

SECRET

W A R D I A R Y
W A R D I A R Y

3 NZ DIV ORDNANCE CORPS
3 NZ DIV ORDNANCE CORPS

NZEFIP.
NZEFIP¹/₂

for the month of

FEBRUARY 1944.
FEBRUARY 1944.

VOLUME XXV.
VOLUME XXV.

16 sheets and

3 Appendices.

INDEX of:

(a) Consolidated War Diary for February 1944.

3 Div Ordnance Corps, NZEFIP (2nd), Base and Div. Units.

comprising the following units:-

Div Ordnance HQ being : DADOS Office GUADALCANAL B.S.I.P.
SOME (DIV) "
SOME (Base) Moindah, New Caledonia.

Div Ordnance Workshops Advanced Ord. Workshops, GUADALCANAL.
No.1 Rec Sec with 8 Bde -Treasury Gp, BSIP.
* No.2 Rec Sec with 14 Bde -Vella Lavella. *Nissan*
Rear Detachment DOW -Moindah, New Caledonia
Base Detachment DOW -Bourail, " "

NZ Ordnance Workshops Detachment, Noumea (Section of DOW) - Noumea N.C.

29 Lt AA Workshops (att 29 LAA Regt)

Tanks Workshops & Fd Park Det.

20 LAD (att 17 Fd Regt.)

37 LAD (att 14 Bde Gp)

42 LAD: (att Arty Trg Depot)

64 LAD: (att 8 Bde Gp)

65 LAD: (att 3 NZ DIV INGRS)

67 LAD (att Rear Det. DOW).

Base Ordnance Depot (Rear Sec)

Advanced Ordnance Depot:

(incl. Fwd Section of A.O.D. at Vella Lavella)

* Squarepeg Workshops (incl. No.2 Rec Sec, 20 and 65 LADs, Dets, from 29 LAA
W/Shops and 3 NZ DIV Tank W/Shops) - at NISSAN Gp.
(N.Guinea mandate.)

(b) APPENDICES.

Handwritten notes:
Nissan
DADOS

WAR DIARY - 3 Div Ordnance Corps, NZEFIP.

or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required.)

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Part II, and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and References to Appendices.
G' canal	1 Feb		<u>DADOS Office:</u> Advised A.O.D. to procure supplies of linseed oil, boiled, and emery cloth as soon as possible, as supplies are short, and these items are necessary for amm preservation and repair now being done.	
"	"		<u>A.O.W.:</u> Ten tractor operators from 33 and 93 Constn. Bns, US Navy (Sea Bees) marched in and att. for rations & quarters as per Div HQ instruction. MT maintenance and repairs. Heavy rain.	
Treasury	"		<u>No.1 Rec Sec:</u> Vehicle and armament repairs.	
Vella	"		<u>No.2 Rec Sec:</u> MT maintenance; Coconut tree fell in area and damaged jeep. Very heavy rain.	
Moindah	"		<u>Rear DOW:</u> Both the unit's Chev 4 x 4 15 cwts are out of action with broken flange, front axle. Normal maintenance routine. Lt.-Col ANDREWS, C.O.M.E. (Trentham) addressed personnel.	
Bourail	"		<u>Base Det DOW:</u> Work started on blacksmiths shop. Mess hall wired for el. light. New personnel settling down to work. Tinsmiths shop, and new orderly room completed, and in use. Repairs being carried out to schedule. Road work finished.	
Noumea	"		<u>NZOW Det:</u> Maintenance of vehicles; Works Services started building huts. Weather fine.	
Treasury	"		<u>29 LAA W/S:</u> Small bout of influenza, fairly general throughout section. OC to hospital with influenza.	
Lunga R.	"		<u>Tanks W/S:</u> Fitted new parts and assembled hand traverse in tank. General duties.	
Vella	"		<u>20 LAD:</u> Work started on MT and guns.	
"	"		<u>37 LAD:</u> Received notice re return of unit to G' canal after departure of other units for Squarepeg. Workshop duties.	
Nemeara	"		<u>42 LAD:</u> Maintenance on ATD vehicles. Continued painting programme. Checking equipment & vehicles.	
Treasury	"		<u>64 LAD:</u> Workshop duties - maintenance etc. Carting and spreading coral, for workshop.	
G' canal	"		<u>65 LAD:</u> Members of unit in G' canal at A.O.W. assisting with duties. 2/Lt. C.D. McRae apptd. OC of unit w.e.f 31 Jan (transferred in from Engineers and commissioned), vice Lt. J.R. BUCKLEY.	
Moindah	"		<u>67 LAD:</u> The month starts with the unit fully occupied in the vehicle pool. The work includes lubrication, maintenance of tyres, starting and moving of vehicles and light repair jobs, also maintenance of area vehicles and through traffic.	
G' canal	"		<u>A.O.D.:</u> Indents still coming in slowly for 8 Bde. All sections have been working longer hours to fulfil the urgent indents. Depot very muddy owing to wet weather.	
Bourail	"		<u>B.O.D.:</u> Routine duties in all sections. Weather overcast. Temperatures high.	

W. J. ...
Lt.-Col.,
D.A.D.O.S.

G' canal 2 Feb A.O.W. D4 tractor assembled, crown wheel and pinion repaired and replaced. Heavy rain during day. 12 men from 65 LAD attached for duty while awaiting movement order and their equipment.

Vella " No.2 Rec Sec: MT maintenance ; very heavy rain ; received Secret Instruction for Squarepeg.

Moindah " Rear DOW: Camp maintenance and normal routine. Base Detachment inspected by O.C. 14 men lent to SOME (BASE) for unloading vehicles at Nepoui Dock.

Bourail " Base Det DOW: Wiring of tented area for lighting commenced. Greasing trailer performing well.

Lunga " Blacksmiths shop completed. Forge and tools installed. Steady influx of vehicles for repairs.

Nemeara " Tanks W/S: Cut out for fwding to NZ templets of extra amun (HE) racks as previously modified in tanks. Turned up fittings for power traverse.

Treasury " 42 LAD: Maintenance and painting of vehicles etc. Check-overs. Sports afternoon.

Moindah " 64 LAD: MT maintenance ; commenced building of workshop.

G' canal " 67 LAD: 28 2-wheel drive vehicles left in convoy for Noumea for shipment to NZ. Three wreckers used to tow vehicles, and 10 LAD personnel were used as drivers and LAD to convoy.

Bourail " A.O.D.: Working party of 12 men from Transit Camp carting shingle to prepare the new stores area recently vacated by Postal, Pay, and Dag 2 Ech offices. Roadways in Depot badly cut up by traffic.

" " B.O.D.: Routine duties . Warning at 1000 hrs of 60 mph winds , which did not however materialise.

G' canal 3 DADOS Office: P.I.A.T. (Projectile Infantry Anti-Tank) projectors and bombs to be returned to AOD from battalions of 8 and 14 Bdes, as not having been found entirely suitable.

" " Noted that Signals will be taking forward signal stores reserves to Squarepeg Op, in absence of an Ordnance depot detachment, for maintenance of signal equipment.

Treasury " A.O.W.: Overhauls completed of 7 Breh carriers from 8 Bde. Workshop section fully occupied with repairs to combat vehicles for units moving fwd. Heavy continuous rain.

Moindah " No.1 Rec Sec: Vehicle and armament repairs. 1 O/R returned from hospital.

Bourail " Rear DOW: Promotions to complete establishment published in R.Os. Camp inspected by Major HAMMOND.

Lunga " Base Det DOW: M/c shop have several major overhauls in hand. Routine repairs in workshop.

Vella " Electricians making testing instruments and fitting up shop. Camp conditions very good.

" " Tanks W/S: 1 O/R to CCS. Adjustments etc to tank ring gear and starter. Packing for Squarepeg Op.

Nemeara " 20 LAD: Work on MT and guns.

Treasury " 37 LAD: Normal workshop duties. Tents leaking very badly.

G' canal " 42 LAD: Maintenance of ATD vehicles continuing. Painting and checking.

" " 64 LAD: MT maintenance ; ~~commence~~ building of workshops.

Bourail " A.O.D.: All sections packing stores as fast as possible for both Vella and Treasury. Outside work made very difficult owing to continued heavy rain. Depot now has a 4 x 4 winch truck fitted with a forward crane for handling heavy cases. Ammun Sec by Lunga River flooded and personnel evacuated to AOD overnight. No damage of any consequence to amm stocks, or equipment.

" " B.O.D.: Routine duties . Trucks arriving with stores from Nepoui. Major Knight still in fwd area where he visited ~~the~~ Vella (4th and 5th).

