy circled to the SOUTH under Lieut Brazier to try &amp; cut the Japs retreat. They were very unfortunate &amp; missed bagging any, but saw plenty of footprints which they tracked for several miles. Evidence of cooking was abundant but they still had no success in meeting any Japs. Colonel Conder ordered Major Russell of C Coy to send out 20 men in jeeps to hare down the road to PYITAING (147965 - 84K/15) with the object of catching some Nippons unawares. This mobile jeep patrol under Lieut Scott dressed up as Burmans &amp; armed to the teeth set out at 0910 hrs on their mission. They too had no luck &amp; only missed a party of Japs by 10 minutes. The dust must have given the show away because the Japs hared out of it as fast as they could. Other patrols had N.T.R. &amp; N.E.S. Remainder of the jeep patrol brought in 9 Burmans, 9 Bullock-carts &amp; 18 Bullocks which we will use in lieu of mules to fetch water, carry rations etc, &amp; save our petrol. It will also prevent the Jap procuring same for use on his "Whirlwind Retreat". Bn up to date has marched 168 miles, &amp; the mule-leaders under Lieut McNish have traversed between 400 &amp; 500 miles on foot since we left Kohima &amp; still going strong. 4 men evacuated sick &amp; Mr Munro admitted to hospital. The CO made some new NCO promotions to fill existing vacancies. Outgoing mail for the 1st time was taken to Bde. Mail is being received alright now. Rations are improving &amp; are collected from the air-dropping zone at SIN THE (9201 - 84K/11) daily. Remainder of the day spent on interior economy. A very quiet night &amp; nothing to report.</p>	
<p>31st JANUARY - YOZAYAT</p>	<p>After an uneventful night with the exception of fires burning 12 to 15 miles from our positions, to the SOUTH &amp; to the EAST in the proximity of the IRRIWADDY RIVER (which we can see on a clear day from here), there was nothing else to report throughout the night. After stand-down Lieut Hewitt with 3 men went out on a 24 hrs patrol to observe movement of the enemy in the area of the</p>	<p>J.R. Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>

oilwells (squares 0683, 0682 & 0681 - 84K/15). Our standing patrols from point 1127 (0201), track junction 029035 and track junction at 018982 had nothing to report. The CO Colonel Conder decided that there was a possibility that the Bn may be called upon to take the oilwells & since we were the best placed troops for the job, he sent out recce patrols to report on the track as far as pt 1003 (square 0394 - 84K/11). Patrol reported track unsuitable, so the CO ordered out HQ Coy & D Coy, lock stock & barrel to make it jeepable. The CO being very keen to take the oilwells was preparing his plans well ahead, & by 1700 hrs HQ & D Coys returned reporting the track jeepable up to & beyond pt 547 (square 0591 - 84K/15). The remainder of the track was OK down to the plain. The Coys certainly did a marvellous job of work & spared no efforts to get the job done. Lieut Arnott of C Coy & 10 men left in 2 groups to go to KANDAW (2493 - 84K/15) & create a spot of trouble, also to find out whether there were any JAPS in that area as previously reported by Tac R. He left his jeeps in a hide-out in the area of YELA-ALE (1698 - 84K/15) & cut across to the high ground NORTH of KANDAW. Villagers reported 25 JAPS in the village & that 1 JAP had gone NORTH just before arrival of patrol. Investigation found no Nippons & the patrol returned to the jeeps by bounds along the main road, keeping it under observation, thence back to camp. Boots have been issued by the QM, so we are now equipped for our onward march to TOKYO. Cigarettes are more plentiful & mail is both going & coming alright. Men are eager to be at the Jap & we hope that Colonel Conder can persuade the higher-up to let us have our crack at the oil wells.

J.R. Stewart Capt & Adj

FEBRUARY 1945**WAR DIARY**REF MAPS

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence  
Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. I.  
Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

OR

84K/11)

(a) ORIGINAL

**~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~**

84K/15) 1" to 1 mile

(b) DUPLICATE

*(Erase heading not required)*

(C) TRIPLICATE

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
1st FEBRUARY - YOZAYAT	<p>After Stand-down our standing patrols started coming in, &amp; in all cases had N.T.R. &amp; N.E.S. The CO attended a conference at Bde &amp; at his orders group we learned that 89 Bde had the job of holding ground already taken, &amp; preventing Japs infiltrating thro' to the Corps Airhead which was being prepared at SIN THE (9201 - 84K/11). It also gives the remainder of the Division a chance to catch us up! The Bn is at present the furthest troops into Burma in the SOUTH. Lieut Hewitt &amp; his patrol were several hours overdue in coming back but eventually turned up hale &amp; hearty but very disappointed at not having succeeded in winning the much coveted bottle of beer for the first Jap. He saw no Japs during his 24 hour patrol but was able to give a good topographical report on the area of the oilwells (square 0683 - 84K/15). Mr Ellis and 3 men from D Coy left in jeeps to pt 547 (0689) where they were dropped to go on to the oilwells &amp; make a more extensive patrol of that area. As a result of the Bde conference Colonel Conder ordered out A coy under Major Chisholm to establish a patrol base in the area of YELA-TAUNG (155965 - 84K/15) with the object of patrolling &amp; clearing the village of KANDAW (2393 - 84K/15). They had 1 det of 3" Mortars under Capt Ferguson mounted on 2 jeeps &amp; trailers with a fast supporting mobile role. D Coy took over A Coys positions that night, &amp; B &amp; Coys closed in to fill the D Coy position. Normal standing patrols were sent out just before dusk. - The men still are keen to draw first blood &amp; competition is high. Rations are steadily improving &amp; we hope to get up canteen rations in a day or so.</p>	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
2nd FEBRUARY - YOZAYAT	<p>After an uneventful night the Bn proceeded to improve dug-positions, fire lanes &amp; camouflage same. For 3 nights roaming Japanese recce-planes have been over at night, although no signs have been seen of aircraft throughout the day. At 0400 hrs A Coy under Major Chisholm moved out with Mortars in support to establish a Patrol base at YELA-TAUNG (1596 - 84K/15). On arrival at YELA-TAUNG 12 JAPS were seen in the chaung at (170945 -</p>	

<p>3rd FEBRUARY - YOZAYAT</p>	<p>84K/15) moving EAST. Our patrol went out to intercept them but the Japs retreated to the WEST at a level 8 seconds per 100 yards. We engaged with 3" Mortars but failed to draw blood. A local report states that 10 JAPS hurriedly left the village towards the EAST on hearing the sounds of our jeep engines. This was the village of YELA-ALE (1597 - 84K/15). Captain Charlier (2/i/c A Coy) with 1 Platoon under command left to recce then enter the village of KANDAW (2393 - 84K/15) &amp; secure same. The CO returned from A Coy at midday &amp; left for Bde HQ to try &amp; obtain anti-tank gunners support in case Japs had TANKETTES in the area. The attempt was unsuccessful as was his attempt to be allowed to take forward a troop of 25 pounders to brass the Japs up a bit. He was, however, successful in obtaining some transport to make 2 Platoons of A Coy mobile. This will assist them in their role when patrolling the areas of PAKOKKU (4389 - 840/3) &amp; KANHLA (3389 - 840/3). At 2100 hrs firing from our lads broke out between B Coy &amp; D Coy. Investigation showed that somebody had been snooping around the area but had bolted when firing broke out. Odd firing was heard throughout the night but was distant. A large fire to our SOUTH was reported again. Nothing else to report.</p> <p>The day dawns after a day of excitement &amp; eventual success in drawing blood from the JAPS. The night 2/3rd proved very quiet &amp; there is nothing to report. Colonel Conder with his escort &amp; a patrol from B Coy under Sgt Jolley left in jeeps to go forward to KANDAW (2393 - 84K/15). At about 120967 - 84K/15 near TABYA, the C.O. &amp; his party were ambushed by 6 or 7 JAPS equipped with L.M.Gs. They proved rotten shots these JAPS, &amp; not one of the COs party were injured. The CO and party withdrew behind cover &amp; encircled this ambush party. True to recent tradition the Japs had legged it to the EAST. The CO &amp; party then proceeded to KANDAW to contact A Coy. The CO then went forward to NGAPAUNGGAN (2891 - 84K/15) to look at the country forward from the high ground. No enemy extracted this trip. The road from KANDAW onwards to PAKOKKU is tar-macked &amp; we later discovered from Tac R reports that all roads to PAKOKKU are mined. Col Blackadder &amp; 2 officers from the Gordon Highlanders (now converted to TANKS) visited us to get the lay out &amp; to study the country to our front. Their recce group is expected to work with us from tomorrow onwards &amp; will be in our protected locality. A patrol under Lieut Dale from A Coy set out after JAPS thirsting for</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
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<p>4th FEBRUARY - YOZAYAT</p>	<p>blood to the village of SEBINZU (1890 - 84K/15) but returned with an NES report. The CO laid on a Patrol programme with A Coy since our recces to KANHLA (3389 - 840/3) were held up 12 hrs due to an air-strike on it. A Coy established a patrol base on the high ground at (3495 - 840/3) from whence night recce patrols left to cut the main road to PAKOKKU at these points. 1 Patrol to 3191 KANHLA and to LEYA (3589 - 840/3) &amp; 1 to PAUKIN (3989 - 840/3). Fighting patrols based on results of these recce patrols will be sent out tomorrow. A Coy sent out a patrol to NGAPAUNGGAN (2891 - 84K/15) encountered 20 Japs in the Pagoda area 275913 &amp; later report from A Coy said we had 1 slightly wounded man &amp; that the patrol had inflicted 4 more casualties to the enemy.</p> <p>Another quiet night passed &amp; we awoke with that good feeling that the Bn had drawn first blood in the Bde, &amp; with success. We took them on at approx 5 to 1 &amp; inflicted casualties at 5 to 1 to our credit. Last year in the Arakan our opening encounter was the same, so it promises to be a good omen for the Bn in the forthcoming campaign. Our Padre Capt Rev Campbell held Holy Communion this morning &amp; a morning service at 0930 hrs in true Covenanter style with the surrounding features held by armed men. At 0830 the CO left with his mobile group to go out to A Coy &amp; "lay on" the fighting programme for today &amp; tonight. At 1130 hrs we received reports to the effect that (1) Patrols from A Coy report movement on the road going NORTH at (3087 - 84K/15) at 2300 hrs. No vehicles &amp; NES at (3588 - 840/3 &amp; 3589 - 840/3). They heard intermittent fire area 3091 - 84K/15) at 2300 hrs. A very large fire in area (3389 - 840/3) at 0800 hrs this morning. The COs jeep group were fired on at area 1795, with only 1 vehicle getting through. The CO &amp; the remainder had to stay on the WEST side of the chaung &amp; fight it out. 1 Platoon from A Coy left KANDAW to help them out. A later report shows that the CO &amp; his group got through &amp; it transpired that the C.O. had succeeded in killing 1 Jap &amp; wounding 1 other. He also managed to collect some Japanese kit &amp; later reports when Colonel Conder arrives back to the Bn may have some details. Another patrol report shows that 3 recce patrols last night to 1890 - 84K/15 returned with an NES report. C Coy report that 1 Japanese officer &amp; 12 Japs left village of SEBINZU (1890 - 84K/15) on night 2/3rd FEB for village in square 1596 (84K/15) &amp; another 12 went SOUTH down chaung with bullock carts. SEBINZU seems to be a patrol base for the JAPS &amp; the C.O. is going to tickle them up a bit with B Coy tomorrow</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
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<p>5th FEBRUARY - YOZAYAT</p>	<p>when A Coy returns to the fold. At 1130 hrs - 114 Bde less 1 Bn started to move through us to harbour in the area of KANDAW prior to onward move to PAKOKKU. Their Brigadier is meeting Colonel Conder at KANDAW to get the latest information from him. The CO returned to the Bn at about 1630 hrs &amp; verified about shooting the Japs in his little party. A Coy sent out fighting patrols last night as a final effort before returning to the Bn. 114 Bde are now responsible for KANDAW &amp; onwards to the IRRAWADDY. B Coy under Major Courtenay-Hood shall be going out early tomorrow morning to mop up Japs &amp; clear the Japs Patrol base which we suspect as being at SEBINZU (1890 - 84K/15). A jeep &amp; trailer load of Japanese equipment was brought in as a result of the CO &amp; his party successfully dealing with the Jap ambush. This was sent on to Bde. D Coy patrols all returned with an NES report. At 2100 hrs our OPs reported a number of vehicles approaching our position from the EAST. On investigation they turned out to be a supply officer &amp; party from 114 Bde returning to collect an air-drop. He was detained by us for the night since the road is very dangerous &amp; subject to ambushes. Intermittent firing &amp; blazing fires reported throughout the night, otherwise all quiet on our front.</p> <p>At 0200 hrs this morning B Coy moved out with 3" mortars on mules &amp; 1 FOO from 500 Battery - 136 Fd Regt. The CO had laid on a plan whereby A Coy returning from the EAST worked in conjunction with B Coy from the WEST, whereby they combed the whole area from the main road PAUK - PAKOKKU, southwards to approx the 86 Horizontal grid line (84K/15). This should finally mop up the Jap isolated parties for once &amp; for all. At 0615 hrs the detained supply officer was allowed to proceed to SIN THE. Up to 1400 hrs no reports from either A &amp; B Coys, but Tac R report A Coy travelling WESTWARDS. At 1500 hrs A Coy returned triumphant &amp; a very much more experienced Company to the Battalion. A report was received that a battle was taking place to the EAST from our positions at approximately the area squares (1393 - 1493 - 84 K/15). It later transpired that 1 Platoon of B Coy under Lieut Brazier had had a very successful encounter with the Japs.</p> <p>Lieut Brazier returned to the Bn at about 1715 hrs, bringing with him 4 of our own casualties. Apparently he had approached the village of NYAUNGWEGYIT (145935 - 84 K/15) with his platoon plus B Coy HQ. As Lieut Brazier came through a clump of bamboo he came face to face with a Japanese officer. Brazier was quicker on the</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
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<p>6th FEBRUARY - YOZAYAT</p>	<p>draw &amp; the Japanese officer is now on his way to his honourable ancestors. This officer had obviously had warning of the B Coy platoon's arrival &amp; had been planning an ambush &amp; siting his LMGs to prepare a welcome for them. This was foiled &amp; the Japs got the worst of it. When their officer was killed, peace reigned for a period, then 6 or 7 Japs managed to put in a bayonet attack. This was fatal from their point of view, because they failed &amp; suffered casualties. The Japs then fired blindly through bashas (huts) &amp; swept the whole of the village with LMG fire. This is where we got our casualties. Lieut Brazier who had been isolated, gathered Coy HQ &amp; 2 sections together &amp; made a "Box" round the wounded. He then made a recce for his withdrawal, gathered some bullock-carts from the next village &amp; made his way to the main road where the wounded were brought in to the Bn by jeeps. Meanwhile Lieut Braziers 3rd section was doing a chukker to the Japs rear, under command of Cpl Ralston. They had not been seen for quite a period &amp; when Cpl Ralston reported to Bn HQ, it transpired that he had fun &amp; games also. He had one casualty himself &amp; had inflicted 2 certs (killed) &amp; wounded either 1 or 2. This brought this Platoons total log up to 8 Japs killed &amp; at least six wounded as opposed to our 5 wounded, only 1 of which was serious. It was a good piece of work, &amp; once again we came out on top. The CO held an O group conference &amp; told us his plan for mopping up the Japs in that area, for the next day. The Brigadier sent a signal expressing his pleasure at the Bns work. Jap parties in this area are obviously well organised &amp; are equipped with Mortars, LMGs, &amp; cup dischargers.</p> <p>As usual we had a very uneventful night &amp; in fact the whole day was the same. A similar programme as for the 5th was "laid on" by the CO to sweep the whole area from the chaung junction (1785 - 84K/15) up to the main PAUK - PAKOKKU road then WEST back to the Bn area. C Coy under Major Russell left the Bn position at 0730 hrs &amp; proceeded down the road to TABYA (1296 - 84K/15). They then proceeded SOUTHWARD in the following order. 1 Platoon was to sweep down the KYAT CHAUNG (1292 - 84K/15), 1 Pl &amp; Coy HQ to sweep down the KU - CHAUNG (1691 - 84K/15) &amp; the other platoon to come down the EAST bank of the CHAUNG MAGYI - CHAUNG so that the 3 columns converged on the village of CHAUNG GWA (1789 - 84K/15) where they were to contact B Company. They then swept back up to the main road then return to the Bn. This was a pretty hectic task irrespective of the distance &amp; the heavy sandy going, since</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
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<p>7th FEBRUARY - YOZAYAT</p>	<p>it meant that every village had to be thoroughly searched. In actual fact, there are more villages than enough, &amp; these are not shown on the map. C Coy were all keyed up &amp; thirsting for blood, but after a long hard days hunting, they had to return having not even had a glance of a Jap. Naturally disappointment was rife, but spirits are high &amp; they are keen to have another go. Word was received that Pte Lloyd of B Company had died in the ADS. He was buried near the village of TANDAWGON (9499 - 84K/15) at map reference 943997 - 84K/11. B Coy sent a fighting patrol to the village of SABE (1184 - 84K/15) but had no luck there. The 2/I/C of the 4/1st Gurkhas liaised with us, &amp; informed us that 33 Bde was on its way up. He was the Adv party &amp; was going to spend the night at YALE-TAUNG (1596 - 84/K15). B Coy was informed of this move since it was in their patrolling area. Throughout the day there was nothing else to report. At 2000 hrs 2 jeeps with 2 officers &amp; 4 men from the Gordon Highlanders were detained for the night in C Coy area, since the road is dangerous for small parties at night.</p> <p>The plan for today was very similar to the 2 previous days, only this time in reverse, in the hope that the JAP would expect us to drive from the NORTH to the SOUTH. D Coy moved out at 0730 hrs after the road had been opened by armoured-cars (P.A.V.O. Regt) &amp; they took up "stop" positions in a line as follows. THANBO (0501 - 84/K15) 1 Platoon. Coy HQ &amp; 1 Platoon under Major Turnbull on the high ground at square (0802 - 84/K/15), &amp; the remaining Pl at square (1504 - 84/K15). The Pl at THANBO found it clear of enemy &amp; moved up to the alternative position at THABYEDON (0904 - 84K/15). B Coy then drove up the CHAUNG MAGYI CHAUNG, the KU-CHAUNG &amp; the KYAT-CHAUNG with a Pl in each, the idea being to drive the japs NORTH, &amp; into the lap of D Coy's stops, who were all prepared for them. - Although a thorough sweep was made, B Coy contacted D Coy without sighting even 1 Nippon. Similarly D Coy hadn't seen a sausage. Both Coys then returned to YOZAYAT very disappointed indeed. A Coy had put out a recce patrol to Pt 703 (0891 - 84K/15) just to keep their eye on the WEST side of the "beat" but had nothing to report.</p> <p>No. Pte Lloyd of B Coy died in the ADS as a result of wounds sustained in the battle with the Japs at ANAUKTAW (1191 - 84K/15) on the 6th FEB 1945.</p> <p>Although the patrolling has been hard, the men are very fit &amp; it says a lot for our young Battalion, considering our patrolling</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
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8th FEBRUARY - YOZAYAT

area was at one time 21 miles by 6 miles over something akin to desert country, cactus etc completing the picture. Mail is coming in OK, & the news that our letter cards can now go "FREE" has been received very well indeed.

As usual we had a very quiet night. C Coy moved out under Major Russell, & with Capt Stalker as a guide. They were sent out to make a 15 cwt(able) road from the road & track junction at (114969 - 84K/15) near the village of TABYA, across country to the village of KYAT (133915 - 84K/15) & inclusive the KYAT-CHAUNG. Here they were to link up with a coy of the 1/11 Sikhs & 1 section of Indian Engineers. The C.O & the I.O. (Capt Young) accompanied with our new Signal Officer (Lt Killip) went out at 1330 hrs to see the progress that C Coy were making. At about 1600 hrs the CO & his party returned, bringing back the report that the road as far as our part was finished, & that C Coy were now on their way back to the Camp. The Bn has had a hard time of it, patrolling, so he decided to give the remainder of the Bn a rest, with the result there are no patrols out today. Lately we have had no brushes with the Jap, since 114 Bde have taken the burden on their shoulders now.

An amusing incident has come to light, out of the B Coy battle. One bren gunner from B Coy was lying behind a Bren which had been put out of action. The CSM, knowing the gun was useless & seeing the man lying behind the gun, asked him if he knew his gun was out of action, where upon the individual replied "Aye fine a'ken its nae guid - but it's a guid bluff anyway"! - Click! Click! Considering they were under fire at the time, all keyed up for battle, it gives a rough indication of the type of man we've got in the Bn at present, & how high the morale is. At 0945 hrs the CO held a Coy Commanders Conference, put us all in the picture about other points, & discussed training of the men, now that things were more quiet. At 2000 hrs an officer reported to the Adjutant in the Command Post that he was bringing through 17 Sherman tanks. This was good news & before long we heard the tanks rumbling up the road. It really was music to hear these tanks & morale is up another 100%.

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

9th FEBRUARY - YOZAYAT

D Coy sent out three recce patrols to the following places. 1st patrol went to the SW to pt 524 (9992 - 84K/11) returning by a different route. 2nd patrol went due SOUTH to pt 516 (9990 - 84K/11), & the third patrol went via pt 525 (0287 - 84K/11) to

	<p>destination at pt 1052 (0486 - 84K/15). All patrols on their return reported no enemy seen (NES) with the exception of one of the patrols who reported having seen Japanese footprints probably about 2 days old on the banks of the KALAPI CHAUNG (9996 - 84K/11) travelling in the direction of WEST to EAST. The remainder of the day was spent on training. The principal features being firing of all weapons &amp; wiring practice. One mule died during the night 8/9th Feb due to Cholic &amp; eventually "Twisted Gut". This now leaves us with only 48 working mules. At 1500 hrs we received a warning order from Bde, informing us that we were moving on the 11th FEB to the Bde concentration area of MYITCHE (1579 - 84K/16) on the banks of the IRRAWADDY RIVER. The Commanding Officer held an R&amp;O group at 1745 hrs, &amp; gave out orders for the back loading of surplus kit to Bde Admin area. Daily our air activity is increasing &amp; formations of Liberators, Mitchells, Spitfires &amp; Hurricanes are prominent. We can now hear the planes taking off at the Corps airhead at SINTHE (84K/11). The remainder of the day was very quiet, but everybody is bucked up by the news that once more we are on the move. The pipers are now putting in some practice &amp; its grand to have them skirling a good going tune once more.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p>10th FEBRUARY - YOZAYAT</p>	<p>There is nothing to report for the night 10/11th February. Back-loading of surplus kit started at 0900 hrs to the Bde dump. A message was received to say that 30 reinforcements are at the air-head for us, &amp; badly we need them to swell our small numbers. The remainder of the day was quiet &amp; there is nothing to report. 2 new officers, Lieut Walker &amp; Lieut Temple plus 30 reinforcements arrived at 1600 hrs. Lieut Walker was posted to C Coy &amp; Lieut Temple went to A Coy. Ninety-five percent of these reinforcements are old Bn hands, so they rejoined their original companies.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p><u>11th FEBRUARY</u> <u>YOZAYAT - SABE.</u></p>	<p>The Battalion moved out of the YOZAYAT area at 0700 hrs in the following order of march. B Coy, Bn HQ + HQ Coy, A Coy, D Coy &amp; C Coy less 1 Platoon. This Platoon stayed behind to protect our battery of 25 pounder which were in support of us. Our M/T proceed to SABE (115045 - 84K/15) where it was to meet the Bn prior to an onward move to MYITCHE (1679 - 1/25000 Pagan No 5) which is the Bns destination on the night of the 11/12th Feb. The Bn itself left YOZAYAT by the track running SOUTH through the hills, then across desert country via .547 (060912 - 84K/15) then</p>	

<p style="text-align: center;">- <u>SABE</u></p> <p><u>12th FEBRUARY - BEYWATHIT.</u></p>	<p>down the CHAUNG MAGYI - CHAUNG to SABE. By this route the distance was about 12 miles as the crow flies, but the country was very sandy &amp; undulating, making the distance considerable. The 1" map is very inaccurate &amp; in many cases villages which exist are NOT marked at all. Eventually the Bn rested in an oasis in the shade of Palm trees, where water was available. According to the map this position was on the WEST of the chaung at (098850 - 84K/15). The water was limited in this area, but the Adjutant Capt Stewart found plenty water close by at 094854 - 84K-15), so the Bn moved there &amp; took up a defended locality position. The idea was this. Since we are now practically on the IRRAWADDY, all movement by day was abolished, then at night, all troops &amp; M/T moved into MYITCHE under cover of darkness, so the Bn laid itself up at SABE, got as much rest as possible there prior to the night march onto MYITCHE. The Adjutant took a charger &amp; went on a recce across country to the main MYITCHE road, to find the quickest route there, since the inaccuracy of the maps leads to unnecessary marching up &amp; down the countryside. The CO received orders by wireless at 1700 hrs that we had to move as soon as possible, since we had to take over from another Bn before first light on the morning of the 12th FEB. The Bn left SABE (84K/15) &amp; marched to MYITCHE (1679 - 1/25,000 PAGAN 5) where Major Rose our 2/i/c met us. He had more orders &amp; it transpired that we were relieving the SOUTH LANCASHIRE REGT who were strung out along the road between MYITCHE - PAKOKKU in company positions. As we marched NORTHWARDS we met our Bn guides who had been placed there by the 2/i/c, &amp; coys branched off accordingly to the respective positions. Bn HQ &amp; A Coy eventually reached their destination near the village of BEYWATHIT (250819 - 84K/15) &amp; took up temporary positions inside South Lancs position at approx (248814 - 84K/15). The men then slept until first light - proceeded to take over positions. The days marching was very gruelling &amp; the Bn had covered between 28 to 30 miles over extremely bad country. The men stood up to it wonderfully &amp; were very fresh after 5 or 6 hrs sleep.</p> <p>After stand-down was given, the Bn started digging-in, in temporary positions, since the Commanding Officer was NOT happy at having his Bn strung out over the country for a distance of 6 to 7 miles, so, having obtained permission from the Brigadier, proceeded to pull in C &amp; B Coys, making the Bn dispositions as follows. Bn HQ, HQ Coy, Admin Coy, A &amp; B Coys in the area of</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
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- BEYWATHIT

squares (2581, 2481 - 84K/15). B Coy occupied the high ground in the area of the PAGODAS (2481) at the same time protecting the gunners who were concentrating in the area between the pagodas & the village. C & D Coys were in the same area; although dispersed at the village of NANGAT (2379 - 1/25000 PAGAN Sheet 5). The CO attended a conference at Bde HQ & the task given to the Battalion was to put out standing patrols at various points along the IRRAWADDY RIVER, & also to stop any person moving SOUTH to the river, or travelling NORTH from the river. The following villages & positions were occupied by us to stop all traffic, as follows. A Coy - YELEKYUN (3079), a standing patrol at (281784), another one at (273784) & one at KUKYUN (2577). All these references are on (1/25000 PAGAN SHEET). C Coy put out stops at ZIGYUN (241771), SHATAN (236782), TAUKSHABIN (235778) & ZIGYUM (241771). The last 4 references are on map 1/25,000 PAGAN SHEET 5. Remainder of the day was spent on patrolling. Twelve men were evacuated to the A.D.S. today.

13th FEBRUARY - BEYWATHIT.

- BEYWATHIT

Throughout the day the companies maintained a strict watch on all movements on both sides of the river, but had nothing to report on enemy movements. A portion of HQ Company were needed to thicken up the gaps in between company standing patrols. All through the day, men, women & children & bullock carts were continually being brought in for not complying with the regulations, & before long we had an assorted collection. These people were held for 48 hrs until the balloon went up for the crossing of the IRRAWADDY. The CO attended a conference at Bde HQ in MYITCHE & on his return supplied us with the following information. Thirty-Third Bde were doing the actual crossing on the night of 13/14th FEB, with 1 Bn from 114 Bde. This bn was the South Lancashire Regt. B Company under Major Courtenay-Hood were to be attached to 33 Bde, & were going across with them to look after the beach on SOUTH side of the IRRAWADDY. They have to join 33 Bde in the area of BEYWATHIT (250820 - 84K/15) at 2330 hrs tonight. The bns job although not very interesting, but a most essential part, was a task of preparing the beaches for traffic & troops, so that no hitch occurred & the clearing of the beaches to ensure a quick turnaround of troops & materiel getting across the river. Although the men were a bit disappointed at not getting a chance at the initial crossing, they realized that the Battalions task was not an easy one, & prepared themselves for hard work. The Bn were to work under the supervision of the

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<p><u>14th FEBRUARY - LONBO.</u></p>	<p>Engineers, so the Adjutant liaised with the officer commanding them, &amp; got the programme for the next days work. On the Adjutant's report, the C.O. decided to move the Bn to the village of LONBO (220774 - Pagan Sheet 5), so that we were right on the spot for work, &amp; in the proximity of A beach which was at an area in square (2176 - Pagan No5). Accordingly, the C.O. gave out verbal orders for the Bns move to LONBO, starting at 0800 hrs on the morning of the 14th FEB.</p> <p>The Bn moved out of BEYWATHIT at 0800 hrs &amp; moved to the village of LONBO (220774) where digging in immediately took place. Early lunch was laid on &amp; the Bn were ready to commence work at 1200 hrs. The first thing that was required was material to make a foundation to be able to run tanks &amp; vehicles onto A Beach, consequently the nearby villages had to be pulled to pieces to let us have the material. The whole day was spent in pulling down the villages, &amp; after a very hard days work the Bn returned to camp at about 1830 hrs. Throughout the whole day, air-craft were very active bombing &amp; strafing the enemy positions &amp; villages across the IRRAWADDY. Nothing else to report throughout the night. Two men were evacuated to 76 M.D.S.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p><u>15th FEBRUARY - LONBO.</u></p>	<p>Work had to continue on the work of obtaining materials for the river crossing, &amp; the nearby villages were pulled to pieces. The few men who were left in were engaged in improving positions in the Bn area. In the afternoon the Brigadier arrived &amp; informed the C.O. that we would probably move the following day, to cross over from B Beach in area of 2477 (Pagan Sheet 5). There was a possibility that our mules would have to leave from C Beach which was further up the river to the EAST, but this was not definite. 89 Bde were to enlarge the bridge-head made by 33 Bde, but details were not yet available as the plan. Accordingly, the C.O. held an R &amp; O group as to the method, which we would adopt for our crossing. Load tables etc were prepared, &amp; all arrangements keyed up, only requiring the detailed operation orders from Bde to complete the picture. At 2300 hrs, the Staff Captain arrived from Bde HQ with verbal orders, telling us that we, the Bn &amp; all vehicles would cross from B Beach at 0830 hrs the following morning. The animals were to cross from C Beach, &amp; were to be there by 0730 hrs. The C.O. then held an "O" Group, &amp; gave out the timings &amp; orders of march for the move. We have now our 1st Line attached mules with us, making our total 110 mules. The</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>

16th FEBRUARY - ZIGYUM -  
WETKY

- ZIGYUM - WETKY

Gunners, - 500 Bty - 130 Fd Regt, are now back under command again. Four men were evacuated to 76 MDS today.

Reveille was at 0500 hrs for the Bn, less the mule-leaders & 20 men from HQ Coy, who started rope-loading ammunition, rations, & getting 3" mortars ready for mule loads at 0300 hrs. The mules under the ATO (Lieut McNish) left the Bn area at 0600 hrs, & proceeded to C Beach for transportation across the IRRAWADDY. The Bn moved out at 0730 hrs for B Beach in the following order of march. A Coy, Tac HQ, Mortar Pl, C Coy, Bn HQ & HQ Coy, D Coy (B Coy is still across the river under command of 33 Bde). The Bn & unit transport arrived at B Beach on time, & the U.L.Os party with Coy representatives, plus 1 jeep, under the 2/i/c (Major Rose) were embarked at about 0900 hrs, & proceeded across the river to make arrangements for the reception of the Bn. The Adjutant (Capt Stewart) acted as the Bn beachmaster, & at 0900 hrs the first 40 men of A Coy were on their way across. Things were going well, & by 1200 hrs all the personnel of the Bn had arrived safely on the other side, in the order as for the march to the beach head. The next thing was the luggage, which was duly transported in order of priority, ie, ammunition, rations, spare mortars, & bedding. The sun was glaring down on the sandy beach, making the work of handling heavy stores more unpleasant & more difficult, but the men went at their task with an eagerness that did the Bn credit. The jetties were hurriedly erected things, & were being used for MT, so the men had to wade out into the muddy river to load our ramps. In the midst of all this, the Supreme Commander, Lord Louis Mountbatten, accompanied by the Corps Commander Lieut-General Messervy & the Divisional Commander Major-General Evans, arrived on the scene. The "Supremo" talked to the Adjutant (Capt Stewart) for about 10 minutes & expressed his satisfaction at the way the men were working, piling the stuff across to the bridge head. After speaking with a few of the men, he left to go across himself. The Bn & all the luggage were completely across by 1500 hrs. All that remained now was the BN MT & we were held up by vehicles of 33 Bde, which had still to cross. Eventually the Adjutant managed to procure ramps, & got across 6 jeeps & tracks, the essential tactical vehicles, by 1700 hrs. The Bn meantime were harboured in the area of (260753 - PAGAN No7). Orders were received by the C.O. to take up positions near the village of WETKY in the area (203738 - Sheet 5). As the Bn moved out, the 2/i/c was ordered by 33 Bde to stop the Bn,

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17th FEBRUARY - WETKY

since a threatened counter-attack by the Japs from the EAST was expected, & since 33 Bde were then on the ground, the Bn would be required for a counter-attack role. Since the attack never materialized the Bn less C Coy (who remained with 33 Bde) proceeded as originally ordered to area (203738 - sheet 5) where they contacted a company of 4/8th Gurkhas from our Bde. Temporary positions were allotted, & the Bn settled down after a good hot meal for the night. The CO & the Bty went to Bde HQ at 2000 hrs for orders for the next day. Throughout the crossing & the advance to our destination through the burning & bomb scarred villages of NYAUNGU (216743 - Sheet 5) no enemy were seen. Pte Nean of Admin Coy was repatriated to UK on Compassionate grounds, & 6 men from the Bn also left us today for 28 days leave in the UK. No sick evacuated today, & health seems to have improved, as morale goes higher & higher at our successive defeats & rapid advances over the Japanese into Burma.

