

ORIGINAL

SECRET

WAR DIARY.

for  
Office of the  
D.A.D.O.S. H.Q., 3 DIV.  
PACIFIC SECTION, 2 N.Z.E.F.,  
SUVA, FIJI.  
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APRIL, 1942.

VOLUME III.  
(Three sheets).

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NEW ZEALAND MILITARY FORCES.

WAR.  
(Form N.Z.—375.)  
(In pads of 100.)

APRIL, 1942.

WAR DIARY

.....D.A.D.O.S.,  
Div. H.Q.,  
SUVA, FIJI.

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Sheet 1.

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.

Summary of Events and Information.

Remarks and References to Appendices.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and References to Appendices.
<u>SUVA.</u>	<u>April</u>			
	1st.	-	Changes of postings of Unit Armourers in accordance with instructions to Brigades. Cable to N.Z. requesting tentage for Namaka hospital. N.Z. advised that second blanket being retained by each man, against <del>xxxxxx</del> request from N.Z.	File DOS 3/3 D263/1942. 2/4/206.
	2nd.	-	Schedule of anti-gas equipment received, as being due to arrive. Issue of circulars re 'battle-dress of troops in Fiji being returned to store in N.Z.'	
		-	Report to Chief Ordnance Officer, Trentham on various domestic etc. matters	
		-	Change of nomenclature of M.T. Field Workshops to Divisional Ordnance Workshops	
	4th.	-	Unit visit to island of Mbau (public transport, afternoon and evening.)	(test)
	6th.	-	Instruction to Brigades to have <del>xxxx</del> battalions charger pack ten boxes of unit reserve S.A.A. (8/3/313)	
		-	Request from Fanning Island for stores (cabled). Issue of cycle to Area Office Namaka for use of Ordnance Sub-Depot, Namaka.	check stores. 10/3/230.
		-	68887 Cpl. G.M. Williams to 34th. Bn., Nausori, Cpl. Bristow to 36th, Cpl. Rollo to 29th to	8/2/224.
	7th.	-	Authority to Civil Constn. Unit for issue of arms & equipment (as Western Composite Bn.) Request to Div. H.Q. for extra staff (12 men) as result of projected taking over of Artillery Ammunition.	
		1000	70125 Pte. A.C. Gordon to hospital. Request from Base Ordnance Depot for extra staff--2 storemen promised through D.A.A.G.	2/2/234. See 3/4/244.
			Circular to units re Chargers and issue of additional underwear to troops. Visit to 8 Bde. H.Q. by D.A.D.O.S. to inspect damaged tentage there. Sample taken for despatch to New Zealand. Mail in from New Zealand. 6th. March, 1942	R.O. 85/42.
	8th.	-	Promotion of Base Ordnance personnel taking effect from 6th. March, 1942	File 4/3/246. DOS 3/1/250
		-	Return of Cpl. Williams G.M., marched in from 34th. Bn., Nausori.	
		-	Inspection by D.A.D.O.S. with Cpl. Allen K.F.T. of batches of ammunition.	
	9th.	-	Redistribution of Signals W.T. equipment to 8th. Bde. Signals and 37th. Bn.	
		-	Instruction to 29th. Bn. (ex Nausori) as to Accounting for Camp Equipment made at Nausori from materials supplied by the C.R.E.	
		-	Report from Div. Chief Armourer re .50 cal. Browning Machine Guns at Nausori aerodrome	
		-	Letter to Chief Ordnance Officer re deterioration of tentage, with sample enclosed.	
		-	Reference in to-day's Routine Orders to a number of items of Ordnance interest i.e. 'preservation of equipment, etc.'	
		-	N.Z. requests by cable that we send a complete <sup>record</sup> of all 'Lease-Lend' equipment etc. to them immediately after receipt.	

*and copy*  
.....Captain  
D.A.D.O.S., "B" FORCE

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WAR DIARY

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APRIL, 1942.  
Sheet 2.