Widleyers
 Lt.-Col.,
 D.A.D.O.S.

G' canal 4 Feb DADOS Office: Lt.-Col MYERS and Major KNIGHT (BOD) left by air for Vella on duty. Capt. A. SMITH, I.O.O. working on 8 Bde amm reserves at Tyeasury, reported that he had completed the repair of the 40 mm amm and was awaiting reports from the two LAA Batteries as to the quantity and condition of their 1st-line amm. On Stirling he had commenced repair of the 25-pr amm, and had to date reconditioned 1200 shell, and, if weather conditions remained favourable he would be able to examine and recondition all the repairable amm before the end of February. He noted again that wooden casing of 25-pr shall was quite unsatisfactory. He recommended that wooden cased amm should either be used for practice locally or returned to Necal for repair and then used for training there.

" " A.O.W.: Routine repairs to MT and small arms. Seabees with bulldozers preparing another berrace in camp area in preparation for the arrival of 37 LAD from Vella. Showery day.

Treasury " No.1 Rec Sec: Vehicle and armament repairs.

Vella " No.2 Rec Sec: MT maintenance; commenced working new hours 0730 to 1130 and 1300 to 1630.

Moindah " Commenced packing MT stores for Squarepeg workshops, at Fwd Ordnance Depot.

Bourail " Rear DOW: Workshop routine. Unit granted exemption from training syllabus Jan 1 to Mar 31, Base Det DOW: Elec. lighting to tents is completely satisfactory. Battery charger handling work with ease. M/C shop kept very busy. Painter busy on vehicles, and repair work is progressing satisfactorily.

Noumea " NZOW Det: Maintenance of vehicles; visit by SOME (Base.).

Treasury " 29 LAA W/S: OC returned from hospital. At night fairly heavy air raid. No damage or casualties.

Lunga " Tanks W/S: Commenced construction of forward crane to be fitted to ~~unit~~ dump truck of Tank Sqn.

Vella " Commenced constn. of foundations for unit recreational hut.

Nemeara " 20 LAD: Work on MT and guns. Starting to pack equipment for fwd area.

Treasury " 42 LAD: Maintenance of ATD vehicles; painting and check-overs.

G' canal " 64 LAD: MT maintenance; completed building of workshop. Other LADs - normal routine.

Bourail " A.O.D.: Routine duties.

" B.O.D.: Routine duties; weather wet but temperatures high. Hurricane warning unfulfilled.

G' canal 5 DADOS Office: Col Myers returned to G' canal by air from Vella, with Major Knight.

" " SOME (DIV): Advised HQ 3 NZ DIV that Ordnance technical personnel evacuated from hospital were being held at FMC. Div HQ advised FMC that the arrangement, as made in NECAL, was to stand, and such personnel were to be returned immediately to their unit without any further advice from HQ 3 NZ DIV.

" " A.O.W.: MT repairs and maintenance until 1200 hrs. Camp I.E. in afternoon.

Treasury " No.1 Rec Sec: Vehicle and armament repairs. Recreational afternoon.

Vella " No.2 Rec Sec: MT maintenance. Lt. DANBY and Sgt DAVIES (inst. repairer) arrived from Treasury.

Moindah " on tour of duty. Party left on trip round South end of island.

" Rear DOW: Parade and small arms inspection at 0800 hrs. I.E. and normal leave in p.m.

W. Myers
 Lt.-Col.,
 D.A.D.O.S.

G' canal 8 Feb DADOS Office: Lt.-Col. A. ANDREWS, C.O.M.E. (Trentham) arrived from NZ on tour of duty in connection with Ordnance in this area. With DADOS he interviewed the G.O.C. in afternoon.

Moindah " SOME (Base): Report from Major LAWSON refers to matters covered in D.O.W. and Base Detachment diary notes. The Base Det. workshops have received a number of good tradesmen from NZ and these are settling in well under Lieut SIMMONDS. They have a strength of approx 40 men and will be fully occupied in their task. Their equipment is quite good. The ASC workshop platoons of the 4th, 10th and 16th ASC Coys have now completed the ASC 6 x 4's on charge to their respective ASC Coys, and they are now being set to work on Divisional transport. One platoon has already taken the first block of 10 combat vehicles into their workshop, and the other two will be ready to commence early this week. 67th LAD is carrying out a full programme at the V.R.D. servicing and painting vehicles. The Noumea Detachment handles all work in the Noumea area, incl. the 4 Gen Hospital, and Works Services at DUMBEA. This workshop is on a very good site and its equipment is quite satisfactory. Shower facilities for the men are good. Lt.-Col. ANDREWS was shown ~~over~~ all workshops and servicing facilities and given every assistance. The 12 30-cwt Chevrolet winch trucks asked for by the GOC have been completed, and six of the vehicles sent fwd under Div orders. The position regarding commercial 4 x 2 type vehicles is that Rear ~~unit~~ units are completely clear with the exception of a few cars (which will not be withdrawn until replacement vehicles arrive) and the few specialist vehicles, such as stores trucks, which are to remain.

G' canal " A.O.W.: Routine maintenance and repairs. Advised that 6 6 x 4 winch trucks are being forwarded to FMC from NECAL.

Treasury " No.1 Rec Sec: Vehicle and armament repairs. The instrument and armament sections are covering the work schedule very well.

Moindah " Rear DOW: Chev 4 x 4 15-cwts being called in from units in rotation, and gussets welded against front axle flange to obviate further cases of breakage.

Bourail " Base Det.DOW: This detachment "officially opened" from today, and all repairs to Base units vehicles etc to be done by this unit. Repairs poured in. More tools issued to personnel. Machine shops working at full pressure. River rises again, necessitating deepening of drains.

Noumea " BOD MT Section shifting to new premises, and this will interfere with spares position.

Treasury " NZOW Det: Maintenance of vehicles as usual. Weather fine.

Lunga " 29 LAA W/S: Two O/Rs sent to VELLA by SCAT service (for Squarepeg workshops section).

Vella " Tanks W/S: General repairs. Making two sets tyre carrying brackets for ambulance vehicle.

" " 20 LAD: Work on MT and guns. Vehicles being prepared for move.

Treasury " 37 LAD: Workshop routine. MT parts now being obtained from No.2 Rec. Sec, and not from F.O.D.

G' canal " 64 LAD: MT maintenance and sports day.

Bourail " A.O.D.: Sections loading out stores for Treasury. Area badly cut up by heavy traffic.

" " B.O.D.: Weather fine. Routine duties.

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Lt.-Col.,
D.A.D.O.S.

5 Feb Bourrail Base Det DOW: Camp I.E. Swimming pool dredged and deepened. New dam built. Personnel at work all day.
 Noumea " NLOW Det: I.E. and maintenance of vehicles; weather fine.
 Lunga " Tanks W/S: Continued construction of fwd crane on dump truck. I.E. of workshops and camp.
 Vella " 20 LAD: Work on MT and guns. Packing for fwd area.
 Venesara " 42 LAD: Maintenance and painting. Tool check at 1000 hrs.
 Treasury " 64 LAD: Repairs and maintenance of MT. Other workshops and LADs - normal routine.
 G' canal " A.O.D.: Bulldozer clearing area behind MT stores for storage area. Routine duties in sections
 Bourrail " B.O.D.: Routine duties in all sections until 1200 hrs. Weather overcast but fine.

6 G' canal A.O.W.: Church parade. Practice shoot to select team to represent unit at inter-unit competition. Seabees complete removal of trees and formation of terrace.
 Bourrail " Base Det DOW: Heavy rain. River flooded and scoured metal off roads. Bridges impassable. All vehicles moved to higher ground.
 Treasury " 29 LAA W/S: Influenza in unit seems to be falling off a little.
 " " 64 LAD: Improving living quarters in new camp.
 G' canal " A.O.D.: Routine duties. Bulldozer levelling area for new building for general stores section.
 Bourrail " B.O.D.: Church parade. Trucks to beach in p.m. Weather fine. All unspecified W/Shops and LADs - normal Sunday programme.- no duties.