Throughout the night battles could be heard on the 33 Bde front, but on our own perimeter all was quiet. The morning was spent on completing the digging-in, & tying up of fire plans, from the permanent company positions which were occupied at 0600 hrs, after the Commanding Officers recce. The Bn layout was as follows. Bn HQ command post was established in the Monastery & Kyaung area at (203737 - Sheet 5) with HQ Coy taking up its immediate perimeter, having also the river & chaung banks. Admin Coy & the mule lines occupied an area at approx (204733 - Sheet 5) C Coy - central point (202733) D Coy central point - (206727 - Sheet 5) A Coy central point - (210730 - Sheet 5) & B Coy central point - (211736 - Sheet 5). T Bde HQ established themselves at (204728 - Sheet 5) & 1 Coy of the Barodas in support & protecting Bde HQ at (198727 - Sheet 5). We have in support 1 Bty 25 pounders, 1 Bty (3" Mortars - A/T Regt). The I.O. (Capt Young) with the aid of a Burmese Intelligence Corps interpreter cleared all villagers out of the immediate vicinity. Coys on searching their neighbouring areas discovered ammunition dumps & QM dumps belonging to the I.N.A. (Indian National Army). Some useful documents were also discovered & sent to Bde. 2 I.N.A. men, 1 a Punjabi & one a Madrassy surrendered to us, complete with equipment & 1 Boys Anti-Tank Rifle with ammo. They had been captured at Singapore with that Bn, & seemed genuine cases. They too were sent to Bde. About 180 I.N.A. personnel have gladly given themselves up during the last 4 days. The CO held an R&O

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

18th FEBRUARY - WETKY-IN

group conference at 1600 hrs, & put us in the picture as to the Bn role whilst in this area. Bn tasks were as follows - (1) Counter-attack role with 1 troop Sherman tanks in support. (2) Protect bridge-head & Bde HQ (3) Active Patrolling. At about 1700 hrs, 6 Japanese ZERO fighters strafed the Bridgehead, & swept down the IRRAWADDY & over our area at approx 100 feet. Spitfires were hard on their heels as they went out of sight. Burmese villagers are very friendly & indeed very pleased to have us back with them. Peace offerings to the CO in the village included Turkey & will help the rations situation. Two men evacuated to the ADS.

Distant battles were heard on our own front, but the Bn perimeter was unmolested by any prowling JAPS. Our patrols returned, having nothing to report & no enemy seen. The Commanding Officer took out a mobile column of jeeps, including the Gunner F.O.O. with a No 22 set, to recce possible positions & harbouring areas, should the Bn or some of the Companies be called out on a counter-attack role. The CO & his party returned at 1230 hrs having recced the WESTERN part of the area. At 1200 hrs they went out again to do the EAST side, eventually returning at 1630 hrs. At 1445 hrs the Brigade Major rang up the Adjutant, & ordered one of our companies to move as soon as possible to help the 1/11 SIKHS mop up 150 JAPS which they had bottled up, in the area of CHAUNG & PAGODAS at 160653 - Sheet 5. C Company under Major Russell was detailed for this job, & had his company embussed on borrowed M/T & within 50 minutes were away thirsting for blood. As it turned out, they were not involved in a battle, & returned to base 2 hours later. A & D Coys sent out fighting patrol & recce patrols all along our front, leaving the area at dusk & to return at first light. Word was received that the air-strip at MYITCHE - 1679 - Sheet 5 was now taking DAKOTAS, & fighters were also working from there. At 1700 hrs the CO held an R&O group, putting the Company Commanders in the picture as to the results of his recce. At 1720 hrs the CO was called to Bde HQ for a conference. Remainder of the day was quiet, & there is nothing else to report, with the exception that we found another dump, containing ammunition, 1 MMG & tripod, 1 Boys A/T rifle & some odds & ends. We had a rum ration tonight, the first for over a week. 5 men were admitted to hospital today.

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19th FEBRUARY - WETKY-IN

After another quiet night, our patrols returned with nothing to report, having seen no enemy. The Commanding Officer had a conference, & he told us that since we were no more or less static & likely to be here a few days longer he wanted to start some training. A summary of possible training was laid down, including patrolling, fieldcraft & general tightening up of things that needed improvement. Drill was also started & a general smartening up process began. Teaching non-swimmers to swim, & practising river-crossing in country craft were high on the priority of the training programme. Six country boats were obtained from the villagers in the afternoon & coys started immediately training in watermanship. Nothing else of interest happened throughout the day, except that at dusk we sent out patrols to cover our front, & to look for some enemy, who seem to be reluctant to contact us. Major Russell & 1 BOR were admitted to hospital today. Our aircraft are very active over the Bridge-head but the Jap Air Force seems also to be keeping out of our way.

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

20th FEBRUARY - WETKY-IN

After stand-down C Coy who were finding all patrols returned with nothing to report. Training continued & the drill parades are remarkably good considering the time that has elapsed since they last had one. Capt Doyne-Ditmus joined the Bn today & was posted to B Company as second in command. Lieut Henderson rejoined us having been on the Signals Course at Poona where he qualified Q1. We received 10 reinforcements. Four men were tried by the Commanding Officer. One man was admitted to hospital today. B Coy found the fighting & recce patrols for tonight going out to track & road junction (221705 Sheet 5) track & chaung junction 213715 & one to the area SULAMANI Pg at 198702 - Sheet 5. Beer ration was issued to the men.

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

21st FEBRUARY - WETKY-IN

Except for the Gunners shooting off rounds of harassing fire throughout the night all was quiet as also with our patrols who returned at first light. The CO & the IO with 8 escort moved in a mobile jeep column down SOUTH to have a good recce of the ground forward. They had an FOO with them & places were registered for future reference. His party returned at 1230 hrs with very useful information. At 1630 hrs the Commanding Officer (Colonel Conder) was called to a conference at Bde HQ. On his return he held an R&O group conference & informed us that we would probably move SOUTHWARDS on the 24th or 25th February. The probable Bn task was

<p><u>22nd FEBRUARY - WETKY-IN</u></p>	<p>as he had anticipated, &amp; his previous reces had been well spent. The Bn was to take the line TWINYWA (159636 - Sheet 4) - MONATKON (166633 - Sheet 4) - NAKYO-AING (189635 - Sheet 4), &amp; the method, which the CO outlined for its capture was this. From our present position march SOUTH via &amp; in between the lake (216666 - Sheet 5) &amp; the village of THUHTEKAN (199669 - Sheet 5) thence to the 2 ponds in square (1963 Sheet 4) then advance on NAKYO-AING, having dropped 1 Coy to protect our flank &amp; looking to the NW at approx 199645. This would be done, if the 4/8 advance on KANBAUK (2162 - Sheet 4) met with opposition. This move was subject to alteration according to the opposition met, &amp; the following method as an alternative. From the 2 ponds move into the NALETAW-CHAUNG, continue along to the WEST, then turn NORTH &amp; attack the village of NAKYO-AING from the SOUTH. This was the rough plan, &amp; further details were to be given at a later date according to information received. Throughout the remainder of the day, all was quiet. At 2320 hrs, 2 ZERO Japanese fighter aircraft strafed our area with machine-guns &amp; cannon-shells. No casualties &amp; only some broken sleep resulted in this effort. The men had another beer ration today &amp; stepped up morale another 100%. One man to hospital, 13 rejoined from hospital &amp; 9 men rejoined from leave.</p> <p>The Bn patrols came in after stand-down &amp; as for the past 3 days had nothing to report, having seen no enemy. The Bn visited the Gordon Highlanders, 1/3 of coys at a time throughout the day, so that our new men could get to know the men who would be supporting them in the tanks in our forthcoming attack. The tanks &amp; the guns were thoroughly explained to our lads, &amp; they were shown the best methods of riding on them, communicating with the tank Commander from the outside, etc. About lunch time the Welfare Officer from 7 Div HQ visited us &amp; got our suggested list &amp; ideas for amenities &amp; canteens in the field. He was very helpful &amp; we hope to see results in the near future. The Commanding Officer (Lt-Col Conder) attended a co-ordinating conference at Bde HQ at 1430 hrs today. At 1500 the Commanding Officer tried 6 men, 3 of which were awarded field punishment. At 1600 hrs the CO saw all Coy Commanders &amp; informed them that his original plan of attack still stood, &amp; to substantiate this, he had 4 fighting &amp; recce patrols ordered for this evening. Coy found 1 patrol &amp; B Company the remaining three, 2 of which were Officer's patrols under Lieut Macdonald &amp; Lieut Brazier. Sgt Hunt took the third one. The patrols covered the villages of NAKYO-</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
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23rd FEBRUARY - WETKY-IN

- WETKY-IN

AING (1863 - Sheet 4) MONATKON (1663 Sheet 4) & TWINYWA (1563 - Sheet 4). The NALETAW CHAUNG & the ground to the SOUTH was to be covered & the high ground had to have a thorough look for enemy positions. These patrols were taken out in MT to the village of BWASAN (2267 Sheet 5) from whence they proceeded on foot to do their task. One man was admitted to hospital. Six men rejoined the Bn today.

After the patrols returned they were briefed by the CO & IO having brought back very useful information. We also heard that KANBAUK (2162 - Sheet 6) had been occupied by the 4/8 Gurkhas, & so the following action was taken. At 0830 hrs the 2/I/C (Major Rose) & all Coy 2/I/C with Pl representatives left to recce the Bn Admin Area for our next move forward, in the villages of BWASAN (2267 - Sheet 5) & KENTANGYI (2367 - Sheet 5). After their recce they returned to the Bn area & prepared the Bn for a move forward to this area at 1300 hrs. At 1000 hrs the CO (Lt-Col Conder) attended a conference at Bde HQ, & on his return at 1100 hrs, he took out his R&O groups to the village of KANBAUK, so that orders for the attack could be given on the ground. At the same time as R&O groups arrived at KANBAUK, 1 Pl from B Coy under Sgt Stockhill & 1 Recce patrol from C Coy under Lt Walker were sent forward from KANBAUK to do the following tasks. The B Coy pl (fighting) were sent forward to see what was in the village of NAKYO-AING. They moved off at 1230 hrs, & before long had encountered the enemy in the village. Sgt Stockhill was temporarily held up in the PAGODA area at (193635 - Sheet 4) & were told to hold fast until they were reinforced by the remainder of B Coy. The remainder of B Coy moved out from the BWASAN area under the Coy 2/I/C (Capt Doyne-Ditmus) & eventually arrived on the WEST side of the village of NAKYO-AING. This was entirely wrong, & since they couldn't see Major Courtenay-Hood who had now joined Sgt Stockhill, they proceeded to the SOUTH on the WEST side of the village & subsequently met heavy fire from this side of the village. 1 Pl under Lieut Brazier was completely pinned to the ground, whilst the other Platoon (Mr Macdonald's) & the Coy 2/I/C managed to withdraw & eventually form-up with Major Courtenay-Hood & the remainder of B Coy. Since they were in a very difficult position it made things very difficult for OC B Coy to try & get Mr Brazier & his platoon out of it. A plan was put into force but the opposition was so great that it proved unsuccessful. Since it was getting dark B Coy were ordered to

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

	<p>return to KANBAUK for the night. It was hoped that Lieut Brazier's Platoon would be able to slip away in the dark &amp; get back to us. Meanwhile C Coys recce patrol had returned &amp; reported NES &amp; no dug positions along the NALETAW CHAUNG or on the high ground immediately to the SOUTH of it. The CO then ordered A Coy to join us at KANBAUK, making us up to 2 Coys, Tac HQ &amp; Bn HQ, in the 4/8 Gurkha perimeter for the night. C &amp; D Coys with HQ Coy, the M/T &amp; some stores remained in the village of BWASAN for the night. The C.O. decided to attack NAKYO-AING direct from the EAST, with 1 Squadron of tanks, &amp; artillery in support. A Coy were to do the initial attack &amp; the rest of the plan would depend on how the situation was. D Coy were immediately behind A Coy &amp; would probably be used next. Arrangements were also made for the remainder of the Bn to RV with A &amp; B Coys &amp; Bn HQ in the area of (207638 Sheet 6), from whence the Bn would go to a reced F.U.L. for the attack, in the area of (205635 - Sheet 6). Throughout the night all was quiet except for some JAPS with a cup-discharger who fired 20 bombs wildly into the village of KANBAUK. We sustained no casualties. Up to 2350 hrs, we have had no communication with Mr Brazier's Pl although we have heard a considerable amount of firing, which looks as if the platoon is trying to get out, or is being attacked.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p><u>24th FEBRUARY - NAKYO-AING.</u></p>	<p>At 0630 hrs the 2 halves of the Bn set out for the Bn RV at (270638 - Sheet 6). The CO (Lt-Col Conder) &amp; OC A Coy (Major Chisholm) went forward to check up on the Start line, &amp; since this was the same as originally planned, at (205635 - Sheet 6), the Bn was moved up to the rear of the position ready for the start. When the tanks were in position the CO gave H-hour as 0840 hrs. The RA put down their chaps on NAKYO-AING, &amp; the tanks preceded A Coy forward. When A Coy reached the Pagoda area (193634 - Sheet 4) D Coy with Bn HQ immediately followed by B Coy then C Coy moved forward to just behind the pagoda area. The Jap had opened up on A Coy by this time &amp; the tanks had opened up on the bunker positions. The village was burning furiously &amp; was a mass of flame &amp; smoke. This made it difficult for the tanks since they were firing by observation in close support to our troops. A Coy were temporarily held up, but reorganised, &amp; Major Chisholm decided to put in 1 Pl on the NORTH &amp; one on the SOUTH side of the village, with the other Platoon giving covering fire from the village pagoda area. The platoon to the NORTH made headway after the tanks had considerably "brassed" up the bunkers, &amp; managed to</p>	

- NAKYO-AING

get a foothold in the village. The platoon to the south met more opposition, but again the tanks came to their help, & they too managed to get their noses into the village. The opposition was obviously great, so the CO ordered D Coy to take over the Pagoda area, thus relieving the lost platoon of A Coy. We were sustaining a lot of casualties by now, & so the Colonel reinforced A Coy with D Coy, B Coy closing in & holding the good foothold in the Pagoda area. A Coy meantime were still cracking on against stiff opposition, & at a great disadvantage since the flanks & smoke which was intense obscured their vision. D Coy also got a good footing & started making progress. Casualties were mounting & A Coy had lost all its Officers. Lieut Dale was killed, Major Chisholm, Capt Charlier, Lieut Geddes & Lieut Temple all being wounded.

The Commanding Officer (Lt-Col Conder) was able to get a tank, & so was able to see how his companies were doing. The battle in the south was going well against stiff opposition, so he decided to put C Coy into the NORTH and to push forward from the platoon who had established themselves there. It was obvious by now that the village was honey-combed with bunkers & foxhole positions, & was strongly held by at least 1 Japanese Company which is approximately 200 strong. We were still having heavy casualties ourselves, & now Major Russell & Lieut Walker were both casualties. Up to date no sign has been seen of Lieut Brazier & his platoon. A heavy Jap mortar opened up on us from the area of MONATKON (1663 Sheet 4) so the CO ordered the RA to brass-up the village. No more mortar firing was heard. All committed companies were doing well & were beginning to look up. C Coy had to deal with 2 bunker positions on the NW corner of the village & with tank support eliminated them counting 20 plus dead Japs for that show. In the centre of the village a strong position was found, but the tanks entered the village & we, after they had shot the bunkers up, finished off the work. It had been a hectic job getting even this far, & mopping up operations now began. Sniping was intense, & the snipers were difficult to get at due to the closeness of the village & amount of smoke that was being given off by the fires. During all this, the Medical Officer (Captain Antonio) was doing excellent work with the wounded, & the stretcher bearers worked like horses. All our casualties were evacuated in good time & no wounded man was delayed in receiving the necessary attention. Any wounded man which we had difficulty in getting out from the village was picked up by tanks & brought

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

<p><u>25th FEBRUARY - NAKYO-AING</u></p>	<p>into Bn HQ. The heavy mortar or gun started again but the RA &amp; the tanks went out to MONATKON &amp; loosed off at the village. At about 1530 hrs, after nearly 7 hours hard fighting, the Bn was in possession of the village &amp; all that remained to do was mopping up stragglers in bunkers &amp; some snipers. Meanwhile, Bn HQ moved up on orders from the CO, &amp; prepared positions for the night in the Pagoda area. The reason that he chose this place was because there was no water in the whole village area &amp; for miles around except at the Pagoda, where we had found a storage tank with reasonable water in it. At 1620 hrs about ten Japs with an MMG came from the SOUTH &amp; tried to hot up our southern flank. B Coy took these on &amp; soon dealt with the situation. Now that things had quietened off a bit, the area was searched more thoroughly, &amp; it was discovered that Lieut Brazier &amp; about 20 men were lying dead out on the WEST side of the village. Several reports received by men of this platoon who had managed to escape. Apparently they had been pinned to the ground by Jap fire, the Jap having let in well into their positions. They had held the Jap off through the day but the Jap attacked with between 50-100 men, 50 of which made a bayonet attack. The story hasn't yet been clarified but nevertheless the 20 odd bodies were found dead &amp; they must have put up a magnificent fight to the last. We buried 9 of our dead in the pagoda in a communal grave, the Padre officiating. DF tasks for the night were registered by the gunners to the COs satisfaction &amp; the Bn settled down for a hectic night, expecting counter-attacks, &amp; all that the Japs could give us. At about 1700 hrs the last of our transport returned to the Admin Base, having ferried up ammunition, tools, wire, bedding &amp; water. At 2100 hrs firing broke out from A Coy area, &amp; it turned out that 60 Japs had appeared on their flank. A Coy opened up &amp; after inflicting casualties on them they withdrew to lick their wounds. The remainder of the night was quiet, with the exception of a small action on C Coy area, in which Sgt Drysdale was killed. A Japanese Officer had been hiding in a partially demolished bunker, had crept out, shot Sgt Drysdale &amp; was killed himself for his trouble.</p> <p>The day broke without having any further excitement, &amp; we had the unpleasant task of finding our exact casualties &amp; collecting &amp; burying the dead. B Coy commander (Major Courtenay-Hood) &amp; the Padre (Capt Rev Campbell) went out in front of D Company's positions to identify &amp; arrange the burial of Lieut Brazier &amp; 23</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p> <p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
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men who were definitely killed in an action with the enemy. The total casualties sustained including Lieut Brazier's platoon for their action & the Bn attack on the village was as follows. Officers Killed - 3, Officers Wounded - 5, BORs Killed - 31, BORs Wounded - 36. To counteract this casualty list of ours we put 75 Japs on the ground, 30 Japs were killed by Mr Brazier's platoon & we have made a very conservative estimate of Japs buried alive or dead in bunkers at 25. This is a very low estimate indeed but we haven't dug up the bodies & will leave it at that. This brings their total dead up to 130 plus, & their wounded must have been considerable. We identified 2 companies from 2 different Battalions of the Japanese 49th Division. This is a new division & has just recently been in action against our Bridgehead. They are fresh, determined troops, but we have given them something to think about for a long time. We collected a lot of Jap equipment including 3 MMGs, LMG, cup dischargers (like our 2" mortar), rifles & ammunition, diaries & lots of documents. 3 Recce patrols from D Company are being sent out to snoop around MONATKON (Sheet 4), & see what the position is there prior to our attack on it tomorrow. At 2000 hrs Cpl Gellard returned with his patrol & reported to the C.O. that he had seen some Burmans, had heard a lot of jabbering which sounded like Japanese, & that he suspected there was some Japs in the chaung at approx (178635 - Sheet 4). At 2310 hours, Cpl Turnbull returned & reported that he had gone through the village of MONATKON & saw no enemy. He then proceeded to the Pagodas on the high ground at (168635 - Sheet 4) & again saw no enemy. - The CO, in view of this information, decided to stick to his plan which he had given out at 1800 hrs.

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

26th FEBRUARY - NAKYO-AING  
- MONATKON - TWINYWA

At 0545 hrs, we stood to as normal, & after stand-down the Bn had early breakfasts. Water is very scarce, & it has to be brought in local carts with barrels & chatties from KANBAUK 2162 Sheet 4. The Commanding Officer (Lt-Col Conder), working on the information that the recce patrols brought back, decided to let his original plan go into force for the attack on MONTAKON (1663 - Sheet 4) & phase II of his battle on the village of TWINYWA (1563 - Sheet 4). The plan was this! The Bn would advance on a 2 Company front with C & D Companies up & the tanks in front. D Company had 2 troops of tanks preceding them & C Coy had 1 troop. C Company was on the right flank, & D on the left. Immediately behind C Coy was A Coy, & on their left Bn & Tac HQs. B Coy stayed in the village of NYAKO-AING (1863 - Sheet 4) under Major

- MONATKON - TWINYWA

Courtenay-Hood, to protect our Admin base & the M/T. It also gave us a good footing on the ground, & B Coy were able to look after our right & left flanks since they had our 3" mortars, & 2 sections of MMGs under command. A gunner F.O.O. also remained with them in case of trouble & so made this little party complete. The C.O. gave out his orders from a vantage point on the ground & then the H-hour was given as 1015 hrs. An Artillery programme with Mediums, 25 pounders & 3.7 hows was laid on & brought down on MONATKON at H hour onwards. The Bn started its advance on the village over desert country with cactus hedges scattered over it, hedges which could house bunker positions which would have a heavy toll on us if the Jap occupied them. The tanks ably looked after these, & so the advance went on smoothly. About 400\* yards from the village C Coy halted & then the tanks pushed forward to the SOUTH end of the village followed by D Coy under Major Turnbull. The tanks went too much to the NORTH but eventually sorted themselves out, & the advance thro' the village started. The tanks advanced 25 yards looking for positions, blasting likely bunkers & foxholes on the way then halted. D Coy then closed up on them & so the advance through the village continued against no opposition. Where the Jap got to was puzzling everybody, since newly dug positions were obvious. The C.O. went forward on a tank to see how D Coy was faring & came back with the news that D Coy had got right through the village unopposed & were now on the main road. The C.O. then ordered C Coy forward & then followed that up with the remainder of the Bn. Meanwhile, B Coy had been ordered up from NYAKO-AING to rejoin the Bn, since it was now obvious that the JAP had taken a "run-out pill" or had been ordered to withdraw. The next phase of the battle was to take TWINYWA & so complete the job. For this phase, B Coy was pushed out to occupy the high ground at approx 165629 - Sheet 4, to watch to the SOUTH whilst C Coy under Major Mann did the final job of getting TWINYWA. The remainder of the Bn was disposed of as follows. D Coy in the NW of MONATKON, A Coy along the SOUTH end & partially along the main road with Bn HQ at road-track junction at 165633 Sheet 4. C Coy formed up on the high ground to the SOUTH of TWINYWA & with the CO in the leading tank of 2 troops started off to capture the final objective. As in the case of MONATKON, TWINYWA was clear of Japs & well it should be, since both villages were as flat as pancakes due to airstrikes & artillery bombardments. All that remained now was to search the area for odd Japs. This was done & the total bag only amounted to

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

	<p>4. D Coy were then ordered to clear the main road to the NORTH with 2 troops of tanks in support, &amp; to contact the 1/11 SIKHS in the area of THYIPIYITSAYA (1666 - Sheet 4). This was done with NES. The Commanding Officer then went round the area, &amp; decided to hold temporary positions for that night, disposed as above, with the exception of C Coy who occupied the high ground &amp; pagoda area just SOUTH of TWINYWA. The Bde Commander visited us at about 1500 hrs &amp; expressed his pleasure at us having secured this line. Digging in commenced immediately &amp; hot meals were prepared for the men. The Admin base was moved up to MONATKON quickly &amp; were distributed to Coys. Mail &amp; SEACS also arrived &amp; helped to boost up morale another 100%, as did the RUM ration that night. At 1900 hrs the CO held an R&amp;O group &amp; told Officers that he wanted ALL ranks to know that he was very pleased with the determination &amp; boldness they had shown throughout the battle. The concluding incident of the day was a Japanese 70 mm gun which fired about 10 rounds at our area. All went wide &amp; we settled down to a well earned night's rest.</p>	
<p><u>27th FEBRUARY - MONATKON - TWINYWA</u></p>	<p>The remainder of the night was quiet, &amp; after stand-down our standing patrol which had been out at NYAKO-AING (1863 - Sheet 4) all night, under command of Lieut Hewitt, returned having seen no enemy. They had contacted the 1/11 Sikhs at KANBAUK (2162 Sheet 4), who had relieved the 4/8 Gurkhas at 0400 hrs this morning, but had no news of any enemy activity. At 0800 hrs the CO &amp; the Coy Commanders recced new Bn positions in the TWINYWA area, &amp; at 0900 hrs the Bn moved into these areas as follows. Bn HQ moved to the pagoda area at (159633 - Sheet 4). C Coy the high ground &amp; with the left flank on the banks of the IRRAWADDY RIVER at (158629 - Sheet 4). C Coy linked up with B Coy who were also on the high ground to the SOUTH of the village at (168628 - Sheet 4). B Coy then linked up with A Coy who covered the SOUTH &amp; SOUTHEAST end of the MONATKON village with their HQ at (166632 - Sheet 4). D Coy remained in the area of the NW end of MONATKON &amp; extended across the chaung on to the high ground at approx (166637 Sheet 4). A Coy &amp; B Coy both have 1 Pl of MMGs each &amp; can cover the ground in front with excellent arcs &amp; fields of fire. The Gunners &amp; Bde HQ have moved into the area just behind us &amp; we now have a nice strong perimeter protecting the new arrivals. Lieut Thomas has now rejoined us from Bde HQ, where he was an L.O. The remainder of the day was spent in cleaning &amp; testing weapons, cleaning &amp; repairing clothes &amp; swimming in the River.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>

<p><u>28th FEBRUARY - TWINYWA -</u> <u>MONATKON</u></p>	<p>Our Admin base has not got across the bridgehead &amp; we managed to get up all the office stuff before darkness set in. Patrols for tonight are being found from A &amp; B Coys. 1 Patrol patrols main road to NALETAW CHAUNG &amp; along same to track &amp; nulla junction at (184623 - Sheet 4). The second patrol to NAKYO-AING to see the Japs don't slip through &amp; continuing on to KANBAUK at first light to contact the 1/11 SIKHS. We had another rum issue tonight which was well received by the men. 1 man evacuated to hospital &amp; 14 reinforcements joined us today.</p> <p>After first light our patrols returned &amp; submitted a report of NES. One patrol had contacted the 4/8th Gurkhas in the village of KINKA (1559 - Sheet 4) thus clearing the main road between us. The Divisional Commander Major-General Evans DSO &amp; Brigadier Crowther DSO visited us this morning &amp; once again expressed their pleasure at the way the Bn had dealt with the enemy during our last task. The Div Commander then spoke with several men, then left after having been with the Bn for nearly an hour. Lieut Fleming rejoined us today after having been away from the Bn for nearly 9 months. He brought along 18 men with him which helped to swell our sorely depleted numbers. Remainder of the day was spent in improving positions &amp; testing guns. The standing patrols are exactly the same as last night, but are being found by C Coy. Five men admitted to hospital &amp; 1 man rejoined us from hospital. Lieut Playle rejoined us from hospital today &amp; returned to B Coy.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p> <p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
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1st to 31st MARCH

Army Form C.2118

1945

**WAR DIARY**

REF MAPS

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence  
Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. I.  
Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

OR  
**~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~**  
(Erase heading not required)

1/25,000 PAGAN SHEET 4 (a) ORIGINAL  
" " " 6 (b) DUPLICATE  
" CHAUK " 3 (c) TRIPLICATE  
1" to 1 mile 84L/13

2ND BN K.O.S.BORDERERS

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
<u>1st MARCH - TWINYWA</u>	Our normal patrols returned from KANBAUK (2162 Sheet 4) & NAKYO-AING (1865 Sheet 4) and also the contact patrol to meet the 4/8th Gurkhas at KINKA (1660 Sheet 4), all returning with reports of having seen no movements of the enemy at all. The pioneer pl were kept busy today, finishing off the crosses for the graves of our dead, & also trying to find any through channels between the sandbanks on the river, for craft with a draught of 3' to 6 feet. Our jeeps & 15 cwts are at last getting their much needed maintenance, & the mules now do the hard work bringing rations & water etc. At 1000hrs a message was received from Bde HQ saying that the Army Commander was coming to visit us. This was later cancelled due to something more urgent requiring the Army Commander's attention. The Commanding Officer (Lt Col Conder) went forward to see the 4/8 Gurkhas & took a look at the ground in front. On his return, he held an 'O' Group, during which he put his Officers in the picture as to what was happening on the other sectors of our Army front so that they, in turn, could pass it on to the men, & let them see, just how well other Divisions were doing, & to show them our rate of progress. Training has again started & the men are now fully recovered after the last hectic few days, with the inactivity we are now experiencing. There is still no sign of us moving. A lot of the men are suffering from Cactus sores, which have become poisoned. One man was admitted to hospital & 14 rejoined Bn from the hospital today. Six men returned from leave. Mr Prooth rejoined the Bn today, having finished his job of bringing up the Battalion's spare kit.	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj
<u>2nd MARCH - TWINYWA</u>	After a very quiet night patrols started returning & once again had nothing to report, having seen no enemy. Training still continues, & the burnt out village of MONATKON (1663 Sheet 4) is being used to practice coys to a drill in taking villages with tanks in support. This drill we hope will avoid unnecessary	

<p><u>3rd MARCH - TWINYWA</u></p> <p><u>- TWINYWA</u></p>	<p>casualties, &amp; at the same time train our reinforcements to the safest &amp; best method of tank &amp; infantry co-operation. Major JAMES arrived bringing with him 28 OR reinforcements. Major James took over command of A Company, &amp; Major HAYES, recently promoted after the battle, reverted to Captain &amp; remained as his second in command. The reinforcements were distributed to the Rifle Companies &amp; helped to bring their strengths up to the W/E. At 1500hrs the Commanding Officer (Lt Colonel Conder) was called to Bde for an "O Group". On his return at 1620hrs he once more put his officers in the picture as to the general situation on the 14th Army front. The usual patrols for the night were found from B Company &amp; they left at about 1945hrs. Five men were evacuated to hospital &amp; 9 men returned from hospital. Two men returned from leave.</p> <p>After stand-down in the morning, our patrols returned with a negative report - Kit from our rear dump was ferried up to the Bn area today, so that companies could sort out the stuff they wanted to keep etc. The 2/I/C (Major Rose) went to Divisional HQ for canteen stores &amp; to arrange amenities for the men. He returned at midday, bringing with him a W.A.S.Bie canteen. The Companies sent 1/3rd of their strength to this canteen at a time, &amp; so the men stocked up with soap, razor blades, cigarettes etc. Our own PRT canteen had also obtained some stores making a hay-day of it. The 2/I/C also laid on a cinema show for the Bn at some future date, possibly in a day or two. A Toc H representative arrived, &amp; toured the Companies giving them a gramophone recital. As per yesterday, the CO was called to Bde in the early afternoon, &amp; on his return, held an R &amp; O group at 1600 hrs.</p> <p>The Brigade Group was moving forward, &amp; the Bn are to move to the area of the villages of NYAUNGHLA (1657 - Sheet 4) SHWEKYAUNG (1655 - Sheet 4). The Bn is still to remain in reserve &amp; has the role of protecting Bde HQ &amp; the guns. Our patrolling will be active &amp; extends well to the EAST, whilst on the other hand our right hand patrol boundary, ie to the WEST, includes the west bank of the River Irrawaddy. This rather surprised everyone, but the explanation was forthcoming from the C.O. Since we are the foremost Bde in the Division, &amp; furthest SOUTH, we have to hold hard until the Japs on the west bank of the Irrawaddy either withdraw to the SOUTH or clear out to the EAST across the river, otherwise we run past them, &amp;, we being spread out, it would give</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
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4th MARCH - TWINYWA -  
NYAUNGHLA.

the Nippon an excellent opportunity to cross the river & slip in behind us. To support us with our patrols crossing the river we have a detachment of a Special Operations Group (S.O.G.) who will be responsible for our safe arrival on the WEST bank. The idea is, that our patrols probe & pinpoint the enemy positions, find out his approx strength, then go over to harass & as we say here - "To play silly buggers." It proves to be an interesting time in the future, & everybody is as keen as mustard to have first crack. The time given out for the Bn to start was 0800hrs, which leaves ample time for our patrols to return & be able to get washed & shaved & have a good breakfast before moving off. Throughout the day training & sorting out of kit was in full swing. One man only was evacuated to hospital today.

At 0800 hrs the Bn moved out in the following order of march preceded by the CO (Lt-Col Conder) & his R&O group, who went on to our destination in jeeps. B Coy, A Coy, C Coy, Bn HQ, HQ Coy, Admin Coys, D Coy, followed up by the spare mules not with companies. Bn spare kit was to be ferried forward to NYAUNGHLA (159570 - Sheet 4). We had 5 - 3 tonners allotted to us for this purpose from the Divisional GPT Company. On arrival at NYAUNGHLA, the CO made another recce, putting the Coy Commanders in the picture, whilst on the ground. Company 2/I/C having been out the day previous with the CO knew where to lead their respective companies to, & so saved a lot of trouble. On arrival, the Bn was disposed on the ground as follows. (All references are on Sheet 4) Bn HQ - 159565, C Coy - 166568 & D Coy - 160562. In support we have the 136 Fd Regt with the guns disposed on our Bn area, & 2 sections of MMG. No 2 Section of SRU unit & 1 Pl of S.O.G. are under Command of us. The remainder of the day was spent on digging in, & improving positions. At 1700 hrs the CO held an R&O group & informed us D Coy would be the company used for the patrolling across the river & that they would work in conjunction with the S.O.G. people, & start practicing with boats etc, & get to know each other very well. Other companies would be responsible for the deep patrolling to the EAST, & would also practice watermanship & river-crossing patrol tactics. A Coy of Barodas also came under command of us & were located at 164572. Bde HQ was situated in the village of NYAUNGHLA as were Regimental HQ of 136 Field Regt at 158572 - Sheet 4. One man to hospital & 4 men rejoined from hospital.