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Div. H.Q.,  
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SUVA	April 11th.	-	Received and distributed today 4 copies of 'Notes on the Care & Preservation of Ammunition and Explosives in the Field, (other than Artillery Ammunition) Part II' and 2 copies of 'The Pattern 1937 Web Equipment.'	
		-	Cabled advice received from New Zealand of Ordnance stores shipped for Suva & Lautoka	R.O. 88/42
		-	Promotion of Spl. A.K. Bristow, 71088 to rank of Staff-Sergeant w.e.f. 6/4/42 (Pub. 8/4/42)	
	13th.	-	Application to Divisional H.Q. for installation of telephone at Ordnance Sub-Depot, Namaka	
	14th.	-	Approval given for issue of 750 beds, trestle type, to 30th. Bn., Momi.	Section R.O. 91/42.
		-	Cabled promise from N.Z. to despatch hospital tentage, with explanation of shortage.	File 3/1/285
	15th.	-	Twelve men (including 1 corporal) transferred from infantry reinforcements to Ammunition Section	File 8/3/284.
	16th.	-	Circular re Return of Beds, Receipt Vouchers, and Long Puttees	
		-	Letter to Chief Ordnance Officer re ill-fitting chargers for 303-in.S.A.A.	
	17th.	-	Divisional Chief Armourer's report on faulty condition of 36th. Bn. Bren Guns	R.O. 95/42
		-	70084 Sgt./Armourer P. Mahoney transferred to 37th. Bn ex 14 Bde H.Q. replacing 45479	R.O. 94/42
		-	Sgt./Armourer R.E. Clark returned to Base Ordnance Depot prior to Boarding to N.Z.	" "
		-	70125 Pte. A.C. Gordon (Amm. Section.) to unit from Military Hospital.	
	18th	0830	Artillery ammunition magazines - control partly taken over from 0830 hrs.	R.O. 94/42
		1800	70140 Pte Shennen J.R. to Military Hospital.	
		-	Cabled request to New Zealand for discharger cups and 50,000 blank S.A.A.	
		--	81372 T/Cpl. Allen K.F.T. promoted to be T/Sgt. and transferred to Divisional Ordnance H.Q. (Ammunition Section) in charge of Section. D.A.D.O.S. on visit to Western Area. w/2 staff.	R.O. 97/42.
	19th	1000	49922 Pte. A.E. Hopgood (Amm. Section) to hospital.	
	21st.	-	Cabled advice from N.Z. that discharger cups not yet in production, to be supplied when available.	
	22nd.	-	N.Z. cabled asking if 100 Primus single-burner stoves available locally and advised by Pacific Section that few are available.	
		-	Return of D.A.D.O.S. and Cpl. Rollo from Western Area.	
		-	72825 Pte. McIlwee J. (Amm. Section) to Military Hospital	R.O. 98/42
		-	Redistribution order for mortars (60 mm. & 2-inch).	
	23rd.	-	Statement of policy by D.A.A.G. re pistols and equipment held by officers on transfer from one unit to another	
		-	Letter to Competent Authority (Dr. Jack) re overcharge on Disinfectant Sprays by Morris Hedstroms, Ltd.	Wishy... Captain (5/7/301).

D.A.D.O.S., "B" FORCE  
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Summary of Events and Information

(Erase heading not required)

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

MVB DIVYA

NEW ZEALAND MILITARY FORCES

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WAR DIARY

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SUVA	April			
	24.	-	Report by D.A.D.O.S. to Chief Ordnance Officer ( and A.H.Q. ) on arrival of Lease-Lend equipment- guns, mortars, searchlights, etc. N.Z. advises by cable this force may retain 850 rounds of mortar ammunition originally to be transshipped for elsewhere in Pacific. Letter to Chief Ordnance Officer re expansion of personnel and provision for them. Army car (Ford V8 De Luxe) taken over by D.A.D.O.S. from D.O.W. Officer Commanding 16th. A.S.C. advised we are unable to approve unauthorised purchase of Coleman lanterns.	File 10/1/313 42 43 44
	26.	-	1500 Cpl. Williams 68887 returned from inventory of unit equipment in Western Area. Cable to N.Z. for three additional petrol lorries suitable for conveying water in Western Area. (this was agreed to in cable of 27th from N.Z.)	File 3/5/329
	27	-	Sample of deteriorated lining of steel helmet sent to Chief Ordnance Officer, Trentham Application forwarded to Divisional H.Q. for extra duty pay for 4 clerks in D.A.D.O.S. Office	R.O. 102/42.
	28	-	72825 Pte. McIlwee J. returned to unit (Ammunition Section), from Military Hospital. Authority for Extra Duty pay for 4 clerks mentioned above w.e.f. 20/4/42	
	29	-	N.Z. advised us by cable that no blank ammunition is available. N.Z. advised us by cable that only absolute essentials in camp equipment should be ordered from N.Z.	File 6/1/341. File 3/2/337. File 11/1/344
	30.	-	Amendment to War Equipment Tables of 6 infantry (mixed) Battalions issued. (483/72, No.1) Circular letter regarding leather supplies, etc for boot repairs Instruction to Ordnance Officers that new bulk stores are to be guarded at nights Receipt of one Imperial Model 50 typewriter from Stationery Dept., Div. H.Q. (2037229) S/Sgt. Bristow A.K. authorised to hold unit camera and take photos Large number of topees (over 2500) taken over from C.C.U. for use of troops in hot weather and for present use of despatch-riders.	File 3/2/350

*W. S. ...*  
D.A.D.O.S., "B" FORCE  
Captain

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