7 G' canal SCOME (DIV): Recommendations made to HQ 3 NZ DIV ARTY covering points raised as a result of C.M.E. Div Arty's inspection of equipment held. See Appendix I. APPX. I.
 " " A.O.W.: Personnel of 65 LAD assisting w/shop section to complete repairs to combat vehicles. Seabees quartered with AOW make good use of bulldozers to clear further stores area in AOD.
 Treasury " Binoculars and small arms from 1st Bty receive final check. Weather fine.
 Vella " No.1 Rec Sec: MT section visited gala sports at Palamai. Armament and Instrument secs worked.
 Weindsh " No.2 Rec Sec: MT maintenance; packing MT stores at P.O.D. (continued next 4 days).
 Bourrail " Rear DOW: As from today, Base Det DOW takes over all Base vehicle repairs, with the exception of vehicles on the Divisional Vehicle park. Five vehicles and 10 men sent to Noumea for timber.
 " " Base Det DOW: Still raining. Area greasy and wet. Painting discontinued. Draining done and routine repairs.
 Noumea " NLOW Det: Maintenance of vehicles; weather fine.
 Lunga " Tanks W/S: Routine jobs on radio and MT.
 Vella " 20 LAD: Work on MT and guns. Vehicles being got ready for move.
 Treasury " 64 LAD: MT maintenance and sports day.
 G' canal " 65 LAD: As noted above, unit personnel working with A.O.W. and preparing for fwd move.
 Bourrail " A.O.D.: Routine duties.
 " " B.O.D.: Routine duties in all sections. "C" type tropical hut for use as explosives store collected from ASC and taken to Nepoui for erection. Weather fine and hot.

inspected
Lt.-Col.,
D.A.D.O.S.

G' canal 9 Feb DADOS Office: Lt.-Col ANDREWS (C.O.M.E.) discussing points of Middle East Ordnance procedure with DADOS, SOME (DIV) and OC (AOD) in afternoon. Major Knight returned by air to NECAL.

" " A.O.W.: Lt.-Col ANDREWS and Major SIGNAL visit unit and discuss problems with Lt. MANSON, O i.c. unit. Routine maintenance and repairs. Assistance given to 65 LAD to construct tool chests.

Treasury " Report submitted to SOME (DIV) regarding the use of Oil GP 90 (See Appendix II)

Vella " Roads in bad state after constant rain, unit transport carting metal for roads.

Moindah " No.1 Rec Sec: Vehicle and armament repairs. WO-2 Nidolson admitted to hospital.

Bourail " No.2 Rec Sec: Packing stores still at F.O.D. (MT stores). MT maintenance.

Lunga " Rear DOW: Workshops & camp maintenance routine. Work commenced altering 8 station waggons to carry extra passengers.

Vella " Base Det DOW: General repairs. LAD shelter obtained to house painters gear and compressor outfit. Painter and Greasing dept kept busy.

" " Tanks W/S: New shaft fitted to Tank water pump. Third in this theatre. This trouble was not experienced in NZ. May be due to main pump shaft being of steel and having less expansion than the impellor and nut made of brass. Breakages of the shaft have occurred, without any excessive heating of the tank before the shafts have broken.

" " 20 LAD: Two drivers with breakdown and compressor truck embarked on L.C.T. 146 for Squarepeg.

Nemeara " 37 LAD: Usual workshop routine. Air alert.

Treasury " 42 LAD: Still on maintenance, painting and checking of vehicles. Sports in afternoon.

G' canal " 64 LAD: MT maintenance. Rebuilding of cookhouse.

Moindah " 65 LAD: Personnel building tool chests etc prior to moving fwd with Squarepeg Workshops.

G' canal " 67 LAD: Start made metalling roads in vehicle pool. Routine duties.

Bourail % A.O.D.: Further shipment of stores loaded out for Treasury. Roads cutting up very badly.

" " B.O.D.: Weather fine. Routine duties.

G' canal 10% SOME (DIV): New scheme outlined by Army HQ for Wastage Returns. This office will supply BOD with details of weapon wastage. Other items will be covered by information derived by perusal of unit indents, or applications to write-off. Where items are lost indents are to be submitted promptly by units to enable BOD to have returns reasonably up to date.

Moindah " A.O.W.: Routine repairs and maintenance. 10 Seabees marched out with first flight to SQUAREPEG.

Bourail " Rear DOW: Unit visited by GMC factory representative. The matter of Chev. 4 x 4 forward axle trouble was brought to his notice.

Treasury " Base Det DOW: Spares still holding up work. Messroom enlarged. Radio & sports gear obtained.

Lunga " 29 LAA W/S: 2/Lt R.H. Clark is attached to workshops (MS List 24)--Early warning LAA sets.

Vella " Tanks W/S: Repairs to water pump, and tank turret. Two base junctions for repair.

" " Constructing small trailer.

Treasury " 20 LAD: Work carried out as far as remaining tools allow before move fwd.

G' canal " 37 LAD: 70086 2/Lt G.A.P. Skinner admitted to hospital (later evacuated to NECAL). 1 O/R to hospital.

Bourail " 64 LAD: MT maintenance. Commenced to build new store.

" " A.O.D.: Unloading stores from "Howard Stansburgh" in area outside Depot.

" " B.O.D.: Major Knight returned at 1300 hrs from forward area. Routine duties.

Appx II

Witnessed
 Lt.-Col.,
D.A.D.O.S.

(DIA) 200 00 (C.O.M.E.) 0700
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AVE DIV 1

2 DIA 020000 COLDS 100000

G' canal 11 Feb DADOS Office: Capt. H. McK. REID returned from 2 NZ CCS and is attached to Div Ordnance HQ as assistant to DADOS (w.e.f. 1 Feb).

" " A.O.W.: Routine maintenance and repairs. Weather fine.

Vella " No.2 Rec Sec: MT maintenance; completed packing stores (MT) at F.O.D. 2 O/Rs marched out to 29 LAA W/S at Treasury, by air. 1 O/R returned from hospital. This unit, with 20, and 65 LADs and detachments from Tank Workshops, and 29 LAA Workshops will be functioning as a composite unit, "Squarepeg Workshops." Units will retain their unit identity, but will all work as one workshop at Nissan.

Moindah " Rear DOW: General routine. New padre (Padre Michael) marched in. Concert by Base Band in evening.

Bourail " Base Det DOW: More renovations to workshops. Routine repairs and servicing.

Noumea " NZOW Det: 2/Lt Black to be Lieut under Rule 7(a) w.e.f. 10 Feb. (MS List No.24). Maintenance of vehicles. Store and accommodation huts completed. Weather fine.

Treasury " 29 LAA W/S: Two O/Rs arrived back by air from Vella.

Lunga " Tanks W/S: Finished work on turret. General workshops work continued. Over the last week a considerable amount of repairs have been done to canvas covers and tank tarpaulins.

Vella " 20 LAD: Routine repairs. 37 LAD: Workshop routine. Weather very hot.

Nemeara " 42 LAD: Maintenance of vehicles. Painting and checking, continued.

Treasury " 64 LAD: MT maintenance. Completed store building.

Moindah " 67 LAD: Recovery unit 23 miles North to recover Ford Quad with differential trouble.

G' canal " A.O.D.: Working parties from Transit camp unloading trucks, with AOD personnel checking. Trucks arriving steadily through the night. Packing for fwd area.

Bourail " B.O.D.: Routine duties. Weather fine.

G' canal 12 SOME (DIV): Lt.-Col. ANDREWS and Major SIGNAL left by air for Vella and Treasury on duty.

" " A.O.W.: Unit transport carting metal for part of camp area being occupied by 37 LAD. Workshop I.E. in morning. Camp I.E. and urgent jobs in afternoon. Sgt WALKER m/i ex 37 Fd Pk Engrs on Transfer.

Treasury " No.1 Rec Sec: Vehicle and armament repairs; recreational afternoon.

Vella " No.2 Rec Sec: MT maintenance. Lt.-Col. ANDREWS and Major SIGNAL visited unit.

Moindah " Rear DOW: Workshops routine and camp maintenance.

Bourail " Base Det DOW: Cleaned up camp area. Machine trucks cleaned and checked. Free afternoon.

Noumea " NZOW Det: Maintenance of vehicles. and I.E. Weather fine.

Lunga " Tank W/S: Received generating motor from Tank Sqn for repair. I.E. of workshops and camp area.

Nemeara " 42 LAD: Maintenance on vehicles. Tool check and check of personal equipment. Received compressor from B.O.D. Maintenance on camp and unit equipment.

G' canal " 65 LAD: Equipment arrived from Necal along with rear party after 13 day trip by sea.

Moindah " 67 LAD: Maintenance carried out on LAD vehicles used in vehicle pool.

G' canal " A.O.D.: Trucks still arriving intermittently and unloading parties supplied by Transit camp.

Bourail " B.O.D.: Routine duties in morning, also anti-mosquito measures.

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 Lt.-Col.,
D.A.D.O.S.

D.A.D.O.S.