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

5th MARCH - NYAUNGHLA.

The usual contact & fighting patrols returned with negative reports on the enemy's movement. Reports of wells, tanks & chaungs with water in them were submitted to Bde HQ to pass on to other units so that they could make full use of the information. Water is extremely scarce & a tactical consideration these days. Improvement of positions, camouflaging, & making shades continues. Weapon testing & training is also in full swing since we are now in a static position. D Coy under Major Turnbull is in co-operation with the Special Operations Group, really getting down to this Commando business & are certainly tackling their new task with enthusiasm. The River IRRAWADDY has many sandbanks, & tricky currents which have to be overcome, & the question of getting patrols across this large river is going to be very tricky indeed. The Commanding Officer (Lt-Col Conder), if conditions are favourable tonight, is going to send 4 patrols across the river. If conditions are not suitable, D Coy patrols will continue to practice landings at night. Capt Denton joined us today & was accompanied with 4 BOR reinforcements. He took over from Captain Culpin as 2/I/C of D Coy. 1 Man was admitted to hospital, & 4 men rejoined from hospital today.

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

6th MARCH - NYAUNGHLA.

At 0800 hrs our usual jeep patrol set off on its cross-country round via the following route. To KINKA - 1659 Sheet 4, then to LENETT - 2560 Sheet 6, THEPYINTAW - 2757 - Sheet 6, KANGYIKON 2756 Sheet 6 then along the chaung, & so home to NYAUNGHLA (159570) Sheet 4, either cross country, or by coming up the main road through SHNEKYAUNG (160558) - Sheet 6). The main object of this patrol is to see that no japs are floating around that area, if so to deal with them, & also to locate any valuable water & report its location to higher authorities. Last night was not suitable for the patrols going across the river, but it looks more promising today, & with a spot of luck we may get the 4 patrols across. The Mobile cinema arrived this afternoon & we converted a stone building into a veritable "Pavilion". Shows will have to be given in daylight, & this is easily arranged since the Pioneer Platoon invented a blackout arrangement. In the early evening the CO (Lt-Colonel Conder) decided that conditions were suitable for the crossing, & so all preliminary arrangements were made in the way of food, water, ammo, engines & boat checks & the final instructions to the patrols. At 1900 hrs all was set for the journey & off they set. Now for the layout & object of those patrols - Very little



- NYAUNGHLA

information is available about Japanese stragglers or locations on the WEST side of the IRRAWADDY, round about the LANYWA area ( ). Now, we on this side of the river cannot advance any further meantime, due to the fact that there is nothing to prevent the Japs also doing a river-crossing & cutting us off, not to mention, endangering our bridgehead. - To avoid this, the only thing to do is to probe the LANYWA area & get that urgently required information, thus the task was allotted to us, & so the patrol already detailed. The patrol commanders were as follows - from D Coy Capt Culpin, Lieut Hewitt, & Cpl Taylor. - The S.O.G. patrol commander was Lt. Comdr Strange (Canada) & his patrol consisted purely of S.O.G. personnel. This patrol, being specialists at the job, went across the river on surf-boards, the men themselves having "slippers" on their hands & feet, to help propel the board forward. Let's deal with this patrol first. Leaving from our beach at NYAUNGHLA (159570 - Sheet 4) they glided silently & swiftly into the darkness, & made for the West bank to a selected point we called OBAN (123498 - Sheet ). From this point they were to go to a point 120479 - Sheet where they were to lie up & observe enemy movements etc. Unfortunately when approaching OBAN, this patrol on their surf-boards, were caught in a very swift current, with the result Lt Comdr Strange was the only one who managed to land. He stayed alone & continued to carry out his task unaided - An extremely good show. The remainder were whisked downstream until they eventually found an island, across which they walked & eventually made their way back to base at about 0100 hrs the following morning. Lieut Hewitt & his patrol were also to land at OBAN, but they too met the same current, & were lucky to get back to base. Capt Culpin & Cpl Taylor's boats managed with a lot of difficulty to land south of OBAN, at a place we called PERTH (124497 Sheet ). Capt Culpin's patrol had to make their way across country to the high ground overlooking LANYWA, take up position there & to observe all enemy movements. Cpl Taylor's patrol also cut across country to high ground dominating the village & oilwells at LANYWA at approx (096467 - Sheet ). Captain Culpin's objective was point 372, the high ground in the middle of cultivated ground at 095456 - Sheet ). Up to midnight no communication was made, & all we know at present is that they managed to land safely. Their boats brought this message back when they returned at approximately 2300 hrs. Four men were admitted to hospital today.

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

7th MARCH - NYAUNGHLA

Normal cross-country patrols returned to Bn base area, having been unsuccessful in encountering any Nippons. Training still continues by all coys in watermanship, & since we have now collected a weird & varied amount of Burmese country craft there is no time lag on the training programme. So far, no news of our patrols on the WEST bank of the IRRAWADDY has been received, so we hope that good news will soon reach us. All arrangements are being made with S.O.G. for tonight's task of bringing our patrols back from the WEST bank of the River. A mobile cinema arrived yesterday & today the first performance was shown to about 180 men. The only house we have suitable in this area can only hold 90 men at a time, & so we ran a show in the morning, & one in the afternoon. Seven men were admitted to hospital today & eight men rejoined the Bn from hospital today.

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

8th MARCH - NYAUNGHLA

At about 0830 hrs Cpl Taylor's patrol returned from the other side of the river, & the briefing of his patrol produced excellent information. He maintained that LANYWA (1146 - ) itself was like a deserted ghost town, & roughly speaking, was only occupied by a few Japs in the North end of the village near the river at (1247 - ). At about 1000 hrs Lieu-Comdr Strange returned, having done an excellent one man patrol. He had not seen much in the way of movement, but reported that 3 Japs had gone to a shed & fed 5 mules, in approx the same area as Sgt Taylor thought to be held. Strange also reported that 2 & 3 man Jap recce patrols were operating in all the chaungs north of LANYWA, but did not appear to have any definite object in view, except probably to watch the river & see that we sent no patrols over to their side unopposed. Capt Culpin of D Coy & his patrol were not to hand by 1400 hrs, but our OP reported some BORS in a boat, being towed along the banks of the island at approx (135556 - Sheet 6). This later proved to be Capt Culpin & his patrol, avoiding the current, having acquired the services of a Burman to haul him back to the Bn base. Capt Culpin & his patrol did a very extensive patrol, having covered a wide area all round LANYWA. He confirmed about the village itself being deserted, or appearing to be so, & informed the CO (Lt Col Conder) that to the WEST & NW of LANYWA were defences well dug & in abundance. He had seen no actual Japs but confirmed about having seen footprints in all the chaungs leading to the river. He also reported having seen a steamer tied up at LANYWA but which had disappeared into some hideout on the WEST side of the river, not to be seen again

- NYAUNGHLA

<p><u>9th MARCH - NYAUNGHLA</u></p>	<p>throughout that day. During the night 7th/8th he had seen what appeared to be a steamer with an electric arc-lamp &amp; navigation lights, travelling across the river from West to East. The general deduction from these 3 patrols was that the Jap had held Lanywa in strength but in view of our advance from the EAST bank &amp; the possibility of their being cut off by us, they had thinned out, &amp; were probably making a strong defensive position in CHAUK (1138 - Sheet 84L/13), leaving only a small, well dug in detachment in LANYWA. The normal routine patrols were found by B Coys pl &amp; sent out at dusk. The cinema is in full swing &amp; the men are bucked at having some entertainments once more. Two men went to hospital today, &amp; one rejoined from hospital. One reinforcement also joined us today.</p> <p>Normal night &amp; contact patrols returned at first light, &amp; still had nothing to report. The thing that puzzles us is that the Jap hasn't yet tried to get round our Eastern flank &amp;, although we send out nightly patrols to the EAST, there is absolutely no sense of his probing or patrolling our way. One of these days, we may strike lucky, &amp; if we do meet him the patrols will certainly touch them up a bit, since they have been so disappointed so often. As a result of a report received, we discovered that on the night of the 8th/9th 10 Japs had set an ambush for a patrol of ours, which they thought were going to try &amp; cross the river from a point at (122551 - Sheet 4). Actually we had only been enquiring into the possibility of leaving from that point in country craft, this information being passed on to the Japs by some Burmans. - The CO (Lieut Col Conder) decided that the thing to do was to get some Burmans into Bn HQ, &amp;, with the co-operation of our BIC interpreter to make believe that we fully intended to send a recce patrol of 4 men over to the west bank that night ie 9th March. The Burmans agreed, &amp; a time &amp; RV at (122551 - Sheet 4) was arranged. We hoped that the Burmans would once again broadcast the news to the Jap, who we also hoped would lay another ambush. At 1900 hrs Lieut Macdonald &amp; his platoon from B Coy went over to the island to lay an ambush for the ambushers.</p> <p>We also sent a section with 2 Brens down to (127537 - Sheet 4) to act as a stop gap in case the Jap managed to escape by the river to the SOUTH. An Arty programme was also laid on to support this platoon, &amp; so all we need now is results. Up to midnight, reports came of light flicking on &amp; off on the WEST bank of the river.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
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10th MARCH - NYAUNGHLA

These we suspect are only villagers' fires, since they still occupy that area. Two men admitted to hospital, 2 men are charged, 2 men proceeded on 28 day UK leave, & 3 NCOs left to go as instructors to Comilla on a reinforcement camp.

After a very quiet night, our contact & standing patrols returned with negative reports. Our ambush party under Lieut Macdonald of B Coy returned from Watch Island (1356 - Sheet 4) as we've now called it. He had no luck at all, & either the Japs hadn't received our bogus information, or else they twigged our little game. Lieut Macdonald left a recce patrol on the southern tip of Watch Island at approx (123552 - Sheet 4), to observe for enemy movements & see that no Japs landed on the island without our knowing it. This party withdrew at 1500 hrs as ordered, having seen nothing. The Commanding Officer (Lt-Col Conder) went to a conference at Bde HQ today, & on his return held an R&O group. He put us thoroughly in the picture as to how we were faring on other fronts, also how the enemy was reacting to our successes. The Jap is having a hard time of it & from all accounts is withdrawing in our direction. We it appears are the anvil, on which the Japs will knock against before the hammer drive comes from the NORTH to knock him out of existence. As a result of the COs conference, 1 Pl of D Coy was established on Watch Island as a base for our patrols going to the WEST bank of the IRRAWADDY, & also to prevent the Jap from occupying it. A Coy is finding the normal patrols tonight. - Training with the boats etc still continues, & over & above, drill, PT, & field training is in full swing to keep the men up to scratch. The men are in good heart, & are progressing favourably at Combined Ops! Six men were admitted to hospital & 3 returned from hospital today. One man returned from leave also.

11th MARCH - NYAUNGHLA

After our normal patrols had returned to base, C Coy were almost ready to send out a mobile patrol to tour around the country side to the EAST with the furthest at the village of YWATHIT (2852 - Sheet 6) at the foothills. This patrol returned after an extensive tour having had no luck in meeting up with some Nippons. At 0900 hrs the C.O. (Lt Col Conder) went out on a recce to practically the same area, also looking over the high ground, with a view to having a clear picture of the topography & tactical ground, should we be called upon to counter-attack the Jap, should a threat arise. The CO returned to base at about 1345

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hrs after a very successful recce. - Our own M/T personnel now man the country craft, fitted with Chore-horse engines, for the purpose of taking food etc across to our patrol base on WATCH ISLAND. - They are quite dab hands at manipulating these very temperamental engines. At 1430 hrs the CO held an R&O group, put us in the picture, explaining that we may remain in this area for as much as a month, & outlayed his plan for future patrolling on the West bank of the IRRAWADDY. For patrols operation across the river on the night 11th/12th, he made the following plan. Lieut Hewitt & his platoon from D Coy were to cross to WATCH Island in the early evening, & lie up prior to crossing to Oban (123498 - Sheet 3) tonight. At 1900 hrs he moved off in 2 country craft, & 4 assault boats (all power driven) with his pl + 1 Section from the Platoon on Watch Island for OBAN, with adequate facilities for communications, ie 2 48 sets. He also had Stretcher-bearers with him. A series of relays from OBAN to Watch Island thence to Bn HQ was laid on, so that he should be in touch with them at all times. Their departure went off OK, but at 2130 hrs, a very wet & bedraggled party of men under Sgt Brooks returned to the Bn area & reported that his boat had sunk with him at approx (124549 - Sheet 4) & that they had lost all their weapons. All the men returned safely. Since we had no more available boats at the time, he had to wait until the others returned from dropping the main body at OBAN. These did not return by midnight, & so the CO ordered Sgt Brooks' party to rest, & that he would make arrangements for their rejoining the patrol tomorrow. Three signallers with a 48 set, who were to act as a relay station, lost themselves on the island, & had not reported to the patrol base by midnight. So far, one or two mishaps have hindered us, but since we have been prepared for such things, we take them all on the chin OK. Two men were admitted to hospital today & 1 man discharged, rejoined us.

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12th MARCH - NYAUNGHLA

Sgt Brooks' party left this side of the river at first light, & proceeded to OBAN (123498 - Sheet 3) to rejoin Lieut Hewitt & his Platoon. 2 Platoons of C Coy proceeded over to Watch Island to relieve D Coys platoon, prior to their sending 1 Platoon & 1 Section over to the WEST bank of the IRRAWADDY to relieve Lieut Hewitt's platoon on the night of the 13th/14th March. Our normal patrols returned with nothing to report. As a result of a report from Bde HQ, we sent out 1 Platoon to the village of CHAUNGWA (3050 - Sheet 6) where it was reported that 25 JAPS had arrived

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<p style="text-align: center;"><u>- NYAUNGHLA</u></p>	<p>there the day before. This patrol left at 0800 hrs, &amp; after reporting the village &amp; areas round about clear were ordered to return to the Bn. Lt Thomas commanded this patrol. The C.O. (Lt-Col Conder) &amp; the Adjutant (Capt Stewart) went over to watch island to have a look at the WEST side of the river with a view to sending landing patrols across the river, slightly NORTH, at approximately (10~-109562 - Sheet 4). The Commanding Officer is now changing Companies around in view of the fact that each Company now takes its turn at patrolling across the river. D Company has now taken over C Coys area, &amp; C Coy are now in reserve, but to the river patrols &amp; patrols on the WEST bank of the river. Late in the afternoon, reports were received from Lieut Hewitt that his patrols had reced as far SOUTH as the chaung opposite the I.B.P. Depot at (124463 - Chauk 3) &amp; had seen no enemy. No further word was received up to midnight from this patrol. We had intimation that No 3189859 Pte Johnstone of D Coy had died of smallpox. Two men were admitted to hospital today.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p><u>13th MARCH - NYAUNGHLA</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>- NYAUNGHLA</u></p>	<p>Throughout the night all was quiet (except for the guns in our perimeter putting down harassing fire), &amp; our normal patrols returned with NES reports. C Coy were busy making preparations for their Platoon to go over &amp; relieve D Coy platoon tonight. Reports received from Lieut Hewitt showed that he had got right into LANYWA to a point at (115457 - 84L/13) &amp; had seen no enemy movement at all, &amp; that he was extending his patrols SOUTH &amp; WEST. Our patrol to CHUNGSHI - (2952 Sheet 6) reached there OK &amp; reported NES. Other villages were searched on road back with NTR. B Coy were busily training on the river all day, since they are next on the list for river patrols, &amp; relieve C Coy in a day or two's time. Our 4 pipers returned from the Gordons today, having spent 2 days practicing with their pipe band &amp; having partaken in playing "Retreat". Three men admitted to hospital, &amp; 4 men rejoined the Bn having been discharged from hospital. Seventeen reinforcements joined the Bn today.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p><u>14th MARCH - NYAUNGHLA</u></p>	<p>A Company sent out a mobile patrol of 1 Platoon strength, under command of Lieut Thomas, who set out to patrol the area round about the village of CHAUNGWA (3050 - Sheet 6), &amp; see if they could contact any Nippons. Last night a platoon &amp; 1 section commanded by Lieut Arnott of C Coy relieved the D Coy platoon of Lieut Hewitt. The C Coy lot were landed safely at OBAN (123498 - Chauk 3) at about 2130 hrs on the night 13th/14th, but</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>

- NYAUNGHLA

unfortunately, the people returning to the Bn base did not get back so easily. The boats when loaded have great difficulty in coming upstream of the IRRAWADDY due to the current, & periodically the men have to be dropped on the various little islands in mid-stream, & they have to walk as far as possible before having another lift in the boats. Two of the returning boats struck a sandbar, & this little lot were marooned for several hours. The whole party eventually arrived back at about 1100 hrs this morning after a very tiring journey back. - One man had to be treated for exposure on arrival. At about 1400 hrs Sgt Pendleton of A Coy, the Platoon Sgt with Lieut Thomas, returned, & reported to Bn HQ, complete with his transport & patrol, less Lieut Thomas, 2 men & 1 BIC bombardier. What had happened was this! Sgt Pendleton had been out on a recce patrol on the high ground at approx (3053 - Sheet 6) whilst Lieut Thomas & 3 men had gone on to the other side of the foothills to see if they could spot any enemy. The MT had been left at CHAUNGSHI (2952 - Sheet 6). Pendleton saw between 40 or 50 Japs come from the South & travelling Northwards through CHAUNGSHI. Pendleton was about 1000\* yards from these Japs, & since he saw they were proceeding towards the MT base & our 22 set, he thought he had better get Lieut Thomas & warn him. Lieut Thomas couldn't be found & so Pendleton, on previously arranged orders, withdrew, & got the patrol & the MT back to the Bn base. The CO (Lt Col Conder) then ordered out another patrol to go back with a view to getting Lieut Thomas & his men out, & also to watch this Jap party's movements, & to follow them. This party met Lieut Thomas half-way back, & it was then discussed that the Japs were none other than a Coy of Gurkhas from another Brigade, who were operating in our patrol area. This was a very easy mistake to make, since Japs & Gurkhas are similarly featured, & also of a similar stature, & also, since we hadn't been warned of the patrol operating in our area, it was only natural to assume that they were Japs. - Meanwhile, Lieut Arnott's people on the WEST bank of the river were having fun. He had sent a patrol down into LAYWA (1146 - Sheet 3), & had been fired on from a position at approx (117464 - Sheet 3) by 2 Machine guns & an unknown number of rifles. We sustained 1 Casualty, Pte Buchan being Killed in the clash. His body was not recoverable since it was in open ground & was covered by machine-gun fire. Unfortunately he had maps on him & a list of Bn code names that we use for these particular patrols. Later another patrol was sent out to recce the high ground at pt

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<p><u>15th MARCH - NYAUNGHLA</u></p>	<p>372 (0945 Chauk Sheet 3) &amp; its immediate area. The patrol found newly dug positions, but found them unoccupied. Small temporary Bashas that the Japs use were found in the open paddy ground to the SOUTH. These were new also since our previous patrols had been all over this area, &amp; had seen nothing of this before. It was obvious that the Jap was preparing positions which could be used, if our troops advanced on LANYWA from the NORTH. - Previously no enemy activity was seen in this area, except for 2-3 men recce patrols, but it looks as if he is building up in this area for something. The patrol returned via the Pagoda at (123472 - Chauk - 3) &amp; were immediately fired on by 2 grenade-cup dischargers, 2 LMGs &amp; some rifles. Pte Taylor was killed in this outburst, &amp; his body was recovered immediately. The queer thing about this enemy occupation was that the patrol had passed thro this area on their way out, a short time previously &amp; there were <u>NO</u> enemy in the area then. The patrol returned to base after further investigation. We got the gunners onto this target &amp; neutralised the area. It was later confirmed by S.O.G. that their patrol down the IRRAWADDY to CHAUK ( - Sheet 3 ) had seen 100 Japs cross the river &amp; land at LANYWA the night before. - Due to the fact that it takes so long to come upstream, we didn't receive the information until it was nearly too late. - It must have been these 100 Japs that C Coy patrols met. One man to hospital today &amp; 3 rejoined Bn on being discharge from hospital. Seventeen reinforcements arrived today, being mostly Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Up to midnight no further communication was had with C Coy platoon, although the CO wanted urgently to get word through to Lieut Arnott to withdraw to KYAUKSAUNG - 113534 Sheet 4 - &amp; not get involved in a battle.</p> <p>A Coy sent out another mobile patrol to CHAUNGWA (3050 - Sheet 6) to patrol the area of the foothills, since it is becoming more evident that the JAP is concentrating more &amp; more &amp; has forces to the EAST. So far we have had no luck in contacting any Nippons, but one of these days we may run into him. Normal fighting recce &amp; standing patrols returned just after 1st light, with nothing to report. B Company are preparing to send a platoon under Lieut Playle to relieve Lieut Arnott of C Company platoon, at KYAUKSAUNG (113534 Sheet 4) at about 1800 hrs tonight. Remainder of the Companies are still practicing hard with the boats, &amp; are speedily becoming more &amp; more efficient at it. The COs (Lt Col Conder) idea is also to have every non-swimmer taught, so that by</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
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16th MARCH - NYAUNGHLA

the time we leave here, every man will be fully trained for river operations. At 1500 hrs, the Corps Commander - Lieut General F. Messervy, landed on the Bde airstrip at (165554 - Sheet 6) in an L5, with a view to visiting the Battalion. He visited A, B & D Coys & was very pleased with what he saw. At 1700 hrs, Lieut Playle & his men set out in power-driven assault boats, & eventually arrived at KYAUKSAUNG by 1900 hrs. The change over took place without a hitch, & by 1930 hrs, the last boat load of Lieut Arnott's Platoon had cleared the WEST bank of the IRRAWADDY. They landed on Watch Island at pt (123552 - Sheet 4), & stayed there till the following morning. No further communication was had with S18 (Lieut Playle) until the following morning. Two men were admitted to hospital today.

At about 0630 hrs the usual Atmospheric depression lifted & we got communication with S18 (Lieut Playles platoon on WEST bank of the IRRAWADDY) & from their reports had spent a very quiet night. Normal patrols returned with NES reports. A platoon from D Company relieved A Coys from the task of sending out mobile patrols to CHAUNGWA (3050 Sheet 6). They left at 0800 hrs, & eventually returned in the afternoon, having discovered nothing in spite of a very extensive search. At 0900 hrs a message was received from our S18 patrol with a Sitrep. He had sent a patrol to ROSYTH NULLA (117521 - Sheet 4) but had seen no enemy. Another patrol to "GLASGOW" NULLAH (120501 - Sheet 4) saw no enemy. A further recce patrol to "MELROSE" (125479 - Sheet 4) met nothing at all. At 1400 hrs we also received a further sitrep which contained the following information. Patrols went further along the ROSYTH NULLA & found some old diggings, & also newly dug positions at (108508 - Sheet 4) consisting of 5 pits & a crawl trench. No activity was seen at the hill features which we called NEVIS (095484 - Sheet 4) & LOMOND (096473 - Sheet 4), but some movement was observed at point 117484 - Sheet 4, but since they were so far away they couldn't identify whether they were Burmans or JAPS. They were investigating. Later in the evening another report was received to say that their patrol near MELROSE had seen a boat with 7 Burmans on the island which we called SKYE (1349 - Sheet 4), who appeared unarmed. We always treat Burmans as Japs, since so many cases of JAPS dressed up as Burmans have ambushed our troops. Throughout the night no further reports were received from S18. At 2130 hrs we were informed that 500 Bty were moving out forward to snipe some JAP guns, & consequently B Coy

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17th MARCH - NYAUNGHLA

- NYAUNGHLA

was warned to have a platoon standing by to go out with the guns as local protection, for 0630 hrs - 0700 hrs next morning. Two men were admitted to hospital today. Lieut Killip was repatriated today & Lieut Henderson relieved him & became Bn Signal Officer.

After a very quiet night our standing patrols & road opening patrols returned with nothing to report. Communication was established with our S18 patrol who apparently had a very quiet night. He (Lieut Playle) had sent out some patrols but communications faded & we did not get their objectives. Sgt Bell & 7 men from D Coy went out on a mobile jeep patrol to CHAUNGWA (3050 - Sheet 6) to investigate a report that some Japs had been seen there. This patrol approached CHAUNGWA from the South, having proceeded along the CHAUNG MAGYI-CHAUNG, which was an excellent covered approach. Sgt Bell left his jeeps in the chaung just SOUTH of the village & with his patrol advanced on the outskirts of the village. About 100 yards from the village there is a basha which is not marked on the map, & from this house, the Jap opened up on them at about 20 yards range. Sgt Bell who was in the lead nearly bought it, but managed to fire a shot at a Jap, which, although it went wide, allowed Bell to take up a decent fire position, & placed a well aimed shot through the Japs head. Somebody else was firing from inside the basha, so grenades (HE) & smoke were lobbed inside. Screams were heard coming from the inside, but nobody broke for open ground. The basha was well ablaze when Bell & his patrol looked inside it to discover 2 other dead bodies in the flames. He then scouted round a bit but couldn't find any more Nippons, so he started off for the village of CHAUNGSHI (2952 - Sheet 6) which also proved empty. He then returned to the Bn to make his report. On the strength of this report & also a report that approx 7 Japs nightly visited the village of CHAUNGSHI, the C.O. (Lt Col Conder) decided to send out an ambush party under command of Lieut Fleming of A Coy to see if we could put this little party of Nippons in the bag. The patrol party went out at dusk & returned about 2230 hrs, having seen no enemy. The CO (Lieut-Col Conder) went up in an L5 aircraft to reconnoitre across the river, & also to have a look at the area, which we were to take over from the 1/11 SIKHS in the course of a day or two. This area is approx at pt 464 (223496 - Sheet 6) with 2 Coys outlying near the village of TETMA (309450 - 84L/13). At 1500 hrs Major Courtenay-Hood, (B Coy), borrowed a motor-launch from the Indian Engineers, & took over rations &

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<p><u>18th MARCH - NYAUNGHLA</u></p> <p><u>- NYAUNGHLA</u></p>	<p>wire to his patrol on the WEST bank of the IRRAWADDY. Patrols were practically the same as yesterday, but had not yet returned by the time he left which was at 1700 hrs. The Commanding Officer held a NCOs Promotion Board today to make up our deficiencies. Two men were admitted to hospital, &amp; 12 rejoined the Bn from hospital today. One reinforcement also rejoined, &amp; Pte Clarke arrived back under escort.</p> <p>A battle was going to take place to our SOUTH, &amp; so 2 Platoons of A Coy were picked up by the gunners at 0550 hrs this morning to act as local protection for them. B Coy already had sent a fighting patrol out at 0300 hrs to the area of the high ground SOUTH of the chaung at approximately (175535 - Sheet 4). This patrol cleared the area &amp; awaited the arrival of A Coys 2 Platoons &amp; the guns, before returning to the Battalion. Normal patrols returned at first light with N.E.S. reports. D Coy found the mobile jeep patrol to CHAUNGSHI (2952 - Sheet 6) CHAUNGWA (3050 - Sheet 6) &amp; YWATHIT (2853 - Sheet 6) but returned at about 1500 hrs having seen nothing of interest.</p> <p>At 0900 hrs the Commanding Officer (Lt Col Conder) &amp; Captain Young the I.O. left with an escort in jeeps to go to the 1/11 Sikhs positions to arrange details of the hand over. The C.O. was not happy about having 2 of his companies at TETMA (3045 - 84L/13) since a company of 7/2nd Punjabis from 114 Bde had now been withdrawn from the high ground at (pt 1186 - 3247). The C.O. reckoned that the Jap could use this as an OP for his arty, &amp; so he rung up the Brigadier &amp; asked for permission to put his Coys somewhere else. His request was refused by the Brigadier, in spite of the CO pointing out that it was redundant, since every movement could be seen by the Jap. The 1/11 Sikhs were shelled that night in TETMA, fire having been directed from pt 1186, &amp; <u>now</u> the Brigadier has given permission to recce new positions!!</p> <p>At 1300 hrs the R&amp;O groups moved out to meet the CO &amp; to liaise with their opposite numbers, regarding positions etc. The party returned at 1700 hrs, followed later by the C.O. who had been arranging with our gunner the D.F. tasks he required. Our S18 patrol was still doing extensive recce &amp; patrols but had met no enemy opposition around LANYWA (1146 - CHAUK 3). Rations, wire &amp; wireless batteries were taken over in the afternoon, &amp; the QMs party reported them to be in good heart. Three men were admitted to hospital today, &amp; 1 man returned from hospital. An issue of 6 air-letter cards per man was received today, &amp; distributed to the</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p> <p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
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<p><u>19th MARCH - NYAUNGHLA</u></p>	<p>Companies. Divisional Amenities provided 5 bottles of Rum for the Battalion. The mail situation is not so good these days, but we had an explanation given that it was caused in the rear areas &amp; had been attended to.</p> <p>Normal perimeter &amp; standing patrols returned to the Bn having had a quiet unexciting night, &amp; nothing to report. At 0300 hrs this morning a patrol went forward to search &amp; clear the area of MY-U-BIN (1653 - Sheet 4) so that the guns could go forward to get the extra range for counter-battery work. They returned about 0930 hrs. The CO of the 1/11 Sikhs liaised with our CO (Lt-Col Conder) in our area about the change over, &amp; the CO took Lt-Col Spinks round the area &amp; over the WATCH ISLAND. Throughout the morning representatives arrived to look over our positions &amp; to be put in the picture regarding the river-crossing &amp; patrolling on the WEST bank of the IRRAWADDY. During the course of the afternoon word was received from Bde HQ that the change-over was postponed for 24 hrs. This means that we move out on the 21st now &amp; not the 20th as previously arranged. The Gordons (now Tanks) have one squadron harbouring in our area today, prior to moving out on the 20th to support the 4/8th Gurkhas in a battle. At 1330 hrs, our normal jeep patrol to the EAST returned with nothing to report. At 1400 hrs the General (Div Commander - Major General Evans DSO) paid us a visit &amp; was pleased to see the men in good heart. At 1630 hrs a platoon of the 1/11th Sikhs moved out in boats to relieve our platoon under command of Lieut Playle on the WEST bank of the river at KYAUKSAUNG (1153 - Sheet 4). This move was carried out successfully &amp; Lt Playle &amp; his platoon arrived at the Bn Base at about 2000 hrs. Nine reinforcements arrived from Reinforcement Camp today, under Command of Lieut Munroe returned from hospital. Lieut Munroe was posted to C Company.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p><u>20th MARCH - NYAUNGHLA</u></p>	<p>At 0600 hrs our normal patrols returned to the Bn area, having as normal had a quiet night. A mobile jeep patrol from D Coy left at 0815 hrs for an extreme corner of our patrol area at CHAUNGWA (3050 - Sheet 6). We are paying particular attention to this area, since the Jap is looking for a road through between our Brigade &amp; 33rd Brigade who are on our left flank. The village of CHAUNGWA &amp; the high ground immediately on its left dominate the gap through the hills &amp; the possibility of the Jap coming through here is carefully observed. This patrol returned early in the afternoon having seen no movement in that area. Villagers report</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>