A V B D I V I S I O N

G' canal 15 Feb A.O.W.: Urgent repair work carried out. Afternoon free for personnel not required to work.
 Vella No.2 Rec Sec: 6 O/Rs embarked by L.C.I. for fwd area, as part of Squarepeg Workshops.
 " 20 LAD: Qc and 8 men embarked on L.C.I. and sailed for Nissan as part of Squarepeg Workshops.
 Treasury " 64 LAD: Personnel improving living quarters.
 Moindah " 67 LAD: Recovery unit 10 miles North to recover US vehicle with ignition trouble.
 G' canal " A.O.D.: ~~Unit~~ Ship still discharging. Routine duties in sections.
 Bourail " B.O.D.: Sunday programme. Wet all day. Other Units:- Normal Sunday programme.

G' canal 14 A.O.W.: 40 rifles received from AOD for overhaul. Routine maintenance & repairs by workshop.
 Treasury " No.1 Rec Sec: Vehicle and armament repairs. Lt.-Col. ANDREWS and Major SIGNAL visited the unit and discussed parts and work problems.
 Vella " No.2 Rec Sec: As from today ceased carrying out MT maintenance. Packing equipment. Dismantled workshop and mess shelters and packed tarpaulins. 2 O/Rs discharged from hospital.
 Moindah " Rear DOW: 30 members of unit inoculated. Weather bad. Q.M. (2/Lt Quayle) departed for Noumea Det.
 Bourail " Base Det DOW: General repair work. No springs available for Chev 4 x 4 15 cwt. The front spring seems to be a weak point of this vehicle.
 Noumea " NLOW Det: Maintenance of vehicles. Visit by Q.M. of D.O.W. Weather fine.
 Treasury " 29 LAA W/S: Five members of this unit, attached to No.2 Rec Sec at Vella, should be travelling to Squarepeg, with 1st ech, as part of Squarepeg Workshops.
 Lunga " Tanks W/S: Serviced two sets of tank injectors, All arms inspected. Repair and constn. work.
 Vella " 20 LAD: Balance of unit remaining in area finished packing and cleaning up.
 Vella " 37 LAD: Eight men sent up to 37 Bn to bring back a one-time Japanese barge. Workshop routine.
 Nemeare " 42 LAD: Maintenance on ATD's vehicles. Continued painting. All Ford Fd Arty ~~tractors~~ tractors and Bedford Bofors tractors now painted, also units own three vehicles.
 Treasury "" 64 LAD: MT repairs and maintenance. Finished coralling workshop area. Other LADs - Normal duties.
 G' canal " A.O.D.: Ship temporarily ceased discharging. Heavy rain in night. Area very muddy.
 Bourail " B.O.D.: Weather wet. Routine duties in all sections.

G' canal 15 DADOS Office: Lt-Col Myers inspected AOD amm ~~in~~ section's dump near Lunga River, G' canal. Stacks are all well off the ground on dunnage of coconut logs. All stacks tarpaulined, and tarpaulins so strung above stacks as to allow free passage of air for ventilation. The dump reflects great credit on 2/Lt HARVEY and amm personnel. Also visited Tank Sqn and Tank Workshops. Ammunition is being sent forward for Squarepeg Op, vouchered to 16 MT Coy ASC and under the supervision of 2/Lt HARVEY and a party of his Ordnance amm personnel.
 G' canal " A.O.W.: MT maintenance and repairs. Assistance given 65 LAD in preparation for move fwd.
 Treasury " No.1 Rec Sec: Vehicle and armament repairs. Lt. DANBY marched in on tour of duty, from Vella.
 Vella " No.2 Rec Sec: Packing unit equipment and MT stores.
 Moindah " Rear DOW: Workshops routine and camp maintenance.

Lt.-Col.,
 D.A.D.O.S.

Bourail	15 Feb (contd.)	Base Det DOW: Routine repairs. Construction of works office. Works service engineers started to build a repair ramp for workshop. Paint shop shifted to higher ground.
Noumea	"	<u>NEOW DET</u> : Maintenance of vehicles. Weather fine. Visit by Major Grierson S.O.M.T.
Lunga	"	<u>Tanks W/S</u> : Serviced 3 sets of tank injectors. Fitted new universal joint to jeep.
Nissan	"	<u>20 LAD</u> : At dawn, convoy was attacked from air. No damage to boat. Landed at Blue Beach, Nissan Id.
Vella	"	<u>37 LAD</u> : Workshop routine; weather very hot.
Nemeara	"	<u>42 LAD</u> : Maintenance of ATD's vehicles. Painting vehicles. Heavy rain.
Treasury	"	<u>64 LAD</u> : MT maintenance and repairs.
G' canal	"	<u>A.O.D.</u> : Some stores being transferred into Depot area. Shipping schedules not yet received from NZ which makes checking impossible.
Bourail	"	<u>B.O.D.</u> : Routine duties in all sections.
<hr/>		
G' canal	16	<u>SOME (DIV)</u> : Major Signal and Lt.-Col. ANDREWS returned by air from Treasury and Vella.
"	"	<u>A.O.W.</u> : MT maintenance and repairs. (65 LAD, second ech, personnel marched out to Green Island (Nissan).)
Treasury	"	<u>No.1 Rec Sec</u> : Vehicle and armament repairs. The unit area is very unsatisfactory in its present condition.
Vella	"	<u>No.2 Rec Sec</u> : Packing unit equipment and loading truck and machine shop.
Moindah	"	<u>Rear DOW</u> : Workshops routine. Work started on Ford 4 x 4's in vehicle park. (Div. vehicles).
Bourail	"	<u>Base Det DOW</u> : General repair work to vehicles. Rain holds up outside work. Mobile trailer outfit most satisfactory, and work of greasing greatly facilitated.
Lunga	"	<u>Tanks W/S</u> : Completed charging 13 tank batteries for Tank Sqn. Commenced building new stove with concrete foundations, for cookhouse.
Nissan	"	<u>20 LAD</u> : 0200 hrs an air raid with bomb in area but no damage. Shifted camp later in day. Another air raid at night, but planes driven off by A.A. fire.
Vella	"	<u>37 LAD</u> : Workshop duties. Much more MT work in absence of 20 LAD.
Nemeara	"	<u>42 LAD</u> : Heavy rain continues and unit cut off from main camp by flooded river.
Treasury	"	<u>64 LAD</u> : MT maintenance and repairs.
G' canal	"	<u>65 LAD</u> : 2/Lt McRae and 2nd ech personnel - 10 men - marched out to embarkation for Nissan.
"	"	<u>A.O.D.</u> : Routine duties.
Bourail	"	<u>B.O.D.</u> : Weather fine in morning, but rain later. Routine duties in all sections.
<hr/>		
G' canal	17	<u>SOME (DIV)</u> : Returned old G.L. notes to NZ as this equipment is not held in Div. now.
"	"	<u>A.O.W.</u> : MT maintenance and repairs. Lt.-Col. ANDREWS visited the unit and gave an interesting address on Ordnance Workshop and Depot organisation and practice in the Middle East. Personnel attended from AOD and Div Ord HQ staffs.
Vella	"	<u>No.2 Rec Sec</u> : Truck and machine shop loaded on LST 354, and 1 Offr and 13 O/Rs embarked. One load of unit equipment shut out of LST. 37 LAD provided transport to beach.
Moindah	"	<u>Rear DOW</u> : Camp inspected by Brig. DOVE, OICA. General routine. 2/Lt QUAYLE returned from Noumea with Lieut BLACK of NZOW Det, Noumea.
Bourail	"	<u>Base Det DOW</u> : Routine repairs. Spares coming in more freely. Electrical shop busy. New personnel more settled.

Widney Lt.-Col.,
D.A.D.O.S.i

Noumea 17 Feb NZOW Det: Maintenance of vehicles ; Lieut. Black and Pte Best to DOW on duty.
 Lunga " Tanks W/S: General workshops repairs. Welding of oven for cookhouse, and welding trailer.
 Nissan " 20 LAD: Work on MT and setting up camp.
 Vella " 37 LAD: Routine duties.
 Nemeara " 42 LAD: Maintenance on Arty Trg Depot's vehicles.
 Treasury " 64 LAD: MT maintenance and repairs.
 Moindah " 67 LAD: Routine LAD duties and work in vehicle pool.
 G' canal " A.O.D.: Trucks unloading stores from ship again in early hours of morning. Authority granted by Div HQ for 6 men employed as amm repair party by Capt Smith, I.O.O., in fwd area, to be attached to A.O.D. (Amm Sec) for duty.
 Bourail " B.O.D.: Routine duties. Raining all day.

G' canal 18 DADOS Office: Report received from Captain A. SMITH, I.O.O., on condition and repair of ammunition in the 8th Bde area at Treasury. See Appendix III for summarised report. Appendix II
 " " A.O.W.: MT maintenance and repairs. Modifications carried out to 25-pr equipments under instruction from SOME (DIV).
 Vella " No.2 Rec Sec: 2 O/Rs embarked on LCI at 0900 hrs. Secured equipment left on Juno Beach from 17th. Repacked cases overweight. 1 O/R marched in from 20 Fd Engrs on transfer.
 Moindah " Rear DOW: Noumea Detachment matters discussed with OC (Lt. Black). Temporary promotions authorised by DAG for Base Detachment to complete a provisional W.E. drawn up by OC, DOW.
 Bourail " Base Det DOW: Camp routine working efficiently. Spares position ~~is~~ nearly normal. During the week ending today at 1600 hrs, 45 vehicles were repaired and put back into service.
 Treasury " 29 LAA W/S: Nine O/Rs embarked from Treasury, travelling with 2nd ech. to Squarepeg.
 Lunga " Tanks W/S: Finished stove for cookhouse. General maintenance.
 Vella " 20 LAD: Six more of unit embarked on LCI at Vella for Squarepeg to join main body already there.
 " " 37 LAD: Usual workshop duties.
 Nemeara " 42 LAD: Maintenance on ATD's vehicles; at 2100 hrs wrecker sent to recovery job on South Road.
 Treasury " 64 LAD: MT maintenance and repairs.
 G' canal " 65 LAD: First section en route to Nissan (Squarepeg) and remainder awaiting embarkation.
 " " A.O.D.: Transit camp unable to supply working parties, and Depot personnel ~~with~~ unloading trucks and fulfilling urgent indents for fwd area.
 Bourail " B.O.D.: Routine duties. Weather fine.

G' canal 19 DADOS Office: Lt.-Col. ANDREWS (C.O.M.E.) returned by air to NECAL. DADOS Wrote HQ 3 NZ DIV with reference to Captain SMITH's report on 8 Bde ammunition. (See Appx III).
 " " A.O.W.: MT maintenance and repairs. Workshop I.E.
 Treasury " No.1 Rec Sec: Vehicle and armament repairs. Recreational afternoon.
 Vella " No.2 Rec Sec: Two O/Rs embarked on L.P.D. Took down and packed tents not required for personnel.
 Moindah " Rear DOW: Parade and small arms inspection 0800 hrs. I.E. and normal leave.

W. J. ...
 Lt.-Col.,
 D.A.D.O.S.

Volume 27. February 1944. 3000 11.

Bourail 19 Feb Base Det DOW: Clean up of camp areas. Machine shops inspected.
Lunga " Tanks W/S: I.E. of workshops and camp area.
Nissan " 20 LAD: Work on MT and camp area in conjunction with Squarepeg workshops.
Vella " 37 LAD: Rifle inspection; workshop duties and camp clean-up.
Nemeara " 42 LAD: 0600 hrs. Wrecker returned from recovery job. Maintenance of vehicles, painting etc.
G' canal " A.O.D.: Ship finished discharging after doing so very slowly. A 24-hrs picquet is needed on dump.
Bourail " B.O.D.: Routine duties until 1200 hrs. Weather wet.

G' canal 20 DADOS Office: Bren magazines wearing out, particularly with 36 Bn. Hoped to repair a proportion of them.
" " SOME (DIV): Schedules received showing components (for items of equipment held by this Div) which will be forwarded automatically from NZ as maintenance supplies. An adjustment in quantities sent will probably be necessary as experience of island warfare enables further information to be gathered. Present scale has been based on Middle East experience.
" " A.O.W.: Bren carriers ~~(10)~~ (ten) awaiting shipment back to 8 Bde after repair.
Vella " No.2 Rec Sec: Packing unit equipment for remainder of unit.
Bourail " Base Det DOW: Free day. River flooded banks and workshop area. Still rising at 1800 hrs. Vehicles moved to higher ground. Water 12" deep in MC shop which was cleared.
Noumea " NZOW Det: OC returned from DOW.
Treasury " 29 LAA W/S: No details available but it is presumed the detachment att. to Squarepeg workshops is well established at Nissan; no casualties reported.
Nissan " 20 LAD: Men of 2nd echelon landed.
G' canal " A.O.D.: Sections sorting new stores. Routine duties.
" " Other Units: Principally, Sunday programme- rest and recreation.

G' Canal 21 DADOS Office: Captain SMITH (I.O.O.) returned to NECAL by air.
" " SOME (DIV): ~~Brigade~~ O.M.E's notified that in future equipment rendered unserviceable and subsequently condemned by them, shall be classified as either: (a) unserviceable - to be cannibalised; or (b) unserviceable - to be returned to rear formation for repair. Units must be notified promptly, to enable the unit to indent promptly, and thus give Ordnance the information needed for Wastage Returns to Army HQ.
G' canal " A.O.W.: MT maintenance and repairs. Personnel of 65 LAD rear party marched out for fwd area.
Treasury " No.1 Rec Sec: Vehicle and armament repairs. It has been decided to clear and level the ground and coral a large parking area.
Vella " No.2 Rec Sec: (remainder) Packing of unit equipment. Forward section of Squarepeg workshops at Nissan.
Moindah " Rear DOW: Workshops maintenance routine.

misspelled
Lt.-Col.,
D.A.D.O.S.

D.A.D.O.S.

Bourail 21 Feb Base Det DOW: Repairs to road, drains and culverts. River much lower. Only slight damage to area due to improved drainage. Workshops working to capacity. Painting of vehicles and markings keeping paintshop very busy.

Noumea " NZOW DET: Maintenance of vehicles ; weather fine.

Lunga " Tanks W/S: Routine repairs. 2/Lt J.E. AMOORE, WO-2, Sgt, S/Sgt 4 Cpls and 3 Privates marched out at 0800 hrs for attachment to Squarepeg Workshops, and embarkation.

Nissan " 20 LAD: Shifted camp area again.

Vella " 37 LAD: Usual workshop duties.

Nemeara " 42 LAD: Wrecker went with Arty Trg Depot convoy to Noumea and took part in the parade for the return of French troops from Overseas. Maintenance and painting in shop.

Treasury " 64 LAD: MT maintenance and repairs.

G'canal " 65 LAD: Remainder of 65 LAD personnel marched out for embarkation to Nissan. Advance section working with Squarepeg Workshops.

" " A.O.D.: All sections packing stores for Treasury and Squarepeg.

Bourail " B.O.D.: Routine duties. Weather wet.

G'Canal 22 DADOS Office: COO, BOD, advised ^{us} of considerable hold-up of goods both at Tontouta ^(Necal) and Santos (New Hebrides) including Priority I stores meant for A.O.D. and US Forces. Little NZ Ordnance stocks affected. With one or two exceptions the items requisitioned from NZ to be sent fwd by air have been small and would occupy very little space or weight.

" " A.O.W.: Routine maintenance and repairs.

Vella " No.2 Rec Sec: (Squarepeg Workshops for the future): 3 O/Rs embarked on LST 3. Equipment taken to Juno Beach for loading on LST at 1530 hrs. Forward section at Nissan.

Moindah " Rear DOW: Workshops maintenance routine. OC DOW inspects Base Det DOW.

Bourail " Base Det DOW: Camp maintenance and improvements. Tempo of work increasing with repairs.

Treasury " 29 LAA W/S: Unit is now broken up as follows:-
 Treasury - 1 Offr and 14 O/Rs ~~plus~~ plus 1 Sgt Armourer att.
 Vella - 1 O/R.
 Squarepeg- 14 O/Rs
 Hoospital
 (G'canal) 2 O/Rs.

Under the circumstances decided to take majority of Treasury personnel over to No.1 Rec Sec, and establish a detachment there, to assist OC, No.1 Rec Sec. Five O/Rs will maintain stores and administration and the main camp site on Stirling. Of these 5, two will be available to assist OC, 64 LAD, on Stirling.

Lunga " Tanks W/S: Repaired & charged 6 batteries. Commenced reconstrn. of workshops. Overhauling jeep.

Nissan " 20 LAD: Work on vehicles & new camp. Balance of equipment and 2 men embarked at Vella. (LST 354)

Vella " 37 LAD: Packing up stores and Q.M. equipment. Other LADs - normal routine mainly.

G'canal " A.O.D.: "A" Group storemen sorting and re-stacking tentage just arrived, prior to despatch fwd.

Bourail " B.O.D.: Routine duties in all sections. Capt. SMITH, I.O.O., returned from G'canal.