<p><u>21st MARCH 1945</u> <u>NYAUNGHLA -</u> <u>SHWEKABYU</u></p>	<p>small parties of JAPS appearing in this area, probably recce patrols, who come late in the afternoon &amp; leave at dusk. So far only one of our patrols has struck anything, &amp; so we will have to be patient &amp; wait for him to fall into our noose. At 1700 hrs, the Commanding Officer (Lt-Col Conder) held an R&amp;O group to tie in all details regarding the change over with the 1/11 Sikhs, which is now definitely taking place tomorrow 21st March. Motor-boat engines, country craft &amp; things appertaining to water craft were handed over this afternoon. - Ammunition in sealed boxes, wire &amp; water-digies were handed over by mutual arrangements, to save the transport situation, &amp; avoid needless moving of stores. Representatives from the 1/11 Sikhs came in for the purpose of checking final details for the change over. - The "liquor" ration arrived today, &amp; an issue was made to the men. Cpl Coombes of HQ Coy was nearly drowned in the IRRAWADDY, but was hauled out by 2 or 3 of the men. He was evacuated that night to the ADS. One man was admitted to hospital today.</p> <p>Reveille was at 0515 hrs this morning &amp; after early breakfasts the Battalion prepared to move out to our new area. At 0700 hrs the M/T was sent out to the companies &amp; by 0745 hrs the Bn was ready to move off. A platoon from the 1/11 Sikhs was put in each of our Company positions before we moved off. The Bn moved out in 2 parties. At 0745 hrs the C.O. (Lt-Col Conder) plus his R&amp;O groups moved off on MT, followed by the Bn who were marching at 0800 hrs, under command of the 2/I/C (Major Rose). The R&amp;O groups arrived at the Bn central point at (244488 - 84L/13) &amp; the CO gave out dispositions on the ground, Companies being located as follows. Bn HQ - HQ Coy, &amp; Admin Coys less the mules etc (248483 to chaung at 249487, also on high ground at (250483) (all 84L/13). D &amp; C Coy were disposed round Bn HQ on the dominating ground, &amp; A Coy HQ was about 100<sup>ms</sup> from Bn HQ. A Coy was the main patrolling with only their Coy HQ in the Bn perimeter. B Coy was our outlying Company, &amp; took up position near the village of PADAING, but on the WEST side of the chaung at (292481 - 84L/13). At 1700 hrs A Company moved out to the SOUTH to form a patrol base in the area of (250460 - Sheet 84L/13). From here 6 fighting patrols were sent out to the following places. A patrol pt 628 (221478). B patrol to pt 833 (244438). C patrol to pt 852 (277434 - 84L/13). D patrol to track junctions at (295451 - 84L/13). E patrol to pt 765 (269459 - 84L/13), &amp; the last patrol around the southern end of the patrol base. B Coy had a patrol to TETMA</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
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<p>22nd MARCH - SHWEKABYU</p> <p>- SHWEKABYU</p>	<p>(3045 - 84L/13) &amp; one to pt 1186 to stay out all next day &amp; observe enemy movement from pt 1186 (323478 - 84L/13). By "Stand-to" (1830 hrs) the Bn was reasonably well dug in &amp; a certain amount of wiring completed. At 1900 hrs reports were received from B &amp; C Coys, giving bearings on the sounds of a small battle. The cross-bearings indicated it to be one of A Coy patrols. One man to hospital today.</p> <p>After an extremely quiet night, reports started coming in from our various patrols. One of A Coys patrols had bumped some japs &amp; had a successful action against them. This clash was the one that had been reported by B &amp; C Coys the night before. This little patrol reported the fact that they had definitely killed 2 Japs &amp; 2 people dressed in Burmese clothes. We later checked on this but found 5 bodies altogether. We had no casualties! The CO (Lieut Col Conder) went out to A Coy's patrol base which had now moved forward a bit to 260450 - 84L/13, to have a look at the ground forward. He was accompanied with Major Blair our Bty commander &amp; the COs escort section. The CO was very keen to have a look at the village of TAUNGBI - YWATHIT (2740 - 84L/13), since our patrols had reported MT movement in that village the night before. This village is also a midway house on the Jap L of C from WEST to EAST, &amp; the C.O. thought that there might be good prospects of beating this place up a bit. After a thorough recce the CO returned to A Coys patrol base, &amp; so back to the Bn area. Pte Farquhar, who was wounded on the patrol was brought into the RAP, &amp; later taken to the MDS. Pte Black the other wounded man of the patrol, died of wounds on the way back to A Company HQ. A report from B Coy in the afternoon showed that 4 Japs had entered the village of PADAING (3047 - 84L/13) but these 4 Japs retired to the south before B Coy could send out a patrol to cut them off. B Coy also reported firing to their SW, &amp; this transpired to be the clash that A Coys patrol had in the area of the water tank at 306436 - 84L/13, &amp; the one in which Farquhar &amp; Black were killed &amp; wounded. This patrol was under command of Sgt Riding, who having been fired on by Jap mortars, successfully moved his wounded, got them back to base, then continued to probe at the Japs in this area, until he discovered a well dug enemy positions at pt 912 - 300447 - 84L/13. Sgt Ridings patrol was again fired on by mortars, so he withdrew round the north end of TETMA (3044 - 84L/13) &amp; returned to A Coys patrol base. B Coys recce (24 hrs) patrol on pt 1186 (3247 - 84L/13) saw movements &amp; approx 12 men</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p> <p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
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	<p>go to ground in the chaung at approx 333466 (84L/13). These 12 men were later seen going Southwards through TETMA, &amp; were presumed to go to pt 912. Other than this there was little to report about. Throughout the day positions were improved upon, wiring thickened up, DFs for our 3" Mortars registered, &amp; our 25 pounders properly surveyed &amp; dug in also. The water situation is very tricky &amp; has to be brought out by mules from NYAUNGHLA (1656 Sheet 4). We also have 1 water-cart from the 1/11 Sikhs under command, &amp; our other source of water supply is brought in by villagers on bullock carts. It is difficult supplying A Coy with water, but we have now made a jeep track &amp; get out fairly quickly now. The Indian Engineers brought up a boring plant, but although we bored down 28 feet in the chaung, we didn't strike any water. Patrols as for the 21st went out at dusk, &amp; should have a good evenings hunting since the moon is now up half way, making the going easier, &amp; enabling us to cover long distances before it gets too late. Five men went to hospital today, &amp; one rejoined the Bn from hospital today.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p><u>23rd MARCH - SHWEKABYU</u></p>	<p>All our patrols returned safely, bringing back good topographical reports, but very little information of Japs movements. One of A Coys patrols to the SOUTH couldn't do very much, since the Jap was holding the high ground along the ridge near pt 833 (3443 - 84L/13). A Platoon of B Coys bumped some Japs when they were fired on by cup-dischargers, &amp; after the JAPS had brassed off a bit, he slipped away to the SE, before our cut-off section could nab him. The IO (Capt Young), the R.M.O. (Capt Antonio) &amp; the SO (Lieut Henderson) went out to B Coy at about 1000 hrs, &amp; reported all well with them. The 2/I/C (Major Rose) took an escort &amp; proceeded round a lot of villages procuring bullock carts to bring in water to us. - A very difficult but successful trip, since he acquired about 15 carts altogether. At 1400 hrs the CO (Lt Col Conder) went out to A Coy patrol base, &amp; gave Major Hayes instructions regarding patrols for this evening. The main patrols were to go to the following places - YWATHIT (2241, THEYAGYAUNG - 2540, TAUNGBI-YWATHIT (2740) TETMA - 3045 &amp; to point 729 in search of water at approx (2337). Over &amp; above this A Coy had local patrols off &amp; B Coy had out their 3 similar patrols as per last night. At 1500 hrs Major Mann was evacuated to hospital. The Battalion had a beer issue today, 1 Bottle per man being issued with the evening meal. Water arrangements are not yet satisfactory but should be under control by tomorrow. At present</p>	

<p>24th MARCH - SHWEKABYU</p> <p>- SHWEKABYU</p>	<p>the Bn is going through approx 3000 gallons of water, &amp; since it is difficult to obtain it takes a lot of supervision. Five men were admitted to hospital today. At 2000 hrs a report was received from B Company saying that their recce patrol on pt 1186 (3247) had been attacked by 8 JIFFS, but no details were available. Remainder of the night was quiet &amp; nothing to report.</p> <p>An early report from B Coy gave us the information that their recce patrol on point 1186 (3247 84L/13) had been definitely attacked by 8 JIFFS (deserters from the Indian Army) &amp; since they had orders from the C.O. (Lt-Col Conder) to withdraw the moment anybody showed any interest in them, they withdrew down the hill to SSW, &amp; stopped their relieving patrol going any further. This patrol had withdrawn under fairly heavy fire &amp; the party had split. 2 men &amp; 1 gunner signaller had withdrawn to the NORTH &amp; at the time of the report (0700 hrs) had not yet returned to B Coy, but it was believed that they got away safely. Later reports showed that all members of this patrol returned to Base camp OK. Patrol reports from A Coy showed that there was considerable activity in the village of TAUNGBI-YWATHIT (2740 - 84L/13) &amp; definitely MT moving around the area. Another patrol to THEYAGYAUNG (2540 - 84L/13) heard Orders being shouted out, &amp; the noise of troops forming up. A small recce patrol to point 729 (2337 - 84L/13) reported N.E.S. &amp; no water in the vicinity. The next patrol which went to YWATHIT (2241 - 84L/13) reported NES &amp; no water. B Coys patrol to the village of TETMA (3045 - 84L/13) met no enemy, &amp; had NTR on returning. The B Coy swept through PADAING (3047 - 84L/13) &amp; villages in the immediate vicinity, found nothing, &amp; the stops to the South &amp; South East had NTR. A recce patrol went up to pt 1186 (3247) &amp; found it unoccupied. They stayed up on top all day, but saw nothing of interest. They were withdrawn at about 1630 hrs. At 0900 hrs, the Commanding Officer (Lt Colonel Conder) went up for a recce flight in an L5, &amp; flew all over our patrol area paying particular attention to water holes, places for ambushes, observation points, the villages of TAUNGBI-YWATHIT, &amp; all along the main tarred road from CHAUK - 84L/13 travelling EAST. This air-recce of the COs was very successful &amp; he brought back the necessary information. Throughout the remainder of the day there was very little activity. Captain Doyne-Ditmus (2/I/C of B Coy) was promoted Major &amp; assumed command of C Coy. Lieut Arnott of C Coy was promoted Captain &amp; went as 2/I/C of B Coy. Our water arrangements</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p> <p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
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<p>25th MARCH - SHWEKABYU</p> <p><u>- SHWEKA</u></p>	<p>fell flat yesterday from the point of view of Bde sending out water carts to us, but the efforts of the 2/I/C (Major Rose) had produced 20 Burmese bullock water carts each of which carries 40 gallons. - This bumped our storage up by 800 gallons, &amp; well we needed it, since Bde arrangements had let us down. The mules are still doing 1 trip per day which gave us another 700 or 800 gallons. Tomorrow 4 x 3 tonners will come out &amp; bring 800 gallons with them, &amp; take back 80 men to NYAUNGHLA (1556 - Sheet 4) to bathe &amp; wash their clothes. They are then brought back by M/T, which goes back to NYAUNGHLA to fill up with water for the next days trip. Patrol programmes for tonights patrolling was laid on by the C.O. Five men admitted to hospital today &amp; 2 rejoined the Bn from hospital today.</p> <p>After a very quiet night, patrols started coming in about 0600 hrs. B Coy's patrol had nothing to report. A Coy had 5 patrols out &amp; they reported the following. Patrol No 50 went to YWATHIT (2241 - 84L/13), &amp; had nothing to report, except that there was bullock cart movement on the road &amp; that the road was jeepable. Patrol No 52 to the Chaung in square (2139 - 84L/13) &amp; to track in 2137 - 84L/13 - report NES. Patrol No 54 to village of THEYAGYAUNG (2440 - 84L/13) &amp; Patrol No 55 to Chaung - 253388 - 84L/13, consolidated report as follows. Lots of cattle &amp; locals carrying food went to TAUNGBI-YWATHIT, &amp; Jap sentries seen on the WEST side of the village. Our BIC &amp; local guides dressed in local dress discovered from the natives that they had all been ordered to collect &amp; take enough food to TAUNGBI-YWATHIT for 500 Japs. On arrival there they were told that the cattle &amp; food had to the village of TETMA (3045 - 84L/13). The Co (Lt Col Conder) on receiving this information confirmed it with other news he had received, &amp; decided that the JAPS intention was not to take this food to TETMA at all, but to the village of TAUNGBI (2739 - 84L/13). Consequently the CO laid on a local registration by the Arty on the following positions with a view to making the Jap think that we thought TAUNGBI-YWATHIT was occupied by them. Registration &amp; later harassing fire went down on .962 (2941 - 84L/13) UYINZU - 2741 (84L/13), Pagoda area at pt 725 (281409 - 84L/13) &amp; on the village of THEYAGYAUNG (2440 - 84L/13). We hoped that during this registration etc, the Jap would be in TAUNGBI, &amp; be under the impression that we didn't know his whereabouts. To deal with the Japs in TAUNGBI, the CO laid on an air-strike which consisted of 12 planes at 1200 hrs, 6 planes at 1315 hrs,</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p> <p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
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26th MARCH - SHWEKABYU

followed up by arty fire to catch any Nippons making for open country. A Patrol from B Coy returned at 1230 hrs having been right through TETMA & having seen NO enemy. Locals report no enemy in the area of the water-jeals to the SOUTH of TETMA. Four x 3 tonners arrived with 800 gallons of water this morning & 60 men of D Coy went back as previously arranged to bathe & wash clothes in the IRRAWADDY. C Coy less 1 pl left Bn area to relieve A Coy at the forward patrolling base at (260450 - 84L/13). Remainder of the day was quiet & there was no activity except that A Coy returned to the Battalion perimeter. Three men went back to hospital & one man rejoined from hospital today.

After a very quiet night patrols started to come at first light. B Coys patrols round PADAING (3047 - 84L/13), pt 1186 (3247 - 84L/13) & TETMA area (3045 - 84L/13) had nothing to report at 0600 hrs. C Coys patrol (fighting) to TAUNGBI - 2739 - 84L/13, had tried to enter the village to observe the damage caused by the airstrike & also to obtain identifications from JAP bodies. On approaching the village they saw it still burning fiercely, & were fired on by Japs from the village itself. This patrol had bad luck & couldn't enter the place, but managed to get some information from locals who informed them that a lot of damage had been done, & some Japs had been wounded. Villagers were also occupying the slit trenches round the village, presumably to be underground in case there was another airstrike. Their patrols to pt 729 (2337 - 84L/13) pt 709 (2136 - 84L/13) & pt 558 (1937 - 84L/13) were all NES. Another patrol to pt 890 (2844 - 84L/13) met no enemy & had nothing to report. At 0930 hrs B Coy had reports to say that 1 Pl of Japs were digging in on the SE corner of the hill feature - 1186. Two hundred Japs were reported by locals to be in the area of the chaung at (319455 - 84L/13). Eleven Japs were also seen coming from this area & going to the area of the pagoda at (316456 - 84L/13). B Coy sent out a patrol to investigate the Japs in the area of the foot of pt 1186 but saw none. Throughout the day no further reports or activity were received. The C.O. (Lieut-Colonel Conder) laid on a night sweep to be carried out by B Coy on the whole of this area. To thicken up B Coys base defences, the CO sent out 12 men from the Pioneer Pl to man this perimeter. The CO & the I.O. went out to C Coy to arrange their patrolling for that night. At 1845 hrs our troop of guns harassed the areas of TAUNGBI-YWATHIT (2740 - 84L/13) -

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

27th MARCH - SHWEKABYU

UYINZU (2741 - 84L/13) - THEYAGYAUNG (2540 - 84L/13) pt 962 (2941 - 84L/13) & pt 725 (2840 - 84L13).

A & D Coys sent bathing parties to the IRRAWADDY to let the men have a swim & laundry their clothes. Up to midnight there is nothing else to report. One man sent to hospital today. 3 men returned from hospital. We sent 10 men to our rear base for 4 days rest & to attend pictures, football matches etc. L/Sgt Hardy posted to Deolali today having been graded C2.

Our patrols from C Coy returned to base camp, having patrolled the following areas. 1 Patrol No 82 to UYINZU (2741 - 84L/13) then to TAUNGBI-YWATHIT (2740 - 84L/13) & TAUNGBI (2739 - 84L/13) reported NES, & that the villages of TAUNGBI & TAUNGBI-YWATHIT had been thoroughly searched & were unoccupied. Patrol No 83 proceeded to pt 962 (2942 - 84L/13) & saw nothing there. From 962 it proceeded to point 926 (3140 - 84L/13) with the same result. The patrol then visited the village of AYADAW (3039 - 84L/13) but saw no enemy or any movements at all. Patrols No 80 & 81 left together, & proceeded to point 883 (2733 - 84L/13). Here they split & No 80 patrol investigated Danywa village (2835 - 84L/13). Patrol No 81 then proceeded to .951 (269319 - 84L/13), the high ground overlooking the main tarred road. No 80 & 81 patrols were 24 hrs patrols & don't return until 28th March. The Platoons of B Coy were out on a "sweep" looking for Japs, under Command of Major Courtenay-Hood, when a villager reported to them at (319455 - 84L/13) that 6 Japs were in the village of YWATHIT-PANGONBIN (3147 - 84L/13). OC B Coy then proceeded to investigate this report, & on approaching the village was fired on. The Japs were pinpointed & one of our 3" Mortars whistled up, which proceeded to plaster them. To cut a long story short after a lot of good field work on the part of B Coy the 6 Japs were killed off, including one Jap shot by Major Courtenay-Hood literally with his pants down. One L.M.G., one Grenade discharger cup & bombs, rifles & equipment were part of the booty. Identifications showed them to be the 3rd Bn of 61st Regt. The C.O. (Lt Col Conder) went out to B Coy in the afternoon, taking with him the Brigadier's congratulations on an excellent little show. Our new Padre the Rev Capt T Hawthorn MC arrived today, & RQMS Green returned to the Bn also. A Coy & D Coy sent to the IRRAWADDY for bathing & washing. A small party of Officers & the Pioneer Pl went to a demonstration on Jap Booby traps today at Bde HQ. Two men were admitted to hospital & 5 men rejoined from hospital today.

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

28th MARCH - SHWEKABYU

After "Stand-down" at about 0600 hrs, patrol reports started coming in. B Coys patrols had nothing to report & saw no enemy. C Coy Commander (Major Doyne-Ditmus) reported to the Commanding Officer as Patrol No 80 had met with an unfortunate action when drawing enemy fire round the area of DANYWA (2835 - 84L/13). A M9A1 bomb was being fired by L/Cpl McLachlan onto the area of the village when it exploded prematurely & severely wounded McLachlan & Cpl Rodgers the i/c patrol. Since it was only a 3 man recce patrol the only remaining man with the help of Cpl Rodgers carried McLachlan to the pagoda area (271371 - 84L/13) where they had to leave him. - The two men returned to base to obtain help but Cpl Rodgers had to fall out at approx 261431 - 84L/13. The other man then returned to base & reported his story. A patrol of 1 & 10 men went out to bring in McLachlan & eventually married up with Patrol No 81 under Sgt Hunter at the pagoda area (271371). McLachlan had died but his body was brought in & buried in the Bn perimeter, the service being taken by our new Padre Rev Capt Hawthorn MC. Patrol No 81 should not have left point 951 (269319 - 84L/13) until 2330 hrs tonight, but on arrival there, they bumped a strong Jap patrol where a short scuffle took place. - No casualties. Sgt Hunter temporarily withdrew to point 847 (269346 - 84L/13) where they laid up until daylight. They heard a lot of M/T movement & bullock cart movement travelling to the WEST, but couldn't see any troop movement. Whilst lying up at .847, some Burmese, or Japs dressed as Burmans, spotted them and then made off in the direction obviously going to pass the information on to the Japs at .951. In view of this he withdrew again to the chaung junction at (269368 - 84L/13) where they took up a defensive position. It was here that he met up with our other patrol & so assisted them to bring in L/Cpl McLachlan's body. B Company's patrolling programme was as follows. One patrol went to the village of TETMA (3645 - 84L/13) but saw no enemy, whilst their second patrol covered the water-hole areas in squares 3044-3043 - 84L/13 with the same result. HQ Coy sent 50 men to the river today for a bathing parade. Sixteen reinforcements arrived today all being newly arrived in the country. One man to hospital today & 12 returned from hospital today. Pte Woodfield of C Coy was wounded on Patrol No 80 but was not evacuated.

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

29th MARCH - SHWEKABYU

After an exceedingly quiet night on all Company fronts, patrols from B & C Companies started coming in at about 0600 hrs. B Company's patrols were the same as the night before ie round &

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into the village of TETMA (3045 - 84L/13) & the water hole area in squares 3043-3044 - 84L/13. These patrols saw nothing, & reported Tetma empty. Another patrol round the foothill of .1186 (3247 - 84L/13) discovered well concealed dug positions unoccupied. This bears out the report received from a local headman 2 or 3 days ago. A water point in the chaung at (319470 - 84L/13) was also investigated but saw no enemy. C Coy had out patrols once more to the villages of UYINZU - 2741 - 84L/13, TAUNGBI-YWATHIT (2740 - 84L/13) TAUNGBI (2739 - 84L/13), found them unoccupied. A patrol to AYADAW (3039) entered the village where they met an English speaking headman. He told them no japs had been there since TAUNGBI had been bombed, but that 50 were there just before then. A good well was also discovered here. A patrol to DANYWA (2835 - 84L/13) saw nothing. One other patrol was sent out to find a suitable OP for observing CHAUK (1138 - 84L/13) & SINGU (1543 - 84L/13). This OP was eventually decided upon at pt 746 (2141 - 84L/13), since it observed & overlooked the PYINMA CHAUNG, & although SINGU wouldn't actually be seen YWATHIT (1842 - 84L/13) was in full view & all movements in this area could be spotted. At 0800 hrs, A Coy changed over with B Company, B Company coming into the Bn perimeter. D Coy relieved C Coy to form another base a little further forward from the original one, & so do the long range patrolling. C Coy subsequently returned to the Bn perimeter. The CO (Lt Col Conder) had decided to move the patrolling base forward due to the fact that the Jap was obviously drawing out to the SOUTH, & also to cut down the mileage on long distance patrolling which will now be further to the SOUTH. A Coy will probably move forward to TETMA also, D Company's forward patrol base. In the afternoon at about 1430 hrs the CO (Lt Col Conder) took his escort & went forward to see that Major Turnbull & his Company had got settled in alright. On his arrival at the old base he found a guide waiting for him, who took him to the new patrol base near the village of MONDAING at approximately (241437 - 84L/13). Having looked over this position the CO decided that it was not too good should they be attacked, but since they were settled in for the night, he decided they would stay there the night & move the following morning to an area with the central point at (241441 - 84L/13). The CO met one of our agents whilst he was out there, & received her report on a job she had been asked to do for Major Doyne-Ditmus the day before. (This agent is a Burmese woman, who was employed by Europeans in the oilfields at CHAUK, & is an

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30th MARCH - SHWEKABYU

excellent informant). She was asked to visit the villages of MYENI (1838 - 84L/13) and OKMYA (1639 - 84L/13) & ascertain whether they were occupied by the Japs or not. These villages were unoccupied, & she reported that the locals were not allowed near SINGU (1542 - 84L/13) or CHAUK (1138 - 84L/13) by the Japs. Three excellent wells were reported by her being in the village of OKMYA. No other movement was reported. B Coy & C Coy each sent out 40 men to the river to bathe & wash their clothes. Pte Leinster was returned to the unit under escort today, having absented himself from the Bn. Five men rejoined us today from hospital & 2 men from leave. Twelve men arrived as reinforcements today. Pte Lalley D Coy was sent to Ranchi under instructions of the CO to relieve Pte Greanan as Bn storeman there.

After a quiet night the following patrols reported in between 0600 hrs & 0700 hrs to their respective companies. All patrols met no enemy & had nothing unusual to report. These patrols had been to the following places on the night 29th/30th March. Patrols Nos 1,2,3,4 and 5 left the base together to go to point 883 (273333 - 84L/13) & establish a base there. Patrol No 2 was to remain there as a standing patrol whilst the others spread out from here. Patrol No 1 was a 24 hour patrol & was to go to the area of 223327 - 84L/13, whilst No 3 went to the area point 864 (2434 - 84L/13). Patrol No 5 had to go to point 1042 (278316 - 84L/13) to lie up & observe enemy movements on the main road. Unfortunately, the five patrols under the senior N.C.O. got lost in the very difficult country & eventually ended up in the area of (278353 - 84L/13). Since time did not permit them to correct their mistake, the patrols then investigated the villages of HINGWEAING (301342 - 84L/13) & KYAUKTAN (301335 - 84L/13), & found no enemy in possession or anything unusual to report on. Although this was not what was ordered originally it served its purpose since the CO had intended sending patrols to investigate these villages tonight. D Coy sent an ambush party to the area .890 (2844 - 84L/13) but met with no luck. Two patrols were sent out area 977 (310428 - 84L/13) where they split, one going to pt 962 (294416 - 84L/13) & the other to point 926 (312406 - 84L/13) & the village of AYADAW (305397 - 84L/13). These patrols had nothing to report. B & C Coys sent another 40 men each for bathing. Four men were evacuated today & two returned from hospital. Eight men returned from the Divisional "JAB CLUB", & ten men went to this rest area for 4 days.

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31st MARCH - SHWEKABYU

Patrol reports started coming in after Stand-down from A & D Coys. D Coys Patrols No 1,2,3 & 4 had nothing to report, but Patrol No 5 to point 1042 (278317 - 84L/13) heard a small party of Japs in the nullah at approx (277313 - 84L/13), so they observed them. After a considerable period of time they slid off to the EAST, & were suspected of being a standing patrol. No other movement was observed by this patrol. The ambush patrol to the area of .890 (2844 - 84L/13) saw nothing of the enemy & were very disappointed about it all. A Coys patrols to AYADAW (3039 - 84L/13), point 977 (309428 - 84L/13) & point 926 (313406 - 84L/13) had also nothing to report. At 1400 hrs the Commanding Officer (Lieut Col Conder) & the I.O. (Capt Young) made out the patrolling programme for tonights fun & was as follows. D Company are to send out patrols to .904 ridge (2939 - 84L/13), one to .845 & jeal area (288380 - 84L/13), one to the SW of YWATHIT (2241 - 84L/13). An ambush party was to proceed to the track junction (275445 - 84L/13) and point 890 (283444 - 84L/13), whilst another patrol was to proceed to the 225330 - 84L/13. A Coy patrols had to have another sweep round the villages of PADAING (3047 - 84L/13), YWATHIT PANGONBIN (3147 - 84L/13) OKHLEGA (3146 - 84L/13) SHAWBIN (3246 - 84L/13) and TETMA (3045 - 84L/13), water tank area at 3044 (84L/13) to ensure that none of these places had been occupied by the Jap.

The Mobile Dental unit visited us today, & gave 30 odd men badly needed treatment. - Since companies & patrols were still out, all the men requiring dental attention were out, so this mobile unit is returning on the 2nd April to deal with the remaining cases. B & C Coys once again sent 40 men to the River for washing & bathing. Five men returned from hospital, & five reinforcements joined the Battalion today. The Brigade Major paid the Battalion a visit this afternoon & saw Company positions. Nothing else to report upon up to midnight.

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1st to 30th APRIL

1945

**WAR DIARY**

REF MAPS

Army Form C.2118

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence  
Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. I.  
Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

OR

1" to 1 mile 84L/13

(a) ORIGINAL

(b) DUPLICATE

(c) TRIPLICATE

**~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~**

(Erase heading not required)

2ND BN K.O.S.BORDERERS

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
<u>1st APRIL - SHWEKABYU</u>	<p>D Coys patrol reports started coming in at about 0630 hrs &amp; the results were as follows. Patrol to the .904 ridge area (2989 - 84L/13) no enemy seen, whilst the patrol to .845 &amp; jeal area (288380 - 84L/13) saw no enemy, but reported the water in the jeal to be salt water. The fighting patrol to the SW of YWATHIT (2241 - 84L/13) - an NES report &amp; similarly with the Ambush patrol to the track junction &amp; .890 (283444 - 84L/13) no enemy seen - no unusual movements. The 24 hour patrol to 225330 (84L/13) didn't reach this objective, since they spotted a large party of Japs on the hollow ground at 245431 - 84L/13. They observed this party of Japs from a position at 225330 - 84L/13. These Japs made plenty of noise &amp; chattered, &amp; an order was heard being given, presumably to be quiet when an aircraft flew overhead. Our patrol from their position heard MT movements from WEST to EAST at about 0200 hrs. At this time a vehicle was heard dragging something behind it which was mounted on iron-rimmed wheels. This was thought to be a gun, &amp; another Battalion reported the same thing near SINGU (1543 84L/13). During daylight the Jap party still remained, our chaps keeping low as ordered! Throughout the whole day the main road was not used at all, except by some bullock cart which continued in the direction of BOGON (1836 - 84L/13). At night when the patrol left to return to base, the patrol observed a semi-circle of forces round about the villages of BAGON, THWENET (1834 - 84L/13) OKMYA (1639 - 84L/13), and BYIBIN (1832 - 84L/13). A Coy patrol to the village areas were all nothing to report &amp; NES. The Commanding Officer (Lt Col Conder) attended a conference at Bde HQ &amp; on his return held an R&amp;O group, during which he informed us that he would probably attack CHAUK (1138 - 84L/13) in 5 days or so. He gave out a few administrative problems for Officers to consider, prior to actual orders being given out. The CO visited A Company today. B Coy &amp; D Coy changed over today, D Coy returning to the Bn area. Two men admitted to hospital today &amp; 8 men rejoined us from hospital. Ten men went on leave today, &amp; 1 reinforcement received.</p>	J.R Stewart Capt & Adj



2nd APRIL - SHWEKABYU

Throughout the night there was nothing to report, except shelling on our western flank over by the 1/11 Sikhs area. The padre Capt Rev Hawthorn MC had been out at A Coy that afternoon before, & when returning to Bn base had his jeep break down on him, with the result he had to stay out all night. He returned to the Bn at 0730 hrs, having spent a night in the desert. Patrol reports started coming in & were as follows. A fighting patrol to the village of OKMYA (1639 - 84L/13) found no enemy there, but found a good well about 20' deep in the village. They went into the village of MYENI (1838 - 84L/13) & found locals who had been thrown out of SINGU by the Jap. Two waterholes were reported in the PYINMA CHAUNG at 173345 - 84L/13. The left hand patrol (recce) to the CHAUK RIDGE proceeded up a nullah & managed to reach approx 146398 - 84L/13. This patrol had great difficulty since the ridge is clear rock & almost perpendicular. They saw no enemy positions or movements at all. Recce patrol Y32 further to the west tried the nulla at 147404 - 84L/13 & managed to get half way up before they had to abandon the idea of getting to the top. The recce patrol took the nulla at 146407, & found sheer cliffs there. After a tremendous struggle, having abandoned their weapons, they managed to get ¼ way up, before time beat them. This patrol heard power-engines from the power station at about 2245 hrs, otherwise no enemy seen moving around, or anything unusual to report. A Coys patrols to TAUNGBI-YWATHIT (2740 - 84L/13) & the nearby villages submitted an NES & NTR report. At 1400 hrs, Pl Commanders & Pl Sgts RV'd at Bn HQ to receive a lecture from a gunner Officer on directing Arty fire. This idea is being tried out to eliminate the use of F.O.Os & tomorrow this party will go out & actually direct fire onto enemy targets. B Coy are now settled in at the new patrol base at 225424 - 84L/13. This base will eventually become the Bn base when we attack the CHAUK RIDGE, so we are stocking this base up with water & ammo for D Day. Two men admitted to hospital today & 3 men rejoined us from hospital.

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3rd APRIL - SHWEKABYU

On all companies fronts there was nothing to report. Throughout the night & after Stand-down patrols from A & B Coys filtered back to their respective areas, submitting the following reports. A Coy had an ambush patrol at 322468 - 84L/13, which had no luck whatsoever, having seen no enemy. A Recce patrol to road & chaung junction at 309380 - 84L/13 saw nothing unusual & no enemy. A further recce to discover if the water in the lake in square 2838 - 84L/13 was good or not found a plentiful supply of water there but an element of

doubt still exists since they reported it OK. Previous patrols reported it as salt water, villagers confirming this. This patrol also discovered 2 very good fresh water wells, filled to the top, on the chaung at 287404 - 84L/13. During this patrol they saw no enemy or anything unusual. B Companys patrols were all to the "CHAUK RIDGE". There were recce patrols to this Ridge which all proceeded together under command of Lieut Macdonald to 145414 - 84L/13 in the PYINMA CHAUNG. Actually they were originally ordered to go to 145413 - 84L/13, split up, 2 patrols to reach the top & get as much information as possible of numbers & to pinpoint positions, also find best route up the ridge. When they reached point 145413 - 84L/13, 2 Jap sentries fired at them from a ridge immediately above them, & so our patrol moved more to the WEST, & were welcomed by a volley of 15 rifle shots. Lieut Macdonald then withdrew his patrol to approx 150406 - 84L/13. He waited for a bit, then moved forward again to the approx area as before with a few men, leaving the remainder of the patrol to give them covering fire. On approaching the ridge again, they met Japs in the chaung & exchanged shots. Since time was short Lieut Macdonald decided to return to base, having been unable to carry out their task. At 0600 hrs the CO (Lieut Col HRR Conder) & the I.O. (Capt Young) went forward to point 569 (193407 - 84L/13) to have a real good look at the CHAUK RIDGE. They returned to Bn HQ at 0930 hrs, having had a good view of the ridge, & pinpointed features on the ground, & compared with air-photographs. At 1030 hrs the CO (Lieut Col Conder), Major Turnbull, Captain Scott, Lieut Thomas & the R.S.M. - Henry, proceeded to Brigade HQ, where they were introduced to Lieut-General Sir Montagu Stopford, our new Corps Commander. (We have now left 4th Corps & are under command of 33rd Corps again). At 1400 hrs the C.O. went for a flight in an L5, & had a very close inspection of the Chauk Ridge from the air. He pinpointed some trenches & foxholes. At 1415 hrs, we sent out some of our Subalterns & Platoon Sgts, under instruction of Major Blair, Bty Commander, in support of us, to practice actual fire control & acting as F.O.O. to the Gunners. - This was very successful indeed & our chaps did very well on it. Sometime tomorrow we will send out more representatives to practice fire control. We are also resuming an NCOs Cadre at present, a short one lasting only 3 days. D Coy & HQ Coy send 30 & 50 men respectively to the River today for bathing. At 2000 hrs we received a report from Bde that some Japs dressed as Burmans were hiding in the village of PYINGYAUNG (2144 - 84L/13). We sent out a

- SHWEKABYU

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

fighting patrol accompanied with a B.I.C. chap, to investigate this patrol of Japs, when the moon came up at 2100 hrs. Two men were admitted to hospital today. Six men were repatriated on long service grounds today, whilst 3 others were sent home on 28 days leave to the UK. Ten more men were sent to the Divisional rest "JAB Club" for 4 days, & 10 men returned from same. This Club is well run & the men get a complete rest out of the line. Football, swimming, ENSA concerts, indoor games, pictures etc being part of the amusements available. Up to 2359 hrs, there is nothing else to report.