W. J. Smith
 Lt.-Col.,
 D.A.D.O.S.

G' canal 25 Feb SOME (DIV): Requested 29 LAA W/S: to return inspectional equipment on issue to them. This equipment was originally intended for use of OME Div Arty, and there being only one set, this is required for the inspection of all equipments.

" " A.O.W.: Eight ambulances for return to NECAL checked and serviced. Loaded with returned stores from AOD and delivered to Kukun dock for shipment.

Treasury " No.1 Rec Sec: Vehicle and armament repairs. Officers in charge of workshops conferred and discussed parts problems and possible improvements.

Vella " Squarepeg W/S: 1 Offr and 19 O/Rs embarked on LCI 66 at 0800 hrs. Unit equipment shut out.

Moindah " Rear DOW: Workshops routine and camp maintenance.

Bourail " Base Det DOW: Routine repairs. M/C shop very busy, as jobs increase with bad weather. Shortage of front springs for Chev 4 x 4 15-cwts holds up repairs. DOW Moindah have assisted greatly in this matter.

Noumea " NLOW Det: Maintenance of vehicles. Visit by SOME (Base). Weather fine.

Lunga " Tanks W/S: General repairs and maintenance on tanks and other vehicles.

Nissan " 20 LAD: Work on MT and guns, also on the area.

Vella " 37 LAD: Packing up stores and general work. Few MT jobs.

Nemeara " 42 LAD: Maintenance on vehicles. In afternoon 75% of personnel free for sports afternoon.

Treasury " 64 LAD: MT maintenance and repairs continuing. Other LADs - mostly normal duties.

G' canal " A.O.D.: "C" Group (clothing &c) erecting new stores tents, as proposed new stores are not yet started and will not be ready for large stocks now to hand.

Bourail " B.O.D.: Weather fine but overcast. Routine duties. Temperatures hot.

G' canal 24 DADOS & SOME (DIV): Routine office duties - indents, reports, correspondence, checking & records.

" " A.O.W.: Routine MT maintenance. Instruction from SOME (DIV) re use of Condemnation Certificates.

Treasury " No.1 Rec Sec: Vehicle and armament repairs etc. Instrument section is well ahead of schedule.

Moindah " Squarepeg W/S: (No.2 Rec Sec) : At sea en route for NISSAN. Some sections already there.

Bourail " Rear DOW: Provisional WE for Noumea Det. authorised by DAG 2 Ech, as drawn up by OC DOW, and this accounts for all ranks at present carried by this Detachment, plus one promotion to Cpl.

" " Base Det DOW: Checking office completed. Repair work on increase, but conveniently handled.

Lunga " Promotions and ED pay came through today for personnel.

Nissan " Tanks W/S: Tightened cylinder head and checked cooling system of tank. Routine duties.

Vella " 20 LAD: Work on MT and guns, also area. Equipment & balance of unit landed at 1500 hrs.

Nemeara " 37 LAD: Finished packing and ready to move (to Guadalcanal). -(Waited nearly 3 weeks for ship.)

" " 42 LAD: Maintenance. Greased and checked vehicles prior to manoeuvres. (also on 25th & 26th).

G' canal " Other LADs and Workshops: Normal routine in general.

Bourail " A.O.D.: No timber available for stores as this is "frozen" by Island Command for use in Fwd area only.

" " B.O.D.: Routine duties in all sections. Showery in afternoon. Capt Smith returned by boat to NZ.

W. D. D. O. S.
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 D.A.D.O.S.

2 DTA OLIVEROS COLON KENBIB

G' Canal 25 Feb DADOS Office: Arranged distribution between 8 Bde Gp and Div & 14 Bde Troops of recently-arrived large shipment of tents and tentage. Tents for Treasury (not complete fulfilment) are: Tents IP 150, IP flies only 317, Tents IPP 15, IPP flies only 40. Balance to be shipped from stocks to arrive. Tents for 14 Bde and Div units at Squarepeg amount to: 213 IPs, 450 IPs flies only; 20 IPs and 55 IPP flies only. In general, flies and other tent portions have been extracted from complete tents in NE, as flies have in the main worn out more quickly than the inners, and shipping space - and consequently time in shipping - has been saved. The salvage tentage is being used by units after having been certified as useless. In view of the fact that tents were showing deterioration, and promised to need early replacement as far back as May 1943, the IP type of tent has stood up well to conditions and proved as satisfactory as any other type. For tropical conditions they are much cooler than the American pyramidal type.

" " A.O.W.: Routine maintenance work on MT. ~~Examination~~ Armourers engaged on overhaul Small Arms received from AOD salvage Sec. 40 pairs of binoculars received from Salvage Sec, AOD, to be repaired where possible, or vernibulised in line with instructions from SOME (DIV). 48 Watches GS also received for attention.

Treasury " No.1 Rec Sec: Vehicle and armament repairs, 25 Fd Engrs started work on area.

Nissan " Squarepeg W/S: Landed at Blue Beach at 0730 hrs. (main party) Roads in very bad state.

Mcindah " Rear DOW: Capt E.G. Sandelin marched in and assumed duties as 2 i/c unit.

Bourail " Base Det DOW: Worked on bank of river and with bulldozer blocked up depression as stopbank to river to avoid flooding. Also raised road level. Workshops duties well in hand. During the week 56 vehicles repaired, increase of 11 over previous week.

Lunga " Tanks W/S: General workshops repairs and reconstruction of workshop. Fwd Det. arrived at Nissan.

Nissan " 20 LAD: Work on MT and guns also area. Equipment and balance of unit landed at 1500 hrs.

Vella " 37 LAD: Moved up to area occupied by Rear Div. detachment. Weather wet.

Treasury " 64 LAD: MT maintenance and repairs.

Nissan " 65 LAD: Personnel of 65 LAD arrived with equipment and set up camp.

" " Other LADs and W/Shops: Normal routine.

G' Canal " A.O.D.: Routine duties.

Bourail " B.O.D.: Weather fine but overcast. Routine duties in all sections.

G' Canal 26

" " DADOS Office: Signal Q.1064 from NE to HQ 3 NE DIV ref. 4-monthly census returns. (a) to be taken as at 15th of April, August and December; (b) Each return in 2 sections, WD type ~~and~~ B type vehicles only, and items shown under instructions ~~shown~~ in recent order.

" " A.O.W.: Normal work until 1000 hrs. Workshop I.E. to 1200 hrs. Afternoon free for washing.

Treasury " No.1 Rec Sec: Continuation of work by Engineers, MT repairs etc. Recreational afternoon.

Nissan " Squarepeg W/S: Securing equipment from beaches and clearing workshops area.

Mcindah " Rear DOW: Weather bad, I.E. and normal leave.

Bourail " Base Det DOW: Raining heavily. Sundry repairs. Machine shops etc cleaned & inspected.

Koues " NDOW Det: I.E. and maintenance of vehicles. SOME returned to HQ. Weather fine.

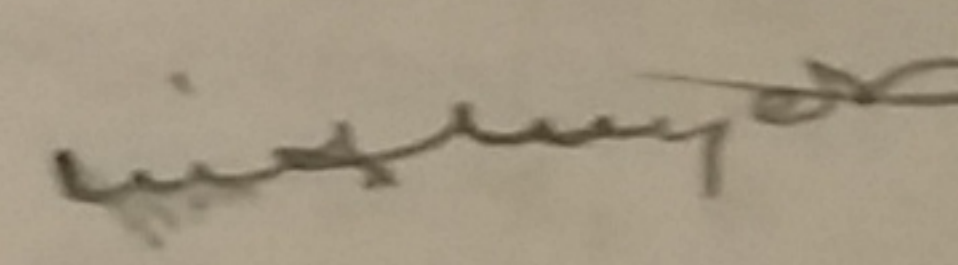
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 Lt.-Col.,
 D.A.D.O.S.
 D.A.D.O.S.

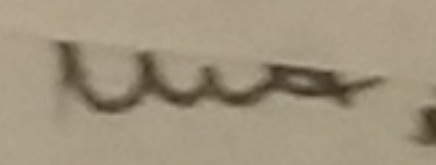
Treasury 26 Feb 29 LAA W/S: Last working day of operation as a section. Work henceforth will be done in conjunction with No.1 Rec Sec and 64 LAD, while unit continued split into sections (see 22 Feb).
 Lunga " Tanks W/S: I.E. of workshops and camp area. Tool kits checked.
 Nissan " 20 LAD: Work on MT and guns, also on area.
 Vella " 37 LAD: Cleaning up round old camp area. 15 men loading amm on to LST.
 Neneara " 42 LAD: Maintenance of vehicles. Vehicles greased and checked prior to manoeuvres. Heavy rain.
 Treasury " 64 LAD: MT maintenance and repairs.
 G' canal " A.O.D.: Sections sorting stores and transferring them from new dump. Area roadways badly needing shingle, due to wear caused by through traffic to AOW and FMC.
 Bourail " B.O.D.: Duties in all sections until 1200 hrs. Rain in afternoon and evening.