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4th APRIL - SHWEKABYU

After another peaceful night, our night recce & fighting patrols returned to their respective Company areas to make their reports. A Company patrols to the village areas ie TAUNGBI-YWATHIT (2740 - 84L/13), THEYAGAUNG (2540 - 84L/13), TAUNGBI (2739 - 84L/13) & AYADAW (3039 - 84L/13), all these patrols having nothing to report & having seen no enemy. B Coys patrols under Lieut Playle all went out together with a view to patrolling the following places. 1 Patrol was to go up the nullah at 146407 - 84L/13, whilst another was to go up another opening near the telegraph line at 145412 - 84L/13. The third patrol was to go into the villages of MYENI - 185385 - 84L/13, & then to OKMYA - 165390 - 84L/13 to see if they were occupied or not by the Jap. All went well until the patrols got into the area of point 559 (193407 - 84L/13) where our boys run into approx 300 Japs. Our chaps froze & fortunately weren't spotted. Those Japs were just sitting around obviously waiting for the order to move which, when eventually given, showed this little lot moving up the track & roads SINGU (1542 - 84L/13). Before the party of Japs moved on, Lieut Playle & some men, & Sgt Stockhill & some men, started investigating & finding their flanks. Both little patrols found occupied dug positions here. Sgt Stockhill was milling around good style with his patrol & in actual fact became part of the Jap party. One Jap advanced towards him, saying something as he advanced so Stockhill casually retired a few paces. The Jap then laid down his rifle, vomited then had a drink out of his water bottle. Our 2 small patrols withdrew & rejoined the main patrol, & wisely skirted the Japs with a view to getting on with the job at Chauk Ridge. Unfortunately they met many Jap patrols in the PYINMA CHAUNG, had the devils own job dodging them & eventually withdrew to base. On the way back they saw about 20 Japs hauling a gun (all cursing & screaming), & a bullock coming from SINGU towards CHAUK. The CO (Lt Col HRR Conder) visited B Coy with Major

5th APRIL - SHWEKABYU

- SHWEKABYU

Turnbull of D Coy, whose Company will relieve B Coy in the course of a few days time. Five men went sick & were evacuated to hospital today, 2 men returned from hospital today. Patrols for tonight are to the "Village area" & Chauk Ridge again. The Ridge patrols to probe & pinpoint enemy positions.

Another quiet night passed on all fronts, the only disturbance being our 25 pounders who were doing a spot of harassing fire on YWATHIT (2241 - 84L/13). Patrol reports started coming in from the Companies as follows. A Coys fighting to the village of SHAWBIN (3246 - 84L/13) produced no Nippons & no movement was observed at all. They had another fighting patrol to the track junction at 275445 - 84L/13 who met nothing & had a very quiet night scouting around. B Company had a recce patrol to the area of 145414 - 84L/13, which on reaching this point was fired on by at least 5 riflemen from a ledge on the high ground. This patrol withdrew to the area of the islands in the PYINMA CHAUNG at approx 145416 & let things quieten down a bit. They then proceeded towards the ridge, striking a little further south, but again were fired upon from the ridge, & also bumped Jap patrols in the chaung itself. - They tried again to get onto the ridge, but eventually had to give up since daylight wasn't far off. D Coy had 2 recce patrols to the CHAUK RIDGE also. 1 Patrol under Sgt Bell did an excellent patrol getting up on the ridge to 147394 - 84L/13, where he found heavily occupied positions. He then tried to the SOUTH & similarly found the ridge at 150378 - 84L/13 strongly held. He snooped around looking for more positions, & eventually returned between these 2 points unmolested & so home. This was the information required since it is now obviously strongly held, whereas a week ago it was not occupied. A further recce patrol under command of Sgt Copleton to the area of the Power Station (143391 - 84L/13) on their way there met trouble at approx 149386 - 84L/13, which confirmed Sgt Bell's report, but showed that the whole ridge was occupied. He met nothing else & eventually returned to Base at first light. At 0930 hrs the CO (Lt-Col Conder OBE) & Major Turnbull returned from the forward patrol base having interrogated the patrols personally as they came in. The 2/I/C (Major Rose) & Major Doyne-Ditmus (C Coy Commander) went out to A Coy at TETMA (3045 - 84L/13) to liaise, since C Coy will relieve A Company tomorrow. The Mortar Officer (Capt Ferguson) & Major Doyne-Ditmus (OC C Company) in the late afternoon went out with our Gunners to take part again in directing Arty fire, which was being fired by our troop under command. HQ Coy

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6th APRIL - SHWEKABYU

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sent 20 men to the river for bathing today, the numbers being cut due to the fact that we have now lost our 4 x 3 tonners. Three men were admitted to hospital today, & 2 rejoined the Bn from hospital.

After a quiet night our patrols returned between 0600 hrs & 0700 hrs bringing the following information. B Companys fighting patrol had gone out via point 559 (193408 - 84L/13) then along the NORTH bank of the PYINMA CHAUNG to point 232 (153408 - 84L/13) where they observed the ridge & CHAUK from. They heard & saw MT moving along the main tarred road travelling from EAST to WEST, & lights of MT moving in the North end of CHAUK itself, otherwise nothing to report, & no enemy movement in their vicinity. A recce patrol to the CHAUK RIDGE sent to 147394 - 84L/13, hearing & seeing enemy movement on the North ridge at 145379 - 84L/13 and also from the SOUTH feature at 146393 - 84L/13, this information confirming that Sgts Bell & Copletons reports of the ridge being strongly held is true. Another recce patrol was to investigate the area of the storage tanks at 143378 - 84L/13, & on getting to 153379 - 84L/13 heard & saw movement on a ridge to their right & also movement from the ring contour at 152376 - 84L/13. The 4th Recce patrol from B Coy had to go up the track at 152367 - 84L/13, but got slightly lost & eventually landed up a nullah at 156373, where they also heard movement & confirmed that the ring contour at 152376 - 84L/13 was heavily held, also position on a ridge at 156368 - 84L/13. A Coys patrols were Ambush ones. 1 Patrol went to the area of & into the village of SHAWBIN (3246 - 84L/13) but found nothing there of interest. Another ambush patrol went out to TETMA village (3045 - 84L/13) & to the jeals area at square 3044 - 84L/13. This patrol drew a blank & even although they searched extensively for Japs they found none. These were all the patrols for the night 5th/6th April, & from information brought in, it is obvious that the Jap is building up on the CHAUK RIDGE & aims to hold it at all costs. At 0730 hrs the C.O. (Lt Col Conder OBE) & Major Turnbull went forward to recce MYENI village (1838 - 84L/13) fighting patrols having been sent out previously to protect the CO & clear the area. After having had his second scout around, they eventually returned to Bn HQ, our troop of guns plastering the village as they left. The 2/I/C (Major Rose) accompanied by the Doctor (Capt Antonio), OC HQ Coy (Capt Stalker) & the Padre (Capt Hawthorn MC), visited A Coy. A Coy & C Coy changed over in the morning, A Coy coming into the Bn perimeter again. Our local spy - Merry, brought in a report that 50 Japs in newly erected Bashas, & a certain amount of MT & stores had

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<p>7th APRIL - <u>SHWEKABYU</u></p>	<p>arrived in the area of the lake just SOUTH of point 845 (2837 - 84L/13). This was at 1600 hrs. At 1630 hrs the air-op was over the target, &amp; reported again there. Unfortunately, an electric storm started at that time, &amp; the pilot had only time to observe 1 shell landing &amp; to give a correction. A Crump of 32 rounds was then brought down on it, &amp; harassing fire was put on the target at 1800 hrs, 2000 hrs, 2100 hrs, &amp; 2200 hrs. At 2200 hrs we sent out a platoon from C Coy to go out &amp; eliminate this little party of Japs, but the birds had flown, possibly due to the shelling, which couldn't have been very pleasant since all shells were slap into the target, having been observed by Coy. Three men went to hospital today &amp; 2 returned from hospital.</p> <p>All Companies reported a quiet night &amp; by 0700 hrs all patrol reports for the night 6th/7th April had come in. Particulars of these patrols &amp; reports results are as follows. The Brigadier rang up about 2000 hrs on the 6th April &amp; asked for a patrol to go to GWEGYO (3325 - 84L/13) on a Divisional task. Captain Scott of C Coy was detailed for this job &amp; he had to find out if GWEGYO was held or not &amp; get as much information as possible from the locals. He was to return as soon as he had completed his task. B &amp; D Coys both had patrols to CHAUK RIDGE. 1 Recce patrol proceeded to the power line on the Ridge, cut up the power line towards point 339 (156388 - 84L/13, then branched off NORTH to the area of the nullahs at (153385 - 84L/13) &amp; after moving around in this general area for nearly 2 hours returned with a NES &amp; NTR Report. The 2nd Recce Patrol got as far up the track as 155371, seeing no enemy but only MT lights from CHAUK itself. A 3rd Recce patrol on the Ridge proceeded up the track to about 153379 - 84L/13, &amp; discovered that this track petered out. - They also scouted around for an hour &amp; a half, &amp; during that time saw no enemy. At 1000 hrs the CO (Lieut Col Conder) went to brigade to see some new air photographs of the ridge, &amp; to make another flight over this area. He returned about midday &amp; then went out to C Coy near TETMA (318455 - 84L/13) to see how things were with them. Harassing fire was put down on the village of MYENI (1838 - 84L/13) at 1930 hrs &amp; 2045 hrs. Three men went to hospital today, &amp; 2 men rejoined us from hospital. Ten more men were sent to the Divisional "JAB CLUB" for 4 days, &amp; 10 men returned from the club today. Pte Tilbury &amp; Pte Browning were sent to Div to supervise the Indian labour in unloading planes at the air-head. Pte Hendrie of HQ Coy</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p> <p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
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8th APRIL - SHWEKABYU

After another undisturbed night on all fronts, patrol reports started coming, the first one being Captain Scott of C Coys patrol which had returned from GWEGYO (3325 - 84L/13). He was immediately despatched to Bde HQ to make his report to the Brigadier, so that it could be passed on to the Divisional Commander immediately. It had been an excellent patrol & lots of information was got from it. GWEGYO itself was held, & the hills all round the lake at (343257 - 84L/13) had well dug positions all around, & bunkers large enough to hold 20 men. Locals report that the GWEGYO garrison have only 10 vehicles & sometimes less. Locals also report that on 3 successive nights, 500 Japs came from CHAUK (1139 - 84L/13) to GWEGYO, had a meal there then proceeded SOUTH to YENANGYAUNG which is about 27 miles distance. On his return journey Capt Scott & his patrol were fired on near the track-junction at (308281 - 84L/13). They exchanged shots & eventually returned to their Company base. Capt Scott arranged for the headman of TAUNGNAUK (322271 - 84L/13) to go into GWEGYO the following day to bring back details of numbers, movements, positions etc of the JAP garrison. C Coy had a fighting patrol to the village of SHAWBIN (3246 - 84L/13) which never saw a thing in the way of Japs. B Coys patrolling was a purely recce one to CHAUK RIDGE, as follows. No 1 Recce patrol went to the ring contour at (144403 - 84L/13), & saw no enemy or heard enemy movements. M/T was heard in Chauk itself otherwise nothing to report. No 2 Recce patrol proceed to point 144402 - 84L/13, & submitted a report as for patrol No 1 on their return. No 3 patrol recced the high ground at (152376 - 84L/13), & also the ridge at (152381 - 84L/13) & had nothing to report. The last recce patrol approached the ridge at (148386 - 84L/13) from a North Westerly direction & drew rifle & MMG fire from this position which was strongly held. They lay up for a bit, & a short time after the Jap started mortaring from 148386 - 84L/13 onto the paddy at 153393 - 84L/13, presumably assuming that a patrol had withdrawn that way & was trying to catch them on the hop. C Coy sent out two more fighting patrols one going to SHAWBIN (3246 - 84L/13) which submitted an NES report. Their second fighting patrol proceeded to TAUNGBI-YWATHIT (2740 - 84L13), TAUNGBI (2739 - 84L13) & DWANYA (2835 - 84L/13), & also submitted an NES report on their return.

At 1000 hrs the CO (Lt-Col HRR Conder OBE) attended a conference at Bde HQ, & on his return informed all Officers that the attack on CHAUK RIDGE was temporarily postponed due to the fact that our troop on our left had been held up, thus being unable to partake in

- SHWEKABYU

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

the attack as originally arranged on the 14th April. The Mortar Platoon were once again made up to strength again, & we have once again 6 - 3" Mortars in support. A flame-throwing detachment arrived out with us today, but were immediately withdrawn again since they were required for another job elsewhere. C Coys patrols for tonight have all been cancelled due to a change in the boundary between us & 33rd Bde on our left. Six men were evacuated to hospital today & one man returned from hospital today. At 1400 hrs a man was cleaning a grenade (36) out at B Coy, which he suddenly threw to the ground since the firing pin had fallen & started the fuze off. About 20 people were in the immediate vicinity, & in the danger area. Sgt Jolly of B Coy without hesitation ran forward, picked the grenade up & was about to fling it into a nullah when it exploded, blowing his right hand completely off, & also causing multiple injuries to him. A Pte Ostle was also hit, & one of our followers, plus 2 Burmese guides. Undoubtedly Sgt Jolly's heroic action saved many people. Jeep ambulances were whisked up from the ADS, & the injured people were evacuated in the shortest space of time. A Court of Enquiry was held on the spot by Major Courtenay-Hood, & the evidence recorded.

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

9th APRIL - SHWEKABYU

After a very quiet night patrol reports started coming in from Companies, patrols and reports being as follows. B Coys patrol, a fighting patrol was to proceed to milestone 397 on the main Chauk-GWEGYO road. They were to lay an ambush at milestone 397 (map ref. 235315 - 84L/13). Unfortunately they got lost and did not reach their destination. The only movement they saw was M.T. headlights moving from East to West. No other patrols were out on night 8th-9th, as the C.O. (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) had decided to give companies a rest. The C.O. and Major Hayes (O.C. 'A' Coy) reced the area of THEYAGYAUNG (map ref. 2440 84L/13) with a view to establishing 'A' Coy's patrol base there in the course of a few days. The Bde Comd and the C.O. went out to visit 'C' Coy at (map ref. 319453 - 84L/13) returning about 1100 hours. Five men were admitted to hospital, and one man returned from hospital. Cpl White, A Coy, having been selected as a potential officer, left the Bn today to be interviewed by a War Office Selection Board at Imphal.

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

10th APRIL - SHWEKABYU

On all Company fronts there was nothing to report, & at 0700 hrs patrol reports came in giving the following information as a result of patrolling for the night 9th/10th April. A B Coy recce patrol



under Lieut Macdonald once again paid a successful visit to CHAUK RIDGE, going out via the village of MYENI ( 84L/13) then across to pt 339 ( 84L/13) past the 2 huts at (151394 - Chauk 4) & so up onto the ridge itself at (147397 - 84L/13). He went up a path which isn't marked on the map & discovered a Jap sentry a little way back from the top. He also heard a squabble of some sort going on between some other Japs close by, & it was obvious that the Jap was occupying positions there. - He saw nothing more of interest, & since he had the required information returned to B Coy base. B Coy sent out an Ambush Patrol, strength 1 Platoon under command of Lieut Playle, which went down to the main tarred road where they intended to ambush some Japs in M/T. Before they arrived, a lot of MT was seen using this road, but, on arrival all was quiet, & MT movement seemed to have ceased. Undaunted they lay up for a while & along came a truck which halted 300 yards from where they were lying. It tooted its horn & a small party of Japs got in & it then proceeded towards CHAUK ( 84L/13) past our ambush. Convoys had been running frequently on the road, & it was a convoy that our chaps were after. After waiting for several hours, & no transport arrived, & since it was nearly daylight, they laid 10 mines across the road & left for base. After they had done 1½ miles they heard a truck going along the road, & a little later a loud explosion. It was obvious that a truck had hit the mines & bought it. - On this report we asked for an air-op to go up & see the damage, but none were available & so our ambush Patrols tonight may verify our beliefs.

- SHWEKABYU

It is pretty obvious that a Jap standing patrol sticks around MS 397 to protect its convoys, then is being lifted by the last truck of the night. With a spot of luck our boys may put this little lot in the bag in the near future. C Coy had 2 fighting patrols out, one going to TAUNGBI-YWATHIT (2740 84L/13), TAUNGBI (2739 - 84L/13), AYADAW (3039 - 84L/13) & so home. This patrol saw nothing in the way of enemy at all. Their No 2 patrol went out to TAUNGBI with the first patrol & proceeded to DANYWA (2835 - 84L/13) then to square (3034) area, then via square 3032 - 84L/13, & so home. Like the first patrol, they met nothing & saw nothing of interest throughout their tour. The Commanding Officer (Lt-Col HRR Conder OBE) went out to see B Coy in the afternoon, to discuss patrolling on the Ridge. In the afternoon at about 1300 hrs we had a short rain & dust storm, the coolness being a welcome change from the awful heat that we are at present experiencing. Five men were admitted to hospital today & one man rejoined us from hospital. The

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	<p>men have had a pretty hectic time patrolling of late, but morale is high &amp; all the men are exceptionally fit on it. Sickness rate is falling off gradually, &amp; is less than half what it was when we were in a back area. Very gratifying in spite of the amount of hard work that the Battalion is doing at present. Nothing further to report up to 2349 hrs.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p><u>11th APRIL - SHWEKABYU</u></p>	<p>All was quiet throughout the night, &amp; by 0730 hrs all patrol reports for the night 10th/11th April had arrived at Bn HQ &amp; were as follows. C Coy had a fighting patrol to AYADAW (3039 - 84L/13) then to area of water North of .845 (288379 - 84L/13), which submitted an NES report. This was the only patrol out last night, since the Commanding Officer (Lt Col Conder OBE) wanted to give the Companies a rest after their extensive patrolling. The CO visited B Coy at their patrol base &amp; tried 4 men there. D Company sent 40 men to the river today for bathing, since we have been loaned 2 - 15 cwts &amp; 1 - 30 cwt by Bn HQ for the purpose. The mail situation is pretty bad just now, &amp; so also the cigarette situation. Enquiries are being made by Higher authority &amp; an explanation is expected soon. Cpl Pendleton of B Coy was sent to No 568 Field Security Section today on a temporary attachment. Two men were admitted to hospital today.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p><u>12th APRIL - SHWEKABYU</u></p> <p>- <u>SHWEKABYU</u></p>	<p>After Stand-down patrol reports for 11/12th April came in. 1 Recce Patrol from C Company went to the main road to the area of milestone 397 (251311 - 84L/13) to observe MT movements. As they were about to take up positions they were fired on from the SOUTH side of the road by riflemen. They withdrew a little but then approached the road a little further to the WEST, &amp; were again fired on from the NORTH side of the road this time. Shots were exchanged, &amp; since we had the necessary information, our patrol withdrew to C Coy base. They saw nothing more of enemy movements on the way back. No other patrols went out during 11/12th April. The CO (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) asked the Brigadier if he could have permission to move a Company forward to the village of TAUNGBI-YWATHIT (2940 - 84L/13), &amp; was granted permission during the course of the afternoon. Since C Coy are due to change over with D Company soon, the CO decided to send D Coy out to TAUNGBI-YWATHIT tomorrow with a pl of MMGs from C Coy under command. C Coy to return to the Bn perimeter. B Company returned also to the Bn area, &amp; A Company went out to a new patrol base at point 753 (243417 - 84L/13), thus relieving B Coy of the patrolling responsibility. The reason the CO</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>

has his Companies so far forward is threefold. One, it shortens the patrolling distance, & since he now wants deception patrolling away from the CHAUK RIDGE, & more to the SOUTH, it lets us cut deeper into the enemy lines with less physical effort. His second reason is to gradually build up reserves in water, ammunition, & food for our move forward of the Bn to the village of OKMYA (1639 - 84L/13) & MYENI (185385 - 84L/13) prior to the attack on CHAUK RIDGE by us. B Coy today sent 40 men to the River IRRAWADDY for bathing. The Roman Catholic Padre (Capt Rev Telfer) called on us today to make arrangements for a Mass Service tomorrow. At approx 1530 we experienced a very wild wind & sandstorm, followed immediately by a heavy shower of rain. This storm lasted over 2 hours & kept everybody busy keeping their shelters together. Our troop of guns harassed enemy positions on CHAUK RIDGE at an area at approx (139385 - 84L/13) at 1900-1930 hrs, 2115 hrs to 2130 hrs & the following morning at 0500 hrs to 0515 hrs. Two men were admitted to hospital today.

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

13th APRIL - SHWEKABYU

Reveille was sounded by the gunners this morning, ie by finishing off the harassing fireplan, they fired a salvo at 0500 hrs, the normal sleepy head receiving a rude awakening for a change. Patrol reports for the night 12th/13th April are as follows. A Company sent a fighting patrol under command of Lieut Thomas down to the main road near milestone 397 (254313 - 84L/13) to see what damage they could do to any Japanese transport or troops. They laid mines on the road, & it wasn't long before a Jap convoy came along & blew itself up. There was nobody in the truck except a driver who escaped. The truck was carrying empty sacks in it, & nothing of value at all. Throughout the night no more trucks ventured out, so the patrol laid Hawkins grenades across the road & left for home. Once gone, as our previous patrols had experienced, when they were a considerable distance away from the scene of the crime, another lorry was seen travelling from EAST to WEST, & a loud explosion was heard. It is thought that yet another truck fell to us. A Coys other fighting patrol went to KYINI (1834 - 84L/13) & THWENET (84L/13) (1834) as a deception patrol away from "Chauk Ridge", with the idea of just "brassing off" to attract attention, & if possible draw fire. This they tried to do, but in spite of all their efforts there was no reply from the Nippons. This patrol only met locals & so no enemy at all. - They did find good drinking water in the jeal in square (1733 - 84L/13). Throughout the deception a fighting patrol from A Coy were doing the same thing in the area of the huts



<p><u>15th APRIL - SHWEKABYU</u></p> <p><u>.753 - MYENI - OKMYA</u></p> <p>- <u>SHWEKABYU</u> -</p>	<p>&amp; OKMYA (1639 - 84L/13), on the 15th April, so to tie in details the CO held an R&amp;O group at 1400 hrs, giving full details of the move forward. (See attached Operation Order No 6). The remainder of the day was spent on preparing for the move out. A Coy Commander was ordered to have 500 galls of water in his base at point 753 (243417 - 84L/13) so that the Bn could stage there &amp; have a mid-day meal &amp; refill water bottles &amp; chagals prior to the onward march to destination.</p> <p>A Coy patrols reports came in about 0630 hrs, having been the only 2 patrols we had out last night. 1 Recce patrol under command of Capt Culpin visited the area of Chauk (1138 - 84L/13) eventually arriving on the high ground at approx (150375 - 84L/13) where he "brassed-off" all he had to give the impression that an attack was going in. They got no response to their antics &amp; so no enemy movement at all, &amp; so returned home. The other fighting-cum-deception patrol consisted of 8 men under command of Sgt Mellor of A Coy. This patrol got a little further to the north, when they were at approximately (152369 - 84L/13) they ran slap into a Jap standing patrol, who opened up on our boys with all they had. Since our patrols' primary job was to give the impression that an attack was coming in from the EAST, they promptly replied with everything, &amp; had a real good battle. We sustained no casualties, &amp; since it was very dark last night it cannot be estimated if we hit any JAPS or not. After doing a very satisfactory job of work, they returned to their Company base at .753. At 0715 hrs the CO (Lt Col Conder OBE) with Major Courtenay-Hood (OC B Coy) &amp; Major Doyne-Ditmus (OC C Coy) went forward to .753 (2441 - 84L/13). Meanwhile A Coy had sent a platoon to OKMYA (1639 - 84L/13) &amp; MYENI (1838 - 84L/13) to find out if it was unoccupied. These villages were reported clear by 1030 hrs. At 0830 hrs the remainder of the Bn moved out in the following order of march. B Coy, Bn HQ, HQ Coy, Admin Coy &amp; C Coy, &amp; marched on a compass bearing across country to .753, where guides were waiting on them to show them into company positions. The Bn under command of the 2/I/C (Major Rose) eventually arrived at .753 by 1030 hrs. Our Bn transport plus 8 x 15 cwts were ferrying up Bn kit to .753, &amp; eventually had all kit clear of our old area by 1500 hrs. D Company under command of Major Turnbull, moved complete, with the aid of 20 Bullock-carts from TAUNGBI-YWATHIT (2740 - 84L/13) to MYENI (1838 - 84L/13) where they took up positions west of the chaung at (189383 - 84L/13), &amp; covered in the remainder of the Bn. They also left a pl under command of Lieut Hewitt to occupy</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p> <p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
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- SHWEKABYU -  
.753 - MYENI - OKMYA

16th APRIL - MYENI

the high ground at (225387 - 84L/13), & cover Bns advance. (For route see Operation Order No 6). The CO with his Tac HQ moved from .753 at 1130 hrs & went forward to MYENI, where he gave out Company dispositions. The remainder of the Bn left .753 in the same order of march as before & arrived at MYENI after a gruelling march, at approx 1445 hrs. Companies immediately started digging in, in the following positions. A Coy (centre point 189375 - 84L/13) linking up with D on their right as above, & linking up with C on their left with their centre point at (193379 - 84L/13). HQ took over from the chaung at (196384 - 84L/13), & so in a half circle to (195386 - 84L/13) on the EAST bank of the chaung, practically joining up with D Coy on the opposite bank at (194386 - 84L/13). Bn HQ - (195385 - 84L/13). We managed to bring up all our kit except 4 x 15 loads from .753, by moving our MT in the dark with escort up to 2030 hrs. Water was brought in by local bullock carts & by 1800 hrs the Bn was well dug in & ready for anything. Captain Calderbank (OC Admin Coy) & a small party of men plus of our followers were left at .753 (2441 - 84L/13) for the night. They were well covered in & quite safe for 1 night. Patrols were sent out at 2000 hrs, 1 from A & 1 from C Coy. Up to midnight all was quiet & B Coy who are under the nose of the Japs at OKMYA (1639 - 84L/13) had nothing to report throughout the night.

After a quiet night, patrol reports started coming in, & were as follows. A Recce patrol from A Coy under command of Lieut Fleming visited CHAUK RIDGE again & managed to get up to practically the top at (145407 - 84L/13). When they got there a Jap sentry fired a burst of LMG at Sgt Banks, & he took the full burst in the chest. He managed to run back down the hill about 50 yards before he passed out. Lieut Fleming & the only remaining member of the patrol managed to carry Banks to (149408 - 84L/13). Lieut Fleming then sent his remaining man back to OKMYA (1639 - 84L/13) to get stretcher-bearers from B Coy. He returned to Lieut Fleming with this party, & Sgt Banks was carried into B Coy area for the night. A Bullock cart & escort was sent out at 0545 hrs to collect our casualty, bringing him back to the Bn area, where he unfortunately died. We buried Sgt Banks between 2 Palm trees & erected a wooden cross over his grave, the grave being at map ref (194383 - 84L/13). A patrol from B Coy went up the nullah & eventually got on the high ground at approx (149405 - 84L/13) where they saw Japs in position. Since they were later than the A Coy patrol, & the fact that the Japs had heard our patrol & stretcher-bearers in the chaung below,

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

- MYENI

the old Nippon was on the lookout, & since we had pinpointed his positions our patrol withdrew to base. The third & last patrol was a fighting patrol to BOGON (1836 - 84L/13) which saw absolutely nothing in the way of enemy or any suspicious movement at all. Early in the afternoon 6 Dakotas flew over CHAUK (1138 - 84L/13) on their way EAST with supplies for our troops there, & Jap anti-aircraft opened up on them. This is the first time we have ever seen Jap "Ack-ack" in action, & the results were pitiful. His gun has not got anywhere near our ceiling & his aiming is very poor indeed. An air-op was sent up to spot this gun, & as a result of which we brought a salvo down on it. Results unknown. Digging in continuing & also wiring around the Bn area. A 4/8 Gurkha convoy on MT with rations for one of their companies on the NORTH bank of the chaung came down the PYINMA CHAUNG in full view of CHAUK RIDGE. The result of this foolishness was that a 75MM gun opened up on them as they crossed the chaung opposite our position at (195395 - 84L/13), as they made for the track & chaung junction at (195398 - 84L/13). He did no damage, but suddenly switched onto the village of MYENI (1838 - 84L/13), having probably seen bullock-carts moving around, & obviously thinking that we were in the village itself. We got our gunners to touch him up a bit with a bty of 25 pounders to make him think that we really are in the village. At 1130 hrs the Brigadier came out to see us & congratulated the C.O. (Lt Colonel HRR Conder OBE) on the splendid move that the Bn had accomplished. In the evening the JAP started shelling the chaung near MYENI (1838 - 84L/13), but once again did no damage. - Bullock carts are bringing us water from TAUNGBI-YWATHIT (2740 - 84L/13) & we are now stocking up for emergencies. Bullock carts are also used to take rations to B Coy at OKMYA (1639 - 84L/13), & also a pl of MM Gunners who are now under command. We have now been informed that D-Day for the attack on CHAUK is the 20th April, & so the C.O. gave out orders for the attack today. (See attached appendix).

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

17th APRIL - MYENI

After another quiet night our patrols returned & submitted the following reports. A fighting patrol to BOGON (1836 - 84L/13) saw no enemy & had nothing to report. A recce patrol went up onto CHAUK RIDGE to .559 (155356 - 84L/13) where they were fired on by some JAPS. Our chaps returned the fire & made scuffling noises as if they had run away. In actual fact they lay up for a bit, & before long the JAP standing patrol got up & made for CHAUK. Our boys stalked them & eventually found other parties of Japs chattering in a little hollow near some huts. Our patrol got onto the high

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ground, pinpointed the Japs then let them have it with all they had. They heard screams & lots of scurrying around & we believe we certainly inflicted casualties on them. A Coy Patrol had the task of laying mines at the bridge at (139351 - 84L/13). When the patrol approached the bridge it was found to be occupied so the patrol commander Sgt Greeve withdrew down the road about 200 yards & laid his mines. On his travels back he heard our other patrol shooting up Japs, but never married up with them. The remainder of the day was spent in making preparations for the attack, & for storing up ammo, food & water with C Coy at OKMYA (1639 - 84L/13). We received reports that the 4/8th GR of our Bde were in North SINGU at (1643 - 84L/13) & were pushing on to SOUTH SINGU. Further reports received showed that 33rd Bde had captured GWEGYO (3425 - 84L/13) & were pushing WESTWARDS along the main road towards CHAUK, with a view to cutting the Japs only road of withdrawal, except the river. The 114th Bde of our Division were advancing on the village of SEIKPYU (0839 - 84L/13) to shut off the Jap in case he tried to escape across the river. The net is tightening on CHAUK, & it won't be long now until the "Battle for the Oilfields". Five men were admitted to hospital & 2 men rejoined from hospital today.

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

18th APRIL - MYENI

Reports started coming in early, & our Burmese Agent - "Merry", came back from CHAUK, with a report that she thought that the Japs were going to pull out soon. She gave us the location of a gun, which we well & truly plastered, & some information about numbers of Japs which vary from 150 to 300. Another report from the headman of Chauk told that tonight he had driven practically round the whole of Chauk & saw very little movement in the way of Japs. He did see 20 Japs in caves on either side the track at (157381 - 84L/13), & noticed some booby traps on the path. The headman of MYENI (1839 - 84L/13) had been into SINGU SOUTH (1542 - 84L/13) for rice & informed us that although he had walked through all S. SINGU he had seen NO Japs & that the villagers there say that the Jap had pulled out. - All this showed that it was obvious that he was getting out. In accordance with this, the CO (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) rang up the Brigadier & asked permission to speed up the move, ie by putting up our B Coy & D Coy onto the SOUTH RIDGE tonight instead of tomorrow night 19th April. Permission was granted & so we prepared for the whole Bn to move at 15 minutes notice the following morning. D Coy & the CO with his Tac HQ were going to move at 1900 hrs to OKMYA, to be ready for Phase I & Phase II of the battle. Meanwhile 33rd Bde were reported in the village of MOLA



	<p>(1530 - 84L/13) after a speedy advance along the main road, &amp; had shoved out an advance battalion which was making for the river. - 33rd Bde was then given a boundary line &amp; had to try &amp; get up to the line TAMMA-ARK (132355 - 84L/13) - The River IRRAWADDY and .559 (154357 - 84L/13). By the late afternoon, 33 Bde had pushed up to grid line 40 &amp; had met no opposition, so it was decided that 33rd Bde should continue right up to the North end of Chauk. This they did &amp; by 1700 hrs Chauk complete was in our hands. The 4/8th moved into SOUTH SINGU &amp; we remained at MYENI.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p><u>19th APRIL - MYENI - CHAUK.</u></p>	<p>After a quiet night with no patrols, we had orders from Bde to move to a concentration area in CHAUK. At 0630 hrs the CO &amp; his R&amp;O groups left in jeeps to go down by the main road thro' MOLA (1531 - 84L/13), &amp; so to the inspection bungalow in CHAUK at approx (119375 - 84L/13). The remainder of the Bn cut across country up the Ridge &amp; so over to the Inspection bungalow where coy representatives were there to take Coys to their new concentration positions. Bn HQ were situated in a fine bungalow (as were all Coy HQs) at 106376 - 84L/13). A Coy at (109377 - 84L/13) B on high ground at (112375 - 84L/13) - C Coy at (106372 - 84L/13) D Coy (104373 - 84L/13). HQ Coy &amp; Admin Coy were round the Bn HQ area. All our mules were brought up from LANGULYA area to our present area. Although there were masses of Jap positions beautifully dug, we prefer our own type of trenches &amp; siting, &amp; so the Coys immediately started digging in. At 1630 hrs, the CO (Lieut Col HRR Conder OBE) held an O group &amp; gave out patrols for tonight as follows. A Coy sent a fighting patrol to .559 (154356 - 84L/13), B Coys patrol going to the bridge at 140357 - 84L/13. C Coy sent an F.P. to the Causeway at 119360 - 84L/13, whilst the remaining fighting patrol of D Coy went to the ring contour at 099361 - 84L/13. Arty DF tasks were as follows - ABLE - 102367 - 84L/13) astride track. <u>BAKER</u> - the nulla into the main chaung at 105361 - 84L/13. <u>CHARLIE</u> - Ring contour - 114359 - 84L/13. <u>DOG</u> - astride main road at 119864 - 84L/13 &amp; the last Def task <u>EASY</u> on the high ground at 126365 - 84L/13. Three men went to hospital today &amp; one man rejoined the Bn from hospital today.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p><u>20th APRIL - CHAUK</u></p>	<p>All our fighting patrols returned by first light, having seen no enemy or heard any suspicious movement. The Bn took full advantage of being near the River once more &amp; did a lot of washing of clothes &amp; clobber. At 0800 hrs, we received word that our Corps Commander (33rd Corps) Lieut-General Sir Montagu Stopford was coming on an</p>	

informal visit to see the Battalion at 1130 hrs today. He was unfortunately held up somewhere & eventually arrived at Bn HQ at 1430 hrs. The Commanding Officer (Lt-Col H.R.R. Conder OBE) met him, & took him on a conducted tour round the Coy areas. On this occasion he expressed his gratitude for the fine work put up by the Battalion & that he was very pleased to see everybody looking so healthy & cheery. He spoke to a number of the men, & told them the larger picture & how well the 14th Army were doing in driving the Jap out of Burma. At 1600 hrs the Colonel addressed the whole Battalion & thanked them for the splendid work they had done in our first phase of the "Battle for Central Burma". He reviewed all our experiences in the past, the lessons learnt from them, & went on to describe our future role which looked as if we will now become a bit more mobile in future, having received more MT for our establishment. - At 1500 hrs the CO attended a conference at Bde, & on his return held an R&O group at 1900 hrs, during which he gave out orders for a move forward on MT to MS 381 (312109 - 83L/13) where 89th Bde were to concentrate in the next 2 days. Our mules under Lieut McNish left at 2200 hrs to meet the Bde mule column, which Lieut McNish was to command & take them to GWEGYO (336256 - 84L/13) that night. Their next stage was to MS 381 the following night where they will meet the Battalion. No 2757428 Pte McIntosh of C Coy was drowned in the RIVER IRRAWADDY today & although he was given artificial respiration for nearly an hour after his body was recovered, he did not revive. He was buried in his Company area & the service was conducted by the Rev T Hawthorn MC our Padre. Four men were admitted to hospital today, & 2 returned from hospital.