G' canal 27 A.O.W.: Normal Sunday programme. 14 A/Tank rifles received from AOD for checking.
 Nissan " Squarepeg W/S: Clearing workshop and camp area. Securing equipment from beaches and dumps. Borrowed 2 bulldozers and worked throughout the night.
 Bourail " Base Det DOW: Heavy rains; river high but stop bank held.
 Nissan " 20 LAD: Setting up camp and work on vehicles.
 Vella " 37 LAD: Loading amm on to LST. Heavy rain.
 Neneara " 42 LAD: Wrecker sent to recover vehicle in Moindou Pass, but could not get through owing to flooded roads. Jeep recovered. Other units: normal routine.
 G' canal " A.O.D.: Personnel working long hours to get tentage ready for shipment to fwd area.
 Bourail " B.O.D.: Heavy rain all day. River at base of camp over its banks. Roads North & South flooded.

G' canal 28 DADOS Office: Application made for an Officer from Base to replace OC 37 LAD, returned to Necal.
 " A.O.W.: Repairs commenced on ten flat-top trailers for Div HQ. Routine maintenance & repairs.
 Treasury " No.1 Rec Sec: The unit ceased work on vehicles to clear and improve camp area. Mess hall started.
 Nissan " Squarepeg W/S: Clearing workshop and camp area.
 Moindah " Rear DOW: Exceptionally heavy rain over weekend. Rivers high and fast. Roads North impassable.
 Bourail " Base Det DOW: Camp area very muddy owing to scouring of metal from roads. Blacksmiths shop now completely equipped and handling fair volume of work.
 Neneara " NZOW DET: Maintenance of vehicles; weather fine.
 Treasury " 29 LAA W/S: Party went to Mono to prepare camp site. Cleaned up old site.
 Lunga " Tanks W/S: General repairs; finished constn. of trailer.
 Nissan " 20 LAD: Setting up camp, and work on MT.
 Vella " 37 LAD: Set up temporary workshop in 22 Pd Amb. bure.
 Neneara " 42 LAD: Maintenance on vehicles. Manoeuvres cancelled due to weather. Wrecker to Moindou Pass.
 Treasury " 64 LAD: MT maintenance. Complete check of all tools and equipment.
 G' canal " A.O.D.: Loading out for Treasury, and receiving stores ex ship from NECAL. Skeleton staff in sections.
 Bourail " B.O.D.: River subsiding but still high. Routine duties in all sections.

and 14 jobs were completed in the morning


 Lt.-Col.,
 D.A.D.O.S.


 D.A.D.O.B.

G' canal 29 Feb DADOS Office: S/M. ROLLO marched out to HQ 8 NZ BDE as Ordnance WO-1.
 " " SOME (DIV): Several TSMG's have been sent to No.1 Rec Sec with bullets jammed in the barrel. Considered to be due to faulty ammunition, and it was accordingly requested that samples of ammunition forwarded under separate cover be tested. It is understood that Capt SMITH, (I.O.O.) has already inspected ammunition held by Division.
 " " A.O.W.: Two Predictors AA received in a damaged state from AOD. The wooden carrying boxes had rotted, and the instruments been damaged in transit from 8 Bde Group. Routine maintenance and repairs to MT. Ten Bren carriers shipped to 8 Bde Group.
 Treasury " No.1 Rec Sec: Camp improvements. Tent sites cleared and covered with coral. Trees were removed.
 Nissan " Squarepeg W/S: Clearing workshop and camp area. Erecting cookhouse.
 Moindah " Rear DOW: Bad weather lifted. Sickness in unit increasing slightly, there being 17 in hospital today.
 Bourail " Base Det DOW: Repair shops working to full capacity. Painting resumed. Vulcaniser kept very busy. More tools arrived. All work well in hand. A most satisfactory month from the point of view of repair work completed, amount of construction work completed, and the excellent spirit of personnel in spite of unfavourable weather conditions.
 Noumea " NZOW Det: Maintenance of vehicles. Weather fine.
 Treasury " 29 LAA W/S: Shifting arrangements cancelled until further notice as bulldozer out of action.
 Lunga " Tank W/S: Drained area about workshops. Reconstruction of workshops continued.
 Nissan " 20 LAD: Setting up camp area, and work on M.T.
 Vella " 37 LAD: Started MT work again, in a small way. Ten men loading on to L.S.T.
 Nemeara " 42 LAD: Maintenance on vehicles. Wrecker moved out at 0900 hrs with Arty Trg Depot on manoeuvres.
 Treasury " 64 LAD: MT maintenance and repairs.
 Nissan " 65 LAD: General routine in conjunction with Squarepeg workshops.
 Moindah " 67 LAD: Eight AEC H.A.A. tractors left in convoy for Noumea. Drivers supplied by LAD.
 G' canal " Routine duties at V.R.D.
 Bourail " A.O.D.: Stores from "Jack London" arriving very slowly. * Loading out stores for Nissan.
 " B.O.D.: Weather fine in morning but wet in afternoon & evening, Routine duties in all sections. River still high but all roads now open.

Summarised comments for Month as supplied by several units:

G' canal A.O.W.: A large volume of work was again handled during the month. MT parts coming to hand in good supply from AOD enabled a quick return of vehicles to units. Health of personnel remains satisfactory, there being one evacuation to hospital during month.
 Noumea NZOW Det: Unit working to full capacity and morale good. Two men m/o to 4 NZ Gen Hospital. Supplies of MT parts good. Huts for store and accommodation are a big improvement.
 Treasury 29 LAA W/S: A fair amount of work was done on the guns and MT of 214 and 208 (guns) Btys, prior to embarkation. Work done for the latter part of the month was mainly on 38 Fd Regt vehicles.
 Moindah 67 LAD: The month concludes with the unit fully engaged in the maintenance of pool vehicles. During the month 64 oil bath air cleaners were fitted to Universal carriers, 8 front differentials were removed from Chev 4 x 4 15-cwts to be strengthened by DOW. 9 new vehicles were painted and 14 jobs were completed in the workshop.

[Signature]
 Lt.-Col.,
 D.A.D.O.B.

APPENDICES I, II and III.

APPENDIX

INSPECTION OF ARTY EQUIPMENT BY O.M.E. ARTY.

Generally, condition of equipment reasonably good.

(1) 40mm Equipment:-

- (a) Slight coppering of bore not serious matter - to be watched, however.
- (b) Flame guards loose - oversize grub screws already in course of manufacture to remedy this.
- (c) Extractors wearing - to be watched and built up as necessary.
- (d) Discolouration of breech parts after night firing and due to impossibility of thorough cleaning immediately after - Suggested wiping with oily rag pending thorough cleaning.
- (e) Cloth faced chamber pad being manufactured for trial to cope with cleaning the chamber. Report will be made when tried thoroughly.
- (f) Modification made to the platform to prevent ammunition clips from fouling firing pedal. Experiment being made attaching a drain pipe to the deflection tube to overcome accumulation of rain water. Endeavours to overcome same trouble round the slip rings. Full report will be submitted later covering these points.

F.C.I.'s

- (a) Still a source of trouble due to deterioration of wiring insulation, condensation, electrolytic corrosion etc. Suggested daily maintenance and frequent inspections.
- (b) Lenses of optical instruments suffer greatly from fungoid growths. Suggested frequent servicing - also setting and taping of adjustable eyepieces.
- (c) All instruments should be kept in driest place available, allowing free passage of air. Cases should be kept scrupulously clean. Endeavours are being made to procure equipment for instrument repairers, to enable them to service instruments under satisfactory conditions; as equipment held by Div at present is not by any means complete in this respect.
- (d) Oil motors showing rust. Must be popped frequently, topping being done through filter. Also progressive overhaul of oil motors, ensuring that each motor is overhauled every six months.
- (e) Suggested F.C.I.'s be exercised as often as possible. Will keep equipment in better condition and enable faults to be promptly located and remedied

Notes on care of Remote Control ~~Control~~ Instruments extracted from Army Handbook and included for information of all concerned.

Carriages need repainting. Suggested undercoat of red lead should be applied first. No red lead available, however, and ordinary camouflage paint will have to be used after thorough removal of rust.

25- Pdrs.