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

21st APRIL - CHAUK -  
ZIGYOBIN

After a quiet night the Battalion made final preparations for the move out to our new concentration area, near MS 381, at a village called ZIGYOBIN (3010 - 84L/13). At 1000 hrs the 2/I/C (Major Rose) left with a Recce party consisting of Coy 2/I/Cs & 2 Platoon representatives per Coy to go forward & lay out the Bn area. To assist us in this move forward we were supplemented with 30 x 15 cwts & 30 x 3 tonners from an RIASC G.P.T. Company. This transport arrived at 1300 hrs & was distributed to Coys by Capt Calderbank (OC Admin Coy). By 1400 hrs the Bn was embarked & ready to move off but unfortunately the petrol & oil for the lorries did not arrive until 1435 hrs. After a quick refill the Bn led by the Adjutant (Captain Stewart) started off for our new destination, the Commanding Officer (Lieut Col HRR Conder OBE) remaining back to see the Bn on the move. The Order of March was as follows. Bn HQ, HQ

Coy, A Coy, B Coy, C Coy, D Coy, & Admin Coy. At about 1610 hrs the Bn arrived at its destination where they were met on the main road by the 2/I/C & Coy representatives, who led them to their respective Company areas as follows. Bn HQ, HQ Coy, & Admin Coys in an area with the centre point at (30101 - 84P/2), A Coy - 298105 - 84P/2) - B Coy - 306103 - 84P/2, C Coy - 300093 - 84P/2 & D Coy overlooking the main road at 307094 - 84P/2. Our MT ferried our kit forward & had completed the job by 1730 hrs. The Bn started digging in & wired company areas immediately. 3" Mortar tasks for Defence was also done. Water was taken out to companies & after a good hearty evening meal, the Bn settled down for the night. Since the 33rd Bde & the 1/11 Sikhs are to our front we had only one standing patrol for the night 21/22nd April. During the night we had some rain, & it was a great change from the muggy damp atmosphere of CHAUK. Three men were admitted to hospital today. Our mules have not rejoined us yet but will arrive tomorrow morning.

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

22nd APRIL - ZIGYOBIN

Throughout the night there was nothing to report. At 0900 hrs we held a Thanksgiving Service in the compound of the village, Capt Rev T Hawthorn MC officiating. At 0945 hrs, we received word from Bde HQ to supply 12 Carrier drivers with 5 days rations within an hour to go & collect 12 Bren Carriers for the Bde. Each Bn is apparently getting 3 Carriers each, & they will certainly be of great value to us now that we are operating on the plains of Burma. At 1000 hrs the Commanding Officer (Lt-Colonel HRR Conder OBE) held an R&O group at Bn HQ. He told us the general situation on our front & informed us that we may have to recross the River IRRAWADDY to the WEST BANK, to deal with the Japs being chased from the NORTH by our 114th Bde. At 1430 hrs the C.O. left for Bde HQ to see if there were any orders for the move available. Since none were ready at that time the C.O. went up for a flying recce in an L5 to have a look at the area which we will eventually take up positions in, at approx (940935 - 84L/10). On his return the CO brought orders for the move with him at 1800 hrs, & gave out orders for the move of the Bn to KYAUKYE (0999 - 84P/2). We were allotted from the Bde pool 8 x 15 cwts and 5 x 3 tonners, which with our own MT were distributed to Coys for this move. Our mules who are no with us again were also distributed to Coys. At 2015 hrs the Bn 2/I/C (Major Rose) & 2 reps per coys left on jeeps to recce our new area & to arrange the reception of the Bn at the other end. At 2115 hrs the Bn preceded by all our MT moved out in the following order. Bn HQ, HQ Coy, A Coy, B Coy, C Coy, D Coy, RAP, Admin Coy & the mules

<p><u>23rd APRIL - KYAUKYE</u></p>	<p>brought up the rear. After a very hard &amp; gruelling march of about 16 miles over sand, the Bn arrived at KYAUKYE (0999 - 84P/2) &amp; was ushered into a close box perimeter for the night. Since the Bn arrived at 0400 hrs there was no "stand-to" except for normal post. Four men were admitted to hospital today &amp; three men returned from hospital to the Bn.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p><u>24th APRIL - MAGYIGON</u></p>	<p>The Bn spent today resting &amp; preparing for the move across the River IRRAWADDY tonight. Orders for the crossing were received at 1100 hrs, &amp; the gist of the orders was this. The 1/11 Sikhs were to secure a bridge head crossing at 2100 hrs, whilst we passed through them &amp; proceeded across country to secure the canal &amp; road crossing at (949936 - 84L/10), followed by the 4/8 GR &amp; Bde HQ. Our trucks were loaded up &amp; lined up for the move out, &amp; the Bn were given orders in detail by the CO (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) at 1700 hrs. At 2300 hrs the Adjutant (Capt Stewart) came back with orders that the Boats were ready for the first flight. The Bn went over the river unopposed &amp; by the following morning at 0130 hrs were complete on the WEST bank of the River.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p>- <u>MAGYIGON</u></p>	<p>The Bn moved off from the WEST bank of the river in 2 parties, the first party going on ahead to secure the road &amp; canal crossing at (949936 - 84L/10) by first light, &amp; to be joined by the 2nd part of the Bn as soon after first light as possible. The C.O. with his Tac HQ, B &amp; D Coys &amp; Gunner OP were the composition of the first party, &amp; they set off across country taking the following route. From (088989 - 84L/10) the party made its way through 12' high elephant grass to the village of KYABINZU (069983 - 84L/10) &amp; from here forced its way through thick jungle to the village of KONTHA (038967 - 84L/10). From here onwards to the main road, the going was through a swamp, which was nearly waist deep &amp; was very thick with elephant grass &amp; scrub. It took about 3 hours to get through this swamps, &amp; so, after this gruelling march the advance party eventually hit the main road at MS 3 (969929 - 84L/10). There they halted &amp; had breakfast before going on. They then moved on to the canal &amp; road crossing at (948937 - 84L/10) where they took up positions &amp; awaited the remainder of the Bn who under command of the Bn 2/I/C (Major Rose) eventually joined the advance party, having come by the same route at 1030 hrs. After everybody had a meal the Bn moved on in the same order of march as before to take the road junction at (931959 - 84L/10) which we took by 1300 hrs. The Bn less B Coy took up defensive positions as follows. Bn HQ -</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">- <u>MAGYIGON</u></p> <p><u>25th APRIL</u> - <u>SETHUSHINGON</u></p>	<p>(932956 - 84L/10) A Coy (934956 - 84L/10) stretching along the road to the NORTH to the cross roads. C Coy then took from the cross roads to (930952 - 84L/10). HQ Coy to the rear perimeter from 930952 - 934956 - 84L/10. D Coy took up a position at the track &amp; road junction at 935952 - 84L10. B Coy were sent out to (890930 - 84L/10) to block the road running from NORTH to SOUTH. The Jap about 300-500 strong was reported in SALIN (8200 - 84L/10), who were opposing our 114th Bde who were slightly to the NORTH of SALIN. The object of our move was to cut the Japs road to the SOUTH, &amp; help 114th Bde destroy them. The Bn then prepared themselves for a very hairy night, assuming that the Japs would be on us like a ton of bricks. To make matters worse we had to travel very light for this move, with a result we had only a limited amount of ammunition on the man &amp; no tools with us, with the result we had to make the best use of ground that we could. Road blocks were established on all roads &amp; so the Bn settled down for the night, &amp; come what may. At 1930 hrs along comes a Jap 3 tonner from SALIN &amp; runs slap into our road block at the road junction at 948937 - 84L/10. The result of this little party was 1 - 3 ton Japanese lorry, 1 Jap Lieutenant &amp; 1 OR dead, an officers sword, some equipment &amp; rations, &amp; bedding. Later on &amp; throughout the whole night we had patrols &amp; jitter-parties probing our flanks, grenading &amp; mortaring us. After daylight we discovered 2 dead bodies &amp; 2 seriously wounded &amp; signs of blood indicating a number of wounded. Our own casualties were 1 Killed &amp; 4 wounded, which was very light considering we were not dug in.</p> <p>After stand-down the C.O. (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) sent out foraging parties to get food to feed the Bn, since we had consumed our 1 days ration &amp; were preserving our emergency rations. We arranged to feed the Bn by 1700 hrs on rice &amp; curried vegetables which was to be prepared by the villagers. By 1400 hrs the first 6 vehicles arrived bringing 2 sections of 2" Mortars, some wire &amp; tools. These were distributed to Coys &amp; the men started wiring &amp; digging in with a will. Various vehicles filtered in during the day &amp; by 1400 hrs we had been thickened-up by 1 Platoon of MMGs. At 1700 hrs 3 Lee tanks arrived &amp; were placed in an excellent position to deal with vehicles coming up either road. Rations arrived by 1750 hrs &amp; after a good evening meal, the Bn was ready for any amount of Japs who cared to look in &amp; visit us. Throughout the day there was nothing else of interest to report.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p> <p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p> <p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
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<p><u>26th APRIL -</u> <u>SETHUSHINGON</u></p>	<p>At 0200 hrs tpt was heard approaching from the SOUTH, &amp; 3 - 15 cwts (British) driven by Japs fell foul of our road blocks, &amp; the result of this party was this. One truck managed to break through the road block but was very successfully dealt with by one of our patrols who were operating towards SALIN (9200 - 84L/10). The 2 other trucks were put in the bag, 3 bodies including a Captain, some rations, ammo &amp; equipment.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p>- <u>SETHUSHINGON</u></p>	<p>The Commanding Officer sent out 3 Patrols from D Coy to go &amp; ascertain whether SALIN (9300 - 84L/10) was occupied or not since we had received reports that the Jap was pulling out. - Orders were received from Bde that 114th Bde were holding fast in the NORTH of SALIN, &amp; that we had the job of capturing this small town. Patrols reached 935003 - 84L/10 &amp; returned with an NES report. Another fighting patrol reached MS 38 at 924994 - 84L/10 &amp; also returned with an NES report. The third patrol reached the Pagoda NORTH of MS 2 at (897986 - 84L/10) &amp; here they saw a large number of Japs sitting around this area, with some in dug positions. Orders were given out at 0630 hrs for the attack on SALIN, &amp; at 0815 hrs the Bn less A &amp; HQ Coys, with 1 Tp of tanks in support moved off to complete the job. B Coy met the Bn at a pre-arranged RV at the chaung &amp; track position at (900961 - 84L/10) where the C.O. got his Bn in position for the attack. Once more patrols from D Coy went forward &amp; reported all clear to the Pagoda at (913981 - 84L/13). Accordingly the Bn advanced with D Coy as leading Coy, whilst C Coy crossed to the left flank, the tanks preceding D Coy. The Pagoda was reached safely &amp; no enemy seen, so the CO moved through the village of PABEZU (910983 - 84L/10) &amp; pushed onto the road near the lake at (906995 - 84L/13) &amp; still no japs were seen. The next move was to the cross-roads at (910999 - 84L/10) which was also reached without opposition. An armoured column with B Coy pushed through SALIN searching for Japs, &amp; married up with a patrol of South Lancs from 114 Bde. Salin had fallen without a shot being fired. The CO then sent out patrols to MS 2 (897986 - 84L/10) &amp; reports by locals there showed that the Japs had pulled out in a great hurry early this morning. Troops from 114 Bde relieved us &amp; the Bn returned to our base camp, with B Coy still out astride the road at (895930 - 84L/10). Another 3 tanks of the 3 Dragoon Guards joined our Bn here &amp; harboured in our area, where we all awaited further orders.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p>- <u>SETHUSHINGON</u></p>	<p>By 1400 hrs Orders for our move came through &amp; at 1700 hrs the Commanding Officer (Lt Colonel Conder OBE) gave out his orders for our armoured column's advance down the main road to the canal &amp; road crossing (930808 - 84L/10). We had 1 Squadron of Lee tanks</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>

27th APRIL -  
SETHUSHINGON  
Canal & road crossing  
(930808 - 84L/10)

Canal & road crossing  
- 930808 - 84L/10

preceding us from the 3rd Dragoon Guards. From 1700 hrs onwards the Bn was loading vehicles before it got dark to be ready for our advance at 0500 hrs the following morning. - Throughout the night peace reigned & we only had one stray Jap approach our area. - He was successfully dealt with & makes one more Nippon in the bag.

At 0330 hrs the perimeter post only were manned & since we had experienced a quiet night, fires for cooking were lit, & breakfasts were prepared for the Bn. At 0500 hrs the Bn completely in MT, & supported by tanks, our 500 Bty of 25 Pounders & 1 Platoon of MMGs, get off down the road to our objective. The column moved fast & by 0830 hrs the Bn was ready to take up positions roughly along the canal bank. At 0840 hrs 3 Dakotas started circling over our area & were obviously searching for the Brigade dropping zone to drop supplies to us. Since the actual DZ was 3 miles away, & we didn't want to miss the air-drop, the C.O. & the Adjutant (Capt Stewart) laid code letters, improvising maps to make the letters, instead of signalling strips. Grenades 77 were used to indicate the direction of the wind, & in another 5 minutes a very successful air-drop by 6 Dakotas was in progress. One Platoon of D Company was organised to collect this drop, & the Adjutant got onto the 22 set & informed Bde that we had taken the drop, & to send the RIASC down to collect it. This was duly done & we were congratulated on our presence of mind by Bde since the air-drop would have been missed as all air-drop reception staff were at the original DZ. The CO then made a quick recce & the Bn area was laid out as follows - Cross roads (930808 - 84L/10) along canal bank to (919802 84L/10) then NORTH to (919808 - 84L/10) thence EAST to main road at (929812 - 84L/13) then SOUTH to Canal & road crossing at (930808 - 84L/13). This was the Bn close perimeter area, & the Companies occupied areas, taking them from EAST to WEST - C Company, D Company, Admin Coy, HQ Company & Bn HQ, A Company & B Company on the extreme WEST. Companies settled in areas & proceeded to dig in & wire the entire perimeter. By 1200 hrs all our admin base had been ferried forward & the Bn was complete including our mules who had cut across country to meet us from the river. At 1600 hrs the Brigade Commander (Brigadier WA Crowther DSO) came to see the Commanding Officer (Lt-Colonel HRR Conder OBE) to discuss the prospects of an armoured column to crash on SOUTH to cut the Japs completely off. - We were allotted enough transport to lift the Bn in one lift, less some odd kit which would come up with the Bde Administrative Staff. At 1830 hrs the CO held an R&O group & gave out his orders. The CO

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

was placed in charge of this armoured column which was to be known as "CONCOL". Representatives from the REs, MMGs, RAF, GUNNERS & tanks were included in the R&O group since we had the following under command. - 1 Section of REs with mine-detecting equipment & a "Bulldozer". 1 - VCP (Visual Control Post) with RAF & Army representatives in case we wanted air support at any time. 1 Platoon of machine-gunners, 1 Squadron of tanks, & our old friends the gunners - 25 pounders all under command. The gist of the orders was that the 1/11 Sikhs would secure LEGAING (0167 - 84L/10) & if they succeeded in this to push on to TANAUNGDAW (0261 - 84L/10) & to patrol forward to find out if town of SAGU (0256 - 1/25,000 SAINGAUNG No1). We were to follow them up, pass through them & push on & capture SAINGAUNG (0345 - 1/25,000 SAINGAUNG No2). At 1830 hrs transport was allotted to the companies & loaded up ready for an early move SOUTH at 0600 hrs tomorrow morning. Major Chisholm MC, Captain Steven and Lt (QM) MacDonald rejoined the Bn today & Lieuts Craig, Mowatt & Hannah joined us today as reinforcements. Four men were evacuated to hospital today & 3 returned from hospital.

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

28th APRIL - CANAL &  
ROAD CROSSING - 930808 -  
84L/10 - SAGU -  
SAINGAUNG

At 0400 hrs the Bn was up itching to be off in our armoured column, hoping that our second MT move would bring us some luck & let us put some Japs in the bag. By 0600 hrs, all our transport had been marshalled & was unleashed at 0605 hrs, & it really was grand to see over 160 vehicles, tanks & carriers & armoured vehicles rolling down the road. Information was received that the 1/11 SIKHS had reached TANAUNGDAW (0261 - 84L/10) OK & had patrols going into SAGU (0256 - 1/25,000 SAINGAUNG - No1), & as a result of this information we bowled along the road until we contacted the SIKHS at about 1000 hrs. The CO of the 1/11 SIKHS informed us that his patrols had been fired on, so our Commanding Officer (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) ordered 2 troops of tanks of the 3rd Dragoons & C Coy forward to attack SAGU. A Coy were whisked up forward & held in readiness to help C Coy. The remainder of the column debussed & stood by in readiness for a battle. C Coy under command of (Major Doyne-Ditmus) crossed the chaung OK, met no opposition & started to clear the town from the EAST side. The CO ordered up A Coy to go in from the WEST & to clear the town & marry up with C Coy at the bridge at (025561 - 1/25,000 SAINGAUNG No1). All went well & A & C Coys eventually linked up having only dealt with 10 Japs successfully. We later learned from the locals that the Japs had hurriedly departed to the SOUTH when they saw us coming, numbers approx 100. Since we wanted to crack on the CO gave orders to



28th APRIL - SAINGAUNG

embuss, & by 1200 hrs the column was on the move towards the town of SAINGAUNG (0344 - 0346 - SAINGAUNG - No2 - 1/25,000). The going was bad since it was a dusty rough track, but by 1315 hrs the leading elements were within 150 yards of SAINGAUNG. Villagers reported Japs & vehicles in the village, & another 50 at approx (025450 - 1/25,000 - SAINGAUNG) near the water. The CO pushed A Coy less 1 Platoon with 1 troop of tanks round the EAST end of the town, & to cut in & push through from the EAST to the WEST. Meanwhile C Coy were despatched out to the water at (025450) to deal with the Japs there. They remained there in case they were required to come in from the WEST. 1 Troop of 500 Bty was ready on the ground to support if necessary. The remainder of the Bn was debussed & standing by awaiting orders. Surplus transport was sent back to SAGU to help the 1/11 SIKHS who were going to move tonight. A Coy were pushing on through the village & got right through to the SW corner of it before they bumped anything. A pitch battle took place & we got a bit of a shock when we discovered a Jap tankette firing at us from the area of the chaung at (031444 - 1/25,000 SAINGAUNG - No2). This tankette was soon eliminated, & A Coy less 1 Pl proceeded to chase odd snipers etc into the jungle nearby. The other Pl of A Coy was put on the road near the Inspection bungalow as a stop at (034455 - 1/25,000 - SAINGAUNG - No2). The odd Jap or so was shot at by us, & by 1415 - 1500 hrs the remainder of the column concentrated at the Inspection bungalow & the CO (Lt Colonel HRR Conder OBE) put the Bn in a close perimeter round the tanks & guns temporarily. The odd skirmish & sniping went on until approx 1800 hrs, & by this time we had looked around & discovered our bag was as follows. Two tankettes working & in good condition, 1 Bren carrier in good condition, 1 Tankette which we had destroyed, 4 lorries, medical stores, rations, & bags of artillery & SA Ammunition, grenades, maps, documents, equipment, oil & petrol. It was a colourful bag & the largest we have ever made. - The CO decided that since it was getting so dark, he would hold his original perimeter for the night, except D Coy who would sit astride the cross-roads at (037458 - 1/25,000) to establish road blocks there. Water recces were sent out & during one of these Major Courtenay-Hood, OC B Coy & some men were ambushed by Japs, as a result of which we had 1 man killed & 4 wounded. Two platoons were required to get out our wounded we managed this by 1900 hrs. Digging in & wiring commenced, & so we settled down for the night expecting to be attacked throughout the night. Up to midnight all was quiet & nothing more to report. Our casualties were as follows.

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

<p><u>29th APRIL - SAINGAUNG</u></p>	<p>No 3189457 Pte E Bruce - KIA. Wounded No 14746663 Pte J Leece, No 14710581 Pte W Taylor, No 14710978 Pte H Hogben, &amp; No 497980 Pte F Morgan, all of B Company.</p> <p>After a very quiet night the Bn ate breakfast, improved positions &amp; wiring &amp; sent out parties into SAINGAUNG (0344 - 0345 - 1/25,000 SAINGAUNG No2) to look for Japs primarily, &amp; to see what other dumps could be found. Local labour was obtained for bringing in water to us, &amp; bullock carts were on the trot the whole day bringing us this water. A jeep patrol from D Coy went out to MINBU (1550, 1551, 1552 - Minbu Sheet 3) where the 1/11 Sikhs had established themselves after a night march last night. Contact was made OK &amp; we sent out our casualties to MINBU to the ADS there. Bde HQ had also established itself in MINBU. The Commanding Officer (Lt-Col HRR Conder OBE) sent a patrol to MAUNG MAGAN (0741 - 1/25,000 - No2) to investigate a report of 20-30 Japs in the village &amp; to liquidate them. The village was entered &amp; NES. The CO sent out B Company under command of Major Courtenay-Hood to the village of ZIAING (980396 - 84L/12) to clear some Japs out of it, then to push on to the water at (956369 - 84L/12) with a view to the Bn moving there today &amp; so ease the water situation. B Coy bumped Japs there but since it was about 1700 hrs the CO didn't want to have this Coy involved in a battle &amp; so ordered them to withdraw to ZIAING &amp; establish a firm base there, which they did. The Brigadier arrived at about 1700 hrs &amp; informed the CO that he wanted us to push on to PYAWBWE (8732 - 84L/12) &amp; establish ourselves there. At 1800 hrs the CO gave out orders for the onward move tomorrow, tanks preceding us &amp; the Bty of 25 pounders moving in bounds in close support of us. No 3189407 Pte Boyce was buried near the Inspection bungalow, the service being conducted by Capt Rev T Hawthorn MC. The REs constructed a light air-strip for L5s to land on &amp; evacuate our casualties at approx (038460 - 1/25,000 SAINGAUNG No2). At 1900 hrs transport was loaded up for tomorrow's move, &amp; then the Bn settled down for the night which was a peaceful one. Fifteen men were evacuated sick to hospital today.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p><u>30th APRIL - SAINGAUNG</u></p>	<p>After an early rise the Bn formed up &amp; moved off down the road towards ZIAIANG (9739 - 84L/12) where they contacted B Coy. The Bn then passed through B Coy, who then had the job of protecting a troop of our guns who were dropped off at ZIAIANG to give the main body close support. The Column "CONCOL" under command of (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) then advanced up the main road, &amp; eventually made</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>

contact with the Japs, who were occupying the high ground at approx (962376 & 960378 - 1/25,000 SAINGAUNG No3). Leading troops of D Coy were held up temporarily, but Major Chisholm MC (OC D Coy) managed to get things moving very soon. The tanks were brought up to give close support to this coy, & the leading tank was about to go off the road when a 75mm gun opened up at 100 yds range & knocked it out. The Commanding Officer & the Squadron Commander were both near this tank & Major Dinsdale the Squadron Commander was unfortunately wounded. Two other tanks engaged the 75MM gun & eliminated it plus the crew of 4 Japs. The countryside has changed from open desert country to open jungle country, which meant that tactics had to be switched considerably to suit the ground. D Coy was being held up again by heavy fire & so the CO put C Coy under command of Major Hayes on a left flanking movement to cut the Japs off. This was very successful, & after a "ding-dong" battle these Japs had to withdraw leaving us in possession of the high ground & the precious water which was the real objective. By 1700 hrs the Jap was really on the run except for occasional sniping & mortaring. Our B echelon tpt was whisked up & the Bn took up defensive positions covering the road from the high ground, round the water area & settled in for the night. Our days loot consisted of 2 - 75MM guns, 1 - 105MM gun, 1 - 4" mortar, 22 bodies plus those still unlocated & some equipment. Our own casualties were 2 tanks, 3 killed & 4 wounded. Digging in & wiring went on until completed & up till 2349 hrs we had not been counter-attacked or shelled as we expected.

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

1st to 31st MAY

1945

**WAR DIARY**

REF MAPS

Army Form C.2118

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence  
Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. I.  
Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

OR  
~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~  
(Erase heading not required)

1/25,000 SAINGAUNG No2 (a) ORIGINAL  
" " No3 (b) DUPLICATE  
" " No4 (c) TRIPLICATE

2ND BN K.O.S.BORDERERS

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
<p><u>1st MAY - MILESTONE</u> <u>16 near ZIAING -</u> <u>PYAWBWE</u></p> <p>- <u>.571 - PYAWBWE</u></p>	<p>After a very quiet but rainy night which the Bn spent with no cover at all. The CO (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) verbally gave out orders that the Bn plus all sub units under command ie tanks, RA, RE, VCP (RAF Visual Control Post) &amp; MMGs would advance up the main road &amp; take the village of PYAWBWE (869325 - 1/25,000 SINGAUNG No4). One troop of guns would remain in previous position with HQ Coy, Admin Coy, B Echelon &amp; 1 Pl MMG to protect them, &amp; to hold the area of the high ground &amp; water (9536 - 1/25,000 No3). At 0700 hrs the Bn less the above elements move out with C Coy as advance guard troops, followed by 1 troop of tanks, A Coy &amp; Tac HQ, Bn HQ, D Coy &amp; Sappers. The advance had been preceded by B Coy who left our present area at 0300 hrs &amp; who had orders to open the road &amp; establish themselves at .571 (893322 - 1/25,000 No3). At 0715 hrs word was received that B Coy had surprised a small party of Japs having breakfast, who had run away at MS 20¼, &amp; that B Coy was established at MS 20 (905343 - 1/25,000 No4). Patrols from B Coy had heard MT coming from the NORTH on the track that joined the main road at (901344 - 1/25,000 No3). They were investigating. By 0815 hrs the leading elements - C Coy had contacted B Coy &amp; the Column started passing through B Coy on its advance to PYAWBWE. Due to the fact that the ground was undulating, &amp; visibility extremely bad, the tanks could not be deployed &amp; consequently the advance was slow since the tanks were road bound. The advance continued slowly, &amp; by 1000 hrs we had reached point 571 without meeting any opposition. The CO decided to hold this dominating high ground &amp; left A Coy under command of Major Chisholm MC to hold this area. B Coy was ordered up from MS 20 to join the Bn &amp; to be in reserve on catching us up.</p> <p>All went well until Milestone 23 (878324 - 1/25,000 - No4) when C Coy deployed right &amp; left of the road &amp; with a platoon covering the tanks on the road, arrived at this place. A 75mm Japanese gun opened up at point blank range - 50 yards to be exact &amp; knocked out 1 tank immediately, killing 1 man &amp; wounding another of the tanks</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>

- .571 - PYAWBWE

crew. Over & above all this hell seemed to be let loose & for a few minutes nobody quite knew what was going on. Another tank engaged this 75mm gun & eliminated it, but no sooner was this done than a 105mm gun opened up on us. Tac HQ with the Commanding Officer (Lt Colonel HRR Conder OBE) was up in the midst of all this & the CO ordered C Coy to push on. During this battle the wounded tank Commander was unable to get out of his tank since he had his leg shattered, so Lieut Thomas & Pte Leigh of C Company, under extremely heavy fire & regardless of their own personal safety dashed across to the tank & brought the wounded man back to what cover was available. A fine job of work indeed & an excellent example to all under his command. - C Coy by this time had pushed on but were meeting stiff opposition & having a good battle. Lieut Hannah & Pte McEwan were both wounded at this stage. The Battle was dragging on with C Coy so the CO ordered Major Turnbull to take D Company round by the right flank & to come in from the track running from the NORTH to SOUTH & so onto the village itself. D Coy did this & had covering fire put down on the village to eliminate Japs who were also holding up C Coy. By 1445 hrs D Coy contacted C Coy, & then the CO pushed B Coy under Major Courtenay-Hood through C & D Coys to mop up the village itself. This was done successfully but the battle started up in C Coys area in the SOUTH of the village, during which action No 3193805 L/Cpl W Ferguson and No 14350349 Pte J McGuire were killed outright. Captain Ferguson was given a target from C Coy, & using his 3" Mortars as a Battery played havoc with some Japs in the valley. - The Jap started withdrawing & by 1700 hrs all was quiet except for the occasional bangs made by the troops mopping up. At 1715 hrs the Japs started shelling the area of the road near MS 23, but was off his mark, & as our transport was well dispersed, he caused no damage. Our artillery engaged this gun & it was thought to have been destroyed. A 25 arty OP later reported gun damaged. Another gun was later reported at the WEST side of the village being drawn away by horses. This was engaged & destroyed, including horses & limber & crew. PYAWBWE (869325 - 25,000 No4) now cleared wasn't tactically good to hold since it was overlooked by high ground all round, so the CO (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) ordered the Bn & troops under command less Dog Coy who were to stay in the village back to .571 for the night. The Bn 2/I/C (Major Rose) went back & laid out the Bn area & by 1800 hrs digging & wiring was in full swing. We lost one Lee tank, had 3 killed & 3 wounded, against a bag of 1 - 105mm gun, 2 horses, 1 limber, 1 - 75mm gun, possibly another 105mm out

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	<p>of action &amp; an estimated total of 51 Jap bodies. The Brigadier (WA Crowther DSO) visited us, &amp; expressed his pleasure at the fine work put up by the Bn, &amp; supporting arms. An order of the day issued by General Sir Oliver Leese was read out to the men today, which said we were taking Rangoon &amp; how pleased he was with the work &amp; spirit put in during our recent advance. He wished all ranks the best of luck in the last phase of the battle for Burma. No men were admitted to hospital today, &amp; 1 man rejoined the Bn today. After this hard days fighting over torturous country, the Bn settled down to a well earned &amp; peaceful night up to 2359 hrs at any rate.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p><u>2nd MAY - .571 - PYAWBWE</u></p>	<p>At 0445 hrs a report was received from Major Turnbull OC D Coy that jitter parties at long range were sniping &amp; grenading his positions. No damage was being done by the Japs, &amp; he was under the impression that the Jap was up to his usual tricks of giving covering fire to cover parties getting out wounded &amp; dead bodies. - The Jap always takes great care to get away his dead. - Throughout the morning D Coy was popping off the odd Jap &amp; got 6 in one party alone, otherwise all was quiet. At 1100 hrs the Commanding Officer (Lt Colonel HRR Conder OBE) held an R&amp;O group, informed us that 89th Bde was being relieved by 114th Bde, &amp; that we were being relieved of our commitments on the 3rd May. The Bn was going to MINBU (1652 - ¼" 84L) on the 4th May, &amp; was to have 2 days rest prior to the whole Brigade's advance to the SOUTH (details of this still unknown). Since our own transport was required for ferrying the 4/5th Gurkha Battalion up to .571 (892323 - 1/25,000 No4) the following day the CO decided to send all heavy kit direct to MINBU under command of the Bn 2/I/C Major Rose, so that only personnel &amp; essentials for Battle needed to be moved on the 3rd May. At 2400 hrs our MT, plus colour parties &amp; Coy 2/I/C left .571 for MINBU, taking tools, PRI, Officers Mess, Orderly Room, Rations, QM Stores, Reserve ammunition, Signal kit, MT Stores etc with them. On arrival at MINBU areas were allotted to Coys &amp; the place prepared for the Bns arrival on the 4th May. Our transport returned to SAINGAUNG where it harboured for the night 2nd/3rd May, prior to lifting 4/5th GR up to relieve our Bn early on the morning of the 3rd May. Up to 2359 hrs all was quiet.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p><u>3rd MAY - .571 - PYAWBWE</u> - <u>SAINGAUNG</u> - <u>MINBU</u></p>	<p>At 0800 hrs the first lift of transport arrived at our HQs bringing the relieving Bn the 4/5th Gurkhas. These were unloaded &amp; HQ Coy &amp; B Coy were taken on our MT straight through to SAINGAUNG (0345 - 84L/16). D Coy at the village of PYAWBWE (869325 - 1/25,000 No4)</p>	

	<p>were relieved by 1 Company of 4/5th G Rifles, &amp; after the hand over they (D Coy) marched up to Bn HQ area at .571 (893322 - 1/25,000 - No3), where they were lifted in transport &amp; taken ahead to MINBU (1550 - 84L/16), along with A Coy where their 2/I/C of Companies met them &amp; showed them into their respective areas. B Coy, C Coy &amp; HQ Coy concentrated in the village SAINGAUNG, &amp; stayed the night there, ready for a short march of 9 miles to MINBU the next day. The remainder of the day was spent in resting, in the case of B, C &amp; HQ Coys, &amp; A &amp; D Coys, in cleaning out bungalows, making them habitable &amp; clean for our short stay in MINBU. A mobile cinema &amp; a recording van were obtained &amp; arrangements for Toc H, &amp; football was laid on now that the Bn could make full use of these amenities, when completely settled in. Eight men were admitted to hospital today.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p><u>4th MAY</u> - <u>MINBU</u></p>	<p>After an excellent nights rest in comfortable houses the Bn had breakfast at 0800 hrs, &amp; had obviously enjoyed a long lie in bed with boots off - the first time for months! B Coy, C Coy &amp; HQ Coy marched in from SAINGAUNG, &amp; arrived at our rest area at about 1130 hrs. The Bn settled down throughout the day, and bathing &amp; washing parties were organised so that the men could get really clean once more. Torn clothes were repaired &amp; the QM (Lt JF Macdonald) managed to obtain 500 bush-jackets, which he issued to the men. Arms &amp; ammunition were carefully cleaned &amp; checked, &amp; deficiencies &amp; spare parts issued where necessary. At 1400 hrs, there was inter-company football, matches were in full swing &amp; thoroughly enjoyed by all ranks. At 1600 hrs the Commanding Officer (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) had all the Company Commanders together, for the purpose of discussing domestic matters, such as learner cooks, reinforcements, dress &amp; turnout, state of discipline &amp; equipment etc. At 1830 hrs an ENSA show was broadcast to the men on the football ground &amp; followed immediately by a picture show put on by the Mobile cinema. This show lasted until 2200 hrs, then the Bn returned for the night. The weather has now completely broken &amp; we are experiencing heavy rains both during the day &amp; the night. Every man is under cover now so the state of the weather doesn't matter meantime to us. Thirteen men were admitted to hospital today the majority suffering from jungle sores.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p>- <u>MINBU</u></p>	<p>Reveille was at 0700 hrs this morning followed by breakfasts at 0800 hrs. This enabled the men to have another long lie &amp; gave them a chance to recuperate. At 1000 hrs the CO held an R&amp;O group, &amp;</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p><u>5th MAY</u> - <u>MINBU</u></p>		

- MINBU

informed us that we would be starting out tomorrow moving at 0700 hrs, to catch up the remainder of the Brigade who had made off to the SOUTH 2 days ahead of us. The first stage of the journey was for the Bn to march half the distance, to be ferried in MT the remainder of the distance to the small town of MINHLA (3325 - 85M/1) where we would harbour for the night, prior to pushing on in a SOUTH WESTERLY direction into the hills, the object of this move being to once more cut the Japs L of C, & put them in the bag as they were pushed from the NORTH by our 114th Bde & the BNA towards us, who would form a Brigade Block & mop him up. Timings & MT allotment were given out, then Coy Commanders returned to Companies to give out their orders. At 1400 hrs a draft of reinforcements, some 123 men, arrived for us, plus 32 men of the Bn who were either on UK Leave or ex-hospital. The draft was eagerly awaited & the necessary preparations for the arrival were made. When these men had been fed the Commanding Officer (Lt Colonel HRR Conder OBE) spoke to them, welcomed them into the Bn, & put them in the picture as to our recent battles & what our future was to be as far as we know. After the CO had finished the men were detailed for Companies & taken to their respective Companies by the C.S.M. Once again at 1830 hrs a musical concert was broadcast to the men, followed by the news which was well received, ie the news of the capitulation of Holland, Denmark & NW Europe. The news that Rangoon has fallen was received in great cheering since it directly concerned the men more so than the European news. - This was followed by another Picture Show, & so to bed to have as much rest as possible for an early start on the 6th May. - Men are in good heart, & morale is up 100% these days. Ten men were admitted to hospital today, including Lieut Craig of B Company. Major Turnbull proceeded on 28 days UK leave today.

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6th MAY - MINBU -  
KONGYI.

Reveille was at 0500 hrs this morning & breakfasts at 0600 hrs. At 0700 hrs the CO (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) with his Tac HQ, plus A & C Coys & a portion of HQ Comp, set off as advance party to MINHLA (3225 - 85M/1) to recce an area there for the Bn. On arrival at MINHLA, it was found that we had more time than we had allotted for our MT turn-round & so this party went forward to the village of KONGYI (2520 - 85I/13) & recced a Bn site there, beside the chaung. MT was sent back to pick up B & D Coys & our remaining HQ Coy, plus the Bn B Echelon, & by 1700 hrs the whole Bn was in the new area, a good 6 or 7 miles in advance of our timetable. The remainder of the Brigade had 2 days clear start & it was our task to catch them up.

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We had been very successful so far & hoped to be within striking distance of Bde the following day. The Bn made full use of the pools in the chaung & once more took the opportunity to bathe & wash all clothing. Since there was no immediate danger of Japs coming upon us, small slit trenches & bed scrapes were all that was prepared for the evening. No wire was put up tonight. At 1900 hrs the CO held an R&O group, gave us the latest information on the Bde disposition & gave out orders for the days march tomorrow, plus the transport allotment. Bde HQ plus the 4/8 GR & 136 Fd Regt were all at YENANMA (0402 - 85I/14), whilst the 1/11 Sikhs were to the WEST, positions not exactly known. The 4/8 & 1/11 Sikhs were in contact with the enemy. Our next destination for the Bn was in the area of the water at (095105 - 85I/13) where we would harbour for the night & await further orders from the Brigade Commander. Four men were admitted to hospital today, none returned from hospital. Sgt Hogg, Cpl Faulkner HQ Coy went off to escort back Cpl Munro to the Bn since he is required to be tried by Court Martial.

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7th MAY - KONGYI -  
WATERHOLE AT (095105 -  
85I/13)

The Bn "stood-to" at 0500 hrs having spent a restful & quiet night. Breakfasts were at 0600 hrs & by 0700 hrs the Commanding Officer (Lt-Colonel HRR Conder OBE) with his Tac HQ, cookhouses, A & C Coys & a Portion of HQ Coy left for our new area about 16 miles away at the water (095105 - 85I/13). The remainder of the Bn spent a pleasant time bathing & washing & resting until the transport returned for them at 1000 hrs. - On this lift B & D Coys plus the remainder of HQ were lifted & taken forward to a debussing point at approximately (160159 - 85I/13). The Companies debussed & marched the remaining 4 to 5 miles to the new Bn area. The transport then returned to KONGYI (2520 - 85I/13) & lifted the remainder of the Bn & B Echelon. Our A/T personnel & mules marched from KONGYI to the new area, arriving at 1700 hrs in fine form. At 1645 hrs the monsoon rains descended upon us in all its might, & everybody was soaked to the skin, since we had no cover prepared in time. The QM (Lt Macdonald) when returning from Bde HQ with rations, found that the water in the chaung had risen by 2' to 3' in 20 minutes. A 15 cwt with bread on it slipped into the chaung which was then 2 to 3 feet deep. It bogged, & nothing would move it. After an hour the water level had risen so rapidly that the 15 cwt completely vanished from sight, & likewise our bread. The remainder of the rations were OK, & the rum & safely arrived back in camp at about 1900 hrs. Bn dispositions were round the water hole the road being the centre line. Starting from the WEST, C Coy from the road was

<p><u>8th MAY - WATERHOLE</u> <u>(095105 - 85I/13)</u></p>	<p>met by A Coy, the half circle continued on until B Coy who went round to meet D Coy who crossed astride the road &amp; linked up with HQ Coy, who on the SOUTH of the road linked up with C Coy at the NORTH of the road, thus making a complete circle. Admin Coy, the tanks &amp; the guns were inside the perimeter. 1 man to hospital today.</p> <p>An order was received at 0045 hrs from Bde HQ ordering us to remain in our present area until further orders. At 0500 hrs the Bn "Stood-to" &amp; after stand-down started cleaning up clothes etc which had been soaked &amp; made dirty by the night before's rain. Our MT got down to the badly needed day of maintenance, since our vehicles have practically been running non-stop for weeks now. The 15 cwt which was flooded yesterday was recovered after a hectic mornings work, &amp; later our pioneer platoon went out &amp; improved the road, preparatory to our moving on in the near future. At 1500 hrs the C.O. (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) went to see the Brigadier at YENANMA (0402 - 85I/13). At 1700 hrs the CO returned &amp; held an R&amp;O group. We were given orders for the move on the 9th May &amp; our destination was to be the village of LINKE (2091 - 85I/14). We were going off as a column of our own with our eventual destination as THAYETMYO (4746 - 85M/3). We were moving in MT for the move to LINKE, &amp; for this were allotted 5 x 3 tonners &amp; 8 x 16 cwts extra over our normal Bn transport. We are having under command - 1 Bty - 25 pounders, 1 Platoon Sappers with a Bulldozer, 1 Company (ADS) &amp; 1 Section of L.A.D. Workshops. The ADS &amp; Sappers are joining us at YENANMA tomorrow as we pass through Bde HQ. 1 Platoon of MMGs remains under command. News of war in Europe ending was received very casually by the men, &amp; even though they did not express much enthusiasm, one could hear the odd sigh of relief, as the men realised that one milestone was really successfully passed. Everybody looking forward to more men, materials coming out soon, &amp; repatriation period to be lowered.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p><u>9th MAY - WATERHOLE AT</u> <u>(095105 - 85I/13) -</u> <u>LINKE</u></p>	<p>At 0400 hrs the Bn was up &amp; about &amp; by 0500 hrs had finished an excellent breakfast. At 0545 hrs the CO (Lt-Col HRR Conder OBE) with his Tac HQ went forward to meet C Company who had left slightly ahead to act as advance guard to the Bn. At 0600 hrs the Main Body in the following Order of March moved out in MT for our days objective, the village of LINKE (2091 - 85I/13). Bn HQ, HQ Coy, B Coy, D Coy. A Company with 1 Pl MMGs remained behind as rearguard for B Echelon until they could be ferried forward. The</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>

road to YENANMA (0402 - 85I/13) from the water hole was quite good going, but from YENANMA onwards to MINDEGALE (1197 - 85I/14) was exceptionally twisty, narrow & rough, with the result that progress was very slow. All personnel debussed here & marched on to LINKE on foot since it was an advance to contact & it was not known whether the enemy were in occupation of the village or not. By 1600 hrs the advance guard had reached LINKE, secured it & found it empty. The main body arrived at about 1620 hrs & were given defensive areas making a close circle perimeter with the guns, sappers, ADS, LAD & Bn HQ, HQ Coy & Admin Coys as the inner defence. B Coy were not included in this defensive area, but were ordered to occupy the high ground across the chaung at (206913 - 85I/13), since they were moving out at first light the following morning. The CO held an R&O group at 1900 hrs & gave out orders for the advance on to the village of PUNNGE (2481 - 85I/13), & as all was going well on to LEWA (2878 - 85M3). The Bn was finally concentrated in LINKE by 2000 hrs, & would have been much quicker had the road not collapsed & a 3 tonner blocked the road. Nine men admitted to hospital today, - mostly fever cases.

10th MAY - LINKE -  
PUNNGE - LEWA

We experienced another very wet & miserable night but at the crack of dawn, B Company were on their way southwards to establish themselves & consolidate on the high ground over the TANYAUNG CHAUNG at (240857 - 85I/14), & await the arrival of the main body. A Coy was advance guard to the main body, with D Coy bringing up the rear. The C.O. (Lieut Colonel HRR Conder OBE) with his Tac HQ went forward to see B Company & get the latest picture. C Coy with the MMGs protected our B Echelon & were ready to gather in our supplies which are now being air-dropped to us. At 1230 hrs a very successful air-drop took place at LINKE (2091 - 85I/13), only sugar & bacon being short. - No cigarettes were dropped which is bad, since we are on short rations as it is. - Meanwhile the Bn had passed through B Company, & were marching well in spite of the terrible heat, which is about its peak. - Men are feeling it badly, & cases of exhaustion are becoming more frequent as we go SOUTHWARDS. - By 1400 hrs the main body was established in the village of PUNNGE (2481 - 85I/14) & no enemy contacted. The Commanding Officer then pushed A Company down the road, & by 1530 hrs had cleared & searched the village, only bagging 1 Jap in so doing. Since it was getting late the CO decided to keep A Coy where it was, & also the main body to stay at PUNNGE. Once again the Bn made a closely defended locality for the night with our guns, ADS,

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<p><u>11th MAY - PUNNGE - LEWA</u> - <u>INLE</u></p>	<p>Sappers etc as inner defence. A patrol from A Coy to the village of TALOKPIN (2674 - 85I/14) had a short pitch battle with some Jap, as a result of which we claim 5 bodies. Bn settled down for the night having dug themselves in &amp; wire put up. At 1900 hrs the C.O. gave out verbal orders for tomorrow, our task being to establish ourselves at INLE (2969 - 85M/2). Ten men were evacuated to hospital today.</p> <p><u>Topography</u> - the type of country we are now passing through at present is back to thick jungle with bamboo &amp; thick scrub. The countryside has small hill features on it, &amp; to our EAST &amp; WEST the hills average a height of 1600 feet to 2000 feet. Chaungs are plentiful, some containing water. Water is the big problem &amp; is very scarce. Villages are few &amp; far between &amp; are always in a very dirty &amp; unhealthy state.</p> <p><u>Climatic Conditions</u> We are now in the dry belt of Burma, which makes marching very unpleasant for troops. We have experienced heavy monsoon rains for the past 4 or 5 days. Very cooling when it lasts but unpleasant when the sun comes out again. Humidity is high in this part of the world. Temperature is about 118 - 120° in the shade.</p> <p><u>General Health</u> The men are physically fit, but find marching through this type of country in this hot weather extremely exhausting. Case of heat exhaustion is increasing. Malaria cases are about normal, but most of our hospital admissions are due to jungle sores which turn septic very quickly.</p> <p>At 0545 hrs the Commanding Officer (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) &amp; his Tac HQ moved forward to contact Major Chisholm MC OC A Company, &amp; await the arrival of the main body. The main body left PUNNGE at 0600 hrs, leaving behind B Company plus the MMG Platoon to protect the guns, B Echelon transport, &amp; also to assist with the collection of the air drop. At 1200 hrs the main body had arrived at the village of INLE (2970 - 85M/2) &amp; took up defensive locality there for the night. So far we haven't managed to catch up with the hastily retreating Japs, but we have definite knowledge that their main body is only 12 hours ahead of us. We discovered 2 x 105mm guns which had been abandoned by the Jap, &amp; also 6 lorries &amp; 4 Staff Cars. We also killed one lone Jap on our advance today. At 1700 hrs the CO gave out verbal orders for tomorrow's move, our objective being the village of TOKKAING (3531 - 85M/3). Up to</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
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<p><u>12th MAY</u> - TOKKAING - <u>YEBWET.</u></p>	<p>midnight no attacks or disturbances broke the peace. Four men were evacuated sick today to hospital.</p> <p>After a very peaceful night the Bn "stood-to" at 0500 hrs, had breakfasts by 0545 hrs &amp; the leading Company which was D Company was ready to move southwards by 0600 hrs. Following immediately behind D Coy was the CO (Lieut-Colonel HRR Conder OBE) &amp; his Tac HQ. At 0615 hrs the Main body with B Coy in the van, HQ Coy with Bn HQ, RAP, 1 troop 500 Bty, Sappers, the mules - A Company followed on in the wake of D Company. C Company was left to guard our B Echelon tpt, 1 troop guns &amp; had the Platoon of MMGs under command to help them. At 0830 hrs 6 Dakotas dropped our supplies (incl RUM) on INLE (2970 - 85M/2), which was collected &amp; sorted ready to be transported forward to TOKKAING (3561 - 85M/2) when we had taken the place, if held by the Jap. All went well as normal &amp; nothing in the way of Japs was seen, with the exception of 1 straggler who met an honourable death. In spite of the state of the road, our sappers with the aid of a bulldozer soon put things right &amp; by 1300 hrs the Bn had arrived in the area of TOKKAING. On the road down the villages of THAPANGON (3563 - 85M/3), MYAUNGAING (3564 - 85M3) and KYIGAN (3663 - 85M/3) had been thoroughly searched, but no enemy were seen. On arrival at TOKKAING the Commanding Officer decided that it was not very good from a tactical point of view, &amp; also that there was no water handy, so after preliminary recces the Bn eventually arrived &amp; took up a defensive all round position at YEBWET (3859 - 85M/3). Water in the chaung was plentiful &amp; good. B Echelon, MMGs, remainder of the guns &amp; C Company were ordered up, &amp; by 1800 hrs the Bn was well dug in &amp; ready for anything. An order was received from Bde HQ that at 1200 hrs today we come under command of 268th Brigade. We established communications with them &amp; awaited further orders. It had been a hard days march, but the men were in good heart &amp; enjoyed their rum rations. Seven men to hospital today.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p><u>13th MAY</u> - <u>YEBWET.</u></p>	<p>Once more we had a peaceful but extremely wet night, since a terrific monsoon storm broke, blew away tarpaulins etc, with dramatic results. Orders were received from the Brigade Commander of 268th Bde, under whose command we now are, for a short period at any rate. On receipt of these orders, the gist of which was that we had to patrol &amp; if possible occupy the villages of SAKANGYI (4050 - 85M/3) and PADAUKPIN (3751 - 85M/3), in which were reported 500 Japs &amp; 300 Japs in each village respectively. The CO (Lt Col HRR</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>

Conder OBE) had anticipated such orders, & D Company, with 1 Pl MMGs, & 1 Sec Mortars were actually on their way SOUTH to investigate the village of BAW (3954 - 85M/3) & if possible push on to the road & track junction at (385522 - 84N/3). The CO & his Tac HQ accompanied D Coy, & 1 Bty of 25 pounders were standing by to give them close support should they require it. B Company was also on ½ hours notice to assist or reinforce success, as the advance turned out. By 1200 hrs D Company were established at the road & track junction & proceeded to dig & wire themselves in. We had a good air drop today & mail was dropped on us by L5s. The C.O. ordered the Sappers to build a light air strip for L5s, this being sited on the paddy at approx (385595 - 85M/3). We asked 89 Bde HQ for a test plane at 1200 hrs, but it did not arrive until 1330 hrs. At 1400 hrs the Brigade Commander of 268 Bde landed & was met by the C.O. He put us in the picture regarding his Bdes dispositions, & gave the CO his orders for further operations. He was exceptionally pleased with the Bns quick movement & expressed his pleasure about this. We evacuated 26 men by plane today, sick men from the ADS. One L5 crashed due to the pilot's misjudgement, & we supplied a guard for watching the plane. Remainder of the day nothing to report. The CO held an R&O group & gave out orders for the Bn to concentrate on D Coy at the track & road junction. Nine men were admitted to ADS today.

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14th MAY - YEBWET -  
NATHE

The weather has cleared up again & before the main body & tpt went up the road, the Sappers with their bulldozer finished off muddy parts & made the road usable again. B Company acted as advance guard to the Bn today, & with the Commanding Officer (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) & his Tac HQ, left YEBWET (3860 - 85M/3) at 0645 hrs. The main body followed at 0700 hrs in the following order of march. C Coy, Main HQ, HQ Coy, RAP & D Coy - A Company plus MMGs & the Bn HQ Pl were left behind to protect our tail ie - ADS, B Echelon tpt & the guns. At 0600 hrs 3 planes - Dakotas dropped our supplies & POL near D Coy's positions at the track & road junction at (385522 - 85M/3). - This was only a low drop & quite a number of items were lost in the jungle. D Coy sent out fighting patrols to SAKANGYI (4051 - 85M/3) and to PADAUKPIN (3751 - 85M/3). The CO decided that since we had made good time, he would advance to NATHE (3350 - 85M/3). Advanced troops found 3 Japs near water hole there - wounded 2 probably killed the third member. - Bodies not yet recovered. B Coy got into NATHE OK, & so the CO whisked up D Coy & A Coy to this area. By 1630 hrs the dispositions along the main

15th MAY - KYAUKKYI

road were as follows, the Bn remaining in these positions for the night 14th/15th May, C Coy protecting 1 troop of 25 pounders at PADAUKPIN (3751 - 85M/3), B Company at (343511 - 85M/3), Bn HQ & HQ Coy & Admin Coys centre point (339509 - 85M/3) with 1 troop 25 pounders inside the perimeter, D Company centre point at (336509 - 85M/3) and A Company at the area of the village of YEMYET (276503 - 85M/3), with 1 Pl MMGs under command. The Bn was well spread out, but certainly will be able to deal with any enemy who come from the NORTH. Nine men were admitted to hospital today.

Throughout the night we experienced very heavy rain, but we were not unduly perturbed about it, now that we have a metal road under our feet, & can move our transport & guns at lib. The Bn stood to at 0445 hrs, & at 0600 hrs had a late breakfast. We were all set to have a quiet days rest except for patrolling in NATHE (3350 - 85M/3), & so be able to patch up our clothes which are literally falling off our backs, & our weapons to be thoroughly cleaned up. This did not materialize since an order from 268 Bde arrived ordering us to move to KYAUKKYI (1949 - 85I/15) immediately. This order was originated at 1630 hrs on the 14th May, & had taken 15 hrs to get to us, since we only received it at 0730 hrs this morning. The Commanding Officer (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) called for his R&O group & orders were given out for the Bn to move at 0830 hrs, that is the leading troops. B Coy acted as advance guard & set off on time, the main body leaving at 0900 hrs in the following order of march. Tac HQ, Main Bn HQ, HQ Coy, Sappers, mules & C Coy. D Coy sent a pl to collect the air drop in C Coys position & PADAUKPIN (3751 - 85M/3), thus relieving C Coy. D Coy remained at NATHE & protected the guns, ADS & B Echelon. A Coy was still forward at YEMYET (2650 - 85M/3) & had sent patrols up to MS 17½ (235523 - 85I/15) to clear the road for us. By 1500 hrs the Bn less C Coy who had relieved A Coy at YEMYET, arrived safely at KYAUKKYI, & had taken up an all round defensive position on the high ground around the village. Water from the PANI CHAUNG is plentiful & good, & the village itself is clean & undamaged by the retreating Japs. B Echelon & C Coy were ordered up & by 1730 hrs the whole Bn was concentrated & ready to settle down for the night. Nothing in the way of enemy was seen except 5 odd Japs 1 of whom was killed & 3 wounded. Five men were admitted to hospital today.

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

16th MAY - KYAUKKYI

Throughout the night there was nothing to report, & since communications were bad due to atmospheres, we assumed that we

remained here until further orders. - We now have to keep communication with both 89 Bde & 268 Bde on our 22 Sets. Ranges are long & the thick jungle does NOT lend itself to long range wireless communications. The Commanding Officer (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) decided that since we are NOT moving as yet, he decided to do some patrolling to look for Japs, & also to get reports on tracks, bridges etc to the SOUTH & WEST from KYAUKKYI (1949 - 85I/15). The following patrols were accordingly sent out. 1 Patrol from A Coy to PAZINDA (1848 - 85I/15) reported NES. Another patrol from A Coy went to PYINAING (1843) & had nothing to report. C Coy had a fighting patrol to YEGYANZIN (0753 - 85I/15) & reported the village clear of enemy. D Coy sent out 2 fighting patrols to the villages of YAW-YWA (1148 - 85I/15) & one to THAKUTKYAW (140452 - 85I/15), which saw no enemy & reported the village clear. An operation Order was received from 268 Bde HQ, & the gist of the order was this. Our Bn with 1 Pl Sappers, 1 Coy ADS, 23 MTN Regt, & 50 mules from 63 AT Coy RIASC, to be known as "CONCOL", were to advance to KAMA (3710 - 85M/4) entirely on an all front basis & that the probable date of this move would be 20th May. The route to be taken was via SINGAW (1934 - 85I/15), & KYIMI (2430 - 85I/15) - WETTO (2820 - 85M/4) thence to KAMA. Load tables were prepared ready for the Commanding Officer (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) for his preliminary orders to his R&O group. Five men were evacuated to hospital today. - Our Sappers constructed a light airstrip today at (188499 - 85I/15) & an L5 landed at 1600 hrs & franked the strip as OK for planes. Up to midnight, there was nothing else to report.

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

17th MAY - KYAUKKYI

Throughout the night there was nothing to report, & no parties of enemy came near us. Stand-to was at 0445 hrs & the Bn had late breakfasts at 0700 hrs. It is raining hard at present, but is only lasting about 1 hour. The ground dries up fairly quickly at present & shows no real signs of becoming a quagmire. At 0530 hrs Dakotas started dropping our supplies, & throughout the day at odd intervals, dropped supplies for 89 Bde. 89 Bde hope soon to strike the main road near YEGYANZIN (0753 - 85I/15), & so make contact with us. An L5 dropped official mail to us, & gave us latest information of other troops movements over a loud speaking apparatus which is fixed to the undercarriage. In answer to their questions we reply by strips. The CO (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) held an R&O group at 1130 hrs today & gave out his preliminary orders for the move to KAMA (3710 - 85M/4). At 1400 hrs there was the CO Orderly Room & 10 ORs were summarily of by him. The Animal



	<p>Transport Officer (Lieut McNish) took a patrol of 10 men from the A/T Section, mounted on mules, to recce the state of the track to SINGAW (1934 - 85I/16), the chaung crossing there, &amp; so this little cavalcade set off at 0800 hrs. On arriving at PYINAING (1843 - 85I/15) the track petered out, &amp; by the time it took him to discover the correct road to SINGAW it was getting late &amp; he had to return having failed to make his objective. Nothing else to report throughout the day. Lights of MT were reported travelling from NW to the SOUTH in the area of YEGYANZIN, &amp; so we got in touch with 89 Bde &amp; had it confirmed that they were using MT with lights. Two men were evacuated sick today to hospital.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p><u>18th MAY</u> - <u>KYAUKKYI</u></p>	<p>Throughout the night we had no disturbances &amp; there was nothing to report. Almost immediately after stand-down at 0530 hrs, Dakotas started dropping our supplies to us, also supplies for the remainder of the Bde. We have employed Burmese locals to help with the collection of these drops to save our manpower situation. At 0900 hrs an L5 with despatches landed on the strip, &amp; we were able to send out some mail. Casualties were flown out, also our sick personnel. At 1030 hrs the Commanding Officer (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) went up for a flight to recce the area of SINGAW (1934 - 85I/16) &amp; the chaung crossing, which he verified as crossable for mules. A Coy had also a 24 hrs patrol under command of Capt Culpin doing the same job, &amp; also to ensure that the area to SINGAW is clear of enemy. Major-General GC Evans DSO Commander 77 Ind Division paid us a "Flying Visit" &amp; expressed his pleasure with the Bn for the quickness they had shown in getting to the main road. At 1200 hrs we sent a pl from HQ to escort the 63rd Mule Coy to KYAUKKYI (1949 - 85I/15) &amp; at 1330 hrs they had arrived &amp; were given an area inside the Bn perimeter. - A patrol from C Company to YEGYANZIN (0753 - 85I/15) contacted the 1/11 Sikhs &amp; representatives of 89 Bde HQ. A representative from the 23rd Mtn Bty arrived, &amp; was given an area into which his mules &amp; guns would stay in, on their arrival here. 500 Bty now comes under command of 89 Bde again &amp; remain in this area when we move out on the 20th May. Throughout the day there was nothing else to report. Nine men rejoined the Battalion from hospital today, &amp; three men were admitted to hospital. Jungle sores are our main cause of high rate of sickness at present.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p><u>19th MAY</u> - <u>KYAUKKYI</u> - <u>SINGAW</u></p>	<p>At 0430 hrs the Bn "stood-to" - manning gun-posts only, whilst the remainder of the Bn prepared for the move out. Breakfasts were at</p>	

<p><u>21st MAY - SINGAW - THAMBAYAKYIN</u></p>	<p>0500 hrs. At 0630 hrs A Company with 1 Sec Mortars under command &amp; the Commanding Officer (Lt-Colonel HRR Conder OBE) with his Tac HQ, moved out across the chaung, &amp; set off for SINGAW (1934 - 85I/16) which was our destination for the night. At 0700 hrs the Main body moved out in the following order of march. Bn HQ &amp; O group, B Coy, HQ Coy, 23 Mtn Bty, Bn mules &amp; B Echelon mules with D Coy bringing up the rear. The route taken was this. KYAUKKYI (1949 - 85I/15) across chaung up the track to track junction at (193484 - 85I/15) thence to main track at point 639 (176473 - 85L/15) SOUTH down main track to the village of (200400 - 85I/15) thence to KAZUNMYAUNG (201392 - 85I/15) thence to the village of AUKMANEIN (195367 - 85I/16) &amp; so to SINGAW. On arrival at SINGAW A Coy contacted C Coy &amp; got the latest information of the enemy. C Coy under command of Major Hayes then pushed on to our next days objective THAMBAYAKYIN (2525 - 85M). The Commanding Officer decided to cross the MINDON CHAUNG &amp; take up defensive positions astride the track &amp; on the high ground near THIGON (189339 - 85I/16). By 1300 hrs the main body had arrived &amp; were disposed of as follows. A Coy from (191300 - 85I/16) to 189336 - 85I/16 linking up with D Coy who extended round to (191330 - 85I/16) &amp; linked up with HQ Coy. HQ connected up with B Coy at (195333 - 85I/16) &amp; so B Coys perimeter extended to the river bank at (197339 - 85I/16). B &amp; A Coys then linked up along the chaung bank making a complete circle. At 1600 hrs the CO gave out orders for the following days march.</p> <p>After an undisturbed night &amp; reports that C Coy was established at THAMBAYAKYIN (2525 - 85M), the Bn moved out in 2 parties for this objective. B Coy &amp; the CO (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) with his Tac HQ moved out at 0700 hrs, &amp; was followed at 0730 hrs by the main body which moved out in the following order of march. Defence Platoon, Bn HQ &amp; O group, D Coy, 23 Mtn Bty, HQ Coy, Bn mules &amp; mule Coy, ADS, &amp; A Coy in the rear. The Bn took the following route, led by local guides. YAMA (230324 - 85I/16) across the hills to the MINDON CHAUNG, across chaung to KYIMI (246300 - 85I/16) thence south past SANYE (243287 - 85I/16), SE to village of TAWMAKIN (2427 - 85M) &amp; so to THAMBAYAKYIN (2525 - 85M) where the leading company B contacted C Company. The CO made a recce of the ground &amp; the Bn took up a close defensive perimeter for the night on the high ground. C Company then pushed on to the village of OKPON (3217 - 85M) where they contacted a company of the MADRAS Regt of 268 Bde. They stayed the night at OKPON, &amp; awaited further orders from the CO. At 1530 hrs the CO held an R&amp;O group &amp; gave out orders for</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
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<p><u>22nd MAY - THAMBAYAKYIN</u> <u>- KAMA</u></p>	<p>tomorrows march on KAMA (3711 - 85M) where it was reported that a large number of Japs were in possession of it. C Coy at 2000 hrs sent a report to say that 2 Coys of the CHAMARS were in KAMA &amp; that the Jap occupied the high ground at (3611 - 85M) in some strength. Although we had only covered 10 miles today, the going had been extremely hard &amp; the men were very tired. We got very wet since it rained heavily at 2030 hrs.</p> <p>After a quiet night &amp; the Bn had stood-down, the Bn prepared for the days march on to KAMA (3711 - 85M). - The Commanding Officer ordered Major Hayes of C Coy to take his Company forward to the high ground near the village of WUTKON at (351151 - 85M) &amp; to await our arrival there, &amp; also to collect the air-drop which was to take place at WUTKON. At WUTKON the CO would give out further orders to the Bn when he had communicated with the Bde Commander of 268 Bde. The Bn moved out in the following order of march at 0630 hrs. D Coy, the Commanding Officer (Lt Colonel HRR Conder OBE) &amp; his Tac HQ, Bn HQ &amp; O group, A Coy, 23 Mtn Bty, Bn &amp; A/T Coy mules, ADS, B Coy. On arrival at WUTKON, the C.O. received orders to proceed to KAMA, &amp; that we were going across the river with a view to rejoining 89 Bde back at THAYETMYO (4748 - 85M). At 1130 hrs the Bn arrived in KAMA, &amp; we received orders that we couldn't cross the river that day but would have to stay the night here. The CO was then given an area to go into for the night with the centre point at approximately (348116 - 85M). The Bn moved on &amp; dug in in a tactical position, &amp; awaited further orders. At 1600 hrs orders were received that we were to relieve 1 Coy of the CHAMAR REGT on the ridge at (355110 - 85M) the following morning. The Jap was still up on the ridge in strength &amp; even although we had not received orders, we anticipated that we would have to take the ridge completely. Throughout the night we were undisturbed but the CHAMAR Coy on the ridge was attacked by a heavy force which they repulsed.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p><u>23rd MAY - KAMA.</u></p>	<p>We received orders from 268 Bde HQ that we had to relieve the Coy of the CHAMARS on the ridge at (355103 - 85M/4), &amp; accordingly D Company under command of Major Doyne-Ditmus relieved them &amp; was in position by 0830 hrs. The Jap was occupying the remainder of the ridge, his strongest positions being at (353106 - 85M/4) &amp; (350110 - 85M/4) &amp; the Bn was given the task of capturing the whole of the KAMA RIDGE north of the MADE CHAUNG. The C.O. (Lt-Colonel HRR Conder OBE) gave out his orders, the gist of them being as follows.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>

The CO decided to attack from the NW with A & B Coys & advance down the ridge from point 399 (328122 - 85M/4), driving along the ridge to the SE into D Coy. We were leaving C Coy, Bn HQ, ADS & mules in our present area at (361110 - 85M/4). The 23 Mountain Bty, & 1 Bty of the 2nd Ind Field Regt were to support us. The MADRAS Regt had taken the features 516 (365092 - 85M/4) & 560 (371081 - 85M/4). At 0645 hrs, D Coy, Tac HQ, RAP, Mortars, Pioneers & B Coy left our present positions & proceeded up the main road to approx (351143 - 85M/4) where they branched off on a compass bearing to bring them out at point 399. After an arduous 6 hours hacking through the jungle this body eventually arrived at point 399, having eliminated a Jap post on the way up. After half an hours rest this body advanced along the ridge, & when they got to approximately (331120 - 85M/4) they came under heavy fire from grenade dischargers, LMGs, MMGs & rifle fire, which enfiladed B Coy. The ridge was so narrow on top & sheer drop on both sides A & B Coys were definitely held up. A Coy pushed through to try & overcome this opposition but again met extremely heavy fire & luckily only had 2 casualties. No progress was made by 1600 hrs, & Major General Evans DSO 77 Div Commander & Brigadier Dyer 268 Bde Commander suggested that 1 Coy should be left at .399 & the remainder return to Admin area. B Coy & Tac HQ stayed out all night & A Coy returned to base. DF fire with the 25 pounders was laid on for B Coy. A Coy of the MADRAS Regt went out at night & took up ambush positions at (359101 - 85M/4) & in the chaung at (351107 - 85M/4). Throughout the night all was quiet with D & B Coys. Rain came down heavily at 2230 hrs and continued all night.