- (a) Repainting of carriages. As stated previously.
 - (b) Shortage of cleaning materials is making proper cleaning difficult. Cotton waste in short supply, can be replaced by cotton old been converted by units from condemned clothing.
 - (c) Shortage of some lubricants unavoidable at present owing to shipping. Should be remedied shortly, when supplies come to hand. In meantime suitable substitutes recommended.
 - (d) Filing of breech fittings strongly condemned except in case of extreme necessity.
 - (e) Wear on elevating mechanism of 6-pdr. is increasing, and early replacement of thrust washers advised. I of C, providing for modification which will overcome this trouble, at present being actioned - L of C Armament D 203 Elect. and Mech. Eng. Regs.
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Unidentified Japanese L.M.G. described in June '43 War Diary now positively identified as 7.7 mm (.303") Type 99. With exception of a few minor details, this weapon is a heavier calibre edition of Type 96 6.5mm (.256") L.M.G. Muzzle velocity of 7.7mm 2200ft. per sec (approx)

APPENDIX (CTND)

cyclic rate of fire 750 - 800 per min. as against M.V. 2400 ft. per second and cyclic rate of fire 550 rds. per min of 6.5 mm L.M.G.

This L.M.G. is indicated by reported announcement of Japanese that 6.5mm weapons were being replaced by heavier calibre. Jap. Infantry Rifle 6.5mm type 38, as specified in Sept. '43 War Diary, is also being replaced by a 7.7mm weapon of almost identical design. The changes are chiefly (1) calibre (2) length reduced by approx. 6" (3) Monopod attached to middle band.

A noteworthy feature is that, although L.M.G. Type 99 and Rifle Type 99 both use same ammunition, which is of true rimless type, they will not fire ammunition for 7.7mm heavy machine gun Type 92, which is semi-rimless type.

However, heavy M.G. 7.7mm type 92 WILL also fire the newer type 7.7 mm rimless ammunition which is used by types 99 Rifle and L.M.G.

According to a handbook published by War Dept. Washington, Sept. 21, 1942, type 96 6.5mm IMG fires a cartridge with a rim instead of a cannelure, but we have not examined this IMG.

Samples of Jap ammunition bear out the possibility as we have seen :-

- 6.5mm (.256") - round-nosed, rimmed (which may be for IMG Type 96)
- 6.5mm (.256") - pointed nose-semi rimless (Rifle-also possibility for IMG 96)
- 7.7mm (.303") - pointed nose -true rimless (Rifle type 99 and IMG Type 99)
- 7.7mm (.303") - " " " semi-rimless (Heavy MG Type 32)
- 7.7mm (.303") - " " " Rimmed - (Aircraft MG resembling Vickers)

This ammunition gauges almost identically with British .303" Mk. VII, and can be used in British weapons. Similarly British ammunition can be used in Jap. Aircraft MG.

Foreign L.M.G. described in Sept. War Diary stated to be identical with several others which have been captured in different theatres and have been identified as manufactured in Czechoslovakia. Foreign lettering on L.M.G. brought in was thought to be Chinese by an interpreter.

Samples of ammunition found in close proximity to gear, and appearing to be type for the gun were round nose, semi rimless type and bore Arabic numerals on the base round the percussion cap together with a swastika. The bullet itself gauged .317" diameter which suggests a calibre of 7.92mm, this being standard calibre of German rifles and L.M.G.'s

APPENDIX II. Advanced Ordnance Workshops - 9th February 1944.

(MEMO to SOME (DIV):)

A/23,
HQ AOW
F.M.C.
9 Feb 44.

Re Oil GP 90.

All gear boxes, transfer cases, and differentials dismantled here show a definite sign of a burnt appearance. Gears, bearings, crown wheels & pinions, badly pitted and of a rusty brown colour.

As no other grade of oil is procurable, no tests have been carried out to discover if the above is caused by the oil.

From appearance, the above condition could be caused by:

- (a) Rapid condensation, or water from outside source.
- (b) Maintenance to vehicles not being carried out, and oils not being changed at correct intervals.

On Bren Carriers, three differentials and two gear boxes were dismantled. Other than ordinary wear, the gears, ball races, and crown wheels and pinions were in excellent condition, retaining the bright factory finish. On questioning the drivers of these vehicles, they stated that the oils were all changed to GP 90 just prior to leaving for MONO, and again before leaving there. Although these Carriers show only a small mileage, they have carried out heavy work.

(Signed) R. MANSON, Lt. OIC,
AOW, FMC.

Copies : As above,
War Diary
File.

3 SEP 1953
B.M.O.
HQ VOA
V/53

ВЕРБЕНДИЙ II
APPENDIX II
DADOS OFFICE
FEBRUARY 20, 1953

Summary of report on "REPAIR OF AMMUNITION - 8 BDE" furnished by Capt A. SMITH, Inspecting Ordnance Officer.

I have to advise you (DADOS) that the ammunition of the 8 BDE, i.e. reserves held by 4 MT COY and unit holdings, have been examined and repaired. The following figures indicate the ammun dealt with during the inspection:-

25 pr shell	12,486 rounds
" cartridge	12,999 "
2-inch mortar	8,596 "
2-inch mortar w/out carriers	4,400 "
3-inch mortar	7,525 "
3-inch mortar " %" "	3,143 "
6-pr	2,998 "
40mm	27,665 "
.303-in	54,046 "
.55-in	358 "
.45 TSMG	1,300 "

The 2-inch and 3-inch mortar rounds, without carriers, should be used only for training purposes.

The number of rounds sentenced as unserviceable, is as follows:-

.303-in	54,086 rounds
.55-in	358
.45 TSMG	1,300
25-pr shell	504
" cartridge	9
3-in mortar HE	86
" " smoke	14
2-in mortar HE	43
" " smoke	67

On examination of this ammunition, it was found that at least 60% of the metal boxes contained water. From personal observation, and from information collected, it is quite obvious that a large portion of this damage is due to carelessness, lack of supervision, and lack of trained personnel in the handling of the ammunition. Further, there is amongst units a lack of appreciation that ammunition requires attention. For instance, one Battalion Headquarters ammunition was dumped on the side of a hill, no dunnage or covering was provided and about 25% of the boxes had their lids partly open. Regarding the main reserve of the ammunition held by the 4th MT Coy ASC, the position is that the Ammunition Officer has numerous other duties to perform, which does not permit him to give sufficient attention to the ammunition. Prior to my arrival, none of this ammunition was under cover, stacks had collapsed in the dump, and countless boxes had their lids open.

The location of the dump area at STIRLING was reasonably good - clearing of the undergrowth round the stacks would be advantageous, whilst improvement to roading is definitely advisable, should the area be retained for this purpose.

(OVER.)

31-000 " "
32-000 " "
33-000 " "
34-000 " "
35-000 " "
36-000 " "
37-000 " "
38-000 " "
39-000 " "
40-000 " "

should be used only for...
The 2-100 and 3-100...

REASON FOR EXAMINATION AND REPAIRS. The following figures indicate the amount of ammunition...
I have to advise you (DVDOR) that the ammunition of the 9 BDE...
SUMMARY OF LOSS ON "REPAIRS ON AMMUNITION - 9 BDE" REGISTERED BY CAPT V. SMITH, INSPECTING ORDNANCE OFFICER.

APPENDIX III. DVDOR OFFICE. FEBRUARY 19, 1944.

(Continued).

" There has been a percentage of ~~more~~ damage, especially to small arms ammunition, due to theft. Boxes have been broken open, the lids removed and left in that condition, and although only a few rounds have been extracted, the contents have been rendered unserviceable by rain water. Unfortunately this pilfering has also occurred with 25-pr cartridge, and in the night time, during repair, 9 rounds were extracted, the case taken, and the charges left in the boxes. In every instance the box had been left open, necessitating the re-drying of the charges, By request, the officers from the Battalions were assembled at MONO where I addressed them on the care of ammunition, and pointed out their responsibilities both in regard to their own ammunition, and when in charge of working parties handling same. High humidity conditions which exist at TREASURY is only a minor contributory factor in the deterioration of the ammunition, providing that the boxes are properly stacked (i.e., space stacked) on dunnage with covering. With small arms ammunition issued to troops, or left open in tin containers, there is always a certain amount of deterioration, and I would recommend that such ammunition be expended in training after three months' exposure."

(Sgd) ALAN SMITH, Captain,
Inspecting Ordnance Officer.

C/- AOD,
GUADALCANAL,
18 Feb 44.

Copies of original sent to AOD, AOD AMn Sec, and HQ 3 NZ DIV (2).
19 Feb 44.