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

24th MAY - KAMA

After a very wet, miserable & cold night, B Coy & Tac HQ got in communication with Bn HQ & reported a quiet night. D Coy also reported having had a quiet undisturbed night, & saw no enemy movement on the hill feature overlooking them. The Commanding Officer (Lt Colonel HRR Conder OBE) ordered B Coy to demonstrate in front of the enemy bunker position, to harass & to pinpoint position. This started at 0615 hrs. Meanwhile C Coy under command Major Hayes left Bn HQ area & proceeded to point 399 (329122 - 85M/4) to relieve B Coy. D Coy meanwhile sent a fighting patrol from the South side of the ridge, & succeeded in getting onto a feature called "HAWICK". Here the patrol found 3 Japs sound asleep with an LMG. The 3 Japs were duly killed, & the LMG sent back to D Coy HQ. This patrol then got onto another hill feature which we called KELSO (355105 - 85M/4) without opposition. Their objective

25th MAY - KAMA

was a place called "PATROL HILL" (353106 - 85M/4) & they were well on their way to reaching the top of this when the Jap opened up from the top of the hill & also from their rear. A ding-dong battle took place, & although our troops were cut off they fought their way out bringing their wounded with them. We had 3 killed & 9 wounded. Jap casualties were unknown. - C Coy had meanwhile relieved B Coy who returned to Bn reserve. C Coy then established a strong point & although our L of C was bad our pioneers made a rough track right up to their Coy HQ. We built up their reserve rations & ammo & water & by nightfall they were well dug in & ready for anything. The CO & his Tac HQ returned to Bn HQ at 1600 hrs. We are still being supplied by air-drops & the QM (Lt JF Macdonald) has commandeered Bullock carts to collect these drops.

Throughout the night all was quiet & not a peep was heard from the enemy. C Coy & D Coy both reported an undisturbed night. At 0600 hrs the Commanding Officer (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) received orders from the Brigade Commander of 268 Brigade to maintain pressure on the enemy positions from the NORTH & SOUTH of KAMA RIDGE, & to take the ridge in our own time. Accordingly the CO ordered A Coy under command of Major Chisholm MC to push through D Coy to take the HAWICK feature firstly, then "KELSO" & so onto "Patrol Hill". C Coy was simultaneously to push from the NORTH onto the bunker positions that had held them up for 3 days. Zero hour was at 0700 hrs. The attacks were to be silent until anything started then we would plaster the enemy positions with 25 pounders & our own 3" Mortars. B Company remained at Bn HQ in reserve. At 0700 hrs both A & C Coys cracked off on their tasks. A Coy got onto "HAWICK" OK & consolidated. They then pushed on to the "KELSO" feature where they found the position unoccupied. This position was consolidated, & by 1100 hrs our men were in possession of PATROL HILL & had linked up with C Coy there. - The C.O. then went to Bde HQ (268 Bde) for orders & was ordered to occupy the following ground & close the gap leading into KAMA (3710 - 85M/4). Our commitments were incl. "PATROL HILL" (350110 - 85M/4) to excl point 516 (364092 - 85M/4). Accordingly the CO ordered B Coy to take over from .516 down the spur to the MADE CHAUNG. D Coy then took over from the chaung to (356103 - 85M/4) & from here A Coy linked up & were responsible to (352107 - 85M/4). C Coy took from here to (350110 - 85M/4). Bn HQ was established at (359103 - 85M/3) with the ADS, HQ Coy & Admin Coy forming a little perimeter on the low ground. This move was completed by 1600 hrs, & by nightfall the Bn was dug in in their

J.R Stewart Capt & Adj

<p><u>26th MAY</u> - <u>KAMA</u></p>	<p>new positions. Bullock carts had to be used to transport our kit &amp; we managed to collect about 100 carts in half an hour. No men were admitted to hospital today. Major Courtenay-Hood OC B Coy, &amp; Captain Arnott - B Coy were admitted to ADS today.</p> <p>Throughout the night there was nothing to report. All through the morning Coys were engaged in bunker positions &amp; preparing their own defensive positions. The CO of the 1/11 Sikhs &amp; his Coy Commanders visited us in the afternoon, with a view to their taking over from us on the 27th. Coy Commanders liaised with our Coy Commanders &amp; were shown round our positions. At 1700 hrs the Commanding Officer (Lt Colonel HRR Conder OBE) gave out orders for our move out across the river, &amp; so back to THAYETMYO (4746 - 85M/3) for our next period in Monsoon Quarters. - At 1900 hrs a message was received to say that the 1/11 Sikhs would not relieve us until the 28th MAY. Major General Evans DSO &amp; Brigadier Dyer paid us a visit today &amp; went round all the Coy areas. - Nothing else to report throughout the day.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p><u>27th MAY</u> - <u>KAMA.</u></p>	<p>After a quiet night the Bn settled down preparing loads for our move out tomorrow. One hundred bullock carts were ordered to report to us at 0600 hrs tomorrow morning since we had no M/T on this side of the river to assist us in the move. The C.O. held an R&amp;O group at 1630 hrs &amp; appointed his embarkation &amp; disembarkation staffs for the River Crossing. Capt Steven liaised with the 44th HAA on the EAST bank of the river, &amp; laid on tpt for ferrying the Bn back to YWATAUNG (5148 - 85M/3) where we were to debus prior to re-crossing the river to THAYETMYO. Nothing else to report for today.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p><u>28th MAY</u> - <u>KAMA</u></p>	<p>At 0400 hrs the Bn was up &amp; our gun posts were manned as the manning was post only. Breakfasts were at 0500 hrs &amp; at 0630 hrs 1 Pl per Coy of the 1/11 SIKHS arrived to take over &amp; relieve our Coys. These platoons were conducted to Coy areas by our Company guides. At 0645 hrs the Bn 2/I/C (Major Rose) &amp; an advance party left to cross the river. The Adjutant (Captain Stewart) with the embarking &amp; disembarking staff arrived at the river at 0700 hrs. The Bn was allotted 1 DUKW, 2 rafts &amp; 10 assault boats from the I.W.T. to ferry themselves across. By 1115 hrs the Bn complete with mules was safely across the river &amp; ready to be embussed in transport at KAMAGAIE (3911 - 85M/4). At 1200 hrs the Divisional Commander Major-General Evans DSO met the C.O. (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE), &amp; told him that the Bn would have to be diverted to deal with</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>

	<p>some Japs who were reported in the village of LETPAGAN (4708 - 85M/4) &amp; numbered approx 500. These Japs had broken through the Bridgehead held by 33 Bde &amp; the General anticipated that they would break for the hills tonight. The CO was given the task of holding 5 miles of road from MS 198 (4610 - 85M/4) &amp; MS 193 (5204 - 85 M/1) &amp; to stop &amp; destroy any enemy who tried to break through. The CO accordingly disposed his troops in a Thin Red line as follows. A Coy - MS 198 - MS 197. D Coy MS 197 - 196. Bn HQ &amp; HQ Coy 196 - 195. C Coy 195 - 193 MS &amp; B Coy MS 193 - 192. An Admin Box was established at the cross roads at (461142 - 85M/4). The Bn dug in &amp; wired positions &amp; waited for any Jap who came our way. Up to 2349 hrs we were not disturbed, but everyone was on his toes &amp; eagerly awaiting the kill.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p><u>29th MAY - MILESTONE</u> <u>195½ (501076 85N/1)</u></p>	<p>Throughout the night all was very quiet except for small parties of Japs probing all along the Bn front looking for a way through. At 0615 hrs about 200-300 Japs broke out of the jungle onto the main road at milestone 195½ (501076 - 85N/1) right opposite Bn HQ &amp; HQ Company positions. Hell broke loose &amp; sharpshooters took full advantage of the initiative &amp; let the Jap have all they had. A real ding-dong battle lasted for 3½ hours at the end of which 130 odd dead Japanese bodies were counted on the ground, including their Battalion Commander (111 Regt - 54 Div from the Arakan). We captured a fair amount of arms &amp; equipment including 1 - 70mm gun, 8 LMGs, 8 Pistols, 8 Swords, Flags, plus ammunition, documents &amp; equipment. C Coy accounted for 12 bodies even although they had been overrun. The 2/8th Punjabs at their rear however copped this little lot &amp; accounted for 77 Bodies - dead. C Coy also got 1 POW. Our own casualties were 7 Killed &amp; 7 Wounded which was light in comparison to the enemy. The road was declared open for traffic at 1000 hrs but on mopping up patrols were still popping off the odd Jap throughout the day. The score by nightfall was 138 bodies &amp; 4 POWs. The remainder of the night was very quiet &amp; up to midnight no more Japs had tried to break through us.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
<p><u>30th MAY - MS 195½</u> <u>(501076 85N/1)</u></p>	<p>At 0500 hrs firing broke out in the Pioneer Platoon area about 150 yds from Bn HQ, their position being at approximately (506097 - 85N/1) &amp; after a skirmish counted 12 more bodies on the ground. The Defence Platoon also accounted for another two bodies &amp; 1 P.O.W. At about 0900 hrs a Japanese Gunner Sergeant dressed in a white shirt &amp; waving a large white piece of cloth, walked into Bn HQ &amp; surrendered himself. He was only too glad to be out of the fighting</p>	

<p><u>31st MAY - MS 195½</u> <u>(501076 85N/1) -</u> <u>THAYETMYO.</u></p>	<p>&amp; seemed very happy to be in our hands as a prisoner. At 1200 hrs, Brigadier WA Crowther DSO Commanding Officer of 89 Bde arrived once more &amp; informed the CO (Lt Col HRR Conder OBE) that the Bn was definitely going back to THAYETMYO (4746 - 85M/3) to our rest area. Transport to lift us would report at 1000 hrs on the 31st MAY &amp; the Bn would move out. Remainder of the day was spent in mopping up odd Japs &amp; another POW surrendered to Bn HQ. D Coy roped in another at 1800 hrs bringing our total POWs to 8. The total dead bodies counted on the ground is now up to 105. - These were buried by a bulldozer. At 1800 hrs the CO held an R&amp;O group &amp; gave out verbal orders for the move. Coys were to move independently to YWATAUNG (5248 - 85M/3) where they would be met by Bn representatives prior to crossing the river to THAYETMYO. Remainder of the night was very quiet &amp; we were not disturbed at all by the Jap.</p> <p>After Stand-down at 0630 hrs, breakfasts at 0700 hrs, the Companies prepared for the arrival of our transport. At 0930 hrs the transport started arriving &amp; was allocated to Companies. At 0945 hrs the Bn 2/I/C (Major Rose), the Adjutant (Captain Stewart) &amp; the IO (Captain Young) with Company representatives left for YWATAUNG (5248 - 85M/3) to make the reception &amp; river-crossing arrangements of the Bn. At 1200 hrs the Bn started to arrive at YWATAUNG &amp; were debussed. The Bn then crossed the river in DUKWS &amp; RAFTS, &amp; were all across the river complete with heavy baggage by 1630 hrs. Our M/T &amp; A/T were left behind with the Brigade M/T &amp; mules &amp; will remain there throughout our stay in THAYETMYO (4746 - 85M/3). The river crossing went very smoothly &amp; the length of time was good in spite of the 40 minute turn-round. On the west bank of the river Captain Scott of C Coy met the Bn with nine Company guides, who led them to allotted Coy areas. Our heavy kit was ferried up in M/T &amp; by 1800 hrs the Bn was complete in their new areas. After a good hot meal the Bn settled down to enjoy a good nights undisturbed rest &amp; with the pleasant thought in their minds that there would be no disturbances through the night, &amp; <u>no</u> Stand-to in the morning. The first time for 5 months. Two men were admitted to hospital today &amp; one man rejoined from the ADS. Approximately 90 reinforcements, ex-hospital &amp; on leave men were awaiting the Bn in this new area &amp; will help swell our sorely depleted numbers.</p>	<p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p> <p>J.R Stewart Capt &amp; Adj</p>
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2nd KOSB

1st - 30th June 1945

Army Form C.2118

LT COL HRR CONDER O.B.E.

**WAR DIARY**

MAP REF:

COMMANDING

OR

THAYETMYO M1

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence

**~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~**

1" to 1 Mile

Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. I.

*(Erase heading not required)*

DUPLICATE

Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

TRIPLICATE

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
THAYETMYO 1 JUN '45	Bn settles in to its new Monsoon Quarters. CO inspects areas and makes adjustments. Bn engaged on interior economy. Lieut J Dorrat Royal Scots and Lieut N. Burns Gordon Highlanders join the battalion. 1400 hrs CO conference at which future training policy laid down. Six men to hospital, two discharged.	J.P. Culpin Capt
" 2 Jun '45	Bn engaged in interior economy. Court Martial of 1529141 Pte Edwards resumed. Ten men admitted to hospital, ten discharged.	J.P. Culpin Capt
" 3 Jun '45	Rest day with Church Service. Major A J Rose goes on leave. 100 ORs under Lt Henderson proceed on leave. 3 men to hospital. Lt T.R. Mowatt re-joins unit.	J.P. Culpin Capt
" 4 Jun 45	Lt J.D. Craig rejoins unit from hospital. Lt W Playle and 150 ORs proceed on leave. 4 men to hospital, 2 discharged	J.P. Culpin Capt
THAYETMYO 5 JUN 45	2/Lieut J.D. Scott rejoins Bn from hospital Capt P Stalker Capt R Stewart proceed on leave 4 men to hospital 5 discharged	J.P. Culpin Capt
" 6 JUN 45	CO visits CCS at Allanmyo. 3 admitted to hospital 2 discharged	J.P. Culpin Capt
" 7 JUN 45	Lt A.C. Thomas returns from Shillong where the course which he was to attend had been withdrawn three weeks before he arrived. One man returns from leave	J.P. Culpin Capt
" 8 JUN 45	1400 CO attends Bde conference. One man to hospital one discharged 2 men return from UK leave	J.P. Culpin Capt
THAYETMYO 9 JUN 45	WORK on the Bn area still continues Four men to hospital 3 discharged Lt A.C. Thomas Lt J.M. Hewitt Lt J.M. Macdonald proceed on leave	J.P. Culpin Capt

"	10 JUN 45	Rest Day with Church service. Four men to hospital three men discharged.	J.P. Culpin Capt
"	11 JUN 45	Major C.E.P. Doyne-Ditmus to hospital Lt McNish proceeds on leave. 4 BORs proceed on 28 days UK leave. 1 Man repatriated.	J.P. Culpin Capt
"	12 JUN 45	Six men to hospital 3 discharged Visit of A/Q 7 Div. 1700 hrs C.O. called to 7 Div HQ	J.P. Culpin Capt
"	13 JUN 45	0700 hrs C.O. leaves for 7 Div HQ and receives orders as Acting Brigadier cmdg 89 Ind Inf Bde to concentrate the 1/11 Sikhs and 4/8 Gurkhas in Allanmyo for a move South not before the 19th JUN 45. The 2/KOSB were to stay in present position at Thayetmyo. Three men to hospital, 3 discharged. 1800 hrs C.O. holds conference at Bde.	J.P. Culpin Capt
THAYETMYO	14 JUN 45	0800 hrs C.O. holds Bn O. Gp and recces the billet areas of 1/11 Sikhs and 4/8 Gurkhas with a view to moving into their vacated area. It was decided that the Bn would move into a more concentrated area in the vacated lines of the other Bns as they moved out. The move would be staggered and would begin by D & part of HQ Coy on 17 Jun 45. Three men re-join unit from hospital. Three admitted. 1200 hrs C.O. holds conference at Brigade.	J.P. Culpin Capt
"	15 JUN 45	Bn begins to prepare for move to new location One man to hospital one discharged. CO recces new training area and range site with Major JS Chisholm MC and Lt R.S. Scott. One man to hospital One discharged. Major E Courtenay-Hood returns from 14 CCS.	J.P. Culpin Capt
	16 JUN 45	14 Re-inforcements arrive and are interviewed by the C.O. Three men to hospital, three discharged.	J.P. Culpin Capt
	17 JUN 45	Rest Day with Church service. D and part of HQ Coy move to new area. 1400 hrs C.O. leaves to Cmd 89 Ind Inf Bde. One man to hospital.	J.P. Culpin Capt
	18 JUN 45	Major J.S. Chisholm MC assumes command vice Lt Col H.R.R. Conder OBE commanding 89 Ind Inf Bde. HQ Coy completes move to new area. 4 men from hospital	J.P. Culpin Capt

	19 JUN 45	A Coy moves to new area. Major Courtenay-Hood and C.S.M. W Henry proceed on leave. Sgt Allan proceeds on Cooks' Re-fresher Course. Two to hospital one discharged from hospital	J.P. Culpin Capt
THAYETMYO	20th Jun 45	Bn passes under command 268 Independent Ind Inf Bde at 0900 hrs. Major J.S. Chisholm to ALLANMYO to see 268 Bde Cmd. Ordered to send one Coy to ALLANMYO. C Coy warned to be prepared to move at 0730 hrs on 21st June 45. Lieut Fleming and detachment 25 men return from Rangoon Victory Parade.	J.P. Culpin Capt
	21 Jun 45	C Coy moves to ALLANMYO. C.O. goes with them to recce. B Coy moves into new area THAYETMYO. Receives orders to move whole Bn less one Coy to ALLANMYO. Sgt Allan returns from Refresher course. 1 man to hospital two discharged.	J.P. Culpin Capt
	22 Jun 45	2 officers 5 NCOs and 30 men sent to 7 Div for T.C.P. duties until 4th July. A Coy moves to ALLANMYO. Two men to hospital 3 discharged.	J.P. Culpin Capt
THAYETMYO	23rd Jun 45	Bn prepares to move to ALLANMYO. 1 man discharged from hospital	J.P. Culpin Capt
	24th Jun 45	D Coy cross to ALLANMYO. In the rest of the Bn REST DAY with a Church service. One man from hospital	J.P. Culpin Capt
	25th Jun 45	Canteen, portion of ammunition and QM's baggage cross to ALLANMYO.	J.P. Culpin Capt
	26 Jun 45	BHQ, QM's store, portion of ammunition and canteen cross to ALLANMYO. 3 men despatched to 7 Div HQ as potential Clerks. 4 men to hospital	J.P. Culpin Capt
	27 Jun 45	HQ Coy, Sergeants Mess, Officers Mess, ammunition and canteen stores cross to ALLANMYO. Two men to hospital, one discharged. Pte J Lauder 3132576 died on leave.	J.P. Culpin Capt
ALLANMYO	28 JUN 45	Major A.J. C. Rose returns from leave and assumes command vice Major J.S. Chisholm MC who re-assumes command of "A" Coy. Major Rose recces area and decides to ask Bde Cmd's permission to leave A & D Coys in ALLANMYO with Admin Coy to meet their commitments of the Supply Point Guard, 14 CCS Guard, Ammunition Point Guard, Ordnance Dump Guard and YWATAUNG AIR STRIP Guard and move the Rest of the Bn to THAYETMYO.	J.P. Culpin Capt

"	29 Jun 45	Permission granted by Bde and orders given by C.O. to move to THAYETMYO. 4 men to hospital. 2 discharged 7 men leave on 28 days U.K. leave, 5 men re-patriated, 1 repatriated on compassionate grounds.	J.P. Culpin Capt
"	30 Jun 45	Canteen and Capt G.G. Steven move back to THAYETMYO. 1 man despatched to UK for release (A&S Gp 12)	J.P. Culpin Capt

2nd Bn KOSB

1 - 31 JULY 45

Army Form C.2118

MAJOR A.J.C. ROSE

## WAR DIARY

MAP REF:

COMMANDING

OR

THAYETMYO M1

ORIGINAL

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

1" to 1 Mile

DUPLICATE

Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. I.

*(Erase heading not required)*

TRIPLICATE

Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
1 JULY 45 THAYETMYO	B.H.Q. HQ Coy Officers' Mess and Sergeants Mess cross from ALLANMYO to THAYETMYO. ALLANMYO DETACHMENT (A D & Admin Coys) responsible for ALLANMYO commitments ie Sup Point, Ammunition Point, 14 CCS, YWATAUNG Air-Strip Guard. Major JS Chisholm appointed Det Cmd and given Det Cmd's powers.	J.P. Culpin Capt
2 JULY 45 "	Bn settles in, 4 to hospital, 1 returns from course	J.P. Culpin Capt
3 JULY 45 "	Letter from Lt Col HRR Conder OBE stating that he is Cmdg 89 Ind Inf Bde vice Brig WA Crowther DSO promoted Major General and given paid Acting Rank whilst so Commanding. Consequently Major AJC Rose assumes paid acting rank Lt Col whilst Commanding the Bn and Major JS Chisholm MC assumes appointment of 21/c.	J.P. Culpin Capt
4 JULY 45 THAYETMYO	Major DENTON prepares Junior Leaders' Cadre. Duration now 6 weeks instead of 2 weeks. Two admitted to hospital, one discharged.	J.P. Culpin Capt
5 JULY 45 "	CAPT H ARNOTT admitted to hospital. Major Denton assumes command of B Coy and crosses to THAYETMYO	J.P. Culpin Capt
6 JULY 45 "	One to hospital 2 discharged. Informed COMILLA party reached Comilla.	J.P. Culpin Capt
7 JULY 45 "	CO's inspection of Barracks accompanied by Q.M. Capt GG Steven, MO, Orderly Officer, R.S.M., Orderly Sergeant. Very high standard. Three to hospital	J.P. Culpin Capt
8 JULY 45 "	REST DAY. 1900 hrs visit by AREA COMMANDER 455 SUB-AREA. Agrees to Guards being taken over at ALLANMYO by newly arrived Coy of J&K's	J.P. Culpin Capt
9 JULY 45 THAYETMYO	Capt J.P. CULPIN meets AREA COMMANDER and goes to ALLANMYO where he meets DET CMD 2KOSB DETACHMENT and Company Cmd J&K's and arranges Guards to be taken over on the 10 JULY 45. Lieut Henderson Major	

		Turnbull return from leave. Lt Dowatt and 15 men return from TCP duties at 7 Div.	J.P. Culpin Capt
10 JULY 45	"	CO decides not to move A & D Coys in view of possible move to PROME. One man to hospital. Major Denton begins the Cadre training of instructors.	J.P. Culpin Capt
11 JULY 45	"	CO visits ALLANMYO DETACHMENT. Decides to move D Coy to THAYETMYO	J.P. Culpin Capt
12 JULY 45	"	Advance party of D Coy cross to THAYETMYO 15 return from leave. One to hospital	J.P. Culpin Capt
13 JULY 45	THAYETMYO	Seven men return from leave. One to hospital 53 men return from leave from PROME. Two men to hospital. D Coy begins to move over from ALLANMYO. Case of cholera reported by Capt GG Steven. Lt Caird and 15 BORS return from TCP duties along PROME - RANGOON RD.	J.P. Culpin Capt
14 JULY 45	"	CO holds competition for best composite Platoon in turn-out, equipment & knowledge of individual loads and equipment. B Coy wins by 30 marks against C Coy. Competition also held between Signal and Mortar detachments. D Coy cross to THAYETMYO	J.P. Culpin Capt
15 JULY 45	"	REST DAY. Lt Dowatt to hospital. 5 men admitted, 3 discharged hospital. 57 return from leave via PROME. Brig HRR Conder OBE sends his driver and escort to visit unit with mail. Returns same day.	J.P. Culpin Capt
16 JULY 45	"	Junior Cadre commences under Major Denton. CO gives opening address. Capt JR Stewart Lt W Playle Lt AC Thomas Lt Macdonald Lt Hewitt return from leave and 20 men. One discharged hospital. Capt Stalker returns from leave	J.P. Culpin Capt
17 JULY 45	THAYETMYO	CO holds conference re NCO position as affected by RELEASE/REPAT and future policy and difficulties CO decides to go to see Brig Conder OBE for clarification of policy. Mortar and Signal Cadres commence. Two admitted 4 discharged hospital.	J.P. Culpin Capt

18 JULY 45	"	Lt Carter to hospital. CO leaves to see Brig HRR Conder OBE at PEGU. Coys continue individual training and recreational training. 4 return from leave. One man to hospital.	J.P. Culpin Capt
19 JULY 45	"	Two men in Age and Service 14 leave for release in U.K. Two to hospital, one discharged.	J.P. Culpin Capt
20 JULY 45	"	1400 hrs CO returns from PEGU. Officers conference to co-ordinate CO's parade on Saturday 21st JULY 45. One man to hospital.	J.P. Culpin Capt
21 JULY 45	"	CO's parade at 1000 hrs. CO's inspection of all Company areas less D Coy. Major JS Chisholm MC instructed to re-assume all ALLANMYO guards and for the purpose 4 men from each Coy are attached to A Coy. 4 men from hospital. Lt AC Thomas Lt JB Craig Lt IJ Fleming promoted Acting Captains. CO leaves to meet South Burma Area Commander at PROME.	J.P. Culpin Capt
22 JULY 45	"	REST DAY. Three men to hospital, 2 discharged	J.P. Culpin Capt
23 JULY 45	THAYETMYO	The Bn passes under Cmd of newly formed 253 Sub-Area PROME	J.P. Culpin Capt
24 JULY 45	"	G.S.O. III Sub-Area visits the ALLANMYO Detachment and informs Major J.S. Chisholm M.C. that the Bn is to concentrate at Rangoon by the 30 JULY 45. Capt J.P. Culpin and Lt Caird cross to ALLANMYO to proceed to RANGOON for medical treatment. Two men to hospital.	J.P. Culpin Capt
25 JULY 45	"	Capt J.P. Culpin decides to proceed to 253 Sub Area with Lt Caird to see what arrangements were to be made for the move. Estimated strength and maundages given to DAAQMG Lt Caird sent back to order Bn to concentrate forthwith at ALLANMYO and then proceed to RANGOON with details of Bn strength and maundages where he was to meet Capt J.P. Culpin who proceeded to RANGOON	J.P. Culpin Capt
26 JULY 45	THAYETMYO	Capt J.P. Culpin reports to South Burma District RANGOON for instructions. Told date of embarkation 31 JULY 45. Arrangements made to house the Bn in Rangoon. Capt Culpin despatches strength of Bn and estimated maundages to Embarkation HQ RANGOON. Lt Caird reaches RANGOON. Bn prepares to concentrate at ALLANMYO. One man to hospital one discharged. 2 men return from leave.	J.P. Culpin Capt

27 JULY 45	"	Bn begins to concentrate at ALLANMYO. Rifle Coys prepare to move to PROME with a view to proceeding by rail to RANGOON. RSM Henry contacts Capt Culpin at RANGOON with leave party which he concentrates at Bn Transit Area. Capt Culpin despatches 2 Guides to contact Bn and given them latest position and ask for an advance party to be sent forward.	J.P. Culpin Capt
28 JULY 45	THAYETMYO	Rifle Coys concentrate at PROME. TRANSPORT arrives to convey rest of Bn by Road to RANGOON. Guides from Capt Culpin reach Bn.	J.P. Culpin Capt
29 JULY 45	PROME	ABC&D Coys entrain for RANGOON under Cmd Major JS Chisholm MC. Rest of Bn embus for RANGOON. 4 rifle Coys arrive at RANGOON 1715 hrs and are met by Capt Culpin and Lt Caird and taken with stores to Transit area. Rest of Bn stayed night 29/30 JULY at ZIGON ☉ C.O. Adjutant Q.M. and Orderly Room Staff arrive at RANGOON	J.P. Culpin Capt
30 JULY 45	RANGOON	CO holds conference. Bn ordered to embark on 31 July 45 with all its unit equipment and stores. HQ & Admin Coys arrive 1230 hrs. Normal rolls and baggage lists prepared and unit medically inspected. C.O. holds 'O' Gp at 1400 hrs and gives out orders for embarkation:- <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Heavy Baggage to leave at 0645 hrs for docks. Capt Young and 26 ORs baggage party.</li> <li>2. 0930 hrs Advance Party consisting of Lt Caird and Coy representatives to leave.</li> <li>3. 1300 hrs Main body leaves for embarkation</li> <li>4. Transport to be supplied by S Burma District</li> </ol> All ranks to embark with full kit and personal arms and ammunition.	J.P. Culpin Capt
31 JULY 45	RANGOON	0600 hrs transport arrives for heavy baggage 0645 hrs heavy baggage leaves with baggage party 0930 hrs Lt Caird leaves with Advance Party 1000 hrs All men whose effective date of embarkation was Feb and March 42 and all men in A&S Group 15 left in RANGOON at 208 Reception Camp under orders from S Burma District 1300 hrs Main body embus to proceed to the docks to embark 1500 hrs 24 Officers and 631 ORs embarked on S.S. Egra for sailing to CALCUTTA.	J.P. Culpin Capt



LT. COL A.J. ROSE COMMANDING 1ST to 31ST AUGUST 1945

Army Form C.2118

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence  
Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Vol. I.  
Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

**WAR DIARY**

REF MAPS

SECRET

OR

N.A.

(a) ORIGINAL

~~**INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY**~~

(b) DUPLICATE

2ND BN K.O.S.BORDERERS

(Erase heading not required)

(c) TRIPLICATE

Hour, Date, Place	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
<u>1ST AUGUST - RANGOON</u>	Reveille was at 0350 hrs this morning, giving us an early start for the embarkation of the Bn. At 0500 hrs transport arrived for the Bn. Captain Ferguson and an escort of 20 men proceeded the Bn to Rangoon Docks to take over 200 JIFF prisoners which were under our command for the sea voyage to Calcutta. At 0945 hrs the Bn embussed & was taken to the Docks where 3 TLCs were waiting to ship the Bn to "HMS Egra". Our heavy baggage had been taken aboard previously at 0850 hrs. By 1200 hrs the Bn with all its Baggage was complete on board & the men were settled in on Mess-decks by 1300 hrs. The remainder of the day was spent in settling in, & issuing Ships Routine. We did NOT sail as was expected today.	J.R. Stewart Major
<u>2ND AUGUST - RANGOON</u>	At 0400 hrs the "HMS Egra" weighed anchor and sailed down the Rangoon River. - By 0800 hrs we had cleared the tail of the river & were not out at sea. - Ships inspection took place at 1000 hrs, with all ranks at Boat Stations. The result of this inspection was that the Ships Chief & the OC Troops congratulated the Bn on the cleanliness of the ship. The Mess-decks had never been so clean before. Amenities were laid on for BORS throughout the day. Ship was blacked out at 1700 hrs until 0500 hrs & No Smoking on deck allowed. Orderly Officers & Blackout Officers were appointed to see that this was complied with.	J.R. Stewart Major
<u>3RD AUGUST - At Sea on "H.M.S. Egra"</u>	Reveille was at 0600 hrs & after a good breakfast the troops tidied up their Mess Decks then were allowed up on deck before Ships inspection at 1000 hrs by OC Troops & Major Stewart. Ship was very clean. Jiffs and some of our men now sea-sick but the sea was comparatively calm. - Blackout at 1900 hrs till 0430 hrs tonight. Nothing else to report.	J.R. Stewart Major

<p><u>4TH AUGUST - At Sea on</u> <u>"H.M.S. Egra"</u></p>	<p>Still at sea. - Routine as for previous day. Informed we may dock in Calcutta some time tomorrow. Men are still sea-sick, probably due to the ventilation which is bad in the lower decks.</p>	<p>J.R. Stewart Major</p>
<p><u>5TH AUGUST - At Sea on</u> <u>"H.M.S. Egra"</u></p>	<p>Routine as for 3rd &amp; 4th August. We sighted 8 ships anchored &amp; on catching them up, took up position to await arrival of a Hoogly Pilot to take us up to Calcutta. - Pilot came aboard at 1645 hrs &amp; we weighed anchor at 1700 hrs. Blackout Restrictions lifted tonight, &amp; smoking allowed on deck. Captain Antonio RAMC, our RMO, slipped down a gangway &amp; fractured his wrist. Throughout the night we were sailing up the Hoogly River.</p>	<p>J.R. Stewart Major</p>
<p><u>6TH AUGUST - CALCUTTA</u></p>	<p>The "H.M.S. EGRA" docked in Calcutta Docks at 1200 hrs this morning. An Embarkation Staff Officer came aboard to give the Commanding Officer his disembarkation orders. The men completely disembarked (personnel only) by 1400 hrs &amp; were taken by transport to Alipore Transit Camp which is commanded by Major Charlier M.C., who was wounded in Burma when serving with the Bn. Captain Young &amp; a baggage party remained behind to supervise unloading of stores which was completed by 2330 hrs. Men were allowed out in Calcutta on pass.</p>	<p>J.R. Stewart Major</p>